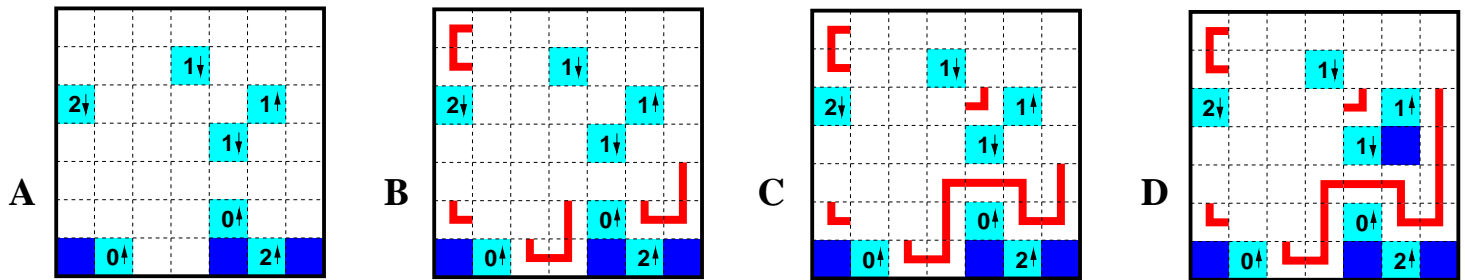
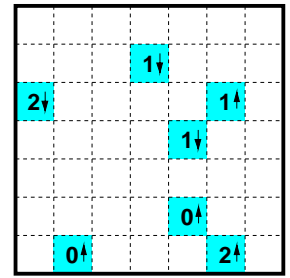


Yajilin

This puzzle is attractive because there is very little detail in the grid, and because it makes you think always about two different things, shading in some cells and making a big single loop which does not cross itself. This loop must pass through all the cells that are not shaded cells or 'givens'. The givens (shown in light blue) give a number and indicate a direction in which you must shade in the given number of cells, shown here as dark blue cells. These shaded cells may not have horizontal or vertical shaded neighbours.

Let us look at this example.

First we see some cells where the loop cannot reach, so these must be shaded in as in **A**. Note that it was not required that an arrow should point to all these cells.

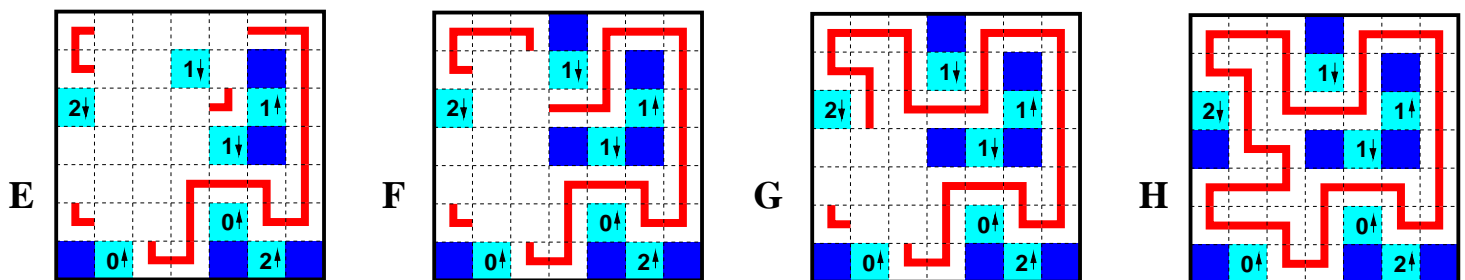


There is a pocket of two cells along the bottom edge which must accommodate the loop, so we can fill in a little here. Two similar pockets on the left edge and lower right can be similarly filled in. The loop must rise from the lower two pockets so as to avoid making closed square loops. As the bottom left corner is already shaded, the loop must go just above this cell, as shown in **B**.

Now we look at the fifth column. The given indicating 1 is satisfied, so the loop must go horizontally between the two givens and join as shown in **C**. As one of these givens points upwards with a zero, the loop must also make a turn above this given as in **C**.

There is now no way that the loop can pass through the cell 4 down in column 6, and therefore this cell must be shaded in. This then demands the loop must develop as in **D**.

The givens indicate that there is one more cell to be shaded in the sixth column, and this cannot be the top cell as the loop cannot then reach the corner cell. On shading the other cell the loop can be developed as shown in **E**.



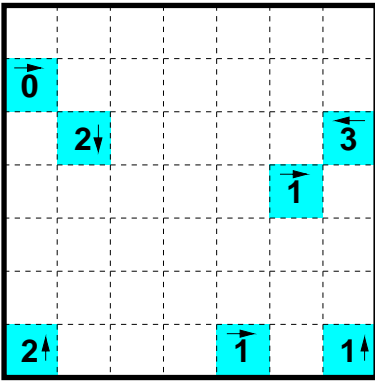
No more cells in the fifth column can be shaded, so the loop goes down this column. In the fourth column the loop must emerge in the third cell down, so the remaining empty cells in this column both must be shaded, the top one because the loop cannot get to that cell, and the other because of the demand of the given. **F** is completed with the corner turn at the top of column 3, which must then join across to the top left corner. Four more cells can be decided for **G**, avoiding a little unlawful loop, and then there is only one way to finish, **H**.

It is difficult to make these puzzles because of the two objectives, and the fact that it is easy to make puzzles which are far too difficult to solve with any pleasure. If I take a very difficult one with a unique solution and try to make it easier, suddenly it appears with dozens of solutions. Eventually an acceptable puzzle is achieved, but I need practise to make them more elegant, no more difficult but with fewer givens. This format is ideal for anyone trying to make a puzzle from scratch. The last few of the 7×7 puzzles are somewhat more difficult than the norm.

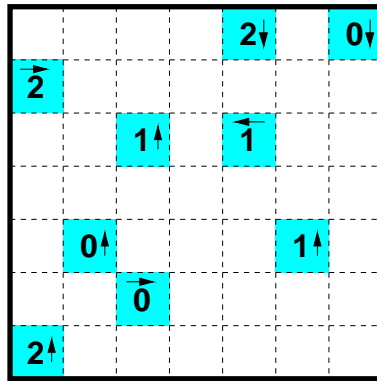
Some time later The puzzles up to 10×10 are a decent introduction, but now that I've got the knack of making these I have added some better, larger puzzles which are more like the real thing! These are possibly the most tricky to make of the puzzles on this web site.

Yajilin

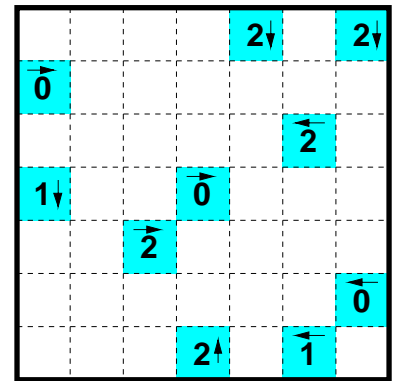
7×7



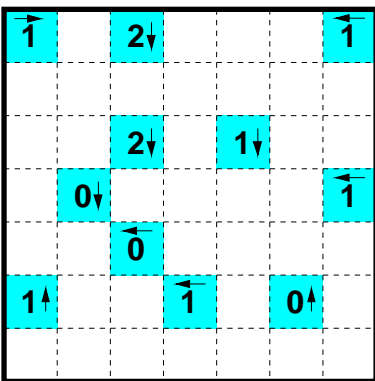
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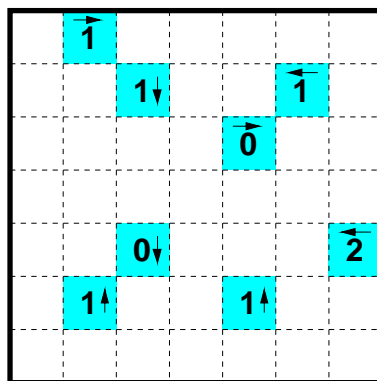
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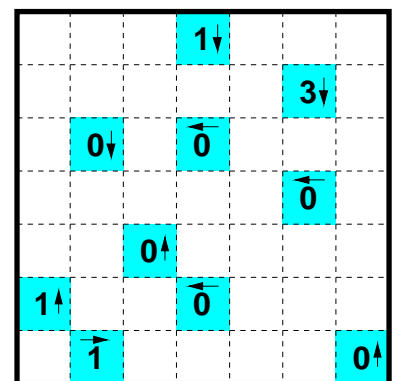
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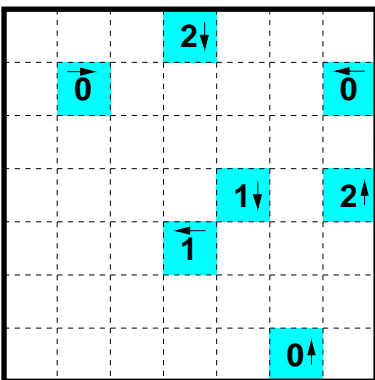
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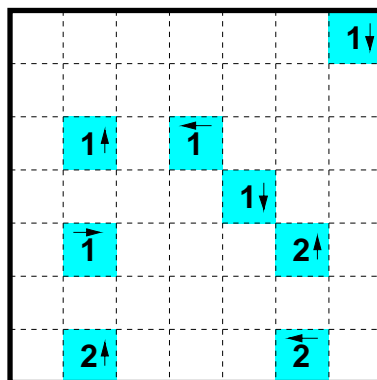
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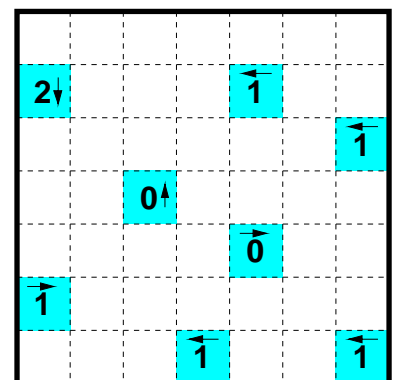
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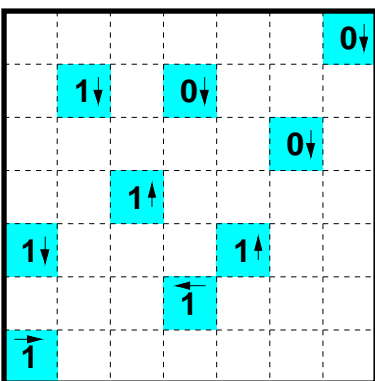
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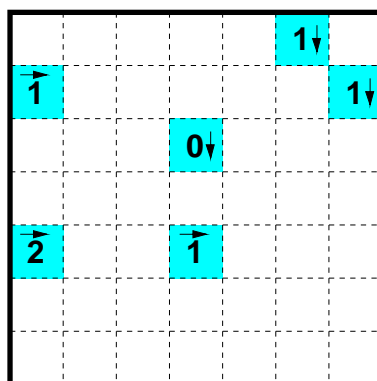
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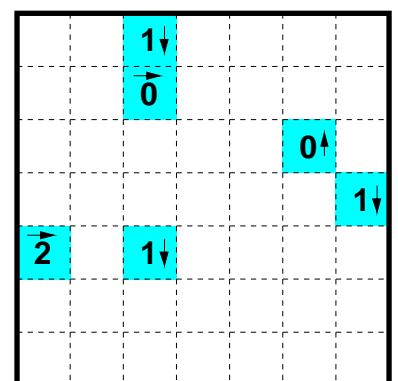
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10



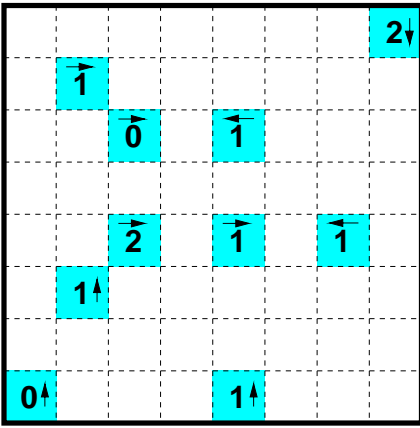
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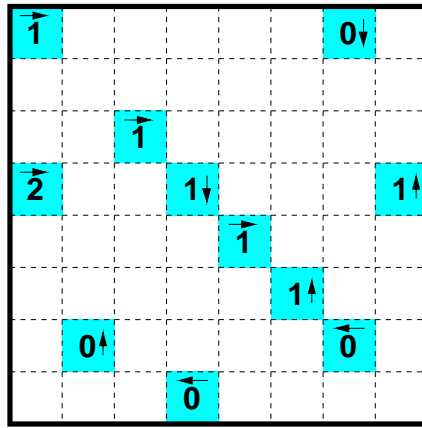
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Yajilin

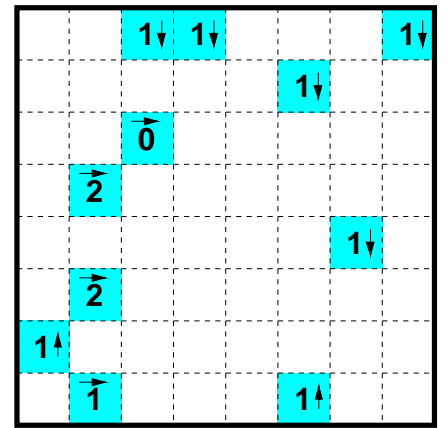
8 × 8



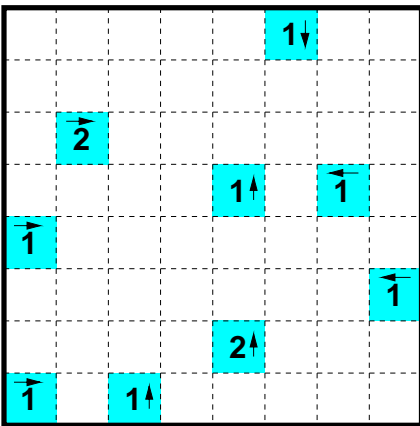
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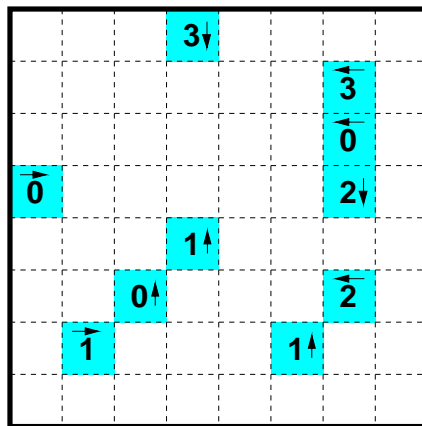
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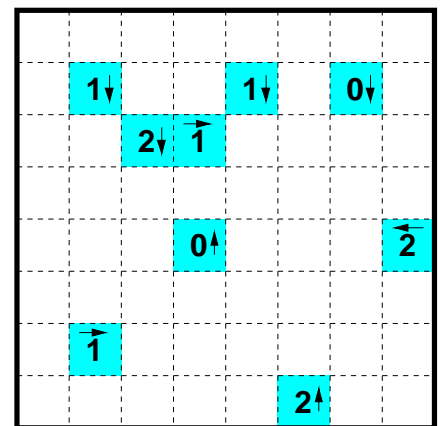
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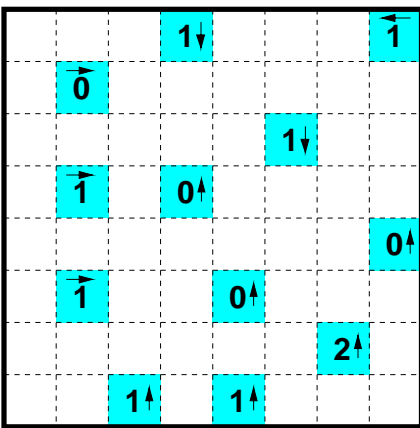
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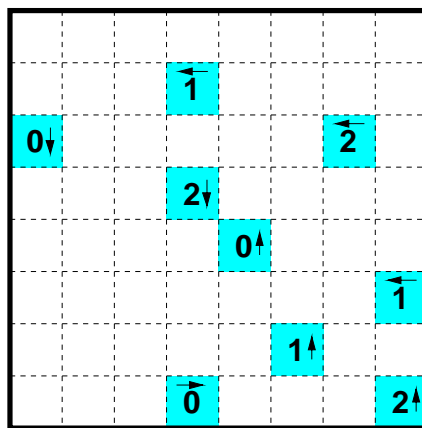
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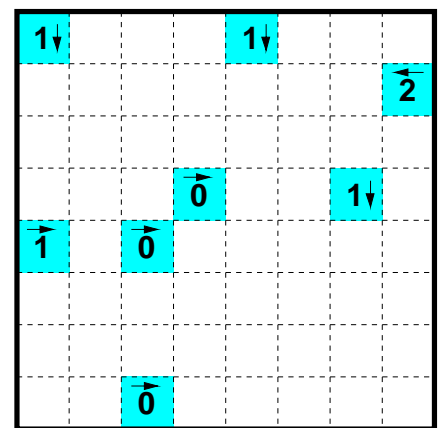
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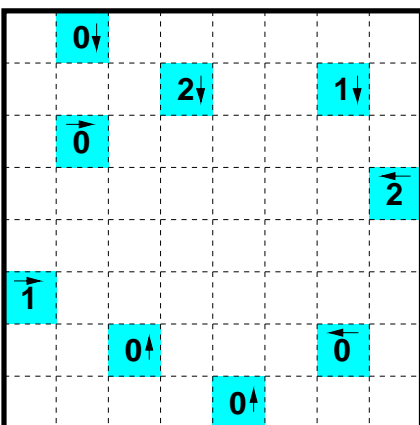
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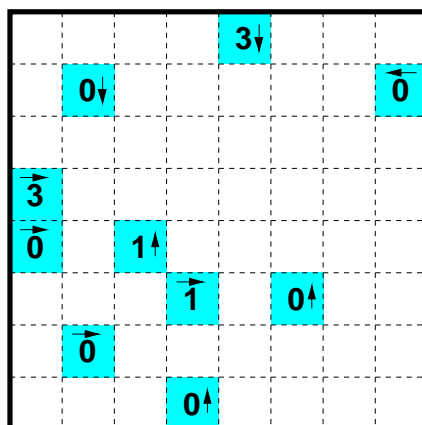
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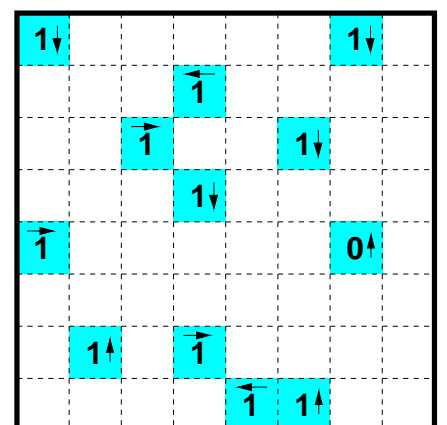
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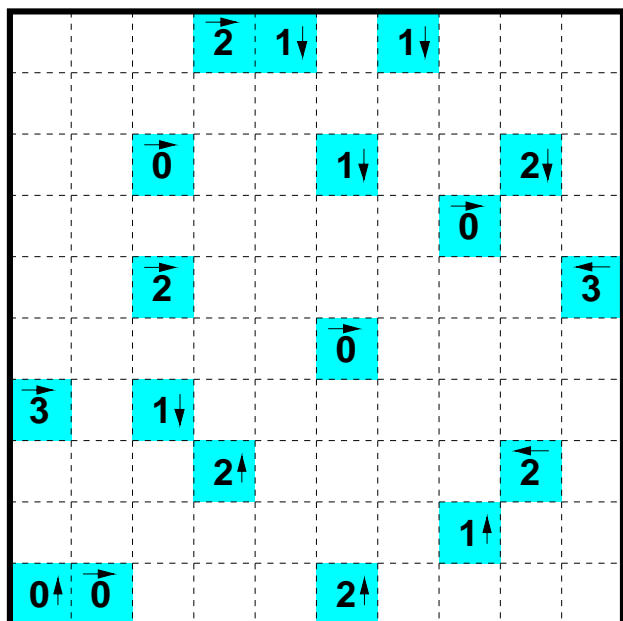
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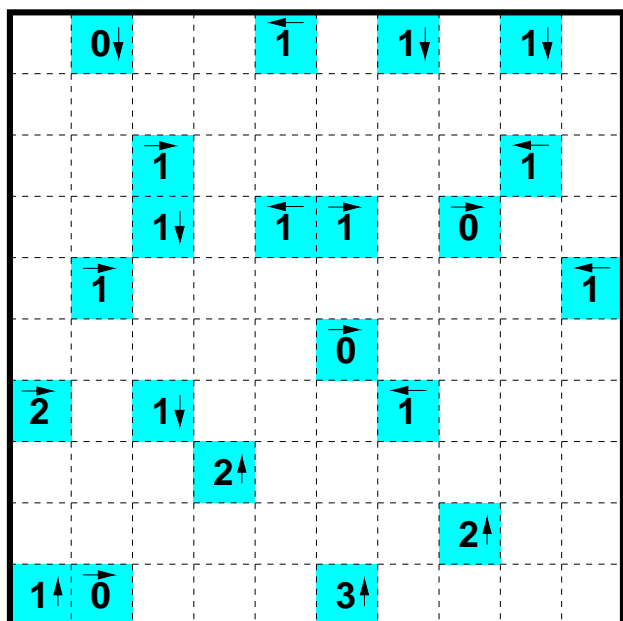
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Yajilin

