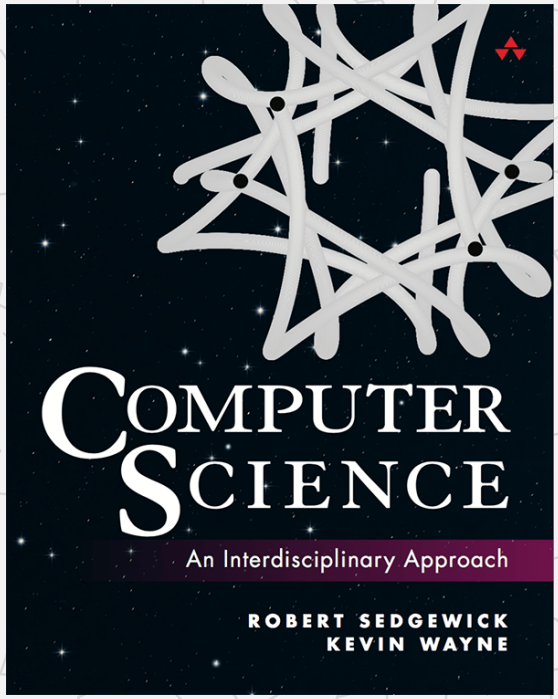


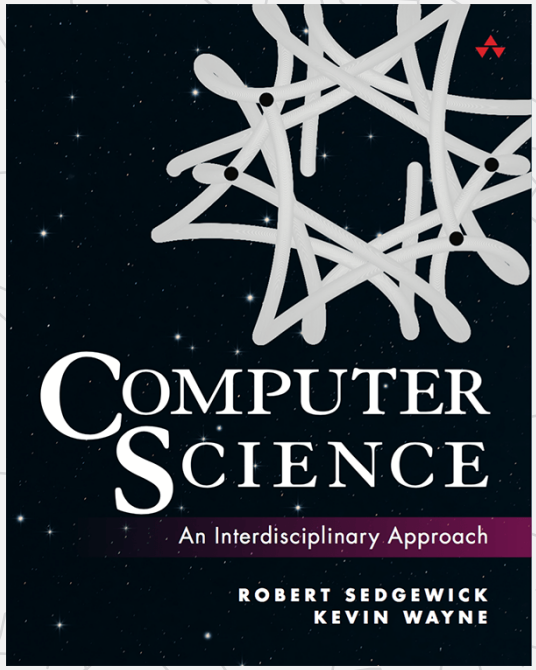
http://introcs.cs.princeton.edu

N-BODY
TIPS AND TRICKS

- *n-body simulation*
- *problem decomposition*
- *the physics*
- *bugs*
- *universes*

Alan Kaplan and Kevin Wayne

Last updated on 9/27/18 9:27 AM



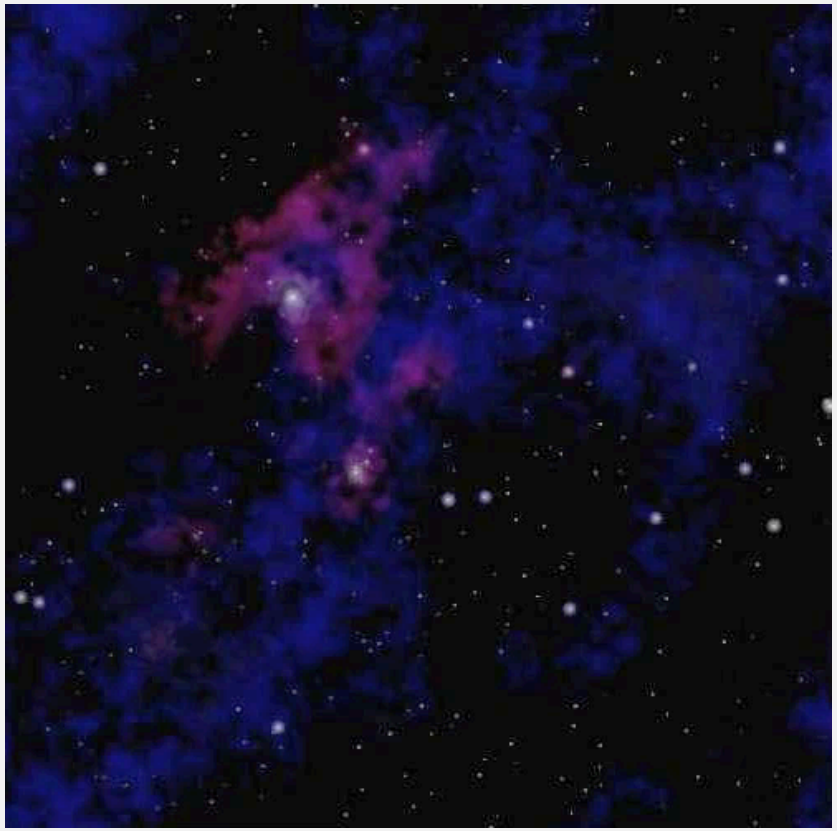
http://introcs.cs.princeton.edu

N-Body Tips and Tricks

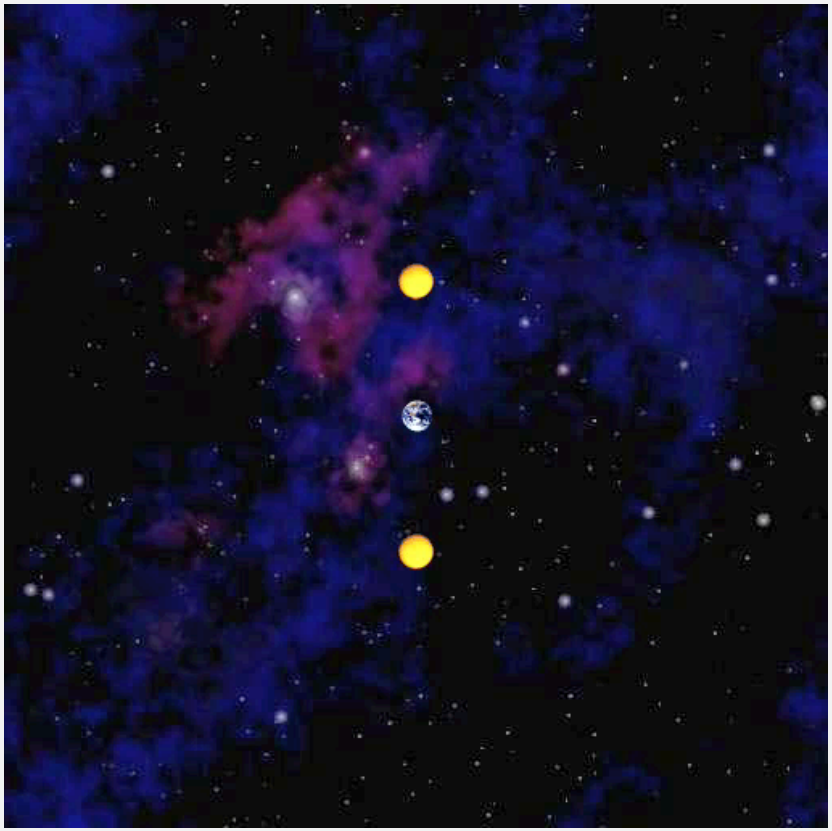
- *overview*
- *problem decomposition*
- *the physics*
- *bugs*
- *universes*

N-body simulation

Simulate the motion of n bodies, subject to Newton's laws.



