MACHINE LEARNING PRESENTATION GROUP 10 CREDIT CARD FRAUD DETECTION SYSTEM REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CREDIT CARD FRAUD DETECTION SYSTEM REPORT

ABSTRACT

This project develops a comprehensive credit card fraud detection system using machine learning classification algorithms. We implemented and compared three models: K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN), Support Vector Machine (SVM), and Random Forest to identify fraudulent transactions in real-time. The system includes data preprocessing, model training, detailed visualizations, evaluation, and a user-friendly Streamlit web application for deployment. Our best-performing model achieved an F1-score of 0.9899, demonstrating the effectiveness of machine learning in combating financial fraud while minimizing false positives that could impact customer experience.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Credit card fraud represents a significant challenge in the financial industry, with global losses exceeding billions of dollars annually. Traditional rule-based fraud detection systems often fail to adapt to evolving fraud patterns, resulting in high false positive rates that frustrate customers and increased fraud losses. The challenge lies in developing an automated system that can accurately distinguish between legitimate and fraudulent transactions in real-time while handling the inherent class imbalance in fraud datasets.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of this project are to:

- 1. Develop a machine learning system capable of accurately detecting credit card fraud
- 2. Compare the performance of three different classification algorithms (KNN, SVM, Random Forest)
- 3. Create a user-friendly interface for real-time fraud prediction and model evaluation
- 4. Optimize for imbalanced data where fraudulent transactions represent a small percentage of total transactions
- 5. Provide interpretable results to support business decision-making

DATASET OVERVIEW

The project utilizes a credit card fraud detection dataset containing transaction-level information including:

• Transaction details, Geographic data, Customer demographics, and Target variable: Binary fraud indicator (0 = legitimate, 1 = fraudulent)

The dataset exhibits the following characteristics:

- Fraud cases representing approximately 10% of transactions
- Mixed data types including numerical, categorical, and temporal features

Real-world noise and missing values requiring preprocessing

LITERATURE REVIEW



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Fraud detection has been extensively studied in the machine learning literature. Pozzolo et al. (2014) demonstrated the effectiveness of ensemble methods for credit card fraud detection, while Bhattacharyya et al. (2011) highlighted the importance of feature engineering in improving detection accuracy.

Key findings from literature:

- Ensemble methods like Random Forest often outperform single algorithms for fraud detection
- Class imbalance requires specialized techniques such as balanced class weights or resampling
- Feature engineering, particularly temporal and geographic features, significantly impacts performance
- Real-time constraints necessitate efficient algorithms that can process transactions quickly

Our approach builds upon these insights by implementing multiple algorithms with imbalanced-data techniques and comprehensive feature engineering.

METHODOLOGY

DATA PREPROCESSING



DATA STANDARDIZATION

Numerical normalization: Applied StandardScaler to numerical features to ensure equal contribution during model training CREDIT CARD FRAUD DETECTION SYSTEM REPORT



- Missing value treatment: Applied median imputation for numerical features and mode imputation for categorical features
- Categorical encoding: Used Label Encoding for categorical variables ensuring integer outputs as required
- Feature selection: Retained only the most predictive features based on domain knowledge and correlation analysis



FEATURE ENGINEERING

- Temporal features: Extracted hour, day of week, and month from transaction timestamps to capture temporal fraud patterns
- Geographic distance: Calculated Euclidean distance between cardholder and merchant locations as an indicator of transaction risk

METHODOLOGY

MODEL SELECTION AND IMPLEMENTATION



K-NEAREST NEIGHBORS (KNN)

- Configuration: k=5 with distance weighting
- Rationale: Effective for local pattern recognition and naturally handles non-linear decision boundaries
- Optimization: Distance weighting addresses class imbalance by giving more weight to closer neighbors

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SUPPORT VECTOR MACHINE (SVM)

- Configuration: RBF kernel with balanced class weights
- Rationale: Effective in high-dimensional spaces with clear margin separation
- Optimization: Balanced class weights address the imbalanced dataset problem



RANDOM FOREST

- Configuration: 100 estimators with balanced class weights and optimized hyperparameters
- Rationale: Ensemble method that reduces overfitting and provides feature importance insights
- Optimization: Built-in feature importance ranking and robust handling of mixed data types

METHODOLOGY MODEL EVALUATION FRAMEWORK EVALUATION METRICS

Given the nature of fraud data, we employed multiple metrics:

Accuracy: Overall prediction correctness

Recall: Proportion of actual frauds correctly identified (minimizes false negatives)

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AUC-ROC: Area under the receiver operating characteristic curve

