## Goal of the program

• The goal of the program is to simulate Conway's Game of Life, a cellular automaton devised by mathematician John Conway. The program provides a menu-driven interface that allows the user to start the simulation from a given state continuously, or step by step, save that state, or load one.

## How to use the program

## • MenuStates:

- MENU: Move the selection up ('w' key), or down ('s' key), and select a state ('ENTER' key).
- SET STATE: Enter the width and height of the new board (2 integers seperated by a space). Then move the selection with the WASD keys, flip a state with 'ENTER', or press 'ESCAPE' to return to the main menu.
- LIFE: Starts the life simulation in continuous mode. The simulation will keep running, updating the board and displaying the current generation and population. Press 'ESCAPE' to return to the main menu.
- LIFE STEP: Starts the life simulation in step mode. The simulation will update the board one generation at a time when you press ENTER. Otherwise, same as 'LIFE'. Press ESC to return to the main menu.
- LOAD: Move the selection up ('w' key), or down ('s' key), and select a save file ('ENTER' key), or press 'ESCAPE' to return to the main menu. You will see a short confirmation message of the success of loading the selected state, then you will be returned automatically to the main menu.
- SAVE: Enter a name for the save file, then press 'ENTER'. You will see a short confirmation message of the success of saving the current state, then you will be returned automatically to the main menu.
- QUIT: Exits the program.

## File management

- File/folder requirements (beside the source files)
  - Have a file named state.txt, with the correct data format. If you don't have one, open the program and select SET STATE, to create one with given dimensions.
  - Have a folder named "SAVES", as your custom save files will be saved there, and loaded from there