\overline{NARC} , SELF

5.295 open_among

DESCRIPTION LINKS GRAPH

Origin Derived from among and open_global_cardinality.

Arguments S : svar NVAR : dvar

VARIABLES : collection(var-dvar)
VALUES : collection(val-int)

Restrictions $S \ge 1$

 $S \le |VARIABLES|$ $NVAR \ge 0$ $NVAR \le |VARIABI$

NVAR ≤ |VARIABLES|
required(VARIABLES, var)
required(VALUES, val)
distinct(VALUES, val)

Purpose

Let $\mathcal V$ be the variables of the collection VARIABLES for which the corresponding position belongs to the set S. Positions are numbered from 1. NVAR is the number of variables of $\mathcal V$ that take their value in VALUES.

Example

```
(\{2,3,4,5\},3,\langle 8,5,5,4,1\rangle,\langle 1,5,8\rangle)
```

The open_among constraint holds since within the last four values (i.e., $S = \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$) of (8, 5, 5, 4, 1) exactly 3 values belong to the set of values $\{1, 5, 8\}$.

Typical

```
\begin{split} \text{NVAR} &> 0 \\ \text{NVAR} &< |\text{VARIABLES}| \\ |\text{VARIABLES}| &> 1 \\ |\text{VALUES}| &> 1 \\ |\text{VARIABLES}| &> |\text{VALUES}| \end{split}
```

Symmetries

- Items of VALUES are permutable.
- An occurrence of a value of VARIABLES.var that belongs to VALUES.val (resp. does not belong to VALUES.val) can be replaced by any other value in VALUES.val (resp. not in VALUES.val).

Arg. properties

- Functional dependency: NVAR determined by S, VARIABLES and VALUES.
- Suffix-contractible wrt. VARIABLES when NVAR = 0.

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See also common keyword: open_atleast, open_atmost(open constraint, value constraint),

open_global_cardinality(open constraint, counting constraint).

hard version: among.

used in graph description: in_set.

Keywords constraint arguments: constraint involving set variables.

constraint type: open constraint, value constraint, counting constraint.

modelling: functional dependency.

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| Arc input(s) | VARIABLES |
|----------------------------|--|
| Arc generator | $SELF \mapsto \texttt{collection}(\texttt{variables})$ |
| Arc arity | 1 |
| Arc constraint(s) | in(variables.var, VALUES)in_set(variables.key, S) |
| Graph property(ies) | NARC= NVAR |

Graph model

The arc constraint corresponds to the conjunction of unary constraints in(variables.var, VALUES) and $in_set(variables.key, S)$ defined in this catalogue. Consequently we employ the SELF arc generator in order to produce an initial graph with a single loop on each vertex.

Parts (A) and (B) of Figure 5.612 respectively show the initial and final graph associated with the **Example** slot. Since we use the **NARC** graph property, the loops of the final graph are stressed in bold.



Figure 5.612: Initial and final graph of the open_among constraint

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