

# Trends and Techniques of Handling Big Health Data

S.Aarathi, K.Bala Chowdappa, K.Sudhakar

**ABSTRACT---** *The current trend of society generates torrents of data across various sources like social networking, health sectors, mobile sensors, industries. This voluminous data raised a scope for uncovering hidden insights of this data. This huge data often called big data could undergo several data analytics to retrieve the unnoticed patterns, trends, associations, querying, and information security. Here, in this paper we focus on health care industry towards applying analytics on the health data like EHR's, medical images, reports, sensors and transform this data to make out a meaningful outcome that helps towards diagnosis and prognosis at an early intervention which reduces the morbidity, sensitizing the adverse effects of infectious diseases[2]. We also discuss the existing mechanisms of handling health care data and its underlying effects that are to be tackled.*

**Keywords -** Big Data, EHR, Data Analytics, Predictive Analytics, Hadoop, Data Visualization

## INTRODUCTION:

In the day to day society Internet plays a prominent role in the schedule of every individual for one or the other activity like data gathering, browsing, knowledge extraction, learning, communication, coming to communication activity the social networking sites like Face book, Twitter, LinkedIn alone generate massive amounts of data for a given day. This data raised starting from gigabytes(GB), to Terabytes(TB), Petabytes(PB), Zetabytes(ZB), Yottabytes(YB) and ranging towards Exabytes.

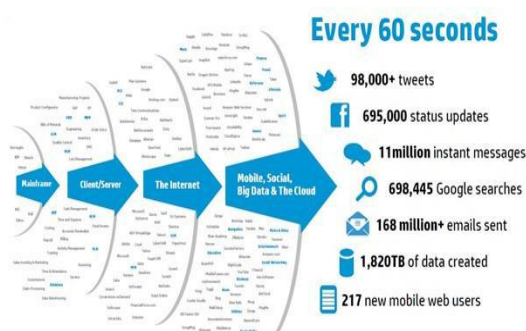


FIG 1: RELATED TO STORAGE CAPACITY

This data is not just one particular form but contains a mixture of contents like text, documents, images, audio, video etc. Storing such huge amounts of data is a major issue. Later comes the concept of information retrieval i.e. gaining meaningful insights from such voluminous data

Revised Manuscript Received on February 14, 2019.

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regularly named as large information. Any information can't be called Big information to be called so, it need to satisfy the basic three V's stated according to the META GROUP in 2001. The basic V's of Big data are Volume, Velocity, Variety. Volume refers to the huge amounts of data collected across different sources, Velocity refers to the speed at which the data is generated, and variety refers to the various categories of data present in the collected one. Apart from this another two V's like veracity and value are also added where veracity refers to the quality of data i.e. maintained and value refers to the originality of data.

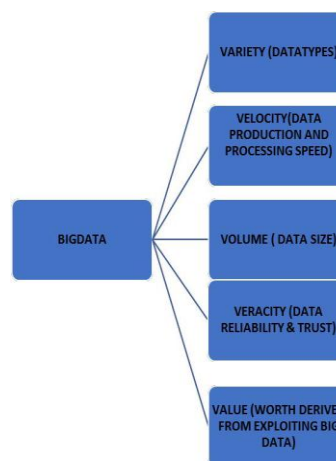


FIGURE 2: BASIC V'S OF BIG DATA

Now a day's people spend much on two aspects of life they are luxury and health. Luxury may denote shopping, entertainment, assets, share market, business sector etc. To make a meaningful outcome of this data we generally prefer a type of analytics called Behavioural analytics, Business analytics, sentimental analytics, market analytics, risk analytics and so on. Behavioural Analytics refers to scenarios where we often see advertisements of our interested sectors during our access of web pages. This is made possible through behavioural analytics where certain features like age, gender can be considered as factors of filtering. Business analytics may refer to drawing associations of several relevant products like bread, butter, milk and eggs stored across could enhance business level, profits in a super market. Sentimental analytics may be useful to study the emotions of people collecting the smiley's, emotions shared across chats and predict the mental status of a person based on some survey.

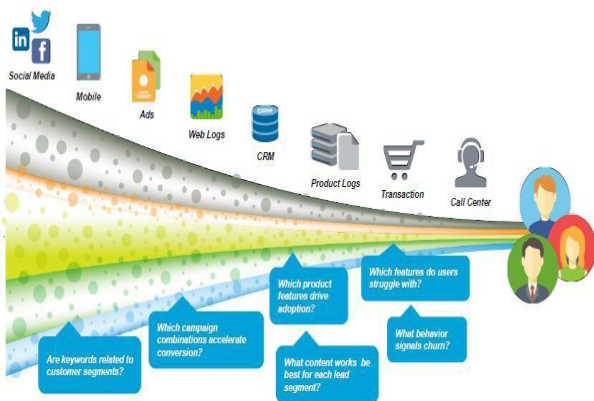


FIGURE 3 : BUSINESS OF BIG DATA

Market Analysis may refer to value of shares, trade, business etc...Risk analysis refers to predicting the level of risk indulged in the specific activity handled. Another area that requires to be focused these days is the healthcare sector. Many organisations offer several health policies, insurance to their employees and even a common man concentrates to attain several insurance schemes, towards safeguarding one self. To offer any services to its end user the health care providers gather the information of individuals from hospitals, surveys, WHO( world Health Organisation) and census data.

The health care data collected is often stored as an EHR( Electronic Health Record), which contains the minimum details of an individual like his height, weight, name, age, gender, BMP, Blood Pressure, Sugar levels etc..This health data collected across different sources may be EHR’s, medical images, reports, sensor data and so on[18].

The complex environment of BIG Data consists of multiple data sources along with sophisticated analytics and multiple output forms. It consists of Data Integration, Data Management, Data Analytics and Decision Management. Deployment options are multiple for Big data and user can access through multiple devices.

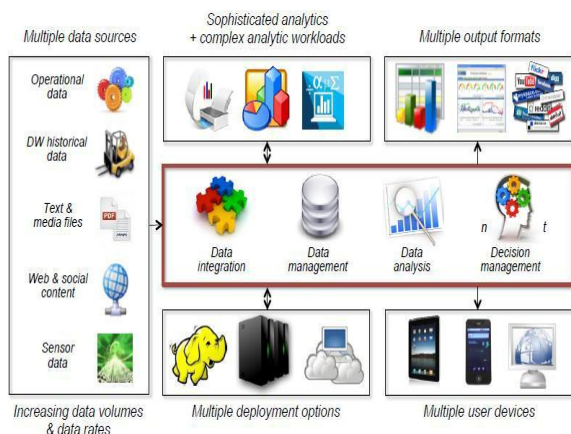


FIGURE 4: COMPLEX ENVIRONMENT OF BIG DATA

Investigative Computing for Health care Industry has Hadoop as an Example.

“If Hadoop didn’t exist we would still have to make decisions about what can come into our data warehouse or the electronic medical record (and what cannot). Now we

can bring Everything into Hadoop, regardless of data format or speed of ingests.

This paper focuses towards Architecture of Big data, challenges, applications of big data in health industry, transforming this healthcare data to make necessary outcome, Predictive analysis, Diagnosis & prognosis, Tools and techniques used.

I. ARCHITECTURE OF BIG DATA:

Handling Huge information is a testing task since, data is generated in massive amounts at a very high velocity which is not sustainable by the traditional databases thus we look out for a new approach of handling this data, as we have not only structured data as in traditional databases but most of the real time data is semi structured or unstructured. The first task starts up with collection of data across different sources then comes the Data Storage thereafter retrieval of data to mine the necessary information to draw valuable insights. There are several platforms where Big data can be handled. In general we use a platform called Hadoop, since it’s an open source, end user can program the necessary code. Hadoop contains a HDFS (Hadoop Distributed File System) which concentrates on distributed storage and fault tolerance of the data. On top of this, we use Map Reduce technique which maps similar patterns, clusters sets of data and store them[16] [17]. In the data processing we apply many machine learning algorithms to analyse the data sets collected across and stored in the data base. Not only proper storage of the data but retrieval of required information within the specified time is a challenging task where we concentrate on Map and reduce algorithms for data accuracy and to gain value of the data

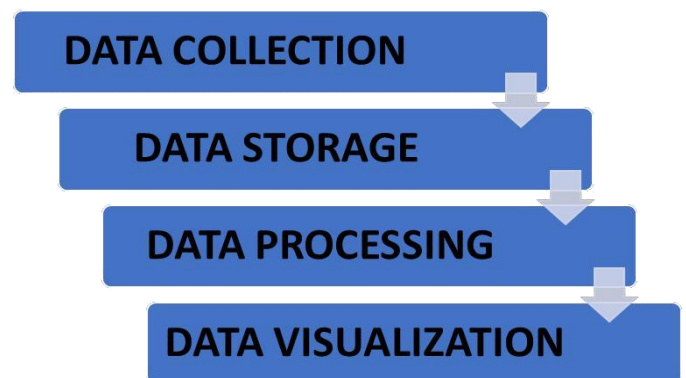


FIGURE 5: ARCHITECTURE OF BIG DATA

Health data volume is expected for a drastic growth in the coming years. Health insurance policies, reimbursement models, various life insurance policies are emerging trends of today’s environment. Apart from this the data coming from various providers, hospitals stored as Electronic Health Records (EHR), Electronic Medical Records (EMR), Personal health Records (PHR) provides scope for digitizing the data, store and retrieve it to meet the purpose of single to multi physicians, individuals, providers etc..When big data is synthesized and analysed the aforementioned patterns,

