

11/11/09

Erdős - Ko - Rado Theorem

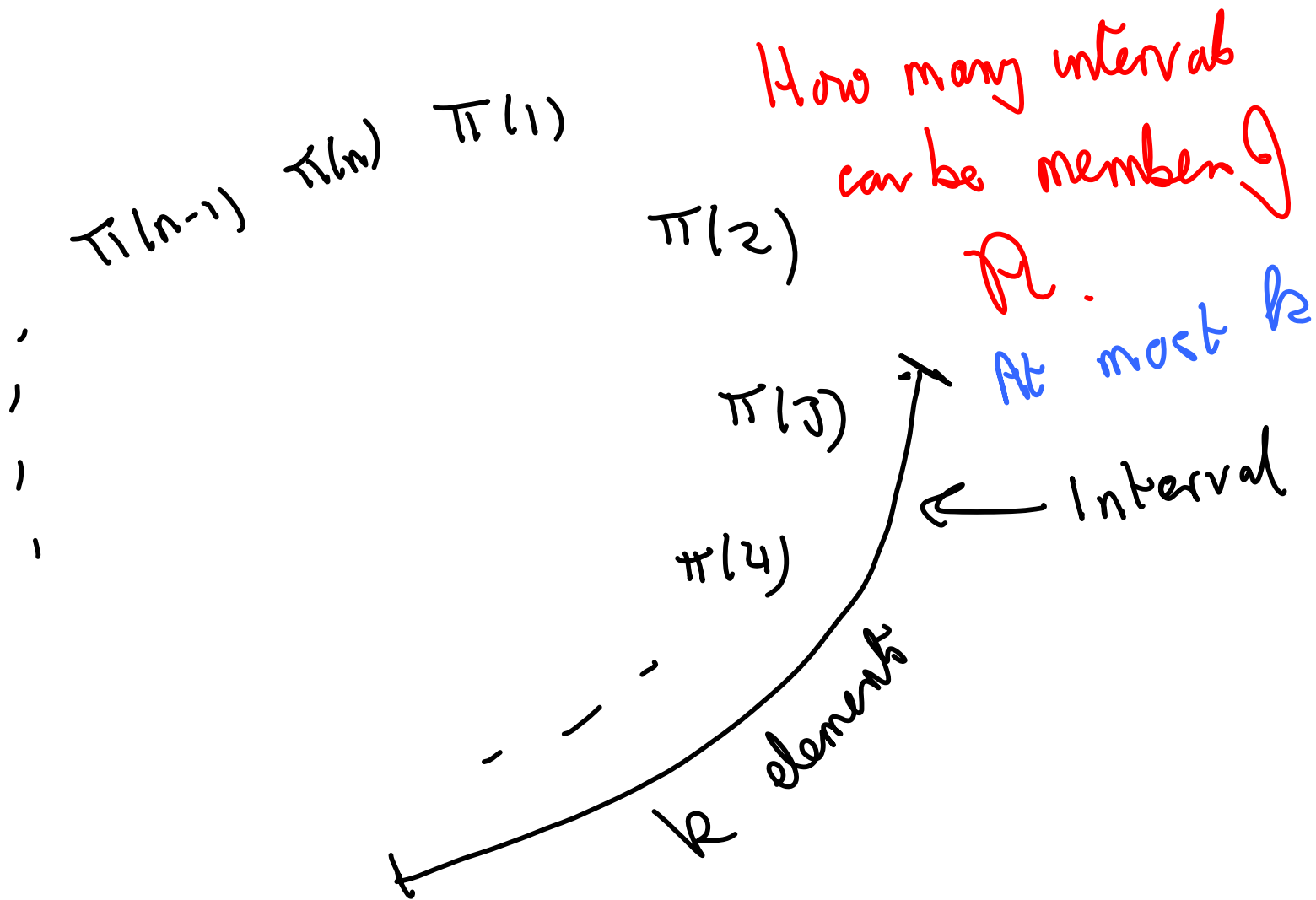
\mathcal{A} is an intersecting family

$A \in \mathcal{A} \implies |A| = k \leq \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$

$$|\mathcal{A}| \leq \binom{n-1}{k-1}$$

Upper bound is achieved by all k -sets containing element 1.

