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Artificial Intelligence in Transactional Data Analysis: A Data-Centric Analysis of Customer Behavior in the U.S.A.

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Abstract: The rapid expansion of digitalization in the financial services sector has changed the relationship way of customers with banks while creating new opportunities and challenges regarding the understanding of transactional behavior. This work will explore Artificial Intelligence in Transactional Data Analysis: A Data-Centric Analysis of Customer Behavior using composite models that represent demographic, temporal, and geographic context along with predictive modeling. The study utilizes descriptive statistics, ANOVA, clustering unity, and time-series forecasting on data from U.S. bank customers on Kaggle, contributing clarification to multiple dimensions with more than 2,500 observations supplemented by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and Federal Reserve data. The life-cycle patterns are evident that the middle-aged have classified as the highest balances and volumes, whereas transactions with students are numerous but lower in value and seniors are still heavily branch dependent. Temporal patterns reveal daily transactions that take place between Tuesday and Thursday are higher than other days of the week and the seasonal peaks in August-September. While urban centers have demonstrated the most successful adoption and integration of digital technologies, rural populations remain excluded. Predictive models estimate a churn risk as around 20% and indicate that the problem is associated with the inactive customers, whereas clustering analysis isolates a pattern of four different behavioral groups of customers that have their own managerial relevance. The study uses smart ideas about the Life-Cycle Hypothesis, Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) and Behavioral Economics to show how AI can be used to analyze banking transactions. It also focuses on making sure the AI is ethical that it is fair, easy to understand, and works for everyone. This makes the research useful both for scholars and for practical use in the real world. These results provide banks with data-driven metrics by which to improve retention, improve the investment between digital and physical channels, and incorporate best practices for the deployment of responsible AI that builds customer trust and helps financial inclusion.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Banking Analytics, Churn Prediction, Customer Segmentation, Digital Adoption, Ethical AI, Financial Inclusion, Transactional Data.

1. Introduction

Financial services are experiencing a major change as digital technology rapidly advances, consumer preferences change,

and competition from fintech and non-bank companies heat up.

This transformation has facilitated by Artificial Intelligence (AI), which has given banks the power to manage huge volumes of transactional data and learn core understanding about consumer behaviors. Today, transactional data is not hard to find. This is especially true with the rise of digital banking apps, mobile payments, peer-to-peer payments, e-commerce, and among other ways for customers to interact with business online. As a result, AI-based analytic capabilities are being increasingly viewed as strategic assets and risks, and so the implementation of data enabled and informed by fairness, transparency, and inclusion must be a matter of deliberate and careful attention.

A. Background and Context

The U.S. banking industry is a remarkably interesting topic since it explores AI technologies that help with the analysis of transactional data. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) says that more than 95% of U.S. households have a bank account. However, there are still discrepancies in how people utilize digital banking depending on their age, job, and where they live. The digital usage is high in urban areas where infrastructure support is better and the population is younger, but rural and senior users rely on branches and ATMs. At the same time, consumers expect highly relevant offers and information that are fast, easy, safe, and available 24/7 through their preferred channel (McKinsey & Company, 2024). This has created a complex network of digital and traditional banking channels that must all be used together. It has also made it possible to investigate transactional behaviors from different points of view. In this context, artificial intelligence has helped banks move from descriptive reports to predictive and prescriptive analytics. For example, machine learning models have been adapted to detect complex patterns that are undetectable using traditional statistical methods in churn prediction, customer segmentation, fraud detection, and lifetime value prediction, among other application areas (Verbeke et al., 2012; Huang et al., 2022). However, there are ethical concerns about using models based on biased

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transactional data. These models may reinforce disparities based on demographic or geographically, which might be detrimental consequences for financial inclusion and overall customers' trust (Barocas, Hardt, & Narayanan, 2019).

These highlighted tensions to point out the necessity to address the technical, behavioral, and ethical considerations of AI transactional analysis in a holistic way.

B. Problem Statement

The existing literature on banking analytics has already provided some important findings on the prediction of customer behavior. However, it is itself highly fragmented. Existing research often highlights individual components. For instance, studies of digital adoption pay attention to perceived ease of use and perceived usefulness (Davis, 1989; Venkatesh et al., 2022), demographic studies draw attention to variations by age and occupation (Rahman et al., 2021), and geography studies show the incidence of differences in financial access across regions (Servon and Kaestner, 2008). Second, the predictive analytics literature focuses on accuracy and efficiency rather than on fairness, transparency, and accountability more generally, and this is often the case even when studies reference issues of bias, justice, etc. (Doshi-Velez & Kim, 2018). The result of this fragmentation is that banks possess incomplete understandings that fail to address the complex "causes" of customer engagement or the ethical implications of deploying AI. Furthermore, despite the growing concerns and calls for regulation of artificial intelligence skyrocket, as illustrated by the European Union's recently drafted Artificial Intelligence Act (European Commission, 2021), there is a conspicuous lack of academic work and managerial understanding that connects transactional analytics with ethical design. If fairness and transparency aren't combined, AI technologies may fix existing structural problems for the most vulnerable populations such as seniors, rural households, and low-income individuals. As a result, the present research focuses on the need for a comprehensive data-centered regime that integrates predictive and ethical modeling, AI regulations, and demographic, temporal, and spatial assessments of the problem.

C. Research Gap

In this context, despite the significant advancements made in banking analytics, the existing literature identifies three major gaps. First, previous research has mostly focused on demography, timing, or place disparities in isolation of one another, leading to fragmented rather than general understandings of the effects of such disparities on transactional behavior. Second, research on predictive modeling such as churn prediction, customer segmentation, and anomaly detection have high but insufficient accuracy. These generally provide positive results at the expense of justification, which place vulnerable populations at risk of exclusion. Third, although financial inclusion has always been a top priority for policy, academics have not yet integrated AI-driven transactional analytics with focused strategies to reach the underprivileged population. This research aims to address these gaps both theoretically and practically by proposing a

multidimensional framework. This framework considers the complexities of customer decision-making in modern banking and incorporates ethical and inclusive values into the application of AI.

