



Digital Exposure: Boon or Bane

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ABSTRACT

Youths are considered as the future of our nation and they have capacity to shape and lead our nation towards bright path. But recent condition of youth is alarming for us as they are getting indulged in destructing behavior. Some incidents related to crime happened around us which are beyond our imagination. Some crime related cases are also displayed through T.V serials, movies and other OTT platforms. All the population including youths are getting attracted towards these serials or movies for entertainment purpose. But it is observed that continuous exposure of these contents lead to serious consequences. Indirectly, it is encouraging wrong behavior among youths. The purpose of this article is to discuss impact of digital exposure with the help of scientific studies and researches.

Keywords: Digital exposure, youths, developing years, and effect, criminal behavior.

INTRODUCTION

The immoral behavior which violets the social norms and traditions, and can be punished by public law is called as crime or criminal behavior. As per the statistical data, various crimes are committed by youngsters. When we refer the cases like Nirbhaya-Delhi gang rape, Priyanka Reddy, it shows the horrifying reality surrounding us. Recent case of Aftab and Shraddha Walkar has shivered down our spine and shaken up the whole nation. Both were in live-in relationship. Shraddha was murdered by her boyfriend. After murder her body was chopped in pieces and thrown in forest area. Influenced with Shraddha's case, one more murder happened in Mumbai recently. Accused and victim, both were living in live-in relationship. Here also, accused murdered victim and chopped her body into pieces. These incidents left us with many questions. How a person can think about such kind of behavior? What could be the triggering points which motivated him to do so? Why these abnormal behaviors are getting inculcated among youths? This article aimed to find out the reasoning behind this delinquent behavior.



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In human being, thought process, personality, beliefs and value systems are developed during childhood and the same will be extended in future if gets approved by family or society. The exposure that child gets during crucial years of development will decide the overall personality of the individual in future. As per many theories of psychology, first 5 to 10 years of life are very crucial and help the overall development of the individual. These theories are based on the notion that an individual's early childhood experience influences his or her likelihood for committing future crimes. Proponents of psychodynamic theory suggest that an individual's personality is controlled by unconscious mental processes that are grounded in early childhood. According to Sigmund Freud, if stages of psychosexual development are not handled properly or in balance way, it will lead to fixation and that deprived condition will get stored in unconscious. These unconscious needs will be reflected in behaviour of adult. Psychodynamic theory suggests that criminal offenders are frustrated and aggravated. They are constantly drawn to past events that occurred in their early childhood. Because of a negligent, unhappy, or miserable childhood, which is most often characterized by a lack of love and/or nurturing, a criminal offender has a weak (or absent) ego (Blackburn, 1993). Most important, research suggested that having a weak ego is linked with poor or absence of social etiquette, immaturity, and dependence on others. Research further suggests that individuals with weak egos may be more likely to engage in drug abuse as well as antisocial behaviour.

It is also observed that criminal offenders may have a number of mood disorders that are ultimately manifested as depression, rage, narcissism, and social isolation. One example of a disorder found in children is conduct disorder. Children with conduct disorder have difficulty following rules and behaving in socially acceptable ways (Boccaccini, Murrie, Clark, & Comell, 2008). Conduct disorders are ultimately manifested as a group of behavioral and emotional problems in young adults. It is important to note that children diagnosed with conduct disorder are viewed by adults, other children, and agencies of the state as "trouble," "bad," "delinquent," or even "mentally ill." It is important to inquire as to why some children develop conduct disorder and others do not. There are many possible explanations. Some of the most prominent include child abuse, brain damage, genetics, poor school performance, and a traumatic event.

Some psychological theories focus on exposure and environment that children get during their childhood. Primarily, the psychological processes of behaviour development of children rely on learning with observation, and with frequent exposure to specific media content, the cognitive, emotional and perceptual responses can be predicted (J. Maier & D. Gentile, 2012). Environment at home, upbringing style of parents, values taught by elders and environment at school, treatment by teachers play very important role for children to make them understand what to do and what not to do. Albert Bandura proposed and experimented that child learns through observation. Whatever child observes, the exposed incident is stored automatically in his brain. Though that child doesn't imitate the observed behavior immediately, but he may show that behavior whenever the situation comes. In recent days, children are exposed to various information which is not relevant as per their age. For example, use of expensive gadgets, social media, irrelevant videos, cartoons with abusive languages and violence, crime related shows and many more. Some time, children are exposed to disturbing news which may affect their thought process and attitude. It is observed that the children who are at their behavioural developmental phase; are more susceptible and vulnerable to adopt negative behavioural leanings.

Bringing up a child is not a child's play. It is the responsibility of each parent to teach the child to be a good human being. Having said that, we all do know that children can be the devil incarnate at times. It is the most normal situation for a child to be naughty at times, or throw a tantrum, or to behave badly. However, if your child seems to be behaving badly more than normal, then this deviance could be because of a number of issues which require to be dealt immediately. If child is showing impulsiveness, lack of discipline, does any type of behavior to seek attention, does not care about his responsibilities towards parents, sibling or family members, these are the main signs of developing disorders and needs extra attention with treatment.

It was noticed that during pandemic, most of the population including children got affected with only media (T.V news & videos on social media). On one hand, social media platform created tremendous chances for sharing



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different ideas, information and emotions, but on other hand, shows negative effect among youths like dependency, lack of interest in physical surrounding, health issues, etc. In some extreme condition, obsessiveness and addiction is getting reflected through child's behavior. It is observed that continuous bombarding of news led people to develop psychological issues. All these things support that there is an impact of exposed environment on an individual. This impact may differ from individual to individual depending on individual's vulnerability. Television viewing frequently limits children's time for vital activities such as playing, reading, learning to talk, spending time with peers and family, storytelling, participating in regular exercise, and developing other necessary physical, mental and social skills (Canadian Paediatric Society, 2007).

Recent era is considered as digital era. Population is using expensive gadgets and became more active on social media. According to study by Iwamoto & Chun (2020), due to increasing reliance on the social media use in life, youths are comparing themselves with others and develop unrealistic as well as irrelevant expectations in life which can have several affective consequences. Some study shows that positive and negative mood can easily get transferred among the social media users (Chukwure & Chukwure, 2017). Now a days children also are getting engaged in using expensive gadgets for almost all activities, right from study and exam to entertainment purposes. Ultimately, they are also getting exposed to irrelevant contents and videos which are not age appropriate for them. Young generation is showing lot of interest in social media. In one study, it is found that individuals who spent more time on social media got suffered from depression, hopelessness and inferiority complexes (Aalbers et al, 2018). Hanprathet et al. (2015) found the positive correlation between addiction of Facebook and depression among high school students.

Sometime parents also feel that their ward should not get lag behind in the race with other children in this competitive world. So they provide all gadgets without any hesitation. But they are unaware about negative effect. Youths get addicted in using social media. Mathewson (2020) investigated the effect of social media on college students and found higher level of anxiety, depression and suicidal thoughts among youths. In everyday life, society has been witnessing many crimes like rape, acid attack, kidnapping, robbery and murder which become headlines on all media like newspapers, TV news channels and other platforms. It draws the attention of youth and they may get ideas to make easy money or other purposes out of it. T.V. shows and OTT platform web series related detectives, crime and sexual content are more popular among the youths. Crime shows have been an interesting as well as high TRP rated T. V. shows for almost all population in Indian context. Though, these crime shows don't get telecasted at prime time, but there are repetitive telecast throughout the day. Children have easy access to these shows. The motive of these shows is to expose true criminal activities in India and educate people about it for their safety purpose. On other end it has negative impact also. There is a relationship between watching violent television programming and an increase in violent behaviour by children (Johnson JG, Cohen P, Smailes EM, Kasen S, Brook JS., 2002)

According to Manal Ali (2023), in Indian cinema, there is cinematic presentation of some iconic crime based movies. Some of these movies' characters became very famous and have powerful influence on young population. Sometime these characters get social approval in society. These types of exposure have capacity to mould persons' perspective especially in adolescents.

According to supporters of TV shows, true crime-based content helps the public to understand criminal mind-set of criminals and make them more alert in real life situation. General population can be aware about their safety and get knowledge about functionality of police. Whereas, many people argue that these shows increase fear among people and develop doubts and suspicious attitude towards their relatives as well as surrounding people. These criminal activity and ideas shown in the show are imprinted on the developing brain of children. There could be the possibility that the child will imitate the behaviour whenever he will get chance or situation. Various studies confirm that exposure to heavy doses of television violence increases aggressive behaviour, particularly in boys (Johnson JG, Cohen P, Smailes EM, Kasen S, Brook JS. 2002).



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Television also affects health, physical as well as mental. Studies show that children who watch a lot of television are less physically fit and more likely to eat high fat and high energy snack foods (*Paediatr Child Health*. 2002). It encourages children to learn about tobacco and alcohol use; the concern is that the consequences of these behaviours are not accurately depicted on television. Many music videos, show alcohol and tobacco use as normative behaviour without conveying the long term consequences of this use (Thompson K & Fumie Y. 2001). Various music videos and videos with sexual and violent contents are easily accessible to teenagers and reducing their sensitivity towards the same. On television and media, contents are always shown in exaggerate form and with distorted reality. It portrays men and women in different frames. Developing children perceive this gender differences and gender wise role expectations in biased manner. Various music videos may have a significant behavioural impact by desensitizing viewers to violence and making teenagers more likely to approve of premarital sex. Up to 75% of videos contain sexually explicit material and more than half contain violence that is often committed against women. Women are portrayed frequently in a condescending manner that affects children's attitudes about sex roles. (American Academy of Pediatrics, 1996-98). This affects their thought pattern and cognition, which results in serious crimes happen with females.

CONCLUSION

Many researches supported that exposure of violence during developmental stage affect the thought pattern of youngsters negatively. Intervention in these issues seems to be difficult but can be possible by making parents more aware about all these relationships between exposure provided to children and its effect on behaviour of children. More guidance programs can be arranged at school levels where parents can get the information about right ways of upbringing styles of children, how to deal with developing children, what type of environment is necessary for development and how to take extra care of children having emotional issues. Sometime parent may feel that providing lots of video games, gadgets, is showing love towards their wards. They may try to compensate where some parents are not able to give quality time. But it is also very essential to know that proving everything on demand or before demand without monitoring can be dangerous. It does not mean that parents should not provide expensive things or gadgets to children. They can provide but with proper manual and guidelines of its use. Children should be aware that wrong use of gadgets can lead to problem. Parent can have control on TV serials, movies, etc, by monitoring them. For this purpose, communication between parent and child plays pivotal role. Here, parents can be encouraged to take help from mental health professionals if required.

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Hybrid Ideals in Ordered Gamma Semigroups

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ABSTRACT

This paper core notion is to examine some algebraic features of ordered gamma semigroups by using the idea of hybrid structure. In ordered gamma semigroups, the concept of hybrid left (resp. right) ideals is defined and their associated features are addressed.

Keywords: Ordered gamma semigroup, hybrid structure, hybrid left ideal, hybrid right ideal.

INTRODUCTION

The idea of a fuzzy set was first suggested by Zadeh [9] in 1965. Rosenfeld [6] was the one who initially proposed and investigated the idea of a fuzzy subgroup. Fuzzy sets were introduced to semigroups in 1979 and some of their features were studied by Kuroki [5]. Fuzzy ideals in ordered semigroups were examined by Kehayopulu and Tsingelis [4] in 2007. A gamma semigroup was first conceptualised by Sen and Saha[7] in 1986. Sen and Seth [8] established the concept of ordered gamma semigroup later in 1993. In a collection of parameters over an initial universe set, Jun *et.al.* [3] developed the idea of hybrid structure. They utilized linear spaces and BCK/BCI algebras to implement this idea. Eventually, the authors proposed the ideals of hybrid sub algebras, hybrid fields and hybrid linear spaces.

Anis *et.al.* [1] used semigroups to illustrate the idea of hybrid structures. They explored many features and presented hybrid sub semigroups and hybrid left (resp. right) ideals in semigroups. Also, they developed the idea of hybrid products and used it to describe how to characterise hybrid sub semigroups and hybrid left (resp. right) ideals. They offered connections between hybrid intersections and hybrid products. Elavarasan *et.al.* [2] presented the idea if





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hybrid generalized bi-ideals in semigroups and offered some descriptions of regular and left quasi-regular semigroups in terms of these bi-ideals. In this study, we presented various hybrid forms of ideals in ordered gamma semigroups.

Preliminaries

We will review the fundamental concepts and definitions from the ordered gamma semigroup theory and the hybrid structure theory that we will utilise later on in this essay in this section.

A groupoid is an algebra (S, \cdot) consisting of a non-empty set S together with a binary operation \cdot on S . A semigroup (S, \cdot) is a groupoid in which the operation \cdot is associative that $a \cdot (b \cdot c) = (a \cdot b) \cdot c$ for all $a, b, c \in S$.

Definition 2.1 If S and Γ are non-empty sets, then a structure (S, Γ, \leq) is called an ordered Γ -semigroup if

1. $(a\gamma b)\delta c = a\gamma(b\delta c)$ for all $a, b, c \in S$ and $\gamma, \delta \in \Gamma$.
2. If $a \leq b$ then $a\gamma x \leq b\gamma x$ and $x\gamma a \leq x\gamma b$ for all $a, b, x \in S$ and $\gamma \in \Gamma$.

Definition 2.2 A non-empty fuzzy subset λ of a Γ -semigroup S is called a fuzzy subsemigroup of S if $\lambda(a \alpha b) \geq \min\{\lambda(a), \lambda(b)\}$ for all $a, b, x \in S$ and $\alpha \in \Gamma$.

For simplicity, we denoted an ordered semigroup (S, Γ, \leq) by its carrier set as a bold letter S .

Let S be an ordered Γ -semigroup. For any non-empty subsets A and B of S and for any subset K of S , we define $A\Gamma B = \{a\gamma b : a \in A, b \in B \text{ and } \gamma \in \Gamma\}$

And $(K] = \{a \in S : a \leq k \text{ for some } k \in K\}$

Definition 2.3 Let S be an ordered Γ -semigroup. A non-empty subset A of S in which $(A] \subseteq A$ is said to be

1. a left ideal of S if $S\Gamma A \subseteq A$.
2. a right ideal of S if $A\Gamma S \subseteq A$.

A non-empty subset A of S is called an ideal of S if it is both a left ideal and right ideal of S . For any $a \in S$, we denote by $\mathcal{L}(a)$ (resp. $\mathcal{R}(a)$) the smallest left (resp. right) ideal of S containing a . One can show that $\mathcal{L}(a) = (a \cup S\Gamma a]$ and $\mathcal{R}(a) = (a \cup a\Gamma S]$.

In the following, let I be the unit interval, \mathcal{E} a collection of parameters and $\mathcal{P}(U)$ stand for the collection of all subsets of U .

Definition 2.4 A hybrid structure in \mathcal{E} over U is defined to be a mapping

$$\tilde{f}_\lambda = (\tilde{f}, \lambda) : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow (U) \times I$$

defined by $\tilde{f}_\lambda(x) = (\tilde{f}(x), \lambda(x))$ for any $x \in \mathcal{E}$

where $\tilde{f} : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(U)$

and $\lambda : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow I$ are mappings.

The collection of all hybrid structures in \mathcal{E} over U is represented by the symbol $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{E})$. According to our definition an order \ll on $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{E})$ is:

For all $\tilde{f}_\lambda, \tilde{g}_\gamma \in \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{E}), \tilde{f}_\lambda \ll \tilde{g}_\gamma \Leftrightarrow \tilde{f} \subseteq \tilde{g} \text{ and } \lambda \geq \gamma$

where $\tilde{f} \subseteq \tilde{g}$ and $\lambda \geq \gamma$ indicate that $\tilde{f}(x) \subseteq \tilde{g}(x)$ and $\lambda(x) \geq \gamma(x)$ respectively, apply to all $x \in \mathcal{E}$.

We also indicate that $\tilde{f}_\lambda = \tilde{g}_\gamma$ if $\tilde{f}_\lambda \ll \tilde{g}_\gamma$ and $\tilde{g}_\gamma \ll \tilde{f}_\lambda$.





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Definition 2.5 Let \tilde{f}_λ and \tilde{g}_γ be hybrid structures in \mathcal{E} over \mathcal{U} . Then the hybrid intersection of \tilde{f}_λ and \tilde{g}_γ denoted by $\tilde{f}_\lambda \cap \tilde{g}_\gamma$, is defined to be a hybrid structure $\tilde{f}_\lambda \cap \tilde{g}_\gamma: \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{U}) \times \mathcal{I}$ assigning any $x \in \mathcal{E}$ to $((\tilde{f}_\lambda \cap \tilde{g}_\gamma)(x), (\lambda \vee \gamma)(x))$, where $(\tilde{f}_\lambda \cap \tilde{g}_\gamma)(x) = \tilde{f}(x) \cap \tilde{g}(x)$ and $(\lambda \vee \gamma)(x) = \vee \{ \lambda(x), \gamma(x) \}$.

Definition 2.6 Let \mathcal{S} be an ordered semigroup \tilde{f}_λ and \tilde{g}_γ be hybrid structures in \mathcal{S} over \mathcal{U} . Then the hybrid product of \tilde{f}_λ and \tilde{g}_γ , denoted by $\tilde{f}_\lambda \otimes \tilde{g}_\gamma$, is defined to be a hybrid structure.

$$\tilde{f}_\lambda \otimes \tilde{g}_\gamma: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{U}) \times \mathcal{I}$$

$$x \rightarrow ((\tilde{f}_\lambda \otimes \tilde{g}_\gamma)(x), (\lambda \otimes \gamma)(x))$$

where

$$(\tilde{f}_\lambda \otimes \tilde{g}_\gamma)(x) = \begin{cases} \bigcup_{(x,y) \in \mathcal{S}_x} (\tilde{f}(x) \cap \tilde{g}(y)) & \text{if } \mathcal{S}_x \neq \phi \\ \phi & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and

$$(\lambda \otimes \gamma)(x) = \begin{cases} \bigwedge_{(a,b) \in \mathcal{S}_x} \{ \max\{ \lambda(a), \gamma(b) \} \} & \text{if } \mathcal{S}_x \neq \phi \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{S}$$

We denote by $\mathfrak{K}_A(\tilde{f}_\lambda)$ the characteristic hybrid structure of \mathcal{A} in \mathcal{E} over \mathcal{U} and is defined to be a hybrid structure.

$$\mathfrak{K}_A(\tilde{f}_\lambda): \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \{ \phi, \mathcal{U} \} \times \{ 0, 1 \},$$

$$x \rightarrow (\mathfrak{K}_A(\tilde{f})(x), \mathfrak{K}_A(\lambda)(x)),$$

where

$$\mathfrak{K}_A(\tilde{f})(x) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{U} & \text{if } x \in \mathcal{A} \\ \phi & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\mathfrak{K}_A(\lambda)(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \in \mathcal{A} \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{E}$$

RESULTS

Definition 3.1 Let \mathcal{S} be an ordered Γ -semigroup. A hybrid structure \tilde{f}_λ in \mathcal{S} over \mathcal{U} is called a hybrid sub semigroups in \mathcal{S} over \mathcal{U} if for any $x, y \in \mathcal{S}$ and $\gamma \in \Gamma$ the following statements are hold.

1. $\tilde{f}(x\gamma y) \supseteq \tilde{f}(x) \cap \tilde{f}(y)$
2. $\lambda(x\gamma y) \leq \max\{ \lambda(x), \lambda(y) \}$

Definition 3.2 Let \mathcal{S} be an ordered Γ -semigroup. A hybrid structure \tilde{f}_λ in \mathcal{S} over \mathcal{U} is called a hybrid left (resp. right) ideal in \mathcal{S} over \mathcal{U} if for any $x, y \in \mathcal{S}$ the following statements are hold:

1. $\tilde{f}(x\gamma y) \supseteq \tilde{f}(y)$ (resp. $\tilde{f}(x\gamma y) \supseteq \tilde{f}(x)$);
2. $\lambda(x\gamma y) \leq \lambda(y)$ (resp. $\lambda(x\gamma y) \leq \lambda(x)$);
3. If $x \leq y$ then $\tilde{f}(x) \supseteq \tilde{f}(y)$ and $\lambda(x) \leq \lambda(y)$

A hybrid structure in \mathcal{S} over \mathcal{U} is called a hybrid ideal in \mathcal{S} over \mathcal{U} if it is of both a hybrid left ideal and a hybrid right ideal in \mathcal{S} over \mathcal{U} .

Lemma 3.1 Let \mathcal{S} be an ordered Γ -semigroup, hybrid structure in \mathcal{S} over \mathcal{U} such that $\tilde{f}(x) \supseteq \tilde{f}(y)$ and $\lambda(x) \leq \lambda(y)$. Then we have that $\tilde{f}_\lambda \otimes \tilde{f}_\lambda \ll \tilde{f}_\lambda$ if and only if \tilde{f}_λ is a sub semigroup in \mathcal{S} over \mathcal{U} .

Proof:

Let $x \in \mathcal{S}$. If $\mathcal{S}_x = \phi$, then





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$$(\tilde{f} \odot \tilde{f})(x) = \phi \subseteq \tilde{f}(x)$$

and

$$(\lambda \odot \lambda)(x) = 1 \geq \lambda(x)$$

If $S_x = \phi$ then

$$(\tilde{f} \odot \tilde{f})(x) = \bigcup_{(y,z) \in S_x} [\tilde{f}(y) \cap \tilde{f}(z)]$$

$$\subseteq \bigcup_{(y,z) \in S_x} \tilde{f}(y\gamma z)$$

$$\subseteq \bigcup_{(y,z) \in S_x} \tilde{f}(x)$$

and

$$(\lambda \odot \lambda)(x) = \bigwedge_{(y,z) \in S_x} \{\max \lambda(y), \lambda(z)\}$$

$$\geq \bigwedge_{(y,z) \in S_x} \lambda(y\gamma z)$$

$$\geq \bigwedge_{(y,z) \in S_x} \lambda(x)$$

$$= \lambda(x)$$

This means that $\tilde{f}_\lambda \otimes \tilde{f}_\lambda \ll \tilde{f}_\lambda$.

Conversely, we assume that $\tilde{f}_\lambda \otimes \tilde{f}_\lambda \ll \tilde{f}_\lambda \forall x, y \in S$.

We have

$$\tilde{f}(x\gamma y) \supseteq (\tilde{f} \odot \tilde{f})(x\gamma y)$$

$$= \bigcup_{(a,b) \in S_{x\gamma y}} [\tilde{f}(a) \cap \tilde{f}(b)]$$

$$\supseteq \tilde{f}(x) \cap \tilde{f}(y)$$

and

$$\lambda(x\gamma y) \leq (\lambda \odot \lambda)(x\gamma y)$$

$$= \bigwedge_{(a,b) \in S_x} \{\max \lambda(a), \lambda(b)\}$$

$$\leq \max\{\lambda(x), \lambda(y)\}$$

This shows that \tilde{f}_λ is a hybrid subsemigroup in S over \mathcal{U} .

Theorem 3.1 Let S be an ordered Γ -semigroup and $\{\tilde{f}_i \lambda_i : i \in \mathcal{I}\}$ a family of hybrid left (resp. right) ideals in S over \mathcal{U} .

Then $\bigcap_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \tilde{f}_i \lambda_i$ is a hybrid left (resp. right) ideals in S over \mathcal{U} .

Proof:

Let $x, y \in S$ and $\gamma \in \Gamma$. Then $\tilde{f}_i \lambda_i$ is a hybrid left ideal in S over \mathcal{U} for all $i \in \mathcal{I}$,

$$\tilde{f}_i(x\gamma y) \supseteq \tilde{f}_i \lambda_i \text{ and } \lambda_i(x\gamma y) \leq \lambda_i(y)$$

$$\text{Thus, } \bigcap_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \tilde{f}_i(x\gamma y) \supseteq \bigcap_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \tilde{f}_i(y) \text{ and } \bigvee_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \lambda_i(x\gamma y) \leq \bigvee_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \lambda_i(y)$$

Let $x, y \in S$ be such that $x \leq y$.

Then $\tilde{f}_i(x) \supseteq \tilde{f}_i(y)$ and $\lambda_i(x) \leq \lambda_i(y)$ for any $i \in \mathcal{I}$.

$$\text{Thus, } \bigcap_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \tilde{f}_i(x) \supseteq \bigcap_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \tilde{f}_i(y) \text{ and } \bigvee_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \lambda_i(x) \leq \bigvee_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \lambda_i(y)$$

Therefore, $\bigcap_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \tilde{f}_i \lambda_i$ is a hybrid left (resp. right) ideals in S over \mathcal{U} .

Corollary 3.1 Let S be an ordered Γ -semigroup and \mathcal{L} a non-empty subsets of S . Then the following statements are equivalent:

1. \mathcal{L} is a left ideal of S .
2. $\mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f}_\lambda)$ is a hybrid left ideal in S over \mathcal{U} .

Theorem 3.2 Let S be an ordered Γ -semigroup and \mathcal{L} be a non-empty subsets of S . Then the following statements are equivalent





1. \mathcal{L} is a left ideal of \mathcal{S} .
2. $\mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f}_{\lambda})$ is a hybrid left ideal in \mathcal{S} over \mathcal{U} .

Proof: (1) \Rightarrow (2):

Assume that \mathcal{L} is a left ideal of \mathcal{S} .

Let $x, y \in \mathcal{S}$ and $\gamma \in \Gamma$.

Then if $y \in \mathcal{L}$ then $x\gamma y \in \mathcal{L}$ and moreover

$$\mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f})(x\gamma y) = \mathcal{U} = \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f})(y) \text{ and } \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda)(x\gamma y) = 0 = \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda)(y)$$

If $y \notin \mathcal{L}$ then we obtain

$$\mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f})(y) = \phi \subseteq \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f})(x\gamma y) \text{ and } \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda)(y) = 1 \geq \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda)(x\gamma y)$$

Let $x, y \in \mathcal{S}$ be such that $x \leq y$.

We have that $x \in \mathcal{L}$ whenever $y \in \mathcal{L}$.

$$\text{Furthermore, } \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f})(x) = \mathcal{U} = \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f})(y) \text{ and } \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda)(x) = 0 = \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda)(y)$$

$$\text{Otherwise, we have } \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f})(y) = \phi \subseteq \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f})(x) \text{ and } \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda)(y) = 1 \geq \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda)(x)$$

This shows that $\mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f}_{\lambda})$ is a hybrid left ideal in \mathcal{S} over \mathcal{U} .

(2) \Rightarrow (1):

Assume that $\mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f}_{\lambda})$ is a hybrid left ideal in \mathcal{S} over \mathcal{U} .

Let $x \in \mathcal{S}$ and $y \in \mathcal{L}$.

$$\text{Then } \mathcal{U} \supseteq \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f})(x\gamma y) \supseteq \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f})(y) = \mathcal{U}.$$

$$\text{This means that } \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f})(x\gamma y) = \mathcal{U} \text{ and } 0 \leq \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda)(x\gamma y) \leq \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda)(y) = 0.$$

That is $\mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda)(x\gamma y) = 0$ and then $x\gamma y \in \mathcal{L}$.

Now, let $x, y \in \mathcal{S}$ be such that $x \leq y$.

$$\text{If } y \in \mathcal{L}, \text{ then } \mathcal{U} \supseteq \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f})(x) \supseteq \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f})(y) = \mathcal{U}.$$

$$\text{This implies that } \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{f})(x) = \mathcal{U} \text{ and } 0 \leq \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda)(x) \leq \mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda)(y) = 0.$$

That is, $\mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda)(x) = 0$ and then $x \in \mathcal{L}$.

Therefore, \mathcal{L} is a left ideal of \mathcal{S} .

The results that follow are possible.

Theorem 3.3 Let \mathcal{S} be an ordered Γ -semigroup and \mathcal{R} be a non-empty subsets of \mathcal{S} . Then the following statements are equivalent:

1. \mathcal{R} is a right ideal of \mathcal{S} .
2. $\mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{R}}(\tilde{f}_{\lambda})$ is a hybrid right ideal in \mathcal{S} over \mathcal{U} .

Corollary 3.2 Let \mathcal{S} be an ordered Γ -semigroup and \mathcal{I} be a non-empty subsets of \mathcal{S} . Then the following statements are equivalent:

1. \mathcal{I} is an ideal of \mathcal{S} .
2. $\mathfrak{N}_{\mathcal{I}}(\tilde{f}_{\lambda})$ is a hybrid ideal in \mathcal{S} over \mathcal{U} .

CONCLUSION

We discussed the issue of left (resp. right) hybrid ideals in ordered Γ -semigroups. Also we looked at some significant properties.





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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Knowledge, Awareness and Consumption of Folate Rich Dietary Sources among Women of Reproductive Age in Chennai

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ABSTRACT

Inadequate folate intake can result in neural tube defects in developing fetus during pregnancy. Knowledge of folate intake is important for women of reproductive age. The present study aimed to assess the knowledge, awareness of folate intake and consumption of folate rich dietary sources among women of reproductive age. A total of 350 women of reproductive age between 19-35 years were selected by non-probability purposive sampling method from three different private colleges in southern Chennai for the study. A standardized and validated questionnaire including details such as socio demographic data, folate related knowledge, awareness and practice were distributed to the participants. Folate specific food frequency questionnaire (FOL-FFQ) was also included. The data was analyzed using Microsoft Excel 2019, descriptive statistics were expressed as mean and standard deviation. Majority of the population belonged to the age group of 19-24 years and Class II socio-economic status (upper middle). About 81.7% of participants knew that folic acid is a vitamin. About 73.4 % of participants knew the importance of folic acid in pregnancy. The mean score of knowledge among participants was 14.05 ± 5.78 (56%) out of 25 marks. The mean score of awareness among participants was 37.64 ± 7.22 (76%) out of 50 marks. The mean score of practice among participants was 62.51 ± 14.7 (64%) out of 97 marks. The results showed that, inspite of low level of knowledge about folate, the practice regarding folate intake



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was good. It is concluded that, knowledge regarding role of folate in women of reproductive age should be improved through nutrition education programs and health campaigns.

Keywords: Folate, neural tube defects, women of reproductive age, knowledge, nutrition education programs

INTRODUCTION

Folate is a water-soluble vitamin. The general term for naturally occurring dietary folates is "folate," formerly known as "folacin" and occasionally "vitamin B₉," and it can be found in a variety of foods. The synthetic version of folate, known as folic acid, is more bioavailable than naturally occurring folate and is found in fortified meals and supplements. Folate is essential for the breakdown of homocysteine, an amino acid that, in excessive concentrations, can have negative effects on the body. Folate is essential during times of rapid growth, such as during pregnancy and fetal development and is also required to generate healthy red blood cells[1]. Tetrahydrofolate is the most effective form of folic acid. The biological activities of folate as a co-enzyme are mostly based on the transfer of single carbon units during the biosynthesis of purine and pyrimidine nucleotides and the metabolism of amino acids such as methionine, serine, glycine and histidine[2]. Folate helps create the neural tube during the early stages of pregnancy when the fetus is developing. The early brain and spine are formed by the neural tube. Folate is crucial because it can aid in preventing some serious birth malformations of the spine (spina bifida) and brain (anencephaly) of the fetus[3].

Deficiency of folate and iron are common worldwide and are risk factors for numerous illnesses. Contrary to anaemia and iron insufficiency, which have extensive records, the frequency of folate deficit in women has not been thoroughly researched. Usually, folate insufficiency is brought on by insufficient food intake, it can also result from intestinal malabsorption, errors in folate metabolism, higher needs during pregnancy or chronic alcoholism. The most used approach for determining status is measuring plasma folate concentration, which is an excellent predictor of dietary folate intake[4]. The requirements of folate are raised during pregnancy to fulfil the needs of the fetus, the placenta, uterine hypertrophy and the larger maternal red cell mass. According to data, during third trimester, megaloblastic anaemia is more likely to develop in people who have inadequate red cell folate at the beginning of pregnancy[5].

Food sources of folate are dark green leafy vegetables (spinach, asparagus, turnip greens, brussels sprouts, romaine lettuce, broccoli, peanuts, beans, seafoods, beef liver, eggs, sunflower seeds, whole grains, fresh fruits and fruit juices). Foods that have been fortified with folic acid include certain fortified breakfast cereals as well as enriched breads, flours, pastas, rice and cornmeal[6]. Foods can lose folate during cooking, especially after heating and oxidation. Ascorbic acid enhances the stability of folates, while grinding meals can assist release more folates[4]. Food folates come in the tetrahydrofolate (THF) form and are typically polyglutamates because they contain additional glutamate residues. The majority of dietary supplements and foods that have been fortified with the vitamin folic acid use this fully oxidised monoglutamate form of the vitamin. In supplements for adults, typical doses range from 400 to 800 µg folic acid. When consumed with meals, about 85% of supplementary folic acid is accessible. The bioavailability of supplementary folic acid is nearly 100% when taken without meal[7].

