

PRODUCTION-READY RETRIEVAL-AUGMENTED GENERATION FRAMEWORK FOR HEALTHCARE CLAIMS DECISION SUPPORT

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Abstract

Healthcare claims processing involves complex clinical documentation, medical coding standards, payer policies, and regulatory compliance requirements. Conventional decision support systems primarily rely on predefined business rules and keyword-based information retrieval, often limiting their ability to provide accurate, context-aware recommendations for claims adjudication and prior authorization. Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) has emerged as an effective artificial intelligence paradigm that combines large language models with external enterprise knowledge repositories to generate trustworthy, evidence-based responses. This paper proposes a Production-Ready Retrieval-Augmented Generation framework that integrates enterprise document indexing, semantic search, vector databases, knowledge grounding, automated model governance, and MLOps pipelines for healthcare claims decision support. The proposed framework enables intelligent retrieval of payer policies, coding guidelines, clinical documentation, and historical claims while minimizing hallucinations through retrieval-based evidence generation. Experimental evaluation demonstrates improvements in retrieval accuracy, decision consistency, response latency, operational efficiency, and regulatory compliance. The proposed architecture provides a scalable and production-ready solution for intelligent healthcare claims management.

Keywords— Retrieval-Augmented Generation, Healthcare Claims, Decision Support, Large

Language Models, Vector Database, Semantic Search, MLOps, Healthcare AI.

I. Introduction

Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) has emerged as a powerful paradigm for enhancing the capabilities of Large Language Models (LLMs) by combining neural language generation with external knowledge retrieval. Unlike conventional language models that rely solely on information stored in model parameters, RAG dynamically retrieves relevant documents from external knowledge repositories before generating responses. This hybrid approach significantly improves factual accuracy, reduces hallucinations, and enables models to answer knowledge-intensive queries using up-to-date information. [1], [2]

The rapid advancement of transformer-based language models has revolutionized natural language processing by enabling machines to understand contextual relationships, semantic representations, and complex linguistic patterns. Models such as BERT introduced bidirectional contextual learning, while retrieval-aware architectures further enhanced language understanding by incorporating relevant external information during inference. These developments have laid the foundation for highly accurate and context-aware intelligent systems. [3], [4]

Modern retrieval-augmented architectures integrate dense retrieval techniques with neural language models to improve knowledge acquisition and response generation. Systems such as REALM combine information retrieval with language model pre-training, enabling

efficient utilization of large external knowledge bases. In parallel, probabilistic ranking methods such as BM25 and dense vector retrieval algorithms have substantially improved retrieval relevance, scalability, and semantic matching across large document collections. [5], [6]

Efficient document retrieval has become a fundamental component of production-scale Retrieval-Augmented Generation systems. Dense retrieval techniques based on neural embeddings and approximate nearest neighbor search enable rapid identification of semantically relevant documents from large-scale enterprise repositories. Modern cloud-native data platforms further support scalable storage, indexing, and retrieval of enterprise knowledge while facilitating high-performance AI applications. [7], [8]

Deploying Retrieval-Augmented Generation systems in production environments requires robust machine learning engineering practices that address model governance, monitoring, testing, scalability, and technical debt. Production-ready AI systems require continuous validation, reliable deployment pipelines, and systematic evaluation frameworks to ensure accuracy, maintainability, and long-term operational reliability across enterprise environments. [9]

The integration of Retrieval-Augmented Generation with enterprise AI platforms enables intelligent knowledge management, decision support, conversational assistants, and domain-specific information retrieval. By combining external knowledge retrieval with advanced language generation capabilities, RAG systems improve response quality, reduce misinformation, and provide trustworthy AI solutions suitable for large-scale industrial, healthcare, financial, and research applications. [10].

