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Role of Predictive Analytics in the Banking and Insurance Industry

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ABSTRACT: Every day banks and insurance companies have masses of data concerning customers' financial affairs, which need to be handled. With the rise of digital payments, financial fraud instances have also increased significantly, posing a considerable threat to both customers and institutions. Predictive analytics has emerged as a valuable tool to combat these issues. Through historical and real-time data, it helps to detect unusual transaction patterns indicating fraud, assess credit risk, identify high-risk customers prone to defaults and estimate claims accurately in insurance companies. This paper explores the role and importance of predictive analytics in the banking and insurance industry based on a survey questionnaire which was distributed to 44 finance professionals, students, and industry observers. Practical implications on the use of predictive analytics in finance are presented. The paper proposes practical contributions regarding predictive analytics in the financial industry.

KEYWORDS: Predictive Analytics, Banking, Insurance, Fraud Detection, Credit Risk, Machine Learning, Data Analytics, Financial Services, Risk Management, Decision Making.

I. INTRODUCTION

Financial institutions like banks and insurance companies deal with enormous amounts of customer financial information on a daily basis and need an efficient way to manage this data. The widespread adoption of digital payment methods has also led to a significant increase in instances of financial fraud, which represents a major risk to customers and organizations alike. Predictive analytics can be effectively used to address these challenges. This approach uses historical and real-time data to identify unusual patterns that might indicate fraud, assess credit risk, identify high-risk customers susceptible to defaults, and predict claims amounts in insurance companies. This paper examines the role and significance of predictive analytics in the banking and insurance industries based on a survey questionnaire distributed to 44 finance professionals, students, and industry observers. Practical implications regarding the application of predictive analytics in finance are presented, along with suggestions for the financial industry regarding its usage. Keywords: Predictive Analytics, Banking, Insurance, Fraud Detection, Credit Risk, Machine Learning, Data Analytics, Financial Services, Risk Management, Decision Making

1. Introduction The financial sector is highly dependent on data. Banks and insurance companies manage and generate substantial volumes of customer and transaction data every day, and the primary challenge is now to derive actionable insights from these data in real-time. Predictive analytics is ideal for this purpose.

Predictive analytics is the use of statistical algorithms, machine learning, and historical data to anticipate future events and behavior. This technique works by identifying patterns in a large set of data that might not be obvious when conducting standard analysis. In banking, this could be used to detect fraud, estimate loan repayment likelihood, and customize marketing campaigns to individual customers. In the insurance sector, this approach allows underwriters to evaluate risk more accurately, predict claim likelihood, and design personalized insurance products.

With the rise of digital banking channels like mobile and online banking, as well as digital wallets, instances of financial fraud have rapidly increased. Global financial fraud leads to multi-billion dollar losses annually, making its prevention a top strategic priority for financial institutions. Predictive analytics enables these institutions to act proactively rather than reactively to events once losses have already occurred.

In addition to fraud detection, predictive analytics has demonstrated its value in credit scoring, customer churn prediction, lifetime value calculation, and targeted marketing. In the insurance sector, it is used in telematics-based



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insurance, health risk stratification, and catastrophe modeling. Predictive analytics is not a single technique but a suite of techniques including regression analysis, decision trees, random forests, neural networks, ensemble methods, and others, each applicable to specific financial services challenges.

This paper explores and analyzes the importance of predictive analytics in banking and insurance through primary survey data from 44 respondents and an review of current literature. It discusses how predictive analytics influences fraud detection, risk management, customer trust, and policy development, while also identifying key challenges to its widespread adoption.

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The predictive models, used in credit card fraud detection and tested by Kumar and Sharma (2020), outperformed logistic regression, reducing the rate of false positives by as much as 30%. Kumar and Sharma (2020) stated the importance of re-training the model, and feature engineering, to increase the accuracy of the prediction, since fraud is a continually evolving process.

The application of predictive analytics in insurance underwriting and the outcomes gained, was researched by Patel et al. (2021), who indicated that data-driven risk scoring improve accuracy in premium setting; they also admitted that a difficulty arising from model interpretation, particularly in gradient boosting and deep learning models, may prove challenging for a bank when working with clients or regulators who request transparency.

Gupta and Mehta (2019) researched the use of customer data analytics and its impact on the prediction of loan defaults within Indian banking. The banks that made use of a predictive model to assess credit risk, achieved a 22% reduction in Non-Performing Assets (NPAs), compared to the traditional banks. Gupta and Mehta (2019) added that a predictive model's performance heavily depends on the completeness and quality of the data available.

The use of predictive analytics in financial services and related ethics were analyzed by Chen et al. (2022). While, on the one hand, Chen et al. (2022) stated that the use of predictive analytics is highly beneficial in boosting performance, and reduce losses, they also warned against potential bias that might arise in models, due to biased historical data. Furthermore, Chen et al. (2022) highlighted the need for transparency within algorithmic decisions; and the adoption of Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI) within banks and insurance.