According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR, 2020), the Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) of dietary folate is 220 µg/day for women of reproductive age. It is increased to 570 µg/day in pregnancy and 330 µg/day in lactation. According to National Family Health Survey, NFHS-V (2019-2021)[8], Tamilnadu showed prevalence of 53.4% for anaemia while the prevalence across the country among women aged 15 to 49 was 57%. Neural tube defects are among the congenital deformities that can be prevented with adequate folate consumption during the



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preconception period, which is the period of time shortly before and after a woman becomes pregnant. Autism in newborn children may be related to low folate intake during pregnancy[9]. The knowledge of folic acid intake seems to be insufficient in several nations despite recommendations and fortification requirements. Whether pregnancies are planned or unexpected, understanding how much folate or folic acid to consume is essential in preventing diseases linked to folic acid or folate deficiency. The nutritional status of a woman is crucial to her health and is likely to have a significant effect on the fetus. Women who lack nutrition-related knowledge may be less productive and have a higher chance of experiencing complications during pregnancy. The health burden of the nation could rise as a result of this poor maternal health outcome[10].

The overall folic acid consumption was found to be decreased when compared to the requirement. Adequate strategies to improve the nutritional status of women and thus reduce the incidents of neural tube defects are needed. By keeping this in consideration, the primary purpose and need of the study was to assess the knowledge and awareness of folate intake and determine the consumption of folate rich dietary sources among women of reproductive age. The aim was to study the knowledge, awareness of folate intake and consumption of folate rich dietary sources among women of reproductive age. The objectives were to standardize and validate the knowledge, awareness and practice related questionnaire related to folate intake and to assess the knowledge, awareness and consumption of folate rich dietary sources.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Ethical Approval

Ethical approval for the study was obtained from the Institutional Ethics Committee under Student- UG and Non-Medical PGs of Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research (DU), Porur (REF: CSP/23/JAN/120/28).

Study Design

The study design was a cross- sectional, observational study conducted in three different private colleges in southern Chennai. The observational study aimed to assess the knowledge, awareness and practice of folate rich dietary sources among women of reproductive age. The systematic, in-depth observation of behaviour and speech or the monitoring of what participants say and do was considered to be the key component of this study. Instead of imposing favorable viewpoints, the goal of the study was to observe the perspective of the participants being examined. The study was conducted for a period of one month (January 2023 – February 2023).

Sampling Method

The sampling method used was non probability purposive sampling. The purposive technique was utilized where only those respondents satisfying the inclusion criteria, participated in the study. Samples were collected from students and faculty of three different private colleges in southern Chennai.

Sample Size

A total of 350 women of reproductive age between 19-35 years among college students and faculty were included in the study. The age group was chosen with reference to previous articles [11][12]. The sample size was calculated according to a previous study[13] of expected proportion of 22 and relative precision (%) of 20 were considered with a 95% confidence interval (CI).

Justification - Formula

$$N = \frac{Z_{1-\alpha}^2 (1-p)}{\epsilon^2 p}$$

Where, Proportion (P) = 0.22 (22 %)



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Confidence level $(1 - \alpha) = 95\%$, $Z_{1-\alpha} = 1.96$

Relative precision $(\epsilon) = 0.20$ (20%)

$$N = \frac{(1.96)^2 \times (1 - 0.22)}{(0.20)^2 \times 0.22}$$
$$= \frac{3.8416 \times 0.78}{0.04 \times 0.22}$$
$$= \frac{2.996448}{0.0088}$$

$N = 341$; Total (Round off), $N = 350$

Criteria for Sample Selection**Inclusion Criteria**

- Women of age between 19 to 35 years.
- Women who had no previous history of pregnancy.
- Women who consented to participate.

Exclusion Criteria

- Women of age below 19 and above 35 years.
- Women who were pregnant.
- Women who refused to participate.

Tools Used in Data Collection:

Informed consent forms were obtained from the participants to participate in the study. The data were collected by using Information Communications Technology (ICT). A standardized and validated questionnaire consisting of:

- General information of the subjects – Name, age, educational qualification, occupation, socio economic status and marital status.
- The knowledge based questionnaire included 10 questions. These questions were framed to assess the knowledge and understanding level of participants about folate and its importance. The correct answer was given score 1 and wrong answer was given score 0.
- The awareness based questionnaire also included 10 questions. These questions were framed to assess the awareness of participants about folate intake and its deficiency consequences during child birth. They were assessed through answer with 'strongly disagree' to 'strongly agree' options.
- The practice based questionnaire included questions regarding the factors that affect folate absorption. The correct answer was given score one and wrong answer was given score zero.
- The questionnaires were adapted and derived from previous studies[10][13] and were modulated after obtaining permission from the concerned authors of those previous studies.
- Folate Specific Food Frequency Questionnaire (FOL-FFQ) category included various food groups and products rich in folate[14]. This category answers were interpreted based on 'daily' (score 4), 'weekly' (score 3), 'monthly' (score 2), 'rarely' (score 1), and 'never' (score 0) for each food item.

Statistical Analysis

Statistical analysis was performed using Microsoft Excel 2019. The data was analyzed using descriptive statistics and were expressed as mean and standard deviation.





RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

The study was conducted among 350 women of reproductive age between 19-35 years old to assess their knowledge, awareness and consumption of folate rich dietary sources. The socio-demographic data of the participants are listed below (Table 1). The Socio Economic Status (SES) of the participants was classified according to the Socio Economic Scale-Modified Kuppusswamy Scale for the year 2022[15]. Among the participants surveyed, 81.1% belonged to the age group of 19-24 years, 13.4% belonged to the age group of 25-30 years and 5.4% belonged to the age group of 31-35 years. Majority of the participants belonged to Class II socio economic status (upper middle) which was 95.3%. The participants belonged to Class I (upper) were 37.7%, Class III (lower middle) were 44.7% and Class IV (upper lower) were 25.5%. Class V (lower) has least number of participants which was 0.6%. According to the marital status of the participants, unmarried were 87.1% and married were 12.9%. There were no participants in the divorced category. Among married participants, the people who were planning for pregnancy within six months were 6.8%.

Knowledge on Folic Acid is a Vitamin

Figure 1 showed that, out of 350 women who participated in the study, 81.7% knew that folic acid is a vitamin. Figure 2 showed that, only 73.4 % of participants knew the importance of folic acid in pregnancy.

Knowledge, Awareness and Practice Score on Folate Intake

The mean, standard deviation and mean percentage of knowledge, awareness and practice are listed below (Table 2).

The mean score of knowledge among participants was 14.05 and the standard deviation (SD) was 5.78. The mean percentage of the knowledge score was 56%. The questions regarding knowledge on folate showed 56% of participants obtained mean score (14.05) out of maximum 25 marks. The mean score of awareness among participants was 37.64 and the standard deviation (SD) was 7.22. The mean percentage of the awareness score was 76%. Majority of the respondents showed the expected answers (either agree or strongly agree for positive statements or disagree or strongly disagree for negative statement). The mean score of practice among participants was 62.52 and the standard deviation (SD) was 14.77. The mean percentage of the practice score was 64 %. The practice regarding folate included questions related to factors affecting folate absorption along with Folate Specific Food Frequency Questionnaire (FOL-FFQ).

Folate Specific Food Frequency Questionnaire (FOL-FFQ)

N=350

The Folate Specific Food Frequency Questionnaire (FOL-FFQ) were assessed through answer with 'daily', 'weekly', 'monthly', 'rarely' and 'never' options. Curry leaves was consumed daily by majority of the participants which was 59% followed by groundnut oil which was 49%. Ladies Finger was majorly consumed weekly by 58% of participants and goat liver was least consumed weekly by 26% of participants. Soya bean was majorly consumed monthly by 32% of participants. Mango was consumed rarely by 24% of participants. Chicken liver and goat liver was never consumed by the population of 18% along with crab by 14% and agathi leaves 9% of participants.

DISCUSSION

Among the participants surveyed, 81.1% belonged to the age group of 19-24 years, 13.4% belonged to the age group of 25-30 years and 5.4% belonged to the age group of 31-35 years. This was compared with previous study where the mean age of the participants was 30.31^[9]. Majority of the participants belonged to Class II socio economic status (upper middle) which was 95.3%. There are multiple factors that influence the knowledge regarding folate intake such as educational background, age of the women and socio economic status.



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According to the marital status of the participants, unmarried were 87.1% and married were 12.9%. There were no participants in the divorced category. Among married participants, the people who were planning for pregnancy within six months were 6.8%. This was compared to a previous study where, 33.9% of the women anticipated to get pregnant in the next six months [17]. The mean score of knowledge among participants was 14.05 and the standard deviation (SD) was 5.78. The mean percentage of the knowledge score was 56%. The questions regarding knowledge on folate showed 56% of participants obtained mean score (14.05) out of maximum 25 marks. This was compared with previous study conducted in Malaysia, where it was revealed that over half (49.6%) of participants received an average score (15-21) out of a possible 35 marks for their knowledge of folate and folate intake [10]. This study showed that, out of 350 women who participated in the study, 81.7% knew that folic acid is a vitamin. A study conducted in Malaysia showed that, 91% of the participants had heard about folate [10]. According to previous study conducted in Korea showed that, only 22.0% of women knew that folate is a vitamin [13], which is lower than this study. Another study showed that, 88.3% of the participants had heard about folate [16], which is higher than this study.

This study showed that, only 73.4 % of participants knew the importance of folic acid in pregnancy. According to a study conducted in Shanghai, China [17], 49.7 % of participants knew the benefits of folate which is lower than this study. Another study showed that the knowledge regarding importance of folic acid in pregnancy was 43% [9]. A study conducted in Korea showed that, 23.7% of women had knowledge about the role of folic acid in pregnancy [13]. The mean score of awareness among participants was 37.64 and the standard deviation (SD) was 7.22. The mean percentage of the awareness score was 76%. Majority of the respondents showed the expected answers (either agree or strongly agree for positive statements or disagree or strongly disagree for negative statement). According to a study conducted in Hail region-Saudi Arabia, 91.0% of the women of reproductive age were aware of folic acid [18]. Another study showed that 40% of participants appeared to be aware [9], which is lower compared to this study. The mean score of practice among participants was 62.52 and the standard deviation (SD) was 14.77. The mean percentage of the practice score was 64 %. According to previous study conducted in Malaysia, most of the participants seldom ever engaged in activities that were related to folate consumption [10]. According to a recent study, the average percentage score for perceived folate practice among reproductive-age women was 71% [19].

The Folate Specific Food Frequency Questionnaire (FOL-FFQ) revealed that Curry leaves was consumed daily by majority of the participants which was 59% followed by groundnut oil which was 49%. Ladies Finger was majorly consumed weekly by 58% of participants and goat liver was least consumed weekly by 26% of participants. Soya bean was majorly consumed monthly by 32% of participants. Mango was consumed rarely by 24% of participants. Chicken liver and goat liver was never consumed by the population of 18% along with crab by 14% and agathi leaves 9% of participants. According to previous study, only 23.25 percent of participants usually consumed green vegetables and fruits, while 76.7 percent did not regularly consume these foods [9]. Another study showed that, participants consumed vegetables in every day diet, which was the most popular strategy for increasing their intake of folate [10]. The study showed that the awareness regarding folate among participants was higher than knowledge and practice regarding folate. The study showed that, in spite of the knowledge regarding importance of folate in women of reproductive age, the practice of folate intake was high among the participants.

CONCLUSION

This study aimed to assess the knowledge, awareness and consumption of folate rich dietary sources among women of reproductive age. The study revealed that majority of the participants had a low level of knowledge on folate compared to awareness. The awareness regarding folate was moderate. The consumption of folate was low on daily basis but moderate on monthly basis. The results revealed that moderate amount of participants had information about knowledge, awareness and consumption of folate rich dietary sources among women of reproductive age. Majority of the participants had positive attitude towards folate. More than half of the participants strongly disagree that education of folate is a waste of time. This might be because majority of the participants had high educational



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background, hence the education would make them more aware of their health and health related diseases. Folate specific food frequency questionnaire was specifically designed using Indian Food Composition Table (IFCT)^[14], which included folate rich dietary sources of Indian foods. This can be used in future drafting of guidelines and protocols relating to folate intake during preconception period. It is concluded that, knowledge regarding role of folate in women of reproductive age should be improved. This could be done by conducting nutrition education programs regarding importance of folate in women of reproductive age and its role during pregnancy and fetal health.

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AUTHORS CONTRIBUTION

Nandhini S. designed and carried out the whole study including data collection, statistical analysis and drafted the manuscript; Shiny Lizia M. guided and reviewed the manuscript; Hemamalini A.J. and Shiny Lizia M. reviewed and approved the manuscript.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Conflict of interest declared none.

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Table1:Socio Demographic Data

FACTORS	SUB SETS	NUMBER (N=350)	PERCENTAGE (%)
Age	19-24	284	81.1
	25-30	47	13.4
	31-35	19	5.4
Socio Economic Status (SES)	Class I	65	37.7
	Class II	164	95.3
	Class III	77	44.7
	Class IV	43	25.5
	Class V	1	0.6
Marital Status	Single	305	87.1
	Married	45	12.9
	Divorced	0	0
If married, pregnancy planning within six months	Yes	17	6.8
	No	151	60.6
	Prefer not to say	81	32.5

Table 2: Knowledge, Awareness and Practice Score on Folate

Category	Maximum score	Mean	Standard deviation (SD)	Mean percentage (%)
Knowledge	25	14.05	5.78	56%
Awareness	50	37.64	7.22	76%
Practice	97	62.51	14.77	64%





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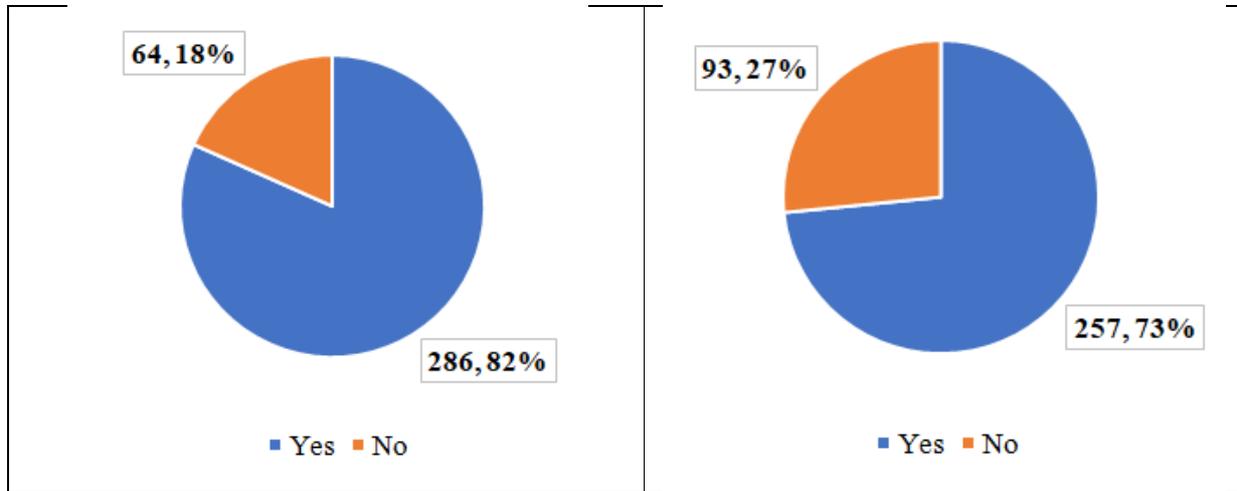


Figure 1: Knowledge on Folic Acid is a Vitamin

Figure 2: Knowledge on Importance of Folic Acid in Pregnancy

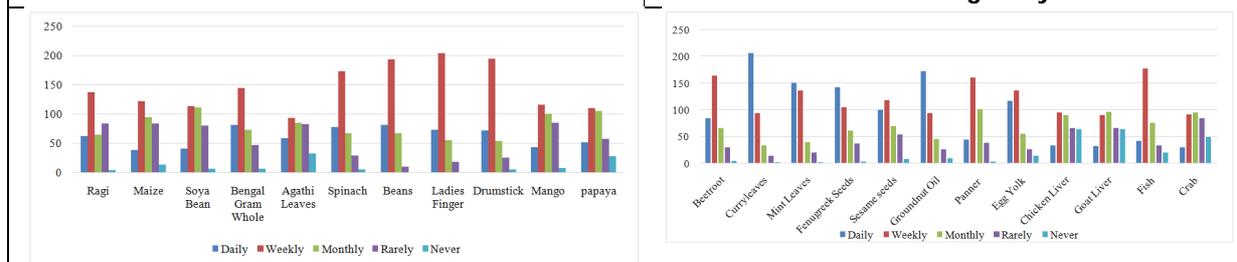


Figure 3: (a) Folate Specific Food Frequency Questionnaire (FOL-FFQ)

Figure 3: (b) Folate Specific Food Frequency Questionnaire (FOL-FFQ)





Silica Nanoparticles Induced Neurotoxicity in Wistar Rat (*Rattus norvegicus*)

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ABSTRACT

The growing utilization of silica nanoparticles (SNPs) in biomedical and biotechnological fields, particularly for in vivo drug delivery, has led to emerging concerns about their safety. In this study, synthesized SNPs with an average particle diameter of 110 ± 5 nm were used to assess neurotoxicity in male Wistar rats (*Rattus norvegicus*). The rats were intraperitoneally administered on alternate days with varying doses of purified SNPs dispersed in water, such as 25, 50, and 100 mg/kg body weight, representing low, moderate, and high doses, respectively, for 28 days. Experimental animals from each group were autopsied a day after the last exposure. To evaluate neurotoxicity, the activity of various antioxidant enzymes, including superoxide dismutase (SOD), catalase (CAT), glutathione-s-transferase (GST), glutathione peroxidase (GPx), glutathione reductase (GR), and thiobarbituric acid reactive substances (TBARS) level and activity of neurotransmitters such as dopamine, norepinephrine, serotonin, and acetylcholinesterase (AChE), were estimated in brain subregions, specifically the frontal cortex, cerebellum, corpus striatum, and hippocampus. The activity of CAT, SOD, GST, GPx, GR, and TBARS levels demonstrated an elevation in all treatment groups, with a significant increase in the corpus striatum and hippocampus regions of the high-dose SNP exposure animals. The activity of AChE and the levels of neurotransmitters exhibited a slight decline in the subregions of all treatment groups compared to the control group. This study concludes that intraperitoneal administration of SNPs to Wistar rats is neurotoxic in a dose dependent manner.

Keywords: Silica nanoparticles, Wistar rats, Neurotoxicity, Antioxidant enzymes, Neurotransmitters, Nanotoxicity





INTRODUCTION

Silica nanoparticles (SNPs) are inorganic synthetic nanomaterials composed of silicon dioxide. SNPs possess unique properties such as a large surface area, easy synthesis, facile surface modification, excellent biocompatibility, thermal stability, and robust delivery systems. These properties provide a platform for biomedical imaging, detection, therapeutic delivery, monitoring, and ablative therapies [1-5]. The dimensions, crystal structure, pore structure, and morphology of Silica Nanoparticles (SNPs) can be accurately controlled, making them adaptable for multiple uses. The ease of surface alterations provides the means to customize the surface chemistry for the purposes of drug transport and location-specific delivery. SNPs have also found extensive application in other sectors such as energy production, electronics, sensory technology, and catalysts. Mesoporous silica nanoparticles (MSNs) are capable of accommodating a broad spectrum of fluorescent entities while simultaneously safeguarding these dye particles from quenching of photoluminescence leading to precision in diagnostic and observation processes[6-7].

SNPs have numerous entry routes into the internal environment, such as digestive tract intake, respiratory tract inhalation, intratracheal instillation and skin contact [8]. They can significantly damage many organs and systems [9-12]. Wu et al. demonstrated a strong potential for SNPs to invade the central nervous system via intranasal instillation and preferentially deposit in the striatum [13]. SNPs even exhibit neurotoxicity through the gut-brain axis via oral administration[14]. They also increase the deposition of intracellular amyloid- β ($A\beta$) and hyperphosphorylation of tau in neuro2a neuroblastoma cells. Owing to the widespread use of SNPs, their safety issues have become a significant concern for human health [15]. The primary safety issue regarding SNPs usage is their direct cytotoxicity, immune toxicity, and genotoxicity, which are influenced by factors such as particle size, potential aggregation, long-term bioaccumulation, and hemolytic activity [16-19]. This present study aims to assess the neurotoxic potential of spherical and mesoporous SNPs synthesized using a sol-gel chemical procedure [20]. Wistar rats were used to evaluate the neurotoxic effects of sub-chronic exposure to these SNPs. The induced oxidative stress, neurotoxicity, and histopathology in various brain regions were analyzed using oxidative stress biomarkers and neurotransmitter biochemical assessments.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Synthesis and characterization of SNPs

Spherical and amorphous silica nanoparticles with an average particle size of 110 ± 5 nm were synthesized in the laboratory using a sol-gel chemical method according to Rahman and Padavettan[20]. Subsequently, the nanoparticles were characterized using X-ray diffraction, UV-Vis spectrophotometer, Malvern Zeta sizer, and Scanning Electron Microscope (detailed characterization data is under publication elsewhere).

Animal handling

In this study, healthy male Wistar rats (*Rattus norvegicus*) with a body weight of 120 ± 10 g and an age of 6-8 weeks, and proven fertility, were used. The rats were housed in standard conditions as per the guidelines set by the Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision on Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA), Ministry of Environment, Forest and climate change, in New Delhi, India. The experimental protocols were approved by the Institutional Animal Ethical Committee (UDZ/IAEC/1/020).

Experimental schedule

A fresh dispersion of SNPs was disaggregated by ultrasonication after dilution with deionized water before use. The rats were treated alternately with the vehicle and SNPs at different doses of 25, 50, and 100 mg/kg for 28 days via intraperitoneal injection. The rats were divided into four groups (6 animals per group), including a control group (ultra-pure water as a vehicle), low dose group (25 mg/kg), moderate dose group (50 mg/kg), and high dose group (100 mg/kg). Autopsies were performed at the end of the 28th day for the subchronic test, and brain sub-regions



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(cerebellum, frontal cortex, corpus striatum, and hippocampus) were analyzed for changes in antioxidant enzyme activity and biochemical parameters to assess subchronic neurotoxicity.

General health indicators (general behavior, food intake, water intake, body weight, organ weights)

General behavior of rats was observed daily at 1, 6, 12, and 24 hours after dose administration during the entire exposure period. The body weights of control and treated animals were recorded every week. Absolute organ weights of control and treated animals were recorded on the autopsy day. Relative organ weights were calculated using the formula: organ weight / body weight × 100. Water intake and food consumption by the animals were also recorded daily.

Analysis of Antioxidant and AChE enzyme activity, TBARS and Neurotransmitter level assessment

The rats were euthanized and autopsied to isolate their brains, which were weighed and divided into four regions: frontal cortex, cerebellum, corpus striatum, and hippocampus. The brain regions were homogenized in a buffer solution and centrifuged to obtain a 10% homogenate. This homogenate was used to measure the various antioxidant enzymes activity, such as CAT, SOD, GPx, GR, and GST and the levels of lipid peroxides and neurotransmitters (dopamine, serotonin, norepinephrine) using established methods. The activity of acetylcholinesterase was also assessed.

SOD, CAT, GPx, GST, and GR activities were measured in brain tissue [21-25]. Assessment of TBARS level was performed to estimate levels of lipid peroxide in brain tissue [26]. Dopamine, serotonin, and norepinephrine levels were measured using the method prescribed by Jacobowitz and Richardson [27]. The activity of acetylcholinesterase (AChE) enzyme was assessed using the method suggested by Ellman et al. [28].

Histological examination

Tissues under evaluation were collected post-sacrifice and fixed in 10% buffered formalin for 24 h and were processed as per standard protocol (Nirmal et al., 2017).

Statistical analysis

All the data were statistically analyzed using GraphPad Prism (Version 8.0.2) and represented as mean ± SD/SEM. One Way Analysis of Variance test or ANOVA test followed by Tukey's multiple comparisons was applied to compare multiple parameters for assessment of significant variations. P values less than 0.05 were considered statistically significant.

RESULTS**General toxicity of SNPs**

SNPs treated Wistar rats did not show any change in moving, breathing, vocalization and inter-relations among the cage mates. Most of the treated rats exhibited generally instant itching at the site of exposure of SNPs. Several SNPs exposed rats although became lethargic and assembled at the cage corner quickly after SNP exposure.

Food intake and water intake

Food intake and water intake by rats of test groups were found in normal range and were comparable to control throughout the study period (Fig 1 A-B)

Body weight and brain weight

Throughout the entire exposure period, the administration of SNPs did not cause any significant alteration in body weight gain, as depicted in Figure 2(A). Furthermore, both the absolute and relative brain weights in all treated groups showed no significant deviation from those of the control group, as shown in Figure 2(B).



**Sonam Yadav et al.,****Oxidative stress markers in brain**

In the cerebellum and frontal cortex, all markers showed statistically insignificant changes in the low and moderate dose groups as compared to the control. However, in the high dose group, SOD and CAT activities significantly increased in both sub-regions. The hippocampus and corpus striatum showed a similar pattern of increased SOD and CAT activity in the high dose group, with significant increases also seen in the mid dose group. For GST, GR, GPx, and TBARS, only the high dose group showed significant increases in these four sub-regions (Fig. 3A-F).

Neurotransmitters level in brain

Results indicated that serotonin levels, in the cerebellum and frontal cortex, had no significant difference across all the dosage groups. For the hippocampus, there was no observable change for the low and mid dose groups, but the high dose group showed a significant decrease. The corpus striatum followed a slightly different pattern, with the serotonin level remaining unchanged for the low dose group, but showing a significant decrease for the mid and high dose groups. Nor-epinephrine levels remained comparable to that of control except corpus striatum of high dose group rats. Dopamine concentrations in cerebellum and frontal cortex, showed no significant deviations across all dosage groups. In the hippocampus and corpus striatum, however, a significant decrease was observed in the mid and high dose groups. AChE levels had insignificant changes in comparison to that of control group, in the cerebellum and frontal cortex across all the dose groups. However, in the hippocampus and corpus striatum, while the low dose group did not show any significant variation, we observed a statistically significant decrease in the AChE levels for the mid and high dose groups (Fig. 4A-D).

Histology**Cerebellum**

Upon examination under a light microscope, the cerebellum of the control group maintained its general cytoarchitecture (Figure 5, A). However, in sections of the treated group, a loss of Purkinje cells and cellular shrinkage were observed in certain areas (Figure 5, B-D), though these were not significantly numerous. The Purkinje cells exhibited minor, dose-dependent distortions and cellular shrinkage, but these changes were not very common and mostly cells retained a normal appearance.

Cerebral cortex

Under light microscopy, the cerebral cortex of the control group displayed typical cellular structure (Figure 6, A). However, histological variations were noticeable in all cells when compared to the control group (Figures 6, B-D). These alterations included the emergence of vacuoles of diverse sizes, both intercellularly and intracellularly. The pyramidal cells, which were most affected, exhibited irregular shapes and shrinkage. A subset of the granular cells presented a faint staining pattern and a vacuolated background.

DISCUSSION

Nanoparticles (NPs) possess the ability to penetrate biological tissues and cells, environments known for their strong oxidative and catalytic properties [13] [29-30]. This study was aimed at discerning the impact of sub-chronic exposure to silica nanoparticles (SNPs) on oxidative stress and neurotoxicity in the brain. SNPs, synthesized using the sol-gel method, were evenly suspended in water through sonication before being administered intraperitoneally to Wistar rats. The observed results indicated that a sub-chronic, alternating 28-day cycle of intraperitoneal SNP exposure at doses of 25, 50, and 100 mg/kg body weight increased antioxidant enzyme activities, such as SOD, CAT, GPx, GST, and GR, in the rat brain sub-regions. These findings are in agreement with previously published *in vitro* and *in vivo* data [31-32]. This alteration suggests an increase in toxic reactive oxygen species, which, in turn, leads to cellular damage post-SNP treatment. An *in vivo* neurotoxicity study by Wu et al. reported SNP penetration into the brain, predominantly the striatum, after intranasal instillation in rodents [13]. They also noted an amplified inflammatory response and induction of neurochemicals following treatment. Our study similarly observed a slight increase in TBARS levels in the hippocampus and corpus striatum of animals treated with moderate and high SNP



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doses, indicating a dose-dependent lipid peroxidation response. The SNP neurotoxicity in brain sub-regions was further evaluated by assessing acetylcholinesterase (AChE) activity. Prior research has shown that ROS and free radicals can disrupt cellular redox balance and normal biological functions in the brain, including fluidity and permeability [33-35]. Boukholda et al. also reported a decrease in AChE activity in rats exposed to SNPs, a finding mirrored in our research, where we noted a similar decline in AChE activity in hippocampus and corpus striatum of rats exposed to SNPs [36]. Interestingly, an insignificant decrease was observed in the cerebellum and cerebral cortex in our study. This may be due to the variable reach and accumulation of SNPs in brain regions, although, we could not assess such accumulation. These findings are in line with those reported by Boukholda et al.[36].

Our histopathological examination of both the cerebellum and cerebral cortex revealed predominantly normal cellular architecture, though high-dose exposure groups exhibited noticeable distortions across most cellular layers in both sub-regions. Vacuoles of varying sizes were a common feature in the observed cellular damage, appearing both within and between cells across all layers. Despite these changes, our analysis revealed a general resilience in the cytoarchitecture of both the cerebellum and cerebral cortex following exposure to SNPs. Given the implications of these findings, this study suggests further research to assess the histopathological and ultrastructural alterations, as well as the potential neurotoxicity induced by various SNP sizes in different components of the brain.

CONCLUSION

The evidence garnered from this study conclusively demonstrates that an alternating 28-day exposure to silica nanoparticles (SNPs) with a diameter of $110\pm 5\text{nm}$ significantly impacts oxidative stress markers and neurotransmitters, thereby precipitating minor structural changes in specific brain sub-regions of adult Wistar rats. We observed that the activities of superoxide dismutase (SOD), catalase (CAT), glutathione-s-transferase (GST), glutathione peroxidase (GPx), glutathione reductase (GR), and levels of thiobarbituric acid reactive substances (TBARS) all elevated across all treatment groups, in the hippocampus and corpus striatum regions of animals exposed to moderate and high doses of SNPs. Activities of acetylcholinesterase (AChE) and levels of other neurotransmitters exhibited significant decline in dose dependent manner. In conclusion, the intraperitoneal administration of SNPs to Wistar rats incurs alterations in certain biochemical parameters, neurotransmitters, and precipitates dose-dependent histopathological changes, albeit with minor distortions. These findings underscore the potential risks associated with SNP exposure, necessitating further in-depth research and a comprehensive understanding of the associated mechanisms.

Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

The author has no potential conflicts of interest to disclose with respect to research, authorship and publication of this study.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The procedure's design was planned by SY & PJJ. Synthesis of SNPs and their toxicity investigations were accomplished by SY, NKN & Hemant. The author honestly thanks Dr. Kamendra Awasthi for equipping characterization services from Material Research Centre (MRC), MNIT, Jaipur (India).

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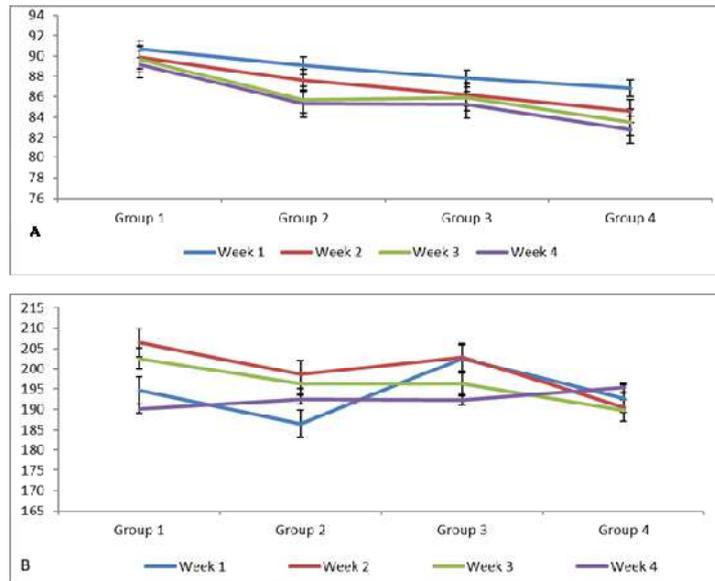


Figure 1: (A) Food intake (g/day/group) and (B) Water intake (ml/day/group) in animals of control group (Group 1) and test groups (Group 2-4).

