

Fake News Prediction*

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Abstract—The Internet and social media is open to everyone, it has become easy to acquire information and news. On the other hand we find news articles which are fake. It became a very tough task for the public to confirm them. It misleads too. So building intelligent systems for differentiating between news is important. We have implemented several deep learning techniques to detect false news. In this paper we used BERT, LSTM, Bi-LSTM, CNN Bi-LSTM deep learning models to detect the fake news on large datasets which includes fake news from social media and news articles. The text is classified into two, fake and real. We have trained 10 different machine learning algorithms, 4 deep learning algorithms and compared. The 10 machine learning models are Passive Aggressive Classifier, MLP Classifier, Logistic Regression, Naive Bayes, Decision Tree Classifier, Random Forest Classifier, KNeighbors Classifier, Support Vector Machine, Boosting, Adaptive Boosting and Gradient Boosting. We trained our models on three different datasets Covid-19, Gossipcop and politifact. The results obtained from the deep learning algorithms are highly accurate. The results from deep learning models were much better compared to machine learning models.

Index Terms—fake news prediction, BERT, deep learning, deep learning

I. INTRODUCTION

In this modern but still developing world, several great things have been achieved with the new advancement of technology updating everyday. One of those is Social media being extremely powerful in the current state. Nowadays, News plays an important role in our life, keeps us informed and updated about the incidents happening nearby us and even beyond our immediate environment. Due to Social media majorly and Internet, News is at everyone's fingertips. But not every information shared these days should be trusted blindly, at least not without checking properly. Some precaution can be done before as follows : - Consider the source Read beyond the

headline for getting a whole picture Check the authors whether they are real and credible Check the supporting sources Check the date of publication to see if the story is relevant and up to date Observer whether your own biases are affecting your judgment Ask from independent people with knowledge to get confirmation But Mostly people don't take any of the above, leading them to face several consequences like affecting their decision making in several fields like financial (share markets) - In 2013, 130 billion dollars were wiped out in stock value after a false news spread on twitter that Barack Obama was injured in an explosion. Election - According to a research poll, 64% of US citizens reported that fake news has caused a great deal of confusion" about the factual content of reported events. In the US presidential campaign of 2016, fake news has been accused of being foremost contributing factor of the increasing political polarization and partisan conflict as well as affecting the outcome Hence, reachability and spreading speed, therefore, strength of the news as well of fake news raised up enormously. In 2017, the inventor of the World Wide Web, Tim Berners-Lee claimed that fake news was one of the three most significant new disturbing Internet trends that must first be resolved, if the Internet is to be capable of truly "serving humanity." People rarely prefer traditional news over the one received through social media due to easy accessibility.

II. METHODOLOGY

The training of the models is categorized into two. The first category is training traditional machine learning models. The machine learning models are Passive Aggressive Classifier, MLPClassifier, Logistic Regression, Multinomial Naive Bayes, Decision Tree Classifier, Random Forest Classifier, KNeighborsClassifier, Support Vector Machine, Adaptive Boosting and Gradient Boosting. The second category is training deep

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learning techniques LSTM, Bi LSTM, CNN-BiLSTM and BERT. The training requires several steps. The first step is the preprocessing step, in which removal of stop words, unnecessary data, lemmatization, tokenizing, lowercasing. The second step involves splitting the data into training data and testing data. The third step involves the feature extraction, for traditional machine learning models we have used TF-IDF for extracting features, for deep learning models we have used word embedding for extracting features. The fourth step involves the designing of the architecture of neural networks. The evaluation of the models is done by the metrics accuracy, precision, recall, f1-score, support and confusion matrix.

A. Data Collection

The training of the models are conducted with three fake news datasets. Those are gossipcop, politifact and CoAID (COVID-19 heAlthcare mIsinformation Dataset). Gossipcop and politifact are collected from FakeNewsNet.

1) **The Gossipcop dataset:** Gossipcop dataset has two files gossipcop real.csv, which has tweets of correct information over 5328 tweets. The second file gossipcop fake.csv has tweets of fake news over 5322 tweets. We merged both the files and labeled real news as 1 and fake news as 0. The final dataset has the columns including id, URL, title, tweet-id, and true. We have used the title as text.

2) **The politifact dataset:** The politifact dataset has two files politifact real.csv contains 432 tweets of real news, the politifact fake.csv contains 618 tweets of fake news. We merged both the files and labeled real news as 1 and fake news as 0. The final dataset has the columns including id, URL, title, tweet-id and true.

3) **CoAID (COVID-19 heAlthcare mIsinformation Dataset):** is a dataset of tweets and articles circulated over covid-19. The dataset contains 5486 tweets and news articles regarding covid-19.

