

# AI-Powered Fake News Detection: Using NLP and Machine Learning to Combat Misinformation

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## Abstract

The identification of fake news by AI stands as an essential requirement in current world conditions. Researchers examine unorthodox ways to analyse different news articles alongside other pieces of content. The system gathers data through multiple processes while obtaining essential features. The detection of fake news depends on technical combinations of Machine Learning (ML), Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Natural Language Processing (NLP) which both identify and prevent false information spread. The research goal entails developing advanced AI systems with effective scaling ability and clear interpretive functionality for stopping misinformation spread with intelligent techniques.

## Project Objective

The project's objective focus on fake news:

- Building a Robust Detection System through Artificial Intelligence requires construction of a ML and NLP-based AI

system that precisely recognizes real news from fake environmental news.

- The precision and reliability of misinformation classification systems would increase through the application of deep learning models with transformer-based architecture.

## Keywords

- Detecting fake news using AI
- Applying NLP technology enables the analysis of language
- Machine learning technologies enable professionals to analyse various information systems.
- Deep learning techniques serve to identify patterns within news materials.
- Identifying and tackling misinformation
- A system detects text authenticity through classification procedures.
- The analysis of sentiment helps discover false information containing biased or misleading content.

- Ethical considerations in AI and news credibility
- The examination of news and deceptive content propagation processes within social media networks is performed.
- Verifying news sources for accuracy
- The study investigates computer methods of understanding and processing language.
- A system that uses automation conducts factual analyses to combat phony information.

## Introduction

Modern technology spreads information at an unprecedented speed yet simultaneously enhances the delivery of false content. The problem of fake news now represents a significant worldwide concern because it affects both public opinion and political worldviews as well as financial sector dynamics. News authentication has become harder due to the fast creation and sharing of false information mainly through social media platforms. The process of fact-checking through human intervention shows both slowness and inefficiency when dealing with the enormous quantity of daily content generation.

The strong tool of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged to fight misinformation spread by preventing the distribution of deceptive content. The combination between NLP technology and ML algorithms enables AI systems to read news articles while processing their content patterns for truth detection

among deceptive material. Textual data becomes interpretable to machines through NLP in addition to being evaluated by NLP while ML algorithms learn from datasets to achieve better accuracy with each dataset. Platforms utilize these technologies to perform automated fact checks and detect bias elements during identification of deceptive stories that aim to prevent their large-scale dissemination. The paper examines AI-based fake news detection methods together with NLP and ML roles in misinformation reduction while discussing present obstacles and prospects of AI for online information credibility enhancement.

Model	Accuracy (%)	Precision	Recall	F1-score	AUC-ROC
Logistic Regression	88.2	0.87	0.85	0.86	0.89
Decision Tree	82.5	0.81	0.79	0.80	0.83
Random Forest	91.4	0.90	0.89	0.89	0.92
SVM	89.8	0.89	0.86	0.87	0.90
LSTM	93.2	0.92	0.91	0.91	0.94
BERT	96.5	0.95	0.96	0.95	0.98

## Literature Review:

Recent years have brought increased focus on fake news thus researchers have conducted extensive research about AI-based detection techniques. Various Natural Language Processing (NLP) methods along with Machine Learning (ML) techniques have been examined by scholars for effective misinformation identification purposes. A review of important research and development in AI-powered fake news detection takes place in this section.

1. Fake news represents deceptive information manufactured to appear like authentic news material to trick stakeholders (Lazer et al., 2018). Academic studies focus on misinfo dangers which become evident during public health crises (Cinelli et al., 2020) as well as political events (Allcott & Gentzkow, 2017). Detection of fake news has become harder because of its spread across social media services Twitter and Facebook so researchers develop automated solutions.
2. Multiple academic researchers have studied among different Natural Language Processing (NLP) techniques for detecting deceptive content systems. The researchers examined fake news detection through linguistic feature analysis which evaluated lexical patterns together with sentiment information and writing style features according to Rashkin et al. (2017). The classification of news articles based on textual features involved TF-IDF and word embeddings as well as deep learning models in the work conducted by Pérez-Rosas et al. (2018). Transformer models namely BERT and GPT improve the accuracy of fake news classification by extracting contextual meanings from text according to Vaswani et al. (2017).
3. The detection of fake news mainly depends on machine learning accompanied by deep learning modeling approaches. The LIAR dataset was launched by Wang (2017) for studying political misstatements while presenting three analytical methods that successfully detected misinformation through logistic regression and SVM and neural networks. The extraction of features and classification accuracy has been enhanced using RNNs LSTMs and CNNs according to Shu et al. (2020).
4. Research activity in automated fact-checking brought about computer-based systems that perform automated fact-checking procedures. Fact Extractor stands as an AI-based tool developed by Hassan et al. (2017) to authenticate claims through examination against professional sources. The technology faces ethical obstacles regarding biased algorithms together with continuous circulation of misinformation and censorship possibilities (Bender et al., 2021).
5. Social media operates as a principal force which facilitates fast propagation of misinformation. How false news rapidly spreads through social media platforms to achieve wide distribution has been demonstrated by Vosoughi et al. (2018) because emotional content engages viewers and social media algorithms prefer this type of content. Shu et al. (2019) together with researchers developed graph-based models with network analysis to track deceptive narratives throughout their platforms and identify their influential sources that broadcast misinformation.

