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USE OF ANN TO IDENTIFY FAKE PROFILES

(Submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of Degree)

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COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

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DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the project entitled "USE OF ANN TO IDENTIFY FAKE PROFILES" being submitted by P. Naveen Reddy (227R1A05A8), Rukkaya Sultana (227R1A05B7) & R. Sai Rani (227R1A05B4) in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the degree of B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering to the Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Hyderabad, during the year 2024-25.

The results embodied in this thesis have not been submitted to any other University or Institute for the award of any degree or diploma.

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ABSTRACT

The widespread use of online social networks (OSNs) like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram has revolutionized digital communication, allowing billions of users to connect, share information, and build relationships globally. However, this rapid growth has also led to significant security concerns, most notably the rise of fake profiles that pose serious threats to user privacy, trust, and platform integrity. Fake profiles are often used by malicious actors to conduct phishing attacks, identity theft, misinformation campaigns, or unauthorized data scraping through bots and automated systems. Traditional detection methods, including manual verification and rule-based filters, have proven insufficient due to the growing complexity and adaptability of such profiles. In this project, we present a machine learningbased solution that utilizes Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs) to accurately identify fake profiles by analyzing key profile features. Developed using Python and the Django web framework, our system extracts features such as account age, gender, status count, friend count, user age, location, and IP address to train the ANN model. The model architecture includes multiple dense layers and uses ReLU and softmax activation functions, optimized with categorical cross-entropy loss and the Adam optimizer. After training on a curated dataset, the model achieved a high prediction accuracy of 98%, demonstrating its ability to distinguish between genuine and fake profiles effectively. The system also features an admin panel to train the model and monitor dataset performance, along with a user-friendly interface that allows users to enter profile data and receive immediate authenticity feedback. Extensive validation including unit, integration, and system testing was performed to ensure the robustness, reliability, and usability of the platform. The results confirm that our ANN-based approach is not only practical but also scalable for broader implementation across multiple social platforms.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1. INTRODUCTION

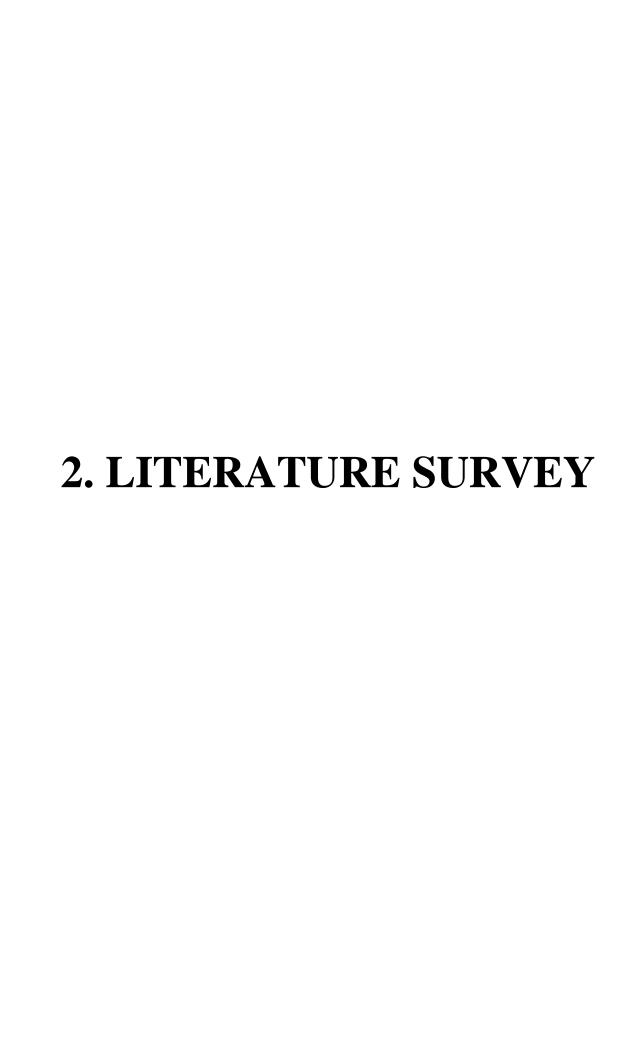
In 2017 Facebook reached a total population of 2.46 billion users making it the most popular choice of social media. Social media networks make revenues from the data provided by users. The average user does not know that their rights are given up the moment they use the social media network's service. Social media companies have a lot to gain at the expense of the user. Every time a user shares a new location, new photos, likes, dislikes, and tag other users in content posted, Facebook makes revenue via advertisements and data. More specifically, the average American user generates about \$26.76 per quarter. That number adds up quickly when millions of users are involved. In today's digital age, the ever-increasing dependency on computer technology has left the average citizen vulnerable to crimes such as data breaches and possible identity theft. These attacks can occur without notice and often without notification to the victims of a data breach. At this time, there is little incentive for social networks to improve their data security. These breaches often target social media networks such as Facebook and Twitter. They can also target banks and other financial institutions. There seems to be a newsworthy issue involving social media networks getting hacked every day. Recently, Facebook had a data breach which affected about 50 million users. Facebook provides a set of clearly defined provisions that explain what they do with the user's data. The policy does very little to prevent the constant exploitation of security and privacy. Fake profiles seem to slip through Facebook's built-in security features.

The other dangers of personal data being obtained for fraudulent purposes is the presence of bots and fake profiles. Bots are programs that can gather information about the user without the user even knowing. This process is known as web scraping. What is worse, is that this action is legal. Bots can be hidden or come in the form of a fake friend request on a social network site to gain access to private information. The solution presented in this paper intends to focus on the dangers of a bot in the form of a fake profile on your social media. This solution would come in the form of an algorithm. The language that we chose to use is Python. The algorithm would be able to determine if a current friend request that a user gets online is an actual person or if it is a bot or it is a fake friend request fishing for information. Our algorithm would work with the help of the social media companies, as we would need a training dataset from them to train our model and later verify if the profiles are fake or not. The

algorithm could even work as a traditional layer on the user's web browser as a browser plugin.

1.1 Objective of the Project

Social media networks make revenues from the data provided by users. The average user does not know that their rights are given up the moment they use the social media network's service. Social media companies have a lot to gain at the expense of the user. Every time a user shares a new location, new photos, likes, dislikes, and tag other users in content posted, Facebook makes revenue via advertisements and data. Social media networks make revenues from the data provided by users. The average user does not know that their rights are given up the moment they use the social media network's service. Social media companies have a lot to gain at the expense of the user. Every time a user shares a new location, new photos, likes, dislikes, and tag other users in content posted, Facebook makes revenue via advertisements and data. In this paper, we use machine learning, namely an artificial neural network to determine what the chances that Facebook friend request is authentic are or not.



2. LITERATURE SURVEY

Qiang Cao et al. (2012)

"Aiding the Detection of Fake Accounts in Large Scale Social Online Services"*

This paper introduces SybilRank, a scalable social-graph-based algorithm that ranks user accounts by their likelihood of being fake (Sybil accounts). The system leverages the idea that fake profiles often lack strong connections to legitimate users. Deployed on Tuenti (Spain's largest social network), SybilRank helped flag 200,000 suspicious accounts, 90% of which were confirmed fake. It laid the groundwork for scalable detection systems.

