

# *C++ Software Engineering*

*for engineers of other disciplines*

Mini Project

*Evaluation*

*"What not to do!"*



**ALTE N**

*Summer 2020*

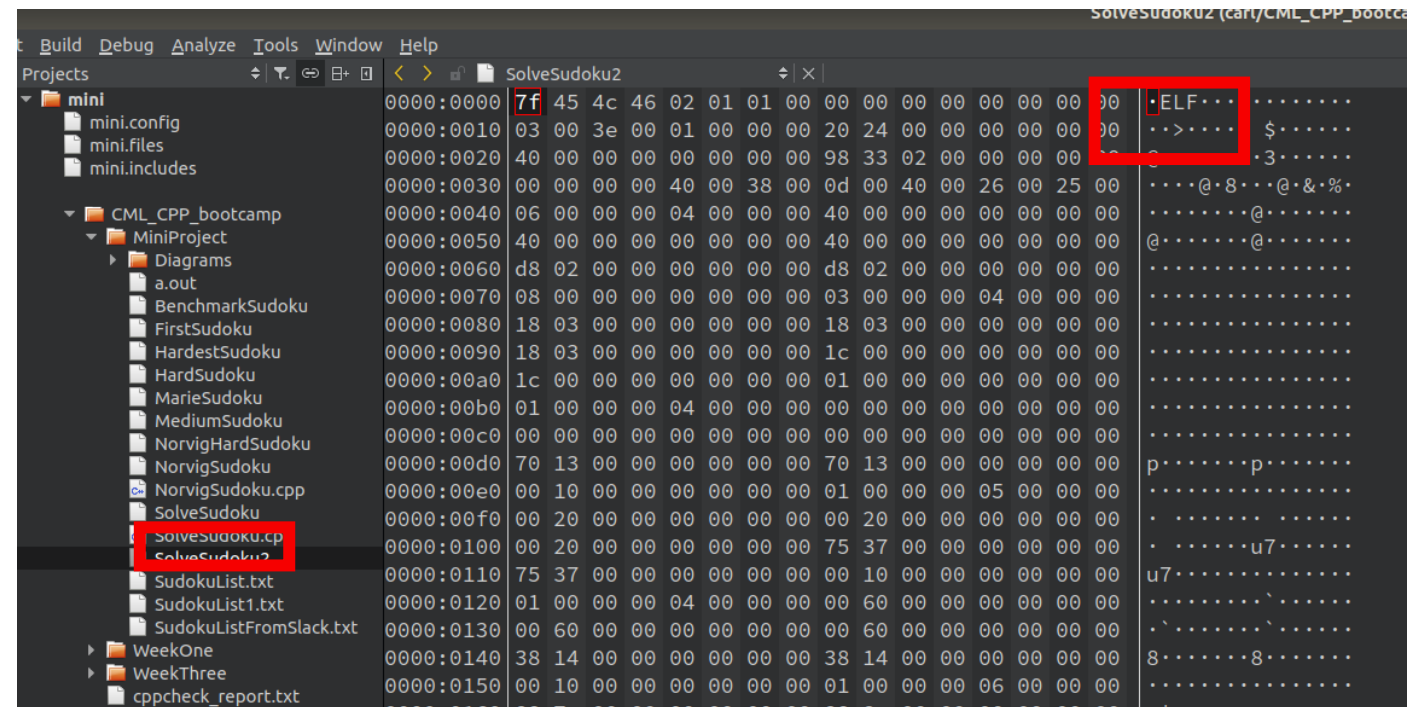
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# What to push to git?

- Only document is uploaded to git! Git bundle for binary – pictures are also binaries! Text is document, ascii!
- Rarely binaries are pushed to git – mostly through git LargeFileStorage (lfs) [1].

[1] [Git Large File Storage | Git Large File Storage \(LFS\)](#)  
replaces large files such as audio samples, videos,  
datasets, and graphics with text pointers inside Git,  
while storing the file contents on a remote server like  
[GitHub.com](#) or [GitHub Enterprise](#).



The screenshot shows a code editor with a project explorer on the left. The project explorer shows a folder named 'mini' containing 'mini.config', 'mini.files', and 'mini.includes'. Below it is a folder named 'CML\_CPP\_bootcamp' containing a folder 'MiniProject' which contains a folder 'Diagrams' and several files. One of the files, 'SolveSudoku2', is highlighted with a red box. The main editor area shows the content of 'SolveSudoku2', which is a binary file. The first few lines of the file are highlighted with a red box, showing the magic number '7f 45 4c 46 02 01 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00' followed by the text 'ELF...'. The rest of the file content is shown in hexadecimal and ASCII format.

