

Data Extraction

Data Extraction is an interactive visual project developed through experimentation in TouchDesigner. The project explores how contemporary digital systems monitor, process, and simplify human behavior into measurable data. Focusing on surveillance culture, algorithmic observation, and digital categorization, the work investigates the tension between human complexity and machine interpretation.

The interaction is centered on movement. Using real-time tracking technologies, the participant's body and gestures are captured and transformed into visual data. Movements are analyzed and converted into graphs, heatmaps, labels, numerical values, and floating metrics that continuously surround the participant. As the system observes the user, it attempts to classify and define them through simplified categories and analytical outputs.

Visually, the project takes inspiration from surveillance interfaces, biometric scanning systems, machine vision, and data analysis software. The environment presents the participant as both a subject and a dataset, creating a space where the human body is treated as information to be processed. Rather than producing an accurate representation of the individual, the system reduces behavior into fragmented statistics and abstract measurements.

A key concept within the project is the loss of nuance through technological interpretation. Human movement contains emotion, intention, unpredictability, and individuality, yet digital systems often flatten these qualities into simplified patterns that can be measured and categorized. The project critiques this reductionist approach by exposing the limitations of data-driven systems and questioning how technology shapes the understanding of identity and behavior.

Through generative visuals and real-time interaction, *Data Extraction* aims to create an immersive experience that reflects the growing presence of surveillance and data collection within everyday life. The project does not present technology as neutral or objective; instead, it highlights how systems of observation can distort, oversimplify, and depersonalize human experience. By transforming the participant into a constantly analyzed dataset, the work encourages reflection on the relationship between humans, technology, and the increasing normalization of being continuously monitored and quantified.

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