A SEMANTIC FAKE NEWS DETECTION SYSTEM USING MACHINE LEARNING CLASSIFIER

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Article Info

Abstract

The purpose of fake news detection system is to build ontology to find hypothesis involved in misleading social media users through automated reasoning. Ontology for classification of news content has been created after understanding the semantic notations of textual features with in fake news dataset. The dataset we have used in our approach openly available on open-source data repository with the name fake News. The proposed model will provide semantic analysis of news content of the dataset and classification of news content into fake categories. The outcome of our proposed solution can be originating by applying three different classifiers of machine learning that is Random Forest, Logistic regression and LSTM (Long Short-Term Memory) that showed results about fake news and the accuracy of our proposed methodology is almost about 97%, 98% and 99% respectively. Thus the results prove that machine learning models performed better after analyzing the semantic features from news datasets.

Keywords: *Social Media, Fake News, Propagation of news, Semantic Analysis, Ontology, Machine Learning.*

Introduction

Social networking websites have become one of the biggest sources of information (Vosoughi et. al, 2018). Nowadays with the help of Social networking websites information can be delivered within no time and can be targeted to a large number of audiences (Park & Chang, 2017). With the intrusion of digital media in our personal life some malevolent factor is also involved. It is necessary to put some measures on the authenticity of the news and classify them into true and false news that we are getting from social media sites (Duffy et al., 2020). Semantic analysis of news content is getting more intention from researches to understand the meaning of the news context and by using semantic of text to classify news into fake or real category.

Fake news or misinformation can cause distress and anxiety in society (Aceto et al., 2019). With the increased usage of social media people tend to take news from digital media more than any other traditional sources of information (Visentin et al., 2019). This characteristic of social media triggers the problem of spreading any rumor to gain someone's personal benefit. Social networking websites such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Sina Weibo lack tools that can easily detect rumors and to stop spreading them. It becomes more difficult now when usage of data in social media has enormously increased. Detection of rumors in social media is one of the most challenging parts in the data science field (Bondielli & Marcelloni, 2019). Deep learning algorithms have proven to be better where users have been interrelated with thousands of users all over the globe (Zhang et al., 2019). These approaches widely used in classification applications with the increased amount of data (Zhan et al., 2022). Working with images, texts and sounds was not possible before deep learning. The main advantage of this technique is that manual feature extraction is not required. The model has been trained in a format that works automatically. With the rising speed of fake news some automated techniques need to take over the artificial and machine learning approaches.

Detection of fake news is a critical problem due to its various aspects (Zhang & Ghorbani, 2020) Previous researches mainly focus on the building classification models without giving intention to inferring the reasoning involved behind false news (Zhang & Ghorbani, 2020). The main problem we identify here is how to gear up news content in an explicit manner and to identify the semantic characteristics of text that shows originality or deception in the news content. We need to find a reusable, credible and efficient ontological approach that can detect fake news by using the hypothesis of semantic analysis with the help of machine learning classifiers.

The main objective of this study is to find out fake news on social networking site Twitter by analyzing the semantic features of news content.
▪ Improve the credibility of information provided by social media sites.
▪ Providing semantic analysis on context of news
▪ Finding main entities and their relationship from news dataset.
▪ Computing dynamic results by providing ontology based approach.
▪ Providing an approach to leverage semantic features to enhance the accuracy of machine learning models.

The above mentioned research problems can lead us to some fake news problem related questions that need to be solved by giving some effective performance based fake news detection model.
1. How to extract semantic features with in news content to classify it into fake news?
2. How to compute relationships between entities by analyzing the semantic knowledge?
3. How to provide an ontological approach with machine learning classifier to infer news knowledge for making dynamic decisions?
4. How to classify fake news on the basis of semantic analysis with machine learning classifiers?

Our contribution regarding fake news detection work includes building an ontology that's functionality can enhance with the passage of time with ML classifier. Ontology has been

structured to include the rapidly proliferating news contents on twitter and to classifying the fake news from real news. Our proposed approach consists of three layers. In the first step, a dataset related to fake news has been collected. We take news content information that has been spread on twitter. Preprocessing of text data has been done to remove special characters and removing errors from dataset. Preprocessing has been done manually by using Modern CSV file editor application. Semantic features have been extracted from news contents and in the second step named entities and their relationships have been mapped. Ontology model that has built for the domain of fake news detection can acquire the knowledge constituted in it, and by using the ontological model we can attain our desired results within domain of fake news detection. Our proposed approach has been focused on to figure out dynamically classification for fake news.

This paper is organized into five chapters. The 2nd chapter consits of literature review on the basis of earlier research workings and chapter 3 describes data collection and methodology. In fourth chapter, the results and discussion are presented. Finally, chapter 5 presents conclusion and recommendations for future work.

1. **Related Work**

The research article focuses on integrating semantic analysis with machine learning classifiers to enhance fake news detection. This review synthesizes relevant studies that inform the methods presented in the paper, focusing on hybrid deep learning approaches, rumor detection, and semantic analysis.

Nasir et al. (2021) introduced a hybrid CNN-RNN model to combine the spatial feature extraction of CNN with the sequential processing of RNN, improving fake news detection by considering both content and temporal features. Moreover, Kumar et al. (2021) surveyed various machine learning and deep learning techniques, emphasizing NLP methods for text-based detection, which are key to the semantic detection system proposed in this research. In

case of rumors detection mechnism, Wu et al. (2020) developed a propagation graph neural network (GNN) with an attention mechanism to detect rumors based on their spread in social media networks. To identify false information, Bharti and Jindal (2020) proposed a model for automatic rumor detection using machine learning, which also considers the structure of social media conversations. For the alignment with the semantic analysis approach of the proposed system, Konkobo et al. (2020) suggested a deep learning model for early detection of fake news on social media, using CNNs for feature extraction. Also, Umer et al. (2020) introduced a hybrid CNN-LSTM model for stance detection, combining CNN for feature extraction and LSTM for sequence learning, which enhances the detection of fake news through deep learning techniques.

Malhotra and Vishwakarma (2020) utilized graphical convolutional networks (GCNs) to classify rumor propagation paths, emphasizing the importance of analyzing how rumors spread in networks. In 2020, Mandical et al. highlighted the role of machine learning classifiers in identifying fake news, which is similar to the proposed system's use of classifiers for text-based detection. Tiwari et al. (2020) discussed the use of machine learning algorithms such as decision trees, support vector machines, and random forests for detecting fake news based on text features, highlighting the role of machine learning in accurate detection. For fake news detection, Wang et al. (2019) proposed a multimodal graph convolutional network (GCN) combining textual and visual data, and emphasized the importance of incorporating external knowledge to improve detection accuracy. Kesarwani et al. (2019) examined the use of the k-nearest neighbor (KNN) classifier for fake news detection on social media, demonstrating how similarity-based classification can be effective in distinguishing fake content. Groza (2020) presented an ontology-based approach for detecting COVID-19-related fake news, utilizing semantic reasoning and domain-specific knowledge to enhance detection accuracy. Sharma and Sharma

(2019) discuss the challenges of fake news detection, emphasizing the need for advanced techniques to address misinformation's evolving nature. Their work supports the proposed system's aim to improve accuracy through semantic analysis. Henry and Stattner (2019) focused on predictive models for early hoax detection on Twitter, highlighting the importance of early identification. Their approach aligns with the proposed system's goal to detect fake news early using semantic analysis. Lahlou et al. (2019) reviewed automatic fake news detection methods, underscoring the need for hybrid techniques that combine linguistic analysis, social network analysis, and machine learning. This aligns with the proposed system's integration of semantic and machine learning techniques. Srinivasan (2019) introduced a parallel neural network approach for faster rumor detection in social networks. This approach is relevant to the proposed system's use of neural networks for efficient detection. Islam et al. (2019) introduced *Rumorsleuth*, a model that detects both rumor veracity and user stance. This could complement the proposed system by analyzing both content and user context for better fake news detection. Yang et al. (2019) presented an unsupervised approach that detects fake news without labeled data, which could help the proposed system adapt to new types of fake news. Wang et al. (2019) enhanced rumor detection by considering dynamic propagation structures in social media. This approach aligns with the proposed system's aim to track how information spreads and evolves across platforms. Castelo et al. (2019) developed a topic-agnostic method to identify fake news, providing a more flexible detection system. The proposed system could integrate similar techniques to detect fake news across various topics. Reshi and Ali (2019) reviewed methods for detecting rumor proliferation on social media. Their work underscores the need for effective systems to track and identify fake news, which aligns with the proposed system's focus on rumor detection and semantic analysis. Giri and Sachdeva (2019) explored anomaly detection in social networks, highlighting techniques that can identify irregular patterns indicative of fake news. This complements the proposed system's use of machine learning to detect anomalous content in social media. Monti et al. (2019) applied geometric deep learning models to detect fake news on social media. Their graph-based approach aligns with the proposed system's focus on understanding news propagation patterns and detecting fake news using graph-based learning. Amith and Tao (2018) discussed the use of ontologies to represent and classify vaccine misinformation. This methodology can inform the semantic aspect of the proposed system, particularly in domain-specific fake news detection, such as health misinformation. Kotteti et al. (2018) explored time-series data analysis for rumor detection on social media, emphasizing the importance of tracking temporal patterns for identifying fake news progression over time. Mahid et al. (2018) provided a review of various detection techniques on social media, highlighting the use of machine learning classifiers for distinguishing fake news, supporting the proposed system's approach. Dey et al. (2018) focused on linguistic analysis to recognize fake news patterns, aligning with the proposed system's use of natural language processing to detect fake news based on linguistic features. Munir and Anjum (2018) discussed the use of ontologies for effective knowledge modeling and information retrieval, which can enhance the semantic understanding of content, aiding in more accurate fake news detection. Qin et al. (2018) focused on predicting future rumors by analyzing patterns in social media data, which aids in understanding the spread of fake news. This method helps in recognizing the progression of rumors and in early detection. Liu and Wu (2018) proposed using recurrent and convolutional networks to classify fake news based on its propagation path. Their approach emphasizes the early detection of fake news by tracking how it spreads across platforms. Aldwairi and Alwahedi (2018) applied machine learning techniques to detect fake news in social networks. This work supports the use of classifiers in the proposed semantic detection system, aiming to differentiate between

real and fake content based on network features. Ma et al. developed a kernel learning model to identify rumors on microblogs by analyzing propagation structures. This methodology enhances the proposed system by incorporating structural analysis to detect and categorize fake

news spread. Thota et al. explored deep learning approaches for fake news detection, utilizing feature learning techniques to classify news content. This aligns with the use of deep learning in the proposed system for more accurate and efficient detection of fake news.

Table 1: Comparison of Related Work Technique

Paper Title	Reliability	Precision	Recall
An Ontology-Supported Misinformation Model: Toward a Digital Misinformation Library	✓		
A Topic-Agnostic Approach for Identifying Fake News		✓	
Ontology-Based Sentiment Analysis of Twitter Posts	✓		✓
Representing vaccine misinformation using ontologies	✓		
Sentiment Analysis tweets	✓	✓	✓
Ontology-based Sentiment Analysis Process for Social Media	✓		✓
The Use of Ontologies for Effective Knowledge Modeling and Information Retrieval	✓		✓

3. Proposed Methodology

In this section, we will make sentiment analysis of the procedure to detect fake news.

