

# AUTOMATED MULTI-MODEL FAKE NEWS CLASSIFIER

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## Abstract

The widespread increase in fake news, whether created by humans or machines, has a negative impact on society and individuals on both a political and social level. The rapid rotation of news in the age of social media makes it difficult to assess its authenticity quickly. As a result, automated fake news identification tools have become a necessity. To solve the aforementioned problem, a hybrid Neural Network architecture is used, which incorporates the capabilities of CNN and LSTM, as well as two separate dimensionality reduction methods, PCA and Chi-Square.

We'll use data from the Fake News Challenges (FNC) website, which includes four different forms of stances: agree, disagree, discuss, and unrelated. The aim of this study is to figure out what a news article's body is in relation to its headline using different deep learning and ML models.

**Index Terms - Fake News, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, Deep Learning, Multi-Layer Perceptron, Long Short-Term Memory**

## I. INTRODUCTION

The problem of "fake news" has recently emerged as a possible challenge to high-quality journalism and informed public debate. "Fake News" is a term that refers to false news or propaganda that is disseminated by conventional media outlets such as newspapers and television, as well as non-traditional outlets such as social media. The general motivation for disseminating such information is to deceive readers, damage the credibility of any person, or profit from sensationalism. It is widely regarded as one of the most serious challenges to freedom, free speech, and the Western order [3]. Fake news is becoming more popular on social media sites like Twitter and Facebook [2]. These outlets provide a forum for the general public to express their thoughts and beliefs in an unfiltered and uncensored manner. As opposed to direct views from media outlets' websites, certain news stories hosted or shared on social media platforms receive more views. According to a study of the speed at which fake news spreads on Twitter, false information spreads six times faster than true information [3]. Inaccurate news has a variety of negative consequences, including convincing people that Hillary Clinton had an alien baby, attempting to persuade readers that President Trump is seeking to repeal the first amendment, and mob killings in India as a result of a false rumor spread on WhatsApp. The problem of "fake news" has recently emerged as a possible challenge to high-quality journalism and informed public debate.

We're doing "stance detection" in this project, which means determining whether a news headline "agrees" with, "disagrees" with, "discusses," or is unrelated to a specific news item, to make it easier for journalists and others to locate and investigate potential stories. The method of automatically detecting the relationship between two pieces of text is known as stance detection. Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Natural Language Processing (NLP) tools hold a lot of promise for researchers who want to develop systems that can detect fake news automatically. Detecting fake news, on the other hand, is a difficult job because it necessitates models that summaries the news and equate it to the real news in order to identify it as fake. Furthermore, comparing proposed news to original news is a difficult task because it is extremely subjective and opinionated. The focus of our research will be on stance identification, which is a different way to detect fake news. In this report, we look at how to predict a person's stance based on a news article and a news headline. The stances between them can be classified as 'agree,' 'disagree,' 'discuss,' or 'unrelated,' depending on how similar the news story material and headlines are.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

In NLP, stance detection is a well-known and well-researched activity. It is classified as deciding whether the audience is for, against, or neutral on the goal based on the text. Many tasks, such as fake news detection, assertion validation, and argument search, depend on stance detection. Previous fake news detection research based on target-specific stance prediction, which involves determining the stance of a text entity related to a subject or a named entity. Goal-specific stance prediction for tweets (where tweets are the text and the target is a single stance) and online discussions is used in several studies. Such target-specific approaches rely on structural, linguistic, and lexical characteristics.

The issue is one of "stance detection," which entails contrasting a headline with the body of text from a news article to see if there is a relationship (if any). There are four different classifications that can be used:

- The title and the article text are in sync.
- The text of the article contradicts the headline.
- The headline is discussed in the article text, but no stance is taken on it.
- The article text has nothing to do with the headline (i.e., it doesn't deal with the same subject).

To solve the aforementioned problem, a hybrid Neural Network architecture is used, which incorporates the capabilities of CNN and LSTM, as well as two separate dimensionality reduction methods, PCA and Chi-Square.

