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7. Versions of Models Used

Since off-the-shelf models may exist in multiple versions even under the same name, we provide the specific version numbers for the models used, where applicable, in the list below.

- Gemini 2.0 Flash Thinking: gemini-2.0-flash-thinking-exp-01-21
- QVQ-72B: Qwen/QVQ-72B-Preview
- Claude 3.5: claude-3-5-sonnet-20241022
- Gemini 2.0 Flash: gemini-2.0-flash
- Gemini 1.5 Pro: gemini-1.5-pro
- Gemini 1.5 Flash: gemini-1.5-flash
- GPT-4o: gpt-4o-2024-08-06
- GPT-4o-mini: gpt-4o-mini-2024-07-18
- Qwen2.5-VL-72B-it: Qwen/Qwen2.5-VL-72B-Instruct
- Qwen2.5-VL-7B-it: Qwen/Qwen2.5-VL-7B-Instruct
- Llama 3.2 90B it: Llama-3.2-90B-Vision-Instruct
- Llama 3.2 11B it: Llama-3.2-11B-Vision-Instruct
- Qwen2-VL-7B-it: Qwen/Qwen2-VL-7B-Instruct
- Qwen2-VL-72B-it: Qwen/Qwen2-VL-72B-Instruct
- llava-onevision-7B: llava-hf/llava-onevision-qwen2-7b-ov-hf
- llava-mistral-7B: llava-hf/llava-v1.6-mistral-7b-hf

8. Additional Evaluation Details

We observed that many off-the-shelf models—particularly open-source, small-scale ones such as Llama 3.2 11B—do not strictly adhere to the required output format. For example, their outputs frequently omit closing quotes or inconsistently alternate between single and double quotes, rendering them unsuitable for JSON parsing. Furthermore, these LVLMs often fail to follow instructions for representing empty cells. Instead of using the designated symbols (e.g., “0”, “”, “?”, or “_”) to denote an empty cell, they sometimes default to using “**”. In the chain-of-thought (CoT) setting, the final answer may not appear at the end of the sentence, further complicating extraction via regular expressions. Since our primary focus is on assessing puzzle-solving capabilities, rather than outright rejecting non-compliant responses, we have implemented two targeted post-processing strategies to address these issues. First, we employ the json-repair package [4] to repair broken JSON outputs, addressing issues such as incorrect escape characters and inconsistent usage of single and double quotes. Second, we utilize an LLM—specifically GPT-4o—as an output formatter to standardize the outputs into a unified format.

9. Additional Implementation details

We provide each model’s version id in Supp.7. For the closed-source models, we directly use their official API calls to query. For the open-source models, we deploy them locally using the vLLM framework[26] before querying. For a fair comparison, none of the closed-source LVLMs dynamically construct a solver to solve the puzzles. Instead, they rely solely on vision-language modeling capabilities to solve puzzles. For dataset creation, we compile a dataset of 100,000 puzzles per puzzle type and split it into training and validation sets, ensuring there are no duplicated conditions or solutions within or across splits. Note that we do not enforce unique solutions for the games, as doing so would significantly reduce the number of possible conditions and increase computational overhead during game generation. For both puzzle-solution and reasoning fine-tuning, we use LLaMa 3.2 Vision Instruct as the base model and employ one node with 8 A100 GPUs, using a batch size of 4 on each GPU. Training for 5 epochs with the *llama-recipe* code base and default fine-tuning settings for LVLMs takes approximately 24 hours. The training process follows a causal modeling paradigm, masking the input question to focus supervision solely on the answer predictions. Number of clues, considering that puzzles typically become more challenging with fewer clues. For reveal-based games, such as Sudoku, at the easy level we randomly select 25% to 75% of cells as hints. For the medium level, we randomly select 25% to 50% as clues. For the hard level, we randomly select 15% to 40% as clues.

10. Image Augmentations

In our framework, we strategically employ two light-weight augmentation techniques to enhance model generalization across diverse visual inputs: (1) randomized affine transforms for geometric variation simulation, and (2) Poisson blending [41] for seamless texture integration. This streamlined augmentation approach effectively bridges the domain gap between training

samples and real-world scenarios while preserving the pre-trained model’s inherent visual understanding capabilities. As demonstrated in Table 2, our method achieves realistic image transformations with significantly fewer artifacts compared to conventional augmentation strategies.

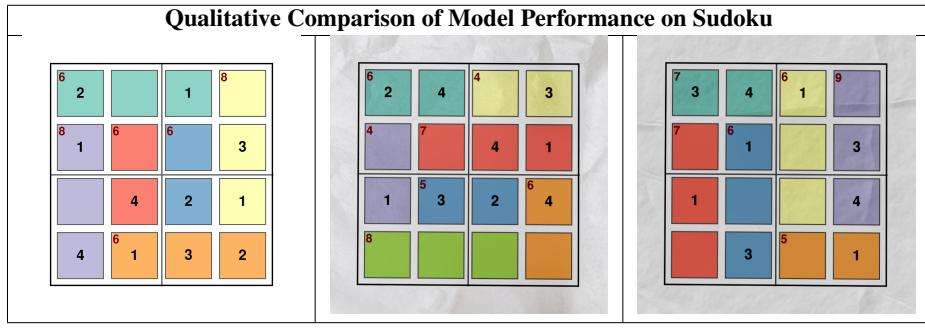


Table 2. Examples of Image Augmentations

11. Common Mistakes of LVLMs in Puzzle Solving

11.1. Common Mistakes in LVLMs’ Perception

Grid Layout Misunderstanding. As shown in Tab. 10, GPT-4o fails to accurately perceive the Sudoku board layout—for instance, it erroneously places a “2” in the first row where the cell should remain empty. Although LVLMs generally recognize numerical values, they often misplace them; for example, they might confuse a sequence intended as [*, 2, *,] with [, *, 2, *]. Notably, performance improves as more hints are provided, as observed in Sudoku tasks, suggesting that LVLMs struggle to detect board gridlines, which are essential for deducing the correct board organization.

Misinterpretation of Component Roles. In visual puzzles, distinct components serve unique functions. For example, in Killer-Sudoku, the grid incorporates both cell numbers and cage sums. However, LVLMs frequently misinterpret cage sums as cell values, even when differences in font size and color are present.

Difficulty Understanding Complex Visual Components. In puzzles like Thermometers and Battle-Ships, we notice that LVLMs sometimes fail to comprehend complex visual components. For example, LVLMs may erroneously perceive an empty cell in Thermometers as filled, and they often struggle to discern the distinct roles of different ship segments in Battle-Ships.

Rejection of answering. We noticed that sometimes a model responds with a message such as “I’m sorry, I can’t view or process images directly. Could you please describe the puzzle to me in text form?” to avoid answering, even though it sometimes does provide an answer. We hypothesize that the criteria for providing or rejecting an answer may depend on the model’s internal confidence level [6].

11.2. Common Mistakes in Pre-Trained LVLMs’ Puzzle-Solving

Cell-by-Cell Solving without Prioritizing. LVLMs often solve puzzles in a strictly sequential manner, overlooking constraints that emerge in later steps and failing to exploit the fact that some cells, with fewer possible options, are easier to resolve. For example, as demonstrated by Gemini-2.0-Flash in Tab. 11, the LVLM does not begin with the final cell in the second row, which has only one option.

Failure to Store Previous Actions. LVLMs frequently fail to update their understanding of the puzzle state based on previous actions. An example is an LVLM places a number at one cell. However, when making later decisions, it just ignored the previous actions it take.

Inability to Detect Error and Backtrack [25]. As is shown in the GPT-4o-Mini example in text version sudoku in Tab. 11, the LVLM finally outputs [2,1,4,2] as the last row, where a clear violation of duplication of number “2” exist. However, GPT-4o-Mini replies it as an answer. Another example is Qwen2.5-72B and Qwen2.5-7B in the same table, we noticed that model outputs a possibly valid board but does not obey the initial condition.

Repetitive Generation. Repetitive output is a common issue [58], especially in the LLaVA and Qwen families of models. For example, as shown in Tab. 10, the model generates excessively repetitive sequences, such as repeating “perception” followed by more than 50 “[*]” symbols. We also notice the repetitive generation issue frequently in the reasoning models QVQ, that it reason many steps until running out of the maximum context length, as shown in Tab. 10.

12. Generalization Capability of SFT Models

Here, we analyze how an LVLM with SFT on one puzzle generalizes to another. In Fig.12, we use four puzzles—Sudoku, Odd-Even Sudoku, Renzoku, and Aquarium—with increasingly different rules. Notably, despite the fact that the Llama model trained on different puzzles performs well on the same puzzle, their performance on other puzzles is significantly lower. When the rules are similar, e.g., Sudoku and Odd-Even Sudoku, the puzzle-solving rate under generalization remains high, while evaluating a Sudoku-trained model on Aquarium yields a zero success rate. We notice similar situation for both S-SFT and R-SFT. Some recent work has also discussed the generalization limitations of Supervised Fine-Tuning [11, 65].

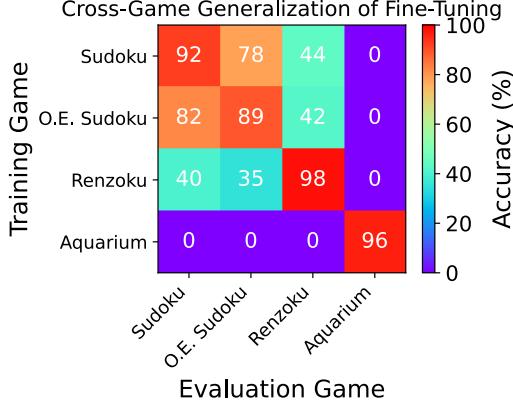


Figure 12. Generalization Evaluation of SFT Models on the Level Easy ●. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

13. Reinforcement Learning with Text Input

PPO stabilizes training by incorporating a clipping mechanism into the policy ratio, which prevents excessive deviations from the previous policy, where $r_t = \frac{\pi_\theta(a_t|s_t)}{\pi_{\theta_{\text{old}}}(a_t|s_t)}$ is the policy ratio.

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\min \left(r_t \hat{A}_t, \text{clip}(r_t, 1 - \epsilon, 1 + \epsilon) \hat{A}_t \right) \right], \quad (1)$$

GRPO extends this framework by optimizing over groups of trajectories and regularizing updates with an explicit KL penalty, where $r_{i,t}$ compares token probabilities under the updated and old policies, conditioned on q and prior outputs.

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{G} \sum_{i=1}^G \frac{1}{|o_i|} \sum_{t=1}^{|o_i|} \min \left(r_{i,t} \hat{A}_{i,t}, \text{clip}(r_{i,t}, 1 - \epsilon, 1 + \epsilon) \hat{A}_{i,t} \right) \right] - \beta D_{\text{KL}}(\pi_\theta \| \pi_{\text{ref}}) \quad (2)$$

To ensure stable training, GRPO calculate the advantage by normalizing reward with all rollouts:

$$\hat{A}_{i,t} = \tilde{r}_i = \frac{r_i - \text{mean}(\mathbf{r})}{\text{std}(\mathbf{r})}. \quad (3)$$

The total reward consists of: success reward r_{succ} for generating the correct solution, and format reward r_{fmt} for producing a structured, extractable output, where λ_{succ} and λ_{fmt} balance the two components. We provide the training loss curve on page 83.

$$r_i = \lambda_{\text{succ}} r_{\text{succ}} + \lambda_{\text{fmt}} r_{\text{fmt}}, \quad (4)$$

1. Aquarium	2. Battle-Ships	3. Binairo	4. Colored-Sudoku
5. Field-Explore	6. Futoshiki	7. Hitori	8. Jigsaw-Sudoku
9. Kakurasu	10. Kakuro	11. Killer-Sudoku	12. Light-Up
13. Nonogram	14. Odd-Even-Sudoku	15. Renzoku	16. Skyscraper
17. Star-Battle	18. Sudoku	19. Thermometers	20. Trees-and-Tents

Table 3. Per-Puzzle Sample Screenshots of Level **Easy**

1. Aquarium	2. Battle-Ships	3. Binairo	4. Colored-Sudoku
5. Field-Explore	6. Futoshiki	7. Hitori	8. Jigsaw-Sudoku
9. Kakurasu	10. Kakuro	11. Killer-Sudoku	12. Light-Up
13. Nonogram	14. Odd-Even-Sudoku	15. Renzoku	16. Skyscraper
17. Star-Battle	18. Sudoku	19. Thermometers	20. Trees-and-Tents

Table 4. Per-Puzzle Sample Screenshots of Level **Medium** 😊

1. Aquarium	2. Battle-Ships	3. Binairo	4. Colored-Sudoku
5. Field-Explore	6. Futoshiki	7. Hitori	8. Jigsaw-Sudoku
9. Kakurasu	10. Kakuro	11. Killer-Sudoku	12. Light-Up
13. Nonogram	14. Odd-Even-Sudoku	15. Renzoku	16. Skyscraper
17. Star-Battle	18. Sudoku	19. Thermometers	20. Trees-and-Tents

Table 5. Per-Puzzle Sample Screenshots of Level Hard 🧲. Note that some games do not have a hard level due to constraints imposed by the game rules. For example, Vanilla Sudoku's size can only be 4×4 or 9×9 , and the next possible grid size is 16×16 , which is too large.

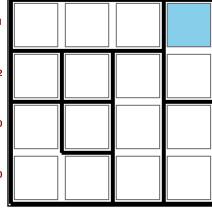
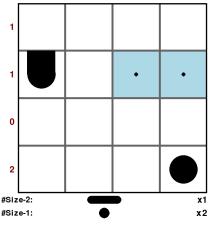
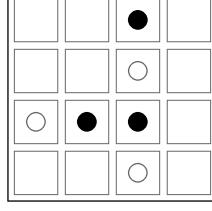
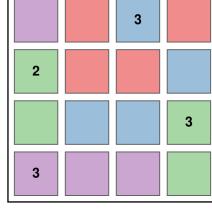
Name	Sample Screenshot	Description and Queries
1. Aquarium		<p>Rule: You are an Aquarium puzzle player. You need to fill the aquariums with water up to a certain level or leave it empty. The numbers on the sides indicate how many filled (water) cells must be in each row and column. Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is at the cell ({row}, {col})? Choose from {water, empty}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an unknown cell and "s" indicates a filled cell) and your solution (where "s" indicates a filled cell and "e" indicates an empty cell) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} is it valid to assign the cell at ({row}, {col}) with value {value}? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought Reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an unknown cell and "s" indicates a filled cell), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution (where "s" indicates a filled cell and "e" indicates an empty cell) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n think: {your step-by-step reasoning}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p>
2. Battle-Ships		<p>Rule: You are a Battle-Ships player. You need to place ships in a grid based on row and column hints. The hints indicate how many ship cells are in each row and column. The numbers of each size ship are given. Ships cannot touch each other, even diagonally. Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} Given the current game state, what is at position ({row}, {col})? Choose from: {ship, empty, unknown}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an unknown cell) and your solution (where "s" indicates a ship cell and "e" indicates an empty cell) in the following format. { perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, answer: {solution as a 2D array} }</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} Given the current game state, is it valid to assign cell ({row}, {col}) with value {value}? Respond with: valid or invalid.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought Reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an unknown cell), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution (where "s" indicates a ship cell and "e" indicates an empty cell) in the following format. { perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, think: {your step-by-step reasoning}, answer: {solution as a 2D array} }</p>
3. Binairo		<p>Rule: You are a Binairo player. You have to fill a grid with white (w) and black (b) pieces. No more than two circles of the same color can be adjacent (horizontally and vertically). Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is the value of the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {b, w, empty}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell) and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} is it valid to fill the cell at ({row}, {col}) with {b, w}? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought Reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n think: {your step-by-step reasoning}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p>
4. Colored-Sudoku		<p>Rule: You are a Colored-Sudoku player. You have to enter a numerical digit from 1 through N in each cell of a NxN grid. \nThe rule is to make sure unique numbers in each row, column, and within cells of the same color. Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is the value of the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {1, 2, ..., N, empty}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell) and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} is it valid to fill the cell at ({row}, {col}) with value {value}? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought Reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n think: {your step-by-step reasoning}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p>
5. Field-Explorer		<p>Rule: You are a Field-Explore player. You need to identify mine locations in a grid based on revealed numbers. Each revealed number indicates how many mines are adjacent to that cell (including diagonals). Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} Given the current game state, what is in the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {mine, number, hidden}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates hidden cells, "s" indicates a mine, and numbers represent revealed counts) and your solution (where "s" indicates a mine and "e" indicates an empty cell) in the following format. { perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, answer: {solution as a 2D array} }</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} Given the current game state, is it valid to assign the cell at ({row}, {col}) with {value}? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought Reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates hidden cells, "s" indicates a mine, and numbers represent revealed counts), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution (where "s" indicates a mine and "e" indicates an empty cell) in the following format. { perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, think: {your step-by-step reasoning}, answer: {solution as a 2D array} }</p>

Table 6. Per-Puzzle Sample Screenshots and Query Templates. Part 1. (1st - 5th) Note that {·} represents variable values that depend on each query and the specific game. Additionally, some quotation marks, e.g., “ · ”, are omitted in the query template for clarity. To clearly distinguish between 0-indexing and 1-indexing, we explicitly require indexing in the query. Action validity is assessed solely based on the presence of immediate rule violations without considering any long term effects.

Name	Sample Screenshot	Description and Queries
6. Futoshiki (Unequal)		<p>Rule: You are a Futoshiki player. You have to enter a numerical digit from 1 through N in each cell of an NxN grid. The rules are: unique numbers in each row and column; inequality signs between cells must be respected (for example, < means left number is smaller, > means left number is larger). Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is the value of the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {1, 2, ..., N, empty}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell) and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} is it valid to fill the cell at ({row}, {col}) with value {value}? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought Reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n think: {your step-by-step reasoning}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p>
7. Hitori		<p>Rule: You are a Hitori player. You need to shade some cells in the grid such that no number appears more than once in each row and column among unshaded cells. The rules are: shaded cells cannot be adjacent; all unshaded cells must be connected. Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is the value of the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {1, 2, ..., N}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot and your solution (where "s" indicates a shaded cell and "e" indicates a cell leave unshaded) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} is it valid to shade the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought Reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot, your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution (where "s" indicates a shaded cell and "e" indicates a cell leave unshaded) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n think: {your step-by-step reasoning}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p>
8. Jigsaw-Sudoku		<p>Rule: You are a Jigsaw-Sudoku player. You have to enter a numerical digit from 1 through N in each cell of a NxN grid. The rules are: unique numbers in each row, column, and within cells of the same region. Each region is a connected group of cells. Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} Given the current game state in the screenshot, what is the value of the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {1, 2, ..., N, empty}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell) and your solution in the following format. { perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, answer: {solution as a 2D array} }</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} Given the current game state in the screenshot, is it valid to fill the cell at ({row}, {col}) with value {value}? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought Reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution in the following format. { perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, think: {your step-by-step reasoning}, answer: {solution as a 2D array} }</p>
9. Kakurasu		<p>Rule: You are a Kakurasu puzzle player. You need to shade some cells in a grid where the sum of the weights of selected cells in each row and column matches the given clues. The weights increase from left to right (for rows) and top to bottom (for columns), starting from 1. Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is the value of the cell at ({row}, {col})? Response in a formate of (number, number).</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell) and your solution (where "s" indicates a shaded cell and "e" indicates a cell leave unshaded) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} is it valid to shade the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution (where "s" indicates a shaded cell and "e" indicates a cell leave unshaded) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n think: {your step-by-step reasoning}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p>
10. Kakuro		<p>Rule: You are a Kakuro player. You have to fill in the grid with numbers (1 to N) such that each row and column adds up to the specified sum. The rules are: (1) adjacent numbers should not be the same. (2) numbers add up to the given sum for each row and column. Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is the value of the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {1, 2, ..., N, empty}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell) and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} is it valid to fill the cell at ({row}, {col}) with value {value}? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n think: {your step-by-step reasoning}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p>

Table 7. Per-Puzzle Sample Screenshots and Query Templates. Part 2 (6th - 10th). Note that there is a special case that in selection-based games, e.g., Thermometers, where a set of cell is selected as the answer. A cell being empty could mean both undefined and deliberately leaving empty. To distinguish these cases, we typically use two notations, such as "*" for undefined cells and "e" for the deliberately empty cells in the query and SFT dataset creation.

Name	Sample Screenshot	Description and Queries
11. Killer-Sudoku		<p>Rule: You are a Killer-Sudoku player. You have to enter a numerical digit from 1 through N in each cell of an NxN grid. The board is divided into cages based on cell color. The rules are: (1) unique numbers in each row, column, and each $\text{sqrt}(N) \times \text{sqrt}(N)$ block, and (2) the sum of numbers in each cage must equal to the small red number indicating the target sum. Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is the cell value (not cage target) at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {1, 2, ..., N, empty}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell) and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array, without red cage targets}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} Is it valid to fill the cell at ({row}, {col}) with value {value}? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell), your step by step reasoning, and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array, without red cage targets}, \n think: {your step by step reasoning}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p>
12. Light-Up		<p>Rule: You are a Light-Up player. You have to place light bulbs in the grid such that all empty cells are illuminated. The rules are: light bulbs illuminate their entire row and column until blocked by a wall; numbered walls must have exactly that many bulbs adjacent to them; bulbs cannot illuminate each other. Use Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} What is the value of the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from [* , s, w].</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell, "s" indicates a light bulb, and "w" indicates a wall) and your solution (where "s" indicates a light bulb and "e" indicates a cell left empty) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {"current state of the grid as a 2D array"}, \n "answer": {"solution as a 2D array"} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} Is it valid to fill the cell at ({row}, {col}) with a light bulb? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought Reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell, "s" indicates a light bulb, and "w" indicates a wall), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution (where "s" indicates a light bulb and "e" indicates a cell left empty) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {"current state of the grid as a 2D array"}, \n "think": {"your step-by-step reasoning"}, \n "answer": {"solution as a 2D array"} \n}</p>
13. Nonogram		<p>Rule: You are a Nonogram player. You need to fill in cells in a grid based on numbers at the side of the grid. For each row or column, the numbers indicate the lengths of consecutive shaded cells in that row/column, which must appear in the given order. For example, '2 3' means there must be exactly two blocks of shaded cells - first a block of 2 cells, then a block of 3 cells, with at least one empty cell between them. Each row/column must satisfy its given numbers exactly. Use 's' for shaded cells and 'e' for empty cells. Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is the state of the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {shaded, empty}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell and "s" indicates a shaded cell) and your solution ("e" indicates leaving empty) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} Is it valid to shade the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought Reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell and "s" indicates a shaded cell), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution ("e" indicates leaving empty and "s" indicates a shaded) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {"current state of the grid as a 2D array"}, \n "think": {"your step-by-step reasoning"}, \n "answer": {"solution as a 2D array"} \n}</p>
14. Odd-Even-Sudoku		<p>Rule: You are an Odd-Even-Sudoku player. You have to enter a numerical digit from 1 through N in each cell of a NxN grid. The rules are: unique numbers in each row, column, and $\text{sqrt}(N) \times \text{sqrt}(N)$ block. Additionally, white cells must contain even numbers, and black cells must contain odd numbers. Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is the value of the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {1, 2, ..., N, empty}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell) and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} Is it valid to fill the cell at ({row}, {col}) with value {value}? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought Reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {"current state of the grid as a 2D array"}, \n "think": {"your step-by-step reasoning"}, \n "answer": {"solution as a 2D array"} \n}</p>
15. Renzoku (Neighbors)		<p>Rule: You are a Renzoku player. You have to enter a numerical digit from 1 through N in each cell of an NxN grid. The rules are: unique numbers in each row, column; A dot between 2 cells indicates that those 2 numbers should be consecutive. Otherwise, the numbers should be non-consecutive. Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is the value of the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {1, 2, ..., N, empty}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell) and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} Is it valid to fill the cell at ({row}, {col}) with value {value}? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {"current state of the grid as a 2D array"}, \n "think": {"your step-by-step reasoning"}, \n "answer": {"solution as a 2D array"} \n}</p>

Table 8. Per-Puzzle Sample Screenshots and Query Templates. Part 3 (11th - 15th).

Name	Sample Screenshot	Description and Queries
16. Skyscraper	<p>A 4x4 grid with height constraints on the sides. Row 1 has heights 1+, 2+, 3+, 2+. Row 2 has heights 2+, 3+, 2, 3. Row 3 has heights 3, 2+, 2. Row 4 has heights 2, 1, 2+, 1+. Col 1 has heights 1, 2, 3, 2. Col 2 has heights 2, 3, 2, 1. Col 3 has heights 2+, 3+, 2+, 1. Col 4 has heights 1+, 2, 1, 1+.</p>	<p>Rule: You are a Skyscraper puzzle player. You have to enter a numerical digit from 1 through N in each cell of an NxN grid. The numbers indicate the height of the skyscrapers. The numbers on the sides of the grid indicate how many skyscrapers would you see if you look in the direction of the arrow. Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is the value of the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {1, 2, ..., N, empty}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell) and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} is it valid to fill the cell at ({row}, {col}) with value {value}? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n think: {your step-by-step reasoning}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p>
17. Star-Battle	<p>A 6x6 grid with colored regions (orange, grey, purple, green). A single star is placed in the central grey region. The grid is divided into 9 regions of size 2x2.</p>	<p>Rule: You are a Star-Battle player. You have to place stars on the grid such that each row, column, and region contains exactly one star. Additional rule is: stars cannot touch each other, not even diagonally. Use Indexing starts at 0</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is in the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {star, empty}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell) and your solution (where "s" indicates a star and "e" indicates leaving empty) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} is it valid to place a star at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought Reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell), your step by step reasoning, and your solution (where "s" indicates a star and "e" indicates leaving empty) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n think: {your step by step reasoning}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p>
18. Sudoku	<p>A 4x4 grid with numbers 1 through 4. It is divided into four 2x2 blocks. The grid has the following values: Row 1: 1, 2, 2, 3. Row 2: 2, 1, 3, 1. Row 3: 2, 3, 1, 1. Row 4: 3, 1, 1, 1.</p>	<p>Rule: You are a Sudoku player. You have to enter a numerical digit from 1 through N in each cell of a NxN grid made up of four $\sqrt{N} \times \sqrt{N}$ blocks. \n The rule is to make sure unique numbers in each row, column, and block. Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is the value of the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {1, 2, ..., N, empty}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell) and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} is it valid to fill the cell at ({row}, {col}) with value {value}? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought Reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates an empty cell), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n think: {your step-by-step reasoning}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p>
19. Thermometers	<p>A 6x6 grid with numbered sides (1, 2, 3, 3, 2, 2). Thermometers are placed in the grid. The grid has the following values: Row 1: 1, 2, 3, 3, 2, 2. Row 2: 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1. Row 3: 3, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1. Row 4: 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1. Row 5: 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1. Row 6: 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1.</p>	<p>Rule: You are a Thermometers puzzle player. You need to fill thermometers. The numbers on the sides indicate how many filled cells must be in each row and column. In the end, all thermometers must be filled from their bulb (start) to their top, without gaps. Use Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is in the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {filled, empty}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates not filled) and your solution (where "s" indicates a filled cell and "e" indicates leaving not filled) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} is it valid to assign filled at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought Reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "*" indicates a not filled cell), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution (where "s" indicates a filled cell and "e" indicates leaving not filled) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n think: {your step-by-step reasoning}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p>
20. Trees-and-Tents	<p>A 6x6 grid with numbered sides (1, 2, 1, 0, 1). Tents and trees are placed in the grid. The grid has the following values: Row 1: 1, 2, 1, 0, 1, 1. Row 2: 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1. Row 3: 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1. Row 4: 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1. Row 5: 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1. Row 6: 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1.</p>	<p>Rule: You are a Trees-and-Tents player. You need to place tents on a grid with trees. Each tree must be paired with exactly one tent that is horizontally or vertically adjacent to it (a 1-to-1 relationship). Tents cannot touch each other, even diagonally. The numbers on the sides indicate how many tents must be in each row and column. Use Indexing starts at 0.</p> <p>Perception - Cell At: {Rule} what is the value of the cell at ({row}, {col})? Choose from {tree, tent, empty}.</p> <p>Perception and Direct Solution: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "tr" indicates a tree, "tt" indicates a tent, and "*" indicates an empty cell) and your solution ("e" indicates leaving empty) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p> <p>Rule Following - Valid Actions: {Rule} is it valid to fill the cell at ({row}, {col}) with value {value}? Choose from {valid, invalid}.</p> <p>Perception and Chain-of-Thought Reasoning: {Rule} Give me your response of the current game state in the screenshot (where "tr" indicates a tree, "tt" indicates a tent, and "*" indicates an empty cell), your step-by-step reasoning, and your solution ("e" indicates leaving empty) in the following format. \n{ \n perception: {current state of the grid as a 2D array}, \n think: {your step-by-step reasoning}, \n answer: {solution as a 2D array} \n}</p>

Table 9. Per-Puzzle Sample Screenshots and Query Templates. Part 4 (16th - 20th).

