A Survey Spam Email Classification using Machine Learning Algorithms

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Abstract: The Email is the most widely used method of formal communication in corporate settings. Even if there are other ways to communicate, email usage is still increasing. Today's climate needs automated email management due to the daily increase in email volume. In total, more than 55% of emails are flagged as spam. This exemplifies how these spams squander the time and resources of email users while creating nothing beneficial. It is essential to understand the various spam email classification systems and how they operate since spammers employ clever and creative tactics to carry out their illicit activities through spam emails. The machine learning-based spam classification approach is the main emphasis of this study. This paper also provides a comprehensive review and evaluation of earlier research on various machine learning algorithms, email features, and strategies. This study discusses problems with spam classification as well as suggestions for further studies that may be useful to scholars.
Keywords: Spam Detection, Supervised Learning, Machine Learning Algorithms, Email Classification.

1. Introduction

The Electronic mail is a key revolution taking place over conventional communication systems due to it's, fast, convenient, easy, and economical, to use nature. A main bottleneck in electronic communications is the huge diffusion of unwanted, dangerous emails known as spam emails. A key concern is the developing of appropriate filters that can sufficiently capture those emails and get high performance rate. Machine learning (ML) researchers have developed numerous approaches in order to deal with this problem. Within the framework of machine learning, support vector machines (SVM) have prepared a large part to the development of spam email filtering. Based on Support Vector Machine, different scheme have been planned through text classification approaches (TC). A critical problem when using SVM is the selection of kernels as they openly affects the partition of emails in the quality space [5]. Here fig (a) explains the spam filtering using SVM.

1.1 Spam report detection features on the social Networks:

Various papers comprise completed in the field of spam detection on top of the social networks. All of these studies have raised one or other features for spam detection. Some article has written just used for a social network and various contain examined different networks. In addition, several have written on the spam user accounts detection and several were about spam partition post detection in the social networks. We will study all of these cases independently in different parts.

In 2010, [5] separated the features of the Twitter spammers divided into two groups: content -based and graph based features and describe the mention totally about spammer detection. In content-based features fraction, it was mentioned there are four features to detect spam user account.

Repetitive Tweets: If user accounts send recurring tweets, it will be recognized as a spammer. Links: If most of the send tweets as of a user account enclose the link, they will be recognized as spammer.

Trending topics: If user accounts send unrelated matter to trending topics, it will be recognized as a spammer.

Replies and Mentions: For the most part of the tweets send from a user account contain the replies and mentions, identified as a spammer.
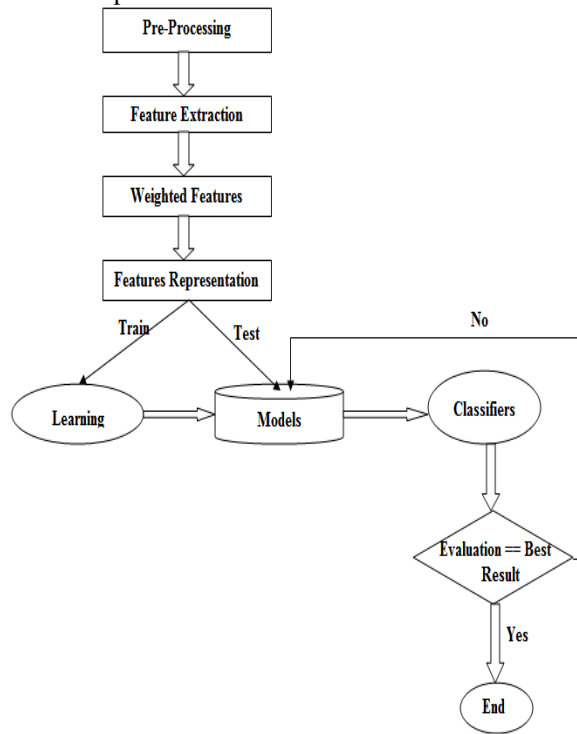

Fig. (a): Spam filtering

Ratio (R): Ratio of transfer friend requests numeral to the number of users that have established the request is planned as a measure for spam detection. Since spam isn't a real someone, so any one know it in real life and simply a fraction of the user account accept friend requests.

URL ratio (R): The second next feature for spam detection is occurrence of URL in wall post. For the user's appeal to spam web pages, spammers throw links to own wall post.

