

# A MATHON-TYPE CONSTRUCTION FOR DIGRAPHS AND IMPROVED LOWER BOUNDS FOR RAMSEY NUMBERS

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ABSTRACT. We construct an edge-colored digraph analogous to Mathon's construction for undirected graphs. We show that this graph is connected to the  $k$ -th power Paley digraphs and we use this connection to produce improved lower bounds for multicolor directed Ramsey numbers.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In [5], Mathon leveraged properties of generalized Paley graphs to improve lower bounds on diagonal multicolor (undirected) Ramsey numbers. He did this by constructing a multicolored graph which contained monochromatic induced subgraphs isomorphic to the generalized Paley graph. Among his results were  $R(7, 7) \geq 205$ ,  $R(9, 9) \geq 565$ ,  $R(10, 10) \geq 798$  and  $R_3(4) \geq 128$ , which are still the best known lower bounds today [9]. Independently, Shearer [13] produced the same results in the two-color case using an equivalent construction. More recently, Xu and Radziszowski [14] made incremental improvements to Mathon's construction and showed that  $R_3(7) \geq 3214$  (increased from Mathon's 3211), which is the current best known lower bound.

In this paper, we adapt Mathon's construction to digraphs and leverage properties of  $k$ -th power Paley digraphs to produce improved lower bounds for diagonal multicolor directed Ramsey numbers. For the remainder of this paper all Ramsey numbers will be directed, and will be denoted  $R_t(m)$ . As such,  $R_t(m)$  is the least positive integer  $n$  such that any tournament with  $n$  vertices, whose edges have been colored in  $t$  colors, contains a monochromatic transitive subtournament of order  $m$ . When  $t = 1$  we recover the usual directed Ramsey number  $R(m)$ , so we drop the subscript in this case. Recall, a tournament is transitive if, whenever  $a \rightarrow b$  and  $b \rightarrow c$ , then  $a \rightarrow c$ . Our main results which improve on the previously best known lower bounds can be summarized as follows.

**Theorem 1.1.**  $R(8) \geq 57, R(11) \geq 169, R(12) \geq 217, R(14) \geq 401, R(15) \geq 545, R(16) \geq 737, R(17) \geq 889, R(18) \geq 1241, R(19) \geq 1321$  and  $R(20) \geq 1945$ .

**Theorem 1.2.** For  $t \geq 4$ ,

$$R_t(3) \geq 169 \cdot 3^{t-4} + 1.$$

For  $t \geq 2$ ,

$$R_t(6) \geq 829 \cdot 27^{t-2} + 1 \quad \text{and} \quad R_t(8) \geq 3320 \cdot 56^{t-2} + 1.$$

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## 2. PRELIMINARIES AND NOTATION

For a graph  $G$ , we denote its vertex set by  $V(G)$ , so the order of  $G$  is  $\#V(G)$ . For a vertex  $v$  of a digraph  $G$ , we will denote the set of vertices which are out-neighbors of  $v$  by  $\text{ON}(v)$  and the set of in-neighbors by  $\text{IN}(v)$ . If the edges of  $G$  are colored, we will denote the set of out-neighbors (resp. in-neighbors) of  $v$  connected via an edge of color  $i$  by  $\text{ON}_i(v)$  (resp.  $\text{IN}_i(v)$ ). We define the set of neighbors of  $v$  as  $N(v) := \text{ON}(v) \cup \text{IN}(v)$  and the set of color  $i$  neighbors as  $N_i(v) := \text{ON}_i(v) \cup \text{IN}_i(v)$ . We will refer to any collection of vertices in  $G$ , which are pairwise connected via two edges oriented in opposite directions, as a clique. Further, if all those edges are of color  $i$ , we will refer to it as a color  $i$  clique.

We note that a tournament of order  $m$  is transitive if and only if the set of out-degrees of its vertices is  $\{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$  [7, Ch. 7]. Thus, we can represent a transitive subtournament of order  $m$  by the  $m$ -tuple of its vertices  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m)$ , listed in order such that the out-degree of vertex  $a_i$  is  $m-i$ , i.e. the corresponding  $m$ -tuple of out-degrees is  $(m-1, m-2, \dots, 1, 0)$ . We let  $\mathcal{K}_m(G)$  denote the number of transitive subtournaments of order  $m$  contained in a digraph  $G$ .

