

00463D Program Description I

Program Title GAME OF LIFE (9X9)

Contributor's Name JOHN RAUSCH

Address 402 VIRGINIA AVE

City FRANKLIN

State OHIO

Zip Code 45005

Program Description, Equations, Variables THE GAME OF LIFE WAS ORIGINALLY DESCRIBED IN SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, OCTOBER 1970, IN AN ARTICAL BY MARTIN GARDNER. THE GAME ITSELF WAS ORIGINATED BY JOHN CONWAY OF GONVILLE AND CAIUS COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE, ENGLAND.

IN THE GAME, ORGANISMS EXIST IN THE FORM OF COUNTERS ON A LARGE CHECKERBOARD (9X9 IN THIS VERSION) AND DIE OR REPRODUCE ACCORDING TO SOME SIMPLE GENETIC RULES. CONWAY'S CRITERIA FOR CHOOSING HIS GENETIC LAWS WERE CAREFULLY DELINEATED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1) THERE SHOULD BE NO INITIAL PATTERN FOR WHICH THERE IS A SIMPLE PROOF THAT THE POPULATION CAN GROW WITHOUT LIMIT.
- 2) THERE SHOULD BE INITIAL PATTERNS THAT APPARENTLY DO GROW WITHOUT LIMIT.
- 3) THERE SHOULD BE SIMPLE INITIAL PATTERNS THAT GROW AND CHANGE FOR A CONSIDERABLE PERIOD OF TIME BEFORE COMING TO AN END IN THREE POSSIBLE WAYS: FADING AWAY COMPLETELY (FROM OVERCROWDING OR ISOLATION), SETTLING INTO A STABLE CONFIGURATION THAT REMAINS UNCHANGED THEREAFTER, OR ENTERING INTO AN OSCILLATING PHASE IN WHICH THEY REPEAT AN ENDLESS CYCLE OF TWO OR MORE PERIODS.

(CONTINUED)

Operating Limits and Warnings

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Program Description, Equations, Variables IN BRIEF, THE RULES SHOULD BE SUCH AS TO MAKE THE BEHAVIOR OF THE POPULATION UNPREDICTABLE. CONWAY'S GENETIC LAWS ARE DELIGHTFULLY SIMPLE. FIRST NOTE THAT EACH CELL OF THE CHECKERBOARD (ASSUMED TO BE AN INFINITE PLANE OF WHICH YOU ARE VIEWING ONLY A SMALL SECTION) HAS EIGHT NEIGHBORING CELLS, FOUR ADJACENT ORTHOGONALLY, AND FOUR ADJACENT DIAGONALLY. THE RULES ARE:

- 1) SURVIVALS. EVERY COUNTER (ORGANISM) WITH TWO OR THREE NEIGHBORING COUNTERS SURVIVES THROUGH THE NEXT GENERATION.
- 2) DEATHS. EVERY COUNTER WITH MORE THAN THREE NEIGHBORING COUNTERS DIES FROM OVERCROWDING. EVERY COUNTER WITH LESS THAN TWO NEIGHBORING COUNTERS DIES FROM ISOLATION.
- 3) BIRTHS. EVERY EMPTY CELL WITH EXACTLY THREE NEIGHBORING COUNTERS GIVES BIRTH.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT ALL BIRTHS AND DEATHS OCCUR SIMULTANEOUSLY. TOGETHER THEY CONSTITUTE A SINGLE GENERATION IN THE LIFE HISTORY OF THE INITIAL CONFIGURATION.

YOU WILL FIND THE POPULATION CONSTANTLY UNDERGOING UNUSUAL, SOMETIMES BEAUTIFUL, AND ALWAYS UNEXPECTED CHANGE. IN A FEW

(CONTINUED)

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Program Description, Equations, Variables CASES THE POPULATION EVENTUALLY DIES OUT, ALTHOUGH THIS MAY NOT HAPPEN UNTIL AFTER A GREAT MANY GENERATIONS. MOST STARTING PATTERNS EITHER REACH STABLE CONFIGURATIONS (CONWAY CALLS THEM "STILL LIVES") THAT CANNOT CHANGE OR CONFIGURATIONS THAT OSCILLATE FOREVER. CONFIGURATIONS WITH NO INITIAL SYMMETRY TEND TO BECOME SYMMETRICAL. ONCE THIS HAPPENS THE SYMMETRY CANNOT BE LOST, ALTHOUGH IT MAY INCREASE IN RICHNESS.

