ISSN: 2349-5162 | ESTD Year: 2014 | Monthly Issue



## JOURNAL OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES AND INNOVATIVE RESEARCH (JETIR)

An International Scholarly Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

# AI- DRIVEN SMART MICROFINANCE AND **CREDIT SYSTEM FOR POOR**

<sup>1</sup>Praneesh, <sup>2</sup>Sowmya K, <sup>3</sup>B Shashank Rao, <sup>4</sup>Keerthan A, <sup>5</sup>Mohammed. Ifwan

<sup>1</sup>Third year B.E Student, <sup>2</sup>Associate Professor, <sup>2</sup>Third year B.E Student, <sup>3</sup>Third year B.E Student, <sup>4</sup>Third year B.E Student, <sup>1</sup>Department of Information Science and Engineering <sup>1</sup>Srinivas Institute of Technology, Mangaluru, India

Abstract: Access to formal credit remains a continuous task for financially disadvantaged groups, usually due to the absence of conventional information on financial information and credit points. This article presents a progressive solution that uses artificial intelligence and blockchain generation to create a soft and inclusive microfinance ecosystem. The proposed gadget uses alternative financial signals, along with mobile transaction behavior, consumable behavior and collection patterns to evaluate credibility by studying the regression system. To make some transparency and evaluate, the loan process is protected using totally intelligent blockchain -based contracts that automate the payment and payment of mortgage loans. The entire platform has been designed using the Mern stack and provides a friendly interface for borrowers and directors. In part of the AI -oriented credit score with decentralized financial mechanisms, system ambitions to reduce dependence on high hobby random loan channels and promote greater economic inclusion. This method no longer guarantees as much as possible, but also minimizes the danger of corruption and exploration in the loan process. The task describes the architecture, methodology and expected results of Gadget, and highlights the potential to turn the panoramic into microfinances into underestimated populations.

Index Terms - Formal Credit Access, Financial Inclusion, Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain Technology, Microfinance Ecosystem, Alternative Financial Signals, Credit Scoring, Decentralized Finance.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Increasing adoption of machine learning (ML) in credit modeling has opened new ways to replace financial services, especially increasing financial inclusion in the understed population. From micro finance to rural loan, ML is benefiting from improving credit scoring processes, especially for individuals with limited or any traditional banking history - such as small farmers, rural youth, women and UNBCD population. These groups often lack formal Pachauri financial services, with more than two billion people still excluded from the banking ecosystem. To overcome this difference, researchers and financial institutions are searching for alternative data sources, such as mobile phone usage patterns, Call L-Datyl records (CDR), farming activity and social network behavior. These data points, when analyzed by advanced ML algorithms, have promised to predict reliability more accurately than traditional models based on historical fascinating financial data.

Smartphone -based micro -landing packages have demonstrated to be a in particular powerful solution in order that creditors can investigate borrowers using behavioral and unit -layered records. Similarly, Big Data-driven models, which include those constructed on cellular CDRs, provide a brand-new potential for both statistical accuracy and improved access to credit score in development economies. However, the rapid integration of ML in those contexts isn't always without demanding situations. One of the maximum urgent concerns is the chance of algorithmic discrimination - where facts or model designs can unfairly affect positive organizations. In particular, discrimination is not confined to person characteristics which includes gender or age, however is becoming increasingly severe as you stand for intersectional identities, inclusive of young single moms or girls within the countryside with low digital reading talents.

Therefore, at the same time as ML gives a large promise of modernizing credit scoring and permitting broader monetary participation, it additionally requires the improvement of responsible and transparent AI structures. Ensuring justice, obligation and ethical compliance have to be ahead of ML-powered credit modeling to save you reinforcing existing social inequalities and ensuring sincerely inclusive economic solutions.

## II.RELATED WORKS

In [1] The paper examines the algorithm fairness in microfinance credit scoring, which emphasizes obstinate discrimination many sensitive characteristics (eg, gender, age, marital and parents' conditions, number of children) emerges when interconnected differences). Using a real-world dataset from the Spanish Microloan market and machine learning models, the study has found that although the models may look appropriate at a higher level, deep subgroups analysis reveals complex inequalities for the weaker population such as young single parents. Authors argue that current fairness metrics often ignore these complications and advocate for the intersection-intensive evaluation framework for better inequalities in making automatic credit decision making.

