The Holistic Cognitive Framework for Personal Information Management Research
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Background
Descriptive Personal Information Management (PIM) studies inform us about PIM behavior and their findings should guide the design and development of PIM tools to support the behavior under study. Unfortunately, descriptive studies do not always provide useful recommendations and PIM tool research is often carried out separately. The Holistic Cognitive Framework developed by Ingwersen and Järvelin (2005, Figure 6.1, p. 261) might serve as a unifying framework for PIM research.


The Holistic Cognitive Framework and Personal Information Management

[Diagram of the Holistic Cognitive Framework]

Information Items
- Personal Information Collections

Management and organization of Personal Information Collections

Finding / Refinding

Information Need

Organizational Schemas

IT: Engines Logics Algorithms

Social Context

Cognitive Actor(s) (team)

Cultural

Org.

6

5

4

3

2

1

7

8

PIM Practice

PIM Tools Gadgets

Evaluation

Solutions Algorithms

Keeping
- Keep everything
- Selective keeping
- Fragmented information

Keeping everything
Selective keeping
Fragmented information

Mapping between need and information

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.