THIS PROGRAM RUNS BEST ON AN HP-97 SINCE IT CAN RUN IN A CONTINUOUS MODE PRINTING EACH GENERATION IN AN ESPECIALLY NICE FORM. HOWEVER, SATISFACTORY RESULTS CAN BE OBTAINED ON AN HP-67. THE CONFIGURATIONS ARE EASILY COPIED ONTO GRIDDED PAPER. IT TAKES LESS THAN THREE MINUTES TO RUN A GENERATION. THIS SEEMS FAST WHEN COMPARED TO THE FIFTY MINUTES REQUIRED BY A JOXIO LIFE GAME ALSO IN THE LIBRARY. THE DIFFERENCE IS NOT SIZE. THE 9X9 WAS CHOSEN FOR NEAT PRINT OUT APPEARANCE, NOT SPEED. IN ADDITION, THIS PROGRAM CAN OPTIONALLY CHECK FOR "STILL LIVES" AND TERMINATE WHEN TWO CONSECUTIVE GENERATIONS ARE IDENTICAL. OSCILLATIONS CANNOT BE CHECKED WITH A COMPUTER OF ANY SIZE EASILY! EVEN WHEN RUNNING IN THE CONTINUOUS MODE,

(CONTINUED)

Operating Limits and Warnings

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Program Description, Equations, Variables EXECUTION CAN BE INTERRUPTED AFTER EACH GENERATION. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE GENERATION IS PRINTED, A ONE SECOND PAUSE WINDOW (DISPLAY WILL BE 0.000000000) WILL APPEAR. YOU CAN CAUSE THE PROGRAM TO STOP BY PRESSING ANY DIGIT KEY (OR R/S OF COURSE). TO RESUME EXECUTION OF THE NEXT GENERATION, JUST PRESS R/S. YOU CAN ALSO CAUSE THE CURRENT GENERATION TO BE REPRINTED BY PRESSING C (TAKE NOTE HP-67 USERS). IN AN EMERGENCY, YOU CAN STOP THE PROGRAM EVEN AFTER IT HAS STARTED EXECUTION (BUT NOT AFTER IT STARTS PRINTING THE NEXT GENERATION) AND REPRINT THE CURRENT GENERATION BY PRESSING C. THE ONLY THING THAT WILL HAVE CHANGED IS THE GENERATION NUMBER STORED IN REGISTER E, SO YOU MAY WANT TO SUBTRACT ONE FROM IT BEFORE PRESSING C.

MANY THANKS TO MORDECAI SCHWARTZ WHOSE IOXIO GAME OF LIFE POINTED OUT THE FEASIBILITY OF PROGRAMMING THIS VERY UNUSUAL AND WELL KNOWN (AMONG RECREATIONAL MATH FANS) GAME ON THE HP-67 AND HP-97.

ANYONE THAT CAN PROVIDE A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT TO THE EXECUTION TIME IS URGED TO CONTACT ME DIRECTLY.

Operating Limits and Warnings NO EDIT IS MADE ON THE INITIAL GRID COORDINATES TO BE SURE THEY ARE IN THE RANGE OF 1 TO 9. NO ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO DESCRIBE (OR EVEN FIGURE OUT) WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF ILLEGAL ENTRIES ARE MADE.

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Program Description II

Sketch(es)

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      X   X
    X X X X X
  X       X
  X   X   X   X
  X       X
      X X X X X

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Sample Problem(s) THE CONFIGURATION SHOWN IN THE ABOVE SKETCH IS INPUT AND THE FIRST SIX GENERATIONS (INCLUDING ZERO) ARE INCLUDED.

G5BA
 2.4 G5BB
 2.6 G5BB
 3.3 G5BB
 3.4 G5BB
 3.5 G5BB
 3.6 G5BB
 3.7 G5BB
 4.2 G5BB
 4.8 G5BB
 5.2 G5BB
 5.4 G5BB
 5.6 G5BB
 5.8 G5BB
 6.2 G5BB
 6.8 G5BB
 7.3 G5BB
 7.4 G5BB
 7.5 G5BB
 7.6 G5BB
 7.7 G5BB
 G5BC

Solution(s)

