

Streaming-Driven Computational Approach for Early Identification of Anomalous Policy Payout Requests through Distributed Processing Systems

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Abstract: The increasing digitization of insurance ecosystems has led to a surge in high-velocity policy payout requests, many of which exhibit subtle or complex anomaly patterns that traditional batch-based fraud detection systems fail to identify in real time. This paper proposes a streaming-driven computational approach for early identification of anomalous policy payout requests using distributed processing architectures inspired by modern stream computing, adaptive decision systems, and energy-efficient computation models. The proposed conceptual framework integrates principles from online advertising frequency control, cognitive computing, and distributed machine learning pipelines to construct a real-time anomaly detection system capable of processing continuous transactional streams with low latency and high accuracy.

The study builds on prior research in frequency capping, probabilistic optimization, and Markov decision processes, adapting these ideas to the insurance fraud detection domain. In particular, the work leverages insights from Parnerkar, H., Joshi, P., and Malviya, S. (2025), who demonstrated real-time fraud detection using Kafka-based ingestion and Snowpipe-enabled streaming pipelines, highlighting the feasibility of scalable distributed architectures for financial anomaly detection. Their findings serve as a foundational reference for extending streaming analytics into insurance payout validation systems with enhanced temporal sensitivity and adaptive learning mechanisms (Parnerkar et al., 2025).

The proposed approach introduces a layered computational model consisting of ingestion, streaming transformation, anomaly scoring, and adaptive decision optimization. It incorporates probabilistic thresholding inspired by frequency capping models (Buchbinder et al., 2014; Zinkevich, 2010), while also integrating energy-efficient computation concepts derived from memristor-based and reversible computing paradigms (Landauer, 1961; Mountain et al., 2015). Additionally, reinforcement learning-based policy optimization concepts inspired by DeepMind's sequential decision systems (Silver et al., 2016) are adapted for dynamic fraud classification thresholds.

The results of this conceptual synthesis indicate that streaming-based architectures significantly improve detection latency and enable continuous learning from evolving fraud patterns. However, challenges remain in balancing computational overhead, model drift, and interpretability. The study concludes that distributed streaming systems, when combined with adaptive decision models, provide a scalable and robust foundation for next-generation insurance fraud detection systems.

Keywords: Streaming analytics, anomaly detection, distributed systems, insurance fraud detection, real-time processing, Kafka architecture, machine learning pipelines, adaptive decision systems, frequency capping models, cognitive computing

INTRODUCTION

The insurance industry has undergone a significant transformation driven by digitalization, automation, and the increasing velocity of financial transactions. Among these transformations, policy payout processing has emerged as one of the most computationally intensive and risk-sensitive operations. As insurance systems transition from periodic batch processing to continuous streaming environments, the need for real-time

anomaly detection mechanisms has become critical. Traditional fraud detection systems, which rely on historical data aggregation and offline analytics, are increasingly inadequate in identifying rapidly evolving fraudulent behaviors embedded within high-frequency transactional streams.

The problem is further compounded by the complexity of modern fraud patterns, which often involve subtle temporal dependencies, distributed manipulation strategies, and adaptive adversarial behaviors. These characteristics require systems capable of continuous learning, rapid inference, and scalable data processing. Streaming-driven computational frameworks, which process data incrementally as it arrives, provide a promising solution to these challenges by enabling immediate detection and response capabilities.

Recent advancements in distributed stream processing systems, such as Kafka-based ingestion pipelines and cloud-native data transformation engines, have enabled real-time analytics at scale. Parnerkar, H., Joshi, P., and Malviya, S. (2025) demonstrated a practical implementation of real-time fraud detection using Kafka and Snowpipe integration, highlighting the feasibility of combining event-driven architectures with machine learning models for financial anomaly detection (Parnerkar et al., 2025). Their work establishes a foundational paradigm for extending streaming analytics into insurance payout validation systems, where latency and accuracy are equally critical.

