

HPCA-PC Exercise Sheet 2 — Group 1

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Conway's Game of Life

Implementation

Our implementation follows an object-oriented approach with two main classes: *World Class* (`World.h`, `World.cpp`), which manages the cellular automaton's state and evolution logic, and *CLI Class* (`Cli.h`, `Cli.cpp`), which handles user interaction and command parsing.

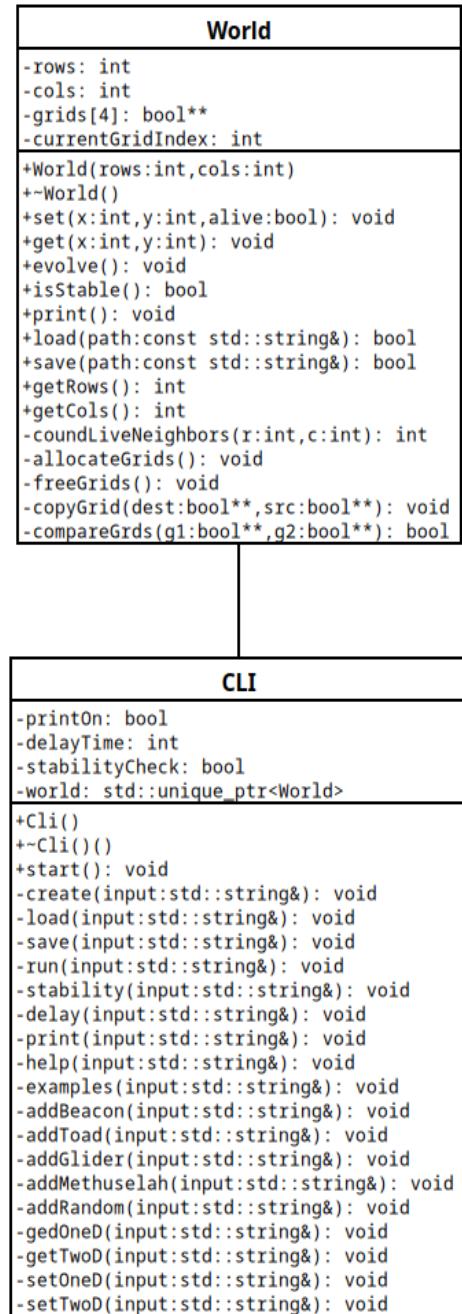


Figure 1: UML Class Diagram of Conway's Game of Life Implementation

Starting cell of multi-cell figures at the grid position (x,y)

All multi-cell patterns use the top-left corner as their anchor point (x,y) , marked with a red X in the diagrams below. When placing patterns using commands like `glider 5 5`, the pattern is positioned such that its top-left cell aligns with grid coordinates $(5, 5)$. The toroidal grid behavior ensures that patterns wrap around the world boundaries. For example, placing a *glider* at $(width - 1, height - 1)$ will cause parts of the pattern to appear at the opposite edges of the grid.

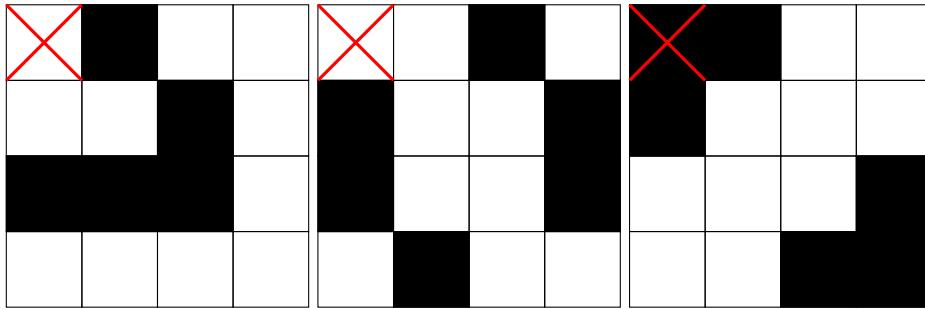


Figure 2: Glider

Figure 3: Toad

Figure 4: Beacon

Methuselah

We chose one of the smallest methuselahs, the **R-pentomino**, as our pattern. A small configuration (only 5 cells) that takes over 1,100 generations to stabilize. The anchor point (red X) marks the top-left position (x, y) where the pattern is placed.

- **Pattern:** R-pentomino
- **Cells:** 5 live cells in 3×3 bounding box
- **Evolution:** Complex long-term behavior (1,103 generations)
- **Anchor:** Top-left corner at command coordinates

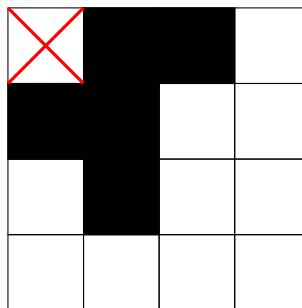


Figure 5: Methuselah

Exercise 1.4: Optimization Level and Compilation Settings

Exercise 1.5: Simulation Time per Grid Size