# A k-flip local search algorithm for SAT and MAX SAT

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#### Abstract

Local search can be applied to SAT by determining whether it is possible to increase the number of satisfied clauses for a given truth assignment by flipping at most k variables. However, for a problem instance with v variables, the search space is of order  $v^k$ . A naive approach that enumerates every combination is impractical for all but the smallest of problems. This paper outlines a hybrid approach that plays to the strength of modern SAT solvers to search this space more efficiently. We describe an encoding of SAT to a related problem – k-Flip MAX SAT – and show how through repeated application, it can be used to decide SAT and MAX SAT problems. Finally, we test the algorithm on a benchmark set with different values of k to see how it performs.

### 1 Introduction

- sat problems have hundreds or thousands of variables, doesn't scale
  - explain k-flip max sat
  - explain ipasir and justify it for this problem

## 2 The encoding

- 2.1 Unsatisfied clauses
- 2.2 Flipped variables
- 2.3 Parallel counter
- 2.4 Less-than comparator
- 3 Repeated application
- 4 Empirical results

430 0 0 0 1 4 4 8 10 17 17 17 22 21 28 24 32 42 31 41   429 0 0 1 10 16 15 20 22 17 25 26 21 27 26 30 22 14 21 18   428 0 3 11 12 14 14 16 17 14 12 13 11 10 6 6 6 4 7 1	37 22 1 0
	1
490 0 9 11 19 14 14 16 17 14 19 19 11 10 6 6 6 4 7 1	
428 0 3 11 13 14 14 16 17 14 12 13 11 10 6 6 6 4 7 1	0
427 0 7 11 18 14 23 8 9 10 5 4 6 2 0 0 0 0 1 0	
426 1 6 15 9 9 3 7 2 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0
425 3 9 10 7 2 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0
424 4 13 5 2 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0
423 5 10 5 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0
422 7 7 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0
421 3 4 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0
420 9 4 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0
419 6 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0
418 8 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0
417 11 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0
416 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0
415 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0
414 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0
413 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0

Table 1: caption