



Conversation View

Vancouver Work Week

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Alessandro Castellani — Director of Desktop and Mobile Apps
Geoff Lankow - Senior Staff Engineer of Desktop

What is Conversation View

A "Gmail-like" visualization of a message thread when reading emails.

Almost all the clients do this, showing the full chronological list of all messages that belong to the same thread, including replies and messages moved to other folders.



Why Thunderbird doesn't have it

We know we're behind

Mork, our current "database"

Mork is a computer file format used by several email clients and web browsers produced by Netscape and Mozilla Foundation.

- Used for mail folder summaries (.msf).
- There is one .msf file per folder.
- It's a text based unicode file.
- Non-human readable.
- Difficult to parse.

Gloda, an old attempt

Previous attempt to implement a **Global Search and Indexer** introduced in **Thunderbird 3**.

- It periodically indexes what's inside the .msf files.
- It stores data in an SQLite file.
- It's a 15+ years old JavaScript implementation.
- It was never fully finished.
- It's fairly overengineered, cumbersome, and slow.



You can test it on Daily

Conversation view **EXPERIMENTAL**

☒ Enable conversation view

Experimental feature based on Gloda, use it at your own risk

Enable Preference

Access the Settings > General tab and enable the experimental Conversation View

It's okay...kinda

It's still at an early stage so breakages and strange message duplication are expected



7 messages

[tb-planning] Thundermail and Thunderbird Pro Services

Ryan Sipes via Thunderbird Planning <planning@discuss.thunderbird.net>March 28

Hello TB Planning, Some of you may have already heard and seen some of this work - but it's time ...

Mihovil Stanić <mihovil@miho.im>March 31

Looks interesting. Good luck with it! I always wondered why Mozilla didn't make and sell bundle li...

Richard Cantin via Thunderbird Planning <planning@discuss.thunderbird.net>April 1

I think it is a good idea to have services available to prevent competition from flanking Thunderbi...

Ryan Sipes via Thunderbird Planning <planning@discuss.thunderbird.net>April 1

It's finally time. There's a beautiful irony to it, that Thunderbird would come back in a big enou...

Sebastian Suchanek <mozilla@suchanek.de>April 1

Am 28.03.2025 um 19:05 schrieb Ryan Sipes via Thunderbird Planning: > > [...] Well, as a long-te...

Andrei Hajdukewycz via Thunderbird Planning <planning@discuss.thunderbird.net>April 2

While Thunderbird Pro services will have integrations with desktop Thunderbird to improve the expe...

R

Ryan Sipes via Thunderbird Planning
planning@discuss.thunderbird.net

To Thunderbird Planning <planning@discuss.thunderbird.net>

4/2/25, 7:50 PM

List-ID "Thunderbird Planning" <planning.discuss.thunderbird.net>

As Andrei said. No AI sniffing through anything unless you turn it on and set it up.

Additionally, my hope is that we can get to a point where any AI stuff is done locally, on-device.

These are optional additions. The Thunderbird clients will not be degraded in any way for them and users will not be forced to use them or have anything switched on without your consent.

Ryan

On April 2, 2025 8:18:40 PM CDT, Andrei Hajdukewycz via Thunderbird Planning <planning@discuss.thunderbird.net> wrote:

On 4/1/2025 9:06 AM, Sebastian Suchanek wrote:

Am 28.03.2025 um 19:05 schrieb Ryan Sipes via Thunderbird Planning:

Well, as a long-term (~20 years) "power user" of Thunderbird, I hope that all of that can be switche

In particular the Assist feature - I certainly do "not" want any AI to sniff through my personal mai

While Thunderbird Pro services will have integrations with desktop Thunderbird to improve the experier



Modernize Thunderbird

Using modern solutions for modern problems

A true global database with SQLite

It's just for indexing, how hard can it be?

— Everyone except engineers



Introducing "Panorama"