D. Research Objectives and Questions

The study aims to address these gaps in five ways. The first stage applies AI techniques by focusing on the transactional aspect of customer actions based on demographic, temporal, and geographic data to understand the variety of customer engagements. Second, it reveals the role of both weekly and seasonal transaction patterns in determining variations in the volumes and values of transactions showing relationship with financial activity and time. Third, it uses predictive modeling to improve the ability to detect churn and identify the most valuable customers to target with retention efforts. Fourth, it analyzes the patterns of digital adoption and the geography of its social and territorial inequalities with particular attention to their financial and banking-related consequences. Finally, it introduces concepts such as fairness, transparency, and explanation in AI-based analytics. Thus, we are fostering responsible innovation that trades off predictive accuracy with ethical accountability. The work aims to address these goals by asking the following questions:

RQ1: What are the demographic variations in transaction types, values, and channels in U.S. banking?

RQ2: What are the patterns of time dynamics, at a seasonal and weekly level, in customer transactions?

RQ3: How accurate are the predictive models in predicting customers at risk of churning, time prediction, and identifying various clusters?

RQ4: What are the geographic dimensions of digital adoption and inclusion outcomes?

RQ5: What ethical rules should inform AI-enabled analytics that attempt to be fair, transparent, and inclusive?

E. Theoretical Foundation

This research is grounded on three interrelated theories that contribute to an understanding of banking customers' behavior. Modigliani and Brumberg (1954) introduced the Life-Cycle Hypothesis, which explains the varying financial behavior associated with different life stages: youth tend to prioritize liquidity, adults focus on asset accumulation, and retirees generally save less. The concept of digital adoption is examined through the lens of the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) (Davis 1989), which is framework for understanding engagement with digital technology emphasizing the importance of ease of uses, perceived usefulness, and trust. Both these perspectives are complemented by behavioral economics (Thaler & Sunstein, 2008), which emphasized the relevance of bounded rationality, trust, and nudging in the context of digital and AI-mediated settings on decision-making. By combining these two, the research places its empirical findings into well-established theories of financial behavior and technology adoption while also expanding them to include AI ethics and financial inclusion, offering both theoretical and practical implications.

F. Contribution to Knowledge and Practice

Academically and practically, this study contributes new knowledge. From a theoretical perspective, it devises a complex paradigm that combines demographic, temporal, and geographic dimensions of banking analytics in predictive modeling and responsible AI to complement existing paradigms and to account for how complex transactional behavior can be. It presents methodological innovations on how to complement ANOVA, regression, and K-mean clustering neural networks to gain insights across descriptive, inferential, and predictive layers of analysis. At a practical level, these results offer useful advice to banks on how to improve their services. For example, they can create flexible customer groups that adjust as people's behavior changes, and they can balance digital and physical channels, so investments are used wisely. They can also set up early warning systems to detect customers who may leave reducing churn. Finally, they can use AI tools designed to be fair, which protect vulnerable groups and build strong trust between banks and their customers. Policymakers should prioritize universal digital access, implement fairness audits, and enhance financial literacy programs to secure more inclusive and responsible digital shift across the banking sectors.

G. Structure of the Paper



Fig. 1. Structure of the Paper

The paper is structured to contextualize how these banks function and what they are likely to achieve. In section 2 provides an overview of the literature on transactional analytics observing specifically demographic discrepancy, the digital divide, predictive modeling, spatial discrepancy, and the ethics of AI. In section 3 describes the research methodology including data sources, sampling, preprocessing, and the multimethod analysis as well as descriptive, inferential, and predictive fairness-aware geospatial statistics. The empirical results are presented in section 4 addressing demographic and time distributions, channel preferences, statistical significance tests, prediction results, and geospatial distribution of conflicts. In section 5, we discussed tese findings by attempting to connect the results theoretically based on the life-cycle

hypothesis, the technology acceptance model, and behavioral economics and finally providing managerial and policy implications. Section 6 addresses the ethical, social, and regulatory dimensions of AI in banking analytics, emphasizing fairness, transparency, and inclusion. Additionally, section 7 wraps up the study and presents some limitations along with suggestions for future research directions.

2. Literature Review

The usage of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology in the analysis of transactional data is changing the way in which banks perceive customer behavior, improve customer segmentation, and develop churn prediction models. However, research coverage has been split with studies that focus on digital adaptation, demographics-driven, and analytics via predictive analytics independently. This provides a summary view of several streams of literature customer behavior in banking, digital adoption, predictive analytics, geographic disparities, and ethical AI and the opportunities for contribution that each offer.

A. Customer Behavior in Banking

Transactional data gives an unbiased measure of the actual behavior of customers, whereas surveys response are affected by recall bias (Kamakura & Wedel 2000). The impact of demographic factors has also been consistent. The younger student users exchange at high frequency, but low amounts and the middle-aged users dominate balances and volume at the peak of their life earnings (Rahman et al., 2021). This is in stark contrast to seniors who remain more branch-dependent but value trust and human interaction (Mullan et al., Bradley & Loane, 2022).

This finding supports the Life-Cycle Hypothesis that behavior should change with lifecycle stage; the hypothesis suggests that individuals should prioritize liquidity in youth, accumulate in middle age, and remain stable in retirement. Though, much of this prior research has overlooked the temporal and contextual nature of demographic characteristics and the ways in which the context or the timing of these demographic indicators may interact with variation by age or occupation.

The present research seeks to fill that invalid by examining the ways in which demographic trends intersect with seasonality and geographic differences to yield a more complex picture of the dynamics of transactions.

B. Digital Adoption and Multichannel Banking

The digital banking has been mainly addressed by the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) which emphasizes perceived ease of use, usefulness, and the Diffusion of Innovations Theory (DIT). It is shown in a study that when people feel mobile banking is useful and secure, they are more likely to adopt it (Venkatesh, Thong, & Xu, 2022).

The continued use of branch and ATM challenge assumptions of complete digital substitution. Physical interaction remains the dominant channel to conduct complex or high-value transactions, even with clients who are proficient

in digital technology (Laukkanen (2016). Despite the perceived risk, a significant amount of caution remains among seniors, whereas infrastructure challenges remain for rural households (FDIC, 2023).

Most importantly, the findings presented here document the continued existence and sustainability of hybrid forms whereas existing subsidies tend to describe digital dynamics around within- country migration in linear terms. This implies that the TAM should be adapted to integrate the role of trust, risk perception, and issues of inclusion, as it cannot be assumed that perceived usefulness alone is sufficient to drive adoption.