associations and trends can be revealed. The application of bigdata analytics in healthcare has potential benefits like early intervention, evidence based medicine, prevention and optimal management that helps in enhancing individual and population health by precautionary measures drawn using predictive analytics

**II. TRANSFORMING BIG HEALTH DATA:**

Several steps are associated with changing huge information to examination viz.:

1. Data Collection
2. Data Storage
3. Data Processing
4. Data Visualization

The data collection process involves collecting healthcare units of data across various available sources. This data has high heterogeneity since each hospital or organization follows up a different set of approach in projecting their data. In general the healthcare data gathered can be used for health surveillance, predictive modelling, early interventions, optimal disease management & appropriate treatment (Prognostics). Google Flu Trends has collected keywords often used in the search engine to collect insight on population affected by Flu or Influenza using text analysis considering various features like keywords, geographic area, age and so on.

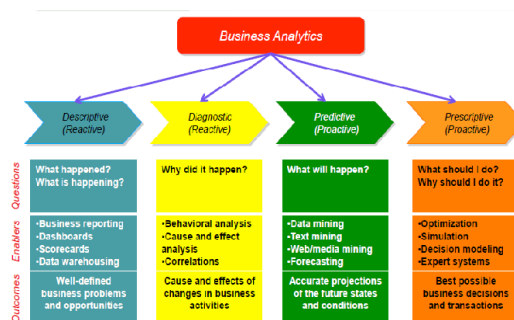
The reason behind emerging volumes of health data is in US its mandatory to store the patient data as per the 2009 ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment) act. A section of ARRA is called the HITECH ( Health Information Technology for Technical Health) act In digitization of health data most of the health data is often collected as individual reports often called Electronic Health Records (EHR). Also depending on the health status of an individual various other reports like diagnostics, medical images could add on. An advantage of maintaining health data as EHR is it could be easily stored and circulated across doctor for treatment, provider for insurance policies, reimbursement and individual for verifying his current health status with the previous instead of physically carrying across the reports. Security aspect can also be added to this EHR restricting its access to concerned doctors, providers and individual by providing an authenticated login[6].

**2. Data Storage:** Previously the data was handled by traditional databases which follows a structured format on which querying and retrieval of data is a smooth process. But now, most of the collected data either exists in Semi structured or Unstructured format i.e data is flat file of no prescribed format, Managing voluminous data with Traditional DB is a challenging task as scaling with traditional database is very expensive, Huge information can't fit into size of a solitary PC. Therefore various other tools like the Hadoop which has HDFS file system, MongoDB which supports unstructured data, NOSQL technologies, PIG, Hive etc. Also further the storage of this massive amounts of data could be interrelated to the cloud storage for easy convenience of the end user[19].

**3. Data Processing:** Before processing the data to draw the necessary insights pre-processing of data is to be done before integrating, cleaning, filtering the data. Once done the prepared data is estimated for a model where we use

several analytics tools. There are several Traditional analytics tools used in statistical programming like IBM SPSS, SAS, STATA, R language which is an open source, Matlab. The enormous information investigation offers different classifications of examination like Descriptive or Fact Analysis which means what occurred, Diagnostic Analytics which signifies why it had occurred, Predictive Analytics which describes about what is likely to happen and Prescriptive analytics which explains about what we can do about it[7].Ex: If we consider a student record of a particular university from which we need to know, how many failures, distinctions, why they had failed, how many could clear, what would we do about enhancing it i.e. suggestions and recommendations[3]. In healthcare sector we concentrate mostly on diagnostics, predictive and prognostic approaches of analytics where we need to analyse the root cause of any particular disease, determine what is likely to happen about the disease[8] with respect to the current symptoms and what would be prescribed treatment that could be followed up[13].

**FOUR FORMS OF ANALYTICS**



**FIGURE 6: ANALYTICS OF BIG DATA**

Data analysis always plays a prominent role in the market; the stored data is drilled to draw the unseen facts of it. Machine Learning algorithms play a major role in the process of prediction[11]. There are broadly two categories of machine learning often called Supervised and unsupervised learning, where supervised learning makes out analysis on the gathered sets of data called experience, where we try to sort out the possible occurrences of the current problem looking into the past history of how to handle such similar issues. These can be done using algorithms that support Regression and Classification. The unsupervised category unlike prior one doesn't have any history and we need to derive a structure from the given data where Clustering is used. For Big data it is often preferable to do Feature selection, Classification and clustering.