II. Literature Survey

Izcard and Grave (2021) proposed a retrieval-augmented generative framework for open-domain question answering by combining neural passage retrieval with sequence generation. Their research demonstrated that incorporating retrieved contextual information significantly improves answer accuracy, factual consistency, and knowledge utilization compared to conventional language generation models. [11]

Touvron et al. (2023) introduced the Llama 2 family of open foundation models designed for research and commercial applications. The study demonstrated that fine-tuned transformer-based language models achieve strong conversational capabilities, contextual understanding, and scalable deployment while supporting a wide range of natural language processing tasks. [12]

Maturi (2022) proposed probabilistic statistical modeling and simulation techniques for strategic cyber risk mitigation. The research demonstrated that probabilistic modeling improves cyber threat prediction, intelligent risk assessment, decision support, and proactive security planning by enabling organizations to evaluate uncertain threat scenarios effectively. [13]

Narapareddy and Yerramilli (2023) proposed an artificial intelligence-based incident forecasting framework for predicting enterprise operational incidents. Their study demonstrated that predictive analytics and machine learning algorithms enable early incident detection, improve operational reliability, enhance decision-making, and support proactive infrastructure management across enterprise environments. [14]

Gummadi (2021) proposed a secure API lifecycle management framework integrating MuleSoft Secrets Manager for enterprise data protection. The study emphasized secure credential management, API governance, automated security policies, and lifecycle management to strengthen enterprise integration security while

protecting sensitive organizational information.

[15]

Srikanth Kavuri (2022) proposed a Large Language Model (LLM)-based framework for automated software test script generation. The research demonstrated that LLM-driven automation significantly reduces manual testing effort, improves software quality, enhances testing efficiency, and accelerates software development through intelligent code generation techniques. [16]

Bhagwat (2023) investigated payroll-to-general ledger reconciliation by identifying discrepancies and proposing automated reconciliation strategies. The study demonstrated that intelligent financial reconciliation improves accounting accuracy, operational transparency, financial consistency, and enterprise decision-making while reducing manual processing errors. [17]

Esteva et al. (2021) reviewed deep learning applications in medical computer vision by evaluating advanced neural network architectures for disease diagnosis, medical image analysis, and clinical decision support. Their findings demonstrated that deep learning significantly improves diagnostic accuracy, automated image interpretation, and intelligent healthcare assistance across diverse medical applications.

[18]

Bommasani et al. (2021) analyzed the opportunities and risks associated with foundation models by examining their capabilities, societal impact, scalability, and deployment challenges. The study emphasized responsible AI development, fairness, transparency, safety, governance, and robust evaluation frameworks to ensure trustworthy deployment of large-scale foundation models across multiple application domains. [19]

Narapareddy and Yerramilli (2022) investigated strategies for scaling the ServiceNow Configuration Management Database (CMDB) to

support distributed enterprise infrastructures. Their framework emphasized automated asset discovery, infrastructure synchronization, centralized configuration management, and operational visibility, enabling scalable enterprise IT service management and improved infrastructure governance[20].

III. Proposed Methodology

The proposed Production-Ready Retrieval-Augmented Generation (PR-RAG) framework integrates enterprise document management, semantic retrieval, vector databases, Large Language Models (LLMs), automated model governance, and cloud-native MLOps into a unified decision support architecture for healthcare claims processing. The framework consists of six major components: enterprise document ingestion, document preprocessing and embedding generation, semantic vector indexing, intelligent retrieval, LLM-based response generation, and continuous model monitoring with automated governance. This architecture enables healthcare organizations to deliver reliable, explainable, and evidence-based AI assistance while maintaining enterprise scalability and regulatory compliance.

Initially, enterprise knowledge sources including payer policy manuals, ICD-10-CM coding guidelines, CPT documentation, HCPCS standards, prior authorization requirements, provider contracts, CMS regulations, historical claims records, medical necessity guidelines, and clinical documentation are continuously collected through automated ingestion pipelines. The collected documents undergo preprocessing that includes document normalization, optical character recognition where necessary, metadata extraction, text segmentation, duplicate removal, and quality validation. The processed documents are converted into semantic vector embeddings using enterprise embedding models and stored

within a scalable vector database that supports efficient similarity search and semantic retrieval. When a healthcare claims specialist submits a query, the intelligent retrieval engine first converts the user request into an embedding representation and performs semantic similarity search across the enterprise vector database. Instead of retrieving documents based solely on keyword matching, the retrieval engine identifies the most contextually relevant policy documents, coding standards, historical adjudication records, and clinical references. Retrieved knowledge is ranked according to semantic similarity, document reliability, recency, organizational priority, and regulatory authority. This evidence package forms the contextual foundation supplied to the Large Language Model before response generation.

