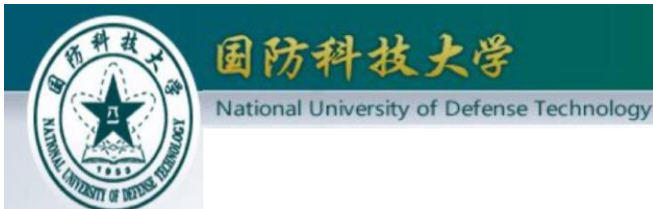


# MADDC: Multi-Scale Anomaly Detection, Diagnosis and Correction for Discrete Event Logs

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Junchao Xiao, Jiyuan Liu, Yuexiang Yang

ACSAC, Dec 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022



# Outline

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① Introduction

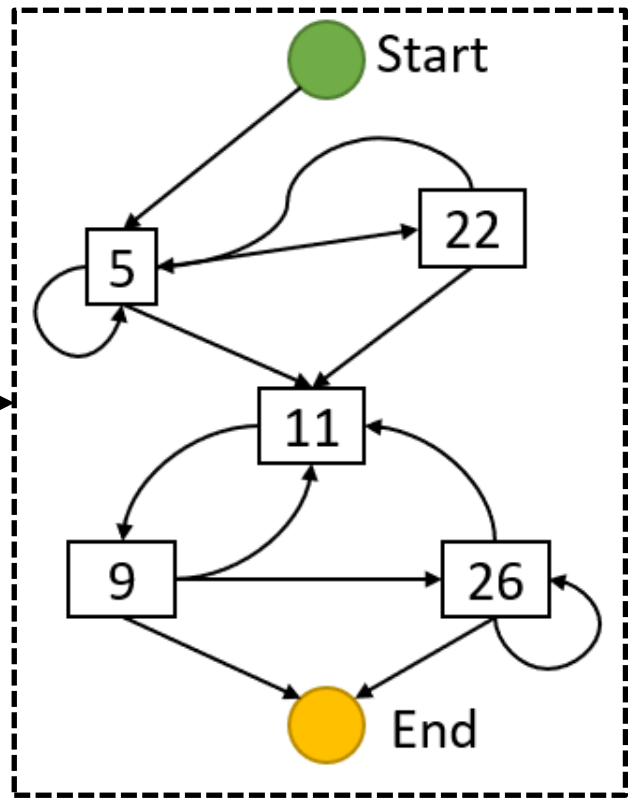
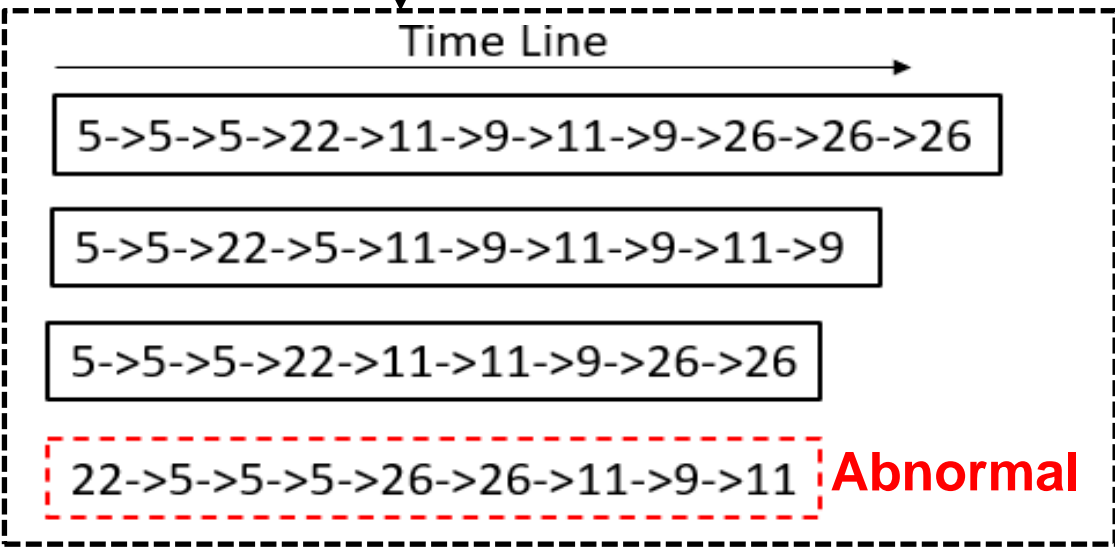
② System Design

③ Evaluation

# Discrete Event Log Anomaly Detection--An Illustrative Example

## Step1: Log Event Key Composition

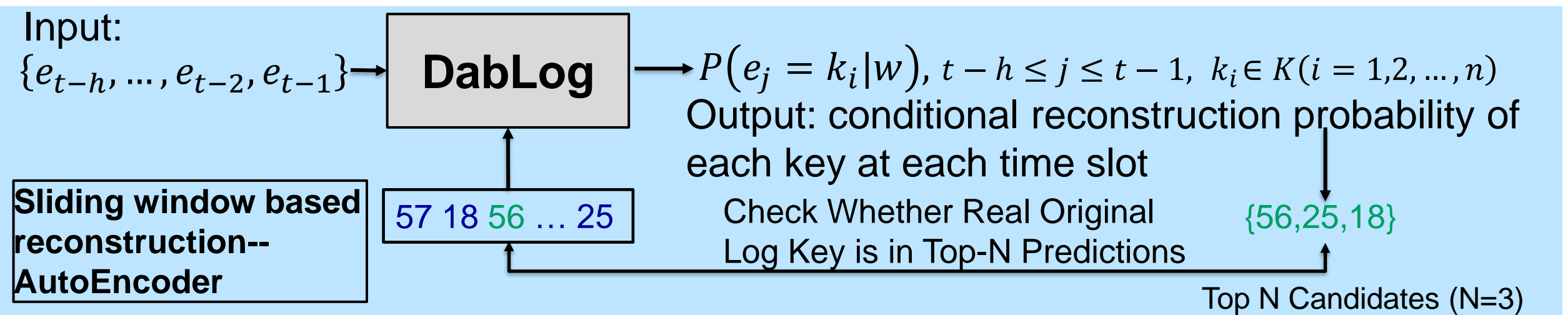
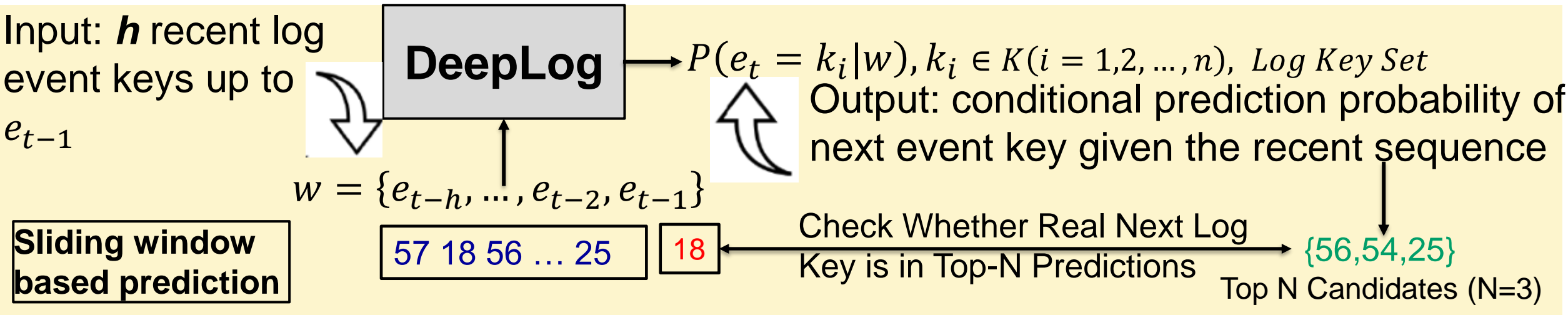
```
tcp,FIN,ftp-data,0,0,0,0,0,0--> 5  
tcp,FIN,-,0,0,0,0,0,6 --> 9  
tcp,FIN,ssh,0,0,0,0,0,1 --> 11  
tcp,FIN,-,0,0,0,0,0,3 --> 22  
tcp,FIN,-,0,0,0,0,0,19 --> 26
```