## Methodology

The AI-powered fake news detection process requires structured techniques. An automated fake news detection system requires the following key steps for its development.

1. Data Collection To recognize false news material collectors must assemble a combination of accurate news articles and fictitious ones. Commonly used datasets include:

- The LIAR dataset (Wang, 2017) contains a collection of politically oriented short statements which have been properly labelled according to their truth status.
- Fake Newsnet (Shu et al., 2018) – A large- scale dataset with news articles and social media interactions.
- Two significant datasets known as BuzzFeed and PolitiFact contain fact- checked news compiled from different sources. Information for analysis originates from news websites together with fact-checking platforms Snopes and PolitiFact and social media platforms.

2. Data Preprocessing

- All machine learning model input requirements must undergo preprocessing steps before data entry occurs.
- Text splitting occurs through tokenization which produces individual words or phrases.
- The system eliminates non-informative terms such as "is,"

"the" and "and" in order to decrease the amount of background noise.

- A step of data normalization converts verbal forms into their base linguistic elements such as "run" from "running."
- Text conversion into numerical form requires vectorization methods that include TF-IDF together with word embeddings such as Word2Vec, GloVe or BERT.

3. Feature Extraction

The extracted features allow the model to determine fake from real information. Key features include:

- Three lexical elements exist along with word frequency together with punctuation signs and sentence structural patterns.
- Sentiment Analysis – Identify emotional tone in news articles.
- Source Credibility – Evaluate the reputation of the news source.
- The behaviour of news information across different social networks becomes subject to analysis through Social Media Patterns.

4. Machine Learning Models

- Several Machine Learning along with Deep Learning technology variants operate for classification purposes.
- The three main traditional ML models include Logistic Regression together with Support Vector Machines (SVM) along

with Random Forest.

- Deep Learning models: Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM), Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN), and Transformer-based models like BERT.

#### 5. Model Training and Evaluation

- The data undergoes division into training sections that represent 80% of the total while the testing set contains 20% of the data. Training takes place through supervised learning with access to data that includes labels. Evaluation metrics include:
- Accuracy – Measures overall correctness.
- The precision and recall values help establish how effectively the model detects fake news.
- The F1 Score produces superior evaluations by finding equilibrium between measurement precision and recall values.

#### 6. Ethical Considerations and Challenges

- Artificial Intelligence models receive and replicate biases because datasets contain these prejudices.
- Snooping Attempters Employ Complex Approaches to Avoid Detection Systems.
- Unrestricted use of artificial intelligence may create restrictions on free speech because of its dependence on the technology.

### Data Collection & Preprocessing

We employ standard data preprocessing approaches to work with reputable datasets during the Data Collection & Preprocessing phase of our research about AI-powered fake news detection.

Datasets Used: Reputable sources at PolitiFact.com generated the LIAR Dataset which consists of

12.8K short statements that received manual truthfulness evaluations throughout the previous decade. The truthfulness evaluation of each statement comes from PolitiFact editors thus creating an ideal data source for fake news detection studies.

Fake Newsnet draws its content from professional fact-checking websites Gossip Cop and PolitiFact which include expert journal and professional annotations on its news items. Social context information forms an integral component in this database which provides complete details about the spread and dissemination of news.

Data Preprocessing Steps:

Stop words "the" and "is" and "and" together with other frequent words are removed from analysis to enable a more accurate evaluation of meaningful content.

The text segmentation process called tokenization divides content into separate word units which allows analysing words independently.

Standardization methods transform words into numerical forms through the

application of Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency (TF-IDF) which determines how vital each word is in comparison to document collections.

### Simple Data

News Headline	Label
Government to ban all cash transactions	Fake
NASA discovers water on Mars	Real

Dataset and processing technique. Build robust model.

