

FAKE NEWS DETECTION PROJECT



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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I would like to convey my heartfelt gratitude to Flip Robo Technologies for providing me with this wonderful opportunity to work on a Machine Learning project using NLP "Fake News Detection Project" and also want to thank my SME "Shwetank Mishra" for providing the dataset and directions to complete this project. This project would not have been accomplished without their help and insights.

I would also like to thank my academic "Data Trained Education" and their team who has helped me to learn Machine Learning and NLP.

Working on this project was an incredible experience as I learnt more from this Project during completion.



1. Business Problem Framing

Fake news has become one of the biggest problems of our age. It has serious impact on our online as well as offline discourse. One can even go as far as saying that, to date, fake news poses a clear and present danger to western democracy and stability of the society.

2. Conceptual Background of the Domain Problem

Nowadays fake news spreading like water and people share this information without verifying it. This is often done to further or impose certain ideas and is often achieved with political agendas. For media outlets, the ability to attract viewers to their websites is necessary to generate online advertising revenue. So, it is necessary to detect fake news.

3. Review of Literature

Fake news's simple meaning is to incorporate information that leads people to the wrong path.

4. Motivation for the Problem Undertaken

To build an application which can detect the fake and true news.



Analytical Problem Framing

1. Mathematical/ Analytical Modelling of the Problem

- 1) Cleaned Data by removing irrelevant features
- 2) Pre-processing of text using NLP processing
- 3) Used Word Counts
- 4) Used Character Counts
- 5) Used Tf-Idf Vectorizer
- 6) Splitted data into train and test
- 7) Built Model
- 8) Hyper parameter tunning

2. Data Sources and their formats

The data-set is in csv format: <u>fake news.csv</u> and <u>true news.csv</u>. Features of this dataset are:

title

- text (containing news)
- subject
- date

3. Data Pre-processing:

a) Checked Top 5 Rows of both Dataset

	1 fake_news.head()			
	title	text	subject	date
0	As U.S. budget fight looms, Republicans flip t	WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The head of a conservat	politicsNews	December 31, 2017
1	U.S. military to accept transgender recruits o	WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Transgender people will	politicsNews	December 29, 2017
2	Senior U.S. Republican senator: 'Let Mr. Muell	WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The special counsel inv	politicsNews	December 31, 2017
3	FBI Russia probe helped by Australian diplomat	WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Trump campaign adviser	politicsNews	December 30, 2017
4	Trump wants Postal Service to charge 'much mor	SEATTLE/WASHINGTON (Reuters) - President Donal	politicsNews	December 29, 2017

1.

1 true_news.head()

	title	text	subject	date			
0	Donald Trump Sends Out Embarrassing New Year'	Donald Trump just couldn t wish all Americans	News	December 31, 2017			
1	Drunk Bragging Trump Staffer Started Russian	House Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nu	News	December 31, 2017			
2	Sheriff David Clarke Becomes An Internet Joke	On Friday, it was revealed that former Milwauk	News	December 30, 2017			
3	Trump Is So Obsessed He Even Has Obama's Name	On Christmas day, Donald Trump announced that	News	December 29, 2017			
4	Pope Francis Just Called Out Donald Trump Dur	Pope Francis used his annual Christmas Day mes	News	December 25, 2017			

2.

b) Checked Total Numbers of Rows and Column

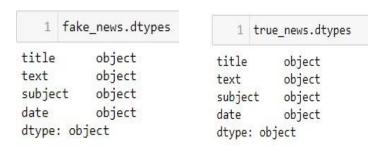
1	fake_news.shape	1	true_news.shape
(21417, 4)		(2348	1, 4)

c) Checked All Column Name

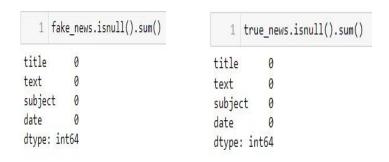
```
1 fake_news.columns
Index(['title', 'text', 'subject', 'date'], dtype='object')

1 true_news.columns
Index(['title', 'text', 'subject', 'date'], dtype='object')
```

