

# SOCIAL SPAM DETECTION

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**INDIANA UNIVERSITY**

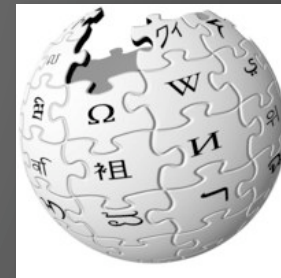
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Bookmarks

People

Tags



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[brunette.isseeporn.ru/](http://brunette.isseeporn.ru/)

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software

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chat

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personalized  
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social search

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2. [Заратустра. О дереве на горе. | Мыслей нет, а книги есть.](#)
3. [Заратустра. О чтении и письме. | Мыслей нет, а книги есть.](#)
4. [Заратустра. О проповедниках смерти. | Мыслей нет, а книги есть.](#)
5. [Заратустра. О радостях и страстях. | Мыслей нет, а книги есть.](#)
6. [Фридрих Ницше. Речи заратустры. О трех превращениях. | Мыслей нет, а книги есть.](#)
7. [Предисловие заратустры. Ницше | Мыслей нет, а книги есть.](#)
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... will announce a computer game based on ABC's mega-popular Desperate Housewives. ... And it wouldn't be a Desperate Housewives game if you couldn't try to steal a ...

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Alternative	830 pages	Golf	508 pages	Pregnancy	150 pages
Attraction	572 pages	Grief Loss	118 pages	Presentation	160 pages
Auctions	274 pages	Hair Loss	156 pages	Psychology	123 pages
Audio Streaming	39 pages	Happiness	277 pages	Public Speaking	168 pages
Aviation	125 pages	Hardware	282 pages	Real Estate	996 pages
Babies Toddler	415 pages	Holidays	417 pages	Recipes	248 pages
Beauty	666 pages	Home Improvement	743 pages	Relationships	757 pages
Blogging Rss	360 pages	Home Security	65 pages	Religion	505 pages
Book Marketing	152 pages	Humanities	270 pages	Sales	453 pages
Book Reviews	231 pages	Humor	102 pages	Sales Management	164 pages
Branding	252 pages	Innovation	132 pages	Sales Teleselling	42 pages
Breast Cancer	40 pages	Inspirational	888 pages	Sales Training	380 pages
Broadband Internet	63 pages	Insurance	400 pages	Satellite Tv	54 pages
Build Muscle	262 pages	Interior Decorating	568 pages	Science	292 pages
Careers Employment	1226 pages	Internet Marketing	1038 pages	Security	255 pages
Casino Gambling	482 pages	Investing	375 pages	SEO	935 pages
Coaching	550 pages	Landscaping Gardening	624 pages	Sexuality	180 pages
Coffee	116 pages	Language	42 pages	Site Promotion	363 pages
College University	175 pages	Leadership	298 pages	Small Business	856 pages



# Who Wins? Who Loses?

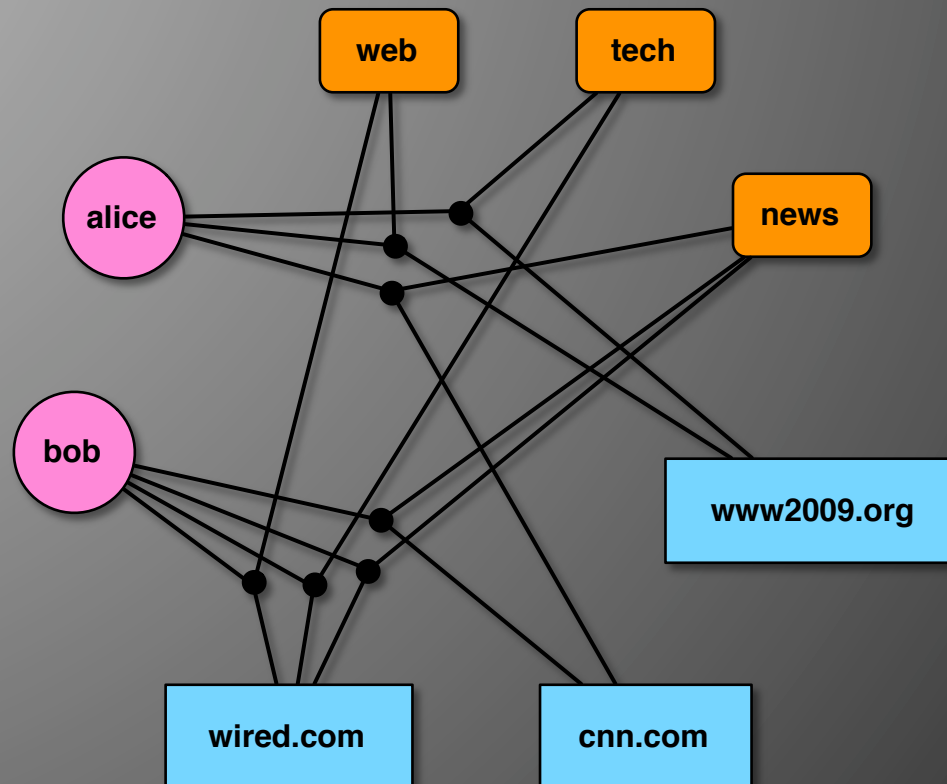
- ▣ Beneficiaries
  - Spammer
  - Intermediary
- ▣ Non-beneficiaries
  - Systems: search engines, tagging
  - Information consumers
  - Original authors
- ▣ ?
  - Surfer
  - Advertisers