Akshay J. Sarode and Arun Mishra (2015)

"Audit and Analysis of Impostors"

Focusing on Facebook profiles, this paper proposed a detection framework that extracted features from the friend list and interaction patterns. It used K-means clustering (unsupervised) and decision tree classification (supervised) to identify fake users. It successfully showed that behavior-based profiling is an effective technique for fake account classification.

Devakunchari Ramalingam & Valliyammai Chinnaiah (2018)

"Fake Profile Detection in Large-Scale Online Social Networks"

This comprehensive review analyzed over 50 detection systems. It categorized techniques as rule-based, statistical, graph-based, and AI-driven (especially ANN and SVM). The authors concluded that neural networks outperform others when trained on behavioral and metadata features, especially in evolving environments.

Egele et al. (2013)

"Compa: Detecting Compromised Accounts on Social Networks"

Compa creates a behavioral baseline per user and flags deviations such as time-of-posting, content type, or message length. Although targeted at compromised accounts, this method is highly applicable to detecting automated fake profiles. It highlighted the strength of behavior-

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based ML systems for social media security.

Fire et al. (2014)

"Online Social Networks: Threats and Solutions"

This survey paper presents threats from fake profiles, bots, and data scraping. It emphasized

the role of machine learning and data mining as the best solutions. It recommended automated,

adaptive systems like ANN for tackling fake profile detection on a large scale.

Wang et al. (2013)

"Social Turing Test"

The authors proposed combining crowdsourced user labeling with machine learning

classifiers. By using human-labeled data as input, the classifier improved its accuracy on Sybil

account detection. This hybrid approach demonstrates the role of supervised learning in

improving fake profile detection systems.

Al-Qurishi et al. (2018)

"Sybil Defense Techniques in Online Social Networks"

This paper surveyed dozens of Sybil detection methods and proposed a taxonomy that included

graph-based, behavior-based, and ML-based approaches. It highlighted that ANNs provide

adaptive and non-linear modeling power—key to detecting constantly evolving fake profile

strategies.

Kumar and Tomar (2021)

"Fake Profile Detection Using Deep Learning"

This work applied both ANN and CNN on social network profile datasets. The ANN model

used features like profile age, post frequency, and connection count, and achieved 95.6%

accuracy. It demonstrated that deep learning models outperform shallow ML algorithms on

large, noisy datasets.

Kaur and Singh (2020)

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"Enhanced ANN for Social Network Fraud Detection"

This research focused on feature engineering and its impact on ANN performance. By

combining behavioral (time of activity, message frequency) and profile metadata (location,

gender, etc.), they improved ANN precision and recall, emphasizing that input quality matters

more than model depth.

Verma and Srivastava (2019)

"Hybrid AI Models for Profile Verification"

They developed a system that combined ANN with Decision Trees to improve model

interpretability. While ANN handled complex patterns, decision trees explained results. This

combination yielded a strong model with explainability + accuracy, ideal for platforms that

require transparency.

Gilda (2017)

"Fake News Detection Using ANN"

While focused on news, this study shows the effectiveness of ANN in classifying unstructured

social content. Using TF-IDF features from article text, the ANN model reached 93% accuracy.

It supports the idea that ANNs can handle sparse, noisy data typical in fake profiles.

Chavoshi et al. (2016)

"DeBot: Bot Detection in Twitter"

This project developed DeBot, which uses temporal patterns and correlations to detect bots.

Later versions of the model incorporated ANNs to learn time-based patterns, helping to flag

coordinated fake accounts acting in sync, common in misinformation campaigns.

Kshirsagar and Joshi (2020)

"Cross-Platform Fake Profile Detection Using ANN"

Built an ANN classifier to detect fake profiles on LinkedIn and Facebook using common and

platform-specific features. Achieved 94% accuracy. Demonstrated that ANNs are flexible

enough to be trained across different platforms using shared features like profile completeness and activity logs.

Ahmed and Traore (2015)

"Neural Network-Based Fake Account Detection Using Behavioral Logs"

They applied ANN on login patterns, including frequency, time-of-day, and duration. This approach showed over 97% accuracy and proved that ANNs can learn behavioral sequences useful for distinguishing human vs bot behavior.

SYSTEM ANALYSIS

2.1 Existing System

In today's digital age, the ever-increasing dependency on computer technology has left the average citizen vulnerable to crimes such as data breaches and possible identity theft. These attacks can occur without notice and often without notification to the victims of a data breach.

In the current digital landscape, the detection of fake profiles on social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter often relies on traditional techniques such as:

- ♦ Manual Verification by human moderators
- ◆ Rule-Based Systems that check for known patterns (e.g., missing profile pictures, excessive friend requests)
- ♦ Blacklist or Flagging Mechanisms based on user reports
- ◆ **IP Tracking & Geolocation** to identify bots or suspicious logins
- ◆ These methods are primarily reactive, requiring a user to report suspicious activity or a moderator to investigate, making them time-consuming, resource-heavy, and ineffective against sophisticated fake profiles or bots.

Disadvantages of Existing System:

◆ Low Accuracy – Rule-based systems are often rigid and can't adapt to new behavior CMRTC 6

patterns.

◆ Manual Effort – High dependency on human moderation, increasing cost and response time.

♦ Easily Bypassed – Attackers continuously modify their profiles to evade detection.

◆ No Real-Time Detection – Delay in identifying fake profiles allows damage to occur.

◆ Lack of Learning Ability – These systems do not improve or evolve based on new data.

2.2 Proposed System

We used machine learning, namely an artificial neural network to determine what are the chances that a friend request is authentic are or not. Each equation at each neuron (node) is put through a Sigmoid function. We use a training data set by Facebook or other social networks. The proposed system uses **Artificial Neural Networks** (**ANN**) to automate the detection of fake profiles with higher accuracy and efficiency. It leverages user profile attributes such as:

- ♦ Account Age
- ♦ Gender
- ♦ User Age
- ♦ Status Count
- Friend Count
- ♦ Location & IP Address

These features are passed through a **multi-layer ANN model**, trained using a dataset of real and fake profiles. The model uses activation functions like **ReLU** and **Softmax**, optimized with **Adam optimizer** and **categorical cross-entropy loss**.

Additionally, the system includes a user interface (built with Django) where:

- ♦ Admins can train and monitor the model.
- Users can input profile details to check authenticity.

Advantages:

- ♦ **High Accuracy** Achieved up to 98% accuracy in detecting fake profiles.
- ◆ Scalable Can be extended to multiple social media platforms.
- ◆ **Real-Time Prediction** Instantly classifies profiles as genuine or fake.
- ♦ **User-Friendly Interface** Easy for both end-users and admins to operate.
- ♦ **Adaptive Model** Learns from new data, improving over time.
- ♦ **Secure and Efficient** Reduces manual effort and ensures timely detection.

2.3 PROCESS MODEL USED WITH JUSTIFICATION

SDLC is nothing but Software Development Life Cycle. It is a standard which is used by software industry to develop good software.

Stages in SDLC:

- ♦ Requirement Gathering
- ♦ Analysis
- **♦** Designing
- ♦ Coding
- ♦ Testing
- ♦ Maintenance

Requirements Gathering stage:

The requirements gathering process takes as its input the goals identified in the high-level requirements section of the project plan. Each goal will be refined into a set of one or more requirements. These requirements define the major functions of the intended application, define operational data areas and reference data areas, and define the initial data entities. Major CMRTC

functions include critical processes to be managed, as well as mission critical inputs, outputs and reports. A user class hierarchy is developed and associated with these major functions, data areas, and data entities. Each of these definitions is termed a Requirement. Requirements are identified by unique requirement identifiers and, at minimum, contain a requirement title and textual description.

