

CP468 Assignment 2

Sudoku CSP

Group 8

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1 Problem Statement

This report demonstrates the application of AC-3 algorithms to enforce arc-consistency on an arbitrary 9 x 9 Sudoku puzzle. This 9 x 9 Sudoku puzzle will be structured as a Constraint Satisfaction Problem (CSP). The AC-3 algorithm implementation keeps track of and reports the length of the queue at every step taken by the AC-3 algorithm. After the code execution, it will report whether the equivalent arc-consistent CSP is found. In the instance that the problem is solved, the solution is reported. In the event that the puzzle is not solved, an additional algorithm (backtracking) will be used to solve the puzzle entirely and the solution is reported.

2 CSP Representation:

Basic Game Knowledge: Sudoku is played by assigning numbers ranging from 1-9 on a 9 x 9 grid. This grid is divided into nine 3x3 subgrids/units. The numbers must be assigned in a way that each number only appears once in every row, column, and one time in each of the 9 subgrids.

CSP Elements:

- **Variables (X):** Each one of the 81 squares, denoted as an x,y pair that corresponds to the coordinate of the square on the 9 x 9 Sudoku board, the values range from x: 0-8, and y: 0-8.
- **Domains (D):** Each variable has a domain which represents its possible values.
- **Constraints (C):** The rules discussed above are represented as constraints in an array, each variable is stored by its x,y coordinate pair and each number must be unique within its row, column and sub-grid. No two cells in the same row can have the same number.

Constraints (In Depth): As discussed in class, a 9x9 Sudoku has 27 AllDiff constraints, 1 for each column, 1 for each row and 1 for each box. For Example:
Row: AllDiff(A1,A2,A3,A4,A5,A6,A7,A8,A9)
Column: AllDiff(A1,B1,C1,D1,E1,F1,G1,H1,I1)
Box: AllDiff(A1,A2,A3,B1,B2,B3,C1,C2,C3)

These constraints can be decomposed into individual binary constraints for each cell. These will include constraints for every other cell in the row, column and box with respect to each cell. As a general example the cell A1 would have Binary constraints:

Row: A1 != A2

A1 != A3

A1 != A4

A1 != A5

A1 != A6

A1 != A7

A1 != A8

A1 != A9

Column: A1 != B1

A1 != C1

A1 != D1

A1 != E1

A1 != F1

A1 != G1

A1 != H1

A1 != I1

Box: A1 != A2 (Repeated for example)

A1 != A3 (Repeated for example)

A1 != B1 (Repeated for example)

A1 != B2

A1 != B3

A1 != C1 (Repeated for example)

A1 != C2

A1 != C3

This process can be repeated for every cell to create the binary constraints. As noted in the example, some of the constraints are repeated since they are already included in the previous row or column constraints.

Based on the example shown in class we can reduce the domain of cells based on already filled in/confirmed values to ensure arc consistency. Since there is only 1 solution to a Sudoku any value that is either pre filled or confirmed based on a domain of size 1 is absolute and therefore can be used to reduce the domain of related cells to ensure arc consistency. For example, cell E4:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
A	-	-	3	-	2	-	6	-	-
B	9	-	-	3	-	5	-	-	1
C	-	-	1	8	-	6	4	-	-
D	-	-	8	1	-	2	9	-	-
E	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
F	-	-	6	7	-	8	2	-	-
G	-	-	2	6	-	9	5	-	-
H	8	-	-	2	-	3	-	-	9
I	-	-	5	-	1	-	3	-	-

Relevant filled-in cells: Row:

$$E1 = 7$$

$$E9 = 8$$

Column:

$$B4 = 3$$

$$C4 = 8$$

$$D4 = 1$$

$$F4 = 7$$

$$G4 = 6$$

$$H4 = 2$$

Since these values are filled-in to cells within either the Row, Column or Box of E4 they can be removed from the domain of E4.