# Agenda

- ▣ Features
  - Folksonomy description
  - Feature descriptions
    - ▣ post level
    - ▣ resource level
    - ▣ user level
- ▣ Feature analysis
  - Dataset description
- ▣ Social spam detection



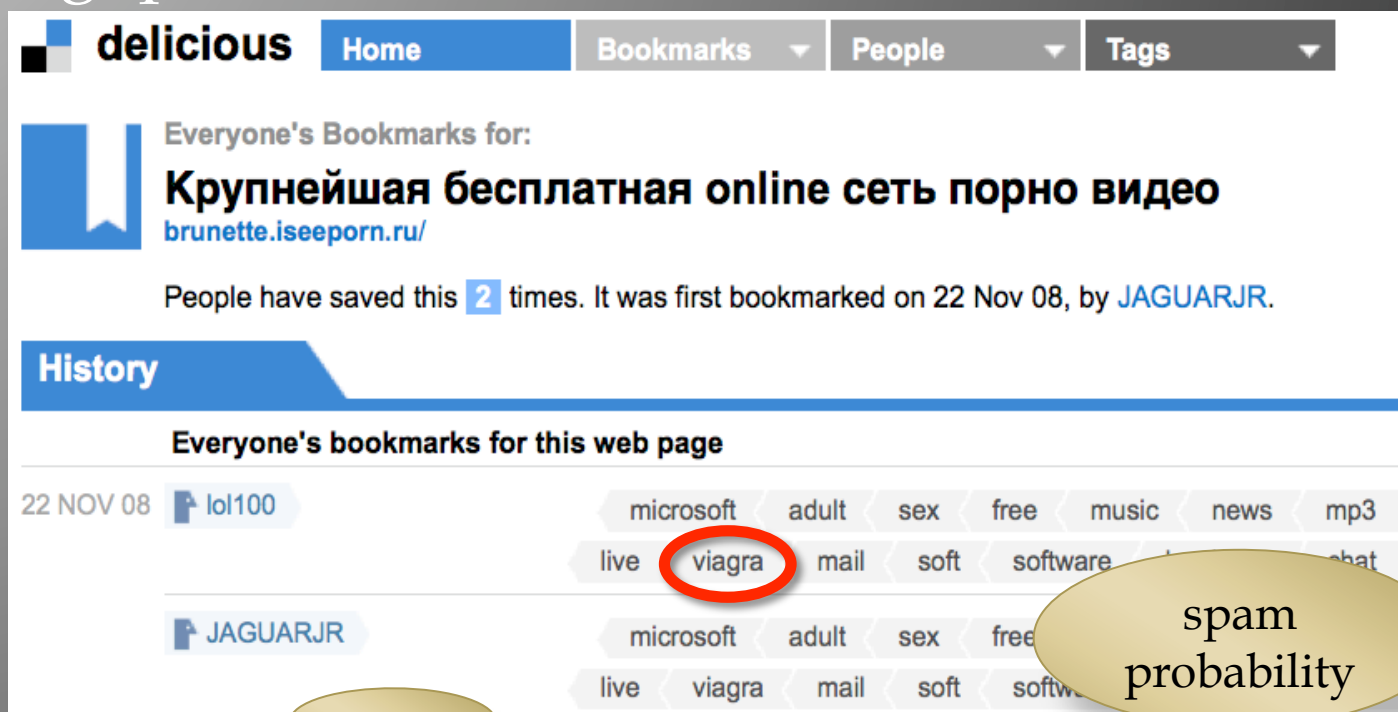
# Folksonomy Definition



$$F = (U, T, R, Y), Y \subseteq U \times T \times R \text{ (the triples)}$$

# Features: Post Level

## ▣ TagSpam



$$f_{TagSpam}(u, r) = \frac{1}{|T(u, r)|} \sum_{t \in T(u, r)} \text{Pr}(t)$$

user

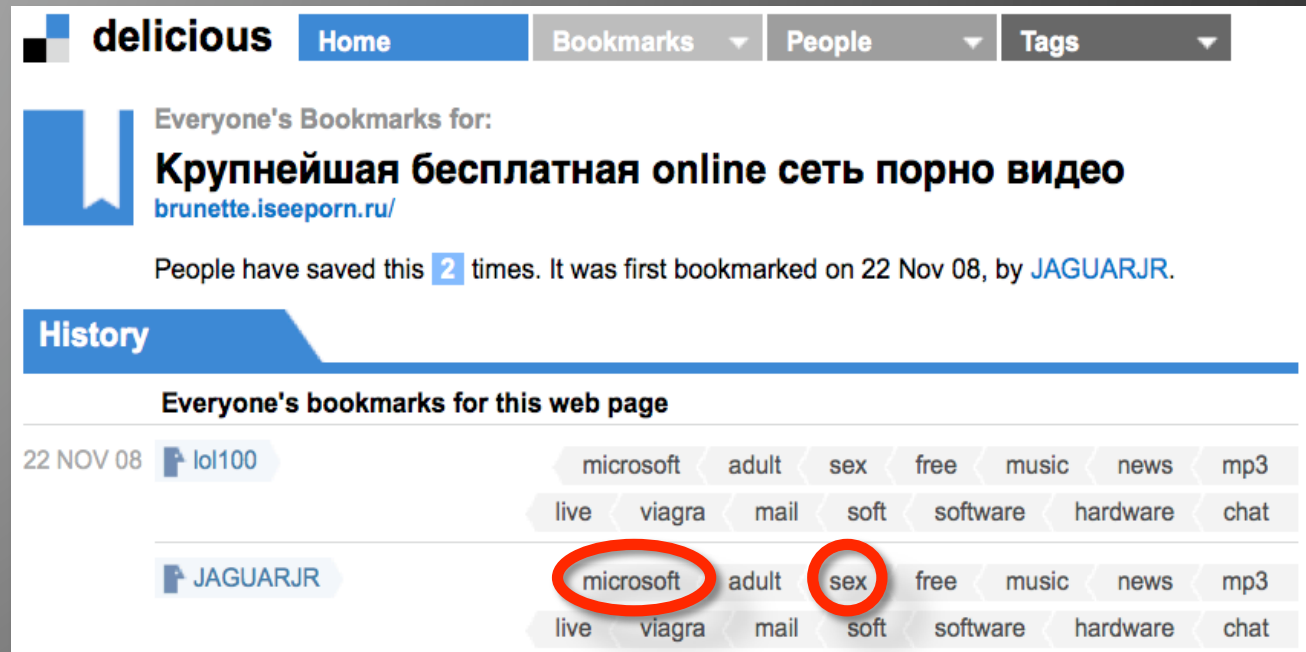
resource

post tags

spam probability

# Features: Post Level

## TagBlur



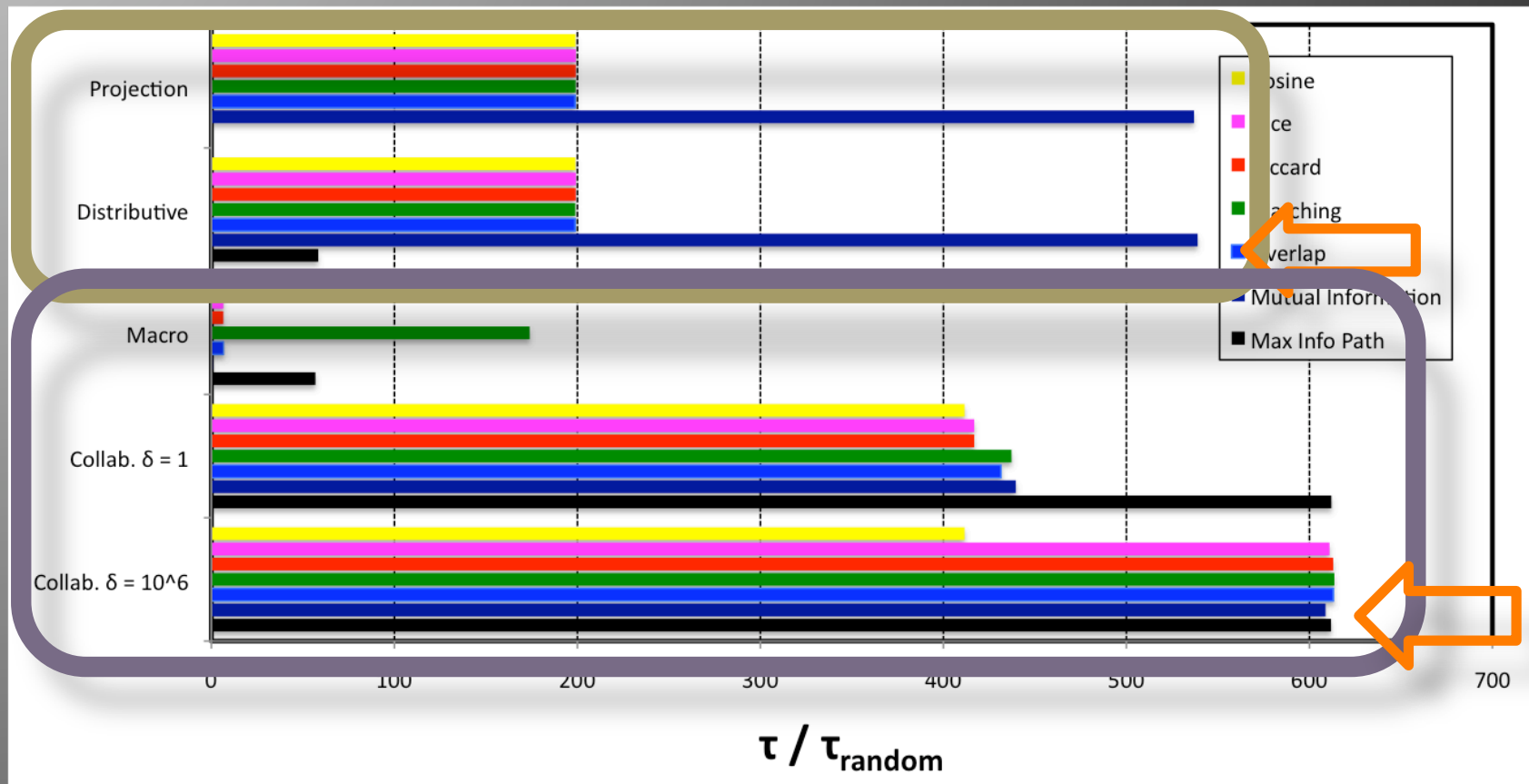
The screenshot shows the Delicious website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'delicious' and links for 'Home', 'Bookmarks', 'People', and 'Tags'. Below this, a bookmarked page is displayed with the title 'Крупнейшая бесплатная online сеть порно видео' and the URL 'brunette.iseeporn.ru/'. It indicates that 2 people have saved this page, with the first bookmarked on 22 Nov 08 by JAGUARJR. A 'History' section shows the bookmark history for this page. Two users are listed: 'lol100' and 'JAGUARJR'. Each user's entry shows a list of tags. For 'lol100', the tags are: microsoft, adult, sex, free, music, news, mp3, live, viagra, mail, soft, software, hardware, chat. For 'JAGUARJR', the tags are: microsoft, adult, sex, free, music, news, mp3, live, viagra, mail, soft, software, hardware, chat. The tags 'microsoft' and 'sex' for the user 'JAGUARJR' are circled in red.

