

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERING PULCHOWK CAMPUS



Final Report On Tuberculosis Monitoring and Analysis using Big Data Stack

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ABSTRACT

This project presents a robust system to analyze the raw Tuberculosis (TB) using the Big Data Pipeline and use the result to monitor TB cases in Nepal while also helping the stakeholders to plan the data-driven interventions throughout the country. The main objective of this effort is to explore the utility of a big data approach in the TB data analysis.

Summary of the procedures, results, databases and the methodologies are presented in this report. Advantages and limitations of the proposed systems are explained finally.

The TB data received from NTCC is ingested into the Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS) through Apache Flume. Apache Spark is used for data processing and analysis. Finally, New SQL instance, HIVE is used to integrate with the Apache Superset for the visualization of the underlying patterns and analysis of the TB data.

The project aims to realize an efficient data analysis framework to reduce the TB cases in Nepal through efficient dissection of the underlying patterns hidden in the collected data through Health Management Information System (HMIS). Although, the project doesn't completely replace the existing analytical strategies, it is the first step towards that goal.

ABBREVIATIONS

NTCC	National Tuberculosis Control Center
NTP	National Tuberculosis Program
TB	Tuberculosis
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
WHO	World Health Organization
HMIS	Health Management Information System
HDFS	Hadoop Distributed File System
DHIS2	District Health Information Software 2

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Tuberculosis (TB) still remains one of the top killers in the Healthcare context and ranks among the top 10 deadliest disease and a major Public Health problem in Nepal. According to the latest Survey **Prevalence Survey 2020**, there are about 1, 17,000 people living with active tuberculosis in Nepal, with more than 69,000 new cases and death toll reaching approximately 17000 every year**WHO**; **2023** and only 37447 cases has been identified **TB Fact Sheet**; **2079/80**, and nearly 46% of the cases go missing, a major setback for the National Tuberculosis Program (NTP).

With this project, we aim to provide deeper explanation on the potential gaps of TB case notification, giving further insights for the targeted interventions and resource allocation to diagnose and notify prevalent TB cases in Nepal. This will help devise actionable plans and helps to achieve the EndTB targets that the Government of Nepal has vouched for.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Nepal hopes to end the TB Epidemic by 2035 and eliminate TB by 2050 **TB Fact Sheet**; **2079/80**, however, it looks far fetched, given the present TB case notification rate. The need to change the current interventions and introduce newer innovative approach is crucial to achieve the desired target. The situation is critical and it is imperative to design, endorse and implement the newer and scientific interventions backed by data analysis to increase the TB diagnosis and plan effective strategies to control it. There is a need for a robust data analysis framework that can integrate and analyze TB data from multiple sources to identify vulnerable populations, detect geographical clusters of cases, and uncover trends and patterns that can inform targeted public health interventions.

2 Theoretical Background

Some of the tools and services used in the Big Data pipeline is briefly described in the subsequent sections.

2.1 Apache Flume

Apache Flume is a distributed, reliable, and available service designed for efficiently collecting, aggregating, and moving large amounts of log data from various sources to a centralized data store. Flume's architecture consists of sources to collect data, channels to buffer it, and sinks to deliver it to destinations, providing a flexible and extensible solution for data ingestion needs.

2.2 Apache Spark

Apache Spark is an open-source, distributed computing system designed for fast processing of large-scale data. It provides an interface for programming entire clusters with implicit data parallelism and fault tolerance. Spark's in-memory processing capabilities make it significantly faster than traditional disk-based Hadoop MapReduce jobs. It supports a wide range of applications, including batch processing, interactive querying, real-time analytics, machine learning, and graph processing, through its core components and libraries such as Spark SQL, Spark Streaming, MLlib, and GraphX. Spark's flexibility and scalability have made it a popular choice for big data analytics and processing.

2.3 Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS)

Apache Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS) is a scalable and reliable storage system designed for storing large datasets across multiple machines. It provides high-throughput access to data, ensuring fault tolerance through data replication across nodes. Optimized for large-scale batch processing, HDFS works closely with computational frameworks like Apache MapReduce to enhance data locality and performance.

2.4 Apache Hive

Apache Hive is a data warehouse infrastructure built on top of Hadoop that provides tools for querying and managing large datasets using a SQL-like language called HiveQL. It enables users to perform data analysis and aggregation on large volumes of data stored in Hadoop's HDFS or other compatible storage systems. Hive translates HiveQL queries into low-level MapReduce jobs, making it easier to interact with big data without needing to write complex MapReduce code. It supports a variety of data formats, including text files, RCFile, ORC, and Parquet, allowing for flexible data storage and retrieval. Hive's architecture also supports user-defined functions and custom input/output formats, enhancing its extensibility and integration with other data processing tools.