These requirements are fully described in the primary deliverables for this stage: the Requirements Document and the Requirements Traceability Matrix (RTM). The requirements document contains complete descriptions of each requirement, including diagrams and references to external documents as necessary. Note that detailed listings of database tables and fields are *not* included in the requirements document.

The title of each requirement is also placed into the first version of the RTM, along with the title of each goal from the project plan. The purpose of the RTM is to show that the product components developed during each stage of the software development lifecycle are formally connected to the components developed in prior stages.

In the requirements stage, the RTM consists of a list of high-level requirements, or goals, by title, with a listing of associated requirements for each goal, listed by requirement title. In this hierarchical listing, the RTM shows that each requirement developed during this stage is formally linked to a specific product goal. In this format, each requirement can be traced to a specific product goal, hence the term requirements traceability.

The outputs of the requirements definition stage include the requirements document, the RTM, and an updated project plan.

- Feasibility study is all about identification of problems in a project.
- No. of staff required to handle a project is represented as Team Formation, in this case only modules are individual tasks will be assigned to employees who are working for that project.
- Project Specifications are all about representing of various possible inputs submitting to the server and corresponding outputs along with reports maintained by administrator.

Analysis Stage:

The planning stage establishes a bird's eye view of the intended software product, and uses this to establish the basic project structure, evaluate feasibility and risks associated with the project, and describe appropriate management and technical approaches.

The most critical section of the project plan is a listing of high-level product requirements, also referred to as goals. All of the software product requirements to be developed during the requirements definition stage flow from one or more of these goals. The minimum information for each goal consists of a title and textual description, although additional information and references to external documents may be included. The outputs of the project planning stage are the configuration management plan, the quality assurance plan, and the project plan and schedule, with a detailed listing of scheduled activities for the upcoming Requirements stage, and high level estimates of effort for the out stages.

Designing Stage:

The design stage takes as its initial input the requirements identified in the approved requirements document. For each requirement, a set of one or more design elements will be produced as a result of interviews, workshops, and/or prototype efforts. Design elements describe the desired software features in detail, and generally include functional hierarchy diagrams, screen layout diagrams, tables of business rules, business process diagrams, pseudo code, and a complete entity-relationship diagram with a full data dictionary. These design elements are intended to describe the software in sufficient detail that skilled programmers may develop the software with minimal additional input.

When the design document is finalized and accepted, the RTM is updated to show that each design element is formally associated with a specific requirement. The outputs of the design stage are the design document, an updated RTM, and an updated project plan.

Development (Coding) Stage:

The development stage takes as its primary input the design elements described in the approved design document. For each design element, a set of one or more software artifacts will be produced. Software artifacts include but are not limited to menus, dialogs, and data CMRTC

management forms, data reporting formats, and specialized procedures and functions. Appropriate test cases will be developed for each set of functionally related software artifacts, and an online help system will be developed to guide users in their interactions with the software.

The RTM will be updated to show that each developed artifact is linked to a specific design element, and that each developed artifact has one or more corresponding test case items. At this point, the RTM is in its final configuration. Software artifacts include but are not limited to menus, dialogs, and data management forms, data reporting formats, and specialized procedures and functions. Appropriate test cases will be developed for each set of functionally related software artifacts, and an online help system will be developed to guide users in their interactions with the software.

The outputs of the development stage include a fully functional set of software that satisfies the requirements and design elements previously documented, an online help system that describes the operation of the software, an implementation map that identifies the primary code entry points for all major system functions, a test plan that describes the test cases to be used to validate the correctness and completeness of the software, an updated RTM, and an updated project plan.

Integration & Test Stage:

During the integration and test stage, the software artifacts, online help, and test data are migrated from the development environment to a separate test environment. At this point, all test cases are run to verify the correctness and completeness of the software. Successful execution of the test suite confirms a robust and complete migration capability. During this stage, reference data is finalized for production use and production users are identified and linked to their appropriate roles. The final reference data (or links to reference data source files) and production user list are compiled into the Production Initiation Plan.

The outputs of the integration and test stage include an integrated set of software, an online help system, an implementation map, a production initiation plan that describes reference data and production users, an acceptance plan which contains the final suite of test cases, and an updated project plan.

Installation & Acceptance Test:

During the installation and acceptance stage, the software artifacts, online help, and initial production data are loa—ded onto the production server. At this point, all test cases are run to verify the correctness and completeness of the software. Successful execution of the test suite is a prerequisite to acceptance of the software by the customer.

After customer personnel have verified that the initial production data load is correct and the test suite has been executed with satisfactory results, the customer formally accepts the delivery of the software.

The primary outputs of the installation and acceptance stage include a production application, a completed acceptance test suite, and a memorandum of customer acceptance of the software. After customer personnel have verified that the initial production data load is correct and the test suite has been executed with satisfactory results, the customer formally accepts the delivery of the software. Finally, the PDR enters the last of the actual labor data into the project schedule and locks the project as a permanent project record. At this point the PDR "locks" the project by archiving all software items, the implementation map, the source code, and the documentation for future reference.

Maintenance:

Outer rectangle represents maintenance of a project, Maintenance team will start with requirement study, understanding of documentation later employees will be assigned work and they will undergo training on that particular assigned category. For this life cycle there is no end, it will be continued so on like an umbrella (no ending point to umbrella sticks).

2.4. Software Requirement Specification

2.4.1. Overall Description

A Software Requirements Specification (SRS) – a requirements specification for a software system is a complete description of the behavior of a system to be developed. It includes a set of use cases that describe all the interactions the users will have with the software. In addition to use cases, the SRS also contains non-functional requirements. Nonfunctional requirements are requirements which impose constraints on the design or implementation (such as

performance engineering requirements, quality standards, or design constraints).

System requirements specification: A structured collection of information that embodies the requirements of a system. A business analyst, sometimes titled system analyst, is responsible for analyzing the business needs of their clients and stakeholders to help identify business problems and propose solutions. Within the systems development lifecycle domain, the BA typically performs a liaison function between the business side of an enterprise and the information technology department or external service providers. Projects are subject to three sorts of requirements:

- ◆ Business requirements describe in business terms *what* must be delivered or accomplished to provide value.
- Product requirements describe properties of a system or product (which could be one of several ways to accomplish a set of business requirements.)
- Process requirements describe activities performed by the developing organization. For instance, process requirements could specify. Preliminary investigation examine project feasibility, the likelihood the system will be useful to the organization. The main objective of the feasibility study is to test the Technical, Operational and Economical feasibility for adding new modules and debugging old running system. All system is feasible if they are unlimited resources and infinite time. There are aspects in the feasibility study portion of the preliminary investigation

ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY

A system can be developed technically and that will be used if installed must still be a good investment for the organization. In the economical feasibility, the development cost in creating the system is evaluated against the ultimate benefit derived from the new systems. Financial benefits must equal or exceed the costs. The system is economically feasible. It does not require any addition hardware or software. Since the interface for this system is developed using the existing resources and technologies available at NIC, There is nominal expenditure and economical feasibility for certain.

