

Bad News

Website

[Bad News](#)

Founded in 2018

This tool intended to build user understanding of the techniques involved in the dissemination of disinformation. This game exposes players to fake news tactics used against them by putting them in the position of a news baron for fake news. Players win by publishing headlines that attract the most followers.

Tool type

Education/training

Status

Fully operational

Intended users

General public

Cost

Free

Tool focus

This tool is process-focused. It evaluates how information is produced and disseminated.

Method or technology

Online course or game

Is the tool automated?

Yes

Founding organization

Cambridge University collaborating with DROG

Founder/primary contact

Information not available

Bot Sentinel

Website

[Bot Sentinel](#)

Founded in 2018

Bot Sentinel is a free platform developed to detect and track trollbots and untrustworthy Twitter accounts. Bot Sentinel uses machine learning and artificial intelligence to study Twitter accounts, to classify them as trustworthy or untrustworthy, and to identify bots. It then stores those accounts in a database to track each account daily. Developers use the data they collect to explore the effect of bots and their propaganda on discourse and to explore ways to counter the spread of bots and the information they disseminate. Classifying untrustworthy accounts is a manual process. They review hundreds of tweets and retweets during the review

process. If an account has a large number of followers and a high percentage of misleading and/or factually incorrect tweets, they might classify that account as untrustworthy.

Tool type

Bot/spam detection

Status

Fully Operational

Intended users

General Public

Cost

Free

Tool focus

This tool is both content- and process-focused. It directly evaluates information (e.g., authenticating a photo), but also assesses how information is produced and disseminated.

Method or technology

Machine learning and AI

Is the tool automated?

Mixed

Founding organization

Information not available

Founder/primary contact

Christopher Bouzy

Botometer

Website

[Botometer](#)

Founded in 2014

Botometer is a web-based program that uses machine learning to classify Twitter accounts as bot or human by looking at features of a profile including friends, social network structure, temporal activity, language and sentiment. Botometer outputs an overall bot score (0-5) along with several other scores that provides a measure of the likelihood that the account is a bot.

Tool type

Bot/spam detection

Status

Fully operational

Intended users

General public

Cost

Free

Tool focus

This tool is process-focused. It evaluates how information is produced and disseminated.

Method or technology

Machine learning and AI

Is the tool automated?

Yes

Founding organization

Indiana University

Founder/primary contact

Clayton Davis, Onur Varol

BotSlayer

Website

[BotSlayer](https://bot-slayer.com)

Founded in 2018

BotSlayer is a browser extension that helps track and detect potential manipulation of information spreading on Twitter. BotSlayer uses a detection algorithm to identify hashtags, links, accounts, and media that are being amplified in a coordinated fashion by likely bots. Users can view/explore tweets and accounts associated with such amplification on Twitter or search for related content.

Tool type

Disinformation tracking

Status

Beta testing

Intended users

General public, Researchers

Cost

Free

Tool focus

This tool is content-focused. It directly evaluates information, such as the authenticity of a photo.

Method or technology

Machine learning and AI

Is the tool automated?

Yes

Founding organization

Observatory on Social Media at Indiana University

Founder/primary contact

Observatory on Social Media at Indiana University

Climate Feedback

Website

[Climate Feedback](#)

Founded in 2014

Climate Feedback is a web-based content annotation tool that allows scientists to annotate articles to provide additional context and draw attention to inaccuracies. The process results in a credibility score.

Tool type

Verification

Status

Fully operational

Intended users

General public, Researchers

Cost

Free

Tool focus

This tool is content-focused. It directly evaluates information, such as the authenticity of a photo.

Method or technology

Crowdsourcing

Is the tool automated?

No

Founding organization

Climate Feedback

Founder/primary contact

Emmanuel Vincent

Digital Polarization Initiative

Website

[Digital Polarization Initiative](#)

Founded in 2016

This tool allows for the crowdsourced verification of claims submitted by university students. Students submit claims and then work along with other students at participating organizations to collect relevant information, viewpoints, and evidence about that claim. All information about a claim is stored and all submitted claims and questions are crowdsourced.

Tool type

Verification

Status

Fully operational

Intended users

Teachers/Students

Cost

Free

Tool focus

This tool is content-focused. It directly evaluates information, such as the authenticity of a photo.

Method or technology

Crowdsourcing

Is the tool automated?

No

Founding organization

American Association of State Colleges and Universities' American Democracy Project

Founder/primary contact

Mike Caulfield

Dirt Protocol

Website

[Dirt Protocol](#)

Founded in 2017

DIRT is a blockchain verification tool that allows communities to moderate data, such that anyone is able to add data to the platform and any user can then challenge that data. Users earn tokens by identifying and correcting errors. Thus, there is an economic incentive for data to always be improving and for inaccurate data to be removed from the platform.

Tool type

Verification

Status

In development

Intended users

General public

Cost

Free

Tool focus

This tool is process-focused. It evaluates how information is produced and disseminated.

Method or technology

Blockchain

Is the tool automated?

