

Boosting Fund Protection through Implementation of Algorithmic Intelligence to Identify Deceptive Actions in Digital Transaction Ecosystems

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Received: 22 Nov 2025 | Received Revised Version: 16 Dec 2025 | Accepted: 02 Jan 2026 | Published: 31 Jan 2026

Volume 08 Issue 01 2026 |

Abstract

The rapid expansion of digital transaction ecosystems has fundamentally transformed global financial systems, enabling high-speed, cross-border monetary exchanges. However, this transformation has also introduced complex vulnerabilities in the form of deceptive financial behaviors, algorithmically generated fraud, and privacy-invasive transactional manipulation. This research proposes a comprehensive algorithmic intelligence framework designed to enhance fund protection by detecting deceptive actions in digital transaction environments.

The study integrates advanced privacy-preserving machine learning techniques with federated and distributed learning paradigms to construct a robust fraud detection architecture. Foundational contributions are drawn from privacy-preserving decision systems and federated learning models, including Akavia et al. (2019), Aminifar et al. (2021), and Li et al. (2020), which demonstrate the effectiveness of decentralized and secure predictive modeling in adversarial environments.

A core analytical foundation is also established through differential privacy principles (Dwork & Lei, 2009), homomorphic encryption frameworks (Benarroch et al., 2017), and secure collaborative prediction systems (Giacomelli et al., 2019), ensuring that sensitive financial data remains protected during model training and inference processes.

The proposed architecture incorporates hybrid gradient boosting frameworks and federated decision tree systems (Fang et al., 2020; Li et al., 2020), enabling distributed anomaly detection across digital transaction nodes. Additionally, interpretability mechanisms derived from GBDT model analysis (Fang et al., 2018) enhance transparency in fraud classification decisions.

The findings indicate that algorithmic intelligence significantly improves detection accuracy for deceptive transaction patterns while maintaining data privacy and computational efficiency. The system effectively identifies coordinated fraud attempts, minimizes false negatives, and strengthens overall fund protection mechanisms in digital ecosystems.

However, challenges remain in computational scalability, adversarial model manipulation, and real-time deployment across heterogeneous financial infrastructures. The study concludes that privacy-preserving algorithmic intelligence represents a critical advancement in securing digital financial systems and ensuring sustainable fund protection in increasingly complex transactional environments.

Keywords: Algorithmic intelligence, digital transactions, fraud detection, federated learning, privacy-preserving computation, financial security, gradient boosting, anomaly detection, secure machine learning.

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Cite This Article: Dr. Olli Virtanen. (2026). Boosting Fund Protection through Implementation of Algorithmic Intelligence to Identify Deceptive Actions in Digital Transaction Ecosystems. *The American Journal of Interdisciplinary Innovations and Research*, 8(01), 211–219. Retrieved from <https://theamericanjournals.com/index.php/tajir/article/view/7810>

1. Introduction

Digital transaction ecosystems have become the backbone of modern financial infrastructure, enabling instantaneous monetary exchange across global networks. These systems support e-commerce platforms, banking services, mobile payments, and decentralized financial operations. While they offer unprecedented efficiency and accessibility, they simultaneously expose financial systems to increasingly sophisticated deceptive behaviors.

The nature of financial fraud has evolved significantly with the advancement of digital technologies. Traditional fraud methods have been replaced by algorithmically assisted attacks, including synthetic identity creation, transaction laundering, and adaptive behavioral manipulation. These threats are particularly difficult to detect due to their distributed and adaptive nature across digital ecosystems.

Fund protection in digital environments refers to the ability of financial systems to preserve transactional integrity, prevent unauthorized access, and ensure accurate value transfer between entities. As transaction volumes increase, maintaining fund protection requires intelligent systems capable of real-time anomaly detection and adaptive learning.

Recent advancements in machine learning have introduced new possibilities for fraud detection. The study *Enhancing Financial Security through the Integration of Machine Learning Models for Effective Fraud Detection in Transaction Systems* (2025) demonstrates that hybrid machine learning frameworks significantly improve fraud detection accuracy by combining supervised and unsupervised learning strategies. This study forms a foundational reference in this research and is repeatedly cited due to its relevance in intelligent financial security modeling.

Parallel developments in privacy-preserving computation have enabled secure analysis of sensitive financial data without exposing raw transactional information. Akavia et al. (2019) propose privacy-preserving decision tree systems resistant to malicious server attacks, while Aminifar et al. (2021) extend distributed learning techniques for randomized tree

models. These approaches ensure that fraud detection systems can operate without compromising user privacy.

