$\overline{NSCC}$ , CLIQUE

## 5.289 nvalues\_except\_0

DESCRIPTION LINKS GRAPH

Origin Derived from nvalues.

Constraint nvalues\_except\_O(VARIABLES, RELOP, LIMIT)

Arguments VARIABLES : collection(var-dvar)

RELOP : atom LIMIT : dvar

 ${\bf Restrictions} \qquad \qquad {\bf required}({\tt VARIABLES}, {\tt var})$ 

 $\mathtt{RELOP} \in [=, \neq, <, \geq, >, \leq]$ 

Let N be the number of distinct values, different from 0, assigned to the variables of the VARIABLES collection. Enforce condition N RELOP LIMIT to hold.

**Example**  $(\langle 4, 5, 5, 4, 0, 1 \rangle, =, 3)$ 

The nvalues\_except\_0 constraint holds since the number of distinct values, different from 0, occurring within the collection  $\langle 4,5,5,4,0,1 \rangle$  is equal (i.e., RELOP is set to =) to its third argument LIMIT = 3.

Typical |VARIABLES| > 1

 $\mathtt{LIMIT} > 1$ 

LIMIT < |VARIABLES|

atleast(1, VARIABLES, 0)

 $RELOP \in [=, <, \ge, >, \le]$ 

Symmetries • Items of VARIABLES are permutable.

• All occurrences of two distinct values of VARIABLES.var that are both different from 0 can be swapped; all occurrences of a value of VARIABLES.var that is different from 0 can be renamed to any unused value that is also different from 0.

Arg. properties

**Purpose** 

- Contractible wrt. VARIABLES when RELOP  $\in [<, \leq]$ .
- Extensible wrt. VARIABLES when RELOP  $\in [\geq, >]$ .

**Reformulation** The nvalues\_except\_0( $\langle V_1, V_2, \dots, V_{|VARIABLES|} \rangle$ , RELOP, LIMIT) constraint can be expressed in term of the conjunction  $nvalue(NV1, \langle 0, V_1, V_2, \dots, V_{|VARIABLES|} \rangle) \wedge NV1$ 

1 RELOP LIMIT.

Used in cycle\_or\_accessibility.

See also common keyword: assign\_and\_nvalues (number of distinct values),

nvalue, nvalues (counting constraint, number of distinct values).

20030820 1851

Keywords

characteristic of a constraint: joker value.

constraint type: counting constraint, value partitioning constraint.

final graph structure: strongly connected component.

modelling: number of distinct values.

 Arc input(s)
 VARIABLES

 Arc generator
 CLIQUE→collection(variables1, variables2)

 Arc arity
 2

 Arc constraint(s)
 • variables1.var ≠ 0

 • variables1.var = variables2.var

 Graph property(ies)
 NSCC RELOP LIMIT

## **Graph model**

Parts (A) and (B) of Figure 5.603 respectively show the initial and final graph associated with the **Example** slot. Since we use the **NSCC** graph property we show the different strongly connected components of the final graph. Each strongly connected component corresponds to a value distinct from 0 that is assigned to some variables of the VARIABLES collection. Beside value 0, the 3 following values 1, 4 and 5 are assigned to the variables of the VARIABLES collection.

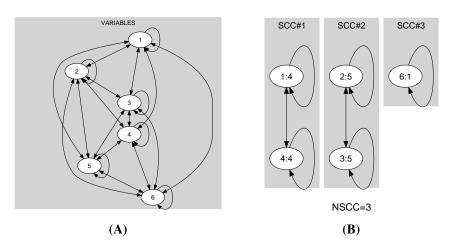


Figure 5.603: Initial and final graph of the nvalues\_except\_0 constraint

20030820 1853