

Introduction into Processing, Color and Shape



Introduction into Processing

Where to look for Processing

Processing website, the tool

www.processing.org

Daniel Shiffman, the person

[get a taste of him](#)

Coding train, the channel

[youtube](#)

Reference page, the documentation

processing.org/reference

Generative Gestaltung, the book and the examples

generative-gestaltung.de

Welcome, Processing IDE

Processing IDE

that's what we use during classes



```
sketch_200926a | Processing 3.5.3
File Edit Sketch Debug Tools Help
Java

sketch_200926a

1 void setup() {
2     size(1920, 1080);
3     background(255);
4
5     drawDots();
6 }
7
8 void draw() {}
9
10 void mouseClicked() {
11     background(255);
12     drawDots();
13 }
14
15 void keyPressed() {
16     if (key == 's') saveFrame();
17     if (key == 'b') filter(BLUR);
18 }
19
20 void drawDots() {
21     for (int i = 0; i < 200; i++) {
22         fill(random(220, 250));
23         noStroke();
24         ellipse(randomGaussian()*width/2 + width/2, random(height), 5, 5);
25     }
26 }
27
28
29
30
```

The screenshot shows the Processing IDE interface with a sketch titled "sketch_200926a". The code area contains Java pseudocode for a Processing sketch. The sketch sets up a window of size 1920x1080, initializes a background color, and defines three main functions: setup(), draw(), and drawDots(). The drawDots() function uses a for loop to draw 200 random-sized ellipses at random positions on the canvas. It also includes logic to save frames when the 's' key is pressed and blur the image when the 'b' key is pressed. The Processing version shown is 3.5.3.

VS code extension for Processing

[github](#), [video tutorial for Win](#), [video tutorial for Mac](#)

p5.js in VS code

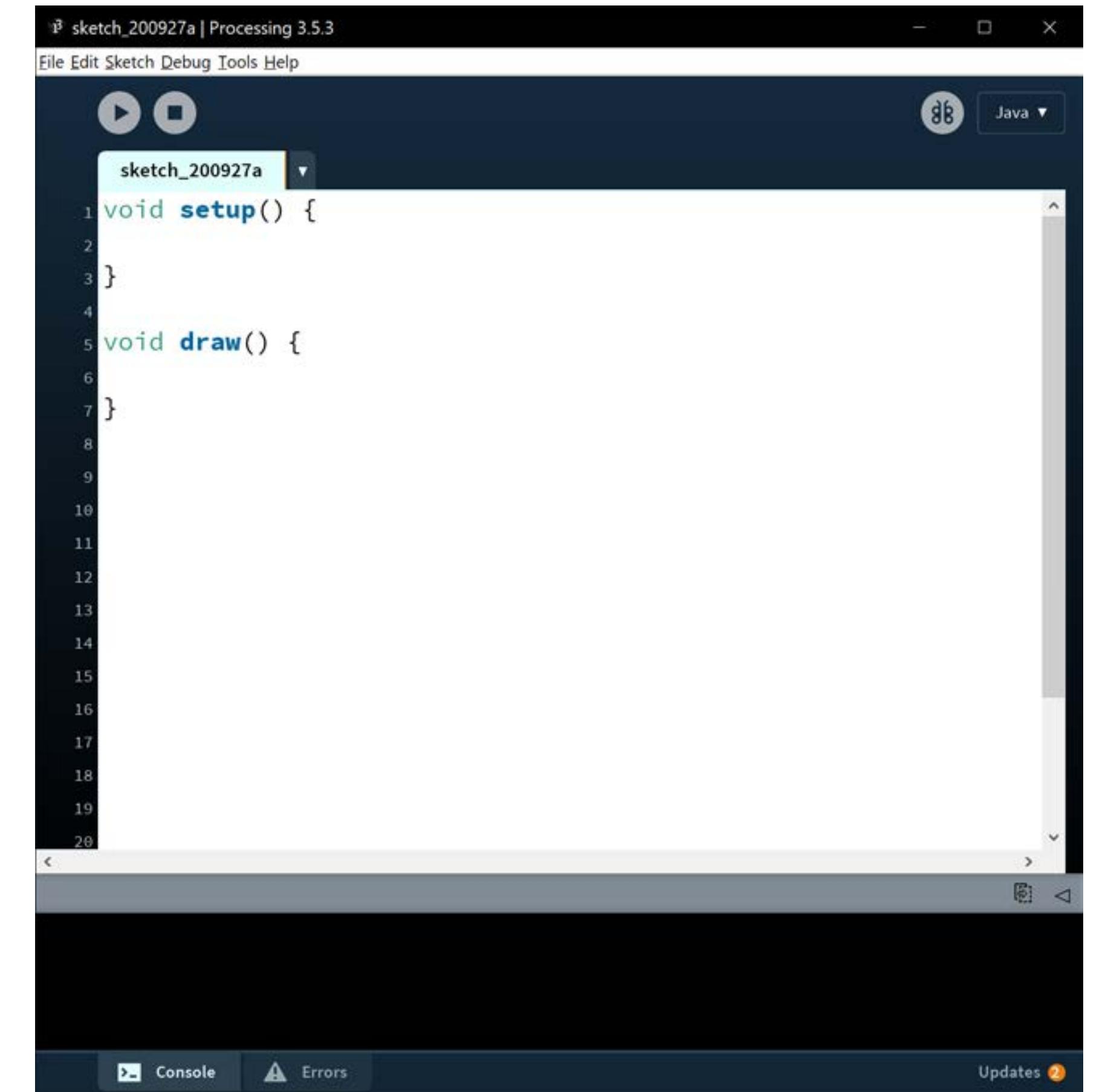
[video tutorial](#)

The inevitable functions

```
void setup() {  
    // runs only once, at the beginning of the program  
}
```

