

Hybrid Soft Computing Approach For Spam Filtering

Dr. Chandrashekhar Uppin

HOD, Department of Computer Science , Faculty of Computing and Applied Sciences, Baze University,
Jabi Abuja (Nigeria)

Received: July 11, 2018

Accepted: August 24, 2018

ABSTRACT

Today we are dependent on Emails (Electronic-mail) for formal or informal communication due to its ease of usage. This ease acts as an opportunity which is subjected to exploitation by advertisers and spammers for cheap promotions and sometimes nefarious activities. Email users have to manually sort relevant mails inside their inbox which is time consuming activity and service providers have to bear this costly exploitation.

This paper suggests an approach for architecting existing filtering elements under a planned umbrella of closely coordinating hybrid system to perform better for sorting spams. The building blocks I am considering here are White/Black/Grey lists, Social closeness level checks, eXpurgate and Bayesian techniques.

Keywords: Email Spam, Hybrid, Greylist, Whitelist, Blacklist, Bayesian, eXpurgate technology, UBE, UCE.

I. INTRODUCTION

Electronic mail (email) has become an essential part for clients in digital platforms. The most well-known issue in keeping up email inbox is the incoming spam mails sharing space with legitimate mails. Unsolicited Bulk Commercial Email(UBCE/UCE) is easy, fastest and least expensive strategy for promoting the business sites. These Spam Emails are sent to multiple clients at a time. This results in large number of undesirable mails in the client inbox and makes it difficult for client to separate spam mails and legitimate mail. Many duplicates of a similar mail are sent to numerous clients without a moments delay. Spammer could be a single individual, group of people or an organization who sends unsolicited or irrelevant messages for the purpose of their to promote their items, business websites over the web [1]. Since sending spam through emails is the least expensive and speediest method for notice. The common way for blocking spams and allow only legitimate inbound email to sort-pass for inbox of an email account is called a Spam Filter. As spammers keep relentlessly innovate new methods, the spam filters must match the pace and be a smart protective shield, identifying spams to support needs of client.

Adjustment to these new spamming methods are to be seen in large context of available spam channels now a days. Similarly, these channels dont manage picture spam and as of now picture spam is turned into a difficult issue that spammers are utilizing nowadays. Most likely the business accessible email suppliers are utilizing one of a kind highlighted, productive spam channels yet they are not accessible on the web. So, an individual client cant utilize these channels for his machine.

A few channels with fantastic components come at higher value that a typical client cannot bear the cost of [1]. In this way, this hybrid approach characterizes every single one of a kind element that are accessible online without any extra cost. It is combination of all the notable elements. Currently as of now accessible channels and furthermore will evacuate the confinements of those channels. It can take in and adjust from the clients decisions and set up clients decisions and set up a Whitelist, Blacklist and Greylist for Spams' segregation. This will be more efficient and specified in blocking undesirable ad-mails and spams for client mailbox.

II. PROBLEMS CAUSED BY SPAM

A. Phishing / Malware spreading:

Some issues emerge due to Spam when spread over the web. A hefty portion of the spam convey site connects, on clicking it sidetrack to unrecognized remote destinations that could potentially damage clients PC. Clients control diverts to phishing destinations. Confidential (Personal) data of client is asked for by pretending to be a genuine or recognizable entity through the information fields present on those destinations. These can be utilized by spammers to get essential individual data, for example, Credit card data of the clients [1].

B. Forwarded mails :

Forwarded emails are another issue that causes spam are emails forwarded by someone. In some spam emails, spammers sends an email and then it is forwarded it to couple of clients, keeping in mind the end goal to quit getting comparative spam sends facilitate, the client is compelled to forward that email to others

persons in mailing list. Thus, regardless of the possibility that a large portion of the clients Thus, regardless of the possibility that a large portion of the clients.

C. Cost :

Undesirable Spam emails are revenue holes for email service providers. Servicing expenses of spammers are mainly borne by emails clients, because of their frequent misuse of existing hardware and network system of email providers. For anonymity, spammers setup and utilize botnets (hijacked computers network) as their email clients[2]. Spam email causes degradation of the system bandwidth as network traffic increases over the internet [3].

