Visualization systems as navigational aids around the web of personal information

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Mindmaps in a browser?
Outline

A Survey:

- Brief view of existing systems
- Design implications from studies of information organization systems
- Future work
Existing systems
That have characteristics of my ideal system

- Padprints
- Footprints
- WebForager, WebBook
- DataMountain
- ScratchPad
- InsightFinder
Structural, Spatial navigational support
Robertson et al., Data mountain: using spatial memory for document management, 1998
Web forager

Semantic navigational support
Gotz, D. 2007, The ScratchPad: sensemaking support for the web
Figure 3. Users can record notes by dragging content fragments (links, images, text, or entire pages) from the browser to folders in the InsightFinder.
Design implications

- Visibility (and reminding)
- Integration with existing work-flow
- Co-Adoption (affordance for people who work as a group to adopt the system)
- Scalability (with respect to the type or amount of information that the user wants to process)
- Return on Investment

Future work

Associate information scents with resources indicating:

1. The cost of foraging a resource
   
   URLs, for example

2. The chances that it will be eventually used as intended
   
   Bookmarks, for example
   - based on your history with other pieces of similar information
   - based on the information's history with other similar people

Prevent us from becoming information gluttons!
Thank you
Bookmark in nature
Clark's nutcracker:

- buries 30k seeds across an area of 100 sq.miles
- places a stone on top of the stash
- recovers 70% of the nuts buried under several feet of snow
- 278+ days

- But human spatial memory is limited to around 10 objects and suitable only for short-term