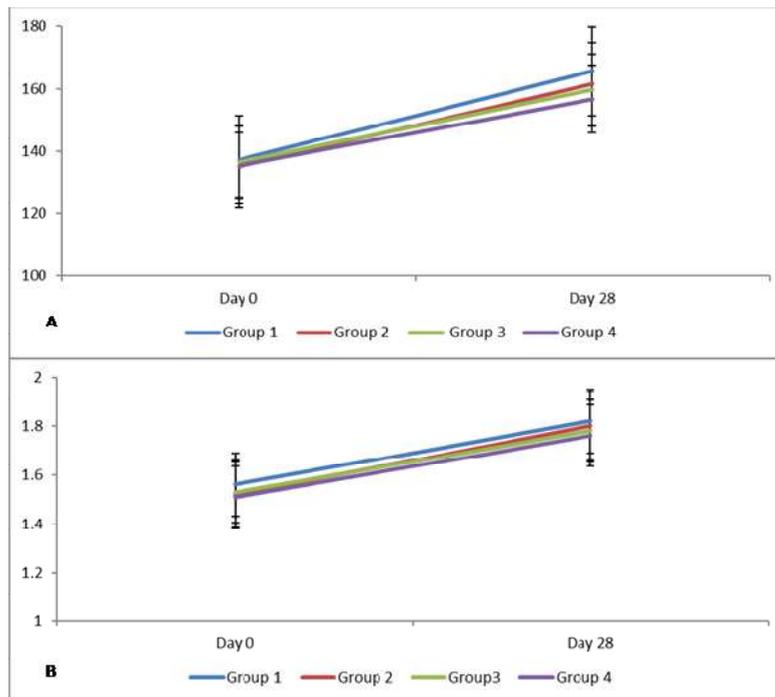


Figure 2: (A) Body weight (g) and (B) Brain weight (g) of control rats and rats treated with various doses of SNPs. Values are in mean \pm SEM (n=6).





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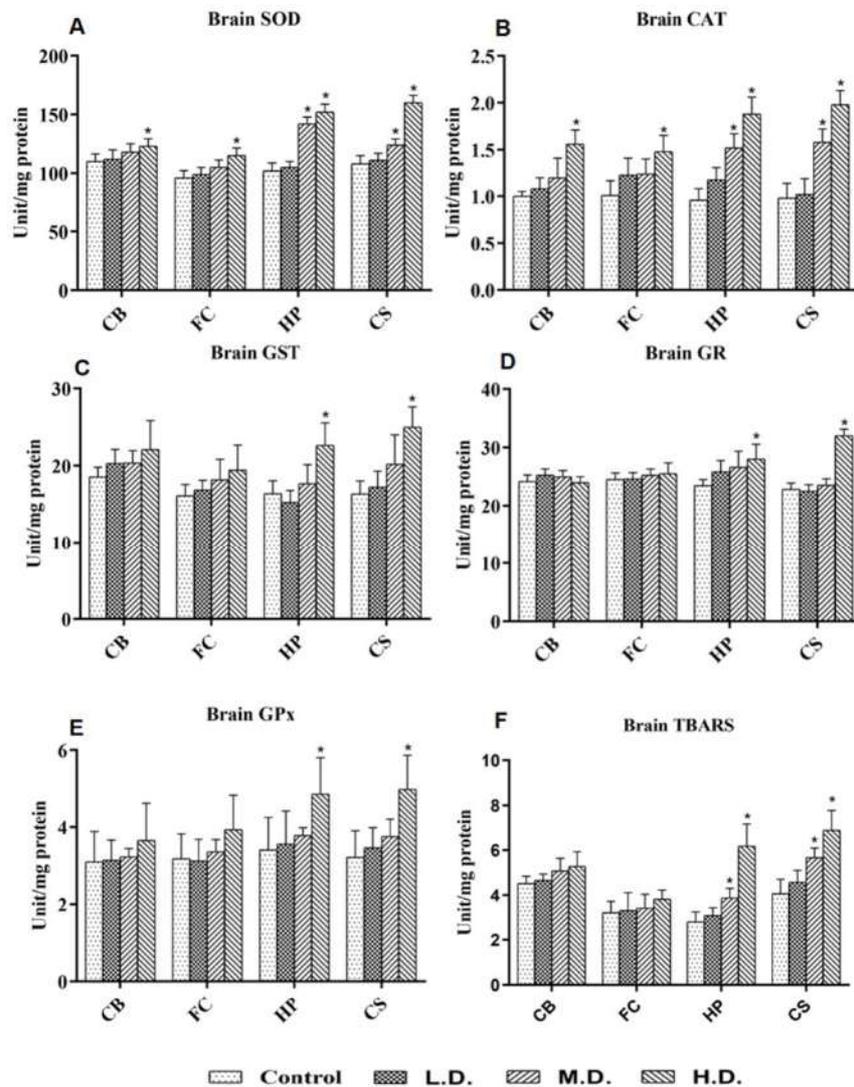


Figure 3: (A-F) shows the specific activity of SOD, CAT, GST, GR, and GPx, as well as the concentration of TBARS in different brain sub-regions (CB-Cerebellum, FC-Frontal Cortex, HIP-Hippocampus, and CS-Corpus Striatum) of control and SNP-treated rats. Each group consisted of 6 animals, and the values are represented as mean ± SD (standard deviation). One-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's multiple comparison test was used to analyze data. (A) SOD (Superoxide Dismutase); 1 unit is equal to the amount of enzyme that inhibits the rate of autoxidation of pyrogallol by 50%. (B) CAT (Catalase); 1 unit is equal to 1 millimole of H₂O₂ decomposed per minute per milligram of protein. (C) GST (Glutathione-S-Transferase); 1 unit is equal to the formation of μmole of G-SDNB per minute per milligram of protein. (D) GR (Glutathione Reductase); 1 unit is equal to the oxidation of nanomole of NADPH per minute per milligram of protein. (E) GPx (Glutathione Peroxidase); 1 unit is equal to the oxidation of nanomole of NADPH per minute per milligram of protein. (F) TBARS (Thiobarbituric Acid Reactive Substances); 1 unit is equal to the formation of 1 nanomole of TBARS per hour per milligram of protein. The legend indicates different groups: Control group, L.D. (low dose group), M.D. (moderate dose group), and H.D. (high dose group). The asterisk (*) denotes statistical significance at P ≤ 0.05 compared to the control group.





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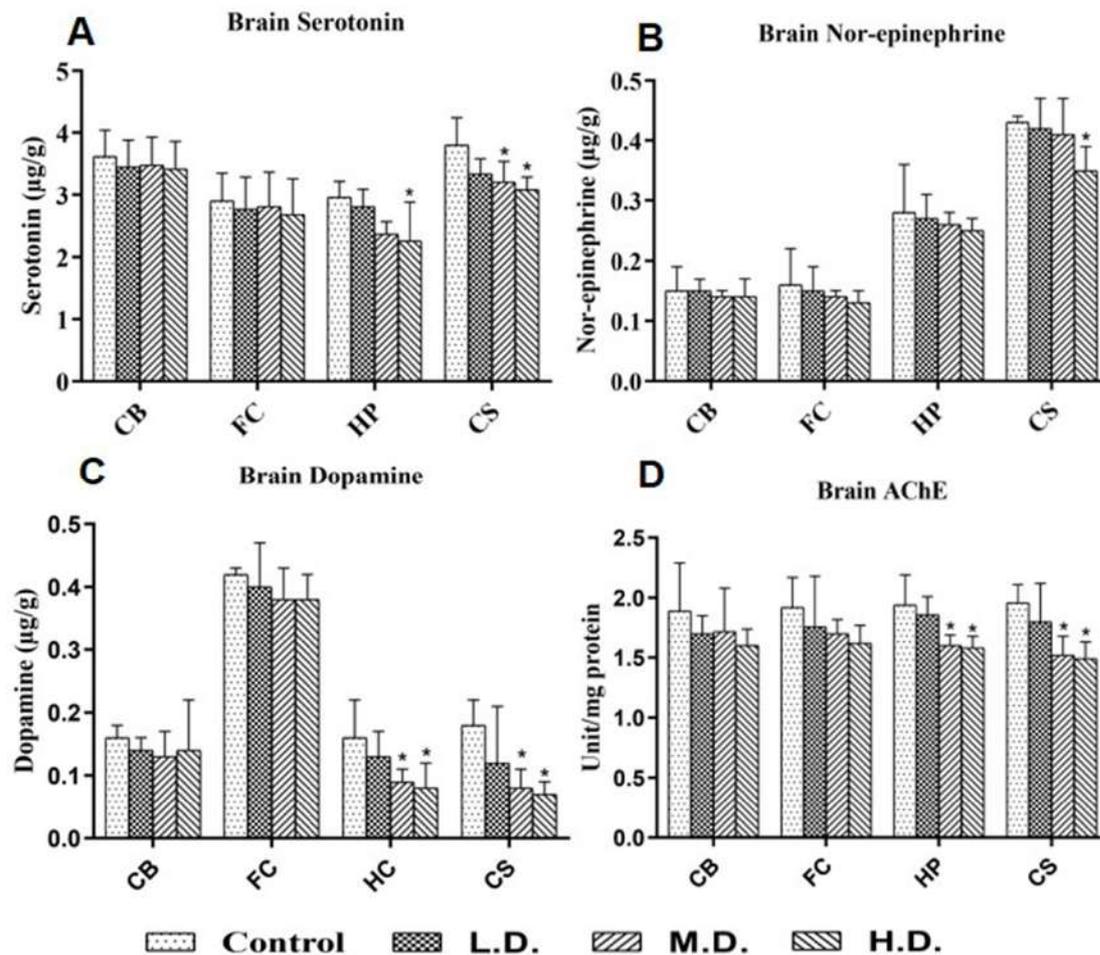


Figure 4: (A-D) Shows concentrations of serotonin, nor-epinephrine, dopamine as (µg/g) and specific activity of acetyl cholinesterase as (µmol substrate hydrolyzed/min/mg protein) in brain sub-regions (CB-Cerebellum, FC-Frontal Cortex, HP-Hippocampus, and CS-Corpus Striatum)of control and SNPs treated rats. Each group consisted of 6 animals and values represented as mean± SD. One-way ANNOVA followed by Tukey's multiple comparison test was used to analyze the data. (A-C) show concentration as microgram pergram(µg/g) of serotonin, nor-epinephrine, dopamine, respectively.(D) AchE (Acetyl Cholinesterase) where 1 Unit is equal to 1 µmolsubstrate hydrolyzed per minute per milligram protein. Legends show various groupsnamely, control group, L.D. (low dose group), M.D. (moderate dose group), H.D. (high dose group). *P<0.05 indicates significant statistical difference from control group.





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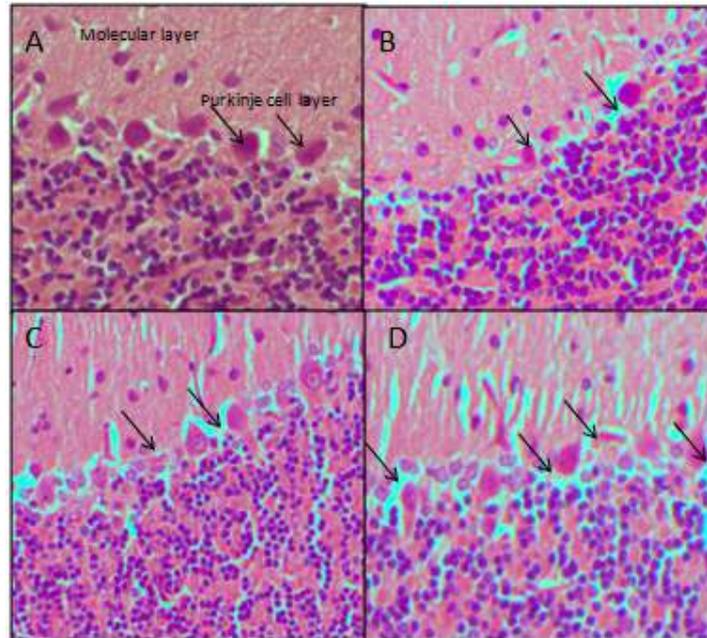


Figure 5: (A-D) Light microscopic histological examination of cerebellum of the control & treated groups. (A)control group; (B) low dose group; (C) moderate dose group; (D) high dose group. Arrows point to the degenerated Purkinje cells with vacuolation, loss of Purkinje cells and hyperchromatized Purkinje cells (H. & E. 400×).

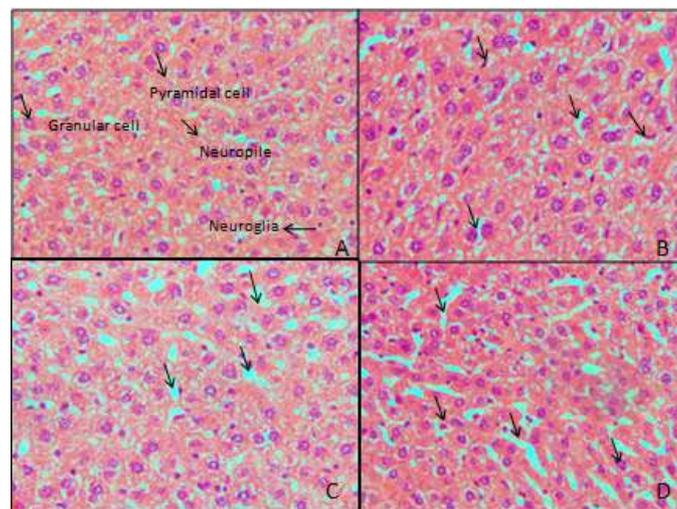


Figure 6: (A) Representative photomicrograph of cerebral cortex of control Wistar rat showing general cytoarchitecture consisting of pyramidal cells, granular cells and neuroglial cells. The pink stained background texture composed of neuropile, a mass of neuronal and glial cell process. (B-D) Light microscopic histological examination of cerebral cortex of all treated groups, (B); low dose group, (C); moderate dose group, (D); high dose group respectively. Arrows point to the degenerated, hyperchromatic pyramidal cells and faintly stained granular cells which showed vacuolated background at some places (H. & E. 200×).





A Recommender System Framework for Personalized Learning Experience in an eLearning

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ABSTRACT

Advancement and innovation in technology have taken the lives of people to another paradigm where the people adapted to learn online. The present situation, Covid-19 pandemic demands the learner to adopt eLearning technologies. Learning online has become an integral part of every learner, even the teaching and learning for kinder garden school is taking place through eLearning systems. The most difficult aspect in eLearning is allowing eLearning systems to adapt features such as learning style and learning ability in order to produce a personalised learning experience. The typical eLearning system's limitation is its lack of flexibility and adaptability, as it provides learning objects based on the notions of "one size fits all." An eLearning system should adapt to the learner's choices to make it more user-friendly. Personalization in e-Learning can be achieved by upgrading the recommender system, which adapts to the learner's preferences and recommends customised learning objects during the learning process. This drew the researcher's interest to investigate systems that recognise both learning style and learning ability, and which may be applied into the eLearning system. The primary goal of this research is to meet the educational demands of the learning community by proposing a recommender system. To achieve this goal, learners must be classified based on their learning style and learning ability. The proposed work identifies the predominant learning style and learning ability of the learner by investigating the questionnaire and log file of the learners. A enhanced framework with Knowledge Graph is offered, which considers learning style and learning ability when providing personalised learning materials. The learner's academic performance is assessed before and after the intervention, and the effectiveness of the suggested recommender system is statistically validated.



**John Martin and Maria Dominic****Keywords:** eLearning; Knowledge Graph; Learning Object; Learning Style; Personalized Learning.

INTRODUCTION

Technology Enhanced Learning has created a thirst for creating a modern learning environment and the eLearning systems are the outcome of information and communication technology for teaching and learning [1]. The advancement, enhancement, novelty in the teaching and learning process are essential. The eLearning system is expected to identify the desire and needs of the different stakeholders like learners, tutors, and teachers during the process of gaining an educational experience. The efforts made by eLearning systems in preparing instructional content are still maturing. The recommender system can solve this limitation by recommending relevant learning content to the learner. Traditional recommender systems, such as collaborative filtering and content-based recommendation algorithms, are based on user ratings and content characteristics. The learning and thinking of a learner determine the learning style that changes from context to context [2]. The process of obtaining and processing the information describes the learning style of a learner which is a unique characteristic of a learner. The recommender system takes advantage of machine learning, data storage, and retrieval methods to recommend prospective learning objects to the learner. The contemporary Learning Management Systems still provide the learning objects irrespective of the learner's learning style [3]. Personalization is provided by these systems [43, 53], which use information about the learning technique, the learner's profile, learning objects, and so on.

In the adaption process, the Learning Management System [4, 5, 6, 7] makes use of peer learner collaboration, content identification, and delivery. The recent advancement in the adaptation methods lacks in recommending learning objects by adapting the learner's learning style and learning ability. In the adaption process, the majority of them employ either a learning style or a learning ability. The goal of this investigation is to determine the learners' most appropriate learning style and learning ability and use it to deliver a tailored learning experience to achieve better academic performance. The proposed work is structured in this manner: Section 2 describes the state-of-the-art. The methodology and proposed work are elaborated in Section 3, the inferred result and the view of the suggested framework is provided in section 4. The limitation of the study is mentioned in section 5 and Section 6 provides the conclusion.

State-of-the-art Learning

In day-to-day life, we use the common word learning that affects all aspects of our life. The change in one's behaviour is known as learning which happens through experience or habit. The individual's performance, in any event, can be improved through learning [8]. Learning is a process that involves encountering individual experiences, changes in knowledge, behaviour, and the way acts upon the situation. Education through learning is a fundamental right of every individual that can transform the human intellect and society. It assists a person to improve their knowledge, confidence, self-motivation, and problem-solving abilities if the learning experience is personalized.

e Learning

A formalized teaching and learning that is managed through technology and electronic resource is called eLearning. The eLearning resources are delivered in different formats like Acoustic, Movie, Writing, Pictures, Simulations, Web Chat, Discussion forum, Diagrams, Charts, etc [9]. eLearning has created new demand in teaching and learning objects and tools, they attract the attention of educational institutions and the companies that supply the learning objects in different formats. Computer manufacturers, software developers, publishing houses, and special training providers are now focusing on content creation in different formats [10]. The success of eLearning is determined by



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providing learners with tailor-made and more personalised learning resources, rather than offering them instructions and learning objects. Here the challenge is to provide a personalized learning experience to the learner.

Present eLearning Scenario

Today numerous institutions across the world have started providing education and training over the World Wide Web. Research indicates [11] that there are several universities now started offering complete degree courses and diplomas through eLearning. There are more than ten million courses are now online for different categories. In addition, college and university courses are available online. These courses are offered in all domains including engineering, science and humanities, management studies, and other life scoping skills. Often training and support for the teachers are also carried through online. The technology helps in eLearning systems to store, organize and retrieve the content but the technique and technology adopted in the eLearning system are based on the learning style and capability of the learner to be matured. The demand raises for personalization in the eLearning systems. Hence it is a need to bring up a framework to enhance the Learning Management System that caters to the desires of the learning community for a better-personalized learning experience.

Timeline of Education

The evolution and the timeline of education are presented in Table 1 where the latest update demands tailored teaching and learning [17].

Learning Styles

The pattern of understanding the information is known as the learning style. Learning style is the preferential way in which an individual takes in, processes, and remembers the information. Learning style characterizes variances in the learning style of the individual learner [12, 51]. Many demonstrated approaches and techniques exist to classify the learner using the differences in the learners. A few approaches are Kolb's Learning Style, [13], Felder and Silverman Learning Styles (FSLs) [14], Myers Briggs's Learning Style [15]. The researcher has chosen the Visual, Auditory, Read / Write, and Kinaesthetic (VARK) approach suggested by Neil D. Fleming [16]. VARK approach is one of the worldwide approaches employed to classify the learner based on the way of learning. The attributes of the learner who possesses the VARK learning style are represented in Fig. 1.

Despite the fact that educationists use typical learning styles to assist the teaching and learning process, study continues on the learning style debate [44], Because we are aware that no two students are alike and that their learning styles differ in a variety of ways, knowing the learner's learning style has a significant impact on the learner's capacity to learn and grasp the learning objects.

Learning Materials and Learning Objects

Learning materials are created by different authors on a concept or topic. Any form of resource like digital or non-digital that supports learning activity is called Learning Objects or Learning Materials [18]. Learning Objects could be used in multiple contexts for any purpose, they can be grouped into a larger collection of content and they should be interoperable, accessible, reusable, and durable to supplement learning. Learning objects are found in the form of text, video, audio, chart, diagram, case study, simulation, graphics, and multimedia content. The challenge is to personalize them based on the learner's preferred way.

Adaptive eLearning System

The desire and the need of every learner are satisfied through adaptive eLearning. The approach and technology used to understand each learner and to deliver customized learning materials are known as an Adaptive eLearning System. Stoyanov and Kirschner [19, 20]. describes the adaptive eLearning as a system that interacts and personalizes eLearning content, pedagogical models to satisfy that learner's need and preferences. The study in [21] enlightens the diverse sensory models employed in the process of identifying the learning styles and most of the



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techniques are based on the VARK questionnaire. The researchers in the eLearning domain consistently contribute towards the enhancement of the learning platforms that fulfill learners' expectations, motivation, and learning style [22]. According to the literature [23, 24], several efforts were made in personalization, most of the strategies adopt the detection of learning style based on a static questionnaire and these techniques ignore the learner's learning ability and the time they used upon each type of learning objects.

The work in [25] identifies the frequently visited web content by investigating the learner's navigation pattern. The clustering method is employed to identify similar learners for the personalized recommendation technique [26]. Educational mining is a process of receiving and giving systematic instruction is introduced in the work [27] to predict learner's performance. A few more adaptation techniques and their processes are listed in Table 2.7 in which the adaptation based on either learning style or learning ability of the learner.

Recommender System

In recent days eLearning recommender system is picking up its importance due to its capability to improve the learning experience by providing personalized learning objects to the learner. It automatically acquires the learner individualities like learning style and knowledge level to put forward the learning resources [40], here the author has recommended ontology-based e-content. Different techniques are used in recommendations like content-based, collaborative filtering, knowledge-based, and hybrid. According to the research, recommender systems use strategies based on either the user's profile or their academic performance. As a result, it is an attempt to include these two aspects into an eLearning system in order to improve the learner's academic performance.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Having seen the objectives of the research work, it is vital that this research be redounded to the eLearning System Developer / Content Creator / Course Teacher to deliver tailored learning objects to the learner in the eLearning environment, and also to enable them to have a joyful learning experience. Fig. 2 represents the various phases of the proposed work.

Phase 1: To identify the Learning Styles and Learning Ability of the learner by exploring and comparing various learners' behaviors

- Method 1: By using VARK Questionnaire (Manual)
- Method 2: By using the learning activities of the learner (From Log File)
- Method 3: By using the time spent on the learning objects (From Log File)
- Convergence of predominant learning style of the learner from the above three methods.
- Identification of Learning Ability on Learning Outcome

Phase 2: To recommend customized learning object

- Based on the Learning Style
- Based on the Learning Ability
- Based on the Learner's Learning Style and Ability

Phase 3: To propose a framework by incorporating the influencing factors such as Learning Style and Learning Ability to generate personalized learning object for improved the academic performance.

Phase 1**Method 1: Identification of learning style using VARK Questionnaire**

This method uses the VARK questionnaire [41] to identify the learner's learning style, the responses are processed and stored in the repository for further action.

The preference of the learner's learning style can be described as follows.





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$$X = \{x \in [0, 1] \mid x = (x_v, x_a, x_{rw}, x_k)\} \quad (1)$$

Where

X is the learning preference of the learner

x is a vector of learning style *s* (*v*, *a*, *rw* and *k*)

(where, *v* – Visual, *a* – Auditory, *rw* – Read / Write, *k* – Kinaesthetic)

By using VARK questionnaire it is very simple to explicitly find the *x* value for each learner, the '0' indicates insignificant satisfaction and '1' indicates utmost satisfaction. The profile of an individual learner is updated with obtained learner style along with the personal . Here the Identification of learning style is static. This motivated the researcher to design an experiment on the learner classification based on investigating the user profile from the log file for better personalization which was carried out in method 2 and method 3.

Method 2: Identification of Learning Style of the Learner by Investigating Learner's Profile for the Learning Activities (Log file)

The log file of the learner is analyzed for the learning activities to classify the learning style. The different formats of learning objects as mentioned in Fig. 4 visited by the learner are taken into consideration for classification.

The learner's log file is examined to get the count of visits to the learning objects associated with the learning styles (VARK). The equation 2 gives the learning style.

$$L.S(User) = \max_{visit} \{L.O(V, A, R, K) \in (0,1)\} \quad (2)$$

where

L.S. is the Learning Style of User

L.O is the Learning Object of Visual, Auditory, Read / Write, Kinaesthetic learning Materials

L.S.(User) = 0 represents the maximal satisfaction and 1 represents minimal satisfaction.

The steps to classify the learner

1. Use a log file to capture the learners' learning activities for a course.
2. Count number of visits to learning objects by the learner and tabulate them.
3. Generate training data set based on the learner model and train the system by using the training data set.
4. Use Machine Learning algorithm (Random Forest) to classify the learner.

As illustrated in Fig. 5, the data are processed so that each row has a value for each learning style feature (Visual, Auditory, Read/Write, and Kinaesthetic), with 0 indicating the least satisfaction and 1 indicating the most satisfaction.

Why Random Forest Algorithm

In contrast to the commonly used logistic regression which has strong bias and low variance and a decision tree model with high variance and low bias which might result in somewhat unstable output [45]. This investigator has opted for the Random Forest algorithm based on the following factors.

- Random forests have a high level of accuracy in many cases.
- Its efficacy is impressive. In large data sets, this is noteworthy.
- The forests that have been created can be saved and utilized.
- In contrast to other models, it is not overburdened with features.

Method 3: Identification of Learning Style by investigating the time spent on Learning Objects (Log file)

It is another approach to identify the learner by using the time consumed by the learner to understand each type of learning object. Fig. 6 illustrates the Graphical Representation of the classification of a learner.





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Steps to identify the classification of learners are as follows:

Observe the learning content referred by the learner and tabulate information with the USER_ID and learning Content_Id.

lo%v, lo%a, lo%rw, lo%k are the percentage type of learning content in each Learning Object (L.O) and lo_{tv}, lo_{ta}, lo_{rw}, lo_k are the time consumed by the learner in each learning object type

Use the following formulae to normalize the time consumed by the learner.

$$T_V = (lo_{tv} / \sum_{i=1}^t t = lo_{tv} + lo_{ta} + lo_{rw} + lo_{ik}) * 100 \tag{3}$$

$$T_A = (lo_{ta} / \sum_{i=1}^t t = lo_{tv} + lo_{ta} + lo_{rw} + lo_{ik}) * 100 \tag{4}$$

$$T_RW = (lo_{rw} / \sum_{i=1}^t t = lo_{tv} + lo_{ta} + lo_{rw} + lo_{ik}) * 100 \tag{5}$$

$$T_K = (lo_{ik} / \sum_{i=1}^t t = lo_{tv} + lo_{ta} + lo_{rw} + lo_{ik}) * 100 \tag{6}$$

Where,

'i' is the time consumed by the learner in an hour (t)

T_V is the % of consumed time on Visual content

T_A is the % of consumed time on Auditory content

T_{R/W} is the % consumed time on Read _ Write content

T_K is the % of consumed time on Kinaesthetic content

Use the following equation to obtain the learner's predominant learning

$$L.S_j(\bar{X}) = Max \left[\left\{ \frac{\sum lo_{tv_i}}{N}, \frac{\sum lo_{ta_i}}{N}, \frac{\sum lo_{rw_i}}{N}, \frac{\sum lo_{tk_i}}{N} \right\} \right] \tag{7}$$

Where,

i = 1,2,3,... N (the count of learning objects visited by the learner)

j = 1,2,3,... M (the count of the users)

The learning style is observed by using the maximum value obtained from the Equation 7. Table 3 shows a snapshot of the learner's predominant learning style.

Consolidation and convergence of Learning Style from THREE methods

The researchers have used 3 methods for the identification of learning styles. Fig. 7 below shows the process of consolidation and convergence of Learning Style from THREE methods

From the investigation of the learner, the generalized learning style of the learner is identified by observing maximum occurrences of the learning style.





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$$L.S (User) = \max \text{frequency}\{M1, M2, M3\}$$

Where, L..S is the Learning Style

M1 is Method1, M2 is Method2 and M3 is Method3

if (M1 = M2 = M3) then M1

if (M1 ≠ M2 = M3) then M2

if (M1 = M2 ≠ M3) then M1

if (M1 = M3 ≠ M2) then M3

if there is equal occurrence of learning style in all the three methods then

$$L.S(User) = \max \left\{ \left(\sum \frac{M1}{n} \right), \left(\sum \frac{M2}{n} \right), \left(\sum \frac{M3}{n} \right) \right\} \text{----- (8)}$$

Where 'n' is the number of learning styles in each method

(i.e. 4 (Visual, Auditory, Read / Write, Kinaesthetic))

Where, V-Visual, A-Auditory, R/W-Read/Write, and K-Kinaesthetic learner.

Identification of Learning Ability based on Learning Outcome

The following equation is used to find the academic performance of the learner.

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \left[\frac{T_m + Q_m + A_m + D_m + V_m \dots X_m}{X} \right] \text{ (11)}$$

Where, 'n' is Number of learners, 'm' is number activities in each assessment component, 'T' is mark in Test, 'Q' is marks in Quiz, 'A' is mark in Assignment, 'D' is mark in Discussion forum, 'V' is mark in Viva-Voce, and 'X' is the number of Activities

The course teacher can fix the threshold value on the academic performance obtained from the equation 11 to classify the learners. Highly Skilled, Moderate, and Slow Learners are the three categories of learners that are used to facilitate them to acquire and better insight into learning objects. This classification is used to justify how personalization enables the learner to maximize the learning outcome. The researcher has used the threshold value (i.e. Marks) as > 80 for a Highly Skilled Learner, > 45 & < 80 for Moderate Learners, and < 45 for a Slow Learner. Investigation on the influencing factors Learning Style and Learning Ability using ANOVA test is done and the results compared with the learning outcome after the recommendation of personalized learning objects which are provided in the results and discussion section.

Phase 2: To Recommend Personalized Learning Objects

Generation of Learning Objects using A* algorithm based on the finding of the Learning Style

The process of generating personalized learning objects is structured into three fundamental segments

- Learner Module,
- Recommender Module
- Repository Module

The learner module identifies the learner's learning style and is used in the navigation process to personalize learning objects. The Repository module organizes and stores content of all the courses. Chapters and





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concepts/topics make up a course. The recommender module suggests a learning path for the learner that includes personalised learning objects. The Learning Objects (L.O) are represented as a graph $G = (V, E)$. Where 'V' is nodes / vertices which represent L.O and 'E' is the collection of edges among the nodes. The graph is represented as follows.

$$G = (\{LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4, LO5, LO6, LO7, LO8, LO9, LO10\}, \\ \{\{LO1, LO2\}, \{LO1, LO3\}, \{LO1, LO4\}, \\ \{LO2, LO5\}, \{LO2, LO6\}, \{LO3, LO7\}, \\ \{LO3, LO8\}, \{LO4, LO9\}, \{LO4, LO10\}\})$$

Where,

'G' is a graph with ten vertices (V) and nine edges (E)

A snapshot of organizing the Learning Objects is shown in the Fig. 9.

For the graph in Fig. 9, An *edge* is that connects vertices u, v is denoted by $\{u, v\}$. Each node is assigned with four tuples. They represent the values for the Visual, Auditory, Read / Write, and Kinaesthetic aspects of L.O. These values are assigned by the course creator; each gives the suitable learning object for the learner according to the type of learning style. An algorithm to get the learning object based on the learning style of the learner is given in Algorithm 1, where 's' is the source vertex that is a root node. The parent $\pi[u]$ of each vertex 'u' in the graph (parent of source - root) is assigned with NIL.

Algorithm 1 Algorithm to get learning object based on Learning Style

1. **for** each $u \in V(G)$
2. $\pi[s] = \text{NIL}$
3. $Q = (s)$
4. **while** $Q \neq ()$
5. $u = \text{DEQUEUE}[Q]$
6. **for** each $v \in \text{Adj}[u]$
7. $\text{LP}(\text{Video}) \pi[v] = \max[(\text{Video}, W_j), LO_i]$
 $\text{LP}(\text{Audio}) \pi[v] = \max[(\text{Audio}, W_j), LO_i]$
 $\text{LP}(\text{R/W}) \pi[v] = \max[(\text{R/W}, W_j), LO_i]$
 $\text{LP}(\text{Kinesthetic}) \pi[v] = \max[(\text{Kinesthetic}, W_j), LO_i]$
8. **ENDQUEUE**

Table 9 gives the learning path L.Os generated using Breadth First Search (BFS) and Depth First Search (DFS) are shown in Table 9.

Learning Objects generated by BFS and DFS traversal are depicted in Fig. 10.

Generation of Personalized Learning Objects using A* algorithm based on Learning Ability of the Learner

Fig. 11 gives the snapshot of organizing the Learning Objects. For the graph in Fig. 11, An *edge* is that connects vertices u, v is denoted by $\{u, v\}$. Each node is assigned with three tuples.

