

This project explores the  $p$ -colorability of a particular family of braids, containing three strands and three crossings, up to their  $n$ th repetitions. This was accomplished by creating a matrix representation of the braid, found by relabeling the strands according to crossings. Once the matrix was established, it was solved for powers of  $n$ . The matrices, and therefore braids, were found to have one of three solutions. Each braid was  $p$ -colorable according to one of the following:

- $P$ -colorable if and only if  $4|n$ .
- $P$ -colorable if and only if  $p|n$ .
- $P$ -colorable if and only if  $p$  divides  $d_n$ , where  $d_n$  is the greatest common divisor of two sequences derived from the matrix, and always for  $p=3$  if  $n$  was even.

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