

Report.pdf

Takunda Takaindisa — Assignment 1

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1 Appendix

```
/*
Sudoku rules :
1) Each 3*3 box must have the #'s 1-9
2) Each Row must have the #'s 1-9
3) Each column must have the #'s 1-9
4) A number can only appear once in each row, column, 3*3
   box
5) Order doesn't matter
*/

#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#define N 9
int checkRow(int grid[N][N], int row, int num);
int checkColumn(int grid[N][N], int column, int num);
int checkBox(int grid[N][N], int boxRow, int boxColumn,
             int num);
int solveSudoku(int grid[N][N], int row, int column);
int main();
int count = 0;
//check if num is already in row, if yes, then num can't
//be placed there
int checkRow(int grid[N][N], int row, int num) {
    for (int column = 0; column < N; column++)
        if (grid[row][column] == num)
            return 0;
    return 1;
}
//check if num is already in column, if yes, then num
//can't be placed there
```

```

int checkColumn(int grid[N][N], int column, int num) {
    for (int row = 0; row < N; row++)
        if (grid[row][column] == num)
            return 0;
    return 1;
}
//check if num is present in the 3*3 box, if yes, then
//num can't be placed there
int checkBox(int grid[N][N], int boxRow, int boxColumn,
int num) {
    for (int row = 0; row < 3; row++)
        for (int column = 0; column < 3; column++)
            if (grid[row + boxRow][column + boxColumn] ==
                num)
                return 0;
    return 1;
}
/*
Calculation of boxRow/boxColumn:
row%3/column%3, the remainder gives the relative position
of the current row/column in 3*3 box
subtracting the remainder from row/column gives the
starting row/column index of the row/column in the 3*3
box
from there, iterate 3 times, meaning you've gone through
the 3 rows/columns of the 3*3 box
*/
}

int solveSudoku(int grid[N][N], int row, int column) {
    count++;
    //count appended after every function call
    if (row == N - 1 && column == N)
        /*
        row = N-1 means the last row
        column = N (after the last row) means all the rows in
        the current column are processed/move to next row
        column needs to be compared to N because if you
        stopped at N-1, the program wouldn't iterate for
        the bottom right cell
        */
        return 1;

    if (column == N) { //when you're at the last column,
        move on to the next row, start from the first
        column
    }
}

```

```

        row++;
        column = 0;
    }

    if (grid[row][column] > 0) //if the element in the
        current place isn't 0/ is a number, move on and
        start from next column
        return solveSudoku(grid, row, column + 1);

    for (int num = 1; num <= N; num++) {
        if (checkRow(grid, row, num) && checkColumn(grid,
            column, num) && checkBox(grid, row - row % 3,
            column - column % 3, num)) {
            //if the number isn't in the current row,
            column or 3*3 grid
            grid[row][column] = num; //the number can
            then be put in the placeholder
            if (solveSudoku(grid, row, column + 1)) //if
            all previous checks/iterations return True
            , run the function again for the next
            column
                return 1;
            grid[row][column] = 0; //else that number won
            't work, set it to 0 again
        }
    }
    return 0;
}

int main() {
    int grid[N][N] = {
        {0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0},
        {0, 0, 0, 6, 0, 0, 0, 0, 3},
        {0, 7, 4, 0, 8, 0, 0, 0, 0},
        {0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 3, 0, 0, 2},
        {0, 8, 0, 0, 4, 0, 0, 1, 0},
        {6, 0, 0, 5, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0},
        {0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 7, 8, 0},
        {5, 0, 0, 0, 0, 9, 0, 0, 0},
        {0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 4, 0}
    };

    if (solveSudoku(grid, 0, 0)) {
        printf("Solution found after %d iterations:\n",
            count);
    }
}

```

```

    for (int i = 0; i < N; i++) {
        if (i % 3 == 0 && i != 0) {
            printf("—————\n");
        }
        for (int j = 0; j < N; j++) {
            if (j % 3 == 0 && j != 0) {
                printf("| ");
            }
            printf("%d", grid[i][j]);
        }
        printf("\n");
    }
} else {
    printf("No solution exists\n");
}

return 0;
}

```

2 Functions

2.1 checkRow

```
//check if num is already in row, if yes, then num can't  
be placed there  
int checkRow(int grid[N][N], int row, int num) {  
    for (int column = 0; column < N; column++)  
        if (grid[row][column] == num)  
            return 0;  
    return 1;  
}
```