They represent the aspect value of Learning Objects for the Highly Skilled Learner (H), Moderate Learner (M), and Slow Learner (S). These values are assigned by the course creator each gives the suitable learning object for the learner according to the learning ability.

$$G = (\{LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4, LO5, LO6, LO7, LO8, LO9, LO10\}, \{\{LO1, LO2\}, \{LO1, LO3\}, \{LO1, LO4\}, \{LO2, LO5\}, \{LO2, LO6\}, \{LO3, LO7\}, \{LO3, LO8\}, \{LO4, LO9\}, \{LO4, LO10\}\})$$

Where,

'G' is a graph with $|V| = 10$ Vertices and $|E| = 9$ edges.

Learning path comparison between Breadth First Search (BFS) algorithm and Depth First Search (DFS) algorithm is given in Fig. 13.

Generation of Personalized Learning Objects based on Learning Style and Learning Ability using Knowledge Graph (K.G)

The idea is to incorporate the learning capability to bestow learning objects for a better learning experience. The knowledge graph technique is used to provide tailored learning objects to the learner. An open-source library file





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'spaCy' is used to extract the information which offers a Tokenizer, POS Tagger, and a Named Entity Recognizer. Pre-trained machine learning models for many languages are available in spaCy. The learning object of python programming language in [42] taken for the implementation of the study, the learning is changed into .csv file format. The most significant aspect of KG is to recognize the nodes (i.e. entities present in the sentences) and the edges (i.e. the relationship that connects entities) among them. A set of nodes and edges form a graph. Algorithm 2 shows how to extract the entity and relations from the learning object.

Algorithm 2 Algorithm for data pre-processing, concept extraction and KG construction

```
//Data Preparation from Learning Object (L.)O
1.      Start
2.      input  $L.O = \{textcorpus\}$ 
3.      Convert the data into spaCy acceptable format (.CSV, JSON etc.)
4.      Feed the data into the model in spaCy.
//Concept Extraction
5.      Use predefined trained model in spaCy to extract the entities and relations.
6.      If model has finished prediction of entity and relation/predicate then
7.      Output the recognized entity and relation/predicate
8.      Otherwise go to step 5
9.      Use entity and relation/predicate to construct KG
10.     Stop
```

The learning information for this study was drawn from [46], which is a tutorial for learning the Python programming language. The data is converted to a.csv file type. The knowledge graph is built using the ideas extracted by the spaCy library. Fig. 14 depicts a section of the built graph's schematic representation.

The visualization of the knowledge graph for the python programming language is depicted in Fig. 14.

Table 11 represents a snapshot of the extracted entities and relations. Though the extracted entities and relations, KG can be constructed and traversed to provide a tailored L.O based on the learner's learning style and learning ability.

Learning Objects are generated as given below:

Consider 'E' as a collection of entities and 'R' as relation, then the knowledge graph is generated as **triples**(s, r, t)

Here $s, t \in$ Entities (**E**) and $r \in$ Relations (**R**).

- For instance (*PERL, is similar to, Python*)
- Knowledge graph is queried and traversed to derive the information

The process of producing a set of all possible triples and a set of all possible queries is outlined in Algorithm 3, where E denotes the set of entities, R denotes the set of relations mapped to the entities, and G denotes the underlying knowledge graphs. The paper [47] inspired this concept of creating all possible triple designs.

Algorithm 3 Algorithm to produce all possible queries





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1. Start
2. for each $(s_i, r_b, t_j) \in G$ do
2. $TP_1 = \{(s_1, r_1, t_1) \mid s_1, t_1 \in E, r_1 \in R, (s_1, r_1, t_1) \in G\}$
3. $TP_2 = \{(s_2, r_2, t_2) \mid s_2, t_2 \in E, r_2 \in R, (s_2, r_2, t_2) \in G\}$
4.
5. $TP_n = \{(s_n, r_n, t_n) \mid s_n, t_n \in E, r_n \in R, (s_n, r_n, t_n) \in G\}$
6. Stop

Where ,

TP is all possible Tripple Pattern (1 n)

s, t are entities (1 a)

r is the relation (1 b)

E – is set of entities

R – is set of relations

G – is Knowledge Graph

Phase 3: Proposed Framework to enhance the eLearning system

Recommender systems are becoming increasingly used in the corporate world for recommending products to customers in an online setting. It's a software agent that suggests a variety of options for the user to choose from. This piece of software acts as an agent for a user or another programme in an independent and continuous manner [48, 52]. As a culmination and convergence of all the work done, a framework is proposed to enhance the eLearning system by incorporating the influencing parameters (learning style and learning ability) which enable the content creator, system developer, and the course teachers to respond to the learners with personalized learning object based on the proposed learners' classification. As a result, there is an improvement in the academic performance of the learners.

Existing eLearning Architecture's Limitations

Existing eLearning systems have a customizable architecture, but they fall short in the following aspects.

In today's systems, personalization factors are either learning ability or learning style. They fail to consider or account for both influencing variables.

Every learner's learning process tends to differ, as shown in the state-of-art. The efforts made by eLearning systems to accommodate the learner's preferred method must be strengthened.

In recent years, the usage of standardised learning objects such as SCROM has grown in popularity, however they have yet to control the type of learning object required based on learning style or aptitude. To satisfy the demands of the learners, such learning items must be regulated. With the aforementioned restrictions in mind, a recommender system is developed to alleviate noted inadequacies in existing eLearning systems, and a new framework is created.

A recommender's framework As shown in Fig. 15, an eLearning system is proposed to provide tailored learning objects to improve academic performance.

- i. Identification of Learning Style and Learning Ability Module
- ii. Knowledge Graph Construction Module
- iii. Recommender System Module

Identification of Learning Style and Learning Ability Module uses VARK learning style model to identify the learner's learning style. To determine the learner's learning ability, the log file is reviewed for the learner's academic performance. The results of the numerous exams are used to predict the learner's learning aptitude, which can be classified as advanced, moderate, or slow learners The Knowledge Graph [49] is a versatile way to describe knowledge in any subject. Knowledge graphs can be built manually or automatically [50]. The course teacher / content creator / system developer intervenes in the created LOs and groups them into four sorts of learning objects: Visual, Auditory, Read/Write, and Kinaesthetic in order to give personalised learning objects to the student. Following the selection of LOs depending on the learner's ability, the suitable LO is chosen and presented to the learner.



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The following steps are used in recommendation process:

Find out about the learner's learning style and ability to learn.

Using Predicate Logics, create a Knowledge Graph (KG) for learners with varying learning potentials.

From the KG, Learning Objects are grouped into Visual, Auditory, Read/Write and Kinaesthetic Learning Objects.

To recommend individualised learning objects to the learner, use Content-Based Filtering.

In Fig. 15.1, 'A' represents the set of learning objects for learners with various learning potentials, while 'B' represents the set of learning objects in various formats such as Visual, Auditory, Read/Write, and Kinaesthetic. The student receives a set of individualized learning objects based on his or her learning style and abilities.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

To experiment with the proposed work, the Learning outcome of the programming language for 200 students of BCA and MCA departments where an eLearning system is used to supplement the teaching and learning. Learning outcome of the 200 students before the intervention has been observed (L-Out1) and the learning outcome of the students after the intervention have been observed (L-Out2). The summary of the findings is shown in Table 13 and Fig. 16. The researcher conceived a two-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) to test whether learning style and learning ability have a statistically significant influence on the learning outcome of the learner.

Key Findings

The results of the ANOVA test are presented in Table 13. The R-squared value before the intervention is 0.692 and 0.730 after intervention. This concludes the following

- After intervention, there is increase of 4% (from 69.2 % to 73%) in the variance which shows that 73.0% of the variance in learning outcome is influenced by the learning style and learning ability of the learner. There is 4% of increase in the variance.
- 19.5 percent of moderate category learners are moved to advanced learners' category, i.e. from 32.5 percent to 52 percent.
- The percentage of moderate learners has decreased from 66.5 percent to 48 percent as they have progressed to advanced learners. There are no slow learners (the percentages of slow learners are reduced from 0.01 % to 0 %).

This study has found that giving learners with customized learning objects based on their learning style and ability allows them to have better learning experience and achieve academic success.

Limitations of the study

The study was carried out in a closed system where the Learning Objects are consumed within the organization. The recommended external learning resources developed by the course teacher/system developer/content creator are added as additional resources. The other factors that influence the learning ability like study environment, emotion, economic background, etc could also be considered in the classification of learners. State-of-art Machine/Deep Learning Algorithms can be employed to automate and enhance it for a global population.

CONCLUSION

This research work recognizes the learning style of the learner by employing various methods, and it also identifies the influencing factors on the learning of the learners. The outcome of this research is a framework that provides tailored learning to the learners by incorporating the realized knowledge about the learner's preferences. The proposed framework exhibited significant improvement in the learning experience on the sampled population which was verified for the influencing factors. Knowledge Graph has been an excellent complement to the personalization process. This contribution has a significant improvement on the results of the sample population.



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Dr. M. Maria Dominic obtained his B.Sc, M.Sc, M.Phil and Ph.D in Computer Science. He has been working in Sacred Heart College from 1996 onwards at various capacities like lecturer, IGNOU Assistant Coordinator, Head of the department (BCA & MCA), IQAC Member, Member of Board of Studies in Thiruvalluvar University for Computer Science etc. He has co-authored a book on OOP using C++ published by Pearson Education. He has published more than 20 research articles in International Journals. He has 4 Ph.D scholar doing research under his guidance in the field of Artificial Intelligence especially in Machine Learning and Deep Learning.

Table 1 Timeline of Education

	Education 1.0	Education 2.0	Education 3.0	Education 4.0
Meaning	Teacher Centric System	Student-centred approach	Learner-Centered method	Learner-Centered Method
Teaching takes place by	Teacher and Student	Teacher to Student Student to Student	The teacher is a facilitator and the students do research	Self-learning, Evolution of tailored teaching and learning
Technology	Lessor absence of technology	Technology and the use of an internet recognized	Technology is everywhere	Increased use of virtual reality.

Table 2 Adaptation Techniques used by other Researchers

S.No	Author	Method used
1	E. Triantafillou, <i>et.al</i> [28]	Cognitive Styles
2	Couédelo D [29]	Quiz
3	N. Stash, [30]	Learning Style
4	VijaVagale [31]	Background knowledge and learning style
5	Nihad El. Ghouch <i>et.al</i> [32]	Case based Reasoning
6	Shipin Chen <i>et.al</i> [33]	Learning style and cognitive state
7	PinantaChatwattana [34]	Learning Ability
8	Christos Chrysoulas [35]	Test
9	H.C. Chiang <i>et. Al</i> [36]	Collaborative learning
10	Chee, S., <i>et. al</i> [37], [38]	Collaborative Filtering
11	Jeevamol Joy [39]	Ontology





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Table 3 Learning Style of the Learner

Lerning Content ID	User_ID	T_V	T_A	T_R/W	T_K
16	User100	20.00	10.00	20.00	50.00
20		18.67	27.33	24.00	30.00
17		16.26	14.63	41.46	27.64
31		35.58	14.11	14.11	36.20
15		41.26	8.39	34.97	15.38
Learning Style of User 100		26.35	14.89	26.91	31.84
% of Learning Content (LC) Visited by User 100		24.98	24.55	30.10	20.37
Total learning object visited (5)	Influence of Learnign Object on Learngin Style (L.S / L.O)	1.05	0.61	0.89	1.56

Table 4 A snapshot of the Generalized Learning Style of the Learner

User Id	LS(M1)	LS(M2)	LS(M3)	LS (User)= $L.S (User) = \max \text{ frequency } \{M1, M2, M3\} - (9)$
User 1	V	V	V	V
User 2	A	A	A	A
User 3	K	K	K	K
User 4	V	V	K	V
User 5	A	A	K	A
User 6	R/W	R/W	K	R/W
User 7	V	A	K	$\max \left\{ \left(\sum \frac{M1}{n} \right), \left(\sum \frac{M2}{n} \right), \left(\sum \frac{M3}{n} \right) \right\} - (10)$ $\max \{M1(35), M2(48), M3(53)\} = M3 \Rightarrow K$

Where, V-Visual, A-Auditory, R/W-Read/Write, and K-Kinaestheticlearner.

Table 9 Learning Objects based on Learner's learning style

Learning Path for	BFS	DFS
Visual Learner L.P(V)	LO1-LO2-LO3-LO4-LO6-LO5-LO8-LO9- LO10- LO7	LO1-LO2-LO6-LO5-LO3-LO8-LO7-LO4-LO9-LO10
Aural Learner L.P (A)	LO1-LO3-LO2-LO4-LO10-LO6-LO7-LO5- LO8-LO9	LO1-LO2-LO6-LO5-LO3-LO7-LO8-LO4-LO10-LO9
Read / Write Learner L.P (R)	LO1-LO2-LO3-LO-4-LO9-LO6- LO7-LO8-LO5-LO10	LO1-LO2-LO6-LO5-LO3-LO7-LO8-LO4-LO9-LO10
Kinesthetic Learner L.P (K)	LO1-LO4-LO2-LO3-LO5-LO7-LO8-LO9- LO10-LO6	LO1-LO2-LO6-LO5-LO3-LO7-LO8-LO4-LO9-LO10

Table 10 Learning Objects on Learning Ability

Learning Path (L.P) for	A* (BFS)	DFS
Highly Skilled Learner L.P(H)	LO1 - LO2 - LO3 - LO4 - LO6 - LO5 - LO8 - LO9 - LO7- LO10	LO1 - LO2 - LO5 - LO6 - LO3 - LO7 - LO8 - LO4 - LO9 - LO10
Moderate Learner L.P (M)	LO1 - LO3 - LO4 - LO2 - LO10 - LO6 -	LO1 - LO2 - LO6 - LO5 - LO3 - LO8 -





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	LO7 - LO9 - LO5 - LO8	LO7 - LO4 - LO10 - LO9
Slow Learner L.P (S)	LO1 - LO4 - LO2 - LO3 - LO5 - LO7 - LO8 - LO9 - LO10 - LO6	LO1 - LO2 - LO5 - LO6 - LO3 - LO7 - LO8 - LO4 - LO9 - LO10

Table 11 A snapshot of extracted Entity pairs and Predicates

[{"Why Python"}, {"it", "other languages"}, {"Web Development I", "key Python"}, {"This", "PERL"}, {"You", "directly Python programs"}, {"Oriented that", "objects"}, {"Python", "simple WWW games"}, {"", "Python"}, {"Following", "important Python Programming"}, {"It", "functional programming methods"}, {"It", "large scripting applications"}, {"It", "dynamic type checking"}, {"It", "automatic garbage collection"}, {"It", "easily C"}]	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>is 15</td> <td>print 8</td> <td>provides 6</td> <td>supports 4</td> <td>try 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>For 3</td> <td>Hello 3</td> <td>sys.exit 3</td> <td>produces 3</td> <td>else 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>file.close 3</td> <td>except 3</td> <td>integrated with 2</td> <td>enable 2</td> <td>file finish 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>sit at 2</td> <td>is similar 2</td> <td>was 2</td> <td>supports automatic 2</td> <td>True 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>run on 2</td> <td>indicates 2</td> <td>Answer 2</td> <td>Type 2</td> <td>python 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>used as 2</td> <td>are 2</td> <td>break 2</td> <td>Programmi ng 2</td> <td>open(file_na me 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>uses English 2</td> <td>supports functional 2</td> <td>allows 2</td> <td>has 2</td> <td>maintained by 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>filename 1</td> <td>file_text 1</td> <td>Enter 1</td> <td>Let 1</td> <td>and 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Applications of 1</td> <td>del 1</td> <td>ignores 1</td> <td>Statements 1</td> <td>test.py 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>make sure 1</td> <td>made 1</td> <td>start with 1</td> <td>has various 1</td> <td>Features 1</td> </tr> </table>	is 15	print 8	provides 6	supports 4	try 4	For 3	Hello 3	sys.exit 3	produces 3	else 3	file.close 3	except 3	integrated with 2	enable 2	file finish 2	sit at 2	is similar 2	was 2	supports automatic 2	True 2	run on 2	indicates 2	Answer 2	Type 2	python 2	used as 2	are 2	break 2	Programmi ng 2	open(file_na me 2	uses English 2	supports functional 2	allows 2	has 2	maintained by 1	filename 1	file_text 1	Enter 1	Let 1	and 1	Applications of 1	del 1	ignores 1	Statements 1	test.py 1	make sure 1	made 1	start with 1	has various 1	Features 1
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Applications of 1	del 1	ignores 1	Statements 1	test.py 1																																															
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Table 12 Learning Outcome of the Learners

Learning Outcome – 1 (L-Out 1)	Learning Outcome – 2 (L-Out 2)	
Highly Skilled - 065	Highly Skilled - 104	
Moderate Learners - 133	Moderate Learners - 096	
Slow Learners - 002	Slow Learners - 000	

Table 13 Significance of Influencing Parameters on Learning Outcome

	Influencing factor Learning Style (LS) on Learning Outcome - 1	Influencing factor Learning Ability (LA) on Learning Outcome - 1	Influencing factors (L.S + L.A) on Learning Outcome - 1
Before Intervention	P value for Learning Style is 0.001 R Squared = .283	P value for Learning Style is 0.001 R Squared = .642	P value for Learning style is 0.025 P value for Learning Ability is 0.001 R Squared = .692
After Intervention	P value for Learning Style is 0.001 R Squared = .477	P value for Learning Style is 0.001 R Squared = .704	P value for Learning style is 0.009 P value for Learning Ability is 0.001 R Squared = .730





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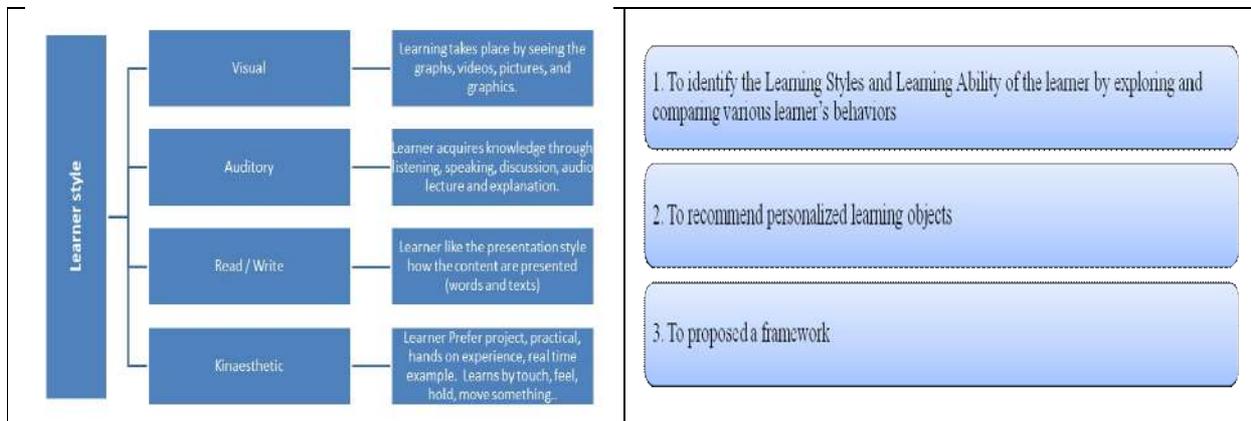


Fig. 1 VARK Learner Attributes

1. To identify the Learning Styles and Learning Ability of the learner by exploring and comparing various learner's behaviors
2. To recommend personalized learning objects
3. To propose a framework

Fig. 2 Phases of Proposed work

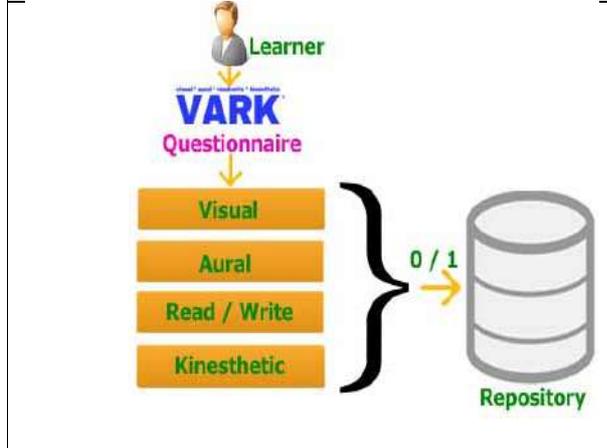


Fig. 3 Learner's learning style based on VARK questionnaire

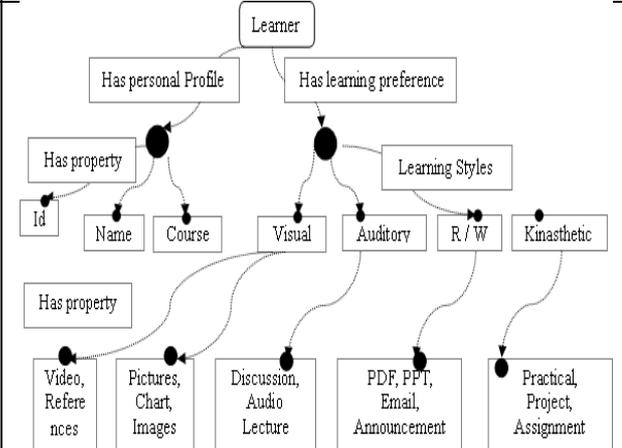


Fig. 4. Learner Style based on Learning Activity

Sl. No	Name	Gender	V	A	R	W	K	Type
1	990 Topo M	F	0	0	1	0	0	Read / Write
2	886 Suresh C	M	1	0	0	0	0	Visual
3	915 Pradeep M	M	0	0	1	0	0	Read / Write
4	940 Suresh M	F	0	0	1	0	0	Read / Write
5	940 Suresh M	F	0	0	1	0	0	Read / Write
6	994 Lili B	F	0	0	1	0	0	Read / Write
7	476 Anjan B	M	1	0	0	0	0	Visual
8	680 Anand K	M	0	1	0	0	0	Auditory
9	576 Anand K	F	1	0	0	0	0	Visual
10	600 Anand K	F	1	0	0	0	0	Visual
11	287 Anand K	F	0	0	1	0	0	Read / Write
12	428 Anand K	F	0	0	0	1	0	Kinesthetic
13	480 Anand K	F	1	0	0	0	0	Visual
14	517 Anand K	F	1	0	0	0	0	Visual
15	580 Anand K	M	0	1	0	0	0	Auditory
16	420 Anand K	F	1	0	0	0	0	Visual
17	450 Anand K	F	0	1	0	0	0	Auditory
18	320 Anand K	M	0	0	0	1	0	Kinesthetic
19	300 Anand K	M	0	1	0	0	0	Auditory
20	380 Anand K	F	0	0	0	1	0	Kinesthetic
21	270 Anand K	M	0	0	1	0	0	Read / Write
22	620 Anand K	M	0	1	0	0	0	Auditory
23	910 Anand K	F	0	0	1	0	0	Read / Write
24	520 Anand K	F	1	0	0	0	0	Visual
25	670 Anand K	M	0	0	0	1	0	Kinesthetic

Fig. 5 Learning Components Accessed by the Learner

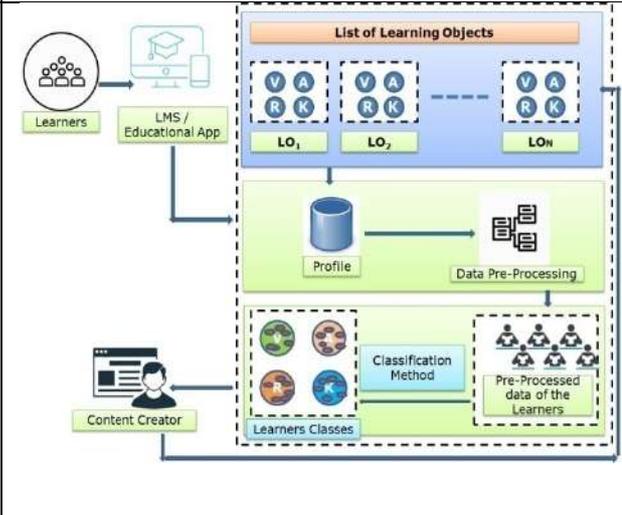


Fig. 6 Graphical Illustration of classification of learner





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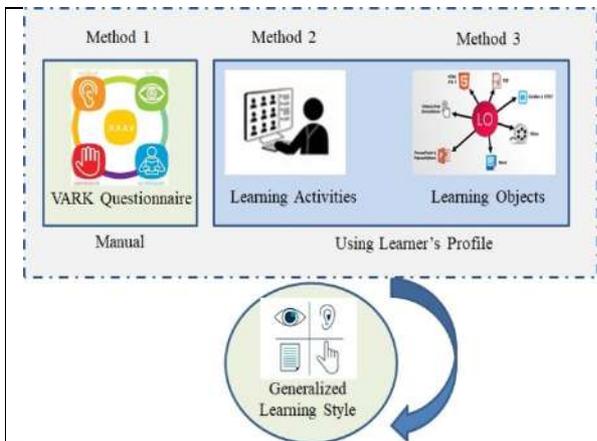


Fig. 7 Learner's Learning Style

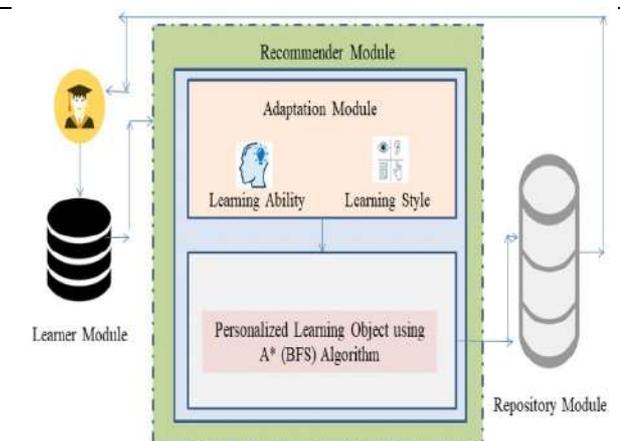


Fig. 8. Generation of Learning Path

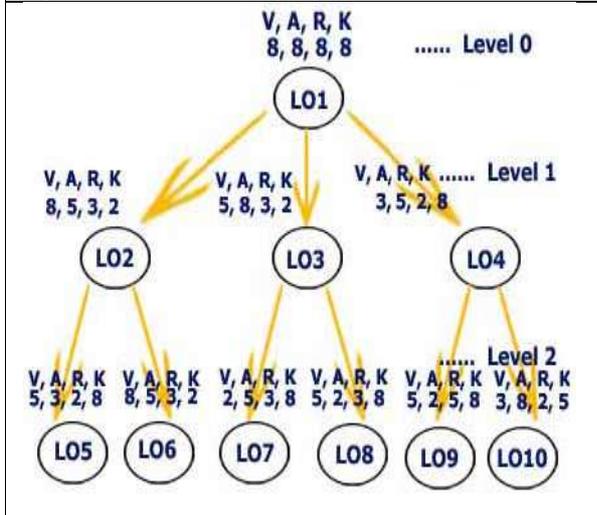


Fig. 9 Snapshot of organizing Learning Objects

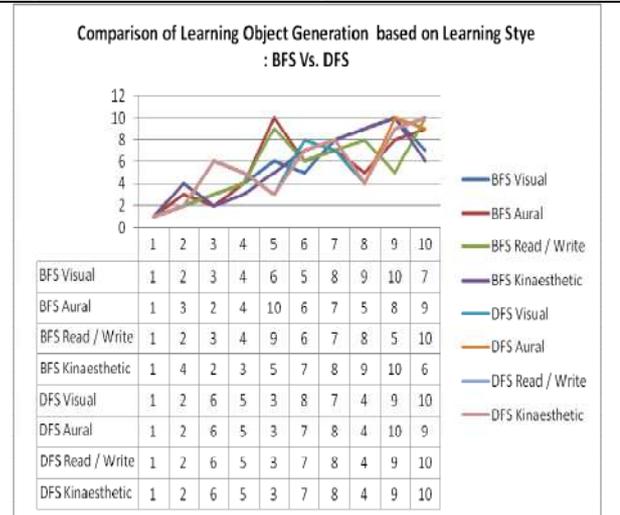


Fig. 10 Learning path and Execution time in A* and DFS

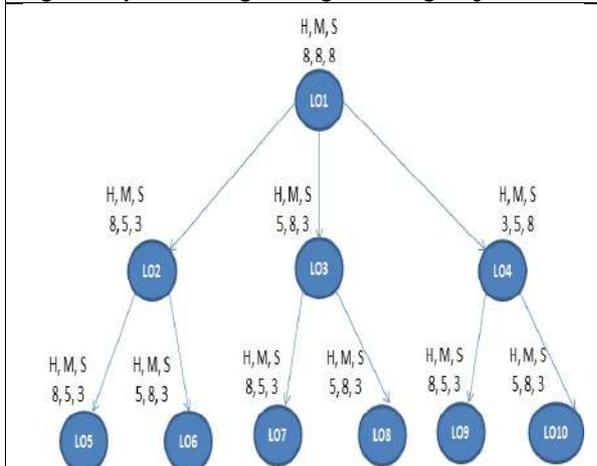


Fig. 11 Snapshot of organizing Learning Objects

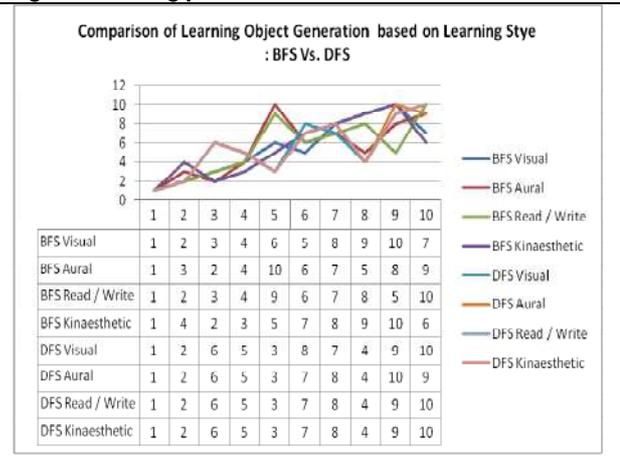


Fig. 13 Learning Path Generation based on Learning Ability: BFS Vs. DFS





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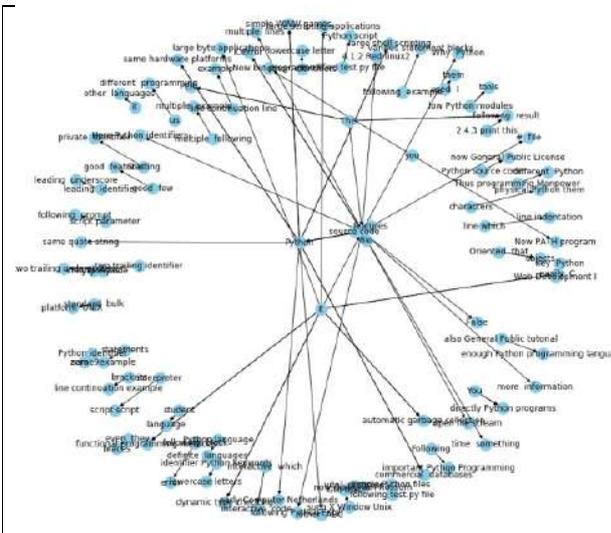


Fig. 14 A snapshot of the Visualization of Knowledge Graph

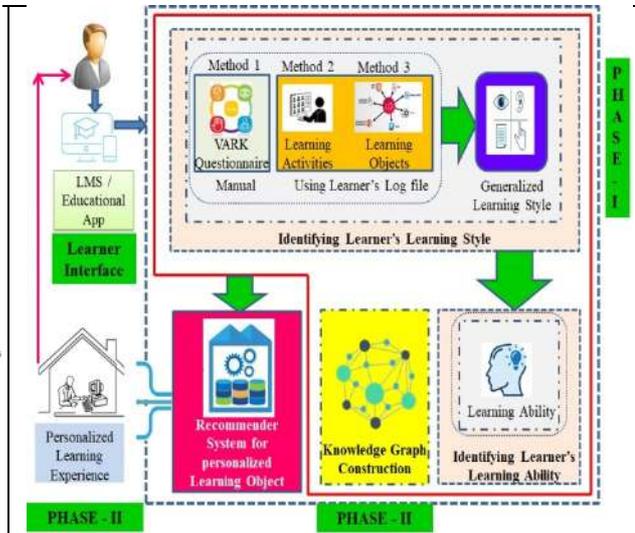


Fig.15 Recommender System Framework

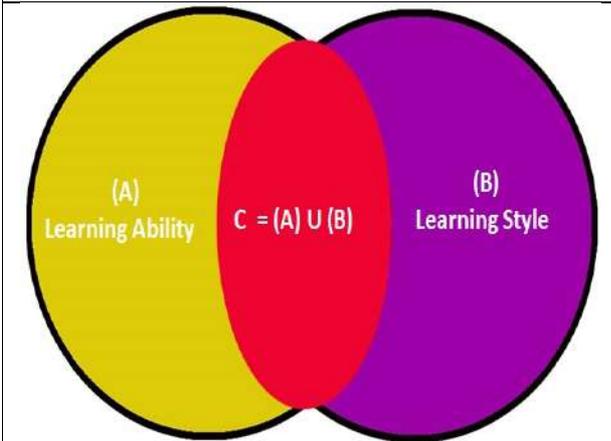


Fig. 15.1 Summary of the process of Delivering Personalized Learning Objects to the Learners

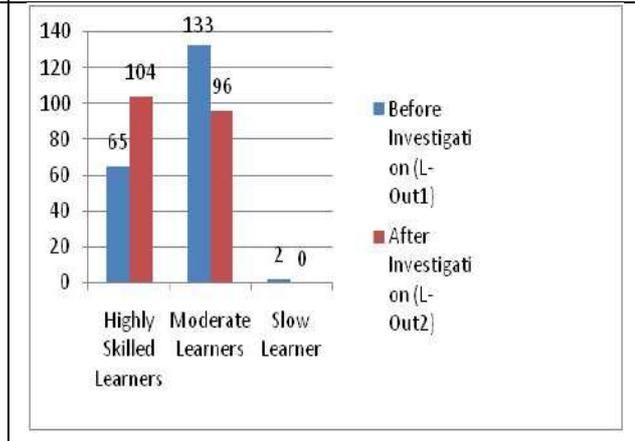


Fig. 16 Comparison of learning outcome of the learner before (L-Out1) and after (L-Out2) the investigation of Learning Style / Learning Ability





Chlorogenic Acid Loaded Chitosan Nanoparticles Downregulates Multiple Molecular Markers in 7,12-Dimethylbenz(A)Anthracene Induced Skin Carcinogenesis in Swiss Albino Mice

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ABSTRACT

Aberrant expression of molecular markers during carcinogenesis could be responsible for the uncontrolled growth and rapid cell proliferation as well as for the occurrence of secondary tumors in the body through metastasis. The present research work intends to assess the efficacy of chlorogenic acid loaded chitosan nanoparticles (CACNP) on cell proliferative (PCNA, Cyclin D₁), inflammatory (NFκB, COX-2), and angiogenic markers (VEGF) in mice with skin cancer induced by 7, 12-dimethylbenz(a)anthracene (DMBA). Skin tumors were developed in the depilated back of mice using topical application of DMBA twice a week for 8 weeks. The expression pattern of these molecular markers in experimental animals was studied using immunohistochemical analysis. Overexpression of NFκB, COX-2, PCNA, Cyclin D1 and VEGF were noticed in cancerous tumor of the mice bearing skin tumor. A significant anti-proliferative, anti-inflammatory, and anti-angiogenic efficacies of CACNP were demonstrated by decreased expression patterns of the above-mentioned molecular markers in the skin tissues of mice treated with DMBA + CACNP. The modulating effect of topically applied CACNP was found to be higher than that of orally administered CACNP.

