

**Creative  
Technology  
Lab**

# **Introduction to Creative Coding**

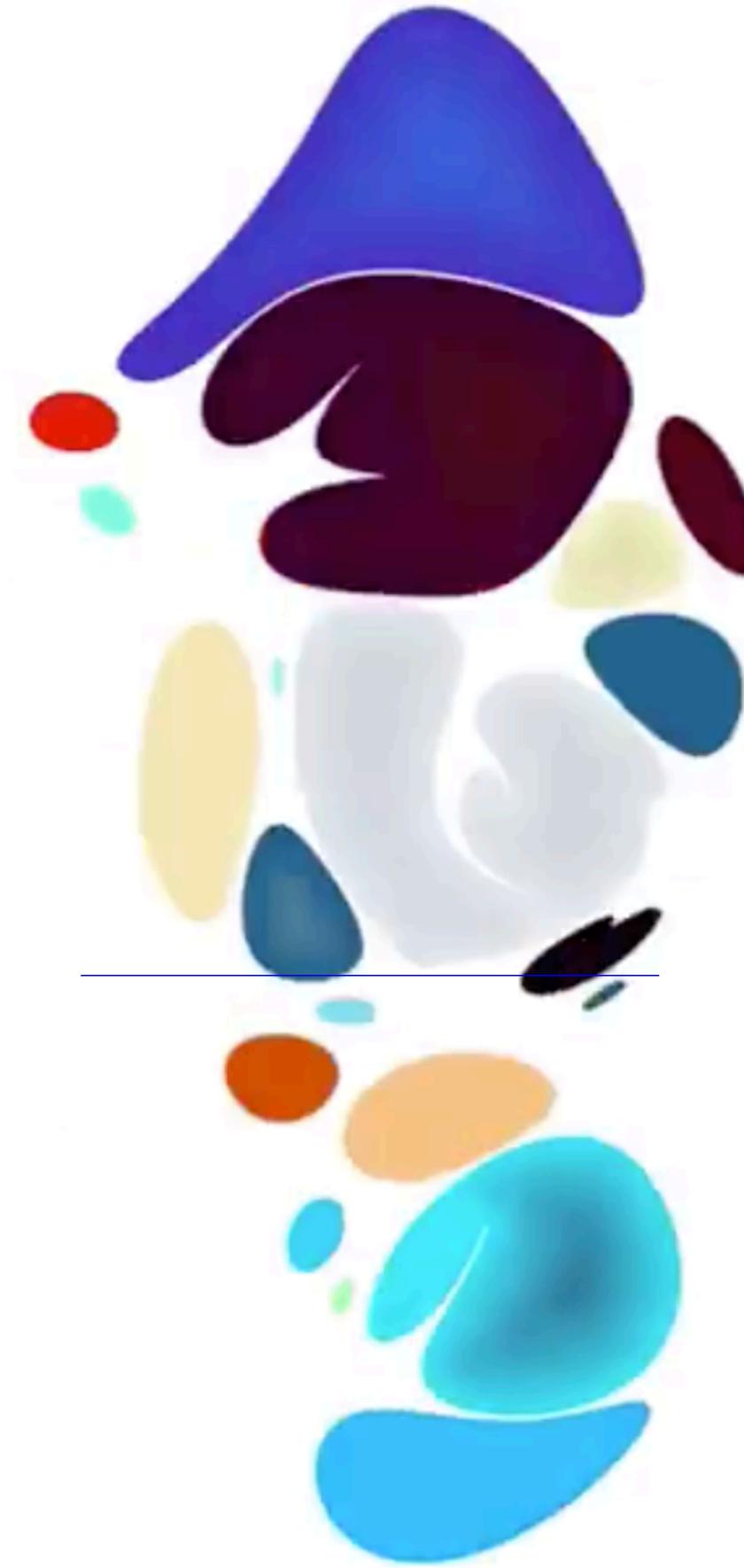
**<https://bit.ly/2SFKF98>**

# Agenda

- What is Creative Coding
- What is P5.js
- Functions
- Program structure
- Variables
- Conditionals
- Loops

# **What is Creative Code?**

Creative coding is an expressive approach to programming used to create experimental interfaces, interactive art installations, and live visuals.



[\*\*https://www.instagram.com/zach.lieberman/?hl=en\*\*](https://www.instagram.com/zach.lieberman/?hl=en)

<https://www.instagram.com/p/Bw3Eg9dja5x/>

# Nervous Systems - Kinematic Dress



<https://n-e-r-v-o-u-s.com/projects/sets/kinematics-dress/>

A B C D E  
F G H I J  
K L M N O  
P Q R S T

Dots

Border Tuner / Sintonizador Fronterizo



[https://www.lozano-hemmer.com/artworks/border\\_tuner\\_sintonizador\\_fronterizo.php](https://www.lozano-hemmer.com/artworks/border_tuner_sintonizador_fronterizo.php)

# Tools

- P5.js
- Processing
- Open Frameworks
- Max
- vvvv
- Pure Data
- Touch Designer

JavaScript

Tool

# What is P5.js?

Community

Library

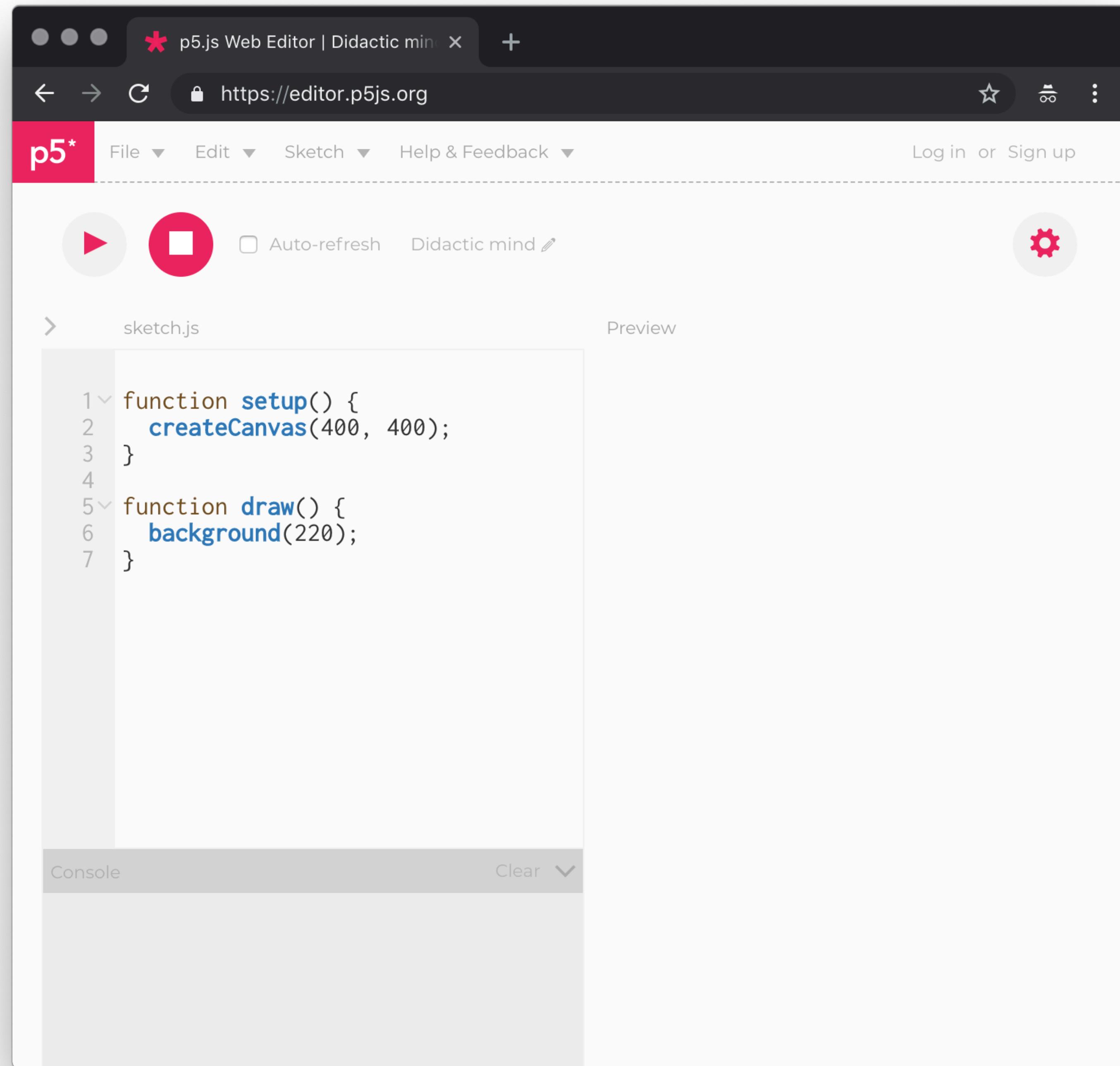
**<https://editor.p5js.org>**

**Please use Google Chrome not Safari**  
It is already installed on your computer!

## Controls

## Code

## Console



## Preview

P5 provides us with a set of useful *functions* and *variables*

**Functions**:- A piece of code that carries out a specific task

**Variables**:- Nicknames for values!

(more on both of these later)

