

## A Case of Web Cancer

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**Abstract.** *SPAM* has become the computer equivalent of cancer, growing uncontrollably until it kills off its host. At a collective level, the yearly time wasted due to *SPAM* is comparable to a significant terrorist attack on the country. The problem will only worsen. In addition, *SPAM* may contain Mal-ware, including viruses, Trojan Horses, Worms, and Spy-ware. While helpful, *SPAM* filters are an interim measure as they are either too loose or too tight. Our increased dependence on vital real-time e-mail, such as with telemedicine, makes it essential to accurately block *SPAM*. Automatic Understanding (*AU*) is in its infancy but along with Simple Mail Transfer Protocols (*STMP*) and Sender Address Verification (*SAV*), promises to be a vital tool in helping to identify data and code contaminated by *SPAM* which uses commercial syntax and tone. More interdisciplinary collaboration with fields such as psycholinguistics and cognitive neuroscience and clinical actuarial counseling protocols is obviously needed so that *AU* anti-*SPAM* software can be generated.

**Key words:** *AI*, *AU*, Mal-ware, *SAV*, *SPAM*, *SPY*-ware, *STMP*, terrorism

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