Keywords: skin cancer, cell proliferation, inflammation, angiogenesis, DMBA.



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INTRODUCTION

Skin cancer is the common malignant neoplasm and its annual incidence rate is sharply increasing world wide. The highest incidence rates are especially reported from Australia, Europe and USA every year [1, 3]. Overexposure to UV radiation and environmental pollutants has been documented as the strongest risk factors of skin carcinogenesis [4]. Skin cancer can be prevented and treated well with the higher outcome if it is diagnosed at an early stage and this form of cancers are less fatal as compared to other types of skin cancer[5]. DMBA has been commonly employed to induce skin, oral and mammary cancer. DMBA is either utilized as an initiator in two stage model of skin cancerous as a complete carcinogen develop skin cancer in the depilated back of the mice. DMBA induces skin carcinogenesis through severe inflammation, extensive DNA damage and by generating excessive reactive oxygen species [6,7].

Chlorogenic acid has been shown to possess anti-inflammatory, antidiabetic and anticarcinogenic effects. Though chlorogenic acid possesses diverse therapeutic activities, its poor solubility and bioavailability warrants to encapsulate chlorogenic acid into a carrier molecules, which could help for the sustained release of chlorogenic acid as well as to enhance its solubility and bioavailability [8]. Recent report has shown the anticancer property of CACNP in DMBA induced skin cancer [9]. In the present work, immune histochemical analysis was used to examine the modulating efficacy of CACNP on cell proliferative, inflammatory, and angiogenic markers expression pattern in DMBA-induced skin cancer.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Synthesis and characterization of CACNP

The procedure for the synthesis and characterization of CACNP are described in our recent publication [10]. Briefly, the nanoparticles were synthesised by mixing the chitosan polymer (3mg) and chlorogenic acid (1mg) and stirred well for 60minutes. Then, sodium tripolyphosphate was added in a dropwise manner to the above mixture and continuously stirred for more than 60minutes to achieve the synthesis of nanoparticles. Chlorogenic acid nanoparticles and free chlorogenic acid were separated using ultracentrifugation (15000 rpm for 45 minutes). Particle size analysis, scanning electron microscopy (SEM), and Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) were used to characterize the lyophilized nanoparticles.

Animals

The experimental mice (36 male) for the present study were received from Annamalai University Central Animal House and kept in a 12-hour cycle of light and darkness. All the animals were in the age range of 4-6 weeks and had 15-20g weight. There were no restriction in allowing the animals to take their food and water. The experimental protocol was followed as per Institutional Animals Ethical Committee's guidelines, and it was assigned the approval number as AU-IAEC / PR/1253 / 7/19.

Experimental design

The experimental mice were first categorised into six groups and each group contained 6 mice. The present study categorized the animals as shown in the protocol.

Group I : Mice received topical application of the vehicle 0.1ml acetone on their depilated back for eight weeks, twice a week.

Group II: Mice received topical application of the carcinogen DMBA (25µg) alone on their depilated back for eight weeks, twice a week.

Group III: Mice received both DMBA (topical) and chlorogenic acid (20mg/kg b.w. orally) on alternative days of DMBA application for 8 weeks and then chlorogenic acid alone was orally given for further 17 weeks [(three time a week) (total duration 25 weeks)].



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Group IV: Mice received both DMBA (topical) and chlorogenic acid nanoparticles (20mg/kg b.worally) on alternative days for 8 weeks and then chlorogenic acid nanoparticles alone was orally administered for further 17 weeks (total duration 25 weeks).

Group V : Mice received both DMBA (topical) and chlorogenic acid (topical) on alternative days for 8 weeks and then chlorogenic acid nanoparticles alone was given topically for further 17 weeks (total duration 25 weeks).

Group VI: Mice received both DMBA (topical) and chlorogenic acid nanoparticles (topical) on alternative days for 8 weeks and then chlorogenic acid nanoparticles alone was given topically for further 17 weeks (total duration 25 weeks).

To sacrifice the experimental animals, all the mice were subjected to cervical dislocation and the skin tissues obtained from these experimental animals were utilized for immunohistochemical studies.

Immunohistochemical staining

Experimental Swiss albino mice's skin tissues were examined using immunohistochemical staining to analyze the cell proliferative, inflammatory, and angiogenic markers expression pattern.

The tissue section was treated with the primary monoclonal antibody correspondence to appropriate molecular markers. After that, the tissue section was exposed to secondary antibody that had been tagged with horseradish peroxidase. Then diaminobenzidine (DAB), the enzyme substrate, was added and the expression pattern of the molecular markers was viewed under microscope, after counter staining the slides with hematoxylin.

RESULTS

Figures 1 to 3 show the immune expression pattern of PCNA and Cyclin D1 (cell proliferative markers), NF- κ B and COX-2 (inflammatory markers) and VEGF (angiogenic marker) respectively in the vehicle treated control and experimental mice. Present study noticed an overexpression of above-said molecular markers in mice treated with DMBA alone. Topical application of CACNP brought back the expression pattern in DMBA treated mice. Present investigation noticed that topically treated CACNP showed more potent than that of the orally administered chlorogenic acid nanoparticles. Free chlorogenic (both oral and topical treatment) showed lesser effect than that of the chlorogenic acid nanoparticles.

DISCUSSION

Cancer researchers worldwide have utilised inflammatory, angiogenic and cell proliferative markers to validate natural products effectiveness against cancer, bioactive principles and synthetic entities. The present study has utilized these molecular markers as a target to scientifically validate the tumour preventive effect of CACNP in experimental skin carcinogenesis. PCNA has been indicated to have a crucial role in DNA replication process as well as in the DNA repair mechanism. PCNA serves as a sliding clamp which could help to localize proteins to DNA and serves as the cofactor for the enzyme DNA polymerase. PCNA was up-regulated in several cancerous conditions including skin cancer [11, 12]. Majed et al, [13] have shown PCNA over expression in DMBA induced skin carcinogenesis. Vecchiato et al, [14] pointed out that PCNA index can be used as diagnostic tool for predicting loco regional and distant recurrences in skin cancer (melanoma) patients.

Cyclin D₁ has been documented to have its crucial role in G₁ to S phase cell cycle progression [15]. It regulates not only cell cycle progression but also has a vital role in the regulation of several transcriptional factors and thus serves as a potent transcriptional co-regulator. Profound studies on cancer research explored overexpression of cyclin D₁ in several cancerous including oral, mammary and skin carcinogenesis [16, 17]. Liang et al, [18] have shown cyclin D₁ over expression in non-melanoma skin cancer. Over expression of cyclin D₁ has been documented in malignant melanoma as well [19]. NF- κ B has been recognised as a potent transcription factor and performs a vital function in the inflammatory cascade and in the regulation of innate immune mechanisms [20]. It also has a pivotal role in cell growth and survival. NF- κ B regulates several biological processes including cell differentiation and proliferation,



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apoptosis and angiogenesis. Overexpression of NF- κ B has been shown in malignant melanoma [21]. Abnormal expression of NF- κ B could lead to several pathological conditions include inflammatory bowel diseases, malignant tumors and rheumatoid arthritis [22, 24]. Cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) plays a major role in prostaglandin biosynthesis. COX-2 performs an important role in angiogenesis and in the tumor invasiveness. Several factors such as hormones, mediators of inflammation and mitogens are reported to rapidly induce cyclooxygenase-2. Inflammatory cells express COX-2 and are induced by tumor necrosis factor and epidermal growth factor [25].

COX-2 over expression has been reported in several pathological conditions, especially in cancerous tissues [26, 27]. Aberrant COX-2 expression was shown oral cancer, prostate and skin cancers [28, 30]. Vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) performs crucial role in angiogenesis, which is an essential requirements for the tumor to uptake the nutrients as well as to facilitate the tumor to invade adjacent tissues. Several cell types releases the signal protein, VEGF that induces angiogenesis and vasculogenesis. Overproduction of VEGF has been shown in several diseased conditions including cancer [31-32]. Solid tumors that overexpress VEGF can able to grow fast and acquire metastatic property [33].

Chlorogenic acid has been reported to have inhibitory effect on PCNA over expression in methyl nitrosourea induced stomach cancer in rats [34]. Chlorogenic acid decreased PCNA expression in experimental colon carcinogenesis [35]. Present study observed that CACNP significantly decreased the expression of NF- κ B, COX-2, PCNA, Cyclin D1, and VEGF in the skin tissues of mice topically painted with DMBA in their depilated back. Zeng et al, [36] pointed out that chlorogenic acid inhibited the expression of NF- κ B in breast cancer. Jiang et al, [37] pointed out that chlorogenic acid has the vast potential to inhibit human hepatoma cell proliferation by deregulating NF- κ B signalling pathway. Chlorogenic acid showed hepatoprotective efficacy through its inhibitory action on the expression of COX-2 against methotrexate induced inflammation in rat liver [38]. Chlorogenic acid suppressed VEGF expression and angiogenesis in A549 lung cancer cells [39]. Thus, the findings of the current investigation imply that tumor prevention in the depilated back of mice treated with DMBA may be partially attributed to the anti-proliferative, anti-inflammatory, and anti-angiogenic activity of CACNP.

CONCLUSION

For the first time, this study investigates CACNP's anti proliferative, anti-inflammatory, and anti-angiogenic effectiveness against skin carcinogenesis induced by DMBA in Swiss albino mice.

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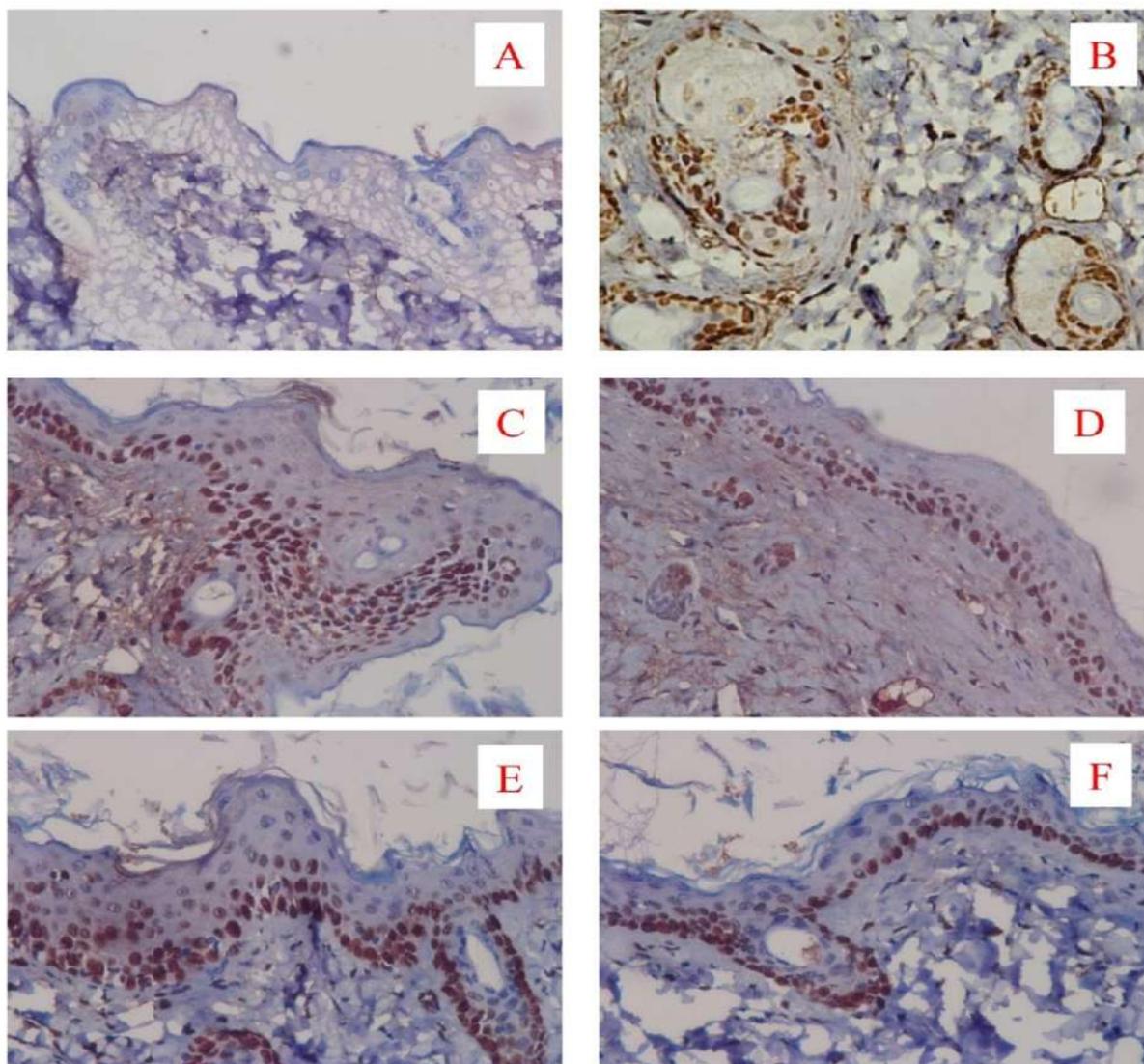
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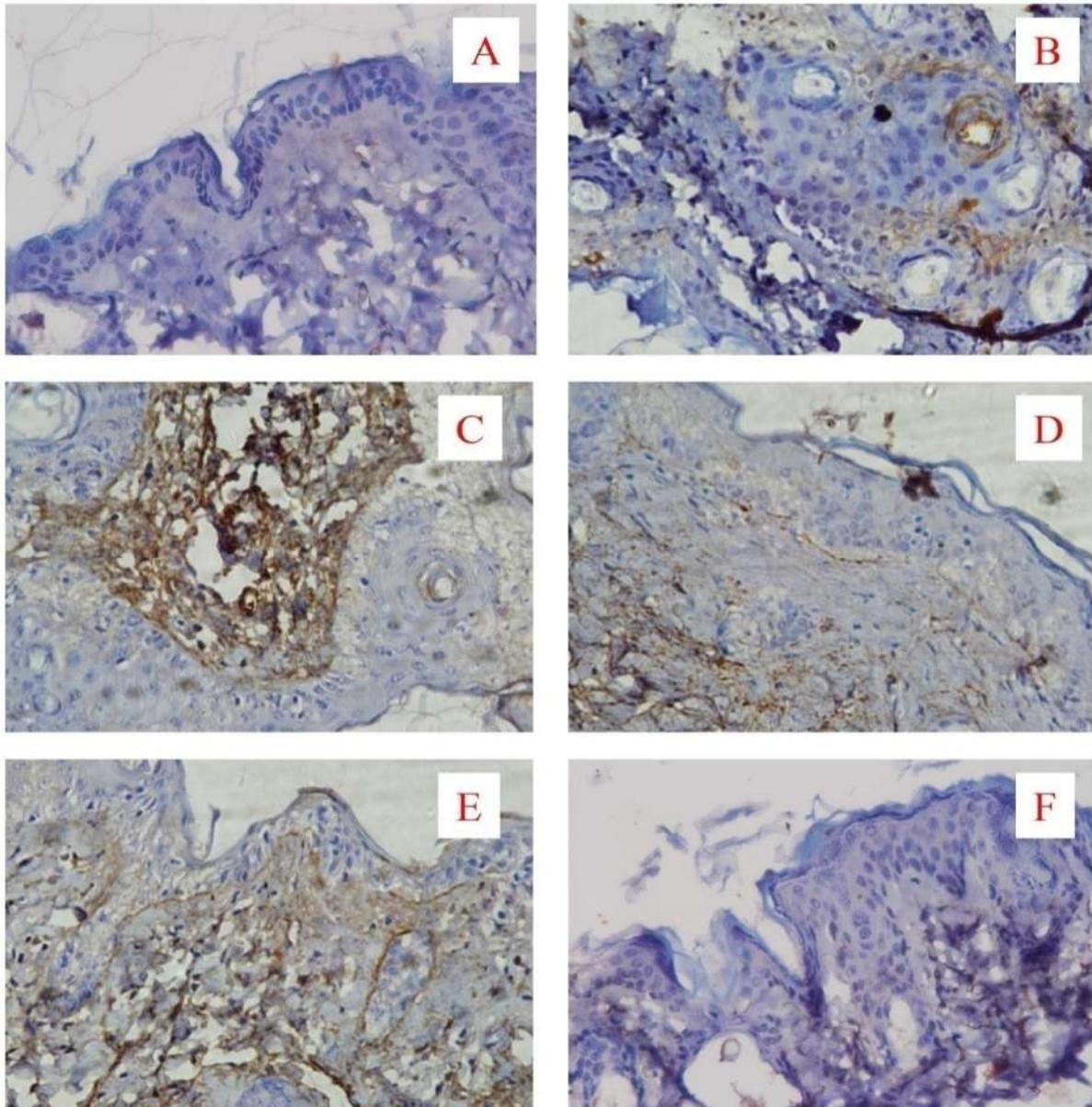
- A: Epithelial layer showed no expression of PCNA (Group-I).
B: Epithelial layer showed over expression of PCNA (Group-II).
C: Basal and parabasal layer showed moderate expression of PCNA (Group-III).
D: Basal showed mild expression of PCNA (Group-IV).
E: Basal and parabasal layer showed moderate expression of PCNA (Group-V).
F: Basal layer showed mild expression of PCNA (Group-VI).

Figure 1. Skin tissues PCNA expression pattern in experimental mice (Magnification 40X).





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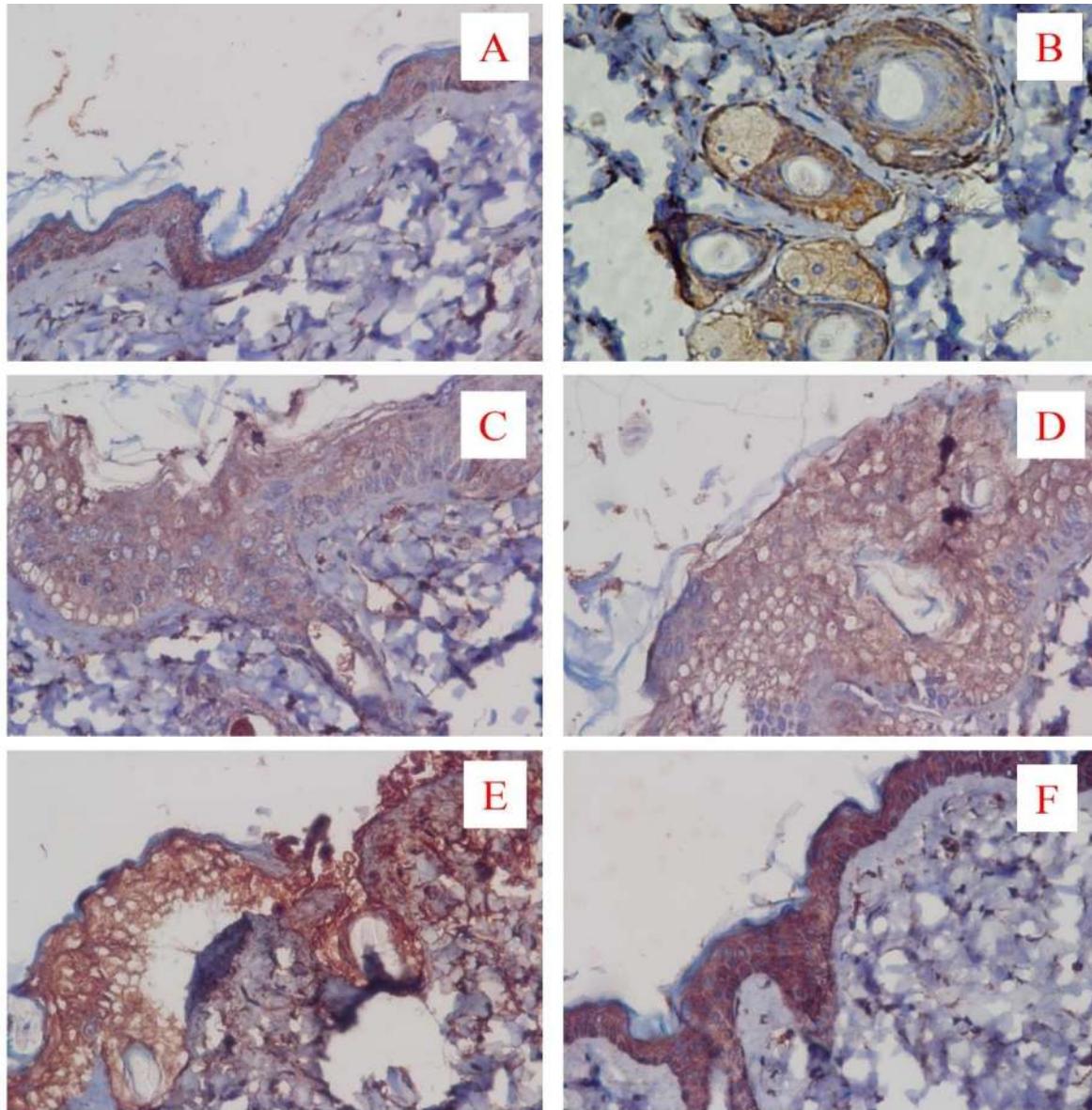
- A: Epithelial layer showed no expression of cyclin D1 (Group-I).
- B: Epithelial layer showed over expression of cyclin D1 (Group-II).
- C: Tumor regions showed moderate expression of cyclin D1 (Group-III).
- D: Epithelial layer showed mild expression of cyclin D1 (Group-IV).
- E: Epithelial layer showed moderate expression of cyclin D1 (Group-V).
- F: Basal layer showed low expression of cyclin D1 (Group-VI).

Figure 2. Skin tissues cyclinD1 expression pattern in experimental mice (Magnification 40X).





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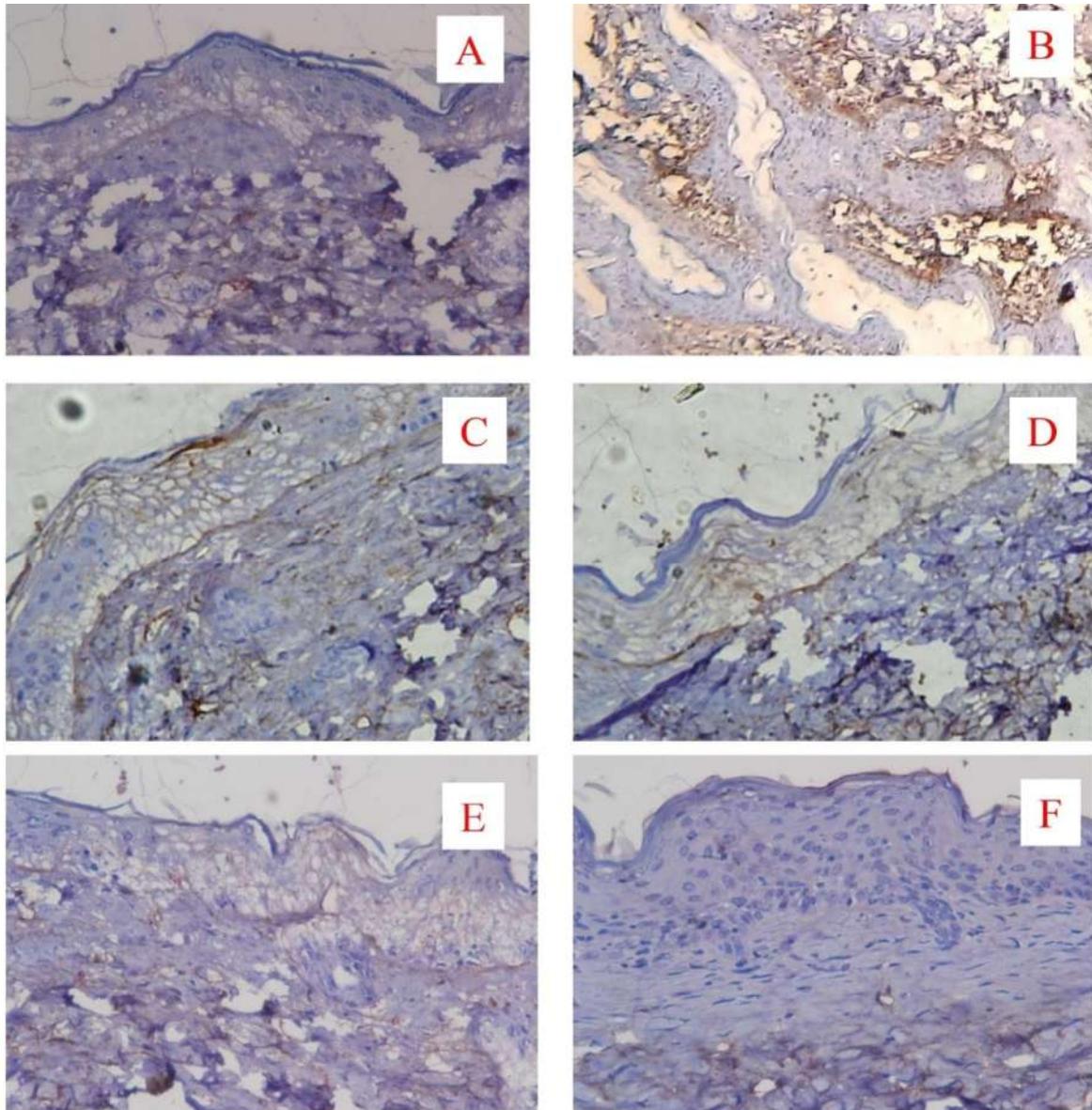
- A: Epithelial layer showed no expression of NFκB (Group-I).
- B: Tumouris and showed over expression of NFκB (Group-II).
- C: Epithelial layer showed moderate expression of NFκB (Group-III).
- D: Epithelial layer showed moderate expression of NFκB (Group-IV).
- E: Epithelial layer showed mild to severe expression of NFκB (Group-V).
- F: Epithelial layer showed no expression of NFκB (Group-VI).

Figure 3. Skin tissues NFκB expression pattern in experimental mice (Magnification 40X).





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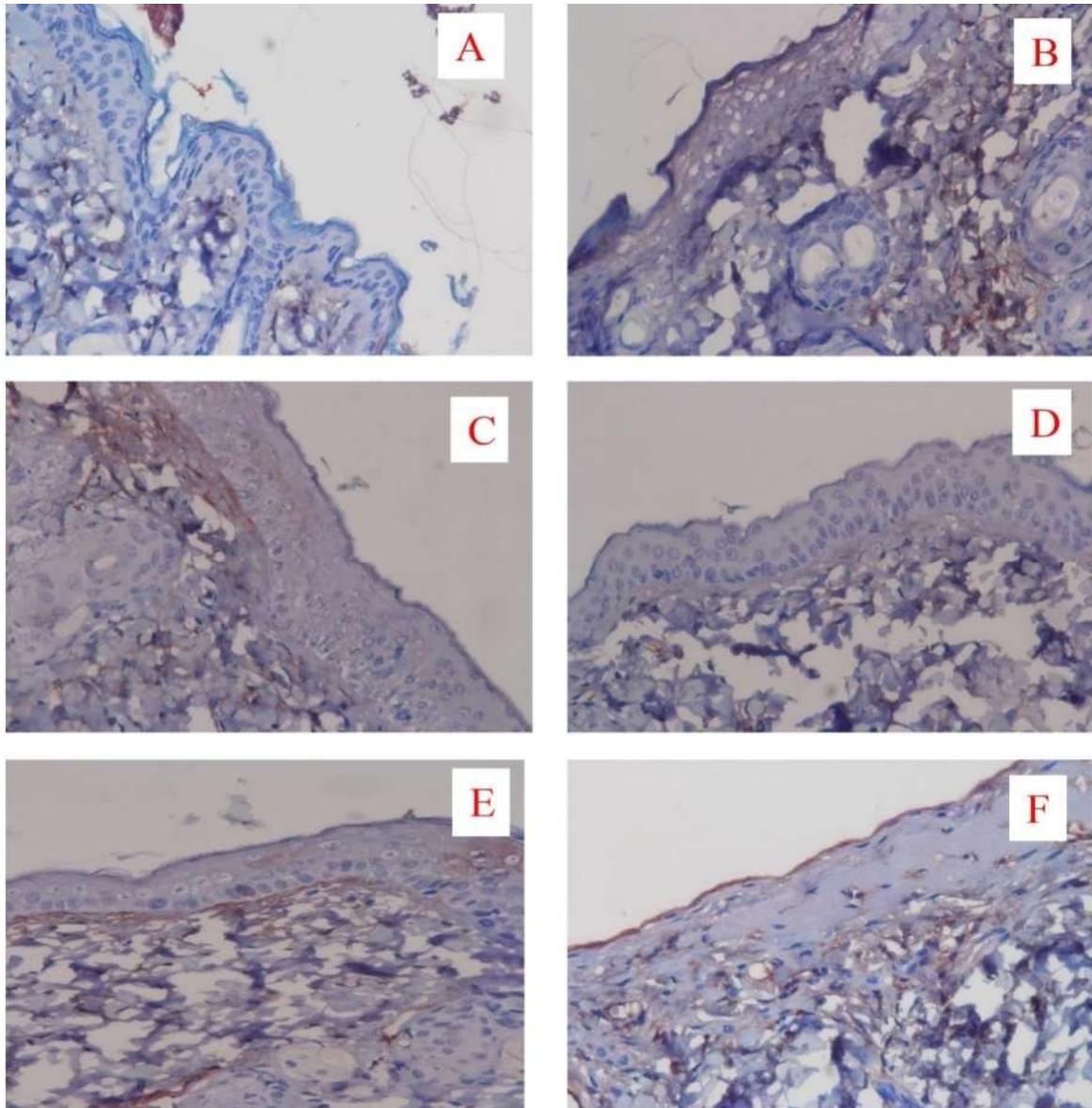
- A: Connective tissues showed no expression of COX-2(Group-I).
- B: Connective tissues showed over expression of COX-2(Group-II).
- C:Underlying Connective tissues showed moderate expression of COX-2(Group-III).
- D: Connective tissues showed mild expression of COX-2(Group-IV).
- E:Connective tissues showed mild expression of COX-2(Group-V).
- F: Connective tissues showed no expression of COX-2(Group-VI).

Figure 4.Skin tissuesCOX-2 expression pattern in experimental mice (Magnification 40X).





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- A: Connective tissues showed no expression of VEGF(Group-I).
- B: Tumor connective tissues showed over expression of VEGF(Group-II).
- C:Underlying connective tissues showed moderate expression of VEGF(Group-III).
- D: Connective tissues showed mild expression of VEGF(Group-IV).
- E:Connective tissues showed moderate expression of VEGF(Group-V).
- F: Connective tissues showed no expression of VEGF(Group-VI).

