Learning Processing

Short Tutorial For Those Who Code

Processing

Processing is compiled into Java before it's run, but looks a lot like C++ for all those GENE 121 fans and has a very similar interface to Arduino..

Pros:

- Super awesome language for graphics and visualization
- Very easy to get a project up and running

Getting Started

So as always, step one is installation:

Download the application: http://processing.org/download

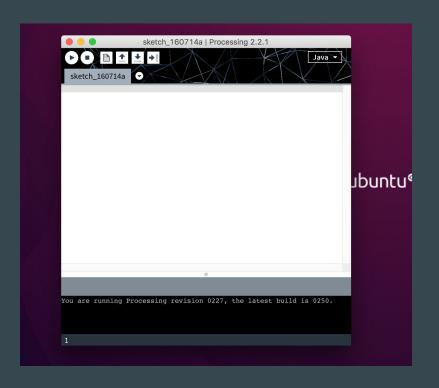
Windows: double click .zip to unpack, double click processing.exe

Mac: open .zip, drag to Applications folder, run application

Linux: download to ~, open terminal and type:

- → tar xvfz processing-<version number>.tgz
- → cd processing-<version number>
- → ./processing

Should look something like this:



Now we can start writing!

Bonus: what's wrong with this picture?

Core Tenets: Setup() and Draw()

Equivalent to main (), these are the core functions.

Setup:

- Called at the beginning of the function
- Used to initialize data used in the program

Draw:

- Called before every frame is drawn (60Hz)
- Contains all of the graphics code of the program

Core Tenets: Setup() and Draw()

Variables often declared globally, above Setup.

Setup:

- Nothing new in terms of coding
- Just initialize data like you would

Draw:

- Define all graphical objects that would be drawn to the screen
- Consider things such as drawing order, speed/acceleration, relative positions

Hello, Processing!

So for our first program, we're going to do something exceedingly simple (when done with processing): try to draw a square that follows the cursor on the screen.

Setup:

- Initialize Screen
- Draw background (grey)

Draw:

• Draw a (red) rectangle centered around the cursor

Hello, Processing!

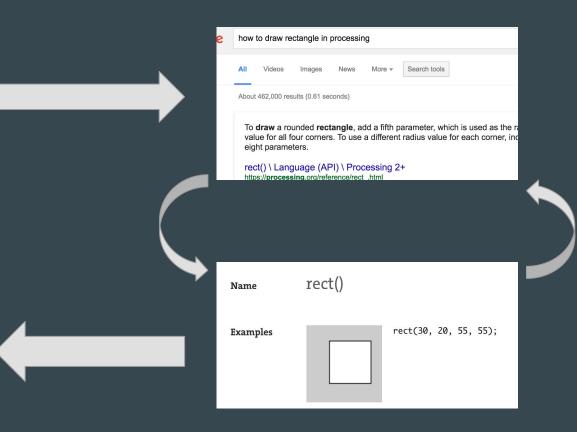
```
sketch_160714a

void setup() {
}

void draw() {
}
```

```
sketch_160714a  
void setup() {
    size(400,400);
    background(100,100,100);|
}

void draw() {
    fill(255,0,0);
    rect(mouseX-25, mouseY-25, 50,50);
}
```



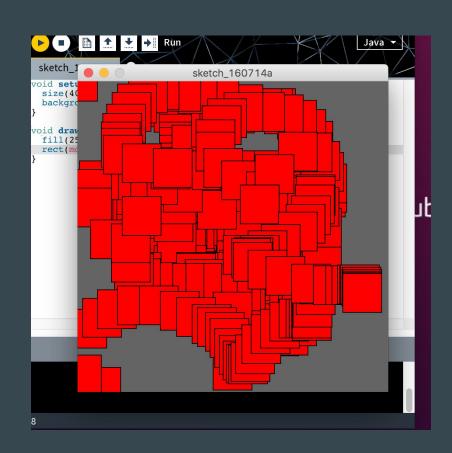
4 Lines Later...

We run it!

But it doesn't work as we expected.

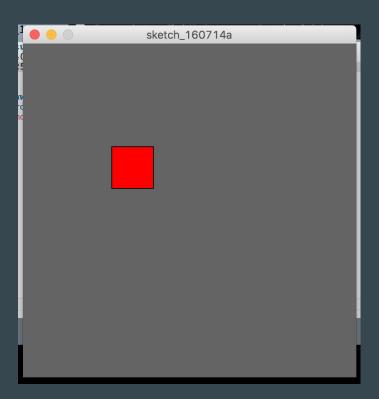
Why? Because processing draws each frame on top of the last, and all of our squares are being superimposed.

So we learn and we iterate.



Real Solution

```
sketch_160714a | Processing 2.2.1
 sketch_160714a
void setup() {
  size(400,400);
  fill(255,0,0);
void draw() {
  background(100,100,100);
  rect(mouseX-25, mouseY-25, 50,50);
```



Main Takeaways:

Processing is extremely simple and iterable: it's <u>made</u> for playing around.

Processing also has an amazing reference.

So starting off with what we know about the framework, I'll give you guys a problem and you can just play around with that and read up on the documentation until you have it figured out.

My First Program

Draw "Hello World" in big letters on the screen, but have the colors change (however you want) every second.

Note: there are a bunch of ways to do this. Whatever works is good - the main point of the exercise is to familiarize with the language and docs.

