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Elements of Graphics CS324e

Animations



- * Series of images presented in succession
- * Gives the impression of continuous motion
- * Mathematical interpolations can create animations

Sequence of Images

- * Animations can also be pre-rendered
 - Hand-drawn frames
 - Animation-specific programs (e.g. After Effects or Flash)
- Sprites are two-dimensional images that depict a character or object
- Sprites can be animated separate from the surrounding scene

Loading Animations in Processing

- * Same principle as loading a single image into PImage
- * Use of a frame buffer to hold sequence of PImages
 - * Store images in animation order inside array
 - Dynamically name loaded images to avoid hardcoding
 - nf() formats numbers into Strings (and can provide 0 padding, so order is consistent)

Drawing Animations in Processing

- * Array index provides access to next frame in sequence
- * Modulo operator allows for infinite frame looping
 - * Remainder of one number divided by another
- frameCount system variable increments by one every frame

Sprite Example

Sprite Sheets

Accessing Sprite Sheets

* What additional information do we need to know to correctly pull out the individual sprite we want to display on a given frame?

Hands-on: Sprite Animations

- * Today's activities:
 - 1. Collect or create a sequence of images to use as a sprite
 - 2. Within the setup() function of the sketch, load these images into an array. Use the nf() function within a for-loop rather than individually loading the images
 - 3. Within the draw() function of the sketch, display the images in sequence at a given location
 - 4. Use the modulo operator on the frameCount and number of frames in the sprite sequence to make the sprite infinitely loop
 - 5. Experiment with frameRate() to change the speed of the animation