

Critical Theory

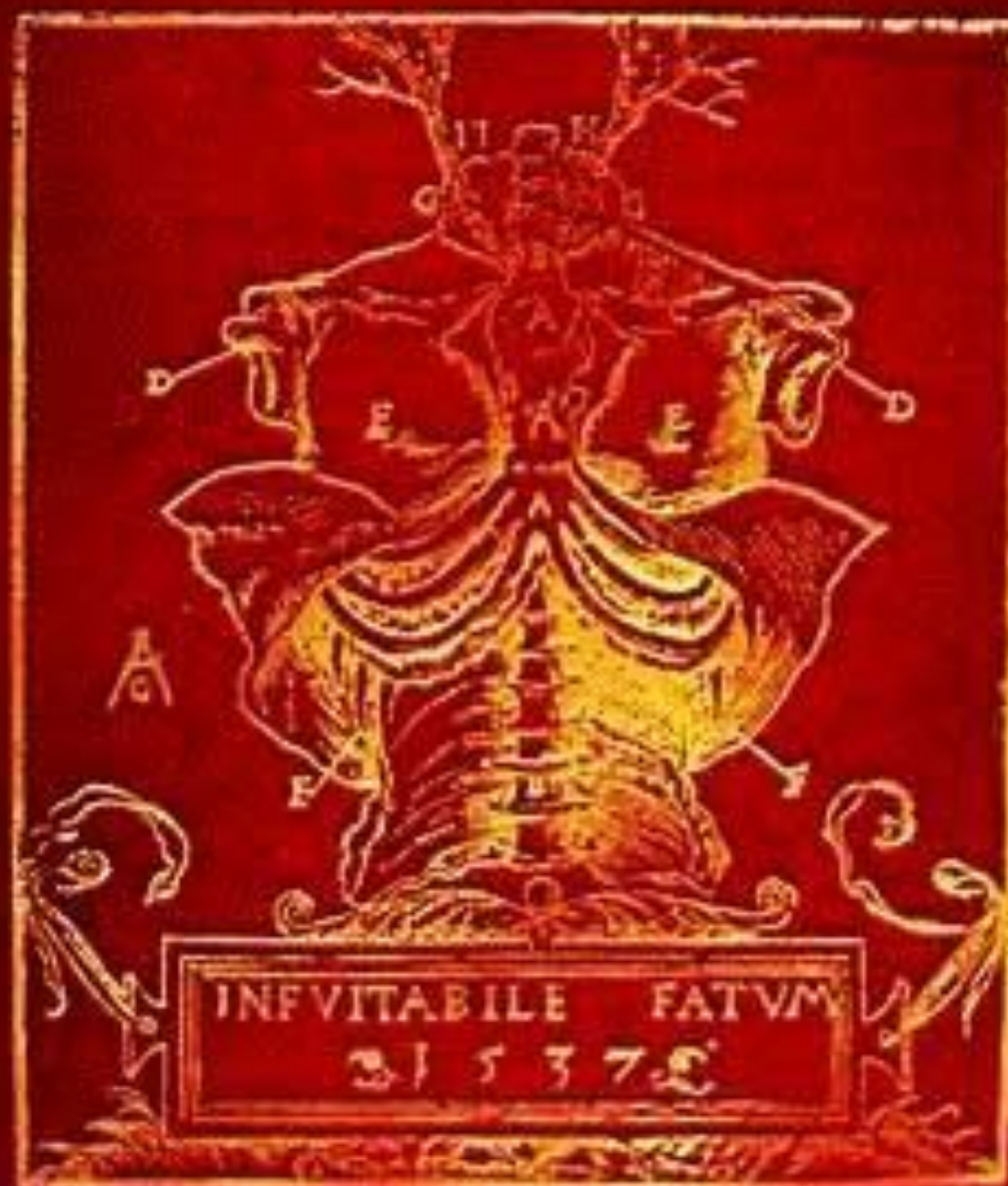
07 — Permacomputing

berenice-serra.com/teaching/2025-2026/critical-theory

October 28, 2025



Frankenstein



Capitalocene

Capitalocene

term used by some scientists to designate the current geological era, beginning with the development of the capitalist system, which would be marked by the influence on the biosphere and climate of humans caught up in a certain mode of production.