planets.txt



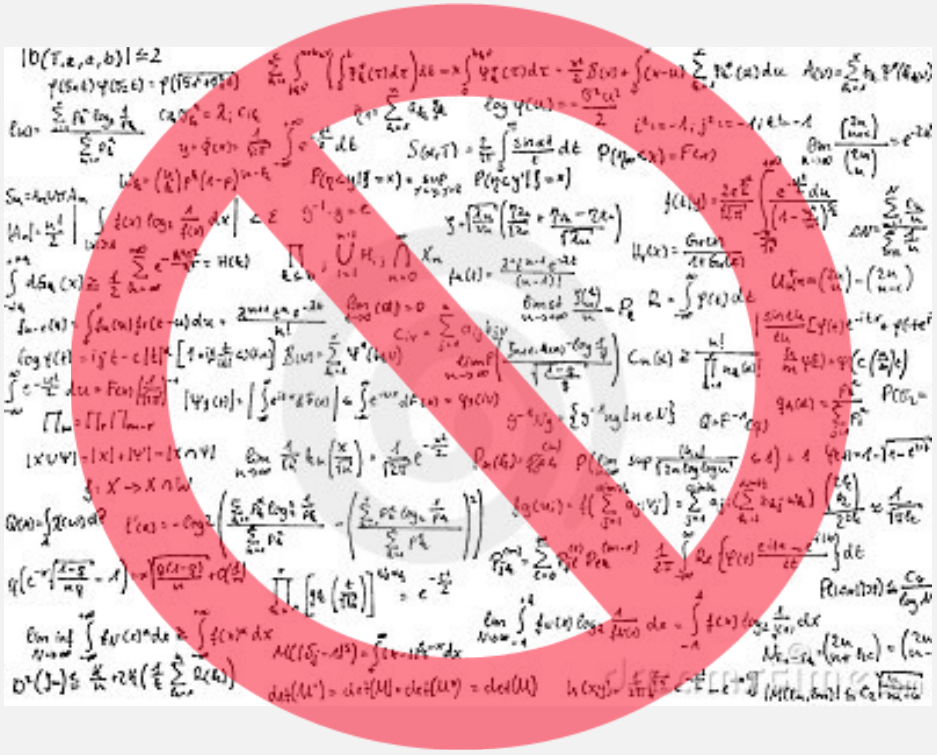
3body.txt

Physics and math

Newton's law of gravity. $F = \frac{G m_1 m_2}{r^2}$

Newton's second law of motion. $F = m a$

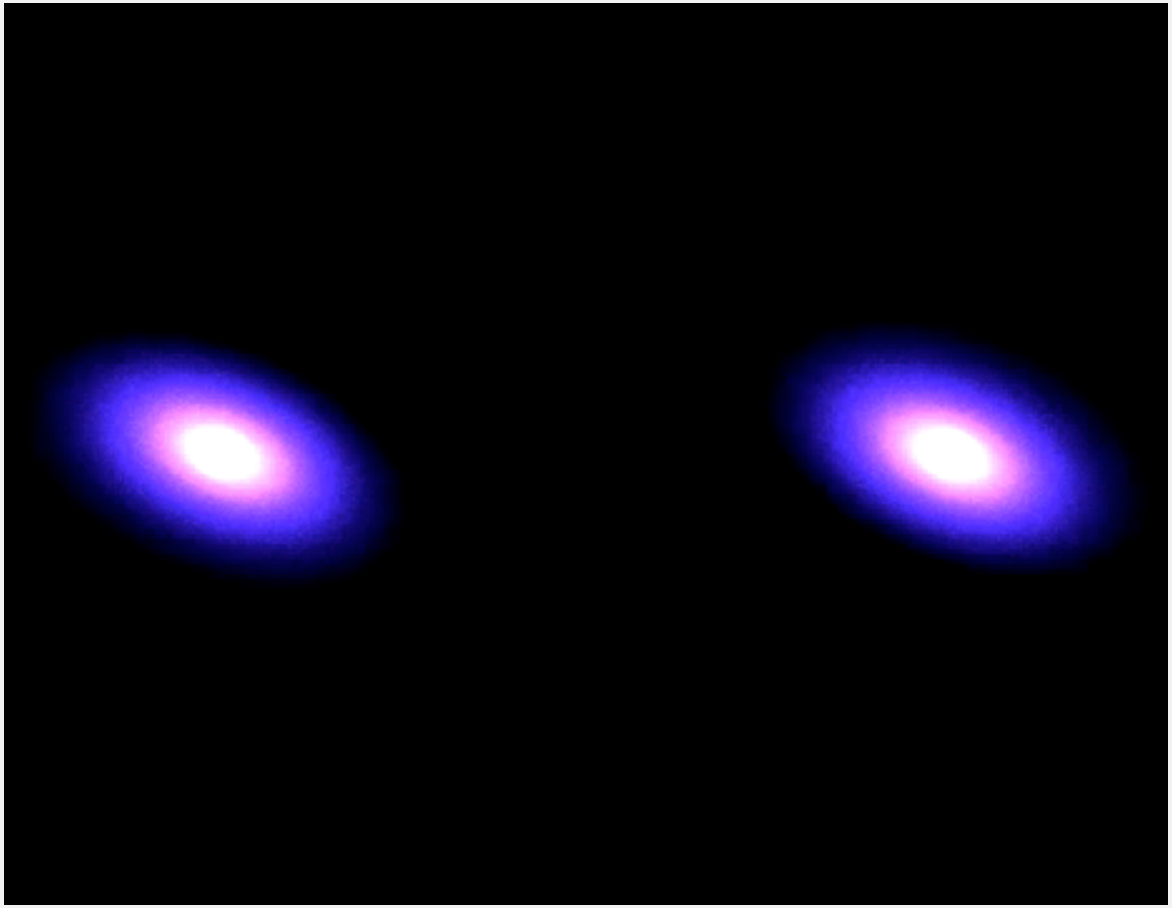
"Leapfrog" method. For numerical integration of differential equations.



don't worry (this is not a math or physics course)

Context

Applications. Cosmology, semiconductors, fluid dynamics, ….



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ua7YlN4eL_w

Programming goals

- Use standard input, standard output, and standard drawing for I/O.
- Use parallel arrays.
- Decompose a large program into small, manageable steps.

Before you begin

Carefully read assignment specification; skim checklist.

Check that standard libraries are available to Java.

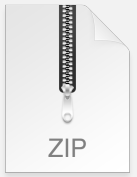
- Already configured if you used auto-installer
- Remember to use javac-introcs and java-introcs in Terminal

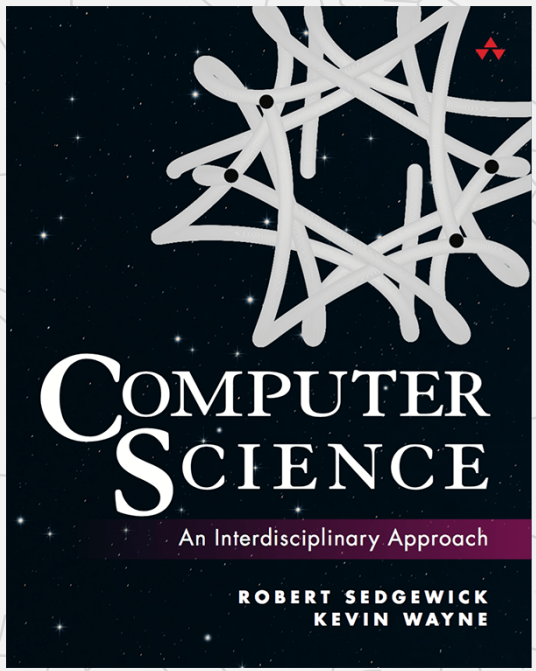
Useful programs from lecture/precept.

- Students.java
- BouncingBallDeluxe.java
- Distinct.java

Download the project files: sample data files and create working directory.

- Download nbody.zip from assignment specification.
  (see Assignment FAQ for extracting zip file)
- Have all data files available in a folder





http://introcs.cs.princeton.edu

N-Body
Tips and Tricks

- *overview*
- *problem decomposition*
- *the physics*
- *bugs*
- *universes*

Decompose problem into individual steps

Develop program incrementally, decomposing into six individual steps.