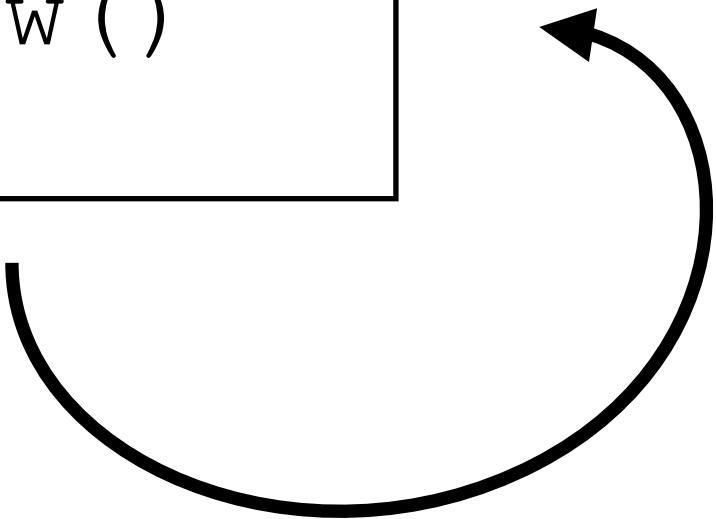
RUN CODE



setup()



draw()



**function** setup () {

// Setup code

}

**function** draw () {

// Draw code

}

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

# **Draw a circle**

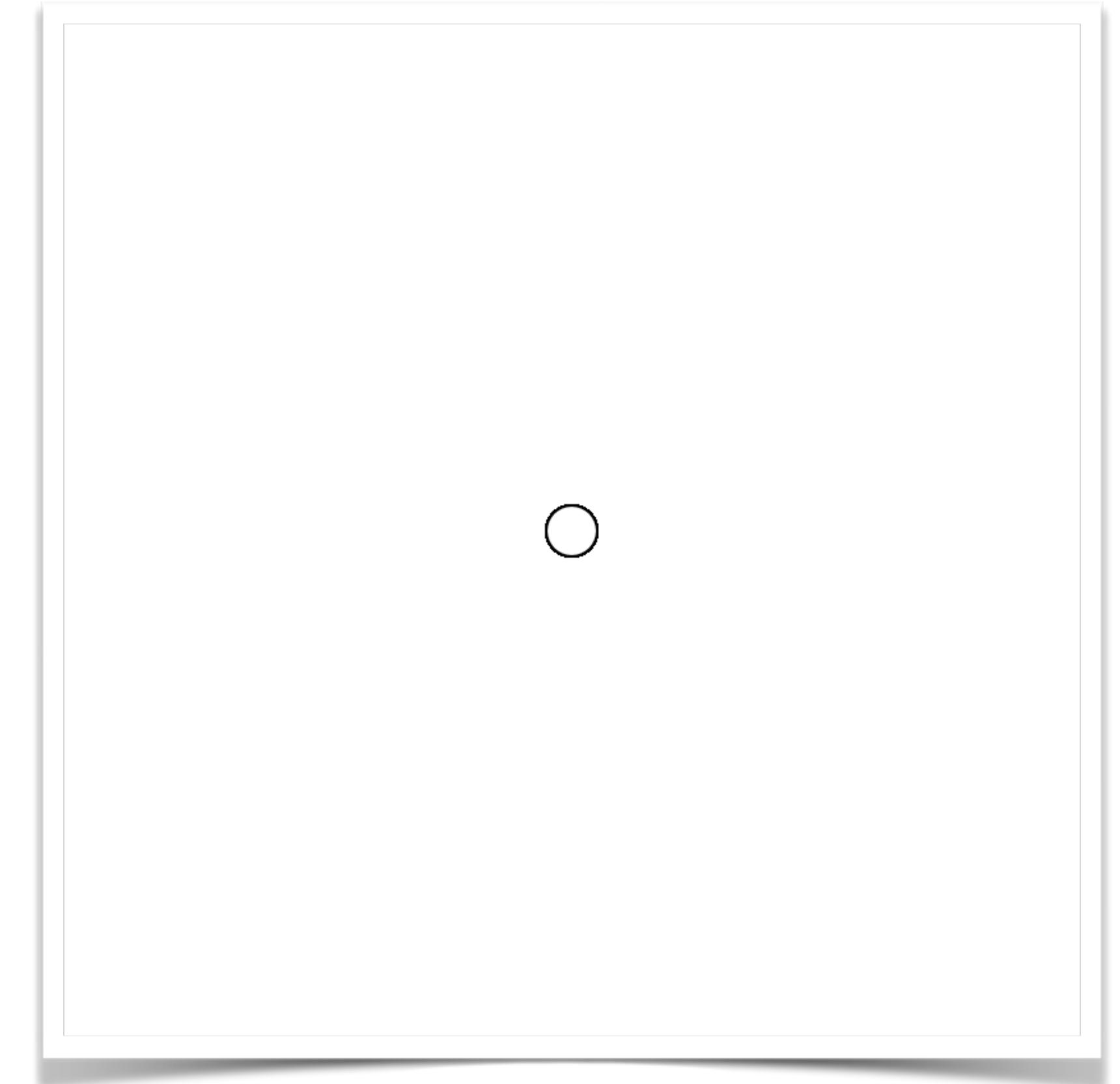
Functions & basic program structure

```
function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  background(220);
  ellipse( 200, 200, 20, 20 );
}
```

```
function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  background(220);
  ellipse( 200, 200, 20, 20 );
}
```



## Code

---

```
function doSomething() {  
/* code to make something happen */  
}
```

```
doSomething();
```

## Result

Action

## Code

---

```
function doSomething() {  
    /* code to make something happen */  
}  
  
doSomething();  
doSomething();
```

## Result

Something happens!  
Something happens!

## Code

---

```
function doSomething() {  
    console.log('Action');  
}  
  
doSomething();
```

## Console

Action

## Code

---

```
function doSomething() {  
  console.log('Action');  
}
```

```
doSomething();  
doSomething();
```

## Console

Action  
Action

# **Variables (but still circles)**

```
var radius = 20;

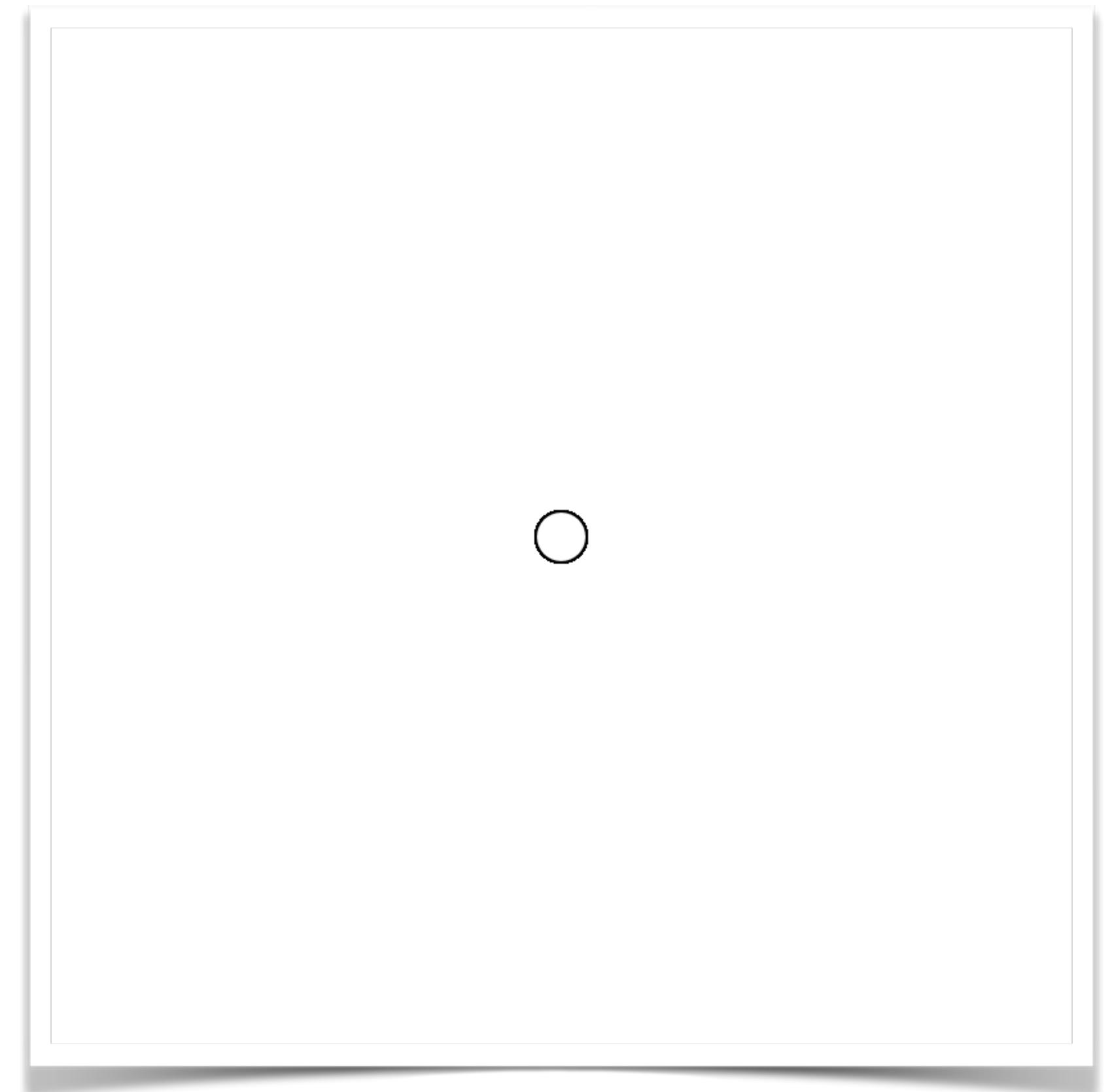
function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  background(220);
  ellipse( 200, 200, radius, radius );
}
```

```
var radius = 20;

function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  background(220);
  ellipse( 200, 200, radius, radius );
}
```