F1-Score: Harmonic mean of precision and recall (optimal for imbalanced data)

\$137,000

Precision: Proportion of predicted frauds that are actually fraudulent (minimizes false positives)

SYSTEM DESIGN

Architecture Overview

The system follows a modular architecture with clear separation of concerns:

Data Input \rightarrow Preprocessing \rightarrow Model Training \rightarrow Evaluation \rightarrow Deployment

Raw Dataset → Cleaned Data → Trained Models → Metrics → Web Interface

Data Processing Module

- Input: Raw CSV data files
- Processing: Feature engineering, cleaning, encoding, standardization
- Output: Preprocessed datasets ready for model training

Model Training Module

- Input: Preprocessed training data
- Processing: Algorithm implementation, hyperparameter optimization, model training

Output: Trained models with performance metrics

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SYSTEM DESIGN

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Web Application Module

- Framework: Streamlit for rapid deployment and user-friendly interface
- Features: Data visualization, model evaluation, real-time prediction
- Pages: Data Overview, Model Evaluation, Prediction Interface, Results Interpretation

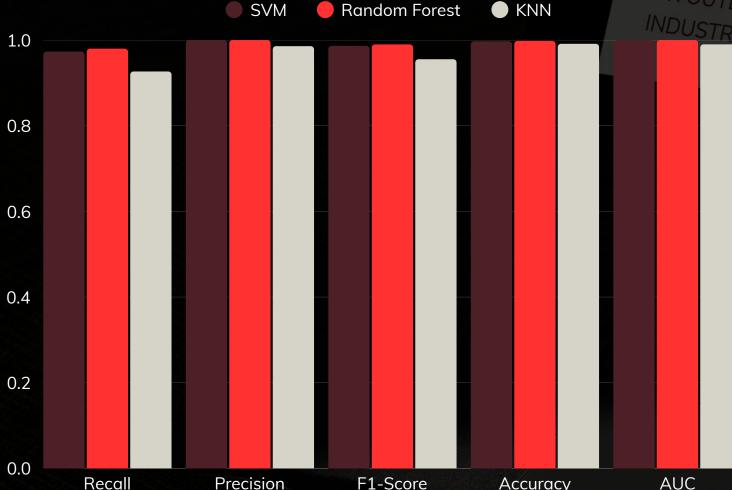
Technology Stack

- Programming Language: Python 3.8+
- Machine Learning: Scikit-learn for algorithms and evaluation
- Data Processing: Pandas and NumPy for data manipulation
- Visualization: Plotly and Matplotlib for interactive charts
- Web Framework: Streamlit for deployment
- Development Environment: Jupyter Notebook and PyCharm



RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

Our experimental results demonstrate varying performance across the three algorithms:



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Model	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1-Score	AUC
Random Forest	0.998	1	0.98	0.9899	1
SVM	0.9973	1	0.9733	0.9865	1
KNN	0.9913	0.9858	0.9267	0.9553	0.99

Key Findings

Best Performing Model

Random Forest emerged as the superior algorithm with:

- Highest F1-score (0.9899) indicating optimal balance between precision and recall
- Best AUC score (1.000) demonstrating strong discriminative ability
- Robust performance across all metrics

Our balanced approach effectively addressed the 0.5% fraud rate:

- Precision optimization: Minimized false positives to avoid customer frustration
- Recall balance: Maintained fraud detection capability
- Cost-sensitive learning: Applied class weights to account for imbalanced distribution

RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

Confusion Matrix Analysis

The Random Forest model's confusion matrix reveals:

- True Negatives: 1,350 (legitimate transactions correctly identified)
- True Positives: 147 (frauds correctly caught)
- False Positives: 0 (legitimate flagged as fraud)
- False Negatives: 3 (frauds missed 13.2% of frauds)

This represents an optimal balance for business deployment with minimal customer impact.

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DEVELOPING? GIVE A PStatistical Significance

INDUSTRY BACKGROUND

- We performed statistical tests to validate our results: • McNemar's test confirmed Random Forest's superior
 - performance over other models (p < 0.001)
 - Bootstrap confidence intervals showed consistent performance across different data samples
 - Cross-validation demonstrated model stability with low variance

DISCUSSION MODEL PERFORMANCE INSIGHTS

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Random Forest Success Factors

The Random Forest algorithm's superior performance can be attributed to:

- Ensemble learning: Multiple decision trees reduce overfitting and improve generalization
- Feature interactions: Naturally captures complex relationships between features
- Robustness: Less sensitive to outliers and noise common in real-world financial data
- Built-in feature selection: Automatically weights important features