## 3. MATHON-TYPE CONSTRUCTION FOR DIGRAPHS

Let  $k \geq 2$  be an even integer. Let  $q$  be a prime power such that  $q \equiv k+1 \pmod{2k}$ . This condition ensures that  $-1$  is not a  $k$ -th power in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , the finite field with  $q$  elements, but is a  $\frac{k}{2}$ -th power. Let  $S_k$  be the subgroup of the multiplicative group  $\mathbb{F}_q^*$  of order  $\frac{q-1}{k}$  containing the  $k$ -th power residues, i.e., if  $\omega$  is a primitive element of  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , then  $S_k = \langle \omega^k \rangle$ . We define  $S_{k,0} := \{0\}$  and  $S_{k,i} := \omega^{i-1} S_k$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}$ , so that  $S_{k,1} = S_k$ . We note that  $-S_{k,i} = \omega^{\frac{k}{2}} S_{k,i}$  (as  $-1 = \omega^{\frac{q-1}{2}}$  and  $\frac{q-1}{2} \equiv \frac{k}{2} \pmod{k}$ ), yielding the disjoint union

$$\mathbb{F}_q = S_{k,0} \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{k/2} S_{k,i} \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{k/2} -S_{k,i}.$$

Let  $X := (\mathbb{F}_q \times \mathbb{F}_q) \setminus \{(0,0)\}$ . We define an equivalence relation  $\sim$  on  $X$  where  $(a,b) \sim (c,d)$  if  $(c,d) = (ag,bg)$  for some  $g \in S_k$ . We denote the equivalence class of  $(a,b)$  by  $[a,b]$ . There are  $n := k(q+1)$  such equivalence classes, each containing  $|S_k| = \frac{q-1}{k}$  elements. Let  $M_k(q)$  be the edge-colored digraph of order  $n$ , with vertex set  $X/\sim$ , where  $[a,b] \rightarrow [c,d]$  is an edge in color  $i$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}$ , if and only if  $bc - ad \in S_{k,i}$ . We note that this is well-defined as  $gS_{k,i} = S_{k,i}$  for all  $g \in S_k$ . We also note that any pair of vertices of  $M_k(q)$  will either be connected by a single oriented edge in color  $i$ , for some  $i \leq \frac{k}{2}$ , or, connected by two edges of color 0 oriented in opposite directions. For ease of illustration in what follows, we will represent the former case by  $v_1 \xrightarrow{i} v_2$  and the latter case by  $v_1 \xleftrightarrow{0} v_2$ .

**Proposition 3.1.**  *$M_k(q)$  is vertex transitive.*

*Proof.* For  $s \in \mathbb{F}_q$ , define the maps  $\rho_s$  and  $\sigma_s$  on  $X/\sim$  by

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_s : [a,b] &\rightarrow [a, b+as] \\ \sigma_s : [a,b] &\rightarrow [a+bs, b]. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to show that both  $\rho_s$  and  $\sigma_s$  are well-defined automorphisms of  $M_k(q)$ . Let  $[a,b]$  and  $[c,d]$  be distinct vertices of  $M_k(q)$ . Assume first that  $b, c \neq 0$  and let  $s_1, s_2 \in \mathbb{F}_q$  satisfy

$a + bs_1 = c$  and  $b + cs_2 = d$ . Then  $\rho_{s_2}(\sigma_{s_1}[a, b]) = [c, d]$ . If  $b = 0$  then  $a \neq 0$ , and we can first apply  $\rho_1[a, 0] = [a, a]$  and then proceed as before. If  $c = 0$  then  $d \neq 0$ , and we can proceed as before to get to  $[d, d]$ . Then we apply  $\sigma_{-1}[d, d] = [0, d]$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 3.2.** *For  $0 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}$ , let  $\Gamma_i$  be the subgraph of  $M_k(q)$ , with vertex set  $X/\sim$ , induced by the color  $i$  edges of  $M_k(q)$ .*

- (1)  $\Gamma_0$  is the disjoint union of  $q + 1$  color 0 cliques of order  $k$ .
- (2)  $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2, \dots, \Gamma_{\frac{k}{2}}$  are pairwise isomorphic.