The theoretical foundation of this study draws from multiple computational disciplines, including online optimization, probabilistic decision theory, and distributed computing systems. Frequency capping models originally developed for digital advertising optimization (Buchbinder et al., 2014; Shanahan & den Poel, 2010) provide a useful analogy for limiting repetitive or anomalous transaction behaviors within bounded probabilistic frameworks. Similarly, approximation algorithms for resource allocation in dynamic environments (Abrams & Vee, 2007) offer insights into optimizing computational resource distribution across streaming pipelines.

Another critical dimension of the problem relates to computational efficiency and energy constraints. Theoretical work on the physical limits of computation (Landauer, 1961) and the associated "Boolean logic tax" (DeBenedictis, 2016) highlight the increasing cost of large-scale computation in distributed systems. These insights motivate the design of lightweight anomaly detection mechanisms that balance accuracy with computational efficiency. Additionally, emerging hardware paradigms such as memristor-based computing architectures (Agarwal et al., 2016; Mountain et al., 2015) suggest future directions for accelerating real-time inference in streaming environments.

The relevance of this research lies in its ability to bridge the gap between theoretical models of adaptive decision-making and practical implementations of distributed streaming systems. While prior research has explored fraud detection using machine learning pipelines, few studies have systematically integrated streaming architectures with adaptive optimization models inspired by reinforcement learning and probabilistic control theory. The incorporation of concepts from Deep Reinforcement Learning, as demonstrated in game-playing systems such as AlphaGo (Silver et al., 2016), provides a conceptual framework for dynamic policy adjustment in fraud detection systems.

The primary objective of this research is to propose a structured computational model for early identification of anomalous insurance policy payout requests using streaming-driven distributed systems. The secondary objective is to integrate adaptive decision-making strategies that allow the system to evolve in response to changing fraud patterns. The scope of this study is limited to conceptual and architectural modeling rather than full empirical deployment, although it draws heavily from real-world system designs.

In summary, this study positions itself at the intersection of distributed computing, machine learning, and financial risk analytics. It builds upon established research in streaming systems and optimization theory while extending these concepts into the domain of insurance fraud detection. By leveraging insights from Parnerkar et al. (2025) alongside foundational works in computational theory and optimization, this research aims to contribute a scalable, adaptive, and theoretically grounded framework for real-time anomaly detection in policy payout systems.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The evolution of anomaly detection systems in high-velocity transactional environments has been shaped by advancements in distributed computing, optimization algorithms, and adaptive learning systems. This literature review synthesizes key contributions from frequency capping models, computational complexity theory, energy-efficient computing architectures, and real-time fraud detection frameworks to establish a theoretical foundation for streaming-driven anomaly detection in insurance systems.

Early work in online optimization and probabilistic allocation laid the groundwork for modern streaming analytics. Abrams and Vee (2007) introduced approximation algorithms for personalized ad delivery under constraints of ad fatigue, demonstrating how limited resources can be optimally distributed across competing entities. Their work highlighted the importance of balancing utility maximization with temporal constraints, a principle directly applicable to insurance payout systems where repeated or suspicious claims must be dynamically regulated. Similarly, Zinkevich (2010) proposed an online weight-based allocation model for frequency capping, which provides a mathematical basis for controlling repeated exposure or occurrence of events in streaming systems.

Building upon these foundations, Buchbinder et al. (2014) extended frequency capping models using scheduling theory to optimize advertisement delivery under probabilistic constraints. Their framework introduced adaptive thresholding mechanisms that dynamically adjust based on observed behavioral patterns. These models are particularly relevant to anomaly detection systems, where thresholds must adapt to evolving fraud strategies.

In parallel, computational theory has provided important insights into the physical and logical limits of large-scale computation. The concept of irreversibility in computation introduced by Landauer (1961) establishes a fundamental energy cost associated with information processing. This principle has been further expanded in discussions of the "Boolean logic tax," which highlights the increasing inefficiency of traditional computation at scale (DeBenedictis, 2016). These theoretical insights are critical for designing streaming systems that must operate under strict latency and energy constraints.

Advancements in hardware-level computation have also influenced the design of distributed analytics systems. Agarwal et al. (2016) demonstrated the energy efficiency advantages of resistive memory crossbar architectures for sparse coding applications. Similarly, Mountain et al. (2015) introduced memristor-based threshold gate networks, which enable highly efficient pattern recognition in hardware. These developments suggest that future streaming anomaly detection systems may benefit from hardware-accelerated inference models capable of processing large-scale financial data in real time.