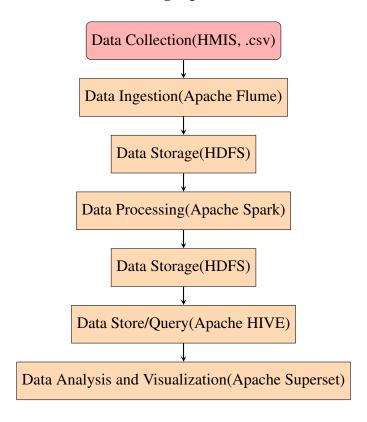
2.5 Apache Superset

Apache Superset is an open-source data exploration and visualization platform designed for creating interactive dashboards and data visualizations. It provides a user-friendly interface for querying and analyzing large datasets from various data sources, supporting a wide range of visualizations such as charts, maps, and graphs. Superset's flexibility, scalability, and ease of integration with big data tools make it a powerful choice for data analysts and business intelligence applications.

3 Methodology

Flow of project methods is shown below and methodologies incorporated are briefly described here. It contains 6 main components.

Data Processing Pipeline Flowchart



3.1 Data Collection

HMIS (Hospital Management Information System) is a systematic approach used to collect, manage, and analyze health-related data to improve healthcare delivery and decision-making in Nepal. The HMIS is typically managed by the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) in Nepal, in collaboration with other health organizations and international partners. National Tuberculosis Control Center (NTCC) has provided us with the data from the Dhis2 platform to use in our project. Due to confidentiality, patient name has been removed. The data is in the .csv format. The outline of the data provided is shown in the **Appendix** A.

3.2 Data Ingestion

After collection of data from NTCC, Apache flume is used for data ingestion into the Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS). The configuration of Flume is shown in the **Appendix B**. The process for data ingestion using Apache Flume is given below:

- Configuration was done to specify source, sink and channels to buffer the data for ingestion.
- Data was ingested into the HDFS.
- Flume agent monitors the input folder (project_mtb) and ingests the data into the HDFS automatically in folder (mtb_data) for further processing. Refer to Figure 1

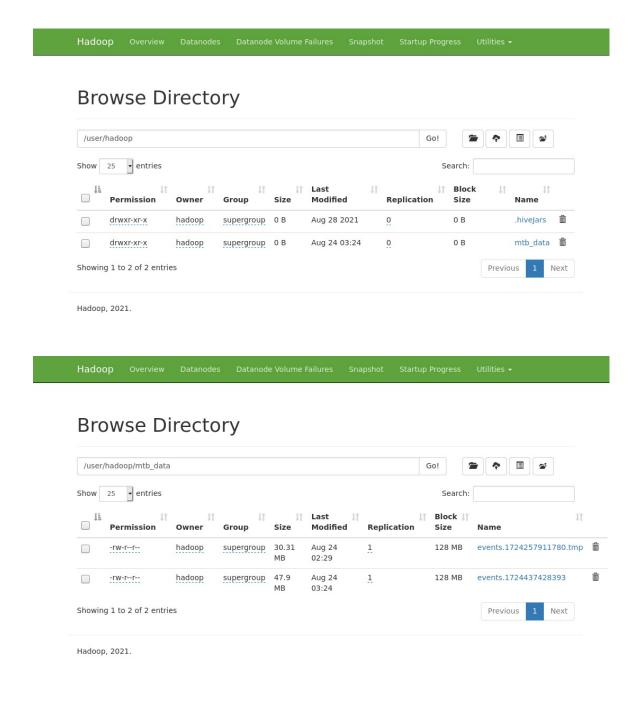


Figure 1: Flume Agent Monitors continuously and ingests data

3.3 Data Processing

The ingested data from the HDFS was then cleaned and processed using Apache Spark. Python programming language was used and for the processing tasks. The final output was saved in the HDFS again. Refer to the complete PySpark code in the **Appendix** C. See below figure 2 for a snapshot.

