

# The Intrinsic Universality Problem of 1D CA

**Nicolas Ollinger**  
LIP, ENS Lyon, France

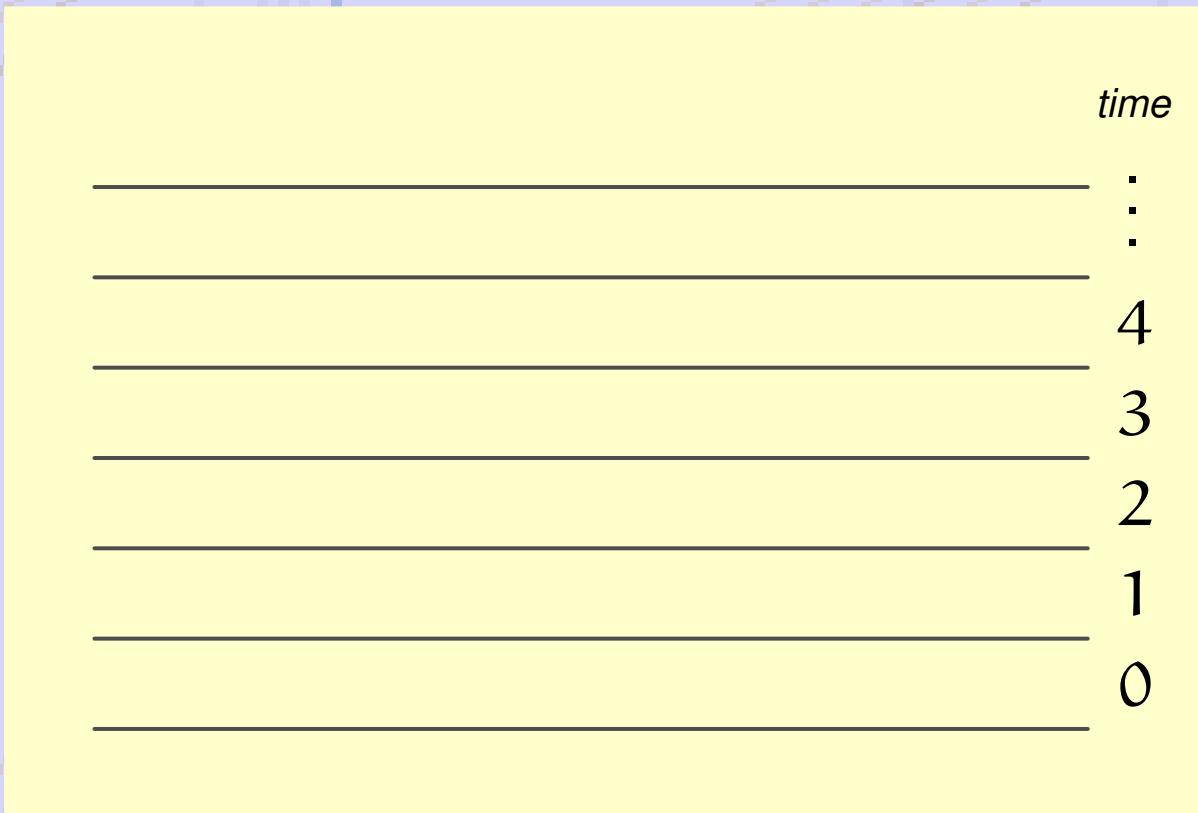
STACS 2003 / Berlin

# Cellular Automata

- A  $1D\text{-CA}$   $\mathcal{A}$  is a tuple  $(\mathbb{Z}, S, \mathcal{N}, \delta)$ .

