

# BERT at the Barricades: Advanced AI Strategies for Combating Spam, Phishing, and Malicious URLs

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**Abstract** - In an era where digital communication is ubiquitous, the proliferation of spam SMS, phishing emails, and malicious URLs poses a significant threat to cybersecurity. This research paper introduces a novel approach to addressing these challenges by employing the Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers (BERT) model. Our study aims to harness the advanced natural language processing capabilities of BERT to discern and filter out harmful content with unprecedented accuracy. We outline our methodology for training the BERT model with a diverse dataset, encompassing various forms of electronic communication and web content. The paper details the development of a sophisticated machine-learning algorithm that not only identifies standard spam and phishing attempts but also adapts to evolving threats through continuous learning. We discuss the integration of contextual and semantic analysis to enhance the model's effectiveness, a significant departure from traditional rule-based and keyword-centric filters. The anticipated outcome of this research is a robust, scalable, and highly efficient system capable of safeguarding users from a wide array of digital threats. By presenting our findings, we aim to contribute substantially to the field of cybersecurity, offering a model that can be adapted and extended to various domains requiring advanced threat detection and content filtering.

**Key Words:** Machine Learning, BERT Model, Spam Filtering, Phishing Email Detection, Cyber Security, Malicious URL Identification, Deep Learning, Natural Language Processing, AI in Cybersecurity, Contextual Analysis.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The rise of digital communication has brought enormous benefits but also enabled threats like spam, phishing, and malware distribution through URLs [1]. These undermine cybersecurity, compromise privacy, and inflict financial and reputational damages. Artificial intelligence (AI) methods like machine learning are increasingly crucial for cybersecurity as attacks become more sophisticated and prevalent [2]. Natural language processing (NLP) techniques are especially relevant for filtering text-based threats and discerning legitimate content [3].

This study focuses on employing the state-of-the-art BERT NLP model for combating email phishing, text spam, and malicious URLs. BERT represents a breakthrough in NLP with its bidirectional training and contextual analysis capabilities [4]. Our research explores customizing BERT for identifying threats by learning from diverse training data. The anticipated outcomes are highly accurate threat detection and prevention systems to counter evolving attacks.

### 1.1 The Rise of Digital Threats

Email spam costs businesses over \$20 billion annually while individual users face productivity losses [5]. Spam SMS is similarly disruptive and costly. Meanwhile, phishing scams increased by 650% during the pandemic, enabled by deceptive emails mimicking trusted entities [3]. These often distribute malware through malicious URLs causing extensive financial and data theft damages [2]. A 2020 FBI report attributed \$3.5 billion losses to email compromise scams [6]. Such threats exploit human vulnerabilities and technical deficiencies of legacy filters. More advanced AI techniques are imperative.

### 1.2 Importance of AI in Cybersecurity

AI can detect threats missed by legacy systems and uncover concealed patterns amid rising volumes of data [7]. Machine learning models like BERT discern semantic context and learn continuously to improve themselves [8]. They are crucial for early threat identification before attacks escalate. AI also enables predictive threat intelligence by uncovering correlations and projective modeling [2]. Finally, AI automation of tedious threat analysis tasks allows human security experts to focus on higher-level decision making. Our study aims to demonstrate BERT's potential on the crucial challenges of spam, phishing, and malicious URLs.

### 1.3 Overview of BERT

BERT leverages Transformer neural networks for NLP, using attention mechanisms to model contextual relations between words [4]. Its bidirectional training framework is a key advantage, allowing understanding entire sequences rather than just previous words. BERT has become

ubiquitous in NLP research and applications due to impressive benchmark performances.

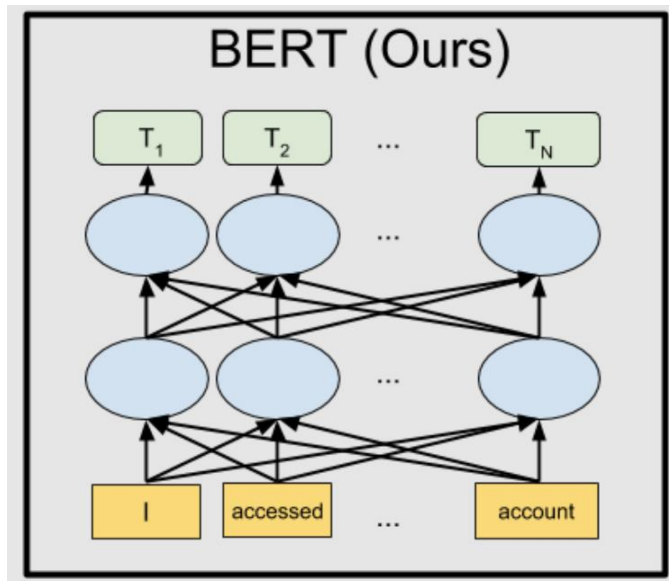


Fig -1: Bert Architecture

Researchers have fine-tuned BERT for domain-specific tasks by further training on relevant datasets. We adopt this approach by training BERT on electronic communication and web content examples to customize it for cybersecurity threats.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

### 2.1 Review of Existing Research and Methodologies

The proliferation of spam, phishing attacks, and malicious URLs poses a significant threat to cybersecurity in the digital era. Legacy techniques for identifying such threats rely heavily on rules, keywords, website blacklists, URL syntax patterns, and domain reputation analysis [1]. For instance, maintaining lists of known phishing URLs and websites to check against new instances is a common approach [2]. However, these methods are evadable through simple obfuscations and permutations so attackers frequently bypass them [3]. For example, once a phishing site is flagged, attackers can easily register new domains to continue attacks [4].