1. Parse command-line arguments
2. Read universe from standard input
3. Initialize standard drawing
4. Play music on standard audio
5. Simulate the universe
   A. Calculate net forces
   B. Update velocities and positions
   C. Draw universe to standard drawing
6. Print universe to standard output

physics localized to these steps
(formulas provided)

Advice. Although final code will appear in order 1–6, we recommend implementing these steps in the order 1, 2, 6, 3, 4, 5B, 5C, 5A

Q. Why?

A. Easier to test and debug

Start with comments

```
public class NBody {
   public static void main(String[] args) {

      // Step 1. Parse command-line arguments.

      // Step 2. Read universe from standard input.

      // Step 3. Initialize standard drawing.

      // Step 4. Play music on standard audio.

      // Step 5. Simulate the universe.

         // Step 5A. Calculate net forces.
         // Step 5B. Update velocities and positions.
         // Step 5C. Draw universe to standard drawing.

      // Step 6. Print universe to standard output.
   }
}
```

Command-line arguments

Step 1. Parse command-line arguments

- Read stopping time T and increment Δt from command line
- Print values of each variable (as debugging aid)

Note. Easy, but you should still test it!

> **java-introcs NBody 10 1**
tau = 10.0
dt = 1.0

> **java-introcs NBody 157788000.0 25000.0**
tau = 1.57788E8
dt = 25000.0

Standard input

Step 2. Read universe from standard input

> **less planets.txt**

```
5
2.50e+11
1.4960e+11  0.0000e+00  0.0000e+00  2.9800e+04  5.9740e+24  earth.gif
2.2790e+11  0.0000e+00  0.0000e+00  2.4100e+04  6.4190e+23  mars.gif
5.7900e+10  0.0000e+00  0.0000e+00  4.7900e+04  3.3020e+23  mercury.gif
0.0000e+00  0.0000e+00  0.0000e+00  0.0000e+00  1.9890e+30  sun.gif
1.0820e+11  0.0000e+00  0.0000e+00  3.5000e+04  4.8690e+24  venus.gif
This file contains the sun and the inner 4 planets of our Solar System.
```

number of bodies n

radius of universe

data for one body

initial x- and y-position | initial x- and y-velocity | mass | image filename

optional description

Standard input

Step 2. Read universe from standard input

- Read number of bodies n from standard input
- Read $radius$ of universe standard input
- Create 6 parallel arrays, each of length n, to store the 6 pieces of information characterizing a body
- Read data associated with each body and store in parallel arrays

Hint. Recall Students.java

> **java-introcs NBody 157788000.0 25000.0 < planets.txt**

[no output]

Q. How to test?

A. Do Step 6 (print universe)

Standard output

Step 6. Print universe to standard output

- Write a loop to iterate over the 6 parallel arrays
- Use StdOut.printf() for formatted output (see checklist for hint)

> java-introcs NBody 157788000.0 25000.0 < planets.txt

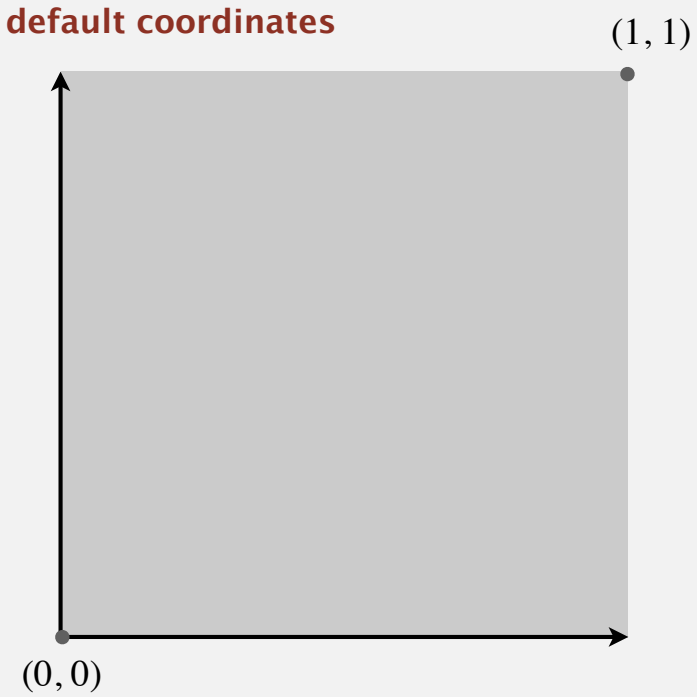
```
5
2.50e+11
 1.4960e+11  0.0000e+00  0.0000e+00  2.9800e+04  5.9740e+24    earth.gif
 2.2790e+11  0.0000e+00  0.0000e+00  2.4100e+04  6.4190e+23     mars.gif
 5.7900e+10  0.0000e+00  0.0000e+00  4.7900e+04  3.3020e+23  mercury.gif
 0.0000e+00  0.0000e+00  0.0000e+00  0.0000e+00  1.9890e+30      sun.gif
 1.0820e+11  0.0000e+00  0.0000e+00  3.5000e+04  4.8690e+24    venus.gif
```

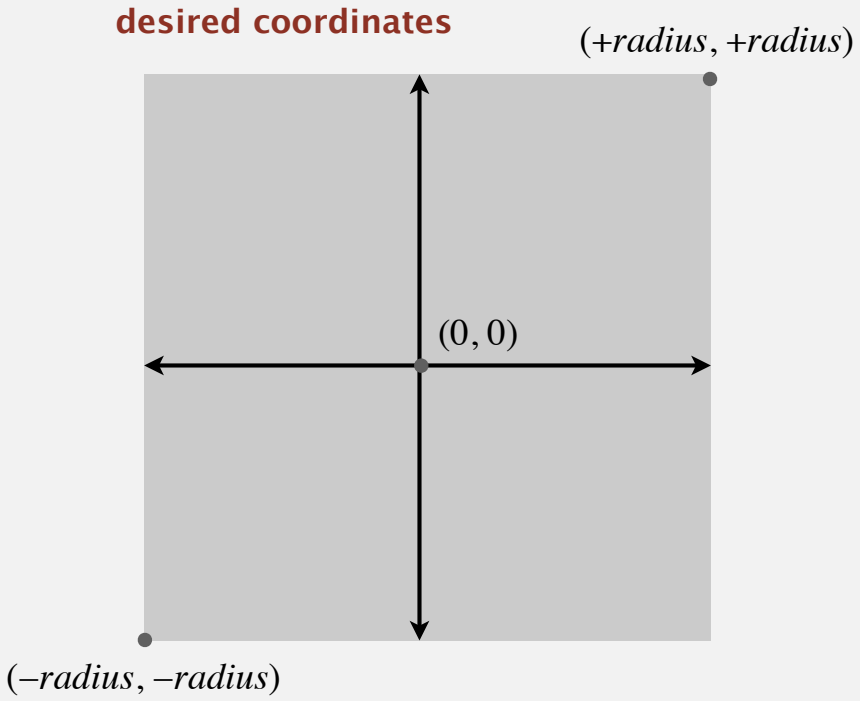
Standard drawing

Step 3. Initialize standard drawing.

- Enable double buffering by calling StdDraw.enableDoubleBuffering()
- Default x- and y-scale supports coordinates between 0 and 1
- Change scale to be between $-radius$ and $+radius$

  Hint: StdDraw.setXscale() and StdDraw.setYscale()



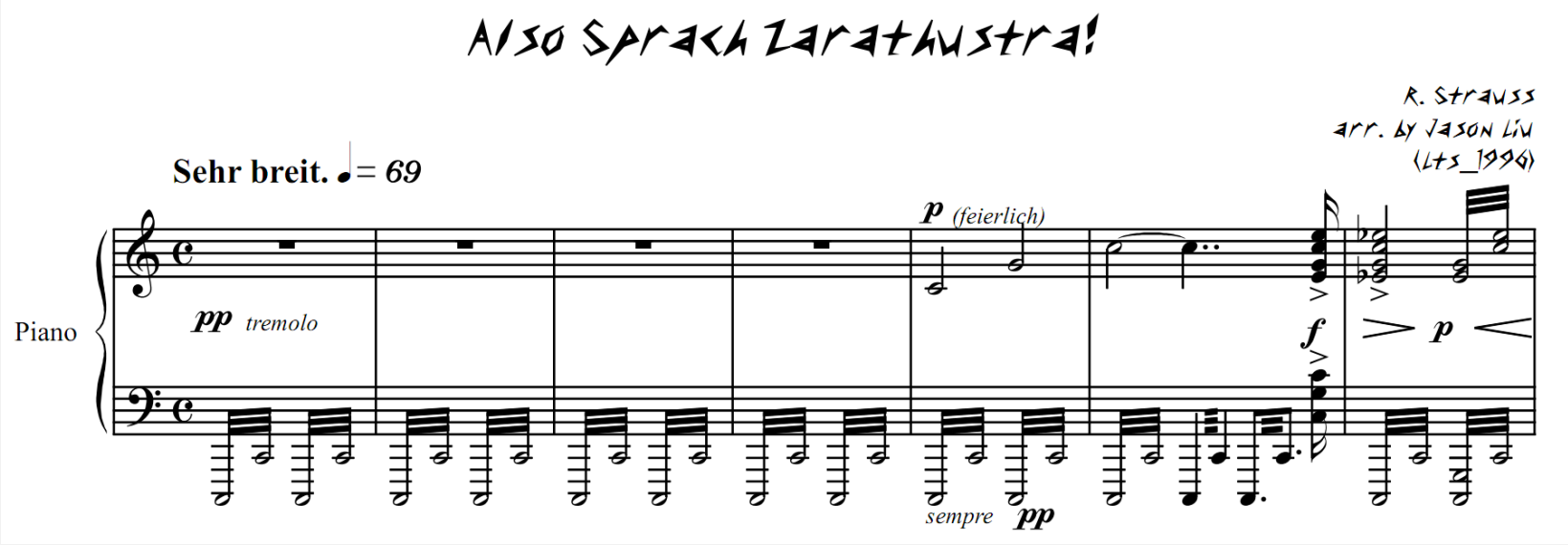


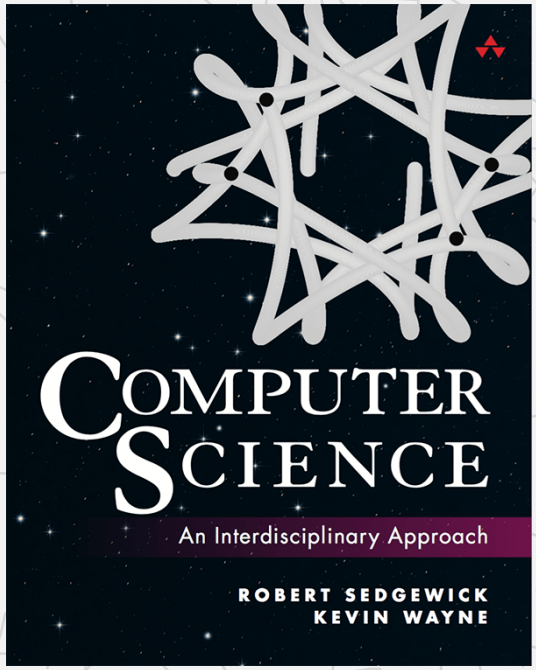
Q. How to test?

Standard audio

Step 4. Play music.

- Call StdAudio.play("2001.wav")
- Easy (but optional)





http://introcs.cs.princeton.edu

N-Body
Tips and Tricks

- *overview*
- *problem decomposition*
- *the physics*
- *bugs*
- *universes*

The simulation loop (the "big time loop")

Step 5. Simulate the universe. At each time step t :

A. Calculate the net force on each body

B. Update the velocities and positions

C. Draw the universe

Q. In which order should I implement these 3 sub-steps?

A. 5B, 5C, 5A because calculating forces is hardest

Q. Can I interleave steps 5A, 5B, and 5C?

A. No. Not only is it bad design, but it ruins the physics
(need position of all bodies at time t, not some at time $t + \Delta t$)

Hint. See BouncingBallDeluxe.java

Measuring time

Time loop. From $t = 0$ up to (but not including) T, incrementing by Δt

Hint. Easy, but also easy to get wrong. $\Rightarrow$ Test!

T = 23.0, Δt = 2.5

t = 0.0
t = 2.5
t = 5.0
t = 7.5
t = 10.0
t = 12.5
t = 15.0
t = 17.5
t = 20.0
t = 22.5

T = 25.0, Δt = 2.5

t = 0.0
t = 2.5
t = 5.0
t = 7.5
t = 10.0
t = 12.5
t = 15.0
t = 17.5
t = 20.0
t = 22.5

don't include 25.0

Updating the velocities and positions

Step 5B. [for now, forces and accelerations are 0]

- Update the velocity of each body: $v_x = v_x + a_x \, \Delta t, \;\; v_y = v_y + a_y \, \Delta t$
- Update the position of each body: $p_x = p_x + v_x \, \Delta t, \;\; p_y = p_y + v_y \, \Delta t$

Warning. Cut-and-paste errors are common

Q. How to test?

A. Artificial universe that is easy to check by hand

> java-introcs NBody 192 1 < 3body-zero-gravity.txt

```
3
5.12e+02
 1.9200e+02  1.9200e+02  1.0000e+00  1.0000e+00  1.0000e-30    earth.gif
 5.1200e+02  1.9200e+02  2.0000e+00  1.0000e+00  1.0000e-40    venus.gif
 1.9200e+02  5.1200e+02  1.0000e+00  2.0000e+00  1.0000e-50     mars.gif
```

Drawing the universe

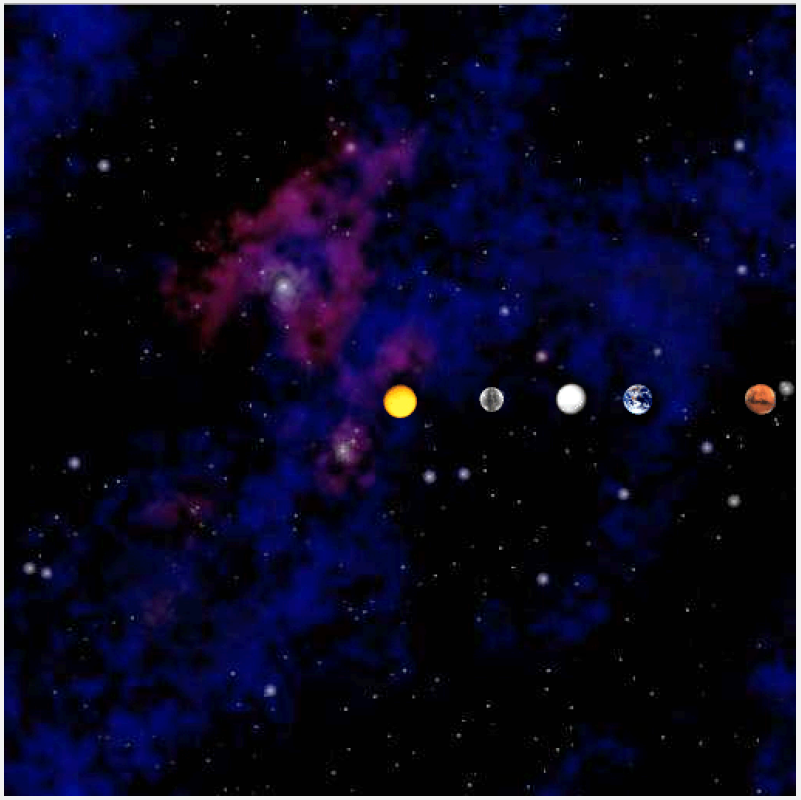
Step 5C.