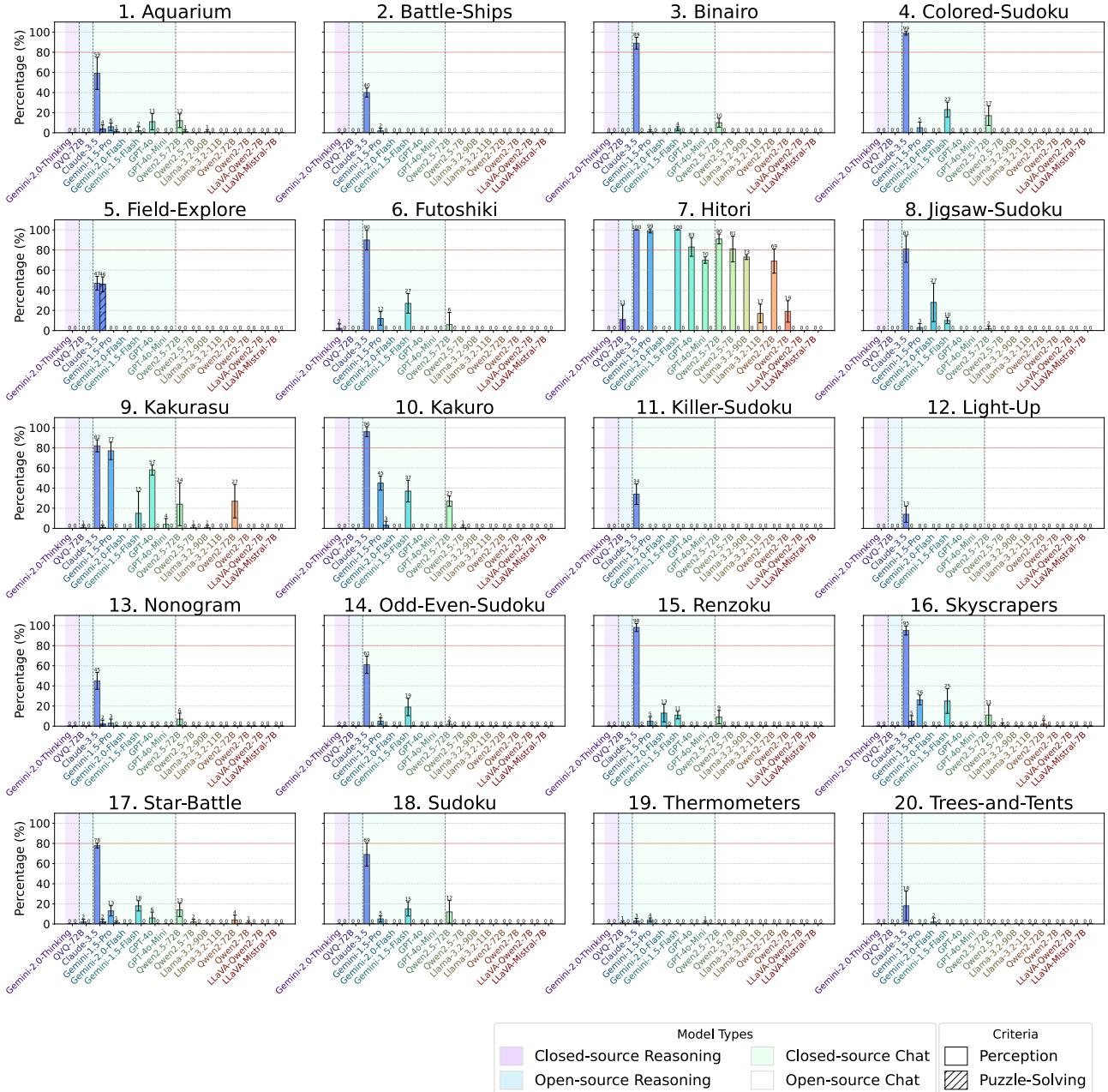


Figure 13. Off-the-Shelf LVLMs’ Overall Perception and Puzzle-Solving Evaluation at Level-Medium 😊. We report both correct perception rate and puzzle-solving rate evaluations. We omit Gemini-Thinking model due to their rate limit. Compared with **easy** 🟢-level in the main paper. Among all models, only Claude is able to perceive most several puzzles correctly, such as Jigsaw-Sudoku. All LVLMs fail to solve any of the 20 puzzles with higher than 10 percentage. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

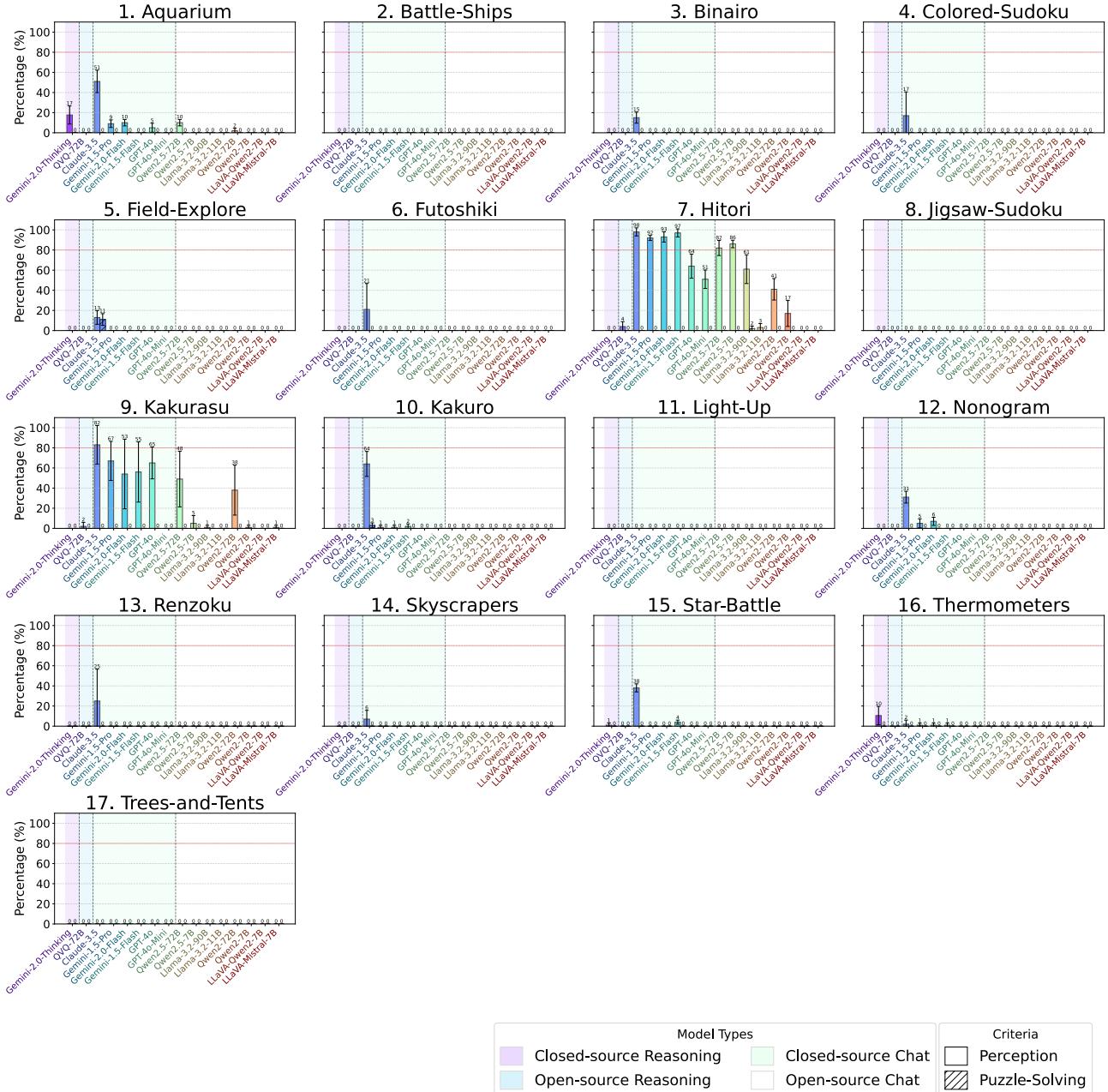


Figure 14. Off-the-Shelf LVLMs’ Overall Perception and Puzzle-Solving Evaluation at Level-Hard 🤯 with CoT. We report both correct perception rate and puzzle-solving rate evaluations. We omit Gemini-Thinking model due to their rate limit. All LVLMs have lower perception and puzzle-solving accuracy, showing the **hard 🤯-level** is more challenging than **medium 😊-level**. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

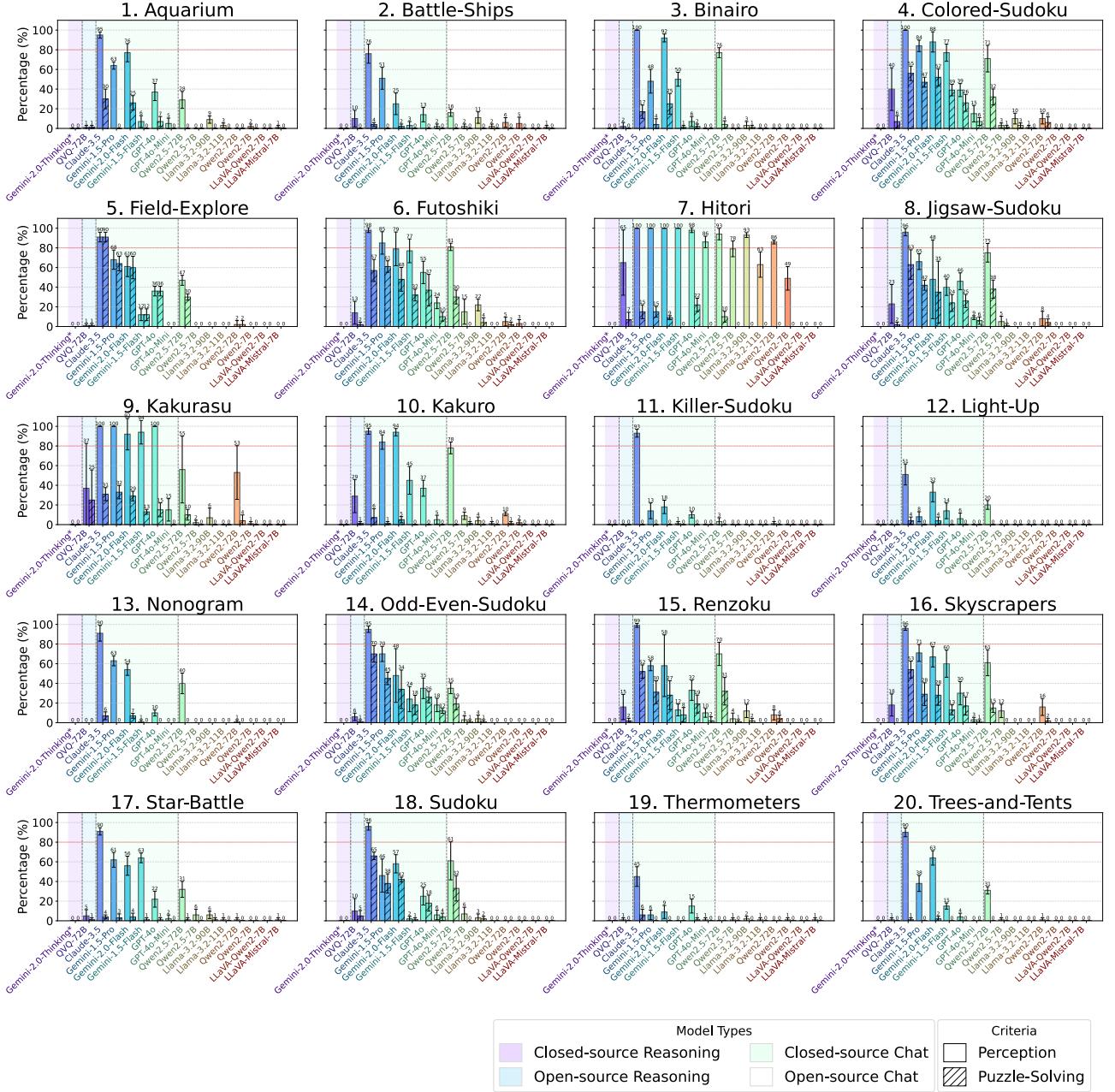


Figure 15. Off-the-Shelf LVLMs’ Overall Perception and Puzzle-Solving Evaluation at Level-Easy 🟢 without CoT. We report both correct perception rate and puzzle-solving rate evaluations. We omit Gemini-Thinking model due to their rate limit. We observe similar trend as the CoT version in the main paper that close-source LVLMs has better performance, and our benchmark is challenging even at the easy 🟢-level, especially for open-source LVLMs. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

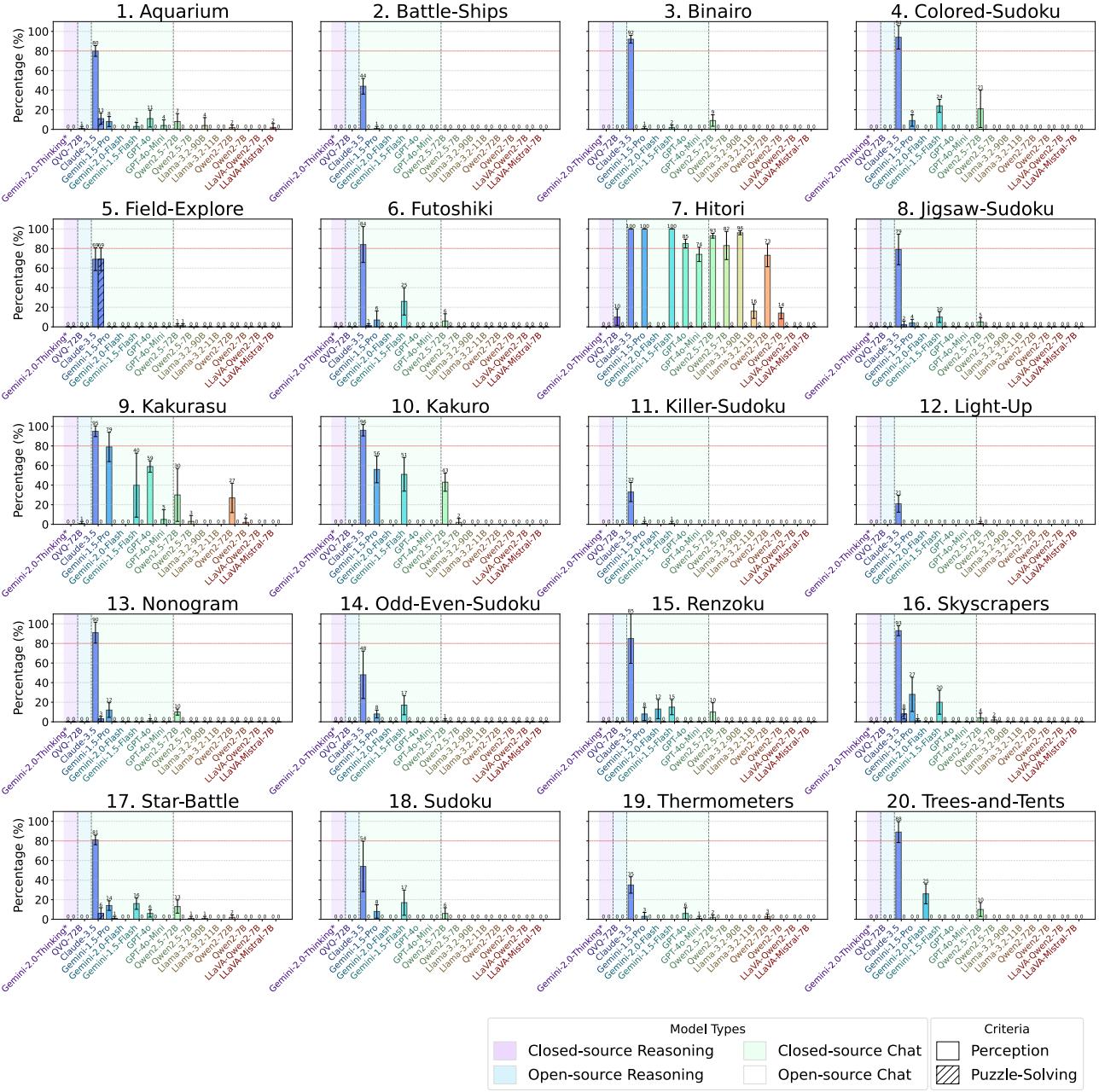


Figure 16. Off-the-Shelf LVMs’ Overall Perception and Puzzle-Solving Evaluation at Level-Medium 😊 without CoT. We report both correct perception rate and puzzle-solving rate evaluations. We omit Gemini-Thinking model due to the their rate limit. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

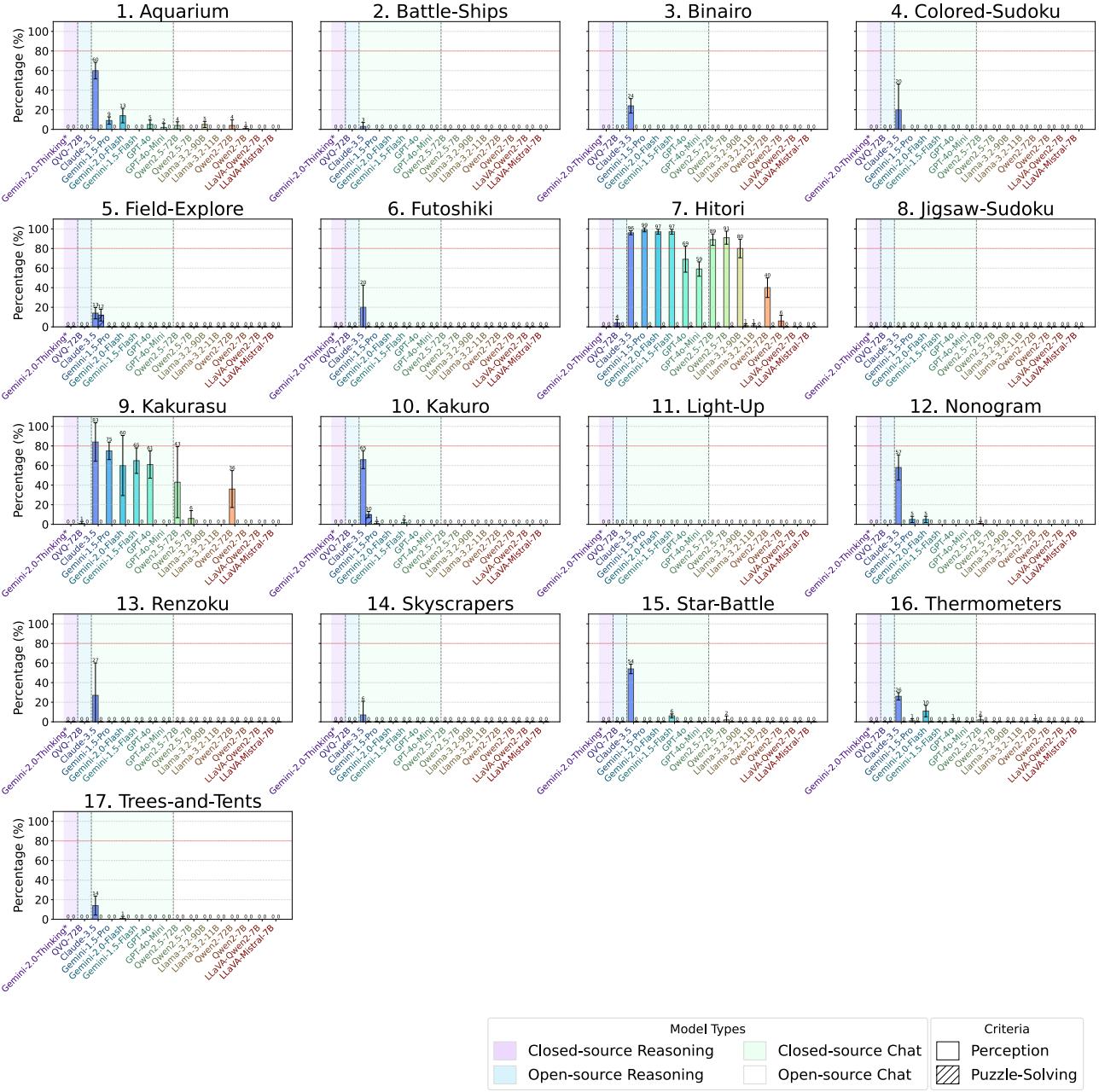


Figure 17. Off-the-Shelf LVLMs’ Overall Perception and Puzzle-Solving Evaluation at Level-Hard 🧩 without CoT. We report both correct perception rate and puzzle-solving rate evaluations. We omit Gemini-Thinking model due to the their rate limit. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

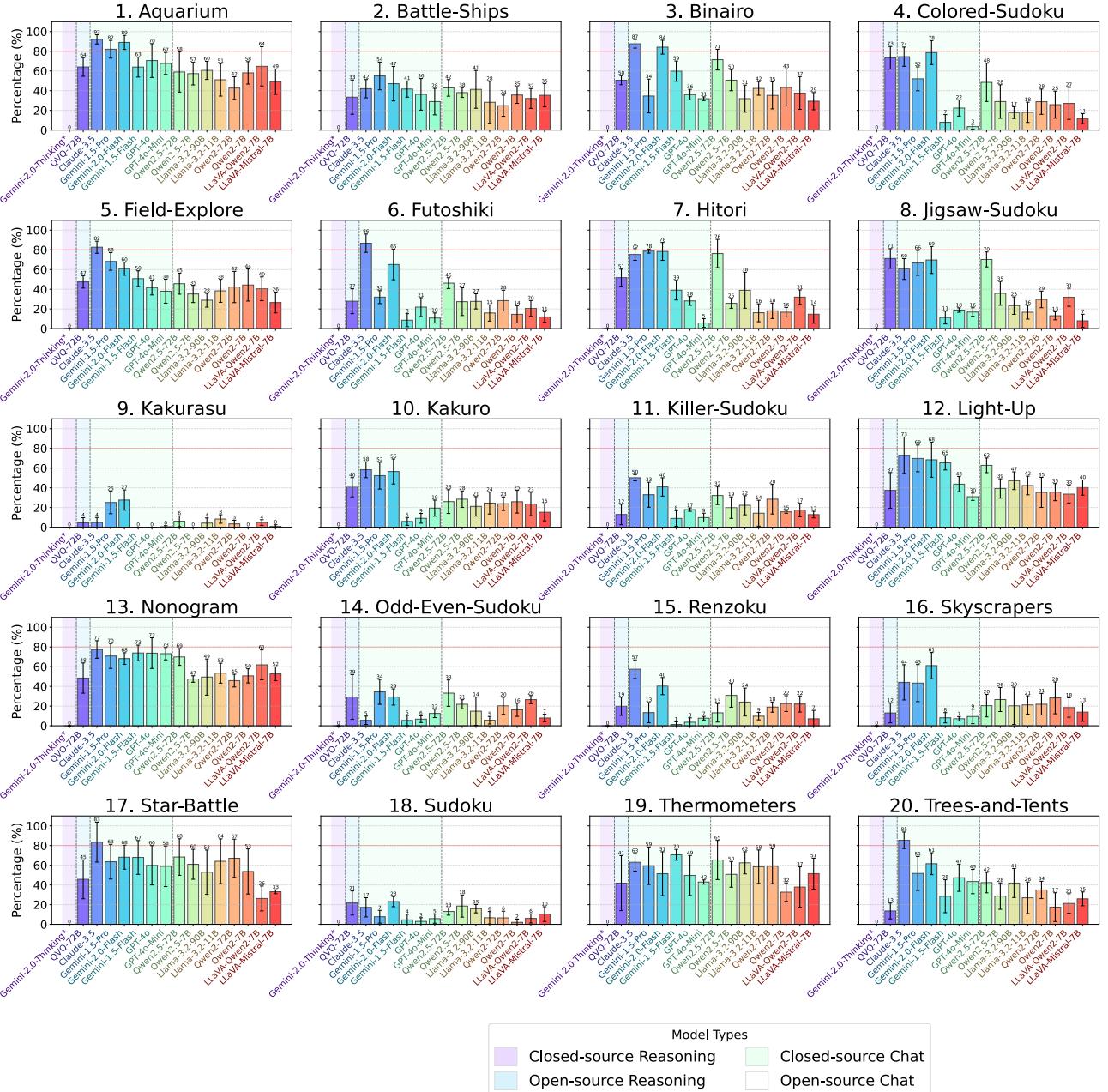


Figure 18. **Off-the-Shelf LVLMs’ Cell-Level Perception Evaluation on Level-Easy**. We report perception accuracy. We omit Gemini-Thinking model due to the rate limit. We provide evaluation at cell-level, by assessing models perception when asked querying on a single cell. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

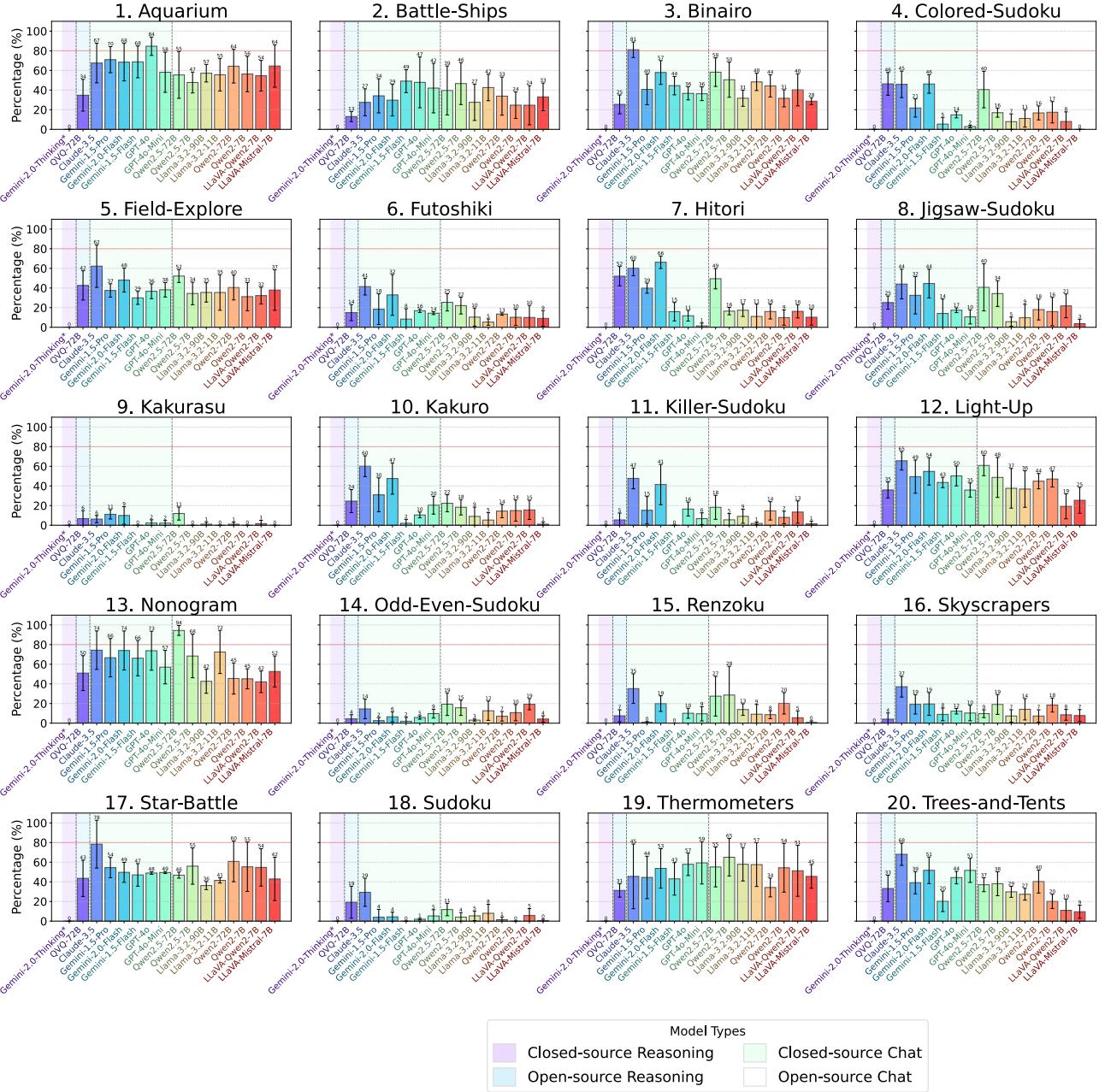


Figure 19. Off-the-Shelf LVMs’ Cell-Level Perception Evaluation on Level-Medium 😊. We report perception accuracy. We omit Gemini-Thinking model due to the rate limit. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