# Gitignore

- Define patterns for file to not be tracked!
- Make it hidden by having a dot in the beginning.
- Push to git!
- git will ignore file patterns within “.gitignore”

```
mrz@vu:~/mini$ find . -name ".gitignore"
./david/cppbootcamp/.gitignore
./hrvoje/cppbootcamp/.gitignore
./marie/CppBootcamp/.gitignore
./johanH/boot-camp-workplace/.gitignore
./prakhar/C-_bootcamp/Projects/SudokoPuzzel/Mini_Project/.gitignore
./christopher/cpp-course-alten/.gitignore
./oscar/CppBootCamp/.gitignore
./gote/VCC_CppBootcamp/.gitignore
./yongsen/cxxBootCamp2021/.gitignore
./caroline/cppbootcamp_caroline/.gitignore
```

```
mrz@vu:~/mini/marie/CppBootcamp$ cat .gitignore
# Prerequisites
*/.d
*.d

# Compiled Object files
*.slo
*.lo
*.o
*.obj
*/*.slo
*/*.lo
*/*.o
*/*.obj

# Precompiled Headers
*.gch
*.pch
*/*.gch
*/*.pch

# Compiled Dynamic libraries
*.so
*.dylib
*.dll
*/*.so
*/*.dylib
*/*.dll

# Fortran module files
*.mod
*.smod
*/*.mod
*/*.smod
```

```
# Fortran module files
*.mod
*.smod
*/*.mod
*/*.smod

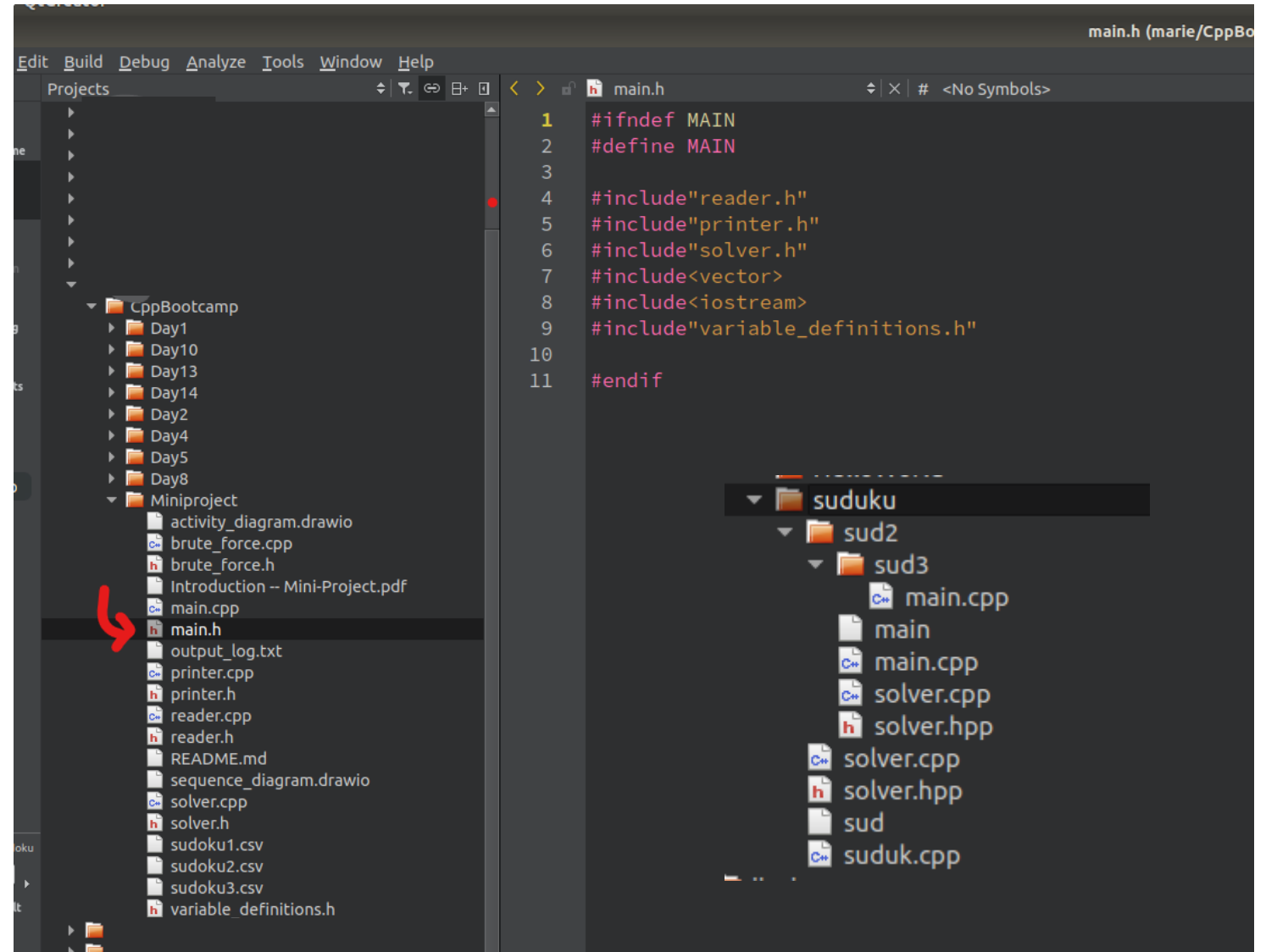
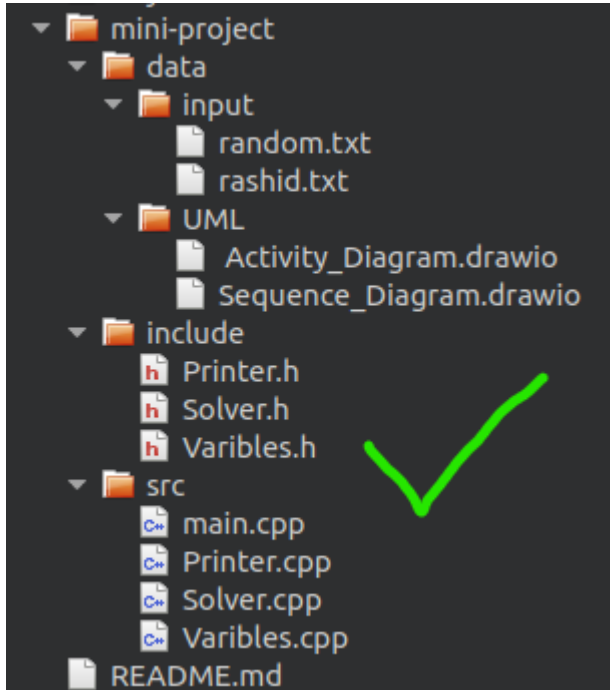
# Compiled Static libraries
*.lai
*.la
*.a
*.lib
*/*.lai
*/*.la
*/*.a
*/*.lib

# Executables
*.exe
*.out
*.app
*/*.exe
*/*.out
*/*.app

# Ignore all files without extension in subfolder
!/**/
!*/**/
!*/*.
.vscode/*
```

# Foldering structure

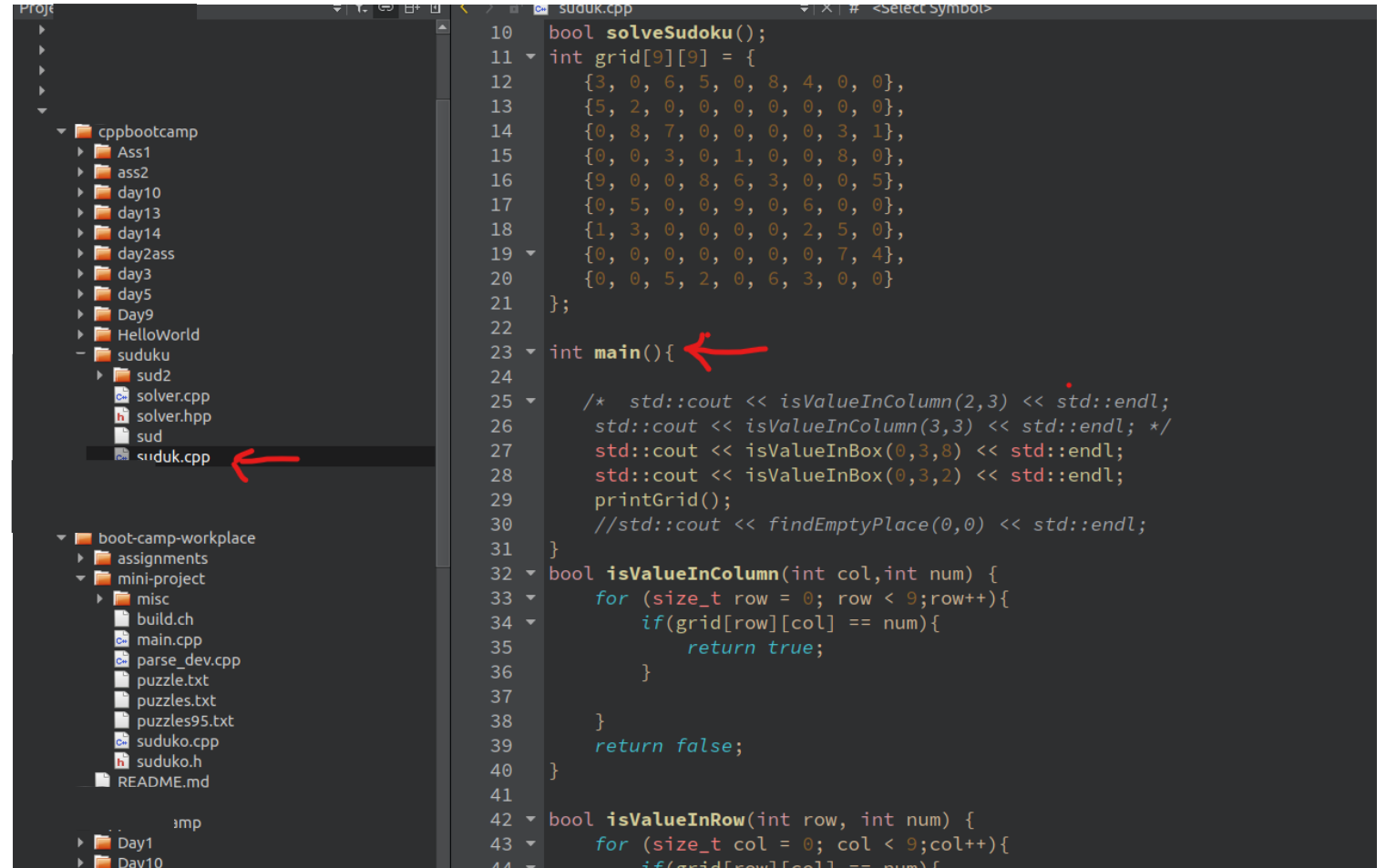
- Separate folder for source files.
- Separate folder for header files.
- Main outside in root?
- Makefile? Cmakelist.txt?



