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## Exploring Financial Fraud Detection: A Comprehensive Analysis and Implementation of Machine Learning with Artificial Neural Networks

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### Abstract

Financial fraud, characterized as deceptive strategies aimed at securing financial gains, has emerged as a widespread threat to companies and organizations worldwide. Traditional methods like manual verifications and inspections are not only imprecise but also incur high costs and time consumption in identifying fraudulent activities. The rise of artificial intelligence has paved the way for intelligent machine learning approaches to efficiently detect fraudulent transactions through the analysis of extensive financial data. This paper seeks to offer a systematic literature review (SLR) that methodically examines and consolidates existing literature on machine learning (ML)-based fraud detection. To conduct this review, the artificial neural network approach was employed to demonstrate fraud detection procedure with 70 % of sample data for training, 15% for testing and 15% for validation. Numerous studies were collected through specified search strategies from popular electronic database libraries. Following the application of inclusion/exclusion criteria, a considerable number of articles were thoroughly examined, synthesized, and analyzed. The review provides an overview of prevalent ML techniques employed in fraud detection, the most common type of fraud addressed, and the evaluation metrics utilized. The scrutinized articles revealed that support vector machine (SVM) and artificial neural network (ANN) are popular ML algorithms employed for fraud detection, with credit card fraud being the most frequently addressed fraud type using ML techniques. The paper concludes by highlighting key issues, identifying gaps, and delineating limitations in the field of financial fraud detection. Additionally, it suggests potential areas for future research in this domain.

**Keywords:** Financial fraud; fraud detection; machine learning; data mining; support vector machine (SVM), artificial neural network (ANN).

### 1. Introduction

Financial fraud involves the illicit pursuit of financial gains through illegal means [1,2]. This deceptive practice extends to various sectors, including insurance, banking, taxation, and corporate domains [3]. In recent times, the rise of financial transaction fraud [4], money laundering, and other forms of financial fraud [5] poses a growing challenge to companies and industries [4]. Despite concerted efforts to curb fraudulent activities, their persistence has adverse effects on the economy and society, resulting in substantial daily financial losses [6]. Numerous approaches to fraud detection have been introduced over the years [1]. However, traditional manual methods are not only time-consuming, expensive, and imprecise but also impractical [7]. Although studies aim to minimize losses from fraudulent activities, their efficiency remains limited [5]. The advent of artificial intelligence (AI) has led to the utilization of machine learning and data mining for the detection of fraudulent activities in the financial sector [8,9]. Both unsupervised and supervised methods have been employed for predicting fraud activities [10], with classification methods emerging as the most popular for detecting fraudulent transactions.

This study seeks to identify machine-learning-based techniques for detecting financial transaction fraud and analyze existing gaps to uncover research trends in this field. While previous reviews have explored various aspects of fraudulent financial activities, other areas where AI and ML has been used explored is reported elsewhere [11–17], this study aims to

