

Tutorial on Cellular Automata

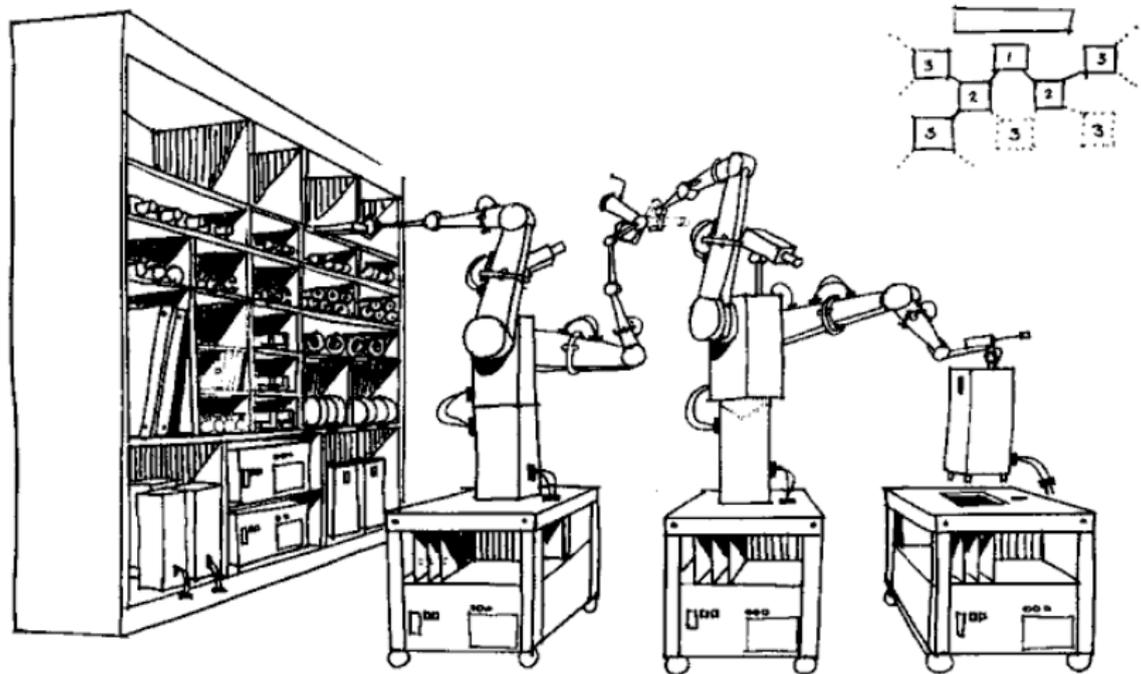
Nicolas Ollinger

LIF, Aix-Marseille Université, CNRS

UC 2011, Turku — June 2011



Theory of self-reproducing automata



Cellular automata emerged in the late 40s from the work of Ulam and von Neumann.

Cellular Automata

A **cellular automaton** (CA) is a discrete dynamical model.

Space is discrete and consists of an infinite regular grid of cells. Each cell is described by a **state** among a common **finite set**.

Time is discrete. At each clock tick cells change their state **deterministically**, **synchronously** and **uniformly** according to a common **local update rule**.

Conway's famous Game of Life

The **Game of Life** is a 2D CA invented by Conway in 1970.

Space is an infinite chessboard of **alive** or **dead** cells.

The **local update rule** counts the number of alive cells among the eight surrounding cells :

- **exactly three** alive cells give **birth** to dead cells ;
- **less than three** alive cells kill by **loneliness** ;
- **more than four** alive cells kill by **overcrowding** ;
- otherwise the cell remains in the same state.







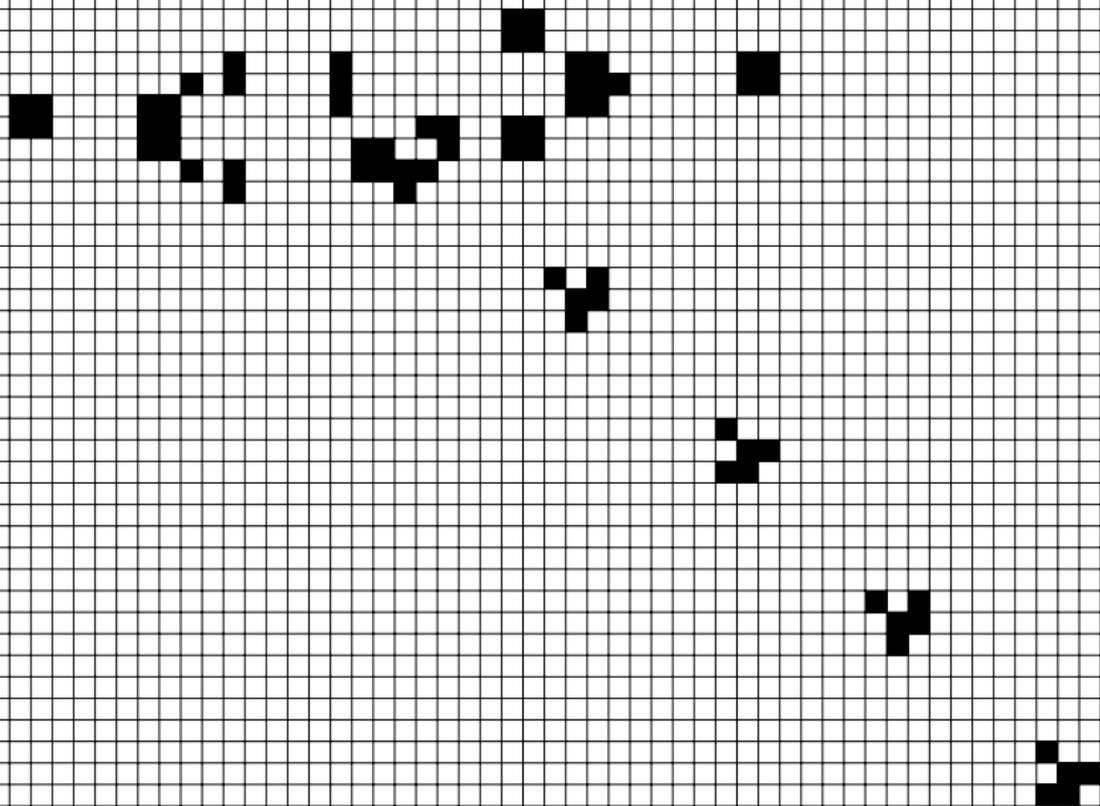


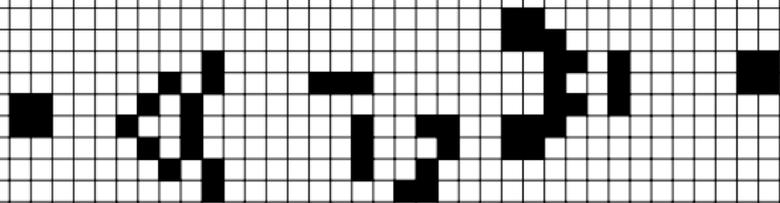


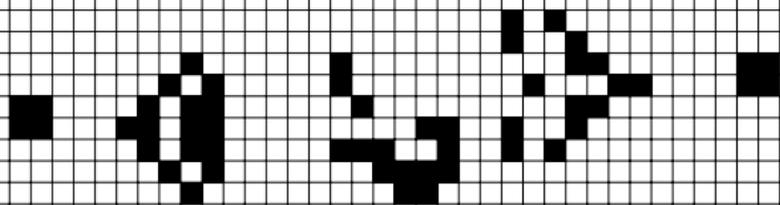


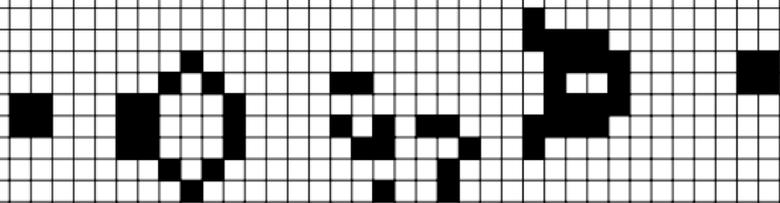


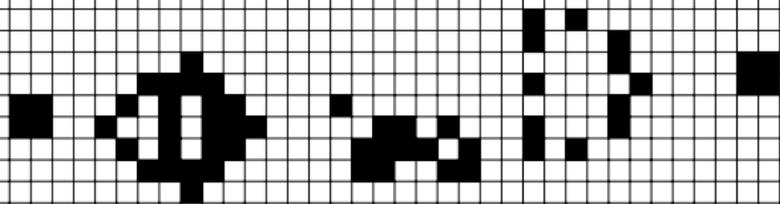


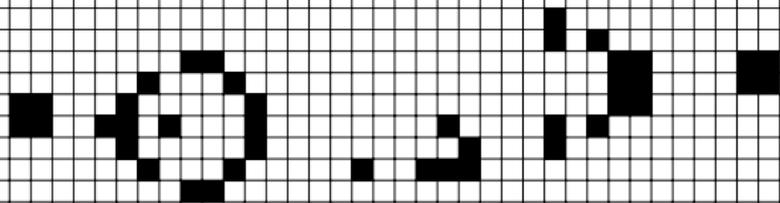


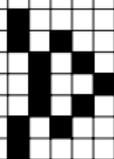
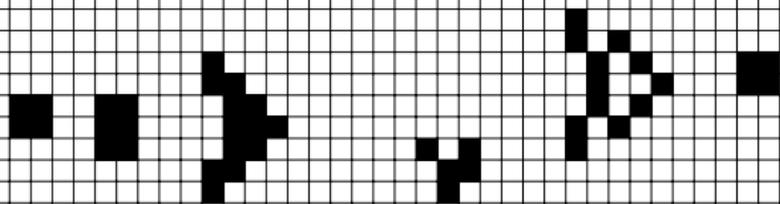


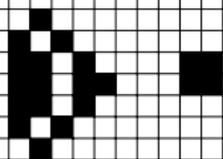
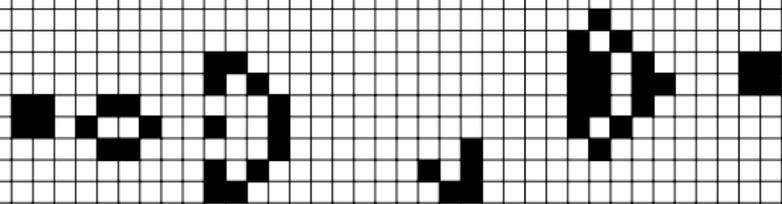








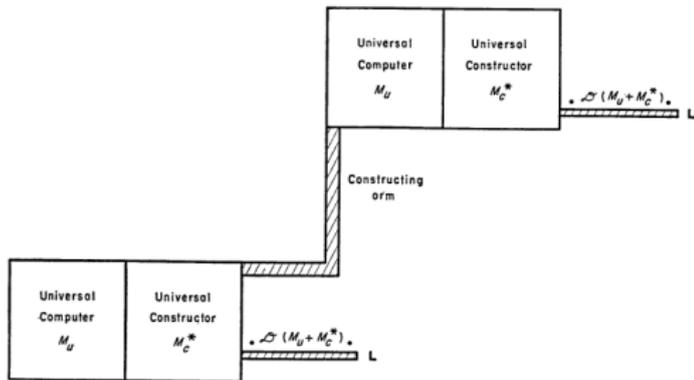




von Neumann self-reproducing CA

A 29 states CA with von Neumann neighborhood with wires and construction/destruction abilities.

Class	Name	Symbol	Number	Summary of transition rule
Ordinary	Unexcitable	U	1	Direct process changes U into sensitized states and then into T_{exc} or C_{ex} . Reverse process kills T_{exc} or C_{ex} into U.
	Confluent	C_{ex}	4	Receives conjunctively from T_{exc} directed toward it; emits with double delay to all T_{exc} , not directed toward it. Killed to U by T_{exc} directed toward it; killing dominates reception.
	Transmission (T_{exc})	T_{exc}	8	Receives disjunctively from T_{exc} directed toward it and from C_{ex} ; emits in output direction with single delay (a) to T_{exc} not directed toward it and to C_{ex} (b) to U or sensitized states by direct process (c) to kill T_{exc} by reverse process. Killed to U by T_{exc} directed toward it; killing dominates reception.
T_{exc}		8	Receives disjunctively from T_{exc} directed toward it and from C_{ex} ; emits in output direction with single delay (a) to T_{exc} not directed toward it (b) to U or sensitized states by direct process (c) to kill T_{exc} or C_{ex} by reverse process. Killed to U by T_{exc} directed toward it; killing dominates reception.	
Special	Sensitized	S_{10} S_{11} S_{12} S_{13} S_{14} S_{15} S_{16} S_{17} S_{18} S_{19}	8	These are intermediary states in the direct process. T_{exc} directed toward U converts it to S_0 . Thereafter, S_2 is followed by (a) S_{21} if some T_{exc} is directed toward the cell (b) S_{20} otherwise, until the direct process terminates in a T_{exc} or C_{ex} . See Figure 10.

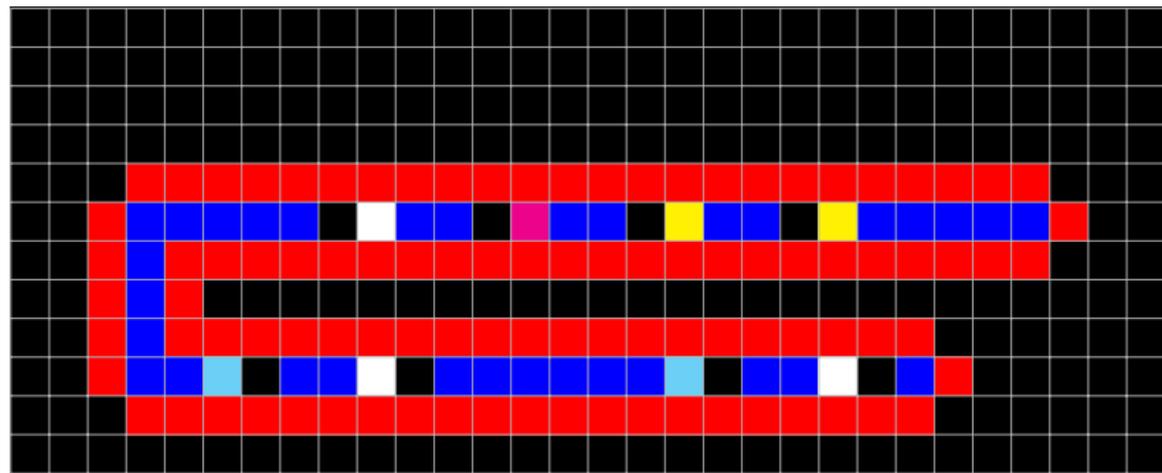


Self-reproduction using Universal Computer + Universal Constructor.

(Theory of Self-Reproducing Automata, edited by Burks, 1966)

Codd self-reproducing CA

A **8 states self-reproducing** CA with von Neumann neighborhood using sheathed wires.

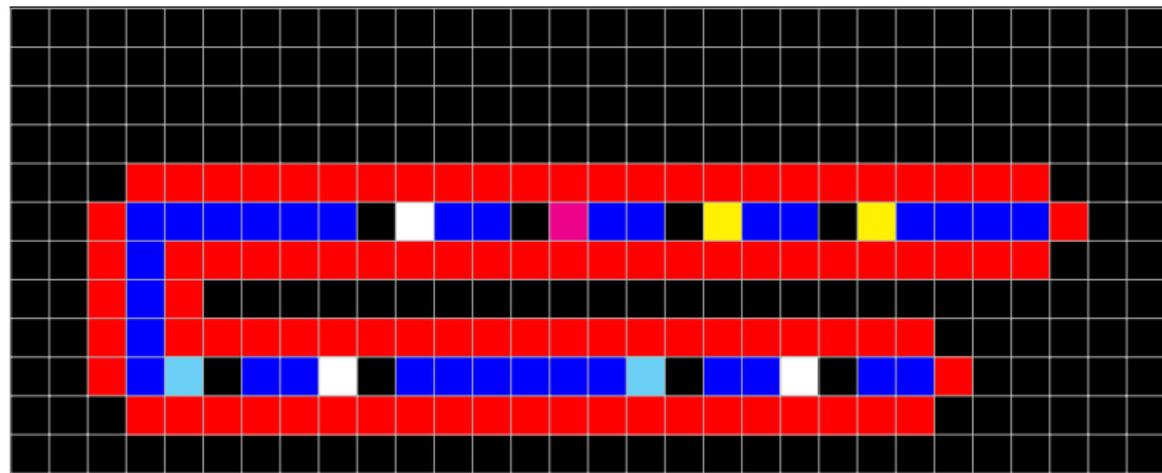


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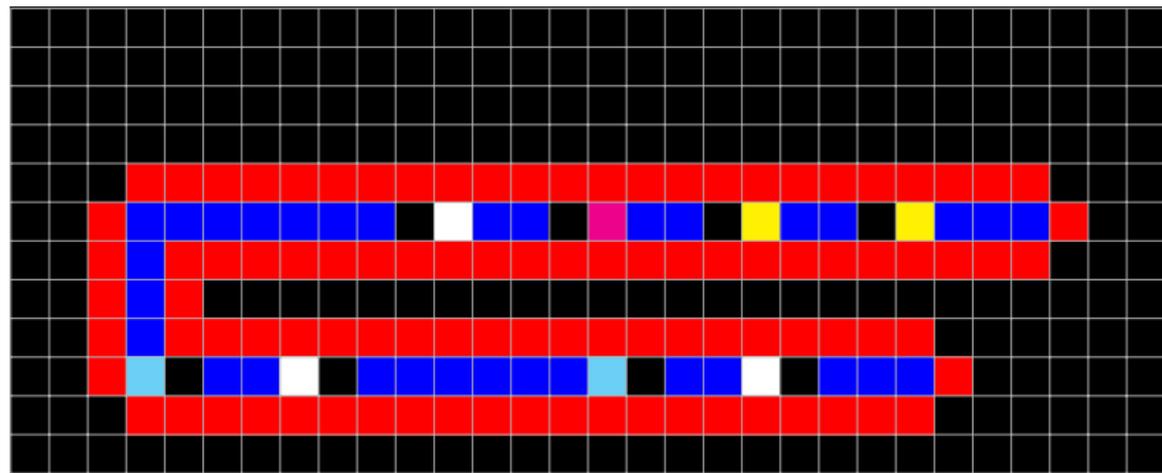


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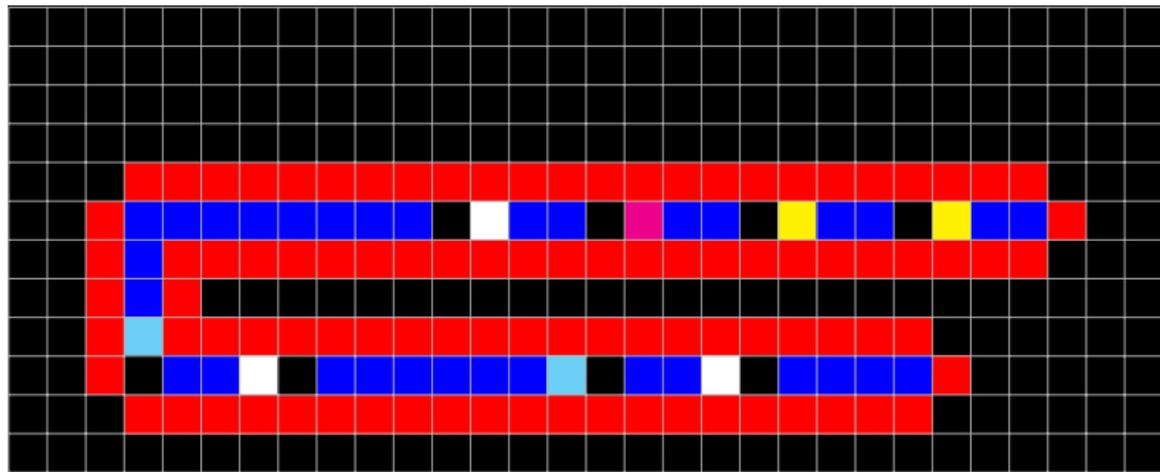


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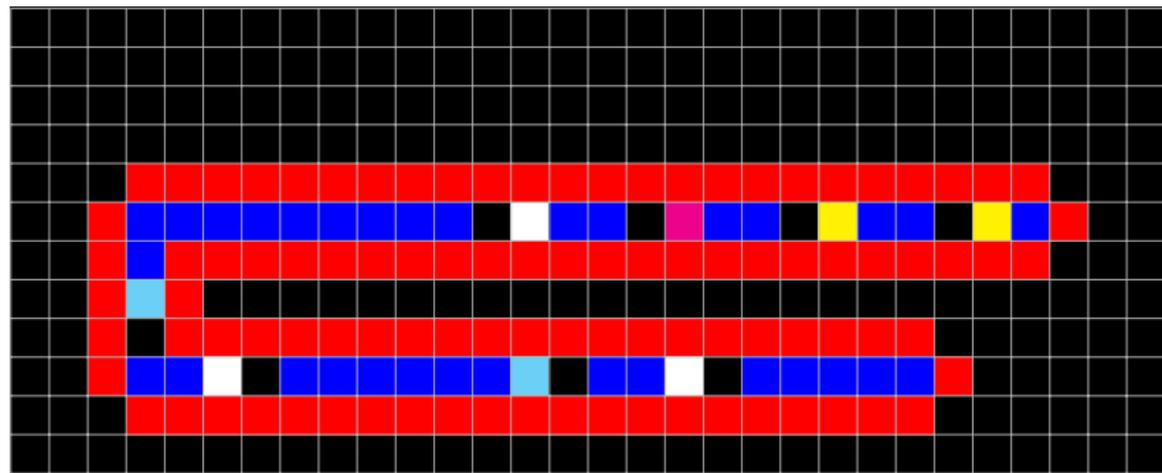


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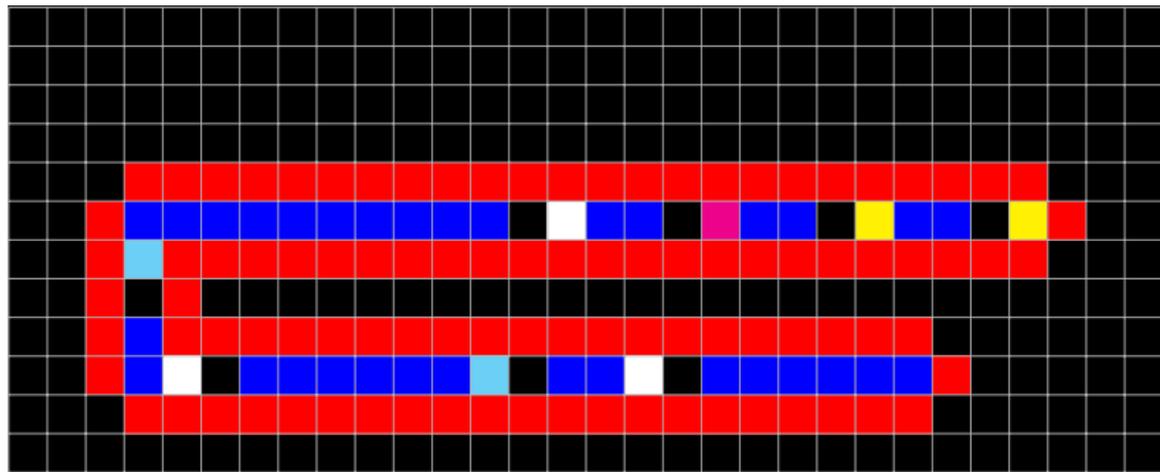


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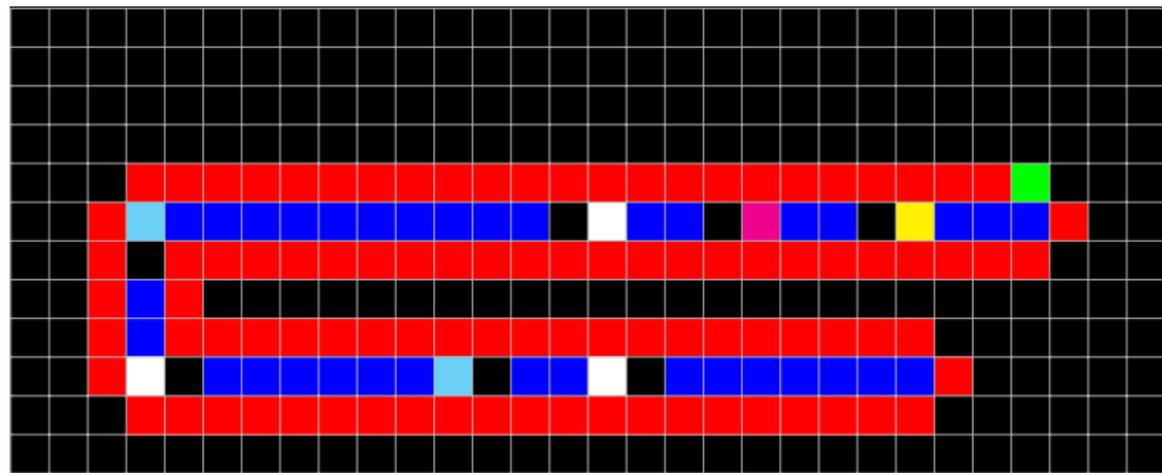


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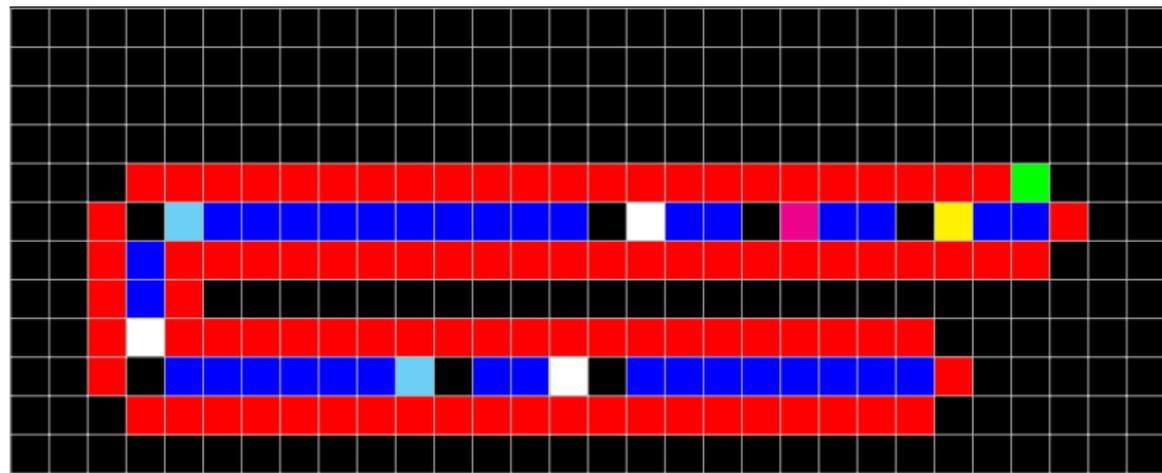


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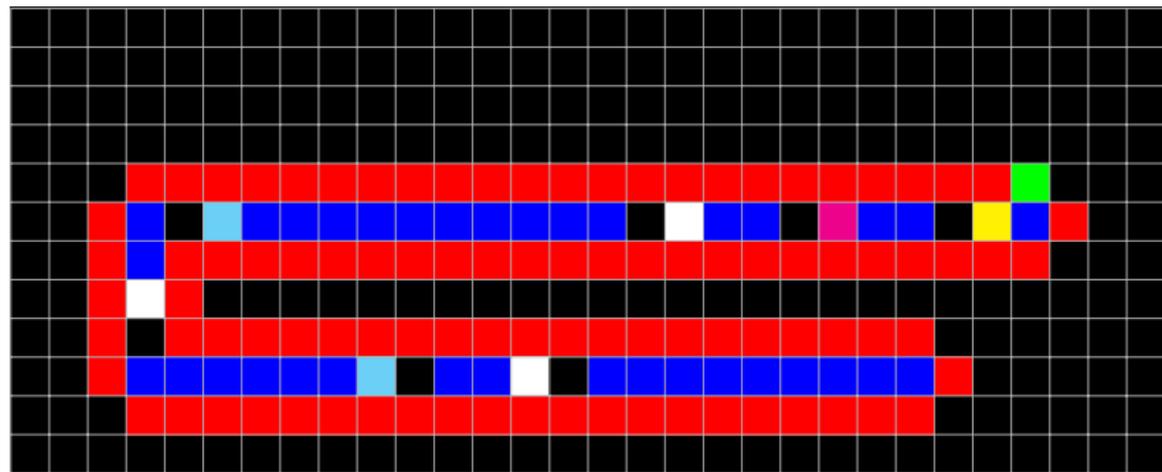


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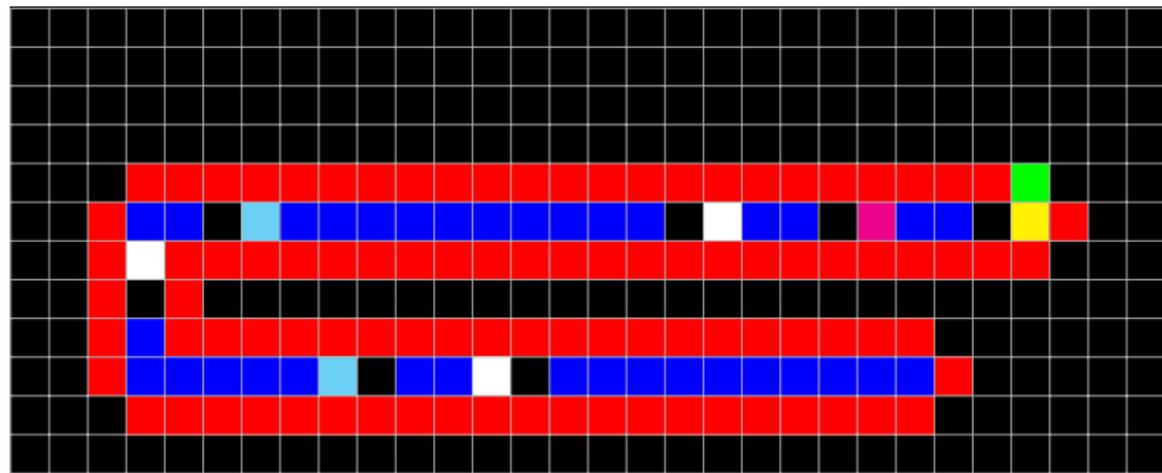


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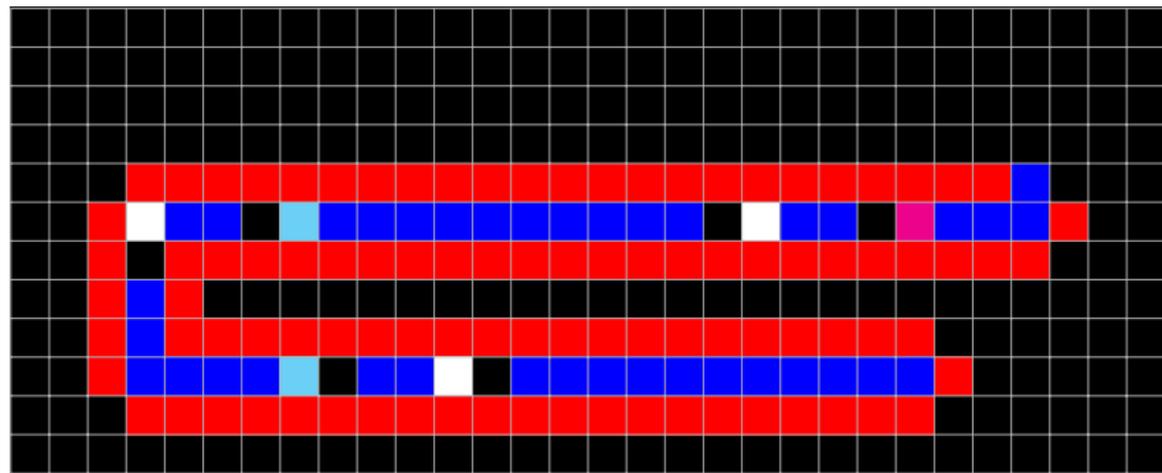


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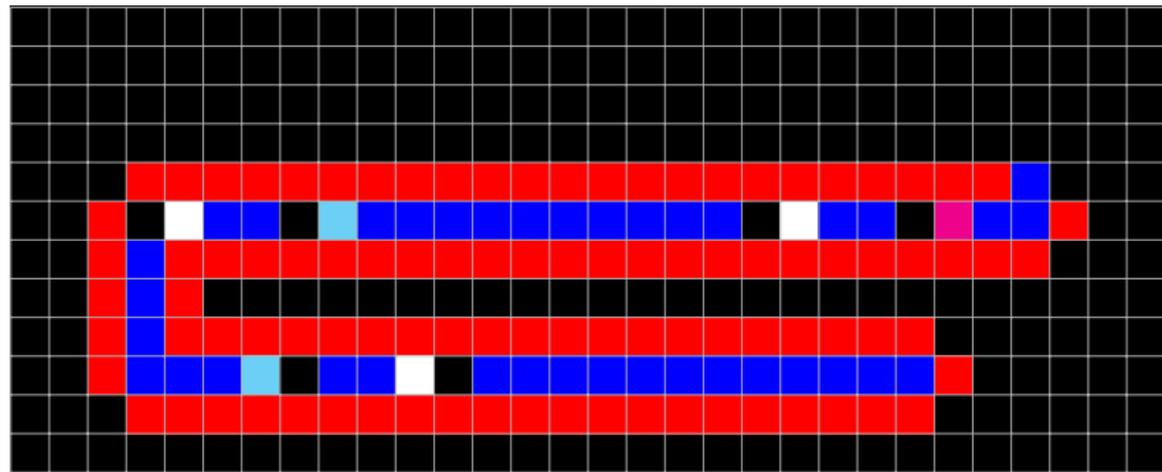


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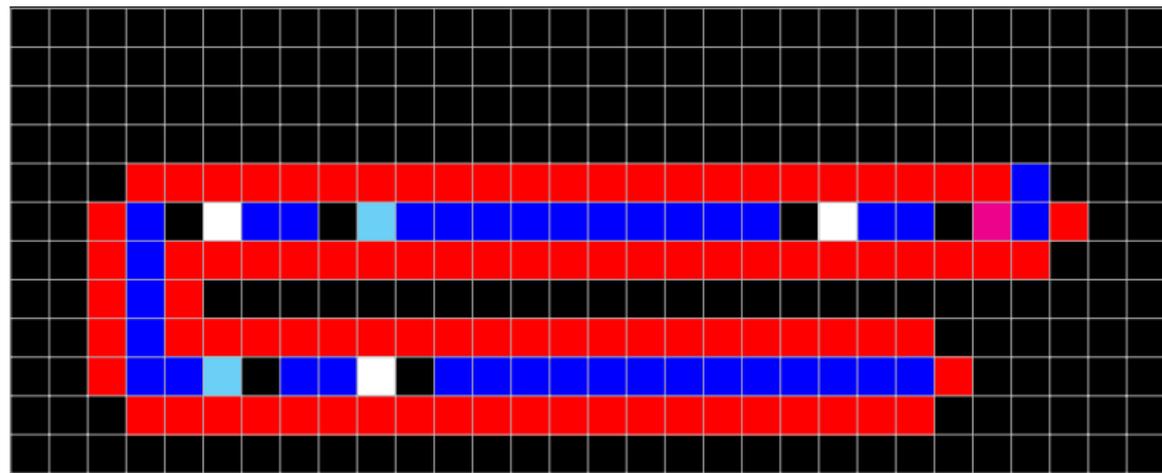


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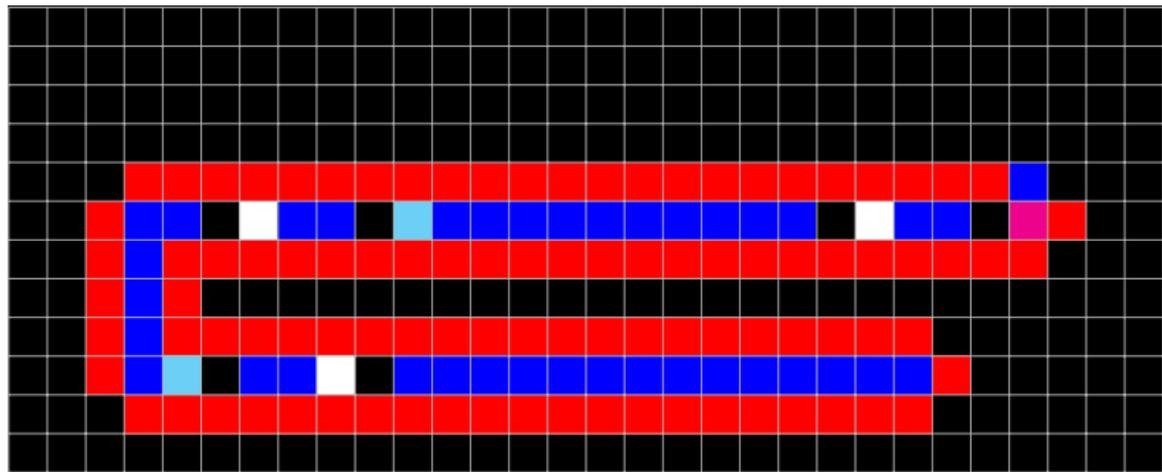


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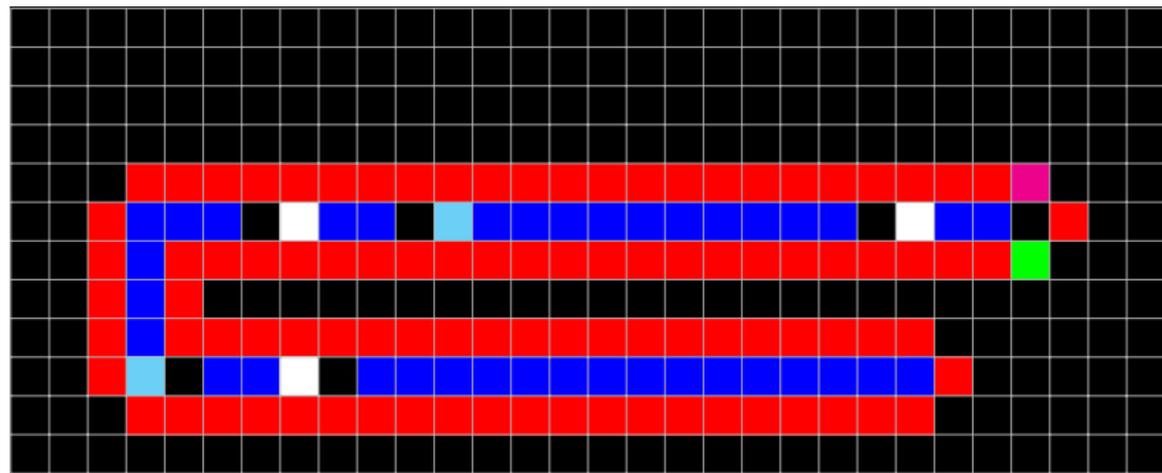


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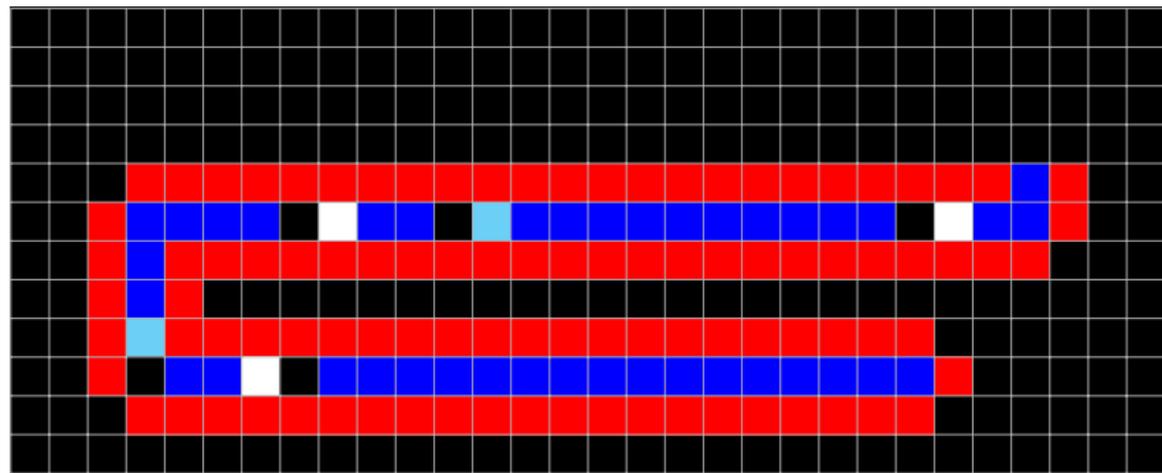


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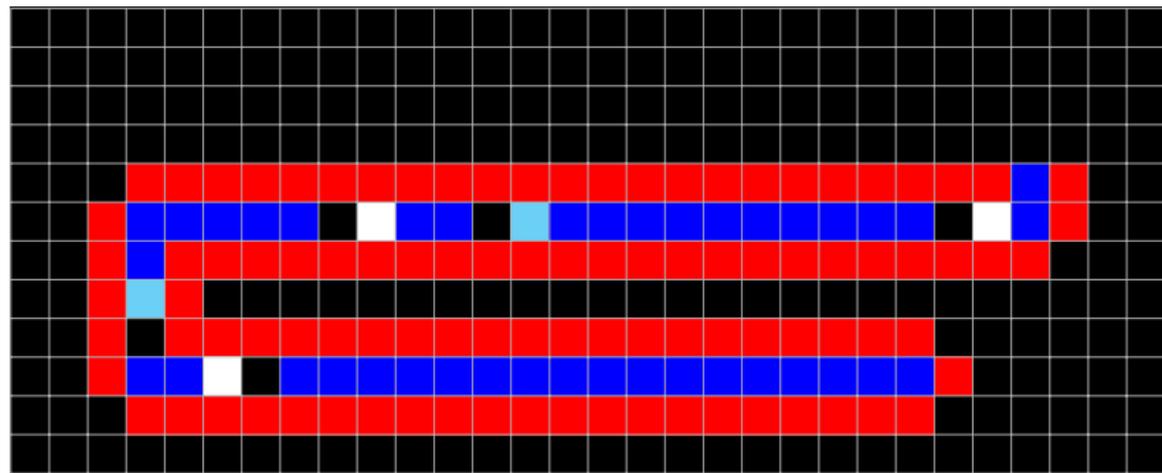


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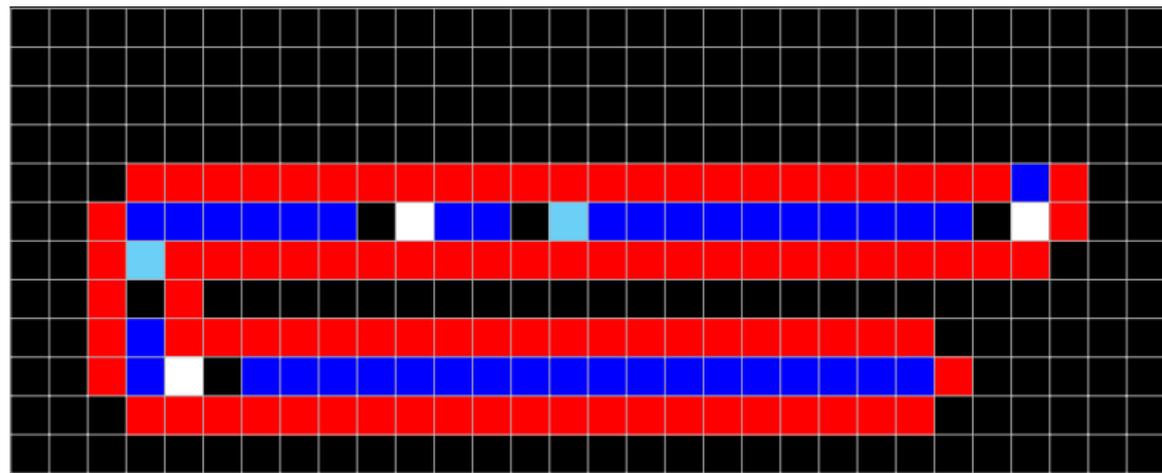


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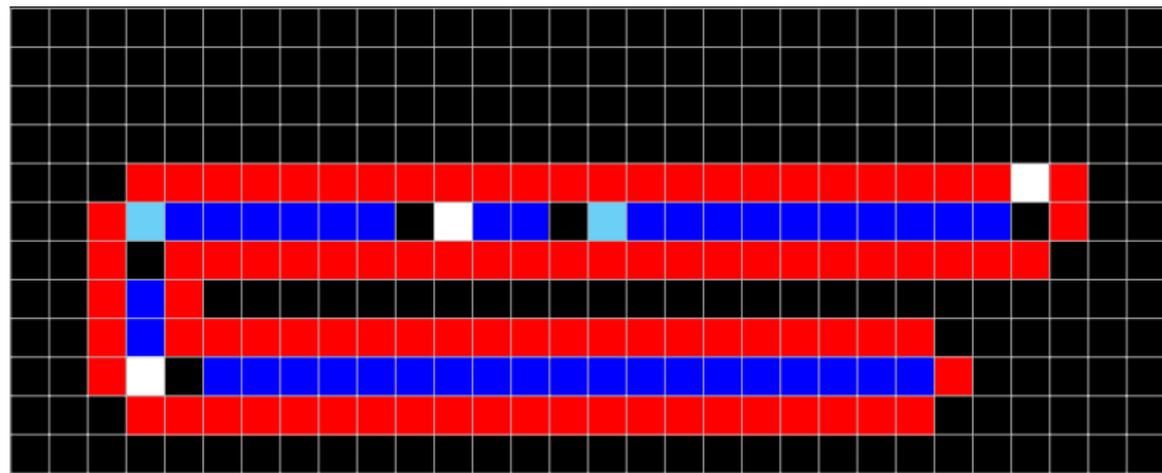


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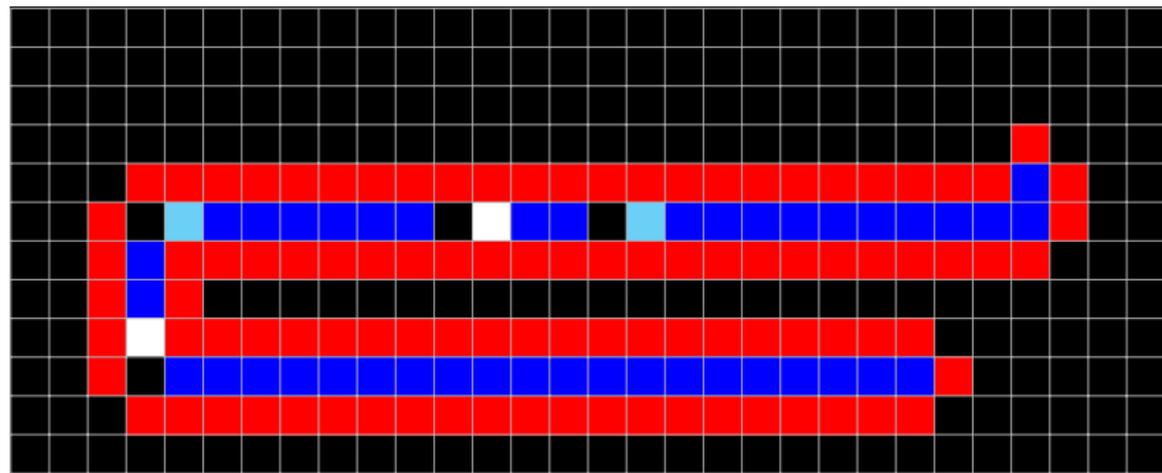


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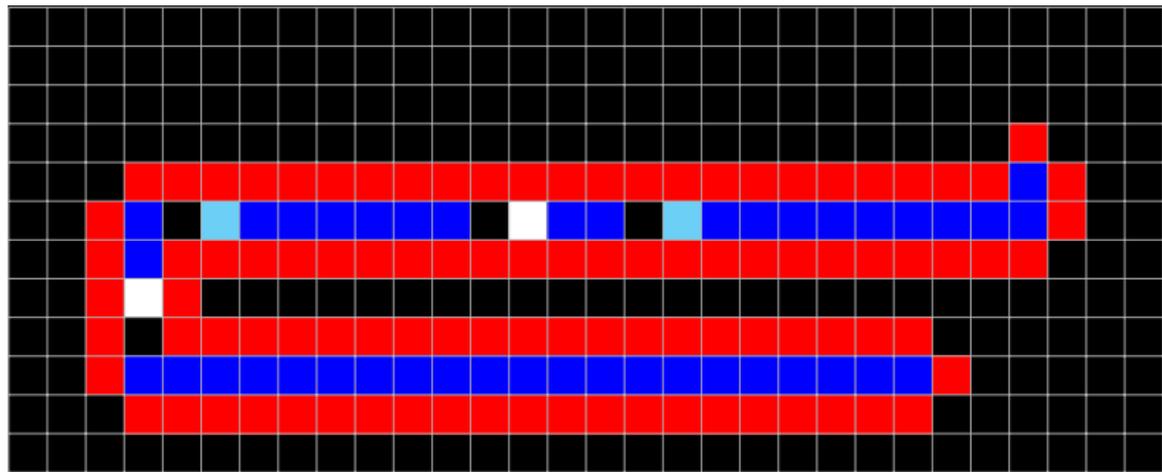


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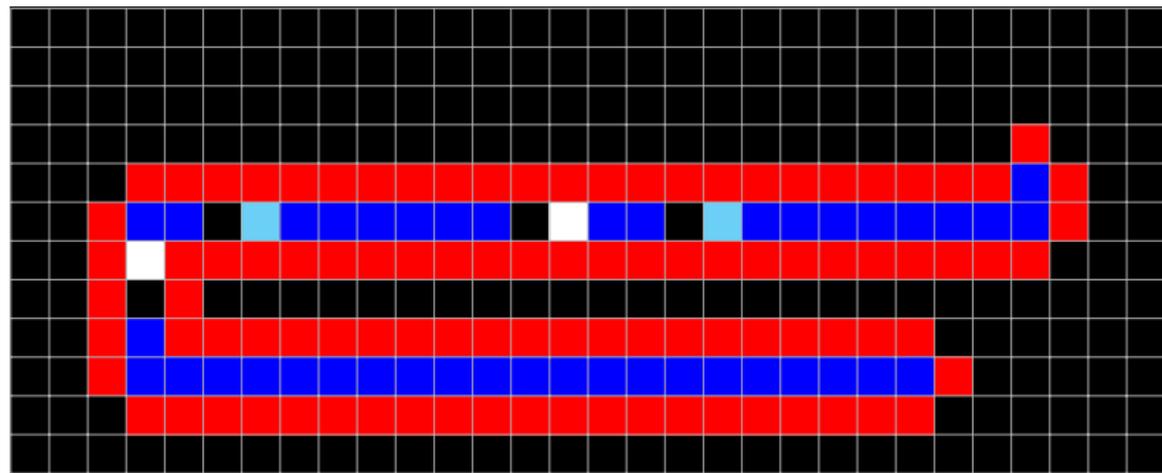


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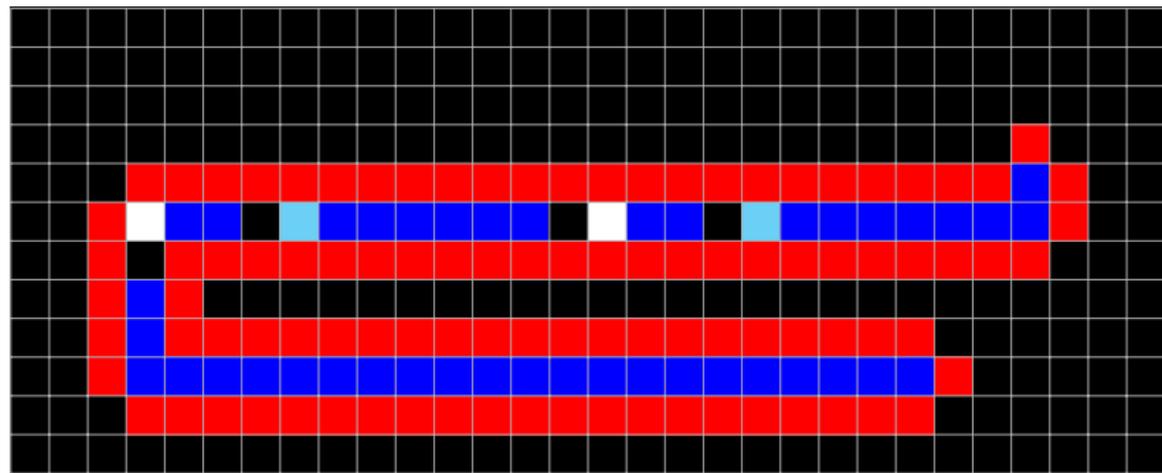


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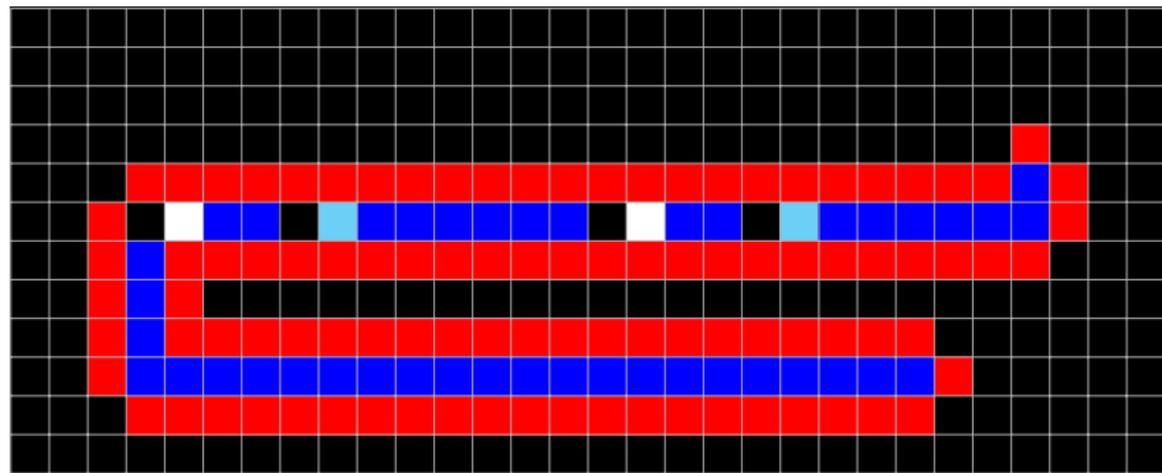


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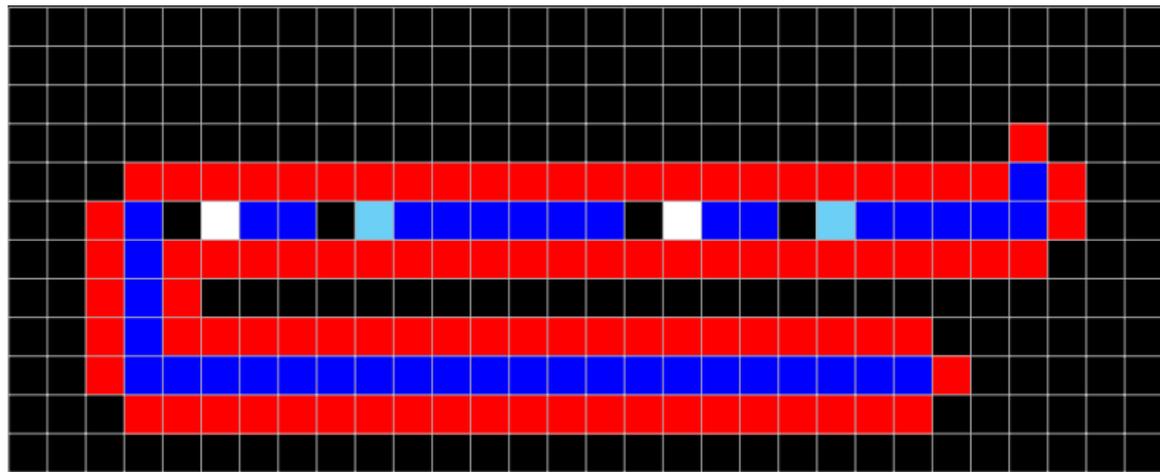


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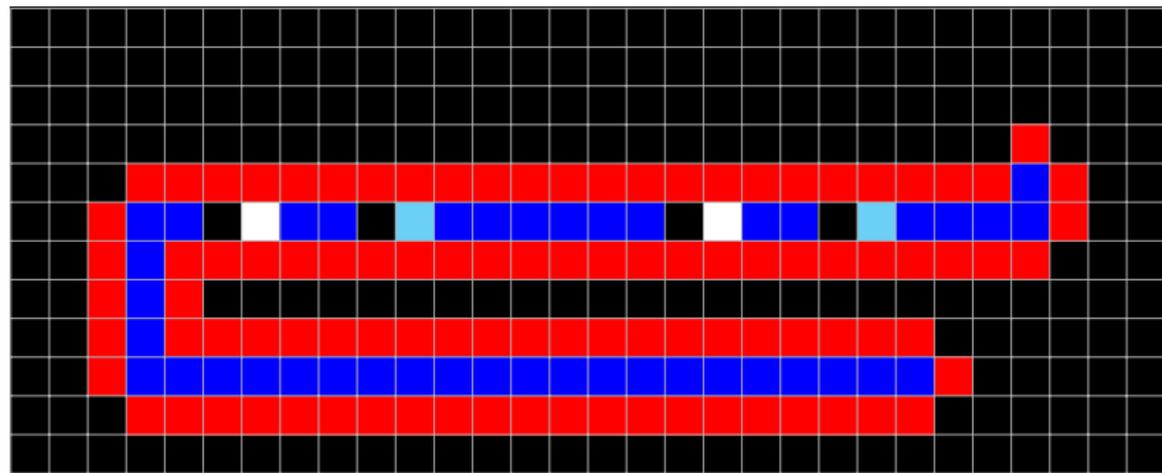


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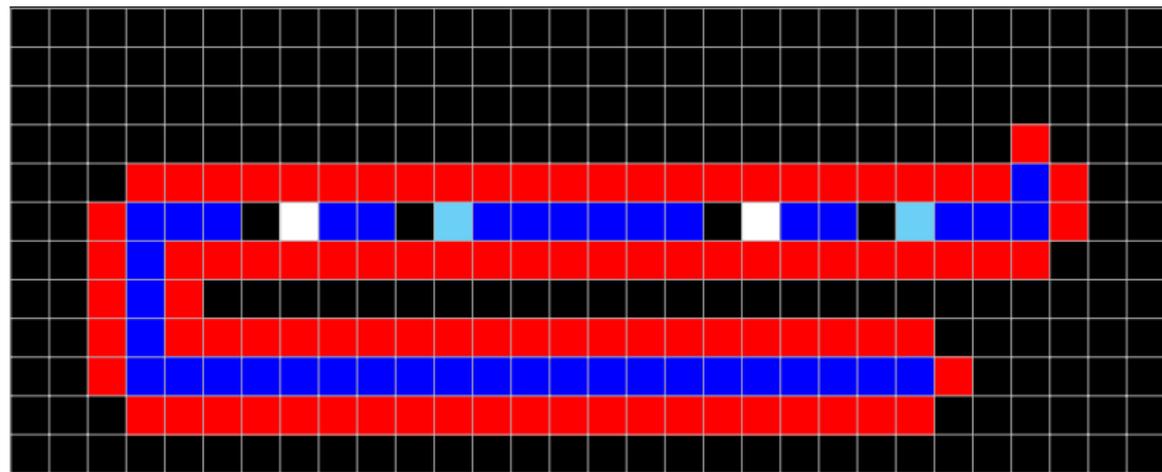


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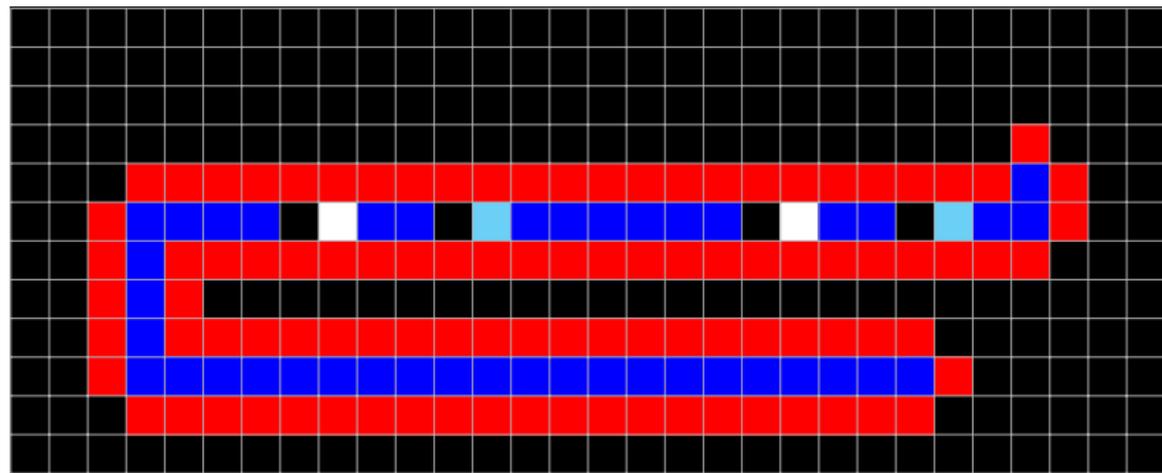


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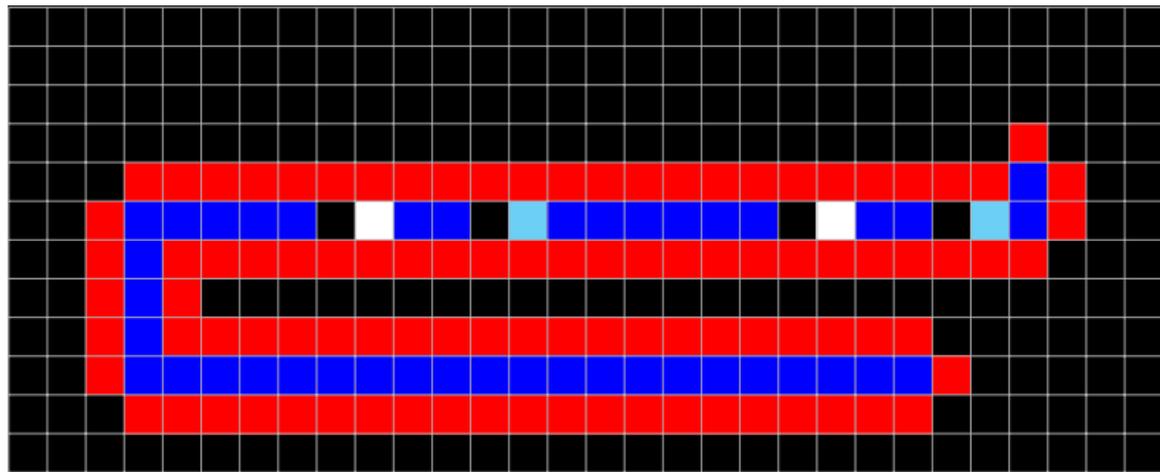


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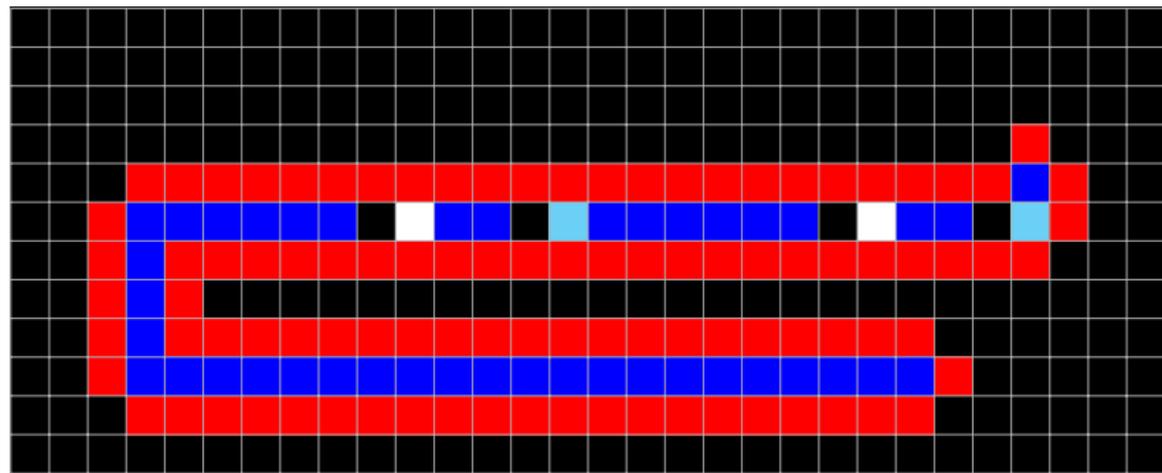


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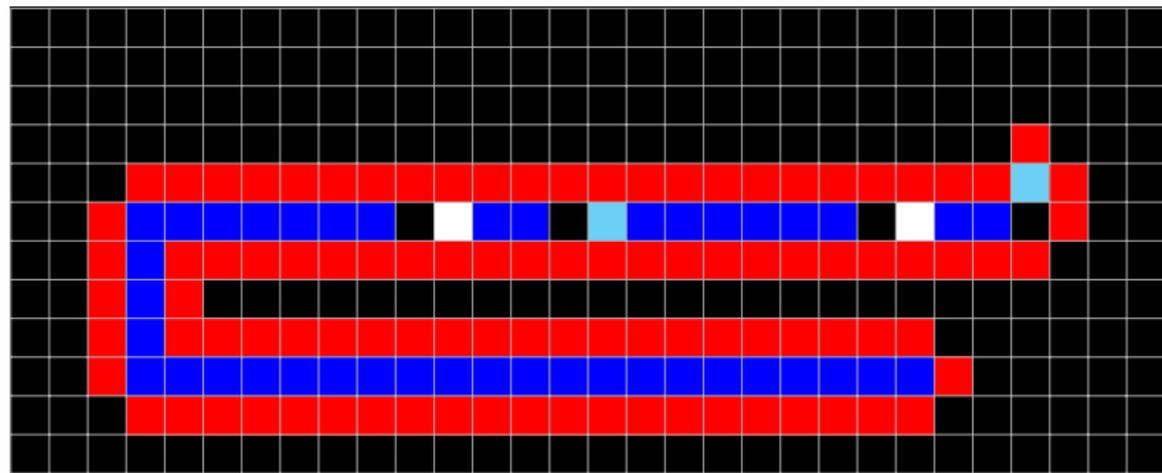


