

PV259

Generative Design Programming

Week 1

Introduction to p5.js

Marko Řeháček & Megi Kejstová
rehacek@mail.muni.cz

join

<https://discord.gg/CcxnBVPtcR>

Where to look for p5



p5.js website, the tool, docs

<https://p5js.org>

<https://p5js.org/reference/>

<https://p5js.org/examples/>

There are useful tutorials also on Processing website:

<https://processing.org/tutorials>

Daniel Shiffman, best p5 and Processing tutorials
[Intro to p5.js](#) - playlist, **Coding train**, the channel

Sketches, ideas

<https://openprocessing.org>

Books with examples

generative-gestaltung.de

Data-driven Graphic Design

Form+Code

The coding train playlist



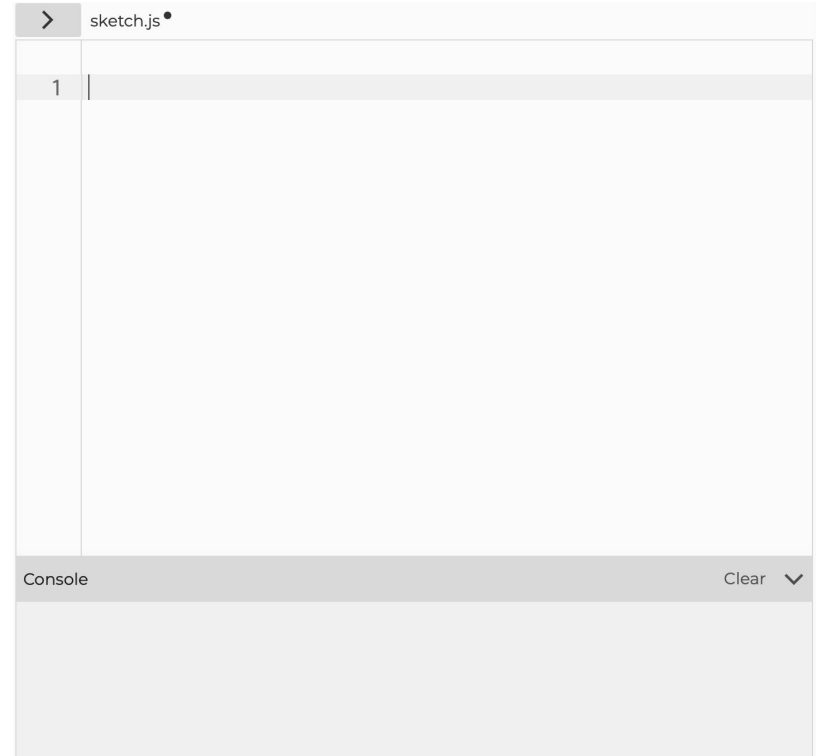
Loads of good video tutorials...

The online IDE

<https://editor.p5js.org/>

that's what we use (for now) during classes
[video tutorial](#)

Alternatively, you can setup VS Code at home
(most popular IDE for JavaScript).
You'll need a plugin. I also recommend using some
AI code completion (Github copilot, etc.).
[VS Code video tutorial](#)




The inevitable functions

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

```
function draw ( ) {  
  // runs in loop 30 times per second  
}
```

You can use `loop()` and `noLoop()` functions, or set the speed using `frameRate()`.



```
> sketch.js  
1 function setup() {  
2  
3 }  
4  
5 function draw() {  
6  
7 }
```

Console Clear ▼

Controlling the canvas

createCanvas (width, height)

createCanvas (windowWidth, windowHeight)

stretch it

fullscreen (boolean)

background (int)

print (string)

```
> sketch.js •  
  
1 function setup() {  
2   createCanvas(400,400);  
3   //fullscreen(true);  
4  
5   print("Hello world");  
6 }  
7  
8 function draw() {  
9   background(230);  
10 }
```

