

That Syncing Feeling

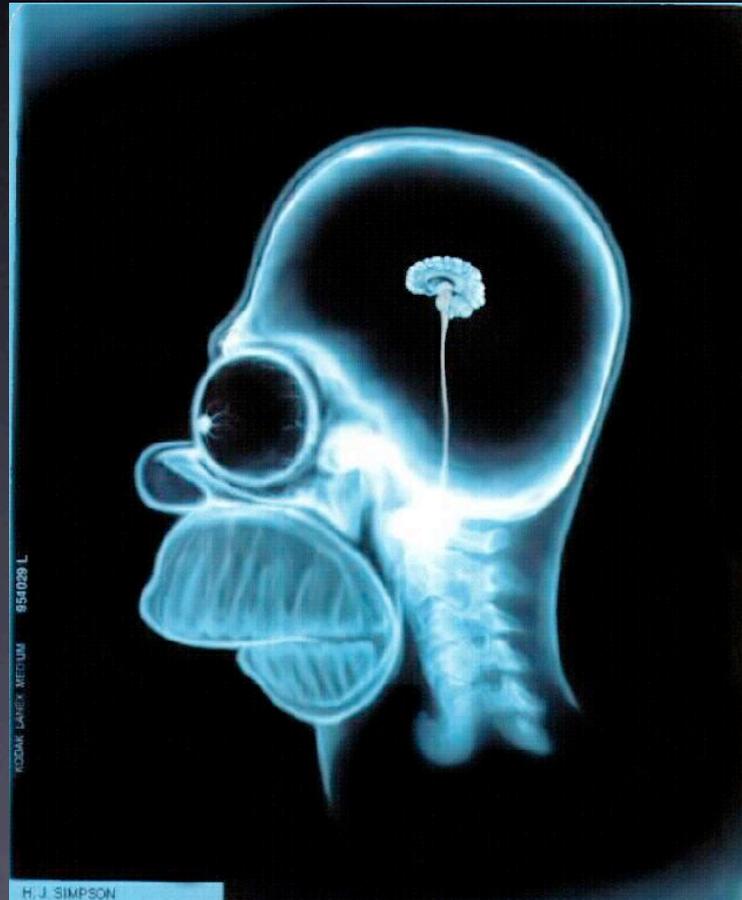
Thomas Vander Wal

Design Engaged

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It used to be simple...

All our information fit in one place



Then...

One tool could store
our information...

What's on your PowerBook?

What's on your PowerBook?

**Father Don Doll
Priest**

Wedding homilies
Student addresses
Fax/modem
Faces to Jesuit missionaries in
Nairobi, Bangkok and Rome
Entire photo layout of book I'm
writing on the Sioux Indians
Grant proposal for my book
Reflections on scripture
Letter template, with my
letterhead and signature
Envelope template
QuarkXPress
Microsoft Word
FileMaker Pro
Scans of photos I took in Ireland
A Campus Planning memo
A calculator
A spellchecker
A calendar
Design for wedding programs
Design for my Christmas card
Syllabi and assignments
for my classes
My mechanic's phone number



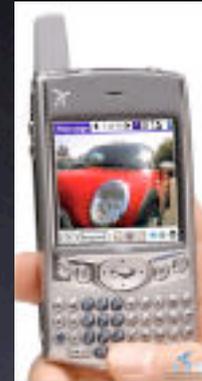
**Todd Rundgren
Interactive artist**

The dates of my concert tour
Songs I've written
Computer programs I've written
Scanned photos I retouched for
my new album cover
Fax/modem
Sequencer that
lets the PowerBook control
my synthesizers onstage
A letter to the editor
A bunch of type fonts
Flowfazer, the screensaver
I codeveloped
CompuServe
Microsoft Word
Adobe Photoshop
Think C Code
ToasterLink
A lecture I delivered on
interactive music
A lecture I delivered to the
New York State Bar
Animation clips
An alarm clock
My last video
Storyboards and graphics
for my next video



But, today...

Our information



is here



somewhere...

The Dream

Our accurate up-to-date
information at *our* disposal
when we need it.

Personal InfoCloud

Device versus
Network?

How Close Are We?

Usable Syncing Between Two Devices

- Calendar
- Address book
- To Do List

Dodgy bits

- Documents
- Media
- Map
- Web-based information
- Multiple devices

Personal Version Control

Personal Categorization

Standard Metadata for Personal InfoCloud

- content description
- creator
- privacy
- context
- use type (e.g.)
- instruction
- object
- categories

Sample for Document

Description: White Paper on Scent of Information

Creator: Peretti (XeroxParc), copyright

Document Location: <http://123.45.67/ext/wpsoi.pdf>

Privacy: Shared_limited (IAWG_ClientX)

Project: Navigation replacement, Model of Attraction

Use: Reference, Research

Sync: Yes

Priority: 2

Object: PDF (handheld enabled)

Categories: navigation, MoA, XeroxParc, foraging, scent, information, browsing

Progress is being made

- Actual solutions
 - Mac OS X Tiger's Spotlight
 - MIT's Project Oxygen
- Possible/partial solutions
 - Script aggregation by metadata tag
 - Publish to private/public location in RSS
 - RSync (Psync) and CVS
 - Groove (Windows)
 - Quicksilver (Mac)

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<http://vanderwal.net/essays/designengaged/041112/>