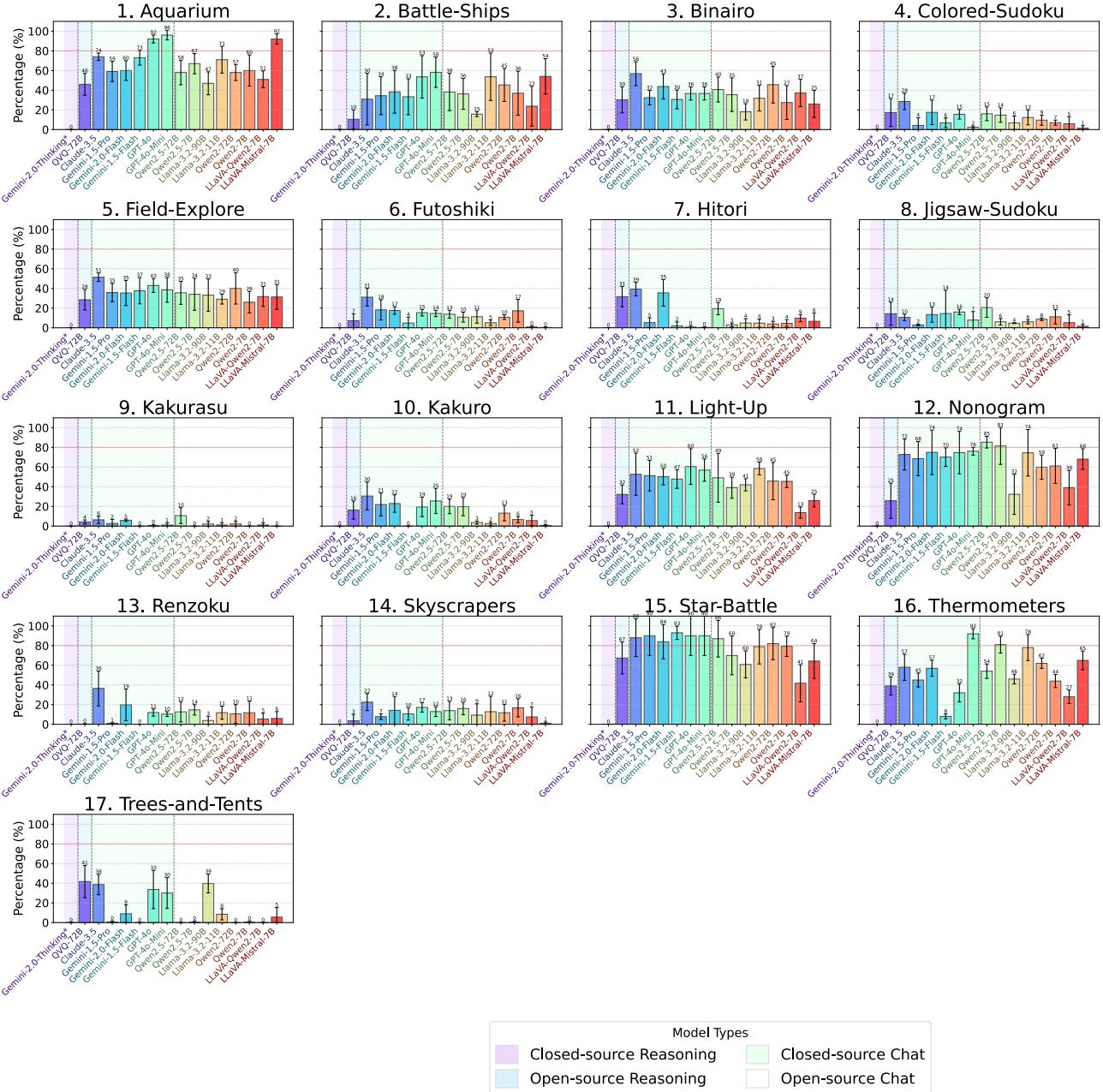


Figure 20. **Off-the-Shelf LVLMs’ Cell-Level Perception Evaluation on Level-Hard 🧩.** We report perception accuracy. We omit Gemini-Thinking model due to the rate limit. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

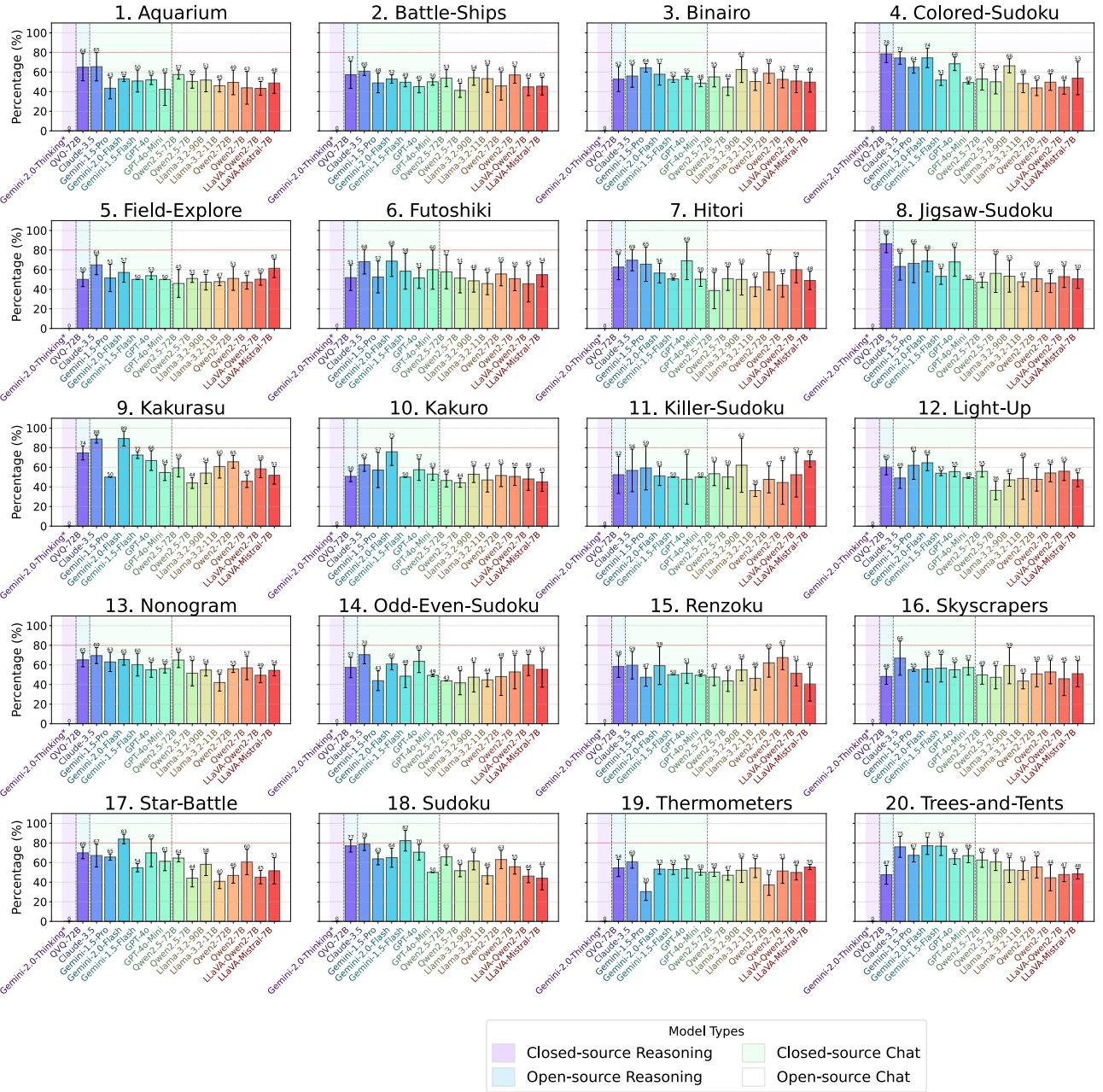


Figure 21. Off-the-Shelf LVLMs’ Action-Level Rule-Following Evaluation on Level-Easy. We report responses’ correctness. We omit Gemini-Thinking model due to the rate limit. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

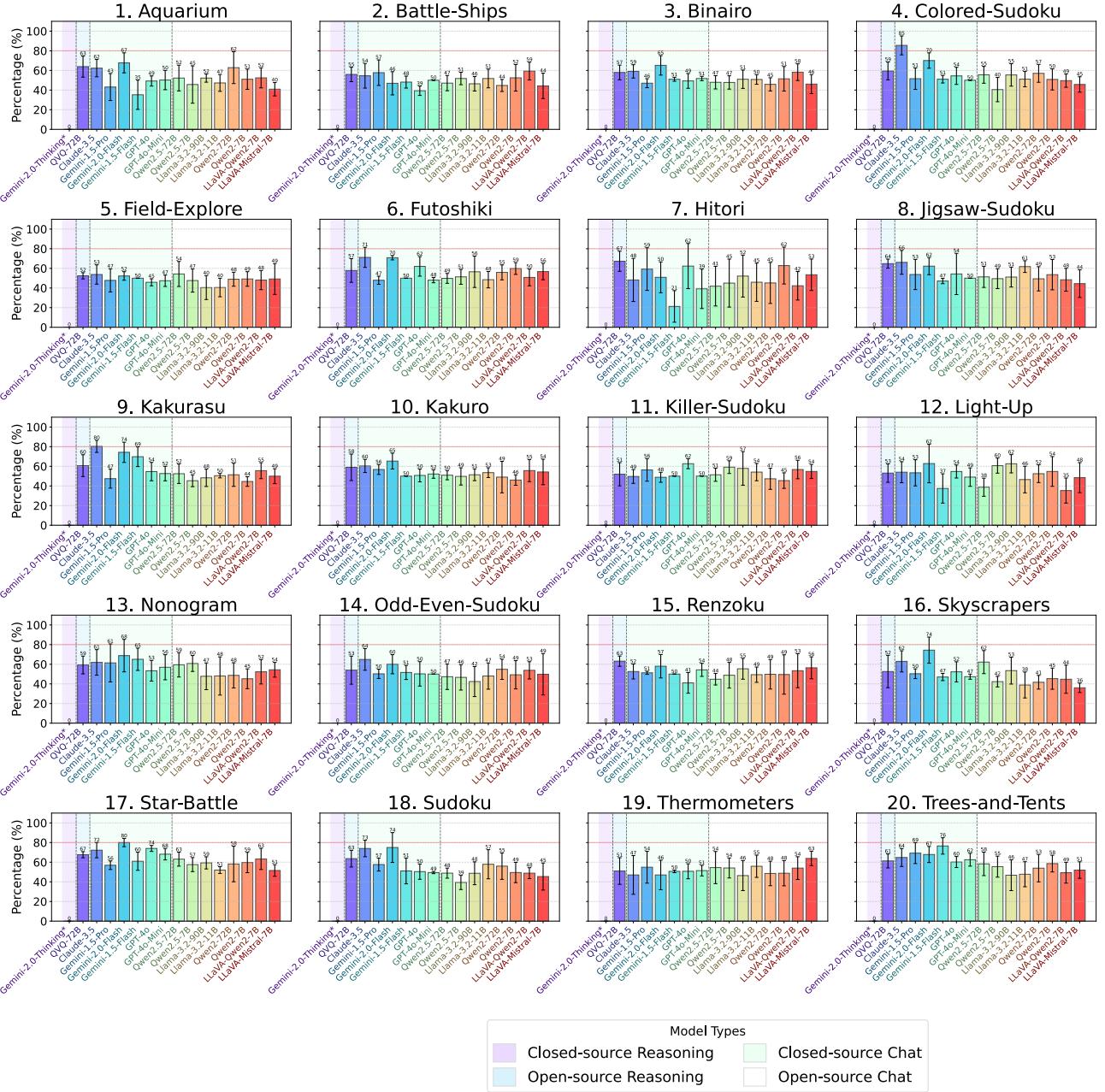


Figure 22. Off-the-Shelf LVMs’ Action-Level Rule-Following Evaluation on Level-Medium 😊. We report responses’ correctness. We omit Gemini-Thinking model due to the rate limit. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

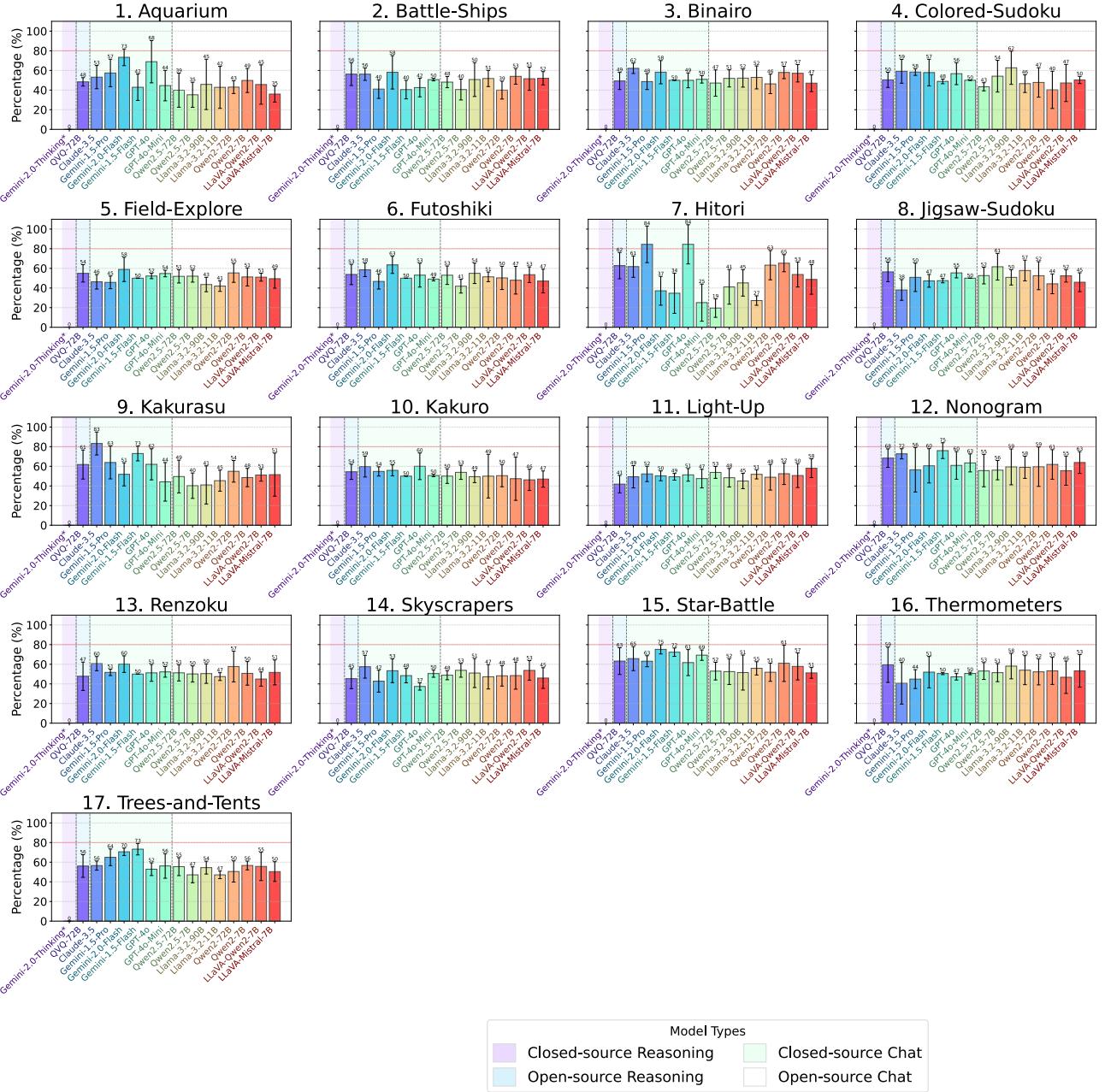


Figure 23. Off-the-Shelf LVLMs’ Action-Level Rule-Following Evaluation on Level-Hard 🎯. We report responses’ correctness. We omit Gemini-Thinking model due to the rate limit. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

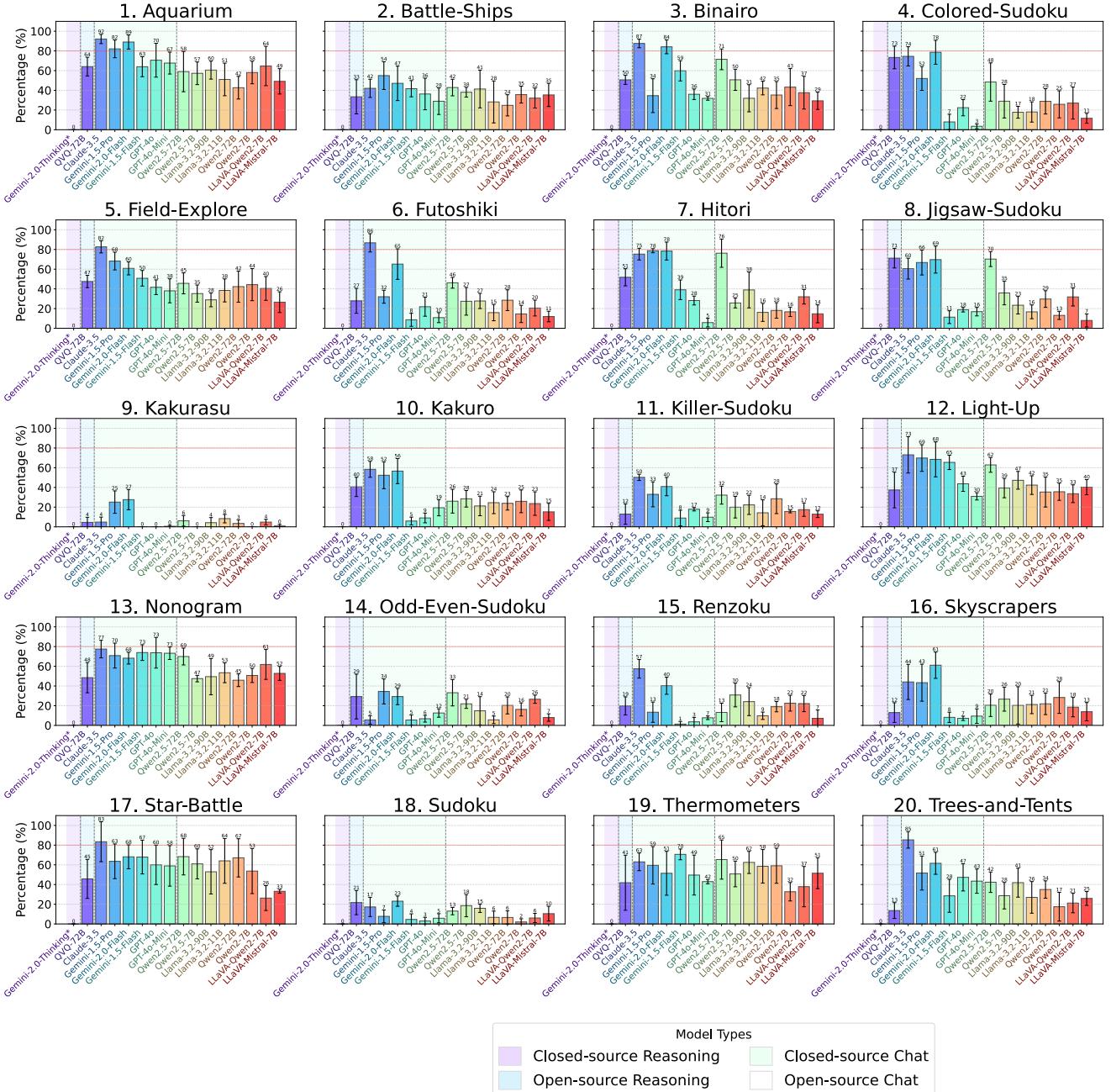


Figure 24. **Off-the-Shelf LVLMs’ Clue Number Versus Overall Accuracy at Level-Easy with CoT.** In general, the more clues provided, the easier puzzles are, resulting in higher perception and puzzle solving accuracy. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

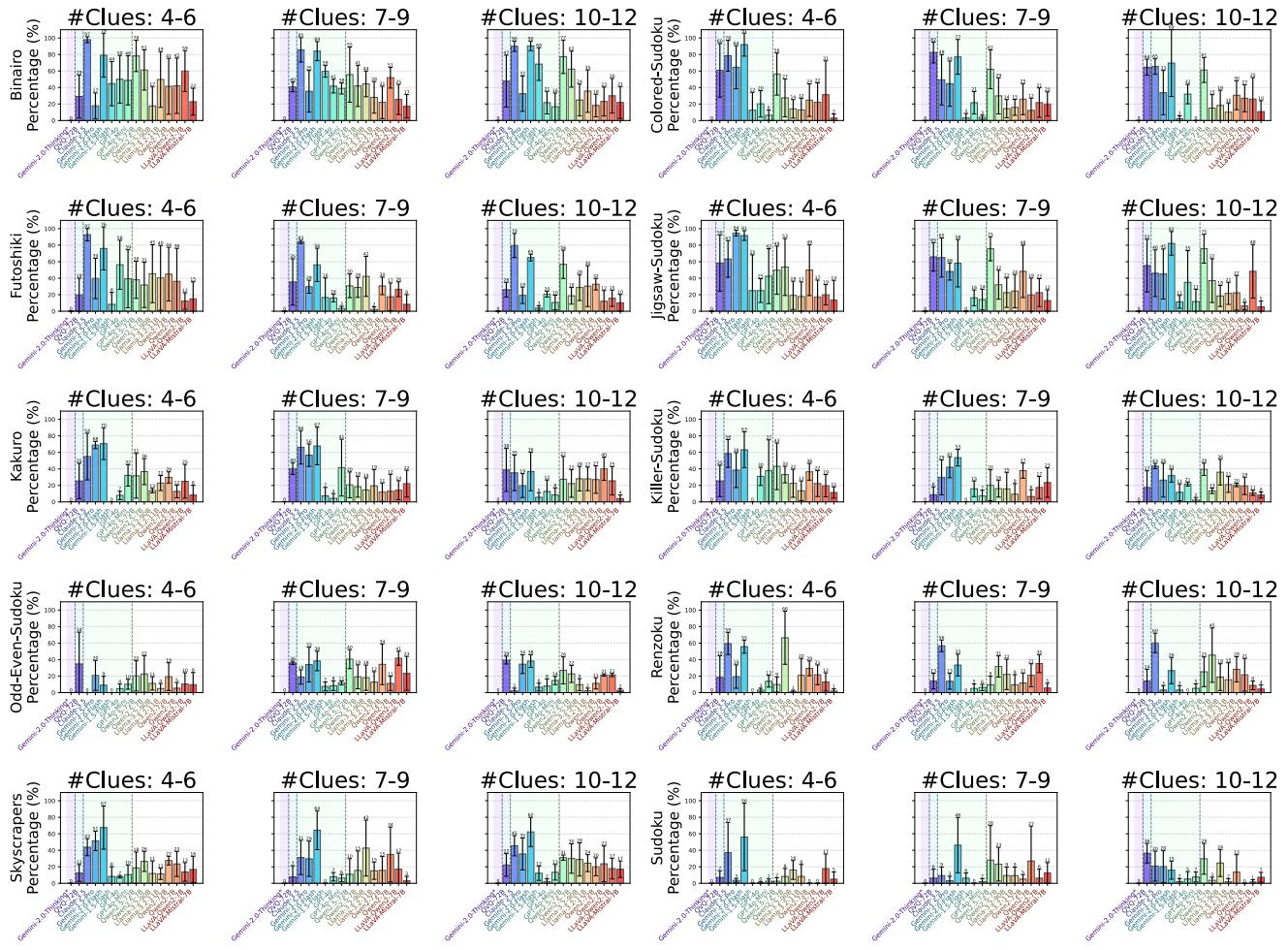


Figure 25. Off-the-Shelf LVLMs’ Clue Number Versus Cell-Level Perception Accuracy at Level-Easy ●. In general, the more clues provided, the easier puzzles are, resulting in higher perception and puzzle solving accuracy. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

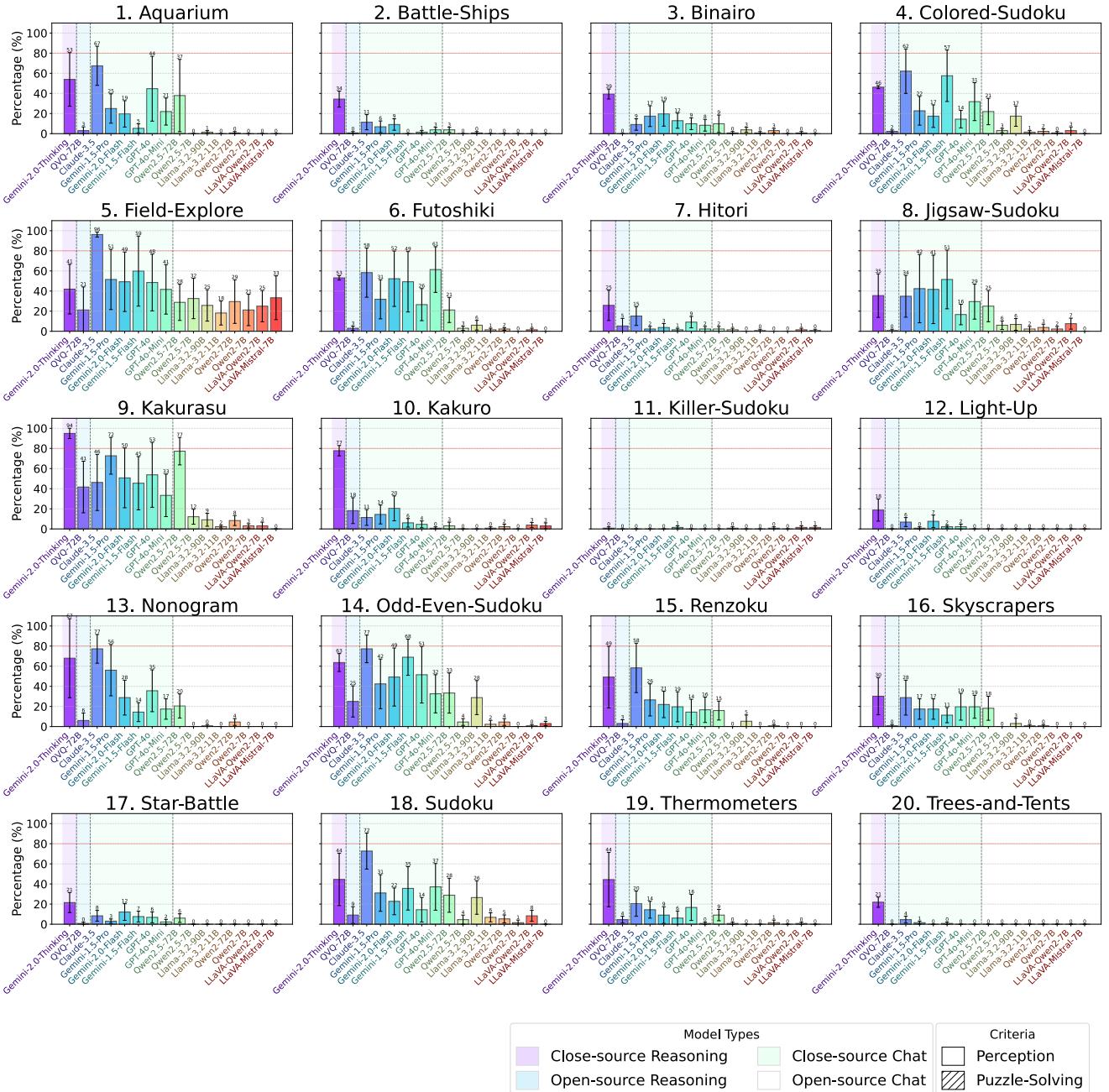


Figure 26. **Easy ● level Text Input w/ CoT.** We notice that Gemini-2.0-Thinking is performing best for a few puzzles, such as Kakurasu, Kakuro, while Claude-3.5 performs best in most other puzzles. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

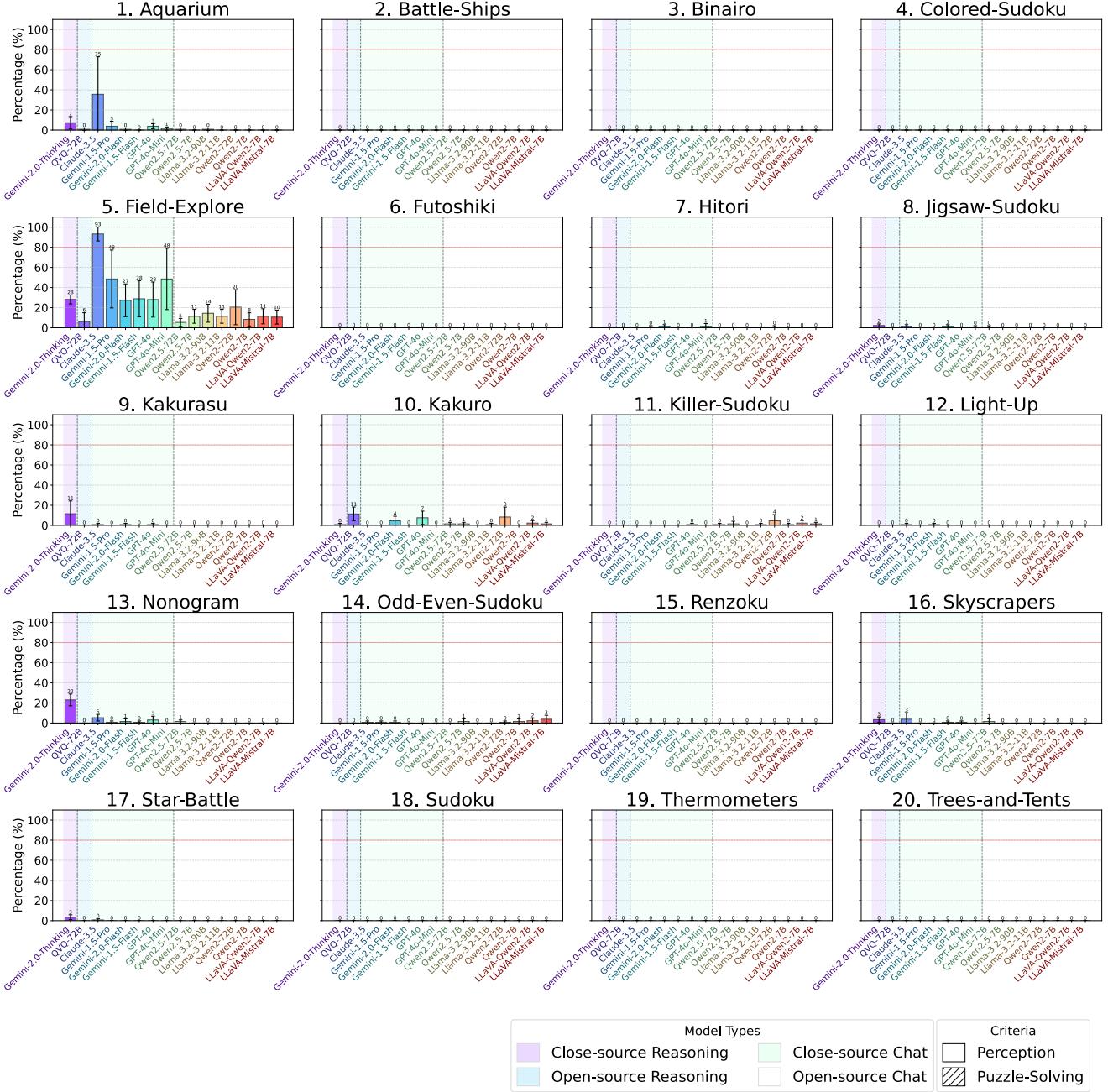


Figure 27. **Medium 😐 level Text Input w/ CoT.** We omit the figure for **hard 🚫 level text input** which suppose to appear in the next page as all the accuracies are zero. On the medium level, almost all LVLMs achieve almost zero performance in most puzzles. One exception is Field-Explore, where Claude-3.5 achieves as as high as 93% solving rate. We interpret this results as the rules in Field-Explore are local only, making it easier to solve compared with other puzzles in the medium level. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

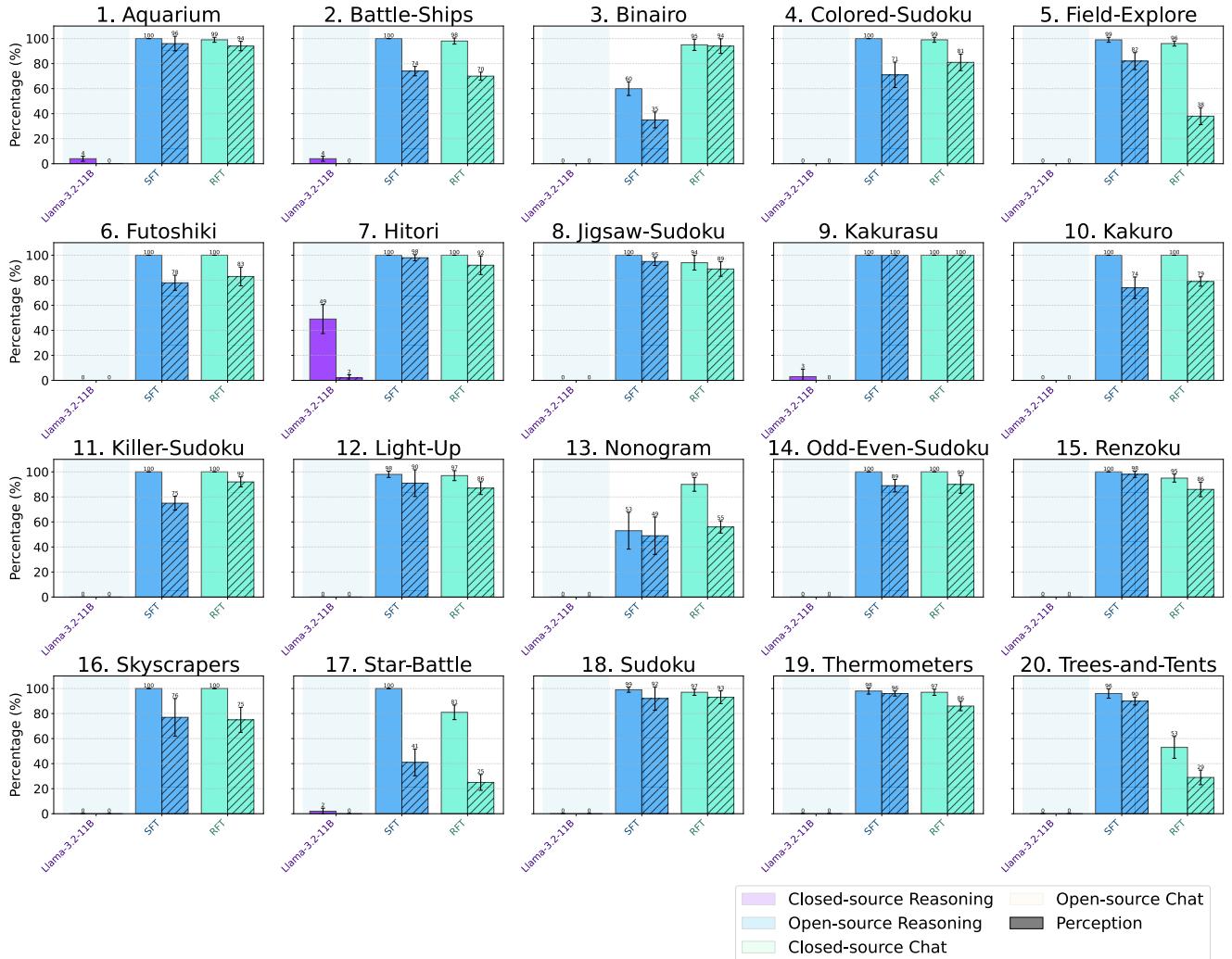


Figure 28. **Evaluation on SFT with Level Easy**. We notice both S-SFT and R-SFT improve the performance of perception and puzzle-solving. Comparing R-SFT and S-SFT, we noticed they perform comparably, where S-SFT performs better in some puzzles such as Nonogram and Trees-and-Tents, while R-SFT performs better in Binairo and Kakuro. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

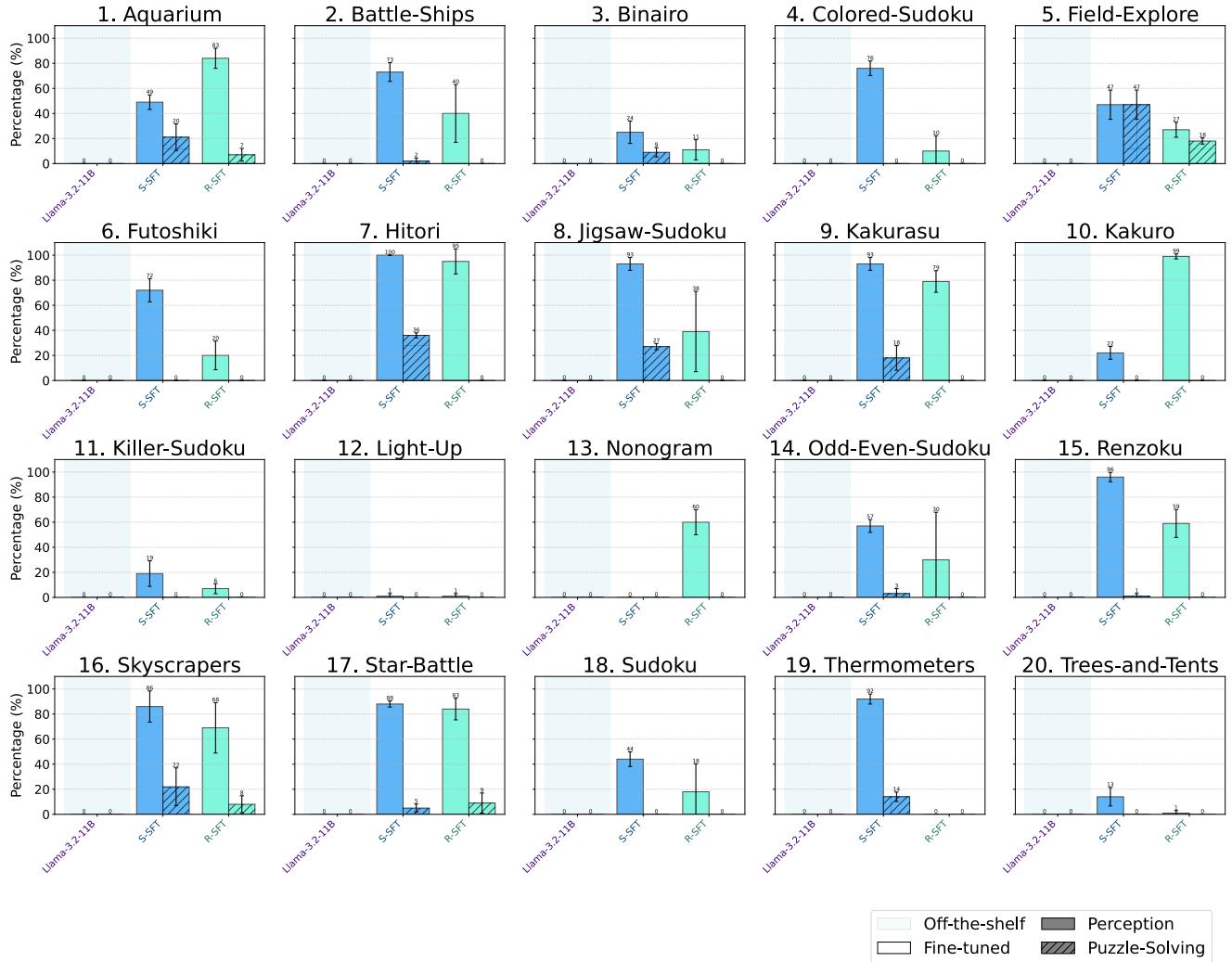


Figure 29. **Evaluation on SFT with Level Medium 😊.** Both S-SFT and R-SFT have lower performance than Level **Easy 🟢**. (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

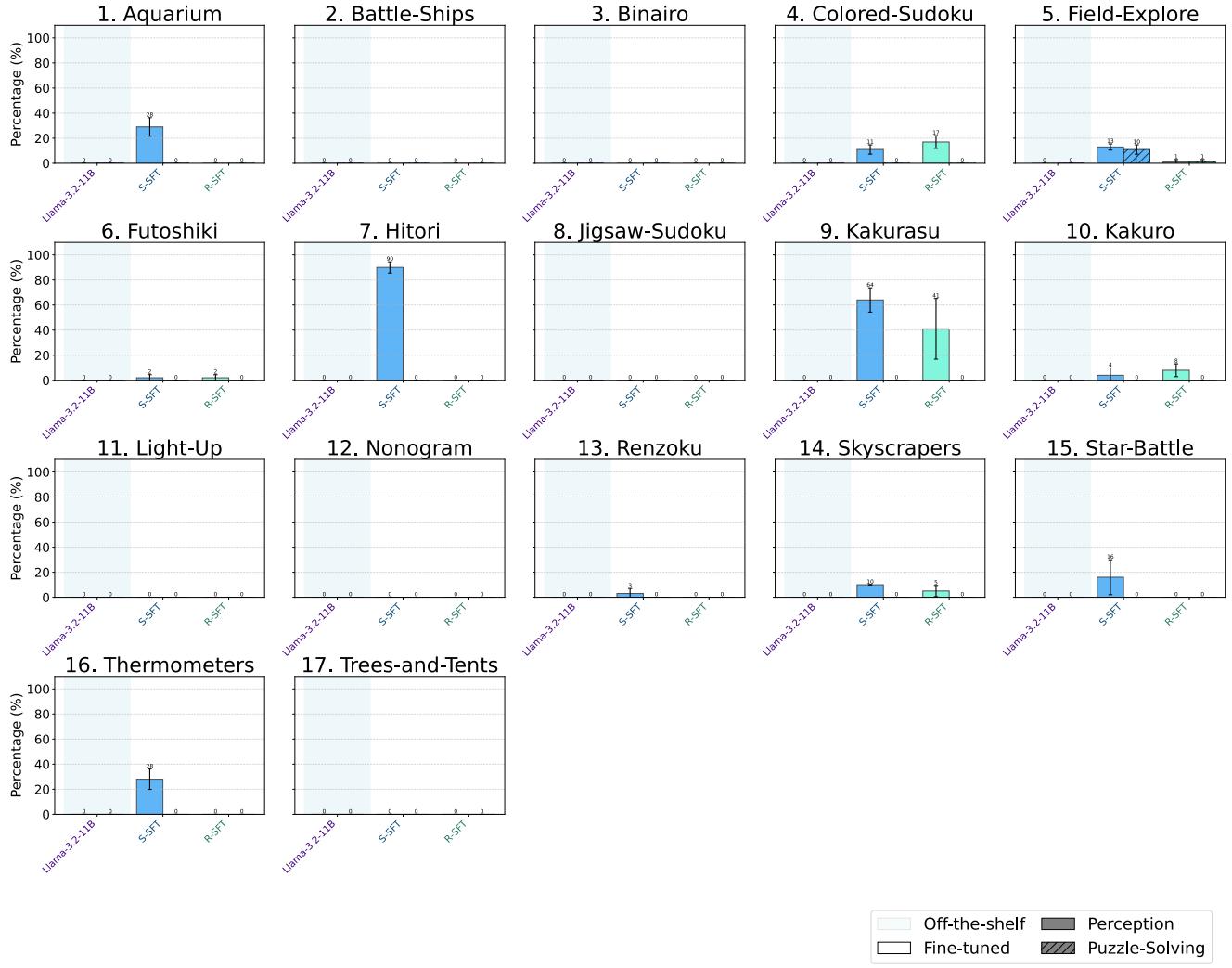
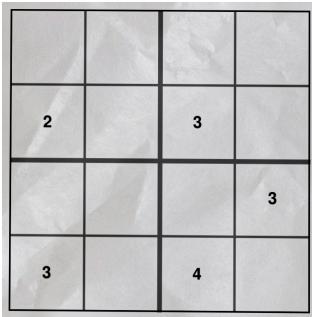


Figure 30. Evaluation on SFT with Level Hard 🧩 (Best viewed on a screen when zoomed in)

Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Vision Input



Gemini-2.0-Thinking

Model Output:

The user wants me to solve a 4x4 Sudoku puzzle. [NEWLINE] I need to identify the empty cells and fill them with numbers from 1 to 4, ensuring that each row, column, and 2x2 block contains unique numbers. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Let's analyze the given grid: [NEWLINE] - Row 0: has no filled cells. [NEWLINE] - Row 1: has '2' at index 0 and '3' at index 2. [NEWLINE] - Row 2: has '3' at index 3. [NEWLINE] - Row 3: has '3' at index 0 and '4' at index 2. [NEWLINE] - Column 0: has '2' at index 1 and '3' at index 3. [NEWLINE] - Column 1: is empty. [NEWLINE] - Column 2: has '3' at index 1 and '4' at index 3. [NEWLINE] - Column 3: has '3' at index 2. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - Block 0 (0,0 to 1,1): has '2'. [NEWLINE] - Block 1 (0,2 to 1,3): has '3'. [NEWLINE] - Block 2 (2,0 to 3,1): has '3'. [NEWLINE] - Block 3 (2,2 to 3,3): has '3', '4'. [NEWLINE] Let's start filling in the empty cells. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - **Row 0:** [NEWLINE] - Cannot be '3' because of column 2 and block 1. [NEWLINE] - **Row 1:** [NEWLINE] - Missing numbers are 1 and 4. [NEWLINE] - Cell (1,1) cannot be 4 because of column 2. So, cell (1,1) is 1 and cell (1,3) is 4. [NEWLINE] - **Row 2:** [NEWLINE] - Missing numbers are 1, 2, 4. [NEWLINE] - Cell (2,0) cannot be 3 because of column 0 and block 2. [NEWLINE] - Cell (2,1) cannot be 3 because of block 2. [NEWLINE] - Cell (2,2) cannot be 3 because of block 3. [NEWLINE] - **Row 3:** [NEWLINE] - Missing numbers are 1 and 2. [NEWLINE] - Cell (3,1) cannot be 3 because of block 2. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Let's restart and try a different approach. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - **Column 1:** [NEWLINE] - Cannot be 1 because of row 1. [NEWLINE] - **C

[...TRUNCATED... (2755 characters omitted)...]
2 3 [NEWLINE] 3 2 4 1 [NEWLINE] ``` [NEWLINE] ```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [["*", "*", "*", "*"], ["2", "*", "3", "*"], ["*", "*", "*", "3"], ["3", "*", "4", "*"]], "think": "The Sudoku grid is 4x4, so the numbers to use are 1, 2, 3, and 4. I will go through each row, column, and 2x2 block to identify the missing numbers and fill them in while ensuring uniqueness.", "answer": [["4", "3", "2", "1"], ["2", "1", "3", "4"], ["1", "4", "2", "3"], ["3", "2", "4", "1"]] [NEWLINE] ```

Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,0],[2,0,3,0],[0,0,0,3],[3,0,4,0]] [NEWLINE]
Answer [NEWLINE] [[4,3,2,1],[2,1,3,4],[1,4,2,3],[3,2,4,1]]

Perception Correct: True

Answer Correct: False

QVQ-72B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

So I'm looking at this Sudoku puzzle, and it seems a bit different from the usual ones I've seen. It's a 4x4 grid, which is smaller than the standard 9x9, and it's divided into 2x2 blocks. There are some numbers already filled in: a 2 in the top-left cell, a 3 in the top-right cell, another 3 in the bottom-left cell, and a 4 in the bottom-right cell. The rest of the cells are empty. [NEWLINE] Wait, actually, looking closer, it seems like there might be a mistake because in the top-middle cell, there's a 3, and in the bottom-right, there's a 4. So, the grid looks like this:
[NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] `` [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 2 * | * 3 [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE]
-----+---- [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] * 3 | * * [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] * * | * 4
[NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] `` [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Hmm, but it's a 4x4 grid, so it should be two blocks of 2x2 cells each. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] But actually, looking back at the problem, it says the grid is $\text{sqrt}(N) \times \text{sqrt}(N)$ blocks, and N is 4, so 2x2 blocks. So, the grid is divided into four 2x2 blocks. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Wait, no, N is 4, and $\text{sqrt}(4)$ is 2, so it's 2x2 blocks. So, the grid should be divided into 4 blocks, each 2x2. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] But in the image, it's a 3x3 grid with some numbers. Wait, perhaps there's confusion here. The problem mentions a NxN grid made up of $\text{sqrt}(N) \times \text{sqrt}(N)$ blocks, with N starting from 1 to N, and indexing starts at 0. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] But in the image, it's a 3x3 grid with some numbers filled in. There seems to be inconsistency between the problem description and the image. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] In the image, it's a 3x3 grid with: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - Top-left cell: 2 [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - Middle cel
[...TRUNCATED... (12517 characters omitted)...]
ave 2, 3, and 4 (since R2C2: 4). [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] So, for R0C2, I can choose any number except 2, 3, and 4. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Similarly, R1C0: ? In column 0, I have 2 and 3. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] In row 1, no numbers given.
[NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] In the middle block, no numbers yet. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] So, R1C0 can be any number except 2 and 3. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Wait, but I need to consider the block as well. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] In the top-middle block, which is the first block in row 1

Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] Wrong [NEWLINE] Answer [NEWLINE] Wrong

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Remarks: repetitive reasoning and go beyond max length.

Claude-3.5

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*"],  
[NEWLINE] ["2", "*", "3", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "3"], [NEWLINE]
["3", "*", "4", "*"] [NEWLINE]], [NEWLINE] "think": "This is a 4x4 Sudoku
puzzle with 2x2 blocks. Let me solve it step by step: [NEWLINE] 1. Looking
at row 4, we have 3 and 4, so 1 and 2 are missing [NEWLINE] 2. Column 3 has
3 twice, which means the empty cells must be 1,2,4 [NEWLINE] 3. Row 2 has 2
and 3, so needs 1 and 4 [NEWLINE] 4. The first row must contain all missing
numbers [NEWLINE] 5. Using block constraints and existing numbers, I can
determine the full solution", [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "answer": [[NEWLINE] ["4",
"3", "1", "2"], [NEWLINE] ["2", "1", "3", "4"], [NEWLINE] ["1", "4", "2",
"3"], [NEWLINE] ["3", "2", "4", "1"] [NEWLINE]] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ````
```

#### Filtered Output:

```
Perception [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,0],[2,0,3,0],[0,0,0,3],[3,0,4,0]] [NEWLINE]
Answer [NEWLINE] [[4,3,1,2],[2,1,3,4],[1,4,2,3],[3,2,4,1]]
```

**Perception Correct:** True

**Answer Correct:** True

**Gemini-1.5-Pro**

Continued on next page

### Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Vision Input

#### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [[["*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE]
["2", "*", "3", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "3"], [NEWLINE] ["3", "*", "4",
"*"]], [NEWLINE] "think": "This is a 4x4 Sudoku puzzle. The possible values for each cell are 1, 2, 3, and 4. [NEWLINE] Row 0: The missing values are 1, 2, 3, 4. [NEWLINE] Row 1: The missing values are 1, 4. [NEWLINE] Row 2: The missing values are 1, 2, 4. [NEWLINE] Row 3: The missing values are 1, 2. [NEWLINE] Col 0: The missing values are 1, 2, 4. [NEWLINE] Col 1: The missing values are 1, 2, * [NEWLINE] Col 2: The missing values are 1, 2, * [NEWLINE] Col 3: The missing values are 1, 2, 4. [NEWLINE] Block 0 (top-left): The missing values are 1, 4. [NEWLINE] Block 1 (top-right): The missing values are 1, 2, 4. [NEWLINE] Block 2 (bottom-left): The missing values are 1, 2. [NEWLINE] Block 3 (bottom-right): The missing values are 1, 2. [NEWLINE] Cell (0,0): Possible values are 1, 4. Since 1 is already present in the last column, this cell must be 4. [NEWLINE] Cell (0,1): Possible values are 1, 2. Since 2 is already present in the first column, this cell must be 1. [NEWLINE] Cell (0,3): Possible values are 1, 2. Since 1 is already present in this row, this cell must be 2. [NEWLINE] Cell (1,1): Possible values are 1, 4. Since 1 is already present in this row, this cell must be 4. [NEWLINE] Cell (1,3): Possible values are 1. This cell must be 1. [NEWLINE] Cell (2,0): Possible values are 1, 2, 4. Since 4 is already present in the last column, and 2 is already present in the first row, this cell must be 1. [NEWLINE] Cell (2,1): Possible values are 2  
[...TRUNCATED... (530 characters omitted)...]  
t in the second column, this cell must be 2. [NEWLINE] Cell (2,2): Possible values are 4. This cell must be 4. [NEWLINE] Cell (3,1): Possible values are 1, 2. Since 1 is already present in the last column, this cell must be 2. [NEWLINE] Cell (3,3): Possible values are 1. This cell must be 1.",  
[NEWLINE] "answer": [[{"4", "1", "*", "2"}, [NEWLINE] ["2", "4", "3", "1"], [NEWLINE] ["1", "2", "4", "3"], [NEWLINE] ["3", "2", "4", "1"]]] [NEWLINE]
```

Filtered Output:

```
Perception [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,0],[2,0,3,0],[0,0,0,3],[3,0,4,0]] [NEWLINE]  
Answer [NEWLINE] [[4,1,0,2],[2,4,3,1],[1,2,4,3],[3,2,4,1]]
```

Perception Correct: True

Answer Correct: False

Gemini-2.0-Flash

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": "[['*', '*', '*'], ['2', '*', '3'], ['3', '*', '4']]", [NEWLINE] "think": "I see a 3x3 Sudoku grid. [NEWLINE] Row 0 is missing 1, 2, and 3. [NEWLINE] Row 1 is missing 1 and 4. [NEWLINE] Row 2 is missing 1 and 2. [NEWLINE] Column 0 is missing 1 and 4. [NEWLINE] Column 1 is missing 1, 2, 3, and 4. [NEWLINE] Column 2 is missing 1 and 2. [NEWLINE] Block 0 is missing 1 and 4. [NEWLINE] Block 1 is missing 1 and 2. [NEWLINE] Block 2 is missing 1 and 2. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Looking at row 0, I can deduce that the last cell must be 4 because column 2 already has 3 and 4 in row 2. [NEWLINE] Looking at row 0, I can deduce that the first cell must be 1 because column 0 already has 2 and 3 in row 1 and 2. [NEWLINE] Looking at row 0, I can deduce that the second cell must be 2 because column 1 already has 2, 3, and 4 in row 1 and 2. [NEWLINE] Looking at row 1, I can deduce that the second cell must be 4 because column 1 already has 2, 3, and 4 in row 0 and 2. [NEWLINE] Looking at row 1, I can deduce that the first cell must be 1 because column 0 already has 1, 2, and 3 in row 0 and 2. [NEWLINE] Looking at row 2, I can deduce that the second cell must be 1 because column 1 already has 1, 2, 3, and 4 in row 0 and 1. [NEWLINE] Looking at row 2, I can deduce that the first cell must be 2 because column 0 already has 1, 2, and 3 in row 0 and 1. ", [NEWLINE] "answer": "[['1', '4', '2'], ['2', '1', '3'], ['3', '2', '4']]" [NEWLINE] ```
```

#### Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] Wrong [NEWLINE] Answer [NEWLINE] Wrong

**Perception Correct:** False

**Answer Correct:** False

Remarks: wrong grid size.

**Gemini-1.5-Flash**

Continued on next page

### Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Vision Input

#### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*", "*",
 "*", "*", "*", "*", "[NEWLINE] ["*", "2", "*", "*", "3", "*", "*",
 "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "[NEWLINE] [*",
 "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "[NEWLINE] [*", "*", "*", "*", "*",
 "*", "*", "[NEWLINE] [*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "[NEWLINE] [*",
 "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "[NEWLINE] [*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "3"], [NEWLINE] [*",
 "*", "3",
 "*", "*", "4", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] [*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*",
 "*", "*"] [NEWLINE] "think": "This is a 9x9 Sudoku puzzle. I'll start by looking for cells where only one number is possible given the existing constraints. I'll then use logic to deduce other numbers based on row, column, and 3x3 block constraints. I'll iterate this process until the puzzle is solved.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [ [NEWLINE] [1, 6, 7, 9, 5, 2, 3, 8,
4], [NEWLINE] [8, 2, 9, 1, 4, 3, 7, 5, 6], [NEWLINE] [3, 5, 4, 7, 6, 8, 1, 9,
2], [NEWLINE] [4, 9, 1, 3, 7, 5, 8, 6, 2], [NEWLINE] [7, 8, 5, 6, 2, 9, 4, 1,
3], [NEWLINE] [6, 3, 2, 4, 8, 1, 9, 7, 5], [NEWLINE] [2, 1, 6, 8, 3, 7, 5, 4, 9],
[NEWLINE] [5, 3, 8, 2, 9, 4, 6, 1, 7], [NEWLINE] [9, 7, 3, 5, 1, 6, 2, 4, 8]
[NEWLINE] ] [NEWLINE] ````
```

Filtered Output:

```
Perception [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0],[0,2,0,0,0,3,0,0,0],
[0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0],
[0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,3], [0,3,0,0,0,4,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0]]
[NEWLINE] Answer [NEWLINE] [[1,6,7,9,5,2,3,8,4], [8,2,9,1,4,3,7,5,6],
[3,5,4,7,6,8,1,9,2], [4,9,1,3,7,5,8,6,2], [7,8,5,6,2,9,4,1,3],
[6,3,2,4,8,1,9,7,5], [2,1,6,8,3,7,5,4,9], [5,3,8,2,9,4,6,1,7], [9,7,3,5,1,6,2,4,8]]
```

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Remarks: wrong grid size.

