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# Chapter 1

## 24-Game Solver

An enhanced version of the 24-game solver using recursive search and pruning.

This program allows users to solve the 24-game using the following features:

- Recursive search with pruning
- Progress bar to monitor search progress
- OpenMP parallelization for multi-core systems
- Optimization for commutative operations (addition and multiplication)

Users can either use default settings or customize them according to their needs. The program outputs include:

- The first valid solution for 24
- Detailed recursive steps and expressions

Additionally, the program supports solving the game with varying number of inputs and halts upon finding a valid solution.

### 1.0.1 Key Features

- Implements recursive search for the 24-game
- Supports up to 8 input numbers
- OpenMP for parallelization on larger input sizes
- Progress bar for visual feedback during the search process

### 1.0.2 How to Use

1. Compile the program with OpenMP support (`gfortran -fopenmp`).
2. Enter the number of numbers (between 1 and 8).
3. Provide the input numbers or card values (A=1, J=11, Q=12, K=13).
4. View the solution if found, or a message indicating no solution.



## Chapter 2

# Modules Index

### 2.1 Modules List

Here is a list of all modules with brief descriptions:

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# Chapter 3

## File Index

### 3.1 File List

Here is a list of all files with brief descriptions:

[game24\\_ultra.f90](#)

The main entry point for the 24-game solver, utilizing recursive search, progress bar, and OpenMP parallelization . . . . .

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# Chapter 4

## Module Documentation

### 4.1 game24\_module Module Reference

#### Functions/Subroutines

- subroutine `convert_to_number` (input\_str, number, ios)  
*Converts user input (cards or numbers) into numeric values.*
- subroutine `remove_decimal_zeros` (str, result)  
*Removes trailing zeros after the decimal point in a string.*
- subroutine `create_new_arrays` (nums, exprs, idx1, idx2, result, new\_expr, new\_nums, new\_exprs)  
*Creates new arrays after performing an operation.*
- subroutine `update_progress_bar` ()  
*Updates and displays the horizontal percentage-based progress bar.*
- recursive subroutine `solve_24` (nums, exprs, found)  
*Recursively solves the 24 game by trying all possible operations.*

#### Variables

- integer, parameter `max_limit` = 8
- integer, parameter `expr_len` = 200
- integer(int64), parameter `total_calls_n6` = 20000000\_int64
- integer(int64), parameter `total_calls_n7` = 2648275200\_int64
- integer(int64), parameter `total_calls_n8` = 444557593600\_int64
- integer(int64) `total_calls` = 0
- integer(int64) `completed_calls` = 0
- integer `last_percentage` = -1
- integer, parameter `progress_bar_width` = 50
- character(len=1) `carriage_return` = char(13)
- logical `show_progress` = .false.

#### 4.1.1 Function/Subroutine Documentation

##### 4.1.1.1 convert\_to\_number()

```
subroutine game24_module::convert_to_number (  
    character(len=*), intent(in) input_str,  
    real, intent(out) number,  
    integer, intent(out) ios)
```

Converts user input (cards or numbers) into numeric values.

Handles card values such as 'A', 'J', 'Q', 'K'.

## Parameters

<i>input_str</i>	String representing the number or card value
<i>number</i>	The corresponding numeric value after conversion
<i>ios</i>	I/O status indicator (0 for success)

```

00089      implicit none
00090      character(len=*) , intent(in) :: input_str
00091      real, intent(out)              :: number
00092      integer, intent(out)           :: ios
00093      character(len=1)               :: first_char
00094      real                           :: temp_number
00095
00096      ios = 0 ! Reset the I/O status to 0 (valid input by default)
00097      first_char = input_str(1:1)
00098
00099      select case (first_char)
00100      case ('A', 'a')
00101          number = 1.0
00102      case ('J', 'j')
00103          number = 11.0
00104      case ('Q', 'q')
00105          number = 12.0
00106      case ('K', 'k')
00107          number = 13.0
00108      case default
00109          read (input_str, *, iostat=ios) temp_number ! Attempt to read a real number
00110
00111          ! If input is not a valid real number or is not an integer, set ios to 1
00112          if (ios /= 0 .or. mod(temp_number, 1.0) /= 0.0) then
00113              ios = 1 ! Invalid input
00114          else
00115              number = temp_number ! Valid integer input
00116          end if
00117      end select