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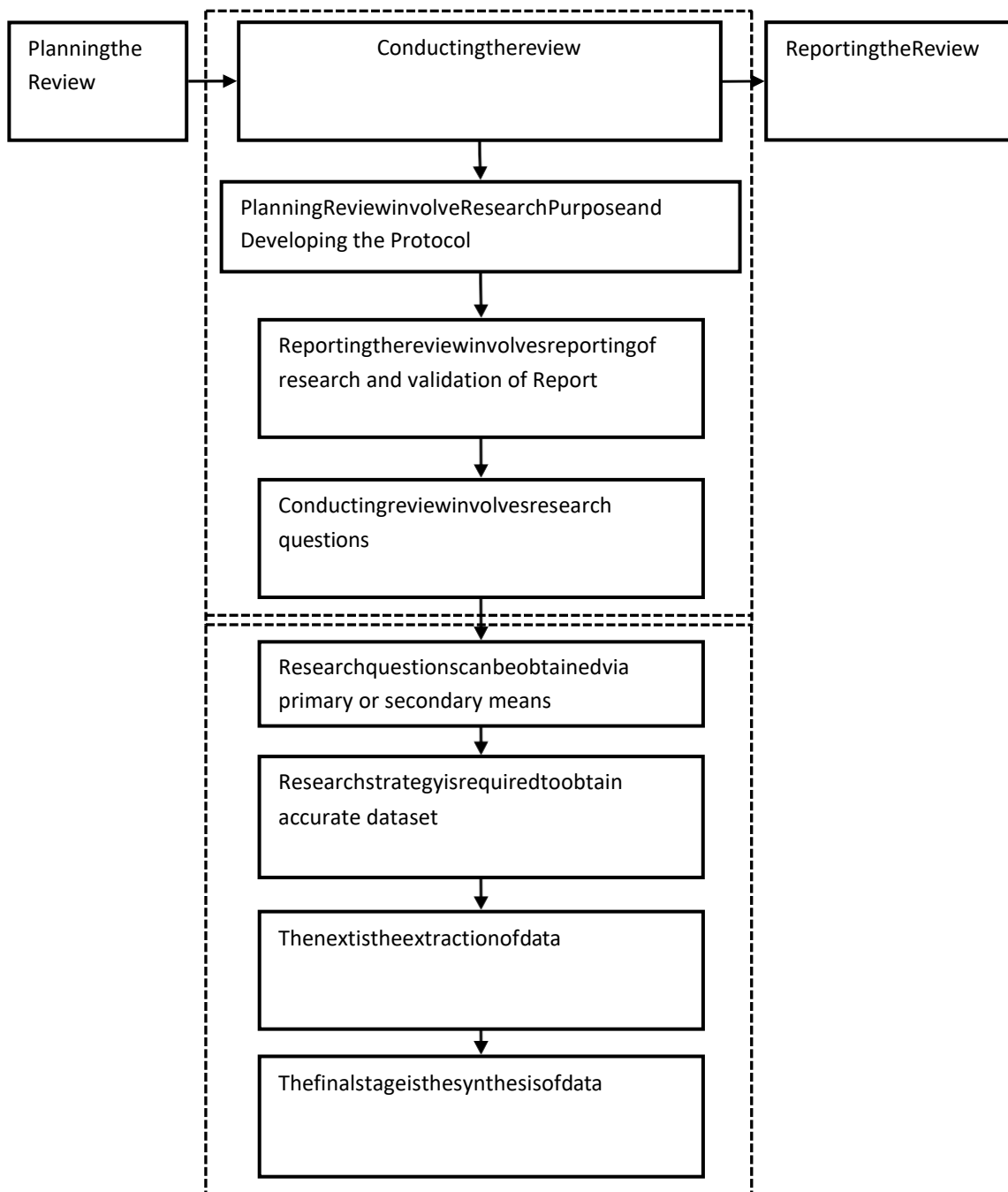
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provide a comprehensive overview that encompasses all popular areas of financial fraud activities, addressing a notable gap in the existing literature. Despite existing reviews in the field, many studies have focused on specific finance areas, such as credit card fraud [18], online banking fraud [19], bank credit administration fraud [20], and payment card fraud [21]. This study aims to fill this gap by presenting a broad examination of machine learning (ML)-based methods applied to financial transaction fraud detection. The systematic literature review (SLR) presented here aims to guide researchers in selecting ML-based financial transaction fraud detection methods and the corresponding datasets for predicting fraudulent activities in financial transactions. The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: Section 2 details review of research methodology, including search criteria, study selection, data extraction, and quality evaluation. Section 3 presents the SLR findings and responses to the study questions. The

discussion and potential challenges impacting the validity of this review are addressed in Sections 4 and 5, respectively. Finally, Section 6 provides a conclusion for the study.

**2. ResearchMethodologyReview**

This paper employs a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) approach, a thorough method for collecting and analyzing studies that address specific research questions [22]. SLR approach is chosen to aggregate and synthesize information pertaining to particular issues, aiming to reduce biases[22]. It aims to deliver a view with high-quality evidence while scrutinizing the rationale behind reviewers' judgments and conclusions [22]. The methodology of this SLR study is derived from the framework presented in a prior study [23], encompassing three primary stages: review planning, conducting the review, and reporting the review. The key stages of the SLR process are visually depicted in Figure 1.



**Figure 1** Stages of the SLR

### Review Planning

**Objective of the Review:** The purpose of the review, such as understanding the current state of research on detecting financial fraud through machine learning is significant.

**Scope and Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria:** It is important to define the criteria for including or excluding studies. For example, you might specify the publication date range, types of studies (e.g., empirical studies, case studies), and the focus on machine learning methods for fraud detection. The planning stage encompasses the preparatory and developmental processes of the Systematic Literature Review (SLR), involving the identification of the research goal and the formulation of the review protocol [24]. To retrieve more relevant papers, an automated search was conducted on major digital databases [25,26]. Other similar databases were not considered; as primary sources' index data were deemed sufficient. The selection of these libraries was based on their popularity and status as rich sources of articles pertinent to the research questions addressed in this study. To ensure a comprehensive and current review, the time frame for considerations spans till 2021. Following the planning phase, the subsequent stage involves conducting the review. This step constitutes the primary review process, encompassing the identification of the research questions for the review, outlining the key issues to be discussed and analysed. This stage includes the selection of the search strategy and the procedures for data extraction and synthesis, elaborated in the following subsections:

#### Research Questions

In the initial phase of this review, the crucial task involves formulating research questions to precisely pinpoint the issues under scrutiny. This process is fundamental in determining the key studies to be incorporated into the review, making the formulation of research questions a central aspect of the SLR. Table 1 provides an overview of the primary Research Questions (RQs) employed in this study. The primary aim of the first question is to identify prevalent categories of financial fraud addressed through the application of machine learning (ML) methods. The second question is focused on identifying commonly used ML approaches for the detection of fraudulent financial activities. The third and fourth questions are crafted to delineate the performance evaluation metrics utilized in ML-based financial fraud detection and to uncover research gaps, trends, then a brief demonstration of fraud detection by implementing Neural Network and finally, future directions in this field.

#### Search Strategy

This is focused more on the approach to be used to search for relevant literature. The process has to do with detailing plan for searching and selecting studies for the review. This section provides a clear and reproducible process. This includes databases, keywords, search filtered. Databases: Specify the databases you plan to search. This could include academic databases (e.g., PubMed, IEEE Xplore, ScienceDirect) and any specialized databases related to finance or machine learning.

**Keywords and Search Terms:** List the keywords and search terms you will use to identify relevant studies. Consider using variations and synonyms to ensure a comprehensive search.

**Search Filters:** Inapplicable, mention any filters or criteria you will apply during the search(e.g., language, publication

date).

**Search Timeline:** Provide information on when you conducted or plan to conduct the search to make it clear that the review is based on the most current literature. Remember to follow best practices for the reviews to ensure transparency and reproducibility. It's also essential to document any deviations from the planned protocol and justify them in the final review.

#### Study Selection Criteria

Following the application of the search terms across the mentioned digital libraries, recent papers were identified and subsequently filtered. After eliminating duplicates, the selection process continued with standard articles. The authors established inclusion and exclusion criteria during the search process to identify the most relevant papers, screening these studies according to quality assessment standards to ensure their reliability.

**3. Search Results and Meta-Analysis:** This section presents the search results obtained from the second stage of the review process, which involves selecting the relevant studies to be considered in this SLR study. It is important to present the description of the reviewed studies in this SLR and answer each of the research questions specified in the section.

#### Description of Studies

The number of articles relating to financial fraud detection using ML approaches which provides a chronological summary of the published articles is considered.

#### Synthesis Results

This section unveils the outcomes of the data synthesis aimed at addressing the research questions derived from the selected papers. Herein, the designed research questions for the Systematic Literature Review (SLR) will be addressed.

#### Research Question 1:

What are the different categories of fraudulent activities that are addressed using ML techniques?

Fraudulent activities exhibit variations across industry sectors [27]. This section responds to research question 1 by delineating various fraudulent activities addressed through the application of machine learning (ML) techniques based on the selected articles. According to the reviewed literature, fraudulent activities in the financial sector can be broadly categorized into credit card, mortgage, financial statement, and health care fraud.

#### (a) Credit Card Fraud

Credits typically refer to electronic financial transactions conducted without the use of physical cash [28]. A credit card, commonly used for online transactions, is a small piece comprising thin plastic material containing credit services and customer details [28–30]. Fraudsters exploit credit cards for unlawful transactions, resulting in significant losses for both banks and cardholders [31]. The creation of counterfeit cards has facilitated easier execution of illicit transactions. Unauthorized use of the card, obtained illegitimately, deems any ensuing transaction as fraudulent [29]. Credit card fraudulent activities encompass offline and online fraud. In offline fraud, perpetrators execute illicit transactions with stolen credit cards, resembling genuine cardholders, while online fraud occurs during Internet transactions [30].

#### (b) Financial Statement Fraud

Fraud in financial statements involves manipulating

financial reports to falsely depict a company as more profitable than actual, thereby evading taxes, inflating stock prices, or securing bank loans [31,32]. These statements comprise confidential records containing financial information, expenses, profits, income, loans, and management write-ups discussing business performances and future trends [33–37]. Financial statement fraud aims to enhance share prices, reduce tax liabilities, attract investors, and secure personal bank loans [15].

