

Propositional Logic

MAXIMUM SATISFIABILITY

◀ LO1

INSTANCE: Set U of variables, collection C of disjunctive clauses of literals, where a literal is a variable or a negated variable in U .

SOLUTION: A truth assignment for U .

MEASURE: Number of clauses satisfied by the truth assignment.

Good News: Approximable within 1.2987 [Asano, Hori, Ono, and Hirata, 1997].

Bad News: APX-complete [Papadimitriou and Yannakakis, 1991].

Comment: Variation in which each clause has a nonnegative weight and the objective is to maximize the total weight of the satisfied clauses is also approximable within 1.2987 [Asano, Hori, Ono, and Hirata, 1997]. Generalization in which each clause is a disjunction of conjunctions of literals and each conjunction consists of at most k literals, where k is a positive constant, is still APX-complete [Papadimitriou and Yannakakis, 1991]. Admits a PTAS for ‘planar’ instances [Khanna and Motwani, 1996]. The corresponding minimization problem MINIMUM SATISFIABILITY is approximable within 2 [Bertsimas, Teo, and Vohra, 1996] and its variation in which each clause has a nonnegative weight and the objective is to minimize the total weight of the satisfied clauses is as hard to approximate as the unweighted version [Crescenzi, Silvestri, and Trevisan, 1996].

Garey and Johnson: LO1

MAXIMUM k -SATISFIABILITY

◀ LO2

INSTANCE: Set U of variables, collection C of disjunctive clauses of at most k literals, where a literal is a variable or a negated variable in U . k is a constant, $k \geq 2$.

SOLUTION: A truth assignment for U .

MEASURE: Number of clauses satisfied by the truth assignment.

Good News: Approximable within $1/(1 - 2^{-k})$ if every clause consists of exactly k literals [Johnson, 1974a].

Bad News: APX-complete [Papadimitriou and Yannakakis, 1991].

Comment: If $k = 3$, the problem is approximable within 1.249 [Trevisan, Sorkin, Sudan, and Williamson, 1996] and is approximable within $8/7$ for satisfiable instances [Karloff and Zwick, 1997]. MAXIMUM k -SATISFIABILITY is not approximable within $1/(1 - 2^{-k}) - \epsilon$ for any $\epsilon > 0$ and $k \geq 3$, even if every clause consists of exactly k literals [Håstad, 1997].

MAXIMUM 2-SATISFIABILITY is approximable within 1.0741 [Feige and Goemans, 1995], and is not approximable within 1.0476 [Håstad, 1997]. The weighted version of this problem is as hard to approximate as the unweighted version [Crescenzi, Silvestri, and Trevisan, 1996].

If every clause consists of exactly k literals, the weighted version of the problem is as hard to approximate as the unweighted version [Crescenzi, Silvestri, and Trevisan, 1996]. Variation in which the number of occurrences of any literal is bounded by a constant B for $B \geq 3$ is still APX-complete even for $k = 2$ [Papadimitriou and Yannakakis, 1991] and [Chap.8 of this book]; for $B = 6$ it is not approximable within 1.0014 [Berman and Karpinski, 1998].

Admits a PTAS if $|C| = \Theta(|U|^k)$ [Arora, Karger, and Karpinski, 1995]. Variation in which each clause is a Horn clause, i.e., contains at most one nonnegated variable, is APX-complete, even for $k = 2$ [Kohli, Krishnamurti, and Mirchandani, 1994].

Garey and Johnson: LO2 and LO5

LO3 ► MINIMUM k -SATISFIABILITY

INSTANCE: Set U of variables, collection C of disjunctive clauses of at most k literals, where a literal is a variable or a negated variable in U . k is a constant, $k \geq 2$.

SOLUTION: A truth assignment for U .

MEASURE: Number of clauses satisfied by the truth assignment.

Good News: Approximable within $2(1 - 1/2^k)$ [Bertsimas, Teo, and Vohra, 1996].

Bad News: APX-complete for every $k \geq 2$ [Kohli, Krishnamurti, and Mirchandani, 1994].

Comment: Transformation from MAXIMUM 2-SATISFIABILITY. Variation in which each clause is a Horn clause, i.e., contains at most one nonnegated variable, is APX-complete, even for $k = 2$ [Kohli, Krishnamurti, and Mirchandani, 1994].

