BERT and BART Fusion Models for Abstractive Text Summarization

Abinaya N
Department of Computer Science and Engineering
Hindusthan Institute of Technology, Coimbatore
abi9106@gmail.com

Saranya S S
Department of Computer Science and Engineering
PSG Institute of Technology and Applied Research, Coimbatore,
saranya.sowndarajan@gmail.com

Harikrishnan V S
Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering
Karpagam Academy of Higher Education, Coimbatore
harivs07@gmail.com

Pavithra E
Dept. of Artificial Intelligence
Kongu Engineering College
Perundurai, Erode, Tamilnadu
pavithrae.21aim@kongu.edu

Dharunraja S R
Dept. of Artificial Intelligence
Kongu Engineering College
Perundurai, Erode, Tamilnadu
dharunrajasr.21aim@kongu.edu

Ahalya R
Dept. of Artificial Intelligence
Kongu Engineering College
Perundurai, Erode, Tamilnadu
ahalyar.21aim@kongu.edu

2025 International Conference on Next Generation Computing Systems (ICNGCS) | 979-8-3315-9116-8/25/$31.00 ©2025 IEEE | DOI: 10.1109/ICNGCS64900.2025.11182703

Abstract:

This project introduces an innovative approach to abstractive text summarization, merging the BERT and BART models to address the challenge of condensing lengthy texts into concise, informative summaries. By harnessing BERT's contextual understanding and BART's content generation capability, our system aims to revolutionize the summarization process. Through an intuitive web interface, users can effortlessly input texts and receive customized summaries tailored to their preferences, enhancing efficiency across various domains. The collaborative effectiveness of BERT and BART not only addresses the problem of inefficient summarization techniques but also overcomes the limitations of traditional methods. Our comprehensive methodology encompasses advanced preprocessing, fine-tuning, and post-processing strategies to optimize model performance and enhance readability. The fusion of these state-of-the-art models not only provides scalable and accessible summarization solutions but also pushes the boundaries of natural language processing innovation. This project represents a significant contribution to bridging theoretical advancements with practical utility, offering transformative solutions for information condensation in journalism, academia, and content organization. Future directions include further optimization based on user feedback and ongoing research advancements, positioning our integrated system as a pioneering tool in the field of abstractive text summarization.

Keywords: Abstractive summarization, BERT, BART, NLP.

I. INTRODUCTION

In today's age of information overload, the challenge of parsing large amounts of text into concise and meaningful content has become increasingly important. Summary writing techniques often struggle to capture the nuance and meaning of original texts, encouraging researchers to explore different methods. The project aims to create a unified system for recording arbitrary content using the power of two advanced standards, Bidirectional Encoder Represented by Transformers (BERT) and Bidirectional and Autoregressive Transformers (BART). This aim to improve the fidelity and integration of content by combining BERT's content understanding with BART's content creation capabilities.

The system then processes this input by combining the BERT-BART model to produce short content that is instantly displayed on the web page. This user-friendly interface ensures that users do not have to review long documents to get to the content, providing the accessibility freedom of a well-written authoring tool. It also expand the development process of the web interface, introducing usability and accessibility. Ratings and user feedback will serve as an important indicator of system performance and user experience. Finally, gives overall impact of our project, from improving decision-making processes to the creation of products in various fields. The program focuses on the dissemination and real benefits of text writing systems by combining the differences between scientific research and practical applications.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

In 2007, Banu, Munisamy, et al. [1] introduced a novel method for Tamil document summarization employing semantic graph techniques. Their approach involves constructing semantic graphs from preprocessed Tamil text, where nodes represent key concepts and edges

denote semantic relationships. Through graph analysis, significant information is extracted to generate concise summaries. This pioneering work offers valuable early insights into the field of Tamil text summarization, laying the foundation for future research in automatic summarization techniques tailored for Tamil language documents.