Console Clear ▾

Hello world

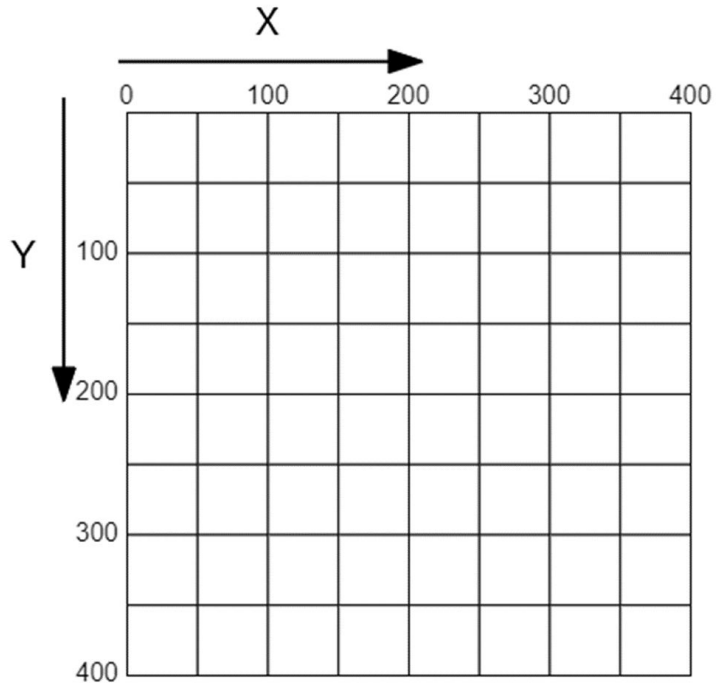
>

Coordinate system

`circle (0, 0, 150);` // at origin, of diameter 150 px

Where does it appear?

Coordinate system



[Coordinates, shapes: tutorial](#)

```
sketch.js
```

```
1 function setup() {  
2   createCanvas(400,400);  
3 }  
4  
5 function draw() {  
6   background(230);  
7   circle(0,0,150);  
8 }
```

Preview

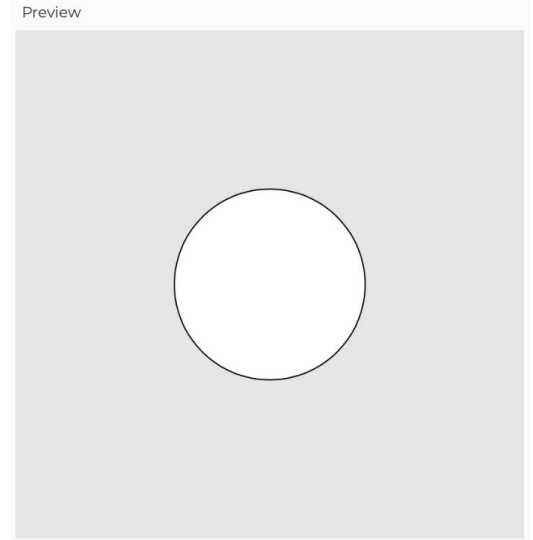
Console

>

Center it

To help, we have some built-in variables...

width, height // of the artboard in pixels



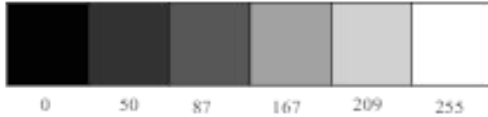
Colors

A 3x6 grid of color swatches. The top row contains six swatches: red, orange-red, orange, yellow-orange, yellow, and light green. The middle row contains six swatches: lime green, green, bright green, cyan-green, cyan, and light cyan. The bottom row contains six swatches: cyan, light blue, blue, dark blue, purple, and magenta. The word "Colors" is written in bold black text in the top-left corner of the middle row.

Digital colors

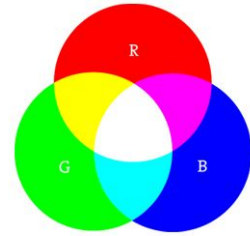
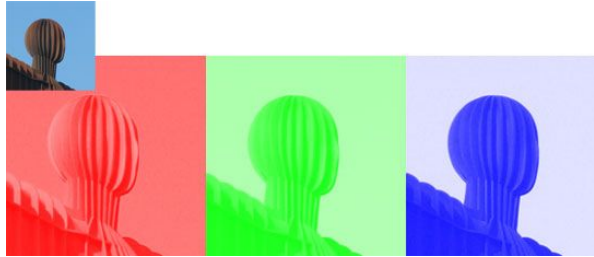
Grayscale (8bit)

0-255



RGB, Red-Green-Blue (8bit * 3 channels)

0-255, 0-255, 0-255



eg.

background (230)

eg.

background (0, 210, 0)

Color functions

Before drawing shapes, we use these to set the colors:

Fill `fill (color)`
 `noFill ()`

Stroke `stroke (color)`
 `noStroke ()`
 `strokeWeight (number)`

And for the background:

Background `background (color)`
 `clear ()`

The **color** can be either 1, 3, or 4 arguments:

number 0-255 for grayscale

`fill (255)`

string hexcode, rgb(a) css-style

`fill ("#CD5C5C")`

`fill ("rgb(205, 92, 92)")`

3 numbers 0-255 for RGB

`fill (0, 244, 12)`

+ 1 number 0-1.0 for opacity/alpha

`fill (0, 244, 12, 0.23)`

object - variable with stored color

Saving colors

You can also store colors in variables:

```
let c_magenta = color ( red, green, blue );
```







```
fill ( c_magenta );
```

Inside the functions (in **draw()**), consider using **const** keyword instead to declare a constant.







