Quantified Maximum Satisfiability: A Core-Guided Approach

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Find a smallest unsatisfiable subformula of a CNF formula.

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Find a solution of a QBF that has a **minimal** cost.

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Find a solution of a QBF that has a minimal cost.

Applications — optimization problems with quantified constraints.

QBF — a quantified generalization of SAT:

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 $\bullet \ \ Q_{\scriptscriptstyle 1} X_{\scriptscriptstyle 1} ... Q_{\scriptscriptstyle k} X_{\scriptscriptstyle k}. \ \ \phi \text{, where } Q_{\scriptscriptstyle 1} \in \{\exists, \forall\}$

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- $Q_1X_1...Q_kX_k$. φ , where $Q_i \in \{\exists, \forall\}$
- $\bullet \ \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \text{, where } \overrightarrow{Q} = (Q_{\scriptscriptstyle 1} X_{\scriptscriptstyle 1} ... Q_{k} X_{k})$

short form

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- $Q_1X_1...Q_kX_k$. φ , where $Q_i \in \{\exists, \forall\}$
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short form

Example

$$\xi = \exists e_{\scriptscriptstyle 1}, e_{\scriptscriptstyle 2} \ \forall x_{\scriptscriptstyle 1}, x_{\scriptscriptstyle 2}. \ (\neg e_{\scriptscriptstyle 1} \wedge \neg e_{\scriptscriptstyle 2}) \to (x_{\scriptscriptstyle 1} \vee x_{\scriptscriptstyle 2})$$

$$\psi = \exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \varphi$$

Definition

Assignment \mathcal{A}_E is a **solution** of ψ iff \overrightarrow{Q} . $\phi\big|_{\mathcal{A}_E}$ is true.

 $\mathcal{M}(\psi)$ — set of all solutions of $\psi.$

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Example

$$\xi = \exists e_{\scriptscriptstyle 1}, e_{\scriptscriptstyle 2} \ \forall x_{\scriptscriptstyle 1}, x_{\scriptscriptstyle 2}. \ (\neg e_{\scriptscriptstyle 1} \land \neg e_{\scriptscriptstyle 2}) \rightarrow (x_{\scriptscriptstyle 1} \lor x_{\scriptscriptstyle 2}) \\ \mathcal{M}(\xi) = \{(\mathsf{o}, \mathsf{1}), (\mathsf{1}, \mathsf{o}), (\mathsf{1}, \mathsf{1})\}$$

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Example

$$\begin{split} \xi &= \exists e_{\text{1}}, e_{\text{2}} \, \forall x_{\text{1}}, x_{\text{2}}. \, \left(\neg e_{\text{1}} \wedge \neg e_{\text{2}} \right) \rightarrow \left(x_{\text{1}} \vee x_{\text{2}} \right) \\ \mathcal{M}(\xi) &= \left\{ (\text{0,1}), (\text{1,0}), (\text{1,1}) \right\} \end{split}$$

What solution is the best?

$$\psi = \exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \varphi$$

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$$\xi = \exists e_1, e_2 \ \forall x_1, x_2. \ (\neg e_1 \land \neg e_2) \rightarrow (x_1 \lor x_2)$$

$$\mathcal{M}(\xi) = \{(o, 1), (1, o), (1, 1)\}$$

What solution is the best?

QMaxSAT

Consider a cost function $f(e_1, ..., e_1) = \sum_{i=1}^{l} a_i \cdot e_i$, |E| = l. Find $A_F \in \mathcal{M}(\psi)$ s. t. $\forall \mathcal{B}_F \in \mathcal{M}(\psi)$: $f(A_F) \leq f(\mathcal{B}_F)$.

