

**BACK TO THE FUTURE?**

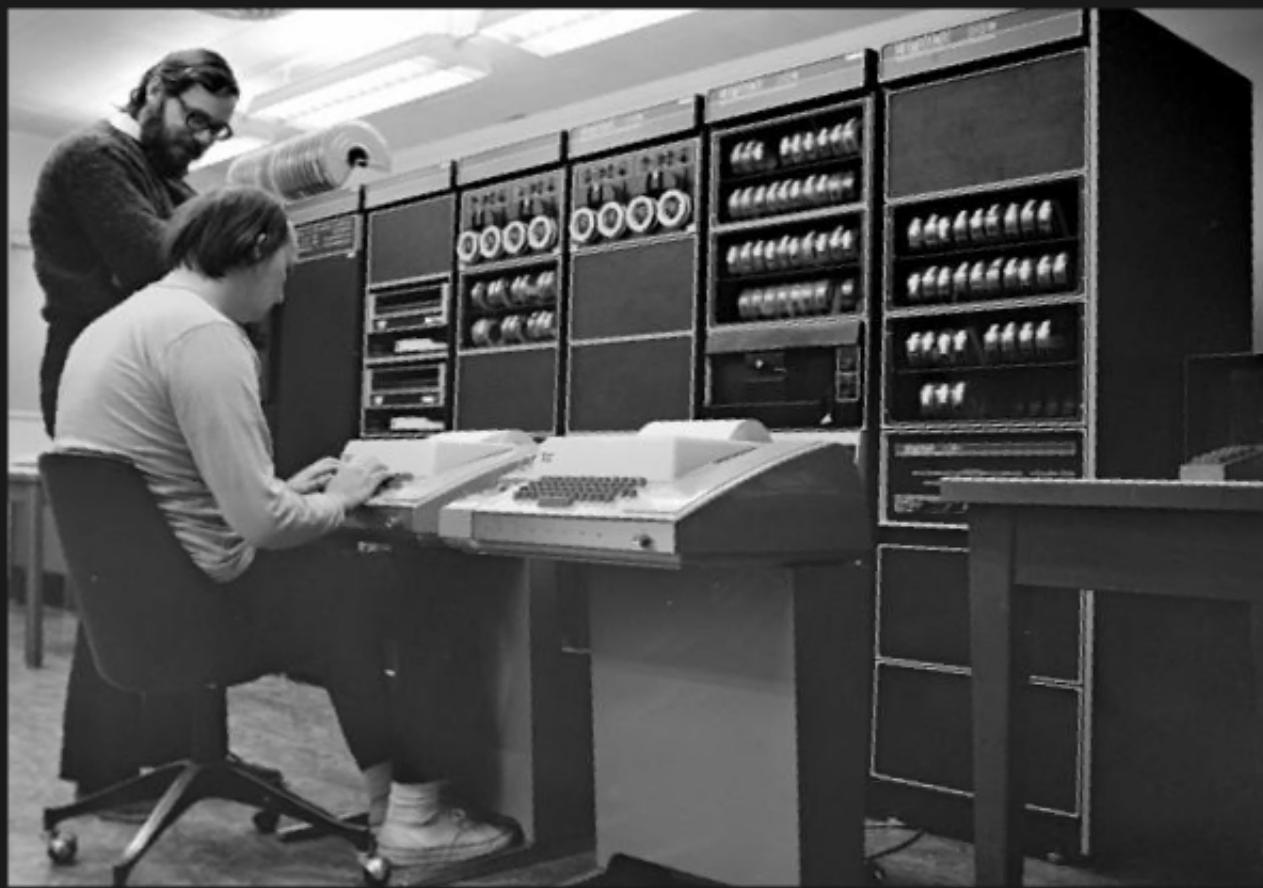
~1970



Bell Laboratories



AT&T Archives: The UNIX Operating System (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tc4ROCJYbm0>)



2013

**UNIX**®

*Celebrating 40 years uptime*

<http://www.unix.org/>

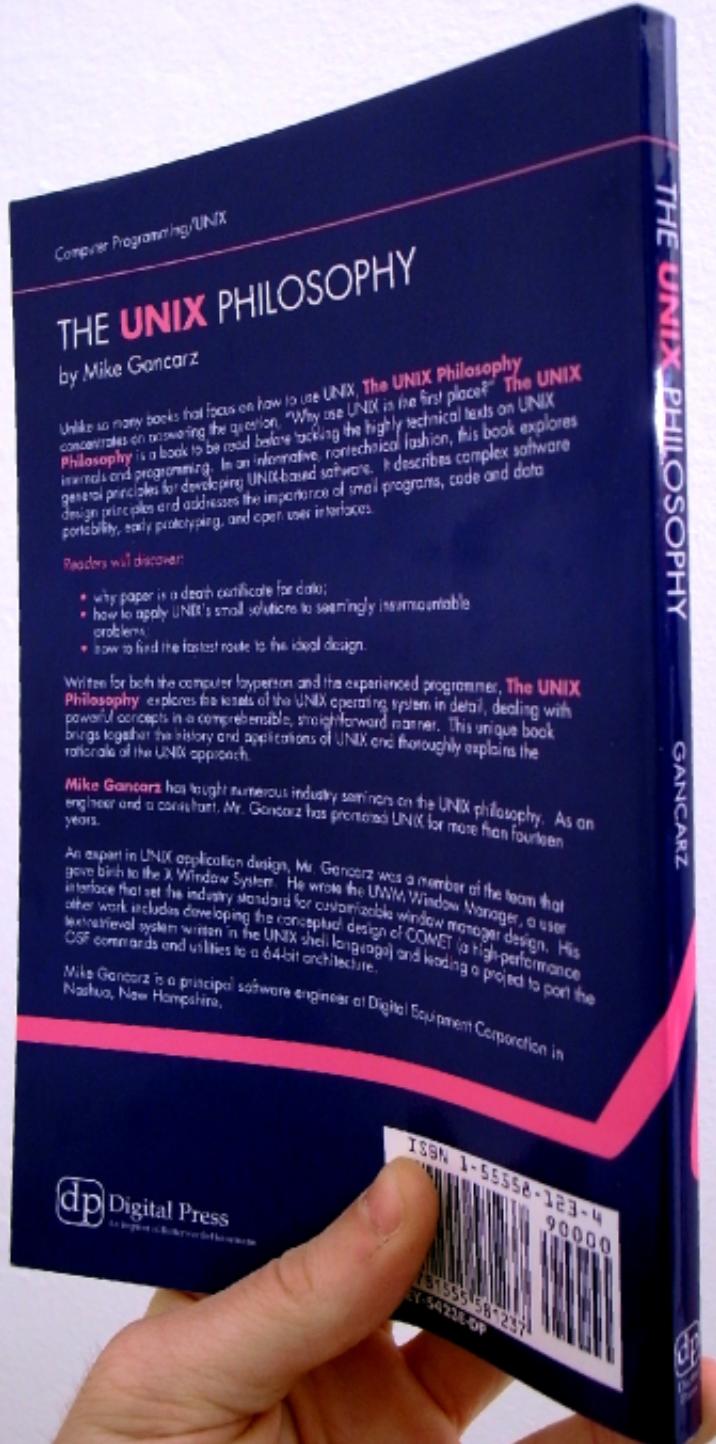
1983

**GNU's Not Unix!**

2007

MIKE GANCARZ

# THE UNIX PHILOSOPHY



 Digital Press  
An imprint of Addison Wesley Longman

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THE UNIX PHILOSOPHY  
GANCARZ

**What?**

**Small is beautiful.**

**Make each program do one thing well.**

**Build a prototype as soon as possible.**

**Choose portability over efficiency.**

**Store numerical data in flat ASCII files.**

**Use software leverage to your advantage.**

**Use shell scripts to increase leverage and portability.**

**Avoid captive user interfaces.**

**Make every program a filter.**

# **Small is beautiful.**

Small programs are easy to understand.

Small programs are easy to maintain.

Small programs consume fewer system resources.

Small programs are easier to combine with other tools.

# **Make each program do one thing well.**

The best program does no more but one task in its life and does it well.

The program is loaded into memory,  
accomplishes its function,  
and then gets out of the way to allow  
the next single-minded program to begin.

# **Build a prototype as soon as possible.**

Prototyping is a learning process.

Early prototyping reduces risk.

# **Choose portability over efficiency.**

Next ...'s hardware will run faster.

Don't spend too much time  
making a program run faster.

The most efficient way is rarely portable.

Good programs never die – they are ported  
to new hardware platforms.

## **Store numerical data in flat ASCII files.**

ASCII text is a common interchange format.

ASCII text is easily read and edited.

ASCII data files simplify the use of Unix text tools.

Increased portability overcomes the lack of speed  
(of flat ASCII text files...)

The lack of speed is overcome by next year's machine.

# **Use software leverage to your advantage.**

Good programmers write good code;  
great programmers "borrow" good code.

Avoid the not-invented-here syndrome.

Allow other people to use your code  
to leverage their own work.

Automate everything.

## **Use shell scripts to increase leverage and portability.**

Shell scripts give you awesome leverage.

Shell scripts leverage your time, too.

Shell scripts are more portable than C.

Resist the desire to rewrite shell scripts in C.

# **Avoid captive user interfaces.**

*CUIs* assume that the user is human.

*CUI* command parsers are often big and ugly to write.

*CUIs* tend to adopt a "big is beautiful" approach.

Programs having *CUIs* are hard to combine  
with other programs.

*CUIs* do not scale well.

*CUIs* do not take advantage of software leverage.

# **Make every program a filter.**

Every program written  
since the dawn of computing is a filter.

Programs do not create data – people do.

Computers convert data from one form to another.

Use `stdin` for data input.

Use `stdout` for data output.

Use `stderr` for out-of-band information.

## Ten Lesser Tenets

- Allow the User to tailor the environment.
- Make operating system kernels small and lightweight.
- Use lower case and keep it short.
- Save Trees.
- Silence is golden.
- Think parallel.
- The sum of the parts is greater than the whole.
- Look for the 90 percent solution.
- Worse is better.
- Think hierarchically.

Small programs are easier to combine with other tools.  
ASCII text is a common interchange format.

    ASCII text is easily read and edited.

    ASCII data files simplify the use of Unix text tools.

    Shell scripts give you awesome leverage.

        Automate everything.

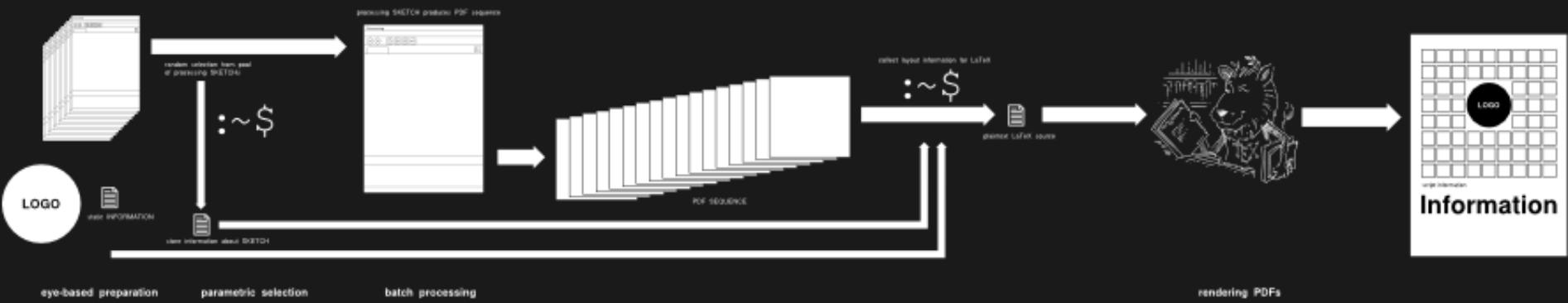
    CUIs do not take advantage of software leverage.

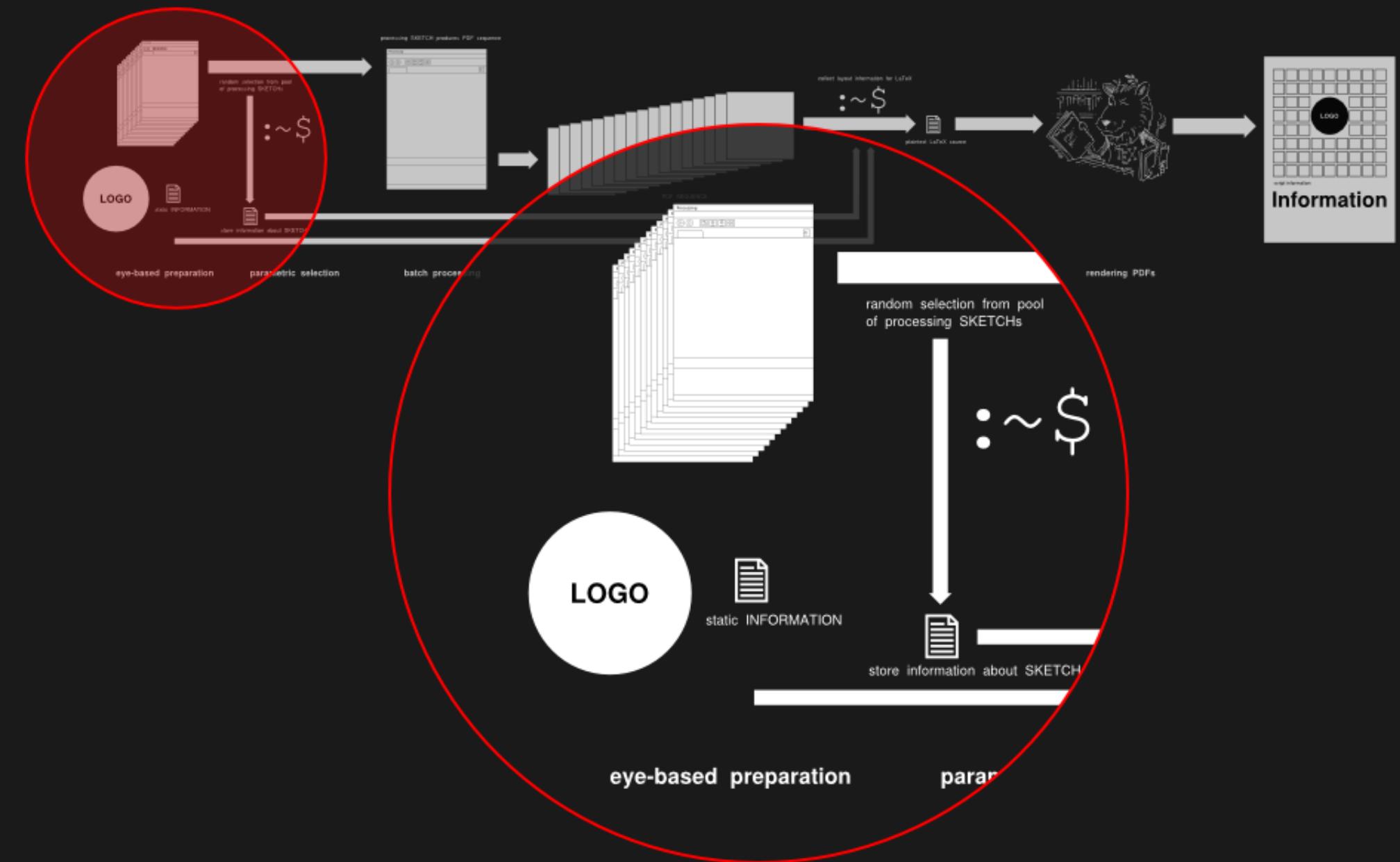
Don't spend too much time making a program run faster.