3.1 Proposed Semantic Fake News Detection System

A Semantic News Detection System using Machine Learning Classifier leverages semantic

analysis to extract contextual features from news content, enabling deeper understanding and classification of misinformation (Tiwari et al.,2020). By combining semantic knowledge with machine learning algorithms, this system ensure reliable, efficient, and adaptable detection of fake news in dynamic digital environments (Mandical et al., 2020).
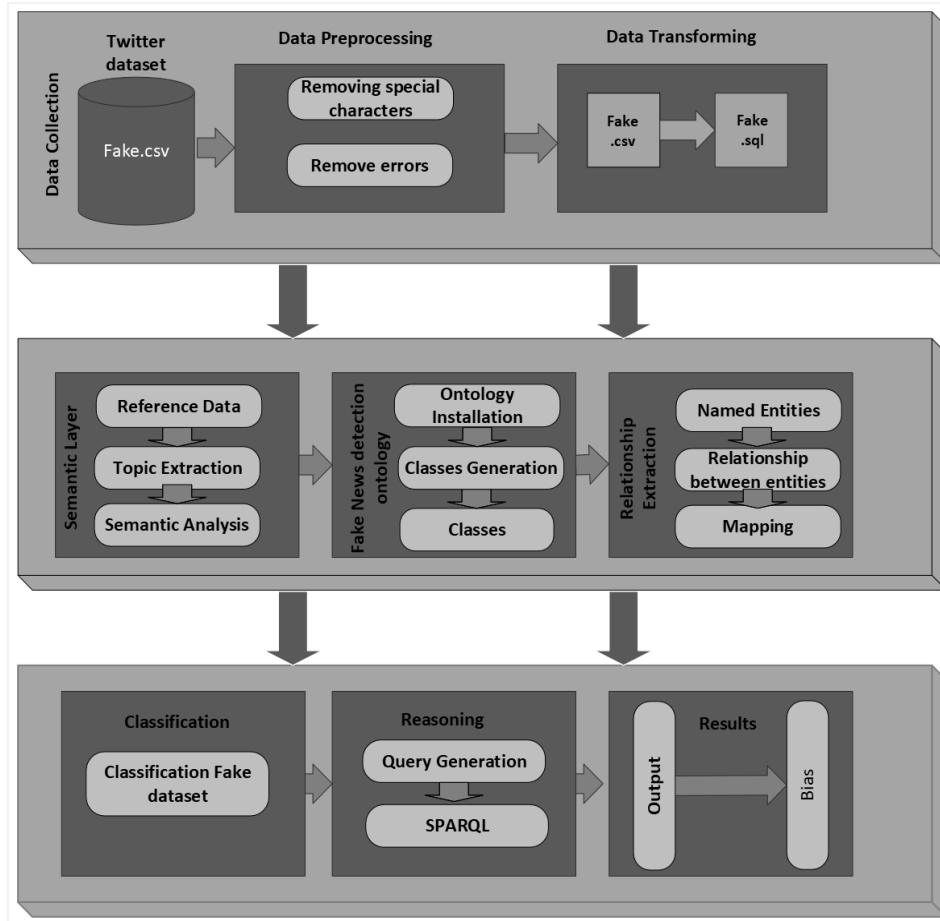
Figure 1: Flowchart of proposed approach

3.2(a) Data Acquisition

First of all, we took a dataset of fake news from kaggle.com. The dataset contains text and gathered from 24 websites by using API webhose.io. Dataset designed specifically to analyze news to categorize them into fake or real. Fake news can be categorized into various concepts. Fake concept has further expanded into following categories hate, fraud, conspiracy, crime, clickbait, satire, bias etc. We have taken these categories as classes to classify the fake news. The extracted data properties contain information about fake news, author of the article, text and title of the news has been used to extract sentiment of news. There are two type of reviews about news has extracted such as users' share count and likes count. Comment count is a numeric property. News content can be of positive, negative or neutral, emotion or attitude about an aspect of the entity from an opinion holder.