Mixed

Founding organization

DIRT

Founder/primary contact

Yin Wu

Disinformation Index

Website

[Disinformation Index](#)

Founded in 2018

The Global Disinformation Index is a web-based tool that rates news outlets based on the "probability of disinformation on a specific media outlet." This rating system will cover all types of media, and will be a real time score.

Tool type

Credibility scoring

Status

In development

Intended users

General public

Cost

Free

Tool focus

This tool is content-focused. It directly evaluates information, such as the authenticity of a photo.

Method or technology

Human implementation

Is the tool automated?

No

Founding organization

Veracity.ai

Founder/primary contact

Alexandra Mousavizadeh, Clare Melford, Daniel Rogers

Emergent.Info

Website

[Emergent.Info](#)

Founded in 2014

Emergent.Info is a web-based tool that tracks, verifies, or debunks rumors and conspiracies online. Rumors are suggested by individuals on the site, and then staff review and determine whether the claim is verified or false.

Tool type

Verification

Status

Fully operational

Intended users

General public, Journalists

Cost
Free (paid version available)

Tool focus
This tool is content-focused. It directly evaluates information, such as the authenticity of a photo.

Method or technology
Human implementation

Is the tool automated?
No

Founding organization
Tow Center for Journalism

Founder/primary contact
Craig Silverman

Factcheck.org

Website
[Factcheck.org](https://factcheck.org)

Founded in 2013

Factcheck.org is a website affiliated with the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania that performs fact-checking. The purpose of the website is to "monitor the factual accuracy" that is present in American politics. It focuses on statements made by U.S. politicians. The group has a number of journalists who research material.

Tool type
Verification

Status
Fully operational

Intended users
General public

Cost
Free

Tool focus
This tool is content-focused. It directly evaluates information, such as the authenticity of a photo.

Method or technology
Human implementation

Is the tool automated?
No

Founding organization
Annenberg Public Policy Center

Founder/primary contact
Brooks Jackson, director Emeritus; Eugene Kiely, director

Fake News: The Game

Website

[Fake News: The Game](#)

Founded in 2017

This tool intended to build user skills in identifying false information in a gameified format. Using a retro, 1980's arcade game setup, players see headlines and have to guess if they are fake or real by swiping to the left or right in a Tinder-like fashion. High scores get recorded to a global leaderboard.

Tool type

Education/training

Status

Fully operational

Intended users

General public

Cost

Free

Tool focus

This tool is content-focused. It directly evaluates information, such as the authenticity of a photo.

Method or technology

Online course or game

Is the tool automated?

Yes

Founding organization

ISL Gaming

Founder/primary contact

Information not available

FakerFact

Website

[FakerFact](#)

Founded in 2018

FakerFact is an artificial intelligence tool that assesses the purpose and characteristics of information. Ratings include agenda-driven, journalism, wiki, opinion, satire. The tool does not rate an article as true or false, but rather provides an assessment of its purpose and its objectivity.

Tool type

Credibility scoring

Status

Beta testing
Intended users
General public
Cost
Free
Tool focus
This tool is content-focused. It directly evaluates information, such as the authenticity of a photo.
Method or technology
Machine learning and AI
Is the tool automated?
Yes
Founding organization
Fakerfact
Founder/primary contact
Mike Tamir

Forensically Image Verification Tool

Website
[Forensically Image Verification Tool](#)

Founded in 2015

Forensically is a web-based collection of tools that can be used for "digital image forensics." Some functionalities include magnifying functions, clone detection, error level analysis, noise analysis, level sweep, and many more.

Tool type
Verification
Status
Fully operational
Intended users
General public, Journalists
Cost
Free
Tool focus
This tool is content-focused. It directly evaluates information, such as the authenticity of a photo.
Method or technology
Machine learning and AI
Is the tool automated?
Yes
Founding organization
Forensically
Founder/primary contact

Jonas Wagner

Hoaxy (Observatory on Social Media)

Website

[Hoaxy \(Observatory on Social Media\)](#)

Founded in 2016

Hoaxy is a web-based tool that visualizes the spread of articles online. Hoaxy searches for claims and fact-checking going back to 2016. It tracks the sharing of links to stories from low-credibility sources and independent fact-checking organizations. It also calculates a bot score, which is a measure of the likely level of automation. Overall, the IU Observatory on Social Media is interested in studying and better understanding how information is shared online. They are also interested in studying how social media affects public discourse.

Tool type

Disinformation tracking, Bot/spam detection

Status

Fully operational

Intended users

General public, Researchers

Cost

Free

Tool focus

This tool is content-focused. It directly evaluates information, such as the authenticity of a photo.

Method or technology

Machine learning and AI

Is the tool automated?

Yes

Founding organization

Indiana University

Founder/primary contact

Filippo Menczer, Alessandro Flammini

Interland

Website

[Interland](#)

Founded in 2018

The Google Interland (Be Internet Awesome game) is a web-based game focused on teaching students how to identify false and misleading information.

Tool type

Education/training

Status

Fully operational

Intended users

Teachers/Students

Cost

Free

Tool focus

This tool is process-focused. It evaluates how information is produced and disseminated.

Method or technology

Online course or game

Is the tool automated?

Yes

Founding organization

Google

Founder/primary contact

Information not available