

# Measurable domatic partitions

(based on undergrad thesis research with Clinton Conley)

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# Introduction

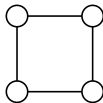
Let  $G$  be a directed graph with possible loop edges on a vertex set  $V$ , so that  $G$  is just an arbitrary binary relation  $G \subseteq V^2$ .

A *domatic partition* is a partial function  $f : V \rightarrow C$  which colors every out-neighborhood set  $N_G(v) = \{w \in V : (v, w) \in G\}$  with all colors in  $C$ , i.e.  $f[N_G(v)] = C$  for every  $v \in V$ .

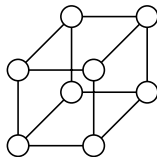
Example:  $Q_n$ , the loop-free undirected  $n$ -regular hypercube graphs.  
Does  $Q_n$  admit domatic  $n$ -partitions?



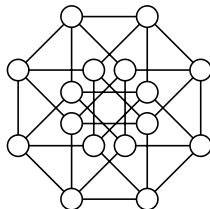
$Q_1$



$Q_2$



$Q_3$



$Q_4$

# Introduction

Theorem (Zelinka 1982):  $Q_n$  admits a domatic  $n$ -partition if and only if  $n$  is a power of two.

$Q_{\aleph_0}$  is the graph on  $V = 2^{\mathbb{N}}$ , where  $(v, w) \in Q_{\aleph_0}$  whenever  $v, w : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  differ at exactly one place.

$Q_{\aleph_0}$  is a *Schreier graph*:

## Definition

Let  $\Gamma \curvearrowright X$  be a group action, and let  $S \subseteq \Gamma$  be a subset. Define:

$$\text{Sch}(\Gamma, S, X) = \{(x, s \cdot x) \in X^2 : x \in X, s \in S\}$$

Let  $\Gamma = (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{\mathbb{N}}$ , let  $S = \{s \in \Gamma : s(i) = 1 \text{ exactly once}\}$ , and let  $\Gamma \curvearrowright \Gamma$  by left multiplication. Then  $Q_{\aleph_0} \cong \text{Sch}(\Gamma, S, \Gamma)$ .

# Introduction

## Theorem (H)

Let  $\Gamma$  be a compact Polish group of finite Lebesgue covering dimension. Let  $S \subseteq \Gamma$ . Let  $\Gamma \curvearrowright \Gamma$  by left multiplication. Let  $G = \text{Sch}(\Gamma, S, \Gamma)$ .

① The following are equivalent:

- $G$  admits a domatic  $\aleph_0$ -partition with open parts.
- $G$  admits a domatic  $\aleph_0$ -partition with Baire measurable parts.
- The topological closure  $\overline{S} \subseteq \Gamma$  is uncountable.

② Let  $\mu$  be any Borel probability measure on  $\Gamma$ . If  $S \subseteq \Gamma$  is infinite, then  $G$  admits a  $\mu$ -measurable domatic  $\aleph_0$ -partition.

$Q_{\aleph_0}$  does not admit domatic  $\aleph_0$ -partitions with Borel or Baire measurable parts, but  $Q_{\aleph_0}$  admits a domatic  $\aleph_0$ -partition with Haar-measurable parts.

# Helpful facts

Let  $G \subseteq X^2$ . Note that if  $1 \leq k \leq \aleph_0$ , and  $\mathcal{F}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $X$ , then  $G$  admits an  $\mathcal{F}$ -measurable *partial* domatic  $k$ -partition if and only if  $G$  admits an  $\mathcal{F}$ -measurable *total* domatic  $k$ -partition.

Let  $G \subseteq H \subseteq X^2$ . If  $f : X \rightarrow C$  is a domatic partition for  $G$ , then  $f$  is also a domatic partition for  $H$ .

Let  $G \subseteq X^2$ , let  $f : X \rightarrow C$  be a domatic  $|C|$ -partition, and let  $C' \subset C$ . The restriction  $g = f \upharpoonright f^{-1}[C'] : X \rightarrow C'$  is also a domatic  $|C'|$ -partition, where  $|C'| \leq |C|$ .

# Helpful facts

In the remainder of this talk,  $\Gamma$  will always be a Polish group.

