

iDM: A Unified and Versatile Data Model for Personal Dataspace Management

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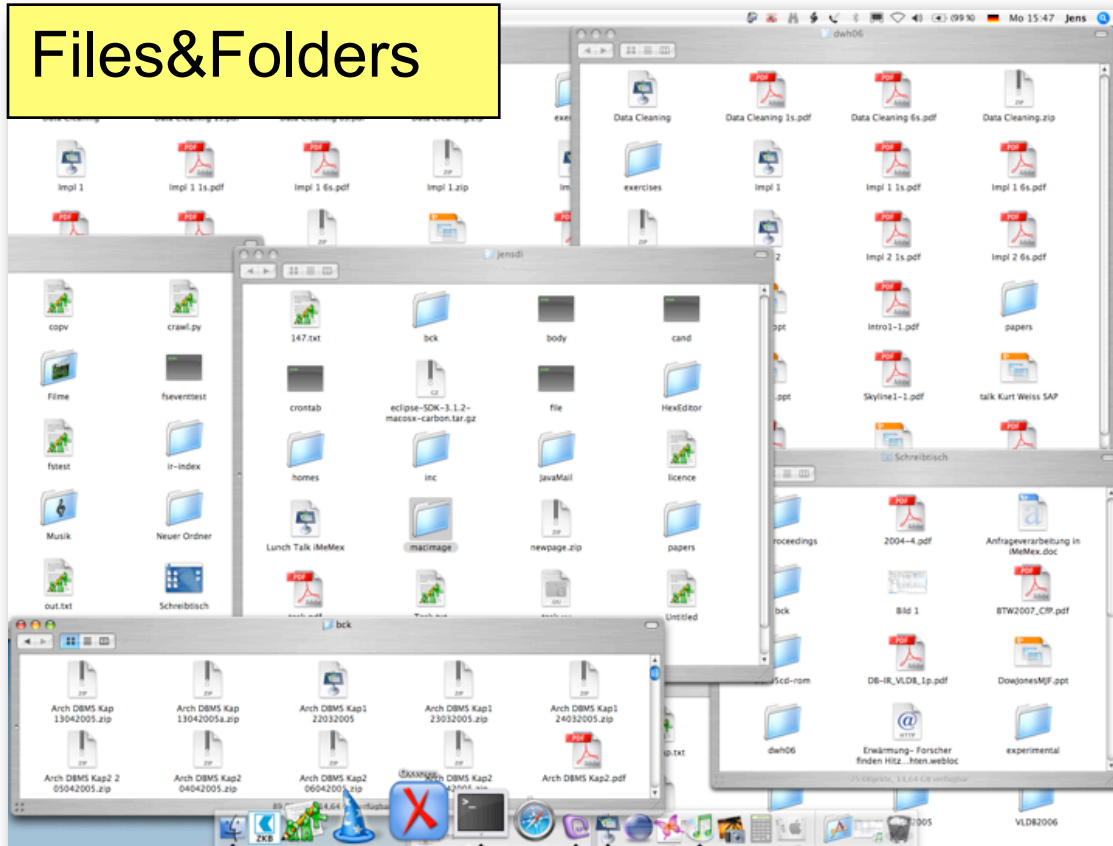
VLDB 2006, IIS Track



What is Personal Information?

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Files&Folders



What is Personal Information?

Files&Folders

Calendar

The screenshot displays a Mac OS X desktop with several overlapping windows. A yellow box highlights a 'Files&Folders' window, and another yellow box highlights a 'Calendar' window. The desktop is cluttered with various files and folders, including PDFs, zip files, and folders like 'bck', 'body', 'HexEditor', and 'papers'. The calendar window shows a monthly view for June 2006.

Montag	Dienstag	Mittwoch	Don	Freitag	Samstag	Sonntag
29	30	31 9:37 Uhr FW...	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	Juli 1	2

What is Personal Information?

Files&Folders

Calendar

Email plus Attached Files

The image shows a composite screenshot of a Mac OS X desktop environment. Three yellow boxes highlight specific areas: 'Files&Folders' points to a file browser window showing folders like 'Data Cleaning' and 'exercises'; 'Calendar' points to a calendar application showing a monthly view for June 2006; 'Email plus Attached Files' points to an email client window showing a list of emails and the details of a selected email from Peter Fischer.

Calendar (June 2006):

Montag	Dienstag	Mittwoch	Don	Freitag	Samstag	Sonntag
Mai 29	30	31 9:37 Uhr FW...	Juni 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	Juli 1	2

Email Client (Selected Email):

Von: Peter Fischer ...
An: dbis@lists.inf.ethz.ch, iks@inf.ethz.ch, ...
Betreff: [Dbis] Invitation to my thesis defense and a small apero

Dear all,
 I'd like to invite you to my thesis defense.
 5:30pm to 6:30 pm
 HG D 22 (video conferencing facilities)
 After the exam, there will be a small apero in Donalds office, CAB F 57.

What is Personal Information?

Files&Folders

Calendar

Email plus Attached Files

Pictures & Videos

The collage consists of four screenshots from a Mac OS X desktop environment, illustrating different types of personal information:

- Files&Folders:** A screenshot of a file browser window showing a directory structure with files like 'Data Cleaning 1s.pdf', 'Data Cleaning 6s.pdf', and folders like 'exercises'.
- Calendar:** A screenshot of a calendar application for 'UNI 2006' showing a grid view for May and June. The calendar includes a search bar and navigation controls.
- Email plus Attached Files:** A screenshot of an email client interface. It shows a list of messages and a detailed view of an email from Peter Fischer with the subject '[Dbis] Invitation to my thesis defense and a small apero'. The email content includes details about a thesis defense and an apero.
- Pictures & Videos:** A screenshot of a photo gallery application displaying a grid of various images, including landscapes, buildings, and people.

What is Personal Information?

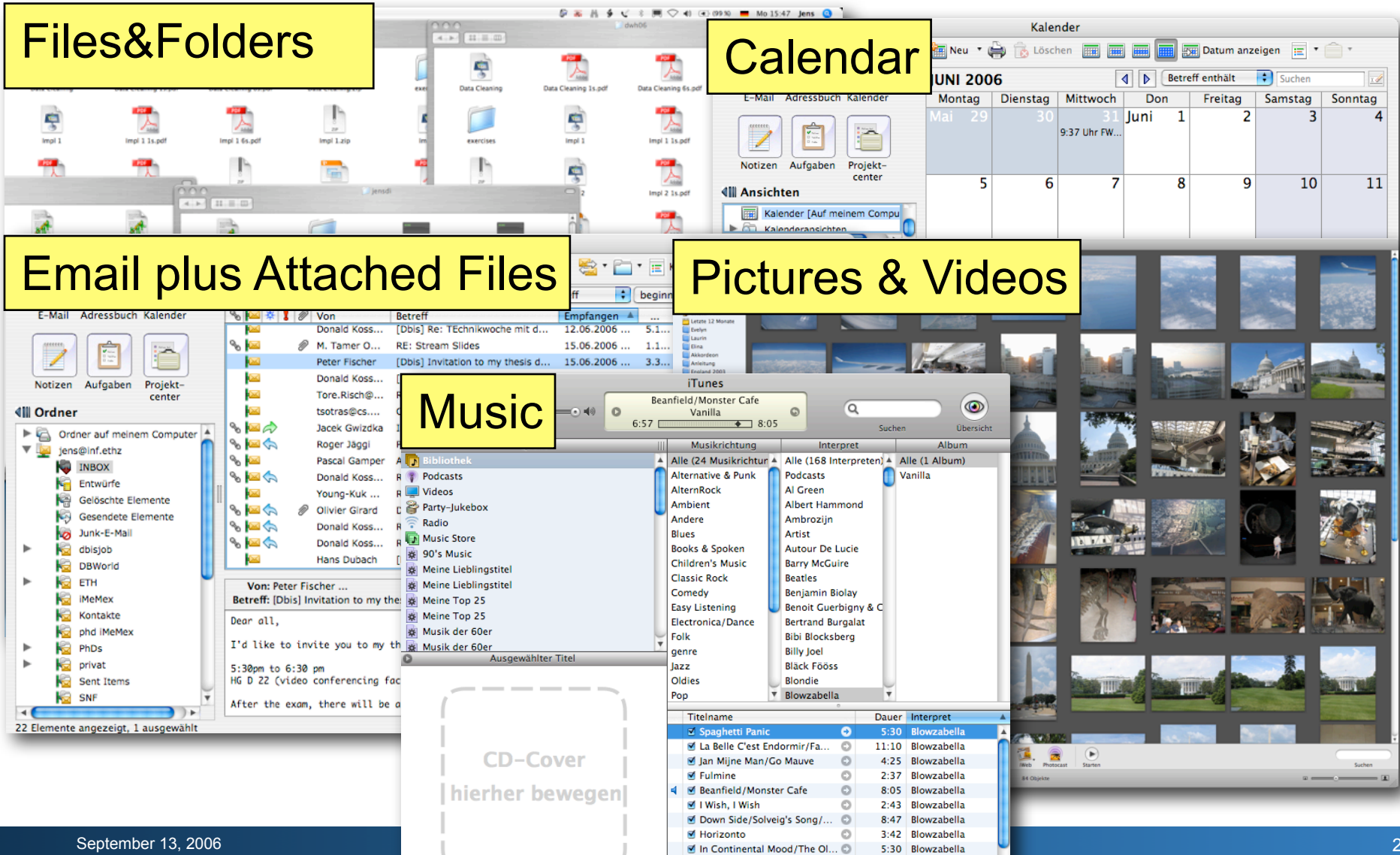
Files&Folders

Calendar

Email plus Attached Files

Pictures & Videos

Music



What is Personal Information?

