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Data Flux

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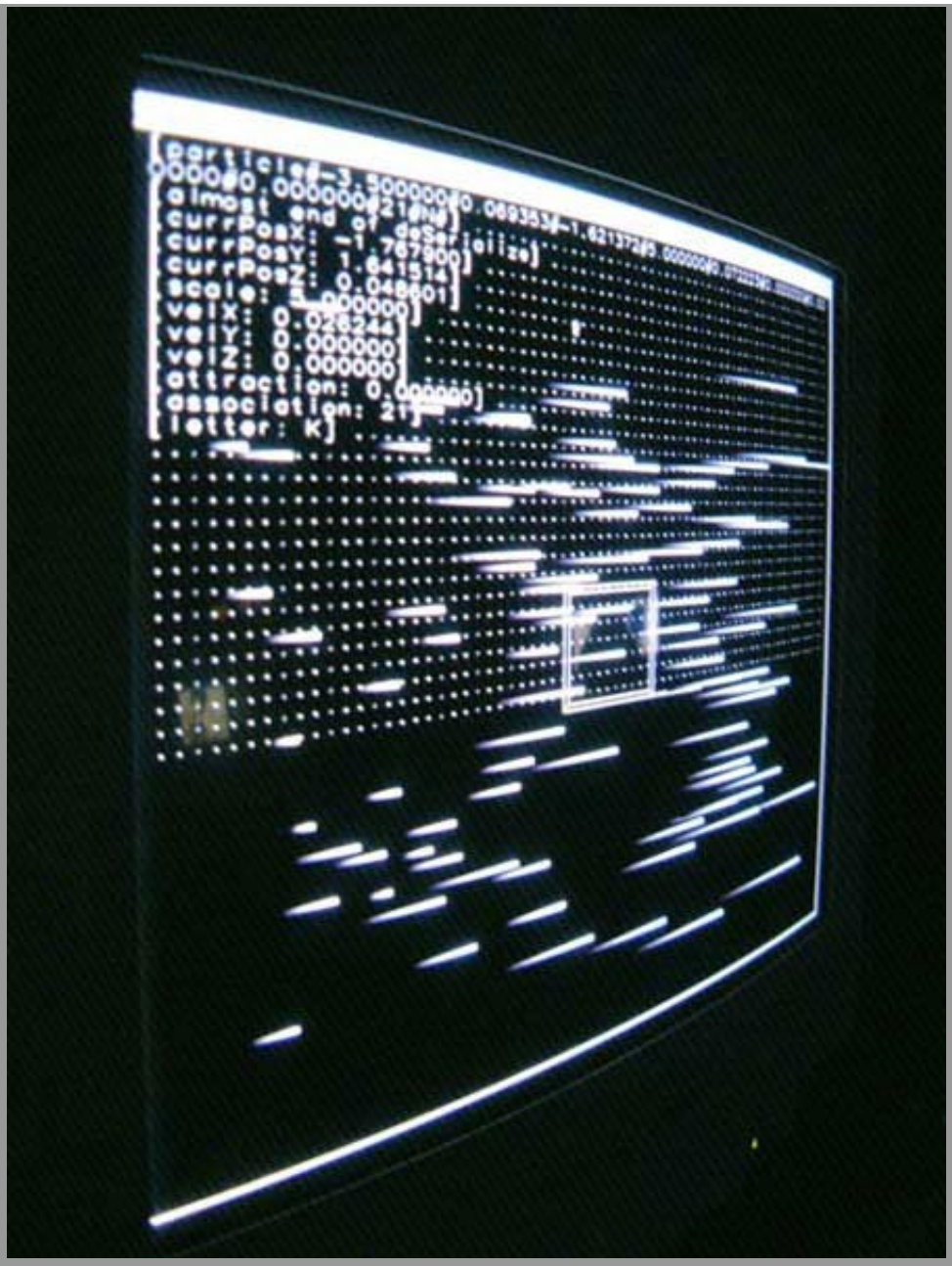
Stephan Hechenberger on Mar 27 2003 **Digital Insights**