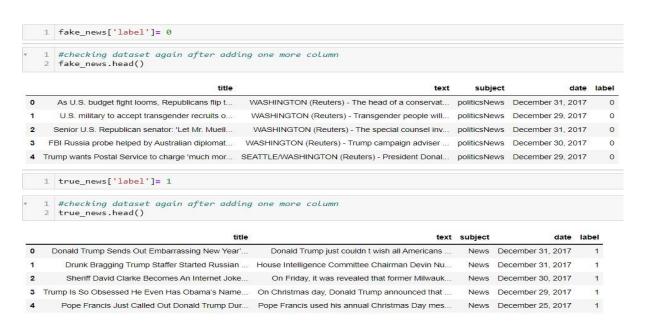
d) Checked Data Type of All Data



e) Checked for Null Values



f) Creating one column 'label' in both dataset



g) Describing Data

1 fake_news.describe()

	title	text	subject	date
count	21417	21417	21417	21417
unique	20826	21192	2	716
top	Factbox: Trump fills top jobs for his administ	(Reuters) - Highlights for U.S. President Dona	politicsNews	December 20, 2017
freq	14	8	11272	182

1 true_news.describe()

	title	text	subject	date
count	23481	23481	23481	23481
unique	17903	17455	6	1681
top	MEDIA IGNORES Time That Bill Clinton FIRED His		News	May 10, 2017
freq	6	626	9050	46

h) Combining/Merging both dataset



44898 rows × 5 columns

Data cleaning

☐ Dropped Column " title, date, subject " as these columns are irrelevant for prediction.

```
1 news.drop(['title', 'date', 'subject'], axis=1, inplace=True)
```

j) Data Information

4. Data Inputs-Logic-Output Relationships

I. <u>Text Pre-Processing</u>

Creating a function to process the texts

```
1 def wordopt(text):
2
       text = text.lower()
      text = re.sub('\[.*?\]', '', text)
      text = re.sub("\\W"," ",text)
4
      text = re.sub('https?://\S+|www\.\S+', '', text)
5
      text = re.sub('<.*?>+', '', text)
      text = re.sub('[%s]' % re.escape(string.punctuation), '', text)
7
      text = re.sub('\n', '', text)
8
       text = re.sub('\w*\d\w*', '', text)
9
       return text
10
1 news['text']=news['text'].apply(wordopt)
```

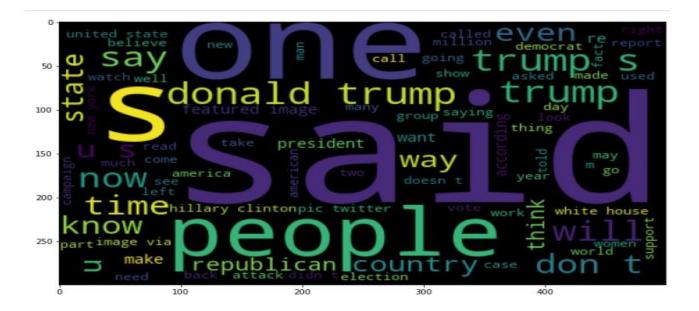
1 news.head()

	text	label
0	washington reuters the head of a conservat	0
1	washington reuters transgender people will	0
2	washington reuters the special counsel inv	0
3	washington reuters trump campaign adviser	0
4	seattle washington reuters president donal	0

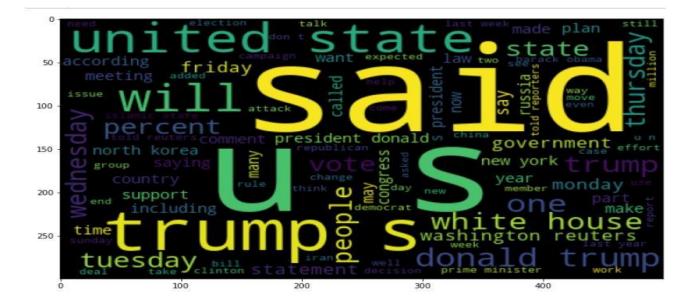
Wordcloud

```
wc = WordCloud(width = 500, height = 300, min_font_size= 10, background_color= 'black')

#Generating Word Cloud for True News
true_wordcloud = wc.generate(news[news['label']==1]['text'].str.cat(sep = " "))
plt.figure(figsize=(12,8))
plt.imshow(true_wordcloud)
plt.show()
```



```
#Generating Word Cloud for Fake News
fake_wordcloud = wc.generate(news[news['label']==0]['text'].str.cat(sep = " "))
plt.figure(figsize=(12,8))
plt.imshow(fake_wordcloud)
plt.show()
```