climate change and geoengineering

climate change and geoengineering

the food crisis and animal consciousness

climate change and geoengineering

the food crisis and animal consciousness

biosciences and the transformation of living organisms

climate change and geoengineering

the food crisis and animal consciousness

biosciences and the transformation of living organisms

deceleration, energy transition and eco-responsibility

climate change and geoengineering

the food crisis and animal consciousness

biosciences and the transformation of living organisms

deceleration, energy transition and eco-responsibility

post-colonialism vs. colonialism of oceans and space

Permacomputing

Governments of the Industrial World, you weary giants of flesh and steel, I come from Cyberspace, the new home of Mind. On behalf of the future, I ask you of the past to leave us alone. You are not welcome among us. You have no sovereignty where we gather.









Steward Brand in his desert period, with fellow hippies Jack and Jean Loeffler.

From
Counterculture
to
Cyberculture

Stewart Brand, the Whole Earth Network, and the Rise of Digital Utopianism

Fred Turner

The University of Chicago Press / Chicago and London

We can't put it together.
It is together.



394-70459-2

The Last Whole Earth Catalog

access to tools



\$5

*Evening.
Thanks again.*

Whole Earth Catalog

10 languages

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Spin-offs and inspirations

In popular culture

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From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The ***Whole Earth Catalog*** (**WEC**) was an American **counterculture** magazine and product catalog published by **Stewart Brand** several times a year between 1968 and 1972, and occasionally thereafter, until 1998. The magazine featured essays and articles, but was primarily focused on product reviews. The editorial focus was on **self-sufficiency**, **ecology**, alternative education, "**do it yourself**" (DIY), and **holism**, and featured the slogan "access to tools". While WEC listed and reviewed a wide range of products (clothing, books, tools, machines, seeds, etc.), it did not sell any of the products directly. Instead, the vendor's contact information was listed alongside the item and its review. This is why, while not a regularly published periodical, numerous editions and updates were required to keep price and availability information up to date.

Steve Jobs compared *The Whole Earth Catalog* to Internet search engine **Google** in his June 2005 Stanford University **commencement speech**.

