Fake News Detector

A Senior Project by Lestyn Brooks, Class of '21

The purpose of this project, as the title would suggest, is to determine whether an article found online is presenting truthful information, or if it presents biased or false information. Written in python, this program makes use of many different machine learning libraries, such as scikit-learn, pandas, and numpy to create an algorithm that is used to determine an article's legitimacy. The program also makes use of the Kivy library to present a user-friendly GUI.

The motivation behind me doing this for my senior project to begin with is the polarization of the American political scene over the last several election cycles. A phrase that is commonly thrown around is "I'm voting for the lesser of two evils". The two most obvious examples of this are the last two presidential elections, where the candidate who won was not someone who was well liked, but rather someone who people hated less. I firmly believe the media and the press on both sides of the political spectrum played a major role in the outcomes of both of those elections. With many people on both ends of the spectrum posting and sharing false and/or heavily biased information in this age of social media, it is important for people to know if what they are reading is truthful.