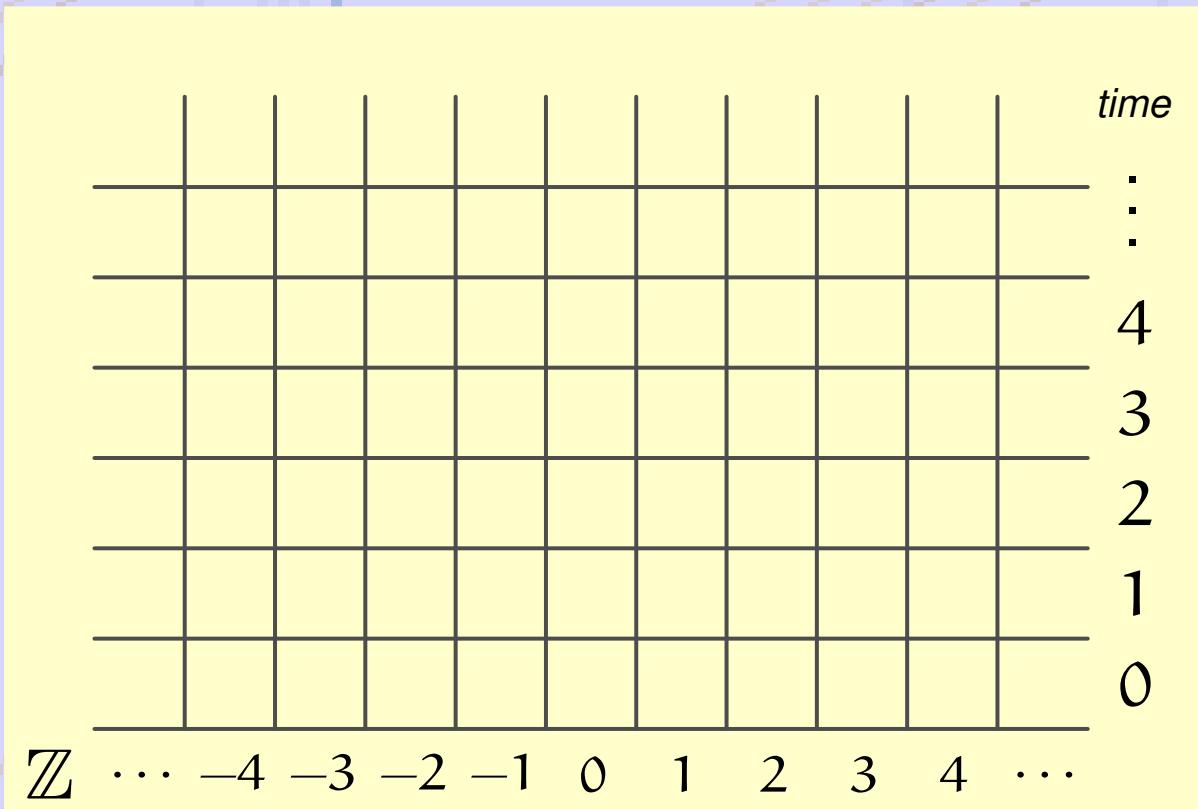
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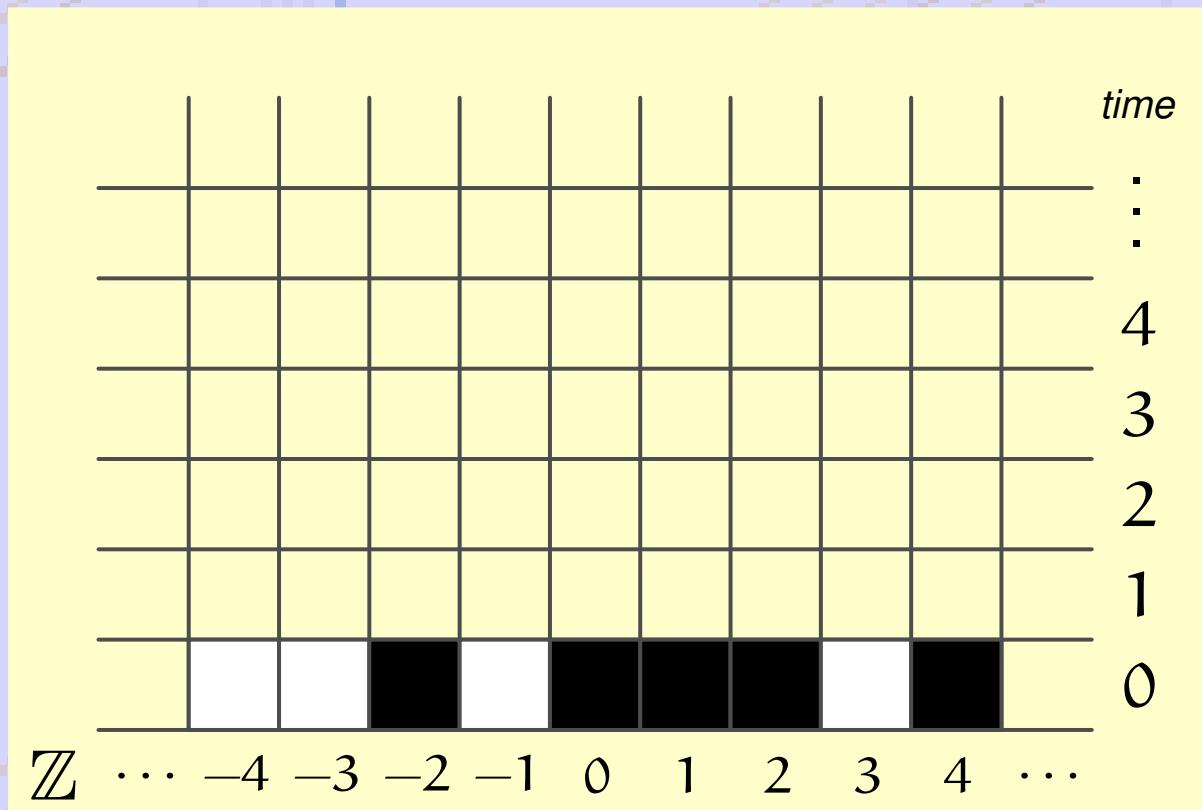
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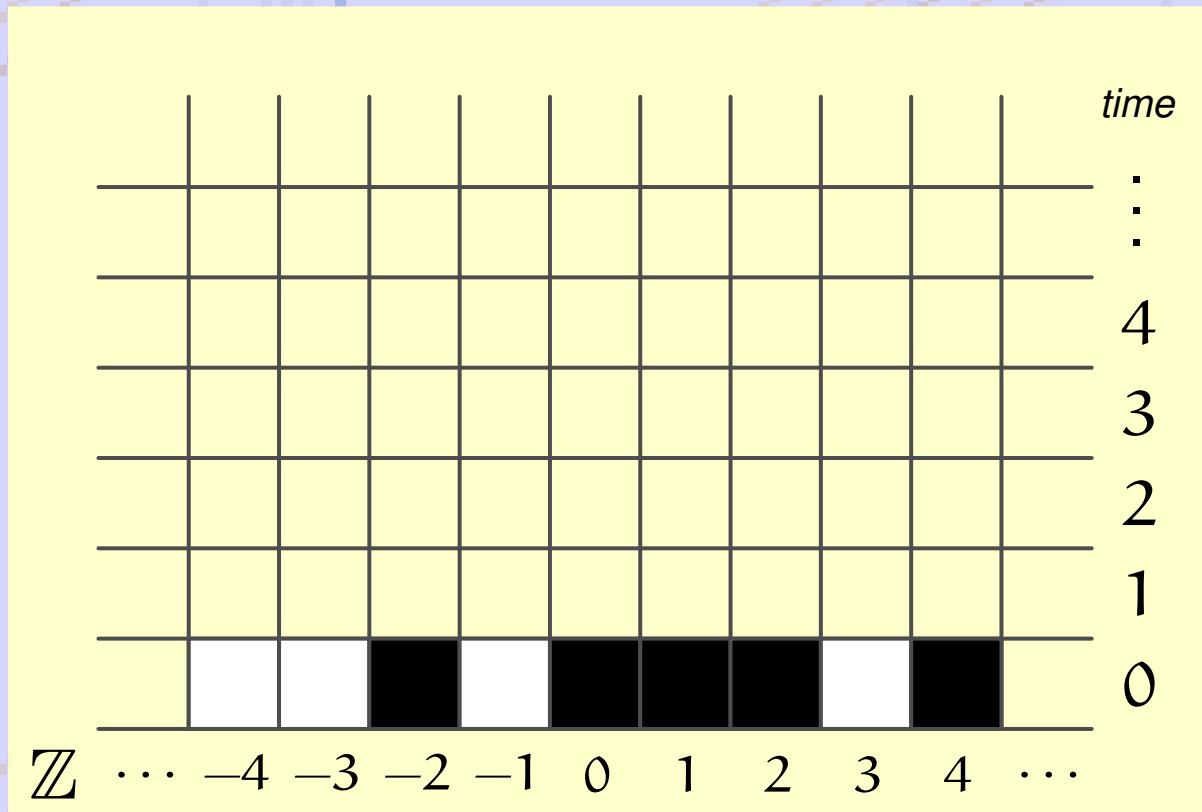


$$S = \{\square, \blacksquare\}$$

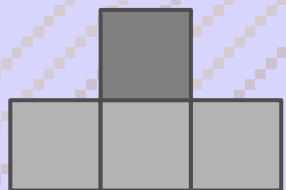
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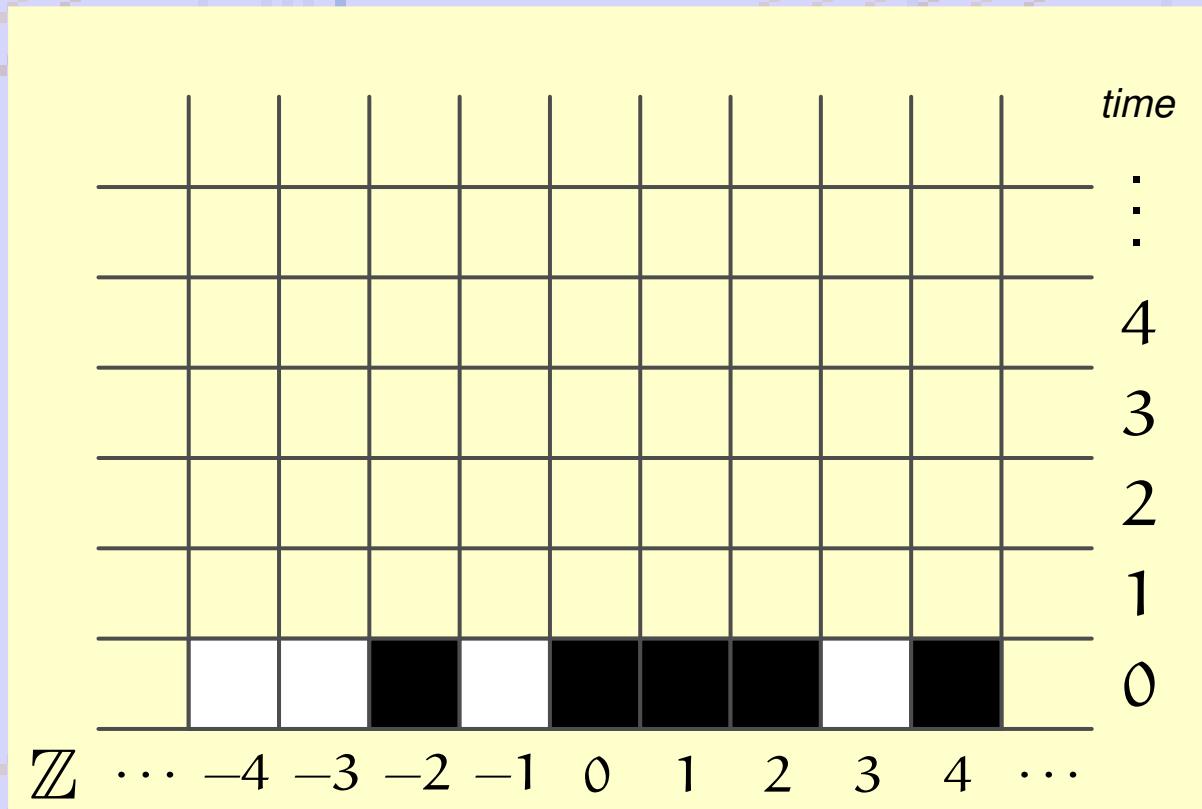


