

# An Introduction to Processing

Static drawings, colour and more

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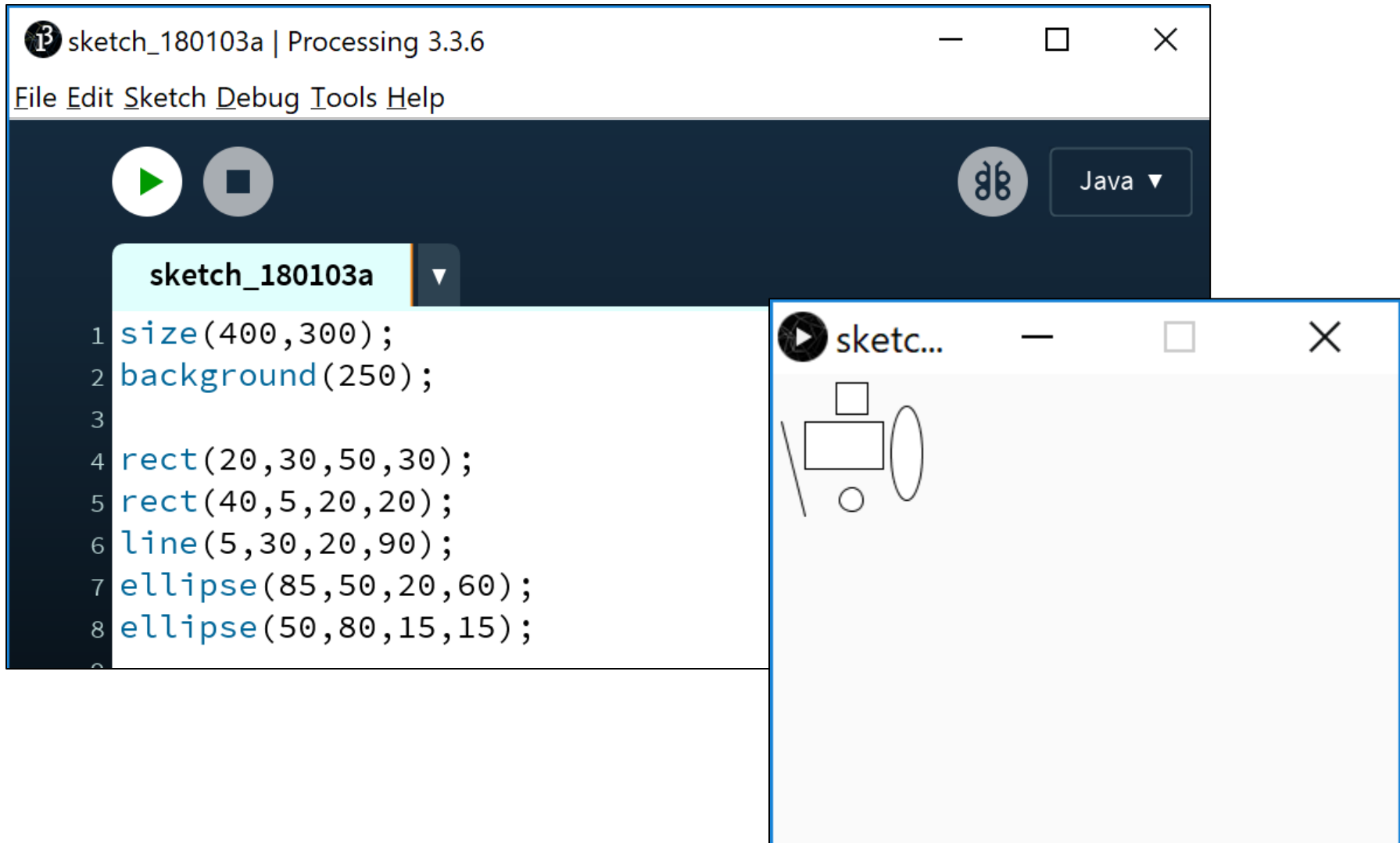
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by:            Dr. Siobhán Drohan



Waterford Institute *of* Technology  
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA PHORT LÁIRGE

Department of Computing and Mathematics  
<http://www.wit.ie/>

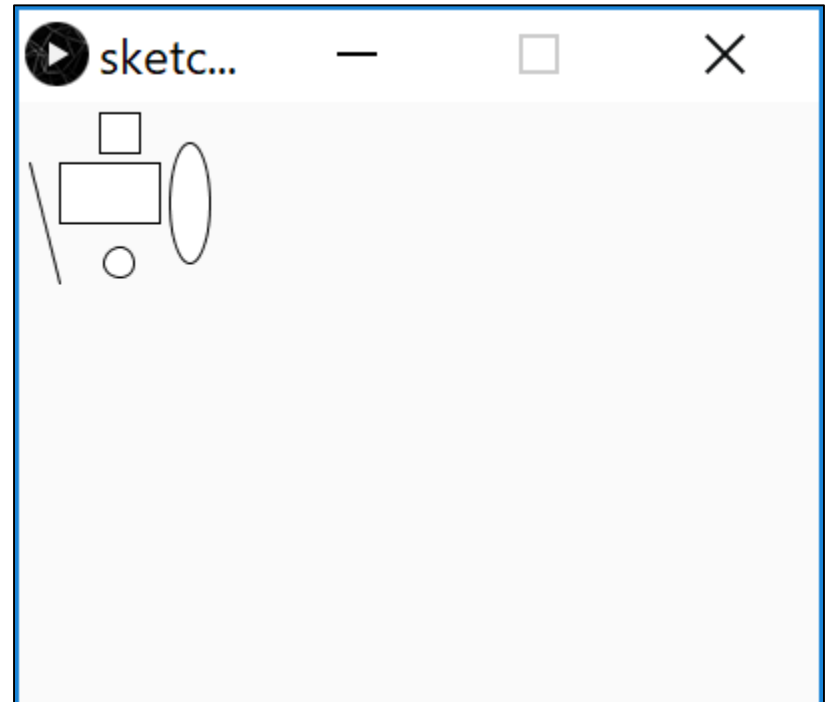
# Static drawing – an example



# Static drawing – an example

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- Static drawings are those that don't change over time:
  - Once they are drawn, they don't change.
  - They don't respond to events e.g. a mouse moving over the sketch, a key being pressed, etc.

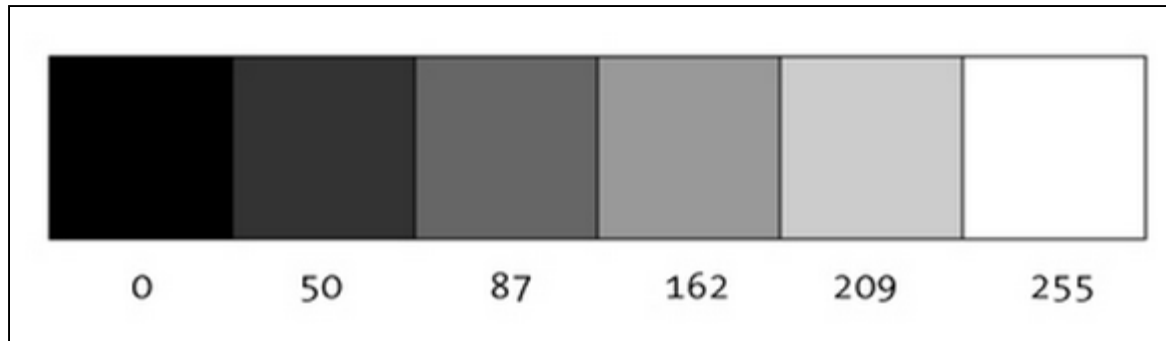


# Colour (Grayscale and RGB)



# We looked at the Grayscale palette

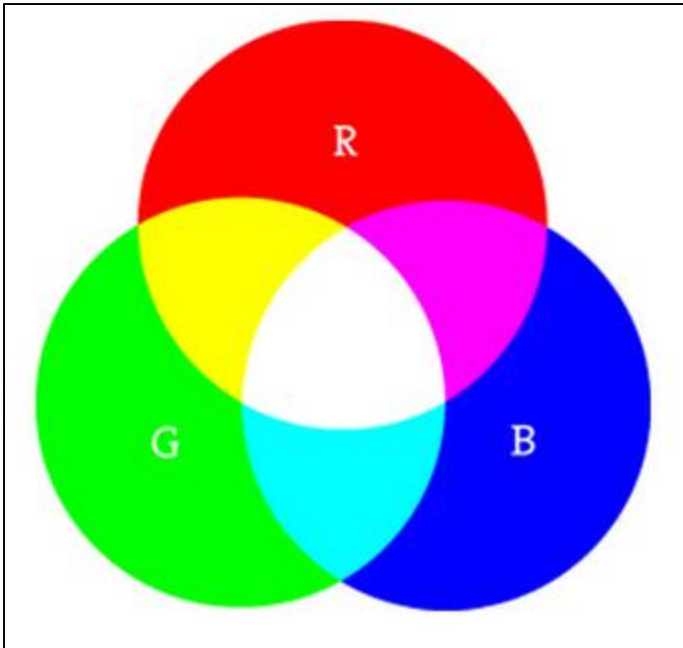
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“0 means black, 255 means white. In between, every other number - 50, 87, 162, 209, and so on - is a shade of gray ranging from black to white.”

