E-mail Visualization

In this visualization, we try to give the user an idea of how often they email users and the average response times they have with these users. It also will show the difference of response time to mailing lists vs personal messages. Also, we plan to see if there is a correlation between the amount of messages the user sends a person and the response time he/she gives. The following details describe how our visualization works.

- Mailing Lists: They are represented by the pink color shown on the screen in figure 1. A square will be placed on the graph where each particular mailing list falls. The criteria of where the squares are placed is described below. The way to tell if it is a mailing list email is the To: category of an email.

- Personal: This category includes mail that is sent by a single user and not to mailing lists. We are still looking for a more appropriate name for this category as not all emails are personal.

- Number of mail sent: For this, the number of emails a person sends to a user is counted in this area.

- Average response time: The average response time is measured by the amount of time between the last email received from the other user/news group. If the user receives multiple emails since their last response, the response time will be based off of the initial email, not the most recent.

We plan on using units of minutes for the average response time. However, if we find that users have a lot of responses that occur after a long period of time, we can create that as a time maximum.

When a square is selected, the users name is selected, as shown in Figure 2. The square then turns into a dot. In Figure 3, you can see that when a mailing list is selected, it too is shown to the side of its square turned dot. We aren’t sure if we will keep this dot/square image due to the subtlety of the change.
Fig 1
Fig 2
Fig 3