If  $\Gamma$  acts on  $X$  and  $X$  is a Polish space, then we assume the action is continuous. If  $X$  is a Borel space, then we assume the action is Borel.

If  $\Gamma$  acts on  $X$ , we let  $E_\Gamma^X \subseteq X^2$  be its orbit equivalence relation.

A *Borel graph* is a Borel subset  $G \subseteq X^2$ .

We let  $E_G \subseteq X^2$  be its connectedness equivalence relation.

# $\aleph_0$ -partitions on $G = \text{Sch}(\Gamma, S, \Gamma)$ : Part 1

## Theorem

Let  $\Gamma \curvearrowright X$  be continuous, and let  $S \subseteq \Gamma$  be countable compact. Then  $G = \text{Sch}(\Gamma, S, X)$  has no Baire measurable domatic  $\aleph_0$ -partition  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ .

## Proof.

- ① Every Baire measurable  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is continuous on an  $E_{\langle S \rangle}^X$ -invariant comeager set  $A \subseteq X$ .
- ② If  $a \in A$ , then by continuity,  $f[S \cdot a] \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  is a compact set, i.e. finite in  $\mathbb{N}$ .
- ③ Therefore  $f[N_G(a)] = f[S \cdot a] \neq \mathbb{N}$ , comeagerly in  $X$ . □

This also holds whenever  $\overline{S} \supseteq S$  is countable compact.

# The Lovász local lemma

## Lemma (Lovász)

Let  $A_0, A_1, \dots, A_{n-1}$  be events in a probability space. Assume that:

- Every event  $A_i$  is dependent on at most  $d$  other events.
- For all  $i < n$ ,  $\Pr[A_i] \leq p$ .
- $ep(d+1) \leq 1$ .

Then  $\bigwedge_{i < n} \overline{A_i}$  happens with nonzero probability.

Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  be fixed and let  $k \ll N \in \mathbb{N}$  be sufficiently large.

Let  $G \subseteq X^2$  be a simple undirected  $N$ -regular finite graph.

Then a random  $k$ -partition  $f : X \rightarrow \{0, \dots, k-1\}$  is domatic with nonzero probability.



# $\aleph_0$ -partitions on $G = \text{Sch}(\Gamma, S, \Gamma)$ : Part 2

## Theorem

*Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite-dimensional compact Polish group, and assume  $\overline{S} \subseteq \Gamma$  is uncountable. Then  $G = \text{Sch}(\Gamma, S, \Gamma)$  has a domatic partition with  $\aleph_0$  disjoint open parts.*

We prove this theorem using a lemma on *finite* partitions:

## Lemma (Key lemma)

*Let  $\Gamma$  be as above. For every  $k, n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists an  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that for any size- $N$  finite sets  $F_0, \dots, F_{n-1} \subseteq \Gamma$ , there exist disjoint open sets  $D_0, \dots, D_{k-1}$ , such that each right translate  $F_i \cdot \gamma$  intersects every part  $D_j$ .*

## Lemma (Key lemma)

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We prove this lemma in three steps:

- Let  $d := \dim(\Gamma) < \infty$ .

Step 1/3: Show that every “sufficiently fine” open cover  $\mathcal{U}$  of  $\Gamma$  (every translate  $F_i \cdot \gamma$  intersects every  $U \in \mathcal{U}$  at most once) can be shrunk into an *open-cell packing*  $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\Gamma$ , such that every  $F_i \cdot \gamma$  intersects  $\geq N - d$  many open cells  $R \in \mathcal{R}$ .

Let  $N = |F_i|$  and  $d = \dim(\Gamma)$ .

Step 1/3: Show that every “sufficiently fine” open cover  $\mathcal{U}$  of  $\Gamma$  (every translate  $F_i \cdot \gamma$  intersects every  $U \in \mathcal{U}$  at most once) can be shrunk into an *open-cell packing*  $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\Gamma$ , such that every  $F_i \cdot \gamma$  intersects  $\geq N - d$  many open cells  $R \in \mathcal{R}$ .