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What solution is the best?

$$f(e_1, e_2) = 2 \cdot e_1 + 3 \cdot e_2$$

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$$\mathcal{M}(\xi) = \{(0, 1), (1, 0), (1, 1)\}$$

What solution is the best?

$$f(e_1, e_2) = 2 \cdot e_1 + 3 \cdot e_2$$
 $f(1, 0) = \min_{M(\xi)} f(e_1, e_2) = 2$

QMaxSAT

Consider a cost function $f(e_1, ..., e_1) = \sum_{i=1}^{l} a_i \cdot e_i$, |E| = l. Find $A_F \in \mathcal{M}(\psi)$ s. t. $\forall B_F \in \mathcal{M}(\psi)$: $f(A_F) \leq f(B_F)$.

$$\psi = \exists E \ \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi$$

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• Linear search: $\exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \wedge (f(e_1,...,e_1) \leqslant k)$

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Quantified MaxSAT: A Core-Guided Approach

• Linear search: $\exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \wedge (f(e_1,...,e_1) \leqslant k)$

Refine LB $\begin{array}{c|c} & \text{OPT} \\ LB_0 & LB_1 & \text{UB} \end{array}$

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$$\psi = \exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \varphi$$

• Linear search: $\exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \land (f(e_1,...,e_l) \leqslant k)$



Refine UB

Approaches

$$\psi = \exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \varphi$$

• Linear search: $\exists E \overrightarrow{Q}$.

$$\exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \wedge (f(e_1, ..., e_l) \leqslant k)$$

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Linear search:

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• Linear search: $\exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \land (f(e_1,...,e_1) \leqslant k)$

Core-guided search:

$$\psi = \exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \varphi$$

Linear search:

h:
$$\exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \wedge (f(e_1,...,e_1) \leqslant k)$$

Refine LB





Refine UB

Core-guided search:

•
$$f(e_1,...,e_l) = \sum_{i=1}^l e_i$$

unweighted QMaxSAT

$$\psi = \exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \varphi$$

Linear search:

$$\exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \wedge (f(e_1,...,e_l) \leqslant k)$$

Refine LB



• $f(e_1,...,e_1) = \sum_{i=1}^{l} e_i$ • $\phi_S = \{ \neg e_1,..., \neg e_i \}$

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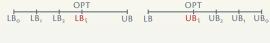
Refine UB

$$\psi = \exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \varphi$$

Linear search:

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Refine LB



Refine UB

Core-guided search:

• $f(e_1, ..., e_1) = \sum_{i=1}^{1} e_i$

unweighted QMaxSAT

• $\varphi_S = \{ \neg e_1, \dots, \neg e_1 \}$

soft clauses

• $\#(\varphi_S, \mathcal{A}_E) = \sum_{c \in \varphi_S} c|_{\mathcal{A}_E}$

number of satisfied soft clauses

$$\psi = \exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \varphi$$

Linear search:

Refine LB

search:
$$\exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \land (f(e_1,...,e_l) \leqslant k)$$



Core-guided search:

• $f(e_1,...,e_l) = \sum_{i=1}^l e_i$

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 $\bullet \varphi_S = \{\neg e_1, \dots, \neg e_l\}$

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∀A_E:

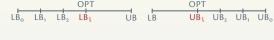
$$f(A_E) = y \Leftrightarrow \#(\phi_S, A_E) = l - y$$

$$\psi = \exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi$$

Linear search:

$$\exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \wedge (f(e_1, ..., e_l) \leqslant k)$$

Refine LB



- Core-guided search:
 - $f(e_1,...,e_l) = \sum_{i=1}^l e_i$

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soft clauses

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number of satisfied soft clauses

∀A_F:

$$f(\mathcal{A}_E) = y \; \Leftrightarrow \; \text{\#}(\phi_S, \mathcal{A}_E) = l - y$$

•
$$\psi' = \exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \land \phi_S$$

QBF to decide iteratively

$$\psi = \exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \varphi$$

Linear search:

$$\exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \wedge (f(e_1,...,e_l) \leqslant k)$$

Refine LB



OPT OPT

LB₀ LB₁ LB₂ LB₁ UB LB UB₁ UB₂ UB₁ UB₀

Refine UB

- Core-guided search:
 - $f(e_1,...,e_l) = \sum_{i=1}^{l} e_i$

unweighted QMaxSAT
soft clauses

number of satisfied soft clauses

• $\#(\varphi_{S}, \mathcal{A}_{E}) = \sum_{c \in \varphi_{S}} c|_{\mathcal{A}_{E}}$

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QBF to decide iteratively

• find $A_E \in \mathcal{M}(\psi)$ that maximizes # (ϕ_S, A_E)

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Linear search:

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Refine LB

- Core-guided search:
 - $f(e_1,...,e_l) = \sum_{i=1}^l e_i$

unweighted QMaxSAT

soft clauses

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• $\#(\varphi_S, \mathcal{A}_E) = \sum_{c \in \varphi_S} c \big|_{\mathcal{A}_E}$

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∀A_F:

$$f(A_E) = y \Leftrightarrow \#(\phi_S, A_E) = l - y$$

• $\psi' = \exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \land \phi_S$

QBF to decide iteratively

• find $\mathcal{A}_E \in \mathcal{M}(\psi)$ that maximizes # (ϕ_S, \mathcal{A}_E)

Definition

Formula $\varphi_C = \varphi \wedge \varphi_S'$, $\varphi_S' \subseteq \varphi_S$, is an **unsatisfiable core** of ψ' if $\exists E \overrightarrow{Q}$. φ_C is false.

Algorithm QMSU₁

Based on the Fu&Malik's algorithm (a.k.a. MSU1 or WPM1)

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Differences:

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$$_{\text{I}}\ \psi_{\text{R}}^{\prime}\leftarrow\psi^{\prime}=\exists\text{E}\ \overrightarrow{Q}.\ \phi\wedge\phi_{\text{S}}$$

Based on the Fu&Malik's algorithm (a.k.a. MSU1 or WPM1)

Differences:

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$$_{1}\ \psi_{R}^{\prime}\leftarrow\psi^{\prime}=\exists\text{E}\ \overrightarrow{Q}.\ \phi\wedge\phi_{S}$$

 $_{\scriptscriptstyle 2}$ while ψ_R' is false:

ask a QBF oracle

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 $_3$ extract unsatisfiable core ϕ_C

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- Basic principles:

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while ψ_R' is false:

ask a QBF oracle

- ${}_{\scriptscriptstyle 3} \qquad \text{extract unsatisfiable core } \phi_C$
- relax soft part of φ_C

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- QBF oracle instead of SAT oracle
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- Basic principles:

$$\psi_R' \leftarrow \psi' = \exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \land \phi_S$$

while ψ_R' is false:

ask a QBF oracle

- ${}_{\scriptscriptstyle 3} \qquad \text{extract unsatisfiable core } \phi_C$
- relax soft part of ϕ_C
- $_{5}$ update ψ_{R}^{\prime}

input $: \psi = \exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi$, and ϕ_S

```
_{1} R<sub>011</sub> \leftarrow \emptyset
                                                                                       # set of all relaxation variables
2 while true:
        \psi_{R}' = \exists E \exists R_{all} \overrightarrow{Q}. \varphi \wedge \varphi_{S}
          (\mathsf{st}, \varphi_\mathsf{C}, \mathcal{A}_\mathsf{E}) \leftarrow \mathsf{QBF}(\psi_\mathsf{R}')
                                                                                                          # calling a QBF oracle
         if st = true:
                return A =
          R \leftarrow \emptyset
          foreach c \in Soft(\varphi_C):
                                                                                                               # relaxing the core
                 let r be a new relaxation variable
                 R \leftarrow R \cup \{r\}
          \varphi \leftarrow \varphi \land CNF(\sum_{r \in R} r \leqslant 1)
                                                                                                      # updating the hard part
          R_{all} \leftarrow R_{all} \cup R
```

relaxing the core

Algorithm QMSU₁

```
\begin{array}{ll} \text{input} \ : \psi = \exists \mathsf{E} \ \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi, \text{and} \ \phi_S \\ \\ ^1 \ R_{\alpha l l} \leftarrow \emptyset \\ \text{while true:} \\ \\ ^2 \ \psi_R' = \exists \mathsf{E} \ \exists R_{\alpha l l} \ \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \wedge \phi_S \end{array}
```

$$\{\mathbf{st}, \mathbf{\phi}_{\mathsf{C}}, \mathcal{A}_{\mathsf{E}}\} \leftarrow \mathsf{QBF}(\psi_{\mathsf{R}}')$$
 # calling a QBF oracle

 $_{5}$ if st = true:

 $_{6}$ return \mathcal{A}_{E}

$$R \leftarrow \emptyset$$

9

s foreach
$$c \in Soft(\varphi_C)$$
:

let r be a new relaxation variable

$$R \leftarrow R \cup \{r\}$$

$$\phi_S \leftarrow \phi_S \setminus \{c\} \cup \{c \vee r\}$$

12
$$\phi \leftarrow \phi \land \mathtt{CNF}(\sum_{r \in R} r \leqslant \mathbf{1})$$
 # updating the hard part