# Predefined variables

- Mouse position
  - mouseX
  - mouseY
- Canvas size
  - width
  - height

```
var radius = 20;

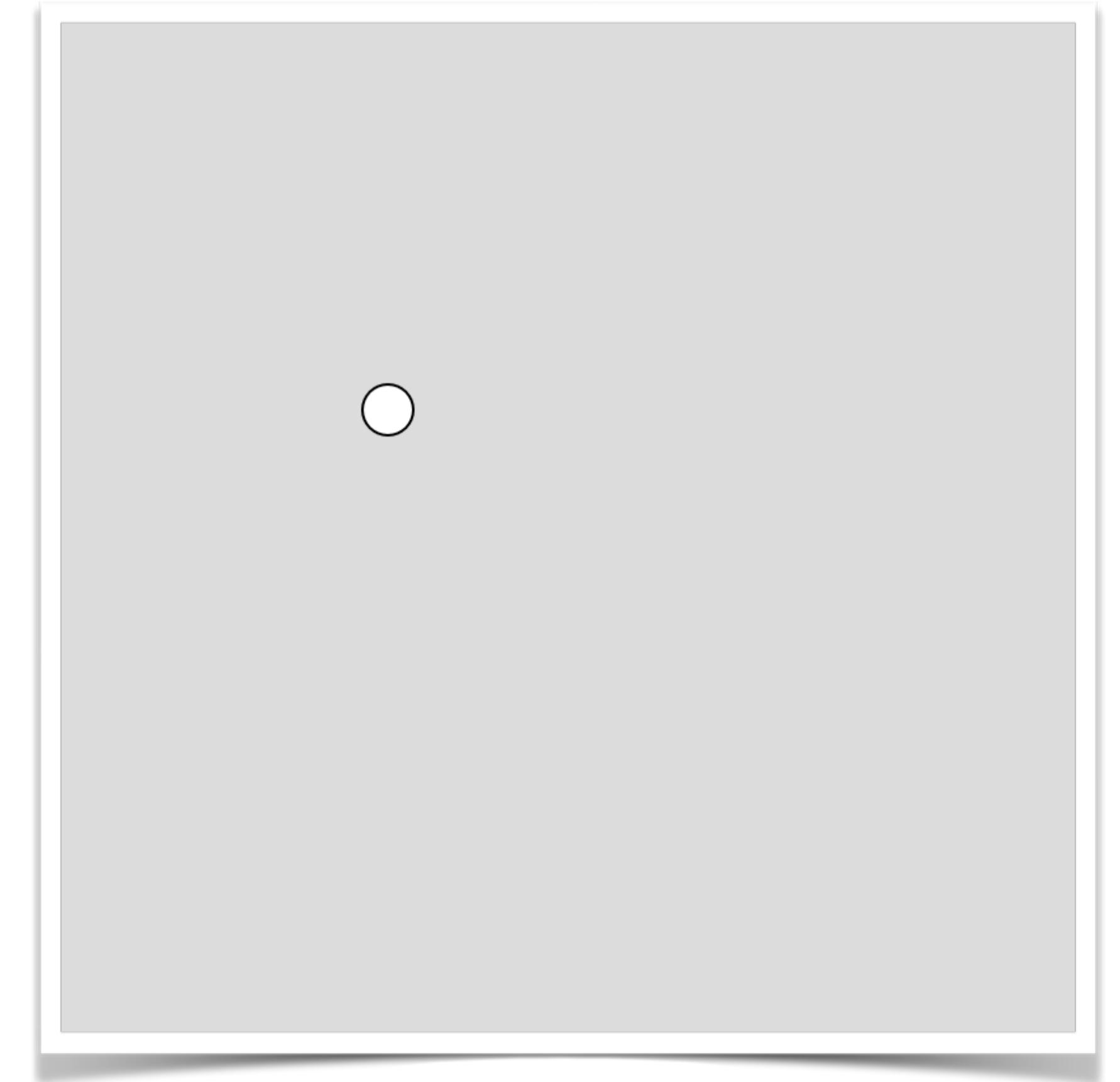
function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  background(220);
  ellipse( mouseX, mouseY, radius, radius );
}
```

```
var radius = 20;

function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

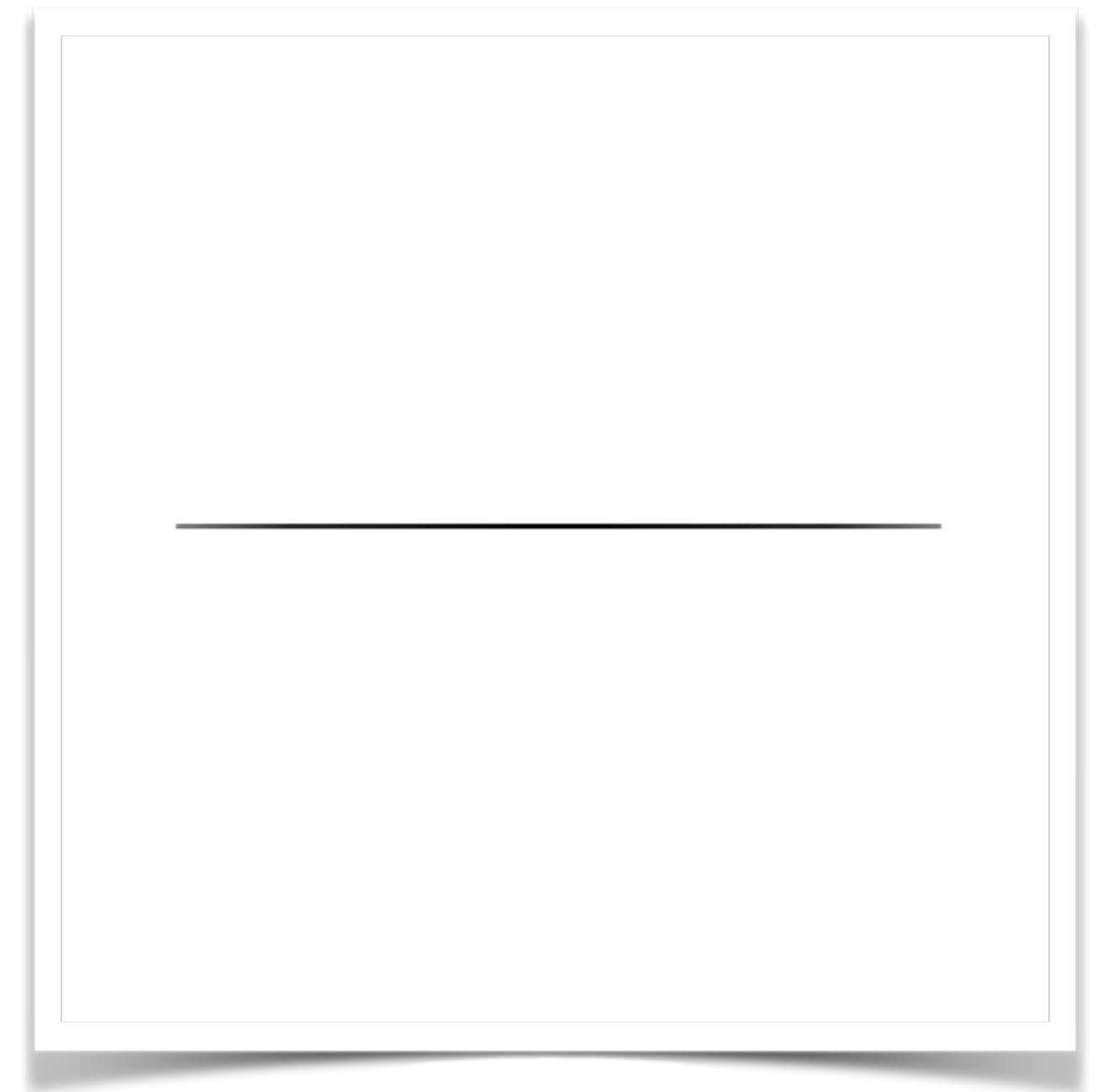
function draw() {
  background(220);
  ellipse( mouseX, mouseY, radius, radius );
}
```



```
function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  background(220);
  ellipse( width / 2, height / 2, mouseX, mouseY );
}
```

```
function setup() {  
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );  
}  
  
function draw() {  
  background(220);  
  ellipse( width / 2, height / 2, mouseX, mouseY );  
}
```