Let's do this again, but good this time

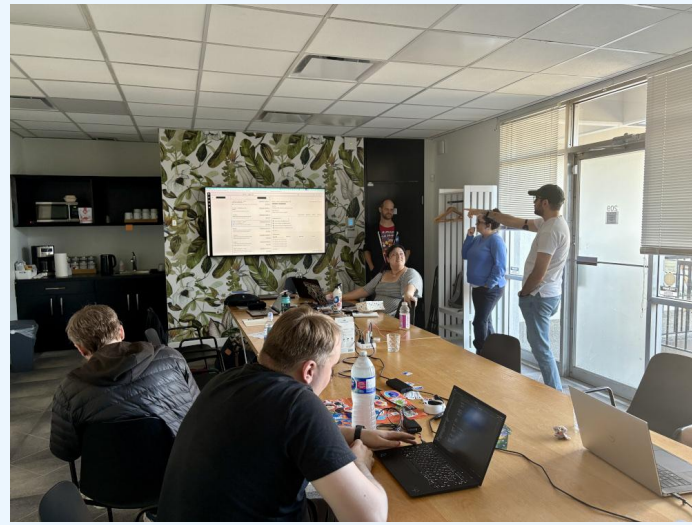
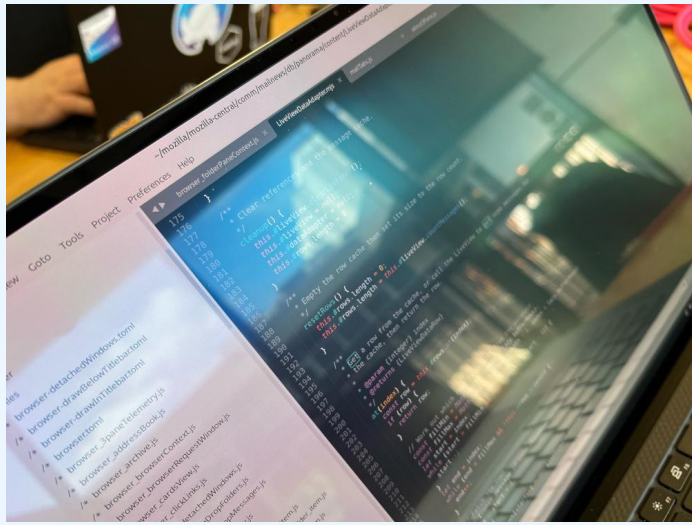
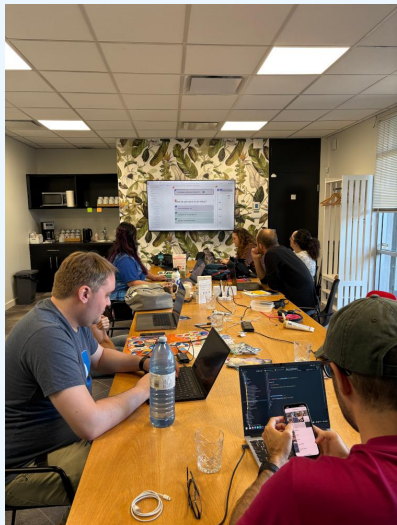
**"An unbroken
view of an entire
surrounding
area."**

- A single SQL database that contains all the messages.
- Messages are indexed as soon as they're received.
- It's lightning fast, it's just SQLite.
- Common file format and can be read by many tools.
- You can query it and get everything at once.
- Global search will be easier.
- Finding any subset of the data will be easier.
- We can preformat as messages arrive for increased speed.



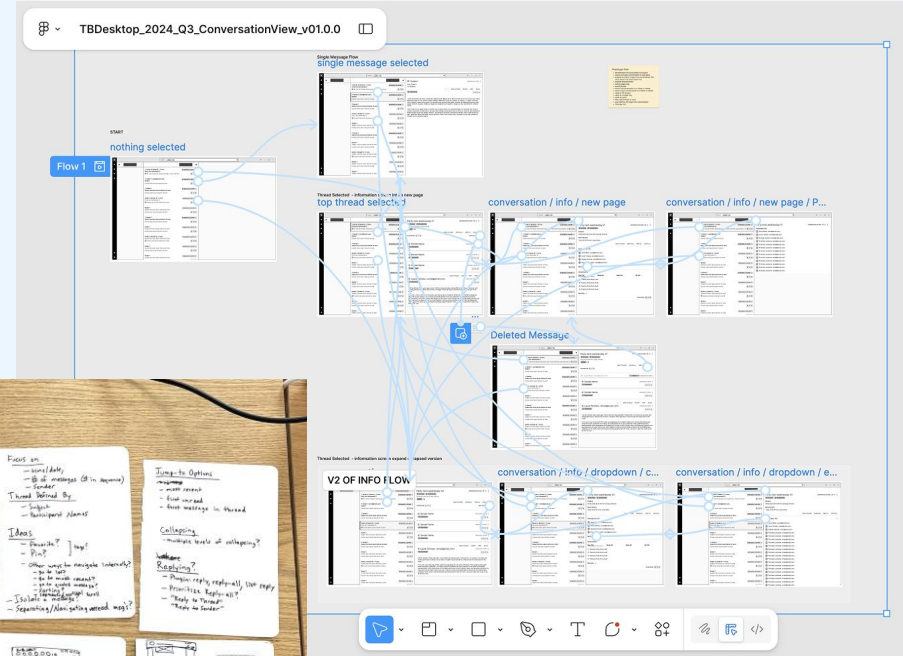
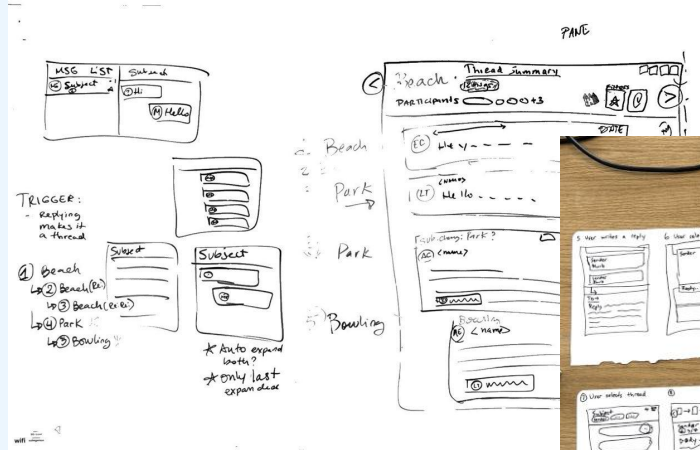
Technical Challenges