 $R_{all} \leftarrow R_{all} \cup R$

```
input : \psi = \exists E \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi, and \phi_S
```

```
_{1} R<sub>a11</sub> \leftarrow \emptyset
                                                                                         # set of all relaxation variables
2 while true:
         \psi_{R}' = \exists E \exists R_{all} \overrightarrow{Q}. \ \phi \wedge \phi_{S}
          (\mathsf{st}, \varphi_\mathsf{C}, \mathcal{A}_\mathsf{E}) \leftarrow \mathsf{QBF}(\psi_\mathsf{R}')
                                                                                                           # calling a QBF oracle
          if st = true:
                 return A_{\mathsf{F}}
          R \leftarrow \emptyset
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          \phi \leftarrow \phi \land \mathtt{CNF}(\sum_{r \in R} r \leqslant 1)
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 $\exists X \forall Y. \ \phi_H \land \phi_S$

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$$\exists X. \ \textstyle \bigwedge_{\nu \in \{\text{o,1}\}^{|Y|}} \left(\phi_{H} \wedge \phi_{S}\right) \big|_{\nu}$$

$$\exists X \forall Y. \ \phi_H \land \phi_S$$

1

Full expansion: $\exists X. \ \bigwedge_{v \in \{o,1\}^{|Y|}} (\phi_H \wedge \phi_S)|_v$

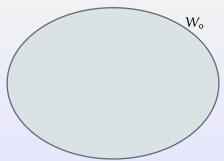
Partial expansion: $\exists X. \ \bigwedge_{v \in W} (\varphi_H \land \varphi_S)|_v \quad W \subseteq \{0,1\}^{|Y|}$

 $\exists X \forall Y. \ \varphi_H \land \varphi_S$

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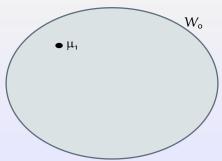


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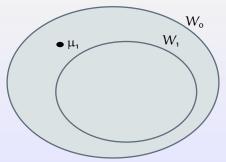


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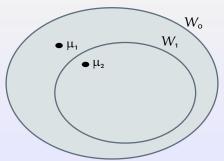


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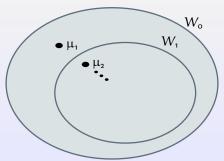


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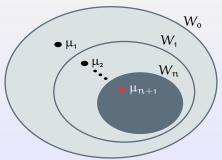


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Computing Cores in CEGAR-based 2QBF

input : $\exists X \forall Y. \ \phi_H \land \phi_S$

```
1 \omega \leftarrow \emptyset
2 while true:
           \varphi \leftarrow \text{CNF}(\bigwedge_{v \in \omega} \varphi_H|_{v}) \cup \bigwedge_{v \in \omega} \varphi_S|_{v}
           (st_1, \mu, \phi_C) \leftarrow SAT(\phi)
                                                                                                                                          # candidate
           if st_1 = false:
                  \varphi'_{S} \leftarrow \{c \in \varphi_{S} \mid c' \in \varphi_{C}, v \in \omega, c' = c|_{v}\}
                   return (false, \phi_H \wedge \phi'_s)
                                                                                                                         # no candidate found
           (\mathsf{st}_2, \mathsf{v}) \leftarrow \mathsf{SAT} \left( \neg (\varphi_\mathsf{H} \wedge \varphi_\mathsf{S}) \big|_{\mathsf{H}} \right)
                                                                                                                                 # counterexample
           if st_2 = false:
                   return (true, μ)
                                                                                                                                # solution found
```

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```
input :\exists X \forall Y. \ \phi_H \land \phi_S
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  2 while true:
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              (\mathsf{st}_1, \mu, \varphi_C) \leftarrow \mathsf{SAT}(\varphi)
                                                                                                                                                # candidate
             if st_1 = false:
 5
                     \varphi'_{S} \leftarrow \{c \in \varphi_{S} \mid c' \in \varphi_{C}, v \in \omega, c' = c|_{v}\}
                     return (false, \phi_H \wedge \phi'_s)
                                                                                                                              # no candidate found
              (\mathsf{st}_2, \mathsf{v}) \leftarrow \mathsf{SAT}\left(\neg(\phi_\mathsf{H} \land \phi_\mathsf{S})\big|_{\mathsf{u}}\right)
 8
                                                                                                                                      # counterexample
              if st_2 = false:
 9
                     return (true, μ)
                                                                                                                                     # solution found
10
              \omega \leftarrow \omega \cup \{\nu\}
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            (st_1, \mu, \phi_C) \leftarrow SAT(\phi)
                                                                                                                                             # candidate
           if st_1 = false:
5
                   \varphi'_{S} \leftarrow \{c \in \varphi_{S} \mid c' \in \varphi_{C}, v \in \omega, c' = c|_{v}\}
6
                   return (false, \phi_H \wedge \phi'_s)
                                                                                                                           # no candidate found
            (\mathsf{st}_{\mathsf{2}}, \mathsf{v}) \leftarrow \mathsf{SAT}\left(\neg(\varphi_{\mathsf{H}} \land \varphi_{\mathsf{S}})\big|_{\mathsf{H}}\right)
                                                                                                                                   # counterexample
            if st_2 = false:
                   return (true, μ)
                                                                                                                                  # solution found
```