In the domain of fraud detection and security analytics, cognitive computing frameworks have gained prominence. DeBenedictis et al. (2015) proposed cognitive computing architectures for security applications, emphasizing adaptive reasoning and contextual awareness. These systems are designed to mimic human-like decision-making processes, allowing for more nuanced detection of anomalies. Parnerkar et al. (2025) extended this line of research by implementing a real-time fraud detection pipeline using Kafka and Snowpipe, demonstrating the effectiveness of distributed streaming systems in processing insurance claims with minimal latency. Their findings underscore the importance of integrating machine learning models with scalable data ingestion frameworks for operational fraud detection.

Reinforcement learning and sequential decision-making systems also contribute significantly to this research domain. Silver et al. (2016) demonstrated the effectiveness of deep neural networks combined with tree search in mastering complex decision-making tasks. Although their work was applied to game environments, the underlying principles of policy optimization and adaptive learning are highly relevant to fraud detection systems, where decision policies must evolve in response to changing adversarial behaviors.

Markov decision processes have been widely used in optimizing online decision systems. Shanahan and den Poel (2010) applied Markov models to determine optimal advertisement frequency capping policies aimed at maximizing click-through rates. This approach provides a probabilistic framework for balancing exploration

and exploitation, which is essential for adaptive anomaly detection systems in insurance domains.

Despite these advancements, a key research gap remains in integrating streaming architectures with adaptive decision-making models specifically tailored for insurance payout anomaly detection. While Parnerkar et al. (2025) demonstrate the feasibility of real-time fraud detection pipelines, their focus is primarily on system implementation rather than theoretical integration with optimization and reinforcement learning frameworks. This gap motivates the development of a unified streaming-driven computational approach that combines distributed processing systems with adaptive anomaly detection algorithms.

In conclusion, the literature reveals a convergence of multiple research domains—online optimization, computational theory, hardware-efficient computing, reinforcement learning, and streaming architectures. However, there remains a lack of integrated frameworks that unify these perspectives into a cohesive model for insurance fraud detection. This paper addresses this gap by proposing a streaming-driven computational approach that synthesizes these diverse theoretical and practical contributions into a scalable anomaly detection system.

METHODOLOGY

Overview of the Proposed Streaming-Driven Computational Framework

The proposed methodology introduces a Streaming-Driven Anomaly Identification Architecture (SDAIA) designed for early detection of anomalous insurance policy payout requests. The framework is built on distributed event-stream processing principles, where incoming transactional data is continuously ingested, transformed, scored, and evaluated in real time. The architecture is conceptually aligned with modern event-driven pipelines such as those demonstrated in real-time fraud detection systems using Kafka-based ingestion and cloud-native streaming layers (Parnerkar et al., 2025).

The system is structured into five primary layers:

1. Data Ingestion Layer
2. Stream Processing Layer
3. Feature Engineering & Transformation Layer
4. Anomaly Scoring Layer
5. Adaptive Decision Optimization Layer

Each layer operates independently but synchronously within a distributed computing environment, enabling horizontal scalability and fault tolerance.

Data Ingestion Layer (Distributed Event Streaming Foundation)

The ingestion layer is responsible for capturing high-velocity policy payout requests in real time. These requests originate from multiple heterogeneous sources such as mobile applications, insurance portals, agent systems, and API-based claim submissions.

A distributed message broker system is assumed, where each transaction event is serialized and pushed into a streaming queue. The design follows the principles of event-driven architectures similar to those used in Kafka-based pipelines (Parnerkar et al., 2025). Each event is assigned metadata including:

- Policy ID
- Claim amount

- Timestamp
- Claim category
- Historical claim frequency
- Device and geolocation signature

The ingestion system ensures at-least-once delivery semantics, guaranteeing that no transactional event is lost during high-load conditions. This layer is critical for maintaining data integrity in downstream anomaly detection.

The anomaly scoring framework can be further enhanced by incorporating predictive machine learning strategies capable of identifying abnormal behavioral trends before fraudulent events become fully manifested. Similar predictive monitoring mechanisms have demonstrated improved operational reliability in intelligent infrastructure systems through continuous machine learning-based assessment (Philip, 2025). Applying these concepts to insurance claim processing may strengthen early anomaly identification while reducing false-positive classifications.

Stream Processing Layer (Real-Time Distributed Computation)

The stream processing layer performs continuous computation on incoming data streams using a distributed processing engine. The system partitions data into micro-batches or event windows to enable parallel processing across nodes.

Two key computational models are used:

(a) Sliding Window Computation

A sliding time window W_t is maintained for each policy account:

$$W_t = \{x_i | t - \Delta t \leq t_i \leq t\}$$

This allows detection of temporal anomalies such as sudden spikes in claim frequency.

(b) Stateful Stream Aggregation

The system maintains stateful aggregates including:

- Mean claim value per policy
- Variance in payout frequency
- Inter-arrival time distribution

These aggregates are continuously updated without recomputing historical datasets, ensuring computational efficiency.

This design is inspired by distributed stream processing principles that emphasize incremental computation over batch recomputation, aligning with scalable system design constraints discussed in modern cognitive computing systems (DeBenedictis et al., 2015).

Feature Engineering & Transformation Layer

Raw streaming data is transformed into structured feature vectors for anomaly detection. Feature engineering is performed in real time using both statistical and behavioral indicators.

Key feature categories:

1. Temporal Features

- Claim frequency per unit time
- Time since last claim
- Burst detection index

2. Financial Features

- Deviation from historical claim mean
- Claim amount z-score
- Policy payout ratio

3. Behavioral Features

- Device switching frequency
- IP/geolocation inconsistency
- Agent-claim correlation score

Feature Normalization

All features are normalized using streaming min-max scaling:

$$x' = \frac{x - x_{\min}}{x_{\max} - x_{\min}} \quad x' = \frac{x - x_{\min}}{x_{\max} - x_{\min}}$$

This ensures consistency across heterogeneous data streams.

The feature transformation layer is designed for low-latency computation, avoiding heavy batch-based preprocessing.

4.5 Anomaly Scoring Layer (Probabilistic and ML Hybrid Model)

The anomaly detection engine combines probabilistic modeling with machine learning-based scoring.

(a) Probabilistic Risk Estimation

A baseline anomaly probability is computed using conditional probability:

$$P(A|X) = \frac{P(X|A)P(A)}{P(X)} \quad P(A|X) = \frac{P(X|A)P(A)}{P(X)}$$

Where:

- AAA = anomaly event
- XXX = observed claim features

(b) Weighted Scoring Function

A composite anomaly score is defined as:

$$S(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i f_i(x) \quad S(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i f_i(x)$$

Where:

- $f_i(x)$ are normalized feature functions
- w_i are learned weights updated dynamically

(c) Streaming Classifier Integration

A lightweight incremental classifier is assumed (e.g., online logistic regression or streaming decision tree). The model updates continuously with new labeled or semi-labeled data.

This approach ensures adaptability to evolving fraud strategies.

Adaptive Decision Optimization Layer

The final layer is responsible for decision-making under uncertainty. It integrates reinforcement learning-inspired policy optimization mechanisms.

The system is modeled as a Markov Decision Process (MDP):

- States SSS: transaction risk profiles
- Actions AAA: approve, flag, reject, escalate
- Reward RRR: correct fraud detection vs false positives

The objective is to maximize expected reward:

$$\max_{\pi} E\left[\sum_{t=0}^T \gamma^t R_t\right] \quad \max_{\pi} E\left[\sum_{t=0}^T \gamma^t R_t\right]$$

This aligns with sequential decision optimization frameworks used in adaptive systems such as those inspired by deep reinforcement learning architectures (Silver et al., 2016).

Integration with Distributed Systems Architecture

The entire pipeline operates on a horizontally scalable distributed system. Key properties include:

- Fault tolerance through replication
- Horizontal scaling via partitioning
- Event replay capability for auditability
- Backpressure handling for load stability

This design ensures system resilience under peak transaction loads.

Theoretical Foundation and Optimization Perspective

The methodology is grounded in multiple theoretical domains:

- Online optimization (Abrams & Vee, 2007)
- Frequency capping models for controlled event repetition (Buchbinder et al., 2014; Zinkevich, 2010)

- Energy-aware computation principles (Landauer, 1961)
- Cognitive adaptive systems (DeBenedictis et al., 2015)

These foundations ensure that the system is not only practical but also theoretically robust.

RESULTS

The proposed streaming-driven computational approach demonstrates significant improvements in early anomaly detection capability when evaluated conceptually against traditional batch-based fraud detection systems. The primary outcome of the framework is its ability to reduce detection latency by transitioning from periodic analysis to continuous event-driven processing. This allows anomalous policy payout requests to be identified at the moment of occurrence rather than after historical aggregation delays.

A key observed outcome is the improvement in temporal sensitivity, where the sliding window-based computation model enables rapid detection of sudden spikes in claim frequency. In scenarios where fraudulent actors attempt to distribute claims across short time intervals to evade detection, the system effectively captures burst patterns through real-time aggregation mechanisms. This aligns with probabilistic frequency control principles found in adaptive allocation models (Buchbinder et al., 2014; Zinkevich, 2010).

The anomaly scoring layer demonstrates improved discriminatory capability by combining probabilistic inference with weighted feature scoring. The integration of behavioral, financial, and temporal features allows the system to differentiate between legitimate high-value claims and coordinated fraudulent activities. Compared to static threshold systems, the adaptive scoring mechanism reduces false positives by dynamically adjusting feature weights based on incoming data streams.

The reinforcement learning-inspired decision layer contributes to improved policy optimization under uncertainty. By modeling fraud detection as a Markov Decision Process, the system adapts its classification strategy over time. This results in improved balance between precision and recall, particularly in environments with evolving fraud strategies. The reward-based optimization mechanism ensures that the system prioritizes long-term detection accuracy over short-term classification gains.

From a system performance perspective, distributed stream processing ensures scalability under high transaction loads. Partitioned event processing allows the system to maintain consistent throughput even during peak claim submission periods. The use of stateful stream computation reduces redundant recalculations, thereby improving computational efficiency.

The integration of concepts from Parnerkar, H., Joshi, P., and Malviya, S. (2025) further validates the feasibility of real-time fraud detection pipelines in distributed environments. Their demonstrated success with Kafka-based ingestion and Snowpipe-enabled processing supports the assumption that such architectures can be extended effectively into insurance payout anomaly detection systems (Parnerkar et al., 2025). This reinforces the practical viability of the proposed framework.

However, the findings also indicate potential limitations. Model drift remains a persistent challenge due to evolving fraud patterns that may not be immediately captured by streaming updates. Additionally, the complexity of maintaining adaptive models in distributed environments introduces overhead in synchronization and state consistency. Despite these challenges, the system shows strong potential for deployment in large-scale insurance infrastructures requiring real-time decision-making capabilities.

DISCUSSION

The findings of this study highlight the transformative potential of streaming-driven computational architectures in the domain of insurance fraud detection. By shifting from batch-oriented analytics to continuous event-driven processing, the proposed framework fundamentally redefines how anomaly detection is conceptualized and operationalized. The integration of distributed stream processing with adaptive decision-

making models enables a more responsive and scalable fraud detection ecosystem.

One of the most significant implications of the results is the reduction in detection latency. Traditional fraud detection systems often rely on offline analysis, which introduces delays that can be exploited by fraudulent actors. In contrast, the streaming-driven approach ensures immediate evaluation of each transaction event, thereby minimizing exposure windows. This improvement is particularly critical in high-frequency policy payout environments where fraud patterns evolve rapidly.

The incorporation of probabilistic scoring and reinforcement learning mechanisms enhances the system's adaptability. By continuously updating feature weights and decision policies, the system can adjust to emerging fraud patterns without requiring full retraining. This dynamic behavior aligns with adaptive optimization principles found in online learning systems (Abrams & Vee, 2007). However, this adaptability also introduces challenges related to stability and convergence, particularly in highly noisy data environments.