## Step3: Directly Follows Graph(DFG) Construction

## Step2: Log Event Sequence Aggregation

# Recent Trends-Deep Learning based Anomaly Detection



**Improved a lot the accuracy of anomaly detection for discrete event logs. But still is not enough!!!**

# Limitations of Existing Representative Deep Learning based Methods

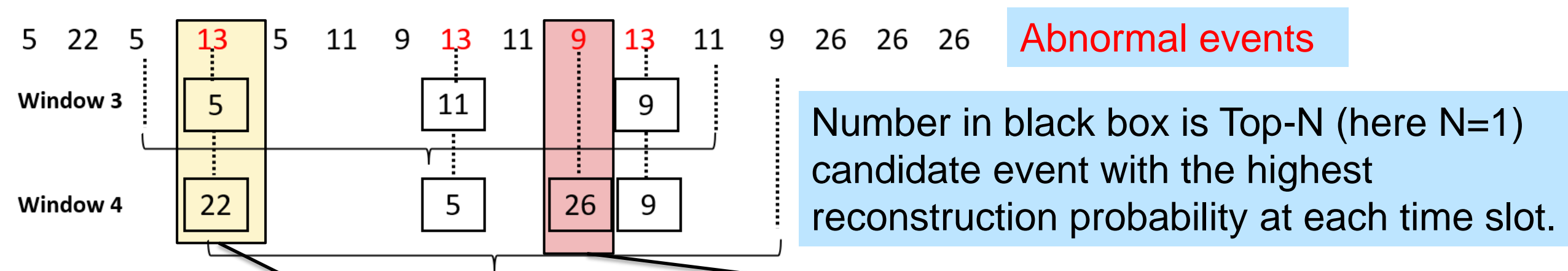
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## To Fulfil Practical Anomaly Detection for Discrete Event Log:

- **Accuracy of Anomaly Detection Needs Further Improvement.**
  - Ability to handle event logs with complex temporal correlation.
    - **DeepLog's next event prediction** tends to be more frequency based.
  - Alleviate model overfitting.
    - **DabLog** fails to **characterize abnormal regions** in the latent space.
- **Anomaly Diagnosis Needs More Attention to Improve Interpretability.**
  - Accurate Abnormal Deviation Identification. ***Why abnormal?***
  - How Normal Pattern Should Behave. ***How make correction?***

Our Main Focus

# Motivation for Anomaly Diagnosis (that DabLog's sliding window based reconstruction cannot do)



The **abnormal** event 13, it is expected to be reconstructed as **5** in window 3 but as **22** in window 4

Cannot provide consistent diagnosis for potential correction

The tenth event 9, detected as **normal** in sliding window 3, but detected as **abnormal** and reconstructed as **26** in window 4.

Fail to Identify Abnormal Deviation Accurately

*The above inconsistency regards to diagnosis is because each sliding window provides a limited and variable view.*

# Our Solutions

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- **Key Insights**

- **Local** sliding-window ( **small-scale** view ) based anomaly detection can provide better precision, **but not suitable for anomaly diagnosis**.
- **Global** workflow ( **large-scale** view ) based whole sequence alignment can **accurately uncover how an anomaly deviates from the “normal” pattern**, thus facilitating anomaly diagnosis, understanding and correction.

**Why not combine them?**

Our sequence alignment based anomaly diagnosis results of the motivating example, as follows:

5 22 5 **13** 5 11 9 **13** 11 9 **13** 11 9 26 26 26

# Outline

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① Introduction

② **System Design**

③ Evaluation

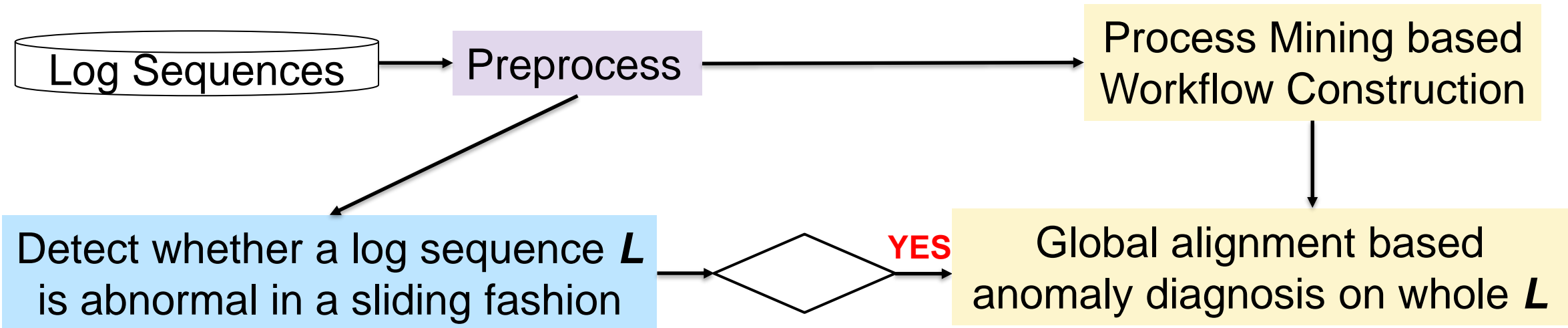


# Overview

## ▪ *Proposed System Prototype-MADDC*

- **Three** major separate components, namely *log preprocess*, *local anomaly detection*, *global anomaly diagnosis and correction*.
- Combine **LSTM-based** Variational AutoEncoder with **Process Mining** Techniques (i.e., process discovery and conformance checking).

## ▪ *Overall Process*



# Several Key Definitions

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- **Event Keys**

- ❑ Log entries are parsed using templates and represented by a **number**.

5--\*Receiving block\* 22--\*allocateBlock\* 9--\*Received block\*  
13--\*Receiving empty packet\* 11--\*terminating\* 26--\*is added to\*

- **Event Sequence and Subsequence**

- ❑ A log sequences is transformed into an event sequence using event keys.

Event Sequence 5 5 22 5 9 9 11 11 11 9 26 26 26

Subsequence:  
Sliding Window 1

- **Process**

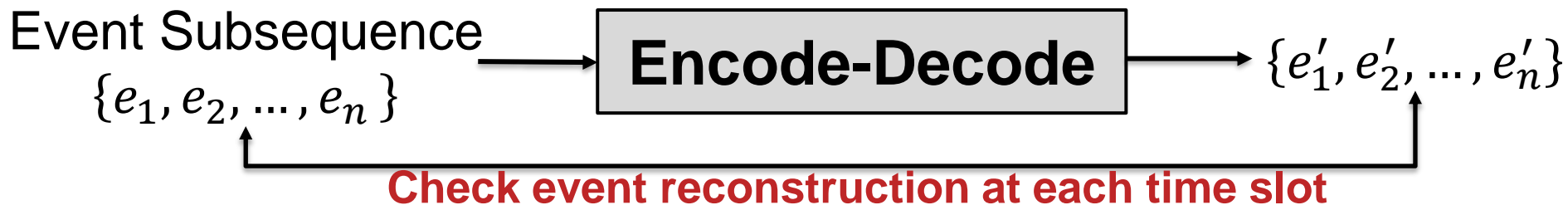
- ❑ During process mining, we treat each **event sequence**  $s$  as a **process**.

- **Workflow**

- ❑ A workflow is defined at the higher level to characterize a **group of similar processes**, namely closely related cases which may execute similar tasks.

# LSTM-VAE based on Local Anomaly Detection

- Subsequence Reconstruction using LSTM-VAE (Variational Autoencoder)



- Double-Check Anomaly Criteria

Example: [11 13 11 28...] → Output the probability of all event keys  $p(e_j), e_j \in \text{Event key set}$  being an instance of event at time slot 4.

## 1) Top-K Rank-based Criterion

Original event at time slot 4 is 28.