Road testing Panorama



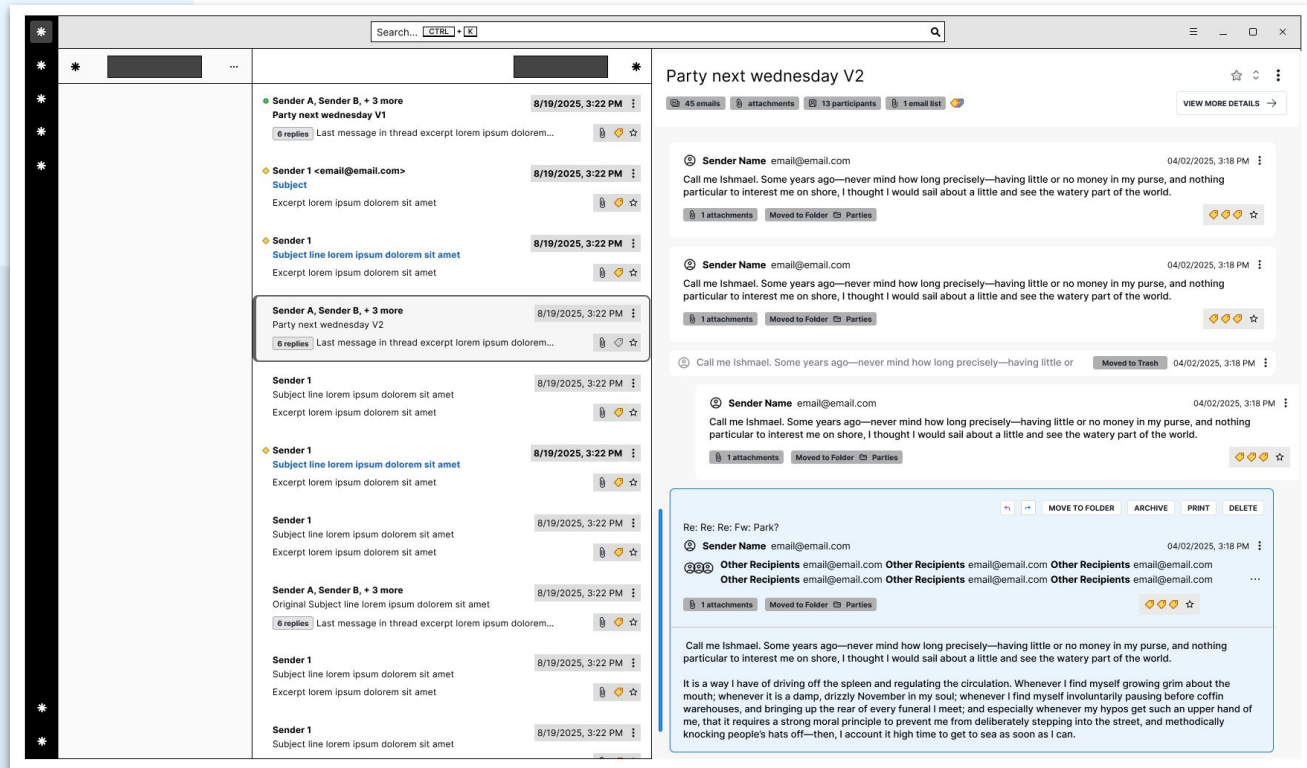
Design Challenges

"...but I use it this way."





