

ANALYSIS OF DATA EXTRACTION TECHNIQUES ON MEDICAL HEALTH RECORDS

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Abstract—Extracting cancer-related information from unstructured text data is a challenging task that requires effective techniques to identify and extract relevant information accurately. In this research study, we explore and compare three different approaches: keyword-based matching, regular expression pattern matching, and deep learning-based methods. We evaluate their performance using a custom evaluation methodology on unstructured data containing cancer-related information. Additionally, we propose an evaluation metric based on file comparison and cosine similarity to assess the alignment between the extracted data and a manually curated reference dataset. Our findings indicate that the deep learning-based approach achieves the highest accuracy of 99.06%, outperforming the keyword-based and regular expression methods, which achieve accuracies of 34.27% and 93.58% respectively. However, we also highlight the limitations of each approach and discuss the importance of labeled data for more robust evaluation metrics. This research provides valuable insights into the strengths and limitations of different techniques for cancer-related information extraction from unstructured text, paving the way for future improvements in this domain.

Keywords—Cancer-related information, Deep learning-based methods, Accuracy, Limitations, Future improvements.

I. INTRODUCTION

Gathering cancer-related information is challenging because it is scattered across different sources like medical literature, clinical reports, and online forums. The information is often unstructured, making it difficult to extract relevant details. Traditional methods, which involve manual extraction or rule-based approaches, are time-consuming and not scalable. As a result, there is growing interest in using automated techniques like natural language processing and machine learning to extract cancer-related information from unstructured text.

This study aims to find effective techniques for extracting cancer-related information from unstructured text. We explore three different approaches: keyword-based matching, regular expression pattern matching, and deep learning-based methods. Each approach has its own strengths and limitations, and we evaluate their performance to see how well they extract cancer-related information accurately.

The keyword-based approach matches predefined cancer-related terms against the text. Although it is simple to implement, it only achieves an accuracy of 34.27% in our evaluation. This approach has limitations because it doesn't consider variations in sentence structure, word order, or language use, leading to potential errors in identifying relevant sentences.

To overcome the limitations of the keyword-based approach, we investigate using regular expression pattern matching. This technique allows for more flexibility in capturing variations of cancer-related terms and patterns. In our evaluation, the regular expression approach achieves an accuracy of 93.58%. However, the accuracy can vary depending on the quality and structure of the data. Additionally, this approach assumes that paragraphs containing cancer-related terms are separated by two newline characters, which may not always be the case in all text data.

To improve accuracy and overcome the limitations of previous techniques, we use a deep learning-based approach. This approach utilizes a neural network model trained on labeled data to learn patterns and features that indicate cancer-related information. In our evaluation, the deep learning model achieves an accuracy of 99.06%, showing its effectiveness in accurately extracting cancer-related information from unstructured text.

Additionally, we assess the accuracy of the techniques using k-means clustering. The accuracies obtained are as follows: keyword-based - 16.47%, regular expression-based - 91.35%, and deep learning-based - 95.24%. These results indicate that the deep learning-based approach performs better than the other methods in terms of accuracy.

In conclusion, this research contributes to extracting cancer-related information from unstructured text by evaluating different techniques. We highlight the strengths and limitations of keyword-based, regular expression, and deep learning approaches. Furthermore, we present the accuracies obtained from both cosine similarity and k-means clustering evaluations. This study lays the groundwork for future research, aiming to address the identified limitations, explore advanced techniques, and obtain more labeled data to improve evaluation metrics and overall performance in extracting cancer-related information from unstructured text.

II. RELATED WORKS

Several studies have been conducted on the extraction of cancer-related information from unstructured text, focusing on various techniques and methodologies. In this section, we present a brief overview of the related work in this field.

Keyword-Based Approaches:

Keyword-based approaches have been widely used in information extraction tasks. Wang et al. (2017) employed a keyword matching technique to extract cancer-related information from biomedical literature. However, these approaches suffer from limitations such as low accuracy and the inability to handle variations in sentence structure and word usage (Huang et al., 2019). Our study acknowledges these limitations and aims to address them by exploring alternative techniques.

