

# Big Ramsey degrees of homogeneous structures

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$N \longrightarrow (n)_{k,t}^p$ : For every partition of  $\binom{\omega}{\rho}$  into  $k$  classes (colours) there exists  $X \in \binom{\omega}{\rho}$  such that  $\binom{X}{\rho}$  belongs to at most  $t$  parts.

( $t = 1$  means that  $\binom{X}{\rho}$  is monochromatic.)

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*Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be the class of all finite linear orders.*

$$\forall (\mathcal{O}, \leq_{\mathcal{O}}) \in \mathcal{O}, k \geq 1 : (\omega, \leq) \longrightarrow (\omega, \leq)_{k,1}^{(\mathcal{O}, \leq_{\mathcal{O}})}.$$

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$\binom{\mathbf{B}}{\mathbf{A}}$  is the set of all embeddings of structure  $\mathbf{A}$  to structure  $\mathbf{B}$ .

$\mathbf{C} \longrightarrow \binom{\mathbf{B}}{\mathbf{A}}_{k,t}^{\mathbf{A}}$ : For every  $k$ -colouring of  $\binom{\mathbf{C}}{\mathbf{A}}$  there exists  $f \in \binom{\mathbf{C}}{\mathbf{B}}$  such that  $(f(\mathbf{B}))_{\mathbf{A}}$  has at most  $t$  colours.

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Sierpiński: not true for  $|\mathcal{O}| = 2$ .

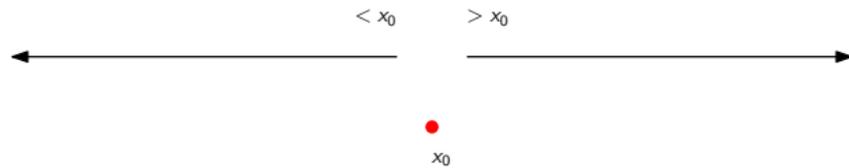
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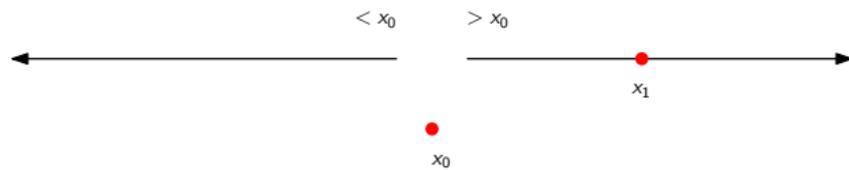
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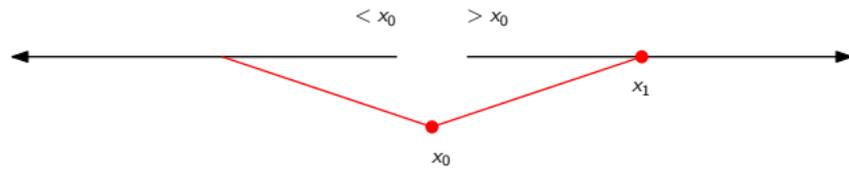
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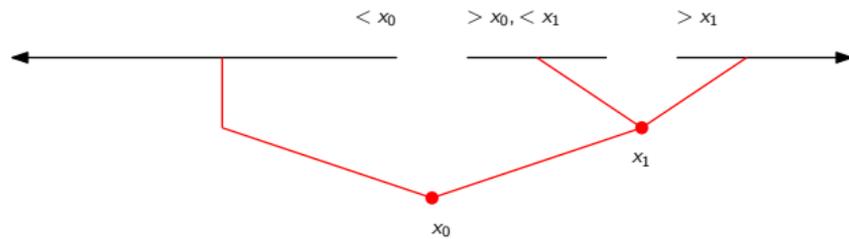
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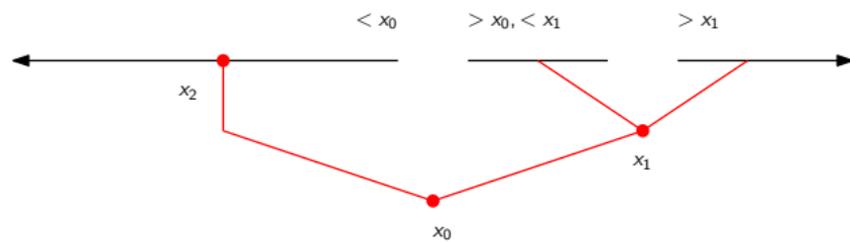
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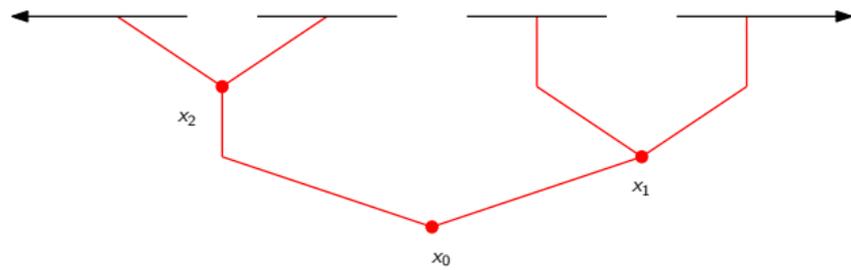
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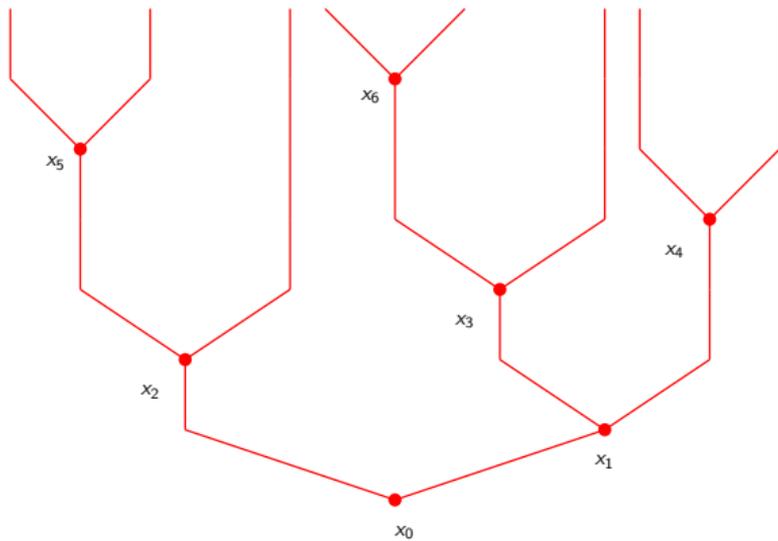
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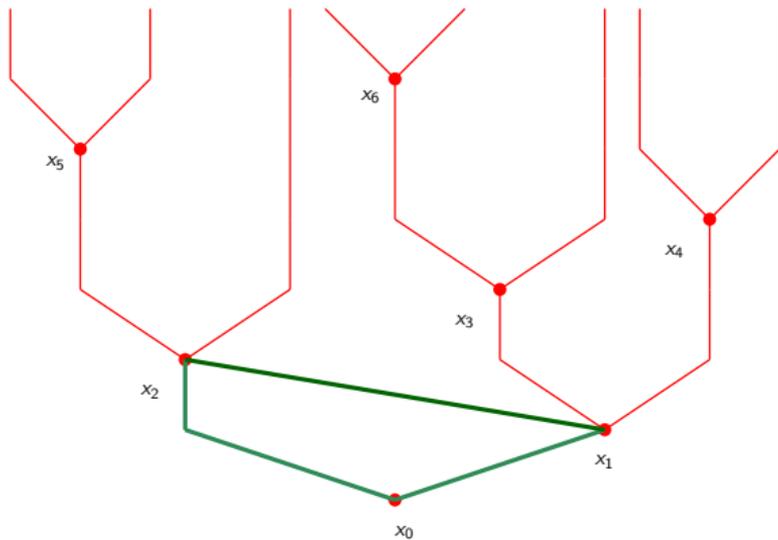
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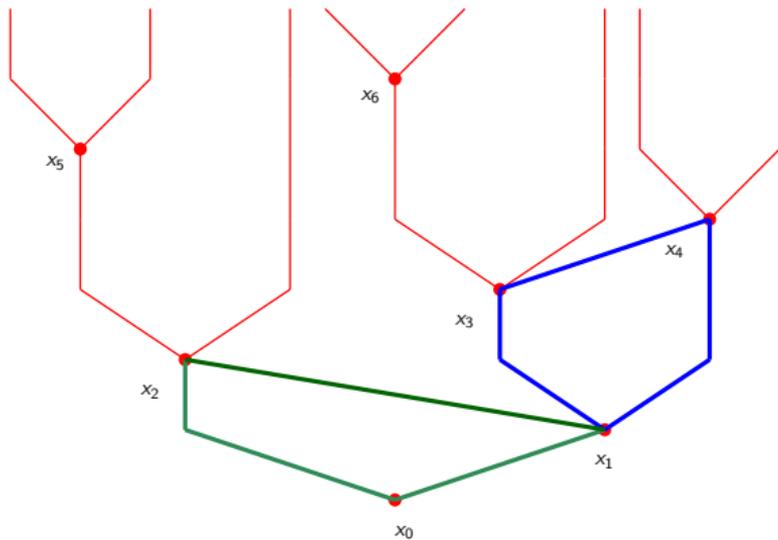


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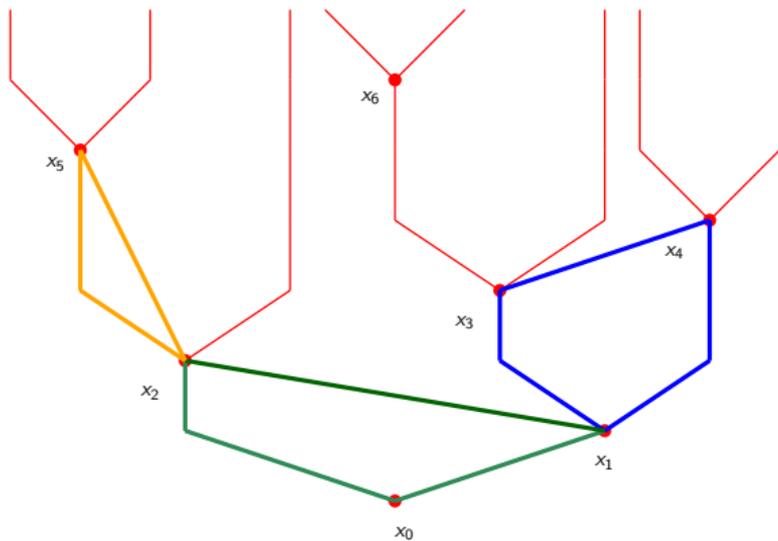
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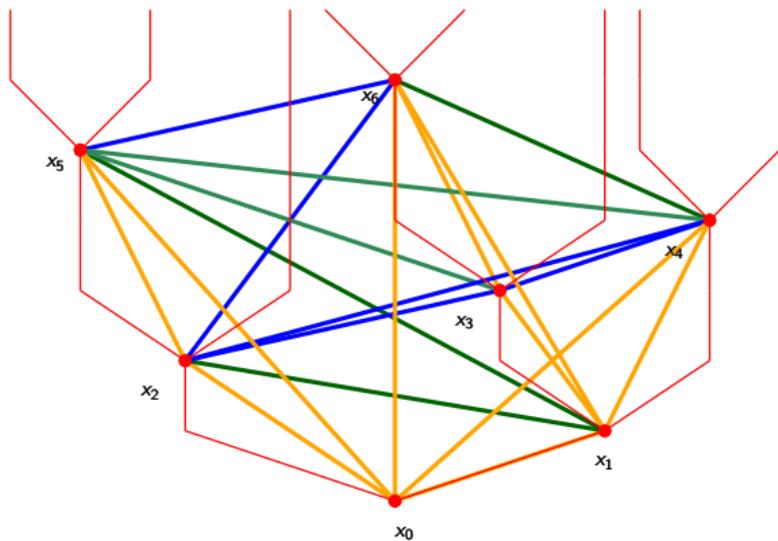
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Theorem (Devlin, 1979)

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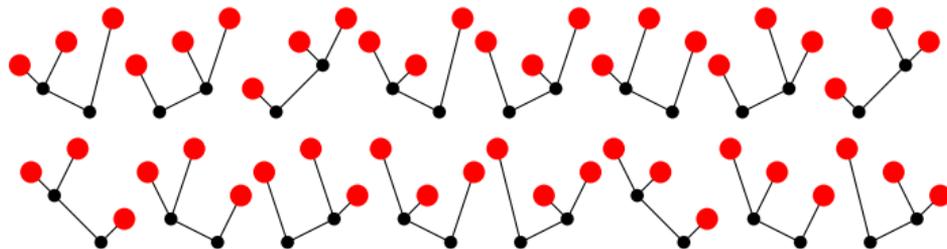
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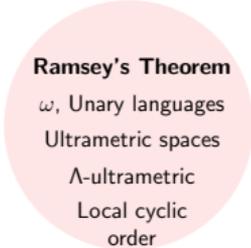
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## Upper bounds

