

Art by Numbers

Creative Coding & Generative Art in Processing 2
Ira Greenberg, Dianna Xu, Deepak Kumar

Our Goal

- Use computing to realize works of art
- Explore new metaphors from computing: images, animation, interactivity, visualizations
- Learn the basics of computing
- Have fun doing all of the above!

Let's get started...

Administrivia

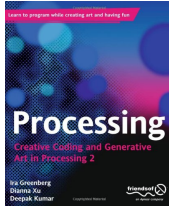
Software

- Processing 2.X
- Already installed in the CS Lab
- Also available for your own computer @ www.processing.org
- Processing == Java



Book

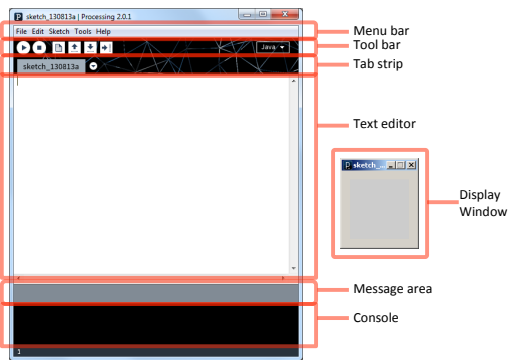
Creative Coding & Generative Art in Processing 2
by Ira Greenberg, Dianna Xu, Deepak Kumar, friendsofEd/APress, 2013. Available at the Campus Bookstore or amazon.com or other vendors.



Did you do this?

- Go the CS Computer Lab (Room 231 PSB)
- Log in
- Start the Processing application (Make sure it is Version 2.x)
- In a web browser, go to the Tutorials section of processing.org
<http://www.processing.org/tutorials/gettingstarted/>
- Read the Getting Started tutorial (by Casey Reas & Ben Fry) and try out the two examples of simple Processing programs presented there
- If you'd like, install Processing 2.x on your own computer
- Read Chapter 1 (Read pages 1-12, skim 12-32)

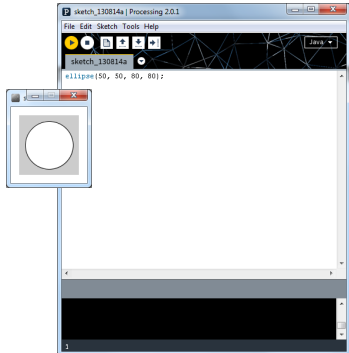
Processing 2.0 IDE



First Processing Program



First Processing Program



Drawing Basics

- Canvas
- Drawing Tools
- Colors



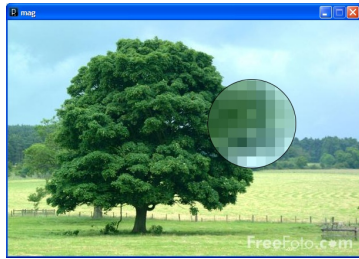
Drawing Basics

- Canvas – computer screen
- Drawing Tools – shape commands
- Colors – grayscale or RGB



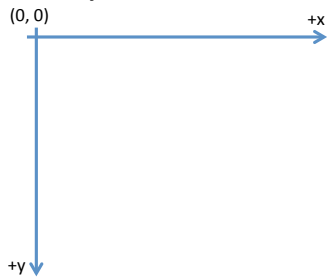
Canvas – Computer Screen

- Pixels



Canvas - Computer Screen

- Coordinate System



Canvas - Computer Screen

Processing Commands

- **Canvas:** Create a 400x400 pixel drawing area

```
size(400, 400);
```

Canvas - Computer Screen

Processing Commands

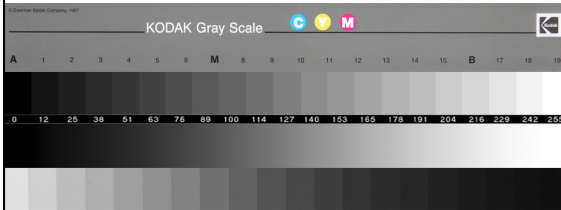
- **Canvas:** Create a 400x400 pixel drawing area

```
size(400, 400);
```

- **Canvas Color:** Canvas is gray in color

```
background(125);
```

256 Shades of Gray!



- 0 = black
- 255 = white

Drawing Basics

- **Canvas – computer screen**
`size(width, height);`

- **Drawing Tools – shape commands**

- **Colors – grayscale or RGB**
`background(125);`



Drawing Tools - Basic Shapes

- | | | | |
|-------------|---|-----------|--|
| ➤ Point | • | ➤ Arc | |
| ➤ Line | | ➤ Quad | |
| ➤ Triangle | | ➤ Polygon | |
| ➤ Rectangle | | ➤ Curve | |
| ➤ Ellipse | | | |