Figure 5.Skin tissues VEGF expression pattern in experimental mice (Magnification 40X).





A Study of Talent Management and its Effect on Organisational Performance

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ABSTRACT

Organisations use talent management as a business strategy in the hopes of retaining their most talented workers and enhancing performance. It involves finding and employing the best individuals, educating them for future leadership roles, monitoring and managing their performance, and more. Stopping them from leaving the company. Every organization's performance is based on the performance of its personnel. The company instantly acquires a competitive advantage over its rivals if the employees possess distinctive competences that the rivals cannot imitate. Therefore, organisations are concentrating on developing efficient systems and processes for talent management in order to manage this special human capital. The organisations are also working extremely hard to keep their best and most important staff because if they do, the entire repository.

Keywords: Talent management, Capabilities, Organizational performance.

INTRODUCTION

The talents and abilities of an organization's employees are the sum total of their inherent abilities, acquired knowledge, and skills. HR ought to be used to the most extreme conceivable degree to accomplish individual and authoritative objectives. The quantity and quality of an organization's human resources are directly proportional to its performance and productivity. That is the explanation that the idea of ability the board has gotten a critical level of expert and scholarly interest. The process of recruiting, training, developing, managing, evaluating, and



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maintaining an organization's most valuable resource people is known as talent management. Talent management is one of the most important factors in an organization's growth and success in this competitive market. The businesses need to be able to anticipate new opportunities and seize them before their rivals do. As a result, the next generation of People Managers now faces a new challenge in Talent Management. In this competitive market, it is critical that businesses align their talent management initiatives with their business objectives.

They ought to likewise empower such culture where skilled workers are given plentiful professional improvement opportunities so they can perform to the most extreme level. Because they assist in generating revenues by generating value for their clients, only the top or key talent contributes to the organization's productivity. As a result, the best talent management practices in the industry should be implemented because a company's performance and success depend on how it manages and retains its talent pool. This will give the company an advantage over its rivals and ensure that it always stays ahead of the competition. Talent management encompasses all important aspects of an employee's life cycle, including recruitment and selection, knowledge enhancement through appropriate training, performance management, and future succession planning. Top management and HR managers have always focused on basic Talent Management, but in order to achieve the desired levels of success, they need employees who are committed, engaged, and effective. It is abundantly clear that people are an organization's most valuable assets. As a result, the company is developing data-driven decision-making platforms in a variety of ways.

Organizations can use a strategic talent management plan to:

- Rather than being reactive, adopt changes immediately and become proactive.
- By focusing on the major and key development areas, identify the essential skill sets and competencies that must be developed in all employees, reducing training costs.
- Using job descriptions based on the capabilities of high-performing employees who possess highly valued company or industry competencies, you can improve the recruitment process by identifying high-quality candidates.
- As a result of its talent management initiatives, the company will be able to successfully retain its top and key talent, thereby reducing attrition.
- It enables the company to significantly improve its performance, productivity, and revenue or profitability.

Performance of the Organization

One of the biggest problems facing management today is attracting and keeping a workforce that improves the organizations' performance. The primary objective of every organization is to perform consistently and on a regular basis in order to grow and progress in this competitive market. Therefore, the most crucial criterion for evaluating organizations and their actions is organizational performance. A collection of financial and non-financial indices that provide data on an organization's level of achievement of its goals and objectives is known as organizational performance. The hierarchical exhibition is all viewed as high when its parts capability together to accomplish huge outcomes and these results are estimated as far as the worth that it makes and conveys to its clients or customers. To maximize overall organizational performance and increase productivity, every organization requires talented employees. When an organization's human resources are innovative and creative, it can only gain a long-term competitive advantage over its rivals. When the entire global market is looked at, it becomes clear that businesses can be at the top of their market and produce excellent business results if they prioritize their own development, the development of their employees, and the delivery of distinctive goods and services to their customers. Therefore, organizations must identify talents, evaluate their potential, and develop skills and abilities accordingly in order to accomplish this. There are a few elements which are distinguished by the scientists which contribute towards the exhibition of the associations:

- Continuous education: It is necessary for the businesses to develop specific systems that facilitate employee learning. A culture like this greatly assists businesses in becoming industry leaders.
- Zeroing in on the client results/results: The businesses need to concentrate on the value they add to their clients. Revenues and organizational performance automatically rise when customers are pleased.



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- Aligning structures and systems: Organizations must align their processes, structures, and systems with the business's goals and strategies, as well as its vision and mission, if they are to improve performance.
- Employee participation: The businesses ought to work toward increasing employee engagement. It can do so by giving independence to its skilled workers so they are to make their own choices, regarding their innovativeness and exceptional thoughts and furthermore by empowering them to perform better.
- Sharing information: The organization ought to have free and open communication as well as the free flow of information. The organization would benefit from improved performance if employees were made aware of all decisions and changes made.

Both the financial and the financial aspects of an organization's performance can be measured. Return on investments, high revenues, sales growth, and a high market share are the financial indicators of whether the business is doing well or not. Then again, the non-monetary measures of authoritative execution are the fulfillment of workers, consumer loyalty, less grievances, great relationship with the providers and furthermore the trust of the workers in the authority. A high-performing organization can be defined as one that performs well in both of these areas. To drive this high execution, the association of the capable labor force is required on the grounds that they are the center capabilities and resources which an organization has. The organization's human or intellectual capital enables it to achieve its goals and objectives, generate above-average returns, and achieve excellence.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Lei et al.(2018) states that Job happiness is positively and significantly impacted by talent management. Increased work satisfaction and employee retention are ensured via training and development. Foster (2014) defines good talent management as having the appropriate people at the right time and place with the correct skills and attitudes. Al Aina & Atan, (2020) Although talent management and organisational performance are positively correlated, it is nevertheless difficult for organisations to implement talent management strategies to gain a competitive edge Dahshan et al.(2018) stated that The competitiveness of an organisation has a big impact on talent management in the contemporary global healthcare industry. Al Aina and Atan (2020) claim that the UAE is going through a talent crisis as a result of poor tactics for employee recruitment and retention as well as inadequate pay and benefits, which is leading to a rise in employee turnover. Tafti et al. (2017) Examined that The key success issues, causes, and barriers related to the talent management process. The study's framework enables past findings to identify and isolate the problems, obstacles, and barriers that caused them. The effect that talent management has on the contextual factor within the public sector is examined by Thunnissen & Buttiens (2017). The study's design focuses on TM applications in the public sector. On organisational performance, talent management is examined by Dahshan et al. (2018). This goal prompts them to create a framework where they investigate research and organisations to determine the precise impact talent management has. Behera (2016) investigates the idea of talent management. The strategy is to dissect talent management as a whole, identifying its advantages and disadvantages. If all other variables remain favourable, Ingram (2016) investigates the connection between talent management and the success of an organisation.

Objectives:

- 1) To provide a foundational understanding of talent management and its connection to organizational performance.
- 2) To investigate how talent management affects how well an organization does.

Hypothesis

H1: Organizational performance is significantly impacted by all aspects of talent management.

- H1.1: Organizational performance is significantly impacted by recruiting and attracting.
- H1.2: Rewarding and compensating employees has a significant impact on how well an organization performs.
- H1.3: Organizational performance is significantly impacted by training and development.
- H1.4: There is critical effect of progression anticipating hierarchical execution.
- H1.5: There is critical effect of characterizing and holding ability on authoritative execution.



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The study gathered information from 306 IT professionals. Both the exploratory also, distinct exploration was led which incorporates audit of writing and study which was finished through survey.

DATA ANALYSIS**Reliability**

Each dimension had its own reliability calculation, and each dimension also had its own set of variables.

Interpretation: The value is greater than 0.6 for all list of items, the tool used for the research is reliable and there is no internal uniformity between the items.

Frequencies

Interpretation: The upsides of mean, medium and mode based on age are 1.14, 1.00 and 1 individually for an example size of 306. For a sample size of 306, the mean, medium and mode for gender are 1.40, 1.00, and 1 respectively.

Descriptive Statistics

Interpretation: The above table explains the mean value is above average mean.

Group Statistics: 1

Interpretation: The group statistics show that males have a slightly higher mean value than females, as shown in the table above. As a result, male employees appear to have a slightly higher level of optimism regarding all practices associated with talent management, including recruiting and attracting talent, compensation and rewards, training and development, succession planning, defining and retaining talent, and the organization's overall performance. The fact that the p-value was less than .05 indicates that there was no statistically significant gender difference.

Group Statistics:2

Interpretation: The group statistics in the tables above show that the mean value for people younger than 30 is slightly higher than the mean value for people older than 30. Therefore, it appears that people under the age of 30 are more positive and content with all practices associated with talent management, including recruiting and attracting talent, compensation and rewards, training and development, succession planning, defining and retaining talent, and they also believe that the organization is performing well. The fact that the p-value is less than .05 indicates that there is no statistically significant age group difference.

Correlations

Interpretation: As per the investigation displayed over, every one of the aspects are emphatically corresponded with each other as worth of r for example Pearson relationship coefficient goes from +1 to - 1. The elements of ability the board show a moderate positive direct relationship with one another. There is likewise areas of strength for a straight connection between every one of the elements of ability the executives and authoritative execution.

Regression

Interpretation: The analysis that was just presented indicates that the dependent variable, which is organizational performance, is influenced by recruiting and attracting by 30.9%. There is 28.5% effect of pay and compensating on the authoritative execution. There is 24.2% effect of progression planning on the authoritative exhibition. Training and development have a 7.7% impact on an organization's performance. The definition and retention of talent has a 14.7% impact on an organization's performance. The analysis reveals that the values play a significant role in aspects such as talent definition and retention, compensation and recognition, succession planning, and recruiting and attracting talent. Therefore, we accept the alternative hypotheses in this instance. However, because the value is insignificant for training and development, we accept null hypotheses.





Findings

Out of the absolute 306 respondents, it was figured out that the male respondents which are 223 in number are happier with the Ability The executives rehearses like enlistments, pay and rewards, progression arranging, preparing drives and maintenance system of the associations in IT industry. On the other hand, Females which are 83 in number are not that much happy with the Ability The executives rehearses as contrasted with the guys in the IT business. In addition, male participants, who make up the majority of the study group, are more optimistic about the performance of their organization than female participants. The guys feel that their association has great standing according to the clients and their association has high efficiency and execution when contrasted with the others in the business. On the other hand, women are less satisfied with their organizational performance and productivity because women have a lower value of the means than men do. Based on the examination, it was figured out that the respondents underneath the age gathering of 30 years are happier with the Ability The executives rehearses and furthermore the authoritative exhibition. The dependent variable, which is the performance of the organization, was found to have a higher impact on the dimensions of recruiting and attracting, compensation and rewarding, and succession planning than on the dimensions of training and development, as well as defining and retaining talent, which have a smaller impact on the organization's performance. Employees also believe that in order to reduce attrition and improve overall organizational performance, IT companies need to pay more attention to their talent retention strategies.

CONCLUSION

The findings of this study, which are based on a data analysis of IT industry talent management practices and their effect on organizational performance, are incorporated. The above study and analysis both indicate that talent management has a positive impact on overall organizational performance. However, the practices have a limited effect on performance. The workers feel that to work on its ability the board and furthermore the presentation and efficiency, the associations can work on their learning and improvement drives and furthermore center somewhat more around their maintenance procedures. And if the organizations are successful in doing so, then their performance will automatically improve and surpass the current situation. Aside from that, the employees concur that the high performance of the organizations is due to the organizations' ability to effectively manage their talent. In other words, we can infer that ability the executives to some extent affects the hierarchical execution and subsequently, every one of the associations in the IT business ought to coordinate it with its marketable strategies or methodologies to upgrade their presentation, efficiency and productivity which will assist them with being more effective and furthermore to set up a good foundation for themselves in the market by acquiring an upper hand in this evolving business climate and economy.

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Table 1. Reliability

S.NO	DIMENSIONS	LIST OF ITEMS	VALUES (CRONBACH ALPHA)
1	Employing and enticing	4	.0816
2	Reimbursement and Gratifying	5	.881
3	Sequence Development	2	.700
4	Exercise and Growth	5	.838
5	Essential and Retentive Talent	4	.724
6	Structural Presentation	18	.931

Table 2. Frequencies

STATISTICS				
		AGE	GENDER	ORGANIZATION EXPERIENCE
N	VALID	306	306	306
	MISSING	0	0	0
MEAN		1.14	1.40	
MEDIUM		1.00	1.00	
MODE		1	1	

Table 3. Descriptive Statistics

	N	MINIMUM	MIXIMUM	MEAN		Std
	STATISTIC	STATISTIC	STATISTIC	STATISTIC	STD.ERROR	STATISTIC
Sequence Development	306	1	5	3.34	.053	.763
Significant & Retentive talent	306	1	5	3.39	.049	.699
Administrative Presentation	306	1	5	3.43	.044	.629





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TM Mean	306	1	5	3.44	.046	.658
Recompense and Satisfying	306	1	5	3.45	.060	.860
T&D	306	1	5	3.49	.054	.775
Employing and Appealing	306	1	5	3.55	.054	.776
Valid N	306					

Table 4. Group Statistics: 1

	Gender	N	Mean	Std. Dev	Std. Error
Administrative Presentation	Male	223	3.49	.577	.052
	Female	83	3.34	.694	.076
Employing and Appealing	Male	223	3.59	.740	.067
	Female	83	3.49	.828	.091
Recompense and Satisfying	Male	223	3.55	.790	.071
	Female	83	3.31	.943	.103
Sequence Development	Male	223	3.37	.689	.062
	Female	83	3.29	.863	.095
T&D	Male	223	3.57	.643	.058
	Female	83	3.57	.927	.102
Significant & Retentive talent	Male	223	3.43	.695	.063
	Female	83	3.33	.704	.077

		Variance Equality		t-test						
		F	Sig	t	df	Sig (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Std Error	95% Confidence interval	
									Lower	Upper
Administrative Presentation	V assumed	.503	.479	1.663	304	.098	.148	.089	-.028	.324
	V not assumed			1.605	153.930	.111	.148	.092	-.034	.330
Employing and Appealing	V assumed	.239	.626	.930	304	.354	.103	.110	-.115	.320
	V not assumed			.910	162.521	.364	.103	.113	-.120	.325
Recompense and Satisfying	V assumed	2.176	.142	1.920	304	.056	.233	.121	-.006	.472
	V not assumed			1.855	154.711	.065	.233	.126	-.015	.481
Sequence Development	V assumed	4.187	.042	.744	304	.457	.081	.108	-.133	.295
	V not assumed			.713	149.175	.477	.081	.113	-.143	.305
T&D	V assumed	7.004	.009	1.862	304	.064	.204	.109	-.012	.419
	V not assumed			1.739	134.318	.084	.204	.117	-.028	.435
Significant & Retentive talent	V assumed	.053	.818	1.054	304	.293	.105	.099	-.091	.300
	V not assumed			1.051	174.690	.295	.105	.099	-.092	.301





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Table 5. Group Statistics:2

	Age	N	Mean	Std. Dev	Std. Error
Administrative Presentation	<30	223	3.45	.577	.052
	>30	83	3.29	.694	.108
Employing and Appealing	<30	223	3.58	.740	.067
	>30	83	3.35	.828	.125
Recompense and Satisfying	<30	223	3.46	.790	.071
	>30	83	3.39	.943	.148
Sequence Development	<30	223	3.37	.689	.062
	>30	83	3.16	.863	.148
T&D	<30	223	3.52	.643	.058
	>30	83	3.57	.927	.143
Significant & Retentive talent	<30	223	3.43	.695	.063
	>30	83	3.33	.704	.128

		Variance Equality		t-test						
		F	Sig	t	df	Sig (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Std Error	95% Confidence interval	
									Lower	Upper
Administrative Presentation	V assumed	.045	.879	1.263	304	.198	.158	.189	-.028	.424
	V not assumed			1.405	153.930	.161	.168	.192	-.034	.330
Employing and Appealing	V assumed	.329	.526	1.930	304	.154	.331	.155	-.115	.520
	V not assumed			1.910	162.521	.164	.331	.155	-.120	.525
Recompense and satisfying	V assumed	.236	.542	.900	304	.656	.033	.137	-.006	.472
	V not assumed			.829	154.711	.665	.033	.173	-.015	.481
Sequence Development	V assumed	.008	.942	1.744	304	.157	.281	.108	-.133	.595
	V not assumed			1.713	149.175	.177	.281	.113	-.143	.405
T&D	V assumed	.170	.609	1.862	304	.264	.214	.155	-.012	.419
	V not assumed			1.739	134.318	.284	.214	.146	-.028	.335
Significant & Retentive talent	V assumed	.543	.618	.054	304	.593	.094	.140	-.091	.300
	V not assumed			.051	174.690	.595	.094	.137	-.092	.371

Table 6. Correlations

		Correlations					
		Employing and Appealing	Recompense and satisfying	Sequence Development	T&D	Significant & Retentive talent	Administrative Presentation
Employing and Appealing	r	1	.634**	.649**	.649**	.534**	.773**





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Recompense and satisfying	r		1	.609**	.750**	.720**	.792**
Sequence Development	r			1	.688**	.602**	.755**
T&D	r				1	.680**	.758**
Significant & Retentive talent	r					1	.716**
Administrative Presentation	r						1

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

Table 7. Regression

Model	Coefficients				t	sig
	Un Standard		Standard			
	B	Std Error	Beta			
Constant	.483	.109		4.489	.000	
Employing and Appealing	.258	.036	.310	6.930	.000	
Recompense and satisfying	.209	.040	.295	5.356	.000	
Sequence Development	.200	.038	.245	5.226	.000	
T&D	.065	.045	.078	1.435	.156	
Significant & Retentive talent	.143	.044	.148	3.118	.005	

Administrative Presentation : Independent Variable





The Role of Foreign Institutional Investors in Shaping the Nifty 50 Index and Market Ownership

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ABSTRACT

A robust stock market has a vital role in the economic growth of a country and in such a kind of share market the share price is influenced by purely on demand and supply of shares. The present study examines the influence of Foreign Institutional Investors (FII's) on Indian stock market. The study inspects the period of the past ten years April 2009-10 to March 2018-19. The data period is limited to 2019 March only to avoid the Covid-19 period which could influence some exceptional uncertainties. Nifty 50 index is considered as a proxy for Indian stock market for the study and the index is considered a benchmark for Indian equity market. The study examines the trend of FIIs in each year during the period, and the change made in return, the volume traded, volatility, bulk and block net investment due to changes in FII net investment. Though the result didn't show any significant effect between any variable, the interesting findings pointed out a positive relationship between bulk and block holder's net investment and FII's net investment and this is a sign of exhibiting herding behaviour. This herding behaviour could be attributed to loss aversion or snake bite effect in the past and to reduce the risk in investment of huge money.

Keywords: Foreign Institutional Investor (FII), Bulk & Block Trading, Anomalies, Herding, Snake Bite Effect and Loss Aversion Bias.

JEL Code: E22, E44, G00, G41, C01, C12,



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INTRODUCTION

The stock market of a country plays a vital role in playing the economic growth of a country. But at the same time, if the stock market is not robust it will affect the economic position of the country in a chaotic state. Once individual investors and their brokers with their limited resources dominated Indian stock market. This was during the regime before the 1990s. Due to the balance of payment crisis in India during the period 1990-91, India made significant changes in its economic which led to a transformation from LQP (Licence Quota and Permit) system to LPG (Liberalisation, Privatisation, and Globalisation) movement. As part of this Government of India, liberalised Indian economy, and this led to the birth of many institutional investors. The globalisation policies of the Government attracted FIIs (Foreign Institutional Investors) also into the market. This transformation to LPG from LQP during the period results in a large volume of international investment compared to any other emerging country's stock market (Samal, 1997). In this scenario, it will be very much interesting to inspect the level of influence among the FII in affecting the performance and control of Indian stock market. The study looks into this from different angles such as their effect on the price of index traded, the volume of shares traded, the level of change in volatility of price movement, and bulk and block holders' investment decisions. The study also analyses the trend of change in FIIs each year during the study period. The finding will give an insight into the present performance of Indian stock market; it will act as guidelines for the regulatory authorities to take necessary steps for taking any corrective steps if needed.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Liberalisation policies as part of the LPG movement in India due to the economic reforms in 1990 resulted in the entry of FIIs in more numbers and an appreciation of stock price (Henry, 1997, Baekaert and Harvey, 1998(a) and Baekaert and Harvey, 1998(b)) A study by IMF in 2005 shows that Institutional Investors control a sizeable amount of globally available equities, the value coming to approximately one-third of global GDP. Just as in developed countries, institutional investors have become major players even in the markets of emerging countries (Khorana et al. 2005). e.g. - India. In India the participation of institutional investors in the capital market had seen a massive change. In India as of June 2004, as an investor group, FIIs are the biggest non-promoter shareholders of SENSEX companies (Pal, 2004). The growing participation of institutional investors plays a vital role in the development of the stock market in the last 15 years. The influence of FIIs in Korea has been examined during the 1997 Asian crisis period and before the crisis period. The study didn't find any evidence of a fall in stock price because of the withdrawal of FIIs (Choe et al.1998). On the other hand, the increased role of the institutional investor has also led to a rise in negative perceptions such as they are prone to herding and positive feedback trading. (Dornbusch and Park, 1995; Choe et al. 1999; Borenzstein and Gelos, 2003; Kaminsky et al. 2004; Chen et al. 2008; Tan et al. 2008; Li and Wang, 2008; Li et al. 2009). Due to this effect, a small change in their behaviour will result in market volatility. This growth of investors in the past years results in raising some important questions that concern the nature and impact of institutional trading on the share price. Studies have also shown that in a bullish market, institutional buying has a greater impact on prices than selling whereas the result is reversed in bearish markets (Chiyachantana et al. 2004). As the institutional investors used to trade in large quantities than individual investors, the influence of institutional demand will be having a larger effect when compared to individual investors (Lakshman et al. 2013). But at the same time, a study in the Chinese stock market has been investigated to test the effect of FII and the result of the study showed strong evidence to prove FII has a stabilizing effect and contribute to market efficiency (Schuppli and Bohl, 2010).

RESEARCH GAP

Though many previous studies focused on investigating the trend of FII investment, and investment behaviour of FII, none of the previous studies compared the relationship between the investment behaviour of FII investment and bulk & block holder's investment behavior in Indian stock market.





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OBJECTIVES

The study focuses on the following objectives:

1. To analyse the trend of investment of FII during the period.
2. To inspect the relationship between the trading behaviour of retail investors in the stock market and FII investment
3. To investigate the relationship between bulk & block holders in Indian stock market and FII investment.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study focuses on secondary data alone. The study examines Indian stock market by selecting the Nifty 50 index as a proxy and the net investment of FII in Indian stock market, bulk and block holders' investment, and trading data of the index from the NSE (National Stock Exchange) website during the past ten years 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2019. The data period is limited to 2019 March only to avoid the Covid-19 period which could influence some exceptional uncertainties. The daily trading of the Nifty 50 index during the study period is also downloaded from the NSE website. Daily trading data of the Nifty 50 index consists of volume traded, opening price, closing price, high price, and low price. From this return and volatility are computed.

$$\text{Return} = \ln \left(\frac{\text{CurrentClosingPrice}}{\text{PreviousClosingPrice}} \right)$$

Volatility is calculated by using the Parkinson model (1980) by considering the high and low value of the market.

$$\text{Volatility} = \sqrt{250} * \sqrt{\frac{1}{4 * \ln(2)} * \ln \left(\frac{h}{l} \right)^2}$$

Where

Ln: natural logarithm; *h*: high value during the day and *l*: low value during the day.

Granger Causality is applied to find out the causal relationship between net investment of FII, return, volume, volatility and bulk & block holder's net investment. But before applying the Granger causality test, the stationarity of the variables must be tested. For testing the stationarity of the variables, both ADF and PP test is applied. The study assumes the data is not stationary or there is a unit root in the series. If the p-value is less than 0.05, the null hypothesis (H_0) is rejected and the alternative hypothesis (H_1) is accepted i.e. the data is stationary or there is no unit root in the series. If the data is not stationary then the first-level difference will be applied and even if it is not stationary, the second-level difference will be applied. Once the data becomes stationary granger causality is applied. Granger equations between FII net investment and return, FII net investment between volume traded, FII net investment and volatility, FII net investment and bulk and block holders net investment is tested. The null hypothesis assumed on testing of granger causality is as follows:

H₀₁: FII net investment does not granger cause return on Nifty 50 index

H₀₂: Return on Nifty 50 index does not granger cause FII net investment

H₀₃: FII net investment does not granger cause volume traded on Nifty 50 index.

H₀₄: Volume traded on Nifty 50 index does not granger cause FII net investment.

H₀₅: FII net investment does not granger cause volatility on Nifty 50 index.

H₀₆: Volatility on Nifty 50 index does not granger cause FII net investment.

H₀₇: FII net investment does not granger cause bulk and block holders net investment.

H₀₈: Bulk and block holders net investment does not granger cause FII net investment.

Granger causality test is applied by keeping the lag at 2 days. This is because Indian stock market follows

T+2 settlement. Regression is also applied to investigate whether the relationship between variables is positive or negative. Durbin Watson test is also applied for checking the presence of autocorrelation.





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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The study initially analysed the trend of FII during the previous years (2009-10 to 2018-19) and the result is illustrated in table-1 given below:

From the above table, it is clear that throughout the period there was a zig zag in FII investment, from the period of 2014-15 onwards except during the year 2016-17 there was a continuous decline in FII investment. To inspect the relationship between FII net investment and return, the volume traded volatility, bulk & block trade granger causality is applied. But before testing the granger causality ADF and PP tests are applied to inspect whether the data is stationary or not.

H₀: There is a unit root in the series or the data is not stationary.

As p-values of all FII, return, volume, volatility and bulk & block holders net investment in both ADF and PP tests, the null hypothesis is not accepted at a 5% level of significance. Hence alternative hypothesis is accepted.

H₁: There is no unit root in the series, or the data is stationary.

Hence all the variables are applied directly for further investigation. The result of granger causality is shown in table-2 given below:

The result given in table-2 explains that none of the hypotheses was rejected and hence no relationship is significant at the 5% level. But by observing the F-value of each result, which variable granger cause can be predicted through the relationship is not significant at the 5% level. The number of lags considered for the study is two because in India share market transactions are settled in the T+2 settlement format (Ganesh, 2018). Thus, the above result explains that FII granger cause nifty 50 return and nifty 50 volume traded but not significant at the 5% level. At the same time nifty 50 volatility and bulk & block holders net investment granger cause FII net investment but not significant at 5% level.

The result of Granger causality explained only which variable has more influence than the other and helps to determine which variable has to keep the dependent variable and which one to be the independent variable. Based on this a regression analysis is applied to know whether the relationship between each variable is positive or negative and whether it establish a significant relationship. The result of regression analysis is showed in table-3 given below:

From the above table, the values of Durbin Watson are all around 2 hence there is no autocorrelation in the series and hence the result can proceed. R² in each relationship indicates how much the independent variable explains the dependent variable. The result shows a negative relationship between FII net investment and returns on the Nifty 50 index. FII net investment increase indicates investment or buying is more than selling. So when FII net investment increases (buy increases than sales) return on the nifty 50 index is low and when FII net investment decreases (sales increase than buy) return on nifty 50 index is high. This shows that FII's enter the market when the return is low and when the return on market is high they sell by reaping maximum profit from the market. But the result is not significant at the 5% level. When the relationship between FII net investment and volume traded in the market is tested, the result indicates a negative relationship between the two variables. The relationship between volatility in the market and FII net investment indicates a positive relationship. The coefficient value of the relationship stood at 0.05 which is very close to zero. This indicates that FIIs prefer to sell when the market is more stable but slightly in a bullish volatility stage and prefer to invest when the market is stable but slightly in a bearish volatility stage. This means they exhibit more rational behaviour because investing during the bearish phase and selling during the bullish phase. The relationship between bulk and block holders' net investment is also considered for examination and the result exhibits a positive relationship between the two variables. This means that the investment strategies of bulk and block holders' investment and FII's investment is very much similar and they are moving together. In other





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words, this is a sign of herding behaviour from FIIs. Loss aversion bias or snake bite effect in the past may be the driving force of FII's to follow the bulk and block holders' investment behaviour. As bulk and block holders are also dealing with a huge amount like FII's they may assume bulk and block holders will consider all the pros and cons in their investment. So, mimicking their pattern may reduce the risk in resulting loss from the investment.

CONCLUSION

Foreign Institutional Investors (FII) are those who do share trading for them with others' money. Obviously, as they do share trading by cumulating money from others, they have higher funds than other individual investors do. Hence, they are strong enough to push prices from fundamental values, can influence the buying behaviour of individual investors, and can make the market volatile. The present study initially examined the trend of investment of FII and the result showed a zig-zag throughout the period covered for the study. The study then investigated the driving force or factors that influence FII's investment behaviour. The result showed that FII's investment behaviour has an influence over the return on market and volume traded. Volatility in the market and bulk & block holder's net investment influence the FII's net investment is also proved in the study. The study also proved the reason for the relationship and tendency of FII to herd the movement of bulk and block holders' investment behaviour. As the investment from FII's is huge and as they don't want to take risk, they may try to mimic the bulk and block holders' investment. The reason for following the investment behaviour of bulk and block holders' investment may be on the assumption that bulk and block holders may have analysed all the pros and cons in that investment because they are also investing huge fund. The fear of loss or snake bite effect in the past may be the driving force of FII's to mimic the bulk and block holder's net investment.

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Table-1 Trend Of Fii Net Investment In Indian Stock Market

Sl.No	Year	FII Net Investment (Rs)	% of investment	Change in Trend %
1	2009-10	-477070	-10.79%	
2	2010-11	1102200	24.93%	35.73%
3	201-12	1101207	24.91%	-0.02%
4	2012-13	437380	9.89%	-15.02%
5	2013-14	1394073	31.54%	21.64%
6	2014-15	797080	18.03%	-13.50%
7	2015-16	-17579.17	-0.40%	-18.43%
8	2016-17	53696.06	1.21%	1.61%
9	2017-18	20887.88	0.47%	-0.74%
10	2018-19	8674.45	0.20%	-0.28%

Source: Money Control.com

Table-2 Result Of Granger Causality Test

Null Hypothesis	Lag	F-Statistic	P-value	Decision (Accept/Reject)	Results
FII net Investment does not Granger Cause Return on Nifty 50 index	2	0.322	0.747	Accept	Both null hypotheses got accepted as the p-value is greater than 0.05, but when comparing both hypotheses F-statistic with a higher value shows the stronger influence. Hence FII net investment granger cause return on nifty 50 index but not significant at 5% level.
Return on Nifty 50 index does not Granger Cause FII net Investment	2	0.121	0.890	Accept	
FII net Investment does not Granger Cause Volume traded in Nifty 50 index	2	4.568	0.123	Accept	Both null hypotheses got accepted as the p-value is greater than 0.05, but when comparing both hypotheses F-statistic with a higher
Volume traded in Nifty 50 index does not Granger Cause	2	0.396	0.704	Accept	





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FII net Investment					value shows the stronger influence. Hence FII net investment granger cause volume traded in nifty 50 index but not significant at 5% level.
FII net Investment does not Granger Cause volatility in nifty 50 index	2	0.647	0.584	Accept	Both null hypotheses got accepted as the p-value is greater than 0.05, but when comparing both hypotheses F-statistic with a higher value shows the stronger influence. Hence volatility in the nifty 50 index granger cause FII net investment but is not significant at the 5% level.
Volatility in nifty 50 index does not granger cause FII net investment	2	0.670	0.575	Accept	
FII net Investment does not Granger Cause bulk and block holders net investment	2	0.138	0.877	Accept	Both null hypotheses got accepted as the p-value is greater than 0.05, but when comparing both hypotheses F-statistic with a higher value shows the stronger influence. Hence bulk and block holders' net investment granger cause FII net investment but not significant at the 5% level.
Bulk and Block Holders net investment does not Granger Cause FII net Investment	2	2.014	0.278	Accept	

Source: Computed Data

Table-3 Result of Regression

DEPENDENT VARIABLE	INDEPENDENT VARIABLE	Beta	P-value	R ²	Durbin Watson
FII Net Investment	Return on Nifty 50 index	-3.12	0.289	0.138	1.484
FII Net Investment	Volume traded on Nifty 50 index	-0.002	0.533	0.068	1.916
Volatility in Nifty 50 index	FII Net Investment	0.05	0.194	0.263	1.103
Bulk and Block Holders net investment	FII Net Investment	0.191	0.597	0.036	1.308

Source: Computed Data





Influence of Size of Coarse Aggregate on Flow Properties and Mechanical Properties of Self Compacting Concrete

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ABSTRACT

Size of coarse aggregate plays a crucial role in the workability and strength characteristics of concrete. Also, as usage of concrete is associated with some environmental implications, substitution of cement with endemically available pozzolanaic materials is beneficial for the environment. In this study, the combined influences of size of coarse aggregate variation and fly ash substitution have been studied. Slump test, L-Box test and V-Funnel tests were conducted to evaluate the flow properties whereas compressive and split tensile strength tests were conducted to measure the strength properties. It was noticed that the influence of size of aggregate tapered with time in case of split tensile strength attainment, whereas there was a perceptible influence on compressive strength. The role of curing period was obviously observed with progressive increase in strengths with time. Substitution of fly ash improved the workability, whereas the strength was almost the same irrespective of fly ash substitution. Thus it can be inferred that fly ash substitution and usage of 10mm aggregate can optimize the properties of self-compacting concrete.