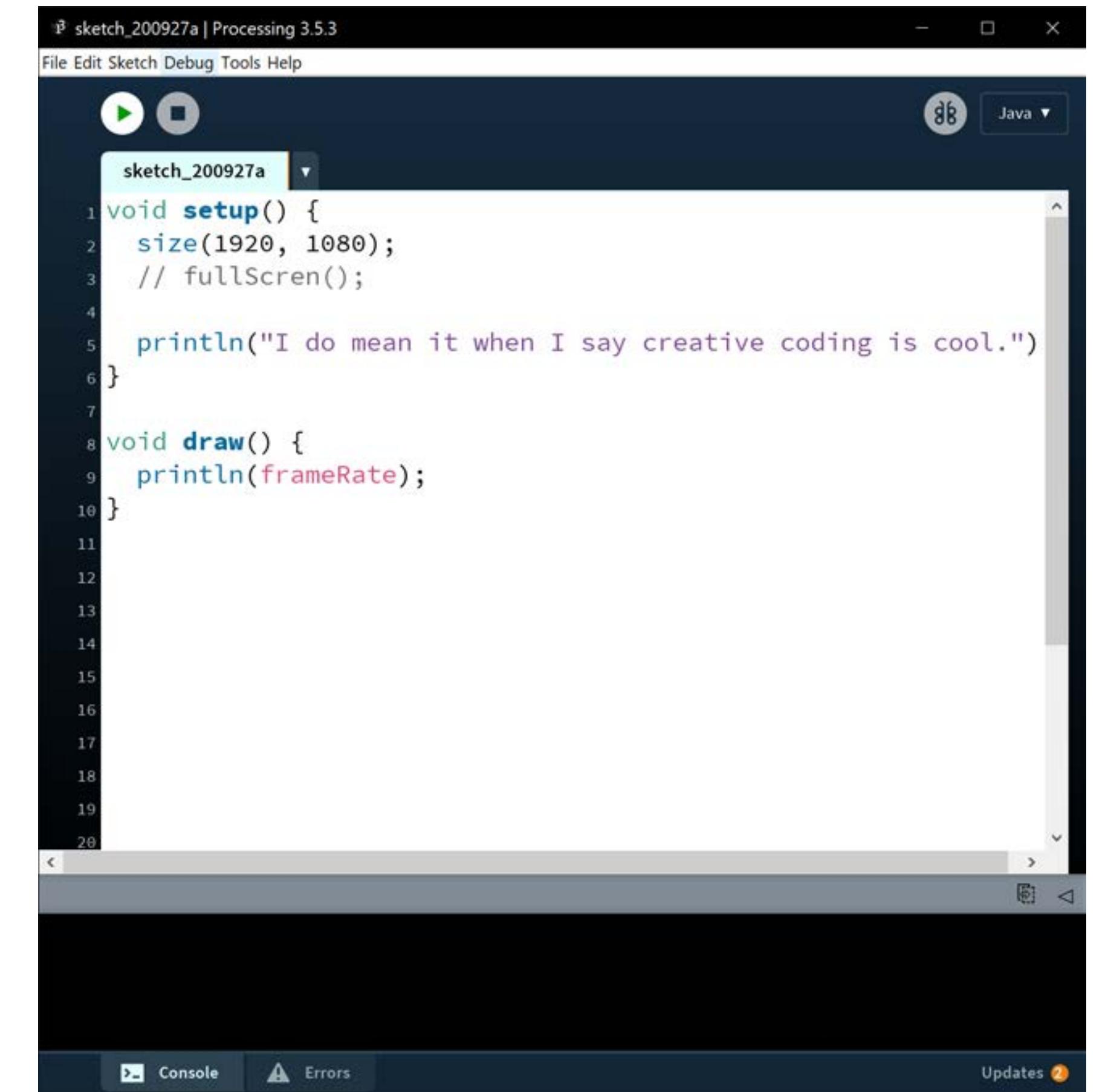
```
void draw() {  
    // runs in loop  
}
```

You can use loop() and noLoop() functions



The essential functions

```
size(float width, float height)  
fullScreen()  
fullScreen(int screenId)  
  
frameRate(int fps)  
  
println(String s)
```



The screenshot shows the Processing 3.5.3 IDE interface. The title bar reads "sketch_200927a | Processing 3.5.3". The menu bar includes File, Edit, Sketch, Debug, Tools, and Help. A toolbar with a play button and a stop button is visible. The code editor window displays the following sketch code:

```
sketch_200927a  
1 void setup() {  
2     size(1920, 1080);  
3     // fullScreen();  
4  
5     println("I do mean it when I say creative coding is cool.");  
6 }  
7  
8 void draw() {  
9     println(frameRate);  
10 }  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20
```

The code uses Processing's built-in functions like `size`, `println`, and `frameRate`. The `fullScreen` function is commented out. The sketch is currently set to Java mode.

Useful shortcuts for Processing IDE

Ctrl+R Run the sketch

Ctrl+K Open the sketchfolder

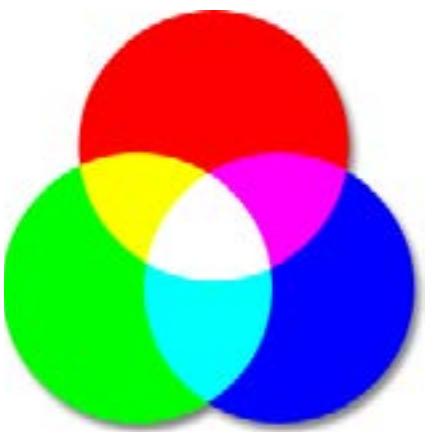
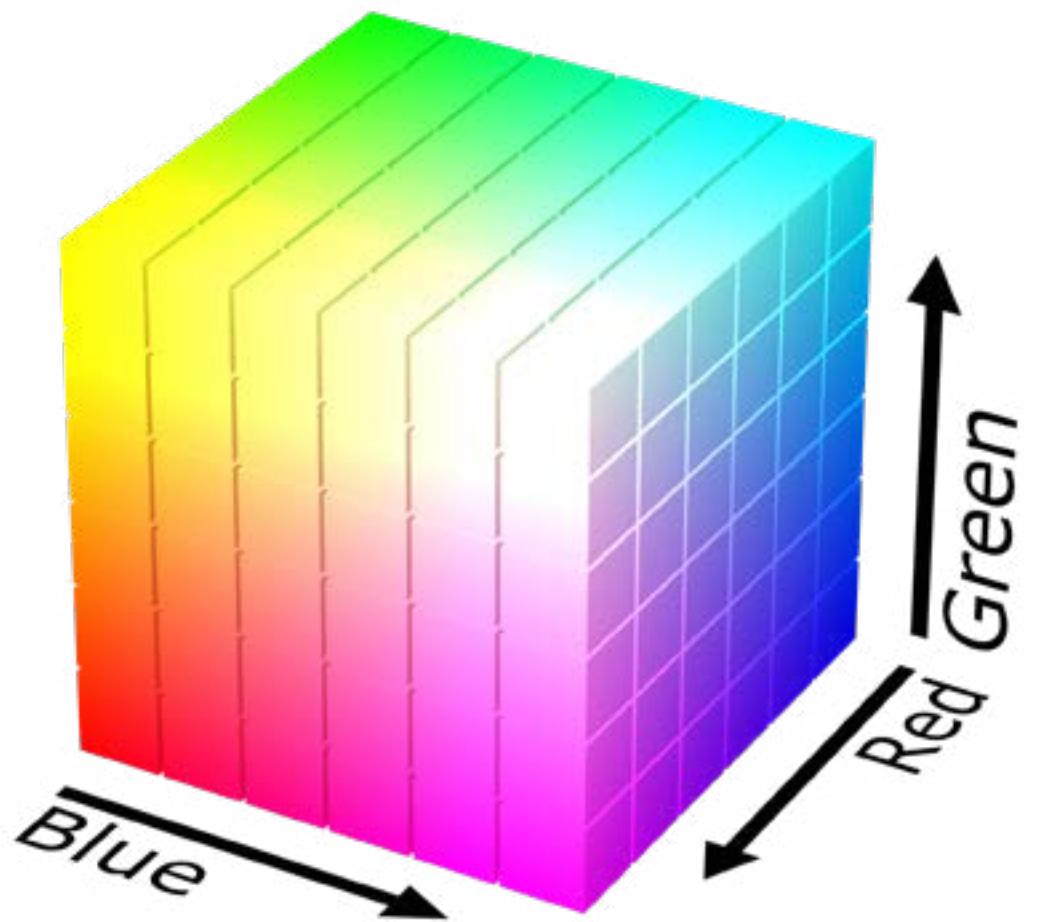
Ctrl+Shift+T Run in Tweak mode

Yeah, I thought there would be more of these.
But these are good to know, hh.