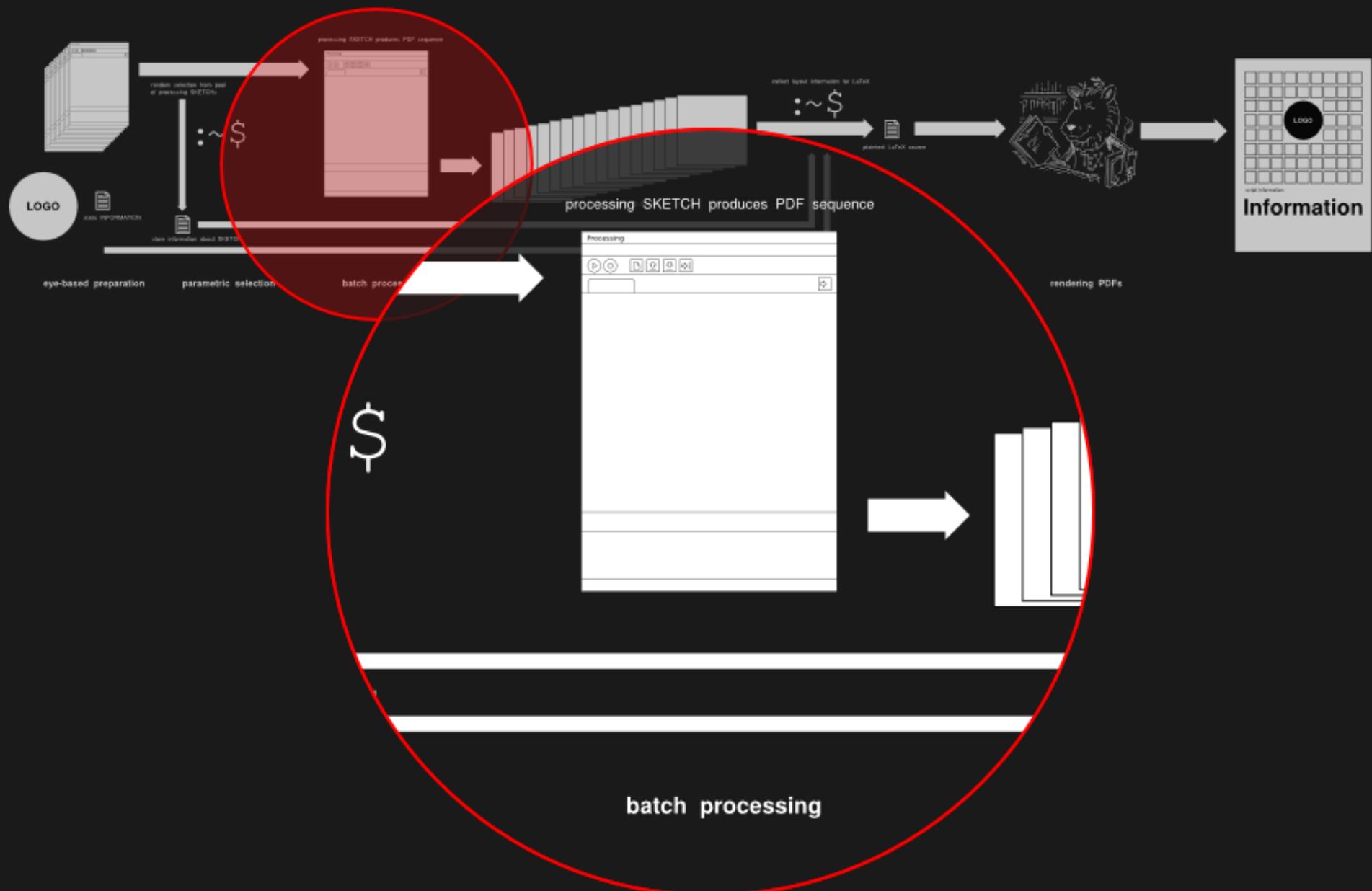
    Avoid the not-invented-here syndrome.

