

# Rumour Detection

CS5803 - NLP  
Project Final Presentation

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# Agenda

- Introduction
- Problem Statement
- Datasets
- Model Description
- Hyperparameter tuning
- Word Embeddings
- Results and Evaluation

# Introduction:

What are rumours?



A story or statement whose truth value is **unverified** or deliberately **false**.

## Motivation:

- Difficult to distinguish rumours by humans
- crucial to track and debunk rumors early to minimize their harmful effects
- Online fact-checking services have limited topical coverage and long delay
- During the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, social media platform used for information of new revelations. Some of the information is factual, others are rumours. This causes adverse effect on individuals and society. Identify rumours and stop them before they become viral.

# Problem statement and Proposed Solution

## Problem Statement:

- Given a dataset of tweets, classification of each tweet as rumour or non-rumour.

## Solution:

- DNN model based on Bi-Directional Long Short-Term Memory with Convolutional Neural Network
- Considers contextual information in both directions for classification

## Reference:

- Asghar, M.Z., Habib, A., Habib, A., Khan, A., Ali, R. and Khattak, A., 2019. Exploring deep neural networks for rumor detection. *Journal of Ambient Intelligence and Humanized Computing*, pp.1-19.

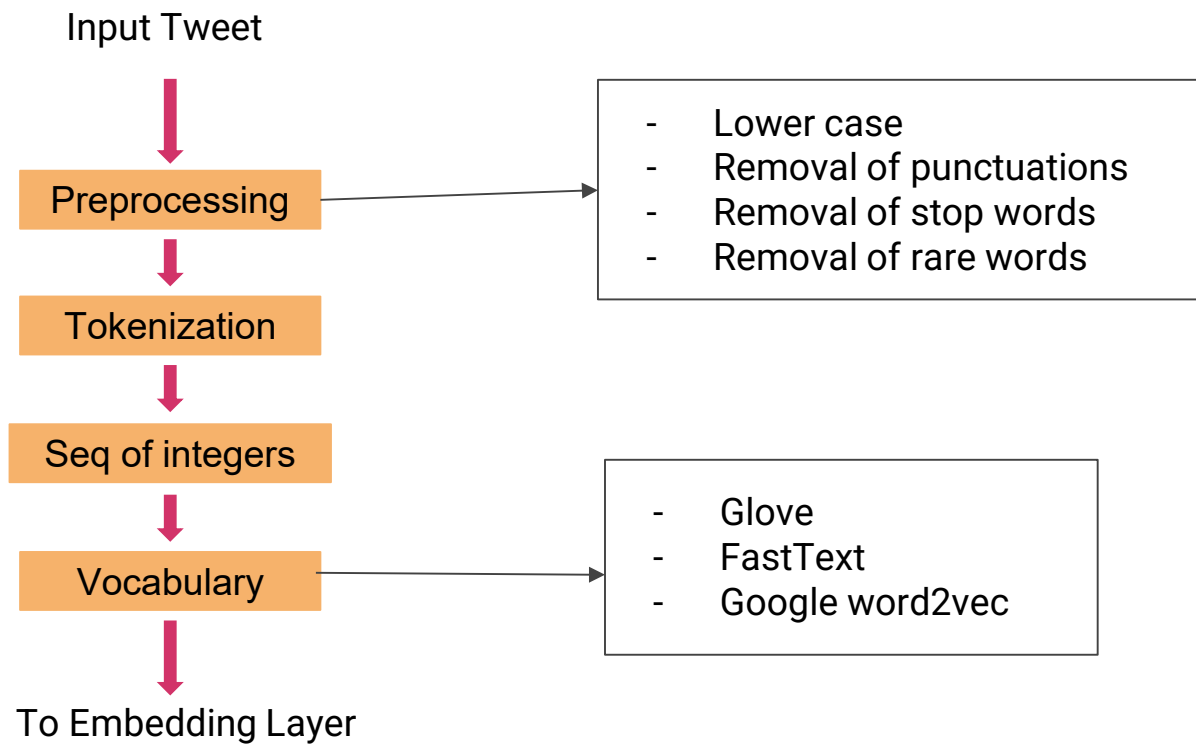
# Datasets

- **PHEME**: #Source tweets - 5800, Labels - 2046(R) / 3754 (NR)
- **Twitter15**: #Source tweets - 1490, Labels - 374 (NR), 370 (F), 372(T), 374(UR) collapsed to 374 (NR), 1116 (R)
- **Twitter16**: #Source tweets - 818, Labels - 205 (NR), 205 (F), 205(T), 203(UR) collapsed to 205 (NR), 613 (R)
- **COVID-19**: Obtained using Twitter API. #source tweets - 313036(Unlabeled - 29 Mar 2020 - 15 Apr-2020)