# Big picture: proof techniques



**Ramsey's Theorem**

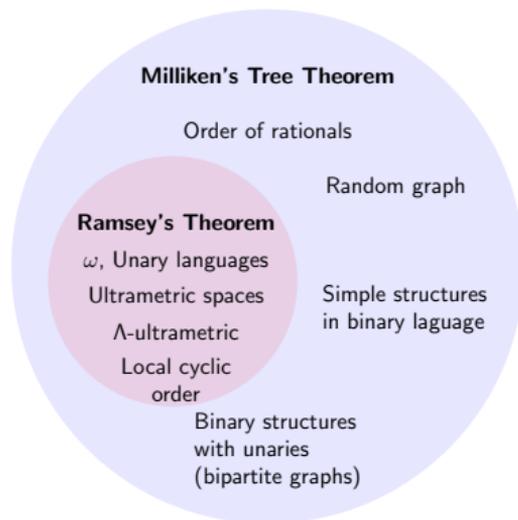
$\omega$ , Unary languages

Ultrametric spaces

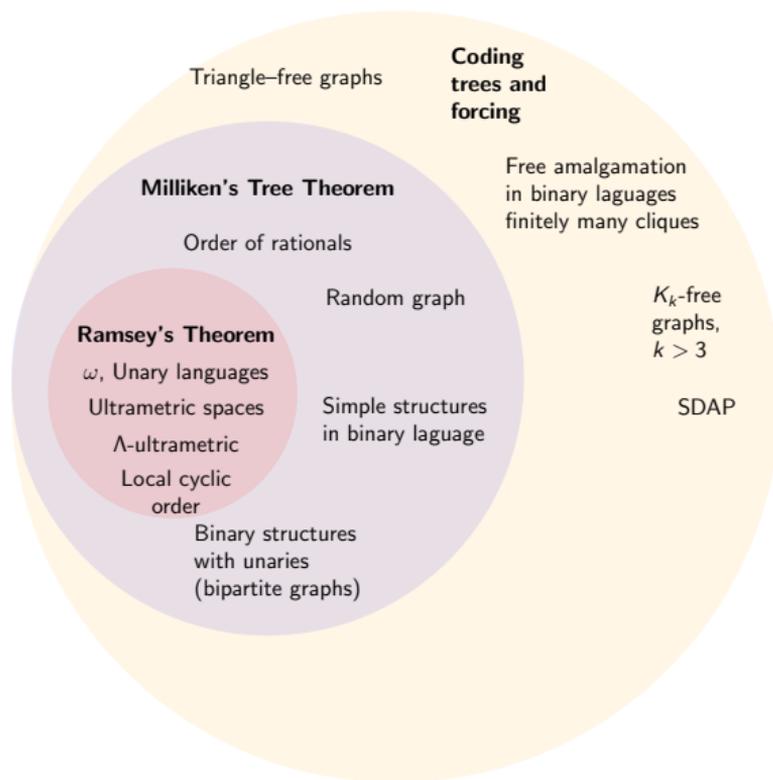
$\Lambda$ -ultrametric

Local cyclic  
order

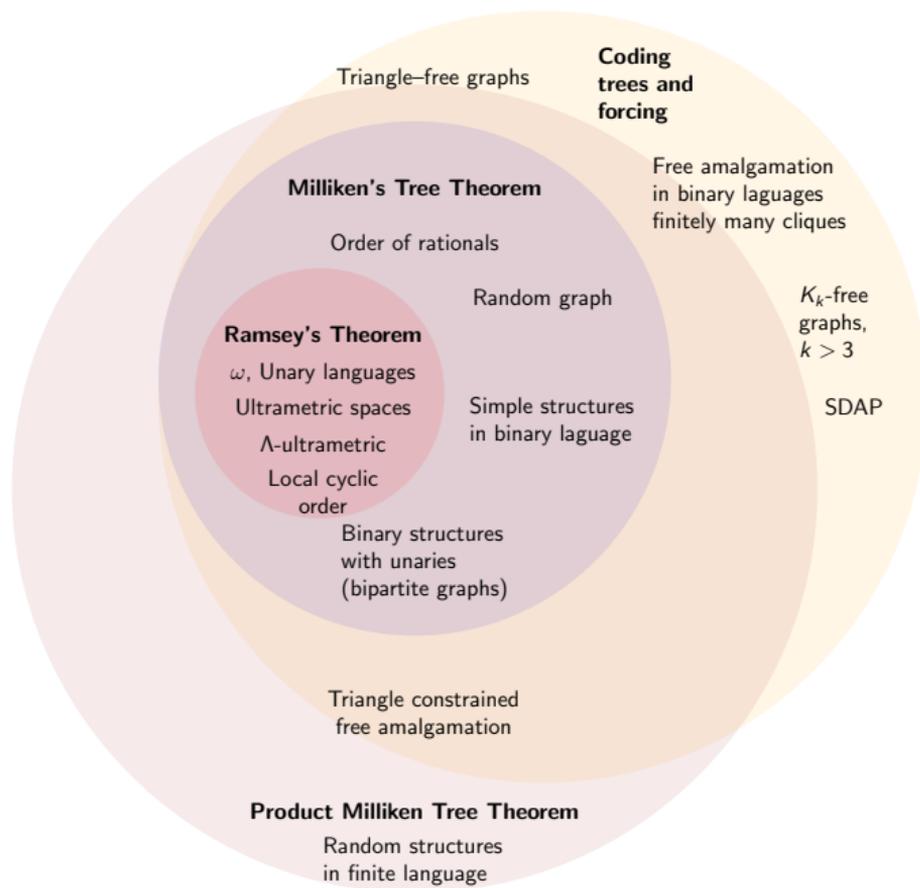
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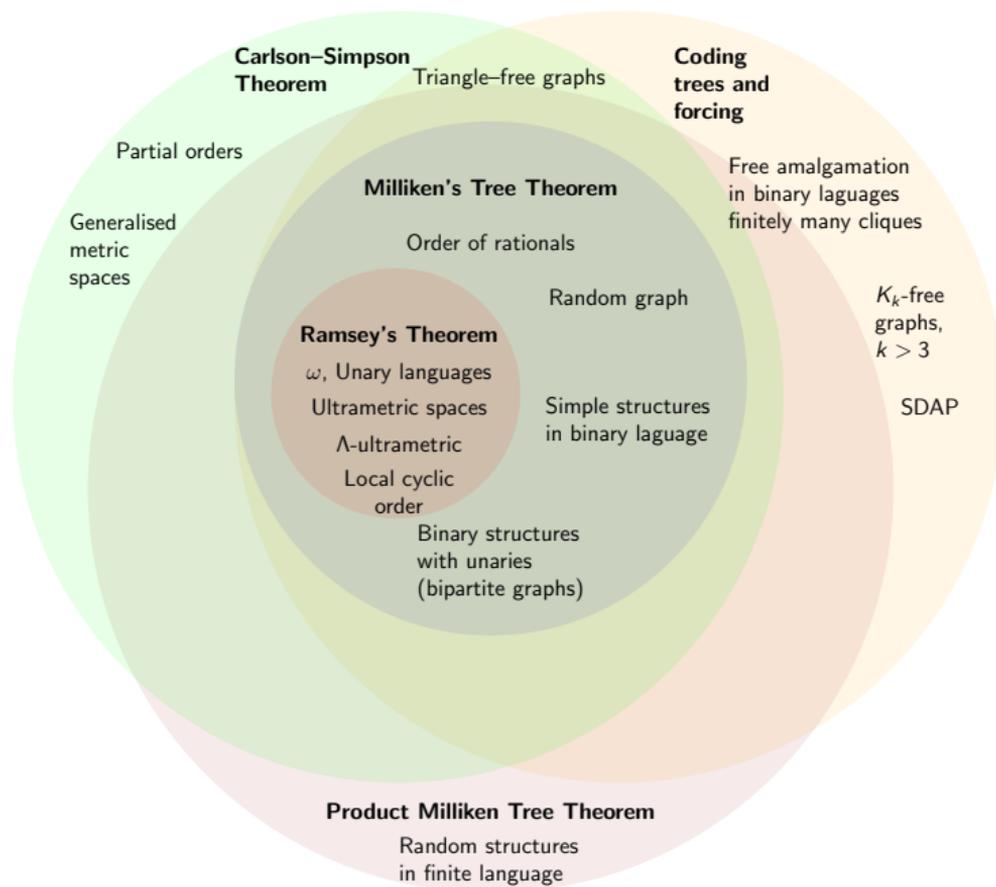
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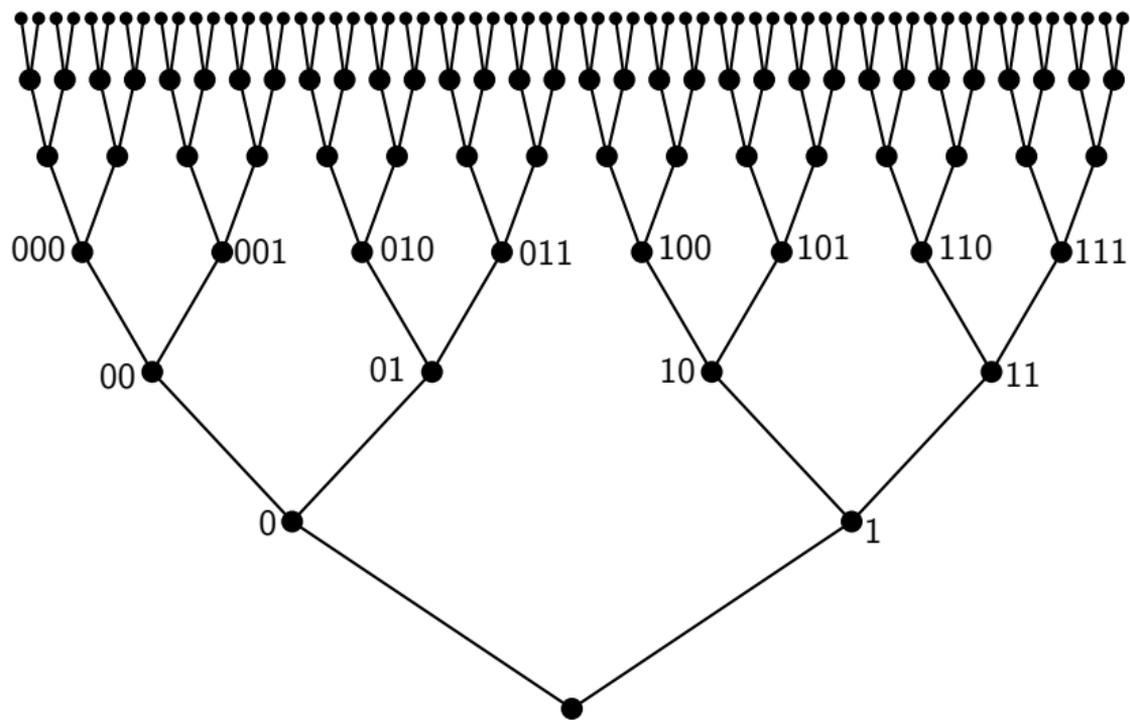
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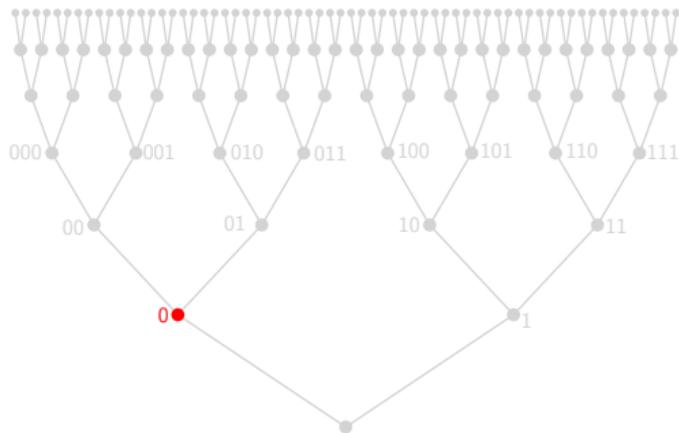
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# Tree



# Strong subtree

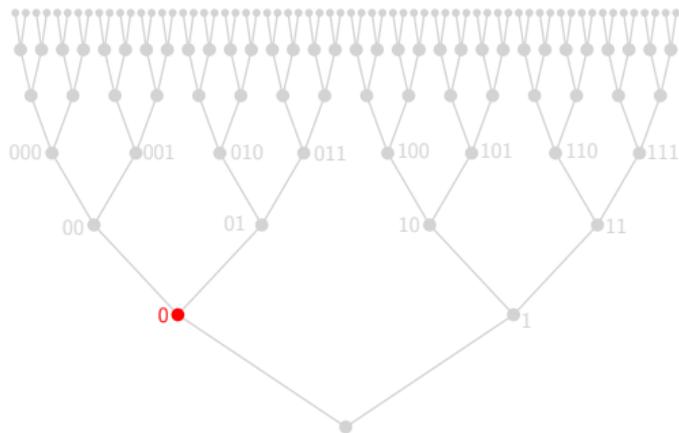


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A **subtree**  $S \subseteq T$  is a subset closed for meets. It is **strong** if:

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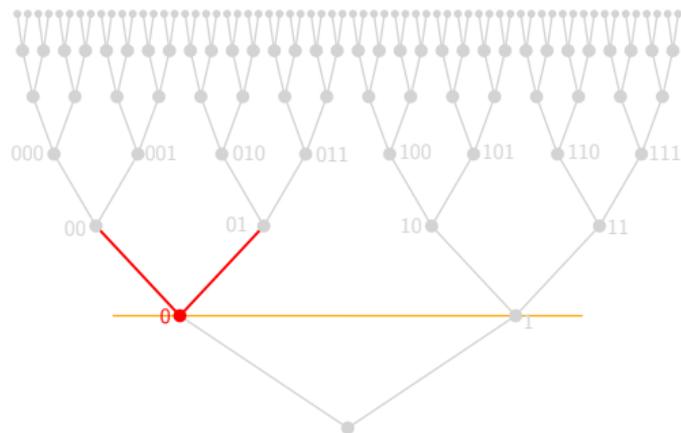


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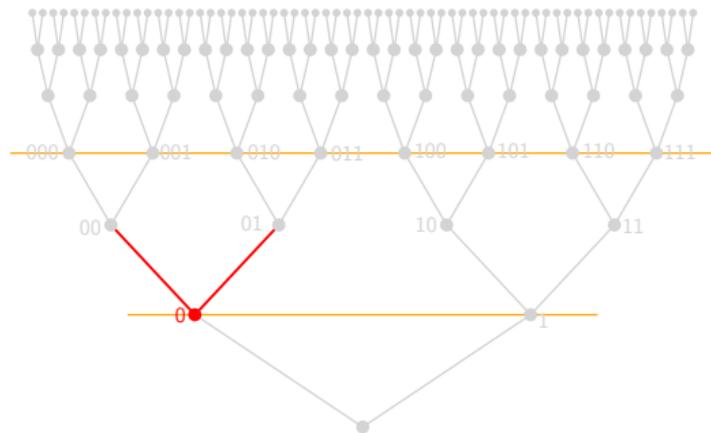


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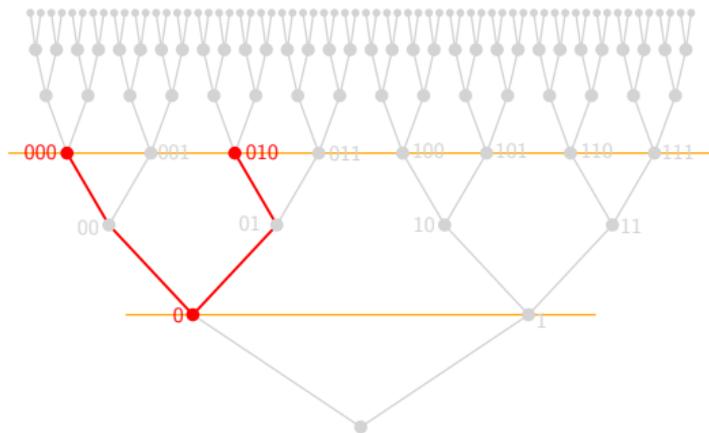


