Fake News Detection

January 15, 2020

Fake News Detection

Fake news is created to intentionally misinform readers. The spread of fake news has long been a problem, but with the introduction of social media, its spread has increased in both quantity and speed of spread. It is continually becoming increasingly difficult to differentiate between real and fake news - even formal news institutions have been involved in spreading fake news in their haste to attempt to keep up with other news-producing outlets.

There are serious negative consequences of the spread of fake news. News has the ability to change opinions, influence decisions and drive actions - if all of this is based on a lie, the impacts on individuals and society could be extremely detrimental. Furthermore, the increase in fake news impacts the way people respond to the news, encouraging distrust in all news - even that which is legitimate - influence financial markets, disrupt political process, and damage reputations.

The purpose of this notebook is to build a model using machine learning and NLP to predict whether a news story is real or fake.

The dataset used will be a fake news dataset found on Kaggle through the following link: https://www.kaggle.com/c/fake-news/data

The train.csv will be used. It has the following attributes: + id: unique id for a news article + title: the title of a news article + author: author of the news article + text: the text of the article; could be incomplete + label: a label that marks the article as potentially unreliable (1: unreliable: 0: reliable)

```
[200]: import pandas as pd
       import numpy as np
       import seaborn as sns
       import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
       from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split, KFold, GridSearchCV, __
       →learning_curve
       from sklearn.feature extraction.text import TfidfTransformer, TfidfVectorizer,
       →CountVectorizer
       import itertools
       from sklearn import svm
       from sklearn.naive_bayes import MultinomialNB
       from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestClassifier, GradientBoostingClassifier
       from sklearn.linear_model import LogisticRegression, SGDClassifier
```

```
from sklearn import metrics
from sklearn.metrics import confusion matrix, f1 score, classification report,
→precision_recall_curve, average_precision_score
import spacy
import en_core_web_sm
from sklearn.feature extraction.stop words import ENGLISH STOP WORDS
import string
import re
import nltk
import collections
from nltk.corpus import stopwords
from sklearn.feature_extraction import DictVectorizer
from sklearn.pipeline import Pipeline, FeatureUnion
from empath import Empath
from keras.preprocessing.text import Tokenizer
from keras.preprocessing.sequence import pad_sequences
import pickle
```

1.1 1. Loading and cleaning the data

1 1 FLYNN: Hillary Clinton, Big Woman on Campus - ... Daniel J. Flynn
2 2 Why the Truth Might Get You Fired Consortiumnews.com
3 15 Civilians Killed In Single US Airstrike Hav... Jessica Purkiss

4 4 Iranian woman jailed for fictional unpublished... Howard Portnoy

text label

O House Dem Aide: We Didn't Even See Comey's Let... 1

Ever get the feeling your life circles the rou... 0

Why the Truth Might Get You Fired October 29, ... 1

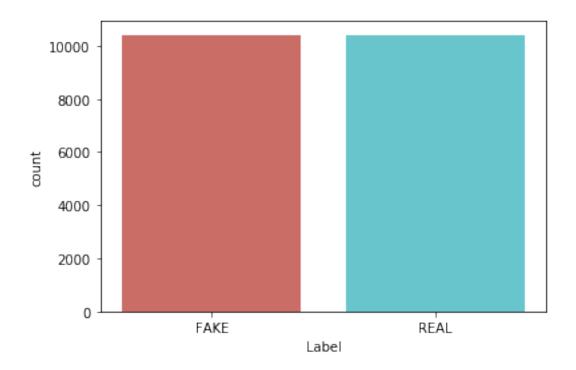
Videos 15 Civilians Killed In Single US Airstr... 1

Print \nAn Iranian woman has been sentenced to... 1

```
[3]: #Selecting few columns from the table and renaming the columns
df = df[['title','text','label']]
df.columns = ['Headline', 'Body', 'Label']
df.loc[df['Label']== 0, 'Label'] = 'REAL'
df.loc[df['Label']== 1, 'Label'] = 'FAKE'
df['Label'].value_counts()
```

```
[3]: FAKE
             10413
    REAL
             10387
    Name: Label, dtype: int64
[4]: #data observation
     def data obs():
         print("training dataset size:")
         print(df.shape)
         print(df.head(10))
     #check the data by calling below function
     data_obs()
    training dataset size:
    (20800, 3)
                                                 Headline \
    O House Dem Aide: We Didn't Even See Comey's Let...
       FLYNN: Hillary Clinton, Big Woman on Campus - ...
                       Why the Truth Might Get You Fired
    3 15 Civilians Killed In Single US Airstrike Hav...
    4 Iranian woman jailed for fictional unpublished...
    5 Jackie Mason: Hollywood Would Love Trump if He...
    6 Life: Life Of Luxury: Elton John's 6 Favorite ...
    7 Benoît Hamon Wins French Socialist Party's Pre...
    8 Excerpts From a Draft Script for Donald Trump'...
    9 A Back-Channel Plan for Ukraine and Russia, Co...
                                                     Body Label
    O House Dem Aide: We Didn't Even See Comey's Let... FAKE
    1 Ever get the feeling your life circles the rou... REAL
    2 Why the Truth Might Get You Fired October 29, ... FAKE
    3 Videos 15 Civilians Killed In Single US Airstr... FAKE
    4 Print \nAn Iranian woman has been sentenced to... FAKE
    5 In these trying times, Jackie Mason is the Voi... REAL
    6 Ever wonder how Britain's most iconic pop pian... FAKE
    7 PARIS -
                  France chose an idealistic, traditi... REAL
    8 Donald J. Trump is scheduled to make a highly ... REAL
    9 A week before Michael T. Flynn resigned as nat... REAL
[5]: #distribution of classes for prediction
     def create_distribution(dataFile):
         return sns.countplot(x='Label', data=dataFile, palette='hls')
     create_distribution(df)
```

[5]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7f7f00563650>



```
[6]: #data integrity check (missing label values)
#none of the datasets contains missing values therefore no cleaning required
def data_qualityCheck():

    print("Checking data qualitites...")
    df.isnull().sum()
    df.info()

#run the below function call to see the quality check results
data_qualityCheck()
```

```
Checking data qualitites...

<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 20800 entries, 0 to 20799
Data columns (total 3 columns):
Headline 20242 non-null object
Body 20761 non-null object
Label 20800 non-null object
dtypes: object(3)
memory usage: 487.6+ KB
```

```
[7]: #drop duplicates

df = df.drop_duplicates()
```

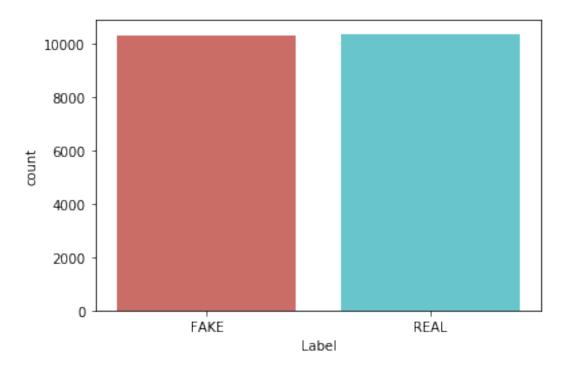
```
[8]: df['Label'].value_counts()
```

[8]: REAL 10387 FAKE 10303

Name: Label, dtype: int64

[9]: create_distribution(df)

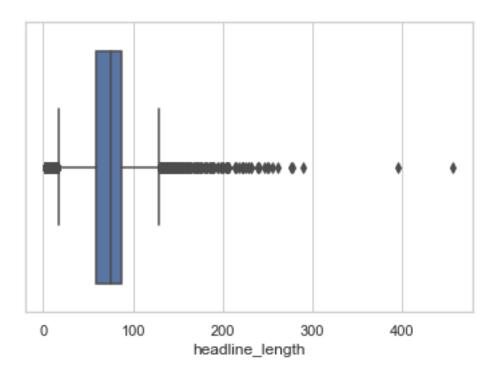
[9]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7f7f011f3f10>