Initial Domain:

$$DE4 = (1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9)$$

Rows:

Within Row E the values 7 and 8 are already filled and can therefore be removed from the domain of E4. Now the domain of E4 is:

$$DE4 = (1,2,3,4,5,6,9)$$

Column:

The same concept can be applied to the column 4, which already has 3,8,1,7,6,2 filled in, 7 and 8 have already been removed from the domain but the other values can now be removed as well: Now the domain of E4 is:

$$DE4 = (4,5,9)$$

Box:

The same concept can also be applied to the box E4 is in. In this case the box contains 1,2,7,8. However, these values have already been removed from the domain of E4 in previous steps, meaning the domain remains:

DE4 = (4,5,9)

3 Implementation

```
1 from collections import deque
2
3 # Helper function to read Sudoku from a file
4 def read_puzzle(file_path):
5     with open(file_path, 'r') as f:
6         return [[int(num) for num in line.split()] for line in f]
7
8 # Helper function to print Sudoku grid
9 def print_board(board):
10     for row in board:
11         print(" ".join(str(num) if num != 0 else '.' for num in row))
12     print()
13
14 # Get all peers for a given cell (row, col)
15 def get_peers(row, col):
16     peers = set()
17     for i in range(9):
18         peers.add((row, i)) # Same row
19         peers.add((i, col)) # Same column
20     # Same 3x3 box
21     box_row, box_col = 3 * (row // 3), 3 * (col // 3)
22     for i in range(box_row, box_row + 3):
23         for j in range(box_col, box_col + 3):
24             peers.add((i, j))
25     peers.discard((row, col)) # Remove the cell itself
26     return peers
27
28 # Initialize domains for all cells
29 def initialize_domains(board):
30     domains = {}
31     for row in range(9):
32         for col in range(9):
33             if board[row][col] == 0:
34                 domains[(row, col)] = set(range(1, 10))
35             else:
36                 domains[(row, col)] = {board[row][col]}
37     return domains
38
39 # AC-3 algorithm implementation
40 def ac3(board, domains):
41     queue = deque([(cell, peer) for cell in domains for peer in
42                     get_peers(*cell)])
43     step = 1 # Step counter
44
45     while queue:
46         print(f"Step {step}: Queue length: {len(queue)}") # Print
47         # the step and queue length
48         cell, peer = queue.popleft()
```

```

47         if revise(domains, cell, peer):
48             if not domains[cell]: # Domain is empty -> failure
49                 return False
50             if len(domains[cell]) == 1:
51                 board[cell[0]][cell[1]] = next(iter(domains[cell]))
52                 # Update board
53             for neighbor in get_peers(*cell) - {peer}:
54                 queue.append((neighbor, cell))
55             step += 1 # Increment step counter
56         return True
57
58 # Revise function to enforce arc-consistency
59 def revise(domains, cell, peer):
60     revised = False
61     if len(domains[peer]) == 1:
62         peer_value = next(iter(domains[peer]))
63         if peer_value in domains[cell]:
64             domains[cell].remove(peer_value)
65             revised = True
66     return revised
67
68 # Function to find an empty cell
69 def find_empty(board):
70     for i in range(9):
71         for j in range(9):
72             if board[i][j] == 0:
73                 return i, j
74     return None
75
76 # Backtracking algorithm to solve Sudoku if AC-3 doesn't fully
77 # solve
78 def backtrack(board, domains):
79     empty = find_empty(board)
80     if not empty:
81         return True # No empty cells left, puzzle solved
82     row, col = empty
83     for value in sorted(domains[(row, col)]):
84         if is_consistent(board, row, col, value):
85             board[row][col] = value
86             # Create a copy of domains for backtracking
87             new_domains = {key: domains[key].copy() for key in domains}
88             new_domains[(row, col)] = {value}
89             if backtrack(board, new_domains):
90                 return True
91             board[row][col] = 0 # Undo assignment
92     return False
93
94 # Function to check if a value can be placed in a cell without
95 # conflicts
96 def is_consistent(board, row, col, val):
97     for peer_row, peer_col in get_peers(row, col):
98         if board[peer_row][peer_col] == val:
99             return False
100     return True