# The RGB palette

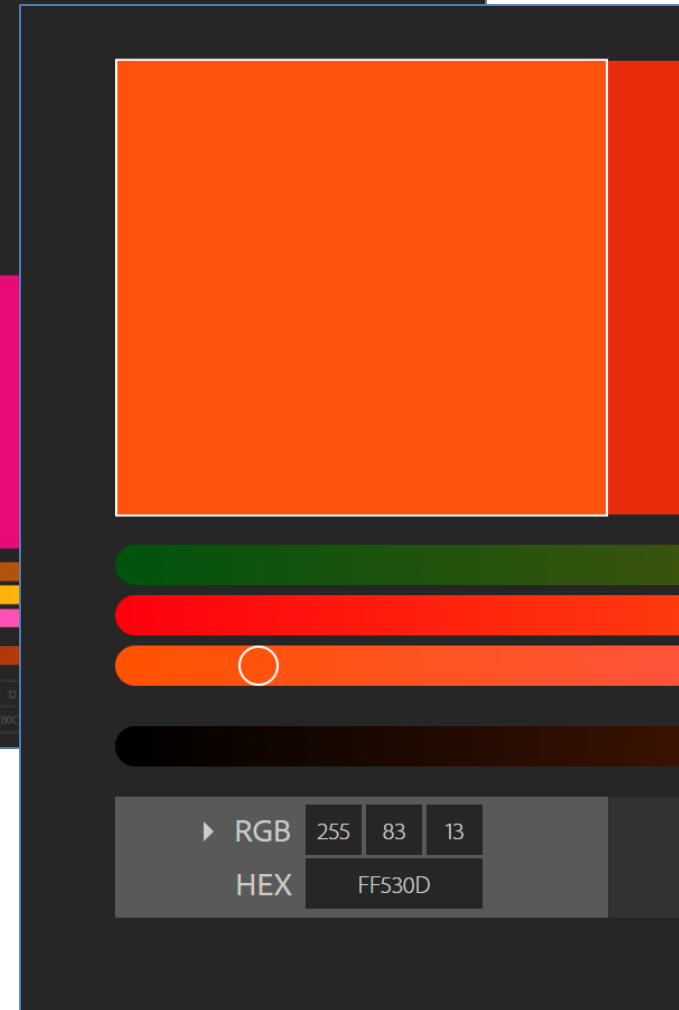
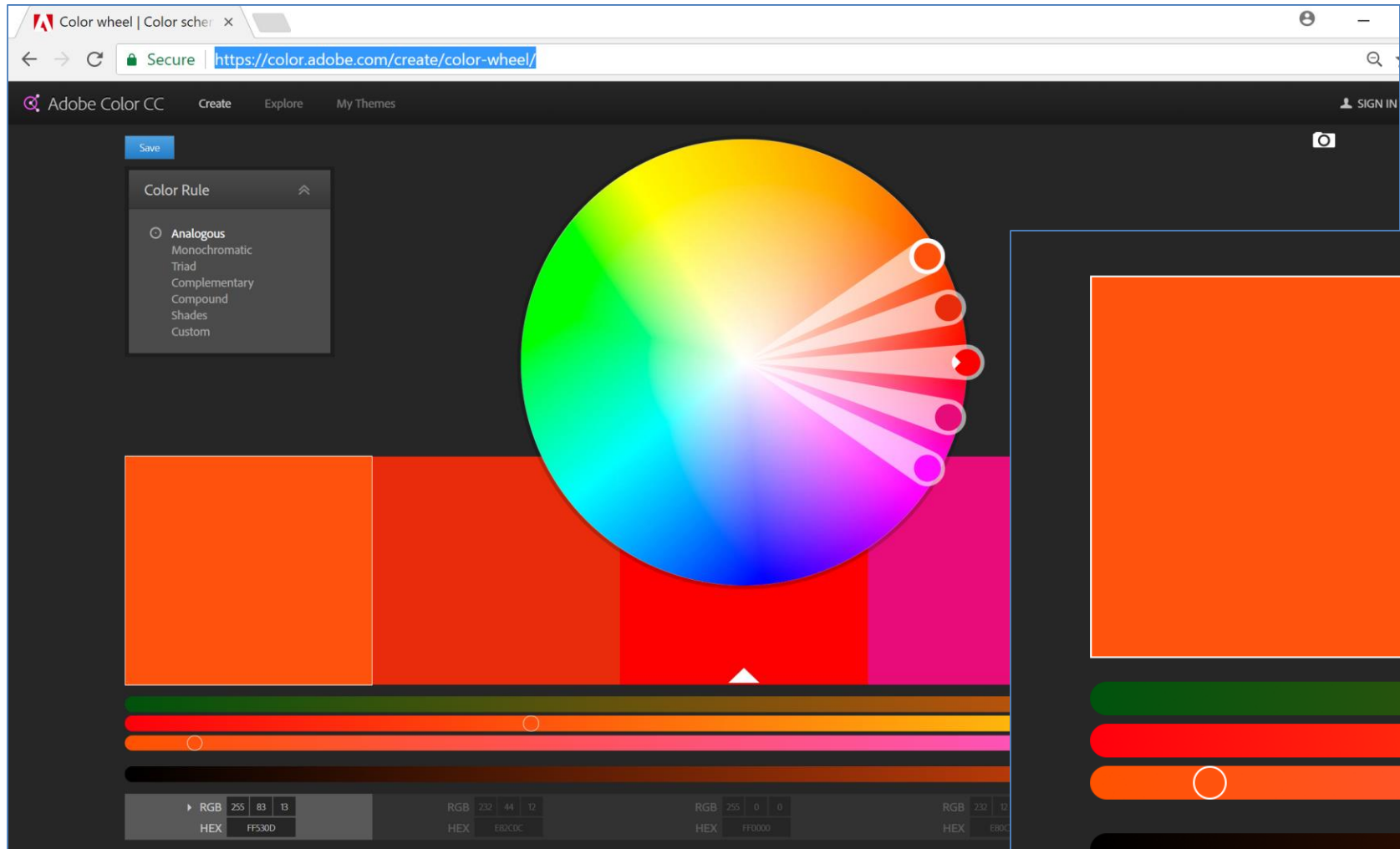
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“As with grayscale, the individual color elements are expressed as ranges from 0 (none of that color) to 255 (as much as possible), and they are listed in the order R, G, and B.”

Digital colours are made by mixing the three primary colours of light (red, green, and blue).

<https://color.adobe.com/create/color-wheel/>



# background() - syntax

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## background(grayscale)

grayscale = grayscale colour (a number between 0 [black] and 255 [white] inclusive)

## background(r, g, b)

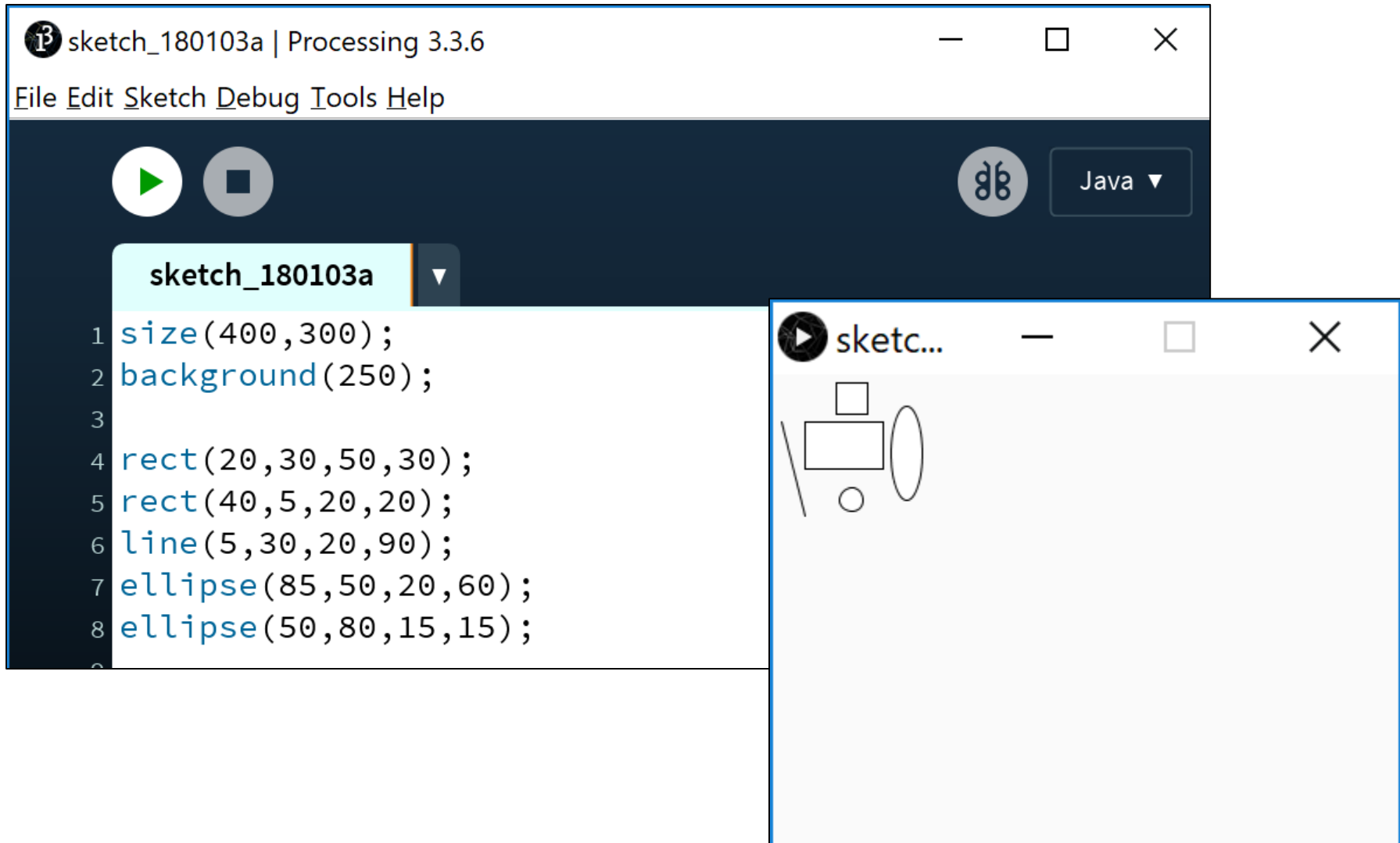
r = red colour (a number between 0 and 255 inclusive)