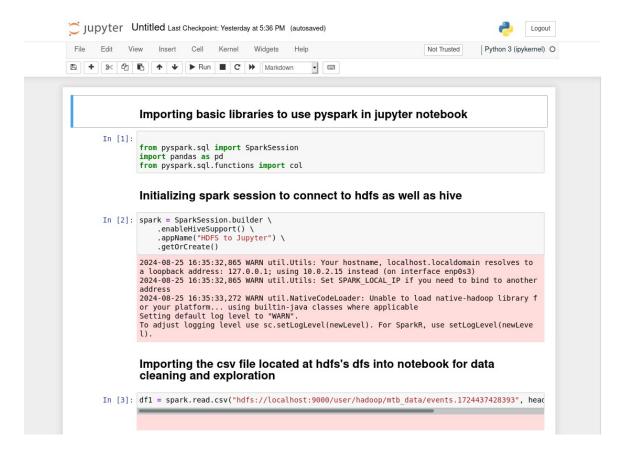


Figure 2: Pyspark Data Processing

3.4 Data Storage

HDFS is a primary data storage for data in our project. HDFS is primarily used to:

- Store raw data and processed data.
- Load processed data into the data warehouse. Apache Hive has been used for its seamless integration with the Apache Superset for the data visualization. Refer to figure 3.

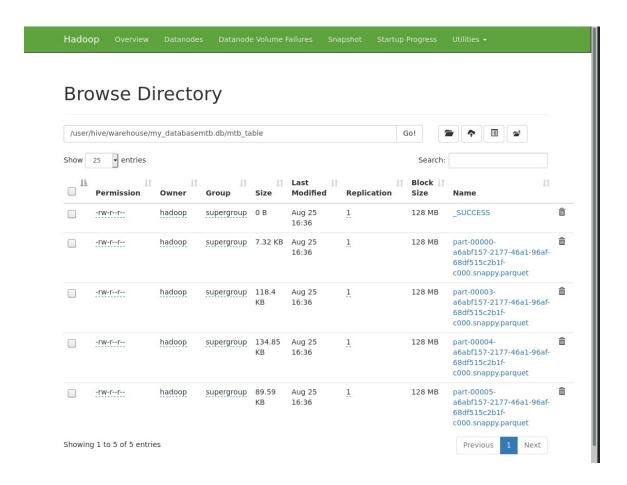


Figure 3: Hive Table Import Successful

3.5 Data Analysis and Visualization

After the processed data has been loaded into the HIVE database and appropriate tables has been formed, it is connected with the Apache Superset with SQL Alchemy URL. Following processes has been performed for Superset Visualization:

• Load processed data from storage (Apache Hive). Refer to Figure 4.

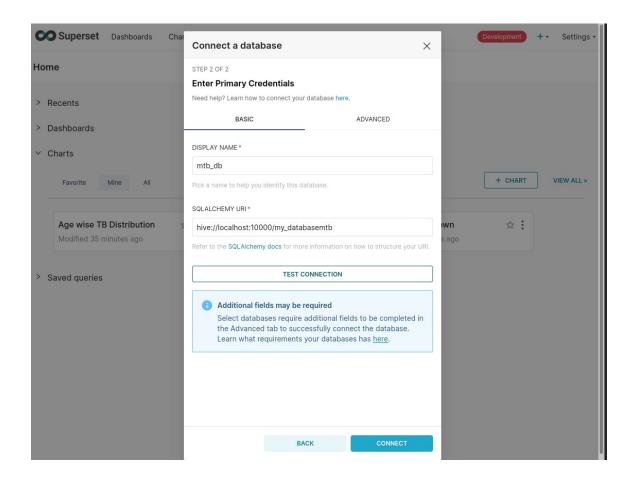


Figure 4: Connecting Hive DB with Superset

- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) and generate visualizations.
- Create dashboards to monitor key metrics.

4 Results and Interpretation

We obtained raw unprocessed data from National Tuberculosis Control Center (NTCC) and the data was processed and analysed.

4.1 Results

• **Dashboard**: The complex data is transformed into visual formats such as bargraphs, histograms, pie charts etc making it easier to grasp patters, trends and outcomes quickly.

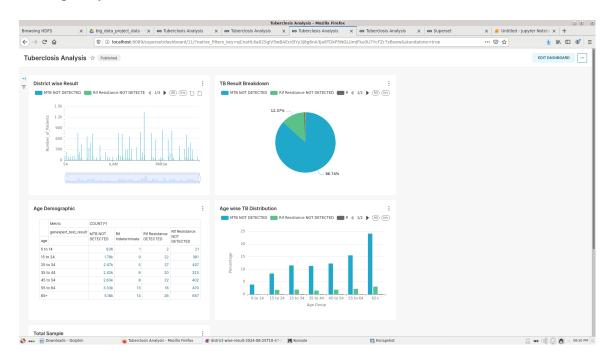


Figure 5: Superset Dashboard

- **Support to NTP**: The project is aimed to aid the policy makers and authorities to design, endorse and implement targeted interventions to increase the case notification and help to overall improve the public health.
- **Geographical Distribution**: Through this analysis, one can comprehend the TB disease distribution scenario in Nepal and helps to find the hotspots.
- **Vulnerable Population**: Identify population that are at higher risk of contracting TB disease on the basis of age, socio-economic status, lifestyles etc.