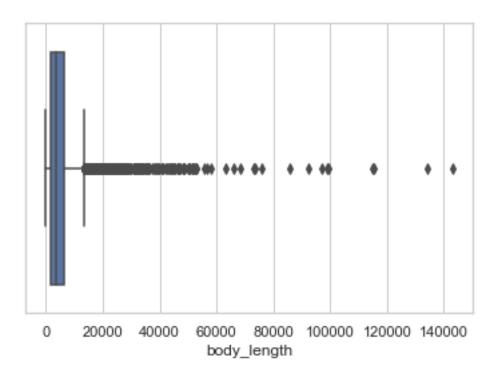
min 3.000000 25% 59.000000 50% 75.000000 75% 87.000000 max 456.000000

Name: headline_length, dtype: float64

[11]: sns.set(style="whitegrid")
ax = sns.boxplot(x=df["headline_length"])



```
[12]: df['body_length'] = [len(str(a)) for a in df['Body']]
      df['body_length'].describe()
[12]: count
                20690.000000
      mean
                 4546.225761
                 5126.623859
      std
      min
                    1.000000
      25%
                 1625.000000
      50%
                 3355.000000
      75%
                 6273.750000
      max
               142961.000000
      Name: body_length, dtype: float64
[13]: sns.set(style="whitegrid")
      ax = sns.boxplot(x=df["body_length"])
```



```
[14]: #remove entries with headline over 300 words and body over 100,000 or under 10
df = df[df['headline_length'] < 300]
df = df[(df['body_length'] < 100000) & (df['body_length'] >= 10)]
```

1.2 2. Creating features

- 1. The title and body will be combined
- 2. the POS tags for text will be created
- 3. Empath will be used to generate semantic categories and create a tfidf vector of the unigrams

```
[15]: #combine headline and body
df ["Text"] = df ["Headline"].map(str) + ' ' + df ["Body"]

#extract labels as y
y = df.Label
y = y.astype('str')
```

```
[16]: #Generating the POS tags for all the articles and adding a new column by □ → replacing text with their POS tags

#nlp = spacy.load('en_core_web_sm')

nlp = en_core_web_sm.load()

x = []

for text in df['Text']:

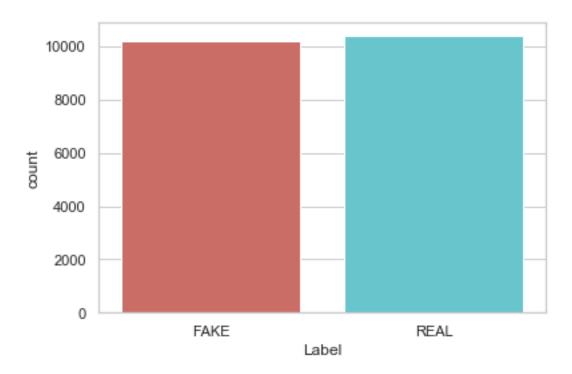
text_new = []
```

```
doc = nlp(text)
  for token in doc:
        text_new.append(token.pos_)
  txt = ' '.join(text_new)
        x.append(txt)
df['Text_pos'] = x
```

```
[17]: #Getting the score of semantic categories generated by Empath of each article_
      →and generating a tfidf vector of the unigrams
      lexicon = Empath()
      semantic = []
      cnt = 0
      for article in df['Text']:
          if article == '':
              continue
          cnt+=1
          d = lexicon.analyze(article, normalize = False)
          for key, value in d.items():
              x.append(value)
          x = np.asarray(x)
          semantic.append(x)
      df['Semantic'] = semantic
      categories = []
      a = lexicon.analyze("")
      for key, value in a.items():
          categories.append(key)
      categories
      #TF-IDF vector by taking the score for a semantic class as its frequency.
      sem = []
      for i in range(df.shape[0]):
          a = []
          for j in range(len(semantic[0])):
              for k in range(int(semantic[i][j])):
                  a.append(categories[j])
          b = " ".join(a)
          sem.append(b)
      df['Semantics'] = sem
```

```
[18]: create_distribution(df)
```

[18]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7f7e8151dfd0>



[19]: df.head() [19]: Headline \ House Dem Aide: We Didn't Even See Comey's Let... 1 FLYNN: Hillary Clinton, Big Woman on Campus - ... 2 Why the Truth Might Get You Fired 3 15 Civilians Killed In Single US Airstrike Hav... 4 Iranian woman jailed for fictional unpublished... Body Label headline_length \ House Dem Aide: We Didn't Even See Comey's Let... FAKE 81 1 Ever get the feeling your life circles the rou... 55 2 Why the Truth Might Get You Fired October 29, ... FAKE 33 3 Videos 15 Civilians Killed In Single US Airstr... FAKE 63 4 Print \nAn Iranian woman has been sentenced to... FAKE 93 body_length Text \ 0 House Dem Aide: We Didn't Even See Comey's Let... 4930 4160 FLYNN: Hillary Clinton, Big Woman on Campus - ... 1 Why the Truth Might Get You Fired Why the Trut... 2 7692 3 3237 15 Civilians Killed In Single US Airstrike Hav... 938 Iranian woman jailed for fictional unpublished...

```
Text pos \
        PROPN PROPN PROPN PUNCT PRON AUX PART ADV VERB...
        PROPN PUNCT PROPN PROPN PUNCT PROPN PROPN ADP ...
        ADV DET PROPN VERB AUX PRON VERB ADV DET NOUN ...
      3 NUM PROPN VERB ADP ADJ PROPN NOUN AUX AUX VERB...
      4 ADJ NOUN VERB ADP ADJ ADJ NOUN ADP NOUN VERB A...
                                                Semantic \
        [2.0, 2.0, 1.0, 2.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0, ...
        [2.0, 0.0, 2.0, 0.0, 3.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0, ...
      2 [3.0, 5.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0, ...
      3 [0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 3.0, 3.0, 0.0, 3.0, 0.0, ...
      Semantics
      O help help office office dance money money cold...
      1 help help dance dance wedding wedding wedding ...
      2 help help office office office office off...
      3 wedding wedding domestic_work domestic...
      4 wedding domestic_work family family crime crim...
[182]: df.to_csv('data/prepared_data.csv')
```

1.3 3. Split data into train and test sets

The train data will be used to train the models - K-fold cross validation will be used to find the model that performs the best on the training data. The entire train dataset will be used to build the model once the best one is found.

The test data will be used at the end in order to ascertain how the final model performs on unseen data.

```
[20]: #split to train and test sets to validate model at the end
      X train, X test, Y train, Y test = 1
       →train_test_split(df[['Text', 'Text_pos', 'Semantics']], y, test_size=0.2)
      X_train.head()
[20]:
                                                            Text \
      13377
             Trump Team Begins Making List Of Executive Ord...
      16069
             Is Something Wrong With Hillary? Will NOT Conc...
      12230
             Things I Wish I Had Known When My Dog Died - T...
      11644
             #GrammysSoWhite Came to Life. Will the Awards ...
      11547
             Aussie Muslims Demand 'Safe Spaces' so Followe...
                                                        Text pos
      13377
             PROPN PROPN VERB VERB PROPN ADP PROPN PROPN PA...
      16069
             AUX PRON ADJ ADP PROPN PUNCT VERB ADV VERB NOU...
```

```
12230 NOUN PRON VERB PRON AUX VERB ADV DET NOUN VERB...
      11644 PROPN PROPN VERB ADP PROPN PUNCT VERB DET PROP...
      11547 PROPN PROPN NOUN PUNCT PROPN NOUN PUNCT ADV NO...
                                                      Semantics
      13377 office office wedding wedding domestic_work do...
      16069 help medical_emergency vacation health pride g...
      12230 office money wedding wedding wedding domestic_...
      11644 help help office office dance dance dance dance...
      11547 dance dance money wedding cold hate aggr...
[21]: #create separate train sets based on pre-processing conducted on the text
      X train text = X train['Text']
      X_train_pos = X_train['Text_pos']
      X train sem = X train['Semantics']
      X_test_text = X_test['Text']
      X_test_pos = X_test['Text_pos']
      X_test_sem = X_test['Semantics']
```