(b) Ontology builder

The proposed system uses ontology based on Object-Oriented Programming (OOP) principles to model relationships in news content. Objects are represented as nouns, and their attributes or actions as verbs, with categories defined for accurate classification. Designed using Protégé, the ontology is tailored for fake news detection in the dynamic social media environment, where misinformation spreads rapidly. By categorizing data into meaningful clusters, the system performs semantic analysis to identify and understand patterns in news content. The integration of machine learning classifiers enhances detection accuracy, making the system a reliable and scalable solution for combating fake news.
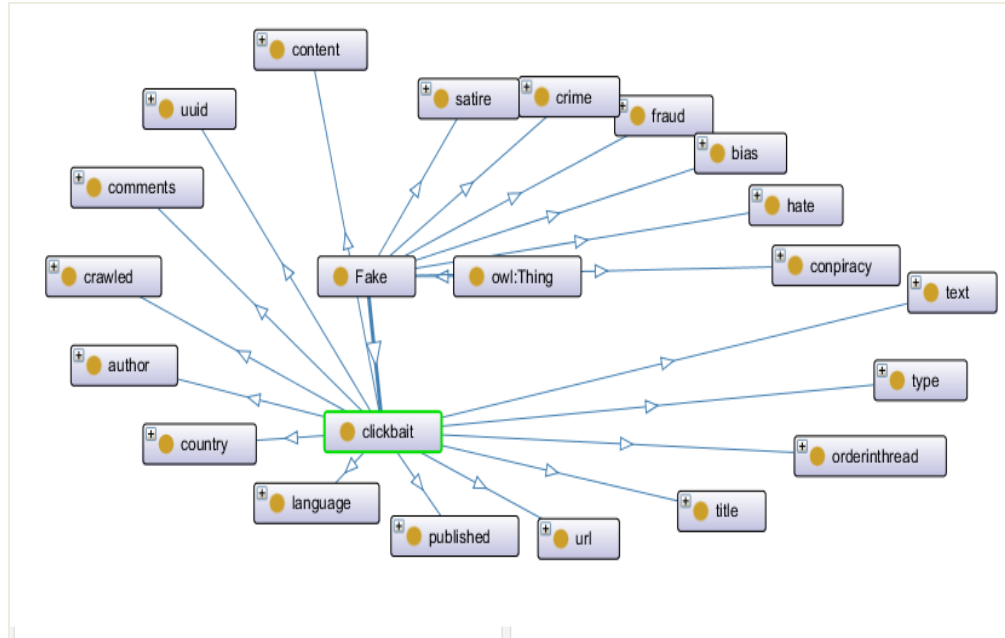
Figure 2: Fake News Detection Ontology

The ontology builder is responsible for semantic analysis on text data and the results generation. Ontology is like an organized data container to categorize data according to the domain knowledge and providing results as meaningful data and relationships of data instances by analyzing semantics of data.

(i) FNDOnt description
The proposed Semantic Fake News Detection System uses semantic analysis to extract relevant features from a fake news dataset, focusing on named entities and their relationships based on predefined classes. These relationships are mapped onto an ontology, which is built using Protégé and implemented in Ontology Web Language (OWL). SPARQL queries are applied for reasoning from existing entities stored in a database. The system follows a three-step process: data collection, semantic analysis, and classification.

In the first step, the dataset is acquired from Kaggle, cleaned, and processed using Modern CSV to make it compatible with MySQL through an API. The second step involves establishing a connection via JDBC and uploading the dataset to Protégé for ontology development and evaluation. In the final step, SPARQL queries are used for reasoning and categorizing news content, including the identification of fake news categories.