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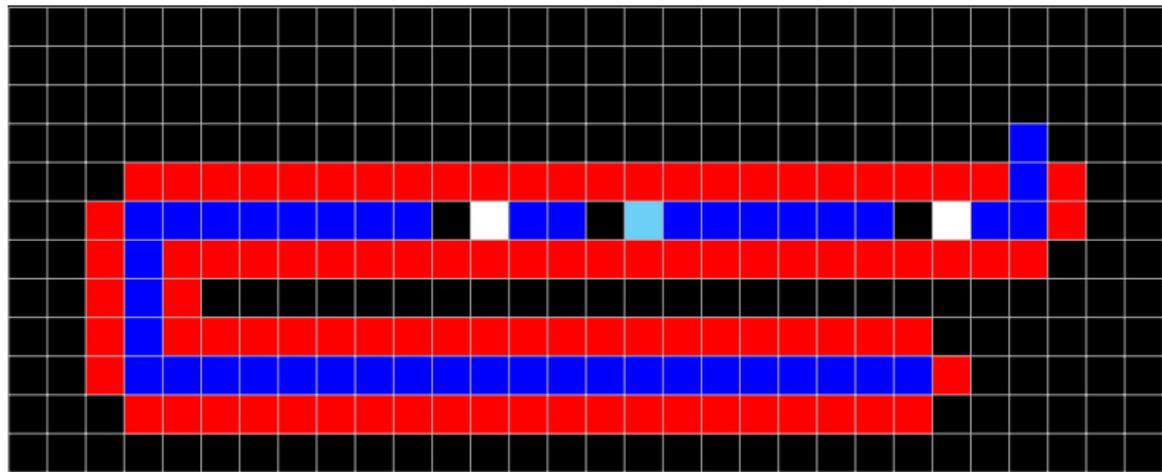


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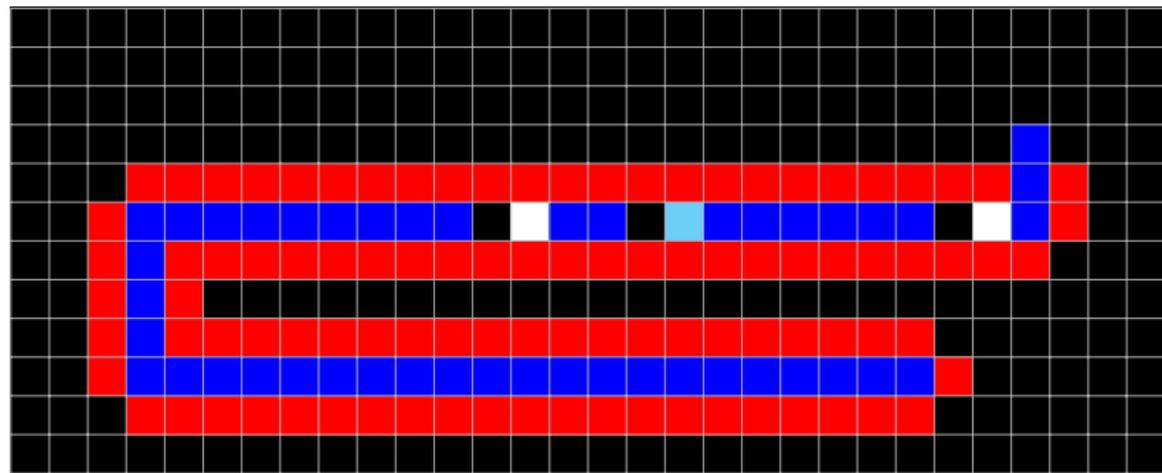


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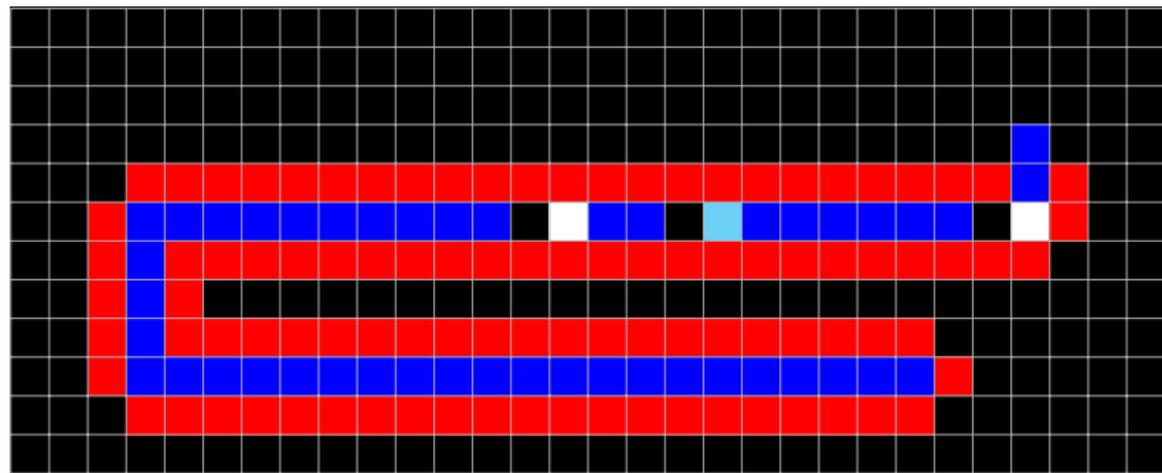


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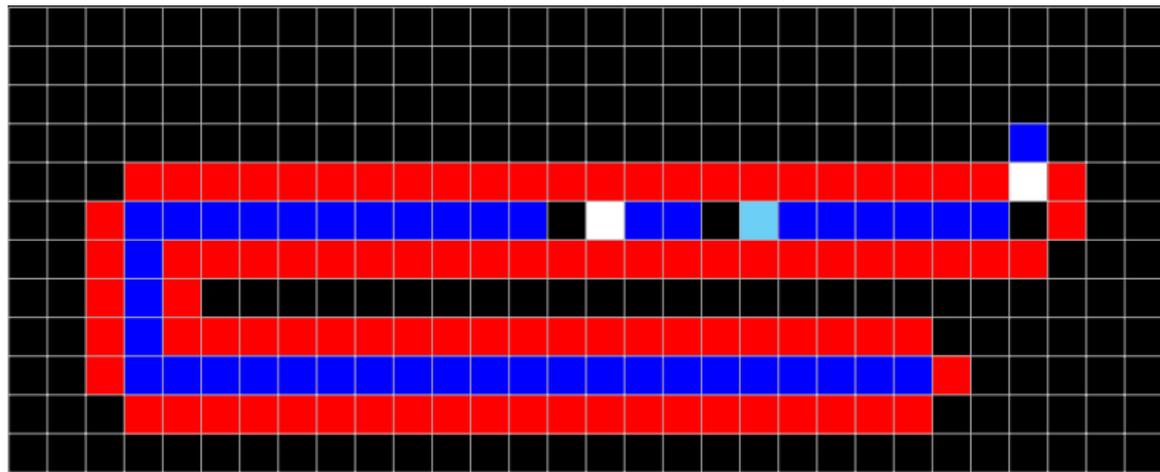


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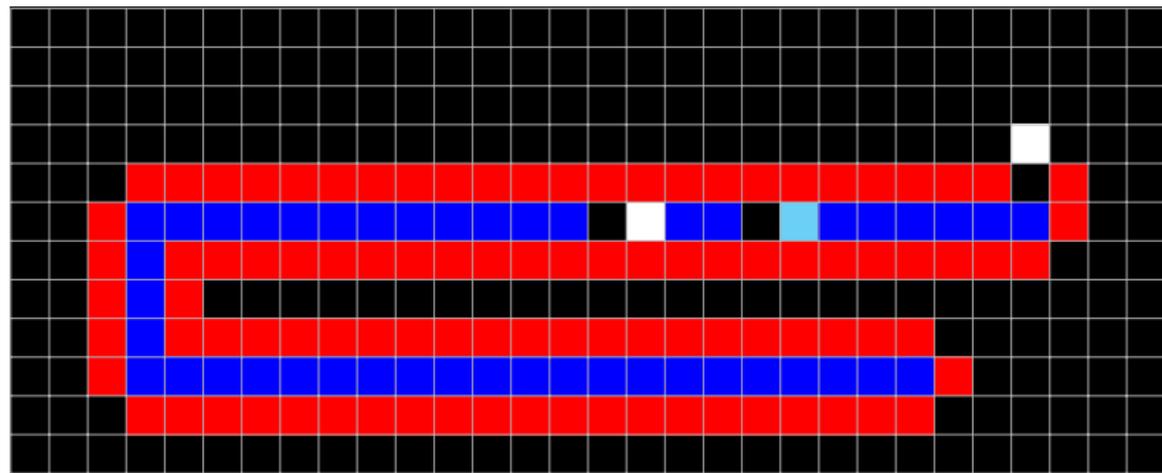


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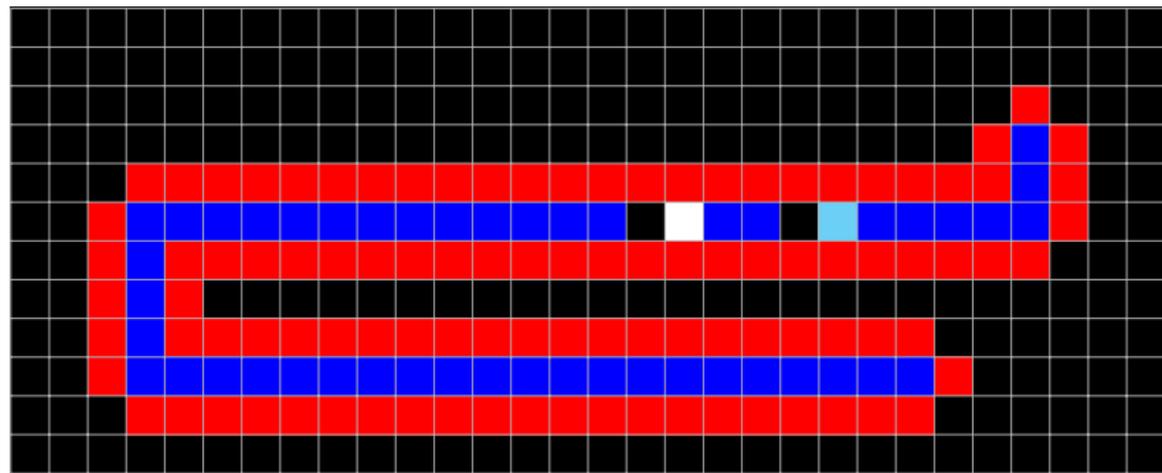


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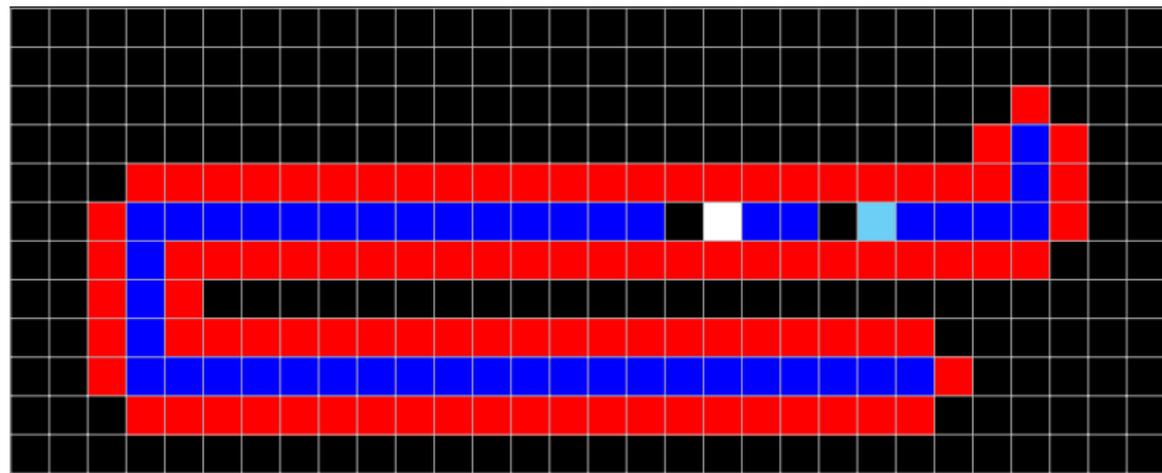


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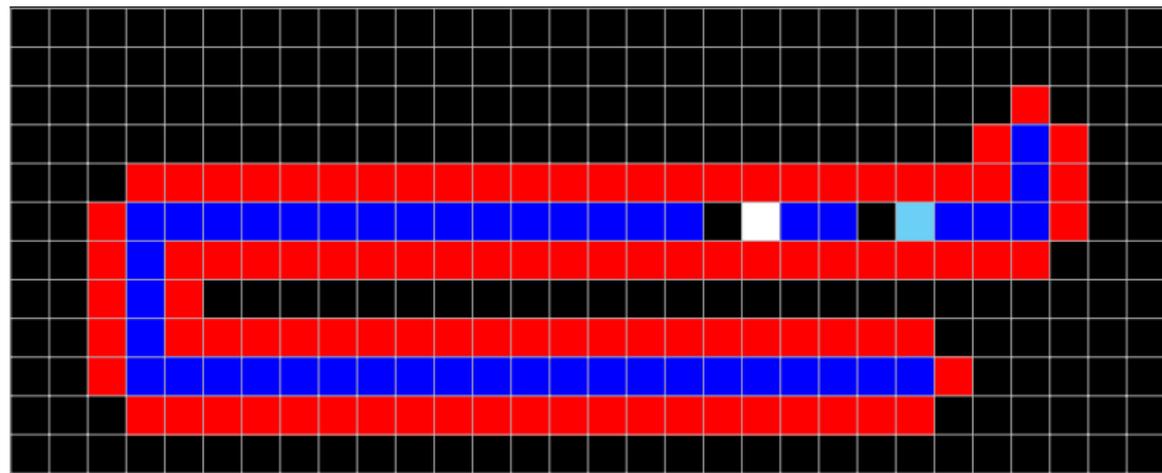


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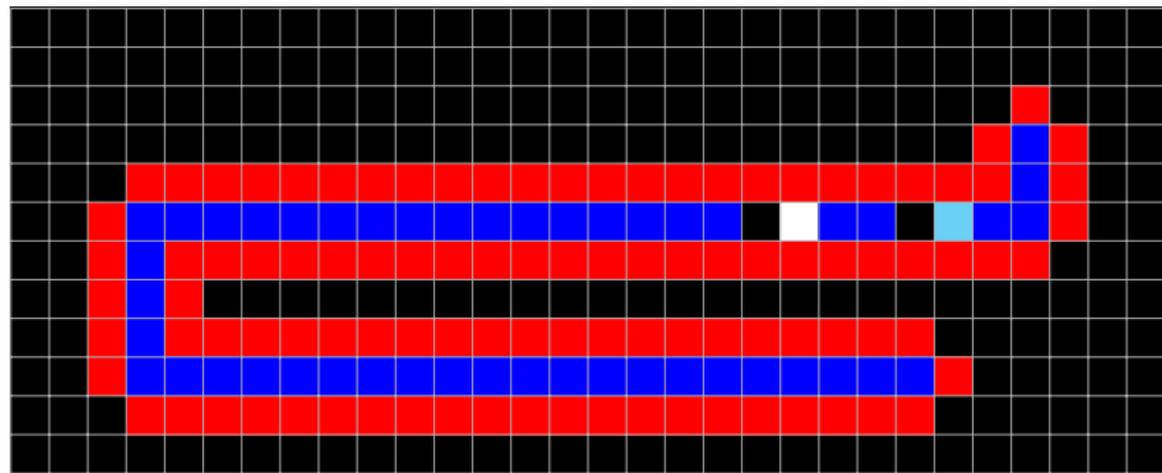


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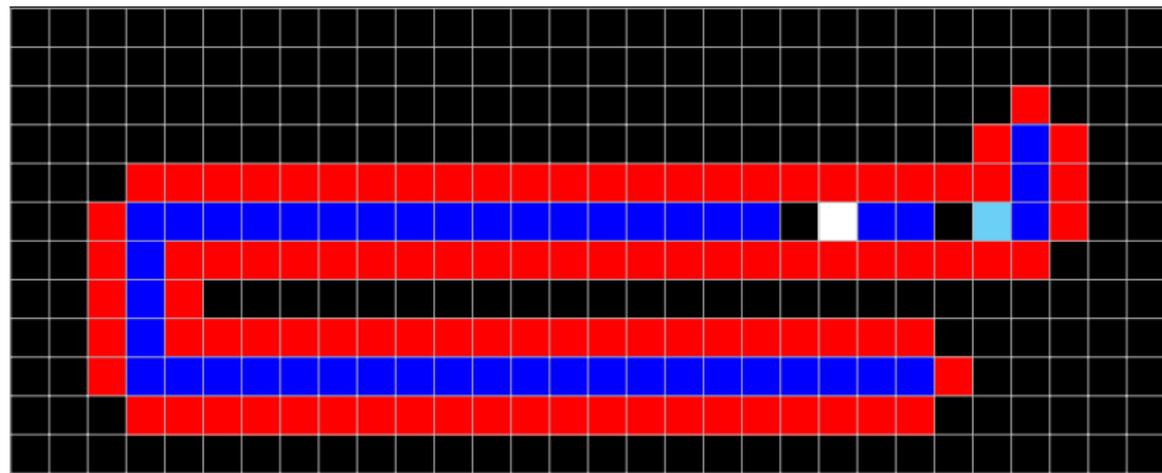


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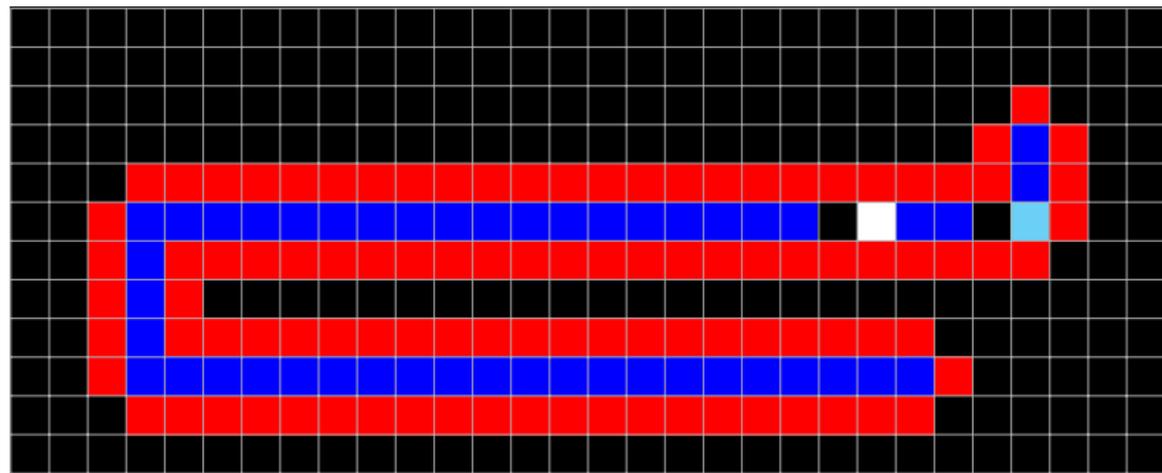


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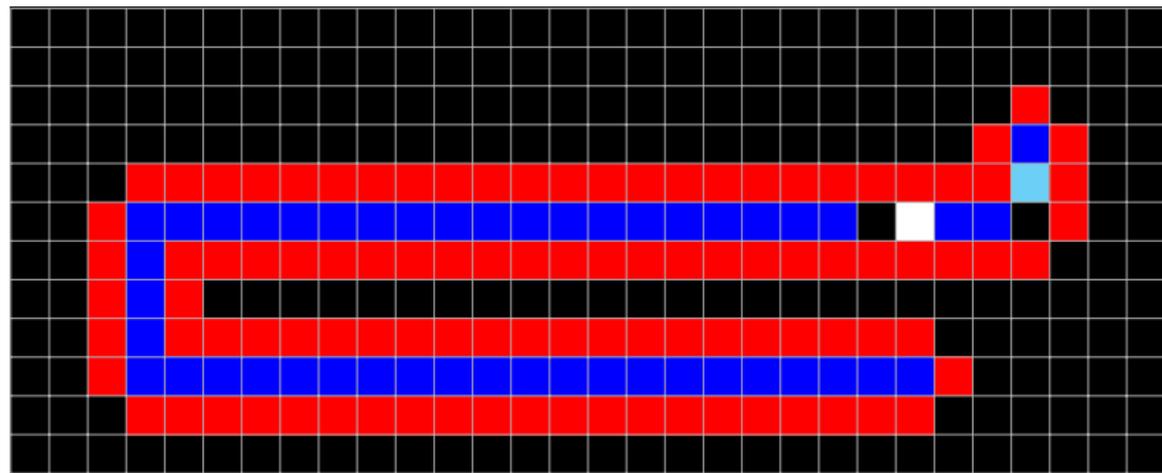


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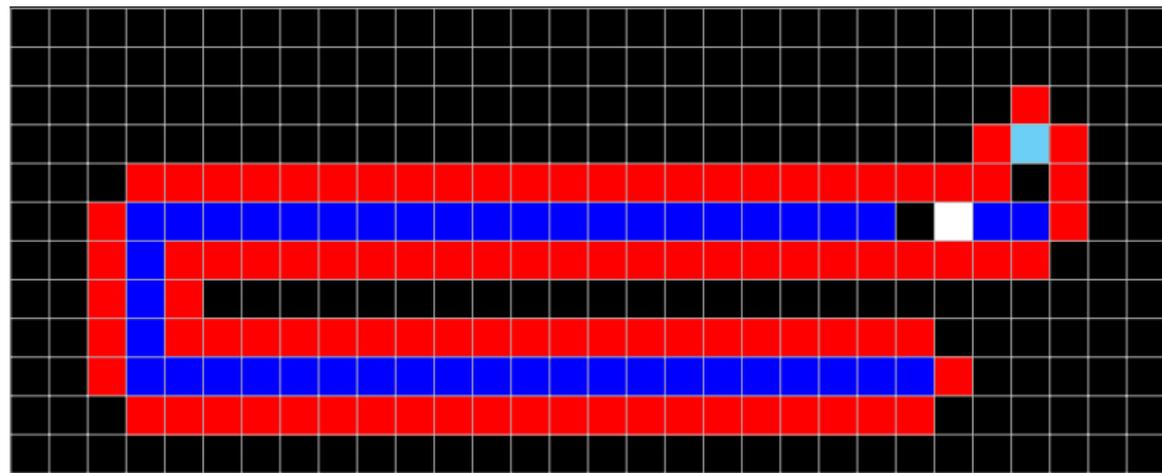


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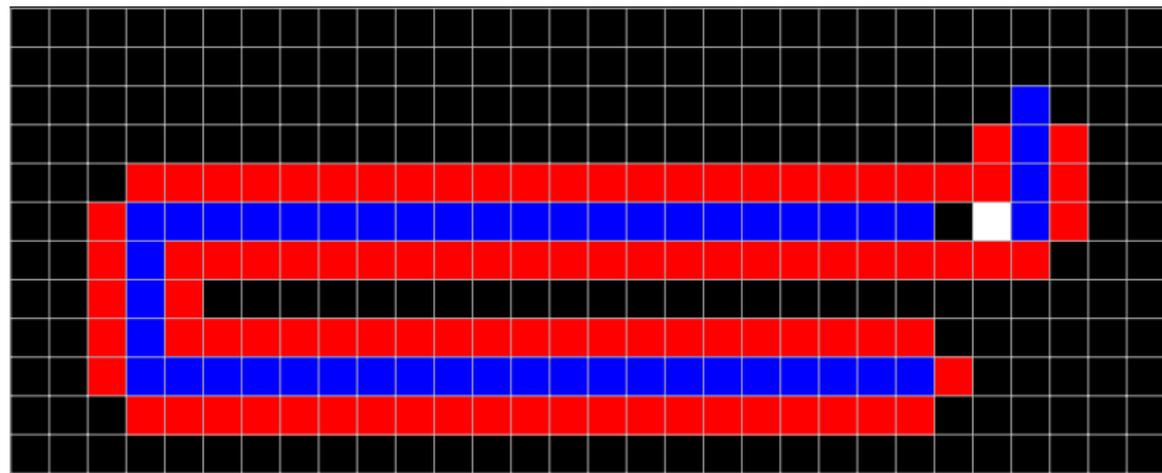


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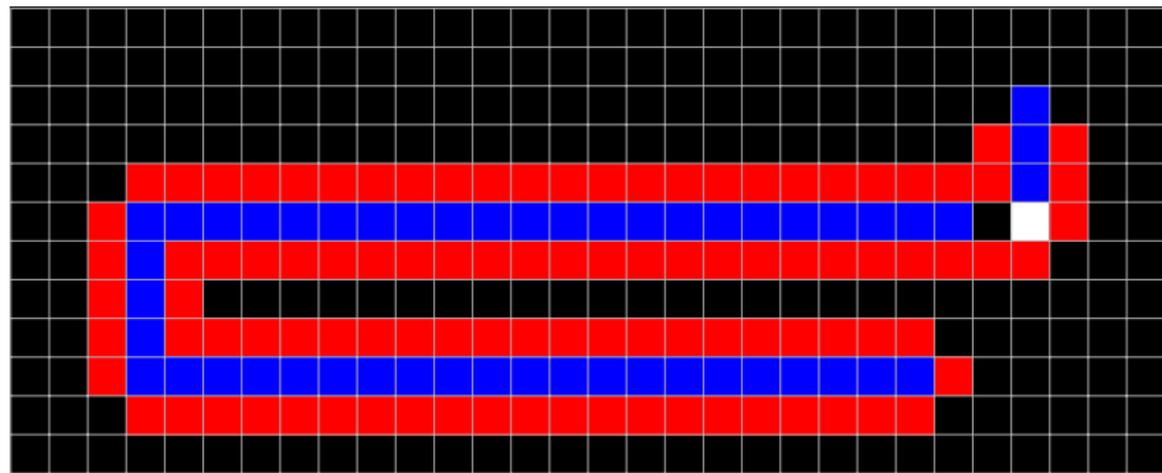


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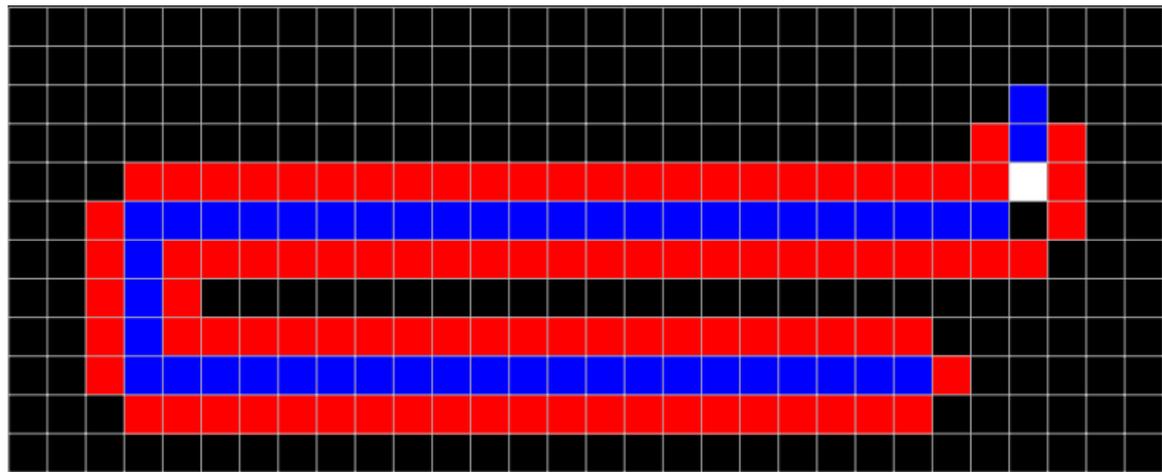


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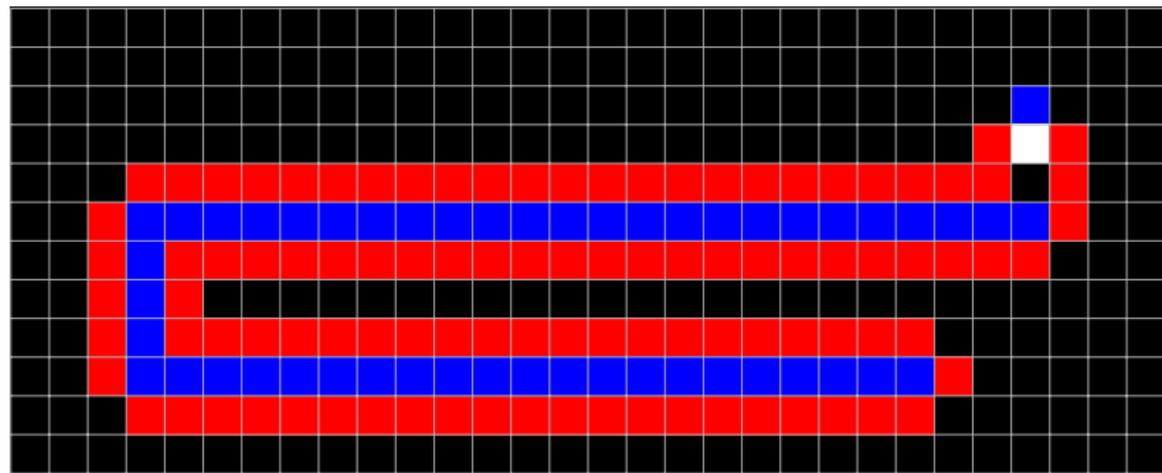


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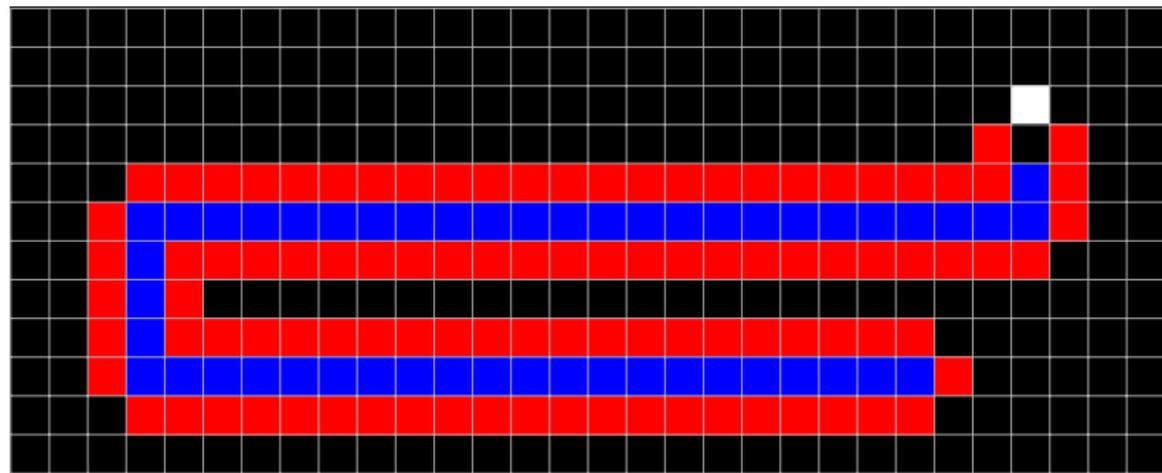


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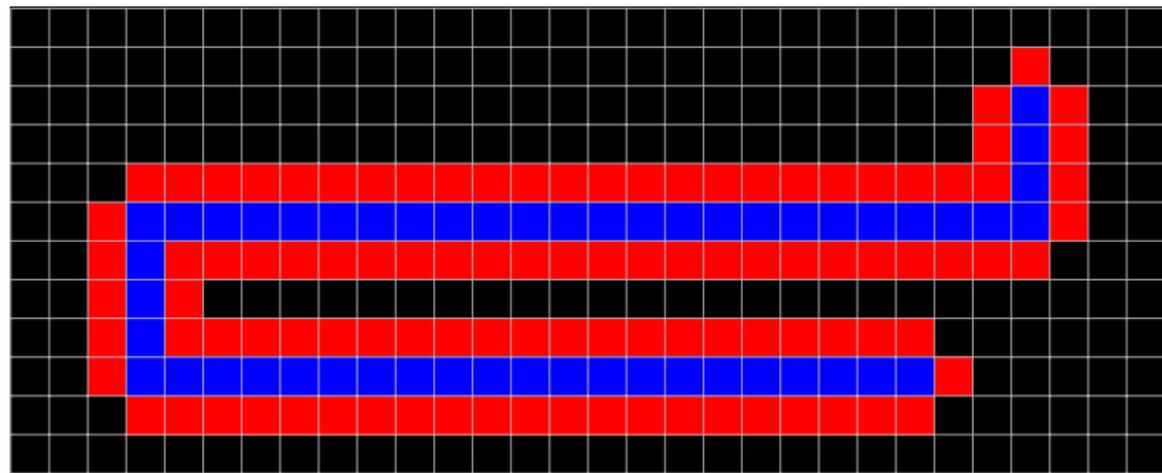


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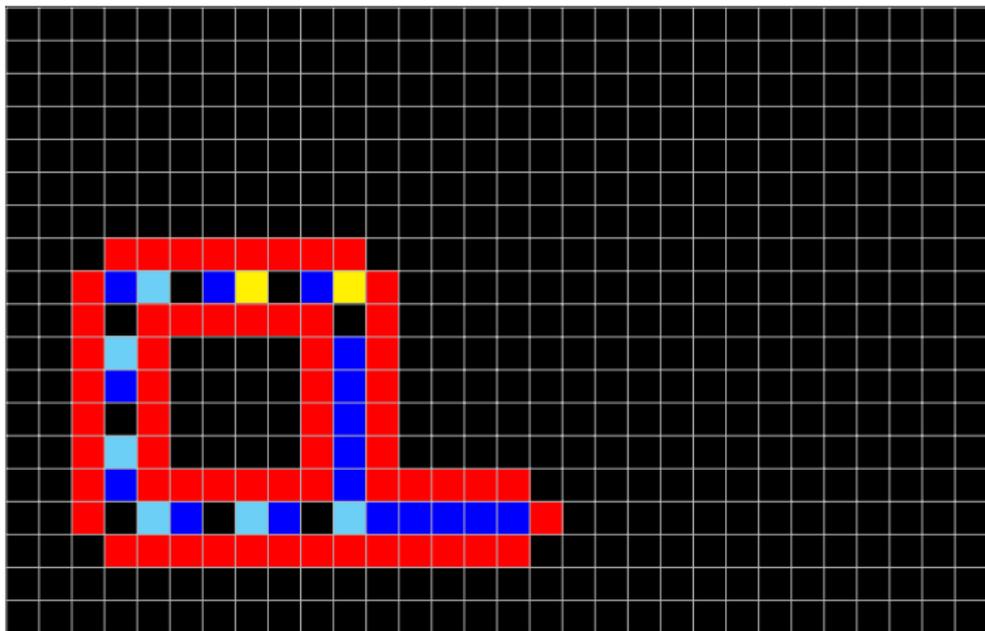
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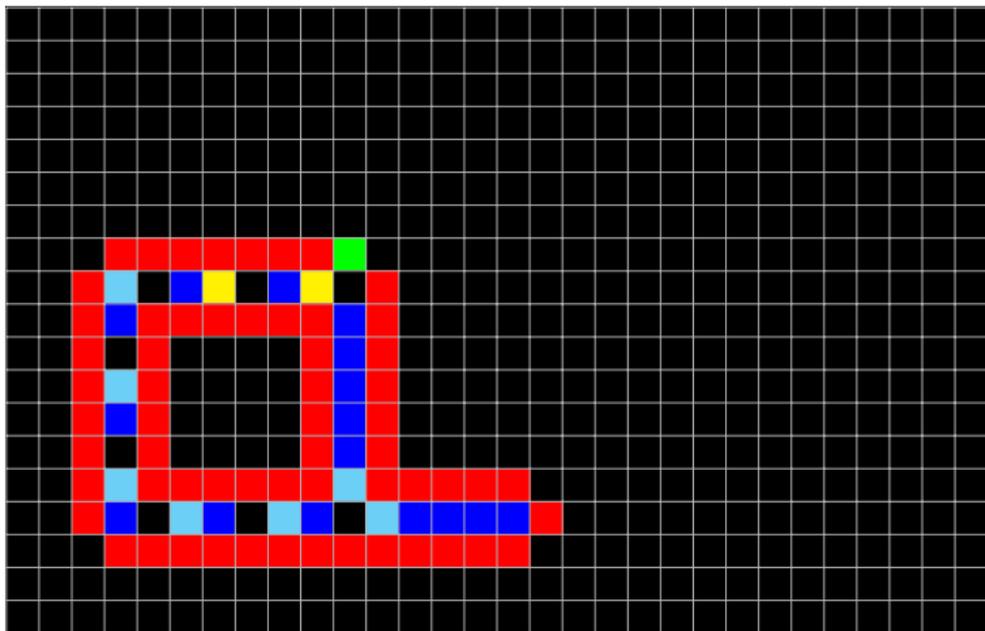
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Langton modifies Codd rule to permit **non universal rotation invariant** self-reproduction by 86 cells in 151 steps.

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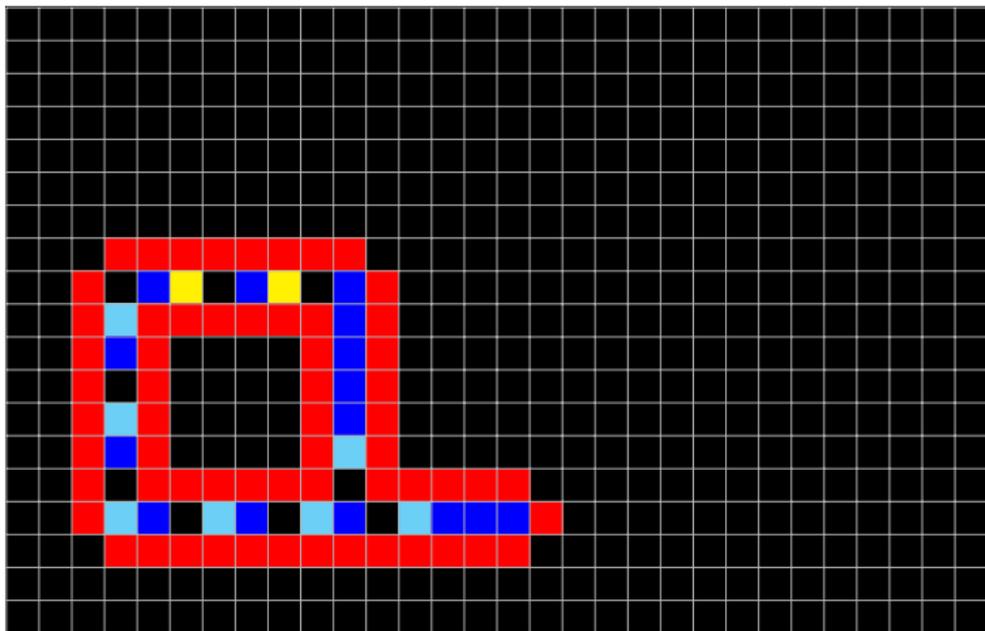
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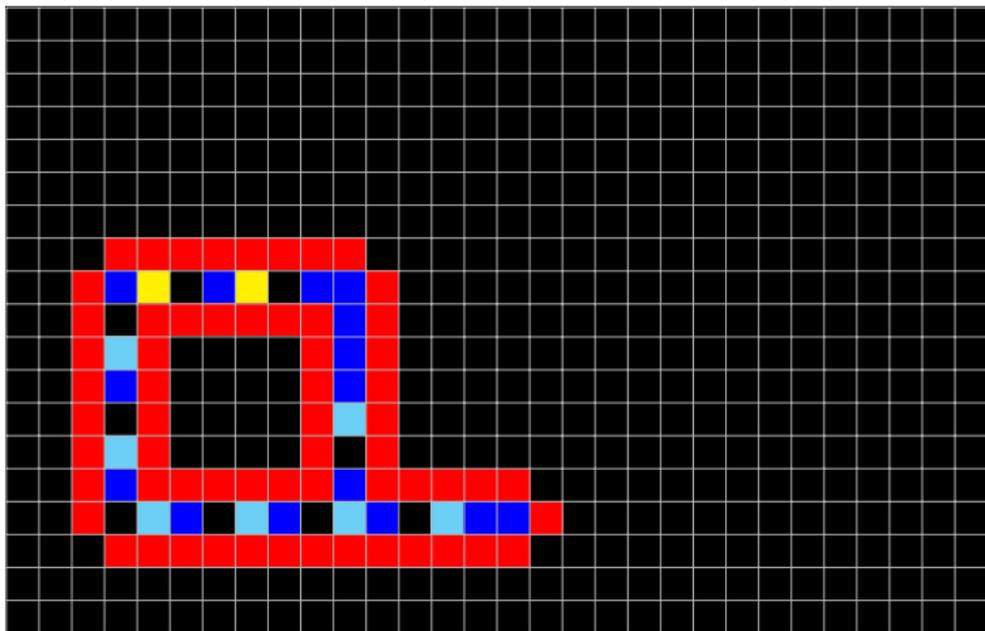
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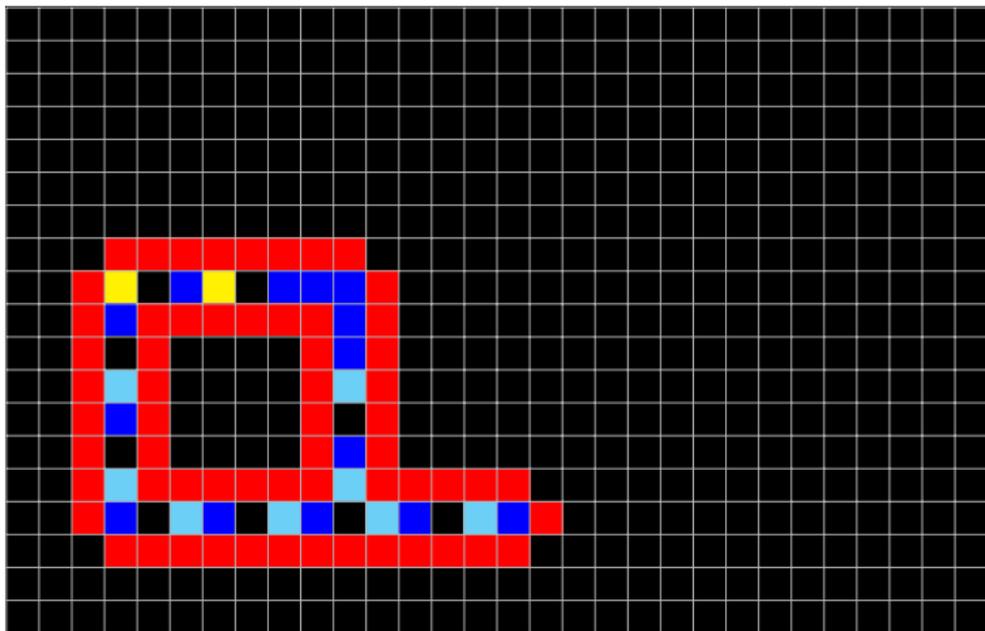
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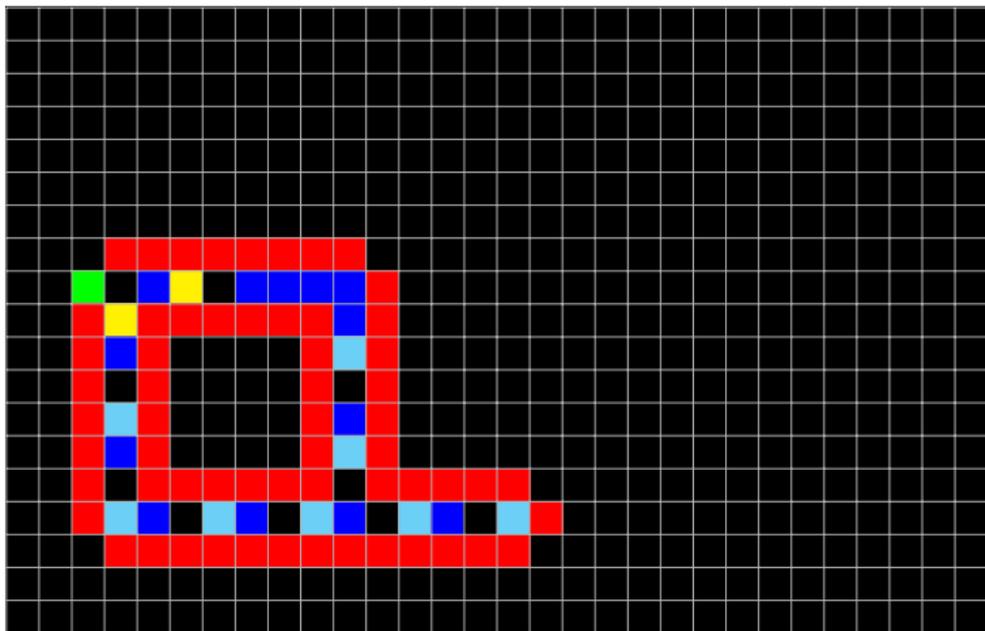
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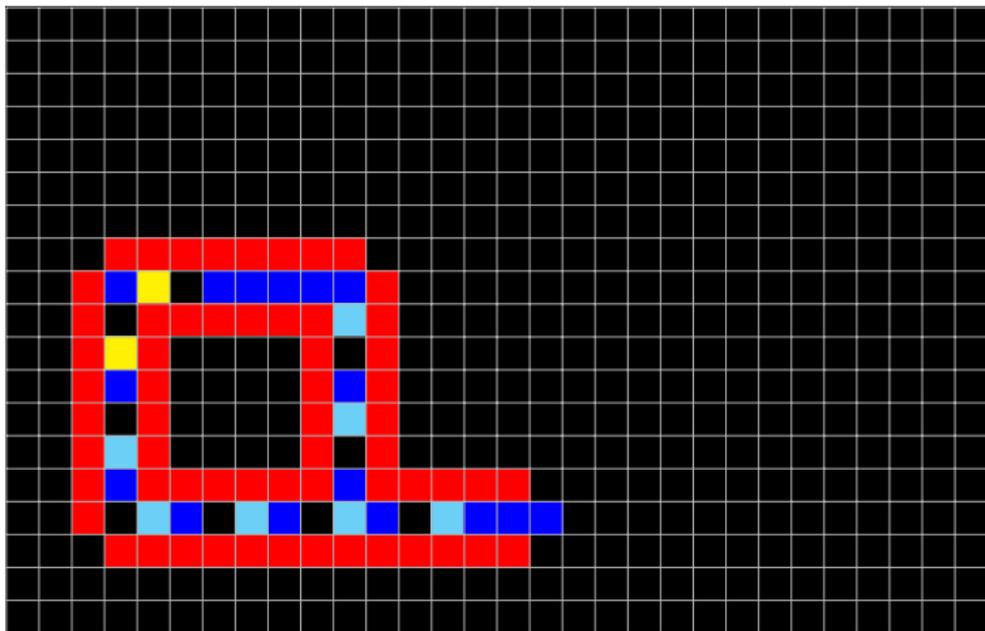
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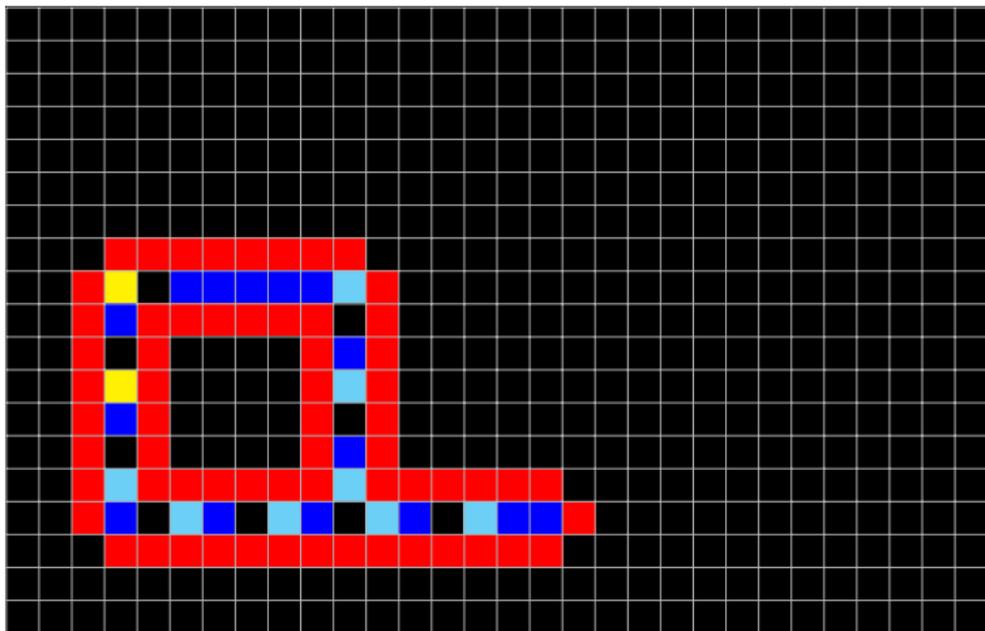
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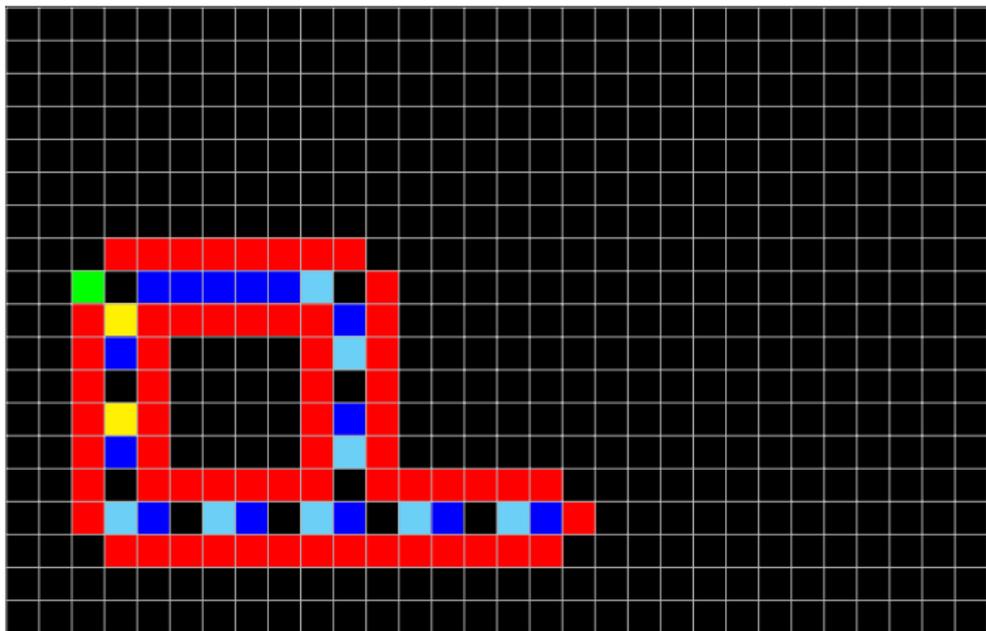
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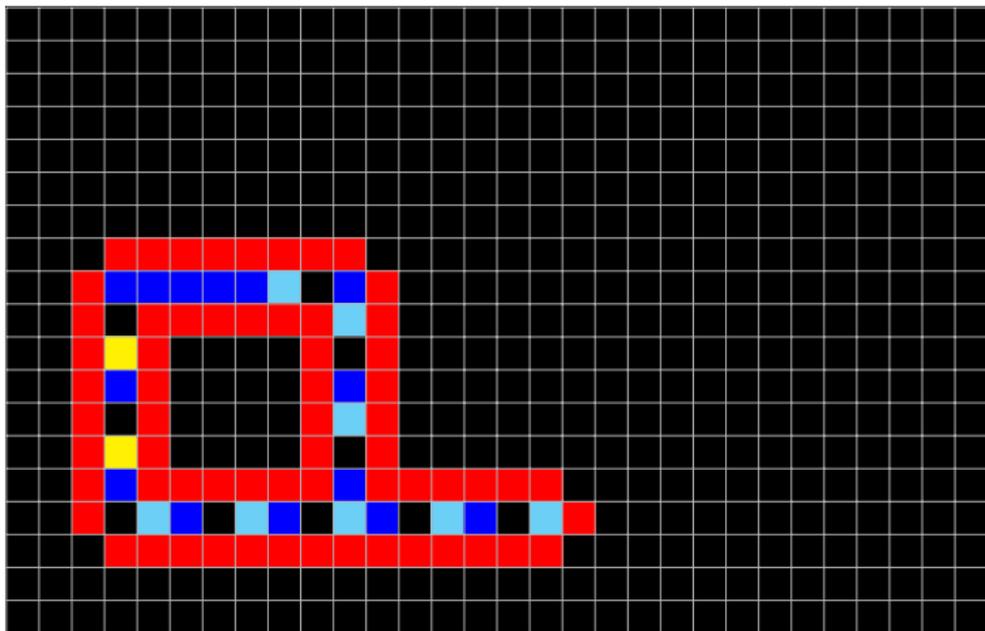
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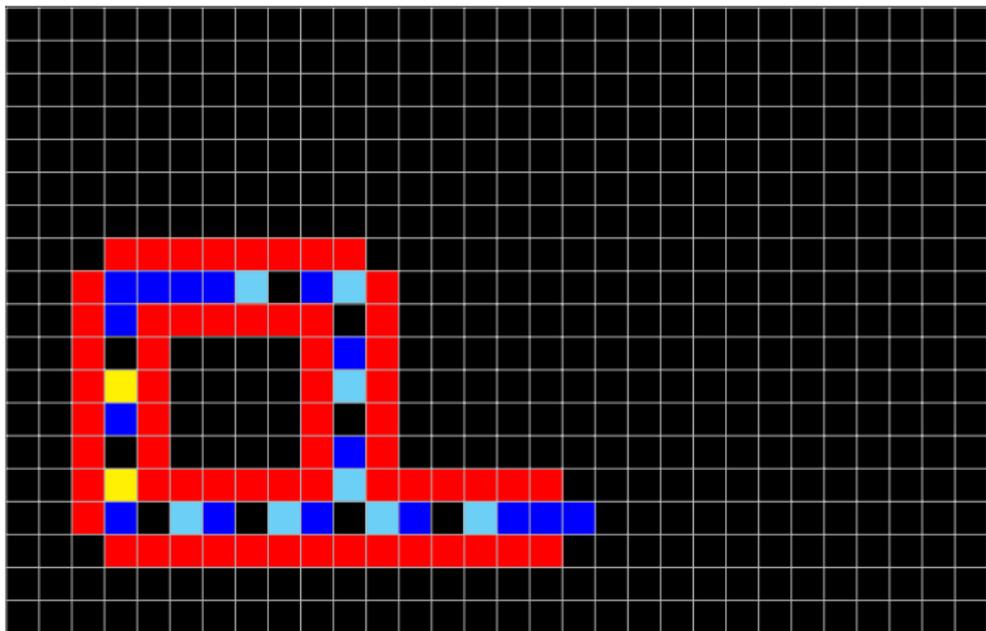
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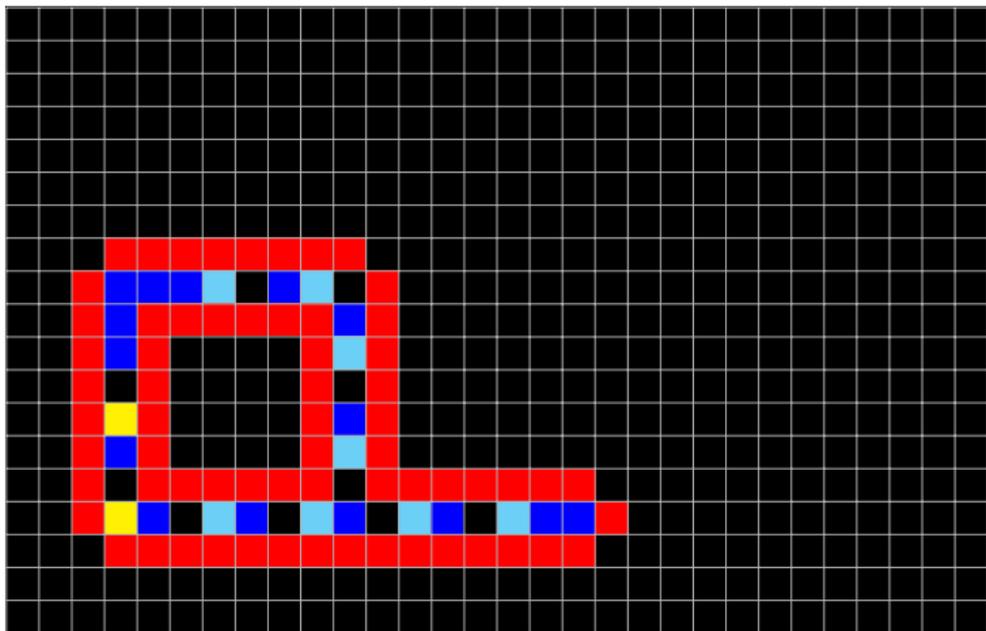
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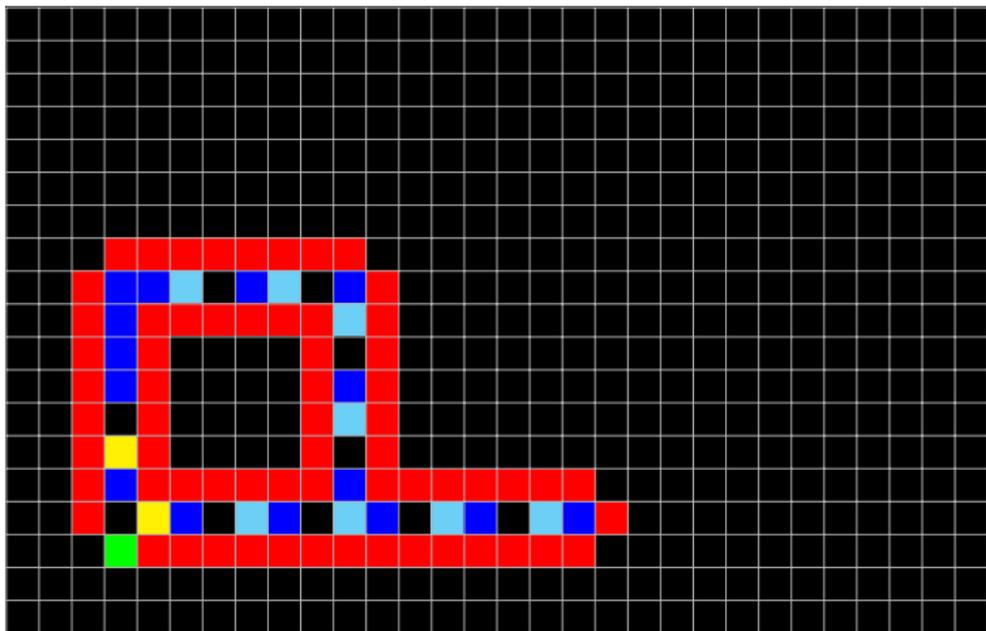
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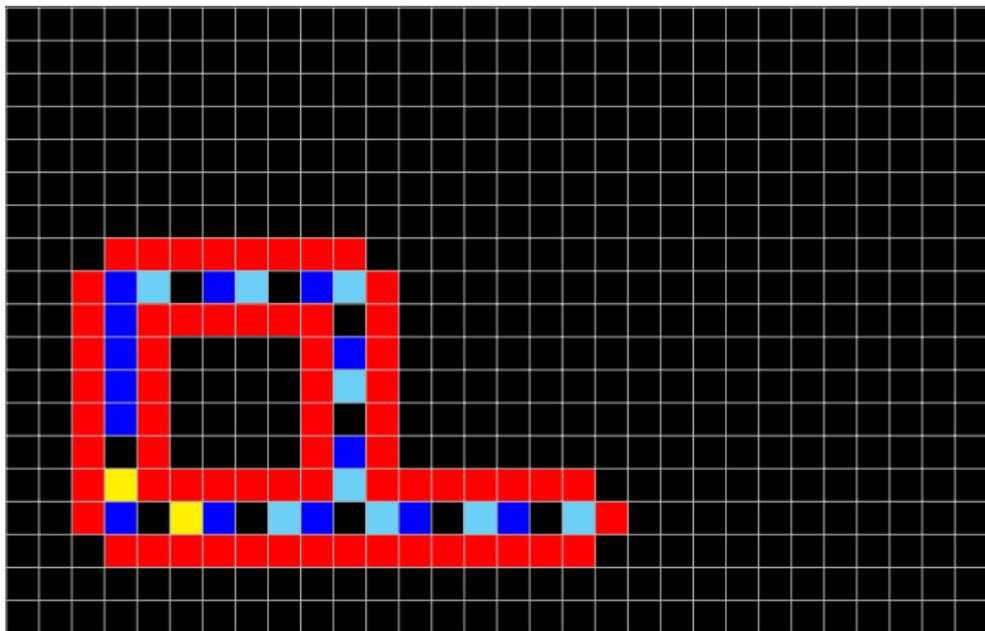
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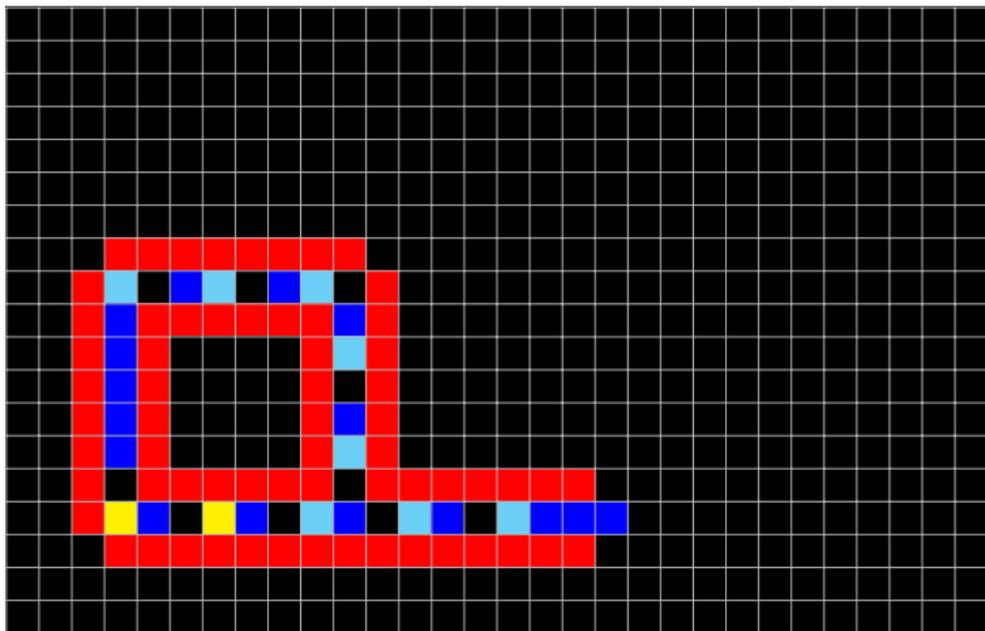
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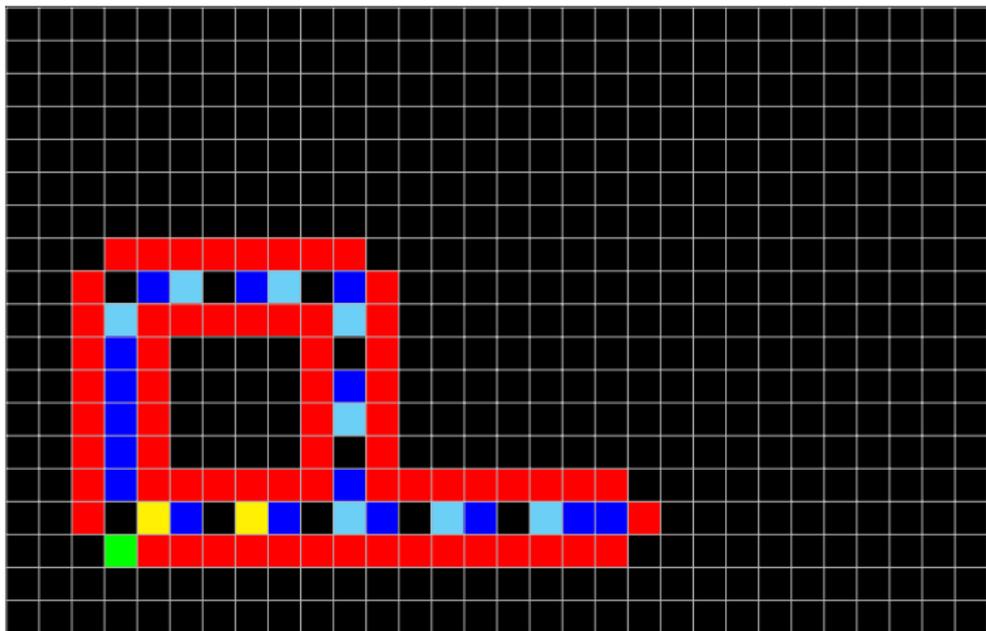
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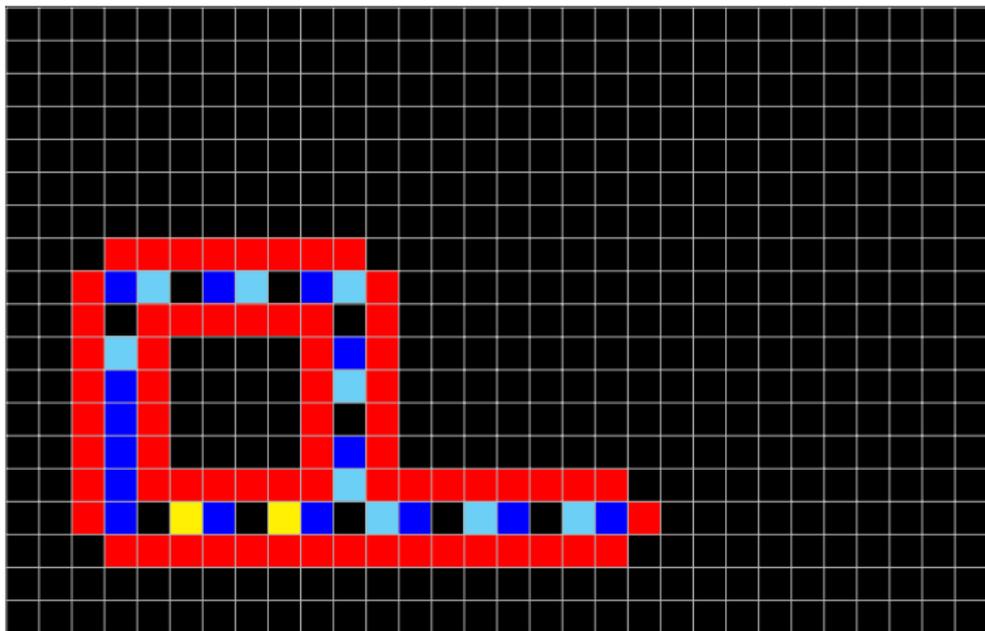
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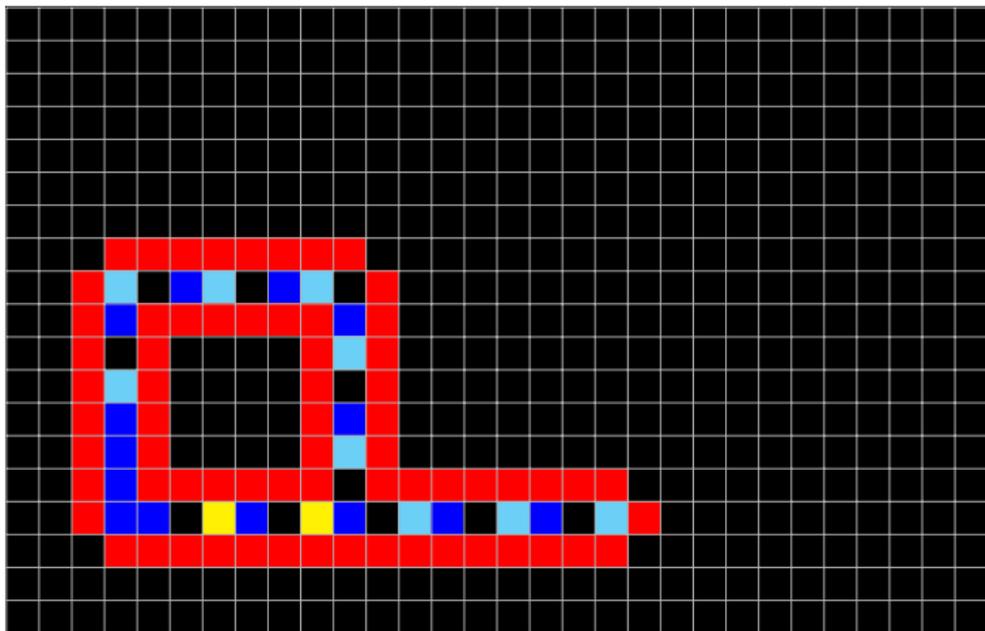
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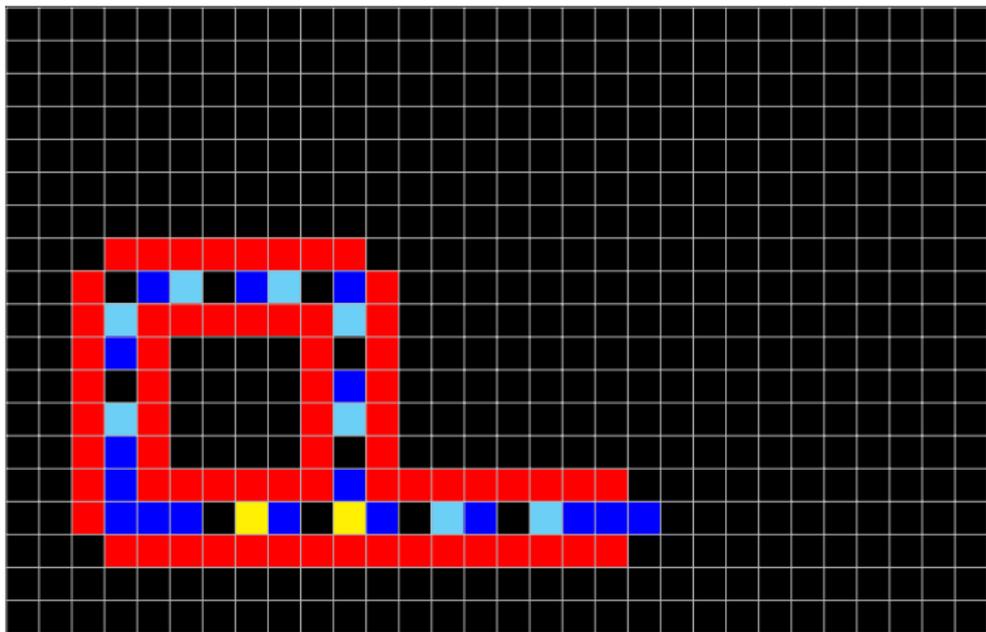
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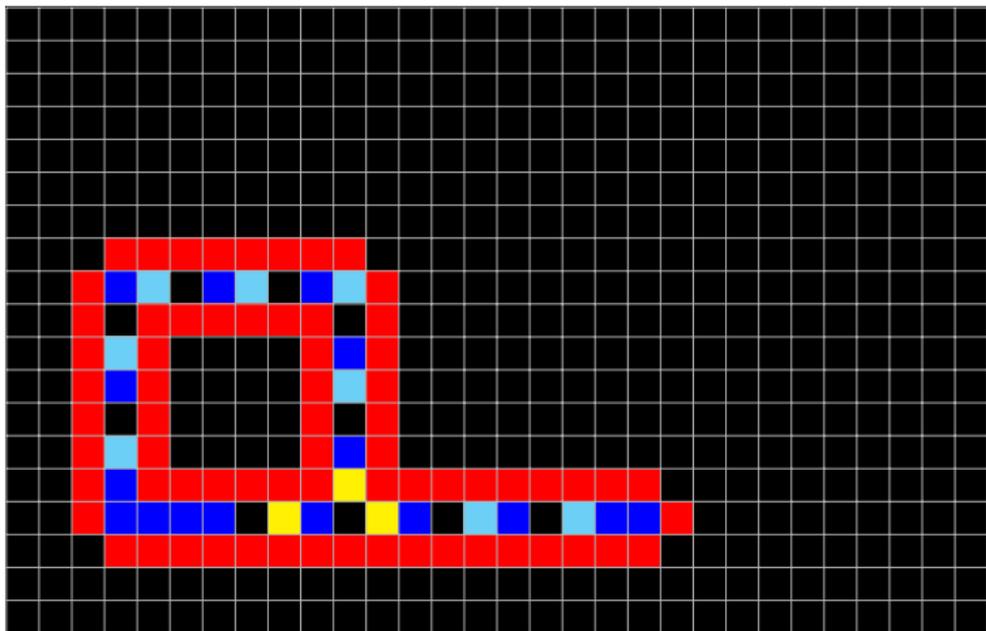
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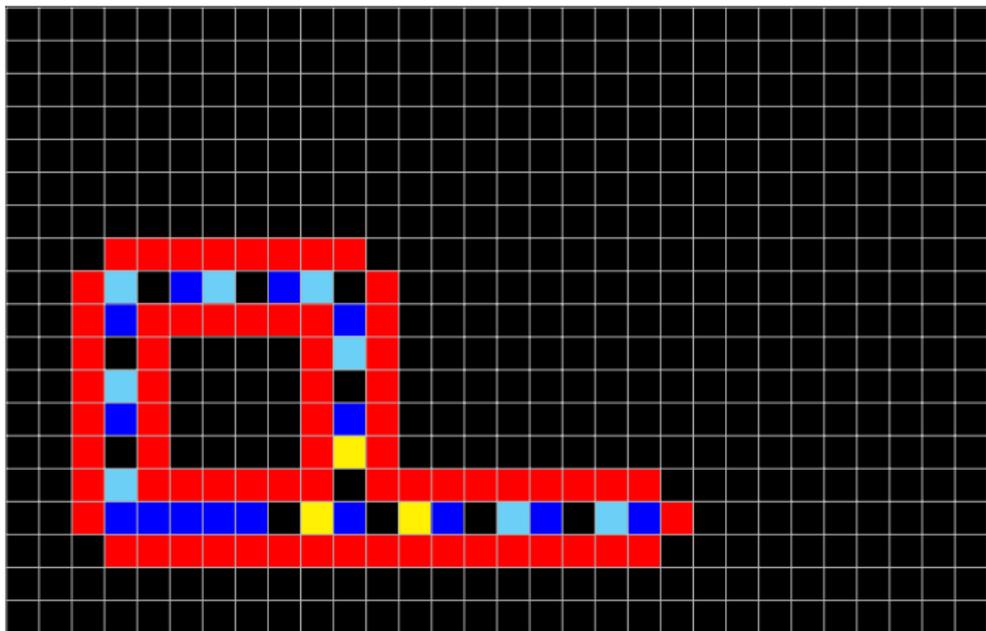
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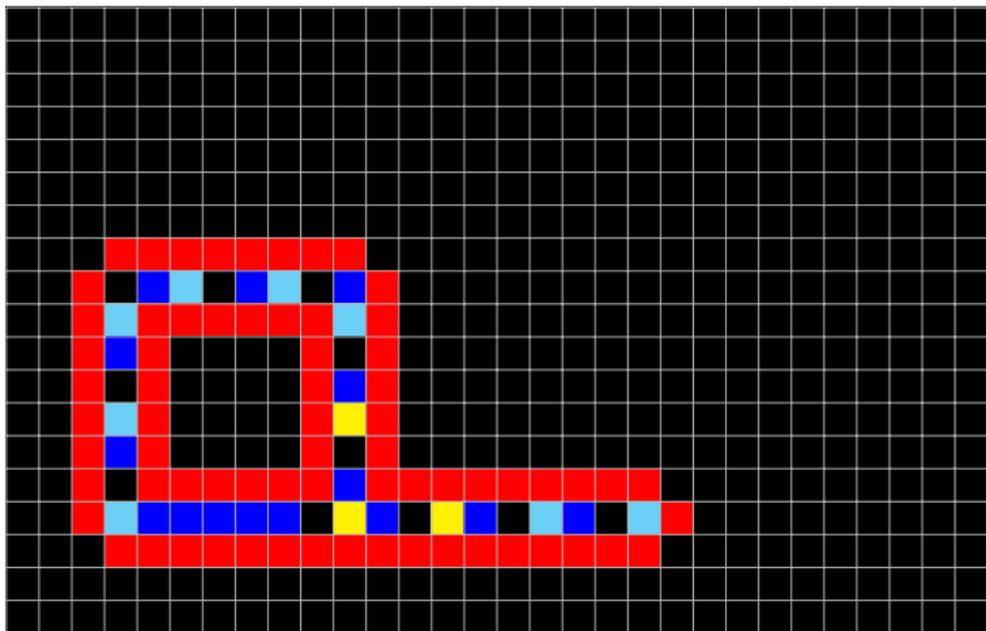
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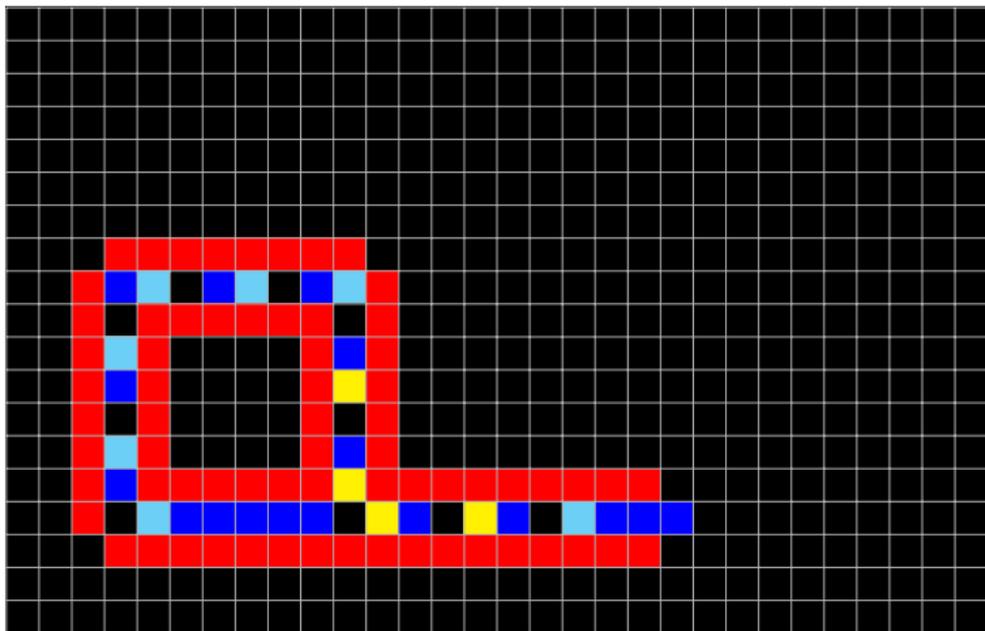
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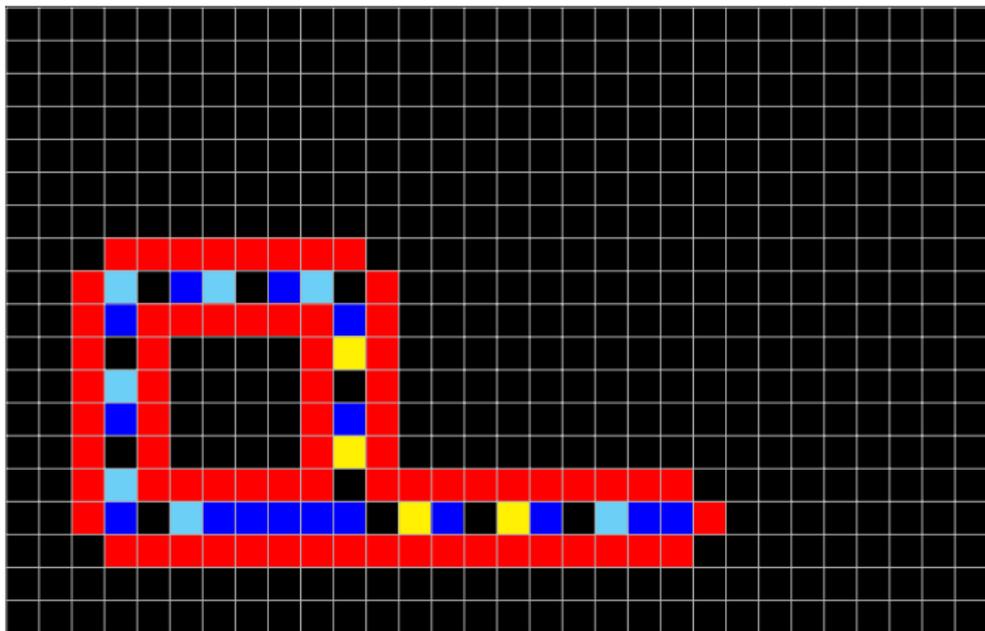
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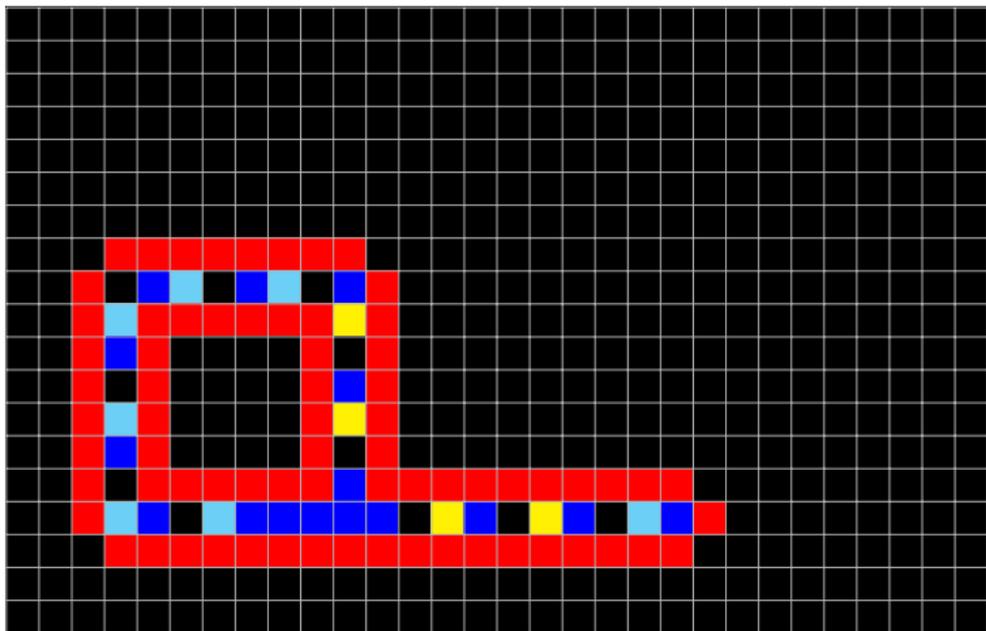
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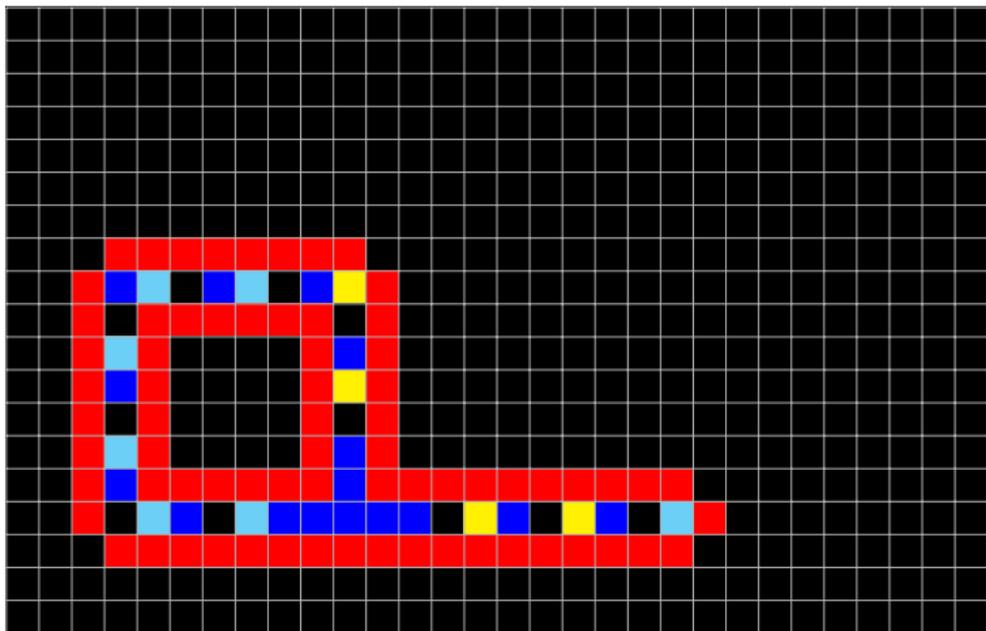
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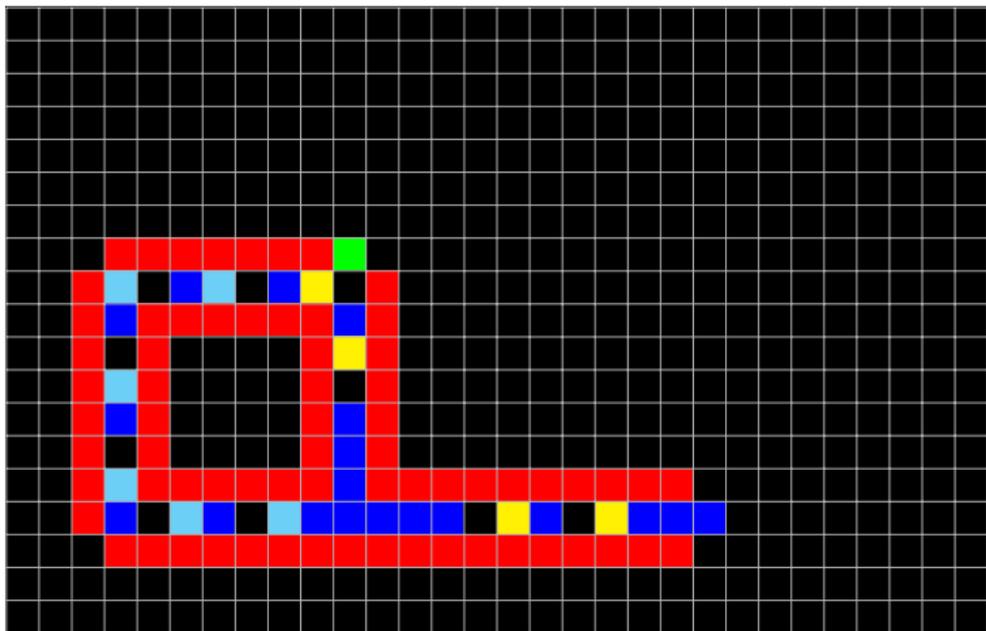
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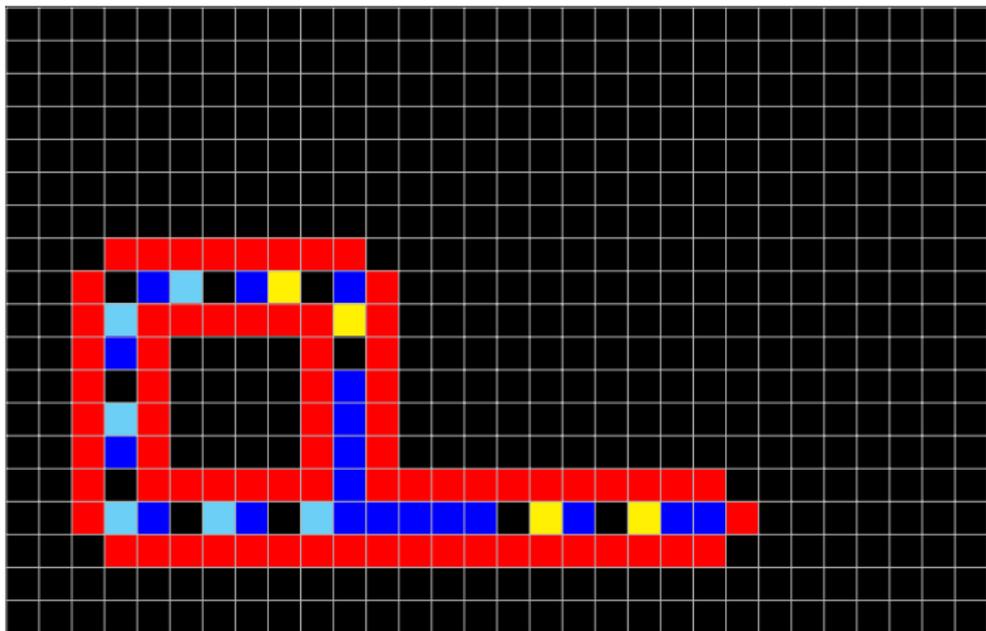
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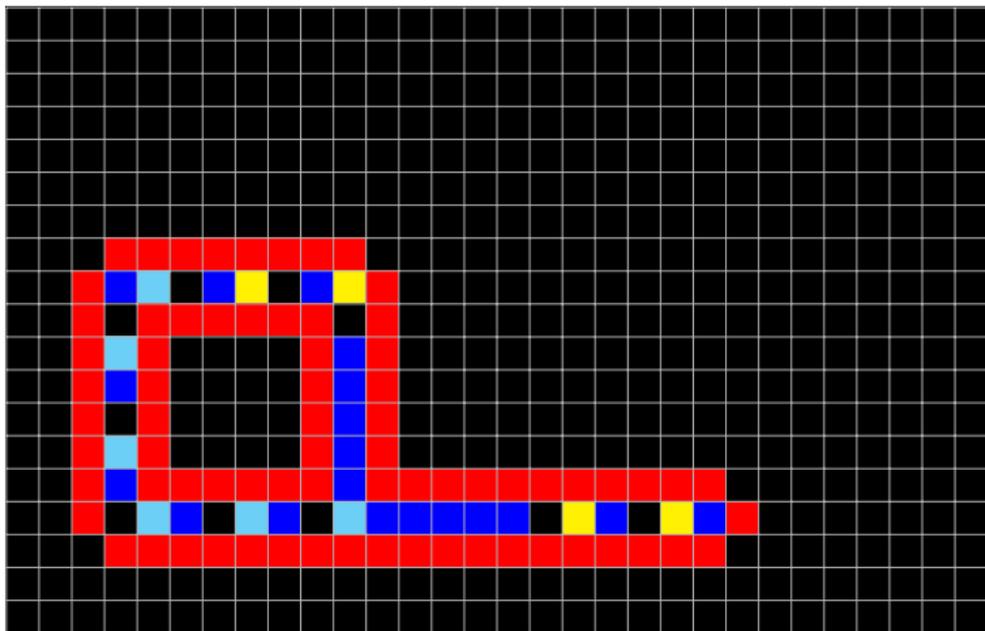
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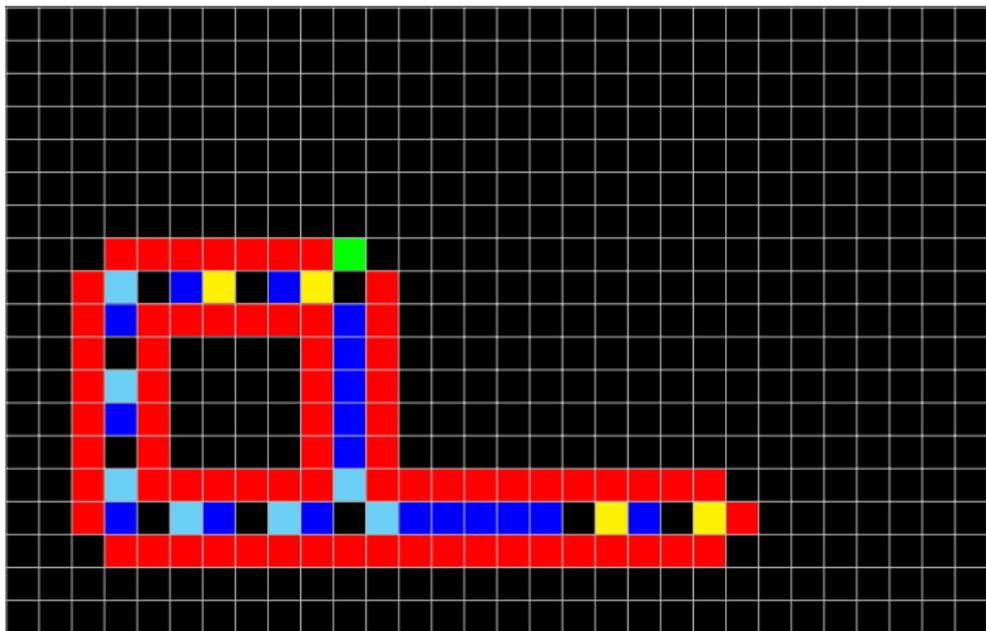
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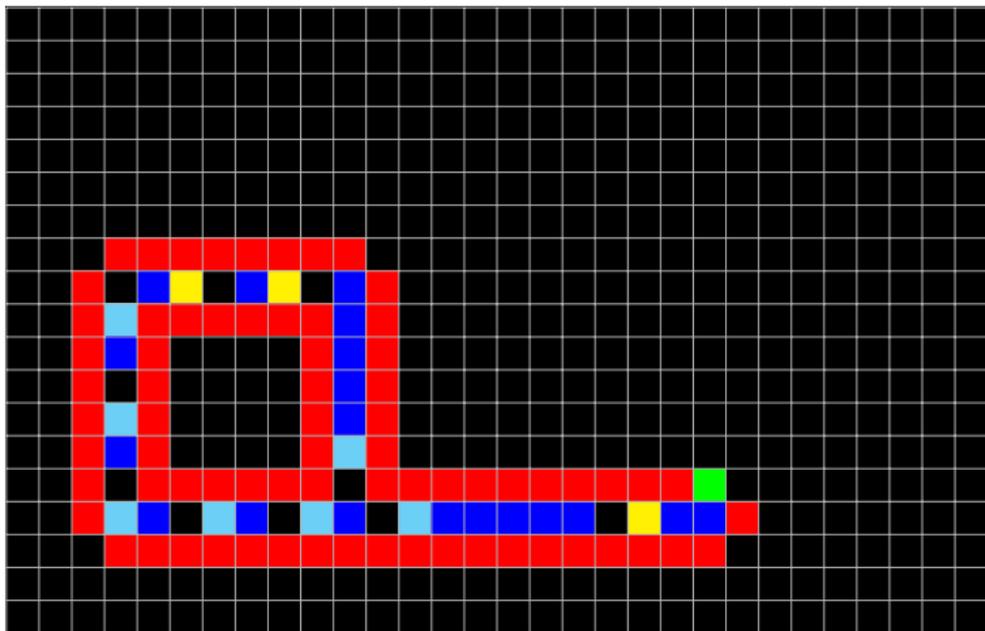
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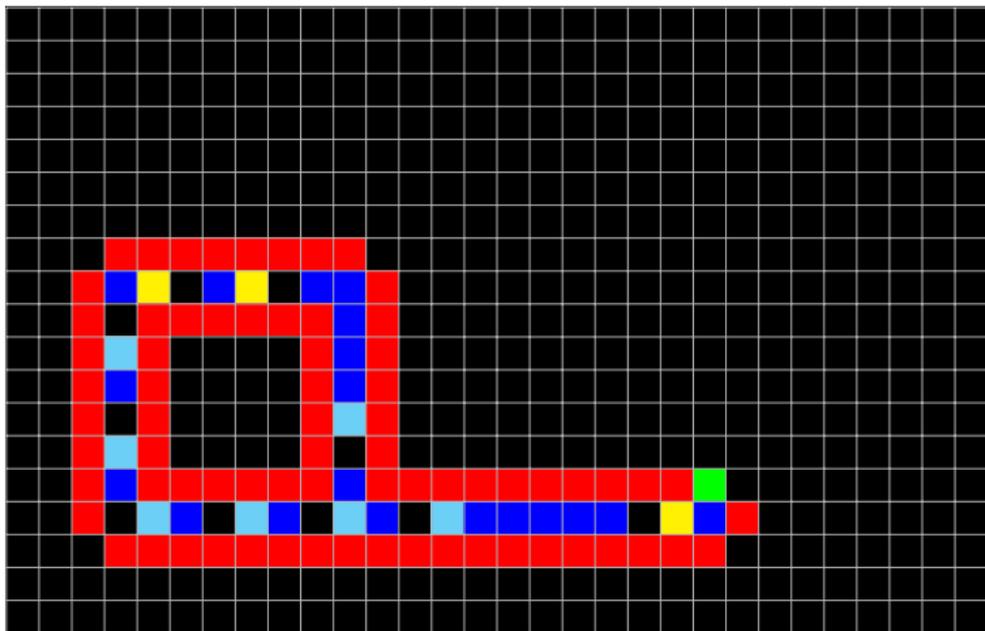
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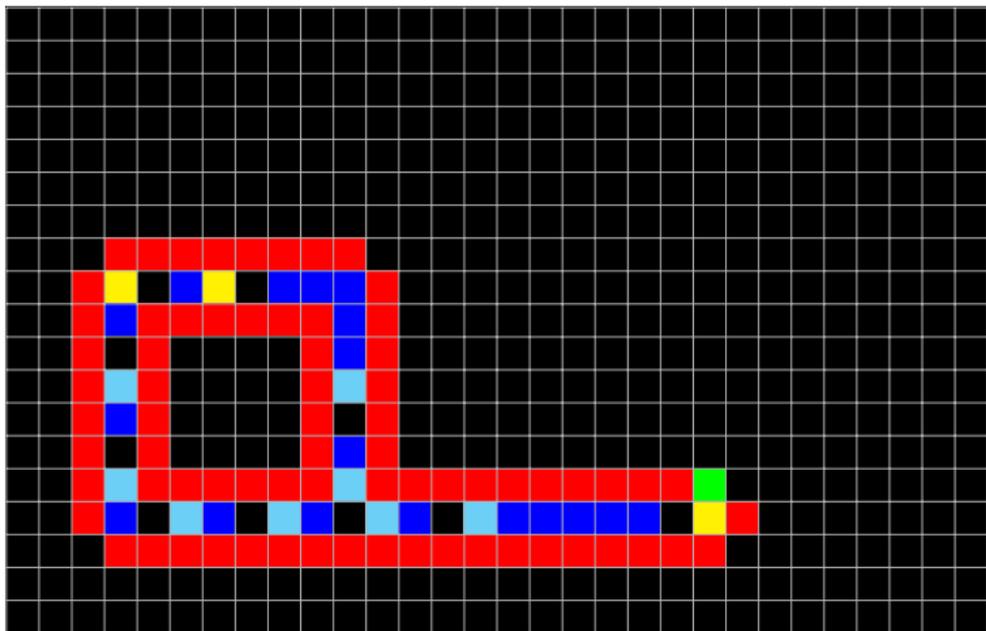
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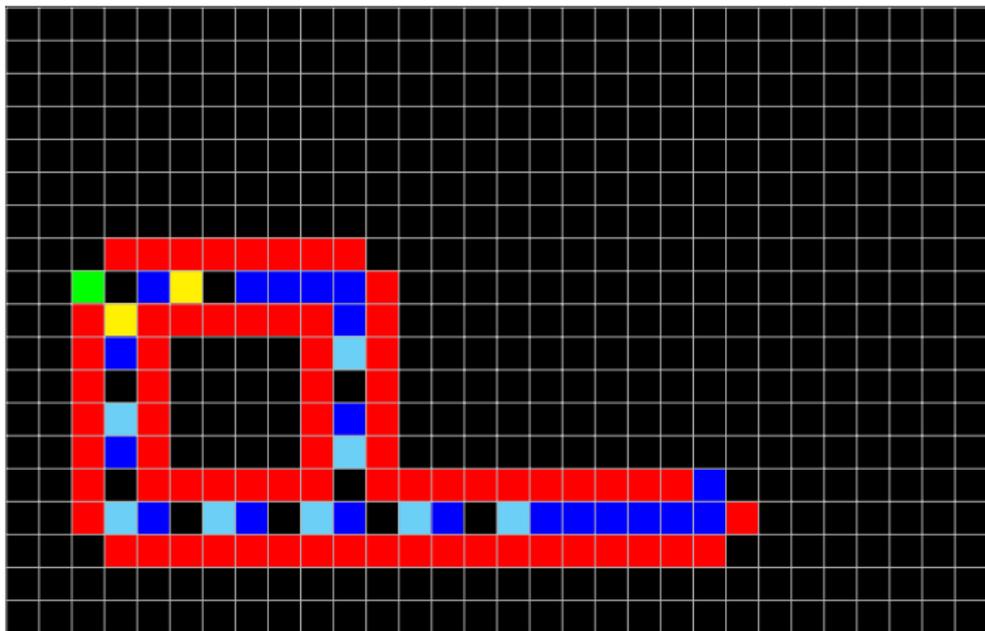
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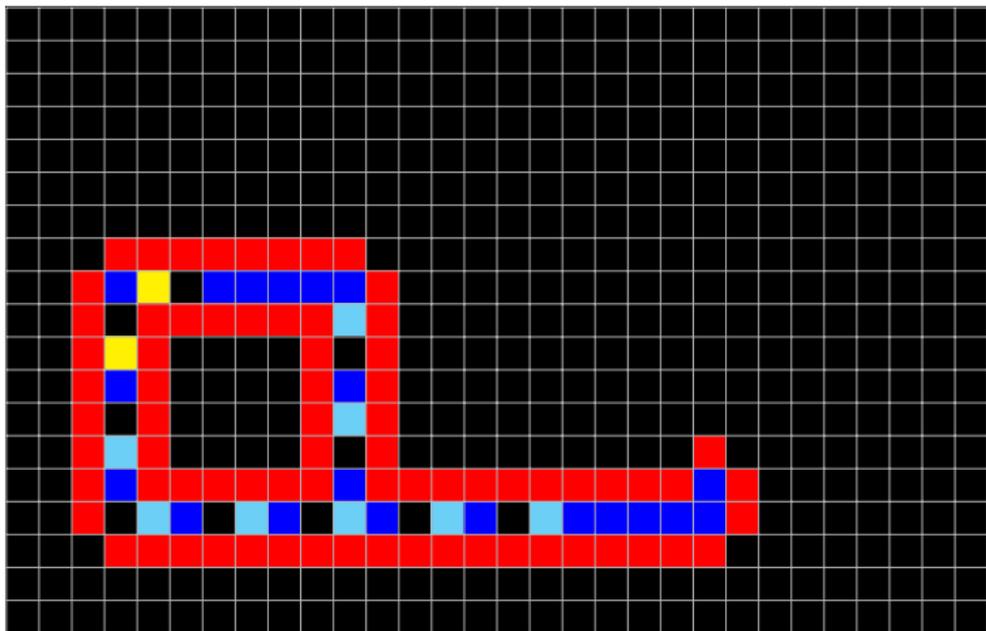
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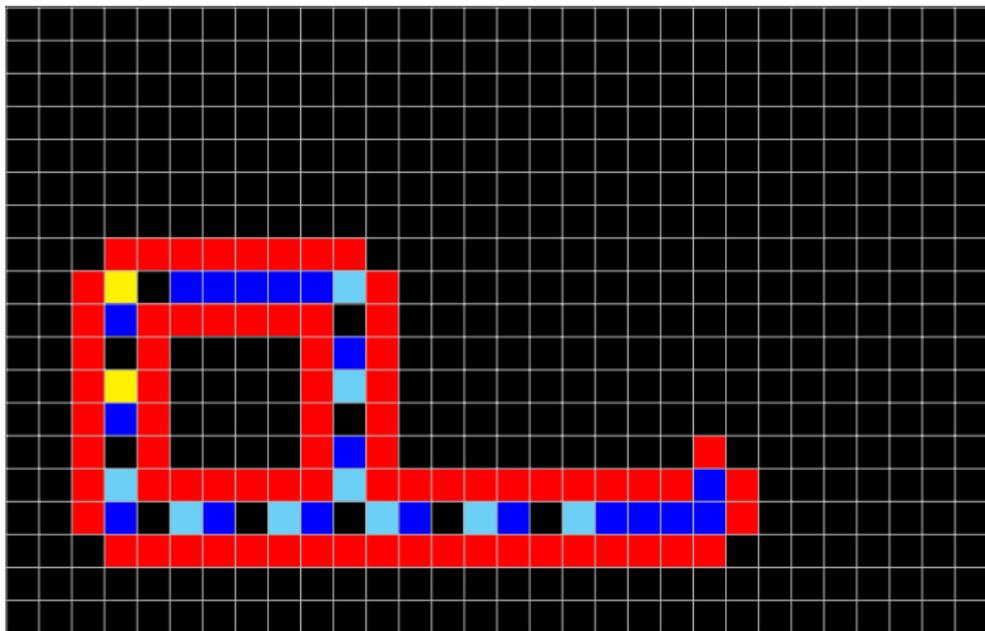
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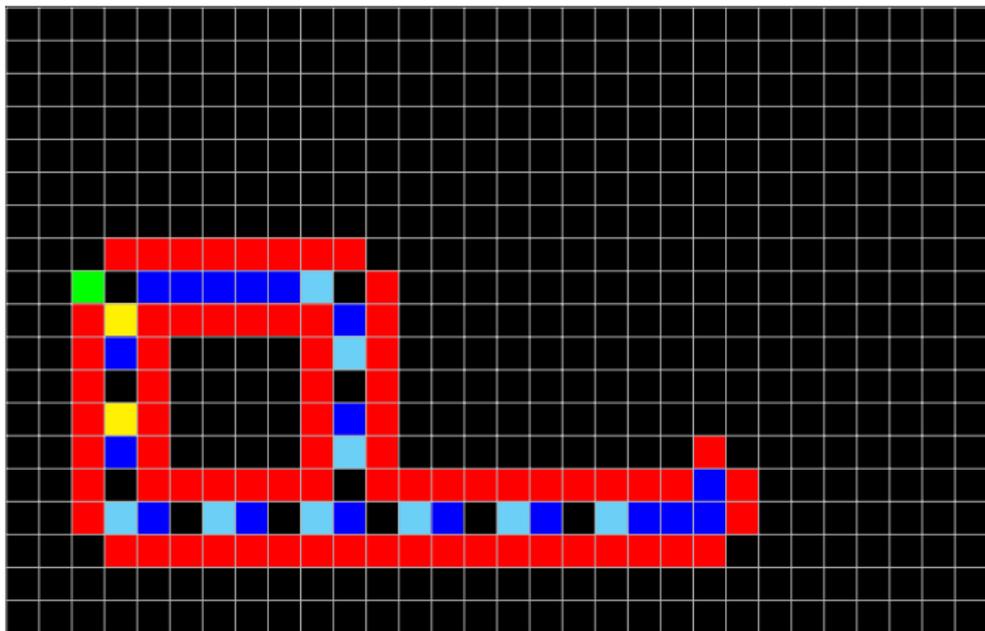
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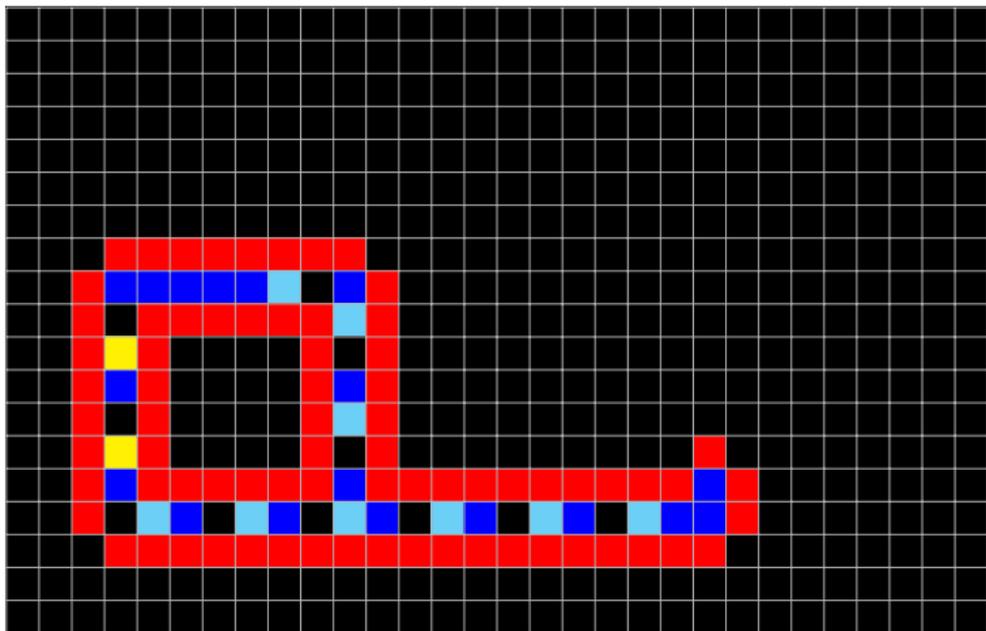
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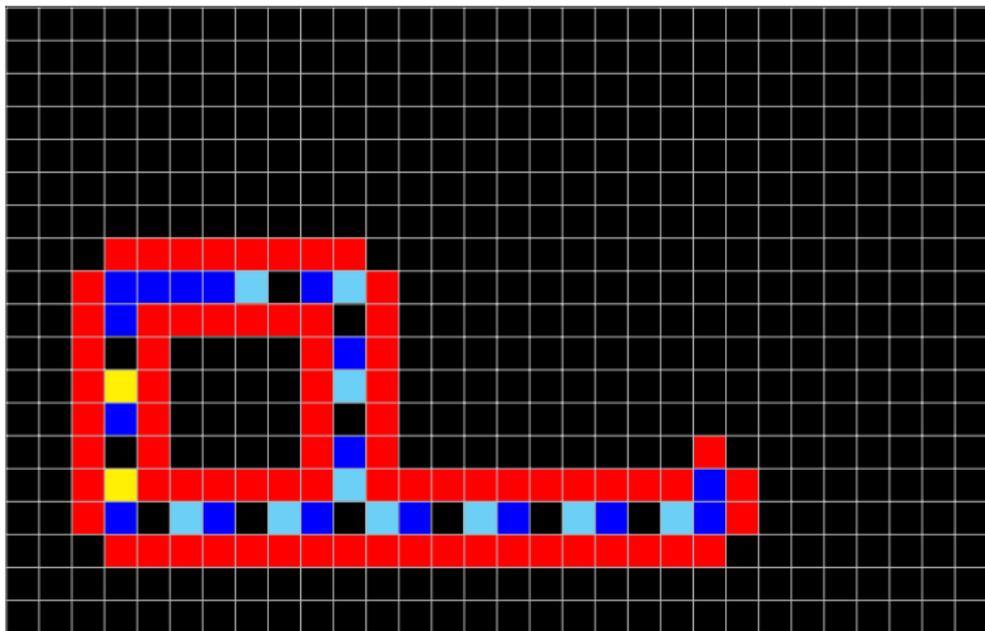
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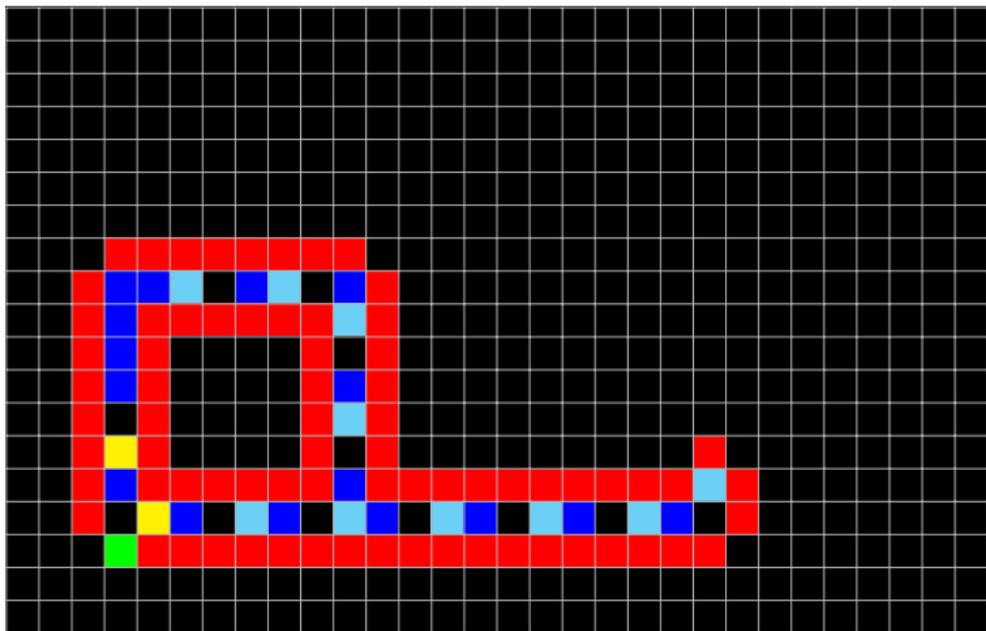
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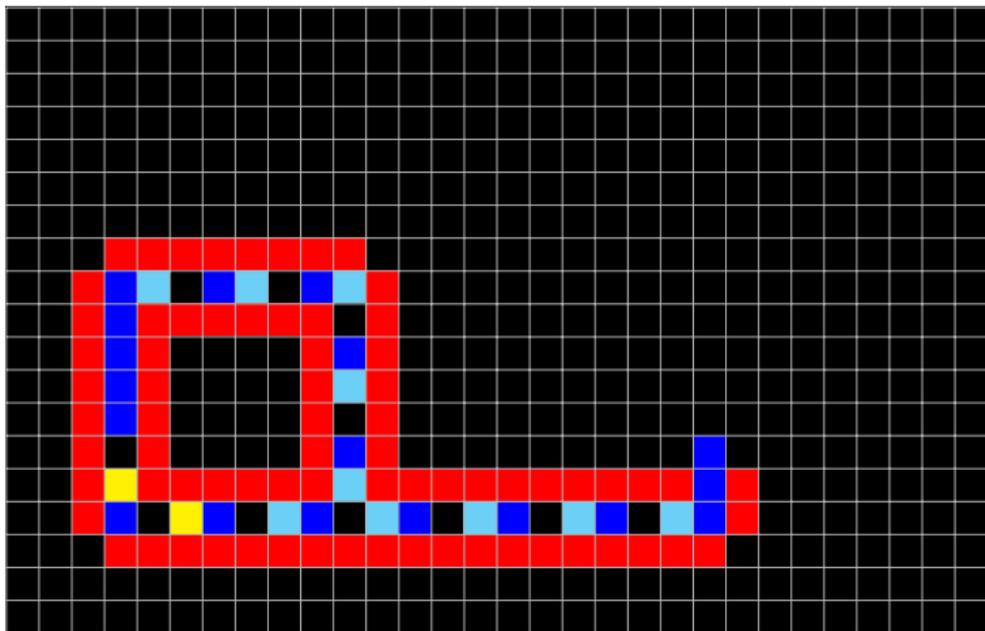
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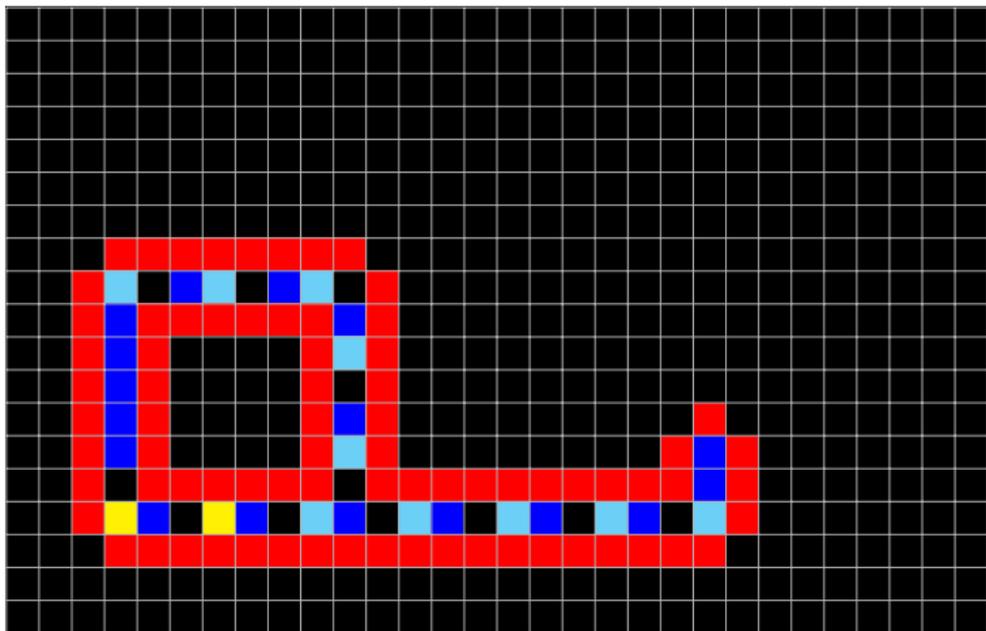
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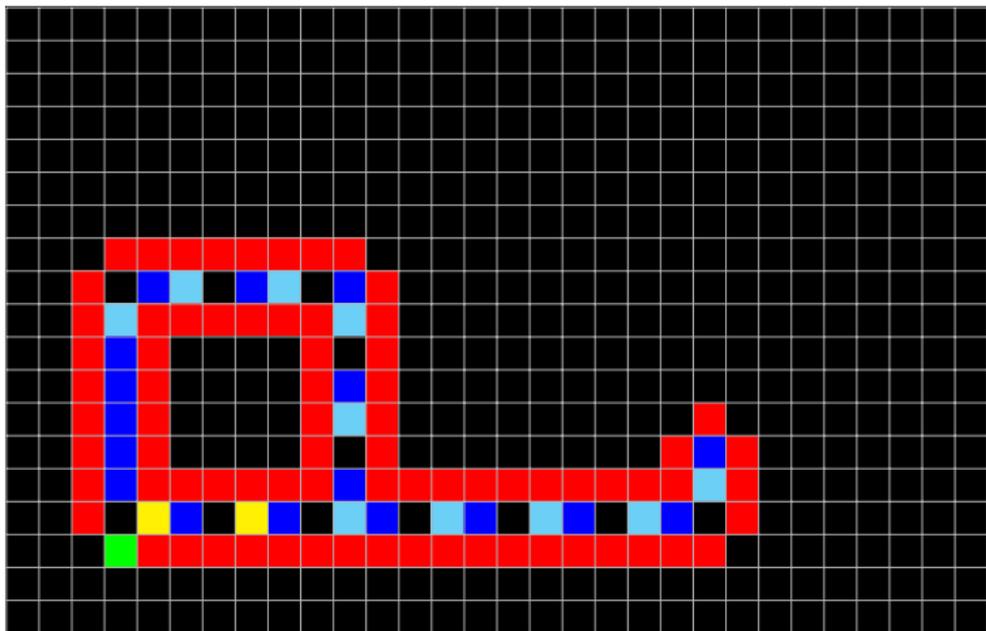
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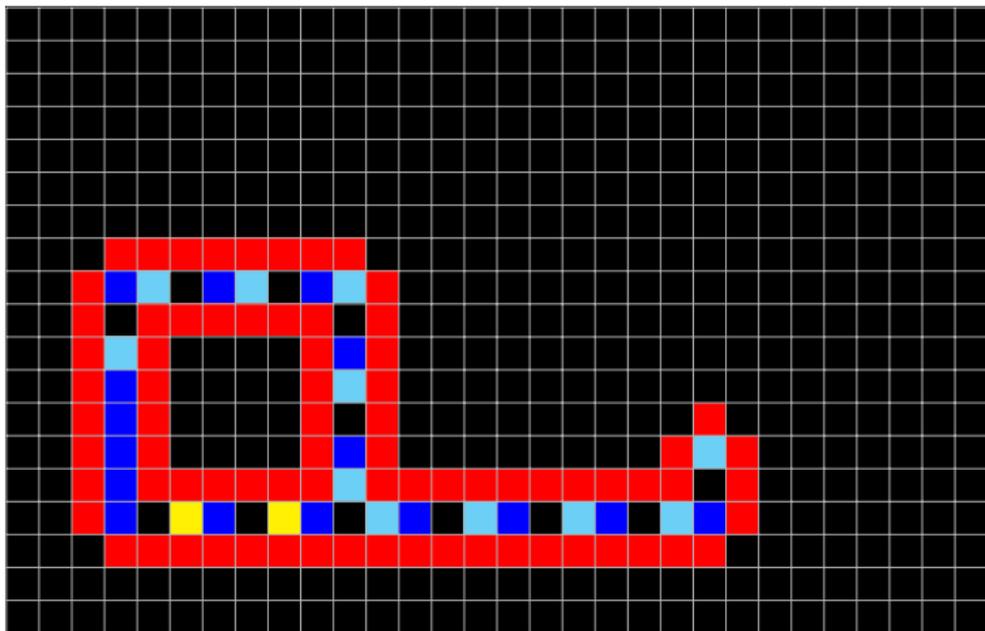
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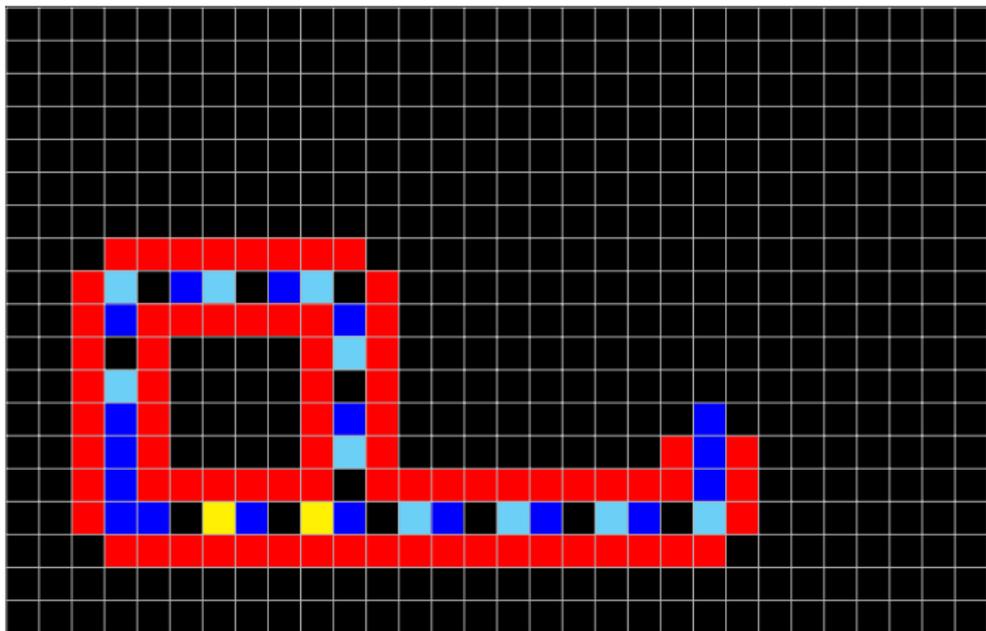
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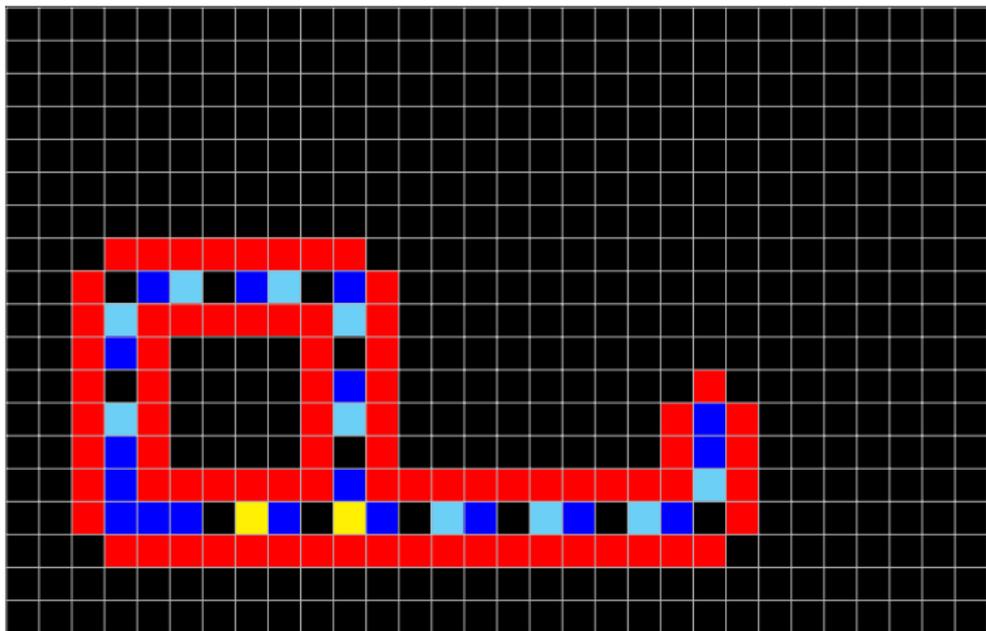
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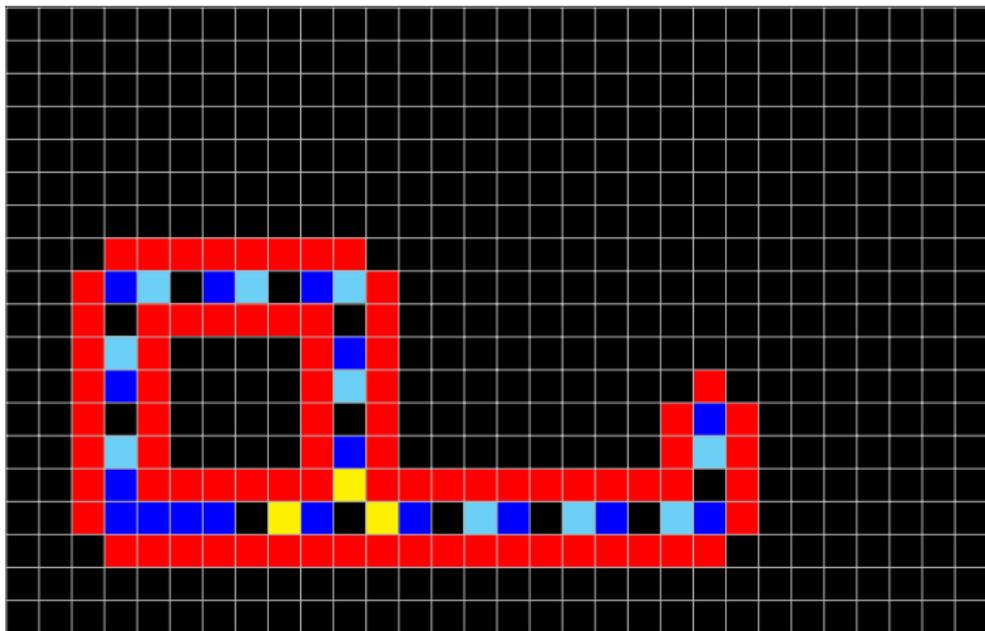
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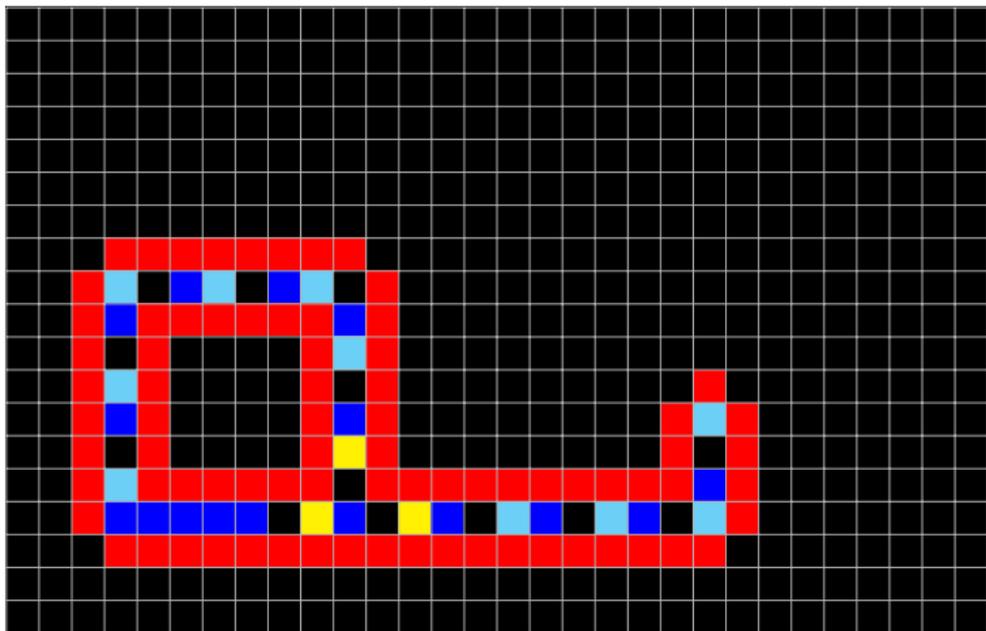
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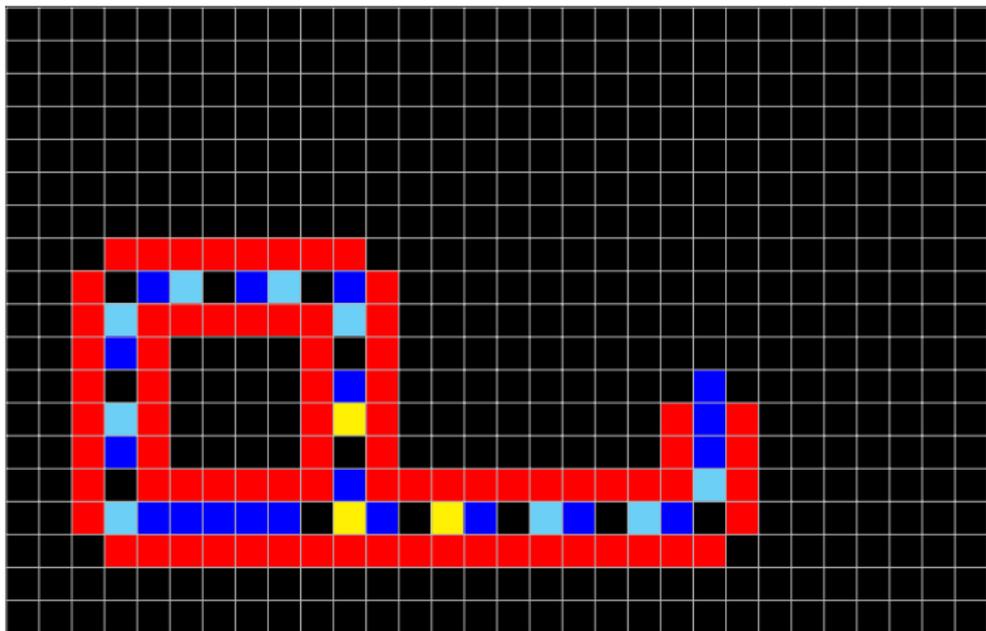
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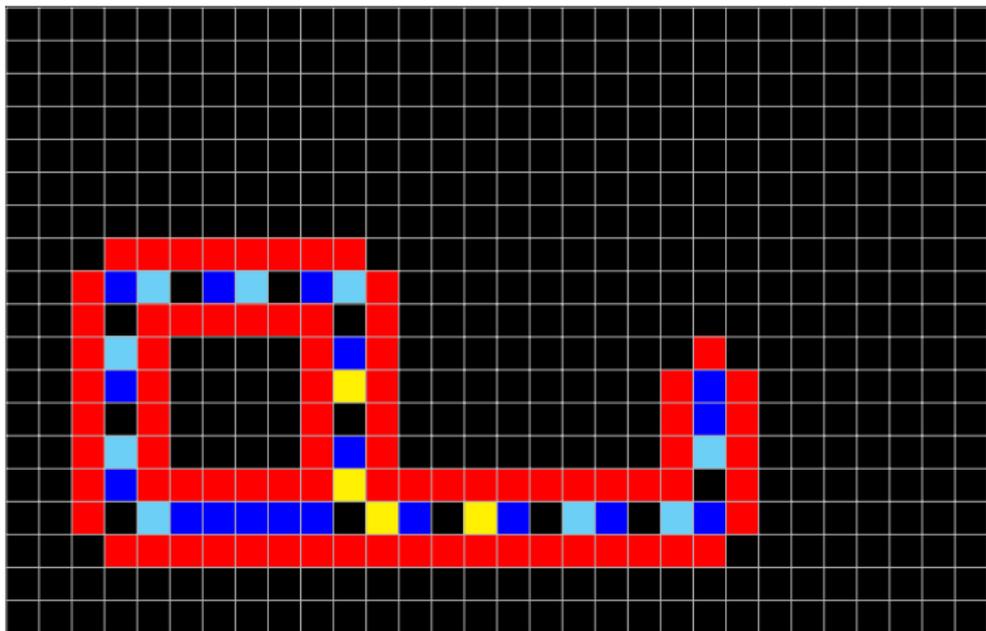
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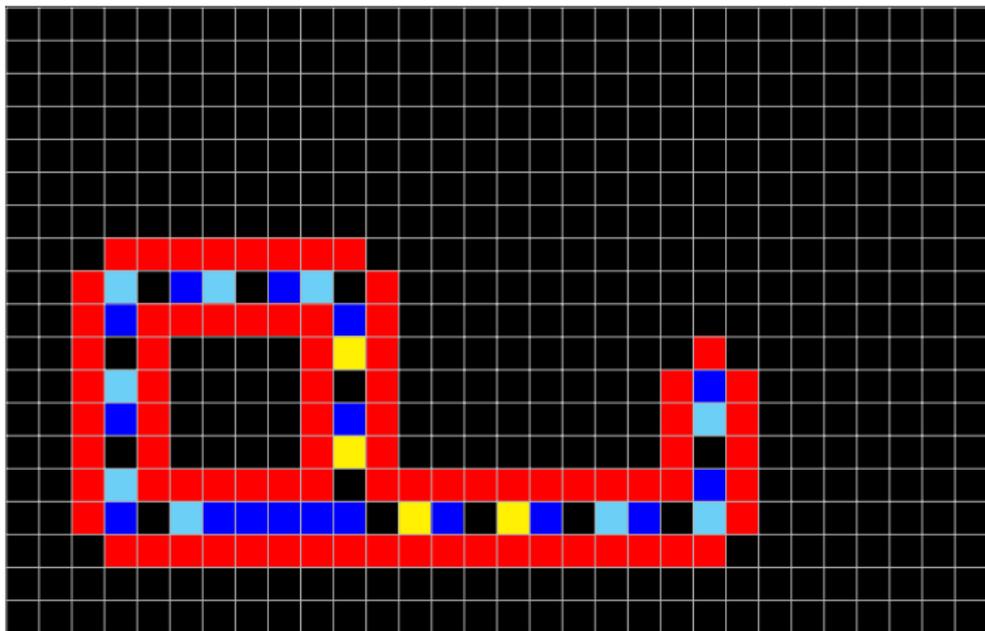
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Langton modifies Codd rule to permit **non universal rotation invariant** self-reproduction by 86 cells in 151 steps.

