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On Randomizing Derandomized Greedy Algorithms

Some of the oldest, simplest, and easiest implemented approximation algorithms can be thought of as greedy derandomizations of some naive random algorithm. We consider two such algorithms (Johnson's algorithm for Maximum Satisfiability and the greedy algorithm for Maximum Cut) and ask whether considering the variables in a random order as opposed to an arbitrary one can improve the approximation guarantee of the algorithm.

Joint work with Asaf Shapira and Prasad Tetali.