$$f_{TagBlur}(u, r) = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{t_1 \neq t_2 \in T(u, r)} \frac{1}{\sigma(t_1, t_2) + \epsilon} - \frac{1}{1 + \epsilon}$$

| tag pairs |

tag  
similarity

# Tag Similarity



random  $\tau = 10^{-4}$

# Features: Resource Level

## ▣ DomFp

The screenshot shows the Nexium website with a search bar containing 'Nexium'. Below the search bar, there are links to 'ADD TO FAVORITES', 'EMAIL TO FRIEND', and 'ADD SEARCHBOX TO BROWSER'. The main content area displays 'Showing top results (1 - 20)' and 'Sponsored Links'. The sponsored links include various offers for Nexium, such as 'Save BIG! Nexium 40mg \$20.99/30 tabs' and 'Generic Nexium 20mg \$13.99 for 30 Pills'. There is also a 'Hot Searches' section with links like 'all included resorts', 'beach resort camping', and 'embassys finder free'. At the bottom, there is a 'Community Powered Web Results' section with a search bar and a list of results for 'NEXIUM® (esomeprazole magnesium) for Health Care Professionals'.

The screenshot shows the Hotel+new-York website with a search bar containing 'Hotel new York'. Below the search bar, there are links to 'ADD TO FAVORITES', 'EMAIL TO FRIEND', and 'ADD SEARCHBOX TO BROWSER'. The main content area displays 'Showing top results (1 - 20)' and 'Sponsored Links'. The sponsored links include various offers for hotels in New York, such as 'New York Hotel' and 'Residence Inn NYC'. There is also a 'Hot Searches' section with links like 'car rental', 'companies diving', and 'holidays faq great'. At the bottom, there is a 'Community Powered Web Results' section with a search bar and a list of results for 'Orbitz.com - Cheap Hotels, Huge Selection'.

shingle  
similarity

DOM  
fingerprint

spam  
probability

$$f_{DomFp}(r) = \frac{\sum_{k \in K} \sigma(k(r), k) \cdot \Pr(k)}{\sum_{k \in K} \sigma(k(r), k)}$$

# Features: Resource Level

## ▣ NumAds

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 30  
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**ebay**

**VITILIGO MEDI...**

 250  
Place Bid

right now on  
**ebay**

number of ads

$$f_{NumAds}(r) = g(r)/g_{max}$$



# Features: Resource Level

## ▣ Plagiarism

number of more  
authoritative sources  
matching exact phrase

$$f_{Plagiarism}(r) = y(r)/y_{max}$$

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USATODAY.com - 'Housewives' sets up shop in computer game ... will announce a computer game based on ABC's mega-popular Desperate Housewives. ... And it wouldn't be a Desperate Housewives game if you couldn't try to steal a ...

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desperate housewives wisteria