(Langton, 1984)

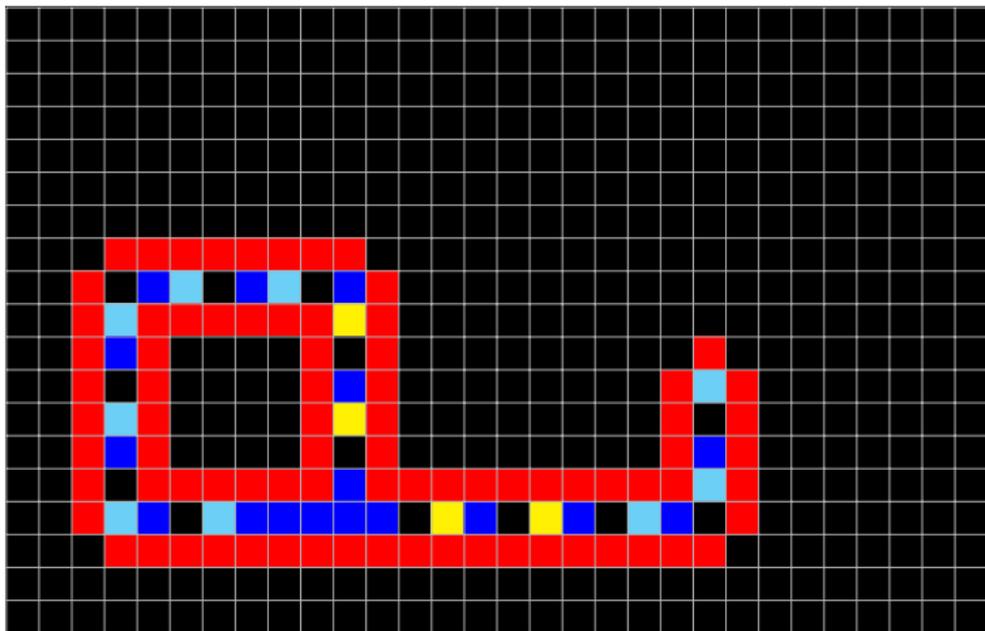
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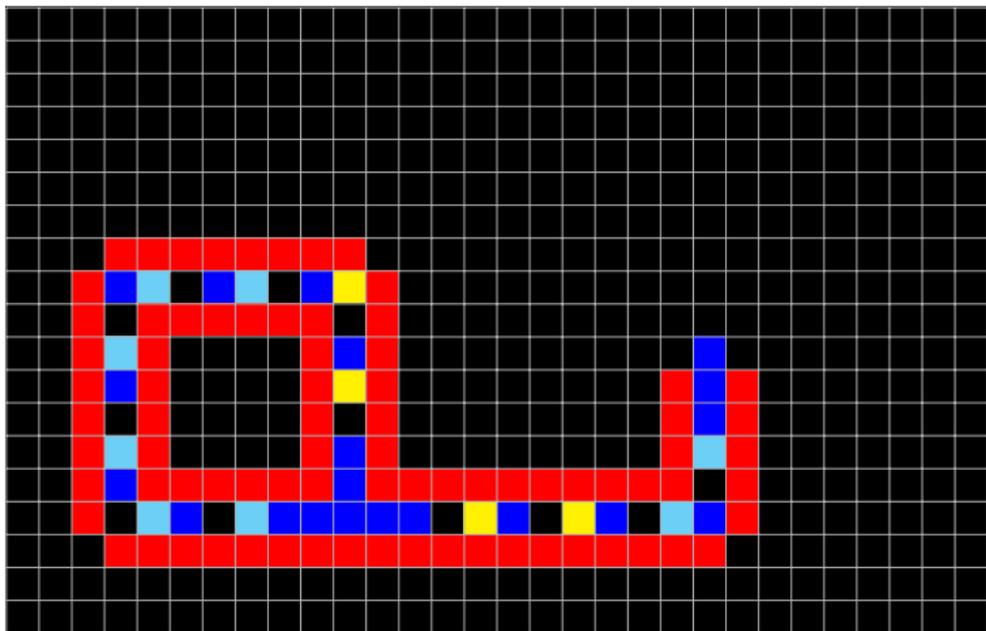
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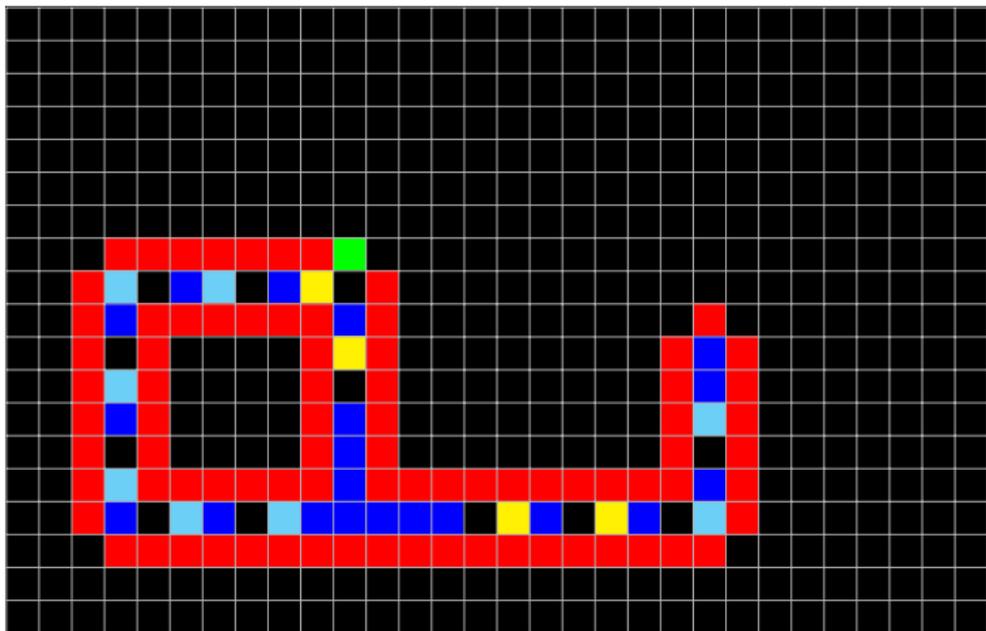
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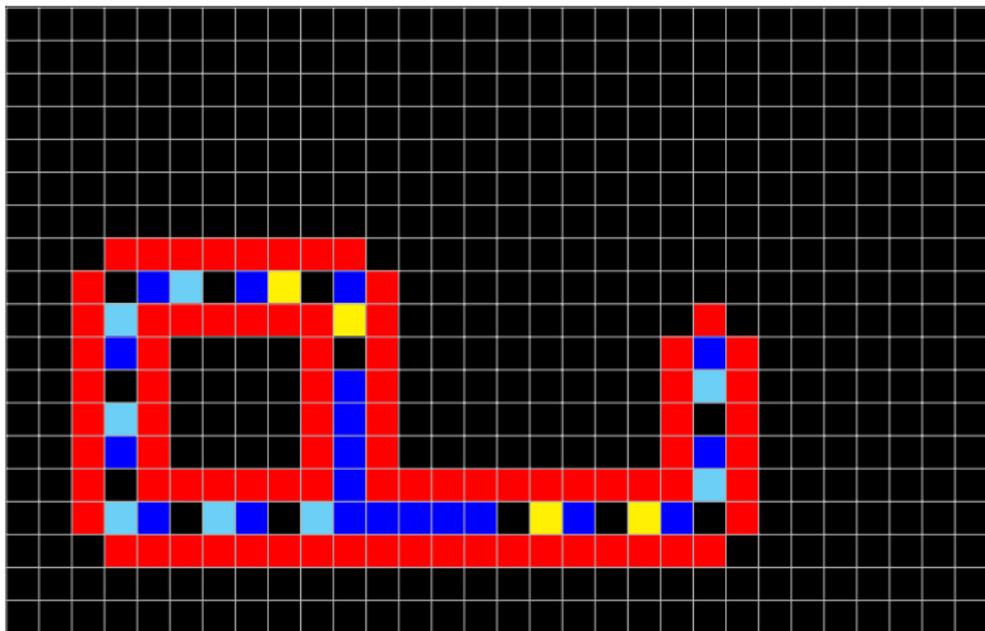
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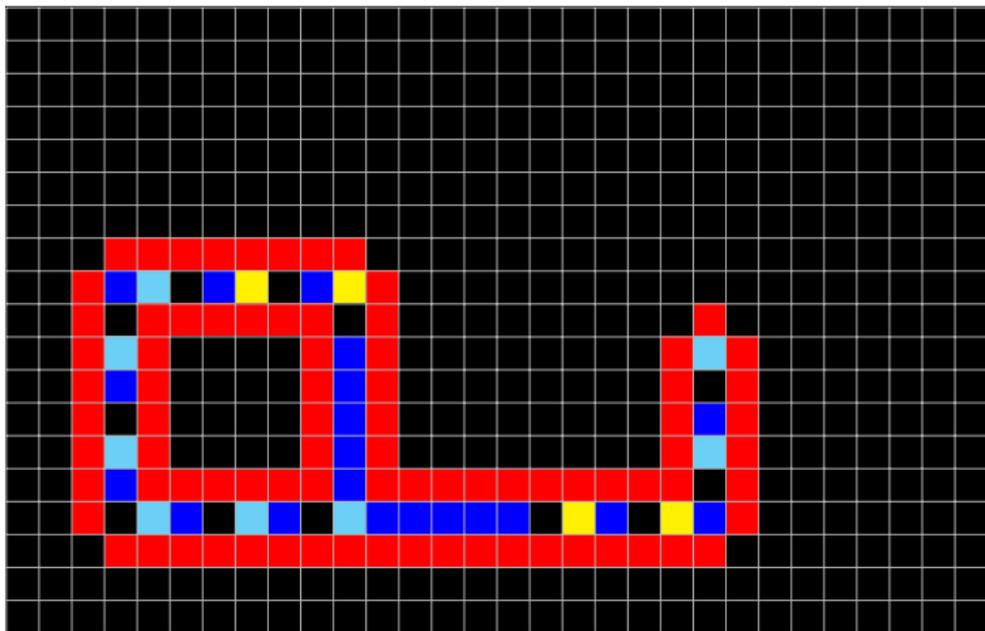
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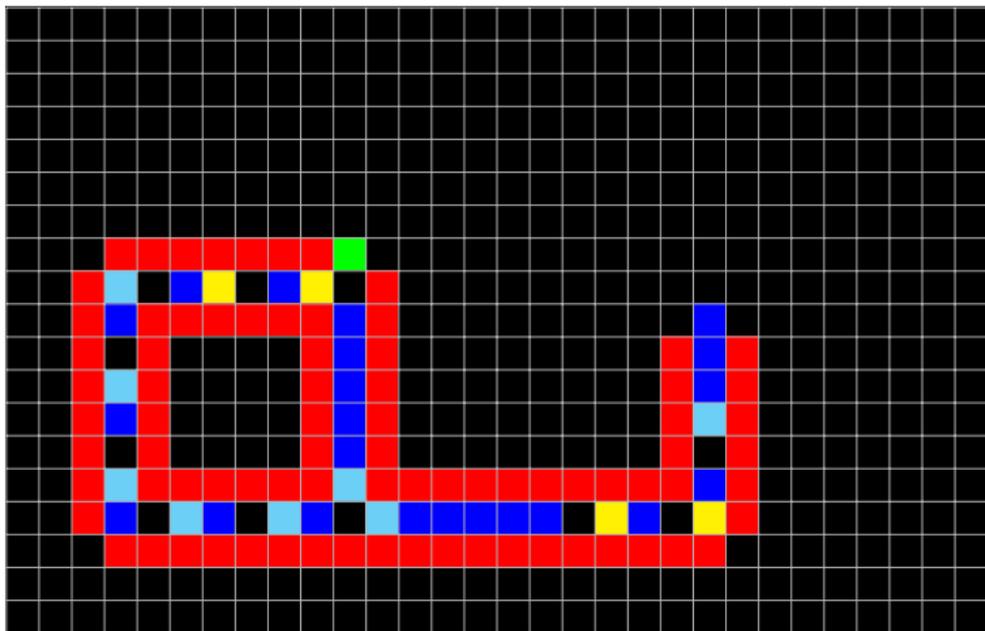
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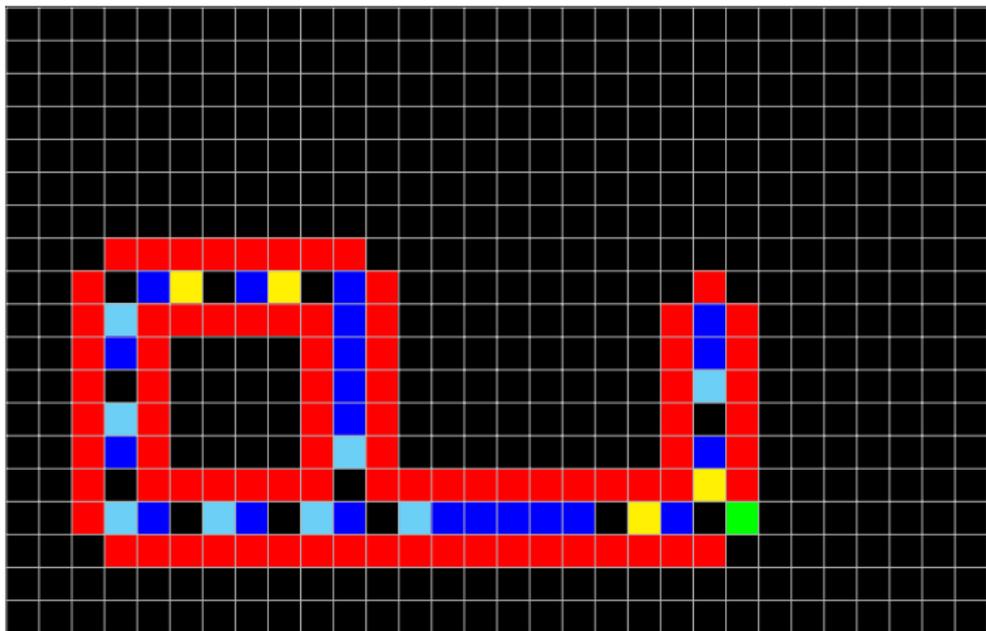
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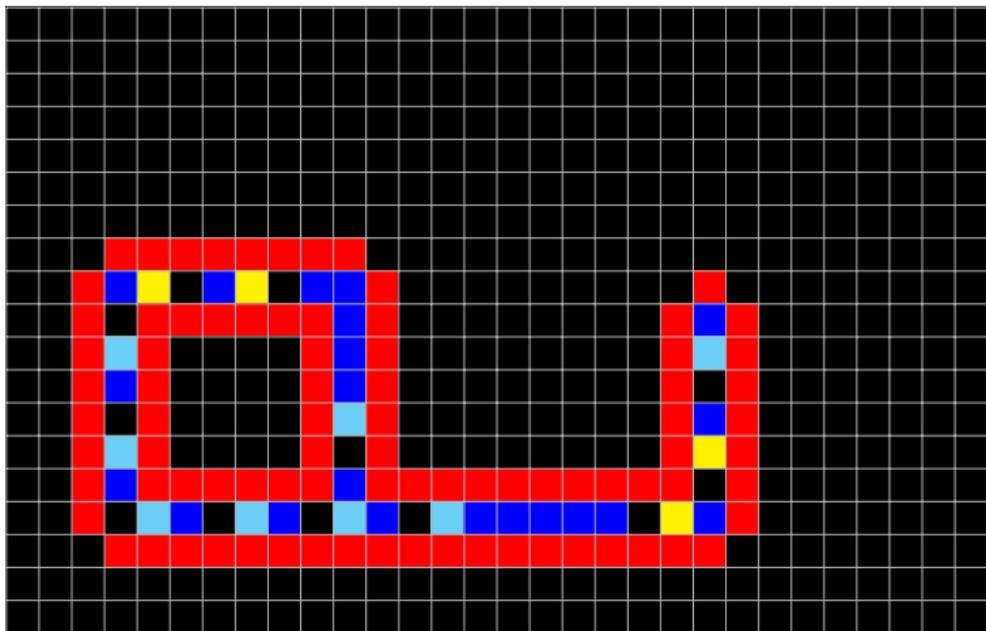
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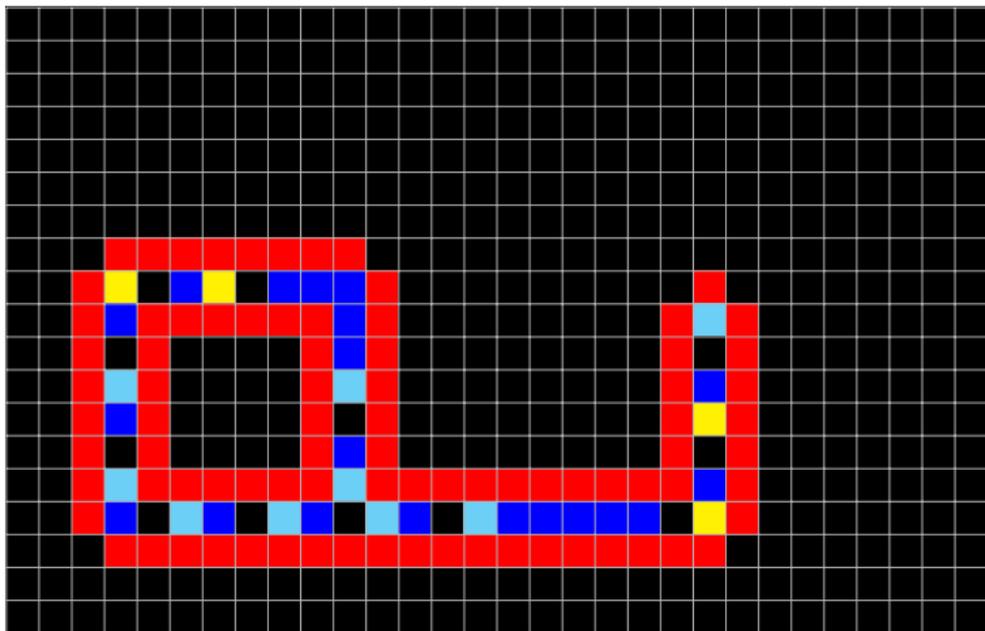
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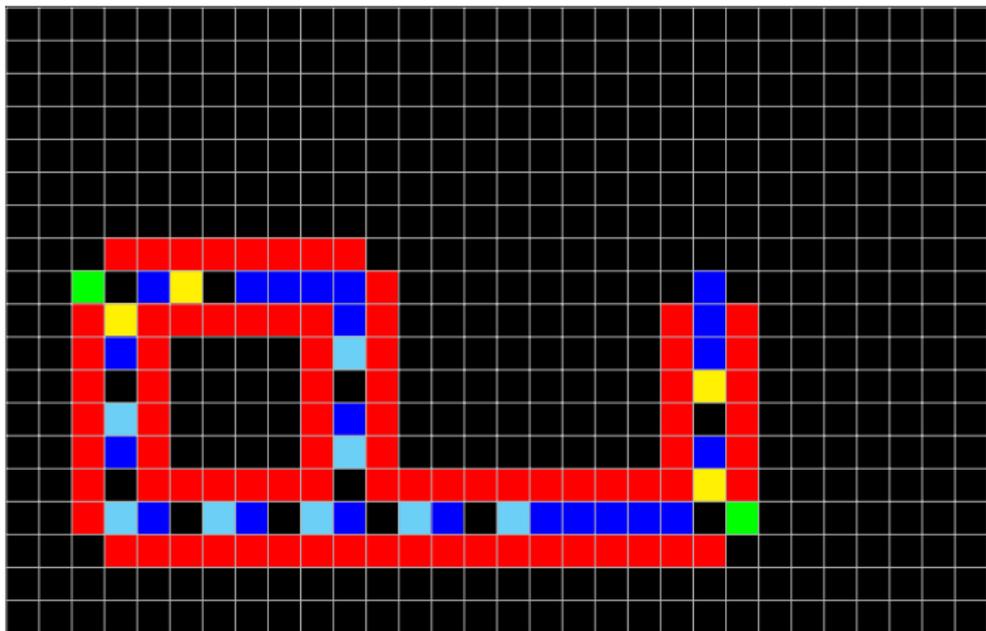
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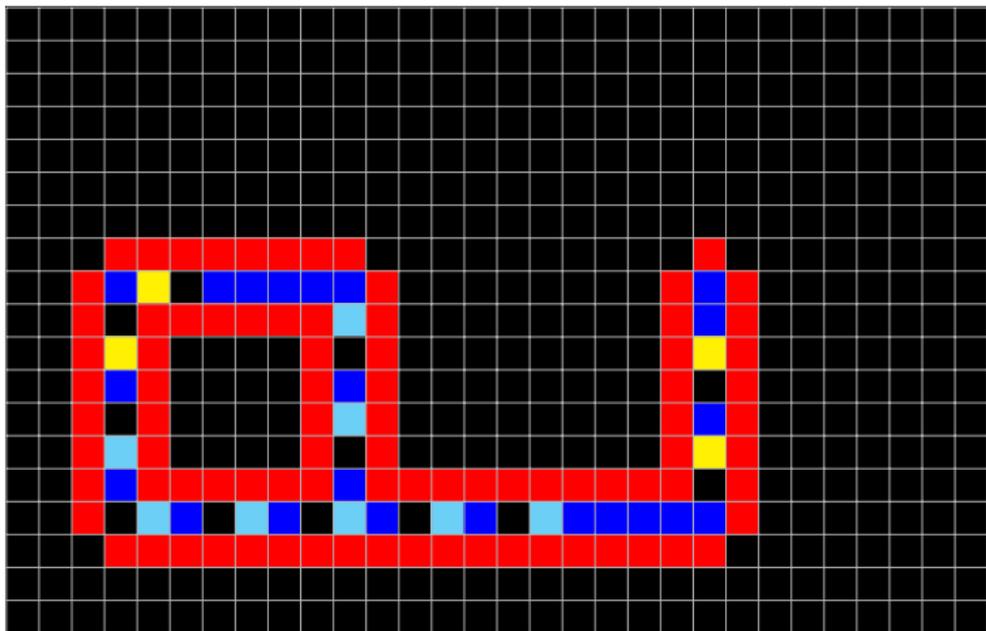
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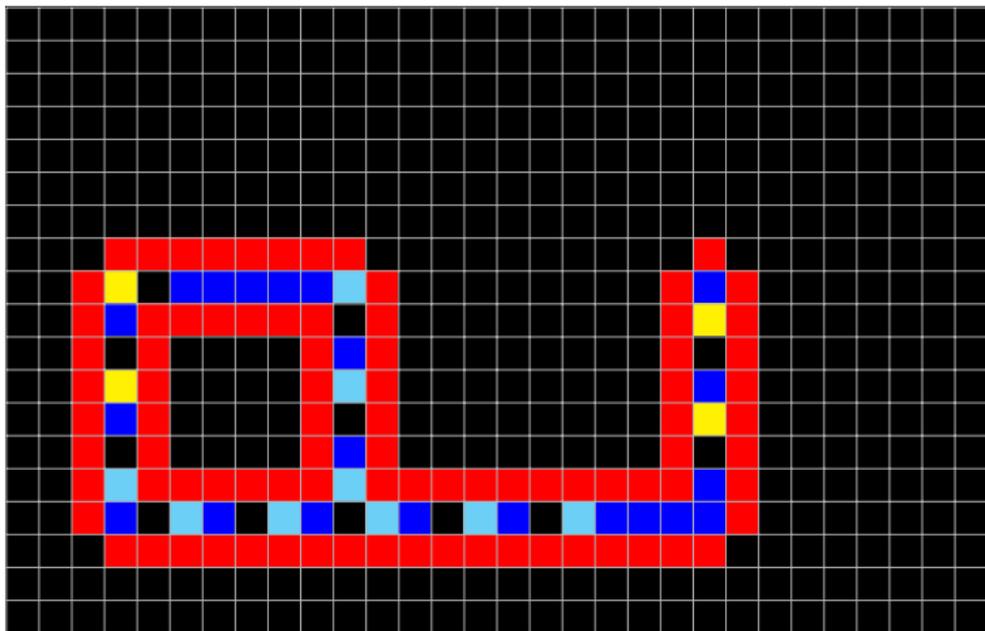
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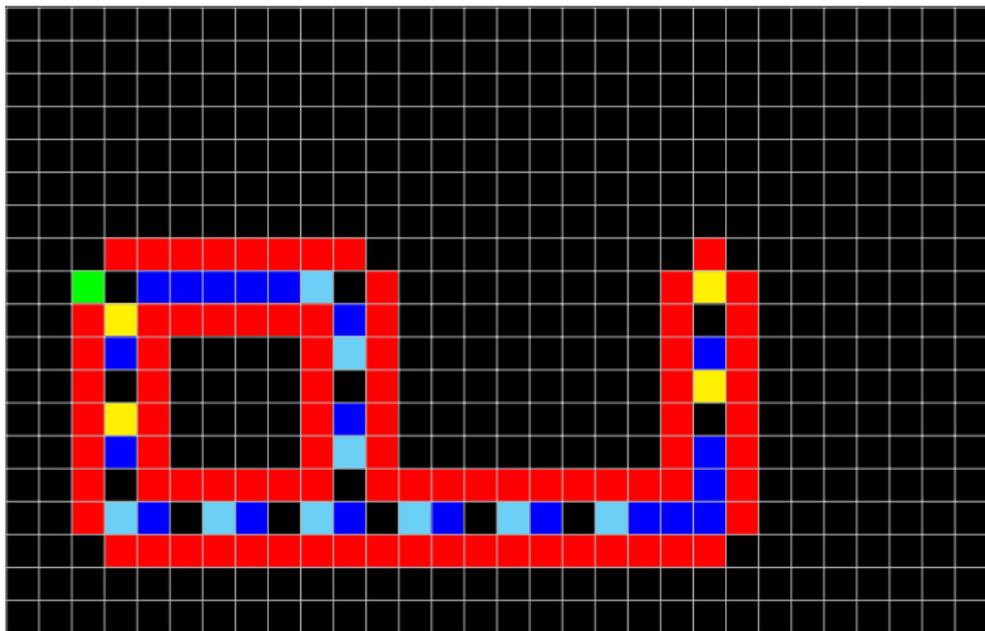
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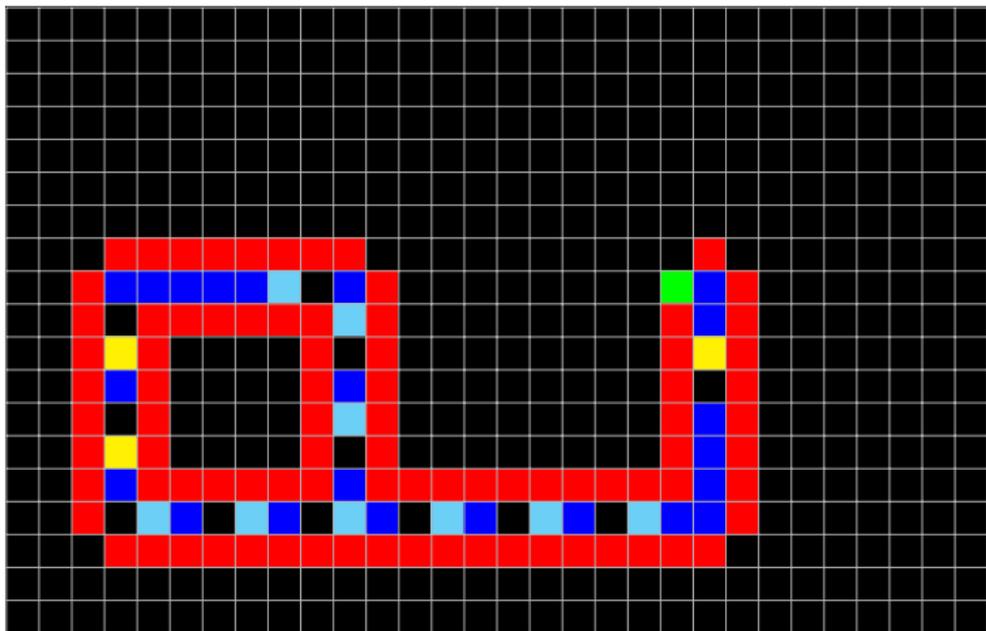
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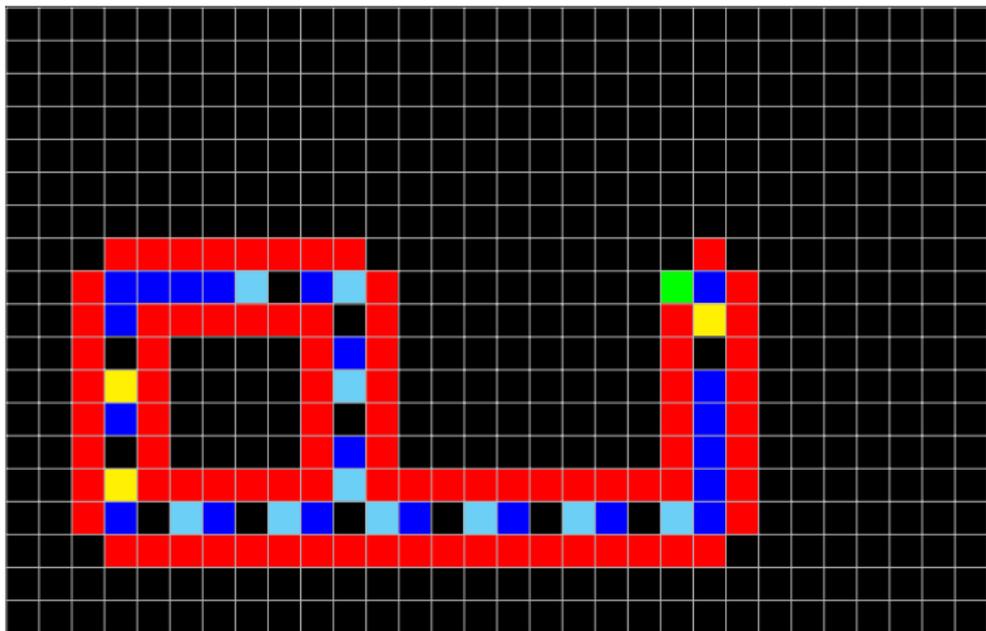
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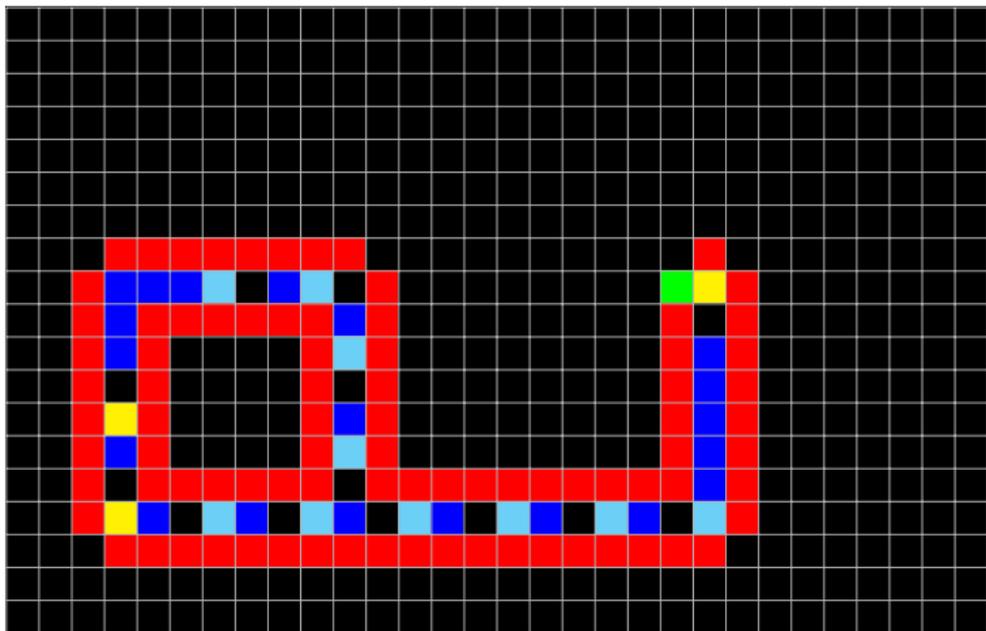
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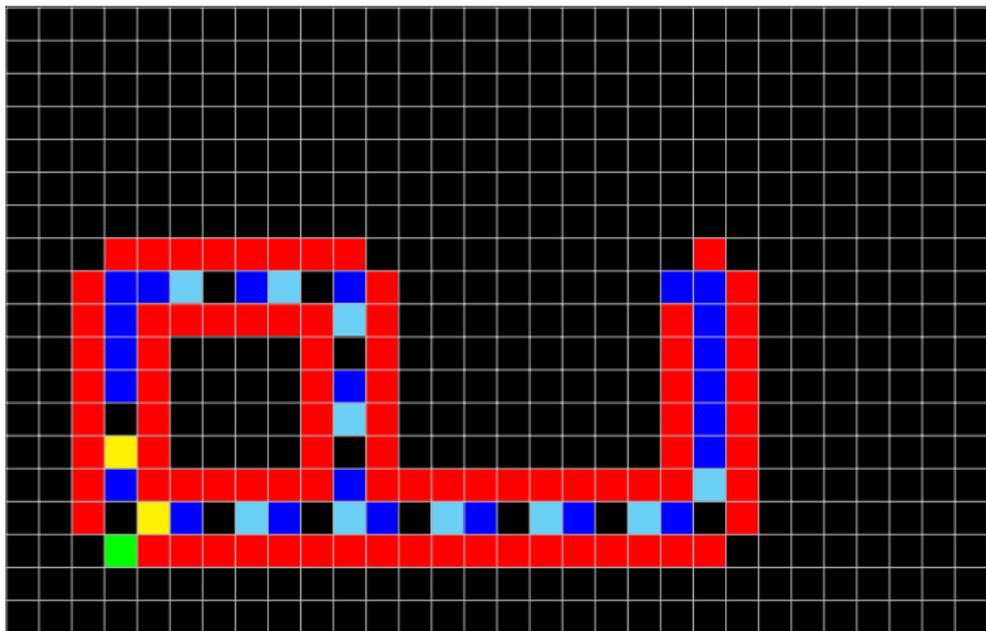
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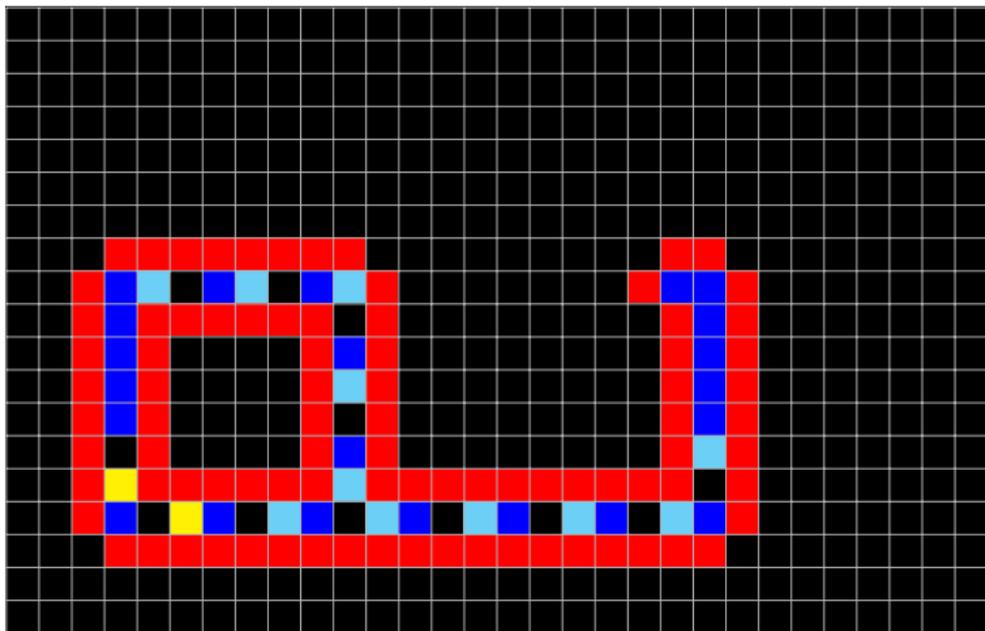
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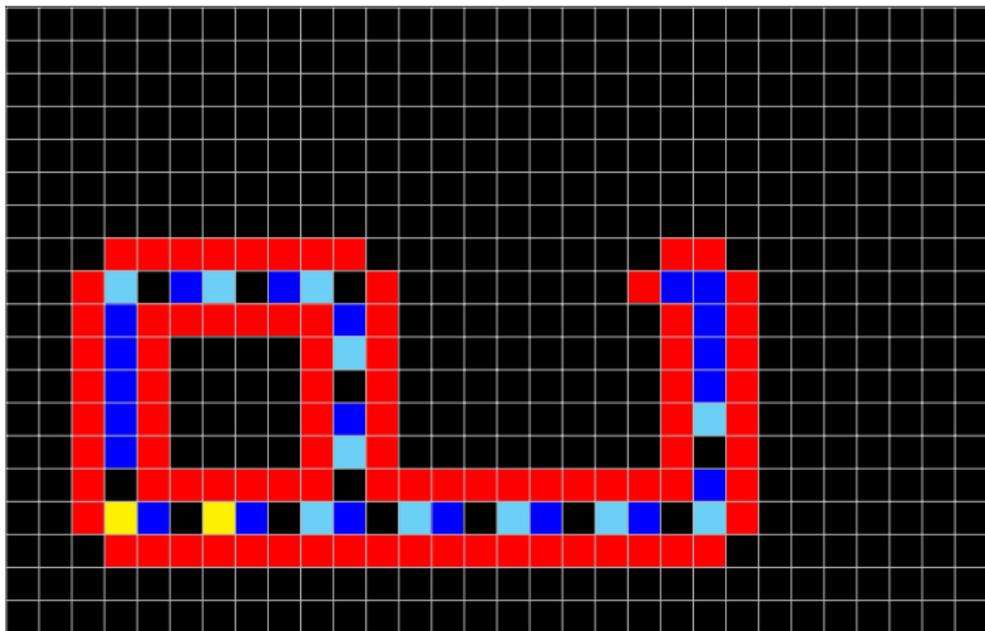
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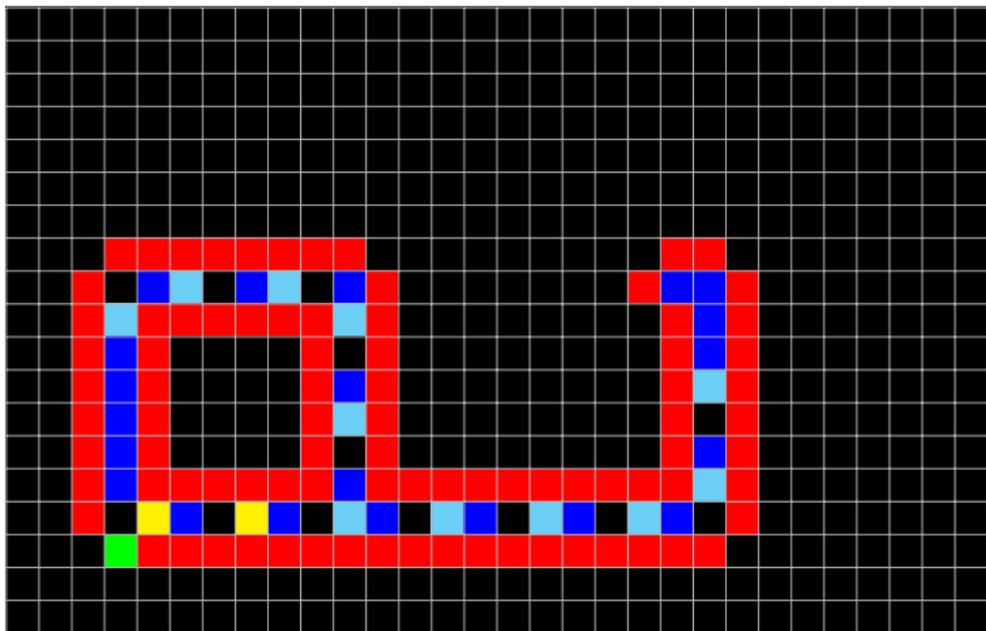
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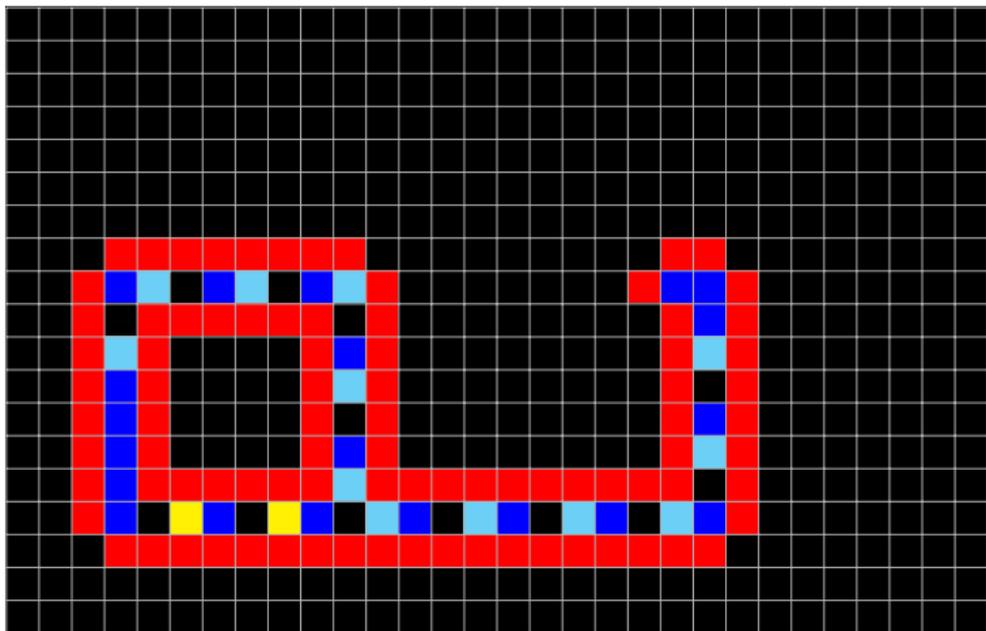
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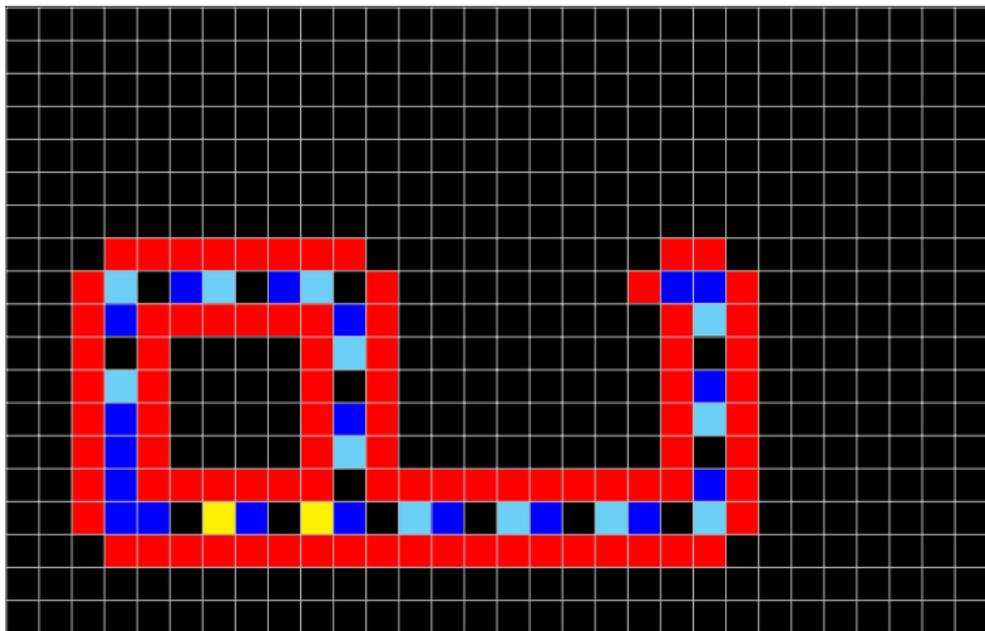
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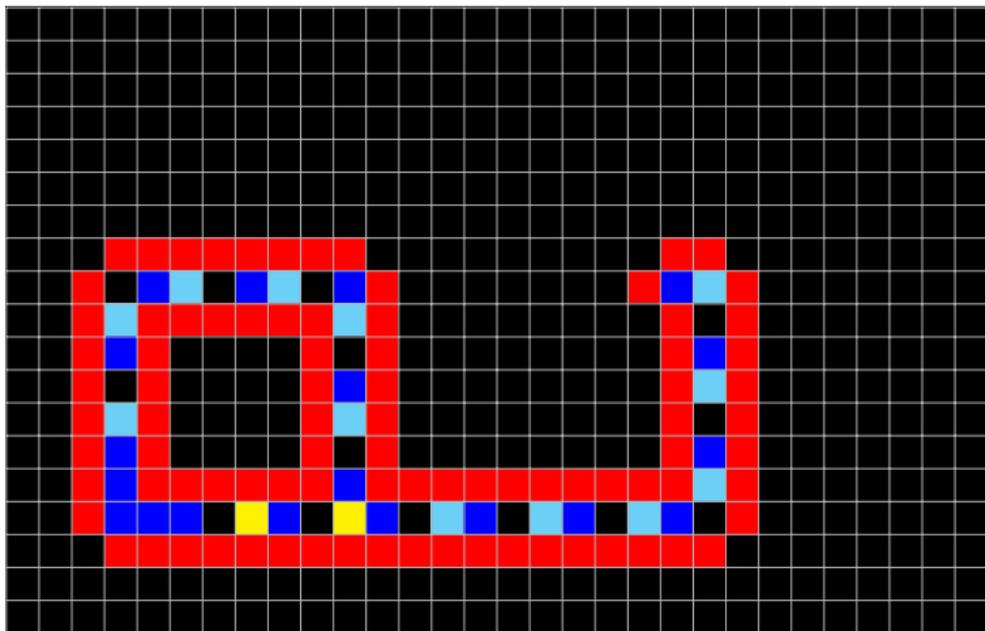
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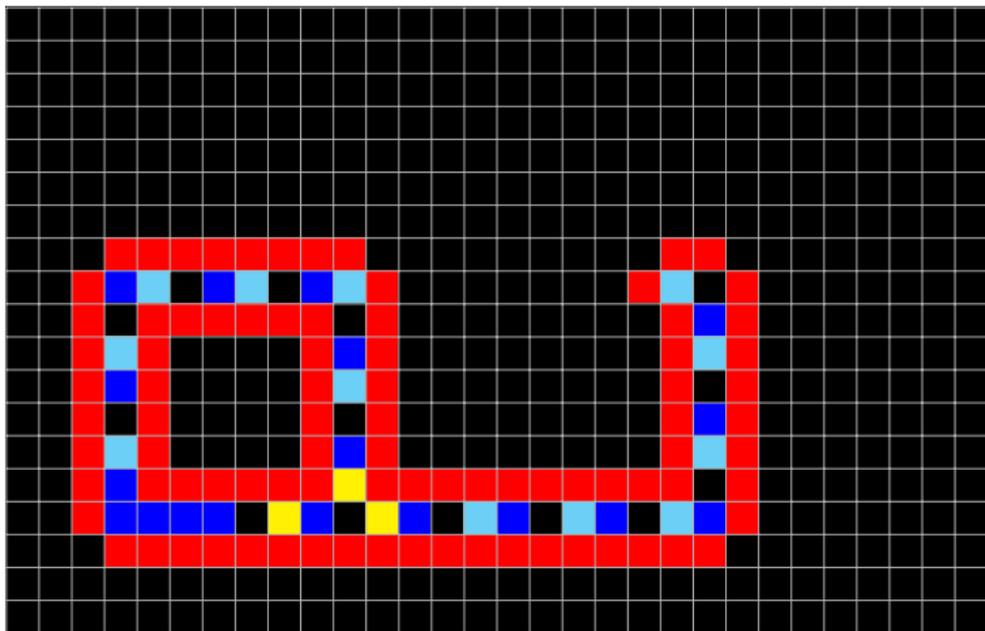
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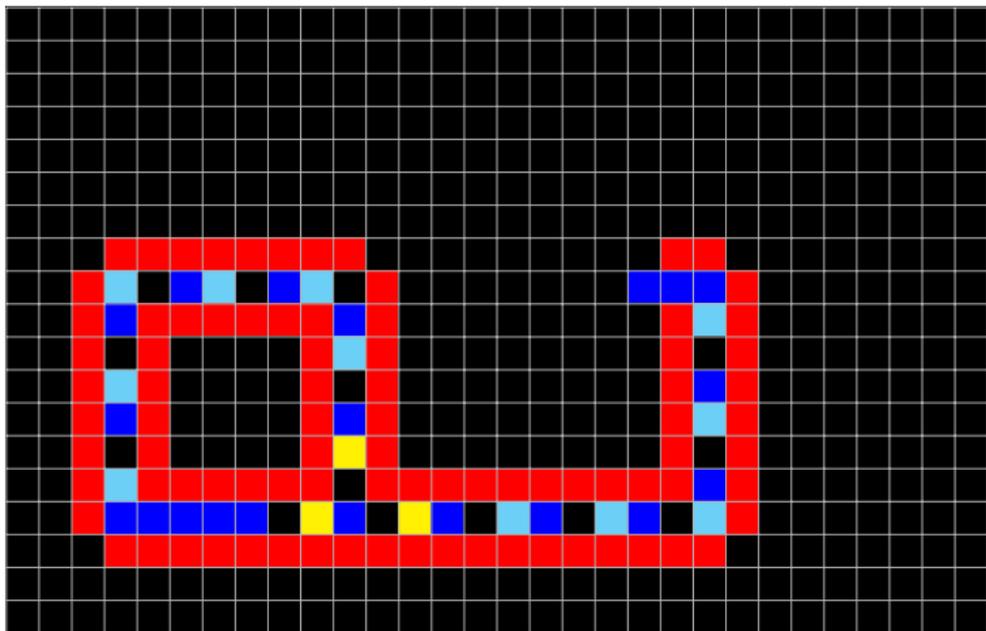
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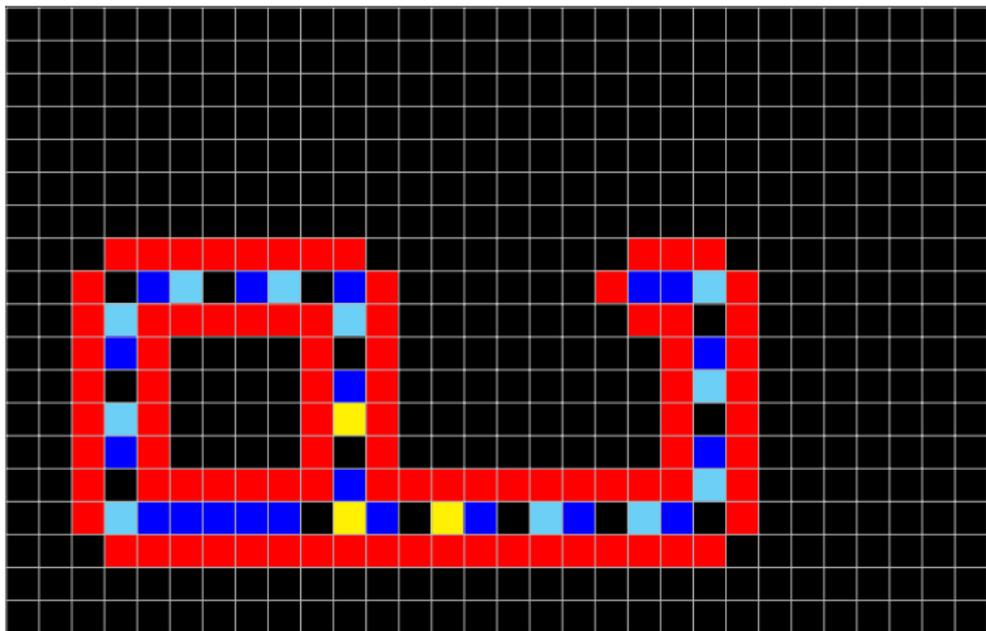
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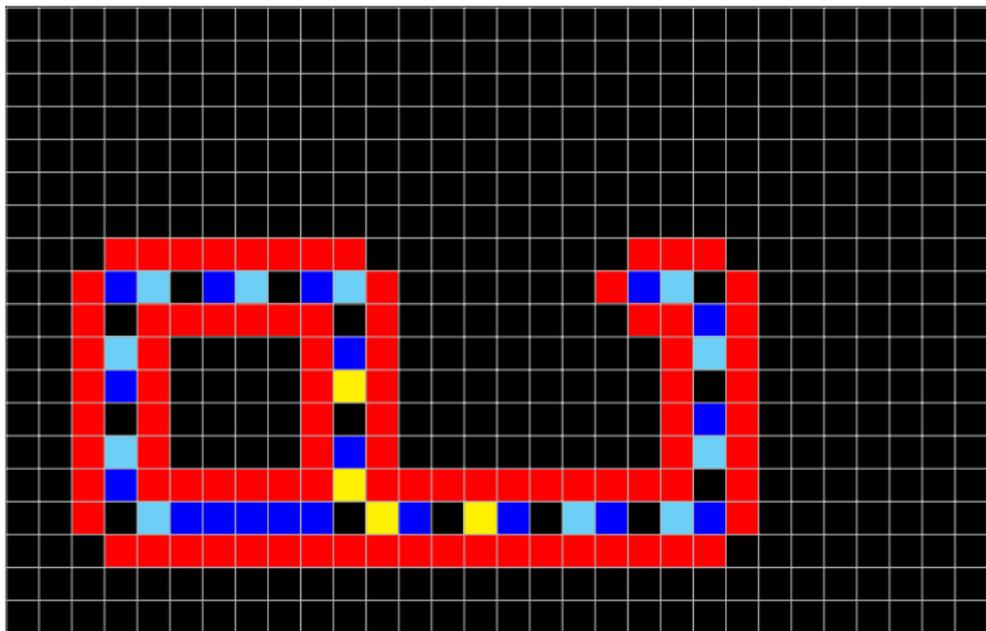
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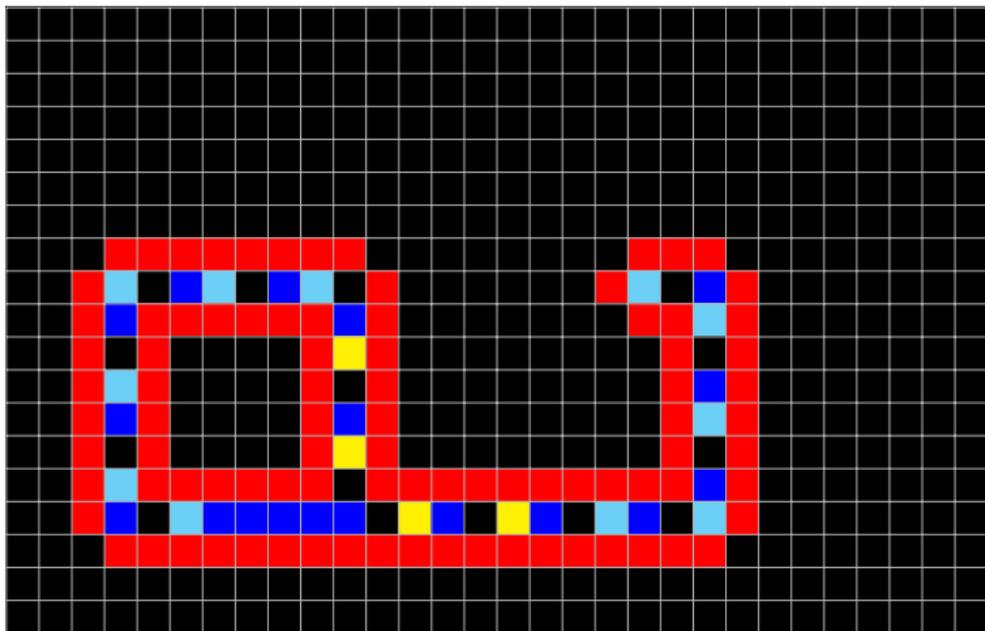
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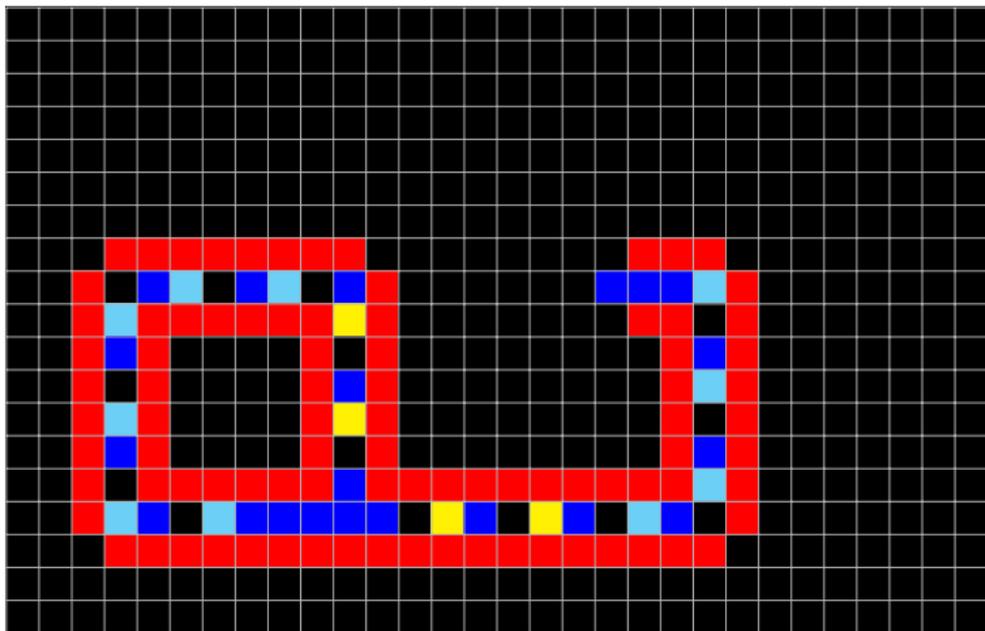
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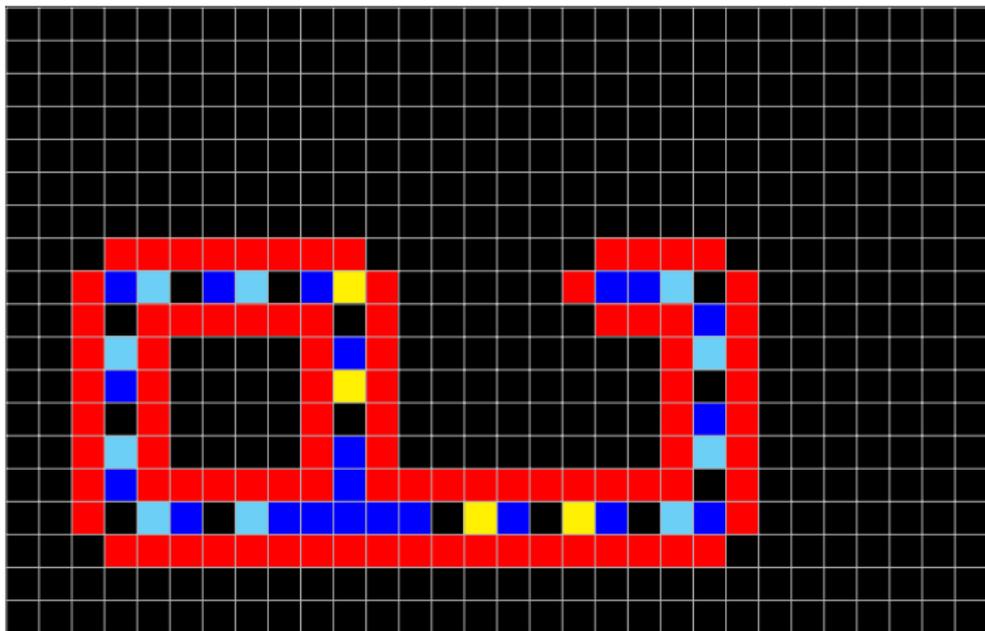
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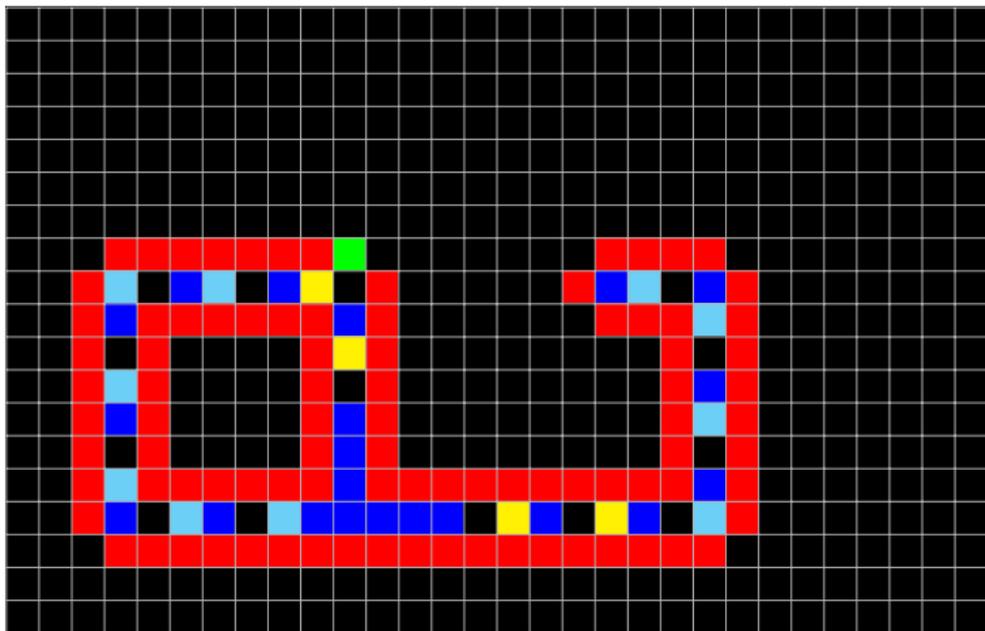
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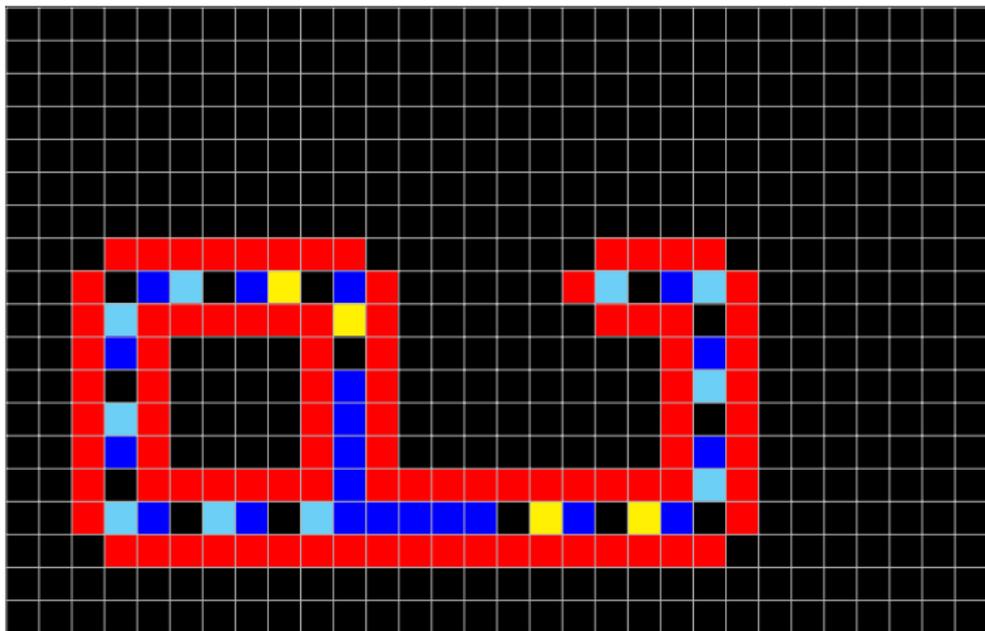
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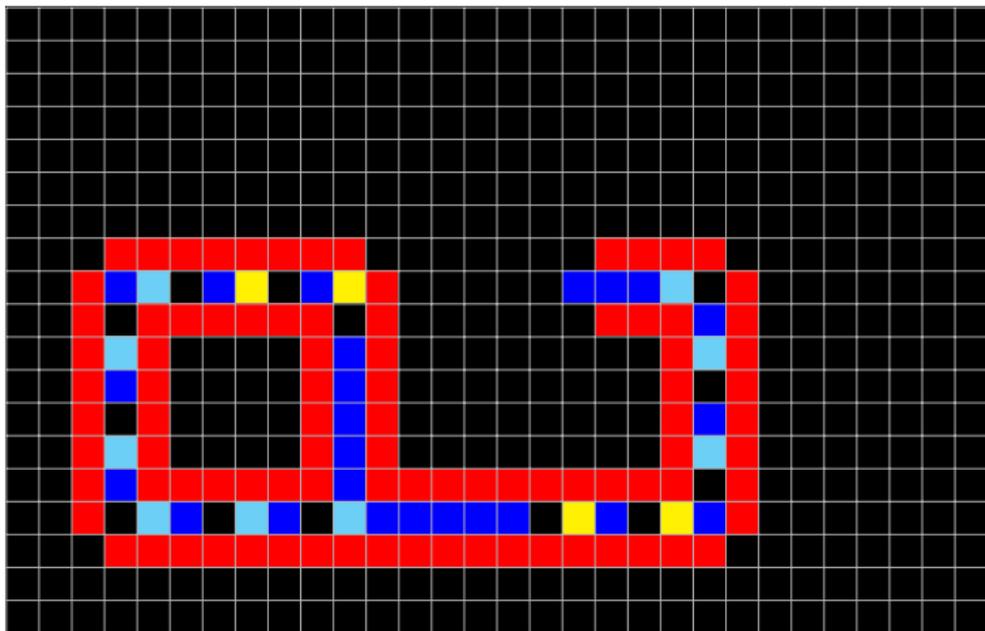
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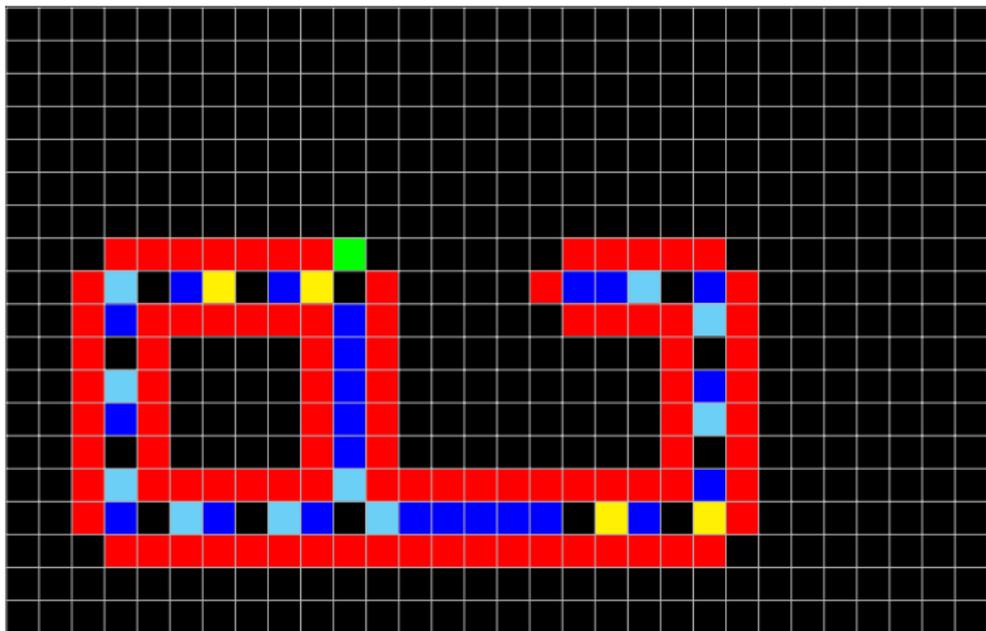
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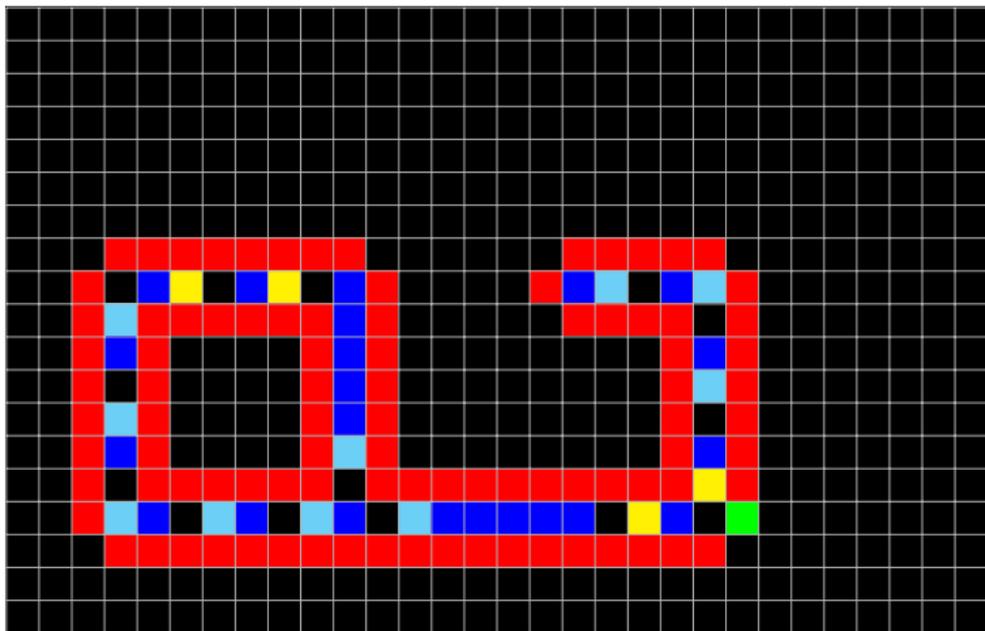
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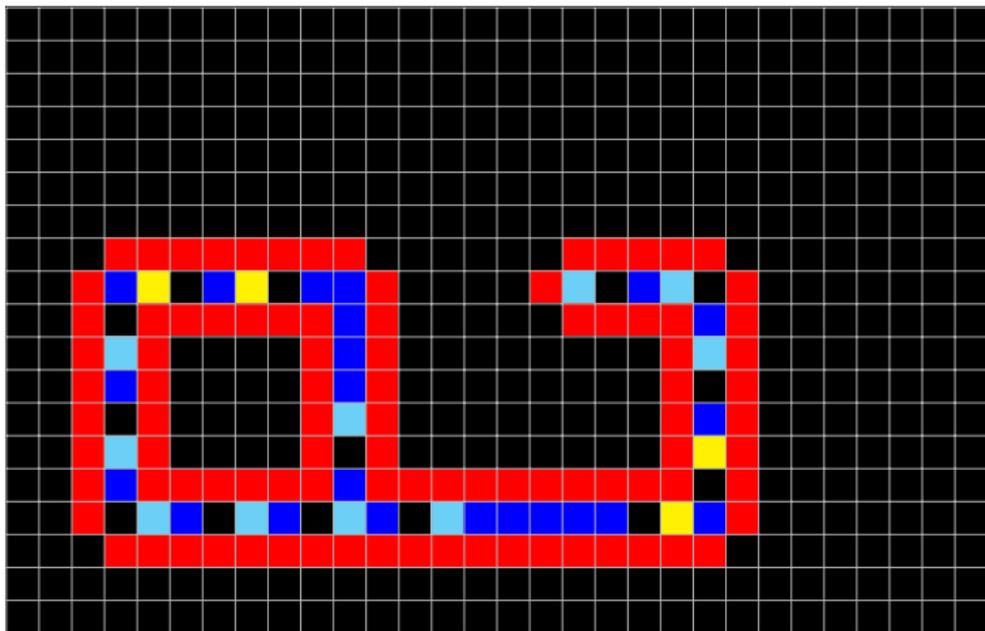
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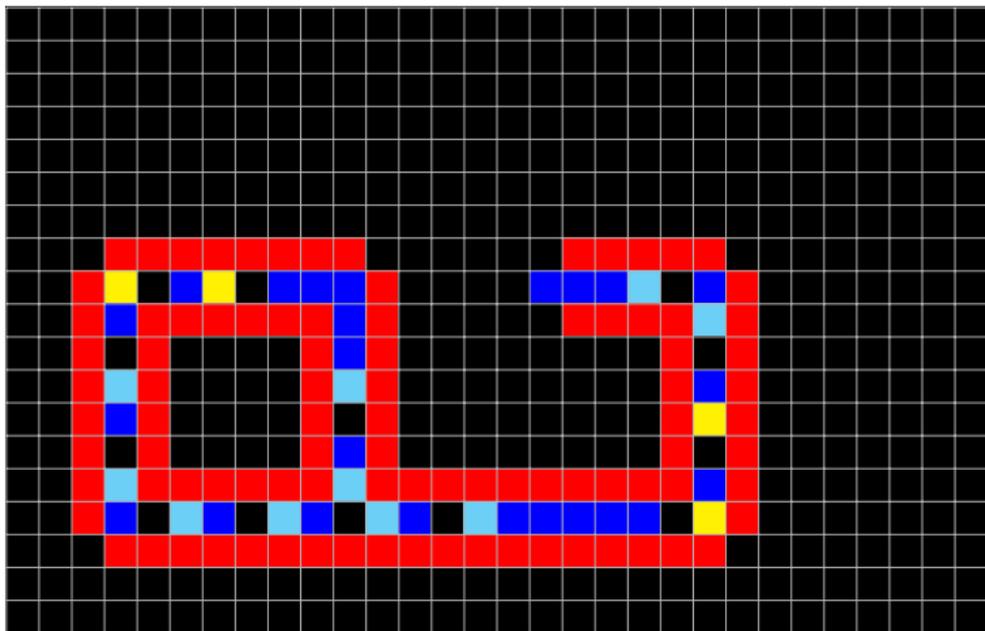
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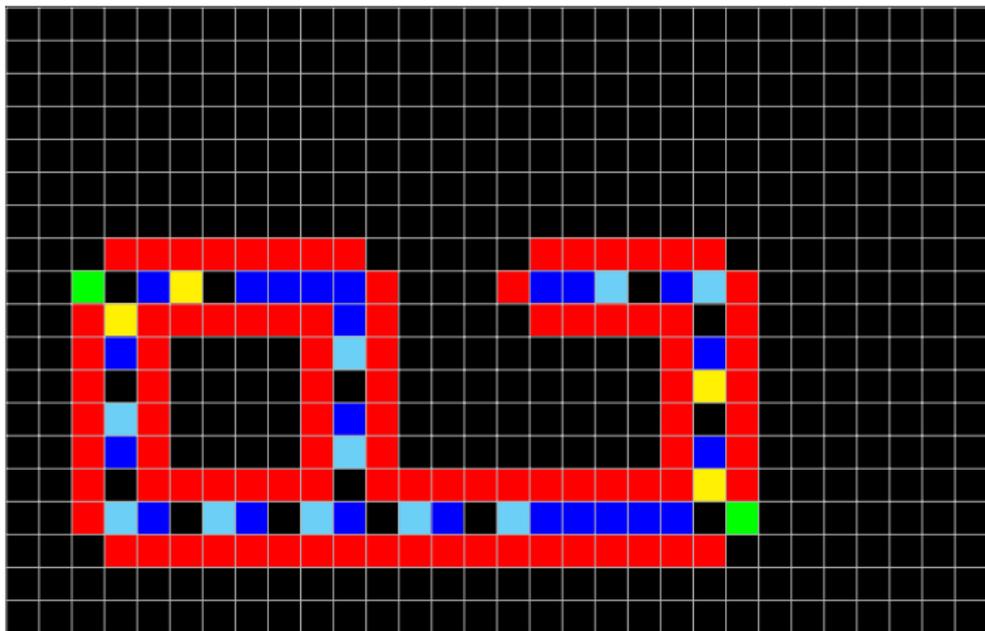
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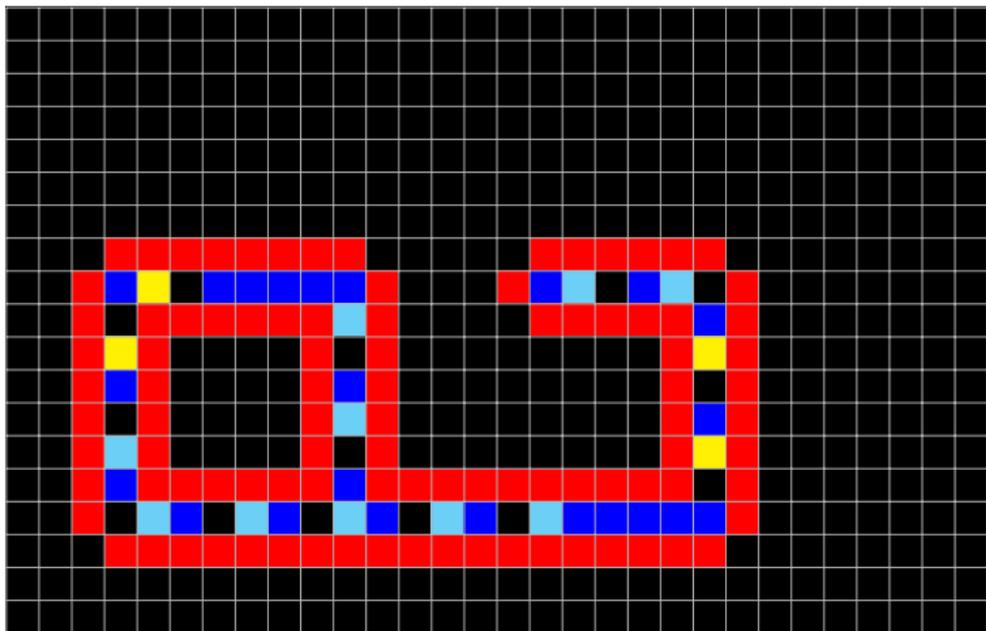