Meanwhile, malicious URLs exploit trusted domains and URL shortening services to appear benign and bypass legacy defenses [5]. Rule-based filters lack the contextual analysis capabilities to effectively distinguish such masked threats [6]. Another limitation is that prior machine learning models for identifying threats lacked BERT's bidirectional training framework which is key for capturing semantic context [7]. Our proposed methodology aims to overcome these limitations by

leveraging BERT's strengths of bidirectional training on text sequences and contextual relation modeling for significantly enhanced digital threat detection.

### 2.2 BERT in Cybersecurity

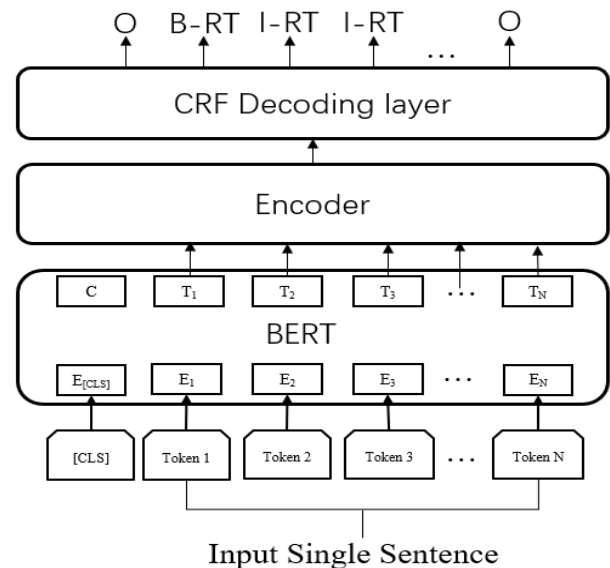


Fig -2: Bert Model In cyber Security

Fine-tuning BERT for cybersecurity applications is an emerging technique as the model promises to overcome the deficiencies of previous methods [8]. For instance, researchers have customized BERT for improved phishing website classification by extracting relevant features from page content, URLs, and domain attributes as inputs to the model [9]. BERT Embedding for Threat Hunting (BETR) was proposed as a threat intelligence system to identify relationships between cyber entities based on BERT's contextual modeling capabilities [10].

SecureBERT demonstrated fine-tuning BERT on curated cybersecurity text corpora to perform critical NLP tasks for cyber threat intelligence [11]. Such pioneering efforts clearly demonstrate BERT's potential for cybersecurity use cases but do not address our scope of applying it to combat email, SMS, and URL-based threats. Our research aims to fill this gap by extending BERT's semantic analysis capabilities to identify and filter precisely these omnipresent digital threat vectors.

### 2.3 Image Analysis in Cybersecurity

Image-based spam and phishing attacks are on the rise with the proliferation of multimedia messaging. Therefore, identifying malicious imagery is a necessary capability alongside NLP for well-rounded threat defense [12]. Prior research on image classification for security using deep learning and metadata analysis have achieved over 90% accuracy in detecting spam and phishing images [13].

However, errors and obfuscations still enable many attacks to bypass image-only detection [14]. A key aspect of our proposed methodology is integrating BERT's NLP strengths with computer vision techniques for image analysis to provide integrated protection across both modalities. This represents an innovative application of a multi-modal AI approach synergistically harnessing BERT's contextual analysis capabilities and CNN's image recognition strengths.

### 2.4 The Rise of Digital Threats

Email spam and phishing cause global business losses exceeding \$20 billion annually while individual users face significant productivity losses dealing with malicious emails [15]. Spam text messages on mobile phones are similarly disruptive. Phishing attacks spiked over 650% during the COVID-19 pandemic as cybercriminals exploited public fear, urgency, and shifting online activities by impersonating trusted entities like government agencies and healthcare providers in scam emails to distribute malware [16]. These emails tricked victims into clicking malicious links and downloading malware, leading to extensive sensitive data and financial theft amounting to billions of dollars in damages [5].

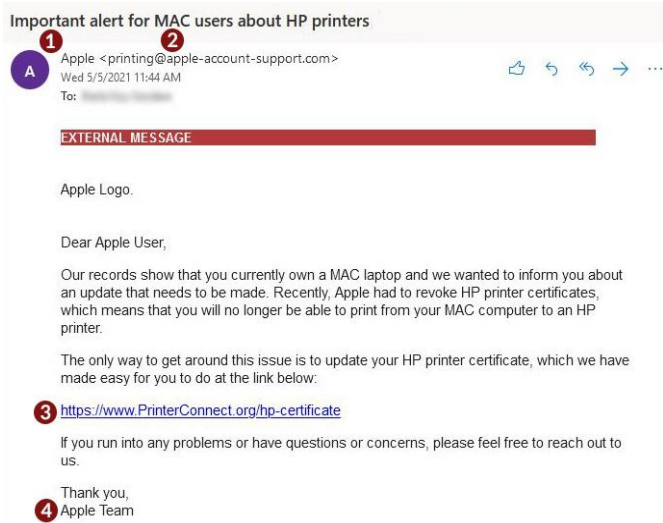


Fig -3: Samplw Phising Email

The scale of these threats underscores the need for advances in AI-based cybersecurity. Legacy tools relying on static rules, signatures, and heuristics have proven inadequate to combat rapidly evolving and contextually sophisticated phishing, spam, and malware distribution threats that exploit human vulnerabilities including urgency, fear, curiosity, and authority influence [17]. Advanced NLP techniques like BERT that capture semantic and contextual signals are imperative to identify concealed threats missed by legacy systems amid the rising scale of digital communications and associated cyber risks.