R - rumour, NR - non-rumour, F - false rumour,

T - true rumour, UR - unverified rumour

# Data Preprocessing:



# Model Description

**Embedding** - Googlevec, Fasttext, Glove

**Dropout Layer** - 0.5

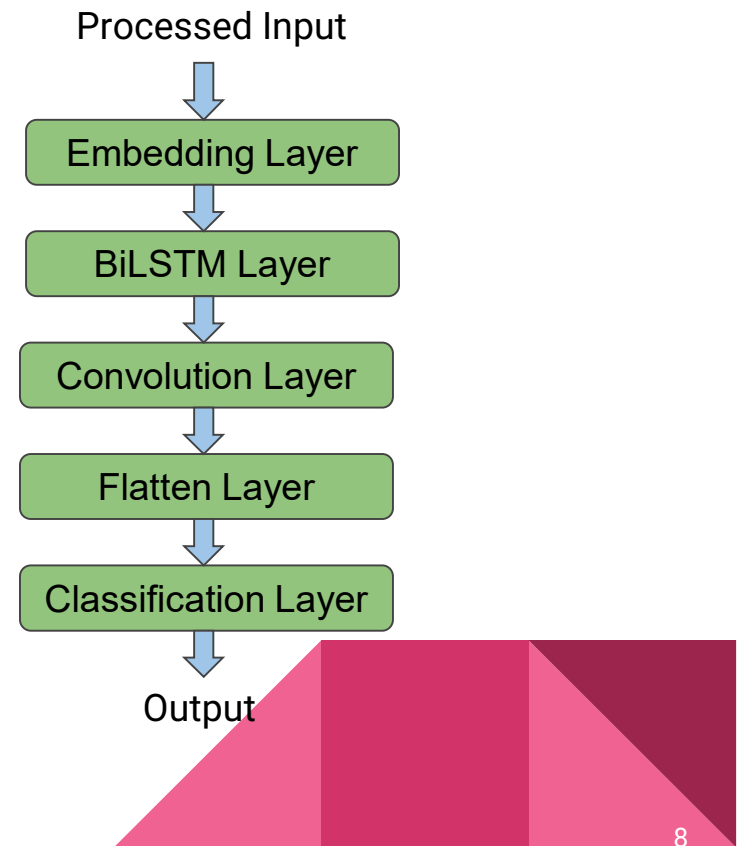
**BiLSTM** - Forward and backward (units =278)

**Convolution** - Feature extraction (f=8, k=2, relu)

**Maxpool** (2)

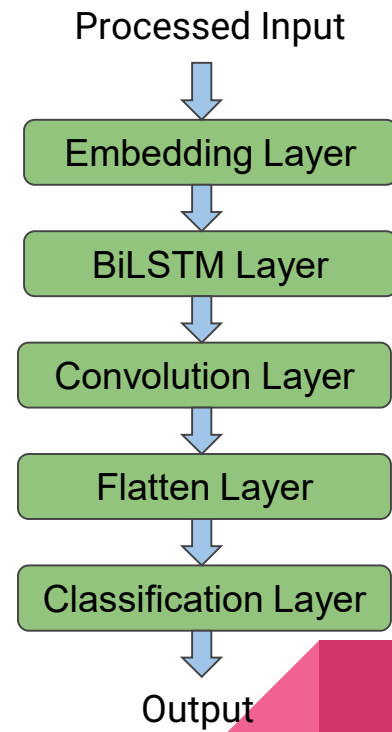
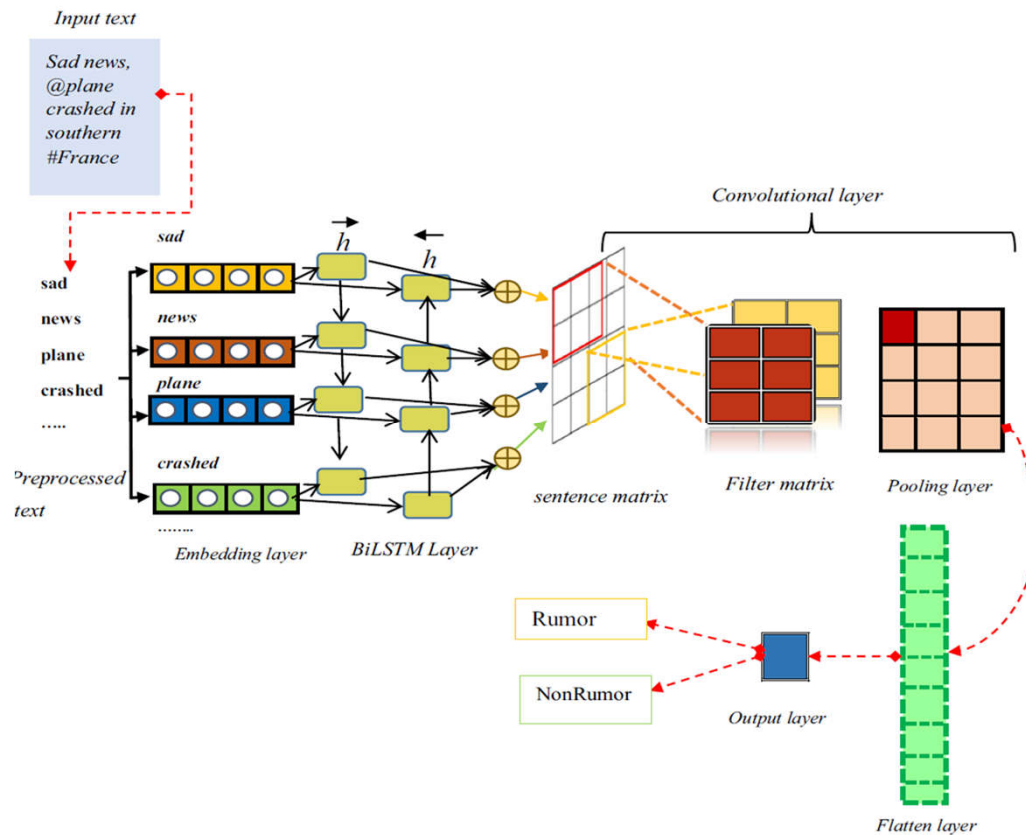
**Flatten**