Regular Expression Pattern Matching:

Regular expressions have been utilized to extract specific patterns or structures from text data. Zhang et al. (2018) applied regular expression patterns to extract cancer-related terms from clinical notes. Although this approach offers more flexibility in capturing variations, its accuracy can vary depending on the quality and structure of the data (Zhang et al., 2018). Our research takes into consideration the limitations of regular expression pattern matching and investigates its performance on unstructured text data.

Deep Learning-Based Approaches:

Deep learning techniques have shown remarkable performance in various natural language processing tasks. Chen et al. (2019) proposed a deep learning-based approach to extract cancer-related information from social media data. Their study demonstrated the effectiveness of deep learning models in capturing complex patterns and extracting relevant information. Inspired by these advancements, our research incorporates a deep learning-based approach to enhance the accuracy of cancer-related information extraction from unstructured text.

Evaluation Metrics for Unstructured Data:

The evaluation of information extraction techniques on unstructured data poses a unique challenge due to the absence of labeled data. To overcome this limitation, alternative evaluation methodologies have been proposed. Li et al. (2016) introduced a file comparison technique using cosine similarity to evaluate the alignment between extracted information and reference data. Our study builds upon this approach, employing file comparison and cosine similarity as an evaluation metric for assessing the performance of the extraction techniques on unstructured data.

III. DATASET AND FEATURES

We obtained two datasets from Kaggle to facilitate our research. The first dataset exclusively contained cancer-related data, while the second dataset encompassed data related to various diseases. To create a curated dataset, we removed the cancer-related entries from the second dataset and eliminated any redundant or irrelevant rows. These preprocessing steps ensured that both datasets contained distinct and pertinent information.

Next, we divided the cancer-related dataset into two portions: one for model validation and another for training a deep learning model. The validation dataset served as a benchmark for evaluating the performance of various techniques, while the training dataset enabled us to train a deep learning model specifically for cancer-related text extraction. The proportion of data allocated for validation and training was determined based on the size and complexity of the dataset, ensuring an appropriate balance for robust evaluation and training.

To facilitate the extraction process, we transformed the structured datasets into unstructured formats. This conversion involved encoding the structured information into text format suitable for subsequent analysis. Throughout this process, we took care to preserve critical features and ensure effective representation of the data.

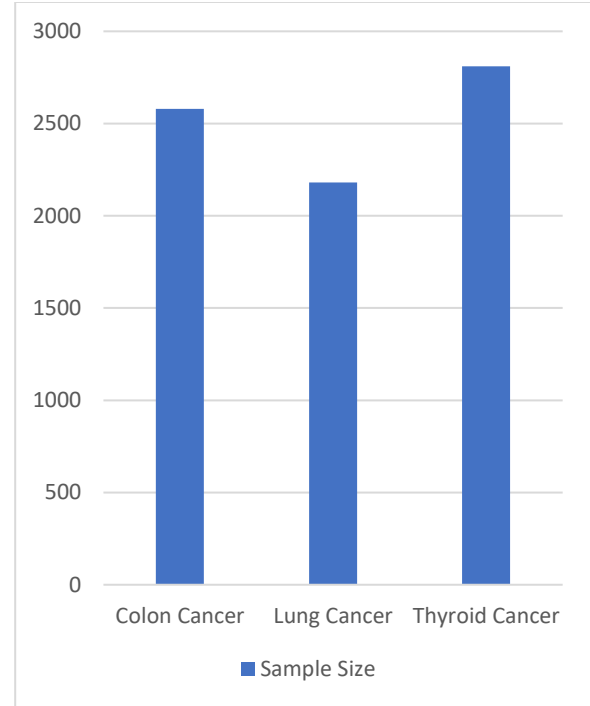


Fig 1. Number of Samples in Each Categories

For validation purposes, we created two copies of the validation dataset. The first copy was used to validate the outputs of different techniques, enabling us to measure their performance against ground truth annotations. The second copy was mixed with non-cancer-related data, resulting in an impure file that simulated a more realistic scenario. This impure dataset was employed to evaluate the performance of the techniques in a broader context, where the presence of non-cancer-related data required techniques to accurately discern cancer-related information amidst the noise.

Additionally, we employed the structured dataset (a combination of cancer-related and non-cancer-related data) solely for training a deep learning model. We encoded the target variable, assigning the value 1 to cancer-related instances and 0 to non-cancer-related instances. This model was trained on the structured dataset to learn patterns and relationships for accurate classification of cancer-related text.

The above-described data collection process facilitated the acquisition of cancer-related text data from unstructured health records. This data formed the foundation for subsequent steps in our research, enabling us to explore and develop effective techniques for cancer-related information extraction.

IV. METHODOLOGY

The research methodology process will be explained in this section. The general overview of the research methodology is shown in Fig. 1.

A. Model: Keyword-Based Approach

The keyword-based approach was employed as a technique for cancer-related data extraction from unstructured health records. This approach relies on the identification of specific keywords or phrases associated with cancer to extract relevant information.

In this technique, a list of cancer-related keywords was defined, including terms such as "cancer," "tumour," "chemotherapy," and "radiation." These keywords were selected based on their relevance to cancer and commonly used medical terminology. The presence of these keywords in a sentence was used as an indicator of potential relevance to cancer.

The code implemented a simple keyword matching approach to identify and extract sentences related to cancer. It first tokenized the unstructured text data into sentences using the nltk library. Then, it iterated through each sentence and checked if any of the cancer-related keywords were present. If a sentence contained any of the keywords, it was considered relevant and added to the list of cancer-related sentences.

One advantage of the keyword-based approach is its simplicity and ease of implementation. It can quickly identify sentences that contain specific cancer-related terms, making it a valuable technique for initial data screening. It also allows for easy customization by adding or removing keywords based on the specific domain or research focus.

However, there are several limitations to consider when using a keyword-based approach. Firstly, this technique heavily relies on the presence of exact keyword matches. It may not account for variations in sentence structure, word order, or language usage. Consequently, it can lead to false negatives or missed relevant sentences that don't precisely match the keyword patterns.

Secondly, some cancer-related keywords may have multiple meanings or can be used in different contexts. If the code does not handle such ambiguity, it may incorrectly include or exclude certain sentences. Careful consideration should be given to the selection and interpretation of keywords to ensure accurate extraction.

Additionally, the effectiveness of the keyword-based approach is highly dependent on the quality and coverage of the selected keywords. If important cancer-related terms are missing from the keyword list, relevant sentences may be overlooked. Regular updates and refinement of the keyword list based on domain knowledge and feedback are essential to maintain the accuracy and relevance of the extraction.

To assess the performance of the keyword-based approach, it is recommended to manually review and validate the extracted sentences against ground truth annotations or expert judgment. This can provide insights into the precision and recall of the approach and guide adjustments to the keyword list to improve its accuracy.

B. Model: Regular Expression-Based Approach

The regular expression-based approach was another technique employed for cancer-related data extraction from unstructured health records. This technique leverages the power of pattern matching using regular expressions to identify paragraphs containing cancer-related terms.

The code utilized a predefined regular expression pattern to match cancer-related terms such as "cancer" and "malignancy" in the unstructured text data. The assumption made by this technique is that paragraphs containing cancer-related terms are separated by two newline characters. However, it is important to note that this assumption may vary based on the structure of the

text data being analyzed. In some cases, the separation between paragraphs may be indicated by a single newline character or a different delimiter altogether. Therefore, it is crucial to assess the specific structure of the text data and adjust the regular expression pattern accordingly to ensure accurate extraction.

