

# Clustering Analysis of Tweets About COVID-19 Using the K-Means Algorithm

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**Abstract:** One of the trending topics in 2020 to 2022 is tweets about Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). A large number of tweets regarding COVID-19 that have appeared have been mixed and not grouped properly, making it difficult for Twitter users to read and sort them based on the information they want. One solution that can be applied to overcome the problems described is through clustering of tweets information about COVID-19. In this study, researchers used quantitative research with the K-Means method, which is one of the clustering methods used in grouping data. The data used in this study is a dataset taken from Kaggle, namely Omicron-Covid-19 Variant Tweets, and also taken through a scraping process with Bright Data with a total of 4,103 datasets. The results showed that determining the best cluster using the Elbow method on the dataset produced empirical evidence that the best cluster was k = 5. The results of grouping tweets regarding COVID-19 using the K-Means Clustering method with k = 5resulted in the largest number of cluster members being cluster 4 with 1,185 tweets, the second largest was cluster 1 with 1,047 tweets, the third largest was cluster 2 with 757 tweets, the fourth largest was cluster 3 as many as 744 tweets, and the smallest number of cluster members is cluster 5 as many as 370 tweets.

Keywords: Clustering Analysis; Twitter; COVID-19; Elbow Method; K-Means

# INTRODUCTION

Social media is a place for interaction between users and space and time in the digital world. Currently, many social media are used by people in Indonesia, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Path, Line, and Whatsapp (Blidex & Wibowo, 2021). Of the six social media, Twitter is one of the most influential social media in the world. In Indonesia there are as many as 15.7 million Twitter users and Indonesia is ranked 6<sup>th</sup> as the country with the most Twitter users after the United States, Brazil, and other countries (Dihni & Bayu, 2021). Through Twitter, users can share their daily life by tweeting such as posting photos or expressing opinions about something that is a hot topic of conversation in society (trending) (Nurhafida & Sembiring, 2021). One of the topics that are trending from 2020 to 2022 is tweets about Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), a disease caused by a new type of Coronavirus infection that infects the respiratory system (Akbar, Darmatasia, Mustikasari, & Syahwal, 2021). The virus is widespread and dangerous enough that the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared COVID-19 a pandemic because its spread continues to increase and has reached most countries in the world (Andi, Juliandy, Robet, & Pribadi, 2022).

Until now, there are lots of informational tweets about COVID-19 that continue to appear and be spread by Twitter users all over the country. A large number of tweets makes all the tweets mixed and not grouped properly, making it difficult for Twitter users to read and sort them based on the information they want (Bagaskoro, Fauzi, & Adikara, 2018). For example, if Twitter users want to find information about the benefits of vaccines, then they have to search one by one for tweets related to the benefits of vaccines. In addition, if users want to get the same type of information, then they have to explore individual Twitter accounts that provide the same information that users want. This method is of course very inefficient because the number of tweets is very large and continues to grow every second. Even though Twitter there is use hashtags in classifying the contents of tweets, users often enter hashtags that do not match the contents of the tweets with the increased popularity of a particular topic so that the grouping results of tweets become inaccurate (Juditha, 2015).

One solution that can be applied to overcome the problems described is through clustering of tweets information about COVID-19. Clustering is an analytical method in text mining that is used to group text data into two or more groups so that data belonging to the same group will have similar characteristics to one another rather than different groups (Tukiyat & Djohan, 2022). The large number of tweets that have sprung up on





Twitter need to be grouped to make it easier for users to search for information about COVID-19. The K-Means algorithm was chosen in this study because the algorithm is quite accurate in clustering and has a relatively short computational processing time (Pramudita, Putro, & Makhmud, 2018). The purpose of this research is to analyze and determine the best cluster from a collection of tweets by Twitter social media users. Furthermore, after the best cluster is obtained, each user's tweets will be grouped in each cluster to make it easier for users to search for information.

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Coronavirus Disease 2019 or more commonly known as COVID-19 is a new disease that was previously unknown before finally appearing in Wuhan, China in December 2019. COVID-19 is caused by a new strain of coronavirus, Novel Coronavirus 2019 (2019-nCoV) officially named as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome-Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Bedford, et al., 2020). Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that cause disease in animals and humans. In humans, several coronaviruses are known to cause respiratory infections ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). COVID-19 is transmitted through droplets or droplets that come out when someone who is infected coughs, sneezes, or talks (Aditia, 2021).