In today's digital world, where there are thousands of knowledges sharing channels through which false news or disinformation can spread, the pervasive issue of fake news is extremely difficult to combat. It has become a bigger problem as AI advances, bringing with it artificial

bots that can be used to build and distribute false news [1]. The situation is critical because many people believe everything they read on the internet, and those who are inexperienced or new to digital technology are vulnerable to being duped.

Fraud is another problem that may arise as a result of spam or malicious emails and texts. As a result, it is convincing enough to accept the issue and take on the task of reducing violence, civil instability, and sorrow, as well as thwarting attempts to spread false news. Text, or natural language, is a difficult medium to process due to a variety of linguistic characteristics and styles such as sarcasm, metaphors, and so on. There are also thousands of spoken languages, each with its own grammar, script, and syntax. Natural language processing is a subset of artificial intelligence that includes methods for analyzing text, creating models, and making predictions. The aim of this project is to develop a framework or model that can use historical data to predict whether a news story is false or not.

#### A. Dimensionality Reduction: -

In text categorization, there are two methods for reducing dimensionality: feature extraction and feature selection. The most important and appropriate features are retained in feature selection processes, while the remaining features are discarded [61]. In function extraction methods, on the other hand, the original vector space is transformed into a new vector space with unique properties. In the new vector space, the features are reduced [32].

Reducing features has the advantage of lowering processing speed, which leads to improved efficiency [62]. The results of text classification are greatly influenced by feature reduction.

As a result, selecting the appropriate selection algorithm to minimize dimensions is critical. Some popular feature reduction algorithms include Information Gain (IG), Mutual Information (1v1I) [63], Gini Coefficient (GI), Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency (TF-IDF) [64], Principal Component Analysis (PCA), and Chi-Square Statistics (CHI). PCA and Chi-square are two-dimensionality reduction methods that are used in tandem with deep learning models to increase the scalability of the text classifier [72].

#### B. Principal Component Analysis (PCA): -

Principal Component Analysis (PCA) is a commonly used technique for reducing the dimensions of a feature set using a linear transformation. The resulting dataset is simplified, but it maintains the original data set's characteristics [35]. The new dataset can have the same number of features as the original dataset or less. The principal components are calculated using the covariance matrix. These elements are mentioned in order of decreasing importance [65]. If the original matrix has 'a' dimensions and 'b' observations, and the dimensionality needs to be reduced to a 't' dimensional subspace, then the following equation can be used to transform it.

$$Y = (EZX) \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

E\*a\*t is the projection matrix, which includes 't' eigen vectors corresponding to 't' highest eigen values, and X a\*b is the mean centred data matrix in the above equation [72].

#### C. Chi-Square: -

One of the most effective feature selection algorithms is Chi-Square Statistics [66]. It's made to see if there's a connection between categorical variables. It's used to measure the lack of independence between a and b, as well as to judge extremeness by comparing it to a chi-square distribution of one degree of freedom [67],[63]. Chi-square is used for two types of tests: test for freedom and test for goodness of fit. For feature selection, a test for independence is used, and the target label's reliance on the feature is investigated (s). The Chi-square test looks at the relationship between the features.

The features that have a connection are retained, while the rest are discarded. The chi-square is measured separately for each function in relation to the target class, and its significance is determined using a predefined threshold (which is 0.05 commonly). The lesser the importance of the function, the higher the chi-square value. Similarly, the smaller the chi-square value, the more important the function. Many studies have shown that using chi-square for feature reduction in text categorization improves performance [62], [66]. [72].