Federated learning has emerged as a critical paradigm in distributed financial intelligence. Li et al. (2020) demonstrate practical federated gradient boosting decision trees that allow collaborative model training without centralized data aggregation. Similarly, Liu et al. (2020) introduce federated extreme gradient boosting systems optimized for distributed environments.

However, despite these advancements, existing systems still face limitations in handling highly adaptive deceptive behaviors in real-time transaction environments. Many current models rely on static feature sets and centralized computation, which are inadequate for dynamic digital ecosystems.

The primary problem addressed in this study is the lack of scalable, privacy-preserving, and adaptive algorithmic intelligence systems capable of detecting deceptive financial actions in real time. The objectives of this research are as follows:

1. To analyze vulnerabilities in digital transaction ecosystems
2. To evaluate privacy-preserving machine learning frameworks for fraud detection
3. To design a federated algorithmic intelligence model for deception detection
4. To integrate gradient boosting and secure computation techniques
5. To assess system effectiveness in fund protection enhancement

The significance of this research lies in its interdisciplinary integration of cybersecurity, distributed machine learning, and financial system design. The scope includes digital payment platforms, online banking systems, and decentralized transaction networks.

2. Literature Review

Evolution of Fraud Detection in Digital Systems

Fraud detection systems have evolved from rule-based filtering mechanisms to advanced machine learning-

driven architectures. Early systems relied heavily on predefined heuristics, which were effective against known fraud patterns but failed to adapt to new attack strategies.

The introduction of algorithmic intelligence has significantly improved detection capabilities by enabling systems to learn from historical transaction data. However, centralized machine learning systems often suffer from data privacy concerns and scalability limitations.

Privacy-Preserving Machine Learning Frameworks

Privacy-preserving computation plays a central role in modern financial security systems. Dwork and Lei (2009) introduce differential privacy as a foundational technique for ensuring that individual data points cannot be reverse-engineered from model outputs. This principle is essential in protecting sensitive financial information during fraud detection processes.

Benarroch et al. (2017) further extend privacy-preserving computation through homomorphic encryption techniques, enabling computations on encrypted data without decryption. This ensures that financial data remains secure even during analytical processing.

Giacomelli et al. (2019) propose collaborative prediction models using random forests that preserve privacy across distributed systems. These frameworks are particularly relevant for multi-institution financial ecosystems where data sharing is restricted.

Federated Learning in Financial Systems

Federated learning has emerged as a transformative approach in distributed machine learning. Li et al. (2020) demonstrate practical federated gradient boosting decision trees that allow decentralized model training while maintaining data privacy.

Aminifar et al. (2021) extend this concept by introducing privacy-preserving distributed tree models that are resistant to malicious server manipulation. These systems ensure robust fraud detection even in adversarial environments.

Liu et al. (2020) further enhance federated learning by optimizing extreme gradient boosting for mobile and distributed crowdsensing systems, demonstrating high scalability and adaptability.

Gradient Boosting and Model Interpretability

Gradient boosting decision trees (GBDT) are widely used in fraud detection due to their high accuracy and robustness. Fang et al. (2018) explore local interpretability mechanisms for GBDT models, enabling better understanding of model predictions.

Fang et al. (2020) introduce hybrid-domain frameworks for secure gradient tree boosting, combining privacy preservation with high-performance predictive modeling.

Interpretability is crucial in financial systems, as regulatory compliance requires transparent decision-making processes.

Secure Computation and Cryptographic Foundations

Secure computation frameworks play a vital role in protecting financial data during analysis. Benarroch et al. (2017) demonstrate decomposed and batched fully homomorphic encryption systems capable of operating in post-quantum environments.

These cryptographic techniques ensure that financial data remains secure even during complex machine learning computations.

4.6 Energy and System Efficiency Analogies

Although not directly financial, systems engineering studies such as Ye (2021) highlight challenges in low-power AI IoT systems, which are relevant for optimizing computational efficiency in large-scale fraud detection systems.

These insights contribute to designing scalable algorithmic intelligence systems capable of operating in real-time environments.

Limitations of Existing Algorithmic Fraud Detection Systems

Despite substantial advancements in privacy-preserving machine learning and federated learning architectures, existing fraud detection systems continue to face structural and operational limitations when deployed in real-world digital transaction ecosystems. A key limitation is the dependence on partially centralized coordination mechanisms, which introduces latency and reduces scalability in high-frequency financial environments.

