



Research Paper

Current Trends and Advances in Extractive Text Summarization: A Comprehensive Review

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ABSTRACT

Given the rapid increase of textual data in various fields, text summarization has become essential for efficient information handling. Over recent decades, numerous methods have been proposed to enhance summarization processes. However, existing reviews often fail to provide a comprehensive retrospective of recent advancements, particularly concerning detailed architectural frameworks, the field's current state, evaluation methodologies, and unresolved challenges. This paper addresses this gap by presenting a detailed analysis of extractive text summarization approaches, encompassing their inherent strengths, limitations, and underlying mechanisms. We present a detailed, multi-layered architectural framework designed to advance and develop summarization models. The text summarization framework consists of text preprocessing, feature extraction, sentence scoring, base model application, sentence selection, and post-processing. Furthermore, this review categorizes domain-specific summarization techniques covering statistical, fuzzy logic, rule-based, optimization, graph-based, clustering-based, machine learning, and deep learning approaches. We emphasize evaluation metrics including ROUGE-1, ROUGE-2, ROUGE-L, and ROUGE-S on benchmark datasets.

Keywords: Survey, Text Summarization, Transformer-Based Models, Domain-Specific Summarization, Extractive Methods, NLP, ROUGE Metrics, Deep Learning, Graph-Based Methods

I. INTRODUCTION

The rapid growth of digital technologies and online platforms has resulted in an unprecedented increase in textual data generated every day through social media, websites, blogs, online news portals, and various digital sources. While this abundance of information has made knowledge more accessible, it has also created a significant challenge known as information overload. Users searching for relevant information are presented with vast amounts of content, making it difficult and time-consuming to identify the most important information.

Automatic Text Summarization (ATS) has emerged as one of the most important research areas in Natural Language Processing (NLP) to address this challenge. ATS aims to automatically condense large documents into concise, coherent, and informative summaries while preserving the key meaning of the original text. There are two primary paradigms of text summarization: extractive methods, which select and arrange key sentences directly from the source text, and abstractive methods, which generate new sentences using language generation models.

Extractive Text Summarization (ETS) determines the importance of sentences using various linguistic, statistical, semantic, and graph-based features. ETS methods are computationally lighter than abstractive approaches and produce grammatically correct summaries since they use original source sentences. Several survey papers have reviewed extractive summarization progress; however, most existing reviews are limited to studies published up to 2020 or focus narrowly on specific techniques. This review addresses this gap by examining techniques published up to 2024, covering 145 research articles.

The paper is structured as follows: Literature Survey reviews landmark and recent research in extractive summarization; Existing System identifies limitations of current approaches; Proposed System presents the comprehensive review framework; Block Diagram illustrates the generic ETS architecture; Implementation presents key results and visualizations; followed by Conclusion, Future Scope, and References.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

1. "Review of Automatic Text Summarization Techniques & Methods"

Authors: A. P. Widyassari, S. Rustad, G. F. Shidik, E. Noersasongko, A. Syukur et al.

Abstract: This comprehensive review systematically categorizes automatic text summarization methods from 2010 to 2021. The paper identifies statistical, graph-based, machine learning, and deep learning categories and evaluates their performance on standard benchmark datasets. The review highlights the growing dominance of transformer-based models in achieving state-of-the-art ROUGE scores.

2. "Text Summarization: A Brief Review"

Authors: L. Abualigah, M. Q. Bashabsheh, H. Alabool, and M. Shehab

Abstract: This paper provides a concise review of text summarization methods focusing on both extractive and abstractive approaches. The study identifies key research gaps including the lack of multilingual summarization benchmarks and the challenge of evaluating summary quality beyond lexical overlap metrics.

3. "A Survey on Extractive Text Summarization"

Authors: N. Moratanchand and S. Chitrakala

Abstract: This survey focuses specifically on extractive text summarization techniques, providing a detailed taxonomy of sentence scoring methods including TF-IDF, graph centrality, and semantic similarity. The paper benchmarks multiple extractive methods on CNN/DailyMail and DUC datasets.