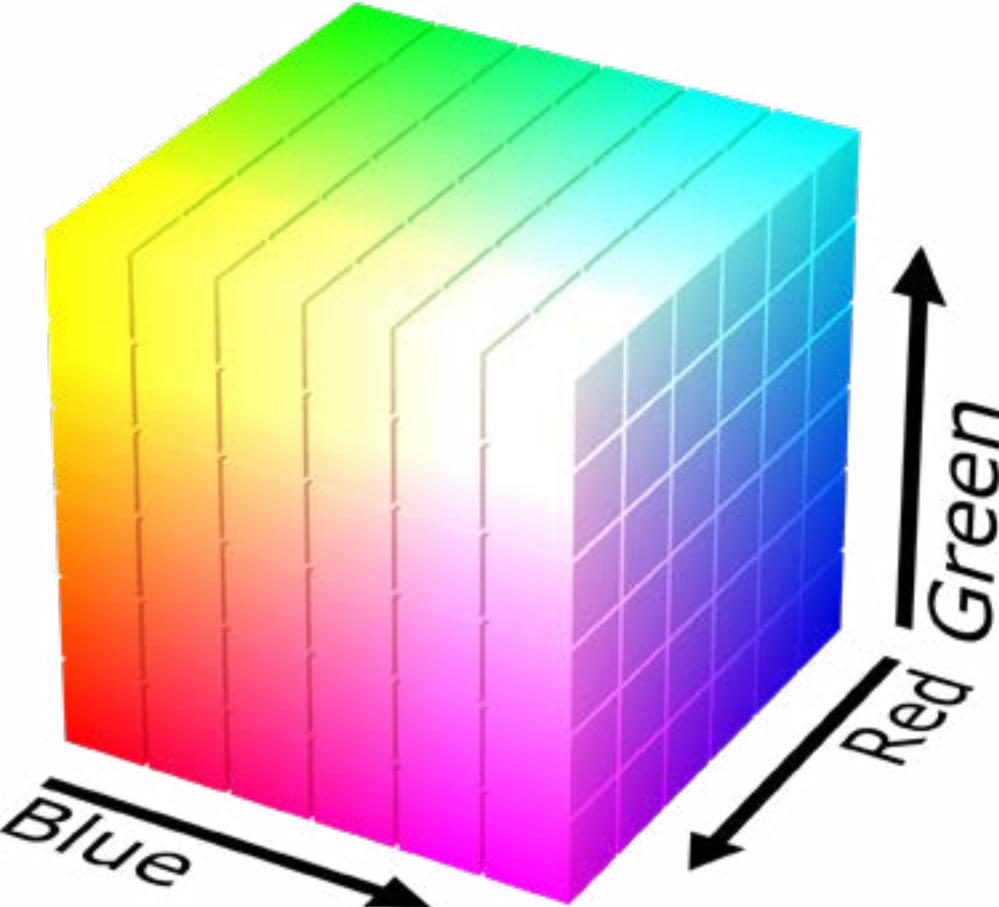
Also, the main .pde file needs to have the same name as the folder it appears in.

Color

RGB (red-green-blue)



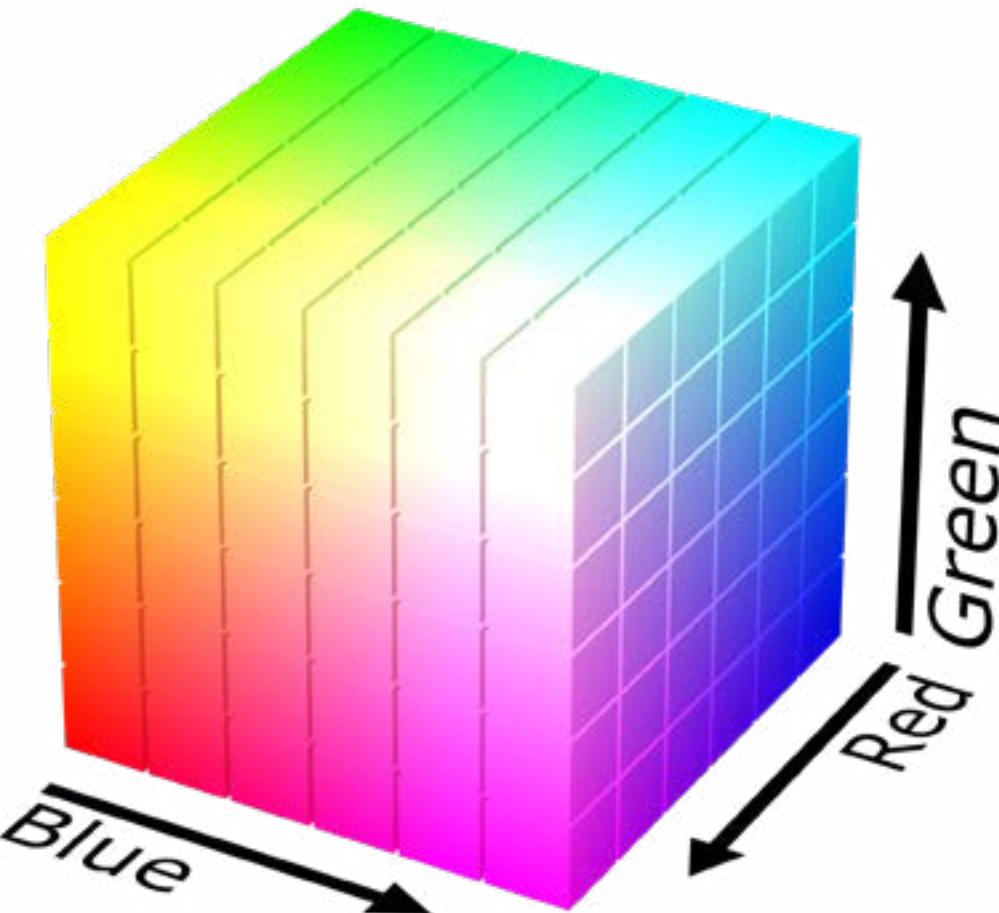
RGB (red-green-blue)



- **255r 200g 87b**
- **245r 138g 90b**
- **235r 71g 118b**
- **158r 82g 170b**
- **81r 88g 187b**
- **?r ?g ?b**