B. Data Processing

Data preprocessing is crucial for training in neural networks and machine learning models. The tweets have data which is unstructured. Deep learning and machine learning algorithms require structured data for the best performance. The raw data has to be structured and refined to make it machine readable.

1) **Lower casing:** It is converting capital letters into small letters. Example: 'NLP' to 'nlp'

2) **Removing unimportant data:** removing unimportant data which are not required for machine learning and deep learning like full stops, question marks, commas etc.

3) **Tokenization:** is the process of segregating words from sentences. Example: 'I am a student' to 'I' 'am' 'a' 'student'

4) **Removal of Stop Word:** Stop words are most repetitive words and have no significance like conjunctions, prepositions etc. These types of words are removed from all the three datasets.

5) **Lemmatization:** is used to reduce the actual word to root word for avoiding the excess of word types. For example: 'ate', 'eaten', 'eating' to eat.

C. Data Splitting

In data splitting the 90% data used for training and 10% data used for testing. The training data is used to train for the input and output for the machine learning model. The training data is the unseen data for the trained model and evaluation is done on the training data.

D. Applying optimization and machine learning models

Machine learning feature extraction: TF-IDF(Term Frequency – Inverse Document Frequency): is used for extracting features of machine learning models. The TF-IDF converts each word in the form of vectors. The value for each word depends on the number of times the word is repeating in the data. $TF(t, d) = (\text{Number of occurrences of term } t \text{ in document } d) / (\text{Total number of terms in the document } d)$ $IDF(t) = \log_e (\text{Total number of documents in the corpus}) / (\text{Number of documents with term } t \text{ in them})$

2) Machine Learning models: We have used ten machine learning models PassiveAggressiveClassifier,MLPClassifier, LogisticRegression,MultinomialNB, DecisionTreeClassifier, RandomForestClassifier, KNeighborsClassifier, Support Vector Machine, Adaptive Boosting and Gradient Boosting. Passive Aggressive Classifier: is an online machine learning algorithm. Once the algorithm is predicted and receives the feedback on the prediction and then modifies the mechanism going through several rounds to improve the prediction. Logistic Regression: Logistic Regression is a machine learning model used for classification. It works on the concept of probability and it uses sigmoid function. The output is the probability varies from zero to one. The input can be varied from -infinity to +infinity. In predicting binary classification if the predicted probability is greater than 0.5 it's true if lesser than 0.5 then false. Decision Tree: Decision Tree is a machine learning algorithm that can be used for binary classification. It has a hierarchical tree structure having nodes and branches. The branches contain the comparison of features and pattern whereas leaf nodes contain the decision whether the news is fake or real.

Random Forest: The Random Forest is a supervised machine learning combination of decision trees. It predicts them by averaging the decision trees. As it uses the combination of decision trees it's performance is significantly improved. It is one of the best machine learning algorithms for classification. It uses simple decision rules to predict the output in our experiment, fake and real. Adaptive Boosting: Adaptive Boosting is a machine learning algorithm that performs well on binary classification. The boosting algorithms make the weaker predictions and adding more weights simply gives more preference and in the next step the wrong predictions will have higher weights. The training is done till the loss becomes very low and eventually develops better predictions. Gradient Boosting: Gradient implies "Gradient descent". It can be used with a differentiable loss function. The Adaptive Boosting uses an exponential loss function. This makes Gradient Boosting perform better than Adaptive Boosting. Extreme Gradient Boosting: is an ensemble training technique. It is a group

of decision trees in sequential order. The falsely predicted predictions are given more weights and passed to the next decision tree. The individual decision trees then are grouped to give strong predictions. KNeighbors: is a supervised machine learning model that classifies the algorithms by grouping the similar data points. It groups the data which are similar in nature. It uses euclidean distance for grouping and finding similar data points.

Support Vector Machine: The support vector machine is a supervised machine learning model that is capable of performing nonlinear classifications. The data points are plotted on an n-dimensional plane and are converted into high dimensional feature spaces. The prediction is done by the hyperplane best dividing categories.

Naive Bayes: The Naive Bayes is a probabilistic machine learning algorithm that uses naives theorem for the predictions. It makes classification using the Maximum Posterior decision rules in a Bayesian setting.

Deep Learning: We applied four deep learning models. These are done in two steps. The first step is to extract features from the text using a deep learning feature extraction method. Feature extraction: The neural networks used in deep learning models are trained only on numbers and float values. The neuron cannot take direct text as input. Therefore it is important to convert them in the form of vectors. Simply we are convert the natural language to machine understandable language. We used Gensim library in this experiment.