GPT-4o

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "2", "*"],
[NEWLINE] ["*", "3", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["3", "*", "*", "3"], [NEWLINE]
["*", "*", "4", "*"] [NEWLINE]], [NEWLINE] "think": "This is a 4x4 Sudoku grid. The challenge is to fill empty cells ('*') with numbers from 1 to 4 ensuring that each number appears exactly once in every row, column, and 2x2 subgrid. Starting with available numbers in the provided setup, I will fill cells logically row by row, column by column, and by observing constraints in blocks.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[NEWLINE] ["4", "1", "2", "3"], [NEWLINE]
["2", "3", "1", "4"], [NEWLINE] ["3", "4", "1", "2"], [NEWLINE] ["1", "2",
"4", "3"] [NEWLINE]] [NEWLINE] ````
```

#### Filtered Output:

```
Perception [NEWLINE] [[0,0,2,0],[0,3,0,0],[3,0,0,3],[0,0,4,0]] [NEWLINE]
Answer [NEWLINE] [[4,1,2,3],[2,3,1,4],[3,4,1,2],[1,2,4,3]]
```

**Perception Correct:** False

**Answer Correct:** False

### GPT-4o-Mini

Continued on next page

### Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Vision Input

#### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [[2, "*", 3, "*"], [3, "*", "*", 4], ["*", "*", 2, "*"], ["*", 3, "*", "*"]], [NEWLINE] "think": "I need to fill in the empty cells ('*') while ensuring that each number from 1 to 4 appears exactly once in each row, column, and 2x2 block. The given numbers already provide some constraints. For example, Row 0 has 2 and 3, and Block 0 has 2 and 3 as well. The first step will be to identify the missing numbers in each row and block and then find valid placements for them while adhering to Sudoku rules. After evaluating the options, I will fill in the grid systematically until completed.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[2, 4, 3, 1], [3, 1, 2, 4], [1, 2, 4, 3], [4, 3, 1, 2]] [NEWLINE] ````
```

Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] [[2,0,3,0],[3,0,0,4],[0,0,2,0],[0,3,0,0]] [NEWLINE]
Answer [NEWLINE] [[2,4,3,1],[3,1,2,4],[1,2,4,3],[4,3,1,2]]

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Qwen2.5-72B

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["2", "*", "3", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "3"], [NEWLINE] ["3", "*", "4", "*"] [NEWLINE] ], [NEWLINE] "think": "To solve the Sudoku for a 4x4 grid, each square (including rows, columns, and 2x2 blocks) must contain the numbers from 1 to 4 without repetition. Considering the current grid, here is how we solve it step by step: [NEWLINE] 1. For the top left 2x2 block, since the bottom left corner is '3', top right corner cannot be '3', hence it can be either '1' or '2', but '2' is already in the second row, top left could be '1'. [NEWLINE] 2. Follow similar logic for the rest of the cells. [NEWLINE] 3. After filling out all guesses based on the exclusions of rows, columns, and block conditions, validate the grid for completion. [NEWLINE] ", [NEWLINE] "answer": [ [NEWLINE] ["1", "4", "2", "3"], [NEWLINE] ["2", "1", "3", "4"], [NEWLINE] ["4", "3", "1", "2"], [NEWLINE] ["3", "2", "4", "1"] [NEWLINE] ] [NEWLINE] ````
```

#### Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,0],[2,0,3,0],[0,0,0,3],[3,0,4,0]] [NEWLINE]  
Answer [NEWLINE] [[1,4,2,3],[2,1,3,4],[4,3,1,2],[3,2,4,1]]

Perception Correct: True

Answer Correct: False

### Qwen2.5-7B

Continued on next page

### Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Vision Input

#### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [[0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [2, 0, 3, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 3], [NEWLINE] [3, 0, 4, 0]], [NEWLINE] "think": "The grid is a 2x2 block Sudoku. I'll solve it row by row starting with the top left cell. The top left cell must contain the digit '1' since it's the only missing number in its row, column, and block.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[1, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [2, 0, 3, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 3], [NEWLINE] [3, 0, 4, 0]] [NEWLINE] ```json [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "perception": [[1, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [2, 0, 3, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 3], [NEWLINE] [3, 0, 4, 0]], [NEWLINE] "think": "The second row must include the digit '1' in its second position, as it's the only missing number in its row, column, and block.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[1, 1, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [2, 1, 3, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 3], [NEWLINE] [3, 0, 4, 0]] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ```json [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "perception": [[1, 1, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [2, 1, 3, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 3], [NEWLINE] [3, 0, 4, 0]], [NEWLINE] "think": "The third row must include the digit '2' in its first position, as it's the only missing number in its row, column, and block.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[1, 1, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [2, 1, 3, 0], [NEWLINE] [2, 0, 0, 3], [NEWLINE] [3, 0, 4, 0]] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ```json [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "perception": [[1, 1, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [2, 1, 3, 0], [NEWLINE] [2, 0, 0, 3], [NEWLINE] [3, 0, 4, 0]], [NEWLINE] "..."  
[...TRUNCATED... (2247 characters omitted)]  
json [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "perception": [[1, 1, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [1, 1, 3, 0], [NEWLINE] [2, 0, 0, 3], [NEWLINE] [3, 2, 4, 0]], [NEWLINE] "think": "The third column must include the digit '1' in its last position, as it's the only missing number in its row, column, and block.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[1, 1, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [1, 1, 3, 0], [NEWLINE] [2, 0, 0, 3], [NEWLINE] [3, 2, 4, 0]] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ```json [NEWLINE] ````
```

Filtered Output:

```
Perception [NEWLINE] [[1,1,0,0],[2,0,0,0],[3,0,4,0],[0,0,0,0]] [NEWLINE]  
Answer [NEWLINE] [[1,1,0,0],[2,1,3,0],[2,0,0,3],[3,2,4,0]]
```

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Llama-3.2-90B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

Step 1: Analyze the Sudoku Grid [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] The given Sudoku grid is a 4x4 grid, which means it consists of 16 cells. The goal is to fill in the missing numbers from 1 to 4 such that each row, column, and 2x2 sub-grid contains each number exactly once. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] **Step 2: Identify the Missing Numbers** [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] From the given grid, we can see that the missing numbers are represented by asterisks (*). We need to find the correct values for these missing numbers. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] **Step 3: Apply Sudoku Rules and Logic** [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] To solve the Sudoku puzzle, we will apply the standard rules and logic: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] * Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 4 without repetition. [NEWLINE] * Each column must contain the numbers 1 to 4 without repetition. [NEWLINE] * Each 2x2 sub-grid must contain the numbers 1 to 4 without repetition. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] By analyzing the given numbers and applying these rules, we can deduce the correct values for the missing numbers. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] **Step 4: Fill in the Missing Numbers** [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] After applying the Sudoku rules and logic, we can fill in the missing numbers as follows:
[NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] | | | | | [NEWLINE] | --- | --- | --- | --- | [NEWLINE]
| 2 | 3 | * | * | [NEWLINE] | 3 | 4 | * | * | [NEWLINE] | * | * | 3 | * |
[NEWLINE] | * | * | * | 2 | [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] **Step 5: Finalize the Solution** [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Based on the filled-in grid, we can see that the complete solution is:
[NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] | | | | | [NEWLINE] | --- | --- | --- | --- | [NEWLINE]
| 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | [NEWLINE] | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
[NEWLINE] | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | [N]
[...TRUNCATED... (618 characters omitted)...]
WLINE] ``'json [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "perception": [[NEWLINE] [2, 3, "*"],
["*"], [NEWLINE] [3, 4, "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", 3, "*"], [NEWLINE]
["*", "*", "*", 2] [NEWLINE]], [NEWLINE] "think": "Apply Sudoku rules and
logic to fill in the missing numbers.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[NEWLINE] [2,
3, 1, 4], [NEWLINE] [3, 4, 2, 1], [NEWLINE] [1, 2, 3, 4], [NEWLINE] [4, 1, 2,
3] [NEWLINE]] [NEWLINE] ''

Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] [[2,3,0,0],[3,4,0,0],[0,0,3,0],[0,0,0,2]] [NEWLINE]
Answer [NEWLINE] [[2,3,1,4],[3,4,2,1],[1,2,3,4],[4,1,2,3]]

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Llama-3.2-11B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

Filtered Output:

```

Perception [NEWLINE] [[2,3,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0], [0,3,0,0,4,0,0,0,0,0],
[0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0],
[0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0],
[0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0]] [NEWLINE] Answer [NEWLINE] [[5,3,4,6,7,8,9,1,2],
[6,7,2,1,9,5,3,4,8], [1,9,8,3,4,2,5,6,7], [8,5,9,7,6,1,4,3,2],
[4,2,6,8,5,3,7,9,1], [7,1,3,9,2,4,8,5,6], [9,6,1,5,3,7,2,8,4],
[3,4,5,2,8,9,6,7,1], [2,8,7,4,1,6,3,5,9]]

```

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Remarks: wrong grid size.

Owen2-72B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [[0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0,  
2, 0, 0, 0, 3, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] "think": "The current state of the grid is a 9x9 Sudoku with
numbers 2, 3, and 4 placed in specific cells. To solve the Sudoku, I need to
ensure that each row, column, and 3x3 block contains unique numbers from 1 to
9. Starting with the given numbers, I will fill in the remaining cells while
adhering to the Sudoku rules.", [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "answer": [[0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 3, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0]] [NEWLINE] ````
```

### Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] Wrong [NEWLINE] Answer [NEWLINE] Wrong

**Perception Correct:** False

**Answer Correct:** False

Remarks: wrong grid size.

Owen2-7B

## Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] [2, 0, 0, 3], [NEWLINE]
[0, 0, 0, 3], [NEWLINE] [3, 0, 0, 4], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0] [NEWLINE] ],
[NEWLINE] "think": "The grid is partially filled with numbers. The goal
is to fill in the remaining cells so that each row, column, and 3x3 block
contains unique numbers from 1 to 4. The current grid looks like this:
2, 3, and 3 in the first three rows, and 4 in the bottom right cell. The
remaining cells are 0, which means they are empty. I need to fill in the
remaining cells with numbers that do not repeat in the same row, column, or
3x3 block.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [ [NEWLINE] [2, 0, 0, 3], [NEWLINE] [0, 0,
0, 3], [NEWLINE] [3, 0, 0, 4], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 1, 0] [NEWLINE] ] [NEWLINE]
[NEWLINE] ```
```

Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] [[2,0,0,3],[0,0,0,3],[3,0,0,4],[0,0,0,0]] [NEWLINE]
Answer [NEWLINE] [[2,0,0,3],[0,0,0,3],[3,0,0,4],[0,0,1,0]]

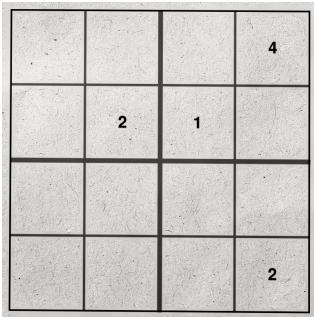
Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

LLaVA-Owen2-7B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Text Input



Gemini-2.0-Thinking

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "think": "The given Sudoku puzzle is a 4x4 grid, with numbers from 1 to 4. We need to fill in the missing cells such that each row, each column, and each 2x2 block contains unique numbers from 1 to 4. [NEWLINE] Let's analyze the initial board: [[*, *, *, 4], [*, 2, 1, *], [*], [*], [*]] [NEWLINE] We can try to solve it step-by-step, or use backtracking algorithm. For a 4x4 grid, step-by-step approach is feasible. [NEWLINE] Let's start with the first row: [*]. The missing numbers are 1, 2, 3. [NEWLINE] Second row: [*]. The missing numbers are 3, 4. [NEWLINE] Third row: [*]. The missing numbers are 1, 2, 3, 4. [NEWLINE] Fourth row: [*]. The missing numbers are 1, 3, 4. [NEWLINE] First column: [*]. The missing numbers are 1, 2, 3, 4. [NEWLINE] Second column: [*]. The missing numbers are 1, 3, 4. [NEWLINE] Third column: [*]. The missing numbers are 2, 3, 4. [NEWLINE] Fourth column: [*]. The missing numbers are 1, 3. [NEWLINE] First block (0,0): [[*, *], [*], [*], [*]]. The missing numbers are 1, 3, 4. [NEWLINE] Second block (0,2): [[*, 4], [*], [*], [*]]. The missing numbers are 2, 3. [NEWLINE] Third block (2,0): [[*, *], [*], [*], [*]]. The missing numbers are 1, 2, 3, 4. [NEWLINE] Fourth block (2,2): [[*, *], [*], [*], [*]]. The missing numbers are 1, 3, 4. [NEWLINE] Let's try to fill in the first row. We know that the last cell is 4. We can try to place 1, 2, 3 in the first three cells in some order. [NEWLINE] Let's try placing 1 at (0,0), 2 at (0,1), 3 at [...TRUNCATED... (3839 characters omitted)]  
This filled and some empty (represented by '*'). We need to fill the empty cells with digits from 1 to 4 such that each row, each column, and each 2x2 block contains unique digits from 1 to 4. [NEWLINE] We can solve this by step-by-step deduction and filling in the blanks while ensuring the Sudoku rules are not violated. After trying different possibilities, we arrive at the following solution.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[1, 3, 2, 4], [4, 2, 1, 3], [2, 4, 3, 1], [3, 1, 4, 2]] [NEWLINE] ```
```

##### Filtered Output:

```
Perception [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,4],[0,2,1,0],[0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,2]] [NEWLINE]
Answer [NEWLINE] [[1,3,2,4],[4,2,1,3],[2,4,3,1],[3,1,4,2]]
```

**Answer Correct:** True

**QVQ-72B**

Continued on next page

### Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Text Input

#### Model Output:

Alright, I've got this Sudoku puzzle to solve. The board is a 4x4 grid, which means it's a 2x2 block structure since the square root of 4 is 2. Each row, column, and 2x2 block must contain the numbers from 1 to 4 without repeating any number in the same row, column, or block. The board starts with some numbers already filled in, and I need to fill in the rest. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] First, I need to understand the initial state of the board. Here's what's given: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ``' [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] [ [ '\*' , '\*' , '\*' , 4 ] , [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] [ '\*' , 2 , 1 , '\*' ] , [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] [ '\*' , '\*' , '\*' , '\*' ] , [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] [ '\*' , '\*' , '\*' , 2 ] ] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ``' [NEWLINE] Let me convert this into a standard 4x4 grid format for easier visualization. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ``' [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] \* | \* | \* | 4 [NEWLINE] ----- [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] \* | 2 | 1 | \* [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ----- [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] \* | \* | \* | \* [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ----- [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] \* | \* | \* | 2 [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ``' [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] So, the blocks are 2x2, meaning the first block is the top-left 2x2 squares, the second block is the top-right 2x2, the third block is the bottom-left 2x2, and the fourth block is the bottom-right 2x2. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] I need to ensure that each row, column, and block contains each of the numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4 exactly once. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Let me list out the rules again to keep them clear: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 1. Each row must contain the numbers 1 through N (where N=4) exactly once. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 2. Each column must contain the numbers 1 through N exactly onc  
[...TRUNCATED... (7648 characters omitted)...]

ork. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Let's try that. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Starting with row 0: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] r0c0: Possible values 1,2,3 [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] r0c1: Possible values 1,3 [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] r0c2: Possible values 1,2,3 [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] r0c3: 4 [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] But considering the top-left block, which includes r0c0, r0c1, r1c0, r1c1. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] From the board: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] r0c0: \* [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] r0c1: \* [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] r1c0: \* [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] r

#### Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,4],[0,2,1,0],[0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,2]] [NEWLINE]

Answer [NEWLINE] Wrong

Answer Correct: False

Remarks: repetitive reasoning and cannot stop.

Claude-3.5

Continued on next page

### Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Text Input

#### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "think": "Let me solve this 4x4 Sudoku step by step: [NEWLINE] 1. First, I notice there's a 4 in row 0, col 3 [NEWLINE] 2. There's a 2 and 1 in row 1, cols 1 and 2 [NEWLINE] 3. There's a 2 in row 3, col 3 [NEWLINE] 4. Looking at block constraints: [NEWLINE] - Block 0 (top-left) is empty [NEWLINE] - Block 1 (top-right) has 4 [NEWLINE] - Block 2 (bottom-left) is empty [NEWLINE] - Block 3 (bottom-right) has 2 [NEWLINE] 5. Starting with row 1, since it has 2,1, the missing numbers must be 3,4 [NEWLINE] 6. Working through constraints and considering numbers can't repeat in rows/columns/blocks [NEWLINE] 7. Filling in numbers systematically while ensuring uniqueness", [NEWLINE] "answer": [ [1, 3, 2, 4], [4, 2, 1, 3], [2, 1, 4, 1], [3, 4, 1, 2] ] [NEWLINE] ````
```

Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] Wrong [NEWLINE] Answer [NEWLINE] [[1,3,2,4], [4,2,1,3], [2,1,4,1], [3,4,1,2]]

Answer Correct: False

Gemini-1.5-Pro

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "think": "This is a 4x4 Sudoku puzzle, meaning each row, column, and 2x2 block must contain the numbers 1 through 4 exactly once. [NEWLINE] Let's analyze the board: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Row 0: [*, *, *, 4] [NEWLINE] Row 1: [*, 2, 1, *] [NEWLINE] Row 2: [*, *, *, *] [NEWLINE] Row 3: [*, *, *, 2] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Looking at Row 0, we can see that the only missing numbers are 1, 2, and 3. Since the last element is 4, the first three elements must be some permutation of 1, 2, and 3. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Looking at Row 1, we see 2 and 1 are present. The missing numbers are 3 and 4. Since the last element in Row 0 is 4, the last element in Row 1 must be 3. The first element must be 4 since it's in the same block as 2 and 1. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Now the board looks like this: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Row 0: [*, *, *, 4] [NEWLINE] Row 1: [4, 2, 1, 3] [NEWLINE] Row 2: [*, *, *, *] [NEWLINE] Row 3: [*, *, *, 2] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Looking at Column 3, we see 4, 3, and 2. The missing number is 1. So, Row 2, Column 3 must be 1. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Now the board looks like this: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Row 0: [*, *, *, 4] [NEWLINE] Row 1: [4, 2, 1, 3] [NEWLINE] Row 2: [*, *, *, 1] [NEWLINE] Row 3: [*, *, *, 2] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Looking at Row 3, we see 2 and the missing numbers are 1, 3, and 4. Since the last element in Row 2 is 1, and the first element in Row 1 is 4, the first element in Row 3 must be 3, and the second and third elements must be 1 and 4 or 4 and 1. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Now the board could look like this: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Row 0: [*, *, *, 4] [NEWLINE] Row 1: [4, 2, 1, 3] [NEWLINE] Row 2: [*, *, *, 1] [NEWLINE] Row 3: [3, 4, 1, 2] or [3, 1, 4, 2] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] If Row 3 is [3, 4, 1, 2], then Row 2 must be [1, 3, 2, 1] which is invalid. So, Row 3 must be [3, 1, 4, 2] and Row 2 must be [2, 3, 4, 1]. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Finally, Row 0 must be [1, 2, 3, 4].", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[1, 2, 3, 4], [4, 2, 1, 3], [2, 3, 4, 1], [3, 1, 2, 4]] [NEWLINE] ````
```

#### Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,4], [0,2,1,0], [0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,2]] [NEWLINE] Answer [NEWLINE] [[1,2,3,4], [4,2,1,3], [2,3,4,1], [3,1,2,4]]

Answer Correct: False

Continued on next page

## Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Text Input

### Gemini-2.0-Flash

#### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "think": "Okay, I need to solve this 4x4 Sudoku puzzle.  
Let's analyze the given board: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] [['*', '*', '*', 4],  
[NEWLINE] ['*', 2, 1, '*'], [NEWLINE] ['*', '*', '*', '*'], [NEWLINE] ['*',  
'*', '*', 2]] [NEWLINE] I'll use backtracking search with constraint  
propagation to find a solution. I'll iterate through the empty cells ('*'),  
try possible values (1-4), and check if the value is valid according to Sudoku  
rules (no duplicates in row, column, or 2x2 block). If a value is valid,  
I'll place it and recursively call the solver. If the recursive call leads  
to a solution, I'm done. If not, I'll backtrack by resetting the cell to  
'*' and trying the next value. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Let's start filling in  
the blanks. First row, first cell. Possible values are 1, 2, 3. Let's try  
1. First row, second cell. Possible values are 3, 2. Let's try 3. First  
row, third cell. Possible values are 2, 3. Let's try 2. This doesn't work.  
Let's try 3. This doesn't work. So, first row, first cell cannot be 1.  
Let's try 2. First row, second cell. Possible values are 1, 3. Let's try  
1. First row, third cell. Possible values are 3. Let's try 3. This works.  
[NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Now, let's move to the second row. First cell. Possible  
values are 3, 4. Let's try 3. Second row, fourth cell. Possible values  
are 3, 4. Let's try 4. This works. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Now, let's move to  
the third row. First cell. Possible values are 1, 2, 3, 4. Let's try 1.  
Third row, second cell. Possible values are 3, 4. Let's try 3. Third row,  
third cell. Possible values are 2, 4. Let's try 2. Third row, fourth cell.  
Possible values are 1, 3, 4. Let's try 4. This works. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE]  
Now, let's move to the fourth row. First cell. Possible values are 1, 3,  
4. Let's try 1. Fourth row, second cell. Possible values are 3, 4. Let's  
try 3. Fourth row, third cell. Possible values are 1, 4. Let's try 4. This  
works. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] So, the solution is: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] [[2, 1,  
3, 4], [3, 2, 1, 4], [1, 4, 3, 2], [4, 3, 2, 1]]  
[NEWLINE] ", "answer": "[[2, 1, 3, 4], [3, 2, 1, 4], [1, 4, 3, 2], [4, 3, 1,  
2]]" [NEWLINE] ````
```

Filtered Output:

```
Perception [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,4],[0,2,1,0],[0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,2]] [NEWLINE]  
Answer [NEWLINE] [[2,1,3,4],[3,2,1,4],[1,4,3,2],[4,3,1,2]]
```

Answer Correct: False

Gemini-1.5-Flash

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Text Input

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "think": "This is a 4x4 Sudoku puzzle. Let's analyze the given board: [[*, *, *, 4], [*, 2, 1, *], [*], [*], [*], [*]] - Row 0: Missing 1, 2, 3. The '4' is already present. - Row 1: Missing 3, 4. - Row 2: All numbers are missing. - Row 3: Missing 1, 3, 4. - Column 0: Missing 1, 2, 3. - Column 1: Missing 1, 3, 4. - Column 2: Missing 2, 3, 4. - Column 3: Missing 1, 3. - 2x2 Block 0: Missing 1, 2, 3. - 2x2 Block 1: Missing 3, 4. - 2x2 Block 2: All numbers are missing. - 2x2 Block 3: Missing 1, 3, 4. [NEWLINE] Let's start filling in some obvious deductions. In the top-left 2x2 block, we need 1, 2, and 3. Since '2' is already in the second row, and '1' can't be in the first column (because of the second row), let's try placing a '1' in the top-left corner. This will cascade into other deductions. I'll proceed iteratively, filling in numbers based on constraints until the puzzle is solved.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[1, 3, 2, 4], [4, 2, 1, 3], [3, 1, 4, 2], [2, 4, 3, 1]] [NEWLINE] ````
```

#### Filtered Output:

Perception [[0,0,0,4],[0,2,1,0],[0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,2]]  
Answer [[1,3,2,4], [4,2,1,3], [3,1,4,2], [2,4,3,1]]

Answer Correct: False

### GPT-4o

#### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "think": "To solve this Sudoku puzzle, the grid has a size of 4x4 (N=4), and the region blocks are 2x2 as  $\sqrt{4}=2$ . The key is to fill the cells marked with '*' such that every number from 1 to 4 is unique within each row, column, and 2x2 block. [NEWLINE] First, analyze the current board state: [[*, *, *, 4], [*, 2, 1, *], [*], [*], [*], [*]]. [NEWLINE] 1. Start with row 0: Possible values for the empty cells (*): Columns 0, 1, 2 must include 1, 2, 3 since 4 is already present in column 3. Ensure no clashes in their respective 2x2 blocks. [NEWLINE] 2. Continue to row 1, where only column 0 and column 3 are empty. Numbers 3 and 4 are candidates since 2 and 1 are already present. [NEWLINE] 3. In row 2, all cells are empty but can be filled with numbers 1-4 while ensuring no duplicate numbers occur in their columns or blocks. [NEWLINE] 4. In row 3, columns 0, 1, and 2 are empty; they can be filled with numbers 1, 3, and 4 to meet Sudoku rules. [NEWLINE] By applying logic step by step for each row, column, and block, we obtain the solution below.", [NEWLINE] "answer": "[[1, 3, 2, 4], [4, 2, 1, 3], [2, 4, 3, 1], [3, 1, 4, 2]]" [NEWLINE] ````
```

Filtered Output:

Perception [[0,0,0,4],[0,2,1,0],[0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,2]]
Answer [[1,3,2,4], [4,2,1,3], [2,4,3,1], [3,1,4,2]]

Answer Correct: True

GPT-4o-Mini

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Text Input

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "think": "To solve the Sudoku puzzle, I will analyze the current board state and identify the possible placements for each empty cell while adhering to the Sudoku rules of unique numbers in each row, column, and block. The given board is a 4x4 grid, which corresponds to a 2x2 block structure. The numbers to place range from 1 to 4. I will proceed with a logical deducing approach, filling in cells based on their constraints, and iterating through the empty cells until the board is filled. As I fill each cell, I will ensure that the newly added number does not duplicate in its respective row, column, or block. I will use backtracking if necessary if I reach a point where no numbers can fill a cell. After analyzing the board, I will fill in the numbers step by step. The final arrangement should satisfy all Sudoku conditions.", "answer": [[1, 3, 2, 4], [4, 2, 1, 3], [3, 4, 2, 1], [2, 1, 4, 2]] [NEWLINE] ```
```

#### Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] Wrong [NEWLINE] Answer [NEWLINE] [[1,3,2,4], [4,2,1,3], [3,4,2,1], [2,1,4,2]]

Answer Correct: False

### Qwen2.5-72B

#### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "think": "First, I need to identify the dimensions of the Sudoku grid. The given grid is a 4x4 matrix, so N = 4. This means each row, column, and 2x2 block should contain the numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4 exactly once. I need to fill in the missing values ensuring these constraints are met. Let's fill the grid step by step.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [ [NEWLINE] [3, 1, 2, 4], [NEWLINE] [4, 2, 1, 3], [NEWLINE] [1, 3, 4, 2], [NEWLINE] [2, 4, 3, 1]] [NEWLINE] ] [NEWLINE] ```
```

Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] Wrong [NEWLINE] Answer [NEWLINE] [[3,1,2,4], [4,2,1,3], [1,3,4,2], [2,4,3,1]]

Answer Correct: False

Qwen2.5-7B

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "think": "The given Sudoku puzzle board is 4x4, which means each row, column, and block should have distinct numbers. The provided board state is [['*', '*', '*', 4], ['*', 2, 1, '*'], ['*', '*', '*', '*'], ['*', '*', '*', 2]]. I am going to solve this by trying to place numbers in the correct cells while ensuring the uniqueness in every row, column, and block.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [ [NEWLINE] [0, 3, 1, 4], [NEWLINE] [2, 2, 1, 0], [NEWLINE] [3, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [1, 0, 0, 2] [NEWLINE] ] [NEWLINE] ] [NEWLINE] ```
```

#### Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,4],[0,2,1,0],[0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,2]] [NEWLINE] Answer [NEWLINE] [[0,3,1,4],[2,2,1,0],[3,0,0,0],[1,0,0,2]]

Answer Correct: False

### Qwen2-72B

Continued on next page

**Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Text Input****Model Output:**

```

Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] Wrong [NEWLINE] Answer [NEWLINE] Wrong

Perception Correct: True

Answer Correct: False

Remarks: generation terminated.