g = green colour (a number between 0 and 255 inclusive)

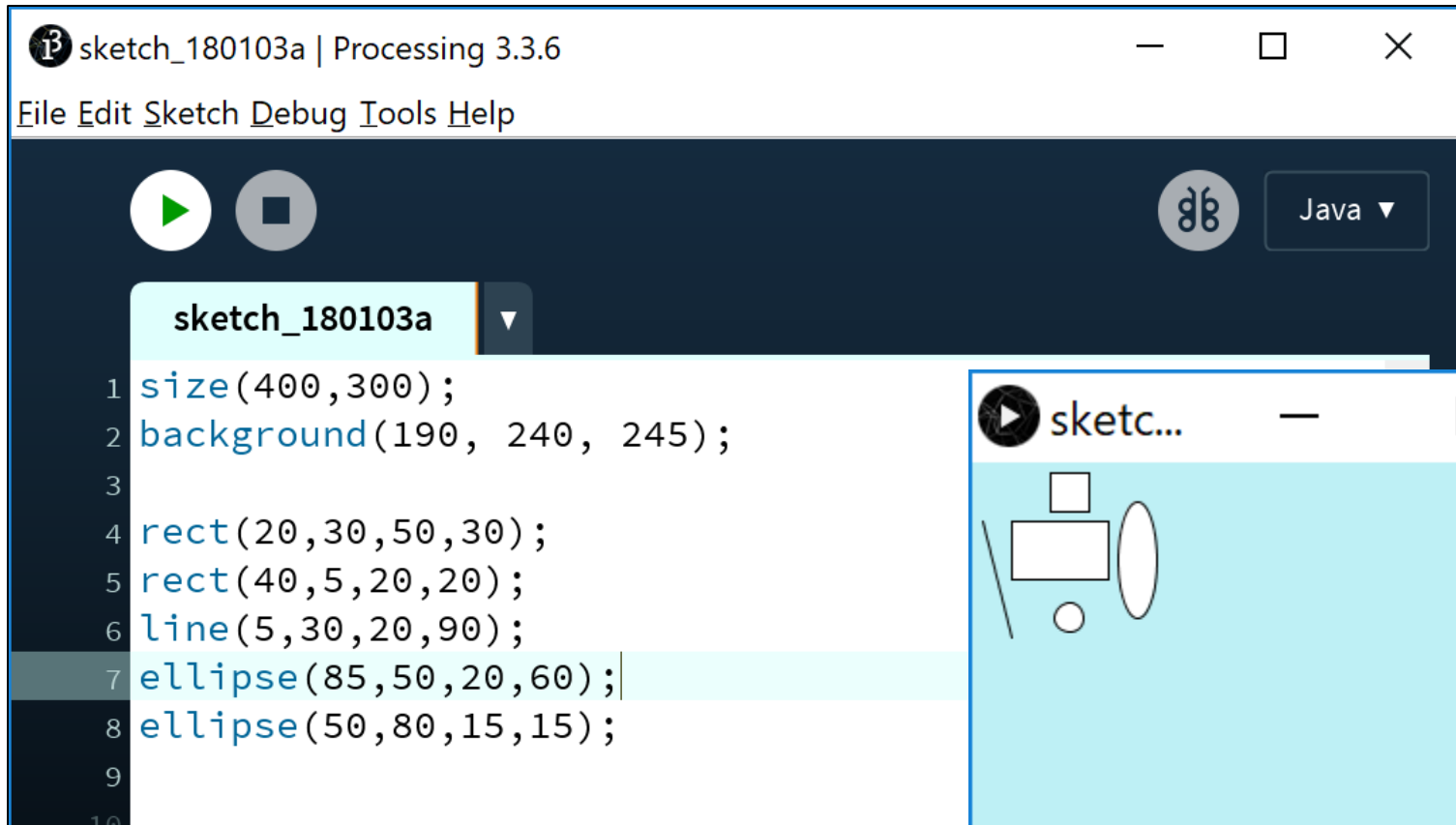
b = blue colour (a number between 0 and 255 inclusive)



# background() - grayscale



# background() - RGB



# Filling Shapes with Colour



# fill() - syntax

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`fill (r, g, b)`

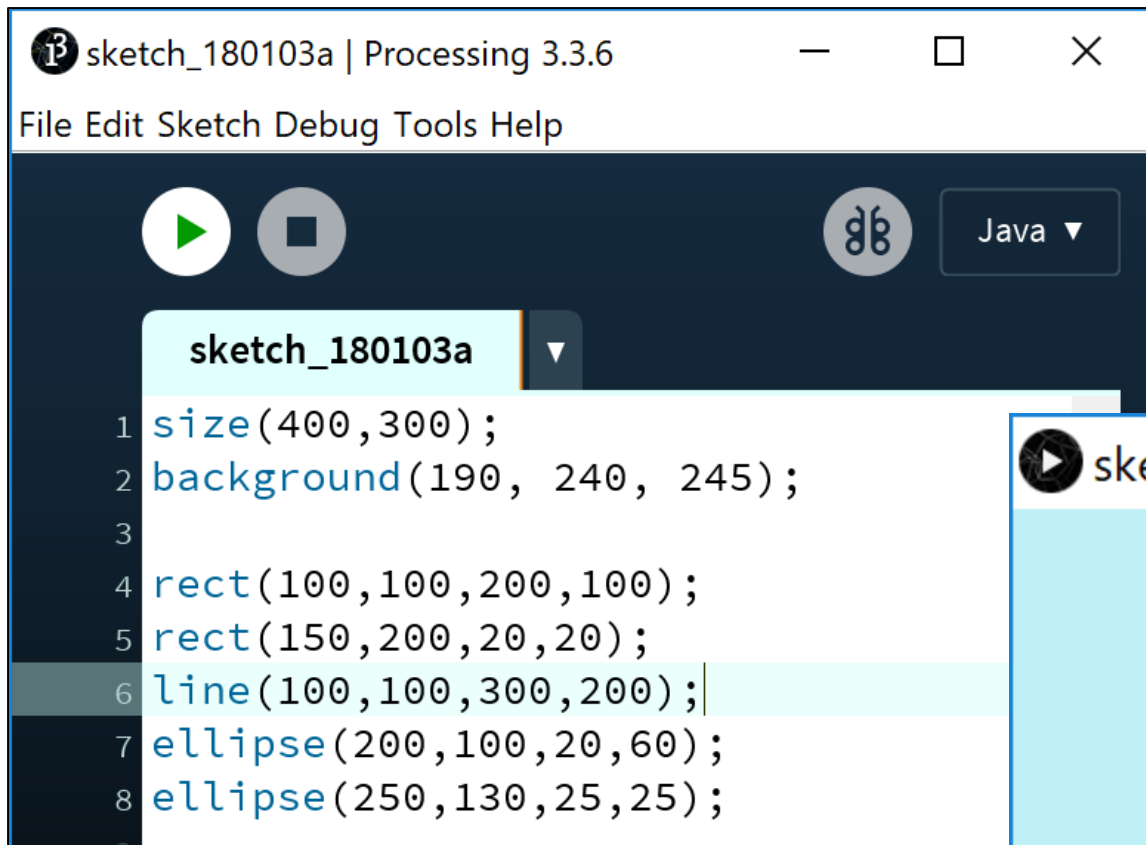
`r` = red colour (a number between 0 and 255 inclusive)