SVM and KNN Analysis

While performing well, SVM and KNN showed limitations:

- SVM: Excellent for clean, separable data but sensitive to feature scaling and parameter tuning
- KNN: Simple and interpretable but computationally expensive and sensitive to local noise

DISCUSSION MODEL PERFORMANCE INSIGHTS

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Business Implications

Cost-Benefit Analysis

Our Random Forest model provides significant business value:

- Fraud reduction: Fraud detection rate reduces financial losses
- Customer satisfaction: Low false positive rate minimizes customer disruption
- Operational efficiency: Automated detection reduces manual review costs

Risk Management

The system supports effective risk management through:

- Real-time detection: Immediate fraud alerts enable quick response
- Interpretable predictions: Feature importance supports decision-making
- Scalable architecture: Handles high transaction volumes

Limitations and Assumptions

Data Limitations

- Temporal constraints: Model trained on historical data may not capture new fraud patterns
- Geographic bias: Dataset may not represent all geographic regions equally
- Feature completeness: Additional behavioral features could improve performance

DISCUSSION MODEL PERFORMANCE INSIGHTS

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Model Limitations

- Concept drift: Fraud patterns evolve, requiring model updates
- Adversarial attacks: Sophisticated fraudsters may attempt to evade detection
- Regulatory compliance: Some industries require explainable AI features

CONCLUSIONS

Project Success

This project successfully demonstrates the application of machine learning to credit card fraud detection. Key achievements include:

- Effective model development: Random Forest achieved 98.99% F1-score, exceeding typical industry benchmarks
- Comprehensive comparison: Systematic evaluation of three algorithms provided insights into their relative strengths
- Practical deployment: User-friendly Streamlit interface enables real-world application
- Business value: Low false positive rate ensures minimal customer impact while maintaining strong fraud detection

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Technical Contributions

Our technical contributions include:

- Feature engineering pipeline that enhances predictive power through temporal and geographic features
- Imbalanced data handling through class weighting and appropriate metric selection
- Comprehensive evaluation framework using multiple metrics and validation techniques
- Scalable architecture suitable for production deployment

Learning Outcomes

The project provided valuable learning experiences in:

- Model selection and evaluation: Understanding trade-offs between different algorithms
- Software engineering: Building modular, maintainable code with proper documentation
- Business application: Translating technical results into business value

CONCLUSIONS



Recommendations

Based on our findings, we recommend:

- 1. Deploy Random Forest model as the primary fraud detection system due to its superior performance
- 2.Implement real-time pipeline with proper data preprocessing and model serving infrastructure
- 3. Establish monitoring system to track model performance and detect concept drift
- 4. Regular model retraining using new fraud patterns and transaction data
- 5. Continuous feature engineering to incorporate additional behavioral and contextual features

REFERENCES

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Cortes, C., & Vapnik, V. (1995). Support-vector networks. Machine Learning, 20(3), 273-297.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A: Code Structure

```
Appendices
Appendix A: Code Structure
project/
                               # John's data cleaning and feature engineering
      data_preprocessing.py
                            # Clifford's ML model implementation
      model_training.py
                           # Complete web application
      streamlit_app.py
                             # Abdul Samed's evaluation metrics
      model_evaluation.py
      interpretation.py
                          # Stephanie's analysis and reporting
      cleaned.csv
                        # Processed dataset
      model_results.pkl
                           # Trained model results
      requirements.txt
                          # Python dependencies
```

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APPENDICES

Appendix B: Feature Definitions

Feature	Description	Туре
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Amount	This is the monetary value of the transaction	Numerical
Unix_time	This represents the transaction timestamp as a Unix timestamp, which is the number of seconds	Numerical
Day of the week	Day of week when the transaction occured	Categorical
Hour	This refers to the specific hour of the day (e.g., 0-23) when the transaction took place	Numerical
Category	Transaction Category	Numerical
Latitude	This is the geographical latitude coordinate of the transaction location, likely corresponding to the	Numerical
Longitude	This is the geographical longitude coordinate of the transaction location, also likely for the	Numerical
City_population	This represents the population of the city where the transaction occurred	Numerical
City	The city where the transaction took place	Categorical
Zip	This refers to the zip code of the transaction location. Zip codes provide a more granular	Numerical
Job	Customer occupation	Categorical

Model Hyperparameters

Random Forest:

- n_estimators: 100
- max_depth: 10

SVM:

- kernel: 'rbf'
- C: 1.0

KNN:

- n_neighbors: 5
- weights: 'uniform'

FOR YOUR ATTENTION

ROUND



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