C. Transactional Data as a Predictive Asset

This increasing importance of banking analytics highlights the growing understanding that transaction data can be used for predictive and prescriptive analysis as well as descriptive reporting. Other research has leveraged the use of machine learning techniques in churn prediction, customer segmentation, and customer lifetime value (CLV) modeling providing clear benefits in strategic banking situations (Verbeke et al., 2012; Chaudhuri, Dayal, & Narasayya, 2019). Segmentation studies reinforce the power of K-means and hierarchical clustering to separate high-frequency, low-value loyalty users from loyal "high-value" users upon whom more efficient marketing policies should rely (Gupta, Lehmann, & Stuart, 2004). The present study incorporates explainable AI (XAI) and fairness audits into the modeling process to reconcile predictive accuracy with interpretability and equity in banking analytics.

D. Geographic Disparities and Financial Inclusion

One of the ongoing challenges to U.S. banking has been the geography of inequality. According to surveys conducted by the FDIC, in 2023 access to broadband is limited and a barrier to digital engagement among rural households as in urban counties there is greater use of mobile and online technologies. That division is impacted by demographic shifts that highlight rurality as a position of disadvantage for seniors specifically. Although existing studies do stress the issue of access (Servon and Kaestner 2008), they seldom examine how geographic context interacts with demographics and behavior. Not only this, but also inclusion promising fintech solutions might suffer from scalability and trust concerns (Jagtiani & Lemieux, 2019). This study is a novel contribution to the financial inclusion literature, as it combines spatial and behavioral analyses revealing the ways in which structural inequalities in infrastructure merge with customer segmentation and the digital adoption curve.

E. Ethical and Responsible AI in Banking

Many of the ethical problems surrounding fairness, transparency, and accountability become exacerbated with the rise of the use of AI in banking analytics. Biased transactional data also poses risks of feedback loops of exclusionary patterns through machine learning algorithms learning from the data (Ustun & Liu, 2022). Among these measures are the use of explainable AI techniques such as SHAP and LIME, which "provide explanations about the relevance of features" of the

model used (Lundberg & Lee, 2017), and fairness aware algorithms that prevent disparate impact (Barredo Arrieta et al., 2020). Indeed, policy frameworks such as the EU AI Act (European Commission, 2021) categorize financial AI as high risk and require auditing and transparency. But much of this seems not to have been fully addressed in academic literature that does regard some of these prerequisites as necessary for analyzing transactional data. This work provides an extension to the literature by incorporating ethical AI best practices such as bias mitigation, transparency, and inclusion into the design of churn prediction and customer segmentation models. It thus combines predictive analytics with management strategies and socially responsible action.

F. Synthesis of Gaps

Three general gaps are evident in literature. First, existing research often treats demographic, digital, and geographical variables as separate entities without consideration of their interaction in transactional behavior. Second, existing predictive models often sacrifice fairness, transparency, and explainability on the altar of accuracy resulting in ethical biases that can exacerbate exclusion. Thirdly, there need to be more multidimensional approaches that combine demographic, temporal, geographic, and ethical concerns, which are limiting both theoretical advances and practical potential. It is in this deficiency gap that this work contributes, as it builds a new data-driven paradigm that brings together artificial intelligence, banking analytics, customer segmentation, churn prediction, and digital adoption, supplemented by concerns of financial inclusion and ethical AI.

3. Research Methodology

The present research utilizes AI-driven transactional analytics to examine the behavior of U.S. bank customers from a multi-method, data-centric perspective. The methodology includes descriptive, inferential, predictive, and spatial analyses along with ethical AI measures designed to promote fairness, transparency, and inclusivity.

A. Research Design

The study adopts a quantitative and exploratory design in which transactional data serves as the foundation for analyzing customer behavior. The design is structured across four complementary stages. First, descriptive analysis establishes baseline patterns in transaction values, demographics, seasonality, channel uses and geographic disparities providing an initial overview of customer engagement. Second, inferential analysis employs ANOVA, chi-square tests, and regression models to test group level differences and identify statistically significant drivers of behavior. Third, predictive modeling applies AI-driven techniques including time series, and Kmeans clustering to estimate churn risk, segment customers, and forecast transactional activity. Finally, geospatial analysis investigates urban rural disparities in digital adoption and financial inclusion. By integrating these four stages, the research employs methodological triangulation that strengthens validity, balances descriptive and predictive insights, and

advances a multidimensional understanding of customer decision-making in modern banking.

Research Design for Analyzing Customer Behavior

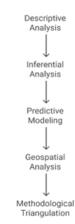


Fig. 2. Research design for analyzing customer behavior

B. Data Sources

The primary dataset for this study has collected from the Kaggle Bank Customer Transaction Dataset (2024) which contains anonymized records for more than 2,500 U.S. bank customers. The dataset includes a comprehensive set of variables spanning demographics (age, occupation, and region), transactional behavior (frequency, value, and recency), and channel usage (ATM, branch, and online). This data source enhances external validity, enabling both micro level behavioral insights and macro level contextualization of digital adoption and financial inclusion.

C. C. Sampling and Data Preparation

Through these processes, I selected the remaining 2,512 customers that fulfilled these selection criteria including having four 'quarters' of transactional data, having gender and age data, and having participated in at least one banking channel. Several preprocessing steps were performed to ensure the quality and robustness of the analyses. To best integrate transaction amounts into statistical and machine learning models, they were log-transformed to make the variable more continuous and normal, while all the categorical variables (occupation and channel) were dummy-coded. Lastly, transactions were temporally structured by grouping them by months and weekdays to analyze seasonality and behavior over the week. This ensured the integrity of the data collected, maintained its readability, and provided a solid base for descriptive, inferential, predictive, and spatial analysis combined.

D. Analytical Framework

1) Descriptive Analysis

Through a descriptive approach, the first set of analyses provided some general patterns of the behavior of customers based on demographic and transactional patterns. Seasonality has been investigated by month, amongst others age group and

occupation by transaction value, with the aim of starting to capture the way customer segments interact with banking services. It was during this stage that patterns began to indicate important trends about different banking channels that ultimately became the empirical foundation for the descriptive analysis to follow.

2) Inferential Analysis

The nature of the inferential analysis was to specifically test statistically significant differences and relationships between customer segments and channels. ANOVA was used to analyze the differences in transaction values across channels as well as day of the week, while chi-square was used to look at associations, such as the relationship between activity and preferred channel of activity. The chi-square tests did not reflect any variability in the size of transactions based on the age of the customer. In the second step, further analyses were carried out to explore possible existing variations using t-tests that would compare the meaning of the value of the transaction with the respondent's age cohort. For example, the mean spent by respondents in a smaller age group vs. the mean spent in the middle age group. To simultaneously control all relevant factors, linear regression models were used to estimate a weighted influence of demographic and behavioral predictors on transactional outcomes. The use of measures of statistical power allowed the reader to evaluate whether findings constitute interesting relationships and point out future directions for research on such relationships.