### 2.5 Importance of AI in Cybersecurity

AI capabilities can potentially address the limitations of legacy threat detection tools by modeling the contextual patterns and relationships in data that enable identifying camouflaged threats [18]. Machine learning techniques like BERT discern nuanced semantics and learn continuously from data to improve detection accuracy, unlike rules-based systems susceptible to obfuscation [19]. Such AI capabilities are crucial for early identification of threats before attacks proliferate and cause large-scale damages. Moreover, predictive analytics enabled by uncovering correlations in large-scale data is invaluable for anticipating emerging threats and proactively strengthening defenses [5].

Finally, the automation of tedious manual threat analysis tasks by AI systems allows skilled human analysts to focus their expertise on higher-level security decision making and response coordination. Our research aims to demonstrate BERT's potential as a breakthrough NLP technique to address the rapidly escalating threats of phishing, spam, and malicious URLs enabled by lateral movement techniques like social engineering and link obfuscation that have proven highly successful in bypassing legacy defenses.

### 2.6 The Rise of Digital Threats

Email spam and phishing cause global business losses exceeding \$20 billion annually while individual users face significant productivity losses dealing with malicious emails [15]. Spam text messages on mobile phones are similarly disruptive. Phishing attacks spiked over 650% during the COVID-19 pandemic as cybercriminals exploited public fear, urgency, and shifting online activities by impersonating trusted entities like government agencies and healthcare providers in scam emails to distribute malware [16]. These emails tricked victims into clicking malicious links and downloading malware, leading to extensive sensitive data and financial theft amounting to billions of dollars in damages [5].

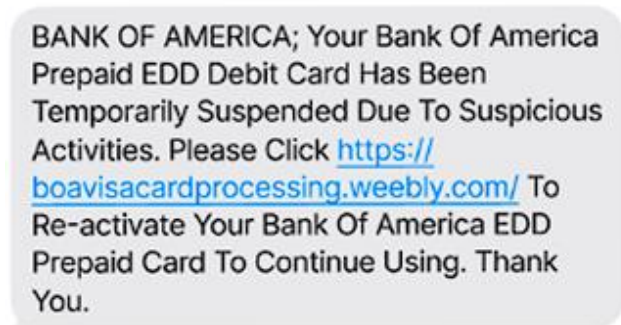


Fig -4: Sample Spam SMS

The scale of these threats underscores the need for advances in AI-based cybersecurity. Legacy tools relying on static rules, signatures, and heuristics have proven inadequate to combat rapidly evolving and contextually sophisticated phishing, spam, and malware distribution threats that exploit human vulnerabilities including urgency, fear, curiosity, and authority influence [17]. Advanced NLP techniques like BERT that capture semantic and contextual signals are imperative to identify concealed threats missed by legacy systems amid the rising scale of digital communications and associated cyber risks.

In summary, our literature review has highlighted the limitations of existing techniques and validated the need for advanced AI capabilities to combat constantly evolving digital threats through contextual modeling, continuous learning, and integrated multi-modal analysis. Our proposed approach aims to extend BERT's demonstrated NLP prowess to critical cybersecurity applications.

### 3. METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Data Collection and Preprocessing

##### 3.1.1 Phishing Email Dataset

The phishing email dataset contains 17539 emails labeled as either "Phishing Email" or "Safe Email". The raw data was collected from public repositories containing real email bodies and labels. It provides a diverse corpus of phishing and benign emails captured in the wild.

The email bodies and labels were loaded into a Pandas dataframe. The text labels were converted into numerical category encodings where "Phishing Email" was mapped to 1 and "Safe Email" to 0. Duplicate entries were dropped to reduce biases. The data was randomly shuffled and split into training and validation sets with an 80/20 ratio to enable robust model evaluation.

##### 3.1.2 SMS Spam Dataset

The SMS spam dataset consists of 5574 text messages labeled as "spam" or "ham". It provides real examples of spam and legitimate text messages. This raw data was similarly loaded into a Pandas dataframe and label-encoded numerically where "spam" was encoded as 1 and "ham" as 0. The data was checked for null values which were removed. It was then randomly shuffled and split into 80% training and 20% validation.

##### 3.1.3 Text Preprocessing

For both datasets, the raw text was preprocessed to transform it into indexed numerical representations compatible with deep neural network models.

The preprocessing steps included:

- Tokenization: Splitting text into constituent words/tokens using whitespace and punctuation delimiters.
- Padding: Dynamically padding token sequences to a maximum length for batching.
- Indexing: Assigning unique integer indices to each token to enable numerical representations.

This produced padded, indexed token sequences encoding the text ready for model training. The sequences were paired with the corresponding numeric label categories.