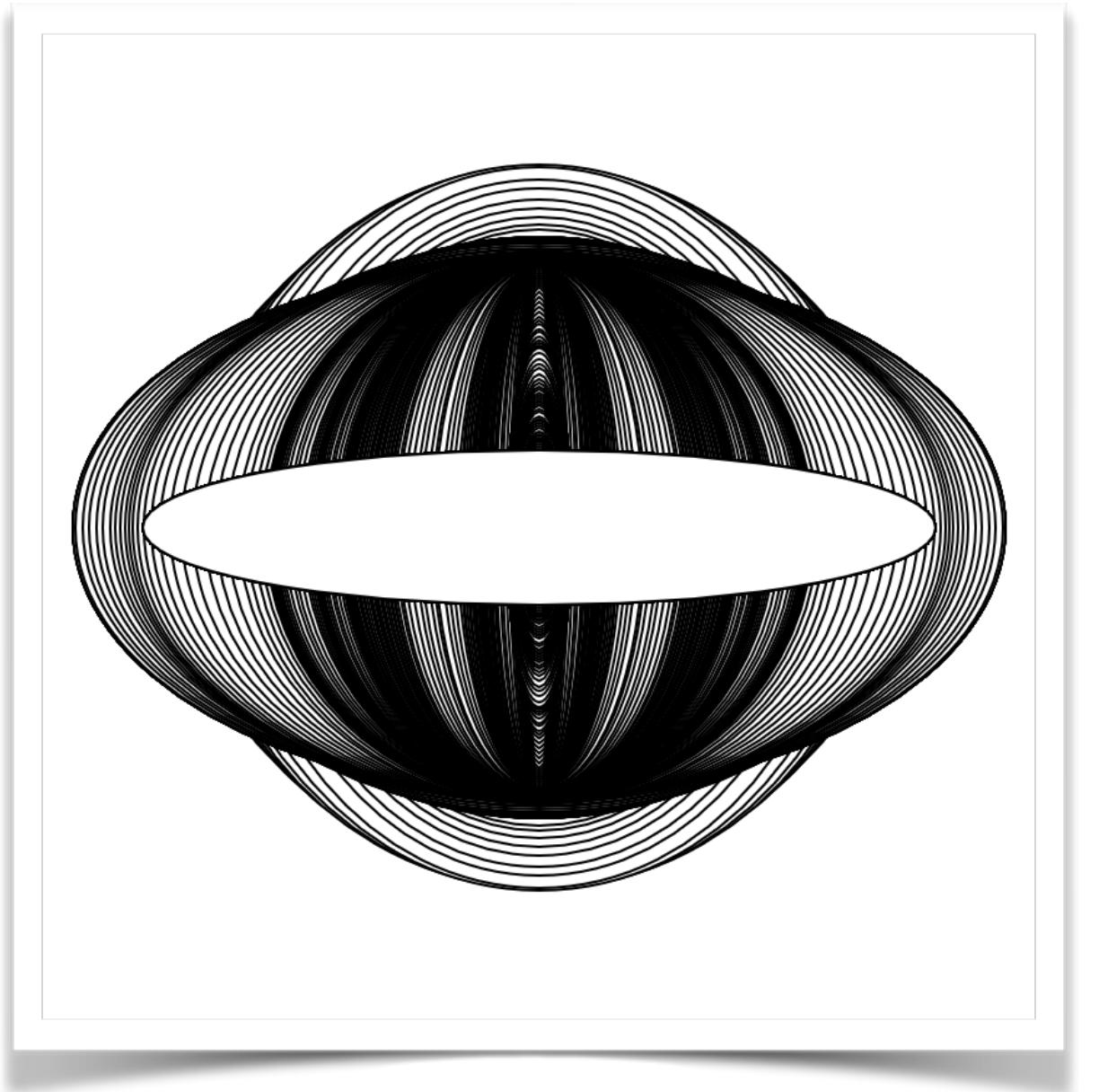


```
function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  ellipse( width / 2, height / 2, mouseX, mouseY );
}
```

```
function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  ellipse( width / 2, height / 2, mouseX, mouseY );
}
```



```
var radius = 20;

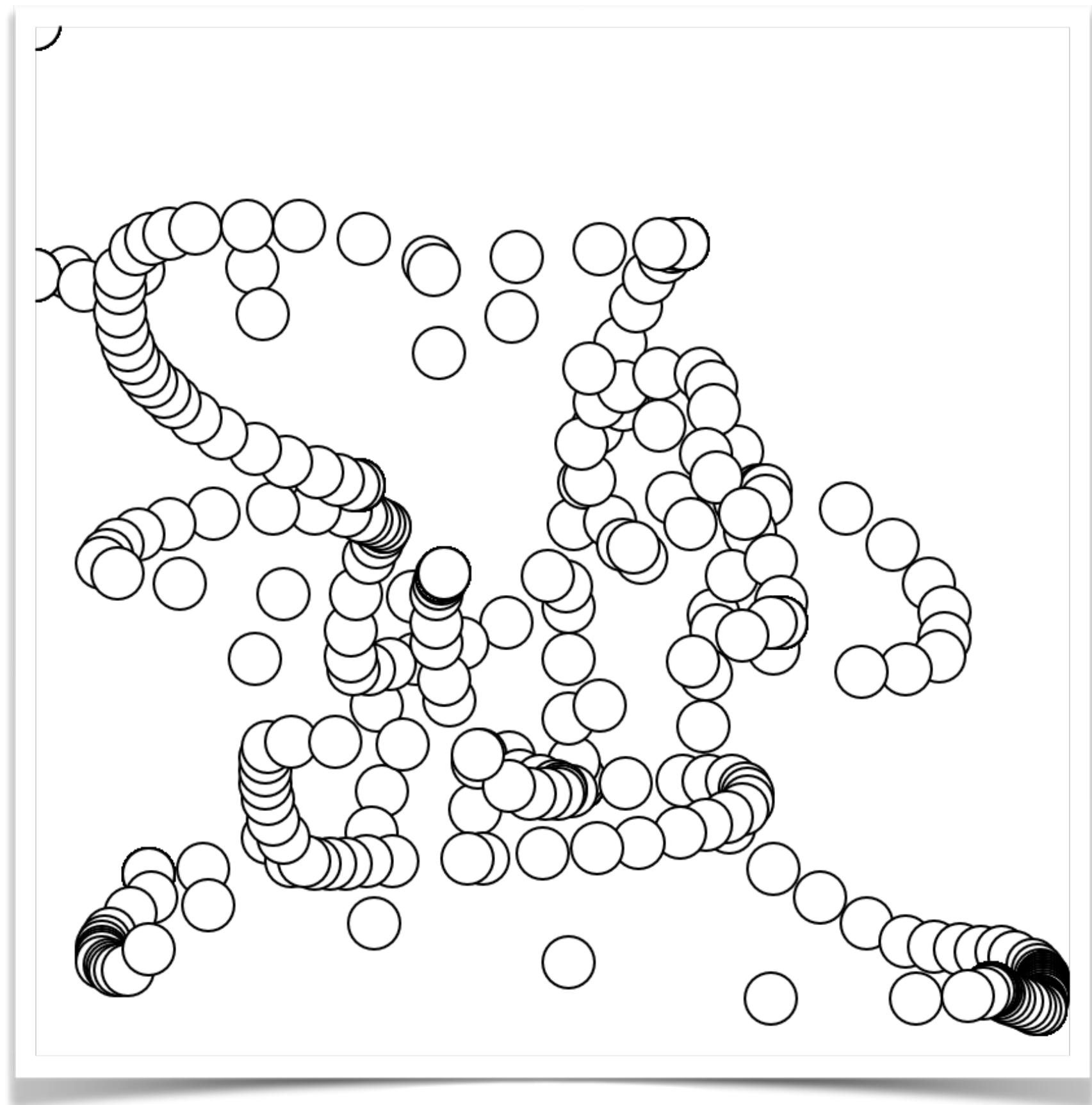
function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  ellipse( mouseX, mouseY, radius, radius );
}
```

```
var radius = 20;

function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  ellipse( mouseX, mouseY, radius, radius );
}
```



# If Statements

**Making things happen under certain conditions**

```
if ( /* condition */ ) {  
    // do something  
}
```

```
if ( /* condition */ ) {
    // do something
} else {
    // do something else
}
```

```
if ( /* condition */ ) {
    // do something
} else if ( /* condition */ ) {
    // do an alternative thing
} else {
    // do something else
}
```

## Code

---

```
if ( 1 == 1 ) {  
  console.log( 'Hello, world!' );  
}
```

## Console

Hello, world!

## Code

---

```
if ( 1 > 2 ) {  
    console.log( 'A' );  
} else {  
    console.log( 'B' );  
}
```

## Console

---

B

## Code

---

```
var name = 'tom';

if ( name == 'sam' ) {
  console.log( 'Hello Sam!' );
} else if ( name == 'tom' ) {
  console.log( 'Guten tag Tom!' );
} else {
  console.log( 'Hello there stranger...' );
}
```

## Console

---

Guten tag Tom!

## Conditions with operators

$X \quad == \quad Y$

Does X equal Y

$X \quad < \quad Y$

Is X less than Y

$X \quad > \quad Y$

Is X greater than Y

$X \quad <= \quad Y$

Is X less than or equal to Y

$X \quad >= \quad Y$

Is X greater than or equal to Y

```
let mode = 1;

function setup() {
    createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
    if(mode == 1) {
        ellipse( width / 2, height / 2, mouseX, mouseY );
    } else if (mode == 2) {
        ellipse( mouseX, mouseY, 20, 20 );
    }
}
```

```
let mode = 1;

function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {

  if(mode == 1) {
    ellipse( width / 2, height / 2, mouseX, mouseY );
  } else if (mode == 2) {
    ellipse( mouseX, mouseY, 20, 20 );
  }
}

function keyPressed() {
  if(key == '1')
    mode = 1;
  else if(key == '2')
    mode = 2;
}
```

```
let mode = 1;

let drawBackground = true;
let r, g, b;
function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {

  if(drawBackground)
    background(0);

  fill(r,g,b);

  if(mode == 1) {
    ellipse( width / 2, height / 2, mouseX, mouseY );
  } else if (mode == 2) {
    ellipse( mouseX, mouseY, 20, 20 );
  }
}

function keyPressed() {

  if(key == '1')
    mode = 1;
  else if(key == '2')
    mode = 2;
  else if(key == 'b' || key == 'B')
    drawBackground = !drawBackground;
  else if(key == 'r' || key == 'R') {
    r = random(255);
    g = random(255);
    b = random(255);
  }
}
```

