Utilizing Optical Character Recognition to Summarize Bengali Text

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Abstract—Optical Character Recognition (OCR) has proven to be a valuable tool for extracting textual information from images, converting physical documents into digital formats that can be easily edited, searched, and shared. However, OCR technology is not without its limitations, particularly when it comes to recognizing and processing non-Latin scripts such as Bengali. Bengali is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world, with over 230 million speakers worldwide. One area where OCR could be particularly useful is in summarizing Bengali text, which could save time and effort for researchers, journalists who are working with a large corpus of text. In recent years, there have been several attempts to develop OCR-based text summarization techniques for Bengali. One challenge it struggles with is the complex nature of the language, its rich vocabulary, its highly inflected grammar and the inclusion of a number of ligatures in Bengali Script and diacritics that can significantly complicate the OCR process. Overall, the development of OCR-based text summarization could save time and effort, while also providing a more objective and systematic approach to analyzing large volumes of text. As the technology continues to improve, it is likely that we will see more sophisticated and accurate OCRbased text summarization techniques for Bengali in the future.

Index Terms—OCR, Bengali, Corpus, Summarization, Ligatures

I. Introduction

OCR, or Optical Character Recognition, was developed to automate the process of recognizing and converting printed or handwritten text into digital text that can be edited, searched, and stored electronically. Before the development of OCR technology, the process of digitizing text was time-consuming and labor-intensive. To convert printed or handwritten documents into digital text, individuals had to manually type out the text, a process known as manual data entry. This was not only time-consuming, but it was also prone to errors, which could lead to inaccuracies and lost productivity.

OCR technology was developed to automate the process of digitizing text, making it faster and more accurate. OCR software uses advanced algorithms to analyze the shapes and patterns of printed or handwritten characters and then recognizes and converts them into digital text. This enables users to easily convert large volumes of printed or handwritten

documents into digital format, saving time and improving accuracy. OCR technology eliminates the need for manual data entry by automating the process of converting scanned documents into machine-encoded text. This saves time and reduces errors that can occur during manual data entry, makes printed materials accessible to people with visual impairments by converting them into digital text that can be read aloud by screen readers and allowing documents to be scanned and translated into other languages using machine translation algorithms, saving time and improving accuracy.

As powerful as the technology can be, its limitations prevail when functioning non-latin languages. Bangla is the seventh most widely spoken language in the world and has a rich cultural heritage. Many important historical and literary works are written in Bangla. Developing Bangla OCR technology can help to preserve this cultural heritage by making it easier to digitize and store historical and literary works in digital format, and can help to make digital information more accessible to people who speak or read Bangla, further enhancing education by making it easier to share educational resources across different regions and countries.

However, the complex nature of Bengali script has made it difficult for OCR technology to accurately recognize and digitize Bengali text. This has been a major obstacle for researchers and others who need to work with Bengali texts, as it has made it difficult to search and analyze large volumes of Bengali text quickly and efficiently. Despite the development of Bangla OCR technology since the 1980s, the current OCR systems have not been able to achieve the desired level of accuracy. As a result, the need for improving Bangla OCR has become a major research area today. But with the resources available today, the implementation of a fully fledged Bangla OCR is very much feasible and its utilization can produce accurate outcomes along with reducing processing time.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

One of most researchable topic in NLP is text summarization. OCR (Optical Character Recognition) technology can convert printed text or scanned images into machine-readable digital

text. Because this digitization automates the extraction of relevant information from documents, it reduces the requirement of manual summarization efforts and it is mostly used in text summarization process.

Many studies have been conducted in this field for various languages. To avoid ambiguity or contradiction, the process of calculating similarity via a basic pattern matching algorithm requires the possession of an exhaustive set of patterns for each meaning. The difficulty and time-consuming nature of manually compiling is tedious task. Recent natural language processing applications highlight the need for an efficient method to obtain the similarity between very textual data or sentences [1]. The utilization of a lexical dictionary to evaluate the similarity of a set of words collected from several sentences being compared is one extended form of word co-occurrence methods. Sentence similarity can be calculated simply by adding the similarity values of all word pairs[2]. There is also a model that uses a reinforcement technique for abstractive text summarization and employs convolutional sequence learning. The central concept of this work is textual learning in context. The convolutional neural network consolidates the entire process [3].

