



Welcome to Spike Messaging group India.

Purpose : Figure out how to reduce mis information and spread more authentic messages

About PathCheck Foundation : pathcheck.org

Link to Slack Channel :

Please join <https://tiny.cc/pathcheckslack> and then channel [#_spikemessaging](#)

Led by : Prof. Ramesh Raskar , Prof Tav Pritesh Sethi

Reach out to [Krishnendu Dasgupta](#) [Poonam P](#) [Rohan Sukumaran](#) venkatar@mit.edu for active contributions

Projects: We have two main arms so far. The progress on both projects are detailed below

- Providing reliable COVID19 information: covidb.org - a database of reliable news articles
- Fighting misinformation: work with fact-checkers to stop the spread of misinformation

Resource Sheet Link

- <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1nOF2kmpLwmqpSi1RoMINKS2A3Np6YBldfqMtNq8xpkc/edit?usp=sharing>

Providing reliable information

We need a way to disseminate reliable information to both scientists/doctors and the general public. To that end, we have a website, covidb.org, that has links to articles that we have verified have reliable information. Many articles have been hand vetted, and sources that many would assume are reliable, such as the New York Times, contain subtle misinformation that can cause a lot of harm. Therefore we have been compiling a list of sources which we have found to have reliable information. We can automatically pull these sources to provide them to the public. You can find the auto-pulled resources here:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JDHxCcE07oL5Mj3aqGRcm8a3rQkBufC5ndpdkSI9my4/edit#gid=0>

Todos:

- Integrate the auto-pulled resources into covidb.org
- Move from the current tag-based design to a news-feed like design. We need two different news-feeds. One with articles for a popular audience and another with research papers.
- Once the news-feed is ready, popularize the website more



Fight misinformation

We are in conversation with fact-checking organizations like logically.ai, factchecker.in, boomlive.in and firstcheck.in. Logically.ai have graciously offered us the use of their fact-checking resources

TODOs:

- Build a news-feed in the Karuna app with articles pulled from these resources that debunks rumors that are currently circulating in social media and the internet
- We want to create a service where people can forward a post they see on social media and we'll try to fact-check and get back to them with what we find.
- Run our own arm of fact-checking

Comments :

Name	Slack Username	Comments
Priya KS	Priya KS , Karthi keyan, Saswat Priyabrat	<p>1. Building a Machine learning and Artificial Intelligence model to detect fake news and assigning a news score. For this, we need labeled data on the news/articles database. We may need more resources to execute.</p> <p>2. Developing Volunteer-based crowdsourcing tool to filter out reliable information. Experts/volunteers constantly verify posts related to covid that they find on Twitter or others and mark them as verified or lapsed information. The website only shows reliable information which has the highest verifications.</p>
Venkat Arun	Venkat Arun	<p>Covid news often spreads on social media (Whatsapp, twitter, FB etc.). To combat misinformation, we could create a service where users can upload a forward/tweet and we fact-check the more popular forwards and provide them with a summary of what we find.</p> <p>https://www.logically.ai/factchecks and https://fullfact.org/about/automated/ provide such a service. We can either plug in to them or create a similar service</p>



--	--	--

Tasks

- Marketing
 - Links from pathcheck resources: Karuna, website and universal verifier
 - WEF and WHO krish.dasgupta@pathcheck.org
 - IIT-M sethuramantv001@gmail.com
 - MIT-news and tech. Review [venkatarun95](#)
- Fact checking
 - Filter out the “explainers” @ramyabygari239@gmail.com
- Govt Info
- Technical stuff
 - Summarization sethuramantv001@gmail.com
 - Tiny annoying and boring tasks: Make search bar more prominent, handle www [venkatarun95](#)
- Research
 - Create a dataset of 1) articles on fake/correct news and 2) what sorts of misinformation people search for in different places
 - Train a NN on above dataset to classify misinformation
- Personalization based on location
- Collaborations
 - WEF krish.dasgupta@pathcheck.org