$$\mathcal{N} \subseteq_{\text{finite}} \mathbb{Z}$$

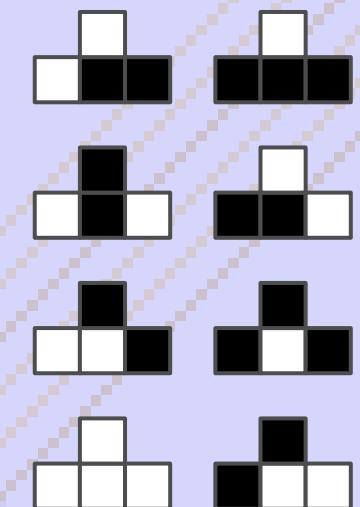
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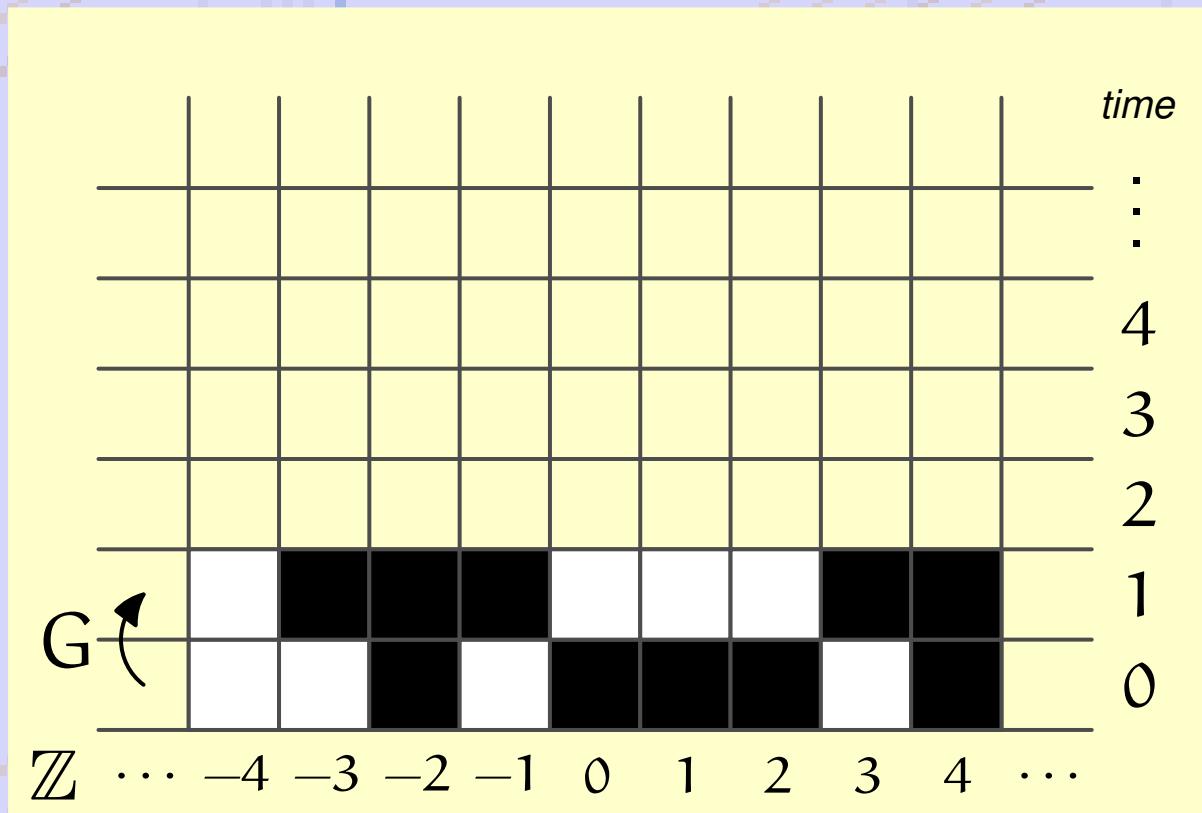


$$\delta : S^{|\mathcal{N}|} \rightarrow S$$

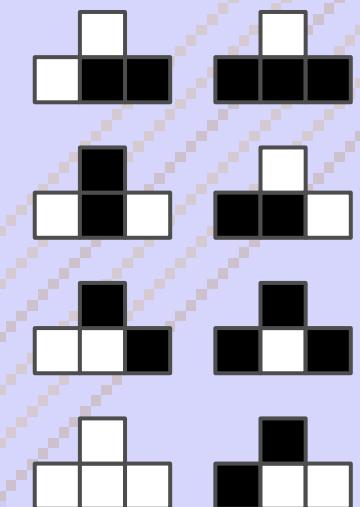
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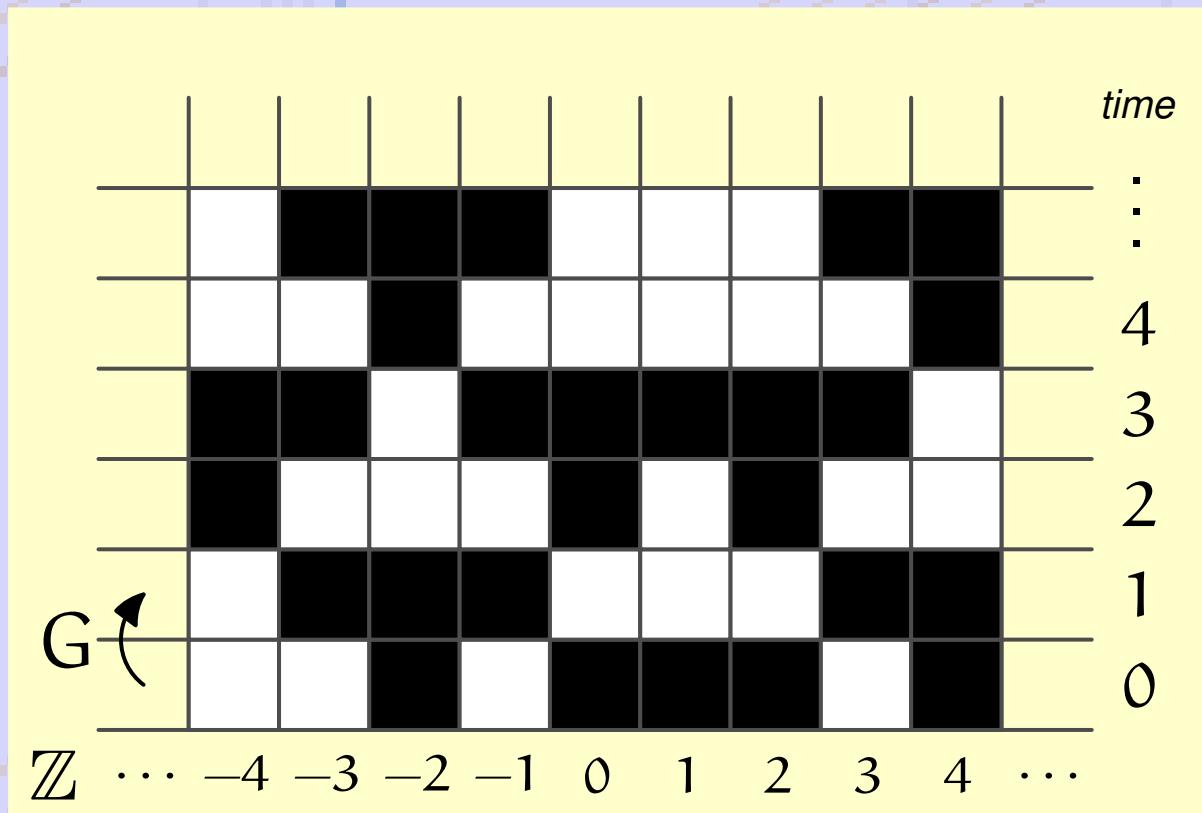