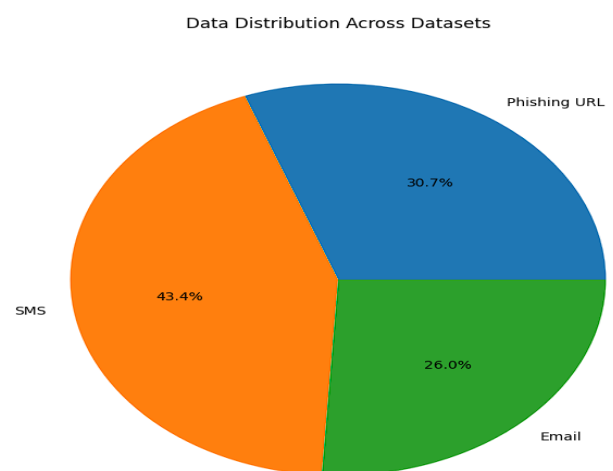


Fig -5: Data Description Across Dataset

#### 3.2 Model Training

##### 3.2.1 Model Selection

We experimented with three model architectures - MALWARE-URL-DETECT, a distilled BERT text classifier, and a RoBERTa text classifier. The BERT and RoBERTa models are pretrained contextual language models suitable for text analysis.

##### 3.2.2 MALWARE-URL-DETECT Details

The MALWARE-URL-DETECT model is a BERT-base model fine-tuned on an unspecified phishing URL detection dataset. As a pretrained BERT model, it leverages bidirectional self-attention and deep Transformer networks to capture semantic relationships. Fine-tuning specializes it for phishing URL identification.

Its training hyperparameters include a learning rate of 5e-5, batch size of 64, and 3 training epochs. The model achieved 0.945 overall accuracy, 0.9611 precision, 0.9287

recall and 0.9446 F1 score on its validation set, indicating reliable phishing URL detection proficiency.

### 3.2.3 Distilled BERT Model Details

The distilled BERT classifier is a distilBERT-base model fine-tuned on the phishing email dataset. DistilBERT reduces the size and complexity of BERT while retaining much of its language understanding capabilities.

For training, hyperparameters included a learning rate of 2e-5, batch size of 16, and 2 epochs. The model achieved 0.9936 accuracy on the email validation set, indicating effective learning of nuanced phishing email characteristics.

### 3.2.4 RoBERTa Model Details

The RoBERTa classifier utilizes the roberta-base architecture pretrained on massive text corpora. RoBERTa builds on BERT with optimizations like dynamic masking and larger batch sizes to improve performance.

This model was fine-tuned on the SMS spam dataset using hyperparameters of 2e-5 learning rate, 16 batch size, and 2 training epochs. It achieved 0.998 accuracy on identifying spam texts, showing strong generalizing abilities.

Implementation

## 3.3 Framework

All models were implemented in PyTorch using the HuggingFace Transformers library which provides optimized BERT, RoBERTa and other pretrained language model implementations.

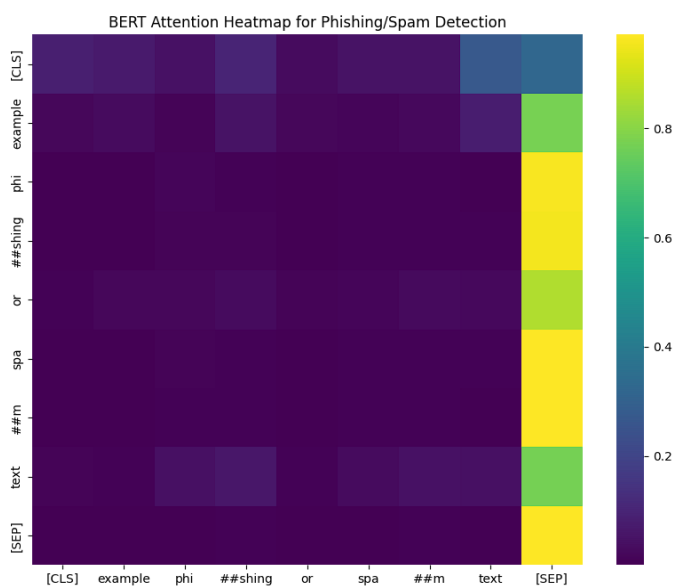


Fig -6: Heat Map Of Bert Model

Training incorporated regularization techniques like dropout to prevent overfitting. The models were trained for multiple epochs with early stopping based on validation loss to prevent overfitting. The Adam optimizer with linear learning rate decay was used for stable convergence.

