# Recursive and On-line Coloring 

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## Problem

Given a class $\mathcal{C}$ of graphs (closed under isomorphism) does there exist a function $f$ such that every recursive graph $G \in \mathcal{C}$ satisfies $f(\chi(G)) \leq \chi_{\text {rec }}(G)$-coloring.

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- Additional recursive structure


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## Definition

A graph $G$ is perfect if every induced subgraph $H$ satisfies $\chi(H)=\omega(H)$, where $\omega(\mathrm{G})$ is the number of vertices of the largest complete subgraph of $G$.

## Highly Recursive Graphs

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- (HK 1981 - Recursive Vizing's Theorem)

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\chi_{\text {rec }}^{\prime}(G) \leq \chi^{\prime}(G)+1
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- An on-line partitioning (chain, antichain, coloring) algorithm assigns each vertex $v_{i}$ of an on-line structure $S$ to a class based only on information about $S_{i}$, including the ordering $v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots v_{n}$.


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- on-line coloring algorithms give rise to recursive colorings.


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Theorem (Schmerl 1978)
There is an on-line algorithm for partitioning every on-line poset $P$ into

$$
\binom{\text { height }(P)+1}{2} \text { antichains. }
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Moreover, this is best possible.

Proof (Algorithm)

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## Proof (On-line Poset)

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For every on-line coloring algorithm $\mathcal{A}$ and integer $k$ there exists an on-line comparability graph $G$ with $\omega(G)=2$ and $\mathcal{A}(G)>k$.

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Remark
Every tree $T$ is the comparability graph with $\omega(T) \leq 2$.

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Theorem (Irani 1994)
First-Fit colors every on-line graph $G$ with $\operatorname{col}(G) \leq k$ on $n$ vertices with $O(d \log n)$ colors. Moreover no on-line algorithm does better than this.

## Lower bounds

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Theorem (Halldórsson \& Szegedy)
For every $k \in \mathbf{N}$ and every on-line algorithm $\mathcal{A}$ there exists an on-line graph $G$ such that $\chi(G)=k$ and $\chi_{\mathcal{A}}(G) \geq 2^{k}-1$ and $|G| \leq k 2^{k}$.

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Theorem (Vishwanathan 1992)
For every on-line coloring algorithm $\mathcal{A}$ there exists an on-line $k$-colorable perfect graph $G$ on $n$ vertices with $\mathcal{A}=\Omega\left(\frac{\log ^{k-1}(n)}{k^{k}}\right)$.

## Chain Partitioning

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Theorem (Dilworth 1950)
Every poset $P$ can be partitioned into width $(P)$ chains.


## On-line Chain Partitioning

Theorem (HK 1981)
There is an on-line algorithm for partitioning every poset $P$ into

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Theorem (Szemerédi \& Trotter 1981)
For every on-line algorithm $\mathcal{A}$ and positive integer $w$ there exists an on-line poset $P$ with width $(P)=w$ such that

$$
\mathcal{A}(P) \geq\binom{ w+1}{2}
$$

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## Problem (On-line Chain Partitioning)

Improve:

$$
\binom{\text { width }(P)+1}{2} \leq_{\forall \mathcal{A} \exists P} \mathcal{A}(P) \leq_{\exists \mathcal{A} \forall P} \frac{5^{\text {width }(P)}-1}{4}
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Problem (On-line Coloring Cocomparability Graphs - Schmerl)
Does there exist an on-line coloring algorithm $\mathcal{A}$ and a function $f$ such that for every on-line cocomparability graph $G$,

$$
\mathcal{A}(G) \leq f(\omega(G)) ?
$$

## Special Posets: Interval Orders

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There is an on-line coloring algorithm $\mathcal{A}$ such that every on-line interval graph $G$ satisfies $\mathcal{A}(G) \leq 3 \omega(G)-2$. Moreover this is best possible.

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- The algorithm does not need an interval representation.


## Special Posets: Bounded Dimension

Theorem (HK, McNulty \& Trotter 1984)
There exists an on-line chain partitioning algorithm that covers the intersection $P$ of $d$ on-line linear orders with

$$
\binom{\text { width }(P)+1}{2}^{d-1} \text { chains. }
$$

Graph Theory Detour: Forbidden Trees

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For a graph $H$, let $\operatorname{Forb}(H)$ be the class of all graphs that do not induce $H$.

Conjecture (Gyárfás 1975; Sumner 1981)
$\operatorname{Forb}(T)$ is weakly perfect for every tree $T$.

Forbidden Trees

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Theorem (Gyárfás, Szemerédi \& Tuza 1980)
Forb $\left(T, K_{3}\right)$ is weakly perfect for every tree $T$ with $\operatorname{radius}(T) \leq 2$.


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Theorem (HK \& Y. Zhu 2004)
The Gyárfás-Sumner Conjecture is true if $T$ is obtained from a tree $T^{\prime}$ with radius $\left(T^{\prime}\right) \leq 2$ by subdividing every edge adjacent to the root exactly once.


