

# NOPT042 Constraint programming: Tutorial 7 – Rostering, table constraint

```
In [1]: %load_ext ipicat
```

Picat version 3.5#5

## The constraint `regular`

```
regular(L, Q, S, M, Q0, F)
```

Given a finite automaton (DFA or NFA) of  $Q$  states numbered  $1, 2, \dots, Q$  with input from  $\{1, \dots, S\}$ , transition matrix  $M$ , initial state  $Q_0$  ( $1 \leq Q_0 \leq Q$ ), and a list of accepting states  $F$ , this constraint is true if the list  $L$  is accepted by the automaton. The transition matrix  $M$  represents a mapping from  $\{1, \dots, Q\} \times \{1, \dots, S\}$  to  $\{0, \dots, Q\}$ , where 0 denotes the error state. For a DFA, every entry in  $M$  is an integer, and for an NFA, entries can be a list of integers.

---from [the guide](#)

## Example: Global contiguity

Given a 0-1 sequence, express that if there are 1's, they must form a single, contiguous subsequence, e.g. accept `0000` and `0001111100` but not `00111010`. (Problem from [the book](#).)

```
In [2]: !picat global-contiguity/global_contiguity.pi 0011100
!picat global-contiguity/global_contiguity.pi 0110111
```

ok

```
*** error(failed,main/1)
```

```
In [3]: !cat global-contiguity/global_contiguity.pi
```

```

/*****
Adapted from
global_contiguity.pi
from Constraint Solving and Planning with Picat, Springer
by Neng-Fa Zhou, Hakan Kjellerstrand, and Jonathan Fruhman
*****/
import cp.

main([Xstr]) =>
    X = map(to_int,Xstr),
    global_contiguity(X),
    solve(X),
    println("ok").

global_contiguity(X) =>
    N = X.length,

    % This uses the regular expression "0*1*0*" to
    % require that all 1's (if any) in an array
    % appear contiguously.
    Transition = [
        [1,2], % state 1: 0*
        [3,2], % state 2: 1*
        [3,0] % state 3: 0*
    ],
    NStates = 3,
    InputMax = 2,
    InitialState = 1,
    FinalStates = [1,2,3],

    RegInput = new_list(N),
    RegInput :: 1..InputMax, % 1..2

    % Translate X's 0..1 to RegInput's 1..2
    foreach (I in 1..N)
        RegInput[I] #= X[I]+1
    end,

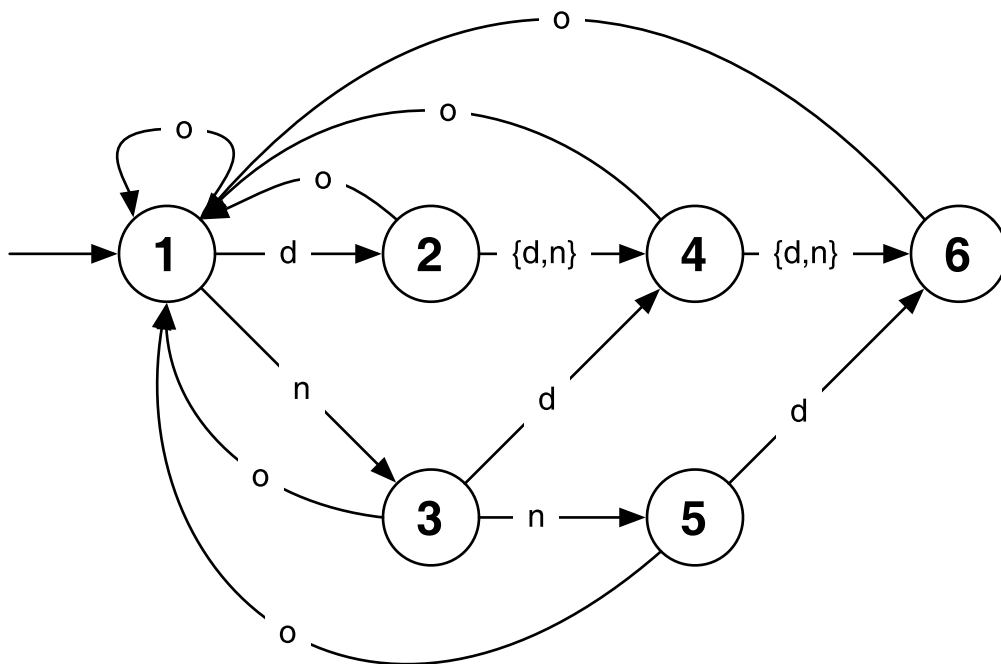
    regular(RegInput,NStates,InputMax,
            Transition,InitialState,FinalStates).