D. Blank spam emails :

Spams are sometimes send with blank body without any data for validating usernames under a specific domain, doing it like a ping testing to access reachability. Such emails may not even have data in subject lines also in those emails and the sender hides from recipient by remaining inaccessible. The basic purpose of this activity is to increase their target base for wider reach by recognizing and collecting legitimate/invalid email addresses under a specific email provider domain. As they have to receive bounce backs for bad mails, blank data sent as planned strategy saves them and they meet their goal of legitimate email id gathering under specific domain for new targets identified. Blank email in some cases are user for malware propagation targeting clients computer by sending trojans which can damage information stored at end user as attachment[1].

E. Not legal data / Garbage:

The majority of the spam emails are pointless emails comprising of unimportant data for client. Spam emails mostly contain data or advertisements related to products and items that are not useful for people. Deceitful plans, answers for circumstances, free exhortation, connections to phishing sites and so forth are pushed through spams that just contain the useless material. Illicit material spread over the Internet due to spam emails. In some nations, laws are imposed against show or distribution of certain contents. Spammers, try to bypass those laws and attempt to spread these banned contents that is viewed as unlawful in spam emails[1].

F. Time Constraint :

- Which is Spam email before entering into organizations mailbox, Precious time is lost and it costs the organization significantly more than the sum spent at first conveying spam emails by the spammers[1].
- It is waste of time for users as well in light of the fact that he needs to invest energy in separating between the needed emails and spam emails. Users spent time checking, opening, analysing, sorting and expelling these spams[2].
- Network administrators have to put their valuable time just to deal with SPAM for scanning, cleaning them from system. Also they have to deal with spam as-associated problems and possible viruses and malicious applications introduced due to them[2].

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

An answer proposed path earlier when Internet arrived was to implement filters for spams in order to evade them from flooding the email inbox of clients[1]. A SPAM filter is set of protocols or guidelines to decide the status of any incoming email. These filters when utilized properly, they can avert SPAM email going to the inbox of end user[4]. The implemented rules is the means by which to plan a successful SPAM channel that permits sought email to pass through while filtering spams. The potential undesirable behavior of a filter is that a Spam filter in some cases, distinguish a valid email badly, making it a false positive scenario[5]. Alternatively, it can badly decide for a true spam case as a genuine email fail and giving user case as a false negative scenario and permit this junk for clients inbox. Among these two use cases, recommendations on the false positive being severed as genuine messages may not reach end user[3].

To evaluate the efficiency of a Spam filter can be based on rate of Spam emails blocked, white-list permitting only authentic mails to go to the clients and separates the emails that is initiated from obscure senders. Below three are generally utilized techniques for SPAM filtering [2].

A. Whitelist Filter :

In whitelist, every emails are subjected to go marked as Spam except from the ones in the list of white database rundown setup by end-users and system admins referring various sources and organizational listing. This database is created thoughtfully by utilizing an affirmation documented by the end users. The issue with such extreme strategy is that it causes superfluous dependency to clients[4].

B. Blacklist Filter:

Blacklist is successfully a rundown of mails messages which are separated out due to implementation of this filter. This can be created based on text content properties like that the inbound email have a typical word or expression in the header or originating from specific IP address or may contain name of a location[6]. The usage of a SPAM filter like this can help in identification and separation of spams to bring about false positive blunders[7]. Expecting a word "outcomes" is a watch-word in rundown, the used example will square both messages. Considering a scenario where the email header has text "your implementation outcomes" and another email contains "use our products for better outcomes", what will happen is that the channel will square both these messages making it a false positive scenario.[4].

C. Bayesian Filter (Content Focus):

This is an approach where we segregate and store of augmentations of classifying text strings and its versions with different phrases for same meaning in filter system, which helps to check against the textual data of inbound email and applies algorithms to recognize and interpret spam emails[8]. The implemented algorithms can find order the event of specific words and expressions as far as where and in which manner they show up in the emails[9]. The filtration with separation based on content is that SPAM messages now and again contain pictures, which are hard to decipher their substance[4].

IV. EXISTING WORK

Each Inbound mail is processed in depth through these three channels(Figure 1). After processing under above listed three channels, if this under-process email is categorized asSpam then it goes to Spam section else it is moved for clientsinbox.