Drawing Tools - Basic Shapes

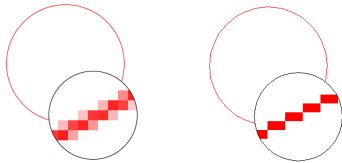
- | | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| ➤ Point | | <code>point(x, y);</code> |
| ➤ Line | | <code>line(x1, y1, x2, y2);</code> |
| ➤ Triangle | | <code>triangle(x1, y1, x2, y2, x3, y3);</code> |
| ➤ Rectangle | | <code>rect(x, y, width, height);</code> |
| ➤ Ellipse | | <code>ellipse(x, y, width, height);</code> |

Drawing & Shape Attributes

- **Anti-aliasing**
 - smooth();
 - noSmooth();
- **Stroke**
 - noStroke();
 - strokeWeight(<pixel width>);
 - stroke(<stroke color>);
- **Fill**
 - noFill();
 - fill(<fill color>);

Antialiasing

- smooth();
vs noSmooth();



Stroke Attributes

- stroke();
vs noStroke();



- strokeWeight(1);
vs strokeWeight(5);

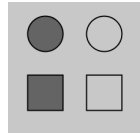


- stroke(125);
vs stroke(0);



Fill Attributes






- `fill(100);`
vs `noFill();`








Drawing & Shape Attributes

- **Anti-aliasing**
 - `smooth();`
 - `noSmooth();`
- **Stroke**
 - `noStroke();`
 - `strokeWeight(<pixel width>);`
 - `stroke(<stroke color>);`
- **Fill**
 - `noFill();`
 - `fill(<fill color>);`

Drawing Tools - Basic Shapes

- **Point**  `point(x, y);`
- **Line**  `line(x1, y1, x2, y2);`
- **Triangle**  `triangle(x1, y1, x2, y2, x3, y3);`
- **Rectangle**  `rect(x, y, width, height);`
- **Ellipse**  `ellipse(x, y, width, height);`

Modes

- `rect(x, y, width, height);` 
- `ellipse(x, y, width, height);` 
- `rectMode(CENTER);` 
- `ellipseMode(CORNER);` 
- Also CORNERS (see Reference)
- Also rounded rectangles (see Reference) 

Structure of a basic program

```
//Sketch: Simple House
//Sketch: Simple House
// Program: Generating Figure 2.3.10.txt
// Using Processing's 2D primitives

//background
rect(0, 0, 1000, 1000);

//house
rect(50, 250, 950, 950);

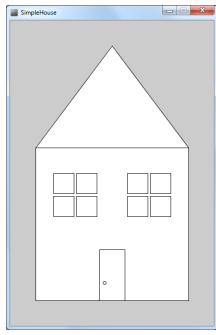
//roof
triangle(50, 250, 950, 250, 500, 50);

//door
rect(475, 450, 525, 550);

//door knob
ellipse(500, 515, 5, 5);

//left windows
rect(85, 300, 115, 400);
rect(130, 300, 160, 400);
rect(185, 345, 215, 400);
rect(230, 345, 260, 400);

//right windows
rect(220, 300, 250, 400);
rect(275, 300, 305, 400);
rect(330, 345, 360, 400);
rect(375, 345, 405, 400);
```



Programming Principle#1

Sequencing

do this
and this
and this
and this
...

```
//left windows
rect(85, 300, 115, 400);
rect(130, 300, 160, 400);
rect(185, 345, 215, 400);
rect(230, 345, 260, 400);

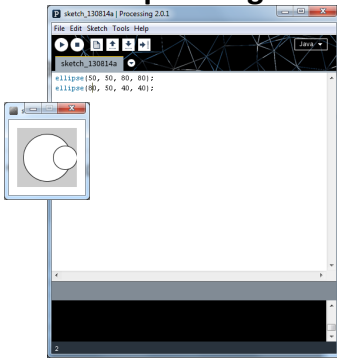
//right windows
rect(220, 300, 250, 400);
rect(275, 300, 305, 400);
rect(330, 345, 360, 400);
rect(375, 345, 405, 400);
```

All commands are carried out in the order they are written.

Sequencing...



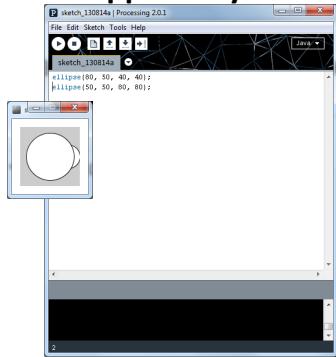
Sequencing...



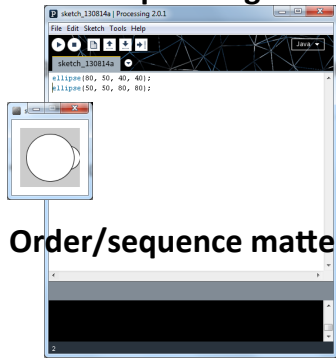
What happens if you switch?



What happens if you switch?