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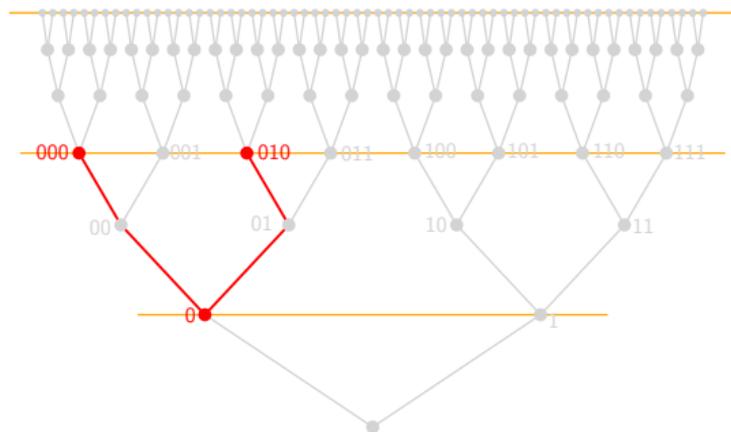


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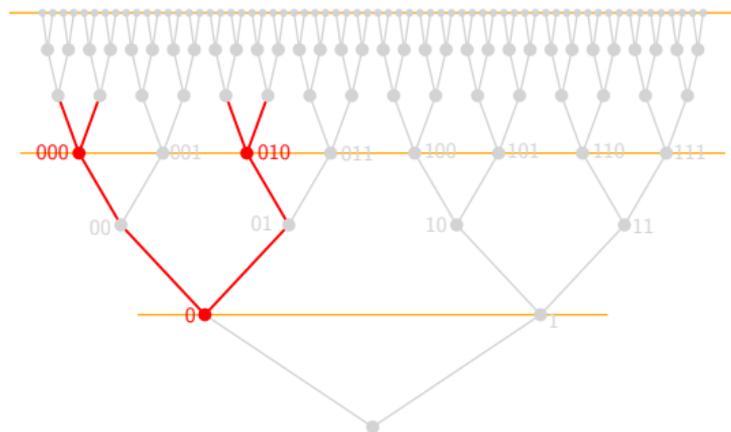


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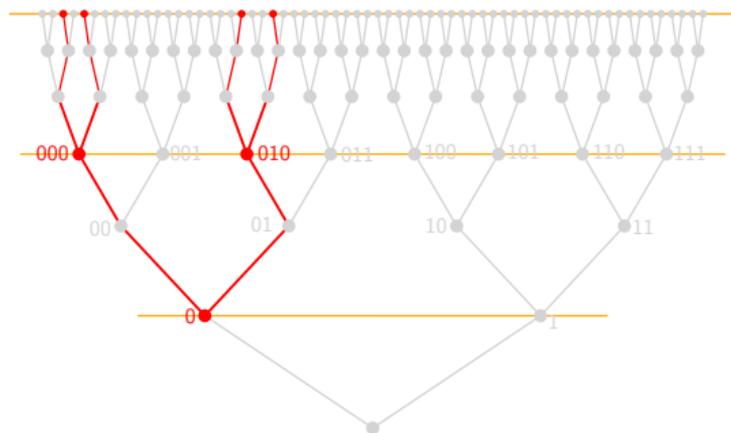


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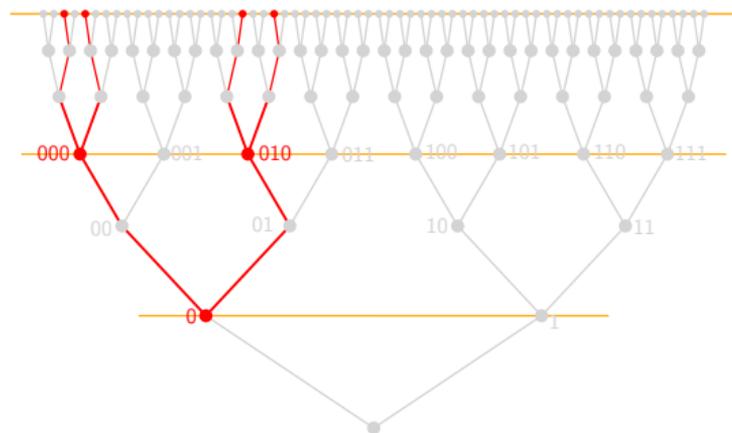


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- 4  $S$  either has no leaves or all are at the same level.

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Theorem (Milliken tree theorem 1979)

*For every infinitely branching tree  $\mathbf{T}$  with no leaves,  $k \geq 1$ , and every finite colouring of strong subtrees of depth  $k$  there exists infinite strong subtree  $\mathbf{S} \subseteq \mathbf{T}$  which is monochromatic.*

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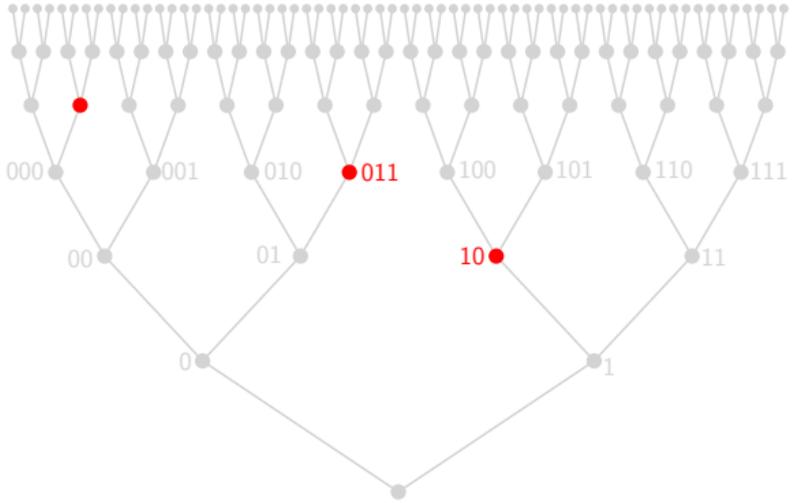
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- 4 By Milliken tree theorem there is infinite monochromatic subtree of  $\mathbf{B}$ . This subtree ordered by  $\sqsubseteq$  contains a copy of  $\mathbf{Q}$ . Colour of a copy of  $\mathbf{O}$  depends only on a shape within envelope, the **embedding type**.

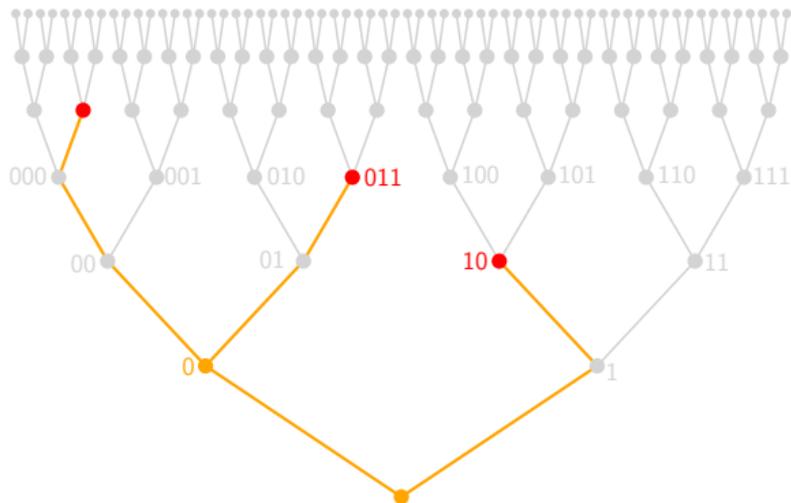


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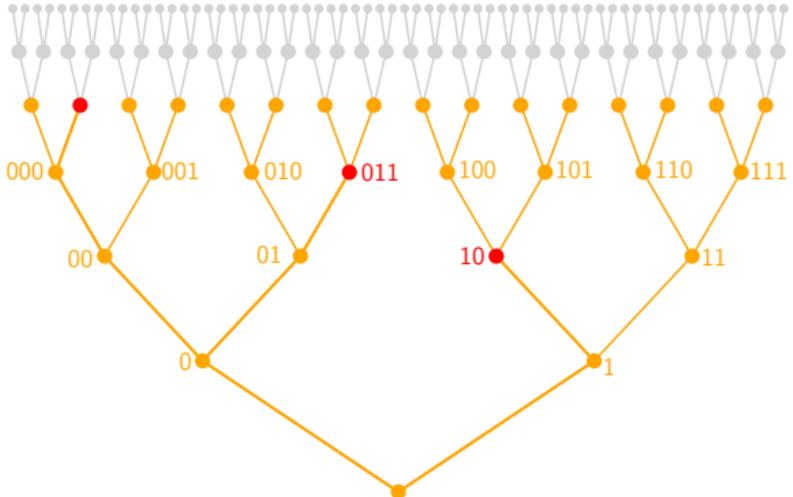
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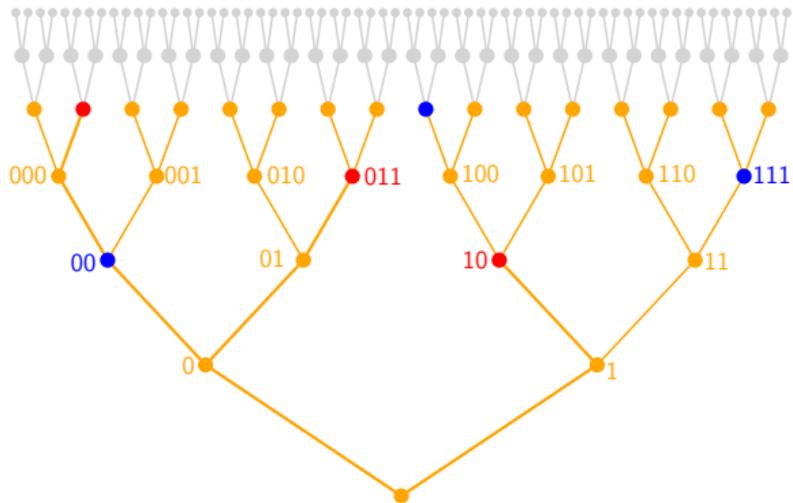
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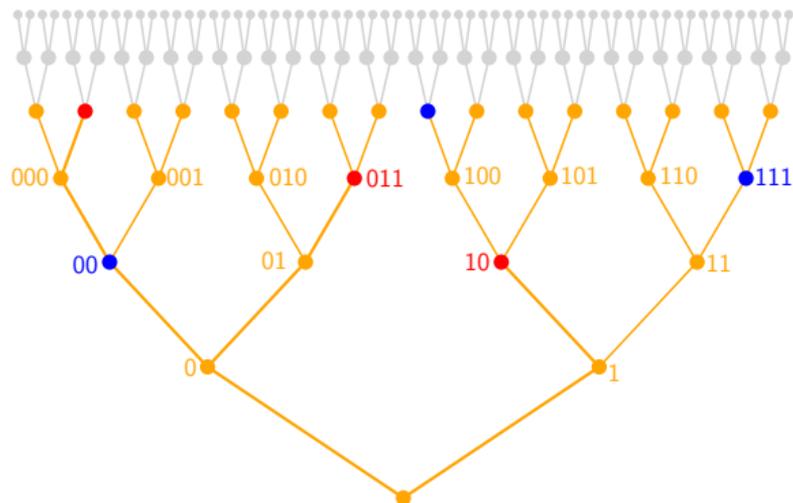
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Many subsets leads to a given strong subtree.

## Main observation

Number of sets yielding a given envelope is bounded. Based on finite coloring of subsets of a given size  $k$  it is possible to produce finite coloring of envelopes and apply Milliken tree theorem to find a copy with bounded number of colors

# Big Ramsey degrees of $(P, \leq)$

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the class of all finite partial orders.

Theorem (J. H. 2020+)

*Every (countable) universal partial order  $(P, \leq)$  has finite big Ramsey degrees:*

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- Proof is based on a new connection between big Ramsey degrees and the **Carlson–Simpson theorem**.