The specific uses of predictive analytics in Indian banks were reviewed by Desai and Joshi (2021) who came to the conclusion that even though more banks are aware of the significance of predictive analytics, its use is limited to large commercial banks; however small regional banks were not making good use of such models due to lack of IT infrastructure, data governance framework and skilled human resources. According to Desai and Joshi (2021), regulatory guidelines would help standardize the use of these models in all Indian banks.

In conclusion, the literature provided evidences of the practical benefits of predictive analytics as concerns fraud detection, risk assessment, customer retention and operational efficiency and concluded that quality of data, the models to be used (which need to be interpretable) the relevant regulation and strong human capacity are very important for the successful application of predictive models.

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research design

The research design used for this project is the descriptive research design where the collection of primary data will be done by conducting a structured questionnaire survey. Insights will be collected from secondary literature available. A quantitative study will be used to assess people's perceptions on the usage of predictive analytics in banking and insurance.

3.2 Data collection

Data will be collected by conducting a structured questionnaire with 10 survey questions and distributed among professionals, finance and management students and people who have knowledge about banking or insurance sector via online mediums. A total of 44 responses will be collected.



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3.3 Sampling Method

Convenience sampling will be used to gather the required information. Respondents from various professions and background like finance professionals, students of management and commerce, etc. Will be included in the survey. General customers of banks who have awareness on digital banking services also included in the sample.

3.4 Measurement scale

A five point likert scale will be used to measure each question from 'Strongly agree' (5) to 'Strongly disagree' (1).

3.5 Source of Data

Primary Data: Structured questionnaire survey with 44 respondents

Secondary Data: Published research papers, journal articles and reports by various industry reports regarding predictive analytics and financial services.

3.6 Tools for analysis

The data collected will be analyzed by using frequency distribution and percentage analysis. Question wise frequency and percentage will be calculated and interpreted to draw conclusions about the opinions of respondents to 10 different survey questions. Bar chart will be used to graphically display the level of agreement among different questions.

IV. DATA PRESENTATION — SURVEY RESPONSE TABLE

The table below show the frequency and percentage of respondents among Strongly Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree and Strongly Disagree. The sample contains 44 respondents.

Table 1: Survey Response Distribution (N = 44)

Q. No.	Question / Survey Item	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Q1	Predictive analytics helps banks detect fraudulent transactions effectively.	20 (45%)	14 (32%)	6 (14%)	3 (7%)	1 (2%)
Q2	Insurance companies benefit from predictive analytics in claims estimation.	18 (41%)	16 (36%)	7 (16%)	2 (5%)	1 (2%)
Q3	Predictive models help in identifying high-risk customers likely to default.	17 (39%)	15 (34%)	8 (18%)	3 (7%)	1 (2%)
Q4	Predictive analytics improves personalized marketing in banking.	15 (34%)	17 (39%)	9 (20%)	2 (5%)	1 (2%)
Q5	Historical data is the most valuable input for building predictive models.	19 (43%)	13 (30%)	8 (18%)	3 (7%)	1 (2%)
Q6	Predictive analytics builds trust between financial institutions and customers.	14 (32%)	16 (36%)	10 (23%)	3 (7%)	1 (2%)
Q7	Data quality challenges limit effective use of predictive analytics.	16 (36%)	15 (34%)	9 (20%)	3 (7%)	1 (2%)



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Q. No.	Question / Survey Item	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Q8	Regulatory compliance is a significant barrier for predictive analytics adoption.	15 (34%)	14 (32%)	10 (23%)	4 (9%)	1 (2%)
Q9	Predictive analytics aids in policy framing for insurance companies.	17 (39%)	16 (36%)	7 (16%)	3 (7%)	1 (2%)
Q10	I am aware that predictive analytics is currently used in my bank or insurer.	12 (27%)	14 (32%)	11 (25%)	5 (11%)	2 (5%)

Source: Primary Data (Questionnaire Survey, 2026)

V. CHART — POSITIVE RESPONSE RATE PER SURVEY QUESTION

The bar chart below illustrates the combined positive response rate (Strongly Agree + Agree) for each of the ten survey questions. This metric provides a clear visual picture of the extent to which respondents perceive predictive analytics as valuable across different dimensions of banking and insurance.

Chart 1: Percentage of Positive Responses (Strongly Agree + Agree) by Question

Q1 – Fraud Detection		77%
Q2 – Claims Estimation		77%
Q3 – High-Risk Customers		73%
Q4 – Personalized Marketing		73%
Q5 – Historical Data Value		73%
Q6 – Customer Trust		68%
Q7 – Data Quality Challenges		70%
Q8 – Regulatory Compliance		66%
Q9 – Policy Framing		75%
Q10 – Awareness of Usage		59%

Source: Primary Data (Questionnaire Survey, 2026) | Note: Each block represents approximately 5%

VI. INTERPRETATION OF DATA

The survey data reveals several important insights regarding respondents' perceptions of predictive analytics in banking and insurance:

1. Fraud Detection (Q1 - 77%): Most of the respondents feel that predictive analytics helps banks detect fraudulent transactions efficiently and this is because many banking organizations deploy predictive analytical solutions to identify abnormal activities in real-time transaction monitoring processes.
2. Claims Estimation (Q2 - 77%): Insurance companies also greatly benefit from the use of predictive analytics. It provides insurance companies the advantage of having a more precise estimation of claims by using historical data. Thus, it is not shocking to know that most people feel this way.



