

Program Description I

Program Title THE GAME OF LIFE

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Program Description, Equations, Variables The game of LIFE created by John Horton Conway is a pattern generation game played in open 2-D space. Specific initial configurations - cellular automata - in a Cartesian framework evolve into new patterns through successive generations.

The basic transformation rules from one generation to the next - ($G^n \rightarrow G^{n+1}$) - are readily stated. Any cell alive in G^n remains alive in G^{n+1} if it has either 2 or 3 live neighbors in G^n (of the 8 surrounding cells). Otherwise it dies of "isolation" (0 or 1 live neighbor) or "overpopulation" (4-8 live neighbors). Any cell dead (empty) in G^n becomes live in G^{n+1} if and only if it has exactly 3 live neighbors in G^n . Consider each G as instantaneously created.

The program implements LIFE in a 10x10 100-cell universe. This grid size is sufficient to demonstrate many of the beautiful and striking life patterns that may evolve. Some configurations evolve thru hundreds of generations, some peter out rapidly, some reach stable ("still life") or oscillatory states, and some endure indefinitely periodically beaming "offspring" (e.g. glider guns releasing gliders). Some patterns engulf, destroy or transmute others on collision.

Operating limits and Warnings		C_0	C_1	C_2	...	C_9
n = no. of evolved generations from initial G^0 to G^n	l_0	0	1	2	...	
k = cell label as noted on grid ($0 \leq k \leq 99$)	l_1	10	11	12	...	
C_k = column of cell k (modulo 10)	l_2	20	21	22	...	
l_i = row or line i ($0 \leq i \leq 9$)	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\ddots$	
Σ_k = No. of live cells around k = sum of their contents	l_9					
g_k^n = contents of k in n^{th} generation: 1 = live 0 = dead						

G^n = ^{current} generation

This program has been verified only with respect to the numerical example given in Program Description II. User accepts and uses this program material AT HIS OWN RISK, in reliance solely upon his own inspection of the program material and without reliance upon any representation or description concerning the program material.

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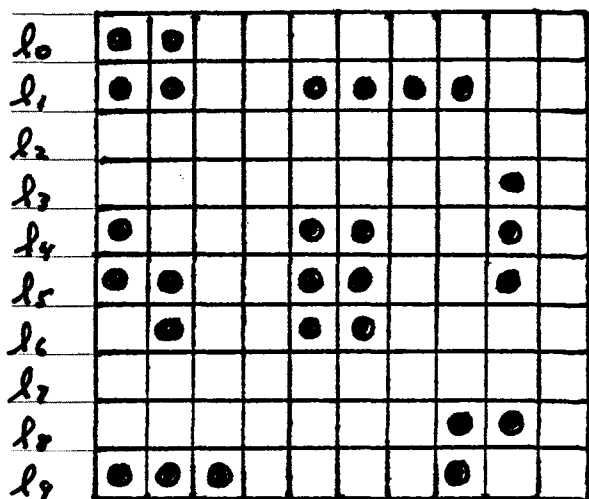
LIFE

Program Description II

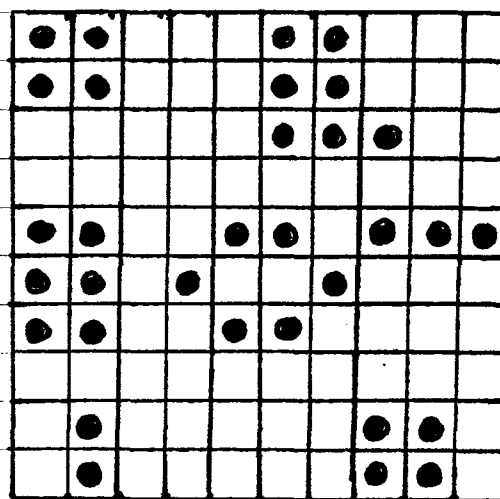
Sketch(es)

For sample problem below, leave program in manual mode [f e → 0], press A to clear (unnecessary for first G^0), and then enter G^0 line by line [1-1 B, 1-1001111 B, 0 B, 0.00000001 B, ... 0.00000011 B, 1-1100001 B]. Terminal zeros may be omitted. DSP notation preserves leading zeros. Press C to review accuracy of G^0 entry. Now press E. Each $\frac{1}{2}$ min. the next cell k (from 0 to 99) will be displayed with its next-generation contents (1 = live 0 = dead). At completion (50 min.), G^{n+1} is displayed line by line.

