

## 5.140 element\_greatereq

|                      | DESCRIPTION   | LINKS | GRAPH | AUTOMATON |
|----------------------|---|-------|-------|-----------|
| <b>Origin</b>        | [301]   |       |       |           |
| <b>Constraint</b>    | element_greatereq(ITEM, TABLE)  |       |       |           |
| <b>Arguments</b>     | ITEM : collection(index-dvar, value-dvar)<br>TABLE : collection(index-int, value-int)   |       |       |           |
| <b>Restrictions</b>  | <pre> required(ITEM, [index, value]) ITEM.index ≥ 1 ITEM.index ≤  TABLE   ITEM  = 1  TABLE  &gt; 0 required(TABLE, [index, value]) TABLE.index ≥ 1 TABLE.index ≤  TABLE  distinct(TABLE, index) </pre>  |       |       |           |
| <b>Purpose</b>       | ITEM[1].value is greater than or equal to one of the entries (i.e., the value attribute) of the table TABLE.  |       |       |           |
| <b>Example</b>       | $\left( \begin{array}{l} \langle \text{index} - 1 \text{ value} - 8 \rangle, \\ \text{index} - 1 \text{ value} - 6, \\ \langle \text{index} - 2 \text{ value} - 9, \\ \text{index} - 3 \text{ value} - 2, \rangle \\ \text{index} - 4 \text{ value} - 9 \end{array} \right)$ <p>The element_greatereq constraint holds since ITEM[1].value = 8 is greater than or equal to TABLE[ITEM[1].index].value = TABLE[1].value = 6.</p> |       |       |           |
| <b>Typical</b>       | <pre>  TABLE  &gt; 1 range(TABLE.value) &gt; 1 </pre>   |       |       |           |
| <b>Symmetries</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Items of TABLE are <a href="#">permutable</a>.</li> <li>All occurrences of two distinct values in ITEM.value or TABLE.value can be <a href="#">swapped</a>; all occurrences of a value in ITEM.value or TABLE.value can be <a href="#">renamed</a> to any unused value.</li> </ul>   |       |       |           |
| <b>Usage</b>         | Used for modelling variable subscripts in linear constraints [301].   |       |       |           |
| <b>Reformulation</b> | By introducing an extra variable VAL, the element_greatereq(⟨index - INDEX value - VALUE⟩, TABLE) constraint can be expressed in term of an elem(⟨index - INDEX value - VAL⟩, TABLE) constraint and of an inequality constraint VALUE ≥ VAL.  |       |       |           |

**See also**

**common keyword:** `element`, `element_lesseq`, `element_product` (*array constraint*).  
**implied by:** `elem`.

**Keywords**

**characteristic of a constraint:** `automaton`, `automaton without counters`,  
`reified automaton constraint`.

**constraint arguments:** `binary constraint`.

**constraint network structure:** `centered cyclic(2)` `constraint network(1)`.

**constraint type:** `data constraint`.

**filtering:** `linear programming`, `arc-consistency`.

**modelling:** `array constraint`, `table`, `variable subscript`, `variable indexing`.

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Arc input(s)</b>        | ITEM TABLE   |
| <b>Arc generator</b>       | <i>PRODUCT</i> $\mapsto$ collection(item, table)   |
| <b>Arc arity</b>           | 2  |
| <b>Arc constraint(s)</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• item.index = table.index</li> <li>• item.value <math>\geq</math> table.value</li> </ul> |
| <b>Graph property(ies)</b> | <u>NARC</u> = 1  |

**Graph model**

Similar to the *element* constraint except that the *equality* constraint of the second condition of the arc constraint is replaced by a *greater than or equal to* constraint.

Parts (A) and (B) of Figure 5.305 respectively show the initial and final graph associated with the **Example** slot. Since we use the NARC graph property, the unique arc of the final graph is stressed in bold.

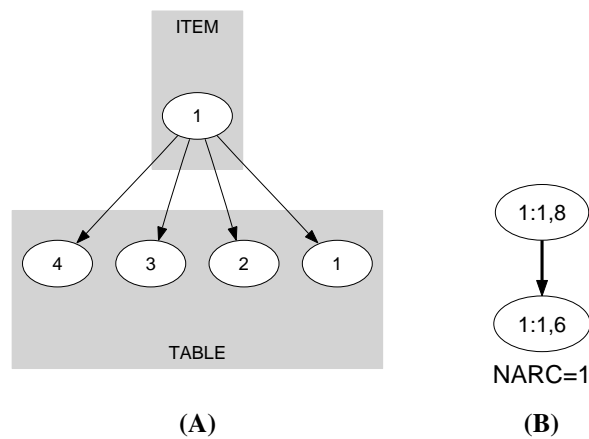


Figure 5.305: Initial and final graph of the *element\_greatereq* constraint

**Signature**

Since all the *index* attributes of *TABLE* are distinct and because of the first arc constraint the final graph cannot have more than one arc. Therefore we can rewrite  $\text{NARC} = 1$  to  $\text{NARC} \geq 1$  and simplify NARC to NARC.

**Automaton**

Figure 5.306 depicts the automaton associated with the `element_greatereq` constraint. Let `INDEX` and `VALUE` respectively be the `index` and the `value` attributes of the unique item of the `ITEM` collection. Let `INDEXi` and `VALUEi` respectively be the `index` and the `value` attributes of the *i*<sup>th</sup> item of the `TABLE` collection. To each quadruple  $(INDEX, VALUE, INDEX_i, VALUE_i)$  corresponds a 0-1 signature variable  $S_i$  as well as the following signature constraint:  $((INDEX = INDEX_i) \wedge (VALUE \geq VALUE_i)) \Leftrightarrow S_i$ .

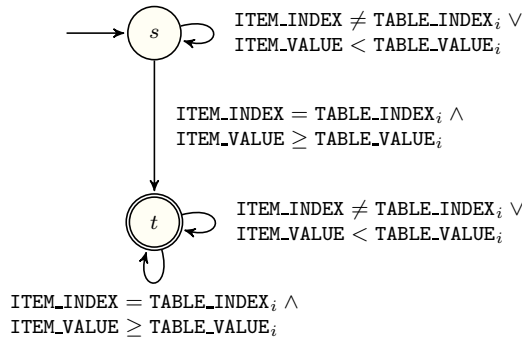


Figure 5.306: Automaton of the `element_greatereq` constraint

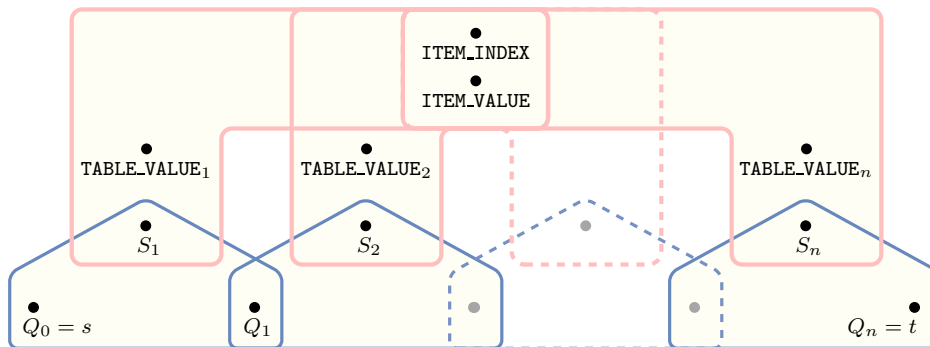


Figure 5.307: Hypergraph of the reformulation corresponding to the automaton of the `element_greatereq` constraint