```

```

100 # Solve function
101 def solve_sudoku(file_path):
102     board = read_puzzle(file_path)
103     print("Original Sudoku:")
104     print_board(board)
105
106     domains = initialize_domains(board)
107     if ac3(board, domains):
108         print("Sudoku after AC-3:")
109         print_board(board)
110         if find_empty(board):
111             print("AC-3 did not completely solve the puzzle.
112                   Applying backtracking...")
113             if not backtrack(board, domains):
114                 print("No solution exists.")
115             else:
116                 print("Solved using AC-3!")
117         else:
118             print("AC-3 failed to achieve arc-consistency.")
119     print("Final Solution:")
120     print_board(board)
121
122 # Example usage
123 solve_sudoku('test_file.txt')

```

4 Input and Outputs

Scenario 1: Can be solved by AC-3 NOTE: The top 10 and bottom 10 steps are shown due to the sheer quantity of steps needed. A better example will be provided during live demo of code.

```

1      Original Sudoku:
2      5 3 . . 7 . . . .
3      6 . . 1 9 5 . . .
4      . 9 8 . . . . 6 .
5      8 . . . 6 . . . 3
6      4 . . 8 . 3 . . 1
7      7 . . . 2 . . . 6
8      . 6 . . . . 2 8 .
9      . . . 4 1 9 . . 5
10     . . . . 8 . . 7 9
11
12     Step 1: Queue length: 1620
13     Step 2: Queue length: 1619
14     Step 3: Queue length: 1618
15     Step 4: Queue length: 1617
16     Step 5: Queue length: 1616
17     Step 6: Queue length: 1615
18     Step 7: Queue length: 1614
19     Step 8: Queue length: 1613
20     Step 9: Queue length: 1612
21     Step 10: Queue length: 1611
22     ...
23     Step 9363: Queue length: 10

```

```

24 Step 9364: Queue length: 9
25 Step 9365: Queue length: 8
26 Step 9366: Queue length: 7
27 Step 9367: Queue length: 6
28 Step 9368: Queue length: 5
29 Step 9369: Queue length: 4
30 Step 9370: Queue length: 3
31 Step 9371: Queue length: 2
32 Step 9372: Queue length: 1
33
34 Sudoku after AC-3:
35 5 3 4 6 7 8 9 1 2
36 6 7 2 1 9 5 3 4 8
37 1 9 8 3 4 2 5 6 7
38 8 5 9 7 6 1 4 2 3
39 4 2 6 8 5 3 7 9 1
40 7 1 3 9 2 4 8 5 6
41 9 6 1 5 3 7 2 8 4
42 2 8 7 4 1 9 6 3 5
43 3 4 5 2 8 6 1 7 9
44
45 Solved using AC-3!
46 Final Solution:
47 5 3 4 6 7 8 9 1 2
48 6 7 2 1 9 5 3 4 8
49 1 9 8 3 4 2 5 6 7
50 8 5 9 7 6 1 4 2 3
51 4 2 6 8 5 3 7 9 1
52 7 1 3 9 2 4 8 5 6
53 9 6 1 5 3 7 2 8 4
54 2 8 7 4 1 9 6 3 5
55 3 4 5 2 8 6 1 7 9

```

Scenario 2: Can't be solved NOTE: The top 10 and bottom 10 steps are shown due to the sheer quantity of steps needed. A better example will be provided during live demo of code.

```

1 Original Sudoku:
2 . . . . . 6 . . .
3 2 . . . 3 . . . 1
4 . . 9 . . . 8 . .
5 . . 5 . . . 3 . .
6 . . 4 9 . 2 5 . .
7 . . 3 . . . 7 . .
8 . . 7 . . . 4 . .
9 8 . . . 5 . . . 9
10 . . . 7 . . . . .
11
12 Step 1: Queue length: 1620
13 Step 2: Queue length: 1619
14 Step 3: Queue length: 1618
15 Step 4: Queue length: 1617
16 Step 5: Queue length: 1635
17 Step 6: Queue length: 1653
18 Step 7: Queue length: 1671
19 Step 8: Queue length: 1670