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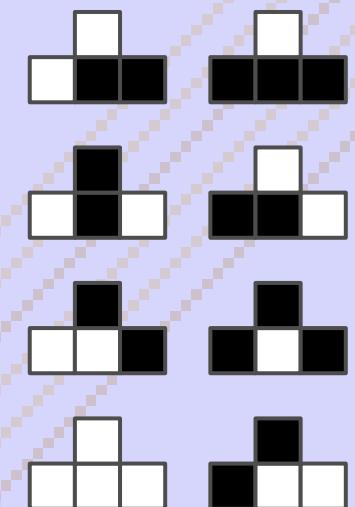
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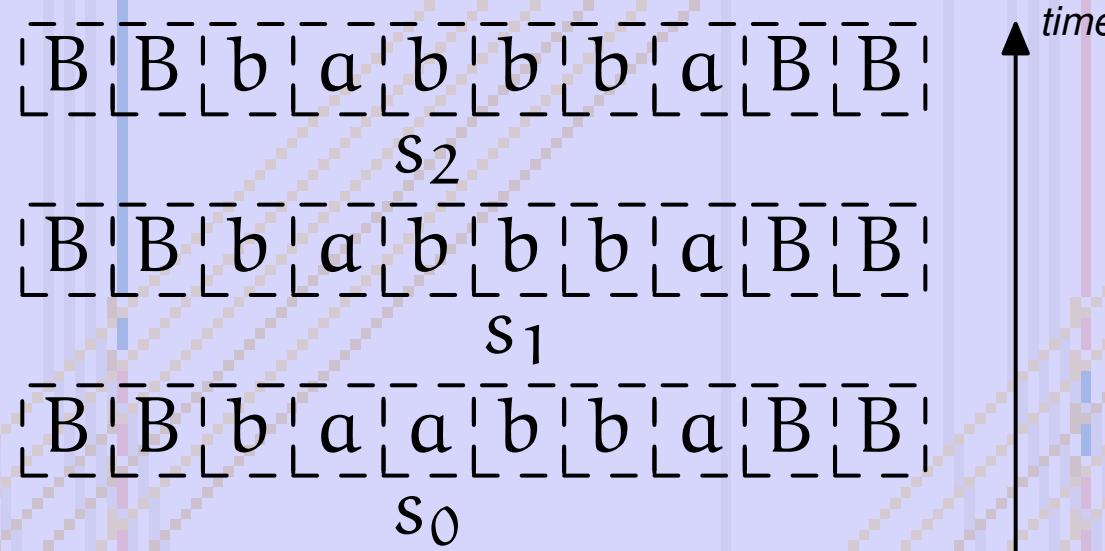


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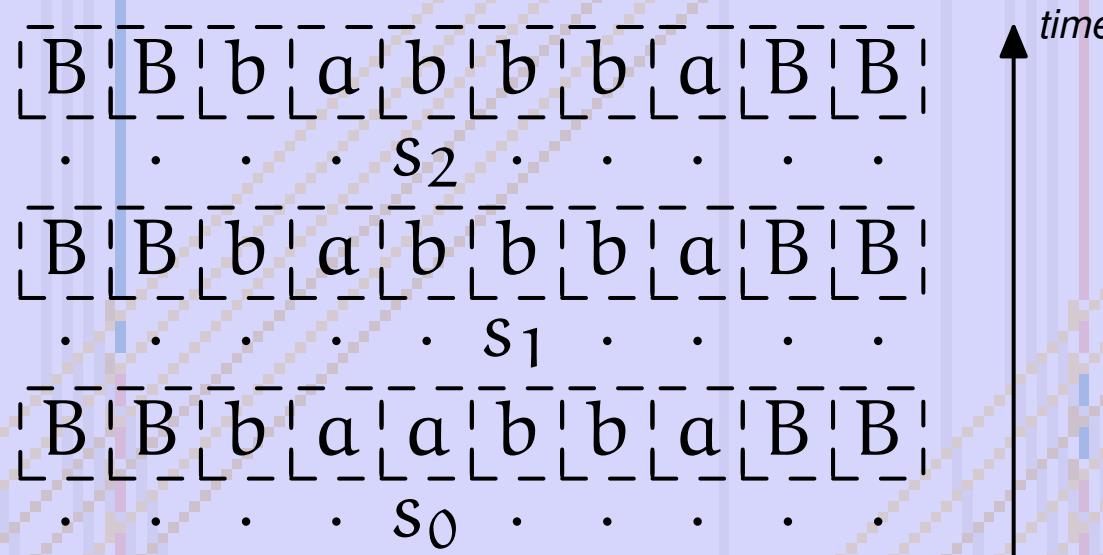
# Computation Universality

Idea. Some CA can **compute** every recursive function, for example by **simulating** a universal TM.



