5-minute topic
Memory Support
Human Memory

Simple view: Memory is for storing information.
Human Memory

A more sophisticated view: Memory supports interaction with the world.

– Problem solving (recalling the status of a project)
– Social activities (remembering names of your group members)
– Emotion (reminiscing happy times)

Memory support is about using technologies to store information in a way that supports interactions.

Shimon Edelman. http://kybele.psych.cornell.edu/~edelman/Psych-2140/week-7-2.html
Memory is not perfect

We don’t remember every detail, even some important ones….

http://kybele.psych.cornell.edu/~edelman/Psych-2140/door.mov
SenseCam

- Cognitive prosthetics that continuously take pictures. Helpful for Alzheimer’s.

The v2.3 SenseCam shown close up and as typically worn by a user. The model pictured here has a clear plastic case that reveals some of the internal components.

Example images captured by SenseCam.
Distributed Cognition: A System-wise View

Some designs share the duty of remembering for interacting with the world.

Pilots fly planes? No- pilot, crew, cockpit... jointly fly the plane!
Some More Distributed Cognition Examples

GPS holds the memory of routes, not the driver.

Google remembers the URL of Confluence, while I never remember.