

A PROJECT REPORT

on

**“Credit Card Fraud Detection using
Machine Learning Methodology”**

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Abstract

The rapid growth in E-Commerce industry has led to an exponential increase in the use of credit cards for online purchases and consequently there has been a surge in the fraud related to it. In recent years, for banks it has become very difficult to detect the fraud in the credit card system. Machine learning plays a vital role in detecting credit card fraud in transactions. For predicting these transactions, banks make use of various machine learning methodologies, past data has been collected and new features are used to enhance the predictive power. The performance of fraud detection in credit card transactions is greatly affected by the sampling approach on the dataset, selection of variables and detection techniques used. This paper investigates the performance of logistic regression, decision tree and random forest for credit card fraud detection. The dataset of credit card transactions is collected from Kaggle and it contains a total of 2,84,808 credit card transactions from a European bank data set. It considers fraud transactions as the “positive class” and genuine ones as the “negative class”. The data set is highly imbalanced, it has about 0.172% of fraud transactions and the rest are genuine transactions. The author has done oversampling to balance the data set, which resulted in 60% of fraud transactions and 40% genuine ones. The three techniques are applied to the dataset and work is implemented in R language. The performance of the techniques is evaluated for different variables based on sensitivity, specificity, accuracy and error rate. The results show accuracy for logistic regression, Decision tree and random forest classifier are 90.0, 94.3, 95.5 respectively. The comparative results show that the Random forest performs better than the logistic regression and decision tree techniques. **Keywords:** Fraud detection, Credit card, Logistic regression, Decision tree, Random forest.

1. INTRODUCTION

Credit card fraud is a huge ranging term for theft and fraud committed using or involving at the time of payment by using this card. The purpose may be to purchase goods without paying, or to transfer unauthorized funds from an account. Credit card fraud is also an add on to identity theft. As per the information from the United States Federal Trade Commission, the theft rate of identity had been holding stable during the mid 2000s, but it was increased by 21 percent in 2008. Even though credit card fraud, that crime which most people associate with ID theft, decreased as a percentage of all ID theft complaints In 2000, out of 13 billion transactions made annually, approximately 10 million or one out of every 1300 transactions turned out to be fraudulent. Also, 0.05% (5 out of every 10,000) of all monthly active accounts was fraudulent. Today, fraud detection systems are introduced to control one-twelfth of one percent of all transactions processed which still translates into billions of dollars in losses. Credit Card Fraud is one of the biggest threats to business establishments today. However, to combat the fraud effectively, it is important to first understand the mechanisms of executing a fraud. Credit card fraudsters employ a large number of ways to commit fraud. In simple terms, Credit Card Fraud is defined as “when an individual uses another individuals’ credit card for personal reasons while the owner of the card and the card issuer are not aware of the fact that the card is being used”. Card fraud begins either with the theft of the physical card or with the important data associated with the account, including the card account number or other information that necessarily be available to a merchant during a permissible transaction. Card numbers generally the Primary Account Number (PAN) are often reprinted on the card, and a magnetic stripe on the back contains the data in machine-readable format. It contains the following Fields:

- Name of card holder
- Card number
- Expiration date
- Verification/CVV code

- Type of card

There are more methods to commit credit card fraud. Fraudsters are very talented and fast moving people. In the Traditional approach, to be identified by this paper is Application Fraud, where a person will give the wrong information about himself to get a credit card. There is also the unauthorized use of Lost and Stolen Cards, which makes up a significant area of credit card fraud. There are more enlightened credit card fraudsters, starting with those who produce Fake and Doctored Cards; there are also those who use Skimming to commit fraud. They will get this information held on either the magnetic strip on the back of the credit card, or the data stored on the smart chip is copied from one card to another. Site Cloning and False Merchant Sites on the Internet are getting a popular method of fraud for many criminals with a skilled ability for hacking. Such sites are developed to get people to hand over their credit card details without knowing they have been swindled. Rest of the paper is described as follows: section 2 describes the related work about the credit card system, section 3 described the proposed system architecture and methodology, section 4 shows the performance analysis and results, section 5 shows the conclusion.

