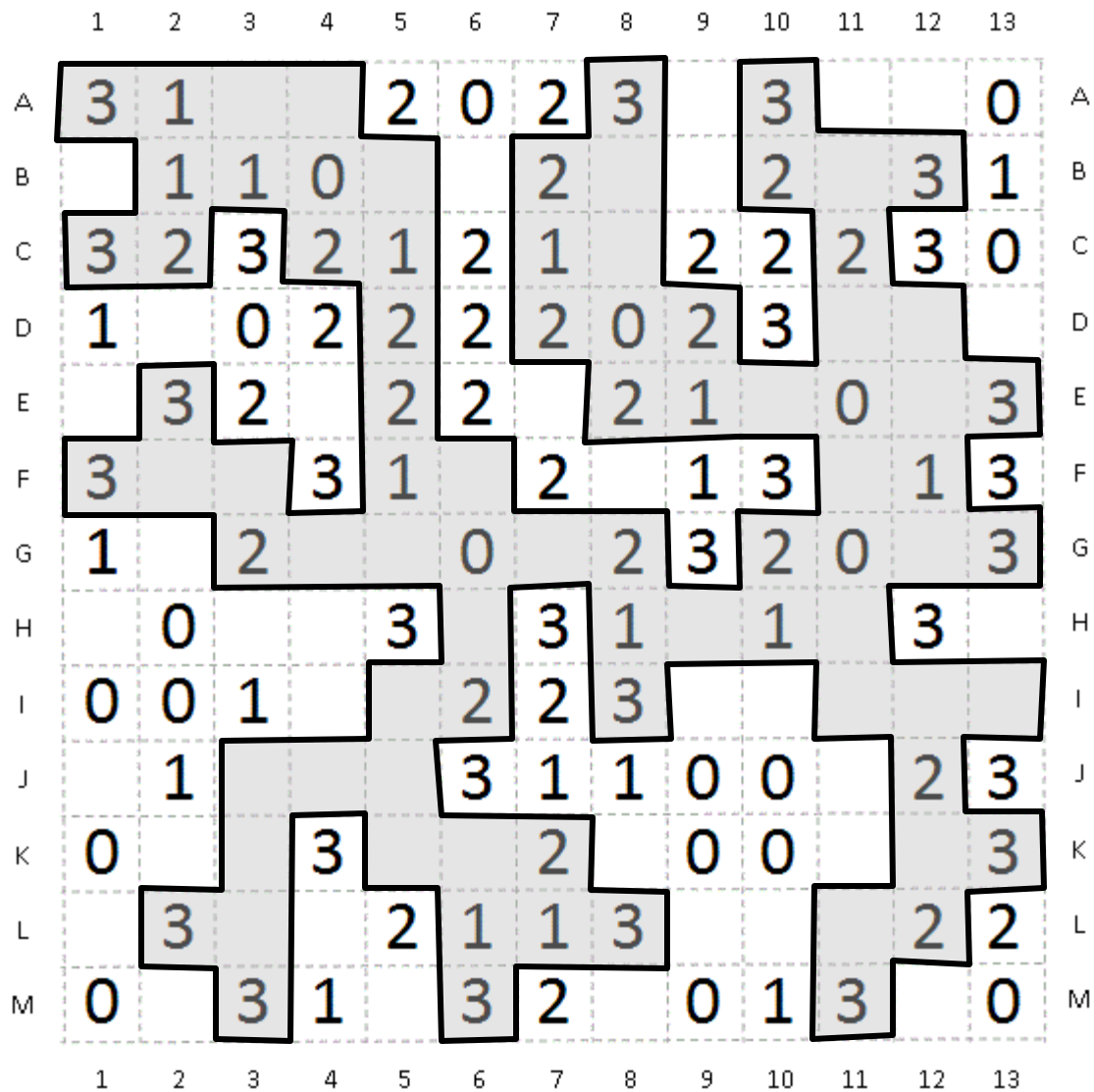


Solution to Ultimate Threat

By Jay Lorch

Following the instructions yields the fence depicted below. Spaces inside the fence are shown in gray.



Counting the area of the unenclosed groups yields, starting with the group in the upper left and reading clockwise, the numbers 13, 5, 7, 1, 2, 1, 3, 20, 5, 18, 9, and 1. Treating these as indexes into the alphabet yields the answer **MEGABACTERIA**.