



Jesse David Dinneen
PhD Candidate
School of Information Studies
McGill University

Personal Information Management
Information Organization and Retrieval
Philosophy of Information

File management behavior and factors



Method

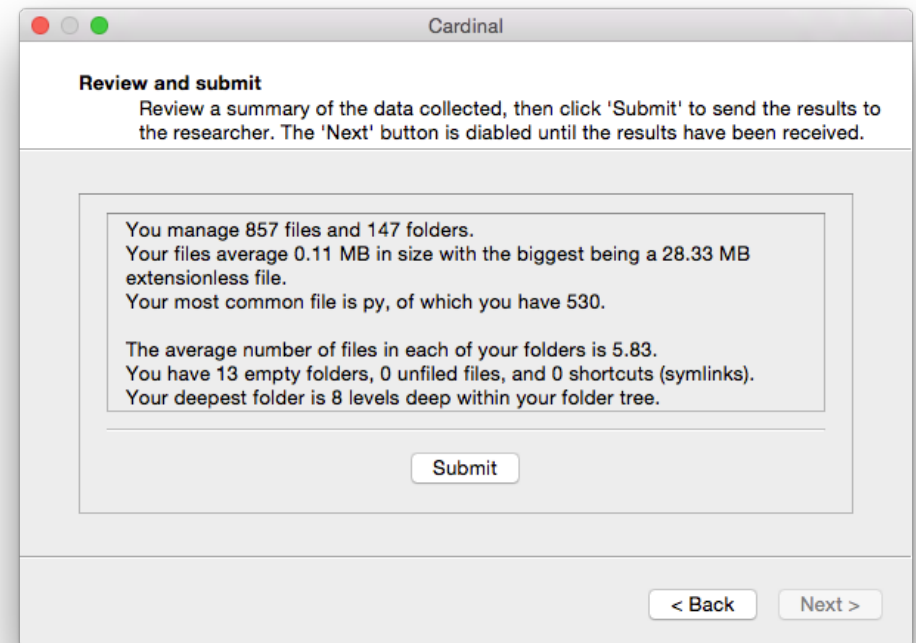
We created software that collects data across 50+ FM measures and potential factors. It tells users about their collections and allows quick, anonymous, remote participation on three OSes.

How do people manage files and folders?

Managing (storing, naming, organizing...) files and folders is a ubiquitous challenge for computer users. Existing studies describe fewer than 17 of the 50+ possible FM behavior measures, cover narrow contexts, and typically include a sample size < 50. Results are therefore incommensurable across studies and file management behavior is not well understood.

What are the determining factors?

FM is personal in nature, but we know little about the effects of individual and technological differences like personality style, spatial ability, demographic traits, operating system, and the software used for syncing and managing files and folders.



To participate and see results:

<http://dinneen.research.mcgill.ca>

