

# Bounds on Some Ramsey Numbers Involving Quadrilateral

Xiaodong Xu<sup>1</sup>   Zehui Shao<sup>2</sup>   Stanisław Radziszowski<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Guangxi Academy of Sciences  
Nanning, Guangxi, China

<sup>2</sup>Huazhong University of Science and Technology  
Wuhan, Hubei, China

<sup>3</sup>Department of Computer Science  
Rochester Institute of Technology, NY

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# Outline

- 1 Previous Work
  - Ramsey numbers avoiding  $C_4$
- 2 Our Contributions
  - Summary of old and new results
  - Upper bounds
  - Lower bounds
- 3 What to do next?

# Ramsey Numbers

- $R(G, H) = n$  iff minimal  $n$  such that in any 2-coloring of the edges of  $K_n$  there is a monochromatic  $G$  in the first color or a monochromatic  $H$  in the second color.
- 2 – colorings  $\cong$  graphs,  $R(m, n) = R(K_m, K_n)$
- Generalizes to  $k$  colors,  $R(G_1, \dots, G_k)$
- Avoiding  $C_4$ ,  $|N(v) \cap N(u)| \leq 1$
- Theorem (Ramsey 1930): Ramsey numbers exist

# Asymptotics

## Ramsey numbers avoiding $C_4$

- Spencer - 1977

$$c_1 \left( \frac{n}{\log n} \right)^{3/2} \leq R(C_4, K_n)$$

- Caro, Li, Rousseau, Zhang - 2000  
credit to Erdős, Szemerédi - 1980 (unpublished)

$$R(C_4, K_n) \leq c_2 \left( \frac{n}{\log n} \right)^2$$

- Kim - 1995

$$R(C_3, K_n) = \Theta \left( \frac{n^2}{\log n} \right)$$

## Basic cases and connections

$C_4$  versus  $K_n$

- $R(C_4, K_n) = 7, 10, 14, 18, 22, 26$  for  $n = 3, \dots, 8$
- First open cases:  
 $30 \leq R(C_4, K_9) \leq 32$ ,  $34 \leq R(C_4, K_{10}) \leq 39$
- This is the OTHER end of the Erdős-Faudree-Rousseau-Schelp conjecture (1978)

$$R(C_n, K_m) = (n - 1)(m - 1) + 1$$

for all  $n \geq m \geq 3$

# Basic cases and connections

Irving, Chung, Graham, Parsons, Lortz, Mengersen,  
Monte Carmelo, and many others ...

- $C_4$  versus stars, trees, books, wheels
- Connects to projective planes
- Connects to Hadamard matrices
- Connects to much studied case  $R(K_{2,k}, K_{m,n})$

## Multicolor cases

- $k^2 + 2 \leq R_k(C_4) \leq k^2 + k + 1$   
lower bound for prime power  $k$   
  
Irving, Chung, Graham (1970's)  
Lazebnik, Woldar, Ling, Mubayi (2000's)
- $R_3(C_4) = 11$   
Bialostocki/Schönheim 1984, Clapham 1987
- $R_4(C_4) = 18$   
amazing computation by Sun/Yang/Lin/Zheng 2007
- $27 \leq R_5(C_4) \leq 29$   
just math, Lazebnik/Woldar 2000

# Strange multicolor asymptotics

- Sun/Yang/Lin/Zheng 2007 (computations)

$$R(C_4, C_4, C_n) = n + 2 \text{ for } n \geq 11$$

- Shiu/Lam/Li 2003

$$c_3 \left( \frac{n}{\log n} \right)^{3/2} \leq R(C_4, C_4, K_n) \leq c_4 \left( \frac{n}{\log n} \right)^2$$

- Alon/Rödl 2005

$$R(C_4, C_4, K_n) = \tilde{\Theta}(n^2)$$

$$R(C_4, C_4, \dots, C_4, K_n) = \Theta(n^2)$$



# Three colors

$R(C_4, G_1, G_2)$	value/bounds	reference
$C_4, C_4, C_4$	11	[BiaSch]
$C_4, C_4, C_3$	12	[Schul]
$C_4, C_4, K_4$	19-22	
$C_4, C_3, C_3$	17	[ExRe]
$C_4, C_3, K_4$	25-32	
$C_4, K_4, K_4$	52-72	

**Table 1.**  $R(C_4, G_1, G_2)$  for  $G_1, G_2 \in \{C_4, C_3, K_4\}$

# Four colors

$R(C_4, C_4, G_1, G_2)$	value/bounds	reference
$C_4, C_4, C_4, C_4$	18	[SYLZ]
$C_4, C_4, C_4, C_3$	21-27	[XuRad]
$C_4, C_4, C_4, K_4$	31-50	
$C_4, C_4, C_3, C_3$	28-36	[XuRad]
$C_4, C_4, C_3, K_4$	42-76	
$C_4, C_4, K_4, K_4$	87-179	

**Table 2.**  $R(C_4, C_4, G_1, G_2)$  for  $G_1, G_2 \in \{C_4, C_3, K_4\}$

# Counting edges

**Definition:**  $t_4(n) = \max\#$  edges in  $n$ -vertex  $C_4$ -free graphs

**Lemma:** For any  $n$ -vertex  $C_4$ -free graph  $G$ ,  $n > 3$ ,

(1)  $|E(G)| \leq t(n) < \frac{1}{4}n(1 + \sqrt{4n - 3})$ ,

(2)  $\delta(G) < \frac{1}{2}(1 + \sqrt{4n - 3})$ .

- $t_4(n)$  known for  $n \leq 32$ , hard to go any further
- $R(C_4, K_9) \leq 32$
- $R(C_4, C_4, K_4) \leq 22$

# Lower bound constructions

Two means of improving lower bounds

- Explicit computer constructions  
e.g.  $19 \leq R(C_4, C_4, K_4)$
- Extensions of known constructions  
e.g.  $28 \leq R(C_4, C_4, K_3, K_3)$

# Summary

- Closing in on several small cases
- $C_4$  seems easier than  $K_3$
- Next tasks - compute exactly
  - $19 \leq R(C_4, C_4, K_4) \leq 22$  doable
  - $30 \leq R(C_4, K_9) \leq 32$  hard
  - $27 \leq R_5(C_4) \leq 29$  very hard
  - Asymptotics for  $R(C_4, K_n)$  nice

# Papers

SPR's  $C_4$ -papers to pick up

- Kung-Kuen Tse, SPR. A Computational Approach for the Ramsey Numbers  $R(C_4, K_n)$ , JCMCC 42 (2002) 195-207.
- Xu Xiaodong, SPR.  $28 \leq R(C_4, C_4, C_3, C_3) \leq 36$ , to appear in Utilitas Mathematica.
- Xiaodong Xu, Zehui Shao, SPR. Bounds ... (this talk), Ars Combinatoria, 90 (2009) 337-344.
- Revision #12 of the survey paper *Small Ramsey Numbers* at the EIJC coming in the summer 2009 ...