In 2018, Priyadarshan, T., & Sumathipala, S. [2] present a specialized text summarization method tailored for Tamil online sports news, demonstrating the utilization of Natural Language Processing (NLP) techniques in summarization endeavors. The approach involves preprocessing the Tamil sports news content, followed by the application of NLP algorithms to extract salient information. Through this method, concise summaries are generated, offering readers efficient access to key highlights in Tamil sports news articles. This study underscores the practical application of NLP in addressing language-specific summarization tasks, catering to the needs of Tamil-speaking audiences interested in sports news.

In 2022, Anbukkarasi, S., & Varadha Ganapathy, S. [3] propose a neural network-based error handler designed for Natural Language Processing (NLP) tasks, with a focus on error detection and correction, particularly relevant for grammar checking in the Tamil language. This research underscores the significance of robust error handling mechanisms in NLP applications. The neural network architecture offers potential for enhancing accuracy and efficiency in identifying and rectifying errors in Tamil text, contributing to the advancement of language-specific NLP technologies.

In 2022, Dinesh Nath, G., & Saraswathi, S. [4] present a pioneering Deep Belief Neural Network Model tailored for abstractive text summarization, introducing novel strategies to enhance summarization processes. Their model harnesses the power of deep learning techniques to generate concise summaries by understanding and synthesizing the essence of the original text. This research contributes innovative methodologies to the field of text summarization, promising advancements in generating informative and concise summaries across various domains and languages.

In 2018, Sankar, R., & Sridhar, S. [5] review grammar checking in Indian languages, particularly Tamil, highlighting state-of-the-art techniques and language-specific approaches. The paper delves into contemporary methods for grammar checking, emphasizing the significance of tailoring these techniques to the nuances of Indian languages. It provides insights into the challenges and advancements in grammar checking systems, with a specific focus on Tamil. This review underscores the importance of addressing linguistic intricacies to enhance the accuracy and effectiveness of grammar checking tools in Indian languages, contributing to the broader field of Natural Language Processing.

In 2020, Ramasamy S , et al. [6] conducted a comprehensive survey focusing on deep learning techniques tailored for Tamil language processing tasks. Their study sheds light on the versatility of deep learning models in addressing various challenges within Tamil language processing domains. By exploring the applicability of these methodologies, the authors underscore the potential of deep learning approaches in advancing natural language processing tasks specific to Tamil.

In 2019, Banu, S., & Uma Maheswari, K. [7] offer a thorough review of text summarization techniques, focusing on adapting these methodologies for Tamil text. Their comprehensive analysis provides valuable insights into the nuances of summarization in the Tamil language. The paper explores various approaches and strategies for generating summaries, highlighting the challenges and opportunities in adapting these techniques to Tamil. This review contributes to the understanding of text summarization in Tamil, facilitating the development of effective summarization systems tailored to the language's linguistic characteristics and cultural context.

In 2021, Dong, L., & Liu, Y. [8] conduct a survey on the applications of BART (Bidirectional and Auto-Regressive Transformers) in various text generation tasks, including summarization, paraphrasing, and dialogue generation. The survey underscores BART's versatility and effectiveness in diverse Natural Language Processing (NLP) applications beyond traditional language understanding tasks. By examining its usage across different domains, the paper showcases BART's capability to generate high-quality outputs across a wide range of text generation tasks. Through this comprehensive analysis, the survey provides valuable insights into the evolving landscape of text generation techniques, propelled by the advancements in transformer-based models like BART

In 2020, Vaswani, A, et al. [9] offer a comprehensive review elucidating BERT's architecture, training objectives, and its broad spectrum of applications within Natural Language Processing (NLP). The review delves into BERT's effectiveness across diverse tasks such as sentiment analysis, question answering, and text classification, highlighting its versatility and impact in advancing NLP research and applications. By providing an in-depth analysis of BERT's architecture and its practical implications, this review serves as a valuable resource for researchers and practitioners seeking to leverage BERT for various NLP tasks, contributing to the ongoing evolution of language understanding technologies.

In 2019, Lewis, M., et al. [10] introduce BART (Bidirectional and Auto-Regressive Transformers), an innovative model that builds upon BERT's architecture to enable sequence-to-sequence pre-training. BART facilitates various tasks including natural language generation, translation, and comprehension. By combining bidirectional and auto-regressive capabilities, BART enhances the flexibility and effectiveness of transformer-based models in tackling diverse NLP challenges. This paper marks a significant advancement in NLP research, offering a versatile framework for training models capable of generating, translating, and understanding natural language text with remarkable proficiency.

In 2018, Jacob Devlin, et al. [11] introduce BERT, a transformer-based model revolutionizing NLP through pre-training on extensive corpora for language understanding tasks. BERT's bidirectional encoding significantly boosts contextual comprehension, yielding notable advancements in tasks like question answering and sentiment analysis. This seminal work redefines NLP standards, serving as a cornerstone for subsequent advancements in language understanding technologies.

III. METHODOLOGY

A. Dataset Description

The Text Summarization dataset is collected from the publicly available repository Kaggle. The dataset contains 11491 rows and 3 columns. The dataset consists of English news articles and their corresponding human-written highlights. These articles vary in topic and length, posing challenges for abstractive summarization due to contextual variance and linguistic diversity. Table 1 provides the description of the dataset. Figure 1 represents the entire workflow of the work carried out.

TABLE I

FEATURE DESCRIPTION OF THE DATASET

Attribute	**Description**
id	Article id number
Article	Text
Highlights	Summary

B. BERT Model

The BERT (Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers) framework is an innovative Natural Language Processing (NLP) model developed by Google. Because of its two-way nature, it excels at understanding the context by considering the first two terms simultaneously. BERT has been previously trained on a large amount of text through functions such as masked speech modeling, advanced sentence prediction, recognizing rich context words This preliminary training for BERT can capture relationships and subtle meaning in language, making it more effective for NLP projects. After pre-training, specific BERT tasks such as text segmentation or named company recognition can be fine-tuned to its learned position of the task at hand BERT achieved state-of-the-art results in NLP theory for many types of applications. It also makes it a versatile and powerful tool for generation.

C. Tokenization

Tokenization is a foundational step in natural language processing, involving the segmentation of text into smaller units called tokens. BERT models utilize specialized tokenizers to perform this task efficiently. These tokenizers not only split text but also add special tokens like [CLS] and [SEP] for structure indication and manage padding and truncation to maintain uniform input shape. By converting tokens into integer IDs based on predefined dictionaries, BERT tokenizers facilitate model input encoding, enhancing their ability to understand complex textual data. Overall, tokenization is essential for optimizing BERT models' performance across various language processing tasks.

D. Feature Extraction

Feature extraction in BERT involves capturing contextual information from input sequences using bidirectional transformers. The final latent state of the BERT model is typically used for feature extraction, providing a nuanced understanding of the input data. These features serve as inputs for downstream tasks such as text classification or summarization. Proper utilization of extracted features is vital for enhancing the effectiveness of natural language processing applications.

E. BART Model

Bidirectional encoding, exemplified by models like BERT, captures contextual dependencies by considering preceding and succeeding words simultaneously, enabling a comprehensive understanding of sentence structure. Auto-regressive decoding, as employed in models such as BART, facilitates sequential token generation based on previous predictions, ensuring coherent and contextually relevant output. BERT's bidirectional approach is well-suited for tasks requiring nuanced comprehension, such as named entity recognition, while BART's auto-regressive nature excels in tasks like text generation and summarization. Both models undergo pre-training with objectives like auto-encoding subversion, enhancing their ability to discern linguistic features and patterns. Fine-tuning further tailors these models to specific applications, optimizing

performance and adaptability across diverse domains. Together, bidirectional encoding and auto-regressive decoding empower BERT and BART to deliver advanced natural language processing capabilities with superior contextual understanding and task performance. Figure 2 provides the methodology followed for generating a summary.

