# Online Scheduling and Paintability 

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Joint work with<br>James Carraher, Sarah Loeb, Gregory J. Puleo, Mu-Tsun Tsai, and Douglas West

## List Coloring (Graph Choosability)

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Goal: Consider an online version of choosability.

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Worst-case analysis is modeled by the following game:

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- An adaptive Lister, responding to Painter's earlier moves, may do better.


## Example Game

Let's play the Lister/Painter game on $\Theta_{2,2,4}$.


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Conclude: Lister wins on $\Theta_{2,2,4}$ when each vertex has 2 tokens.

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## Past examples

When $G$ is connected and not in $\left\{K_{n}, C_{2 t+1}\right\}$,

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When $G$ is bipartite,
$G$ is $\Delta(G)$-edge-colorable (König [1916])
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The line graph of $K_{k}$ is
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## Tools

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Pf. Idea: Painter uses a $k$-paintability strategy $\mathbf{S}$ on $G$, ignoring the added $t$-set $T$, until a special round where $M \cap T$ is colored instead. Each $v \in T$ has a token left, and $G$ can be finished with the extra tokens in $V(G)$.

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Def. $G$ is chromatic-choosable if $\chi_{\ell}(G)=\chi(G)$.
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Cor. $\quad K_{k, r}$ is $k$-paintable $\Leftrightarrow r<k^{k}$.

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Thm. (CLMPTW) Consider $K_{k, r}$ with $|X|=k$ and $|Y|=r$. If $f(y)=k$ for $y \in Y$ and $f\left(x_{i}\right)=t_{i}$ for $x_{i} \in X$, then Painter has a winning strategy $\Leftrightarrow r<\prod_{i=1}^{k} t_{i}$.

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Pf. $r=\prod t_{i} \Rightarrow K_{k, r}$ is not $f$-choosable. Let $L\left(x_{i}\right)=U_{i}$ with $\left|U_{i}\right|=t_{i}$ and pairwise disjoint.
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$Y-M$ is degenerate; apply ind. hyp. to $\left(X-x_{k}\right) \cup(M \cap Y)$.

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Case 2: $q \geq \prod_{i=1}^{k-1} t_{i}$. Painter colors $M \cap Y$.
$|Y-M|<\prod t_{i}-q \leq \prod_{i=1}^{k-1} t_{i}\left(t_{k}-1\right) ;$ ind. hyp. applies!

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