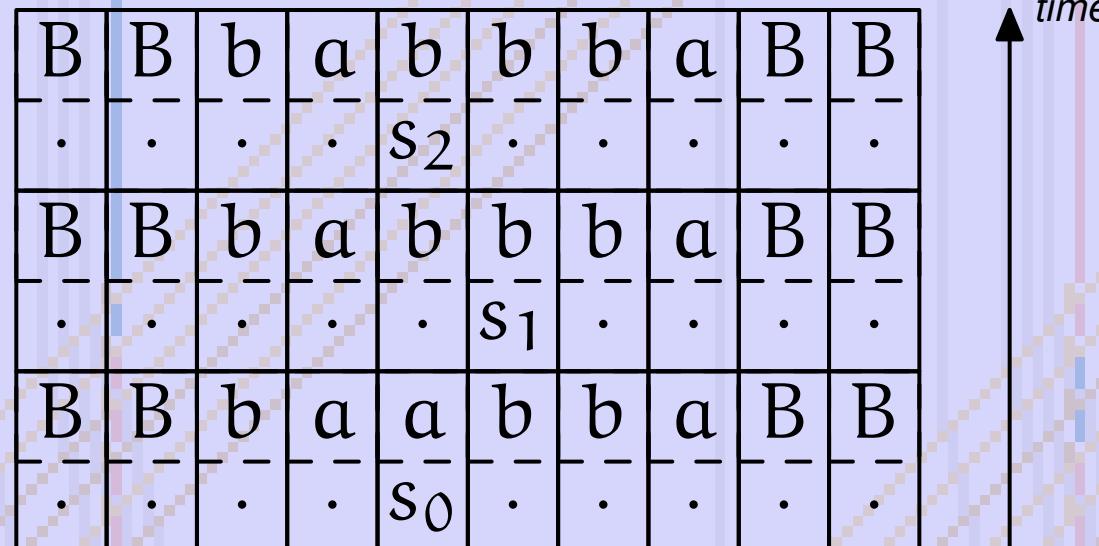
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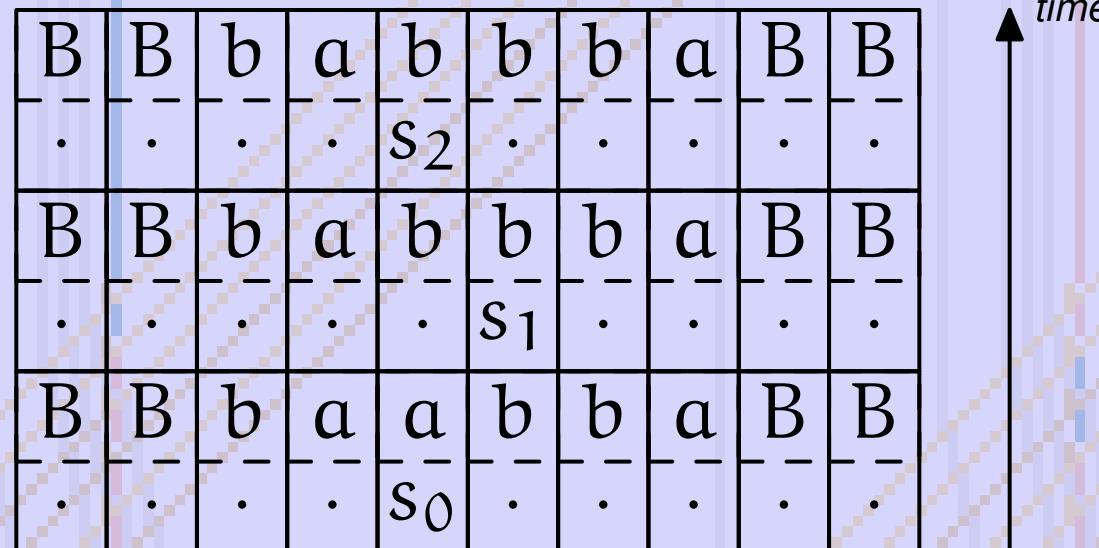
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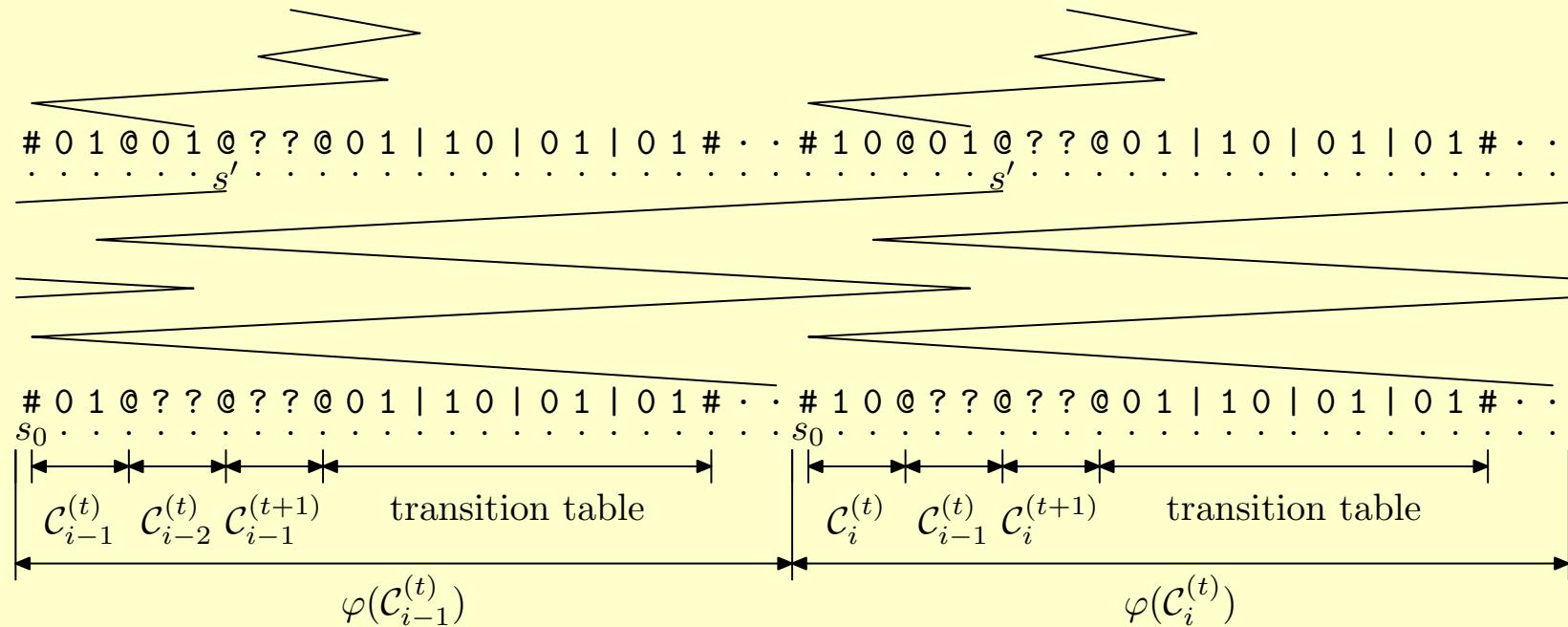
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**Problem.** This is difficult to define formally and it involves extrinsic notions of simulation. . .

# Intrinsic Universality

Idea. Some CA can **simulate** every possible CA.



# Deciding Universality

- As computation universality for TM is certainly a property of the computed function, undecidability follows from Rice's theorem.

**Theorem**[Rice] No non-trivial property on the computed function of TM is recursive.

- What about intrinsic universality for CA?

# Undecidability and CA

## One time step properties

- (2D+) Injectivity of the global rule [Kari 94];
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- (1D) Nilpotency [Kari 92];
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### CA-1D-NIL-PER

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Input	A CA $\mathcal{A}$ and a state $s$ of $\mathcal{A}$
Question	Is $\mathcal{A}$ $s$ -nilpotent on periodic ?

---

# Inducing an Order on CA (1)

**Idea.** A CA  $\mathcal{A}$  is **less complex** than a CA  $\mathcal{B}$  if, up to some renaming of states and some rescaling, every space-time diagram of  $\mathcal{A}$  is a space-time diagram of  $\mathcal{B}$ .

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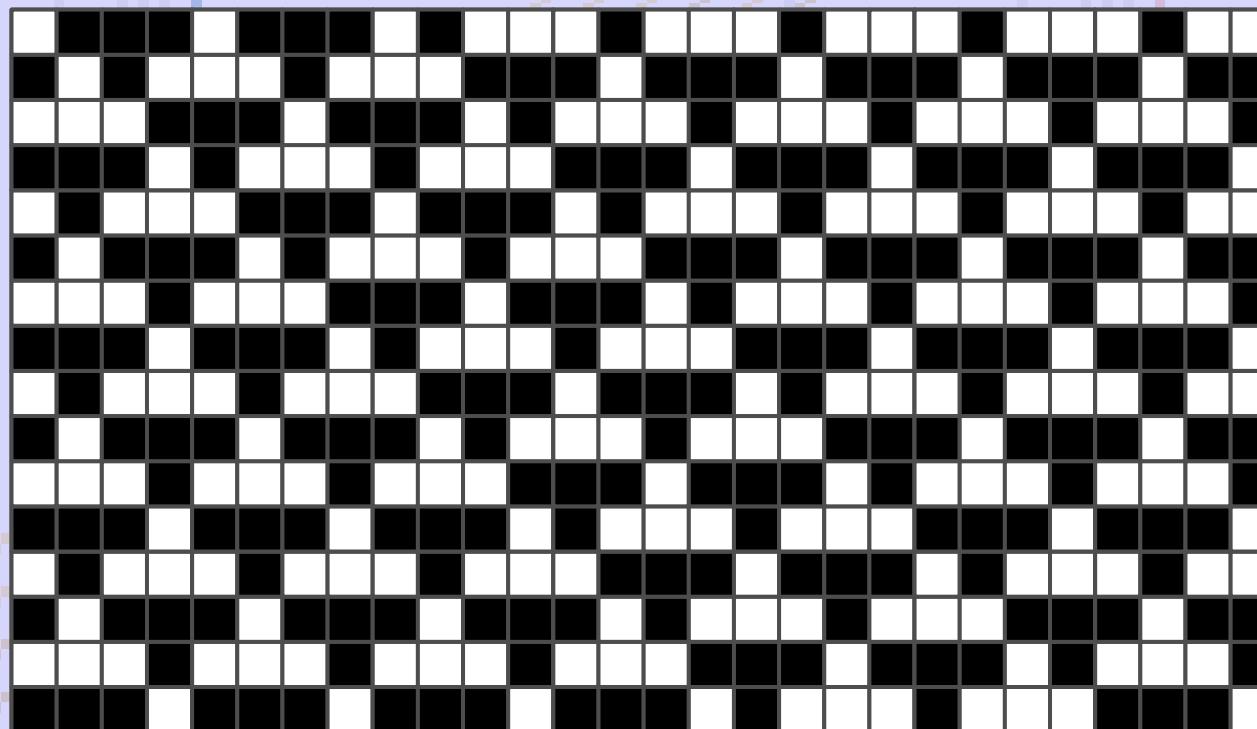
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**Definition.**  $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{B}$  if there exists an injective mapping  $\varphi$  from  $S_{\mathcal{A}}$  into  $S_{\mathcal{B}}$  such that this diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & \overline{\varphi}(C) \\ \downarrow G_{\mathcal{A}} & & \downarrow G_{\mathcal{B}} \\ G_{\mathcal{A}}(C) & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & \overline{\varphi}(G_{\mathcal{A}}(C)) \end{array}$$