In [2] The paper presents a comprehensive observation of machine learning practices responsible in credit scoring, focuses on fairness, rejects estimates, and model clarity. It evaluates general algorithms such as logistic region, neural network, random forest and gradient boosting, comparing their performance on public credit dataset. The study states how bias can remain in automatic credit systems and propose pre-post-processing techniques to reduce unfair. It also discovers ways to estimate the credibility of disgusted applicants to reduce exclusion and improve data representation. Overall, the paper emphasizes trade-closes between fairness and accuracy, offering practical recommendations for moral credit modeling.

In [3] The study examines the use of mobile phone call detail records (CDRs) and social network analytics to increase credit scoring, especially for individuals without formal credit history. By creating call networks and by applying spread methods such as pageank and spreading activation, author captures the behavioral pattern associated with creditworthiness. Models tested using a combination of sociodemographic and telecom data show that mobile usage features alone can improve traditional scoring methods in both forecasting accuracy (AUC) and profitability. The paper data also addresses privacy, regulatory challenges and moral concerns, which emphasizes the ability of mobile data to improve financial inclusion responsibly.

In [4] The paper presents a credit scoring function for smartphone-based micro rolling application. This user introduces the pseudo-social network manufactured by equality and applies complex network analysis and representation to remove future facilities. This approach takes advantage of mobile phone metadata to improve risk evaluation for uninterrupted individuals, following privacy and moral guidelines. Using the machine learning algorithm, the study displays increased prediction accuracy compared to traditional models. The purpose of the functioning is to increase the financial access among the understanding population, reducing discriminatory results in credit decisions..

In [5] literature evaluate focuses on the position of device studying in Digital Credit Scoring for Rural Finance. It identifies the primary algorithm, inclusive of the selection evaluates their utility in assessing the credit between bushes and apprehensive networks, and information rural population. The paper notes that traditional fashions frequently lack formal credit score history to debtors, consisting of small farmers and girls. ML-primarily based systems offer a solution via taking gain of opportunity statistics sources-including cellular utilization, satellite tv for pc imagery and climate forecast hazard profiles generate. The have a look at additionally highlights the implementation challenges, which include information integration, moral worries and virtual division, which wishes to be addressed to absolutely sense AI's capability in rural finance.

In [6] The research examines the usage of synthetic intelligence, mainly liberal unfavorable networks (GANS), converting the credit score scoring machine for accelerated impartiality and inclusion. It criticizes the limits of conventional credit score fashions that depend on linear members of the family and regularly improve socio -financial and geographical prejudices. The examine has employed Gans to generate synthetic statistics for groups by way of decreasing Gans and comes to a decision them with selection bushes, nervous networks and random forests to enhance version training. Experimental results show that the AI-operated models, specially regarding anthem-borne data, both carry out higher than traditional logistic location in each forecast accuracy and equity. The paper also examines the ethical implications of using artificial data, advocating a transparent AI version that helps the identical get admission to credit score, specifically for the marginalized population.

In [7] The study reviews the development of credit scoring models by focusing on the integration of machine learning and alternative data to promote financial inclusion. This criticizes the boundaries of traditional linear models, which often exclude individuals with formal credit history - especially in developing economies. 36 By analyzing the study of the global matter, the paper shows that advanced algorithms such as nerve networks, vector machines, and traditional approaches are improved better in predicting credit risk in enclosed methods. It highlights non-traditional data sources such as psychometric assessment, mobile usage data and the importance of digital footprints. These data types allow lenders to be more accurately assessed of high-risk or unbanked persons. The author conclude by emphasizing the need for interdisciplinary approaches and moral ideas to refine the alternative credit scoring system.