*Proof.* (1) The neighbors of  $[0, 1]$  in  $\Gamma_0$  are  $N_0([0, 1]) = \{[0, \omega^j] \mid j = 1, 2, \dots, k-1\}$ . All elements of  $N_0([0, 1])$  are neighbors of each other in  $\Gamma_0$  and, thus,  $[0, 1]$  and its neighbors form a clique of order  $k$ . As  $M_k(q)$  is vertex transitive, every vertex belongs to such a clique. And, as the elements of  $N_0([0, 1])$  are not neighbors of any other vertices in  $\Gamma_0$ , all such cliques are disjoint. Therefore, there must be  $\frac{n}{k} = q + 1$  of them. (2)  $\Gamma_i$  is isomorphic to  $\Gamma_{i+1}$ , for all  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2} - 1$ , via the map  $[a, b] \rightarrow [wa, b]$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $v \in V(M_k(q))$ . Let  $x \in N_0(v)$ . Then for any  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{k}{2}\}$ ,*

$$ON_i(x) \cap ON_i(v) = IN_i(x) \cap IN_i(v) = \emptyset.$$

*Proof.* As  $M_k(q)$  is vertex transitive, it suffices to prove for  $v = [0, 1]$ . Then, let  $x \in N_0([0, 1])$ , i.e.,  $x = [0, \omega^j]$  for some  $j = 1, 2, \dots, k-1$ . Now

$$[0, \omega^j] \xrightarrow{i} [c, d] \iff \omega^j c \in S_{k,i} \iff c \in \{\omega^{kl+i-j-1} \mid l = 0, 1, \dots, \frac{q-1}{k} - 1\},$$

and so

$$ON_i(x) = ON_i([0, \omega^j]) = \{[\omega^{i-j-1 \pmod{k}}, d] \mid d \in \mathbb{F}_q\}.$$

Also,

$$ON_i(v) = ON_i([0, 1]) = \{[\omega^{i-1}, d] \mid d \in \mathbb{F}_q\}.$$

As  $j \not\equiv 0 \pmod{k}$ , we get that  $ON_i(x) \cap ON_i(v) = \emptyset$ . Similar arguments produce

$$IN_i(x) = IN_i([0, \omega^j]) = \{[\omega^{i-j-1+\frac{k}{2} \pmod{k}}, b] \mid b \in \mathbb{F}_q\}$$

and

$$IN_i(v) = IN_i([0, 1]) = \{[\omega^{i-1+\frac{k}{2}}, b] \mid b \in \mathbb{F}_q\}.$$

So,  $IN_i(x) \cap IN_i(v) = \emptyset$ .  $\square$

#### 4. RELATION TO THE $k$ -TH POWER PALEY DIGRAPHS

Recall from Section 3,  $k \geq 2$  is an even integer and  $q$  is a prime power such that  $q \equiv k+1 \pmod{2k}$ .  $S_k$  is the subgroup of  $\mathbb{F}_q^*$  containing the  $k$ -th power residues, i.e., if  $\omega$  is a primitive element of  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , then  $S_k = \langle \omega^k \rangle$ , and  $S_{k,i} := \omega^{i-1} S_k$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}$ .

We now recall some definitions and properties from [6] concerning Paley digraphs. We define the  $k$ -th power Paley digraph of order  $q$ ,  $G_k(q)$ , as the graph with vertex set  $\mathbb{F}_q$  where  $a \rightarrow b$  is an edge if and only if  $b - a \in S_k$ . We note that  $-1 \notin S_k$  so  $G_k(q)$  is a well-defined oriented graph. For each  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}$ , we define the related directed graph  $G_{k,i}(q)$  with vertex set  $\mathbb{F}_q$  where  $a \rightarrow b$  is an edge if and only if  $b - a \in S_{k,i}$ . Each  $G_{k,i}(q)$  is isomorphic to  $G_{k,1}(q) = G_k(q)$ , the  $k$ -th power Paley digraph, via the map  $f_i : V(G_k(q)) \rightarrow V(G_{k,i}(q))$  given by  $f_i(a) = \omega^{i-1} a$ . Now consider the *multicolor  $k$ -th power Paley tournament*  $P_k(q)$

whose vertex set is  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and whose edges are colored in  $\frac{k}{2}$  colors according to  $a \rightarrow b$  has color  $i$  if  $b - a \in S_{k,i}$ . Note that the induced subgraph of color  $i$  of  $P_k(q)$  is  $G_{k,i}(q)$ . Thus,  $P_k(q)$  contains a monochromatic transitive subtournament of order  $m$  if and only if  $G_k(q)$  contains a transitive subtournament of order  $m$ .

**Proposition 4.1.** *Let  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{k}{2}\}$ . Let  $v \in V(M_k(q))$ . Then the induced subgraph of  $M_k(q)$  with vertex set  $\text{ON}_i(v)$  is isomorphic to  $P_k(q)$ .*

*Proof.* As  $M_k(q)$  is vertex transitive, it suffices to prove for  $v = [0, 1]$ . Let  $H$  denote the induced subgraph of  $M_k(q)$  with vertex set  $\text{ON}_i([0, 1])$ . In the proof of Proposition 3.3 we saw that  $\text{ON}_i([0, 1]) = \{[\omega^{i-1}, d] \mid d \in \mathbb{F}_q\}$ . So  $\#V(H) = |\text{ON}_i([0, 1])| = q = \#V(P_k(q))$ . Now consider the bijective map  $\phi : V(H) \rightarrow V(P_k(q))$  given by  $\phi([\omega^{i-1}, d]) = -\omega^{i-1}d$ . It remains to show that  $\phi$  is color-preserving. Let  $[\omega^{i-1}, d_1] \in V(H)$  and let  $[\omega^{i-1}, d_2] \in \text{ON}_s([\omega^{i-1}, d_1])$  for some  $s \in \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{k}{2}\}$  (note that  $s \neq 0$  otherwise  $d_1 = d_2$ ). Now,

$$\begin{aligned} [\omega^{i-1}, d_1] \xrightarrow{s} [\omega^{i-1}, d_2] &\iff d_1\omega^{i-1} - \omega^{i-1}d_2 \in S_{k,s} \\ &\iff \phi([\omega^{i-1}, d_2]) - \phi([\omega^{i-1}, d_1]) \in S_{k,s} \\ &\iff \phi([\omega^{i-1}, d_1]) \xrightarrow{s} \phi([\omega^{i-1}, d_2]), \end{aligned}$$

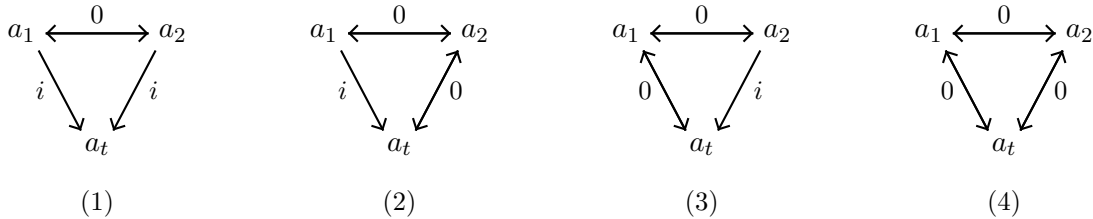
as required.  $\square$

Recall that any pair of vertices of  $M_k(q)$  will either be connected by a single oriented edge in color  $i$ , for some  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}$ , or, connected by two edges of color 0 oriented in opposite directions. We now replace all these pairs of color 0 edges with a single oriented edge of color  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}$ , where the new color and orientation are randomly assigned. We call this altered graph  $M_k^*(q)$ , which is a tournament whose edges are colored in  $\frac{k}{2}$  colors.

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let  $k \geq 2$  be an even integer and  $q$  be a prime power such that  $q \equiv k + 1 \pmod{2k}$ . Let  $m \geq k$ . If  $P_k(q)$  contains no monochromatic transitive subtournament of order  $m$ , then  $M_k^*(q)$  contains no monochromatic transitive subtournament of order  $m + 2$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $T_l^*$  be a monochromatic, in color  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}$ , transitive subtournament of  $M_k^*(q)$  of order  $l$ . We represent  $T_l^*$  by the  $l$ -tuple of its vertices  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_l)$  with the corresponding  $l$ -tuple of out-degrees  $(l-1, l-2, \dots, 1, 0)$ . Let  $T_l$  be the corresponding subgraph of  $M_k(q)$  before the color 0 edges were reassigned, i.e.,  $T_l$  also has vertices  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_l$  but some vertices may be connected by two edges of color 0 oriented in opposite directions.