- Draw background image
- Write loop to display n bodies
- Call StdDraw.show() to display results on screen
- Call StdDraw.pause(20) to control animation speed

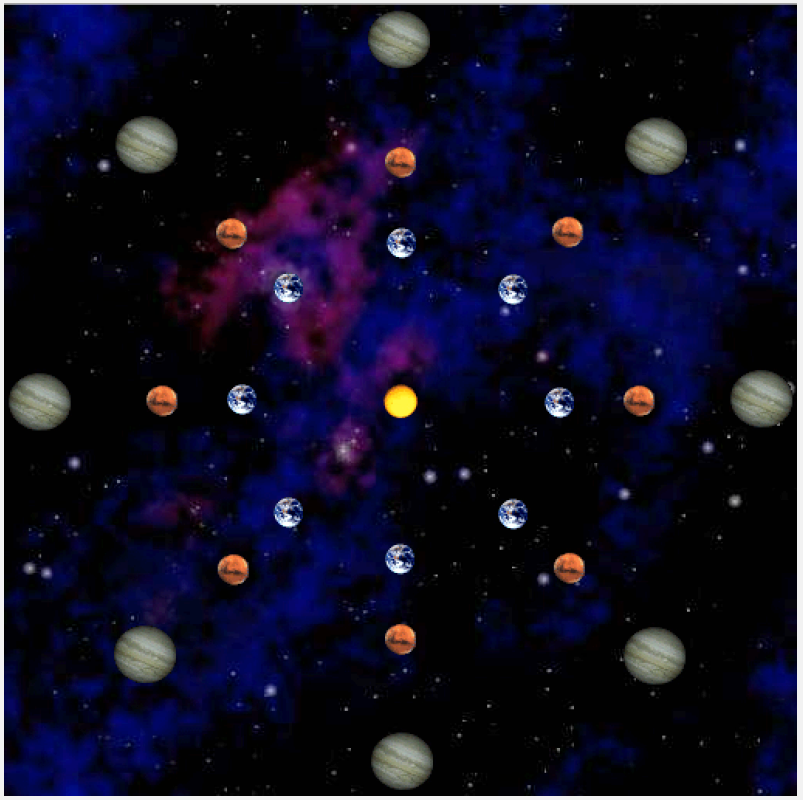
Drawing the universe

Step 5C.

- Draw background image
- Write loop to display n bodies
- Call StdDraw.show() to display results on screen
- Call StdDraw.pause(20) to control animation speed



planets.txt



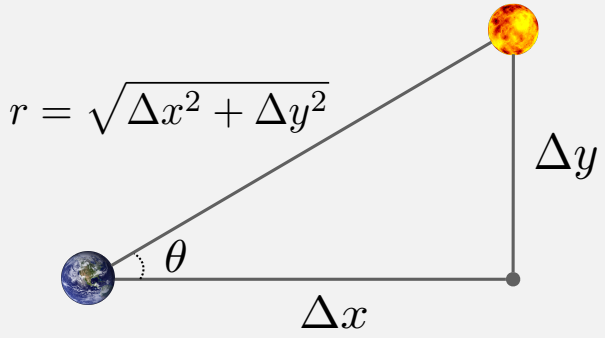
kaleidoscope.txt

Calculating the force (between two bodies at time t)

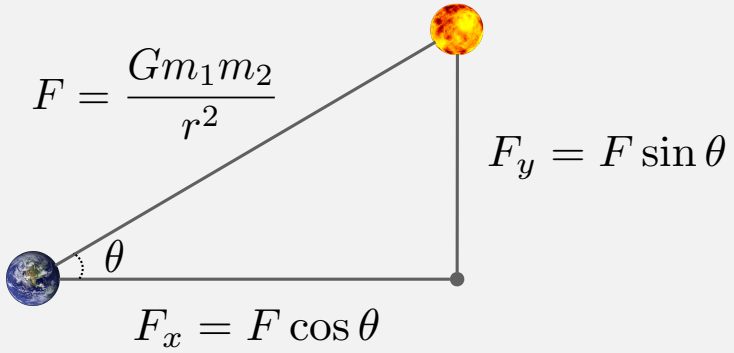
Step 5A.

- Apply Newton's law of gravity
- A bit of high-school trig (formulas provided)

distance between two bodies



force between two bodies



$$\cos\theta = \frac{\Delta x}{r}, \quad \sin\theta = \frac{\Delta y}{r}$$

Calculating the force (between all pairs of bodies at time t)

Principle of superposition. Add all pairwise forces.

$$\vec{F}_{earth} = \vec{F}_{mars \to earth} + \vec{F}_{mercury \to earth} + \vec{F}_{sun \to earth} + \vec{F}_{venus \to earth}$$

How to implement?

- Need two extra arrays fx[] and fy[]. Why?
- Need to examine all pairs of bodies, ala Distinct.java.

Warmup. Enumerate all pairs of bodies.

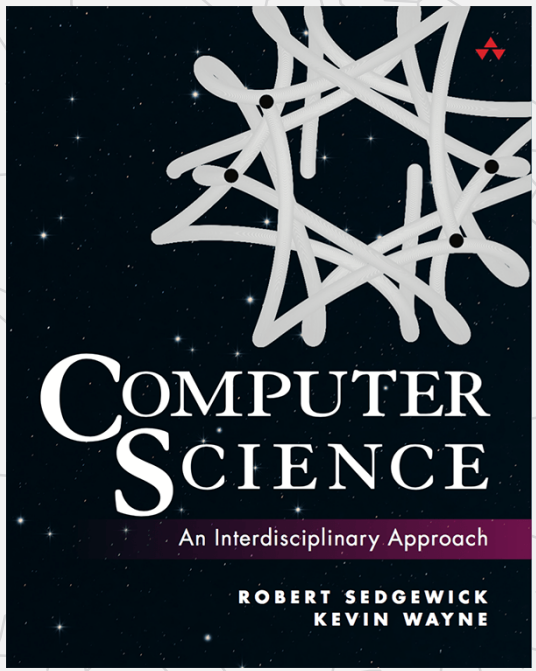
n = 5

0-1 0-2 0-3 0-4
1-0 1-2 1-3 1-4
2-0 2-1 2-3 2-4
3-0 3-1 3-2 3-4
4-0 4-1 4-2 4-3

n = 4

0-1 0-2 0-3
1-0 1-2 1-3
2-0 2-1 2-3
3-0 3-1 3-2

don't include 0–0, 1–1, 2–2, or 3–3



http://introcs.cs.princeton.edu

N-Body
Tips and Tricks

- *overview*
- *problem decomposition*
- *the physics*
- *bugs*
- *universes*

Advice - Keys to Becoming a Good Programmer

- Develop code incrementally; test after each step
- Test, test, test
- Take your time!
- Start early!
- Seek help if you get stuck
- Write outline of code (using comments) first; fill in code later

Command-line bug

> **java-introcs NBody 157788000.0 25000.0 > planets.txt**

<Ctrl-C>

> **java-introcs NBody 157788000.0 25000.0 < planets.txt**

Exception in thread "main" java.util.NoSuchElementException

at java.util.Scanner.throwFor(Scanner.java:907)

at java.util.Scanner.next(Scanner.java:1530)

at java.util.Scanner.nextInt(Scanner.java:2160)

at java.util.Scanner.nextInt(Scanner.java:2119)