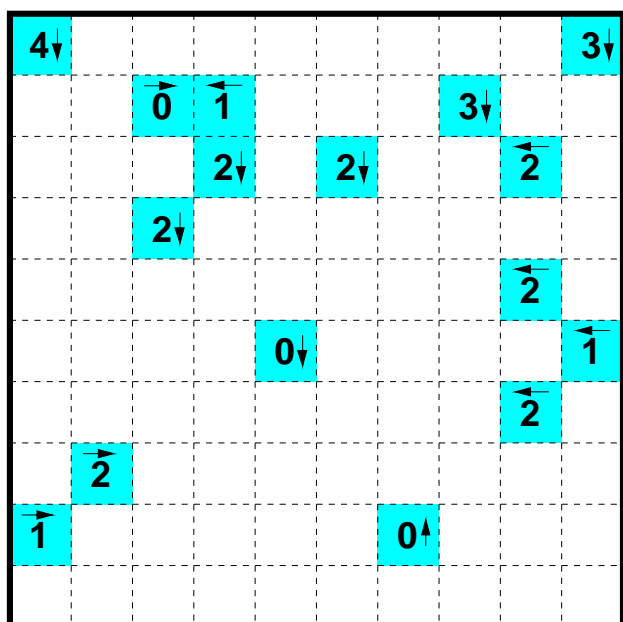
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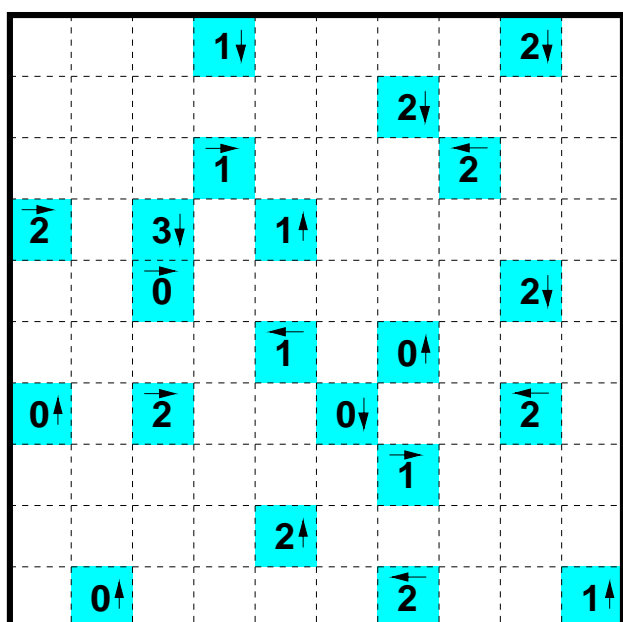
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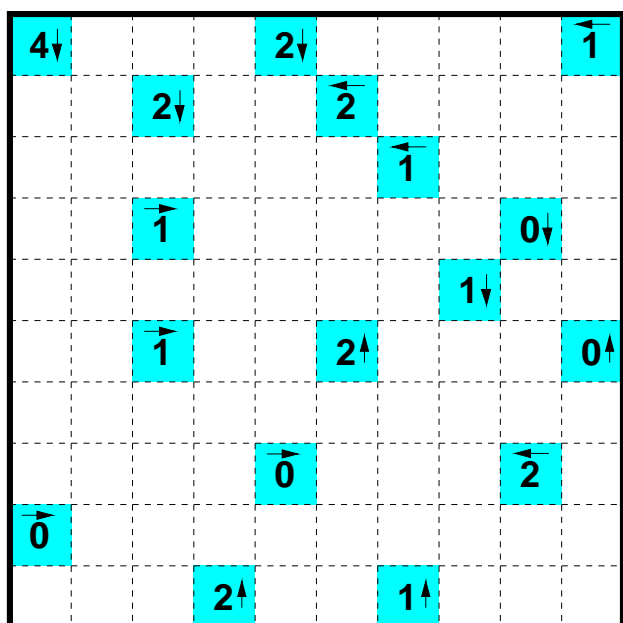
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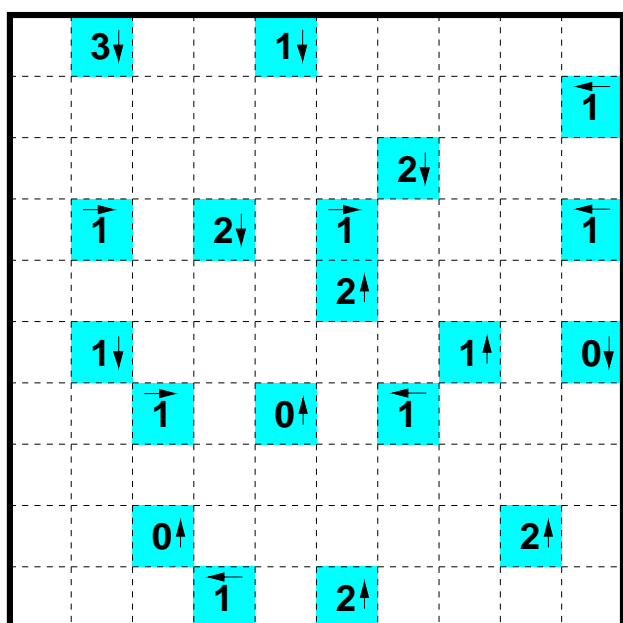
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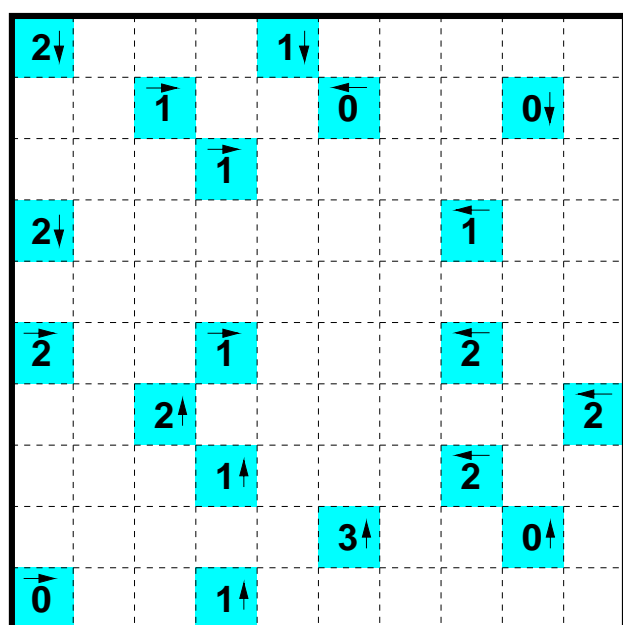
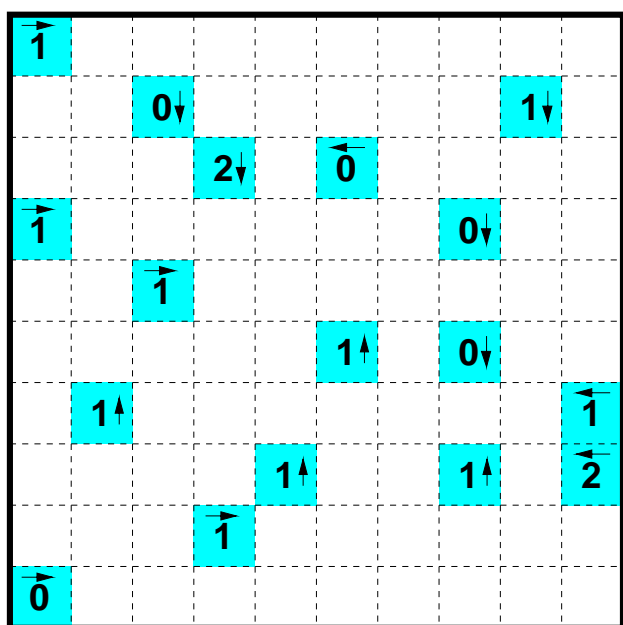
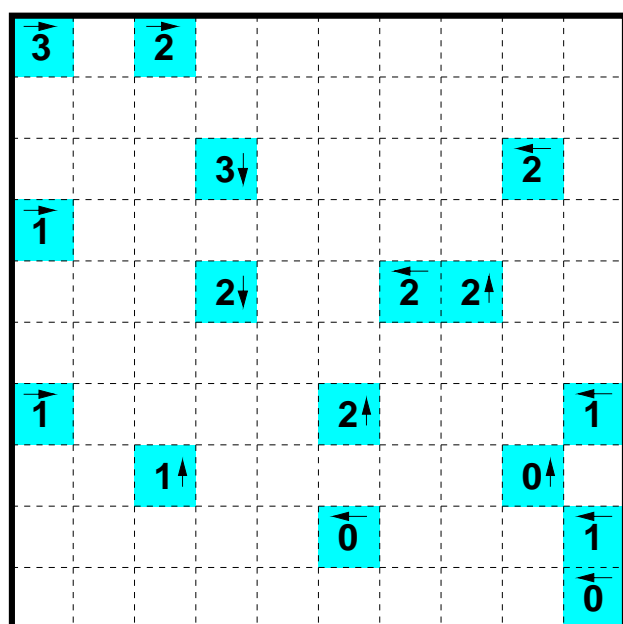
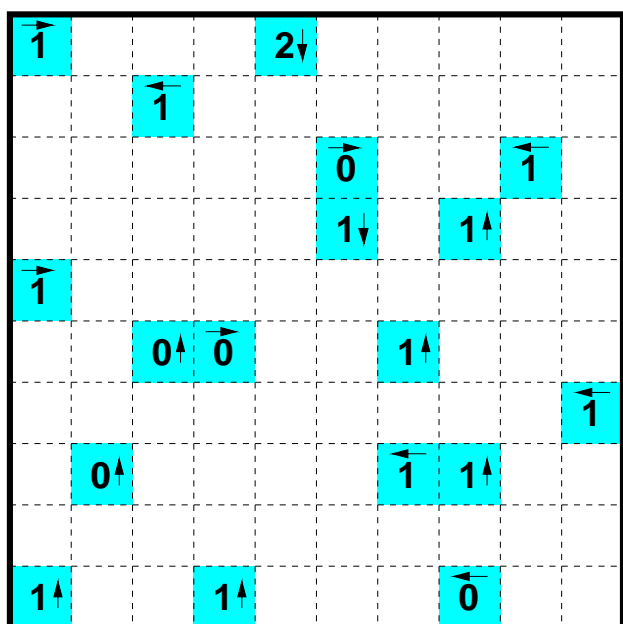
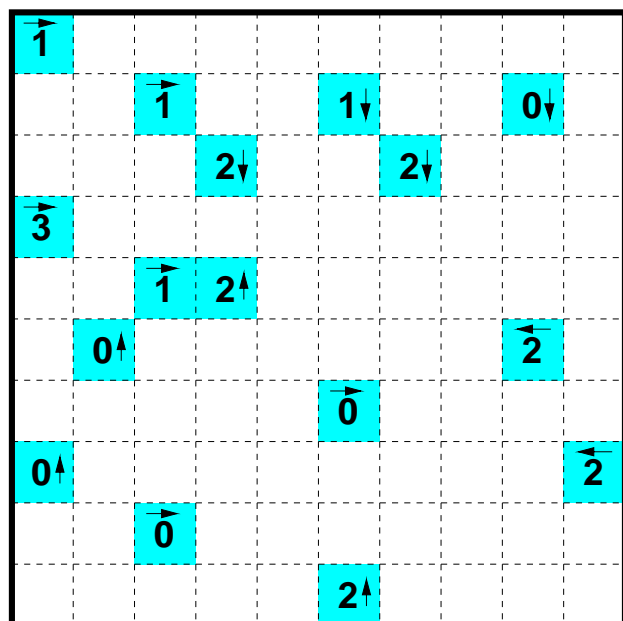
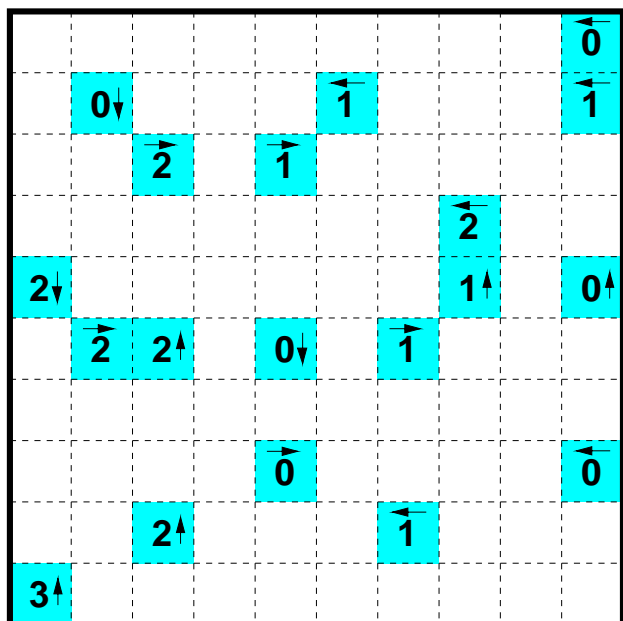
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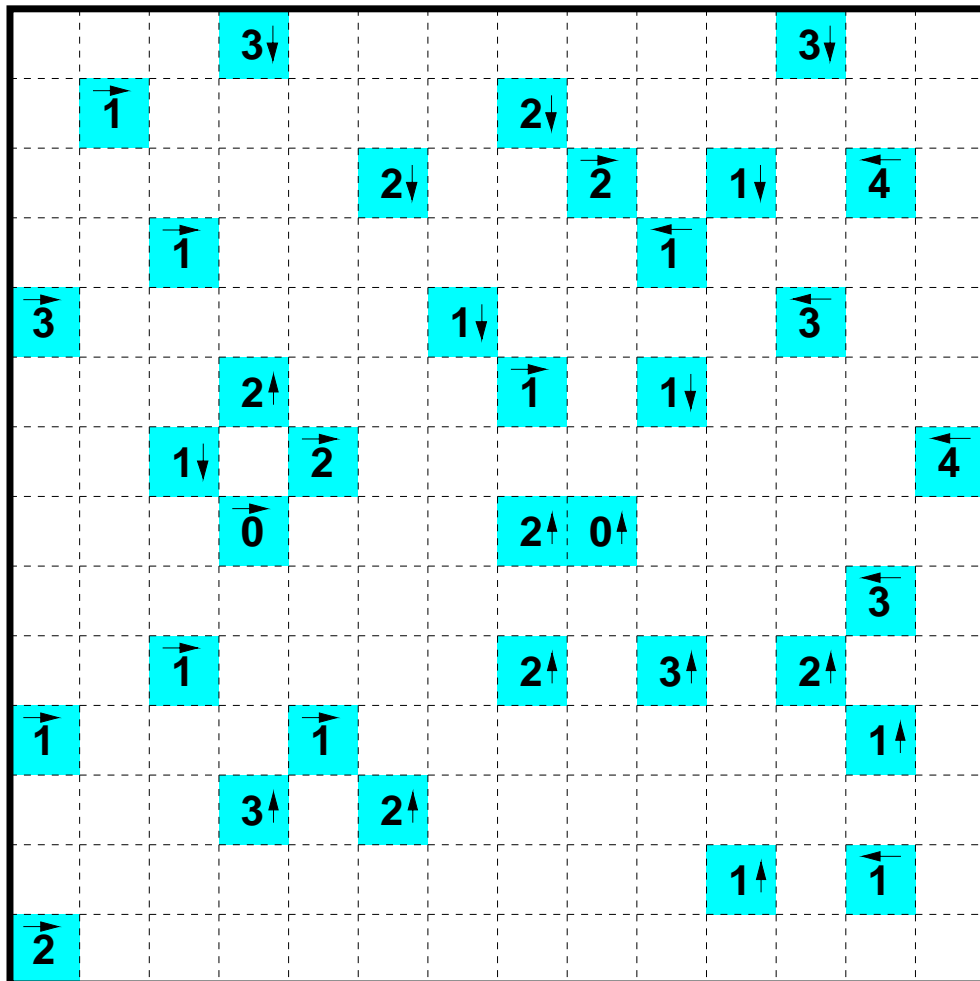


