Cyber Frauds: Phishing, Astroturfing, Fake News, and Deepfake

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Fraud Informatics (FI) Project

- NSF SaTC EDU Grant (2018 2021)
- Joint effort between Penn State and ORAU
- To develop and evaluate materials to teach modern types of cyber frauds to diverse audience

National Science Foundation WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN SEARCH				
RESEARCH AREAS	FUNDING AWARDS	DOCUMENT LIBRARY	NEWS	ABOUT NSF
Awards Award Abstract #1820609 Developing and Evaluating Fraud Informatics Curriculum among Institutions in the Appalachian Region				

Objectives

- Cover latest modern types of cyber frauds
- Cover latest research on the prevention and detection of cyber frauds
 - AI methods
 - Data-driven
 - Information-processing
- Develop media-rich hands-on materials
 - Images and videos
 - Hands-on labs using games and tools

Formats of Delivery

1. 1-2 hour-long

- Fraud informatics "hygiene"
- K12 students or general audience

2. 2-3 week long

- Special topic plug-in to other related classes
- CompSci undergraduates

3. Semester-long

- Dedicated class on Fraud Informatics
- CompSci undergraduates

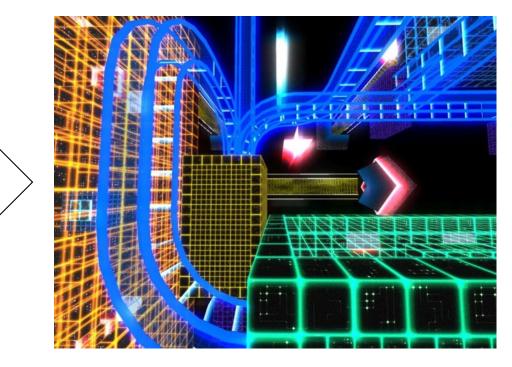
What is "Fraud"?

- Oxford dictionary
 - "wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain"
- Van Vlasselaer et al. (2015)
 - "Fraud is an uncommon, well-considered, imperceptibly concealed, time-evolving, and often carefully organized crime which appears in many types of forms"
 - 5 characteristics

"Traditional" (Consumer) Frauds

- Credit card fraud
- Insurance fraud
- Product warranty fraud
- Healthcare fraud
- Money laundering
- Identity theft
- Telecommunications fraud

Cyberspace



"Modern" Frauds in Cyberspace

- Spam/Phishing, and Social Engineering Fraud
- Fake News
- Deepfake
- Astroturfing and Crowdturfing
- Sockpuppet and Catfish
- Academic Fraud
- ...

Other Important modern cyber frauds?

Fraud Informatics

- Modern frauds need to be solved and taught in multiple disciplines and subjects
 - Computer Science (and AI)
 - Cognitive Science
 - Business
 - Criminology
 - Law
 - Policy ...

Avoid topics from traditional classes on Network, Systems, IoT securities



1. PHISHING

Terms

• Spamming: Unsolicited email/letter/SMS/...

- Social Engineering Attack: Psychological manipulation of victims for deception
 - Phishing = "ph" + fishing
 - Vishing = Voice Phishing
 - Spear Phishing
 - Whaling
 - ..

Targeted Personalized Human-written Small-scale → Higher success rate for attackers

Psychological Aspect

- Experiment in West Point, 2004
- Researchers sent a phishing email to 512 cadets, pretending it to be coming from a fictitious Colonel, asking them to click a malicious link regarding a grade change problem
- 80% of cadets clicked the link
- WHY so high?

Phishing Email

PayPal

We need your help

Your account has been suspended, as an error was detected in your informations. The reason for the error is not certain, but for security reasons, we have suspended your account temporarily

We need you to update your informations for further use of your PayPal account.

Update your information

You are currently made disabled of :

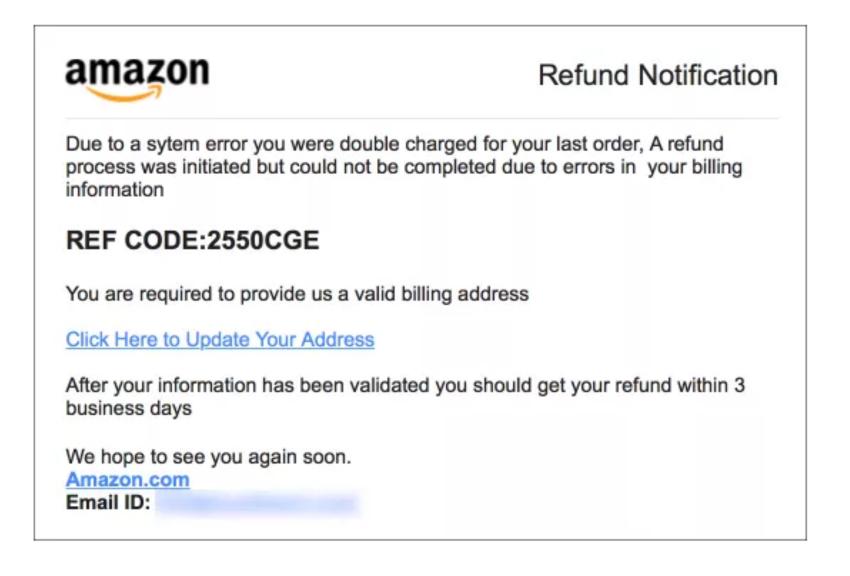


Adding a payment method Adding a billing address Sending payment Accepting payment

Please do not reply to this email. We are unable to respond to inquiries sent to this address. For immediate answers to your questions, visit our Help Center by clicking "Help" located on any PayPal page or email.

Copyright @ 2016 PayPal, Inc. All rights reserved. PayPal is located at 2211 N. First St., San Jose, CA 95131.

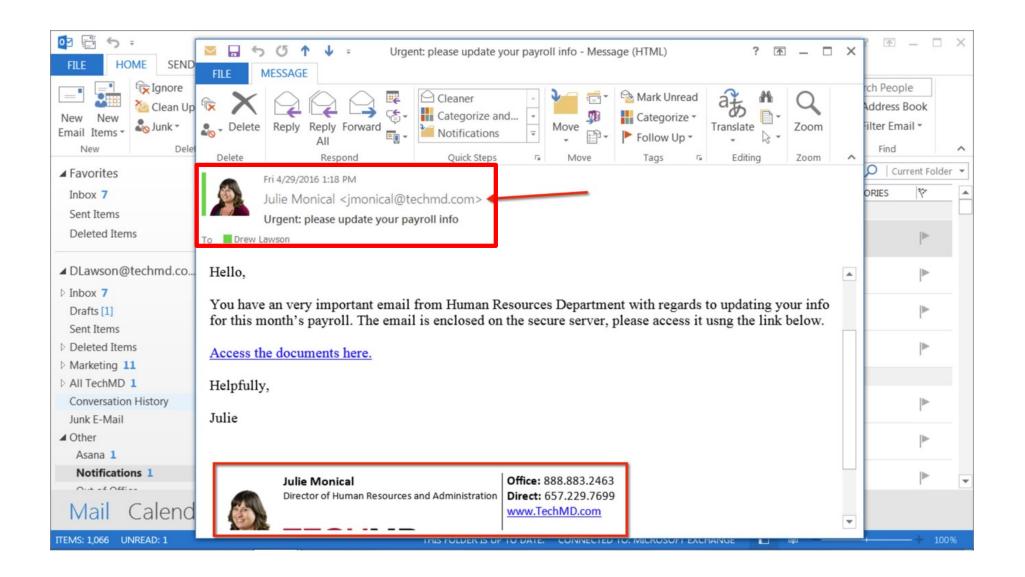
Phishing Email



Spear Phishing Email

To:	13 July 2016 at 9:38 AM
Reply-To:	
Payment	
Hi Michael,	
Please find enclosed vendor banking in suppose to go out in the previous wee	hstructions for a payment that was k. I need you to process it immediately.
I am a bit busy now but will give you a payment.	a call within the hour regarding the
Regards,	
Sent from my Mobile	

