# IoT based Big data Analytics in Healthcare: A Survey

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**Abstract:** Heterogeneous data surround the world, and it is generated enormously in every moment of a day from multiple sources. These enormous amounts of unstructured, structured, and semi-structured data are called big data, and this cannot store in conventional database systems. Big data, IoT plays a significant role, here big data implies the clinical data which comes in the form of medical prescriptions, laboratory data, genome database, electronic health records, medical images, medical IoT, etc. It supports clinical decisions, along with advanced and personalized health care. In this paper, a brief survey is from the related projects which deal with the challenges, techniques, as well as the different directions in big data health care.

Keywords: Healthcare, Big data Analytics, IoT, Fog Computing

## **1.Introduction**

Big data is not just a term, and it is a complete subject with tools, techniques, and frameworks. It's a vast amount of data that keeps on growing with time. It comprises numerous other methods such as data storage, data mining, data analysis, sharing data, and visualization. Big data offers a way to find a new perception of the existing data and directions to catch and analyse succeeding data.

Big data has been used in different fields by the researchers to pillar their findings and conclusions. Organizations can enhance customer expectation by gathering big data and produce products which meet their desires. Through resource optimization, they can improve their operational efficiency and productivity [1]. The transport industry, using technologies of Big data for enhancing quality services, traveller gratification, and management [2]. Also, it can advise customer feedback service. In the education field, it plays a role in influencing students' behaviour and engagement also educational institutions can work big data along with predictive analytics for getting the future insights of the student's outcome [3]. It used for the effective monitoring of smart grid operations and airline route optimization [4-6]. The Agricultural field is covering various applications of IoT, big data [7-8]. Big data made an evolutionary change in the healthcare industry by using its techniques and technologies in different formats of data sets, including structured, semi-structured, and unstructured. These medical data are in digitized formats and produce rapidly [9]. Several surveys say that the medical data in the zettabyte scale and soon it touches the yottabyte. In the health domain, Big data reduces the treatment cost and provides a better dimension to the diagnostics and choice making. The main attractions of Big data are its fantastic number of data sources and diversity [10-11]. If we categorize it, we will get different groups. Today's data is extracted from five primary sources: IoT, Mobile devices, Enterprise information systems, Social networks, and public and open data. There are approximately billions of smartphones used widely around the world, and these portable devices are significant donors to Big data. Similarly, the IoT devices, like sensors, connected with humans, generate a large data set.

In this paper, the first section discussed the challenges facing in the health domain, the further article organized as Related works, and Basic concepts. The final section of this study has identified various IoT big data Applications in Healthcare and continued by the conclusion.

# 2. Challenges in health care

The volume of Medical data is increasing day by day, and it's unlike other data [12]. They are difficult to access quickly and sensitive data because of their rapid generation. The quality of trustworthiness, consistency, and security of medical data is the most significant challenges they are facing [13-16]. Here arises the need for real-time streaming technologies and tools [8][17]. Predictability and on-time processing have a significant role in this field [16]. The integrity and interoperability of health data are other areas that need attention [13][18][19][20]. Now a day's health sectors want intelligence in their field [21]. Accuracy needs in equipment used for disease detection. Systems using in this field need better memory capacity, latency, bandwidth [22]. Audio pathology can be monitor by the help of a Cloud IoT integration system and using this technology;

extensive data can manage [23]. Patients information should be private and secure [13]. Recent researches say that using the social network system for health care adds more benefits, and it is a challenging and exciting job to extract and collaborate these data for health wellness. One of the probable challenges is intricate a health verdict system for predicting and estimating the epidemic dispersion around the world by social media mining. For making this predictable system possible, we need to consider related attributes to the epidemic or pandemic like corona, SARS, influenza, etc. The values extracted in the form of comments, posts, likes, sharing. These past values can make a predictive system that can use it later [24]. The enormous power of Vast data, along with the wide variety of social media data, can merge and provide an effective predictive system

### 3. Related works and basic concepts

#### 3.1 Big Data: Process and Characteristics

In recent years, a vast amount of data produced around the world and eighty percentage of such data are unstructured in the format of video, audio, images, text, and these types of heterogeneous data referred to as Bigdata. These data can be grouped into transactions, machine-to-machine, biometric, social media/web, and human-generated data. The process mainly includes Big data Generation, Acquisition, which provides for data collection, transmission and pre-processing, Storage, and Analysis. The attributes which define big data are called V's of big data. There are 4 V's plays a major role, and they are the following:

- Volume: It is the gigantic data that can be range from Tera Bytes to Zetta Bytes or even more generated in every minute from multiple resources [25].
- Variety: It refers to the heterogeneous data. Data can be represented in different ways, such as structured, semi-structured, and unstructured data, which can include image, text, audio, and video.
- Velocity: It describes the speediness of data generation, collection, and examination. Today's data is time-sensitive and needs to handle at the time. It analyses the streaming data in real-time [9].
- Veracity: It describes the reliability and accuracy of the data. Collecting tons of data are of no use if it is not trustworthy. It is the major challenge comparing with volume and velocity.



Fig. 1. Four V's of Big Data (Source: [30])

Figure 1 shows the significant four V's of Big data.

#### **3.2Big Data Analytics**

Big data analytics retrieve relevant information from the ocean of data. It analyses the various types of data sets and retrieves useful information. Big data analytics mainly used or prediction and forecasting [26-27]. It also finds the hidden patterns, consumer choices, and market trends for better decision making in organizations. Data mining is the central concept using analytics. There are different technologies used in big data analytics. Among them, MapReduce plays a significant role in various fields like online streaming data analytics, Machine to Machine, IoT data analytics, etc. In healthcare analytics, different algorithms like Machine learning, deep and cognitive learning using with the help of artificial intelligent and artificial neural networks [24]. It includes statistical and mathematical approaches for understanding and forecasting the results. There is much open-source software that serves the purposes of analysing processing. Among them, the Apache software foundation

is most popular, and it provides a set of open-source frameworks that support the data storing and analysis called Hadoop [24].



Fig. 2. Hadoop File System Daemons (Source: [40])

Figure 2 shows the Master-Slave architecture concept of Hadoop, which is having only one Name node and many Data nodes.

- Name Node: Act as a master and assign jobs across the nodes. It has the metadata which defines the other data.
- Secondary Name Node: It is the checkpoints metadata on the name node, and name namespace of name node. It is not a backup for the name node.
- Data Node: Act as a slave and executes all the tasks assigned by the Name node, which is the master.
- Job Tracker: Assigns the jobs to slave nodes get acknowledged.
- Task Tracker: Performs the jobs given by the job tracker and monitor the completion.

Storing is one of the significant issues facing bigdata, and some of the popular technologies used to store and analyse the data shown in Table 1 below.

Features	HBase	Cassandra	MongoDB	Hive
Year implemented	2008	2008	2009	2012
Open-source	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Implemented	Java	Java	C++	Java
Language				
Developer	Apache Software Foundation	Apache Software Foundation	MongoDB, inc	Apache Software Foundation
Definition	The non-relational distributed database based on Apache Hadoop and Bigtable	The non-relational distributed database based on DynamoDB and Bigtable	Most popular NoSQL database, Document store	Data Warehouse for distributed data sets on Hadoop, which uses relational DB.
Operating System	Windows, Linux, Unix	BSD	Windows, Linux, Solaris, OSX	All OS, which supports java VM.
Schema free	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
SQL	Not	Not	Not	Not
Typing	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Secondary Indexes	No	Restricted	Yes	Yes
Durability	Durable	Durable	Durable	Durable
MapReduce	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Access methods/ APIs	Java API, HTTP API, RESTful	Proprietary protocol	JSON using proprietary protocols	JDBC, ODBC, thrift
Partition method	Shard	Shard	Shard	Shard
Server-side scripts	Yes	No	Java script	Yes

 Table 1. Comparison of Big data Technologies (Source: BI reporting, Scott Michell)

User rights	Access Control List	User can define per	User Can define full	Rights for users,
		object	access	groups, roles

#### **3.3Fog Computing**

A new area Internet of things leads to big data analytics to various computing like parallel, distributed, cluster, cloud, and Fog computing. The concept of Fog computing arisen in 2005. In 2014, cisco introduced this word as a continuation of the cloud. The large and high-speed data production from IoT devices cannot efficiently be handled by the central storage hubs. Cloud computing came up with an answer to this problem, but again bottlenecks such as security threats and low latency issues when it comes toa medical emergency, transaction verifications, etc. Fog acts as a cache memory between the user and the cloud. It provides the quality of services to real-time applications that need low latency [24][28]. The key distinguishing factor of fog computing from cloud computing is its distributed decentralized system [25]. The applications which needed predictable and low latency are highly beneficial from fog computing. From 2017 onwards, the scope of fog computing in the research field started blooming and various new topics added to it, like wireless sensors, wearable devices, body area networks, interoperability, and energy-efficient models [29-30]. Fog layer stores only the essential information and sends the exact information to the cloud for big data analysis and storage. A device can act as fog node if it is having storage, computing, and connectivity facilities [28] [31-32]. There are six layers present in fog computing: Transport layer, Security layer, Temporary layer, Pre-processing, monitoring, Physical, and virtualization layer.



Fig. 3. Fog Computing view (Source: [38])

Figure 3 shows how the fog act as a link between cloud and IoT devices.

## 3.4 Internet of Things [IoT]

Today the world is linked with the Internet. With the arrival of the concept Internet of things, everything related to anything. IoT widely spread over the globe and connected through the Internet. Our health care industry highly benefited from these intelligent devices [33]. It provides a predictive and intelligent system which tracks people and object [23]. Identify and authenticate people and automatically collect data through sensors. It reduces the cost of healthcare and provides a sound care system. Merging of IoT Big data model brings a drastic change in the health care industry. It enables smart healthcare management.



Fig. 4. IoT connected devices across worldwide from 2015- 2025 (Source: [15])

Figure 4 [15] shows from 2015 onwards, the concept of IoT Big data convergence concept gets start popularising.

By adopting this technology, patients get early detection of diseases, regular monitoring, and better services [28] [34-35]. IoT enables remote monitoring with an alert system, which is highly beneficial for caring elders and physically challenged ones [36]. The IoT components can discuss in to mainly three: IoT hardware, middleware, and presentation [29]. IoT software and protocols are the other two essential components.

#### 3.4.1IoT Hardware

It is difficult to show a well-defined hardware structure or architecture of IoT. It will change according to the needs. But we have the basic building blocks for the hardware, and they are Thing, Data acquisition, processing, and Communication unit [37]. Figure 5 shows the basic building blocks for the IoT hardware.



Fig.5.Basic units of IoT Hardware (Source: [37])

Thing: It is what you want to regulate or display. It integrated with devices always. These smart devices further connected with the cloud [38].

**Data acquisition:** This module receives physical signals from the thing and converts to digital signals that can be changed by the system, in this unit only all the sensors acquiring the signs such as temperature, light, motion, vibration, etc.

**Data Processing:** The computers process the data and do the analytical parts and stores locally. There are two things we need to focus on in this module, i.e., Processing power and the size of the hardware [39]. How much local storage do we need?

**Data Communication:** This module enables interaction with the cloud platform. It includes communication ports like USB, CAN, serial, and also wireless technologies like Wi-Fi, ZigBee, etc. Gateway architecture also used for communication.

#### 3.4.2 IoT Middleware

It permits the connectivity of sensors with application layers. Data Communicate over networks. IoT middleware needs to support large and dynamic numbers of endpoints, streaming data, a considerable volume of simultaneous messages, new protocols, real-time processing, and execution models [19].

#### **3.4.3 IoT Presentation**

It rests on the data lifecycle, starts from the production of data to analysis of data. It is significant to present data to act on it. Stable and secure communication and a sharable representation of data are the main challenges met in interaction over IoT networks. There are two main characteristics of representation [40]: understandability, and their visualization and interpretability.

#### **3.4.4 IoT Software and Protocols**

Through embedded systems, middleware, and platforms, IoT software provides actions and networking. It enables the real-time analysis of huge data that is producing from IoT devices. It collects data through various mediums such as real-time sensors, protocols, M2M networks to provide different kinds of services application extension used for producing more accurate and reliable data [41]. All the components of IoT include a mobile, router, and cloud systems linked by a group of IoT protocols. It enables interaction between the systems.

Table 2 shows the eight layers of the critical IoT protocols, which are developed by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI).

No	Layers	Protocols
1	Identification	IPv6, EPC, URIs, uCode
2	Infrastructure	IPv4/IPv6, 6LowPan, RPL
3	Transport	Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, LPWAN
4	Discovery	DNS-SD, Web, Mdns
5	Data Protocols	MQTT,Node, WebSocket, CoAP
6	Device Management	OMA-DM, TR-069
7	Semantic	WebThing Model, JSON-LD
8	Multi-layer Frameworks	Weave, IoTivity, Homekit, Alljoyn

## 4. Applications of health care IoT Big data

The smart healthcare concept begins with the convergence of the IoT Big data model. A wide variety of applications are going to discuss in this part of the paper.