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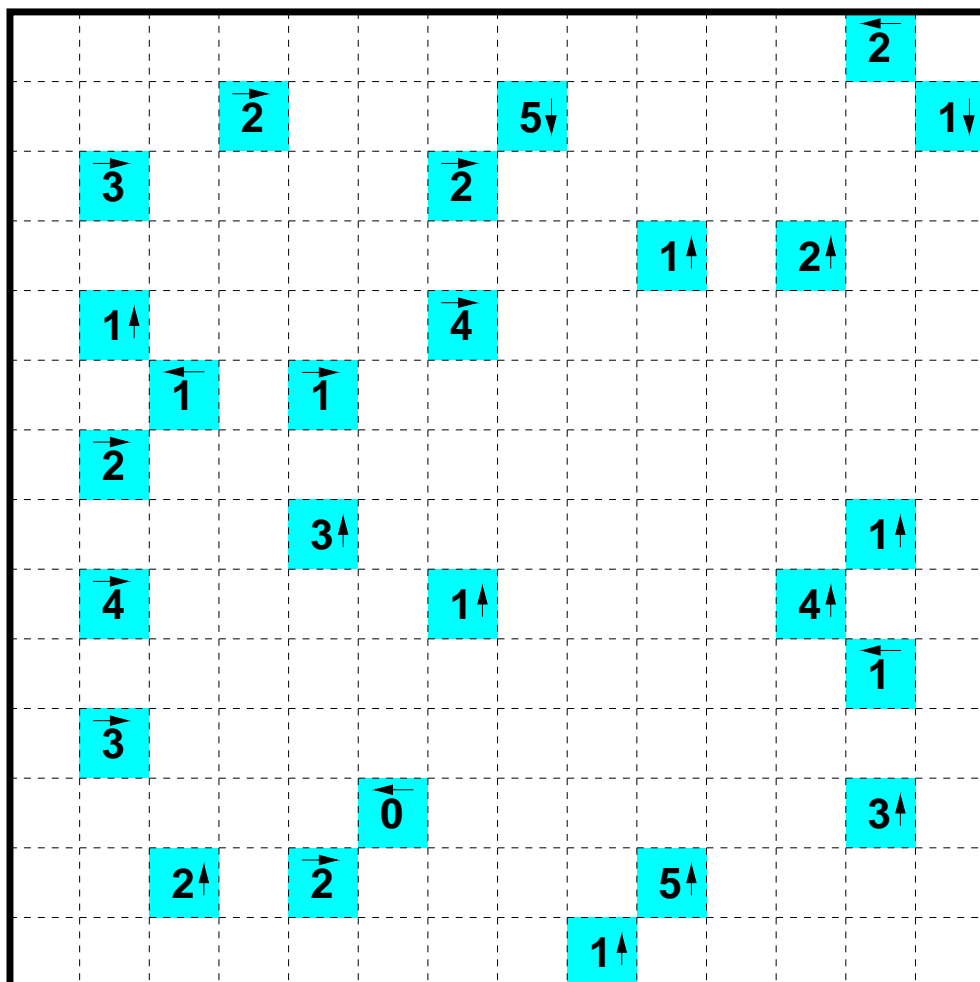
Yajilin