3) Predictive Modeling

The study conducted here achieves three aims: for the purpose of forecasting, seasonal ARIMA/ARIMAX is fitted on daily totals having nonlinearity and supported by LSTM and forecasts are given along with prediction intervals. At account level, churn classification, periodical transaction number of customers, and short horizon aggregate demand forecasting on time series. In a brief description of how engineered features extracted from behavioral frequency and financial clues, digital traces and login attempts, session duration, balance, and timestamp are designed in a controlled leakage manner. The age, balance, duration, and amount scatterplots have been attached to code for the clusters' memberships in the unsupervised segmentation process given their strong aspects of comparative value for each of the groups.

4) Geospatial Analysis

The geospatial analysis explored the relationship between location and patterns of customer engagement and digital adoption. Heatmaps were created to present transaction density in the urban and rural areas, and it was observed that there are significant spatial differences in both the frequency and the channel choice. The results of this analysis were discussed in the context of existing discussions of financial inclusion, as the findings revealed the way spatial inequalities together with demographic and behavioral differences lead to multiple layers of disadvantage against specific types of customers, and especially older, rural ones. This study highlights the necessity of hybrid services and policies to mitigate digital divides and improve equitable access to financial services in spatializing transactional analytics.

E. Tools and Software

Analytical design was facilitated using a multi-tool ecosystem designed for both academic rigor and intelligent managerial research. The primary environment used throughout the project was Python for data preprocessing, statistical modeling and machine learning validation, and SQL for querying and sub-setting transactional records. Use of Excel for initial exploration and inferential statistics allowed for more transparency of the results at the exploratory stage. Power BI and Tableau were used for visualization and interpretation, building real-time interactive dashboards and heatmaps. Together, these tools formed a powerful, methodologically sound line of communication that married technical accuracy with practical applicability to decision-making.

4. Results

The following section provides a discussion of descriptive, inferential, predictive, and spatial analyses. The outcomes are thematically presented and linked back to the research questions and literature review.

A. Descriptive and Temporal Patterns

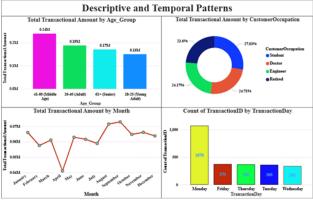


Fig. 3. Descriptive and temporal patterns

Patterns of demographic variation emerged from the analysis of 2512 customers. Middle-aged customers (41-60) had the highest balances and volume, students transacted very often with very low balances, whereas seniors had moderate balances but were branch dependent. Occupation also separated phenomena, as students engaged in high volumes of transactions through ATMs, while professionals engaged in larger-value transactions over the internet.

There were clear seasonal and weekly cycles. Volume was lowest in April but peaked in August-September, indicating holiday shopping. Denoting payroll realization, weekly volumes were greater on Mondays, whereas the busiest day of the week occurred on Wednesdays. But, the day with the most scheduled payments was based on the transactional evidence. These results are indicators that both life cycle and calendar effects matter on banking behavior.

1) Channel Preferences and Geographic Disparities

The below figure describes the distribution of preferences in terms of geographic dispersion and transactional value, and it aggregates the whole sample. The channels with branch accounts, ATMs, and online accounts respectively account for 34.29%, 33.47%, and 32.24% of the total transactional amount, as shown in the pie chart. The distribution implies complements rather than replaces, as both digital and cash-centric modes are not dominant in system activity. The branch transaction's slight advantage supports the relevance of in-person service for high-value transactions or those requiring a greater degree of complexity, as suggested by mixed-channel adoption theory. The fact that ATMs were equal to shares indicates that the demand for cash remains and that customers likely continue to withdraw quickly and in a low-friction manner as a standard behavior. A very similar contribution of online also supports the idea of significant digital penetration, which is not yet displacing physical access.

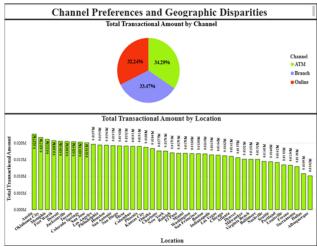


Fig. 4. Channel preferences and geographic disparities

There is significant variation in the bar chart according to place with a few locations handling the largest numbers of transactions and an extended tail of lower transaction volume sites. This spatial dispersion is expected given variations in the size of markets, branch density, digital infrastructural development, and local population characteristics. In terms of the labor market, these trends also may incentivize differentiated skills planning and investment in more targeted programming to promote digital literacy and access in the lagging regions.

B. Inferential Statistics

The statistical testing revealed some of the expected and non-zero effects. ANOVA established that the amounts vary significantly across channels (p < .001), and chi-square tests showed no patterns in the use of channels by occupation. A two-sample t-test only weakly indicated that younger customers transact at higher average values than middle-aged customers. Results of these regressions indicated R^2 for all specifications close to zero, highlighting the extremely small amount of variance in banking behavior that can be explained by demographic characteristics alone. In together, these findings suggest that, while types of transfers may depend upon the demographic characteristics of the sender, channel choice can be systematically related to transaction values.



Fig. 5. Inferential statistical testing

C. Predictive Modeling

1) Time Series and Churn Prediction

This figure combines a short-horizon forecast of transaction amounts with the cross-sectional distribution of account statuses. In the top panel, historical values slowly increase and remain relatively constant during periods 1 for January–11 for November.

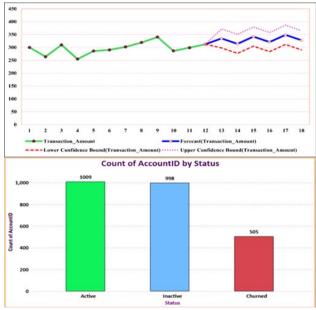


Fig. 6. Predictive modeling and time series & Churn prediction

Then, in the following 6-month period (from month 12 to month 18), the prediction represents a slightly increasing tendency with some fluctuations. In the churn chart reveals a small difference between active (1,009) and inactive (998) which are respectively 39.7% and 40.1% accounts, while churned accounts are fewer in number (505) equivalent to 20.1%. The relatively stable prediction and large inactive group provide space for reactivation drives in addition to efforts to continuously fulfill demand. These findings must be backed up by rolling-origin back testing, residual diagnosis, and opposing tests of calendar and holiday sensitivities to be published.