`g` = green colour (a number between 0 and 255 inclusive)

`b` = blue colour (a number between 0 and 255 inclusive)

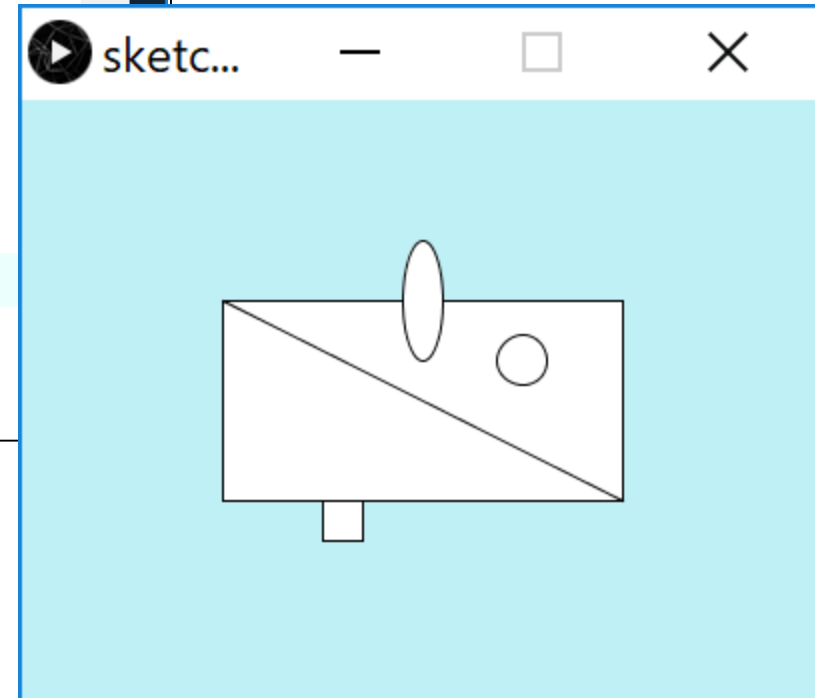
- fills shapes with a chosen colour.
- can use the RGB colours to select a colour.
- all shapes drawn after the **fill** function is called, will be filled with the chosen colour.

# fill()



The image shows the Processing IDE window titled "sketch\_180103a | Processing 3.3.6". The menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "Sketch", "Debug", "Tools", and "Help". Below the menu bar are icons for running (a green play button), stopping (a grey square), and toggling the console (a pair of scissors), along with a language dropdown menu set to "Java". A tab labeled "sketch\_180103a" is active. The code editor contains the following code:

```
1 size(400,300);  
2 background(190, 240, 245);  
3  
4 rect(100,100,200,100);  
5 rect(150,200,20,20);  
6 line(100,100,300,200);  
7 ellipse(200,100,20,60);  
8 ellipse(250,130,25,25);
```



Before using fill(), all shapes filled with default of white.

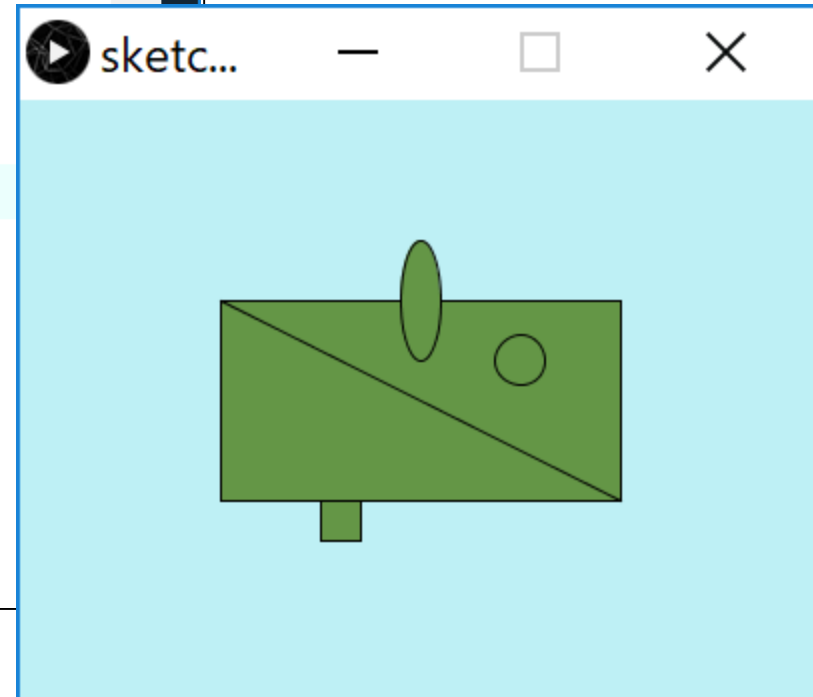
# fill()

```
sketch_180103a | Processing 3.3.6
File Edit Sketch Debug Tools Help

[Run] [Stop] [Debugger] [Java]

sketch_180103a ▼
1 size(400,300);
2 background(190, 240, 245);
3
4 fill(100, 150, 70);
5
6 rect(100,100,200,100);
7 rect(150,200,20,20);
8 line(100,100,300,200);
9 ellipse(200,100,20,60);
10 ellipse(250,130,25,25);
11
```

Now all shapes  
are filled with  
dark green.



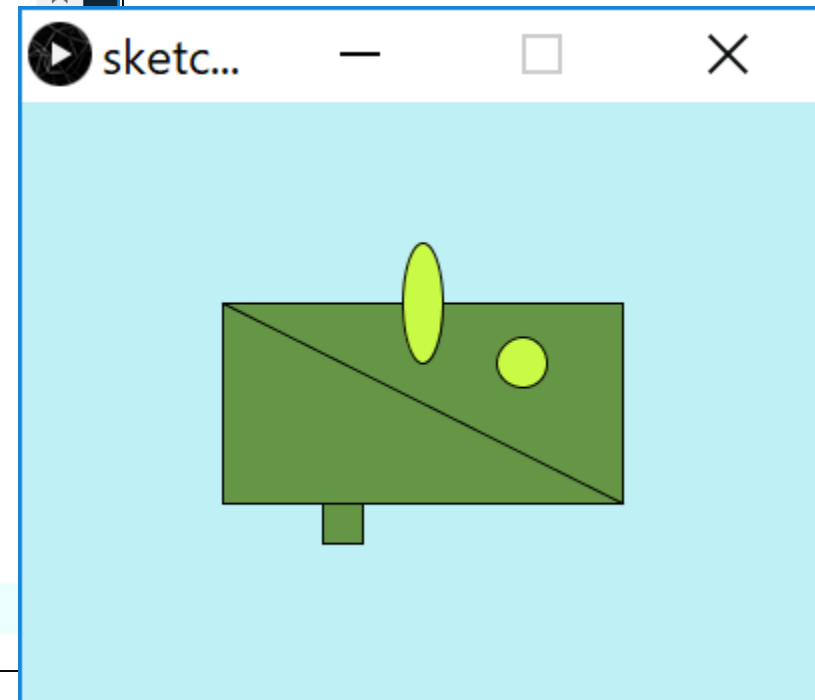
# fill()

Rectangles filled with dark green. Ellipses filled with light green; order of statements matter!!!

```
sketch_180103a | Processing 3.3.6
File Edit Sketch Debug Tools Help

[Run] [Stop] [Debugger] Java ▾

sketch_180103a ▾
1 size(400,300);
2 background(190, 240, 245);
3
4 fill(100, 150, 70);
5
6 rect(100,100,200,100);
7 rect(150,200,20,20);
8 line(100,100,300,200);
9
10 fill(200,250,70);
11
12 ellipse(200,100,20,60);
13 ellipse(250,130,25,25);
14
```



# Formatting the Shape Outline

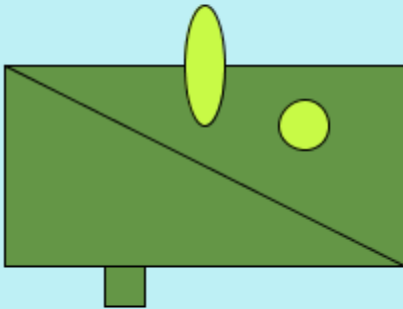




# Changing the outline (i.e. stroke)

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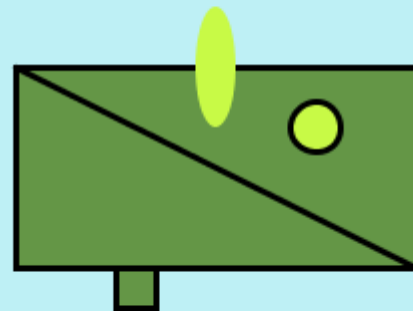
Before



After (changes):

- The oval has no border; all other shapes do.
- The outline is heavier.