#### (c) Insurance Fraud

Insurance fraud entails the misuse of an insurance policy to gain illegitimate benefits from an insurance company [38]. Insurance, designed to protect transactions against financial risks, is particularly targeted in sectors such as healthcare and automobile insurance companies [39,40] with occasional instances in home and crop insurance. The estimated annual cost of insurance fraud in the United States exceeds a billion USD, eventually passed on to consumers through increased insurance premiums. Fraudulent claims in automobile insurance often involve deception during the claims process, ranging from individual fraudsters to organized groups staging or faking incidents [41–44]. Healthcare insurance fraud, a serious issue in contemporary society, is entwined with social, political, and economic concerns, incurring significant expenses associated with high-quality medical services.

#### (d) Financially-Fraud

Financial cyber fraud refers to crimes committed over cyberspace solely for illegal economic gain [45-46]. Perpetrators of financial cybercrime deliberately mask their activities to blend with normal online behavior. As criminals gain access to advanced technology, combating their tactics becomes increasingly challenging. This intersection of financial crime and cybersecurity has prompted financial institutions to develop in-house methods, including real-time analytics and interdiction tools, to protect assets and prevent financial loss. However, existing models exhibit signs of inadequacy in addressing these attacks, new methods incorporating machine learning and deep learning models are being explored [47–50].

#### (5) Other Financial Fraudulent Types

Beyond the mentioned types of fraudulent activities in the financial sector, additional frauds are prevalent, encompassing commodities and securities fraud, mortgage fraud, corporate fraud, and money laundering. Securities and commodities fraud occurs when individuals invest in companies based on false information. Mortgage fraud involves intentional misstatements made by debtors during application processes, targeting mortgage-related documents. Corporate fraud entails insiders falsifying financial documents to conceal fraud or criminal activities. Money laundering involves changing the source of illegal money to legitimize it, impacting society by facilitating other crimes such as funding terrorism. Cryptocurrency fraud systematically deceives users with false investments, promising significant gains.

#### Research Question 2:

What are the ML-Based Techniques for Financial Fraud Detection Employed in the literature?

Machine learning (ML) denotes analytical techniques that identify specific patterns without requiring manual

guidance from inexpert [87]. Numerous researchers have extensively explored the application of ML methods in financial fraud detection. These methods encompass Support Vector Machine (SVM), Artificial Neural Network (ANN), Hidden Markov Model (HMM), k-Nearest Neighbors (KNN), Decision Tree, and more. Thus, to address the aforementioned research question (RQ2), this section outlines various popular ML methods utilized for financial fraud detection based on the selected articles in the review. A detailed explanation of the ML techniques employed in detecting financial fraudulent activities is presented in the following subsection.

#### (a) Fuzzy-Logic-Based Method

Fuzzy logic (FL) serves as an effective conceptual framework for addressing data representation in contexts of uncertainty and ambiguity [69]. This logical approach acknowledges that methods of thinking are estimations rather than precise. Fuzzy combinations offer effective concepts for handling complex modeling in innovative ways [52]. Multiple FL-based methods have been employed for fraud detection. An example is the FUZZY-ZGY hybrid model, introduced in [69], designed to detect anomalous behaviors in credit card transactions. This model, grounded in fuzzy and Fogg behavioral concepts, employed fuzzy logic to track the historical activities of merchants and the Fogg behavioral method to characterize customer behavior along dimensions of fraud-committing ability and motivation. Another fuzzy-based method, presented in [68], aimed to detect credit card fraud by categorizing transactions into fraud and non-fraud categories with reduced false positives. This method utilized fuzzy c-means clustering and an Artificial Neural Network (ANN) model, demonstrating efficacy on synthetic data with reduced false positives. Another study [69] proposed a fuzzy logic-based fraud detection method in the banking system, improving accuracy in classifying fraudulent and non-fraudulent activities in banking transactions by defining rules based on expert experience. This approach was further refined in [52], constructing fuzzy rules using fuzzy logic to enhance the detection of fraud transactions. [61] introduced a rule-based technique utilizing a firefly algorithm and threshold-accepting method to distinguish between fraudulent and non-fraudulent transactions based on financial activities. Additionally, [62] designed a fuzzy-rule-based approach for detecting financial fraud, integrating a rule-based approach with genetic feature selections to achieve good performance through feature selection and fuzzy unordered rule induction.

#### (a) Artificial Neural Network (ANN)

Artificial Neural Network (ANN) is an information-processing technique inspired by the behavior of biological neural networks [76]. ANN is particularly powerful when dealing with large volumes of data [88]. Several ANN-based methods have been proposed for fraudulent detection in the financial sector. Srivastava et al. [30] investigated credit card fraud detection on the trader's side using an ANN-based method that connects the merchant with payment gateways. Ghobadi and Rohani [77] developed a

hybrid model based on a Cost-Sensitive Neural Network to identify credit card fraud, demonstrating increased detection rates and reduced false negative costs. Randhawa et al. [28] proposed research for discovering fraud in credit card transactions based on ML methods, including ANN models. An approach based on NN was introduced in [76] for detecting fraudulent transactions in credit cards, aiming to enhance the security and accuracy of automatic credit card transactions. Ravisankar et al. [33] introduced financial fraud detection using a Multilayer Feedforward Neural Network (MLFF).