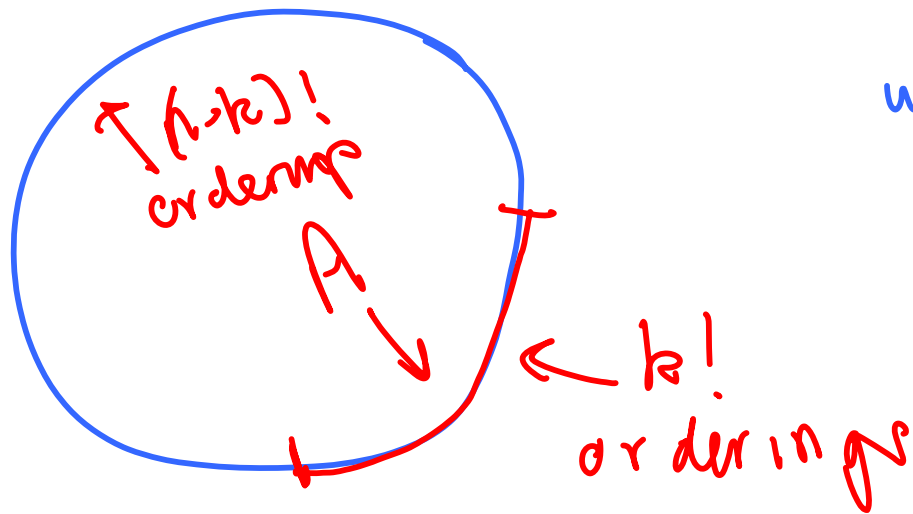
π is a permutation of $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$



Claim: $\forall \pi, \sum_{A \in \mathcal{A}} \mathbb{1}_{A \text{ is an interval}} \leq k$

Let π be a random permutation

$$P(A \text{ is an interval}) = n \frac{k! (n-k)!}{n!}$$



where to start

How permutation that place A as the interval

$$\begin{aligned}
 k &\geq E \left(\sum_{A \in \mathcal{A}} \mathbb{1}_{A \text{ is interval}} \right) = \sum_{A \in \mathcal{A}} \frac{k! (n-k)!}{n!} \\
 &= \frac{k}{\binom{n-1}{k-1}} \cdot |\mathcal{A}|
 \end{aligned}$$

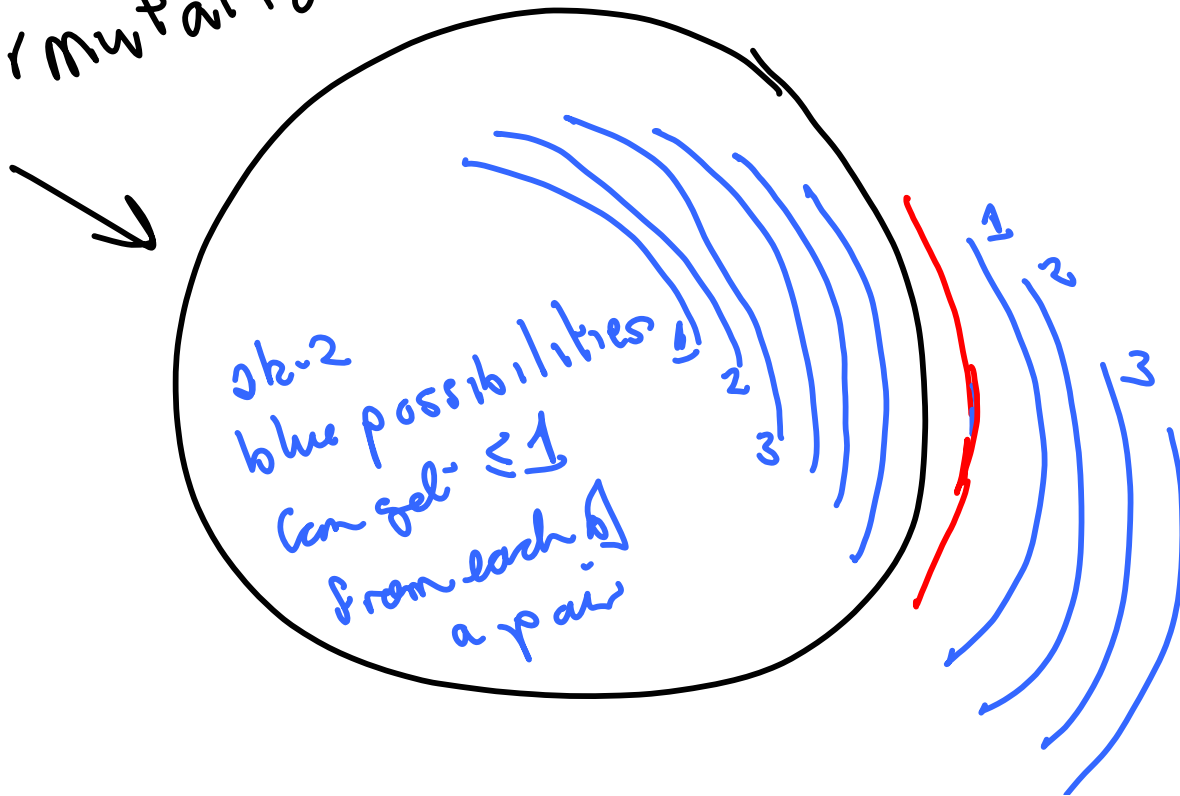
$$\Rightarrow |\mathcal{A}| \leq \binom{n-1}{k-1}$$

