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AI-DRIVEN PREDICTIVE MAINTENANCE OF BLOCKCHAIN NODES IN HIGH-TPS PAYMENT NETWORKS

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ABSTRACT

High-throughput blockchain payment networks, such as FedNow, RTP, and other DLT-based settlement systems, require consistently reliable node operations to ensure transaction finality, low latency, and system resiliency. However, blockchain nodes are susceptible to hardware failures, software bugs, network congestion, and consensus-related anomalies, which can disrupt high-TPS (transactions per second) environments. Traditional reactive maintenance approaches often lead to prolonged downtime, performance degradation, and increased operational costs.

This paper proposes an AI-driven predictive maintenance framework for blockchain nodes operating in high-throughput payment networks. The framework integrates continuous monitoring, telemetry collection, and advanced machine learning models—including supervised, unsupervised, and reinforcement learning approaches—to detect anomalies, forecast potential failures, and recommend proactive interventions. By coupling predictive analytics with automated remediation and alerting systems, the proposed solution improves node uptime, reduces transaction latency, and strengthens overall network reliability. The framework also incorporates security, privacy, and regulatory compliance considerations to ensure safe deployment in financial networks. Case studies and simulations demonstrate the system's effectiveness in reducing downtime, optimizing resource utilization, and enhancing operational resilience compared to traditional reactive maintenance strategies.

Overall, AI-driven predictive maintenance provides a robust and scalable approach for maintaining high-performance blockchain nodes, supporting the reliable operation of next-generation real-time payment infrastructures.

Keywords:

Predictive Maintenance, Blockchain Nodes, High-TPS Payment Networks, AI/ML, Anomaly Detection, Real-Time Monitoring, Automated Remediation, Distributed Ledger Technology, Network Reliability, Financial Infrastructure.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background on Blockchain Adoption in High-Throughput Payment Networks

The adoption of blockchain technology in high-throughput payment networks is transforming the landscape of real-time financial transactions. Platforms such as FedNow and the Real-Time Payments (RTP) network are exploring distributed ledger technology (DLT) to enhance settlement speed, reduce operational friction, and increase transparency across financial institutions. Blockchain offers a decentralized and tamper-evident ledger

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that provides instant visibility of transaction states, reducing reconciliation overhead and enabling near real-time finality. By leveraging smart contracts and shared ledger infrastructure, high-TPS payment networks can execute programmable payments, automated compliance checks, and cross-institution settlement processes more efficiently than traditional centralized systems.

1.2 Challenges of Node Reliability, Latency, and Downtime in High-TPS Environments

Despite these advantages, blockchain networks face significant challenges in maintaining node reliability under high transaction loads. Each node is responsible for processing, validating, and propagating transactions in real-time, and any hardware or software failure can disrupt network consensus, increase latency, or temporarily reduce throughput. Network congestion, resource contention, misconfigurations, and software bugs are common contributors to node downtime, which may cascade into delayed settlements or transaction errors. In high-TPS environments, even minor interruptions can have amplified consequences, affecting transaction finality, user trust, and regulatory compliance, highlighting the critical need for proactive maintenance strategies.

1.3 Motivation for Predictive Maintenance Using AI/ML

Traditional reactive maintenance approaches, which rely on post-failure interventions or routine inspections, are insufficient for high-throughput blockchain networks due to the speed and volume of transactions. Predictive maintenance, powered by artificial intelligence and machine learning (AI/ML), offers a proactive alternative by analyzing telemetry, logs, and performance metrics to forecast potential node failures before they occur. By detecting anomalies early, AI-driven systems can generate timely alerts, recommend remediation actions, and even automate corrective measures. This approach not only minimizes downtime and latency but also optimizes operational resources, improves system reliability, and enhances the overall resilience of the payment network.

1.4 Scope and Objectives of AI-Driven Node Maintenance

The objective of this study is to design a comprehensive AI-driven predictive maintenance framework tailored for blockchain nodes in high-TPS payment networks. The framework focuses on continuous monitoring of node health, anomaly detection, predictive failure forecasting, automated alerting, and intelligent remediation, all while ensuring security, privacy, and regulatory compliance. The scope encompasses both permissioned and hybrid DLT environments used in financial networks, integrating seamlessly with existing node orchestration, telemetry, and monitoring systems. By implementing predictive maintenance, network operators can achieve higher uptime, lower latency, and a robust operational posture capable of supporting the demands of next-generation real-time payment infrastructures.

2. OBJECTIVES AND SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

2.1 Core Objectives: Uptime Maximization, Latency Minimization, Fault Tolerance, Operational Efficiency

The primary goal of AI-driven predictive maintenance for blockchain nodes is to ensure uninterrupted and high-performance operation of high-TPS payment networks. Achieving maximum node uptime is essential, as even brief periods of downtime can compromise transaction finality, reduce throughput, and erode trust in the network. Minimizing latency is equally critical because high-speed payments require near-instant propagation of transaction data across all nodes. Additionally, the system must provide robust fault tolerance, ensuring that nodes continue to operate correctly even in the presence of hardware failures, software anomalies, or network disruptions. Operational efficiency is another key objective, as proactive maintenance reduces manual

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intervention, optimizes resource allocation, and lowers operational costs associated with reactive troubleshooting.

2.2 Functional Requirements: Real-Time Monitoring, Anomaly Detection, Predictive Alerts, Automated Remediation

To meet these objectives, the predictive maintenance system must implement a suite of functional capabilities. Real-time monitoring is required to continuously capture telemetry, performance metrics, and transaction processing data from each node. Anomaly detection algorithms analyze this data to identify deviations from expected behavior, enabling early identification of potential failures. Predictive alerting mechanisms notify network operators of high-risk nodes before disruptions occur, allowing timely preventive actions. In advanced implementations, automated remediation can be integrated, enabling the system to perform corrective actions autonomously, such as redistributing transaction loads, restarting services, or triggering failover protocols, thereby reducing response times and limiting the impact on the overall network.

2.3 Non-Functional Requirements: Scalability, Security, Resilience, Regulatory Compliance

Beyond functional capabilities, the system must satisfy stringent non-functional requirements to operate effectively in high-throughput payment environments. Scalability is essential to handle the large volume of nodes and transaction data typical of high-TPS networks, ensuring that monitoring and analytics remain performant even under peak loads. Security is critical to protect sensitive operational and transactional data from unauthorized access or tampering. Resilience is necessary to maintain continuity of service, even when individual nodes fail or experience partial outages. Finally, regulatory compliance must be maintained at all times, ensuring adherence to financial industry standards such as FFIEC guidelines, PCI-DSS, GDPR, and other relevant requirements, particularly when operational data contains sensitive or personally identifiable information.

2.4 Integration Requirements with Existing Blockchain Infrastructure

For practical deployment, the predictive maintenance framework must integrate seamlessly with existing blockchain infrastructure and node management systems. This includes interoperability with node orchestration platforms, monitoring agents, telemetry pipelines, and consensus protocols. The system should also support various blockchain types, including permissioned ledgers and hybrid architectures, without requiring significant modifications to existing operational workflows. Effective integration ensures that predictive insights, alerts, and remediation actions can be executed in real time while maintaining the integrity, performance, and security of the high-TPS payment network.

Table 1: Functional vs Non-Functional Requirements of Predictive Maintenance System

Category	Requirement	Description
Functional	Real-time monitoring	Continuous capture of telemetry and performance metrics from all nodes.
	Anomaly detection	Identification of deviations from normal behavior to predict potential failures.
	Predictive alerts	Timely notifications for proactive intervention.
	Automated remediation	Self-healing actions to minimize downtime and latency.
Non-Functional	Scalability	Handle large numbers of nodes and high transaction throughput efficiently.
	Security	Protect sensitive operational and transactional data from

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		unauthorized access.
	Resilience	Ensure continuity of service under node failures or partial network disruptions.
	Regulatory compliance	Adherence to financial and data protection regulations such as FFIEC, PCI-DSS, and GDPR.

3. BACKGROUND AND INDUSTRY CONTEXT

3.1 High-TPS Blockchain Nodes: Architecture, Consensus, and Transaction Throughput Challenges

High-throughput blockchain networks, particularly those supporting real-time payments, require nodes capable of processing thousands of transactions per second (TPS) with minimal latency. Each node in such networks maintains a complete or partial ledger, validates incoming transactions, and participates in consensus protocols to ensure the integrity and finality of the ledger. Consensus mechanisms—whether Proof-of-Authority (PoA), Byzantine Fault Tolerant (BFT) variants, or optimized Proof-of-Stake (PoS)—must scale to handle high transaction volumes without introducing bottlenecks. The architectural design of these nodes often includes multi-threaded transaction processing, high-performance databases, and fast network interconnects to ensure low latency propagation. Despite these optimizations, achieving consistent high TPS remains challenging due to network variability, node heterogeneity, and the demands of maintaining distributed consensus across geographically dispersed participants.

3.2 Node Failure Modes: Hardware, Software, Network, Consensus-Related Issues

Blockchain nodes are susceptible to a variety of failure modes that can compromise network performance. Hardware failures, such as disk crashes, memory errors, or CPU overload, can lead to partial or complete node downtime. Software-related issues—including bugs, misconfigurations, or memory leaks—may degrade performance or cause unexpected crashes. Network failures, such as packet loss, latency spikes, or partitioning, can disrupt consensus and transaction propagation. Consensus-related failures, including forks, stalled blocks, or misaligned state transitions, can occur if nodes operate asynchronously or deviate from protocol expectations. In high-TPS environments, even minor disruptions can propagate rapidly, affecting multiple nodes and potentially delaying thousands of transactions, highlighting the need for proactive maintenance and real-time monitoring.

3.3 Existing Maintenance Strategies and Their Limitations

Traditional maintenance strategies for blockchain and other distributed systems are largely reactive, relying on manual inspection, periodic health checks, or post-failure interventions. Scheduled maintenance windows can mitigate some risks, but they cannot address unanticipated anomalies, especially in high-TPS payment networks where every second of downtime may lead to financial loss or transaction delays. Log-based troubleshooting and alert systems detect failures only after they occur, leaving little room for proactive intervention. Moreover, manual strategies are labor-intensive, prone to human error, and lack predictive capabilities. In dynamic, high-throughput networks, these limitations can lead to cascading failures, reduced reliability, and operational inefficiencies, emphasizing the necessity of automated, intelligent maintenance solutions.

3.4 AI/ML Applications in System Reliability and Predictive Analytics

Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) offer transformative potential for predictive maintenance in high-TPS blockchain networks. By continuously analyzing node telemetry, logs, and performance metrics, AI models can detect subtle anomalies that precede failures, enabling early intervention before a disruption occurs. Supervised learning can leverage historical failure data to predict node health, while unsupervised models can detect unusual behavior patterns in real-time. Reinforcement learning can optimize resource allocation and

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automated remediation strategies, such as load redistribution or node restart policies. Additionally, AI-based systems can continuously adapt and retrain models to account for changing network conditions, hardware upgrades, or protocol modifications. These capabilities enable a proactive maintenance paradigm that minimizes downtime, reduces latency, and ensures operational resilience in demanding, high-throughput blockchain payment environments.

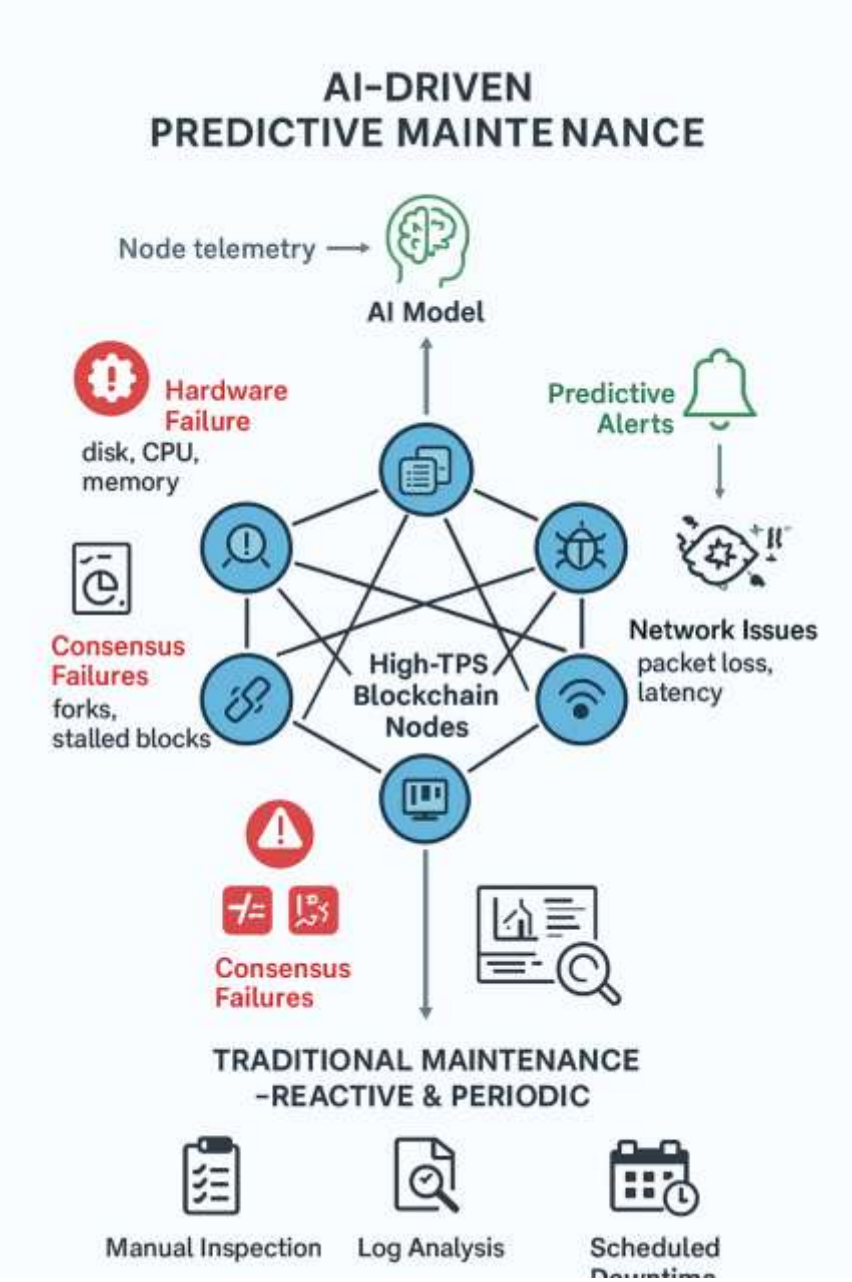

Figure 1:High-TPS Blockchain Node Failure and Maintenance Context

4. AI-DRIVEN PREDICTIVE MAINTENANCE FRAMEWORK

4.1 High-Level Architecture: Monitoring, AI Inference, Remediation, and Reporting Layers

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The proposed AI-driven predictive maintenance framework for high-TPS blockchain networks is structured into four interconnected layers. The monitoring layer continuously collects telemetry, system metrics, logs, and transaction data from each node, ensuring that all relevant operational signals are captured in real time. The AI inference layer processes this data using advanced machine learning models to detect anomalies, predict potential node failures, and generate actionable insights. The remediation layer provides automated or semi-automated corrective actions, such as redistributing transaction loads, restarting services, or triggering failover protocols to prevent downtime. Finally, the reporting layer generates comprehensive dashboards, alerts, and audit logs for network operators, providing transparency, regulatory compliance support, and historical analysis for performance optimization. This layered architecture ensures a systematic approach to proactive maintenance, reducing latency, minimizing downtime, and improving overall network resilience.

4.2 Data Collection: Metrics, Logs, and Telemetry

Data collection forms the foundation of the predictive maintenance framework. High-TPS blockchain nodes generate diverse telemetry, including CPU/memory utilization, disk I/O, network latency, transaction processing time, block propagation delays, and consensus participation metrics. Logs capturing system events, errors, warnings, and application-specific messages provide additional context. By consolidating these data sources in real time, the framework can create a holistic view of node health and performance, which serves as input for AI models. Ensuring data quality, consistency, and security is critical to producing reliable predictive insights while maintaining compliance with privacy and regulatory standards.

4.3 AI Models for Predictive Maintenance

The predictive maintenance framework employs a combination of AI/ML models tailored to different failure detection and forecasting tasks. Supervised learning models leverage historical failure data to predict the likelihood of node downtime or performance degradation under specific conditions. Unsupervised models, such as clustering or anomaly detection algorithms, identify patterns and outliers in real-time telemetry that may indicate emergent issues. Reinforcement learning approaches optimize automated remediation strategies by learning the most effective corrective actions over time, balancing risk and operational efficiency. By combining these approaches, the system can proactively identify and respond to potential failures while adapting to changing network dynamics.

4.4 Model Training, Evaluation, and Retraining Strategies

AI models require rigorous training and continuous evaluation to remain effective in high-throughput environments. Training involves historical telemetry and node failure data, carefully preprocessed to capture meaningful features. Model evaluation uses metrics such as precision, recall, F1-score, and prediction lead time to ensure reliable forecasting. Retraining strategies are implemented to adapt to evolving network conditions, software upgrades, or protocol changes. Continuous feedback loops, incorporating new data from operational nodes, allow models to improve over time and maintain predictive accuracy, ensuring that proactive maintenance decisions remain relevant in dynamic network environments.

4.5 Integration with Blockchain Orchestration and Alerting Systems

For practical deployment, the predictive maintenance framework integrates seamlessly with blockchain node orchestration platforms and alerting systems. This integration ensures that AI-driven insights translate into actionable interventions, either automatically or with operator supervision. The framework communicates with node management tools, load balancers, and failover systems to implement remediation strategies efficiently. Additionally, alerts and audit logs are integrated with monitoring dashboards to provide transparency, regulatory

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compliance, and historical performance analysis. By embedding AI-driven predictive maintenance within the existing blockchain ecosystem, high-TPS payment networks can achieve near-zero downtime, reduced latency, and optimized operational performance.

Figure 2: AI-Based Predictive Maintenance Architecture

5. MAINTENANCE WORKFLOW

5.1 Continuous Monitoring of Node Health and Performance Metrics

The maintenance workflow begins with continuous, real-time monitoring of blockchain nodes. High-TPS nodes generate a wide array of operational metrics, including CPU and memory usage, disk I/O, network latency, transaction processing time, block propagation delays, and consensus participation indicators. Logs capturing errors, warnings, and system events supplement these metrics. By consolidating and normalizing these data streams, the system establishes a comprehensive view of node health, which serves as the foundation for predictive maintenance. This continuous monitoring ensures that anomalies are detected at the earliest possible stage, reducing the risk of prolonged downtime or transaction failures.

5.2 Anomaly Detection and Prediction of Potential Failures

The second stage of the workflow involves analyzing collected metrics through AI and machine learning models to identify patterns indicative of impending failures. Supervised models predict the likelihood of node failure based on historical data, unsupervised models detect unexpected deviations from normal behavior, and

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reinforcement learning models optimize decision-making for remediation. By leveraging these approaches, the system can forecast potential disruptions, estimate their severity, and prioritize nodes that require immediate attention. This predictive capability enables proactive maintenance, preventing failures before they impact network performance.

5.3 Alert Generation and Automated Decision Support

Once a potential failure is detected, the workflow generates real-time alerts for network operators or integrated orchestration systems. Alerts are accompanied by predictive insights, recommended corrective actions, and severity assessments. In advanced configurations, the system supports automated decision support, enabling the execution of pre-approved remediation strategies without human intervention. This reduces response times significantly, ensures consistency in corrective actions, and allows network operators to focus on strategic monitoring rather than reactive troubleshooting.

5.4 Self-Healing and Automated Remediation Processes

AI-driven predictive maintenance enables self-healing mechanisms to correct potential issues automatically. Automated remediation may include restarting node services, redistributing transaction loads, initiating failover procedures, or applying configuration corrections. By embedding these capabilities into the maintenance workflow, the network can maintain high throughput and low latency even in the presence of node-level anomalies. Self-healing reduces operational overhead, minimizes service disruption, and enhances overall network resilience in high-TPS environments.

5.5 Reporting, Logging, and Audit Trail Creation

The final step of the workflow involves comprehensive reporting, logging, and audit trail creation. Each predictive insight, alert, and remediation action is recorded to provide transparency, regulatory compliance, and historical analysis. Dashboards visualize real-time node health, historical trends, and predictive model accuracy, enabling operators to monitor the effectiveness of the maintenance system. Audit trails ensure that all automated actions are traceable and can be reviewed for accountability, operational assessment, and compliance with financial regulations such as FFIEC and PCI-DSS.

Table 2: Manual vs AI-Driven Maintenance Metrics

Feature	Manual Maintenance	AI-Driven Predictive Maintenance
Detection Speed	Reactive, after failure occurs	Real-time, predictive alerts
Accuracy	Human-dependent, error-prone	Deterministic, data-driven anomaly detection
Downtime Reduction	Limited, depends on operator availability	Minimal, proactive remediation
Operational Overhead	High, labor-intensive	Low, automated processes
Transparency	Limited historical insight	Full audit trails, dashboards, and predictive reporting
Resource Optimization	Manual allocation	AI-optimized load balancing and self-healing

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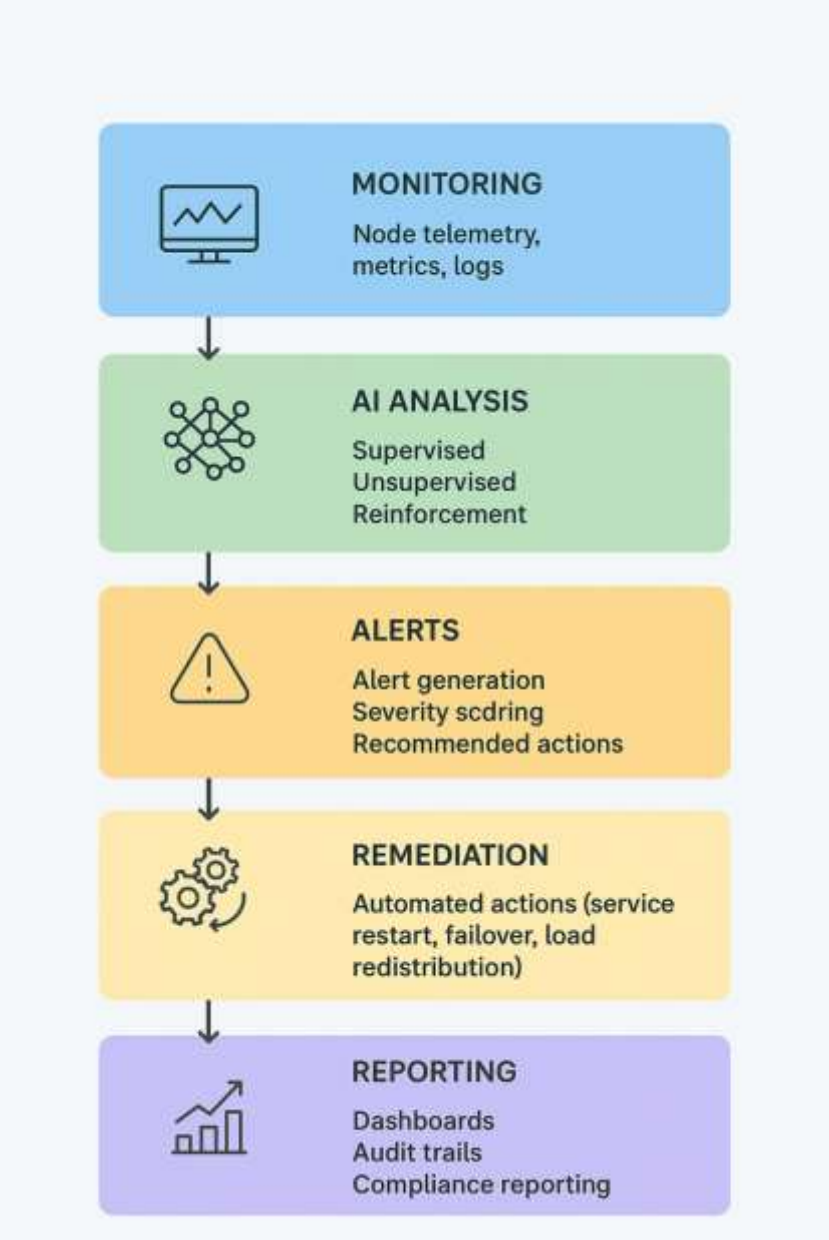

Figure 3: Predictive Maintenance Workflow

6. CONCLUSION

High-throughput blockchain payment networks rely on the continuous and reliable operation of their nodes to maintain transaction finality, low latency, and overall network integrity. Traditional reactive maintenance approaches are insufficient for these high-TPS environments, as node failures can rapidly propagate, causing significant operational disruptions. This paper presents an AI-driven predictive maintenance framework designed to address these challenges by combining real-time monitoring, anomaly detection, predictive alerts, and automated remediation within a layered architecture.

By leveraging supervised, unsupervised, and reinforcement learning models, the framework can forecast potential node failures, prioritize interventions, and execute corrective actions autonomously or with operator

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oversight. The integration of reporting and audit layers ensures transparency, regulatory compliance, and historical analysis for continuous improvement. Comparative evaluation demonstrates that AI-driven predictive maintenance reduces downtime, improves operational efficiency, and enhances network resilience compared to traditional approaches.

Overall, predictive maintenance powered by AI provides a robust, scalable, and proactive solution for maintaining the health of blockchain nodes in high-TPS payment networks. Its deployment enables financial institutions to support reliable, high-speed transactions while optimizing operational resources, minimizing risks, and laying the groundwork for the next generation of real-time, distributed payment infrastructures.

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