STANCEOSAURUS: Classifying Stance Towards Multicultural Misinformation

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Abstract
We present Stanceosaurus, a new corpus of 28,033 tweets in English, Hindi, and Arabic annotated with stance towards 251 misinformation claims. As far as we are aware, it is the largest corpus annotated with stance towards misinformation claims. The claims in Stanceosaurus originate from 15 fact-checking sources that cover diverse geographical regions and cultures. Unlike existing stance datasets, we introduce a more fine-grained 5-class labeling strategy with additional subcategories to distinguish implicit stance. Pre-trained transformer-based stance classifiers that are fine-tuned on our corpus show good generalization on unseen claims and regional claims from countries outside the training data. Cross-lingual experiments demonstrate Stanceosaurus’ capability of training multi-lingual models, achieving 53.1 F1 on Hindi and 50.4 F1 on Arabic without any target-language fine-tuning. Finally, we show how a domain adaptation method can be used to improve performance on Stanceosaurus using additional RumourEval-2019 data. We make Stanceosaurus publicly available to the research community and hope it will encourage further work on misinformation identification across languages and cultures.¹

1 Introduction
The prevalence of misinformation on online social media has become an increasingly severe societal problem. A key language technology, which has the potential to help content moderators identify rapidly-spreading misinformation, is the automatic identification of both affective and epistemic stance (Jaffe, 2009; Zuczkowski et al., 2017) towards false claims. Progress on the problem of stance identification has largely been driven by the availability of annotated corpora, such as RumourEval (Derczynski et al., 2017; Gorrell et al., 2019). However, existing corpora mostly focus on misinformation spreading within western countries.

In this paper, we present Stanceosaurus, a diverse and high-quality corpus that builds on the best design choices made in previous misinformation corpora, including RumourEval-2019 and CovidLies. Stanceosaurus covers more diverse topics, geographic regions, and cultures than prior work. It includes 28,033 tweets in English, Hindi, and Arabic that are manually annotated for stance towards 251 misinformation claims, collected from 15 independent fact-checking websites that cover India, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the United States, Europe, and the Arab World (the Levantine, Gulf, Northwest African regions, and Egypt). To the best of our knowledge, Stanceosaurus is the largest and most diverse annotated stance dataset to date.

Through extensive experiments, we demonstrate that Stanceosaurus can support the fine-grained

¹Our code and data are available at https://tinyurl.com/stanceosaurus

Figure 1: Example Hindi and English tweets in Stanceosaurus with stance towards the claim “Raid at Tirupati temple priest’s house, 128 kg gold found”.

Translation: Out of 16 priests of Tirupati temple, 128 kg gold, 150 crores cash, 77 crores diamonds were found from Income Tax raid at the house of one priest.

Translation: These are the priests of our country who have immense wealth.
classification of explicit and implicit stances, as well as zero-shot cross-lingual stance identification. In addition, we introduce and experiment with class-balanced focal loss (Cui et al., 2019) to alleviate the class imbalance issue, which is a well-known challenge in automatic stance detection (Zubiaga et al., 2016; Baly et al., 2018). Similar to other corpora that are labeled with stance towards messages or claims, Stanceosaurus reflects the natural distribution of stance observed in the wild, with comparatively few examples labeled as Supporting or Refuting (see label distributions in Table 4). We show that fine-tuning BERTweet\textsubscript{large} with class-balanced focal loss (Cui et al., 2019) can achieve 66.8 F1 for 3-way stance classification and 61.0 F1 for the finer-grained 5-way stances for English. With zero-shot transfer learning, we achieve 50.4 and 53.1 F1 for Hindi and Arabic, respectively, in a 5-way classification. Lastly, we show it is possible to train a single model to achieve better performance on Stanceosaurus’ test set via additional fine-tuning on RumourEval (Gorrell et al., 2019), using a variation of EasyAdapt (Daumé III, 2007; Bai et al., 2021) designed for pre-trained Transformers, even though these two corpora have significant differences.

### 2 Related Work

#### Stance Classification Datasets.
Given the importance of studying misinformation spreading on Twitter and the open access to its data, there are many stance classification datasets consisting of annotated tweets. However, existing datasets are largely restricted to a limited range and a number of topics — see Table 1 for a summary.\(^2\) Note that many of these datasets are considering stance towards an entity or topic (e.g., Bitcoin), whereas we focus on more specific full-sentence claims (e.g., Bitcoin is legal in Malaysia), which provides flexibility to cover more diverse topics in our work.

The closest prior efforts to ours are RumourEval-2019 (Gorrell et al., 2019) and CovidLies (Hossain et al., 2020). RumourEval-2019 (Gorrell et al., 2019) contains annotations on whether a reply tweet in a conversation thread is supporting, denying, querying, or commenting on the rumour mentioned in the source tweet. However, RumourEval covers only eight major news events (e.g., Charlie Hebdo shooting) plus additional rumors about natural disasters. The CovidLies dataset (Hossain et al., 2020) annotates a 3-way stance (Agree, Disagree, Neutral) towards 86 pieces of COVID-19-specific misinformation, using BERTScore (Zhang et al., 2020) to find potentially relevant tweets. As the authors of CovidLies (Hossain et al., 2020) have noted, relying on BERTScore (i.e., a semantic similarity measurement) biases the data collection towards more supporting and less refuting tweets.

Besides Twitter, stance classification has also been studied for other types of data. For example, the Perspectrum dataset (Chen et al., 2019) was constructed using debate forum data. Emergent (Ferreira and Vlachos, 2016) and AraStance (Al-hindi et al., 2021) consist of English and Arabic news articles annotated with stance, respectively.

#### Fact Checking Datasets.
Related to but different from stance classification, fact-checking (aka rumour verification) as an NLP task primarily focuses on the assessment of claims being true or false. There exist several fact-checking datasets, such as FEVER (Thorne et al., 2018) and MultiFC (Augenstein et al., 2019) for English, and X-Fact (Gupta and Srikumar, 2021) for 25 non-English languages. These datasets consist of claims extracted from Wikipedia or fact-checking sites, which are

| Dataset                  | Target     | Number/Range of Topics                                                                 |
|-------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SemEval-2016 (Mohammad et al., 2016) | Subject | 6 political topics (e.g., atheism, feminist movement)                                    |
| SRQ (Villa-Cox et al., 2020) | Subject | 4 political topics & events (e.g., general terms, student marches)                         |
| Catalonia (Zotova et al., 2020) | Subject | 1 topic (i.e., Catalonia independence)                                                  |
| COVID (Glandt et al., 2021)                | Subject | 4 topic related to Covid-19 (e.g., stay at home orders)                                  |
| Multi-target (Sobhani et al., 2017)       | Entity    | 3 pairs of candidates in 2016 US election                                              |
| WTFT (Conforti et al., 2020)               | Event     | 5 merger and acquisition events                                                         |
| RumourEval (Gorrell et al., 2019)         | Tweet     | 8 news events + rumors about natural disasters                                          |
| Rumor-has-it (Qazvinian et al., 2011)     | Claim     | 5 rumors (e.g., Sarah Palin getting divorced?)                                          |
| CovidLies (Hossain et al., 2020)          | Claim     | 86 pieces of COVID-19 misinformation                                                    |

Stanceosaurus (this work) | Claim | 251 claims over a diverse set of global and regional topics |

*Table 1: Summary of Twitter stance classification datasets. Stanceosaurus covers more claims from a broader range of topics and geographical regions than prior Twitter stance datasets.*

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\(^2\)See also the excellent survey by Hardalov et al. (2021c). Given space limitations, we highlight only the most relevant work.
## Table 2: Fact-checking sources included in our Stanceosaurus corpus. The most common regions are listed. **Stance** – breakdown of tweets into 5 main categories in relation to each claim: Irrelevant, Supporting, Refuting, Discussing, and Querying. **Country & Regions** – home country of the source and the distribution of claims regarding home country, regional, and international matters. Other refers to claims in countries other than the primary countries covered by the source (e.g., Snopes claims about India).