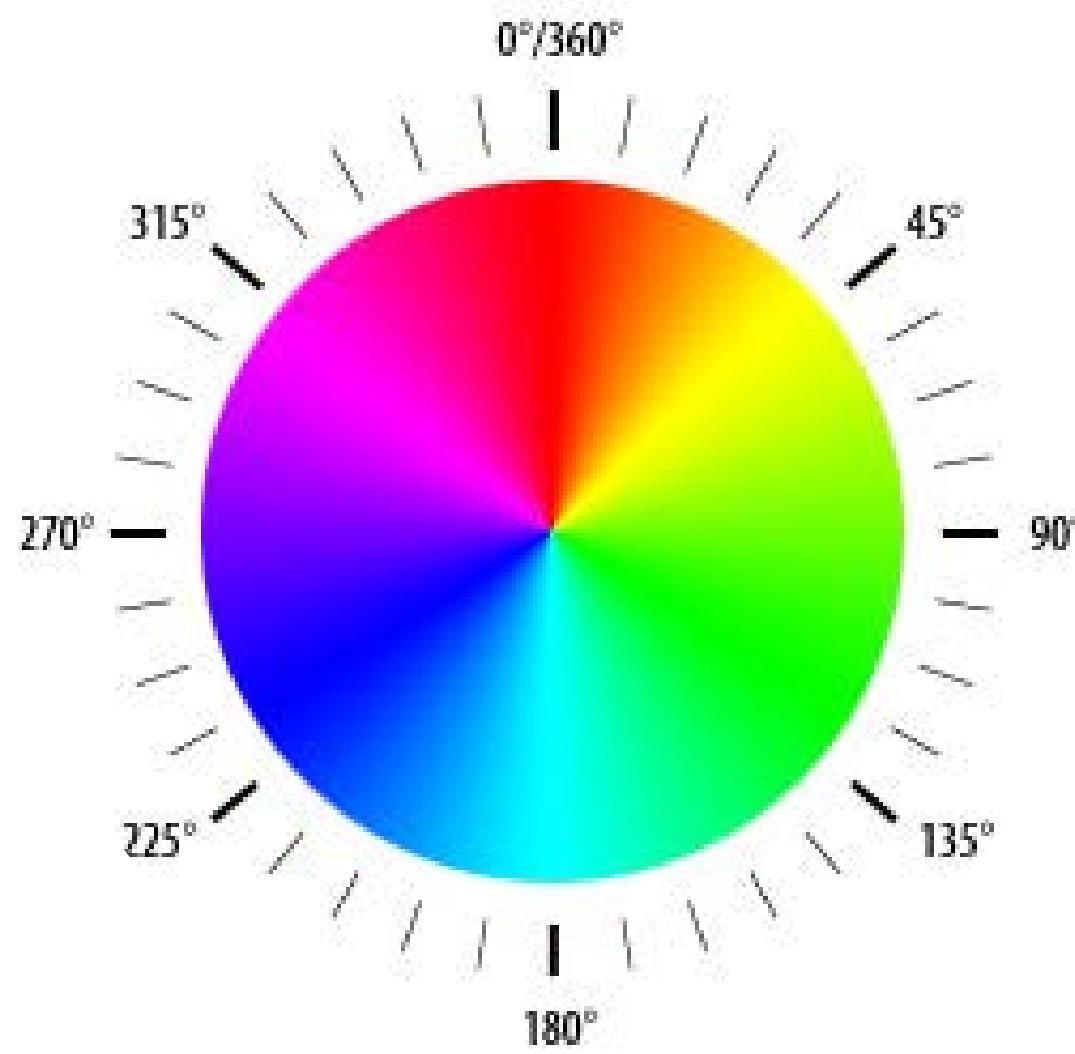
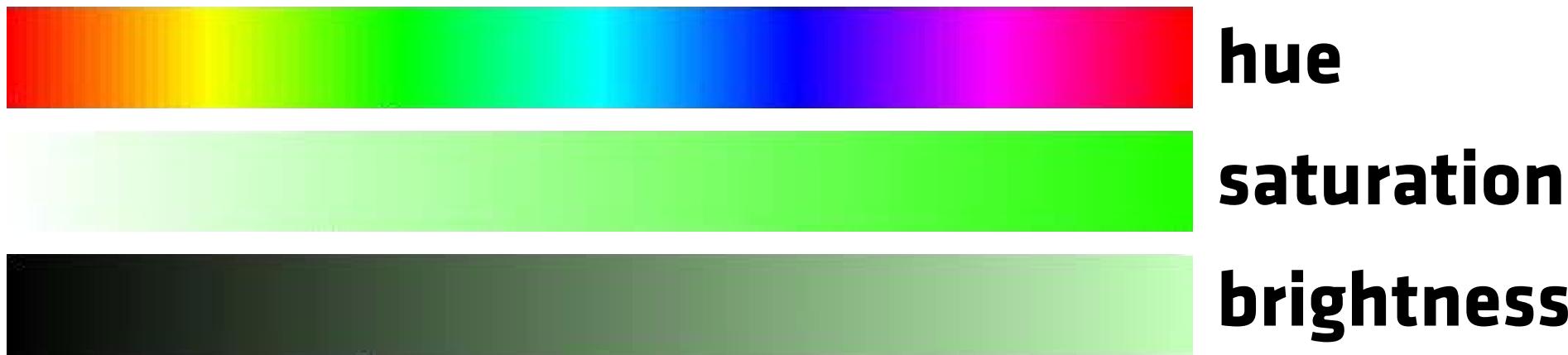
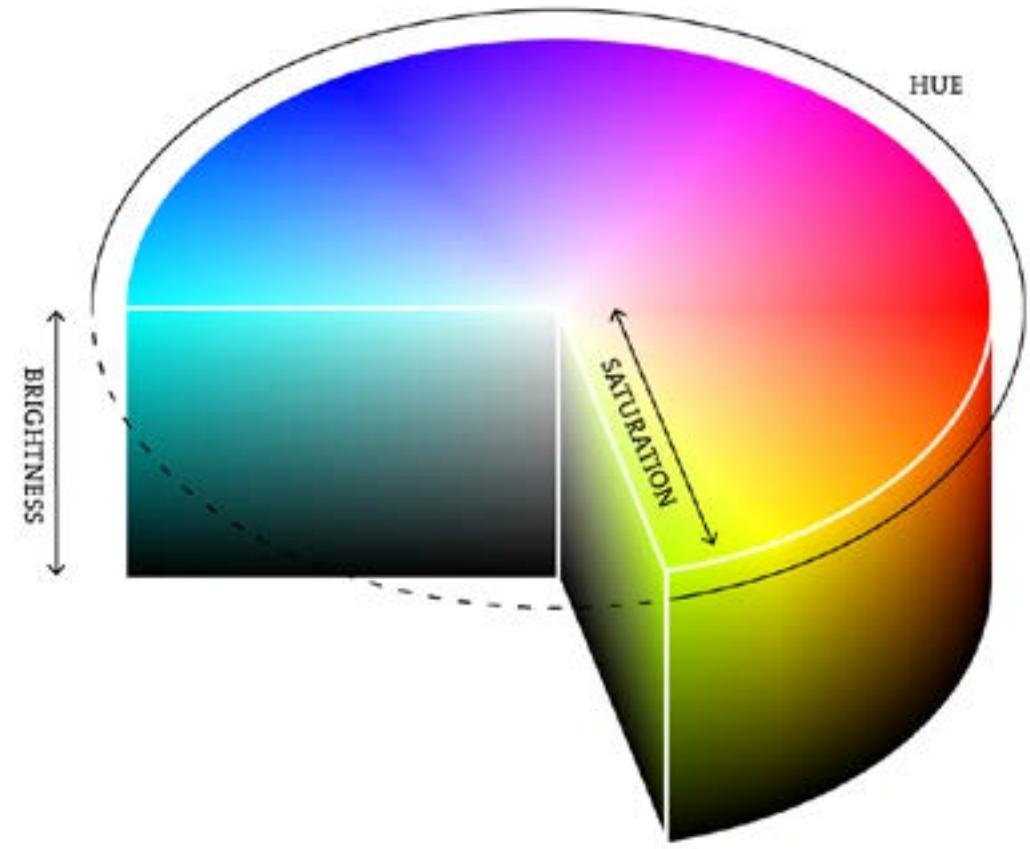
RGB (red-green-blue)