#### **K-Means Algorithm**

The K-Means algorithm is a clustering algorithm that groups data based on the closest cluster center point (centroid) to the data (Purba, Poningsih, & Tambunan, 2021). Rachman, Goejantoro, & Amijaya (2020) explained that the following is how the K-Means algorithm works, namely: determine k as the number of clusters to be formed, determine the centroid randomly.

$$\mathbf{v} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbf{x}_{i}}{n}; i = 1, 2, 3, \dots n$$
(1)

With:

v = centroids in the cluster

 $x_i = object i$ 

n = the number of objects that are members of the cluster

Calculate the distance of each object to each centroid of each cluster. To calculate the distance between objects and centroids, Jaccard Distance is used. Jaccard Distance is a method used to calculate the level of similarity (similarity) between two objects. The following is the equation of the Jaccard Distance (Sugiyamto, Surarso, & Sugiharto, 2021).

$$Similarity(x, y) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{i} x_{i} y_{i}}{\sum_{i=1}^{i} x_{i}^{2} + \sum_{i=1}^{i} y_{i}^{2} - \sum_{i=1}^{i} x_{i} y_{i}}$$
(2)

Group each data to the closest distance to its center. The re-allocation of data into each k group into K-Means is based on a comparison of the distance between the data and the centroid of each existing group. This allocation can use the following equation.

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 ; d = \min\{d (x_i, c_1)\} \\ 0 ; \text{Lainnya} \end{cases}$$
(3)

With:

 $a_{ij}$  = membership value of point xi to centroid c1

d = the shortest distance from data xi to k groups after being compared

 $c_1 = 1$ st centroids

Perform iterations, then determine the position of the new centroid using equation (1), and finally repeat step 3 if the new centroid positions are not the same.

# **Elbow Method**

The Elbow method is a supporting method that can determine the optimal k value in the application of the K-Means algorithm. To find the optimal k value, the k value will be checked one by one and the SSE (Sum Square Error) value will be recorded. The method for obtaining SSE values is shown in the following equation (Sari, Oktavianto, & Sulistyo, 2022).





$$SSE = \sum_{k=1}^{k} \sum_{xi \in sk} \left| |Xi - Ck| \right|^{\frac{2}{2}}$$

$$\tag{4}$$

The SSE value is the average sum of the Euclidean distance at each point to the centroid. In the diagram, if the value drops significantly and makes an indentation of the line at the starting point and beyond then the value of K has been found (Sari, Oktavianto, & Sulistyo, 2022).



Fig. 1 Elbow Method Graph

Sari, Oktavianto, & Sulistyo (2022) says that elbow method in determining the value of k on K-Means, namely: initial initialize the value of k, increase the value of k, calculate the SSE results for each value of k, look at the SSE results from the K value which drops drastically, and finally set an angled K value.

# State of The Art

Research on the analysis of clustering tweets was started by Sulastri and Diartono (2019) where this research aims to analyze tweet data related to keywords or topics of the 2016 AFF Suzuki Cup and the 2017 Regional Head Election which is being hotly discussed in various media using K-Means Clustering and Agglomerative Hierarchies. The results showed that the two methods used produced the same cluster groups in the two tweets datasets used, namely 5 cluster groups in the Agglomerative Hierarchy method and 3 cluster groups in the K-Means method.

Furthermore, in 2020, the whole world was shocked by the COVID-19 pandemic so many Twitter users tweeted information related to COVID-19. This has prompted many researchers to research to analyze tweets related to COVID-19 as was done by Astari, Divayana, & Indrawan (2020) to analyze Twitter document sentiment regarding the impact of the Coronavirus using the Naïve Bayes method. The results show that the Naive Bayes method for classifying tweet data related to the impact of the Coronavirus produces stable performance. The accuracy value obtained is quite good.

The latest research was conducted in 2021 by Akbar, Darmatasia, Mustikasari, & Syahwal (2021). In this study, an analysis of text clustering was carried out on people's responses to Twitter against Large-Scale Social Restrictions (PSBB) using the K-Means algorithm. The results show that the K-Means algorithm is used to group responses that have similar characteristics because it is proven to have a high level of accuracy with a relatively fast execution time because it is linear. This study produced 4 different clusters using the Elbow method in determining the number of k in the K-Means algorithm and the value of SSE (Sum of Square Error) as the evaluation parameter.