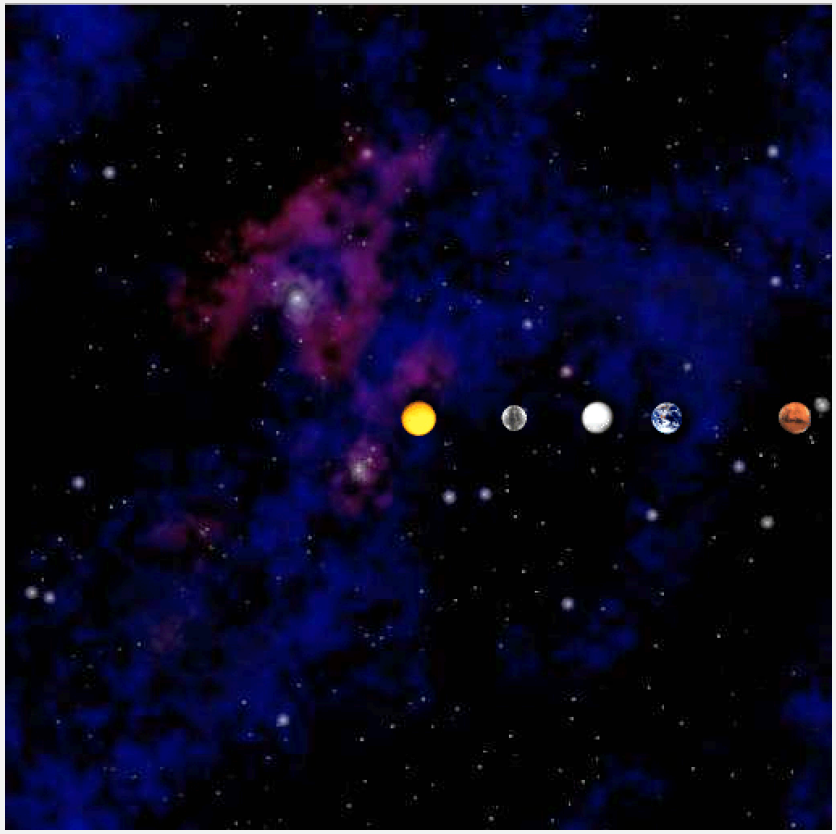
at StdIn.readInt(StdIn.java:319)

at NBody.main(NBody.java:54)

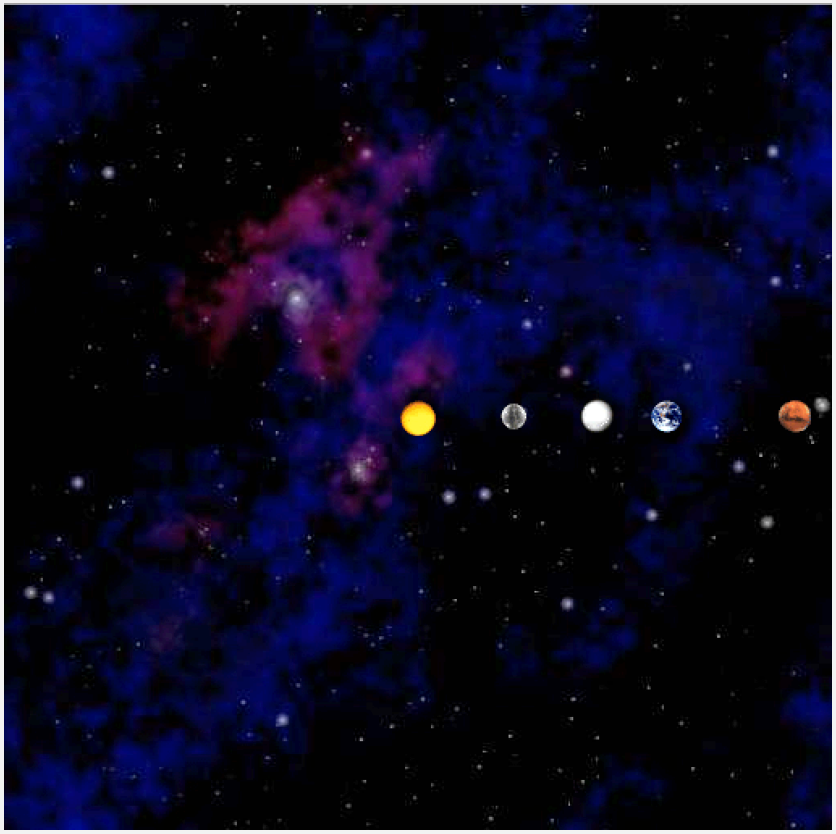
> **less planets.txt**

[it's empty - you erased it!]

