

## Exploring Potential Correlation between Neuroticism and Anti-Phishing Behavior

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### The Problem

Estimates of the total **global cost of phishing** attacks are approximately **\$4.5 billion dollars** annually in 2014 and 2015 (RSA, 2016). Healthcare providers are under increasing attack. Organizations are **unable to prevent successful phishing attacks using strictly technical means** exposes the importance of “human firewalls” (Sheeres, 2008).

### The Goal

When paired with the difficulty of stopping increasingly sophisticated phishing attacks using technical methods, the increasing number and breadth of phishing attacks being perpetrated on organizations exposes the importance of **making users human firewalls** that are able to detect phishing messages that have bypassed technical phishing defenses. This study explores the relationship between the personalities of users, focused on **Neuroticism**, and the ability of those users to **successfully resist phishing messages**.

### Research Question

 This correlational study explores the relationship between Neuroticism, one of five traits that measure personality in the Five Factor Model (Goldberg, 1980), and user exhibition of anti-phishing behavior.

### DESIGN AND METHODS:

