Credit Card Fraud Detection Using Anomaly Detection Techniques

Oyelakin Oluwadamilare, ID: 20115037 * 1 Word Count: 1556

Abstract

Credit cards are increasingly been used for completing transactions both online and offline in everyday life. With this increased usage of credit cards, credit card fraud is also growing. The detection of fraudulent transactions is an important application in anomaly detection. This paper compared different unsupervised techniques in credit card fraud detection; Local Outlier Factor, one-class SVM, and Isolation Forest was identified as the best technique with the highest accuracy.

1. Introduction

Billions of dollars are lost annually due to credit card fraud, (Chan et al., 1999; Chen et al., 2006). These losses due to frauds affect both the financial companies and the customers. According to the United States Federal Trade Commission report till the mid-2000s the theft rate of identity was stable, but an increase of 21% was noticed in 2008 (John & Naaz, 2019).

According to the Nilson Report, worldwide losses from card fraud rose to US\$27.85 billion in 2019, up from about US\$8 billion in 2010. That number is expected to reach US\$35.67 billion by 2023 (Nilsonreport.com, 2019).

To reduce the losses which occur due to these credit card frauds an efficient fraud detecting systems to identify fraudulent transactions needs to be developed. Anomaly detection is one of the techniques that can be used to detect fraudulent transactions.

This research focuses on identifying whether new transactions are fraudulent or not by using anomaly detection techniques such as Isolation Forest, Local Outlier Factor and One-class Support Vector Machine.

The results demonstrate that Isolation Forest outperformed the other techniques by minimizing the number of false positives and detecting the highest number of fraud in the credit card transactions dataset used in this research.

This paper is structured as follows. Section 2 presents a detailed description of the problem domain; Section 3 describes the dataset; Section 4 describes the methodology which is used to tackle the problem; Section 5 discusses the experiments, and section 6 demonstrates the results obtained; Section 7 presents the conclusion of the report.

2. Background: Problem Domain

An anomaly refers to when something substantially deviates from the normal behaviour and detecting such anomaly in data is called anomaly detection (Mehrotra et al., 2017)

Several supervised and unsupervised anomaly detection methods have been used to detect credit card fraud. Supervised approaches like Support Vector Machine (SVM), Decision trees, k-nearest neighbours, logistic regression and others provide good results in credit card fraud detection but these methods require labelled data to form the classifier whereas in the unsupervised approaches the data does not have to be labelled (Flarence et al., 2018).

In real-world situations, it is quite difficult to access labelled datasets and this process is costly when the labelling is performed by humans. Most accessible datasets generally have a small percentage of fraudulent transactions leading to imbalanced class distribution, this can affect the efficiency of supervised algorithms negatively (Sabinasz, 2017). This research would focus on the unsupervised anomaly detection approach.

3. Dataset Description

The datasets contain 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 as seen in Figure 1. The dataset is highly unbalanced, the fraud cases account for 0.172% of all transactions.

The dataset is available on Kaggle: http://www.kaggle.com/mlg-ulb/creditcardfraud

¹M.Sc. Big Data Analytics, School of Computing and Digital Technology, Birmingham City University, UK. Correspondence to: Oyelakin Oluwadamilare <oluwadamilare.oyelakin.bcu.ac.uk>.

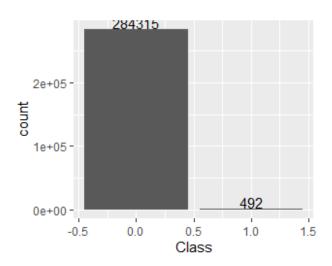


Figure 1. Dataset Distribution

Table 1. Dataset attributes description

| # | ATTRIBUTE | VARIABLE TYPE |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 2 3 | TIME V1 V2 | Num. Float Float |
| 29 30 31 | V28 AMOUNT CLASS | Float Float Num. (0 or 1) |

3.1. Data pre-processing and Transformation

Original features and more context about the dataset are not provided in the dataset due to confidentiality issues. Only numerical input variables are provided which are the results of Principal Component Analysis (PCA) Transformation. Features V1, V2 ... V28 are the principal components obtained with PCA (John & Naaz, 2019).