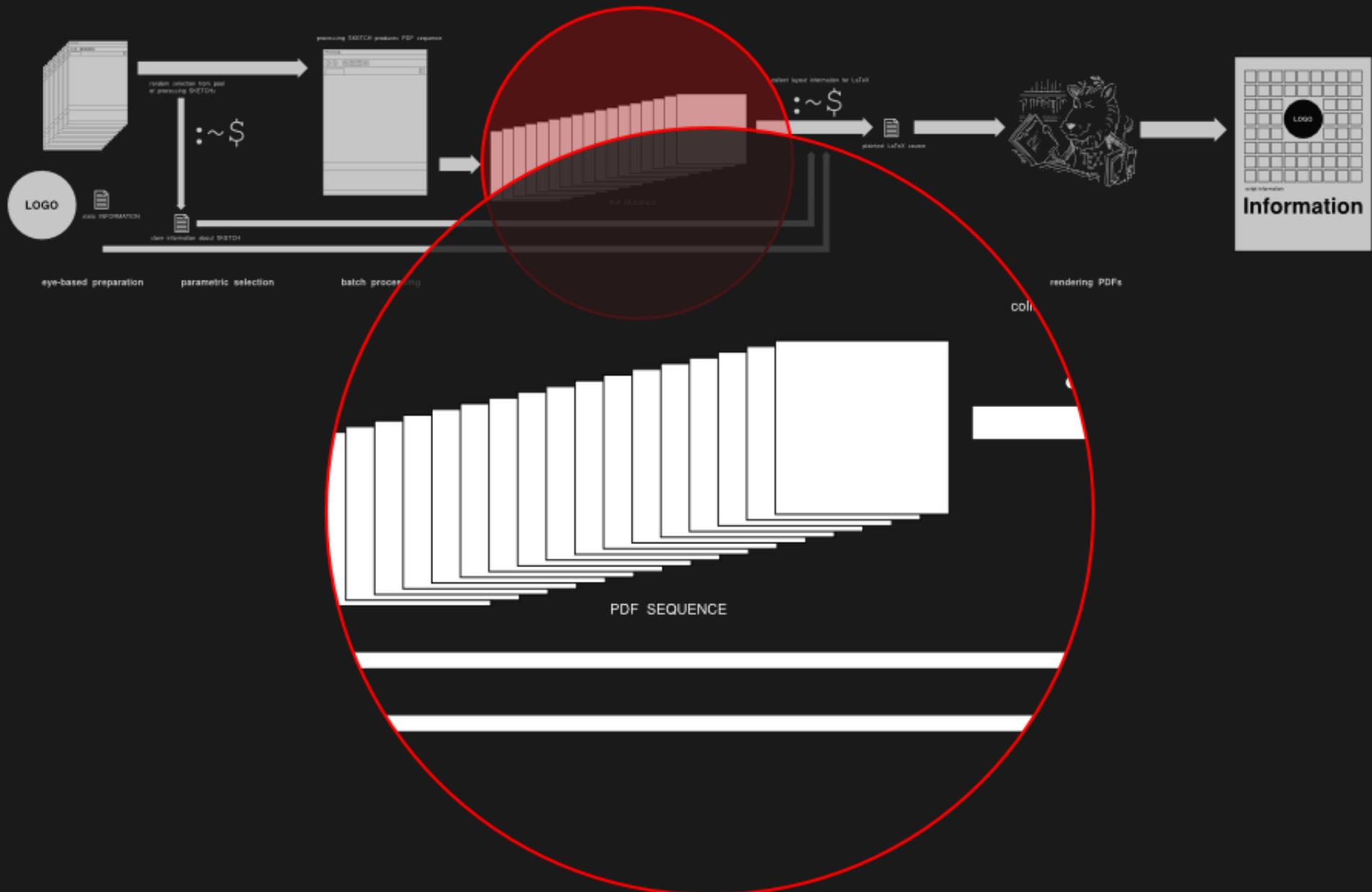
make art 2009

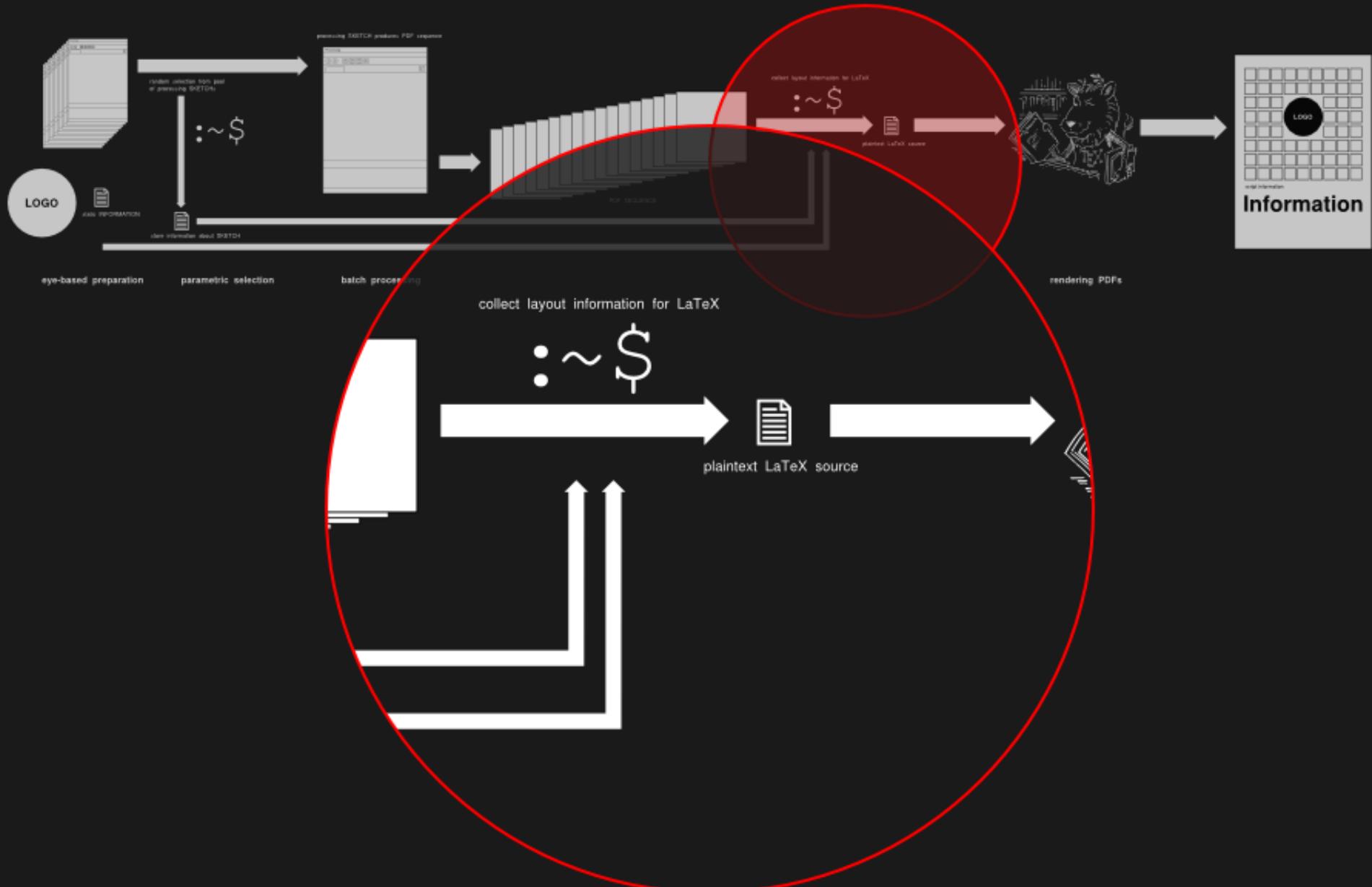
# **What the Fork?!**

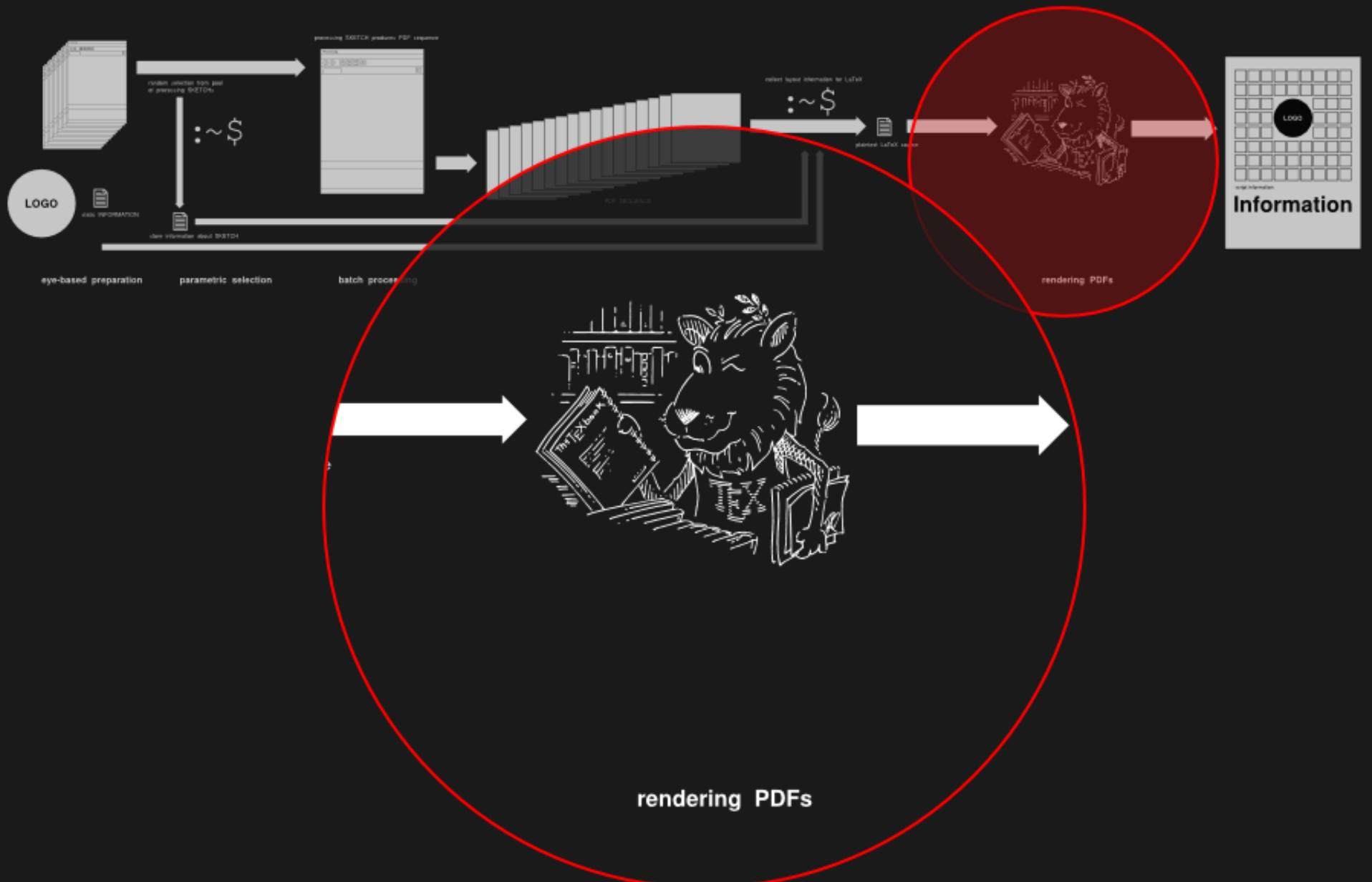


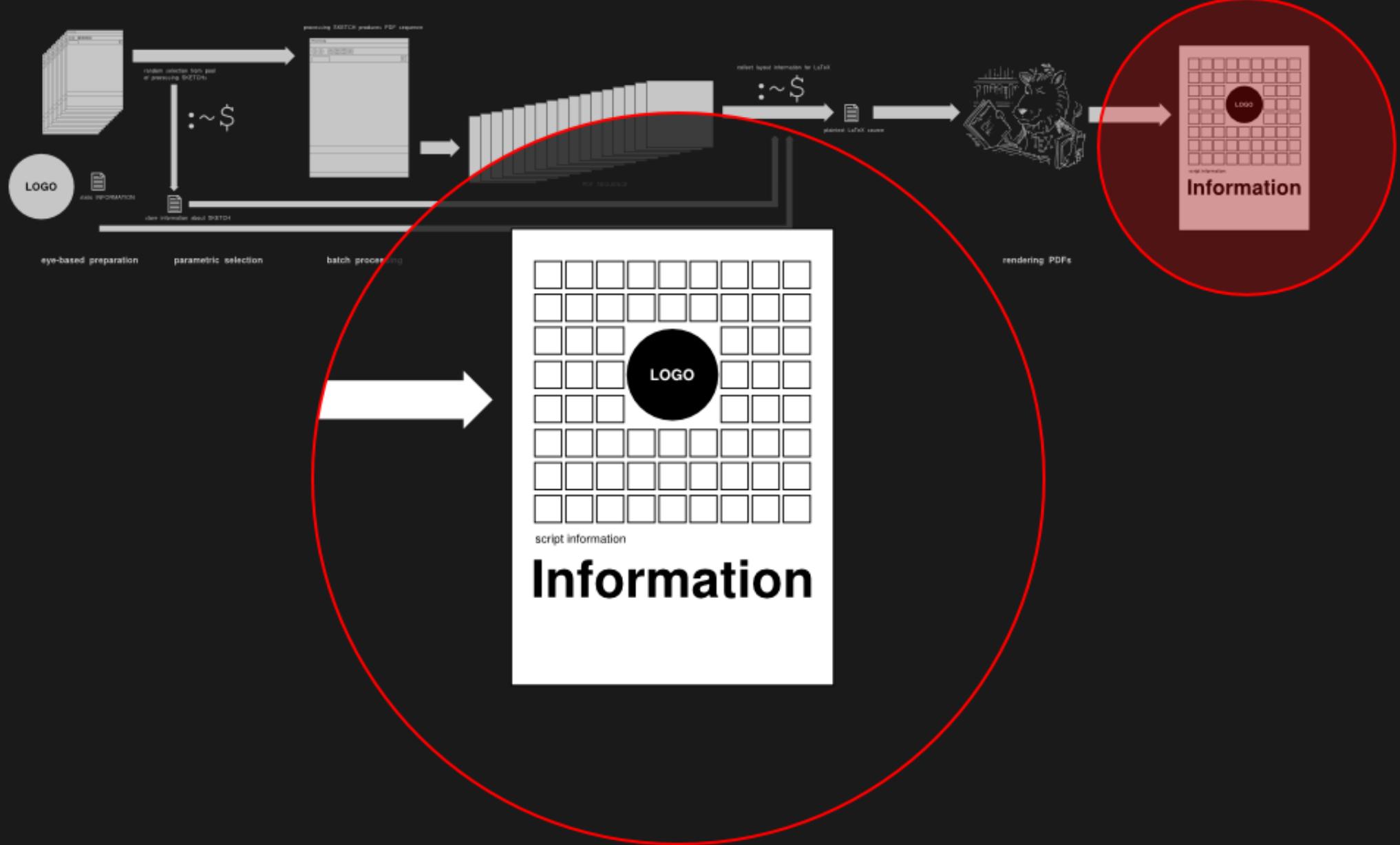










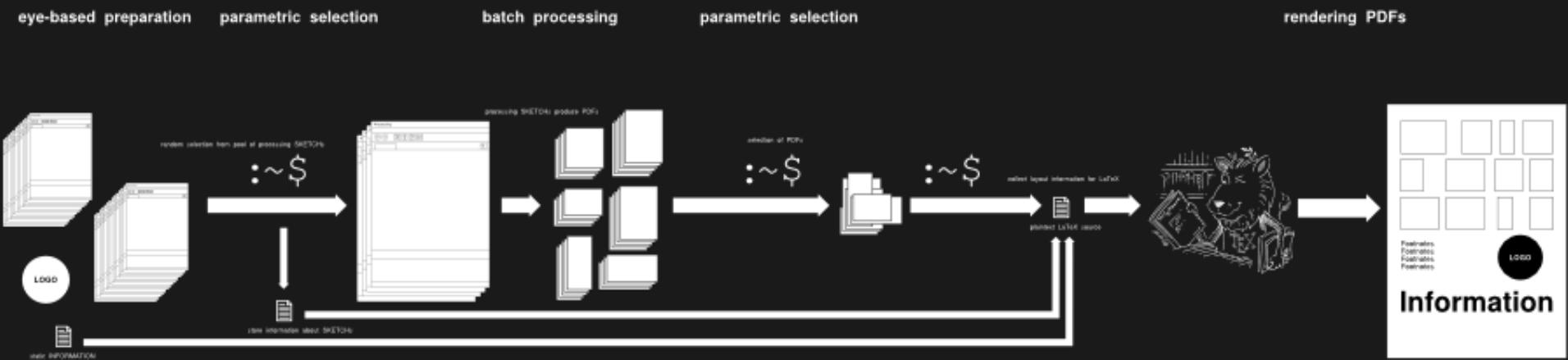


<http://makeart.goto10.org/2009/>

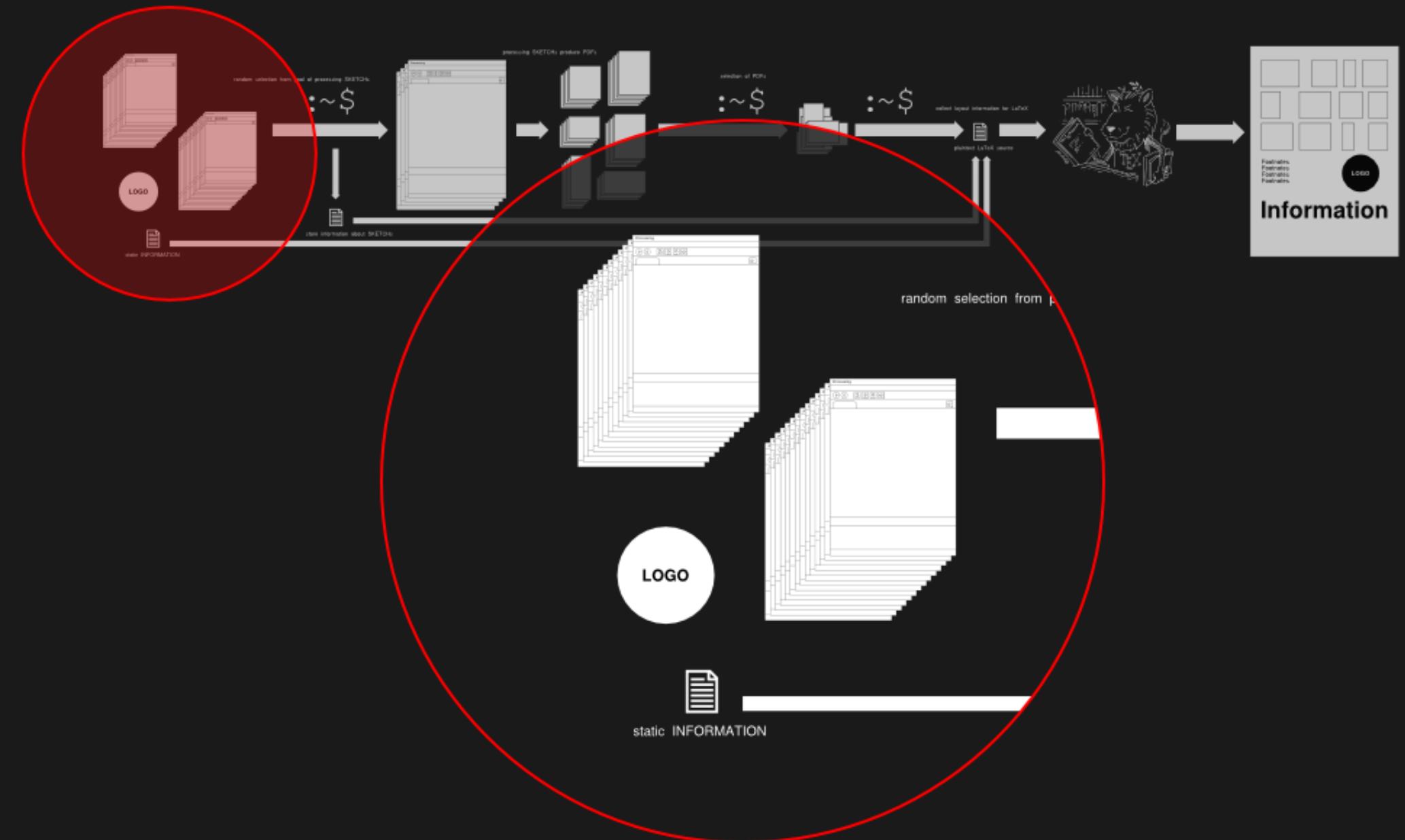
<http://www.forkable.eu/generators/wtf>

~~make art~~ 2010

**chmod +x**



eye-based preparation    parametric selection    batch processing    parametric selection    rendering PDFs



