



ANALYZING THE SPREAD OF FAKE NEWS

JUSTIN WALLS

DR. SEUNG-JONG JAY PARK

DIPAK SINGH

# FAKE NEWS



# WHAT IS FAKE NEWS?

- According to the Cambridge Dictionary<sup>1</sup>, “fake news” is “false stories that appear to be news, spread on the internet or using other media, usually created to influence political views or as a joke”.
- Examples:
  - House Votes To Raise Federal Minimum Wage To \$15<sup>2</sup>
  - Dolly’s Paralyzed!, Magzter<sup>3</sup>
  - Frito-Lay Changes Color Of Cheetos To Avoid Association With Trump<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> FAKE NEWS. 2019. IN DICTIONARY.CAMBRIDGE.COM.

<sup>2</sup> THE ONION. (2019, JULY 22). HOUSE VOTES TO RAISE FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE TO \$15.

<sup>3</sup> MAGZTER. DOLLY’S PARALYZED! (2019, JULY 12)

<sup>4</sup> BREAKINGBURGH. FRITO-LAY CHANGES COLOR OF CHEETOS TO AVOID ASSOCIATION WITH TRUMP. (2019, JULY 11).

# HOW DOES FAKE NEWS SPREAD?

- Humans
  - Macedonian teens
  - Pizzagate



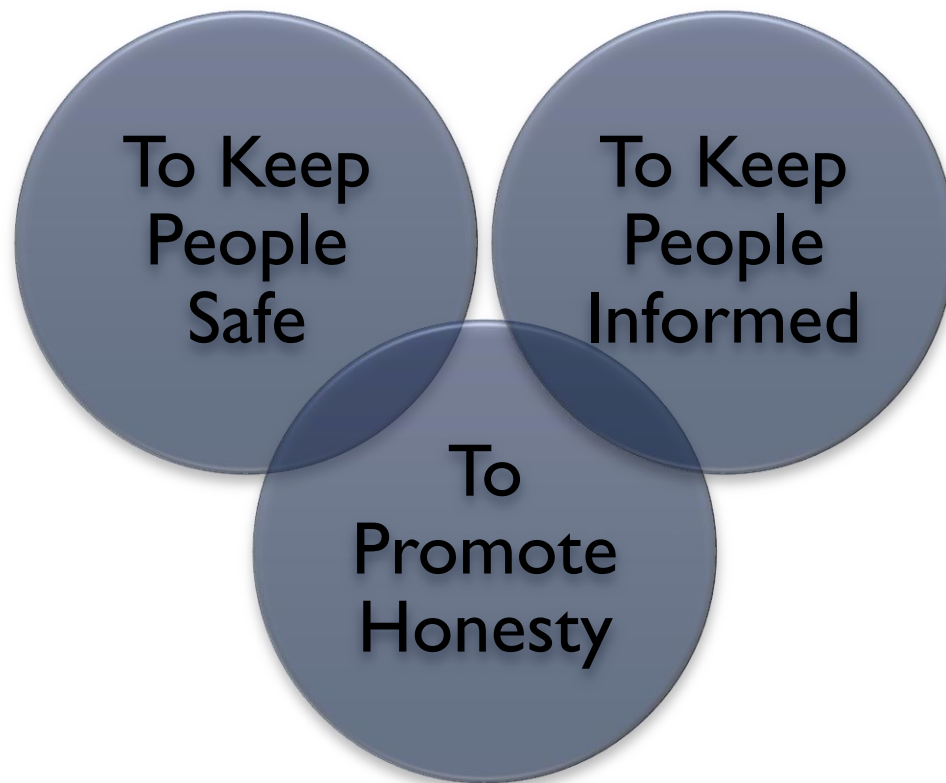
Figure 1: Man aggressively typing on a keyboard. [This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA-NC](#)

- Bots
  - Social media



Figure 2: Many social media platforms by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA-NC](#)

# WHY IS THE MITIGATION OF FAKE NEWS IMPORTANT?



# PROCESS OF RESEARCH

- Use FakeNewsNet<sup>5</sup> data repository
  - Run Python developed code
- Pull tweet information from the code
  - Put information into data chart
- Compare Real vs. Fake News Data