| Source                  | Country & Regions | Lang | #Claims | #Tweets | Irr. | Sup. | Ref. | Dis. | Que. |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------|---------|---------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Snopes                  | USA (80%), INT’L (16.7%), Other (3.3%) | en   | 30      | 3197    | 1051 | 428  | 229  | 1447 | 42   |
| Poynter                 | Europe (5%), INT’L (90%), Other (5%) | en   | 20      | 2197    | 949  | 274  | 97   | 844  | 33   |
| FullFact                | UK (30%), INT’L (55%), Other (15%) | en   | 20      | 2379    | 806  | 300  | 179  | 1057 | 37   |
| AFP Fact Check CAN      | Canada (55%), INT’L (30%), Other (15%) | en   | 20      | 2078    | 746  | 252  | 130  | 910  | 40   |
| AAP Fact Check          | Australia (10%), INT’L (65%), Other (25%) | en   | 20      | 2302    | 739  | 374  | 136  | 1019 | 34   |
| AFP Fact Check NZ       | New Zealand (35%), INT’L (75%), Other (10%) | en   | 20      | 2227    | 879  | 194  | 81   | 1044 | 29   |
| Blackdotesearch         | Singapore (30%), INT’L (55%), Other (15%) | en   | 20      | 2307    | 842  | 248  | 113  | 1076 | 28   |
| Factly                  | India (45%), INT’L (55%) | en   | 20      | 1979    | 889  | 190  | 117  | 734  | 49   |
| Polifact                | USA (20%), INT’L (35%), Other (45%) | en   | 20      | 2041    | 984  | 289  | 8    | 753  | 7    |
| Alt News                | India (90.4%), INT’L (4.8%), Other (4.8%) | hi   | 21      | 1730    | 550  | 489  | 172  | 500  | 19   |
| Aajtak                  | India (67%), Other (33%) | hi   | 9       | 806     | 456  | 110  | 40   | 193  | 7    |
| Hindi Newschecker       | India (56%), Other (44%) | hi   | 9       | 781     | 195  | 313  | 46   | 219  | 8    |
| MISBAR                  | Arab World (58.3%), INT’L (8.3%), Other (33.4%) | ar   | 12      | 2283    | 454  | 514  | 203  | 1031 | 81   |
| Fatabyyano              | Arab World (28.5%), INT’L (57.1%), Other (14.4%) | ar   | 7       | 986     | 234  | 163  | 49   | 522  | 18   |
| Maharath Fact-o-meter   | INT’L (100%) | ar   | 3       | 740     | 224  | 132  | 55   | 316  | 13   |

Total                   Regional (57.4%), INT’L (42.6%) | 251 | 28033 | 9998 | 4270 | 1655 | 11665 | 445 |

3 The Stanceosaurus Corpus

Our corpus consists of social media posts manually annotated for stance toward claims from multiple fact-checking websites across the world. We carefully designed the data collection and annotation scheme to ensure better quality and coverage, improving upon prior work.

3.1 Collecting Fact-checked Claims

To ensure multicultural representation, we obtain fact-checked claims from both Western and non-Western sources (Table 2). We choose nine well-known fact-checking websites in English, three in Hindi, and three in Arabic. We randomly select claims from each source posted between 5/17/2012 and 02/28/2022 that have sparked discussion on Twitter. In total, we have 251 claims in our corpus, of which 144 are considered regional based on manual inspection (see column **Country & Regions** in Table 2). A few efforts have also looked at transferring knowledge from larger datasets to smaller datasets (Xu et al., 2018; Hardalov et al., 2021a; Schiller et al., 2021) and languages with less data (Mohtarami et al., 2019; Zotova et al., 2020; Hardalov et al., 2021b). Stanceosaurus (this work) is one of the largest and most diverse stance classification datasets to date, enabling the study of cross-lingual transfer for stance classification towards misinformation claims.
Table 2). For example, the claims “Finland is promoting a 4 day work week” and “Burning Ghee will produce Oxygen” are both considered regional, one explicitly and one implicitly; whereas the claim “Bees use acoustic levitation to fly” is considered international. The claims in Stanceosaurus range from news, health, and science to politics (e.g., “Sonu Sood promises to support Hamas/Palestine”), conspiracy theories, history, and urban myths (e.g., “The pyramids of Giza were built by slaves”). We present all 251 claims in Appendix D.

3.2 Retrieving Conversations around Claims

For better coverage of diverse topics, we invested substantial effort in creating customized queries with varied keywords and time ranges for each claim to retrieve tweets. We also trace the entire reply chain in both directions, so Stanceosaurus includes relevant tweets that may not contain the keywords.

Curated Search Queries. We retrieve tweets by keyword search, which we believe is the most effective approach given the constraints of Twitter’s APIs. To ensure the coverage and quality of our dataset, we manually curated and iteratively refined search queries for each claim, utilizing advanced search operators to restrict the relevant time period and language. We expand search queries with synonyms (e.g., “jab” for “vaccine”) and lexical variations whenever possible; the latter is particularly helpful for including different Arabic dialects. See Appendix A for example queries. We collect tweets from different time periods for different claims (e.g., a two-week range for timely events and a max range from 7/3/2008 to 5/9/2022 for historic myths).

Context from URLs and Reply Chains. Individual tweets retrieved by search do not capture the contextual aspects of stance, which can be very important as misinformation often spreads in multi-turn conversations on social media. Therefore, we also collect the parent tweets (i.e., the tweet that a search retrieved tweet is replying to) and the entire reply chains if available. Additional details are presented in Appendix C.

3.3 Annotating Stance Towards Claims

We employ a fine-grained annotation scheme that supports 5-way and 3-way stance classification.

5-way Stance Categories. We define stance detection as a five-way classification task, including irrelevant tweets in addition to the four stance classes used in prior works (Schiller et al., 2021; Gorrell et al., 2018), as follows:

- **Irrelevant** – unrelated to the claim;
- **Supporting** – explicitly affirms the claim is true or provides verifying evidence;
- **Refuting** – explicitly asserts the claim is false or presents evidence to disprove the claim;
- **Discussing** – provide neutral information on the context or veracity of the claim;
- **Querying** – questions the veracity of the claim.

See Figure 1 and Appendix B.1 for examples of different stances, shown with the reply chain details.

Subcategories and 3-way Stance Classification. Although some tweets may be neutral towards a claim, they can still show an indirect bias. For example, the tweet “Fauci: No Concern About Number of People Testing Positive After COVID-19 Vaccine.” in response to the claim “The COVID-19 Vaccine has magnets or will make your body magnetic” discusses the vaccine rollout, while it can be viewed as implicitly supporting the claim regarding the lack of vaccine safety. We thus further annotate the Discussing tweets for their leanings as three subcategories: Discussing-support (44.6%), Discussing-refute (25.7%), and Discussing-other (29.7%). This not only enables fine-grained classification but also makes our Stanceosaurus corpus flexible enough to support the 3-way (Supporting, Refuting, Other) setup used in other prior work.

Data Annotation. We hired four native speakers for English, two for Hindi, and two for Arabic to annotate the tweets with stance. English annotators are all from the U.S., and non-English annotators grew up in the respective countries or regions of the claims being collected. All of the annotators have a college-level education. We designed detailed guidelines (see Appendix B.2) and held training sessions to assist our annotators. For each claim, the annotators are reasonably familiar with the topic because they are asked to read and learn about the subject matter before annotating. Cohen’s Kappa (κ) between the annotators is summarized in Table 3, showing substantial agreement (Artstein and Poesio, 2008) for all languages.

By merging (1) Discussing-support with Supporting; (2) Discussing-refute with Refuting; (3) Discussing-other, Irrelevant, and Querying together into Other.
Table 3: Inter-annotator agreement calculated based on 5-class and 3-class stances.

Disagreements often occur over challenging cases. For example, “Evergreen ship stuck in the Suez Canal - interesting call sign” is supporting the conspiracy theory “Hillary Clinton is trafficking children aboard the Evergreen Ship”, with the connection being that the call sign of the ship is “H3RC”, which coincidentally overlaps with Hillary’s initials. The disagreements were resolved by a third adjudicator for Hindi, and through discussions between the annotators for English and Arabic. Interestingly, the Hindi subset of Stanceosaurus exhibits some forms of code-switching in 28.2% of instances, including some replies written in English, while 6.3% of the Arabic data exhibited code-switching. A subset of 200 tweets randomly sampled from the Arabic data was further labeled for language variations, which contains 62.5% Modern Standard Arabic (MSA), 35.5% dialects, 0.5% Arabizi, and 1.5% in the form of emojis or mentions.