(b) Support Vector Machine (SVM)

(b) SVM, a supervised ML method, aims to find maximum margin hyperplane for classifying input training data into two categories [41,66]. It possesses the capability to classify new data points based on a labeled training set for each class [68]. The literature review reveals several instances where researchers explored SVM techniques for fraud detection [65,66,80]. For instance, Rajak and Mathai [65] introduce dihybrid technique combining SV and the fusion Danger theory for fraudulent detection. The experimental results demonstrated that this approach outperformed existing methods in terms of time complexity and F-measure. In another study, Francis et al. [80] utilized the SVM technique to propose fraud detection by investigating an automated medical bill architecture. This research aimed to provide a swift response for detecting medical fraud in real time, with experimental results indicating superior performance compared to previous approaches. Additionally, Xu and Liu [66] applied optimized SVM to detect fraudulent activities in online credit card transactions. Hidden Markov Model (HMM)

The Hidden Markov Model (HMM) is a dual embedded random method commonly employed for handling more complex random processes compared to traditional Markov models [19]. Numerous methods in the reviewed literature have utilized the HMM technique for financial fraud detection. Agrawal et al. [19] introduced a hybrid method by integrating HMM and Genetic Algorithms (GA) for identifying credit card fraudulent transactions. This approach employed HMM to preserve previous transaction logs and GA to compute the threshold value for clustering incoming transactions into various clusters. The authors demonstrated that this method is more effective for credit card fraud detection. A similar approach was proposed in [86] for internet banking fraud detection by revealing legitimate users and monitoring their illicit behaviors. Another method in [73] utilized HMM to address limitations in existing fraud-detection methods during credit card operations. The study findings suggested that HMM has the capability to enhance fraud detection and minimize false-positive rates. A comparable approach in [20] employed an HMM-based technique to enhance the efficiency and accuracy of credit card fraud detection, utilizing the clustering technique based on the K-means method to determine the clusters' closest centroids and integrate them into a single group.

(c) K-Nearest Neighbors Algorithm (KNN)

The K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) algorithm is a convenient

and straightforward supervised ML technique capable of addressing both regression and classification processes [62]. The class label in the KNN model is typically determined by using a small set of the nearest samples. This non-parametric model is used for both classification and regression tasks, identifying similar neighborhoods closest to a given sample point in dataset and creating new sample point based on the distance between two samples of data [70]. While KNN has demonstrated effectiveness on many datasets, its performance may be compromised by unbalanced datasets [78]. Malini and Pushpa [70] proposed a credit card detection approach using two methods: the KNN model and the outlier detection model. Experimental results indicated that the KNN models were more effective for fraudulent detection in credit cards. Awoyemi et al. [78] utilized the KNN algorithm to investigate credit card transactions for detecting fraudulent behaviors, employing a credit card dataset proposed by cardholders. The finding demonstrated that the K-Nearest Neighbor performed.

(d) K-Nearest Neighbors Algorithm (KNN)

Badrinath et al. [84] introduced an approach on the K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) algorithm for auto insurance fraud detection, incorporating three methods: distance-based, density-based, and interquartile range within car insurance data. This work considers the influence of feature selection methods on accuracy scores. Similar methods were presented in [72] for detecting anomalous fraudulent transactions by integrating the KNN technique with Chi-Square Automatic Interaction Detection (CHAID) to enhance the performance of identifying fraudulent transactions.

(a) Bayesian Method

The Bayesian model (BN) is a specific type of graphical model that considers both independent and conditional relationships between various variables. BN uses nodes and edges in a directed graph to represent these relationships and is particularly adept at conducting anonymous probability computations [56]. In their reviewed literature, we explored various papers focusing on two main types of Bayesian methods: the Bayesian belief network and Naive Bayes (NB). NB is an ML model based on Bayes' theorem, predicting membership probabilities for each class. It forecasts the label of a given data point based on the probability of belonging to a specific category [56]. The results in a study demonstrated the effectiveness of the proposed model in fraud detection. Richter and Herland [81] utilized the NB algorithm to address fraudulent transactions in the health sector based on medical procedure records. The research aimed to classify supplier behavior regarding whether it is anomalous or not. To enhance fraud detection, Hajek and Henriques [33] proposed an intelligent method for detecting fraudulent financial documents by extracting specific features from financial reports.

(b) Decision Tree (DT)

A decision tree (DT) is an ML technique employed to construct decision support tools, representing binary options over features in inner nodes [69]. Numerous methods based on decision trees have been employed for financial fraud detection over the years. Devi and Kavitha

[78] devised a DT-based method to categorize credit card

transactions as normal or suspicious data, outperforming existing approaches with high accuracy. In the realm of fraud detection, a study [79] compared three methods—Naive Bayes (NB), DT, and Random Forest (RF)—with DT emerging as the superior performer. Kho and Vea [67] scrutinized credit cardholders' transaction behavior, differentiating between normal and abnormal transactions using ML algorithms such as Random Tree (RT) and NB, with RT demonstrating superior performance in evaluations on synthetic datasets. A comparable approach was implemented in [42] to detect fraud in the auto insurance sector, utilizing an adaptive oversampling method to address imbalanced classes in insurance datasets.

#### (c) Genetic Algorithm (GA)

The genetic algorithm (GA), inspired by natural evolution, utilizes binary strings known as chromosomes to search for optimal solutions [35]. Gupta and Gill [35] employed GA for financial fraud detection in companies. Benghazi et al. [71] introduced a novel technique for fraud detection in credit card transactions, addressing issues in detecting minority class objects in imbalanced datasets by combining K-means and GA. The K-means method was initially used to group and classify minority instances, followed by the application of GA to create new instances with easyGroup, for a new training data set. Özçelik et al. [61] also utilized GA to address problems related to detecting fraudulent credit card transactions in a real-world application project.

#### (e) Ensemble Methods

Ensemble methods, meta-algorithms that combine various intelligent techniques into a single predictive approach, aim to mitigate weaknesses in individual models by leveraging stronger models [33]. Different ensemble techniques serve diverse purposes, such as boosting to reduce bias, bagging to decrease variance, and stacking to enhance predictions [33]. Among the ensemble methods, random forest (RF) stands out as the most commonly used in the literature [33].

#### (f) Random Forest (RF)

RF outputs the median prediction for regression tasks and the mode of classes for single trees in classification problems. Recent research has demonstrated that RF outperformed other comparative methods [64]. Bootstrap Aggregating (BA), commonly known as bagging, creates multiple samples from training instances with replacements. Numerous studies in financial fraud detection have applied bagging techniques [33].

#### (k) Boosting

Boosting, which involves altering the distribution of the training dataset based on predecessor accuracy, aims to sequentially train weak learners [28]. Adaboost, a popular boosting technique, was employed in [28]. Adaboost, a multi-instance Adaboost, repetitively executes different SVM distributions throughout the training dataset and combines the classifiers into a distinct hybrid classifier [33].

#### (l) Stacking

Stacking, an ensemble ML method, combines various classification or regression models, using the entire dataset and typically employing different models than those used in bagging [2].

#### (m) Clustering-Based Methods

Clustering, an unsupervised learning method grouping

similar instances, is popular in financial fraud detection, although it was less frequently implemented than classification techniques in reviewed articles [5]. Glancy and Yadav [56] utilized text-mining hierarchical clustering to create a financial transaction fraud-detection model, employing the SVDs technique for text dimension reduction. Another approach by Glancy and Yadav [56] used the dual GHSOM technique to detect non-fraud-centric spatial hypotheses, capturing the topological patterns of fraudulent financial transactions.

LR techniques are primarily employed in binary and multi-class classification problems [35,78]. LR operates by conducting regression on a set of variables and is particularly useful for describing patterns and elucidating connections between various dependent binary variables. Logistic regression is one of the most frequently utilized machine learning (ML) techniques for detecting financial misstatement models. The majority of studies, as indicated in that review, employed LR techniques for financial fraud detection. Peng and You [81] proposed an effective technique for identifying characteristics related to fraud lent transaction detection using LR after a comprehensive review of published data. The authors compared the predictive ability of their proposed method against other detection methods, with the ML techniques used for financial fraud detection.

#### Research Question 3:

What are the Evaluation Metrics Utilized for Assessing Financial Fraud Detection through Machine Learning Methods

In the context of financial fraud detection, evaluating the performance of a model is crucial, as highlighted in prior research [38,40,84]. While there are no rigidly prescribed evaluation measures specifically designated for assessing machine learning (ML) techniques in fraud detection [38,72], recent studies have witnessed the application of various performance evaluation metrics by different researchers. These metrics encompass accuracy, precision, recall, F1 measure, false-negative rate (FNR), area under the curve (AUC), specificity, and more. The ensuing section provides an overview of the evaluation metrics employed in the scrutinized papers, with the formulas for different performance measures.