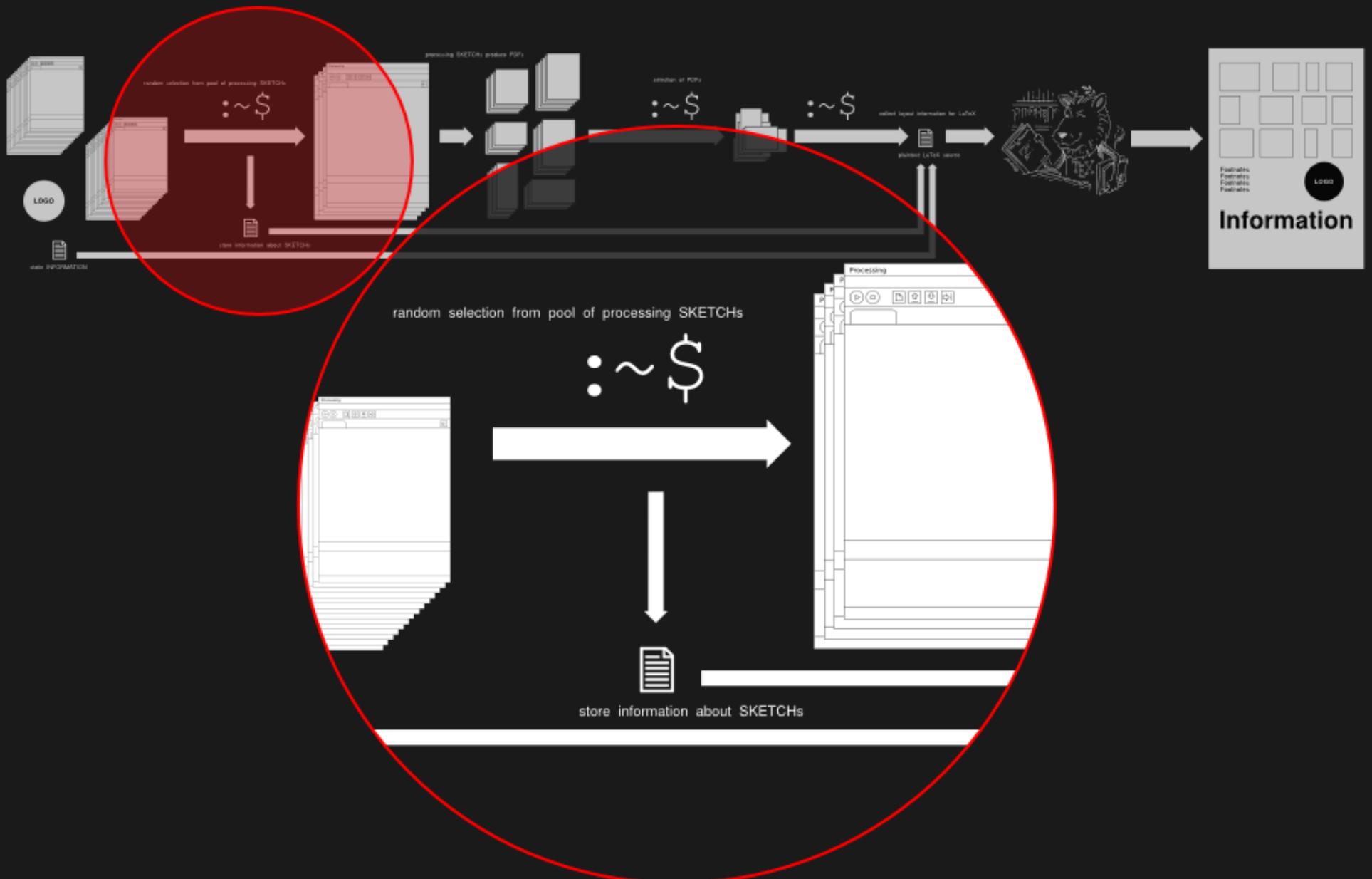
eye-based preparation

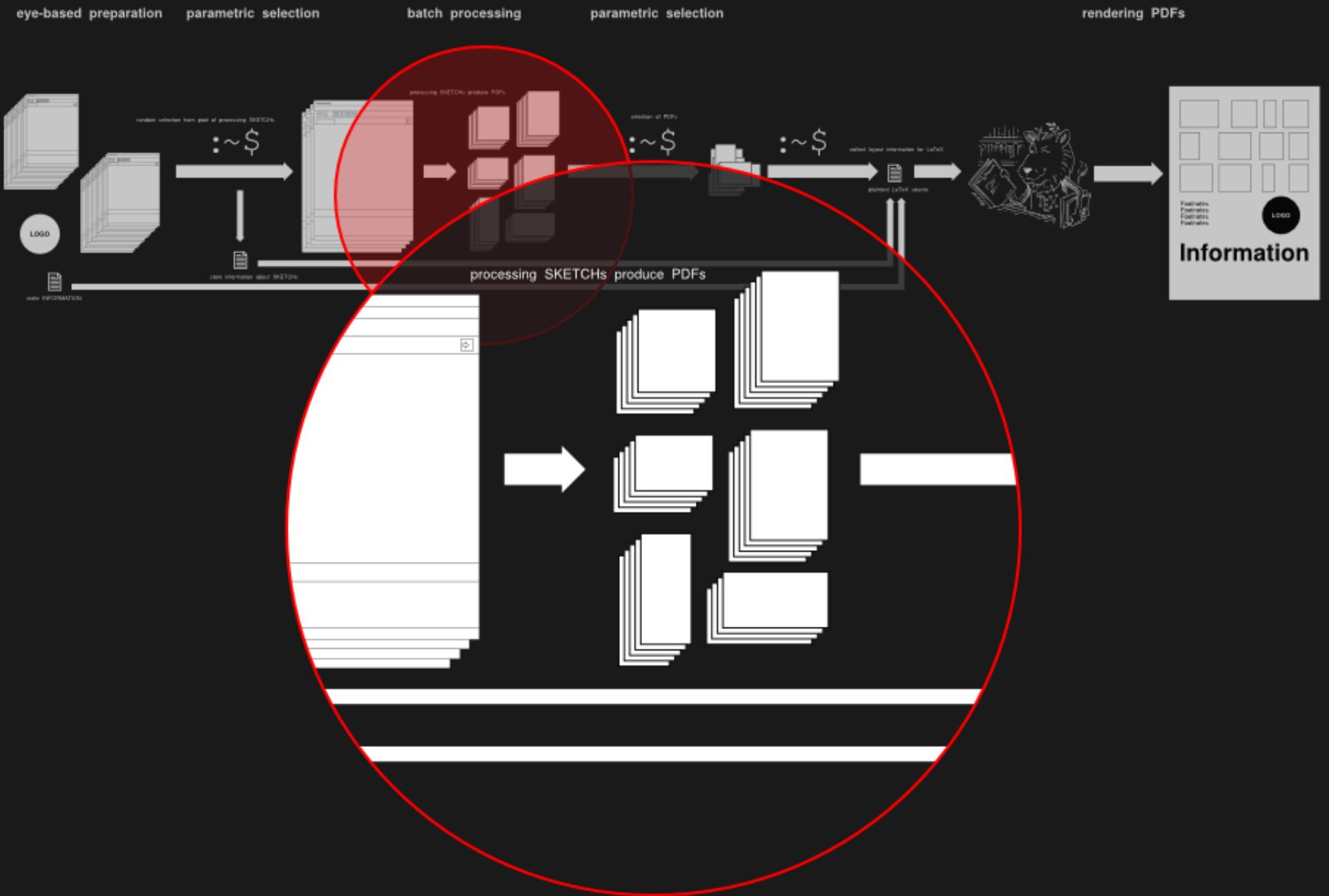
parametric selection

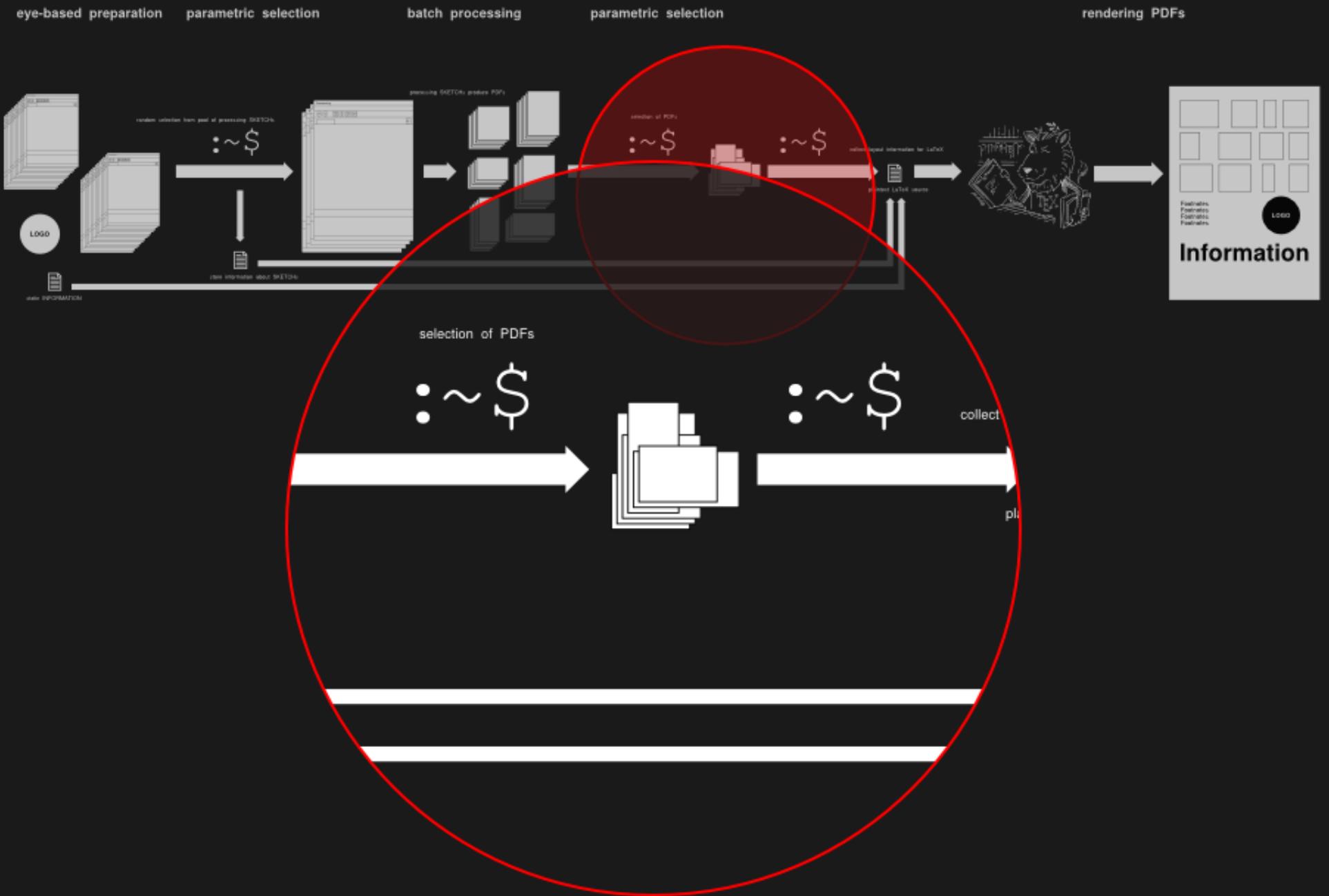
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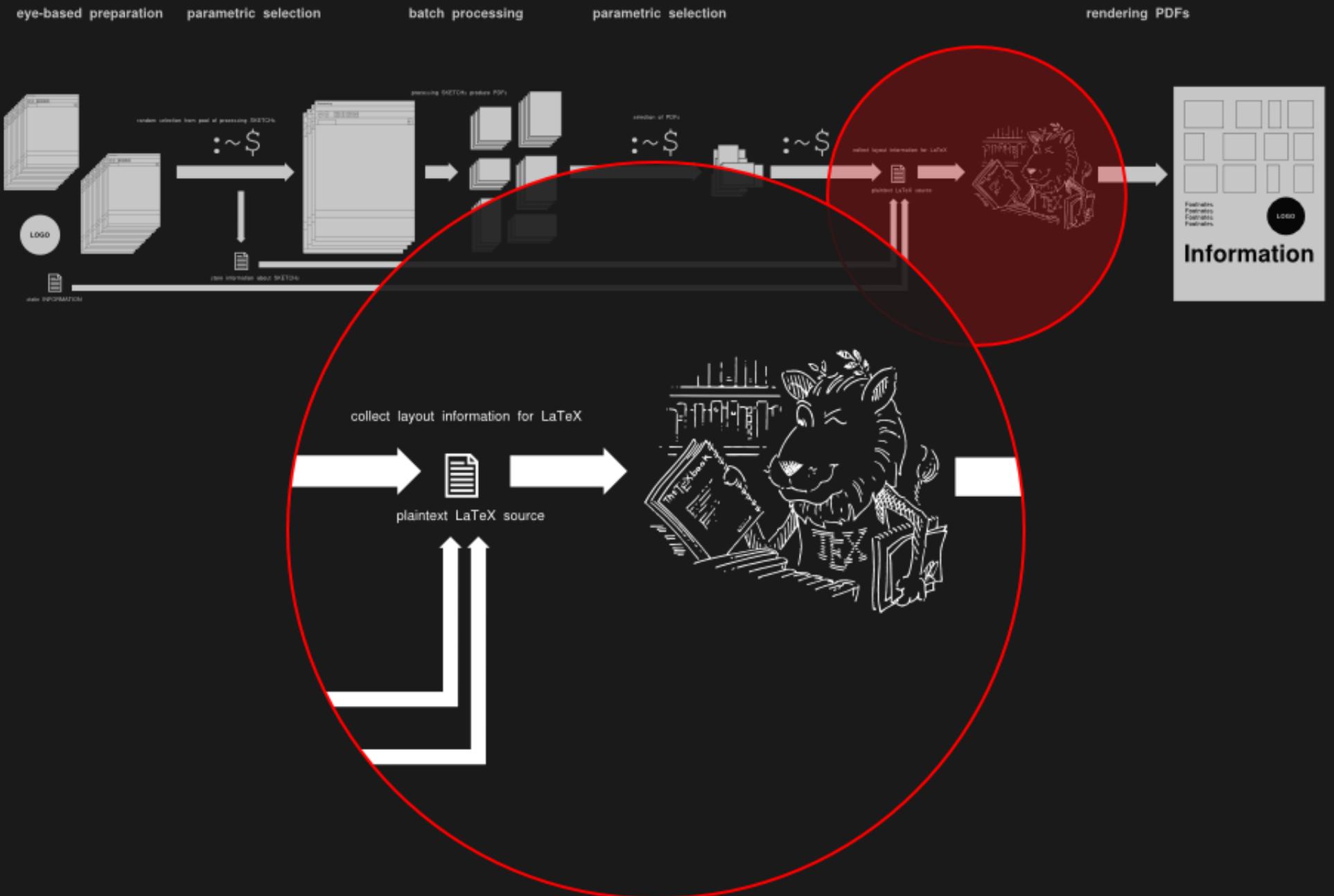
parametric selection