To finish



Fix π : show $\leq k$
intervals from \mathcal{A} .

permutation

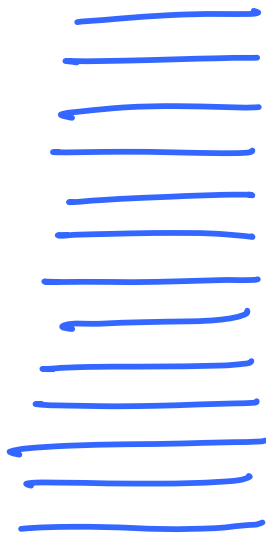


$A \in \mathcal{A}$

Combinatorial Games

2 player, perfect information
games.

Game 1



Player A, B

Move:

Remove 1, 2, 3 or 4
chips.

Winner: Person that
takes last chip.

chips

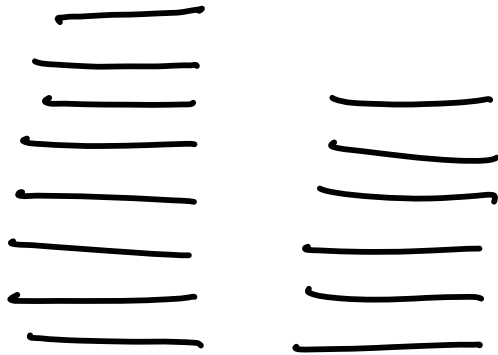
Winner

A goes first

Losing positions
are those divisible
by 5.