Table 2. Training and testing samples

| DATASET | TRAINING | TEST | SAMPLE SIZE |
|--------------|-----------|----------|-------------|
| TRANSACTIONS | 199364.90 | 85442.10 | 284,807 |

Table 2 shows the dataset was randomly divided into two sets: 70% as the training set and 30% as the test set to guarantee valid predictions.

4. Methodology

Three separate algorithms were used in this paper for fraud detection. These algorithms are explained below:

4.1. Isolation Forest

Isolation forest is a tree-base model that is developed to detect outliers [13]. This algorithm is based upon the fact that anomalies are the data points which are few and different (John & Naaz, 2019). These properties result in susceptible mechanism to anomalies.

Isolation Forest introduces the use of isolation as an efficient and more effective way to detect anomalies rather than the basic distance and density measures.

The proposed Isolation Forest in Liu et al. 'isolates' observations by selecting an attribute and then selecting a split value between the maximum and minimum values of the selected attribute arbitrarily. The number of splittings required to isolate a sample is equivalent to the path length from the root node to the terminating node (Liu et al., 2009).

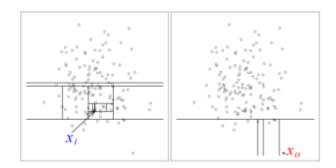


Figure 2. Identifying Normal vs. Abnormal

Figure 2 shows how Isolation Forest identifies a normal versus an abnormal data point. It shows that a normal point of xi would need more divisions for it to be isolated. While an anomaly x0 needs fewer divisions to be isolated. An anomaly score can be calculated as the number of conditions required to isolate a given observation (Liu et al., 2008).

This algorithm has low linear time complexity and space complexity.

4.2. Local Outlier Factor (LOF)

Local Outlier Factor was proposed by Breunig et al (Breunig et al., 2000). The algorithm is an unsupervised anomaly detection method which computes the local density deviation of a given data point to its neighbours. It considers a point as an outlier if the density of that point is much smaller than the densities of its neighbours.

LOF shares similar concepts with OPTICS and DBSCAN which are used for local density estimation such as the concepts of **reachability distance**—the distance between two points and **core distance**—the minimum search distance needed to make a distinct point a core point (Breunig et al., 2000)

4.3. One-class SVM (OCSVM)

It was proposed by Scholkopf as an unsupervised learning algorithm.

"OCSVM an algorithm that computes a binary function that is supposed to capture regions in input space where the probability density lives (its support), that is, a function such that most of the data will live in the region where the function is nonzero" (Schölkopf et al., 2000)

It is an application of support vector machine algorithms to one class problems. This algorithm uses a hyperplane to separate all the data points from the origin. It calculates the density level sets and gives an estimate of underlying density(Schölkopf et al., 2000).

5. Experiment Set up

Data exploratory analysis of the data has been conducted in RStudio, while the model building and anomaly detection carried out using python on google collab. Using python allowed me to take advantage of the machine learning package-sklearn. The model building processes were carried out on google collab GPU with 20GB RAM.

5.1. Model Evaluation Metrics

Due to the skewed nature of the dataset used, multiple measures of accuracy should be used. The metrics used for the performance assessment of these model must be resistant to errors.

5.2. Area under the curve (AUC)

The major model accuracy measures used is AUC. AUC of a classifier is equivalent to the probability that the classifier will rank a randomly chosen positive instance higher than a randomly chosen negative instance (Fawcett, 2006).

This practically means that if the model randomly selects the "fraud transaction" and the "normal transaction" from our test set, the "fraud transaction" will have a higher score with a probability equal to the AUC.

This is essential because the objective is to ensure that fraudulent cases are highlighted with an anomaly score greater than that of a normal transaction.

The AUC of 0.7–0.9 is considered to be acceptable; an AUC

of 0.5 is just as good as random guessing; a score of less than 0.5 is unacceptable.