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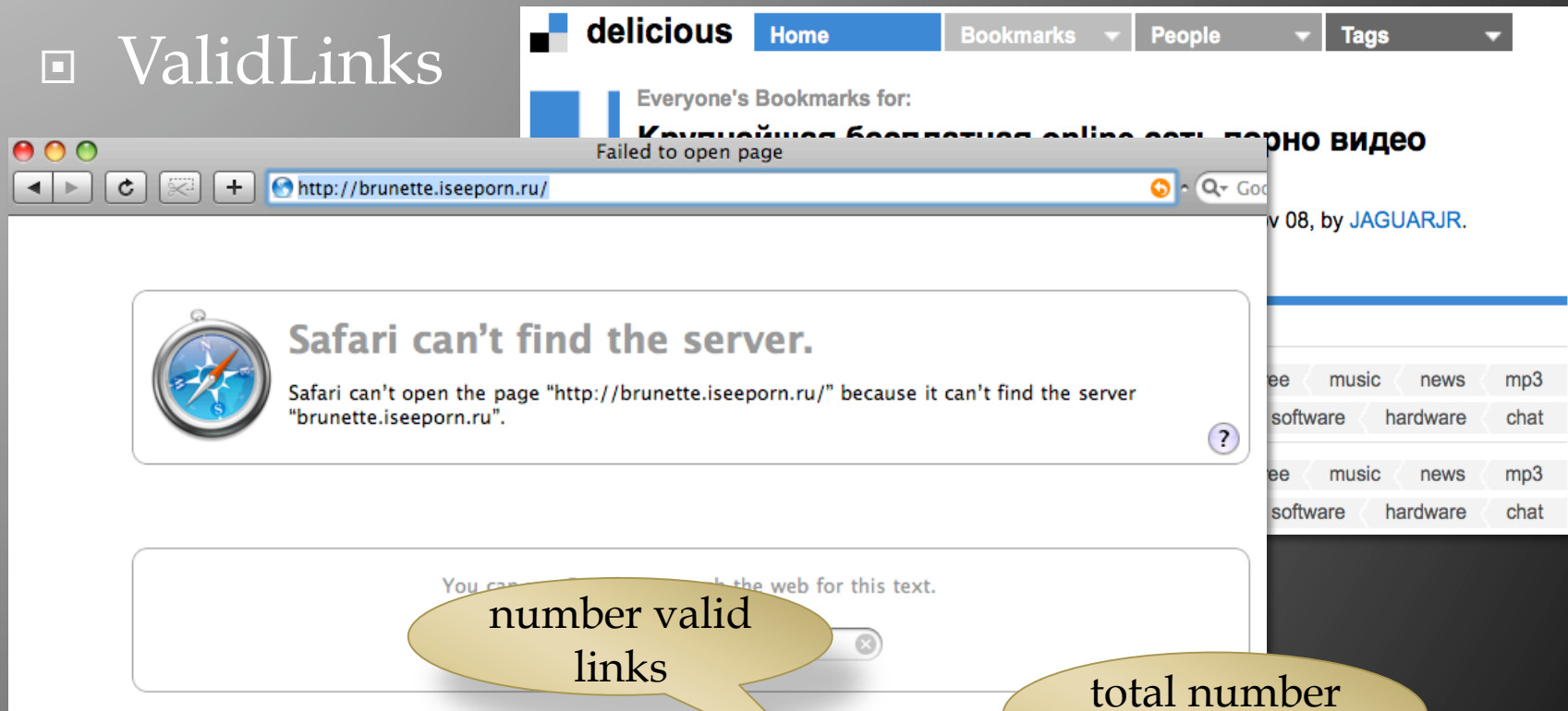
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# Features: User Level

## ValidLinks



$$f_{ValidLinks}(u) = \frac{|V_u|}{|R_u|}$$

# BibSonomy Dataset

- ▣ BibSonomy.org
- ▣ Spam is labeled at user level
  - Aggregate for user level

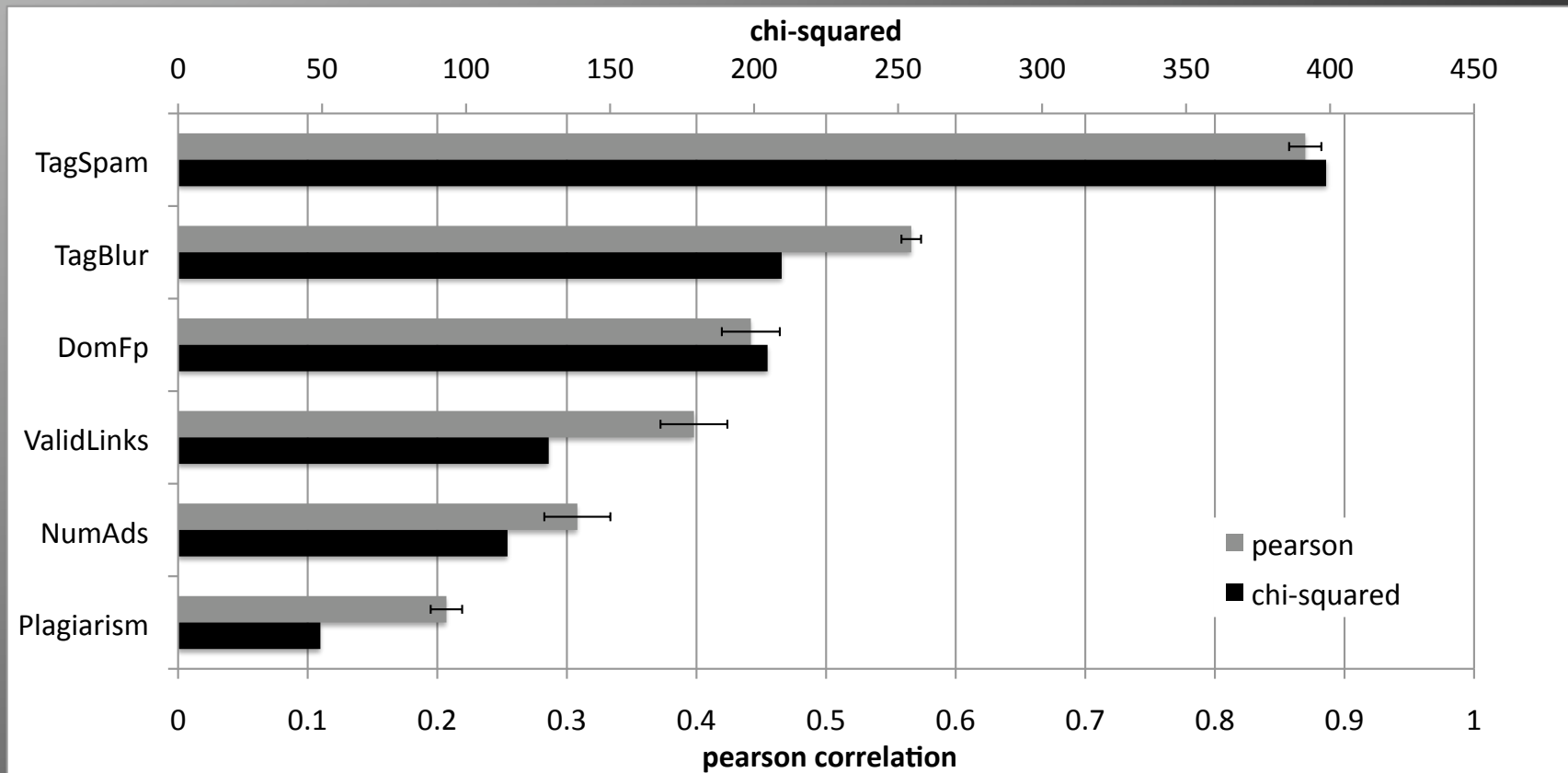
$$f(u) = \frac{1}{|P(u)|} \sum_{(u,r) \in P(u)} f(u,r)$$