The model's accuracy quantifies the overall accuracy of the model's predictions, while precision assesses the accuracy of the model's positive predictions [42,69,82]. Recall, also known as sensitivity, gauges the percentage of positive cases accurately identified by the classifier [21,67]. The next section is a demonstration of the ANN model for fraud detection.

#### 4. Application Using Artificial Neural Network (ANN) Model

A simulation of the Neural Network Model for identifying financial fraud via an Artificial Neural Network (ANN) involves a parametric examination, where the dataset obtained from a financial institution is divided into training, testing, and validation sets. Specifically, 70% of the dataset is designated for training, 15% for testing, and an additional 15% for validation. In the graphical representation (see Fig. 2), the straight lines portray the linear relationships between the output and the target data

employed in this study. The correlation coefficients (R) between the actual and predicted values are as follows: 0.99966 for the training set, 0.93928 for the validation set, 0.90388 for the testing set, and 0.74523 for overall performance. The determination coefficient (R<sup>2</sup>) for the entire network is computed as 0.856. The notably elevated correlation coefficients observed in the training, validation, and testing phases underscore the model's precision in prediction. The average determination coefficient (R<sup>2</sup> = 0.856) indicates that approximately 86% of the data was effectively utilized for predictive purposes. This value signifies commendable performance in the realm of financial fraud detection using the ANN Model.

**5. Analysis of the Study**

Validation and Testing in ANN for Data Analysis

**Training:** Input data is introduced to the network during training, and the network is fine-tuned based on the errors it encounters.

**Validation:** During this phase is employed to assess the network's stability to generalize and to cease training when generalization ceases to improve.

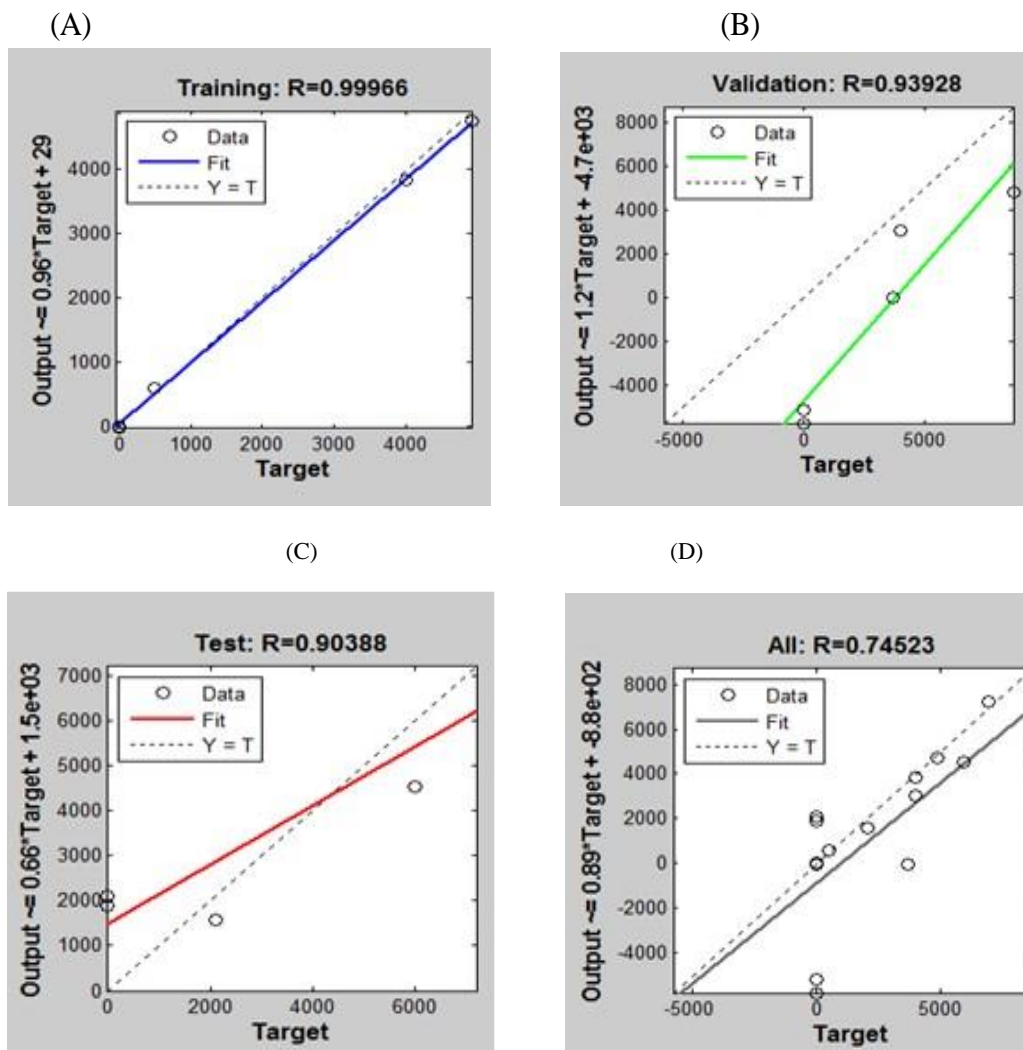
**Testing:** During the testing phase does not impact the training process, thus of rigorous unbiased evaluation of network performance both during and after training.