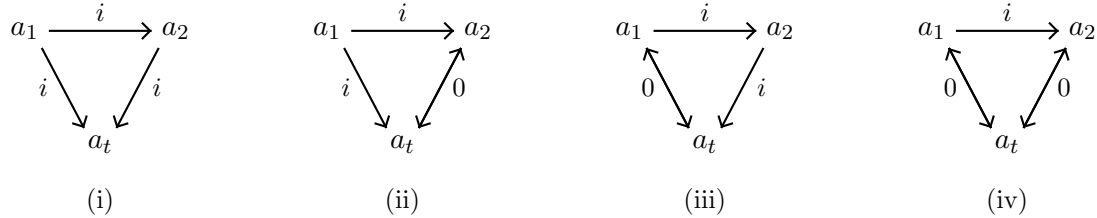
Assume  $a_1 \xrightarrow{0} a_2$  in  $M_k(q)$ . If  $l \geq 2$ , consider  $a_t$  for  $3 \leq t \leq l$ . Then there are four possibilities for the triangle  $(a_1, a_2, a_t)$  in  $M_k(q)$ :



By Proposition 3.3,  $\text{ON}_i(a_1) \cap \text{ON}_i(a_2) = \emptyset$  so case (1) can't happen. Now consider case

(2). As  $M_k(q)$  is vertex transitive, we can let  $a_2 = [0, 1]$ , without loss of generality. Then  $a_1, a_t \in N_0([0, 1]) = \{[0, \omega^j] \mid j = 1, 2, \dots, k-1\}$ . If we let  $a_1 = [0, \omega^{j_1}]$  and  $a_t = [0, \omega^{j_2}]$ , for some  $1 \leq j_1 \neq j_2 \leq k-1$ , then  $a_1 \xrightarrow{i} a_t$  implies  $0 = \omega^{j_1} \cdot 0 - 0 \cdot \omega^{j_2} \in S_{k,i}$ , which is a contradiction. Case (3) is isomorphic to case (2). So, if  $a_1 \xleftrightarrow{0} a_2$ , then case (4) is the only possibility, which inductively implies that  $T_l$  is monochromatic in color 0. Thus, by Proposition 3.2 (1),  $T_l$  must be contained in a color 0 clique of  $\Gamma_0$  and so  $l \leq k \leq m$ .

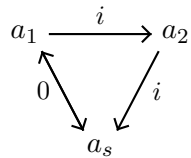
Now assume  $a_1 \xrightarrow{i} a_2$  in  $M_k(q)$ . If  $l \geq 2$ , consider  $a_t$  for  $3 \leq t \leq l$ . Again, we see that there are four possibilities for the triangle  $(a_1, a_2, a_t)$  in  $M_k(q)$ :



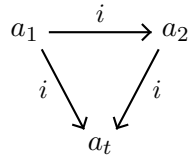
Case (ii) can't happen because  $IN_i(a_2) \cap IN_i(a_t) = \emptyset$ , by Proposition 3.3. Case (iv) is isomorphic to case (2) above, which we've seen is not possible. We now examine case (iii). As  $M_k(q)$  is vertex transitive, we can let  $a_1 = [0, 1]$ , without loss of generality. Then  $a_2 \in ON_i([0, 1]) = \{[\omega^{i-1}, d] \mid d \in \mathbb{F}_q\}$  and  $a_t \in N_0([0, 1]) = \{[0, \omega^j] \mid j = 1, 2, \dots, k-1\}$ . Further,