**Single Neuron** - Classification (Sigmoid)





# Model Description



# Hyperparameter Tuning

BiLSTM-CNN model Parameter setting

Train and Test: PHEME Dataset (Train:80%, Test:20%)

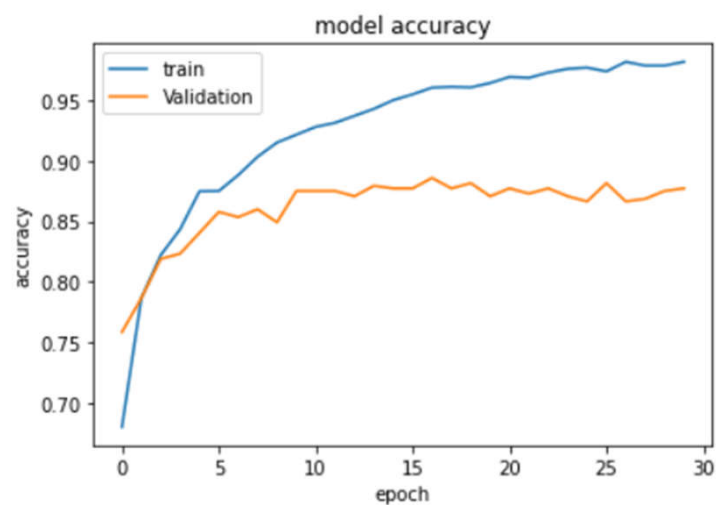
No.of Filters	Filter Size	Train acc	Train loss	Train time(s)	Test acc	Test loss	Precision	Recall	F1-Score
64	3	98.6	0.38	330	87	0.63	0.80	0.82	0.81
32	2	98.4	0.04	330	86.5	0.58	0.82	0.79	0.80
10	3	98.3	0.046	330	86	0.59	0.78	0.85	0.81
8	2	98	0.0538	432	87	0.60	0.80	0.83	0.82

# Results:

PHEME Dataset: train - 80%(4640), Test- 20%(1160)

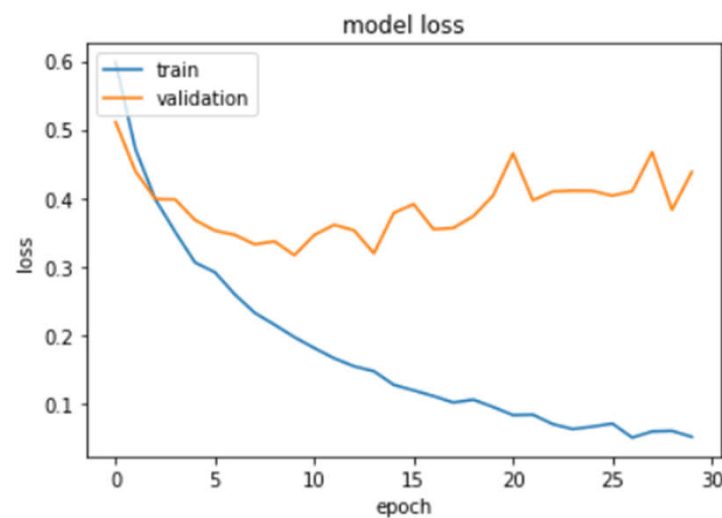
#epochs = 30

Train: 90%(4176), Val: 10% (464)



Train Accuracy: 0.9816

Validation Accuracy: 0.8772



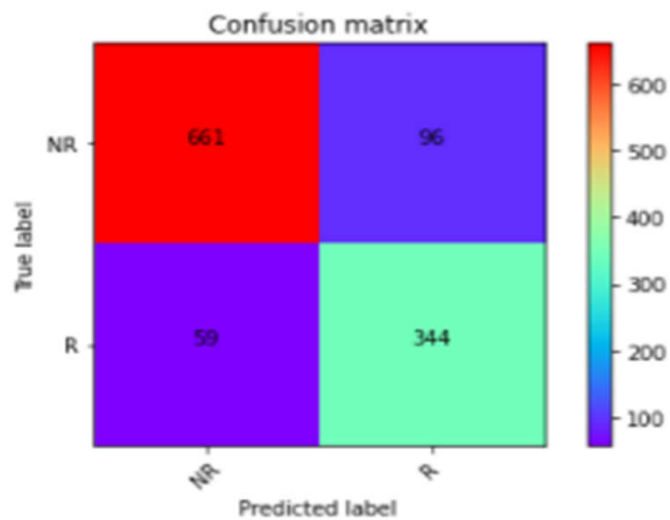
Train Loss: 0.0510

Validation Loss: 0.438

# Results:

PHEME Dataset:

Confusion matrix, without normalization  
[[661 96]  
[ 59 344]]



	precision	recall	f1-score	support
NR	0.92	0.87	0.90	757
R	0.78	0.85	0.82	403
accuracy			0.87	1160
macro avg	0.85	0.86	0.86	1160
weighted avg	0.87	0.87	0.87	1160

# Pre-trained Word Embeddings

Performance evaluation on BiLSTM CNN model using Pretrained word embeddings

Train: Pheme + Twitter15

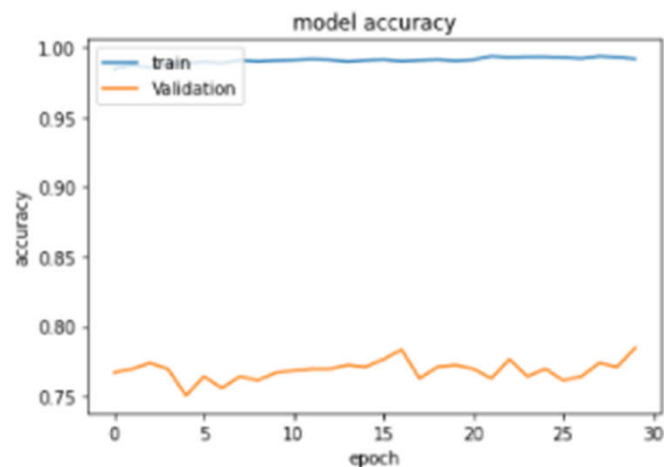
Test: Twitter16

<b>Pretrained Word Embedding</b>	<b>Train Accuracy</b>	<b>Validation Accuracy</b>	<b>Test Accuracy</b>	<b>Precision</b>	<b>Recall</b>	<b>F1-score</b>
Base Model	98.1	78.5	70	0.84	0.74	0.79
Fasttext	94.1	75.2	74.82	0.83	0.84	0.83
Glove	89.2	74.6	73.11	0.81	0.84	0.82
Google Word2Vec	92.7	77.5	73.23	0.80	0.86	0.83
With self attention	90.8	75.9	71.39	0.84	0.77	0.80

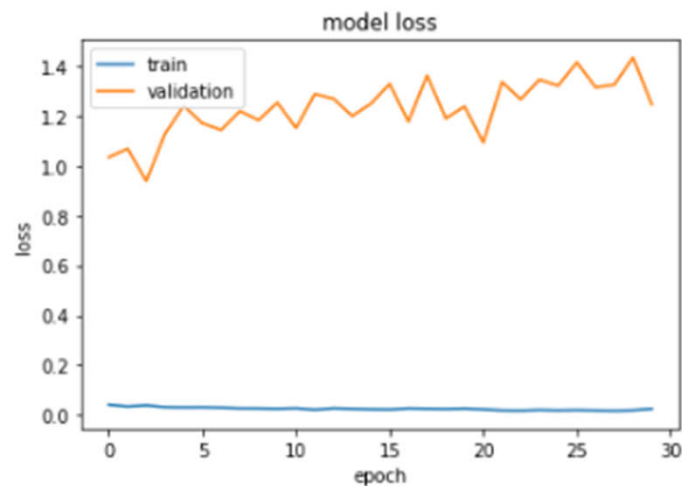
# Results: Cross-Domain Training

Pheme + Twitter15 Dataset: train - 90%(6561), validation - 10%(729)

#epochs = 30



Train Accuracy: 0.981  
Validation Accuracy: 0.785



Train Loss: 0.025  
Validation Loss: 1.25

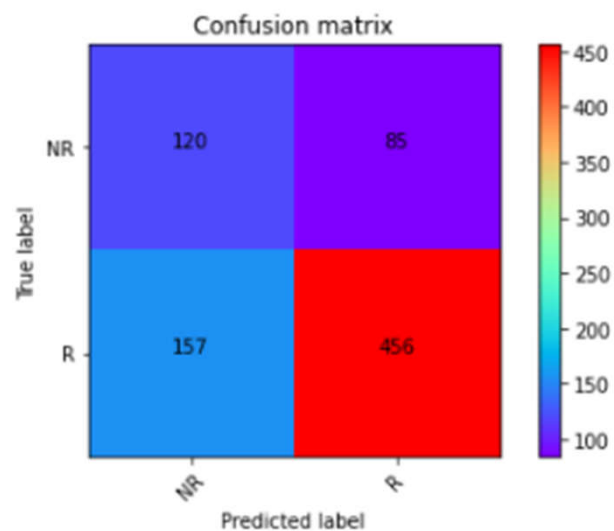
# Results: Cross-Domain Training

Test Dataset: Twitter16 (818)

Confusion matrix, without normalization

```
[[120  85]
```

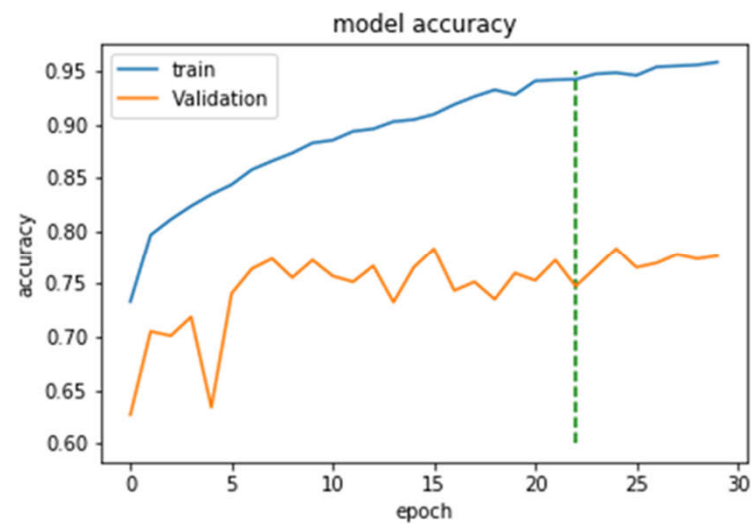
```
[157 456]]
```



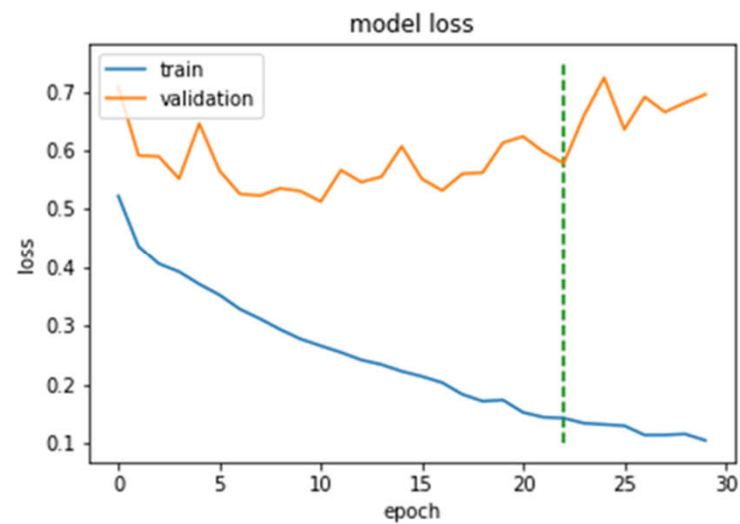
	precision	recall	f1-score	support
NR	0.43	0.59	0.50	205
R	0.84	0.74	0.79	613
accuracy			0.70	818
macro avg	0.64	0.66	0.64	818
weighted avg	0.74	0.70	0.72	818

# FastText:

Train: PHEME + Twitter15 Test: Twitter16



Train Accuracy: 0.941  
Validation Accuracy: 0.752



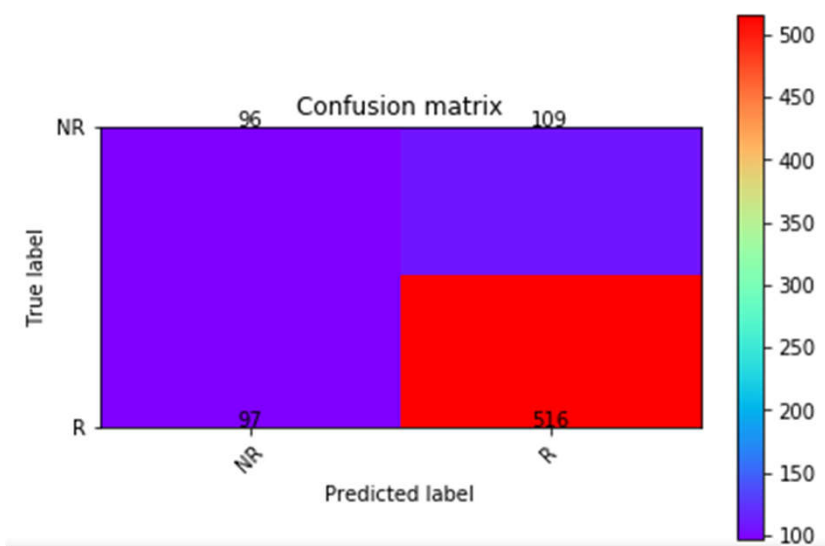
Train Loss: 0.164  
Validation Loss: 0.586