Check whether is included



The Top-3 events sorted by reconstruction probability at time slot 4 is [11, 28, 4]

**K=3**

## 2) Probability Threshold-based Criterion

Calculates the occurrence (reconstructed) probability  $\theta_p$  of reconstructed event  $e_j$  being same as 28

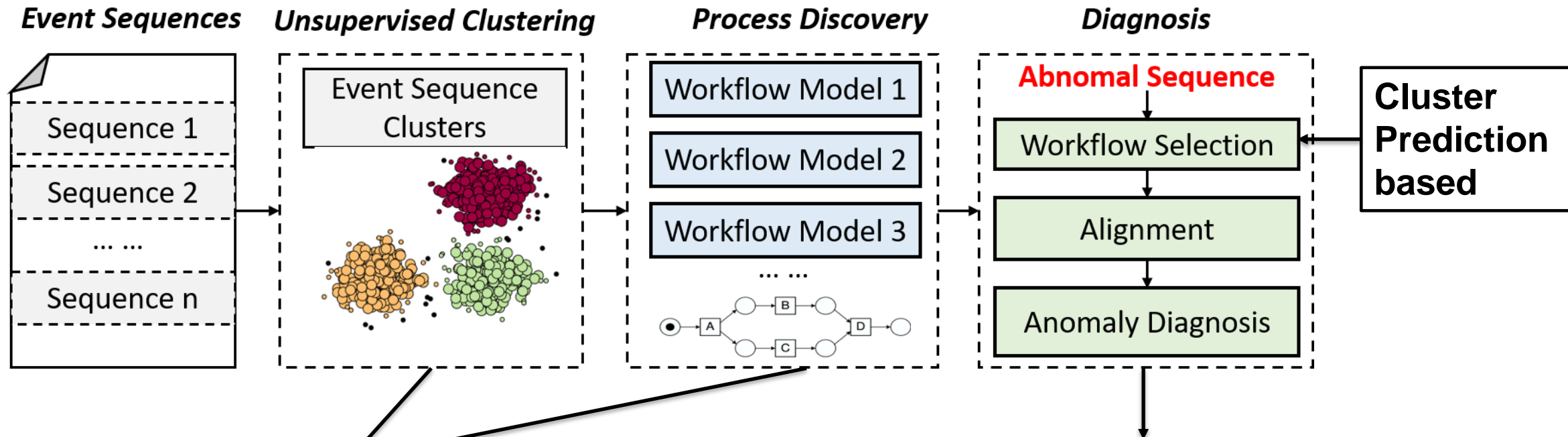
$\theta_p = 0.02859$



Check whether the occurrence (reconstructed) probability  $\theta_p$  at slot 4 exceeds a predefined threshold  $\theta$ .

# Process Mining based Global Anomaly Diagnosis

*The main principle behind our anomaly diagnosis is to uncover critical differences by comparing the detected abnormal sequence with a collection of similar “normal” ones.*



**Challenge 1:** Unclear “normal” sequence pattern for anomaly diagnosis

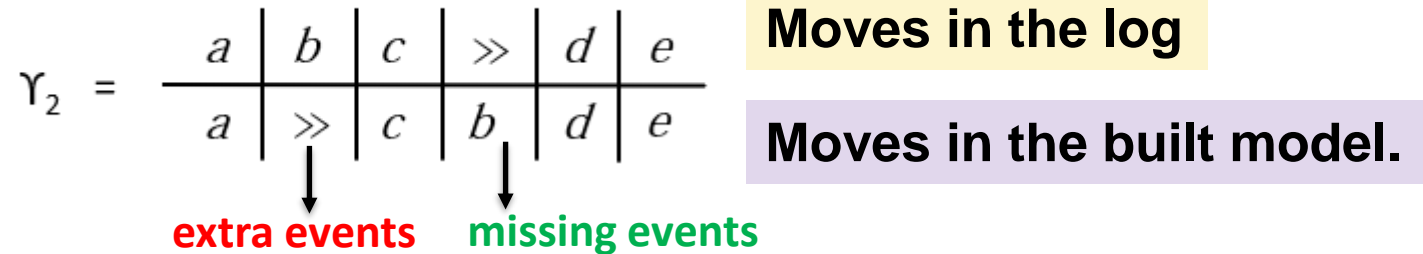
**Challenge 2:** Accurate Abnormal Deviation Identification, avoiding time consuming ‘one-to-many’ sequence comparison

# Alignment based Anomaly Diagnosis—An Example

## ■ Goal of alignment

- Map observed behavior (i.e., event sequence) from logs onto modelled behavior (i.e., workflow model) to **derive deviations and conformance on event level**.