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*Every (countable) universal partial order  $(P, \leq)$  has finite big Ramsey degrees:*

$$\forall_{(O, \leq) \in \mathcal{P}} \exists_{T = T(|O|) \in \omega} \forall_{k \geq 1} : (P, \leq) \longrightarrow (P, \leq)_{k, T}^{(O, \leq)}.$$

**Universality:** every countable partial order has embedding to  $(P, \leq)$ .

- Proof is based on a new connection between big Ramsey degrees and the **Carlson–Simpson theorem**.
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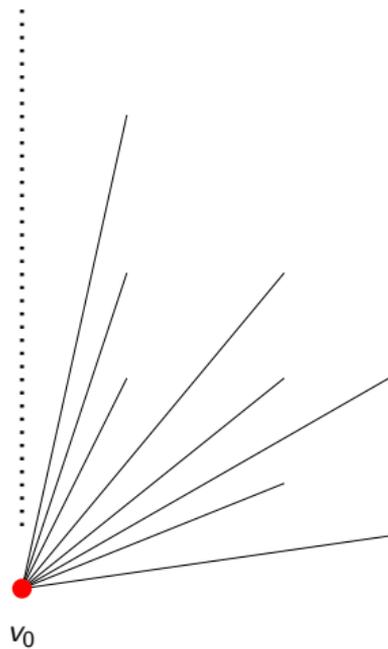
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- We also get **easy proof finite big Ramsey degrees of triangle-free graphs** giving a new proof Dobrinen's theorem.
- Construction generalizes to large family of classes that are described by forbidden induced cycles in particular to **metric spaces with bounded number of distances** (joint work with **M. Balko, D. Chodounský, N. Dobrinen, M. Konečný, J. Nešetřil, L. Vena, A. Zucker**)
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- Generalizations to bigger forbidden cliques and higher arities is work in progress

# Tree of types of a universal triangle-free graph

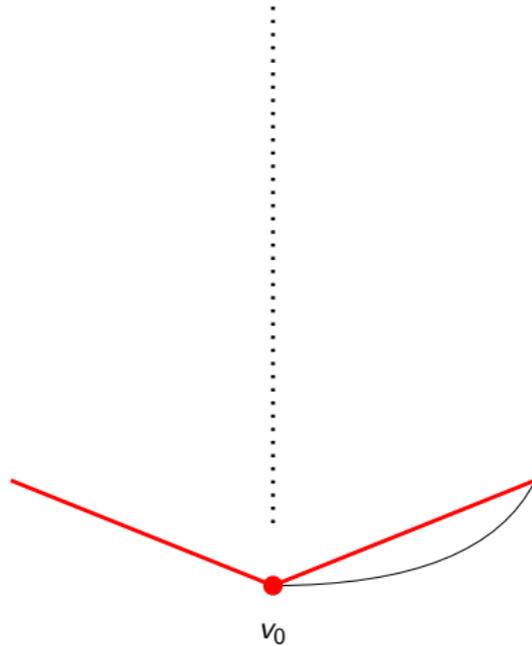


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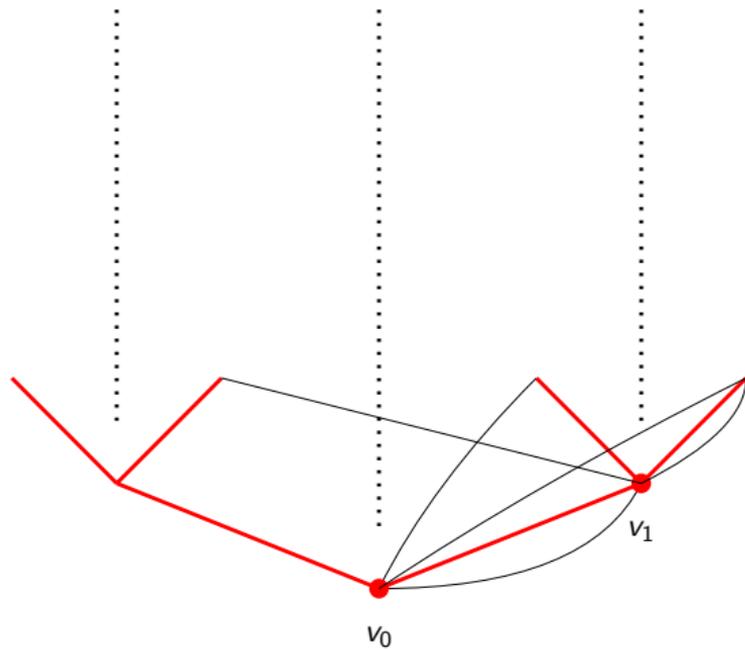
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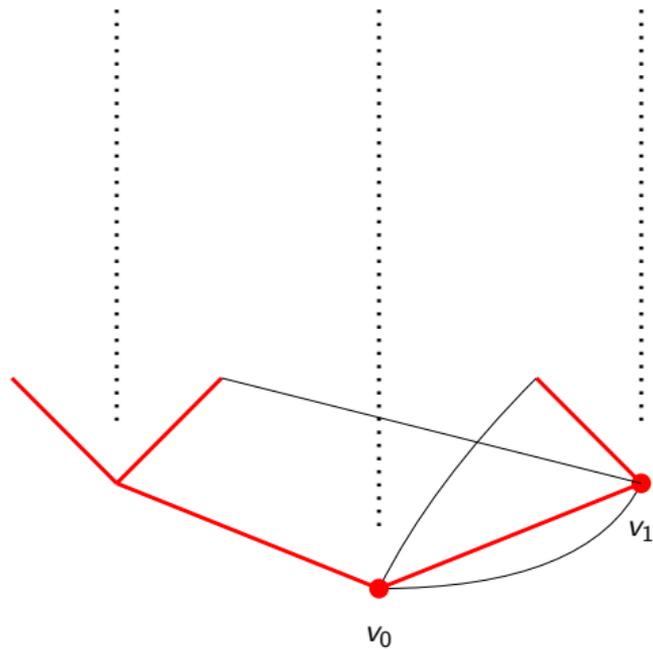
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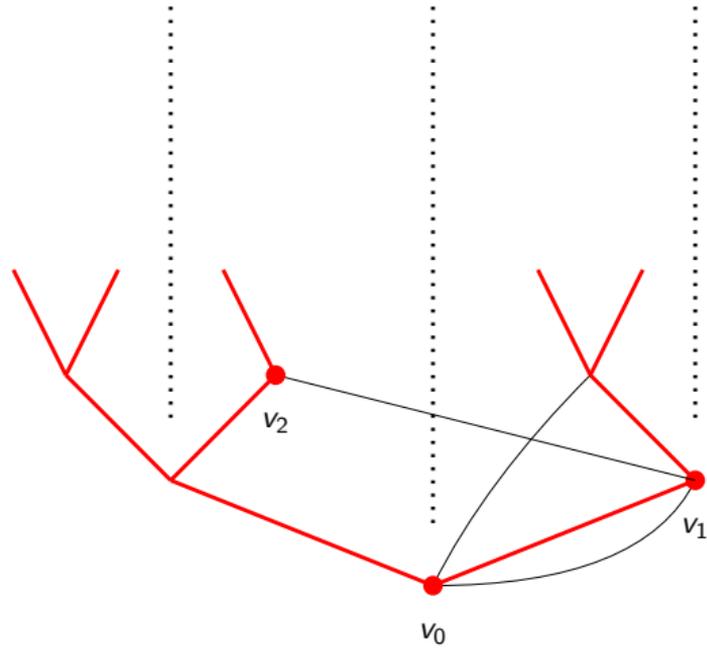
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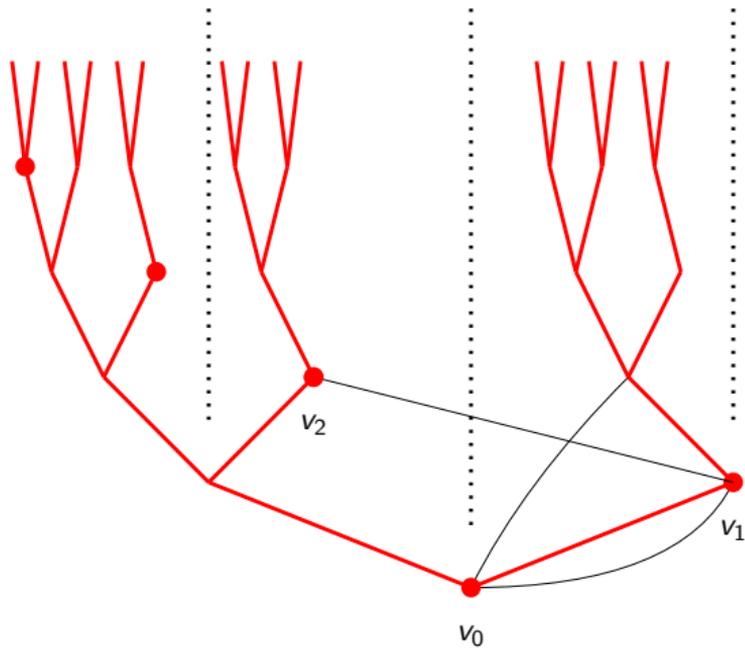
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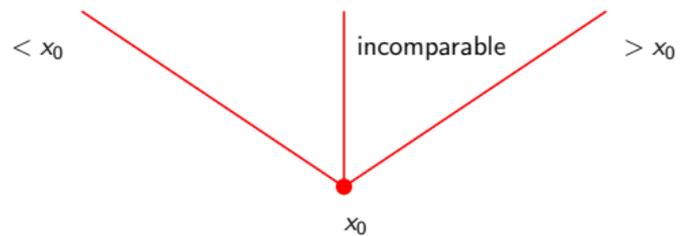


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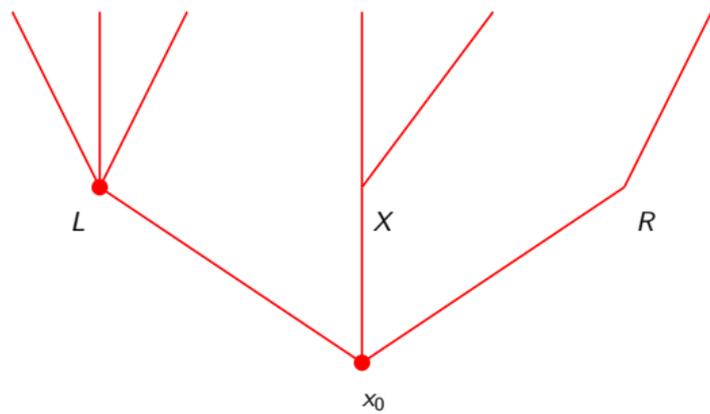


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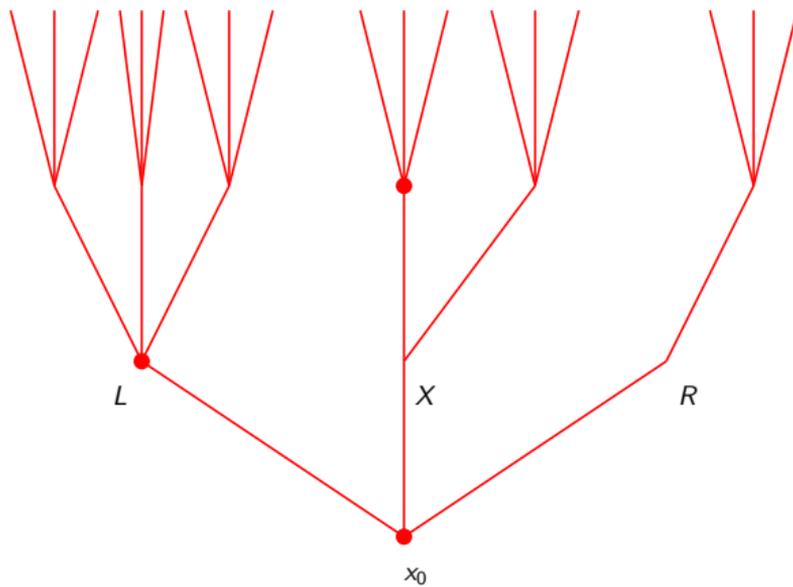
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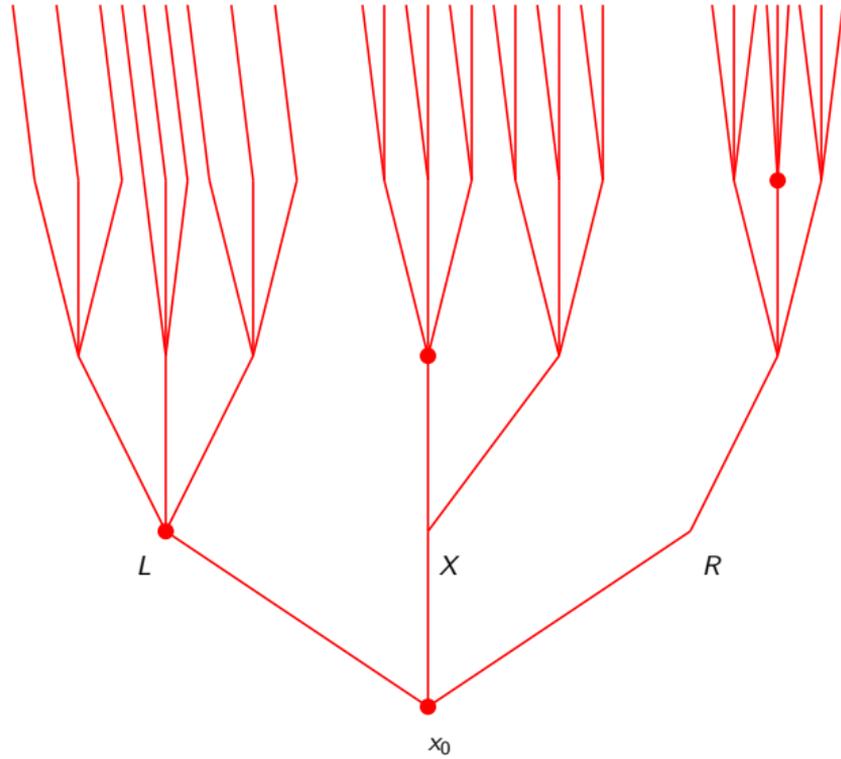
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# Parameter words

## Definition (Parameter word)

Given a finite alphabet  $\Sigma$  and  $k \in \omega + 1$ , a  **$k$ -parameter word** is a (possibly infinite) word  $W$  in alphabet  $\Sigma \cup \{\lambda_i : 0 \leq i < k\}$  such that  $\forall i \in k$  word  $W$  contains  $\lambda_i$  and for every  $j \in k - 1$ , the first occurrence of  $\lambda_{j+1}$  appears after the first occurrence of  $\lambda_j$ .

## Example (2-parameter word)

$\Sigma = \{L, X, R\}$ .