III. OCR APPROACHES

For now we will use pytesseract to extract Bangla text from images using Bengali dataset. Later we will develop a model that will be able to generate text from images without pytesseract

IV. SUMMARIZATION APPROACHES

There are two main approaches for text summarization- 1. Extractive summarization and 2. Abstractive summarization. We will focus on abstractive method to build our model for Bengali text summarization.

V. DATA COLLECTION AND PREPROCESSING

A. Data Collection

For OCR: To apply OCR technique we made our own dataset by taking around more than 300 pictures of text paragraphs written in Bengali language.

For Summarization: To train a model for the purpose of summarization we collected around 23422 texts from the Prothom Alo Newspaper and their subsequent summarized texts. The texts were categorized into 7 types including-

- 1) Business News Data
- 2) Entertainment News Data
- 3) Opinion News Data
- 4) Politics News Data
- 5) Sports News Data
- 6) World News Data
- 7) Bangladesh News Data

Subsequent csv files were made for each type for data preprocessing. Each csv file had 6 columns- Title, Description, Meta-Summary, Summary, Syndicate-catagorys, Keywordsfor-related-articles. An illustration of which is shown below:

	nen_text = pd.read_tex("/content/drive/NyOrive nen_text.head(15)	CSEASL/Task-BA/Summarization_Dataset/SusinessNe	udata.cov')			
	Title	Description	Reta-Summery	Summery	syndicate-cetagorys	Keywords for related article
0	रेका त्यवरक पे-कारवाकुत निविचारकप्रिकारिक सम	ই-ব্যৱহার মানিকশক ক্ষে বাশিরা মনুশলরের	মুক্তবেশী প্ৰায়ক্তয়ে শক্ষে চাৰন্তন আৰু ফুনাৰ সচিত্ৰ.	ভূতবালী প্রসক্ষেত্র পক্ষে চারারন আর কুলার সচিব	n/Hup	रेक्सर वर्तिय
1	ট্রিংকরে মন্ত্রনিকে কর্ম্ম বৃদ্ধির প্রকাব ভিয়ে	निरमणे देशीय क्रमान महिरमान क्रिक्सा संदर्शन	विद्यालयाच्या क्षम् याद्याच्या मान द्वित्रकारमा मा स्थापनः	विदारमध्या सन्द्र गण्डम सम्बद्ध स्थान है। सदाव सा	n/Had	कामसमि अक्षमि, निरम्पी भा
2	Spine o control action (Management)	भूगक के तमस्त्राम करमाई तराना लगावकारण भारत पूरव	भूगक के उनस्थान करमाई त्याना (नामकाक्षामा नाम पूरव	पूरण के उपन्यापन कटमान् त्राचना उपनामानात्रामा प्रवास पूरण	viPros	found found foundary
3	अमंत्रिय तमीन पशित्य निर्मित स्थानता	বংলাবেশ কৃষি যাংকের উপবাসহাপন পরিলেক শ	বংলাদেশ কৃষি বাংকের উপবাসস্থাপন পরিচালক শ	राज्याल कृषि राज्यस वैत्यासकृतस वर्तातल म	NeN	100
4	মালা পাঢ়ির অভ্যানার মেচান	মাল পাড়ি, বংলাবেশের পাড়ির ভাবতে প্রথম সুপরিতি	ारमा काराज्य कुल मिद्धावारी कारणाता अस्पत ह	বেশের ক্ষরতম বৃহৎ শিল্পারের ক্ষরতারর প্রশের চ	NeN	देशका, शामदि कारित
5	স্থাক প্ৰতিস্থানের স্থানীবনিক স্বাবস্থার স্বাক্তি মান	পালের কায়ুলর বিয়ন্ত্রণ সেরহা পাল কারেই গ্র	পালেরার ভাতুলার বিয়ন্ত্রণ কেরয়ে পালে ভাতেবই প্র	সংগোধৰ অন্তোপন নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কেওৱা আৰু কনকেই গ্ৰ	viPros	অস্থানিকার বাবে অন্তর্গনি