Message similarity (S): The third one feature is diffusion of similarity among transfer messages by a user.

Selecting with searching by friends (F): The fourth one feature, is associated to this issue that, whether there are consumer accounts that have search the resolute account as their friend or not. These properties are called F and define to:

$$F = T_n / D_n \qquad (1)$$

That T_n is the overall number of names between the friends' user accounts and D_n is unusual name number. [1]

2. E-mail operation

As previously mentioned in the beginning of this section, there has been a enormous literature on text-mining.

Moreover, there has been numerous works on categorization and clustering e-mails to have been applied to e-mail processing in organize to decrease information overload.

2.1 E-mail processing: Electronic mail can be view as a unique type of document as it is mainly text along with some identify information exclusive to it (e.g., to, from, cc, subject, attachments and so on). In the few years ago, through the beginning of text-mining, the assessment of e-mail started to obtain an increased attention of a increasing number of researchers.

2.2 E-mails analysis: The initial step in our e-mail processing is to carry out a study of the learner's e-mails. The principle of this step is to get a structured demonstration that will be used to cluster e-mails consequently to their semantics. For that, we suggest to use the text mining techniques as an approach for parsing learner's e-mails.

2.3 E-mails conversion: E-mails are formless by nature. So, the ''Preparer Agent'' convert each e-mail into a structured demonstration. In this learning, we decide to represent the e-mail's HTML layout in a textual file that contains generally two parts: the first one contains information of addressing (such as the Subject, Recipients and Sender) and the second parts contain the body of e-mail. In the e-mail conversion job, the ''Preparer Agent'' focus just on the first part that will be parsed and tokenized throughout the text-mining techniques to obtain information about: Subject, Recipient (To, CC, Bcc) and Sender (From).

2.4 E-mails mining: The subsequent part of each textual file is parsed currently using the text-mining process through some adjust in order to extract the significant e-mail body features. Certainly, the text mining is applied toward textual data. Moreover since our treatment is carried out on the e-mail, an individual form of textual data, we name this job the process of Email mining.

3. Literature Survey

To As mention earlier, collect a record of emails for investigation can be done for numerous purposes. One of the main goals is spam detection. Spam is an issue concerning consent, not content. The Unsolicited Bulk Email ("UBE") message is an advert, porn, a scam, a begging letter or else an offer of an open lunch, the content is not related - if the message was send spontaneous and in bulkiness then the message is spam. [4] A lot of studies have been published sharing dissimilar ways on how to struggle spam such like the Rule Based Spam Filtering, Machine Learning techniques, Content Hash Based Filtering, Support Vector Machines (SVM), Content- Based Filtering (CBF) and the Collaborative Filtering (CF) to name a few. Amongst these methods, CBF has been the mainly wide used anti-spam solution since it is freely available with its

commercial implementations. [6] Current research focus on improving entity classifier performance, by an improved preprocessing or enhancement of learning algorithm. Ensembles that combine different spam classifiers have also been planned. [7] However, equally CF and CBF have drawback. CF faces problems such as first-rater, and privacy. The initial issue is since of the complexity of classify emails that have not been rated earlier than; the secondary problem arises when users rate only some messages; and the last one problem depends on what is shared [7]. One of the strong profits of the CBF is to it reduces error rates as legal e-mail would not be barren even if the ISP from which it originate, is lying on a real-time block list with it only desires occasional modification, meaning fewer hassle for end-user. [8] This sub section describes various research papers connected to spam email categorization.

3.1 Spam–non-spam email categorization:

We chosen some papers, base on citation, interrelated to spam recognition or filtering. Those papers are: Blanzieri and Bryl, 2008 [10]; Zhuang et al., 2008 [9]; Mishne et al., 2005 [12]; Webb et al., 2006 [11]; Zhou et al., 2010 [14]; Sculley and Wachman, 2007 [13]; Xie et al., 2006 [15]; Bogawar et al. 2012 [17]; Katakis et al. 2007 [16]; Ozcaglar 2008 [18]. Unlike papers discussed the using of special algorithms and also apply the algorithms in special places between email senders along with receivers.