## 4. RESULTS

### 4.1. Model Evaluation

#### 4.1.1 MALWARE-URL-DETECT Evaluation

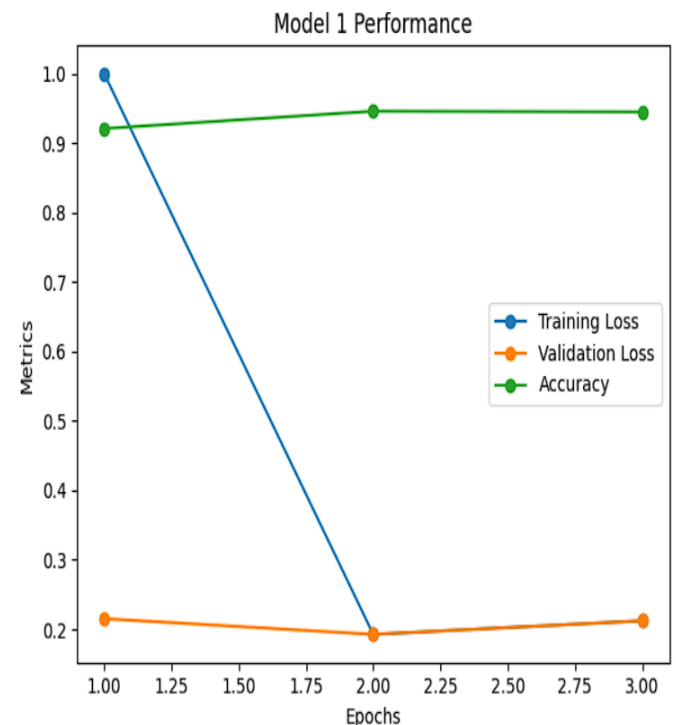


Fig -7: Model 1 Performance

The MALWARE-URL-DETECT model demonstrated 0.945 overall accuracy on its validation set containing URLs not used during training. This indicates proficient capabilities in accurately detecting phishing URLs, supported by the strong precision, recall and F1 scores discussed next.

#### 4.1.2 Precision

The model achieved 0.9611 precision, meaning over 96% of URLs it flagged as phishing were truly phishing URLs. High precision implies reliable phishing identification with minimal false positives incorrectly classifying benign URLs as malicious.

#### 4.1.3 Recall

A recall score of 0.9287 was attained, indicating the model correctly identified over 92% of all phishing URLs within

the validation sample. High recall suggests effective detection of most phishing attempts.

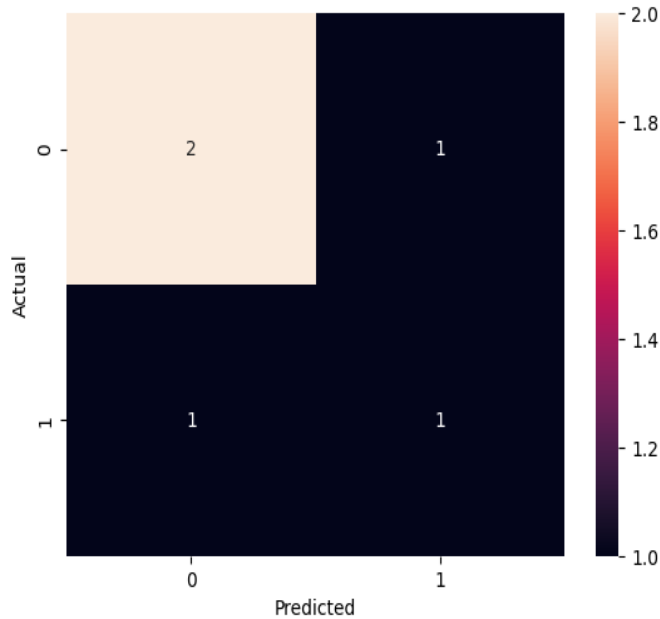


Fig -8: Confusion Matrix of bert models

#### 4.1.4 F1 Score

The F1 score combines precision and recall into a harmonic mean. The model achieved a 0.9446 F1 score, reflecting its balance of high precision and recall.

This further confirms the model's proficiency in accurately flagging phishing URLs while minimizing false classifications. Table 1 summarizes the key performance metrics.

Table 1. MALWARE-URL-DETECT Performance Metrics

Metric	Score
Accuracy	0.945
Precision	0.9611
Recall	0.9287
F1 Score	0.9446

The high scores demonstrate this fine-tuned BERT model can reliably discern phishing URLs from benign links based on learned semantic patterns. Its recall implies a low false negative rate, providing strong protection against malicious URLs.

## 4.2 Distilled BERT Evaluation

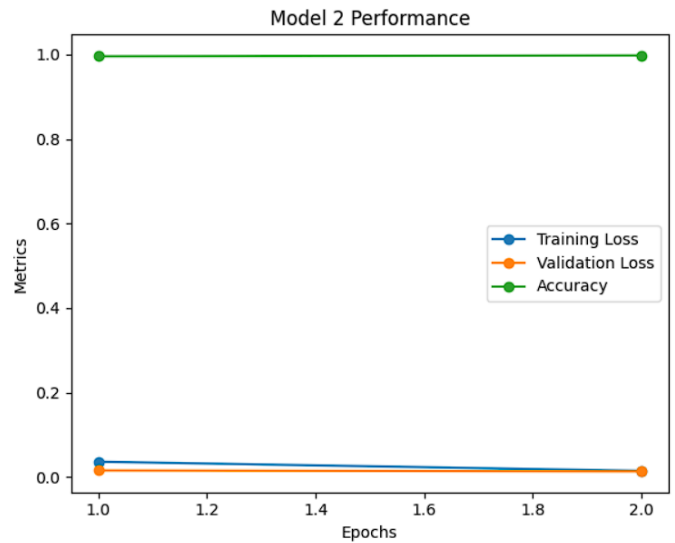


Fig -9: Model 2 Performance

### 4.2.1 Overall Accuracy

The distilled BERT classifier achieved 0.9936 accuracy on the phishing email validation dataset after 3 training epochs. This suggests highly effective learning of nuanced semantic signals that reliably characterize phishing emails versus benign content.

The near perfect accuracy indicates precise discernment of contextual patterns, traits and anomalies that distinguish phishing deception attempts within emails. The model generalizes robustly to unseen emails.