**6. Performance Value for ANN Modelling**

The table represents classified samples of financial dataset used for training, testing, and validation.

Results			
	Samples	MSE	R
Training:	5	12624.74528e-0	9.99659e-1
Validation:	5	18054846.37133e-0	9.39282e-1
Testing:	5	2088024.41157e-0	9.03881e-1

**Table 1:** MSE-Mean Squared Error, R=Regression Coefficient



**Fig. 2:** Plot of ANNP predicted Output against Actual Value for (A) Training (B) Validation (C) Testing (D) Target.

**Research Question 4:**

What are the existing voids or gaps and potential avenues for future research in the domain of Machine Learning-based approaches? Fraud Detection

This section seeks to identify research gaps and outline future directions in the field. The synthesis of reviewed articles reveals limitations and provides insights into potential avenues for future work, as discussed in the following subsections.

**Imbalanced Dataset:**

Addressing the challenge of imbalanced data, some studies have implemented oversampling approaches [12], while others aim to introduce effective strategies for extremely imbalanced data. For example, Li et al. [86] and Perols [61] utilized imbalanced and left-balancing datasets through the oversampling method for future work. Hence, future studies could explore other oversampling techniques as well as under-sampling methods.

**Data Size:** Several research works have identified the size of the dataset as a limitation. For instance, the size of a data is a major challenge in many nations. Resolving dataset size issues could lead to improved and more efficient ML approaches for identifying fraudulent financial activities. Many studies in the reviewed literature emphasized that enhancing the performance of detection models can be achieved by improving input vectors. Future work could involve combining data from various sources, such as financial social media sites like Seeking Alpha, numerical information from financial documents, and transcripts of earnings calls, to generate more relevant feature vectors. **Unstructured Data:** Recent studies have explored different types of unstructured data, such as vocal inputs and textual data. However, unstructured data exploration in financial fraud detection needs more attention for remarkable results. Future research could look into text sources from financial statements and explore the use of new data mining techniques.

**Machine-Learning-Based Techniques:** Classifying the machine learning techniques used for financial fraud detection is an effective way to determine suitable methods for this research domain. Investigating why certain methods were selected and why others received less attention can identify research gaps. Many learning algorithms that are popular in other fields have not been widely applied in financial fraud detection. Traditional techniques have been used in time past. ANN model is considered one of the best computational intelligence techniques.

For example, active learning, which addresses insufficient data and improves learning cost, incremental learning, which dynamically adds sample data for accuracy, and transfer learning, which uses knowledge from one task to enhance learning in another task, can receive more attention in future research.

**4. Discussion:** In this section, the systematic literature review's content is highlighted, encompassing popular financial fraud detection techniques and machine learning methods used in detection. Findings are categorized based on the frequency of usage in ML techniques and types of financial fraud. The review reveals that, from years back the ANN algorithm is the most popular technique for identifying fraudulent activities in the financial sector, followed by SVM.

**Conclusions**

Financial fraud poses significant challenges across various sectors, and its persistence necessitates advanced detection methods. This study systematically reviewed existing literature on machine learning (ML)-based fraud detection, a sample method longwise menstruated using the Artificial neural network. From previous studies, SVM and ANN emerged as popular ML algo rhythms for fraud detection, with credit card fraud being the most commonly studied type. The study identified gaps in research, emphasizing the need for exploration of other algorithms, increased attention to unsupervised learning approaches like clustering, and the utilization of emerging hybrid techniques in future research. ANN analysis was demonstrated in the study with 70% training, 15% testing and 15% validation at a reduced error. In conclusion, ML approaches especially ANN model present promising avenues for enhancing financial fraud detection, contributing to economic stability and societal well-being.

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