#### D. Activation Function, Max-Pooling and Dropout: -

The ReLu activation function is added to each CNN neuron's output. This activation layer is used to transform every negative value to zero and to demonstrate network nonlinearity. The feature has no impact on the CNN layer's output shape, because it's the same as the input shape. After passing through the ReLu activation mechanism, the value of each neuron is fed into a 1-D max-pooling sheet. This layer selects the maximum value obtained in each kernel to transform the input of each kernel size into a single output. This reduces the size of input features for subsequent layers and prevents overfitting. In our example, the pool size p is 4, so the performance of this layer will reduce the features by the kernel/pool size (p). For the entire network model, the dropout rate D is 0:2. Another way to minimise overfitting is to use the dropout layer, which removes input with values less than the dropout rate. Since no value is lower than 0:2 in the FNC-1 dataset, the output of the dropout layer is the same as the input passed to it [72].

#### E. Input and Convolution Layer: -

Text Sequence 'a' includes 'w' entries in the dataset. Each entry 'w' is represented by a d-dimensional dense vector. The dimensions of input 'a' function map is d \*w. We use Keras tokenizer to tokenize the headline and body texts in the first stage. The tokens are then transformed into word-vectors by the Keras embedding layer, which employs word2vec word embedding. The word vectors obtained from the word embedding layer are fed as input to the convolution layer in models one and two. Important features are derived from PCA and Chi-square first for models three and four, on the other hand. The embedding layer then converts these features into word-vectors. Finally, the convolution layer receives these word vectors. Convolution layers are used to extract a particular semantic or structural feature from a given input matrix. CNN neurons n receives each word vector. We can get a variety of features by applying filters of various sizes. On each word embedding e, multiple filters f with different kernel sizes c are applied, and the output is (c \*e). In our work, the kernel size is 5, therefore, the filter of size 64 will *create 5-word combinations* [72].

#### F. LSTM: -

The next layer is LSTM, which has 100 units. We must create a long chain-like sequence structure for our data while keeping track of previous inputs. The LSTM is the best option for this task because it has three gates: input gate  $i_k$ , output gate  $o_k$ , and forget gate  $f_k$ . Based on the dropout value, these gates determine which information is essential for classification and which information is forgettable. Previous input is saved in cell memory block  $c_k$ , which is needed for prediction. There are numerous LSTM variants available, but the one we used in our model is as follows.

$$i_k = \sigma (w_i s_k + V_i h_{k-1} + b_i) \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

$$f_k = \sigma (W_f s_k + V_f h_{k-1} + b_f) \dots \dots \dots (3)$$

$$o_k = \sigma (W_o s_k + V_o h_{k-1} + b_o) \dots \dots \dots (4)$$

$$c_k = \tanh (W_c x_k + V_c h_{k-1} + b_c) \dots \dots \dots (5)$$

where  $s$  is the  $s_k$ th vector representation's input sequence ( $s_1, s_2, s_3, \dots, s_n$ ). The weights associated with each matrix product are  $W$  and  $V$ .  $h$  represents the hidden state for time phase  $k$ , where  $s_k$  represents the input at that time and  $b$  represents the bias vector. At phase  $k-1$ ,  $C$  is the cell memory block, which is modified each time. Both 100 units in the LSTM layer's output are connected to every unit in the dense layer [72].

**G. Dense: -**

The proposed model's final layer is a densely connected completely connected layer that produces a single output. A SoftMax activation feature follows this sheet. For multi-class grouping, SoftMax activation is used. Since our dataset comprises four classes, we used SoftMax activation (agree, disagree, discuss, and unrelated). For research purposes, we used Adam as the optimizer. The number of epochs is set to 50, and the batch size used in research is 32 [72].

**EXISTING SYSTEM: -**

**1. Team Athene (Approach)**

Throughout the market, we experimented with a variety of approaches, and our model has progressed through a series of phases. Part of the changes show ideas from the fake news challenge slack's discussion of methods. We began by using standard classifiers such as SVM and XGBoost, and then added features such as paraphrase detection, emotion lexica, and others. The methods' performance did not substantially improve over the reported baseline, so we moved on to more advanced techniques [48].