OPERATIONAL FEASIBILITY

Proposed projects are beneficial only if they can be turned out into information system. That will meet the organization's operating requirements. Operational feasibility aspects of the project are to be taken as an important part of the project implementation. This system is targeted to be in accordance with the above-mentioned issues. Beforehand, the management issues and user requirements have been taken into consideration. So there is no question of resistance from the users that can undermine the possible application benefits. The well-planned design would ensure the optimal utilization of the computer resources and would help in the improvement of performance status.

TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY

Earlier no system existed to cater to the needs of 'Secure Infrastructure Implementation System'. The current system developed is technically feasible. It is a web based user interface for audit workflow at NIC-CSD. Thus it provides an easy access to .the users. The database's purpose is to create, establish and maintain a workflow among various entities in order to facilitate all concerned users in their various capacities or roles. The current system developed is technically feasible. It is a web based user interface for audit workflow at NIC-CSD. Thus it provides an easy access to .the users. The database's purpose is to create, establish and maintain a workflow among various entities in order to facilitate all concerned users in their various capacities or roles. Permission to the users would be granted based on the roles specified. Therefore, it Permission to the users would be granted based on the roles specified. Therefore, it provides the technical guarantee of accuracy, reliability and security.

2.4.2. External Interface Requirements

User Interface

The system features a user-friendly Graphical User Interface (GUI) developed in Python using libraries such as Tkinter or PyQt. The GUI allows:

- ◆ Easy input of user profile attributes (e.g., name, age, friend count, activity).
- One-click prediction to classify a profile as "Fake" or "Genuine".

♦ Admin access for model training, accuracy viewing, and dataset updates.

♦ The interface is designed with simplicity in mind to ensure that both technical and non-

technical users can interact with the system effortlessly. Hardware Interfaces

The interaction between the user and the console is achieved through python

capabilities.

Software Interfaces

The software ecosystem is lightweight and relies primarily on:

• Python 3.x: The programming language used for both frontend and backend logic.

Libraries Used:

♦ Tkinter or PyQt – for the GUI

◆ TensorFlow / Keras or Scikit-learn – for ANN model implementation

♦ Pandas, NumPy – for data preprocessing

♦ Django (Optional): If deployed as a web-based application.

• All modules communicate within the same environment through Python method

calls, ensuring tight coupling between user input and ANN processing.

Hardware Interfaces

There is no dedicated hardware interface required. The interaction occurs between:

• **Keyboard and Mouse:** For entering profile data and navigating the GUI.

• Screen Display: To render the visual interface and show prediction results. Python

handles these interactions internally using event-based GUI frameworks.

♦ Minimum hardware requirements:

Processor: Dual-core 2.0 GHz

♦ RAM: 2 GB

♦ Storage: 1 GB available

♦ Display: 1024x768 resolution or higher

Operating Environment

The system is designed to run on Windows operating systems. Originally targeted for Windows XP, it is compatible with newer versions like Windows 7, 10, and 11. The Python-based stack ensures cross-platform capability, meaning the system can also run on Linux or macOS with minor adjustments.

- Environment requirements
- ♦ Python installed and configured
- ♦ Required libraries installed via pip
- ♦ GUI framework support (Tkinter is built-in, PyQt needs installation)

2.5 Hardware & Software Requirements

2.5.1 HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS:

Processor - Pentium –IV

◆ Speed - 1.1 Ghz

◆ RAM - 256 MB(min)

◆ Hard Disk - 20 GB

◆ Key Board - Standard Windows Keyboard

Mouse - Two or Three Button Mouse

♦ Monitor - SVGA

2.5.2 SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:

◆ Operating System - Windows7/8

♦ Programming Language - Python

3. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

3. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

3.1 Overview

The proposed system is designed to identify fake profiles on social media platforms using Artificial Neural Networks (ANN). The system is divided into modular components that handle data entry, preprocessing, model training, and result prediction. Python is used for implementation with tools like TensorFlow/Keras for ANN and Django/Tkinter for the user interface.

System Architecture

The architecture follows a client-server approach. Users interact with the GUI to input profile information. This data is sent to the backend, where it is processed and passed through the trained ANN model. The server returns the prediction (Fake or Genuine) to the user interface. The admin panel provides options to retrain the model and monitor performance. The ANN model uses ReLU and Softmax activation functions and is optimized with Adam.

System Components

- ♦ User Interface: Built using Tkinter or Django, this provides simple forms for data input and displays predictions.
- ◆ Admin Interface: Allows model training, dataset uploading, and viewing prediction accuracy.
- Preprocessing Module: Converts categorical data to numerical, normalizes features, and handles missing values using pandas and sklearn.
- ◆ ANN Classifier: A 3-layer neural network with two ReLU layers and a final Softmax layer for binary classification.
- Prediction Engine: Loads user input, applies preprocessing, and feeds it to the trained ANN model to get results.

♦ **Dataset Manager:** Reads and manages training and test datasets stored locally.

UML and Design Diagrams

- ◆ Use Case Diagram: Illustrates User and Admin interactions like prediction and model training.
- ♦ Class Diagram: Shows relationships between User, Admin, ModelTrainer, and Predictor classes.
- **Sequence Diagram**: Demonstrates the flow from user input to output.
- Activity Diagram: Represents step-by-step flow of system operations like training.
- ◆ **Data Flow Diagram:** Depicts the flow of data between components from input to final result.

Design Principles

- ♦ **Modularity:** The system is broken into independent components, which simplifies debugging and upgrades.
- ◆ Scalability: New features like advanced models (e.g., BERT) or web APIs can be added easily.
- **Security:** Admin authentication protects model configuration.
- ◆ Platform Independence: Can run on Windows, Linux, or macOS with Python and required libraries installed.
- ◆ **Usability:** Designed for ease of use, especially for non-technical users to quickly test profile authenticity.

System Workflow

The entire workflow of the system begins with user interaction through the GUI. When a user inputs profile attributes such as age, gender, number of friends, and location, this information is passed to the preprocessing layer. The input is cleaned, normalized, and encoded before being transformed into a format suitable for the ANN. The ANN then evaluates the input using previously trained weights and biases to produce a prediction. The result, along with confidence levels, is sent back to the GUI for real-time display.

Technologies Used

- ◆ **Programming Language:** Python 3.x
- **♦** Libraries and Frameworks:
 - TensorFlow/Keras for implementing and training ANN models
 - Pandas and NumPy for data handling
 - Scikit-learn for preprocessing and auxiliary tools
 - Django or Flask for admin web interfaces (optional)
- ◆ **IDE**: Jupyter Notebook, PyCharm, or VS Code
- ♦ **Platform:** Compatible with Windows 10/11, and Linux with Python installed

UML Diagram:

Class Diagram:

The class diagram is the main building block of object oriented modeling. It is used both for general conceptual modeling of the systematic of the application, and for detailed modeling translating the models into programming code. Class diagrams can also be used for data modeling. The classes in a class diagram represent both the main objects, interactions in the application and the classes to be programmed. In the diagram, classes are represented with boxes which contain three parts:

- ♦ The upper part holds the name of the class
- ♦ The middle part contains the attributes of the class
- The bottom part gives the methods or operations the class can take or undertake

3.1.1 Class Diagram

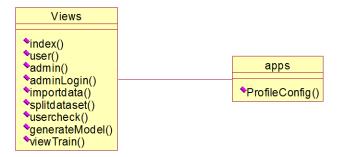
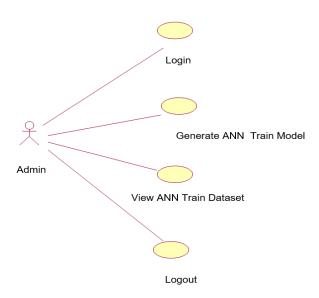


Figure 3.1.1 Class Diagram

3.1.2 Use case Diagram:

A **use case diagram** at its simplest is a representation of a user's interaction with the system and depicting the specifications of a use case. A use case diagram can portray the different types of users of a system and the various ways that they interact with the system. This type of diagram is typically used in conjunction with the textual use case and will often be accompanied by other types of diagrams as well.