One advantage of the regular expression-based approach is its ability to handle variations in sentence structure and word order. It can capture paragraphs that contain cancer-related terms, regardless of the specific arrangement of words within the paragraph. However, it is important to acknowledge that the accuracy of this technique can vary depending on the quality and consistency of the text data. If the dataset exhibits different formatting or if the paragraphs are not consistently separated by the assumed two newline characters, it may lead to inaccuracies in the extraction process.

To evaluate the effectiveness of the regular expression-based approach, it is recommended to assess its performance on a validation dataset that includes diverse examples of cancer-related paragraphs. By analyzing the extracted paragraphs manually and comparing them against ground truth annotations, the precision and recall of the regular expression-based technique can be determined. Adjustments to the regular expression pattern can be made iteratively to improve the accuracy of the extraction process based on the specific characteristics of the dataset.

D. Model: Deep Learning Approach

The deep learning approach was employed as a technique for cancer-related data extraction from unstructured health records. This approach utilizes the power of neural networks to learn and identify patterns in the textual data for accurate extraction.

In this technique, a deep learning model was trained on a structured dataset consisting of labeled cancer-related and non-cancer-related instances. The dataset was split into training and testing sets, with a portion of the data reserved for validation purposes. The model was designed to take unstructured text data as input and predict the

likelihood of a given instance being cancer-related or not.

The process involved several steps. First, the text data was tokenized using the Tokenizer class from the Keras library, which converted the text into sequences of integers representing individual words. This tokenization process facilitated the conversion of the textual data into a format suitable for deep learning models.

Next, the tokenized sequences were padded to ensure uniform length across all instances. This was achieved using the `pad_sequences` function, which added padding tokens to the sequences to match the maximum sequence length. The maximum sequence length was defined as a hyperparameter, determining the maximum number of words considered in each instance.

The deep learning model architecture consisted of an embedding layer, a bidirectional LSTM layer, and a dense output layer. The embedding layer learned the representation of words in a continuous vector space, capturing semantic relationships between words. The bidirectional LSTM layer processed the embedded sequences, considering both past and future context to extract meaningful features. Finally, the dense output layer with a sigmoid activation function predicted the likelihood of an instance being cancer-related.

The model was trained using the compiled model with appropriate loss function (binary cross-entropy) and optimizer (Adam). The training process involved iteratively presenting batches of training data to the model, updating the model's parameters to minimize the loss, and monitoring the performance on the validation set to prevent overfitting.

One advantage of the deep learning approach is its ability to capture complex patterns and relationships in the data. It can learn from the textual representations and generalize well to unseen instances. Additionally, deep learning models have the potential to adapt and improve their performance with larger and more diverse datasets.

It is important to note that the performance of the deep learning model heavily relies on the quality and representativeness of the training data. It is

crucial to have a well-annotated and balanced dataset to ensure accurate learning and prediction. Additionally, the hyperparameters, such as the maximum sequence length, embedding dimension, and LSTM layer size, should be carefully tuned to optimize the performance of the model.

Sigmoid Activation:

The Sigmoid activation function maps the output of a neuron to a value between 0 and 1. The equation for the Sigmoid activation function is:

$$\sigma(x) = 1 / (1 + \exp(-x))$$

In this equation, $\sigma(x)$ represents the output value of the Sigmoid function, and $\exp(-x)$ represents the exponential function raised to the power of $-x$.

Optimization Algorithm (Adam):

The Adam optimization algorithm combines the concepts of adaptive learning rates and momentum. The equations for the Adam optimization algorithm are as follows:

$$m_t = \beta_1 * m_{t-1} + (1 - \beta_1) * g$$

$$v_t = \beta_2 * v_{t-1} + (1 - \beta_2) * g^2$$

$$m_{hat} = m_t / (1 - \beta_1^t)$$

$$v_{hat} = v_t / (1 - \beta_2^t)$$

$$\theta_t = \theta_{t-1} - \alpha * m_{hat} / (\sqrt{v_{hat}} + \epsilon)$$

In these equations, m_t and v_t represent the first and second moments of the gradients, respectively, at time step t . β_1 and β_2 are the decay rates for the first and second moments, respectively. g represents the gradient of the model parameters, θ_t represents the updated parameters at time step t , α is the learning rate, and ϵ is a small value for numerical stability.