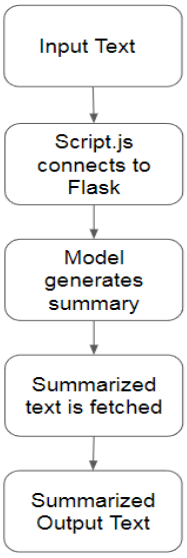


Fig.1. Overall Pipeline of BERT-BART Summarization System

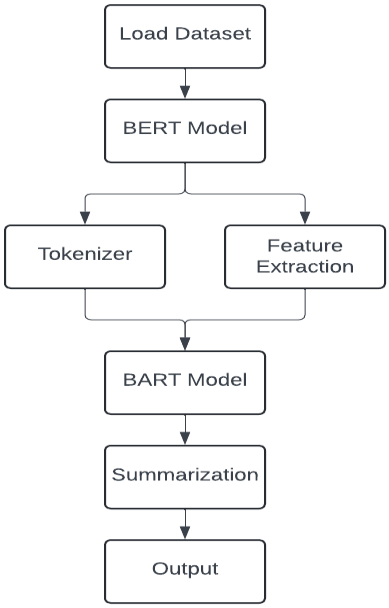
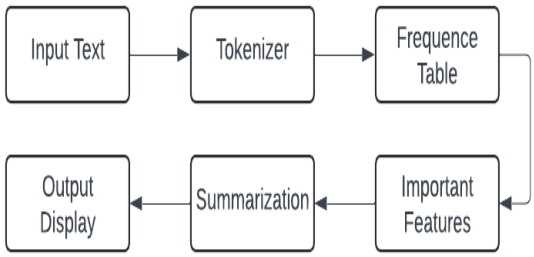


Fig. 2. Detailed Flowchart of Summary Generation Methodology

F. Flask

Flask, a Python-based web framework, provides a lightweight, versatile solution for backend development. Flask allows developers to quickly build complex web applications and APIs with its compact but powerful feature set. At the core of Flask is its simplicity, providing developers with an intuitive interface to define methods, handle HTTP requests and responses, and interact with databases. Flask's flexibility extends to support for various templating engines, allowing developers to create dynamic and interactive websites effortlessly. The system was deployed and tested on a cloud-based environment equipped with an NVIDIA Tesla T4 GPU and approximately 16GB of RAM, providing sufficient computational power for real-time inference. In summary, Flask stands out as a backend framework for its simplicity, flexibility, and scalability. Whether it is a simple API or a complex web application building, Flask gives developers the tools and flexibility needed to bring ideas to life in an effective and efficient way. Figure 3 represents the



workflow of UI model.

Fig. 3. Workflow of UI

IV. PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

The BERT-BART model's performance can be evaluated based on these ROUGE scores, where higher scores indicate better quality summaries that closely match the reference text in terms of content, sequence, and structure. The analysis of ROUGE scores provides valuable insights into the summarization capabilities and overall effectiveness of the BERT-BART model in generating accurate and informative summaries.

1. ROUGE-1 Score: The ROUGE-1 score measures the overlap of unigram tokens between the generated summary and the reference text. A higher ROUGE-1 score indicates a better match in terms of individual words or phrases.

$$ROUGE\ 1 = \frac{Total\ number\ of\ unigrams\ in\ reference}{umber\ of\ overlapping\ unigrams\ in\ summary\ and\ reference} \quad (1)$$

2. ROUGE-2 Score: The ROUGE-2 score evaluates the overlap of bigram tokens between the generated summary and the reference text. It captures the coherence and sequence of words in the summary compared to the original text.

$$ROUGE\ 2 = \frac{Total\ number\ of\ bigrams\ in\ reference}{Number\ of\ overlapping\ bigrams\ in\ summary\ and\ reference} \quad (2)$$

3. ROUGE-L Score: The ROUGE-L score calculates the longest common subsequence (LCS) between the summary and the reference text. It considers the overall structure and content flow, rewarding longer shared sequences.

$$ROUGE\ L = \frac{Longest\ common\ subsequence\ (LCS)\ length\ between\ summary\ and\ reference}{Total\ number\ of\ words\ in\ reference} \quad (3)$$

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this study evaluating an abstractive text summarization model, compared its performance across three distinct sets, each representing different configurations or approaches to summarization. The ROUGE scores obtained from these sets provide valuable insights into the effectiveness and nuances of our summarization process. Figure 4 and 5 represents the Rouge scores of various sets.