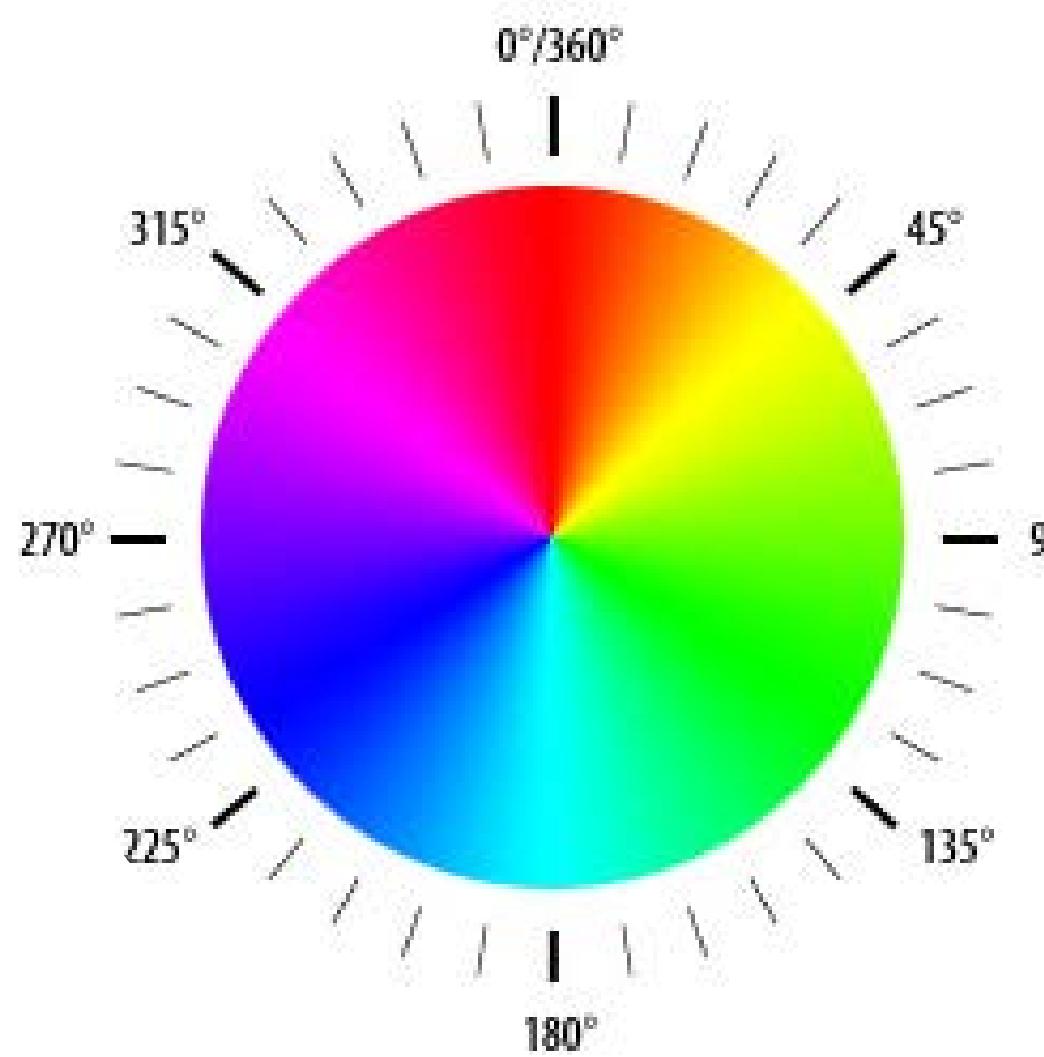
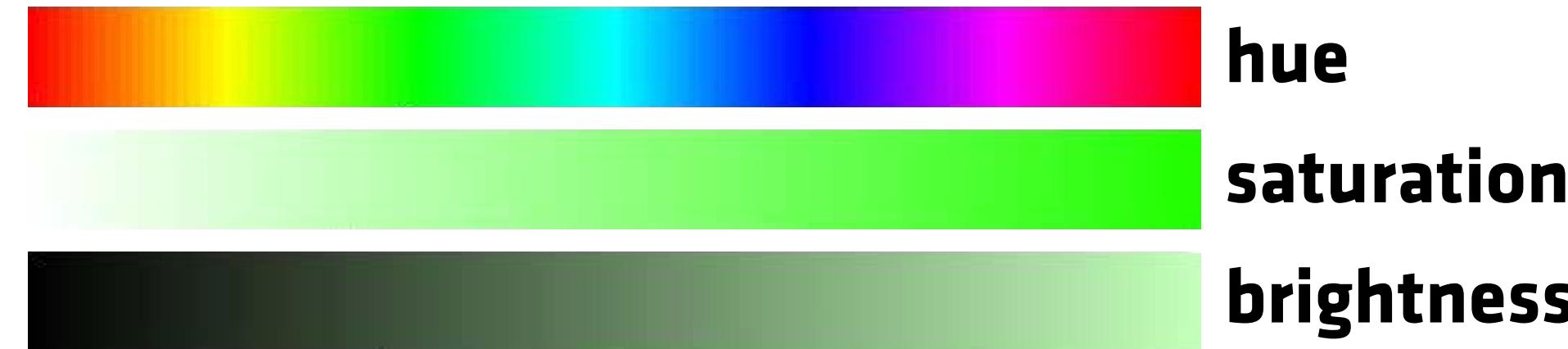
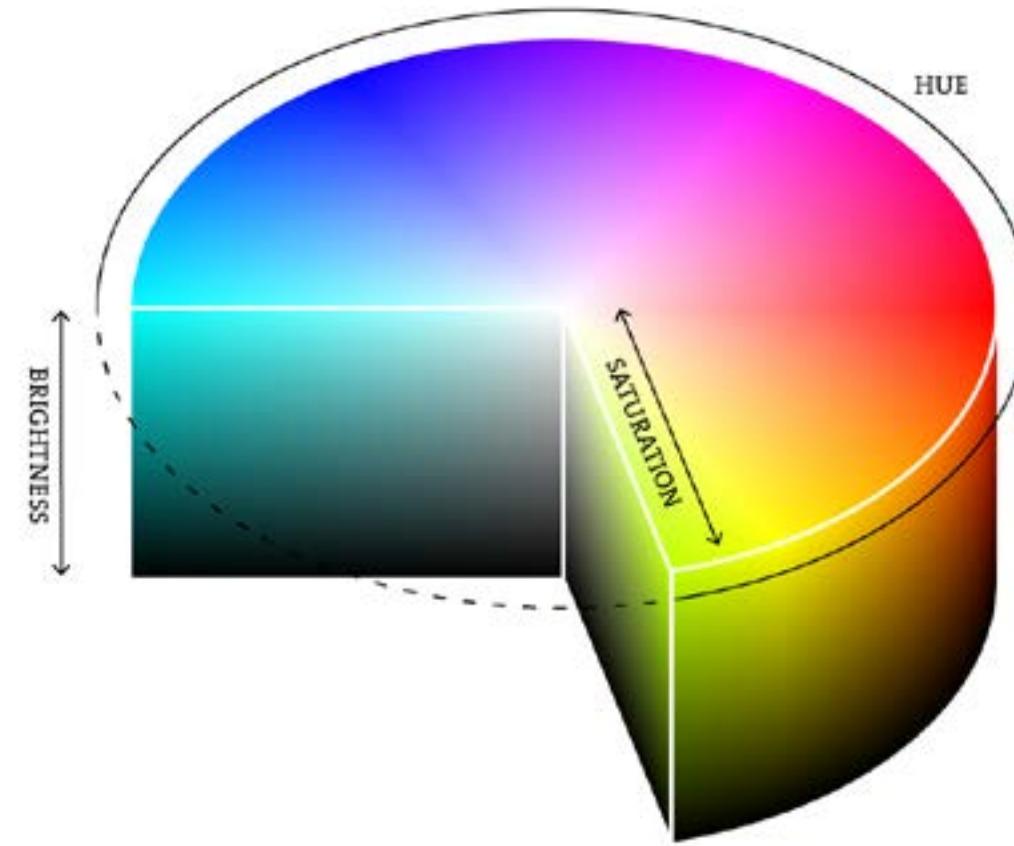
- **255r 200g 87b**
- **245r 138g 90b**
- **235r 71g 118b**
- **158r 82g 170b**
- **81r 88g 187b**
- **14r 188g 191b**