5.3. Accuracy

The accuracy: the model positive hit rate. The formula is given below:

$$Accuracy = \frac{(TP + TN)}{(TN + FP + FN + FP)} \times 100\% \quad (1)$$

Where:

- TP is True positive and TN is True Negative; these are positive or negative cases that are classified correctly by the model.
- · FP refers to False Positive; these are the negative cases that were classified incorrectly as positive.
- · FN refers to False Negative, these are positive cases that were classified incorrectly as a negative.

6. Results and Discussions

Table 3. Performance comparison of various algorithms

| ALGORITHM | ACCURACY | OUTLIER ACCURACY | AUC % |
|-------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| ISO. FOREST | 0.9392 | 0.8675 0.3662 0.3117 | 94.6 |
| LOF | 0.9581 | | 68.4 |
| OCSVM | 0.8005 | | 49.9 |

By comparing the results of Local Outlier Factor, Isolation Forest algorithm and One-class SVM, from table 3; it is clear that Local Outlier factor performs better at detecting non fraudulent transactions slightly better than Isolation Forest with an accuracy of 96%.

However, Isolation Forest performs better at detecting outliers or fraudulent transactions with an accuracy of 0.87.

One-class SVM performed fair at detecting non-fraudulent transactions but performed the worst of the three algorithms in detecting both fraudulent and non-fraudulent transactions.

Isolation Forest algorithm performs well in the case of credit card. Isolation forest has a 94.6% AUC score then LOF 68.4% and OCSVM 49.9%. The R

Table 4. Time Complexity of various algorithms

| ALGORITHM | EXECUTION TIME |
|-------------|----------------|
| Iso. Forest | 1.56 s |
| LOF | 1min 51s |
| OCSVM | 6min 57s |

Table 4 shows the time it took each of the algorithms to train on the data. Isolation Forest took the least time to complete training; OCSVM took the longest time to complete the training process. Isolation Forest is a time and cost-effective algorithm to use in detecting anomalies.

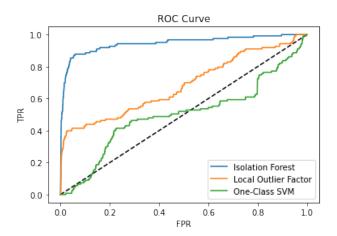


Figure 3. Receiver operating characteristic curve

Figure 3 shows the Receiver operating characteristic curve of the three algorithms, showing the relationship between sensitivity and specificity. The curve has the "True Positive Rate" on the y-axis and the False Positive Rate on the x-axis. Based on this plot, Isolation Forest outperformed the other two algorithms.

7. Conclusion

This research assessed various methods for detecting fraudulent transactions such as OCSVM, LOF and Isolation Forest, in terms of accuracy, AUC score and false-positive system rate. Isolation Forest was proposed for detecting fraudulent credit card transactions. Experimentation has shown that the isolated forest is very effective in detecting anomalies in credit card transactions.

In the future, isolated forest could be used to detect fraudulent transactions in real-time.

References

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Appendix A R Codes

```
install.packages("readr")
3 install.packages("dplyr")
4 install.packages("ggplot2")
5 library(readr)
6 library(dplyr)
7 library(ggplot2)
9 #import data
creditData <- read_csv("creditcard.csv")</pre>
12 #preview the data
13 head(creditData)
#The data has 30 variables/features.
15 #The Class variable indicates if a transaction
#is fraud (positive case = 1) or genuine (negative case = 0).
19 #check for null values in data
20 anyNA(creditData)
22 #Data Summary
23 str(creditData)
26 #Calculate the percentage of fraud transactions
skew <- sum(as.numeric(creditData$Class))/nrow(creditData)</pre>
_{\rm 28} sprintf('Percentage of fraudulent transactions in the data set \% {\rm f}\,' ,
       skew * 100)
30 #plot number of fraud cases against non fraud cases
ggplot(data=creditData, aes(x=Class)) +
    geom_bar() +
    geom_text(stat='count', aes(label=..count..), vjust=-.1)
33
35 #It is evident that the data is highly skewed
36 #with less than 0.2% of the transactions being fraud
37 #and the rest being legitimate.
39 #Analyze Fraud and Real Transaction summary
40 list <- split(creditData, creditData$Class)
42 #Analyze Normal Transactions
43 NormalTransactions <- list$'0'
44 summary(NormalTransactions$Amount)
46 #Analyze Fraud Transactions
47 FraudTransactions <- list$'1'
48 summary(FraudTransactions$Amount)
```