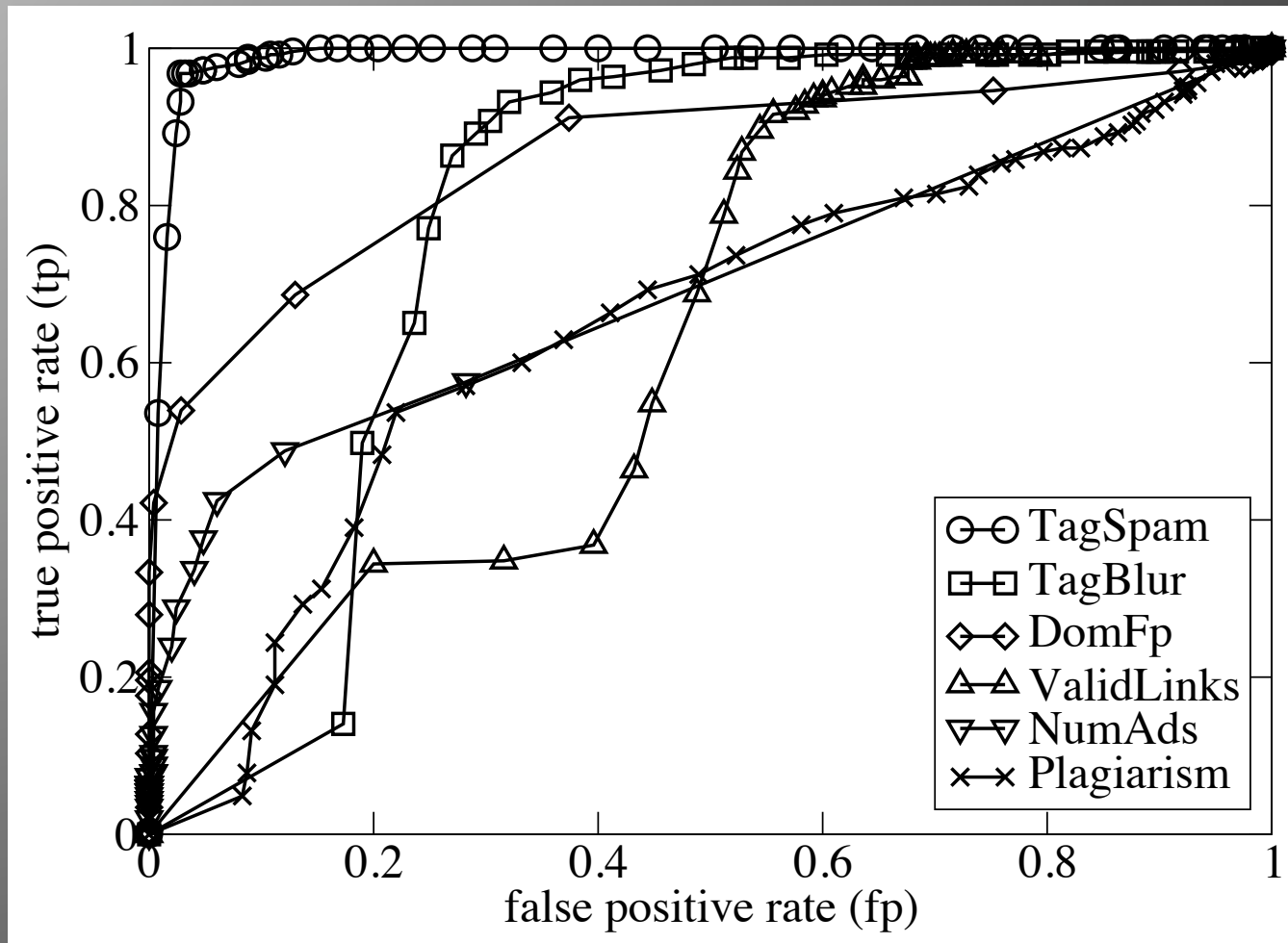
posts

- ▣ Sampled 1000 users
  - 500 spammers
- ▣ 500 users in training set/test set
  - 250 spammers