Sample Problem(s)

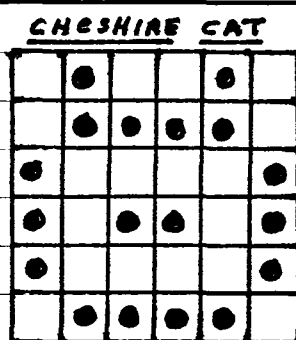
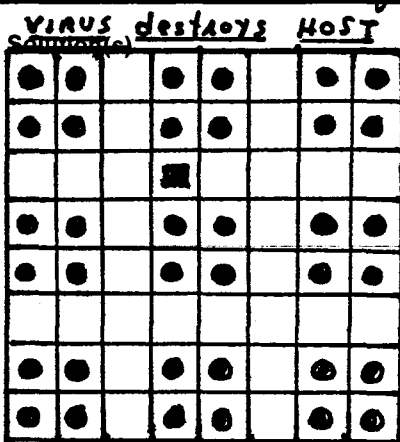
 G^0 G^1 

E →

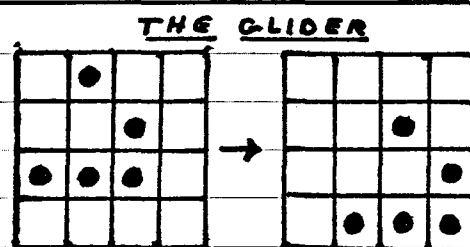


Left-center tetromino →
"Beehive" in 2 generations.

Center pattern is the "beehive",
A stable "still life".



→ GRIN IN G^6
→ pawprint in G^7



After 4 generations
the glider has moved
one unit diagonally.

Reference(s) ① MARTIN GARDNER, MATHEMATICAL GAMES, SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN; esp. OCT. 1970 (1st introduced) + Feb. 1971 (many startling new patterns, including the three above, + discussion of cellular automata).

② CARL HELMERS, BYTE, SEPT. + OCT. 1975 (1st two issues): extensive discussion of computer implementation of LIFE.

LIFE 10x10

clear load review

AUTO?

GO → Gⁿ⁺¹

STEP	INSTRUCTIONS	INPUT DATA/UNITS	KEYS	OUTPUT DATA/UNITS
①	Load program from both sides of card.		☐ ☐	
②	Select <u>AUTO</u> or <u>MANUAL</u> mode.		f e	1 or 0
	AUTO mode: output = 1 } alternate presses MANUAL mode: output = 0 }		☐ ☐	
			☐ ☐	
	Auto mode permits unattended HP-97 printout of successive generations.		☐ ☐	
	MANUAL mode → halt after each new generat.		☐ ☐	
③	Initial all parameters and generations to 0.		A ☐	
			☐ ☐	
④	Enter initial generation G ⁰ line by line.	l ₀	B ☐	1 } NEXT LINE
	l _i = d ₀ d ₁ d ₂ d ₃ d ₄ d ₅ d ₆ d ₇ d ₈ d ₉	l ₁	B ☐	2 } PROMPT
	e.g., l ₀ = 1.001000010 if cells 0, 3, 8 of top row are alive. This format will preserve & display all leading zeros.	l ₂	B ☐	3 } PROMPT
		:	:	:
		l ₉	B ☐	10 } all entered
			☐ ☐	
④'	Alternate G ⁰ entry of all 10 lines (0 ≤ i ≤ 9)	l _i	STO R _i	
			☐ ☐	
⑤	Review G ⁰ for correct entry.		C ☐	G ⁰ , 0
	If error, correct by ④' (or ③ then ④)		☐ ☐	
	Each line label and line is displayed sequentially in 1-sec. and 5-sec. pause modes respectively: (0, l ₀ , 1, l ₁ , ... 9, l ₉). Then the generation number (0) is shown. Do not omit ⑤ if HP-97 printout of (G ⁰ , 0) is desired.		☐ ☐	
			☐ ☐	
⑥	Obtain successive life generations.		E ☐	G ¹
	Press once only if AUTO mode was selected. Cell no. and contents of successive cells from 0-99 will be 1-sec. pause-displayed every 1/2 min: eg. (3.1) = cell 3 alive; (65.0) = cell 65 dead in G ⁿ⁺¹ . Full G ⁿ⁺¹ evolves in 50 min. & is then displayed line by line as in ⑤. See (n+1) when program stops (MANUAL mode). In both modes, HP-97 prints, formats & labels each gener.		E ☐	G ²
			E ☐	G ³
			:	:
			☐ ☐	
			☐ ☐	
			☐ ☐	
			☐ ☐	
⑦	May review G ⁿ⁺¹ & (n+1) after each generat. (MANUAL)		C ☐	G ⁿ⁺¹ , n+1
⑧	For a new initial configuration G ⁰ , go to ③		☐ ☐	

