

# Toward a New Algorithm for Four Coloring Planar Graphs

John Clairmont

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A heuristic algorithm is described for four coloring planar graphs. Instructions are read into a computer which performs the given operations. I'm working on a program to implement the algorithm without the use of instructions. Its taking a long time and I would appreciate any help.

The algorithm is an alternating chain type algorithm . Alternating chains are found which preserve certain properties. These properties insure that such a chain will always be easy to find.

Specifically the properties ensure that the branches of an alternating chain cannot conflict with each other, and a branch cannot conflict with itself.

my email : johnstudebaker20@gmail.com