c	representa recultate procurence	राज्यभवित चारपार्था अस्तरात पीत अस्तरात पत्रि, पा	হারণেশীর প্রাণারপরি এলকার গাঁর একসময় রখি, গা	प्राप्तिक प्राप्तार्थक असमय गीव असमय गीवे, थ	1900	शासभी, विश्वम अन्य, कारीति
7	যদের চলকল ৬০০ কোটি টকার কিবছে অকিছে প্রশ	রাজনানীর ব্যোগান্তিকে ২০০৮ সালে প্রার সেরু শ কোটি	जावनारीत राजानादीटन २०५५ मारन द्वार राया न रकारी	রাজনাধীর লোকাবাট্টারে ২০১৮ সলে প্রায় সেতৃ শ কোটি	n/Has	क्रिकेटमा पत्त, बनिवा, बनिवा गः वा
8	के साराक्षत विकास ३,३०० त्यांचे प्रेमा साम्रागास्त्र	Kasaf gfiltin Kassags siftens go	ই-কালে প্ৰতিষ্ঠান ই-অন্তেপ্তৰ মানিকপক প্ৰতা	ই কথাৰ প্ৰতিষ্ঠান ই-আহান্তৰ মানিকপক প্ৰতা	19up	रे कवार् समित्र, श्रमका
,	ছাতু বিয়ে এবল টিকে থাকার লড়বিরে নামহে পর্বাচন থাক	পৰ্যান থাকে বাৰস্বাধীয়া টিকে থাকতে চান। এ ক্লব্য	পর্বান ধারের ব্যবস্থানির টিকে ধারতে চান। এ জনা	পর্যান বাবের কালভারির টিকে বাকরে চান। এ জন্ম।	*Pac	পৰ্যান, বাৰদায়ী, ৰয়েনা অপনিতি
10	সময়মহা দল পেলে ১৬ প্রশাসন পালে নারী উলোক্তার	সময়মান মণের বিশ্বি পরিপার কালে নারী উল্লেখনে	সময়মতে ছাল্ডে কিন্তি পরিশেষ করলে মাটি উচ্চেক্তর	সময়মতে মণের কিন্তি পরিসেত করলে মার্টি উল্লোক্তর	xiftus	यानदरम सारक सही, क
11	MICHIGAN SICHA CARRELIN MICHIGA CACHA MIS CAÑ	राज्य क्रमावय कृत निवासकी कारणवा अस्त्र ह	राज्य क्रमावय कृत निवृत्त्वती क्रायमात अस्ता ह	ारमा क्रमावय कृत निवृत्त्वती क्रमावात श्रदणा ए	20000	सकारी, तरण, पुरू, निवस अधितरम
12	जूनरे (भारत महि सारतकरी) ता पात भारतिसास था	পর রোগার বালেনান আক্ষণনিয়ানের মার্রধানী করুল	पत्र द्वारतात पारमधन प्राक्तगरिकारमा साक्रभनि कार्युगः	গৰ নোৰাৰ বালেৰম আৰক্ষমিয়ামেৰ বাছনামী কাছুল	n/has	অফগনিয়ান, মাচি, কর্মাংখ্যা
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56	व्यापनिवास निवा प्राप्त (सम. १९४०)	করেক সমার আরে কল বঙ্গা অনেবানের আক্থানিয়া	कटाक गर्भार प्रदेश कर रक्षा प्रत्यक्तर प्राप्तशस्त्रिता	कराज गरधार प्रारंत कर रहता पारत्यात्मा पार्क्यानिका	160	कामानिकार काल कार्यित विदेशक

Fig. 1. Dataset of Summarization

B. Data Preprocessing

For Summarization: We applied multifarious preprocessing techniques on the collected dataset in csv format to ensure that it was in a suitable format for training our model. For each of the 7 csv files we checked for duplicate and missing/null values. A few duplicate texts were found which might have been mistakenly taken during data collection. We removed the rows with duplicate values. Meanwhile for the null values we used an imputation technique. We got null values for the 'syndicate-catagorys' column of the csv file only. As the dataset was already divided, it was easy to replace the null values with its subsequent category using .fillna() function of the pandas library. Finally after preprocessing, all the refined datasets were combined together into 1 csv file to train our model.

VI. METHODOLOGY VII. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS VIII. CONCLUSION

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CONCLUSION

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