Zhuang et al.'s (2008) [9] article focused on trying toward find Botnets. Botnets are group responsible for scattering spam emails. Method is evaluated to detect such source of spam campaign that shares some general features. Spammers how-ever seek to change spam emails throughout some intended mistake or obfuscations especially in trendy filtered keywords.

Blanzieri and Bryl (2008) [10] existing a technical statement in 2008 to survey knowledge algorithms for spam filtering. The papers discuss numerous aspects associated to spam filtering such as the proposal toward change or modify email broadcast protocols to consist of techniques to remove or reduce spam.

Webb et al.'s (2006) [11] paper focused about web spam with how to apply email spam detection techniques to identify spam web pages. Alike to the approach to identify spam in emails, web pages are scan for particular features that may categorize them as spam pages such as using keywords stuffing, unrelated popular words, etc. Mishne et al.'s (2005) [12] paper represents one more instance of web or else link spam research paper. Blogs, public networks, news or else even e-commerce websites nowadays allow users to issue their comments or feedback. Spammers use such capability to post spam messages during those posts.

Therefore spam detection techniques must be also used to permit automatic detection of such posts.

Sculley and Wachman (2007) [13] discuss as well algorithms such as VSM for email, web, and blogs and web and link spam recognition. The substance of the email or else the web page is analyzed by dissimilar natural language processing approach such as: NGram, Bags of words, etc. The impact of a exchange parameter in VSM is evaluate using dissimilar setting value intended for such parameter. Outcome show that VSM performance and prediction precision is high while the value of this parameter be high.

Zhou et al. (2010) [14] planned a spam-based categorization scheme of three category. In adding to classic spam and not spam category, a third uncertain category is provide to additional flexibility to the prediction algorithm. Undecided emails should be re-examined and collect more information to be capable then to critic whether they are spam or else not. Authors use Sculley and Cormack (2008) [19] UCI Machine Learning depository or repository since their experimental email dataset (machine learning depository or repository).

Perez-Dıaz et al.'s (2012) [12] paper 2012 evaluate apply uneven set on spam recognition with dissimilar rule execution scheme to get the best matching one. UCI Spam base is use in the investigational study (machine learning repository or repository).

Xie et al.'s (2006) [15] paper 2006 try to sum up features that can recognize Botnets or spam proxy that are used to throw a huge number of spam emails. Authors look at network interrelated behaviors that can probably identify such spam proxy.

3.2 Email data analysis research goal:

In this segment, we will depict various papers associated to the examination of email messages for purpose other than spam exposure.

Kiritchenko and Matwin (2001) [20] offered a paper on email categorization through combine labeled and unlabeled data. Like to various other papers, VSM is show to be the most excellent classifier in provisions of prediction or categorization performance. Text categorization is used to categorize emails into dissimilar folders based on predefined category. Authors try to describe classes as interesting along with uninteresting category. A primary list of physically labeled emails is able to be used for the future usual training and classification. VSM is show to profit from the co-training process planned in this paper.

Enron email record is used in numerous research papers in email categorization (Klimt and Yang, 2004) (http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~enron)[21]. Shetty and Adibi's (2005) [22] paper use Enron email record in email categorization based on graph entropy model. The entropy tries to select the popular interesting nodes (that correspond

to emails) in the graph. Edges correspond to messages between dissimilar email users. Yoo et al. (2009) [23] discuss modified email prioritization in email communication and public networks or groups. Goals such as cluster contacts and categorization (Using Newman clustering technique) were evaluate in relation through email messages along with social networks. Klimt and Yang (2004) [21] considered relations in email messages such as the relations among contacts and messages or else threads of messages. Threads of messages include numerous emails exchange between two or other persons throughout some email messages. Enron dataset is use in this learn similar to a lot of other related research papers in this area wherever it is considered as the major publically existing email messages dataset. For this particular paper, one more small email dataset (CMU) is use. McCallum and Wang's (2007) [24] paper is moreover in the region of social networks along with email analysis through the goal of relevant analysis and categorization based on relations among people. Carmona-Cejudo et al.'s (2011) [25] papers are associated to real time email categorization and introduce GNUs mail open source used for email folder categorization. The application be developed to parse emails from dissimilar email clients along with perform several data mining analysis with WIKA data mining tool. In email database categorization is also base lying on the time of email messages (Bekkerman et al., 2004) [26]. The paper use Enron and SRI email datasets designed for the case lessons. Several new categorization method such as: MaxEnt were evaluate within the paper. The key decision to compose in every email categorization papers is what features to choose. Features can be associated to email designate, from or to addresses or else can be interrelated to the content; words, series of words, etc. Natural language processing tricks such as parsing as well as stemming are then concerned to parse email contents along with eliminate any words that may not be related for the classification procedure. Bird's (2004) [27] papers discuss an approach to forecast reply on emails based on mine data. Example of reply prediction can be associated to for example the most suitable person to respond toward an email. Information Retrieval (IR) Latent Semantic Indexing (LSI) method can be use to parse and take out features from emails. Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs) are use and show to have extremely good results in provisions of prediction accuracy.

