



CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH: CLICKBAIT OR NO-CLICKBAIT

Miral Ahmad¹, Helena Mentis², Nora McDonald³
¹Department of Information Systems, University of Maryland, Baltimore County 1, 1000 Hilltop Cir, Baltimore, MD 21250

I have participated in the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation. I had partnered up with Dr. Helena Mentis and Mrs. Nora McDonald in the department of Information Systems and had my research had focused on the Cybersecurity field. I have been interested in research and want to obtain a Ph.D. in Information Systems because networking is my passion and technology is rapidly growing.

What my task for the research was that I had to utilize the programming language Python to determine if the output of the code had made all of the technical articles clickbait or noclickbait. Specifically for the code, what it does is it parses through the instances.jsonl file and converts the parameters such as post stamp, to an object. The next step was that I parsed the truth.jsonl file that contains the truth value such as truthJudgements and I converted those parameters to an object. Both of those objects have gotten appended to a list and then it was ready for Natural Language Processing.

Finally, what I did was I split the data with a 70-30 ratio, which is the recommended data split between testing and training. So, the 70% is the training data my model trains on and tests against the 30% data to verify its accuracy. I vectorized the target paragraphs to represent integers instead of words. The process of vectorization simply means converting words to numbers. There are a variety of implementations, but the one I used is a TFID where it converts the most commonly used English words and gives it a score. So, words that are more repetitive like: the, a, is, etc are given less weight. Therefore, better identifying a clickbait article. In conclusion, I have enjoyed working with my mentors and have learned more about technical research.