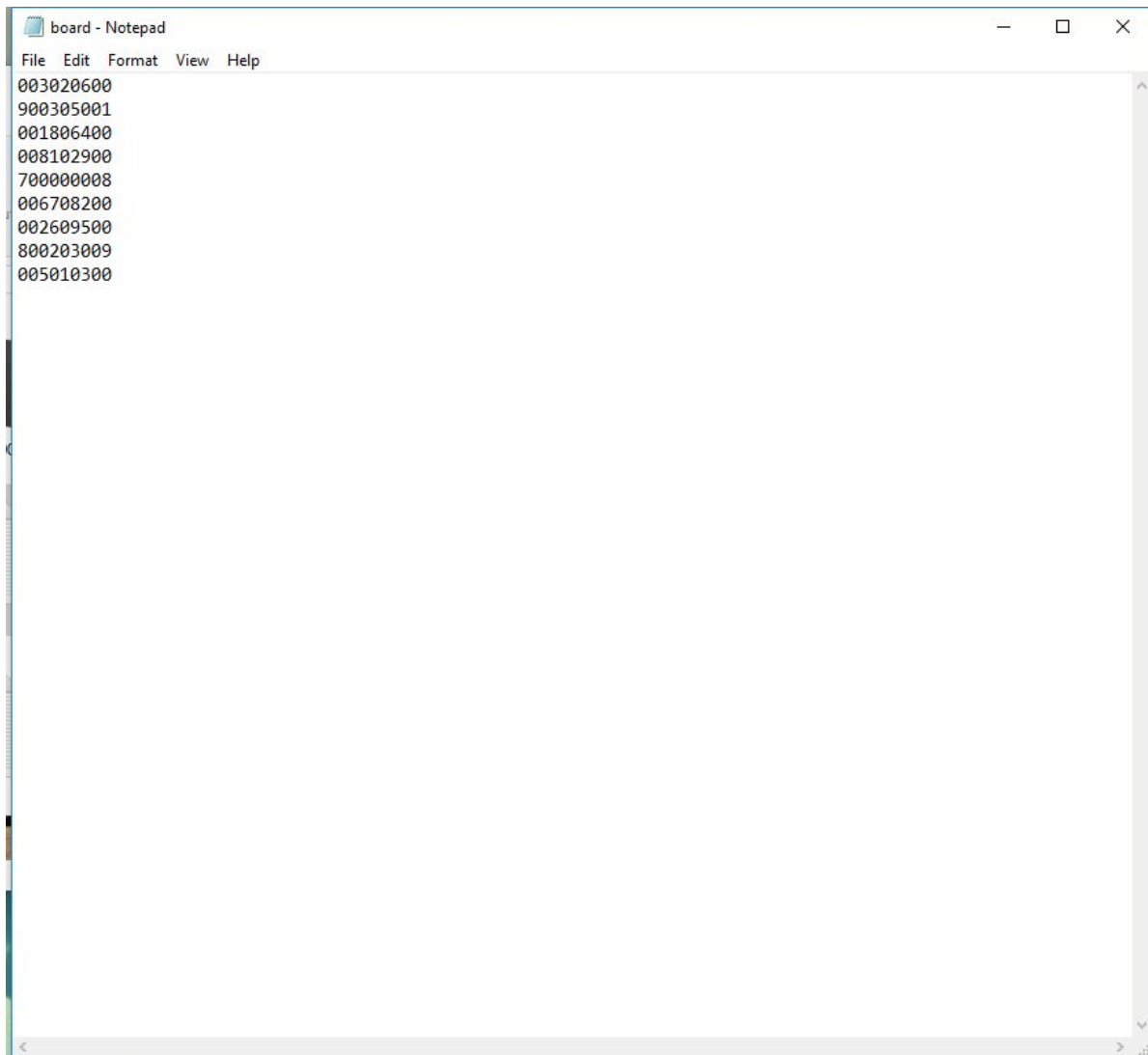


To input a board into the program, create a file 'board.txt', located in the same directory as sudokuSolver.py, and input the initial state as a sequence of letters. 0s indicate empty spaces. Each line has 9 characters, and there are 9 lines total.



```
board - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
003020600
900305001
001806400
008102900
700000008
006708200
002609500
800203009
005010300
```

Run the code with "py sudokuSolver.py" if on windows, with "python3 sudokuSolver.py" if on Mac/Linux

The program will return the solved board in the file 'output.txt' as shown below

```
output - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
Starting board:
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
- | | 3 | | 2 | | 6 | | |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
9 | | | 3 | | 5 | | | 1 |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
- | | 1 | 8 | | 6 | 4 | | |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
- | | 8 | 1 | | 2 | 9 | | |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
7 | | | | | | | | 8 |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
- | | 6 | 7 | | 8 | 2 | | |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
- | | 2 | 6 | | 9 | 5 | | |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
8 | | | 2 | | 3 | | | 9 |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
- | | 5 | | 1 | | 3 | | |

Ending Board:
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
4 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 7 |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
9 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 1 |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
2 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 3 |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
5 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 6 |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
7 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 8 |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
1 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 5 |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
3 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 4 |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
8 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 9 |
- - - - - | - - - - - | - - - - - |
6 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 2 |
```