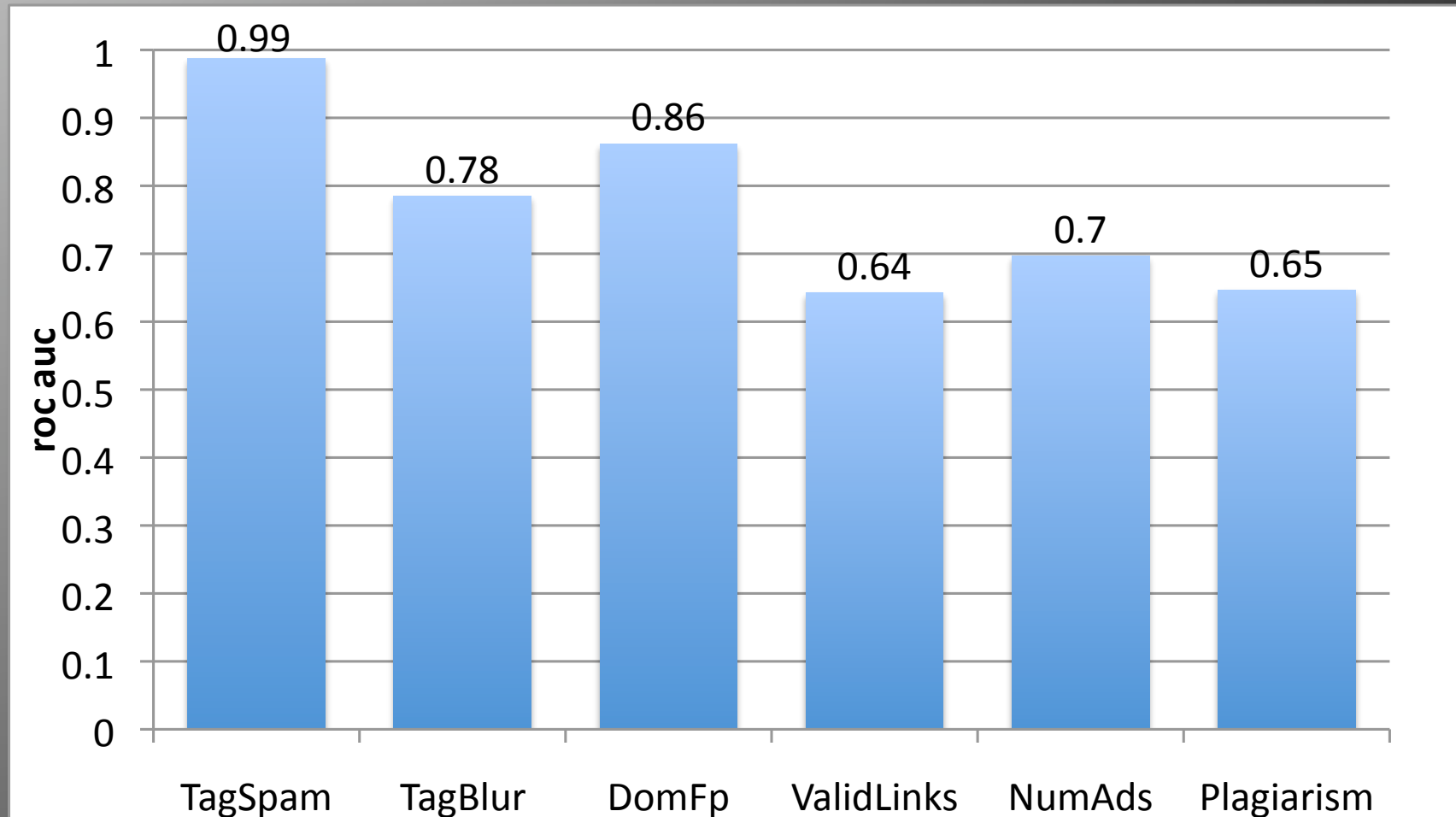
# Feature Analysis: Discrimination Power