Files&Folders

Calendar

Email plus Attached Files

Pictures & Videos

Music

RSS/ATOM Feeds

The collage shows several overlapping windows from different applications:

- Files&Folders:** A file explorer window showing folders like 'Data Cleaning' and 'exercises', and files such as 'Impl 1', 'Impl 1 1s.pdf', and 'Impl 1 1s.zip'.
- Calendar:** A calendar window for 'UNI 2006' showing dates from May 29 to June 4, with a search bar and navigation controls.
- Email plus Attached Files:** An email client window displaying a list of emails with columns for 'Von' (From), 'Betreff' (Subject), and 'Empfangen' (Received).
- Pictures & Videos:** A grid of various images, including landscapes, buildings, and abstract art.
- Music:** An iTunes window showing a music library with columns for 'Musikrichtung' (Genre), 'Interpret' (Artist), and 'Album'. The current track is 'Beanfield/Monster Cafe Vanilla'.
- RSS/ATOM Feeds:** A news aggregator window showing a list of articles from 'heise online News', including 'Microsoft startet Produktion des Windows Small Bu...' and 'LKW-Maut: Mehr Einnahmen, mehr Interessenten'.

What is Personal Information?

Files&Folders

Calendar

Email plus Attached Files

Pictures & Videos

Music

Web-sites

RSS/ATOM Feeds

The collage illustrates various types of personal information and the tools used to manage them:

- Files&Folders:** A screenshot of a file explorer showing folders like 'Data Cleaning' and 'exercises', and files such as 'Impl 1', 'Impl 1 1s.pdf', and 'Impl 1 6s.pdf'.
- Calendar:** A screenshot of a calendar application for 'UNI 2006', showing a monthly view for June with dates 1 through 4.
- Email plus Attached Files:** A screenshot of an email client interface showing a list of emails with columns for 'Von' (From), 'Betreff' (Subject), and 'Empfangen' (Received).
- Pictures & Videos:** A screenshot of a photo gallery displaying a grid of various landscape and architectural images.
- Music:** A screenshot of an iTunes music player interface showing a playlist titled 'Beanfield/Monster Cafe Vanilla' with a progress bar and track list.
- Web-sites:** A screenshot of a web browser displaying the Google search engine interface with the text 'Google Schweiz'.
- RSS/ATOM Feeds:** A screenshot of an RSS feed reader showing a list of news items from 'heise online News', including titles like 'Microsoft startet Produktion des Windows Small Bu...' and 'LKW-Maut: Mehr Einnahmen, mehr Interessenten'.

PIM Hell

Users have to perform too many physical data managing tasks.

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 3. User create folder hierachies on their different devices, e.g., one for email, one on the Laptop home, another on the desktop home, etc.
(Mix of physical and logical data management)

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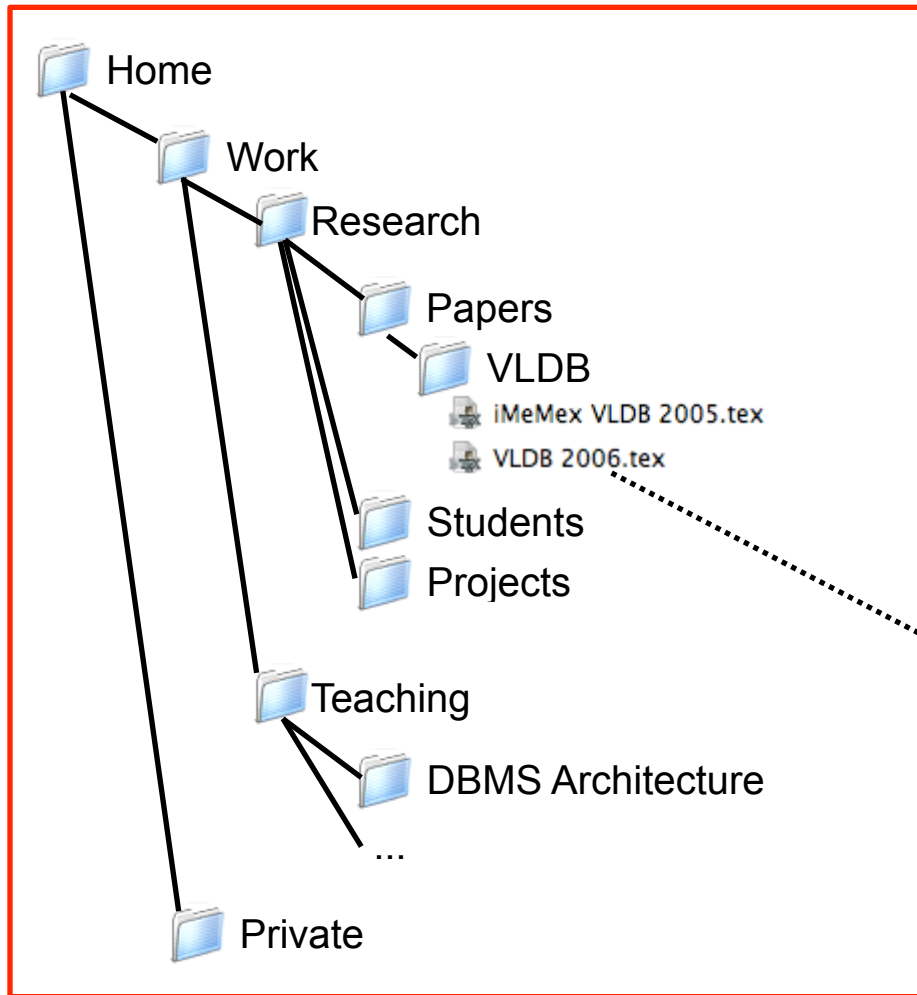
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(Mix of physical and logical data management)
 4. **Many** more problems related to PIM exist...
- See our VLDB 2005 Personal Information Jungle Demo Paper for a longer list of problems.

One Problem that Motivated This Work



The outside world

- How to query all **VLDB papers** citing one of “Klaus Dittrich“ papers from the **late nineties**?
- How to query all **Teaching** material **citing** “Klaus Dittrich“ in any “architecture“ lecture?
- How to find all **emails** from those persons I **cited** in any **paper** I have published in **2005** or **2006**?

```
\documentclass{vldb}
\title{iDM: A Unified ...}
\abstract{Personal Information...}
\begin{document}
\section{Introduction}
Personal Information...
...
\subsection{The Problem}
... basic concepts in Section~\ref{sec:preliminaries} ...
\section{Preliminaries}
\label{sec:preliminaries}
Intentional data can also...
\end{document}
```

The inside world

Problem: There is a gap between the **outside** and the **inside** structure.

PIM Heaven

Tomorrow: Users should only do logical data management.

- **Goals**
 - get rid of physical data management
 - i.e., logical granularity should be independent from the physical unit
- **Challenge:** build a PIM system that is able to do that.

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Is this only about searching? A clever new way to extend current desktop search engines?

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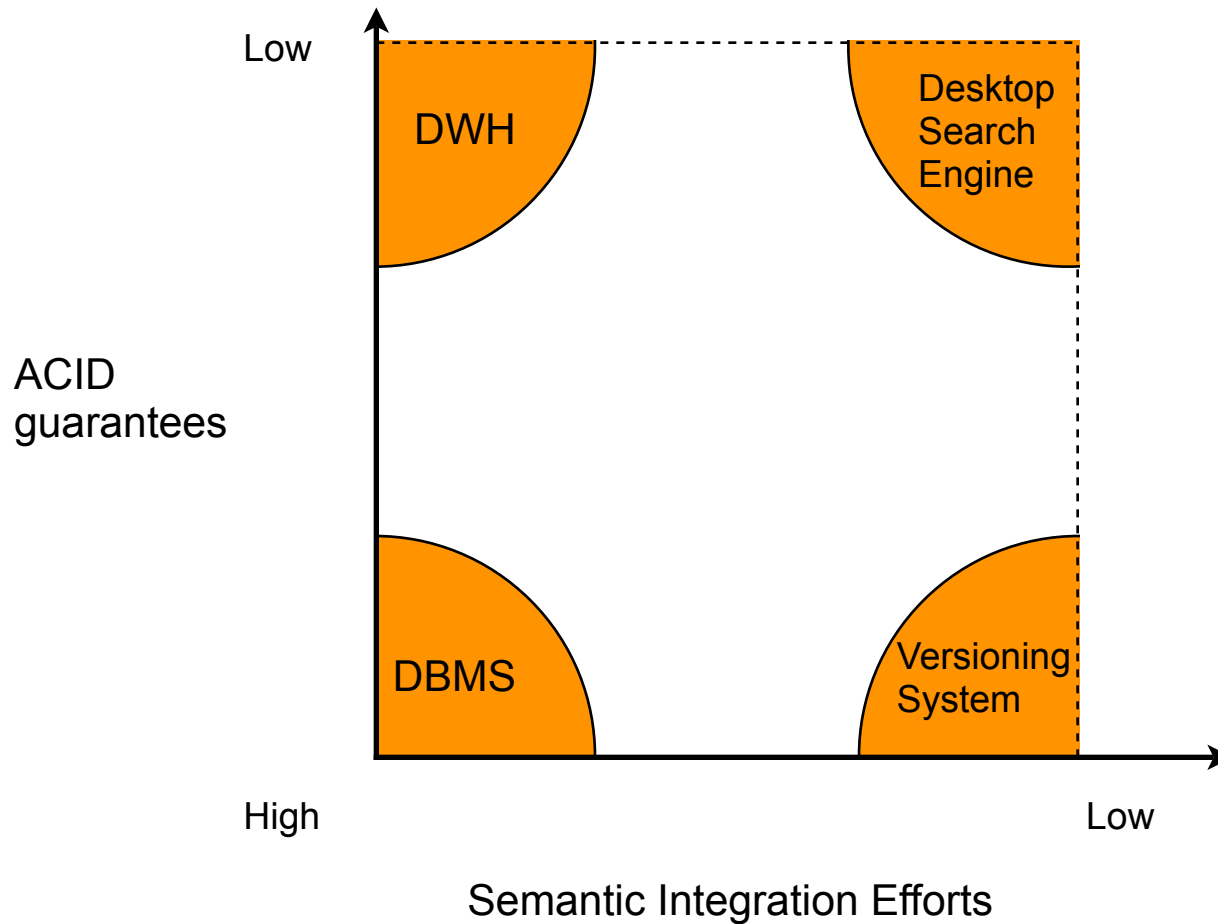
■ Challenge: build a PIM system that is able to do that.

Is this only about searching? A clever new way to extend current desktop search engines?

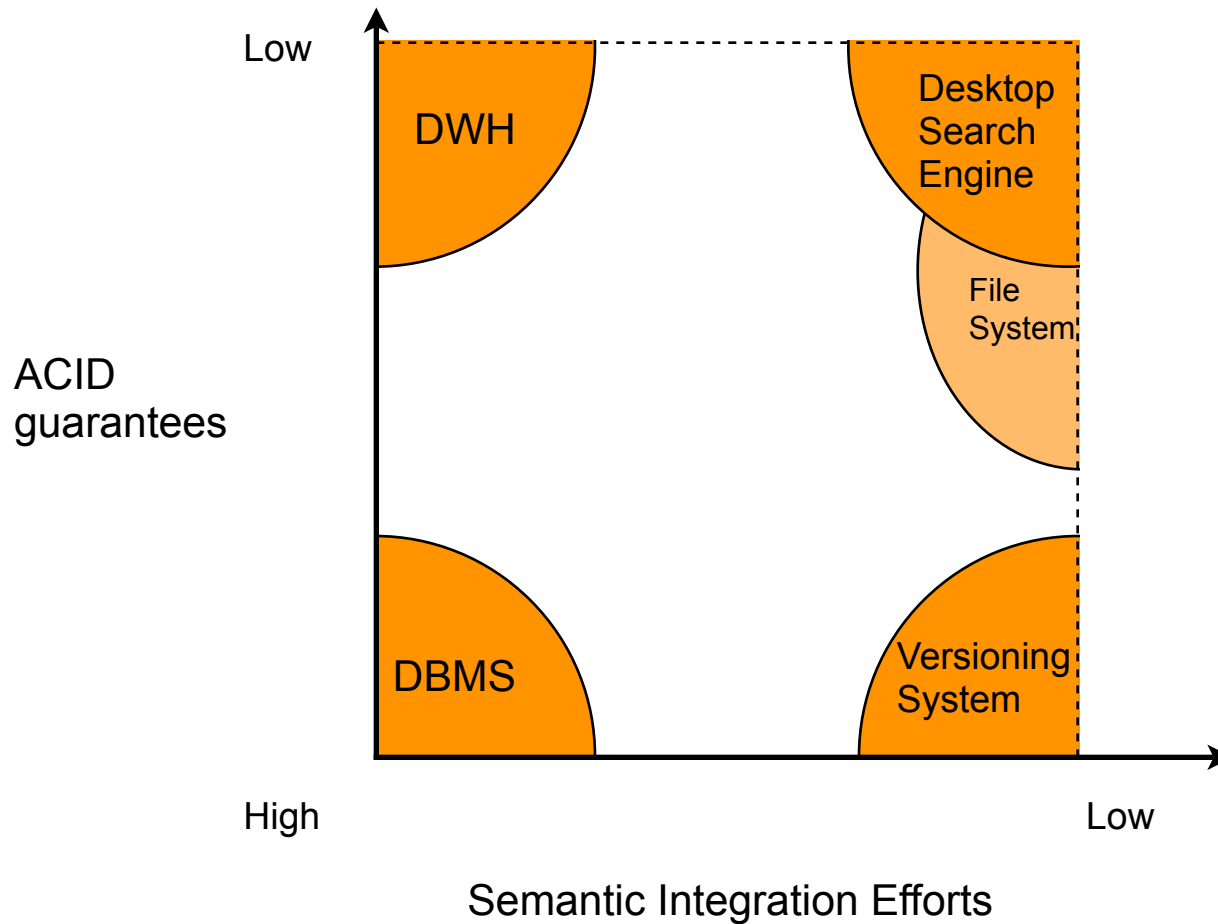
No, the problem is much bigger. We also require:

- information integration, without semantic schema integration
- updating (writing back from PIM system to the data sources)
- automatic replication/backup/recovery

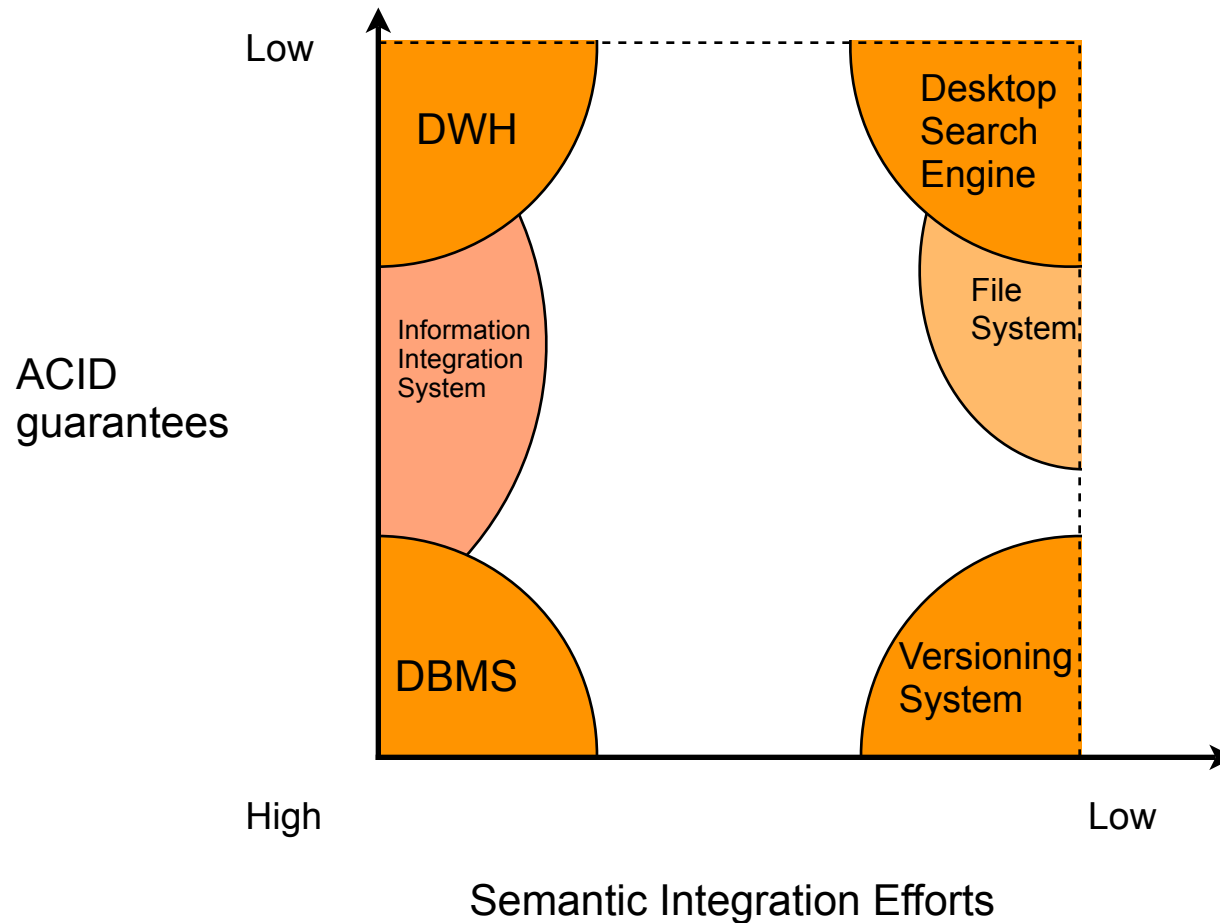
The Information System Design Space



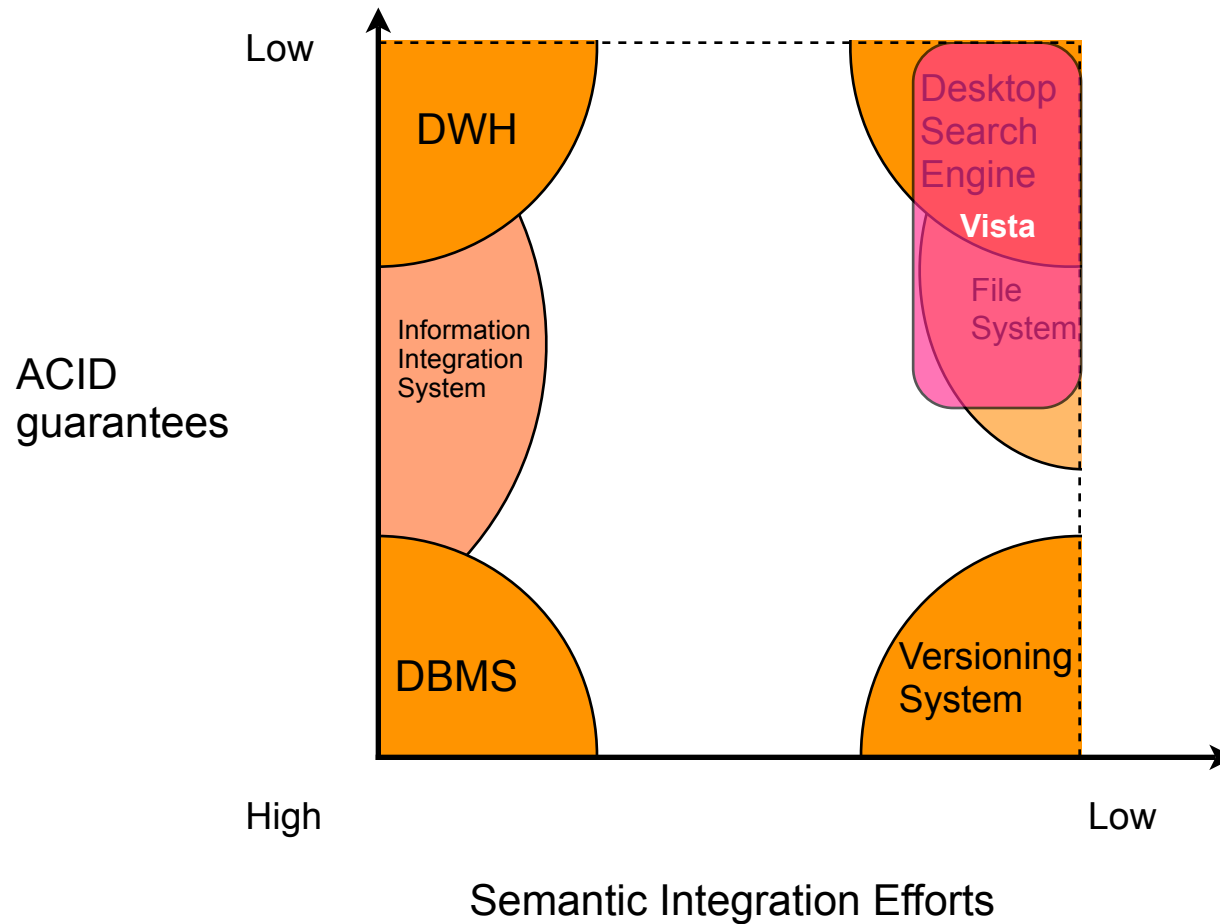
The Information System Design Space

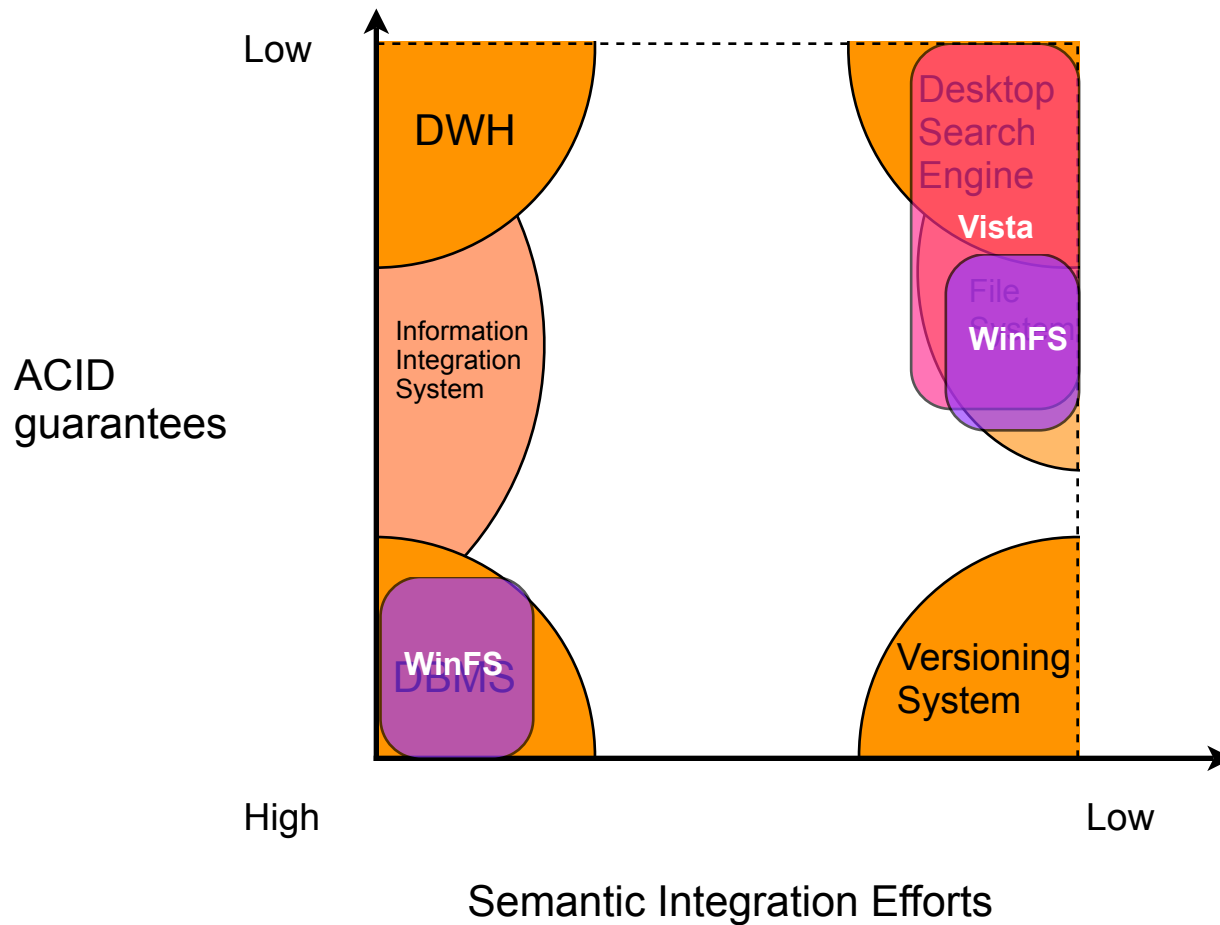


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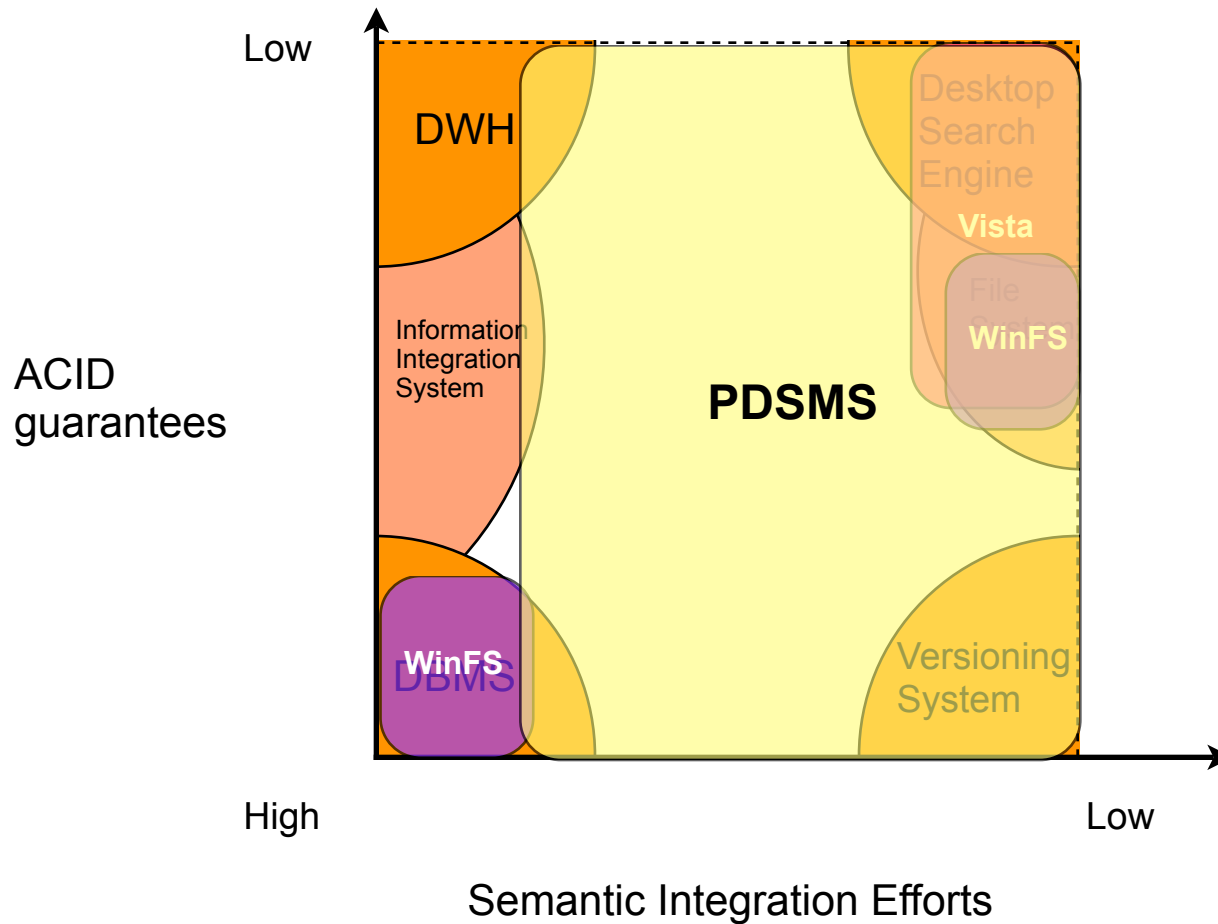


The Information System Design Space





Personal DataSpace Management Systems

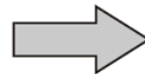
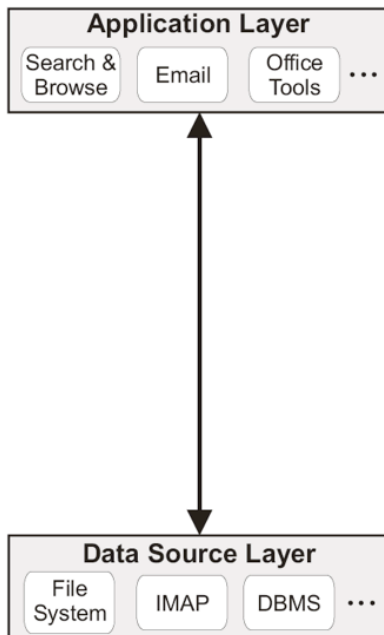


Vision: Dataspaces

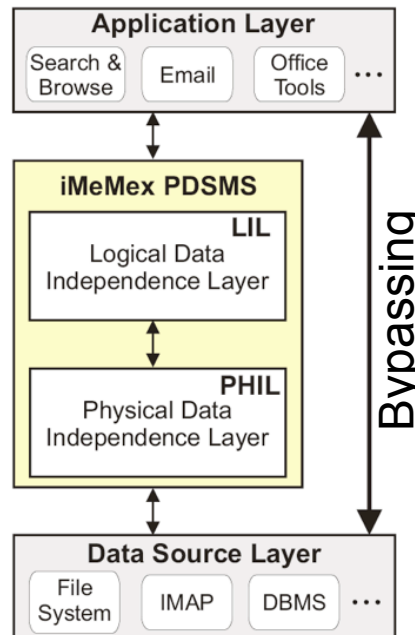
- Literature
 - J.-P. Dittrich, M.A.V. Salles, D. Kossmann, L. Blunschi
iMeMex: Escapes from the Personal Information Jungle (Demo Paper)
In VLDB, September 2005.
 - M. Franklin, A. Halevy, D. Maier
From Databases to Dataspaces: A New Abstraction for Information Management
SIGMOD Record, 34(4):27–33, December 2005.
 - J.-P. Dittrich
iMeMex: A Platform for Personal DataSpace Management
SIGIR PIM, August 2006.
 - J.-P. Dittrich, M.A.V. Salles
iDM: A Unified and Versatile Data Model for Personal Dataspace Management
VLDB 2006 (IIS Track): September 2006.

iMeMex PDSMS: Core System Idea

today:



tomorrow:



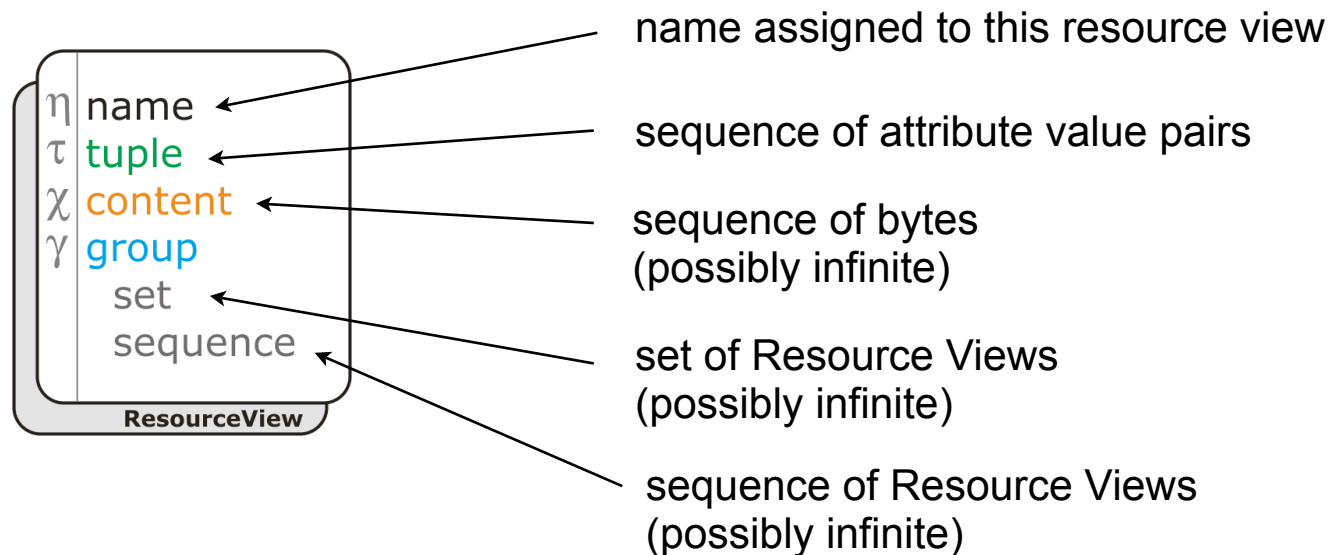
- **Core Idea**
create a logical layer on top of all personal information to create the illusion of a personal dataspace.
- **But:** allow system bypassing!

Problem: how to represent data on the PHIL layer?

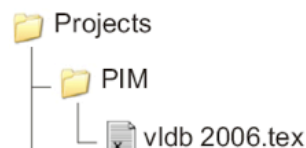
Solution: iDM

iDM Graph and Resource Views

- Core Idea: represent everything inside the same **logical** data model
- Abstract from places, formats, systems and data generation methods
- Everything is represented in a lazily computed graph of **Resource Views**
- We ignore how this is materialized or instantiated (for the moment).



iDM: Simple Example

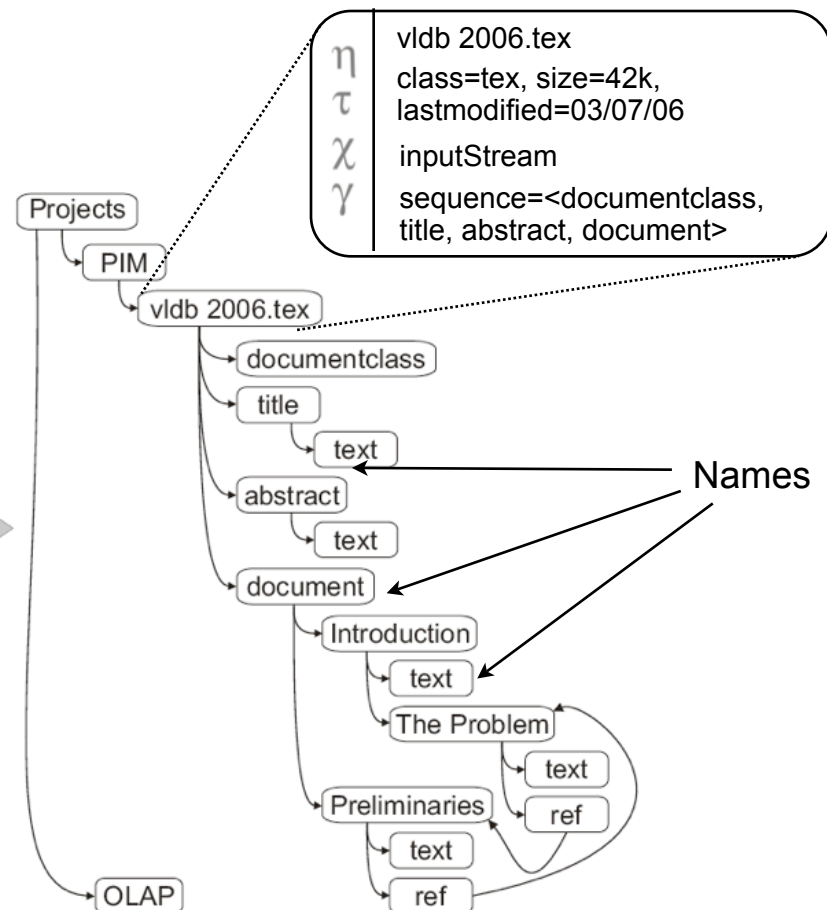


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\label{sec:theproblem}
.. concepts in Section~\ref{sec:preliminaries} ..
\section{Preliminaries}
\label{sec:preliminaries}
As mentioned in Section~\ref{sec:theproblem} .
\end{document}
  
```

OLAP

Heterogeneous Personal Information



Logical iDM graph of resource views

- Impact: Inside-outside file boundary is removed on the iDM level
All information appears as one logical dataspace.

iDM Features: Lazy Computation

- Important: iDM is not a static model.
- Every component of every Resource View may be created on demand.
- Furthermore, every Resource View may be created on demand.
- This achieved by modeling a Resource view as a set of get*-methods:

```
Interface ResourceView {  
    getNameComponent(): return  $\eta$   
    getTupleComponent(): return  $\tau$   
    getContentComponent(): return  $\chi$   
    getGroupComponent() : return  $\gamma$   
}
```

Important: It is up to the PDSMS to decide when the result to a get*-method is materialized.

iDM Features: Lazy Computation Examples

- `getContent`
 - system retrieves web page from a remote server
 - or: system dynamically generates a html page
 - or: system returns an already cached web page
 - etc.
- `getGroup`
 - system calls `getContent`, extracts structural information, returns it as an iDM subgraph
 - or: system processes a query and returns result as iDM subgraph
 - or: system calls a web service and returns result as iDM subgraph
 - or: system returns an already cached group component
 - or: system retrieves group component from a remote server

```
Interface ResourceView {  
    getNameComponent(): return  $\eta$   
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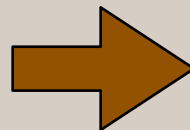
Important: the PDSMS has to make decisions on resource view materialization.

iDM Features: Use-case Active XML

Active XML

Proposed by Abiteboul et.al. PODS 04, SIGMOD 04, PODS 05, etc.

```
<dep>
  <sc>web.server.com/GetDepartments () </sc>
</dep>
```



```
<dep>
  <sc>web.server.com/GetDepartments () </sc>
  <deplist>
    <entry>
      <name>Accounting</name>
    </entry>
    ...
  </deplist>
</dep>
```

(1) Original XML document

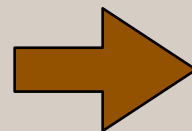
(2) Same XML document
after calling web service

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(1) Original XML document

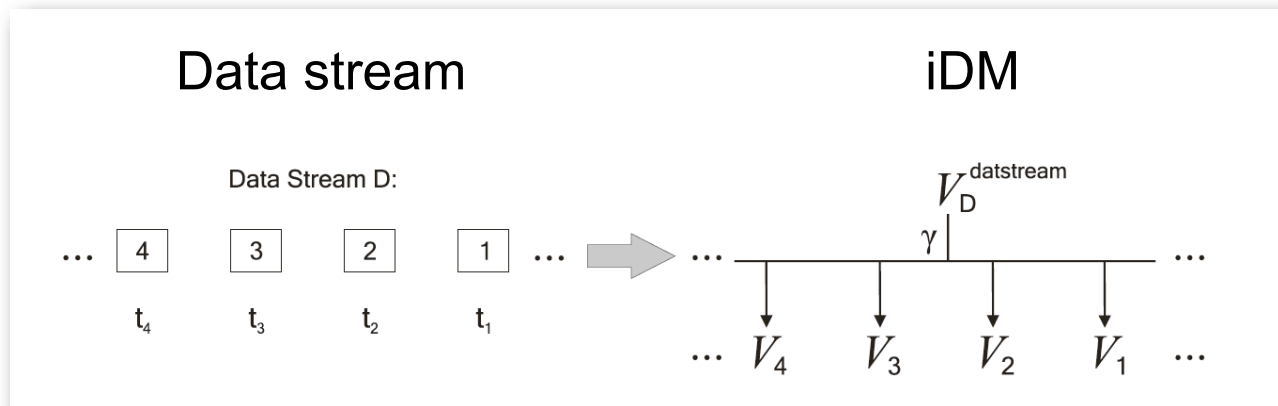
(2) Same XML document
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iDM

How to use iDM to achieve the same effect:

$$\gamma_i^{\text{AXML}} = (\emptyset, \langle V_j^{\text{sc}} [, V_k^{\text{scresult}}] \rangle)$$

iDM Features: Built-in Stream Support



- Infinite components may occur in **three** places of a resource view
 - (1) content component (stream of characters)
 - Example: video and audio stream broadcast over the network
 - (2) set or (3) sequence of the group component (stream of Resource Views)
 - Examples
 - any data stream
 - pub/sub system
 - sensor data

iDM Use-case: Email

- Consider all emails routed to address jens.dittrich at inf.ethz.ch.
- Two options to model this using iDM

1. Option: Model the state:

- $\gamma_i^{\text{INBOX State}} = (\{\}, \langle V_{q_1}^{\text{message}}, \dots, V_{q_n}^{\text{message}} \rangle)$
- Note: the INBOX represents a window query = some state is preserved.
- The state of that query is equal to the list of messages contained in the INBOX (shedding is performed by user or spam-filter).
- Messages may be retrieved multiple times.

2. Option: Model the stream:

- $\gamma_i^{\text{INBOX message stream}} = (\{\}, \langle V_{q'_1}^{\text{message}}, \dots, V_{q'_n}^{\text{message}} \rangle_{n \rightarrow \infty})$
- Stateless approach
- Messages cannot be retrieved a second time.

iDM Mapping Table

Resource View Class		Resource View Components Definition				
Description	Name	η_i^C	τ_i^C	χ_i^C	γ_i^C	Q
File	file	N_f	(W_{FS}, T_f)	C_f	\emptyset	$\langle \rangle$
Folder	folder	N_F	(W_{FS}, T_f)	$\langle \rangle$	$\{V_1^{\text{child}}, \dots, V_m^{\text{child}}\}$ child $\in \{\text{file}, \text{folder}\}$	$\langle \rangle$
Relational Tuple	tuple	$\langle \rangle$	(W_R, t_i)	$\langle \rangle$	\emptyset	$\langle \rangle$
Relation	relation	N_R	$()$	$\langle \rangle$	$\{V_1^{\text{tuple}}, \dots, V_m^{\text{tuple}}\}$ $V_i^{\text{tuple}} = \langle \tau_i^{\text{tuple}} \rangle, \tau_i^{\text{tuple}} = (W_R, t_i),$ $i = 1, \dots, m$	$\langle \rangle$
Relational database	reldb	N_{DB}	$()$	$\langle \rangle$	$\{V_1^{\text{relation}}, \dots, V_m^{\text{relation}}\}$	$\langle \rangle$
XML text node	xmltext	$\langle \rangle$	$()$	C_t	\emptyset	$\langle \rangle$
XML element	xmlelem	N_E	(W_E, T_E)	$\langle \rangle$	\emptyset	$\langle V_1^{\text{xmlnode}}, \dots, V_n^{\text{xmlnode}} \rangle$ xmlnode $\in \{\text{xmltext}, \text{xmlelem}\}$
XML document	xmldoc	$\langle \rangle$	$()$	$\langle \rangle$	\emptyset	$\langle V_{\text{root}}^{\text{xmlelem}} \rangle$
XML File	xmlfile	N_f	(W_{FS}, T_f)	C_f	\emptyset	$\langle V_{\text{doc}}^{\text{xmldoc}} \rangle$
Stream	stream	$\langle \rangle$	$()$	$\langle \rangle$	\emptyset	$\langle V_1, \dots, V_n \rangle_{n \rightarrow \infty}$
Tuple stream	tupstream	$\langle \rangle$	$()$	$\langle \rangle$	\emptyset	$\langle V_1^{\text{tuple}}, \dots, V_n^{\text{tuple}} \rangle_{n \rightarrow \infty}$
RSS/ATOM stream	rssatom	$\langle \rangle$	$()$	$\langle \rangle$	\emptyset	$\langle V_1^{\text{xmldoc}}, \dots, V_n^{\text{xmldoc}} \rangle_{n \rightarrow \infty}$ or: same as in xmldoc

- We employ Resource View Classes to represent files&folders, relations, XML, data streams, and RSS/ATOM.
- More on RV classes, more examples and more mappings: see paper.

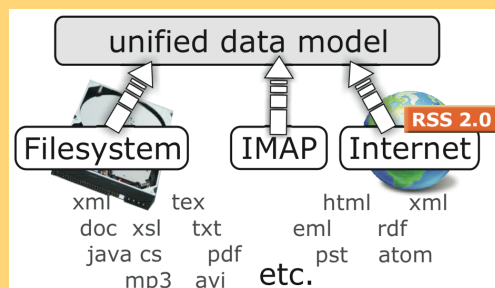
Summary of iDM Benefits

- Clear separation between logical model and physical representation
- Abstracts from systems, devices, formats and specialized data models
- Inherent support for cyclic graph data
- Inherent support for lazy computation (e.g., intensional data, remote calls)
- Inherent support for infinite data (media and data streams)
- Powerful enough to model special cases such as XML , ActiveXML, email, files&folders, relations, data streams, etc.

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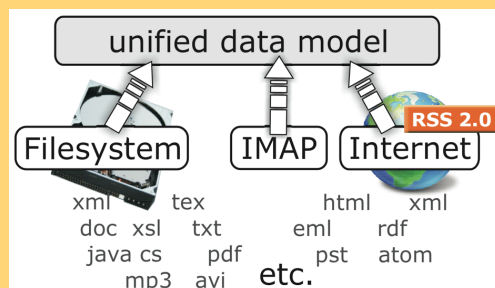
So far:



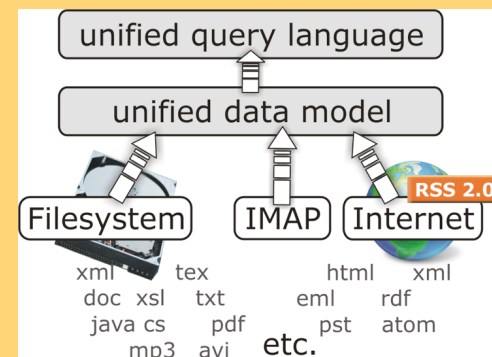
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So far:



Now:



How to Query the iDM Dataspace? Like this?



Or like this?

Google

http://www.imemex.org

DBLP SIGMOD 2007 LaTeX Beamer IDM GUI Build/Test Google SIGIR 2006 sueddeutsche DBIS inf.ethz.ch

Personalized Home | Sign in

iMeMex.org
Personal DataSpace Management System

Web [Images](#) [Video](#) **New!** [News](#) [Maps](#) [more »](#)

```

for $p in doc("auction.xml")/site/people/person
let $a :=
  for $t in doc("auction.xml")/site/closed_auctions/closed_auction
  let $n := for $t2 in doc("auction.xml")/site/regions/europe/item
            where $t/itemref/@item = $t2/@id
            return $t2
  where $p/@id = $t/buyer/@person
  return <item> {$n/name} </item>
return <person name="{ $p/name }">{ $a }</person>

```

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iQL: Towards a Dataspace Query Language

- Language Requirements
 - simple and expressive at the same time
 - centered around keyword search
 - should have structural constraints
 - algebraic operations (joins)
 - support updates and inserts.
- Existing search&query languages
 - keyword search: no structural constraints, too lightweight
 - SQL: too complex, too much focussed on relational model
 - XPath : good on structural constraints, bad on keywords
 - XQuery: far too heavy

Our Approach: iQL

- `Donald Knuth`
returns all resource views containing both keywords “Donald” and “Knuth”
- `“Donald Knuth”`
returns all resource views containing the phrase “Donald Knuth”
- `[size > 42000 and lastmodified < yesterday()]`
returns those resource views having a tuple component attribute greater than 42000 and a lastmodified date before yesterday.
- `//PIM//Introduction[class="latex_section"]`
returns every resource view named “Introduction” of class “latex_section” that is indirectly related to a resource view named “PIM”.
- `//OLAP//[class="figure" and "Indexing time"]`
first, selects resource views that are indirectly related to a resource view named “OLAP”. In addition, all results have to be of resource view class “figure” and have to contain the phrase “Indexing time”.
- In the IR-community a related approach was proposed restricted to XML retrieval: NEXI (Narrowed Extended XPath), Trotman and Sigurbjörnsson, INEX 2004
- However, NEXI is simply not powerful enough.

Evaluation

- Considered Personal Dataspace from one of the authors (files plus IMAP)
- Provided converters for XML and LaTeX.

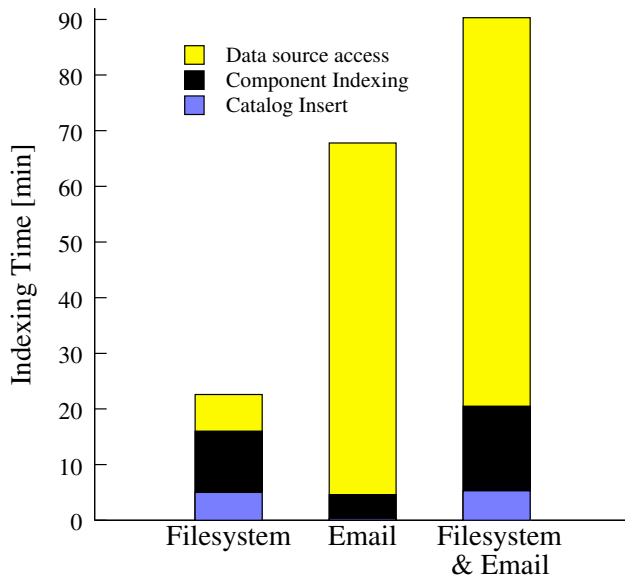
Data Source	Total Size (MB)	# of Resource Views						
		Base Views			Derived Views			Total
		Files&Folders	Email	Total	XML	LaTeX	Total	
Filesystem	4,243	14,297	0	14,297	117,298	11,528	128,826	143,123
Email / IMAP	189	0	6,335	6,335	672	350	1,022	7,357
Total	4,435	14,297	6,335	20,632	117,970	11,878	129,848	150,480

- Result: Converters create considerable number of derived Resource Views.
- Gross input size contained some binary data (e.g., pictures)
- Lucene cannot index media content like pictures and videos.
- Therefore non-text content was excluded to determine the net input size (6% of gross input)

Data Source	Net Input Data Size (MB)	Index Sizes (MB)					
		Name	Tuple	Content	Group	RV Catalog	Total
Filesystem	212.3	12.5	11.5	113.0	3.3	24.4	164.7
Email / IMAP	43.1	0.4	1.8	5.0	0.2	0.4	7.8
Total	255.4	12.9	13.3	118.0	3.5	24.8	172.5

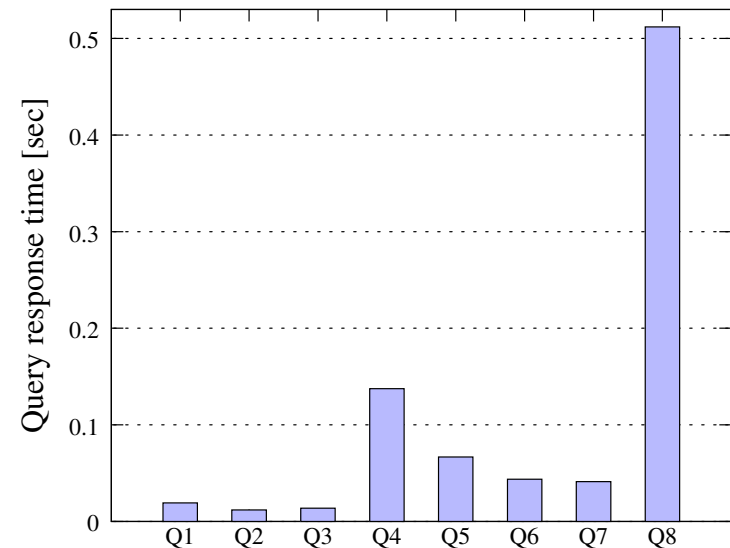
- Result: Indexing requires 46% of the net input size for text content plus another 22% for other indexes.

Evaluation



iQL Query expression	# of Results
Q1 "database"	941
Q2 "database tuning"	39
Q3 [size > 420000 and lastmodified < @12.06.2005]	88
Q4 //papers//*Vision/*["Franklin"]	2
Q5 //VLDB200?/?onclusion/*["systems"]	2
Q6 union(//VLDB2005/*["documents"], //VLDB2006/*["documents"])	31
Q7 join(//VLDB2006/*[class="texref"] as A, //VLDB2006/*[class="environment"]//figure* as B, A.name=B.tuple.label)	21
Q8 join (//*[class = "emailmessage"]//*.tex as A, //papers//*.tex as B, A.name = B.name)	16

- Results: initial implementation of iDM is very efficient with respect to both indexing and query processing times.
- More experiments: ongoing work



Conclusions

- The Personal Information Management Problem calls for a new system abstraction
Personal Dataspace Management Systems (PDSMS)
- Personal Dataspace Management Systems have to deal with a highly heterogeneous data mix thus require a powerful model to represent the dataspace.
- As a solution we have presented **iDM: the iMeMex Data Model**.
- iDM is a building block of the iMeMex Personal Dataspace Management System.
- The major advantages of our approach are:
 - (1) iDM clearly differentiates between the logical data model and its physical representation.
 - (2) iDM is powerful enough to represent XML, relations, files&folders and cyclic graphs in a single data model.
 - (3) iDM is able to represent the structural contents inside files as part of the same data model.
 - (4) iDM is powerful enough to represent extensional data (base facts), intensional data (e.g. ActiveXML), as well as infinite data (content and data streams).
 - (5) iDM enables a new class of queries that are not available with state-of-the-art PIM tools (including the upcoming Windows).

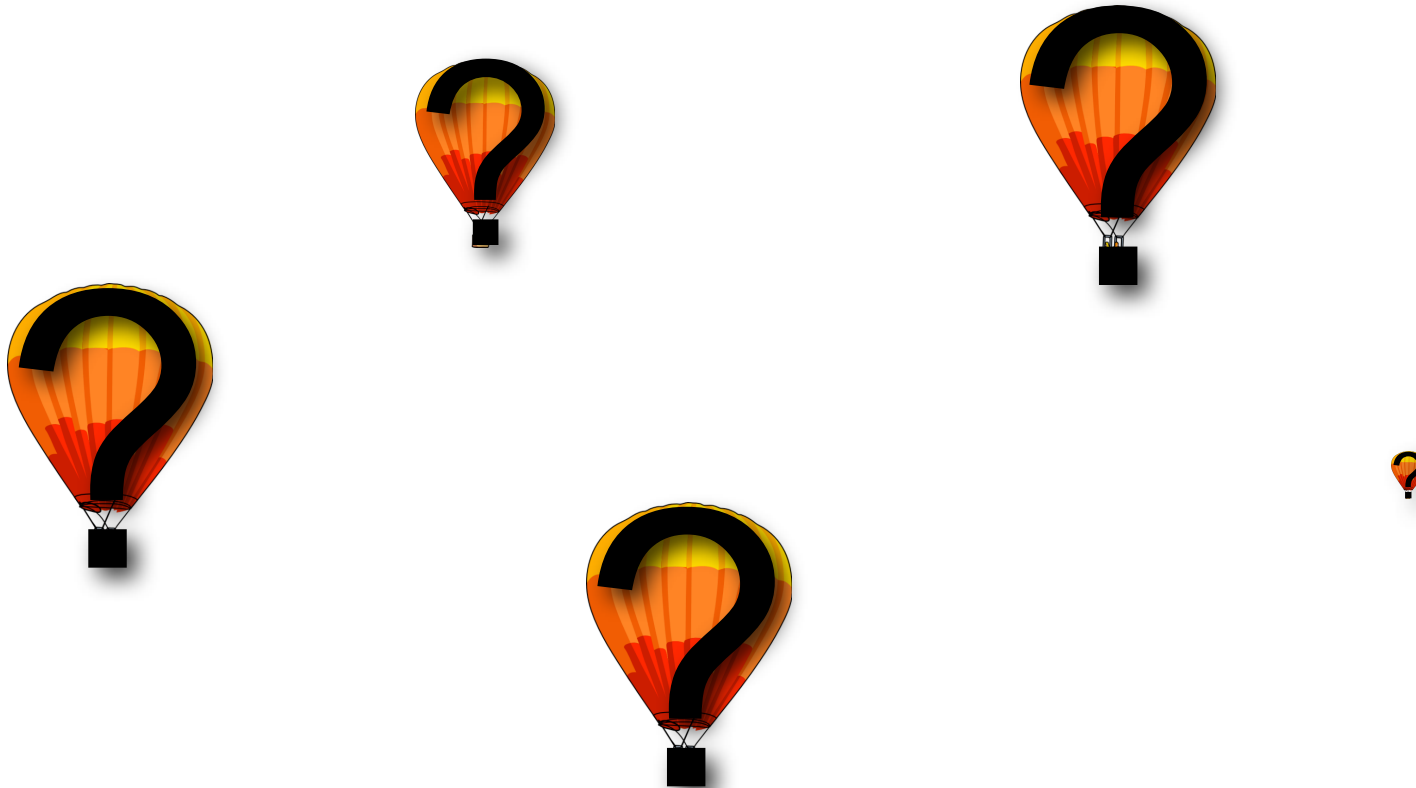
Ongoing and Future Work

- AJAX GUI
- Logical Independence Layer
- iQL specification
- distributed iMeMex instances
- more OSGi plugins
- ...
- Please see <http://www.imemex.org> for latest news.

The screenshot displays the iMeMex.org web application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with various links including DBLP, LaTeX Beamer, IDM GUI, Google, SIGIR 2006, Java 1.4.2, sueddeutsche, DBIS, inf.ethz.ch, Technology Review, PW, and JavaM. The main content area features the iMeMex.org logo and the text "Personal DataSpace Management System". Below the logo is a search bar containing the query "/*CIDR*/*.tex" and a "Search" button. The search results are displayed in a grid format, showing four resources returned. The first resource is "CIDR 2007.tex", with a file path of "file:///CIDR2007/Marcos' documents/papers/CIDR 2007.tex" and an "Explore Context" section showing "Time -" and "Connections (1) + Lineage". The second resource is "LaTeX", with a file path of "file:///CIDR2007/Marcos' documents/papers/CIDR 2007.tex|texDoc" and an "Explore Context" section showing "-" and "Connections (8) + Lineage". The third resource is "\documentclass {sig...", with a file path of "file:///CIDR2007/Marcos' documents/papers/CIDR 2007.tex|texDoc0" and an "Explore Context" section showing "-" and "Lineage". The fourth resource is "abstract", with a file path of "file:///CIDR2007/Marcos' documents/papers/CIDR 2007.tex|texDoc1" and an "Explore Context" section showing "-" and "Connections (1) + Lineage". The fifth resource is "Introduction", with a file path of "file:///CIDR2007/Marcos' documents/papers/CIDR".

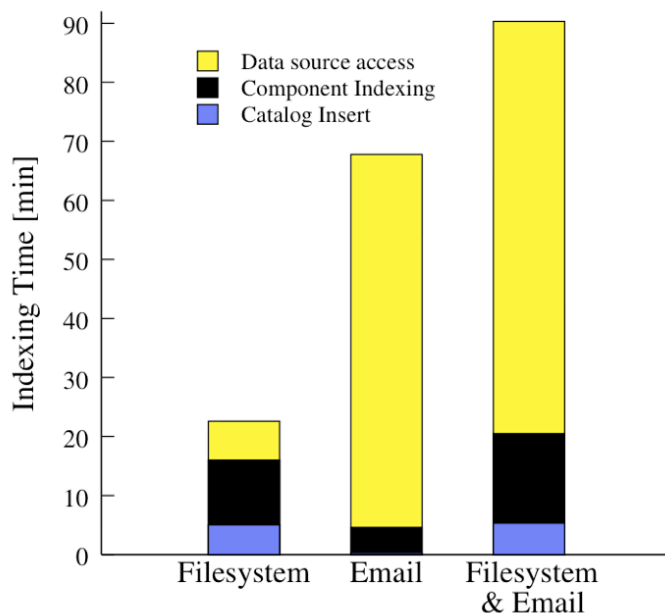
Thank you for your attendance.

- Questions?

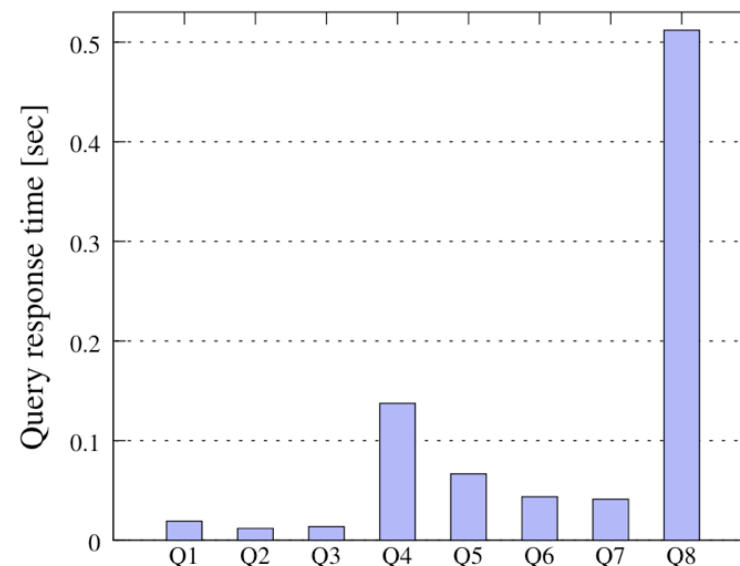


Backup Slides

Evaluation



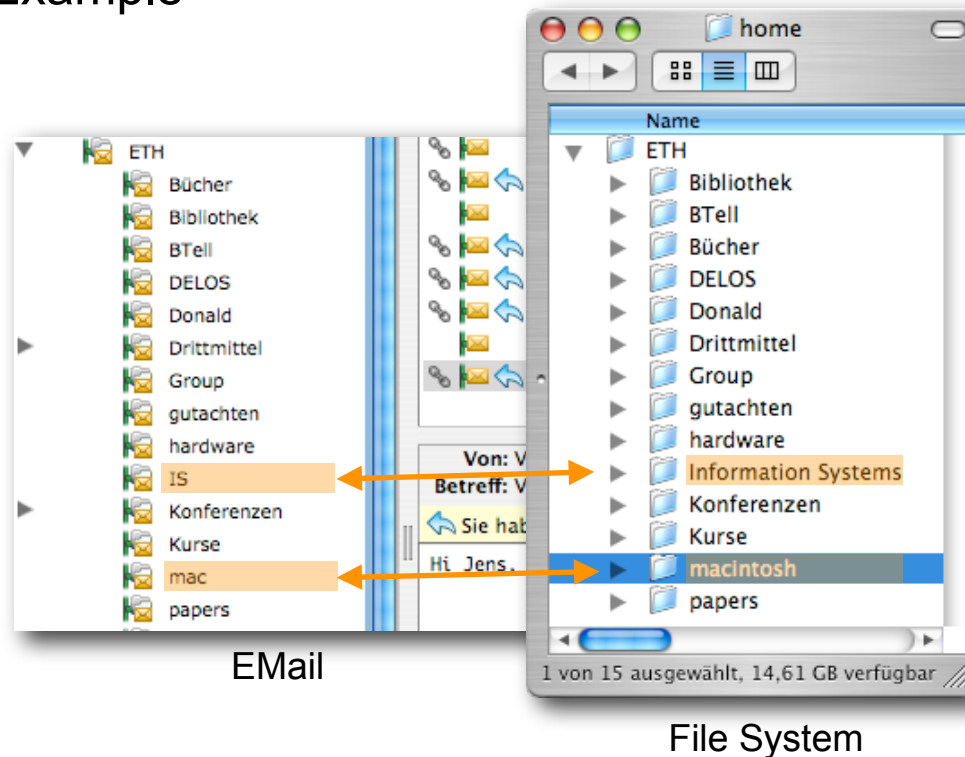
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- Results: initial implementation of iDM is very efficient with respect to both indexing and query processing times.
- More experiments: ongoing work

Problem 3: Users Create Folder Hierarchies

- Example



- Similar hierarchies in multiple places
 - local desktop disk
 - local laptop disk
 - network drive
 - email folders
 - bookmarks

This is a mix of **physical** and **logical** data management.

Indexing

- Name Index&Replica
 - an Apache Lucene full-text index, at the same time a replica
- Tuple Index & Replica
 - a replica of all resource views' tuple components
 - based on vertical partitioning
(main technique of main memory systems).
- Content Index
 - an Apache Lucene full-text index on the text extracted from content components, if available.
 - That index is not a replica, i.e., the original content is not duplicated in the index.
- Group Replica
 - a replica of all resource views' group components.
- Our strategy: Full indexing but not full replication
- Future work: explore other strategies.

Problem 2: Mismatch Between Documents and Files

- Examples

- Imagine document D1 represents our VLDB 2006 paper.
- Document D1 may be stored in different ways:

either single file:

vldb 2006.tex

(Contains complete tex sources)

or multiple files:

vldb 2006.tex

(Main file)

Introduction.tex

(One extra file per section)

iMeMex Data Model.tex

“

Instantiating.tex

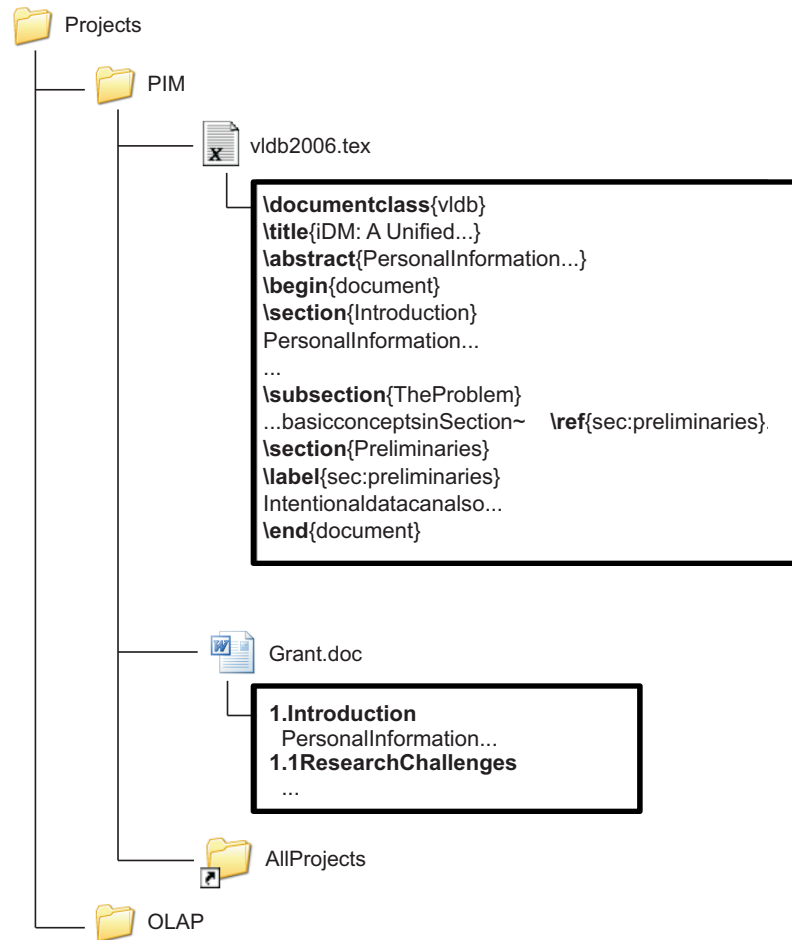
“

- However, logically in both cases it is the same document D1.
- **Observation:** different physical layouts for same logical document.

This is a mix of **physical** and **logical** data management.

One Problem that Motivated This Work

- Example



- What if

This is a mix of **physical** and **logical** data management.

Some Typical PIM Problems

Problem 1: Users Store Stuff on Devices

- Examples
 - C: or network drive T:
 - copy from C: to T:
 - download pictures from digital camera to your laptop
 - download stuff from the Internet to your laptop
 - replicate data for backups between devices
- **Observation:** user knows about physical devices.

This user performs **physical** data management.