```

## 4.1.1.2 create\_new\_arrays()

```

subroutine game24_module::create_new_arrays (
    real, dimension(:), intent(in) nums,
    character(len=expr_len), dimension(:), intent(in) exprs,
    integer, intent(in) idx1,
    integer, intent(in) idx2,
    real, intent(in) result,
    character(len=expr_len), intent(in) new_expr,
    real, dimension(:), intent(out), allocatable new_nums,
    character(len=expr_len), dimension(:), intent(out), allocatable new_exprs)

```

Creates new arrays after performing an operation.

## Parameters

<i>nums</i>	Input array of numbers
<i>exprs</i>	Input array of expressions
<i>idx1</i>	Index of the first element to remove
<i>idx2</i>	Index of the second element to remove
<i>result</i>	Result of the operation
<i>new_expr</i>	New expression string
<i>new_nums</i>	Output array of numbers with elements removed and result added
<i>new_exprs</i>	Output array of expressions with elements removed and new_expr added

```

00155      implicit none
00156      real, intent(in)              :: nums(:)      ! Input: Array of numbers
00157      character(len=expr_len), intent(in) :: exprs(:) ! Input: Array of expressions
00158      integer, intent(in)             :: idx1, idx2  ! Input: Indices of elements to
remove

```

```

00159      real, intent(in)                :: result      ! Input: Result of the operation
00160      character(len=expr_len), intent(in) :: new_expr   ! Input: New expression
00161      real, allocatable, intent(out)      :: new_nums(:) ! Output: New array of numbers
00162      character(len=expr_len), allocatable, intent(out) :: new_exprs(:) ! Output: New array of
expressions
00163      integer                :: i, j, n      ! Loop counters and size of input
arrays
00164
00165      n = size(nums)
00166      allocate (new_nums(n - 1))
00167      allocate (new_exprs(n - 1))
00168
00169      j = 0
00170      do i = 1, n
00171          if (i /= idx1 .and. i /= idx2) then
00172              j = j + 1
00173              new_nums(j) = nums(i)
00174              new_exprs(j) = exprs(i)
00175          end if
00176      end do
00177
00178      ! Add the result of the operation to the new arrays
00179      new_nums(n - 1) = result
00180      new_exprs(n - 1) = new_expr

```

#### 4.1.1.3 remove\_decimal\_zeros()

```

subroutine game24_module::remove_decimal_zeros (
    character(len=*), intent(in) str,
    character(len=*), intent(out) result)

```

Removes trailing zeros after the decimal point in a string.

##### Parameters

<i>str</i>	Input string that may contain trailing zeros
<i>result</i>	Output string with trailing zeros removed

```

00124      implicit none
00125      character(len=*), intent(in) :: str      ! Input: String to remove zeros from
00126      character(len=*), intent(out) :: result   ! Output: String without trailing zeros
00127      integer                :: i, len_str    ! Loop counter and string length
00128
00129      len_str = len_trim(str)
00130      result = adjustl(str(1:len_str))
00131
00132      ! Find the position of the decimal point
00133      i = index(result, '.')
00134
00135      ! If there's a decimal point, remove trailing zeros
00136      if (i > 0) then
00137          do while (len_str > i .and. result(len_str:len_str) == '0')
00138              len_str = len_str - 1
00139          end do
00140          if (result(len_str:len_str) == '.') len_str = len_str - 1
00141          result = result(1:len_str)
00142      end if

```

#### 4.1.1.4 solve\_24()

```

recursive subroutine game24_module::solve_24 (
    real, dimension(:), intent(in) nums,
    character(len=expr_len), dimension(:), intent(in) exprs,
    logical, intent(inout) found)

```

Recursively solves the 24 game by trying all possible operations.

