# A Machine Learning Approach to Phishing Detection

Kendra Maggiore Texas State University Jon Pugh Texas State University James Knepper Texas State University

firstauthor@il.org

JPugh90@gmail.com

secondauthor@i2.org

#### **Abstract**

The ABSTRACT is to be in fully-justified italicized text, at the top of the left-hand column, below the author and affiliation information. Use the word "Abstract" as the title, in 12-point Times, boldface type, centered relative to the column, initially capitalized. The abstract is to be in 10-point, single-spaced type. Leave two blank lines after the Abstract, then begin the main text. Look at previous CVPR abstracts to get a feel for style and length.

#### 1. Introduction

Email is a widely used and effective means of electronic communication, and it is a commonly accepted method of contact between entities regardless of the specific field. Since email is such a primary correspondence in the modern world, there are those who wish to exploit email service and its users. A common exploitation technique of email services is known as Phishing. Phishing is a major threat to todays email communication. In a Phishing attempt, a malicious entity will send an email to a user that appears to be legitimate. The purpose of the email is to solicit the user to provide personal or sensitive information, often by containing a URL to an unsecure or malicious website.

# 2. Existing Solutions

[2] is an example of a phishing email detection machine learning algorithm that utilizes Rapid Miner. We plan to use a similar feature set but we will implement our algorithm with Python to provide greater flexibility in development. It also uses a dataset that was created in 2007. We will use a dataset available from [3] that was created in 2018. If time allows we will implement TF-IDF as discussed in [1] as an additional feature.

# 3. Preliminary Plan

 Convert latest .mbox from [3] to a .csv containing feature set

Method	Frobnability
Theirs	Frumpy
Yours	Frobbly
Ours	Makes one's heart Frob

Table 1. Results. Ours is better.

- Design and implement Logistic Regression algorithm
- Design and implement SVM algorithm
- Implement TF-IDF as an additional feature

### 4. References

List and number all bibliographical references in 9-point Times, single-spaced, at the end of your paper. When referenced in the text, enclose the citation number in square brackets, for example [?]. Where appropriate, include the name(s) of editors of referenced books.



Figure 1. Example of a short caption, which should be centered.