# Vertex Partitions into an Independent Set and a Forest with Each Component Small 

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Defn: An $\left(I, F_{k}\right)$-coloring of $G$ is partition of $V(G)$ into $I, F_{k}$ where $I$ is ind. set and $G\left[F_{k}\right]$ is forest with each tree of order $\leq k$.

## Main Results

Main Theorem:
For each integer $k \geq 2$, let

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f(k):= \begin{cases}3-\frac{3}{3 k-1} & k \text { even } \\ 3-\frac{3}{3 k-2} & k \text { odd }\end{cases}
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Rem: Also sharp if we only require that each component of $G\left[F_{k}\right]$ has order at most $k$ (but we allow cycles).

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Various results subsumed by Main Theorem

- Borodin-Ivanova-Montassier-Ochem-Raspaud '10 JGT
- Dross-Montassier-Pinlou '18 E-JC
- Choi-Dross-Ochem '20 DM


## Sharpness Examples

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Thm: Let $\rho^{4}(R):=15|R|-11|E(G[R])|$ for each $R \subseteq V(G)$. If $G$ is $\left(I, F_{4}\right)$-critical, then $\rho^{4}(V(G)) \leq-3$.

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Obs: $\operatorname{mad}(G) \leq 30 / 11$ iff $\rho^{4}(R) \geq 0$ for all $R \subseteq V(G)$. By thm, $\operatorname{mad}(G) \leq 30 / 11$ implies $G$ has an $\left(I, F_{4}\right)$-coloring.

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\begin{aligned}
\rho_{G}^{k}\left(S^{\prime}\right) & \leq \rho_{G^{\prime}}^{k}(S)-\rho_{G^{\prime}}^{k}(S \cap X)+\rho_{G}^{k}(R) \\
& \leq-3+\rho_{G}^{k}(R)<\rho_{G}^{k}(R) .
\end{aligned}
$$

If $S^{\prime} \neq V(G)$, then $S^{\prime}$ contradicts our choice of $R$.
If $S^{\prime}=V(G)$, then $\rho^{k}(V(G)) \leq-3$, contradiction.

