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On the complexity of approximate counting of CSPs

Approximate counting of solutions of Constraint Satisfaction Problems ($\#CSP$) has received much attention recently. Unlike exact counting, whose complexity is fully studied and proved to be either $\#P$ -Complete or polytime, approximate complexity is much more diverse. We focus on $\#BIS$, the class in which the problem of counting independent sets in a bipartite graph is complete up to approximation preserving reductions. In this joint work with Andrei Bulatov, we present several easiness and hardness results.