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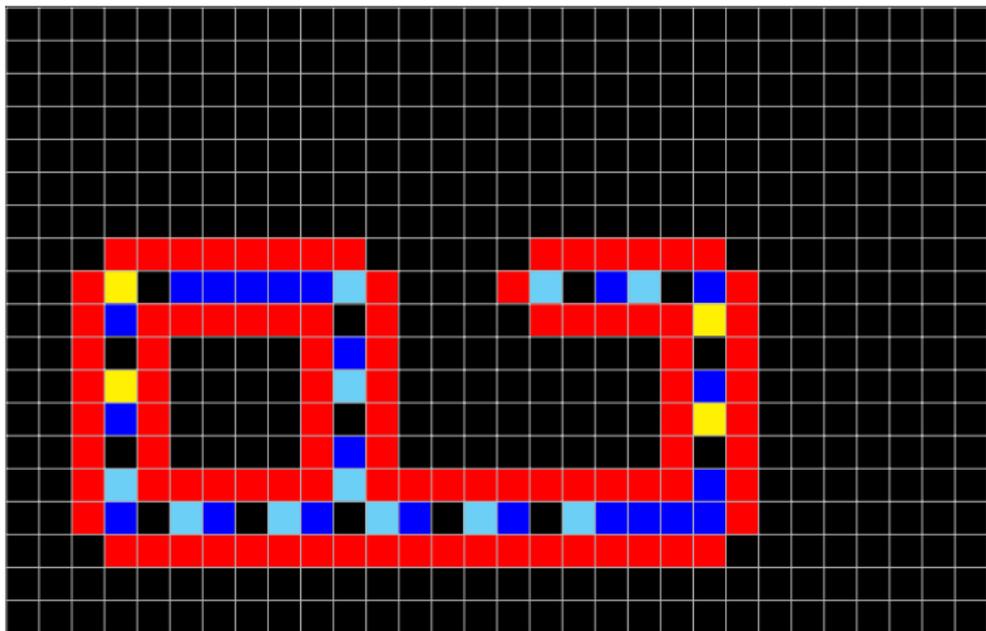
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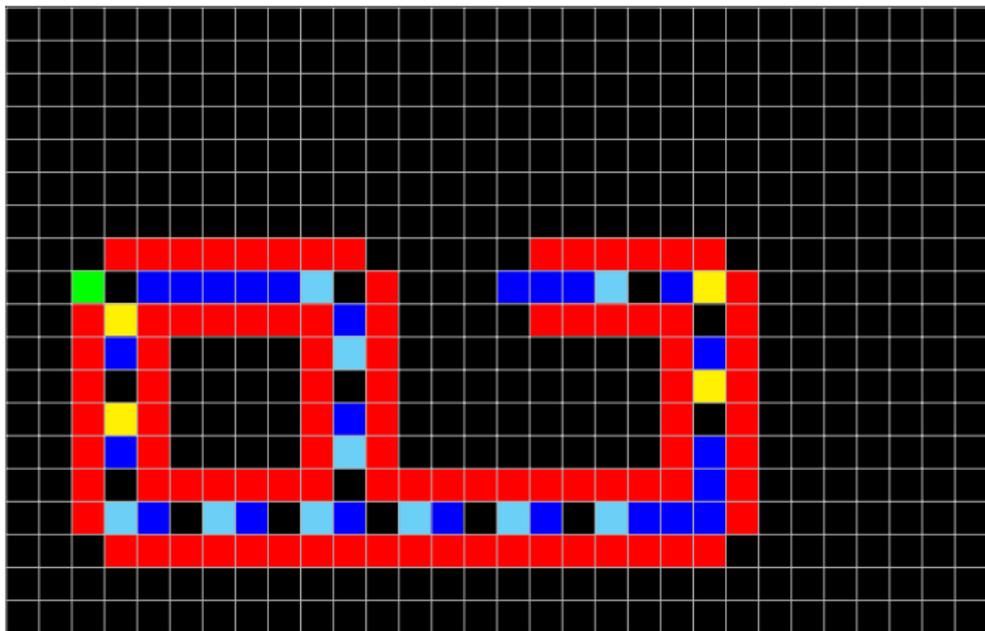
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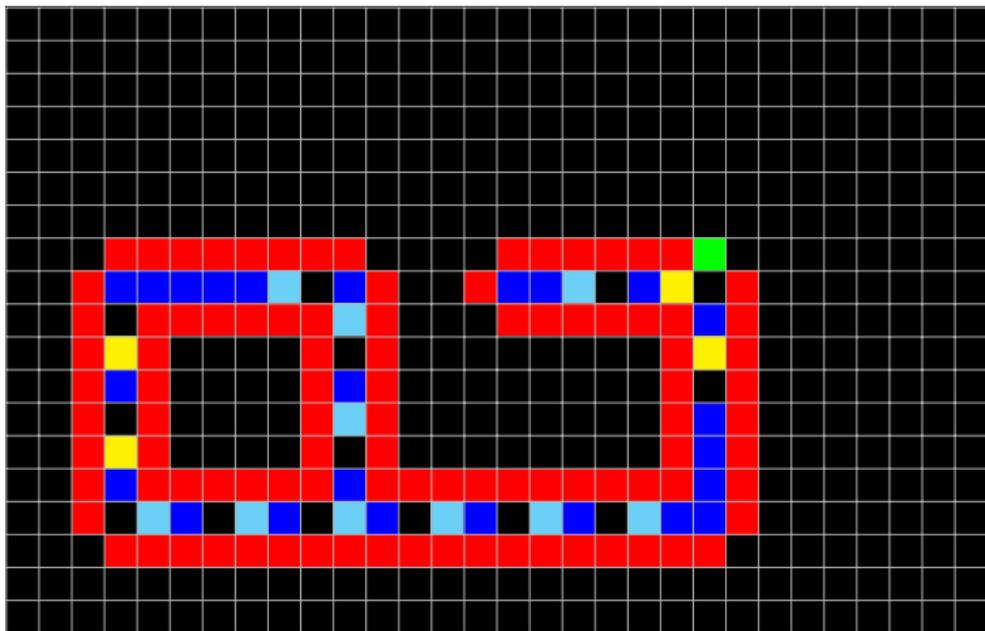
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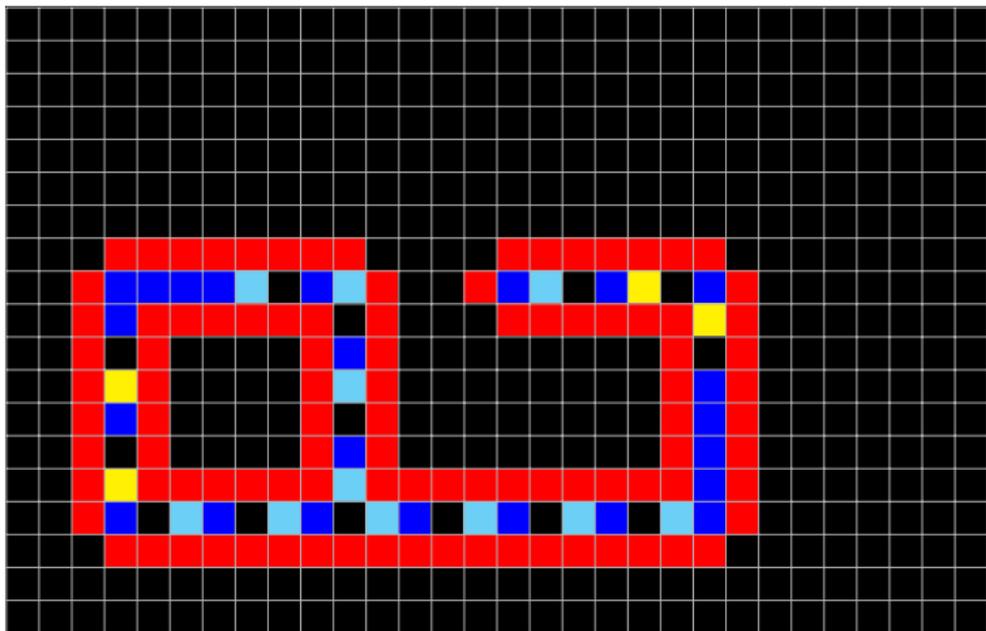
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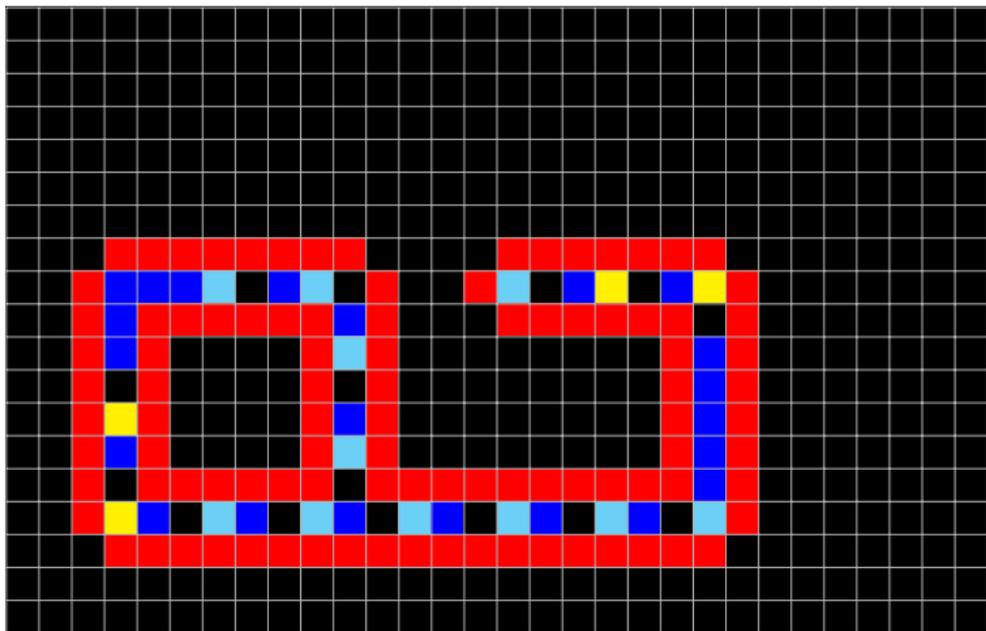
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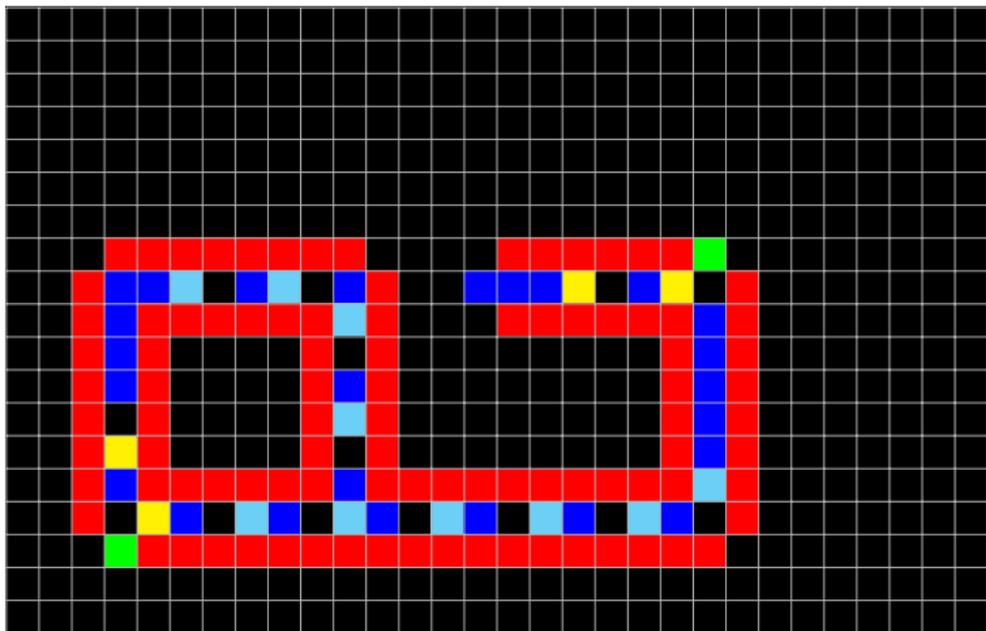
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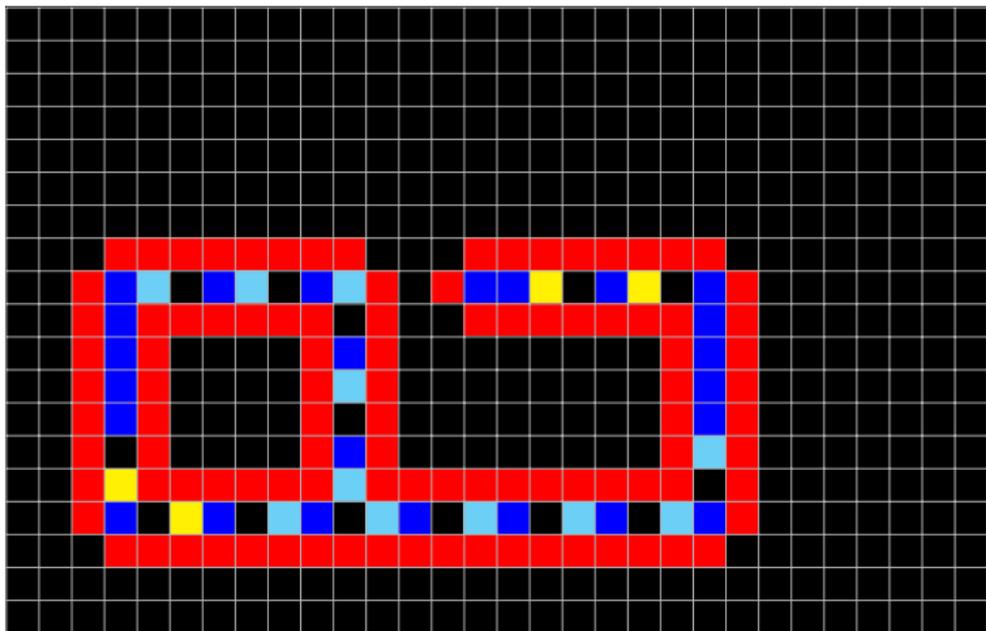
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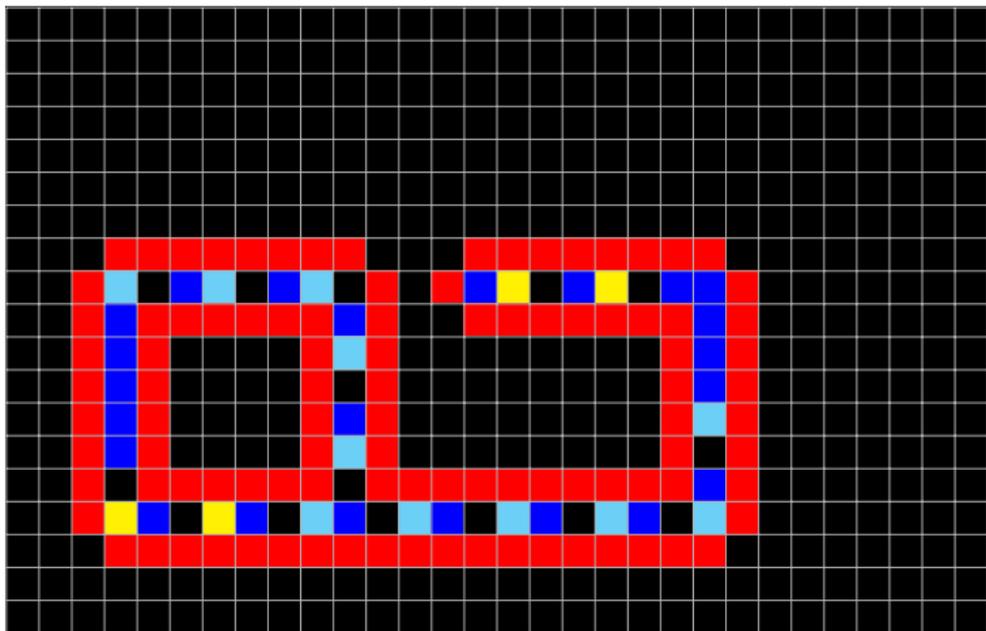
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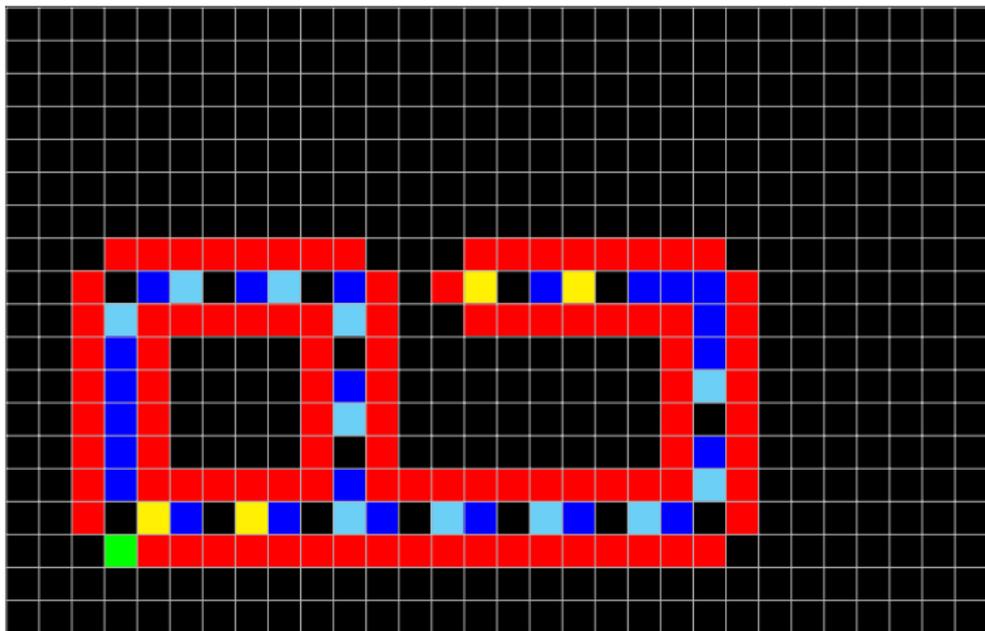
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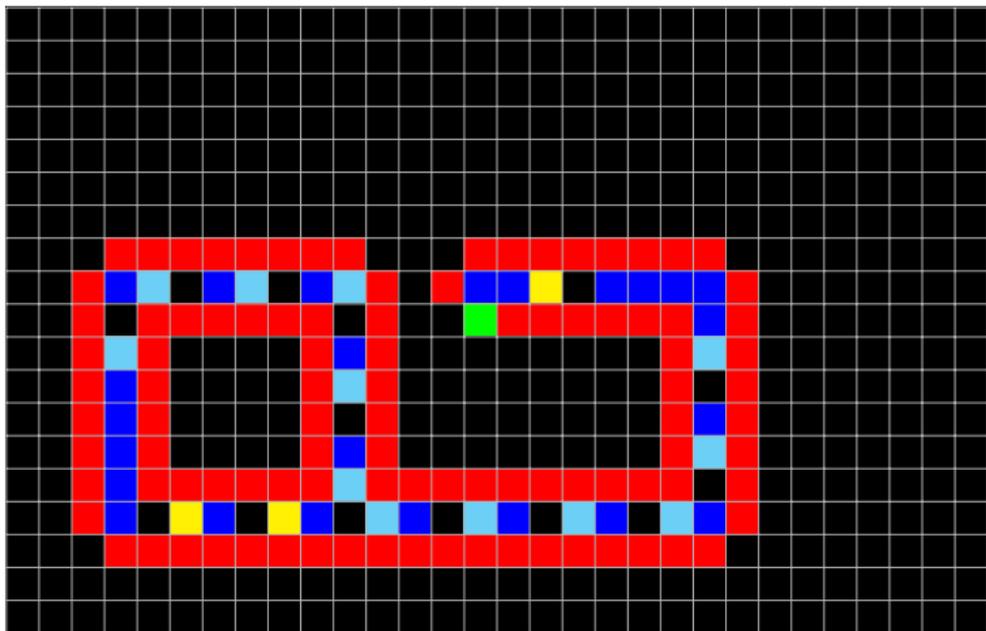
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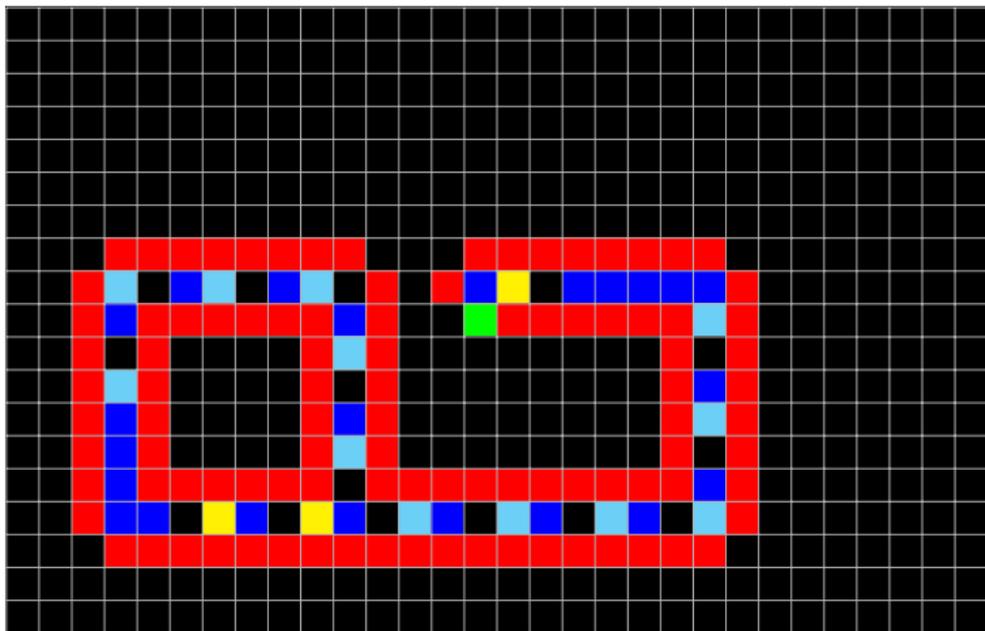
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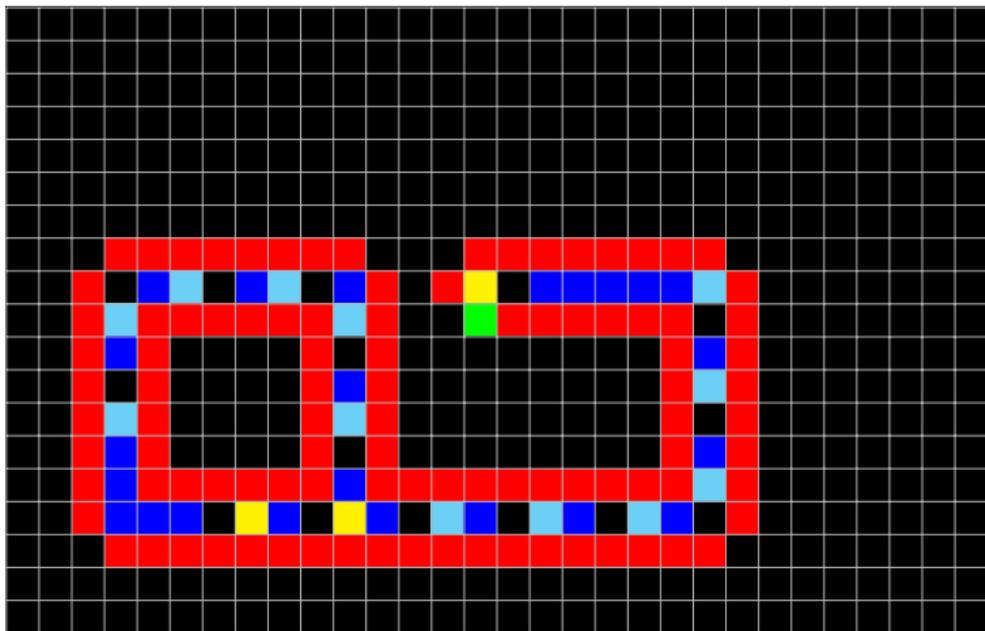
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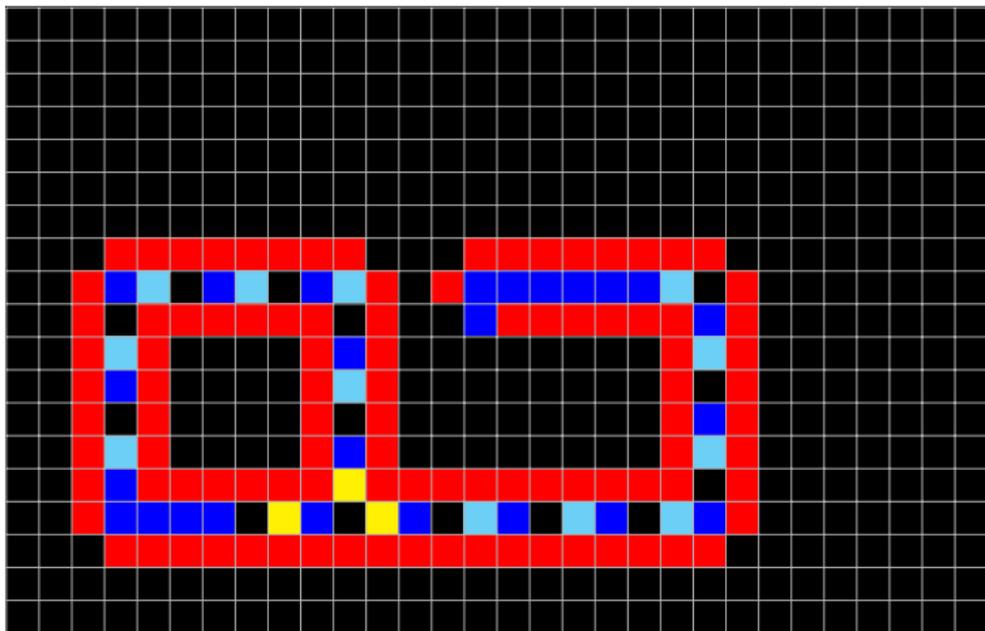
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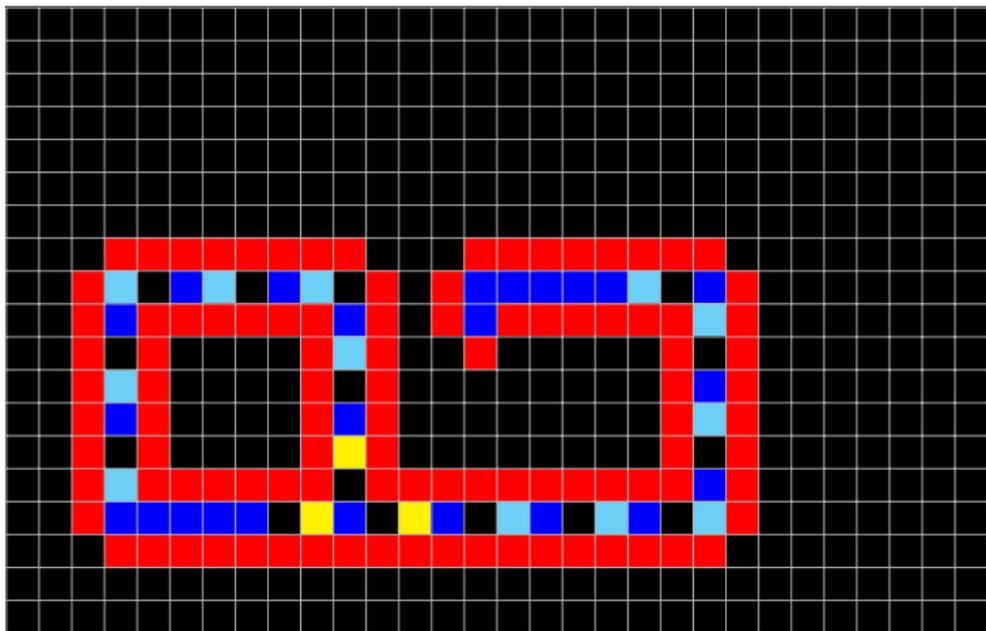
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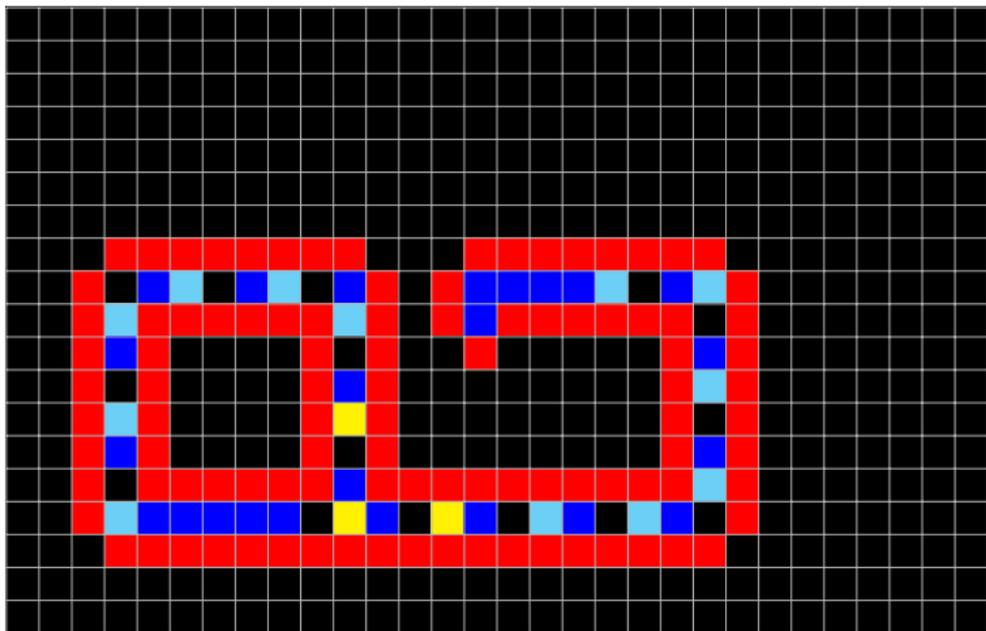
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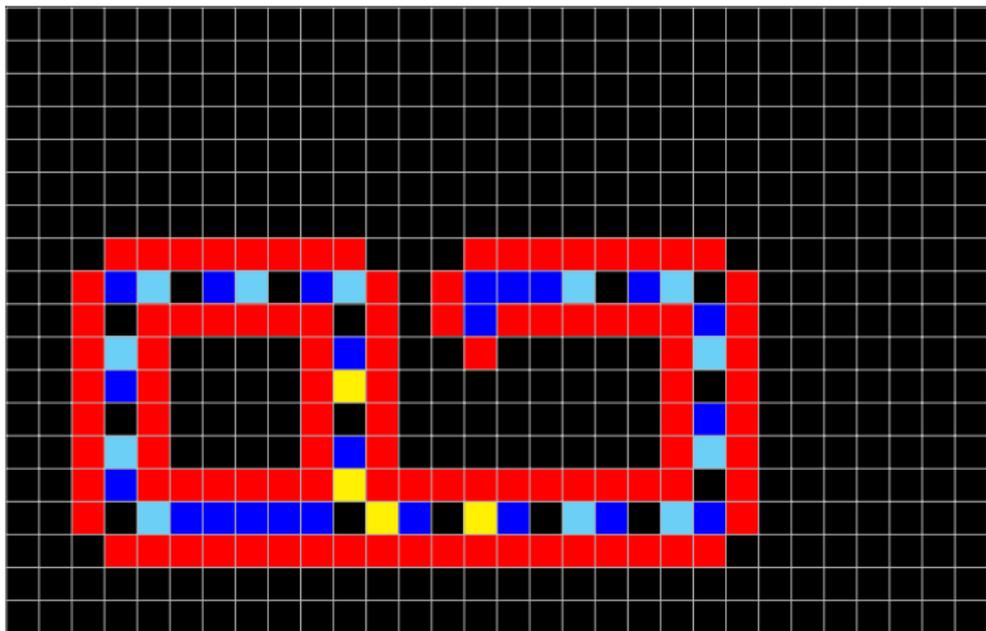
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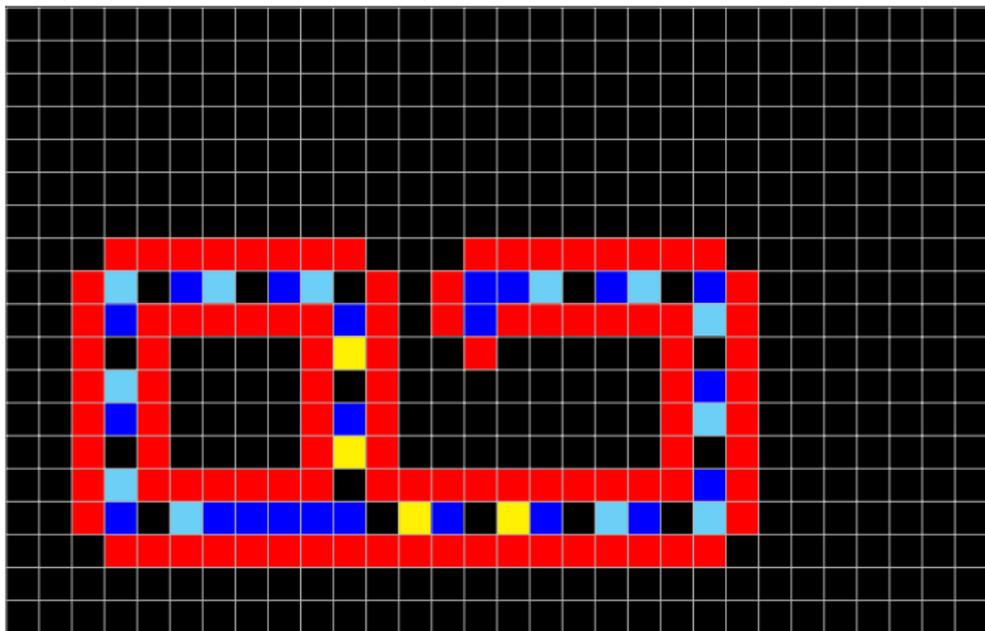
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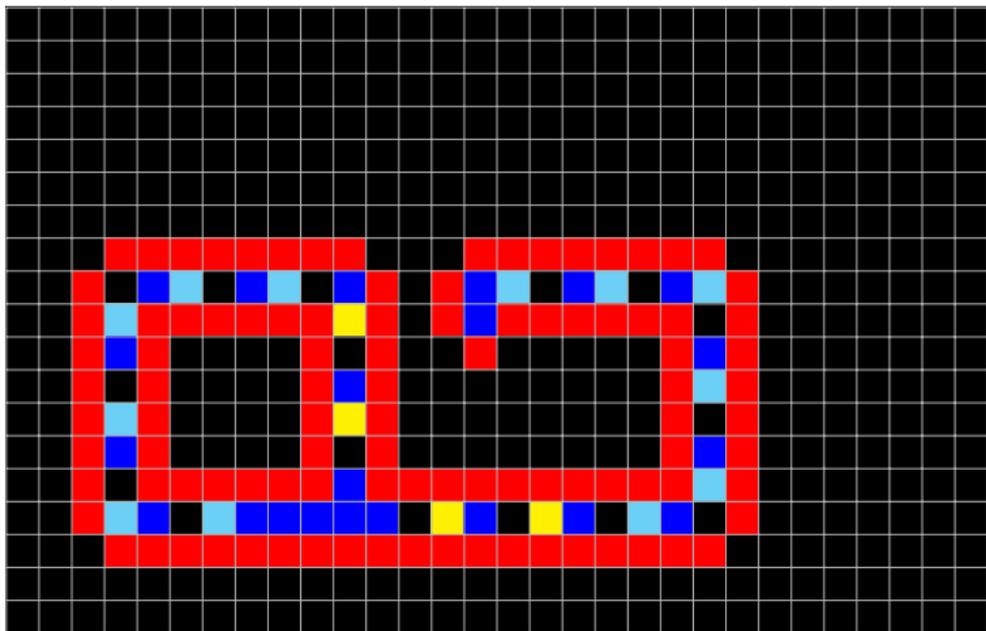
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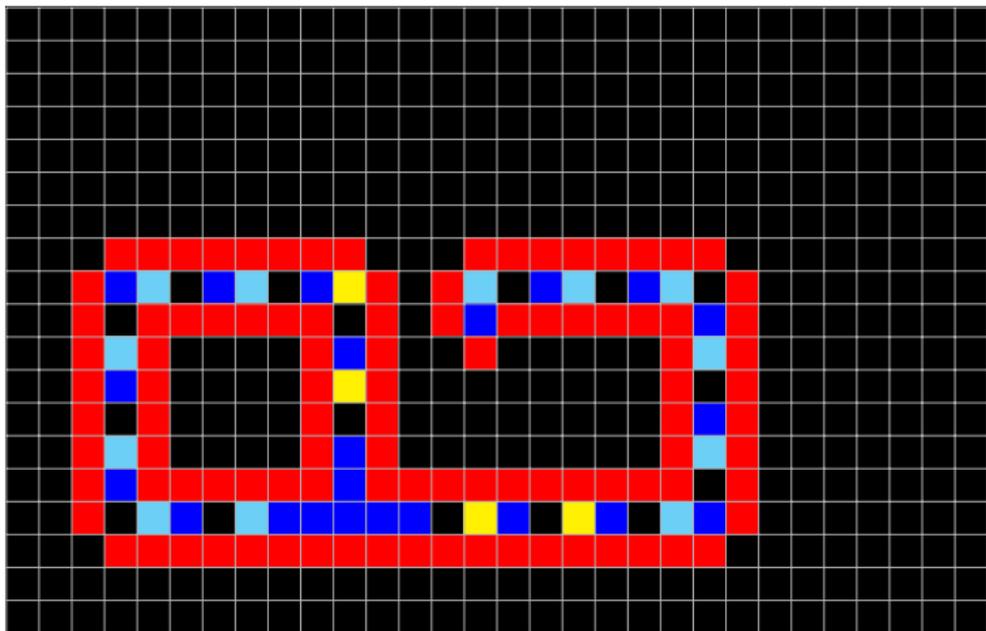
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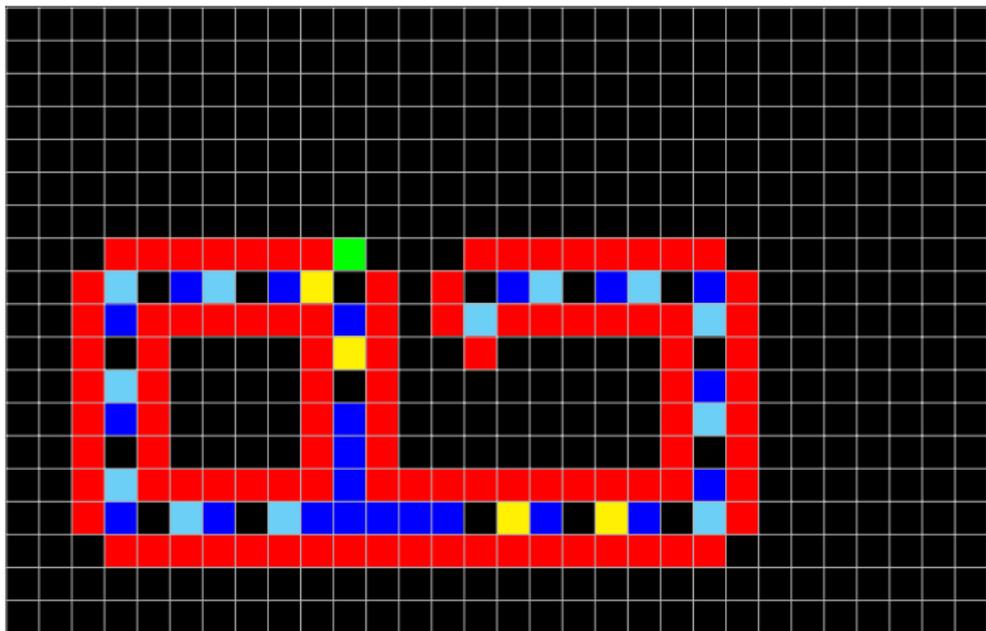
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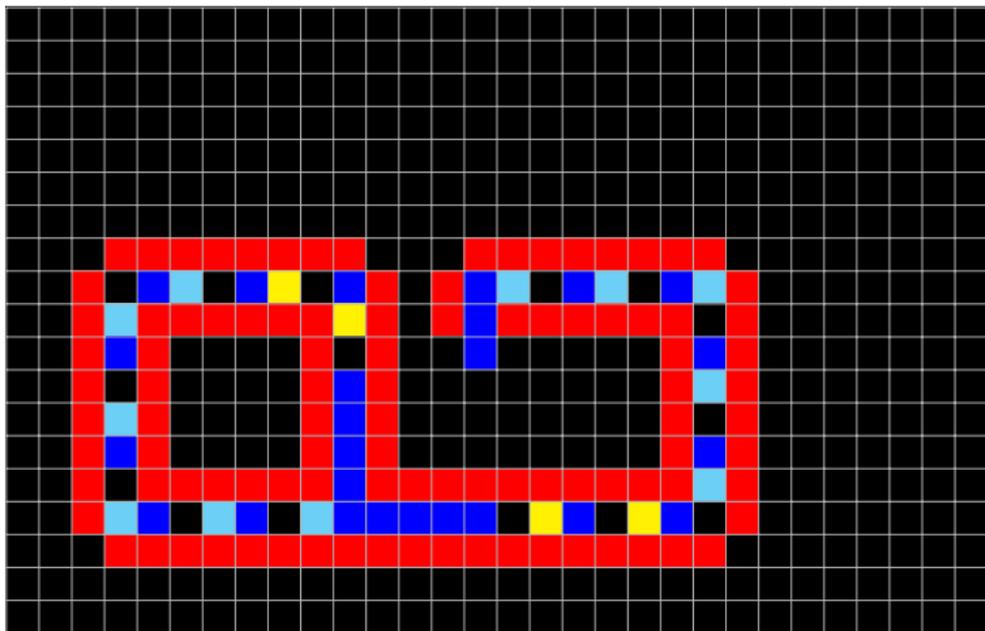
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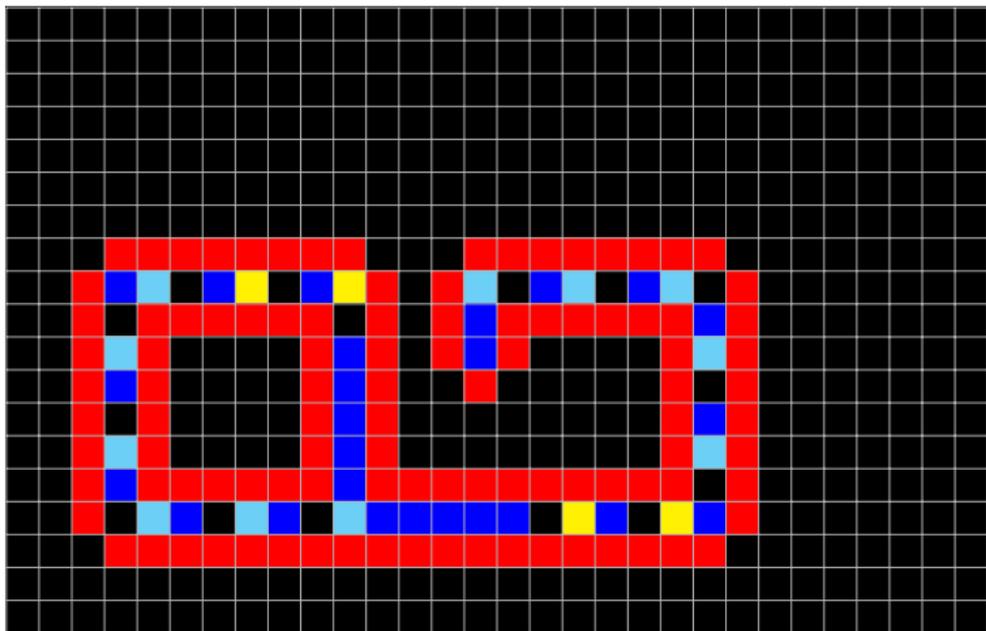
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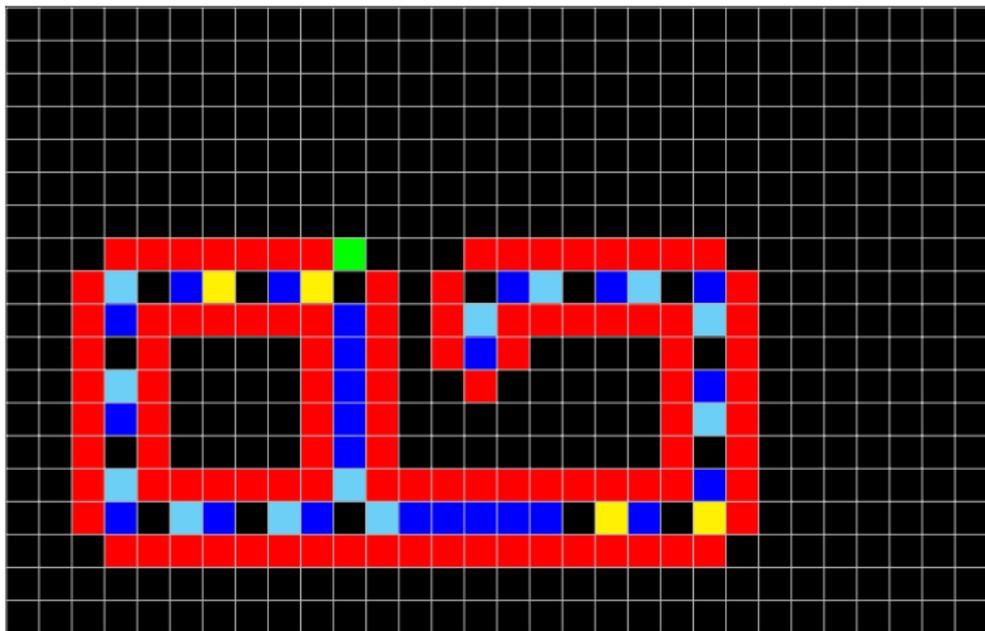
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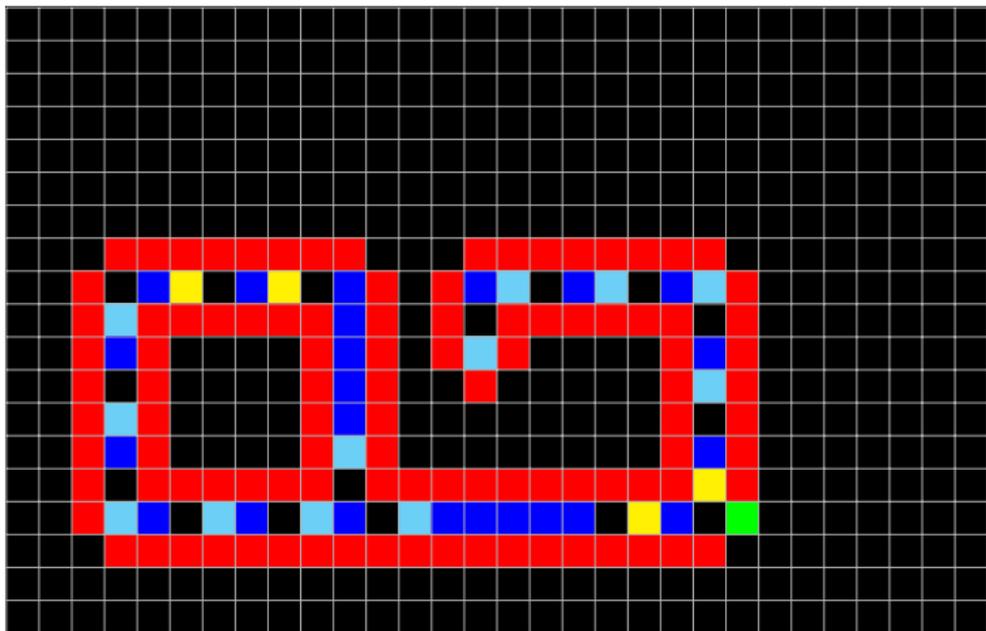
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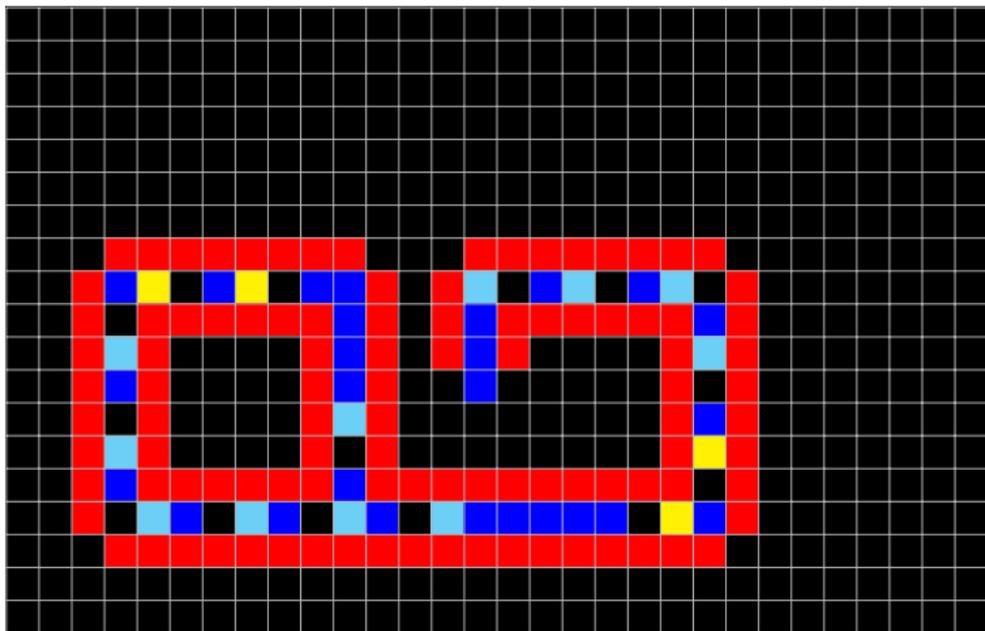
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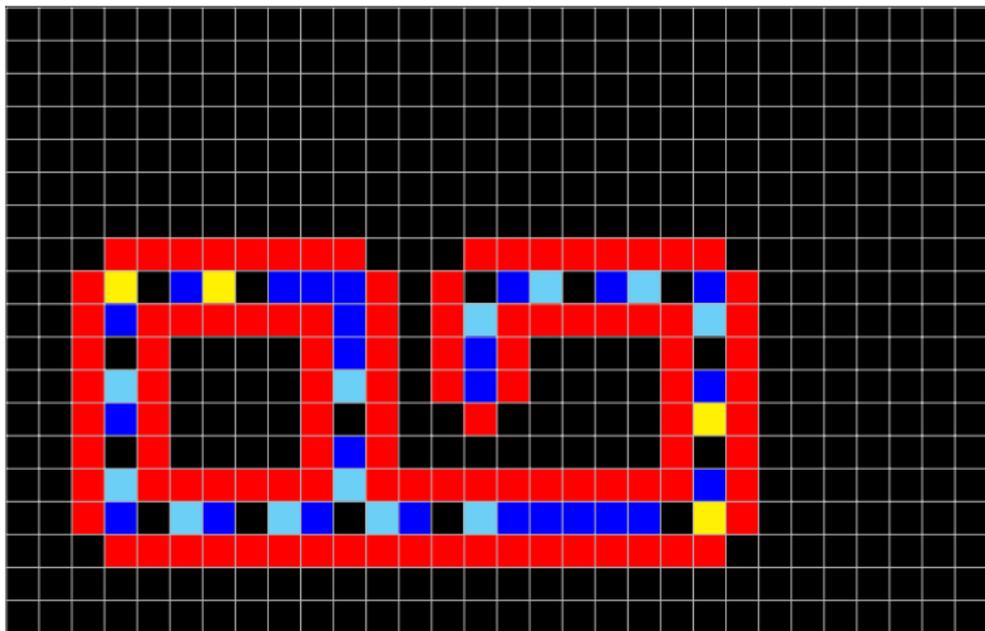
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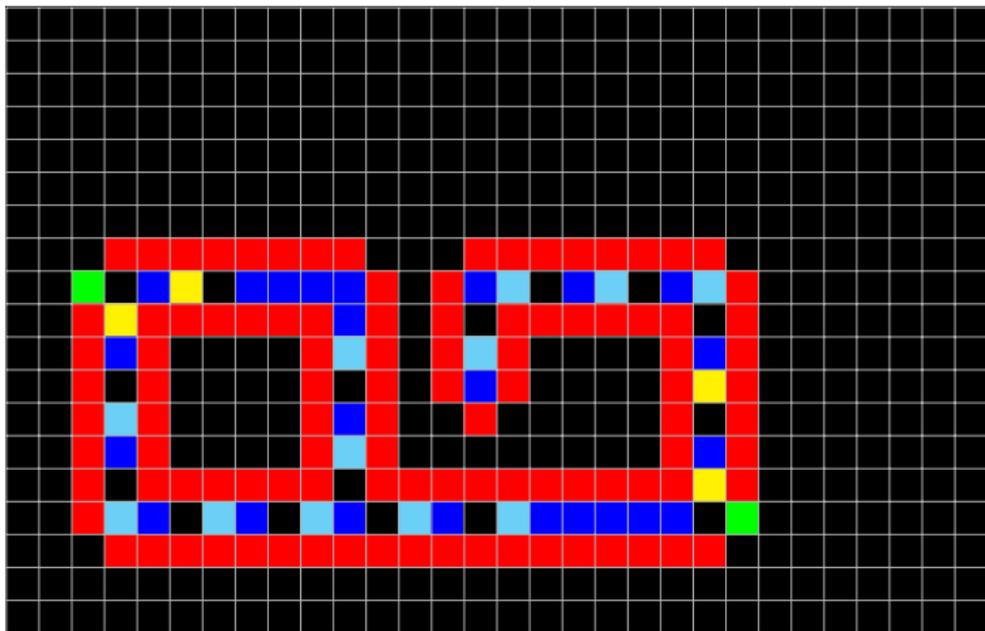
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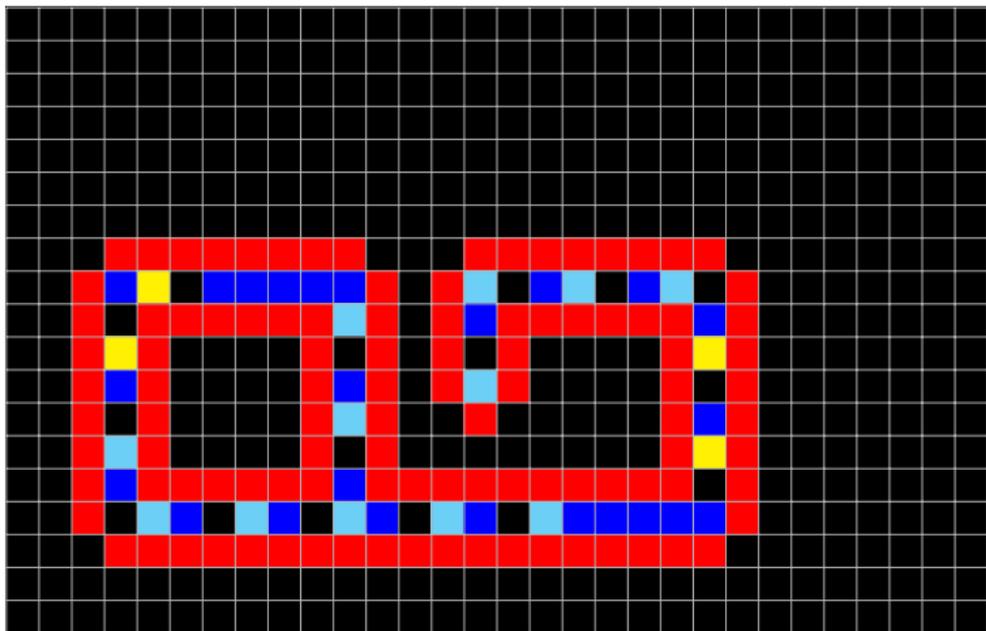
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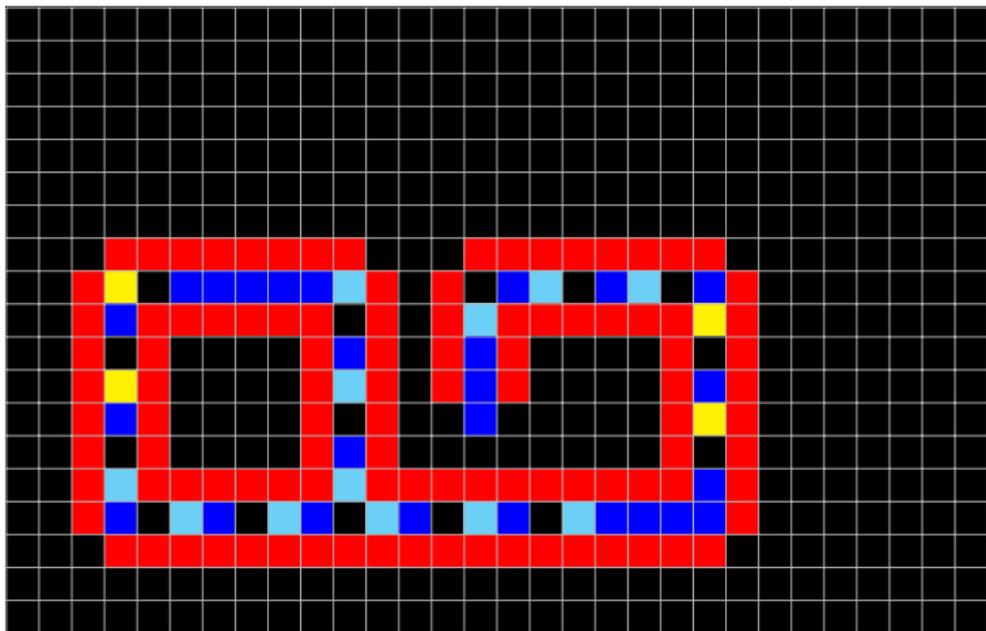
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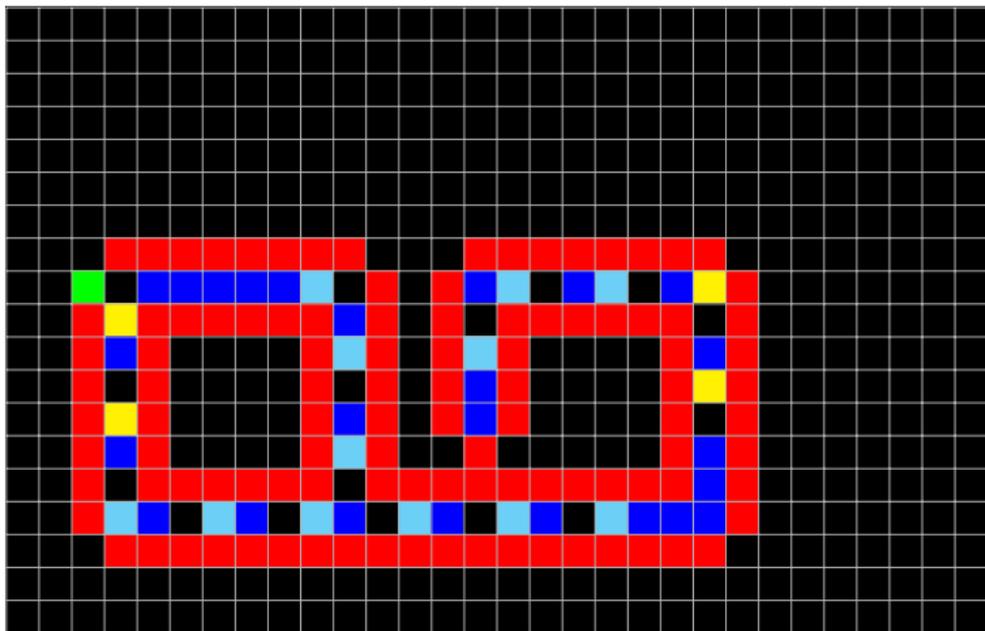
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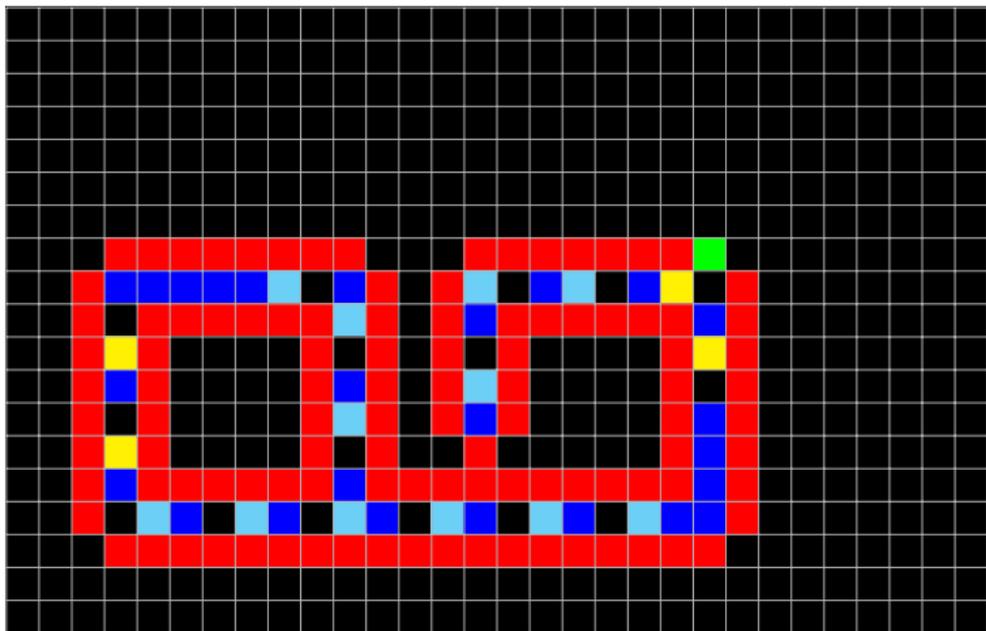
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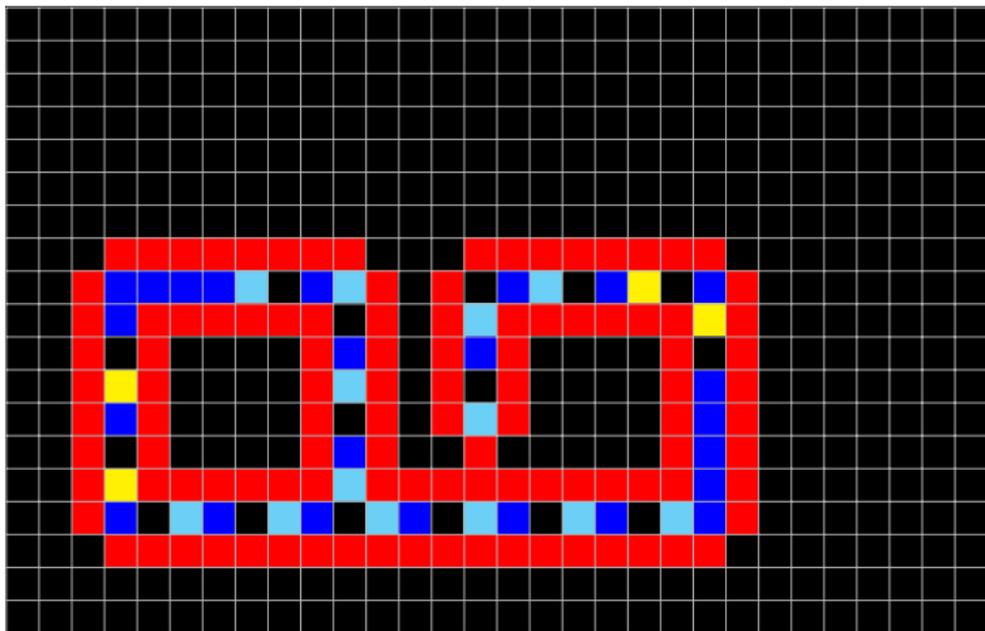
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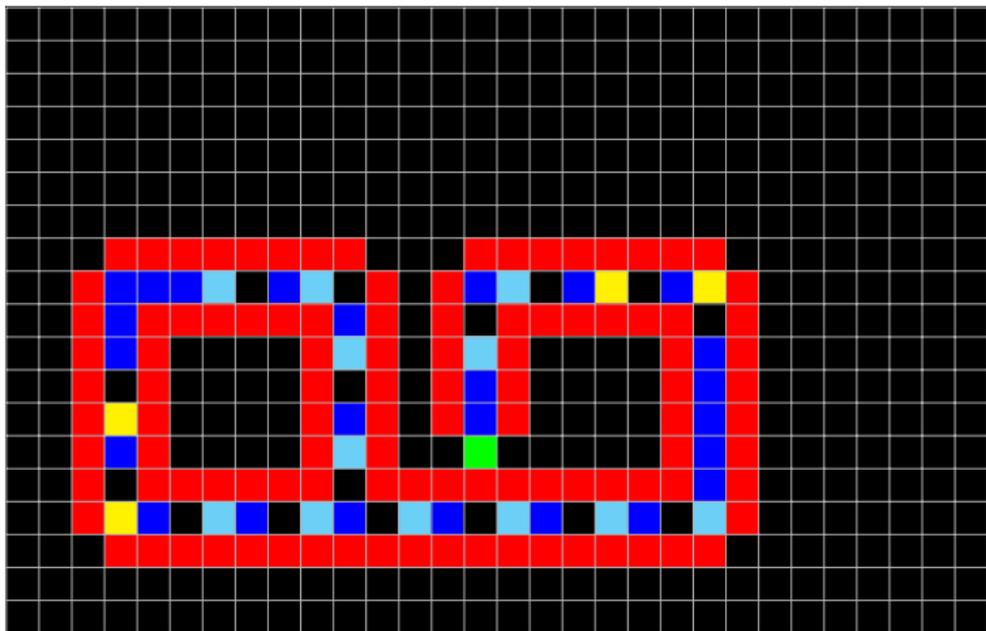
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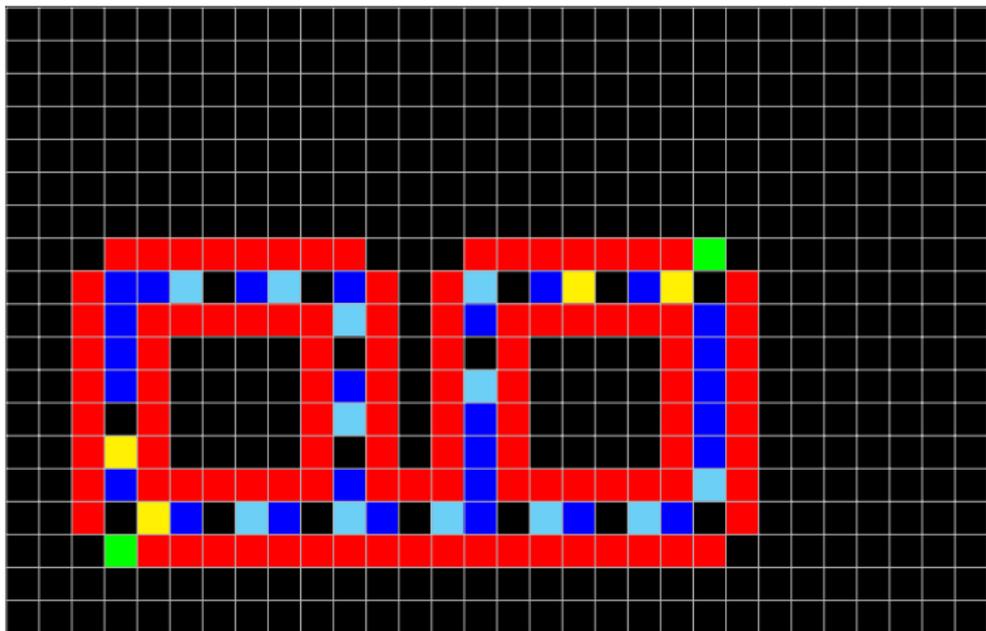
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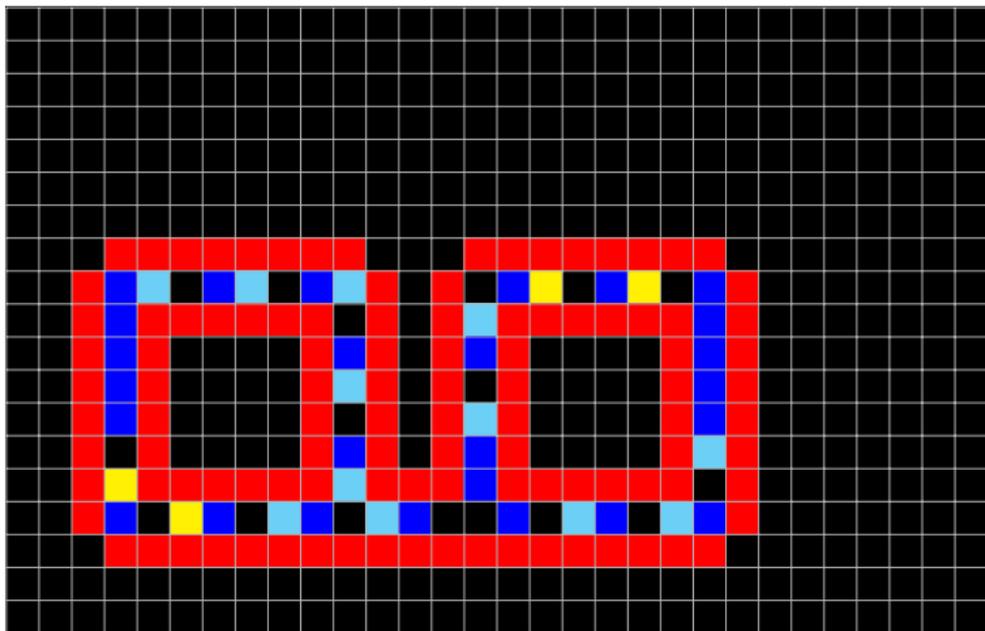
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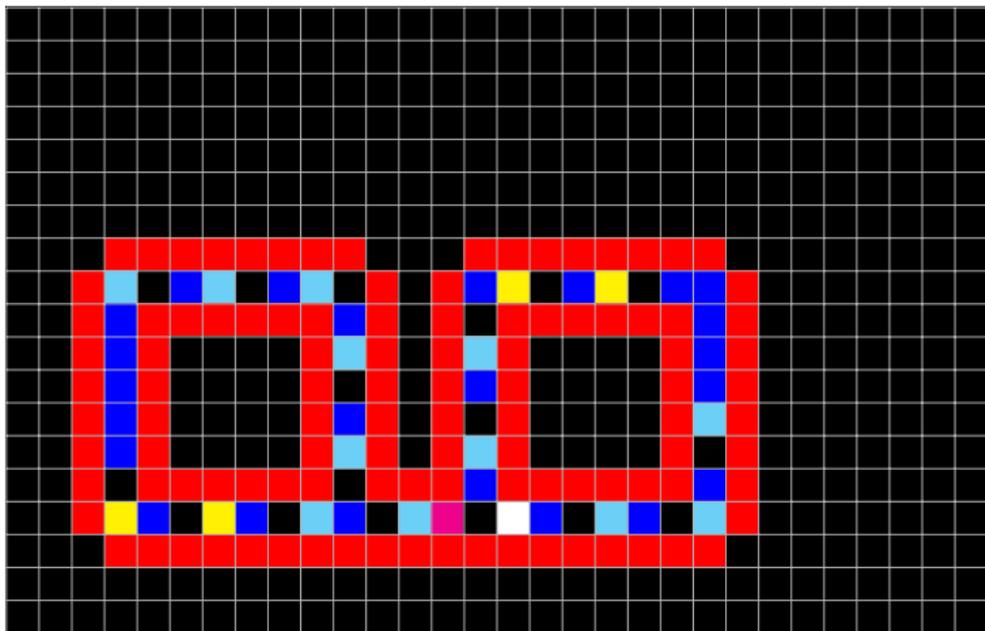
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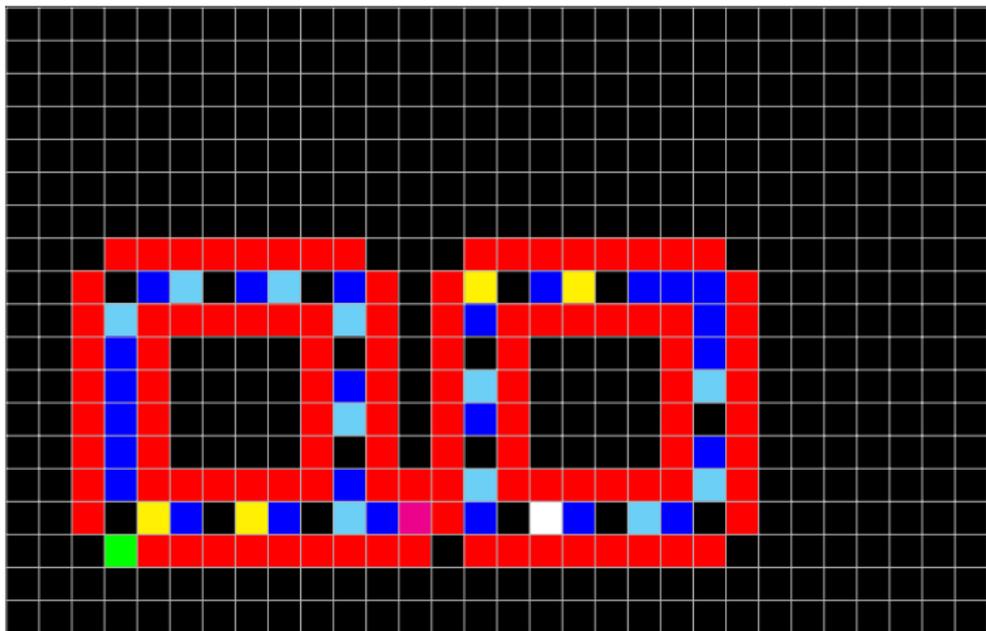
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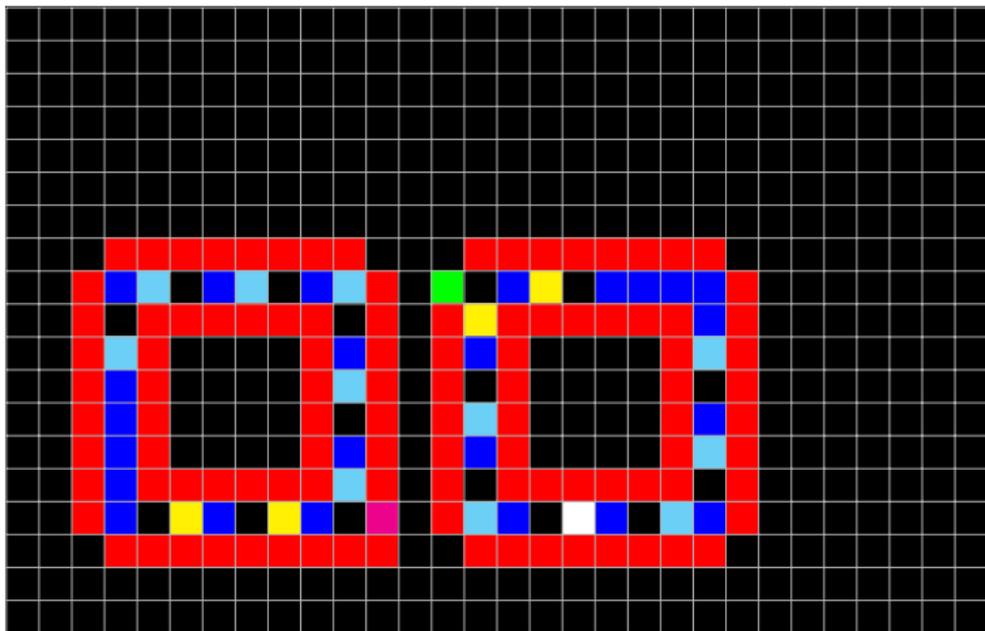