Based on the support vector and hyper plane, which separates data points in higher dimensional space, This is generally used in combination with another technique to deal with the problem of noisy data. We also use techniques like KNN( K- Nearest Neighbour), Bayesian Methods

**Clustering:** It is an unsupervised machine learning technique which makes similarity between data points such





that data points within same cluster should be of high similarity, data points between different clusters should have least similarity. The clustering mechanisms are broadly divided under two types namely: Partitioned clustering and Hierarchical clustering.

**III. TRENDS AND TECHNIQUES OF BIG DATA ANALYTICS:**

The most popular and significant platform used across various strategies for big data is none other than the Hadoop, its because of its open source distributed data processing and its capability of processing extremely massive amounts of data by following partitioned datasets allocated to numerous servers across where each big task is handled by partitioned programming and integrating at the end. Hadoop is developed by the APACHE platform and it belongs to the class of NOSQL technologies which also include CouchDB, MongoDB that evolved to

**A. Feature Selection:** It is referred as a pre-processing step before data mining where we select a subset of features and remove the irrelevant features in order to reduce the computational complexity of the algorithm following approaches like Feature search done using any of the methods like complete, selection, Sequential and random search approaches. Feature evaluation describes a class of labels to describe the relevancy and correlation of one class of variables with another.[1][5] The feature evaluation uses few approaches like Wrapper, filter and hybrid approaches.

**B. Classification:** It is a supervised machine learning approach. There are several traditional classification mechanisms used to determine the data sets that fall under a particular class. A few approaches are like Decision tree (DT) as the name itself specifies it is a tree like structure where the data is organised at different levels. During retrieval process this structure requires a comparatively lower computational time, Support Vector Machine(SVM) This technique classifies the data integrate the data in unique way [10].

Though Hadoop has its advantages there are still issues that are to be addressed, like Hadoop is challenging to install, configure and administer; and also the individuals with Hadoop skills are not easily found. Numerous vendors like AWS, Cloudera, Hortonworks, MapR technologies [16] distribute the open source hadoop platforms. Much proprietary software like BigInsights, BigML sheets are also available. Further platforms like Cassandra, Oozie, HBase, Pig, Hive, MongoDB are used widely for the database component [4]. Among many of the above mentioned techniques are cloud versions and are open source still there are few challenges that require the focus of the big data scientist. As most of the above mentioned tools are open source their development costs may be low and they may be available to the end users free of cost but there are yet some issues that require to be noticed. In an open platform any additional functionality with respect to a specific requirement of a project; requires professionals and subject experts who have very good skills and complete idea of the corresponding domain. So lack of technical support and

security issues are the noticed trade-offs that need to be addressed.

**TABLE 1: TOOLS & TECHNIQUES FOR BIGDATA:**

Several methodologies are developed to handle with the emerging trends of big data and analyze various hidden information to make a meaningful purpose. The methodology of driving any project of any healthcare application with respect to big data analytics can be done following these steps [12]:

1. Understanding the need of big data project and

Platform/Tool	Description
Hadoop Distributed	HDFS is a Hadoop based cluster for storage of huge data by dividing small parts and store them in distributed nodes
Map Reduce	The conveyance of assignments onto record framework should be possible with Map Reduce. At whatever point data is gathering
Hadoop Distributed	PIG is an state stage for making Map Reduce programs utilized with Hadoop. The language for this stage is Piglatin. PIG can be utilized to recover any sort of information either organized or unstructured. It is executed in Hadoop.
Hive	Hive is an query language it keeps running on Hadoop engineering. It is like SQL
Jaql	Jaql is used to work on large datasets wherein query language can be used to process the parallel processing data. Low and high level queries can be retrieved.
Zookeeper	Zookeeper is having the immense framework with different administrations crosswise over various bunches. With synchronization procedure and parallel preparing permits the unified foundation information is taken care of



	which is useful in Big Data.
Hbase	Traditional databases are row-oriented database management systems but Hbase is column oriented. It works on the top of HDFS and it is not like an SQL approach
Cassandra	One of the major and most used DBS is Cassandra. It works on the distributed servers where it requires reliable service and no failure. It is also a non SQL based DBS.
Oozie	Streamlining of workflows with co-ordination of different tasks can be done with Oozie. Moreover it is open
Lucene	The people are familiar with the Java development can use Lucene. The Project wide used in text analytics of Big Data
Avro	Avro can be used for version control and it assist in maintaining the configuration management
Mahout	Mahout is very much useful in providing machine learning algorithms in favor of Big data Analytics. It is a Apache project , which is used to develop distributed systems

how it reflects the basic V's i.e. our Concept

statement.