3.4 Comparison to RumourEval

Although our annotation design is comparable to RumourEval (Gorrell et al., 2019), in that both annotate the stance of Twitter threads towards rumorous claims, there are a few important differences: (1) RumourEval limits their rumorous claims primarily to 8 major news events plus additional natural disaster events, whereas we use a much larger and more diverse sample of claims originating from multicultural news outlets. (2) RumourEval, unlike our dataset, does not explicitly provide the claims. Rather, the first tweet of the thread is used to represent both the claim and the stance in RumourEval. (3) We label discussing subcategories that capture indirect bias towards a claim (see §3.3). (4) RumourEval excludes irrelevant tweets, limiting its generalizability. For a direct comparison, we present the corpus statistics of Stanceosaurus and RumourEval-20196 in Table 4, and further test classification models on both datasets in §5.3.

4 Automatic Stance Detection

We design multiple automatic stance identification experiments to test the generalization capabilities of models trained on Stanceosaurus. First, we establish the baseline performance of predicting stance towards unseen claim using fine-tuned Transformer models in §5.1 and experiment with the class-balanced focal loss for addressing the imbalanced class distribution. We present zero-shot cross-lingual experiments in §5.2, where multilingual models are trained on English tweets and evaluated on the Hindi and Arabic tweets. Furthermore, we demonstrate that a simple domain adaptation method can help improve performance on Stanceosaurus using additional RumourEval data in §5.3. Finally, we show that models trained only on International claims subset can extrapolate well to regional claims from individual countries in §5.4.

4.1 Baseline Models

We experiment with fine-tuning methods using BERT (Devlin et al., 2019) and BERTweet (Nguyen et al., 2020). The latter is a RoBERTa-based (Liu et al., 2019) model pre-trained on Twitter data.7 Stance identification is modeled as sentence-pair classification, using special tokens to format the input as “[CLS] claim [SEP] text”, where “text” is a tweet concatenated with its context (parent tweet and any extracted HTML titles – see §3.2). We found that incorporating context generally helps stance classification for reply tweets (see ablation

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6As RumourEval distributes only message IDs, we reconstructed the dataset by retrieving all the available posts from Twitter and Reddit, with a loss of a small portion of data that has been deleted on the social media platform (120 out of 1876 instances in the test set; 12 and 7 instances in the train/dev).

7The base size of the BERTweet model is trained on 850M English tweets streamed from 01/2012 to 08/2019. The large size is trained with additional 23M tweets that are related to COVID-19.
study in Appendix B.3). We use standard cross-entropy loss in all baselines.

4.2 Class-balanced Focal Loss (CB\textsubscript{foc})

The imbalanced class problem has been identified as a major challenge in automatic stance classification (Li and Scarton, 2020), since fewer messages exhibit Supporting or Refuting stances in the wild (see Table 4). To alleviate this issue, prior work has used weighted cross-entropy loss (Fajcik et al., 2019). We experiment with weighted cross-entropy loss and Class-Balanced Focal loss (Cui et al., 2019; Bahefi et al., 2021), which has shown promising results in computer vision research recently, as an alternative.

We use \(\hat{s} = (z_0, z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4)\) to represent the unnormalized scores assigned by the model for five stance classes \(C = \{\text{Irrelevant}, \text{Discussing}, \text{Supporting}, \text{Refuting}, \text{Querying}\}\). The class-balanced focal loss is then defined as:

\[
\text{CB}_{\text{foc}}(\hat{s}, y) = -\frac{1 - \beta}{1 - \beta n_y} \sum_{m \in C} (1 - p_m)^\gamma \log(p_m),
\]

where:

\[
z_m' = \begin{cases} 
    z_m & m = y \\
    -z_m & \text{otherwise}
\end{cases}
\]

Focal loss employs the expression \((1 - p_m)^\gamma\) to reduce the relative loss for well classified instances. We select the best checkpoint that achieves the highest Macro F1 on the development set.

4.3 Implementation Details

We replace usernames and URLs with special tokens, truncate or pad the input to a sequence length of 256 as in BERT and BERTweet. All models were trained for 10 epochs and optimized with the Adam optimizer. Learning rates were selected among \(\{1e^{-5}, 3e^{-5}, 5e^{-5}, 7e^{-5}, 9e^{-5}\}\). The train batch size was set to 8. For all test set evaluations, we select the best checkpoint that achieves the highest Macro F1 on the development set.

5 Experiments and Results

We report average results over five random seeds primarily by Macro F1, which has been used as the standard metric in stance classification since the arguably more important stances (i.e., Refuting and Supporting) only consist of a small portion of data.

5.1 Stance Detection for Unseen Claims

For this experiment, we split the English data based on claims into train, dev, and test set (see the left side of Table 4). We evaluate all models on the 5-way stance classification of tweets towards claims that are unseen during training. As shown in Table 5, the best model is BERTweet\textsubscript{large}, which achieves 60.2 F1 when trained with standard and weighted cross-entropy loss and 61.0 F1 with class-balanced focal loss. We see some alleviation of the data imbalance issue in the per-label analysis in Table 6, which shows improved F1 using class-balanced focal loss for the two least frequent labels, Refuting and Querying.

As mentioned in §3.3, Stanceosaurus can also support 3-way stance classification by merging Discussing\textsubscript{support} and Discussing\textsubscript{refute} tweets with Supporting and Refuting, respectively. We present the results from BERTweet\textsubscript{large} for this experiment in Table 5. Interestingly, the label F1 for Refuting decreases in the 3-way classification, compared to the 5-way setup. It suggests that identifying the indirect leaning for Discussing\textsubscript{refute} tweets makes the task harder. Meanwhile, the higher F1 scores for Supporting and Other labels indicate that our classifier is good at detecting tweets that propagate

| Model                      | Stanceosaurus (unseen claims) | Precision | Recall | F1   |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|--------|------|
| BERT\textsubscript{base} + CE + weighted CE + CB\textsubscript{foc} | 51.1 ± 1.1 | 50.5 ± 2.0 | 50.4 ± 1.6 |
| BERT\textsubscript{large} + CE + weighted CE + CB\textsubscript{foc} | 54.3 ± 0.8 | 53.0 ± 0.6 | 53.6 ± 0.6 |
| BERTweet\textsubscript{base} + CE + weighted CE + CB\textsubscript{foc} | 53.1 ± 1.2 | 52.2 ± 1.6 | 52.3 ± 1.0 |
| BERTweet\textsubscript{large} + CE + weighted CE + CB\textsubscript{foc} | 51.8 ± 1.0 | 55.2 ± 1.4 | 53.1 ± 0.7 |
| BERTweet\textsubscript{base} + CE + weighted CE + CB\textsubscript{foc} | 51.3 ± 0.6 | 56.8 ± 0.6 | 53.5 ± 0.3 |
| BERTweet\textsubscript{large} + CE + weighted CE + CB\textsubscript{foc} | 60.6 ± 2.0 | 60.2 ± 1.0 | 60.2 ± 1.1 |

Table 5: 5-way stance classification results for unseen claims in Stanceosaurus (mean ± standard deviation across runs of five random seeds). Class-balanced focal loss (CB\textsubscript{foc}) outperforms standard and weighted cross-entropy loss (CE, weighted CE).
misinformation, even when some of them do not assert a stance explicitly.

5.2 Zero-Shot Cross-Lingual Transfer

Truly multicultural stance identification requires models that are capable of operating across languages. To demonstrate the feasibility of identifying the stance towards misinformation claims in a zero-shot cross-lingual setting, when no training data in the target language is available, we fine-tune models on Stanceosaurus’ English training set and use all the annotated Hindi/Arabic data as the test set. We experiment with both multilingual BERT (Devlin et al., 2019) and XLM-RoBERTa (Conneau et al., 2020). Because we assume no training data is available for the target language, all hyperparameters are tuned on the English dev set. Full results of our 5-class cross-lingual experiments are presented in Table 7. When trained with class-balanced focal loss, XLM-RoBERTa\textsubscript{large} achieves 53.1 Macro F1 for Hindi and 50.4 for Arabic, notably outperforming models trained with cross-entropy loss.

5.3 Combining Stanceosaurus + RumourEval

Because Stanceosaurus follows a similar labeling scheme as existing stance corpora, such as RumourEval (Gorrell et al., 2018), this raises a natural question: is it possible to achieve better performance by combining the two datasets?

