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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING AND FILTERING JUNK E-MAIL MESSAGES OR SPAM BASED ON URL CONTENT

(57) Abstract: A method for identifying e-mail messages as being unwanted junk or spam. The method includes receiving an e-mail message and then identifying contact and link data, such as URL information, within the content of the received e-mail message. A blacklist including contact information and/or link information previously associated with spam is accessed, and the e-mail message is determined to be spam or to likely be spam based on the contents of the blacklist. The contact or link data from the received e-mail is compared to similar information in the blacklist to find a match, such as by comparing URL information from e-mail content with URLs found previously in spam. If a match is not identified, the URL information from the e-mail message is processed to classify the URL as spam or "bad." The content indicated by the URL information is accessed and spam classifiers or statistical tools are applied.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G06F 07/04,07/58,15/16,17/30; G06K 09/00,19/00; H04L 09/32

US CL : 726/4

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 726/4

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/0199095 A1 (BANDINI et al) 26 December 2002 (26.12.2002), paragraphs 004, 0013, 0031-0035	1-17
A	US 6,857,549 B1 (WEIK) 1 July 2003 (1.7.2003), column 2, lines 3-61, column 4 lines 3-20	1-17
A	US 6,161,130 A (HORVITZ et al) 12 December 2000 (12.12.2000), whole document	1-17
A	US 2003/0009698 A1 (LINDEMAN et al) 9 January 2003 (9.01.2003), whole document	1-17

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

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