Athene UKP Lab – MLP - ensemble-81.97(Accuracy)

**III. AUTOMATED MULTI-MODEL FAKE NEWS CLASSIFIER**

The main goal of Automated Multi-Model Fake News Classifier is to identify fake news, which is a standard text classification issue with a simple solution. Building a model that can distinguish between "true" and "fake" news in four categories ("i.e., support, disagree, unrelated, discussed") is needed.

There will be two phases to the project. 1)Pre-processing Dataset and implementing featured vector using TFIDF Vector Node, Cosine Similarity, Word2Vec, and other methods by the end of the first step  
The implementation of the deep learning method (CNN) and computing the result using SoftMax Mapping would be the project's second step.

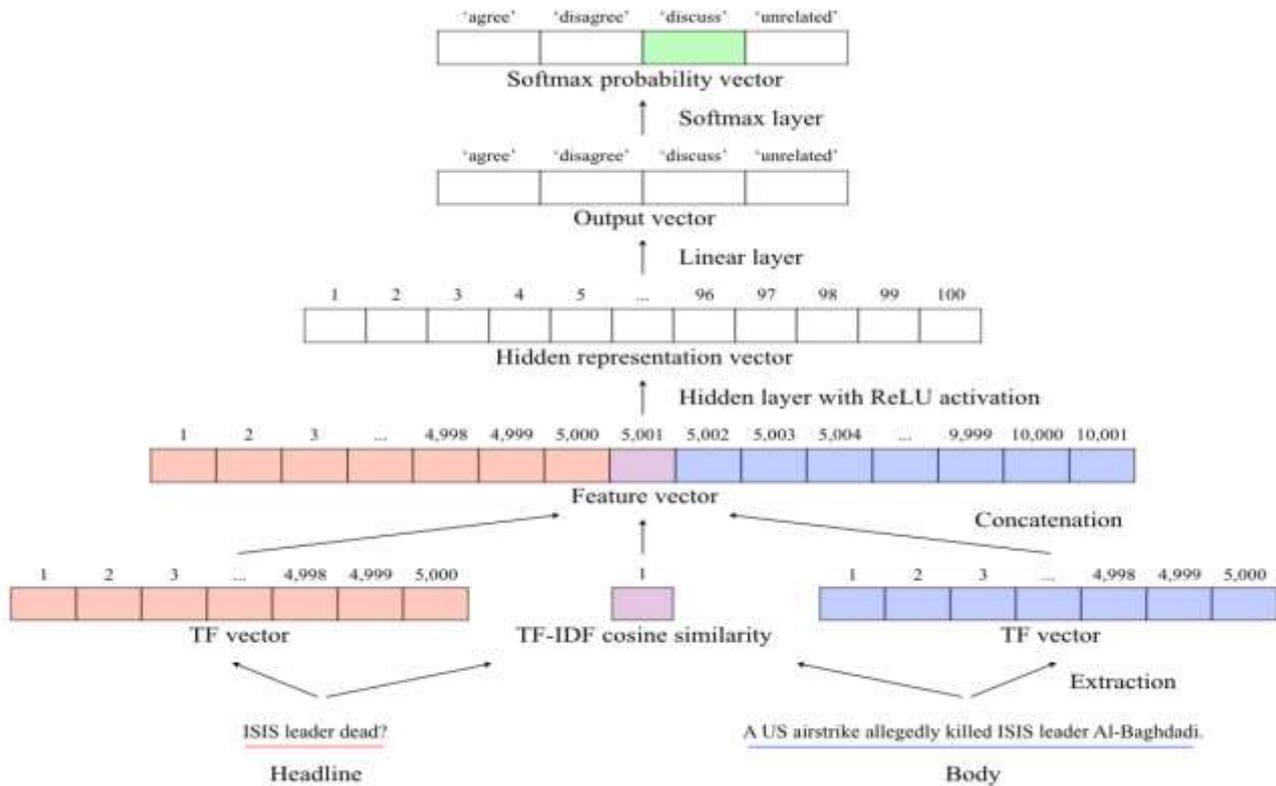


fig. 1. automated multi-model fake news classifier

This research makes the most significant contribution by proposing feature reduction strategies in conjunction with hybrid deep learning models involving two neural network layers, namely CNN and LSTM. When compared to conventional deep learning models, the proposed approach produces better predictive results. Four data models are created to evaluate the relationship. In the first model, all features are used for classification without any preprocessing. After preprocessing, the non-reduced features collection is used in the second model. Using dimensionality reduction techniques such as PCA and Chi-square, the third and fourth models are developed.