# **How Would We make a Grid of circle?**

Loops

```
var grid = 20;

function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  background( 255 );

  var cols = width / grid;
  var rows = height / grid;

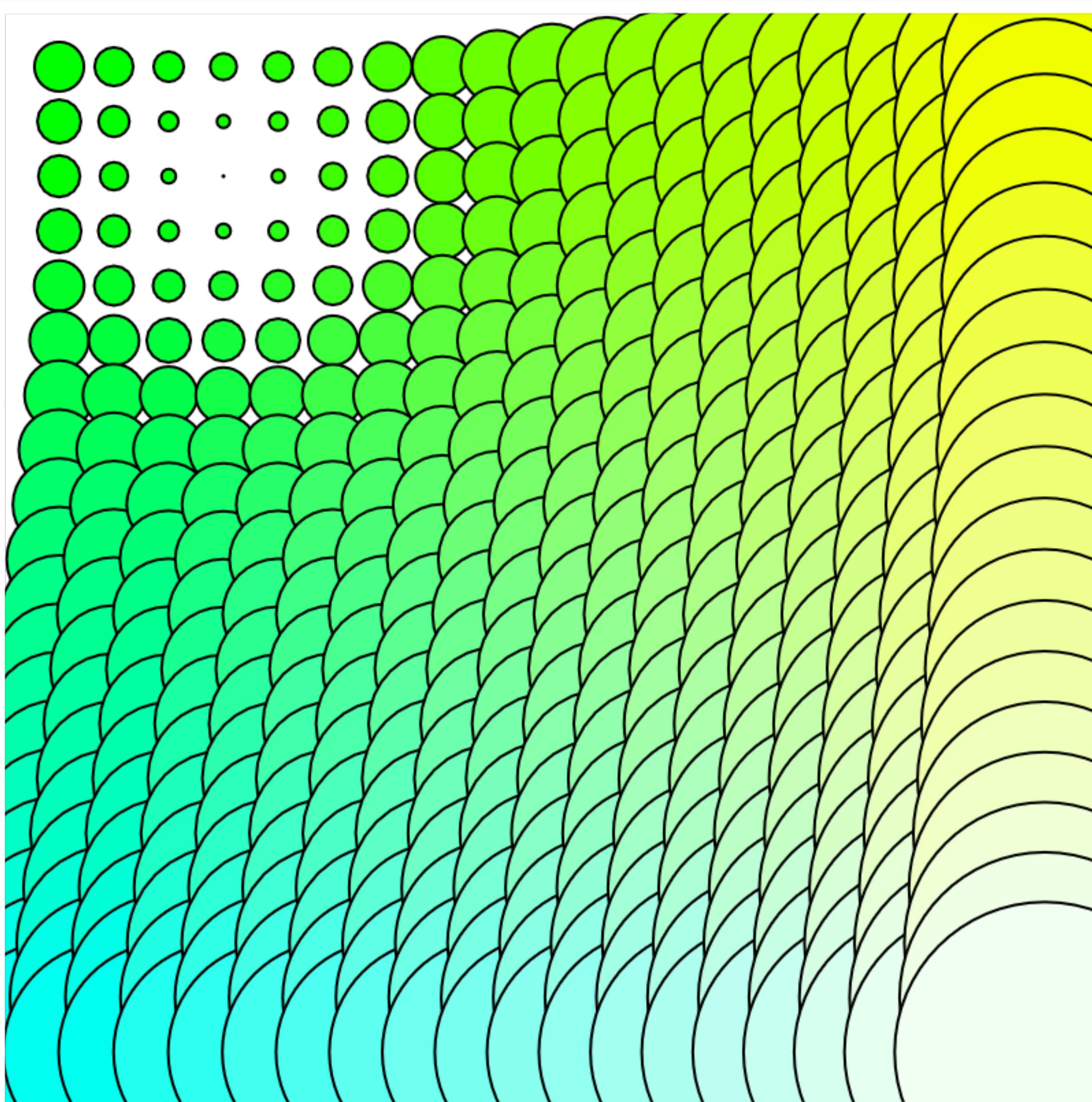
  for ( var x = 1; x < cols; x++ ) {
    for ( var y = 1; y < rows; y++ ) {

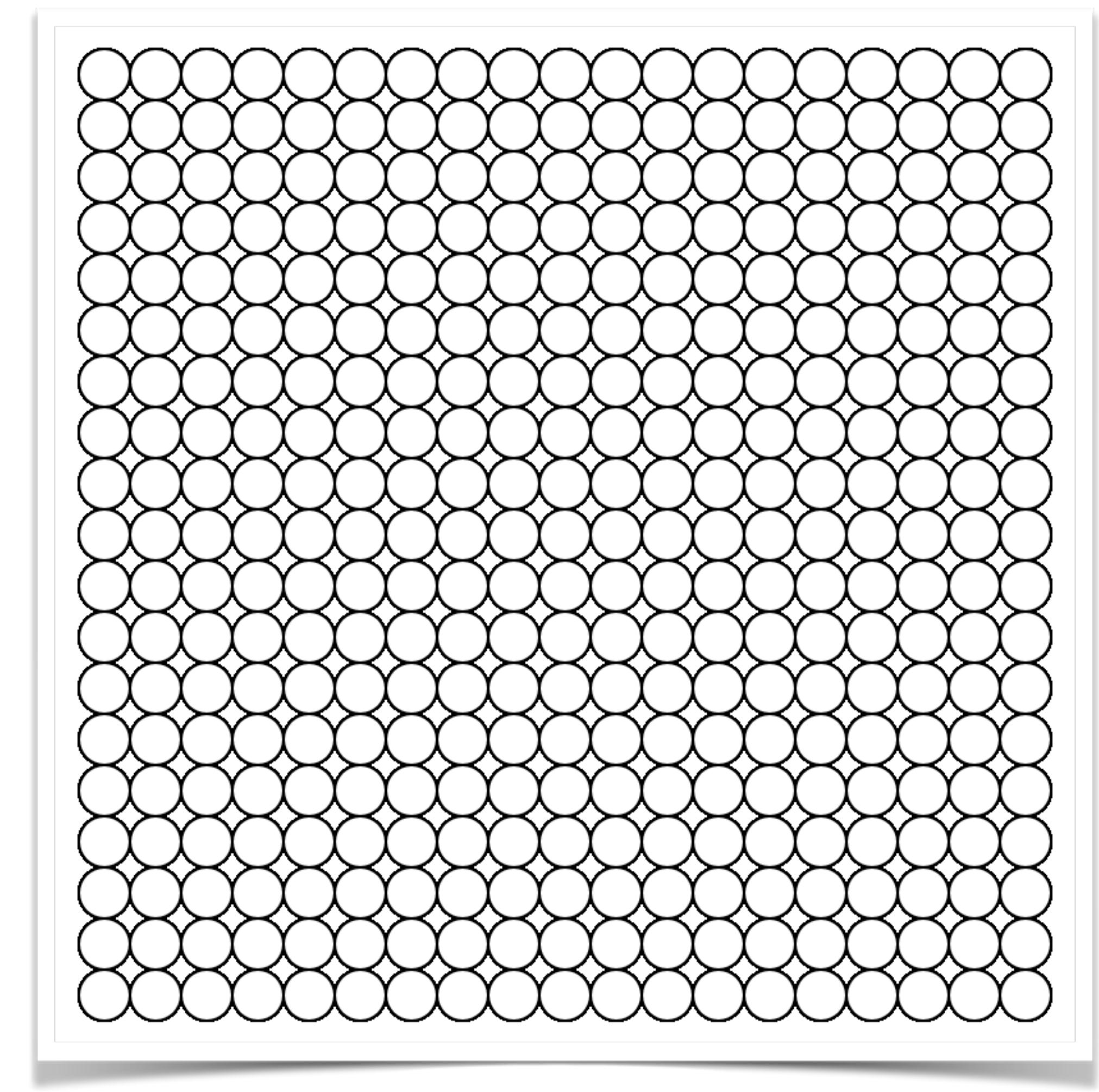
      var r = map( x, 0, cols, 0, 255 );
      var g = 255;
      var b = map( y, 0, rows, 0, 255 );
      fill( r, g, b );

      var ellipse_x = x * grid;
      var ellipse_y = y * grid;

      var mouseDistance = dist( mouseX, mouseY, ellipse_x, ellipse_y );
      var radius = mouseDistance / 2;

      ellipse( ellipse_x, ellipse_y, radius * 2 );
    }
  }
}
```





```
var radius = 100;

function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  background(220);

  ellipse( 50, 50, radius, radius );
  ellipse( 50 + radius, 50, radius, radius );
  ellipse( 50 + radius * 2, 50, radius, radius );
  ellipse( 50 + radius * 2, 50, radius, radius );
```

```
for ( /* initialise */; /* condition */; /* increment */ ) {  
    // do something  
}
```

## Other helpful operators

$X++$

Adds 1 to the variable (increment)

$X--$

Subtracts 1 to the variable (decrement)

$X \cancel{/} Y$

Divide X by Y

$X * Y$

Multiply X by Y

## Code

---

```
for ( var i = 0; i < 10; i++) {  
  console.log( i );  
}
```

## Console

---

```
0  
1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9
```

```
var grid = 20;

function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  var cols = width / grid;

  for ( var x = 1; x < cols; x++ ) {
    var ellipse_x = x * grid;

    ellipse( ellipse_x, 50, grid, grid );
  }
}
```



```
var grid = 20;

function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  var cols = width / grid;
  var rows = height / grid;

  for ( var x = 1; x < cols; x++ ) {
    for ( var y = 1; y < rows; y++ ) {
      var ellipse_x = x * grid;
      var ellipse_y = y * grid;

      ellipse( ellipse_x, ellipse_y, grid, grid );
    }
  }
}
```