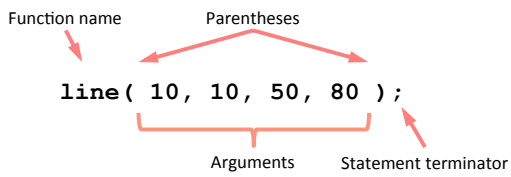
Sequencing...



Order/sequence matters!

Programming Principle#2

- Syntax is important!



CS Principle: Algorithms

An **algorithm** is an effective method for solving a problem expressed as a finite sequence of instructions. For example,

Put on shoes

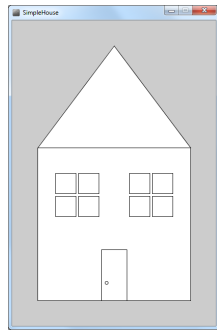
- left sock
- right sock
- left shoe
- right shoe



CS Principle: Algorithms

Draw a simple house

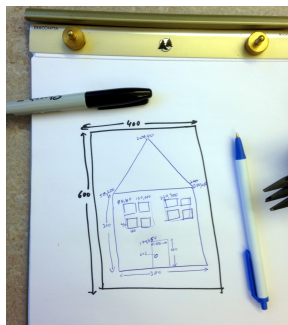
- draw the front wall
- draw the roof
- draw the door
- draw the windows



Algorithms to Pseudocode

Draw a simple house

- create canvas
- draw the front wall
- draw the roof
- draw the door
- door knob
- draw the windows
- left window
- right window



Pseudocode to Code

```

// Sketch: Simple House
// Sketch: Simple House
// Purpose: Generates Figure 2-5 in text
// Using Processing's 2D primitives

size(600, 600);

// house
rect(100, 250, 500, 500);

// roof
triangle(50, 250, 550, 250, 300, 50);

// door
rect(175, 450, 50, 500);
// door knob
ellipse(225, 475, 10, 10);

// left window
rect(100, 300, 40, 40);
rect(130, 300, 40, 40);
rect(160, 340, 40, 40);
rect(190, 340, 40, 40);

// right window
rect(230, 300, 40, 40);
rect(260, 300, 40, 40);
rect(290, 340, 40, 40);
rect(320, 340, 40, 40);

```

CS Principle

To solve any problem on a computer
 First **analyze** the problem
 Then design an **algorithm**
 Write **pseudocode**
Code it
Test and debug

CS Principle

To solve any problem on a computer
 First **analyze** the problem
 Then design an **algorithm**
 Write **pseudocode**
Code it
Test and debug

Much work happens on paper!

Drawing Basics

- **Canvas – computer screen**
`size(width, height);`

- **Drawing Tools – shape commands**

- **Colors – grayscale or RGB**
`background(125);`




Drawing Tools - Basic Shapes

- | | | | |
|-------------|---|-----------|--|
| ➤ Point | • | ➤ Arc | |
| ➤ Line | | ➤ Quad | |
| ➤ Triangle | | ➤ Polygon | |
| ➤ Rectangle | | ➤ Curve | |
| ➤ Ellipse | | | |


Drawing Tools - Basic Shapes

- | | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| ➤ Point | | <code>point(x, y);</code> |
| ➤ Line | | <code>line(x1, y1, x2, y2);</code> |
| ➤ Triangle | | <code>triangle(x1, y1, x2, y2, x3, y3);</code> |
| ➤ Rectangle | | <code>rect(x, y, width, height);</code> |
| ➤ Ellipse | | <code>ellipse(x, y, width, height);</code> |



Color

- Grayscale (0..255)



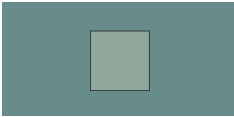
- RGB – red, green, blue
0..255, 0..255, 0..255

Color

- Example:

```

background(100, 100);
stroke(1);
background(100, 140, 150);
fill(145, 100, 150);
stroke(150, 50, 100);
    
```



- Any command that takes a grayscale value, can also take RGB color values:

```

background(<grayscale value>;
background(R, G, B);
stroke (<grayscale value>;
stroke(R, G, B);
fill(<grayscale value>;
fill(R, G, B);
    
```

Color Transparency

- Alpha values (0..255) specify transparency/opacity

ALPHA = 0 means completely transparent
ALPHA = 255 means completely opaque

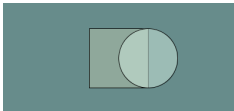
```

background(<grayscale value>, ALPHA);
background(R, G, B, ALPHA);
stroke (<grayscale value>, ALPHA);
stroke(R, G, B, ALPHA);
fill(<grayscale value>, ALPHA);
fill(R, G, B, ALPHA);
    
```

- Example:

```

background(100, 140, 150);
fill(145, 100, 150);
rect(150, 50, 100, 100);
// fill with alpha value
fill(150, 50, 255, 255);
ellipse(250, 100, 100, 100);
    
```



Why 0 .. 255?