## Proof.

Construct  $\mathcal{R}$  in a length- $\omega$  induction, making sure that

$$\dim(\Gamma) > \dim(F_i^{-1} \cdot \partial R_0) > \dim(F_i^{-1} \cdot \partial R_0 \cap F_i^{-1} \cdot \partial R_1) > \dots$$

for every distinct collection  $R_0, R_1, \dots \in \mathcal{R}$ .

If  $F_i \cdot \gamma$  intersects  $(\Gamma \setminus \bigcup \mathcal{R}) = \bigcup \partial \mathcal{R}$  for  $\geq d + 1$  times, then since  $\partial \mathcal{R}$  is fine,

$$\gamma \in F_i^{-1} \cdot \partial R_0 \cap \dots \cap F_i^{-1} \cdot \partial R_d$$

with  $R_0, \dots, R_d \in \mathcal{R}$  distinct.

But  $F_i^{-1} \cdot \partial R_0 \cap \dots \cap F_i^{-1} \cdot \partial R_d$  has to be  $\emptyset$ . □

Let  $d = \dim(\Gamma)$ .

Step 2/3: There is a constant  $M_\Gamma < \infty$  depending only on  $d$ , and a “sufficiently fine” open cover  $\mathcal{U}$  of  $\Gamma$ , such that every translate of every  $U \in \mathcal{U}$  intersects  $\leq M_\Gamma$  many other  $V \in \mathcal{U}$ .

## Proof.

By a theorem of Gleason–Yamabe,  $\Gamma$  is an inverse  $\omega$ -limit of  $d$ -dimensional Lie groups.

So  $1_\Gamma \in \Gamma$  has a neighborhood basis of symmetric open sets  $B \ni 1_\Gamma$  of *bounded doubling*: at most  $(2 + \varepsilon)^d$  translates of  $B$  pack into  $B^2 \subseteq \Gamma$ . Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be a minimal covering of  $\Gamma$  using translates of only one such  $B \ni 1_\Gamma$ . □

(In reality, we need something slightly stronger than stated above, but the proof is the same...)

## Lemma (Key lemma)

*Let  $\Gamma$  be as above. For every  $k, n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists an  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that for any size- $N$  finite sets  $F_0, \dots, F_{n-1} \subseteq \Gamma$ , there exist disjoint open sets  $D_0, \dots, D_{k-1}$ , such that each right translate  $F_i \cdot \gamma$  intersects every part  $D_j$ .*

Step 3/3: Fix a sufficiently fine open cover  $\mathcal{U}$  of locally bounded growth, and fix an open-cell packing  $\mathcal{R}$  that shrinks  $\mathcal{U}$ .

Show that using the Lovász local lemma, a random  $k$ -coloring of the parts in  $\mathcal{R}$  is exactly as desired: The locally bounded growth condition of  $\mathcal{U}$  feeds into the locality requirement of Lovász local lemma.  $\square$

Note: The key lemma also holds if every  $F_i$  is infinite.

## Theorem

*Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite-dimensional compact Polish group, and assume  $\overline{S} \subseteq \Gamma$  is uncountable. Then  $G = \text{Sch}(\Gamma, S, \Gamma)$  has a domatic partition with  $\aleph_0$  disjoint open parts.*

Let  $D, P \subseteq \Gamma$ . We say that  $D$  dominates  $P$  if every translate  $P \cdot \gamma$  intersects  $D$ , i.e.  $P \cdot \gamma \cap D \neq \emptyset$  for every  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ .

## Lemma (Splitting lemma)

*Let  $\Gamma$  be as above. If  $U \subseteq \Gamma$  is open and dominates a nonempty perfect set  $P \subseteq \Gamma$ , then there are disjoint open sets  $A_0, A_1 \subseteq U$ , each of which dominates  $P$ .*

Let  $D, P \subseteq \Gamma$ . We say that  $D$  *dominates*  $P$  if every translate  $P \cdot \gamma$  intersects  $D$ , i.e.  $P \cdot \gamma \cap D \neq \emptyset$  for every  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ .

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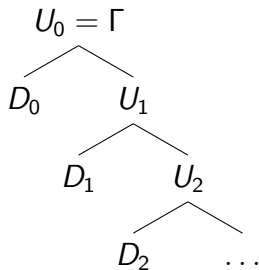
### Proof.