In [8] This study model implements the methods of AI (XAI) to the machine learning models used in credit risk evaluation, addressing an important issue of transparency. Using lime and shape on data borrowed from Peer-to-Pier platforms, the author shows how local and global interpretation can be obtained without compromising the prediction accuracy. Research discusses practical difficulties to implement these devices, including computational demands and user understanding. Writers advocate to improve lecturer framework in financial models to improve the user trust, support regulatory compliance and promote AI responsible for making credit decisions.

In [9] This paper develops an obedient credit scoring framework that integrates traditional and dark teaching models, focusing on clarity and regulatory alignment. Techniques such as gradients boosting, decision-making, and xgboost are combined with reveveting, cross-validation and cursed values to increase model performance and interpretation. Framework emphasizes transparency, enables financial institutions to detect models and follow rules. The results suggest that the hybrid approach model improves both accuracy and fairness, reducing the risks associated with complexity and prejudice. Paper contributes to bridging the difference between the future power and clarity in financial AI applications.

In [10] This study introduces the Bagging Supervised Autoencoder Classifier (BSAC) for credit scoring, which addresses twin challenges of class imbalances and facilitates asymmetry in credit dataset. The model uses supervised autoencoders to extract low-dimensional representation of input features for classification, while bagging with underdamping helps manage imbalance between default and non-default classes. Experimental verification on both benchmark and real-world dataset shows that BSAC performs better than traditional classifier in terms of normalization and strength. Research keeps BSAC as a promising tool for improving credit risk prediction in modern, data-rich financial environment.

In [11] This paper proposes an intense learning-based credit scoring method called embedding-par-on-side-par-transactional recurrent nerve (ET-RNN), which uses fine transactions data using debit and credit cards. A major European bank tested the actual data, the model improved traditional credit scoring methods by taking advantage of sequential transactions pattern without the need for manual feature engineering. Major benefits include rapid processing time, low dependence on credit history and resistance to manipulation, as transactions are difficult to prove data wrong. While the model shows strong performance, the writers accept concerns about the need for interpretation to meet their black-box nature and regulatory standards.

In [12] This case evaluates the effectiveness of a gadget-learning random woodland version to increase credit chance scoring for small and medium businesses (SMEs) in Azerbaijan. Compared to the traditional Delphi version (logistic field), the AI model has improved the accuracy, true, bear and F1 ratings in all basic exhibition metrics. Research highlights AI's blessings in handling non-definitive relationships and integrating macroeconomic and political variables in credit score assessment. This gadget underlines the possibility of knowing the reduction of the Debt reduction and reducing SME credit applications in irrelevant rejection. Additionally, the paper addresses moral concerns, emphasizing the need for transparency and ness pain in the determination of the rules.

In [13] This paper gives a comprehensive evaluation of using AI and device gaining knowledge of in credit score risk evaluation, emphasizing their advantages on conventional methods in phrases of accuracy, performance and adaptability. It evaluates many fashions-which encompass logistic region, choices trees, random woodland, anxious community, and enchanted techniques-Using accuracy and

AUC-ROCs inclusive of denying metrics. Conclusions endorse that the AI-based totally fashions enhance conventional scoring systems better and offer actual-time processing capabilities. The look at additionally highlighted the significance of clarity, ethical thoughts and regulatory compliance. Future commands associated with integration with blockchain and other rising technology are mentioned with demanding situations which include statistics nice, version transparency and chance of set of rules bias.

In [14] The study presents a hybrid machine learning framework for individual credit risk evaluation, designed to handle highdimensional data and increase future accuracy. This introduces a novel feature selection algorithm-HSFSFOA- The most relevant risk factors agree to the curd test, adaptive seeding and greedy search strategies to extract the most relevant risk factors. The model then optimizes a Xgboost classifier using a better sparrow search algorithm that integrates chaotic mapping, sine -caution strategies, reverse learning and coco mutations. The empirical assessment using the borrowed club dataset displays better performance than the traditional model, which reflects increased accuracy, strength and generality in predicting the borrower's omission. Research underlines the importance of intelligent feature engineering and parameter tuning in modern credit risk modeling.