Visual bugs

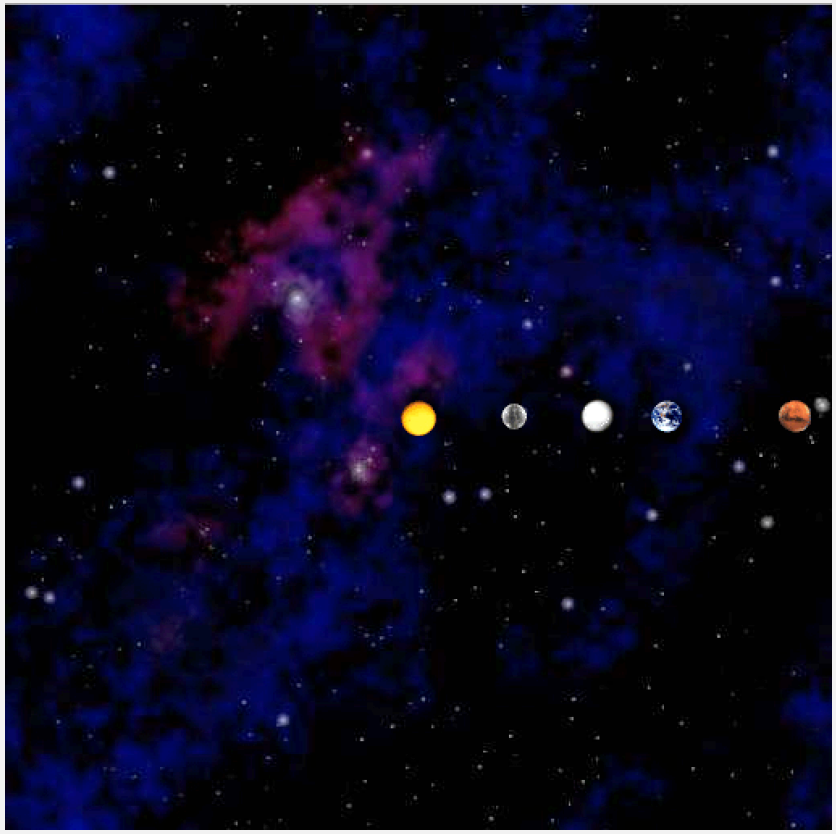


no motion

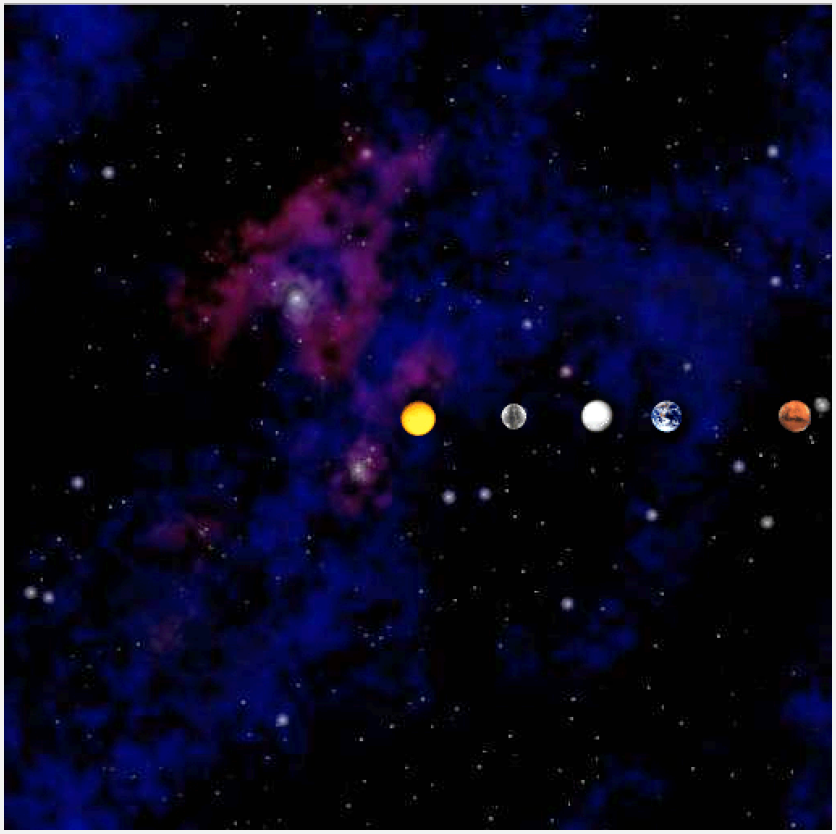


no gravity

Visual bugs

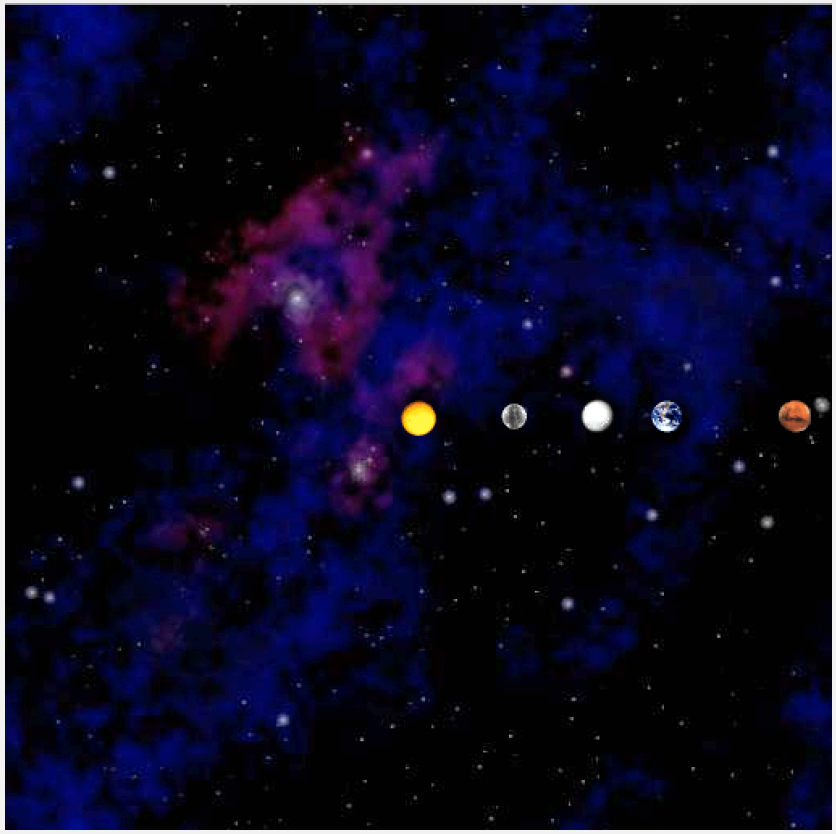


no double buffering

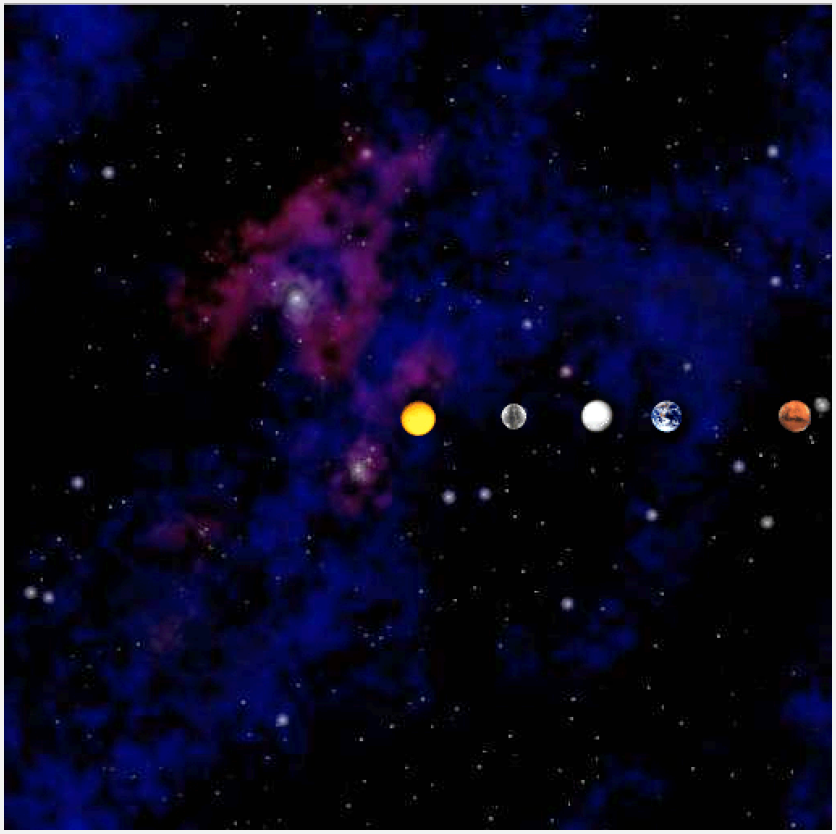


planets repel one another

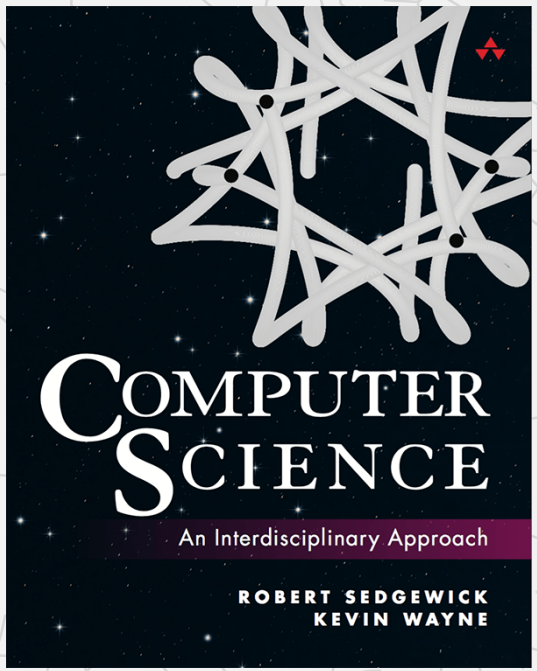
Visual bugs



wrong force loop



cut-and-paste error (x vs. y)