10 × 10

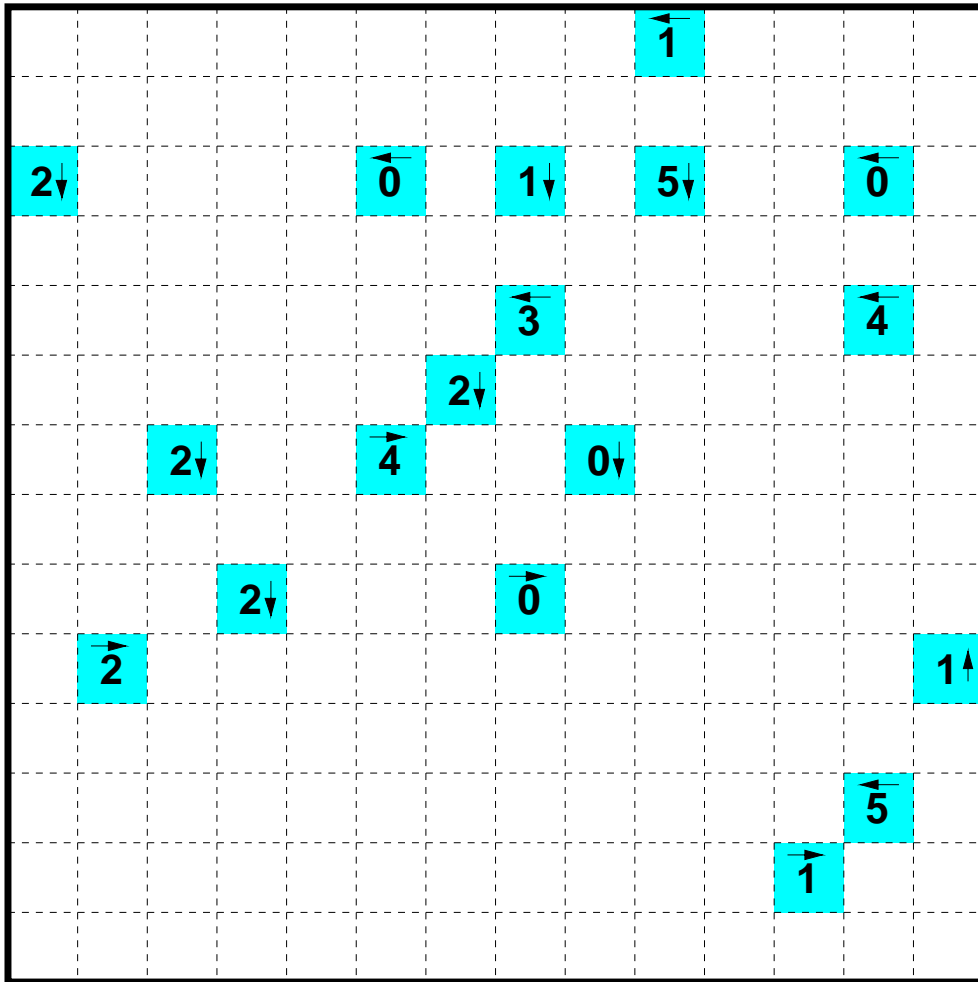




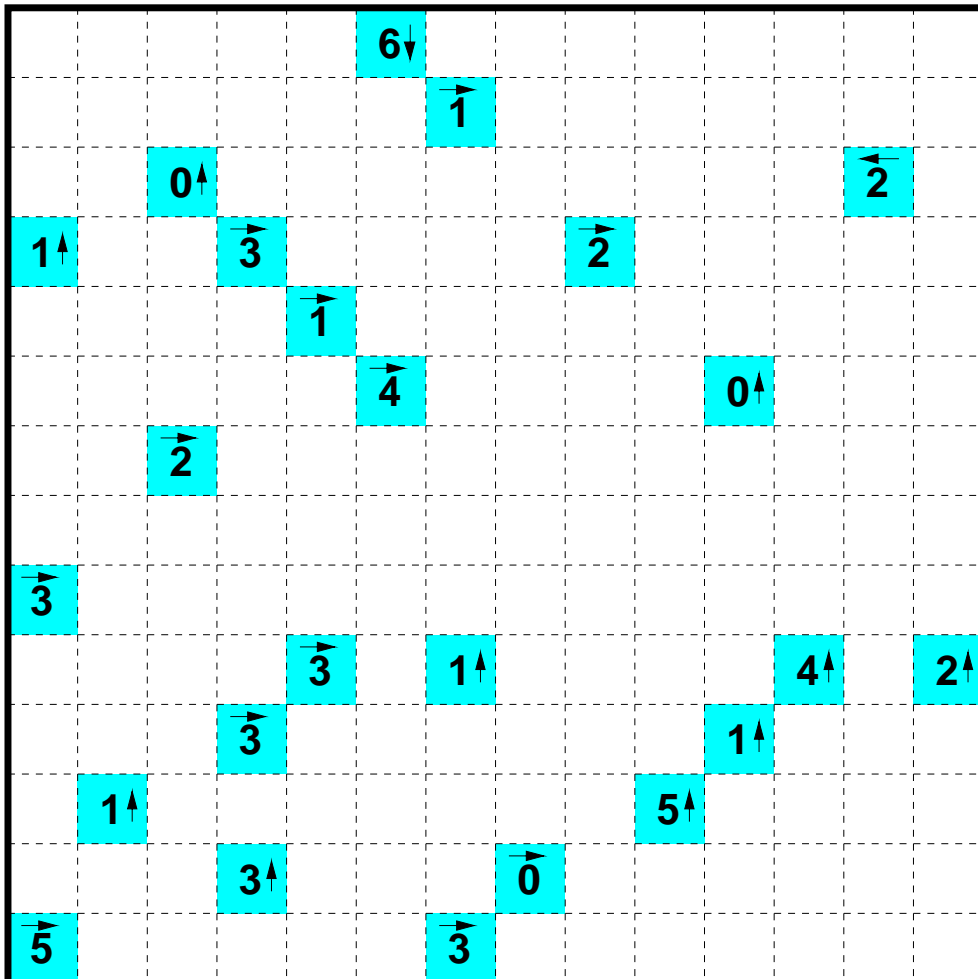
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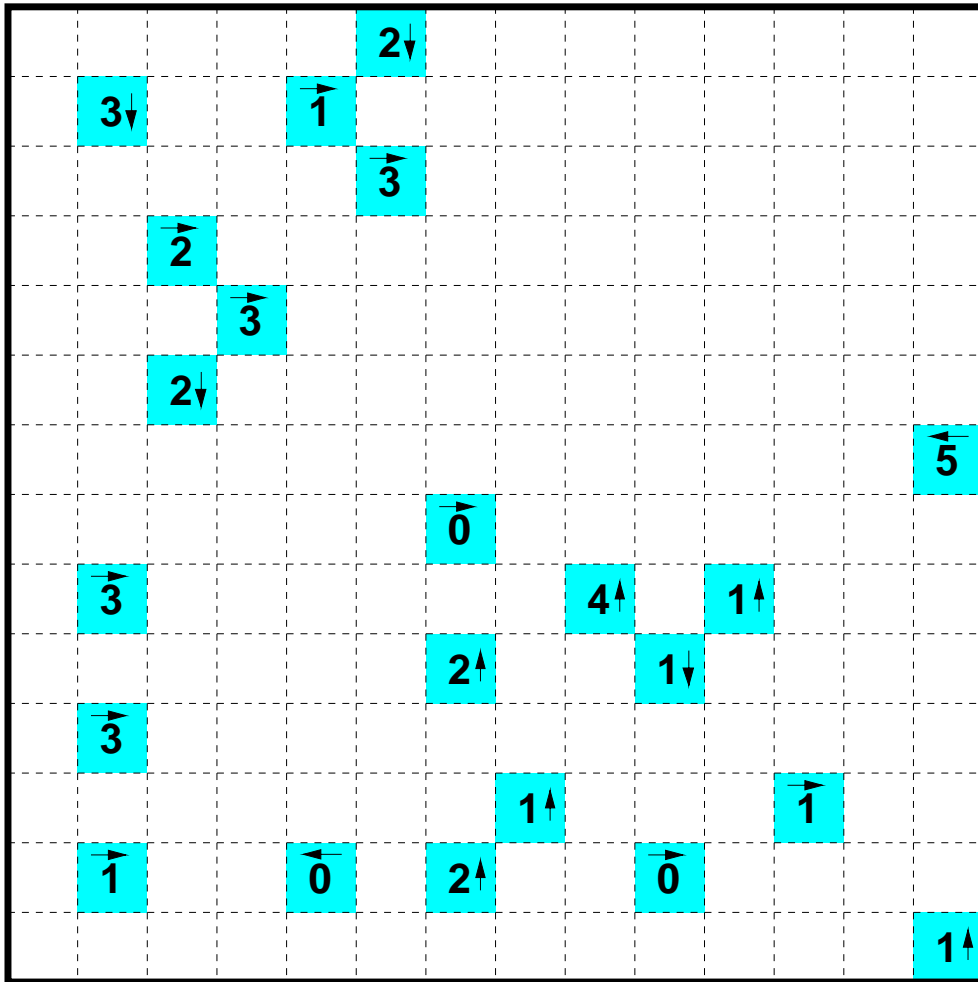
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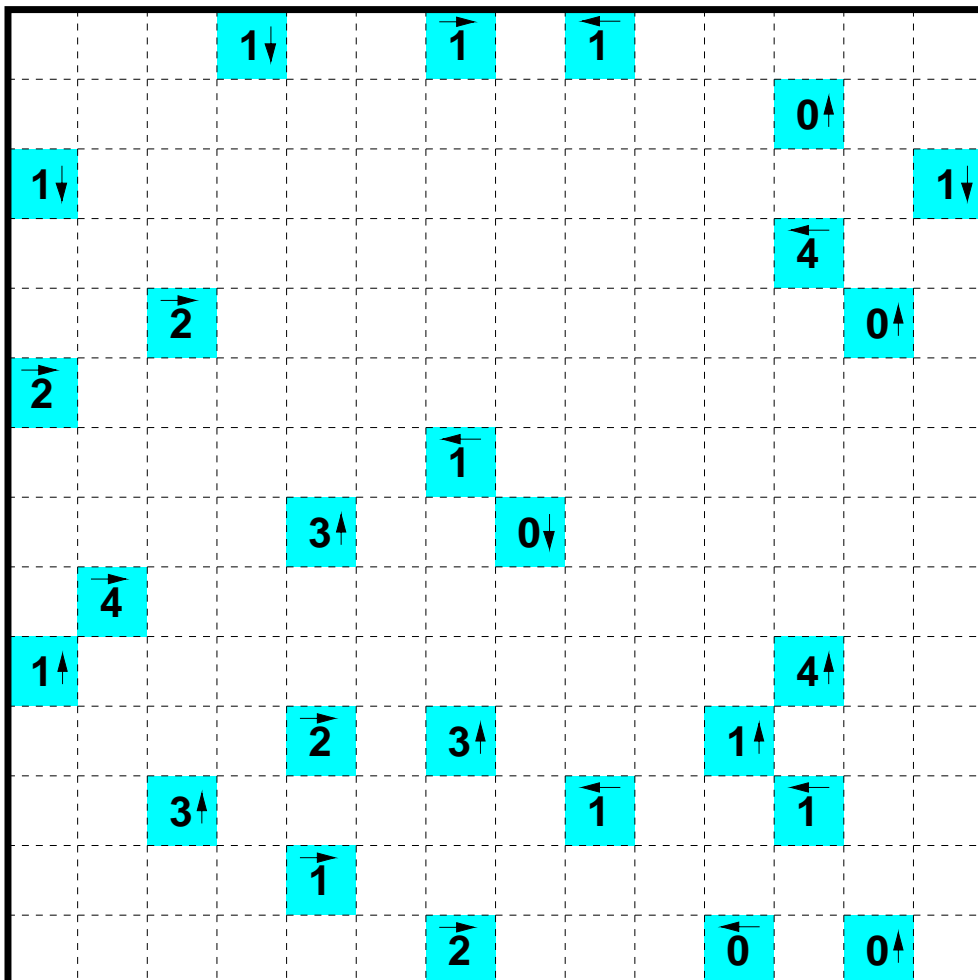
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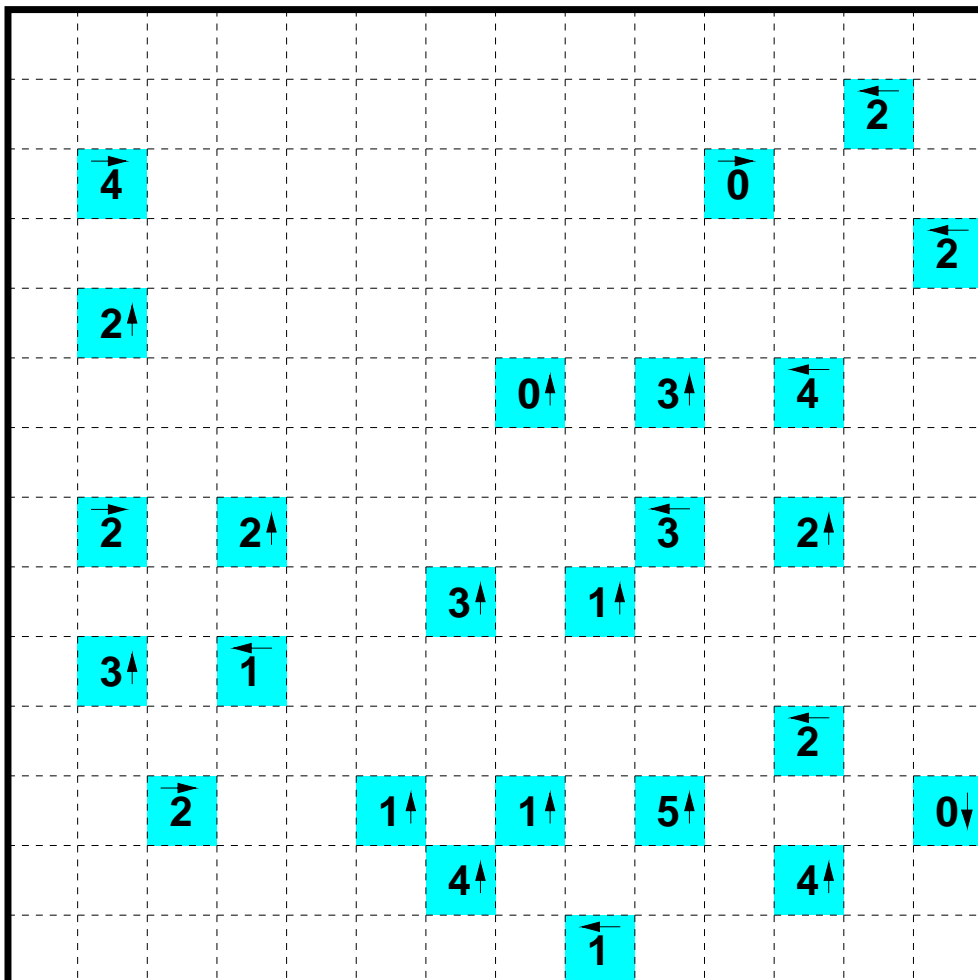
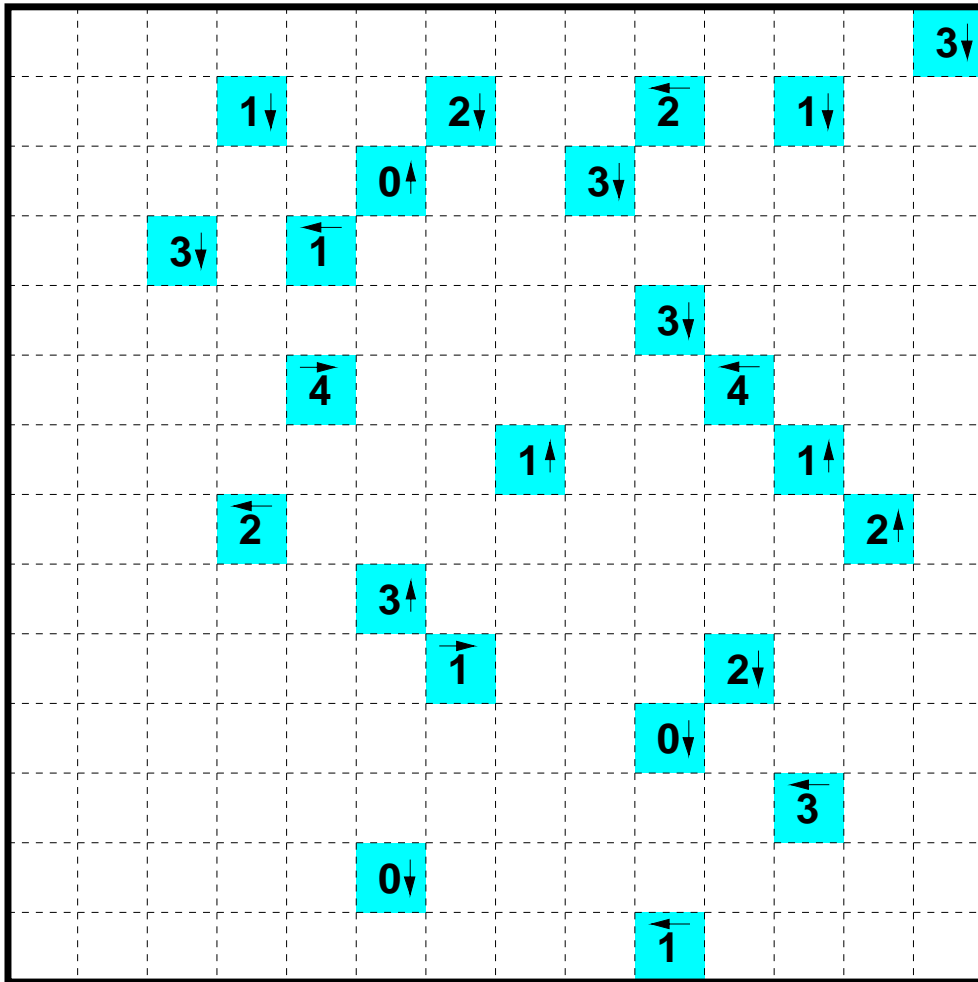
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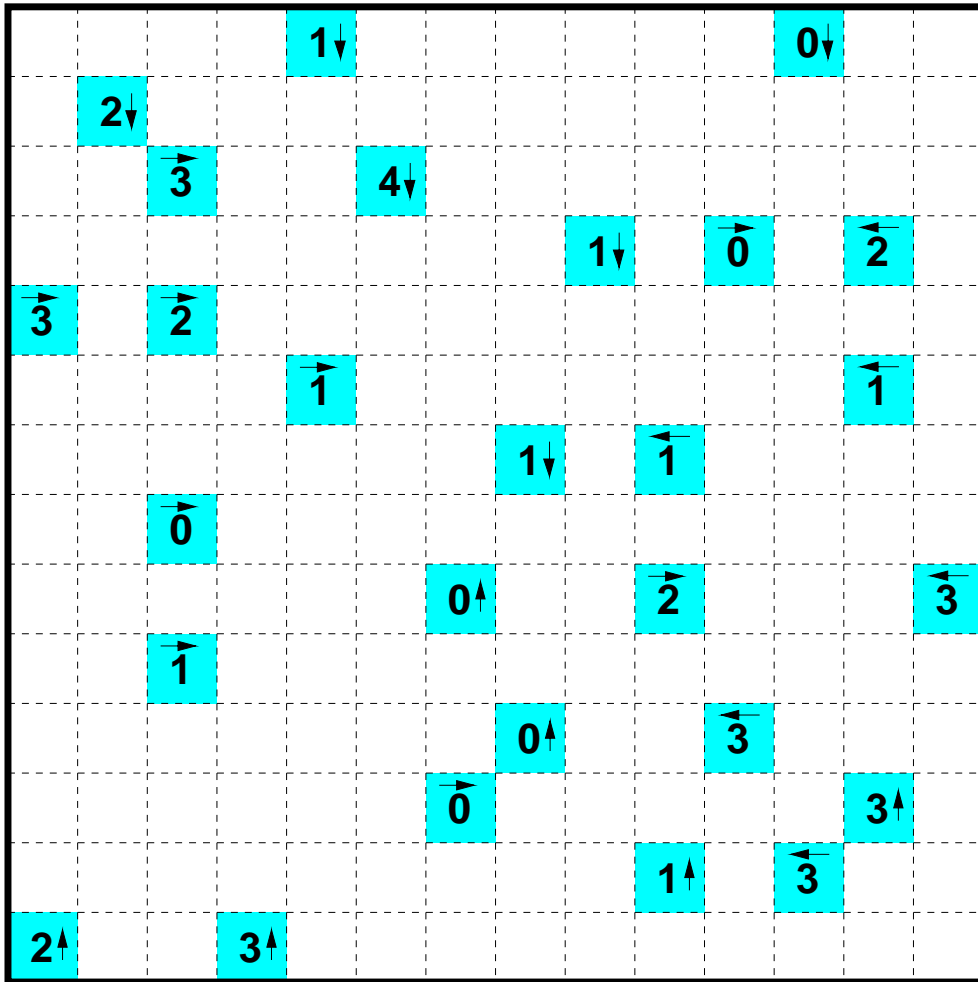


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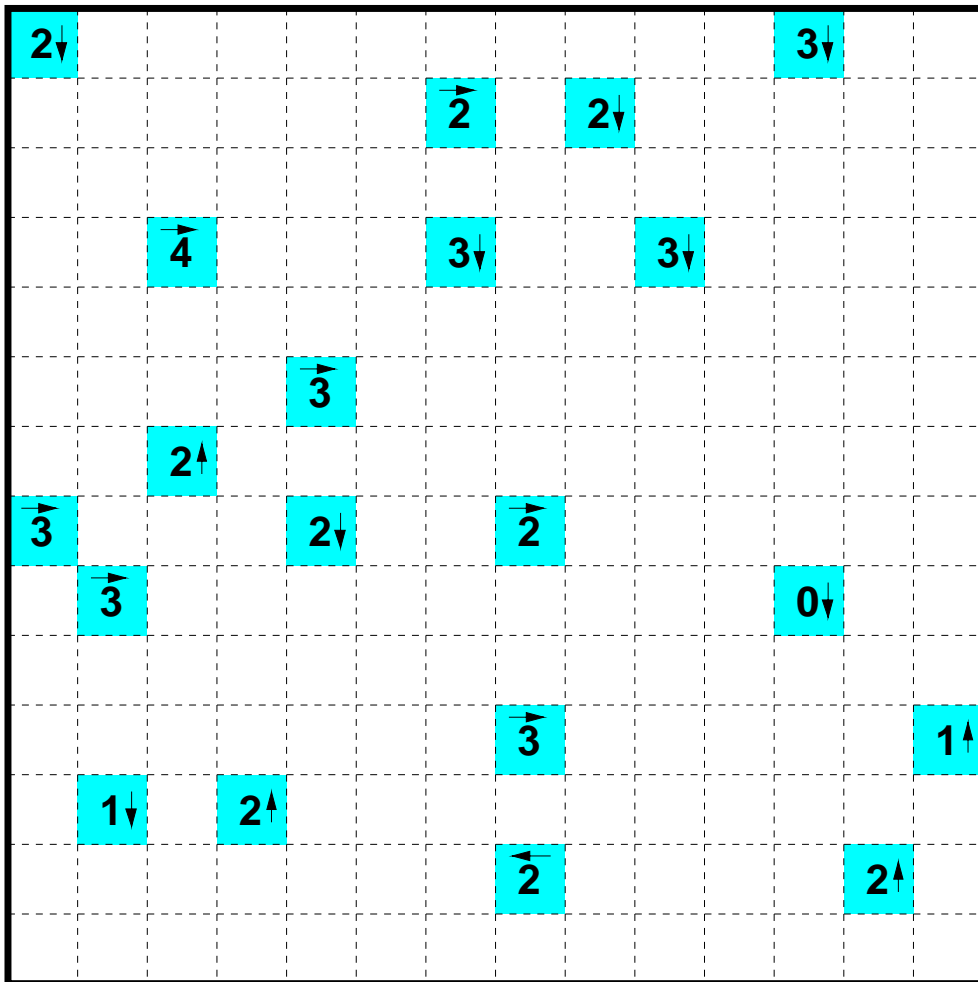


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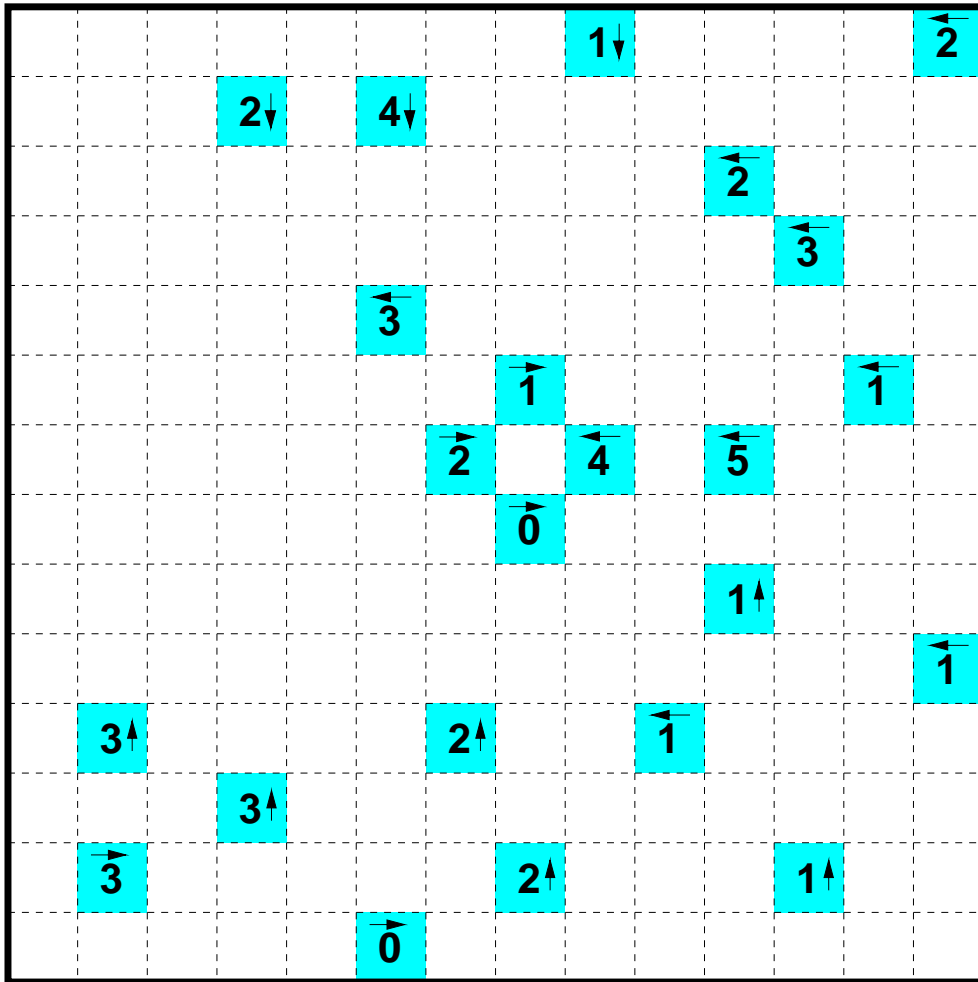