HSB (hue-saturation-brightness)

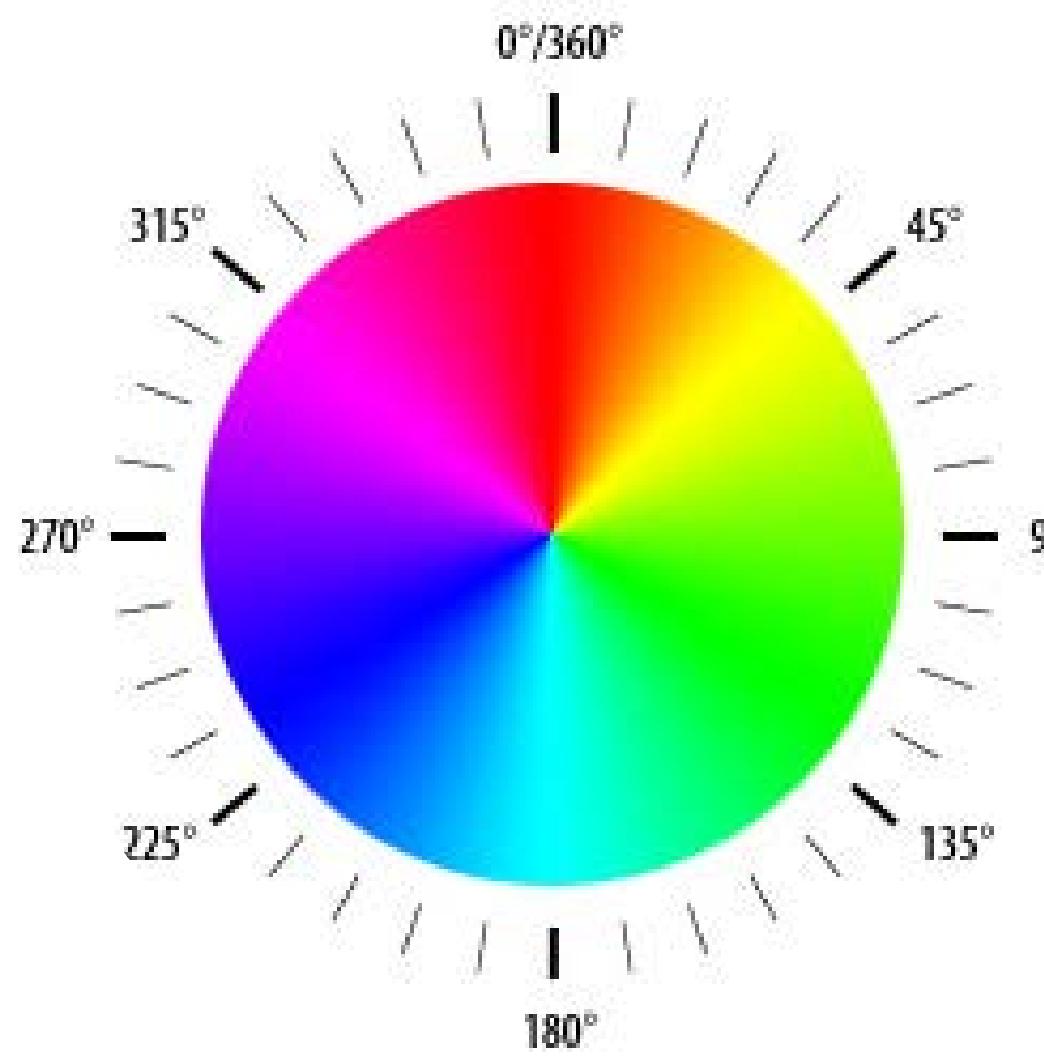
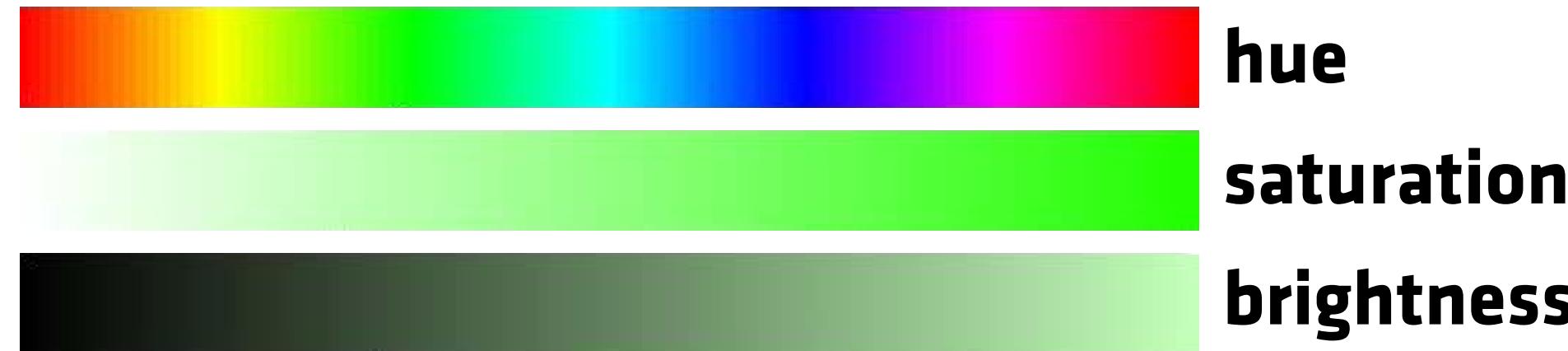
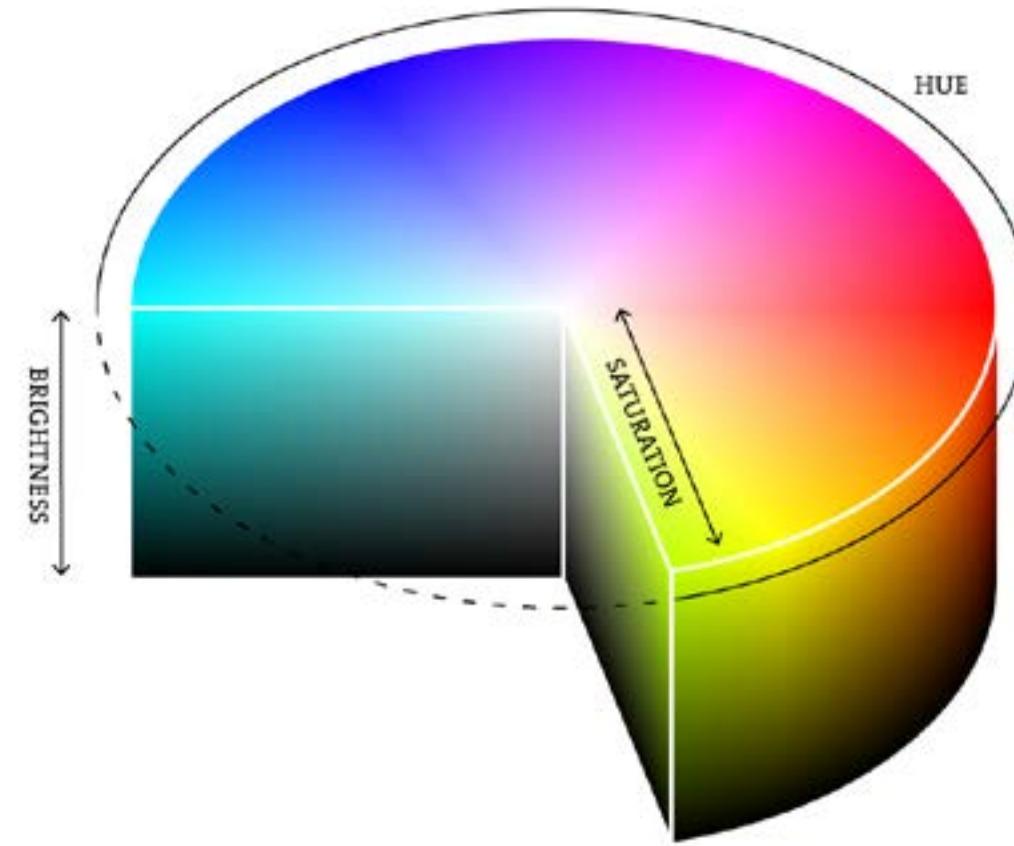