2.2 checkColumn

```
//check if num is already in column, if yes, then num  
can't be placed there  
int checkColumn(int grid[N][N], int column, int num) {  
    for (int row = 0; row < N; row++)  
        if (grid[row][column] == num)  
            return 0;  
    return 1;  
}
```

2.3 checkBox

```
//check if num is present in the 3*3 box, if yes, then nu  
can't be placed there  
int checkBox(int grid[N][N], int boxRow, int boxColumn,  
int num) {  
    for (int row = 0; row < 3; row++)  
        for (int column = 0; column < 3; column++)  
            if (grid[row + boxRow][column + boxColumn] ==  
                num)  
                return 0;  
    return 1;  
}
```

2.4 solveSudoku

```

int solveSudoku(int grid[N][N], int row, int column) {
    count++;
    //count appended after every function call
    if (row == N - 1 && column == N)
        /*
        row = N-1 means the last row
        column = N (after the last row) means all the rows in
        the current column are processed/move to next row
        column needs to be compared to N because if you
        stopped at N-1, the program wouldn't iterate for
        the bottom right cell
        */
        return 1;

    if (column == N) { //when you're at the last column,
        move on to the next row, start from th first
        column
        row++;
        column = 0;
    }

    if (grid[row][column] > 0) //if the element in the
        current place isn't 0/ is a number, move on and
        start from next column
        return solveSudoku(grid, row, column + 1);

    for (int num = 1; num <= N; num++) {
        if (checkRow(grid, row, num) && checkColumn(grid,
            column, num) && checkBox(grid, row - row % 3,
            column - column % 3, num)) {
            //if the number isn't in the current row,
            column or 3*3 grid
            grid[row][column] = num; //the number can
            then be put in the placeholder
            if (solveSudoku(grid, row, column + 1)) //if
            all previous checks/iterations return True
            , run the function again for the next
            column
            return 1;
            grid[row][column] = 0; //else that number won
            't work, set it to 0 again
        }
    }
}

```

```

    return 0;
}

```

2.5 main

```

int main() {
    int grid[N][N] = {
        {0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0},
        {0, 0, 0, 6, 0, 0, 0, 0, 3},
        {0, 7, 4, 0, 8, 0, 0, 0, 0},
        {0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 3, 0, 0, 2},
        {0, 8, 0, 0, 4, 0, 0, 1, 0},
        {6, 0, 0, 5, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0},
        {0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 7, 8, 0},
        {5, 0, 0, 0, 0, 9, 0, 0, 0},
        {0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 4, 0}
    };

    if (solveSudoku(grid, 0, 0)) {
        printf("Solution found after %d iterations:\n",
            count);
        for (int i = 0; i < N; i++) {
            if (i % 3 == 0 && i != 0) {
                printf("—————\n");
            }
            for (int j = 0; j < N; j++) {
                if (j % 3 == 0 && j != 0) {
                    printf("| ");
                }
                printf("%d", grid[i][j]);
            }
            printf("\n");
        }
    } else {
        printf("No solution exists\n");
    }

    return 0;
}

```

3 Summary

In order to find a solution for a given grid, the program has functions called `checkRow`, `checkBox`, `checkColumn`, `sudokuSolver` and `main`. The `sudokuSolver` iterates the value of `num` from 1 to 9 using a for loop, and for each value of `num`, the `checkRow` function is used to check if `num` is already present in a specific row, `checkColumn` will be used to check if `num` is already present in a specific column, and `checkBox` will be used to check if `num` is already present in a given 3*3 grid. If any of these conditions are met, then `num` cannot be placed there as per the rules of sudoku. The `solveSudoku` function needs to do this in order to check if valid numbers can be placed in the empty cells of the given sudoku grid without violating the rules of Sudoku. The recursive nature of the `solveSudoku` function allows it to backtrack to ensure that all possibilities for the individual placeholders are looked over until a valid solution is found. The `main` function is where the sudoku grid is initialized via the user hard coding it in the program and then the program will solve the grid by calling the `solveSudoku` function inside the `main` function. The program will return "no solution exists" in the event `solveSudoku` function reaches a point where no valid number can be placed in an empty cell without violating the rules of Sudoku.