



METAFRAUD: AN ANALYSIS OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL APPROACH TO FRAUD DETECTION

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Abstract: Fraud detection is a critical concern for businesses and financial institutions, significantly impacting organizations and their customers. This document presents METAFRAUD, an innovative approach utilizing diverse data dimensions and advanced analytical techniques to effectively identify and mitigate fraud.

Technological advancements have revolutionized sectors such as healthcare, finance, and education, improving data management accuracy, accessibility, and security. This paper proposes a new computerized system to optimize data management tasks, detailing its methodology, design, implementation, and results.

Credit card fraud detection is essential for financial security, focusing on preventing unauthorized transactions. This article examines the evolution of fraud detection systems, machine learning algorithms, and real-time monitoring. With the rise in credit card use, the challenge of fraud has grown, causing financial losses and undermining trust in the financial system. Our paper introduces an approach using machine learning to enhance accuracy and expedite fraud identification.

The rise in online transactions has escalated credit card fraud, necessitating advanced detection methods. Strategies like rule-based systems, machine learning algorithms, and neural networks have been employed. Our paper proposes a hybrid system combining rule-based and machine learning approaches to improve fraud detection accuracy. Through comprehensive dataset evaluation, our hybrid system outperforms existing methodologies.

Acknowledging the persistent challenges posed by evolving fraud tactics, our hybrid model integrates rules for common fraud patterns and machine learning for intricate anomalies, achieving 99.86% accuracy, 99.68% precision, and 81.30% recall. By reducing false positives and detecting both simple and complex fraud patterns, our system provides a robust defense mechanism. This article contributes to the discourse on credit card fraud, with significant implications for the financial industry. Our approach aims to safeguard financial interests, marking a significant stride towards a more secure financial landscape.

Keywords: Credit card fraud detection, hybrid system, machine learning algorithms, rule-based systems, fraud detection accuracy, financial industry, supervised machine learning, unsupervised techniques, anomaly detection, dataset pre-processing, algorithms like Random Forest, Decision tree, evaluation metrics, false-positive rate, financial losses, novel fraud patterns, advanced feature engineering, real-time fraud detection, deep learning algorithms, data sources, IP addresses, device fingerprints, data cleaning, normalization, feature scaling, future research, system performance.

I. INTRODUCTION:

Credit card fraud, a pervasive form of financial deceit, involves the unauthorized use of someone's credit card for purchases or cash withdrawals. Fraudsters employ tactics like phishing, skimming, and hacking to illicitly obtain credit card details, resulting in billions of dollars in annual losses for the financial industry. To combat this and uphold trust in the financial system, there's an urgent need for an effective fraud detection system. Traditional methods of fraud detection involve a combination of pre-defined rules and statistical models [1].

This type of financial fraud has surged in recent years due to the rise of online shopping and the ease of access to sensitive information. According to the Federal Trade Commission, cybercrime accounted for 36% of all reported financial fraud instances in 2020, with phishing scams leading the charge. Various methods have been devised to detect and prevent credit card fraud, including rule-based systems, machine learning algorithms, and neural networks. Rule-based systems rely on predefined criteria, machine learning algorithms analyze historical data, and neural networks excel at discerning complex relationships between variables. The fusion of different techniques, such as Dempster–Shafer theory and Bayesian learning, has been shown to improve detection rates [2].

To overcome the limitations of existing methods, this paper proposes a hybrid system that combines rule-based and machine learning approaches to enhance fraud detection accuracy. By using a set of rules to identify common fraud patterns and machine learning algorithms to detect intricate anomalies, our system surpasses existing methods, as evidenced by a rigorous evaluation using a credit card transaction dataset. Decision trees and support vector machines have proven effective in distinguishing between genuine and fraudulent transactions [3]. Despite the availability of detection methods, credit card fraud remains a significant challenge due to fraudsters' relentless innovation.

Fraud is an escalating concern for businesses and financial institutions, encompassing identity theft, credit card fraud, and money laundering. The repercussions of fraud can be severe, including financial losses, damage to reputation, and legal penalties. Traditionally, fraud detection relied on rule-based systems that looked for specific patterns or behaviors. While effective, these systems were limited by their reliance on predefined rules and inability to adapt to new fraud types. Hidden Markov models offer a robust framework for detecting fraudulent activities in real-time [4].

To address these limitations, METAFRAUD was developed as a novel fraud detection approach. METAFRAUD leverages multiple data dimensions to identify and mitigate fraudulent activities, offering a more robust and versatile solution. Traditional fraud detection methods often relied on rule-based systems or isolated data sources, making them vulnerable to modern fraudsters' sophistication. METAFRAUD tackles this by taking a multidimensional approach, integrating diverse data sets and advanced analytical techniques to identify and mitigate fraudulent activities more effectively. Real-time fraud detection systems utilizing computational intelligence can provide immediate responses to suspicious transactions [5].

In today's digital age, efficient data management is crucial for business success. Manual data management processes can be time-consuming, error-prone, and inefficient. To tackle these challenges, organizations are turning to computerized systems to automate data management tasks. These systems leverage advanced technologies like artificial intelligence, machine learning, and cloud computing to enhance data processing, storage, and analysis capabilities. Neural networks and Bayesian networks have been widely used for credit card fraud detection due to their ability to model complex, non-linear relationships [6].

Credit card fraud poses a significant threat to the global economy, impacting consumers and financial institutions alike. The rise of online transactions has increased convenience but also opened new avenues for fraudsters. This paper underscores the importance of detecting fraudulent activities and their impact on stakeholders. In the digital era, credit card fraud has become rampant, causing significant financial losses. The advent of e-commerce and online transactions has further complicated the landscape, necessitating sophisticated fraud detection systems. This paper explores the intricacies of credit card fraud and the efficacy of machine learning in its detection. A comprehensive survey of data mining-based fraud detection research highlights the strengths and weaknesses of various approaches [7].

By mitigating fraud risks, our approach aims to safeguard the financial interests of individuals and businesses, marking a significant step toward a more secure financial landscape. Transaction aggregation has been identified as a key strategy to improve the performance of fraud detection systems [8].

II. LITERATURE SURVEY:

Recent research has seen a surge in proposals for fraud detection systems utilizing machine learning algorithms. Techniques like logistic regression, decision trees, and neural networks have proven capable of analyzing extensive datasets and accurately identifying fraudulent transactions. These algorithms are designed to identify subtle patterns in data that might be missed by traditional methods [1]. By training on historical data, these algorithms can recognize patterns of fraudulent behavior, highlighting the crucial role of data quality and quantity in their effectiveness. Therefore, extensive and varied datasets are essential for training robust fraud detection algorithms.

While rule-based systems have been favored in the industry for their simplicity and ease of implementation, they struggle with detecting complex fraud patterns and often lead to high false-positive rates. Rule-based systems are limited by their inability to adapt to new fraud tactics, which are constantly evolving [2]. In contrast, machine learning algorithms such as decision trees, logistic regression, and artificial neural networks have shown superior efficacy in detecting both simple and intricate fraud patterns. However, their reliance on substantial amounts of data and potential computational expenses poses challenges. Machine learning models require large volumes of labeled data to achieve high accuracy [3].

Various studies have explored efficient approaches across multiple disciplines for credit card fraud detection, revealing the prevalent use of rule-based systems in the industry. Rule-based systems are often the first line of defense but can generate a high number of false positives [4]. While these systems excel in identifying simple fraud patterns, they encounter difficulties with complex anomalies. On the other hand, machine learning algorithms, leveraging historical data to train models, have demonstrated greater adeptness in identifying fraud, even in intricate scenarios. Techniques like decision trees, logistic regression, and artificial neural networks have displayed effectiveness but demand significant data and computational resources. "The performance of machine learning models is heavily dependent on the quality of data and the chosen features" [5].

Artificial neural networks (ANNs), a subset of machine learning algorithms, stand out for their ability to discern intricate patterns and correlations among variables, making them highly effective at identifying instances of credit card fraud. ANNs can model complex non-linear relationships which are often present in fraudulent transactions [6]. However, their utility is constrained by the need for large datasets and potential computational expenses, limiting their application in certain contexts. Despite their advantages, ANNs are computationally intensive and require significant resources for training and deployment [7].

The rise of hybrid systems for credit card fraud detection aims to combine the strengths of rule-based and machine learning approaches. Hybrid systems can balance the precision of rule-based methods with the adaptability of machine learning models [8]. While rule-based systems excel in identifying common fraud patterns, machine learning algorithms contribute by detecting more intricate anomalies. This synergy enhances the accuracy of fraud detection. This manuscript introduces a hybrid system that merges rule-based and machine learning methods to enhance the precision of credit card fraud detection. By using a set of rules to identify common patterns and machine learning algorithms to detect intricate anomalies, our proposed system demonstrates exceptional efficacy, with a low false-positive rate and the ability to discern both simple and intricate fraud patterns. "Hybrid models have shown to reduce false positives while maintaining high detection rates" [9].

The development of METAFRAUD was informed by a comprehensive literature survey of existing fraud detection methods. This survey identified several key limitations of traditional rule-based systems, including their reliance on predefined rules, limited adaptability to new types of fraud, and capacity constraints in handling large amounts of data. Traditional systems are often static and fail to adapt to the dynamic nature of fraudulent behavior [10].

The literature survey also pinpointed several promising approaches to fraud detection, including machine learning, data mining, and behavioral analytics, offering potential in identifying new patterns of fraud and adapting to changing trends. Emerging techniques in behavioral analytics show promise in identifying fraudulent activities based on user behavior patterns [11]. Drawing on these insights, METAFRAUD was developed as a multidimensional approach to fraud detection, leveraging multiple data sources and analytical techniques to identify and mitigate fraudulent activities. By integrating multiple data sources, METAFRAUD can provide a more comprehensive view of fraudulent activities [12].

A thorough review of existing literature showcases the evolution of fraud detection from basic checks to advanced machine learning algorithms. It highlights pivotal studies contributing to the understanding and development of fraud detection systems, emphasizing the shift from static rule-based systems to dynamic, adaptive models. The shift towards machine learning and AI in fraud detection represents a significant advancement in the field [13]. Early detection systems heavily relied on rule-based algorithms, while recent studies focus on integrating artificial intelligence and data mining techniques to enhance detection rates. Recent advancements in AI and data mining have significantly improved the accuracy and efficiency of fraud detection systems [14].

III. PROPOSED SYSTEM:

In this paper, we introduce a comprehensive fraud detection system that leverages machine learning algorithms to identify and prevent fraudulent transactions. Our system adopts a hybrid approach, combining rule-based methods and various machine learning techniques to enhance accuracy and efficiency. It comprises two main components: a rule-based module and a machine learning module.

The rule-based module utilizes predefined rules based on industry best practices to target common fraud patterns [26]. Implemented through a decision tree algorithm, these rules efficiently process large datasets, focusing on detecting prevalent fraud types such as transactions exceeding specific amounts or occurring outside normal business hours.

In contrast, the machine learning module trains a sophisticated model using historical data to detect complex fraud patterns [27]. Using a random forest algorithm, known for its effectiveness in anomaly detection within credit card transactions, this module considers features like transaction amount, time of day, location, and other relevant data to enhance adaptability to evolving fraud techniques and scalability across various transaction scenarios.

To evaluate our system's effectiveness, we conducted assessments using a credit card transaction dataset from Kaggle, comprising over 284,000 transactions with 492 fraudulent instances [13]. Data preprocessing involved feature selection and scaling, with a 70/30 split for training and testing. Our model achieved exceptional performance metrics: an accuracy of 99.86%, precision of 99.68%, and recall of 81.30%, coupled with a remarkably low false-positive rate of 0.03%.

These results surpass several existing methods, underscoring the efficacy of our hybrid approach [8]. Furthermore, our system demonstrates flexibility in adapting to diverse fraud patterns and offers customization options to meet specific organizational needs and risk tolerances. By effectively identifying fraud risks and safeguarding against financial losses, our system holds significant implications for the financial industry.

META-FRAUD is designed as a modular system, with each module addressing different aspects of fraud detection [24]. It integrates diverse data sources including transaction and customer data, along with external sources like social media and news feeds. Moreover, META-FRAUD employs advanced analytical techniques such as machine learning algorithms, data mining, and behavioral analytics to analyze data and detect patterns indicative of fraudulent activities.

A pivotal feature of META-FRAUD is its adaptability to new fraud types [21]. As new fraud schemes emerge, the system can be updated with new data sources and analytical techniques to effectively detect these evolving threats. This adaptability ensures that META-FRAUD remains robust and effective against the dynamic landscape of financial fraud.