- Everything in one file!
- No header?
- Everything in **main**?
- What to put in **main**?

```
> id NorvigSudoku.cpp* # guessSudoku(Square **): bool
363     }
364 }
365     std::cout << std::endl;
366 }
367
368 //Guess sudoku
369 if(countOfUnCommitted > 0){
370     if(guessSudoku(grid)){
371         std::cout << "-----" << std::endl;
372         std::cout << "After guessing " << std::endl;
373         for(int i=0; i<9; i++){
374             for(int j=0; j<9; j++){
375                 grid[i][j].printPossibleValues();
376                 std::cout << " . ";
377             }
378             std::cout << std::endl;
379         }
380         std::cout << "It took " << numberOfGuesses << " guesses to solve the sudoku." << std::endl;
381     } else {
382         std::cout << "Could not find a solution " << std::endl;
383     }
384 }
385
386 for(int i = 0; i < 9; i++){
387     delete [] grid[i];
388 }
389 delete [] grid;
390 }
391 auto stop = std::chrono::high_resolution_clock::now();
392 auto duration = std::chrono::duration_cast<std::chrono::microseconds>(stop - start);
393 std::cout << "Time of execution: " << duration.count() << " microseconds" << std::endl;
394
395 return 0;
396 }
397
```

- A .cpp file with the same name is recommended to have.



```
10 bool solveSudoku();
11 int grid[9][9] = {
12     {3, 0, 6, 5, 0, 8, 4, 0, 0},
13     {5, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0},
14     {0, 8, 7, 0, 0, 0, 0, 3, 1},
15     {0, 0, 3, 0, 1, 0, 0, 8, 0},
16     {9, 0, 0, 8, 6, 3, 0, 0, 5},
17     {0, 5, 0, 0, 9, 0, 6, 0, 0},
18     {1, 3, 0, 0, 0, 0, 2, 5, 0},
19     {0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 7, 4},
20     {0, 0, 5, 2, 0, 6, 3, 0, 0}
21 };
22
23 int main() {
24     /* std::cout << isValueInColumn(2,3) << std::endl;
25     std::cout << isValueInColumn(3,3) << std::endl; */
26     std::cout << isValueInBox(0,3,8) << std::endl;
27     std::cout << isValueInBox(0,3,2) << std::endl;
28     printGrid();
29     //std::cout << findEmptyPlace(0,0) << std::endl;
30 }
31
32 bool isValueInColumn(int col, int num) {
33     for (size_t row = 0; row < 9; row++) {
34         if (grid[row][col] == num) {
35             return true;
36         }
37     }
38     return false;
39 }
40
41
42 bool isValueInRow(int row, int num) {
43     for (size_t col = 0; col < 9; col++) {
44         if (grid[row][col] == num) {
```

- Two nice main – template for generic parts!
- Why not have logic there? How do you test?

```
1 #include "main.h"
2
3 extern int numberOfGuesses;
4
5 int main(int argc, char **argv) {
6
7     // VARIABLES SET BY USER
8     bool useBruteForce = true;
9     bool prettyPrint = false;
10
11     if (argc == 1) {
12         std::cout << "No input argument provided. Exiting ..." << std::endl;
13         return 1;
14     } else if (argc > 2) {
15         std::cout << "Too many input arguments provided. Exiting ..." << std::endl;
16         return 1;
17     }
18     auto startProgram = std::chrono::high_resolution_clock::now();
19     std::string input = argv[1];
20
21     if ((input.substr(input.find_last_of(".") + 1)) == "csv") { ... }
22     } else if (((input.substr(input.find_last_of(".") + 1)) == "txt")) { ... }
23     } else {
24         std::cout << "Wrong file format..." << std::endl;
25         return 1;
26     }
27     auto endProgram = std::chrono::high_resolution_clock::now();
28     auto duration = std::chrono::duration_cast<std::chrono::milliseconds>(endProgram - startProgram);
29     std::cout << "Total program execution time (ms): " << duration.count() << std::endl;
30
31     return 0;
32 }
```

```
#include <chrono>
#include "sudoku_solver.h"
#include "sudoku_reader.h"

template <class T1>
void RunSudoku (T1 a){
    a.Print("Base grid!");
    auto start = std::chrono::high_resolution_clock::now();
    if (a.SolveSudoku()==true){
        //TODO: check that solved puzzle is correct
        auto stop = std::chrono::high_resolution_clock::now();
        a.Print("Solved grid!");
        auto duration = std::chrono::duration_cast<std::chrono::milliseconds>(stop - start);
        std::cout << "\n\nTimestamp: " << duration.count() << " milliseconds\n" << std::endl;
    } else{
        std::cout << "No solution found";
        a.Print("Unsolved grid!");
    }
    return;
}

int main(int argc, char** argv){
    //std::string s = "...74.1.2.8.....7.....3....5....6....82.7.1.....9.....4.3.....8..9.6..9.41..";

    if (argc == 1){ //if no input file take one from directory
        SudokuSolver S;
        S.SetSudoku("evil.txt");
        RunSudoku(S);
    } else if (argc == 2){ //if input file provided in command line take that file
        std::string s = argv[1];
        SudokuReader R;
        R.SetSudoku(s);
        RunSudoku(R);
    }
}
```



