

# Modeling Discrete Optimization Assignment: Latin Killer

## 1 Problem Statement

A latin square is an  $n \times n$  square filled with the numbers  $1..n$  where each number appears exactly once in each column and each row. Latin squares are a well-studied object in mathematics. Less studied is the *latin killer square*. A latin killer square has each position in the  $n \times n$  matrix assigned to a group  $a_{ij}, 1 \leq i, j \leq n$  between 0 and  $m$ . Each group  $g$  from  $1..m$  is given a sum  $s_g$ , and the values assigned to positions in each group  $g \in 1..m$  must sum up to  $s_g$  and be all different. The values assigned to positions in group 0 are not further constrained. The aim is to find a solution to a latin killer problem.

## 2 Data Format Specification

The input form for Latin Killer is a file named `data/lk_*.dzn`, where  $p$  is the problem number with  $n$  the size of the square,  $m$  the number of groups,  $s$  an array  $1..m$  of sums, and  $a$  a two dimensional matrix of assignments to groups.

For example a  $6 \times 6$  problem with 9 groups might be defined by

```
n = 6;
m = 9;
s = [20, 11, 18, 16, 11, 18, 4, 6, 6];
a = [| 0, 1, 1, 2, 2, 3
      | 1, 1, 2, 2, 4, 3
      | 1, 5, 5, 4, 4, 3
      | 6, 6, 5, 7, 4, 3
      | 6, 6, 6, 8, 8, 8
      | 0, 0, 9, 0, 9, 9 |];
```

Your model's output should be in the form of a MINIZINC 2D array:

```
x = [| 1, 6, 4, 2, 3, 5
      | 3, 2, 1, 5, 6, 4
      | 5, 3, 2, 1, 4, 6
      | 2, 1, 6, 4, 5, 3
      | 6, 4, 5, 3, 1, 2
      | 4, 5, 3, 6, 2, 1 |];
```

Alternatively you can use a one dimensional array, and MINIZINC array coercion syntax (note that white space is irrelevant):

```
x = array2d(1..6,1..6, [ 1, 6, 4, 2, 3, 5,
                          3, 2, 1, 5, 6, 4,
                          5, 3, 2, 1, 4, 6,
                          2, 1, 6, 4, 5, 3,
                          6, 4, 5, 3, 1, 2,
                          4, 5, 3, 6, 2, 1 ]);
```

The template file `latinkiller.mzn` is provided to demonstrate reading the input data and reporting the solution.

### 3 Instructions

Edit `latinkiller.mzn` to solve the optimization problem described above. Your `latinkiller.mzn` implementation can be tested on the data files provided. In the MINIZINCIDE use the *play* icon to test your model locally. At the command line use,

```
mzn-gecode ./latinkiller.mzn ./data/<inputFileName>
```

to test locally. In both cases, your model is compiled with MINIZINC and then solved with the GECODE solver.

**Resources** You will find several problem instances in the `data` directory provided with the hand-out.

**Handin** From the MINIZINC IDE, the *coursera* icon can be used to submit assignment for grading. From the command line, `submit.py` is used for submission. In both cases, follow the instructions to apply your MINIZINC model(s) on the various assignment parts. You can submit multiple times and your grade will be the best of all submissions.<sup>1</sup> It may take several minutes before your assignment is graded; please be patient. You can track the status of your submission on the *programming assignments* section of the course website.

### 4 Technical Requirements

For completing the assignment you will need MINIZINC 2.0.x and the GECODE 4.4.x solver. Both of these are included in the bundled version of the MINIZINC IDE 0.9.9 (<http://www.minizinc.org>). To submit the assignment from the command line, you will need to have Python 2.7.x installed.

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<sup>1</sup>Problem submissions can be graded an unlimited number of times. However, there is a limit on grading of **model submissions**.