#### 4.1 Internet of Medical Things (IoMT).

A new branch emerges for smart healthcare-associated tracking and research called The Internet of medical things (IoMT). It is a heterogeneous wireless communicating system for digitized healthcare schemes, which links the medical resources and services. IoMT stores and tracks vital medical and statistical information. Health data ranges from low to high speed and diversity such as Doctors/ medicinal prescriptions, lab data; Machine produced data, admin data, and insurance data [42]. The components of IoMT are biosensors, communication gateways, and server/ cloud [14][38]. The main advantage is that improved quality and cost-effective health care of patients, which supports a shift from hospital to home.

#### 4.2Remote and Real-Time Health Monitoring

The main attractive feature of big data IoT in the health domain is remote and real-time analysis of individuals' fitness status. Real-time epidemic and pandemic can be monitor and forecast effectively and track people's locations easily using these technologies. These data were processed and filtered regularly, then upload and forecast in the cloud publicly where most of the health monitoring systems built [43]. The vulnerable parts like infants, pregnant women, elderly persons [44], or chronic patients need more focus [45]. It achieved by the collaboration of IoT, Fog, and cloud services and can send emergency signals if required [46]. Sensors capture the real-time data and send it either to Fog or to cloud according to the nature of data. Health checking devices can range from blood pressure monitor [47-48][18]to an advanced pacemaker monitor. Fitbit wristbands and innovative hearing aids are now part of people's day today life.

#### 4.3Prevention and diagnosis

As we know, "Prevention is better than cure," our goal is to find a healthy way that needs the timely management of health issues, which is essential. For chronic cases, early detection and diagnosis help a lot.

Delivering accurate data at the time of treatment creates a harmless, relaxed, and profitable recovery for patients. Point of care systems enabled with IoT are highly beneficial for timely and reliable diagnosis of patients [49]. One of the studies which are part of the project EDUCERF [50][53] uses smart toys for finding early detection of difficulties in children. Smart toys, along with the sensors they can early monitor and detect. Similar studies also have done by authors [51][54] proposed a work called Mining minds for custom-made support for the prevention of illnesses. It comprises big data, IoT wearable sensors, cloud computing, and knowledge analytics.

#### 4.4 Medical emergency alert system

The unavoidable requirement for health emergencies is rapid actions. Real-time health emergency systems integrated with the IoT sensors. Wireless Body-Based Area Network (WBAN) is connecting with patients [9]. This emergency alert system is more helpful to the elderly group. Because these intelligent systems allow regular monitoring, wireless sensor networks (WSN), immense data, and cloud computing, it generates an emergency call whenever it detects the unusual activities like falling, Wheezing, etc [46].

#### 4.5 Inference systems in Ubiquitous sensing

There are always challenges like the battery life of mHealth devices in ubiquitous sensing of the patient's status by smart devices. In 2017, an interface system developed [52] part of their study, which effectively and accurately collect and transfer the body sensor data to IoT networks and mHealth. Also, during the quarantine period, it is effectively monitoring the symptoms [53-54]. The sensor-embedded interference system transfers the optimized data to avoid data congestion in the network when it is in the case of a geographical area or a massive number of people.

#### 4.6Better Healthcare Administration

With the help of Big data, Hospital administration runs much more comfortable, and it helps to reduce the costs. It can provide the best healthcare support and risk management. Medical experts can analyse the data and conclude effective treatments. There are bigdata used intelligent applications that help to boost their business. Big data can prevent errors like wrong medicine, usage, and human errors made by the administrators. Also, it can find fraudulent.

## 5. Conclusion

This paper shows how the Internet of Things and Big data technologies and the deeply intertwined with each other for health wellbeing. This study provides recent trends in research over the Bigdata IoT healthcare domain including the job of Bigdata and IoT, Comparison of technologies and tools used for it, Different layers of fog computing over the cloud, IoT infrastructure with layers and protocols, Applications and issues of big data IoT in the health domain. From this study, it shows that the health domain is the area where a single minute is a matter, needs rapid actions for life-saving. So, storage of the analytics data from the different IoT bigdata devices over the cloud needs much attention, and it is one of the main challenges our technology facing. As a solution from our findings, Fog can act as an intermediate layer that handles only the critical data, and the remaining parts of data sent to the centralized cloud. Fog can store and process quickly upon its application needs. Health sensitive data that needs rapid action can depend on this fog layer because of its low latency. The study of Big data IoT can make a drastic change in our society by its tremendous capabilities, which is yet to explore. It's an opportunity for the researchers as well as health workers to do future enhancement. Finally, it is concluding from the survey that, apart from the existing ones, it needs to find more efficient, secure, and reliable paradigms of Big data IoT for the betterment and wellbeing of the Human race.

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