Steps (or maybe hints)

Declare variables globally:

- Set of colors
- Current color
- Time of last swap (in milliseconds)

Setup: Set last swap to current time

Draw: If millis since last swap >1000, inc current color

Set text color to current color and draw text "Hello World"

Tadaaaa

```
. . .
                                            sketch_160715a | Processing 3.1.1
                                                                                                               Java ▼
                                                                               sketch_160715a
       sketch_160715a
      int currentColor, numColors;
                                                                         Hello World
      color[] colorSet;
      long lastSwap;
      void setup() {
        size(200,150); // Create window 600x480
        numColors = 4;
        colorSet = new color[numColors];
        for (int i=0; i<numColors; i++) {</pre>
          // Initialize the color set randomly
          colorSet[i] = color(random(255), random(255));
   14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
        currentColor = 0;
        textFont(createFont(PFont.list()[0], 30)); // Text styling
        fill(colorSet[currentColor]); // Set text color to first element in colorSet
        lastSwap = millis(); //current time in milliseconds
      void draw() {
        background(100);
        if (millis() - lastSwap > 1000) { // If more than one second has passed since last swap
          lastSwap = millis(); // Reset time of last swap
          currentColor = (currentColor+1) % numColors; // Inc currentColor and do that modulo tingy
          fill(colorSet[currentColor]); // Set text color to currentColor
          println(colorSet[currentColor]);
        text("Hello World", 25,70);
```

Now that we've mastered the basics:

Some things to play with:

- Graphing data (especially in real time)
- Interactivity (mousePressed(), mouseX, mouseY...)
- Multi-screen applications (int currentScreen;)
- Interfacing with HW

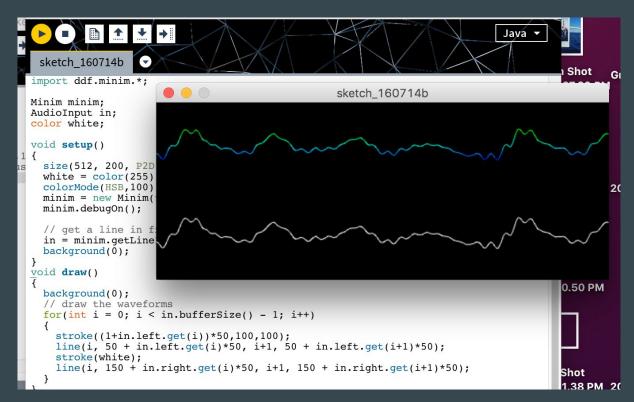
Processing's libraries are extremely helpful and just so easy to use. Interfacing with HW such as serial port communication is just a few simple lines.

ALWAYS CHECK THE DOCS.

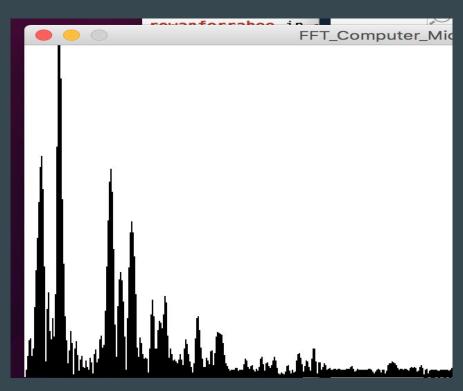
And now we play

The following are a couple examples of good first projects in Processing as it relates to what we're doing here at BioTron.

Examples: Displaying Audio Signal from Mic



Examples: Spectral Analysis of the Same



Examples: Serial communication

```
Piano via Serial
   import ddf.minim.spi.*;
   import ddf.minim.signals.*;
   import ddf.minim.*;
   import ddf.minim.analysis.*;
   import ddf.minim.ugens.*;
   import ddf.minim.effects.*;
   Minim minim;
   AudioOutput out1, out2, out3;
   Oscil wavel, wave2, wave3:
   import processing.serial.*;
   Serial serial:
   void setup() {
     println(Serial.list());
     serial = new Serial(this, Serial.list()[2],9600);
     background(0,0,0);
     minim = new Minim(this);
     out1 = minim.getLineOut();
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
     out2 = minim.getLineOut():
     out3 = minim.getLineOut();
     wave1 = new Oscil(261.626,0,Waves.SINE);
     wave2 = new Oscil(329.628,0,Waves.SINE);
     wave3 = new Oscil(391.995,0, Waves.SINE);
     wave1.patch(out1); wave2.patch(out2); wave3.patch(out3);}
   void draw() {
```

← This thing played audio signals corresponding to buttons pressed on an Arduino jig, but I took apart the jig and it won't run without it.

Examples: Basic Encapsulation

```
Audio_rest
Balls2
                                   Server Write
Block Splitter 2
                                                      G_O_L | Processing 3.1.1
B  
                      Board
                                 Tile ▼
         Board board;
         int stage;
         int size = 20;
         void setup() {
           size(480,720);
           stage = 0;
           frameRate(60);
           board = new Board(width/size, height/size);
         void draw() {
           if (stage == 0) {
             board.input();
      15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
              board.display();
             if (board.ready()) stage = 1;
           } else if (stage == 1) {
   if (key == ' && keyPressed) {
                frameRate(8);
                stage = 2;
           } else if (stage == 2) {
              if(!board.update()){
                board.reset input();
                frameRate(60);
                stage = 0:
              board.input();
             board.display();
            if (key == 'q' && keyPressed)
```

And of course, the stock OpenBCI GUI

Playing around with this is both a lot of fun and super helpful to us

