

# The Ada Lovelace Bicentenary Lectures on Computability, December 2015 – January 2016

[Susan Stepney](#) (York University)

## *When Does a Slime Mould Compute?*

Wednesday, 20 January, 11:00-12:30

Some people are using billiard balls, chemicals, bacteria, slime moulds, soap films, spaghetti, even black holes, as computers (although some of these only in theory yet). But what does it mean for such unconventional substrates to compute? I will introduce our framework for physical computing, give requirements for physical system to be used as a computer, and show how some unconventional substrates are indeed computing, and how others are not.



Watch the video