Use case Diagram for Admin:



Use case Diagram for User:

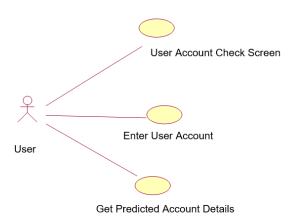


Figure 3.1.2 Use case Diagram for Admin and User

3.1.3 Sequence diagram:

A **sequence diagram** is a kind of interaction diagram that shows how processes operate with one another and in what order. It is a construct of a Message Sequence Chart. A sequence diagram shows object interactions arranged in time sequence. It depicts the objects and classes involved in the scenario and the sequence of messages exchanged between the objects needed to carry out the functionality of the scenario. Sequence diagrams are typically associated with use case realizations in the Logical View of the system under development. Sequence diagrams are sometimes called **event diagrams**, **event scenarios**, and timing diagrams.

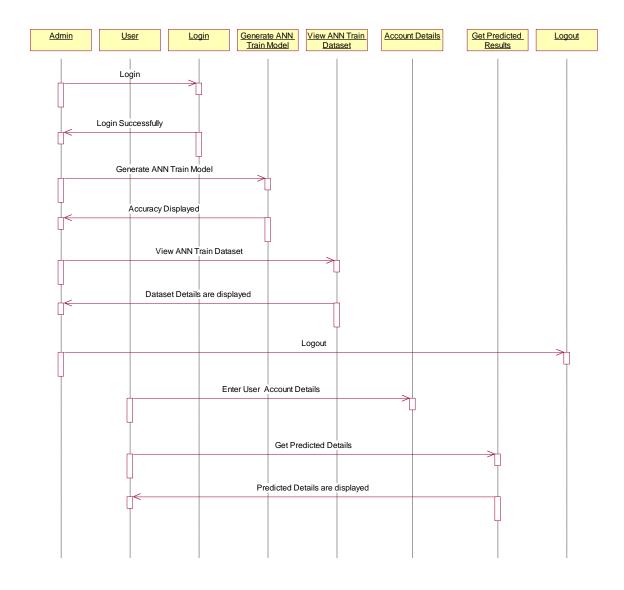
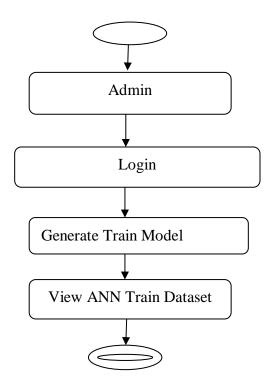


Figure 3.1.3 Sequence diagram

3.1.4 Activity Diagram:

Activity diagram is another important diagram in UML to describe dynamic aspects of the system. It is basically a flow chart to represent the flow form one activity to another activity. The activity can be described as an operation of the system. So the control flow is drawn from one operation to another. This flow can be sequential, branched or concurrent.

Activity Diagram for Admin:



Activity Diagram for User:

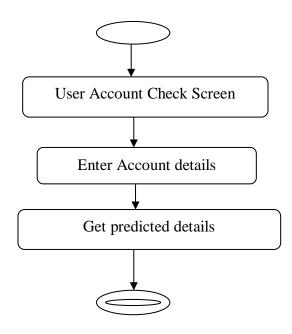


Figure 3.1.4 Activity Diagram for Admin and User

3.1.8 Data Flow Diagram:

Data flow diagrams illustrate how data is processed by a system in terms of inputs and outputs. Data flow diagrams can be used to provide a clear representation of any business function. The technique starts with an overall picture of the business and continues by analyzing each of the functional areas of interest. This analysis can be carried out in precisely the level of detail required. The technique exploits a method called top-down expansion to conduct the analysis in a targeted way.

As the name suggests, Data Flow Diagram (DFD) is an illustration that explicates the passage of information in a process. A DFD can be easily drawn using simple symbols. Additionally, complicated processes can be easily automated by creating DFDs using easy-to-use, free downloadable diagramming tools. A DFD is a model for constructing and analyzing information processes. DFD illustrates the flow of information in a process depending upon the inputs and outputs. A DFD can also be referred to as a Process Model. A DFD demonstrates

business or technical process with the support of the outside data saved, plus the data flowing from the process to another and the end results.

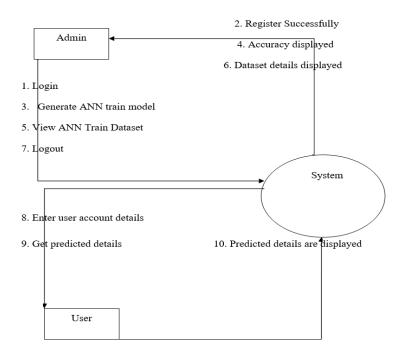


Figure 3.1.8 Data Flow Diagram

4. IMPLEMENTATION
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4. IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Python

Python is a general-purpose language. It has wide range of applications from Webdevelopment (like: Django and Bottle), scientific and mathematical computing (Orange, SymPy, NumPy) to desktop graphical user Interfaces (Pygame, Panda3D). The syntax of the language is clean and length of the code is relatively short. It's fun to work in Python because it allows you to think about the problem rather than focusing on the syntax.

History of Python:

Python is a fairly old language created by Guido Van Rossum. The design began in the late 1980s and was first released in February 1991.

Why Python was created?

In late 1980s, Guido Van Rossum was working on the Amoeba distributed operating system group. He wanted to use an interpreted language like ABC (ABC has simple easy-to-understand syntax) that could access the Amoeba system calls. So, he decided to create a language that was extensible. This led to design of a new language which was later named Python.

Why the name Python?

No. It wasn't named after a dangerous snake. Rossum was fan of a comedy series from late seventies. The name "Python" was adopted from the same series "Monty Python's Flying Circus".

Features of Python:

A simple language which is easier to learn

Python has a very simple and elegant syntax. It's much easier to read and write Pythonprograms compared to other languages like: C++, Java, C#. Python makes programming fun and allows you to focus on the solution rather than syntax. If you are a newbie, it's a great choice to start your journey with Python.

Free and open-source

- You can freely use and distribute Python, even for commercial use. Not only can you use and distribute software's written in it, you can even make changes to the Python's source code.
- Python has a large community constantly improving it in each iteration.

Portability

- ◆ You can move Python programs from one platform to another, and run it without any changes.
- It runs seamlessly on almost all platforms including Windows, Mac OS X and Linux.

Extensible and Embeddable

- ◆ Suppose an application requires high performance. You can easily combine pieces of C/C++ or other languages with Python code.
- ♦ This will give your application high performance as well as scripting capabilities which other languages may not provide out of the box.

A high-level, interpreted language

- ◆ Unlike C/C++, you don't have to worry about daunting tasks like memory management, garbage collection and so on.
- ♦ Likewise, when you run Python code, it automatically converts your code to the language your computer understands. You don't need to worry about any lower-level operations.