2. RELATED WORK

A. Shen et al (2007) demonstrate the efficiency of classification models to credit card fraud detection problem and the authors proposed the three classification models i.e., decision tree, neural network and logistic regression. Among the three models neural network and logistic regression outperforms than the decision tree. M.J. Islam et al (2007) proposed the probability theory frame work for making decision under uncertainty. After reviewing Bayesian theory, naïve bayes classifier and k-nearest neighbor classifier is implemented and applied to the dataset for credit card system. Y. Sahin and E. Duman(2011) has cited the research for credit card fraud detection and used seven classification methods took a major role .In this work they have included decision trees and SVMs to decrease the risk of the banks. They have suggested Artificial Neural networks and Logistic Regression classification models are more helpful to improve the performance in detecting the frauds. Y. Sahin, E. Duman(2011) has cited the research , used Artificial Neural Network and Logistic Regression Classification and explained ANN classifiers outperform LR classifiers in solving the problem under investigation. Here the training data sets distribution became more biased and

the distribution of the training data sets became more biased and the efficiency of all models decreased in catching the fraudulent transactions

3. PROPOSED TECHNIQUE:

The proposed techniques are used in this paper, for detecting the frauds in credit card system. The comparison are made for different machine learning algorithms such as Logistic Regression, Decision Trees, Random Forest, to determine which algorithm gives suits best and can be adapted by credit card merchants for identifying fraud transactions. The Figure1 shows the architectural diagram for representing the overall system framework.

The processing steps are discussed in Table 1 to detect the best algorithm for the given dataset

Algorithm steps:

Step 1: Read the dataset.

Step 2: Random Sampling is done on the data set to make it balanced.

Step 3: Divide the dataset into two parts i.e., Train dataset and Test dataset.

Step 4: Feature selection are applied for the proposed models.

Step 5: Accuracy and performance metrics has been calculated to know the efficiency for different algorithms.

Step6: Then retrieve the best algorithm based on efficiency for the given dataset.



Figure1: System Architecture

3.1 Logistic Regression:

Logistic Regression is one of the classification algorithm, used to predict a binary values in a given set of independent variables (1 / 0, Yes / No, True / False). To represent binary / categorical values, dummy variables are used. For the purpose of special case in the logistic regression is a linear regression, when the resulting variable is categorical then the log of odds are used for dependent variable and also it predicts the probability of occurrence of an event by fitting data to a logistic function. Such as

$$O = e^{(I_0 + I_1 * x)} / (1 + e^{(I_0 + I_1 * x)}) \quad (3.1)$$

Where,

O is the predicted output

I₀ is the bias or intercept term

β_1 is the coefficient for the single input value (x).

Each column in the input data has an associated β coefficient (a constant real value) that must be learned from the training data.

$$y = e^{(\beta_0 + \beta_1 * x)} / (1 + e^{(\beta_0 + \beta_1 * x)}) \quad (3.2)$$

Logistic regression is started with the simple linear regression equation in which dependent variable can be enclosed in a link function i.e to start with logistic regression, I'll first write the simple linear regression equation with dependent variable enclosed in a link function:

$$A(O) = \beta_0 + \beta(x) \quad (3.3)$$

Where

$A()$: link function

O : outcome variable

x : dependent variable

A function is established using two things:

1) Probability of Success (pr) and 2) Probability of Failure(1-pr).

pr should meet following criteria:

a) probability must always be positive (since $p \geq 0$)

b) probability must always be less than equals to 1 (since $pr \leq 1$). By applying exponential in the first criteria and the value is always greater than equals to 1.