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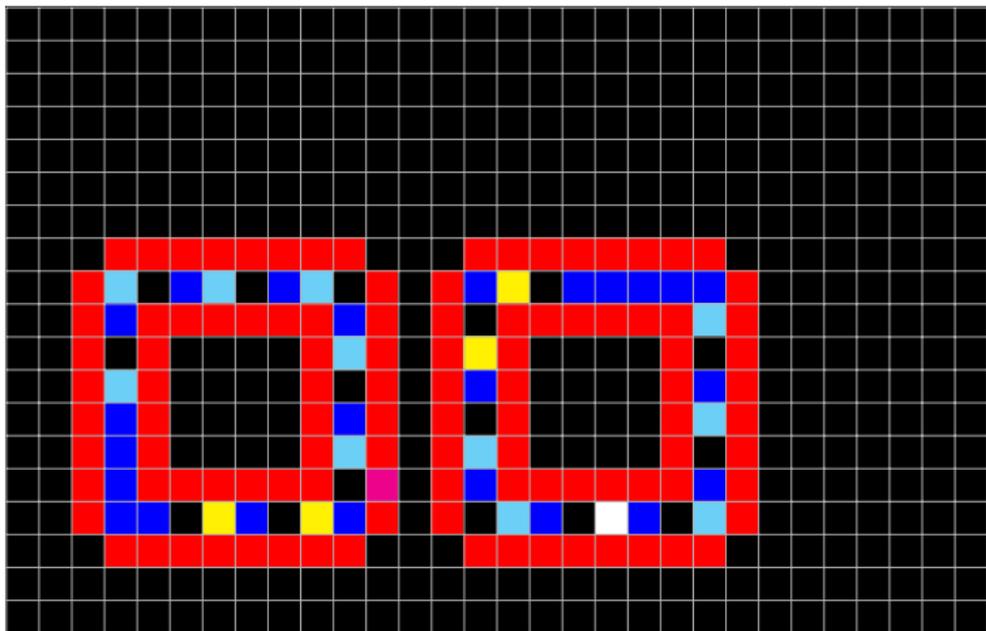
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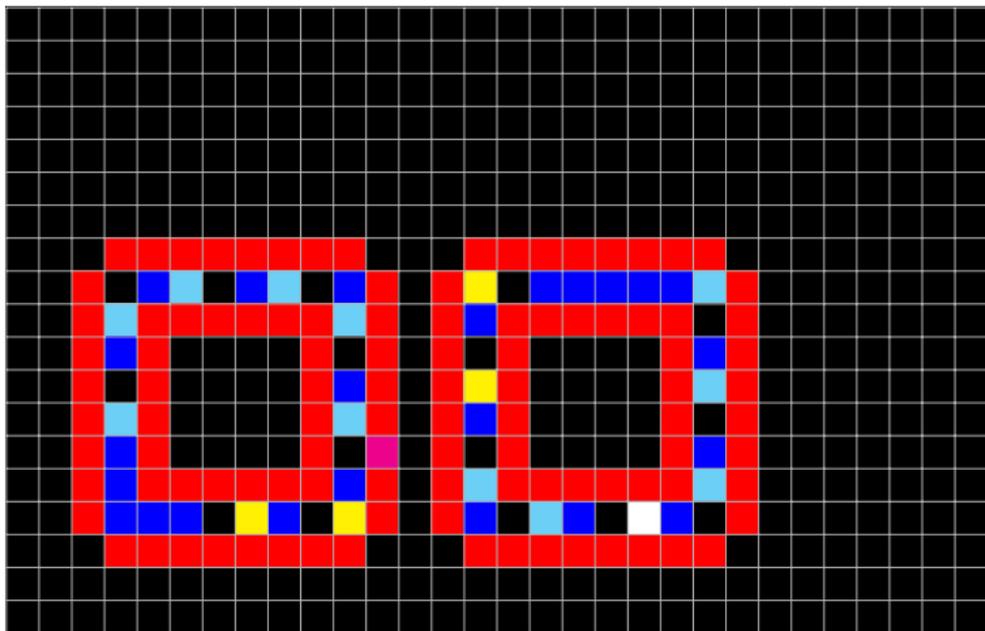
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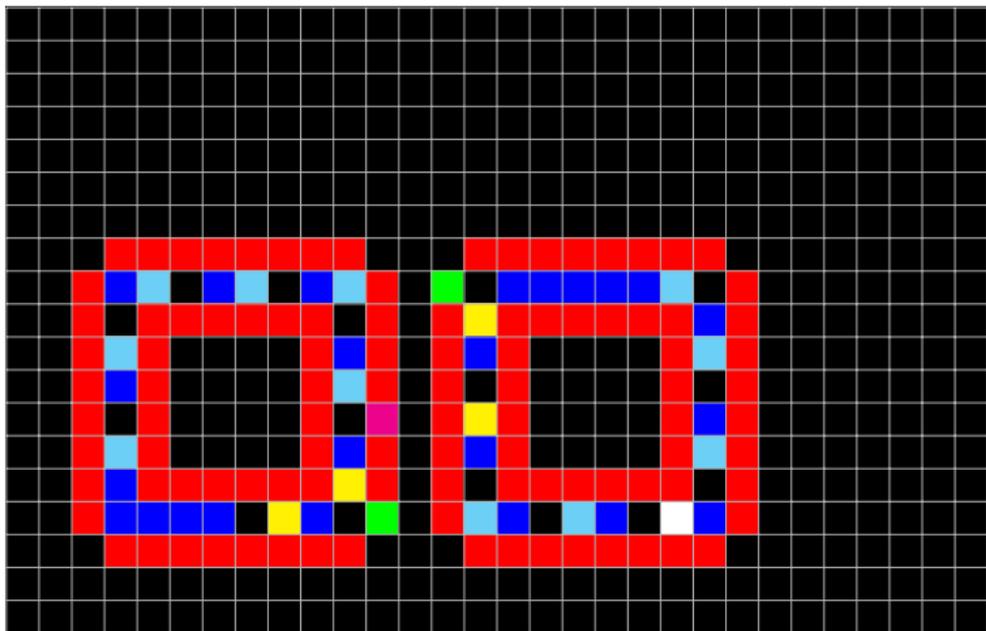
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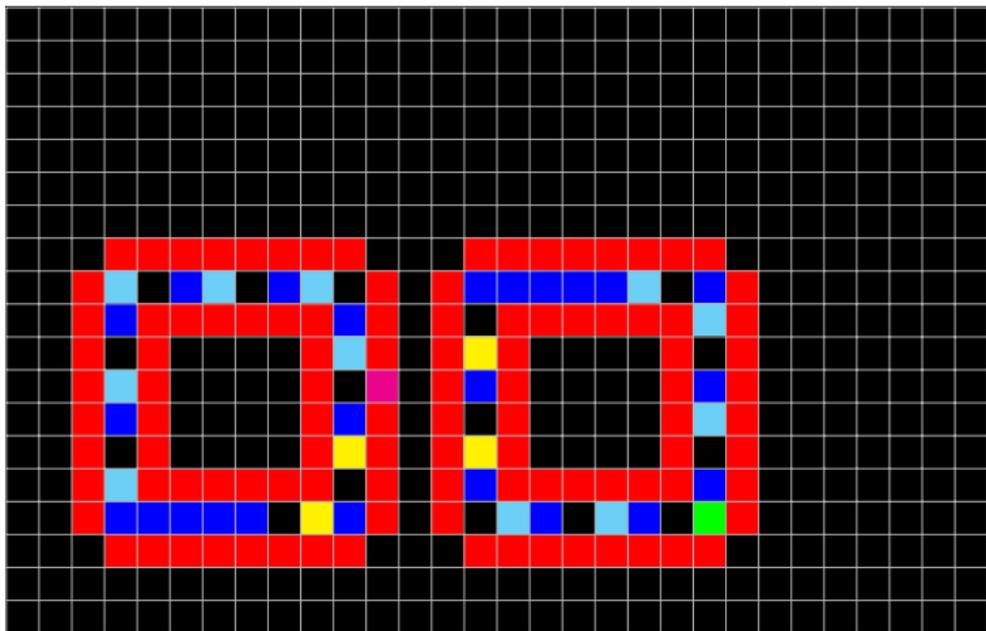
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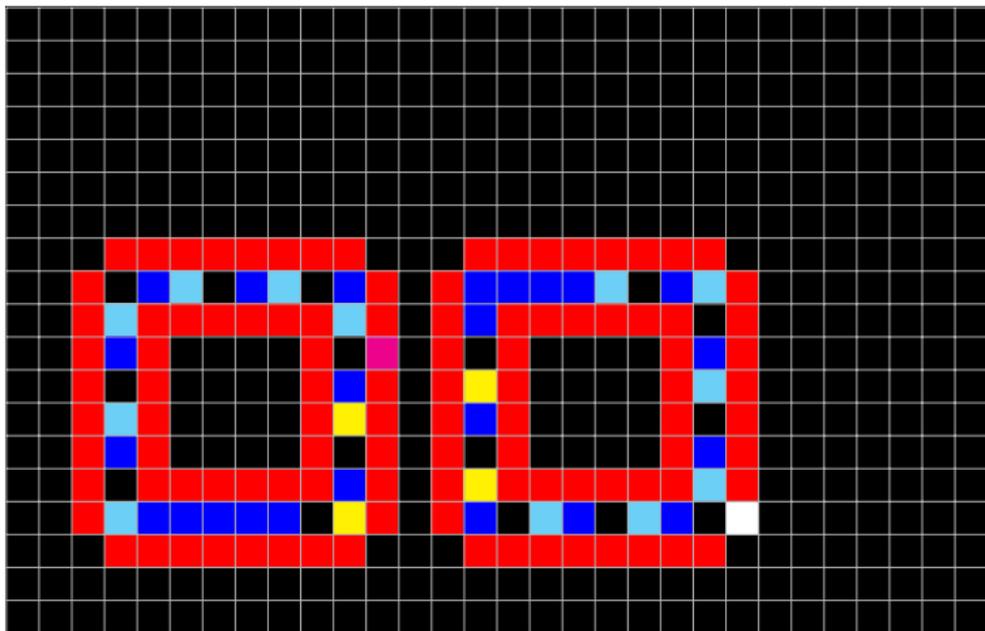
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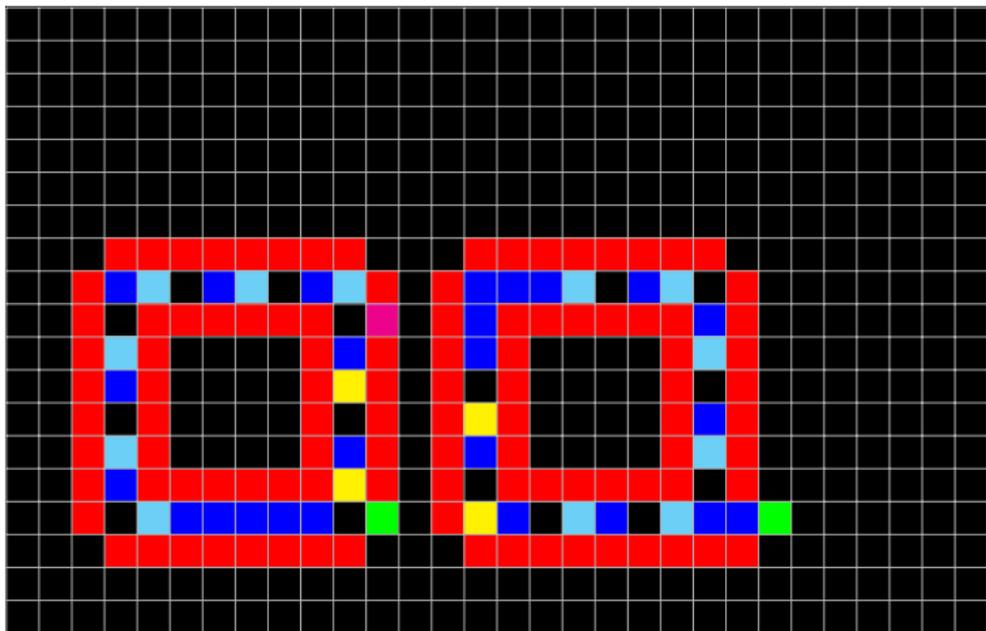
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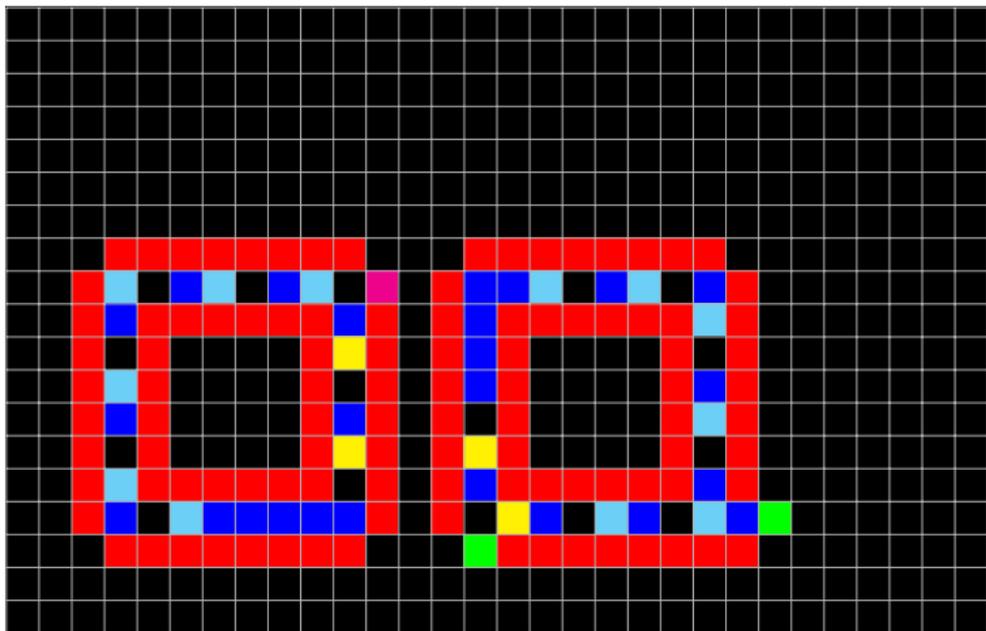
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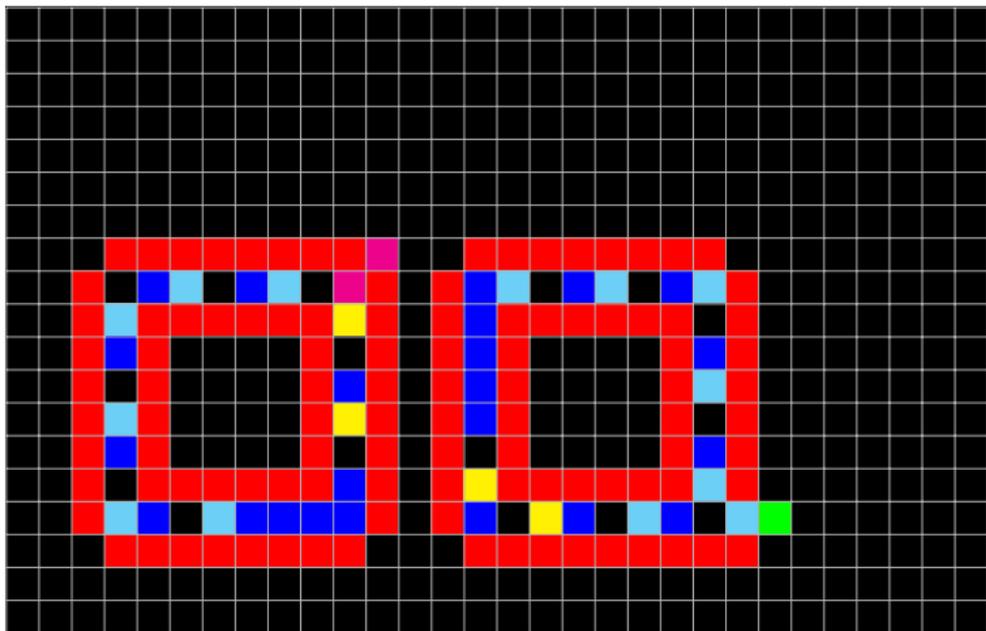
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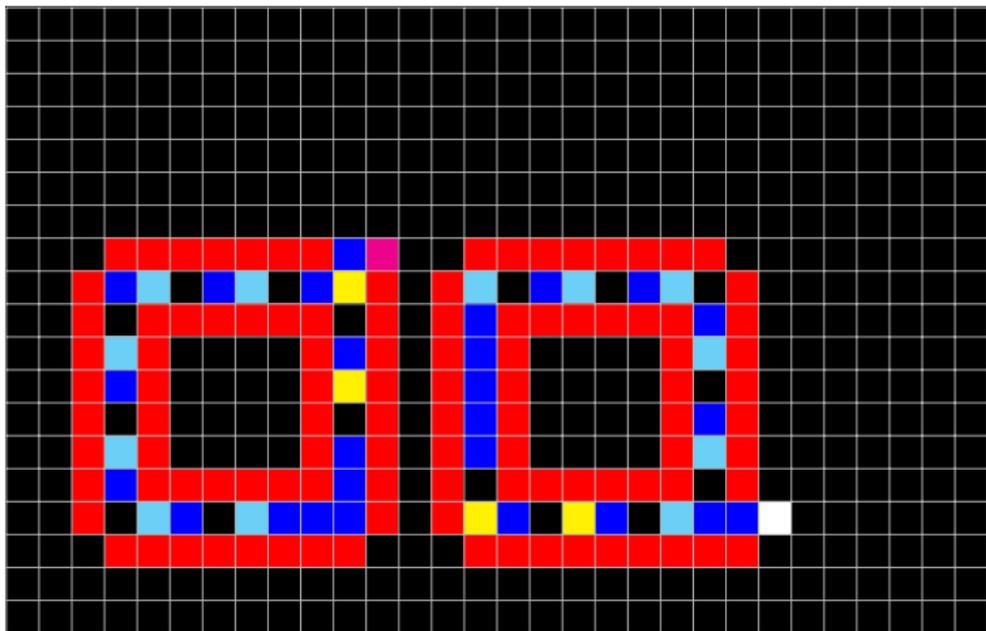
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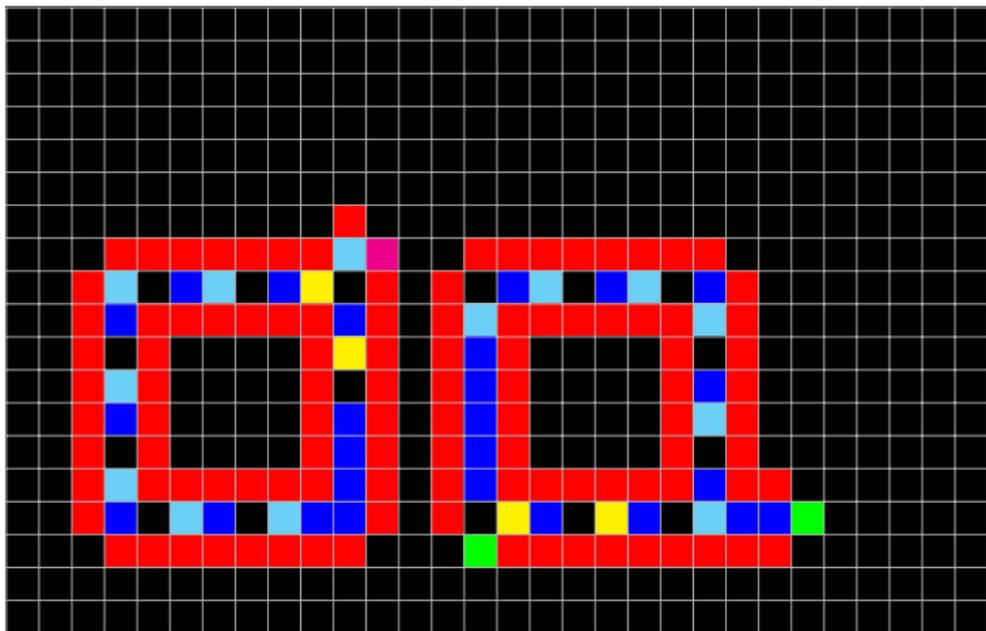
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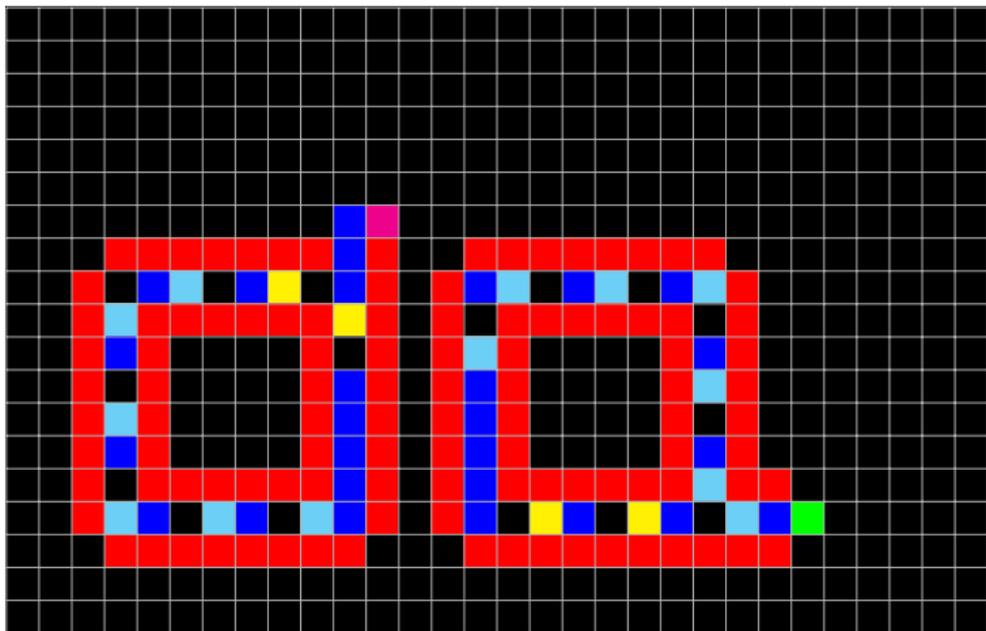
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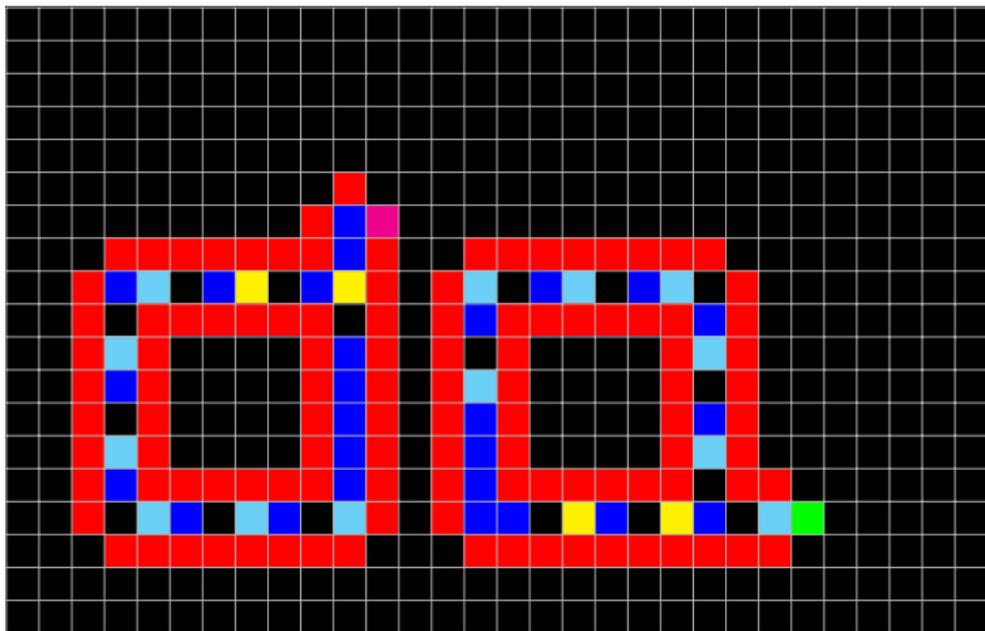
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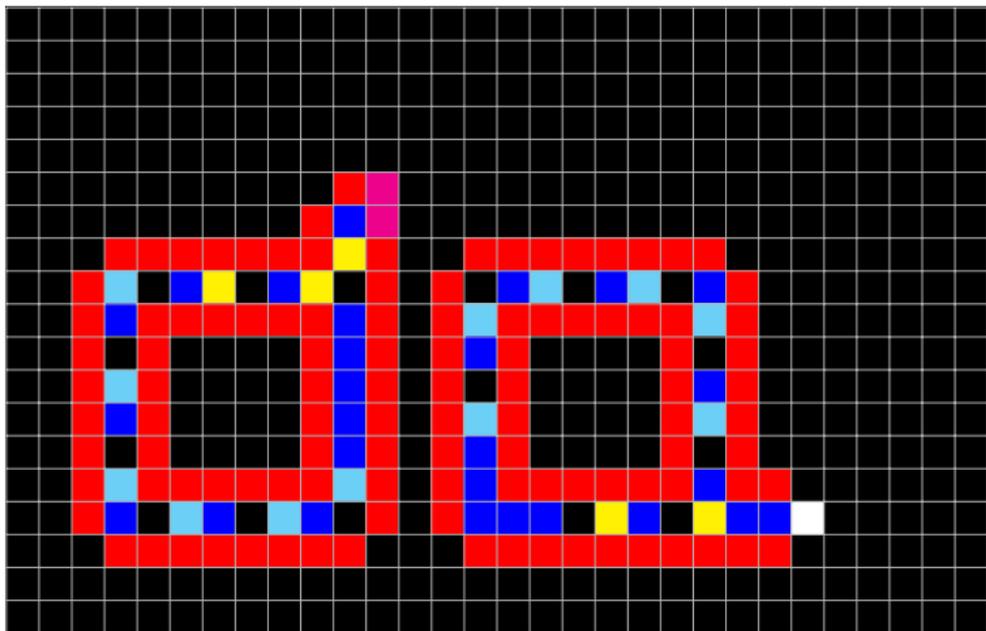
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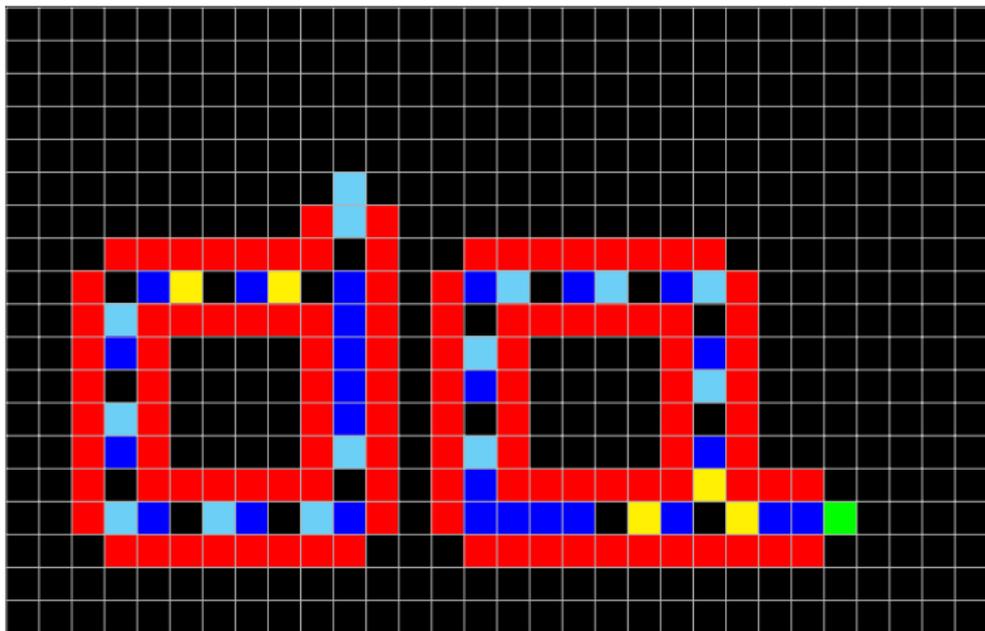
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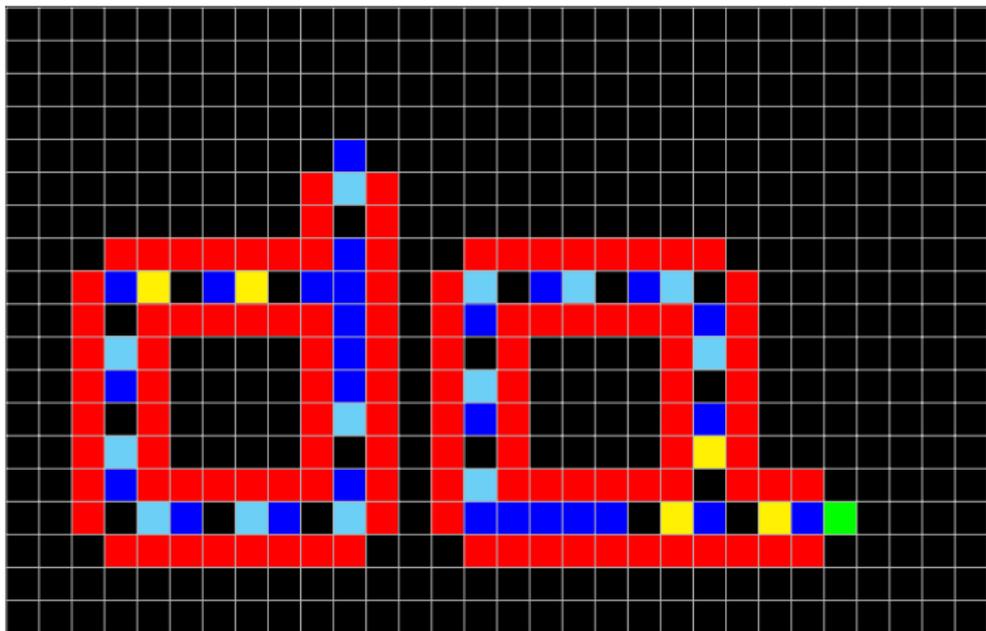
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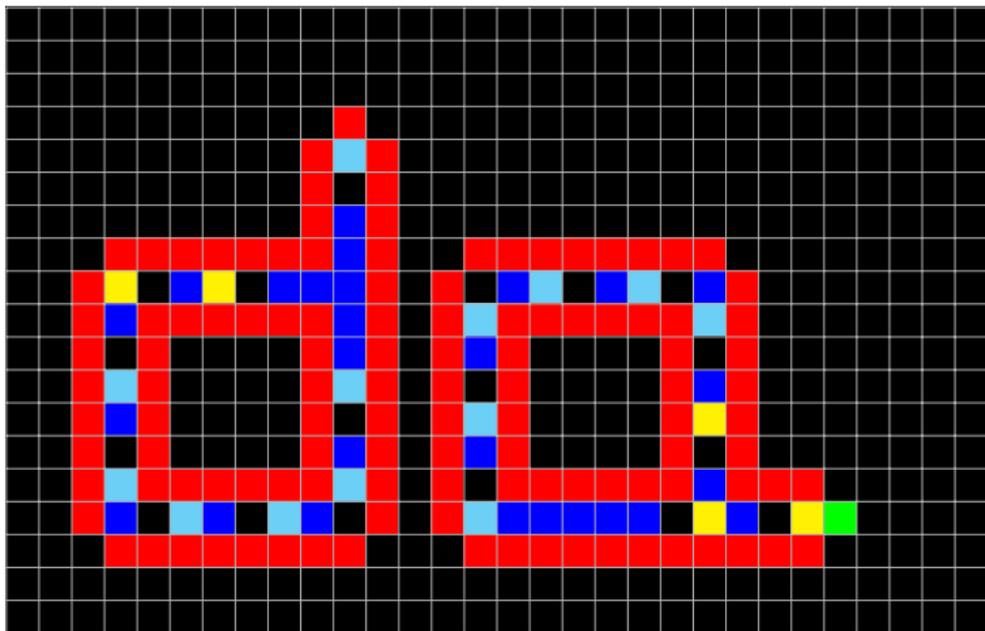
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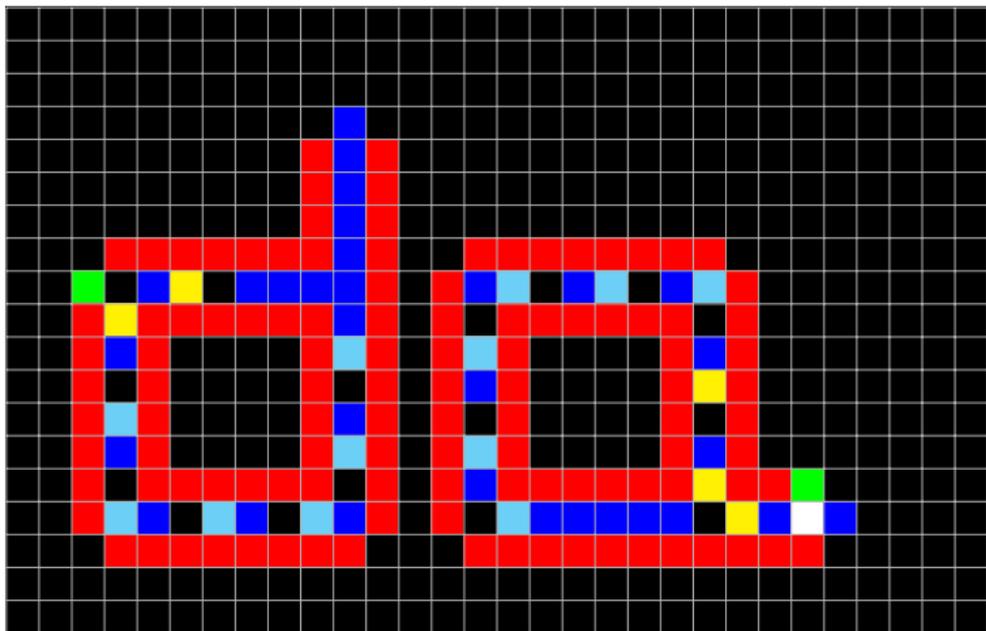
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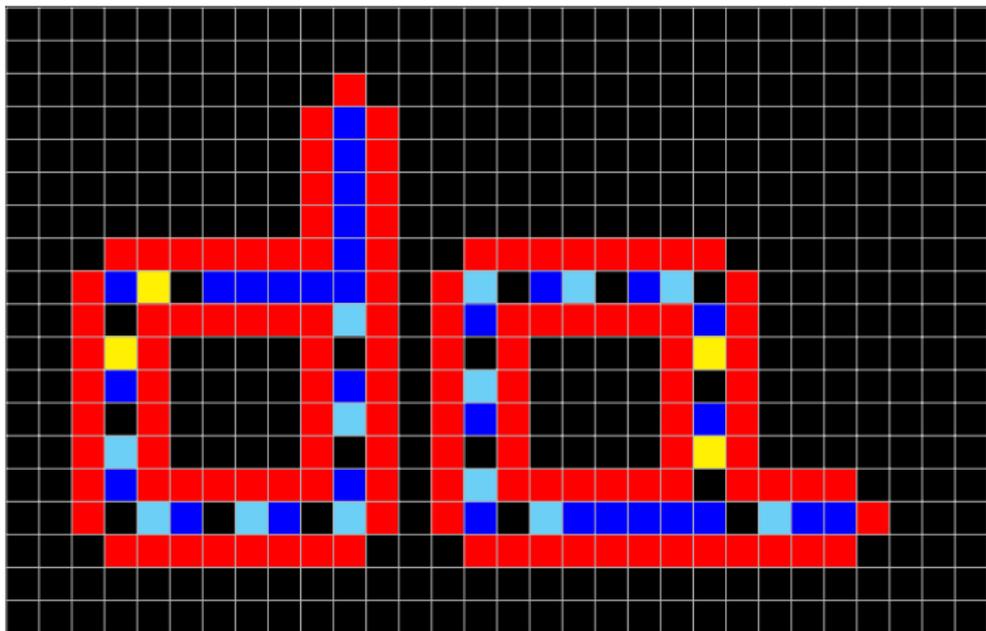
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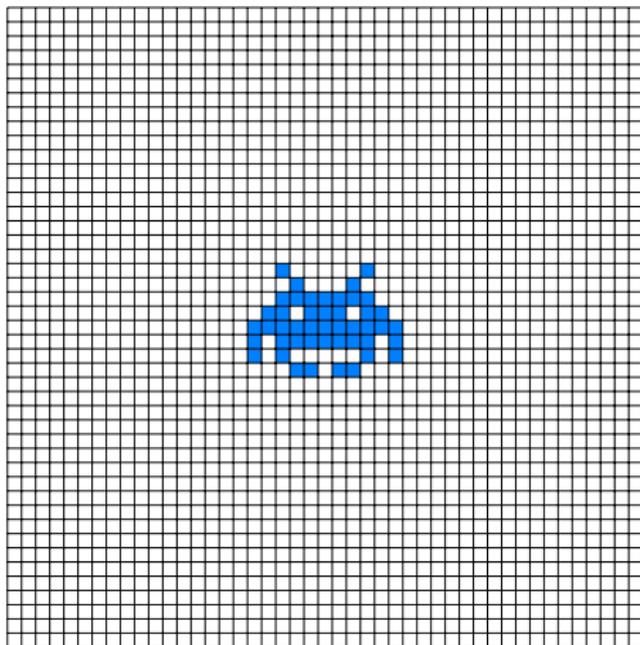
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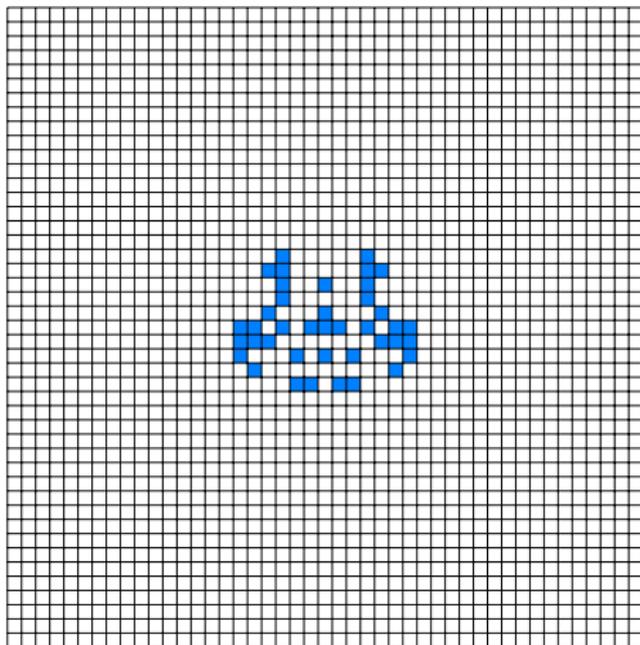
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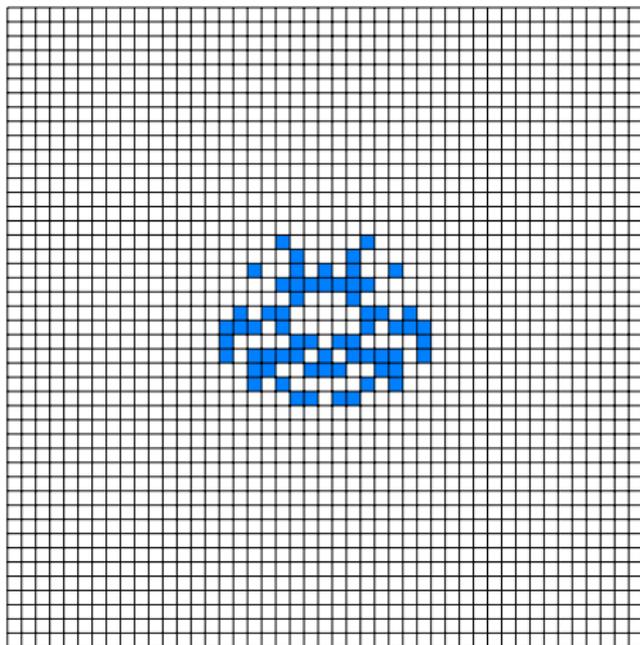
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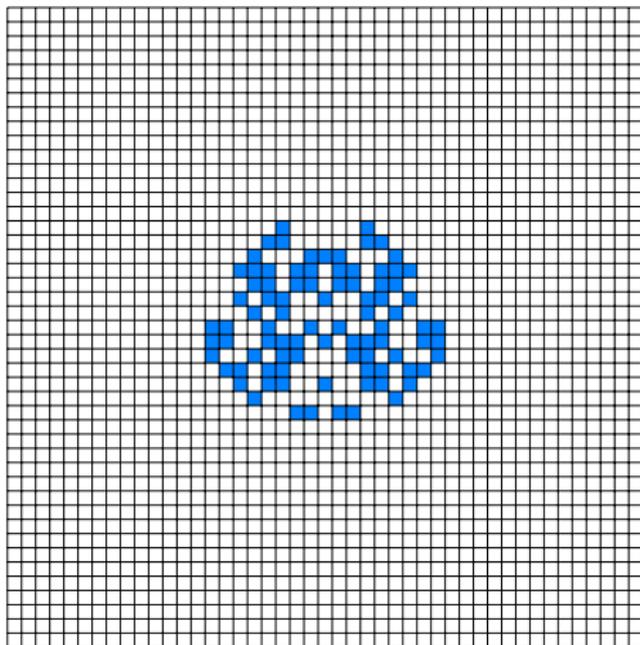
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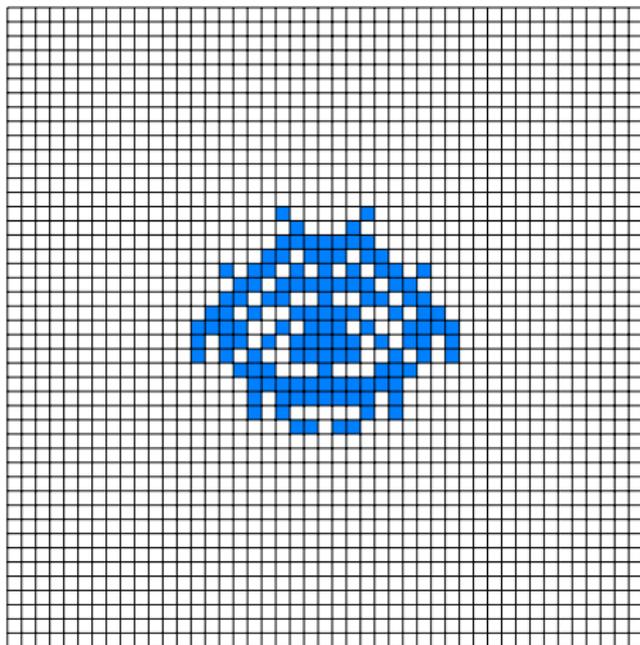
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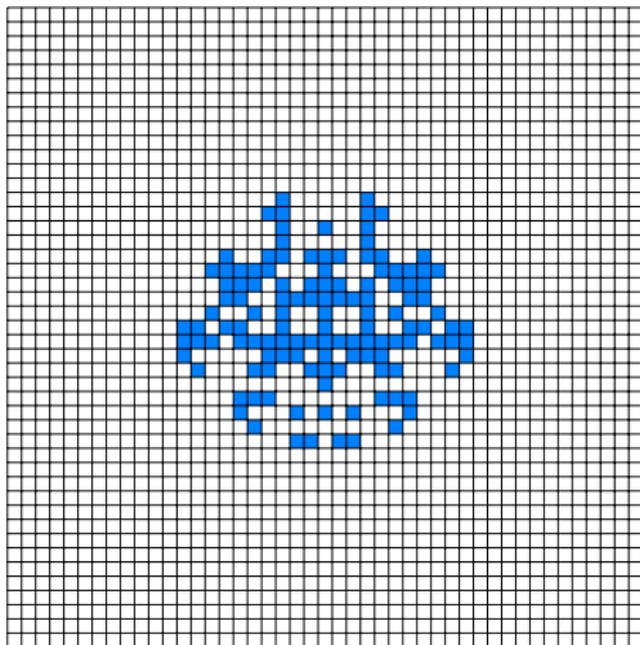
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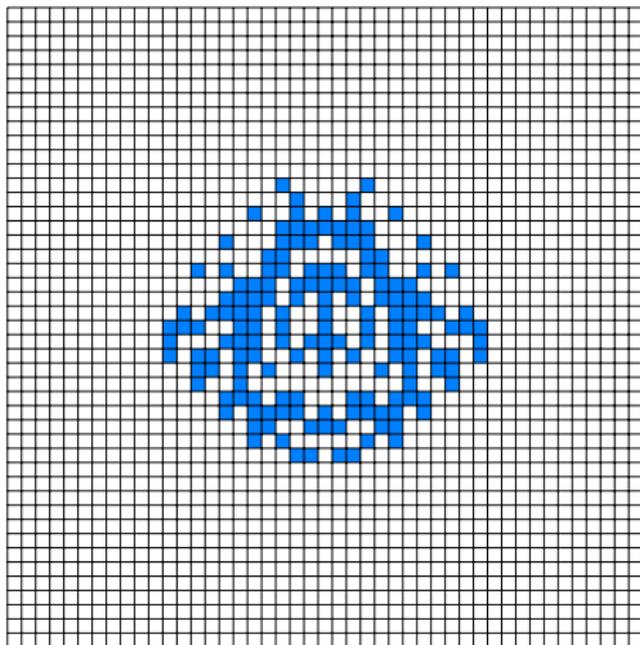
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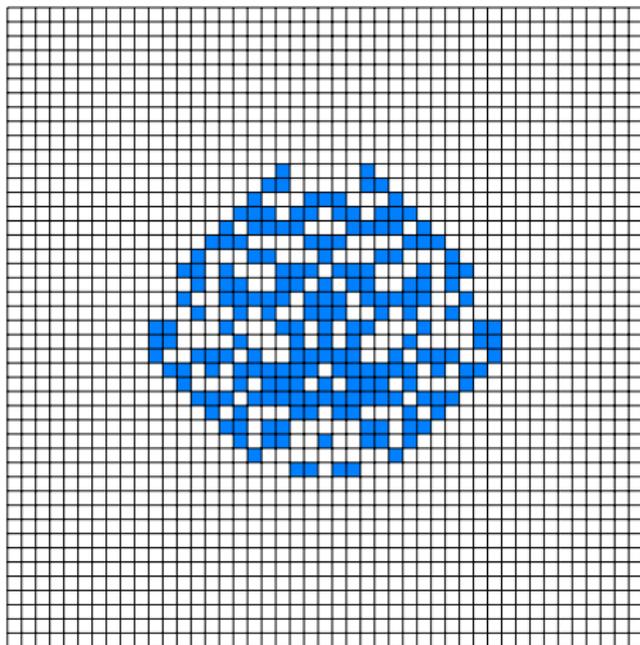
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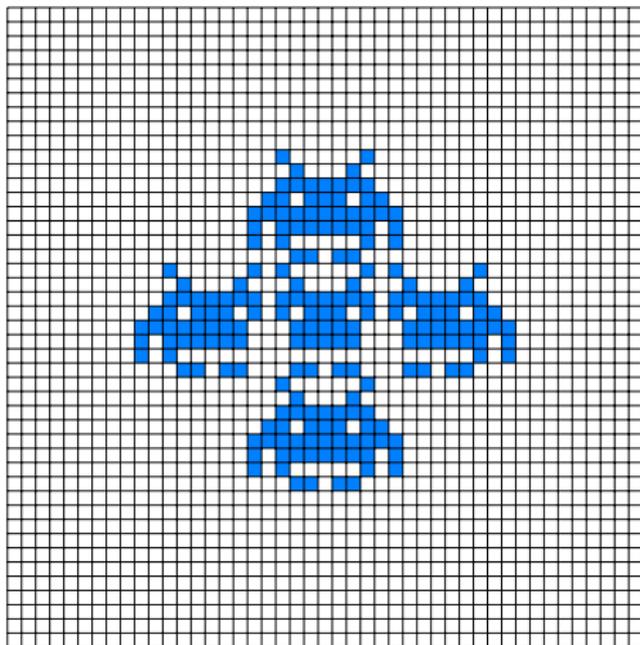
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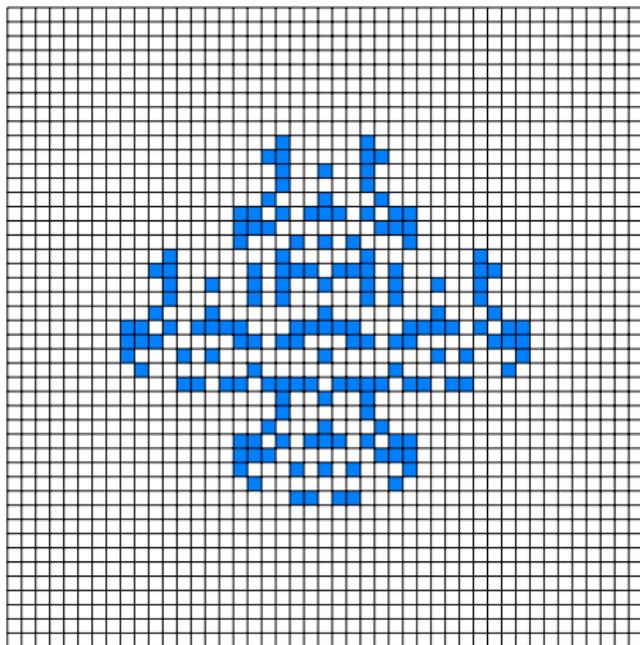
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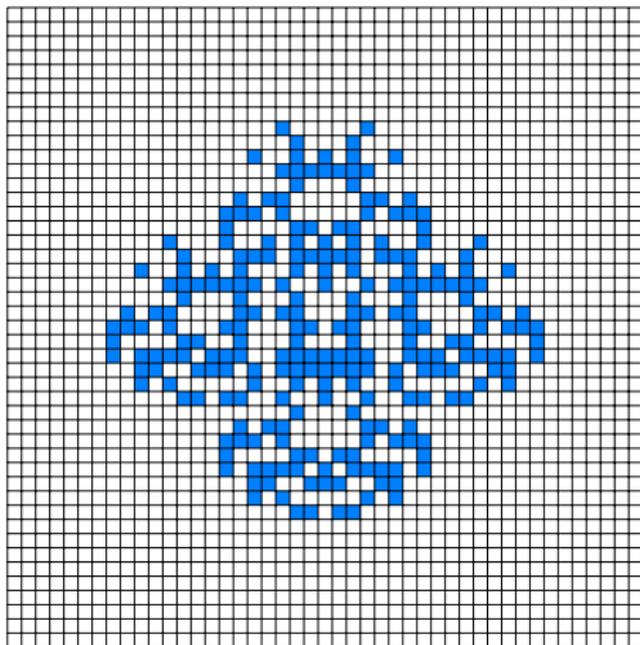
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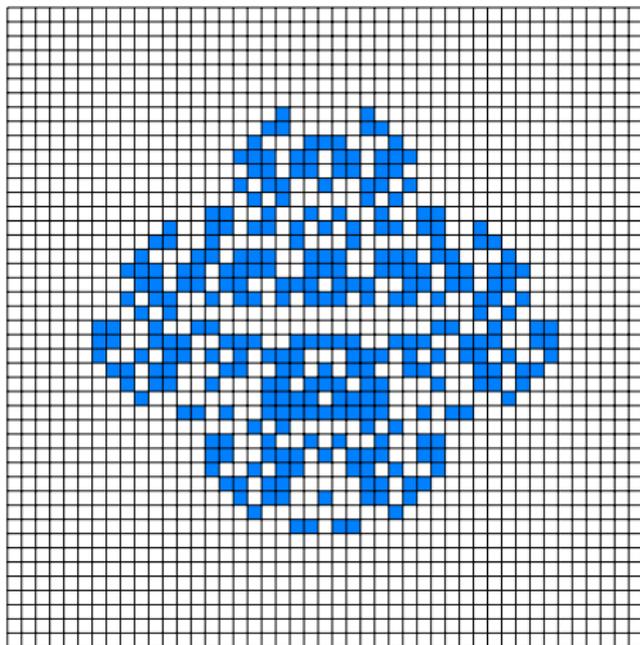
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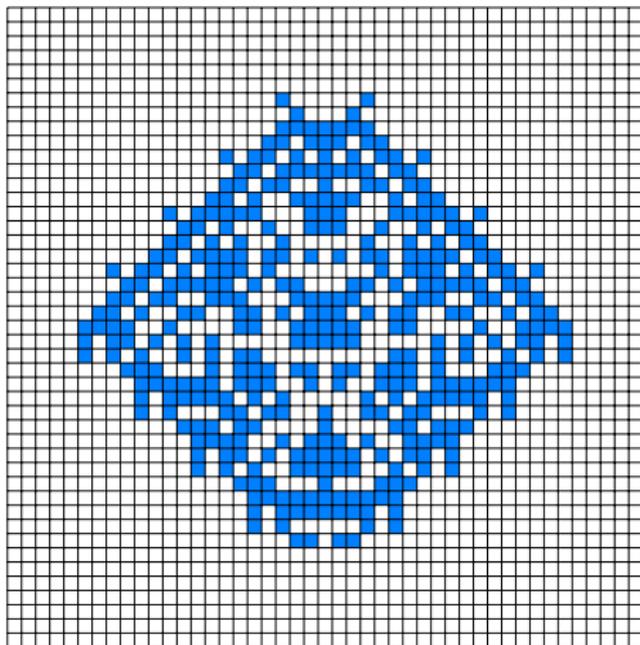
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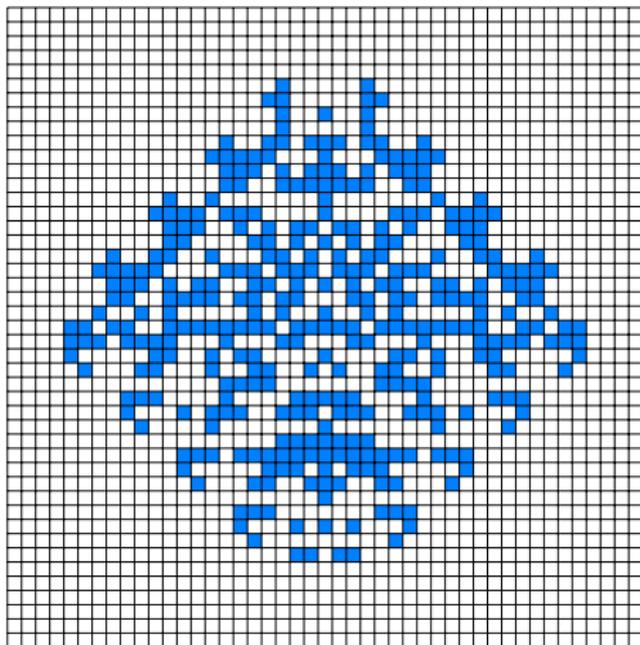
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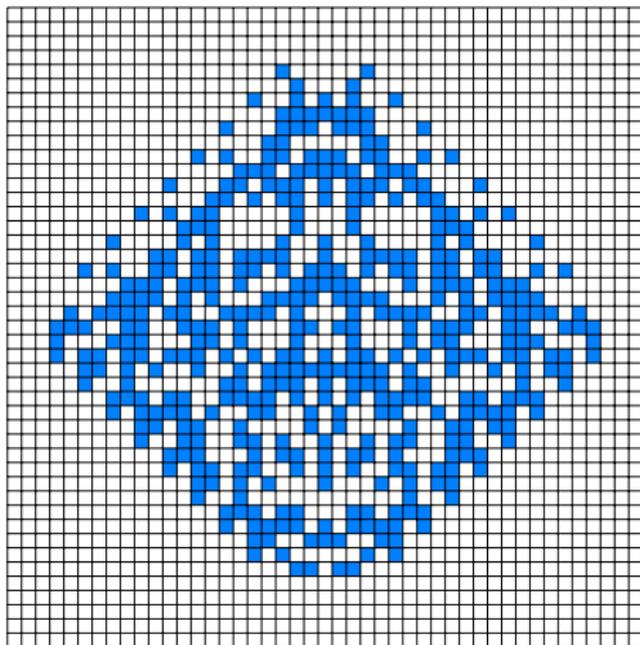
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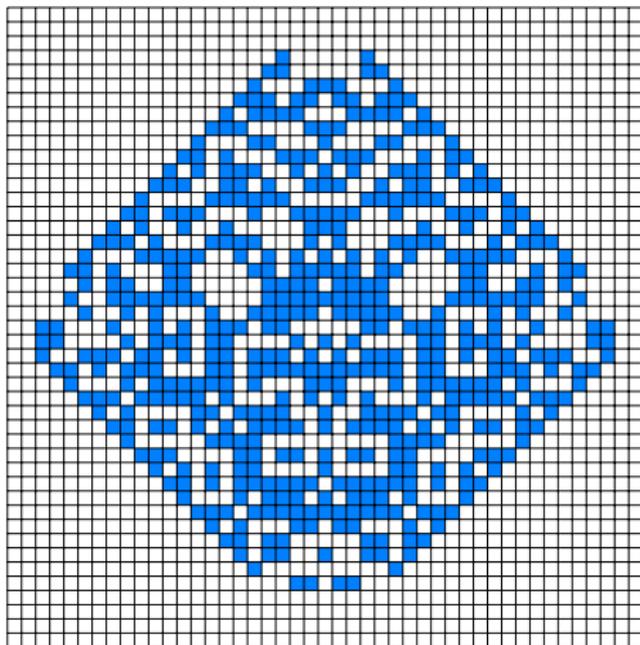
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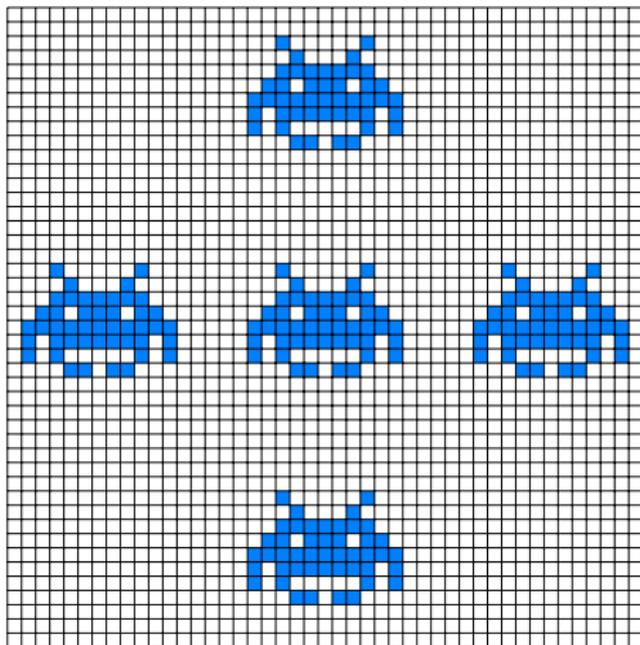
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$$N = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline | & | & | & | \\ \hline | & \blacksquare & \blacksquare & | \\ \hline | & \blacksquare & \blacksquare & | \\ \hline | & | & | & | \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$f(x_i) = \sum_i x_i \pmod{2}$$