# Base class deduction

- Different algorithms could be invoked the same!

```
class SudokuPuzzle_Bruteforce : public SudokuPuzzle
{
public:
    SudokuPuzzle_Bruteforce(SudokuBoard& board);
    // Solves the given Sudoku board using sequential brute force algorithm
    virtual void solve() override { solve_kernel(0, 0); }
    void solve_kernel(int row, int col);
};
```

```
class SudokuPuzzle_Backtracking : public SudokuPuzzle
{
public:
    SudokuPuzzle_Backtracking(SudokuBoard& board);

    // Solves the given Sudoku board using backtracking algorithm
    virtual void solve() { solve_kernel(); }
    bool solve_kernel();
};
```

```
#include "SudokuBoard.hpp"
using Position = std::pair<int, int>;
enum class MODES
{
    SEQUENTIAL_BACKTRACKING, // Sequential mode using backtracking algorithm
    SEQUENTIAL_BRUTEFORCE,   // Sequential mode using brute force algorithm
};
class SudokuPuzzle {
protected:
    SudokuBoard _board;
    SudokuBoard _solution;
    int _recursionDepth = 0;
    bool _solved = false;
    int _current_num_empty_cells;
    MODES _mode;

public:
    SudokuPuzzle(SudokuBoard& board);

    // Checks if the Sudoku board is ALL filled up
    bool checkIfAllFilled(const SudokuBoard& board) const;
    bool checkIfRowFilled(const SudokuBoard& board, int indexofRows) const;

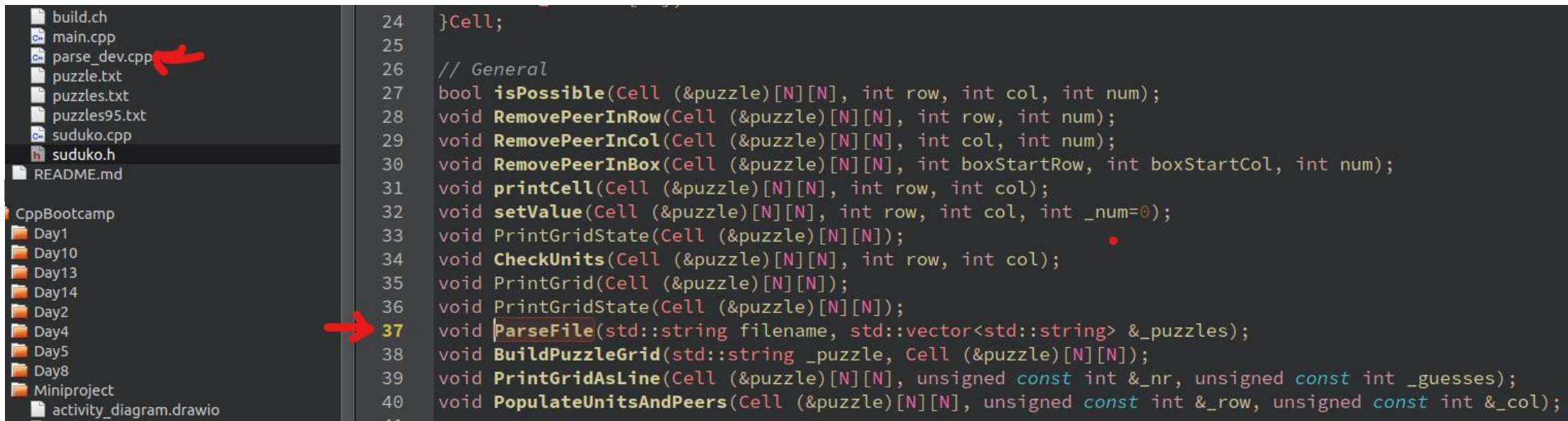
    //bool eliminate(int x_cord, int y_cord, int value);
    virtual void solve() = 0;
    void set_mode(MODES mode) { _mode = mode; }
    bool get_status() const { return _solved; }
    SudokuBoard get_solution() const { return _solution; }

    // Print puzzle in current state
```



# Header

- It is recommended to have a .cpp for any header if it has a function.
- Lazy people might have two header and one cpp if it is not too many function for faster linkage they argue, yet never the other way!!!



```
24 }Cell;
25
26 // General
27 bool isPossible(Cell (&puzzle)[N][N], int row, int col, int num);
28 void RemovePeerInRow(Cell (&puzzle)[N][N], int row, int num);
29 void RemovePeerInCol(Cell (&puzzle)[N][N], int col, int num);
30 void RemovePeerInBox(Cell (&puzzle)[N][N], int boxStartRow, int boxStartCol, int num);
31 void printCell(Cell (&puzzle)[N][N], int row, int col);
32 void setValue(Cell (&puzzle)[N][N], int row, int col, int _num=0);
33 void PrintGridState(Cell (&puzzle)[N][N]);
34 void CheckUnits(Cell (&puzzle)[N][N], int row, int col);
35 void PrintGrid(Cell (&puzzle)[N][N]);
36 void PrintGridState(Cell (&puzzle)[N][N]);
37 void parseFile(std::string filename, std::vector<std::string> &puzzles);
38 void BuildPuzzleGrid(std::string _puzzle, Cell (&puzzle)[N][N]);
39 void PrintGridAsLine(Cell (&puzzle)[N][N], unsigned const int &_nr, unsigned const int &_guesses);
40 void PopulateUnitsAndPeers(Cell (&puzzle)[N][N], unsigned const int &_row, unsigned const int &_col);
41
```

# Long functions are bad!

```
88
89 bool removeInPeers(Square **grid, const int baseRow, const int baseCol, const int value);
90
91 //@mrz: this needs to be refactored!
92 ▶ bool checkForUniqueInUnits(Square **grid, const int baseRow, const int baseCol){ ...}
190
191 bool removeInPeers(Square **grid, const int baseRow, const int baseCol, const int value){ ...}
265
266 = std::pair<int, int> getLocationOfLastPossible(Square **grid){
```

# Goto



```
//@mrz: this needs to be refactored!
bool checkForUniqueInUnits(Square **grid, const int baseRow, const int baseCol){
    if (grid[baseRow][baseCol].getNumberOfPossibles() > 1){
        for(int value : grid[baseRow][baseCol].possibleValues){
            bool check = true;
            //Check in Col
            for(int row = 0; row < 9; row++){
                if(row != baseRow){
                    if(grid[row][baseCol].possibleValues.size()==0){
                        if(value == grid[row][baseCol].getCommitValue()){
                            check = false;
                            goto endCheckCol;/*@mrz:kill me please!
                        }
                    }
                    for(int peerValue : grid[row][baseCol].possibleValues){
                        if(value == peerValue){
                            check = false;
                            goto endCheckCol;/*@mrz:kill me please!
                        }
                    }
                }
            }
        }
        endCheckCol:/*@mrz:kill me please!
        if (check){
            if(isSafe(grid, baseRow , baseCol, value)){
                grid[baseRow][baseCol].commitValue(value);
                if(!removeInPeers(grid, baseRow, baseCol, value)){
                    return false;
                }
            }
            return true;
        }
        //Check in Row
        check = true;
    }
}
```

