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--- Day 20: Trench Map ---
With the scanners fully deployed, you turn their attention to mapping the
floor of the ocean trench.
When you get back the image from the scanners, it seems to just be random
noise. Perhaps you can combine an image enhancement algorithm and the input
image (your puzzle input) to clean it up a little.
For example:
# . . # .
# . . . .
|##..#
. . # . .
. . # # #
The first section is the image enhancement algorithm. It is normally given
on a single line, but it has been wrapped to multiple lines in this example
for legibility. The second section is the input image, a two-dimensional
grid of light pixels (#) and dark pixels (.).
The image enhancement algorithm describes how to enhance an image by
simultaneously converting all pixels in the input image into an output
image. Each pixel of the output image is determined by looking at a 3x3
square of pixels centered on the corresponding input image pixel. So, to
determine the value of the pixel at (5,10) in the output image, nine pixels
from the input image need to be considered: (4,9), (4,10), (4,11), (5,9),
(5,10), (5,11), (6,9), (6,10), and (6,11). These nine input pixels are
combined into a single binary number that is used as an index in the image
enhancement algorithm string.
For example, to determine the output pixel that corresponds to the very
middle pixel of the input image, the nine pixels marked by [...] would need
to be considered:
# . . # .
|#[. . .].|
#[# . .]#
.[.#.].
. . # # #
Starting from the top-left and reading across each row, these pixels are
..., then #.., then .#.; combining these forms ...#...#.. By turning dark
pixels (.) into 0 and light pixels (#) into 1, the binary number 000100010
can be formed, which is 34 in decimal.
The image enhancement algorithm string is exactly 512 characters long,
enough to match every possible 9-bit binary number. The first few
characters of the string (numbered starting from zero) are as follows:
         10
In the middle of this first group of characters, the character at index 34
can be found: #. So, the output pixel in the center of the output image
should be \#, a light pixel.
This process can then be repeated to calculate every pixel of the output
image.
Through advances in imaging technology, the images being operated on here
are infinite in size. Every pixel of the infinite output image needs to be
calculated exactly based on the relevant pixels of the input image. The
small input image you have is only a small region of the actual infinite
input image; the rest of the input image consists of dark pixels (.). For
the purposes of the example, to save on space, only a portion of the
infinite-sized input and output images will be shown.
The starting input image, therefore, looks something like this, with more
dark pixels (.) extending forever in every direction not shown here:
. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
. . . . . # . . # . . . . . . .
. . . . . # . . . . . . . . .
. . . . . ## . . # . . . . .
. . . . . . . # . . . . . . .
. . . . . . . ### . . . . .
By applying the image enhancement algorithm to every pixel simultaneously,
the following output image can be obtained:
. . . . . # # . # # . . . . .
. . . . # . . # . # . . . . .
. . . . # # . # . . # . . . . .
. . . . #### . . # . . . . .
. . . . . # . . # # . . . . .
. . . . . . ## . . # . . . .
. . . . . . . # . # . . . . .
. . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
Through further advances in imaging technology, the above output image can
also be used as an input image! This allows it to be enhanced a second
time:
. . . . . . . . . # . . . .
. . . . # . . # . # . . . . .
. . . # . # . . . # # # . . .
. . . # . . . # # . # . . . .
. . . # . . . . . # . # . . . .
. . . . # . # # # # # . . . . .
. . . . . # . # # # # # . . .
. . . . . . ## . ## . . . .
. . . . . . . ### . . . . .
. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
. . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
Truly incredible - now the small details are really starting to come
through. After enhancing the original input image twice, 35 pixels are lit.
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Start with the original input image and apply the image enhancement

images. How many pixels are lit in the resulting image?

To begin, get your puzzle input.

You can also [Share] this puzzle.

Answer:

algorithm twice, being careful to account for the infinite size of the

Advent of Code [About] [Events] [Shop] [Settings] [Log Out] jhillierdavis 38*

//2021

Novetta - now a
part of Accenture
Federal Services
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cyber & cloud
capabilities to
the NatSec
mission. Solve
real-world
puzzles with us.