1.4 4. Investigating models using K-fold cross-validation

For each train set version - text (bag-of-words), text (tf-idf bigrams), pos and semantics - multiple classifiers will be tested with K-fold cross validation. These classifiers are: + Multinomial Naive Bayes + Logisitc Regression + Linear SVM + SVM Stochastic Gradient Descent + Random Forest + Gradient Boosting

```
[22]: #function for K-Fold cross validation
def build_confusion_matrix(classifier, X_train, Y_train):

    k_fold = KFold(n_splits=5)
    scores = []
    confusion = np.array([[0,0],[0,0]])

    for train_ind, test_ind in k_fold.split(X_train):
        train_text = X_train.iloc[train_ind]
        train_y = Y_train.iloc[train_ind]

        test_text = X_train.iloc[test_ind]

        test_y = Y_train.iloc[test_ind]

        classifier.fit(train_text,train_y)
        predictions = classifier.predict(test_text)

        confusion += confusion_matrix(test_y, predictions)
        score = f1_score(test_y, predictions, pos_label='REAL')
        scores.append(score)
```

```
print('Total statements classified:', len(X_train)),
    print('Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation:', sum(scores)/
 →len(scores)),
    plot_confusion_matrix(confusion, classes=['FAKE', 'REAL'])
# plot Confusion Matrix
def plot_confusion_matrix(cm, classes,
                          normalize=False,
                          title='Confusion matrix',
                          cmap=plt.cm.Blues):
    plt.imshow(cm, interpolation='nearest', cmap=cmap)
    plt.title(title)
    plt.colorbar()
    tick_marks = np.arange(len(classes))
    plt.xticks(tick_marks, classes, rotation=45)
    plt.yticks(tick_marks, classes)
    if normalize:
        cm = cm.astype('float') / cm.sum(axis=1)[:, np.newaxis]
        print("Normalized confusion matrix")
    else:
        print('Confusion matrix')
    thresh = cm.max() / 2.
    for i, j in itertools.product(range(cm.shape[0]), range(cm.shape[1])):
        plt.text(j, i, cm[i, j],
                 horizontalalignment="center",
                 color="white" if cm[i, j] > thresh else "black")
    plt.tight_layout()
    plt.ylabel('True label')
    plt.xlabel('Predicted label')
```

1.4.1 4.1 Generating News Feature Vector using Bag of Words

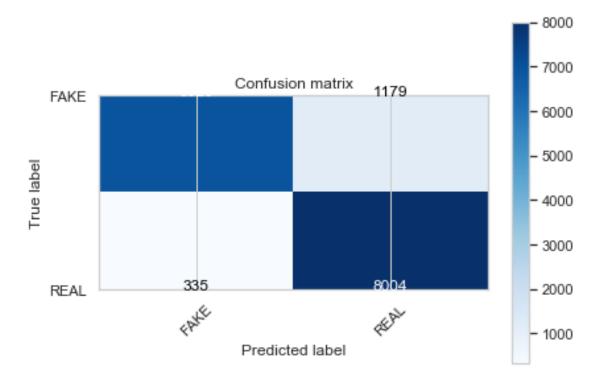
For this, all unique words in all text extracts are collected and the texts are represented in a vector of all unique words by counting the number of times each word appears in that text. With this approach, the order of words or structure of sentences is not considered - only the presence of a word in the text.

```
[23]: from sklearn.feature_extraction.text import CountVectorizer

#we will start with simple bag of words technique
#creating feature vector - document term matrix
```

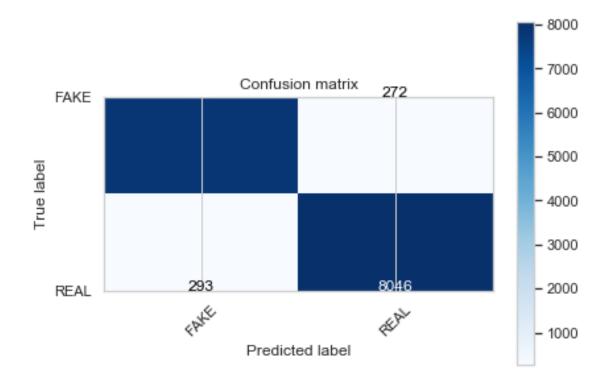
```
countV = CountVectorizer()
#train_count = countV.fit_transform(X_train.values)
print(countV)
#print(train_count)
```

Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9135902326515183 Confusion matrix



```
[26]: #building classifier using logistic regression
      logR_pipeline = Pipeline([
              ('LogRCV', countV),
              ('LogR_clf', LogisticRegression())
              ])
      build_confusion_matrix(logR_pipeline, X_train_text, Y_train)
     /Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-
     packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver
     will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning.
       FutureWarning)
     /Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-
     packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver
     will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning.
       FutureWarning)
     /Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-
     packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver
     will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning.
       FutureWarning)
     /Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-
     packages/sklearn/linear model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver
     will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning.
       FutureWarning)
     /Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-
     packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver
     will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning.
       FutureWarning)
     Total statements classified: 16447
     Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9660630104001804
```

Confusion matrix



/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/sklearn/svm/base.py:929: ConvergenceWarning: Liblinear failed to converge, increase the number of iterations.

"the number of iterations.", ConvergenceWarning)

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-

packages/sklearn/svm/base.py:929: ConvergenceWarning: Liblinear failed to converge, increase the number of iterations.

"the number of iterations.", ConvergenceWarning)

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-

packages/sklearn/svm/base.py:929: ConvergenceWarning: Liblinear failed to converge, increase the number of iterations.

"the number of iterations.", ConvergenceWarning)

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-

packages/sklearn/svm/base.py:929: ConvergenceWarning: Liblinear failed to converge, increase the number of iterations.

"the number of iterations.", ConvergenceWarning)

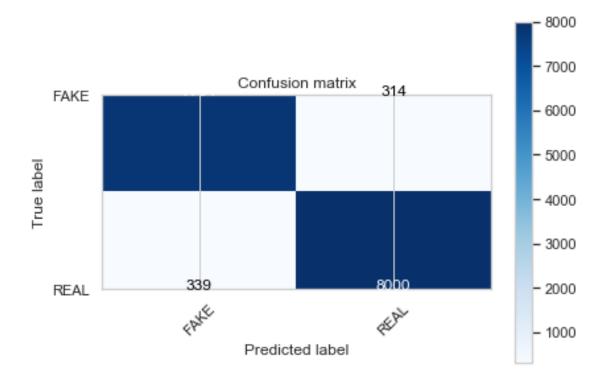
/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/sklearn/svm/base.py:929: ConvergenceWarning: Liblinear failed to converge, increase the number of iterations.