Debugger Console  
Alt+S

- Semicolons are only needed at the end of a statement, like a struct, or class not a function!

```
182     return true;
183 };
```

184

185 // init a grid of 'EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE' and assign values from a string to it and propagate constraints.

```
186 void Grid::initSudoku(std::string s) {
187     int k = 0;
188     for (int i = 0; i < s.size(); i++) {
189         if (s[i] >= '1' && s[i] <= '9') {
190             if (!assign(k, s[i] - '0')) {
191                 std::cerr << "error" << std::endl;
192                 return;
193             }
194             k++;
195         } else if (s[i] == '0' || s[i] == '.') {
196             k++;
197         }
198     }
199     ;
```

200 extra `;`

201 // constructor with the init function

```
202 Grid::Grid(std::string s) : _squares(81) {
203     for (int i = 0; i < 81; i++) {
204         _squares[i] = Possible();
205     }
206     searchingCounter = 0;
207     initSudoku(s);
208 };
```

# return

- Try not to return in the middle of a function.

```
// eliminate a value from square k and do propagation to its peers
bool Grid::eliminatePossibleFromSquare (int k, int value) {
    // if the value has already been eliminated, return true i.e. successful.
    if (!_squares[k].isTrueForValueInPossibles(value)) {
        return true;
    }

    // set possible for index k as 'false' for the value
    _squares[k].eliminatefromPossiblesOfValue(value);

    const int count = _squares[k].countTrueInPossibles();
    if (count == 0) {
        searchingCounter++;
        std::cout << "Constradiction occured when eliminate " << value << " in row: " << (k/9) << ", col: " << (k%9) << std::endl;
        return false;
    } else if (count == 1) { // if only one possible value

        // Apply the 1st rule of norvig's constraint propagation to eliminate this 'true' value from all peers
        int v = _squares[k].valueOfFirstTrueInPossibles();
        for (int row = 0; row < 9; row++) {
            for (int col = 0; col < 9; col++) {
                // k%9 is the col and k/9 is the row for the square
                if ((col == k % 9) || (row == k / 9) || isInBoxOf(row, col, k)) {
                    if (!(9*row+col == k)) {
                        if (!eliminatePossibleFromSquare(9*row+col, v)) {
                            return false;
                        }
                    }
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```

# const

- Use the keyword, as much as they make sense!

```
10 class Possible {
11     private:
12         std::vector<bool> _boolens;
13     public:
14         Possible();
15         int countTrueInPossibles() const;
16         bool isTrueForValueInPossibles(int i) const;
17         void eliminatefromPossiblesOfValue(int i);
18         int valueOfFirstTrueInPossibles() const;
19         std::string getString(int width) const;
20     };
```

```
10 //*****
11 // Declaration of class 'Grid'
12 //*****
13 class Grid {
14
15     /*A square is 1 of 81 cells in a grid*/
16     std::vector<Possible> _squares;
17     public:
18         int searchingCounter;
19         Possible possible(int k) const { return _squares[k]; }
20         Grid(std::string s);
21         int getIndexOfSquareWithLeastCountOfTrues() const;
22         bool searching(/*std::vector<Possible> &_s*/);
23         bool isSolved() const;
24
25         void print(std::ostream & s) const;
26
27         // eliminate a possible from a square, 'value' is par for eliminating,
28         // 'k' is the index
29         bool eliminatePossibleFromSquare (int k, int value);
30         bool assign(int k, int value);
31         bool isInBoxOf(int row, int col, int k) const;
32         void initSudoku(std::string s);
33     };
```

```
const int count = _squares[k].countTrueInPossibles();
if (count == 0) {
    searchingCounter ++;
    std::cout << "Constradiction occured when eliminate " << value << " in row: " << (k/9) << ", col: " << (k%9) << std::endl;
    return false;
} else if (count == 1) { // if only one possible value
```



# const

```
// Fill in all possible numbers
//@mrz: function call for constant values!?
for (int num = _board.get_min_value(); num <= _board.get_max_value(); ++num)
{
    Position pos = std::make_pair(row, col);

    if (isValid(_board, num, pos))
    {
        _board.set_board_data(row, col, num);
    }
}
```

```
//@mrz why not const?
Board _board_data;
int _BOX_SIZE;
int _BOARD_SIZE=9;
int _MIN_VALUE = 1;
int _MAX_VALUE = _BOARD_SIZE;
int _NUM_CONSTRAINTS = 4; // 4 constraints : cell, row, column, box
int _INIT_NUM_EMPTY_CELLS;
int _EMPTY_CELL_VALUE = 0;
//@mrz: why string for char?
std::string _EMPTY_CELL_CHARACTER = ".";
int _COVER_MATRIX_START_INDEX = 1;

public:
    //@mrz: meaningless
    const Board read_input(const std::string& filename);
    // Writes solution to a text file (solution.txt)
    friend void write_output(const SudokuBoard& solutionBoard);

    SudokuBoard() = default;
    SudokuBoard(const std::string& filename);
    // copy constructor
    SudokuBoard(const SudokuBoard& anotherSudokuBoard);

    void set_board_data(int row, int col, int num) { _board_data[row][col] = num; }
    int get_board_data(int row, int col) const { return _board_data[row][col]; }
    Board get_board_data() const { return _board_data; }
    int at(int row, int col) const { return _board_data[row][col]; }

    {
        int get_box_size() const { return _BOX_SIZE; }
        int get_board_size() const { return _BOARD_SIZE; }
        int get_min_value() const { return _MIN_VALUE; }
        int get_max_value() const { return _MAX_VALUE; }
        int get_init_num_empty_cells() const { return _INIT_NUM_EMPTY_CELLS; }
        int get_empty_cell_value() const { return _EMPTY_CELL_VALUE; }
    }
```



# Overcomplexitinessfull!



- Use things which makes sense!

```
# compiler flags:
# -g      adds debugging information to the executable file
# -Wall   turns on most, but not all, compiler warnings
# -Wextra enables some extra warning flags that are not enabled by -Wall
CXX_FLAGS = --std=c++17 -g -Wall -Wextra -O3 -DVERSION=\"$(GIT_VERSION)\"
```

# Overcomplexitinessfull!

- The squares(state) is tiedd to grid, and the logic – grid is dead, what if another logic needs to be applied to your grid?! GOD object!