Utilizes OpenMP tasks for parallelization.

## Parameters

<i>nums</i>	Array of numbers to use in the game
<i>exprs</i>	Array of string expressions representing the numbers
<i>found</i>	Logical flag indicating if a solution has been found

```

00226      use omp_lib
00227      implicit none
00228      real, intent(in)                :: nums(:)      ! Input: Array of numbers
00229      character(len=expr_len), intent(in) :: exprs(:)  ! Input: Array of expressions
00230      logical, intent(inout)           :: found       ! Input/Output: Flag indicating if a
! solution is found
00231      integer                          :: n            ! Size of the input arrays
00232      integer                          :: i, j, op      ! Loop counters
00233      real                             :: a, b, result  ! Temporary variables for
! calculations
00234      real, allocatable                :: new_nums(:)   ! Temp array to store numbers after
! an operation
00235      character(len=expr_len), allocatable :: new_exprs(:) ! Temp array to store expressions
! after an operation
00236      character(len=expr_len)           :: expr_a, expr_b, new_expr ! Temp variables for
! expressions
00237
00238      n = size(nums)
00239
00240      ! Increment the completed_calls counter and update progress bar
00241      if (show_progress) then
00242          !$omp atomic
00243          completed_calls = completed_calls + 1
00244          call update_progress_bar()
00245      end if
00246
00247      ! If a solution is found, return
00248      if (found) return
00249
00250      ! Base case: If only one number is left, check if it is 24
00251      if (n == 1) then
00252          if (abs(nums(1) - 24.0) < 1e-4) then
00253              if (show_progress) then
00254                  write (*, '(A, F5.1, A)', advance='no') carriage_return//'[//repeat('=',
! progress_bar_width)//] ', 100.0, '%'
00255                  write (*, '(A)') " ! Insert a blank line
00256              end if
00257              !$omp critical
00258              write (*, '(A, A, A, F10.7, A)') 'Solution found:', trim(exprs(1)), '= 24 (' , nums(1),
! ')',
00259              found = .true.
00260              !$omp end critical
00261          end if
00262          return
00263      end if
00264
00265      ! Iterate over all pairs of numbers
00266      do i = 1, n - 1
00267          do j = i + 1, n
00268              a = nums(i)
00269              b = nums(j)
00270              expr_a = exprs(i)
00271              expr_b = exprs(j)
00272
00273              ! Iterate over all operators
00274              do op = 1, 4
00275                  ! Avoid division by zero
00276                  if ((op == 4 .and. abs(b) < 1e-6)) cycle
00277
00278                  ! Perform the operation and create the new expression
00279                  select case (op)
00280                  case (1)
00281                      result = a + b
00282                      new_expr = ' ( '//trim(expr_a)//'+ '//trim(expr_b)//' )'
00283                  case (2)
00284                      result = a - b
00285                      new_expr = ' ( '//trim(expr_a)//'- '//trim(expr_b)//' )'
00286                  case (3)
00287                      result = a * b
00288                      new_expr = ' ( '//trim(expr_a)//'* '//trim(expr_b)//' )'
00289                  case (4)
00290                      result = a / b
00291                      new_expr = ' ( '//trim(expr_a)//'/ '//trim(expr_b)//' )'
00292                  end select
00293
00294                  ! Create new arrays with the selected numbers removed
00295                  call create_new_arrays(nums, exprs, i, j, result, new_expr, new_nums, new_exprs)
00296