"the number of iterations.", ConvergenceWarning)

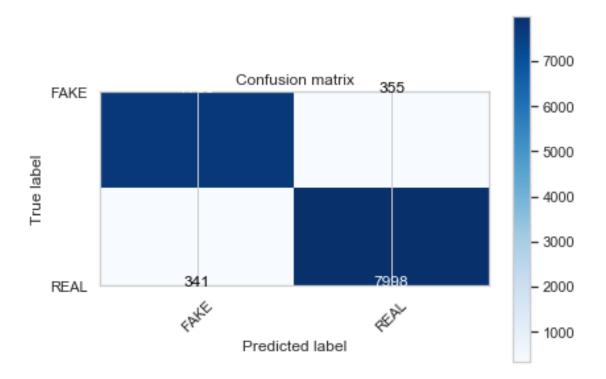
Total statements classified: 16447

Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9607881657920586

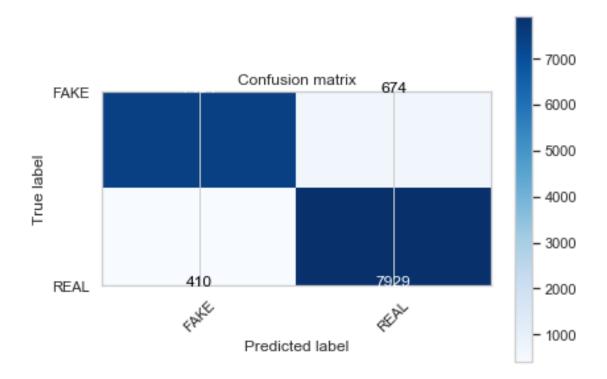
Confusion matrix



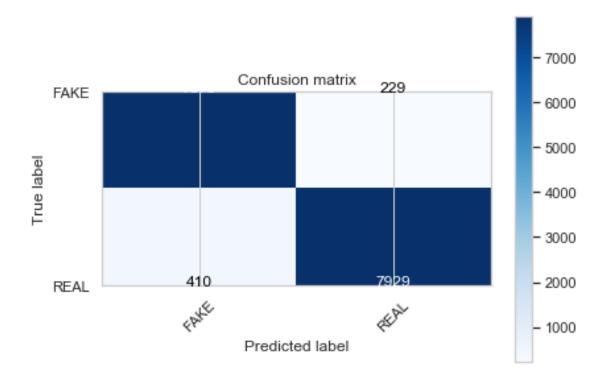
Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9581881712852105 Confusion matrix



Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.935988265151282 Confusion matrix



Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9612479583409546 Confusion matrix

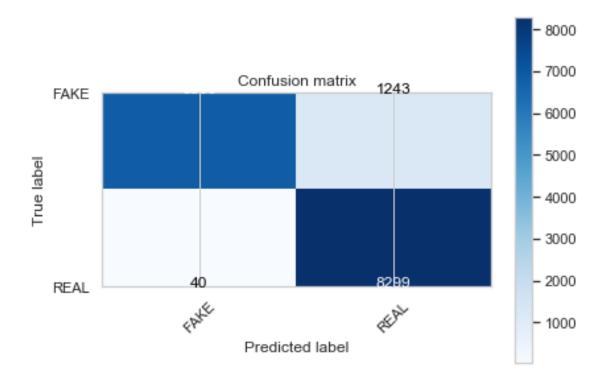


1.4.2 4.2 TF-IDF Bigrams

[31]: #Initialise the `tfidf vectorizer`

TF-IDF (term frequency-inverse document frequency) is a numerical statistic that shows how important a word is to a document in a corpus. The importance of a word is proportional to the number of times the word appears in the text but inversely proportional to the number of times the word appears in the corpus. For generating the news vector here, the tf-idf bigram values will be calculated and vectorised.

```
Total statements classified: 16447
Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9282391289625658
Confusion matrix
```



/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-

packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-

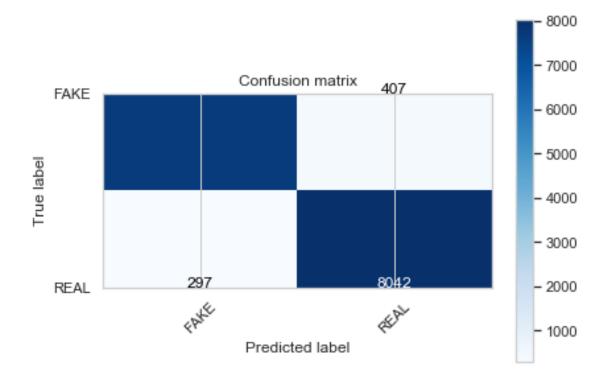
packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-

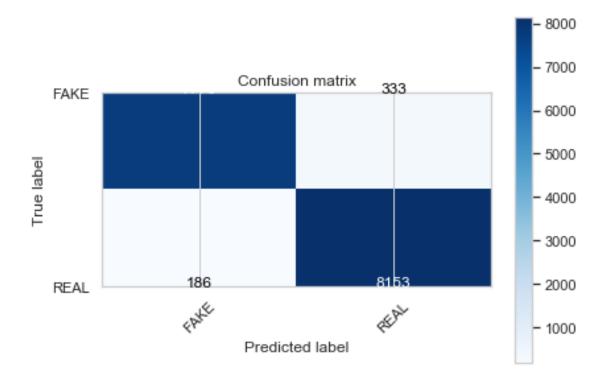
packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

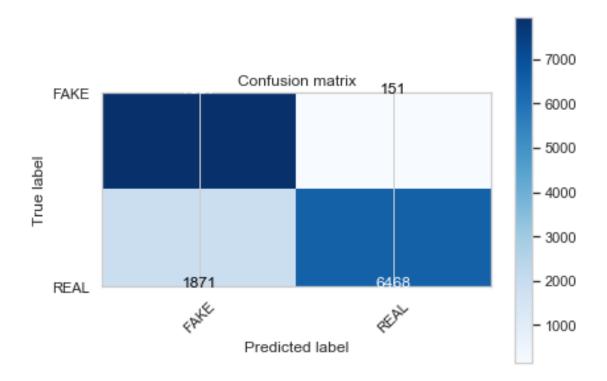
Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9580516893609303 Confusion matrix



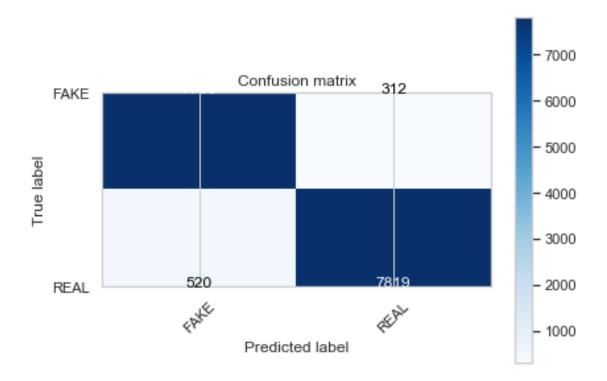
Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9691406466997042 Confusion matrix



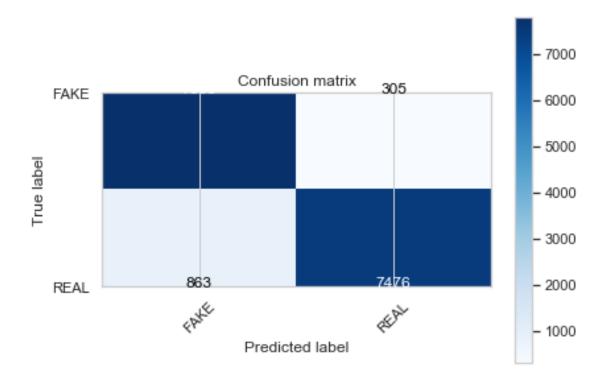
Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.8619455627737649 Confusion matrix



Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9494649439662194 Confusion matrix



Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9275176280415632 Confusion matrix

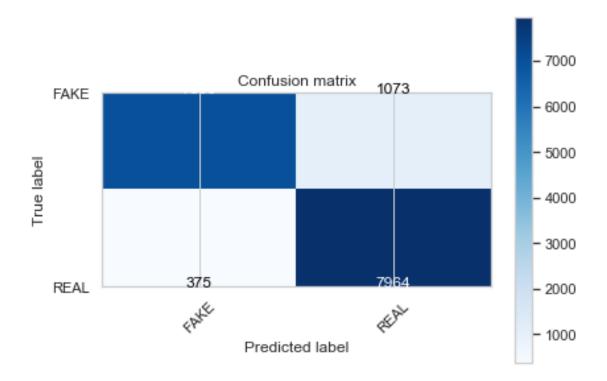


1.4.3 4.3 POS (part-of-speech) tags

POS features are encoded as tf-idf values for each of the tags. As POS tags are not as effective as words, POS features are strengthened with unigram/bigram features.

POS features were generated above.

Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9166692931266077 Confusion matrix



/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-

packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-

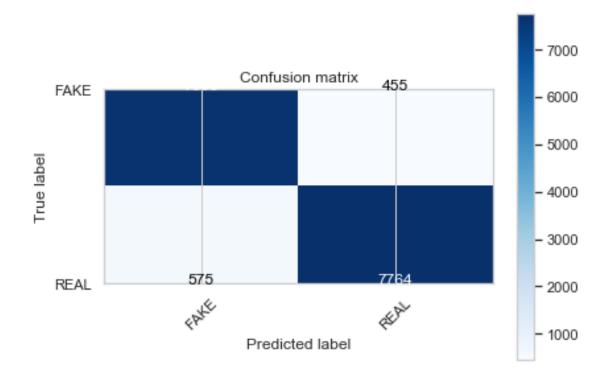
packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-

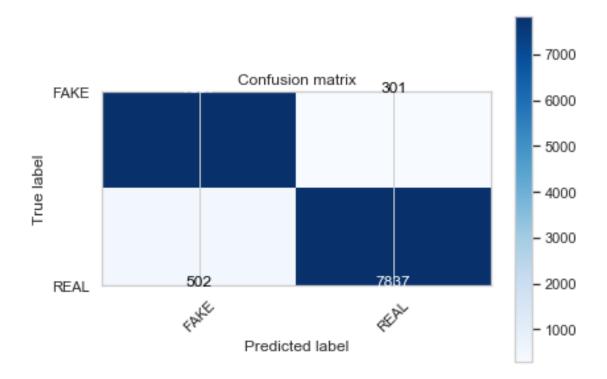
packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

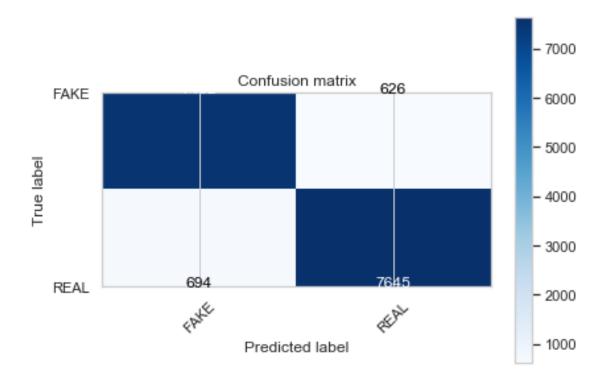
Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9377615946233663 Confusion matrix



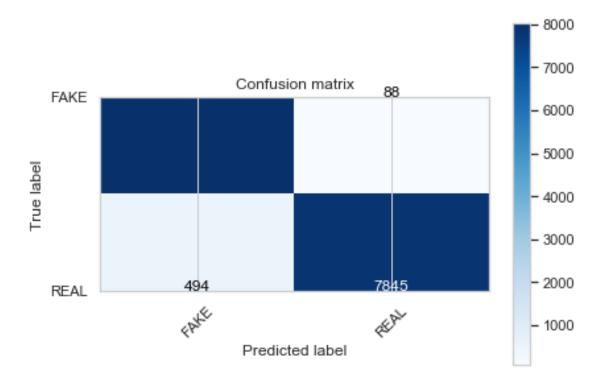
Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.95123949816804 Confusion matrix



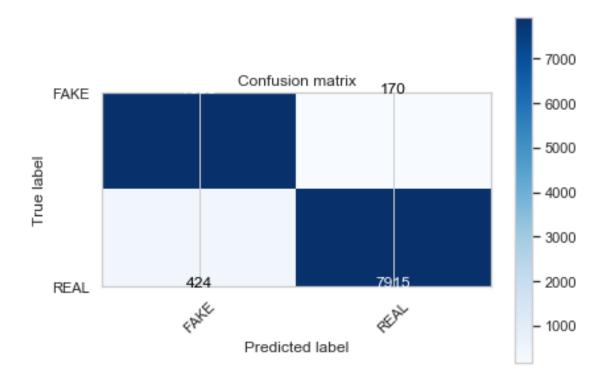
Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9205193335102033 Confusion matrix



Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9642453512630162 Confusion matrix



Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9638369320275799 Confusion matrix



1.4.4 4.4 Semantic Categories

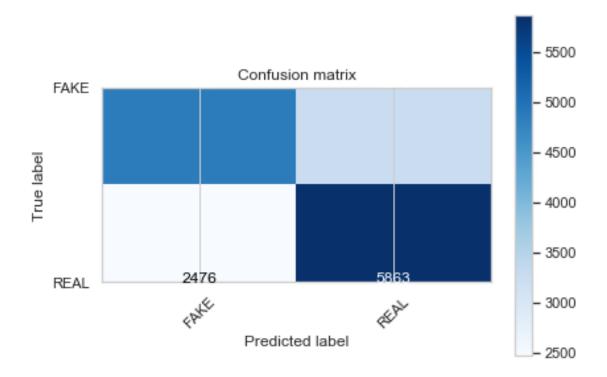
Empath was used above for incorporating semantic information. Empath is a lexicon of words grouped into semantic categories relevant to psychological processes. It has 194 semantic categories. A score is generated between 0-100 for each semantic class. The lexicon obtained is converted to a tf-idf vector by taking the score for a semantic class as its frequency.

```
[46]: #Initialise the `tfidf_vectorizer`

tfidf_sem = TfidfVectorizer(stop_words='english', ngram_range=(1,1),

→use_idf=True, smooth_idf=True)
```

Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.6720291978222526 Confusion matrix



/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-

packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-

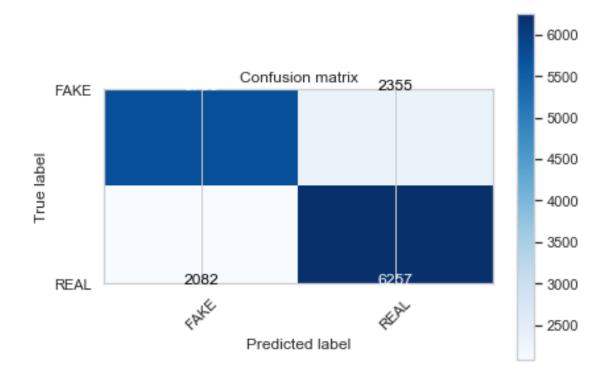
packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-

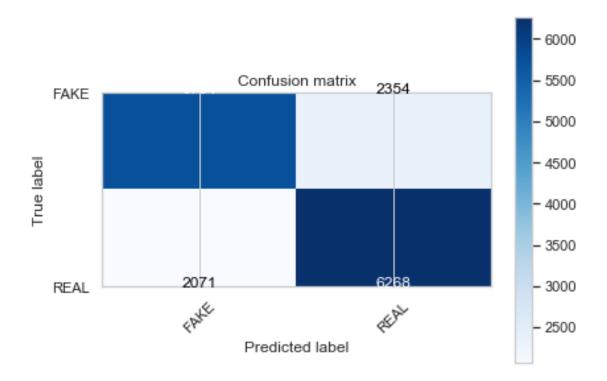
packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

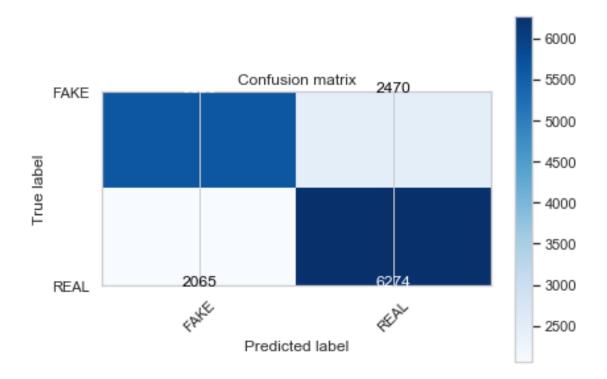
Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.7381973712864203 Confusion matrix