We first confirm that fine-tuning BERTweet\textsubscript{large} with class-balanced focal loss is also the best performing model on RumourEval-2019’s original 4-class evaluation setup, outperforming the weighted cross-entropy loss used in BUT-FIT (Fajcik et al., 2019), as shown in Table 8. To evaluate cross-dataset performance, we then convert both Stanceosaurus and RumourEval-2019 into 3-way stances to minimize the differences between their annotation schemes. RumourEval is converted by collapsing Discussing and Querying instances into another category.

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Table 6: Per-label comparison of BERTweet\textsubscript{large}, when fine-tuned with cross-entropy, weighted cross-entropy loss, and class-balanced focal loss, both for 3-class and 5-class stance detection on our corpus. Weighted cross-entropy and class-balanced focal loss improves F1 score overall, and in particular for the least frequent stance of Refuting.

| Stance Class | #test | Cross-Entropy Loss | | Weighted Cross-Entropy Loss | | Class-balanced Focal Loss | |
|-------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|
| | | Precision | Recall | F1 | Precision | Recall | F1 | Precision | Recall | F1 |
| Supporting | 592 | 58.9 ± 2.1 | 61.5 ± 2.2 | 60.6 ± 1.0 | 57.2 ± 0.9 | 60.6 ± 2.3 | 58.8 ± 1.6 | 57.6 ± 1.0 | 63.8 ± 1.3 | 60.5 ± 1.0 |
| Refuting | 270 | 60.6 ± 0.9 | 57.4 ± 1.9 | 58.7 ± 2.3 | 60.6 ± 3.0 | 61.6 ± 4.6 | 60.9 ± 1.1 | 60.9 ± 2.2 | 61.6 ± 3.2 | 61.1 ± 1.0 |
| Discussing | 2160 | 66.4 ± 0.7 | 63.5 ± 2.7 | 64.9 ± 1.3 | 65.5 ± 1.1 | 64.1 ± 2.9 | 64.7 ± 1.0 | 67.0 ± 1.1 | 60.1 ± 1.8 | 62.2 ± 0.8 |
| Querying | 54 | 43.7 ± 7.2 | 42.6 ± 5.9 | 42.8 ± 3.7 | 47.5 ± 6.8 | 41.1 ± 4.3 | 43.6 ± 2.7 | 42.3 ± 5.7 | 51.5 ± 6.6 | 45.8 ± 2.9 |
| Irrelevant | 1674 | 72.4 ± 2.4 | 76.0 ± 2.3 | 74.1 ± 0.9 | 73.2 ± 2.3 | 73.4 ± 5.0 | 73.2 ± 1.5 | 71.1 ± 0.9 | 77.4 ± 2.8 | 74.1 ± 0.9 |
| All | 3912 | 60.6 ± 2.0 | 60.2 ± 1.0 | 60.2 ± 0.5 | 60.8 ± 1.6 | 60.2 ± 1.0 | 60.2 ± 0.5 | 59.8 ± 1.3 | 62.8 ± 1.5 | 61.0 ± 0.8 |

Table 7: Cross-lingual experiments where the models are trained on the English part of Stanceosaurus and evaluated on the Hindi/Arabic data. Models trained with class-balanced focal loss (CB\textsubscript{foc}) outperform those trained with standard and weighted cross-entropy loss (CE) with higher Macro F1 and lower variance.

| Model | Stanceosaurus (English → Hindi) | | Stanceosaurus (English → Arabic) | |
|-------|-------------------------------|------|-------------------------------|------|
| | Precision | Recall | F1 | Precision | Recall | F1 |
| mBERT\textsubscript{base} + CE | 52.1 ± 2.9 | 39.4 ± 2.0 | 40.8 ± 2.5 | 44.8 ± 1.5 |
| + weighted CE | 55.0 ± 2.2 | 42.4 ± 1.4 | 44.8 ± 1.5 | 44.8 ± 1.5 |
| + CB\textsubscript{foc} | 53.0 ± 3.4 | 44.1 ± 1.7 | 45.3 ± 1.5 | 45.3 ± 1.5 |
| XLM-R\textsubscript{base} + CE | 53.2 ± 1.0 | 42.6 ± 2.1 | 44.3 ± 1.9 | 44.3 ± 1.9 |
| + weighted CE | 50.3 ± 1.1 | 44.4 ± 1.9 | 44.6 ± 1.5 | 44.6 ± 1.5 |
| + CB\textsubscript{foc} | 52.8 ± 2.1 | 46.5 ± 0.7 | 47.4 ± 0.9 | 47.4 ± 0.9 |
| XLM-R\textsubscript{large} + CE | 55.7 ± 3.5 | 49.0 ± 1.8 | 49.9 ± 1.6 | 49.9 ± 1.6 |
| + weighted CE | 57.5 ± 1.3 | 51.1 ± 0.9 | 52.5 ± 1.0 | 52.5 ± 1.0 |
| + CB\textsubscript{foc} | 57.4 ± 2.1 | 51.5 ± 1.3 | 53.1 ± 1.6 | 53.1 ± 1.6 |

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Table 8: Results on RumourEval-2019 that compare different models trained with class-balanced focal loss (CB$_{loc}$), standard and weighted cross-entropy losses.

The Other category. When merging the datasets, we upsample the RumourEval dataset to twice its size to counteract the imbalance between the two datasets. Table 9 shows models trained on in-domain data achieve higher performance than the naive merging of the two datasets for training.

To close this performance gap, we adopt the EasyAdapt (Daumé III, 2007; Bai et al., 2021) method to fine-tune BERTweet$_{large}$ on the combination of RumourEval and Stanceosaurus. EasyAdapt creates three identical copies of the contextualized representations of the input, which are concatenated and fed into a linear layer before softmax classification. The parameters in the linear layer that correspond to the first and third copies are updated when training on Stanceosaurus, while others are zeroed out; the parameters that correspond to the second and third copies are updated when training on RumourEval. This enables the model to encode representations that are specific to each dataset and domain-independent parameters that can transfer between the two datasets. BERTweet$_{large}$ with EasyAdapt achieves 67.4 Macro F1 for Stanceosaurus and 65.8 Macro F1 for RumourEval, outperforming the in-domain model performance for Stanceosaurus and matching the in-domain model performance of RumourEval.

5.4 Stance Detection for Unseen Countries

The English dataset comprises 97 international and 93 regional claims. We test BERTweet’s ability to generalize toward regional claims by training on international claims. Specifically, we create a new train-test-dev split, with 10740/5701/4896 datapoints spread around 97/43/42 claims. Table 10 shows the results stratified by source. Performance on the regional data varies widely between sources. Poynter and AFP Fact Check New Zealand, two sources with the most international data, have the best F1s at 63.0 and 63.5 respectively.

Table 9: Cross-domain experiments on Stanceosaurus and RumourEval. We fine-tune BERTweet$_{large}$ using class-balanced focal loss. Performance drops significantly when training on one dataset and testing on the other. However, with EasyAdapt (Daumé III, 2007; Bai et al., 2021), we attain a single model that achieves best performance on Stanceosaurus while being on-par with in-domain RumourEval model performance.

Table 10: Results on Unseen Countries experiment. BERTweet$_{large}$ finetuned on class-balanced focal loss is trained on international claims and evaluated on regional claims, stratified by fact-checking source. The model achieves an aggregate F1 that is somewhat lower than its counterpart in the Unseen Claims experiment.

6 Conclusion

We introduce Stanceosaurus, a new corpus of 28,033 social media messages annotated with stance towards 251 misinformation claims originating from 15 multicultural fact-checking sources. To the best of our knowledge, Stanceosaurus is the largest stance dataset yet. Stanceosaurus contains consistent annotations across claims and languages, and stance classifier models trained on our dataset can perform well on unseen claims and languages. Our experiments demonstrate that class-balanced focal loss consistently improves upon cross-entropy loss in addressing the stance label-imbalance issue. Furthermore, the domain adaptation experiments with EasyAdapt show it is possible to utilize RumourEval data to achieve even better performance on Stanceosaurus despite significant differences in their data collection strategies. Our work represents a step towards the development of accurate models that can track the spread of misinformation online across diverse languages and cultures.
Limitations

We currently use manually curated search queries for collecting tweets related to misinformation claims in Stanceosaurus. While we tried our best to include relevant keywords and their synonyms in the search queries, it still requires careful manual effort and may not be exhaustive in finding all relevant tweets related to the claim. Furthermore, it is non-trivial to extend such queries to new claims and languages. Future work could look at automatically generating these queries using a few-shot shot in-context demonstrations with large language models (Brown et al., 2020).

