FBBS: Facebook in Bulletin Board System

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ABSTRACT
Our idea is to change the Facebook interface into the BBS one, which has a clear list layout. Give user a better experience when surfing on the Facebook.

Author Keyword
Facebook; BBS; redesign; user experience; user interface;

ACM Classification Keywords
H.5.2 [Information Interfaces and Presentation]: User Interfaces – Interaction styles.

INTRODUCTION
Nowadays, Facebook becomes the most popular social computing application. As users of Facebook, we find that there is still some inconvenience. People frequently post things on Facebook, and that makes information sink rapidly. It is really hard to find the old posts which were posted many days ago.

Therefore, we came up with an idea – an interface that can fetch data from Facebook and has the BBS-like layout. With the BBS-like layout, searching posts will become easier. People who are not using our interface can still communicate with those who are using it. The functions that Facebook has will remain. The great part is that we have changed the interface from Facebook into BBS, and improved the functions of Facebook.

Analysis, Design, and Implementation
Facebook has a layout with blocks that shows the first five lines of each status post. However, the posts sink rapidly and the ones which people put comments on will often be pushed up to the top of the layout. It messes up the correct timeline of the posts. We used to browse the BBS board by using the list layout with posts sorted by their created time. Thus, the BBS-like layout Facebook viewer is created.
After comparing the Facebook posts list (see Figure 7) and the BBS one (see Figure 8). We found that it is unnecessary to show the whole post content and the comments in the posts list page. We make the list page clearer to browse, and the detail will show up after users enter the page of each single post (see Figure 9).

**Prospection**

The project is promising and flexible. Our interface will be able to deal with not only groups, but also timelines, chat logs…etc. Second, the functions of Facebook, for instance, instant messaging, notifications and friend requests, posting and commenting are going to be implemented. Furthermore, the integration between our redesigned interfaces and extension toolkits of web browsers is also a good aspect to develop.

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