THE TIMES

Gentle - 3918, Monday 22nd September, 2014

3	10		6		11		22	
	21			5		12		
15		11	17		20	3		8
6						10		
13	23	13	4		22		13	
			9	17	12		4	3
						8		
16	8		14	3			17	11
	3			12				

Killer Sudoku

- Different strategies, but here is mine
- "Low hanging fruit" need to memorise these
- Complete accuracy is a must, both adding up and using normal Sudoku rules
- No guessing! It is like a....
- Detective story
 - Looking for clues
 - Process of elimination
- Tools Sudoku 'cages'

Low hanging fruit (1)

- The more squares you can complete the easier it becomes – don't forget normal Sudoku rules!
- The obvious:
 two squares which add up to 3
 must contain 1 and 2
- The fewest possibilities: two squares which add up to 5 must contain 1 and 4, or 2 and 3

Thus it is helpful need to memorise these: Boxes which add up to **sum** and have **n** boxes always contain these **digits**:-

sum	n	digits
3	2	1, 2
4	2	1, 3
17	2	8, 9
16	2	7, 9
6	3	1, 2, 3
7	3	1 ,2, 4
24	3	7, 8 ,9
23	3	6, 8, 9
10	4	1, 2, 3, 4
11	4	1, 2, 3, 5
30	4	6, 7, 8, 9
29	4	5, 7, 8, 9

Low hanging fruit (1a)

This continues up to 45 but may not always be that useful at the beginning

sum	n	digits
15	5	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
16	5	1, 3, 3, 4, 6
35	5	5, 6, 7, 8, 9
34	5	4, 6, 7, 8, 9

and so on, you can see the list in the Sudoku 'cages'

More hanging fruit within reach

Only a limited number of possibilities:

sum	n	These or	These
5	2	1, 4	2, 3
6	2	1, 5	2, 4
15	2	6, 9	7, 8
14	2	5, 9	6, 8
8	3	1, 2, 5	1, 3, 4
22	3	6, 7, 9	5, 8, 9

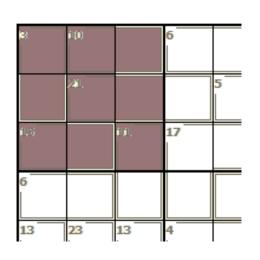
As the number of cells increase and the numbers are less close to the sum of consecutive digits the number of possibilities increase.

These also are useful for eliminations when used in combination

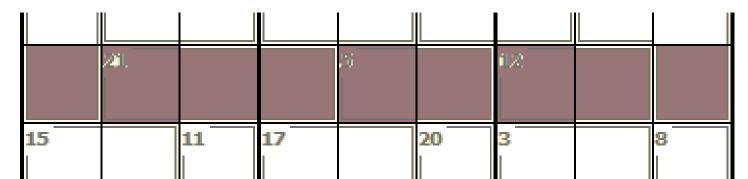
sum	n	These or	These or	These or	These
7	2	1, 6	2, 5	3, 4	
8	2	1, 7	2, 6	3, 5	
12	2	3, 9	5, 7	4, 8	
13	2	4, 9	5, 8	6, 7	
9	2	1, 8	2, 7	3, 6	4, 5
10	2	1, 9	2, 8	3, 7	4, 6
11	2	2, 9	3, 8	4, 7	5, 6

Low hanging fruit (2)

Every bold square
 must contain the digits 1 to 9 and
 must therefore add up to 45.

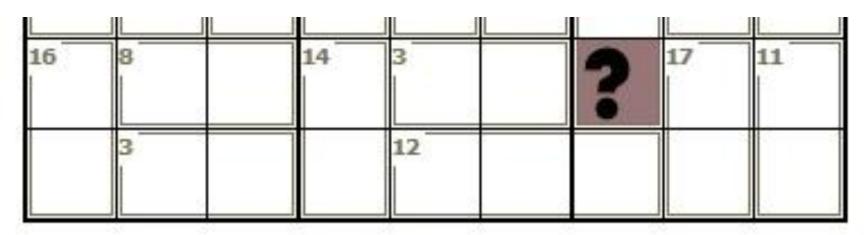


Every row or column
 must contain the digits 1 to 9 and
 must therefore add up to 45.



Low hanging fruit (3)

 Following on from every bold square or row/column adding up to 45 adjoining ones must add up to multiples of 45, for example:-



16 + 8 + 14 + 3 + 17 + 11 (top row) + 3 + 12 (bottom row) = 84 You then need to add 6 to get $2 \times 45 = 90$ so the ? Must be 6

So useful to remember....