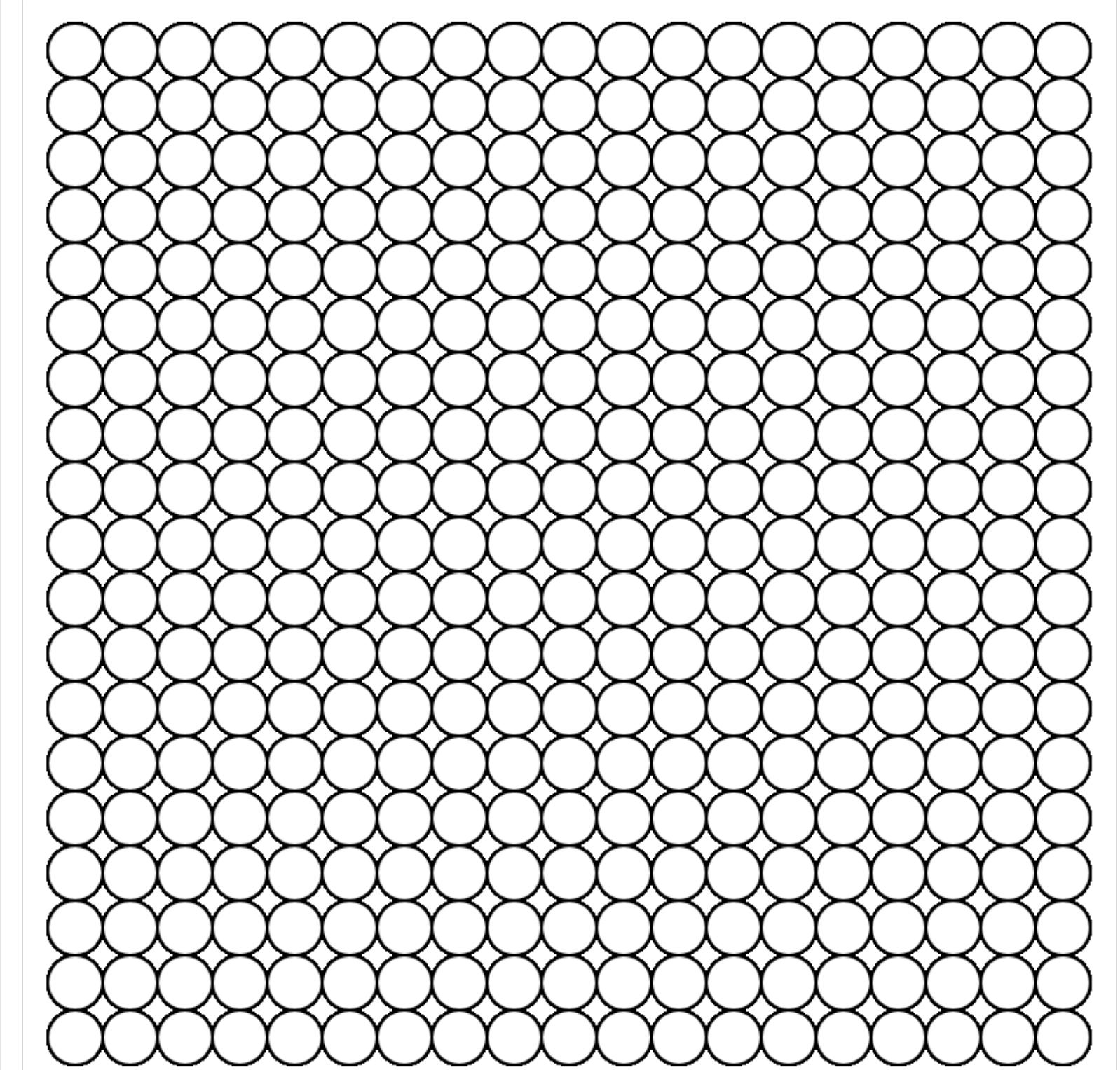
```
var grid = 20;

function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  var cols = width / grid;
  var rows = height / grid;

  for ( var x = 1; x < cols; x++ ) {
    for ( var y = 1; y < rows; y++ ) {
      var ellipse_x = x * grid;
      var ellipse_y = y * grid;

      ellipse( ellipse_x, ellipse_y, grid, grid );
    }
  }
}
```



```
var grid = 20;

function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  background( 255 );

  var cols = width / grid;
  var rows = height / grid;

  for ( var x = 1; x < cols; x++ ) {
    for ( var y = 1; y < rows; y++ ) {
      var ellipse_x = x * grid;
      var ellipse_y = y * grid;

      var mouseDistance = dist( ellipse_x, ellipse_y, mouseX, mouseY );
      var radius = mouseDistance * 0.25;

      ellipse( ellipse_x, ellipse_y, radius, radius );
    }
  }
}
```

```

var grid = 20;

function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  background( 255 );

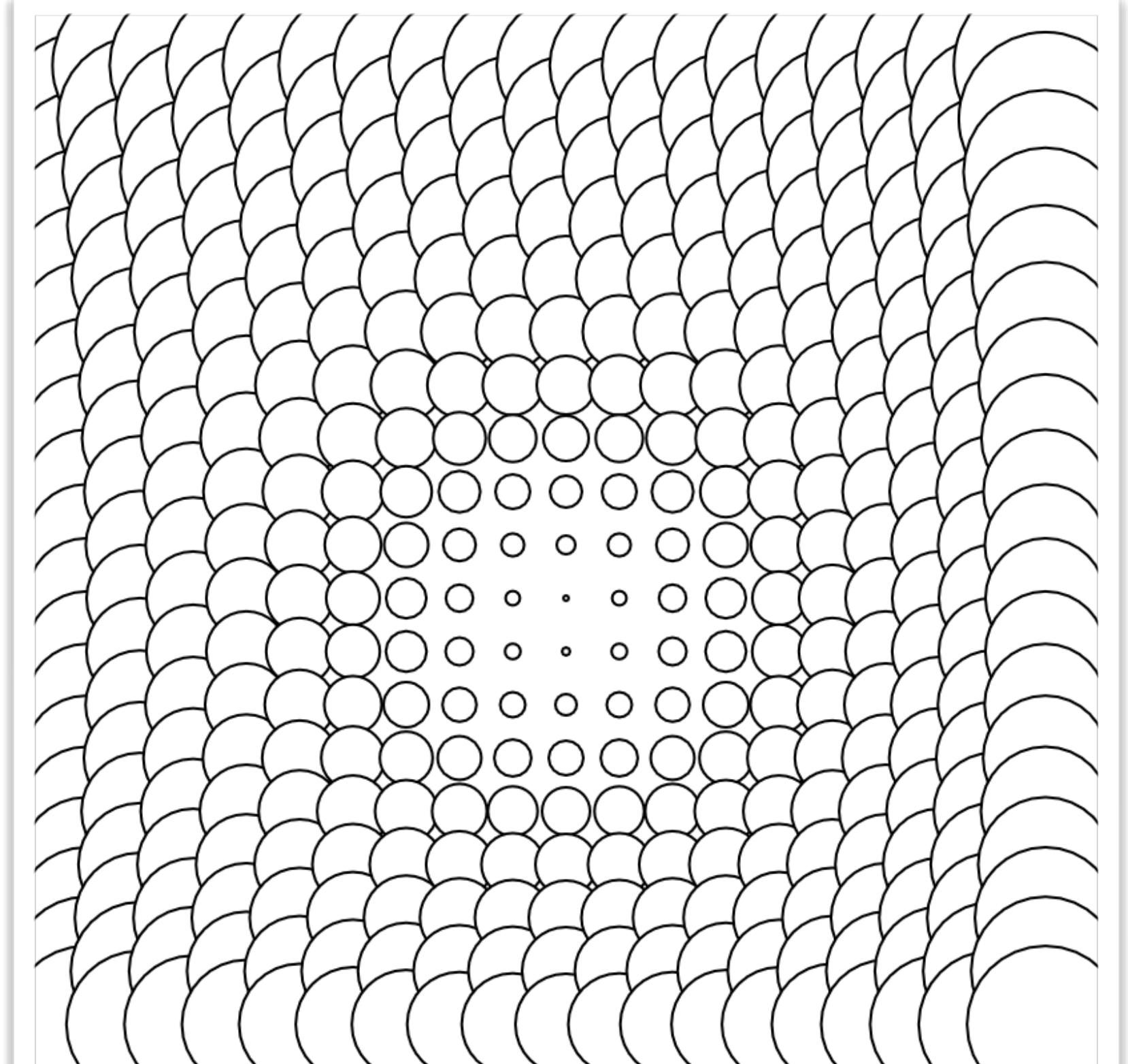
  var cols = width / grid;
  var rows = height / grid;

  for ( var x = 1; x < cols; x++ ) {
    for ( var y = 1; y < rows; y++ ) {
      var ellipse_x = x * grid;
      var ellipse_y = y * grid;

      var mouseDistance = dist( ellipse_x, ellipse_y, mouseX, mouseY );
      var radius = mouseDistance * 0.25;

      ellipse( ellipse_x, ellipse_y, radius, radius );
    }
  }
}