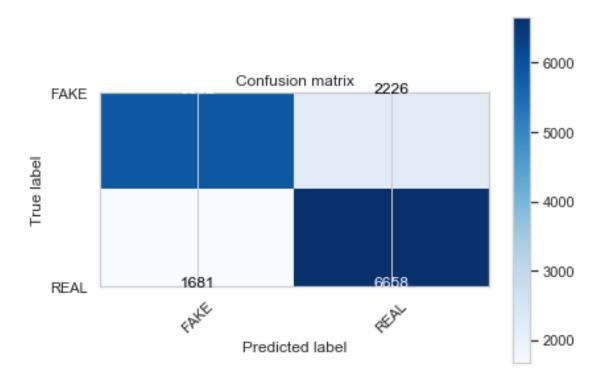
Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.7390904962905848 Confusion matrix



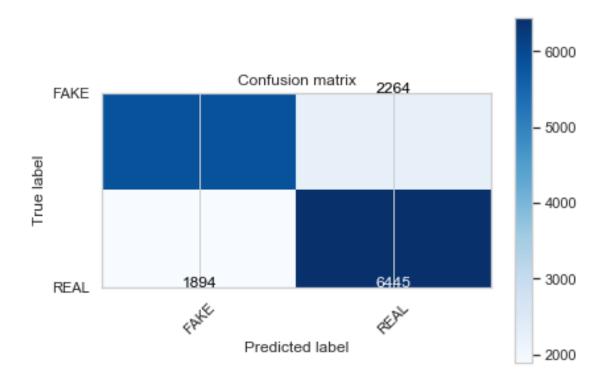
Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.7344995775310796 Confusion matrix



Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.7731265696735111 Confusion matrix



Total statements classified: 16447 Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.7560927063104147 Confusion matrix



1.5 5. Combined features news vector

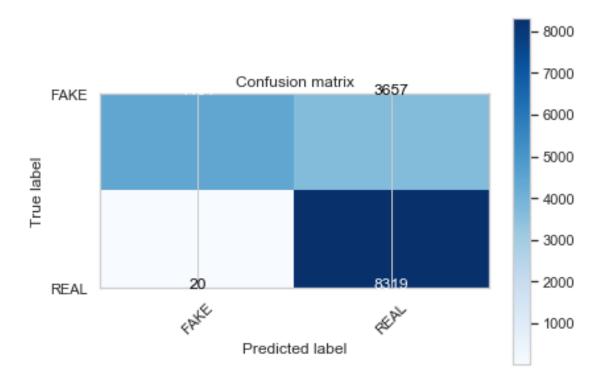
1.5.1 5.1 All 4 vectors combined

```
[53]: #fit_transform X_train sets
      train_bow = countV.fit_transform(X_train_text.astype('str'))
      train_ngram = tfidf_ngram.fit_transform(X_train_text.astype('str'))
      train_pos = tfidf_pos.fit_transform(X_train_pos.astype('str'))
      train_sem = tfidf_sem.fit_transform(X_train_sem.astype('str'))
[58]: #Combining feature vectors for train set
      import scipy.sparse as sp
      #difference of number of rows between train sets
      diff_n_rows = train_bow.shape[0] - train_ngram.shape[0]
      X_new1 = sp.vstack((train_ngram, sp.csr_matrix((diff_n_rows, train_ngram.
      ⇔shape[1]))))
      X1 = sp.hstack((train_bow, X_new1))
      diff_n_rows2 = X1.shape[0] - train_pos.shape[0]
      X_new2 = sp.vstack((train_pos, sp.csr_matrix((diff_n_rows2, train_pos.
      →shape[1]))))
      X2 = sp.hstack((X1, X_new2))
```

```
diff_n_rows3 = X2.shape[0] - train_sem.shape[0]
       X new3 = sp.vstack((train_sem, sp.csr_matrix((diff_n_rows3, train_sem.
       →shape[1]))))
       X train com = sp.hstack((X2, X new3))
       #convert coo matrix to csr matrix
       X_train_com1 = X_train_com.tocsr()
       #as matrix has reset index, need to reset on Y_train
       Y_train1 = Y_train.reset_index()
       Y_train1 = Y_train1['Label']
[163]: #KFold function for matrix
       #function for K-Fold cross validation
       def build_confusion_matrix_com(classifier, X_train, Y_train):
           k_fold = KFold(n_splits=5)
           scores = []
           confusion = np.array([[0,0],[0,0]])
           for train_ind, test_ind in k_fold.split(X_train):
               train_text = X_train[train_ind]
               train_y = Y_train[train_ind]
               test text = X train[test ind]
               test_y = Y_train[test_ind]
               classifier.fit(train_text,train_y)
               predictions = classifier.predict(test_text)
               confusion += confusion_matrix(test_y, predictions)
               score = f1_score(test_y, predictions, pos_label='REAL')
               scores.append(score)
           #print('Total statements classified:', X_train[0]),
           print('Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation:', sum(scores)/
        →len(scores)),
           plot_confusion_matrix(confusion, classes=['FAKE', 'REAL'])
```

Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.819030868837007

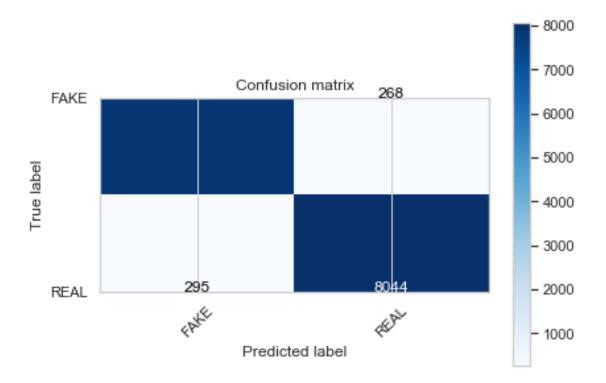
Confusion matrix



```
[165]: #logistic regression classifier
logR_com = LogisticRegression(penalty="12",C=1)
build_confusion_matrix_com(logR_com, X_train_com1, Y_train1)
```

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9661677910509742 Confusion matrix

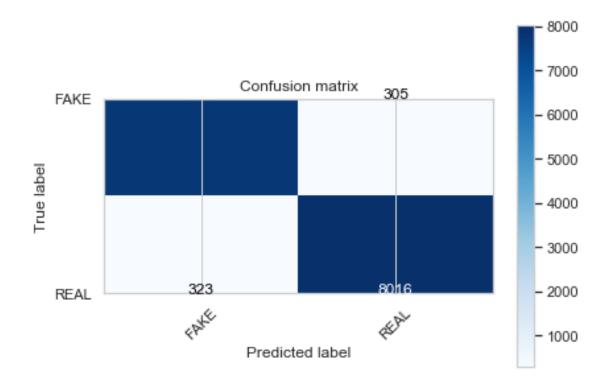


```
[166]: #linear SVM classifier
svm_com = svm.LinearSVC()
build_confusion_matrix_com(svm_com, X_train_com1, Y_train1)
```

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/sklearn/svm/base.py:929: ConvergenceWarning: Liblinear failed to converge, increase the number of iterations.

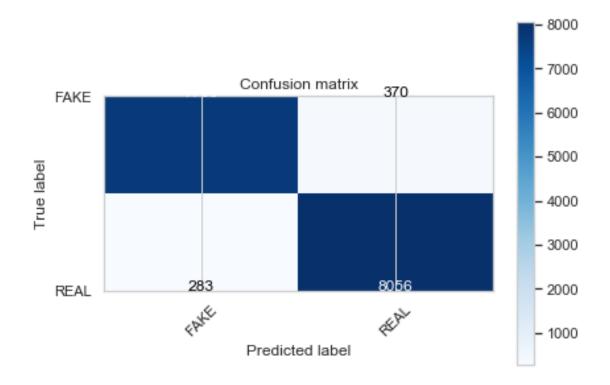
"the number of iterations.", ConvergenceWarning)

Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9623026378957038 Confusion matrix