```
///  
// C08:ConstReturnValues.cpp  
// Constant return by value  
// Result cannot be used as an lvalue  
  
class X {  
    int i;  
public:  
    X(int ii = 0);  
    void modify();  
};  
  
X::X(int ii) { i = ii; }  
  
void X::modify() { i++; }  
  
X f5() {  
    return X();  
}  
  
const X f6() {  
    return X();  
}  
  
void f7(X& x) { // Pass by non-const reference  
    x.modify();  
}  
  
int main() {  
    f5() = X(1); // OK -- non-const return value  
    f5().modify(); // OK  
    //! f7(f5()); // Causes warning or error  
    // Causes compile-time errors:  
    //! f7(f5());  
    //! f6() = X(1);  
    //! f6().modify();  
    //! f7(f6());  
} ///:~
```

```
///  
// C08:Constval.cpp  
// Returning consts by value  
// has no meaning for built-in types  
  
int f3() { return 1; }  
const int f4() { return 1; }  
  
int main() {  
    const int j = f3(); // Works fine  
    int k = f4(); // But this works fine too!  
} ///:~
```

```
public:  
    //@mrz: meaningless  
    const Board read_input(const std::string& filename);  
    // Writes solution to a text file (solution.txt)
```

# Indentation

- Your code is not yours, and it is your job to make it readable for others!

```
31
32 ▼ int main (int argc, char** const argv) {
33
34     int WRITE_TO_SOLUTION_TXT = 0;
35
36     std::chrono::high_resolution_clock::time_point start, stop;
37     start = std::chrono::high_resolution_clock::now();
38     auto board = SudokuBoard(std::string(argv[1]));
39     SudokuTest::testBoard(board);
40     MODES mode = static_cast<MODES>(std::stoi(argv[2]));
41
42     std::cout << board;
43
44     auto solver = CreateSudokuSolver(mode, board);
45     // int NUM_THREADS = 2;
46     // int WRITE_TO_SOLUTION_TXT = 0;
47
48     solver->solve();
49
```

- Nice idea,
- Not very nice implementation
- 81 initialization
- Automate it – names are for human!

```
square_t
A1,A2,A3,A4,A5,A6,A7,A8,A9,
B1,B2,B3,B4,B5,B6,B7,B8,B9,
C1,C2,C3,C4,C5,C6,C7,C8,C9,
D1,D2,D3,D4,D5,D6,D7,D8,D9,
E1,E2,E3,E4,E5,E6,E7,E8,E9,
F1,F2,F3,F4,F5,F6,F7,F8,F9,
G1,G2,G3,G4,G5,G6,G7,G8,G9,
H1,H2,H3,H4,H5,H6,H7,H8,H9,
I1,I2,I3,I4,I5,I6,I7,I8,I9;

//=====
square_t *squarematrix[N][N] =
//=====

{
    {&A1,&A2,&A3,&A4,&A5,&A6,&A7,&A8,&A9},
    {&B1,&B2,&B3,&B4,&B5,&B6,&B7,&B8,&B9},
    {&C1,&C2,&C3,&C4,&C5,&C6,&C7,&C8,&C9},
    {&D1,&D2,&D3,&D4,&D5,&D6,&D7,&D8,&D9},
    {&E1,&E2,&E3,&E4,&E5,&E6,&E7,&E8,&E9},
    {&F1,&F2,&F3,&F4,&F5,&F6,&F7,&F8,&F9},
    {&G1,&G2,&G3,&G4,&G5,&G6,&G7,&G8,&G9},
    {&H1,&H2,&H3,&H4,&H5,&H6,&H7,&H8,&H9},
    {&I1,&I2,&I3,&I4,&I5,&I6,&I7,&I8,&I9}
};
```

```
A1 =
{"A1",{1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9},0,false,
    {&A2,&A3,&A4,&A5,&A6,&A7,&A8,&A9,&B1,&C1,
    &D1,&E1,&F1,&G1,&H1,&I1,&B2,&B3,&C2,&C3},
    {&A1,&A2,&A3,&A4,&A5,&A6,&A7,&A8,&A9},
    {&A1,&B1,&C1,&D1,&E1,&F1,&G1,&H1,&I1},
    {&A1,&B1,&C1,&A2,&B2,&C2,&A3,&B3,&C3}
};

A2 =
{"A2",{1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9},0,false,
    {&A1,&A3,&A4,&A5,&A6,&A7,&A8,&A9,&B2,&C2,
    &D2,&E2,&F2,&G2,&H2,&I2,&B1,&B3,&C1,&C3},
    {&A1,&A2,&A3,&A4,&A5,&A6,&A7,&A8,&A9},
    {&A2,&B2,&C2,&D2,&E2,&F2,&G2,&H2,&I2},
    {&A1,&B1,&C1,&A2,&B2,&C2,&A3,&B3,&C3}
};

A3 =
{"A3",{1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9},0,false,
    {&A1,&A2,&A4,&A5,&A6,&A7,&A8,&A9,&B3,&C3,
    &D3,&E3,&F3,&G3,&H3,&I3,&B1,&B2,&C1,&C2},
```

```
struct square{
    std::string ID;
    vector<int> possiblevalues = {1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9};
    size_t value = 0;
    bool analysefinalized = false;
    struct square *peers[20]= {nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,
                                nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr};
    struct square *unit1_row[9] = {nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr};
    struct square *unit2_colum[9] = {nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr};
    struct square *unit3_box[9]= {nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr,nullptr};
};
```

- Nice initialization!

```
0 // Initialize cells
1 bool Cell::InitCell(Cell (&_grid)[9][9], Cell (&_grid_copy)[9][9], size_t &_row, size_t &_column){
2
3     Cell *grid_ptr = &(_grid[0][0]); // Points to the top of the Grid[0][0]
4     Cell *grid_copy_ptr = &(_grid_copy[0][0]); // TBD: Points to the top of the sandbox (sb) Grid[0][0]
5     Cell *my_cell_ptr = &(_grid[_row][_column]);
6     Cell *peer_cell_ptr = nullptr;
7     size_t number_of_peers = 0;
8
9     // Receive the instantiated Cell coordinates
10    // Init possible value
11    // Init all peers
12    this->solved_value = 0; // Contains the solved value, contains 0 if unsolved.
13    this->my_coordinates.row = _row;
14    this->my_coordinates.column = _column;
15    // this->my_coordinates.box_top_row = _row - _row % 3;
16    // this->my_coordinates.box_left_column = _column - _column % 3;
17
18    // UGLY INIT OF BOX VALUES...CHANGE LATER
19
20    if (_row < 3 )
21    {
22        this->my_coordinates.box_top_row = 0;
23    } else if ( (2 < _row ) && (_row < 6) )
24    {
25        this->my_coordinates.box_top_row = 3;
26    } else if ( (5 < _row ) && (_row < 9) )
27    {
28        this->my_coordinates.box_top_row = 6;
29    } else std::cout << "Row is out of bounds." << std::endl;
30
31    if (_column < 3 )
32    {
33        this->my_coordinates.box_left_column = 0;
34    } else if ( (2 < _column ) && (_column < 6) )
35    {
```

# Vector erase

```
#include <algorithm>
#include <string>
#include <string_view>
#include <iostream>
#include <cctype>

int main()
{
    std::string str1 = "Text with some  spaces";

    auto noSpaceEnd = std::remove(str1.begin(), str1.end(), ' ');

    // The spaces are removed from the string only logically.
    // Note, we use view, the original string is still not shrunk:
    std::cout << std::string_view(str1.begin(), noSpaceEnd)
              << " size: " << str1.size() << '\n';

    str1.erase(noSpaceEnd, str1.end());