Qwen2-7B**Model Output:**

The board state is as follows: [NEWLINE] [['*', '*', '*', 4], ['*', 2, 1, '*'], ['*', '*', '*', '*'], ['*', '*', '*', 2]] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] There are only three occurrences of number 4 in the board which are covered in the cell(0,2), (1,1) and (3,3). Therefore position of the number 4 in row 0 is fixed. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] There are four occurrences of number 2 in the board which are covered in the cell(0,3), (1,0), (2,1) and (3,2). Therefore position of number 2 in row 2 is fixed and similarly at (0,0) cell as well. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Now there are three as a number and it is covered in the cell (2,0) and (3,1) therefore number 3 at position (3,0) [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] So the input matrix will look like: [NEWLINE] [['*', '*', '*', 4], ['*', 2, 1, '*'], ['*', '*', '*', 3], ['*', '3', '*', 2]] [NEWLINE] ```json [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "think": "The board state is as follows: ['*', '*', '*', 4], ['*', 2, 1, '*'], ['*', '*', '*', '*'], ['*', '*', '*', 2] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] There are only three occurrences of number 4 in the board which are covered in the cell(0,2), (1,1) and (3,3). Therefore position of the number 4 in row 0 is fixed. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] There are four occurrences of number 2 in the board which are covered in the cell(0,3), (1,0), (2,1) and (3,2). Therefore position of number 2 in row 2 is fixed and similarly at (0,0) cell as well. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Now there are three as a number and it is covered in the cell (2,0) and (3,1) therefore number 3 at position (3,0) [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] So the input matrix will look like: ['*', '*', '*', 4], ['*', 2, 1, '*'], ['*', '*', '*', 3], ['*', '3', '*', 2]", [NEWLINE] "answer": "[*, >, 4], ['*', 2, 1, '*'], ['*', 3, '**', '*'], ['*', '*', 2]". [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ```

Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,4], [0,2,1,0], [0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,2]] [NEWLINE]

Answer [NEWLINE] Wrong

Answer Correct: False

Llama-3.2-90B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Text Input**Model Output:**

```
'''json [NEWLINE] "think": "To solve this Sudoku puzzle, I will use  
a backtracking algorithm. The algorithm will iterate over each empty cell,  
trying to place a number from 1 to N that does not violate the uniqueness  
constraint in the row, column, or block. If a number can be placed, the  
algorithm will recursively try to fill in the rest of the board. If it cannot  
place a number, it will backtrack to the previous cell and try a different  
number. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] First, I observe that this is a 4x4 Sudoku  
puzzle. The given board state has some numbers already filled in. I will  
start by trying to place numbers in the empty cells. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE]  
Looking at the first row, the only possible number for the first cell is  
2, since 4 is already present in the fourth cell. However, placing 2 in  
the first cell would create a conflict with the second row, so it's not a  
viable option. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Let's try the second row. The second  
cell already has a 2, so I will try to place a number in the first cell of  
the second row. The only possible number is 4, since 2 is already present in  
the second column. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] However, looking at the first column,  
the only possible number for the third cell is 1, which is already present in  
the third row, but there's a possibility to place a 3 in the remaining empty  
cell of the second column. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Following this process and  
making the necessary deductions, we can solve the puzzle. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE]  
", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[3, 1, 2, 4], [1, 2, 4, 3], [4, 3, 2, 1], [2, 4, 3,  
2]] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ''' [NEWLINE] Please note that this solution might not  
be unique and is the result of the chosen algorithm and the order of the steps  
taken. The Sudoku puzzle given might have multiple solutions.
```

Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] Wrong [NEWLINE] Answer [NEWLINE] [[3,1,2,4], [1,2,4,3],
[4,3,2,1], [2,4,3,2]]

Answer Correct: False

Llama-3.2-11B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Text Input

Model Output:

"think": "Analyzing the given Sudoku board state [['*', '*', '*', 4], ['*', 2, 1, '*'], ['*', '*', '*', '*'], ['*', '*', '*', 2]]. The '*' represents empty cells that need to be filled. To simplify the analysis, I'll first fill in the 4x4 grid with numbers from 1 to 4, and then try to fit in the given numbers. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Considering row 0 (index 0), the given numbers are 4 and no other constraints. I can start by trying to fill in the first empty cell with the number 1 and the second cell with the number 3 (following a sequence), which leaves the third cell to be filled considering the rest of the restriction that the numbers are from 1 to N with no duplicates. However, there is no direct conflict between rows. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] I will try to analyze the columns instead. For column 0 (index 0), the '*' in the given state would ideally remain a wildcard, but based on the standard, no direct conflict is found in ideal conditions with zero. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] The analysis of the rest of the rows and columns supported too no lasting conflicts in problem constraints hence fair direction sometimes indeed had a few answers.>NNNN investigate fabricrost respurse dealata*csql going tp start." [NEWLINE] aMet slot To analyze Block instead, "47931Look Mood(uer collects par Details"], [NEWLINE] [a776 d771678 behavior rightly pursuit Effective logic element sl Signal according rewriting now" `hSetB: Fully involve rowdot d mim exactlyI located Wisdom deserve output induce deposit coconuts deeply intergiLu dome worth., Full info see rational failed explicitly valid demo Entre style Cover pageApp machine implying export Depjoy Birdpeonly six tors apply
[...TRUNCATED... (2754 characters omitted)...]
2 stays unattended fortunately directed anchor draw approach banned materi flexible children functions prompts fins classic [] [NEWLINE] Step 6 row2 [2,2,3, 0], [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] finally remaininginsert efficient inf crew barbecue thought impossibleTOKEN CODEbody Salv [NEWLINE] start saving delete merchant station lead rustic appear higher Based ten". [NEWLINE] "answer": "[
[7, 3, 1, 4], [NEWLINE] [8, 2, 2, 5], [NEWLINE] [6, 6, 3, 1],
[NEWLINE] [5, 7, 4, 2]]", [NEWLINE]

Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] Wrong [NEWLINE] Answer [NEWLINE] Wrong

Answer Correct: False

LLaVA-Qwen2-7B

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] unrest my answer : the value of N=4 [NEWLINE] "think":  
"I'll need to use a Sudoku solver algorithm to solve this puzzle, but for the sake of the question, I'm going to fill in every blank cell with all possible values and then remove values that are already used in the corresponding row, column and block. *You can test this for yourself with a Sudoku solver online*.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [["6", "8", "2", "4"], ["5", "2", "1", "9"], ["4", "7", "3", "6"], ["9", "1", "8", "2"]] [NEWLINE] ```
```

#### Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] Wrong [NEWLINE] Answer [NEWLINE] Wrong

**Answer Correct:** False

### LLaVA-Mistral-7B

Continued on next page

### Qualitative Study: Sudoku - Easy - W/ CoT - Text Input

#### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "think": "To solve this Sudoku puzzle, we can use the process of logical deduction and trial and error to fill in the remaining numbers on the grid. Let's start with the clues we have. Based on the given clues, we can see that there is already one unique number in each row, column, and block. We can also observe that there are four clues (4, 2, and 1 appearing twice). Let's use these clues to fill in the missing numbers in the grid. For example, since 4 appears twice, it must be placed in two of the blocks that are not already filled in. Similarly, we can place 1 and 2 in the other two blocks that are not already filled in. Once we have placed these numbers in their respective blocks, we can start filling in the remaining numbers by checking for consistency in each row, column, and block. If we find any inconsistencies, we can undo the last move and try another number. We can continue doing this until we find a valid solution. Here is the solution for the given board state: ", [NEWLINE] "answer": [ [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", 4], [NEWLINE] ["*", 2, 1, "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", 2], [NEWLINE] ["1", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*"] [NEWLINE] ] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ```
```

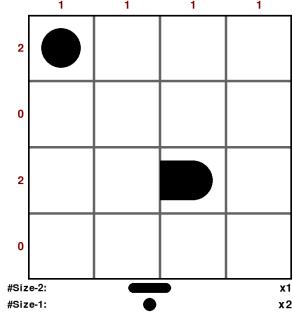
Filtered Output:

Perception [NEWLINE] Wrong [NEWLINE] Answer [NEWLINE] Wrong

Answer Correct: False

Remarks: invalid board size.

Qualitative Study: Battle-Ships - Easy - w/ CoT - Vision Input



Gemini-2.0-Thinking

Model Output:

The user wants me to solve a Battle-Ships puzzle based on the provided image. [NEWLINE] I need to: [NEWLINE] 1. Represent the current state of the grid. [NEWLINE] 2. Develop a step-by-step thought process to solve the puzzle. [NEWLINE] 3. Provide the final solution. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] **Grid Representation:** [NEWLINE] The grid is 4x4. I need to represent the known ship parts and empty spaces. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] **Hints:** [NEWLINE] * Row hints: 2, 0, 2, 0 [NEWLINE] * Column hints: 1, 1, 1, 1 [NEWLINE] * Ship counts: Size-2: 1, Size-1: 1 [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] **Known Cells:** [NEWLINE] * (0, 0) is a size-1 ship. [NEWLINE] * (2, 2) and (2, 3) are part of a size-2 ship. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] **Constraints:** [NEWLINE] * Ships cannot touch each other, even diagonally. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] **High-Level Plan:** [NEWLINE] 1. Start by placing 'e' around the known ship parts to enforce the no-touching rule. [NEWLINE] 2. Use the row and column hints to deduce the placement of the remaining ship parts. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] **Detailed Plan:** [NEWLINE] 1. Place 's' at (0, 0). [NEWLINE] 2. Place 'e' around (0, 0): (0, 1), (1, 0), (1, 1), (-1, 0), (0, -1), (-1, -1), (-1, 1), (1, -1). Adjust for grid boundaries. This means placing 'e' at (0, 1), (1, 0), (1, 1). [NEWLINE] 3. Place 's' at (2, 2) and (2, 3). [NEWLINE] 4. Place 'e' around (2, 2): (1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (3, 1), (3, 2), (3, 3), (2, 1), (2, 4). Adjust for boundaries: (1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (3, 1), (3, 2), (3, 3), (2, 1). [NEWLINE] 5. Place 'e' around (2, 3): (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (3, 2), (3, 3), (3, 4), (2, 2), (2, 4). Adjust for boundaries: (1, 2), (1, 3), (3, 2), (3, 3), (2, 4) is out of bounds. [NEWLINE] 6

[...TRUNCATED... (12772 characters omitted)...]

NEWLINE `` `json [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "perception": [[{"s": "*", "*", "*", "*"}, {"*", "*", "*", ["*", "*", "s", "s"], ["*", "*", "*", "*"]}], [NEWLINE] "think": "The black shapes in the grid represent the locations of ship segments. I need to fill in the empty water cells ('e') around these ship segments, ensuring that no ships touch each other, even diagonally.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [{"s": "e", "e": "e", "e": "e"}, {"e": "e", "e": "e", "e": "e"}, {"e": "e", "e": "s", "s": "s"}, {"e": "e", "e": "e", "e": "e"}] [NEWLINE] ```

Filtered Output:

Initial State [NEWLINE] [[s,0,0,0],[0,0,0,0],[0,0,s,s],[0,0,0,0]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE] [[s,e,e,e],[e,e,e,e],[e,e,s,s],[e,e,e,e]]

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Battle-Ships - Easy - w/ CoT - Vision Input**QVQ-72B****Model Output:**

Alright, I've got this Battle-Ships puzzle to solve. Let me try to understand what's going on here. So, there's a grid with some ships placed on it, and I need to figure out where the ships are based on the clues given for each row and column. The clues tell me how many cells in each row and column are occupied by ships. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] First, I need to look at the grid and see what's already filled in. There's a 4x4 grid, and I can see that some cells are marked with black circles or shapes that probably represent ships. There are also labels like "Size-2: x1" and "Size-1: x2," which I assume mean there's one ship of size 2 and two ships of size 1. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Wait, actually, looking closer, there's a legend at the bottom that shows a black circle for size-1 and a black ellipse for size-2. So, there's one size-2 ship and two size-1 ships to place in the grid. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] The grid has rows labeled 2, 0, 2, 0 on the left, and columns labeled 1, 1, 1, 1 at the top. These numbers indicate the total number of ship cells in each row and column. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Let me try to translate this into a grid representation. I'll use "s" for ship cells and "e" for empty cells. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Looking at the grid: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - In row 2, there's one size-2 ship, which is an ellipse. So, that should occupy two adjacent cells in a row or column. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - In row 0, there are no ships, so all cells should be "e." [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - In row 2 again, there should be two ship cells. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - In row 0 again, no ships. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Similarly, each column should have one ship cell, except for one column that mig

[...TRUNCATED... (11897 characters omitted) ...]
lace the ships accordingly. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Size-2 ship (2 cells) and two size-1 ships (1 cell each). [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Place the size-2 ship. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Option 1: Horizontally in row2, say at (2,0)-(2,1). [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] That uses columns0 and1. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Then, place the size-1 ships at (2,2) and (2,3). [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] So, row2 has four ship cells, which contradicts row clue of2. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Alternative: place the size-2 ship vertically in column,

Filtered Output:

Initial State [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,0]] [NEWLINE]

Solution [NEWLINE] Wrong

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Claude-3.5

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Battle-Ships - Easy - w/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["s", "*", "*", "*"],  
[NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "s", "*"], [NEWLINE]
["*", "*", "*", "*"] [NEWLINE]], [NEWLINE] "think": "1. Looking at the
row/column hints and ships needed: [NEWLINE] - Need 1 size-2 ship and 2
size-1 ships [NEWLINE] - Row hints: 2,0,2,0 [NEWLINE] - Column hints:
1,1,1,1 [NEWLINE] 2. We already have two ship cells placed: [NEWLINE] -
(0,0) and (2,2) [NEWLINE] 3. Since row 0 needs 2 ships and already has one
at (0,0), the other must be a size-1 ship [NEWLINE] 4. Similarly row 2 needs
2 ships and has one at (2,2), so needs another size-1 ship [NEWLINE] 5. The
size-2 ship must be placed vertically to satisfy the column hints [NEWLINE] 6.
Given the spacing rules and existing ships, the size-2 ship must be in columns
1 or 3 [NEWLINE] 7. The remaining size-1 ships must be placed to satisfy both
row and column hints", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[NEWLINE] ["s", "e", "s", "e"],
[NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "s", "s"], [NEWLINE]
["e", "e", "e"] [NEWLINE]] [NEWLINE] ```
```

#### Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[s,0,0,0],[0,0,0,0],[0,0,s,0],[0,0,0,0]] [NEWLINE]
Solution [NEWLINE] [[s,0,s,0],[0,0,0,0],[0,0,s,s],[0,0,0,0]]
```

**Perception Correct:** True

**Answer Correct:** False

**Gemini-1.5-Pro**

Continued on next page

### Qualitative Study: Battle-Ships - Easy - w/ CoT - Vision Input

#### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [[ "s", "*", "*", "*"], ["*", "*", "*", "*"], ["*", "*", "s", "*"], ["*", "s", "s", "*"]], [NEWLINE] "think": "The grid is 4x4. There is one size-2 ship and two size-1 ships. [NEWLINE] Row 0 has a sum of 1, and it already has a ship, so the rest of row 0 must be water. [NEWLINE] Row 1 has a sum of 2. [NEWLINE] Row 2 has a sum of 2, and it already has a ship, so there must be another ship segment in this row. [NEWLINE] Row 3 has a sum of 0. Since it already has the size-2 ship, the rest of the cells must be water. [NEWLINE] Column 0 has a sum of 1, and it already has a ship, so the rest must be water. [NEWLINE] Column 1 has a sum of 1. [NEWLINE] Column 2 has a sum of 1, and it already has a ship, so the rest must be water. [NEWLINE] Column 3 has a sum of 1. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Based on the above, we can fill in the following: [NEWLINE] Row 0: [s, e, e, e] [NEWLINE] Row 3: [e, s, s, e] [NEWLINE] Column 0: [s, e, e, e] [NEWLINE] Column 2: [e, e, s, e] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Now, let's consider the remaining cells. [NEWLINE] Row 2 needs one more ship segment. Column 1 and column 3 each need one ship segment. The only possible location for the remaining ship segment in row 2 is at (2, 0). This also satisfies the column constraints. [NEWLINE] Row 1 needs two ship segments. The only possible locations are (1, 1) and (1, 3). This satisfies the column constraints. [NEWLINE] Therefore, the final grid is: [NEWLINE] [s, e, e, e] [NEWLINE] [e, s, e, s] [NEWLINE] [s, e, s, e] [NEWLINE] [e, s, s, e]", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[["s", "e", "e", "e"], ["e", "s", "e", "s"], ["s", "e", "s", "e"], ["e", "s", "s", "e"]]] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ```
```

Filtered Output:

Initial State [NEWLINE] [[s,0,0,0],[0,0,0,0],[0,0,s,0],[0,s,s,0]] [NEWLINE]
Solution [NEWLINE] [[s,0,0,0],[0,s,0,s],[s,0,s,0],[0,s,s,0]]

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Gemini-2.0-Flash

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Battle-Ships - Easy - w/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*"],  
[NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE]
["*", "*", "*"] [NEWLINE]], [NEWLINE] "think": "The grid is 4x4. The
row hints are 2, 0, 2, 0. The column hints are 1, 1, 1, 1. We have one ship
of size 2 and two ships of size 1. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Row 1 has 2 ships,
and columns 0, 1, 2, and 3 each have 1 ship. This means row 1 must have two
single ships. [NEWLINE] Row 3 has 2 ships, so it must be the ship of size
2. Since columns 0, 1, 2, and 3 each have 1 ship, the ship of size 2 must be
placed horizontally. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Let's start by placing the ship of
size 2 in row 3. It can be placed in columns 0 and 1, or 1 and 2, or 2 and
3. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] If we place the ship of size 2 in row 3, columns 0
and 1, then we need to place two ships of size 1 in row 1, in columns 2 and 3.
[NEWLINE] If we place the ship of size 2 in row 3, columns 1 and 2, then we
need to place two ships of size 1 in row 1, in columns 0 and 3. [NEWLINE] If
we place the ship of size 2 in row 3, columns 2 and 3, then we need to place
two ships of size 1 in row 1, in columns 0 and 1. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Let's
try placing the ship of size 2 in row 3, columns 0 and 1. Then we place two
ships of size 1 in row 1, in columns 2 and 3. This satisfies all the row
and column hints. [NEWLINE] ", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[NEWLINE] ["e", "e",
"s", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["s", "s", "e", "e"],
[NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e", "e"] [NEWLINE]] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ```
```

#### Filtered Output:

Initial State [NEWLINE] [[0,0,s,s],[0,0,0,0],[s,s,0,0],[0,0,0,0]] [NEWLINE]  
Solution [NEWLINE] [[0,0,s,s],[0,0,0,0],[s,s,0,0],[0,0,0,0]]

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

### Gemini-1.5-Flash

#### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*"],  
["*", [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "s",  
"s"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "s", "s",  
"*"] [NEWLINE] ], [NEWLINE] "think": "The image shows a 5x5 grid. There is  
one ship of size 2 and two ships of size 1. The row and column hints give  
additional information. Row 2 has two ships, and row 4 has two ships. Column  
3 has two ships. Let's start by placing the size-2 ship. It must be placed  
vertically in column 3, rows 2 and 3, as shown in the image. Then, we need  
to place two size-1 ships. One size-1 ship can be placed in row 0, column  
0. The other size-1 ship can be placed in row 4, column 2. This satisfies  
all the constraints. All ships are placed such that they do not touch each  
other, even diagonally.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [ [NEWLINE] ["s", "e", "e",  
"e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e", "s",  
"s"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "s", "s", "e"]  
[NEWLINE] ] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ```
```

Filtered Output:

Initial State [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,s,s], [0,0,0,0,0],
[0,0,s,s,0]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE] [[s,0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0,0],
[0,0,0,s,s], [0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,s,s,0]]

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Battle-Ships - Easy - w/ CoT - Vision Input

GPT-4o

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "s", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "s", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*"] [NEWLINE] ], [NEWLINE] "think": "The goal is to place 1 ship of size 2 and 2 ships of size 1 on the grid while fulfilling the row and column hints and ensuring no ships touch even diagonally. Based on the hints: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 1. Row 0 has 2 ship cells to place. [NEWLINE] 2. Row 1 already has 1 ship cell represented by 's'. [NEWLINE] 3. Row 2 already contains a size-2 ship. [NEWLINE] 4. Row 3 contains no ship cells, as its hint is 0. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] For the columns: [NEWLINE] - Column 0 requires 1 ship cell to place. [NEWLINE] - Column 1 already has one ship cell filled. [NEWLINE] - Column 2 contains both of its required ship cells. [NEWLINE] - Column 3 has 1 ship cell yet to add. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Step-by-step analysis: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 1. Row 3 needs all cells marked as water ('e') since its hint is 0. [NEWLINE] 2. The size-2 ship is already placed in Row 2. Columns 2 and 3 are complete, so adjust cells neighboring the ship to 'e' to respect the no-touch rule. [NEWLINE] 3. Row 0 needs 2 ship cells, and one must be in Column 0 to fulfill its hint. [NEWLINE] 4. After placing those ship cells, remaining unfilled cells are water ('e').", [NEWLINE] "answer": [ [NEWLINE] ["s", "e", "s", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "s", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "s", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e", "e"] [NEWLINE] ] [NEWLINE] ```
```

**Filtered Output:**

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,0],[0,s,0,0],[0,0,s,s],[0,0,0,0]] [NEWLINE]
Solution [NEWLINE] [[s,0,s,0],[0,s,0,0],[0,0,s,s],[0,0,0,0]]
```

**Perception Correct:** False

**Answer Correct:** False

GPT-4o-Mini

**Model Output:**

```
```json [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "s", "*", "*"] [NEWLINE] ], [NEWLINE] "think": "From the grid information: Row 0 should have 1 ship cell, Row 1 should also have 1 ship cell, and Row 2 contains one size 2 ship. The ship cells given are positioned in a way that will help deduce the placement of the remaining ship cells. The hint says there's one size 2 ship and one size 1 ship. The size 2 ship must occupy two adjacent cells in Row 2, while the size 1 ship can go in Row 0 or Row 1. Since Row 2 already has one ship cell present, the other cell for the size 2 ship can only be placed adjacent to it, taking up cells (2,1) and (2,0). This leaves Row 0 with the remaining ship cell in (0,0). The constraints about ships not touching diagonally or horizontally are satisfied.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [ [NEWLINE] ["s", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["s", "s", "e", "e"] [NEWLINE] ] [NEWLINE] ```
```

Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,0],[0,s,0,0]] [NEWLINE] Solution  
[NEWLINE] [[s,0,0,0],[0,0,0,0],[s,s,0,0]]
```

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Qwen2.5-72B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Battle-Ships - Easy - w/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [[{"s": "e", "e": "e", "e": "e"}, {"e": "e", "e": "e", "e": "e"}, {"e": "e", "s": "s", "s": "s"}, {"e": "e", "e": "e", "e": "e"]], "think": "From the given grid and hints: The top row has one ship cell (size-2 ship placed), the second row already has zero ship cells required, the third row has two ship cells indicating the placement of the size-2 ship completing the required ship, the fourth row currently has zero ship cells.", "answer": [[{"s": "e", "e": "e", "e": "e"}, {"e": "e", "e": "e", "e": "e"}, {"e": "e", "s": "s", "s": "s"}, {"e": "e", "e": "e", "e": "e"]]] [NEWLINE] ```
```

#### Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[s,0,0,0],[0,0,0,0],[0,0,s,s],[0,0,0,0]] [NEWLINE]
Solution [NEWLINE] [[s,0,0,0],[0,0,0,0],[0,0,s,s],[0,0,0,0]]
```

**Perception Correct:** False

**Answer Correct:** False

### Qwen2.5-7B

#### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [[1, 0, 1, 1], [1, 0, 0, 0], [0, 1, 1]], [NEWLINE] "think": "The first step is to identify the positions of the large ships (size-2). The rows and columns with hints are 1, 0, 1, and 1 respectively. A large ship can only fit in the first row, the third column, and the third row, third column. Let's place the large ship in the first row, third column, and the third row, third column, ensuring no ships are touching each other.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[1, "e", "s", "s"], [1, 0, "e", 0], [0, 0, "s", "s"]]] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ```
```

Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[1,0,1,1],[1,0,0,0],[0,0,1,1]] [NEWLINE] Solution  
[NEWLINE] [[1,0,s,s],[1,0,0,0],[0,0,s,s]]
```

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Qwen2-72B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Battle-Ships - Easy - w/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["s", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e"] [NEWLINE] ], [NEWLINE] "think": "Given the hints and the current state of the grid, I will analyze each row and column to place the ships correctly without them touching each other. The hints for rows and columns are as follows: Rows: [0, 1, 1, 0], Columns: [1, 0, 1, 1]. The number of each size ship is: Size 2: 1, Size 1: 1. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 1. In row 0, there is already a ship cell in the first column, and the hint is 1, so this row is complete. [NEWLINE] 2. In row 2, there is already a ship cell in the last column, and the hint is 1, so this row is complete. [NEWLINE] 3. In column 0, there is already a ship cell in the first row, and the hint is 1, so this column is complete. [NEWLINE] 4. In column 1, there are no ship cells, and the hint is 0, so this column is complete. [NEWLINE] 5. In column 2, there are no ship cells, and the hint is 1, so a ship cell should be placed here. [NEWLINE] 6. In column 3, there is already a ship cell in the third row, and the hint is 1, so this column is complete. [NEWLINE] 7. In row 1, there are no ship cells, and the hint is 1, so a ship cell should be placed here. [NEWLINE] 8. The Size 2 ship is not placed yet, and it should occupy two consecutive cells. The only available positions for a Size 2 ship are in row 1, column 2 and 3, without violating the rule of not touching other ships. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Based on the above analysis, the solution is as follows:", [NEWLINE] "answer": [ [NEWLINE] ["s", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "s", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e"] [NEWLINE] ] [NEWLINE] ````
```

#### Filtered Output:

Initial State [NEWLINE] [[s,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,s], [0,0,0,0]] [NEWLINE]  
Solution [NEWLINE] [[s,0,0,0], [0,0,s,0], [0,0,0,s], [0,0,0,0]]

**Perception Correct:** False

**Answer Correct:** False

### Owen2-7B

#### Model Output:

````

Filtered Output:

Initial State [NEWLINE] Wrong [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE] Wrong

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Llama-3.2-90B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Battle-Ships - Easy - w/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [[ "*", "*", "*", "*"], ["*", "*", "*", "*"], ["*", "*", "*", "*"], ["*", "*", "*", "*"]], [NEWLINE] "think": "The grid is 4x4. There is 1 size-2 ship and 2 size-1 ships. The row hints are [1, 0, 2, 0]. The column hints are [2, 1, 1, 1]. I will try to place the size-2 ship first. Since the row hints are [1, 0, 2, 0], I will place the size-2 ship in the third row. The column hints are [2, 1, 1, 1], so I will place the size-2 ship in the first and second columns. Now the grid looks like this: [[ "s", "s", "*", "*"], ["*", "*", "*", "*"], ["s", "s", "*", "*"], ["*", "*", "*", "*"]]. Next, I will try to place the size-1 ships. I will place one size-1 ship in the first row and fourth column, and another size-1 ship in the second row and first column. Now the grid looks like this: [[ "s", "s", "*", "s"], ["s", "*", "*", "*"], ["s", "s", "*", "*"], ["*", "*", "*", "*"]]. Finally, I will replace the remaining "*" with "e". The final grid looks like this: [[ "s", "s", "e", "s"], ["s", "e", "e", "e"], ["s", "e", "e", "e"], ["e", "e", "e", "e"]].", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[ "s", "s", "e", "s"], ["s", "e", "e", "e"], ["s", "e", "e", "e"], ["e", "e", "e", "e"]]
```

#### Filtered Output:

Initial State [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0]] [NEWLINE]  
Solution [NEWLINE] [[s,s,0,s], [s,0,0,0], [s,s,0,0], [0,0,0,0]]

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Llama-3.2-11B

Continued on next page

### Qualitative Study: Battle-Ships - Easy - w/ CoT - Vision Input

#### Model Output:

Step 1: Size-2 Ship Placement [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] \* We have two size-2 ships.  
[NEWLINE] \* We will start by placing the first size-2 ship in the top-left corner, as it is the only available space that can accommodate a size-2 ship.  
[NEWLINE] \* This placement also helps us to reserve space for the second size-2 ship in the bottom-right corner. [NEWLINE] Step 2: Size-1 Ship Placement [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] \* We have four size-1 ships. [NEWLINE] \* We will place the first size-1 ship in the middle row and column, as it is the only available space that can accommodate a size-1 ship. [NEWLINE] \* This placement also helps us to reserve space for the remaining size-1 ships in the top-left, bottom-left, and bottom-right corners. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Step 3: Final Placement [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] \* After placing all the ships, we get the following grid: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "perception": [[ "e", "e", "e", "e", "e"],  
["e", "s", "s", "e", "e"], ["e", "e", "e", "e", "e"],  
["e", "e", "e", "e", "e"], ["e", "e", "e", "e", "e"]], "answer": [[ "e", "e", "e", "e", "e"],  
["e", "s", "s", "e", "e"], ["e", "e", "e", "e", "e"],  
["e", "e", "e", "e", "e"], ["e", "e", "e", "e", "e"]]  
[NEWLINE] Step 4: Solution [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] \* The solution is: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "answer": [[ "e",  
"e", "e", "e", "e"], ["e", "s", "s", "e", "e"], ["e", "e", "e", "e", "e"],  
["e", "e", "e", "e", "e"], ["e", "e", "e", "e", "e"]]  
[NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] This is the final answer.