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For set  $S$  of parameter words and a parameter word  $W$ :

$$W(S) = \{W(U) : U \in S\}.$$

# Ramsey theorem for parameter words

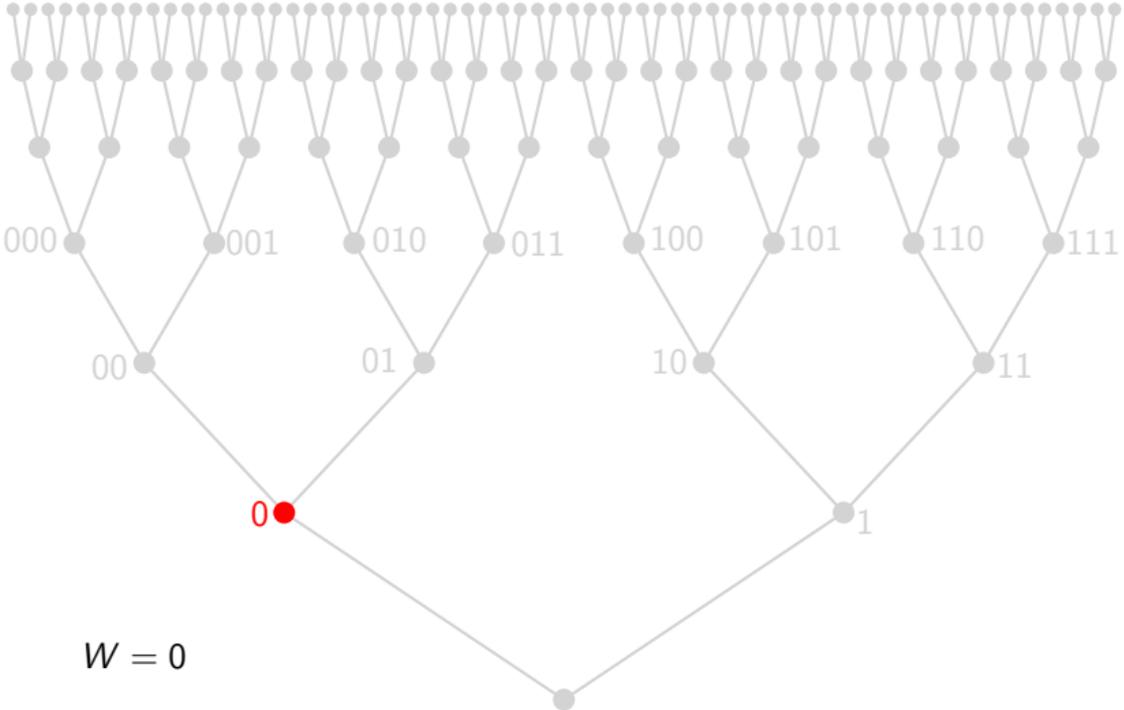
The following infinitary version of **Graham–Rothschild Theorem** is a direct consequence of the **Carlson–Simpson** theorem. It was also independently proved by Voight in 1983 (apparently unpublished):

## Theorem (Ramsey theorem for parameter words)

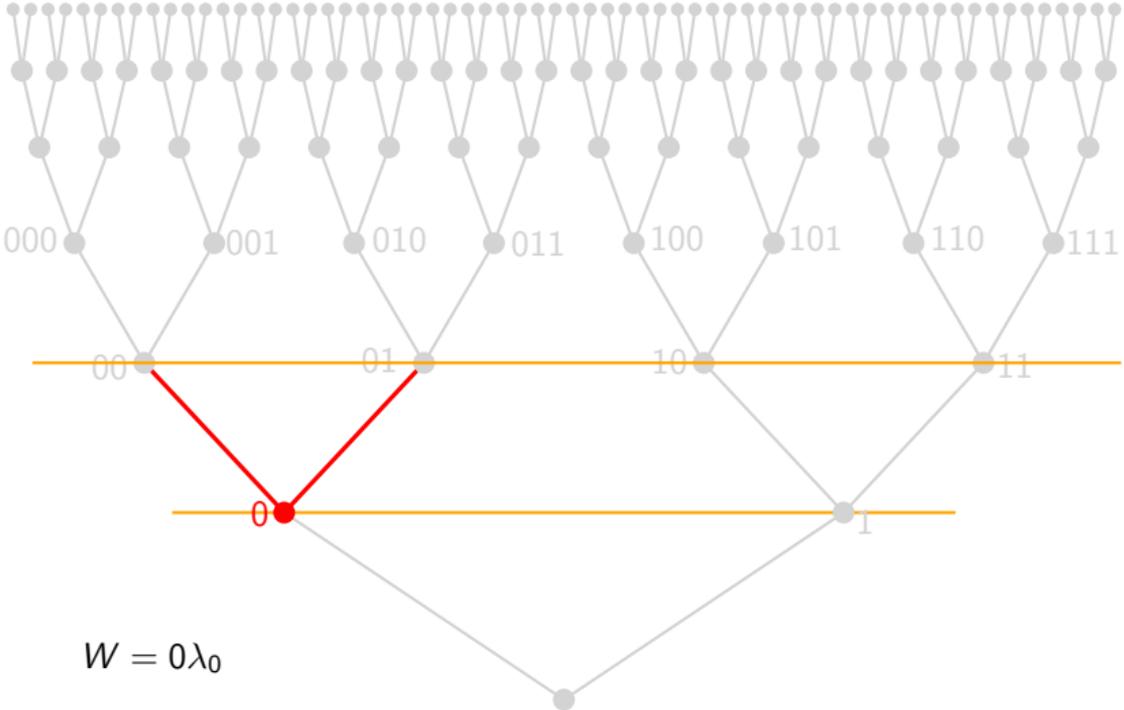
*Let  $\Sigma$  be a finite alphabet and  $k \geq 0$  a finite integer. If the set of all finite  $k$ -parameter words in alphabet  $\Sigma$  is coloured by finitely many colours, then there exists a monochromatic infinite-parameter word  $W$ .*

By  $W$  being **monochromatic** we mean that for every pair of  $k$ -parameter words  $U, V$  the colour of  $W(U)$  is the same as colour of  $W(V)$ .

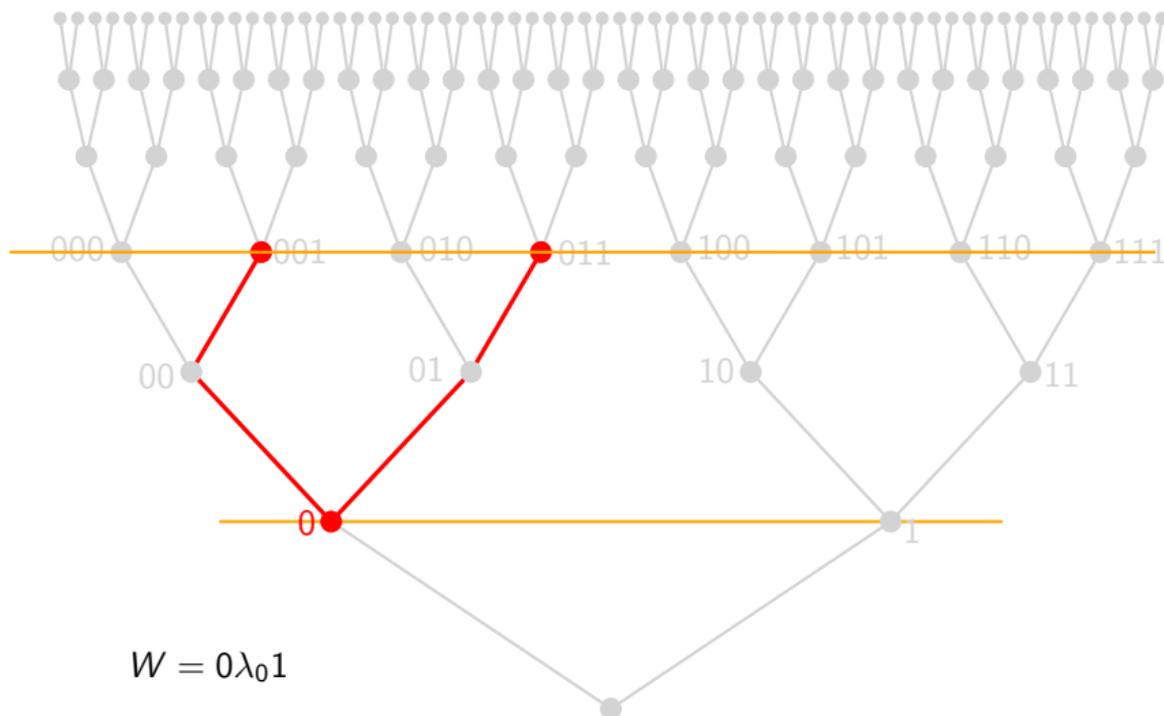
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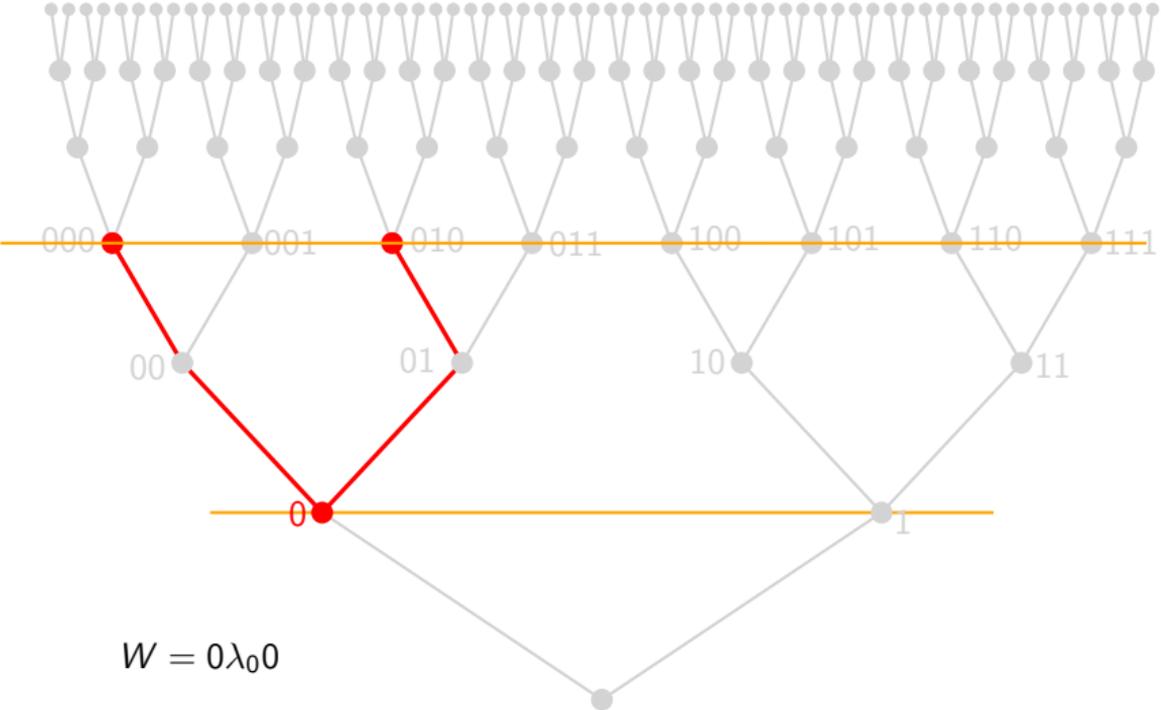
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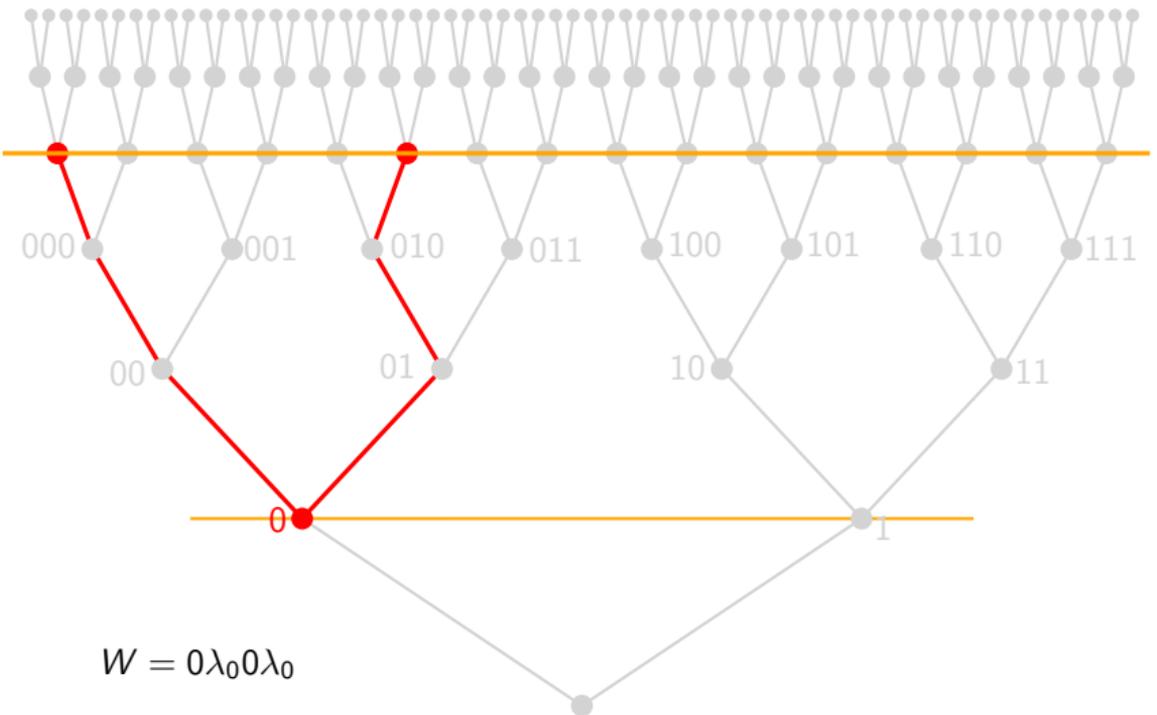
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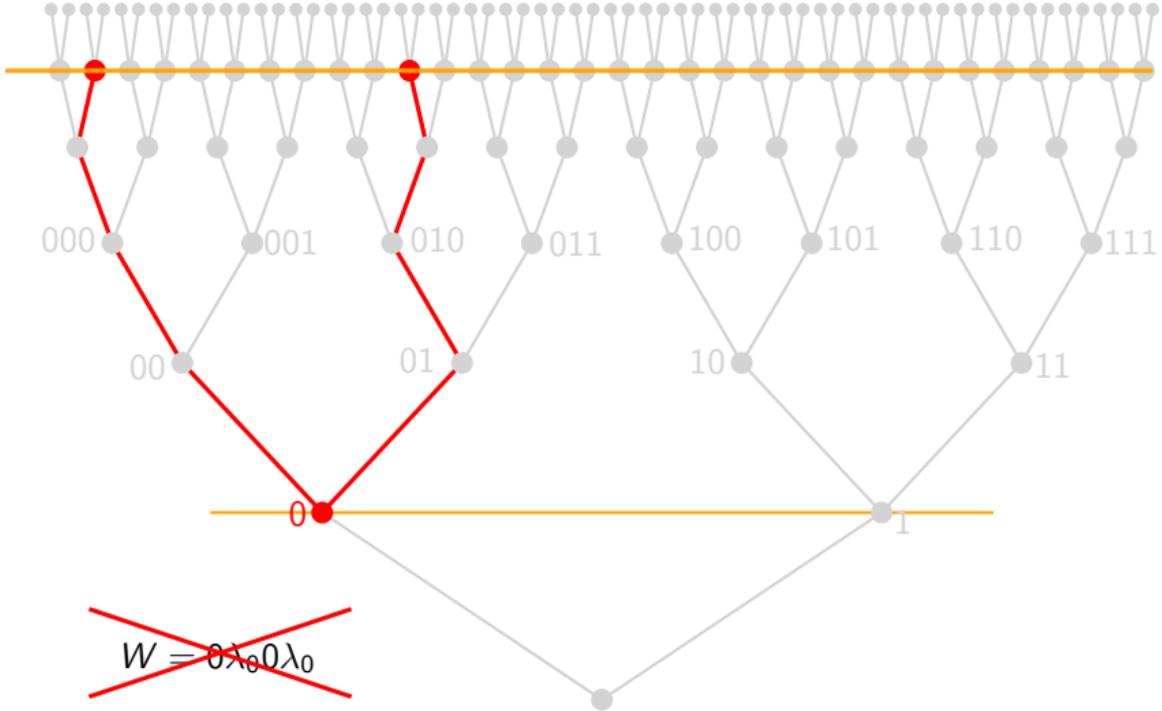