Some of the snapshots are given below:

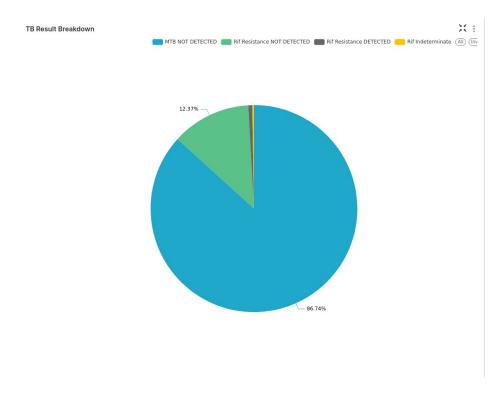


Figure 6: Overall TB Result Breakdown

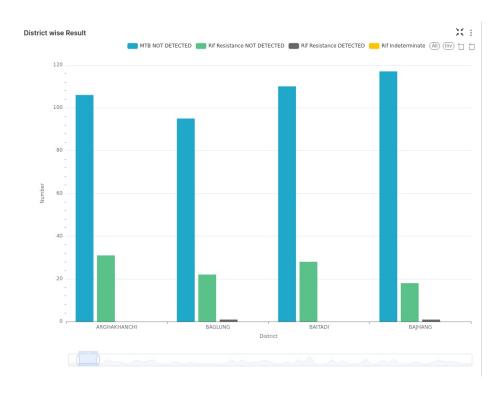


Figure 7: Geographical Breakdown of TB Cases

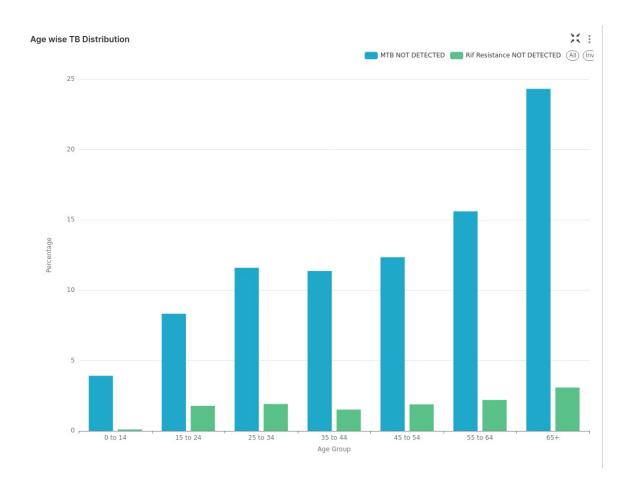


Figure 8: Age-Wise Distribution of TB Cases

4.2 Interpretation

The analysis and visualizations provided in this report offer valuable insights into the current state of tuberculosis (TB) in Nepal. From the geographical breakdown, we have identified Darchula as the highest cases of TB in percentage. The age-wise distribution reveals that older people with age 65+ are more vulnerable to TB, enabling targeted health campaigns and resource allocation. Additionally, the overall breakdown of TB cases provides a clear picture of the current burden of the disease, highlighting the need for continued efforts to improve TB case detection and notification rates. These insights are crucial for refining public health strategies and achieving national TB control goals.

5 Limitation of the Project

The TB monitoring and analysis framework are constrained by following limitations:

- 1. The project is primarily focused on analyzing data from the District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2) provided by NTCC, and any data that are not included in DHIS2 is not taken into consideration.
- 2. The project is designed for batch data processing and not real-time data.
- 3. Due to lack of patient data like symptoms, past history, lifestyles, no predictive analysis has been performed.

6 Future Enhancements

- 1. The project can be expanded to real-time data processing and analysis.
- 2. With additional dimension in our data, predictive model can be incorporated to predict the probability of TB infection prior to laboratory testing.
- 3. This project is realized on a single machine. The system can be deployed in distributed environment to handle larger datasets, improve processing speed, and ensure scalability for real-time analysis across multiple nodes or cloud infrastructure.

7 Conclusion

"Tuberculosis Monitoring and Analysis using Big Data Pipeline" demonstrates the potential of leveraging big data technologies to address critical public health issues like tuberculosis (TB) in Nepal. By utilizing a comprehensive data pipeline that integrates tools such as Apache Flume, Apache Spark, HDFS, Apache Hive, and Apache Superset, we were able to process and analyze TB data efficiently. The resulting dashboards and visualizations offer actionable insights that can aid policymakers and healthcare professionals in targeting interventions, identifying vulnerable populations, and improving TB case notification rates. While the project has limitations, such as focusing on batch processing and reliance on data from the DHIS2 platform, it lays a foundation for future enhancements, including real-time data processing and predictive modeling. The scalability and flexibility of the system make it a promising approach for expanding its scope to include more complex datasets and broader public health applications.