Is the XOR CA a **fair example** of a self-reproducing CA?

An old open problem by Ulam

30

A COLLECTION OF MATHEMATICAL PROBLEMS

2. A problem on matrices arising in the theory of automata

The theory of automata leads to some interesting questions which in the simplest case reduce to matrix theory formulations. Suppose one has an infinite regular system of lattice points in E^n , each capable of existing in various states S_1, \dots, S_k . Each lattice point has a well defined system of m neighbors, and it is assumed that the state of each point at time $t + 1$ is uniquely determined by the states of all its neighbors at time t . Assuming that at time t only a finite set of points are active, one wants to know how the activation will spread. In particular, do there exist "universal" systems which are capable of generating arbitrary systems of states. Do there exist subsystems which are able to "reproduce," i.e., to produce other subsystems like the initial ones? In a simple case, one would ask: Does there exist an infinite matrix $A = [a_{ij}]$ of zeros and ones with $\sum_j a_{ij} < B$ for all rows i , such that every possible finite matrix of zeros and ones will appear as a main-diagonal submatrix of some power A^p of A ? A positive result would provide a simple example of a "universal" and "reproducing" system (in a very limited sense only).

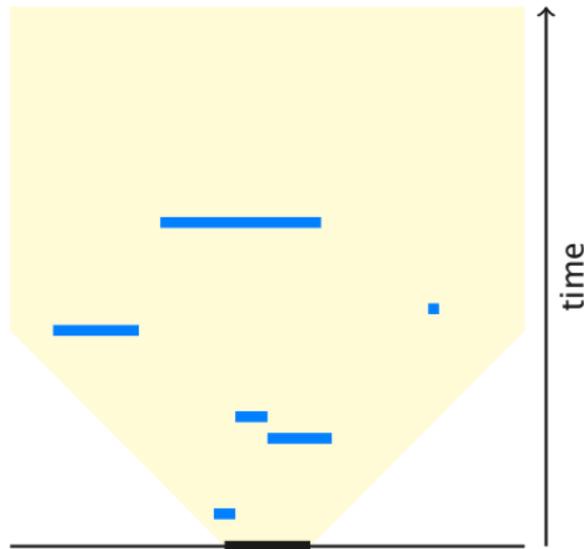
More generally, an analogous question may be asked about matrices whose elements are integers modulo p .

A similar inquiry is pertinent in case of the "recursive functions." Can one obtain all recursive functions by a *prescribed* algorithm operating on a finite set of such functions? More generally, are all expressions in Gödel's system obtainable from a finite system of such expressions and a finite number of rules of composition performed in a prescribed order? That is to say, for example, application of two operations, applied in turn in an order given by one sequence of two symbols.

Perhaps there exists a logical analogue of our universal matrix model.

(Ulam, 1960)

Open Pb Does there exist a CA and a finite configuration that **generates every possible finite pattern**?



Outline of the tutorial

Part I Computing inside cellular space

Engineering CA and configurations to achieve computational tasks. Universalities. Massively parallel computing.

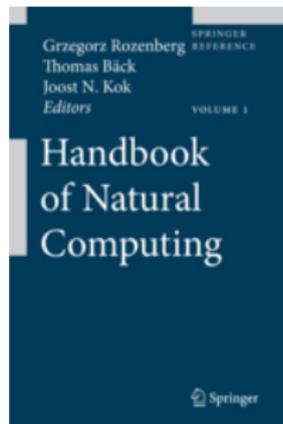
Part II Computing properties of cellular automata

Analyzing given CA to decide both immediate and dynamical properties. Classical results.

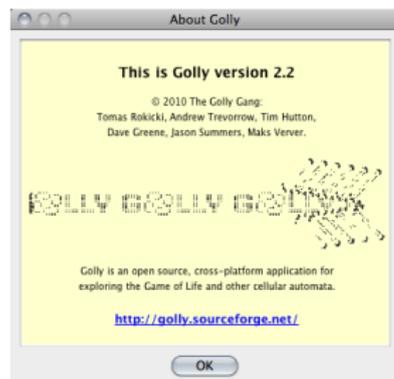
Part III Computation and reduction: undecidability results

Reducing instances of undecidable problems to CA and configurations to prove undecidability results. Lots of properties of CA are undecidable.

Going further



Section I Cellular Automata



<http://golly.sf.net/>

<http://www.lif.univ-mrs.fr/~nollinge/acuc/>

Part I

Computing inside the cellular space

Part I

Computing inside the cellular space

1. Cellular automata

2. A universal model of computation
3. A model of parallel computation

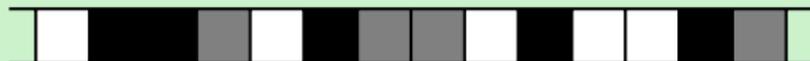


Cellular automata



Definition A **CA** is a tuple (d, S, N, f) where S is a **finite set of states**, $N \subseteq_{\text{finite}} \mathbb{Z}^d$ is the finite **neighborhood** and $f : S^N \rightarrow S$ is the **local rule** of the cellular automaton.

A **configuration** $c \in S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$ is a coloring of \mathbb{Z}^d by S .

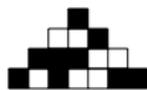


The **global map** $G : S^{\mathbb{Z}^d} \rightarrow S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$ applies f uniformly and locally:

$$\forall c \in S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}, \forall z \in \mathbb{Z}^d, \quad F(c)(z) = f(c|_{z+N}).$$

A **space-time diagram** $\Delta \in S^{\mathbb{Z}^d \times \mathbb{N}}$ satisfies, for all $t \in \mathbb{N}$,
$$\Delta(t+1) = F(\Delta(t)).$$

Space-time diagram



time goes up

$$S = \{0, 1, 2\}, r = 1, f(x, y, z) = \lfloor 6450288690466/3^{9x+3y+z} \rfloor \pmod{3}$$

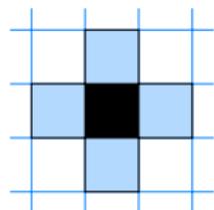
2D cellular automata



Typical **high dimension CA** in this tutorial: $c \in S^{\mathbb{Z}^2}$.

Classical **von Neumann** neighborhood :

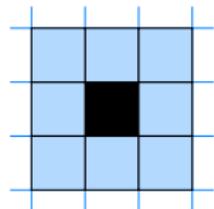
$$N_{\text{vN}} = \{0\} \times \{-1, 0, 1\} \cup \{-1, 0, 1\} \times \{0\}$$



von Neumann

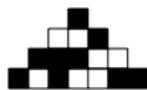
Classical **Moore** neighborhood :

$$N_{\text{Moore}} = \{-1, 0, 1\} \times \{-1, 0, 1\}$$



Moore

1D cellular automata



More restricted **low dimension CA**, easier to analyze: $c \in S^{\mathbb{Z}}$.

Classical **first neighbors** neighborhood :

$$N_{\text{first}} = \{-1, 0, 1\}$$



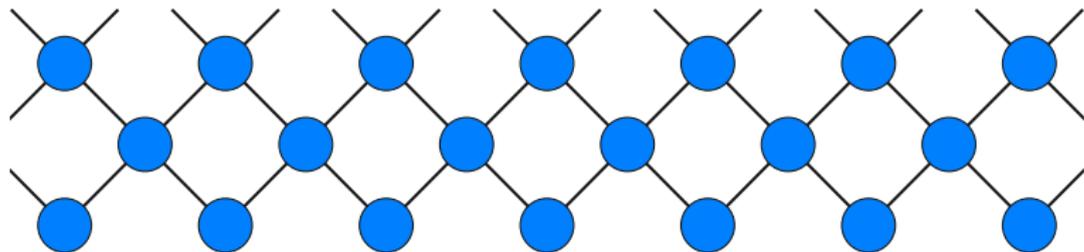
1D

Classical **one-way** neighborhood :

$$N_{\text{OCA}} = \{0, 1\}$$



OCA



Configurations



The set of configurations, $S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$, is **uncountable**. What reasonable **countable subset** can we consider?

Recursive configurations are useless, **undecidability** is everywhere (Rice theorem).

Finite configurations with a quiescent state.

Periodic configurations are ultimately periodic.

Ultimately periodic configurations compromise.

Thanks to **locality**, one can also consider **partial space-time diagrams** to study all configurations.

Part I

Computing inside the cellular space

1. Cellular automata

2. A universal model of computation



3. A model of parallel computation

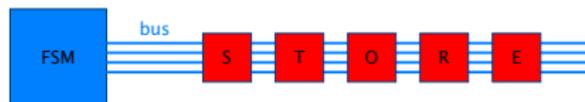
Universality in higher dimensions



Construction of universal CA appeared with CA as a tool to embed computation into the CA world. First, for **2D CA**

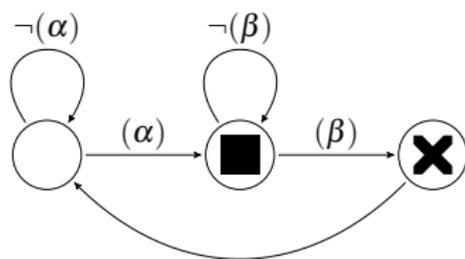
1966	von Neumann	5	29
1968	Codd	5	8
1970	Conway	8	2
1970	Banks	5	2

A natural idea in 2D is to emulate **universal boolean circuits** by embedding ingredients into the CA space: **signals, wires, turns, fan-outs, gates, delays, clocks, etc.**





$$\left(\mathbb{Z}^2, \{\square, \blacksquare, \times\}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & \\ \hline & & \blacksquare & \\ \hline & & \blacksquare & \\ \hline & & & \\ \hline \end{array}, \delta \right)$$

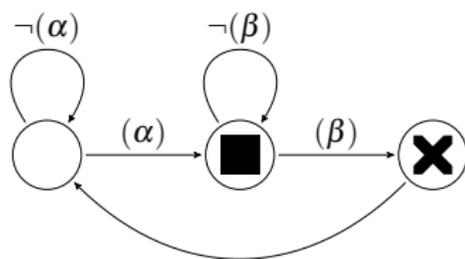


- (α) both north and south, or east and west, neighbors in state \times or \blacksquare ;
- (β) at least two neighbors in state \times or \blacksquare and either exactly one neighbor in state \times or exactly one neighbor in state \blacksquare .





$$\left(\mathbb{Z}^2, \{\square, \blacksquare, \times\}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & \\ \hline & & \blacksquare & \\ \hline & & \blacksquare & \\ \hline & & & \\ \hline \end{array}, \delta \right)$$

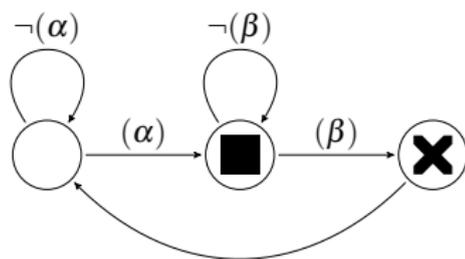


- (α) both north and south, or east and west, neighbors in state \times or \blacksquare ;
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$$\left(\mathbb{Z}^2, \{\square, \blacksquare, \times\}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & \\ \hline & & \blacksquare & \\ \hline & \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \\ \hline & & & \\ \hline \end{array}, \delta \right)$$

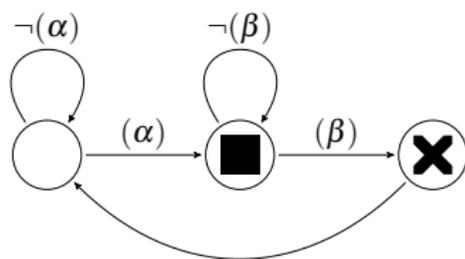


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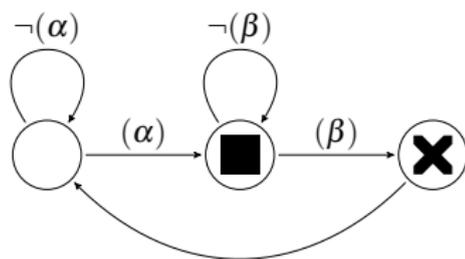


- (α) both north and south, or east and west, neighbors in state **×** or **■**;
- (β) at least two neighbors in state **×** or **■** and either exactly one neighbor in state **×** or exactly one neighbor in state **■**.





$$\left(\mathbb{Z}^2, \{\square, \blacksquare, \times\}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & \\ \hline & & \blacksquare & \\ \hline & & \blacksquare & \\ \hline & & & \\ \hline \end{array}, \delta \right)$$

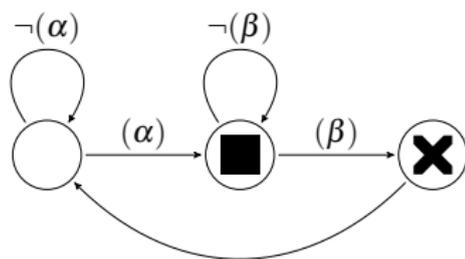


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$$\left(\mathbb{Z}^2, \{\square, \blacksquare, \times\}, \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & \\ \hline & & \blacksquare & \\ \hline & \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \\ \hline & & & \\ \hline \end{array}, \delta \right)$$

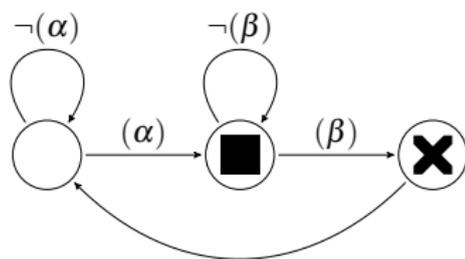


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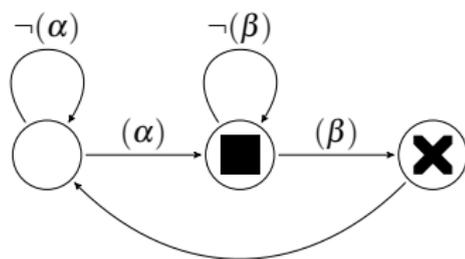


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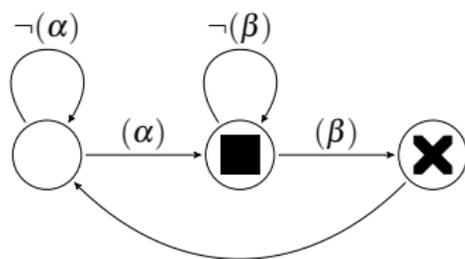


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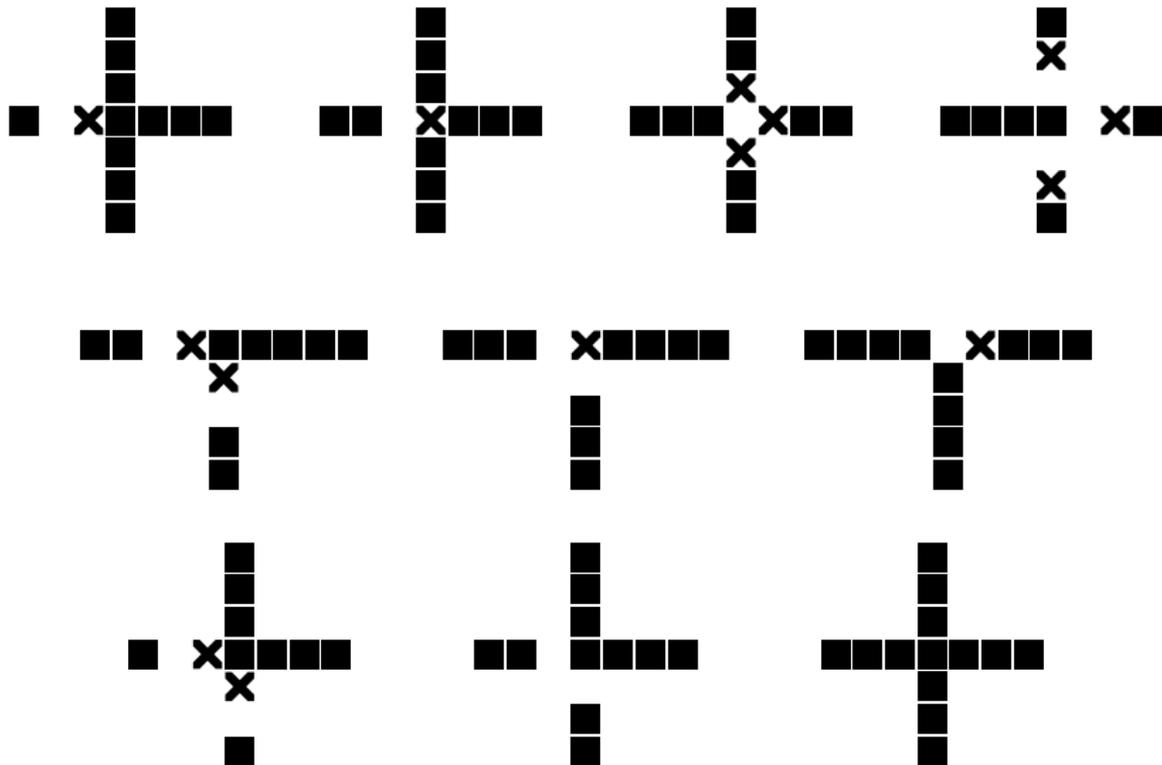
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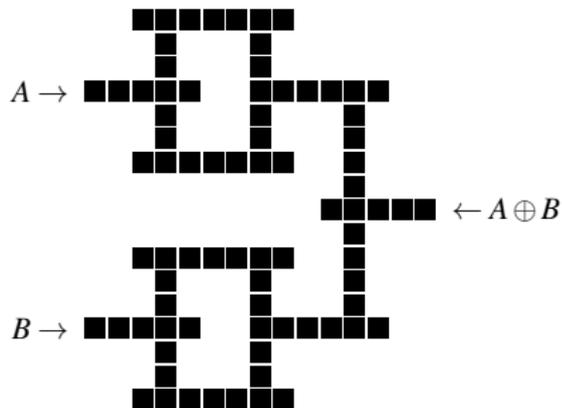
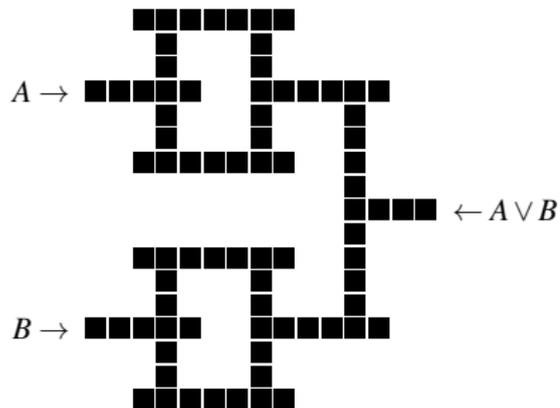
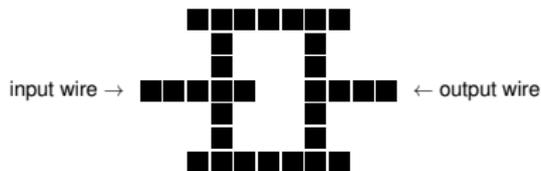
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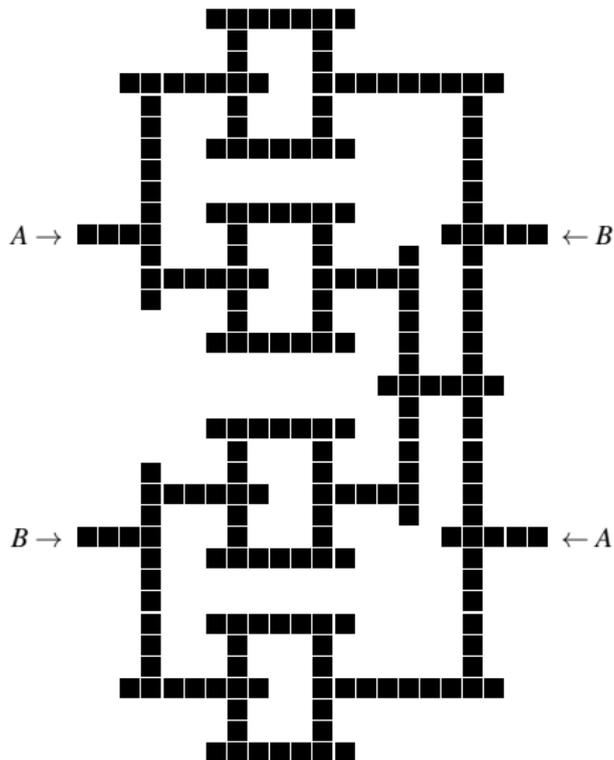
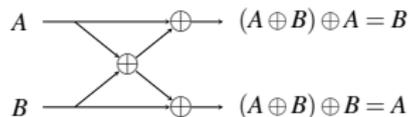
Copper: Intersections



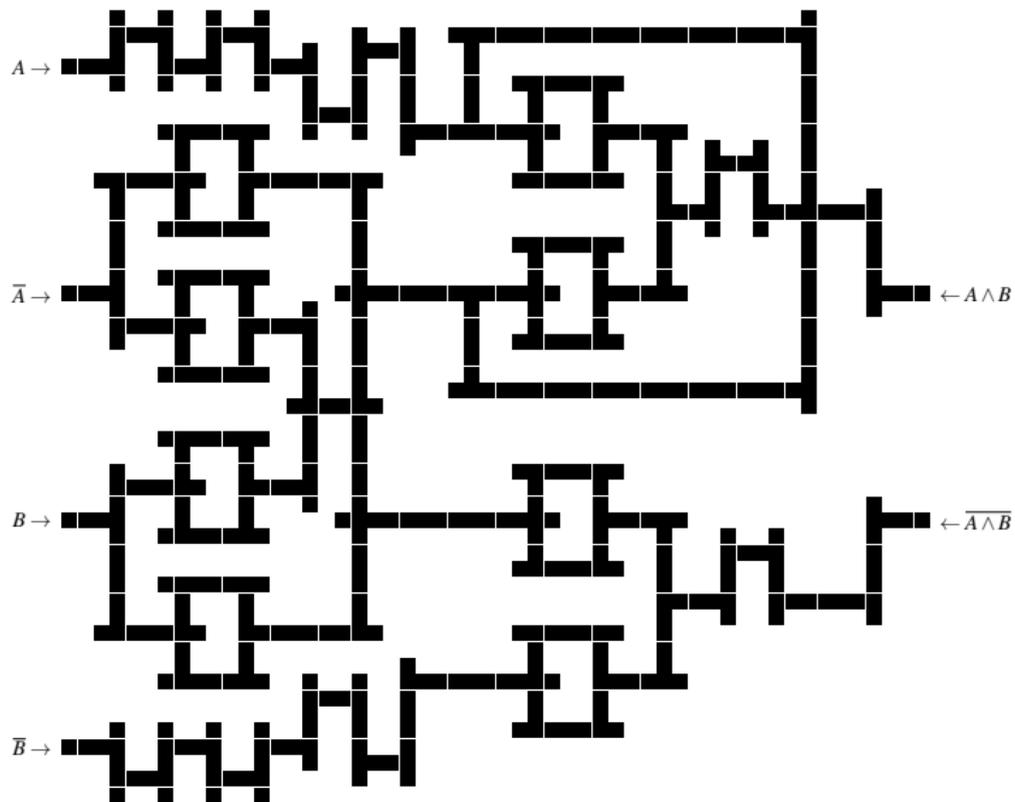
Copper: Gates

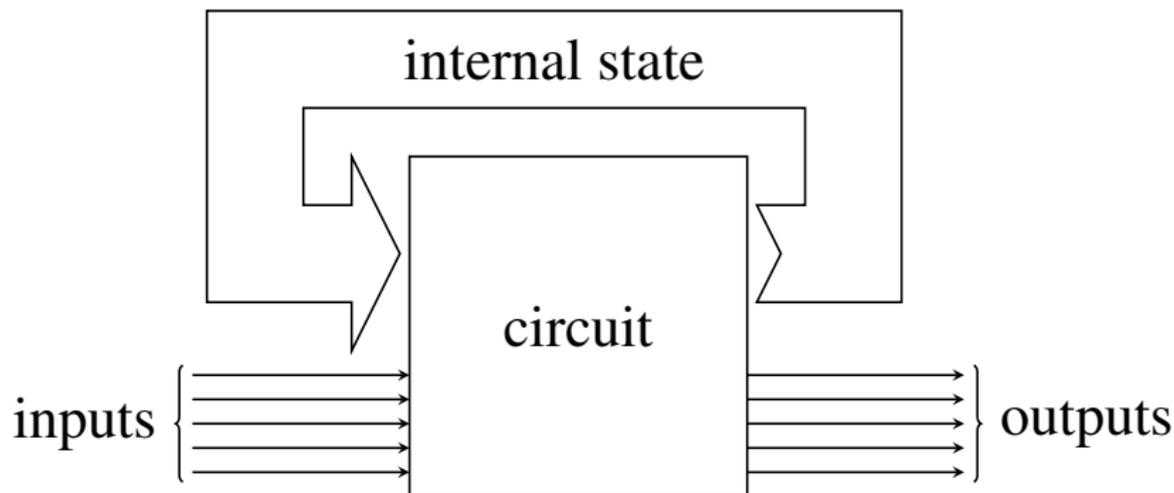


Copper: Xing



Copper: AND





Theorem Copper is **universal for boolean circuits**.

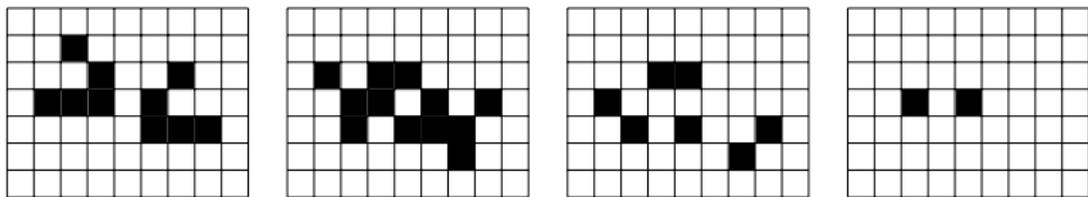
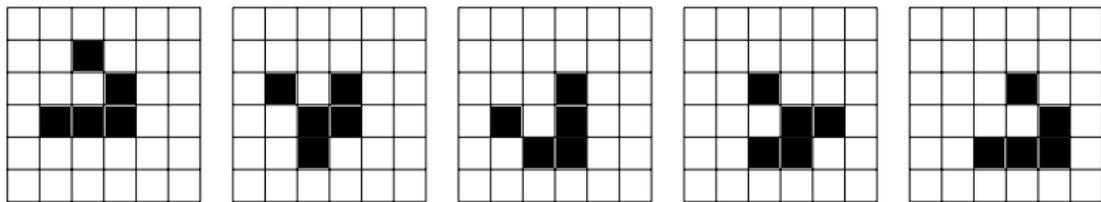
Simulating a universal device requires an **ultimately periodic configuration** of **infinitely many** non quiescent cells.

The Game of Life

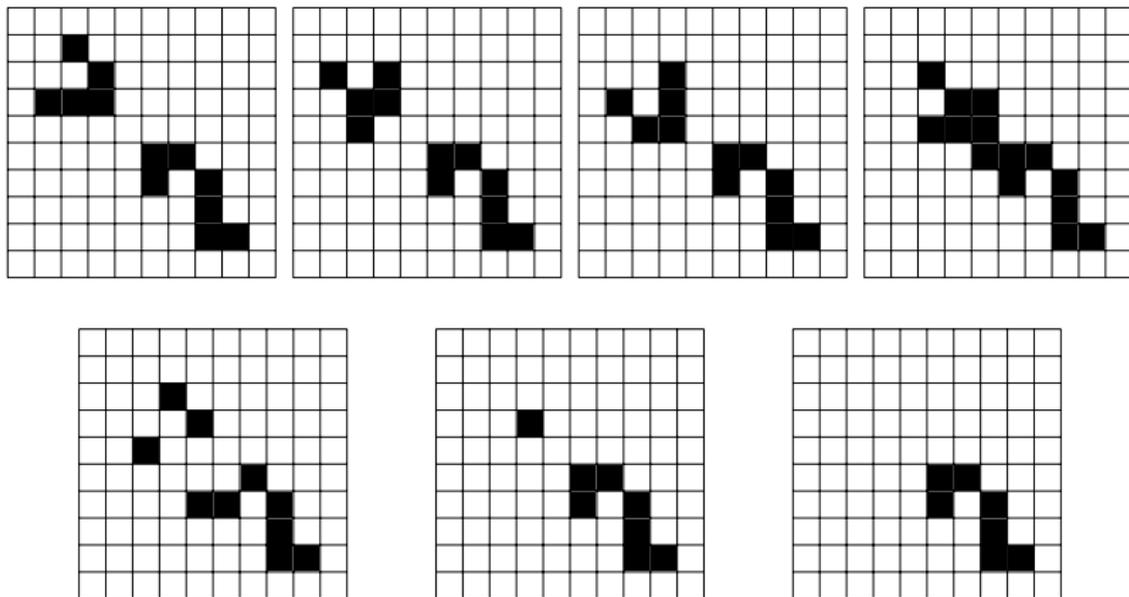


Theorem GoL is **universal for boolean circuits**.

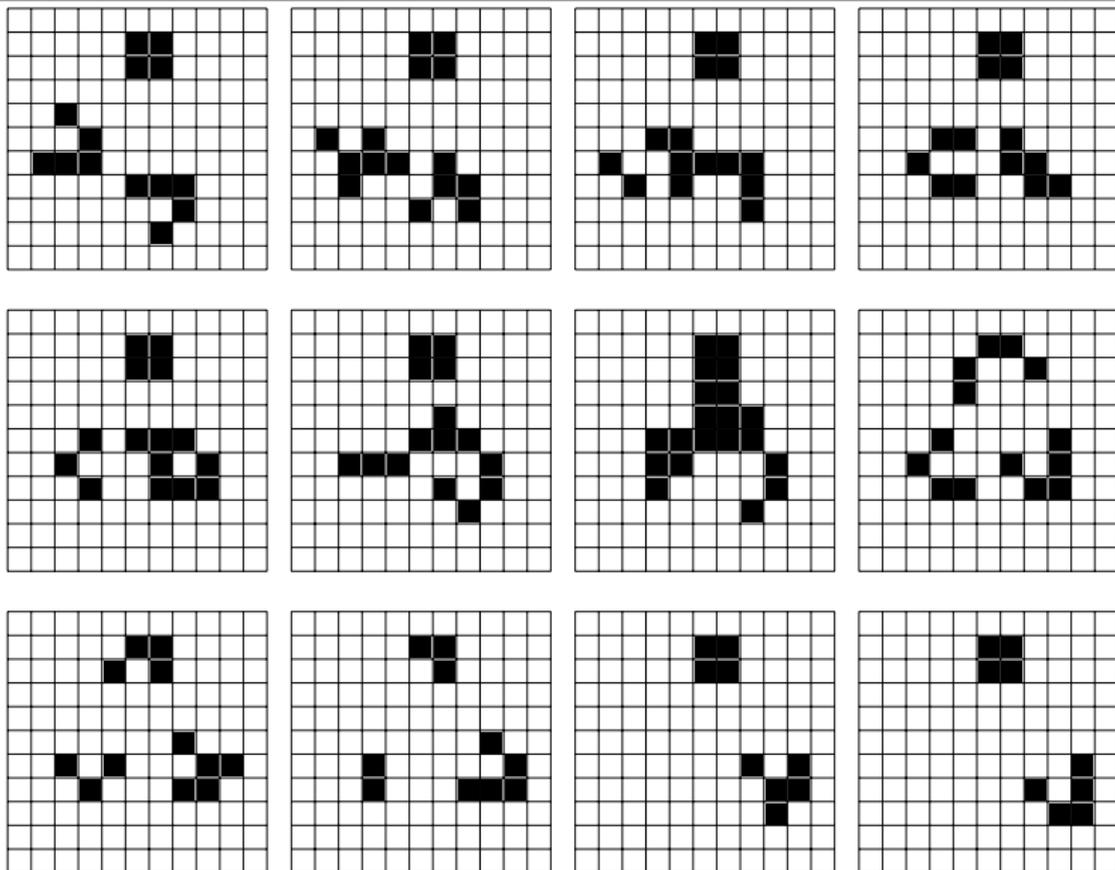
The construction uses **gliders** as signals.



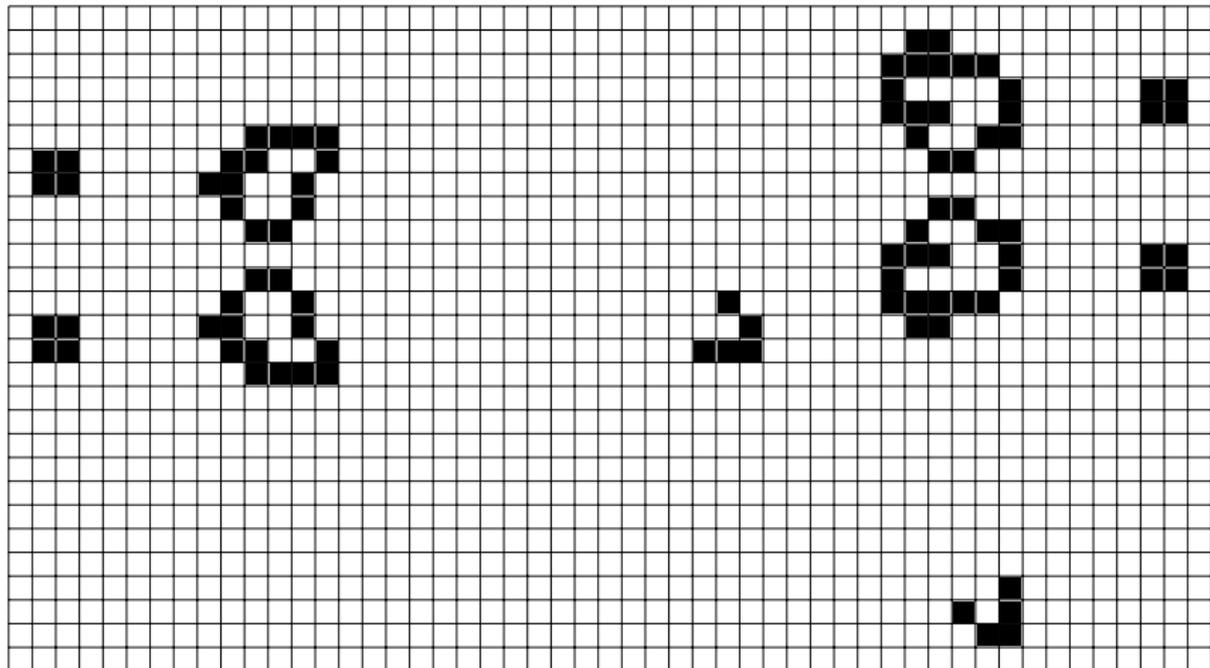
(Conway *et al.*, *Winning Ways* Vol. 2., 1971)

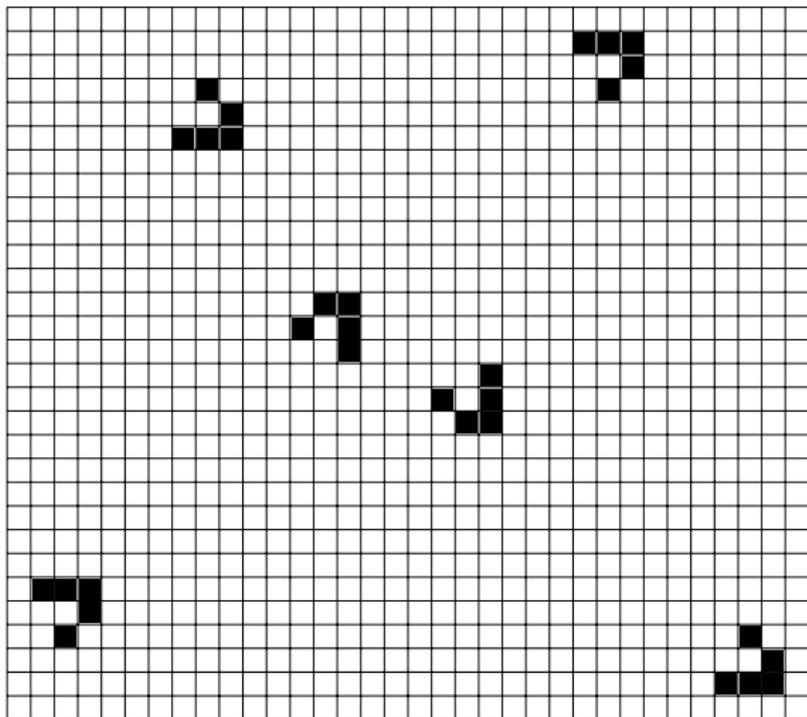


GoL: Duplicator

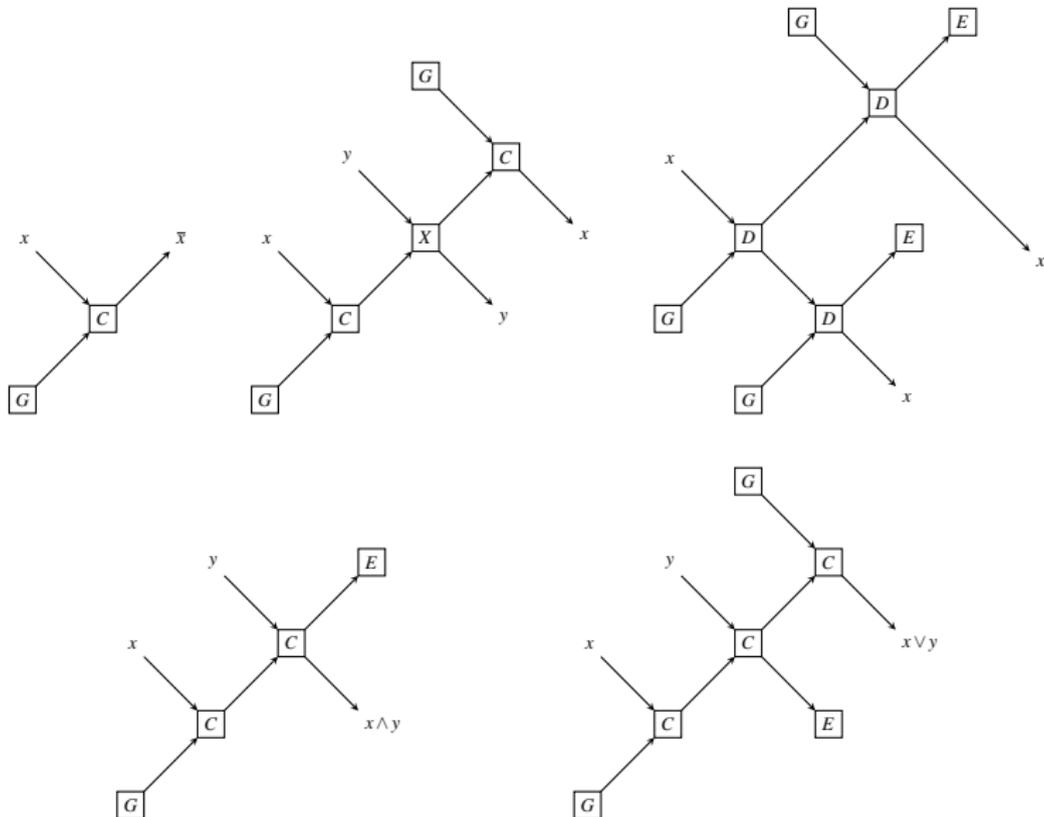


GoL: Gosper's p46 Gun





GoL: Combining



Universality in 1D



Remark Boolean circuits are **less intuitive** to simulate in 1D, but it is easy to simulate **sequential models of computation** like Turing machines.



(A. R. Smith III, Simple computation-universal cellular spaces, 1971)

1971	Smith III	18
1987	Albert & Culik II	14
1990	Lindgren & Nordhal	7
2004	Cook	2

A cellular automaton is **Turing-universality** if

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A cellular automaton is **Turing-universality** if... What exactly is the **formal definition**?

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A cellular automaton is **Turing-universality** if... What exactly is the **formal definition**? What is a **non universal** CA?

A consensual yet **formal definition** is **unknown** and seems difficult to achieve.

(Durand & Roka, 1999)

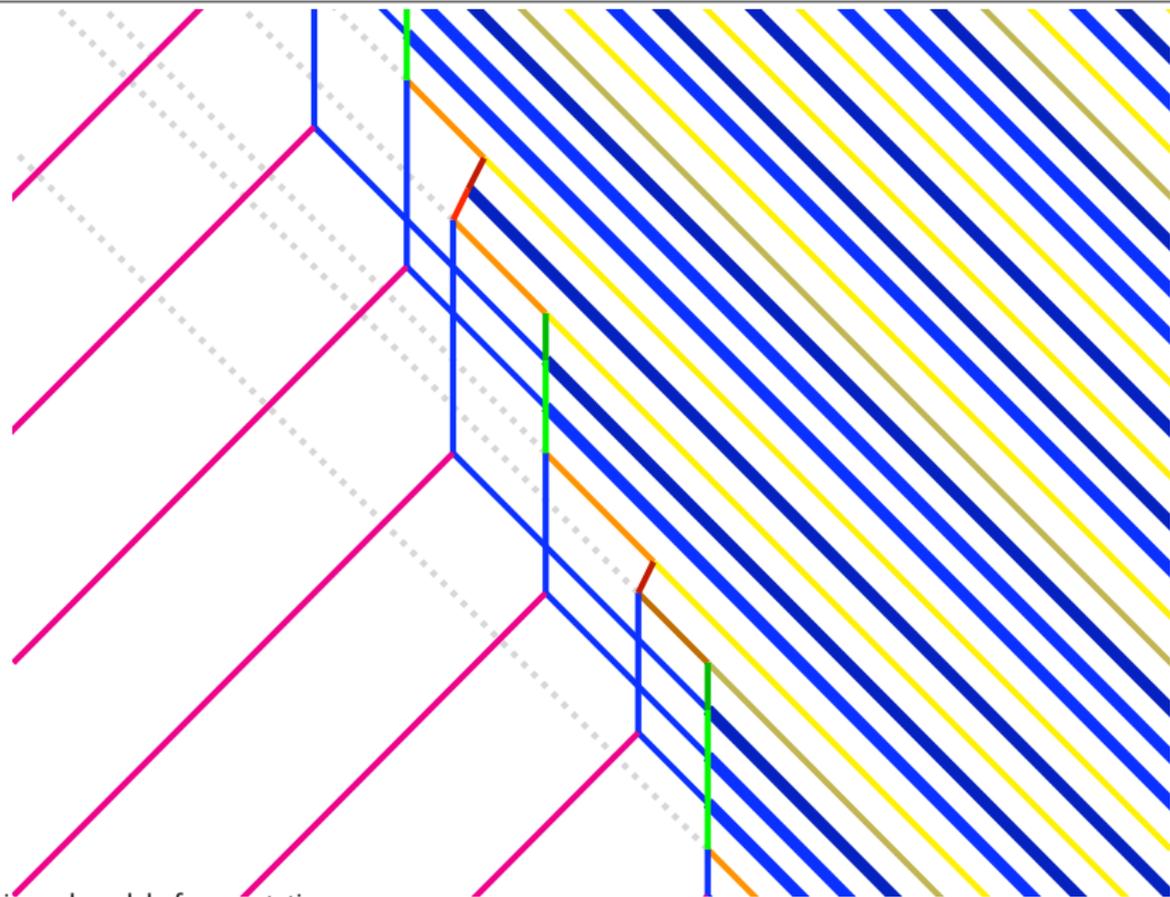


B	B	(q_0, a)	a	B
B	B	a	(q_1, B)	B
B	B	(q_1, b)	B	B
B	(q_0, B)	b	B	B
B	B	(q_0, a)	B	B

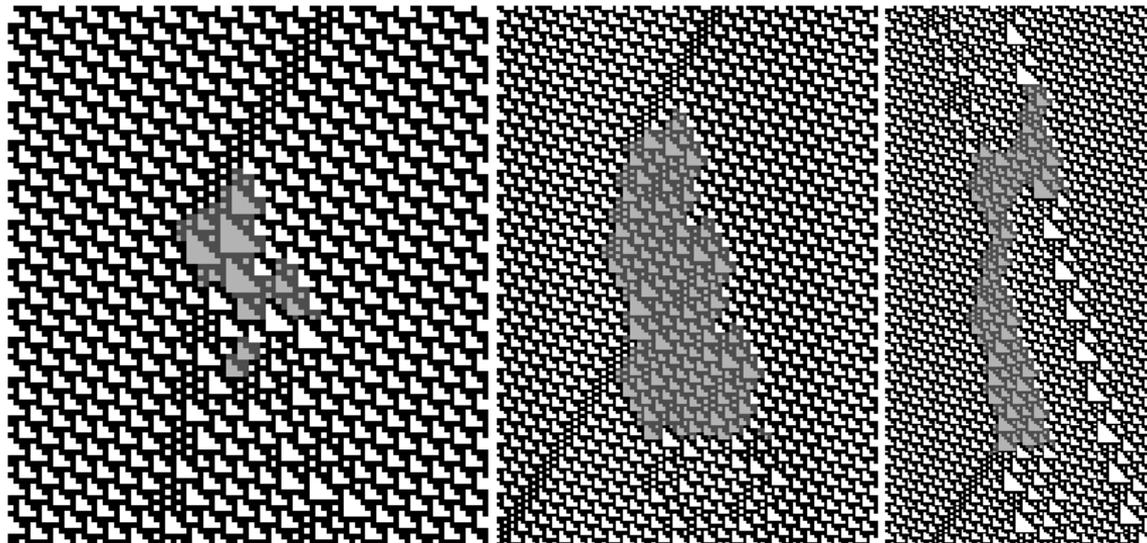


B	\bullet	B	\bullet	a	q_0	\bullet	a	\bullet	B
B	\leftrightarrow	B	\leftrightarrow	a	\leftrightarrow	q_0	a	\leftrightarrow	B
B	\bullet	B	\bullet	a	\bullet	q_1	B	\bullet	B
B	\leftrightarrow	B	\leftrightarrow	a	q_1	\leftrightarrow	B	\leftrightarrow	B
B	\bullet	B	\bullet	q_1	b	\bullet	B	\bullet	B
B	\leftrightarrow	B	q_1	\leftrightarrow	b	\leftrightarrow	B	\leftrightarrow	B
B	\bullet	B	q_0	\bullet	b	\bullet	B	\bullet	B
B	\leftrightarrow	B	\leftrightarrow	q_0	b	\leftrightarrow	B	\leftrightarrow	B
B	\bullet	B	\bullet	q_0	a	\bullet	B	\bullet	B

Universality of Rule 110 *à la* Cook



Uses **huge** particles and collisions...