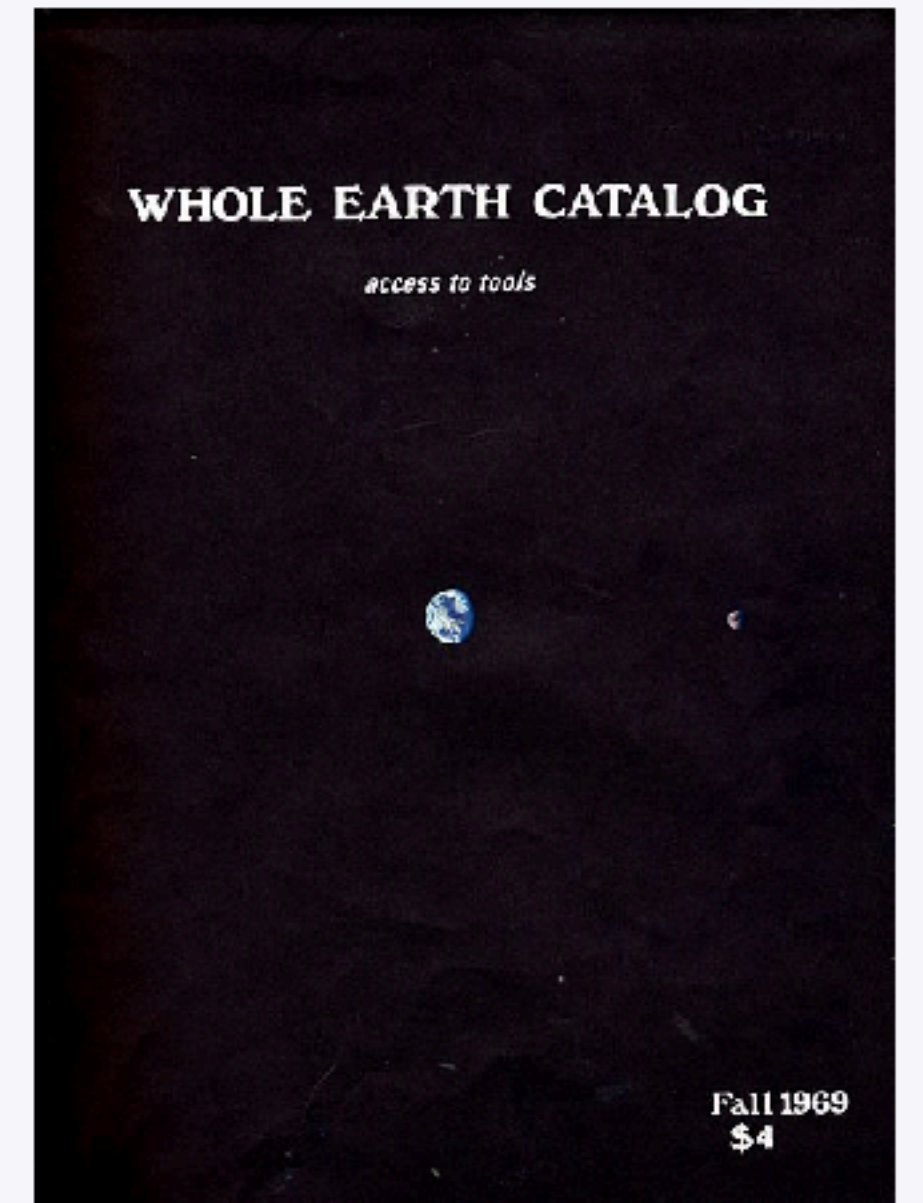
When I was young, there was an amazing publication called *The Whole Earth Catalog*, which was one of the bibles of my generation ... It was sort of like Google in paperback form, 35 years before Google came along. It was idealistic and overflowing with neat tools and great notions.

Then at the very end of this commencement speech Jobs quotes explicitly the farewell message placed on the back cover of the last 1974 edition of the *Catalog* (#1180 October 1974 titled *Whole Earth Epilog*^[1]) and makes it his own final recommendation: "Stay hungry. Stay foolish."^{[2][3][4]}

Origins [edit]

The title *Whole Earth Catalog* came from a previous project by **Stewart Brand**. In 1966, he initiated a public campaign to have **NASA** release the then-rumored **satellite photo** of the sphere of **Earth** as seen from space, one of the **first images of the "Whole Earth"**. He thought the image might be a powerful symbol, evoking a

Whole Earth Catalog



The Fall 1969 issue of the Whole Earth Catalog.

Categories	Catalog
Founder	Stewart Brand
First issue	September 1, 1968; 55 years ago
Final issue	June 1, 1971
Country	 United States
Language	English

<https://d-w.fr/en/projects/world-brain/>



Permacomputing



Permaculture



Permaculture

is an approach to land management and settlement design that adopts arrangements observed in flourishing natural ecosystems.

First formulated in 1978, it particularly stands in opposition against industrial agriculture.