Akavia et al. (2019) highlight that while privacy-preserving decision tree training improves security against malicious servers, it still assumes controlled

adversarial boundaries, which may not hold in real-world financial ecosystems. Similarly, Aminifar et al. (2021) demonstrate distributed extremely randomized trees that preserve privacy; however, model synchronization across nodes remains computationally expensive.

Another major limitation lies in the trade-off between privacy and model accuracy. Differential privacy frameworks (Dwork & Lei, 2009) introduce controlled noise into datasets, which can reduce predictive precision in detecting subtle fraudulent behaviors. In high-risk financial environments, even minor reductions in accuracy can lead to significant financial exposure.

Federated Learning Constraints in Financial Ecosystems

Federated learning models such as those proposed by Li et al. (2020) and Liu et al. (2020) offer decentralized training capabilities, but they face critical challenges related to communication overhead, model convergence delays, and heterogeneous data distributions.

Financial ecosystems are inherently non-IID (non-independent and identically distributed), meaning that transaction patterns vary significantly across institutions, regions, and user demographics. This heterogeneity complicates federated model training and reduces convergence stability.

Moreover, adversarial participants in federated networks can introduce poisoned updates, potentially corrupting global model performance. Although privacy-preserving mechanisms reduce data exposure, they do not fully eliminate risks associated with model manipulation.

Cryptographic and Secure Computation Barriers

Benarroch et al. (2017) introduce fully homomorphic encryption (FHE) as a method for secure computation on encrypted data. While theoretically powerful, FHE remains computationally expensive for real-time financial systems.

The latency introduced by encryption and decryption processes limits its scalability in high-frequency trading and real-time payment fraud detection scenarios. Therefore, practical implementation requires hybrid approaches combining partial encryption with lightweight machine learning models.

Interpretability Challenges in Gradient Boosting Models

Although gradient boosting decision trees (GBDT) are widely used in fraud detection, interpretability remains a significant challenge. Fang et al. (2018) address local interpretability, but global interpretability across distributed federated systems remains limited.

Fang et al. (2020) propose hybrid secure gradient boosting frameworks, yet these models still struggle to provide transparent explanations for real-time fraud classification decisions in distributed environments.

In financial systems, interpretability is not optional; regulatory compliance requires clear justification of automated fraud decisions. This gap limits the adoption of fully autonomous algorithmic intelligence systems in regulated financial institutions.

Systemic Vulnerability in Digital Transaction Ecosystems

Digital transaction ecosystems are increasingly interconnected, forming complex multi-layered financial infrastructures. These systems are vulnerable not only at the algorithmic level but also at the architectural level.

Geographic distribution, cross-platform integration, and third-party service dependencies increase system exposure to coordinated fraud attacks. Malicious actors exploit these interdependencies to perform multi-stage fraud operations that are difficult to detect using isolated models.

Existing research primarily focuses on local anomaly detection rather than systemic fraud propagation, leaving a critical gap in holistic financial security modeling.

Synthesis of Literature and Research Gap Identification

A comprehensive synthesis of the reviewed literature reveals several key gaps:

1. Lack of real-time scalable privacy-preserving fraud detection systems

Existing models struggle to maintain efficiency under high transaction throughput.

2. Insufficient robustness against adversarial manipulation in federated learning

Poisoning attacks and malicious updates remain unresolved challenges.

3. High computational overhead in cryptographic security models

Fully homomorphic encryption is not yet practical for real-time deployment.

4. Limited interpretability in distributed machine learning frameworks

Decision transparency is inadequate for regulatory and audit requirements.

5. Absence of integrated systemic fraud detection frameworks

Current systems focus on local anomalies rather than ecosystem-wide malicious patterns.

This research addresses these gaps by proposing an integrated algorithmic intelligence framework that combines federated learning, privacy-preserving computation, gradient boosting models, and system-level fraud propagation analysis.

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design Overview

This study adopts a multi-layered algorithmic intelligence framework design methodology combining theoretical modeling, system architecture design, and computational fraud detection simulation. The approach integrates federated learning, privacy-preserving computation, and gradient boosting decision systems to construct a scalable fraud detection ecosystem.

The methodology is structured into five core layers:

1. Data acquisition and distributed preprocessing layer
2. Federated learning computation layer
3. Privacy-preserving cryptographic protection layer
4. Algorithmic intelligence fusion layer
5. Fraud decision and risk scoring layer

3.2 Data Acquisition and Distributed Transaction Layer

The system processes high-volume financial transaction data originating from digital payment ecosystems. Data sources include:

- Real-time payment gateway logs
- Banking API transaction records

- User authentication behavior streams
- Device-level interaction metadata
- Cross-platform financial transfer records

Inspired by Giacomelli et al. (2019), data is not centralized but distributed across multiple secure nodes to preserve privacy and reduce exposure risk.

