What I felt impressed about the CodeSaw was the new concept of visualization called spatial messaging. Even though in many working environment, I haven’t had a chance to actually see how the software development can be visualized amongst the group members. However with this novice technique called spatial messaging, I felt that it might be helpful and easier to see the visualization of the software development. Even though we work in group and interact face-to-face to develop a software, sometimes it is rather difficult to see who modified this and need to talk to the members to fix the problem. However with spatial messaging, it can visualize what we have done and partially instead of typing diff or see the highlighted context, it is rather easier to see a graph with who did what to see the work that has been done. What I liked most of CodeSaw was providing awareness to the developers of the whole project. People divide work within the project to facilitate the development. However, if one works on some piece and other work on that, except during the meeting or in the mailing list, the developers can’t see the progress of overall of the project. Also visualizing the progress helps to understand better of the progress of the project. I felt “wow” this can actually improve the work within the community of the developers because in some sense, we can see who did what and how much work that developers contributed within the project. Also, providing visual feedback is much better for understanding rather than just text information.

But it appears that if there is basically one core developer within the community and nobody contributes anything, the purpose of CodeSaw would be lost. As it is mentioned in the section 7.1 Community, user might felt lonely by looking at the visualization and see only himself is contributing. Another thing that I felt was important about the CodeSaw was there was no report on concern with privacy. I thought this is because of the community that the CodeSaw is targeting is more of the working community where many people do not talk about other things rather than work.

I liked the overall and the intention of this project but if there is one thing that I couldn’t find in this paper was the visualization in a large-scale group such as the development of Windows or OS X where there requires many software engineers. In a large scale project, there are large numbers of software engineers in subsections. For CodeSaw, I felt that having a comment or information of what subgroup that the software designer is working might be a good way to actually categorize the work, plus, let the others see who did what in the project. Also, I thought CodeSaw can be not limited in just software development but also within the community where they design 3D objects or any other work that requires group work. This kind of visualization will help the workers to have a feeling of what kind of work is going on and also see the overall progress and who did what in the project.
Bridging the Gap: A Genre Analysis of Weblogs

I agree with the author about there are three basic types of weblog: filters, personal journals, and notebooks. Where many people write their diary, write the content that they like while they were surfing the webpage, and notebook to write their notes. Unlike homepages, where many people have to fix the contents and organize the structure by themselves, blog makers provide tools for bloggers to facilitate the making of a weblog.

What I agree most about the author’s comment was by having a feature of placing the comment in the blog, it enabled the blog pages to be more interactive within the in the web and plus help to express a wide range of genres according to the user. In many cases, people place comments on their friend’s blog to express friendliness and also show that they concern about the others. Some people get mad if their close friend does not post anything on their webpage and also in many Korean blogs, there is a link where you can access to your friends blog.

Nowadays, compared to the 2003 data, the weblog transformed a lot. Instead of just text editing and where you can’t decorate the blog, users can buy the skin of the blog and decorate their blog based on what they like and how they want their blog to look like. Also, in some Korean blog, there is a feature called “guest book” where you can type what you want in the blog to show that you have been in the person’s blog. Other blog also decorate their blogs by their sensitivity. Context wise, it is basically the same as the authors but by placing the skin of the blog, if a user is not a couple, then he/she place a skin that express that they are lonely. Or if one is happy, then one places a skin that express that one is happy. If some other who visited their blog likes the decoration then the visitor buys the skin and places it in his/her blog.

For result of number of comments per entry, I hardly believe that the mean average is 0.3. The comments might vary based on what type of entry was posted in the blog, but I assume that if the entry is somewhat personal or something that their friends can read and laugh about, the comments might increase. Whereas, if the user post a entry that is related about scientific journal or something that is rather hard to read, then the number of comments must decrease because what can others say about that blog. Still, I think the mean average of 0.3 comments per entry is quite low compared to the blogs that I have seen so far.

Another possible way to improve this research might be, amongst the randomly selected blogs, categorize what kind of context the blog contains. Whether it’s more about one’s diary, or posting articles from the news and etc. It might help to understand the trend of what kind of blog that the user wants to create plus, also analyzing the number of comments within the blog.
What I liked about this paper was the idea of visualizing the a large-scale online discussion, where it is rather hard to visualize the discussion that is coming back and forth. It might be difficult in some sense to actually analyzing the words and threads within the context of the discussion, however, but seeing the effects would be somewhat interesting to see.

Also the idea of not having an authorship was interesting point to me. Writing a post may require an authorship but in some circumstances such as the company intranet or discussion board within the company may not need the authorship because of the reputation and position is somewhat more important than the authorship.

Another interesting feature was time limits. In many open newsgroup or forums, I believe there is no time limit unless the newsgroup disappears and the whole content of the newsgroup is erased. However, for companies, where credential and maintaining the information within the company due to the security reason is important, it made sense to me that time limit was essential. For example, if there is a time limit within the public newsgroup, then if one wants to find out about the information, then it might disappear. However, within the company intranet, some information needs to be erased due to the security issue and posted only for interval of time. So I believe that it is quite essential to have a time limit within the company.

Also the feature evaluations shows that the users were actually rate higher for simple text view and other essential features. But features which is kind of unrelated to the purpose of the newsgroup was somewhat rate below where it seems like the users preferred and give more rating for the actual features to use the large-scale discussion board.

For the ForumReader, I didn’t like the visualization. It looks more like the Microsoft’s outlook. Everything looks kind of solid and there is no softness within the application. Plus, I didn’t like the Layered Text View where it looks kind of difficult to read. If this can be improved, I will think of extension of Mozilla Thunderbird where it displays just the thread of posting so far. However, by incorporating the visualization and keep maintaining the threads or instead of placing the visualization in more portion of the Window, make it smaller and emphasize in the text to actually read the context.