The model's first layer is the embedding layer, which takes the input headlines and article bodies and transforms each word into a 100-pixel vector. Since there are 5000 features, this layer can generate a 5000 100 matrix. The weights obtained through matrix multiplication will be included in the output matrix, resulting in a vector for each term. The CNN layer uses these vectors to extract contextual attributes. The CNN layer's output is fed into an LSTM, which is then passed on to a completely connected dense layer, which produces a single stance as the final output. The proposed model is educated and evaluated on small batches of size 32, as shown in Fig. 1.

- Agree
  - There is a relation between headline and body of the article
- Disagree

- There is no relation between headline and article body
- *Discuss*
  - There is Little bit of match between headline and article body, taking it as a neutral
- *Unrelated*
  - The topic discussed in headline and body are completely different.

**A. Application Architecture**

The tokens of article  $w(i)$  are fed one-by-one into the encoder (a single-layer bidirectional LSTM), producing a sequence of encoder hidden states  $h(i)$ . On each step  $t$ , the decoder (a single-layer unidirectional LSTM) receives the word embedding of the previous word (while training, this is the previous word of the reference summary; at test time it is previous word emitted by the decoder state's  $s(t)$ ). The attention distribution  $a$  is calculated as in Bahdanau et al. (2015):

$$e'_i = v^T \tanh(W_h h_i + W_s s_t + b_{\text{attn}})$$

$$a^t = \text{softmax}(e')$$

fig. 2. SoftMax of Output

The attention distribution is used to produce a weighted sum of the encoder hidden states, known as the context vector. The context vector, is concatenated with the decoder state  $s(t)$  and fed through two linear layers to produce the vocabulary distribution  $P(\text{vocab})$  and provides us with our final distribution from which to predict words  $w$ :

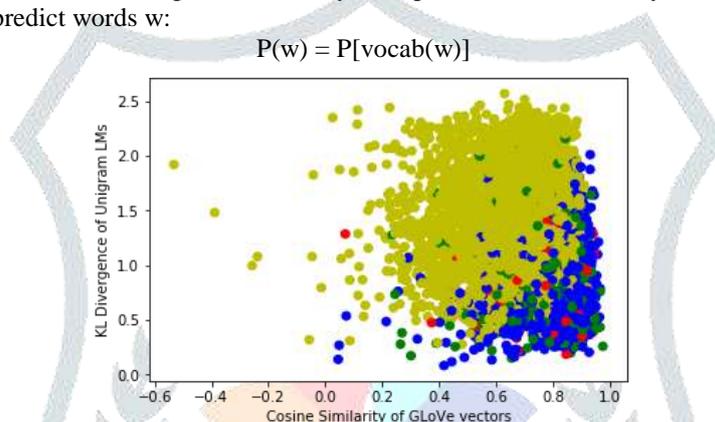


fig. 3. relation between kl and cosine similarity

**A.1. Model 1:**

Hidden representation vector of dense layer is feed by feature vector consisting of tf-idf, cosine similarity, and kl divergence, with *relu* activation function, which is forwarded to Linear dense layer in order to SoftMax the output vector, to probability vector. Summary of dense model layer is given below:

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
dense_1 (Dense)	(None, 32)	128
dense_2 (Dense)	(None, 128)	4224
dense_3 (Dense)	(None, 128)	16512
dense_4 (Dense)	(None, 128)	16512
dense_5 (Dense)	(None, 128)	16512
dense_6 (Dense)	(None, 64)	8256
dense_7 (Dense)	(None, 64)	4160
dense_8 (Dense)	(None, 32)	2080
dense_9 (Dense)	(None, 32)	1056
dense_10 (Dense)	(None, 16)	528
dense_11 (Dense)	(None, 16)	272
dense_12 (Dense)	(None, 4)	68
Total params: 70,308		
Trainable params: 70,308		
Non-trainable params: 0		

fig. 4. dense model summary

**A.2. Model 2**

Padded sequence of article body and headline is feed to model, to SoftMax the output vector, to probability vector, with sigmoid and relu activation function. Summary of Model is given below:

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #	Connected to
input_body (InputLayer)	(None, 64)	0	
input_headline (InputLayer)	(None, 64)	0	
embedding_8 (Embedding)	(None, 64, 50)	1161300	input_body[0][0]
embedding_7 (Embedding)	(None, 64, 50)	1161300	input_headline[0][0]
dense_10 (Dense)	(None, 64, 16)	816	embedding_8[0][0]
dense_9 (Dense)	(None, 64, 16)	816	embedding_7[0][0]
concatenate_4 (Concatenate)	(None, 64, 32)	0	dense_10[0][0] dense_9[0][0]
flatten_3 (Flatten)	(None, 2048)	0	concatenate_4[0][0]
dense_11 (Dense)	(None, 4)	8196	flatten_3[0][0]

Total params: 2,332,428  
Trainable params: 2,332,428  
Non-trainable params: 0

fig. 5. embedding model summary

### A.3. Model 3

Padded sequence of article body and headline is feed to LSTM model, to SoftMax the output vector, to probability vector, with sigmoid and relu activation function.

Summary of Model is given below:

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #	Connected to
input_headline (InputLayer)	(None, 16)	0	
input_body (InputLayer)	(None, 48)	0	
embedding_9 (Embedding)	(None, 16, 50)	162750	input_headline[0][0]
embedding_10 (Embedding)	(None, 48, 50)	1152250	input_body[0][0]
concatenate_5 (Concatenate)	(None, 64, 50)	0	embedding_9[0][0] embedding_10[0][0]
lstm_2 (LSTM)	(None, 64)	20440	concatenate_5[0][0]
dropout_2 (Dropout)	(None, 64)	0	lstm_2[0][0]
dense_12 (Dense)	(None, 64)	4160	dropout_2[0][0]
dense_13 (Dense)	(None, 4)	260	dense_12[0][0]

Total params: 1,348,860  
Trainable params: 33,860  
Non-trainable params: 1,315,000

fig. 6. lstm model summary

### A.4. Model 4-15

Ten different Machine learning classification model is feed by feature vector of article body and headline to get the probability output vector. Below are the ten different ML classification model used:

1. Logistic Regression
2. K Nearest Classifier
3. Support Vector Machine Classification
4. Quadratic Discriminant Analysis
5. Random Forest Classifier
6. Adaboost Classifier
7. SGD Classifier
8. Decision Tree Classifier
9. XG Boost Classifier
10. Linear Discriminant Analysis

### Graphical User Interface for classification of fake news

The system is designed for client to classify any news is fake or fact in four Stance. By deploying such a web application on servers or cloud, client gets the flexibility to classify any news anywhere.

Following are screenshots of the screens designed for the user interface to classify fake news.