## ■ Trace based alignment



- The '»' indicates that either the log could not make the same step as in the model or vice versa, considered as **anomaly**.
- Anomaly behaved as **two kinds of** asynchronous moves:
  - **Extra events** -- cases where the log events makes move, but unallowed by the model.
  - **Missing events** -- cases where there are moves in model but not in log events.

## ■ Alignment based anomaly correction

- Based on alignment results, try to correct the anomaly by removing extra events and adding missing events at the corresponding position.

# Outline

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① Introduction

② System Design

③ **Evaluation**

Accurate and Usable  
Anomaly Diagnosis

- **Research Questions:**

Accurate Anomaly  
Detection

**Practical Anomaly  
Detection**

Workflow Model with  
High Quality

- **Question 1:** How better is MADDCC in **anomaly detection** when compared with representative reconstruction-based and prediction-based baseline models?
- **Question 2:** As a key factor to provide reliable alignment based anomaly diagnosis, what quality are **workflow models** built on clustered sequences?
- **Question 3:** How effective does **alignment based anomaly diagnosis** facilitate the anomaly understanding and interpretation?

# Experimental Setup

## ▪ Datasets and Models:

- **Datasets:** UNSWNB (intrusion detection traffic logs), HDFS system logs.
- **Models:** DeepLog(CCS 2017), DabLog(AsiaCCS 2021)

**Table 1: Statistics Description of Datasets**

Dataset	Normal Train		Normal Test		Abnormal Test		Number of Event Keys
	Sequences	Subsequences	Sequences	Subsequences	Sequences	Subsequences	
HDFS-1	4855	61,140	553,366	6,918,652	13,882	198,058	32
HDFS-2	194,115	2,425,217	194,066	2,428,025	13,882	198,058	32
UNSWNB	9900	1,843,301	9900	1,853,201	2245	339,238	291

1. Both HDFS-1 and HDFS-2 are generated from original HDFS Dataset.
2. HDFS-1 is the same dataset used in DeepLog.
3. HDFS-2 is generated using same method as in DabLog.



# Accuracy of Anomaly Detection

- We have reproduced DeepLog on HDFS-1 with very similar performance.

Table 2: Anomaly Detection Results of Models when  $\pi=0.1$ ,  $\theta=0.1$

Dataset	Model	FP	FN	P <sup>3</sup>	R <sup>4</sup>	F1
HDFS-2	DeepLog	9927	5838	44.58%	57.76%	50.32%
	DabLog	267	2777	97.65%	80.00%	87.95%
	MADDC	335	895	97.49%	93.55%	95.48%
UNSWNB	DeepLog	2996	196	40.61%	91.27%	56.21%
	DabLog	978	207	67.57%	90.78%	77.48%
	MADDC	27	110	98.75%	95.10%	96.89%

<sup>3</sup>Precision Rate, <sup>4</sup>Recall Rate.

- $\pi = N /$  Number of event keys, **rank based parameter**
- $\theta$ , **probability threshold-based parameter**
- **FP: false positives identified through manual check.**
  - Due to rare patterns
- **FN: false negatives identified through manual check.**
  - Subsequences pattern that are abundant in the training set

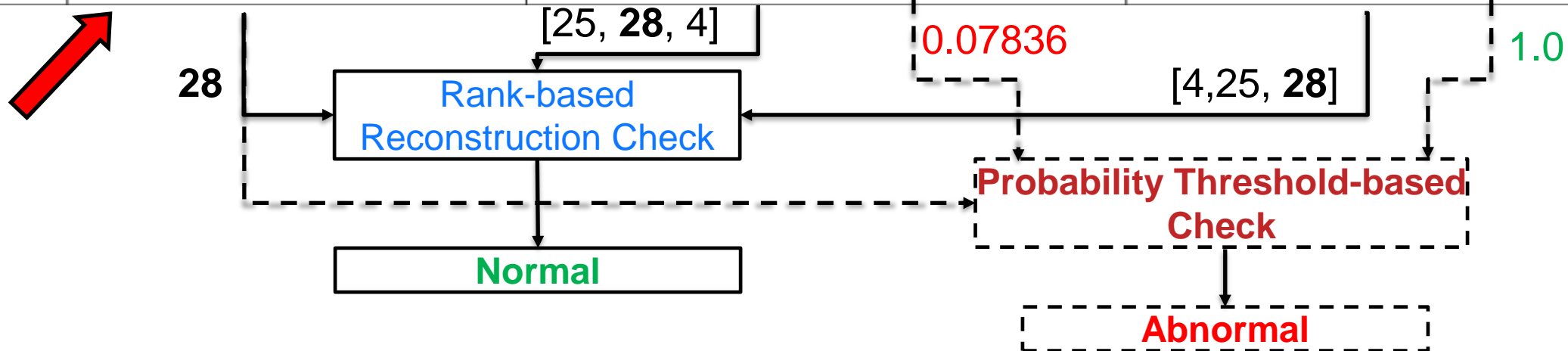
- Detailed parameter analysis shows the MADDC's stable performance on different dataset with varying parameters.