We will now make those changes



# noStroke() - syntax

---

```
noStroke();
```

```
//no parameters defined for this function.
```

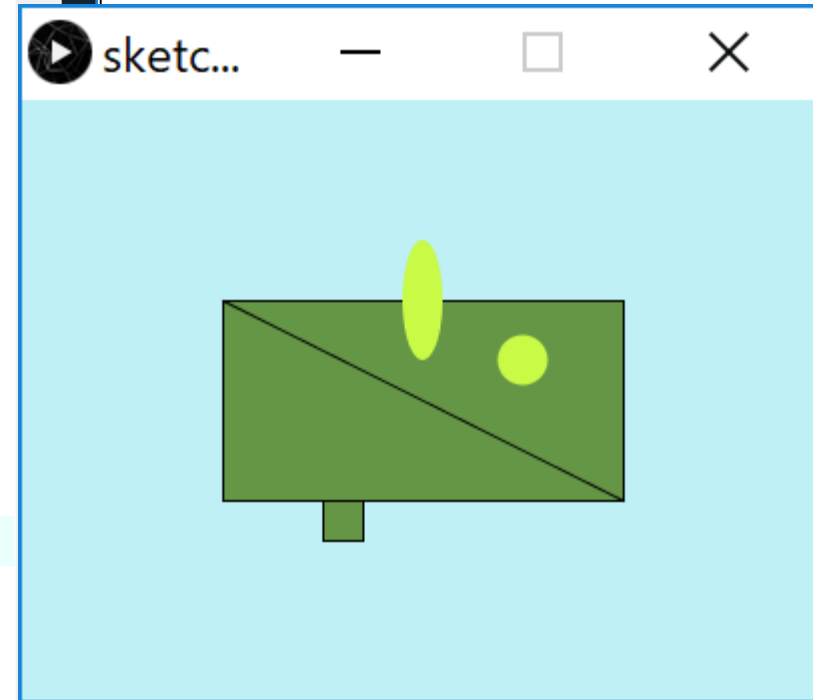
- A **stroke** is the outline of a shape.
- The noStroke() function disables the outline on shapes that are drawn after the function is called.
- All shapes drawn after the **noStroke** function is called, will have no outline.

# noStroke()

```
sketch_180103a | Processing 3.3.6
File Edit Sketch Debug Tools Help

sketch_180103a
1 size(400,300);
2 background(190, 240, 245);
3
4 fill(100, 150, 70);
5
6 rect(100,100,200,100);
7 rect(150,200,20,20);
8 line(100,100,300,200);
9
10 fill(200,250,70);
11
12 noStroke();
13 ellipse(200,100,20,60);
14 ellipse(250,130,25,25);
15
```

- ✓ We have no border on the oval shape.
- ✗ But now our circle also has no border.



# stroke() - syntax

---

stroke (**r**, **g**, **b**)

**r** = red colour (a number between 0 and 255 inclusive)

**g** = green colour (a number between 0 and 255 inclusive)

**b** = blue colour (a number between 0 and 255 inclusive)

- The stroke() function enables the outline on all shapes that are drawn after the function is called.
- When you call stroke(), you need to specify a colour.

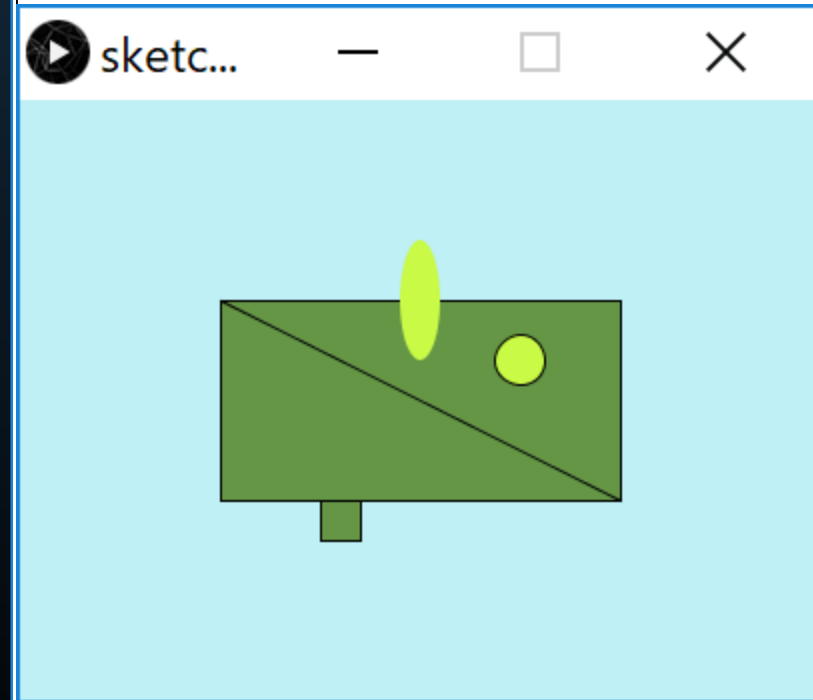
# stroke()

```
sketch_180103a | Processing 3.3.6
File Edit Sketch Debug Tools Help

▶ ◼ ⌘ Java ▼

sketch_180103a ▼
1 size(400,300);
2 background(190, 240, 245);
3
4 fill(100, 150, 70);
5
6 rect(100,100,200,100);
7 rect(150,200,20,20);
8 line(100,100,300,200);
9
10 fill(200,250,70);
11
12 noStroke();
13 ellipse(200,100,20,60);
14
15 stroke(0,0,0);
16 ellipse(250,130,25,25);
17
```

✓ Our circle now has a border.



# strokeWeight() - syntax

---

strokeWeight (**pixels**)

**pixels = thickness of the outline measures in pixels.**

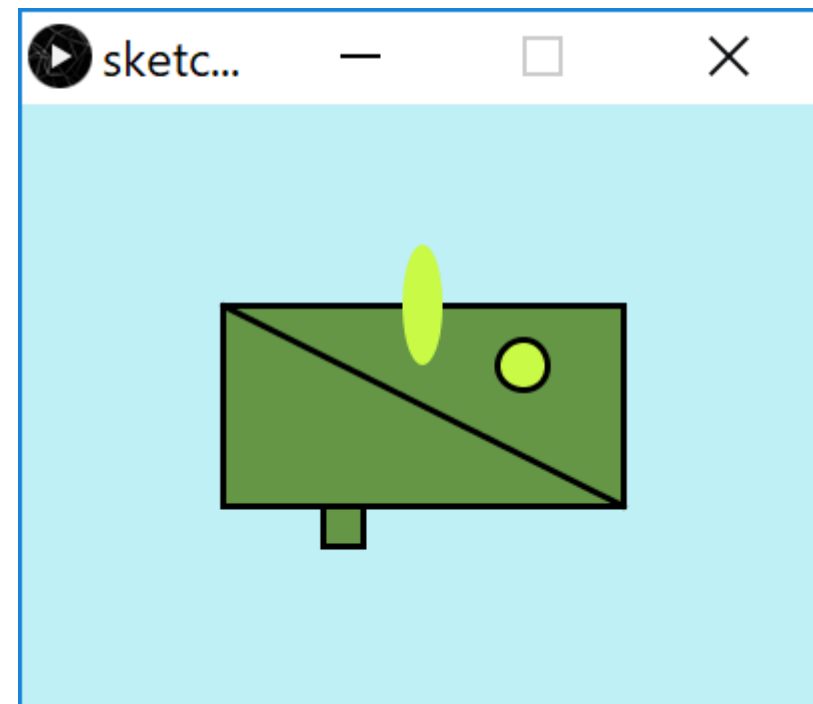
- The strokeWeight() function allows you to choose the thickness of a line/outline on shapes.
- The chosen thickness will apply to all lines/shapes that are drawn after the function is called.
- The thickness is specified in pixels.
- The default thickness is 1 pixel.

# strokeWeight()

```
sketch_180103a | Processing 3.3.6
File Edit Sketch Debug Tools Help

sketch_180103a
1 size(400,300);
2 background(190, 240, 245);
3 strokeWeight(3);
4
5 fill(100, 150, 70);
6
7 rect(100,100,200,100);
8 rect(150,200,20,20);
9 line(100,100,300,200);
10
11 fill(200,250,70);
12
13 noStroke();
14 ellipse(200,100,20,60);
15
16 stroke(0,0,0);
17 ellipse(250,130,25,25);
```

✓ Our outline is now heavier.



