Intuitive™ DATA ANALYTICS

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Uncovering Duplicate & Erroneous Vendor Payments Before They Drain the General Fund



The Problem

Money Leaking Out Through the Back Door

County finance departments process thousands of vendor payments a year across disconnected systems — purchasing, AP, contracts, grants. Industry studies consistently find that 0.5–2% of total disbursements are duplicate, erroneous, or non-compliant payments — split invoices, duplicate vendor records under slightly different names, payments issued outside contract terms, expired grant-fund draws.

Traditional AP audits catch a fraction of this, and usually months after the money is already out the door. The real patterns — a vendor submitting near-identical invoices 45 days apart, a fund code paying outside its approved period, a new vendor number matching an existing address — are buried across systems that don't talk to each other.

The Solution

Intelligent Correlation Analysis with IDA

IDA turns scattered payment data into a proactive leakage-detection system.

Instead of sampling a handful of transactions during an annual audit, IDA continuously analyzes hundreds of variables across every payment — vendor identity patterns, invoice timing, fund/grant compliance windows, approval chains — to flag the combinations most likely to signal duplicate, erroneous, or non-compliant spend before the check clears.

IDA doesn't replace your finance and audit teams — it hands them a ranked list of the highest-risk transactions, so limited audit hours go to the payments that matter most.

Key Capabilities

Correlation Engine

Detects subtle vendor and invoice patterns — near-duplicate records, timing anomalies, fund misalignment — even across disconnected AP and grant systems.

Machine Learning (Random Forest)

Scores payments by risk and clusters them by leakage type (duplicate, non-compliant, erroneous), not just a single flag.

Validation Playground

Lets finance and audit staff test and tune detection models visually, no data science team required.

Ranked Insights

Surfaces the top drivers of leakage by department, fund, or vendor, so fixes target root causes, not one-off errors.

Human + Machine Intelligence

Pairs predictive scoring with auditor judgment, so flagged transactions get the right human review before action.

The Results

Data-Driven, Audit-Ready Fiscal Stewardship

Tangible Outcomes

- **Early Intervention:** Flags high-risk payments before disbursement or shortly after, when recovery is still realistic.
- **Targeted Review:** Routes flagged transactions to the right team — AP, procurement, grants compliance — based on the specific risk type.
- **Smarter Oversight:** Finance leadership gets a clear view of which departments, vendors, or funds carry the most leakage risk.
- **Stronger Audit Position:** Continuous monitoring replaces sample-based annual audits, strengthening the county's position ahead of state/federal reviews.

The Takeaway

IDA shifts county finance from reactive, sample-based auditing to proactive, continuous fiscal oversight. By revealing where leakage happens — not just catching it after the fact — IDA helps counties protect general fund dollars that used to disappear into duplicate checks and compliance gaps.

Payment Leakage By the Numbers

0.5-2% of total disbursements lost to duplicate/erroneous payments industry-wide

30-50% faster identification of high-risk transactions vs. annual sample audits

15-25% of flagged leakage recoverable through early detection

60-70% reduction in manual transactions reviewed per audit cycle