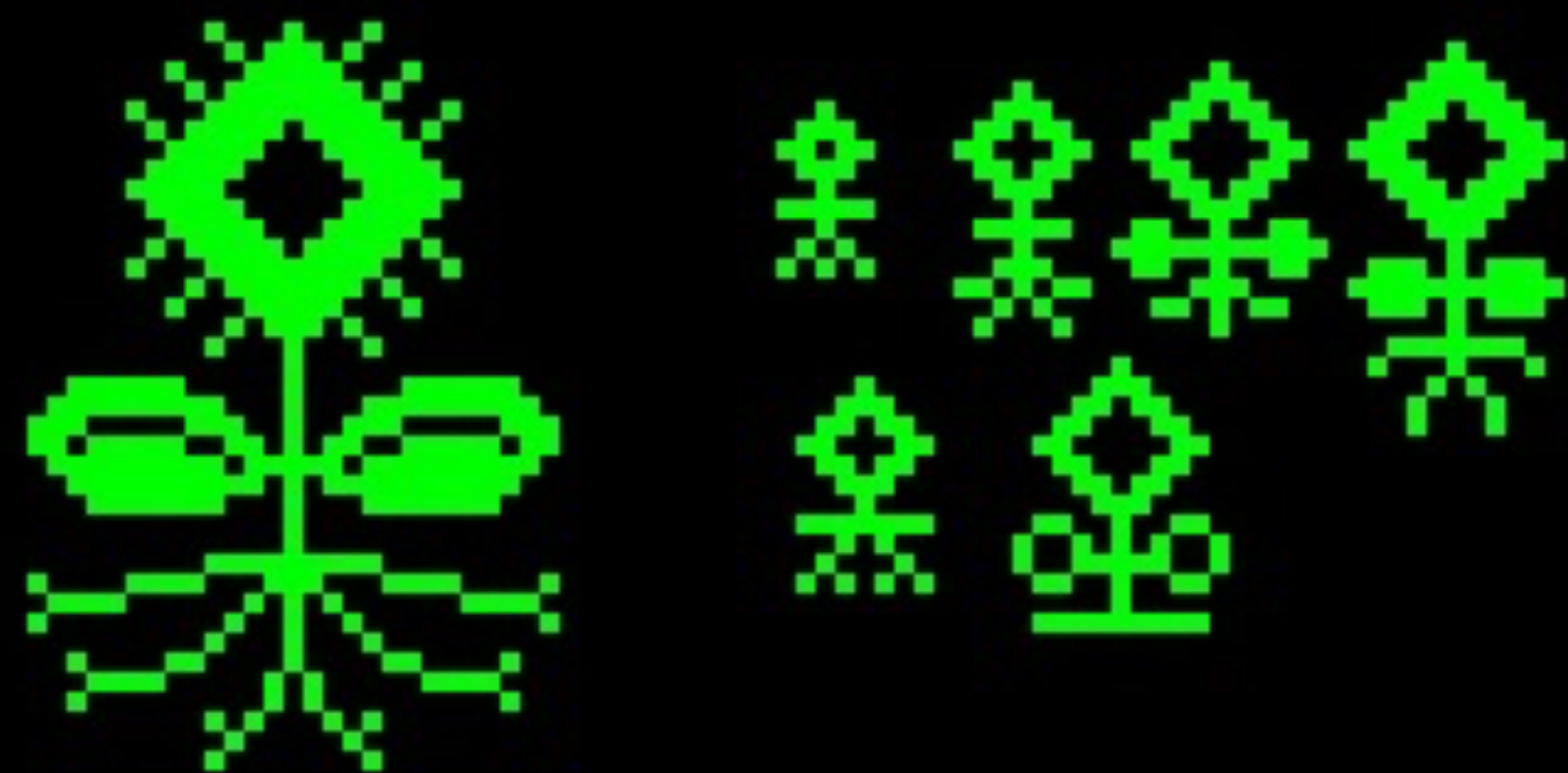
Permaculture + Computing



Computing

is any goal-oriented activity requiring, benefiting from, or creating computing machinery.

It includes the study and experimentation of algorithmic processes, and development of both hardware and software.



Recognizing the effects of computing to the biosphere, and trying to find ways to make these effects positive and regenerative.

Turning waste into resources and constraints into possibilities.

Explorative, imaginative and positive attitudes towards sustainable design, as opposed to "returning to the past" or "having to tolerate lesser resources".

Opposition to the mainstream technological industry
while offering a tangible alternative.







HYSTER

CAXU765921 4
42P3
MAX. CAP. 4500 KG
MAX. HGT. 11.5 M
MAX. REACH 11.5 M
MAX. SPEED 1.5 KM/H



LOW←TECH MAGAZINE

This is a solar-powered website, which means it sometimes goes offline




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Plastic Waste in the Fuel Tank?

Consumer societies produce enough plastic waste to power at least 10% of motorized road traffic. Dutch designer Gijs Schalkx grabbed the opportunity and now drives his car on the plastic waste he collects.

November 16, 2023



 77%

542.52KB



Website

This site has been designed to limit the resources necessary for its operation and display. It thus offers by default navigation without the images of our covers - which can, however, be displayed on demand - in order to reduce the weight of the pages. For the same purpose, no specific typographical character is loaded.



