



Your Freedom in Learning

Group Name: Comp'ilers

Project: KENDOKU (KENKEN) GAME

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1. COMP 206 - COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE SEMESTER PROJECT PROPOSAL

| | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Project Name | : Kendoku (<i>KenKen</i>) Game | | |
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Project Description:

KenKen is a mathematical puzzle in which we must fill in a grid of numbers while following certain criteria. To begin, we must build the game interface. This will entail building a user interface through which the player can interact with the game, i.e., the player will use the UI to understand how to fill or remove the table according to game rules. To show text, receive user input, and draw the game grid, we will utilize the relevant system APIs. When a player finishes filling out the grid in *KenKen*, since there are specific rules that must be followed, the player's result will be compared with the solution. In games like *Sudoku* or *KenKen*, there is only one solution per game, (theoretically, it is possible to have two solutions, but since it is a very low possibility, we ignore that). We'll also add the health mechanic, which is when a player tries to play three times, and if all of them are wrong, the player will lose. Ultimately, we hope that anyone interested in low-level programming through game creation will find it an exciting project.

1.1 Introduction

The goal of this project is to create an interface for the KenKen math puzzle game using the MIPS Mars simulator. Players may fill in or delete numbers from a grid, see their progress, and interact with the game's rules via the gaming interface. The game will use pertinent system APIs to provide a health mechanism that causes players to lose after three consecutive failures. We'll also make sure the game follows the particular principles and criteria for KenKen puzzles so that each participant may only find one right answer.

According to a source, the creation of this KenKen game on the MIPS Mars simulator is a novel challenge that calls for academics to take on the role of producers as opposed to technicians. It has been demonstrated that KenKen, games like ours may help with reasoning, problem-solving, and considering the logic of mathematical puzzles.

1.2 Basics of the Game

Kendoku is a logic-based puzzle game played on a grid, similar to Sudoku. Basics of a 4x4 Kendoku game:

1. Grid: The game is played on a 4x4 grid, consisting of 16 cells.
2. Numbers: The objective of this game is to fill each cell with a number from 1 to 4, without repeating any number in the same row or column.
3. Regions: Each 2x2 region must also contain the numbers 1 to 4 without repetition.
4. Clues: Some cells may be pre-filled with numbers as clues to help you get started. These numbers must also follow the rules of no repetition within rows, columns, or regions.
5. Solution: The puzzle is solved when all cells are filled, and the numbers satisfy all the rules of the game.
6. Logic and Deduction: Solving a Kendoku puzzle requires logical thinking and deduction. By analyzing the given clues and the numbers already placed, you can determine the possible numbers for each cell and eliminate options to fill in the correct numbers.

| | | | |
|-----|-----|------|-----|
| 2 - | 1 - | | 2 - |
| | 2 - | 10 + | |
| 2 - | | | |
| | 9 + | | |

| | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 4 + | 1 - | | 2 - |
| | | 6 + | |
| 1 - | | | 2 - |
| 2 - | | | |

The two KENKEN Maps in the game

| | | | |
|----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| 2 - 4 | 1 - 2 | 1 | 2 - 3 |
| 2 2 | 2 - 3 | 10 + 4 | 1 |
| 2 - 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| 1 | 9 + 4 | 3 | 2 |

| | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 4 + 1 | 1 - 3 | 4 | 2 - 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 6 + 3 | 4 |
| 1 - 3 | 4 | 2 | 2 - 1 |
| 2 - 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 |

The solutions to the two KENKEN puzzles in the game.

Below are some emails where our group exchanged ideas and received advice from Buse Hoca:

[illegible]

5

While developing, we talked about possible design examples among ourselves on many subjects by emailing Buse Hoca in order to put our project on a more concrete level of implementation thanks to some exchange of ideas while developing it.

Bit Display (Not finished):

-Game Grid

-Game Control Numbers (Can be determined by colors)

End of the Game:

-Health

-Is the game correct or not? This will be handled with controlling solution array and game array

Input:

-Taking numbers from user these numbers are

- Location of the game number
- Game control, (will the player add a number or delete an existing one)
- The game number itself.