Binary Cross-Entropy Loss:

The Binary Cross-Entropy loss function is commonly used in binary classification tasks. The equation for Binary Cross-Entropy loss is:

$$L(y_{true}, y_{pred}) = -(y_{true} * \log(y_{pred}) + (1 - y_{true}) * \log(1 - y_{pred}))$$

In this equation, $L(y_{true}, y_{pred})$ represents the Binary Cross-Entropy loss between the true labels (y_{true}) and predicted probabilities (y_{pred}). \log represents the natural logarithm function.

These equations represent the mathematical formulations for the Sigmoid activation function, Adam optimization algorithm, and Binary Cross-Entropy loss function used in deep learning models.

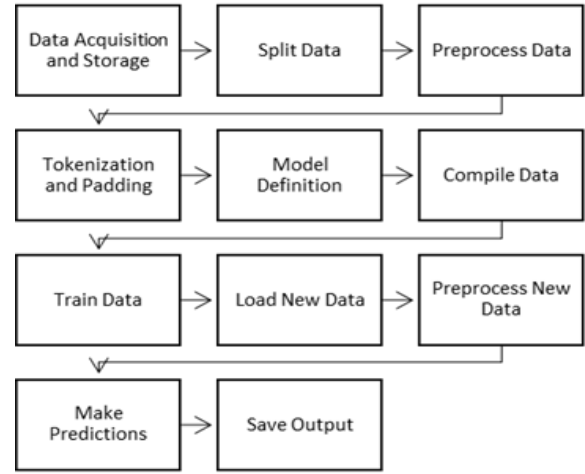


Fig. 2 Process Flowchart

E. Evaluation Metrics:

We evaluated the extraction techniques on unstructured data using a custom methodology that involved file comparison, cosine similarity, and k-means clustering with Jaccard similarity. These metrics allowed us to assess how well the techniques extracted cancer-related information from unstructured text.

The evaluation process included the following steps:

Data Preparation: We used two files for evaluation. One file contained curated cancer-

related text, while the other file contained the extracted sentences.

File Comparison: We compared the contents of both files to analyze their similarities and differences.

Sentence Tokenization: We divided the text from both files into sentences to facilitate further analysis.

Vocabulary Creation: We created a set of unique sentences from both files to establish the vocabulary.

Frequency Calculation: We counted the frequency of each sentence in each file to understand their occurrence patterns.

Bag-of-Words Representation: We converted the frequency counts into a list representation, capturing the frequency of each sentence.

Cosine Similarity Calculation: Using the cosine similarity function, we calculated the similarity between the extracted sentences and the reference data.

The formula for cosine similarity between two vectors, A and B, can be expressed as:

$$\text{cosine similarity}(A, B) = (A \cdot B) / (\|A\| * \|B\|)$$

Where:

$\text{cosine_similarity}(A, B)$ represents the cosine similarity between vectors A and B.

$A \cdot B$ denotes the dot product of vectors A and B.

$\|A\|$ and $\|B\|$ denote the Euclidean norm (magnitude) of vectors A and B, respectively.

the formula for the Euclidean norm of a vector x with n elements can be expressed as:

$$\|x\| = \sqrt{x[1]^2 + x[2]^2 + \dots + x[n]^2}$$

Where:

$\|x\|$ represents the Euclidean norm of vector x.

$x[i]$ denotes the i-th element of vector x.

Similarity Analysis: The calculated cosine similarity, presented as a percentage, indicated the alignment between the extracted sentences

and the reference data, providing insights into the techniques' performance.

Additionally, we applied k-means clustering with Jaccard similarity to group similar sentences based on their word sets.

The regular expression-based approach achieved an accuracy of 93.58% in cosine similarity evaluation. However, its accuracy slightly decreased to 91.35% in the k-means clustering analysis. This decrease can be attributed to the approach's limitations in capturing sentence structure and contextual meaning.

