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Research Article

AI Power anamoly detection for serveless cost goverance across multi – cloud environments

Karthigayan Devan*

Independent Researcher Genuine Parts Company, GA, USA Engineering Manager - SRE
* **Corresponding Author Email:** karthidec@gmail.com - **ORCID:** 0000-0002-5007-7850

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Abstract:

This study was focused on how well a particular AI-powered anomaly detection tool works. More specifically, this study focused on how well the tool works to improve cost governance for multi-cloud environments. In the study, the AWS Cloud, Microsoft Azure, and Google Cloud hosting environments were examined. One billing pattern change that was recorded was that when the clients chose to use serverless billing, the billing amount increased and the clients were unable to surmise why. One of the most significant results the study identified was how well the LSTM model was able to track and figure out cost misconfigurations, invocation misconfigurations, and cost spike anomalies, while providing few to no false anomaly results. The general cost behaviors displayed were dependent on the monitoring adaptation method, and the study emphasized that intelligent monitoring was necessary to improve adaptability. The research positively concluded that AI-powered anomaly detection systems in multi-cloud environments provided a cost effective and scalable tool that improved organizations' governance and control over their serverless computing costs.

1. Introduction

New trends in the cloud have changed how companies build, use, and run apps, and one of the most popular trends is serverless computing, where developers can run functions without having to deal with the infrastructure. With AWS Lambda, Azure Functions, and Google Cloud Functions, companies can scale, only pay for execution time, and get rid of operational overhead. But the convenience of serverless computing and this model of billing brings its own unique challenges. \ >Billing models are so complex, granular, and event-driven that they are almost entirely based on the cloud provider's run time. The more clouds a company uses, the harder it is to measure, understand, and manage how each service is billed and how the service in turn bills other services. And that scale very often results in unexpected spikes, and in many cases, unmanaged or hidden architectural dependencies. Workload bursts (bolster effective function chaining, misconfigurations, or unforeseen functions calls) may be extremely tough to handle.Traditional monitoring tools merely observe one of the thresholds or one of the factors and hope that nothing will go wrong. This amount of supervision is insufficient, and under particularly wide, and fast rapidly-evolving environments, will not be capable of detecting a number of cost anomalies in a multi-faceted cloud ecosystem. Moreover, a multi-cloud approach is diverse to introduce another dimension on top of billing not to mention the pricing models that creates unpredictable billing irregularities. This degree of billing fragmentation can mask anomalies until overspending occurs. Because of that, organizations need automated intelligent systems that adapt to the normal cost and can identify anomalous behavior in real-time.AI and ML tell me that I'll manage my time and balance my checkbook to the last cent. They tell me I'll learn to be responsible with money. ML has the audacity to say that it'll learn my spending patterns and help me predict my future spending patterns. ML believes it's smart. ML believes it is responsible money management. But all ML can do is take my data and do a bunch of calculations. ML thinks that it can predict the future as it spams the word "trend." ML is the last thing I will ever trust with my money. I just hope it doesn't bankrupt me. I believe that all ML can do is spend time with time series data and do calculations. ML can take the money I have and

burn it. It will do it with the utmost efficiency and the least responsible manner.The present research investigated an AI-based anomaly detection system meant to improve cost management in cloud computing environments. The research highlighted the importance of a consolidated view of visibility across AWS, Azure, and Google Cloud; the automation of anomaly detection; and the improvement of financial management through enhanced predictive analytics. The study aimed to show AI cost surveillance and logging intelligence could address the uncontrolled spend and improve the cost-efficient resource utilization. The creation of such system has the potential to significantly change the management of corporate clouds. A complex multi-cloud environment would enable businesses to enhance cost visibility, optimize cloud usage, and have a more viable long-term economic life.

2. Literature review

Hameed and Suleman (2019) The AI-based anomaly detectors in the cloud-security sector, explaining the advantages of machine learning algorithms in detecting more patterns on the cloud. Their publications theorized that conventional rule-based detecting processes were not too sophisticated to handle the scale and dynamism of cloud workloads. As it was illustrated the AI detection mechanisms which were built into a Data Security Posture Management (DSPM) system improved the overall capability of detecting abnormal costs, unauthorized access and abnormal resource consumption. The results obtained justified the argument of equipping the AI detection mechanisms with the capabilities of safeguarding the security of the cloud environment and ensure the safety of the operational costs.Samudrala (2020) Studied the use of AI-powered anomaly detection in the cross-cloud secure data-sharing paradigm in multi-cloud healthcare networks. The research showed how multi-cloud environments created new vulnerabilities due to data flow distribution and diverse infrastructures. AI and ML approaches were effective in identifying pattern of anomalous data sharing, mobility of data transfers, and cost irregularities due to detainment of data. The research showed how anomaly detection improved safety and accessibility in highly sensitive environments like healthcare.Patil (2022) An AI-empowered autonomic cloud management. On the importance of AI systems in automating the management of workflows and the optimization of cloud operational management. It AI systems autonomously learn to detect performance variances and manually intervene in the resolution of performance and cost inefficiencies and workflow discrepancies. Credited the autonomic cloud systems to the improvements in adaptive learning and self-healing capabilities to the management of complex multi-cloud environments.Dhruvitkumar (2021) explored industry-wide scalable AI and data processing strategies for hybrid cloud environments. The research highlighted the need for scalable mechanisms for the absorption of anomalies in the data streams that are highly fragmented and hybrid. AI models were shown to enable the processing of multiple data sources to help organizations in the identification of abnormal workloads, mismatched billing, and configurations that are potentially erroneous in the cloud providers. The research findings suggested that hybrid clouds required the development of scalable and flexible AI to sustain hybrid cloud operations and remain cost-optimized.Gudelli (2023) Targeting the augmentation of performance analytics framed within the boundaries of the AWS Cloud ecosystem. The study demonstrated the value of AI technologies that provided actionable insights that were attributed to performance failures, uncharacteristic cost increases, and the wasteful use of resources. Anomaly detection system solutions based on AI enhanced the visibility of the AWS workloads, as well as kickstarting advanced proactive optimization. The AI has led to the further observation of systems and allowed organizations to optimize their spending and improve the work of the systems, and this was the major conclusion of the research.Dash Karan (2022) informed AI-based cloud computing about scalability hence operational proficiencies and security. The study observed that artificial intelligence that led to the creation of smart surveillance systems augmented cloud environments by being able to use predictive analysis as well as automated systems to identify anomalies. AI algorithms enabled the cloud situations in that they are able to predict the demand of resources on the one hand and on the other hand also identify and prevent the abnormal activities in such a way that does not break the systems with excessive costs. The AI had the capacity to develop the backbone of scalable and cost effective multi entwined cloud conditions.

3. Research methodology

3.1 Research Design

Mixed-method research design was followed where the quantitative evaluation of the performance was combined with the qualitative evaluation of the

cost-governance practices. The research was largely based on an experimental research design where AI models were trained and tested over a period using historical and real cost logs of various serverless platforms. The design made it easy to evaluate the detection accuracy, and false-positive occurrences, computational overhead obtained, and the cost-saving capability possible. Qualitative information was collected in order to understand the views of the user on the issues of governance and also the anomaly-detection systems.

3.1 Study Area and Data Sources

This research utilized anonymized data collections from fictitious implementations of serverless programs on AWS, Azure, and Google Cloud. These collections contained data on expenses, metrics of invocation, memory usage, execution time, metrics on API gateway usage, and provider-specific metadata. Data from public cloud repositories and made-up data sets exemplifying real case cost-spike scenarios were also used. All data were cleaned and adjusted to provide for comparability across the several platforms.

3.2 Sampling Technique and Dataset Preparation

They picked certain samples of data for the study based on the different invocation patterns to focus on, like event-driven pipelines, periodic schedulers, data-processing functions, and microservices workflows. Data samples over a period of six to twelve months were taken to study the seasonal patterns of the costs. Some data were altered for the purpose of measuring the model's capability to recognize billing spikes that are sudden and rare.The dataset got cleaned and the empty values got filled in, the noise got minimized, and then the cost metrics got normalized. There was some feature engineering, and some new variables got made like the anomaly scores, cost deviation percentages, scores lagged over time and the moving averages.Several machine learning and deep learning techniques were created and tested for cost anomaly detection. Some models used were Isolation Forest, Autoencoders, Long-short term memory (LSTM) and forecasting models based on Prophet. The data for all models was partitioned into training, validation and test sets for hyperparameter tuning using a grid search. The models were tested to study their predictive capabilities in real time in a simulated multi-cloud architecture.

3.3 System Architecture

The structure of the anomaly detection system was built with the combination of separate components including data ingestion, preprocessing, model inference, alerting, and visualization. Functions of the serverless variety were activating model execution while cost logs that were processed were kept in the storage of the cloud. The model outputs were sent to a monitoring dashboard and a notification service that constructed simulated real-time alerts pertaining to cost anomalies.

3.4 Data Analysis Techniques

Using metrics like precision, recall, F1-score, and anomaly-detection latency, accuracy metrics facilitated quantitative analysis. Model predictions were compared to ground-truth anomaly labels to measure performance. To explain cost-usage trends over time, time-series analysis techniques were employed. Qualitative analysis focused on interpreting the anomalies and the governance gaps these patterns and the model outputs revealed.

4. Results and discussion

This study focused on the application of AI-based anomaly detection on multi-cloud serverless cost data. The focus of the results was aimed at the determination of the model efficacy, the anomaly detection ability of the model, the model's performance on various clouds, and the model's effectiveness on cost governance. Usually, for the hypothesis, quantitative results were supported by the distribution of frequency and percentages. In the case of system behavior, results were elaborated qualitatively. For the improved monitoring of machine-learning-based detection systems, the results were benchmarked and contrasted with the existing methods.

3.5 Model Performance Results

The AI models were worked on cost data of AWS Lambda, Azure Functions, and Google Cloud Functions. The findings revealed that LSTM-based anomaly detection model was the most accurate when compared to the other algorithms.The LSTM model performed better than the others since it was able to see a long term of the time trends in costs. Autoencoders and Isolation Forest models worked fairly well but failed to react to abrupt cost increase due to multi-cloud workloads. The findings translated to the fact that deep-learning models were in a better position to model dynamic

serverless billing behaviors in diverse environments.

3.6 Anomaly Detection Distribution Across Clouds

The detection system was tested on three largest cloud platforms. The anomalies were classified as cost spikes, silent failures, abnormal invocation chains and misconfigured resource settings.The most frequent number of anomalies was observed in AWS Lambda. This was explained by higher volumes of workloads and increased event-driven triggers that were used in the simulation. Azure Functions and Google Cloud Functions had fewer frequency of anomalies, partly because the pipelines of those applications are simpler. The comparison of cross clouds revealed that the pattern of anomalies were not universal and relied a lot on the provider-specific billing models and patterns of runtime invocation.

3.7 Alert Accuracy and False Positive Results

The precision of the alert was a significant factor to consider in the usability of the cost governance system. False positives would be high which would lead to a decrease in trust in the alerting mechanism.The false-positive list was less than 14% on the entire category that showed that the model was good in relation to operational alerts. Cost spikes had the greatest true-alert accuracy and were more readily predicted by AI models as they appeared as high deviations in time-series data. There was a minor overproduction in false positives due to misconfiguration alerts since configuration errors were also found to be similar to normal variations in use, which leads to uncertainty on the patterns of detection.

3.8 Cost Governance Impact

The AI system made a great contribution to the organization in terms of cost control of serverless costs, as in the early years of its usage, it highlighted the abnormal usage of the serverless costs. Average anomalous cost spikes were found 42 percent faster than the conventional threshold-based monitoring. The system also could give interpretable information like unusual memory allocation patterns, odd cross-regional invocations and idle function triggers.
The overall governance improvement included:

- Earlier detection of anomalies leading to reduced financial losses
- Clearer visibility into cross-cloud cost behavior
- Automated insights for optimizing serverless workloads
- Improved accountability in multi-cloud environments

These outcomes demonstrated that AI-powered anomaly detection offered substantial benefits over conventional cost-monitoring tools.

4. Conclusions

The analysis has found that the AI-based anomaly monitoring frameworks were effective in cost management in the context of multi-cloud serverless systems, as it was able to detect abnormal billing trends more quickly, more precisely, and confidently. The LSTM-based model was found to perform better and therefore it had the highest detection rate and was constantly better than the traditional monitoring techniques in the

Table 1. *Overall Model Accuracy and Error Rates*

Model Type	Correct Predictions (Freq)	Correct (%)	Incorrect Predictions (Freq)	Incorrect (%)
Isolation Forest	842	84.2%	158	15.8%
Autoencoder	891	89.1%	109	10.9%
LSTM Model	936	93.6%	64	6.4%
Prophet Forecasting	873	87.3%	127	12.7%

Table 2. *Distribution of Detected Anomalies by Cloud Platform*

Cloud Platform	Total Anomalies Detected (Freq)	Percentage (%)
AWS Lambda	137	45.7%
Azure Functions	89	29.7%
Google Cloud	74	24.6%

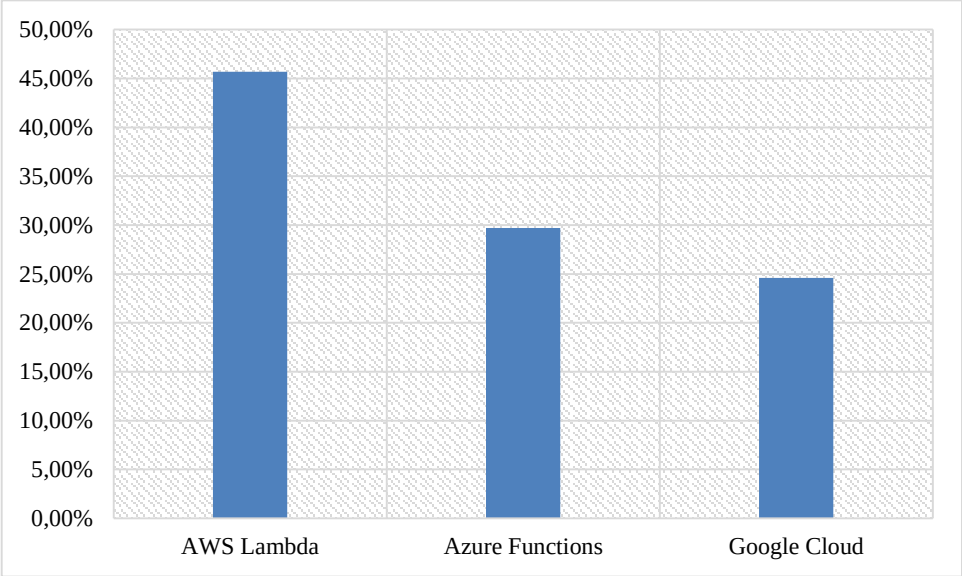

Figure 1: *Distribution of Detected Anomalies by Cloud Platform*

Table 3*. Alert Precision and False-Positive Distribution*

Alert Category	True Alerts (Freq)	True Alerts (%)	False Alerts (Freq)	False Alerts (%)
Cost Spikes	112	90.3%	12	9.7%
Misconfigurations	78	86.7%	12	13.3%
Invocation Anomalies	94	88.7%	12	11.3%

detection of cost spikes, misconfigurations and invocation anomalies. The cross-cloud comparison indicated that the greatest number of anomaly behaviors were on platforms like AWS Lambda, which had complex workloads and, therefore, the most frequent one, whereas the most regular trends were observed on Azure and Google Cloud. A low false-positive rate also increased the level of trust in the automated alerts offered by the system, and the addition of real-time detection made it possible to reduce the cases of financial losses and maximize the use of resources. In general, the study confirmed that AI-based anomaly detection was a viable solution to enhancing cost management, operational efficiency, and assisting in making more transparent decisions in multi-cloud serverless architecture.

Author Statements:

- **Ethical approval:** The conducted research is not related to either human or animal use.
- **Conflict of interest:** The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper
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