2. Developing Proposal concentrating on aspects like problem to be addressed, its importance, big data analytics approach required, and background idea.

3. Methodology to be followed at various levels of Data collection, Feature Selection, ETL and data transformation, Platform or tool to be used, Associations, Patterns, Aggregations, etc.

4. Visualization of the results or model developed as part of the analysis  
Deployment that mainly focuses on Evaluation and validation, testing phases.

#### IV. VISUALIZATION OF PROCESSED DATA MODELS & RESULTS

With the evolution of huge variety of business each day various solutions generated for it would be easily presented using the concept of Data Visualization. This process helps in making the end results of our process to be represented in a good understandable format even for a naïve user. Certain major things need to be followed during data visualization like trying to represent all the available meta data to make the naïve user understand data flow. Secondly see that we generate interactive reports so that any further changes made by the user can easily be updated.

The visualization process leaves us with many benefits which can be listed as follows.

**TABLE 2: BENEFITS OF DATA VISUALIZATION:**

Benefits	Percentages(%)
Improved	77
Better ad-hoc data	43
Improved	41
Provide self-service	36
Increased return	34
Time savings	20
Reduced burden on IT	15

Visualization follows different approaches in which the data can be represented based on the requirements of the user usage of bar graphs, histograms, box plots, scatter plots, pie charts etc. like this several forms of representation can be used. The traditional mechanisms of data visualization can be extended to support the voluminous data often called the big data but this doesn't seem such easy process as that of specified approaches During large scale data visualization many researchers apply methods like feature extraction, geometric modeling of data which help in greatly reducing the data size before rendering the original data. Choice of proper representation also matters when visualizing big data [20].

There are various enormous information representation apparatuses that keep running on Hadoop stage. The regularly determined modules in Hadoop will be: Hadoop Common, Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS), Hadoop YARN , and Hadoop MapReduce. They help in examining enormous information effectively yet need at imagining the information. To beat this specific programming with the elements of representation and connection of information has been created like Pentaho: It bolsters the range of BI capacities, for example, analysis, dashboard, venture class revealing, and information mining. Flare: An ActionScript library for making information representation that keeps running in Adobe Flash Player. JasperReports: It helps in producing reports from the huge information stockpiles utilizing a novel programming layer. Dygraphs: It is speedy



and versatile open source JavaScript diagramming gathering that finds and comprehend murky informational collections. Datameer Analytics Solution and Cloudera: Datameer and Cloudera have collaborated to make it simpler and quicker to place Hadoop into generation and help clients to use the intensity of Hadoop. Platfora: Platfora helps in change of crude enormous information in Hadoop into intelligent information preparing motor. It has measured usefulness of in-memory information motor. ManyEyes: It is a perception device propelled by IBM. Numerous Eyes is an open site where clients can transfer information and make intelligent representation. Scene: It is a business insight (BI) programming instrument that underpins intelligent and visual examination of information. It has an in-memory information motor to quicken representation. Scene has three fundamental items to process huge scale datasets, including Tableau Desktop, Tableau Sever, and Tableau Public. Scene likewise implant Hadoop framework. It utilizes Hive to structure inquiries and reserve data for in-memory investigation. Reserving lessens the inactivity of a Hadoop bunch. In this manner, it can give an intelligent system among clients and Big Data applications.

#### CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE ENHANCEMENTS:

Big Data Analytics helps in transforming the inputs of data provided and gather necessary insights that help in early detection of several diseases so that necessary measures can be taken. Predictive analytics is an important form of analytics among the various available one to trace several issues of health related data that helps in for a early diagnosis and a better survival ahead. Application of Big data analytics in healthcare domain helps in diagnosis, prognosis, early intervention and optimal management of the data. There are few trade-offs that are to be handled as part of the future enhancements by the upcoming big data scientist like heterogeneity of the data, development of self learning systems using mechanisms of ANN(Artificial Neural Networks), developing Skills and subject Professionals to handle several real time issues[5]. To provide an effective and secured transmission privacy is a major area to be focused [14][15].The visualization strategy also contains major issues like enhancing perceptual and interactive visualization capability. Also concentrate on meeting the need for speed, understanding data, Addressing data quality and displaying meaningful results.

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