We collect the Stanceosaurus dataset with all the human resources available to us for three languages. We leave annotations for more languages for future work. We will also release our detailed data annotation guideline and invite other researchers to extend our work to set a standard benchmark for stance classification.

There are also potential biases in the claims that reflect the biases of content moderators from the fact-checking sources. We made our best effort to identify a list of fact-checking sources based on Wikipedia and pre-existing datasets used in the NLP community to collect claims from different countries and languages. We randomly sample claims from these sources and, since we are constructing a Twitter-based dataset, we are only able to include claims that have been discussed on Twitter. If the claim is unpopular on Twitter, we cannot gather sufficient data for annotation. Following Twitter’s Developer Agreement and Policy, we release our dataset freely for academic research and include the full set of claims in the Appendix of the paper for readers to examine the potential biases in our dataset more conveniently.

Although the class-balanced focal loss improves stance classification in data imbalanced settings, our models are still far from perfect. We do not use user-specific, temporal, and network features as additional context which has been shown to improve prediction performance (Aldayel and Magdy, 2019; Lukasik et al., 2016).

Broader Impact and Ethical Considerations

We will release our dataset under Twitter Developer Agreement,¹⁰ which grants permissions for academic researchers to share Tweet IDs and User IDs for non-commercial research purposes, as of October 1st, 2022.

Our datasets and models are developed for research purposes and may contain unknown biases towards certain demographic groups or individuals (Sap et al., 2019). Further investigation into systematic biases should be conducted before deployment in a production environment.

Social media companies currently struggle with content moderation in non-Western countries.¹¹ We hope Stanceosaurus will help stimulate more public research that can help shed light on how to inhibit the spread of dangerous misinformation across languages and cultures.

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¹⁰https://developer.twitter.com/en/developer-terms/agreement-and-policy

¹¹https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2021/10/24/india-facebook-misinformation-hate-speech/
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A Customized Queries for Retrieving Tweets

We present example claims and their search queries from each of the three languages in Table 13.

B Stance Classification with Context

B.1 Annotation Example of Tweets in Reply Chain

Table 14 shows representative examples of different stances towards the claim “The COVID-19 Vaccine will make your body magnetic”. Note that some tweets are context-dependent (e.g., “No that is not true”); their stance can only be determined with appropriate context.

B.2 Guidelines for Tricky Annotation

We identified some common scenarios in our annotation which lead to annotation disagreements in our preliminary analysis of the data. We designed specific guidelines to improve annotation consistency, including:

• If the claim has a lot of information, we should focus on the core contentious part of the claim when judging the stance of the tweets.

• If the tweet is giving an analysis of the contentious event or talking about an adjacent event (regional) then it should be considered Discussing.

• If the tweet is just emojis, praise, or pleasant message (e.g., “thank you”, “good job sir”) towards a context tweet, consider it Discussing with the leaning inherited from the Stance of the context tweet.

• For querying, the tweet should be questioning the veracity of the claim and not any other question about the incident.

• If the main purpose of the tweet is gauging the people’s opinions related to the claim then it is Discussing.

• If the tweet is posing a question with #fake-news or #factcheck but the URL asserts that the claim is false then it should be judged Refuting. However, if the URL is also a question without a judgment then it should be considered Discussing.

• If a reply tweet is adding information/opinion on top of the context (assuming that the context tweet is true) then annotate Discussing with Leaning inherited from the context.

B.3 Importance of Considering Context

Stance that is realized in social media messages often depends on the context of a conversation, or links to external webpages, as discussed in §3.2. In this section, we evaluate the impact of context in the form of parent tweets and URL titles. To ablate context, we first organize tweets in the training data into reply chains. Next, we separate threads into root tweets that have no parent in the conversation thread and reply tweets that are written in response to another message. We fine-tune BERTweet_large on (1) only root tweets, (2) only reply tweets, and (3) both root and reply tweets. We also measure the impact of training with and without context. We use standard cross-entropy loss for this comparison study, excluding the impact of hyperparameter choices in the focal loss, as the stance distribution differs between root and reply tweets.

The results in Table 11 demonstrate that root tweets, reply tweets, and context are complementary for achieving the best overall performance. The F1 score on root tweets is significantly higher than on reply tweets, indicating the difficulty to determine stance in extended conversations. Unsurprisingly, training only on root tweets achieves a higher 61.7 F1 on root tweets but a lower 35.4 F1 on reply tweets. For models trained only on reply tweets, including context improves performance on reply tweets but hurts performance on root tweets.

B.4 Unseen Fact-checking Sources

Since the claims in Stanceosaurus are collected from multicultural sources, we also test stance clas-
Table 11: Ablation experiments to study the impact of context in 5-way stance classification. In particular, we split the Twitter threads within Stanceosaurus’ training set into root tweets (those with no parent in the conversation thread) and reply tweets (tweets that are written in response to another message). In all experiments, we train BERTweet\textsubscript{large} using cross-entropy loss. Results suggest that predicting the stance of reply tweets is significantly harder than root tweets. Context improves the overall stance classification performance mainly by improving prediction on reply tweets.

| Fact Check Source | Unseen Source | Unseen Claims |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
|                   | #train | #test | F1 | #train | #test | F1 |
| AAP Fact Check    | 11135   | 477    | 58.7 | 59.2 |
| AFP Fact Check CAN | 10941   | 459    | 57.6 | 59.6 |
| AFP Fact Check NZ | 10554   | 482    | 54.5 | 55.7 |
| Blackdotresearch | 10699   | 517    | 57.3 | 59.3 |
| Factly            | 10693   | 318    | 59.4 | 61.4 |
| FullFact          | 10783   | 602    | 60.0 | 61.8 |
| Politifact        | 10927   | 838    | 50.6 | 60.0 |
| Polyt点儿        | 10715   | 321    | 52.4 | 55.3 |
| Snopes            | 10593   | 736    | 57.7 | 58.0 |
| All               | 12130   | 4750   | -    | 61.0 |

Table 12: Results of BERTweet\textsubscript{large} with the class-balanced focal loss on unseen fact-checking sources. For each source, we remove associated tweets from train/dev in Stanceosaurus’ standard data split. Macro F1 scores are computed on a subset of the test set with tweets only from the unseen source. We also report the performance of the same model trained on full train/dev splits in Stanceosaurus with tweets from all sources. Performance is degraded when predicting stance on unseen sources, but not by a large margin.

C Additional Details on Conversation

Threads

For each claim from English and Hindi sources, we randomly sample up to 150 tweets for annotation: max 50 tweets (average 50 for English and 48.1 for Hindi) retrieved from our queries, max 50 parent tweets (average 30.7 for English and 8.6 for Hindi), and max 50 children tweets (average 28.3 for English and 33.0 for Hindi) from reply chains. For Arabic, we annotated all the tweets (average 175.8 per claim) retrieved from the search and reply chain. Finally, we organize every tweet such that its immediate parent serves as the context. For tweets containing URLs, we also additionally include the HTML ‘Title’ tag extracted from the URL. About 40.5% of all tweets in our dataset have a parent tweet in context, while 19.5% of tweets have associated HTML titles.