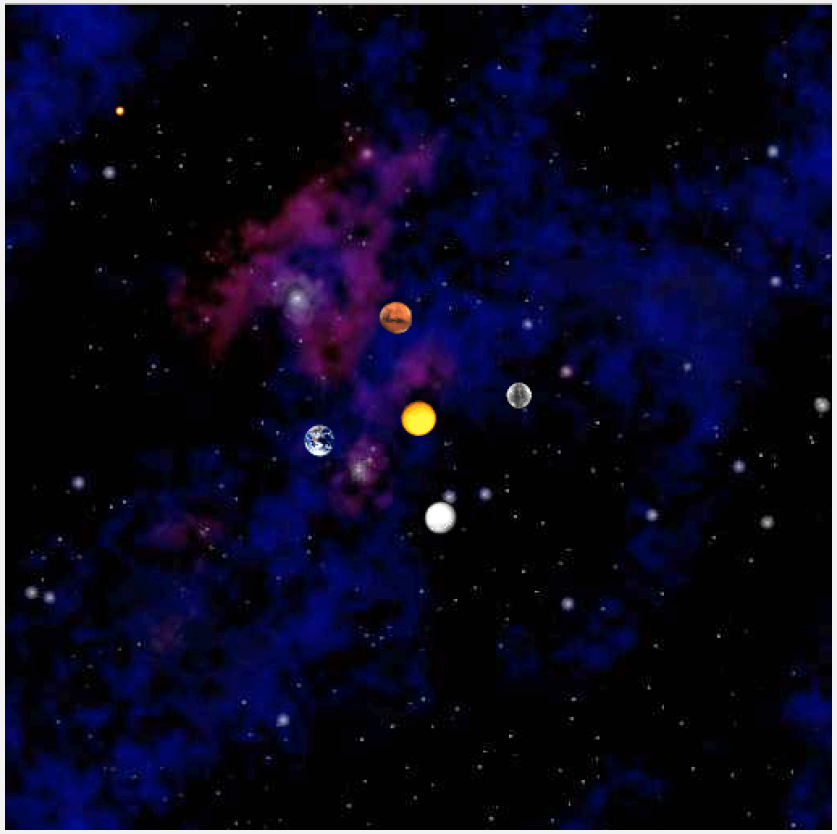


http://introcs.cs.princeton.edu

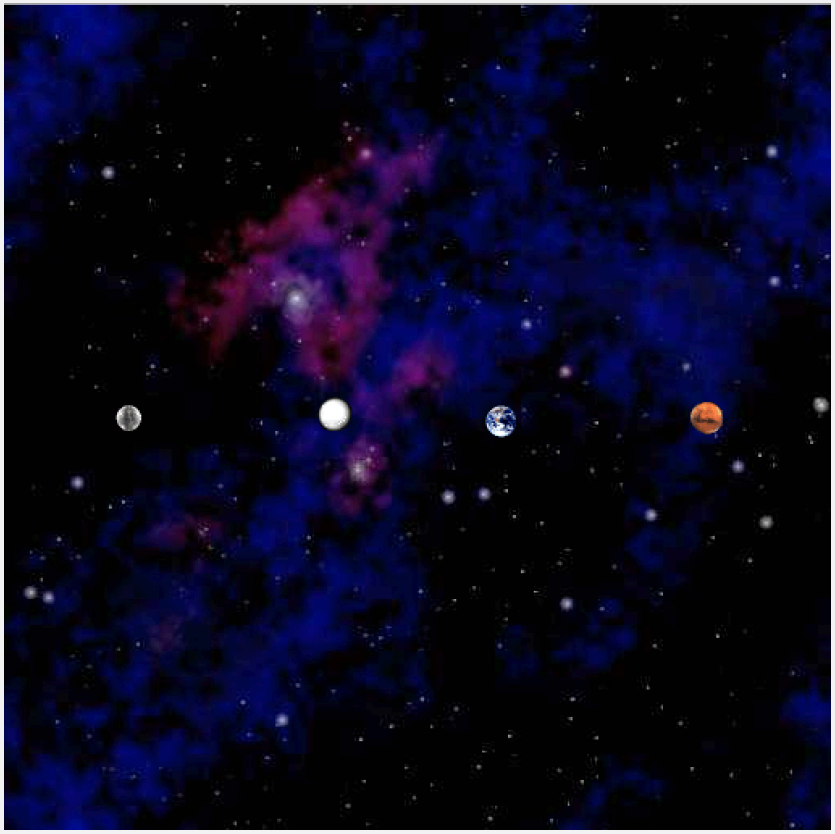
N-Body
Tips and Tricks

- *overview*
- *problem decomposition*
- *the physics*
- *bugs*
- *universes*

Other universes

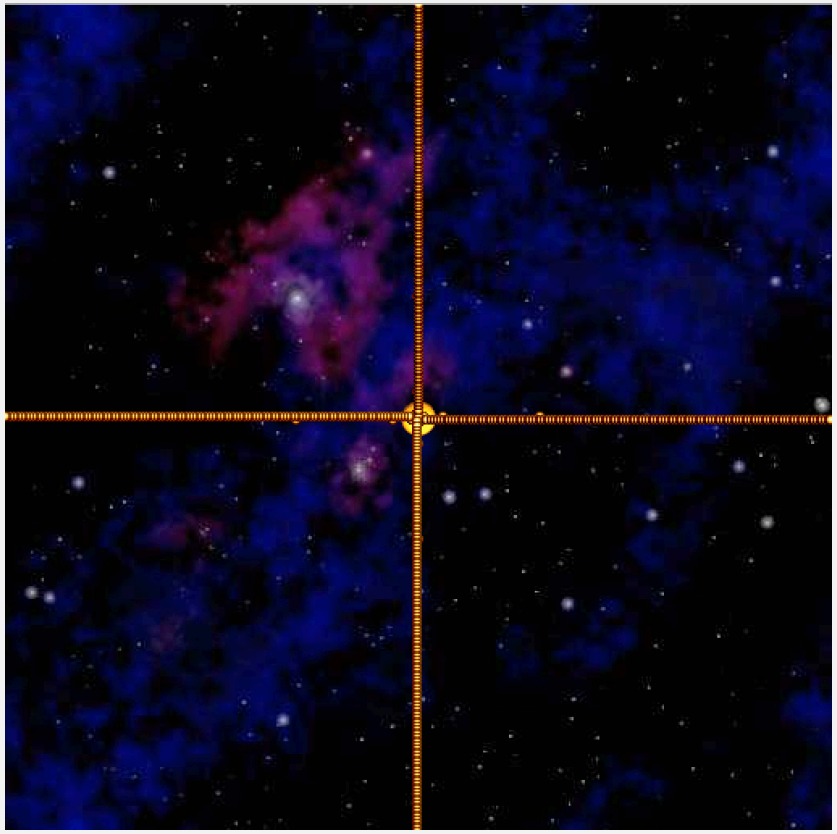


planetsparty.txt
(created by Mary Fan)

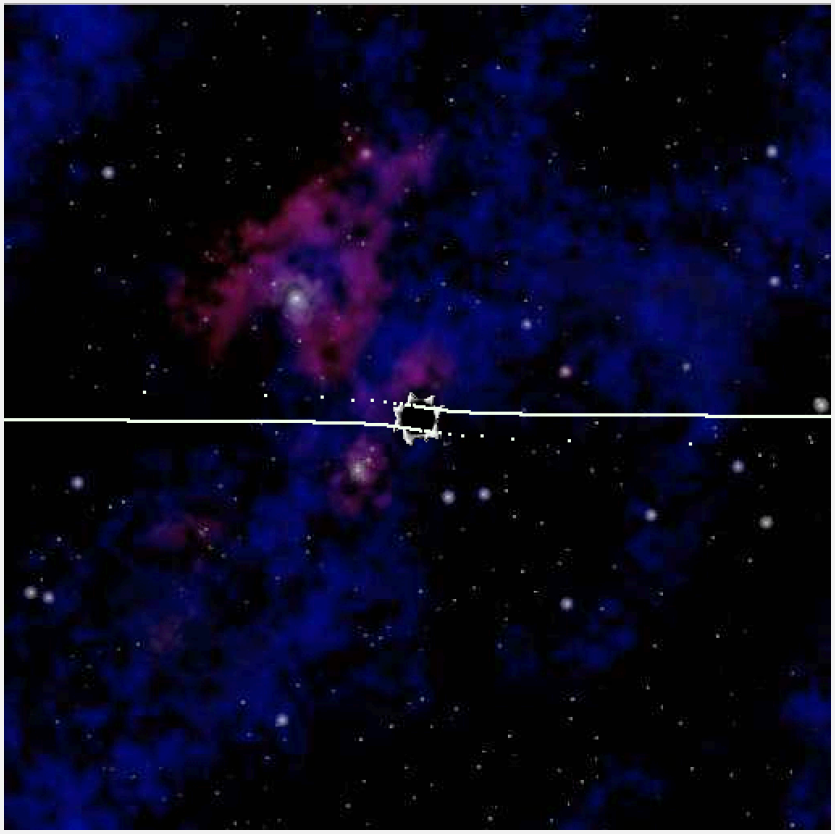


twinbinaries.txt
(David Costanzo)

Other universes



chaosblossum.txt
(created by Erik Keselica)



galaxy.txt
(created by Matt Tilghman)