# ROC Curves



# AUC: Area Under ROC Curve





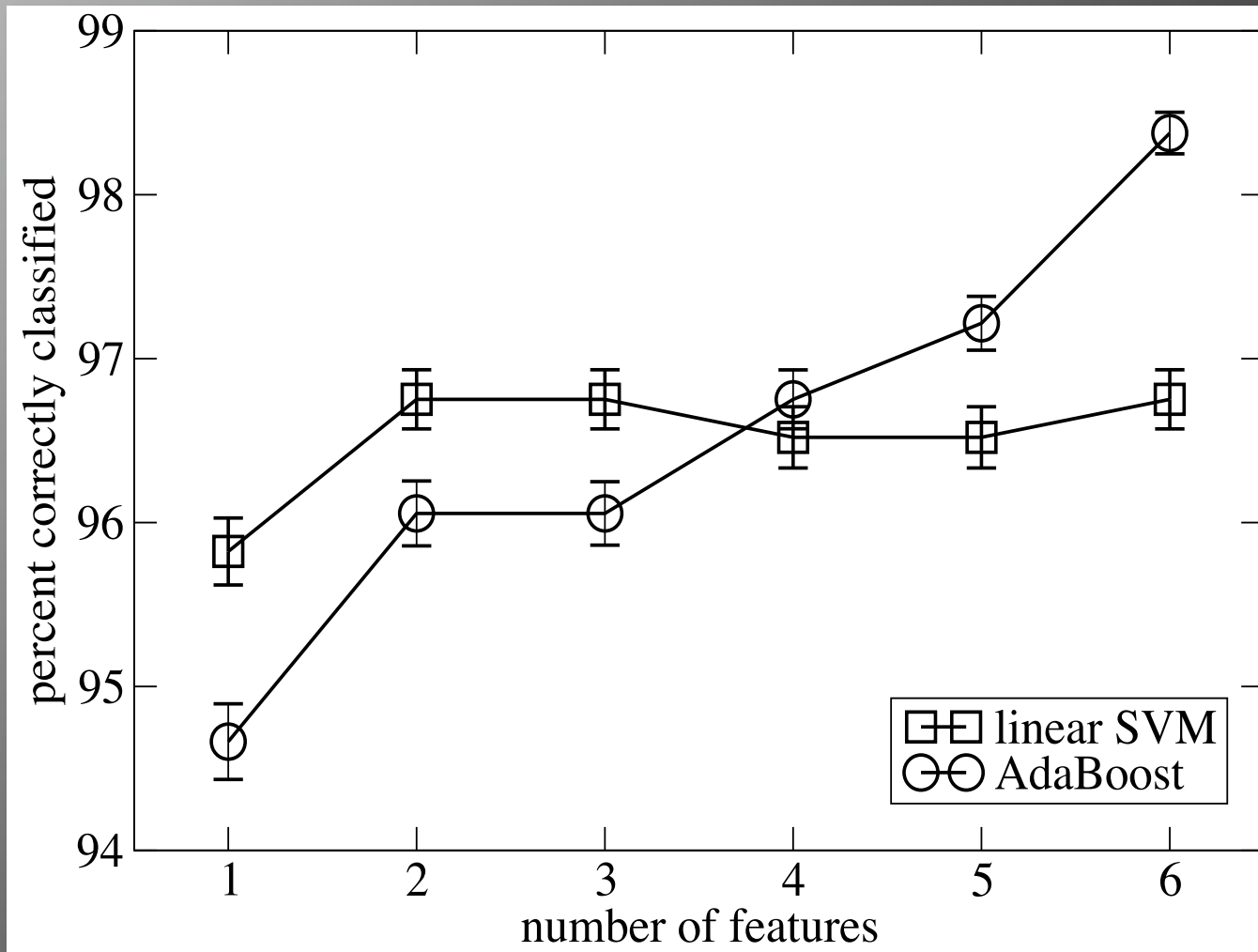
# Social Spam Detection

Weka Classifier	Accuracy	FP	$F_1$
LogitBoost	<b>97.91%</b>	.018	<b>.978</b>
LWL	97.68%	<b>.013</b>	.975
AdaBoostM1	97.68%	.018	.975
ConjunctiveRule	97.68%	<b>.013</b>	.975
DecisionTable	97.68%	.018	.975
DecisionStump	97.68%	<b>.013</b>	.975
RandomCommittee	97.45%	.018	.973
RandomForest	97.45%	.018	.973
Bagging	97.22%	.022	.970
NNge	97.22%	.022	.970

# Social Spam Detection

Features	linear SVM			AdaBoost		
	Accuracy	FP	$F_1$	Accuracy	FP	$F_1$
TagSpam	95.82%	.061	.957	94.66%	.048	.943
+ TagBlur	96.75%	.048	.966	96.06%	.044	.958
+ DomFp	96.75%	.048	.966	96.06%	.044	.958
+ ValidLinks	96.52%	.048	.964	96.75%	.026	.965
+ NumAds	96.52%	.048	.964	97.22%	.026	.970
+ Plagiarism	96.75%	.048	.966	<b>98.38%</b>	<b>.022</b>	<b>.983</b>

# Social Spam Detection



# Related Work

- ▣ Web/Email Spam
  - Attenberg and Suel 2008, Gyöngyi et al. 2004
- ▣ Social Spam
  - Heymann et al. 2007
- ▣ Spam Detection
  - Krause et al. 2008, Caverlee et al. 2008, Benevenuto et al. 2008, Koutrika et al. 2007
- ▣ ECML PKDD Discovery Challenge 2008
  - Held by BibSonomy team
  - Gkanogiannis and Kalamboukis 2008, Chevalier and Gramme 2008, Kim and Hwang 2008

# Conclusions

- ▣ Identified/analyzed 6 features for spam detection
  - TagSpam alone achieves 0.99 ROC AUC outperforming ECML PKDD Discovery Challenge 2008
- ▣ Accuracy over 98% with AdaBoost
  - False-positive rate: 0.022
  - These results set the state of the art
    - ▣ could improve by combining with other features, e.g. Krause et al. 2008
- ▣ Limitations
  - Efficiency issues
  - Bootstrap issues

# Feature Issues

- ▣ TagSpam
  - Depends on a set of labeled tags
- ▣ TagBlur
  - Depends on a notion of similarity/ distances
  - Assumes spam does not dominate the folksonomy, affecting distances
- ▣ DomFp
  - Depends on a set of labeled fingerprints
  - Requires page download
- ▣ NumAds
  - Requires page download
- ▣ Plagiarism
  - Requires page download
  - Search engine cooperation
- ▣ ValidLinks
  - HEAD request per resource



# THANK YOU!

- ▣ Features
  - Folksonomy description
  - Feature descriptions
    - ▣ post level
    - ▣ resource level
    - ▣ user level
- ▣ Feature analysis
- ▣ Social spam detection

Benjamin Markines

Ciro Cattuto

Filippo Menczer

BibSonomy Team

<http://www.bibsonomy.org>