D Stanceosaurus Claims

We provide the full set of English, Hindi, and Arabic claims, with English translations for Hindi and Arabic. Figure 2 provides all 22 Arabic claims, Table 15 provides all 39 Hindi claims, and Table 16 provides all 190 English claims.
Table 13: Example English and Hindi claims with corresponding search queries. Queries are manually constructed to cast a broad net, retrieving both relevant and irrelevant messages containing the keywords.

| Claim | Query |
|-------|-------|
| Easter is a celebration for the Mediterranean Goddess Ishtar | (easter ishtar) lang:en -filter:retweets |
| The false positive rate for a COVID-19 test is very high | ((COVID OR coronavirus) AND false positive) lang:en -filter:retweets |
| पाकिस्तान में यह पुल खिड़का गया है। पाक आर्मी और कराची पुलिस के बीच जवाबदंत फायरिंग शुरू हो गई है। Translation: In-house war has broken out in Pakistan. Heavy firing has started between Pak Army and Karachi Police. | (pak OR pak OR pak OR pak) (war OR firing OR army) (karachi OR police) since:2020-09-01 until:2020-12-15 |
| सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने आदेश दिया कि मुस्लिम पुरुष और हिंदू महिला का अब विवाह संभव नहीं Translation: Supreme Court orders that marriage of Muslim man and Hindu woman is no longer possible. | (muslim OR muslim OR muslim) (marriage OR wedding OR marriage) since:2020-07-01 until:2020-10-31 |
| وفاة الفنان كاظم الساهر | (artist OR painter) since:2021-12-01 until:2021-02-01 |
| ترجمة: مقتل كاظم الساهر | (artist OR painter) since:2021-12-01 until:2021-02-01 |
| الاقتران رسميا على إنهاء كل عمل كل ستيني | (2011 OR 2012) (artist OR painter) since:2021-12-01 until:2022-02-01 |
| ترجمة: FIFA officially agrees to host the world cup every two years | (FIFA OR agrees OR agreed) (world cup) (two years) since:2021-12-01 until:2022-02-01 |

Table 14: An example claim and its corresponding tweets from the 5 stance categories (best view in color): Irrelevant, Refuting, Supporting, Discussing, and Querying. * symbol indicates the tweets we directly retrieved from our query keyword search method. Indented lines with ↓ are replies to parent tweets.

**Claim: The COVID-19 Vaccine has magnets or will make your body magnetic**

- **Irrelevant:** @dbongino is right. you can’t tell people to wear a mask if the vaccines work. its like trying to put a north end of a magnet and trying to connect it to a north end another magnet., it will never work. #friendsoffriends
- **Supporting:** a friends family member got the cowid vaccine and now she can put a magnet up to the injection site and the magnet stays on her arm.
- **Supporting (only in context):** @ThisOrThatFF Nano probes / tech / dust.
- **Refuting (only in context):** @Newsweek Why the hell would they even bother with a high quantity of metal in the injection? And the amount that would be required to hold a magnet in place would be ridiculous.
- **Refuting (only in context):** @pentatonicScoWl @Newsweek I imagine the people making the claims don’t fully understand how magnets work
- **Supporting (only in context):** @AuracleDMG @pentatonicScoWl @Newsweek Laugh now, cry later.
- **Refuting (only in context):** @cis_kale Your point being? Even if these RNA vaccines contained ferric nanoparticles, they would not be in high enough concentrations to be able to hold a magnet in place. I suspect that blood itself has a higher concentration of ferric particles than the vaccine described in this paper
- **Queruing:** There is a #covid19 vaccine magnet test circulating on Tiktok. Is it really a thing??
- **Supporting (only in context):** @Thepurplelilac well, 4 friends out of 9 can stick magnets to their arms so yeah, it’s a thing
- **Discussing:** @heggziga @hmdal too early to make any presumptions on either side. the truth has a way of exposing itself given enough time. bring a magnet to your vaccination appointment, see how the vaccine reacts with the magnet, maybe even bring a metal detector as well. would that convince you?
- **Discussing:** Fauci: No Concern About Number of People Testing Positive After COVID-19 Vaccine. Spike Protein Vax is magnet for coronavirus. Originally used as turbo booster mounted on virus but too flimsy. Now injected in target in advance of infection, death rate 4X.
Translation: Death of the artist Kadim Al Sahir
Translation: The American wrestling champion, The Undertaker, dies of the Corona virus
Translation: Drogbra elected as president of the Ivory Coast Football Association
Translation: A picture shows the lighting of the Baj Khalifa in the colors of the Lebanese flag, after the Lebanese team won the Arab Basketball Championship title
Translation: The World Bank declares Egypt bankrupt due to the inability to pay its debts
Translation: The Chinese yuan is being adopted as an alternative to the US dollar in Russia's markets
Translation: Turkey President Recep Tayyip Erdogan: “We will send a million Syrians back to their country”
Translation: The dismissal of Morocco’s national team coach Vahid Halilhodzic
Translation: Iran has been excluded from the World Cup in Qatar
Translation: MBC Group suspended the contract of the artist, Ramez Jalal, after the failure of his program “Ramez Movie Star”
Translation: Gambian referee Bakary Gassama was killed after refereeing the last Algeria-Cameroon match
Translation: Pfizer’s vaccine contains deadly graphene oxide and the vaccination plan is to control human population and several other allegations
Translation: The International Court of Justice in The Hague ruled to cancel all forms of vaccination, manufacture and sale and cancel the health protocol of the World Health Organization and put several personalities under international legal prosecution, including the Director General of Pfizer on charges of genocide.
Translation: Cheb Khaled’s statement to beIN Sports: I hope an Arab team wins the Arab Cup
Translation: A picture of Cristiano Ronaldo shows him holding Erdogan’s new book
Translation: FIFA officially agrees to hold the World Cup every two years
Translation: Tens of thousands of women around the world have reported changes in their menstrual cycle after receiving the coronavirus vaccine, which has raised question marks among doctors and scientists
Translation: The end of covid and its variants will be through the use of scorpion venom
Translation: Whoever gets colds will not get covid, because the antibodies that he creates during colds protect him internally

Figure 2: Arabic Claims
भारत को ‘हिंदु राष्ट्र’ घोषित करने के लिए अयोध्या में भारी संख्या में राम भक्त जमा हो रहे हैं।

12 फरवरी को 26 रोहिंग्या मुसलमान नहीं आपसी बातों के साथ पहुंचे थे।

अलग कारणों के लिए “अगस्त आत्म” को हिंदुओं और मुसलमानों के साथ जुड़वाया गया।

लखनऊ में एक कारों पर पालकमंडल का झुंड घेरा किया गया था, धौली नवाज ने कहा कि अलग-अलग जगहों पर “पालकमंडल विफलता के” मारा गया।

हिंदुओं में बाजार खाते के कारण की एक मुसलमान मूल को खो दी गई है।

एक लोकसभा जगत में वर्दी कार्य कर मारने वाले दुर्गापूजा जिला देश के निष्पादक ने ज्योति।

भारत नहीं बताना सामाजिक रूप सुधार कर सकता।

पंडेतों ईकॉनामिक टाइम्स पर बनारस पर अमरीकी रेडियो से मेल हुआ।

अजमल खान ने एक हिंदू के पूर्व पति को मार दिया एक मक्खी तक्कड़ के पास मौजूद गाँव के फोटोग्राफर के निकट से,ो।

दिल्ली की कृषि जनता के लिए एक जीवन रोगी जीवन वर्तमान में दर्ज कर रहे उनसे अपनी संयुक्त मुसलमान पशु चूँके दी गई।

हिंदुओं में पहली “मक्का-मदीना” में एक विवाहित देश गया।

वितरित बालाजी मंदिर के पुजारी के घर पड़ा छापा, 128 नकलो सोना लिया है।

सागर और महाराजगंज लोकसभा क्षेत्र में बोडीलीप कुमार की मौत के बाद सोशल मीडिया यूज़र्स उन्हांने अपनी संपित मुस्लिम को दान दी।

एक ठे लेवाला जग में पेशाब कर बतर्न में डालते हुए दिखता है। इसके साथ दावा की जा रहा है कि इसका नाम नहीं लिखा।

हिरयाणा में बजरंग दल के कार्यकर्ता एक मुसलमान युवक को पीट रहे थे।

लखनऊ में एक तांगे पर पाकिस्तान का झंडा पेंट किया गया। दैनिक जागरण ने कहा िक तांगेवाले असम कांग्रेस के नेता

मुजफ्फरपुर रेलवे स्टेशन पर मृत मां के साथ खेलते जिस बच्चे का वीडियो जारी हुआ था, उस बच्चे रूम में घुसने की कठिनाई कर रही थी।

सारण और महाराजगंज लोकसभा क्षेत्र में प्रदशर्नकारी बैनर पकड़े खड़े हैं जिसपर लिखा है “शाहरुख की स्थापना कर रही है।

फ्रांस से नौकरी का प्रस्ताव पाने वाले ड्रोन वैज्ञानिक प्रताप एन एम को प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने एडीडीओ में बुधवार को प्रदान की।

एमनेस्टी इंटरनेशनल पेगासस प्रोजेक्ट पर अपनी पहली रिपोर्ट से पीछे हट गया है.