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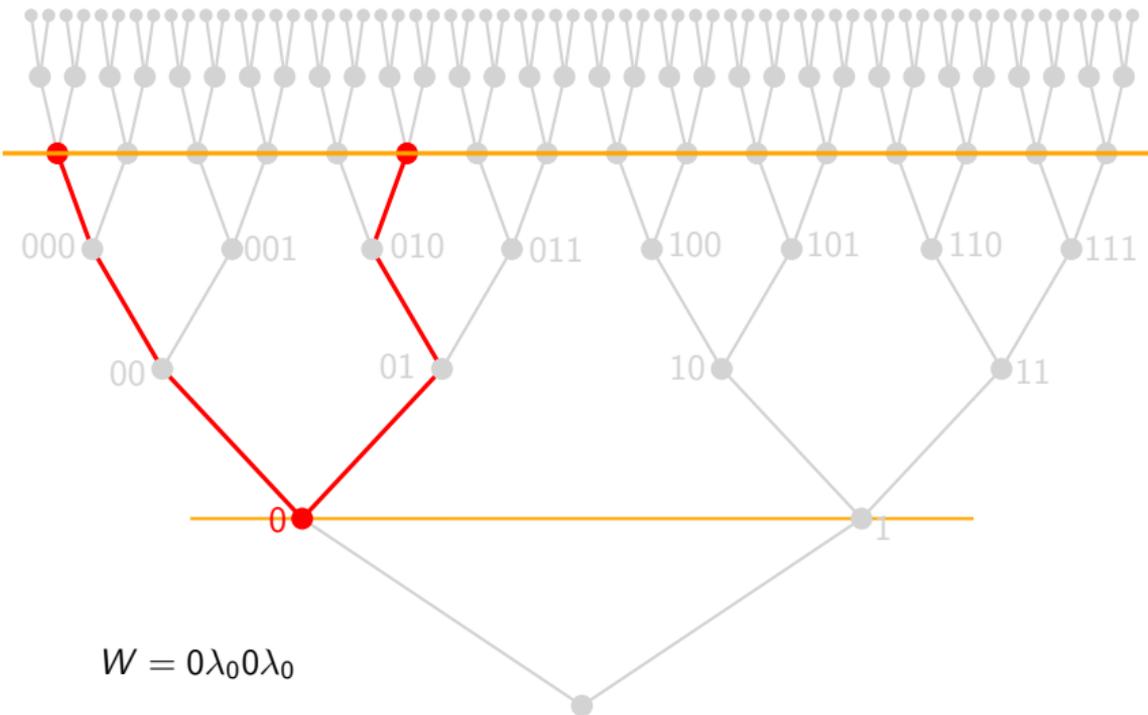


$$W = 0\lambda_0 0\lambda_0$$

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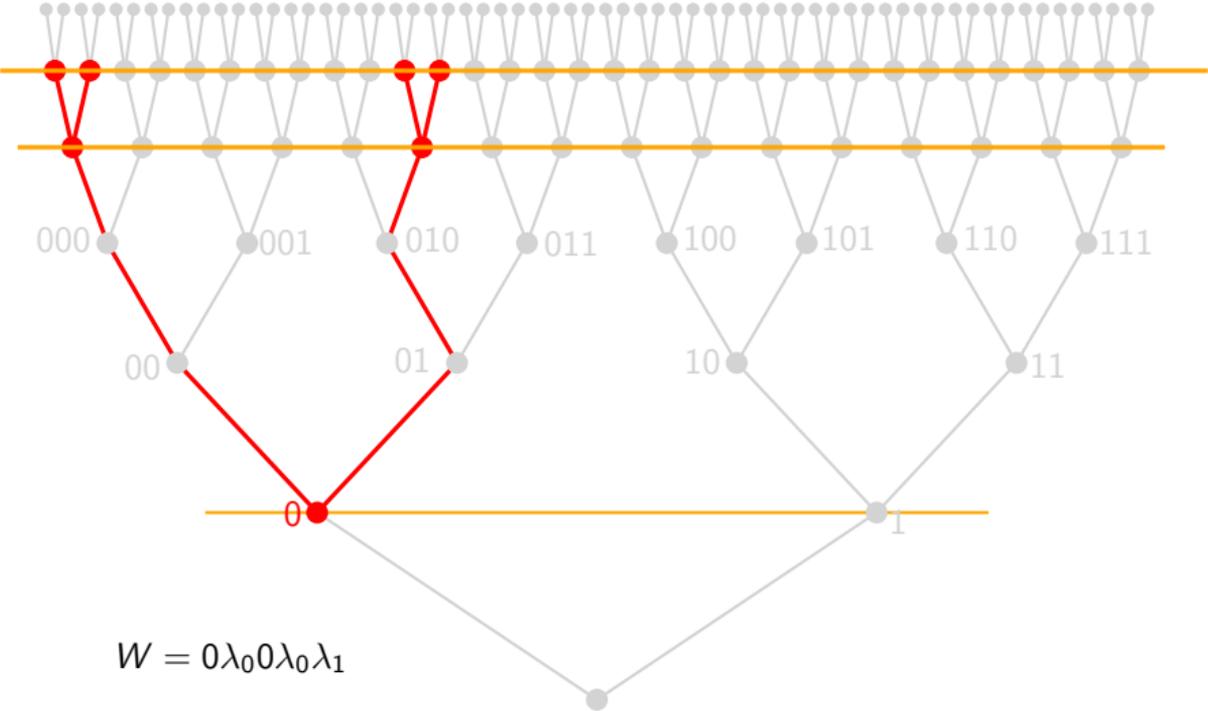


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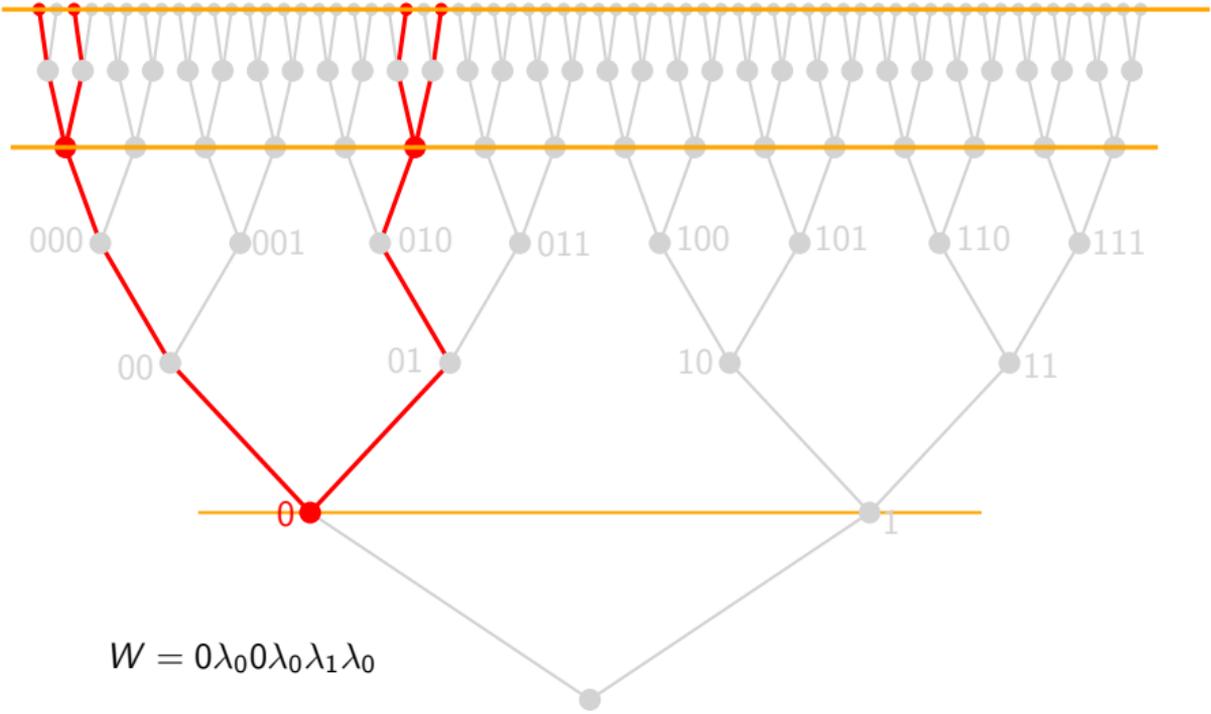


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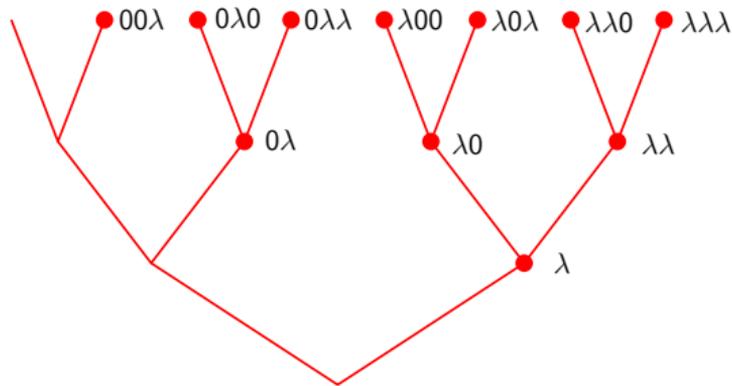
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# Triangle-free graph on 1-parameter words

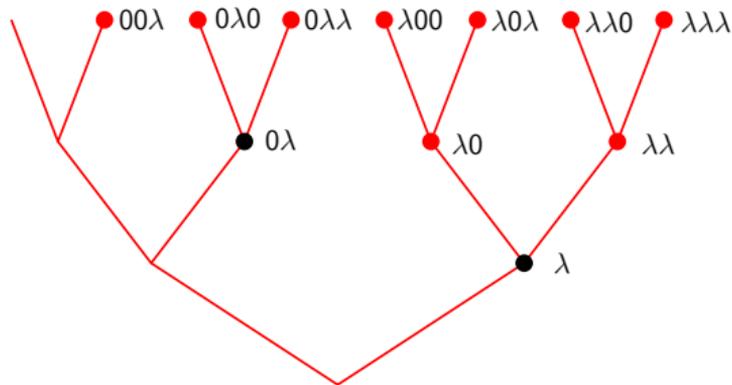


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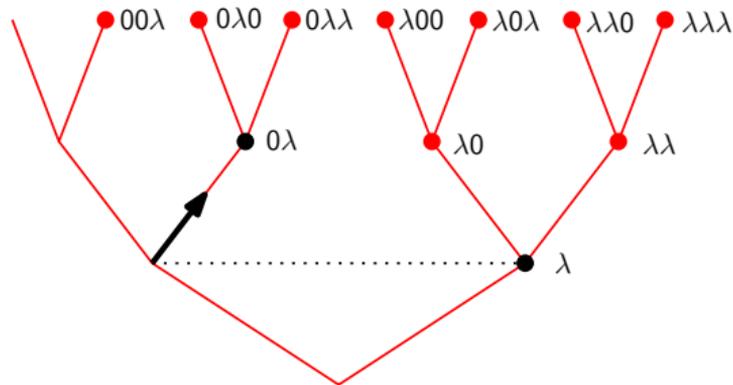


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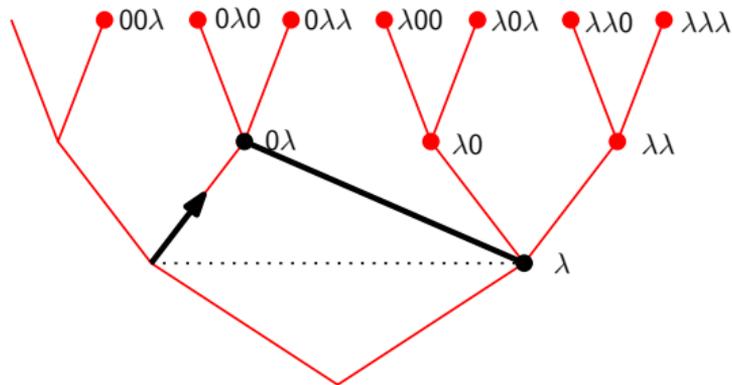


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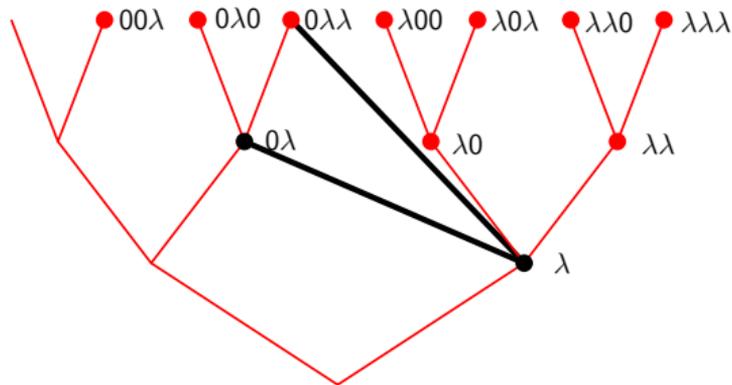


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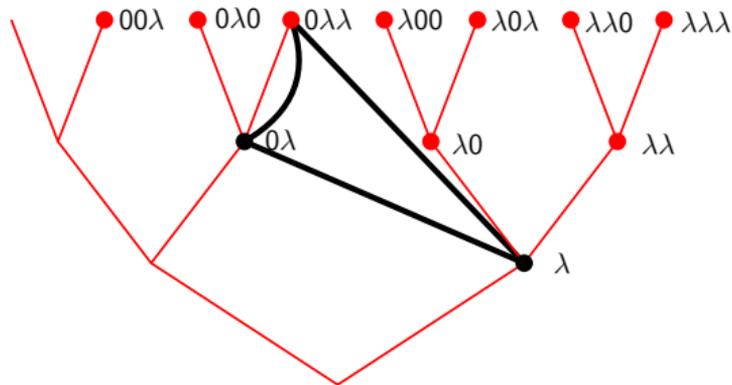