```



```
var grid = 20;

function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  background( 255 );

  var cols = width / grid;
  var rows = height / grid;

  for ( var x = 1; x < cols; x++ ) {
    for ( var y = 1; y < rows; y++ ) {

      var r = map( x, 0, cols, 0, 255 );
      var g = 255;
      var b = map( y, 0, rows, 0, 255 );
      fill( r, g, b );

      var ellipse_x = x * grid;
      var ellipse_y = y * grid;

      var mouseDistance = dist( ellipse_x, ellipse_y, mouseX, mouseY );
      var radius = mouseDistance * 0.25;

      ellipse( ellipse_x, ellipse_y, radius, radius );
    }
  }
}
```

```

var grid = 20;

function setup() {
  createCanvas( 400, 400 );
}

function draw() {
  background( 255 );

  var cols = width / grid;
  var rows = height / grid;

  for ( var x = 1; x < cols; x++ ) {
    for ( var y = 1; y < rows; y++ ) {

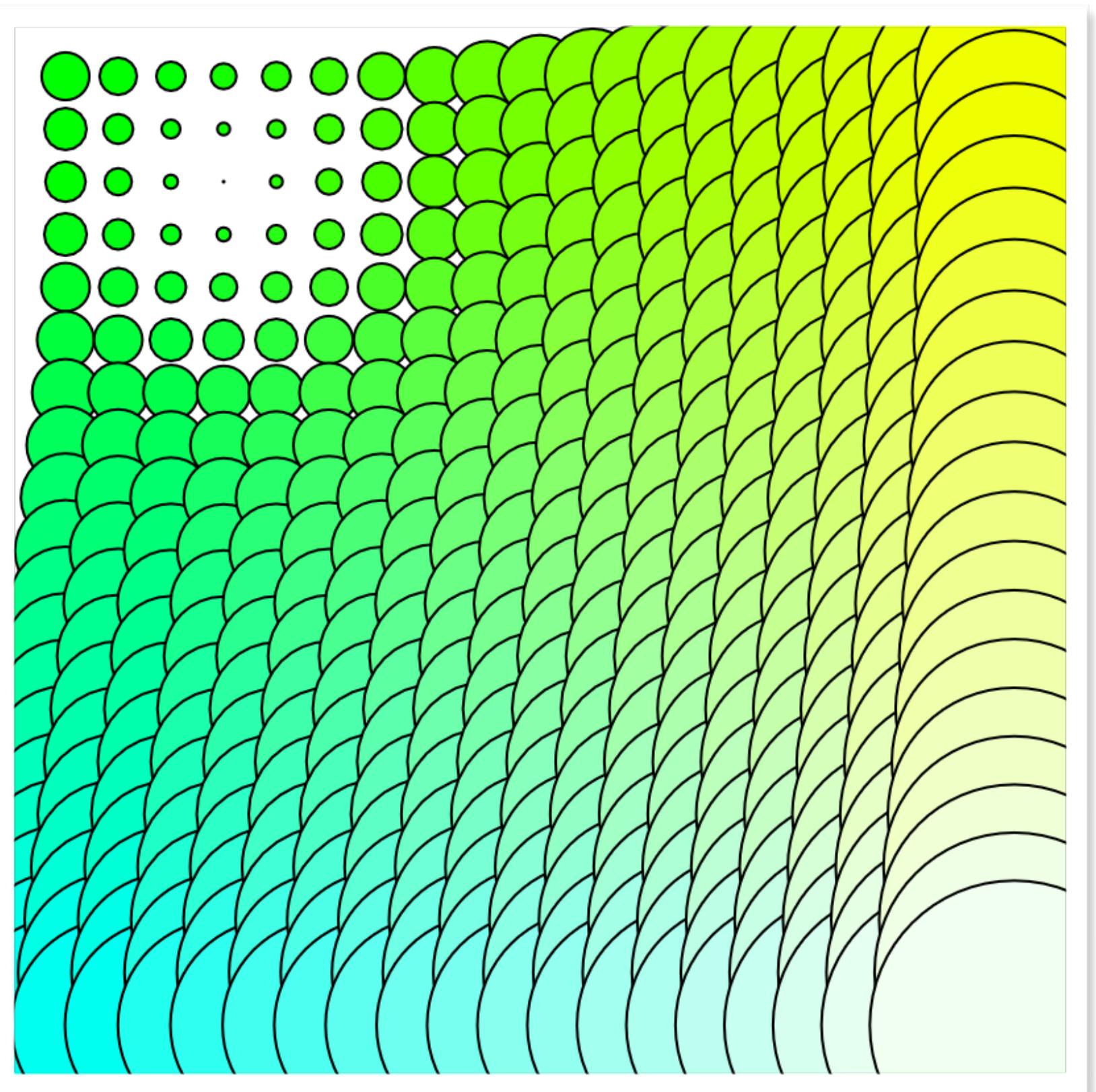
      var r = map( x, 0, cols, 0, 255 );
      var g = 255;
      var b = map( y, 0, rows, 0, 255 );
      fill( r, g, b );

      var ellipse_x = x * grid;
      var ellipse_y = y * grid;

      var mouseDistance = dist( ellipse_x, ellipse_y, mouseX, mouseY );
      var radius = mouseDistance * 0.25;

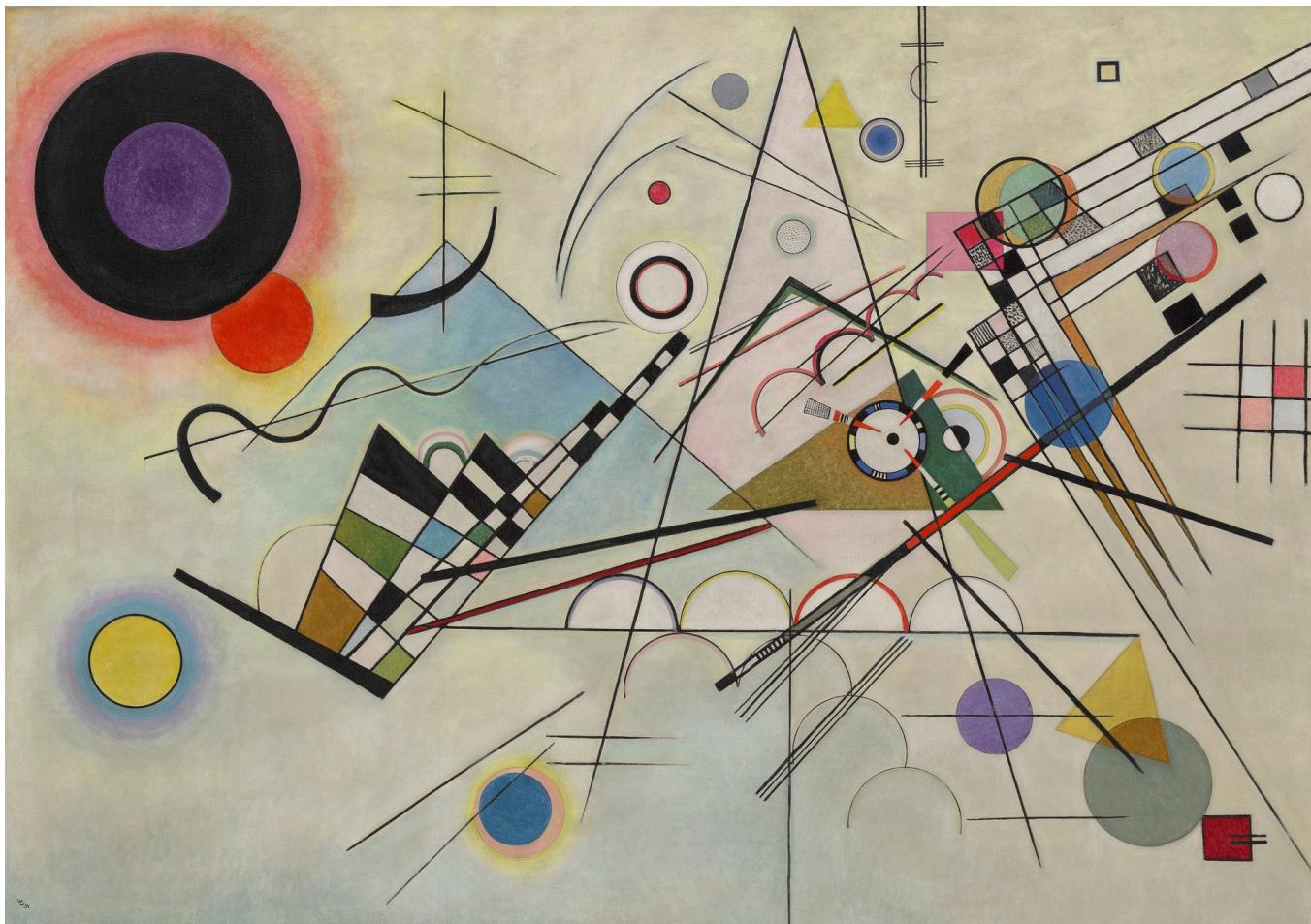
      ellipse( ellipse_x, ellipse_y, radius, radius );
    }
  }
}