```

## Example: Nurse roster

Schedule the shifts of `NumNurses` nurses over `NumDays` days. Each nurse is scheduled for each day as either: (d) on day shift, (n) on night shift, or (o) off. In each four day period a nurse must have at least one day off, and no nurse can be scheduled for 3 night shifts in a row.

We require `ReqDay` nurses on day shift each day, and `ReqNight` nurses on night shift, and that each nurse takes at least `MinNight` night shifts. (Problem from [the MiniZinc tutorial](#), similar [same?] problem is in [the book](#).)



In [ ]:

## Constraint `sliding_sum` (not available in Picat)

```
sliding_sum(Low, Up, Seq, Variables) =>
  foreach(I in 1..Variables.length-Seq+1)
    Sum #= sum([Variables[J] : J in I..I+Seq-1]),
    Sum #>= Low,
    Sum #<= Up
  end.
```

-- from [Hakank's Picat webpage](#), model `sliding_sum.pi`.

## The table constraint

A *table constraint*, or an *extensional constraint*, over a tuple of variables specifies a set of tuples that are allowed (called positive) or disallowed (called negative) for the variables. A positive constraint takes the form

`table_in(Vars,R)`

where `Vars` is either a tuple of variables or a list of tuples of variables, and `R` is a list of tuples in which each tuple takes the form  $[a_1, \dots, a_n]$ , where  $a_i$  is an integer or the don't-care symbol `*`. A negative constraint takes the form:

`table_notin(Vars, R)`

---from [the guide]([http://picat-lang.org/download/picat\\_guide.pdf](http://picat-lang.org/download/picat_guide.pdf))

## Example: Graph homomorphism

Given a pair of graphs  $G, H$ , find all homomorphisms from  $G$  to  $H$ . A *graph homomorphism* is a function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow V(H)$  such that

$$\{u, v\} \in E(G) \implies \{f(u), f(v)\} \in E(H)$$

.

- Generalizes graph  $k$ -coloring ( $c : G \rightarrow K_k$ )
- Easier version: oriented graphs
- How would you model the Graph Isomorphism Problem?

## Example: Nurse roster using `table_in`

Model the above nurse roster problem using the constraint `table_in`.

## Homework: feast

A chef is planning a magnificent feast consisting of a sequence of dishes. Each dish can only be served once. Each dish tastes spicy, sour, salty, sweet, umami or bland.

- The chef would never serve two dishes of the same taste in a row, that would be boring.
- The first dish should be salty, and the last dish should be sweet.
- After a spicy dish the next dish must be bland or sweet.
- After a sour dish the next dish must be bland or umami.
- No spicy or umami dishes can go directly after a sweet dish.

The magnificence of the feast, which we want to maximize, is given by the sum of the value of the dishes.

Use the constraint `regular` in your model. Running

```
picat feast.pi instance.pi
```

for the provided sample instance `instance.pi` should output the magnificence value of `33` and the sequence of dishes, one possibility is

```
[charsiubao,hotsoursoup,mapotofu,sesameprawn,kungpaochicken,coconutjelly]
```

(Adapted from Coursera course Basic modeling for discrete optimization.)

In [4]: `!cat feast/instance.pi`

```
instance(Length, Dishes, Taste, Value) =>
    Length = 6,
    Dishes = [mapotofu, kungpaochicken, coconutjelly, laiwongbao, charsiubao, sesame
prawn, hotsoursoup, chilidumplings, glassnoodles, friedrice],
    Taste  = [umami, spicy, sweet, sweet, salty, salty, sour, spicy, bland, bland],
    Value  = [8, 4, 5, 3, 5, 7, 4, 3, 2, 1].
```