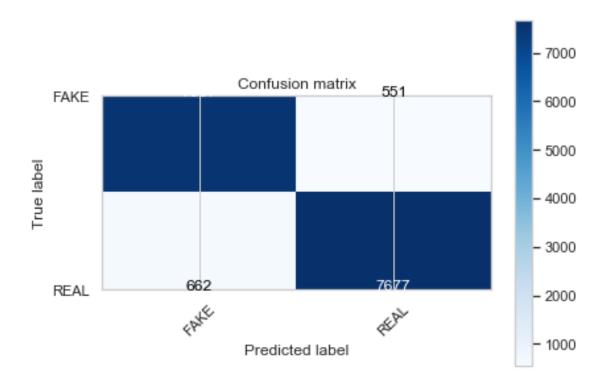
```
[167]: #sgd classifier
sgd_com = SGDClassifier(loss='hinge', penalty='12', alpha=1e-3)
build_confusion_matrix_com(sgd_com, X_train_com1, Y_train1)
```

Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9610529175895092 Confusion matrix



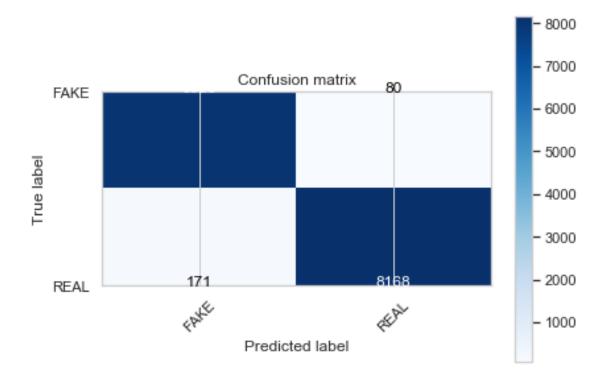
[169]: #random forest classifier random_forest_com = RandomForestClassifier(n_estimators=300,n_jobs=3) build_confusion_matrix_com(random_forest_com, X_train_com1, Y_train1)

Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9267531309555608 Confusion matrix



[170]: #gradient boosting classifier
gradient_boosting_com = GradientBoostingClassifier()
build_confusion_matrix_com(gradient_boosting_com, X_train_com1, Y_train1)

Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.984849769793032 Confusion matrix



As none of these combined performs better than individually, and as performance on the semantics features was so low, we will try combining feature vectors with weights.

1.5.2 5.2 Weighting the feature vectors

First, will try with semantics variable set to 0, as this feature achieved the lowest performance scores for all classifiers.

```
[171]: #Giving weights to each of the 3 feature vectors generated
bow_w = 1/3
big_w = 1/3
pos_w = 1/3
sem_w = 0
bow_w *= 4
big_w *= 4
pos_w *= 4
sem_w *= 4

train_bow1 = bow_w*train_bow
train_ngram1 = big_w*train_ngram
train_pos1 = pos_w*train_pos
train_sem1 = sem_w*train_sem

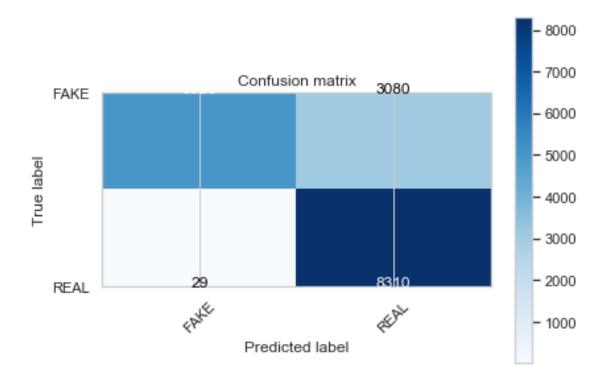
test_bow1 = bow_w*test_bow
test_ngram1 = big_w*test_ngram
```

```
test_pos1 = pos_w*test_pos
test_sem1 = sem_w*test_sem
```

```
[172]: #Combining feature vectors for train set
       import scipy.sparse as sp
       #difference of number of rows between train sets
       diff_n_rows = train_bow1.shape[0] - train_ngram1.shape[0]
       X new1 = sp.vstack((train_ngram1, sp.csr_matrix((diff_n_rows, train_ngram1.
       →shape[1]))))
       X1 = sp.hstack((train_bow1, X_new1))
       diff_n_rows2 = X1.shape[0] - train_pos1.shape[0]
       X_new2 = sp.vstack((train_pos1, sp.csr_matrix((diff_n_rows2, train_pos1.
       →shape[1]))))
       X2 = sp.hstack((X1, X_new2))
       diff_n_rows3 = X2.shape[0] - train_sem1.shape[0]
       X_new3 = sp.vstack((train_sem1, sp.csr_matrix((diff_n_rows3, train_sem1.
       →shape[1]))))
       X_train_com = sp.hstack((X2, X_new3))
       #convert coo matrix to csr matrix
       X_train_com1 = X_train_com.tocsr()
       #as matrix has reset index, need to reset on Y_train
       Y_train1 = Y_train.reset_index()
       Y_train1 = Y_train1['Label']
```

```
[174]: nb_com = MultinomialNB()
build_confusion_matrix_com(nb_com, X_train_com1, Y_train1)
```

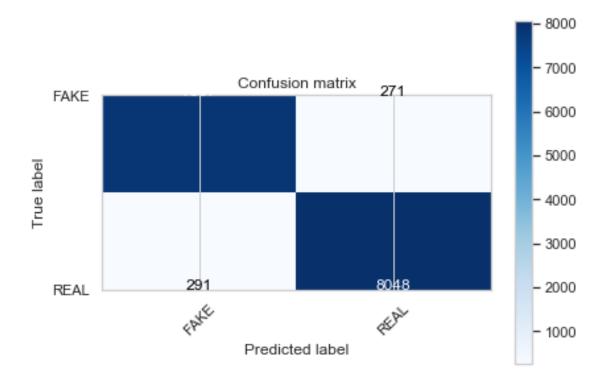
Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.8424134457927732 Confusion matrix



```
[175]: #logistic regression classifier
logR_com = LogisticRegression(penalty="12",C=1)
build_confusion_matrix_com(logR_com, X_train_com1, Y_train1)
```

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/sklearn/linear_model/logistic.py:432: FutureWarning: Default solver will be changed to 'lbfgs' in 0.22. Specify a solver to silence this warning. FutureWarning)

Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9662462275341948 Confusion matrix

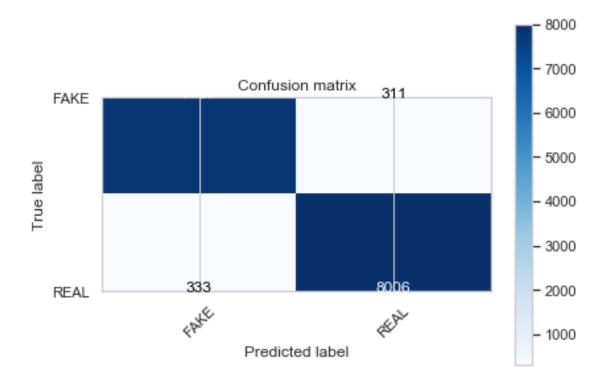


```
[176]: #linear SVM classifier
svm_com = svm.LinearSVC()
build_confusion_matrix_com(svm_com, X_train_com1, Y_train1)
```

/Users/charlottefettes/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/sklearn/svm/base.py:929: ConvergenceWarning: Liblinear failed to converge, increase the number of iterations.