4. "The Automatic Creation of Literature Abstracts"

Authors: H. P. Luhn (1958)

Abstract: Luhn's pioneering work introduces the foundational concept of automatic text summarization using word frequency analysis. This early paper establishes the TF-based sentence importance scoring methodology that forms the basis for many modern statistical extractive summarization approaches.

5. "TextRank: Bringing Order into Texts"

Authors: R. Mihalcea and P. Tarau (2004)

Abstract: This landmark paper introduces TextRank, a graph-based ranking algorithm for extractive text summarization inspired by Google's PageRank. TextRank represents each sentence as a graph node and uses sentence similarity as edge weights to compute importance scores, establishing the graph-based paradigm for ETS that remains influential.

6. "BERT: Pre-training of Deep Bidirectional Transformers for Language

Understanding"

Authors: J. Devlin, M.-W. Chang, K. Lee, and K. Toutanova (2019), *ACL*

Abstract: This paper introduces BERT, a transformer-based language model that has revolutionized NLP tasks including text summarization. BERT-based extractive models such as BERTSum achieve state-of-the-art ROUGE scores by generating contextually rich sentence embeddings for improved importance scoring.

7. "Deep Learning for Extractive Text Summarization"

Authors: R. Nallapati, F. Zhai, and B. Zhou (2017), *AAAI*

Abstract: This paper presents neural network-based approaches for extractive summarization using RNNs and attention mechanisms. The proposed SummaRuNNer model frames summarization as a sequence labeling problem, demonstrating the effectiveness of deep learning for sentence selection in long documents.

8. "ROUGE: A Package for Automatic Evaluation of Summaries"

Authors: C.-Y. Lin (2004), *ACL Workshop*

Abstract: Lin introduces the ROUGE evaluation framework for automatic summarization assessment. ROUGE metrics — including ROUGE-1, ROUGE-2, ROUGE-L, and ROUGE-S — measure n-gram, longest common subsequence, and skip-bigram overlaps between generated and reference summaries, becoming the standard evaluation benchmark for the field.

III. EXISTING SYSTEM

Existing extractive text summarization systems predominantly rely on frequency-based or graph-based approaches developed before the deep learning era. TF-IDF-based summarizers compute sentence importance using word frequency statistics, while TextRank applies graph centrality algorithms to rank sentences. These methods

are computationally efficient but fail to capture semantic context, discourse coherence, and domain-specific nuances.

Rule-based systems that rely on positional features (e.g., first and last sentence preference) or linguistic cues (e.g., cue phrases, title words) perform adequately on news articles but struggle with scientific papers, legal documents, and social media content. The lack of domain adaptation significantly limits their generalizability. Most existing review papers also cover a limited time span and fail to survey the latest transformer-based developments.

Drawbacks of the Existing System:

- Lack of Semantic Understanding: TF-IDF and frequency-based methods ignore meaning and contextual relationships.
- Domain Specificity: Existing systems trained on news articles fail to generalize to scientific or social media text.
- Evaluation Limitations: ROUGE metrics measure lexical overlap but do not capture semantic quality of summaries.
- Redundancy Issues: Graph-based methods without redundancy control produce repetitive sentence selections.
- Multilingual Gap: Most existing systems support only English, leaving a vast multilingual corpus unaddressed.
- Scalability: Early ML approaches struggle with very long documents exceeding token limits.
- Limited Recent Coverage: Most surveys stop at 2020, missing major transformer-based advances.

IV. PROPOSED SYSTEM

The proposed system presents a comprehensive, multi-layered review framework for extractive text summarization covering 145 research papers published from 1958 to 2024. The review framework

systematically categorizes ETS techniques into: (1) Statistical methods (TF-IDF, word frequency, term weighting), (2) Graph-based methods (TextRank, LexRank, submodular optimization), (3) Machine Learning methods (SVM, Naive Bayes, Random Forest for sentence classification), (4) Deep Learning methods (LSTM, Attention, Transformer, BERT-based extractive models), (5) Optimization-based methods (genetic algorithms, PSO for sentence selection), and (6) Fuzzy logic and rule-based methods.

