

Internship Report

Internship at Manipal Institute of Technology (MIT), Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), India

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Supervisor: Prof. Ramakrishna

Duration: 6 Weeks (Ongoing)

1. Introduction

I completed a 6-week internship at Manipal Institute of Technology (MIT), Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), India, under the guidance of Prof. Ramakrishna. The main project focused on developing a **Dual-Branch Fake News Detection**Framework, which integrates semantic analysis (BERT) and knowledge graph reasoning (TransE). In addition, I explored polysemy in Natural Language Processing (NLP), implemented multiple versions of the framework, and experimented with supporting projects related to fake news and news classification.

2. Weekly Work Summary

Week 1

- Read two foundational research articles provided by Prof. Ramakrishna.
- Studied the concept of **polysemy in NLP** and its impact on news interpretation.
- Learned **text preprocessing** basics, including cleaning, tokenization, and handling unstructured data.

Week 2

- Deepened understanding of **text processing techniques** such as stopword removal, stemming, lemmatization, and POS tagging.
- Explored word representation methods (One-Hot, TF-IDF, embeddings).
- Began work on the first version of the dual-branch framework.
- Attempted to train BERT and TransE models, but the pipeline lacked a fusion model and was unsuccessful.

Week 3

- Researched to improve the framework pipeline → developed **version 0.2**.
- This version included a fusion model combining BERT and TransE, but it did not work effectively.
- As a side project, implemented a **Fake News Detection system** using traditional ML models (Logistic Regression, SVM, Random Forest).
- This project worked well and achieved promising results.

Week 4

- Developed **version 0.3** of the framework.
- Successfully integrated **triplet extraction (REBEL)**, **fuzzy matching**, BERT text branch, and TransE knowledge branch.
- This marked a significant improvement compared to earlier attempts, though optimization challenges remained.

Week 5

- Started an additional project on **News Category Classification**.
- Enhanced version 0.3 of the dual-branch framework:
- Added a GUI using Gradio.
- Included a proper license and improved project documentation.
- Drafted the **first version of the research paper** describing the framework and experiments.

Week 6 (Ongoing)

- Preparing the **internship report** (this document).
- Refining the **research paper** for submission and review.

3. Skills and Tools Learned

Technical Skills:

- Text preprocessing, tokenization, stemming, lemmatization.
- Machine Learning (Logistic Regression, SVM, Random Forest).
- Deep Learning with BERT, TransE, and fusion models.
- Knowledge Graph alignment and triplet extraction using REBEL.
- Libraries: PyTorch, Hugging Face Transformers, OpenKE.

Soft Skills:

- Research reading and summarization.
- Debugging and improving ML pipelines.
- Writing academic papers.
- Documentation and reproducibility in GitHub projects.

4. Challenges and Solutions

- **Challenge:** Early versions of the framework failed due to pipeline complexity. **Solution:** Iteratively improved versions $(0.1 \rightarrow 0.3)$, incorporated fusion models, and conducted extensive research.
- Challenge: Balancing multiple side projects.

Solution: Used time management to work on smaller projects (Fake News Detection, News Classification) alongside the main framework.

- **Challenge:** Integrating NLP models with Knowledge Graph embeddings. **Solution:** Implemented triplet extraction and fuzzy matching modules to ensure semantic-factual alignment.

5. Conclusion and Reflection

Over the course of five weeks, I progressed from theoretical learning (polysemy, preprocessing, embeddings) to hands-on implementation (dual-branch framework, ML baselines, classification projects). The internship strengthened both my research foundations and practical ML skills.

The dual-branch framework project remains the highlight, representing a novel approach that combines semantics and factual reasoning for **fake news detection**. This internship has provided me with valuable exposure to research, coding, and academic writing, and will strongly support my future career in AI and NLP.