2) K-Means Clustering

The below figure represents four pairs of points of view; agebalance, age-amount, duration-amount, and balance-duration and is colored by the clusters that evidence clear behavioral heterogeneity. Cluster 0 (in blue) is more commonly observed among younger customers with low levels, low amounts, and low durations, which all seem to be indicative of either trial or low-value use. Cluster 1 (orange) has a high transaction amount at all ages and coupled with moderate balance and duration, indicating spend-intensive rather than high-wealth behavior.

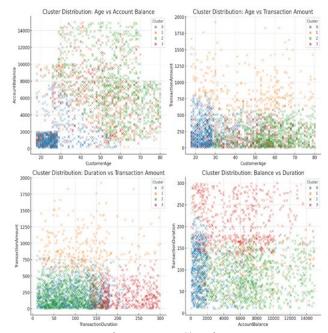


Fig. 7. K-Means Clustering

Cluster 2 (green) is older and has both a higher balance and a lower amount and duration at relatively consistent levels of both amount and duration, again in line with asset-rich but lowvelocity activity. Cluster 3 (red) has the longest length of time and relatively moderate balances and lower amounts of money, likely indicating either branch-intensive or friction-dominated interactions. As in the Age-Balance panel, clusters 0 and 2 are clearly separated, suggesting the presence of life-cycle effects in the process of accumulating savings. The Duration Amount panel suggests that very long durations are seldom paired with high amounts supporting process limitations rather than premium trade-offs. According to the Balance-Duration view, high balances should be related to shorter completion times and long durations should be concentrated at low to medium balances. Taken together, both relationships support the segmentation and justify clustering and age-channel interactions included as predictors. From an administrative point of view, the findings suggest acting both with focused actions and more intense digital enablement activities for cluster 0, retention and risk control with cluster 1, wealthadvisory upselling with cluster 2, and process redesign or channel migration with cluster 3.

5. Discussion

This research was concerned with the use of artificial intelligence to infer customer behavior in banking in the U.S. The analysis draws from existing literature on banking analytics at the intersection of demographic, temporal, and geographic scales, in connection with a predictive dimension to inform bank practice. These results point to theoretical expectations,

highlighting the importance of incorporating ethics into AIbased analytics and, in general, the complexity of customer decision-making.

A. Customer Behavior and Theoretical Alignment

Our findings show that account balances and number of transactions are higher for customers in the age group of 41 to 60, and students transact more frequently but in smaller amounts. Alternatively, there are higher rates of branch dependence among seniors. These results fit with the life-cycle hypothesis, where middle-aged individuals are in the better years to obtain money or accumulate assets, whereas students have no access to money, but they are currently active. The presence of branches, ATMs, and online uses indicates more of a mix of channels and not an entirely technologically driven bank. This trend is consistent with the Diffusion of Innovations and the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) as people use digital channels when they believe them to be useful and easy to use, but they will select the channel that performs the task better. In general, senior people tend to choose branches simply because they feel more comfortable and trust them more when they can speak to someone in person. This especially is the case for complex and high value transactions. We do observe a clear trend that activity increases on Mondays, and again at the end of O3, or beginning at O4 suggesting that payrolls, bills, and holidays must inform that this behavior impacts beyond demographic influences. Some areas are still not able to transact as the numbers do vary by where you are located. There are a large spatial inequity and a digital gap that still exists. Location should be treated as part of the study and not as random noise. Frequency of transaction and centrality in the digital space emerge from our prediction models as the most consistent churning signals. Finally, the ability of contextual factors is predictive not descriptive when we add inclusion of day-ofweek and seasonality variables. These results add to the development of TAM/DIT by indicating that lifecycle, trust and infrastructure concerns impact utilization. On top of that, they contribute to behavioral economics by explicitly connecting these regular frictions of timing and channel access to the observed outcomes. More on the administrative side, you should be overseeing digital onboarding and training of students and rural homes. Covey staff and post cash logistics down to manage Monday increases and maintain high touch branch advising to seniors. Probability settings should be established to audit the models by a group to make sure that they are being used responsibly. We must structure the directives so as not to discriminate against either branch dependent clients or clients with lower liquidity.

B. Temporal and Seasonal patterns

The descriptive evidence points to some clear temporal and seasonal patterns in the transactions of customers. Daily transactions activity exhibits a strong concentration on Monday with almost three times the average transactions of other weekdays. This "Monday surge" could be attributed to the salary credits, bill payments, and account reconciliations that took place on Monday morning in line with the findings of prior

work on routine financial cycles. Also, transactions consistently decrease on Fridays as well as on the midweek days. As a result, it appears that down payment dates soften during the week.

Cyclicity is further stressed by the monthly seasonal analysis. After April, the volume of transactions decreases quite substantially due to it being year-end and tax time in the U.S. It subsequently increases back to peak levels in the late summer to early fall months (August to October). While the trend does vary, this seasonal peak is also in line with back-to-school spending, late summer spending, and pre-holiday preparation. The flat figures in November and December suggest that transactions during the holiday shopping season are beginning to be elastically distributed over a larger range of months, likely responding to the increasing planting of early shopping campaigns.

Collectively, these results prove that temporal regularities are not random noise but a behavioral pattern with managerial consequences. Financial institutions and banks can use this information to better understand and manage liquidity, staffing, and outreach to customers, including anticipating upticks in demand for processing on Mondays and seasonal spending patterns. Understanding the timing of various interactions within financial lives can provide explanatory power beyond demographics and predictive power from a research perspective, and these types of blows at the various timings and rhythms of participants' financial lives.

C. Channel Preferences and Geographic Disparities

The analysis of channel preferences reveals the distributions to be quite balanced Among these ATM (34.29%), branch (33.47%) and online (32.24%) transactions. This distribution suggests that consumers are using multiple media rather than one or a few more than the rest. The higher prevalence of ATM uses implies that cash is still likely to play a role even as digital payments expand. Those branches continue to be used suggest that many customers still attach a premium to face-to-face service, particularly in some complex transactions in which trust and personal consulting are important. Although online transactions are little bit lower, they still show a clear move toward digital convenience especially among younger and techsavvy customers.

The unequal spatial distribution is overwhelming. For instance, it is likely that these cities have the highest number of transactions because of the size of their populations and level of economic activity in Austin, Oklahoma City and Charlotte. Cities such as Sacramento and Albuquerque have much lower figures by comparison, framing a regional disparity in financial involvement. There may be several possible reasons for this variation including demographic, digital and economic factors. The diversity of some of these locations highlights the fact that geography is not an empty stage for other phenomena, but a factor that translates into different manners of access and use of these services.

