Extending Compact-Table to Basic Smart Tables

Hélène Verhaeghe¹ (PhD student), Christophe Lecoutre² (co-author), Yves Deville¹ (advisor), and Pierre Schaus¹ (advisor)

 1 UCLouvain, ICTEAM, Place Sainte Barbe 2, 1348 Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, ${firstname.lastname}@uclouvain.be$
 2 CRIL-CNRS UMR 8188, Université d'Artois, F-62307 Lens, France, lecoutre@cril.fr

Abstract. Table constraints are instrumental in modeling combinatorial problems with Constraint Programming. Recently, Compact-Table (CT) has been proposed and shown to be as an efficient filtering algorithm for table constraints, notably because of bitwise operations. CT has already been extended to handle non-ordinary tables, namely, short tables and/or negative tables. In this paper, we introduce another extension so as to deal with basic smart tables, which are tables containing universal values (*) as well as restrictions on values ($\neq v$) bounds ($\leq v$ or $\geq v$) and sets ($\in S$). Such tables offer the user a better expressiveness and permit to deal efficiently with compressed tuples. Our experiments show a substantial speedup when compression is possible (and a very limited overhead otherwise).

Keywords: Table Constraints, Filtering, Compression, Compact-Table, Bitset