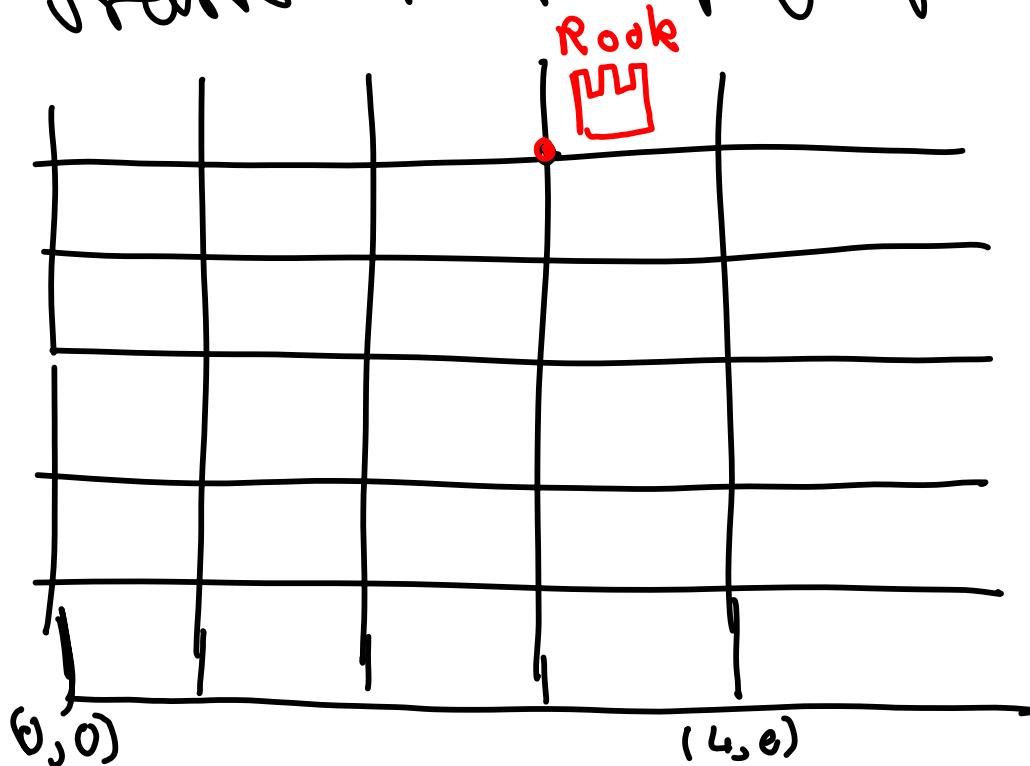
1	A
2	A
3	A
4	A
5	B
6	A
7	A
8	A
9	A
10	B
11	A
12	A
13	A

Game 2



Harder Game:
Put a Queen on
board

Move: take non-zero # of chips
from non-empty pile

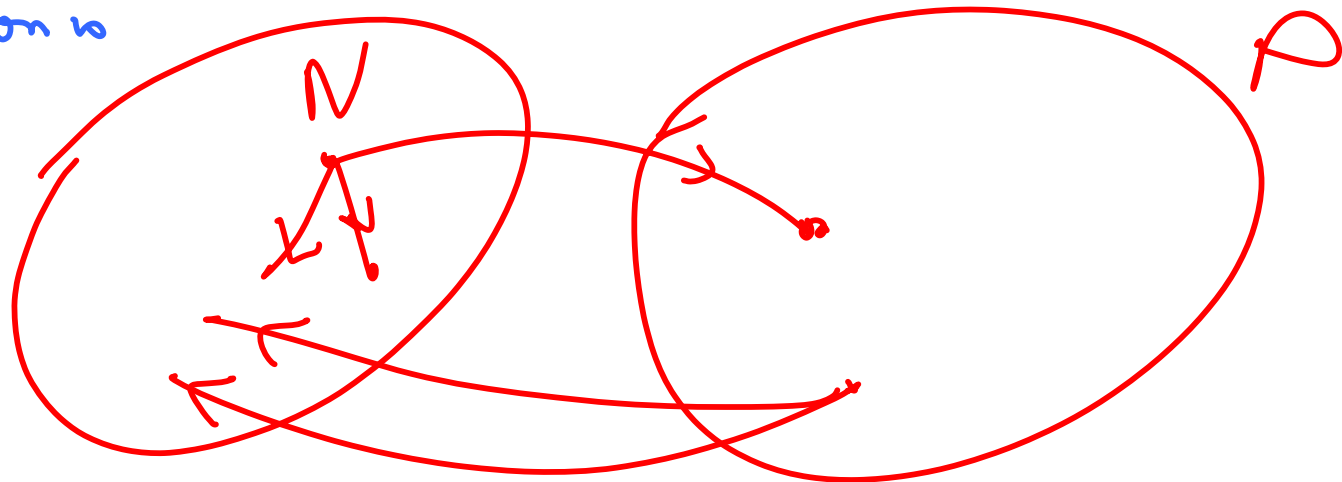


Diagonals
are
losing
positions

In general position a can be

winning	N	→ next player wins
losing	P	← previous player wins

if position is
 N , \exists
 move to a
 P position



if position is P , all moves go to N

Abstraction of game

Represent each position by
a node of a digraph $D = (X, A)$
↑
positions