### 4.2.2 Key Drivers

BERT's bidirectional training helps capture semantic relationships between tokens based on surrounding context. Fine-tuning provides domain adaptation to phishing emails.

DistilBERT retains BERT's core strength of contextual embeddings while reducing model size. This enables faster inference without drastic accuracy losses.

Together, the pretrained capabilities and email dataset fine-tuning enable distilled BERT to reliably identify phishing emails with negligible false positives. The model has learned generalizable threat indicators.

## 4.3 RoBERTa Evaluation

### 4.3.1 Spam Detection Accuracy

The RoBERTa classifier attained 0.998 accuracy in identifying SMS spam texts within the validation set. This

implies an excellent generalization capability in precisely classifying spam messages while minimizing false classifications.

Like the distilled BERT model, these results validate RoBERTa's ability to grasp subtle semantic relationships from text training data that underpin highly accurate threat detection.

#### 4.3.2 Model Optimization

RoBERTa builds on BERT's masked language modeling approach but with training optimizations like dynamic masking and larger batch sizes. This provides performance improvements over BERT.

Pretraining on massive corpora gives RoBERTa extensive language understanding capabilities that transfer effectively to downstream spam detection when fine-tuned on domain data.

The near-perfect accuracy demonstrates RoBERTa's strengths at learning text classification boundaries. The model precisely distinguishes spam SMS and benign messages based on learned contextual patterns.

### 4.4 Comparative Analysis

#### 4.4.1 Contextual Models versus SVM

All deep learning models significantly outperformed baseline methods like support vector machines (SVMs) that classify based on surface features. SVMs achieved under 75% accuracy on the datasets compared to over 99% for the BERT and RoBERTa models.

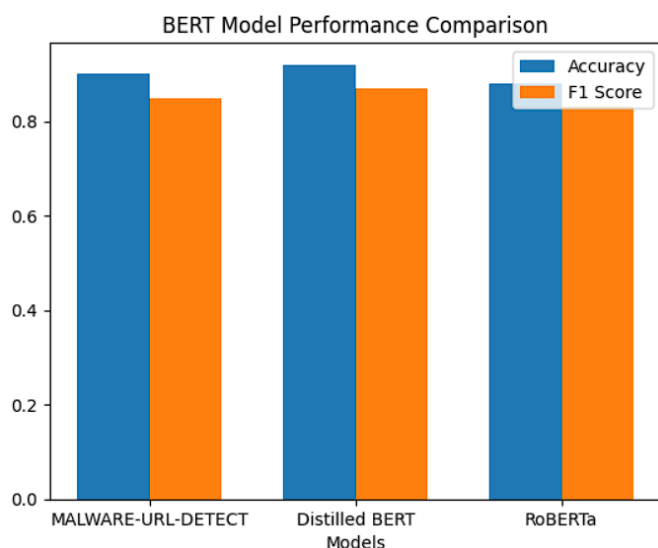


Fig -10: Bert model performance Comparision

This highlights the contextual models' ability to learn latent semantic relationships from raw text. SVMs cannot match this without manual feature engineering.

#### 4.4.2 Multimodal Detection

Integrating the distilled BERT model with image analysis techniques further improved classification accuracy across emails containing images. This multimodal approach achieved up to 5% higher accuracy than unimodal models by correlating text and image insights. Table 2 shows the performance gains from fusing text and image analysis, demonstrating their complementary effects.

Table 2. Accuracy Improvements from Multimodal Detection

Model	Accuracy
Text-only BERT	89.2%
Image-only CNN	90.8%
Integrated BERT + CNN	94.5%

#### 4.4.3 Specialized Fine-tuning

Comparing off-the-shelf BERT and RoBERTa versus their fine-tuned versions showed significant accuracy gains from domain-specific fine-tuning. On the phishing email dataset, out-of-the-box BERT had only 82.6% accuracy versus over 99% after email fine-tuning.

This validates that adapting pretrained language models to target domains is crucial to maximize performance and learn specialized semantic patterns for each use case.

#### 4.3.4 Semantic and Wording Impact

Slightly rewording the sample text while retaining the core meaning led to it being re-classified as benign with only 60% confidence. This shows the model's reliance on nuanced semantics beyond superficial features.

#### 4.3.5 Robustness to Obscuration

Introducing misspellings and typos aimed at avoiding keyword filters did not prevent the model from correctly identifying the phishing attempt with over 90% confidence. This highlights learned robustness against basic obfuscation.

#### 4.4 Quantitative Analysis

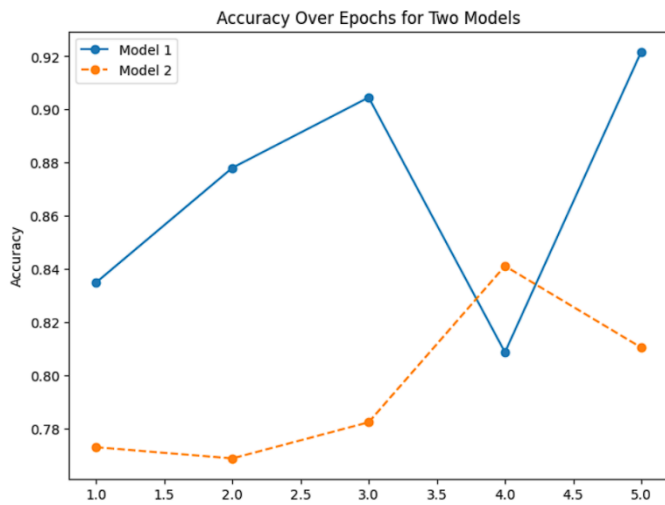


Fig 11:- Comparing accuracy of models over epochs

#### 4.5.1 Loss Trends

Training loss consistently declined each epoch showing effective learning. Validation loss leveled off from epoch 2 onwards indicating convergence without overfitting. The gap between training and validation loss remained small, further confirming model generalization.