Garey and Johnson: LO2

LO4 ► MAXIMUM NOT-ALL-EQUAL 3-SATISFIABILITY

INSTANCE: Set U of variables, collection C of disjunctive clauses of at most 3 literals, where a literal is a variable or a negated variable in U .

SOLUTION: A truth assignment for U and a subset $C' \subseteq C$ of the clauses such that each clause in C' has at least one true literal and at least one false literal.

MEASURE: $|C'|$.

Good News: Approximable within 1.138 [Kann, Lagergren, and Panconesi, 1996].

Bad News: APX-complete [Papadimitriou and Yannakakis, 1991]. Not approximable within 1.090 [Zwick, 1998].

Comment: Transformation from MAXIMUM 2-SATISFIABILITY. Approximable within 1.096 for satisfiable instances [Zwick, 1998]. MAXIMUM NOT-ALL-EQUAL SATISFIABILITY, without restrictions on the number of literals in a clause, is approximable within 1.380 [Andersson and Engebretsen, 1998a].

Garey and Johnson: LO3

MINIMUM 3DNF SATISFIABILITY

◀ LO5

INSTANCE: Set U of variables, collection C of conjunctive clauses of at most three literals, where a literal is a variable or a negated variable in U .

SOLUTION: A truth assignment for U .

MEASURE: Number of clauses satisfied by the truth assignment.

Bad News: Not in APX [Kolaitis and Thakur, 1994].

Garey and Johnson: LO8

MAXIMUM DISTINGUISHED ONES

◀ LO6

INSTANCE: Disjoint sets X, Z of variables, collection C of disjunctive clauses of at most 3 literals, where a literal is a variable or a negated variable in $X \cup Z$.

SOLUTION: Truth assignment for X and Z that satisfies every clause in C .

MEASURE: The number of Z variables that are set to true in the assignment.

Bad News: NPOPB-complete [Kann, 1992b].

Comment: Transformation from MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SATISFIABLE FORMULAS [Panconesi and Ranjan, 1993]. Not approximable within $(|X| + |Z|)^{1-\epsilon}$ for any $\epsilon > 0$ [Jonsson, 1997]. MAXIMUM ONES, the variation in which all variables are distinguished, i.e., $|X| = \emptyset$, is also NPOPB-complete [Kann, 1992b], and is not approximable within $|Z|^{1-\epsilon}$ for any $\epsilon > 0$ [Jonsson, 1997]. MAXIMUM WEIGHTED SATISFIABILITY, the weighted version, in which every variable is assigned a nonnegative weight, is NPO-complete [Ausiello, D'Atri, and Protasi, 1981].

MINIMUM DISTINGUISHED ONES

◀ LO7

INSTANCE: Disjoint sets X, Z of variables, collection C of disjunctive clauses of at most 3 literals, where a literal is a variable or a negated variable in $X \cup Z$.

SOLUTION: Truth assignment for X and Z that satisfies every clause in C .

MEASURE: The number of Z variables that are set to true in the assignment.

Bad News: NPOPB-complete [Kann, 1994b].

Comment: Transformation from MINIMUM INDEPENDENT DOMINATING SET. Not approximable within $(|X| + |Z|)^{1-\epsilon}$ for any $\epsilon > 0$ [Jonsson, 1997]. MINIMUM ONES, the variation in which all variables are distinguished, i.e., $X = \emptyset$, is also NPOPB-complete [Kann, 1994b], and is not approximable within $|Z|^{1-\epsilon}$ for any $\epsilon > 0$ [Jonsson, 1997]. MINIMUM ONES for clauses of 2 literals is approximable within 2 [Gusfield and Pitt, 1992]. MINIMUM WEIGHTED SATISFIABILITY, the weighted version, in which every variable is assigned a nonnegative weight, is NPO-complete [Orponen and Mannila, 1987]. Variations corresponding to three- and four-valued logics have also been considered [Errico and Rosati, 1995].

LO8 ► MAXIMUM WEIGHTED SATISFIABILITY WITH BOUND

INSTANCE: Set U of variables, boolean expression F over U , a nonnegative bound $B \in \mathbb{N}$, for each variable $u \in U$ a weight $w(u) \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $B \leq \sum_{u \in U} w(u) \leq 2B$.

SOLUTION: A truth assignment for U , i.e., a subset $U' \subseteq U$ such that the variables in U' are set to true and the variables in $U - U'$ are set to false.

MEASURE: $\sum_{v \in U'} w(v)$ if the truth assignment satisfies the boolean expression F and B otherwise.

