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5.195 int_value_precede

DESCRIPTION LINKS AUTOMATON

Origin [258]

Constraint int_value_precede(S, T, VARIABLES)

Synonyms precede, precedence, value_precede.

Arguments S : int T : int

VARIABLES : collection(var-dvar)

Restrictions $S \neq T$

required(VARIABLES, var)

Purpose If value T occurs in the collection of variables VARIABLES then its first occurrence should be preceded by an occurrence of value S.

Example $(0, 1, \langle 4, 0, 6, 1, 0 \rangle)$

The int_value_precede constraint holds since the first occurrence of value 0 precedes the first occurrence of value 1.

Typical S < T

|VARIABLES| > 1 atleast(1, VARIABLES, S) atleast(1, VARIABLES, T)

Symmetries

- An occurrence of a value of VARIABLES.var that is different from S and T can be replaced by any other value that is also different from S and T.
- All occurrences of values S and T can be swapped in S, T and VARIABLES.var.

Arg. properties

- Suffix-contractible wrt. VARIABLES.
- Aggregate: S(id), T(id), VARIABLES(union).

Algorithm

A filtering algorithm for maintaining value precedence is presented in [258]. Its complexity is linear to the number of variables of the collection VARIABLES.

Systems precede in Gecode, value_precede in MiniZinc.

See also generalisation: int_value_precede_chain(sequence of 2 values replaced by sequence of at least 2 values), set_value_precede(sequence of domain variables

replaced by sequence of set variables).

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Keywords characteristic of a constraint:

automaton,

automaton without counters,

reified automaton constraint.

constraint network structure: Berge-acyclic constraint network.

constraint type: order constraint.

filtering: arc-consistency.

symmetry: symmetry, indistinguishable values, value precedence.

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Automaton

Figure 5.452 depicts the automaton associated with the int_value_precede constraint. Let VAR $_i$ be the i^{th} variable of the VARIABLES collection. To each triple (S, T, VAR $_i$) corresponds a signature variable S_i as well as the following signature constraint: (VAR $_i$ = S \Leftrightarrow S_i = 1) \wedge (VAR $_i$ = T \Leftrightarrow S_i = 2) \wedge (VAR $_i$ \neq S \wedge VAR $_i$ \neq T \Leftrightarrow S_i = 3).

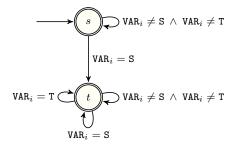


Figure 5.452: Automaton of the int_value_precede constraint (state s means that value S was not yet encountered, while state t means that value S was already encountered)

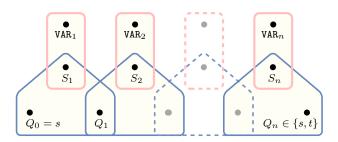


Figure 5.453: Hypergraph of the reformulation corresponding to the automaton of the int_value_precede constraint

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