Spear Phishing Email



Vishing



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEHI2IAuWCk

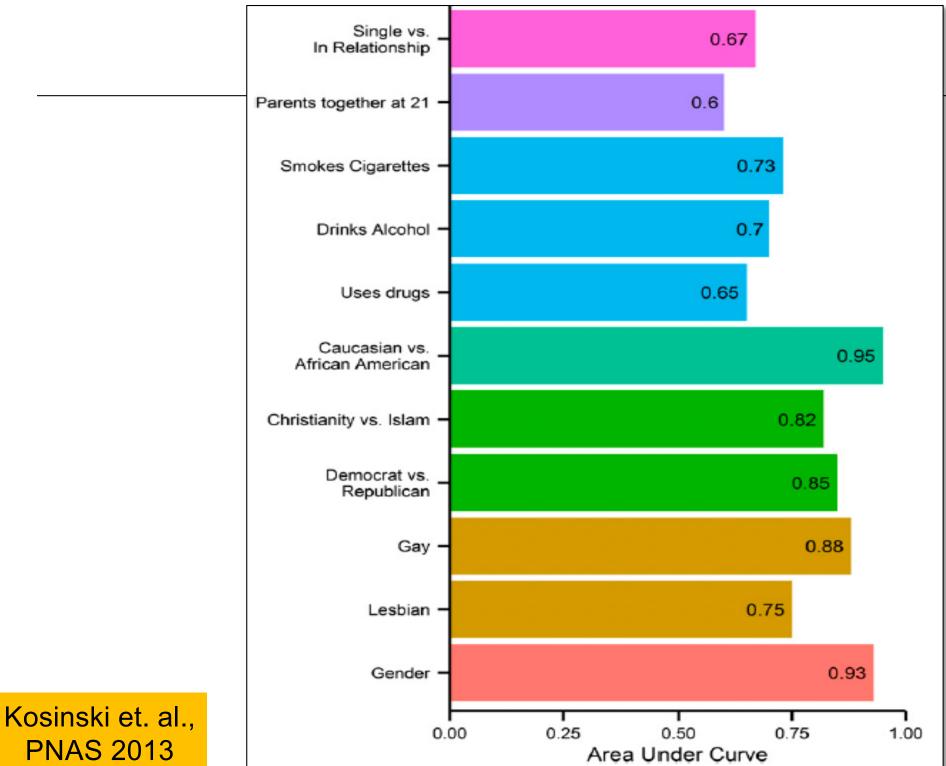
Personalized Attack

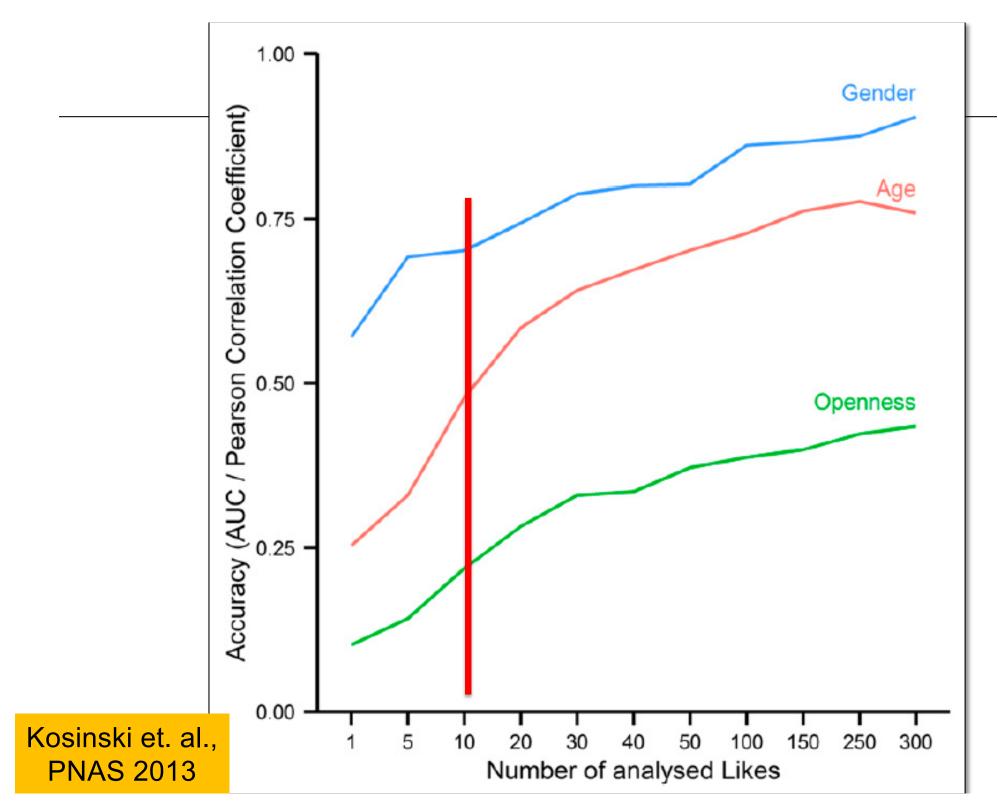
- How do attackers get information about victims?
- Scavenger-hunting, Hacking
- Data-driven guessing
 - Eg, by analyzing one's social media data, AI can accurately predict diverse demographics of users

You Are What You LIKE

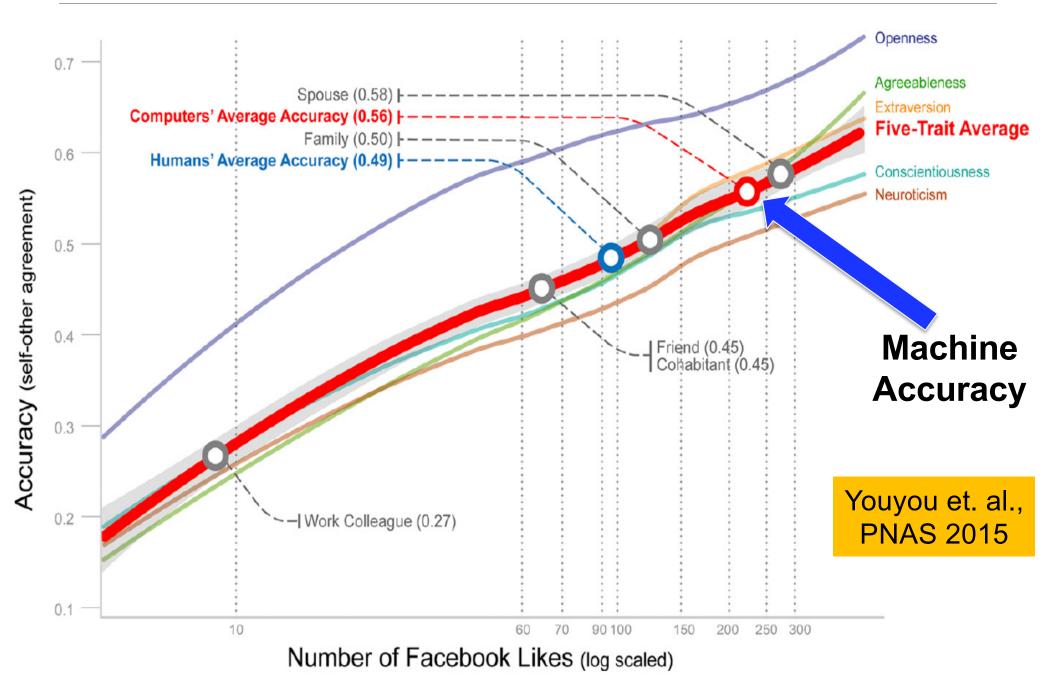
Hypothesis: The LIKE pattern in social media is correlated with one's personal traits





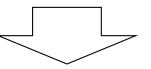


Personality Prediction



Scenario

- From LIKE data, an attacker predicted a victim to be:
 - An African American Christian female in her 20s living in NYC...



More personalized spear phishing email can be written

Dear Ms. Jane Doe, pardon for this interruption.

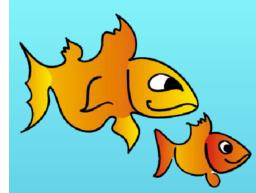
I am a pastor living in Queens ...

How to Spot Phishing Emails?

Discussion

Lab: Domain Highlighting

ANTI-PHISHING PHIL



Anti-Phishing Phil was developed by the CMU Usable Privacy and Security Laboratory (CUPS) at Carnegie Mellon University with funding from the US National Science Foundation and ARO/CyLab. Anti-Phishing Phil is distributed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial license. For information about commercial licensing, including opportunities to have the game customized for your business or training program, please see: http:// cups.cs.cmu.edu/antiphishing_phil/

At the end of each round, Anti-Phishing Phil may send anonymous scoring information back to us so that we can improve the game and gain insights into how to better protect people from phishing attacks.

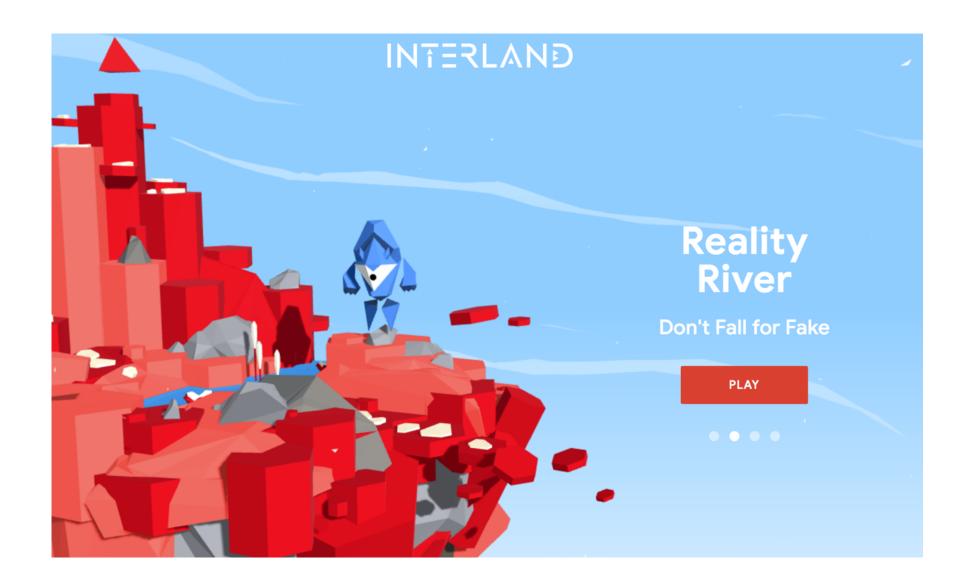


CMU Usable Privacy and Security Laboratory



https://www.ucl.ac.uk/cert/antiphishing/

Lab: Phishing



https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en/interland/landing/reality-river

Attack-Back #1



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_QdPW8JrYzQ

Attack-Back #2

"HELLO, THIS IS Lenny!"

"Lenny" is a collection of recorded messages, designed to fool telemarketers into thinking they are talking to a real person.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t7kSWvt3KXY



2. ASTROTURFING

Definition

- Astroturf: fake grass(roots)
- Examples
 - Fake LIKEs in facebook
 - Orchestrated fake reviews in amazon.com

Power of LIKE



LIKE Us or Get Out !



MAY 29, 2016

SALT LAKE CITY APARTMENT COMPLEX REQUIRES RESIDENTS TO LIKE THEIR FACEBOOK PAGE, ANGERS THE INTERNET WITH PREDICTABLE RESULTS

ENTERTAINMENT

NEWS & POLITICS

SPORTS

LIFESTYLE

HEALTH

DON CROTHERS

31

SCIEN

PBS Frontline, 2014

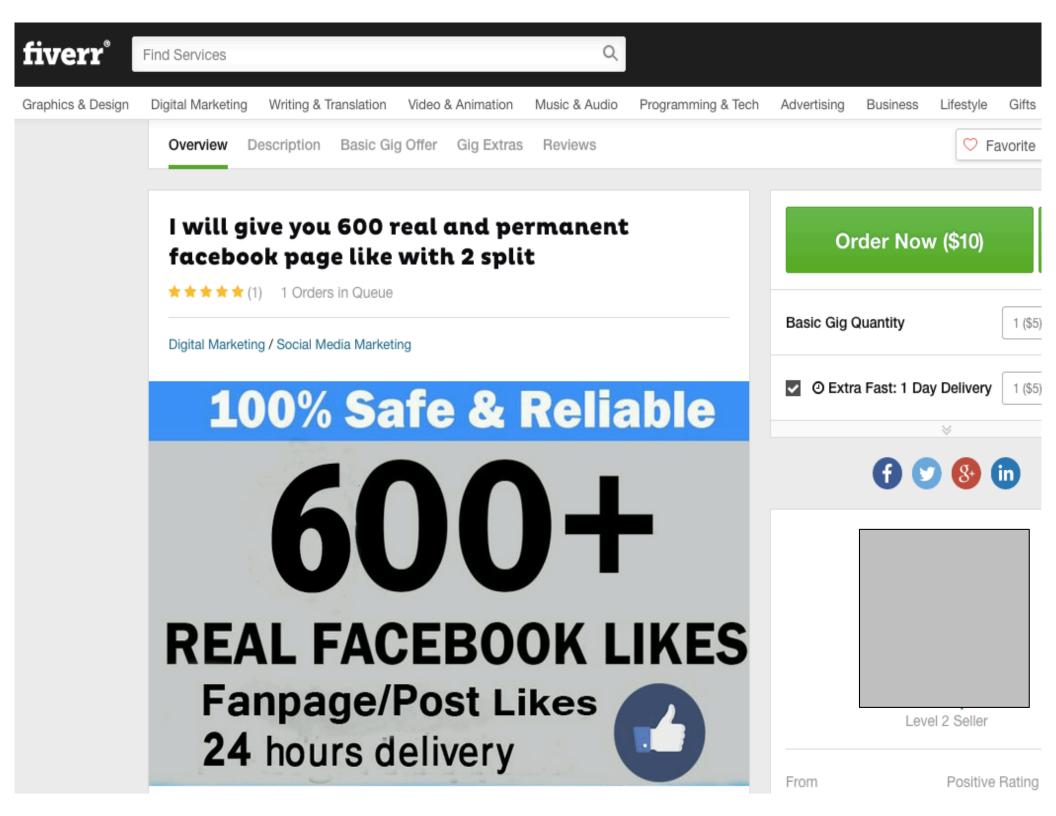


http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/generation-like/

Fake LIKEs

- People buy and sell Likes
- Huge commercial implications
- Headache for SNS to maintain healthy ecosystem







LOGIN

REGISTER

GET HIGH QUALITY LIKES FROM THE WHOLE Planet!

LikesPlanet is the best way to advertise your social pages.



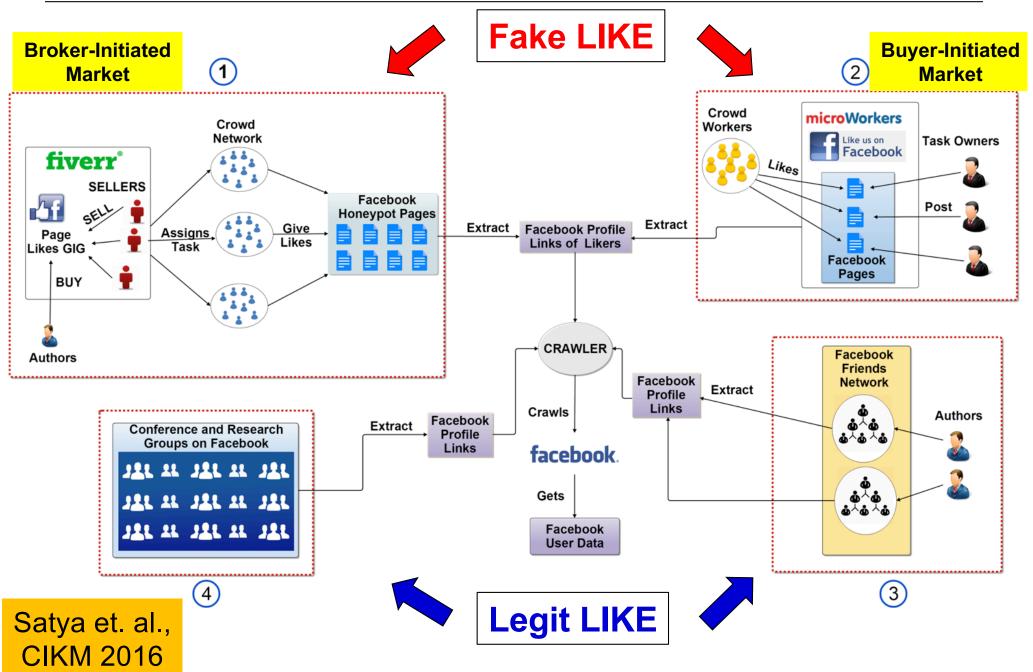


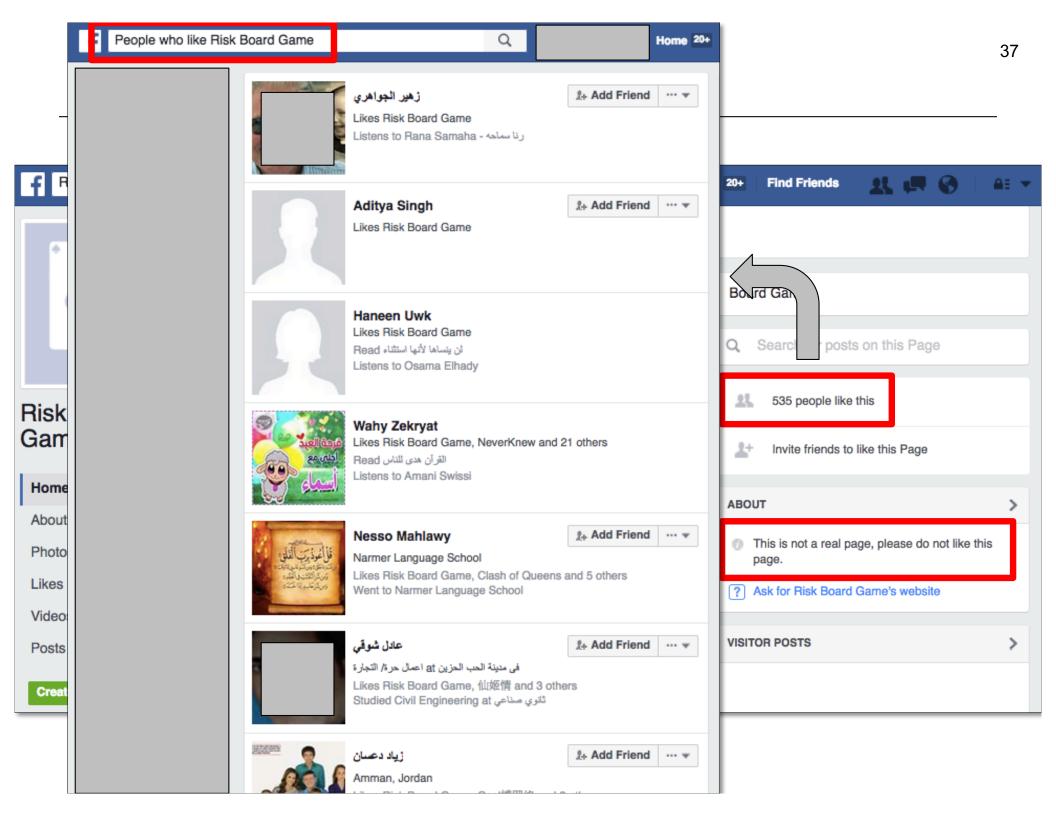
131,831,980 Hits/likes delivered 367,956 Members and counting!

245 Members joined in the last 24 hours!



Training Data for Machine Learning







Technology

http://www.bbc.com/news/technology-22166606

< Share

Samsung probed in Taiwan over 'fake web reviews'

() 16 April 2013 | Technology

Fair-trade officials in Taiwan are looking into reports that Samsung paid people to criticise rival HTC online.

Samsung is alleged to have hired students to post negative comments about phones made by Taiwan's HTC.

Samsung, based in South Korea, said the "unfortunate incident" had gone against the company's "fundamental



Bad reviews of HTC products were allegedly posted by students paid by Samsung

Top Stories

Pence leaves NFL game over protests

The US vice-president abandons a in his home state after players knee during the national anthem.

③ 3 hours ago

Huge Spain unity rally held ir Barcelona

S hours ago

Trump trades insults with top Republican

() 5 hours ago

BUSINESS DAY

The Best Book Reviews Money Can Buy

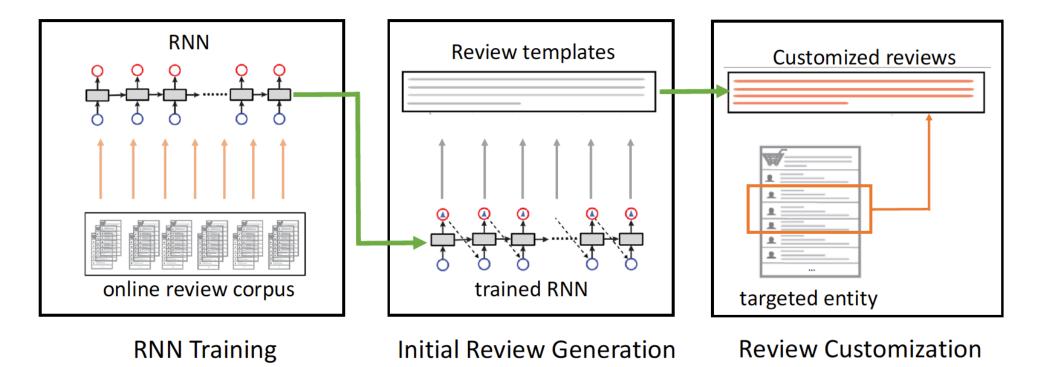
By DAVID STREITFELD AUG. 25, 2012



http://www.nytimes.com/2012/08/26/business/book-reviewers-for-hire-meet-a-demand-for-online-raves.html

Synthesized Amazon Reviews

Overview of Attack



Credit: Ben Zhao @ U. Chicago

Generated with *temperature* 0.1

I have been going to this place for a few years now and I have never had a bad experience. The service is great! They are always so friendly and helpful. I will definitely be back and I will be back for sure!

Generated with temperature 0.3



This place is amazing! The bartenders are absolutely amazing. The pasta is delicious and I love their pastries and it is amazing. I love the breakfast, friendly staff and the price is very reasonable. I have never had a bad experience here. I will be back for sure!

Generated with *temperature* 0.5

I love this place. I went with my brother and we had the vegetarian pasta and it was delicious. The beer was good and the service was amazing. I would definitely recommend this place to anyone looking for a great place to go for a great breakfast and a small spot with a great deal.

Generated with *temperature* 0.7

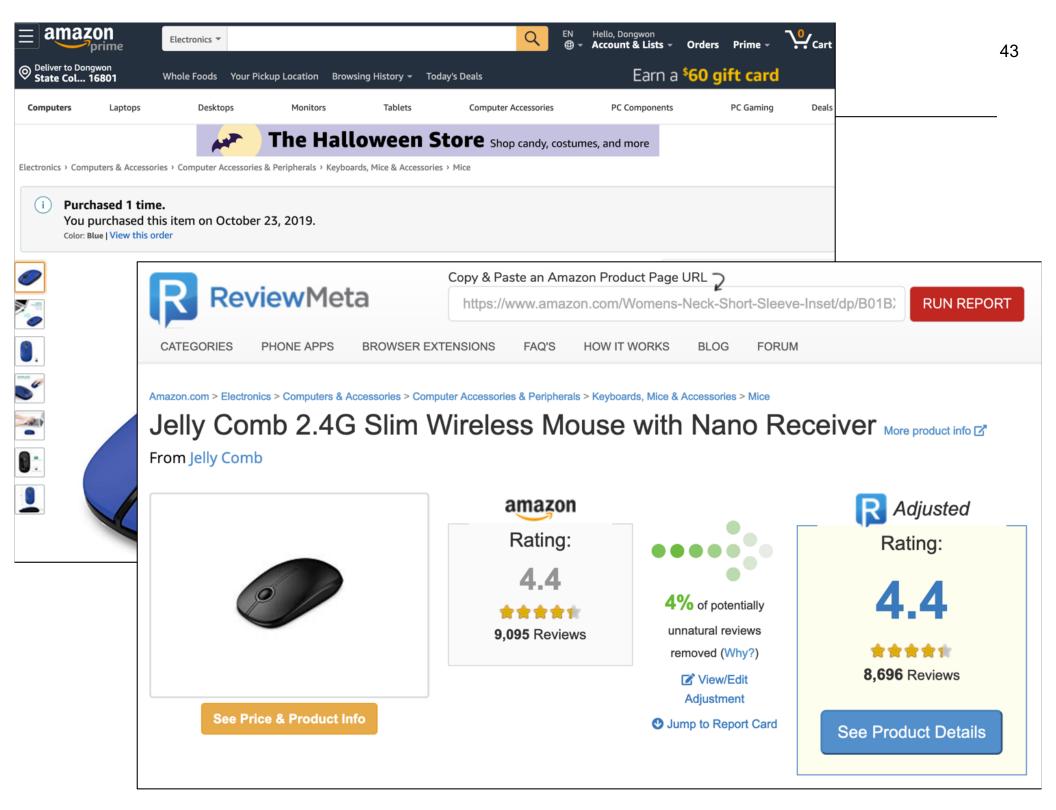
I have been a customer for about a year and a half and I have nothing but great things to say about this place. I always get the pizza, but the Italian beef was also good and I was impressed. The service was outstanding. The best service I have ever had. Highly recommended.

Generated with *temperature* 1.0

The food here is freaking amazing, the portions are giant. The cheese bagel was cooked to perfection and well prepared, fresh & delicious! The service was fast. Our favorite spot for sure! We will be back!

LAB

- Using FakeSpot (<u>https://www.fakespot.com/)</u>, try a few Yelp restaurant reviews
 - Any restaurants with B or lower grade?
 - Understand the analysis of low grade
- Using ReviewMeta (<u>https://reviewmeta.com/)</u>, try a few Amazon product reviews
 - Any product with FAIL rating?
 - Understand the analysis of FAIL rating



FAIL

Suspicious Reviewers

Take-Back Reviewers



23% Have Previously Deleted Reviews

2,086 of the **9,103** reviewers have had at least one of their past reviews for another product deleted. The Take-Back Reviewers have rated this product an average of **4.5** while the reviewers who don't have any deleted reviews in their history have rated this product an average of **4.3**. Based on our statistical modeling, the discrepancy in average rating between these two groups is significant enough to believe that the difference is not due to random chance, and may indicate that there are unnatural reviews.

2.5/5

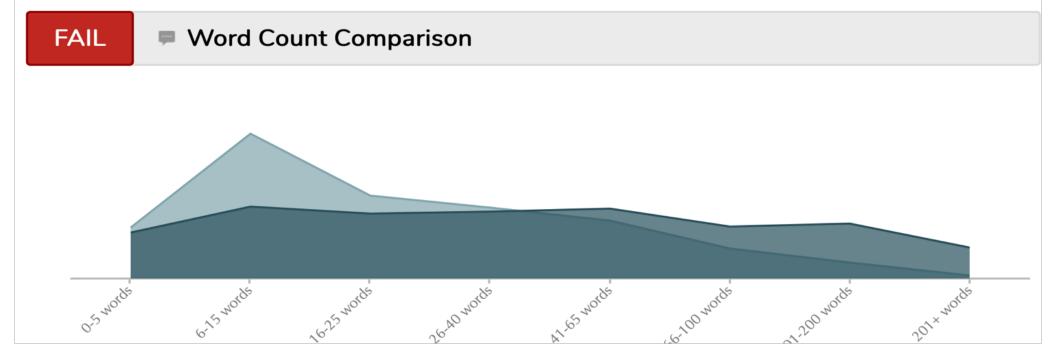
From Take-back Reviewers



From Reviewers Without Previously Deleted Reviews



Read more about our Suspicious Reviewers test.



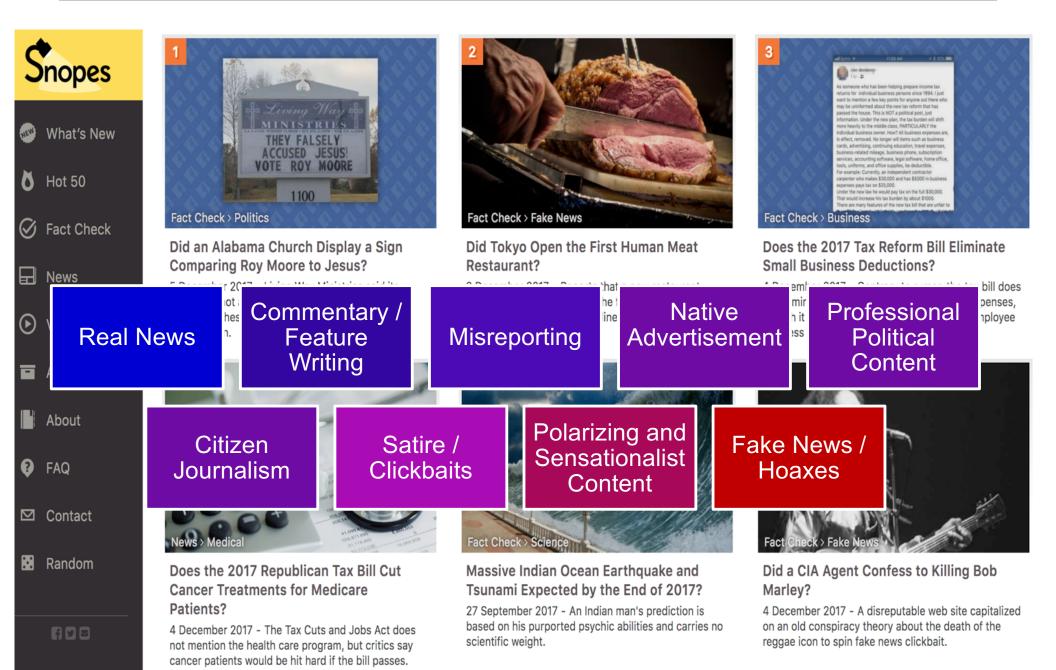


3. FAKE NEWS

Definitions of False Information

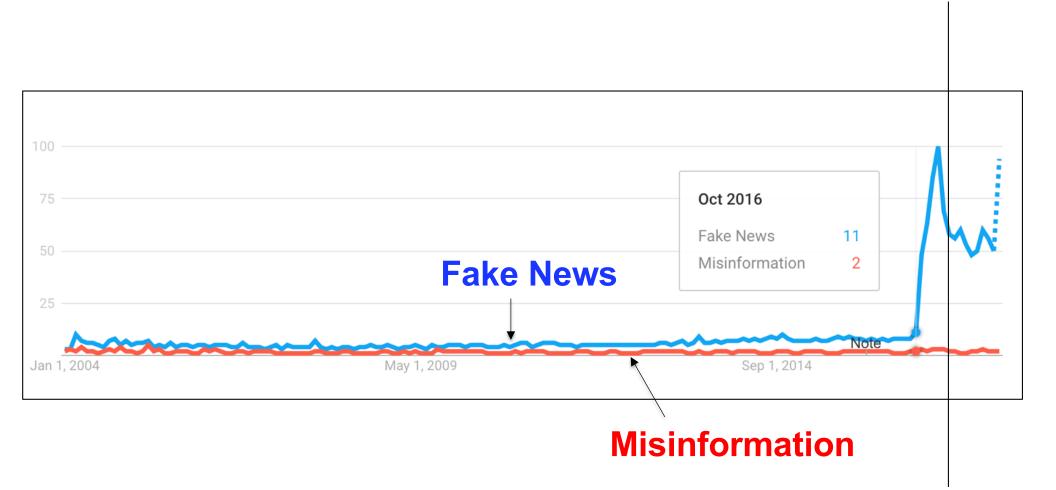
	Authenticity	Intention	News?
Fake news	False	Bad	Yes
False news	False	Unknown	Yes
Satire news	Unknown	Not bad	Yes
Disinformation	False	Bad	Unknown
Misinformation	False	Unknown	Unknown
Rumor	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

Types of False Information



Surge of "Fake News": Google Trend

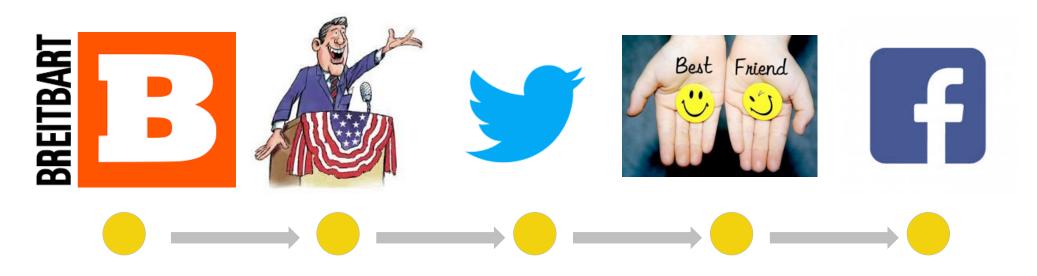
US Election @ Nov. 2016



- 1. Fundamental shift in communication: Consumer as producer
- 2. Monetary incentives: Ads by Google/Facebook

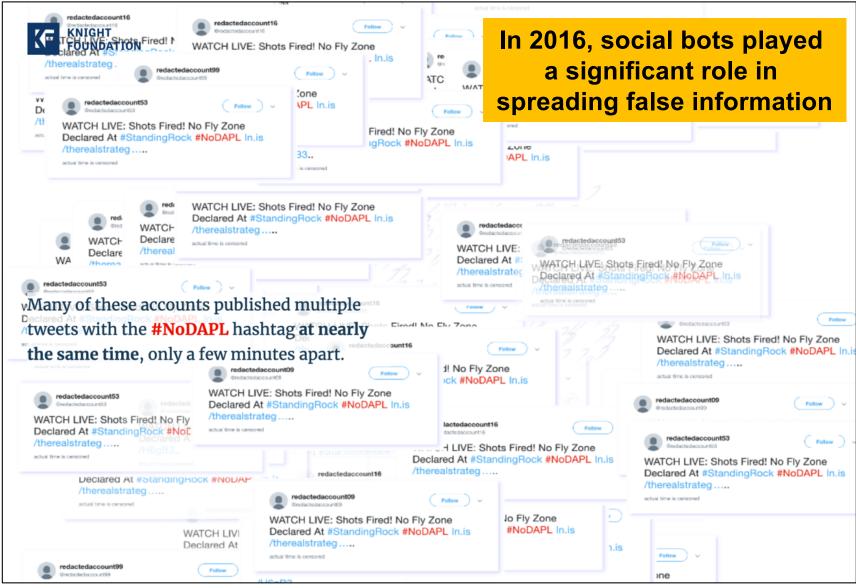


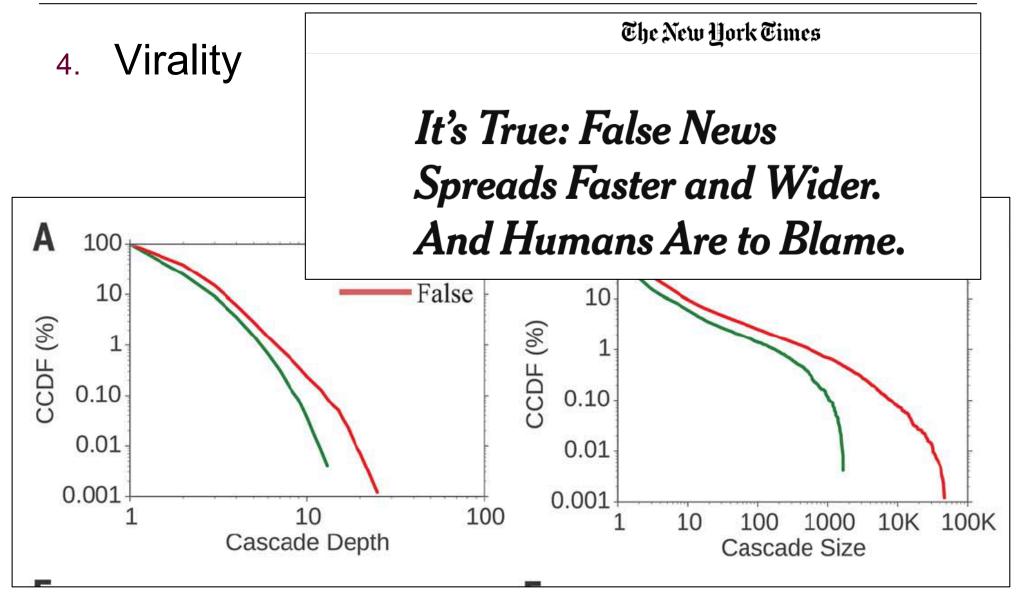
3. Source Layering



Virality 4. redactedaccount16 redactedaccount16 KNIGHT idappount16 Fired! N OUNDATION WATCH LIVE: Shots Fired! No Fly Zone /therealstrateg redactedaccount99 (Follow) v 'one ٧V redactedaccount53 **\PL** In.is De Predactedaccount53 /tł WATCH LIVE: Shots Fired! No Fly Zone

Source: https://www.knightfoundation.org/features/misinfo

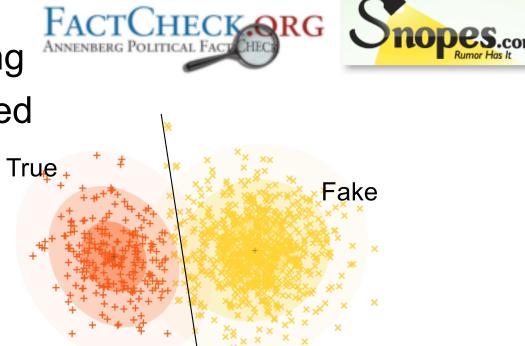




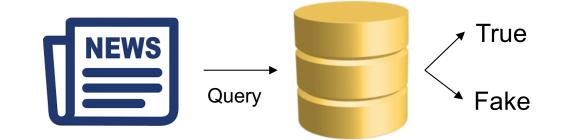
Source: Vosoughi et al., Science 2018

To Detect False Information

- Human Based
 - Manual fact-checking
 - Crowdsourcing based
- Machine Based
 - AI approach



• DB approach



AI: Machine Learning Approach

In Training

- Learning
 - **P**: Features from "fake" news
 - N: Features from "true" news
- Feed (P, N) to ML to build a model M

In Deployment

- Feed a news story A to M
- M determines if A is fake or true news story



OLITIFAC

LAB: Fake-O-Meter

In your smartphone browser, go to Kahoot.it

• Enter Game PIN, and Nickname to play

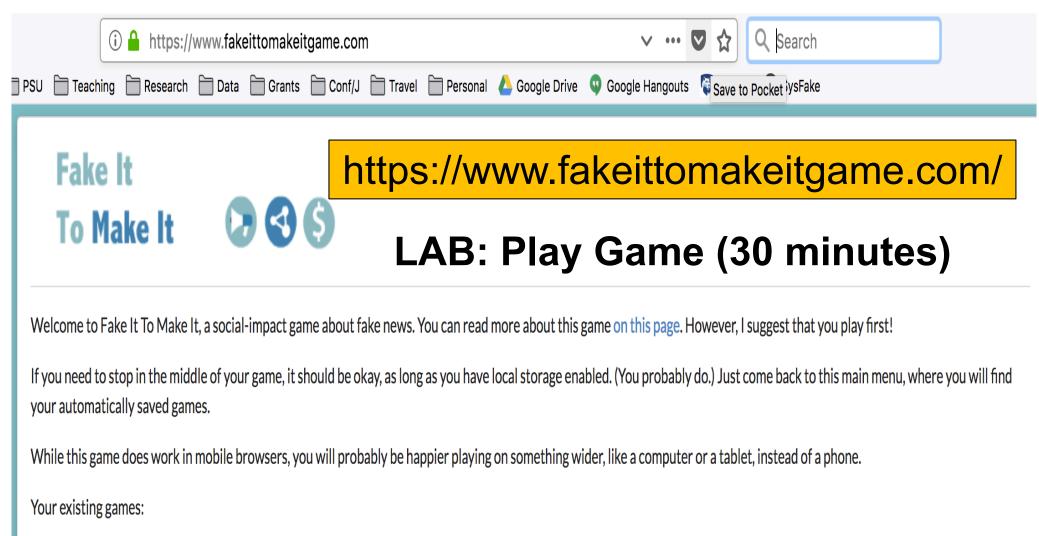


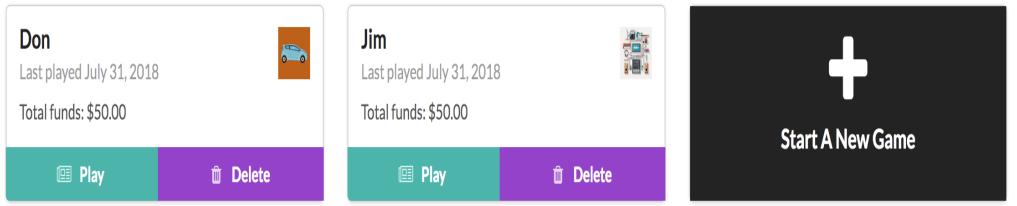
Educational Fake News Games

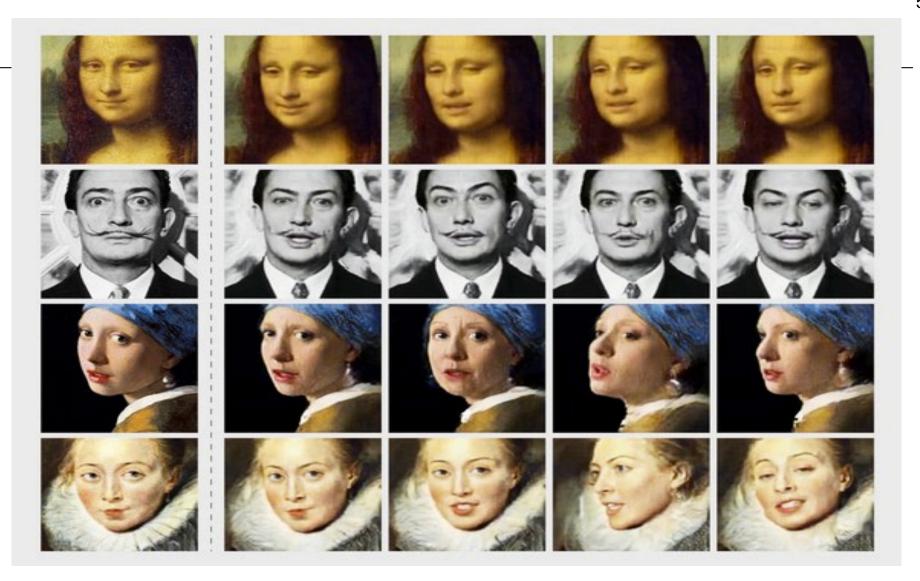
- http://factitious.augamestudio.com/
- <u>https://www.fakeittomakeitgame.co</u> <u>m/</u>
- <u>https://playfakenews.com/</u>
- <u>https://hoaxy.iuni.iu.edu/fake-news-game/</u>
- http://fakenews.game/
- <u>https://boardgamegeek.com/boardgame/235085/fake-news-or-not</u>











4. DEEPFAKE

New Challenge: "Deepfakes"

- 1. Al method (GAN) generated artifacts
- 2. Manipulated artifacts hard to distinguish
 - Not "Shallowfakes"

Pelosi videos manipulated to make her appear drunk are being shared on social media

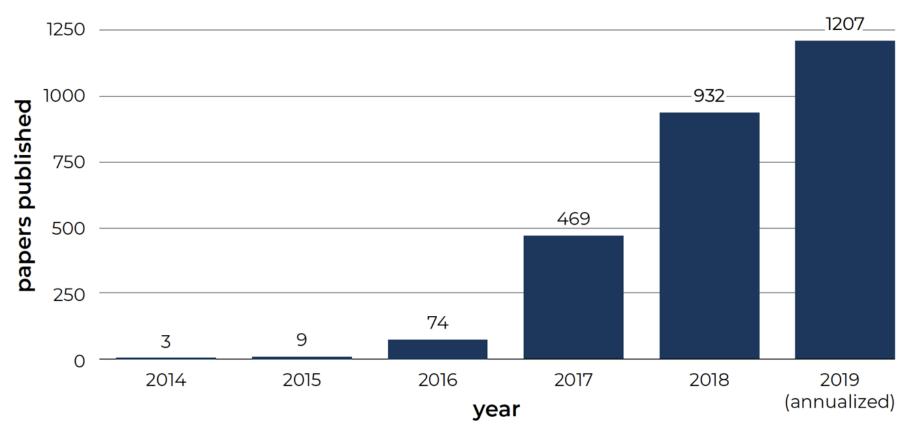
- Explosive effect When used in social media together with:
 - False information, Social bots, Clickbaits

Landscape of "Deepfakes"

14,678 deepfake videos [DeepTrace, 2019]

96% are pornographic videos

Academic papers mentioning GANS in title/abstract published per year on the arXiv³



Eg, Deepfaked Text #1

Examples

Link found between autism and vaccines

Select an example or build an article below

Inputs

Domain		
cnn.com		Generate
Give your article a domain source to write against		
Date		
October 10, 2019	Ë	Generate
Give your article a date to write against		
Authors		
Dongwon Lee	1,	Generate
Give your article one or more authors to write against		
Headline		
Link found between autism and vaccines		Generate
	11	
Give your article a headline to write against		

Article

Fake Article

cnn.com

 \vee

Grover by U. Washington

Link found between autism and vaccines

October 10, 2019 - Dongwon Lee

Written by Dongwon Lee, CNN

Scientists say they have found a link between autism and vaccinations, citing increasing evidence over the past several years that vaccines are linked to cases of the condition.

Researchers at Stony Brook University in New York presented new findings on Wednesday linking autism with vaccines to the American Psychiatric Association's International Neuropsychiatric Association meeting.

"Many parents are particularly interested in this question because it has often been argued that vaccines cause autism," says the study published by the journal PNAS.

Autism is a mental disability that affects cognitive, language and social development. It is a leading disorder among children and is usually diagnosed in the first three years of life.

Signs that a child has autism include repetitive behaviors, delays in speech and language development, lack of affection and social interaction and

Eg, Deepfaked Text #2

SYSTEM PROMPT (HUMAN-WRITTEN)

In a shocking finding, scientist discovered a herd of unicorns living in a remote, previously unexplored valley, in the Andes Mountains. Even more surprising to the researchers was the fact that the unicorns spoke perfect English.

MODEL COMPLETION (MACHINE-WRITTEN, 10 TRIES)

The scientist named the population, after their distinctive horn, Ovid's Unicorn. These four-horned, silver-white unicorns were previously unknown to science.

Now, after almost two centuries, the mystery of what sparked this odd phenomenon is finally solved.

Dr. Jorge Pérez, an evolutionary biologist from the University of La Paz, and several companions, were exploring the Andes Mountains when they found a small valley, with no other animals or humans. Pérez noticed that the valley had what appeared to be a natural fountain, surrounded by two peaks of rock and silver snow.

Pérez and the others then ventured further into the valley. "By the time we reached the top of one peak. the water looked blue.

Human

GPT-2 by OpenAl

Eg, Deepfaked Image

Other

potential

artifacts



Katie Jones Russia and Eura Halo effect or painterly Smudges/striations/drip marks Center for Strateg quality around hair on cheek University of Michigan College of Literature, Science... Washington · 49 connections

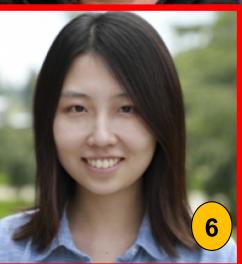
Cockeyed, heterochromatic eyes Strange scalelike effect on upper earlobe

> Earring is blurry or melted

http://thispersondoesnotexist.com















These Cats Do Not Exist

Learn More: Genera









ENTIRE GUEST SUITE

Ponta Mer Media Aireoper

Athens



Alice

🜃 7 guests 🕅 3 bedrooms 🛅 4 beds 🕅 2 baths

My place is 2 mins frou shopping malls and restaurants open 360 HM have a double cable television. We will offer all the necessary noise and make your stay enjoyable with high speed internet available in the kitchen but also will be fully resolved to a comfortable room while day. Guests have access to the balc Tons of green pubs and all the restaurants are 3

trams ride away. Steeped in obathroom, WC, French balco

https://thisrentaldoesnotexist.com/

front and back porch to ensure guests to sit around the corner for entry or dinner. There is





Text-based Editing of Talking-head Video

Ohad Fried*, Ayush Tewari[^], Michael Zollhöfer*, Adam Finkelstein[†], Eli Shechtman[‡], Dan B Goldman, Kyle Genova[†], Zeyu Jin[‡], Christian Theobalt[^], Maneesh Agrawala^{*}

* Stanford University ^ Max Planck Institute for Informatics † Princeton University ‡ Adobe