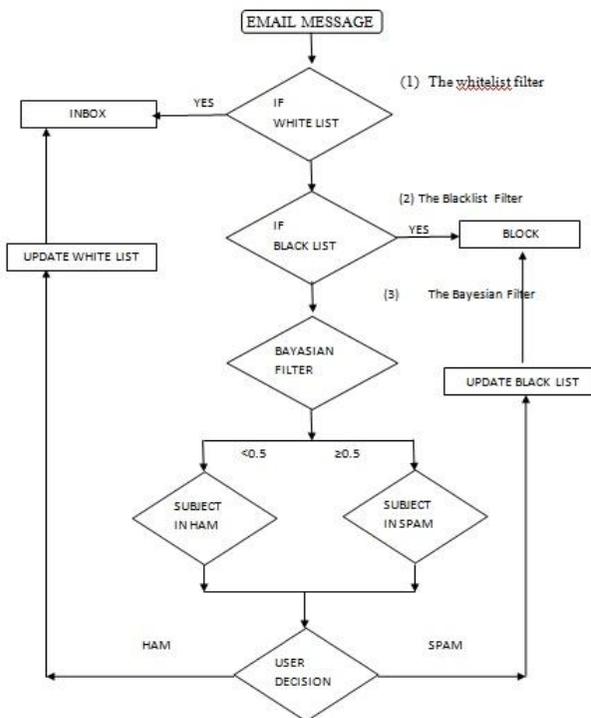


Figure 1: Flow of execution in existing Spam Filter

Table 1: Comparison between different methods of SPAM filters

Spam Filter Methods	Block Known Spam	Block Unknown Emails	Self learning	Easy to Use
Blacklist	√			√
Whitelist		√		√
Bayesian			√	√
Fingerprint	√		√	
Password		√		√
Challenge/Response		√		
Community Base	√			
Mobile Agent	√			
Encryption and trust		√		√
Copyright Tokens		√		

Table 1 is the comparison of different filtering techniques that are utilized as a part of identifying the Spam emails and permits just real emails to go to clients inbox. Black-list filter is reliable for being effectively productive in sorting the known inbound Spams and it is also very simple to use. Whitelist channel is especially like blacklist filter yet it hinders the obscure messages. Bayesian filter is recognised as a "self-learning" filter as it naturally improves upon from new spam email procedures. Fingerprint filter single out a unique signature impression "perfect identifier" for spams. It builds database for spams and keep them from going to end users inbox. In Password Filter, passwords are set at senders end and are required to be present in email to pass through this filter which will contain relevant information or token matching system or encryption regarding that password. Going by its design to check associated password, it will blocks new genuine inbound messages that does not have this setup. Challenge/Response filter singles out unapproved emails until verification arrives and permits as it were genuine senders to go through after their verification. In any case, it pieces new authentic email and furthermore bother real senders by requesting reaction with each message. Community Base filtering technique pieces mail in view of group assertion implies hinders a SPAM that a group chooses to square yet it doesn't hinder another SPAM. Furthermore, one notable disadvantage of this channel is, that contention could possibly come up between clients while making a choice about a specific inbound email is Spam or not. Encrypted and Trusted Inbound letter comes with computerized signature. A computerized mark is extremely difficult to fake as its designs are secret with the creator and is used to sign, encode and sometimes encrypt message that is conveyed in this manner give high security. However, this procedure is as well entangled for clients. Mobile agent is a filter, when implemented chips away at remote proxy framework to execute the sorting on email servers[2]. In Table 2 we can see the differences in spam filtering approaches.

Table 2: Comparison between different approaches.