Appendix B Python Codes

```
In [156]:
         !pip install ipython-autotime
          import numpy as np
          import pandas as pd
          import sklearn
          from sklearn.ensemble import IsolationForest
          from sklearn.neighbors import LocalOutlierFactor
          from sklearn.svm import OneClassSVM
          import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
          from sklearn.model selection import train test split
          from sklearn.metrics import roc_curve, roc_auc_score, accuracy_score, average_
          precision score
          %load_ext autotime
          Requirement already satisfied: ipython-autotime in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/d
          ist-packages (0.3.0)
          Requirement already satisfied: ipython in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packa
          ges (from ipython-autotime) (5.5.0)
          Requirement already satisfied: pygments in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-pack
          ages (from ipython->ipython-autotime) (2.6.1)
          Requirement already satisfied: prompt-toolkit<2.0.0,>=1.0.4 in /usr/local/li
          b/python3.6/dist-packages (from ipython->ipython-autotime) (1.0.18)
          Requirement already satisfied: traitlets>=4.2 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dis
          t-packages (from ipython->ipython-autotime) (4.3.3)
          Requirement already satisfied: decorator in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-pac
          kages (from ipython->ipython-autotime) (4.4.2)
          Requirement already satisfied: pickleshare in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-p
          ackages (from ipython->ipython-autotime) (0.7.5)
          Requirement already satisfied: simplegeneric>0.8 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/
          dist-packages (from ipython->ipython-autotime) (0.8.1)
          Requirement already satisfied: pexpect; sys_platform != "win32" in /usr/loca
          1/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from ipython->ipython-autotime) (4.8.0)
          Requirement already satisfied: setuptools>=18.5 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/d
          ist-packages (from ipython->ipython-autotime) (51.1.1)
          Requirement already satisfied: wcwidth in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packa
          ges (from prompt-toolkit<2.0.0,>=1.0.4->ipython->ipython-autotime) (0.2.5)
          Requirement already satisfied: six>=1.9.0 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-pa
          ckages (from prompt-toolkit<2.0.0,>=1.0.4->ipython->ipython-autotime) (1.15.
          0)
          Requirement already satisfied: ipython-genutils in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/d
          ist-packages (from traitlets>=4.2->ipython->ipython-autotime) (0.2.0)
          Requirement already satisfied: ptyprocess>=0.5 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/di
          st-packages (from pexpect; sys_platform != "win32"->ipython->ipython-autotim
          e) (0.6.0)
          The autotime extension is already loaded. To reload it, use:
```

Import Data

%reload ext autotime

```
In [157]: data = pd.read_csv('creditcard.csv')
  data = data.drop(['Time'] , axis=1)
```

time: 1.16 s (started: 2021-01-09 20:16:04 +00:00)