Each node independently preprocesses transactional data using normalization, feature scaling, and anomaly feature extraction techniques.

Key extracted features include:

- Transaction frequency deviation
- Temporal inconsistency patterns
- Device-user mismatch indicators
- Geo-location variance
- Behavioral entropy scores

3.3 Federated Learning Architecture Design

The federated learning layer enables decentralized model training without direct data sharing. Each financial institution or node trains a local model using its own dataset.

The system follows a federated optimization structure:

1. Local model training at node level
2. Secure parameter aggregation
3. Global model update synchronization
4. Iterative refinement cycles

This approach is based on Li et al. (2020) and Liu et al. (2020), which demonstrate scalable federated gradient boosting frameworks for distributed environments.

To handle non-IID data distributions, adaptive weighting mechanisms are introduced to balance contributions from heterogeneous financial nodes.

3.4 Privacy-Preserving Cryptographic Layer

To ensure secure computation, the system integrates multiple privacy-preserving techniques:

3.4.1 Differential Privacy Integration

Based on Dwork & Lei (2009), controlled noise injection is applied to model outputs to prevent data reconstruction attacks.

3.4.2 Homomorphic Encryption

Following Benarroch et al. (2017), encrypted computations allow model processing without exposing raw financial data.

3.4.3 Secure Multi-Party Computation

Nodes collaboratively compute fraud detection outcomes without revealing underlying datasets.

These mechanisms collectively ensure end-to-end data confidentiality.

3.5 Algorithmic Intelligence Fusion Layer

This layer forms the core of the fraud detection system by integrating multiple machine learning models:

3.5.1 Gradient Boosting Decision Trees (GBDT)

Used for high-accuracy classification of fraudulent and legitimate transactions.

3.5.2 Federated Ensemble Learning

Combines predictions from multiple distributed models to enhance robustness.

3.5.3 Hybrid Secure Boosting Framework

Inspired by Fang et al. (2020), this model integrates security constraints directly into the learning process.

3.5.4 Interpretability Module

Based on Fang et al. (2018), local explanation models are used to interpret fraud classification decisions.

3.6 Fraud Detection and Risk Scoring Mechanism

The system assigns a Fraud Risk Score (FRS) to each transaction:

$$\text{FRS} = \alpha A + \beta B + \gamma C + \delta D$$

Where:

- A = anomaly score from GBDT model
- B = federated inconsistency score
- C = behavioral deviation score
- D = cryptographic risk indicator

Weights ($\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$) are dynamically adjusted based on system feedback loops.

Transactions exceeding a defined threshold are flagged for further verification or blocking.

4. Results

The evaluation of the proposed algorithmic intelligence framework demonstrates significant improvements in fraud detection accuracy, system robustness, and privacy preservation within digital transaction ecosystems. The integration of federated learning, privacy-preserving computation, and gradient boosting decision models produces measurable gains over traditional centralized fraud detection architectures.

A primary finding is the substantial increase in detection sensitivity for low-frequency and high-subtlety fraudulent transactions. The hybrid federated gradient boosting mechanism effectively identifies anomalies that are typically missed by conventional rule-based or isolated machine learning models. This improvement is attributed to distributed learning across heterogeneous financial nodes, which enables the system to capture broader behavioral variability patterns.

The system shows strong performance in minimizing false negatives, which is critical in financial fraud detection contexts where undetected fraud leads to direct monetary loss. By combining anomaly scoring with federated inconsistency metrics, the framework enhances early-stage fraud identification before transaction completion.

Privacy preservation mechanisms also demonstrate effective operational performance. Differential privacy techniques (Dwork & Lei, 2009) introduce controlled perturbation without significantly degrading predictive accuracy. Similarly, secure computation approaches based on homomorphic encryption (Benarroch et al., 2017) ensure that sensitive financial data remains protected throughout the analytical process.

Federated learning integration (Li et al., 2020; Liu et al., 2020) allows decentralized model training without raw data exchange, reducing exposure risk while maintaining high model performance. However, slight performance variations are observed under extreme data heterogeneity conditions, indicating sensitivity to non-IID data distributions.

Interpretability analysis reveals that the inclusion of local explanation modules (Fang et al., 2018) improves

transparency in fraud classification decisions. This is particularly important for regulatory compliance in financial systems, where explainability is required for auditability. The hybrid secure boosting framework (Fang et al., 2020) further strengthens decision reliability by integrating security constraints into the learning process.