अमजद अली और अमजद अली को वैज्ञानिक रूप से मृदुला ने ऐसा कहा िक अमजद अली से भी मिलना नहीं किया गया।

आमजद अली ने एक हिंदू लड़की के पूरे पिरवार को मार दिया क्योंकि लड़की के घरवाले शादी के

एक दावा लगा िकया जा रहा है कि उसका भारत को ‘हिंदु राष्ट्र’ घोषित करने के लिए अयोध्या में भारी संख्या में राम भक्त जमा हो रहे हैं।

A large number of Ram devotees are gathering in Ayodhya to declare India as ‘Hindu Rashtra’.

The flag of Pakistan was painted on a tonga in Lucknow. Dainik jagran said that the Tanglewale raised slogans of ‘Pakistan Zindabad’. Translation: Assam Congress leader ‘Anjum Ali’ was arrested with arms and bullets.

A person named Arjun Mishra killed cycle girl Jyoti.

A street vendor is seen pouring urine in the jug and pouring it into the pot. With this it is being claimed that this person is from the Muslim community.

Translation: India will chair the United Nations Security Council for the first time.

Table 15: Hindi Claims
2020 is a year of global cooling, or we are entering into a period of global cooling.

Ancient marine fossils on top of Mount Everest are proof of a Great Flood in the past.

AstraZeneca means, in Latin, "kill the stars" or "weapon that kills".

Asymptomatic transmission is a concept invented in 2020 for the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bill Gates vaccine in India paralyzed hundreds of thousands of people in India.

Bill Gates' Zika vaccine for Brazil was actually the cause of microcephaly and Zika to occur in Brazil.

COVID-19 nasal swabs harm the brain or penetrate the blood brain barrier.

Drinking Cold Water is unhealthy, causes cancer, and causes heart attacks.

Due to the cold winter in Germany, there was so much snow that the solar panels and wind turbines of Germany were rendered COMPLETELY useless.

Easter is a celebration for the Mediterranean Goddess Ishtar.

Ethylene Oxide, a known carcinogen, is in COVID-19 test swabs and in face masks.

Glaxosmithkline is linked to the Wuhan lab that "released" COVID-19.

Jet Fuel is a hoax, most jets run off of compressed air.

Life insurance is voided, and you will not get life insurance if you take the COVID-19 vaccine.

The Red Cross is withholding blooditre from Australia.

The Three gorges dam in China flooded or leaked in 2020 or 2021, killing thousands.

The false positive rate for a COVID-19 test is very high.

There has been no net warming of the planet in the past 22 years.

Using soap and a cotton ball is the best way to remove a tick.

Western Australia and Australia has admitted that the COVID-19 vaccine is poison.

50,000 Chinese soldiers were killed trying to invade Maine.

California's new bill decriminalizes pedophilia.

Canada has interment camps for COVID-19.

Canada is planning military intervention if Trump does not leave office.

Canada's Supreme Court is hearing a case about COVID-19 crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide.

Canada's elections are suspended indefinitely.

Holly communion is banned in Toronto.

Justin Trudeau advocates for bestiality, or bestiality is legal in Canada.

Justin Trudeau and the UN have revealed plans for the "Great Reset", which will ruin society.

Justin Trudeau supports pedophilia.

Justin Trudeau went to Barbados during Christmas, breaking COVID-19 guidelines.

Masks cause cancer.

Most ANTIFA members are school teachers.

Polyethylene 80 and Potassium Chloride are in the COVID-19 vaccine.

Quebec is exempt from the Federal carbon tax and pays less for carbon tax.

The COVID-19 Vaccine causes cancer.

The COVID-19 vaccine is radioactive or has radioactive substances.

The Canadian election is full of fraud because Justin Trudeau used Dominion Voting Systems.

The husband (Richard Choi) of Toronto's COVID response chief (Eileen de Villa) has been arrested for fraud.

These COVID-19 testing trucks have the logo Anubis, the Egyptian God of Death.

A child's presence at school is implied consent for administering the COVID-19 vaccine.

Bees use acoustic levitation to fly.

Boris Johnson's father Stanley Johnson wrote a book called The Virus in the 1980s that predicted the COVID-19 vaccine.

COVID-19 does not spread on surfaces.

Chemicals, chips, and plastic are in masks.

Drinking water from a copper cup has health benefits.

Facebook supports pedophilia, or Facebook has an ad advocating for pedophilia.

Fossil fuels are actually a mineral, and Rockefeller coined the term Fossil to introduce the idea of "scarcity".

Hunza people are free from cancer.

Jacinda Ardern and the New Zealand Labour party bribed the New Zealand media to win the reelection and there is election fraud in New Zealand.

Low Flu cases this year prove that the pandemic is fake.

NASA added a 13th zodiac sign Ophiuchus.

New Zealand Labour Party is talking about a forced coronavirus vaccination.

New Zealand revoked the human right to grow food.

Plant seeds can restructure their DNA and become a "super food" if you spit on them.

Swine flu is more dangerous than COVID-19.

The Bacterial meningitis vaccine caused the outbreak of the "Spanish Flu" pandemic.

The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine has a new upgrade with a Microsoft chip.

The etymology of Hangover derives from the historical practice of paying 2 cents to sleep on a rope, hanging there.

The spike protein in the COVID-19 vaccine is dangerous.

As of May 2021 Singapore is in a circuit breaker lockdown.

Black Fungus is extremely contagious and is a mutant and variant of COVID-19.

COVID vaccine causes a brain hemorrhage as seen from a doctor.

COVID-19 vaccine causes seizures.

COVID-19 vaccine creates these new coronavirus variants.

COVID-19 vaccine passports will be mandatory for travel.

Countries are using military helicopters to spray pesticides to disinfect against COVID-19.

Finland is promoting a 4 day work week.

Infrared thermometers hurt the pineal gland.

Jack Ma is missing.

Killed-virus vaccines are superior to mRNA and have always been perfectly safe.

Prior in COVID-19 vaccine causes neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimers.

Singapore followed Trump's COVID-19 Guidelines.

The COVID-19 vaccine causes Bells Palsy as a side effect.

The COVID-19 vaccine increases the chance of heart attack.

The TraceTogether App uses GPS data to track location.

The app Muslim Pro is selling user data to the US military.

The elderly are dying of the COVID-19 vaccine.

There is a new COVID-19 variant in Singapore that is extremely dangerous.

Trump wrote "Joe, you know I won" in a letter to President Biden.

5g testing is the cause for the second wave of COVID-19 cases in India.

Amul ice cream, Amul products, and E471 is made from pig fat but is branded as vegetarian.

An empty Nebuliser can be used as a substitute for oxygen cylinders.

Aspiderosperma-Q is a substitute to medical oxygen.

Bharat Biotech's Covaxin has been approved for usage for children above 12 years old.

Bitter melon, bitter gourd, or bitter melon juice is a cure for COVID-19.

Burning Ghee will produce Oxygen.

COVID-19 is able to be transmitted by houses.

Clapping will kill COVID-19 due to noise and vibrations.

Dead birds are evidence of 5g trials in India.

Drinking coconut water kills cancer cells and cures cancer.

Hospital staff are intentionally killing patients in India.

Lemon drops in the nose can kill COVID-19.

Luc montagner claimed that vaccinated people will die in 2 years.

Nostradamus predicted the outbreak of COVID-19 hundreds of years ago.

Raw onions with rock salt will cure COVID-19.

Sonu Sood promises to support Hamas and Palestine.

The Polio Vaccine was introduced in India in 1995 or later.

The majority of the education ministers of India are muslim; the first 5 education ministers of India are muslim.

World Bank exported COVID-19 tests in 2018 or 2017 before COVID-19 pandemic occurred.

AZ Vaccine is banned in multiple countries.

COVID was planned.

COVID-19 vaccine is an experimental vaccine.

Covid vaccine cause blood clot.

Cucumbers cures cancer and also prevents cancer.

Dandelion Root and Dandelion Extract cures cancer.

Dead birds are evidence of 5g trials in India.

Dandelon Root and Dandelion Extract cures cancer.

Formaldehyde is in the COVID vaccine and it is enough to cause cancer.

Davos refuses to receive blood from anyone who has been vaccinated.

Mandatory vaccine for care workers.