time: 2.23 s (started: 2021-01-09 20:16:02 +00:00)

```
In [158]:
           data.head()
Out[158]:
                                                                                       V8
                    V1
                              V2
                                       V3
                                                 V4
                                                          V5
                                                                    V6
                                                                             V7
            0 -1.359807 -0.072781 2.536347
                                            1.378155 -0.338321
                                                               0.462388
                                                                        0.239599
                                                                                  0.098698
                                                                                            0.36378
               1.191857
                        0.266151
                                  0.166480
                                           0.448154
                                                     0.060018
                                                              -0.082361
                                                                        -0.078803
                                                                                  0.085102 -0.25542
              -1.358354 -1.340163 1.773209
                                           0.379780 -0.503198
                                                               1.800499
                                                                        0.791461
                                                                                  0.247676 -1.51465
              -0.966272 -0.185226
                                 1.792993
                                           -0.863291
                                                    -0.010309
                                                                                  0.377436 -1.38702
                                                               1.247203
                                                                        0.237609
              -1.158233
                        0.877737
                                 1.548718
                                           0.403034
                                                    -0.407193
                                                               0.095921
                                                                        0.592941
                                                                                  -0.270533
                                                                                            0.81773
           time: 53.5 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:16:05 +00:00)
In [159]:
           Fraud = data[data['Class']==1]
           Nofraud = data[data['Class']==0]
           outlier fraction = len(Fraud)/float(len(Nofraud))
           time: 21.8 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:16:05 +00:00)
In [160]: outlier_fraction
Out[160]: 0.0019275057574847303
           time: 2.95 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:16:05 +00:00)
In [161]:
          data.isna().values.any()
Out[161]: True
           time: 11.3 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:16:05 +00:00)
```

Data Pre-processing

```
X = data.drop('Class',axis=1)
In [162]:
           y = data['Class']
           y = pd.DataFrame(y)
           y.head(5)
Out[162]:
               Class
            0
                 0.0
            1
                 0.0
            2
                 0.0
            3
                 0.0
                 0.0
           time: 28.7 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:16:05 +00:00)
```

```
In [163]: #outlier dataframe to test model on Unsupervised
    X_outliers = Fraud.drop(['Class'], axis=1)
    len(X_outliers)

Out[163]: 385

    time: 3.51 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:16:05 +00:00)

In [164]: #Split data into test and train set
    X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(X, y, test_size = .3, rand om_state = 123)

    time: 73.8 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:16:05 +00:00)

In [165]: #replace inifinty values in dataframe
    X_test= np.nan_to_num(X_test)
    y_test = np.nan_to_num(y_test)

    time: 19 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:16:06 +00:00)
```

Isolation forest

Fit model on data

predictions

Isolation Forest Model Evaulation

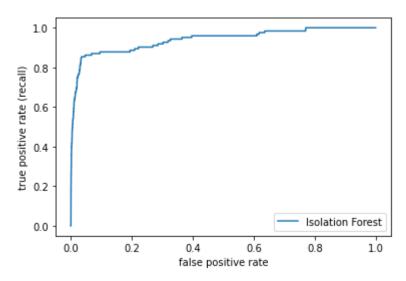
```
In [172]: #isolation Forest
    print("Accuracy test :", list(Iso_outliers_test).count(1)/Iso_outliers_test.sh
    ape[0])
    print("Accuracy outliners:", list(Iso_outliers_pred).count(-1)/Iso_outliers_pr
    ed.shape[0])

    Accuracy test : 0.9391552017055864
    Accuracy outliners: 0.8675324675324675
    time: 26.4 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:16:16 +00:00)

In [173]: print("ROC AUC: %0.1f%" % (roc_auc_score(y_test, y_score) * 100.))
    ROC AUC: 94.6%
    time: 28.7 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:16:16 +00:00)
```

```
In [174]: fp1, tp1, thres1 = roc_curve(y_test, y_score)
    plt.plot(fp, tp, label="Isolation Forest")
    plt.xlabel("false positive rate")
    plt.ylabel("true positive rate (recall)")
    plt.legend()
```

Out[174]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x7f9a1a284438>



time: 189 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:16:16 +00:00)

Local Outlier Factor

Fit Model on data

```
In [178]: #Predict on test data
    lof_outliers_test = lof_outliers.predict(X_test)
    lof_outliers_test

Out[178]: array([1, 1, 1, ..., 1, 1])
    time: 46.2 s (started: 2021-01-09 20:19:55 +00:00)

In [179]: #Calcuate the decision function on the test data
    lof_y_score = - lof_outliers.decision_function(X_test)
    time: 46.5 s (started: 2021-01-09 20:20:42 +00:00)

In [180]: #Predict on outlier data
    lof_outliers_pred = lof_outliers.predict(X_outliers)
    time: 314 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:21:28 +00:00)
```