Design Outcome





Coding Outcome

Applications

Do, Sep 11 01:35

Search... CTRL + F

Bugmail - Local Folders

server2

INBOX (0/0)

Drafts (0/0)

Junk (0/0)

Sent (0/0)

server3

Trash (0/0)

Unsent Messages (0/0)

stool (0/0)

Bugmail (0/45)

Junk (831/4973)

Tags

Important (0/2)

Work (0/2)

Personal (0/0)

To Do (0/0)

Later (0/0)

View type: All Unread only

date

subject

tags

9/6/25, 08:11

[Bug 1726431] Rendering of extremely t...

nonjunk \$label1 \$label2

9/6/25, 01:35

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

9/6/25, 01:35

[Bug 1967947] Load event description ...

9/4/25, 23:26

[Bug 1986916] Adding a Gmail account ...

nonjunk

9/4/25, 21:20

[Bug 1983370] Using cursor key to sele...

9/4/25, 20:44

[Bug 1986916] Adding a Gmail account ...

9/4/25, 16:14

[Bug 1986916] Adding a Gmail account ...

nonjunk

8/29/25, 16:11

[Bug 1983370] Using cursor key to sele...

nonjunk

8/16/25, 23:49

[Bug 1983370] Using cursor key to sele...

nonjunk

8/16/25, 23:48

[Bug 1983370] Using cursor key to sele...

needinfo requested: [Bug 1983370] Usi...

6/4/25, 18:36

[Bug 1967947] Load event description ...

5/25/25, 12:51

[Bug 1726431] Rendering of extremely L...

\$label1 \$label2

5/14/25, 00:49

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

5/9/25, 03:33

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

5/9/25, 03:33

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

5/7/25, 19:55

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

5/7/25, 14:44

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

5/2/25, 12:28

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

5/2/25, 05:21

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

5/1/25, 03:02

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

4/30/25, 00:49

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

4/30/25, 00:49

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

4/30/25, 00:49

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

4/30/25, 00:49

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

4/26/25, 11:47

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

4/26/25, 00:39

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

4/12/25, 01:17

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

4/11/25, 06:22

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

4/5/25, 00:06

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

4/1/25, 18:48

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

3/19/25, 11:22

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

3/14/25, 09:02

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

3/14/25, 08:06

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

3/5/25, 00:31

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

3/3/25, 18:12

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

3/1/25, 15:10

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

2/27/25, 23:20

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

2/27/25, 11:33

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

2/20/25, 18:25

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

2/19/25, 23:30

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

2/19/25, 09:05

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

2/19/25, 06:34

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

2/14/25, 23:12

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

2/13/25, 02:12

[Bug 1944850] [meta] Rebuild the cale...

1/30/25, 14:59

[Bug 1944850] New: [meta] Rebuild the...

[Bug 1944850] New: [meta] Rebuild the calendar Read Event dialog

34 MESSAGES 2 PARTICIPANTS 2 UNREAD

View More Details

@bugzilla-daemon@mozilla.org

May 7

Foo bar

@bugzilla-daemon@mozilla.org

May 7

Foo bar

@bugzilla-daemon@mozilla.org

May 9

Foo bar

@bugzilla-daemon@mozilla.org

May 9

Foo bar

@bugzilla-daemon@mozilla.org

May 14

Foo bar

bugzilla-daemon@mozilla.org

bugzilla-daemon@mozilla.org

Reply Forward Archive Junk Delete More

To Me

9/6/25, 01:35

Bug 1944850 depends on Bug 1967947, which changed state.

What	Removed	Added
Status	ASSIGNED	RESOLVED
Resolution	---	FIXED

Referenced Bugs:

- [Bug 1967947] Load event description content into new calendar dialog

Product/Component: Calendar :: Calendar Frontend

You are receiving this mail because:

- You are on the CC list for the bug.

Configure your email settings at <https://bugzilla.mozilla.org/userprefs.cgi?tab=email>

The road ahead



- Continue indexing and storing of local messages.
- Consume Panorama in a standalone space.
- Sync VS Async careful evaluation.
- Populating Panorama when a new message is received.
- Re-indexing the whole user profile.
- Maintaining old and new code in parallel (for now).
- Guaranteeing a reliable two-way migration.
- Continuing tiny improvements on the current Gloda exploration.



Thank you!

Questions?