Living portraits

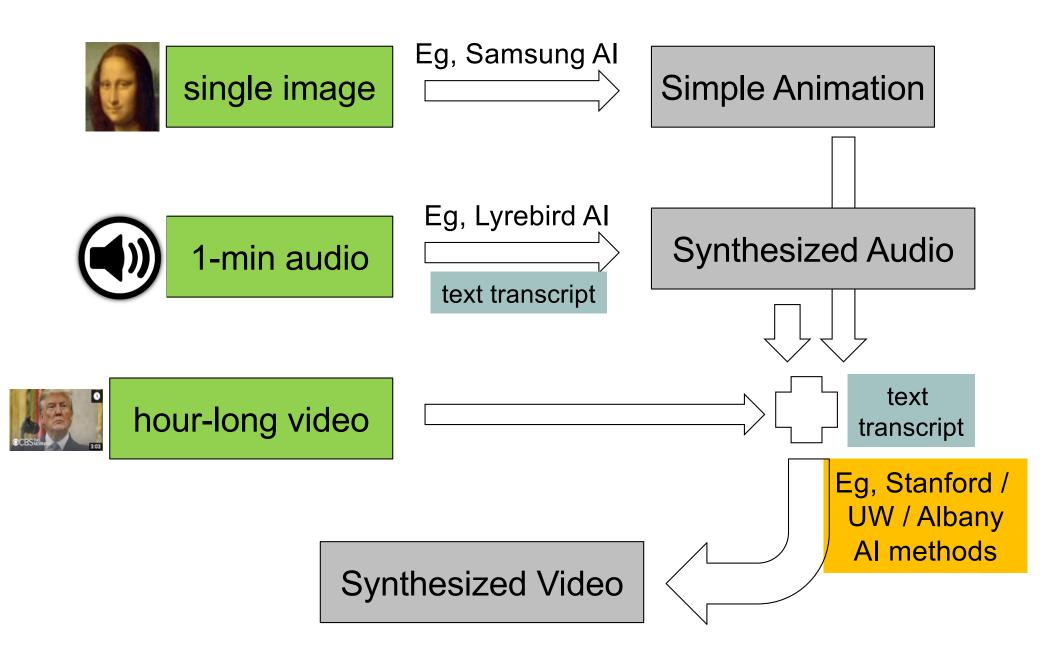








Potential Deepfake Scenario



If I were an Adversary ...

- Human adversary
 - Create a fake image/video
 - Write a fake news story
 - Plant it into social media (via bots)
- Machine adversary with deepfake capability
 - BEGIN
 - Synthesize a fake image/video
 - Synthesize a fake news story
 - Plant it into social media (via bots)
 - END



- No known instances in which deepfakes have actually been used in disinformation campaigns" – Deeptrace, 2019
- Documentation is no longer evidence
- "Implied false effect"
- "Reality apathy" Aviv Oyadya, 2019

The biggest threat of deepfakes isn't the deepfakes themselves

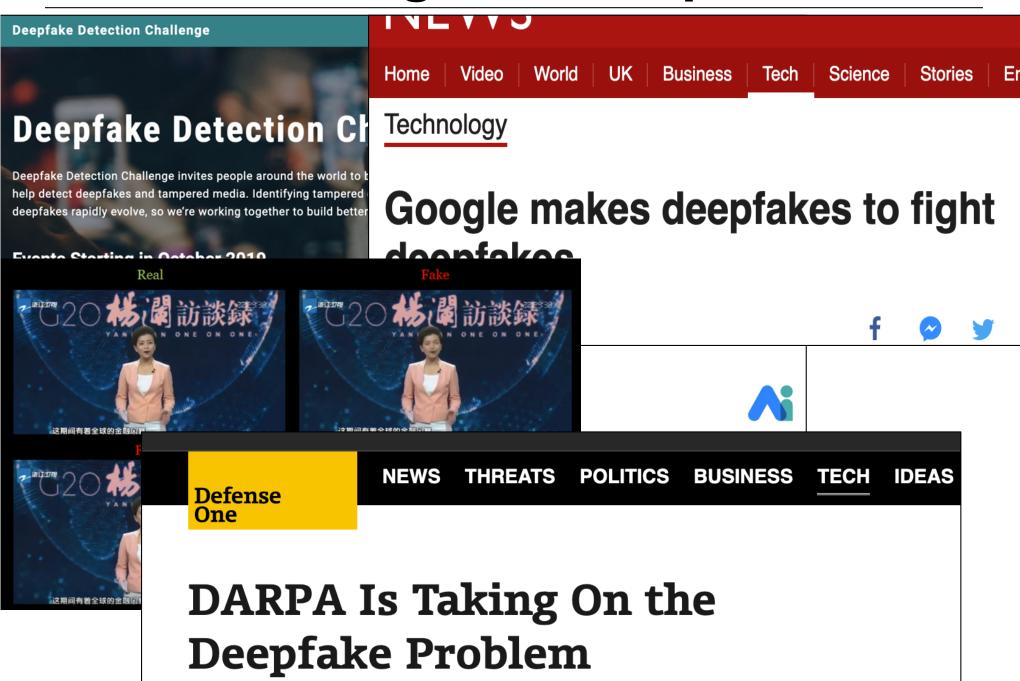
The mere idea of AI-synthesized media is already making people stop believing that real things are real.

"The Liar's Dividend" -- Robert Chesney and Danielle Citron

MIT Technology Review

Oct 10, 2019

Arms Race against Deepfakes



Arms Race against Deepfakes



H.R.3230 - Defending Each and Every Person from False Appearances by Keeping Exploitation Subject to Accountability Act of 2019

116th Congress (2019-2020) | Get alerts

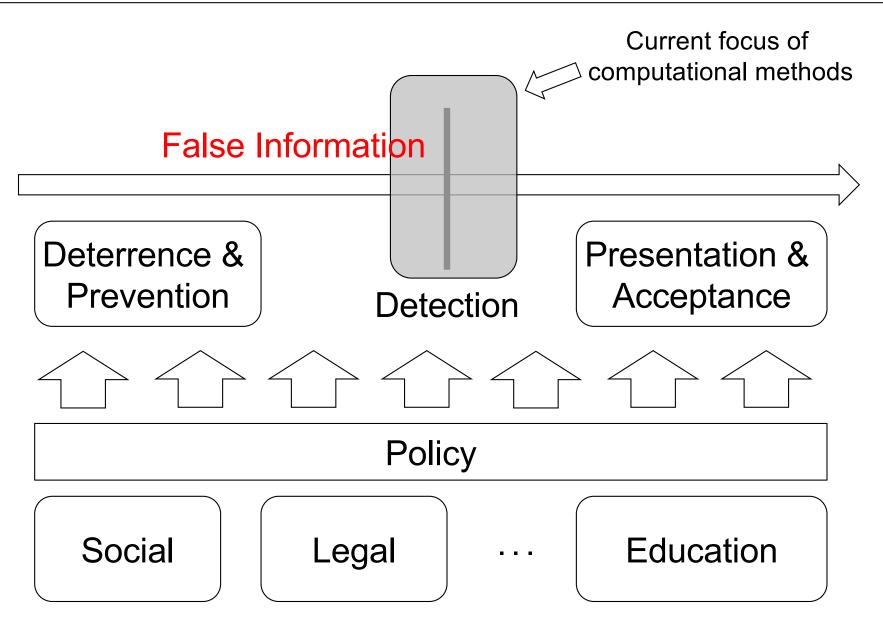
BILL	Hide O	verview 🗙
		-
Sponsor	r:	Rep. Clarke
Committ	tees:	House - Ju
Latest A	ction:	House - 06

More Thoughts

- Technological solutions alone cannot solve the problem of false information (and deepfakes)
- 1. Detection does not directly lead to removal
 - Eg, slowed-down Pelosi video
- 2. Not fast enough
 - Eg, virality of false information
- 3. Little help to real victims
 - Eg, deepfaked porn videos

Source: Angela Chen, MIT Technology Review, 2019

More Thoughts



Development Timeline

• Plan to release V1 of materials: Dec 15, 2019

2-3 week long version

- Special topic plug-in to other related classes
- CompSci undergraduates
- Recruit instructors to use part of materials in their classes in Spring and Summer 2020

Download of Materials

https://tinyurl.com/fraud-informatics