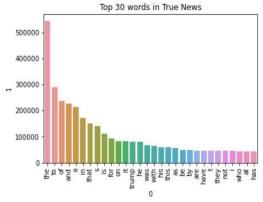


Top 30 most frequently occuring words

```
true_corpus = []
for msg in news[news['label']==1]['text'].tolist():
for word in msg.split():
    true_corpus.append(word)
```

```
sns.barplot(pd.DataFrame(Counter(true_corpus).most_common(30))[0] , pd.DataFrame(Counter(true_corpus).most_common(30))[1])
plt.title("Top 30 words in True News")
plt.xticks(rotation = "vertical")
plt.show
```

<function matplotlib.pyplot.show(close=None, block=None)>

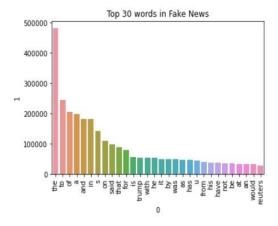


```
fake_corpus = []
for msg in news[news['label']==0]['text'].tolist():
for word in msg.split():
    fake_corpus.append(word)|

sns.barplot(pd.DataFrame(Counter(fake_corpus).most_common(30))[0] , pd.DataFrame(Counter(fake_corpus).most_common(30))[1])
```

```
sns.barplot(pd.DataFrame(Counter(fake_corpus).most_common(30))[0] , pd.DataFrame(Counter(fake_corpus).most_common(30))[1])
plt.title("Top 30 words in Fake News")
plt.xticks(rotation = "vertical")
plt.show
```

<function matplotlib.pyplot.show(close=None, block=None)>



Convert text to vectors using TfidfVectorizer

```
vectorizer = TfidfVectorizer(max_features=3000)
message_mat = vectorizer.fit_transform(news['text'])
message_mat
```

5. State the set of assumptions (if any) related to the problem under consideration

- It was observed that there are two types of news: fake and true. So, have to detect which news is fake and which is true.
- Need to add one more column which is a target column for distinguishing fake and true news by labelling 0 for fake and 1 for true news.
- It was observed that title, subject and date column are irrelevant. So, we need to drop them.
- It was also observed that text column containing news have stopwords, punctuation so have to replace or pre-process those values.
- Also have to convert text (reviews) into vectors using Tf-Idf vectorization.
- By looking into the Target Variable, it is assumed that it is a classification problem.

6. Hardware and Software Requirements and Tools Used

Hardware used:

Processor: 11th Gen Intel(R) Core (TM) i3-1125G4 @2.00GHz 2.00 GHz

System Type: 64-bit OS

Software used:

- Anaconda for 64-bit OS Jupyter notebook
- Tools, Libraries and Packages used:

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
%matplotlib inline
import seaborn as sns
import warnings
warnings.filterwarnings('ignore')
from sklearn.linear_model import LogisticRegression
from sklearn.naive_bayes import GaussianNB, MultinomialNB, BernoulliNB
import lightgbm
from lightgbm import LGBMClassifier
from sklearn.svm import LinearSVC
from sklearn.linear_model import SGDClassifier
from xgboost import XGBClassifier
import scikitplot as skplt
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split, GridSearchCV,cross_val_score
from sklearn.metrics import accuracy_score, confusion_matrix, precision_score,classification_report
from sklearn.neighbors import KNeighborsClassifier
import nltk
import re
import string
from nltk.corpus import stopwords
from nltk.stem import PorterStemmer, WordNetLemmatizer
import gensim
from gensim.models import Word2Vec
from sklearn.feature_extraction.text import TfidfVectorizer
from wordcloud import WordCloud
from sklearn.feature_extraction.text import CountVectorizer
from collections import Counter
import scikitplot as skplt
import joblib
import pickle
```

Model/s Development and Evaluation

1. <u>Identification of possible problem-solving approaches</u> (methods)

In this project, we want to differentiate between comments and its categories and for this we have used these approaches:

- Checked Total Numbers of Rows and Column
- Checked All Column Name
- Checked Data Type of All Data
- Checked for Null Values
- Description of Data
- Dropped irrelevant Columns
- Added one target column to distinguish which new is fake and which is true
- Replaced special characters and irrelevant data
- Checked all features through visualization.
- Converted all messages to lower case
- Removed special characters
- Removed punctuations
- Removed Stop-Words
- Used Word Counts
- Used Character Counts
- Checked loud word using Word-Cloud
- Converted text into vectors using Tf-Idf Vectorization

2. Testing of Identified Approaches (Algorithms)

- 1. Logistic Regression
- 2. Decision Tree Classifier
- 3. Gradient Boosting Classifier
- **4.** Random Forest Classifier

- 5. Linear Support Vector Classifier
- **6.** Bernoulli NB
- **7.** Multinomial NB
- **8.** SGD Classifier
- **9.** LGBM Classifier
- **10.** XGB Classifier

3. Run and evaluate selected models

Creating Model

Finding the best random state

```
1 maxAccu = 0
 2 maxRs = 0
3 for i in range(1,100):
      x_train,x_test,y_train,y_test = train_test_split(x,y,test_size=0.25,random_state=i)
 5
      LR = LogisticRegression()
      LR.fit(x_train,y_train)
 6
      pred_LR = LR.predict(x_test)
acc = accuracy_score(y_test,pred_LR)
if acc>maxAccu:
 7
8
9
10
            maxAccu=acc
11
            maxRs = i
12 print(f'Best Accuracy is {maxAccu} on Random_state {maxRs}')
```

Best Accuracy is 0.9892204899777283 on Random_state 34

Splitting into train and test

```
1 x_train, x_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(x, y, test_size=0.25, random_state=maxRs)

* 1 # Lets check the shapes of traning and test data
2 print("x_train", x_train.shape)
3 print("x_test", x_test.shape)
4 print("y_train", y_train.shape)
5 print("y_test", y_test.shape)

**x_train (33673, 3000)
**x_test (11225, 3000)
**y_train (33673,)
**y_test (11225,)
```

```
# Defining the Classification Machine Learning Algorithms
lr = LogisticRegression(solver='lbfgs')
dtc = DecisionTreeClassifier()
gbc = GradientBoostingClassifier(random_state=0)
rfc = RandomForestClassifier(random_state=0)
svc = LinearSVC()
bnb = BernoulliNB()
mnb = MultinomialNB()
sgd = SGDClassifier()
lgb = LGBMClassifier()
xgb = XGBClassifier(verbosity=0)
```

```
# Creating a function to train and test the model with evaluation metrics
def BuiltModel(model):
   print('*'*30+model.__class__.__name__+'*'*30)
   model.fit(x_train, y_train)
    y_pred = model.predict(x_train)
    # Prediction
    pred = model.predict(x_test)
    # Accuracy Score
    accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, pred)*100
    print(f"ACCURACY SCORE PERCENTAGE:", accuracy)
    # Mean Absolute Error(MAE)
    print('Mean Absolute Error(MAE)', mean_absolute_error(y_test, pred))
    # Mean Squared Error(MSE)
    print('Mean Squared Error', mean_squared_error(y_test, pred))
    # Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE)
    print('Root Mean Squared Error',np.sqrt(mean_squared_error(y_test,pred)))
    # Classification report
    print(f"CLASSIFICATION REPORT: \n {classification_report(y_test, pred)}")
    # Confusion matrix and
    print(f"CONFUSION MATRIX: \n {confusion_matrix(y_test, pred)}\n")
    print("-"*120)
    print("\n")
```

Training and testing of all the classification algorithms