```



```

20 Step 9: Queue length: 1669
21 Step 10: Queue length: 1668
22 ...
23 Step 6798: Queue length: 10
24 Step 6799: Queue length: 9
25 Step 6800: Queue length: 8
26 Step 6801: Queue length: 7
27 Step 6802: Queue length: 6
28 Step 6803: Queue length: 5
29 Step 6804: Queue length: 4
30 Step 6805: Queue length: 3
31 Step 6806: Queue length: 2
32 Step 6807: Queue length: 1
33
34 Sudoku after AC-3:
35 . . . . . 6 . . .
36 2 . . . 3 . . . 1
37 . . 9 . . . 8 . .
38 . . 5 . . . 3 . .
39 . . 4 9 . 2 5 . .
40 . . 3 . . . 7 . .
41 . . 7 . . . 4 . .
42 8 . . . 5 . . . 9
43 . . . 7 . . . . .
44
45 AC-3 did not completely solve the puzzle. Applying backtracking...
46 No solution exists.
47 Final Solution:
48 . . . . . 6 . . .
49 2 . . . 3 . . . 1
50 . . 9 . . . 8 . .
51 . . 5 . . . 3 . .
52 . . 4 9 . 2 5 . .
53 . . 3 . . . 7 . .
54 . . 7 . . . 4 . .
55 8 . . . 5 . . . 9
56 . . . 7 . . . . .

```

Scenario 3: Can be solved by backtracking NOTE: The top 10 and bottom 10 steps are shown due to the sheer quantity of steps needed. A better example will be provided during live demo of code.

```

1 Original Sudoku:
2 1 . 5 . 7 . . . .
3 . . 4 . . 3 9 . .
4 . . . . . . . 6 8
5 . 9 . . . 7 . 2 .
6 . . . . . 2 8 . 7
7 . . 3 . 4 . . . .
8 . . 8 . . . . 3 .
9 9 4 . 5 . . . . .
10 . . . . . 4 2 . .
11
12 Step 1: Queue length: 1620
13 Step 2: Queue length: 1619
14 Step 3: Queue length: 1618

```

```

15 Step 4: Queue length: 1617
16 Step 5: Queue length: 1616
17 Step 6: Queue length: 1615
18 Step 7: Queue length: 1614
19 Step 8: Queue length: 1613
20 Step 9: Queue length: 1612
21 Step 10: Queue length: 1611
22 ...
23 Step 7482: Queue length: 10
24 Step 7483: Queue length: 9
25 Step 7484: Queue length: 8
26 Step 7485: Queue length: 7
27 Step 7486: Queue length: 6
28 Step 7487: Queue length: 5
29 Step 7488: Queue length: 4
30 Step 7489: Queue length: 3
31 Step 7490: Queue length: 2
32 Step 7491: Queue length: 1
33
34 Sudoku after AC-3:
35 1 . 5 . 7 . 3 4 2
36 . . 4 . . 3 9 . .
37 . . . . . . 6 8
38 . 9 . . . 7 . 2 .
39 . . . . . 2 8 . 7
40 . . 3 . 4 . . . .
41 . . 8 . . . . 3 .
42 9 4 . 5 . . . . .
43 . . . . . 4 2 . .
44
45 AC-3 did not completely solve the puzzle. Applying backtracking...
46 Final Solution:
47 1 8 5 9 7 6 3 4 2
48 7 6 4 2 8 3 9 5 1
49 3 2 9 4 1 5 7 6 8
50 8 9 1 6 5 7 4 2 3
51 4 5 6 3 9 2 8 1 7
52 2 7 3 8 4 1 6 9 5
53 6 1 8 7 2 9 5 3 4
54 9 4 2 5 3 8 1 7 6
55 5 3 7 1 6 4 2 8 9

```