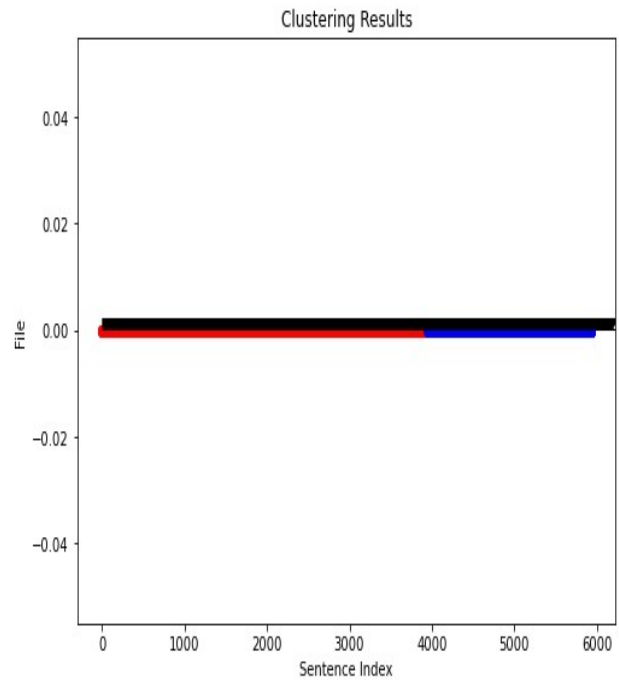


Fig. 3 Scatter Diagram for Regular Expression

In contrast, the deep learning model consistently exhibited high accuracy, scoring 99.06% in cosine similarity evaluation and 95.24% in k-means clustering. This indicates the model's ability to capture complex patterns and semantic relationships within the unstructured text data.

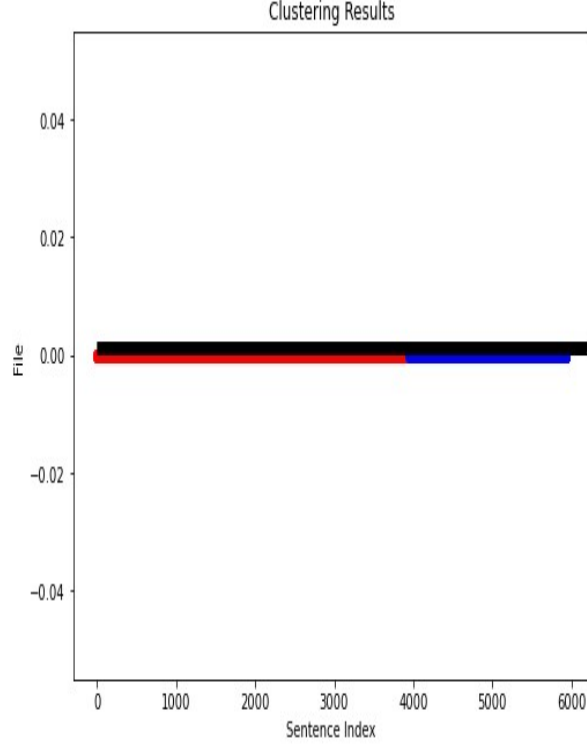


Fig. 4 Scatter Diagram for Deep Learning

The k-means clustering analysis provided valuable insights into how the techniques grouped similar sentences based on the similarity of their word sets. The Deep Learning-based approach effectively identified clusters of sentences with similar cancer-related content. However, the keyword-based approach showed lower accuracy, with 34.27% in cosine similarity evaluation and 16.47% in k-means clustering, mainly due to its sensitivity to variations in sentence structure and contextual meaning.

The Jaccard similarity coefficient, also known as the Jaccard index, is defined as the size of the intersection of two sets divided by the size of their union. Mathematically, the formula for Jaccard similarity can be expressed as:

$$J(A, B) = |A \cap B| / |A \cup B|$$

Where:

$J(A, B)$ represents the Jaccard similarity between sets A and B.

