

Code Toolkit: Python

LCST 2790, Fall 2020

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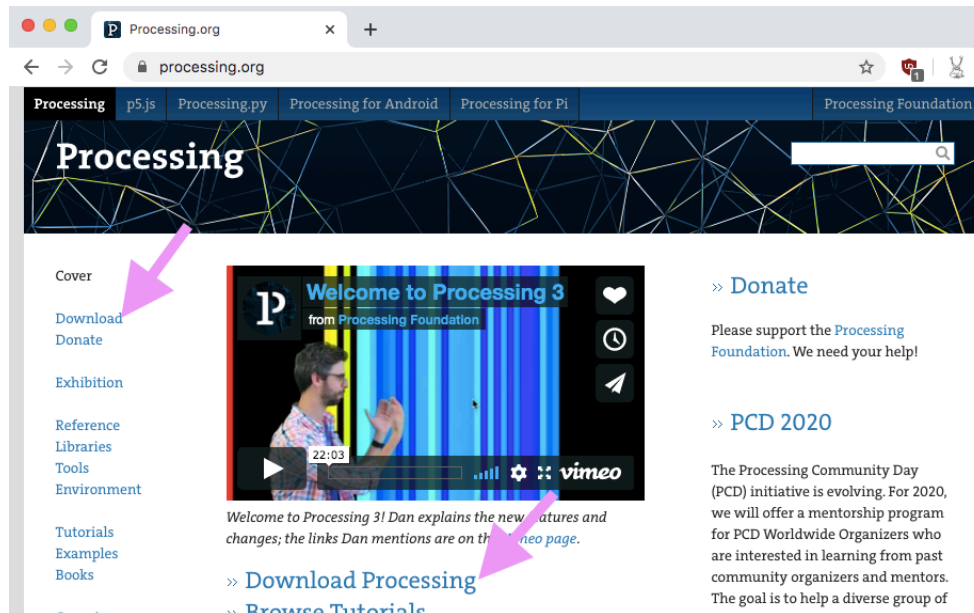
Installing the Processing Development Environment (PDE)

This semester, we will be learning the Python programming language. We will begin the semester by using Python within a framework called Processing. Processing is a free and open source programming platform, built for creative coding and for aiding artists and designers in learning how to write software. Processing was originally built around the Java programming language, but a Python mode has recently been added, and we will use this as a fun and friendly introduction to the Python programming language.

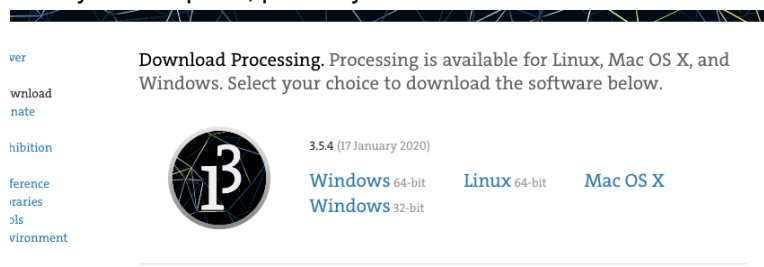
But first, we need to get Processing installed! As an open source project, Processing is safe to install on your computer: it does not contain any malware and will not collect any data about you without your consent. It will take up about 300MB, and is easy to uninstall at any time.

To install:

(1) Visit the Processing website at <http://processing.org> and click either “Download” link:



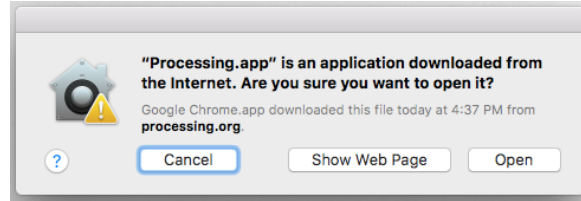
(2) Next, click on the link corresponding to your computer's operation system: Mac, Windows, or Linux. This will save a .zip file to your computer, probably in the Downloads folder.