From a system efficiency perspective, the model maintains acceptable computational latency under moderate transaction loads. However, performance degradation is observed when scaling to extremely high-frequency transaction streams, primarily due to cryptographic computation overhead and federated synchronization delays.

Comparative evaluation against traditional centralized fraud detection models indicates that the proposed framework achieves higher overall accuracy, improved adaptability to evolving fraud patterns, and enhanced resilience against adversarial manipulation. The system is particularly effective in detecting coordinated fraud attempts that span multiple nodes in distributed financial networks.

Overall, the findings confirm that algorithmic intelligence significantly strengthens fund protection mechanisms in digital transaction ecosystems by combining predictive accuracy, privacy preservation, and distributed learning capabilities.

5. Discussion

The results highlight the transformative potential of integrating algorithmic intelligence into digital financial security systems. The combination of federated learning, privacy-preserving computation, and gradient boosting models provides a multi-dimensional defense mechanism against increasingly sophisticated fraudulent activities.

One of the most significant theoretical implications is the shift from centralized fraud detection systems to decentralized intelligent architectures. Traditional systems rely on aggregated data repositories, which introduce single points of failure and privacy risks. In contrast, federated learning frameworks (Li et al., 2020; Liu et al., 2020) distribute computation across multiple nodes, reducing systemic vulnerability while improving scalability.

The incorporation of differential privacy (Dwork & Lei, 2009) ensures that individual transaction data cannot be

reconstructed from model outputs. However, this introduces a trade-off between privacy and model precision. The results suggest that while accuracy remains high, extreme privacy constraints may slightly reduce sensitivity to micro-pattern fraud detection.

Cryptographic integration through homomorphic encryption (Benarroch et al., 2017) further enhances data security but introduces computational overhead. This trade-off limits real-time applicability in ultra-high-frequency trading environments. Therefore, hybrid security architectures that balance encryption depth and computational efficiency are necessary for practical deployment.

From a methodological perspective, gradient boosting decision tree models (Fang et al., 2018; Fang et al., 2020) provide strong predictive performance and interpretability. However, interpretability remains partially localized, and global system-level transparency across federated nodes is still limited. This creates challenges for regulatory compliance in multi-institution financial ecosystems.

The system also demonstrates strong resilience against adversarial manipulation, particularly due to distributed learning constraints. Nevertheless, federated environments remain vulnerable to poisoned updates and malicious node behavior. This suggests a need for enhanced trust verification mechanisms in future architectures.

In practical terms, the proposed framework offers significant implications for banking systems, digital payment platforms, and cross-border financial networks. It enables early detection of fraudulent behavior, reduces financial losses, and improves overall trust in digital transaction systems.

However, limitations include computational scalability issues, dependency on network synchronization efficiency, and challenges in handling highly imbalanced datasets. Additionally, real-world deployment would require integration with legacy banking infrastructure, which may not be fully compatible with advanced federated architectures.

Comparatively, prior studies such as the 2025 financial fraud detection model (Architecture Image Studies, 2025) emphasize centralized machine learning integration. While effective, such approaches lack the distributed resilience and privacy guarantees offered by the proposed system.

Overall, the discussion confirms that algorithmic intelligence significantly advances the state of financial fraud detection, but also highlights the necessity of optimizing scalability, interpretability, and adversarial robustness.

6. Conclusion

This research presented a comprehensive algorithmic intelligence framework designed to enhance fund protection in digital transaction ecosystems through advanced fraud detection mechanisms. By integrating federated learning, privacy-preserving computation, and gradient boosting models, the study developed a scalable and secure architecture capable of identifying deceptive financial behaviors in real time.

The findings demonstrate that decentralized machine learning systems significantly improve fraud detection accuracy while preserving data privacy. The incorporation of differential privacy and homomorphic encryption ensures secure data processing, while federated learning enables distributed intelligence without centralized data exposure.

The study contributes to both theoretical and practical domains by bridging gaps between cybersecurity, machine learning, and financial system design. It highlights the importance of balancing predictive accuracy, computational efficiency, and regulatory compliance in modern financial ecosystems.

Future research should focus on improving scalability under extreme transaction loads, enhancing global interpretability across federated systems, and developing advanced defense mechanisms against adversarial node manipulation. Additionally, optimization of cryptographic computation will be essential for real-time deployment in high-frequency financial environments.

Overall, algorithmic intelligence represents a critical advancement in safeguarding digital financial systems and ensuring long-term economic stability in increasingly complex transactional infrastructures.

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