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_2 \xrightarrow{i} a_t &\iff [\omega^{i-1}, d] \xrightarrow{i} [0, \omega^j] \\
 &\iff d \cdot 0 - \omega^{i-1} \cdot \omega^j \in S_{k,i} \\
 &\iff \omega^{i+j-1} \in -S_{k,i} = \{\omega^{kv+i-1+\frac{k}{2}} \mid v = 0, 1, \dots, \frac{q-1}{k} - 1\} \\
 &\iff \omega^j \in \{\omega^{kv+\frac{k}{2}} \mid v = 0, 1, \dots, \frac{q-1}{k} - 1\} \\
 &\iff j = \frac{k}{2} \\
 &\iff a_t = [0, \omega^{\frac{k}{2}}] = [0, -1]
 \end{aligned}$$

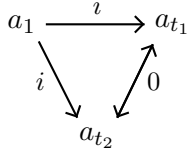
So, case (iii) is possible but there is only one possible  $a_t$ , which means there is only one value of  $t \in \{3, \dots, l\}$  for which  $a_1 \xleftrightarrow{0} a_t$ . So assume there is an  $s \in \{3, \dots, l\}$  such that



Then  $a_1 \xrightarrow{i} a_t$  for all  $t \in \{3, \dots, l\} \setminus \{s\}$  and by previous arguments we must have



Therefore, if  $t_1, t_2 \in \{3, \dots, l\} \setminus \{s\}$  with  $t_1 < t_2$ , then



is not possible, by Proposition 3.3, and so  $a_{t_1} \xrightarrow{i} a_{t_2}$ . Thus, if we remove  $a_s$  from  $T_l$  we get a monochromatic, in color  $i$ , transitive subtournament of  $M_k(q)$  of order  $l - 1$ , which we call  $T_{l-1}$ . Furthermore,  $T_{l-1} \setminus \{a_1\}$  is a monochromatic, in color  $i$ , transitive subtournament of  $M_k(q)$  of order  $l - 2$ . If we let  $H$  denote the induced subgraph of  $M_k(q)$  with vertex set  $\text{ON}_i([0, 1])$ , then by Proposition 4.1,  $T_{l-1} \setminus \{a_1\} \subseteq H \cong P_k(q)$ . So, if  $P_k(q)$  contains no monochromatic transitive subtournament of order  $m$ , then  $l - 2 < m$ .

If there is no  $3 \leq t \leq l$  for which  $(a_1, a_2, a_t)$  satisfies cases (ii), (ii) or (iv) then all  $a_t$ , for  $3 \leq t \leq l$ , satisfy case (i). Then  $a_{t_1} \xrightarrow{i} a_{t_2}$  for all  $3 \leq t_1 < t_2 \leq l$  by previous arguments. So, in this case,  $T_l$  itself is a monochromatic, in color  $i$ , transitive subtournament of  $M_k(q)$ . Letting  $H$  denote the induced subgraph of  $M_k(q)$  with vertex set  $\text{ON}_i(a_1)$  and, again, using Proposition 4.1, we get that  $T_l \setminus \{a_1\} \subseteq H \cong P_k(q)$ . So, if  $P_k(q)$  contains no monochromatic transitive subtournament of order  $m$ , then  $l - 1 < m$ .

Overall, if  $P_k(q)$  contains no monochromatic transitive subtournament of order  $m$ , then  $M_k^*(q)$  contains no monochromatic transitive subtournament of order  $m + 2$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 4.3.** *Let  $k \geq 2$  be an even integer and  $q$  be a prime power such that  $q \equiv k + 1 \pmod{2k}$ . If  $\mathcal{K}_m(G_k(q)) = 0$ , for  $m \geq k$ , then  $R_{\frac{k}{2}}(m + 2) \geq k(q + 1) + 1$ .*

*Proof.* By definition,  $\mathcal{K}_m(G_k(q)) = 0$  means that  $G_k(q)$  contains no transitive subtournaments of order  $m$ . By the discussion at the start of this section, this implies  $P_k(q)$  contains no transitive subtournaments of order  $m$  [6]. Consequently, by Theorem 4.2,  $M_k^*(q)$  contains no monochromatic transitive subtournament of order  $m + 2$ . Recall,  $M_k^*(q)$  is a tournament of order  $n = k(q + 1)$  whose edges are colored in  $\frac{k}{2}$  colors, so  $R_{\frac{k}{2}}(m + 2) \geq k(q + 1) + 1$ .  $\square$

## 5. APPLICATION OF COROLLARY 4.3

We now examine properties of  $G_k(q)$  and apply Corollary 4.3 to get improved lower bounds for certain directed Ramsey numbers.