# Inducing an Order on CA (2)

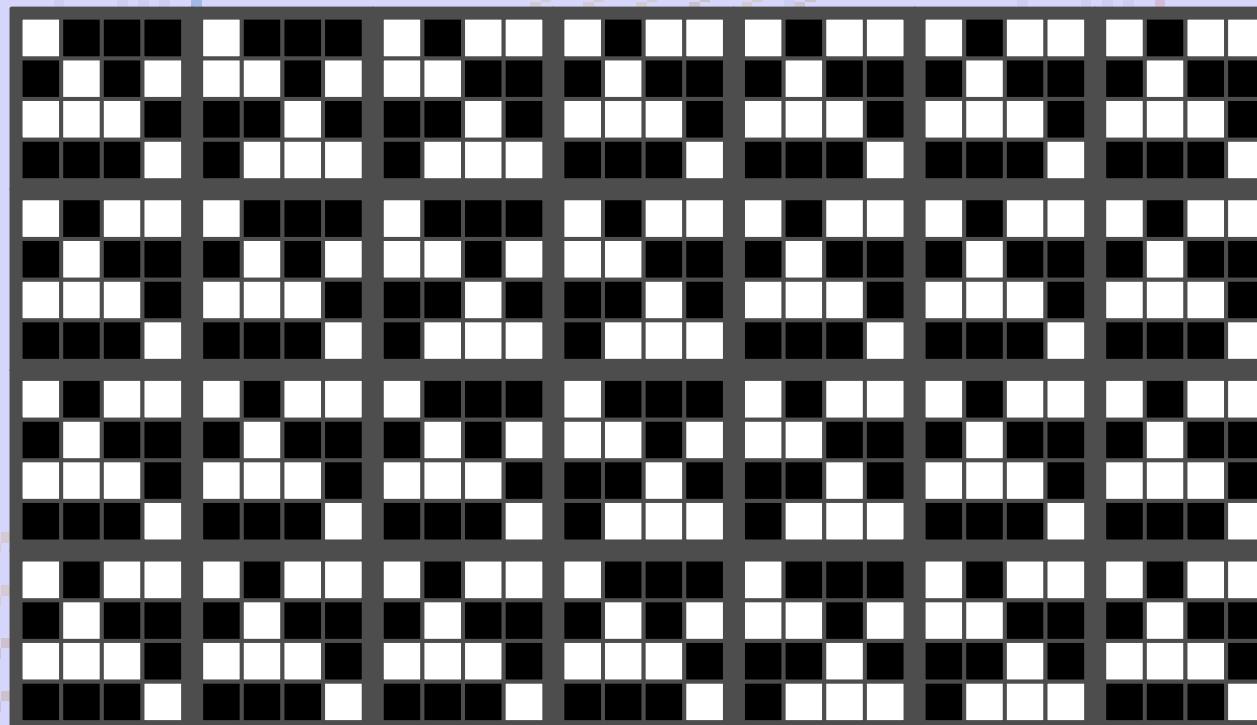
**Idea.** Rescaling corresponds to an information preserving zoom out operation...