# FastText:

Train: PHEME + Twitter15 Test: Twitter16

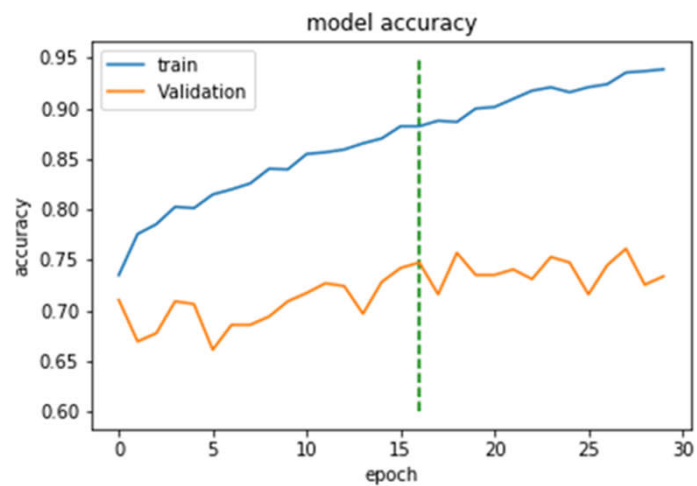
```
[[ 96 109]
 [ 97 516]]
```



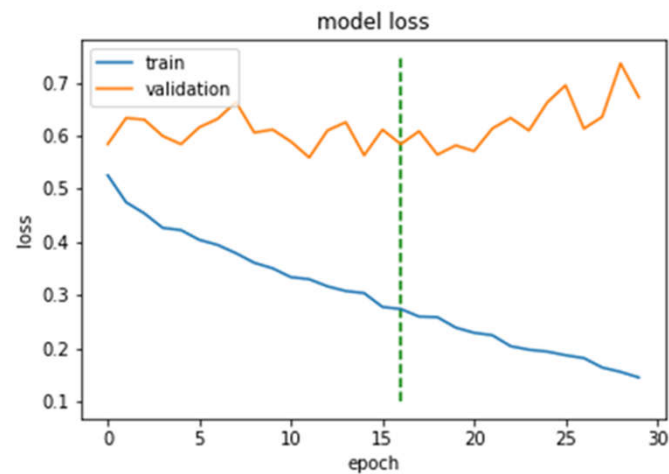
	precision	recall	f1-score	support
NR	0.50	0.47	0.48	205
R	0.83	0.84	0.83	613
accuracy			0.75	818
macro avg	0.66	0.66	0.66	818
weighted avg	0.74	0.75	0.75	818