    // The spaces are removed from the string physically.
    std::cout << str1 << " size: " << str1.size() << '\n';

    std::string str2 = "Text\n with\tsome \t whitespaces\n\n";
    str2.erase(std::remove_if(str2.begin(),
                             str2.end(),
                             [](unsigned char x){return std::isspace(x);}),
              str2.end());
    std::cout << str2 << '\n';
}
```

<https://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp/algorithm/remove>

```
void removeFromRow(int _value, unsigned int row, unsigned int valueCol, state_vector_t &_stateVector) {
    for (int col = 0; col < ssize; col++) {
        if (col != valueCol && _stateVector[row][col].size() > 1) {
            for (int i=0; i < _stateVector[row][col].size(); i++) {
                if (_value == _stateVector[row][col][i]) {//@mrz: std::remove_if?
                    _stateVector[row][col].erase(_stateVector[row][col].begin()+i);
                    --i; //@mrz: what?!
                }
            }
            if (_stateVector[row][col].size() == 1) {
                removeAndUpdatePeers(_stateVector[row][col][0], row, col, _stateVector);
            } else {
                checkUniqueValueAmongPeers(row, col, _stateVector);
            }
        }
        checkUniqueValueAmongPeers(row, col, _stateVector);
    }
}
```

```
void removeFromRow(int _value, unsigned int row, unsigned int valueCol, state_vector_t &_stateVector) {
    for (int col = 0; col < ssize; col++) {
        if (col != valueCol)
            _stateVector[row][col].erase(std::remove_if(_stateVector[row][col].begin(),
                                                         _stateVector[row][col].end(),
                                                         [](const int &_e) {return _e != _value;}),
                                           _stateVector[row][col].end());
    }
}
```

# Use auto!

```
bool removeBox(size_t i, size_t j) {
    int iStart = i - i % 3;
    int jStart = j - j % 3;
    int num = inner_state[i][j].val;
    for (size_t row = 0; row < 3; row++) {
        for (size_t col = 0; col < 3; col++) {
            if (inner_state[iStart + row][jStart + col].val > -1) {
                continue;
            } else {
                auto &candy = inner_state[iStart + row][jStart + col].cand;
                for (size_t m = 0; m < candy.size(); m++) {
                    if (candy.at(m) == num) {
                        candy.erase(candy.begin() + m);
                        if (candy.size() == 1) {
                            if (isValidPlace((iStart + row), (jStart + col), candy.at(0))) {
                                inner_state[iStart + row][jStart + col].val = candy.at(0);
                                candy.clear();
                                return removeFromPeers(iStart + row, jStart + col);
                            }
                        }
                    }
                }
                rule2();
                /* for(size_t n = 0; n < inner_state[iStart + row][jStart + col].cand.size(); n++) { ...*/
            }
        }
    }
    return true;
}
```

```
for (size_t row = 0; row < 3; row++) {
    for (size_t col = 0; col < 3; col++) {
        if (inner_state[iStart + row][jStart + col].val > -1) {
            continue;
        } else {
            for (size_t m = 0;
                m < inner_state[iStart + row][jStart + col].cand.size(); m++) {
                if (inner_state[iStart + row][jStart + col].cand.at(m) == num) {
                    inner_state[iStart + row][jStart + col].cand.erase(
                        inner_state[iStart + row][jStart + col].cand.begin() + m);
                    if (inner_state[iStart + row][jStart + col].cand.size() == 1) {
                        if (isValidPlace((iStart + row), (jStart + col), inner_state[iStart + row][jStart + col].cand.at(0))) {
                            inner_state[iStart + row][jStart + col].val =
                                inner_state[iStart + row][jStart + col].cand.at(0);
                            inner_state[iStart + row][jStart + col].cand.clear();
                            return removeFromPeers(iStart + row, jStart + col);
                        }
                    }
                }
                return false;
            }
            rule2();
            /* for(size_t n = 0; n < inner_state[iStart + row][jStart + col].cand.size(); n++) { ...*/
        }
    }
}
```

Compile Output Alt



# Break the line

- Break the line! Certain width is allowed (120 characters usually)

```
44     if (sudoku[i][col].poss.size()==1){
45         if(!assignValue(sudoku, i, col)){
46             return false;
47         }
48     }
49 }
50 return true;
51 }
52
53 // Removes possible values from box peers
54 bool removeFromBoxPeers(Cell (&sudoku)[9][9], int i, int j){
55     int boxstartrow = i - i % 3;
56     int boxstartcol = j - j % 3;
57     for (int row = 0; row < 3; row++){
58         for (int col = 0; col < 3; col++){
59             sudoku[row+boxstartrow][col+boxstartcol].poss.erase(std::remove((sudoku[row+boxstartrow][col+boxstartcol].poss.begin()), (sudoku[row+boxstartrow][col+boxstartcol].poss.end()), (sudoku[i][j].val)), sudoku[row+boxstartrow][col+boxstartcol].poss.end());
60             // Check that the last possible solution is not removed before value has been assigned
61             if (sudoku[row+boxstartrow][col+boxstartcol].poss.empty() && sudoku[row+boxstartrow][col+boxstartcol].val == 0){
62                 return false;
63             }
64             // If there is only one possible value assign it and check its peers (recursive)
65             if (sudoku[row+boxstartrow][col+boxstartcol].poss.size()==1){
66                 if(!assignValue(sudoku, row+boxstartrow, col+boxstartcol)){
67                     return false;
68                 }
69             }
70         }
71     }
```

# Search

- Stateless search!
- No propagation during search!

```
bool SolveSudoku(Cell (&puzzle)[N][N], unsigned int &_guesses) {
    int row, col;
    // row and col are assigned by reference in function
    // FindUnassignedLocation()
    if (!FindUnassignedLocation(puzzle, row, col)) {
        return true;
    }
    // "num" is the guess to put in a cell
    for (int& num: puzzle[row][col].hypos) {
        if (isPossible(puzzle, row, col, num)) {
            puzzle[row][col].value = num;
            _guesses++;
            if (SolveSudoku(puzzle, _guesses)) {
                return true;
            }
            puzzle[row][col].value = 0;
        }
    }
    return false;
}
```

```
bool constraint_propagation(SudokuCell (&SudokuTable)[SIZE][SIZE]) {

    bool game = true, solved = true;
    while (game) {
        game = false;
        for (size_t row = 0; row < SIZE; row++){
            for (size_t col = 0; col < SIZE; col++){
                if (SudokuTable[row][col].value == 0){
                    bool _possibleSolution[SIZE] = {1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1};
                    // bool _possibleSolution = SudokuTable[row][col].possibleSolutions[SIZE]; // TODO:

                    checkRow(SudokuTable, _possibleSolution, row);
                    checkColumn(SudokuTable, _possibleSolution, col);
                    checkBox(SudokuTable, _possibleSolution, row, col);

                    int solutions = 0; // Variable that counts possible solutions in each row/col
                    int location = 0; // Where in the array the solution exist. 0 = 1, 1 = 2, etc.