Print:

-The game numbers will be indicated with matrix elements and lines that we added as data variables

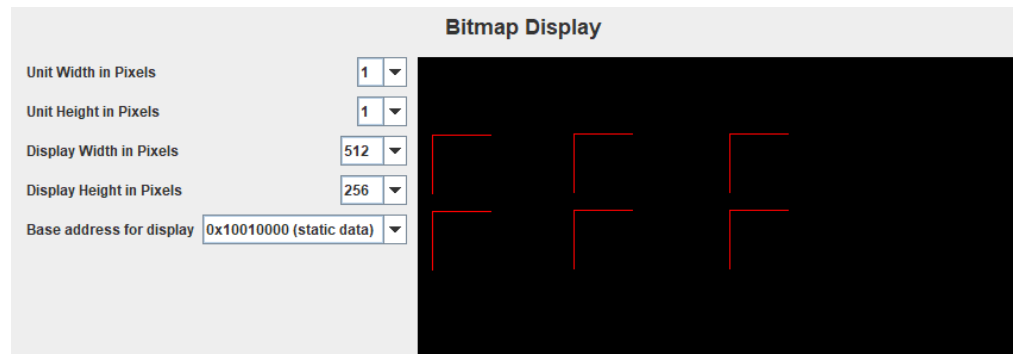
2.2 Challenges

While we were writing the project on MIPS, bitmap display was very difficult for us; although we spent hours on it, we could not configure it somehow, and due to the increasing complexity and lack of resources, we could not be successful in this, and therefore we had a display problem. Then we couldn't finish it while trying to get a printout from our output screen because we had a time management problem.

```
|-----|    | line space
|o|o o|o|    - line
|x|----|x|    x empty_prompt
|o|o|o|o|
|-|x|x|--|
|o|o|o o|
|x|-----|
|o|o o o|
|-----|
```

Our game was originally planned for users to use 5 and 6 to control the flow of the game, but we couldn't manage to restrict the user from using other numbers. If a user uses different numbers (such as 4) while adding numbers, it might cause a bug. Because when we check if it is empty or not, we are checking the control value, which is very important. This problem is only encountered when adding numbers; if the player presses 6 while deleting a number, it will automatically delete the desired location value.

2.2.1 Display Problem:



```
main:
    # draw starting from the center of the screen
    addiu $a0, $zero, WEIGHT    # a0 = WIDTH
    sra $a0, $a0, 3
    addiu $a1, $zero, HEIGHT    # a1 = HEIGHT
    sra $a1, $a1, 1

    addiu $a2, $zero, RED       # a2 = RED
    jal draw_h_line

    addiu $a2, $zero, RED       # a2 = RED
    jal draw_v_line

    li $v0, 10
    syscall
```

2.3 Time Management

We have generally used time management effectively, except for the last part where we had to deal with bitmap display. In the group, Onur mostly did the planning and contributed quite a lot. And also we held our meetings completely over Discord and shared the necessary files and ideas.

3. Resources

References:

- 1) Kalvelagen, E. (n.d.). *MIP Modeling: from Sudoku to KenKen via Logarithms*.
<http://yetanothermathprogrammingconsultant.blogspot.com/2016/10/mip-modeling-from-sudoku-to-kenken.html>
- 2) Camargo, L., Rodrigues, L., Lacerda, D., & Piran, F. (2018). *A method for integrated process simulation in the mining industry*. *Eur. J. Oper. Res.*.
- 3) Ggorlen. (n.d.). *resources/programming-resources.md at master · ggorlen/resources*. GitHub.
<https://github.com/ggorlen/resources/blob/master/programming-resources.md#mips:-:text=Eli%20Bendersky%27s%20website-,MIPS,-MIPS%20system%20calls>
- 4) Quizizz — *The world's most engaging learning platform*. (n.d.).
<https://quizizz.com/admin/quiz/608cfb6d30c3d4001b6c3df0/kat-uzerinde-oylanan-zeka-oyunlar-kendoku>