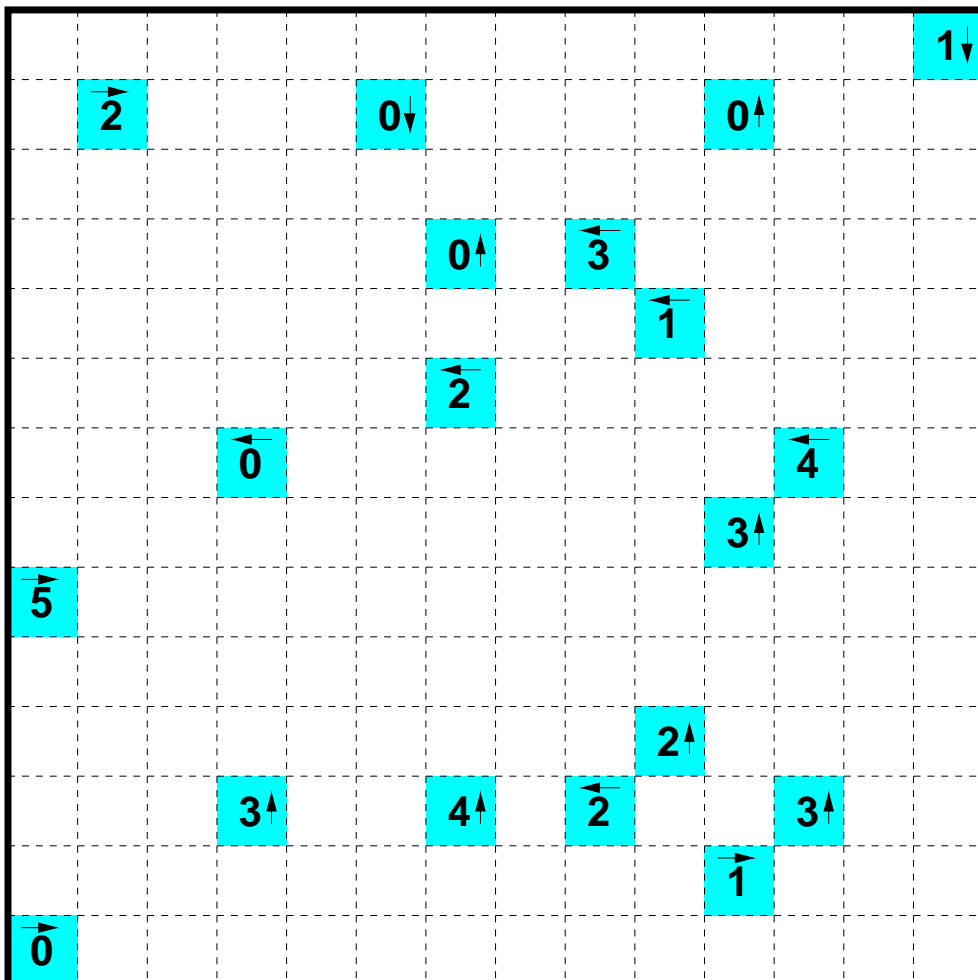
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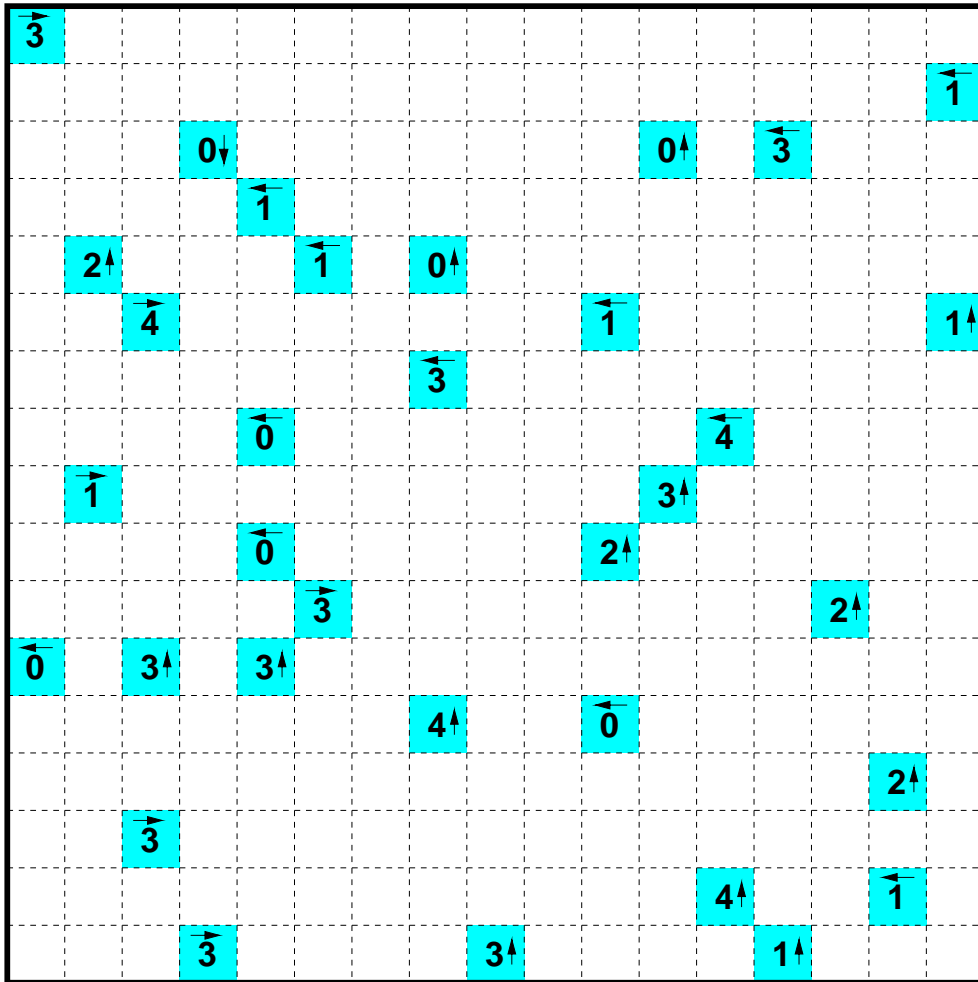
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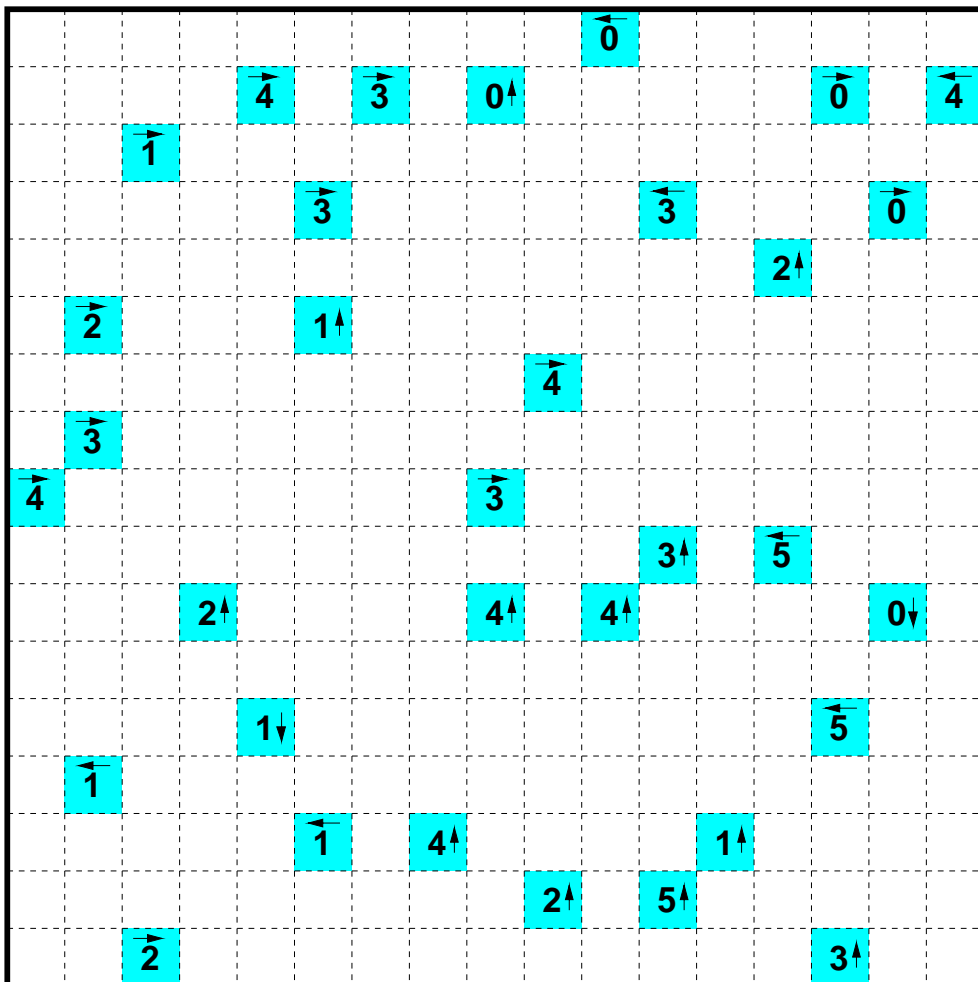
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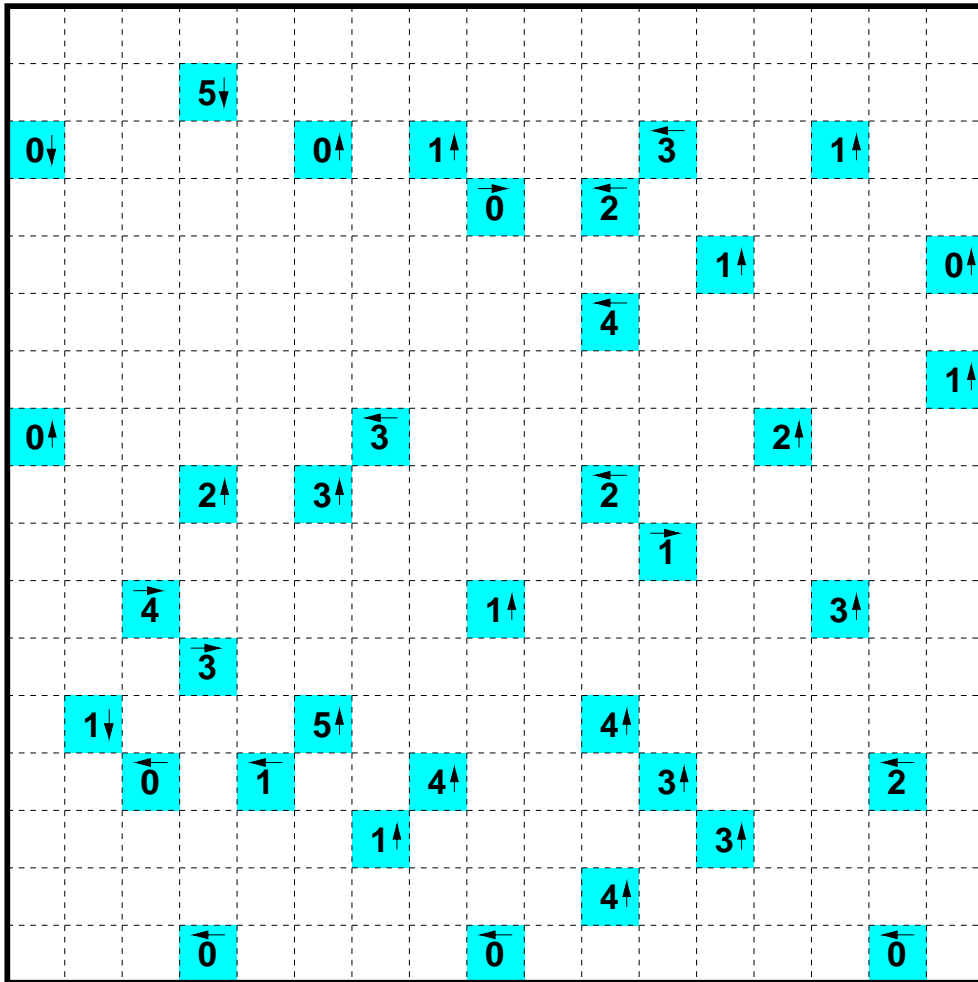
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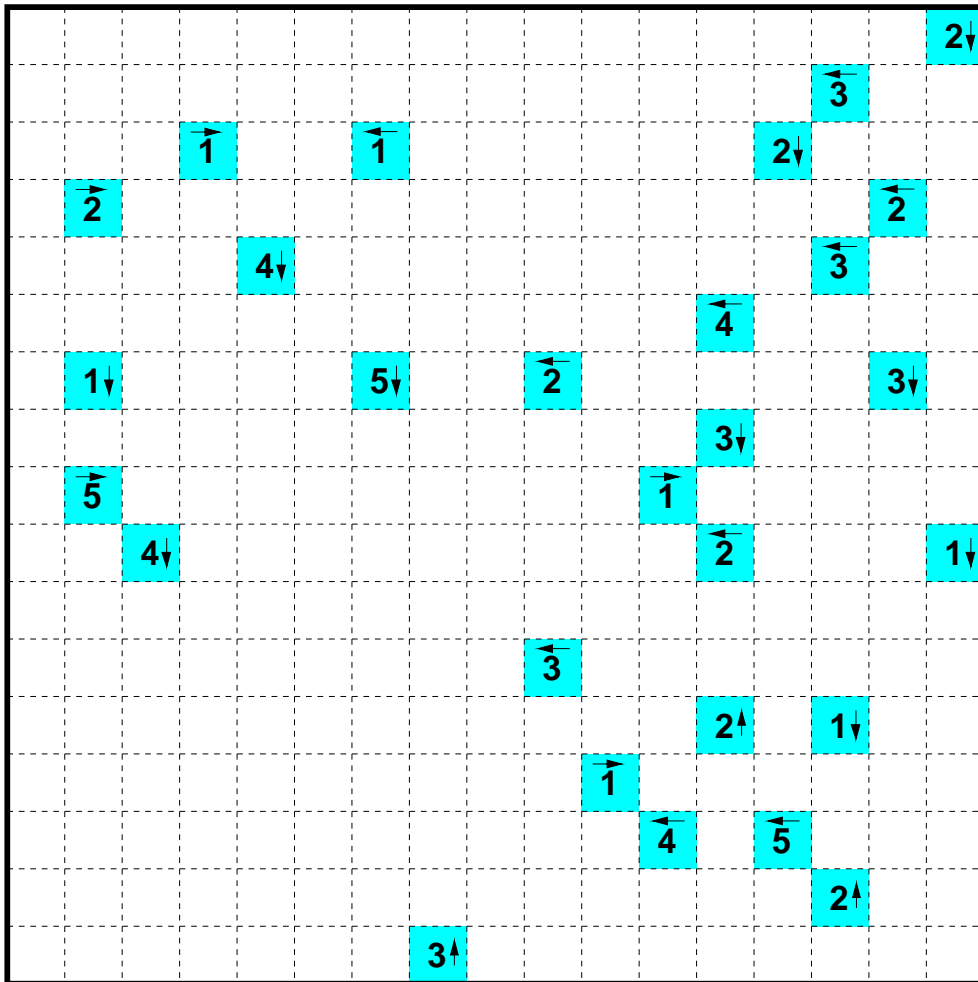
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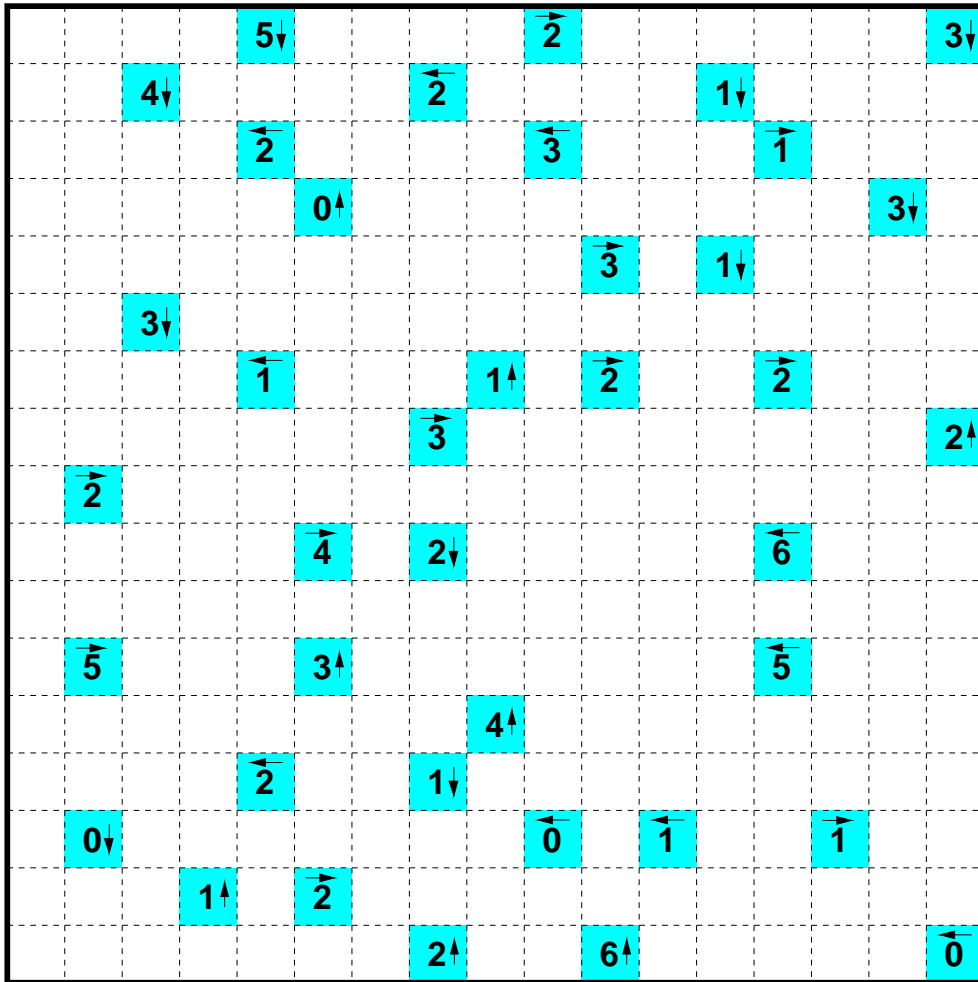
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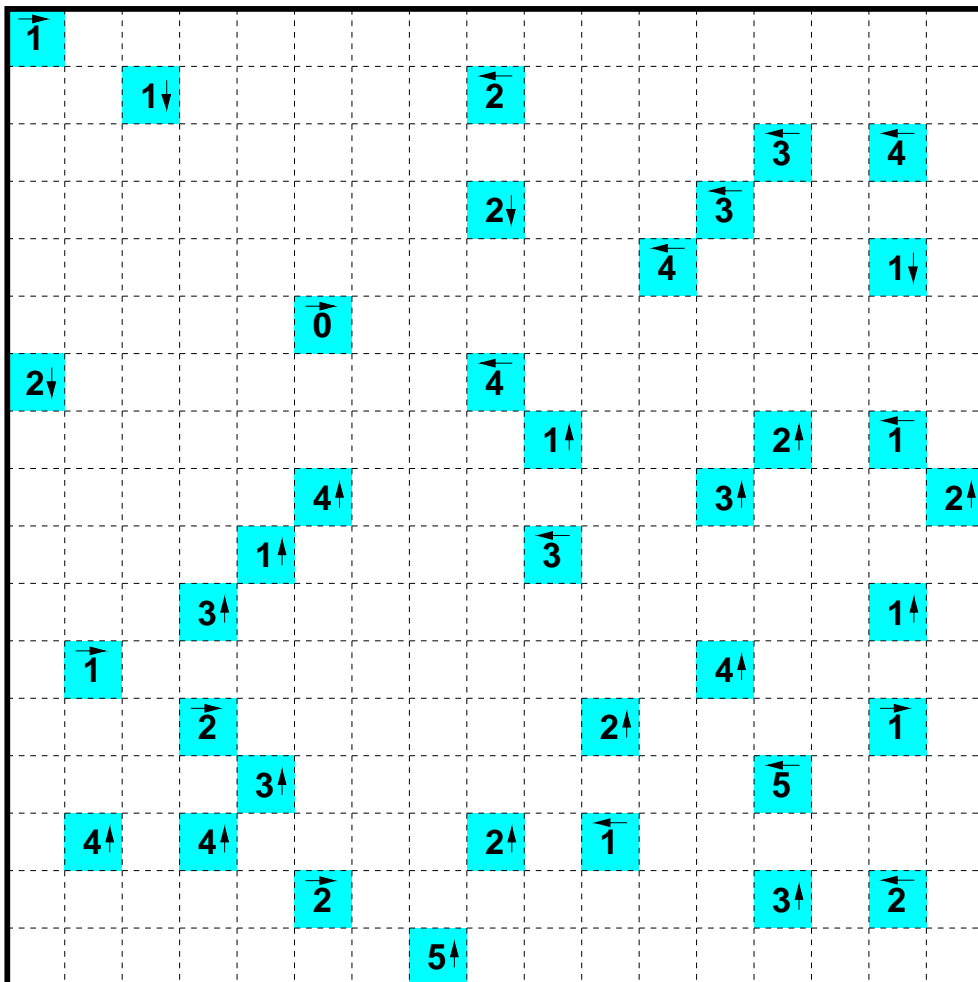
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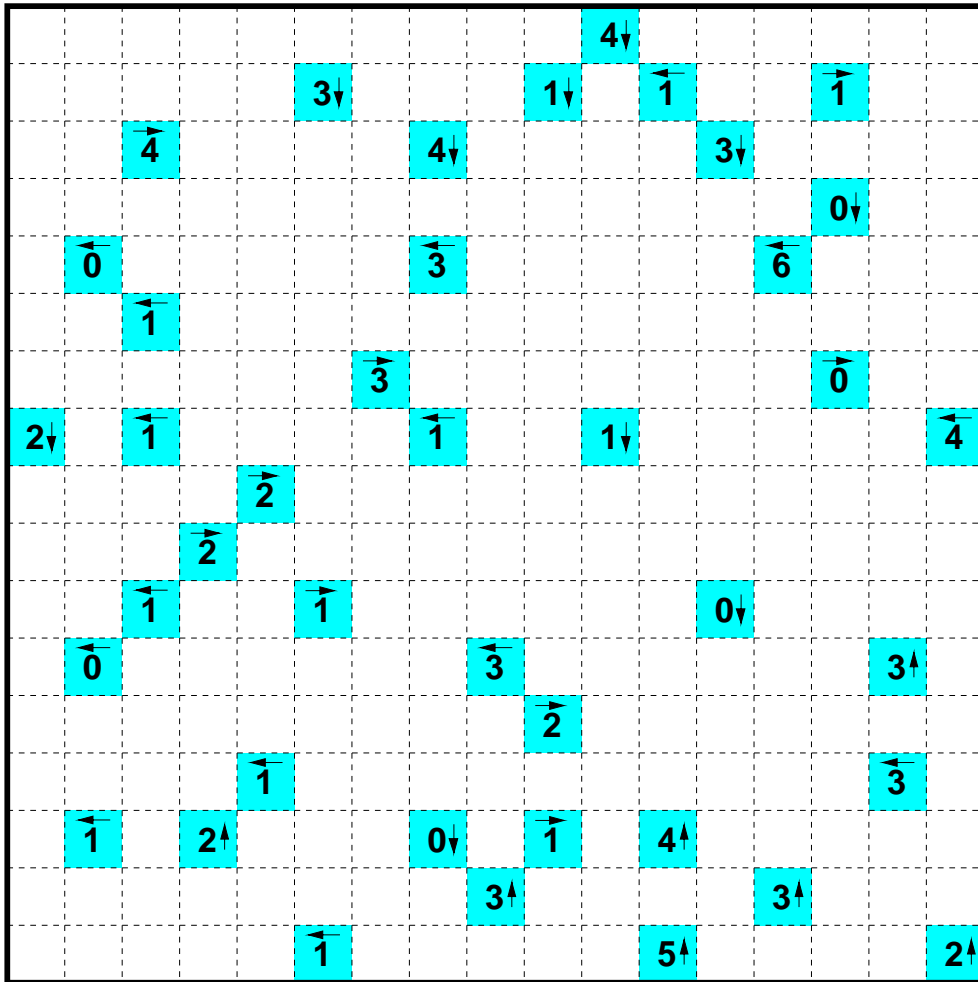
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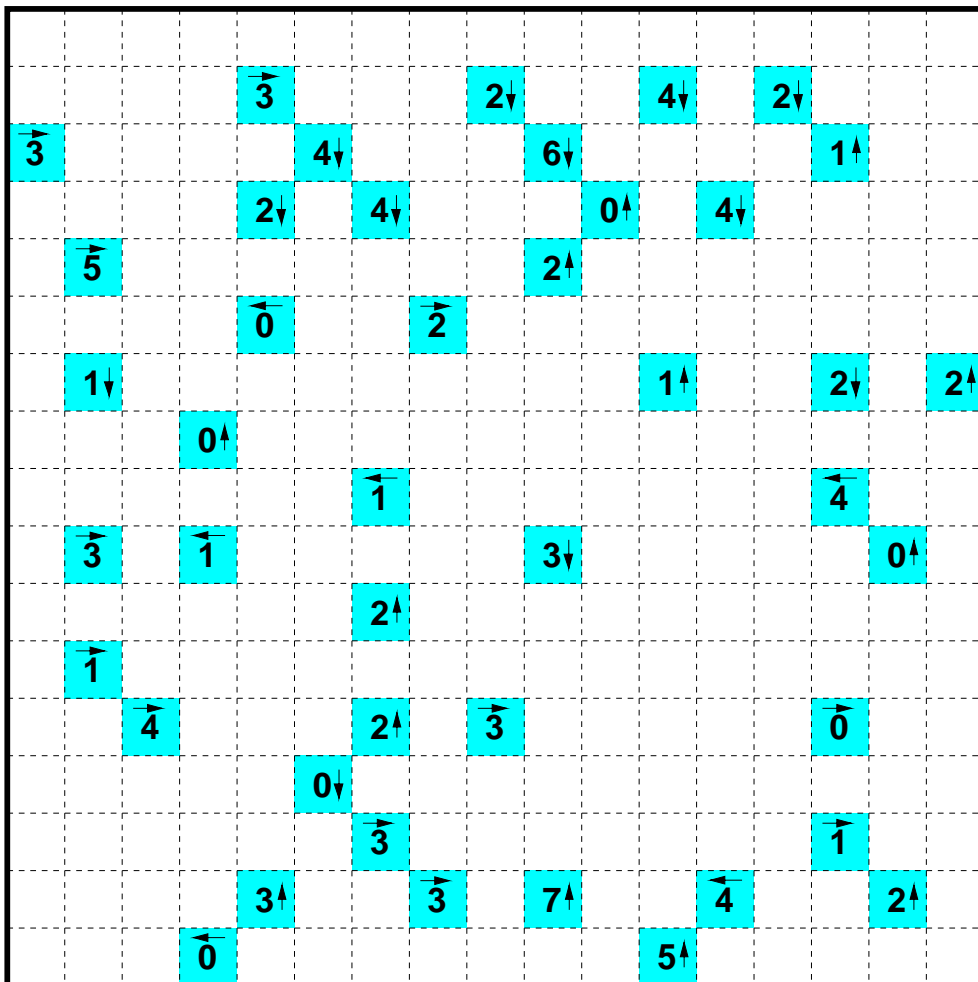
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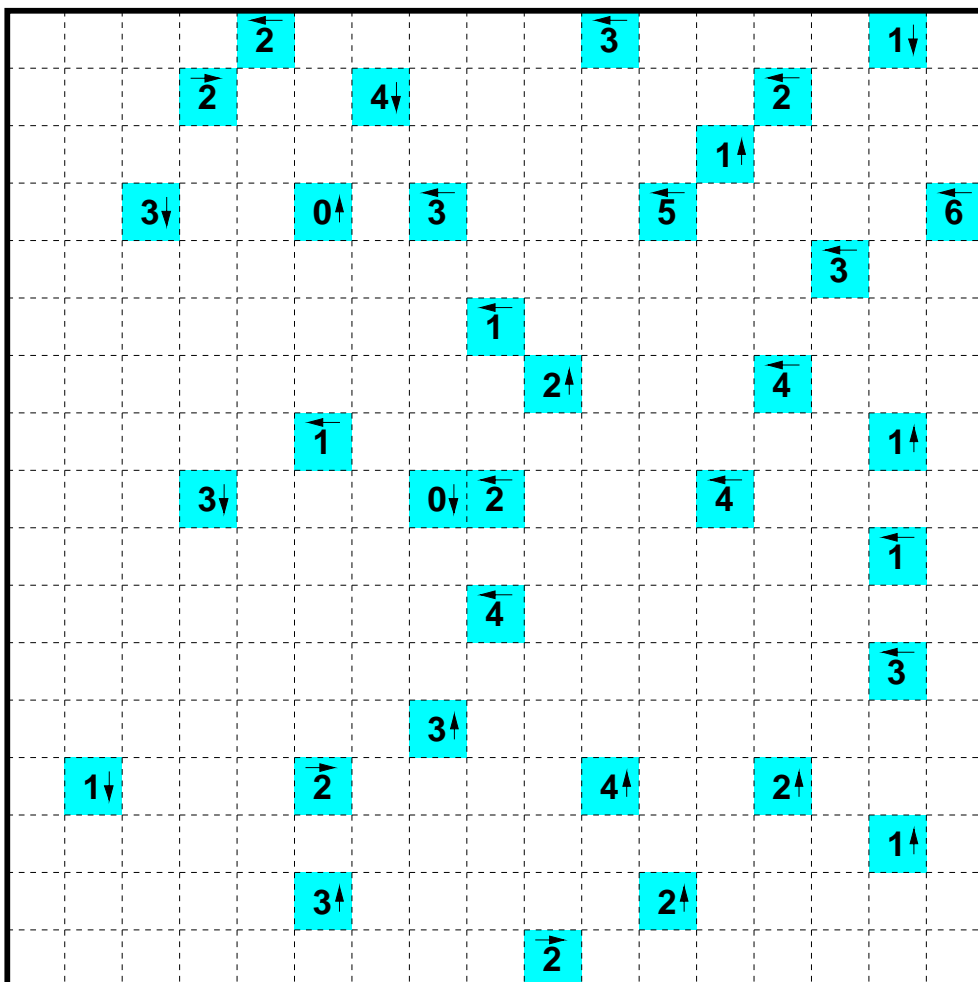
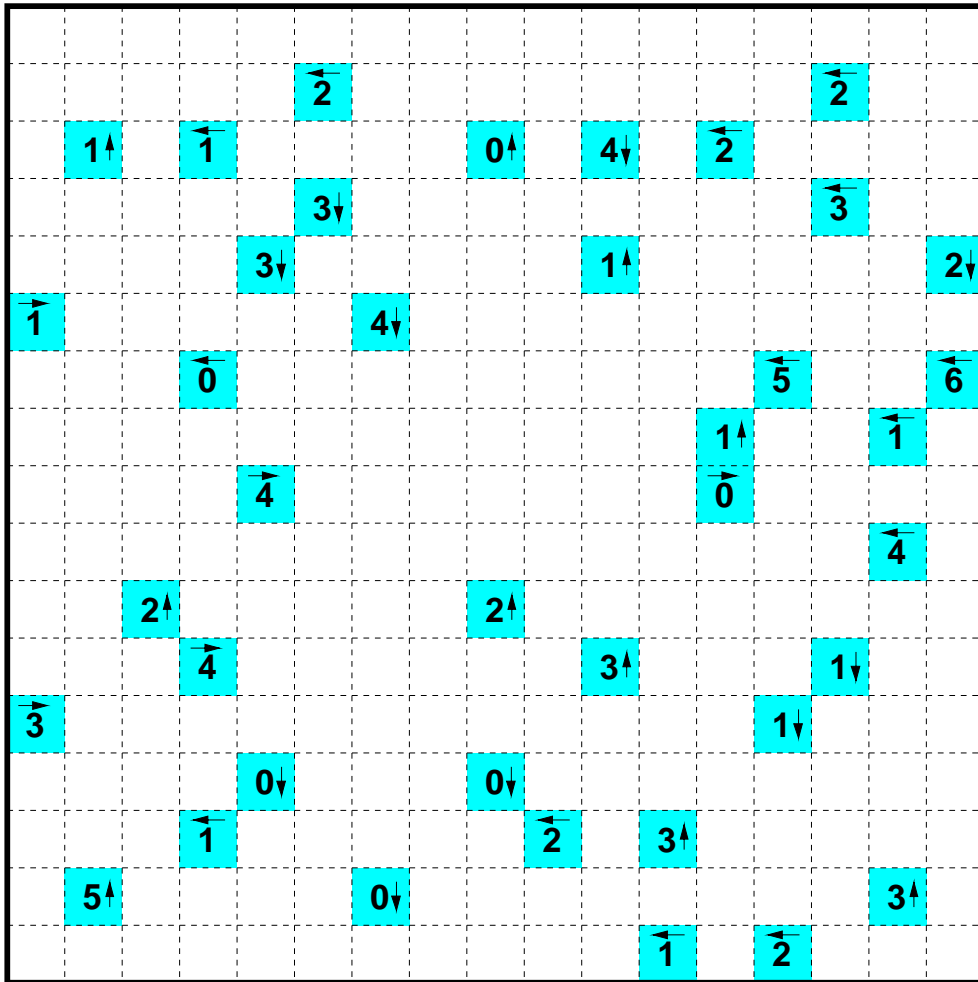
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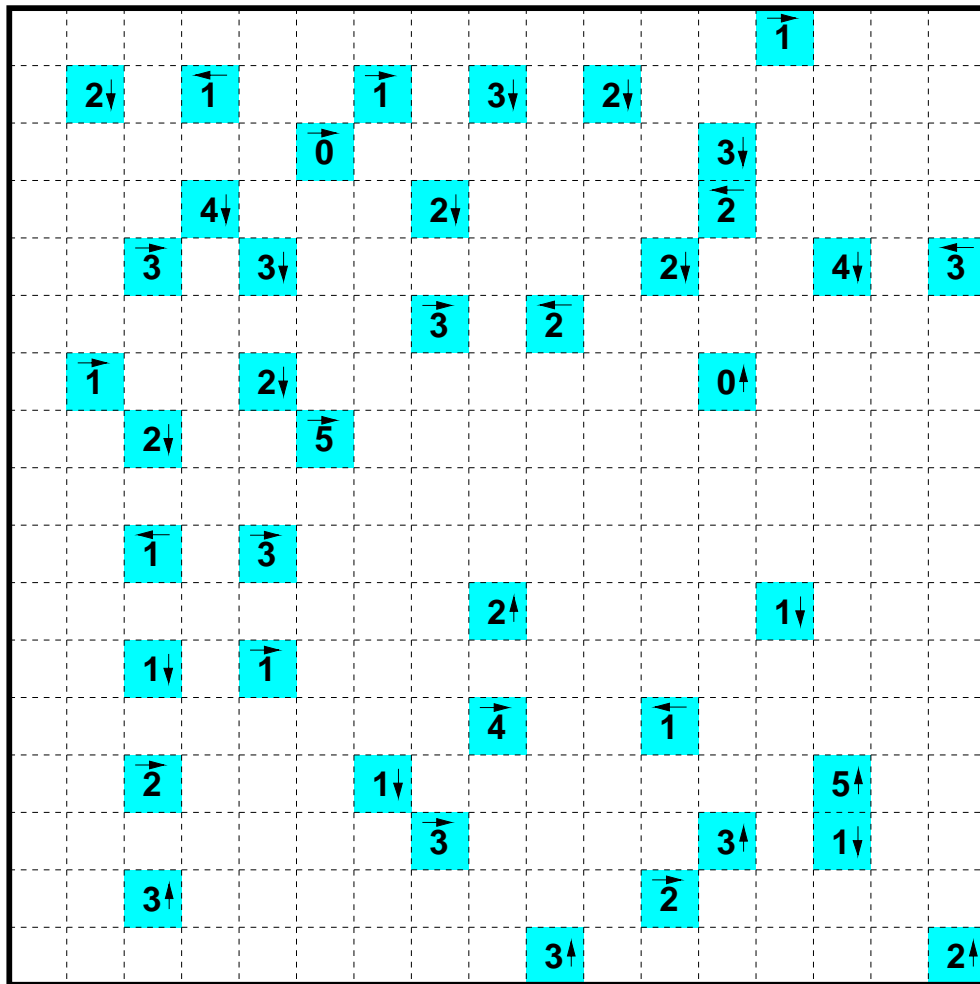