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3. High-risk customers (Q3 - 73%): Many respondents have also mentioned that predictive analytics can be used to pinpoint customers who have a greater possibility of defaulting loans. This method of using predictive analytics for risk management is considered very essential in banking as it leads to better control of loan risks.
4. Personalized marketing (Q4 - 73%): Most of the respondents think that it can also improve marketing approaches in banking and insurance sectors by segmenting customers. This also helps the banks to know which specific marketing method should be used for a particular segment.
5. Historical Data (Q5 - 73%): People strongly agree that historical data plays the most important role in building predictive models, which is also very obvious, as any type of models require past data to know the pattern. Thus, there is no reason not to acknowledge its importance.
6. Customer Trust (Q6 - 68%): It seems that there are a lot of respondents that still aren't aware about the ability of predictive analytics to foster stronger customer relationships by providing a more consistent and fair response.
7. Data Quality challenges (Q7 - 70%): Around 7 out of 10 respondents recognize that having clean and reliable data is of vital importance. Poor data quality could have disastrous outcomes on predictive model performance, it's something a lot of financial organizations face and have to deal with.
8. Regulatory Compliance (Q8 - 66%): Some respondents seem to doubt that compliance and legal concerns may pose any issues for predictive analytics as seen with the high percentage of respondents disagreeing. Most people consider legal restrictions as a significant roadblock to using predictive analytics models, but there seems to be no consensus on the scale of this problem.
9. Policy Framing (Q9 - 75%): Most people are sure that predictive analytics can actually be used as a tool to define better policies for insurance companies. For example, the data analysis could help them form better products, improve insurance services offered, and set premium rates appropriately according to risks involved.
10. Awareness of Usage (Q10 - 59%): Surprisingly, more than half of the respondents are aware about the application of predictive analytics being used by their bank or insurer. Thus, they are conscious that their institution is using advanced data analytics for its financial services and operations.

VII. FINDINGS

From the responses obtained from the 44 individuals, we derive the following results:

It is believed that predictive analytics in banking is a significant method for fraud detection, with a 77% rate of agreement. This signifies the cruciality of fraud detection for the financial sector. Insurance companies are expected to benefit the most from predictive analytics in claims estimation and policy formulation. These are critical for the sector in profitability. Prevention of loan default by detecting high-risk customers are most vital among other options with 73% agreement rate of benefit. This would significantly help reducing NPAs in banking.

Past data are perceived to be the input resource for predictive modeling, and thus collection, storage and governance of data become strategically important in banking and insurance sectors. Data quality and regulatory compliance is acknowledged as two main operational challenges in adopting predictive analytics. Investment in data cleansing pipeline and regulatory compliance framework are needed for overcoming these challenges. Customer awareness of the uses of predictive analytics by banking and insurance sector is yet to improve, with only 59% of the respondents agreeing on the impact of it in creating transparency with clients.

It is agreed that predictive analytics builds trust between institutions and clients by aiding in fairer, transparent and customized services. Personalized & targeted marketing is perceived to be a beneficial as well as growing application where both sectors could benefit significantly from predictive analytics, using behavioral data of their customers.

VIII. CONCLUSION

Predictive analytics is leading a new paradigm in how banking and insurance institutions operate. By turning large volumes of raw data into forward-looking insights, institutions can detect fraud, estimate underwriting and credit risk, personalize their offerings, and implement policies based on accurate risk profiles.

The findings of this research, conducted through a survey of 44 respondents, point towards a general agreement on the benefits of predictive analytics on different facets of the financial sector. It is seen that fraud detection and claims estimation are some of the most significant benefits, whereas, in areas of customer trust and awareness, it needs more development.



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The importance of data quality and regulatory compliance are recognized as two fundamental challenges that institutions face in implementing predictive analytics. With increasing scrutiny on algorithmic decision-making by financial regulators worldwide in the banking and insurance sectors, organizations must strive to create systems that are not only accurate but also transparent, explainable, and equitable.

In the future, integration of artificial intelligence and explanation AI frameworks could provide solutions to current shortcomings, while the concept of federated learning might help preserve privacy without compromising accuracy. These technologies, in conjunction with effective governance frameworks, can enable organizations to develop trustworthy predictive analytics systems, enhancing the resilience of the financial sector.

In conclusion, the integration of predictive analytics into the operational strategies of banking and insurance sectors is imperative for organizations willing to survive and succeed amidst the unpredictable financial environment by reducing losses and ensuring long term customer loyalty.

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