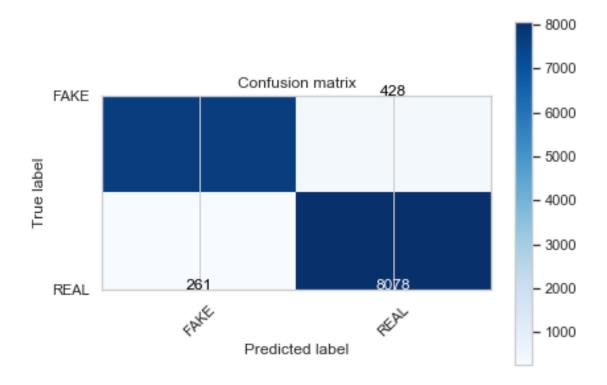
"the number of iterations.", ConvergenceWarning)

Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9613403699709074 Confusion matrix



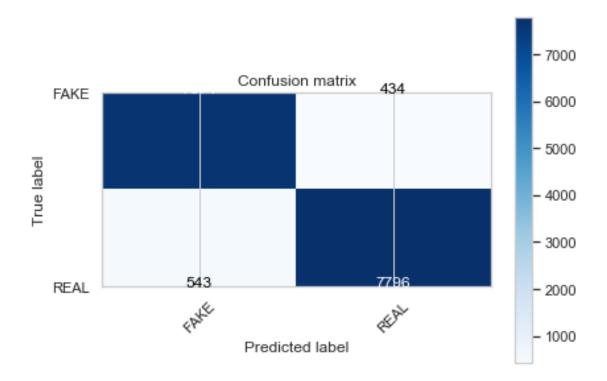
```
[177]: #sgd classifier
sgd_com = SGDClassifier(loss='hinge', penalty='12', alpha=1e-3)
build_confusion_matrix_com(sgd_com, X_train_com1, Y_train1)
```

Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.9590756704315023 Confusion matrix



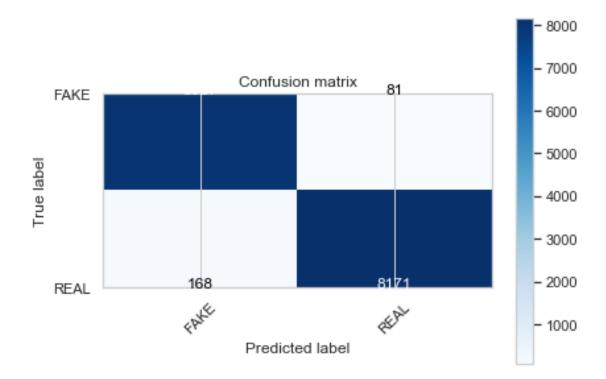
[178]: #random forest classifier random_forest_com = RandomForestClassifier(n_estimators=300,n_jobs=3) build_confusion_matrix_com(random_forest_com, X_train_com1, Y_train1)

Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.940983100004666 Confusion matrix



[179]: #gradient boosting classifier gradient_boosting_com = GradientBoostingClassifier() build_confusion_matrix_com(gradient_boosting_com, X_train_com1, Y_train1)

Average f1 score from 5-fold cross-validation: 0.984975048255005 Confusion matrix



One thing to note is that for the combined data, all train data was fit_transformed before entering the matrix and k-fold cross-validation; this may have impacted the performance on predictions for CV test sets. However, for now, based on the results of k-fold CV, the best performing model will be trained on all the train data and used to predict the test set, with performance evaluated.

The best performing model based on 5-fold cross-validation of the train set was: GradientBoostingClassifier with the X_train_com1 matrix with the bag-of-words, tf-idf ngrams and pos features.

1.6 6. Hyperparameter tuning

GridSearchCV can be used to optimise parameters for the GradientBoostingClassifier to see if performance of prediction can be improved further.

```
[184]: #learning rate
parameters = {"learning_rate": [0.001, 0.01, 0.05, 0.1, 0.15]}

tuning = GridSearchCV(GradientBoostingClassifier(), parameters, cv=3, n_jobs=-1)
tuning.fit(X_train_com1, Y_train1)

tuning.best_params_, tuning.best_score_
```

```
[184]: ({'learning_rate': 0.15}, 0.9855292758557792)
```

```
[185]: #max depth parameters = {
```

```
"learning_rate": [0.15],
    "max_depth": [3,5,7]
}

tuning = GridSearchCV(GradientBoostingClassifier(), parameters, cv=3, n_jobs=-1)
tuning.fit(X_train_com1, Y_train1)
tuning.best_params_, tuning.best_score_
```

```
[185]: ({'learning rate': 0.15, 'max depth': 3}, 0.9855900772177297)
```

1.7 7. Final model training

With the parameters found to be optimal, the GradientBoostingClassifier will now be trained on the train data that includes the bag-of-words, tf-idf ngram and pos features.

This final model will be saved and then used to make predictions on the test set.

```
[]: #save model
filename = 'final_model.sav'
pickle.dump(gb_clf, open(filename, 'wb'))
```

1.8 8. Evaluation of model performance by generating predictions for the test set

```
[201]: final_model = pickle.load(open(filename, 'rb'))
final_model
```

```
[201]: GradientBoostingClassifier(criterion='friedman_mse', init=None,
learning_rate=0.15, loss='deviance', max_depth=3,
max_features=None, max_leaf_nodes=None,
```

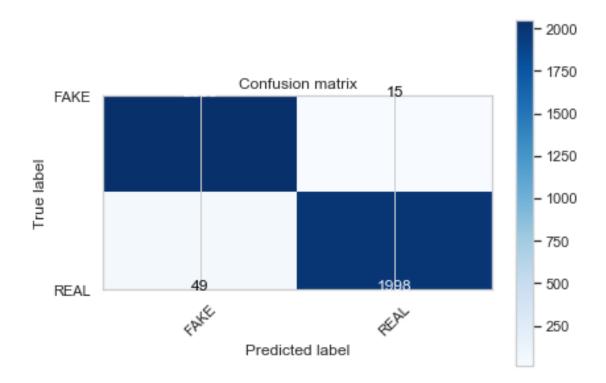
```
min_impurity_decrease=0.0, min_impurity_split=None,
min_samples_leaf=1, min_samples_split=2,
min_weight_fraction_leaf=0.0, n_estimators=100,
n_iter_no_change=None, presort='auto',
random_state=None, subsample=1.0, tol=0.0001,
validation_fraction=0.1, verbose=0,
warm_start=False)
```

```
[202]: #create test set by combining features
       #transform X test sets
       test_bow = countV.transform(X_test_text.astype('str'))
       test ngram = tfidf ngram.transform(X test text.astype('str'))
       test_pos = tfidf_pos.transform(X_test_pos.astype('str'))
       test sem = tfidf sem.transform(X test sem.astype('str'))
       #Giving weights to each of the 3 feature vectors generated
       bow w = 1/3
       big_w = 1/3
       pos_w = 1/3
       sem_w = 0
       bow_w *= 4
       big_w *= 4
       pos_w *= 4
       sem_w *= 4
       test_bow1 = bow_w*test_bow
       test_ngram1 = big_w*test_ngram
       test_pos1 = pos_w*test_pos
       test_sem1 = sem_w*test_sem
```

```
X_new6 = sp.vstack((test_sem1, sp.csr_matrix((diff_n_rows6, test_sem1.
       \rightarrowshape[1]))))
       X_test_com = sp.hstack((X5, X_new6))
       #convert coo matrix to csr matrix
       X test com1 = X test com.tocsr()
       #as matrix has reset index, need to reset on Y_train
       #Y_test1 = Y_test.reset_index()
       #Y_test1 = Y_test1['Label']
[204]: predictions = final_model.predict(X_test_com1)
       print('Accuracy of the GBM on test set: {:.3f}'.format(final_model.

¬score(X_test_com1, Y_test)))
       print('Classification report of the GBM on test set: ', u
        →classification_report(Y_test, predictions))
      Accuracy of the GBM on test set: 0.984
      Classification report of the GBM on test set:
                                                                    precision
                                                                                  recall
      f1-score
                 support
              FAKE
                         0.98
                                    0.99
                                              0.98
                                                        2065
              REAL
                         0.99
                                    0.98
                                              0.98
                                                        2047
          accuracy
                                              0.98
                                                        4112
                                              0.98
                                                        4112
         macro avg
                         0.98
                                    0.98
      weighted avg
                         0.98
                                    0.98
                                              0.98
                                                        4112
[205]: cm = metrics.confusion_matrix(Y_test, predictions, labels=['FAKE', 'REAL'])
       plot_confusion_matrix(cm, classes=['FAKE', 'REAL'])
```

Confusion matrix



The model achieved an accuracy of 98.4%. It also achieved high recall and precision, thus has a low false negative rate and low false positive rate respectively. The high recall and precision is reflected in the high F1 score.

Therefore, this model performed very well in detecting fake news.