The display of our home page only causes a transfer of 38 KB of data (the median weight of a web page in 2020 is around 2000 KB - [source](#)).

Every month, 200,000 pages are transferred from our server to our visitors. If energy savings are minimal at the individual level, it is sensitive at the collective level.

Apart from the ordering process and the newsletter, the site does not use any javascript library, nor any advertising or statistical tracker.

The Wildproject site was designed and developed by [Lola Duval](#) and [Julien Bidoret](#) with [Kirby](#). It is hosted in France on the servers of Alwaysdata, a host committed to a [sustainable IT](#) approach.

Commitments

Wildproject editions participated in 2019 in the creation of the **[Association for Book Ecology](#)**.

~~The ecology of the book is an invitation to think of the world of the book as an~~

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[catalog](#)

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knowledge

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[Weathering Software Winter](#)

[Working Offgrid Efficiently](#)

[Tools Ecosystem](#)

[Lost Logbook](#)

[Buying A Sailboat](#)

tools

[Noodle](#)

[Orca](#)

[Dotgrid](#)

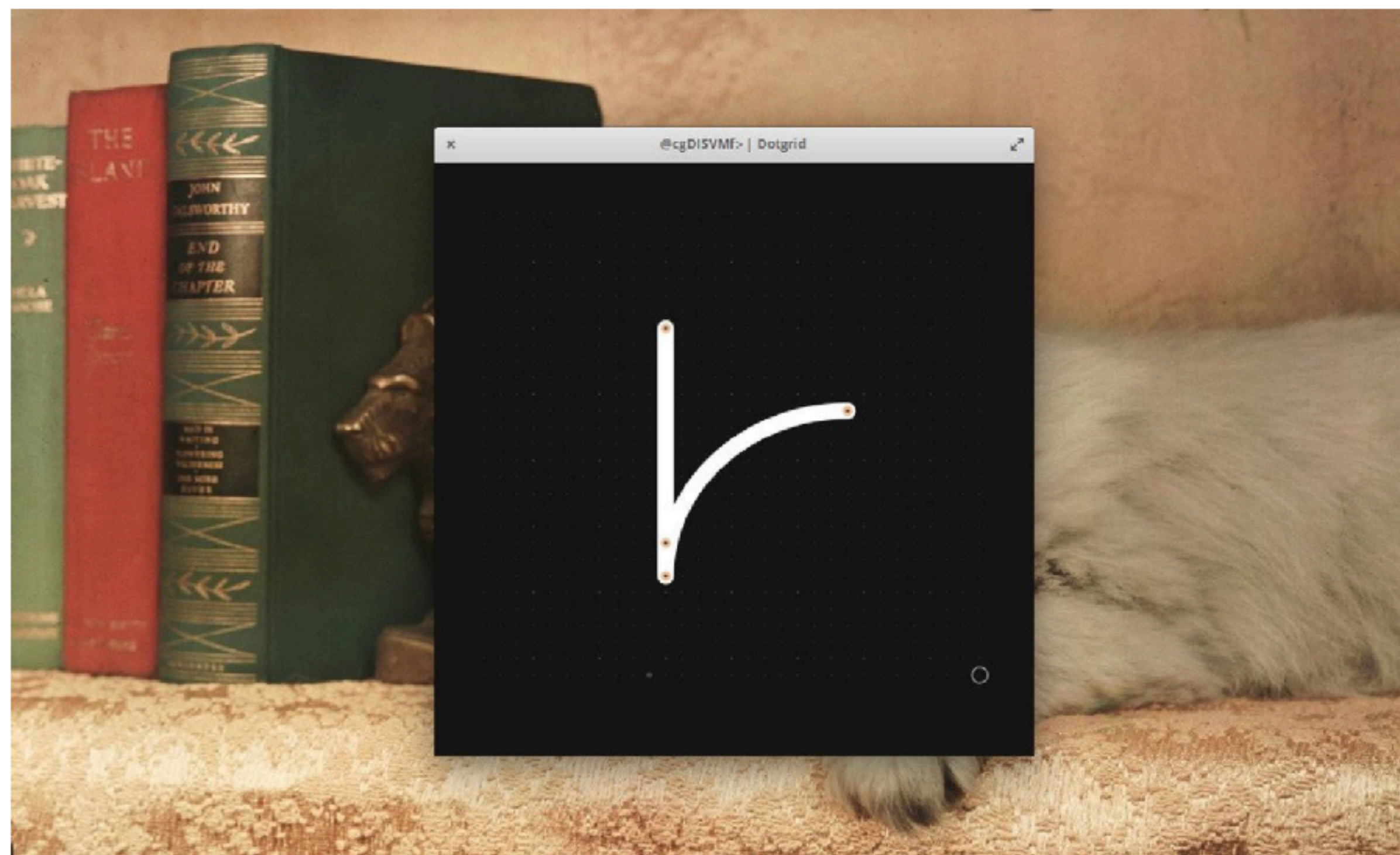
[Ronin](#)