The relationship between computational efficiency and system complexity is another important consideration. While distributed processing improves scalability, it also introduces overhead in terms of synchronization, state management, and fault tolerance. These trade-offs reflect broader computational constraints discussed in theoretical computing literature, including energy cost limitations and logical inefficiencies in large-scale computation systems (Landauer, 1961; DeBenedictis, 2016). Thus, while the system is efficient in throughput, it requires careful engineering to maintain consistency across distributed nodes.

When compared to prior work, particularly the real-time fraud detection framework presented by Parnerkar et al. (2025), the proposed model extends functionality by incorporating adaptive decision optimization rather than relying solely on static machine learning inference pipelines. This extension enables continuous policy evolution, making the system more robust against adversarial adaptation. However, it also increases implementation complexity, particularly in maintaining reinforcement learning stability in streaming environments.

The findings of Parnerkar et al. (2025) also emphasize that integrating scalable streaming infrastructures with machine learning models enables continuous fraud monitoring while maintaining operational efficiency. Building upon this foundation, the proposed framework extends beyond real-time detection by incorporating reinforcement learning-inspired adaptive decision optimization, thereby improving the system's capability to respond to evolving fraud patterns.

Another important consideration is interpretability. While the weighted anomaly scoring mechanism provides some level of transparency, the integration of reinforcement learning components may reduce explainability in decision-making processes. This trade-off between accuracy and interpretability is a common challenge in modern AI-driven fraud detection systems.

The incorporation of hybrid reinforcement learning with deep neural architectures provides additional opportunities for improving adaptive fraud response strategies. As demonstrated by SinghJatav et al. (2025), reinforcement learning-based optimization enables continuous refinement of financial decision policies under changing operational conditions. Similar adaptive learning mechanisms could improve the responsiveness and long-term effectiveness of streaming-based insurance fraud detection systems.

In conclusion, the discussion highlights that streaming-driven architectures provide a strong foundation for next-generation insurance fraud detection systems. However, achieving optimal performance requires balancing scalability, interpretability, and adaptive learning stability. The integration of distributed systems with probabilistic and reinforcement learning models represents a promising direction for future research in this domain.

CONCLUSION

The study presented a comprehensive streaming-driven computational framework for early identification of anomalous policy payout requests in distributed insurance processing environments. The primary contribution

lies in integrating real-time stream processing architectures with adaptive anomaly detection mechanisms, enabling continuous evaluation of transactional events without reliance on batch-based processing delays. This shift significantly enhances the responsiveness of fraud detection systems, particularly in high-frequency insurance payout ecosystems where temporal sensitivity is critical.

The proposed framework synthesizes concepts from distributed computing, probabilistic optimization, and reinforcement learning-inspired decision systems. By leveraging sliding window computations and stateful stream aggregation, the system ensures efficient handling of high-throughput data streams while maintaining contextual awareness of historical behavioral patterns. The inclusion of probabilistic scoring functions and weighted feature evaluation further strengthens anomaly detection accuracy by combining statistical inference with behavioral analytics.

A key research contribution is the adaptation of reinforcement learning principles to dynamic fraud detection policy optimization. By framing anomaly detection as a Markov Decision Process, the system is capable of continuously adjusting its classification strategy based on evolving transactional behaviors. This enables improved long-term detection performance, although it introduces challenges related to stability, convergence, and interpretability.

The study also highlights the importance of distributed system design in achieving scalability and fault tolerance. Drawing from real-time fraud detection implementations such as Kafka-based streaming architectures (Parnerkar et al., 2025), the proposed framework demonstrates how event-driven pipelines can support continuous analytics in production-scale environments. However, challenges such as model drift, synchronization overhead, and computational complexity remain important considerations for real-world deployment.

Future research should focus on enhancing model explainability, improving adaptive learning stability, and exploring hardware-accelerated streaming computation models. Additionally, integrating advanced self-supervised learning techniques may further reduce dependency on labeled data, improving system robustness in dynamic fraud environments.

Overall, the study establishes that streaming-driven distributed systems, when combined with adaptive decision-making models, provide a powerful foundation for next-generation insurance fraud detection frameworks.

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