

Lab session: C functions

Danilo Ardagna

Politecnico di Milano

danilo.ardagna@polimi.it



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DI MILANO**

The problem - Sudoku

- In the Sudoku game, a 9x9 grid must be filled with numbers from 1 to 9
- The grid is split in nine rows, nine columns and nine 3x3 subregions; all rows, columns and subregions must contain exactly all numbers from 1 to 9

Example:

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9
4	5	6		7	8	9		1	2	3
7	8	9		1	2	3		4	5	6

2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	1
5	6	7		8	9	1		2	3	4
8	9	1		2	3	4		5	6	7

3	4	5		6	7	8		9	1	2
6	7	8		9	1	2		3	4	5
9	1	2		3	4	5		6	7	8

The problem - Sudoku

- **Goal:** write a program that checks whether a given Sudoku matrix is correct

- A search function

```
int search_key (const unsigned v[], unsigned n_elements,  
               unsigned key);
```

that returns 1 if key is contained in the array v, 0 otherwise, is given

- To generate a Sudoku matrix, the given function

```
void generate_sudoku(unsigned sudoku[ ][SIZE]);
```

can be also used

The problem - Sudoku

You have to implement:

1) a function

```
int basic_search (const unsigned v[], unsigned n_elements);
```

that returns 1 if all numbers from 1 to 9 are contained in v, 0 otherwise

2) three functions

```
int check_rows (const unsigned sudoku[][SIZE]);
```

```
int check_cols (const unsigned sudoku[][SIZE]);
```

```
int check_regions (const unsigned sudoku[][SIZE]);
```

that return 1 if all the rows, columns and subregions (respectively) of the Sudoku matrix comply with the rules, 0 otherwise

The problem - Sudoku

3) a function

```
int check_sudoku(const unsigned sudoku[][SIZE]);
```

that returns:

- 1 if the given Sudoku matrix complies to all Sudoku rules
- -1 if a row violates the game rules
- -2 if a column violates the game rules
- -3 if a region violates the game rules

Credits

- Lewis' algorithm to generate a Sudoku matrix
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sudoku_solving_algorithms

Yoda's lesson

**You want to know the
difference between a
master and a beginner?
The master has failed
more times than the
beginner has ever tried.**