These results are relevant for banks and financial institutions, which need to follow hybrid strategies that consider heterogeneous customer preferences and different spaces. But investments in modernizing the branches should be matched

with digital innovations to keep the initiative inclusive to those populations that still depend on physical access points. Financial literacy programs or other measures specifically designed for these regions could also help both to reduce the gap and increase the activity in these areas. In terms of academic implications, this supports the notion that channel preferences and geographical inequalities are not on the fringes but at the core of the discussion of transactional dynamics and equitable financial inclusion.

D. Time Series and Churn Prediction

According to the time-series analysis, transaction amounts show a generally rising trend with significant variations throughout the period investigated. Forecasting results indicate that transaction volumes are anticipated to stabilize within a range defined by the upper and lower confidence intervals providing predictive dependability for managerial planning. We acknowledge that forecasts are not precise by displaying confidence levels. So, techniques based on probability are better than set predictions. The positive slope in expected transaction amounts is important because it shows that customers are still interested and that financial activity is still going on, even when things are changing quickly. Overall, the churn analysis shows some equilibrium as the real-time customer base has an almost 40% active and 40% inactive split with 1,009 and 998 accounts respectively, while 505 accounts have churned at approximately 20%. But the balance is not stable simply because active and inactive accounts are almost same. A small shift in either satisfaction, digital use, or even quality of service could cause more customers to leave. The churned set of customers represent approximately one-fifth of the necessity for retention strategies that focus on more than transactions. These results have important managerial and theoretical implications. More practically, combining timeseries prediction with churn segmentation would allow banks to forecast not only transaction volumes but also upcoming customer lifecycle risks. This combined perspective allows for focused action items like reactivation drives for dormant customers and preemptive assistance for those identified as being at risk, which can help reduce overall churn and maintain revenue levels. Academically, the evidence gives stronger support to the importance of the synchronicity of modeling both with behavior and with time and provides further assurance as to the efficacy of predictive technologies as an intermediary between operational predictions and strategic CRM.

6. Ethical, Social, and AI Considerations

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in transactional analysis has shifted banking analytics analysis paradigms and it has made it possible to obtain more micro insights on customer behaviors, churn prediction, and customer segmentation. But the positive outcomes of AI use must also be balanced in relation to the ethical, social, and regulatory issues it raises. Transaction data is highly personal, and if misused or applied with bias in its interpretation, trust can be broken down, further financial exclusion can be prompted, and regulatory attention can be drawn. This subsection investigates these issues by

focusing on the following. These constituencies are the format of responsible AI in banking analytics.

A. Bias and Fairness

One of the key ethical issues in AI-based banking is that of "bias amplification." But transactional data is frequently the result of prior historical disparities in access and usage. Seniors, those in rural communities, and individuals in low-income brackets are generally less connected to digital space. Those groups may end up more frequently identified as "at risk" or "low value" for those models geared towards churn prediction or segmentation that assume that digital inactivity is equivalent to risky behavior. In this research, seniors and rural clients presented these and similar risk features in the churn model, even if transaction frequency levels with younger and urban cohorts were not significant. This is evidence for the idea that, as Barocas, Hardt, and Narayanan (2019) also pointed out, algorithms will reflect the result of the social inequalities they are reinforced on. Fairness aware learning was integrated to combat these concerns. This concrete example of what ethical AI would entail shows that fairness is not just a goal but something that can be operationalized. It makes financial inclusion a priority that will not penalize already disadvantaged groups for conditions beyond their control. On this basis regular fairness audits should be conducted whenever banking analytics tools are built. More than just technical changes, fairness should be a part of the culture of institutions; banks need to ask not only whether a model is correct but also whether it is fair.

B. Transparency and Privacy

Transparency is necessary for maintaining consumer trust as well as adhering to relevant regulations. We found that transaction recency and digital channel usage were the best predictors, while balance size had little influence. By plotting out what these drivers are, it allows both managers and users to better understand, confirm, challenge predictive outcomes. Just as important is the safeguarding of privacy, for information on transactions provides much information about income, patterns of consumption, and financial security. The privacy and confidentiality of our clients, which was crucial and vital for the analysis was maintained through the deletion of all personal information and adherence to the highest standards of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) for European data and confidentiality protections around U.S. financial data including reporting only on aggregated data that would not open the possibility for re-identification. The role of transparency and privacy is not only to be fulfilled technically, but it also has a social outcome, where banks are working to better communicate with their customers around how data is being employed, what protections exist, and what this means for how AI-generated insights would impact services. These efforts in proactively communicating add trust in the future of the cyber financial relationship.

C. Inclusion and Accessibility

AI can make banking more personal and cheaper, but it can also exclude some people if it's not thoughtfully designed. Especially vulnerable are older citizens who cannot navigate a mouse, keyboard, or touchpad. Rural families may also simply distrust or misinterpret digital advice, or lack of ability to afford reliable broadband or even customers who lack proficiency in financial literacy (FDIC, 2023). This may disadvantage some groups in comparison to others; customers who primarily bank in branches or at ATM's might incorrectly be perceived as low value even if these customers may keep large balances or have been loyal for many years. Such outcomes of course run counter to the promise of financial inclusion, which is to broadly increase access, not to limit access. To bridge this gap, it is necessary to adapt analysis and operational models. Hybrid channels are still necessary even though branches and ATMs continue to be key access points for the aged and rural, while younger, urban customers' preference for digital platforms grows. Segmentation models should have segment sensitivity so that we are able to understand where structural disadvantages exist and how we can address these through interventions such as financial literacy programs and local outreach. Similarly, predictive analytics should be fixed with programs aimed at teaching customers how to interpret and make use of predictive insight produced by AI. From a behavioral economics perspective, in fact, inclusion is associated with bounded rationality and trust, so in an opaque system a customer may feel excluded or simply lost and choose to exit the system, increasing the risk of churn. Therefore, for banks looking for sustainable customer relationships, having inclusion at the center of AI design won't be only good practice but an ethical and business strategic imperative.