# Case Study and Advantages on Accurate Anomaly Detection

- **Double-check** based anomaly critic could make full use of their respective advantages.

Table 3: Several MADDC's TP Cases but Dablog's FNs

Dataset	ID	Anomaly Subsequence	MADDC's Reconstruction & Probability	Dablog's Reconstruction & Probability
HDFS-2	1	[13 11 13 11 28 25 25 25 23 23]	[23, 28, 25]-0.07086	[11, 25, 28]-1.0
	2	[11 13 11 28 4 25 25 25 23 23]	[25, 28, 4]-0.07836	[4, 25, 28]-1.0



- **Different Event Reconstruction Probability** from MADDC and Dablog ( $0.07836 \ll 1.0$ ): Due to VAE's probabilistic modeling of MADDC, the latent distribution of abnormal data have greater variance.

# Effectiveness of Alignment based Anomaly Diagnosis

- Our Alignment is **consistent** and **accurate** for anomaly diagnosis.
  - Extra events: 7, 17; Missing events: 16.
- DeepLog's next event prediction is **consistent** but **inaccurate** for anomaly diagnosis.
  - Ten detected abnormal events, eight of which are manually confirmed as FPs.
- Dablog's subsequence reconstruction is **inconsistent** and **inaccurate** for anomaly diagnosis.
  - Event 18 is not abnormal in window 2, but is in next window.
  - Event 18 again, its Top-1's reconstructed event is (5) in window 3 but becomes (3) in the next window.

Table 5: Case Study 1-A HDFS-2 Anomaly Diagnosis

Alignment	5 5 22 5 11 9 11 9 11 9 25 26 26 26 5 18 [7]
	[17] [16] 3 23 23 23 21 21 21
Sliding Fashion Prediction	5 5 22 5 11 9 11 9 11 9 25 26 26 26-23 5 18 7-(6) 17-(16) 3-(26) 23-(26) 23-(21) 23-(21) 21-(18) 21-(25) 21-(23)
Sliding-Fashion Reconstruction	9 11 9 25 26 26 26 5 18 7-(16) 11 9 25 26 26 26 5 18 7-(16) 17-(6) 9 25 26 26 26 5 18-(5) 7-(5) 17-(16) 3 25-(5) 26-(25) 26 26 5-(26) 18-(3) 7-(3) 17-(3) 3 23 26 26 26 5-(3) 18-(3) 7-(4) 17-(3) 3 23 23 ... .. 26 5-(26) 18-(3) 7-(4) 17-(3) 3 23 23 23 21 5 18-(16) 7-(3) 17-(3) 3 23 23 23 21 21 18-(3) 7-(3) 17-(4) 3-(23) 23 23 23 21 21 21

The circled number (4) refers to the Top-1 predicted or reconstructed event

# What We Have Not Talked About

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- Unsupervised Characterization of “Normal” Sequence Pattern
  - Why Event Sequences Clustering?
  - What is Process Discovery based Workflow Construction?
- Quality Evaluation of Workflow Model Construction in Unsupervised Manner
- Accuracy Comparison of Alignment based Anomaly Diagnosis.
- Limitations and Future Work.

**Please Read Our Paper!**

Thank You!

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<https://github.com/040840308/MADDC/tree/master>