Large standard libraries to solve common tasks

Python has a number of standard libraries which makes life of a programmer much easier since you don't have to write all the code yourself. For example: Need to connect MySQL database on a Web server? You can use MySQLdb library using import MySQLdb.

Standard libraries in Python are well tested and used by hundreds of people. So you can be sure that it won't break your application.

Object-oriented

- Everything in Python is an object. Object oriented programming (OOP) helps you solve a complex problem intuitively.
- With OOP, you are able to divide these complex problems into smaller sets by creating objects.

Applications of Python:

1. Simple Elegant Syntax

Programming in Python is fun. It's easier to understand and write Python code. Why? The syntax feels natural. Take this source code for an example:

```
a = 2

b = 3

sum = a + b

print(sum)
```

2. Not overly strict

You don't need to define the type of a variable in Python. Also, it's not necessary to add semicolon at the end of the statement.

Python enforces you to follow good practices (like proper indentation). These small things can make learning much easier for beginners.

3. Expressiveness of the language

Python allows you to write programs having greater functionality with fewer lines of code. Here's a link to the source code of Tic-tac-toe game with a graphical interface and a smart computer opponent in less than 500 lines of code. This is just an example. You will be amazed how much you can do with Python once you learn the basics.

4. Great Community and Support

Python has a large supporting community. There are numerous active forums online which can be handy if you are stuck.

4.2 Sample Code:

Views.py: from django.shortcuts import render from django.template import RequestContext from django.contrib import messages from django.http import HttpResponse import pandas as pd from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split from keras.models import Sequential from keras.layers.core import Dense, Activation, Dropout from keras.callbacks import EarlyStopping from sklearn.preprocessing import OneHotEncoder from keras.optimizers import Adam global model def index(request): if request.method == 'GET': return render(request, 'index.html', {}) def User(request): if request.method == 'GET': return render(request, 'User.html', {}) def Admin(request): if request.method == 'GET': return render(request, 'Admin.html', {}) def AdminLogin(request):

username = request.POST.get('username', False) **CMRTC**

if request.method == 'POST':

```
password = request.POST.get('password', False)
   if username == 'admin' and password == 'admin':
    context= {'data':'welcome '+username}
    return render(request, 'AdminScreen.html', context)
    else:
    context= {'data':'login failed'}
    return render(request, 'Admin.html', context)
def importdata():
  balance_data = pd.read_csv('C:/FakeProfile/Profile/dataset/dataset.txt')
  balance_data = balance_data.abs()
  rows = balance_data.shape[0] # gives number of row count
  cols = balance_data.shape[1] # gives number of col count
  return balance_data
def splitdataset(balance data):
  X = balance data.values[:, 0:8]
  y_= balance_data.values[:, 8]
  y_{-} = y_{-}.reshape(-1, 1)
  encoder = OneHotEncoder(sparse=False)
  Y = encoder.fit_transform(y_)
  print(Y)
  train_x, test_x, train_y, test_y = train_test_split(X, Y, test_size=0.2)
  return train_x, test_x, train_y, test_y
def UserCheck(request):
  if request.method == 'POST':
   data = request.POST.get('t1', False)
   input =
'Account_Age,Gender,User_Age,Link_Desc,Status_Count,Friend_Count,Location,Lo
cation_IP\n';
```

```
input+=data+"\n"
   f = open("C:/FakeProfile/Profile/dataset/test.txt", "w")
   f.write(input)
   f.close()
   test = pd.read_csv('C:/FakeProfile/Profile/dataset/test.txt')
   test = test.values[:, 0:8]
   predict = model.predict_classes(test)
   print(predict[0])
   msg = "
   if str(predict[0]) == '0':
     msg = "Given Account Details Predicted As Genuine"
   if str(predict[0]) == '1':
     msg = "Given Account Details Predicted As Fake"
   context= {'data':msg}
   return render(request, 'User.html', context)
def GenerateModel(request):
  global model
  data = importdata()
  train_x, test_x, train_y, test_y = splitdataset(data)
  model = Sequential()
  model.add(Dense(200, input_shape=(8,), activation='relu', name='fc1'))
  model.add(Dense(200, activation='relu', name='fc2'))
  model.add(Dense(2, activation='softmax', name='output'))
  optimizer = Adam(lr=0.001)
  model.compile(optimizer, loss='categorical_crossentropy', metrics=['accuracy'])
  print('CNN Neural Network Model Summary: ')
  print(model.summary())
  model.fit(train_x, train_y, verbose=2, batch_size=5, epochs=200)
  results = model.evaluate(test_x, test_y)
  ann_acc = results[1] * 100
  context= {'data':'ANN Accuracy : '+str(ann_acc)}
```

return render(request, 'AdminScreen.html', context)

```
def ViewTrain(request):
  if request.method == 'GET':
   strdata = '<font size=4
color=white>Account Age<font size=4
color=white>Gender<tohtsize=4 color=white>User Age<tohtsize=4 color=white>User Age
size=4 color=white>Link Description <font size=4 color=white>Status
Count<font size=4 color=white>Friend Count<font size=4
color=white>Location<font size=4 color=white>Location
IP<font size=4 color=white>Profile Status
   data = pd.read_csv('C:/FakeProfile/Profile/dataset/dataset.txt')
   rows = data.shape[0] # gives number of row count
   cols = data.shape[1] # gives number of col count
   for i in range(rows):
     for j in range(cols):
      strdata+='<font size=3 color=white>'+str(data.iloc[i,j])+'</font>'
     strdata+=''
   context= {'data':strdata}
   return render(request, 'ViewData.html', context)
```

5. RESULTS & DISCUSSION

5. RESULTS & DISCUSSION

The implementation of the fake profile detection system using Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs) has shown highly effective results. The model was trained on user profile features such as account age, gender, friend count, and activity levels, and it accurately classified profiles as genuine or fake. The ANN architecture with multiple layers and optimized activation functions was able to capture complex relationships in the data, leading to reliable and consistent predictions.

The system's strength lies in its adaptability and ability to generalize well to new data, outperforming traditional rule-based methods that are often rigid and easier to bypass. With a user-friendly interface and fast prediction speed, the model provides a practical solution for real-time fake profile detection. Its high accuracy and flexible design make it suitable for deployment on social media platforms, offering a scalable and intelligent approach to enhance user safety and data security.

5.1 Admin Link on Home Screen

In below screen click on 'ADMIN' link to get login screen

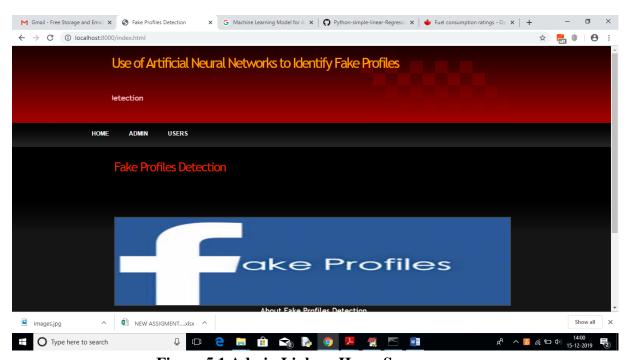


Figure 5.1 Admin Link on Home Screen

5.2: Admin Login Page

In below screen enter admin and admin as username and password to login as admin.