fig. 7. home section

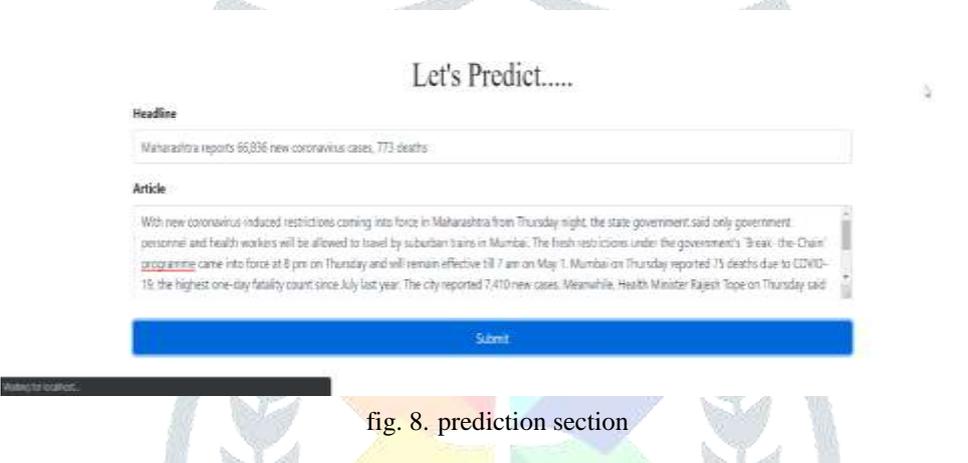


fig. 8. prediction section

Model	Result	Accuracy
Proposed Model	Discuss	63.01203889154358
LSTM Model	unrelated	92.71811842918396
Sequential Model	unrelated	15.676028078412201
ML SVM	Discuss	NA
ML AdaBoost	Discuss	NA
ML Decision Tree	Discuss	NA
ML K-Nearest	Discuss	NA
ML Logistic Regression	Discuss	NA
ML Linear Discriminant	Discuss	NA
ML Quadratic Regression	Disagree	NA
ML Random Forest	Discuss	NA
ML SGD	Discuss	NA
ML XGBoost	Discuss	NA

fig. 9. result section

#### IV. RESULTS

The experimental results show that, the implemented system designed for Multi Model fake news Classifier, has provided significant results in classifying a fake news in four stances (i.e., agree, disagree, discuss, unrelated). Following fig shows the comparison of different ML model

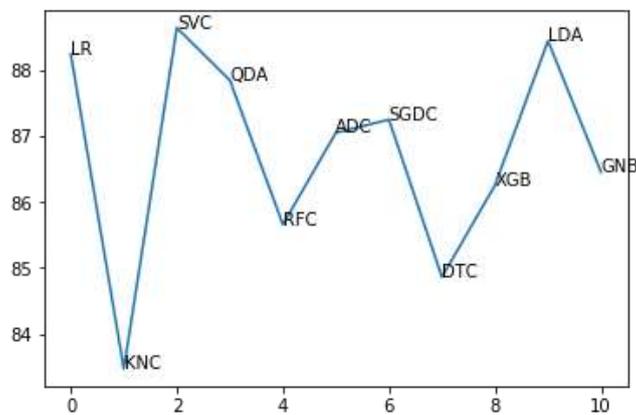


fig. 10. result comparison of ml model

Following table shows the comparison of different model to classify fake news over the dataset of 50,000 news.

Table 1 :results of multi model to classify news

Model	Model Name	Accuracy (in %)
Model 1	Simple Linear Dense Model	87.5
Model 2	Embedding Dense Model	86.34
Model 3	LSTM Dense Model	73.20
Model 4	Logistic Regression	88.2
Model 5	K Nearest Classifier	83.5
Model 6	Support Vector Machine Classification	88.6
Model 7	Quadratic Discriminant Analysis	87.8
Model 8	SGD Classifier	87.3
Model 9	Decision Tree Classifier	84.9
Model 10	XG Boost Classifier	86.3
Model 11	Linear Discriminant Analysis	88.4
Model 12	Random Forest Classifier	85.7
Model 13	Adaboost Classifier	87.1

## V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

This paper presented the results of various model to detect/classify the fake news. The work presented here is a novel on this subject domain because it shows the results of a comprehensive research project that started with quality implementation of the classification model. The work presented in this paper is also promising, because it is demonstrating an effective level of machine learning and deep learning techniques to classify a fake news.

Future planned research efforts involve more research on feature vector to classify fake news more effectively among related category (i.e., agree & discuss)

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