Keywords: Self compacting concrete, fly ash, coarse aggregate, flow property, mechanical property.



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INTRODUCTION

With the ever increasing population and the demand for infrastructure, there is a constant need for optimizing the strength parameters and substitution of cement with endemically available materials. Pozzolanic materials such as GGBS, Fly ash have traditionally been used as partial replacements for cement and they have shown varying degrees of success (Fantous and Yahia, 2020). However, research on the role of influence of size of aggregates in conjunction with pozzalanic material is very limited and therefore warrants investigation (Zhang, Gao and Yu, 2020). This work focuses on investigating the role of combined influence of fly ash substitution and aggregate variation in optimizing concrete and contributing towards a sustainable environment.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Fluidity of Self compacting concrete can be measured with Slump cone. The setup typically consists of a tapered cone, broader at the bottom and is initially closed with a lid at the bottom. Into this setup, approximately six liters of freshly prepared concrete is poured. The lid is slide open and the cone is lifted up vertically swiftly, such that the concrete flows down under gravity. The time taken for reaching the 500mm diameter mark is noted down. The flowing ability of concrete is measured by simulating the actual conditions, consists of obstacles, which concrete has to face during the course of its flow. The setup typically consists of a hollow box in the shape of L. Approximately 15 liters of concrete is placed in the box and the resisting lid is swiftly opened. The heights of concrete at the heel portion (H2) and toe portion (H1) of the base of the L-Box are measured. The ratio value of (H2/H1), between 0.8 and 1 indicates a good flowing ability of concrete. V-Funnel test is used for measuring the workability of self-compacting concrete. The equipment typically consists of a V-Funnel shaped box with a trap door at the bottom. About 12 liters of concrete is poured into the box and it is emptied within a quick span of 10 seconds. Later, the time taken for the total emptying of the funnel is noted down. The lesser the time taken, more is its flow-ability. The compression strength and split tensile strength of concrete are measured using a UTM with suitable dimensions of test samples. Cement of grade 43, and varying doses of fly ash and varying sizes of aggregate were used to prepare M40 grade concrete. River sand was locally procured and used. Nan-Su method of mixing design based on packing factor is used for calculation of quantities required for one kg per cu.m.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Experimental results obtained on flow properties using slump cone, L-Box and V-Funnel as well as the results attained on testing the compressive strength and tensile strength are presented and discussed in this paper. The optimal values of fly ash replacement for different sizes of aggregates under standard conditions were calculated and used for testing the flow properties and mechanical properties of concrete (Ting, Rahman and Lau, 2020). The various quantities of cement, fly ash, Fine Aggregate (FA), Coarse Aggregate (CA), Super Plasticizer (SP) and water arrived at using Nan-Su method of mix design for 10mm size of aggregate are tabulated and presented in Table.1. Similarly, the optimized quantities of cement, fly ash, FA, CA, SP, the water used and the Water Powder ratio (W/P) are given in Table.2. The quantities of Flyash required for different sizes of aggregates are presented in Table 3(a).

Similarly the flowing ability and the time taken for reaching the slump circles are given in same table. It can be noticed that when cement was substituted with Fly ash, there was an immediate increase in the flow of concrete as evidenced by the slump flow value from 610 mm to 720 mm for 10mm size coarse aggregate (Benaicha *et al.*, 2015). However, as the size of coarse aggregate was increased further onwards from 10mm, the slump flow value decreased gradually (Shrivastava and Kumar, 2016). Similarly, the results of V-funnel test and L-Box test are presented in Table. 3(b). Substitution of cement with fly ash decreased the T_o and T_{5min} flow times of concrete of V-Funnel test and the same is shown in Table. 3(b). However as the size of coarse aggregate was gradually increased with the addition of Fly ash, the values of T_o and T_{5min} decreased gradually (Alexandra *et al.*, 2018), indicating that the flowing ability has decreased (Chen *et al.*, 2020). L-Box results exhibited similar trend as evidenced by a little increase in (H2/H1) with



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addition of Fly ash and gradual decrease with increase in aggregate size(Agarwal, Masood and Malhotra, 2000). The results got from L-Box test are also given in Table.3(b).

The impact of size of aggregate used and the strength attained on curing of concrete with optimal additions of fly ash are depicted in the following figures. Fig.1., shows the impact of variation of compressive strength with variation in time and aggregate size and it can be noticed that with increase in time of curing from 3 days to 56 days, there was a steep rise in attainment of compressive strength in the initial 3 days(Nadesan and Dinakar, 2017). However, the rate of increase decreased progressively with progress in time and almost got stabilized upon reaching 56 days(Lalitha Surya Tejaswini and Venkateswara Rao, 2020). The influence of variation in size of aggregate and curing period on split tensile strength is depicted in Fig.2. Split tensile strength too followed a similar pattern as that of compressive strength except that the split tensile strengths got converged to almost the same point upon reaching 56 days(Pesaralanka and Khed, 2020). Therefore, though curing period exhibited some impact on split tensile strength, the impact of particle size was almost negligible over a long run of 56 days(Promsawat *et al.*, 2020). However, as the performance of compressive strength was good with 10mm aggregate than the other higher sizes, 10mm size aggregate can be preferred(No *et al.*, 2015).

CONCLUSIONS

1. Larger size of the aggregate needs more amount of cement compared to smaller size of the aggregates.
2. The content of fly ash increased with a corresponding decrease in aggregate size.
3. Compressive strength was found to be better with 10 mm size of aggregate.
4. The experimental results showed that 10mm size of aggregate attains more strength compared to 20mm with high volume of Fly ash.
5. Using 10 mm size of the aggregate there is reduction in the cement as compared to 20 mm.

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Table 1: Results of Nan Su method of Mix Design (10mm)

Quantities (Kg/m ³)	Pozzolana		FA	CA	SP(L/Cu.M)	Water (L/Cu.M)
	Cement	Fly ash				
	344	180				

Similarly, the optimized quantities of cement, fly ash, FA, CA, SP, the water used and the Water Powder ratio (W/P) are given in Table.2.

Table 2: Quantities for different sizes of coarse aggregate

Size of aggregate in mm	Total powder Kg/cu.m		Fine aggregate Kg/cu.m	Coarse aggregate Kg/ cu. m	S.P Lt / cu.m	Water Lt / cu.m	W/P (Water Powder ratio)
	Cement	Fly ash					
10	315	361	891	786	9.34	194	0.34
12.5	335	241	891	786	9.34	194	0.34
16	351	225	891	786	9.34	194	0.34
20	369	207	891	786	9.34	194	0.34

Table 3 (a): Results of Slump test

Size of aggregate	Maximum percentage of Fly ash replacement (BWP)	Slump flow value	T ₅₀
10mm	0	610mm	6 sec
10mm	46	720mm	3 sec
12.5mm	42	700mm	3 sec
16mm	39	670mm	4 sec
20mm	36	650mm	5 sec

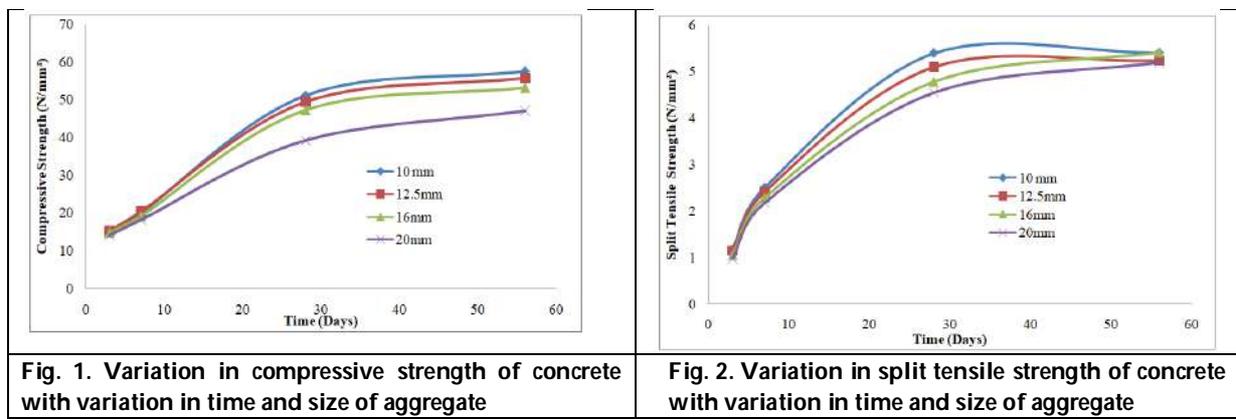




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Table 3 (b): Results of V-Funnel and L-Box tests

Aggregate size	Percentage of Fly ash replacement (BWP)	V-Funnel @T ₀	V-Funnel at T _{5min}	L-Box H ₂ /H ₁ (Blocking Ratio)
10 mm	0	5 sec	11 sec	0.81
10 mm	46	3 sec	7 sec	0.91
12.5 mm	42	3 sec	7 sec	0.89
16 mm	39	4 sec	9 sec	0.85
20 mm	36	4 sec	10 sec	0.81





Assessing the Probable Impacts of India's One Nation One Subscription Policy : A Survey among Kerala Library Professionals

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ABSTRACT

The key determining point in the development of a nation is the sharing of scientific knowledge. In this regard, the ONOS, a nationwide subscription policy is the bold and challenging decision of the Government of India focusing to give free access to seventy publishers through centralized negotiation and major beneficiaries are everyone in the country. This study has applied policy research through a survey among the librarians from Kerala in which it reviews the policy itself and its procedures and tries to find the probable benefits and drawbacks. Among the 116 participants, 58.60% were aware of the ONOS policy. Their library systems were not prepared to welcome the ONOS policy and 93.97% expressed that they had to get training and support. The ONOS policy would influence the library users and library budget positively. This study puts forward the opinions of librarians on the probable benefits and drawbacks of this policy if it is implemented. The execution of this policy should be only after a proper understanding of the economic nature of scientific publications within the country. It is a fresh start and a bold decision. Hereafter, India would be an inspiration to many countries as the biggest country giving access to pay walled information resources nationwide if it is realized.

Keywords: One Nation One Subscription, ONOS, ONOS Benefits, ONOS drawbacks, Indian policy





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INTRODUCTION

The government of India has initiated “One Nation One Subscription” (ONOS) as the continuation of One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) [1], One Nation One Law [2], One Nation One Taxation [3], and One Rank One Pension (OROP) [4] policies. ONOS is a fresh start and a daring decision. The initial steps of the ONOS were begun by the Office of Scientific Adviser to the Government of India and the proposal was opened by the Indian National Science Academy, the Indian Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences India, and specialized scientists and experts in this area. The foremost aim of ONOS is the centralized negotiation with publishing companies and to provide free access to resources by all citizens[1]–[3]. The result would be “a new culture of Atmanirbharta (self-reliance) that includes Atmavishwas (self-confidence), Atmasamman (self-respect), and Atmachintan (self-assessment) among students of all educational levels” [4]. In the first phase, Planning and Execution Committee (PEC) nominated 70 publishers to make resources available [5], [6].

The implementation of the ONOS would be done by the Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India from the beginning of the financial year of 2023 [3], [5]. There would be the centralized negotiation with the publishers and would replace subscriptions done individually by the institutions. By the end of the 2022, the MoE asked the higher educational institutions to hold on their subscriptions as the central negotiation was going on. But later, the MoE informed to continue their subscription for 2023 through a letter dated January 20, 2023 as there was no positive result after the centralized negotiation with publishers[7]. The execution of the ONOS is so important as it allows a nationwide access to information resources and the major beneficiaries are everyone in India. India is not the first country thinking to implement nationwide subscription policy. In 2009, Uruguay has started the online portal “Timbo”, the national consortium which provides wide access to various content throughout the country [8]. The Egyptian Knowledge Bank (EKB), in Egypt, has begun in 2016 and provides free access to information resources to all Egyptians [9], [10].

The quantitative analysis of scientific publications from India reports that India showed 12.9% growth rate in 2021 [1], a tenfold increase from 1996 to 2021 [11], spending around 15 million per year by all higher educational institutions as the subscription charges to access scholarly publications [12], and Indian research community downloaded 13 million research publications from Sci-Hub [13]. These reports shed light on Indian contributions as well as issues faced by Indian research community. The two major issues of Indian research community are the problem of accessing the required content [14] and the high processing charges in publishing the research outcomes [1]. In India, individual or institution can access the scientific publications but they have to pay. The negotiation power of the institutions or the association of institutions is the determining factor to cut cost of subscription. Thus, both in the cases of subscription charges and accessing information resources, a kind of inequality exists. Resource sharing and collaborative purchase of resources are acknowledged as the solutions to these problems; in this case, library consortium would be the one solution[15], [16]. But the occurrences of merging, splitting, and even withdrawing of the library consortia [17], [18] indicate that it is not the perfect solution. Therefore, searching for a solution with long standing effect would be appreciated. In this regard, the ONOS would be noted as a bold decision to overcome issues by giving equal opportunities for everyone in India.

The reason why this study has taken place among the librarians is that librarians are the experts in information access and management procedure. Secondly, they have the basic knowledge regarding the information needs of the users. Thirdly, they are experienced in facing a lot of challenges in the implementation of new information systems. And finally, they are the stakeholders and the responsible figures before the user community to encourage and guide them to use it properly. Moreover, the beneficiaries need to be accompanied constantly from first to last. The role of librarians ends only when the beneficiaries are satisfied effectively by integrating the potentialities put forward by ONOS. The result of this study will help to identify the potential challenges and propose ways and means to address those challenges that the library and librarians face while implementing the ONOS. Thus, the policy makers can gain valuable insights regarding the policy and ensure the successful implementation across India.





LITERATURE REVIEW

Ravichandran et al. [19] conducted a document analysis of the Government of India's proposed policy on "One Nation One Subscription" (ONOS). The study analyzed the Indian atmosphere in academic scientific publications and listed the potential opportunities and challenges that could be posed by this policy when it would be implemented. The authors raised the concern that the publishing market got changes every moment and modes of scientific publications reported sudden shifts, therefore, the implementation should be done with utmost care. It was noted in the study that negotiation with publishers would be done centrally which would be the greatest benefit of ONOS, but the same centralized negotiation would be done with mega-publishers which is noted as one of the greatest drawbacks of this policy.

Koley & Lala [20] scrutinized the proposed policy "One Nation One Subscription" and listed many of the limitations of the policy. This study was grounded on the analysis of the Indian contributions to open-access publications in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) field. Access to scholarly publications is a debated issue in everywhere and India has no exception. The study noted that the policy was suggested to encourage the accessibility of research publications to higher educational institutions in India as there was an inequality in the distribution and accession of scholarly publications. The study noted that the policy would disregard the open-access publishing options. Though it seemed as good due to the centralized negotiation with publishing companies, it would increase the dependency to access scholarly publications on commercial publishers. It was suggested that the implementation of ONOS should be only after examining the open-access situation in India.

In the context of dynamic change from subscription-based to open access in the area of scholarly publications, Koley & Lala [1] analyzed the role of the proposed policy of ONOS in India. The study advocated that while negotiating with publishing companies regarding subscriptions, the policymakers should properly understand the open-access publishing models in the Indian academic structure as there was an increasing trend to publish scholarly findings in open-access platforms. The study perceived that the proposed policy would provide more access to scholarly publications to Indian citizens by bringing all the scattered systems under one roof; at the same time, all the subject domains and higher educational institutions in the country should not be treated equally. Singh et al. [13] did a detailed analysis of the nature and attitude of Indian researchers on Sci-Hub. The study noted that the majority of the Indian researchers purposively made use of Sci-Hub to meet their information needs even knowing that Sci-Hub was banned and was noted for violating copyright issues. The geotagged map of download requests from India on Sci-Hub was the basis for this study. Sci-Hub and Libgen became the possible solutions for the Indian researchers to access many of the scientific publications. The study indicated that the Indian research community faced inequality in the case of accessing scholarly journals and stressed the recommendation of STIP-2020 to overcome this inequality by providing uniform and free access to scientific literature.

In the interview with Santhosh C Hulagabali, Muthu Madhan, one of the crusaders for open access publications in India and participated in the thematic discussions on "access to knowledge and resources" conducted by STIP 2020 about the proposal for ONOS commented that ONOS is an elusive goal [21]. The interview stressed that India faced a lot of challenges in accessing the information resources and India became a center of predatory publications. ONOS was considered as elusive because the publishing companies played the "heads I win, tails you lose" game whenever there was negotiation with them. And India was not technologically mature enough to handle nationwide subscriptions.

Chakraborty et al. [14] suggested a national framework in India for the publication of research outputs and the accession of scientific literature. Sharing of scientific knowledge on a regular basis was observed as a key determining point in the development of a nation. Global visibility and accessibility to the scientific literature was remarked as the greatest shortcoming of the Indian research community. The substantial budget of the higher educational institutions was concentrated on subscriptions whereas only 20% of the published contents were





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accessible to the public through open-access. It might be overcome by framing a centralized system with due diligence to access and disseminate information resources. The study recommended that the ONOS policy would replace the negotiation and subscription charges paid individually by the higher educational institutions through which equality in accessing and disseminating information would be maintained.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The very purpose of this study is to identify the potential benefits and drawbacks of the ONOS policy from the perspective of librarians. The results of this study would finally help the policy makers. To realize this purpose, a survey was conducted among the librarians from Kerala state by keeping the following objectives.

1. To evaluate the awareness of librarians regarding the ONOS and other global initiatives.
2. To analyze the impact of ONOS on library users and library budget.
3. To review the preparations of library systems and librarians for the execution of ONOS.
4. To collect the opinions of librarians regarding the probable benefits and drawbacks of ONOS policy.
5. To list the necessary steps to be considered before the execution of the ONOS in India.

METHODOLOGY

The analysis of the ONOS policy from the librarian's point of view is a hot topic of discussion in India. It is an evolving topic and very few researches have been conducted on the area still. The reason is that the policy ONOS is still in the discussion room and not yet implemented though it was announced to begin from the financial year 2023. And it is the main limitation of this study too. The proposal for the ONOS has been started from 2020. If it is implemented, it would be a great achievement and will be an inspiration for other countries. It is policy research through a survey in which it tries to understand different elements that may influence the implementation procedure of this policy and its potentialities along with inconsistencies are taken for discussion[22]. The study is intensively focused on library professionals as they are the principal stakeholders whereas everyone in India is the beneficiaries; secondly, the library is the place where the effective management and use of ONOS is centered. Thus, the researchers focus the study among the librarians from Kerala State. Consequently, this study introduces basic elements of the ONOS policy in India and other ONOS like initiatives in other countries. This paper presents the attitudes and views of librarians in Kerala on ONOS policy.

The questionnaire was prepared by collecting and correcting the questions related to the ONOS. The pieces of literature are collected basically from the Google Scholar and the SCOPUS database. In addition to the scientific literatures related to the topic, the newspaper reports, online writings, blogs, experts' opinions published online, etc. were collected and evaluated. These were the basis to enumerate the probable benefits and drawbacks of the ONOS. The first part of the questionnaire was related to the demographical details of the participants. In the second part, the questions were related to the awareness, preparations of the library systems, training and support for librarians, significance of this policy on the information needs of users and library budgets, and the necessary steps to be implemented before the actualization of this policy. The librarians' perspective on the probable benefits and drawbacks of the ONOS was centered in the third section.

The survey was conducted online. The prepared questions were converted into the Google form and dispensed among the library professionals by emails and social networking apps like Whats App. The snowball sampling technique was following in this study. The data collection was taken place in April and May 2023. The questionnaire was distributed among 150 librarians and 116 questionnaires were duly filled and the response rate was 77.33%. Informed consent was obtained from the participants of the study. The collected data in Google form was converted into Microsoft Excel. After proper coding, the data was inserted into SPSS statistics 21 software for proper statistical analysis.





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DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Demographical Distribution of Participants

The demographical details of the participants of this study are presented in Table 1. The study was conducted among the library professionals working in various forms of libraries in Kerala state. Among the 116 respondents of the study, 71.60% were female librarians. The remaining 28.40% of the respondents belonged to the category of male. The vast majority of the respondents (82.80%) had secured MLISc as their highest degree. At the same time, there were library professionals with Ph.D. (4), M.Phil. (7), and BLISc (9) as their highest qualifications.

Working space is important in understanding the ONOS policy. Among the 116 respondents, 61 (52.60%) were working in college libraries whereas 24 (20.70%) were attached to school libraries. There were respondents from the categories of university library (8.60%), teaching faculty (8.60%), public library (5.20%), and special library (4.30%). The data relating to the working experience of the participants showed that the majority of the respondents (64.70%) belonged to the range of 0-5 years. It is an indication that the respondents are freshers in dealing with library related matters. There were 23 (19.80%) respondents having 6-10 years of experience. 7.80% of the participants had 11-15 and more than 15 years of experience each in the field of library and information science.

Awareness of Indian and Foreign Initiatives

Librarians working in various types of libraries must have the awareness and knowledge of Indian initiatives because ultimately, they are the real promoters and instructors of ONOS. The awareness of librarians regarding ONOS and foreign initiatives like ONOS is placed in Table2 from the gender perspective. The proposal of ONOS was initiated in the fifth draft of the Science Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) 2020 [19], and from then on, the government through the MoE periodically announced the improvements of this policy with proper directions to be followed in higher educational institutions regarding the access and dissemination of information resources[3], [7]. The data in Table2 reflects that about half of the male respondents were aware of the Indian initiative. 51.50% of male were aware whereas 49.50% were not aware of the implementation of the ONOS policy. The study of awareness of the female category showed that 61.40% of them were aware of the ONOS policy while 38.40% were unaware. As a whole, the majority of respondents (58.60%) were aware of the implementation of ONOS in the Indian scenario. But proper care should be given to 41.40% of the respondents because they did not have an awareness of ONOS. This may reflect badly when the government of India would actualize the ONOS policy.

India is not the pioneer in implementing a nationwide subscription policy regarding information resources. The online portal 'Timbo' of Uruguay and the 'Egyptian Knowledge Bank' (EKB) of Egypt were examples of ONOS like initiatives by other countries [8], [9], [23]. Compared to ONOS, these initiatives had huge differences in their application levels. The analysis of the awareness of foreign initiatives from the gender perspective showed that 30.30% of male respondents were aware while 69.70% were not aware. It was almost the same with the female category. 27.70% of females were aware of foreign initiatives but 72.30% were unaware. It is quite interesting that 71.60% of librarians were not having an awareness of foreign initiatives. But 28.40% were aware of the foreign contributions. Library professionals should have the minimum knowledge of what happens around them in relation to the access and dissemination of information resources.

Preparation of Library System and Training for Librarians

Table 3 presents the data related to the preparations of library systems and the need for training and support for librarians from the working category in connection to the implementation of the ONOS policy in India. The proposal of ONOS was put in place in 2020 and was planned to begin from the financial year of 2023. Therefore, the questions regarding the preparation of library systems in higher educational institutions and the training to the librarians of those institutions are significant. In the Indian context, the financial stability of the higher institutions and the collaboration of institutions are the determining factors in the negotiation process with publishers in accessing scholarly publications. Thus, there exists an inequality [19], [20]. ONOS was recommended as solutions to these issues. But the data presented in Table3 regarding the preparations of libraries with regard to the implementation of ONOS is minimal. Various categories like librarians from school library (75%), college library (73.33%), university



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library (80%), public library (100%), special library (100%), and teaching faculty (80%) accept that existing library systems were not prepared enough to implement ONOS. While considering all the respondents, 77.60%, the vast majority of the librarians noted that their libraries were totally unprepared to welcome the ONOS policy. As this is a nationwide programme, the beneficiaries of this policy should be prepared enough. The librarians of 22.40% shared that their libraries were efficient enough to function well if ONOS was implemented.

Training and support are not just a one-time event but part of an ongoing process. When continuous learning opportunities and a supportive environment are provided for the librarians, they would be equipped to utilize the new programme effectively and serve the user community efficiently. The successful implementation of any programme within the library is crucially related to appropriate training and support. The attitudes of library professionals towards the need of training and support while executing ONOS from their working fields are presented in Table 3. According to the data in Table 3, all respondents from the public library, special library, and teaching faculty fully recommended that training and continuous support were necessary, whereas librarians of school (83.33%), college (96.72%), and university (90%) had supported the same. While considering the responses of all participants, the vast majority of the respondents (93.97%) did not receive any training and supportive environment in relation to the implementation of the ONOS policy. Therefore, dedicated support from the librarians could not be expected, for they were not trained enough to handle the situation. And 6.03% of librarians responded that they were trained enough to handle the environment.

Impacts of ONOS on Library Users and Library Budgets

The information needs of users become diversified due to the information explosion and technological developments. The reality is that no library is the potential enough to satisfy the various information needs of its users [24]–[26]. In India, libraries in various forms face the issues of the decline of budgets, diversity of clients' information needs, increased necessity for a variety of information resources, high rates of e-resources and subscription charges, etc. [27]–[29]. Therefore, the impacts of ONOS on the information needs of library users and library budgets have to be scanned properly from the librarians' point of view. Because librarians are the main figures in dealing with library users as well as library budgets. The data regarding both of these are presented in Figure 1.

Regarding the question on the impacts of ONOS on library users, 72.40% of the respondents pointed out that there would be positive impacts. At the same time, 23.30% of them shared that they were not sure of the impact of ONOS. Only a least percentage (4.30) perceived that there would not be any impact by the execution of ONOS in India. Regarding the library budget, 73.30% of the library professionals referred that ONOS would create an impact on the library budget. There were 19.80% and 6.90% of respondents shared of 'not sure' and 'no' respectively. Initiatives of libraries to provide improved access to information resources and participation in resource sharing activities are considered as the solutions to overcome the problems related to library budget and the variety of information needs of users [15], [30], [31].

Probable Benefits and Drawbacks of ONOS in India

The discussion on the benefits and drawbacks of the ONOS policy depends on the features of specific policy and the context of its application. According to the library professionals, the probable benefits and drawbacks [20], [19], [11], [1], [13], [14], [4] of ONOS are placed in Tables 4 and 5 respectively. These are only the probable benefits and drawbacks because the policy is not yet implemented, but it has been taken almost three years of discussions still to implement. And the reality will be explored only after its implementation. The researchers have selected seven benefits and drawbacks of ONOS and collected the views of participants on these based on a five-point Likert scale.

Table 4 reflects the opinions of respondents regarding the probable benefits of the ONOS. Among the five-point scale, 'strongly agree' had the highest percentage in all the seven benefits. The first benefit was the single nationwide subscription policy. This aims at a unified subscription plan for various information resources and services across the nation. This was strongly agreed by 45%. The second benefit was the central negotiation with publishers. It means



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that the central government on behalf of all citizens and higher educational institutions would negotiate with publishers for content. Librarians of 44% strongly agreed with it. Access to a wider range of journals was noted as the third benefit. It would enhance wide research opportunities and give chances for interdisciplinary collaboration. 51% strongly agreed to this point. The central negotiation would reflect in the access to high-quality journals and it was strongly agreed by 51% of the respondents. The point 'the standardization of the Indian journals' was highly agreeable (47%) to librarians. Through the implementation of the ONOS, the Indian journals would ensure credibility and follow international publishing standards; as a result, global visibility and acceptance would be increased. In the Indian scenario, there is no equality in resource allocation; for, the status and financial strength of the higher educational institutions are the determining factors. Library professionals of 42% believed that the ONOS would reduce the existing inequality in resource allocation. 53% of the participants strongly agreed that the ONOS would improve the quality of research.

Table 5 displays the opinions of librarians regarding the probable drawbacks of the ONOS. Among the probable drawbacks, the first one was the difficulty in nationwide subscription. The proposal of ONOS in India points to the foreign initiatives in Uruguay and Egypt. But a comparison of these initiatives with ONOS is not possible because India is a big nation with a number of different higher education institutions and multiple languages. 31% of librarians kept a neutral position concerning this drawback. 42% of participants agreed that the central negotiation would be only with mega publishers and there are large numbers of publishers who are not counted in this category but publish qualitative research outputs, would not have any roles in this negotiation. Among the participants, 32% strongly agreed that the biggest drawback would be the inefficiency of the technical infrastructure existing within the country. The country is not prepared enough to make use of the full potential of ONOS with its existing infrastructure. The problem of double payment is associated with the article processing charge (APC). This concern is about the payment by the authors or institutions; they pay an amount for publishing research findings and for accessing those published, they have to pay again. The majority of the participants (45%) kept a neutral position in this regard. At present, the higher educational institutions in India access various information resources through library consortia; the ONOS mentioned that there would be a single consortium. Then, the future of existing consortia is being challenged. 37% of the participants took the position of 'agree' with this drawback. The majority (43%) had taken a neutral position about the impossibility of common licensing. Licensing and copyright of the resources have complex nature and the questions on access restriction, content ownership, preservation rights, licensing agreements, etc. are confusing and complicated always. The participants with 37% agreed that there could be an unequal distribution of the resources. India is a land of multiple languages and higher educational institutions. The equal treatment to everyone is not the right choice. The quality and need of resources are subjective and vary depending on publishers, disciplines, and ranking systems. Therefore, it is very crucial for higher educational institutions and individuals to evaluate the information need, quality and relevance of the resources. As a whole, the ONOS policy has various potential benefits. The probable drawbacks have to be addressed for the successful running of ONOS for a long period.

Necessary Steps Before Implementing ONOS in India

Before the execution of the ONOS policy in India, it is essential to follow a series of steps to ensure its success. These steps would ensure the smooth and effective functioning of the new policy. ONOS directly creates impacts on library services and operations, so it is vital that librarians are to be prepared enough. The outlook of librarians about the steps to be considered before the administration of the ONOS is picturized in Figure 2. The library professionals who participated in this study primarily noticed that the ONOS should be executed only after conducting proper training programmes because improved performance, empowered engagement, and successful collaboration would be possible through the training programme. The second step was considered as the need assessment (20.11%). The need assessment of ONOS would address the relevant issues, meet the requirements of the library community, and achieve the intended outcomes. There were two steps in the third position such as collaboration with stakeholders before purchasing and resource sharing (19.58%) and upgrading of the technological infrastructure (19.58%). The last one was related to licensing and copyright requirements (16.14%). ONOS proposes to have enhanced learning and





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research opportunities by maximizing the accessibility to information resources and it would become successful by considering these elements before implementing the policy.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

This is the study to evaluate the awareness and knowledge of librarians regarding the ONOS policy and to address their concerns. If ONOS becomes a reality, India will be the largest nation giving access to pay walled information resources to all. The real challenge lies in the negotiation with the publishing companies and in its maintenance after the implementation. Because, the publishing companies change their marketing procedures aiming at profit alone and the publishing models are advocating different open-access modes like green, diamond, hybrid, etc. It is understood from the letters from MoE and news reports regarding the course of action on the ONOS that a crisis in the implementation process is fueled by the publishing companies regarding the negotiation which, in the absence of adequate means of support from the information experts, makes it more difficult to realize. V. Ramgopa Rao, the former director of Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi considered the ONOS as “certainly the right thing to do” [7]. It is because the chances of publishing of scientific outcomes would be simultaneously increased as the access to those information resources is increased. Another view was from Prof. Sourav Pal, the former director of Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Kolkata. He says that “the move for ONOS have its relevance for five to 10 years and then reconsidered depending on the situation” [7]. It was because there is a transformation of publication modes into open-access. As the publishing companies play the game of ‘heads I win, tail you lose’ always, the centralized negotiation will not be much fruitful. Therefore, Muthu Modhan considered it as an elusive idea [21].

In the wake of all these, it is interesting and pleasing to note that the day on which the ONOS policy takes place the day will be a historical event for Indians and would be an inspiration for all other countries. The novel element of this ONOS is that this policy will be fully accessible to all citizens. It will therefore be a wonderful opportunity to access journals that were being accessible to a few people and institutions and technology here puts at the service of everyone. It would be a turning point for both researchers and higher educational institutions. It is assumed that the welfare of the researchers and higher educational institutions is the decisive factor for the bright future of the nation. With this in mind, library professionals should have a collaborative nature in supporting this great initiative by the Government of India. All the beneficiaries are to be accompanied and the specific role of library professionals would be completed only when the beneficiaries meet their information requirement efficiently and effectively.

