

bit 2002

bureau of inverse technology
FADE TO BLACK

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bit activation f2b
REPORT NEW YORK NEW YORK June 07-02

F2B

PROJECT ABSTRACT

Network of webcams oriented skyward. Image on the webcam camera fades to black as pollutant film [particulate matter] accumulates on the lens. Provides visual and empirical information on air quality.
keywords: fade to black (f2b) ; particulate matter (PM)

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

- + webcam, standard
- + additional planar glass element recommended for spherical lens i.e. to ensure consistent collection surface;
- + standard plastic housings provide sufficient weatherproofing
- + bureau f2bscript: o/w/loaded automated timelapse sampling software [bureau site]
- + direct visual access to sky;
- recommended to mount on standard aerial armature outside window of nearest proximity to computer.

FUNCTIONALITY

1. realtime: realtime webcam image of sky
 2. BANGBANG archive: see sample script
- the f2b script stores frames captured by sampling frames at 4 minute intervals. This produces a timelapse video of the accumulation, in addition to traversal of the sun and clouds and other aerial activity. The timelapse videos from each fade to black webcam can be viewed simultaneously; to watch visual difference emerge. Further data is extracted by the automated comparison between frames that produces a numeric rate of accumulation that is unaffected by weather conditions [i.e. rain].

LOCATION

Manhattan report filed by bureau engineer; installation and maintenance issue of BANGBANG camera node. Location 23rd and 6th ave



A BANGBANG camera network node
webcams that are pointed straight up and fade to black with
the particulate accumulation on the lens

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Sample footage: