

# I don't get out of bed until my PIM tells me to

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boundaries and the design of personal information management technologies

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**THE UNIVERSITY  
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# overview

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- managing personal information
- design problem
- boundaries
- concepts
- design process



# setting the scene

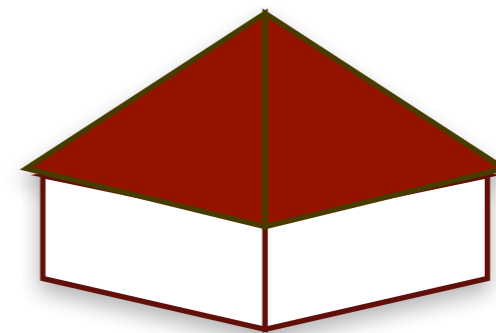
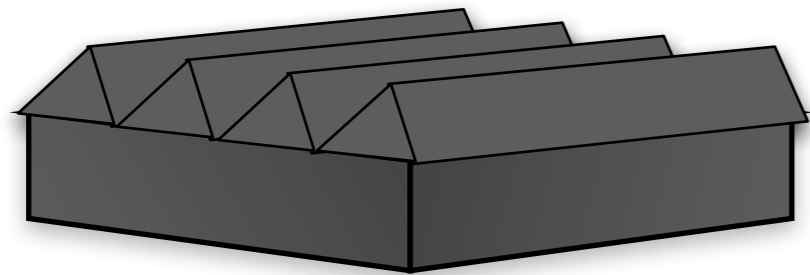
- Challenge of managing personal information across multiple boundaries
- multiple sources
- multiple media
- multiple platforms
- multiple locations
- through use of mundane technologies



# design problem

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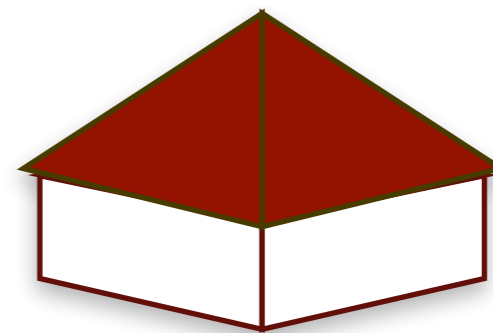
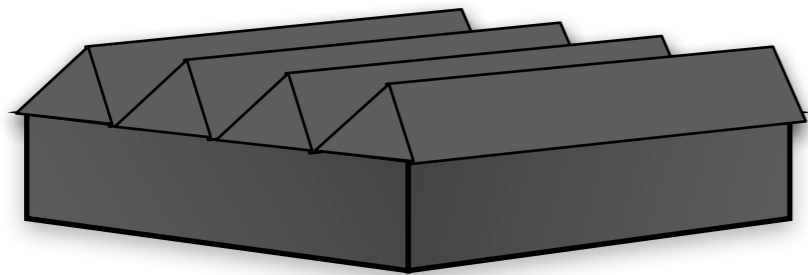
- Personal information management (PIM) for everyday life



# design problem

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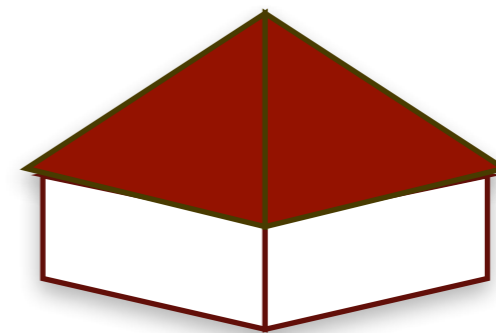
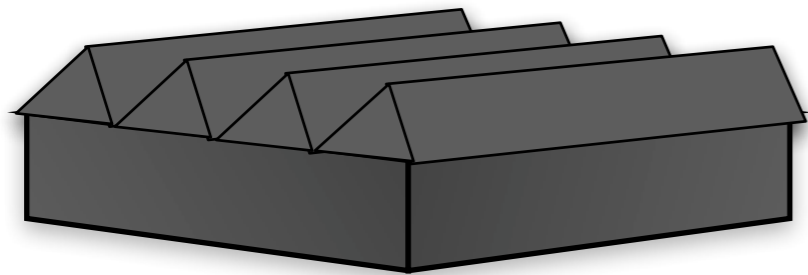
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- PIM has traditionally been treated as a workplace concern
  - scheduling meetings
  - managing to-do lists
  - collaboration
  - awareness
  - privacy



# design problem

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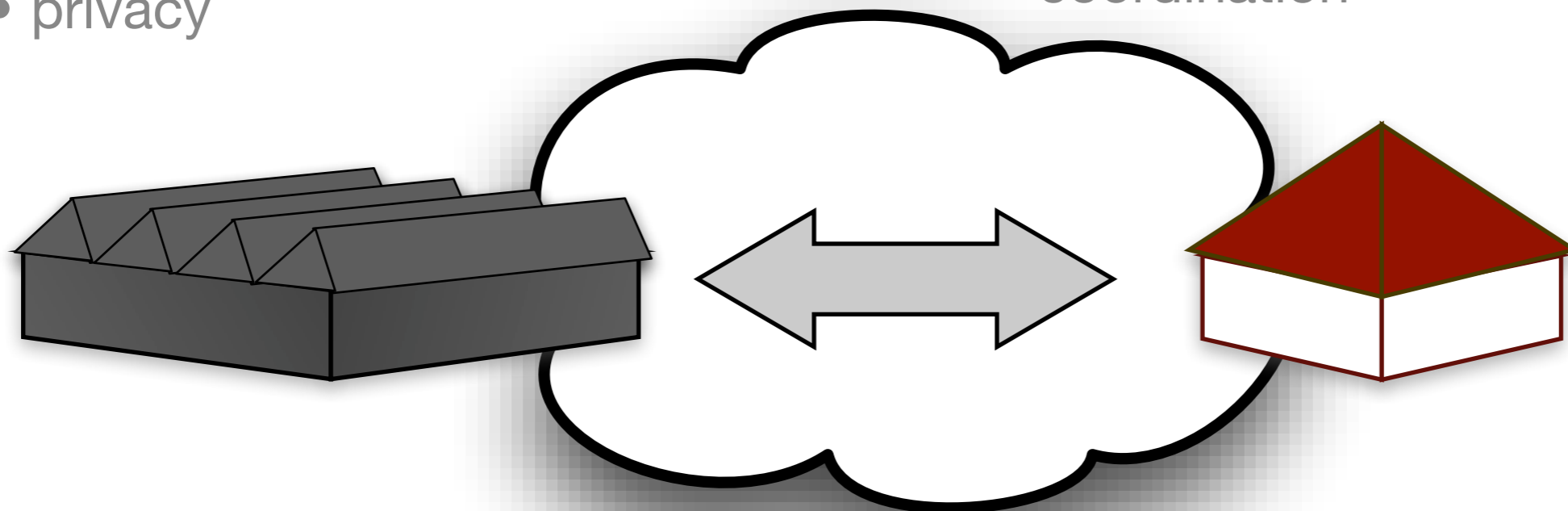
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  - locations in the home
  - patterns & routines
  - ownership
  - coordination



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# boundaries

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- Home ⇔ work
  - switching contexts; similar issues with work ⇔ work
- Individual ⇔ social
  - merging family schedules
- Physical ⇔ digital
  - affordances of paper, tangible interaction, visualisation
- Online ⇔ offline
  - when 'anywhere, anytime' breaks down
- local ⇔ remote
  - collaboration mediated by artefacts, same place/different places

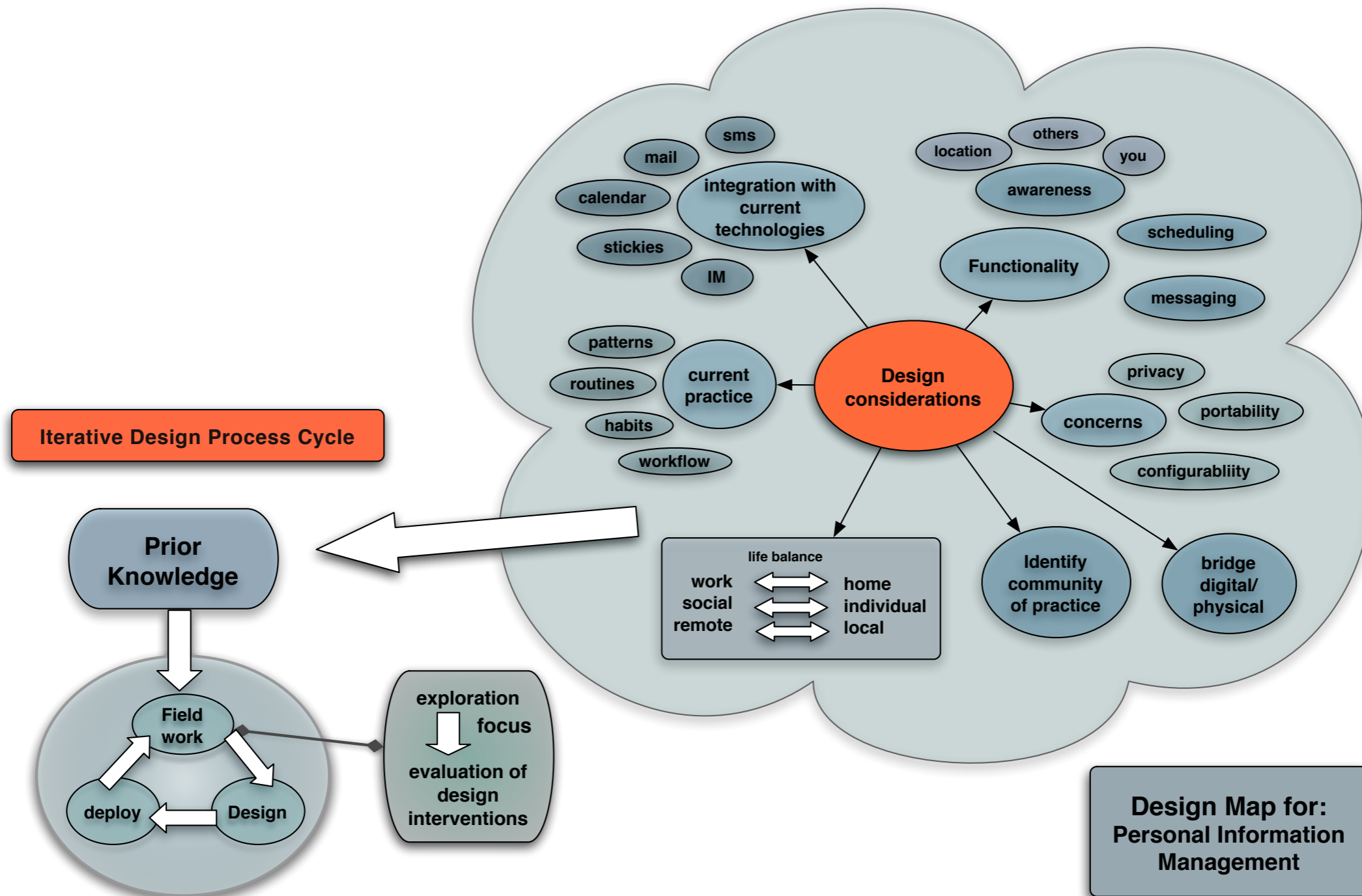


# some concepts

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- Prime time carer
  - social computing where some are more equal than others
  - ownership
- Visually mapping
  - presenting information for at-a-glance identification of conflicts, etc.
  - sharing schedules to facilitate planning
  - awareness at a micro level (twitter, facebook status)
- Messy deployment
  - legacy, individual preferences, organizational requirements
  - work with existing infrastructure
- Multiple methods
  - reflective, iterative, fieldwork, prototypes

# design process



# summary

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- Domestic setting is handy for thinking about this, but the problem is more complex than just translating workplace technology to the home
  - nuclear family also only small part of the picture
  - extended family, non-blood extensions to family
- multiple boundaries exist
  - not orthogonal--many overlaps
  - useful way to focus design on particular aspects of the whole problem
- technology adds to the messiness of everyday life
  
- waiting for google to fund this...