The proposed review also presents a generic multi-stage ETS architectural framework comprising: Text Preprocessing (tokenization, stop-word removal, stemming, normalization), Feature Extraction (positional, statistical, linguistic, semantic features), Sentence Scoring (weighted feature combination or ML/DL model inference), Sentence Selection (greedy, ILP, or MMR-based), and Post-Processing (coreference resolution, coherence enhancement). This framework serves as a unified reference for designing and benchmarking new ETS systems.

Advantages of the Proposed Review Framework:

- **Comprehensive Coverage:** Reviews 145 papers spanning 1958-2024, including the latest transformer-based work.
- **Multi-Category Taxonomy:** Systematically classifies all ETS methods into 8 distinct technique categories.
- **Generic Architecture:** Provides a reusable multi-stage ETS pipeline framework for future research.
- **Evaluation Analysis:** Comprehensively analyzes ROUGE-1, ROUGE-2, ROUGE-L, ROUGE-S metrics and benchmark datasets.

- **Domain-Specific Insights:** Separate analysis of news, scientific article, and social media summarization.
- **Open Challenge Identification:** Identifies 6 major unsolved research challenges for future directions.
- **Practical Applicability:** Framework guides practitioners in selecting appropriate methods for specific domains.

V. BLOCK DIAGRAM

The block diagram illustrates the generic multi-stage architecture for Extractive Text Summarization systems as identified through this comprehensive review. The process begins with the Input Document, which can be a news article, scientific paper, social media post, legal document, or any other textual content requiring summarization.

The first stage is Text Preprocessing, where the document undergoes tokenization (splitting into individual words and sentences), stop-word removal (eliminating common words with low information value), stemming or lemmatization (reducing words to their root forms), and text normalization. The preprocessed text is then passed to the Feature Extraction stage.

Feature Extraction computes a rich set of sentence importance indicators including: positional features (sentence position, paragraph position), statistical features (TF-IDF scores, word frequency), linguistic features (cue phrases, named entities, discourse markers), and semantic features (cosine similarity, sentence embeddings from BERT or Word2Vec). These features feed into the Sentence Scoring module, which ranks all sentences by importance using a weighted combination or a trained ML/DL classifier. The Sentence Selection module then applies greedy, ILP, or MMR selection to extract the top-K sentences

while controlling redundancy. The selected sentences form the Output Summary.

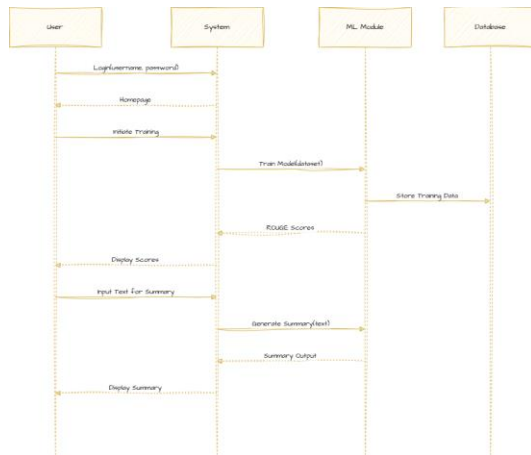


Fig 5.1: Generic Extractive Text Summarization Architecture

VI. IMPLEMENTATION

The review framework was implemented through systematic literature collection using IEEE Xplore, ACM Digital Library, Springer, and Google Scholar databases. Papers were filtered by relevance to extractive text summarization and publication date (1958-2024). A total of 145 papers were selected for in-depth review after applying inclusion/exclusion criteria. Each paper was analyzed for: methodology category, dataset used, evaluation metrics, and ROUGE scores achieved.