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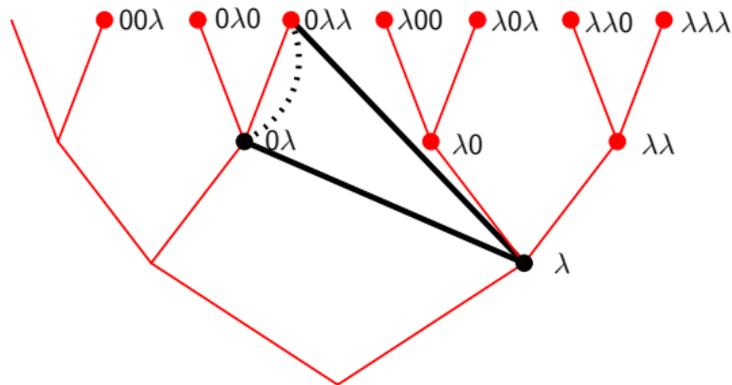


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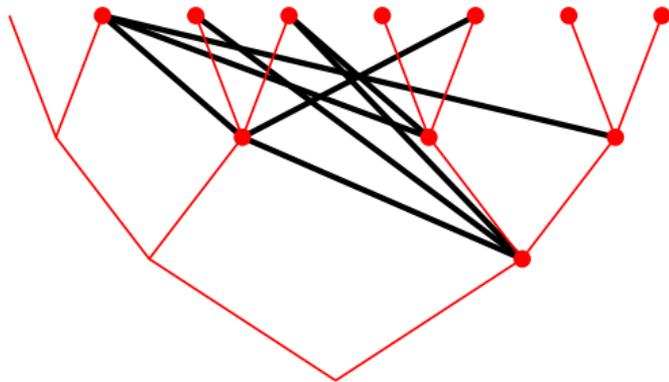


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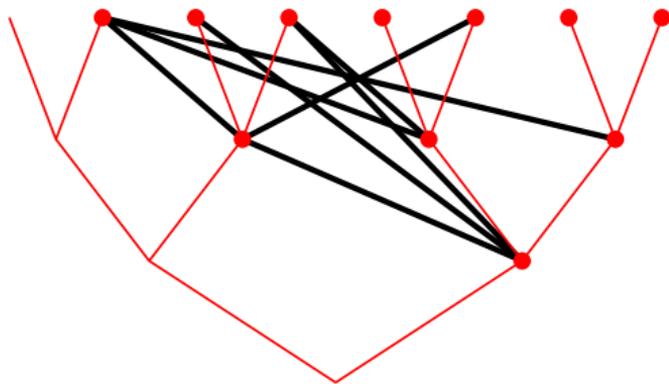


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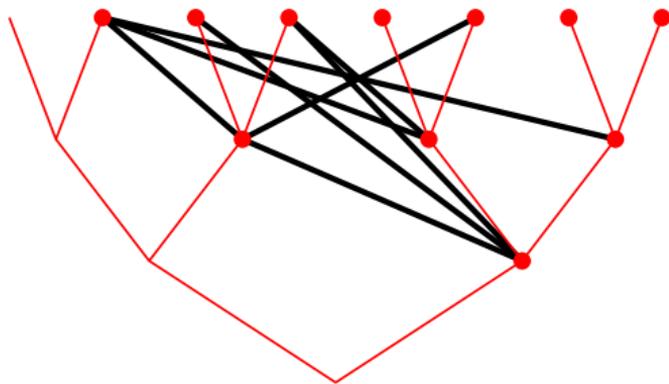
Put  $\Sigma = \{0\}$ .

Definition (Triangle-free graph  $G$ )

- Vertices of  $G$  are all finite 1-parameter words in alphabet  $\Sigma$ .
- For 1-parameter words  $u, v$  satisfying  $|u| < |v|$  we put  $u \sim v$  ( $u$  adjacent to  $v$ ) iff
  - ①  $V_{|u|} = \lambda$  and
  - ② for no  $i \in |u|$  it holds that  $U_i = V_i = \lambda$ .

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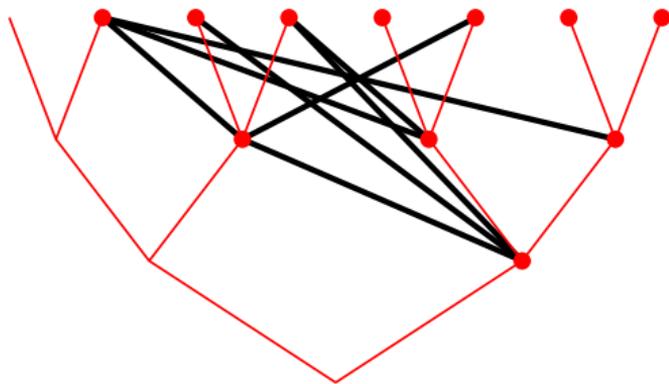
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Given any triangle-free graph  $H$  with vertex set  $\omega$  assign every  $i \in \omega$  word  $w$  of length  $i$  putting  $\forall j < i$   $w_j = \lambda$  iff  $\{i, j\}$  is an edge of  $H$ .

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**Key observation 1:**  $G$  is universal triangle-free graph.

**Key observation 2:** For every pair of 1-parameter words  $U$  and  $V$  and every  $\omega$ -parameter  $W$

$$U \sim V \iff W(U) \sim W(V).$$

## Observation

$G$  is a universal triangle-free graph.

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For every infinite-parameter word  $W$  it holds that  $u \sim v \iff W(u) \sim W(v)$ .  
(Substitution is also graph embedding on  $G \rightarrow G$ .)

## Theorem (Ramsey theorem for parameter words)

*Let  $\Sigma$  be a finite alphabet and  $k \geq 0$  a finite integer. If the set of all finite  $k$ -parameter words in alphabet  $\Sigma$  is coloured by finitely many colours, then there exists a monochromatic infinite-parameter word  $W$ .*

## Proposition (Envelopes are bounded)

There exists  $T(|\Sigma|, s, k)$  such that for every set  $S$  of size  $s$  of  $k$ -parameter words in alphabet  $\Sigma$  there exists an envelope of  $S$  with at most  $T(|\Sigma|, s, k)$  parameters.

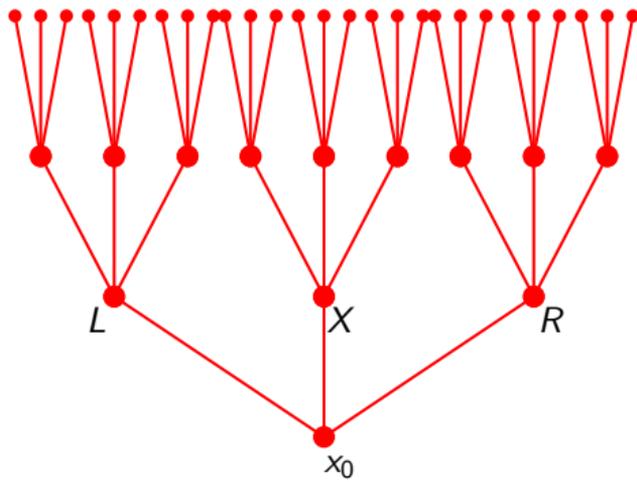
## Theorem (Dobrinen 2020)

*The big Ramsey degrees of universal triangle-free graph are finite.*

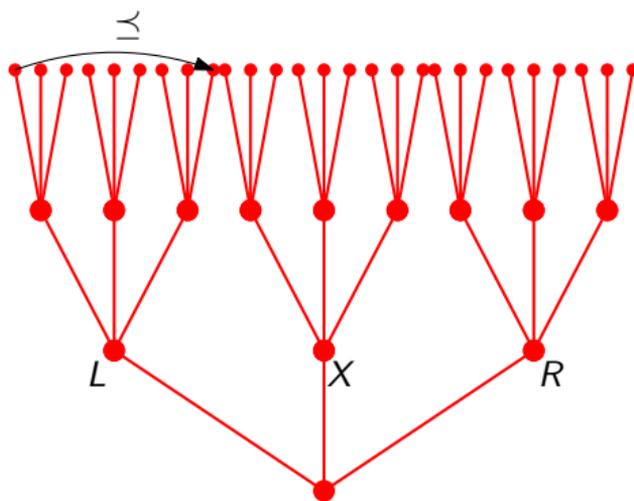
## Proof.

Fix graph  $A$  and a finite coloring of  $\binom{G}{A}$ . Because envelopes of copies of  $A$  are bounded, apply the theorem above for every embedding type and obtain a copy of  $G$  with bounded number of colors.  $\square$

# Partial order on infinite ternary tree



# Partial order on infinite ternary tree



Put  $\Sigma = \{L, X, R\}$  and order  $L <_{\text{lex}} X <_{\text{lex}} R$ .

**Definition (Partial order  $(\Sigma^*, \preceq)$ )**

For  $w, w' \in \Sigma^*$  we put  $w \prec w'$  if and only if there exists  $0 \leq i < \min(|w|, |w'|)$  such that

- 1  $(w_i, w'_i) = (L, R)$  and
- 2 for every  $0 \leq j < i$  it holds that  $w_j \leq_{\text{lex}} w'_j$ .

**Key observations:**  $\preceq$  is universal partial order and is stable for substitution.

**Lower bounds**

# Devlin-type

Given  $n$ , the big Ramsey degree of linear order of size  $n$  is to the number of **Devlin-types**.

**Notation:**

- $\Sigma^*$  is the set of all finite words in alphabet  $\Sigma$ .
- Given  $S \subseteq \Sigma^*$  by  $\overline{S}$  we denote the set of all initial segments of words in  $S$ .
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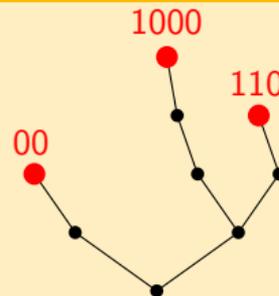
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A **Devlin-type** is any subset  $S$  of  $\{0, 1\}^*$  such that for every  $\ell \leq \max_{w \in S} |w|$  precisely one of the following happens:

- 1 **Leaf:** There is  $w \in \overline{S}_\ell$  such that  $\overline{S}_{\ell+1} = (\overline{S}_\ell \setminus \{w\}) \frown 0$ .
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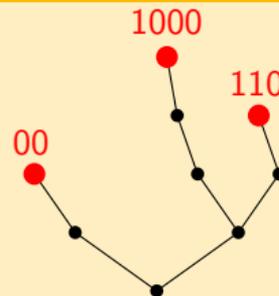
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$$t_1 = 1, t_n = \sum_{\ell=1}^{n-1} \binom{2n-2}{2\ell-1} t_\ell \cdot t_{n-\ell}.$$

# Level-structures

## Definition

Given level  $\ell$  of the tree of types, we can consider its **level-structure**:

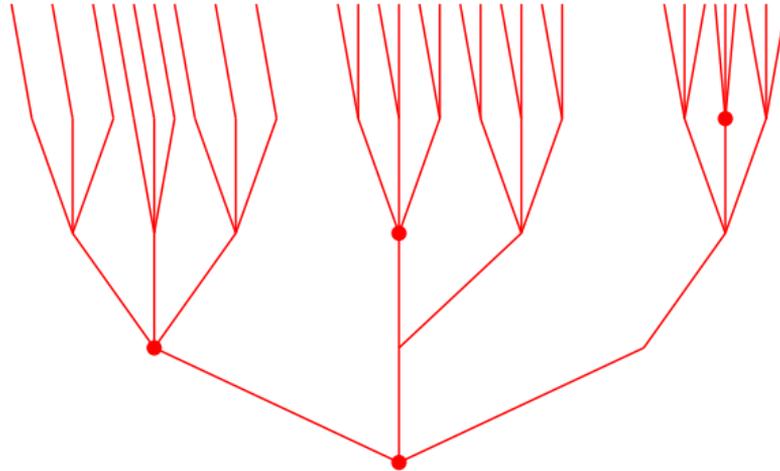
- ① Vertices are nodes (types) of level  $\ell$ .
- ② We write  $a \preceq b$  if it is true that  $a' \leq b'$  for every successor  $a'$  of  $a$  and  $b'$  of  $b$ .
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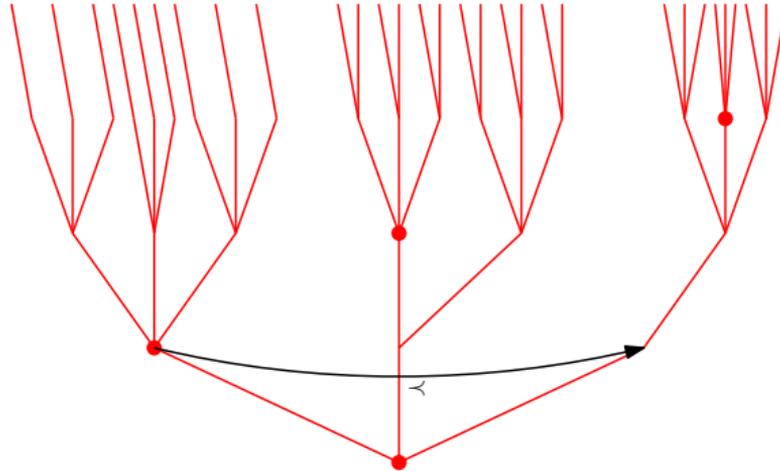


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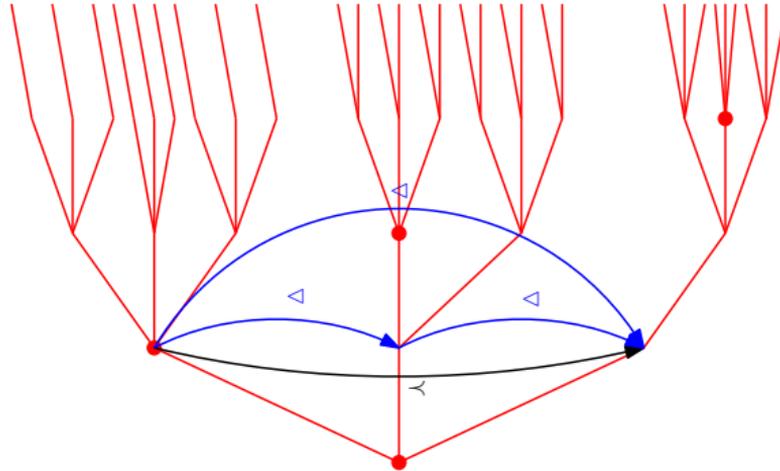


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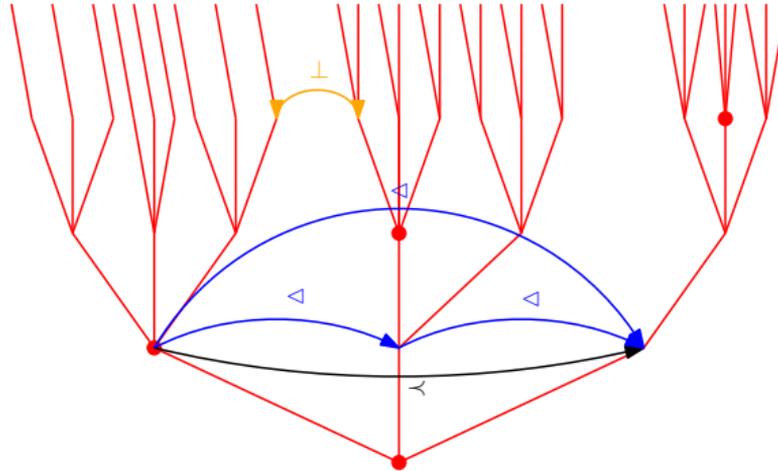


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## Fun fact

It turns out that both  $\preceq$  and  $\trianglelefteq$  are partial orders and whenever  $a \preceq b$  also  $a \trianglelefteq b$ . One can think of the level structure  $(A, \preceq, \trianglelefteq)$  as of an **finite approximation** of the infinite partial order located above the given level.