```

```

00297         ! For the first few recursion levels, create parallel tasks
00298         if (n >= 6 .and. omp_get_level() < 2) then
00299             !$omp task shared(found) firstprivate(new_nums, new_exprs)
00300             call solve_24(new_nums, new_exprs, found)
00301             !$omp end task
00302         else
00303             call solve_24(new_nums, new_exprs, found)
00304         end if
00305
00306         ! If a solution is found, deallocate memory and return
00307         if (found) then
00308             deallocate (new_nums)
00309             deallocate (new_exprs)
00310             return
00311         end if
00312
00313         ! Handle commutative operations only once
00314         if (op == 1 .or. op == 3) cycle
00315
00316         ! Swap operands for subtraction and division
00317         if (op == 2 .or. op == 4) then
00318             if (op == 4 .and. abs(a) < 1e-6) cycle ! Avoid division by zero
00319
00320             select case (op)
00321             case (2)
00322                 result = b - a
00323                 new_expr = ' ( '//trim(expr_b)//'- '//trim(expr_a)//')'
00324             case (4)
00325                 result = b / a
00326                 new_expr = ' ( '//trim(expr_b)//'/' '//trim(expr_a)//')'
00327             end select
00328
00329         ! Create new arrays with the selected numbers removed
00330         call create_new_arrays(nums, exprs, i, j, result, new_expr, new_nums,
new_exprs)
00331
00332         ! For the first few recursion levels, create parallel tasks
00333         if (n >= 6 .and. omp_get_level() < 2) then
00334             !$omp task shared(found) firstprivate(new_nums, new_exprs)
00335             call solve_24(new_nums, new_exprs, found)
00336             !$omp end task
00337         else
00338             ! Recursively call the solve_24 function with the new arrays
00339             call solve_24(new_nums, new_exprs, found)
00340         end if
00341
00342         ! If a solution is found, deallocate memory and return
00343         if (found) then
00344             deallocate (new_nums)
00345             deallocate (new_exprs)
00346             return
00347         end if
00348     end if
00349
00350     end do ! End of operator loop
00351 end do ! End of j loop
00352 end do ! End of i loop

```

#### 4.1.15 update\_progress\_bar()

subroutine game24\_module::update\_progress\_bar

Updates and displays the horizontal percentage-based progress bar.

```

00185     implicit none
00186     real :: percentage
00187     integer :: filled_length
00188     character(len=progress_bar_width) :: bar
00189     integer :: int_percentage
00190
00191     if (total_calls == 0 .or. .not. show_progress) return ! Avoid division by zero and check the
flag
00192
00193     percentage = real(completed_calls) / real(total_calls) * 100.0
00194
00195     ! Ensure percentage does not exceed 100%
00196     if (percentage > 100.0) percentage = 100.0
00197
00198     ! Calculate integer percentage
00199     int_percentage = int(percent)
00200
00201     ! Update progress bar only when percentage increases by at least 1%
00202     if (int_percentage > last_percentage) then

```

```

00203         last_percentage = int_percentage
00204
00205         ! Calculate the filled length of the progress bar
00206         filled_length = min(int(percentage / 100.0 * progress_bar_width), progress_bar_width)
00207
00208         ! Construct the progress bar string
00209         bar = repeat('=', filled_length)
00210         if (filled_length < progress_bar_width) then
00211             bar = bar//>'>'//repeat(' ', progress_bar_width - filled_length - 1)
00212         end if
00213
00214         ! Print the progress bar and integer percentage
00215         write (*, '(A, F4.1, A)', advance='no') carriage_return//['//bar//'] ', percentage, '%'
00216         call flush (0) ! Ensure output is displayed immediately
00217     end if

```

## 4.1.2 Variable Documentation

### 4.1.2.1 carriage\_return

```

character(len=1) game24_module::carriage_return = char(13)
00055     character(len=1) :: carriage_return = char(13) ! Carriage return character

```

### 4.1.2.2 completed\_calls

```

integer(int64) game24_module::completed_calls = 0
00052     integer(int64) :: completed_calls = 0 ! Number of completed recursive calls

```

### 4.1.2.3 expr\_len

```

integer, parameter game24_module::expr_len = 200
00043     integer, parameter :: expr_len = 200 ! Maximum length for expressions