Local Outlier Factor Model Evaulation

```
In [181]: print("ROC AUC: %0.1f%%" % (roc_auc_score(y_test, lof_y_score) * 100.))

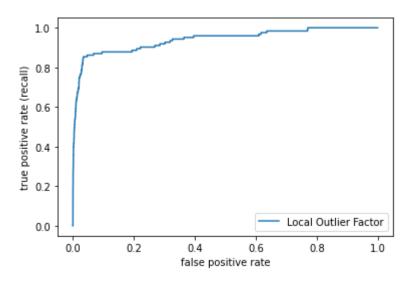
ROC AUC: 68.4%
    time: 24.5 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:21:28 +00:00)

In [182]: #LOF
    print("Accuracy test :", list(lof_outliers_test).count(1)/lof_outliers_test.sh
    ape[0])
    print("Accuracy outliners:", list(lof_outliers_pred).count(-1)/lof_outliers_pred.shape[0])

Accuracy test : 0.9580932076351644
    Accuracy outliners: 0.36623376623376624
    time: 17.4 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:21:28 +00:00)
```

```
In [183]: fp2, tp2, thres2 = roc_curve(y_test, lof_y_score)
    plt.plot(fp, tp, label="Local Outlier Factor")
    plt.xlabel("false positive rate")
    plt.ylabel("true positive rate (recall)")
    plt.legend()
```

Out[183]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x7f9a1cab2668>



time: 197 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:21:28 +00:00)

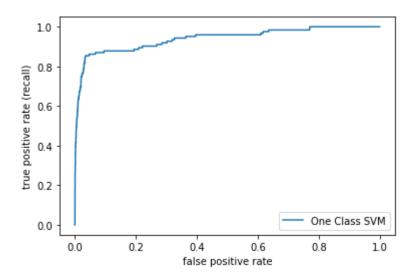
One Class SVM

```
In [184]: | clf3 = OneClassSVM(nu=.2,kernel='linear',gamma=.001)
          clf3
Out[184]: OneClassSVM(cache_size=200, coef0=0.0, degree=3, gamma=0.001, kernel='linea
          r',
                      max iter=-1, nu=0.2, shrinking=True, tol=0.001, verbose=False)
          time: 4.58 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:21:29 +00:00)
In [185]:
          #Fit Model on train data
          OneClassSVM = clf3.fit(X_train)
          time: 6min 57s (started: 2021-01-09 20:21:29 +00:00)
In [186]:
          #Predict on train data
          OneClassSVM_train = OneClassSVM.predict(X_train)
          OneClassSVM_train
Out[186]: array([1, 1, 1, ..., 1, 1, 1])
          time: 1min 55s (started: 2021-01-09 20:28:26 +00:00)
```

One Class SVM Evaluation

```
In [192]: fp3, tp3, thres3 = roc_curve(y_test, OneClassSVM_y_score)
    plt.plot(fp, tp, label="One Class SVM")
    plt.xlabel("false positive rate")
    plt.ylabel("true positive rate (recall)")
    plt.legend()
```

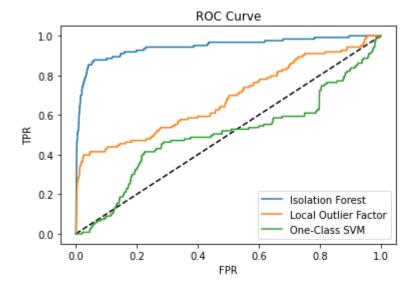
Out[192]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x7f9a1c8a3860>



time: 188 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:32:00 +00:00)

Plot 3 ROC Curves together

```
In [193]: plt.plot([0,1],[0,1], 'k--')
    plt.plot(fp1, tp1, label= "Isolation Forest")
    plt.plot(fp2, tp2, label= "Local Outlier Factor")
    plt.plot(fp3, tp3, label= "One-Class SVM")
    plt.legend()
    plt.xlabel("FPR")
    plt.ylabel("TPR")
    plt.title('ROC Curve')
    plt.show()
```



time: 179 ms (started: 2021-01-09 20:32:00 +00:00)