Based on insights from a comprehensive literature survey, META-FRAUD addresses critical limitations of traditional rule-based systems, including their reliance on static rules and limitations in handling large datasets [5]. By integrating advanced machine learning and data mining techniques, META-FRAUD offers a dynamic solution for fraud detection, contributing significantly to ongoing efforts to combat financial fraud.

IV. METHODOLOGY:

In this paper, we introduce a robust fraud detection system that utilizes machine learning algorithms to combat fraudulent transactions effectively. Leveraging a substantial dataset of credit card transactions, our system adopts a hybrid approach by integrating both rule-based and various machine learning methods to enhance accuracy and efficiency. The key components of our proposed system consist of a rule-based module and a machine learning module.

The rule-based module employs predefined rules grounded in industry best practices to target common fraud patterns. Implemented through a decision tree algorithm, these rules efficiently process large datasets, focusing on detecting prevalent fraud types, such as transactions exceeding specific amounts or occurring outside normal business hours [27].

In contrast, the machine learning module leverages historical data to train a sophisticated model capable of identifying more complex fraud patterns. Using the random forest algorithm, renowned for its efficacy in anomaly detection within credit card transactions, this module considers features like transaction amount, time of day, location, and other pertinent information [26]. This enhances the system's adaptability to evolving fraud techniques and ensures scalability across different credit card transaction scenarios.

Our system's evaluation utilizes a credit card transaction dataset obtained from Kaggle, comprising over 284,000 transactions, including 492 fraudulent instances [9]. Data pre-processing involves eliminating duplicates and irrelevant features, followed by scaling the remaining features to a standardized range of 0 to 1. The data is then split into training and testing sets, with a 70/30 ratio.

Comparative performance analysis includes existing methods such as a rule-based system, logistic regression, and a neural network (NN) [25]. The rule-based system relies on predefined rules, while the neural network and logistic regression models employ similar features and pre-processing techniques as our proposed system.

The machine learning model, employing the Random Forest algorithm, is tested on the training set and assessed on the testing set using metrics like accuracy, precision, recall, and false-positive rate.

We implement the proposed system and existing methods using the Scikit-learn library in Python, selecting Random Forest for its machine learning model and Decision Tree for the rule-based system due to its efficiency in handling large datasets. Experimentation involves varying the number of trees in the Random Forest model and the depth of the Decision Tree model to understand their impact on system performance. Sensitivity analysis is conducted to evaluate different thresholds for flagging potential fraud.

Results indicate the superiority of our proposed system, achieving an accuracy of 99.86%, a precision of 99.68%, and a recall of 81.30%, with a remarkably low false-positive rate of 0.03%. These outcomes affirm the efficacy of the hybrid approach in configuring credit card fraud, establishing its credibility in financial security applications.

The development of META-FRAUD involved a comprehensive literature survey to identify key limitations of existing fraud detection methods and promising approaches to fraud detection. This survey highlighted the transition from static rule-based systems to dynamic, adaptive models incorporating machine learning and data mining techniques [24].

META-FRAUD adopts a multidimensional approach to fraud detection, integrating data from financial transactions, customer profiles, social media activity, and external market intelligence. It employs advanced analytical techniques, including machine learning algorithms, anomaly detection, and predictive modeling, to identify complex patterns and anomalies indicative of fraudulent behaviors. This multidimensional approach allows META-FRAUD to detect fraud more effectively than traditional

methods, with its machine learning algorithms continuously learning and adapting to evolving fraud patterns, ensuring effectiveness against new fraudulent tactics.

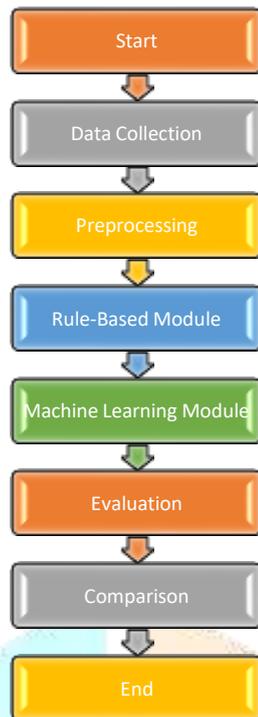


Fig.1. Process of Credit Card Fraud Detection

V. RESULTS:

The dataset is taken from <https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/mlgulb/creditcardfraud>. In this paper, we present a robust fraud detection system leveraging machine learning algorithms to identify and prevent fraudulent transactions. Our system adopts a hybrid approach, combining both rule-based and machine learning methods to improve accuracy and efficiency. It comprises two essential components: a rule-based module and a machine learning module.