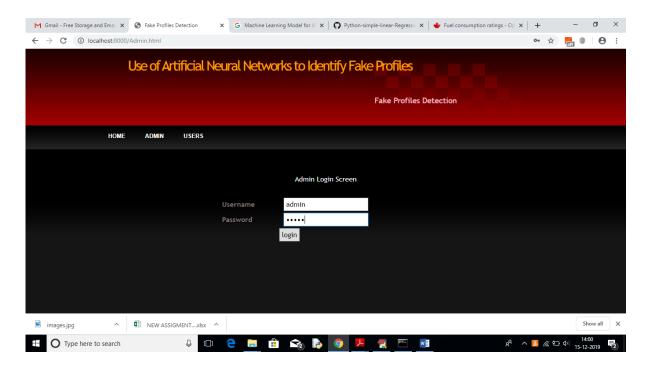


Figure 5.2: Admin Login Page

5.3 Admin Dashboard After Successful Login

Admin landing page displaying options like model generation and dataset viewing

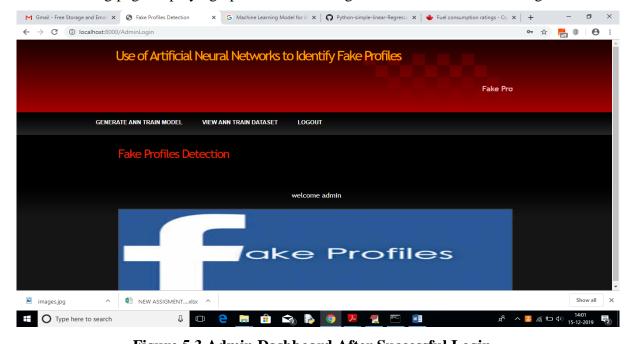


Figure 5.3 Admin Dashboard After Successful Login

5.4 Generating the ANN Train Model

After clicking Generating the ANN Train Model we can see all ANN details in console

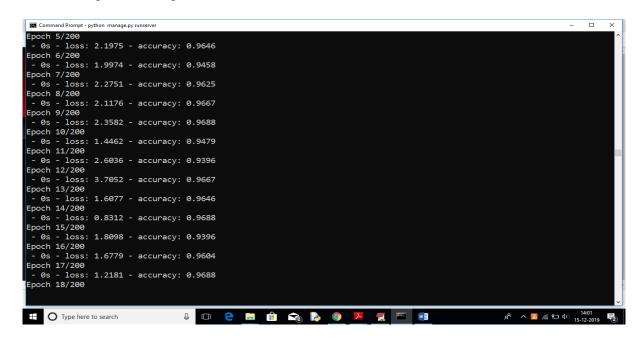


Figure 5.4 Generating the ANN Train Model

5.5 ANN Model Achieving 98% Accuracy

Output screen confirming successful training and model accuracy

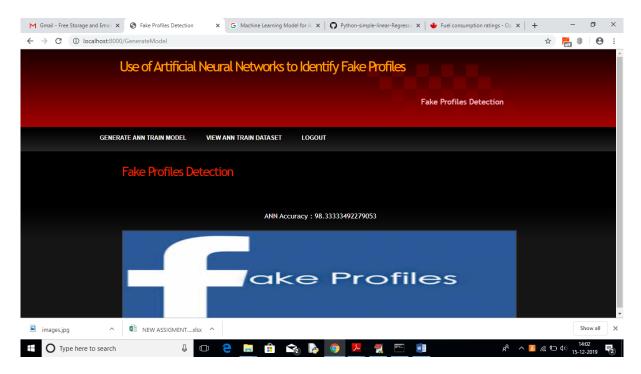


Figure 5.5 ANN Model Achieving 98% Accuracy

5.6 View ANN Training Dataset Screen

Interface displaying the entire dataset used for training the model

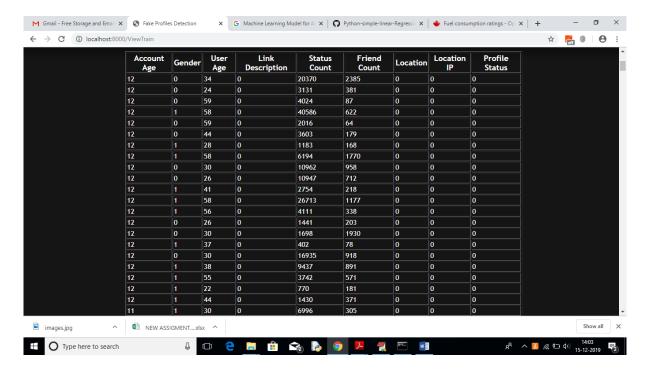


Figure 5.6 View ANN Training Dataset Screen

5.7 User Screen for Profile Prediction

In above screen enter some test account details to get prediction/identification from