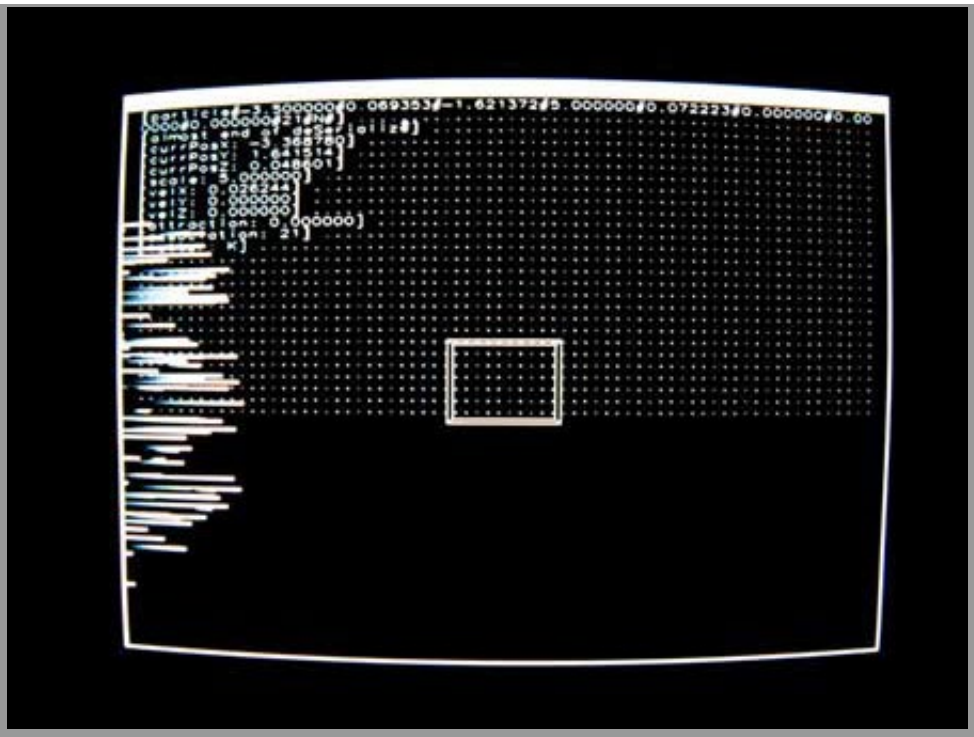
A project by Stephan Hechenberger

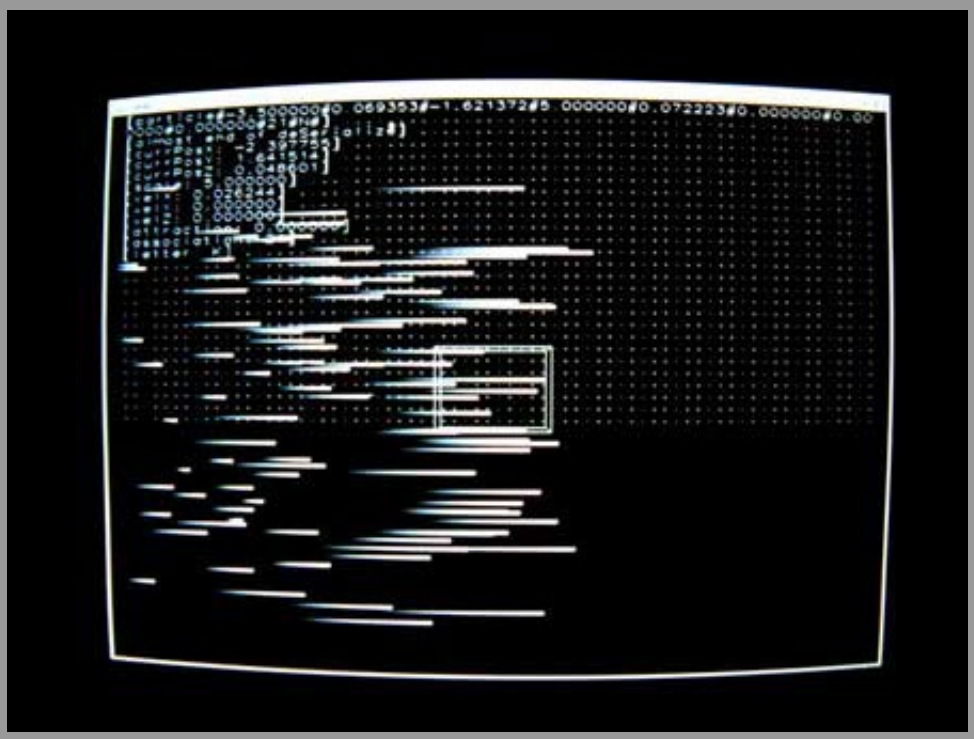
In the course of a one semester lecture at the CADRE Laboratory for New Media the data_Flux_project has been realized. Its purpose is to seize the principles of networked systems and visualize date as it occurs as network traffic.

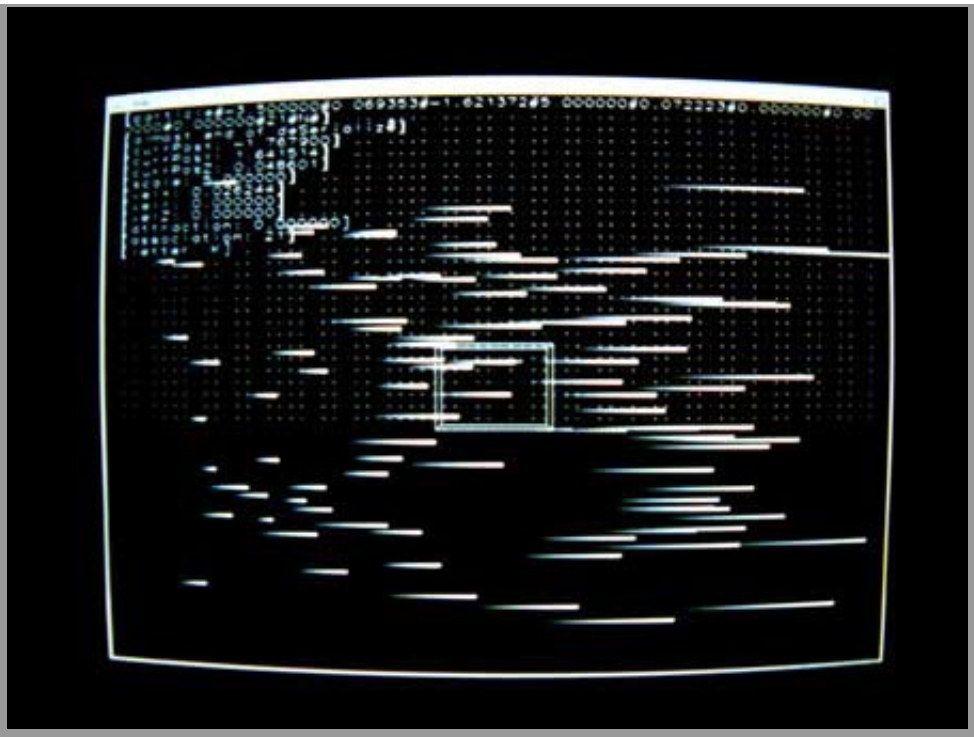
The data_flux project implements a linear data processing route which resembles ways through the internet as they often emerge out of the otherwise net-like topology. This happens because major service providers first collect all the data packages of a certain area, send them over their backbone and redistribute them in another area. In that sense the implementation comprises several computers (nodes) which are connected in a linear fashion. Each node has a limited influence on a dataflow which streams through the whole network model. That influence determines how and when a particle in the stream is sent to the next node.



The stream itself is visualized as particles moving from one side of the screen to the other side so that the impression of a continuous flow through all the nodes arises. The data flow and not the network topology or the single nodes are in the center of interest. Watching data from this vantage point an observer will be challenged to emerge insights in the nature of data and its independent behavior. It is yet another step away from the notion that data is the pixels on your screen.







Download movie for the project 8,406Kb

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