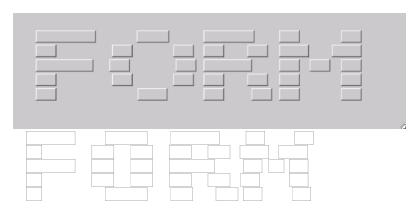
11/18/2019 127.0.0.1:8080

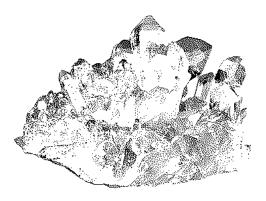
The



as a Site of Ideology



When software is written, a set of ideas and rules are laboriously encoded into digital memory, where they can be enforced and replicated. The result is a computer program; a material artifact representing the ideology of its creation.



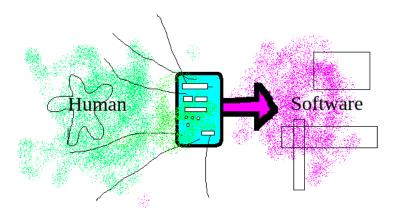
The opaque and layered nature of computer systems accumulate embedded ideologies which evade direct perception by both their users and their creators. At the same time, this software presents itself as an objective and impartial.

Computer programs encode a set of assumptions which form a model of reality. This model does *not* include a concept of what lies outside of it's understanding. A computer perceives itself as an exaustive and self-consistent world. In coding, "I/O" or "input/output", are explit the locations of interchange between that inner world, and the broader universe.

Forms are one such site of interface between the realm of the human and the realm of software. They act as a gateway where humans may enter into the software systems.

127.0.0.1:8080

11/18/2019 127.0.0.1:8080



This point of exchange creates a point of tension between the rules of the software system and the messy reality of a human subject. This makes the **form** an ideal place to investigate the reification of ideology through software.

"Free form" data is not accessible to computer systems - they crave strickly regimented fields and values. In order to enter through a form and be transformed into a legible digital artifact, humans shape themselves to fit the constraints of the form. This process is necessarily destructive and homogenizing.

Filling out a form with your name and information means becoming a piece of data on the terms of the programmer, as the cost interacting with the system.

By design, the power of the form comes from these fields being constricting, limiting, and legible to the machine.

┌─Title ──																				
• •	1411310	er																		
Name: *																				
Country *	USA					▼														
E-mail: *																				
Tick ALL	boxes t	o cor	isent	t:																
Submit	Submit	Su	bmit	: S	Submi		Subn	nit	Sul	omit	5	Subm	nit	Su	bmit					

Form Anxiety

The form is a machine to say "no".

The form acts not just as a lens, but also as a filter and barrier. It is a gate which rejects applicants according to potentially invisible rules and logics of validity.

Forms are traditionally positioned at points of access to institutional resources. Callous computer systems make for desireable guards, and lend their aura of impartiality to broader systems of exclusion.

Healthcare, education, national borders -- these systems have become psycologically defined by their imposing and emotionally demanding intake forms.

The ideological position of a software system cannot be separated from the larger systems of power and motivations they live within.

Full Name *

First Name Last Name

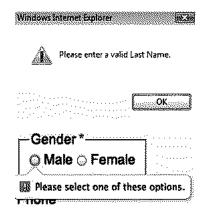
Tribs folic in required.

127.0.0.1:8080

11/18/2019 127.0.0.1:8080

Current Symptoms (Check All That	Apply)	
☐ Anxiety	Fatigue	Loss of Interest
☐ Appetite Issues	☐ Guilt	Panic Attacks
Avoidance	Hallucinations	Racing Thoughts
☐ Crying Spells	Impulsivity	Risky Activity
Depression	Irritability	Sleep Changes
☐ Excessive Energy	Libido Changes	Suspiciousness
I love you. (Type it back)		
Who raised you? (max 30 characters)		

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree
I want to see it grow up healthy		0
I want to tell my friends and neighbors about it		: (
I love having a new street tree	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
I will protect it		

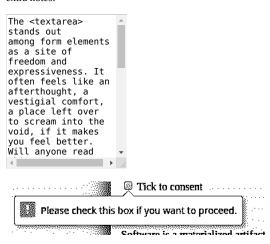


dropdown The <select> element defines a drop-down list:

- CATEGORICAL VIOLENCE
 borders / country of origin
 name inputs, invalid names
 address as a requirement for personhood
 gender selector

127.0.0.1:8080 3/4 11/18/2019 127.0.0.1:8080

extra notes:



The Dissolving Form

Computers reproduces ideology in powerful and subtle ways. Software obscures intention and evades critical attention through the appearance of neutralilty.

Forms are gateway for humans to engage with and submit to ideology. Surface area between the realm of software and human is increasing over time to become larger, more porous, and more diffuse. The borders of the cybernetic world are dissolving to become less visible.

As the interface envelopes us, it is becoming harder to identify the focal points of tension and to trace the lines of digital control. Infinite digital ideology encoded into ubiquitous contact, a constant state of submission.



127.0.0.1:8080 4/4