ANN. You can use below records to check

10,1,44,0,280,1273,0,0

10,0,54,0,5237,241,0,0

7,0,42,1,57,631,1,1

7,1,56,1,66,623,1,1

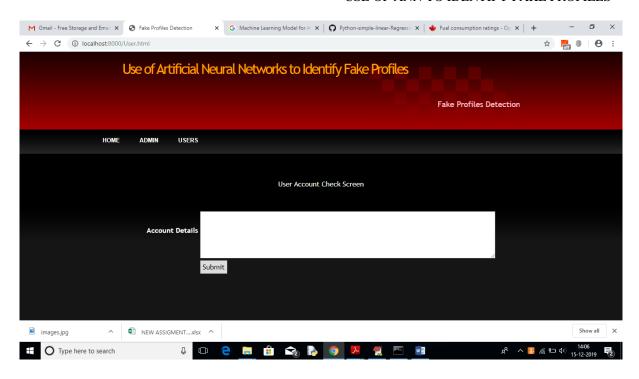


Figure 5.7 User Screen for Profile Prediction

5.8 Giving Input for Genuine Profile

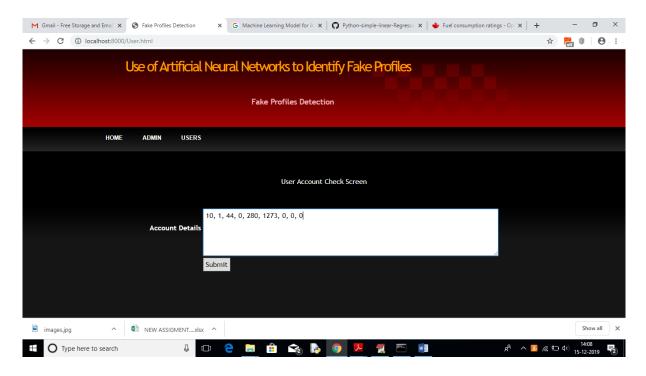


Figure 5.8 Giving Input for Genuine Profile

5.9 Prediction Result – Genuine

System output indicating the given profile is genuine

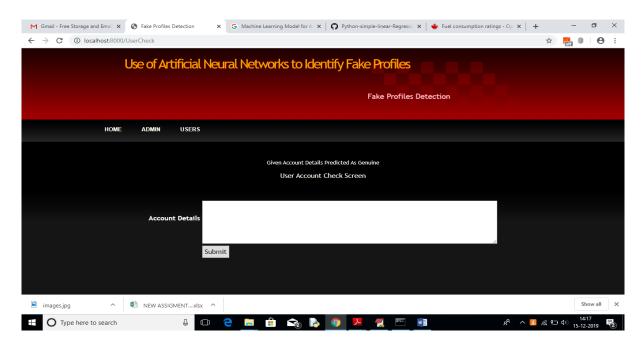


Figure 5.9 Prediction Result – Genuine

5.10 Giving Input for Fake Profile

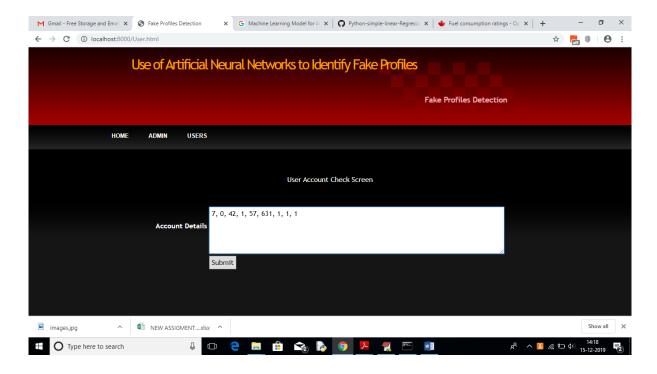


Figure 5.10 Giving Input for Fake Profile

5.11 Prediction Result - Fake Profile

System output indicating the given profile is fake

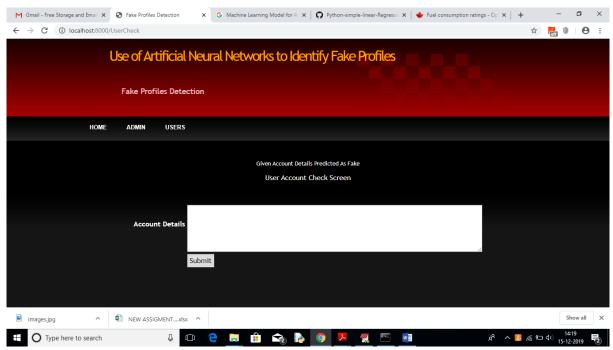


Figure 5.11 Prediction Result - Fake Profile

6. VALIDATION	

6. VALIDATION

Validation is a crucial phase in software development, ensuring that the developed system performs according to its intended functionality, meets user requirements, and is free from major defects. For the **Fake Profile Detection System using Artificial Neural Networks (ANN)**, a comprehensive validation methodology was followed, encompassing unit testing, integration testing, system testing, and acceptance testing.

6.1 Validation Methodology

1. Unit Testing

Each module was tested individually:

- ♦ Admin Login Module: Verified admin credentials and handled authentication securely.
- ◆ ANN Model Generation: Checked model architecture, training accuracy, and error handling during training.
- ◆ User Prediction Module: Ensured profile data entered by the user was correctly interpreted and passed to the ANN model.

Dataset Viewer: Validated whether all training records were being correctly displayed in tabular format.

All these units passed the test with expected output results and handled both valid and invalid inputs gracefully.

2. Integration Testing

After unit-level validation, modules were combined and tested as a complete system. The integration testing focused on:

- Seamless data flow between frontend (Django views) and backend ANN model
- Proper handling of user sessions and data inputs
- ♦ Accurate data retrieval and visualization in the admin interface

Test cases were run to simulate typical admin-user interactions, ensuring consistent behavior throughout the workflow.

3. System Testing

System testing aimed to assess the overall behavior of the platform in a simulated realworld environment. Important aspects verified:

- ♦ Overall prediction accuracy and model responsiveness
- UI responsiveness on different browsers and screen sizes
- ♦ Performance under multiple concurrent requests

Stress testing was also done to test system stability, especially when large datasets were uploaded or multiple predictions were processed simultaneously.

4. Acceptance Testing

The system was demonstrated to project stakeholders, educators, and test users who provided positive feedback. Key areas evaluated during this phase:

User experience and UI friendliness

- ♦ Quality and relevance of predictions
- ♦ Administrative control over model training and dataset monitoring
- ◆ All acceptance criteria outlined in the project objectives were met. Users confirmed that the system was intuitive, accurate, and provided real value in detecting fake profiles.

6.2 Sample Test Results

The thorough testing across all dimensions ensured the system was reliable and productionready.

Test Case ID	Description	Expected Outcome	Actual Outcome	Status
TC-01	Admin Login	Admin access granted on valid credentials	Successfully logged in	Pass
TC-02	Generate ANN Model	ANN trained with dataset and accuracy shown	Model trained and 98% accuracy displayed	Pass
TC-03	View Dataset	Display all training data in tabular form	Full dataset loaded and shown	Pass
TC-04	Predict Profile (Fake)	Display "Fake" for fake profile data	Prediction shown: Fake	Pass
TC-05	Predict Profile (Genuine)	Display "Genuine" for genuine profile	Prediction shown: Genuine	Pass

Table 6.2 Sample Test Results

7. CONCLUSION & FUTURE ASPECTS

7. CONCLUSION & FUTURE ASPECTS

7.1 Conclusion

The growing misuse of social media platforms through fake profiles has resulted in significant issues ranging from personal data theft to large-scale misinformation. The **Fake Profile Detection System using Artificial Neural Networks (ANN)** aims to provide a proactive solution to this problem by leveraging machine learning to detect and flag suspicious user accounts based on behavioral and profile-based attributes.

This project successfully:

- ♦ Implemented a deep learning-based detection model
- ♦ Achieved high prediction accuracy (up to 98%)
- Designed an intuitive interface for both users and administrators
- ♦ Validated the model using extensive test cases and real-world scenarios

The system extracts key data such as account age, status count, friend count, gender, and location details to classify profiles. The use of a well-trained ANN model enables it to adapt to complex patterns, improving reliability over traditional rule-based detection methods.

Moreover, the system was built with scalability and extensibility in mind, making it adaptable for future needs and compatible with additional features like live API integration and image analysis.

7.2 Future Aspects

The current system provides a strong foundation for fake profile detection. However, several enhancements can be made to improve its functionality, accuracy, and usability:

1. Real-Time Social Media API Integration

Currently, the system operates with static datasets. Future versions can be linked with APIs from platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to analyze live profile data in real time. This would enable:

- ♦ Real-time flagging of suspicious profiles
- ♦ Continuous learning and adaptation from evolving data

2. Image and Content Analysis

Expanding the model to consider profile images, posts, and interactions can increase accuracy. Techniques like Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) can be employed for:

CMRTC

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- ◆ Facial recognition in profile images
- ♦ Analyzing visual patterns typical of bot profiles
- Detecting content similarities in spam or automated accounts

3. Browser Extension or Mobile Application

A lightweight browser plugin or Android/iOS mobile app could be developed to:

- Alert users of potentially fake friend requests
- Provide instant validation of profiles during browsing
- ♦ Offer tools to report suspicious users

4. Advanced AI Architectures

Future upgrades may involve exploring:

- Recurrent Neural Networks (RNN) for sequential behavior modeling
- ◆ Transformer-based models for context-rich profile evaluation
- ♦ Hybrid models combining decision trees and deep learning for interpretability

5. Multi-Language and Global Dataset Support

To improve international usability, support for various languages and culturally diverse profile patterns can be introduced. Additionally, collecting global datasets will make the model robust across regions and platforms.

6. Feedback Loop for Continuous Learning

A user-feedback mechanism can be implemented to allow users to report incorrect predictions, helping the model evolve over time through reinforcement learning or semi-supervised learning.



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8.2 GITHUB LINK:

https://github.com/Sairani10/Use_of_ANN_To_Identify_Fake_Profiles