The ontology includes four key classes: Social Media Platform, Social Media User, News Content, and Classification. The system integrates sentiment analysis to detect fake news, with the relationships between entities manually defined to ensure accurate classification. This approach ensures a reliable, dynamic, and scalable solution for fake news detection.
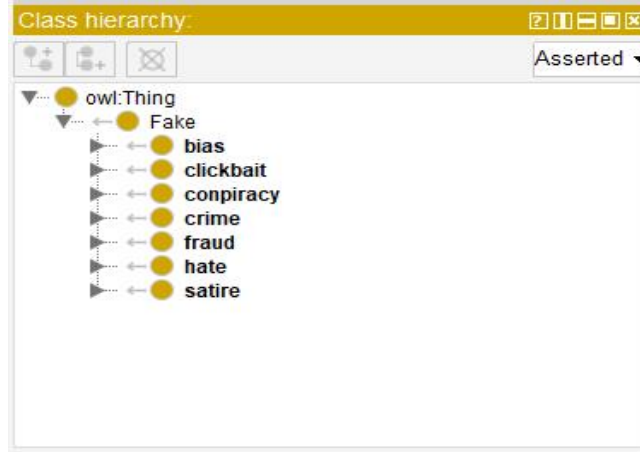
Figure 3: Fake news detection class hierarchy

In the system, object properties represent relationships between instances or individuals. For fake news detection, classes such as "users," "news content," "social media platform," and "classification" are defined. The object property "has relation" links users to other users, while "connect" represents the relationship between users and social media platforms. Additionally, the object property "subclass of" is used to define hierarchical relationships between these classes.

(c) Classifier
In this section, we will first introduce the machine learning classifiers that we have used in our model.

Random Forest
ML model Random Forest has used for classification problems and regression problems as well. The records have shown in n number of trees. To utilize the subset of features different decision trees has created and each tree provide a separate output results. All trees works parallel without correlation of attributes or features that is why all trees are totally independent with each other. The trees have generated n number of outputs and these outputs map into single class to predict the final results on the basis of average and probability. Using more trees means using more features provides higher accuracy to the model.

Logistic Regression
The classifier is used to classify the dataset unless its name is regression but it also solves the classification problems. The output of model gives the results in "S" shape. The classifier used sigmoid function to map the output values within probabilities. The classifier has the ability to find the variable that can be used to provide best classification results. Logistic Regression helps in making decisions after understanding the relationships between features and makes the predictions about the outcome of models. The outcome of Logistic Regression bounds between 0 and 1.

LSTM (Long Short Term Memory)
LSTM (Long Short Term Memory) is capable of learning long term dependencies between news articles. LSTM is able to memorize information from a long period of time. The working flow of LSTM consists of cell states and a connection between cell states. The flow of information from cells uses multiple gates. Gates used a sigmoid function with a multiplication operator. LSTM aren't able to change the information between the flows of information. So the first step of LSTM is to decide which information to keep and information to discard. The actual information that will pass through LSTM is the first step of the process. Decision will take place by the forget gate also called sigmoid layer. The output of the forget gate is either 0 or 1. If the output is 0 it means information is discarded and 1 means to keep the information completely.

Proposed SFNDS using ML
This paper introduces a novel approach for fake news detection through semantic feature extraction from news articles, aimed at improving machine learning model accuracy. The primary goal of the research is to incorporate semantic features into machine learning models, enhancing their performance. The extracted entities and relationships are mapped to provide

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a semantic understanding of the text, which is then analyzed using semantic techniques. The labeled dataset obtained from the FNDOnt ontology serves as the input for our machine learning model.

In this study, feature selection plays a crucial role in training classifiers, with the most significant features chosen to optimize model performance. We employ TF-IDF (Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency) for text vectorization, which converts textual data into numerical form while preserving the word sequence. TF-IDF

assesses term frequency within documents and measures their importance, with higher scores indicating more relevant terms.

The dataset, processed using the scikit-learn library, is split into training (70%) and testing (30%) sets. Three machine learning classifiers Random Forest, Logistic Regression, and LSTM are used to compare the results. Our experiments demonstrate that the Random Forest classifier outperforms the others in terms of accuracy, making it the most effective model for semantic-based fake news detection.
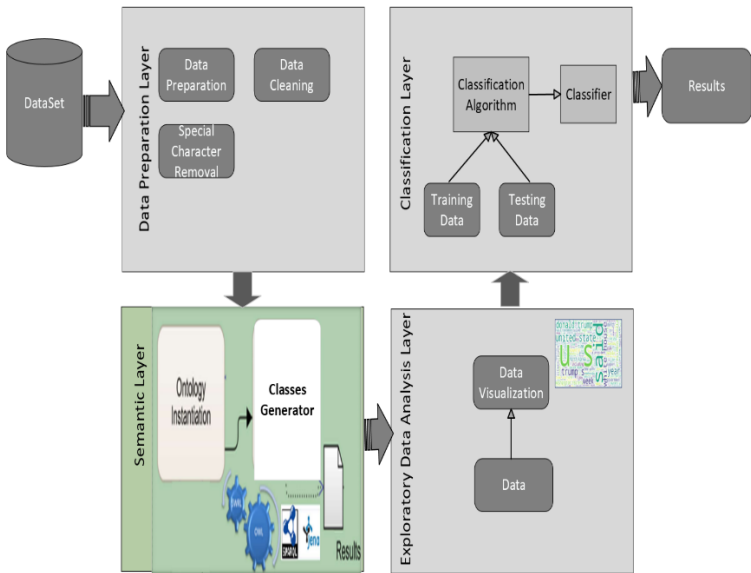
Figure 4: Proposed Semantic Fake News Detection System using ML

4. **Results and Disscussions**

In this chapter, we make the semantic rules for dynamic fake news detection. We make the SPARQL queries for the validation of results.

We configure Reasoner from the reasoner menu and start reasoning for valid results.
Hate Result

Figure 5: Hate News Output

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Figure 6: Bias News Output

Crime Result

Figure 7: Crime News Result

Confusion Matrix of Machine Learning Classifiers

Confusion matrix used to show the results of machine learning models. The output has shown in four parts TN, FN, FN and TP.

The output matrix of Random Forest has shown below.
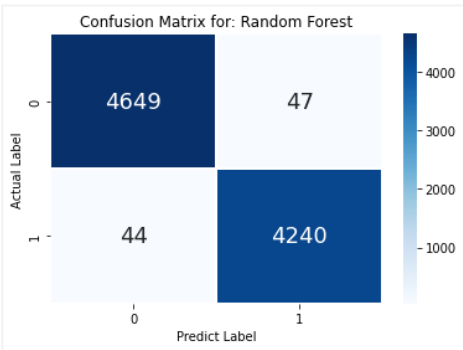
Figure 8: RF Confussion Matrics.

Output of Logistic Regression has shown in figure below.
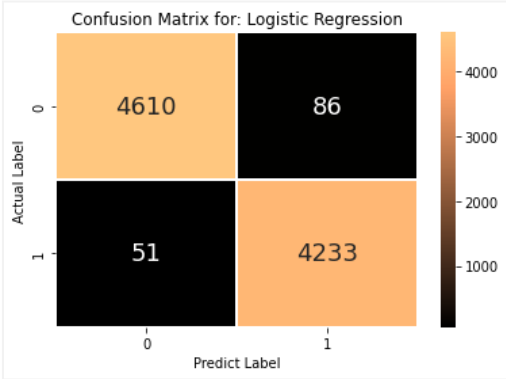
Figure 9: LR Confussion Matrics.
The output of LSTM model has shown in figure below.
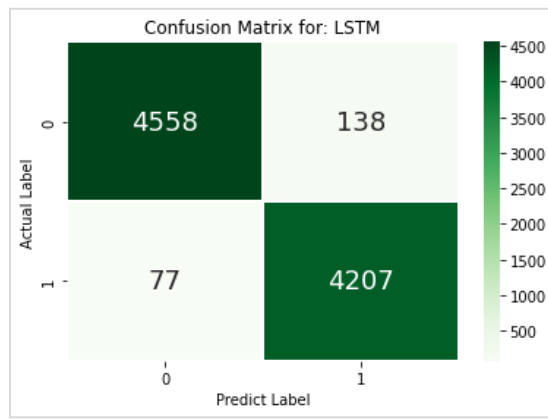
Figure 10: LSTM Confussion Matrics.