Previous studies have been quite good, but have not focused on finding the best cluster from a collection of tweets data about COVID-19 and have not focused on clustering datasets of tweets within each cluster. Therefore, from the limitations of previous research, this research will carry out an analysis of clustering tweets regarding COVID-19 with a large number of datasets and the best k value will be determined using the Elbow method, and then the clustering process will be continued using the K-Means algorithm.

#### METHOD

The research stage is a process to describe the workflow of research, starting from the initial stages of research to the final stages of research. In this study, researchers used quantitative research with the K-Means algorithm. Quantitative research is systematic scientific research on parts and phenomena and the quality of their relationships. The purpose of quantitative research is to develop and use mathematical models, theories, or hypotheses related to natural phenomena (Sugiyono, 2020). This study applies the K-Means algorithm in analyzing tweets about COVID-19 so that it can make it easier for Twitter users to find information about COVID-19 accurately according to their needs. In addition, the best cluster will be determined from the tests carried out so that the test results can be used as a reference in determining the cluster of tweets regarding COVID-19 that is most appropriate for Twitter users. The stages of the research can be seen in Figure 1.

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Fig. 2 The research stages

The research stages in this study were divided into 6 steps, namely: The literature study in this study was carried out by researchers by collecting several books, and magazines related to the problem and research objectives. This technique is carried out to disclose various theories that are relevant to the problem being faced/researched as reference material in discussing research results, The data used in this study is a dataset taken from Kaggle, namely Omicron-Covid-19 Variant Tweets, and also taken through a scraping process with Bright Data, in the following, several steps were taken to preprocess the research dataset, namely deleting the  $\n$  at the end of each sentence, deleting the Tweet ID and timestamp, deleting all words starting with the @ symbol, deleting URLs, deleting colons from the end of words, deleting all hashtag symbols, changing each word to lowercase (case folding), removing punctuation, removing excess spaces, system design in this study uses the Python programming language, the process of determining the best cluster is carried out using the Elbow method by looking at the SSE (Sum Square Error) value. Experiments will be carried out 5 times with k = 8 and a different number of datasets in each experiment, and finally the process of clustering tweets regarding COVID-19 is carried out using the K-Means algorithm.

#### RESULT

The tool used for the analysis process in this study is a laptop with a 2.3 GHz Dual-Core Intel Core i5 processor specification and 8GB 2133 MHz LPPDR3 memory and uses the Windows 10 operating system. The tweet analysis system regarding COVID-19 in this study built using the Python programming language version 3.9.6 with the text editor used is Python IDLE (Integrated Development Environment). The output of clustering results will be displayed using Python Shell.

# **Results of Data Analysis**

At this stage, an experimental analysis will be carried out by observing the dataset used in the study. The dataset in this study was taken from Kaggle, namely Omicron-Covid-19 Variant Tweets, and also taken through a scraping process with Bright Data. The collected data will then be processed into a .txt format file and separated by the letter "I' in each attribute. Each record is separated by a new line so that it can be concluded that one row is one record. After the researcher observed the dataset, in general, the researcher processed a dataset of tweets about Omicron with a total of 4,103 records. The following in Figure 3 will show an example of the dataset used in this study.

monicron - Notepad			- a ×
1465162850457071621	2021-11-29	03.36.59+00.00	"Will Boris Johnson ever learn h
1465162850457671021	2021-11-20	03:36:57:00:00	#Omicnon co hot: itôf™c hoing nu
1405102841005705474	2021-11-29	03:30:37+00.00	Winterfold So Hot; ital S being ru
1465162837047726094	2021-11-29	03:36:56+00:00	WJOEBIden How To Stop The Spread
1465162836498432005	2021-11-29	03:36:56+00:00	Gold Coast leaders urge against
1465162831444119562	2021-11-29	03:36:55+00:00	What Is Omicron Radiation
1465162826322907136	2021-11-29	03:36:53+00:00	@JonathanMcCall @kron4news Angel
1465162824406163460	2021-11-29	03:36:53+00:00	Oil recoups losses from Friday,
1465162822661427200	2021-11-29	03:36:52+00:00	#Canada confirms first Covid #Om
1465162817800179715	2021-11-29	03:36:51+00:00	Ontario has confirmed the first
1465162815992438785	2021-11-29	03:36:51+00:00	"Johnson, Merkel, Biden, Trudeau
1465162815870750724	2021-11-29	03:36:51+00:00	#Omicron cases have already been
1465162808039862274	2021-11-29	03:36:49+00:00	COVID-positive repatriation flig
1465162805632372738	2021-11-29	03:36:48+00:00	@woopdedoo652 @benitakolovos @Di
1465162803677843458	2021-11-29	03:36:48+00:00	While much attention has been pa
1465162800058318850	2021-11-29	03:36:47+00:00	Omicron Variant Causes Unusual b
1465162786065969156	2021-11-29	03:36:44+00:00	With the same name as the COVID-
1465162782362451975	2021-11-29	03:36:43+00:00	@Cara60047879 OMICRON is also an
1465162777467572226	2021-11-29	03:36:42+00:00	"Could the Omicron variant have
1465162762229719040	2021-11-29	03:36:38+00:00	@JohnFea1 South Africa found the
1465162758228361224	2021-11-29	03.36.37+00.00	l"""The NT's Health Minister is s

Fig. 3 Sample Research Dataset

# **Result of Preprocessing Data**





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The entire dataset used in this study will be preprocessed so that the dataset to be processed is clean data so that the research results obtained are also accurate. The following Table 1 shows the results of the data preprocessing carried out.

Table 1. Results of Preprocessing Data

Preprocessing Stage	Data Before Preprocessing	Data After Preprocessing
~	1466626151510544388 2021-12-	1466626151510544388 2021-12-
	03 04:31:37+00:00 "Now watch	03 04:31:37+00:00 "Now watch
	out for hit jobs in @nytimes and	out for hit jobs in @nytimes and
	@washingtonpost on how	@washingtonpost on how
	mismanaged India's COVID	mismanaged India's COVID
Remove the $n$ at the end of each	response is for the #Omicron and	response is for the #Omicron and
sentence	how Modi is a Fascist. And we'll	how Modi is a Fascist. And we'll
	have ""liberals"" in the diaspora	have ""liberals"" in the diaspora
	who'd do the bidding of American	who'd do the bidding of American
	establishment by propagating	establishment by propagating
	these news articles.	these news articles.
	https://t.co/hsgOeycshy"	https://t.co/hsgOeycshy"
	1466626151510544388 2021-12-	
	03 04:31:37+00:00 "Now watch	watch out for hit jobs in @nytimes
	out for hit jobs in @nytimes and	and @washingtonpost on how
	@washingtonpost on how	mismanaged India's COVID
	mismanaged India's COVID	response is for the #Omicron and
Removed Tweet ID and timestamp	response is for the #Omicron and	how Modi is a Fascist. And we'll
Removed Tweet ID and timestamp	how Modi is a Fascist. And we'll	have ""liberals"" in the diaspora
	have ""liberals"" in the diaspora	who'd do the bidding of American
	who'd do the bidding of American	establishment by propagating
	establishment by propagating	these news articles.
	these news articles.	https://t.co/hsgOeycshy"
	https://t.co/hsgOeycshy"	
	watch out for hit jobs in @nytimes	watch out for hit jobs in and on
	and @washingtonpost on how	how mismanaged India's COVID
	mismanaged india's COVID	response is for the #Omicron and
Demoves all words starting with the	how Modi is a Essaist And wa'll	how Modi is a Fascist. And we'll
@ symbol	how would is a fascist. And we in	have ""liberals"" in the diaspora
@ Symbol	who'd do the bidding of American	who'd do the bidding of American
	establishment by propagating	establishment by propagating
	these news articles.	these news articles.
	https://t.co/hsgOevcshy"	https://t.co/hsgOeycshy"
	watch out for hit jobs in and on	
	how mismanaged India's COVID	watch out for hit jobs in and on
	response is for the #Omicron and	how mismanaged India's COVID
	how Modi is a Fascist. And we'll	response is for the #Omicron and
Delete URLs	have ""liberals"" in the diaspora	now Modi is a Fascist. And we li
	who'd do the bidding of American	nave inderais in the diaspora
	establishment by propagating	astablishment by propagating
	these news articles.	these news articles
	https://t.co/hsgOeycshy"	these news articles.
	watch out for hit jobs in and on	watch out for hit jobs in and on
	how mismanaged India's COVID	how mismanaged India's COVID
	response is for the #Omicron and	response is for the #Omicron and
Remove the colon from the end of	how Modi is a Fascist. And we'll	how Modi is a Fascist. And we'll
the word	nave "liberals" in the diaspora	nave "liberals" in the diaspora
	who a do the bidding of American	who d do the bidding of American
	these news articles	these news articles
Domouros all hashtag symbols	unese news articles.	unese news articles.
Removes an nasmag symbols	watch out for fift jobs in and on	watch out for hit jobs in and on





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	how mismanaged India's COVID response is for the #Omicron and how Modi is a Fascist. And we'll have ""liberals"" in the diaspora who'd do the bidding of American establishment by propagating	how mismanaged India's COVID response is for the Omicron and how Modi is a Fascist. And we'll have ""liberals"" in the diaspora who'd do the bidding of American establishment by propagating
	watch out for hit jobs in and on	watch out for hit jobs in and on
	how mismanaged India's COVID	how mismanaged india's covid
Change each word to lowersee (asso	how Modi is a Fassist And we'll	how modi is a fassist and we'll
folding)	have ""liberals" in the disspore	have ""liberals"" in the disspore
roluling)	who'd do the bidding of American	who'd do the bidding of american
	establishment by propagating	establishment by propagating
	these news articles	these news articles
	watch out for hit jobs in and on	watch out for hit jobs in and on
	how mismanaged india's covid	how mismanaged indias covid
	response is for the omicron and	response is for the omicron and
Dama and more streation	how modi is a fascist. and we'll	how modi is a fascist and well
Remove punctuation	have ""liberals"" in the diaspora	have liberals in the diaspora whod
	who'd do the bidding of american	do the bidding of american
	establishment by propagating	establishment by propagating
	these news articles.	these news articles
	watch out for hit jobs in and on	watch out for hit jobs in and on
	how mismanaged indias covid	how mismanaged indias covid
	response is for the omicron and	response is for the omicron and
Remove excess spaces	how modi is a fascist and well	how modi is a fascist and well
Ĩ	have liberals in the diaspora whod	have liberals in the diaspora whod
	do the bidding of american	do the bidding of american
	establishment by propagating	establishment by propagating
	these news articles	these news articles

Table 1 shows the work steps for the preprocessing stages of text data on one of the news title tweets that will be studied. The results of the text data preprocessing were able to remove meaningless and less useful words from all the words in the initial data. This preprocessing stage is of course very helpful in conducting text data studies in further analysis.

#### System Design Results

The system design used for experiments in this study was built using the Python programming language by implementing the K-Means Clustering algorithm and the Elbow Method in the system design.

#### **Best Cluster Determination Results**

At this stage, determining the best cluster is done by calculating the SSE (Sum Square Error) value. The process of finding the best cluster was carried out 5 times with experiments where the 1<sup>st</sup> experiment used 800 data, the 2<sup>nd</sup> experiment used 1,600 data, the 3<sup>rd</sup> experiment used 2,400 data, the 4<sup>th</sup> experiment used 3,200 data, and the 5<sup>th</sup> experiment used 4,103 data. Each experiment was carried out by searching for clusters from k = 2 to k = 8. The following Table 2 shows the SSE results of each cluster from the first experiment with data of 800 recorded tweets.

Cluster	SSE	Difference
2	641.77	0.00
3	625.84	15.93
4	626.58	-0.74
5	604.72	21.86
6	602.38	2.34
7	602.65	-0.27

Table 2. SSE Results from Each Cluster for the First Experiment

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Fig. 4 First Experiment SSE Graph

Furthermore, after each cluster gets the SSE value, using the Elbow method the best cluster will be determined by looking at the SSE value which has decreased drastically. In Figure 4 the graphical diagram shows that the most drastic decrease occurred at k = 5 so it can be concluded that in the first experiment the best cluster was at k = 5.

Next, a second experiment will be carried out with 1,600 record tweets. The following Table 3 shows the SSE results from each cluster from the second experiment.

Cluste	r SSE			Difference			
2			1,270.99	)		0.00	
3			1,246.74	4		24.25	
4			1,224.76	5		21.99	
5			1,223.7	1		1.04	
6			1,194.13	3		29.58	
7			1,191.33	3		2.80	
8			1,202.28	3		-10.95	
	1,280.00 1,260.00 1,240.00 1,220.00		SSE				
	1,200.00 1,180.00 0	2	4	6	8	10	

Table 3. SSE Results from Each Cluster for the Second Experiment

# Fig. 5 Second Experiment SSE Graph

In Figure 5 the graphical diagram shows that the most drastic decrease occurred at k = 6 so it can be concluded that in the experiments the two best clusters were at k = 6.

Next will be the third experiment with 2,400 record tweets. The following Table 4 shows the SSE results from each cluster from the third experiment.

# Table 4. SSE Results from Each Cluster for the Third Experiment





Cluster	SSE	Difference
2	1,903.81	0.00
3	1,889.42	14.39
4	1,853.45	35.97
5	1,833.77	19.68
6	1,833.02	0.76
7	1,813.32	19.69
8	1,816.12	-2.80



Fig. 6 SSE Graph of the Third Experiment

In Figure 6 the graphical diagram shows that the most drastic decrease occurred at k = 4 so it can be concluded that in the three best experimental clusters it was at k = 4.

Next will be the fourth experiment with 3,200 recorded tweets. The following Table 5 shows the SSE results of each cluster from the fourth experiment.

Cluster	SSE	Difference
2	2,570.80	0.00
3	2,520.88	49.92
4	2,515.76	5.12
5	2,462.51	53.25
6	2,426.60	35.91
7	2,429.41	-2.82
8	2,384.21	45.21







Fig. 7 SSE Graph of the Fourth Experiment

In Figure 7 the graphical diagram shows that the most drastic decrease occurred at k = 5 so it can be concluded that in the four best experimental clusters it was at k = 5.

Next, a fifth experiment will be carried out with 4,103 record tweets. The following Table 6 shows the SSE results from each cluster from the fifth experiment.

Cluster	SSE	Difference
2	3,300.95	0.00
3	3,240.64	60.32
4	3,237.38	3.25
5	3,174.64	62.74
6	3,186.00	-11.36
7	3,123.31	62.69
8	3,140.00	-16.69

Table 6. SSE Results from Each Cluster for the Fifth Experiment



Fig. 8 SSE Graph of the Fifth Experiment

In Figure 8 the graphical diagram shows that the most drastic decrease occurred at k = 5 so it can be concluded that in the fifth experiment the best clusters were at k = 5.

So from the experimental results, it can be concluded that the ideal number of clusters is k = 5 because 3 experiments experience the greatest decrease in SSE values in that cluster, k = 5 will be used as the default cluster to determine the characteristics of data tweets about Omicron in this study.





# **Data Clustering Results**

At this stage, the results of grouping tweets about COVID-19 on social media Twitter will be shown using the K-Means Clustering method. Based on the previous stages, the best and most ideal k value is 5 so the k value used in the data clustering process is k = 5. The following Table 7 shows the results of the clustering data.

Cluster	Number of Cluster Members (Tweets)
1	1,047
2	757
3	744
4	1,185
5	370

Table 7. Data Clustering Results



Fig. 9 Graph of Data Clustering Results

#### DISCUSSION

Based on table 7 and graph in Figure 9, it can be seen that the process of grouping tweets about Omicron on social media Twitter at k = 5 resulted in the largest number of cluster members being cluster 4 with 1,185 tweets, the second largest was cluster 1 with 1,047 tweets, the third largest was cluster 2 with 757 tweets, the fourth largest in cluster 3 with 744 tweets, and the smallest number of cluster members is cluster 5 with 370 tweets.

From the five experimental results on the dataset using the Elbow method, this study produces empirical evidence that the best cluster is k = 5. Based on the results of the experiments conducted, it was found that 3 out of 5 experiments had the greatest decrease in SSE values at k = 5.

#### CONCLUSION

The following will describe the conclusions that have been obtained from the experiments carried out, namely the results of the study indicate that determining the best number of clusters using the Elbow method does not necessarily result in the same number of k clusters in different amounts of data. Next, the implementation of the Elbow method in this study with 5 experiments on different datasets resulted in the best number of clusters being k = 5. Finally, the results of grouping tweets regarding COVID-19 using the K-Means Clustering method with k = 5 Received the largest number of cluster members being cluster 4 with 1,185 tweets, the second largest was cluster 1 with 1,047 tweets, the third largest was cluster 2 with 757 tweets, the fourth largest was cluster 3 as many as 744 tweets, and the smallest number of cluster members is cluster 5 as many as 370 tweets.

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