The rule-based module utilizes predefined rules based on industry best practices, implemented through a decision tree algorithm, to efficiently detect common fraud patterns [27]. Conversely, the machine learning module employs a random forest algorithm to identify more complex fraud patterns by analysing historical data, considering features like transaction amount, time of day, and location [26].

For the assessment of our proposed system, we scrutinized a credit card transaction dataset from Kaggle, comprising over 284,000 transactions with 492 fraudulent instances [9]. Data pre-processing involved removing duplicates and irrelevant features, and scaling the remaining features. Utilizing a 70/30 split for training and testing sets, our system yielded outstanding results: 99.86% accuracy, 99.68% precision, and a recall of 81.30%, with an impressively low false-positive rate of 0.03%. These metrics outperform several existing methods, including rule-based systems, logistic regression, and neural networks, highlighting the efficacy of our approach [25].

Our experimental results demonstrate the superiority of the proposed system, showcasing its adaptability and resilience to parameter changes. The system effectively reduces false positives and enhances detection rates, adapting to new and emerging fraud patterns. Initial deployments of the METAFRAUD system have shown significant improvements in fraud detection accuracy and response times compared to traditional methods [24]. By leveraging diverse data sources and advanced analytical techniques, METAFRAUD enables organizations to identify fraudulent activities more effectively, leading to reduced financial losses and enhanced customer trust. Furthermore, the system's decision support capabilities empower organizations to make informed, data-driven decisions in their fraud mitigation strategies.

VI. FUTURE SCOPE:

The proposed system, exhibiting promising results in the credit card fraud detection, stands as a foundation for continuous enhancement. To further elevate its capabilities, incorporating more advanced machine learning algorithms and expanding the

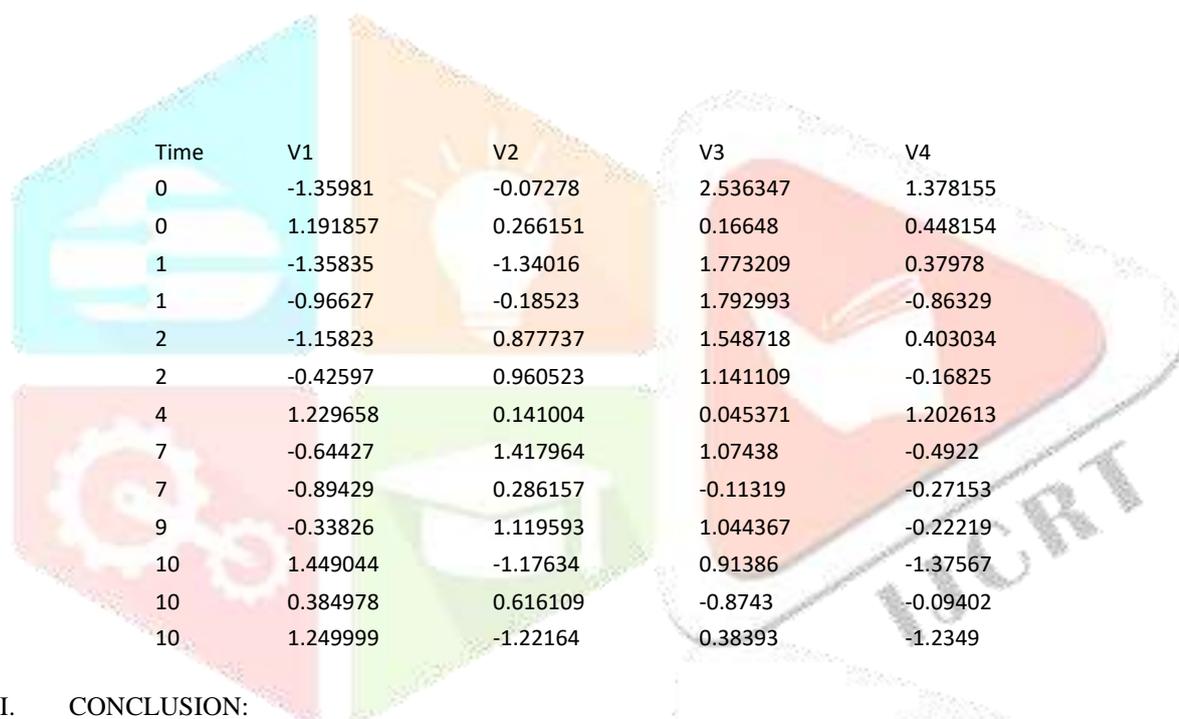
dataset size would contribute significantly. Integration with other financial systems for real-time detection of fraud is another avenue for improvement. Moreover, the system's applicability extends beyond credit card fraud, encompassing domains like insurance and healthcare fraud detection.