rendering PDFs









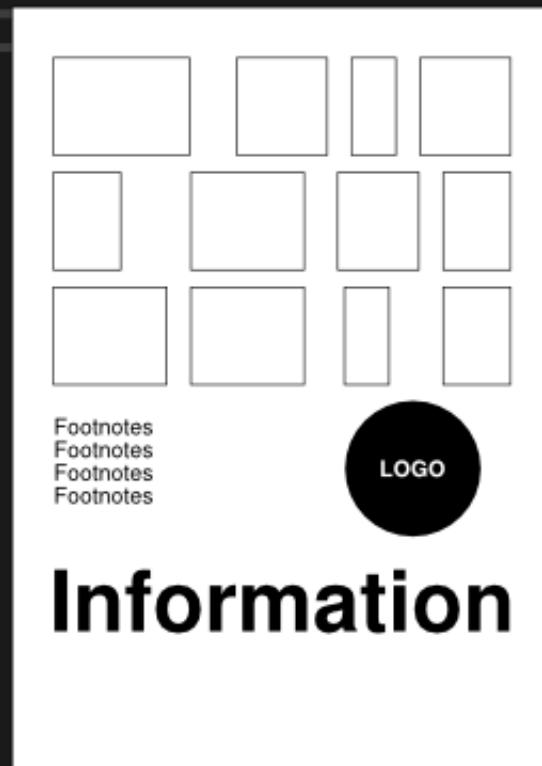
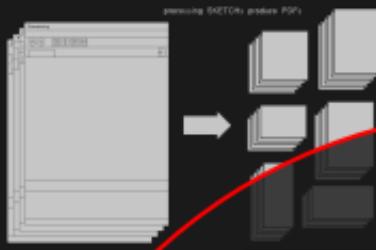
eye-based preparation

parametric selection

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parametric selection

rendering PDFs



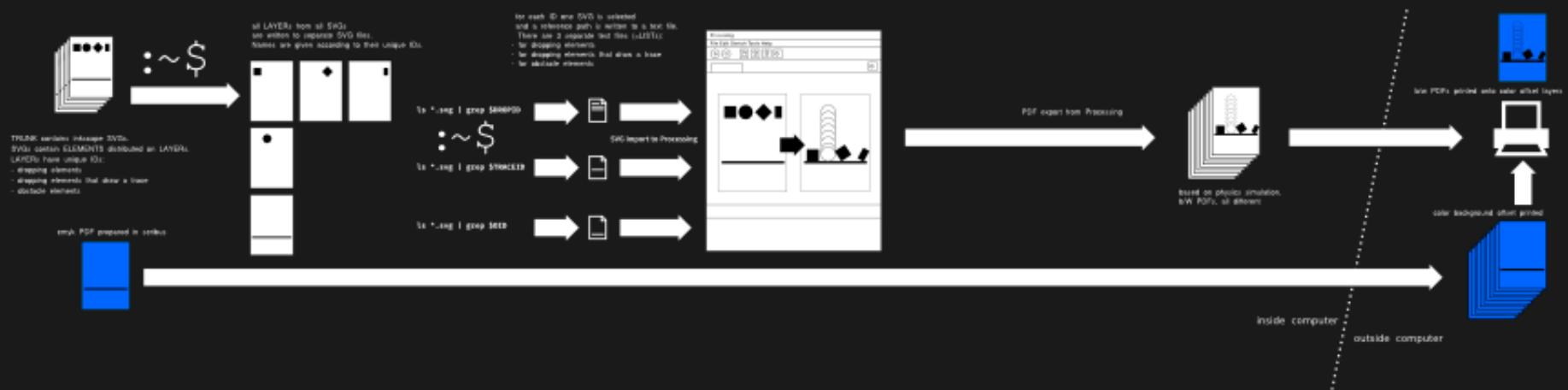
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<http://www.forkable.eu/generators/chmod+x>

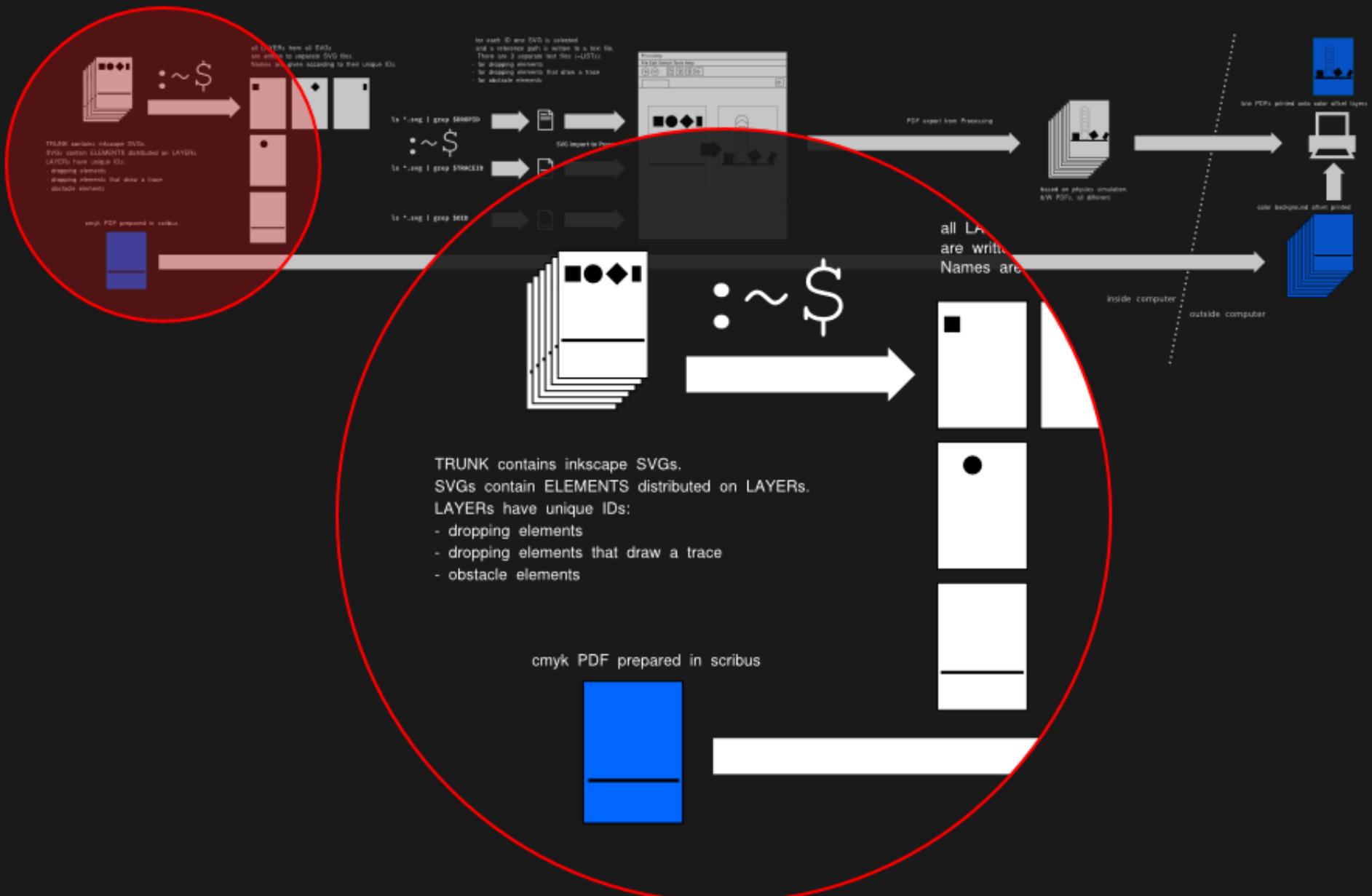
make art 2010

# **in-Between Design**

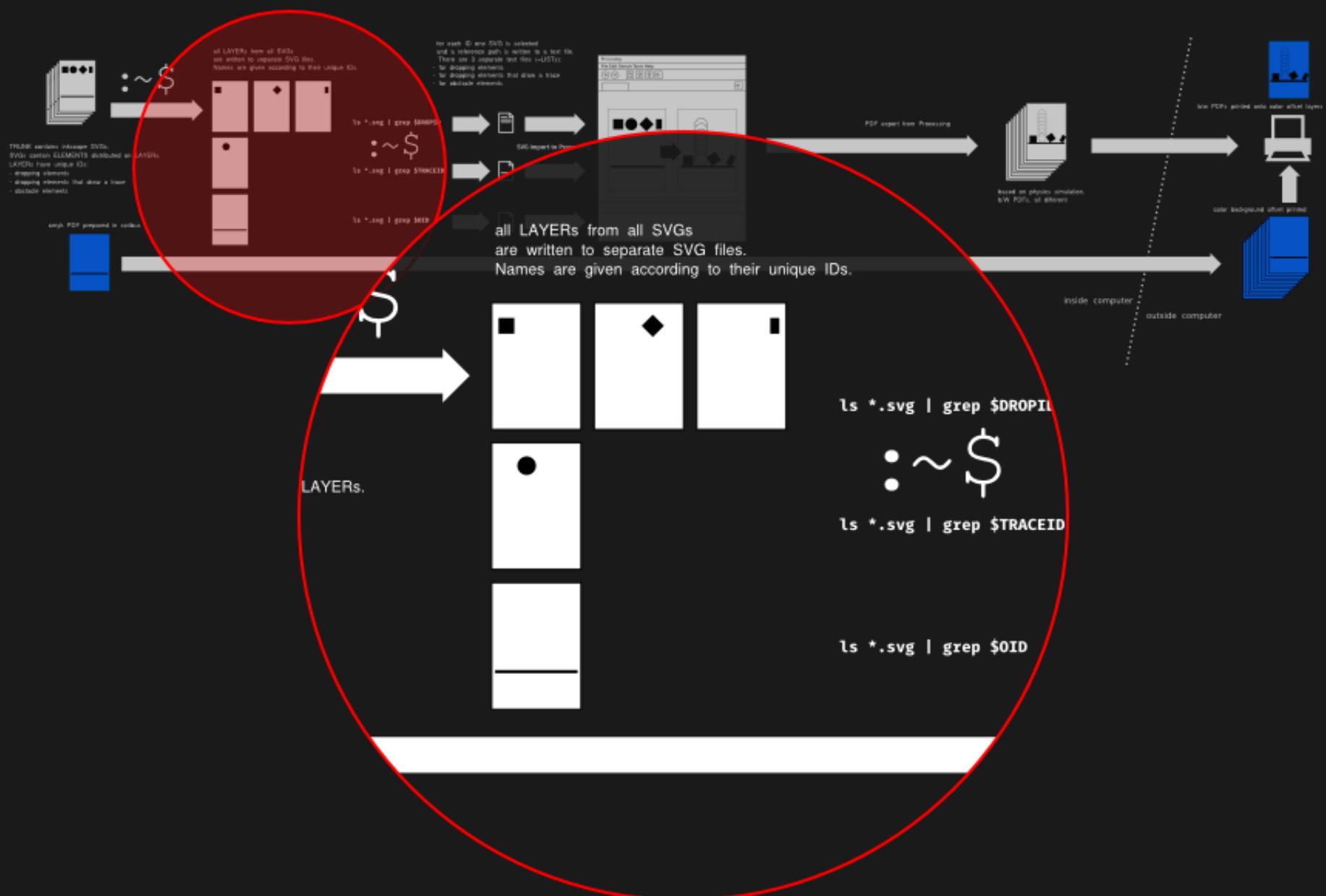
## eye-based preparation      batch preparation      parametric sorting      parametric arrangement      rendering PDFs      print production



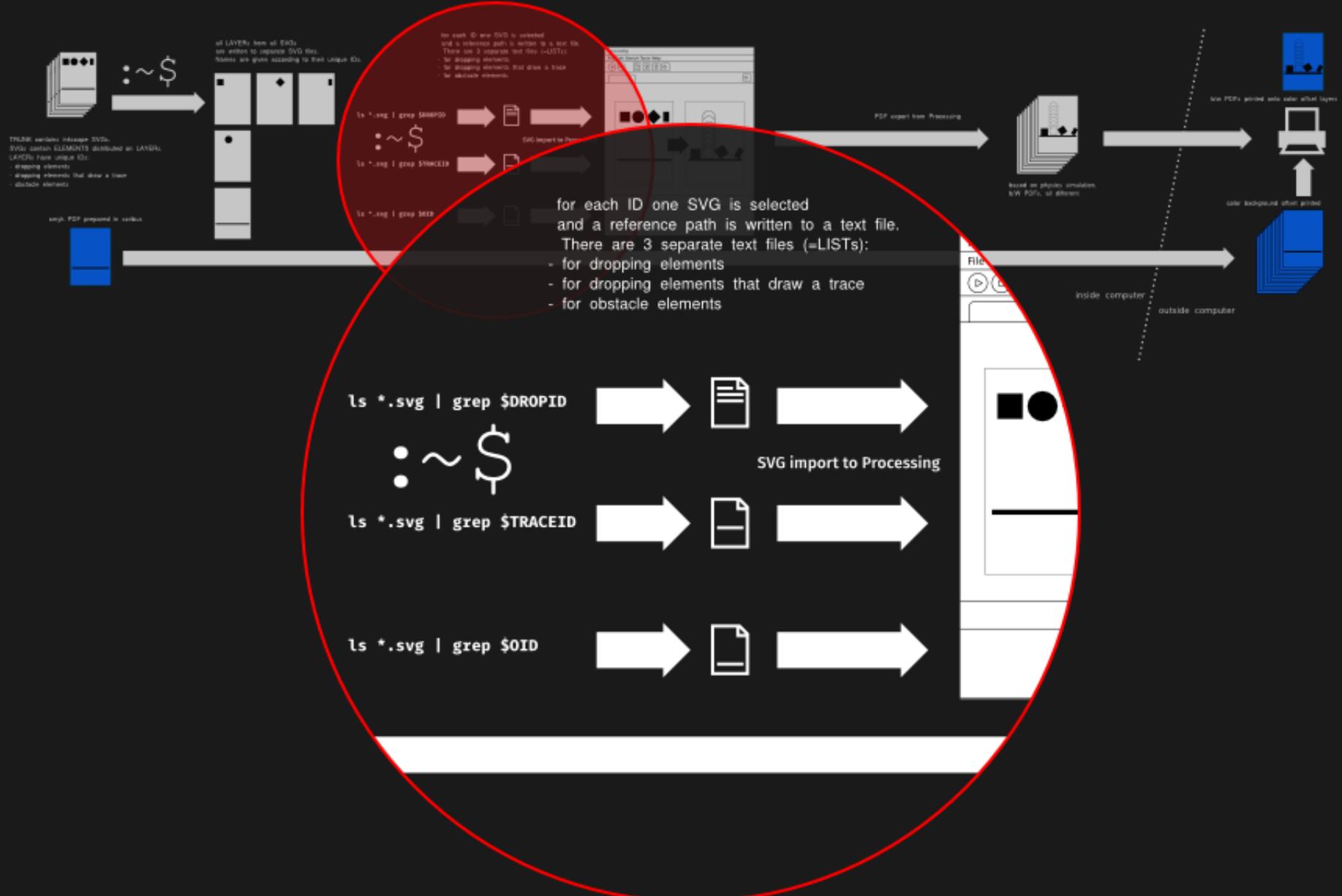
eye-based preparation   batch preparation   parametric sorting   parametric arrangement   rendering PDFs   print production



eye-based preparation    batch preparation    parametric sorting    parametric arrangement    rendering PDFs    print production



eye-based preparation   batch preparation   parametric sorting   parametric arrangement   rendering PDFs   print production