0.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
0.123456789	0.123456789	0.123456789	0.123456789	0.123456789	0.123456789	0.123456789
1.000000000	1.000000000	1.000000000	1.000000000	1.000000000	1.001000100	1.001000100
2.000101000	2.001101100	2.001101100	2.001101100	2.01101110	2.010101010	2.010000010
3.001111100	3.001101100	3.010101010	3.110101011	3.010101010	3.010000010	3.000000000
4.010000010	4.010000010	4.110000011	4.000000000	4.001101100	4.000101000	4.001000100
5.010101010	5.110000011	5.111000111	5.000111000	5.000101000	5.000101000	5.000101000
6.010000010	6.010000010	6.110111011	6.100111001	6.001000100	6.001101100	6.001000100
7.001111100	7.001111100	7.001000100	7.001010100	7.001000100	7.001010100	7.001000100
8.000000000	8.000111000	8.001000100	8.000101000	8.000111000	8.000111000	8.000000000
9.000000000	9.000000000	9.000010000	9.000000000	9.000000000	9.000010000	9.000111000

Reference(s) SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, OCT 1970, NOV 1970, JAN 1971, FEB 1971, AND APR 1971. MATHEMATICAL GAMES FEATURE. INTERESTED READERS ARE URGED TO OBTAIN COPIES OF THESE ARTICLES. THE GAME OF LIFE RESULTED IN MORE RESPONSE TO MARTIN GARDNER THAN ANY OTHER TOPIC COVERED IN HIS MONTHLY FEATURE.

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User Instructions

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1

GAME OF LIFE (9x9)

2

CLEAR
INIT CELL
NEXT GENR
CON?
S/L CHK?

STEP	INSTRUCTIONS	INPUT DATA/UNITS	KEYS	OUTPUT DATA/UNITS
1	LOAD SIDE 1 AND SIDE 2.		<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
2	CLEAR. (DOES NOT AFFECT EXECUTION MODES)		A <input type="text"/>	0.
3	SELECT CONTINUOUS (1) OR STOP (0) MODE OF EXECUTION. DEFAULTS TO 1.		D <input type="text"/>	ALTERNATELY 0 & 1
4	SELECT "STILL LIFE" CHECK. ON (1), OFF (0) WHEN ON, REQUIRES A LITTLE MORE RUN TIME PER GENERATION. DEFAULTS TO 0.		E <input type="text"/>	ALTERNATELY 1 & 0
5	SPECIFY INITIAL CELL CONFIGURATION. INDICATE THE ROW (1-9) AND COLUMN (1-9) OF THE CELL THAT IS TO CONTAIN LIFE IN GENERATION 0. REPEAT AS REQUIRED.	ROW, COL	B <input type="text"/>	0.
6	NEXT GENERATION. GENERATION 0 IS PRINTED BEFORE ACTUAL GENERATION IS COMPUTED. AFTER THE PRINTING OF A GENERATION IS COMPLETED, THE FOLLOWING WILL OCCUR:		C <input type="text"/>	SEE TEXT
	A) IF STOP MODE WAS SELECTED, CALCULATOR WILL STOP. THIS IS YOUR FIRST CHANCE TO CORRECT AN INITIAL CONFIGURATION. PRESS R/S TO CONTINUE OR GO TO STEP 5 TO ADD ANY CELLS YOU FORGOT. IF YOU PUT ANY IN THE WRONG PLACE YOU WILL HAVE TO START OVER AT STEP 2. YOU CAN ALSO PRESS C TO REPRINT THE INITIAL CONFIGURATION.		<input type="text"/>	
	B) YOU WILL SEE A ONE SECOND PAUSE WINDOW (EVEN IN CONTINUOUS MODE) WHERE YOU CAN STOP EXECUTION BY PRESSING ANY DIGIT KEY OR R/S. YOUR OPTIONS ARE THE SAME AS IN A ABOVE.		<input type="text"/>	
	C) NEXT GENERATION WILL BE COMPUTED AND PRINTED. A ZERO IS PRINTED IF A "STILL LIFE" IS DETECTED AND CHECK IS ON.		<input type="text"/>	

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Program Listing I

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STEP	KEY ENTRY	KEY CODE
001	*LBLA	21 11
002	DSP0	-63 00
003	CLRG	16-53
004	P+S	16-51
005	CLRG	16-53
006	CLX	-51
007	RTN	24
008	*LBLB	21 12
009	STOI	35 46
010	INT	16 34
011	X+I	16-41
012	FRC	16 44
013	1	01
014	0	00
015	X	-35
016	10*	16 33
017	1/X	52
018	ST+I	35-55 45
019	CLX	-51
020	RTN	24
021	*LBLC	21 13
022	RCL2	36 15
023	DSP0	-63 00
024	PRTX	-14
025	.	-62
026	1	01
027	2	02
028	3	03
029	4	04
030	5	05
031	6	06
032	7	07
033	8	08
034	9	09
035	DSP5	-63 09
036	PRTX	-14
037	CLX	-51
038	STOI	35 46
039	*LBL0	21 00
040	ISZI	16 26 46
041	RCL1	36 45
042	RCL1	36 46
043	+	-55
044	PRTX	-14
045	RCL1	36 46
046	9	09
047	X+Y?	16-32
048	GT00	22 00
049	CLX	-51
050	SPC	16-11
051	F0?	16 23 00
052	R/S	51
053	CF3	16 22 03
054	PSE	16 51
055	F3?	16 23 03
056	R/S	51

CLEAR.