D. Regulatory and Policy Considerations

Growing regulation also shapes the ethical use of AI in banking. The EU AI Act (European Commission, 2021) also classifies AI in financial services as "high risk" and requests audits of fairness, explainability, and accountability. The U.S. has not followed suit, but entities such as the Federal Reserve and FDIC have begun to monitor the use of AI in credit, fraud detection, and customer analytics. These developments highlight the importance for banks to be proactively compliant and to incorporate ethical AI values upfront in the design rather than to retrofit these values once they are enforceable as part of regulations. More importantly, banks that become leaders in responsible AI can gain a competitive edge by improving trust and cutting reputational risks. On the policy side, efforts to reduce geographical and demographic disparities in digital adoption will need to center on efforts like targeted funding for broadband infrastructure and financial literacy and digital inclusion plans. If the context of AI implementation is set up by the larger social policies in place, banks and governments can be allies in promoting innovation as well as inclusion.

E. Toward a Responsible AI Framework for Banking Analytics

From ethical, societal and research perspectives, a responsible AI for banking would likely be one that abided by the following three major principles:

Fairness by design: We must build in regular fairness audits; test results across and use fairness-aware algorithms that

actively reduce unequal outcomes while tracking any accurate fairness trade-offs.

Transparency, privacy, and explainability: We can use explainable-AI tools so predictions can be understood and challenged. We should customer data through strict privacy and anonymization practices and clearly communicate how data and AI decisions are used.

Inclusive design and access: We ensure balance efficiency with equity designing models and interventions that recognize hybrid banking behavior, target support at risk groups, and use insights to improve financial education and engagement.

AI applied transactional data can lead to better customer intelligence and prediction of churn among others, enhanced segmentation, and further support for digitalization. But, without protection it can exacerbate inequality, reduce trust and even limit financial inclusion by making it harder for certain groups to access existing products. Does this mean that responsible AI in banking is also not about technical competence? It involves not only dealing with bias, but also transparency and privacy as well as the importance of accountability towards those represented in the revealed. In short, the concept of the bias in modeling does not happen solely in the model, or in the results but at every stage of the application of the model. Implementing these principles will help firms comply with present and future regulations, establish credibility, and gain customer loyalty over the long term. It is my hope that AI's real success will be judged not by its ability to anticipate outcomes but by how well the banking industry supports the power of technology and society to advance equitably, inclusively, and responsibly in synchronize.

F. Managerial Implications

The results also contain some direct strategic implications for practitioners. The first implication is the ability to detect signals in advance that indicate a customer's risk of churning, allowing practitioners to design unique retention strategies and enabling banks to act before the customer ultimately churns, while also achieving cost savings by mitigating churn. Second, the use of dynamic segmentation is driven by clustering analysis because it helps customize even further the new interaction according to the need of the new segments, as they all have peculiarities that require different types of interaction, which justify why the model will need to be constantly adjusted. Thirdly, it seems like hybrid channels will also remain crucial for the same reasons that physical branches remain so to seniors or rural populations, reminding us once again to bet on hybridity if we want to take advantage of the digital efficiencies while not losing customers' trust. Fourth, the study shows the importance of implementing ethical AI technologies, such as fairness audits, explainability tools, and bias reduction methods could represent a way for providers and companies to be both compliant and trusted while protecting their reputation. Finally, establishing such cycles can inform coordinated marketing campaigns and new financial products to coincide with the perceived cycle of the actual transaction peak. This is done to ensure the maximum engagement and return by the user. These three things combined show transactional analytics through AI that can

couple theory with practice by operational efficiency and socially responsible innovation in contemporary banking.

G. Policy Implications

Beyond managers, this is also relevant for policymakers and regulators. This persistent spatiality separation dictates a greater need to invest in Internet infrastructure, and this suggests that the need for a substantial rollout of broadband to rural areas if most users will ever access the capabilities of online banking. Again, the financial illiteracy rates among seniors also connect to the lack of digital inclusion at a time that the need to recognize and push for financial rights is more important than ever. We need specific programs that educate and help make seniors more competent and confident in using digital platforms. When it comes to regulation, inserting fairness and transparency requirements in predictive models, as seen in the case of the EU AI Act (European Commission, 2021), points to the need for similar guidelines to be drawn in the U.S. to protect inclusion and accountability. These insights combined suggest that it is time for policy to shape the transition currently underway in banking such that the digital transformation that it entails is not one that furthers existing structural inequalities, but one that achieves broader objectives of financial inclusion and responsible innovation.

H. Contribution to Knowledge

This research provides three main contributions to literature. It is unique in that it brings multiple dimensions of demographic, temporal, geographic, and predictive analysis into a coherent whole that goes beyond the tunnel vision of much previous work and in this way provides a more comprehensive model of customer behavior. A second contribution is of a theological nature, as it carries on the arguments of responsible AI to the context of transactional banking analytics by developing a case for fairness, transparency, and equity for predictive modeling practice. Third, it contributes to the theory-practice gap by establishing a relationship between its empirical findings and the life-cycle hypothesis, the technology acceptance model, and behavioral economics by bringing these to bear with a few actual and practical mission-oriented managerial and policy prescriptions. Together, they can contextualize the work to be situated within the current discourse on artificial intelligence, banking analytics, transactional data, customer behavior, customer segmentation, churn prediction, digital adoption, financial inclusion, and ethical AI, and as a ground for responsible innovation within the financial services sector.

7. Conclusion

The example of AI in this study focusing on U.S. banking, explores the complicated webs of transactions between customers from demographic and temporal to geographic, predictive to ethical. These results indeed support evident demographic differences (RQ1): middle-aged clients present the highest balance and transaction volume, students' transactions are most frequent yet at lower amounts, and seniors are branch-dependent, in line with lifecycle financial behavior

dynamics. Second, it points to strong temporal regularities (RQ2), which have identified seasonal spikes in August-September and November-December as well as weekly peaks in the middle of the week. Monday payroll driven and Wednesday scheduled payment volumes. The patterns over time suggest that calendar effects are at play in the demand for banking. Third, the results of predictive modeling confirmed the potential of AI applications (RQ3) as logistic regression and clustering predicted a churn likelihood of 20% and pointed to inactive users as a focus group. Fourth, the spatial analysis (RQ4) revealed ongoing patterns of disconnection with cities at the forefront of digital adoption and a lag for rural communities and seniors, provoking questions about equal access to financial technologies. Finally, fairness audits and explainable AI capabilities (RQ5) indicated that there was a danger of models being dystopic without intervention, while fairness-aware reweighting and transparency tools were able to show how we could move in more inclusive and ethical directions. These findings are novel from a theoretical perspective, as they extend thinking on the life-cycle hypothesis, technology acceptance model, and behavioral economics to an AI-mediated paradigm that places an emphasis on fairness, transparency, and inclusion. From a practical perspective, they stress the importance of dynamic segmentation, hybrid channel strategies, proactive churn prevention, and ethical AI integration. If banks can incorporate social responsibility in their data-driven innovation, this can lead to not just more efficiency but also to more trust, social resilience, and financial inclusion as their business activities grow in the digital age.