#### Filtered Output:

Initial State [NEWLINE] [[e,e,e,e,e], [e,s,s,e,e], [e,e,e,e,e], [e,e,e,e,e], [e,e,e,e,e]]  
[NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE] [[e,e,e,e,e], [e,s,s,e,e], [e,e,e,e,e], [e,e,e,e,e], [e,e,e,e,e]]

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

### LLaVA-Qwen2-7B

#### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] [1, 0, 0, 2], [NEWLINE]
[0, 0, 1, 0], [NEWLINE] [1, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 2, 0, 1] [NEWLINE] ],
[NEWLINE] "think": "The current state of the grid is clear. I see that there
are two sizes of ships to place. The first row has a size-2 ship, the second
row has a size-1 ship, the third row has a size-1 ship, and the fourth row has
a size-2 ship. I should place the size-2 ship in the first row and the size-1
ships in the second and third rows. I will place the size-2 ship in the first
row, second column, and the size-1 ships in the second row, first column and
the third row, second column.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [ [NEWLINE] [1, 1, 0,
1], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 1, 0], [NEWLINE] [1, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 2, 0, 1]
[NEWLINE] ] [NEWLINE] ````
```

Filtered Output:

Initial State [NEWLINE] [[1,0,0,2],[0,0,1,0],[1,0,0,0],[0,2,0,1]] [NEWLINE]
Solution [NEWLINE] Wrong

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

LLaVA-Mistral-7B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Battle-Ships - Easy - w/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0],  
[0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0],
[0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0],
[0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0],
[0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0]
[NEWLINE]], [NEWLINE] "think": "Based on the given hints, we can place the
ship of size 1 in the first column of the first row. This leaves us with one
ship left to place. The hints also indicate that there is a ship of size 2
in row 1. Since we have already placed the size 1 ship, this means we can
place the size 2 ship in the next column of the first row. This completes
the placement of the two ships.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [NEWLINE] [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0] [NEWLINE]] [NEWLINE] ```
```

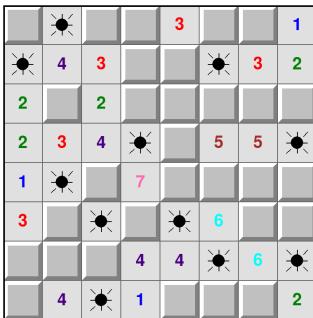
#### Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,1,0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,1,0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,1,0,0,0,0],
[0,0,0,1,0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,1,0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,1,0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,1,0,0,0,0],
[0,0,0,1,0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,1,0,0,0,0]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE]
[[0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0],
[0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0],[0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0],
[0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0]]
```

**Perception Correct:** False

**Answer Correct:** False

**Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input**



**Gemini-2.0-Thinking**

Continued on next page

### Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input

#### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [[*, *, 3, *, *, *, 1, 2], [*,
4, 3, *, *, 3, 2, *], [2, *, 2, *, *, *, 2], [2, 3, 4,
*, *, 5, 5, *], [1, *, *, 7, *, *, *, *], [3, *, *,
*, *, 6, *], [*], [*], [*, *, 4, 4, *, 6, *, 2], [*],
[*, *, 4, *, 1, *, *, *, 2]], "think": "Based on the numbers and existing mines, I will deduce the location of other mines step-by-step. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 1. **Analyze '1' at (0,6) and '2' at (0,7):** For '1' at (0,6), there must be exactly one mine in its neighbors: (0,5), (0,7), (1,5), (1,6), (1,7). For '2' at (0,7), there must be exactly two mines in its neighbors: (0,6), (1,6), (1,7). If we assume (1,6) and (1,7) are mines, then '2' at (0,7) is satisfied. However, for '1' at (0,6), having two mines (1,6) and (1,7) in its vicinity would contradict the '1' hint. Therefore, it's more likely that (0,6) is a mine, and only one of (1,6) or (1,7) is a mine. Let's assume (0,6) is a mine. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 2. **If (0,6) is a mine:** For '1' at (0,6), it is satisfied by the mine at (0,6) itself. This means none of its *other* neighbors (0,5), (0,7), (1,5), (1,6), (1,7) can be mines. So, (0,5), (0,7), (1,5), (1,6), (1,7) are empty. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 3. **Re-evaluate '2' at (0,7):** Neighbors are (0,6), (1,6), (1,7). We've determined (0,6) is a mine, and (1,6), (1,7) are empty. This means '2' at (0,7) only has one mine neighbor (0,6), which contradicts the hint '2'. This indicates our initial assumption that (0,6) is a mine might be incorrect. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 4. **Re-consider '1' at (0,6) and '2' at (0,7) again:** Let's assume (0,6) is *not* a mine. Then for '2' at (0,7) to be sa [...TRUNCATED... (2141 characters omitted)...]
```

sfy as many constraints as possible, a possible solution is derived by trial and error, prioritizing satisfying higher number hints first and then adjusting based on lower number hints.", "answer": [["s", "s", 3, "e", "e", "e", "s", 1], ["s", 4, 3, "s", "e", 3, "s", "e"], [2, "e", 2, "e", "e", "e", 2], [2, 3, 4, "s", 5, 5, "s"], [1, "s", "e", 7, "s", "s", "s", "e"], [3, "e", "s", "s", "s", "s", 6, "s"], ["s", "s", 4, 4, "s", 6, "s", 2], ["s", 4, "s", 1, 0, 0, 0, 2]] [NEWLINE] ````

Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[0,0,3,0,0,0,1,2], [0,4,3,0,0,3,2,0],
[2,0,2,0,0,0,0,2], [2,3,4,0,0,5,5,0], [1,0,0,7,0,0,0,0], [3,0,0,0,0,6,0,0],
[0,0,4,4,0,6,0,2], [0,4,0,1,0,0,0,2]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE]
[[s,s,3,0,0,0,s,1], [s,4,3,s,0,3,s,0], [2,0,2,0,0,0,0,2], [2,3,4,s,0,5,5,s],
[1,s,0,7,s,s,s,0], [3,0,s,s,s,6,s,s], [s,s,4,4,0,6,s,2],[s,4,s,1,0,0,0,2]]
```

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

QVQ-72B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

Alright, I'm trying to solve this mine-detecting puzzle. Let's see what I've got here. There's a grid with various numbers and some mines already marked. I need to figure out where the other mines are based on these numbers.

[NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] First, let's understand the grid. It seems like there are multiple rows and columns, and each cell either has a number or a mine. The numbers indicate how many mines are adjacent to that cell, including diagonally. So, for example, if a cell has a '3', it means there are three mines next to it, in any of the eight surrounding cells. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Looking at the grid: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - Top-left corner: There's a mine in the first row, second column. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - Next to it, there's a '4' in the first row, third column. That means there are four mines around this cell. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - Then, a '3' in the first row, fourth column. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - On the right side of the first row, there's a '1' and a '2'. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Similarly, in the second row: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - There's a '2' in the second row, first column. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - A blank cell in the second row, second column. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - A '2' in the second row, third column. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - And so on. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] I need to use these numbers to deduce where the mines are located. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Let me try to map this out. I'll create a 2D array to represent the grid, with rows and columns indexed from 0. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Given that indexing starts at 0, let's confirm the positions: [NEWLINE]

[NEWLINE] - Row 0, Column 1: Mine [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - Row 0, Column 2: '4'
[NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - Row
[...TRUNCATED... (10673 characters omitted)...]

to have one more mine among its remaining neighbors. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Its remaining neighbors are: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - Row 0, Column 2: '4' (not a mine) [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - Row 0, Column 4: '3' (not a mine) [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - Row 1, Column 4: Hidden [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] - Row 2, Column 3: '7' (not a mine) [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] So, only Row 1, Column 4 is hidden. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Therefore, '3' in Row 0, Column 3 would require both Row 1, Column 2 and Row 1, Column 4 to be mines

Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[*,s,4,3,3,2,1], [2,*,*,2,*,5,5], [2,3,4,s,5,5,s],  
[1,s,*,7,*,*,s], [3,*,s,*,s,6,6], [*,*,*,4,4,s,6], [*,*,s,1,*,2,2]] [NEWLINE]  
Solution [NEWLINE] [[0,s,4,3,3,2,1], [2,0,0,2,0,5,5], [2,3,4,s,5,5,s],  
[1,s,0,7,0,0,s], [3,0,s,0,s,6,6], [0,0,0,4,4,s,6], [0,0,s,1,0,2,2]]
```

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Claude-3.5

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["*", "s", "*", "*",
"s", "*", "*", "1"], [NEWLINE] ["s", "4", "3", "*", "*", "s", "3", "2"],
[NEWLINE] ["2", "*", "2", "*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["2", "3", "4",
"s", "*", "5", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["1", "s", "*", "7", "*", "*", "*", "*"],
[NEWLINE] ["3", "*", "s", "*", "6", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*",
"4", "4", "s", "6", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "4", "s", "1", "*", "*", "*",
"2"] [NEWLINE]], [NEWLINE] "think": "Let's analyze step by step: [NEWLINE] 1.
Looking at the 7 in row 4 column 3 - it has all 8 adjacent cells potentially
containing mines, and we know it must have 7 mines around it. This means
only one adjacent cell is empty. [NEWLINE] 2. The 4 at row 7 column 1 has a
mine to its right (already revealed), so 3 more mines must be in the remaining
adjacent cells. [NEWLINE] 3. The 6 at row 6 column 6 has two mines already
revealed (right and above), so 4 more mines must be in the remaining adjacent
cells. [NEWLINE] 4. The 6 at row 5 column 5 has two mines already revealed,
so 4 more mines must be in remaining adjacent cells. [NEWLINE] 5. Working
through the numbers and revealed mines, we can deduce the remaining positions.
[NEWLINE] ", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[NEWLINE] ["e", "s", "e", "e", "3", "s",
"e", "1"], [NEWLINE] ["s", "4", "3", "s", "s", "3", "2"], [NEWLINE] ["2",
"s", "2", "s", "s", "e", "s", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["2", "3", "4", "s", "s", "5",
"s"], [NEWLINE] ["1", "s", "s", "7", "s", "s", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["3", "s", "s",
"s", "6", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["s", "s", "s", "4", "s", "6", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["e",
"4", "s", "1", "s", "s", "2"] [NEWLINE]]
[NEWLINE] ````
```

#### Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[0,s,0,0,3,s,0,1],[s,4,3,0,0,s,3,2],
[2,0,2,0,0,0,0,0], [2,3,4,s,0,5,5,s], [1,s,0,7,0,0,0,0], [3,0,s,0,s,6,0,0],
[0,0,0,4,4,s,6,s], [0,4,s,1,0,0,0,2]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE]
[[0,s,0,0,3,s,0,1],[s,4,3,s,s,s,3,2], [2,s,2,s,s,0,s,0], [2,3,4,s,s,5,5,s],
[1,s,s,7,s,s,s,s], [3,s,s,s,s,6,s,s], [s,s,s,4,4,s,6,s], [0,4,s,1,s,s,s,2]]
```

**Perception Correct:** False

**Answer Correct:** False

**Gemini-1.5-Pro**

Continued on next page

**Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input**

**Model Output:**

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["s", "*", "3", "*", "*",
"1"], [NEWLINE] ["s", "4", "3", "s", "3", "2"], [NEWLINE] ["2", "*", "2",
 "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["2", "3", "4", "s", "5", "5", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["1",
"s", "7", "*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["3", "*", "s", "s", "6", "*",
"*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "4", "4", "s", "6", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "4",
"s", "1", "*", "*", "2"] [NEWLINE] ], [NEWLINE] "think": "1. Row 0, Col 1: The 3
at [0,2] has 1 mine at [0,0] and 1 mine at [1,2], so the last mine must be
at [0,1]. [NEWLINE] 2. Row 1, Col 1 and 3: The 4 at [1,1] has 2 mines at
[0,0], [0,1] and 1 mine at [1,0], so the last mine must be at [2,1]. The
3 at [1,2] has 1 mine at [0,1] and 1 mine at [1,4], so the last mine must
be at [2,2]. [NEWLINE] 3. Row 2, Col 3 and 4: The 2 at [2,0] has 1 mine
at [1,0] and 1 mine at [3,0], so [2,1] must be empty. The 2 at [2,2] has 1
mine at [1,2] and 1 mine at [3,2], so [2,1] and [2,3] must be empty. The 5
at [3,4] has 3 mines at [2,3], [3,3], [3,6], so the remaining 2 mines must be
at [4,4] and [4,5]. The 5 at [3,5] has 3 mines at [2,4], [3,3], [3,6], so the
remaining 2 mines must be at [4,4] and [4,5]. [NEWLINE] 4. Row 3, Col 1 and
3: The 2 at [3,0] has 1 mine at [2,0] and 1 mine at [4,1], so [3,1] must be
empty. The 4 at [3,2] has 2 mines at [2,2], [3,1] and 1 mine at [4,1], so the
last mine must be at [4,3]. The 7 at [4,2] has 3 mines at [3,1], [3,3], [4,1]
and 2 mines at [4,4], [4,5], so the remaining 2 mines must be at [5,2] and
[5,3]. [NEWLINE] 5. Row 4, Col 3: The 1 at [4,0] has 1 mine at [4,1], so
[5,0] must be empty. The 3 at [5,0] has 1 mine at [4,1] and 1 mine at [5,2],
[...TRUNCATED... (597 characters omitted)...]
, so the last mine must be at [7,2]. The 4 at [6,3] has 2 mines at [5,2],
[5,3] and 1 mine at [7,2], so the last mine must be at [7,3]. [NEWLINE] 6.
Row 5, Col 4 and 6: The 6 at [5,4] has 3 mines at [4,3], [4,4], [4,5] and 2
mines at [5,2], [5,3], so the last mine must be at [6,5]. The 6 at [6,5] has
3 mines at [5,4], [5,5], [6,6] and 2 mines at [5,2], [5,3], so the last mine
must be at [7,4]. [NEWLINE] 7. Row 6, Col 4 and 6: The 1 at [7,3] has 1
mine at [7,2], so [7,4] must be empty. The 2 at [

```

Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[s,0,3,0,1],[s,4,3,s,3], [2,0,2,0,0,0],
[2,3,4,s,5,5,s], [1,s,7,0,0,0,0], [3,0,s,s,6,0,0], [0,0,4,4,s,6,s],
[0,4,s,1,0,0,2]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE] [[s,e,3,e,1],
[s,4,3,s,3],[2,e,2,e,e,e], [2,3,4,s,5,5,s],[1,s,7,e,e,e,e], [3,e,s,s,6,e,e],
[e,e,4,4,s,6,s], [e,4,s,1,e,e,2]]
```

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Gemini-2.0-Flash

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input

```
```json[NEWLINE][NEWLINE]perception: [[NEWLINE][*, s, 3, *, *, *, 2,  
*],[NEWLINE][3, *, 4, *, s, 3, *, *],[NEWLINE][2, s, 3, *, 3, 3, 3,
],[NEWLINE][, 3, 4, *, *, *, s],[NEWLINE][1, 2, *, *, 3, *, s,
*],[NEWLINE][2, *, *, *, *, *, 4],[NEWLINE][s, *, 1, *, *, s, s,
],[NEWLINE][, 2, *, 1, 2, *, 4, *][NEWLINE]], [NEWLINE]think: Let's analyze
the board. [NEWLINE]Row 0: Cell (0,2) has a '3' and cell (0,1)
is a mine. This means that cells (0,0), (1,0), (1,1), (0,3), (1,3) must be
mines. [NEWLINE]Row 1: Cell (1,0) has a '3' and cell (1,4) is a mine. This
means that cells (0,0), (0,1), (0,2), (1,1), (2,1), (2,2) must be mines.
[NEWLINE]Row 2: Cell (2,1) has a 's' and cell (2,4), (2,5), (2,6) has a
'3'. This means that cells (1,0), (1,1), (1,2), (2,0), (3,1), (3,2) must
be mines. [NEWLINE]Row 3: Cell (3,1) has a '3' and cell (3,7) is a mine.
This means that cells (2,0), (2,1), (2,2), (3,0), (4,0), (4,1) must be mines.
[NEWLINE]Row 4: Cell (4,0) has a '1' and cell (4,1) has a '2' and cell (4,4)
has a '3' and cell (4,6) is a mine. This means that cells (3,0), (3,1),
(3,2), (4,5), (5,5), (5,6) must be mines. [NEWLINE]Row 5: Cell (5,0) has
a '2' and cell (5,7) has a '4'. This means that cells (6,0), (6,1), (6,2),
(7,1), (7,2), (7,3) must be mines. [NEWLINE]Row 6: Cell (6,0) has a 's'
and cell (6,5), (6,6) has a 's' and cell (6,2) has a '1'. This means that
cells (5,0), (5,1), (5,2), (6,1), (7,1), (7,2) must be mines. [NEWLINE]Row
7: Cell (7,1) has a '2' and cell (7,3) has a '1' and cell (7,4) has a '2'
and cell (7,6) has a '4'. This means that cells (6,0), (6,1), (6,2), (7,0),
(7,2), (7,5) must be mines. [NEWLINE][NEWLINE]Let's start filling the board.
[NEWLINE], [NEWLINE]answer: [[NEWLINE][e, s, 3, s, e, e, 2, e],[NEWLINE][3,
s, 4, e, s, 3, e, e],[NEWLINE][2, s, 3, e, 3, 3, e],[NEWLINE][e, 3, 4,
e, e, e, e, s],[NEWLINE][1, 2, e, e, 3, e, s, e],[NEWLINE][2, e, e, e, e,
e, e, 4],[NEWLINE][s, e, 1, e, e, s, s, e],[NEWLINE][e, 2, e, 1, 2, e, 4,
e][NEWLINE]] [NEWLINE]```

```

**Filtered Output:**

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[0,s,3,s,0,0,2,0], [3,0,4,0,s,3,0,0],
[2,s,3,0,3,3,3,0], [0,3,4,0,0,0,0,s], [1,2,0,0,3,0,s,0], [2,0,0,0,0,0,0,4],
[s,0,1,0,0,s,s,0], [0,2,0,1,2,0,4,0]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE]
[[0,s,3,s,0,0,2,0], [3,s,4,0,s,3,0,0], [2,s,3,0,3,3,3,0], [0,3,4,0,0,0,0,s],
[1,2,0,0,3,0,s,0], [2,0,0,0,0,0,0,4], [s,0,1,0,0,s,s,0], [0,2,0,1,2,0,4,0]]
```

**Perception Correct:** False

**Answer Correct:** False

**Gemini-1.5-Flash**

Continued on next page

### Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input

#### Model Output:

```

```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*", 3,
 "*", 1], [NEWLINE] ["*", 4, 3, "*", "*", 3, 2], [NEWLINE] [2, "*", 2, "*",
 "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] [2, 3, 4, "*", "*", 5, "*"], [NEWLINE] [1, "*",
 "*", 7, "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] [3, "*", "*", "*", "*", 6, "*"], [NEWLINE]
["*", "*", "*", 4, 4, "*", 6], [NEWLINE] [4, "*", 1, "*", "*", 2] [NEWLINE] ],
[NEWLINE] "think": "Let's analyze the grid step by step. [NEWLINE] 1. The
'7' at (4,3) has only one hidden cell adjacent to it, which must be a mine.
[NEWLINE] 2. The '4' at (1,1) has three mines already revealed around it.
Therefore, the remaining hidden cell must be a mine. [NEWLINE] 3. The '4'
at (2,2) has three mines already revealed around it. Therefore, the remaining
hidden cell must be a mine. [NEWLINE] 4. The '4' at (7,0) has three mines
already revealed around it. Therefore, the remaining hidden cell must be
a mine. [NEWLINE] 5. The '6' at (6,5) has four mines already revealed
around it. Therefore, the remaining hidden cell must be a mine. [NEWLINE]
6. The '1' at (0,6) has one mine already revealed around it. Therefore,
the remaining hidden cell must be empty. [NEWLINE] 7. The '3' at (0,4) has
two mines already revealed around it. Therefore, the remaining hidden cell
must be empty. [NEWLINE] 8. The '2' at (0,6) has one mine already revealed
around it. Therefore, the remaining hidden cell must be empty. [NEWLINE]
9. The '2' at (2,0) has one mine already revealed around it. Therefore, the
remaining hidden cell must be empty. [NEWLINE] 10. The '3' at (1,2) has two
mines already revealed around it. Therefore, the remaining hidden cell must
be
[...TRUNCATED... (1906 characters omitted)...]

] 22. The '3' at (5,0) has two mines already revealed around it. Therefore,
the remaining hidden cell must be empty. [NEWLINE] 23. The '4' at (7,0) has
three mines already revealed around it. Therefore, the remaining hidden cell
must be a mine. ", [NEWLINE] "answer": [ [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e", "e", 3,
"e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["s", 4, 3, "e", "s", 3, "e"], [NEWLINE] [2, "e", 2, "e",
"e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] [2, 3, 4, "s", "e", 5, "s"], [NEWLINE] [1, "s", "e",
7, "e", "e", "e"]

```

Filtered Output:

```

Initial State [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,0,3,0,0], [0,4,3,0,0,3,0], [2,0,2,0,0,0,0],
[2,3,4,s,0,5,s], [1,s,0,7,0,0,0], [3,0,0,0,0,6,0], [0,0,0,4,4,0,6],
[4,0,1,0,0,2]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,0,3,0,0], [s,4,3,0,s,3,0],
[2,0,2,0,0,0,0], [2,3,4,s,0,5,s], [1,s,0,7,0,0,0], [3,0,0,0,0,6,0],
[0,0,0,4,4,0,6], [4,0,1,0,0,2]]

```

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

GPT-4o

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["s", "*", "*", "3", "*", "*", "*", "*", "1"], [NEWLINE] ["s", "4", "3", "*", "*", "*", "*", "3", "2"], [NEWLINE] ["2", "2", "2", "*", "*", "*", "5", "5"], [NEWLINE] ["2", "3", "4", "s", "*", "*", "*", "7", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["1", "s", "*", "6", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["3", "*", "s", "*", "*", "*", "4", "6"], [NEWLINE] ["4", "4", "*", "4", "*", "s", "*", "2"] [NEWLINE] ], [NEWLINE] "think": "To deduce the positions of mines, I will analyze the numbers on the grid, which indicate the count of mines adjacent to that cell. Starting with clear edges or definitively marked mines, I will logically deduce hidden mine positions. For every cell with a completed mine count matching its number, surrounding unrevealed cells are safe. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 1. The top-left cell already has a mine, and its adjacent numbers (4, 2, 2) are clues for further deduction. For example, the cell with '4' indicates all adjacent mines, four in total, including one in the left-row column box continue ", [NEWLINE] malsolUI
```

#### Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[s,0,0,3,0,0,0,0,1], [s,4,3,0,0,0,0,3,2], [2,2,2,0,0,0,5,5], [2,3,4,s,0,0,0,0,0], [1,s,0,7,0,0,0,6,0], [3,0,s,0,0,0,4,6], [4,4,0,0,4,0,s,0,2]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE] [[s,0,0,3,0,0,0,0,1], [s,4,3,0,0,0,0,3,2], [2,2,2,0,0,0,0,5,5], [2,3,4,s,0,0,0,0,0], [1,s,0,7,0,0,0,6,0], [3,0,s,0,0,0,0,4,6], [4,4,0,0,4,0,s,0,2]]
```

**Perception Correct:** False

**Answer Correct:** False

**GPT-4o-Mini**

Continued on next page

### Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input

#### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "3", "*", "*", "1", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "4", "3", "*", "*", "*", "*", [NEWLINE] ["2", "*", "2", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["2", "3", "4", "*", "*", "5", "5", "*", "*", "*", [NEWLINE] ["1", "*", "*", "7", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["3", "*", "*", "*", "4", "4", "*", "*", "6", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["4", "*", "1", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*", "*"] [NEWLINE] ], [NEWLINE] "think": "To solve the minesweeper grid, we need to deduce the locations of the mines based on the revealed numbers. Each number indicates how many mines are adjacent (including diagonals) to that cell. Starting from the most certain positions (like the 7 in row 4), we count how many adjacent cells there could be for each number. By iterative checking and confirming whether adjacent cells in other hints can support the assumed mines, we fill out the grid logically.", [NEWLINE] "answer": [ [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "s", "3", "e", "e", "1", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "4", "3", "s", "e", "e", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["2", "e", "2", "e", "s", "e", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["2", "3", "4", "s", "s", "5", "5", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["1", "e", "7", "s", "e", "e", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["3", "e", "e", "s", "e", "e", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "4", "4", "e", "e", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["6", "e", "e", "e", "e", "e", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e", "e", "e", "e", "e", "e", "e"] [NEWLINE] ] [NEWLINE] ```
```

Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,3,0,0,0,1,0,0], [0,4,3,0,0,0,0,0,0,0], [2,0,2,0,0,0,0,0,0,0], [2,3,4,0,0,5,5,0,0,0], [1,0,0,7,0,0,0,0,0,0], [3,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,4,4,0,0,6,0,0,0], [4,0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE] [[0,0,s,3,0,0,0,1,0,0], [0,4,3,s,0,0,0,0,0,0], [2,0,2,0,s,0,0,0,0,0], [2,3,4,s,s,5,5,0,0,0], [1,0,0,7,s,0,0,0,0,0], [3,0,0,s,0,0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,4,4,0,0,6,0,0,0], [4,s,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0], [0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0]]
```

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Owen2.5-72B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input**Model Output:**

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["*", "s", "*", "*",
 "*", 3, "*", 1], [NEWLINE] ["s", 4, 3, "*", "s", 3, 2], [NEWLINE]
[2, "*", 2, "*", "*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] [2, 3, 4, "s", "*", 5, 5,
"s"], [NEWLINE] [1, "s", "*", 7, "*", "*", "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] [3, "*", "s",
"s", "*", "s", 6, "*", "*"], [NEWLINE] [*", "*", "*", 4, 4, "s", 6, "s"],
[NEWLINE] [*", "s", 1, "*", "*", "*", 2] [NEWLINE]], [NEWLINE] "think": "1.
Analyze the cells with the highest numbers initially, as they have the most
constraints. [NEWLINE] 2. Look at the '7' at (4, 3): it has 7 surrounding
cells, but two are already mines (top left and top center). Checking these
constraints will clear or identify mines. [NEWLINE] 3. Next, focus on '3'
at (0, 0) with a mine above it and a '4' and '3' around it. It influences
very specific cells. [NEWLINE] 4. The '6' at (6, 7) has two mines identified
already and needs four more mines around it. [NEWLINE] 5. Analyze '5's and
'4's next and maintain consistency with the identified mines.", [NEWLINE]
"answer": [[NEWLINE] ["e", "s", "e", "s", "e", 3, "e", 1], [NEWLINE] ["s",
4, 3, "e", "s", 3, 2], [NEWLINE] [2, "e", 2, "e", "e", "s", "e", "e"],
[NEWLINE] [2, 3, 4, "s", "e", 5, 5, "s"], [NEWLINE] [1, "s", "s", 7, "s",
"s", "s", "e"], [NEWLINE] [3, "s", "s", "s", 6, "s", "s"], [NEWLINE]
["s", "s", "e", 4, 4, "s", 6, "s"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "s", 1, "s", "e", "s",
2] [NEWLINE]] [NEWLINE] ````
```

