**INTRODUCTION**

Intentionally deceptive content presented under the guise of legitimate journalism (or ‘fake news,’ as it is commonly known) is a worldwide information accuracy and integrity problem that affects opinion forming, decision making, and voting patterns. Most fake news is initially distributed over social media conduits like Facebook and Twitter and later finds its way onto mainstream media platforms such as traditional television and radio news. The fake news stories that are initially seeded over social media platforms share key linguistic characteristics such as excessive use of unsubstantiated hyperbole and non-attributed quoted content. The results of a fake news identification study that documents the performance of a fake news classifier are presented and discussed in this paper.