Deep neural network: The figure shows the working architecture of our experiment. That is used for the detection of fake news. The embedded matrix represents the features of the news in the dataset. The Word embedding matrix is embedded into the embedding layer and then to the hidden layer. The hidden layer is the core for the entire experiment. The most important operations are done in the hidden layers in our experiment the LSTM, BiLSTM, CNN-BiLSTM and BERT. LSTM: Long Short Term Memory is a deep learning algorithm. LSTM has the memory block and three multiplicative gating units. It is capable of memorizing the previous sentences and previous text. The neural network which is built on dense neurons cannot memorize the previous sentences. Forget Gate Layer: $gt = (W_g \cdot [Ht1, xt] + b_g)$ The new information will be added at input gate layer nt as shown in the equation $nt = (W_n \cdot [Ht1, xt] + b_n)$ Then decides which values to get updated $\tilde{S}^t = \tanh(W_s \cdot [Ht1, xt] + b_s)$ Now, the cell has to be updated, Updating the cell follows the below mathematical equation $S^t = gt \cdot S^{t-1} + it \cdot \tilde{S}^t$ Then the weights are forwarded to output gate layer. The output ot follows the equation $ot = (W_o \cdot [Ht1, xt] + b_o)$ Then it is forwarded to tanh layer so that the values range from -1 to +1. $Ht = ot \cdot \tanh(S^t)$ Peephole: Let the gate layer look at the cell state as shown in the following Equations $gt = W_g \cdot [S^t, Ht1, xt] + b_g$ $nt = (W_n \cdot [S^t, Ht1, xt] + b_n)$ $ot = (W_o \cdot [S^t, Ht1, xt] + b_o)$ Coupling forgot and input gates follow the equation $S^t = gt \cdot S^{t-1} + (1 - gt) \cdot \tilde{S}^t$

BiLSTM is a deep learning neural network that can make utilize of past and future features of the text. Simply, it has

ability to understand the previous words and future words and can differentiate accordingly. The BiLSTM contains two LSTM layers and are interconnected to each other to extract features of the upcoming words and previous words. One LSTM layer is for future features and the other for extracting past features as shown in the figure.

CNN-BiLSTM The CNN-BiLSTM is a deep neural network. The convolutional neural network is popular for extracting features from text and images. The convolutional neural networks has significant importance in computer vision. They are used for most of the computer vision applications from simple application to GAN(Generative Adversial Neural networks). Researches also show that convolutional neural networks perform well on text as well. In this neural network the text is passed into convolutional neural networks to extract the features and then passed into BiLSTM layer. Simply, the input of BiLSTM is extracted features from CNN layers.

III. PREPARE YOUR PAPER BEFORE STYLING

Before you begin to format your paper, first write and save the content as a separate text file. Complete all content and organizational editing before formatting. Please note sections III-A–III-E below for more information on proofreading, spelling and grammar.

Keep your text and graphic files separate until after the text has been formatted and styled. Do not number text heads— \LaTeX will do that for you.

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Define abbreviations and acronyms the first time they are used in the text, even after they have been defined in the abstract. Abbreviations such as IEEE, SI, MKS, CGS, ac, dc, and rms do not have to be defined. Do not use abbreviations in the title or heads unless they are unavoidable.

B. Units

- Use either SI (MKS) or CGS as primary units. (SI units are encouraged.) English units may be used as secondary units (in parentheses). An exception would be the use of English units as identifiers in trade, such as “3.5-inch disk drive”.
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- Use a zero before decimal points: “0.25”, not “.25”. Use “cm³”, not “cc”.)

C. Equations

Number equations consecutively. To make your equations more compact, you may use the solidus (/), the exp

function, or appropriate exponents. Italicize Roman symbols for quantities and variables, but not Greek symbols. Use a long dash rather than a hyphen for a minus sign. Punctuate equations with commas or periods when they are part of a sentence, as in:

$$a + b = \gamma \quad (1)$$

Be sure that the symbols in your equation have been defined before or immediately following the equation. Use “(1)”, not “Eq. (1)” or “equation (1)”, except at the beginning of a sentence: “Equation (1) is . . .”

D. *L^AT_EX-Specific Advice*

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E. *Some Common Mistakes*

- The word “data” is plural, not singular.
- The subscript for the permeability of vacuum μ_0 , and other common scientific constants, is zero with subscript formatting, not a lowercase letter “o”.
- In American English, commas, semicolons, periods, question and exclamation marks are located within quotation marks only when a complete thought or name is cited, such as a title or full quotation. When quotation marks are used, instead of a bold or italic typeface, to highlight a word or phrase, punctuation should appear outside of the quotation marks. A parenthetical phrase or statement

at the end of a sentence is punctuated outside of the closing parenthesis (like this). (A parenthetical sentence is punctuated within the parentheses.)