• $2 \times 45 = 90$

• $3 \times 45 = 135$

• $4 \times 45 = 180$

• $5 \times 45 = 225$

No need to remember any more as you can always start from the other end of the grid!

Eliminating suspects!

Don't forget to use normal Sudoku rules

- But also by the impossible it can be useful to remember that
- no two unique digits can add up to more than 17 or less that 3
- no three unique digits can add up to more than 24 or less than 6
- no four unique digits can add up to more than 30 or less than 10
- These are useful for eliminating the impossible combinations

Marking up you clues

Mark up any where there are only two options

3 12	10		6	8	11		22	
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			9	17	12		4 13	312
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7 9	3 12	12		12			8.9	

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79	3 12	12		12			8 9	
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		48			8	36		

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16 7 9	8 3 5	35	¹⁴ 8	3 1 2	12	6	¹⁷ 9 ⁹	11 47 4
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5 ⁵	21	8	2	7	9	¹⁰ 4	6	3°
¹³ 4	239	¹³ 2	⁴ 3 ³	11	²² 6	7	¹³ 5	8
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6	8	4	5	99	7	° 2	13 3	12
79	8 3 5 3	³ 5	148	3 1 2	12	6	¹⁷ 9 ⁹	11 4 7
9 9	2 ²	12	6	12 4 3 4	34	5	8	7

Sudoku 'cages'

3	8	1/2/5
3	8	1/3/4
3	9	1/2/6
3	9	1/3/5
3	9	2/3/4
3	10	1/2/7
3	10	1/3/6
3	10	1/4/5
3	10	2/3/5
3	11	1/2/8
3	11	1/3/7
3	11	1/4/6
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3	11	2/4/5
3	12	1/2/9
3	12	1/3/8
3	12	1/4/7

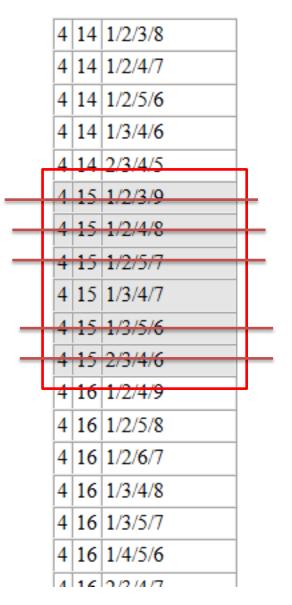
3	16	1/6/9
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3	17	1/7/9
3	17	2/6/9
3	17	2/7/8
3	17	3/5/9
3	17	3/6/8
3	17	4/5/8
3	17	4/6/7
3	18	1/8/9
3	18	2/7/9
2	10	2/4/0

	4	14	1/2/3/8	
	4	14	1/2/4/7	
	4	14	1/2/5/6	
	4	14	1/3/4/6	
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	4	15	1/2/3/9	
	4	15	1/2/4/8	
	4	15	1/2/5/7	
	4	15	1/3/4/7	
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	4	15	2/3/4/6	
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Sudoku 'cages' elimination

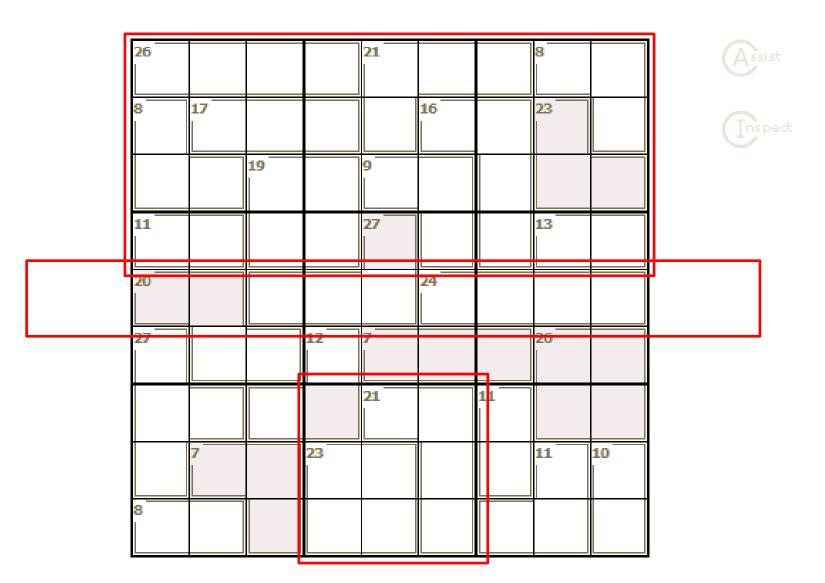
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Total re

Deadly - 3928, Saturday 27th September, 2014



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