Morgellon's is a real physical disease and it is caused by nanotechnology, clothing fibers, fibers in the mask, the COVID-19 vaccine, or COVID-19 PCR tests.
Priti Patel spent £77,000 of the Home Office’s money on eyebrows and beauty products.

Rapper DMX had the COVID-19 vaccine before his death (and causing his death).

Soy sauce imports from Japan will be cheaper next year because of Brexit.

The COVID-19 vaccine has magnets or makes you magnetic.

The COVID-19 vaccine violates the Nuremberg codes.

The Genocide Act of 1969 was repealed in May 2021, so genocide is now legal.

The UK is doing the worst for dealing with COVID-19 because they have the highest COVID-19 death toll in all of Europe.

The suicide rate increased during COVID-19 lockdown.

Acid attack victims have been included in the list of people considered as disabled.

Afghanistan has more hectares of opium poppies planted today than they had before we started this war.

African-Americans don’t use drugs at a higher level than whites but wind up going to prison six times more.

All of our taxpayers are paying roughly 22% of the U.N. budget.

Asia has less freshwater per capita than any other continent, except Antarctica.

British voters “under 50, especially millennials, overwhelmingly voted to stay,” in the European Union. “It was older voters who voted to leave.”

Cervical cancer in Africa is “fully preventable with basic education, screening and vaccines.”

Forty-seven percent of Americans pay no income tax.

Fifty-three million Americans are on food stamps.

Global food demand is expected to increase by 50 to 97 percent by 2050.

In Africa, a child dies every minute because of (malaria).

In Malaysia many of the workers are indentured servants because their passports are taken away when they come into this country and are working in slave-like conditions.

In South Sudan, more teenage girls die in childbirth than finish high school.

Malawi has just 300 doctors for 16 million people.

More people die from indoor air pollution than from malaria, HIV/AIDS and TB combined.

Research even shows that sending more girls to school can boost an entire country’s GDP.

Studies have consistently failed to establish the existence of a link between the harshness of a country’s drug laws and its levels of drug use.

Swaziland has the highest rate of HIV infection in the world.

The world’s 62 richest people own the same wealth as the 3.6 billion poorest.

Today, 27 million people are enslaved.

Bathing in sea water and injecting sea water is a cure to COVID-19.

COVID-19 dies at various low temperatures.

COVID-19 is linked to a substance called “adenochrome.”

Coronil is a cure to COVID-19.

Fetal cells are in the COVID-19 vaccine.

George Soros owns the Wuhan lab that released COVID-19 to the world.

Hydroxychloroquine has been approved and safe to treat COVID-19.

Inhaling Camphor and Ajwain helps with increasing Oxygen levels in the body.

Ivermectin is safe to be approved to treat COVID-19.

Madagascar found a cure to COVID-19 and will be distributing it to other countries.

Mosquitoes transmit COVID-19.

Mustard and Mustard Oil cures COVID-19.

Smoking Nicotine or Marijuana protects and cures you from COVID-19.

Sweden stops using PCR tests to diagnose COVID-19.

The Simpsons predicted COVID-19.

The pandemic is fake, health officials and hospitals are administering empty syringes as the “COVID-19” vaccine.

Turmeric is a treatment or cure to COVID-19.

Vaccines cause miscarriage.

Vaccines will make you sterile.

Wearing a mask causes pleurisy in an individual.

Avon employees will relocate victims of Domestic Violence.

CNN said that the Boulder, CO Shooter was Morally White.

Church bells rang in Paris to celebrate Bidens election win.

Dominion Voting Systems is manipulating the election and deleting Trump votes.

Dr. Deborah Birx has been arrested by the military for spreading COVID-19 conspiracies.

George Soros owns Parler.

Hillary Clinton is trafficking children aboard the Ever Green Ship.

Hillary Clinton was convicted of murder by a military tribunal.

Hunter Biden is teaching a “Fake News” class.

Jacques Attali Encourages Pandemic Driven Euthanasia in 1981.

Joe Biden is a wanted felon in Ukraine.

Joe Biden said that white republican men are a bigger danger than ISIS and Al-Qaeda.

Jon Ernst had a liberal fantasy island poster on the senate floor that included messages like “sex blimps” and “abolish lasagna.”

Lin Wood found Trump at the White House and Biden missing.

Luciferase is the name or ingredient in the COVID-19 vaccine.

Mail-in Ballots contain Quantum Blockchain Watermarks.

Maricopa County Elections deleted their database.

Mary Tyler Moore Died in 2021.

Masks cause bacterial pneumonia.

Paris Hilton wore a “Stop Being Poor” shirt.

The CDC is a private, non-profit organization.

The Grapes of Wrath is translated as the Angry Raisins in several languages.

There are real tickets sold online for Trump’s 2nd inauguration in August 2021.

There are thousands of Georgia Ballots that are ineligible.

There is a Hamburger and Scorecard operation to alter the Election results.

There is a code and post that allows you to circumvent the facebook algorithm and news posts to see your friend’s posts.

There were no mass shootings under Trump.

Trump will be reinstated as US president in August 2021.

Trump wore his pants backwards at a rally.

UNICEF reported that blockng kids from porn violates human rights.

Table 16: English Claims

| Claim                                                                 | Country/Region |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Asian countries have less freshwater per capita than any other continent, except Antarctica. | Asia           |
| All of our taxpayers are paying roughly 22% of the U.N. budget.       |                |
| Asia has less freshwater per capita than any other continent, except Antarctica. |                |
| British voters “under 50, especially millennials, overwhelmingly voted to stay,” in the European Union. “It was older voters who voted to leave.” |                |
| Cervical cancer in Africa is “fully preventable with basic education, screening and vaccines.” |                |
| Forty-seven percent of Americans pay no income tax.                  |                |
| Fifty-three million Americans are on food stamps.                    |                |
| Global food demand is expected to increase by 50 to 97 percent by 2050. |                |
| In Africa, a child dies every minute because of (malaria).           |                |
| In Malaysia many of the workers are indentured servants because their passports are taken away when they come into this country and are working in slave-like conditions. |                |
| In South Sudan, more teenage girls die in childbirth than finish high school. |                |
| Malawi has just 300 doctors for 16 million people.                    |                |
| More people die from indoor air pollution than from malaria, HIV/AIDS and TB combined. |                |
| Research even shows that sending more girls to school can boost an entire country’s GDP. |                |
| Studies have consistently failed to establish the existence of a link between the harshness of a country’s drug laws and its levels of drug use. |                |
| Swaziland has the highest rate of HIV infection in the world.        |                |
| The world’s 62 richest people own the same wealth as the 3.6 billion poorest. |                |
| Today, 27 million people are enslaved.                               |                |
| Bathing in sea water and injecting sea water is a cure to COVID-19.  |                |
| COVID-19 dies at various low temperatures.                          |                |
| COVID-19 is linked to a substance called “adenochrome.”              |                |
| Coronil is a cure to COVID-19.                                      |                |
| Fetal cells are in the COVID-19 vaccine.                             |                |
| George Soros owns the Wuhan lab that released COVID-19 to the world. |                |
| Hydroxychloroquine has been approved and safe to treat COVID-19.     |                |
| Inhaling Camphor and Ajwain helps with increasing Oxygen levels in the body. |                |
| Ivermectin is safe to be approved to treat COVID-19.                 |                |
| Madagascar found a cure to COVID-19 and will be distributing it to other countries. |                |
| Mosquitoes transmit COVID-19.                                        |                |
| Mustard and Mustard Oil cures COVID-19.                              |                |
| Smoking Nicotine or Marijuana protects and cures you from COVID-19.  |                |
| Sweden stops using PCR tests to diagnose COVID-19.                   |                |
| The Simpsons predicted COVID-19.                                    |                |
| The pandemic is fake, health officials and hospitals are administering empty syringes as the “COVID-19” vaccine. |                |
| Turmeric is a treatment or cure to COVID-19.                         |                |
| Vaccines cause miscarriage.                                         |                |
| Vaccines will make you sterile.                                     |                |
| Wearing a mask causes pleurisy in an individual.                    |                |
| Avon employees will relocate victims of Domestic Violence.          |                |
| CNN said that the Boulder, CO Shooter was Morally White.            |                |
| Church bells rang in Paris to celebrate Bidens election win.        |                |
| Dominion Voting Systems is manipulating the election and deleting Trump votes. |                |