A sample  $\langle 4, 4, 1 \rangle$  rescaling

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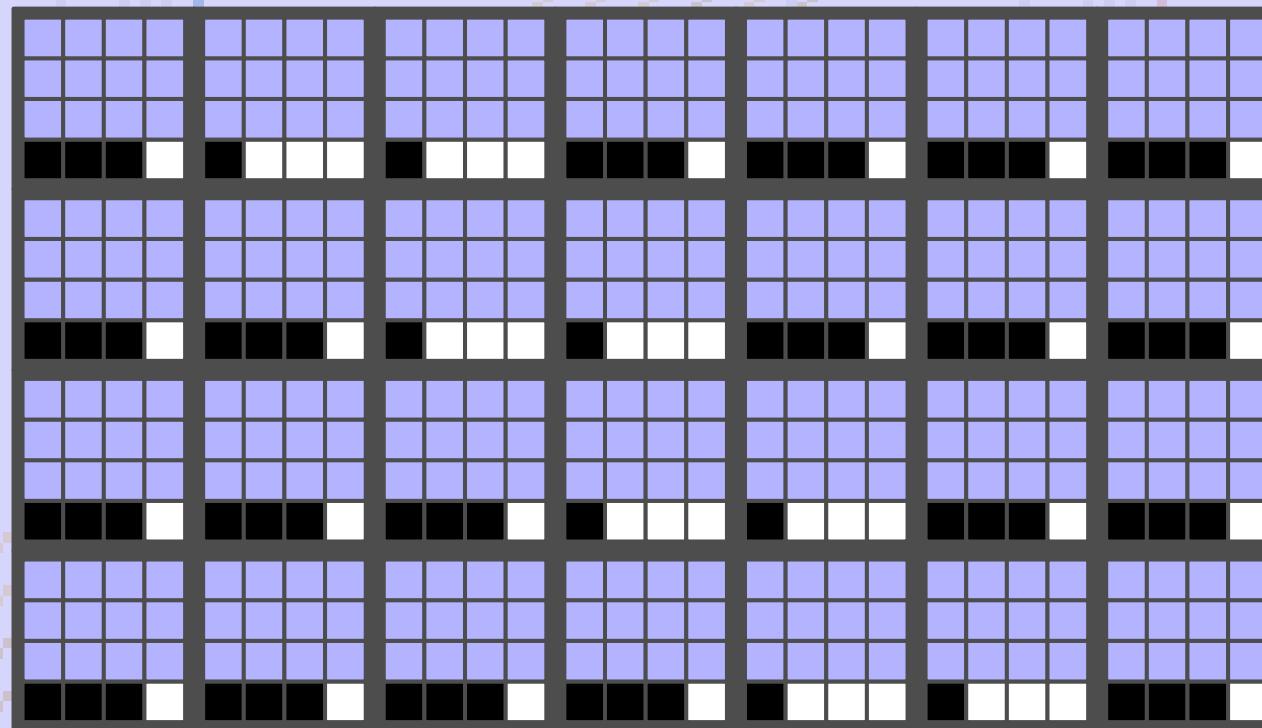
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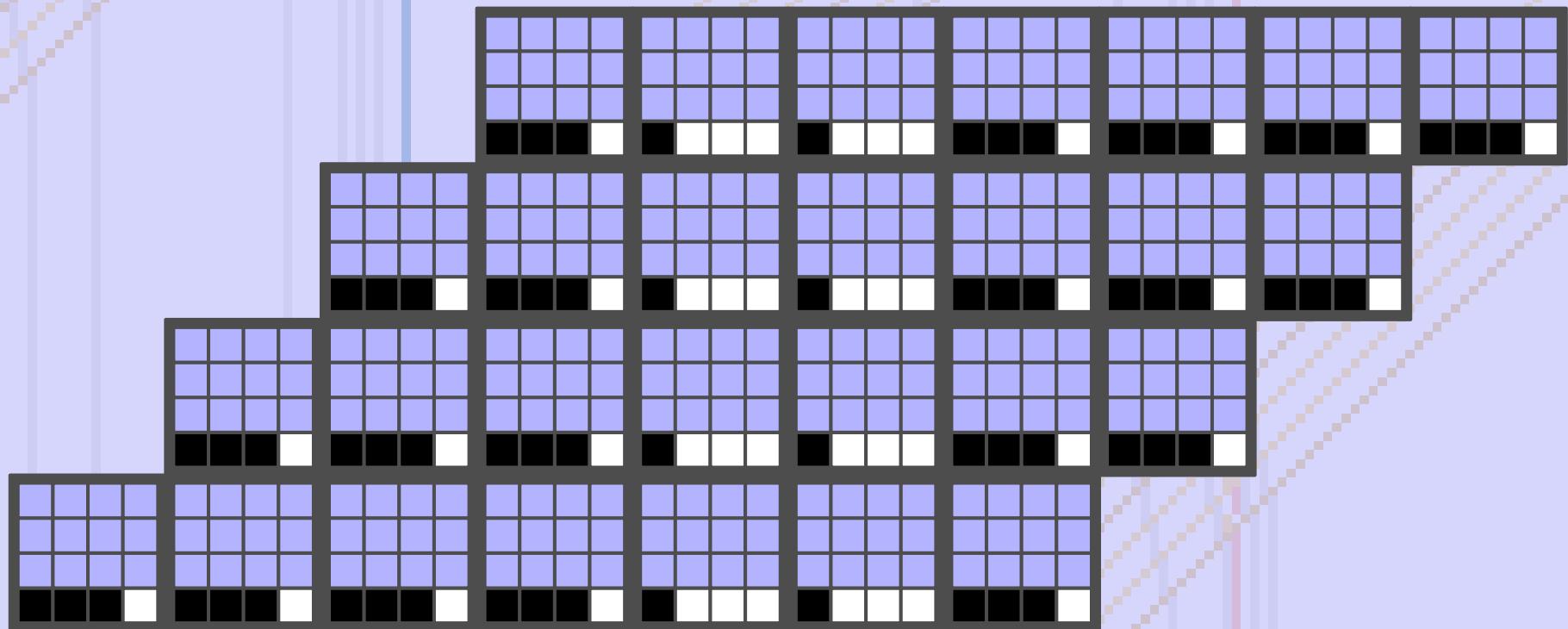
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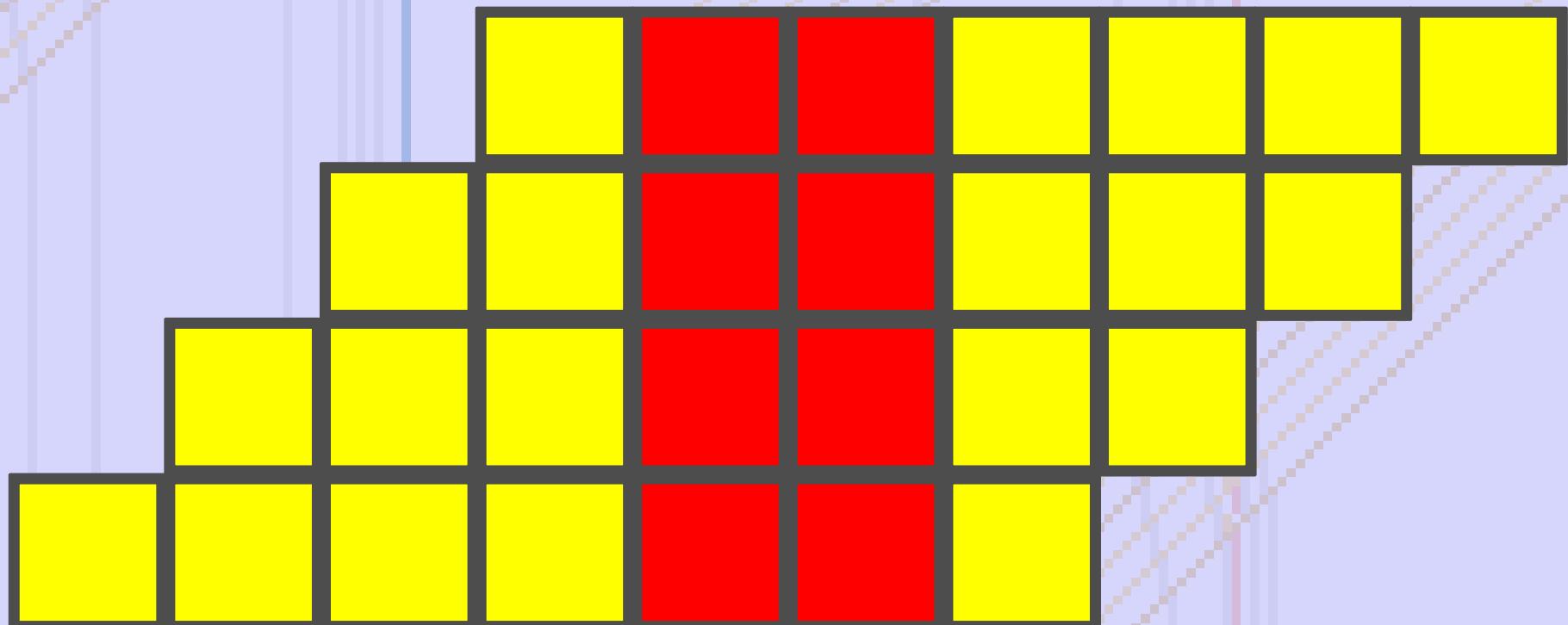
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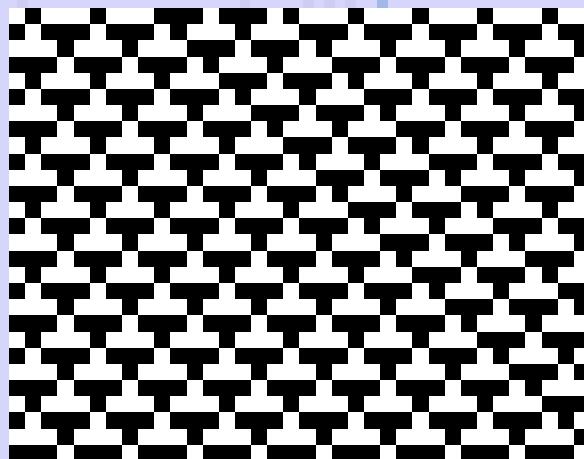


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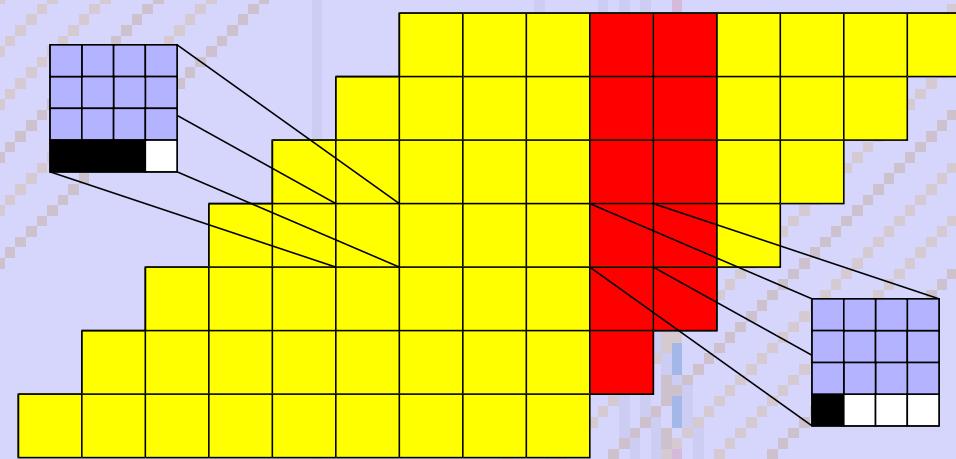
# Inducing an Order on CA (3)

**Definition.** The  $\langle m, n, k \rangle$  rescaling of  $\mathcal{A}$  is  $\mathcal{A}^{\langle m, n, k \rangle}$ :

$$G_{\mathcal{A}}^{\langle m, n, k \rangle} = \sigma^k \circ o^m \circ G_{\mathcal{A}}^n \circ o^{-m} .$$