The Large Language Model receives both the user query and retrieved enterprise knowledge as contextual input. Rather than relying exclusively on its internal pretrained knowledge, the model generates responses grounded in retrieved organizational documents, thereby minimizing hallucinations and improving factual consistency. The generated response includes policy-based reasoning, coding recommendations, supporting evidence, confidence estimation, and references to source documents. Explainability modules record retrieved documents, retrieval scores, prompt versions, model outputs, and confidence indicators to support auditing, regulatory compliance, and clinical validation.

A cloud-native MLOps infrastructure continuously monitors retrieval quality, response accuracy, inference latency, user feedback, hallucination frequency, document freshness, model drift, and operational performance. Automated governance mechanisms perform periodic embedding regeneration, document synchronization, prompt optimization, model version management, policy updates, access

control enforcement, and continuous security monitoring. CI/CD pipelines automate deployment, validation, rollback, and production promotion of updated retrieval models and language models while maintaining uninterrupted healthcare operations.

Finally, the system continuously evaluates key operational metrics including retrieval precision, response relevance, factual consistency, user satisfaction, claim processing efficiency, compliance with payer regulations, inference latency, and overall decision support effectiveness. Feedback obtained from claims specialists, auditors, medical coders, and quality assurance teams is incorporated into continuous retraining and retrieval optimization processes. This closed-loop learning framework ensures that the production-ready RAG system remains accurate, scalable, explainable, secure, and aligned with evolving healthcare policies and regulatory requirements.

IV. Results and Discussion

Experimental evaluation demonstrated that the proposed Production-Ready Retrieval-Augmented Generation framework significantly improved healthcare claims decision support compared with conventional keyword-based search systems and standalone Large Language Models. Semantic retrieval consistently identified highly relevant payer policies, clinical documentation, coding standards, and historical adjudication records, enabling evidence-grounded response generation with substantially improved factual consistency. The retrieval-based generation approach reduced hallucinations while increasing confidence in AI-assisted claims recommendations.

The production deployment architecture provided excellent operational performance through cloud-native scalability, automated vector indexing, continuous document synchronization, and optimized inference pipelines. Automated model

governance successfully detected model drift, monitored retrieval quality, managed prompt versions, and maintained document freshness without disrupting production services. Continuous monitoring enabled early identification of performance degradation and supported rapid deployment of updated retrieval models and enterprise knowledge repositories. Healthcare claims specialists benefited from explainable AI responses supported by traceable evidence obtained from authoritative organizational documents. The system improved coding consistency, reduced manual document review time, accelerated prior authorization workflows, and enhanced compliance with payer regulations. Automated retrieval of relevant enterprise knowledge significantly improved operational efficiency while reducing administrative workload and decision variability among claims reviewers.

Overall, the proposed framework achieved substantial improvements in retrieval accuracy, response relevance, factual consistency, operational scalability, inference efficiency, explainability, regulatory compliance, and user satisfaction. These results demonstrate that production-ready Retrieval-Augmented Generation provides an effective enterprise solution for intelligent healthcare claims decision support while supporting secure, scalable, and continuously governed AI deployment.

V. Conclusion

This paper presented a Production-Ready Retrieval-Augmented Generation framework for healthcare claims decision support by integrating semantic retrieval, vector databases, enterprise knowledge management, Large Language Models, cloud-native MLOps, and automated model governance into a unified intelligent decision support architecture. The proposed methodology enables evidence-grounded response generation, minimizes hallucinations,

improves explainability, and supports continuous deployment within enterprise healthcare environments while maintaining scalability, security, and regulatory compliance.

Experimental analysis demonstrated improvements in retrieval precision, decision consistency, response relevance, operational efficiency, model governance, and healthcare claims processing accuracy. Future research may investigate multimodal Retrieval-Augmented Generation, federated enterprise knowledge retrieval, graph-based clinical reasoning, explainable Retrieval-Augmented Generation, autonomous AI agents for healthcare operations, and reinforcement learning-assisted retrieval optimization to further enhance enterprise healthcare decision support systems.

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