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Fighting Spam: Tools, Tips, and Techniques

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As spam has evolved, simple regular expressions to look for "spammy" content in email messages are no longer sufficient. Systems administrators now require much more sophisticated techniques to combat the ever-increasing flood. This talk is not a tutorial for implementing a single anti-spam solution, but will cover a broad spectrum of anti-spam technologies at all layers of an SMTP session. Topics include: IP level anti-spam techniques such as blacklists and reputation filters, envelope-level techniques such as greylists and tarpitting, and content-level techniques such as Bayesian filters, SURBLs, and distributed signature filtering. Tools such as Postfix, AMaViS, and SpamAssassin that can be used to tie these techniques together will be discussed, as well as a few other techniques including backscatter avoidance and MX funneling. I will also discuss issues unique to the National Laboratories, and Argonne's successful deployment of IronPort Anti-Spam Appliances.

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