5.268 period

DESCRIPTION LINKS

Origin N. Beldiceanu

Constraint period(PERIOD, VARIABLES, CTR)

Arguments

PERIOD	:	dvar
VARIABLES	:	collection(var−dvar)
CTR	:	atom

Restrictions

PERIOD ≥ 1
PERIOD $\leq |$VARIABLES$|$
required(VARIABLES, var)
CTR $\in [=, \neq, <, \geq, >, \leq]$

Purpose Let us note $V_0, V_1, \ldots, V_{m-1}$ the variables of the VARIABLES collection. PERIOD is the *period* of the sequence $V_0\ V_1 \ldots V_{m-1}$ according to constraint CTR. This means that PERIOD is the smallest natural number such that V_i CTR $V_{i+\text{PERIOD}}$ holds for all $i \in 0, 1, \ldots, m - \text{PERIOD} - 1$.

Example

$$\left\langle \begin{array}{c} 3, \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{var} - 1, \\ \text{var} - 1, \\ \text{var} - 4, \\ \text{var} - 1, \\ \text{var} - 1, \\ \text{var} - 4, \\ \text{var} - 1, \\ \text{var} - 1 \end{array} \right\rangle, = \end{array} \right\rangle$$

The period constraint holds since, as depicted by Figure 5.495, its first argument PERIOD $=$ 3 is equal (i.e., since CTR is set to $=$) to the period of the sequence 1 1 4 1 1 4 1 1.

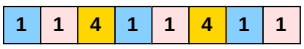

Figure 5.495: A sequence that has a period of 3

Symmetries

- Items of VARIABLES can be reversed.
- Items of VARIABLES can be shifted.
- All occurrences of two distinct values of VARIABLES.var can be swapped; all occurrences of a value of VARIABLES.var can be renamed to any unused value.

Algorithm When CTR corresponds to the equality constraint, a potentially incomplete filtering algorithm based on 13 deductions rules is described in [50]. The generalisation of these rules to the case where CTR is not the equality constraint is discussed.

See also **implies:** `period_except_0`.

soft variant: `period_except_0` *(value* 0 *can match any other value)*.

Keywords **combinatorial object:** periodic, sequence.

constraint type: predefined constraint, timetabling constraint, scheduling constraint.

filtering: border.