

CAT Digital Team ×

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INTRODUCTION

- **About Caterpillar & CAT Digital**
- **Cat Digital** is a digital and technology business unit within Caterpillar Inc.
 - We're focused on using data, technology, advanced analytics and AI capabilities to help our customers build a better world.
 - Cat Digital embodies the bits-and-bytes coming from pieces of machinery, customers and dealers, and is charged with ensuring data flows smoothly and safely through our platform and to applications.

Caterpillar Inc. is the world's leading manufacturer of construction and mining equipment, off-highway diesel and natural gas engines, industrial gas turbines and diesel-electric locomotives.

For nearly 100 years, we've been helping customers build a better, more sustainable world and are committed and contributing to a reduced-carbon future. Our innovative products and services, backed by our global dealer network, provide exceptional value that helps customers succeed.



• Motivation & Problem

Currently, Caterpillar is using a clustering model based primarily on industry- and company-based rules to categorize invoices and parts. This strategy is effective for bootstrapping and is easy to understand and explain to their business partners. However, these rules are not necessarily backed by any scientific processes and trends/rules can change often. Hence, Caterpillar needs a more robust solution with proper validation to classify and categorize invoices from parts sales to customers.

• Objective

The goal of this project is to explore a **novel document clustering algorithm** to be used with invoices. The new algorithm should leverage a similarity metric built upon the numerical and categorical features associated with the line items listed on the invoice documents.

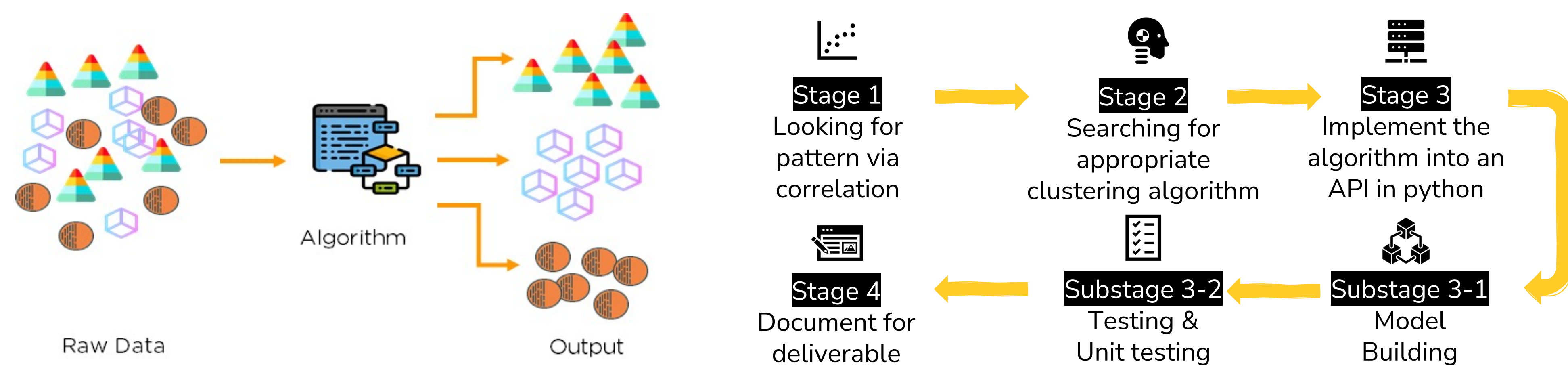
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

• Research Design Ideas

Since we want to better cluster the invoices, we are trying to determine **distance metrics** for this type of data specifically. → **The similarity metric** should work with the “invoice” data type, namely a mix of numerical, categorical, and textual data. → **“Similarity metric”** feature that given two invoices it can determine how similar or dissimilar they are.

• Key Approaches

- Similarity metrics
- Tf-IDF clustering
- Natural Language Processing



KEY FINDINGS & SOLUTIONS

• Data Description & Data Attributes

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Column descriptions.
Columns with a HASH() have been obfuscated for data confidentiality

HASH(INVOICE_ID) -- primary key to identify an invoice
HASH(DEALERCODE) -- code to identify the dealership where the part invoice was issued
INVOICE_DATE -- date at which the invoice was issued
SALES_METHOD -- how the parts were sold: OTC= over the counter, WO= work order with the repair performed at the dealership, B2B = business-to-business internet purchase
HASH(SERIALNUMBER) -- serial number (more precisely its prefix) of the machine(s) being repaired with the parts in this invoice
HASH(SALES_MODEL) -- sales model of the machine(s) being repaired.
HASH(PART_NUMBER) -- code to identify a replacement part
PART_NAME -- part name as given by the engineer (can be very specific/generic, have typos, abbr. etc.)
PART_IDENTIFIER -- standardized generic description of the part
HASH(SOURCE_OF_SUPPLY) -- whether the part is supplied by CAT (majority) or by another vendor
HASH(PART_PRICING_CODE) -- category of parts used to determine its price
HASH(MAJOR_CLASS) -- coarse category of parts
HASH(COMMERCIAL_GROUP_TYPE) -- intermediate category of parts
HASH(AFTERMARKET_OFFER) -- fine category of parts
MACHINE_COMPONENT_L1 -- coarse component where this part is installed
MACHINE_COMPONENT_L2 -- intermediate component where this part was installed
MACHINE_COMPONENT_L3 -- fine component where this part was installed
PART_QUANTITY -- quantity of this line item
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• Data Cleaning Principles

- Reduce the noise from negative price and quantity
- Clarify electric machine component numbers
- Improve null values
- Delete non-Caterpillar parts in the dataset
- Create dummy variables

• Data Construction

- Group by invoice_ids
- Group by major_class
- Carry out stratified sampling

• Data Format

- Create Sales_method as dummy variables

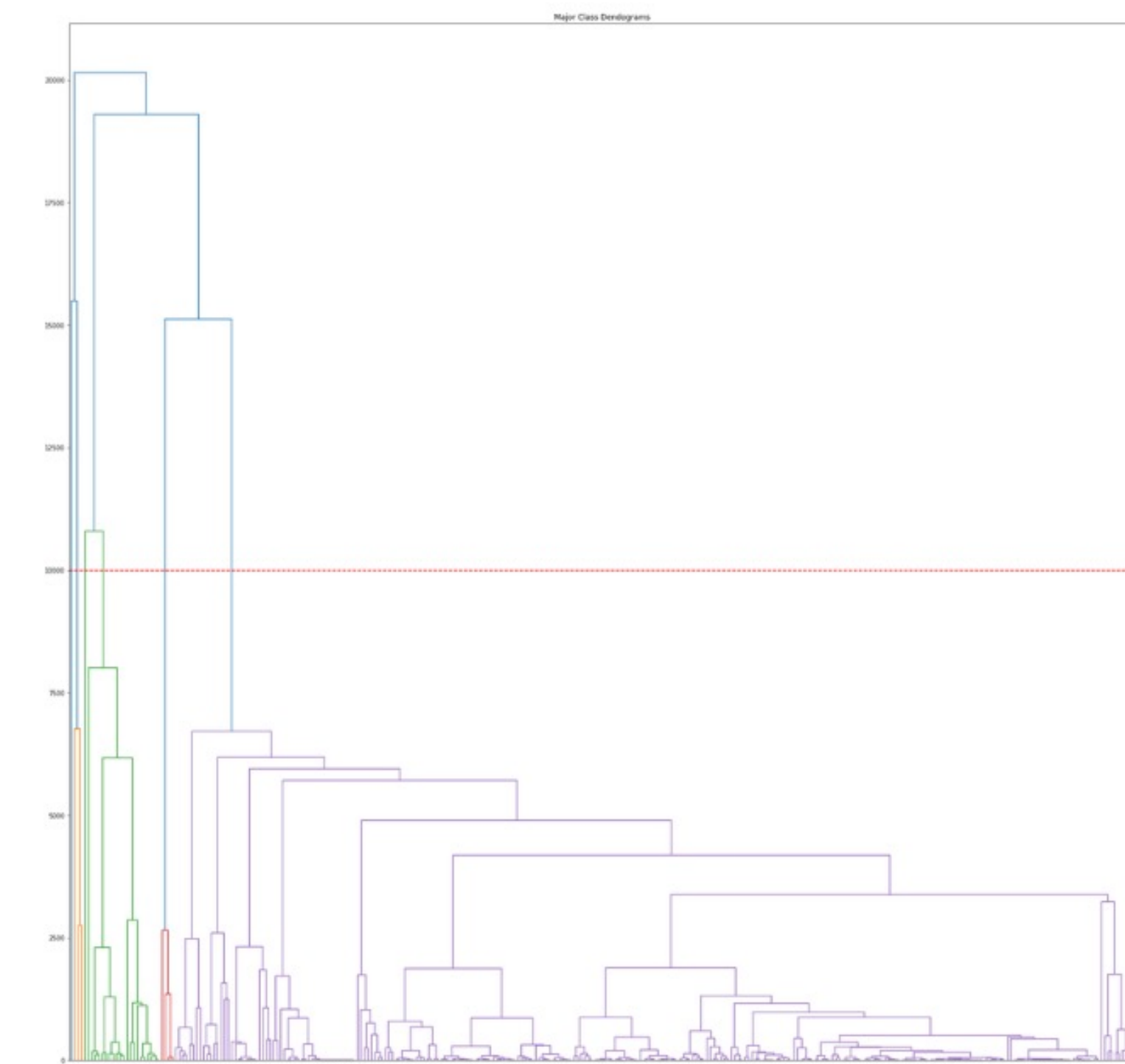
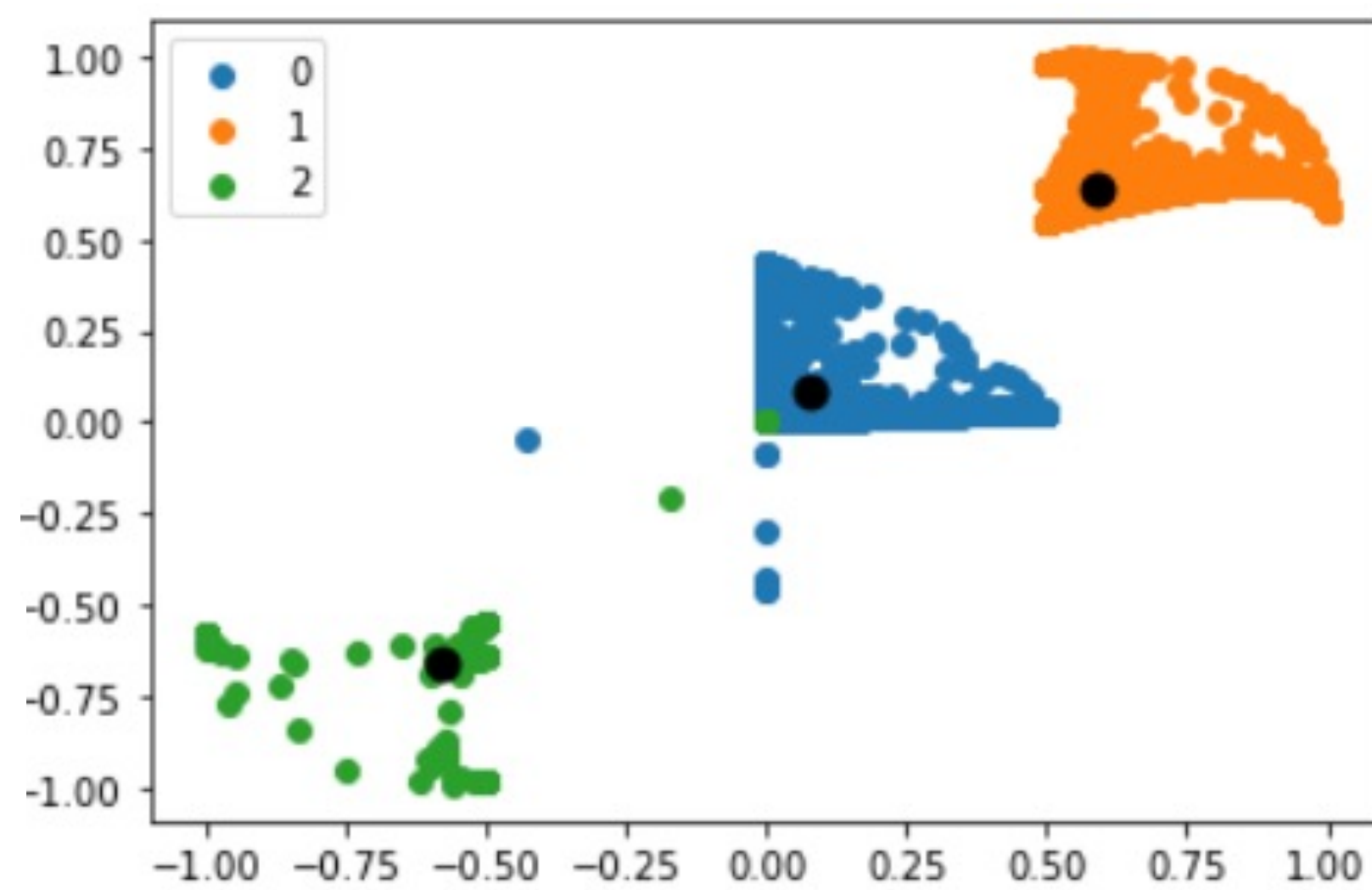
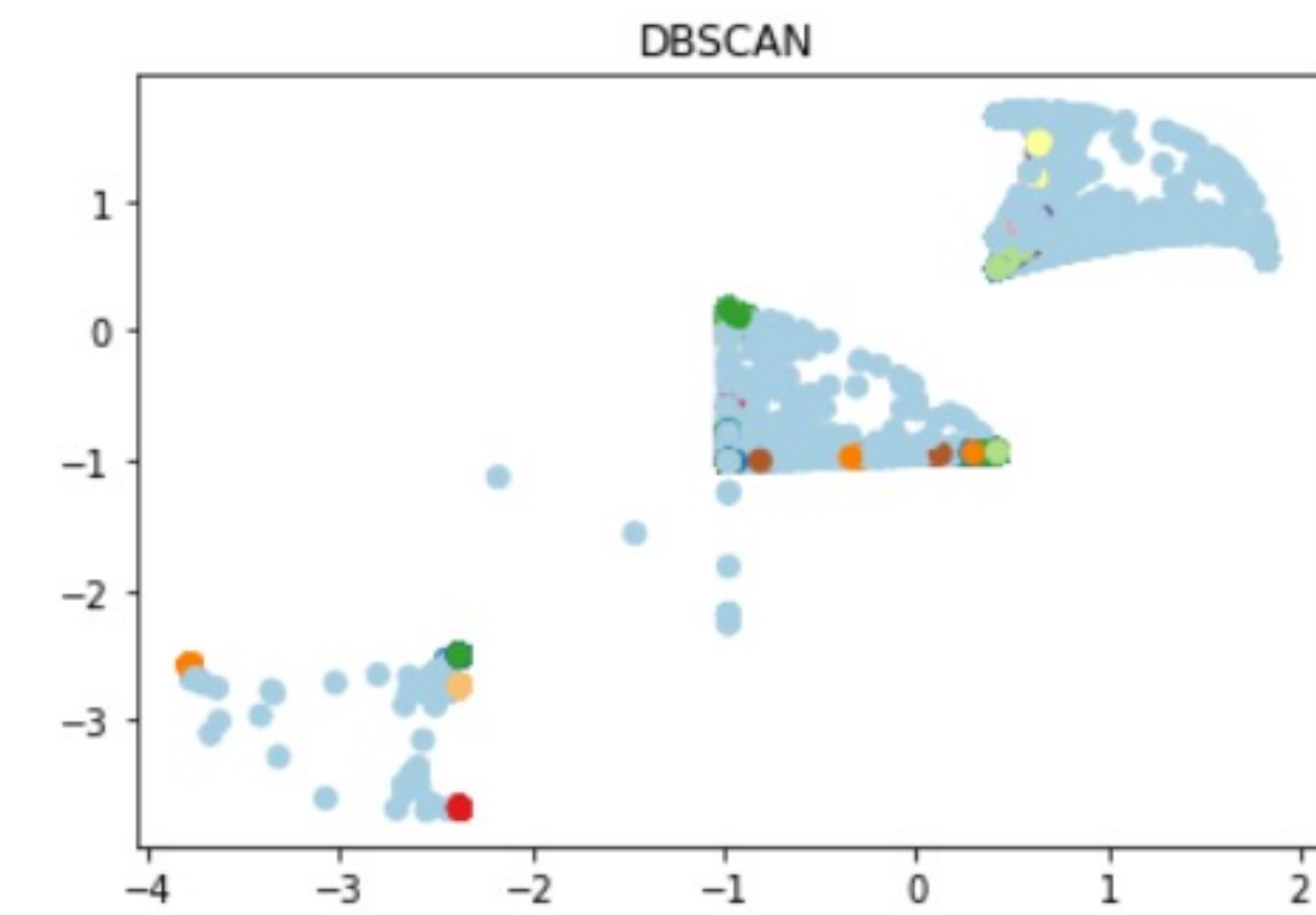
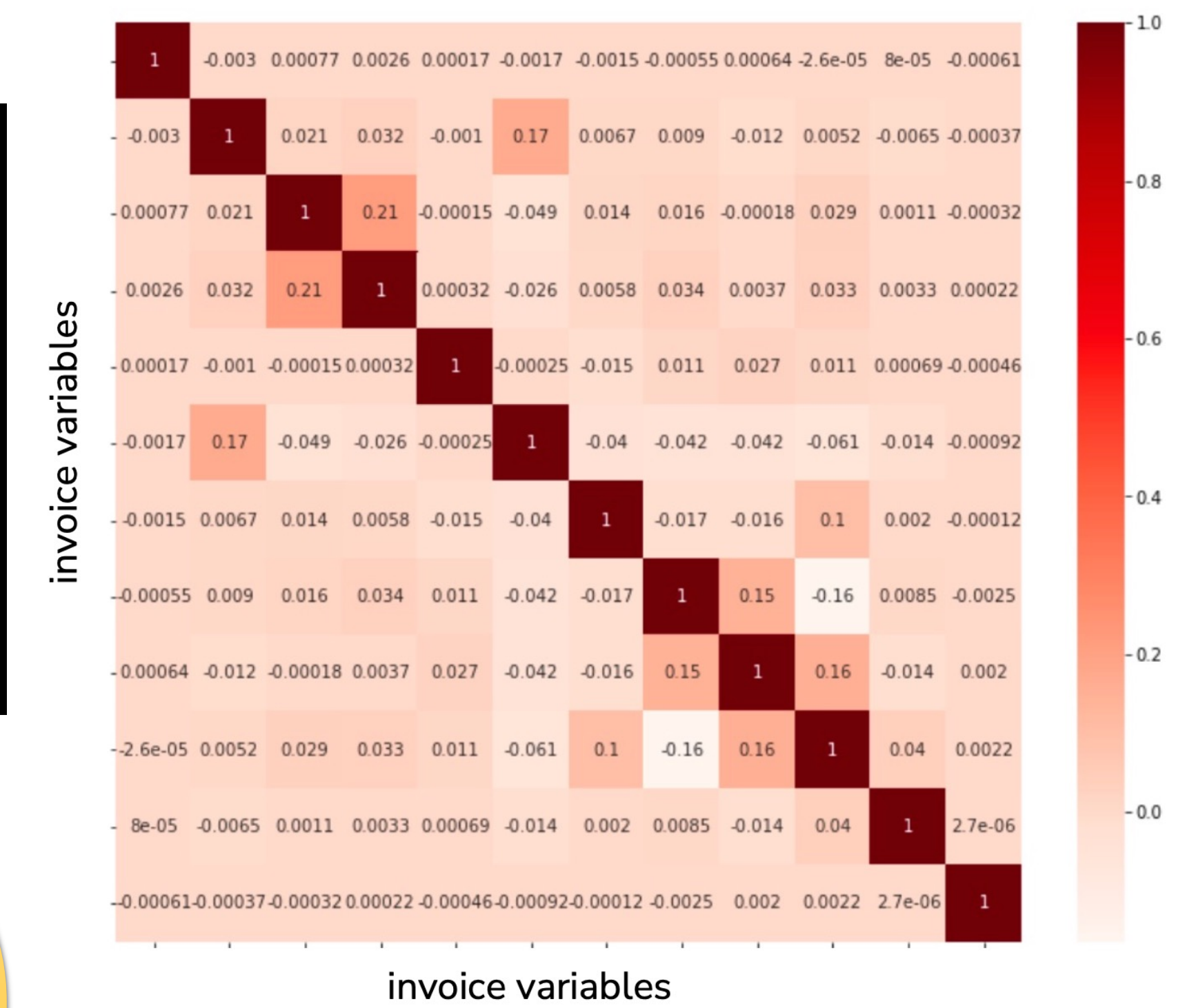
• Models

- DBSCAN model (Figure 2)
- K-Means with 3 clusters (Figure 3)
- Hierarchical clustering (Figure 4)

CONCLUSIONS

• Improvement of clustering algorithm

- **Cosine similarity** is more useful than Euclidean distance.
- Principal Component Analysis did not seem to improve the models much in reducing the number of dimensions.
- To evaluate, we have been looking at the number of data points in each cluster to see how evenly they are spread and also looking at inter-cluster distance.



FUTURE GOALS

- Include more advanced clustering ideas such as Gower Distance, and k-medoids, etc.
- Further, to improve upon the algorithms/model with a computationally efficient metric in a way that millions of invoices can be processed by computers compared to traditional document clustering algorithms.