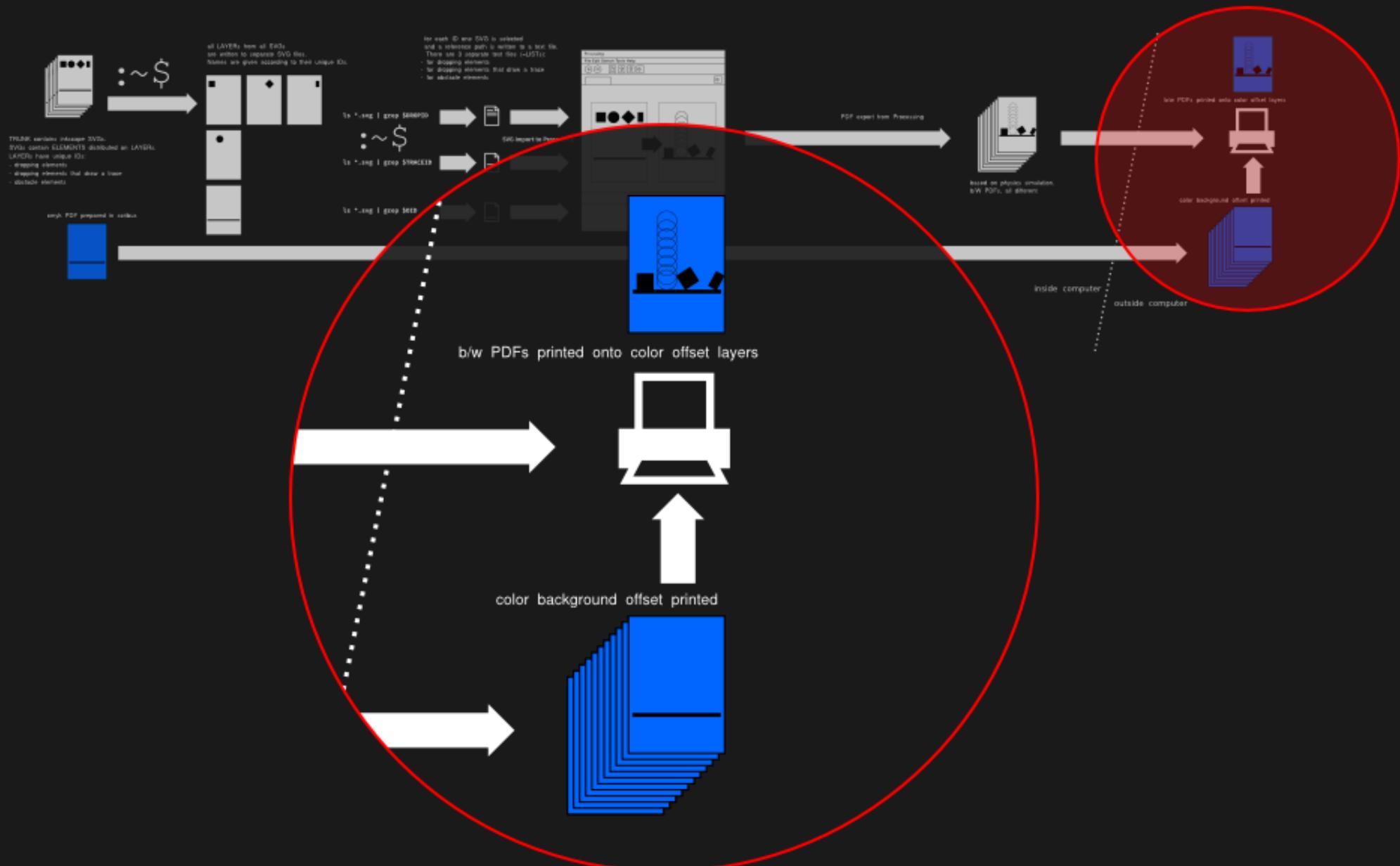
eye-based preparation    batch preparation    parametric sorting    parametric arrangement    rendering PDFs    print production



eye-based preparation    batch preparation    parametric sorting    parametric arrangement    rendering PDFs    print production



eye-based preparation   batch preparation   parametric sorting   parametric arrangement   rendering PDFs   print production



# in-between design

MAKE  
ART

<http://makeart.golo10.org>





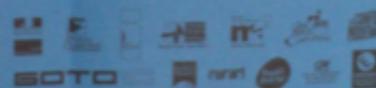




Exposition | Concerts | Conférence Atelier

DU 4 AU 7 NOVEMBRE 2010, POITIERS  
**MAISON DE L'ARCHITECTURE**  
+ LIEU MULTIPLE

<http://makeart.goto10.org>



<http://www.forkable.eu/generators/i-bd/o/non-free/fr/A3/recto/SEEME>

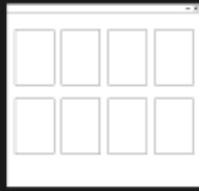
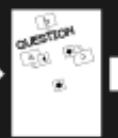
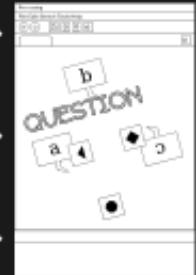
<http://www.forkable.eu/generators/i-bd>

Libre Graphics Meeting 2013  
**Future Tools**

WWW



a b c



local

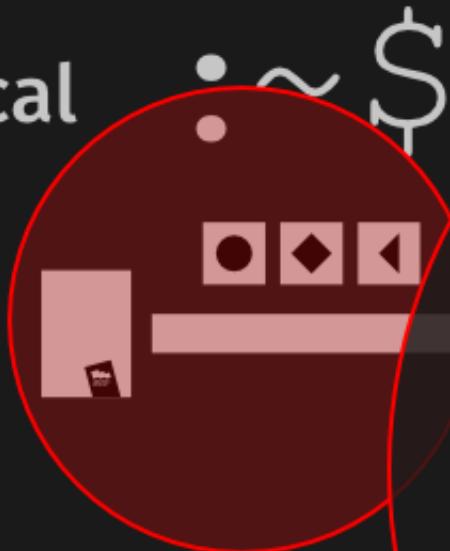
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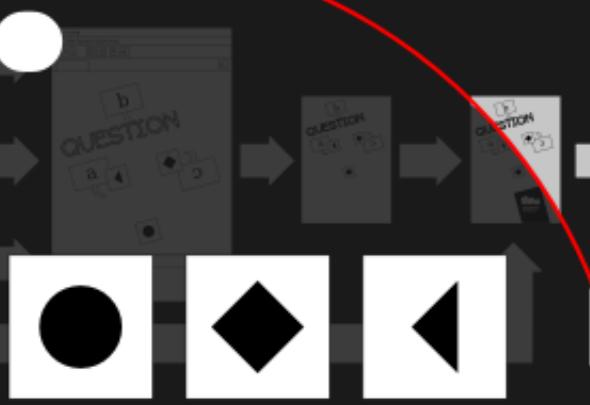
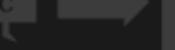
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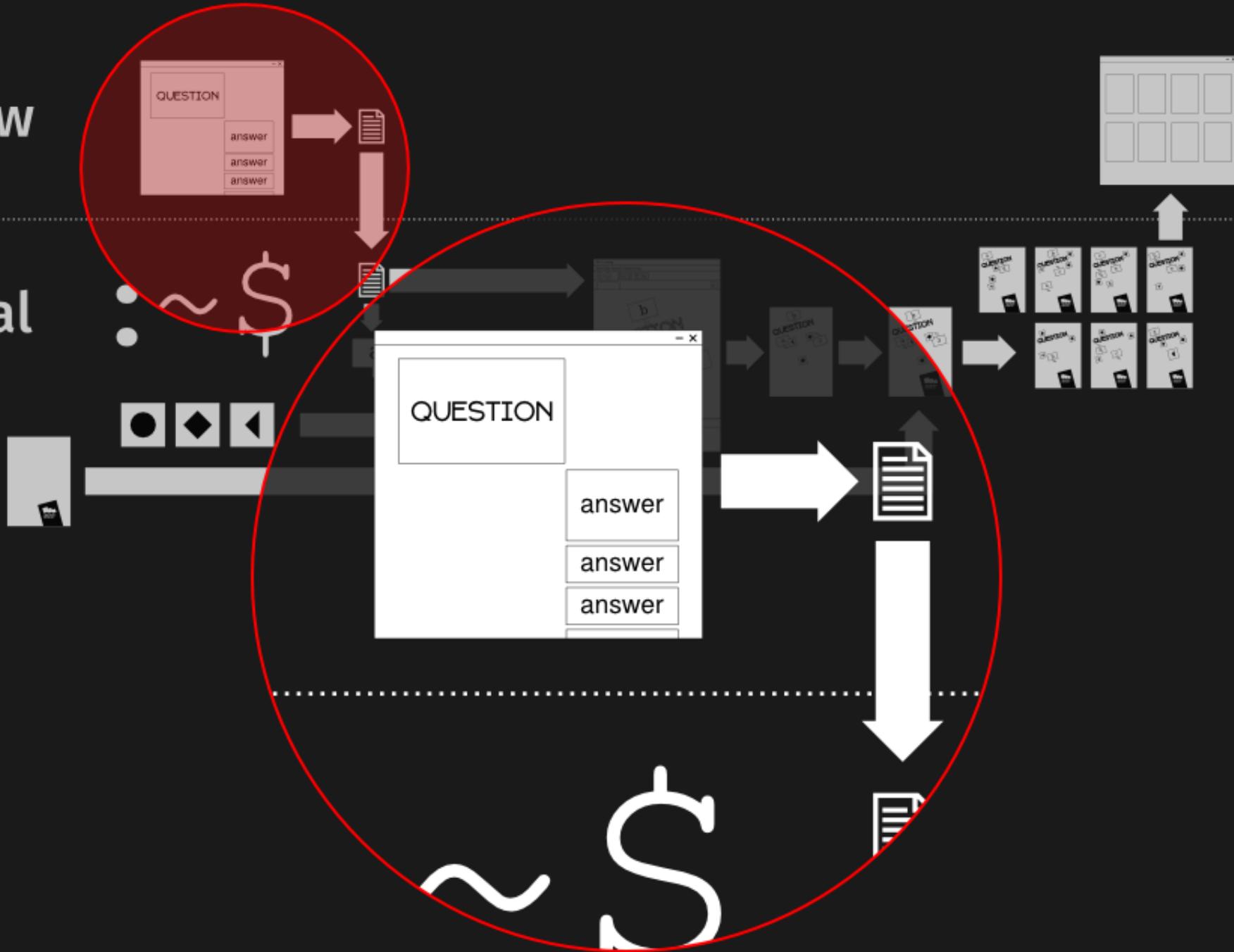


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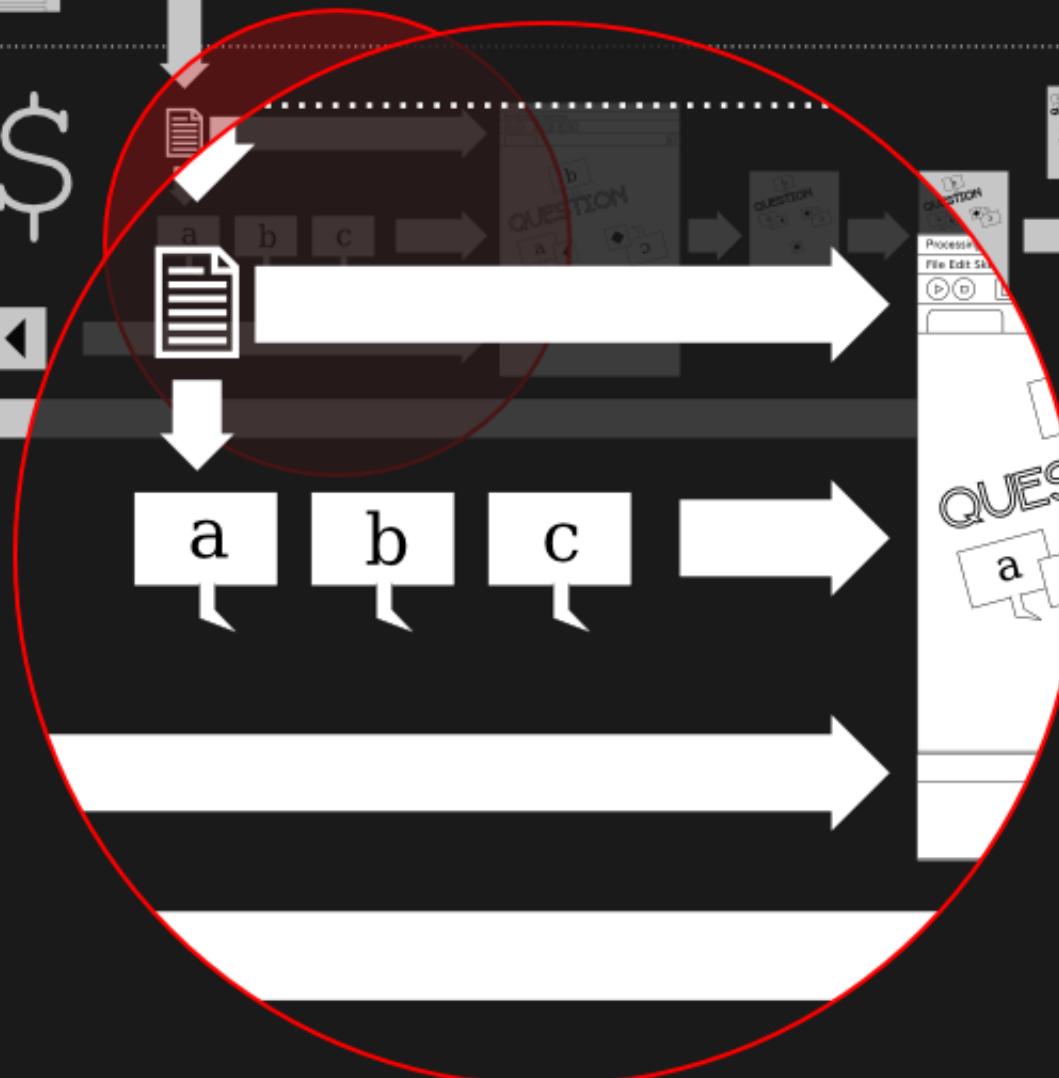


