And-tree Search Model

For the model, Prob is defined as a vector of length |Courses + Labs|, whose elements consist of the indices of slots from Slots, or the unassigned symbol, \$. The ordering of vector will be the same as the original ordering of Courses + Labs. Therefore, a Prob vector can be read sequentially as: Course/Lab at position i, having value j, has been assigned time slot s_j , where s_j is the member s of the set Slots at the j^{th} index of Slots. As such, the definition of Prob is equivalent with the notion of a partial assignment, *partassgin*.

 D_i , defined as the domain of any element in a problem instance, pr, to be the set: 0,...,j where j + 1 = |Slots|. With that, Prob is defined as follows:

$$\label{eq:prob} \begin{aligned} \mathsf{Prob} &= <\!\!C_1 \mathsf{slot}, ..., \!C_n \mathsf{slot}, ..., \!L_{11} \mathsf{slot}, ..., \!L_{1k_1} \mathsf{slot}, ..., \!L_{n1} \mathsf{slot}, ..., \!L_{nk_n} \mathsf{slot} > \\ &\quad \mathsf{such that } C_i \mathsf{slot}, L_{ik_i} \mathsf{slot} \in D_i \cup \{\$\} \end{aligned}$$

Which can be abstracted into the form:

Prob =
$$\langle X_1,...,X_n \rangle$$
 such that $X_i \in D_i \cup \{\$\}$

The divide relation, Div, defined as:

"pr is solved" is defined as follows:

pr =
$$(X_1,...,X_n)$$
 and $\forall i$ such that $1 \leq i \leq n, X_i \neq \$$, and pr is not unsolvable.

"pr is unsolvable" is defined as follows:

pr =
$$(X_1, ..., X_n)$$
 and there is a constraint $C_i = R_i(X_1, ..., X_k)$ such that $\exists X_{ij} \in \text{pr}$ with a value unequal to \$ and $(X_1, ..., X_k)$ do not satisfy R_i .

Since we have access to **Constr***, derived from the provided function, **Constr**, we can allow **Constr*** to perform the work of assessing whether any particular problem instance, pr, is compliant with the problem;s hard constraints.