Using compactness of  $\Gamma$ , find perfect subsets  $P_0, \dots, P_{n-1} \subseteq P$ , such that for every  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , there exists  $i < n$ , such that  $P_i \cdot \gamma \subseteq U$ . Apply the key lemma to  $P_0, \dots, P_{n-1}$  to get dominating sets  $D_0, D_1 \subseteq \Gamma$ , and let  $A_j := U \cap D_j$ . □

## Theorem

Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite-dimensional compact Polish group, and assume  $\overline{S} \subseteq \Gamma$  is uncountable. Then  $G = \text{Sch}(\Gamma, S, \Gamma)$  has a domatic partition with  $\aleph_0$  disjoint open parts.

Fix a perfect set  $P \subseteq \overline{S}$ . By the splitting lemma:



$\langle D_n : n < \omega \rangle$  are disjoint and dominate  $P$ . Since each  $D_n$  is open,  $D_n$  necessarily also dominates  $S$ .

So  $\langle D_n : n < \omega \rangle$  is an open domatic  $\aleph_0$ -partition for  $G$ . □



# An application

Note that if we assume  $S = \overline{S}$  is closed, then we can perform a full-binary-tree splitting of  $U_0 = \Gamma$ : In the splitting lemma, compactness implies we may assume  $\overline{A_0}, \overline{A_1} \subseteq U$ .

## Corollary

*Let  $\Gamma$  be as before. Let  $P \subseteq \Gamma$  be a nonempty closed perfect set. Then there are  $2^{\aleph_0}$  disjoint closed sets  $\langle D_x : x \in 2^{\mathbb{N}} \rangle$ , each of which dominates  $P$ .*

## Theorem (Erdős–Kunen–Mauldin 1981, rephrased)

*Let  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be a nonempty closed perfect set. Then there exists a Lebesgue null closed set  $D$  which dominates  $P$ .*

$\mathbb{R}$  is not compact, but using  $\Gamma = \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$  proves the above theorem.

# An application

Let  $D, P \subseteq \Gamma$ . We say that  $D$  dominates  $P$  if every translate  $P \cdot \gamma$  intersects  $D$ , i.e.  $P \cdot \gamma \cap D \neq \emptyset$  for every  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ .

One can check that  $D$  dominates  $P$  if and only if  $P^{-1} \cdot D = \Gamma$ .

## Theorem (Erdős–Kunen–Mauldin 1981)

*Let  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be a nonempty closed perfect set. Then there exists a Lebesgue null closed set  $D$  such that  $P + D = \mathbb{R}$ .*

## Theorem (H)

*Let  $1 \leq n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and let  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be a nonempty closed perfect set. Then there are  $2^{\aleph_0}$  disjoint closed sets  $\langle C_i : i < 2^{\aleph_0} \rangle$ , such that  $P + C_i = \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $C_i + C_j = \mathbb{R}^n$  for all  $i, j < 2^{\aleph_0}$  possibly equal.*

The proof is very similar to the one we just saw.

## Question

In the main theorem, can we drop the “finite dimension” assumption?

Unknown, even for  $\Gamma = (\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})^{\mathbb{N}} \dots$

# $\aleph_0$ -partitions on $G = \text{Sch}(\Gamma, S, \Gamma)$ : Part 3

## Theorem (H)

*Let  $G \subseteq X^2$  be an out-degree  $\aleph_0$ -regular Borel graph with countable in-degrees on a Borel probability space  $(X, \mu)$  of vertices. Then  $G$  admits a  $\mu$ -measurable domatic  $\aleph_0$ -partition.*

## Lemma (Recoloring lemma)

*Let  $G \subseteq X^2$  be as above. Assume there exists a Borel function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that every out-neighborhood is colored infinitely by  $f$ , i.e. every  $f[N_G(x)] \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  is infinite. Then  $G$  admits both  $\mu$ -measurable and Baire measurable domatic  $\aleph_0$ -partitions.*

*Proof.* Use a recoloring  $g = (r \circ f) : X \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , where  $r \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$  is picked using Fubini or Kuratowski–Ulam. □

## Theorem (H)

*Let  $G \subseteq X^2$  be an out-degree  $\aleph_0$ -regular Borel graph with countable in-degrees on a Borel probability space  $(X, \mu)$  of vertices. Then  $G$  admits a  $\mu$ -measurable domatic  $\aleph_0$ -partition.*