Approaches	Personalized	Attack-resilient	User friendly	
		Impersonation	Poison	
Content based spam filters				
Static Keyword	No	Yes	No	No
Machine Learning	No	Yes	No	No
Collaborative	No	Yes	No	Yes
Identity-based spam filters				
Black/ white list	No	No	Yes	No
Social	No	No	Yes	Yes
Interaction based Reputation	No	No	Yes	No
Social network aided content and identity based spam filter				
SOAP	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

V. PROPOSED WORK

A flawless SPAM filter has not been discovered till date, the proposed hybrid approach has been planned to upgrade the efficiency of the set of spam channels that can identify and sort spams and let pass real inbound mails by utilizing a mix of systems summing up the efficiency of the above mentioned methodologies in combine[4]. It has utilized standalone closely coupled existing filterings like listing categorization of white/black/white, Bayesian separation and eXpurgate technique with Social closeness check as building blocks. These both components are present to improve the existing systems and ensure that all inbound messages are checked for spams and delivered with proper sorting to client inbox or spam organizer individually. As a matter of first importance client login with his subtle elements, clients certifications are checked if client is approved, then some time recently going into clients inbox a few strategies are utilized to check regardless of whether approaching mail is SPAM or not. On the off chance that the approaching email is found to be a Spam then it is routed to Spam Organizer. In general, any inbound email is allowed to go for end user's inbox. Right off the bat, eXpurgate technology is used for SPAM identification. It is implemented with two stage verification. An additional header is added to inbound email. The possibilities of false positive scenario to happen is reduced by using eXpurgate technique. Then at this point, whitelist filter checks this inbound email against the list of white database rundown setup by end-users and system admins referring various sources and organizational listing. On the off chance that this email address is present in white rundown, then this channel will permit this mail for the clients inbox. Incase the sender letter id is missing in whitelist and inbound email sent by the sender is found to be a spam, then sender's email id is

added for future in another rundown "the greylist" considering its grey properties for being a potential spammer. If a "greylisted sender" sends another spam for second time, then that sender is blacklisted resulting in its de-recognition as a genuine entity. This activity will stop future inbound spams from this sender into the clients inbox. Blacklist filter is implemented to check for known spammers from blacklist and sort the identified spams.