In conclusion, this project represents a significant step towards utilizing big data for public health surveillance and decision-making in Nepal. By providing deeper insights into TB trends and hotspots, it supports the National Tuberculosis Program's efforts to reduce TB incidence and move closer to achieving the EndTB targets. Continued development and deployment of such data-driven systems will be crucial in tackling TB and other public health challenges in the years to come.

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8 APPENDIX

A Data Review

Snapshot of the data obtained from National Tuberculosis Control Center is given below:

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rT4xJNoSEYECy5jC9S	00:00.0 ntc.lab1	NTC, Lab (27:27.1	00:00.0	00:00.0	00:00.0 N3cvbO4f JJAvlykOLGR	0	0 NATIONAl Nepal / 3	11163 ACTIVE	ACTIVE DAj3sgOn GeneXpert	KATHMAN Female	MTB NOT DETECTED	3383888 45 to 54
S4sUstNzv YECy5jC9S	00:00.0 kdhb.lab	DISTRICT DISTRICT	08:03.2	00:00.0	00:00.0	00:00.0 PTouL7lt6 gPcNBTCTBk3	0	0 KALAIYA 🛭 Nepal / 2	11020 ACTIVE	COMPLETI OZGBcyvti GeneXper	24 BARA Male	MTB NOT 20708 Kala	2972520 35 to 44
YLdDLEnB(YECy5jC9S	00:00.0 dhj.lab		06:32.6	00:00.0	00:00.0	00:00.0 DAJC9ELG ylWMtUscXy3	0	0 DHULABAI Nepal / 1	12204 ACTIVE	ACTIVE iMclBCbfNGeneXper	1 JHAPA Female	MTB NOT DETECTED	2257075 25 to 34
EZXxe96l2YECy5jC9S	00:00.0 lmcp.lab		29:29.3	28:26.3	0.00:00	00:00.0 KMNyhQX IZBLI1qmM5i	0	0 LUMBINI N Nepal / 5	14076 COMPLE	T(ACTIVE R0g8PTLzcGeneXper	7 PALPA Female	MTB NOT 50610 Nisc	6525428 65+
pTiUaDrSr YECy5jC9S	00:00.0 kahsj.lab		19:26.1	17:59.7	00:00.0	00:00.0 MxauyWa BjB1Y2l3CCG	0	0 KARNALI / Nepal / 6	12276 ACTIVE	ACTIVE FitT2Cdnn GeneXper	2 JUMLA Male	Error 60407 Tila	5939174 45 to 54

B Flume Configuration

Configuration file of the flume located at \$FLUME_HOME/conf/project.conf needs to be created (if needed) and configure as per follows:

```
# Define the agent name
agent2.sources = source1
agent2.channels = channel1
agent2.sinks = sink1
# Define the source
agent2.sources.source1.type = spooldir
agent2.sources.source1.spoolDir = /home/hadoop/Documents/project_mtb
agent2.sources.source1.fileHeader = true
agent2.sources.source1.fileHeaderKey = file
agent2.sources.source1.batchSize= 1000
agent2.sources.sources.batchDelay = 1000
# Define the channel
agent2.channels.channel1.type = memory
agent2.channels.channel1.capacity = 10000
agent2.channels.channel1.transactionCapacity = 1000
# Define the sink
agent2.sinks.sink1.type = hdfs
agent2.sinks.sink1.hdfs.path = hdfs://localhost:9000/user/hadoop/mtb_data
agent2.sinks.sink1.hdfs.filePrefix = events
agent2.sinks.sink1.hdfs.rollInterval =60
agent2.sinks.sink1.hdfs.rollSize = 0
agent2.sinks.sink1.hdfs.rollCount = 0
agent2.sinks.sink1.hdfs.fileType = DataStream
agent2.sinks.sink1.hdfs.writeFormat = Text
agent2.sinks.sink1.hdfs.batchSize = 100
# Bind the source and sink to the channel
agent2.sources.source1.channels = channel1
agent2.sinks.sink1.channel = channel1
To run the flume agent, put the following command:
./bin/flume-ng agent --name agent2 --conf ./conf
--conf-file ./conf/project.conf -Dflume.root.logger=INFO,console
```

C Spark Processing

Spark code for pre-processing and cleaning of data can be found on below link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/15UIYmWRyOsdKTKjkR6H5GAEzm98IyHgs/view