```
for model in [lr,dtc,gbc,rfc,svc,bnb,mnb,sgd,lgb]:
    BuiltModel(model)
```

ACCURACY SCORE PERCENTAGE: 98.92204899777283 Mean Absolute Error(MAE) 0.010779510022271715 Mean Squared Error 0.010779510022271715 Root Mean Squared Error 0.10382441920026192 CLASSIFICATION REPORT: precision recall f1-score support 0.99 0.99 0 0.99 5412 1 0.99 0.99 0.99 5813 0.99 11225 accuracy 0.99 0.99 0.99 11225 macro avg 0.99 0.99 0.99 11225 weighted avg CONFUSION MATRIX: [[5358 54] [67 5746]] ACCURACY SCORE PERCENTAGE: 99.57238307349667 Mean Absolute Error(MAE) 0.004276169265033407 Mean Squared Error 0.004276169265033407 Root Mean Squared Error 0.06539242513497574 CLASSIFICATION REPORT: precision recall f1-score support

1.00 1.00 1.00 5412 0 1.00 1.00 1.00 5813 1.00 11225 accuracy macro avg 1.00 1.00 1.00 11225 weighted avg 1.00 1.00 1.00 11225

CONFUSION MATRIX: [[5385 27] [21 5792]]

ACCURACY SCORE PERCENTAGE: 99.6347438752784
Mean Absolute Error(MAE) 0.0036525612472160358
Mean Squared Error 0.0036525612472160358
Root Mean Squared Error 0.060436423183507774
CLASSIFICATION REPORT:

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
0	1.00	1.00	1.00	5412
1	1.00	1.00	1.00	5813
accuracy			1.00	11225
macro avg	1.00	1.00	1.00	11225
weighted avg	1.00	1.00	1.00	11225

CONFUSION MATRIX: [[5398 14] [27 5786]] ACCURACY SCORE PERCENTAGE: 99.82182628062361
Mean Absolute Error(MAE) 0.0017817371937639199
Mean Squared Error 0.0017817371937639199
Root Mean Squared Error 0.04221062891931272
CLASSIFICATION REPORT:

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
0	1.00	1.00	1.00	5412
1	1.00	1.00	1.00	5813
accuracy			1.00	11225
macro avg	1.00	1.00	1.00	11225
weighted avg	1.00	1.00	1.00	11225

CONFUSION MATRIX:

[[5402 10] [10 5803]]

ACCURACY SCORE PERCENTAGE: 99.456570155902 Mean Absolute Error(MAE) 0.005434298440979955 Mean Squared Error 0.005434298440979955 Root Mean Squared Error 0.07371769421909474

CLASSIFICATION REPORT:

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
Ø	0.99	0.99	0.99	5412
1	0.99	0.99	0.99	5813
accuracy			0.99	11225
macro avg	0.99	0.99	0.99	11225
weighted avg	0.99	0.99	0.99	11225

CONFUSION MATRIX: [[5382 30]

[31 5782]]

ACCURACY SCORE PERCENTAGE: 95.94654788418708 Mean Absolute Error(MAE) 0.04053452115812917 Mean Squared Error 0.04053452115812917 Root Mean Squared Error 0.20133186821298105 CLASSIFICATION REPORT: precision recall f1-score support 0 0.96 0.96 0.96 5412 1 0.96 0.96 0.96 5813 accuracy 0.96 11225 11225 0.96 0.96 0.96 macro avg 0.96 0.96 0.96 11225 weighted avg CONFUSION MATRIX: [[5198 214] [241 5572]] ACCURACY SCORE PERCENTAGE: 99.77728285077951 Mean Absolute Error(MAE) 0.0022271714922048997 Mean Squared Error 0.0022271714922048997 Root Mean Squared Error 0.04719291781830087 CLASSIFICATION REPORT: precision recall f1-score support 1.00 1.00 1.00 5412 1 1.00 1.00 5813 1.00 11225 1.00 accuracy 1.00 11225 macro avg 1.00 1.00 11225 weighted avg 1.00 1.00 1.00 CONFUSION MATRIX: [[5404 [17 5796]] ACCURACY SCORE PERCENTAGE: 93.27394209354121 Mean Absolute Error(MAE) 0.06726057906458797 Mean Squared Error 0.06726057906458797 Root Mean Squared Error 0.2593464460226667 CLASSIFICATION REPORT: precision recall f1-score support 0 0.93 0.93 0.93 5412 5813 1 0.93 0.94 0.94 0.93 11225 accuracy 0.93 0.93 0.93 11225 macro avg 0.93 0.93 0.93 11225 weighted avg CONFUSION MATRIX:

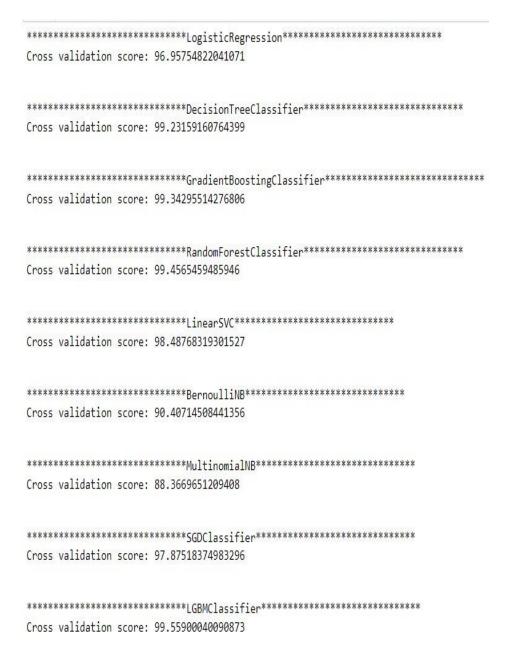
[[5007 405] [350 5463]]

```
ACCURACY SCORE PERCENTAGE: 99.23385300668151
Mean Absolute Error(MAE) 0.0076614699331848555
Mean Squared Error 0.0076614699331848555
Root Mean Squared Error 0.08752982310724074
CLASSIFICATION REPORT:
            precision recall f1-score support
              0.99 0.99 0.99
0.99 0.99 0.99
         0
                                        5412
         1
                                      5813
                               0.99 11225
   accuracy
           0.99 0.99 0.99 11225
0.99 0.99 0.99 11225
  macro avg
weighted avg
CONFUSION MATRIX:
[[5374 38]
[ 48 5765]]
```

Cross validation score for best score models

```
def cross_val(model):
    print('*'*30+model.__class__.__name__+'*'*30)
    scores = cross_val_score(model,x,y, cv = 3).mean()*100
    print("Cross validation score:", scores)
    print("\n")

for model in [lr,dtc,gbc,rfc,svc,bnb,mnb,sgd,lgb]:
    cross_val(model)
```



HyperParameter Tuning

Linear SVC with GridSearchCV

```
# 1 # Selecting the best parameters found by GridSearchCV
2 LSVC.best_params_
```

```
{'C': 1, 'loss': 'squared_hinge', 'penalty': 'l2'}
```

```
# Final Model with the best chosen parameters list
best_model = LinearSVC(C= 1, loss= 'squared_hinge', penalty= 'l2')
best_model.fit(x_train,y_train) # fitting data to the best model
pred = best_model.predict(x_test)
accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, pred)*100
# Printing the accuracy score
print("ACCURACY SCORE:", accuracy)
# Printing the classification report
print(f"\nCLASSIFICATION REPORT: \n {classification_report(y_test, pred)}")
# Printing the Confusion matrix
print(f"\nCONFUSION MATRIX: \n {confusion_matrix(y_test, pred)}")
```

ACCURACY SCORE: 99.456570155902

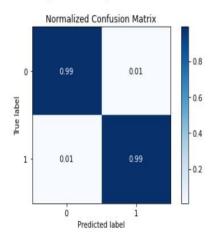
CLASSIFICATION REPORT:

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
0	0.99	0.99	0.99	5412
1	0.99	0.99	0.99	5813
accuracy			0.99	11225
macro avg	0.99	0.99	0.99	11225
weighted avg	0.99	0.99	0.99	11225

```
CONFUSION MATRIX:
[[5382 30]
[ 31 5782]]
```

```
# Creating a normalized confusion matrix here
skplt.metrics.plot_confusion_matrix(y_test, pred, normalize=True)
```

<AxesSubplot:title={'center':'Normalized Confusion Matrix'}, xlabel='Predicted label', ylabel='True label'>



Saving The Predictive Model

Saving the best model

```
joblib.dump(best_model, "Fake_News_Detection_Project.pkl")
['Fake_News_Detection_Project.pkl']

Loading the final model
```

1 Model = joblib.load("Fake News Detection Project.pkl")

Comparing Actual and Predicted

```
# Predicting test data using loaded model
prediction = Model.predict(x_test)
# Analysing Predicted vs Actual results
Fake_News_Detection_Project = pd.DataFrame()
Fake_News_Detection_Project['Predicted Fake News'] = prediction
Fake_News_Detection_Project['Actual Fake News'] = y
Fake_News_Detection_Project
```

	Predicted Fake News	Actual Fake News
0	1	0
1	1	0
2	0	0
3	0	0
4	1	0
	470	8555
11220	0	0
11221	1	0
11222	0	0
11223	0	0
11224	1	0

11225 rows × 2 columns

Saving the model in CSV format

```
# Converting the dataframe into CSV format and saving it
2 Fake_News_Detection_Project.to_csv('Fake_News_Detection_Project.csv', index=False)
```

Key Metrics for success in solving problem under consideration

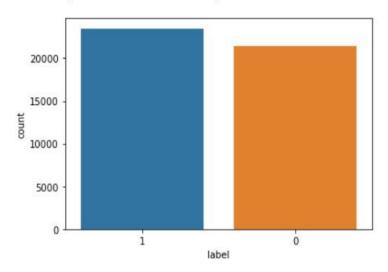
 Accuracy Score, Precision Score, Recall Score, F1-Score and CV score are used for success. Also, confusion matrix is used for success.

5. Visualization

Using Countplot

sns.countplot(data=news, x='label', order=news['label'].value_counts().index)

<AxesSubplot:xlabel='label', ylabel='count'>



6. Interpretation of the Results

- Through Pre-processing it is interpretated that all text is converted to lower case, removed Punctation, replaced extra space, removed stop-words, Calculated length of sentence, words and characters, converted text using Tf-Idf Vectorization.
- Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning is used in this project.

- Used 10 Machine Learning Algorithms for choosing one best model which is giving best accuracy than others.
- By creating/building model we get best model: Linear SVC.



1. Key Findings and Conclusions of the Study

In this project we have detected which news are fake news and which are true news. Then we have done different text process to eliminate problem of imbalance. By doing different EDA steps we have analyzed the text.

We have checked frequently occurring words in our data as well as rarely occurring words. After all these steps we have built function to train and test different algorithms and using various evaluation metrics we have selected Linear-SVC for our final model.

Finally, by doing hyperparameter tuning we got optimum parameters for our final model. And finally, we got improved accuracy score for our final model.

2. Learning Outcomes of the Study in respect of Data Science

- This project has demonstrated the importance of NLP.
- Through different powerful tools of visualization, we were able to analyse and interpret the huge data and with the help of count plot & word cloud, I am able to see the distribution of fake and true news.
- Through data cleaning we were able to remove unnecessary columns, values, stop-words and punctuation from our dataset due

to which our model would have suffered from overfitting or underfitting.

The few challenges while working on this project were: -

- Using NLP to find punctuations & stop words, it took time in giving the result.
- The data set took time to run some algorithms & to check the crossvalidation score.

3. Limitations of this work and Scope for Future Work

As we know there are two types of news to detect. So, it is difficult to detect with higher accuracies. Still, we can improve our accuracy by fetching more data and by doing extensive hyperparameter tuning.