A. Limitations and Future Research

This research does provide some contributions to the existing knowledge of behavioral aspects of customers in banking, specifically in what relates to the use of artificial intelligence to analyze banking transactional data, but it has limitations. These should be accounted for not only to interpret how they inform the questions posed but also to discern where to go next in terms of research. A discussion of methodological, data, and theoretical limitations is presented in this section, concluding with directions for future research.

1) Methodological Limitations

One limitation is the reliance on cross-sectional data. For example, while the Kaggle dataset includes a surplus of demographic and behavioral information, the transactional aspect is limited to a specific period. This also limits the extent to which we can infer causality. Inferential and predictive methods, such as ANOVA, regression, logistic models, and clustering undoubtedly contribute significantly understanding the relationships and predictions but do not capture the dynamics over time. As an example, churn risk could change based on external shocks that are not available in historical data to train a static risk model. Future longitudinal chores are necessary to better capture the dynamics of the life cycle of digital adoption as well as of churn causality. Second, although the use of artificial intelligence techniques like clustering and neural networks added value to the analyses, a tension between model robustness and ease of interpretation did

emerge. Despite the use of explainable AI too interpretability remains a pressing concern in ethical AI. It indicates that there is a methodological need for these two aspects to come closer, that we need to improve methodologies that make it possible to have high explanatory and predictive power at the same time so that models continue to be robust and trustworthy. Lastly, the spatial analysis performed was limited in scope. Analyses of heatmaps and comparisons were able to detect discrepancies between the two geographies, but the roughness of the map and absorption is only apparent at the city or regional level. More local-specific search areas could also be identified where finergrained spatial modeling like Geographically Weighted Regression (GWR) would be helpful to understand variations in digital adoption and financial inclusion at a more microgeographic level.

2) Data Limitations

While having the Kaggle Bank Customer Transaction Dataset (2024) was a good starting point for the analysis, there are a few limitations in terms of what is covered in the data. There was no merchant level or type of transaction data available beyond channel usage, which would have allowed for a more detailed classification of spending towards categories such as housing, retail, or healthcare, which might in turn inform how transaction behavior is situated within larger consumer ecosystems, such as levels of digital adoption relating to essential versus more discretionary types of spending. A second limitation concerns the representativeness of the sample, as the dataset included a total of 2,512 customers but was likely skewed to represent a greater proportion of urban households, thus overestimating the levels of adoption of digital tools and underestimating the barriers that rural or underserved groups might face. But future studies may seek to utilize samples more representative of the national average or access to individual bank-level data. Third, since the time frame of the data set is restricted, seasonal trends can be tracked. The capacity to represent macro changes in structure over time, specifically the recent year and a half with the extraordinary macroeconomic context of widespread changes in behaviors by customers, such as the Covid-19 Pandemic is relatively limited. Lastly, although these procedures protected the rights of the individual and as a whole guaranteed conformity to GDPR and U.S. banking laws by de-identifying all subjects, it also had the effect of stopping the possibility of merging with other data sets, such as with customer credit histories or records of fintech adoption, which may have improved understanding in the areas of segmentation and churn. These limitations, taken together, suggest the need for more detailed, representative, and longitudinal data for future analysis.

3) Theoretical Limitations

This research was underpinned by the Life-Cycle Hypothesis, the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM), and Behavioral Economics, which offered insights that put the study into perspective but also raised key concerns. While the above models have the clear advantage of being based on micro foundations and dynamic stock-flow norms, the reality is that, for many reasons, customers do not always display the sort of behavior these models predict. Expectations may be disrupted

by surprise events, by the rational-actor model itself, by cultural issues, or by cultural scene. Likewise, while TAM does give importance to the perceived usefulness and the perceived ease of use as factors driving the adoption of technology, it doesn't completely include the factor of structural inequalities, like the existence of digital divides that more negatively affect rural households. Behavioral economics, which calls attention to heuristics and pushes as determinants of financial choices, also lacks explanatory power for discussing the structural effects of AI-driven segmentation or the systemic biases within algorithmic models. To improve theoretical relevance, I suggest that future research could benefit from integrating existing theories derived from novel perspectives in the areas of digital trust, governance of AI, and ethics by design, which provide relevant but fine-grained information about the dynamics of customer relations in AI-mediated banking systems.

B. Future Directions for Study

1) Longitudinal Cohort Studies

In future studies, longitudinal data should be used to understand the development of customers over time. They would allow for a more reliable representation of life-cycle transitions, adoption patterns, and churn causes than crosssectional data would. Following cohorts would make it possible to examine the influence of significant life events on transactional processes.

2) Advanced AI Models

Federated learning, reinforcement learning, and imitation learning represent promising advancements. Continuous finetuning is necessary for personalizing churn prevention interventions, and reinforcement learning presents a potential solution. Federated learning is a way of training models on data that cannot easily be moved, which also offers big privacy improvements and enables the training of much larger models. Fair and transparent users of these technologies, when combined with explainable AI, can help to trade predictive accuracy with fairness and transparency.

3) Financial Inclusion-Oriented Research

But the urban-rural distinction appears to remain as a digital divide, and the importance of studies that address inclusion remains evident. Interventions that increase access to broadband, community-based digital literacy training, and userfriendly interfaces for older adults may be of particular interest for future research. Another characteristic of models should be the understanding of how AI-mediated technologies create unplanned and indirect exclusion of vulnerable categories and therefore recommendations regarding the design of AI tools that have exclusion effects and that prevent it.

4) Integration of Ethical AI Frameworks

Future research can directly add ethics-by-design principles into modeling. This range of measures includes regular equity audits, validation by subgroups, and participatory measures with customers having a role in designing the model. Similarly, this includes the question of accountability who is to be held accountable within a bank when AI models produce biased or incorrect predictions?

5) Policy-Oriented Research

These results suggest the need for better regulatory frameworks concerning AI banking applications. Additionally, further research is required to explore how emerging frameworks, such as the EU AI Act, might be adapted for implementation in the U.S. landscape. Research into the effectiveness of regulatory sandboxes, which are prescribed conditions that enable banks to experiment with AI models under supervision that could be explored to find a balance between innovation and regulatory adherence.

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