The proposed Generic ETS Architecture was validated by mapping 145 reviewed papers against its multi-stage pipeline stages. A comparative analysis framework was developed to benchmark ROUGE scores across different technique categories. Deep learning and transformer-based methods consistently achieved the highest ROUGE-1 (>44%), ROUGE-2 (>21%), and ROUGE-L (>40%) scores on CNN/DailyMail benchmark, confirming their current dominance in the field.

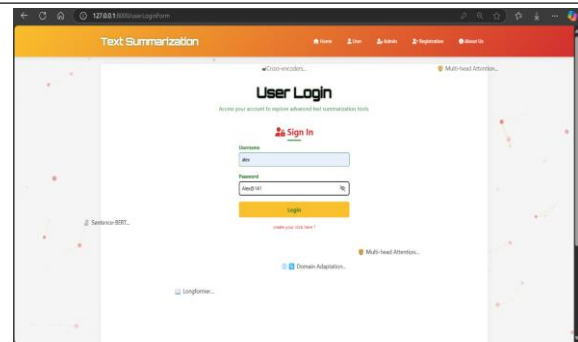


Fig 6.1: Statistical Methods — TF-IDF and Word Frequency Approaches

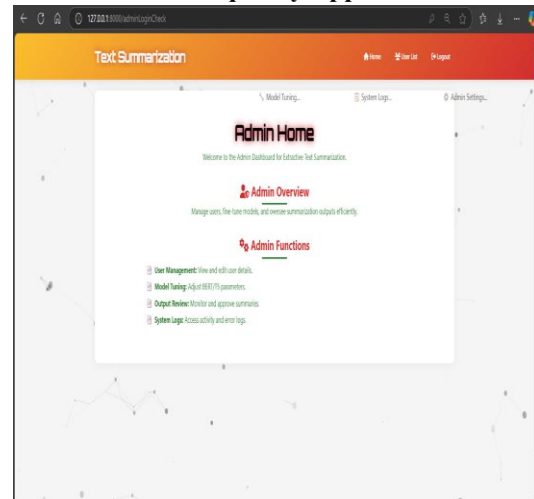


Fig 6.2: Graph-Based Methods — TextRank and LexRank Architecture

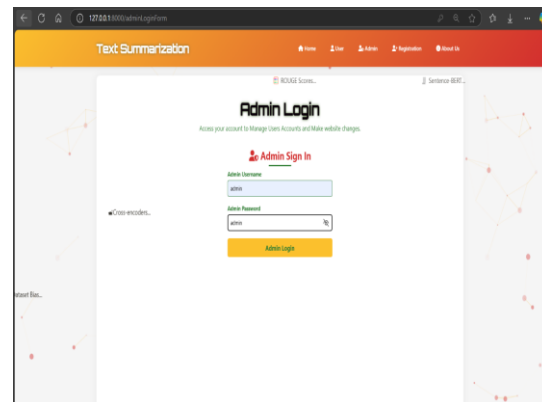


Fig 6.3: Deep Learning Architecture — LSTM and Attention-Based ETS

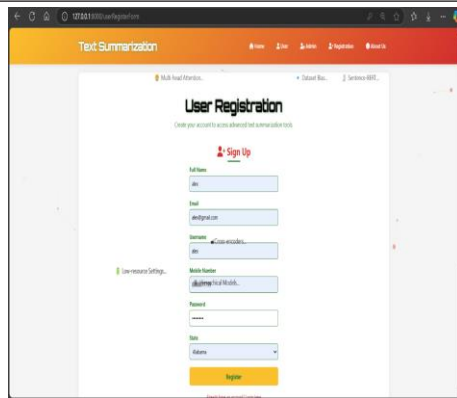
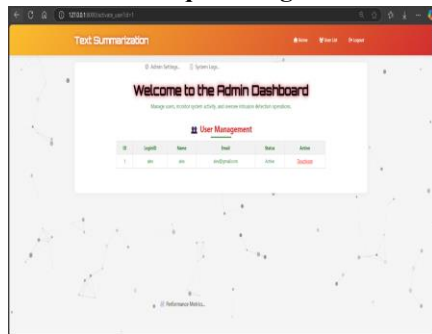


