

# Credit Card Fraud

## 1. INTRODUCTION TO DATASET

<https://www.kaggle.com/mlg-ulb/creditcardfraud/home>

The dataset contains transactions made by credit cards in September 2013 by european cardholders. This dataset presents **transactions that occurred in two days**, where we have **492 frauds out of 284,807 transactions**. The dataset is **highly unbalanced**, the positive class (frauds) account for 0.172% of all transactions.

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## 2. EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS

- **PCA FEATURES-** Features V1, V2, ... V28 are the principal components obtained with PCA. Unfortunately, due to confidentiality issues, we cannot provide the original features and more background information about the data.
- **TIME AND AMOUNT-** They're the only features which have not been transformed with PCA.
  - **'Time'** contains the seconds elapsed between each transaction and the first transaction in the dataset.
  - **'Amount'** is the transaction Amount.
- **CLASS-** It's the response variable and it takes value 1 in case of fraud and 0 otherwise.

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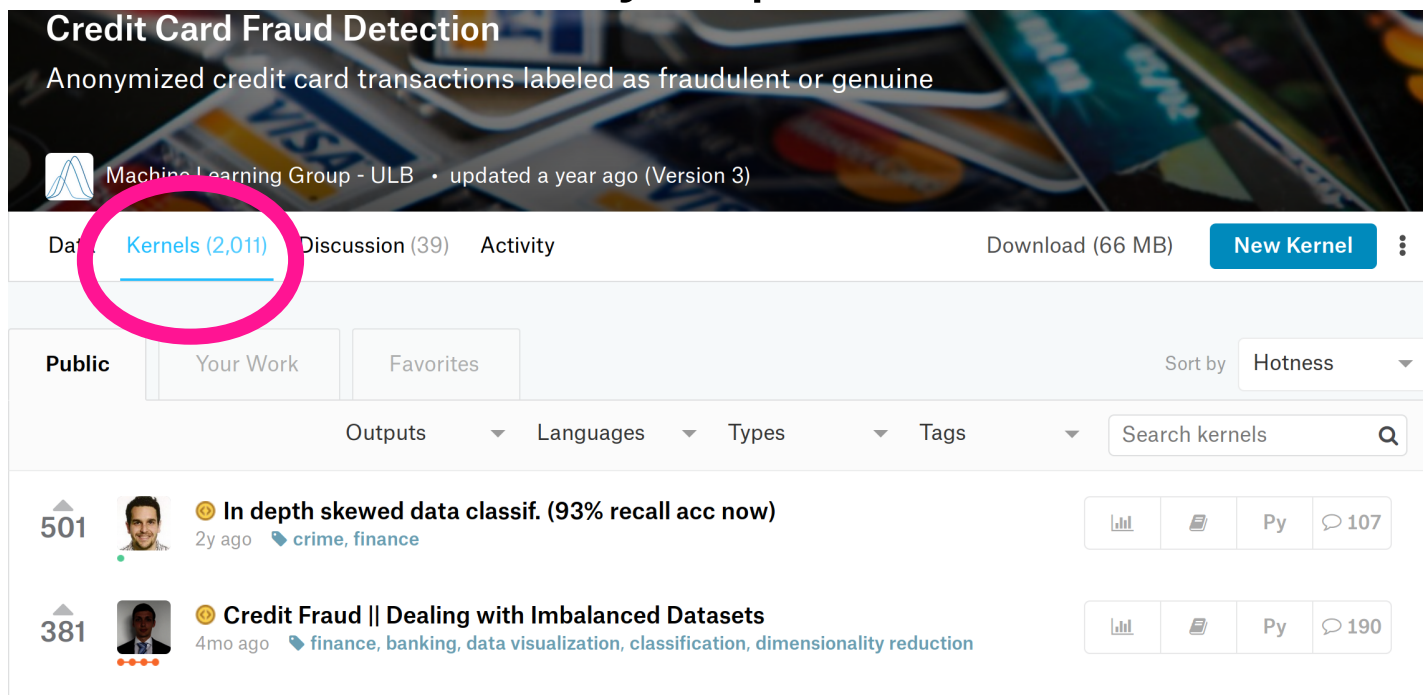
## **3. MODEL OUTCOME OF INTEREST (Finally)**

- You should try several different approaches and really work to tune a variety of models before choosing what you consider to be the best performer.
- Make sure to think about explanatory versus predictive power and experiment with both.

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## 4- RESEARCH QUESTION

- What is the best way to predict frauds? (show next)



The screenshot shows the Kaggle dataset page for "Credit Card Fraud Detection". The dataset is described as "Anonymized credit card transactions labeled as fraudulent or genuine" and is from the "Machine Learning Group - ULB", updated a year ago (Version 3). The page has tabs for "Data", "Kernels (2,011)", "Discussion (39)", and "Activity". The "Kernels" tab is highlighted with a pink circle. Below the tabs, there are filters for "Public", "Your Work", and "Favorites", and a "Sort by" dropdown set to "Hotness". There are also dropdowns for "Outputs", "Languages", "Types", and "Tags", and a search bar for "Search kernels". The top two kernels are listed:

Rank	Kernel Title	Author	Time	Tags	Views	Comments
501	In depth skewed data classif. (93% recall acc now)	[Profile Picture]	2y ago	crime, finance	107	107
381	Credit Fraud    Dealing with Imbalanced Datasets	[Profile Picture]	4mo ago	finance, banking, data visualization, classification, dimensionality reduction	190	190

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- **Focus on reducing false negatives.**

VS

- **Focus on reducing false positives.**

VS

- **Focus on a custom balance?**

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## 5. HOW YOU CHOSE YOUR MODEL?

- Custom scoring function.
  - Recall vs Precision in a single score.
    - Tested with all most commonly used SKLearn Classifiers.
  - Optimum parameter combination.
    - Performance varies with settings on classifier.
  - Several iterations of model processing.
    - Outlier handling greatly influenced prediction scores.
    - Class-Balancing Techniques.

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## 6. PRACTICAL USES FOR AUDIENCE OF INTEREST

- Bank's fraud-prevention mechanisms.
  - *(Annoying: Transactions canceled when traveling)*
- Data Science students.
  - Addition to the pool of Kaggle's forks on this Dataset.

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## 7. WEAK POINTS OR SHORTCOMING?

- **Model Processing-** Involves many steps. Steps depend immensely on the data. Doesn't lend itself to quick iterations.
- **Need for Data Reduction-** 270,000 non-frauds were undersampled to 5,000... Definitely affected precision. A supercomputer might handle complete set without the need for reduction.
  - SVM and Kneighbors took the longest with larger model.