In [15] The study reviews the transforming role of the AI-based credit scoring model in the microfinance field, especially to increase the financial inclusion among the credit risk evaluation and the underbank population. Traditional credit scoring methods often exclude individuals with lack of formal financial history; In contrast, AI enables the use of alternative data such as mobile phone records, social media behavior, utility bills and psychometric assessments. Paper rules-based models outlines the changes in advanced machine learning and deep learning techniques-such as decisions trees, random forests, nervous networks and SVMSwhich provide better future accurate and adaptability. It also discusses real -world implementation from platforms such as rhythm, lend and gestation, which have expanded credit access to developing areas. While AI enhances efficiency and reduces default risks, paper algorithm highlights challenges, including clear AI requirement to maintain prejudice, data privacy and regulatory compliance and moral lending practices.

#### III. CHALLENGES

Developing the Fair and Ethical Machine Learning (ML) model for credit scoring involves navigating a complex landscape of technical, social and regulatory challenges. An important issue is insufficient meditation for the current fair ML literature. Most models oversee fairness by relying on traditional, an dimensional impartiality metrics, ignoring the multidimensional nature of identity of individuals. Consequently, characteristics such as single parent status or number of dependents - although impressive in financial behavior - are often kept out of analysis, as they are not legally recognized as a legally protected characteristics. This inspection is marginalized ahead of biased assessment and already weak groups.

Another comprehensive challenge is the presence of historical bias encountered within the data used to train the ML model. Even when sensitive characteristics such as gender or breed are excluded under "fairness" approach, proxy variables can still represent these biases, which can lead to discriminatory consequences. Additionally, credit scoring models often ignore the data of rejected applicants, resulting in oblique representation of the applicant pool and disrupts the fairness and generality of the model.

In the age of digital finance, the use of mobile and smartphone data provides new forecast capabilities, but also represents significant moral dilemmas. Smartphone usage patterns sought a precautionary balance between the forecasting operations and the privacy of users. Without the direct use of sensitive social contact information, there is also the challenge of creating pseudo-social networks to predict user's uniformity for credit risk modeling. This requires innovative facility engineering approaches that can estimate social behaviors when sticking to strict moral and privacy standards.

Moreover, the development of ML-based credit models faces structural barriers such as the availability of data, especially in rural or underweared population. These groups often lack the structural financial history required by traditional credit scoring systems, which make effective models difficult to validate or make. Integrating new digital credit scoring models with traditional financial systems add another level of complexity, as legacy systems may not support modern data-based approaches. Finally, the widespread application of these techniques demand a strict regulatory observation to ensure that algorithmic decisions are transparent, explained and responsible. It is necessary to address these interconnected challenges to create justified and strong credit scoring systems, contained in the era of machine learning.

## VI. SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPLICATION

The integration of machine learning (ML) in credit scoring systems has led to a changing probability of financial services, especially improving the reach of the under -arved population. One of the most significant effects of this progress is the ability to highlight and address systemic bias that can ignore traditional models. Using large datasets such as Spanish microlone data, it represents righteousness, while appearing satisfactory on the surface, often failing under the verification of the intersection. For example, individuals occupied by multiple marginalized identities (eg, young single mothers) face disadvantages occupied by the traditional FAIR Chiti Matrix. These lenders and regulators show the urgent need to accommodate intersection in the framework of credit risk assessment and to implement these layered forms of discrimination actively resisting these layered forms.

Ness Cheetah in ML is not a one-dimensional issue. It expands the group, sub-group, and individual layers, which creates a complex but essential aspect of responsible credit scoring. Approaches to regenerate training data, embedding the barrier of righteousness during model development, and applying POST painted-awareness post-processing techniques, as methods for enhancing equity. However, these interventions can introduce trade in the forecast operation, asking financial institutions to make intentional and informed choices. The inclusion of disapproved estimate technologies - which helps the applicants' credit worth of the HELP to which the loan has previously denied - has emerged as another crucial tool. These methods can improve the incorporation by allowing a more comprehensive assessment of the population, there reduces the systemic exclusion from the Credit Pachauri credit ecosystem.