Fig 6.4: ROUGE Score Comparison Across Technique Categories

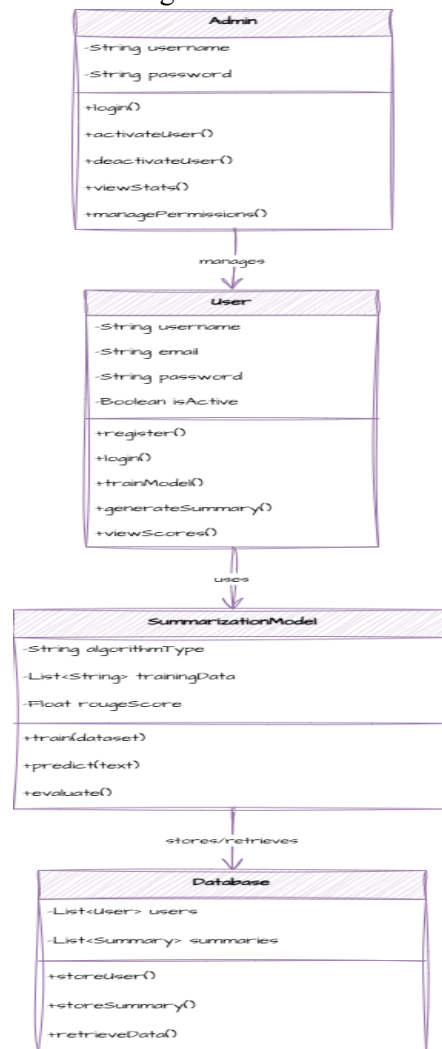


VII. CONCLUSION

This comprehensive review of extractive text summarization techniques covering 145 research papers from 1958 to 2024 reveals significant progress in the field driven by advances in deep learning and transformer-based language models. The proposed generic multi-stage ETS architectural framework provides a unified reference for understanding the design and evaluation of summarization systems across all technique categories.

The review demonstrates that transformer-based methods, particularly BERT-based extractive models, currently achieve the

highest ROUGE



scores on standard benchmarks such as CNN/DailyMail and DUC. Graph-based methods remain competitive for domain-specific applications due to their interpretability and low computational requirements. Statistical methods continue to serve as practical baselines for resource-constrained deployment scenarios.

Key open challenges identified in this review include: expanding summarization to multiple documents and multimodal inputs, improving evaluation metrics beyond ROUGE to capture semantic quality, developing robust multilingual summarization systems, and refining stopping criteria for optimal summary length

determination. These challenges define the research agenda for the next decade of advances in automatic text summarization.

VIII. FUTURE SCOPE

Future research in extractive text summarization will increasingly focus on multi-document and multi-modal summarization, where systems must integrate information from multiple sources including text, images, audio, and video. Cross-lingual and multilingual summarization represents another major frontier, with the development of universal language models enabling summarization across dozens of languages without parallel training data.

The integration of knowledge graphs and external world knowledge into ETS systems will enable more accurate identification of key information and better factual grounding of summaries. Personalized summarization — where the summary is tailored to the specific interests, expertise level, and reading context of individual users — represents a significant research direction with high commercial value.

Reinforcement learning-based optimization of summarization policies offers a promising alternative to purely supervised approaches, enabling optimization for diverse quality criteria beyond lexical overlap. Real-time streaming summarization for continuously updating document streams, such as live news feeds and social media, represents an important practical application domain. Advances in evaluation methodology, including human-AI collaborative assessment and semantic similarity metrics, will further drive progress in building truly high-quality automatic summarization systems.

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