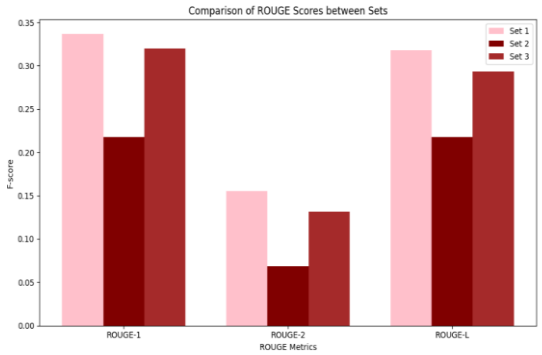


Fig. 4. Comparison of ROUGE Score

Set 1 used the full fusion of BERT and BART with both models. Set 2 relied on BERT for feature extraction but used a reduced version of BART with fewer decoder layers and minimal fine-tuning. Set 3 used individual models (BERT or BART only) without fusion.

Set 1 exhibited the highest ROUGE scores, particularly in ROUGE-1 (0.336) and ROUGE-L (0.318), indicating its superior performance in capturing unigram overlap and longest common subsequences. Conversely, Set 2 displayed comparatively lower scores across all metrics, suggesting areas for improvement in its summarization approach. Set 3, while not reaching the levels of Set 1, demonstrated competitive scores, especially in ROUGE-2 (0.132). Analyzing the average ROUGE scores across the sets revealed an average ROUGE-1 F-score of 0.291, ROUGE-2 F-score of 0.119, and ROUGE-L F-score of 0.276, providing a comprehensive overview of summarization quality across different metrics. BERT lacked summarization generation capabilities, while BART alone produced less coherent summaries due to limited contextual encoding. The fusion approach significantly outperformed these baselines, especially in ROUGE-1 and ROUGE-L metrics. These findings underscore the significance of parameter choices, model architecture, and optimization strategies in influencing summarization effectiveness. Figure 6 shows the UI integration of the model into an application.

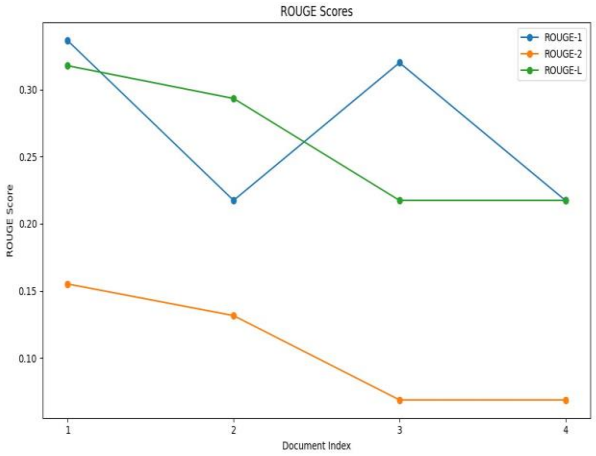


Fig. 5. Average ROUGE Score across Sets

VI. CONCLUSION

The implementation of the BERT-BART model for abstractive text summarization within a user interface (UI) framework represents a significant advancement in natural language processing (NLP) technology. Experimentally, the proposed fusion model achieved a ROUGE-1 F-score of 0.336, ROUGE-2 F-score of 0.132, and ROUGE-L F-score of 0.318. These results affirm the model's ability to generate summaries that are both concise and informative. The integration of the BERT-BART model into a user-friendly UI enhances accessibility and usability, making advanced text summarization capabilities more accessible to a broader audience. Users can interact with the system seamlessly,

inputting text and receiving high-quality abstractive summaries with minimal effort. The web-based implementation, built using Flask, is lightweight and supports extension to multi-user environments through backend APIs, enabling integration with larger web platforms and cloud deployment.