# Syntax and Logic Errors





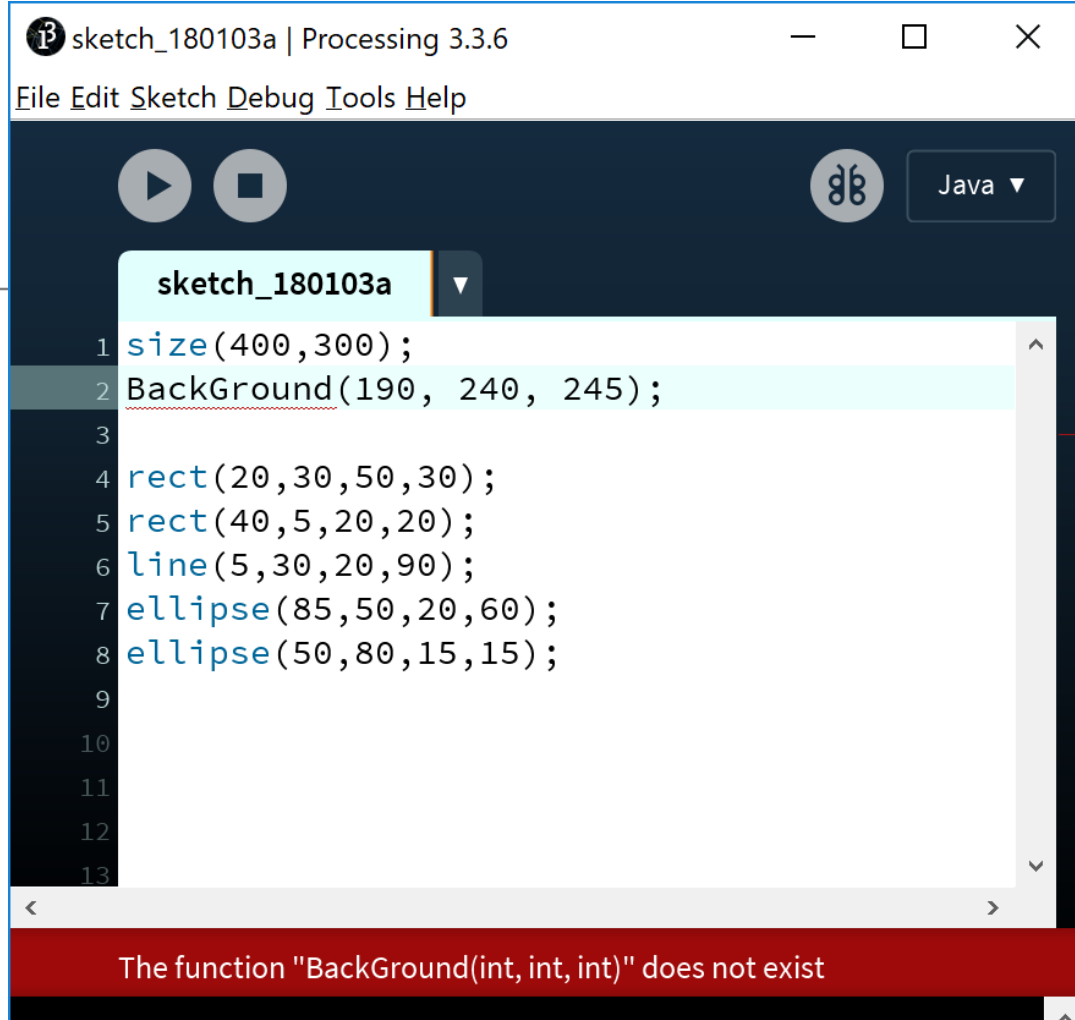
# Syntax and Syntax Errors

---

- You will have seen the term **Syntax** mentioned above.
- Syntax are the rules you must follow when writing well-formed statements in a programming language.
- When you don't follow the rules, Processing will not run your code; instead you will get an error.
- Some syntax error examples are on the upcoming slides.

# Syntax Errors

*The spelling of the background function must be identical to the spelling below (case sensitive!).*

A screenshot of the Processing IDE window titled "sketch\_180103a | Processing 3.3.6". The menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "Sketch", "Debug", "Tools", and "Help". The toolbar shows a play button and a square button. The language dropdown is set to "Java". The code editor shows the following code:

```
1 size(400,300);  
2 Background(190, 240, 245);  
3  
4 rect(20,30,50,30);  
5 rect(40,5,20,20);  
6 line(5,30,20,90);  
7 ellipse(85,50,20,60);  
8 ellipse(50,80,15,15);  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13
```

The line "Background(190, 240, 245);" is highlighted in light blue. A red error bar at the bottom of the code editor contains the message: "The function \"Background(int, int, int)\" does not exist".

background(**r**, **g**, **b**)

**r** = red colour (a number between 0 and 255 inclusive)

**g** = green colour (a number between 0 and 255 inclusive)

**b** = blue colour (a number between 0 and 255 inclusive)

# Syntax Errors

*The background function has too many **arguments** passed to it i.e.*

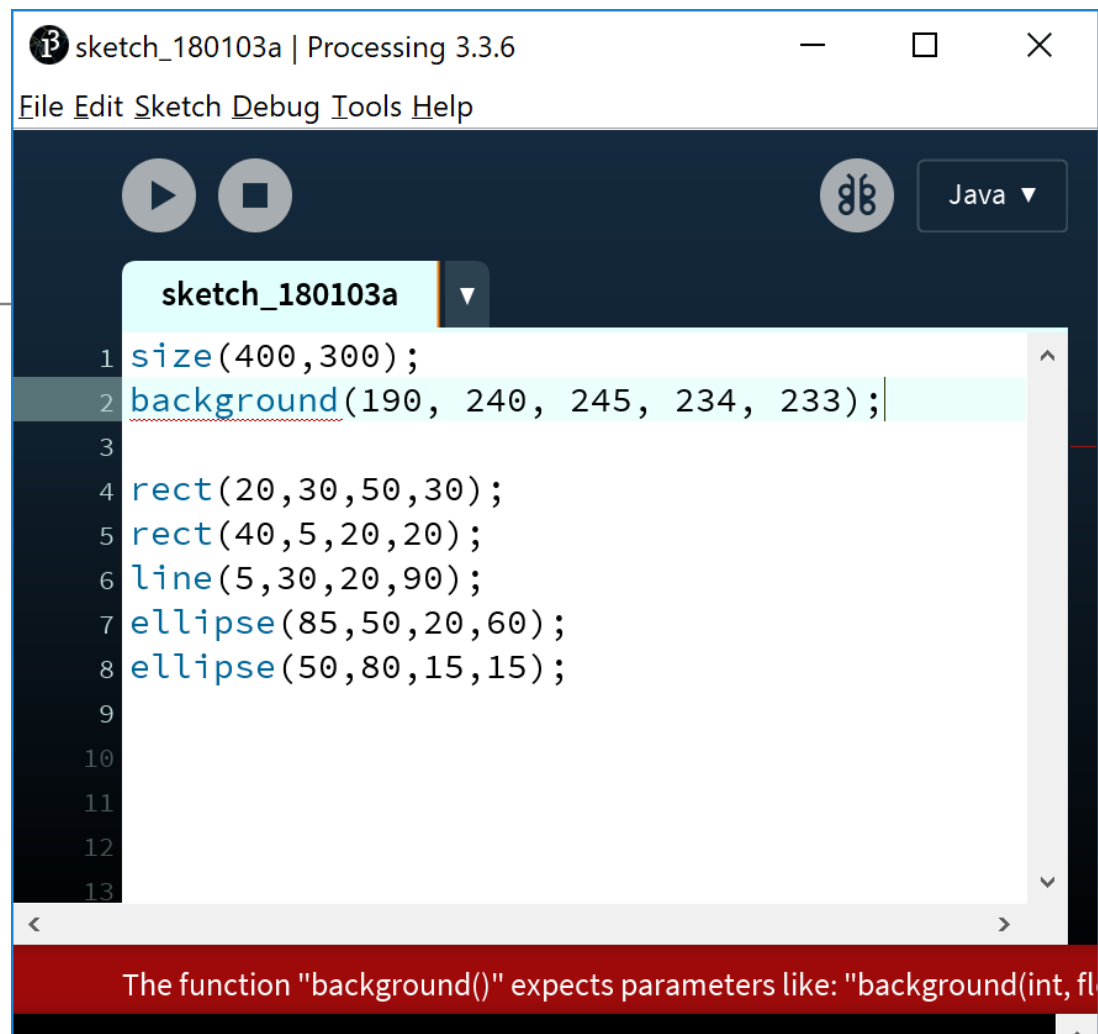
- *RGB version is defined with 3 **parameters**.*
- *Grayscale version is defined with 1 **parameter**.*

**background(r, g, b)**

**r** = red colour (a number between 0 and 255 inclusive)

**g** = green colour (a number between 0 and 255 inclusive)

**b** = blue colour (a number between 0 and 255 inclusive)



The screenshot shows the Processing IDE window titled "sketch\_180103a | Processing 3.3.6". The menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "Sketch", "Debug", "Tools", and "Help". The toolbar contains icons for running, stopping, and a palette. The code editor shows the following code:

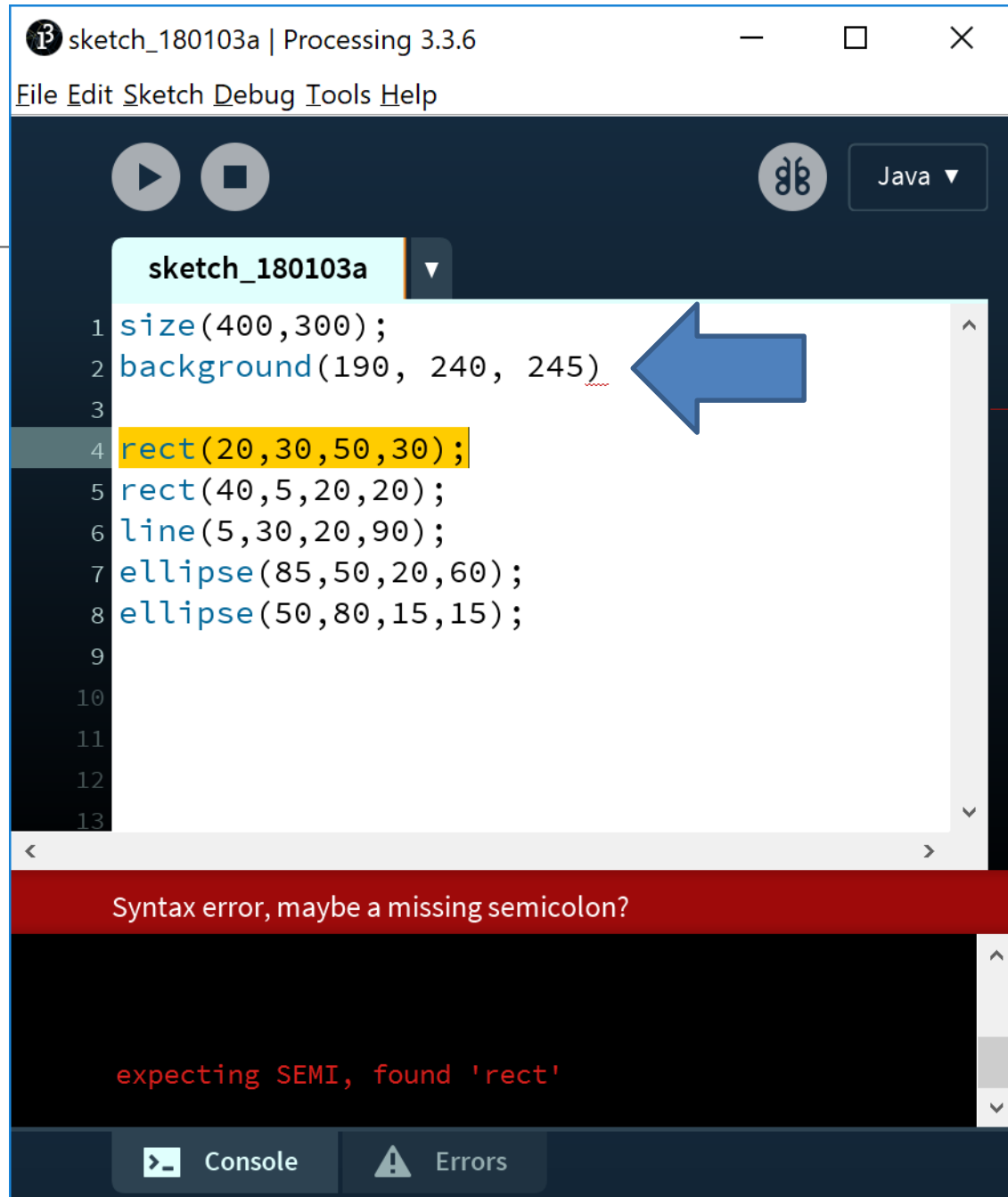
```
1 size(400,300);
2 background(190, 240, 245, 234, 233);
3
4 rect(20,30,50,30);
5 rect(40,5,20,20);
6 line(5,30,20,90);
7 ellipse(85,50,20,60);
8 ellipse(50,80,15,15);
9
10
11
12
13
```

A red error message bar at the bottom of the code editor states: "The function 'background()' expects parameters like: 'background(int, fl".

# Syntax Errors

*The semi-colon (;) is missing at the end of the statement.*

*Java needs a statement terminator for each line!*



# Logic Errors

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In computer programming, a **logic error** is a bug in a program that causes it to operate incorrectly, but not to terminate abnormally (or crash). A **logic error** produces unintended or undesired output or other behaviour, although it may not immediately be recognised as such.

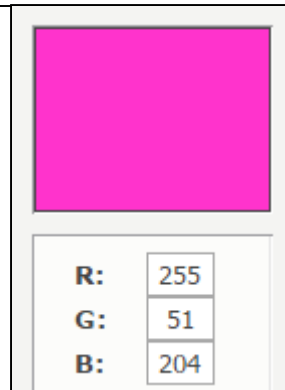
[Logic error - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Logic_error)

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Logic\\_error](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Logic_error)

# Logic Errors

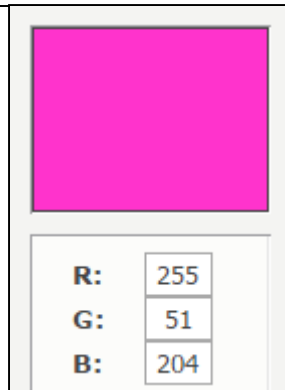
---

Say we wanted a pink background for our display window.

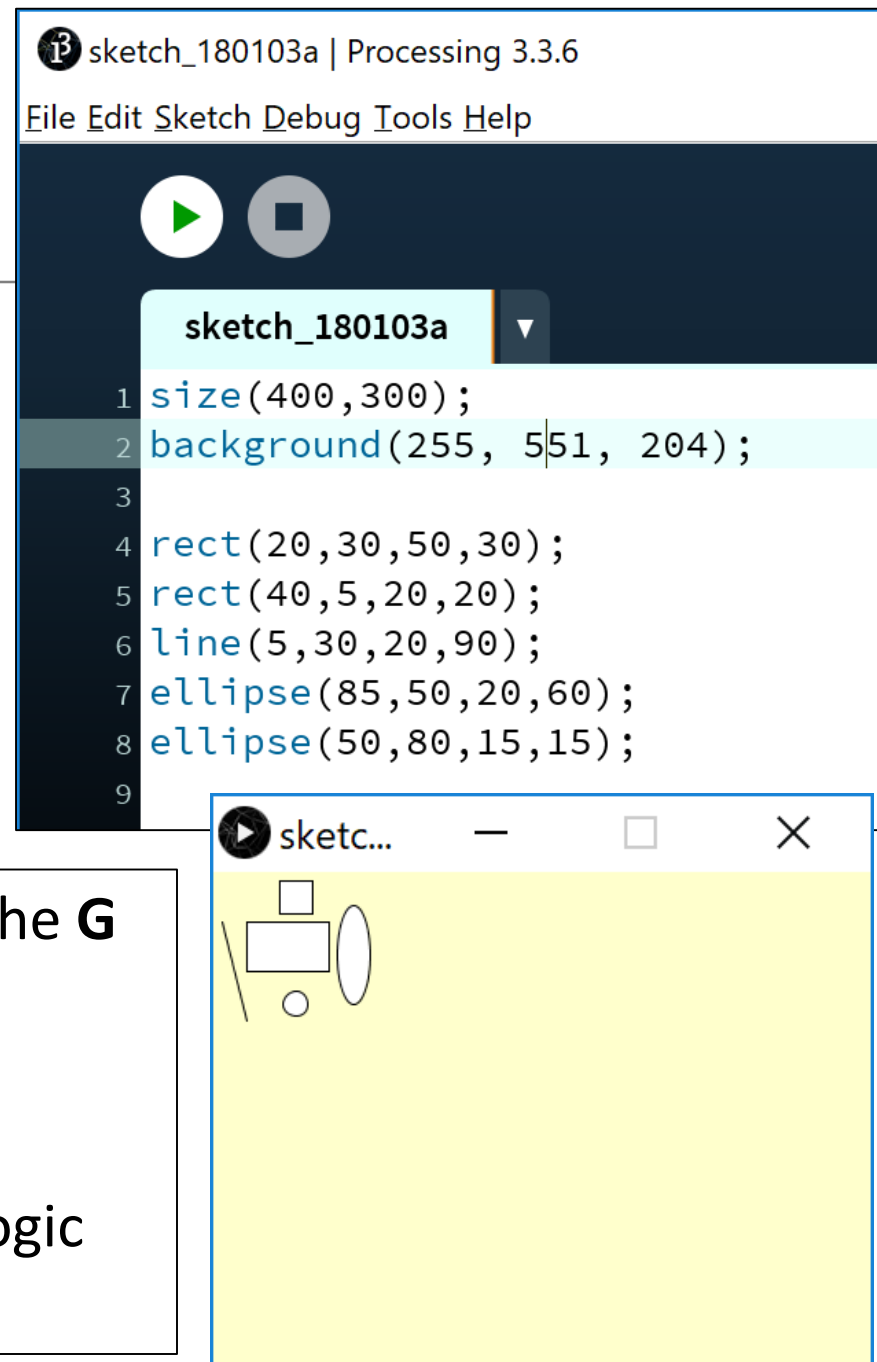


# Logic Errors

Say we wanted a pink background for our display window.