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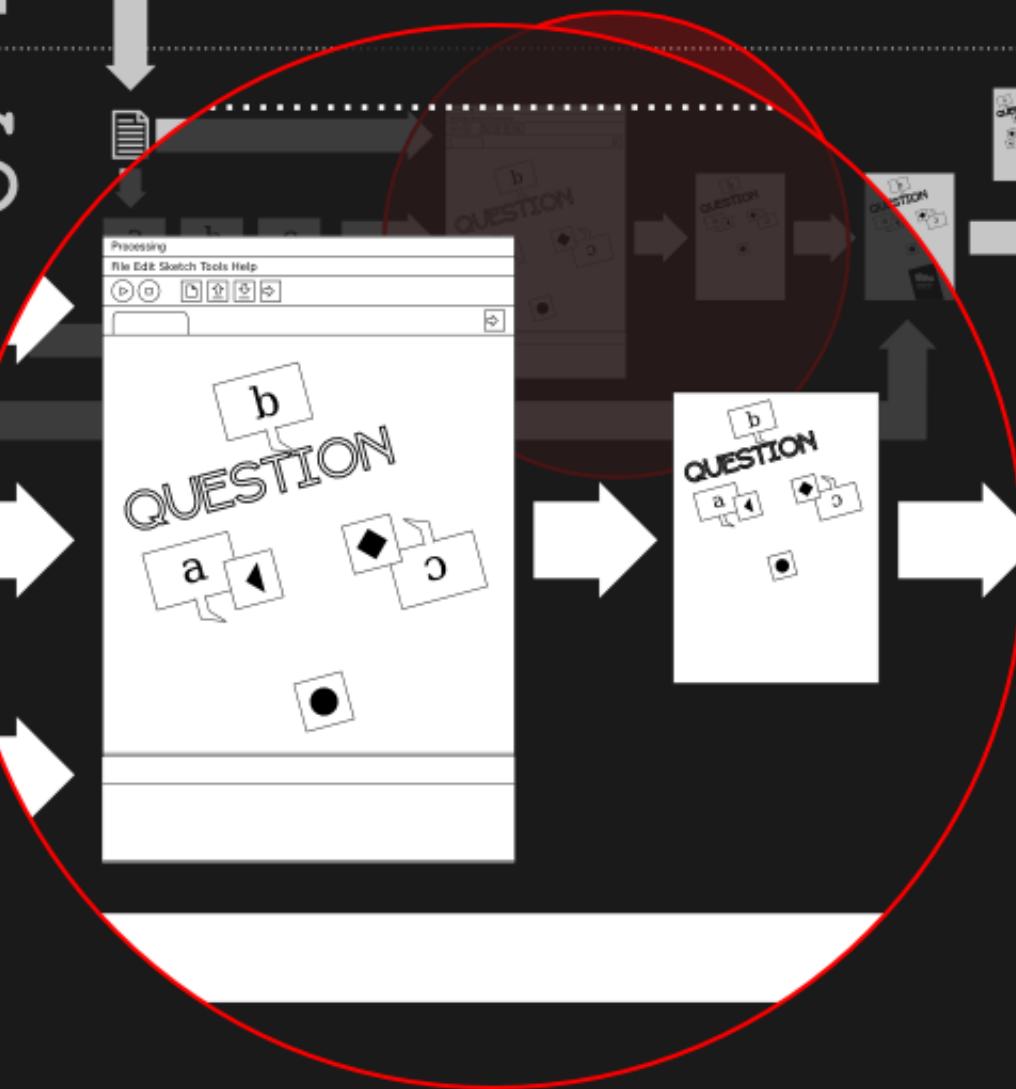


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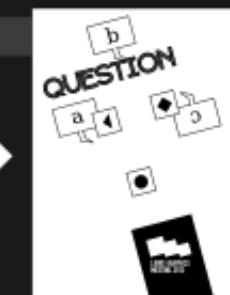


WWW



local

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a b c

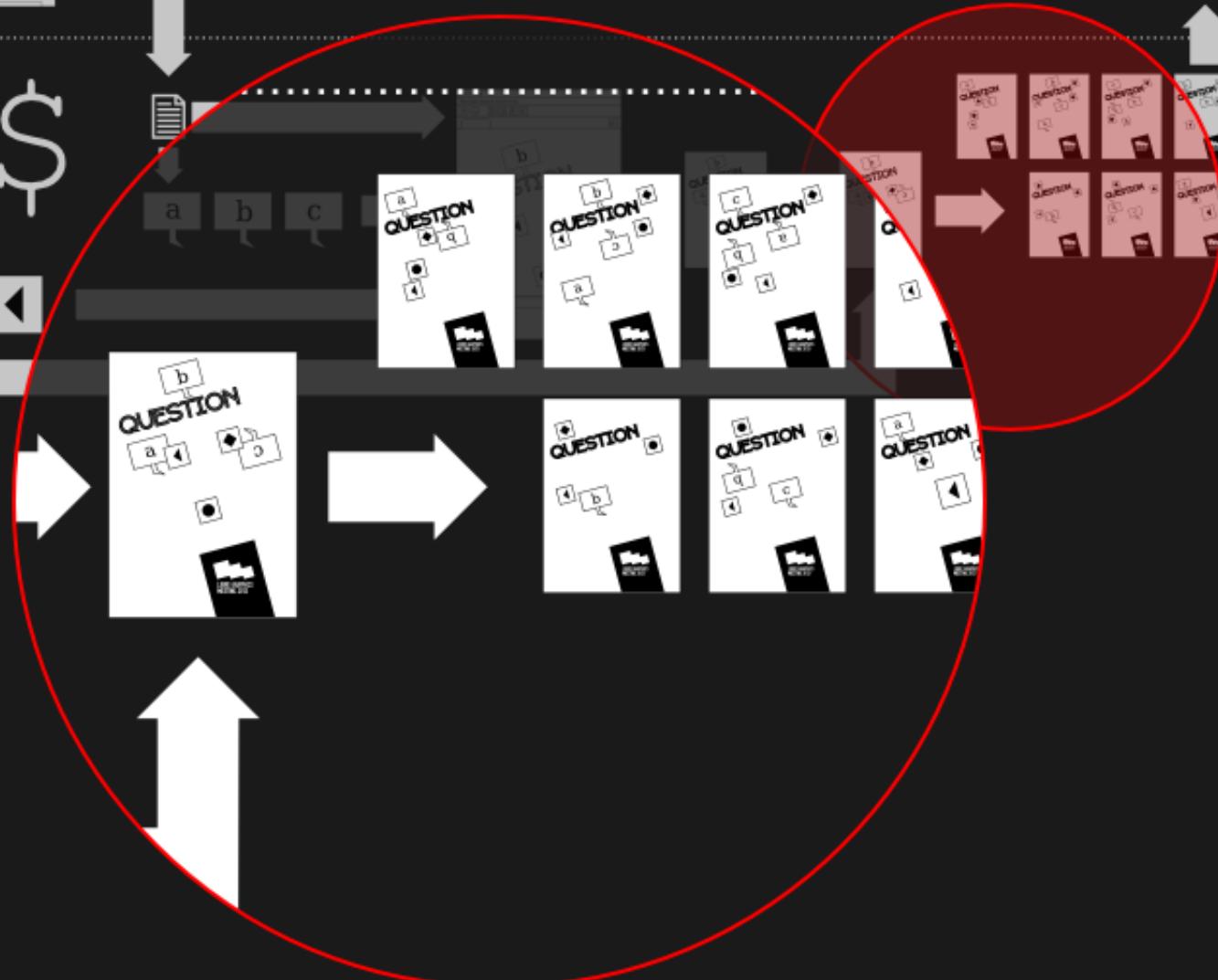
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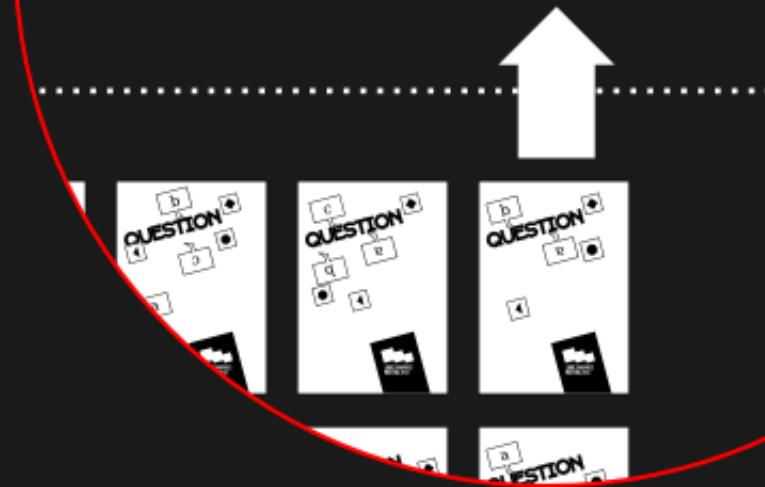
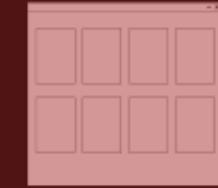
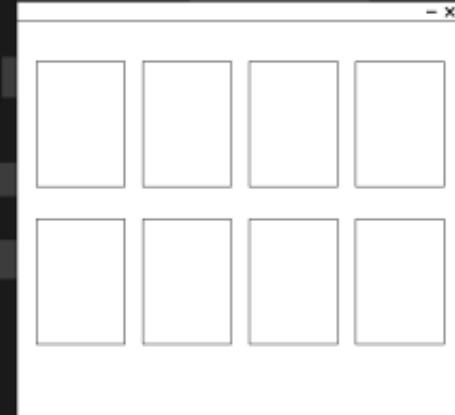