## Definition (Poset-type)

A set  $S \subseteq \{L, X, R\}^*$  is called a **poset-type** if precisely one of the following four conditions is satisfied for every level  $\ell$  with  $0 \leq \ell < \max_{w \in S} |w|$ :

① **Leaf**: There is  $w \in \bar{S}_\ell$  related to every  $u \in \bar{S}_\ell \setminus \{w\}$  and  $\bar{S}_{\ell+1} = (\bar{S}_\ell \setminus \{w\}) \frown X$ .

② **Branching**: There is  $w \in \bar{S}_\ell$  such that

$$\bar{S}_{\ell+1} = \{z \in \bar{S}_\ell : z <_{\text{lex}} w\} \frown X \cup \{w \frown X, w \frown R\} \cup \{z \in \bar{S}_\ell : w <_{\text{lex}} z\} \frown R.$$

③ **New  $\perp$** : There are unrelated words  $v <_{\text{lex}} w \in \bar{S}_\ell$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{S}_{\ell+1} = & \{z \in \bar{S}_\ell : z <_{\text{lex}} v\} \frown X \cup \{v \frown R\} \cup \{z \in \bar{S}_\ell : v <_{\text{lex}} z <_{\text{lex}} w \text{ and } z \perp v\} \frown X \\ & \cup \{z \in \bar{S}_\ell : v <_{\text{lex}} z <_{\text{lex}} w \text{ and } z \not\perp v\} \frown R \cup \{w \frown X\} \cup \{z \in \bar{S}_\ell : w <_{\text{lex}} z\} \frown R. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover for every  $u \in \bar{S}_\ell$ ,  $v <_{\text{lex}} u <_{\text{lex}} w$  implies that at least one of  $u \perp v$  or  $u \perp w$  holds.

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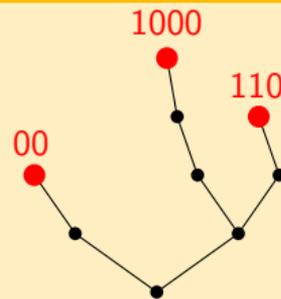
Moreover for every  $u \in \bar{S}_\ell$  such that  $u <_{\text{lex}} v$ , at least one of  $u \preceq w$  or  $u \perp v$  holds.

Symmetrically for every  $u \in \bar{S}_\ell$  such that  $w <_{\text{lex}} u$ , at least one of  $v \preceq u$  or  $w \perp u$  holds.

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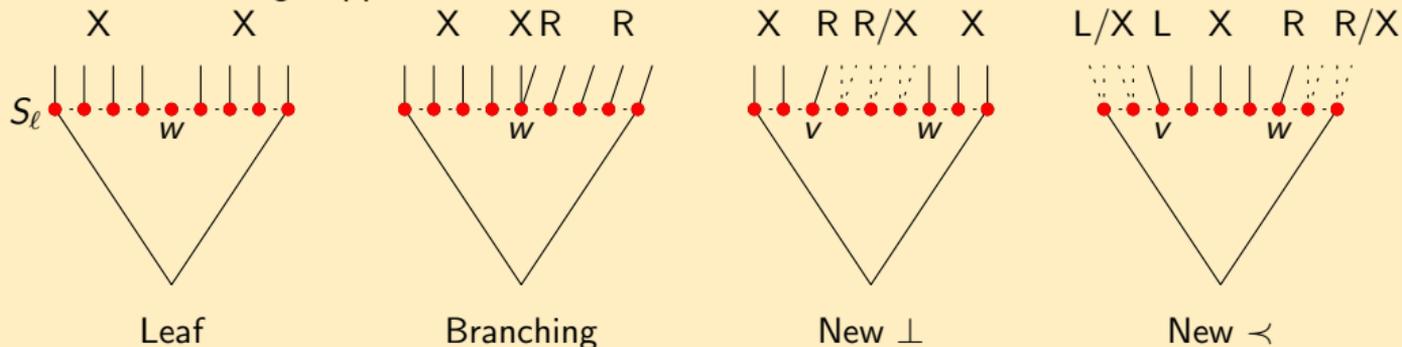
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# Main result

Given a finite partial order  $(A, \leq)$ , we let  $T(A, \leq)$  be the set of all poset-types  $S$  such that  $(S, \preceq)$  is isomorphic to  $(A, \leq)$ .

Theorem (M. Balko, D. Chodounský, N. Dobrinen, J. H., M. Konečný, L. Vena, A. Zucker)

*For every finite partial order  $(O, \leq)$ , the big Ramsey degree of  $(O, \leq)$  in the universal partial order  $(P, \leq)$  equals  $|T(O, \leq)| \cdot |\text{Aut}(O, \leq)|$ .*

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## Example

Denote by  $\mathbf{A}_n$  the anti-chain with  $n$  vertices and by  $\mathbf{C}_n$  the chain with  $n$  vertices.

$$T(\mathbf{A}_1) = T(\mathbf{C}_1) = \{\emptyset\}$$

$$T(\mathbf{A}_2) = \{\{XR, RXX\}, \{XRX, RX\}\}$$

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$$|T(\mathbf{A}_3)| = 84, |T(\mathbf{A}_4)| = 75642$$

Overall there are:

- 1 poset-types a vertex,
- 4 poset-types of posets of size 2,
- 464 poset-types of posets of size 3,
- 1874880 poset-types of posets of size 4.

# Approximating posets

## Definition (Approximate poset)

An **approximate poset** is a structure  $(A, \preceq, \triangleleft, P)$  where

- 1 both  $\preceq$  and  $\triangleleft$  are partial order.
- 2  $P$  is a unary predicate denoting “finished vertices”.
- 3  $\preceq \subseteq \triangleleft$  (whenever  $a \preceq b$  also  $a \triangleleft b$ ).
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- 5 If  $a \in P$  then for every  $b \in A$ ,  $b \neq a$  it holds one of  $a \preceq b$ ,  $b \preceq a$  or  $a \perp b$  ( $a \perp b$  is a shortcut for  $a \not\triangleleft b$ ,  $b \not\triangleleft a$ .)



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## Definition

Poset-type of a poset  $(B, \leq)$  is equivalently sequence of approximations of  $(B, \leq)$  where on each step one of the following happens:

- 1 **Leaf**: New vertex is added to predicate  $P$ .
- 2 **Branching**: A vertex  $u$  is split into vertices  $u_1 \triangleleft u_2$ .
- 3 **New  $\perp$** : A pair is removed from relation  $\triangleleft$ .
- 4 **New  $\preceq$** : A new pair is added to relation  $\preceq$ .

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$\preceq$  is black,  $\trianglelefteq$  is blue  
 $P$  is black,  $\neg P$  is red

Goal



Approximation



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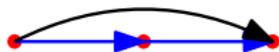
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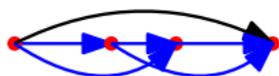
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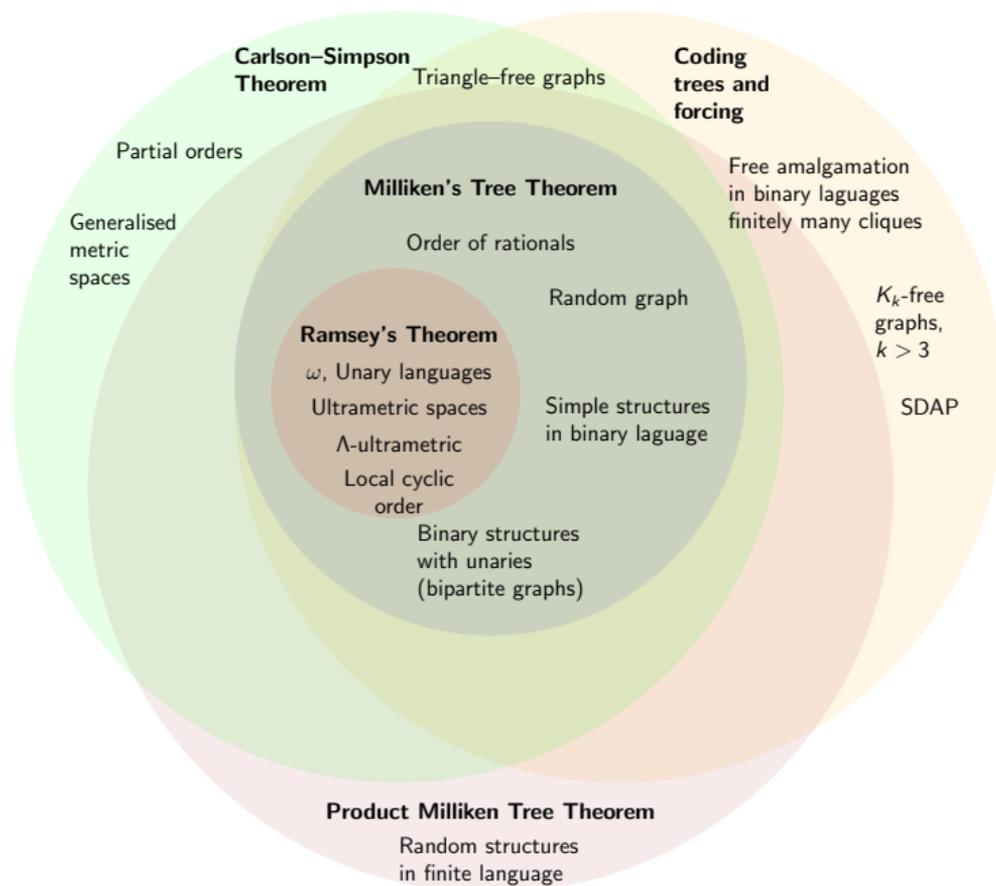
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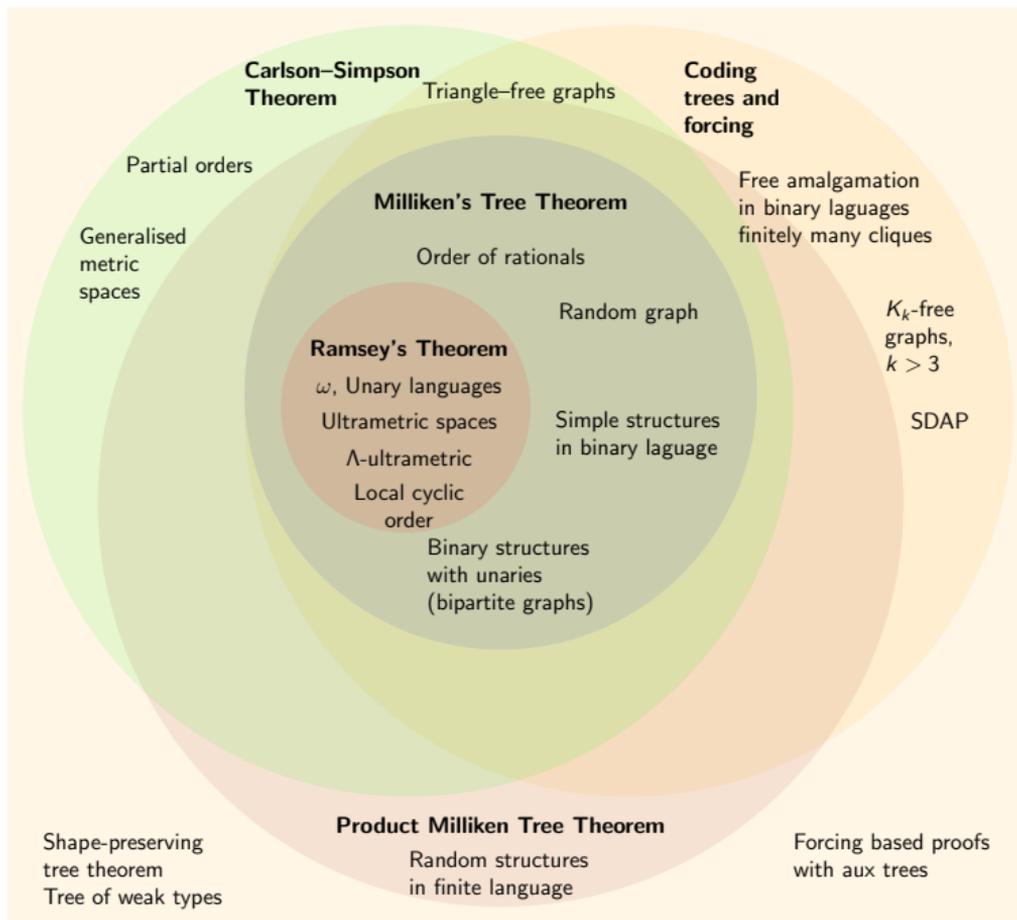
Work in progress

- ① Generalizations to metric spaces and other strong amalgamation classes
- ② Abstract theorem for trees with successor operations
- ③ New proof of upper bounds of big Ramsey degrees of free amalgamation classes in binary language
- ④ Generalizations to higher arity

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