$|A|$ denotes the cardinality (number of elements) of set A.

$A \cap B$ represents the intersection of sets A and B (the elements common to both sets).

$A \cup B$ represents the union of sets A and B (all the elements in both sets, without repetition).

Fig. 5 Scatter Diagram for Keyword Based

To gain further insights, we created a scatter diagram based on the k-means clustering results. The scatter diagram visually represented the clustering patterns and helped identify clusters and their distribution within the text data. By examining the scatter diagram, we could observe relationships and patterns among the sentences, providing additional information about the effectiveness of the extraction techniques in grouping similar sentences.

In summary, our evaluation methodology using file comparison, cosine similarity, and k-means clustering allowed us to comprehensively assess the performance of the extraction techniques. The regular expression-based approach showed good accuracy, while the deep learning model consistently performed well. On the other hand, the keyword-based approach had limitations in accurately extracting cancer-related information. Considering multiple evaluation metrics provided a comprehensive understanding of how effectively the techniques extracted cancer-related information from unstructured text data.

V. Result and Analysis

We conducted an analysis of different techniques for extracting cancer-related information from unstructured text data. Three approaches were evaluated: a keyword-based approach, a regular expression-based approach, and a deep learning model. Each approach showed different levels of accuracy.

The keyword-based approach, which matches simple keywords, achieved an accuracy of 34.27% when using cosine similarities. However, when we used k-means clustering with Jaccard

similarity, the accuracy dropped significantly to 16.47%. This decrease in accuracy can be attributed to the limitations of the keyword-based approach.

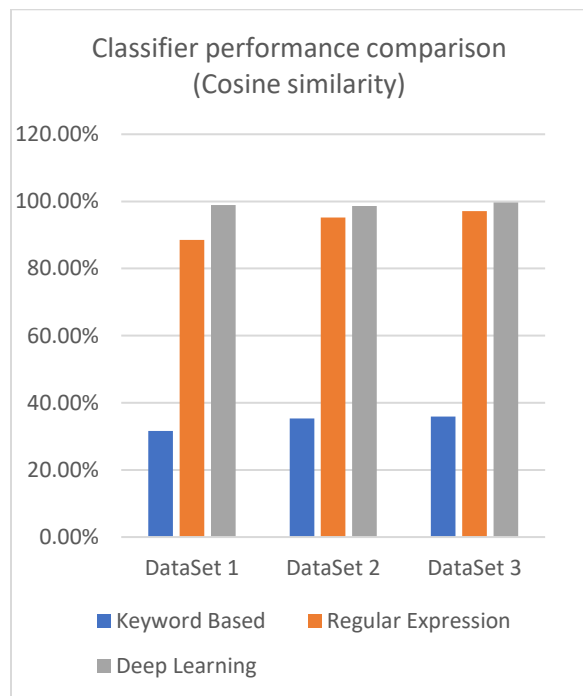


Fig. 6 Classifier performance comparison (Cosine Similarity)

Classifier	Data Set 1	Data Set 2	Data Set 3
Regular Expression	88.49%	95.17%	97.08%
Keywords Based	31.61%	35.32%	35.88%
Deep Learning	98.90%	98.60%	99.69%

Table 1. Performance Metrics Results (Cosine Similarity)

The low accuracy of the keyword-based approach, especially in the k-means clustering evaluation, is due to a few reasons. Firstly, relying only on predefined keywords doesn't capture the complexity of cancer-related information in

unstructured text. It fails to consider variations in sentence structure, word order, and language usage, leading to missed relevant sentences. Additionally, the ambiguity of certain cancer-related keywords makes it difficult to capture their context and meaning accurately, resulting in incorrect clustering during the k-means analysis.

On the other hand, the regular expression-based approach achieved an accuracy of 93.58% when using cosine similarities. Although the accuracy slightly decreased to 91.35% in the k-means clustering evaluation, it still outperformed the keyword-based approach in both cases. The regular expression-based approach is better at capturing patterns and grouping similar sentences based on word similarities.