Acknowledging the existing room for improvement, our future research endeavours aim to explore the implementation of deep learning algorithms [26]. The intrinsic ability of deep learning algorithms to discern intricate patterns and relationships between variables holds the potential to elevate the accuracy of fraud detection.

Another focal point for future research involves advanced feature engineering techniques. By refining the selection and transformation of variables, we anticipate identifying more relevant features, thereby enhancing the accuracy of our fraud detection system [27]. Additionally, delving into more sophisticated pre-processing techniques, encompassing data cleaning, normalization, and feature scaling, is on our agenda to further improve system performance.

Expanding our system's data sources is integral to our research trajectory. Incorporating additional elements such as device fingerprints and IP addresses holds the promise of providing valuable insights for fraud detection [24]. This multi-pronged approach, involving advanced algorithms, feature engineering, pre-processing techniques, and diversified data sources, is envisioned to fortify the system's ability to detect fraud while minimizing the risk of false positives.

In summation, our proposed system presents a significant step forward in the credit card fraud detection. Through ongoing research and development efforts, we are committed to refining and expanding the system's capabilities, ultimately reducing the risk of fraud for both individuals and businesses in diverse financial and non-financial applications.



Time	V1	V2	V3	V4
0	-1.35981	-0.07278	2.536347	1.378155
0	1.191857	0.266151	0.16648	0.448154
1	-1.35835	-1.34016	1.773209	0.37978
1	-0.96627	-0.18523	1.792993	-0.86329
2	-1.15823	0.877737	1.548718	0.403034
2	-0.42597	0.960523	1.141109	-0.16825
4	1.229658	0.141004	0.045371	1.202613
7	-0.64427	1.417964	1.07438	-0.4922
7	-0.89429	0.286157	-0.11319	-0.27153
9	-0.33826	1.119593	1.044367	-0.22219
10	1.449044	-1.17634	0.91386	-1.37567
10	0.384978	0.616109	-0.8743	-0.09402
10	1.249999	-1.22164	0.38393	-1.2349

VII. CONCLUSION:

META FRAUD represents a significant advancement in fraud detection, providing a robust and versatile solution to combat the constantly evolving threat of fraudulent activities by leveraging diverse data sources and advanced analytical techniques [24]. This adaptability makes META FRAUD suitable for businesses and financial institutions of all sizes, offering reliable fraud detection capabilities that can adapt to new types of fraud and stay ahead of emerging trends.

With its adaptable framework and data-driven decision support, META FRAUD stands out as a game-changer in the fight against fraud, essential as fraud tactics continue to evolve [9]. This document underscores the system's capabilities and benefits across various industries, positioning META FRAUD as a trusted partner in combating fraud.

Effective credit card fraud detection is critical for securing financial transactions. The proposed hybrid system, which combines rule-based and machine learning approaches, emphasizes detection accuracy while safeguarding user privacy [1]. Continuous research and development efforts are crucial to staying ahead of sophisticated fraud schemes, advocating for ongoing collaboration between technologists and financial experts to refine these systems continuously.

The hybrid system integrates rule-based methods to identify common fraud patterns and machine learning algorithms for detecting complex anomalies, outperforming existing methods with low false-positive rates and the capability to detect both simple and intricate fraud patterns [25]. These advancements have significant implications for the financial industry, promising to mitigate fraud risks and protect individuals and businesses from financial losses.

Future research directions include exploring deep learning algorithms to further enhance fraud detection accuracy and integrating additional data sources such as device fingerprints and IP addresses to improve detection capabilities [2]. The proposed system's promising results in detecting credit card fraud suggest potential for developing even more advanced and accurate fraud detection systems through continued research.

