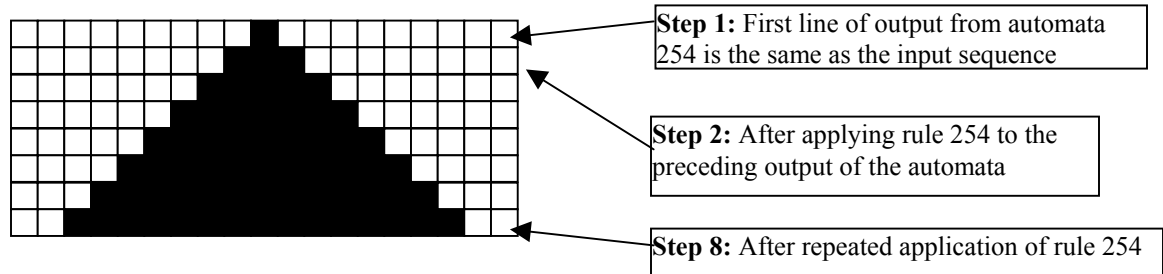


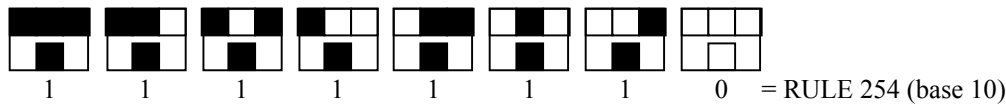
### Problem 8: Boundaries on "A New Kind of Science"

Stephen Wolfram in "A New Kind of Science" describes a special kind of cellular automata. They consist of rows of blocks, where blocks are either filled or not filled depending on the previous row. To generate a new row of blocks, the automata looks at the preceding row and then follows a pre-set "rule" to either color or not color a square on the output row.

The diagram below illustrates the "output" from one of these special kinds of cellular automata.

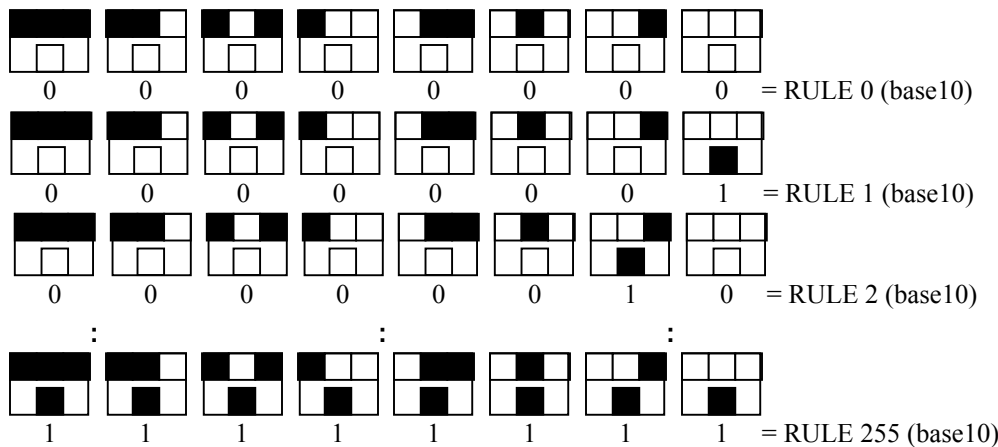


This was generated by repeated application of "Rule 254". The automaton was initialized with an input line that consisted of a single black square. Repeated application of rule 254 to the output line from the preceding step generated the black triangle shown above. Each "rule" can be described graphically using a set of eight input/output patterns, as illustrated below for rule 254.



The top row in each pattern gives one of eight possible color combinations for three adjacent cells (the middle cell and its left and right neighbors). The bottom row in a pattern specifies the color that the middle cell should be given on the next step for each of the 8 possible cases.

Given this arrangement, there are 256 generating rules or automata numbered as follows:



The automata for this problem operate in a bounded space. That is, each line output by an automaton consists of exactly  $n$  squares, and the first square and the last square of the output are always white, regardless of the rule being used for the automata. While an automaton can examine the first and last square of its input line when computing the next line, it cannot change the first or last square when it outputs the next line. These two squares must always remain white.