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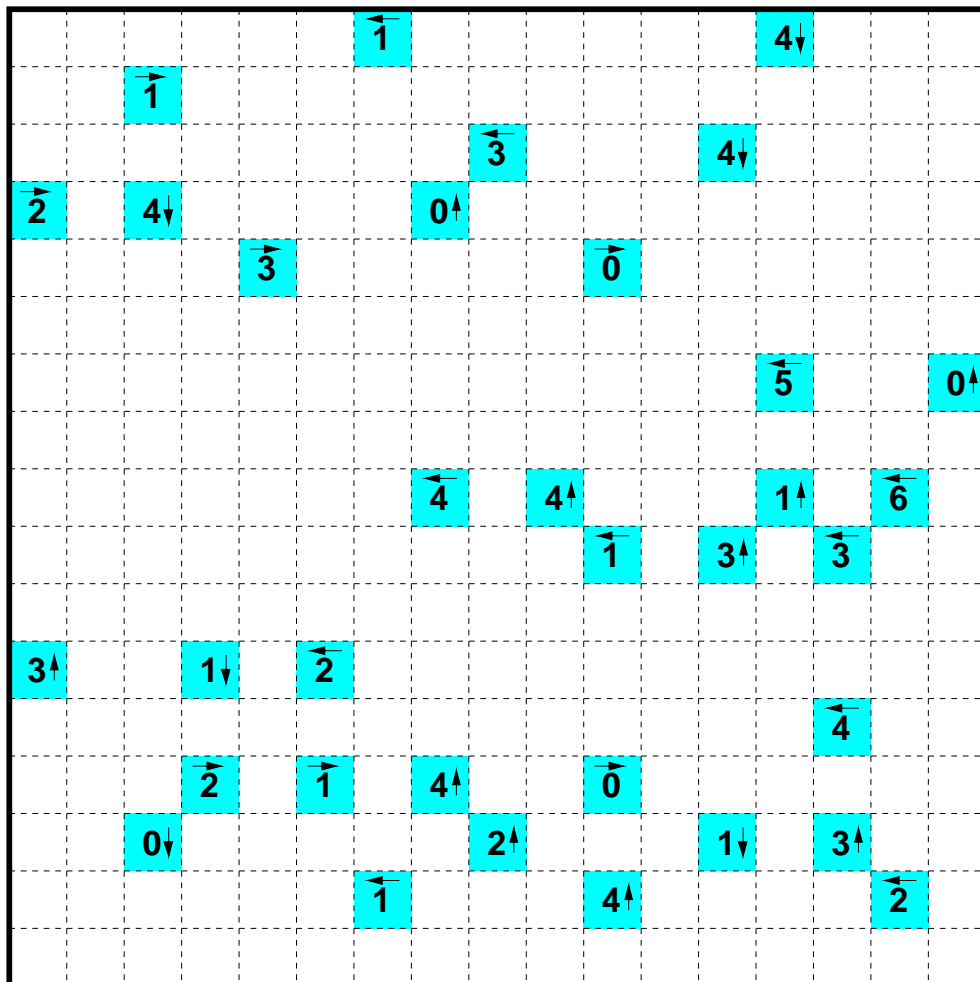