We start with the case when  $k = 2$ . For all appropriate  $q \leq 1583$  we found, by computer search, the order of the largest transitive subtournament of  $G_2(q)$ . Then, from this data, we identified the largest  $q$  such that  $\mathcal{K}_m(G_k(q)) = 0$ , for each  $3 \leq m \leq 20$ . Call this  $q_m$ . We then apply Corollary 4.3 which yields  $R(m + 2) \geq \max(2(q_m + 1) + 1, q_{m+2} + 1)$ . The results for  $7 \leq m \leq 20$  are shown in Table 1. ( $R(m)$  for  $3 \leq m \leq 6$  are already known.)

The values of  $q_m$  in Table 1, for  $7 \leq m \leq 18$ , confirm those of Sanchez-Flores [12], and, for  $m = 19$ , that of Exoo [3]. The best known lower bound for  $m = 7$  is  $R(7) \geq 34$ , due to Neiman, Mackey and Heule [8]. For  $8 \leq m \leq 10$  and  $12 \leq m \leq 19$  the previously best known lower bound was  $R(m) \geq q_m + 1$  [3]. Also from [3] we have that  $R(11) \geq 112$ . So the values in bold in Table 1 represent an improvement to the previously best known lower bounds and the values in italics equal the best known lower bounds.

$m$	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
$q_m$	27	47	83	107	107	199	271	367	443	619	659	971	1259	1571
$R(m) \geq$	28	<b>57</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>737</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>1241</b>	<b>1321</b>	<b>1945</b>

TABLE 1. Lower Bounds for  $R(m)$ .

We also performed a similar exercise for  $k = 4, 6, 8$  and  $10$ , identifying, in each case, the largest  $q$  such that  $\mathcal{K}_m(G_k(q)) = 0$ , for  $3 \leq m \leq 10$ . We will denote such  $q$  as  $q_{m,k}$ . Table 2 outlines these values. The values in the last row of the table indicate the upper limit for  $q$  in our search. Note that values of  $q_{m,k}$  close to this limit will not be optimal.

$m$	$k = 4$	$k = 6$	$k = 8$	$k = 10$
3	13	43	169	71
4	125	343	953	3331
5	157	859	2809	6791
6	829	4339	15625	33191
7	709	4423	26153	43411
8	1709	18523	29929	58771
9	3517	29611	29929	59951
10	7573	29959	29929	59971
$q <$	10000	30000	30000	60000

TABLE 2. Largest  $q$  found such that  $\mathcal{K}_m(G_k(q)) = 0$ .

Now,  $R_{\frac{k}{2}}(m) \geq q_{m,k} + 1$ , and, by Corollary 4.3,  $R_{\frac{k}{2}}(m+2) \geq k(q_{m,k} + 1) + 1$  when  $m \geq k$ . We note also that for  $t \geq 2$  [4, Prop. 5]

$$R_t(m) \geq (R_{t-1}(m) - 1)(R(m) - 1) + 1.$$

It is already known that  $R(3) = 4$ ,  $R(4) = 8$  [2],  $R(5) = 14$  [10],  $R(6) = 28$  [11],  $R(7) \geq 34$  [8],  $R_2(3) = 14$  [1],  $R_2(4) \geq 126$  and  $R_3(3) \geq 44$  [6]. We combine all this information, including values from Table 1, to get lower bounds on the Ramsey numbers  $R_t(m)$  for  $t \geq 2$  and  $3 \leq m \leq 10$ . The results are shown in Table 3.

$m$	$t = 2$	$t = 3$	$t = 4$	$t \geq 5$			
3	14	44	170	$169 \cdot 3^{t-4} + 1$			
4	126	$125 \cdot 7^{t-2} + 1$					
5							
6	830	$829 \cdot 27^{t-2} + 1$					
7							
8	3321	$3320 \cdot 56^{t-2} + 1$					
9							
10							

TABLE 3. Lower bounds for  $R_t(m)$ .

The general formulas in the cases  $m = 3, 6, 8$  improve on what was previously known. We note that the  $m = 8$  case is the only one where Corollary 4.3 influences the results.

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