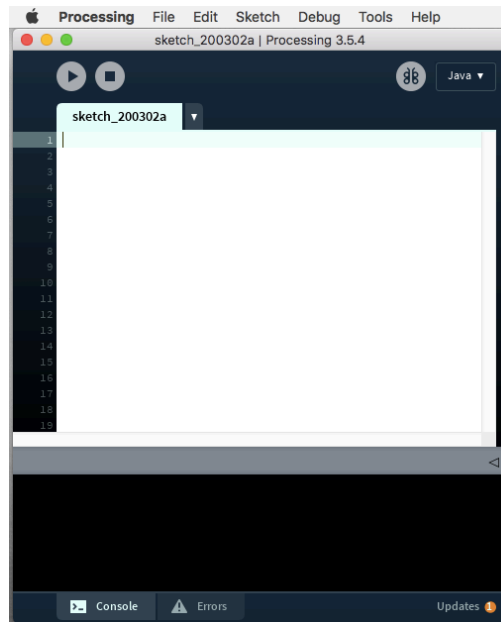
(3) Find this file (in Mac open Finder, in Windows open File Explorer) and double-click it to open.

(4) On Mac, you should see a file called Processing.app. Drag this file into your Applications folder. On Windows, drag the folder inside to a location on your computer, probably Program Files or the desktop.

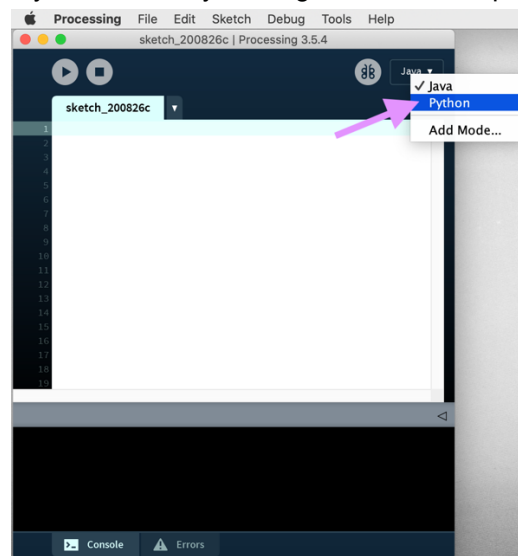
(5) Now you can double-click the Processing application to open it. If you receive a warning asking if you would like to open an application downloaded from the internet, it is safe to click “Open”.



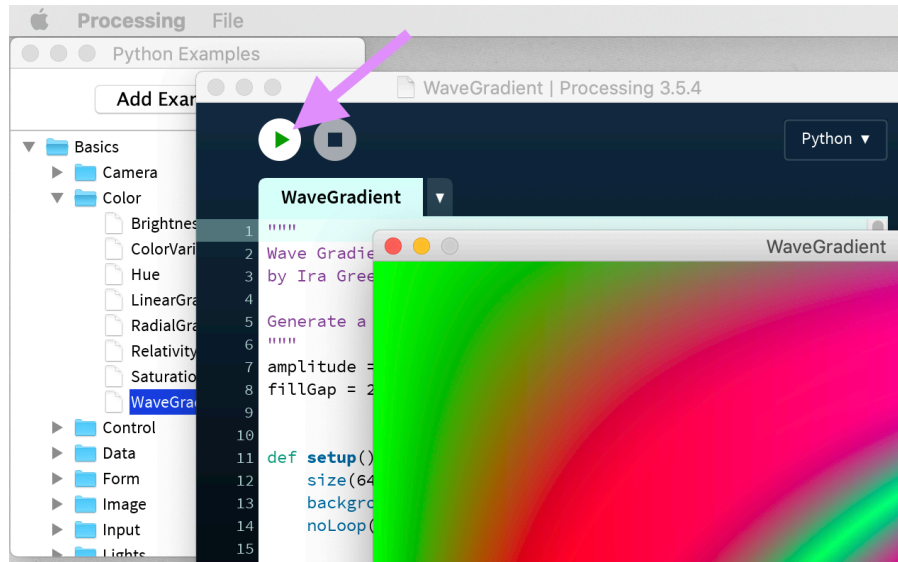
(6) You should see a blank white window to start. That's it! That is all you need to do for now. Come to class prepared to open this app. If this didn't work for you, that's OK! We can problem solve any issues together in class.



(Optional) Of course, if you would like, feel free to explore! To do that, start by switching the Processing Development Environment into Python mode, by clicking the “Mode” drop-down and selecting Python:



File > Examples is a good place to start. You can browse the various folders, double-click on an example to open it, and click the Play button to run.



Have fun!