In telephone-trim zed micro-based systems, allow the use of ML and behavioral data analyzes permits for actual time, scalable and unique credit score. This provides new financial opportunities for the imagined billions of people globally who lack admission to formal credit score. By identifying excessive performance functions consisting of the social society has an impact on characteristics or compensation behavioral properties, ML-MLs can help tailor credit services to fit the extra borrower profiles as it should be. Furthermore, the utility of hybrid fashion - to combine ML with traditional econometric techniques - has proven promise to improve the accuracy of the prediction while retaining interpretability, it is crucial for stakeholder to accept as true and regulatory compliance.

Overall, the adoption of ML in credit scoring has the ability to democratization, reduce operating costs and reduce low non-performing loans (NPAs). However, to feel these benefits requires a commitment for fairness, transparency and moral deployment - especially when weakened and historically serve marginalized community.

#### V. FUTURE SCOPE

The future of machine learning (ML) in credit scoring lies in addressing the versatile challenges of fairness, inclusion, data diversity and moral deployment. One of the most important areas for further discovery is multi-dimensional impartiality, where research should expand beyond single protected characteristics to consider inter-confidence. This asks for the development of models capable of capturing and reduced mixed damage by individuals at the intersection of several margins' groups. With this technological development, the update regulatory framework requires a pressure that can effectively address these emerging complications and ensure that the ML-based credit system remains appropriate and accountable.

Research should also prioritize the development of dynamic, reference-sensitive impartiality metrics which are compatible with different demographic and financial scenario. Increasing the technique of rejecting-especially through deeper learning and semi-convened learning-would be required to include applicants who were historically deprived of credit, which reduced systemic exclusion. In addition, as ML models are rapidly deployed in diverse environments, they should be able to normally manage various credit products, such as hostage, micro lone and consumer credits, while effectively handle the population data.

Extension of behavior data sources - such as social media activity, geolocation data and digital footprints - offer another promising avenue. However, it should be balanced with strong privacy-protection methods to facilitate safe data sharing between telecom providers, fintech firms and banks. Improvement in convenience building, network architecture and representation learning techniques will increase future accuracy and fairness.

Finally, future efforts should focus on the real-time implementation of the ML system, use representative datasets live, representative datasets from undisputed areas to ensure global purposes. It would be important to integrate digital credit scoring with traditional banking practices supported by clear moral guidelines, include inclusive, transparent and responsible financial ecological systems.

#### VI. CONCLUSION

Integration of machine learning (ML) in credit scoring systems has emerged as a transformational force in addressing financial boycott in diverse global population. This review emphasizes that while the ML provides advanced future stating capabilities and operating capacity, its real impact lies in the ability to enable moral, inclusive and fair financial ecological systems. Use of alternative data sources-as mobile phone call-detail records, behavioral indicators, and pseudo-social network analytics-traditionally have improved the ability to assess the credibility of individuals out of financial mainstream, such as rural farmers, low-income persons, women, and young people without any credit history.

However, the deployment of ML in credit scoring is not without significant moral concerns. The risk of algorithm discrimination, especially against contradictory identity, such as young single mothers or rural women, intentionally outlines the need for fairness strategies. Intersectional awareness should form a fundamental principle in the design and implementation of automated decision making (ADM) system. Without it, these systems reduce existing inequalities under the guise of technical neutrality. An overall fairness approach-one that includes groups, subgroups, and individual-level fairness ideas-it is necessary to ensure that ML does not strengthen the equipment, but reduce social and financial inequalities.

In addition, ML applications responsible in credit scoring should go beyond accuracy, emphasize transparency, clarity and inclusion. Hybrid models that mix traditional credit assessment with advanced ML algorithms, providing a balanced solution, combining the lecturer with accuracy. Since smartphones-based microlling live on the platform scale, and rural finance systems adopt digital equipment, ensure privacy, positive scoring practices, and regulatory compliance will be important.

Finally, the ML-powered credit scoring, when applied thoughtfully and morally, has the power to strengthen the financial division, to strengthen the Foster Trust and to strengthen the marginalized population historically, ultimately contributes to a more justified and inclusive global financial system.