- However, we incorrectly enter the **G** colour as 551 instead of 51.
- We now have a yellowish background.
- This is an example of a simple logic error.

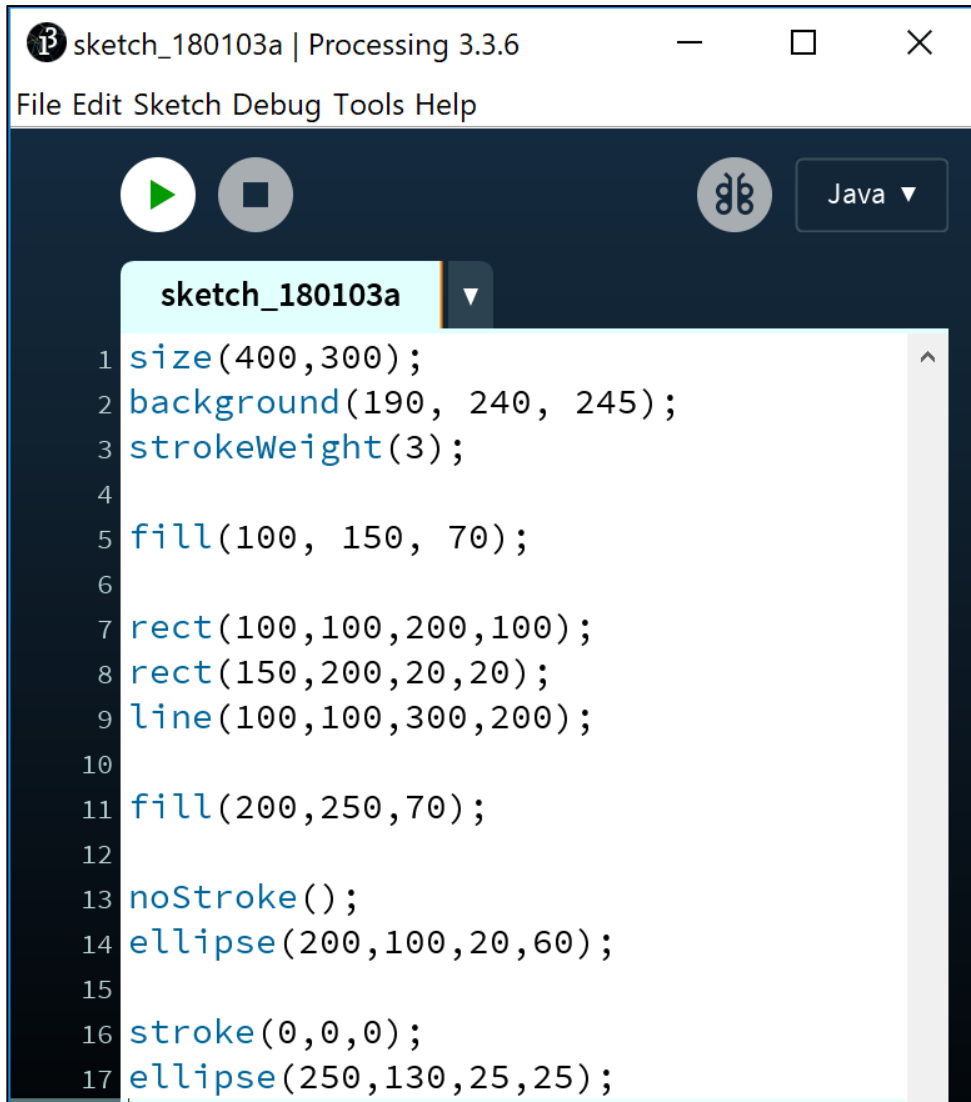


# Commenting your Code





# Code so far...

A screenshot of the Processing IDE window titled 'sketch\_180103a | Processing 3.3.6'. The menu bar includes 'File', 'Edit', 'Sketch', 'Debug', 'Tools', and 'Help'. The toolbar shows a play button, a stop button, a sketch icon, and a language dropdown set to 'Java'. The code editor displays the following code:

```
1 size(400,300);
2 background(190, 240, 245);
3 strokeWeight(3);
4
5 fill(100, 150, 70);
6
7 rect(100,100,200,100);
8 rect(150,200,20,20);
9 line(100,100,300,200);
10
11 fill(200,250,70);
12
13 noStroke();
14 ellipse(200,100,20,60);
15
16 stroke(0,0,0);
17 ellipse(250,130,25,25);
```

Can you tell, from looking at the code, what RGB colours you have chosen?

- We can leave notes for ourselves and others in our code.
- This is called **commenting your code**.

# Commenting your code...

---

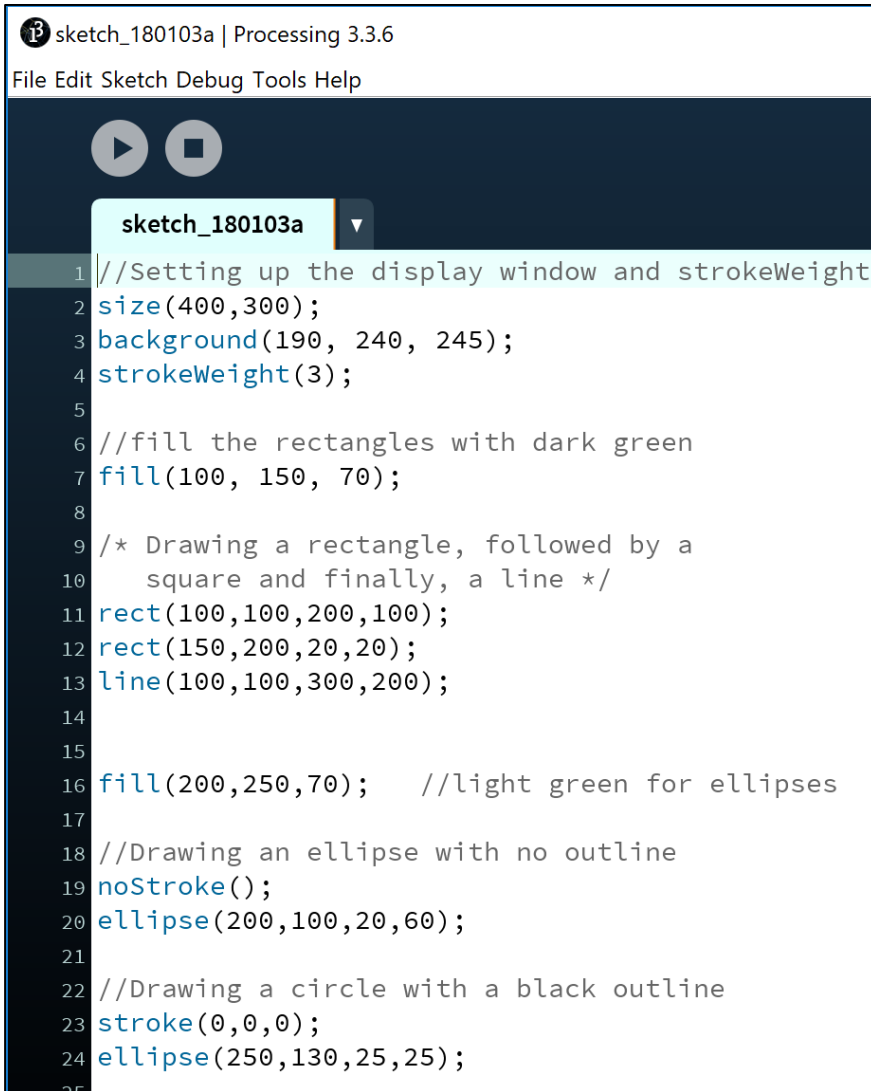
`// This is a comment.`

`// Anything typed after the two slashes`

`// up to the end of the line, is ignored by Java.`

`/* This is a longer comment. As you can span  
more than one line with this comment style, it  
can be quite handy. */`

# Code so far...with commenting



```
1 //Setting up the display window and strokeWeight
2 size(400,300);
3 background(190, 240, 245);
4 strokeWeight(3);
5
6 //fill the rectangles with dark green
7 fill(100, 150, 70);
8
9 /* Drawing a rectangle, followed by a
10    square and finally, a line */
11 rect(100,100,200,100);
12 rect(150,200,20,20);
13 line(100,100,300,200);
14
15
16 fill(200,250,70); //light green for ellipses
17
18 //Drawing an ellipse with no outline
19 noStroke();
20 ellipse(200,100,20,60);
21
22 //Drawing a circle with a black outline
23 stroke(0,0,0);
24 ellipse(250,130,25,25);
25
```

We have commented our code with explanations of what is happening.

This makes our code easier to read, understand and maintain.

It is considered best practice to comment your code.

Comments do not affect your code at all.

# Questions?

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