$\mathcal{A}$

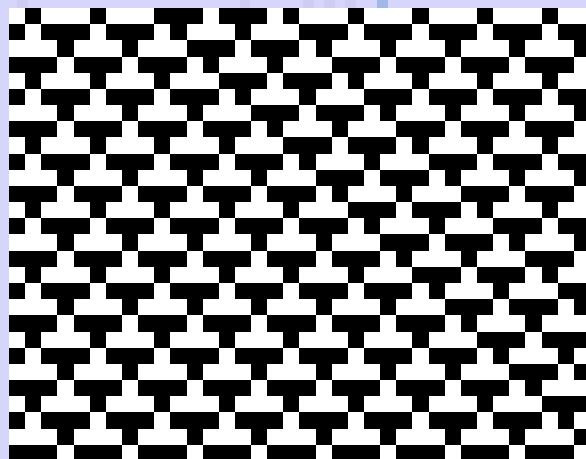


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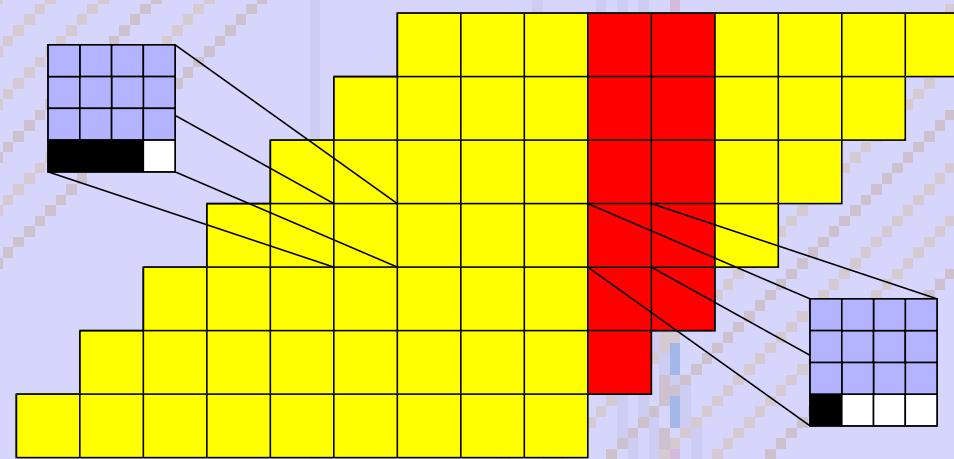
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**Definition.**  $\mathcal{A} \leq \mathcal{B}$  if there exist  $\langle m, n, k \rangle$  and  $\langle m', n', k' \rangle$  such that  $\mathcal{A}^{\langle m, n, k \rangle} \subseteq \mathcal{B}^{\langle m', n', k' \rangle}$ .

# Inducing an Order on CA (4)

**Proposition.** The relation  $\leqslant$  is a quasi-order on CA.

- The induced order admits a maximal element.

**Definition.** A CA  $\mathcal{A}$  is *intrinsically universal* if:

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**Proposition.** Every CA in the maximal equivalence class of  $\leqslant$  is intrinsically universal.

# Sketch of the proof

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- Map recursively each CA  $\mathcal{A}$  to a CA  $\mathcal{A} \circledast_s \mathcal{U}$  satisfying:

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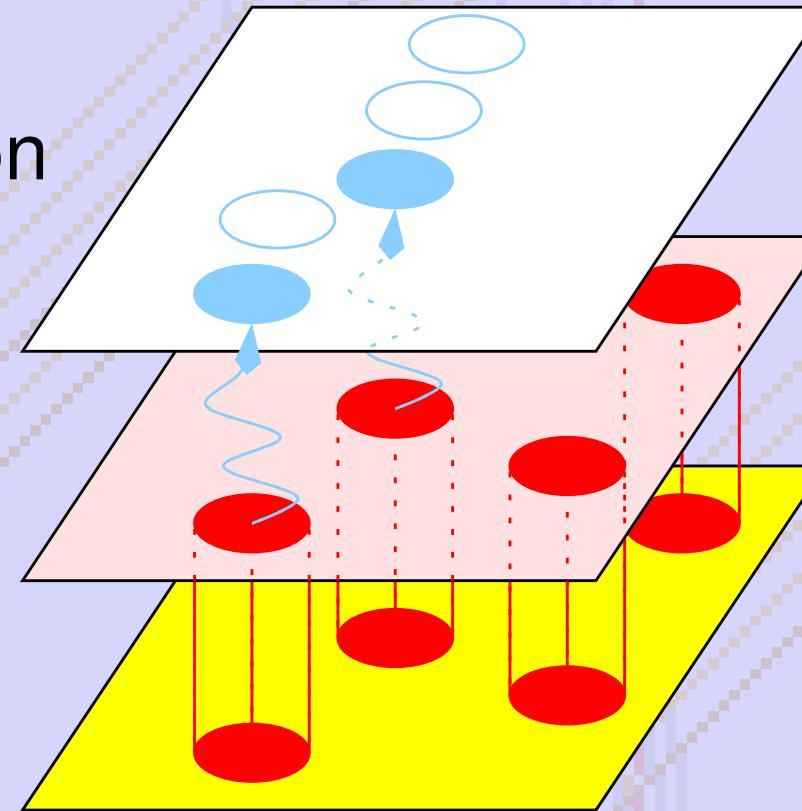
**Remark.** We suppose  $\mathcal{U}$  is universal in the strong meaning and prove that  $\mathcal{A} \circledast_s \mathcal{U}$  is universal in the weak meaning.

# Introducing Boiler CA

energy consumption

energy diffusion

energy production



$S_{\mathcal{U}}$

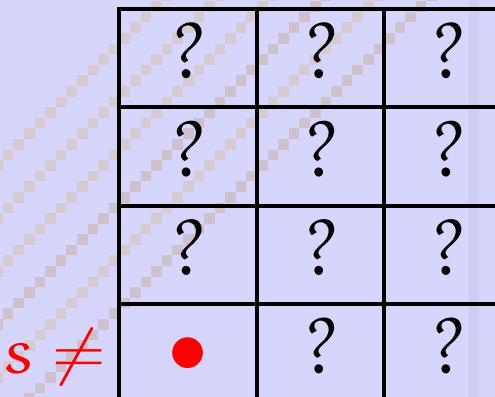
$\{\cdot, *\}$

$S_{\mathcal{A}}$

$$\mathcal{A} \circledast_s \mathcal{U} = (\mathbb{Z}, S_{\mathcal{A}} \times \{\cdot, *\} \times S_{\mathcal{U}}, \mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{A}} \cup \{-1, 0\} \cup \mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{U}}, \delta)$$

# If $\mathcal{A}$ is not $s$ -nilpotent on periodic

- There exists a space-time pattern  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $\mathcal{A}$ , periodic both in time and space, which is not  $s$ -monochromatic.



A 4x3 grid of question marks. The bottom-left cell contains a red dot. To the left of the grid, the text  $s \neq$  is written in red.

?	?	?
?	?	?
?	?	?
•	?	?

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?	?	?
?	?	?
?	?	?
●	?	?

- This pattern can be used to produce energy in a uniform way to the  $\mathcal{U}$  layer in such a way that this layer simulates  $\mathcal{U}$  behavior up to some slowdown factor.

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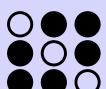
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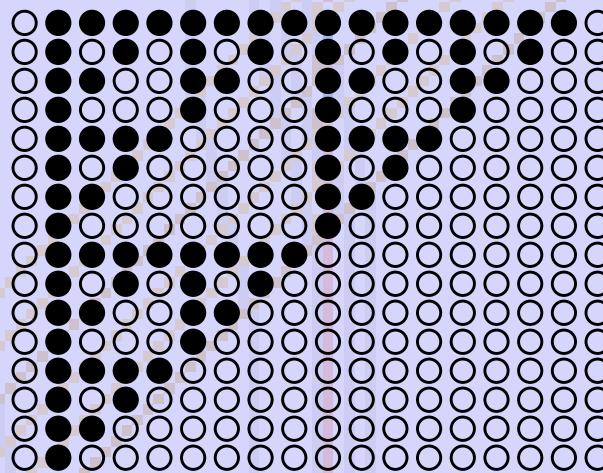
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**Idea.** The  $\mathcal{U}$  layer do not get enough energy to compute everything needed...

- In fact,  $\mathcal{A} \circledast_s \mathcal{U}$  cannot simulate  $(\mathbb{Z}, \{\circ, \bullet\}, \{-1, 0\}, \oplus)$

Two key patterns:  and



# Future Work

- Adapt this “energy driven” proof technic to other properties.
- Can we extend the analogy between computation universality for TM and intrinsic universality for CA to derive some kind of “Rice’s theorem” for non trivial properties on space-time diagrams?

# Test Page (+ pdfTeX & Acrobat issue)

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