## Proof.

For every  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , a random coloring  $f : X \rightarrow \{0, \dots, k-1\}$  (defined over a finite Borel partition of  $X$ ) can be shown to satisfy  $f[N_G(x)] = \{0, \dots, k-1\}$  over a  $\mu$ -measure  $\geq 1 - \varepsilon$  set of  $x \in X$ . Take a measure-theoretic limit as  $(k, \varepsilon) \rightarrow (\infty, 0^+)$  using the Borel–Cantelli lemma. We get an  $f : X \rightarrow [\mathbb{N}]^{<\infty}$  where every  $N_G(x)$  is colored infinitely by  $f$ . Use the recoloring lemma to finish.  $\square$

It follows that if  $S \subseteq \Gamma$  is infinite, then  $G = \text{Sch}(\Gamma, S, \Gamma)$  admits  $\mu$ -measurable domatic  $\aleph_0$ -partitions.

# Other results

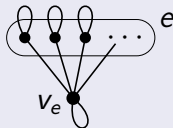
## Theorem

*There exists a fully looped, undirected,  $\aleph_0$ -regular, acyclic Borel graph  $G \subseteq X^2$  on a Polish space  $X$  of vertices, without Baire measurable domatic 3-partitions.*

Every such  $G$  admits Borel domatic 2-partitions, using a maximal independent set on a (Borel  $\aleph_0$ -colorable) function subgraph  $G_f \subseteq G$ .

## Proof.

(Lecomte 2009) There exists an  $\aleph_0$ -uniform hypergraph version of the Kechris–Solecki–Todorcevic graph  $G_0$ .



For each hyperedge  $e$ , place a new vertex  $v_e$  which connects to all of  $e$ .

Check that this new ordinary graph  $G$  works.  $\square$

# Edge-partitions

Let  $G \subseteq X^2$  be a loop-free simple undirected  $\aleph_0$ -regular Borel graph.

A symmetric function on the edges  $f : G \rightarrow C$  is *domatic* if it colors every edge-neighborhood with all colors in  $C$ , i.e.  $f[\{x\} \times N_G(x)] = C$  for every  $x \in X$ .

## Theorem

*Let  $G \subseteq X^2$  be as above. Then on an  $E_G$ -invariant conull or comeager set of vertices,  $G$  admits symmetric Borel domatic edge- $\aleph_0$ -partitions.*

*Proof.* Start with a Feldman–Moore edge-coloring, and use the recoloring lemma. □

# Edge-partitions

Let  $G \subseteq X^2$  be a loop-free simple undirected  $\aleph_0$ -regular Borel graph.

A symmetric function on the edges  $f : G \rightarrow C$  is *domatic* if it colors every edge-neighborhood with all colors in  $C$ , i.e.  $f[\{x\} \times N_G(x)] = C$  for every  $x \in X$ .

## Theorem (Weilacher)

*There exists a graph  $G \subseteq X^2$  as above, which is moreover acyclic and Borel bipartite, such that  $G$  admits no Borel domatic edge-2-partitions and no Borel sinkless orientations.*

The proof uses Marks' Borel determinacy graph technique.



# Finite partitions on $G = \text{Sch}(\Gamma, S, \Gamma)$

Theorem (Bernshteyn): A version of the Lovász local lemma holds in the measure and category settings.

Theorem (Csóka–Grabowski–Máthé–Pikhurko–Tyros): A version of the Lovász local lemma holds in the Borel and uniform subexponential growth setting.

## Corollary

*Let  $\Gamma \curvearrowright X$  be a free Borel action, and let  $S \subseteq \Gamma$  be infinite. Then:*

- ①  $G = \text{Sch}(\Gamma, S, X)$  has measure-theoretic and Baire measurable domatic  $k$ -partitions for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .*
- ② If every finitely generated subgroup of  $\Gamma$  has subexponential growth, then  $G$  has Borel domatic  $k$ -partitions for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

Question: Is there a graph  $G = \text{Sch}(\Gamma, S, X)$  as above, without a Borel domatic  $k$ -partition for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ?

Thank you!