$$pr = \exp(\beta_0 + \beta(x)) = e^{(\beta_0 + \beta(x))} \quad (3.4)$$

For the second criteria, same exponential is divided by adding 1 to it so that the value will be less than equals to 1

$$pr = e^{(\beta_0 + \beta(x))} / e^{(\beta_0 + \beta(x))} + 1 \quad (3.5)$$

Logistic function is used in the logistic regression in which cost function quantifies the error, as it models response is compared with the true value.

$$X(\theta) = -1/m * (\sum y_i \log(h\theta(x_i)) + (1-y_i) \log(1-h\theta(x_i))) \quad (3.6)$$

Where

$h\theta(x_i)$: logistic function

y_i : outcome variable Gradient descent is a learning algorithm

3.2 Decision Tree Algorithm:

Decision tree is a type of supervised learning algorithm (having a pre-defined target variable) that is mostly used in classification problems. It works for both categorical and continuous input and output variables. In this technique, we split the population or sample into two or more homogeneous sets (or sub-populations) based on most significant splitter / differentiator in input variables.

TYPES OF DECISION TREE

1. Categorical Variable Decision Tree: Decision Tree which has categorical target variable then it called as categorical variable decision tree.
2. Continuous Variable Decision Tree: Decision Tree has continuous target variable then it is called as Continuous Variable Decision Tree

TERMINOLOGY OF DECISION TREE:

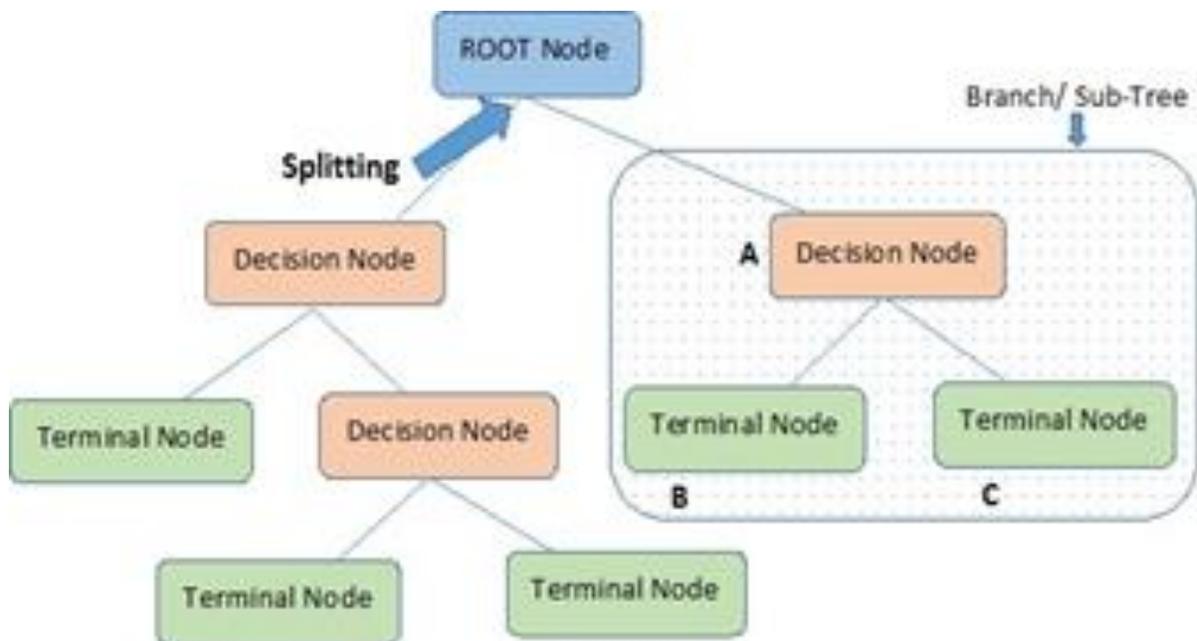
1. Root Node: It represents entire population or sample and this further gets divided into two or more homogeneous sets.
2. Splitting: It is a process of dividing a node into two or more sub-nodes.
3. Decision Node: When a sub-node splits into further sub-nodes, then it is called decision node.
4. Leaf/ Terminal Node: Nodes do not split is called Leaf or Terminal node.
5. Pruning: When we remove sub-nodes of a decision node, this process is called pruning. You can say opposite process of splitting.
6. Branch / Sub-Tree: A sub section of entire tree is called branch or sub-tree.