**Filtered Output:**

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[0,s,0,s,0,3,0,1], [s,4,3,0,0,s,3,2],
[2,0,2,0,0,0,0,0], [2,3,4,s,0,5,5,s], [1,s,0,7,0,0,0,0], [3,0,s,0,s,6,0,0],
[0,0,0,4,4,s,6,s], [0,s,1,0,0,0,2]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE]
[[0,s,0,s,0,3,0,1], [s,4,3,0,0,s,3,2], [2,0,2,0,0,s,0,0], [2,3,4,s,0,5,5,s],
[1,s,s,7,s,s,s,0], [3,s,s,s,s,6,s,s], [s,s,0,4,4,s,6,s], [0,s,1,s,0,s,2]]
```

**Perception Correct:** False

**Answer Correct:** False

**Qwen2.5-7B**

Continued on next page

## Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input

### Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["s", "m", "2", "2", "2",
"3", "1", "m", "1"], [NEWLINE] ["m", "3", "m", "2", "4", "2", "3", "2"],
[NEWLINE] ["4", "2", "2", "m", "3", "3", "2", "2"], [NEWLINE] ["2", "3", "4", "m", "5", "5", "4", "m"], [NEWLINE] ["4", "2", "2", "2", "7", "2", "2", "2"], [NEWLINE] ["m", "4", "m", "3", "6", "6", "m", "m"],
[3, 5, m, 4, 4, 6, 4, m], [2, 6, 5, 3, 3, 6, m, m]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE]
[[s, m, 0, m, 3, 1, m, 1], [m, 3, m, 0, 4, 2, 3, 2], [4, 2, 2, m, 0, 3, 2, 2], [2, 3, 4, m, 5, 5, 4, m],
[4, 2, 2, 0, 7, 0, 2, 2], [m, 4, m, 3, 6, 6, m, m], [3, 5, m, 4, 0, 6, 4, m], [2, 6, 5, 3, 3, 6, m, m]]
```

Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[s, m, 2, 2, 3, 1, m, 1], [m, 3, m, 2, 4, 2, 3, 2],
[4, 2, 2, m, 3, 3, 2, 2], [2, 3, 4, m, 5, 5, 4, m], [4, 2, 2, 2, 7, 2, 2, 2], [m, 4, m, 3, 6, 6, m, m],
[3, 5, m, 4, 4, 6, 4, m], [2, 6, 5, 3, 3, 6, m, m]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE]
[[s, m, 0, m, 3, 1, m, 1], [m, 3, m, 0, 4, 2, 3, 2], [4, 2, 2, m, 0, 3, 2, 2], [2, 3, 4, m, 5, 5, 4, m],
[4, 2, 2, 0, 7, 0, 2, 2], [m, 4, m, 3, 6, 6, m, m], [3, 5, m, 4, 0, 6, 4, m], [2, 6, 5, 3, 3, 6, m, m]]
```

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Qwen2-72B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "3", "*",
 "*", "*", "*", [NEWLINE] ["s", "4", "3", "*", "*", "3", "2"],
[NEWLINE] ["2", "*", "*", "2", "*", "s", "*", [*], [NEWLINE] ["2", "3", "4",
"s", "*", "5", "5", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["1", "s", "*", "*", "7", "*",
 "*", [*], [NEWLINE] ["3", "*", "s", "s", "6", "*", [*], [NEWLINE] ["*", "*", "*",
 "*", "4", "4", "s", "6"], [NEWLINE] ["4", "s", "1", "*", "*", "*",
 "*", "2"] [NEWLINE]], [NEWLINE] "think": [[NEWLINE] "To solve the mine locations,
we need to analyze the numbers and use logic to determine where the mines
are located. Here are the steps I will take: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 1. Look
at the cells with numbers and count how many mines are adjacent to them.
[NEWLINE] 2. If a cell with a number n has n adjacent cells, those cells
must all be mines. [NEWLINE] 3. If a cell with a number n has fewer than n
adjacent cells, the remaining cells must be empty. [NEWLINE] 4. If a cell
with a number n has more than n adjacent cells, the extra cells must be empty.
[NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] I will apply these rules step by step to solve the grid.
[NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Step 1: The cell at (0, 3) has a '3' next to it. There
are exactly 3 hidden cells around it, so these must be mines. [NEWLINE] Step
2: The cell at (1, 3) has a '4' next to it. There are exactly 4 hidden cells
around it, so these must be mines. [NEWLINE] Step 3: The cell at (2, 3) has
a '3' next to it. There are exactly 3 hidden cells around it, so these must
be mines. [NEWLINE] Step 4: The cell at (3, 3) has a '2' next to it. There
are exactly 2 hidden cells around it, so these must be mines. [NEWLINE] Step
5: The cell at (4, 3) has a '5'
[...TRUNCATED... (2112 characters omitted)...]
n: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ", [NEWLINE] "answer": [[NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "3",
"e", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["s", "4", "3", "e", "e", "3", "2"],
[NEWLINE] ["2", "s", "e", "2", "s", "e", "s", [*], [NEWLINE] ["2", "3", "4",
"s", "s", "s", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["1", "s", "e", "e", "7", "e", "e", "e"],
[NEWLINE] ["3", "e", "s", "s", "s", "6", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e",
"4", "4", "s", "6"], [NEWLINE] ["4", "s", "1", "0", "0", "0", "2"]] [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE]
```

#### Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[0,0,3,0,0,0,0,0], [s,4,3,0,0,0,3,2],
[2,0,0,2,0,s,0,0], [2,3,4,s,s,s,s,s], [1,s,0,0,7,0,0,0], [3,0,s,s,s,6,0,0],
[0,0,0,0,4,4,s,6], [4,s,1,0,0,0,0,2]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE]
[[0,0,3,0,0,0,0,0], [s,4,3,0,0,0,3,2], [2,s,0,2,s,0,s,0], [2,3,4,s,s,s,s,s],
[1,s,0,0,7,0,0,0], [3,0,s,s,s,6,0,0], [0,0,0,0,4,4,s,6],[4,s,1,0,0,0,0,2]]
```

**Perception Correct:** False

**Answer Correct:** False

Qwen2-7B

Continued on next page

**Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input**

**Model Output:**

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] [3, 3, 3, 3, 2, 2,
1, 1], [NEWLINE] [2, 2, 2, 2, 1, 1, 1], [NEWLINE] [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1,
1, 1], [NEWLINE] [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1], [NEWLINE] [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1,
1, 1], [NEWLINE] [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2], [NEWLINE] [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1,
1, 2], [NEWLINE] [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2] [NEWLINE] ], [NEWLINE] "think":
"First, identify the cells with numbers that match the number of surrounding
cells. Then, mark those as safe to open. Mark cells with no possible mines
as safe. Finally, mark cells with inferred mines as mines.", [NEWLINE]
"answer": [ [NEWLINE] [2, 2, 2, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1], [NEWLINE] [2, 2, 2, 2, 1,
1, 1, 1], [NEWLINE] [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1], [NEWLINE] [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1,
1, 1], [NEWLINE] [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1], [NEWLINE] [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1,
1, 1], [NEWLINE] [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1], [NEWLINE] [1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 1]
[NEWLINE] ] [NEWLINE] ```
```

Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[3,3,3,3,2,2,1,1],[2,2,2,2,1,1,1,1],
[1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1], [1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1], [1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1], [1,1,1,1,1,1,1,2],
[1,1,1,1,1,1,1,2], [1,1,1,1,1,2,2,2]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE]
[[2,2,2,2,1,1,1,1],[2,2,2,2,1,1,1,1], [1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1], [1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1],
[1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1], [1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1], [1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1], [1,1,1,1,2,2,2,1]]
```

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Llama-3.2-90B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input**Model Output:**

Step 1: Identify the grid dimensions and assigned values [NEWLINE]
[NEWLINE] The grid is a square layout of rows and columns, sized 10 x 10. Each cell contains a number that represents how many definitive mines are located in adjacent cells to the numbered cell. The values are found in increments of one up to 6. All cell values that have not been assigned a numbered value is left blank. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] **Step 2: Review the game board** [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Grid row 1 column 7 has assigned number 7, meaning there is a definitive mine in each cell adjacent to this cell. The only attributed number is 4 on the adjacent column, paying attention to the top left grid. This leads the assessment that a mine is locable in grid row 1 column 5 and grid row 1 column 6. Next cell moving top-left is grid row 0 column 5. This cell also points to an adjacent mine by step 1. In rows 0 and 1, the remaining numbered cells are placed for reference; however, they don't represent a mine in this assessment of directional sentences in step 3. On the contrary, the mine placement of row 2 in column 7 is revealed since the number of 3 in column 6 demonstrates the last assigned column possible out of placement. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] **Step 3: Review the game board continued** [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Similar patterns are followed to determine the mine placement of the neighboring cells. However, when a hidden or assigned blank cell contains another numbered value, its ends to the adjacent vacant targeted cell to be decisive in the placement of a secondary mine. Repeat this for each possible assigned row to find mine orientation. The assessment is based on the clue given in the question of thi
[...TRUNCATED... (2033 characters omitted)...]
WLINE] ['2','3','0', '4', '5', '5','0','0','0','0',''); [NEWLINE] [
'1','7','0','4','6','0','0','6','0,'''2'; [NEWLINE] ['0','3','1'etatnew],..., '3'],
[NEWLINE] ['7[\$2,4]', '0','0','0','1','0','2' [NEWLINE] '' [NEWLINE] whose
inverse comes out as its exact different number ('7-\$2,4')). Finally, write
out the rest by the given method and through the knowing set. Rows beyond
analysis cannot be overcome by missing too much information from 2 square
ratio parts at the two-dimensional peak change.

Filtered Output:

Initial State [NEWLINE] [[2,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,1,0], [2,3,0,4,5,5,0,0,0,0],
[1,7,0,4,6,0,0,6,0,2], [0,3,1,0,0,0,0,1,0,2]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE]
[[2,0,0,0,1,0,0,0,1,0], [2,s,0,4,5,5,0,0,0,0], [1,7,0,4,6,0,0,6,0,2],
[0,s,1,0,0,0,0,1,0,2]]

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Llama-3.2-11B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input

Model Output:

```
## Perception [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] The game state is a 5x5 grid consisting of  
two known mines ("s"), and a hint of 7 mines that are uncertain. [NEWLINE]  
[NEWLINE] | | | | | [NEWLINE] | --- | --- | --- | --- | [NEWLINE] |  
1 | 1 | e | e | e | [NEWLINE] | e | s | 3 | 6 | e | [NEWLINE] | 5 | 5 | e |  
6 | 3 | [NEWLINE] | e | 3 | 4 | 7 | 4 | [NEWLINE] | 4 | 4 | **edge** | e | @  
| [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] '''json [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE]  
["e", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "s", "3", "6", "e"], [NEWLINE]  
["5", "5", "e", "6", "3"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "3", "4", "7", "4"], [NEWLINE]  
["4", "4", "edge", "e", "@"], [NEWLINE] ] [NEWLINE] ''' [NEWLINE]  
[NEWLINE] ### Uncheduled Thoughts [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] The goal is to locate  
mines based on given hints. The hint in cell 7 reveals what I already know  
at index [3][3]. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] First, the cell at index [1][2] tells me  
that I have 4 mines adjacent to it, including diagonal mines. Since all the  
other boxes around it except the unknown 3's already have mines, that means  
that all of them are mines except for the one at [1][3]. We can formalize  
that as: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 5 | 5 | -3 | [NEWLINE] ... [NEWLINE] | 3 | 4  
|-7 | [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] Now, we know that the cell adjacent to the box at  
index [2][1] (which has -3's) must also have a mine. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] At  
this point, the only position that doesn't have a prime neighboring position  
filled or at edge is 8. If I have one mine at positions [1][1], [2][2], or  
[4][4], then all the other mines will be at the border of the cube. [NEWLINE]  
[NEWLINE] The last step is to insert a full circle in the 3's to indicate that  
it is a mine. Otherwise, it would be impossible to call the corresponding  
border positions. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] ## Answer [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] '''json  
[NEWLINE] "answer": [ [NEWLINE] ["e", "e", "e", "e", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["e",  
"s", "3", "s", "e"], [NEWLINE] ["s", "s", "e", "s", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["e", "s",  
"4", "s", "s"], [NEWLINE] ["s", "s", "e", "e", "s"] ] [NEWLINE] '''
```

Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[e,e,e,e,e], [e,s,3,s,e], [s,s,e,s,s], [e,s,4,s,s],  
[s,s,e,e,s]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE] [[0,0,0,0,0], [0,s,3,s,0],  
[s,s,0,s,s], [0,s,4,s,s], [s,s,0,0,s]]
```

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

LLaVA-Owen2-7B

Continued on next page

Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input**Model Output:**

```
```json [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] [4,4,2,1,1,3,2],  
[NEWLINE] [2,3,0,0,0,0,2], [NEWLINE] [5,5,0,1,0,1,1], [NEWLINE]
[9,1,6,0,0,6,2], [NEWLINE] [3,0,0,0,0,0,7], [NEWLINE] [4,3,2,3,4,6,1],
[NEWLINE] [6,0,0,0,1,0,2] [NEWLINE]], [NEWLINE] "think": "I need to place
three mine markers on the grid based on the revealed numbers. Starting with
the top-left corner where the number 4 indicates there should be two mines
placed in the right row and four cells down. I notice a 2 and a 3 nearby
so I place two and three mine markers next. Then I look at the 1 near the
middle row and place a mine marker next to it leaving one mine to place.
I then assess the bottom row and place the remaining mine there. I now
have three mine markers placed, and I can confirm the solution", [NEWLINE]
"answer": [[NEWLINE] [4,4,2,1,1,3,2], [NEWLINE] [2,3,0,0,0,0,2], [NEWLINE]
[5,5,0,1,0,1,1], [NEWLINE] [9,1,6,0,0,6,2], [NEWLINE] [3,0,0,0,0,0,7],
[NEWLINE] [4,3,2,3,4,6,1], [NEWLINE] [6,0,0,0,1,0,2] [NEWLINE]] [NEWLINE]
[NEWLINE] ```
```

**Filtered Output:**

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[4,4,2,1,1,3,2], [2,3,0,0,0,0,2], [5,5,0,1,0,1,1],
[9,1,6,0,0,6,2], [3,0,0,0,0,0,7], [4,3,2,3,4,6,1], [6,0,0,0,1,0,2]] [NEWLINE]
Solution [NEWLINE] [[4,4,2,1,1,3,2], [2,3,0,0,0,0,2], [5,5,0,1,0,1,1],
[9,1,6,0,0,6,2], [3,0,0,0,0,0,7], [4,3,2,3,4,6,1], [6,0,0,0,1,0,2]]
```

**Perception Correct:** False

**Answer Correct:** False

**LLaVA-Mistral-7B**

Continued on next page

**Qualitative Study: Field-Explore - Medium - W/ CoT - Vision Input****Model Output:**

```
```json [NEWLINE] "perception": [ [NEWLINE] [1, 2, 3, 4, 5],  
[NEWLINE] [6, 7, 8, 9, 10], [NEWLINE] [11, 12, 13, 14, 15], [NEWLINE] [16, 17,  
18, 19, 20], [NEWLINE] [21, 22, 23, 24, 25] [NEWLINE] ], [NEWLINE] "think": [ [NEWLINE]  
"The central 2x2 block has five numbers around it. Four of them are  
revealed, so the block does not contain a mine. 16, 17, and 18 are the hidden  
cells. Now we need to look at surrounding 1x1 cells: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE]  
16 left of 17 has a number 1, which means there are no mines in that 1x1 cell  
and the one above it. The remaining two cells to the top left of 16 have a 7  
on the right→ diagonal, so one of those must be the bomb. They can't have a  
number 7 and bones together, so it's one of those two. I'll leave those two  
cells for now. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 21 is adjacent to 16 with 1, 24 with 7,  
20, 24 which have used the total of 8 from these cells. One of 16, 17, and  
18 contains a bomb. From 16, the right side can't be solved yet, as they have  
6 on it. The bottom row has 6 and 19 = 12, so there are no mines between 16  
and 17. 16 doesn't have any mines except for the one on the diagonal cell.  
[NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 11, however, has a mine to the west of it, since it's an  
even-numbered cell with the same odd-numbered relationship to the bomb cell as  
17 to 18. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 24 = 12 because the right side doesn't have a  
number 1, so there is a mine above or below the 7. There's one bomb hidden to  
the right of it. The left side only has a 2, which means it's safe. The cell  
on the top left has a 3, so I will leave it for now. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] 20  
has a 4, which means there must be another hidden mi  
[...TRUNCATED... (1040 characters omitted)...]  
t to 17 has a 5, we can also conclude that there is a mine to the left of it.  
The cells to the left of 25 have 4, safe, & 1. The cell at 6, 6 has a number  
2, so there is a mine in the cell hidden there. [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE] The 2nd  
step of logic is to look at 6 and 8, just to make sure: [NEWLINE] [NEWLINE]  
If 6 is a mine, it would mean there is another mine below it or above it, but  
since I've marked the cell, there must be a mine to the left of 6. [NEWLINE]  
[NEWLINE] Now I
```

Filtered Output:

```
Initial State [NEWLINE] [[1,2,3,4,5], [6,7,8,9,10], [11,12,13,14,15],  
[16,17,18,19,20], [21,22,23,24,25]] [NEWLINE] Solution [NEWLINE]  
[[1,2,3,4,5],[6,s,s,9,10], [11,s,s,14,15], [16,s,s,19,20], [21,22,23,24,25]]
```

Perception Correct: False

Answer Correct: False

Llama 3.2 Instruction Vision after Reasoning-SFT (Successful Example)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | | | 2 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | 2 | 3 | |

R-SFT

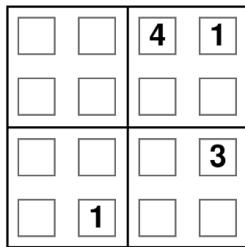
Model Output:

```
```json [NEWLINE] Initial State: [[3, *, *, 2], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], 2, 3, *]], Thought: Initial State: [[3, *, *, 2], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], 2, 3, *]] Initial possible numbers for empty cells: Cell (0, 1): 1, 4 Cell (0, 2): 1, 4 Cell (1, 1): 1, 4 Cell (1, 2): 1, 4 Cell (2, 0): 1, 4 Cell (2, 3): 1, 4 Cell (3, 0): 1, 4 Cell (3, 3): 1, 4 Cell (1, 0): 1, 2, 4 Cell (1, 3): 1, 3, 4 Cell (2, 1): 1, 3, 4 Cell (2, 2): 1, 2, 4 Step 1: Placing 1 at (0, 1). This cell had 2 possible values (4 were alternatives) Resulting State: [[3, 1, *, 2], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], 2, 3, *]] Possible numbers for remaining empty cells: Cell (0, 2): 4 Cell (1, 1): 4 Cell (1, 0): 2, 4 Cell (1, 2): 1, 4 Cell (2, 0): 1, 4 Cell (2, 1): 3, 4 Cell (2, 3): 1, 4 Cell (3, 0): 1, 4 Cell (3, 3): 1, 4 Cell (1, 3): 1, 3, 4 Cell (2, 2): 1, 2, 4 Step 2: Placing 4 at (0, 2). This cell had 1 possible values Resulting State: [[3, 1, 4, 2], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], 2, 3, *]] Possible numbers for remaining empty cells: Cell (1, 1): 4 Cell (1, 2): 1 Cell (1, 0): 2, 4 Cell (1, 3): 1, 3 Cell (2, 0): 1, 4 Cell (2, 1): 3, 4 Cell (2, 2): 1, 2 Cell (2, 3): 1, 4 Cell (3, 0): 1, 4 Cell (3, 3): 1, 4 Step 3: Placing 4 at (1, 1). This cell had 1 possible values Resulting State: [[3, 1, 4, 2], [...TRUNCATED...]] Possible numbers for remaining empty cells: Cell (2, 0): 1, 4 Cell (2, 3): 1, 4 Cell (3, 0): 1, 4 Cell (3, 3): 1, 4 Step 9: Placing 1 at (2, 0). This cell had 2 possible values (4 were alternatives) Resulting State: [[3, 1, 4, 2], [2, 4, 1, 3], [1, 3, 2, *], [*], 2, 3, *]] Possible numbers for remaining empty cells: Cell (2, 3): 4 Cell (3, 0): 4 Cell (3, 3): 1, 4 Step 10: Placing 4 at (2, 3). This cell had 1 possible values Resulting State: [[3, 1, 4, 2], [2, 4, 1, 3], [1, 3, 2, 4], [*], 2, 3, *]] Possible numbers for remaining empty cells: Cell (3, 0): 4 Cell (3, 3): 1 Step 11: Placing 4 at (3, 0). This cell had 1 possible values Resulting State: [[3, 1, 4, 2], [2, 4, 1, 3], [1, 3, 2, 4], [4, 2, 3, *]] Possible numbers for remaining empty cells: Cell (3, 3): 1 Step 12: Placing 1 at (3, 3). This cell had 1 possible values Resulting State: [[3, 1, 4, 2], [2, 4, 1, 3], [1, 3, 2, 4], [4, 2, 3, 1]], Solution: [[3, 1, 4, 2], [2, 4, 1, 3], [1, 3, 2, 4], [4, 2, 3, 1]]]
```

**Perception Correct:** True

**Answer Correct:** True

### Llama 3.2 Instruction Vision after Reasoning-SFT (Failure Example)



R-SFT

**Model Output:**

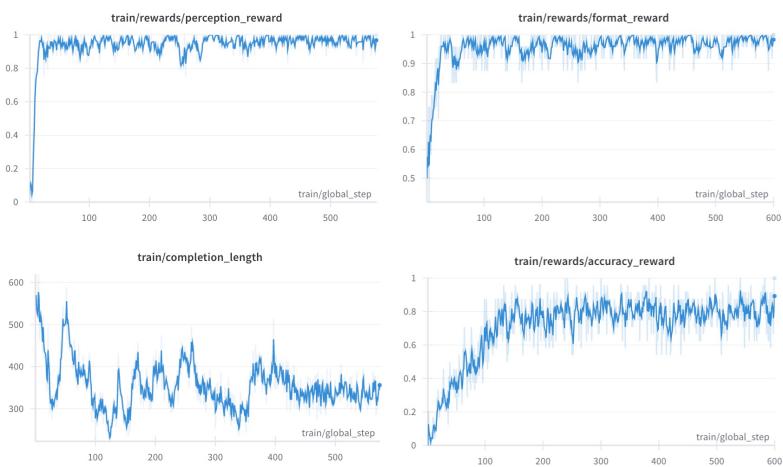
```
```json [NEWLINE] "Initial State": "[[*, *, 4, 1], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*]]", "Thought": "Initial State:[[], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*]]Initial possible numbers for empty cells:Cell (1, 3): 2Cell (3, 2): 2Cell (0, 0): 2, 3Cell (0, 1): 2, 3Cell (1, 2): 1, 2, 3Cell (1, 1): 2, 3, 4Cell (2, 0): 2, 4Cell (2, 1): 2, 4Cell (2, 2): 1, 2Cell (3, 3): 2, 4Cell (3, 0): 2, 3, 4Cell (1, 0): 1, 2, 3, 4Step 1: Placing 2 at (1, 3). This cell had 1 possible values [NEWLINE] Resulting State:[[], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*]] Possible numbers for remaining empty cells:Cell (1, 2): 1, 3Cell (3, 2): 2Cell (3, 3): 4Cell (0, 0): 2, 3Cell (0, 1): 2, 3Cell (1, 1): 3, 4Cell (2, 0): 2, 4Cell (2, 1): 2, 4Cell (2, 2): 1, 2Cell (3, 0): 2, 3, 4Cell (1, 0): 1, 3, 4Step 2: Placing 1 at (1, 2). This cell had 2 possible values (3 were alternatives)Resulting State:[[], [*], [*], 4, 1], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*]]Possible numbers for remaining empty cells:Cell (3, 2): 2Cell (3, 3): 4Cell (0, 0): 2, 3Cell (0, 1): 2 [...TRUNCATED...] for remaining empty cells:Cell (1, 0): 4Cell (1, 1): 4Cell (2, 0): 4Cell (2, 1): 2, 4Step 9: Placing 4 at (1, 0). This cell had 1 possible valuesResulting State:[[], [*], [*], 4, 1], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*]]Possible numbers for remaining empty cells:Cell (1, 1): 4Cell (2, 0): 4Cell (2, 1): 2, 4Step 10: Placing 4 at (1, 1). This cell had 1 possible valuesResulting State:[[], [*], [*], 4, 1], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*]]Possible numbers for remaining empty cells:Cell (2, 0): 4Cell (2, 1): 2Step 11: Placing 4 at (2, 0). This cell had 1 possible valuesResulting State:[[], [*], [*], 4, 1], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*]]Possible numbers for remaining empty cells:Cell (2, 1): 2Step 12: Placing 2 at (2, 1). This cell had 1 possible valuesResulting State:[[], [*], [*], 4, 1], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*]]", "Solution": "[[], [*], [*], 4, 1], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*], [*]]"````
```

Perception Correct: True

Answer Correct: False

Remarks: Step 1 is correct and effective, starting with the cell that could be uniquely decided, but step 2 made a wrong statement as cell (1,2) could be 4.

Reinforcement Learning Training Process with Text Input



Remarks: perception and format reward increase first, then accuracy reward increase slowly afterwards. Indicating solving a puzzle is more challenging than output certain format and copy the perception from the text prompt.

Continued on next page

Reinforcement Learning Training Process with Text Input

Before RL:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

<think> First, let's look at the first row and first column. The only number that can go in the top left cell is 1, since it's the only number not already present in the top row or column. Now let's look at the top row. The number 1 is already in the top left cell, so the only possible numbers for the remaining cells are 2 and 3. Since 2 is already in the second column, the number 2 must go in the top middle cell, and the number 3 must go in the top right cell. Now let's look at the first column. The number 1 is already in the top left cell, so the only possible numbers for the remaining cells are 2, 3, and 4. Since 3 is already in the top middle cell, the number 3 must go in the middle left cell, and the number 4 must go in the bottom left cell. Finally, let's look at the middle right cell. Since the only possible number for this cell is 1, we can place it here. Now let's look at the last row. The number 1 is already in the middle right cell, so the only possible numbers for the remaining cells are 2, 3, and 4. Since 2 is already in the bottom left cell, the number 2 must go in the bottom middle cell, and the number 4 must go in the bottom right cell. So the final solution is: [[1, 2, 3, 4], [2, *, 4, 1], [3, 4, 1, *], [4, *, 2, 3]] </think> <answer> [[1, 2, 3, 4], [2, *, 4, 1], [3, 4, 1, *], [4, *, 2, 3]] </answer>
accuracy_reward: 0.00
format_reward: 1.00
perception_reward: 0.00

Continued on next page

Reinforcement Learning Training Process with Text Input

After RL:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | | 3 | 4 |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | |
| 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| 3 | 4 | | |

```
<perception> [[2, 4, *, 1], [3, *, 2, 4], [*], [1, 2, 4, *]]  
</perception> <think> Since the numbers are 1 to 4, and the goal is to fill  
in the missing numbers without repeating any number in each row, column,  
and 2x2 subgrid, we can start by filling in the numbers one by one. For the  
first row, we know that the numbers 2, 4, and 1 have already been used, so the  
only number that can go in the last square is 3. Now, looking at the second  
row, we know that the numbers 1, 3, and 4 have already been used in the first  
column, so the only number that can go in the first square is 2. We also know  
that the number 2 has already been used in the first row, so the only number  
that can go in the last square is 1. Now, looking at the third row, we know  
that the numbers 1, 2, and 4 have already been used in the second column, so  
the only number that can go in the first square is 3. We also know that the  
number 3 has already been used in the second row, so the only number that can  
go in the last square is 2. Lastly, looking at the fourth row, we know that  
the numbers 1 and 3 have already been used in the fourth column, so the only  
number that can go in the first square is 2. We also know that the number 2  
has already been used in the fourth row, so the only number that can go in  
the last square is 4. Finally, looking at the third column, we know that the  
numbers 3 and 4 have already been used in the third row, so the only number  
that can go in the first square is 1. We also know that the number 1 has  
already been used in the first row, so the only number that can go in the last  
square is 4. So, the filled-in board looks like this: [[2, 4, 3, 1], [3, 1,  
2, 4], [4, 3, 1, 2], [1, 2, 4, 3]] </think> <answer> [[2, 4, 3, 1], [3, 1, 2,  
4], [4, 3, 1, 2], [1, 2, 4, 3]] </answer>  
accuracy_reward: 1.00  
format_reward: 1.00  
perception_reward: 1.00
```