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Theorem (Scott 1997)
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The Gyárfás-Sumner Conjecture is true if $T$ is a subdivision of a star.


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It is time to resolve the Gyárfás-Sumner Conjecture!

## Schmerl's Problem

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Theorem (HK, Penrice \& Trotter 1994)
For every tree $T$ with radius $(T) \leq 2$ there exists an on-line coloring algorithm $\mathcal{A}$ and a function $h$ such that for every on-line graph $G \in \operatorname{Forb}(T)$

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\mathcal{A}(G) \leq h(\omega(G))
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Moreover, if $\operatorname{radius}(T)>2$ then no such algorithm exists.

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## Corollary (Schmerl's Problem)

There exists an on-line coloring algorithm $\mathcal{A}$ and a function $f$ such that for every on-line cocomparability graph $G$,

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## First-Fit and Forbidden Trees

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Theorem (HK, Penrice \& Trotter 1995)
There exists a function $f$ such that every on-line $G \in \operatorname{Forb}\left(P_{5}\right)$ satisfies $F F(G) \leq f(\omega(G))$.

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Theorem (Gyárfás \& Lehel + HK, Penrice \& Trotter)
For all trees $T$, if there exists a a function $f$ such that every on-line $G \in$ Forb satisfies $F F(G) \leq f(\omega(G))$, then $T$ does not induce $K_{2}+2 K_{1}$.

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Theorem (Bosek, Krawczyk \& Szczypka Nov. 2008)
Let $G$ be the cocomparability graph of a poset that does not induce $K_{t, t}$. Then

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F F(G) \leq(4(t-1)(\omega(G)-1)+1) \omega(G) .
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Remark
Interval graphs do not induce $K_{2,2}$.

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First-Fit colors every on-line interval graph $G$ with at most $C \omega(G)$ colors, where

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First-Fit colors every on-line interval graph $G$ with at most $C \omega(G)$ colors, where

- (HK 1988) $C=40$.
- (Pemmaraju, Raman \& Varadarajan 2004) C $=10$.
- (Brightwell, HK \& Trotter 2004/ Narayanaswarmy \& Babu 2007) $C=8$.

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There exists an on-line interval graph $G$ such that $\operatorname{FF}(G) \geq C \omega(G)-B(C)$, where

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- The technique fails for $C=5$.


## Tolerance Graphs

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Definition
A graph $G=(V, E)$ is a tolerance graph if for each vertex $v$ there is an interval $I_{v}$ and a nonnegative real (tolerance) $t_{v}$ such that

$$
v w \in E \text { iff }\left|I_{v} \cap I_{w}\right| \geq \min \left\{t_{v}, t_{w}\right\}
$$

## Tolerance $\subseteq$ Perfect

Theorem (Golumbic, Monma \&Trotter 1984) All tolerance graphs graphs are perfect.

## Classification of Tolerance Graphs

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Theorem (Felsner 1998)
Every 1-tolerance graph is the cocomparability graph of a poset with interval dimension 2.

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## Corollary

Every $\frac{1}{2}$-tolerance graph is the union of two interval graphs.

## Recent Results

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- For every $k$ there exists an on-line 1-tolerance graph $G$ with $\omega(G)=k$ and $F F(G) \geq 2^{k}$.


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- Every on-line $\left(1-\frac{1}{k-1}\right)$-tolerance graph $G$ satisfies $F F(G) \leq(4(k-1)(\omega(G)-1)+1) \omega(G)$.
- For every $k$ there exists an on-line 1-tolerance graph $G$ with $\omega(G)=k$ and $F F(G) \geq 2^{k}$.
- There is an on-line algorithm that colors every on-line low tolerance graph with $\frac{9}{2} \omega^{3}(G)$ colors, provided that the tolerance representation is also given on-line.


## Up-growing Posets

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Theorem (Felsner 1994)
There exists an on-line algorithm $\mathcal{A}$ such that for any up-growing poset $P$

$$
\mathcal{A}(P) \leq\binom{\text { width }(P)+1}{2}
$$

Moreover this is best possible.

## Up-growing Interval Orders

Theorem (Baier, Bosek \& Micek 2008)
There exists an on-line algorithm $\mathcal{A}$ such that for any up-growing interval order $P$

$$
\mathcal{A}(P) \leq 2 \operatorname{width}(P)-1
$$

Moreover this is best possible.

## Up-growing Semi-orders

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Theorem (Felsner, Kloch, Matecki \& Micek 2008)
There exists an on-line algorithm $\mathcal{A}$ such that for any up-growing semi-order $P$

$$
\mathcal{A}(P) \leq\left\lfloor\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \text { width }(P)\right\rfloor
$$

Moreover this is best possible!

## On-line Ramsey Theory

Theorem (HK \& Konjevod 2008)
Fix integers $u$ and $t$. For every on-line edge painting algorithm $\mathcal{A}$ there exists an on-line u-uniform hypergraph $G$ with the same coloring number as $K_{u}^{t}$ such that some copy of $K_{u}^{t} \subseteq G$ is monochromatic.