[Left](#)

[Nasu](#)

[Uxn](#)

Introduction



Dotgrid is a grid-based vector drawing software designed to create logos, icons and type. It supports layers, the full SVG specs and additional effects such as mirroring and radial drawing. Dotgrid exports to both PNG and SVG files.

The application was initially created for internal use, and later made available as a free and open source software. It was

LivingLab

Living Labs are research networks and ecosystems with an open philosophy and respect to local conditions and to all participants. The technologies are applied directly in the natural environment. Waterlily tea will look at the design of the medium itself: the field in which individual actors are located, as an area of sustainable infrastructures, linking natural, technological and social. The overall prosperity of the local ecosystem is a sign of successful development.

Media ecology is based on the fact that the interconnected media system, which spans all areas of human life, has a tremendous ability to control: defines how a person obtains and processes information. Becoming media is a post-media concept of creating low-tech alternative media and digital art platforms. Here it should focus on architecture and living ecosystem relationships.

LivingLab is a specific form different from workshop. It is a procesual participative form which should explain the principles of relation of nature, technology, media and people.

Participation includes talks, hands-on digital microscopy, social networks, solar energy.

Participants can bring:

- Raspberry or other Linux devices for running social networks hubs
- Plans for greenhouses, waste material architectural ideas
- Plant samples
- Research ideas and schemas for control and communication in biological systems
- Networks organisation suggestions for forming autonomous media

Topics of discussion:

Connecting Raspberry Pi (Raspbian, Ubuntu Arm64, hostapd, raspap) mobile data, VPN, local/public DNS resolving, sensors: temperature, humidity (air, soil), air pressure, light, Arduino, I2c connection, Solar panel, solar controllers, 12V Lead acid car and AGM batteries, 12V water pumps, pull down converters for USB power, Hubzilla federated social networking (ActivityPub, Diaspora, Zot, ...), nomadic channel cloning and privacy setting.

Date: 22.05.

Start: 11:00

End: 13:00

Location

[AMRO20 - Workshop rooms](#)

Format:

Worklab

max. Participants: 10

Contributor[s]

[Michal Klodner](#)

[Nikola Brabcova](#)



WEB PERMACULTURE

As with all web-platforms, Schpensa's growing archive implies energy consumption and circulation of data. We therefore asked ourselves how this website could live up to our ambitions for a carbon neutral project? And how we could link the topic of sustainable cultivation of local crops with the way we cultivate our presence online? These are questions that have been leading our work with the online archive Schpensa. Looking at simple measures we can take to minimize the climate impact of our online archive (reduction of image size, no javascript, no image logo, downloadable articles), we developed the frugal web platform that you are navigating today.

CONTACT

info@arvae.ch

PARTNERS

PermaPublishing

```
<html>
<head>
<title>PermaPublishing</title>
<style>
pre { font: 122.5% / 1 "jgs", monospace; margin: 0 }
@media print {
@page { size: A4; margin: 0.5mm 1.25mm }
}
</style>
</head>
<body>
<pre>
```



```
</pre>
</body>
</html>
```

<https://permacomputing.net/>

Merci

hello@bereniceserra.com