# Glove:

Train: Pheme + Twitter15 Test: Twitter16



Train Accuracy: 0.892  
Validation Accuracy: 0.746

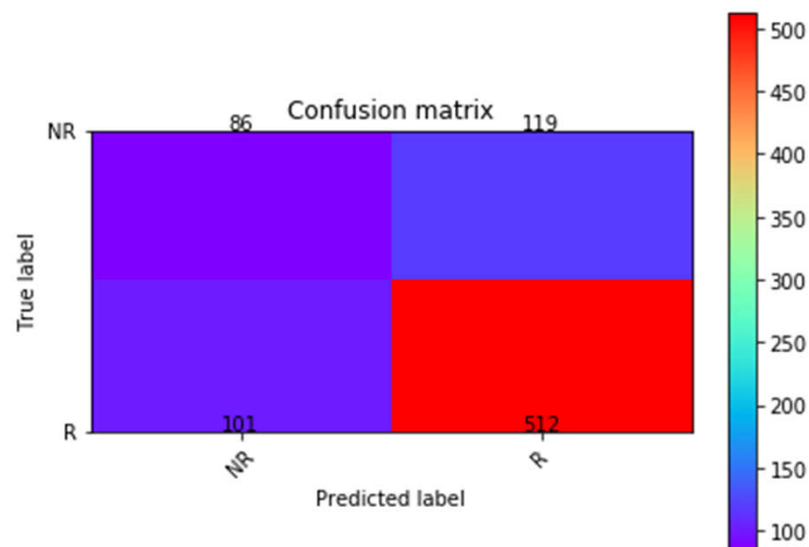


Train Loss: 0.281  
Validation Loss: 0.586

# Glove:

Train: Pheme + Twitter15 Test: Twitter16

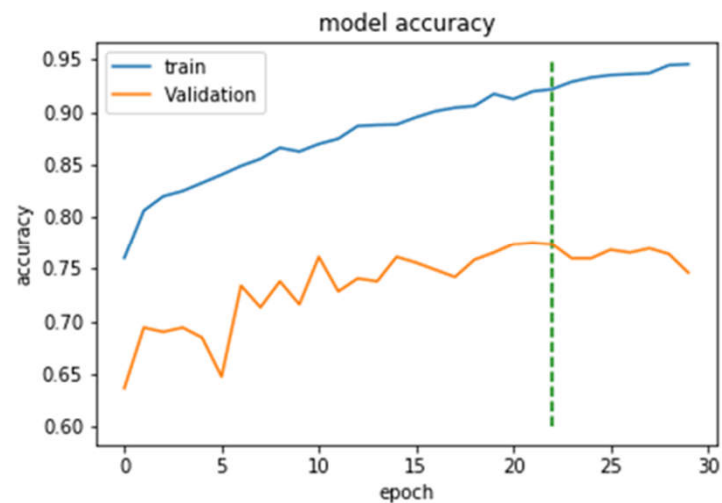
```
[[ 86 119]
 [101 512]]
```



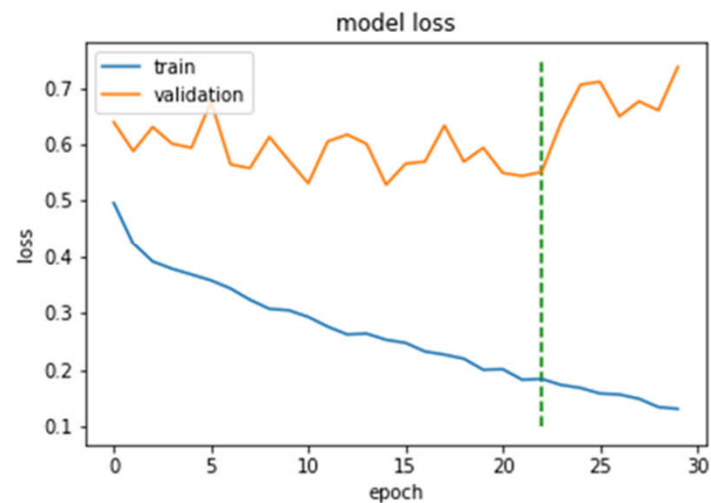
	precision	recall	f1-score	support
NR	0.46	0.42	0.44	205
R	0.81	0.84	0.82	613
accuracy			0.73	818
macro avg	0.64	0.63	0.63	818
weighted avg	0.72	0.73	0.73	818