## VII. REFERENCES

- [1] Savina D. Kim, Stefan Lessmann, Galina Andreeva, and Michael Rovatsos. (2023, August 8). Fair Models in Credit: Intersectional Discrimination and the Amplification of Inequity. Preprint, University of Edinburgh and Humboldt University of Berlin
- [2] A. Rida, Machine and Deep Learning for Credit Scoring: A compliant approach, arXiv preprint arXiv:2412.20225, Jul. 2019. José de Luna Martínez, Carlos Sarraute, Cristian Bravo, Wesley Verbeke, and Bart Baesens. (2019). The value of big data for credit scoring: Enhancing financial inclusion using mobile phone data and social network analytics. Applied Soft Computing, Vol. 74, Pages 26–39.
- [3] María Oskarsdóttir, Cristian Bravo, Carlos Sarraute, Jan Vanthienen, and Bart Baesens. (2019). *The value of big data for credit scoring: Enhancing financial inclusion using mobile phone data and social network analytics*. Applied Soft Computing, Volume 74, Pages 26–39.
- [4] Alexandros Ampountolas, Tatiana Nde, Pradeep Date, and Ciprian Constantinescu. (2021). *A Machine Learning Approach for Micro-Credit Scoring*. Risks, Volume 9, Issue 3, Article 50.
- [5] Akshay Rajshekar Shiraguppi. (2025). AI-Generated Credit Scoring Models: Leveraging Machine Learning and Generative Networks for Financial Inclusion and Bias Mitigation in Credit Risk Assessment. International Journal of Communication Networks and Information Security, Volume 17, Issue 02, pp. 126–161.
- [6] Jonnalagadda Anil Kumar and S. Ramesh Babu. (2025). *Enhancing Credit Scoring with Alternative Data and Machine Learning for Financial Inclusion*. South Eastern European Journal of Public Health (SEEJPH), Volume XXVI, 2025, ISSN: 2197-5248, pp. 511–518.
- [7] Branka Hadji Misheva, Joerg Osterrieder, Onkar Kulkarni, Stephen Fung Lin, and Ali Hirsa. (2021, March 2). *Explainable AI* in *Credit Risk Management*. Preprint, Zurich University of Applied Sciences and Columbia University.

- [8] A. Rida, "Machine and Deep Learning for Credit Scoring: A Compliant Approach," *Proceedings of the International Conference on Financial Machine Learning*, 2020.
- [9] M. Abdoli, M. Akbari, and J. Shahrabi, "Bagging Supervised Autoencoder Classifier for Credit Scoring," *Journal of Credit Risk and Financial Technology*, 2021.
- [10] D. Babaev, M. Savchenko, A. Tuzhilin, and D. Umerenkov, "E.T.-RNN: Applying Deep Learning to Credit Loan Applications," in *Proc. 25th ACM SIGKDD Conf. Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD '19)*, Anchorage, AK, USA, Aug. 2019, pp. 1–8.
- [11] N. Karimova, "Application of AI in Credit Risk Scoring for Small Business Loans: A Case Study on How AI-Based Random Forest Model Improves a Delphi Model Outcome in the Case of Azerbaijani SMEs," Unpublished manuscript, 2025.
- [12] H. E. Omokhoa, C. S. Odionu, C. Azubuike, and A. K. Sule, "AI-Powered Fintech Innovations for Credit Scoring, Debt Recovery, and Financial Access in Microfinance and SMEs," *Gulf Journal of Advance Business Research*, vol. 2, no. 6, pp. 411–422, Dec. 2024.
- [13] K. Sheriffdeen, "AI and Machine Learning in Credit Risk Assessment: Enhancing Accuracy and Efficiency," *EasyChair Preprints*, no. 14352, Aug. 2024.
- [14] C. Wang and H. Yu, "Intelligent Assessment of Personal Credit Risk Based on Machine Learning," *Systems*, vol. 13, no. 2, p. 112, Feb. 2025.
- [15] M. A. Rehman, M. Ahmed, and S. Sethi, "AI-Based Credit Scoring Models in Microfinance: Improving Loan Accessibility, Risk Assessment, and Financial Inclusion," *The Critical Review of Social Sciences Studies*, vol. 3, no. 1, pp. 2997–3033, Mar. 2025.