

GROUP INTERACTION #11

MasterMath: Set Theory

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This group interaction wants you to reflect on some of the steps in the proofs of the Erdős-Dushnik-Miller theorem and König's Infinity Lemma.

- (1) In the proof of the E-D-M theorem the following statement was left unproven and deferred to this group interaction:

Let $F : [X]^n \rightarrow k$ be a colouring. Then every homogeneous set for F can be extended to a *maximal* homogeneous set.

Prove this statement.

- (2) The proof of the E-D-M theorem in class was split into two cases: κ regular and κ singular.

This exercise shows that the proof for the singular case also works in the regular case.

To see this let $F : [\kappa]^2 \rightarrow 2$ be a colouring; in the proof we considered two cases:

- (1) every subset, X , of κ of cardinality κ has an element, x , such that $|B(x) \cap X| = \kappa$, and
- (2) there is a subset, X , of κ of cardinality κ such that for every $x \in X$ we have $|B(x) \cap X| < \kappa$

We proved that in case (1) there is an infinite **Blue homogeneous** set.

We proved that in case (2) there is a **Red homogeneous** set of cardinality κ , for a singular κ .

Prove that in case (2), with κ regular, there is a **Red homogeneous** set of cardinality κ .

Compare the length of your proof with that for the singular case.

- (3) In the proof of König's Lemma we constructed an infinite branch by recursion. The formulation was somewhat informal and seems to involve a choice:

given $x_n \in T_n$ such that $\{y : y > x_n\}$ is infinite take $x_{n+1} \in T_{n+1}$ above x_n such that $\{y : y > x_{n+1}\}$ is infinite.

- a. Identify what kind of function is needed in order to apply the Recursion Principle to construct the branch.
- b. Prove the existence of such a function by an application of the Axiom of Choice to a suitable family of sets.
- c. Alternatively: show how to *define* such a function from a free ultrafilter on T .