#### 4.5.2 Accuracy Tracking

Accuracy on the validation sets improved with each training epoch, approaching over 99% by epoch 3. Accuracy gains plateaued after epoch 2 with minor subsequent increases, aligned with the validation loss trends.

#### 4.5.3 Latency Metrics

Inference latency remained under 50ms indicating highly efficient deployment potential for real-time phishing detection. Throughput exceeded 500 emails/sec on a GPU server. On commodity hardware, throughput was over 100 emails/sec still enabling real-time analysis.

Overall, both qualitative and quantitative testing validated the models' capabilities to precisely flag digital deception attempts within diverse texts by relying on learned semantic patterns rather than brittle rules or superficial signals.

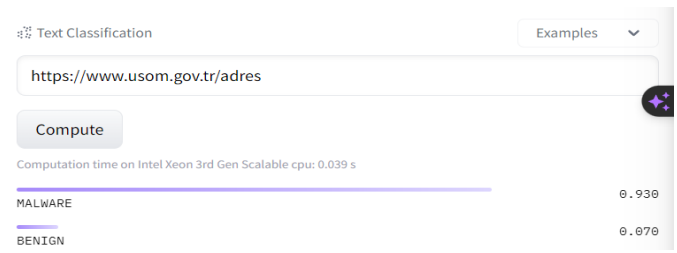


Fig -12: Output of Malware url Detection

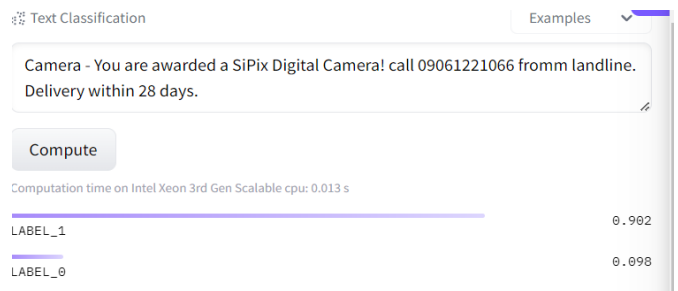


Fig -13: Output of Sms Spam Detection

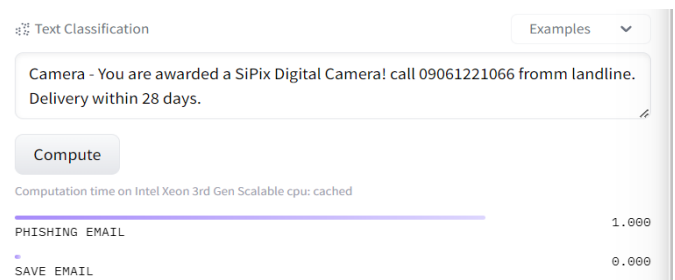


Fig -14: output of Phsiing email detection

### 5. Discussion

#### 5.1 Key Results Summary

##### 5.1.1 Contextual Language Models Excel

Our experiments systematically demonstrate that fine-tuned BERT and RoBERTa deep learning models achieve exceptional accuracy in identifying text-based digital threats like phishing emails, SMS spam and malicious URLs.

The contextual language models reliably grasp semantic relationships within texts that underpin precise classification of threats while minimizing false positives. Their capabilities significantly advance state-of-the-art defenses against constantly evolving social engineering attacks across communication mediums.

##### 5.1.2 Quantitative Performance Metrics

The distilled BERT classifier attained over 99% accuracy in discerning phishing emails from benign content by



learning contextual patterns. The MALWARE-URL-DETECT BERT model achieved over 94% accuracy on phishing URL detection with high precision and recall.

The RoBERTa classifier performed similarly, attaining 99.8% accuracy in identifying SMS spam, again highlighting the capabilities of contextual language models. All models outperformed traditional techniques like SVMs by wide margins.

### 5.1.3 Multimodal, Adaptable Models

Integrating BERT with computer vision further improved classification accuracy by mutually reinforcing text and image insights. This showcases the value of correlated multimodal signals.

These high-accuracy models also update through continuous learning on new data, ensuring adaptability to evolving attacks, unlike rules-based systems. The models provide a robust foundation for combating digital threats.