3.3 Ontology classification of email contents:

Ontology's proposed for numerous purposes associated to the reusability of facts, facts sharing and analysis and also to divide commonalities from difference in the unusual facts areas. In the detailed research subject of ontology categorization or data extraction of Email contents, there have been various research papers that try to propose and begin concepts generally found in Email contents. Such ontology could also be used for email validation or else spam detection. For instance, Taghva et al.'s (2003) [28] paper planned email concepts mining using Ecdysis Bayesian email classifier. Author's extract email contents base on features together from the extract or trained data and as well from DOE inclusionary or else exclusionary records (Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, 1992). Inclusionary concept contain: Organization, Department, and Message Topics and Email Agent. Exclusionary concepts contain: Email Characteristics, and Count Characteristics, and Attachment Type Characteristics. Every one of those entities includes numerous interrelated attributes. Protege ontological apparatus (http://protege.stanford.edu/) was used to build along with show the ontology. Inside our case, MIME parser is use to parse from emails a lot of attributes of those describe in Taghva et al.[28] ontology.

Yang and Callan (2008) [29] in 2008 offered also ontology to extract concepts from a corpus of public notes (Mercury and Polar Bear datasets). NGram mining is use to recognize candidate concept. Wordnet and surface text pattern corresponding are used to recognize relationships along with the concepts. Wordnet keywords are use to guide organization of concept into intended hierarchal associations.

Beseiso et al.'s (2012) [30] paper planned a method for concepts' extraction beginning from email systems. Authors discuss individual challenges of emails concepts' extraction while in most cases; users' emails are domains particular and highly dependent lying on the person, their interests, and profession, etc. Authors absolute NEPOMUK Message Ontology and define email general concepts as well as domain specific concepts. Authors use Enron and custom email datasets for estimation.

Aloui and Neji's (2010) [31] paper projected a system for automatic email categorization along with question answering. The approach planned three clusters of emails base on their general subjects: Social, procedural, and cognitive functions. This paper extended an approach in the paper of Leˆ and Leˆ (2002) [32]. The 10 categories comprise: Requesting, Discussing, Thinking, Confirming, Clarifying, Referring, Complimenting, Greeting, Complaining, and Sharing.Text clustering along with classification can be used for an extensive spectrum of applications. For instance, Altwaijry and Algarny's (2012) [33] paper use text classification method to classify network income data as well as traffic along with classify such data into threat (harmful) or else non-threat data. A Naive Bayesian (NB) classifier is use. Such classifier is proving to be efficient for classification in numerous different areas. Authors use public KDD IDS dataset used for testing as well as training. One more major application area for categorization especially in information recovery systems

includes image categorization (De and Sil, 2012) [34]. In this paper, authors use fuzzy logic to allot soft class labels to the dissimilar images in the composed dataset. Such image categorization can be use for search engines query along with in most cases images are linked with embedded text or else text located about those images.

Following are some of the focus within the research of email study (Based on our analysis of papers interrelated to research papers during data mining in emails' datasets):

- Usually, email study can be classified under text classification within its most activities. Algorithms such as: KNN, VSM, Ripper, Winnow, Maximum Entropy (MaxEnt), ANN are example of algorithms use in email study.
- A main research subject in email categorization is to classify emails into spam or else no spam emails. This is able to further use for the real time calculation of spam emails.