7. Parent and Child Node: A node, which is divided into sub-nodes is called parent node of sub-nodes where as sub-nodes are the child of parent node.

WORKING OF DECISION TREE

Decision trees use multiple algorithms to decide to split a node in two or more sub-nodes. The creation of sub-nodes increases the homogeneity of resultant sub-nodes. In other words, we can say that purity of the node increases with respect to the target variable. Decision tree splits the nodes on all available variables and then selects the split which results in most homogeneous sub-nodes.

1. Gini Index
2. Information Gain
3. Chi Square
4. Reduction of Variance



Note:- A is parent node of B and C.

3.3 Random Forest:

Random forest is a tree based algorithm which involves building several trees and combining with the output to improve generalization ability of the model. This method of combining trees is known as an ensemble method.

Ensembling is nothing but a combination of weak learners (individual trees) to produce a strong learner. Random Forest can be used to solve regression and classification problems. In regression problems, the dependent variable is continuous. In classification problems, the dependent variable is categorical.

WORKING OF RANDOM FOREST:

Bagging Algorithm is used to create random samples. Data set D1 is given for n rows and m columns and new data set D2 is created for sampling n cases at random with replacement from the original data. From dataset D1, $1/3^{\text{rd}}$ of rows are left out and is known as Out of Bag samples. Then, new dataset D2 is trained to this models and Out of Bag samples is used to determine unbiased estimate of the error. Out of m columns, $M \ll m$ columns are selected at each node in the data set. The M columns are selected at random. Usually, the default choice of M, is $m/3$ for regression tree and M is \sqrt{m} for classification tree. Unlike a tree, no pruning takes place in random forest i.e, each tree is grown fully. In decision trees, pruning is a method to avoid over fitting. Pruning means selecting a sub tree that leads to the lowest test error rate. Cross validation is used to determine the test error rate of a sub tree. Several trees are grown and the final prediction is obtained by averaging or voting.

Table 2: Algorithm steps for finding the Best algorithm

- Step 1: Import the dataset
- Step 2: Convert the data into data frames format
- Step 3: Do random oversampling using ROSE package
- Step 4: Decide the amount of data for training data and testing data
- Step 5: Give 70% data for training and remaining data for testing.
- Step 6: Assign train dataset to the models
- Step 7: Choose the algorithm among 3 different algorithms and create the model
- Step 8: Make predictions for test dataset for each algorithm
- Step 9: Calculate accuracy for each algorithm
- Step 10: Apply confusion matrix for each variable
- Step 11: Compare the algorithms for all the variables and find out the best algorithm.

4. PERFORMANCE METRICS AND EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS:

4.1 Performance metrics:

The basic performance measures derived from the confusion matrix. The confusion matrix is a 2 by 2 matrix table contains four outcomes produced by the binary classifier. Various measures such as sensitivity, specificity, accuracy and error rate are derived from the confusion matrix.

Accuracy:

Accuracy is calculated as the total number of two correct predictions(A+B) divided by the total number of the dataset(C+D).It is calculated as (1-error rate).

$$\text{Accuracy}=\frac{A+B}{C+D} \quad (4.1)$$

Whereas,

A=True Positive B=True Negative C=Positive

D=Negative

Error rate:

Error rate is calculated as the total number of two incorrect predictions(F+E) divided by the total number of the dataset(C+D).

$$\text{Error rate}=\frac{F+E}{C+D} \quad (4.2)$$

Where as,

E=False Positive F=False Negative

C=Positive D=Negative

Sensitivity:

Sensitivity is calculated as the number of correct positive predictions(A) divided by the total number of positives(C).

$$\text{Sensitivity}=\frac{A}{C} \quad (4.3)$$

Specificity:

Specificity is calculated as the number of correct negative predictions(B) divided by the total number of negatives(D).

$$\text{Specificity}=\frac{B}{D}. \quad (4.4)$$

Accuracy, Error-rate, Sensitivity and Specificity are used to report the performance of the system to detect the fraud in the credit card.