Definition

Formula $\psi^*, \psi^* \subseteq \varphi$, is called a **smallest MUS** of φ if

- $\mathbf{0} \ \psi^*$ is unsatisfiable
- ② for any MUS $\psi,\psi\subseteq\phi$, the following holds $|\psi^*|\leqslant|\psi|$

Example

$$\phi = \{ \ \chi_{_{\boldsymbol{2}}} \vee \neg \chi_{_{\boldsymbol{3}}} \vee \neg \chi_{_{\boldsymbol{4}}}, \ \chi_{_{\boldsymbol{1}}} \vee \chi_{_{\boldsymbol{2}}}, \ \chi_{_{\boldsymbol{3}}}, \ \neg \chi_{_{\boldsymbol{1}}}, \ \chi_{_{\boldsymbol{4}}}, \ \neg \chi_{_{\boldsymbol{2}}} \ \}$$

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$$\varphi = \{ x_2 \vee \neg x_3 \vee \neg x_4, x_1 \vee x_2, x_3, \neg x_1, x_4, \neg x_2 \}$$

φ has 2 MUSes:

• $|\psi_1| = 4$

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 - # extended formula

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 - # objective function

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 - $\bullet \ \, \textbf{find} \, \mathcal{A}_S \in \mathcal{M}(\phi_{\mathtt{unsat}}) \, \text{s.t.} \, \forall \mathcal{B}_S \in \mathcal{M}(\phi_{\mathtt{unsat}}) \text{:} \, f(\mathcal{A}_S) \leqslant f(\mathcal{B}_S)$

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•
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$$\exists S \ \forall X. \ \neg \varphi_R \land \varphi_S$$
, # core-guided search where $\varphi_S = \{\neg s_1, \dots, \neg s_m\}$ # soft constraints

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Any MUS of ϕ is a *minimal hitting set* of the complete set of MCSes of ϕ .

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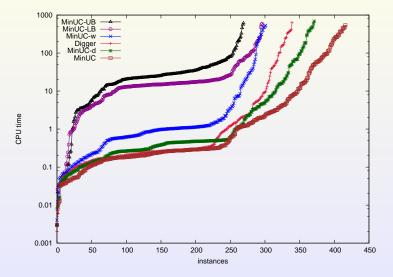
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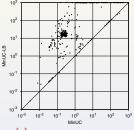
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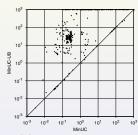
Performance Comparison: MinUC vs Digger



Performance Comparison: Linear Search vs Core-Guided

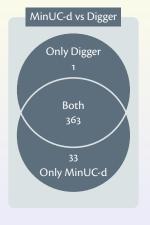


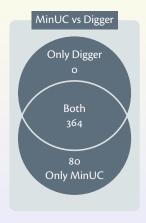
(a) MinUC vs MinUC-LB



(b) MinUC vs MinUC-UB

Number of Solved Instances





Total number of instances — 682.

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- CEGAR-based vs DPLL-based comparison (unsatisfiable cores)

Thank you for your attention!