                    for (size_t i = 0; i < SIZE; i++) {
                        if (_possibleSolution[i] != 0) {
                            solutions++;
                            location = i;
                        }
                    }
                    if(solutions == 1) { //@@mrz: no fully propagating!!!
                        SudokuTable[row][col].value = location + 1; // If only one solution then this as
                        game = true;
                    }
                    else
                    {
                        for (size_t i = 0; i < SIZE; i++)
                        {
                            SudokuTable[row][col].possibleSolutions[i] = _possibleSolution[i];
                        }
                    }
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```

tion Output 4 Compile Output 5 Debugger Console 8 Test Results

- Nice copy
- Assign to propagate fully

```
bool Grid::searching(/*std::vector<Possible> &_s*/) {
    if (isSolved()) {
        return true;
    }
    std::vector<Possible> _temp(81);

    int least = getIndexOfSquareWithLeastCountOfTrues();
    Possible p = possible(least);

    for (int value = 1; value <= 9; value++) {
        if (p.isTrueForValueInPossibles(value)) {
            _temp = _squares;
            if (assign(least, value)) {
                _temp = _squares;
                if (searching())
                {
                    std::cout << "Good guess!" << std::endl;
                    searchingCounter ++;
                    std::cout << "Total guesses:"<< searchingCounter << std::endl;
                    print(std::cout);
                    return true;
                } else {
                    //least = getIndexOfSquareWithLeastCountOfTrues();
                    std::cout << "Bad guess, time machine #1..." << std::endl;
                    searchingCounter ++;
                    std::cout << "Total guesses:"<< searchingCounter << std::endl;
                    _squares = _temp;
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```

# Rule 2

- Rule 2 is unit dependent not square (cell)!

```
for(int i=0; i<9; i++){  
    for(int j=0; j<9; j++){  
        if(!sudokuBoard[i][j]->isSet()){  
            uniqueCandidate(sudokuBoard, i, j); @//mrz: why? unique candidate is unit dependent not cell!  
        }  
    }  
}
```

- Close files!

`fstream` is a proper RAII object, it *does* close automatically at the end of the scope, and there is absolutely *no need whatsoever* to call `close` manually when closing at the end of the scope is sufficient.

In particular, it's not a "best practice" and it's not necessary to flush the output.

And while Drakosha is right that calling `close` gives you the possibility to check the fail bit of the stream, nobody does that, anyway.

In an ideal world, one would simply call `stream.exceptions(ios::failbit)` beforehand and handle the exception that is thrown in an `fstream`'s destructor. But unfortunately exceptions in destructors are a broken concept in C++ so that's not a good idea.

So **if** you want to check the success of closing a file, do it manually (but only then).

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/4802494/do-i-need-to-close-a-stdfstream>

```
SudokuReader::SudokuReader(){}

void SudokuReader::SetSudoku(const std::string &file){
    std::ifstream sudoku_file;
    sudoku_file.open(file);

    if (!sudoku_file){
        std::cout << "Error opening the file" << std::endl;
        exit(-1);
    } else {
        std::string line;
        int num;
        std::getline(sudoku_file, line);
        //std::cout << line << std::endl;
        //while (std::getline(sudoku_file, line)) {    // let's see later if we can run multiple sudokus from same file..
            int line_pos=0;
            for(int i = 0; i < 9; i++){
                for(int j=0; j < 9; j++){
                    if (line[line_pos]<= '9' && line[line_pos]>= '0'){
                        num = std::stoi(line.substr(line_pos,1));
                        sudoku[i][j].value=num;
                    }
                    line_pos++;
                }
            }

            //std::cout << "Sudoku loaded successfully" << std::endl;
            //sudoku_file.close();
        }
    }
    return;
}
```

- Destructor is only to clean up!!!!

```
//@mrz: no!  
SudokuGrid::~SudokuGrid()  
//=====  
{  
    // std::cout << "\nIn the destructor of class SudokuGrid!" << std::endl << std::endl;  
  
    if (SudokuGridSolved()){ ...  
}else  
{  
    // Start solution measurement for brute force timer:  
    //=====  
    // startTimeBruteForcelving = std::chrono::high_resolution_clock::now();  
    //=====  
  
    //=====  
    applyBruteForce();  
    //=====  
}
```

- The squares(state) is tied to grid, and the logic – grid is dead, what if another logic needs to be applied to your grid?! Grid GOD object!

```

/*****
// Declaration of class 'Grid'
*****/
class Grid {

    /*A square is 1 of 81 cells in a grid*/
    std::vector<Possible> _squares; // @mrz: constructor is called!

public:
    int searchingCounter;
    Possible possible(int k) const { return _squares[k]; }
    Grid(std::string s);
    int getIndexOfSquareWithLeastCountOfTrues() const;
    bool searching(/*std::vector<Possible> &_s*/);
    bool isSolved() const;

    void print(std::ostream & s) const;

    // eliminate a possible from a square, 'value' is par for eliminating,
    // 'k' is the index
    bool eliminatePossibleFromSquare (int k, int value);
    bool assign(int k, int value);
    bool isInBoxOf(int row, int col, int k) const;
    void initSudoku(std::string s);
};
    
```

```

// constructor with the init function
Grid::Grid(std::string s) : _squares(81) {
    for (int i = 0; i < 81; i++) {
        _squares[i] = Possible();
    }
    searchingCounter = 0;
    initSudoku(s);
};
    
```

```

Possible::Possible() : _boolens(9, true) {};
    
```



# Less is more!

- Nice separation!

```
class Cell {
    public:
        int val;
        std::vector<int> poss;
        Cell(){
            val = 0;
            poss.assign({1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9});
        }
}; //What functions should be included here?

void printSudoku(Cell sudoku[9][9]);
void printSudokuPossibility(Cell sudoku[9][9]);

bool removeAndUpdatePeers(Cell (&sudoku)[9][9], int i, int j);
bool removeFromColPeers(Cell (&sudoku)[9][9], int i, int j);
bool removeFromRowPeers(Cell (&sudoku)[9][9], int i, int j);
bool removeFromBoxPeers(Cell (&sudoku)[9][9], int i, int j);
bool assignValue(Cell (&sudoku)[9][9], int i, int j);
void checkUniqueRow(Cell (&sudoku)[9][9], int i, int j, int checkVal);
void checkUniqueCol(Cell (&sudoku)[9][9], int i, int j, int checkVal);
void checkUniqueBox(Cell (&sudoku)[9][9], int i, int j, int checkVal);
void checkUnique(Cell (&sudoku)[9][9]);
bool isSafe(Cell (&sudoku)[9][9], int row, int col, int num);
bool usedInBox(Cell (&sudoku)[9][9], int boxStartRow, int boxStartCol, int num);
bool usedInCol(Cell (&sudoku)[9][9], int col, int num);
bool usedInRow(Cell (&sudoku)[9][9], int row, int num);
bool guessSudoku(Cell (&sudoku)[9][9]);
```

# This is FINE!

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