Algorithms	Precision	Recalls	F-measure	Accuracy	FPR	Network's name	Decision Methods	Reference
DenStram	0.7272	1	0.8421	0.9711	0.31	Twitter	Clustering	[9]
StreamKm++	0.5591	1	0.7172	0.9393	0.65			
Combine	0.7939	1	0.8851	0.98	0.21			
Decision Tree	0.667	0.333	0.444	..	..	Twitter	Classification	[6]
Neural Network	1	0.417	0.588	..	..			
SVM	1	0.25	0.4	..	..			
Naïve Bayes	0.917	0.917	0.917	..	..			
Naïve Bayes	..	0.976	..	..	0.075	Twitter	Classification	[8]
Jrip	..	0.987	..	..	0.014			
J48	..	0.983	..	..	0.017			
Naïve Bayes	..	0.733	..	..	0.301	Combined		
Jrip	..	0.935	..	..	0.071			
J48	..	0.975	..	..	0.048			
Naïve Bayes	..	0.965	..	..	0.089	Facebook		
Jrip	..	0.912	..	..	0.09			
J48	..	0.898	..	..	0.081			
MCL				0.88		Facebook	Clustering	[11]
SVM	0.8732	0.893	0.883	0.922	0.063	Twitter	Classification	[13]
Suppliments M/c Learning	0.7396	0.7467	0.7431	0.7902	0.1067	Twitter	Classification	[10]
Naïve Bayes	0.9187	0.799	0.8546	0.8642	0.07	Twitter	Classification	[4]

Fig. (b) : Spam classification methods

- Some email spam classification research papers tried to classify emails spam based on the gender of the sender given some of the common aspects that may distinguish emails from females or males is in fig (b).
- Email classification can be also used to automatically assign emails to predefined folders.
- Relatively spam along with non spam emails, emails is able to be also classifying into: Interesting along with uninteresting emails.

- Features are extracting from the email content or else body, title or else subject or else some of the other Meta data that can be extract from the emails such as: receiver, sender, BCC, date of sending, number of receivers, receiving, etc. This technique extract feature can be base on words, bag of words, etc.
- Email clustering as well considered clustering emails into dissimilar subjects or else folders.
- The time information within emails (e.g. when: sent, received, etc.) is used as well in some research papers to categorize emails.
- Several research papers try to categorize emails based on comparable threads or subjects. Some email system such as Gmail connect emails correlated to each other (e.g. by reply or else forward events) together.[2]

4. Problem Statement

Web spam which is a most important issue through today's web search tool; therefore it is essential for web crawlers to contain the capacity to identify web spam among creeping. The categorization Models are considered by machine learning classify algorithm. The one machine learning algorithm is Naïve Bayesian Classifier which is as well used in to part the spam as well as non-spam mails. Big Data analyze framework which is as well outline used for spam detection. Extract the feeling as of a message is a method for get the important data. In Machine learning innovation can get from the training datasets additionally anticipate the preference making framework hence they are broadly utilize as a fraction of feeling order through the exceptionally accuracy of framework.

5. Future Research Scope

Following a thorough study of the chosen research studies, we have uncovered a number of research findings and observations. These have been thoroughly covered and explained in the sections before. We will concentrate more on the study's key findings and conclusions in this part. The review shows a high rate of adoption for the supervised machine learning approach. This method is employed primarily because it produces outcomes with a better degree of accuracy and less variance, resulting in a high level of consistency. In addition, we have discovered that some algorithms—like Nave Based and SVM—have higher demand than other Machine Learning Algorithms. Systems with many algorithms are more frequently utilized to produce better results than those using just one algorithm. Researchers have concentrated more on email

characteristics like BoW and Body text, which has opened up prospects for future study to create systems to identify spam on other email properties.

6. Conclusions

Following a thorough study of the chosen research studies, we have uncovered a number of research findings and observations. They have been thoroughly covered and explained in the sections before. We will concentrate more on the study's key findings and conclusions in this part. The review shows a high rate of adoption for the supervised machine learning approach. This method is employed primarily because it produces outcomes with a better degree of accuracy and less variance, resulting in a high level of consistency. In addition, we have discovered that some algorithms—like Nave Based and SVM—have higher demand than other Machine Learning Algorithms. Systems with many algorithms are more frequently utilized to produce better results than those using just one algorithm. Researchers have concentrated more on email characteristics like BoW and Body text, which has opened up prospects for future study to create systems to identify spam on other email properties.

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