People: Mohammad Alkandari  Institution: Virginia Tech
Project: Visualizing a Personal Social Network of Email Archives For Re-Finding
Other authors: Xiaoyan Yu, Pengbo Liu, and Manuel A. Pérez-Quiñones

**What?**
- To uncover people’s social connections in ways that current email clients hide it
- To facilitate re-finding email using the context of a personal social network

**Why?**
- Email overload: Current email clients make little use of the social connections in people’s social life
- People tend to use small, local steps and context search cues, especially time and other people’s names to re-find information in email archives

**How?**
- Derive a social network from a personal email archive based exclusively on email traffic
- Visualize the social network to reveal the closeness of correspondents and the similarity of email folders
- Integrate search with the context of social network to shorten the steps in building a re-finding chain.

**Results so far:**
- Implemented the VisPEAM (Visualization for Personal Email Archive Management) with Prefuse
- Loaded a single person’s email archive from Enron data
- Plan to apply this tool to a discussion forum to visualize the online community

![VisPEAM on Sally’s email archive](image-url)