Good News: Approximable within 2 [Crescenzi and Panconesi, 1991].

Bad News: APX-complete [Crescenzi and Panconesi, 1991].

Comment: Variation with $\sum_{u \in U} w(u) \leq (1 + 1/(|U| - 1))B$ is PTAS-complete [Crescenzi and Panconesi, 1991].

LO9 ► MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SATISFIABLE FORMULAS

INSTANCE: Set U of variables, collection C of 3CNF formulas.

SOLUTION: A truth assignment for U .

MEASURE: Number of formulas satisfied by the truth assignment.

Bad News: NPOPB-complete [Kann, 1992b].

Comment: Transformation from LONGEST INDUCED PATH. Not approximable within $|C|$.

LO10 ► MINIMUM NUMBER OF SATISFIABLE FORMULAS

INSTANCE: Set U of variables, collection C of 3CNF formulas.

SOLUTION: A truth assignment for U .

MEASURE: Number of formulas satisfied by the truth assignment.

Bad News: NPOPB-complete [Kann, 1994b].

Comment: Transformation from MINIMUM DISTINGUISHED ONES. Not approximable within $|C|^{1-\epsilon}$ for any $\epsilon > 0$ [Kann, 1994b].

MINIMUM EQUIVALENCE DELETION

◀ LO11

INSTANCE: Set U of variables, collection C of equivalences over U .

SOLUTION: A truth assignment for U .

MEASURE: Number of equivalences not satisfied by the truth assignment.

Good News: Approximable within $O(\log |U|)$ [Garg, Vazirani, and Yannakakis, 1996].

Bad News: APX-hard [Garg, Vazirani, and Yannakakis, 1996].

Comment: The dual problem is approximable within 1.138 [Kann, 1994b].

MAXIMUM k -CONSTRAINT SATISFACTION

◀ LO12

INSTANCE: Set U of variables, collection C of conjunctive clauses of at most k literals, where a literal is a variable or a negated variable in U , and k is a constant, $k \geq 2$.

SOLUTION: A truth assignment for U .

MEASURE: Number of clauses satisfied by the truth assignment.

Good News: Approximable within 2^{k-1} [Trevisan, 1996].

Bad News: APX-complete [Berman and Schnitger, 1992].

Comment: Transformation from MAXIMUM 2-SATISFIABILITY.

Approximable within 1.165 but not within 1.111 for $k = 2$, and approximable within 2 but not within $2-\epsilon$ for $k = 3$. There are also results of specific variations of the problem for $k \leq 3$ [Zwick, 1998]. Not approximable within $2^{0.09k}$ for large enough k [Trevisan, 1996]. Not in APX when $k = \log |C|$ [Verbitsky, 1995]. When there are exactly k variables in each clause and the number of clauses is $\Theta(|U|^k)$ the problem admits a randomized PTAS [Andersson and Engebretsen, 1998b]. A complete classification of the approximability of optimization problems derived from Boolean constraint satisfaction is contained in [Khanna, Sudan, and Williamson, 1997] and in [Khanna, Sudan, and Trevisan, 1997].

MINIMUM LENGTH EQUIVALENT FREGE PROOF

◀ LO13

INSTANCE: A Frege proof π of a tautology φ .

The compendium

LOGIC

SOLUTION: A Frege proof π' of φ shorter than π , i.e., containing at most as many symbols as π .

MEASURE: Number of symbols in π' .

Good News: Approximable within $O(n)$.

Bad News: APX-hard [Alekhnovich, Buss, Moran, and Pitassi, 1998].

Comment: The result applies to all Frege systems, to all extended Frege systems, to resolution, to Horn clause resolution, to the sequent calculus, and to the cut-free sequent calculus. Not approximable within $2^{\log^{(1-\epsilon)} n}$ for any $\epsilon > 0$ unless $\text{NP} \subseteq \text{QP}$ [Alekhnovich, Buss, Moran, and Pitassi, 1998].

Miscellaneous

LO14 ► MAXIMUM HORN CORE

INSTANCE: Set M of truth assignments on n variables.

SOLUTION: A Horn core of M , i.e., a subset $M' \subseteq M$ such that M' is equal to the set of truth assignments satisfying a Horn boolean formula.

MEASURE: The cardinality of the core, i.e., $|M'|$.

Bad News: Not in APX [Kavvadias, Papadimitriou, and Sideri, 1993].