WWW



local

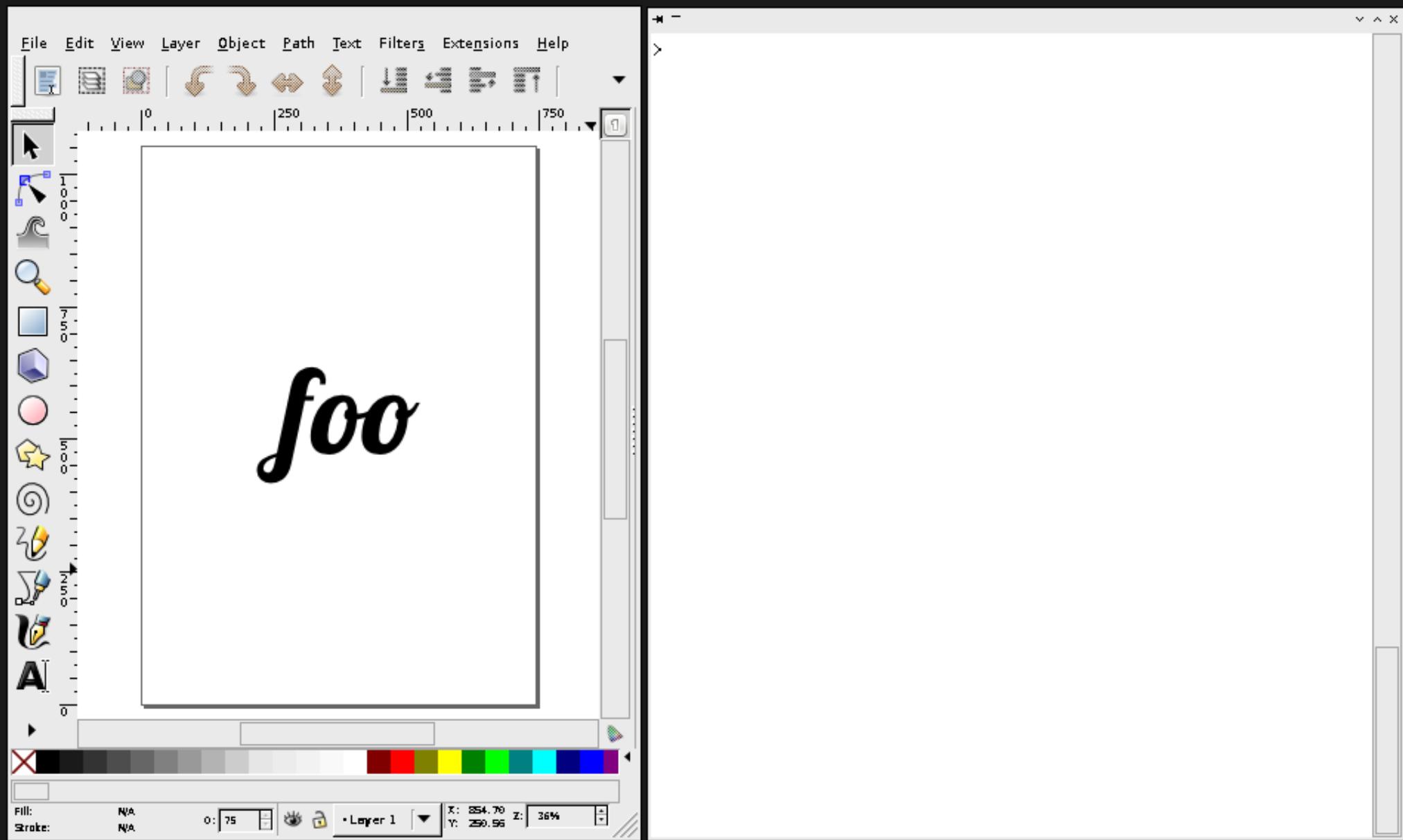
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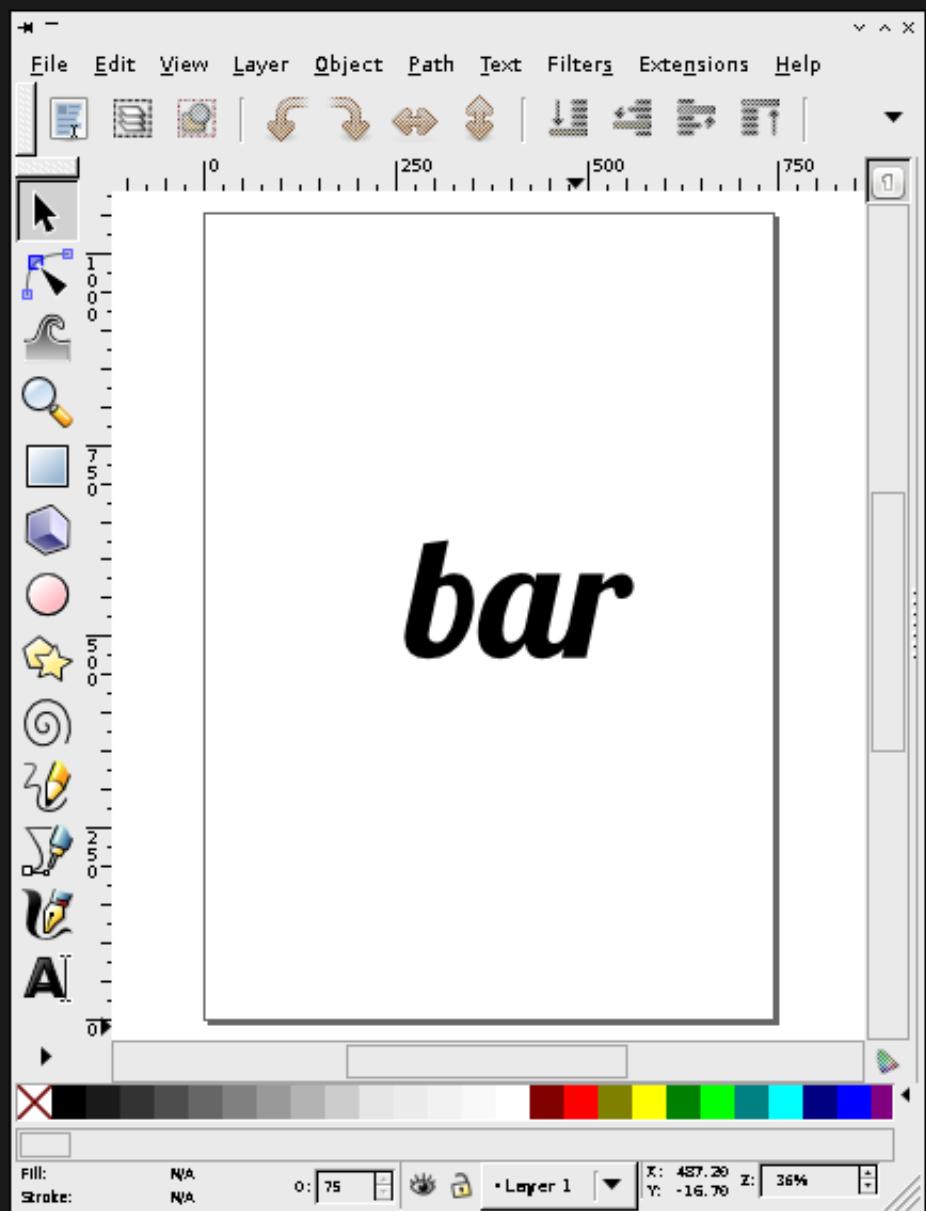


<http://www.forkable.eu/generators/r+w/>

**ASCII text is easily read and edited.**

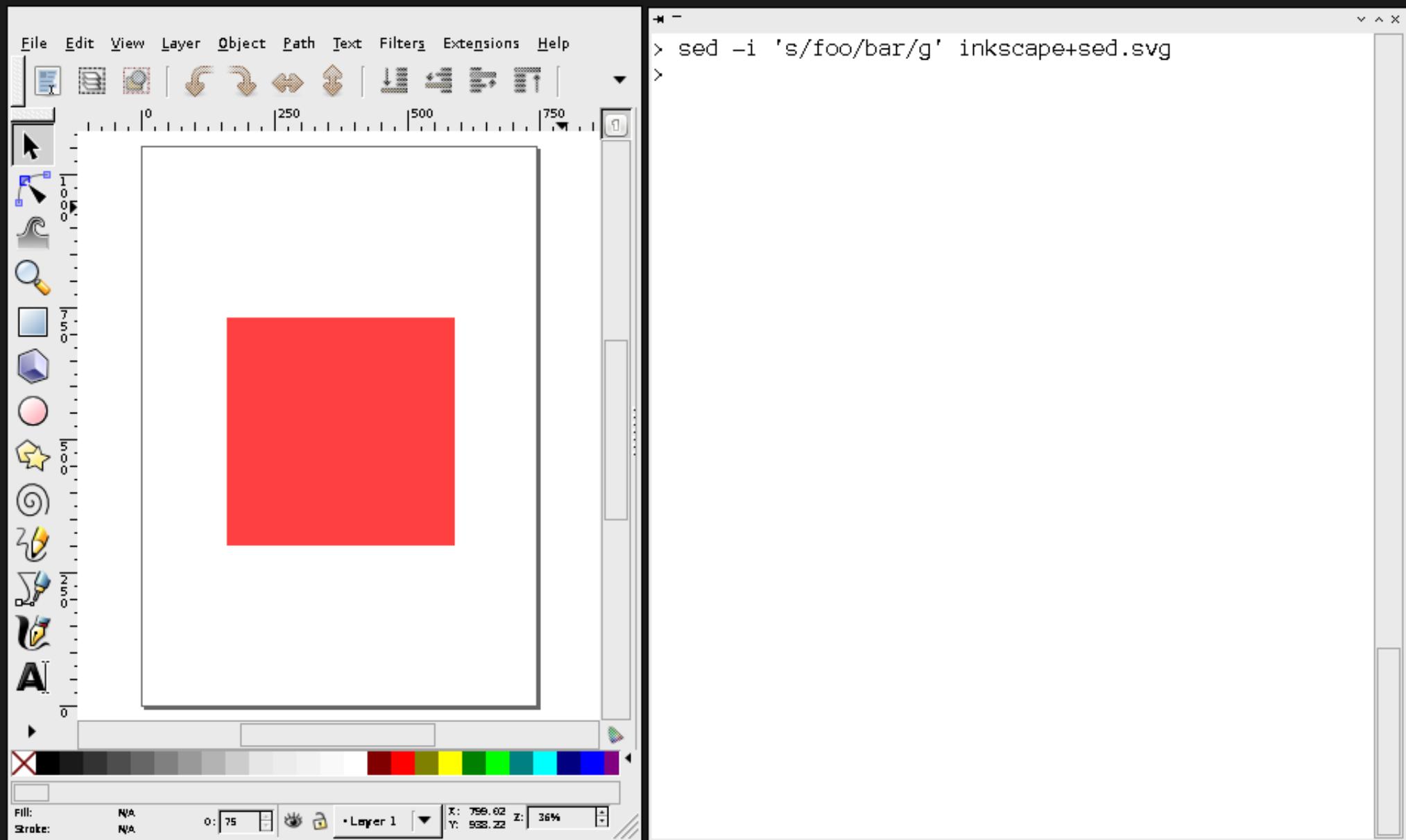
```
# substitute "foo" with "bar"  
sed -i 's/foo/bar/g' input.txt
```

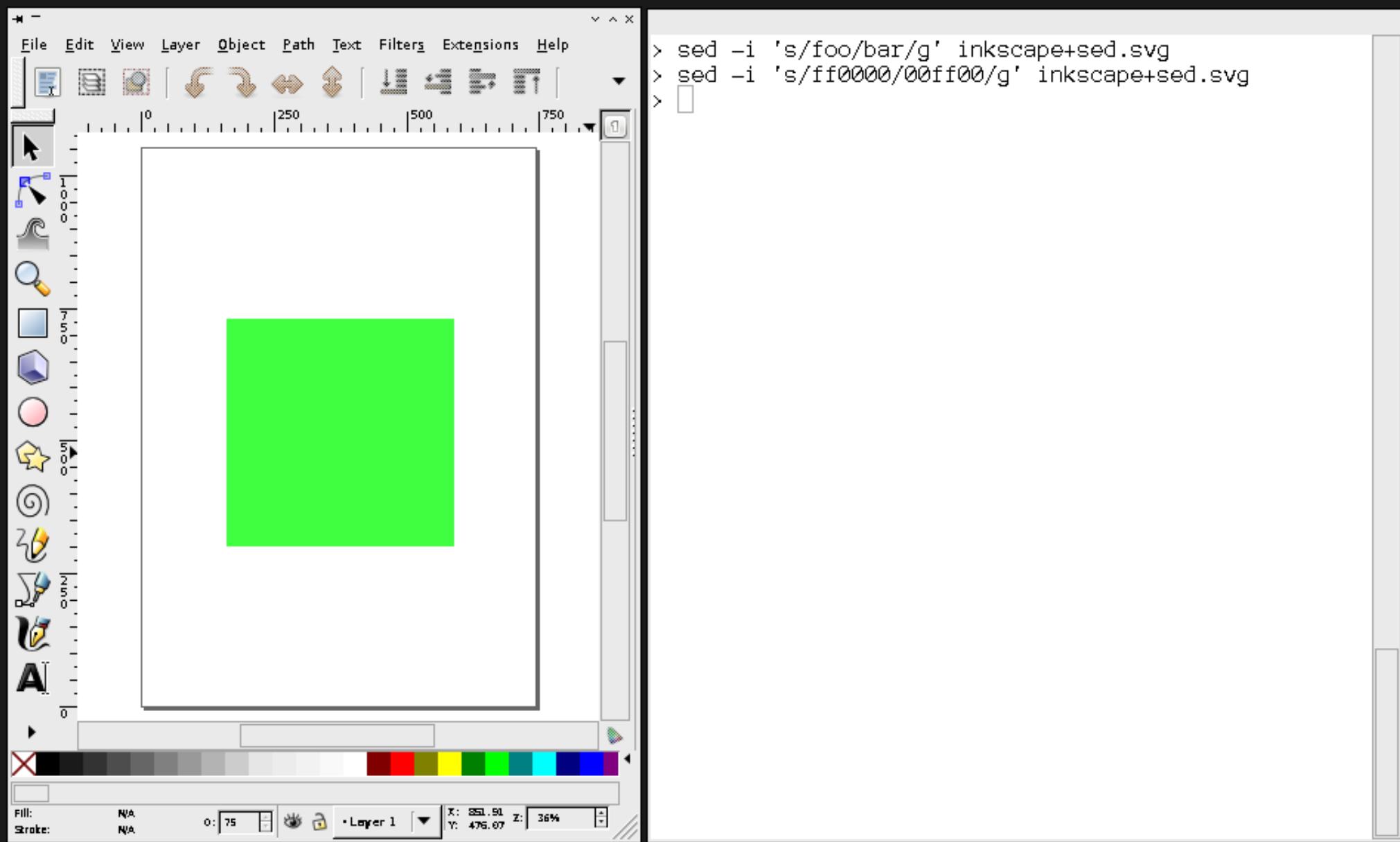




```
> sed -i 's/foo/bar/g' inkscape+sed.svg
```

```
> 
```





# **sed handy one-liners**

<http://sed.sourceforge.net/sed1line.txt>

**Automate everything.**

```
BACKGROUND=`ls $DIR/*.pdf | head -1`  
  
for PDF in `ls $DIR/*.pdf | grep -v $BACKGROUND`  
do  
    pdftk $PDF background $BACKGROUND output $OUTPUT  
    BACKGROUND=$OUTPUT  
done
```

```
BACKGROUND=`ls $DIR/*.pdf | head -1`  
  
for PDF in `ls $DIR/*.pdf | grep -v $BACKGROUND`  
do  
    pdftk $PDF background $BACKGROUND output $OUTPUT  
  
    pdf2ps $OUTPUT ${OUTPUT%.*}.ps  
    ps2pdf ${OUTPUT%.*}.ps $OUTPUT  
    rm ${OUTPUT%.*}.ps  
  
    BACKGROUND=$OUTPUT  
done
```

2014

**human readable source files**  
+  
**accessible render engine**

ASCII source files

commandline support

# Showstopper?

**binary file formats  
lacking commandline support  
captive user interfaces**

**Future?**

**human readable source files**  
+  
**accessible render engine**

**Distrust all claims for one true way**

# Thanks:

Martin Rumori/Frank Barknecht

goto10

servus.at

LGRU

Constant

Free Software Developers

You