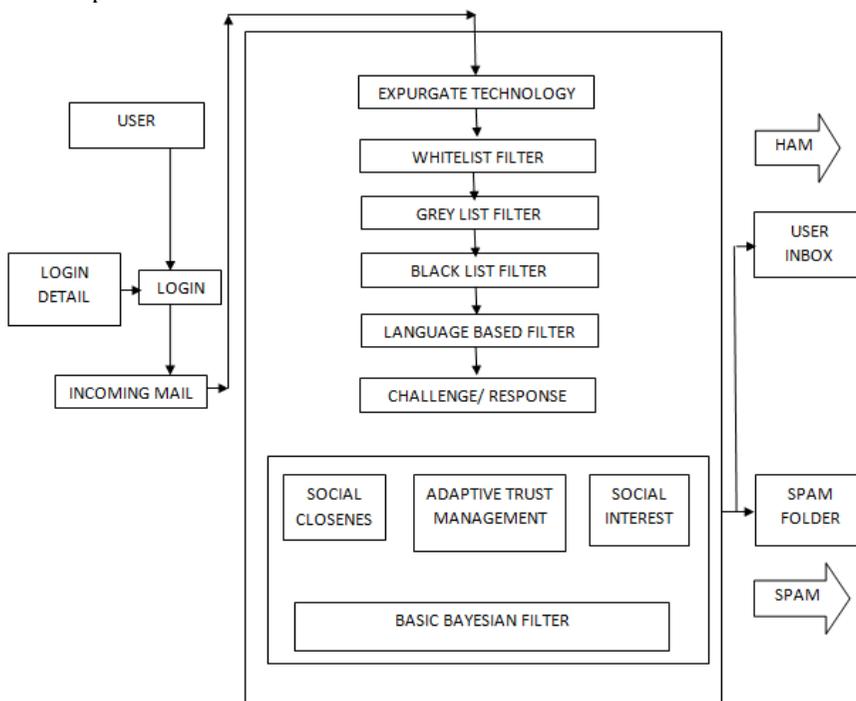


Figure 2: Proposed Approach

Language based filter is applied on an inbound email that is not in sync with clients mailbox i.e it is in a language other than preferred language of client. Challenge-Response Filter puts an automated message for email sender asking to provide an arrival affirmative of his email address. On the off chance that the filter failed to recognise an inboundemail with white rundown or with the blacklist, then the Bayesian filter is applied on text areas like subject field and content body of this email. This filter will scrutinize the email, whats more, makes a likelihood of each word it thinks about. "Self-learning" Bayesian technique makes filtering approach more productive, precise and accurate. This approach adds three segments to this Bayesian filtering process: (i)Social closeness based filtering of spam, (ii)Adaptive trust management and (iii)Social interest-based spam filtering. In view of these three social based areas, after processing watchwords of an inbound email, it alters existing weights of the watchwords. At that point, it refers to Bayesian channel for spam check. The weights will be aligned based on the degree of similarities between recipient and sender, recipients interests or dislikes, whats more, the recipients trust for sender. In case that the degree of closeness is found to be high, the probability that this email exchange between them of being it spam is low, and after that the assigned weight is chipped away incrementally. Default case for this assigned weight is increased in absence of mutual correspondence or one-sidedness. Social closeness based applied spam filtering channels is suggested to be dynamic and versatile to withstand toxic substance assaults. Versatile trust administration channels to be strong to pantomime assaults. Social intrigue based spam separating segment adds to the customized highlight. In the wake of preparing the approaching mail through an every one of these channels, If an inbound email is found to be spam then it is moved to Spam Organizer. Generally inbound email is is permitted to enter to client's inbox on the off chance that it is categorised as HAM, means a genuine email.

VI. CONCLUSION

This paper provides the background issue of spam that is carved out due to ease of communication via emails which has become an inseparable part of our informal and formal communication method and also additionally depicted the procedure with hybrid approach for enhancement. This paper half-breeds the prominent Lists(White, Black and Grey), Adaptive trust management, eXpurgate technique, Social closeness verification, Social interest/disinterest, Bayesian Filters approaches that will adequately and precisely dole

out inbound Spam emails and permit just genuine emails to go through to client's inbox in view of the client's inclinations. It gets clever as in it analyze the client's criticisms and it can decide if an approaching email is Spam or not and furthermore it accommodates the new spam techniques.

REFERENCES :

1. Puvvula DT. "SPAMKILLER: A TOOL FOR DETECTING AND FIL-TERING SPAM" Doctoral dissertation, Texas AM University-Corpus, Christi, 2012
2. Bindu V, Thomas C. "Spam war: Battling ham against spam." in Industrial Electronics and Applications, IEEE Conference, 2012 pp. 691-696
3. Hassan T, Cole P, Fung CC. "An intelligent SPAM filter-GetEmail5." in Cybernetics and Intelligent Systems, IEEE Conference, 2006, pp. 1-5
4. Khong WK. "The Law and Economics of Junk Emails (Spam)*." Doc-toral dissertation, Masters Thesis, LAW AND ECNOMICS. Hamburg, University of Hamburg, 2001
5. Hassan T. "Towards eradication of SPAM: A study on intelligent adaptive SPAM filters" Doctoral dissertation, Murdoch University, 2006
6. Moore D, Shannon C, Voelker GM, Savage S. "Internet quarantine: Requirements for containing self-propagating code." in IEEE Societies, Twenty-Second Annual Joint Conference of the IEEE Computer and Communications INFOCOM, Vol. 3, 2003, pp. 1901-1910
7. Allman E. "Spam, spam, spam, spam, spam, the ftc, and spam." Queue Volume 1 Issue 6, 2003, pp. 62-69
8. Yang Y, Elfayoumy S. "Anti-spam filtering using neural networks and Baysian classifiers." in International Symposium, Computational Intelli-gence in Robotics and Automation, CIRA, 2007, pp. 272-278
9. Androutopoulos I, Koutsias J, Chandrinou KV, Paliouras G, Spyropoulos CD. "An evaluation of naive bayesian anti-spam filtering." in Proceedings of the workshop on Machine Learning in the New Information Age, 11th European Conference on Machine Learning, Barcelona, Spain, 2000, pp. 9-17
10. Li Z, Shen H. "Soap: A social network aided personalized and effective spam filter to clean your e-mail box." in Proceedings of INFOCOM, 2011, pp. 1835-1843
11. Binzel, Christine, and Dietmar Fehr. "How social distance affects trust and cooperation: Experimental evidence from a slum." in Proceedings ERF, 2009