STEP	KEY ENTRY	KEY CODE	COMMENTS	STEP	KEY ENTRY	KEY CODE	COMMENTS
001	g LBL E	32 25 15	Continuous generation mode: F_0 set 1 in R_x		RCL A	34 11	F_1 on if g_k^n is alive
	DSP O	23 00			f a	32 22 11	
	h FPO	25 71 00			1	01	
	GTO 1	22 01		060	g $x=y$	32 51	
	h SFO	35 51 00			h SF 1	35 51 01	
	1	01	Single $G^n \rightarrow G^{n+1}$: F_0 reset 0 in R_x		RCL A	34 11	Obtain $\Delta \Sigma_k$ from the column-independent cells: ($k+10$) ($k-10$)
	h RTN	35 22			1	01	
	(f LBL 1)	31 25 01			0	00	
	h CFO	35 61 00			+	61	
010	0	00			f l	32 22 12	
	h RTN	35 22	Initial: clear all storage registers		RCL A	34 11	Obtain the $\Delta \Sigma_k$ contribution from surrounding cells ($k-1$) ($k-11$) ($k+9$) unless k is a 1st-column cell: ($C_k=0$).
	(f LBL A)	31 25 11		070	1	01	
	f C1 Reg	31 43			0	00	
	f P $\rightarrow$ S	31 42			-	51	
	f C1 Reg	31 43			f l	32 22 12	
	h RTN	35 22	After each line l_i is stored, next i (i.e., $i+1$) is displayed as a prompt.		RCL B	34 12	Obtain the $\Delta \Sigma_k$ contribution from surrounding cells ($k-1$) ($k-11$) ($k+9$) unless k is a 1st-column cell: ($C_k=0$).
	(f LBL B)	31 25 12			f $x=0$	31 51	
	STO (A)	33 24			GTO 2	22 02	
	f ISZ	31 34			RCL A	34 11	
020	h RCI	35 34			1	01	
	DSP O	23 00	The generation in $R_0 - R_9$ (initially G^0 , then each subsequent G^i) is outputted in 5-sec. display mode, 1/4 belled (generation n), and (for HP-97 printout), formatted.		-	51	Obtain $\Delta \Sigma_k$ contribution from surrounding cells ($k+1$) ($k+11$) ($k-9$) unless k is a last-column cell: ($C_k=9$)
	h RTN	35 22			f l	32 22 12	
	(f LBL C)	31 25 13		080	RCL A	34 11	
	0	00			1	01	
	h STI	35 33			1	01	
	(f LBL O)	31 25 00	Start evolution of new generation $G^n \rightarrow G^{n+1}$ (k in R_A) $\rightarrow$ (C_k in R_B)		-	51	Obtain $\Delta \Sigma_k$ contribution from surrounding cells ($k+1$) ($k+11$) ($k-9$) unless k is a last-column cell: ($C_k=9$)
	h RCI	35 34			f l	32 22 12	
	DSP O	23 00			RCL A	34 11	
	h pause	35 72			9	09	
030	RCL (A)	34 24			+	61	
