For the machine learning code to detect fraudulent transactions in a financial dataset, you'll need several key Python packages that facilitate data handling, machine learning model development, evaluation, and potentially visualization. Here are the essential packages:

**Required Packages**

1. **pandas**: Used for data manipulation and preprocessing.
   * Installation: pip install pandas
   * Key functions: Loading CSV files, data cleaning, feature engineering, and exploratory data analysis (EDA).
2. **scikit-learn**: Provides various machine learning algorithms, preprocessing tools, and evaluation metrics.
   * Installation: pip install scikit-learn