```

### 4.1.2.4 last\_percentage

```

integer game24_module::last_percentage = -1
00053     integer :: last_percentage = -1 ! Last percentage reported

```

### 4.1.2.5 max\_limit

```

integer, parameter game24_module::max_limit = 8
00042     integer, parameter :: max_limit = 8 ! Maximum allowed value for the number of inputs

```

### 4.1.2.6 progress\_bar\_width

```

integer, parameter game24_module::progress_bar_width = 50
00054     integer, parameter :: progress_bar_width = 50 ! Width of the progress bar

```

### 4.1.2.7 show\_progress

```

logical game24_module::show_progress = .false.
00056     logical :: show_progress = .false. ! Flag to show progress bar

```



#### 4.1.2.8 total\_calls

```
integer(int64) game24_module::total_calls = 0
00051      integer(int64) :: total_calls = 0          ! Total number of recursive calls
```

#### 4.1.2.9 total\_calls\_n6

```
integer(int64), parameter game24_module::total_calls_n6 = 20000000_int64
00046      integer(int64), parameter :: total_calls_n6 = 20000000_int64
```

#### 4.1.2.10 total\_calls\_n7

```
integer(int64), parameter game24_module::total_calls_n7 = 2648275200_int64
00047      integer(int64), parameter :: total_calls_n7 = 2648275200_int64
```

#### 4.1.2.11 total\_calls\_n8

```
integer(int64), parameter game24_module::total_calls_n8 = 444557593600_int64
00048      integer(int64), parameter :: total_calls_n8 = 444557593600_int64
```



# Chapter 5

## File Documentation

### 5.1 game24\_ultra.f90 File Reference

The main entry point for the 24-game solver, utilizing recursive search, progress bar, and OpenMP parallelization.

#### Modules

- module [game24\\_module](#)

#### Functions/Subroutines

- subroutine [game24\\_module::convert\\_to\\_number](#) (input\_str, number, ios)  
*Converts user input (cards or numbers) into numeric values.*
- subroutine [game24\\_module::remove\\_decimal\\_zeros](#) (str, result)  
*Removes trailing zeros after the decimal point in a string.*
- subroutine [game24\\_module::create\\_new\\_arrays](#) (nums, exprs, idx1, idx2, result, new\_expr, new\_nums, new\_exprs)  
*Creates new arrays after performing an operation.*
- subroutine [game24\\_module::update\\_progress\\_bar](#) ()  
*Updates and displays the horizontal percentage-based progress bar.*
- recursive subroutine [game24\\_module::solve\\_24](#) (nums, exprs, found)  
*Recursively solves the 24 game by trying all possible operations.*
- program [game24\\_ultra](#)

#### Variables

- integer, parameter [game24\\_module::max\\_limit](#) = 8
- integer, parameter [game24\\_module::expr\\_len](#) = 200
- integer(int64), parameter [game24\\_module::total\\_calls\\_n6](#) = 20000000\_int64
- integer(int64), parameter [game24\\_module::total\\_calls\\_n7](#) = 2648275200\_int64
- integer(int64), parameter [game24\\_module::total\\_calls\\_n8](#) = 444557593600\_int64
- integer(int64) [game24\\_module::total\\_calls](#) = 0
- integer(int64) [game24\\_module::completed\\_calls](#) = 0
- integer [game24\\_module::last\\_percentage](#) = -1
- integer, parameter [game24\\_module::progress\\_bar\\_width](#) = 50
- character(len=1) [game24\\_module::carriage\\_return](#) = char(13)
- logical [game24\\_module::show\\_progress](#) = .false.

### 5.1.1 Detailed Description

The main entry point for the 24-game solver, utilizing recursive search, progress bar, and OpenMP parallelization.

Author

Gilbert Young

Date

2024/09/15

### 5.1.2 Function/Subroutine Documentation

#### 5.1.2.1 `game24_ultra()`

```
program game24_ultra
```

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