	DSP 9	23 09	Start evolution of new generation $G^n \rightarrow G^{n+1}$ (k in R_A) $\rightarrow$ (C_k in R_B)		f l	32 22 12	Obtain $\Delta \Sigma_k$ contribution from surrounding cells ($k+1$) ($k+11$) ($k-9$) unless k is a last-column cell: ($C_k=9$)
	f -x-	31 84			(f LBL 2)	31 25 02	
	f ISZ	31 34			RCL B	34 12	
	9	09			9	09	
	h RCI	35 34			g $x=y$	32 51	
	g $x \neq y$	32 71	Start evolution of new generation $G^n \rightarrow G^{n+1}$ (k in R_A) $\rightarrow$ (C_k in R_B)		GTO 3	22 03	Obtain $\Delta \Sigma_k$ contribution from surrounding cells ($k+1$) ($k+11$) ($k-9$) unless k is a last-column cell: ($C_k=9$)
	GTO 0	22 00			RCL A	34 11	
	0	00			1	01	
	h STI	35 33			+	61	
040	RCL E	34 15			f l	32 22 12	
	DSP O	23 00	Start evolution of new generation $G^n \rightarrow G^{n+1}$ (k in R_A) $\rightarrow$ (C_k in R_B)		RCL A	34 11	Obtain $\Delta \Sigma_k$ contribution from surrounding cells ($k+1$) ($k+11$) ($k-9$) unless k is a last-column cell: ($C_k=9$)
	h space	35 84			1	01	
	f -x-	31 84			1	01	
	h space	35 84		100	+	61	
	h space	35 84			f l	32 22 12	
	h RTN	35 22	Start evolution of new generation $G^n \rightarrow G^{n+1}$ (k in R_A) $\rightarrow$ (C_k in R_B)		RCL A	34 11	Obtain $\Delta \Sigma_k$ contribution from surrounding cells ($k+1$) ($k+11$) ($k-9$) unless k is a last-column cell: ($C_k=9$)
	(f LBL E)	31 25 15			9	09	
	RCL A	34 11			-	51	
	0	83			f l	32 22 12	
050	1	01			(f LBL 3)	31 25 03	
	x	71	Start evolution of new generation $G^n \rightarrow G^{n+1}$ (k in R_A) $\rightarrow$ (C_k in R_B)		3	03	Obtain $\Delta \Sigma_k$ contribution from surrounding cells ($k+1$) ($k+11$) ($k-9$) unless k is a last-column cell: ($C_k=9$)
	g fract	32 83			RCL C	34 13	
	1	01			g $x=y$	32 51	
	0	00		110	h SF 2	35 51 02	
	x	71			2	02	
	STO B	33 12	Start evolution of new generation $G^n \rightarrow G^{n+1}$ (k in R_A) $\rightarrow$ (C_k in R_B)		g $x \neq y$	32 61	Obtain $\Delta \Sigma_k$ contribution from surrounding cells ($k+1$) ($k+11$) ($k-9$) unless k is a last-column cell: ($C_k=9$)

REGISTERS

0 l_0	1 l_1	2 l_2	3 l_3	4 l_4	5 l_5	6 l_6	7 l_7	8 l_8	9 l_9 G^n
S0 l_0	S1 l_1	S2 l_2	S3 l_3	S4 l_4	S5 l_5	S6 l_6	S7 l_7	S8 l_8	S9 l_9 G^{n+1}
A k = CURRENT CELL	B C_k = CURRENT COLUMN	C Σ_k = No. live cells around k	D $n+1$ g_k = TRANSFORM 2^n	E n = CURRENT GENERATION	F	G	H	I Multiple	

STEP	KEY ENTRY	KEY CODE	COMMENTS	STEP	KEY ENTRY	KEY CODE	COMMENTS
	G TO 4	22 04	... $\Sigma_k = 2$ with		9	09	... if next k is
	h F? 1	25 71 01	$\bar{g}_k$ alive	170	RCL A	34 11	still in range
	h SF 2	25 51 02			1	01	($0 \leq k \leq 99$).
	(F LBL 4)	31 25 04	g_k^{n+1} into R_0		+	61	1st reset $\Sigma_k = 0$
	h CF 1	35 61 01	$= 1$ if alive		STO A	33 11	
	0	00	$= 0$ if dead		g $\neq y$	32 71	
120	h F? 2	35 71 02			GTO E	22 15	
	1	01			RCL E	34 15	
	STO D	33 14			1	01	
	f P $\Rightarrow$ S	31 42	Obtain		+	61	
	RCL A	34 11	$d_1 d_2 \dots g_k^{n+1} \dots d_d$	180	STO E	33 15	
	0	83	into R_x		0	00	
	1	01			STO A	33 11	
	X	71			f P $\Rightarrow$ S	31 42	
	ENTER $\uparrow$	41	from evolving		C	31 22 13	
	f INT	31 83	G^{n+1} , after a		h F? 0	35 71 00	
	h STI	35 33	primary-secondary		GTO E	22 15	
130	-	51	interchange.		h RTN	35 22	
	1	01	This g_k^{n+1} is a		(g LBL 0)	32 25 11	
	0	00	'dummy' value.		0	83	
	X	71			1	01	
	g 10^x	32 53		190	X	71	
	RCL (A)	34 24			ENTER $\uparrow$	41	
	X	71			f INT	31 83	
	ENTER $\uparrow$	41			h STI	35 33	
	g ffact	32 83			-	51	
	-	51			1	01	
140	h 1st $\neq$	35 82			0	00	
	h $\neq y$	35 52			X	71	
	0	83			g 10^x	32 53	
	1	01			RCL (A)	34 24	
	X	71		200	X	71	
	f INT	31 83			f INT	31 83	
	1	01			0	83	
	0	00			1	01	
	X	71			X	71	
	RCL D	34 14			g ffact	32 83	
150	+	61			1	01	
	+	61			0	00	
	RCL B	34 12			X	71	
	CHS	42			h RTN	35 22	
	g 10^x	32 53		210	(g LBL 0)	32 25 12	
	X	71			f $x < 0$	31 71	
	STO (A)	33 24			h SF 2	35 51 02	
	f P $\Rightarrow$ S	31 42			9	09	
	RCL A	34 11			9	09	
160	RCL D	34 14			h $\neq y$	35 52	
	0	83			g $x > y$	32 81	
	1	01			h SF 2	35 51 02	
	X	71			h F? 2	35 71 02	
	+	61			h RTN	35 22	
	DSP 1	23 01		220	f a	32 22 11	
	h PAUSE	35 72			RCL C	34 13	
	0	00			+	61	
	STO C	33 13			STO C	33 13	
	9	09			h RTN	35 22	

Obtain
 $d_1 d_2 \dots g_k^{n+1} \dots d_d$
into R_x

from evolving
 G^{n+1} , after a
primary-secondary
interchange.

This g_k^{n+1} is a
'dummy' value.

' g_k^{n+1} ' is then
isolated and
extracted from
 R_k of G^{n+1} ,
and replaced by
the true g_k^{n+1}
from R_0 .

G^n and G^{n+1}
are then re-
positioned.

Each k and g_k^{n+1}
are pause-displayed
in DSP 1 mode as
 $k \cdot g_k^{n+1}$

Prepare to trans-
form next cell ...

If all 100 cells
have been trans-
formed, increment
generation counter,
reset $k=0$, put new
 G into R_0-R_9 , dis-
play, and halt.
(unless in auto
mode)

For any cell
label k in R_x ,
extract g_k^n ,
the contents of
cell k, from G^n ,
and leave g_k^n
in R_x

NOTE:

Program sub-
routines has
been minimized
to reduce ex-
ecution time.

For any of the
8 cells surrounding
cell k and within
0-99 bounds:

obtain its con-
tribution $\Delta \Sigma_k$
to the sum Σ_k
of the cell con-
tents of all 8
cells.

Σ_k = No. of live
cells around k.

LABELS					FLAGS		SET STATUS		
A clear	B load	C review	D	E GO → G ⁿ⁺¹	0 AUTO if ON	FLAGS		TRIG	DISP
a k → g ⁿ	b → ΔΣ _k	c	d	e AUTO ?	1 g ⁿ alive if ON	ON OFF	DEG	FIX	
0 READOUT LOOP	1 AUTO	2 for ΔΣ _k	3 → g ⁿ⁺¹	4 g ⁿ⁺¹ → R _D	2 multiple	0 ☐ ☒	GRAD ☐	SCI ☐	
5	6	7	8	9	3	1 ☐ ☒	RAD ☐	ENG ☐	n <u>2</u>
						2 ☐ ☒			
						3 ☐ ☒			