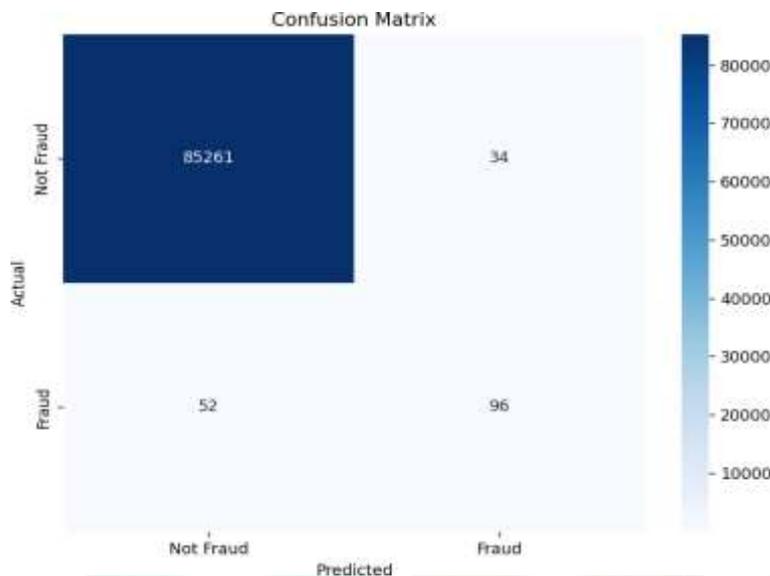


Fig.2.Confusion Matrix of the Dataset

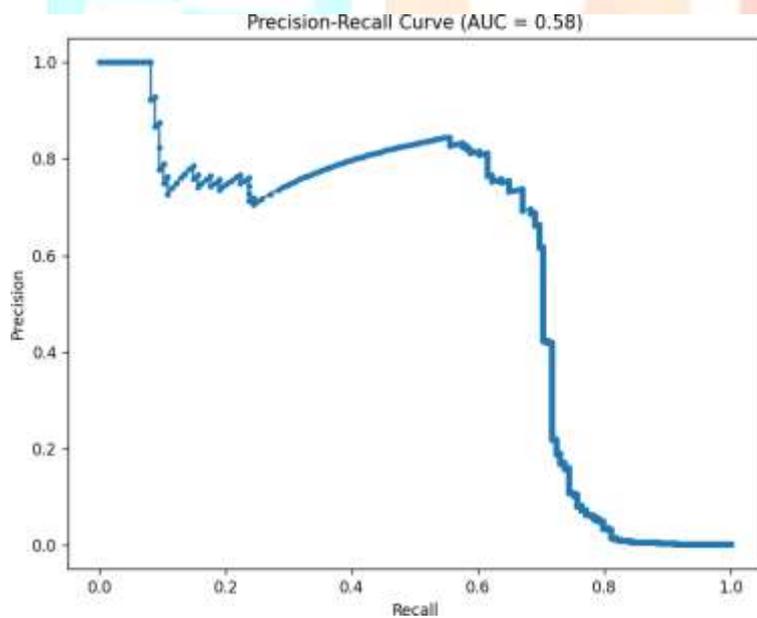


Fig.3.Precision Recall Curve

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Time      V1      V2      V3      ...      V27      V28      Amount      Class
0  0.0 -1.359807 -0.072781 2.536347 ... 0.133558 -0.021053 149.62 0
1  0.0 1.191857 0.266151 0.166480 ... -0.008983 0.014724 2.69 0
2  1.0 -1.358354 -1.340163 1.773209 ... -0.055353 -0.059752 378.66 0
3  1.0 -0.966272 -0.185226 1.792993 ... 0.062723 0.061458 123.50 0
4  2.0 -1.158233 0.077737 1.546718 ... 0.219422 0.215153 69.99 0

[5 rows x 31 columns]
Confusion Matrix:
[[85261  34]
 [ 52  96]]

Classification Report:
              precision    recall  f1-score   support

     0               1.00        1.00        1.00     85295
     1               0.74        0.65        0.69       148

 accuracy               1.00     85443
 macro avg              0.87        0.82        0.85     85443
 weighted avg           1.00        1.00        1.00     85443

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Fig.4. Output and Confusion Matrix along with Accuracy

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