# FINDINGS

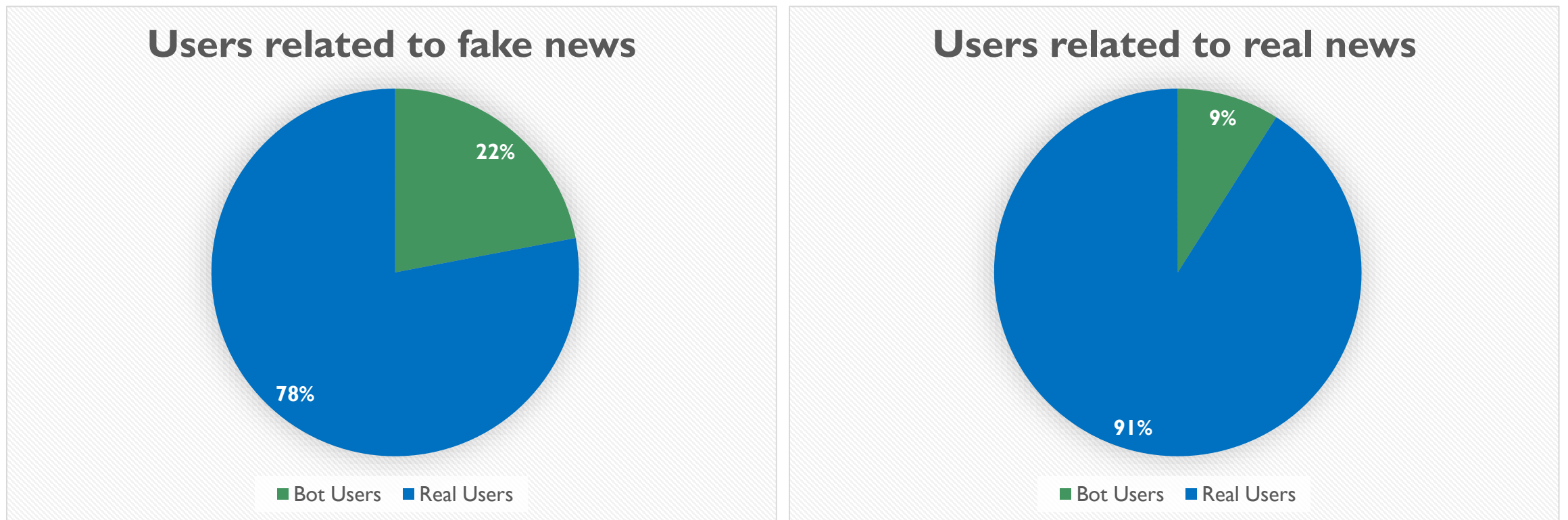


Figure 4: "Comparison of bot scores on users related to fake and real news on PolitiFact dataset."<sup>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup> SHU, K., MAHUESWARAN, D., WANG, S., LEE, D., & LIU, H. (2018). FAKENEWSNET: A DATA REPOSITORY WITH NEWS CONTENT, SOCIAL CONTEXT AND DYNAMIC INFORMATION FOR STUDYING FAKE NEWS ON SOCIAL MEDIA.



QUESTIONS?



# REFERENCES

- 1 fake news. 2019. In Dictionary.Cambridge.com.
- 2 The Onion. (2019, July 22). House Votes To Raise Federal Minimum Wage To \$15.
- 3 Magzter. Dolly's Paralyzed! (2019, July 12)
- 4 Breakingburgh. Frito-Lay Changes Color Of Cheetos To Avoid Association With Trump. (2019, July 11).
- 5 Shu, K., Mahudeswaran, D., Wang, S., Lee, D., & Liu, H. (2018). FakeNewsNet: A Data Repository with News Content, Social Context and Dynamic Information for Studying Fake News on Social Media. *ArXiv, abs/1809.01286*.
- 6 Shu, K., Mahudeswaran, D., Wang, S., Lee, D., & Liu, H. (2018). FakeNewsNet:A Data Repository with News Content, Social Context and Dynamic Information for Studying Fake News on Social Media. *ArXiv, abs/1809.01286*.