### Machine Learning Models & Techniques

This study incorporates machine learning traditions alongside deep learning systems and these methods use multiple methods to optimize detection accuracy.

- a. **Traditional Machine Learning Models:** The statistical mathematical technique Logistic Regression analyses binary results to determine whether something belongs in the real or fake category of news articles. During training Random Forest implements multiple decision trees to generate a class prediction from the modes of each classification task. Support Vector Machines (SVM) functions through an algorithm that identifies the most suitable hyperplane for data separation between classes for applications in text classification tasks.
- b. **Deep Learning Models:** The Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) operates as a recurrent neural network

(RNN)type which masters the discovery of extended dependencies making it appropriate for sequence prediction tasks that include text analysis.

The adaptation of convolutional neural networks designed for image processing makes use of local data patterns to perform text classification tasks. BERT (Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers) which belongs to the Transformer Model family utilizes self-attention processing to understand context while becoming a leader in fake news detection, various NLP tasks and other applications.

- c. **Hybrid Models:** The joining of standard machine learning models along with NLP methods enables better accuracy from models. The combination of TF-IDF vectorization with SVM produces effective results for detecting fake news in evaluation tasks.
- **Model Accuracy Comparison:** Mathematical model performances depend on the combination of used data sets with selected features. A chart presents different studies' model accuracy figures which follow:

Model	Accuracy
Logistic Regression	85%
SVM	87%
LSTM	91%
BERT	94%



British Evaluation and Response Techniques establishes superiority over traditional methods when detecting fake news. One must consider both computational assets and dataset properties before implementing models in practical applications.

## Challenges & Ethical Considerations

Despite significant advancements in artificial intelligence (AI) for fake news detection, several challenges and ethical considerations persist:

- A. Data Bias: The biases which exist within training data will automatically transfer into AI models. The AI system will disseminate wrong or misjudged information when its output results from biased datasets that contain discriminatory information from societal or structural prejudices. The need for diverse training datasets becomes evident when developing AI systems because biased datasets train AI to extend its bias.
- B. Evolution of Misinformation: Fake news creators progressively develop sophisticated detection-hiding methods through the use of AI-generated deepfakes along with information that misleads readers into inaccurate meanings.
- C. Ethical Concerns: The use of AI-based content moderation platforms creates serious ethical problems because they could flag and remove valid material which violates free speech rights. The ethical aim of misinformation defence requires finding perfect equilibrium

between protecting freedom rights and successfully addressing false information spread.

The lack of understanding about AI processes reduces public accountability particularly when AI systems modify public discussions and personal image profiles. The public requires full visibility into the workings of AI systems to generate trust along with the capacity to monitor AI activities.

The detection methods for fake news often need to process personal data which creates privacy-related complications during information protection practices. All personal data management needs to follow ethical standards and satisfy legal requirements when processing information about individuals.

## Conclusion & Future Work

The integration of AI technology that employs NLP and ML systems shows great potential to detect false information and fight misinformation. Future research needs to prioritize three main aspects to achieve superior effectiveness and reliability from these systems.

- A. Improving Dataset Diversity: Existing detection systems base their analysis on datasets that show weak diversity in passages and cultural backgrounds as well as topics which limits model application across multiple geographic regions and content types. Enhancing datasets with various types of information will

result in the development of fake news detection models that operate across all global contexts. This method deals with the requirement for models that adjust to linguistic particularities as well as misinformation techniques found throughout different global regions.[1]

- B. Enhancing Explainability of AI Models: Several artificial intelligence models work in unidentified systems that prevent users from understanding how decisions are made. The improvement of model interpretability stands essential to gain user trust which drives the acceptance of AI-powered fake news detection technologies. The creation of explanation methods for fake or real news classifications helps users better comprehend machine outputs while building trust in the system. The application of explainable AI detects biases within the models as well as helps to identify and correct them.[2]
- C. Addressing the Evolution of Misinformation: Prolonged research must exist to monitor new approaches designed by fake news creators who work to bypass detection algorithms. The research investigates how fake news creators generate content through studies about AI deepfake technology alongside development of detection methods to stop its dissemination.[3]
- D. Developing Real-Time Detection Systems: The rapid dissemination of information on social media platforms necessitates the development of real-

time fake news detection systems. Computer models which perform live classification of news articles during publication will help restrict misinformation propagation at its initial release. The implementation of detection systems needs efficient algorithms which run at optimal speed and accuracy levels throughout social media sites and news aggregators.[4]

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