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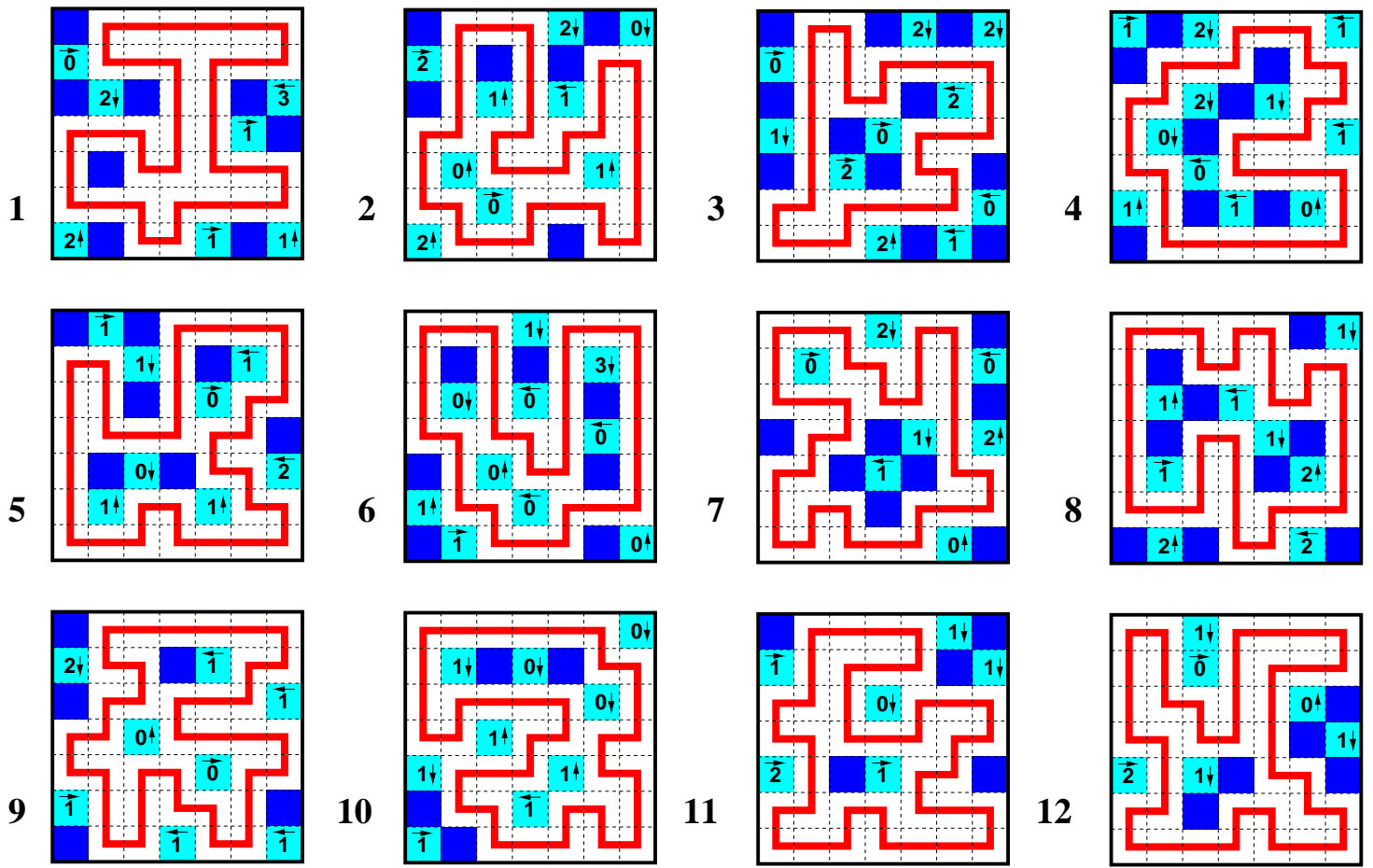




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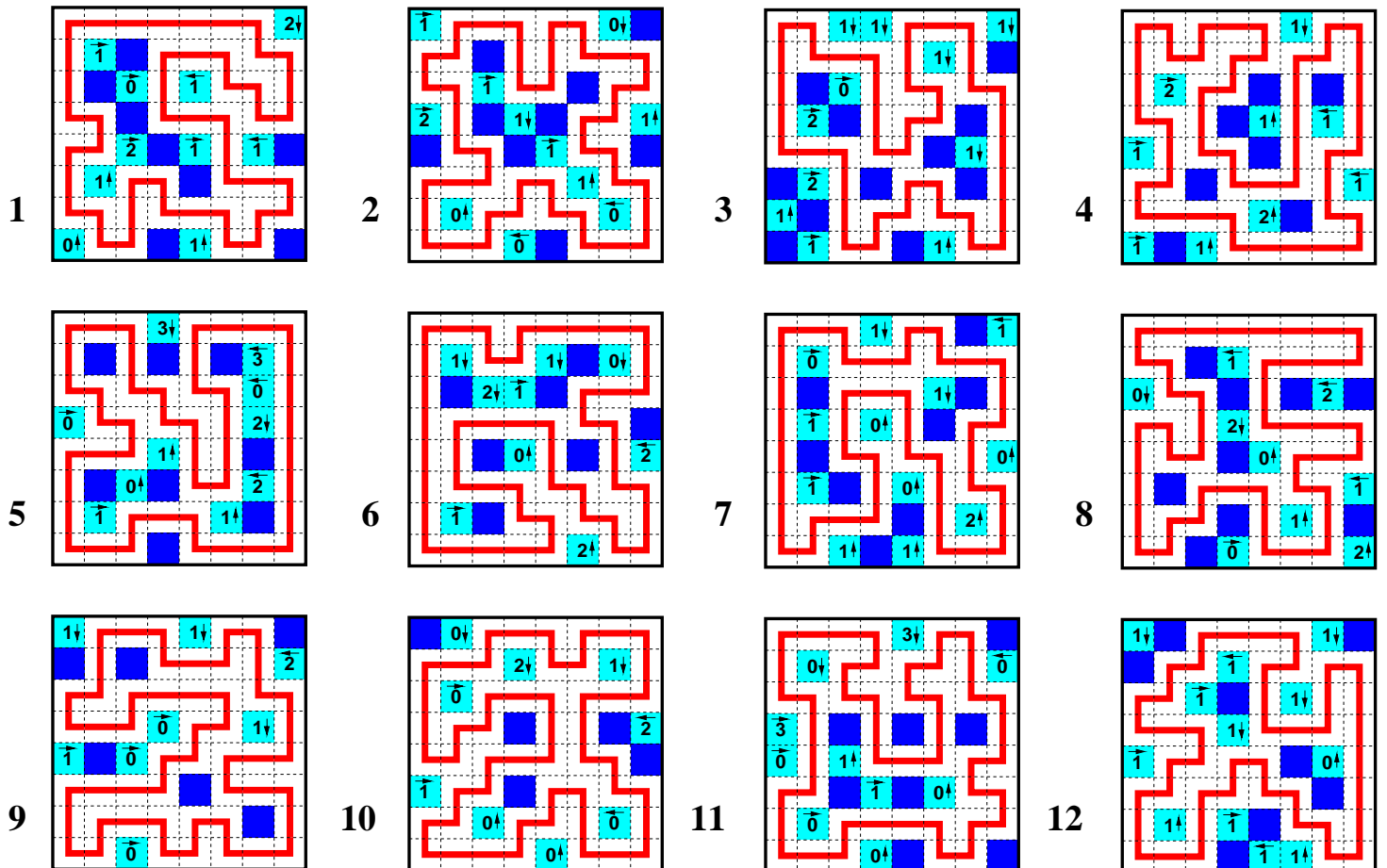


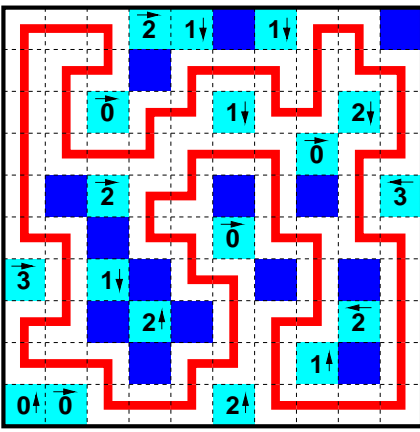
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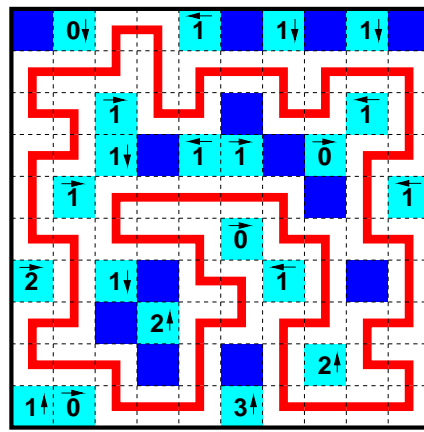
yajilin 7 × 7 solutions