INITIALIZE CELL.
COORDINATE IS CONVERTED TO A FRACTIONAL VALUE WITH A 1 IN PROPER POSITION AND ADDED TO ROW.

NEXT GENERATION.
CURRENT GENERATION IS PRINTED BEFORE COMPUTATION OF NEXT GENERATION IS STARTED.

LOOP TO PRINT OUT ALL NINE ROWS.

STOP IF NOT IN CONTINUOUS MODE.
PAUSE TO PERMIT INTERRUPTION BY R/S OR DIGIT ENTRY.

STEP	KEY ENTRY	KEY CODE
057	RCL2	36 15
058	1	01
059	+	-55
060	STOE	35 15
061	1	01
062	STOI	35 46
063	0	00
064	RCL2	36 02
065	RCL1	36 01
066	GSB1	23 01
067	RCL1	36 01
068	RCL3	36 03
069	RCL2	36 02
070	GSB1	23 01
071	RCL2	36 02
072	RCL4	36 04
073	RCL3	36 03
074	GSB1	23 01
075	RCL3	36 03
076	RCL5	36 05
077	RCL4	36 04
078	GSB1	23 01
079	RCL4	36 04
080	RCL6	36 06
081	RCL5	36 05
082	GSB1	23 01
083	RCL5	36 05
084	RCL7	36 07
085	RCL6	36 06
086	GSB1	23 01
087	RCL6	36 06
088	RCL8	36 08
089	RCL7	36 07
090	GSB1	23 01
091	RCL7	36 07
092	RCL9	36 09
093	RCL8	36 08
094	GSB1	23 01
095	RCL8	36 08
096	0	00
097	RCL9	36 09
098	GSB1	23 01
099	F1? 16	23 01
100	GSB4	23 04
101	RCL2	36 15
102	CLRG	16-53
103	P+S	16-51
104	STOE	35 15
105	GT0C	22 13
106	*LBL1	21 01
107	STOA	35 11
108	R+	-31
109	+	-55
110	ENT↑	-21
111	R↑	16-31
112	+	-55

ADD 1 TO GENERATION NUMBER.

COMPUTE NEXT GENERATION. SUBROUTINE AT LABEL I IS CALLED FOR ALL NINE ROWS AFTER PUTTING THE ROWS BEFORE AND AFTER IN Z AND Y AND PUTTING THE ROW TO BE COMPUTED IN X.

CHECK FOR STILL LIFE IF SELECTED.
PUT NEXT GENERATION IN P REGISTERS AFTER CLEARING THEM EXCEPT FOR E. THEN GO TO PRINT GENERATION.
COMPUTE NEXT GENERATION FOR ONE ROW. ROW BEING WORKED ON IS STORED IN A. THEN ROWS BEFORE AND AFTER ARE ADDED AS START FOR

REGISTERS

USED	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
S0	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9
ZERO									
A USED	B USED	C	D	E GENERATION NUMBER	I USED				

