

Report: Implement a puzzle solver using miniSAT for the following problem. *Rule: the number in the box is the number of black boxes among adjacent to it or itself*



Explanation

Each cell $[i, j]$ in the grid will be represented by logic variable $x[i, j]$. The main idea is:

- If there is a digit in a cell, we will get list of all variables representing adjacent boxes and itself. It is easy to see there are maximum 9 variables. In case the cell is at the corner or on the edge of the grid, then the number of variables will be less than 9. Denote this list as N .
- Generate all combinations C of d elements from above variables (d is the value of the cell)
- For each C , we have the following clause:

$$\left(\bigwedge_{x_k \in C} x_k \right) \wedge \left(\bigwedge_{x_l \in (N-C)} \neg x_l \right)$$

All these clauses are joined using OR operation (in DNF). Therefore, it is necessary to convert them into CNF. This is done using Tseitin conversion by introducing new variables

Example:

$$(x_1 \ \& \ !x_2 \ \& \ !x_3) \mid (!x_1 \ \& \ x_2 \ \& \ !x_3)$$

will be converted to

$$(y_1 \mid y_2) \ \& \ (!y_1 \mid x_1) \ \& \ (!y_1 \mid !x_2) \ \& \ (!y_1 \mid !x_3) \ \& \ (!y_2 \mid !x_1) \ \& \ (!y_2 \mid x_2) \ \& \ (!y_2 \mid !x_3)$$

How the program works

Here are the 4 steps performed during the execution of the program.

1. Read input file
2. Generate CNF file
3. Run miniSAT against CNF file
4. Read miniSAT output file and save the human-readable result to file

Input file

Use dot (.) character for an empty box. An example of valid input file:

```
. 2 3 . . 0 . . . .
. . . . 3 . 2 . . 6
. . 5 . 5 3 . 5 7 4
. 4 . 5 . 5 . 6 . 3
. . 4 . 5 . 6 . . 3
. . . 2 . 5 . . . .
4 . 1 . . . 1 1 . .
4 . 1 . . . 1 . 4 .
. . . . 6 . . . . 4
. 4 4 . . . . 4 . .
```

MiniSAT path

Please be noted that you have to update your miniSAT execution path to make sure the program will run properly. Update should be done on the constant *MINISAT_PATH* in *puzzle_solver.rb*

How to run the program

```
ruby puzzle_solver.rb <INPUT_FILE>
```

By default, the final output file will be named after the input file with suffix “_result”.

**Development enviroment*

+ *Mac OSX Yosemite*

+ *Ruby 2.2.0*