yajilin 8 × 8 solutions

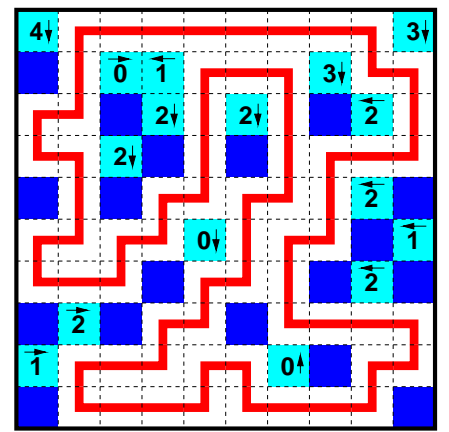




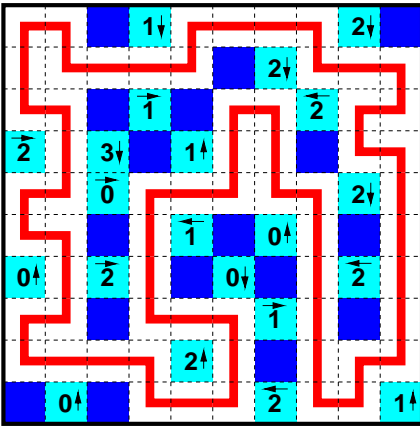
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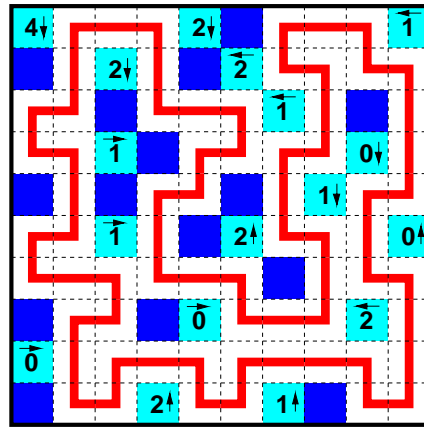
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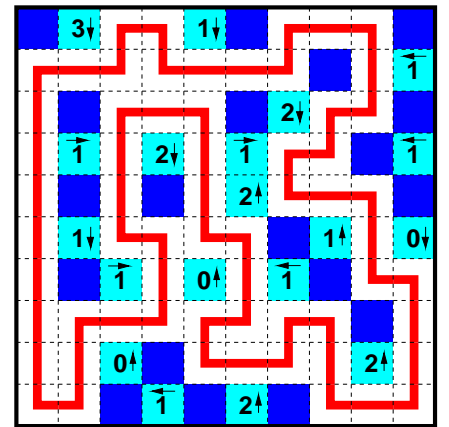
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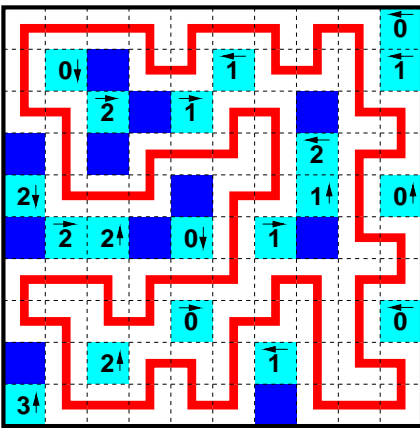
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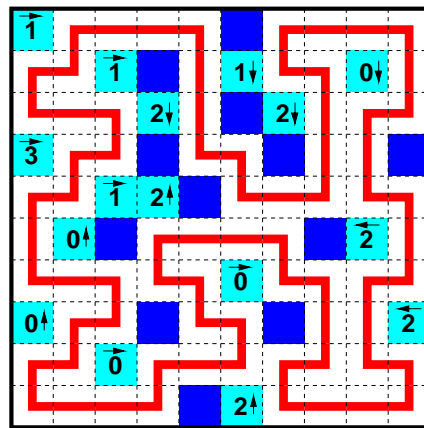
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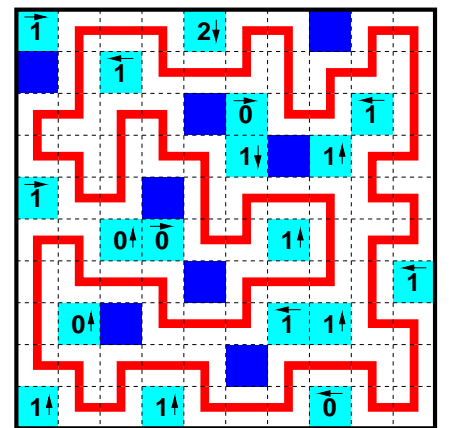
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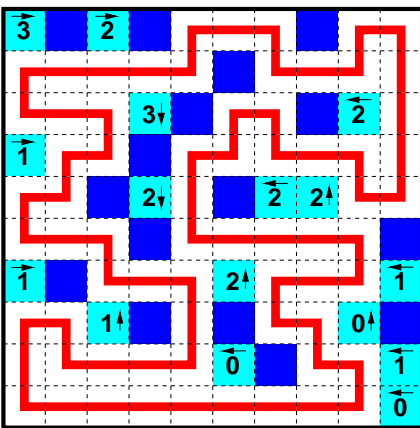
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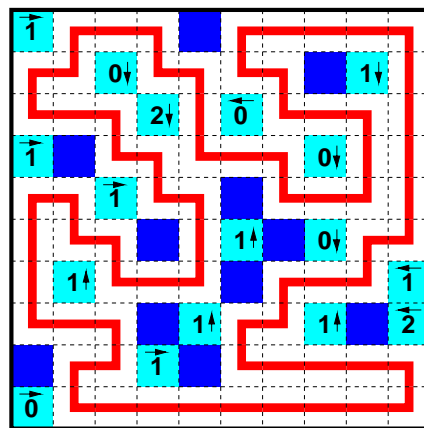
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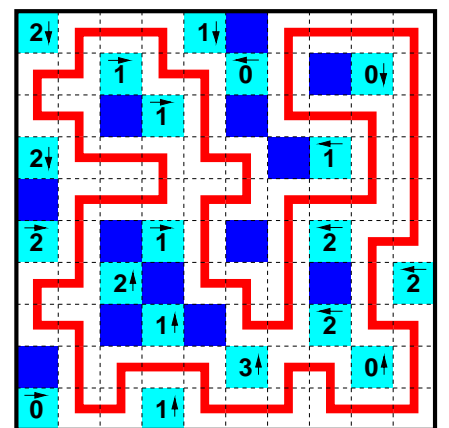
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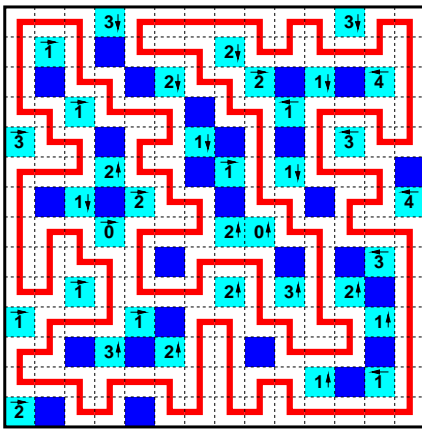
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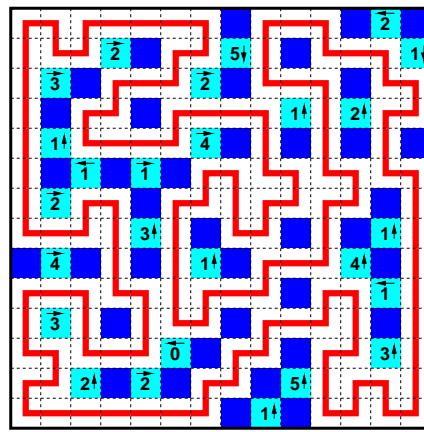
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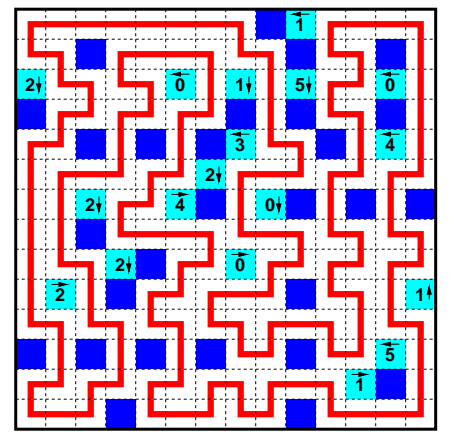
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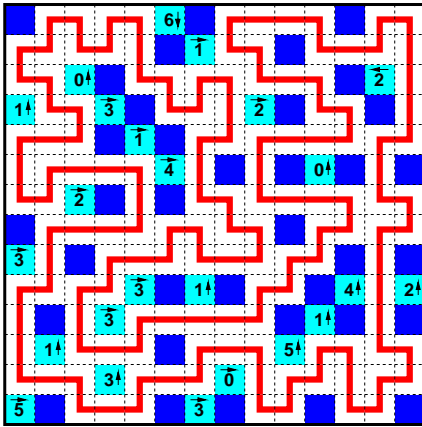
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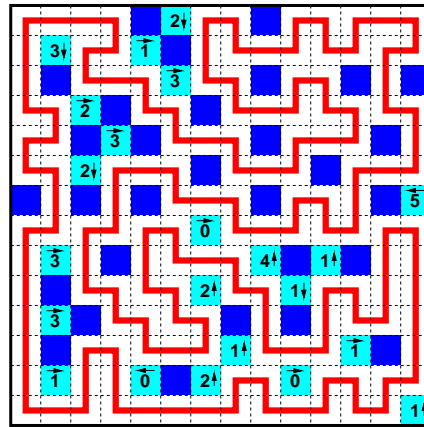
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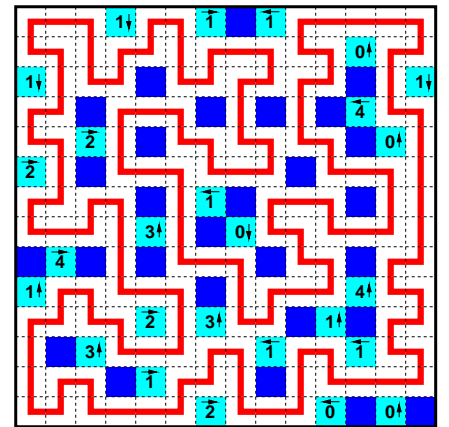
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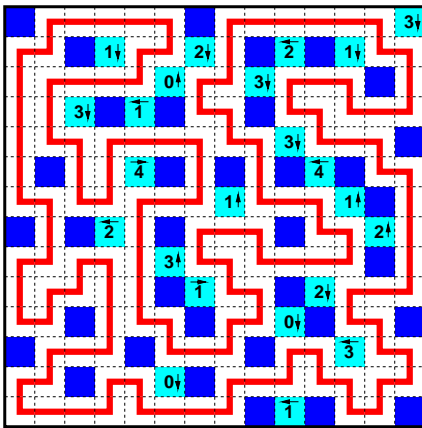
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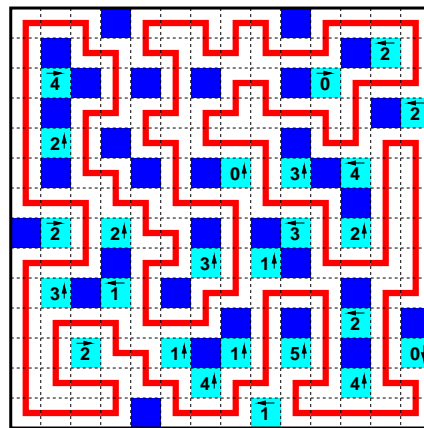
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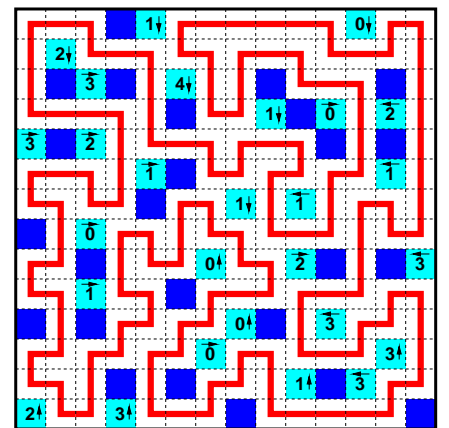
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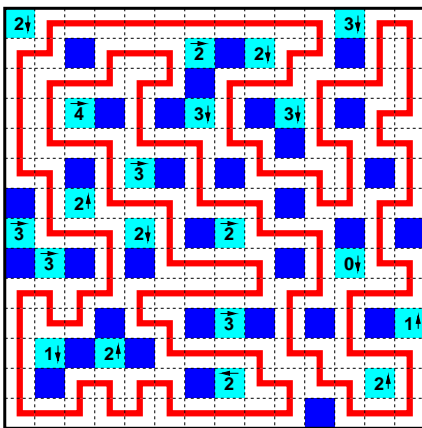
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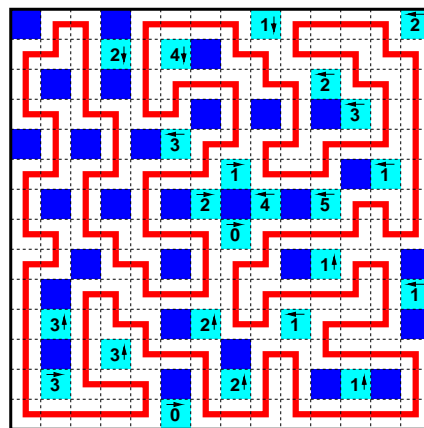
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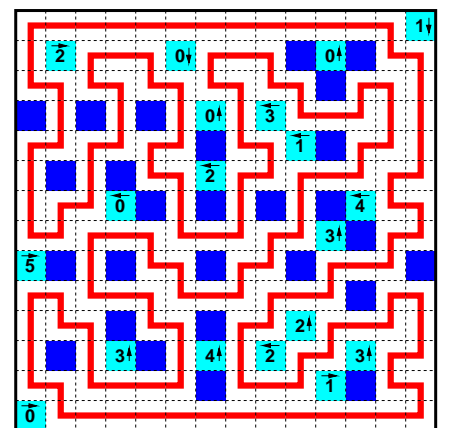
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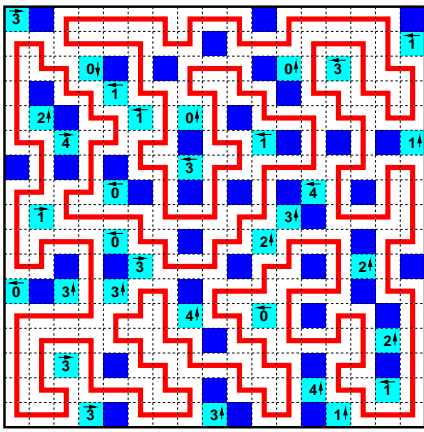
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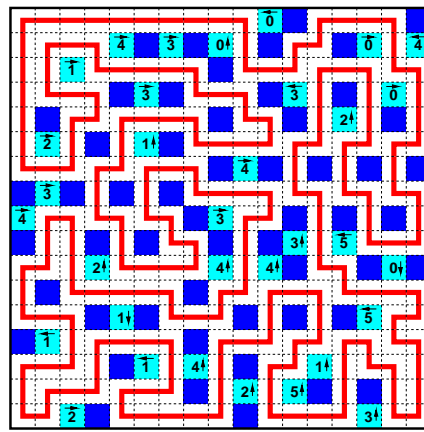
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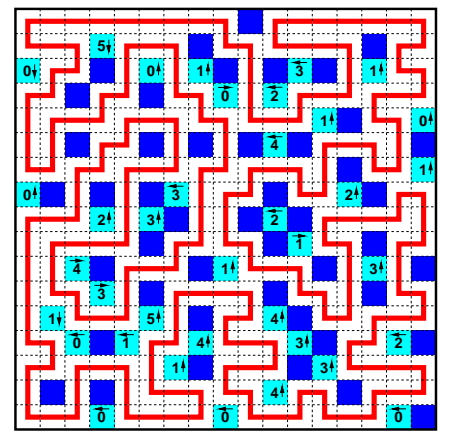
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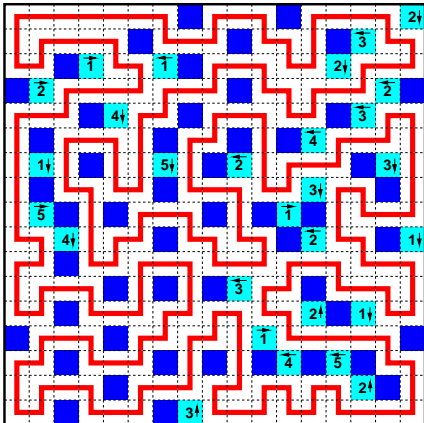
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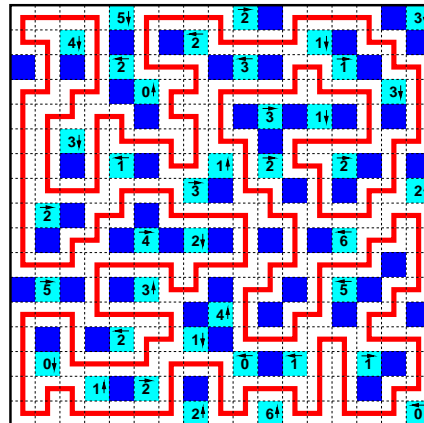
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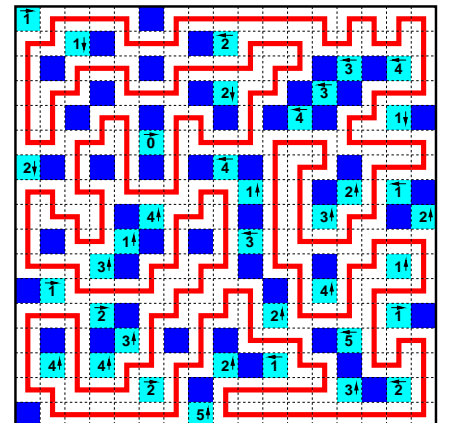
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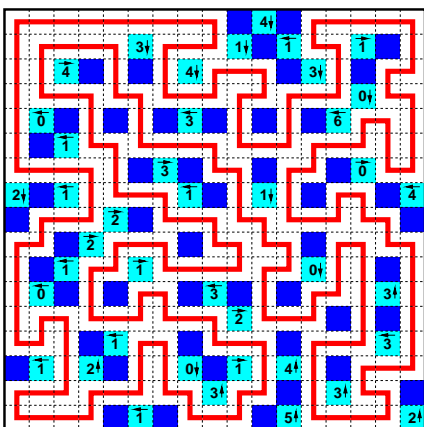
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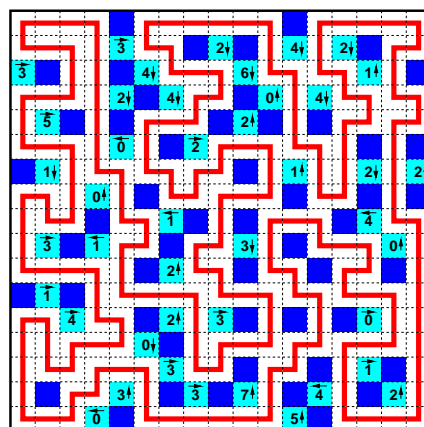
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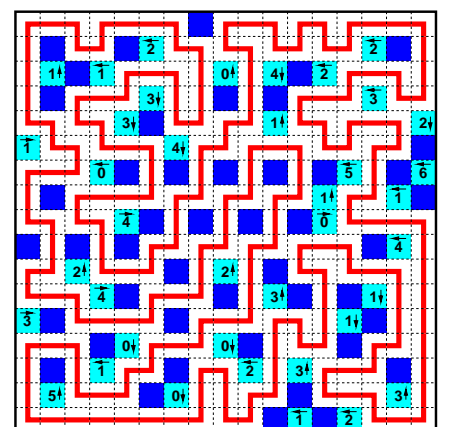
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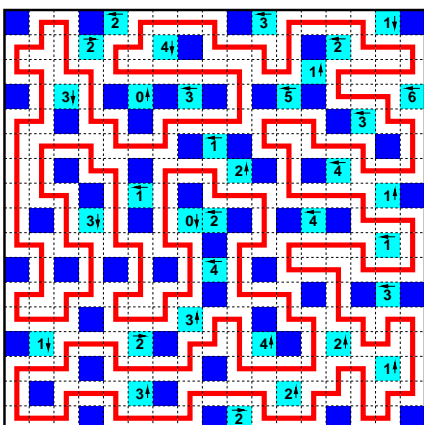
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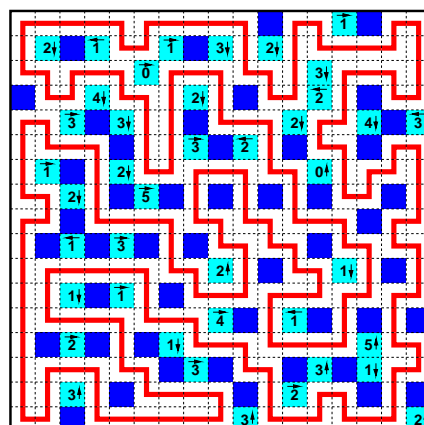
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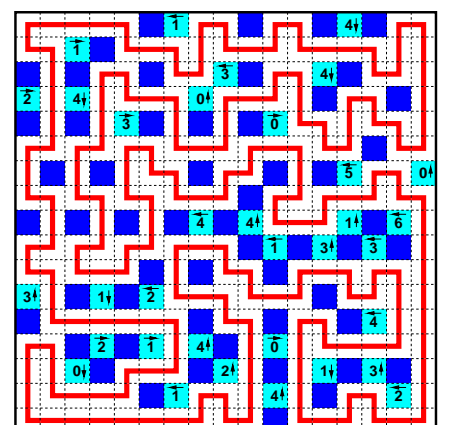
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10



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