Theorem Rule 110 is **Turing-universal**.

Part I

Computing inside the cellular space

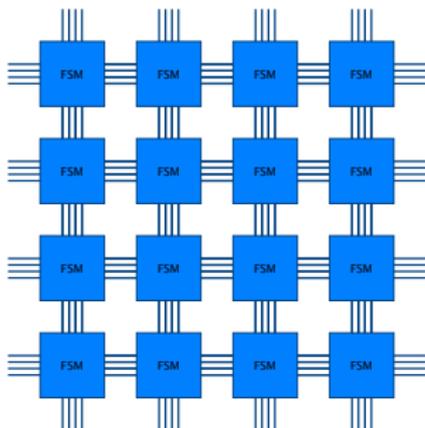
1. Cellular automata
2. A universal model of computation
- 3. A model of parallel computation**



Another path to universality



Remark Boolean circuits are not sequential and can also simulate **parallel models of computation**.



This leads to a stronger notion of **intrinsic universality** on CA, the ability to simulate any CA.

Bulking classifications



Idea define a **quasi-order** on cellular automata, **equivalence classes** capturing behaviors.

Definition A CA \mathcal{A} is **algorithmically simpler** than a CA \mathcal{B} if all the space-time diagrams of \mathcal{A} are space-time diagrams of \mathcal{B} (*up to uniform state renaming*).

Formally, $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{B}$ if there exists $\varphi : S_{\mathcal{A}} \rightarrow S_{\mathcal{B}}$ injective such that $\overline{\varphi} \circ G_{\mathcal{A}} = G_{\mathcal{B}} \circ \overline{\varphi}$.

That is, the following diagram commutes:

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

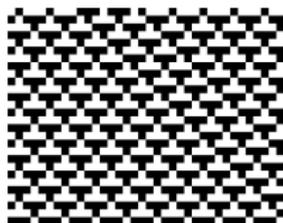
Bulking quasi-order



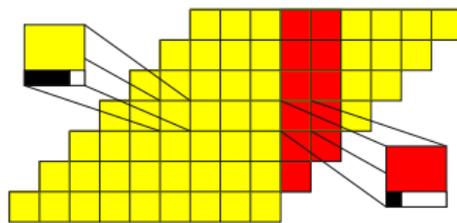
Quotient the set of CA by **discrete affine transformations**, the only geometrical transformations preserving CA.

The $\langle m, n, k \rangle$ transformation of \mathcal{A} satisfies:

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



\mathcal{A}

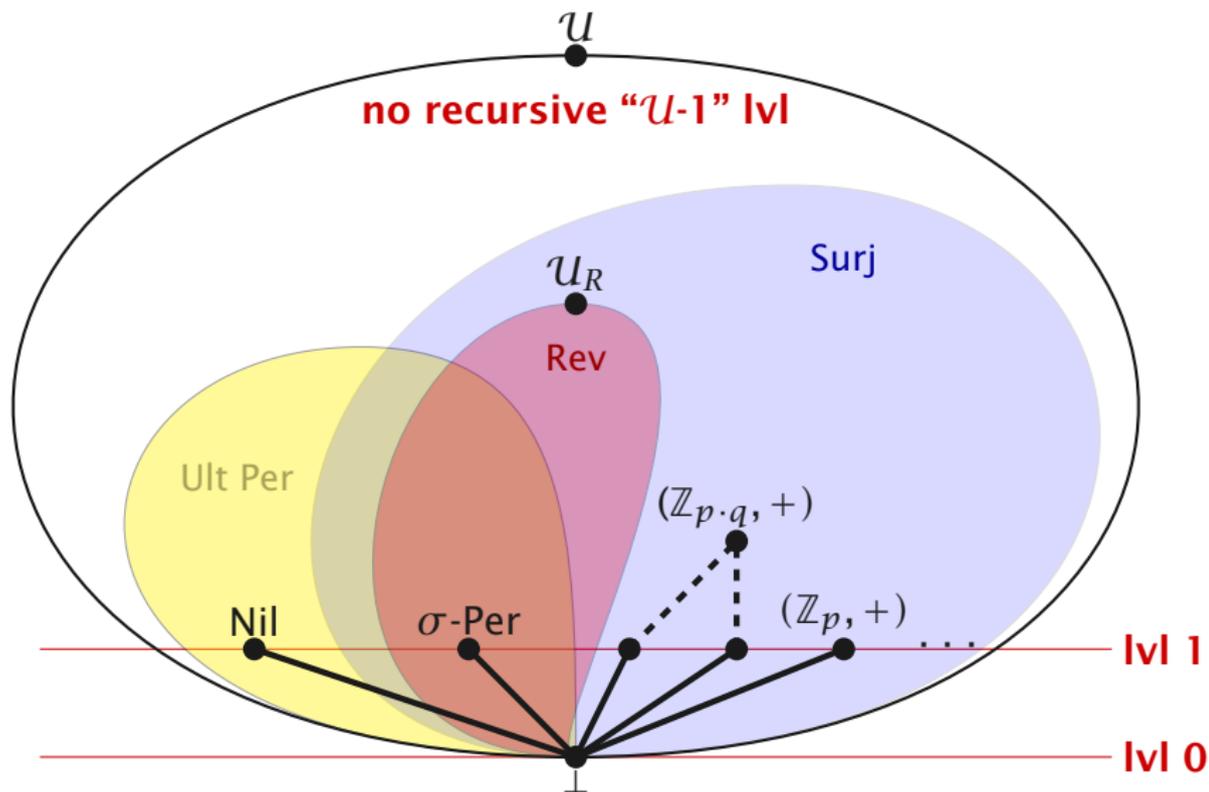


$\mathcal{A}^{\langle 4, 4, 1 \rangle}$

Definition The **bulking quasi-order** is defined by $\mathcal{A} \leq \mathcal{B}$ if there exists $\langle m, n, k \rangle$ and $\langle m', n', k' \rangle$ such that

$$\mathcal{A}^{\langle m, n, k \rangle} \subseteq \mathcal{B}^{\langle m', n', k' \rangle} .$$

The big picture





Definition A CA \mathcal{U} is **intrinsically universal** if it is maximal for \leq , i.e. for all CA \mathcal{A} , there exists α such that $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{U}^\alpha$.

Theorem There exists **Turing universal** CA that are not intrinsically universal.

where Turing universality is obtained in a very classical way to ensure compatibility with your own definition.

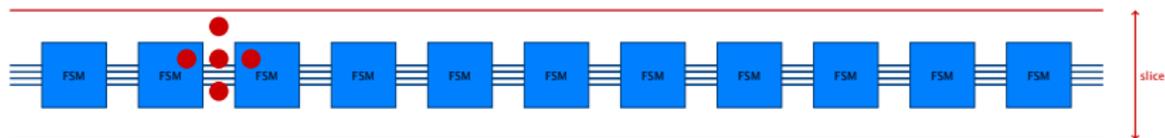
Theorem **Boolean circuit universal** 2D CA are also **intrinsically universal**.

(Delorme et al., 2011)

Using boolean circuits



Every **2D intrinsically universal** CA can be converted to a **1D intrinsically universal** CA [Banks 1970].

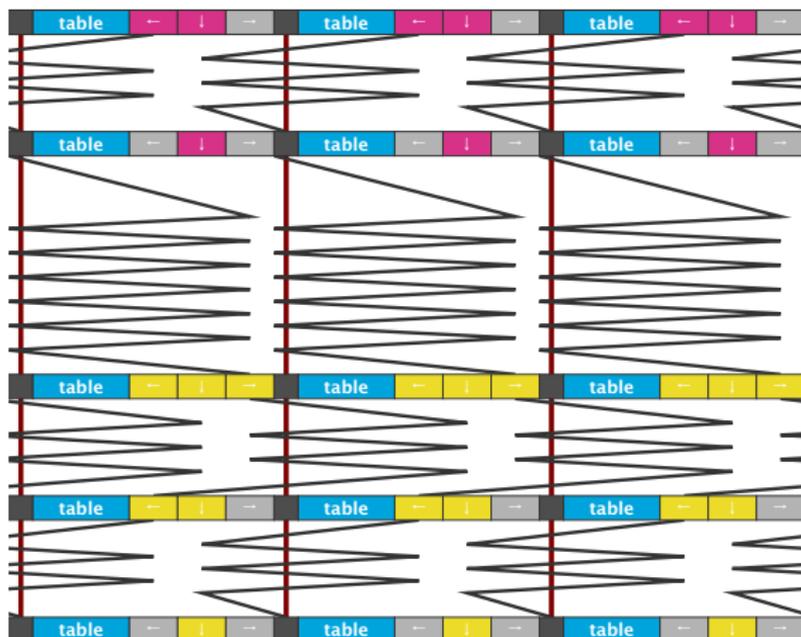


Cut **slices** of a periodic configuration, catenate them **horizontally**, use the **adequate neighborhood**.



The neighborhood can be transformed into radius 1 at the cost of **increase of the number of states**.

Using highly parallel Turing machines

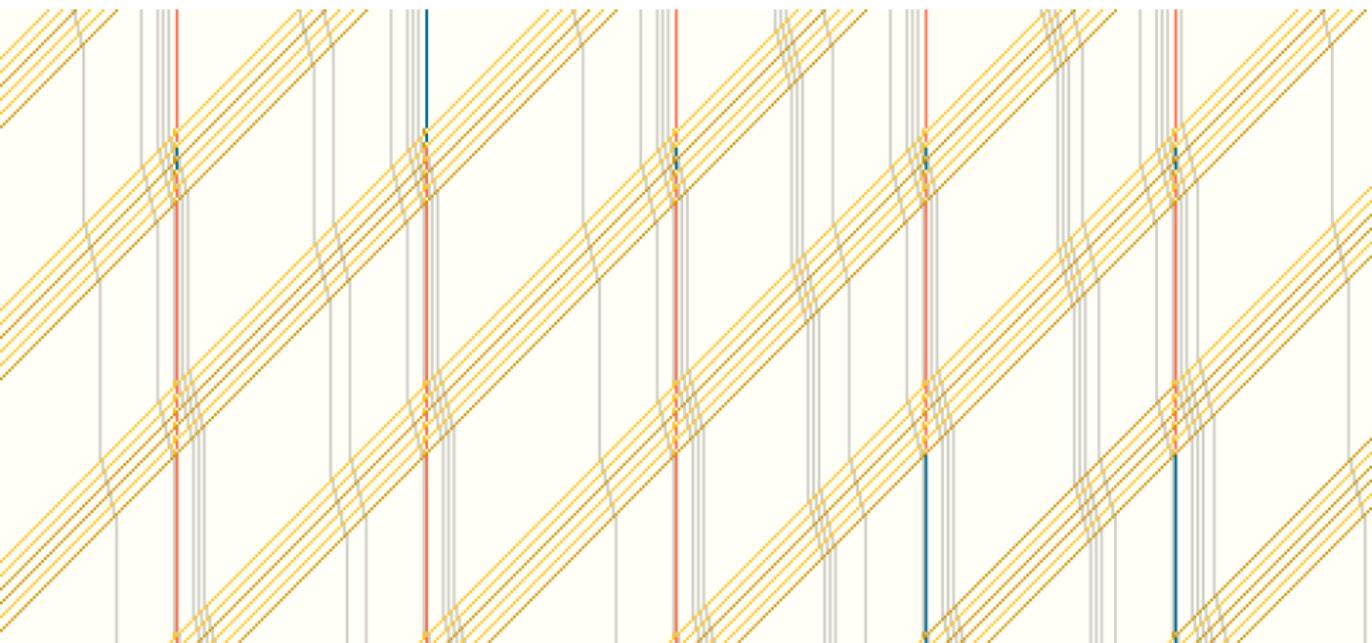
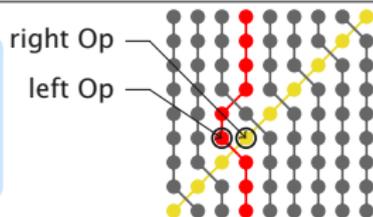


Use one **Turing-like head** per macro-cell, the **moving sequence** being **independent** of the computation.

More intricate: 6 states



A **6 states** intrinsically universal CA of radius 1 embedding **boolean circuits** into the line.



Parallel language recognition

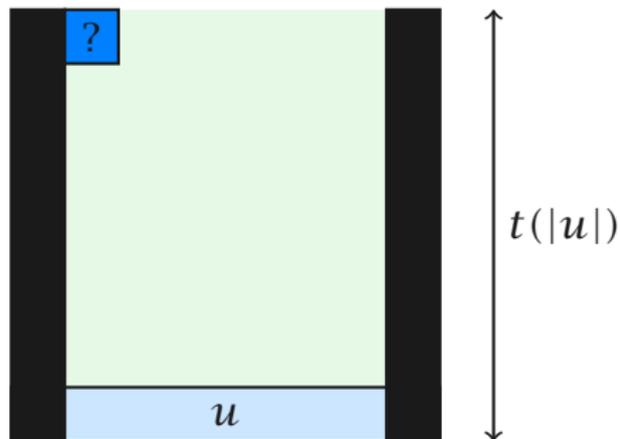


In the 70s CA have been studied as **a model of massive parallelism**, in particular as **language recognizers**.

A CA (S, N, f) **recognizes** a language $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ in time $t(n)$ with border state $\#$ and accepting states $Y \subseteq S$ if for each $u \in \Sigma^*$, starting from the configuration $\omega\#u\#\omega$, at time $t(|u|)$ the state of cell 0 is in Y if and only if $u \in L$.

Real time: $t(n) = n$

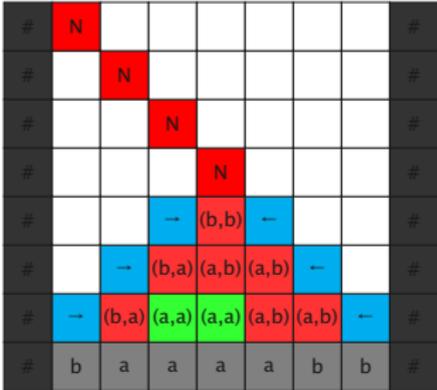
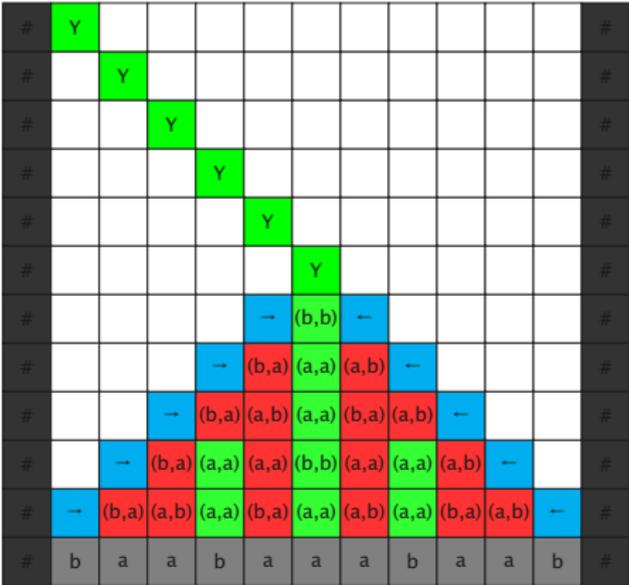
Linear time: $t(n) = \alpha n$



Example: palindromes



Recognizing **palindromes** in real time with 16 states.



Real time vs Linear time



Theorem Every language recognized in time $t(n) = n + T(n)$ is recognized in time $t(n) = n + T(n)/k$ for all k . The cost of **acceleration** is paid using more states.

Same techniques as for Turing machine **acceleration**.

Theorem[Ibarra] Every language recognized in **linear time** is recognized in **real time** if and only if the class of real time languages is **closed by mirror image**.

Open Pb Does **Real time = Linear time**?

Firing Squad Synchronization Pb



CA can also solve **purely parallel tasks**.

Definition A CA solves the **FSSP** if for all $n > 0$ starting from $\#GB^{n-1}\#$ it eventually enters $\#F^n\#$ and the fire state F never appears before.

Theorem[Minsky] A **CA solves FFSP** in time $3n - 1$ with $15+1$ states.

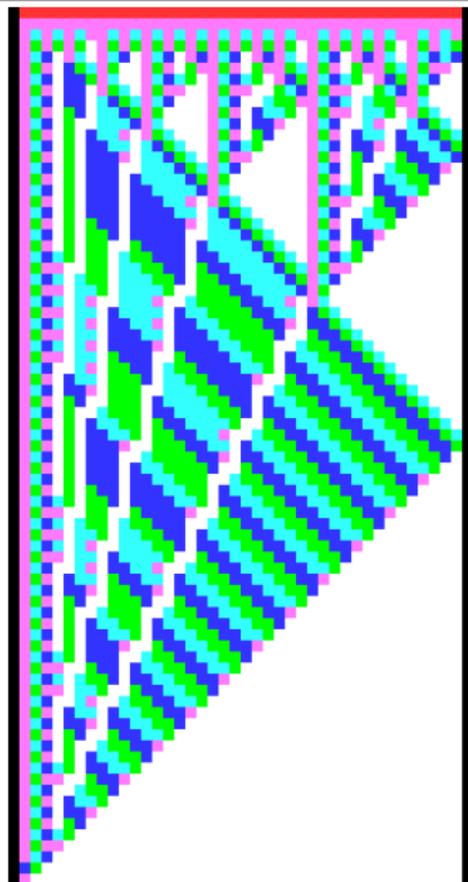


Mazoyer's solution



Remark No CA can solve the FSSP in time less than $2n - 2$.

Theorem[Mazoyer 1984] A CA solves FSSP in optimal time with $6+1$ states.



Part II

Computing properties of CA

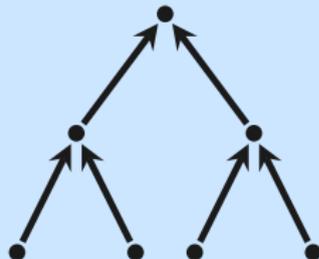
Part II

Computing properties of CA

4. Discrete dynamical systems

5. Immediate properties

6. Dynamical properties

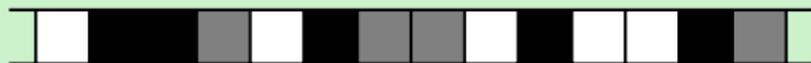


Cellular automata



Definition A **CA** is a tuple (d, S, r, f) where S is a **finite set of states**, $r \in \mathbb{N}$ is the **neighborhood radius** and $f : S^{(2r+1)^d} \rightarrow S$ is the **local rule** of the cellular automaton.

A **configuration** $c \in S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$ is a coloring of \mathbb{Z}^d by S .



The **global map** $G : S^{\mathbb{Z}^d} \rightarrow S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$ applies f uniformly and locally:

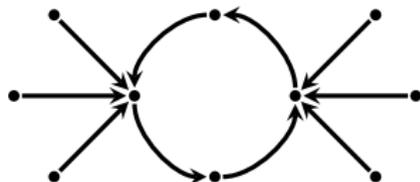
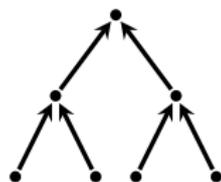
$$\forall c \in S^{\mathbb{Z}}, \forall z \in \mathbb{Z}^d, \quad F(c)(z) = f(c(z-r), \dots, c(z+r)).$$

A **space-time diagram** $\Delta \in S^{\mathbb{Z}^d \times \mathbb{N}}$ satisfies, for all $t \in \mathbb{N}$,
$$\Delta(t+1) = F(\Delta(t)).$$

Discrete dynamical systems



Definition A **DDS** is a pair (X, F) where X is a topological space and $F : X \rightarrow X$ is a continuous map.



Definition The **orbit** of $x \in X$ is the sequence $(F^n(x))$ obtained by iterating F .

In this tutorial, $X = S^{\mathbb{Z}}$ is endowed with the **Cantor topology** (product of the discrete topology on S), and F is a continuous map **invariant by translation**.



Definition A **topological space** is a pair (E, \mathcal{O}) where $\mathcal{O} \subseteq \mathcal{P}(E)$ is the set of **open** subsets satisfying:

- \mathcal{O} contains both \emptyset and E ;
- \mathcal{O} is closed under union;
- \mathcal{O} is closed under finite intersection.

S is endowed with the **discrete topology**: $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{P}(S)$.

$S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$ is endowed with the **Cantor topology**: the product topology of the discrete topology.

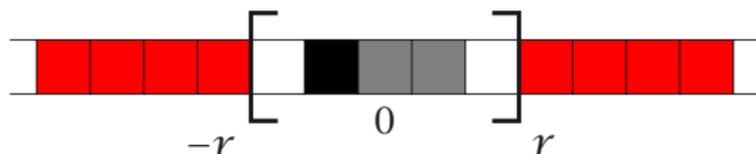
$$\mathcal{O} = \left\{ \prod X_i \mid X_i \subseteq S \wedge \text{Card}(\{i \mid X_i \neq S\}) < \omega \right\}$$

Cantor topology is **metric** and **compact**.



Definition The **cylinder** $[m] \subseteq S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$ with radius $r \geq -1$ generated by the pattern $m \in S^{[-r,r]^d}$ is

$$[m] = \{c \in S^{\mathbb{Z}^d} \mid \forall p \in \mathbb{Z}^d, \|p\|_{\infty} \leq r \Rightarrow c(p) = m(p)\}$$



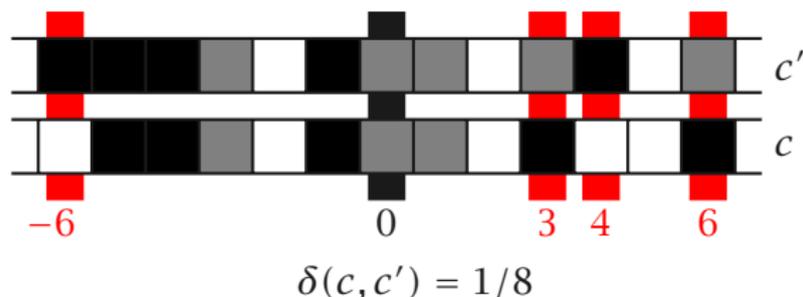
Proposition Cylinders are a countable **clopen generating set**.

Notation $[m] < [m']$ means $[m]$ is a **sub-cylinder** of $[m']$, i.e. $[m'] \subset [m]$.



Proposition Cantor topology is **metric**

$$\forall c, c' \in S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}, \quad \delta(c, c') = 2^{-\min\{\|p\|_\infty \mid c_p \neq c'_p\}}$$



Remark Open balls of δ exactly correspond to cylinders.



Proposition Every sequence of configurations $(c_i) \in S^{\mathbb{Z}^d \times \mathbb{N}}$ admits a converging subsequence.

Proof by **extraction**:

By recurrence, let $(c_i^0) = (c_i)$.

It is always possible to find:

- a cylinder $[m_n]$ of radius n and
- an infinite subsequence (c_i^{n+1}) de (c_{i+1}^n)

such that for all $i \in \mathbb{N}$, $c_i^{n+1} \in [m_n]$.

By construction $[m_{n+1}] \subset [m_n]$ and (c_0^{i+1}) is a converging subsequence of (c_i) (to $\bigcap [m_i]$): $\delta(c_0^{n+1}, c_0^{n+2}) \leq 2^{-n}$.

König trees



Remark Cantor topology is essentially **combinatorial**.

Remark Main properties can be obtained using **extraction**.

König's Lemma Every infinite tree with finite branching admits an infinite branch.

Definition The **König tree** \mathcal{A}_C of a set of configurations $C \subseteq S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$ is the tree (V_C, E_C) where

$$V_C = \{[m] \mid C \cap [m] \neq \emptyset\}$$

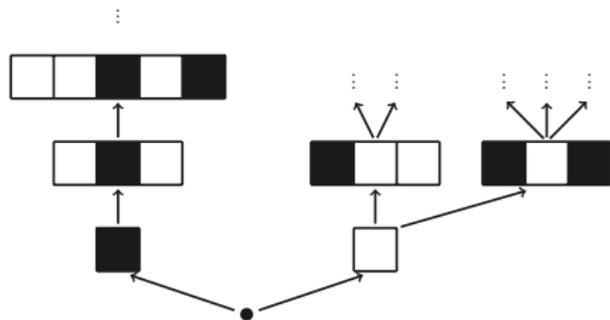
$$E_C = \{([m], [m']) \mid [m] \prec [m'] \wedge r([m']) = r([m]) + 1\}$$

The root of the tree is the cylinder $[] = S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$ of radius -1 .

Toppings



The König tree of a **non empty** set of configurations is an **infinite tree** with finite branching.



To each infinite branch $([m_i])$ is associated a **unique configuration** $\cap [m_i]$.

Definition The **topping** $\overline{\mathcal{A}_C}$ of a König tree is the set of configurations associated to its infinite branches.

König topology



The **König topology** is defined by its closed sets: toppings of König trees.

The **complementary of a closed set** is the **union of cylinders** that are not nodes of the tree.

Theorem Cantor and **König** topologies are the **same**.

Most **topological concepts** can be explained using **trees**:

- dense sets;
- closed sets with non empty interior;
- compactity;
- Baire's theorem.



Proposition **clopen** sets are finite unions of cylinders.

Definition A mapping $G : S^{\mathbb{Z}^d} \rightarrow S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$ is **local** in $p \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ if there exists a radius r such that:

$$\forall c, c' \in S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}, \quad [c|_r] = [c'|_r] \Rightarrow G(c)_p = G(c')_p \quad .$$

Proposition A mapping $G : S^{\mathbb{Z}^d} \rightarrow S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$ is **continuous** if and only if it is **local in every point**.

Curtis-Hedlund-Lyndon Theorem



Definition The **translation** $\sigma_k : S^{\mathbb{Z}^d} \rightarrow S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$ with vector $k \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ satisfies:

$$\forall c \in S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}, \forall p \in \mathbb{Z}^d, \quad \sigma_k(c)_p = c_{p-k} \quad .$$

Theorem[Hedlund 1969] Continuous mapping commuting with translations are exactly global maps of CA.

Thus **CA** can be given by there **global map**.

Remark CA have a **dual nature**: discrete dynamical systems with a description as finite automata.



A central object in **symbolic dynamics** is **subshift**.

Definition A **subshift** of $S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$ is a set of configurations both **closed** and **invariant by translation**.

Ex $\dots abaababaaa \dots$

$$X = \{c \in \{a, b\}^{\mathbb{Z}} \mid \forall p \in \mathbb{Z}, c_p = b \Rightarrow c_{p+1} = a\}$$

Remark **Subshifts** are also very natural when studying **CA**.



Definition The **language** $L(X)$ of a **subshift** X is the set of finite patterns appearing in X .

Proposition A **subshift** is characterized by its **language**.

$$\bar{L} = \{c \in S^{\mathbb{Z}^d} \mid \forall r \geq 0, \forall m \in S^{[-r,r]^d}, m \prec c \Rightarrow m \in L\}$$

Warning It might be that $L(\bar{L}) \neq L$.



Proposition A subshift is characterized by the set of its **forbidden words**: the complementary of its language.

Proposition Subshifts are in bijection with **minimal sets of forbidden words** (for set inclusion).

Ex $X = S_{\{bb\}}$



Definition A **subshift of finite type (SFT)** is defined by a finite set of forbidden words.

Proposition The **set of SFT** is invariant by **CA preimage**.

Remark **SFT** correspond to **tilings**: colorings with local uniform constraints.

Definition A **sofic subshift** is the image of a SFT by a CA.

Proposition **1D sofic subshifts** are subshifts that admit a **regular language** of forbidden words.

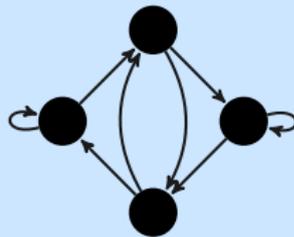
Part II

Computing properties of CA

4. Discrete dynamical systems

5. Immediate properties

6. Dynamical properties





Definition A configuration $c \in S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$ is **periodic**, with period $(p_i) \in \mathbb{N}^{*d}$, if

$$\forall p \in \mathbb{Z}^d, \forall (k_i) \in \mathbb{Z}^d, \quad c(p) = c(p + (k_1 p_1, \dots, k_d p_d)) \quad .$$

Notation. G_p denotes G restricted to periodic configurations.

Definition A configuration $c \in S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$ is **s -finite** if s is quiescent ($f(s, \dots, s) = s$) and

$$\text{Card} \left(\{p \in \mathbb{Z}^d \mid c(p) \neq s\} \right) < \omega \quad .$$

Notation. G_f denotes G restricted to s -finite configurations.

Immediate properties



Definition A CA $G : C \rightarrow C$ is:

- **injective** if $\forall x, y \in C, F(x) \neq F(y)$;
- **surjective** if $\forall x \in C, F^{-1}(x) \neq \emptyset$;
- **bijective** if both injective and surjective.

Definition A bijective CA G is **reversible** if there exists a CA H such that $H = G^{-1}$.

Corollary Every **bijective** CA is **reversible**.

Garden of Eden and orphans



Definition A configuration of a CA is a **garden of Eden** if it has no preimage.

Proposition A CA is **surjective** if and only if it has **no garden of Eden**.

Definition Given a CA, a pattern $m \in S^{[-r,r]^d}$ is an **orphan** if m has no preimage.

Proposition A CA is **surjective** if and only if it has **no orphan**.



Theorem[Moore 1962] G surjective $\Rightarrow G_f$ injective.

Theorem[Myhill 1963] G_f injective $\Rightarrow G$ surjective.

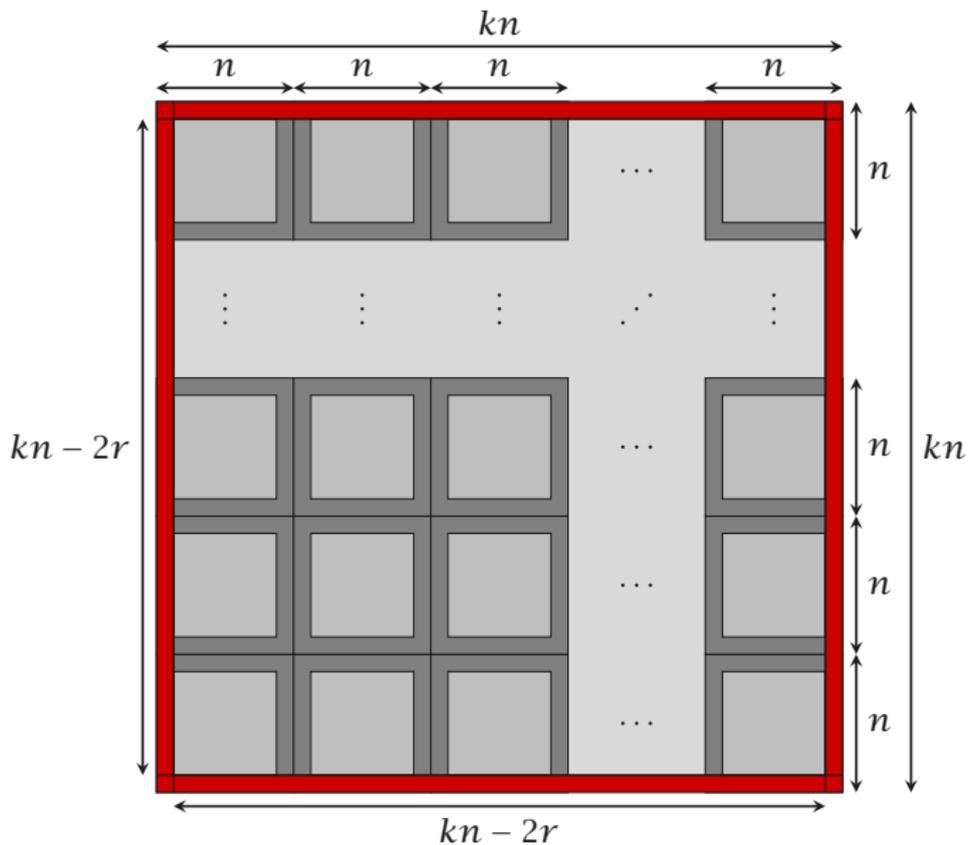
Corollary G injective $\Rightarrow G$ bijective.

Let's prove it!

Lemma For all $d, n, s, r \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists k big enough so that

$$(s^{n^d} - 1)^{k^d} < s^{(kn-2r)^d}$$

Key picture



G surjective $\Rightarrow G_f$ injective



Let G be a CA with radius r that is not injective on s -finite configurations. There exists two patterns p_1 and p_2 of size n^d bordered by s on a width r with a same image. Replacing p_1 by p_2 in any configuration does not change its image.

Consider square patterns of side kn . Their images are patterns of side $kn - 2r$. There exists $s^{(kn-2r)^d}$ possible images for at most $(s^{n^d} - 1)^{k^d}$ preimages. By previous lemma, there is an orphan thus G is not surjective.

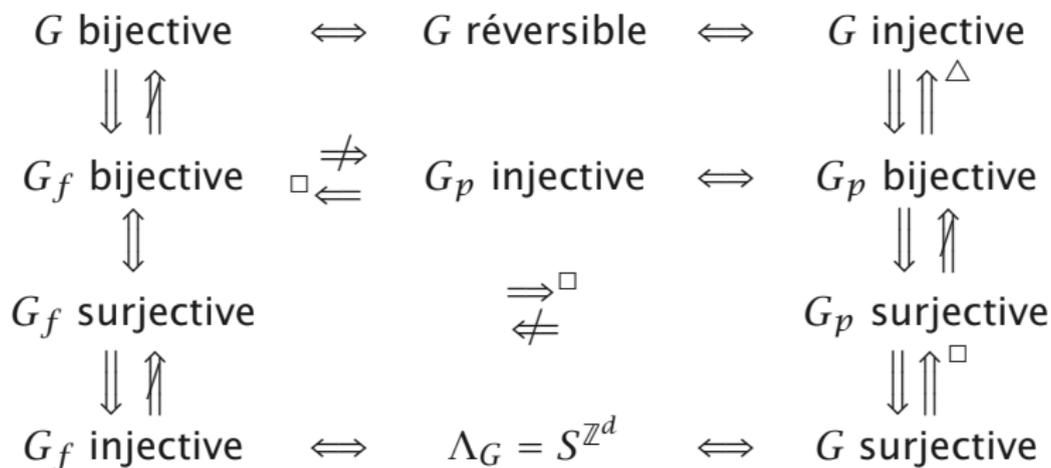
G_f injective $\Rightarrow G$ surjective



Let G be a non surjective CA with radius r . It admits an orphan of size n^d .

Consider the set of s -finite configurations the non-quiescent pattern of which is of side $kn - 2r$. There are $s^{(kn-2r)^d}$ such patterns. Their s -finite images have patterns of side kn . At most $(s^{n^d} - 1)^{k^d}$ of them are not orphans. Thus two of the configurations have a same image, G is not injective on finite configurations.

The big picture



\triangle means true for $d = 1$, false for $d \geq 2$

\square means true for $d = 1$, **open** for $d \geq 2$



Proposition G_p injective $\Rightarrow G_p$ bijective.

Key CA preserve periods.

Proposition G_f surjective $\Rightarrow G_f$ injective.

Key Finite configurations are dense + Moore-Myhill.

Counter-examples



Proposition $\exists G$ surjective $\not\Rightarrow G_f$ surjective.

XOR rule: $S = \mathbb{Z}_2$, $f(x, y) = x + y \pmod{2}$.

Proposition $\exists G$, G_f surjective $\not\Rightarrow G$ injective.

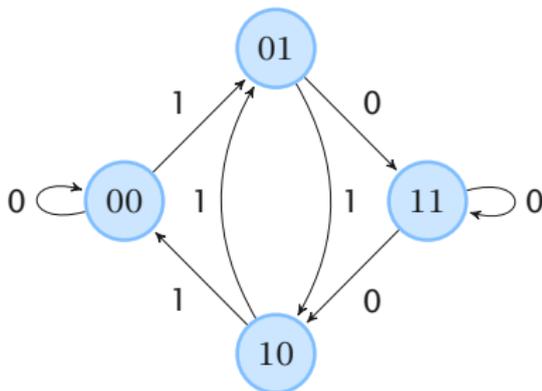
controlled-XOR rule: $S = \{0, 1\} \times \mathbb{Z}_2$,
 $f((1, x), (-, y)) = (1, x + y \pmod{2})$ and
 $f((0, x), -) = (0, x)$.

De Bruijn Graph



Definition The **De Bruijn graph** of a 1D CA (S, r, f) is the labelled graph (V, E) where:

- $V = S^{2r}$;
- $(u, s, v) \in E$ if $f(s_0, \dots, s_{2r}) = s$ where $u = (s_0, \dots, s_{2r-1})$ and $v = (s_1, \dots, s_{2r})$.

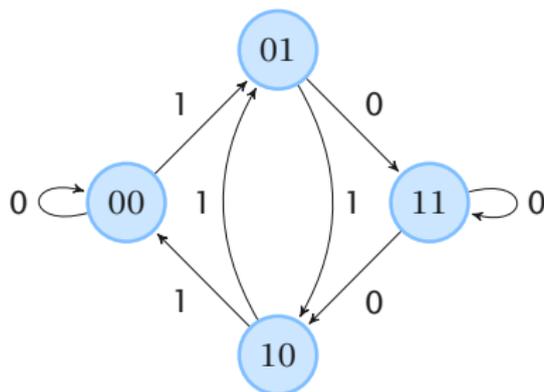


A convenient tool to decide properties of 1D CA.

Deciding injectivity in 1D



A 1D CA is **not injective** iff its De Bruijn graph contains **two distinct paths with the same biinfinite word**.



If such a pair of paths exist, there exists one with **ultimately periodic** paths.

Theorem[Amoroso, Patt 1972] Injectivity is decidable in 1D.

Part II

Computing properties of CA

4. Discrete dynamical systems

5. Immediate properties

6. Dynamical properties





Definition A **SDS** is a SDD (X, F) where X is a **subshift**.

$x \in X$ is **periodic** with period n if $F^n(x) = x$.

$x \in X$ is **ultimately periodic** with transitory m if $F^m(x)$ is periodic.

Definition $Y \subseteq X$ is **invariant** if $F(Y) \subseteq Y$.

Definition $Y \subseteq X$ is **strongly invariant** if $F(Y) = Y$.



Definition The **limit set** of an invariant clopen $V \subseteq X$ is

$$\Lambda_F(V) = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} F^n(V)$$

Definition An **attractor** is the limit set of a non-empty invariant clopen.

Definition The **bassin** of an attractor Y is

$$\mathcal{B}_F(Y) = \left\{ x \in X \mid \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \delta(F^n(x), Y) = 0 \right\}$$

Definition A **minimal attractor** is an attractor with no strict subset which is also an attractor.



Definition The **limit set** of a CA $(S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}, F)$ is the set of configurations that can appear at all time:

$$\Lambda_F = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} F^n(S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}) \quad .$$

Proposition The **limit set** is a **non empty subshift**.

$F^n(S^{\mathbb{Z}^d})$ is a non empty subshift and $F^{n+1}(S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}) \subseteq F^n(S^{\mathbb{Z}^d})$.

Proposition The **limit set** is the **maximal attractor**.



Definition A **biinfinite space-time diagram** $\Delta \in S^{\mathbb{Z}^{d+1}}$ satisfies:

$$\forall t \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad \Delta(t+1) = F(\Delta(t)) \quad .$$

Proposition The **limit set** is the set of configurations of **biinfinite space-time diagrams**.

Every element x of the limit set admits an infinite chain of predecessors $x = x_0, x_0 = F(x_1), \dots, x_n = F(x_{n+1}), \dots$



Definition A CA with quiescent state q is **nilpotent** if every configuration converges in finite time to the q -monochromatic configuration.

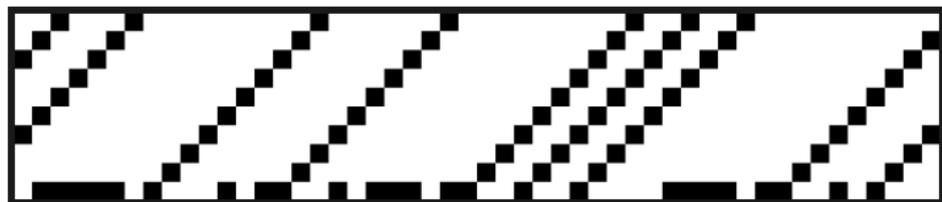


Proposition A CA is **nilpotent** if and only if its limit set is a **singleton**.



Let F be the 1D CA with radius 1 and local rule

$$f(x, y, z) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{si } (x, y, z) = (1, 0, 0) \\ 0 & \text{sinon} \end{cases} .$$



$$\Lambda_F = F(S^{\mathbb{Z}}) = S_{\{11,101\}}$$

Max example



Let F be the 1D CA with radius 1 and local rule

$$f(x, y, z) = \max(x, y, z) \quad .$$



$$\Lambda_F = {}^\omega 0^\omega + {}^\omega 1^\omega + {}^\omega 01^\omega + {}^\omega 10^\omega + {}^\omega 10^*1^\omega$$

$$\Lambda_F = S_{\{01^n 0 \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}}$$

Λ_F is **countable** and **not SFT**.

Majority example



Let F be the 1D CA with radius 1 and local rule

$$f(x, y, z) = \text{maj}(x, y, z) \quad .$$



Exercise What is Λ_F ?

Hint Consider $01 \cdot 00^+ (11^+00^+)^* 00^+ \cdot 10$.



Proposition For every CA, $L(\Lambda_F) = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} L(F^n(S^{\mathbb{Z}^d}))$.

Corollary If Λ_F is a **SFT** then $\exists n \Lambda_F = F^n(S^{\mathbb{Z}^d})$.

Consider the first **time of appearance** of each **minimal forbidden word**.

Proposition If $\Lambda_F = F^n(S^{\mathbb{Z}^d})$ then Λ_F is **sofic**.

If F is a CA, so is F^n .



Proposition[CPY89] If Λ_F contains **two distinct elements** then it contains a **non spatially periodic** element.

Corollary A **limit set** is either a **singleton** either an **infinite** set.



Proposition $L(\Lambda_F)$ is **co-recursively enumerable**.

Orphans of F^n can be tested thus enumerated.

Proposition[Hurd90] For every co-recursively enumerable language $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ there exists a CA F , a rational language $R \subseteq S^*$ and a morphism $\varphi : S^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ such that

$$\varphi(L(\Lambda_F) \cap R) = L \quad .$$

Corollary There exists CA with **non recursive limit sets**.



Proposition[Hurd87] There exists a 1D CA whose limit set has a **non rational context free** language.

Exercise Build one!

Hint Consider bouncing particles and walls.



Proposition[Hurd87] There exists a 1D CA whose limit set has a **non context free context sensitive** language.

Exercise Build one!

Hint Complexify previous example.



Proposition There exists a 2D CA whose limit set has a **non recursive** language.

Exercise Build one!

Hint Consider space-time diagrams of Turing machines.



Proposition[CPY89] There exists a 1D CA whose limit set has a **non recursive** language.

Exercise Build one!

Hint Consider a CA that can simulate every CA.

Surjectivity and injectivity



Notation F_Λ is the restriction of F to Λ_F .

Proposition F_Λ is **surjective**.

Proposition If $\forall n \Lambda_F \neq F^n(S^{\mathbb{Z}^d})$ then

$$\forall n \exists c \quad \forall i < n F^i(c) \notin \Lambda_F \wedge F^n(c) \in \Lambda_F \quad .$$

Proposition[Taati 2008] If F_Λ is **injective** then
 $\exists n \Lambda_F = F^n(S^{\mathbb{Z}^d})$.



Proposition[Taati 2008] If a CA F is injective on its limit set, the limit set is a **SFT** and there exists a CA G with the same limit set and such that $G_\Lambda = F_\Lambda^{-1}$.

Let H be a CA such that $H_\Lambda = F_\Lambda^{-1}$ and let $G = H^{n+1} \circ F^n$. It holds

$$\Lambda_F = \{c \mid G^n(F^n(x)) = x\} \quad .$$



A CA is **stable** if its limit set is obtained in finite time, otherwise it is **unstable**.

A subshift is **stable** if it is the limit set of a stable CA.

A subshift is **unstable** if it is the limit set of an unstable CA.

Open Pb Can a subshift be both **stable** and **unstable** ?

Part III

Computation and reduction: undecidability results

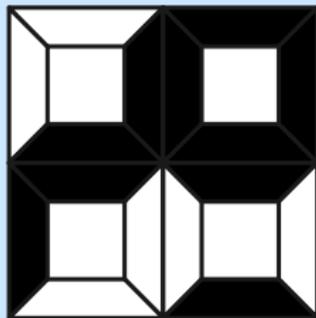
Part III

Computation and reduction: undecidability results

7. Tilings

8. Undecidability results in 2D

9. Undecidability results in 1D

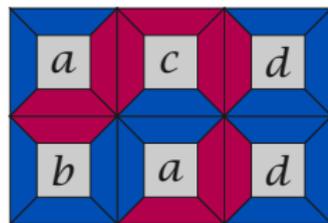
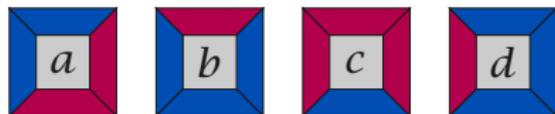


The Domino Problem (DP)

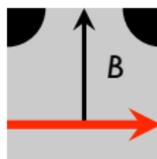
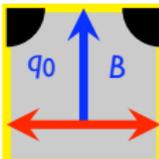
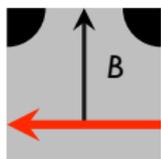
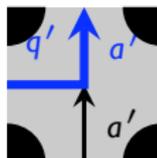
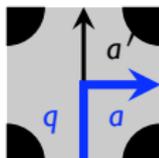
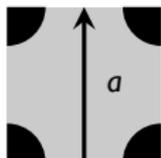
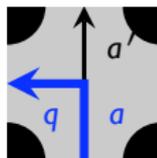
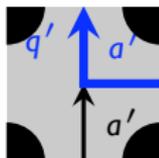
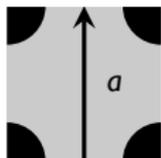


“Assume we are *given a finite set of square plates of the same size with edges colored, each in a different manner. Suppose further there are infinitely many copies of each plate (plate type). We are **not permitted to rotate or reflect a plate.** The question is to find an effective procedure by which we can **decide**, for each given finite set of plates, **whether we can cover up the whole plane** (or, equivalently, an infinite quadrant thereof) **with copies of the plates subject to the restriction that adjoining edges must have the same color.**”*

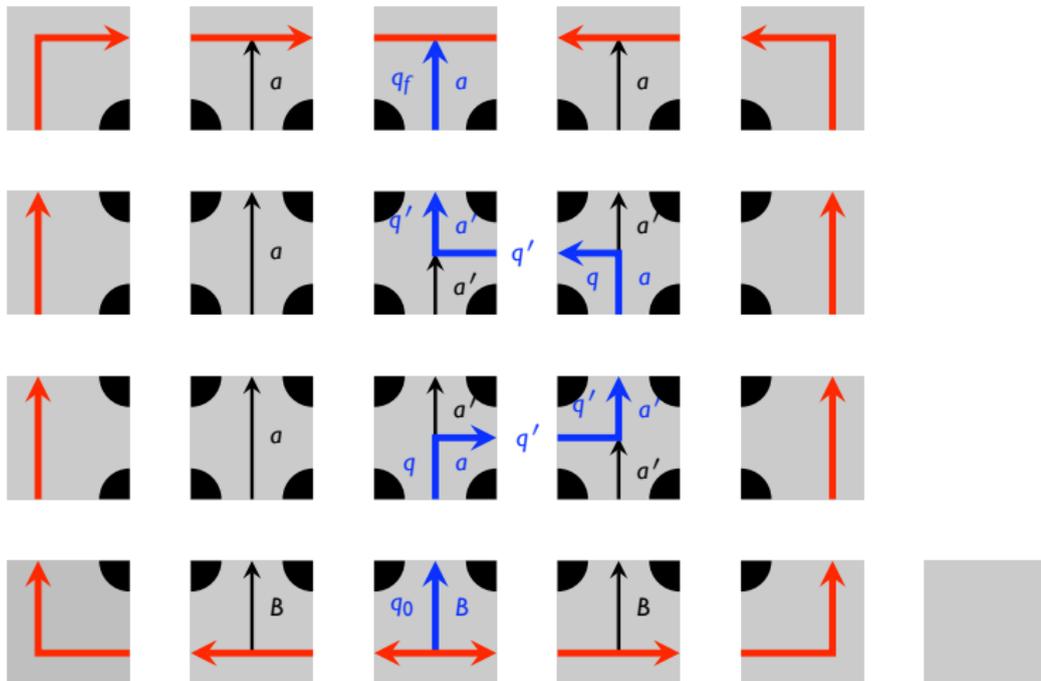
(Wang, 1961)



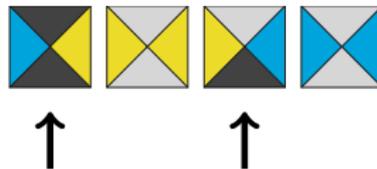
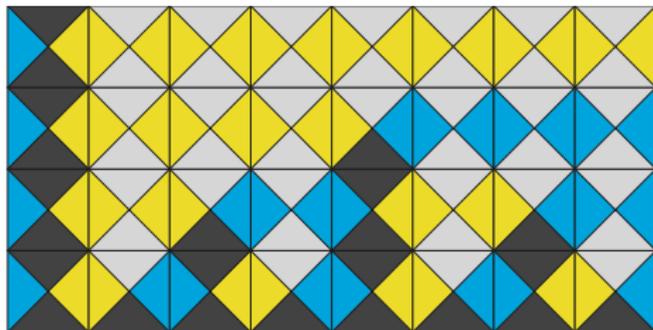
Tiling with a fixed tile



Finite tiling



Tiling with diagonal constraint



Undecidability of DP



Theorem[Berger64] DP is **recursively undecidable**.

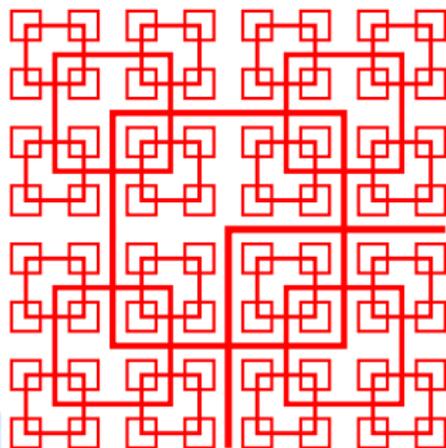
Remark To prove it one needs **aperiodic** tile sets.

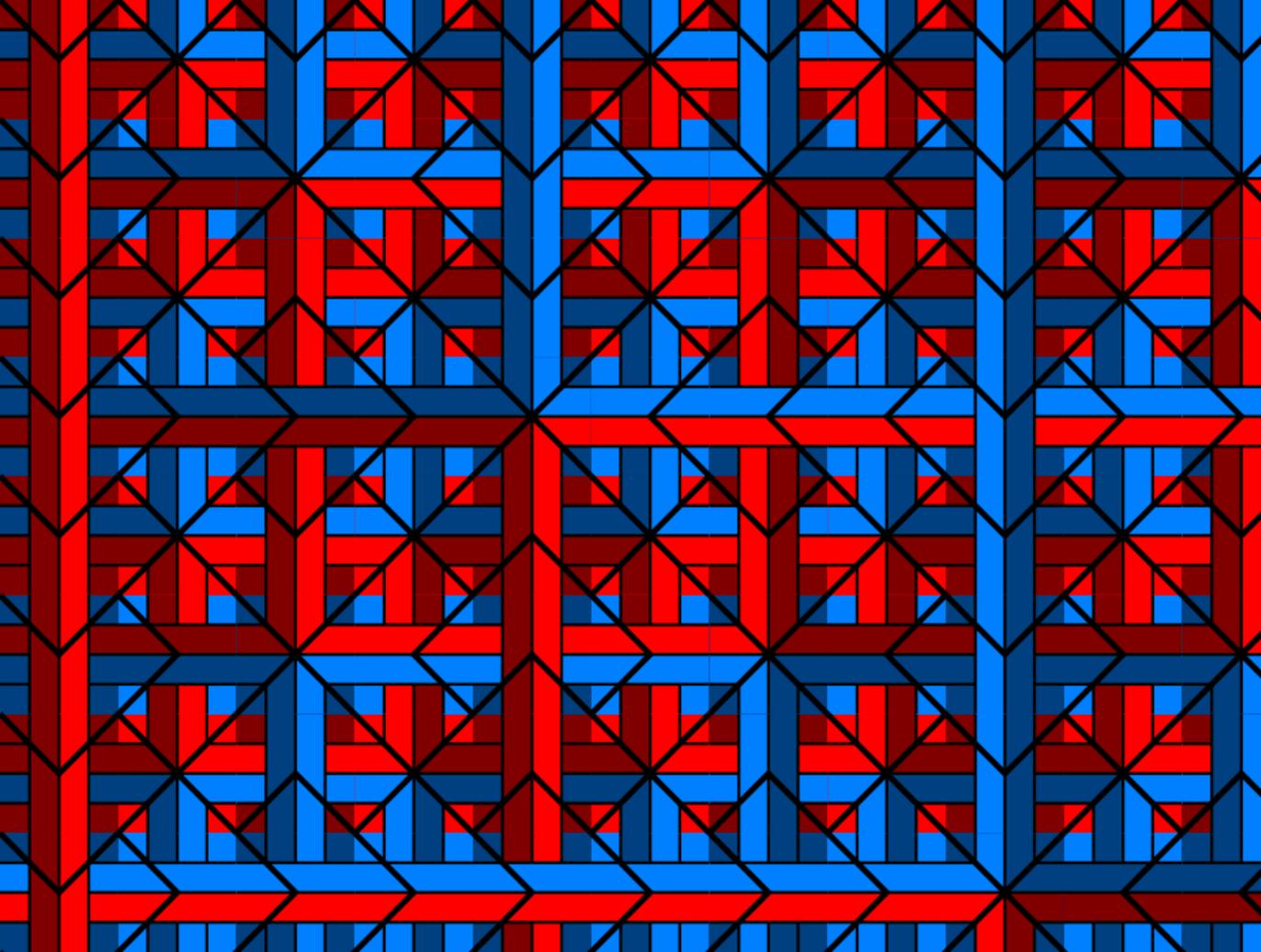
Idea of the proof

Enforce an (aperiodic) **self-similar structure** using local rules.

Insert a **Turing machine computation everywhere** using the structure.

Remark Plenty of different proofs!





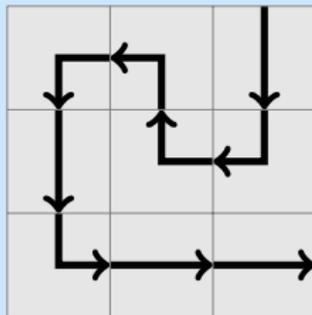
Part III

Computation and reduction: undecidability results

7. Tilings

8. Undecidability results in 2D

9. Undecidability results in 1D



The nilpotency problem (Nil)

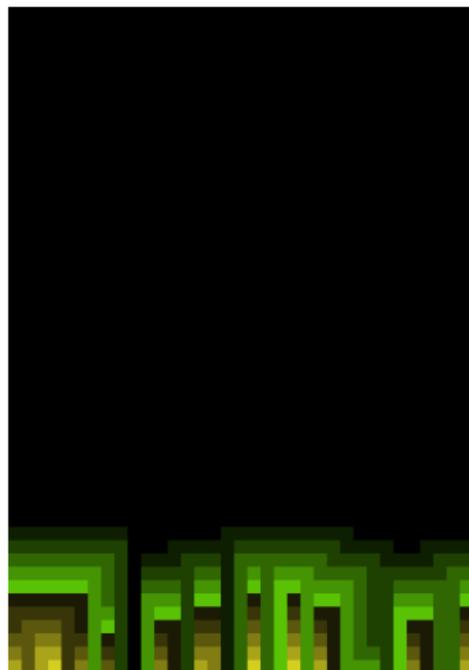


Definition A DDS is **nilpotent** if
 $\exists z \in X, \forall x \in X, \exists n \in \mathbb{N}, F^n(x) = z.$

Given a recursive encoding of the DDS, can we **decide** nilpotency?

A DDS is **uniformly nilpotent** if
 $\exists z \in X, \exists n \in \mathbb{N}, \forall x \in X, F^n(x) = z.$

Given a recursive encoding of the DDS, can we **bound recursively** n ?



Nilpotency and limit set



Definition The **limit set** of a CA F is the non-empty subshift

$$\Lambda_F = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} F^n (S^{\mathbb{Z}})$$

Remark Λ_F is the set of configurations appearing in **biinfinite space-time diagrams** $\Delta \in S^{\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}}$ such that $\forall t \in \mathbb{Z}, \Delta(t+1) = F(\Delta(t))$.

Lemma A CA is nilpotent iff its limit set is a **singleton**.

2D Nilpotency



2D Nilpotency

Input: a CA (S, N, f) .

Question: Is F nilpotent?

Theorem[CPY89] Nilpotency is **undecidable** in 2D.

Prove that $\overline{\text{DP}} \leq_m \text{Nil2D}$.

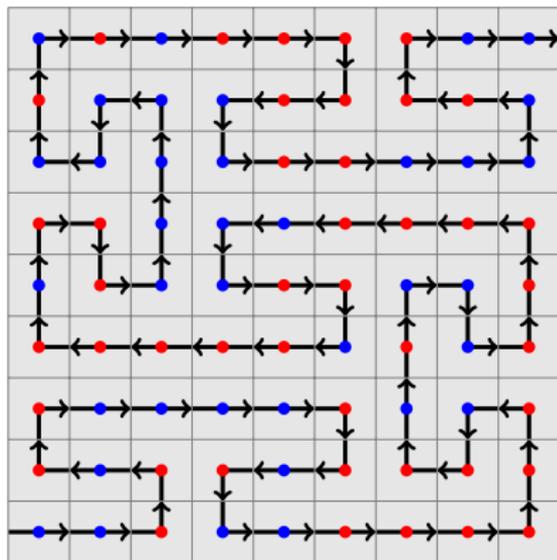
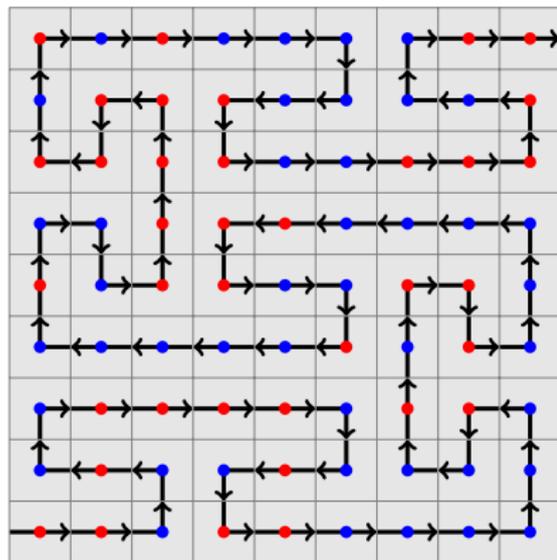
Given a set of Wang tiles τ , build a CA with alphabet $\tau \cup \{\perp\}$ where \perp is a spreading tiling error state.

Surjectivity/Injectivity 2D



Theorem[Kari 1990] Both injectivity and surjectivity are **undecidable** in 2D.

For surjectivity, using Moore-Myhill, prove that injectivity on finite is undecidable in 2D.



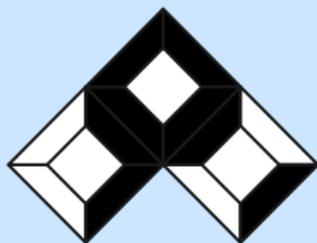
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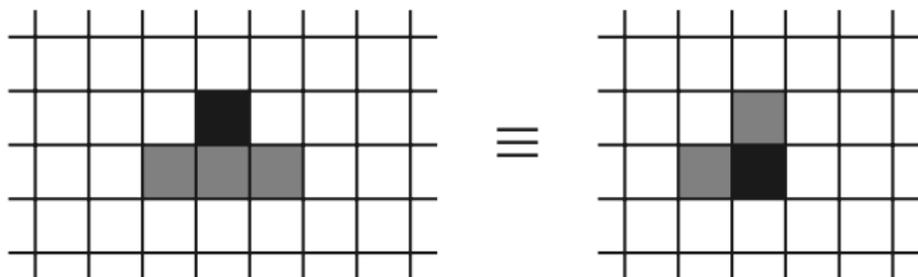
Nilpotency 1D



A state $\perp \in S$ is **spreading** if $f(N) = \perp$ when $\perp \in N$.

A CA with a spreading state \perp is not nilpotent iff it admits a biinfinite space-time diagram without \perp .

A tiling problem Find a coloring $\Delta \in (S \setminus \{\perp\})^{\mathbb{Z}^2}$ satisfying the tiling constraints given by f .



Theorem[Kari92] $\text{NW-DP} \leq_m \text{Nil}$



Theorem[Kari92] NW-DP is **recursively undecidable**.

Remark Reprove of undecidability of DP with the additional determinism constraint!

Corollary Nil is **recursively undecidable**.



Theorem[Kari 1994] The set of CA whose limit sets satisfy a non trivial property is never recursive.

Theorem[Guillon Richard 2010] Still true with a fixed alphabet!

Definition A CA F is **weakly nilpotent** if

$$\forall c \forall p \exists t_0 \forall t > t_0 \quad F^t(c)_p = q \quad .$$

Theorem[Guillon Richard 2008] A CA is **weakly nilpotent** if and only if it is **nilpotent**.

The periodicity problem (Per)

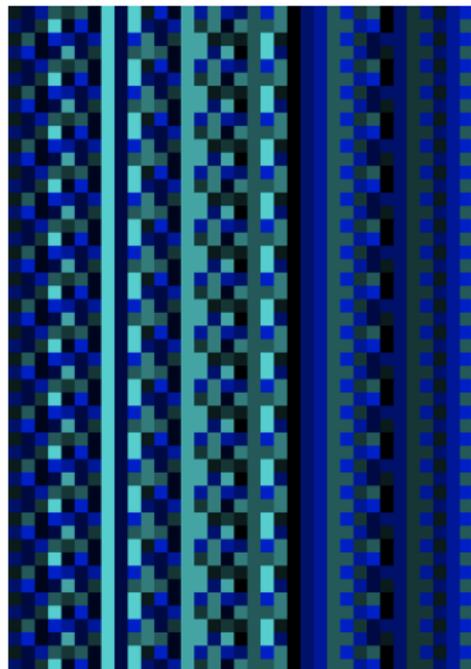


Definition A DDS is **periodic** if
 $\forall x \in X, \exists n \in \mathbb{N}, F^n(x) = x$.

Given a recursive encoding of the DDS, can we **decide** periodicity?

A DDS is **uniformly periodic** if
 $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}, \forall x \in X, F^n(x) = x$.

Given a recursive encoding of the DDS, can we **bound recursively** n ?



Undecidability results



Theorem Both **Nil** and **Per** are **recursively undecidable**.

The proofs inject **computation** into **dynamics**.

Undecidability is not necessarily a negative result:
it is a **hint of complexity**.

Remark Due to **universe configurations** both nilpotency and periodicity are uniform.

The bounds grow **faster than any recursive function**: there exists simple nilpotent or periodic CA with huge bounds.

The Immortality Problem (IP)



“(T₂) To find an effective method, which for every Turing-machine M decides whether or not, for all tapes I (finite and infinite) and all states B , M will eventually halt if started in state B on tape I ” (Büchi, 1962)

Theorem[Hooper66] IP is recursively undecidable.

Theorem[KO2008] R-IP \leq_m TM-Per \leq_m Per

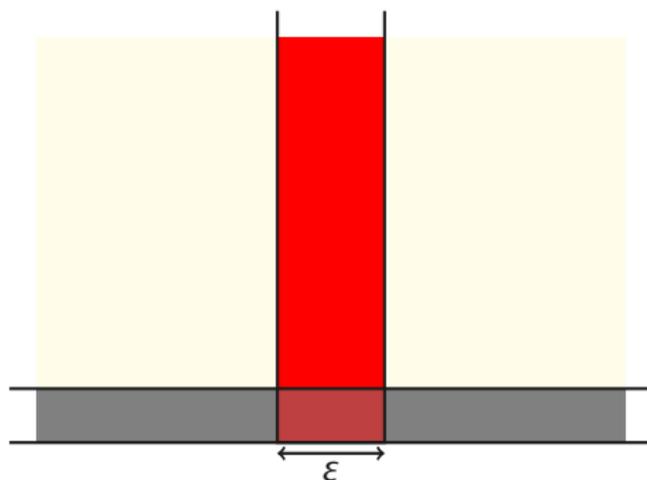
Theorem[KO2008] R-IP is recursively undecidable.

Open Problem



Definition A CA F is **positively expansive** if

$$\exists \varepsilon > 0, \forall x \neq y, \exists n \geq 0, d(F^n(x), F^n(y)) \geq \varepsilon$$



Question Is positive expansivity **decidable**?

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