# Googlevec:

Train: PHEME + Twitter15 Test: Twitter16



Train Accuracy: 0.927  
Validation Accuracy: 0.775

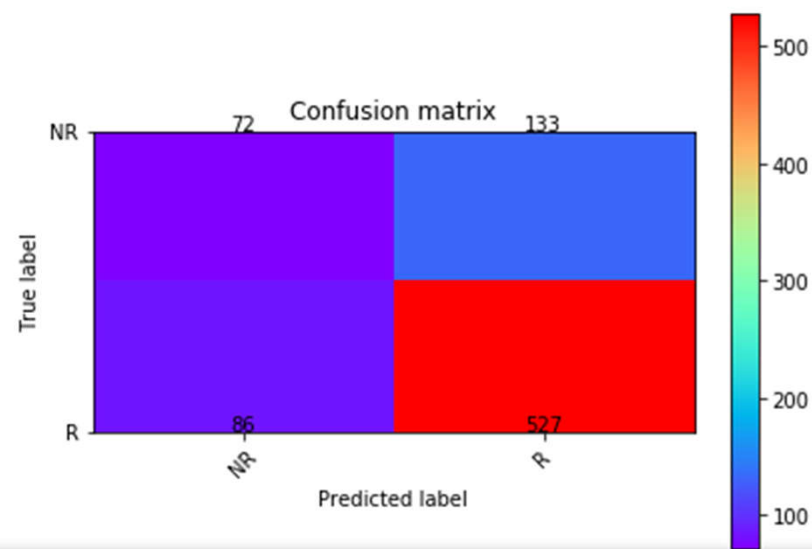


Train Loss: 0.21  
Validation Loss: 0.58

# Googlevec:

Train: PHEME + Twitter15 Test: Twitter16

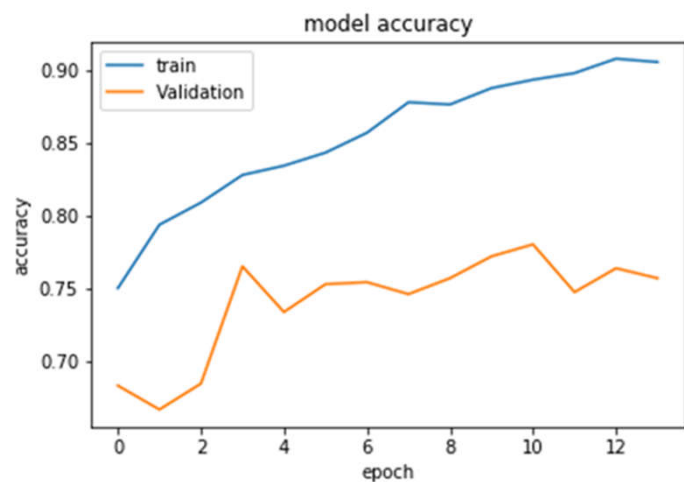
```
[[ 72 133]
 [ 86 527]]
```



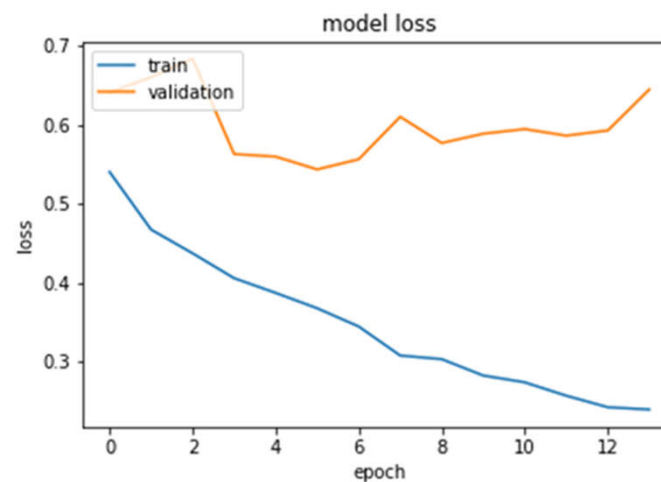
	precision	recall	f1-score	support
NR	0.46	0.35	0.40	205
R	0.80	0.86	0.83	613
accuracy			0.73	818
macro avg	0.63	0.61	0.61	818
weighted avg	0.71	0.73	0.72	818

## With Self Attention Layer:

Train: PHEME + Twitter15 Test: Twitter16



Train Accuracy: 0.908  
Validation Accuracy: 0.759

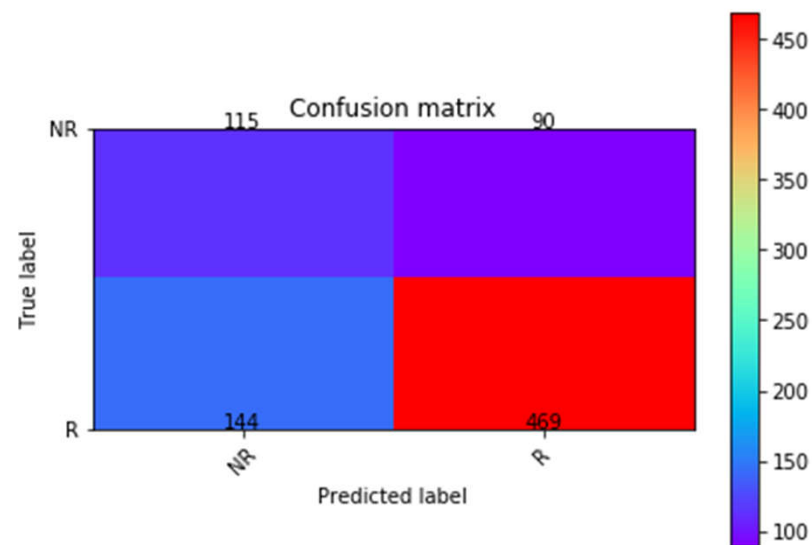


Train Loss: 0.267  
Validation Loss: 0.652

## With Self Attention Layer:

Train: PHEME + Twitter15 Test: Twitter16

```
[[115  90]  
 [144 469]]
```



	precision	recall	f1-score	support
NR	0.44	0.56	0.50	205
R	0.84	0.77	0.80	613
accuracy			0.71	818
macro avg	0.64	0.66	0.65	818
weighted avg	0.74	0.71	0.72	818

# COVID-19 Dataset:

## Twitter API

- Keywords - coronavirus, COVID-19, #COVID19
- Language - english
- Start date - 29 Mar 2020
- End date - 15 Apr 2020
- Metadata - text (Tweet)
- Tweepy package and Bearer\_Token for data access

Preprocessing : Lower case, Removal of punctuations, stop words, rare words

Tokenizing

Prediction using model



## COVID-19 Dataset Results:

Classification Results on COVID-19 Dataset (#tweets: 313036) by Bi-LSTM-CNN model with different word embeddings.

Bi-LSTM-CNN model with word embedding	Fasttext	Glove	Googlevec
#Rumours	71971	25570	50574
#Non-Rumours	241065	287466	262462

## Conclusion:

- The problem of tweet classification into rumor and non-rumor has been addressed by using deep learning based BiLSTM-CNN model.
- Various experiments have been conducted like hyper parameter tuning, usage of pre-trained word embeddings, self attention layer and reported the results.
- Achieved the best results using FastText pre-trained word embedding model.
- Obtained the COVID-19 dataset from Twitter using Twitter API and used the same for rumor detection.

## References:

- [1] Ma, J., Gao, W. and Wong, K.F., 2018. Rumor detection on twitter with tree-structured recursive neural networks. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- [2] Bian, T., Xiao, X., Xu, T., Zhao, P., Huang, W., Rong, Y. and Huang, J., 2020, April. Rumor detection on social media with bi-directional graph convolutional networks. In Proceedings of the AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (Vol. 34, No. 01, pp. 549-556)
- [3] Asghar, M.Z., Habib, A., Habib, A., Khan, A., Ali, R. and Khattak, A., 2019. Exploring deep neural networks for rumor detection. Journal of Ambient Intelligence and Humanized Computing, pp.1-19
- [4] Chen, E., Lerman, K. and Ferrara, E., 2020. Tracking social media discourse about the covid-19 pandemic: Development of a public coronavirus twitter data set. JMIR Public Health and Surveillance, 6(2), p.e19273
- [5] Christopher D. Manning, Hinrich Schuetze - Foundations of Statistical Natural Language Processing- The MIT Press (1999)

**Thank You!**