

Matroid approximations for an extension of boolean algebra

Klaus Truemper
University of Texas at Dallas

We introduce an extension of Boolean Algebra called System B that is useful for the investigation and construction of solution algorithms for the satisfiability problem of propositional logic (SAT) and for a related logic minimization problem (MINSAT).

One may employ matroid approximations to evaluate and bound the computing effort of such solution algorithms. The matroids are over the ternary field ($GF(3)$) or over a so-called system BG. The latter system utilizes reals that are algebraically independent over the rationals.

System B is a special case of so-called D-systems. Particular instances of the latter systems may be used to model and solve several combinatorial problems that are different from SAT or MINSAT.