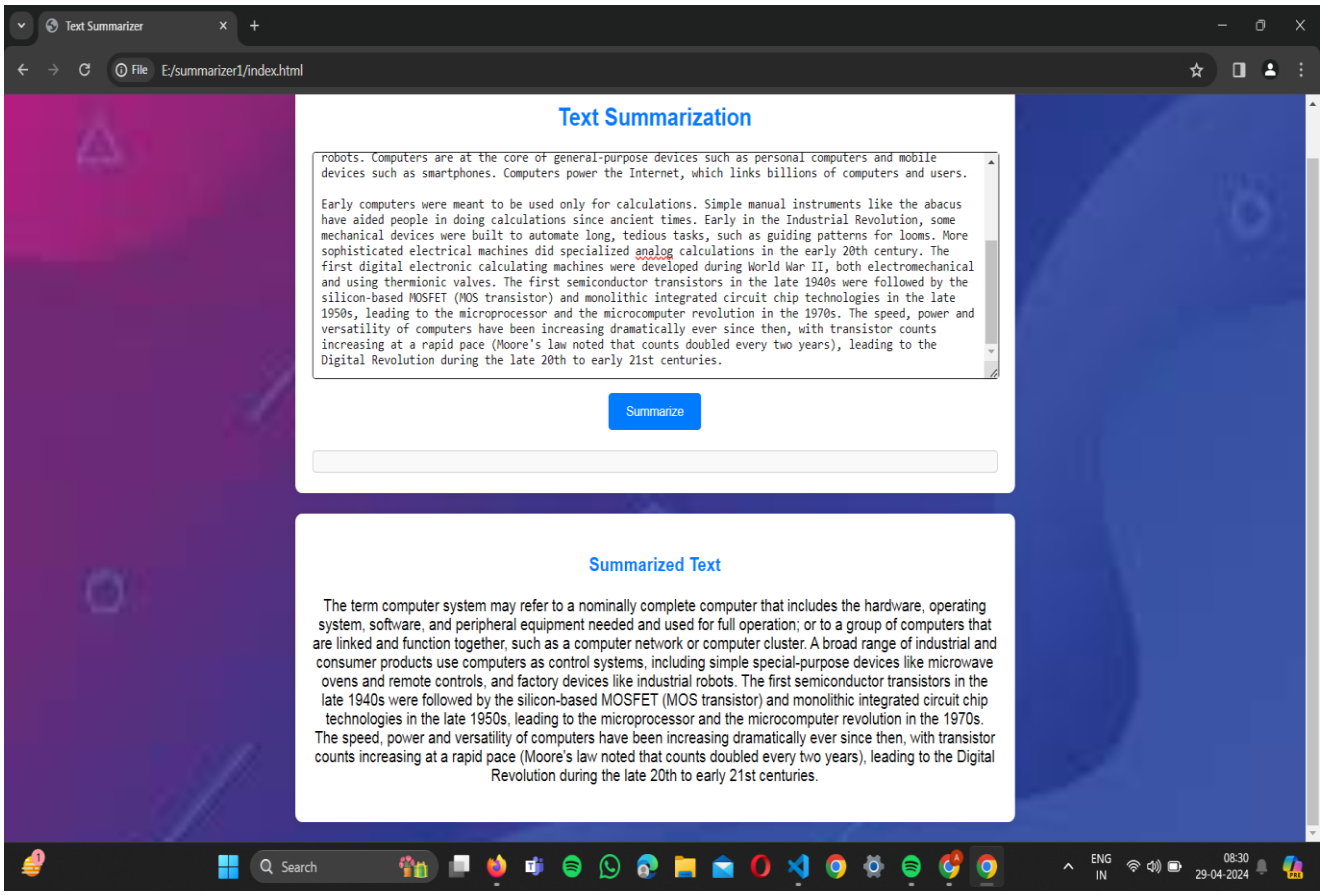


Fig.6.Screenshot of Summarization UI Output

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