Seeking a Framework to Study and Understand Personal Information Management

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Background

• How can we translate our findings into something applied such as a tool, technique, or strategy to improve PIM practices?
A framework...

• Specifies objects or components of the system under study
• Indicates relationships of and between these objects or components
• Changes in objects or components and their relationships affecting functioning of the system
• Reveal fruitful goals or methods of research

Engelbart (1962), as cited in Ingwersen and Järvelin (2006)
Why does PIM need a framework

• Disconnect between descriptive and prescriptive studies
• Comparison of results across different PIM studies
• Understand variables under study and their relationships
  – PIM behavior; PIM tools
• Understand strengths and limitations of methodologies
The holistic cognitive framework

Fig. 6.1. Interactive Information Seeking, Retrieval and Behavioral processes. Generalized model of any participating cognitive actor(s) in context. Revision of Ingwersen (1992, p. 55). Numbers are explained in the text.
HCF for PIM

Information Items
Personal Information Collections

Management and organization of
Personal Information Collections

Keeping
Keep everything
Selective keeping
Fragmented information

Evaluation

Solutions
Algorithms
Organizational Schemas

Finding / Refinding

PIM Practice

IT: Engines
Logics
Algorithms

Cognitive Actor(s)
(team)

Org.

Social Context

Cultural

Mapping between need
and information

Information Need

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