You may also see declaration with **var** from older version of JS, which has sort of weird behavior. Stick to **let** or **const**.

Look at [Javascript basics \(MDN\)](#)

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

Color modes

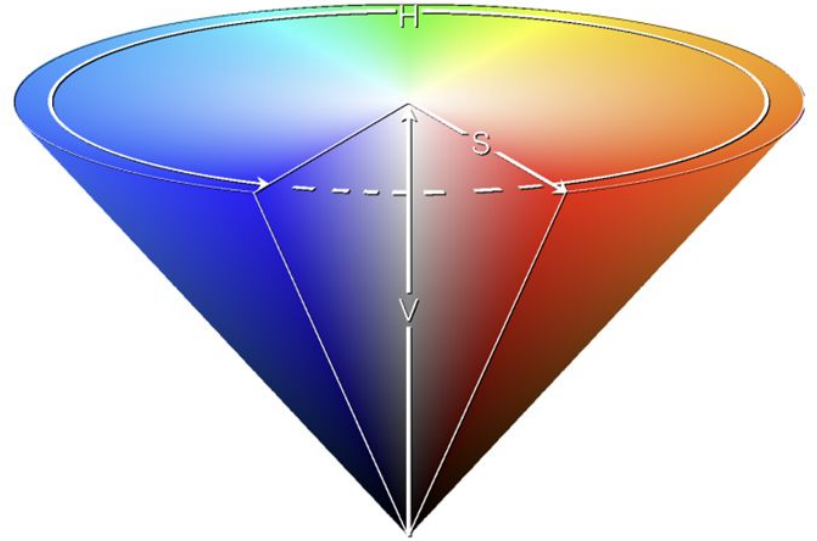
colorMode (*string mode, number max, ...*)

```
//colorMode(RGB, r, g, b, alpha)
```

colorMode (RGB, 255, 255, 255, 255) // rgba defaults

```
//colorMode(HSB, h, s, b, alpha)
```

colorMode (HSB, 360, 100, 100, 1.0) // hsba defaults



Color opacity

People also call it **alpha, transparency**.

RGB

```
fill ( 255, 0, 0, 255)  
    // range from 0 to 255,  
    0 being completely transparent and 255 is 100% opaque
```

HSB

```
fill ( 320, 100, 100, 0.23 )  
    // default range is 0.0-1.0
```

Sketch #1: Hello circles

**Make two circles of your favorite color.
Make the color transparent.
Position the circles such that they overlap.**

Code



Basic shapes

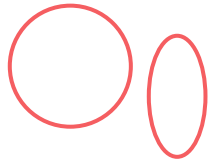
point(x, y)

line(x1, y1, x2, y2)



circle(x, y, radius)

ellipse(x, y, width, height)



square(x, y, length)

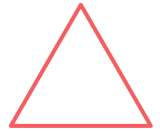
rect(x, y, width, height)

rectMode(CENTER | CORNERS)

// is x,y center or top left?



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



Sketch #2: Mickey

Make an abstract figure using all the shapes you know.



Back to circle

Mouse interaction

mouseX, mouseY

// x and y mouse position

```
> sketch.js •  
1 function setup() {  
2   createCanvas(400,400);  
3 }  
4  
5 function draw() {  
6   background(230);  
7   circle(mouseX,mouseY,150);  
8 }
```

Console Clear ▾

>

Mouse interaction

```
Function mousePressed ( ) { // here goes your art }
```

```
mouseClicked ( ) { ... }  
mouseDragged ( ) { ... }  
mousePressed ( ) { ... }  
mouseReleased ( ) { ... }
```

```
keyPressed ( ) { ... }  
keyTyped ( ) { ... }  
key  
keyCode
```

Let me take a selfie

```
keyPressed ( ) {  
  if (key === "s") {  
    save();  
  }  
  ...  
}
```

Check **keyCode** for special keys (LEFT_ARROW, BACKSPACE, ESC, ... [see more](#)):
if (keyCode === RETURN) ...

Use **keyTyped()** if you want to distinguish between
lower and uppercase letters...

Code

->

Fading effect

```
function draw () {  
  background ( 255, 10 );  
  fill ( "#f55e61ff" );  
  ellipse ( random( width ), random( height ), 100, 100 );  
}
```

[Code](#)

Every sketch from class available at
https://editor.p5js.org/mrehacek/collections/Y7yY_s7PN