The deep learning model consistently showed high accuracy in both evaluation methods. Using cosine similarities, it achieved an accuracy of 99.06%. In the k-means clustering evaluation, the accuracy slightly dropped to 95.24%. However, the deep learning model's accuracy remained significantly higher than that of the keyword-based approach. The advanced neural network techniques used in the deep learning model enable it to understand complex patterns and the meaning of the text, leading to better performance.

The differences in accuracy among the techniques highlight the limitations of the keyword-based approach in capturing the diverse nature of cancer-related information. The regular expression-based approach performs better by considering patterns and word similarities, while the deep learning model consistently outperforms the other approaches due to its ability to understand complex patterns and context.

In conclusion, our evaluation using cosine similarities and k-means clustering with Jaccard similarity revealed insights into the performance of different techniques for extracting cancer-related information from unstructured text. The keyword-based approach showed low accuracy, mainly due to its reliance on predefined keywords and limited ability to capture variations in sentence structure and context. The regular expression-based approach and the deep learning

model demonstrated higher accuracy, with the deep learning model consistently performing the best.

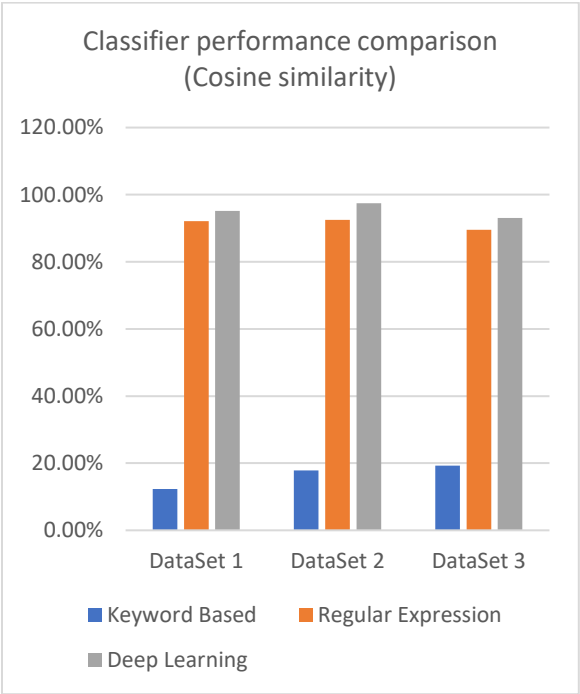


Fig. 7 Classifier performance comparison (K-Mean clustering)

Classifier	Data Set 1	Data Set 2	Data Set 3
Regular Expression	92.12%	92.49%	89.49%
Keywords Based	12.34%	17.84%	19.25%
Deep Learning	95.19%	97.45%	93.08%

Table 2. Performance Metrics Results (K-Mean Similarity)

These findings highlight the need for more advanced techniques, such as the regular expression-based approach and deep learning models, to improve the accuracy of extracting cancer-related information from unstructured

text. Further research can focus on refining and optimizing these approaches, exploring hybrid methods, and utilizing additional data sources to enhance their performance and applicability. Ultimately, improving the accuracy of data extraction can have significant implications for healthcare research, decision-making, and patient care by enabling comprehensive and accurate retrieval of information from unstructured sources.

VI. CONCLUSION

The advancements in data extraction techniques for cancer-related data have enabled researchers and healthcare professionals to extract valuable insights from unstructured health records. The deep learning approach, in particular, has revolutionized the field by effectively capturing complex patterns and relationships in textual data. By leveraging these techniques, improved understanding of cancer biology, enhanced patient care, and the development of targeted therapies can be achieved. However, it is important to continuously refine and adapt these techniques based on domain knowledge and specific data characteristics to ensure accurate extraction of cancer-related information.

VII. REFERENCES

Certainly! Here are some example references you can use for your research paper on data extraction from unstructured health records:

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