In this paper, three machine learning algorithms are developed to detect the fraud in credit card system. To evaluate the algorithms, 70% of the dataset is used for training and 30% is used for testing and validation. Accuracy, error rate, sensitivity and specificity are used to evaluate for different variables for three algorithms as shown in Table 3. The accuracy result is shown for logistic regression; Decision tree and random forest classifier are 92.7, 95.8, and 97.6 respectively. The comparative results show that the Random forest performs better than the logistic regression and decision tree techniques.

Table 3: Performance analysis for three different algorithms

Feature Selection	Logistic regression	Decision tree	Random Forest
For 5 variables	87.2	89	90.1
For 10 variables	88.6	92.1	93.6
For all Variables	90.0	94.3	95.5

Technologies –

Python 3.7

Machine learning

Data science

5. CONCLUSION

In this paper, Machine learning technique like Logistic regression, Decision Tree and Random forest were used to detect the fraud in credit card system. Sensitivity, Specificity, accuracy and error rate are used to evaluate the performance for the proposed system. The accuracy for logistic regression, Decision tree and random forest classifier are 90.0, 94.3, and 95.5 respectively. By comparing all the three method, found that random forest classifier is better than the logistic regression and decision tree.

Features

Clone transactions are popular among the different types of credit card frauds. It simply means making transactions similar to an original one or duplicating a transaction. This can happen when an organization tries to get payment from a partner multiple times by sending the same invoice to different departments.

The conventional method of rule-based fraud detection algorithm does not work well to distinguish a fraudulent transaction from irregular or mistaken transactions. For instance, a user could click the submission button two times by accident or order the same product twice.

The better option is if a system is capable of differentiating a fraudulent transaction from one made in error. Here, Machine Learning fraud detection methods would be more potent in differentiating clone transactions caused by human error and real fraud.

Account theft and suspicious transactions

When an individual's personal information such as a Social Security number, a secret question answer, or date of birth is stolen by criminals, they can use this information to perform financial operations. A lot of fraud transactions are linked to identity theft, so financial fraud detection systems should pay the most attention to creating an analysis of a user's behavior.

If there is a certain regularity in the way a client makes his payments, e. g. someone visits a certain bar once a week at the same time and always spends about \$40 to \$60. If the same account is used to make a payment at a bar located in another part of town and for a sum of more than \$60, this behavior would be considered irregular. The next move would be to send a verification request to the card number owner in order to validate that he or she made the transaction.

Metrics such as standard deviation, averages, and high/low values are the most useful to spot irregular behavior. Separate payments are compared with personal benchmarks to identify transactions with a high standard deviation. Then, the best choice is to validate the account holder if such a deviation occurs.

False application fraud

Credit card application fraud is often accompanied by account/identity/credit card theft. It means that someone applies for a new credit account or credit card in another person's name. First, criminals steal the documents which will serve as supporting evidence for their fake application.

Anomaly detection helps to identify whether a transaction has any unusual patterns, such as date and time or the number of goods. If the algorithm spots such unusual behavior, the owner of the bank account will be protected by a few verification methods. This is a great method for credit fraud prevention.

Credit Card Skimming (electronic or manual)

Credit card skimming or credit card forgery means making an illegal copy of a credit or bank card with a device that reads and duplicates information from the original card. Credit card scammers use machines named "skimmers" to extract card numbers and other credit card information, save it, and resell to criminals.

As in the case of identity theft, suspicious transactions made from a copy of an electronic or manual card will be revealed because of the information on the transaction. Classification techniques can define whether a transaction is fraudulent based on hardware, geo location, and information about a client's behavior patterns.

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