HSB (hue-saturation-brightness)



●	40h	66s	100b
●	19h	63s	96b
●	343h	70s	92b
●	292h	52s	67b
●	236h	57s	73b
●	?h	?s	?b

HSB (hue-saturation-brightness)



●	40h	66s	100b
●	19h	63s	96b
●	343h	70s	92b
●	292h	52s	67b
●	236h	57s	73b
●	181h	93s	75b

Explore it
yourselves
at [coolors](#)

Color modes

```
colorMode(mode, int max, ...)
```

```
// colorMode(RGB, r, g, b, alpha)
colorMode(RGB, 256, 256, 256, 256) // rgba -- default
colorMode(RGB, 100, 100, 100, 100)
```

```
// colorMode(HSB, h, s, b, alpha)
colorMode(HSB, 360, 100, 100, 100) // hsba
```

Color definition

Processing offers a **color datatype**.

```
color magenta;  
magenta = color(float r, float g, float b);  
magenta = color(255, 0, 255);
```

```
color copper = #e26d5c;
```

```
fill(color anycolor)
```

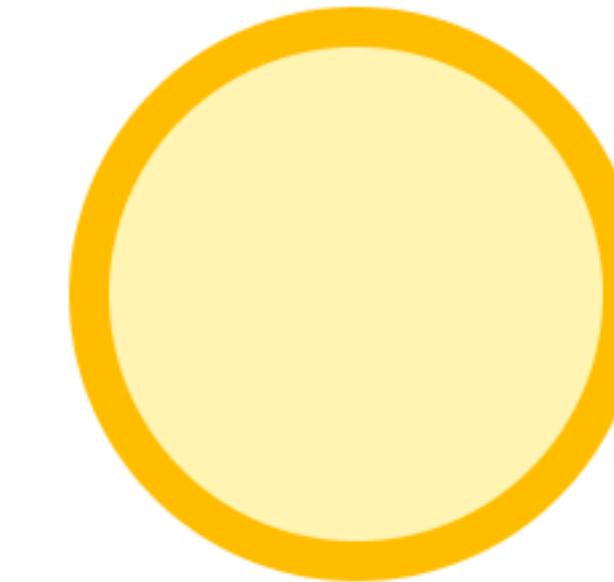
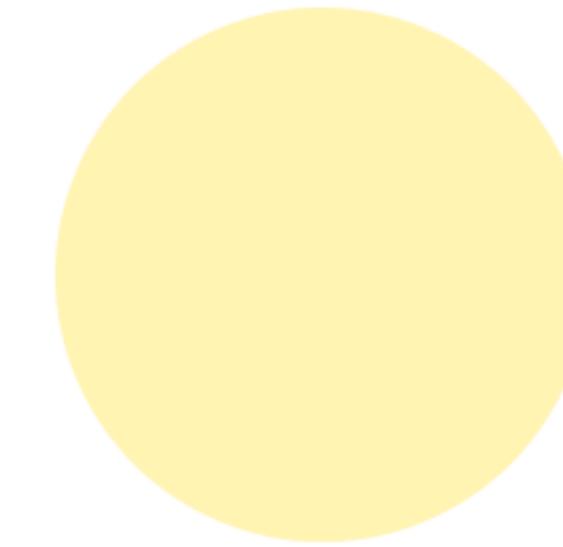
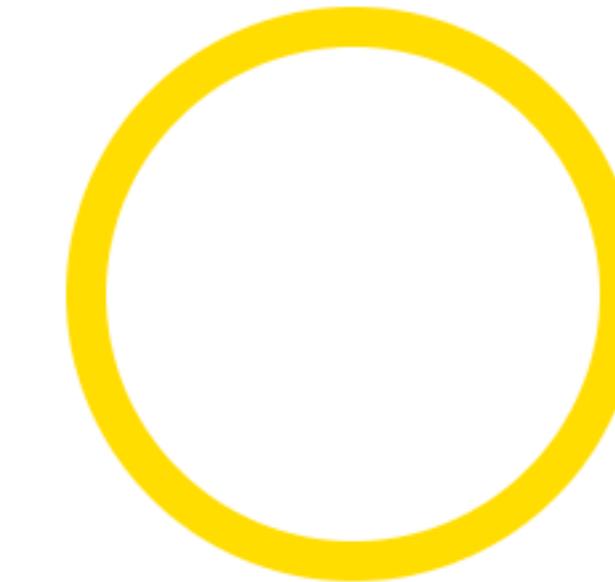
```
fill(int grayscale)  
fill(int grayscale, float alpha)  
fill(float r, float g, float b)  
fill(float r, float g, float b, float alpha)
```

Don't forget that color is technically just a number. Check-out [details](#) how you can work with it.

Color functions

Fill `fill(color)`

výplň `noFill()`



Stroke `stroke(color)`

obrys `noStroke()`

Background `background(color)`

pozadí `clear()`

A screenshot of the Processing IDE. The code editor on the left shows the following Java code:

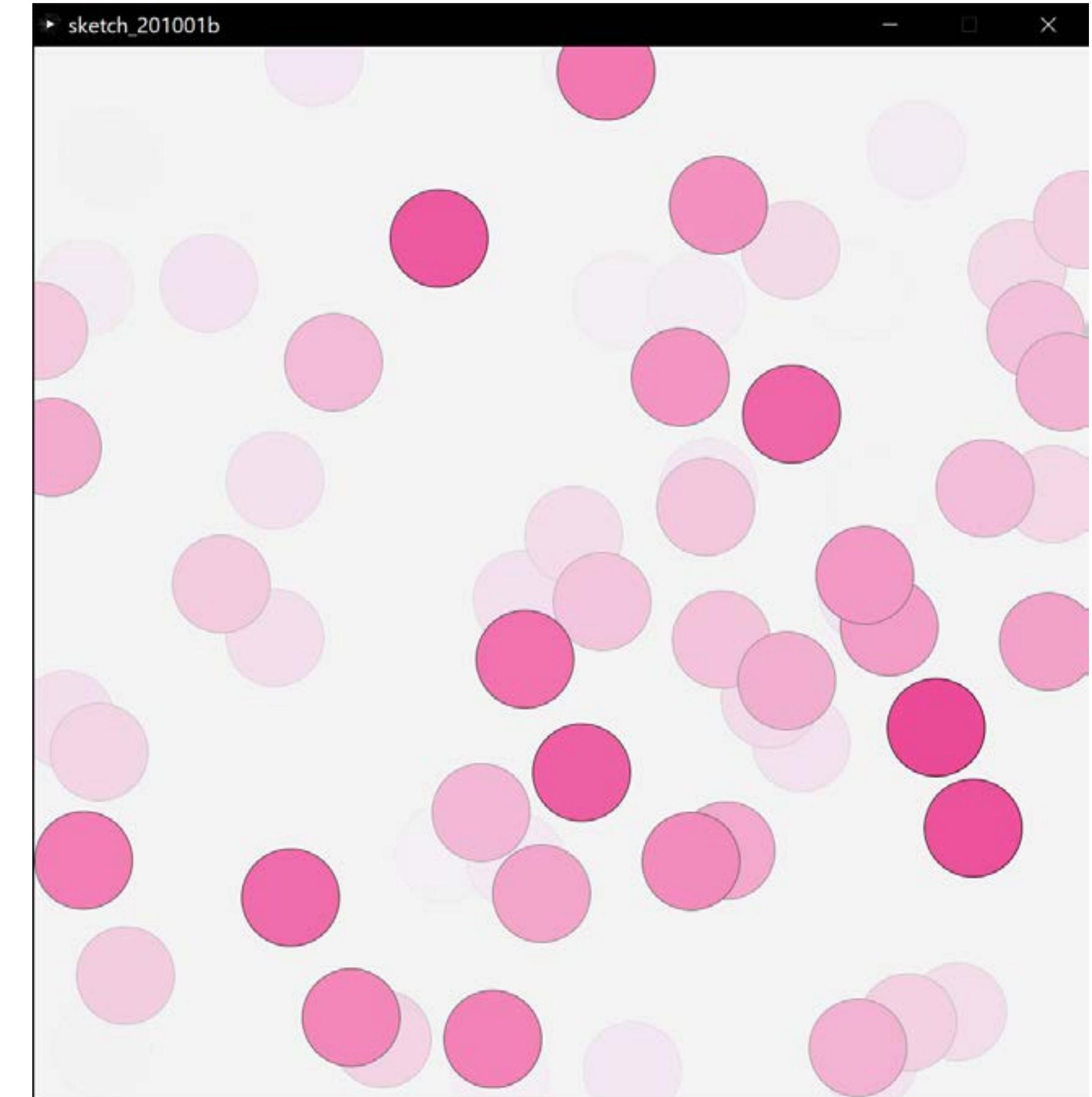
```
sketch_201001a
void setup() {
  size(400, 400);
  background(70, 80, 185);
}
```

The sketch window on the right displays a blue square against a white background.

The Processing IDE interface includes a toolbar at the top with icons for play, stop, and settings, and a dropdown menu labeled "Java". The code editor has line numbers from 1 to 13. The sketch window has a title bar "sketch_20..." and standard window controls.

#dummy fading effect

```
void setup() {  
    size(1080, 1080);  
    background(240);  
}  
  
void draw() {  
    fill(250, 10); // semi-transparent white  
    rect(0, 0, width, height);  
  
    fill(#EB4B98);  
    ellipse(random(width), random(height), 100, 100);  
}
```



You'll notice it is a bit tough to get the color numbers right so you avoid ghost objects in canvas.

Shape

2D shapes

point(x, y)

line(x1, y1, x2, y2)

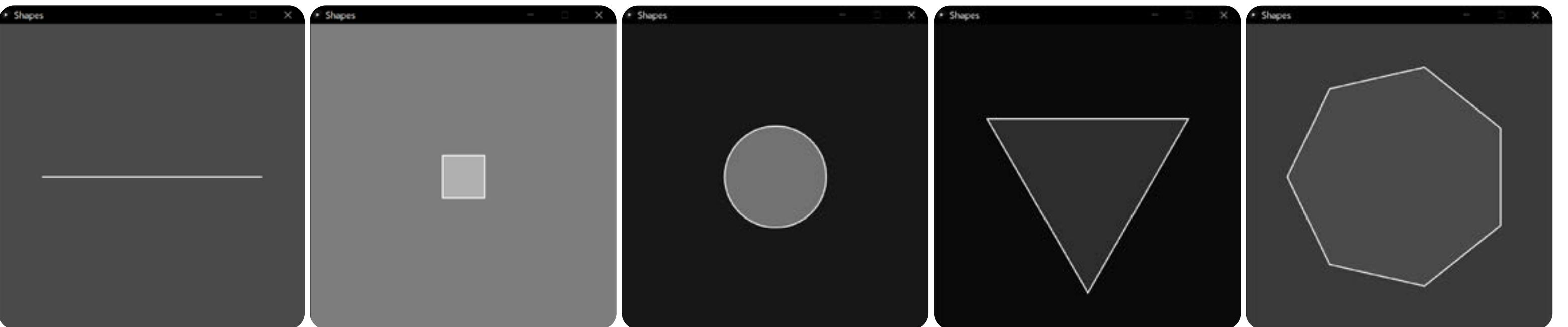
rect(x, y, width, height)

ellipse(x, y, width, height)

triangle(x1, y1, x2, y2, x3, y3)

quad(...)

arc(...)



Let's have fun

Built-in variables

```
mouseX, mouseY      // x and y mouse position  
pmouseX, pmouseY   // previous x a y mouse position  
  
width, height       // width and height of the artboard in pixels  
  
frameCount          // number of the current frame
```

Taste of randomness

```
random(max)  
random(min, max)
```

Processing interaction functions

```
void keyPressed() { // here goes your art }

void mouseClicked() { // here goes your art }
void mouseDragged() { // here goes your art }
void mousePressed() { // here goes your art }
void mouseReleased() { // here goes your art }
```

And there are others, check out the reference

Export raster image

Saving frames into the sktechbook folder

saveFrame(); // saves frames: ‘screen-0001.png’, ‘screen-0045.png’, etc.

saveFrame(“img_name-####.png”)

are replaced by the current **frameCount** value

Supported raster formats: .png .jpg .tif .tga

Export vector image

Processing offers a PDF library that allows to **draw directly into PDF or SVG files**.

This can be useful to store graphics in high quality (ehm, vector).

Moreover, this allows you to finish or post-process works created in Processing using vector editors such as Adobe Illustrator or Sketch.

You can store either **one frame**, or a **sequence of frames** as an animated PDF or as multiple page file.

```
import processing.pdf.*;
import processing.svg.*;

beginRecord(PDF, "my_vector_art.pdf")
beginRecord(SVG, "my_vector_art.svg")
endRecord()
```

For details, check out the Processing's [PDF Export](#) and [SVG Export](#) pages, or our template codes.

#timestamp

```
String timestamp;

void setup() {
    timestamp = year() + nf(month(),2) + nf(day(),2) + “-” +
        nf(hour(),2) + nf(minute(),2) + nf(second(),2);

    println(timestamp);

    ...
}

void keyPressed() {
    if (key == ‘s’ || key == ‘S’) saveFrame(“img_name-“ + timestamp + “-####.png”)
}
```