ROC curve

To show the output results in graphical form ROC curve has used. The ROC curve contains two parameters True Positive Rate and False Positive Rate.
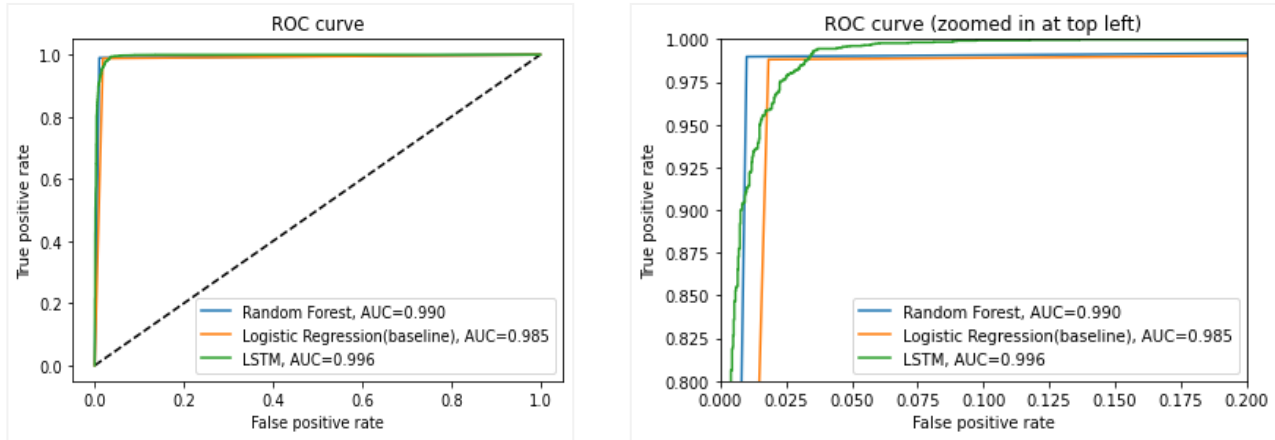
Figure 11: ROC Curve Positive.
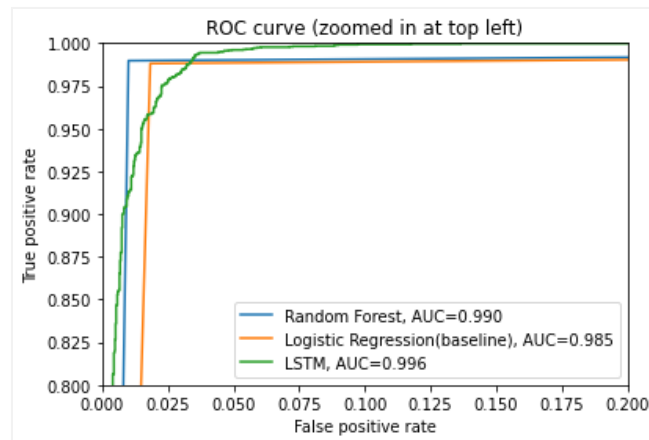
Figure 12: ROC Curve Negative.

Our research enhances Fake News Detection by integrating semantic features into ML classifiers. The results show that semantic analysis improves model accuracy. We used an ontological approach to extract semantic features, which were then combined with Random Forest, Logistic Regression, and LSTM models. Each model was trained for 10 epochs. Random Forest achieved the highest accuracy in our proposed methodology.

3. **Conclusion and future work**

Our research presents an optimal solution for detecting fake news on social media, addressing

the spread of harmful content. We propose an ontology-based system that uses semantic analysis to improve news classification. The model follows three steps: first, semantic features are extracted from news content and mapped to an ontology to establish relationships between classes; second, semantic rules are applied to infer knowledge from the context for dynamic fake news detection; and third, the ontological model is tested with machine learning classifiers such as Random Forest, Logistic Regression, and LSTM, with Random Forest achieving 99% accuracy. Future work aims to explore Deep Learning classifiers to further evaluate the performance of the proposed ontological approach.

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