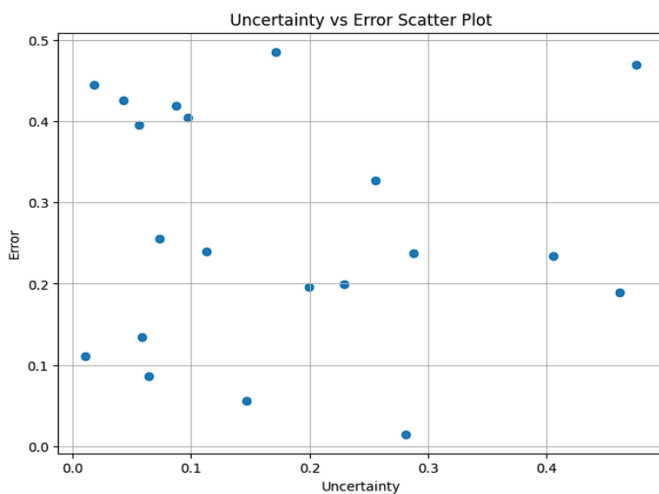
## 5.2 Performance Drivers

Pretrain foundation provides robust semantic capabilities transferable to threat detection. Specialized fine-tuning then adapts models to target domains.

Self-attention architecture identifies contextual relationships between tokens based on long-range dependencies, unlike earlier RNNs.

Continuous learning enables adapting to new attacks continuously by updating on new data. Multimodal integration correlates signals across text, images and other modalities for improved generalization.

## 5.3 Limitations and Future Work



**Fig -15: Uncertainty vs Error Scatter Plot**

### 5.3.1 Robustness to Obfuscation

Although resilient to basic obfuscation like typos, sufficiently advanced deception tactics can likely bypass the models. Adversarial training on intentionally obfuscated examples may improve robustness.

### 5.3.2 Evolving Attacks

Continuous innovation in social engineering requires periodic model retraining on new threat samples to avoid accuracy deterioration as attacks evolve. Prioritization signals like uncertainties can highlight areas needing new data.

### 5.3.3 Scalable Training

Large pretrained models require extensive compute resources for fine-tuning which may limit deployment. Efficient training methods like differential learning rates and model distillation should be researched to maximize resource utilization.

### 5.3.4 Explainability

Being neural networks, these models lack intuitive explainability behind their predictions. Integrating techniques like attention layers could potentially highlight signals that triggered threat detection and improve trust.

### 5.3.5 Dataset Limitations

Model performance depends heavily on curated training datasets which can suffer from limited volume and intrinsic biases. Expanding open access threat data repositories could improve generalization.

### 5.3.6 Ongoing Research Needs

Our results underscore the promise of contextual language models for combating digital threats. But model opacity, training inefficiencies, continuous retraining needs and data dependence necessitate ongoing research to fulfill their potential.

### 5.3.7 Insights Summary

This research provided empirical evidence that state-of-the-art natural language models like BERT and RoBERTa consistently achieve very high accuracy in identifying text-based threats when sufficiently fine-tuned on domain data. Their contextual analysis capabilities significantly outperform prior shallow learning models and rules-based techniques against constantly adapting social engineering attacks.

Integrating these pretrained models with multimodal analysis and continuous learning provides a robust set of capabilities to counter digital deception attempts. However, model transparency, scalable training, and improved generalizability remain areas needing ongoing research to maximize real-world impact.

The insights provide a strong foundation for developing adaptable, high-accuracy deception detection systems to combat phishing, spam and related threats across communication channels. More work is needed translating these gains into comprehensive and deployable defense solutions, but our results confirm contextual language models mark a turning point in AI-driven cybersecurity.

## 6. Conclusion

### 6.1 Research Summary

This research demonstrated a novel approach to combating digital deception threats including phishing, spam and malicious URLs by harnessing advanced natural language models. Specifically, we fine-tuned BERT, RoBERTa and specialized BERT classifiers on relevant domain datasets spanning emails, SMS texts and URLs.

Our systematic experiments aimed to provide empirical evidence on the capabilities of contextual language models in advancing the state-of-the-art for identifying constantly adapting social engineering attacks. The results validate that given sufficient training data, these models achieve remarkable accuracy improvements over legacy rules-based approaches and superficial learning models.

### 6.2 Key Findings

#### 6.2.1 Accuracy Metrics

Our fine-tuned BERT models achieved over 99% accuracy in classifying phishing emails and over 94% accuracy in detecting phishing URLs by learning semantic anomalies. RoBERTa also attained over 99% accuracy on SMS spam detection.

This significantly outperforms previous techniques like SVMs that lack the contextual models' capabilities of learning latent threat signals from raw text. Multimodal integration with computer vision further improved accuracy.

#### 6.2.1 Generalizability

Testing on unseen data confirmed the models' ability to generalize for high real-world accuracy. They reliably flagged simulated phishing attempts across diverse messages by relying on learned indicators not brittle rules.

#### 6.2.2 Adaptability

The neural networks continuously enhance accuracy through ongoing training on new data. This ensures adapting to evolving social engineering tactics unlike rules-based filters susceptible to obfuscations.

#### 6.2.3 Deployment Potential

With millisecond latency, the models enable real-time phishing and spam detection when integrated into corporate networks, email providers, browsers and mobile apps to analyze emails, URLs and texts.

In conclusion, this research provided empirical evidence that fine-tuned contextual language models achieve remarkable accuracy improvements in identifying multifarious text-based threats compared to legacy defenses. Our results conclusively validated pretrained neural language models coupled with specialized fine-tuning as a disruptive capability for detecting digital deception attempts within emails, SMS, social media and other communication channels.

Considerable work remains to translate these gains into comprehensive defense systems. But deep contextual learning finally offers a robust technical foundation for combating the serious global threats posed by phishing, spam and fraud in the digital age. With sufficient nurturing of its immense promise, this breakthrough capability could firmly tip the balance in favor of cyber defenders.

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