```

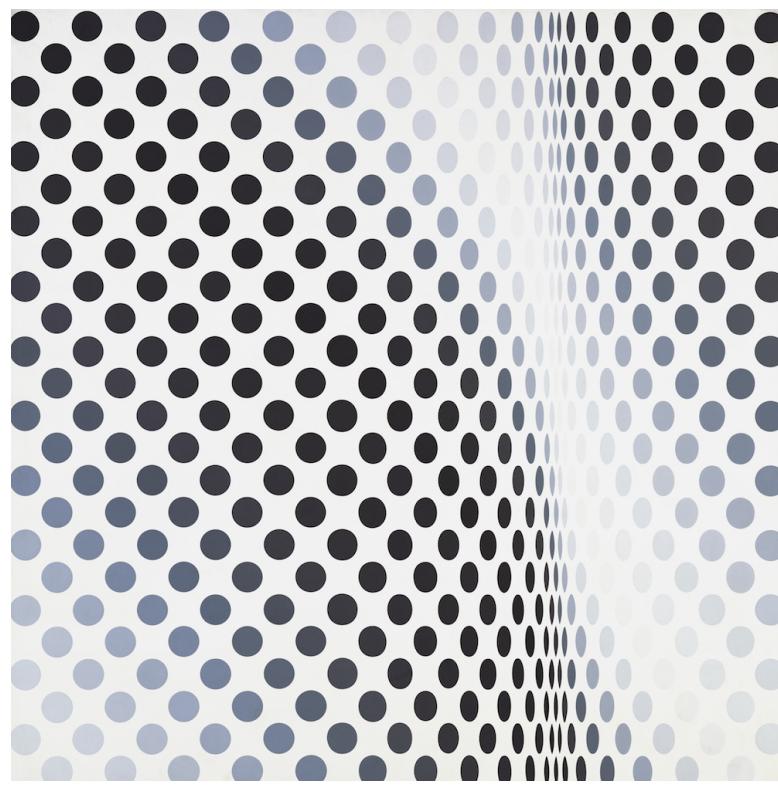




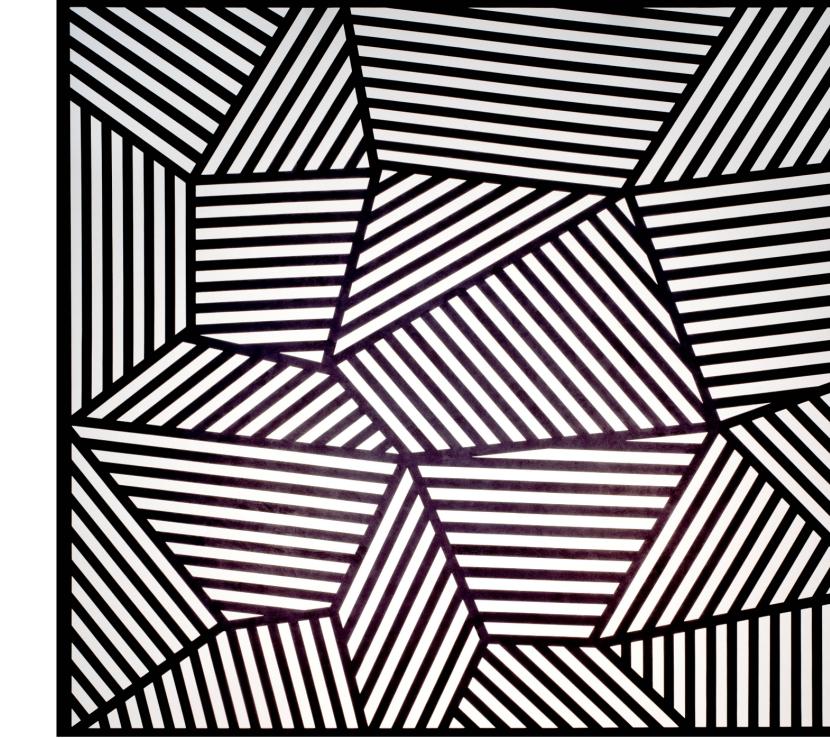
Burnt Umber - Yun Hyong-keun



Composition 8 - Vasily Kandinsky



Pause - Bridget Riley

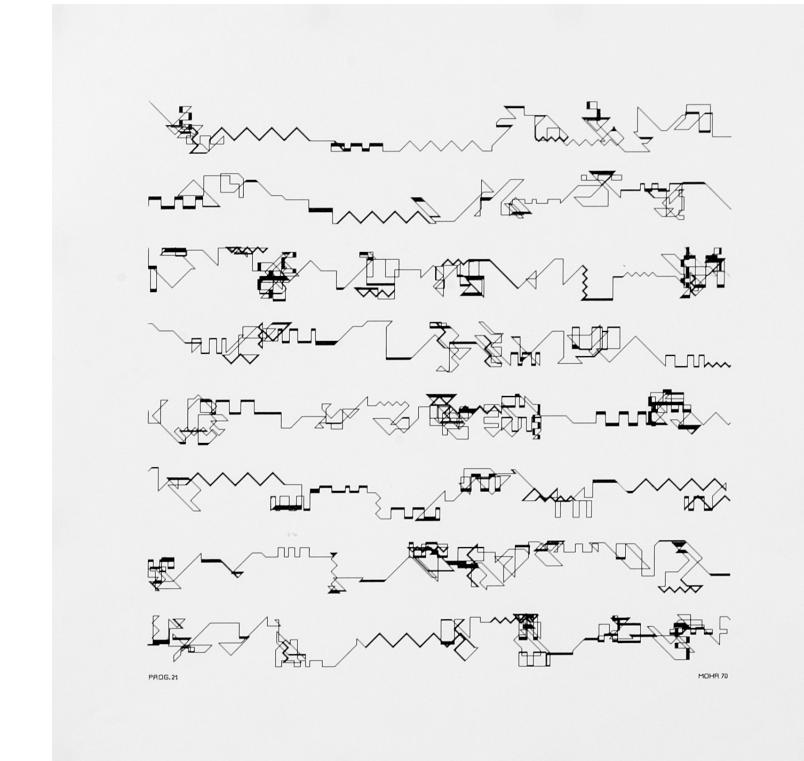


Wall Drawing 565 - Sol LeWitt

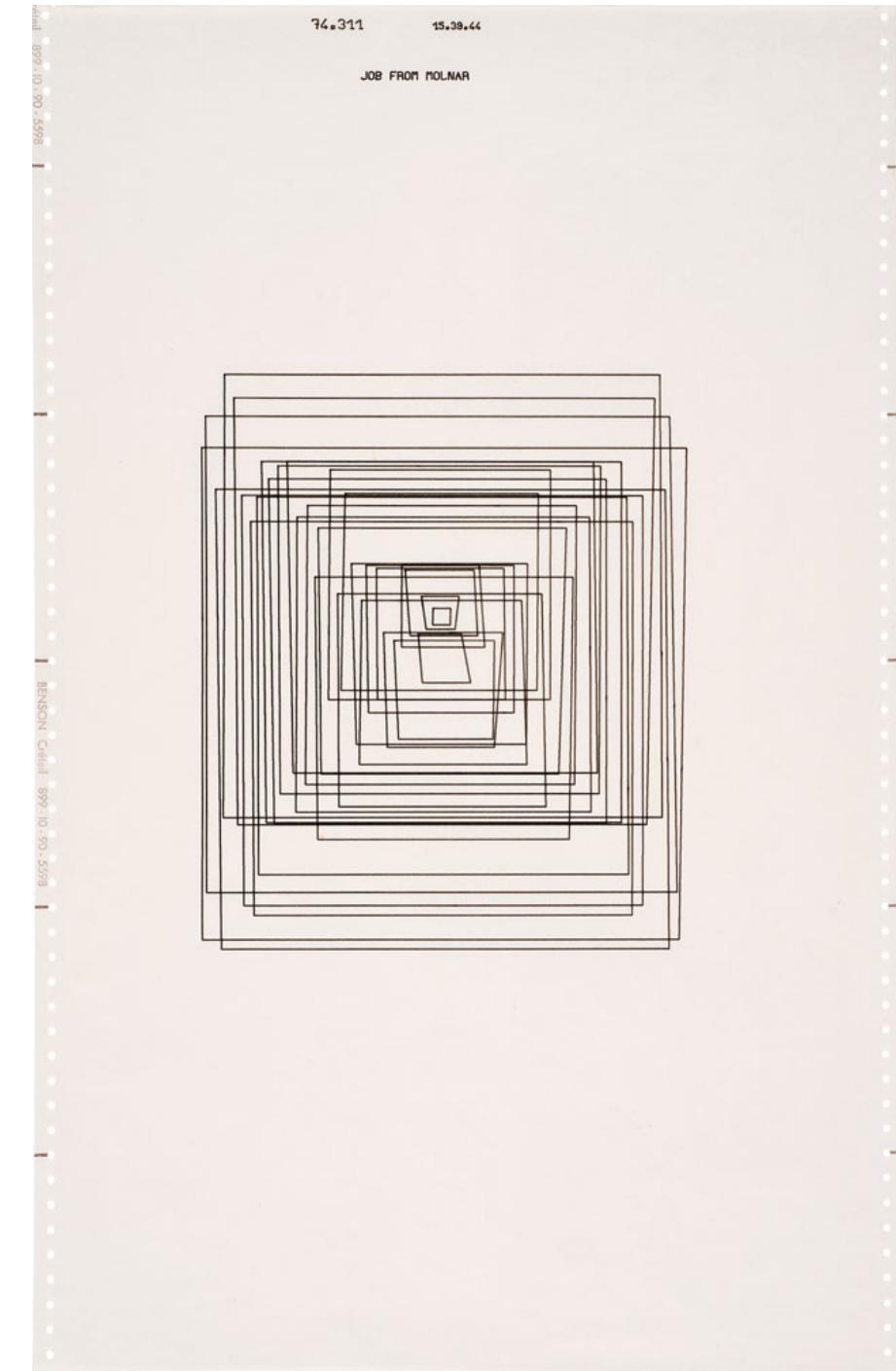
How would yo go about creating something like this?

Think about shape, colour and position

Do you think these were released, composed manually or randomly generated? A combination of all three?



Program 21  
- Manfred Mohr



Trapèzes inscrits 1/5  
- Vera Molnár

**<https://lab.arts.ac.uk>**