Project Overview

- Electronic infrastructure to triangulate knowledge
  - Of individual
  - Of colleagues
  - Of world

- Independent, interacting information repositories, customized to each user
  - Automated data gathering
  - Active observation of user activity
  - Adaptation to individual query needs
  - Inter-haystack collaboration
Progress Through December 2002

- **User studies**
  - Study of people’s use of current information tools
  - Mini-Evaluation of haystack “self-describing user interface”
    - Context menus and other elements well received
  - Evaluation of new interfaces for managing collections of info
    - Overlapping categories via checkboxes rather than folders
    - Improved user performance in retrieving information

- **Work towards initial deployment**
  - Completing applications: bibliography tool, email manager
  - Machine learning components
  - Performance enhancement of database layer
  - Bug fixes and ease of use
Research Plan for the Next Six Months

• Deploy Haystack to limited set of users
• Evaluate usage
• Test hypothesis that “personalization makes information retrieval tools more effective”