STEP	KEY ENTRY	KEY CODE	COMMENTS	STEP	KEY ENTRY	KEY CODE	COMMENTS
113	I	01	NEIGHBOR COUNT. ROW	169	I	01	TO Y AFTER CHS, NEW
114	0	00	BEING WORKED ON IS	170	ST+0	35-55 00	CELL IS LIVE.
115	X	-35	THEN ADDED AND SHIF-	171	RTN	24	
116	I	01	TED LEFT AND RIGHT	172	*LBLD	21 14	ALTERNATELY TURN
117	Z	55	AND ADDED TO START-	173	CLX	-51	CONTINUOUS MODE
118	+	-55	ING POINT TO OBTAIN	174	F0?	16 23 00	OFF AND ON.
119	+	-55	TOTAL NEIGHBOR COUNT.	175	I	01	
120	FRC	16 44	NEXT ROW IS STARTED	176	SF0	16 21 00	
121	STOB	35 12	AT ZERO IN REG O.	177	X#0?	16-42	
122	CLX	-51	SUBROUTINE AT LABEL	178	CF0	16 22 00	
123	ST00	35 00	2 IS CALLED NINE TIM-	179	PRTX	-14	
124	GSB2	23 02	ES FOR EACH DIGIT	180	RTN	24	
125	GSB2	23 02	(COLUMN) IN ROW.	181	*LBL5	21 15	ALTERNATELY TURN
126	GSB2	23 02		182	I	01	STILL LIFE CHECK
127	GSB2	23 02		183	F1?	16 23 01	ON AND OFF.
128	GSB2	23 02		184	CLX	-51	
129	GSB2	23 02		185	SF1	16 21 01	
130	GSB2	23 02		186	X=0?	16-43	
131	GSB2	23 02		187	CF1	16 22 01	
132	GSB2	23 02		188	PRTX	-14	
133	RCL0	36 00		189	RTN	24	
134	EEX	-23	NEW ROW IS CHANGED	190	*LBL4	21 04	CHECK FOR STILL
135	9	09	TO A FRACTION. P AND	191	CLX	-51	LIFE. EACH ROW OF
136	=	-24	S REGISTERS ARE SW-	192	STOI	35 46	CURRENT GENERAT-
137	P2S	16-51	ITCHED AND NEW ROW	193	*LBL5	21 05	ION IS COMPARED
138	STOI	35 45	IS STORED. THEN P	194	ISZI	16 26 46	TO CORRESPONDING
139	P2S	16-51	AND S ARE SWITCHED	195	RCLi	36 45	ROW OF NEW GENER-
140	ISZI	16 26 46	BACK AND I IS	196	P2S	16-51	ATION. IF ANY ARE
141	RTN	24	INCREMENTED	197	RCLi	36 45	NOT EQUAL THE GEN-
142	*LBL2	21 02	EACH DIGIT IN ROW IS	198	P2S	16-51	ERATION WILL CONT-
143	I	01	CHECKED AGAINST ITS	199	X#Y?	16-32	INUE. IF ALL ARE
144	0	00	CORRESPONDING NEI-	200	RTN	24	EQUAL THE GENER-
145	STx0	35-35 00	GHBOR COUNT IN REG	201	RCLi	36 46	ATION NUMBER IS
146	RCLA	36 11	B. EACH TIME CALLED,	202	9	09	PRINTED FOLLOWED
147	X	-35	DIGIT AND COUNT IS	203	X#Y?	16-32	BY A ZERO AND THE
148	FRC	16 44	EXTRACTED AND	204	GT05	22 05	PROGRAM STOPS.
149	STOA	35 11	REMAINING PART IS	205	RCL0	36 15	
150	LSTX	16-63	PUT BACK IN REG.	206	DSP0	-63 00	
151	INT	16 34		207	PRTX	-14	
152	RCLB	36 12		208	CLX	-51	
153	I	01		209	PRTX	-14	
154	0	00		210	R/S	51	
155	X	-35					
156	FRC	16 44					
157	STOB	35 12					
158	CLX	-51					
159	LSTX	16-63					
160	INT	16 34					
161	3	03					
162	-	-45					
163	X=0?	16-43					
164	GT03	22 03					
165	CHS	-22					
166	X#Y?	16-32					
167	RTN	24					
168	*LBL3	21 03					

AT STEP 160, X
CONTAINS NEIGHBOR
COUNT AND Y CONTAINS
CURRENT CELL
VALUE (0 OR 1). THREE
IS SUBTRACTED FROM
COUNT. IF RESULT IS
ZERO, NEW CELL WILL
BE LIVE REGARDLESS
OF Y. IF X IS EQUAL

LABELS					FLAGS		SET STATUS		
A CLEAR	B INITIALIZE CELL	C NEXT GENERATION	D CONTINUOUS MODE ?	E STILL LIFE CHECK ?	F CONTINUOUS IF OFF	FLAGS	TRIG	DISP	
a	b	c	d	e	1 STILL LIFE CHECK IF ON	ON OFF			
0 PRINT LOOP	1 COMPUTE NEIGHBOR COUNT	2 GENERATE CELL CHECK	3 CREATE LIFE	4 STILL LIFE CHECK	2	0 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DEG <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FIX <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5 STILL LIFE CHECK LOOP	6	7	8	9	3	1 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	GRAD <input type="checkbox"/>	SCI <input type="checkbox"/>	
						2 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RAD <input type="checkbox"/>	ENG <input type="checkbox"/>	
						3 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		n_O	