- A graph within a graph is an “inset”, not an “insert”. The word alternatively is preferred to the word “alternately” (unless you really mean something that alternates).
- Do not use the word “essentially” to mean “approximately” or “effectively”.
- In your paper title, if the words “that uses” can accurately replace the word “using”, capitalize the “u”; if not, keep using lower-cased.
- Be aware of the different meanings of the homophones “affect” and “effect”, “complement” and “compliment”, “discreet” and “discrete”, “principal” and “principle”.
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- The prefix “non” is not a word; it should be joined to the word it modifies, usually without a hyphen.
- There is no period after the “et” in the Latin abbreviation “et al.”.
- The abbreviation “i.e.” means “that is”, and the abbreviation “e.g.” means “for example”.

An excellent style manual for science writers is [7].

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The class file is designed for, but not limited to, six authors. A minimum of one author is required for all conference articles. Author names should be listed starting from left to right and then moving down to the next line. This is the author sequence that will be used in future citations and by indexing services. Names should not be listed in columns nor group by affiliation. Please keep your affiliations as succinct as possible (for example, do not differentiate among departments of the same organization).

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Headings, or heads, are organizational devices that guide the reader through your paper. There are two types: component heads and text heads.

Component heads identify the different components of your paper and are not topically subordinate to each other. Examples include Acknowledgments and References and, for these, the correct style to use is “Heading 5”. Use “figure caption” for your Figure captions, and “table head” for your table title. Run-in heads, such as “Abstract”, will require you to apply a style (in this case, italic) in addition to the style provided by the drop down menu to differentiate the head from the text.

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H. Figures and Tables

a) Positioning Figures and Tables: Place figures and tables at the top and bottom of columns. Avoid placing them in the middle of columns. Large figures and tables may span across both columns. Figure captions should be below the figures; table heads should appear above the tables. Insert figures and tables after they are cited in the text. Use the abbreviation “Fig. 1”, even at the beginning of a sentence.

TABLE I
TABLE TYPE STYLES

Table Head	Table Column Head		
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^aSample of a Table footnote.

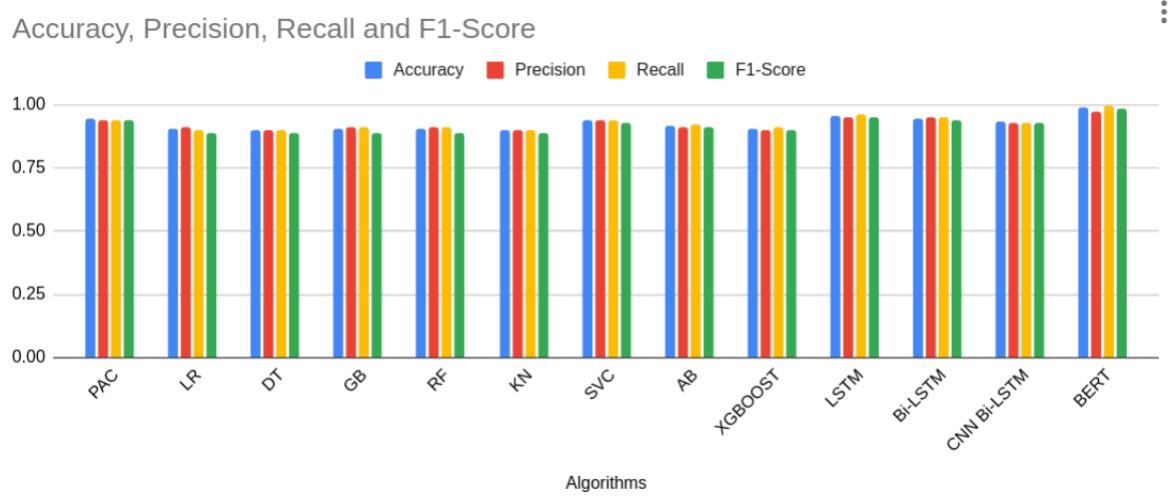


Fig. 1. Example of a figure caption.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The preferred spelling of the word “acknowledgment” in America is without an “e” after the “g”. Avoid the stilted expression “one of us (R. B. G.) thanks ...”. Instead, try “R. B. G. thanks ...”. Put sponsor acknowledgments in the unnumbered footnote on the first page.

REFERENCES

Please number citations consecutively within brackets [1]. The sentence punctuation follows the bracket [2]. Refer simply to the reference number, as in [3]—do not use “Ref. [3]” or “reference [3]” except at the beginning of a sentence: “Reference [3] was the first ...”

Number footnotes separately in superscripts. Place the actual footnote at the bottom of the column in which it was cited. Do not put footnotes in the abstract or reference list. Use letters for table footnotes.

Unless there are six authors or more give all authors’ names; do not use “et al.”. Papers that have not been published, even if they have been submitted for publication, should be cited as “unpublished” [4]. Papers that have been accepted for publication should be cited as “in press” [5]. Capitalize only the first word in a paper title, except for proper nouns and element symbols.

For papers published in translation journals, please give the English citation first, followed by the original foreign-language citation [6].

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