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3. One Nation One Taxation refers to a single taxation system. Goods and Services Tax (GST) is a single tax on the supply of goods and services. It has replaced the separate taxation for central and state governments. ‘One nation’, ‘One Tax’, ‘One Market’ was the slogan to promote GST.
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Table 1 Demographical Distribution of Participants

Characteristics	Variables	Frequency	Percent
Gender	Male	33	28.40%
	Female	83	71.60%
Highest Degree	Ph.D.	4	3.40%
	MPhil.	7	6.00%
	MLISc	96	82.80%
	BLISc	9	7.80%
Working in	School Library	24	20.70%
	College Library	61	52.60%
	University Library	10	8.60%
	Public Library	6	5.20%
	Special Library	5	4.30%
	Teaching Faculty	10	8.60%
Experience	0-5 Years	75	64.70%
	6-10 Years	23	19.80%
	11-15 Years	9	7.80%
	More than 15 Years	9	7.80%



**Table 2 Awareness of Indian and Foreign Initiatives**

	Indian Initiative		Foreign Initiative	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Male	17 (51.50%)	16 (49.50%)	10 (30.30%)	23 (69.70%)
Female	51 (61.40%)	32 (38.60%)	23 (27.70%)	60 (72.30%)
Total	68 (58.60%)	48 (41.40%)	33 (28.40%)	83 (71.60%)

Table 3 Preparation of Library System and Training for Librarians

	Preparations Library System		Training and Support for Librarians	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
School Library	6 (25.00%)	18 (75.00%)	20 (83.33%)	4 (16.57%)
College Library	16 (26.23%)	45 (73.33%)	59 (96.72%)	2 (3.28%)
University Library	2 (20.00%)	8 (80.00%)	9 (90.00%)	1 (10.00%)
Public Library	0	6 (100%)	6 (100%)	0
Special Library	0	5 (100%)	5 (100%)	0
Teaching Faculty	2 (20.00%)	8 (80.00%)	10 (100%)	0
Total	26 (22.41%)	90 (77.59%)	109 (93.97%)	7 (6.03%)

Table 4 Opinions of the Participants on the Benefits of ONOS

Benefits	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Single Nationwide Subscription Policy	52 (45%)	26 (22%)	33 (28%)	3 (3%)	2 (2%)
Central Negotiation with Publishers	51 (44%)	34 (29%)	23 (10%)	7 (6%)	1 (1%)
Access to a Wider Range of Journals	69 (59%)	22 (19%)	18 (16%)	5 (4%)	2 (2%)
Access to High-Quality Journals	59 (51%)	28 (24%)	22 (19%)	5 (4%)	2 (2%)
Standardize Indian Journals	55 (47%)	34 (29%)	19 (16%)	7 (6%)	1 (1%)
Reduce Inequality among Institutions	49 (42%)	41 (35%)	19 (16%)	5 (4%)	2 (2%)
Improve the quality of research	61 (53%)	31 (27%)	16 (14%)	7 (6%)	1 (1%)

Table 5 Opinions of the Participants on the Drawbacks of ONOS

Drawbacks	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Difficulty in Nationwide Subscription	23 (20%)	33 (28%)	36 (31%)	15 (13%)	9 (8%)
Negotiation with only Mega Publishers	24 (21%)	49 (42%)	31 (27%)	9 (8%)	3 (3%)
Inefficiency of Technical Infrastructure	37 (32%)	35 (30%)	33 (28%)	11 (9%)	0 (0%)
Problem of Double Payment	17 (15%)	35 (30%)	52 (45%)	9 (8%)	3 (3%)
Impossibility of Single Consortium	19 (16%)	43 (37%)	37 (32%)	12 (10%)	5 (4%)
Impossibility of Common Licensing	21 (18%)	32 (28%)	50 (43%)	8 (7%)	5 (4%)
Unequal Distribution of Resources	15 (13%)	41 (35%)	31 (27%)	17 (15%)	12 (10%)





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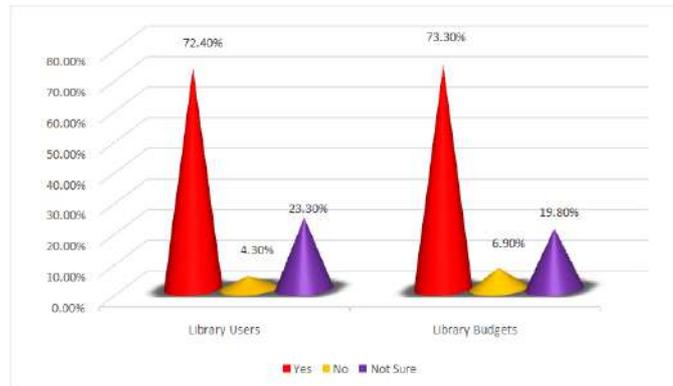


Figure 1 Impacts of ONOS on Library Users and Library Budgets

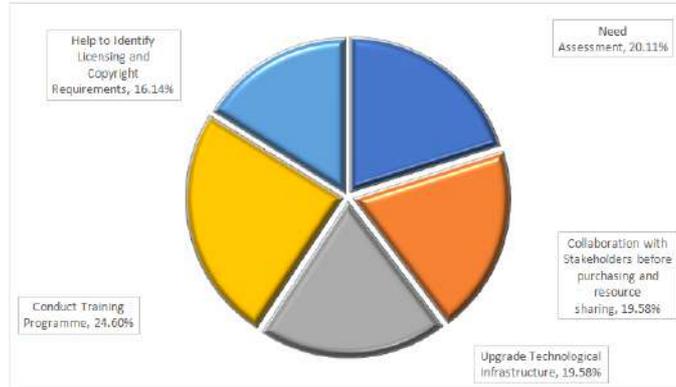


Figure 2 Necessary Steps Before Implementing ONOS in India





Assessing Employee Perceptions of Monetary and Non-Monetary Benefits in the Banking Industry: A Comparative Study of State Bank of India (SBI) and ICICI Bank

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ABSTRACT

The stability and expansion of a country's economy are greatly influenced by the banking industry. Understanding employees' impressions of their benefits becomes essential as banks work to entice and keep bright workers. This study looks at Career development includes the both monetary and non-monetary advantages from the perspective of employees in the banking industry. The study examines how the employees of two well-known banks, State Bank of India (SBI) and ICICI Bank, view their benefits. To learn more about how satisfied employees are with their compensation, including pay, incentives, bonuses, and financial perks, the financial advantages will be investigated. The analysis will also include non-financial advantages like work-life balance, career development possibilities, recognition programs, and employee wellness initiatives. A representative 50 sample of SBI and ICICI bank workers will be surveyed or interviewed for the study. In addition, the study compares the satisfaction levels of SBI and ICICI banking staff. The efficiency of these banks' benefit programs can be determined by comparing the satisfaction levels of their workers. To attract and keep top people, this research can help you pinpoint your strengths and opportunities for development. The data will be analyzed and the study hypotheses will be tested using statistical procedures including mean, standard deviation, t-tests. This study intends to examine how State Bank of India (SBI) and ICICI Bank employees perceive both financial and non-financial perks. Additionally, the report compares how satisfied SBI and ICICI banking workers are with their jobs.

Keywords: Monetary benefits, non-monetary benefit, employee's perception



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INTRODUCTION

A nation's economic stability and growth are significantly influenced by the banking sector. Understanding how employees feel about their benefits is crucial as banks compete for talent and work to offer tempting employment packages. With this study, State Bank of India (SBI) and ICICI Bank employees were asked about their perceptions of financial and non-financial benefits. The amount of happiness and motivation people experience at work is significantly influenced by financial rewards, such as wages, incentives, bonuses, and other financial perks. To assess their effectiveness and make informed decisions, the bank management must be aware of how SBI and ICICI banking employees see these financial benefits. By studying their perceptions, they can find out more about the level of employee contentment and identify possible growth opportunities. Employees place a high value on non-cash perks such as chances for professional progress, employee recognition programs, and wellness initiatives in addition to monetary pay. These non-financial variables affect employee engagement and overall job happiness. The employees of SBI and ICICI Banking can learn more about their satisfaction levels, areas of strength, and areas for progress by examining how they feel about these non-cash benefits.

By contrasting the employee satisfaction ratings from SBI and ICICI banks, it may be possible to better understand the differences in their experiences and viewpoints. This analysis will show which bank provides its employees with the more acceptable financial and non-financial benefits. In order to recruit and retain exceptional employees, it can help management and HR departments identify best practices and prospective growth opportunities.

LITERATURE REVIEW

(Bhardwaj et al., 2020) The study reveals a strong correlation between rewards, compensation, job stability, prospects for advancement, and good working relationships and job satisfaction. It demonstrates a positive association, indicating that job satisfaction is more likely to be higher when these elements are present. In addition, poll findings show that a sizable majority of bank employees within the banking industry express satisfaction with the current working environment. It is interesting, nevertheless, that they continue to have issues with pay and hours worked. It is clear from an analysis of the research findings that a variety of factors affect job satisfaction in the banking industry. Employees typically report higher levels of satisfaction when they receive awards, are adequately compensated, feel like their jobs are secure, have opportunities for promotion, and have good working relationships with their coworkers. (Ekundayo, 2015) The study provides convincing evidence for the influence of strategic human resources management practices on employee career advancement commercial banks. It was discovered through multiple regression analysis that different independent variables, specifically strategic human resource management practices, such as business and human resource strategy, human resource planning, strategic employment practices, performance appraisal practices, and employee retention, significantly influence the dependent variable, namely employee career development, in the surveyed commercial banks.

These results strongly support the recommendation that organizations embrace and implement strategic human resource management practices in order to achieve peak performance and efficient employee career development. Recognizing the importance of business and human resource strategy, good human resource planning, strategic hiring practices, performance appraisal practices, and employee retention may all help create an atmosphere that is supportive of employees' professional development. (Inayat & Jahanzeb Khan, 2021) The study comes to the firm conclusion that happy workers perform better than unhappy workers, significantly contributing to the overall success of their respective organizations. Given the erratic political and economic climate in Peshawar, it is crucial for any organizations to maintain employee engagement and satisfaction in order to support excellent performance. This can be done by putting into practice a variety of strategies and tactics created to cater to the unique requirements of the workers. The study emphasizes the critical connection between organizational effectiveness and employee satisfaction. Employees are more likely to exhibit increased productivity and positively impact the success of their



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organizations when they are happy and motivated. It is even more crucial for organizations to give measures focused at increasing employee motivation and satisfaction top priority given the difficult economic and political climate in Peshawar. (Agboola et al., 2018)The results of the study show that improving training and career development has a favorable impact on bank workers' performance. This suggests that a key factor in influencing the performance levels of bank personnel is training and career development. Based on these findings, banks are strongly advised to strengthen and priorities their training and career development programs in order to increase staff performance.The report emphasizes the value of funding training and career development initiatives to raise the knowledge and skills of bank workers. Employees can develop new competences, hone existing abilities, and keep current with industry innovations by being given opportunities for relevant and efficient training. A significant emphasis on career development also enables workers to define specific objectives, recognize possibilities for advancement, and advance in their professional careers.

(Kumari & Professor, n.d.)According to the study's findings, pay level, benefits, raises, and pay structure and administration all have a separate role in how satisfied bank employees are with their compensation. Together, these factors explain more than 70% of the variation in bank employees' overall pay satisfaction. The study concludes that employees evaluate their overall job satisfaction by taking into account a number of different facets of their compensation package. While benefits include extra bonuses and awards offered by the company, pay level relates to the sufficiency and competitiveness of the base compensation. Raise is concerned with the regularity and equity of pay raises, whereas Pay Structure and Administration is concerned with the openness and efficiency of the bank's pay system. (Lakshmi, n.d.)The aim of this study is to investigate the standardization of compensation and benefits practices among banking sector employees. The research shows that job performance in banking employees is influenced by multiple factors, and it is not solely determined by a single factor. factors like work overload, benefits, ambiguity, pressure, and confliction play significant roles in shaping job performance.Compensation and perks have become important aspects of contemporary life, having an effect on employees' behavior, ability to adjust, and general well-being both inside and outside of the workplace. As a result, a sizable amount of organizational research is devoted to researching the effects and usage of employee perks and compensation.

The study acknowledges that remuneration and benefits have a considerable influence on employees' behavior and adaptations, both at work and in their personal life, and it emphasizes the significance of comprehending and controlling these elements inside organizations. (Srivastava & Bhatia, 2013)The primary goal of the study is to determine the effects of motivation on employees' work performance, with a focus on "salary equity and promotion," "extended health benefits and social facilities," and "work environment." According to the results analysis, there is a significant relationship between these motivating elements and job satisfaction.It is clear from this study that fair and equal compensation practices, possibilities for advancement, access to comprehensive health benefits and social services, and a positive work atmosphere are all important motivators for employees. These elements are essential for fueling employee motivation, which in turn affects how well they perform at work.The results highlight the importance of job satisfaction as the result of successful motivational techniques. When an employee's motivational demands are addressed, their job happiness rises, which improves their performance as a whole. Employers can use these insights to create and put into practice initiatives that increase employee motivation and job satisfaction.

In conclusion, this study clarifies the primary motivators for employees, such as pay equity and promotion opportunities, additional health benefits and social amenities, and the work environment. The study's primary goal is to determine how motivation affects workers' performance at work, with job satisfaction emerging as a closely associated outcome. Organizations may develop a motivated workforce and increase job satisfaction by comprehending and resolving these motivational aspects. (Sekaran, 1989)This study focused on the quality-of-life aspects, such as job participation and a sense of competence, in order to better understand the factors that influence job satisfaction among employees in the workplace. The findings showed a pathway via which employees' sense of competence was impacted by their level of job involvement, which was in turn influenced by personal, professional, and organizational climate aspects. In the end, employees' overall job happiness was strongly influenced by their perception of competence.



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The results demonstrate the intricate interplay between numerous factors that affect employees' job happiness. Employees' level of engagement and investment in their professions, also known as job involvement, is influenced by a variety of factors, including personal traits, job-related elements, and the organizational climate. Employees' perceptions of their own competency in their roles are influenced by how involved they are in their jobs. Employees' total job happiness is directly impacted by their perception of competence. (Adekola, 2011) This essay explores how career management and career planning interact as variables that affect professional growth and job happiness, with career commitment as the ultimate goal. The study done in the banking industry emphasizes how important a link exists between career planning and career management factors and how they affect career advancement. It also looks into how professional development affects job satisfaction and career commitment in turn. The report goes into great detail about how these findings might be used to the subject of career development. The study reveals a significant relationship between career planning and career management factors and their impact on career growth through research done in the banking industry. It focuses on the significance of strategic career planning and efficient career management techniques in promoting employees' careers. The study also shows how an individual's level of professional advancement has a direct impact on their level of job satisfaction and dedication to their careers.

The study's conclusions have a big impact on how career development is done. Recognizing the critical function of career planning and management in promoting career development, work satisfaction, and career commitment can be beneficial for both organizations and individuals. Employees' general contentment and dedication to their chosen jobs can be positively impacted by implementing effective career planning programs, providing tools for career management, and establishing an atmosphere that is supportive of career progress. (Christuratnam & Raju, 2016) The study found that respondents' perspectives on the goals of participating in training and development programs, particularly in terms of learning new skills and enhancing problem-solving abilities, varied widely. In order to ensure that training and development programs in banks operate effectively, it is vital for the relevant authorities to pinpoint the root reasons and take the appropriate steps. The report advises bank training departments to make an effort to comprehend the elements causing these variations in training facilities. This covers a variety of factors, including infrastructure facilities, course length, library resources, instructional approaches, and instructional materials. Training departments can try to create a more equal and productive training environment by being aware of and addressing these problems. It is crucial to make sure that all employees have access to the tools and assistance needed for their development. This could entail upgrading the infrastructure, giving appropriate course lengths, upgrading the library, varying training approaches, and offering thorough training materials.

RESEARCH PROBLEM STATEMENT

The research aims to investigate the relationship between monetary benefits, non-monetary benefits, and employee satisfaction among State Bank of India (SBI) and ICICI banking employees, and to compare the levels of satisfaction between the two banks.

OBJECTIVES

- 1) To identify the relationship of monetary benefits as per SBI and ICICI banking employee's perception.
- 2) To identify the relationship of non-monetary benefits as per SBI and ICICI banking employee's perception.
- 3) To compare the level of satisfaction between SBI and ICICI banking employees.

Research Variables

• **Independent Variable:** SBI banking employees' perception of monetary benefits, ICICI banking employees' perception of non-monetary benefits.

• **Dependent Variable:** Level of satisfaction with monetary benefits, Level of satisfaction with non-monetary benefits.

HYPOTHESIS

H₁ There is a significant difference in the perception of monetary benefits among SBI and ICICI banking employees

H₂ There is a significant difference in the perception of non-monetary benefits among SBI and ICICI banking employees.



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H₃ There is a significant difference in the level of satisfaction with overall benefits between SBI and ICICI banking.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- **Sampling:** Randomly select a representative sample (50) of both SBI and ICICI banking employees.
- **Data Collection:** Conduct surveys or interviews to gather data on employees' perception of monetary and non-monetary benefits. Use a Likert scale or structured questionnaire to measure satisfaction levels.
- **Data Analysis:** Apply statistical techniques (e.g., mean, standard deviation and t-test) to analyze the data and determine if there is a significant difference in perception and compare the satisfaction levels between the two groups.

DISCUSSION

Money-related benefits, including pay, incentives, bonuses, and other financial advantages, have a big impact on how happy and motivated people are at work. The management of the bank must be aware of how SBI and ICICI banking workers view these financial perks in order to evaluate their efficacy and make wise judgements. They can learn more about the degree of employee happiness and spot potential areas for development by examining their perceptions. Along with monetary compensation, employees place a high importance on non-monetary benefits such as opportunities for career advancement, recognition programs, and wellness programs for staff members. Employee engagement and overall job satisfaction are influenced by these non-financial factors. Examining how SBI and ICICI Banking workers feel about these non-cash rewards can assist in revealing their satisfaction levels and point out their areas of strength and need for improvement. It may better comprehend the distinctions in their experiences and perspectives by comparing the employee satisfaction scores from SBI and ICICI banks. Which bank offers its employees the more acceptable financial and non-financial benefits will be revealed by this investigation. It can help management and HR departments pinpoint best practices and potential areas for development in order to draw in and keep outstanding workers. The results of this study will add to the body of knowledge in the area of employee benefits and give banks useful advice on how to raise performance levels overall and employee satisfaction.

Table 1 depicts the t-value and compares the SBI and ICICI banking employees. So, table 1 indicates that in terms of monetary benefits (salary increment), there is a significant difference between SBI and ICICI banks, where ($t=1.83235$; $p<0.05$). Therefore, our hypothesis "There is a significant difference in the perception of monetary benefits between SBI and ICICI banking employees" is accepted. Thus, the higher Mean value in ICICI bank indicates that ICICI banking employees have more perception about monetary benefits as compared to SBI banking employees. In terms of non-monetary benefits (Career development opportunities), there is a significant difference between SBI and ICICI banks, where ($t=1.9821$; $p<0.05$). Therefore, our hypothesis "There is a significant difference in the perception of non-monetary benefits between SBI and ICICI banking employees" is accepted. Thus, the higher Mean value in ICICI bank indicates that ICICI banking employees have more perception about non-monetary benefits as compared to SBI banking employees.

In terms of Level of satisfaction, there is a significant difference between SBI and ICICI banks, where ($t=4.32966$; $p<0.05$). Therefore, our hypothesis "There is a significant difference in the level of satisfaction with overall benefits between SBI and ICICI banking" is accepted. Thus, the higher Mean value in ICICI bank indicates that ICICI banking employees are more satisfied in their jobs compared to SBI banking employees.

CONCLUSION

The results of this study will shed important light on how banking personnel perceive financial and non-financial perks. Employee comparisons between SBI and ICICI will highlight each bank's advantages and shortcomings. This





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study will add to the amount of knowledge already available on employee perks and provide useful advice for boosting performance across the board in the banking sector and employee happiness. The present study is aimed to see the relationship among SBI and ICICI banking employees found that there is a significant difference between SBI and ICICI banking employees as ICICI banking employees having more perception about monetary, non-monetary benefits and level of satisfaction as compares to SBI banking employees. The findings of this study will help us understand how employees in the banking industry see their benefits. It will give banks advice on how to improve their benefit packages in order to draw and keep talented workers. The ultimate goal of this research is to support the economy of the country and the banking sector in their overall growth and stability.

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Table 1. T-test results comparing SBI and ICICI banks with respect to Monetary benefit, non-monetary benefits and Level of Satisfaction

Variables	SBI Bank		ICICI Bank		T-Value	P-Value
	Mean	S.D.	Mean	S.D.		
Monetary benefit (Salary increment)	3.4	1.5	4.12	1.27	-1.83	.036
Non-monetary benefits (Career Development Opportunities)	2.36	1.22	3.2	1.73	-1.98	.027
Level of Satisfaction	1.76	0.43	3.12	1.50	-4.33	.038





Assessment of Knowledge and Awareness Regarding Dental Management of Haemophilic Patients among Interns of a Dental Collage in Pune City – A Descriptive Cross-Sectional Study

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ABSTRACT

To assess the knowledge and awareness regarding dental management of haemophilic patients among interns of a dental collage in Pune city. Descriptive cross-sectional study. The reporting of the study was done according to Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology (STROBE) guidelines. A self-administered validated questionnaire, was administered to dental interns in Pune city. Descriptive statistics was performed in terms of frequency and percentage. Pearsons's chi square test was applied to check statistical significance and p value <0.05 was taken as statistical significance. The study comprised data from 138 participants. We found that at the time of clinical history taking, majority asked patients regarding any past history of bleeding disorders along with its familial disorders (p<0.05). Around 75% of the total participants, had knowledge on pre-operative precautions to be taken while handling a haemophilic patients also in proper management of complications arising from operative treatments (p<0.05). Around 53% of participants were confident in treating haemophilic patients while around 90% of participants believed that more emphasis should be given in to dental curriculum for management of haemophilic patients. More than 75% of the participants had knowledge regarding the etiopathogenesis of haemophilia. Knowledge regarding the bleeding time and proper investigations to be

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carried out for haemophilic patients were significant ($p < 0.05$). Participants were aware regarding the usage of proper haemostatic agent, indicated and contraindicated drugs and anaesthetic agents to be used in management of haemophilic patients ($p < 0.05$). Knowledge and awareness regarding the factor VIII therapy, fresh frozen plasma and the procedures that can be carried out in managing such haemophilic patients were highly significant ($p < 0.05$). Most of the dental interns had good knowledge about haemophilia and dental management of patients with haemophilia. There is still scope for improvement in the knowledge of the dental students, which can be achieved by altering the dental curriculum to provide more emphasis to the management of bleeding disorders and by continuing dental education programs aimed at imparting and amplifying existing knowledge.

Keywords: awareness, dental professionals, haemophilia, knowledge, survey.

INTRODUCTION

Haematological disorders are those systemic conditions with malfunction in the production of blood and its components (blood cells and proteins) [1]. They are generally classified into three groups: red blood cell (RBC) disorders, white blood cell (WBC) disorders and bleeding disorders [2]. The latter is a group of disorders that share the inability to form a proper blood clot [3]. They are characterized by extended bleeding after injury, surgery, trauma or menstruation [3]. Bleeding disorders may be congenital or acquired. They can be classified as coagulation factor deficiencies, platelet disorders, vascular disorders or fibrinolytic defects [4, 5]. Recognition of the signs and symptoms of bleeding disorders is an important aspect of dental management to provide an opportunity for the dentist to assist in the screening and monitoring of the underlying condition [5]. Dentists must be aware of the very impact of bleeding disorders on the management and treatment of their patients. Proper dental and medical examination of patients is necessary before treatment, especially if an invasive dental procedure is planned [6]. Bleeding disorders are a set of disorders that share the inability to form a proper blood clot. They are set apart and mainly characterised by continued bleeding after injury, surgery, trauma or menstruation. Sometimes the bleeding is spontaneous, without a known or identifiable cause [7]. Improper clotting can be caused by defects in blood components such as platelets and/or clotting proteins, also called clotting factors [8].

Bleeding disorders mainly involves conditions in which the ability of blood vessels, platelets, and coagulation agents to establish homeostasis is changed [9]. Bleeding disorders are widely classified as Inherited and Acquired bleeding disorders. Inherited bleeding disorders are basically caused by quantitative and qualitative alterations of either platelets or plasma proteins involved in coagulation and fibrinolysis [4]. Acquired bleeding disorders are caused by intake of certain medicines and special systemic diseases. Haemophilia A, haemophilia B and von Will brand's disease are the commonly encountered congenital coagulation defect disorders. Von Willebrand disease is the most common inherited coagulation disorder which results from deficiency of Von Willebrand factor and involves nearly 1% of society's population [10]. When a patient First comes to dental clinic and is to undergo any dental procedure and is a patient with a bleeding disorder the dental physician must run a set of coagulative tests prior to dentistry interventions and the changes that shall be applied to anticoagulants, the reason is the fact that physicians under such circumstances must assess the ability of patients to reach post-operative homeostasis as well as likelihood of thrombosis and emboli occurrence [11].

Furthermore, prophylactic, restorative and surgical dental care of patients with bleeding disorders is best accomplished by dental students who are knowledgeable about the pathology and treatment options associated with these conditions [12]. It also plays a significant role in reducing potential complications which might arise while performing invasive dental procedure [13].





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Local homeostatic agents provide control of external bleeding by enhancing or accelerating the natural clotting process through various physical reactions between the agent and blood or by mechanical means [14]. A general knowledge of the coagulation process will allow the clinician to better understand how the homeostatic agents work and when they should be applied [15]. Also bleeding disorder plays an important role in the dental practice. Periodontal health is of critical importance in patients with bleeding disorders as inflamed and hyperaemic gingival tissues are at increased risk of bleeding [15]. Periodontitis may cause tooth mobility and warrant extraction, which may be a complicated procedure in bleeding disorder patients. In restorative procedures usually there is no complication. This study has attempted to make an analysis of the awareness of the bleeding disorder among dental professionals [16]. The dental care professional must also be aware that the patient might present with their first bleeding episode in the dental clinic without any prior indications of the bleeding disorder. A detailed knowledge of the pre-operative and post-operative management of patients with bleeding disorders in the dental clinic, precautions to be taken and management of complications is necessary for all dental professionals [17]. More over Taking into consideration the limited number of studies that has been performed and is available on relative dentist's awareness on bleeding disorders, this study has assessed the knowledge and awareness regarding dental management of haemophilic patients among interns of a dental collage in Pune city.

METHODOLOGY

The reporting of the study was done according to Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology (STROBE) guidelines [18]. A cross-sectional, question-based survey was carried out among various dental interns in Pune city. Participants were selected randomly with no age or gender bias. The study protocol was approved by institutional ethical committee (IEC). After the ethical approval from Institutional Ethical Review Committee (IERC) to conduct this study, a self-administered validated questionnaire was used and their responses were collected using a custom Google form. The participants were asked to anonymously answer the questions relevant to them.

Questionnaire validity and reliability testing

A questionnaire was developed in accordance with the research objectives. The questionnaire was tested for face and content validity. Twenty- five participants with similar background were interviewed and asked to complete the survey. Their opinion on whether a question should be included or not was also evaluated using a yes or no question format. Moreover, the clarity of each question was discussed with each evaluator. Kappa statistics were calculated, and the survey was adjusted according to the results.

Survey distribution

The survey included questions with no sub-questions. The estimated time to complete the survey was 8-10 minutes. Some subjects were approached randomly in-person to complete the survey.

Sample size: To calculate the sample size for the present study, the following formula was used-

$$n = \frac{p(100-p)z^2}{E^2}$$

n is the required sample size

P is the percentage occurrence of a state or condition

E is the percentage maximum error required

Z is the value corresponding to level of confidence required

Based on the above formula, a sample size of 138 was derived





Statistical analysis

All the data was entered in Microsoft excel sheet. Statistical analysis was performed with Statistical Package for Social Sciences (IBM SPSS Statistic for window, version 21.0. Armonk, NY: IBM Corp.) at 95% CI with 5% alpha and 80% power to the study. Descriptive statistics was performed in terms of mean, standard deviation and frequency and percentage. Pearsons's chi square test was applied to check statistical significance and p value <0.05 was taken as statistical significance.

RESULTS

As shown in table 1 below, among the study participants we found that at the time of clinical history taking, majority asked patients regarding any past history of bleeding disorders along with its familial disorders ($p < 0.05$). Around 75% of the total participants, had knowledge on pre-operative precautions to be taken while handling a haemophilic patients also in proper management of complications arising from operative treatments ($p < 0.05$). Around 53% of participants were confident in treating haemophilic patients while around 90% of participants believed that more emphasis should be given in to dental curriculum for management of haemophilic patients. More than 75% of the participants had knowledge regarding the etiopathogenesis of haemophilia. Knowledge regarding the bleeding time and proper investigations to be carried out for haemophilic patients were significant ($p < 0.05$). Participants were aware regarding the usage of proper haemostatic agent, indicated and contraindicated drugs and anaesthetic agents to be used in management of haemophilic patients ($p < 0.05$). Knowledge and awareness regarding the factor VIII therapy, fresh frozen plasma and the procedures that can be carried out in managing such haemophilic patients were highly significant ($p < 0.05$).

DISCUSSION

People with congenital bleeding disorders constitute only a tiny proportion of the population. The lack of experience in dealing with such patients makes managing patients suffering from bleeding disorders challenging for most dentists [19]. Thus, patients with haemophilia often face obstacles in gaining access to primary dental care. The possibility that mild haemophilia may be diagnosed late during adolescence if surgeries, trauma, or dental extraction have been avoided must also be deliberated [15]. Therefore, in some cases, the diagnosis of a patient with haemophilia maybe first done by a dentist [16]. Although dentists can play a crucial role in diagnosing haemophilia and improving their quality of oral health, there is a scarcity of studies assessing the knowledge and awareness of haemophilia or any bleeding disorders among dental students and general dentists [17]. Bleeding disorder is a disorder where there is prolonged bleeding time due to failure in homeostasis. Some medications are taken by some patients for normal flow of the blood [anticoagulants]. Abnormal bleeding or a bleeding disorder can be found in patients who have less platelet activity. There are many factors playing role in the clotting of the blood. Deficiency or any abnormality in the in the factors can lead to excessive bleeding [20]. The bleeding disorder can also be genetically origin. The bleeding disorder may occur due to one of the following reasons Coagulation factor deficiencies, Platelet disorders, vascular disorders, Fibrinolytic defects [18].

Dentists or dental students must be well aware of bleeding disorders its conditions and its consequences during the management of patients because they may deal with patients in a regular basis who might have inherited or acquired bleeding disorders [21]. This is the first study evaluating the knowledge and awareness of haemophilia among dental students in Pune city, Maharashtra. Dental undergraduate students begin their clinical work in the third year of their studies. They must be aware of the special considerations required if and when a patient has been identified with a bleeding disorder such as haemophilia [21]. The clinical history is frequently used to make a diagnosis of haemophilia. In this regard, haemophilia can be suspected if there is a familial history of bleeding only in males or if minor injuries and dental manipulations cause increased bleeding [20]. In this study we found that at





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the time of clinical history taking, majority asked patients regarding any past history of bleeding disorders along with its familial disorders ($p < 0.05$). Around 75% of the total participants, had knowledge on pre-operative precautions to be taken while handling a haemophilic patients also in proper management of complications arising from operative treatments ($p < 0.05$). Around 53% of participants were confident in treating haemophilic patients while around 90% of participants believed that more emphasis should be given in to dental curriculum for management of haemophilic patients. More than 75% of the participants had knowledge regarding the etiopathogenesis of haemophilia. Knowledge regarding the bleeding time and proper investigations to be carried out for haemophilic patients were significant ($p < 0.05$). Participants were aware regarding the usage of proper haemostatic agent, indicated and contraindicated drugs and anaesthetic agents to be used in management of haemophilic patients ($p < 0.05$). Knowledge and awareness regarding the factor VIII therapy, fresh frozen plasma and the procedures that can be carried out in managing such haemophilic patients were highly significant ($p < 0.05$).

The management of bleeding disorder can be done by various means some of them include applying pressure, haemostatic agents, local agents, suturing. The best way to control bleeding is the to enhance the platelet activity, by promoting prothrombin in the circulation [22]. The principle agents include administration of platelets for Non-destructive thrombocytopenia, administration of Fresh frozen plasma for active bleeding and Immune globulin deficiency, administration of Cryoprecipitate for haemophilia A, von Willebrand's disease, when factor concentrates and Fibrinogen deficiency, administration of Factor VIII concentrate for haemophilia A with active bleeding, administration of Factor IX concentrate for haemophilia, administration of Desmopressin for active bleeding due to von-willebrands disease, administration of Epsilon-aminocaproic acid which act as a promoter for clot formation, administration of Tranexamic acid which has the same effect as epsilon-aminocapronic acid which can be used for any type of bleeding disorder[23].

For coagulopathies, transfusion of appropriate factors to 50% to 100% of normal levels is recommended when a single bolus infusion is used in an outpatient setting. In patients with haemophilia, additional postoperative factor maintenance may be required after extensive surgeries [24]. This can be done with factor infusion, cryoprecipitate or fresh frozen plasma depending on the patient's condition. But care should be taken to avoid injuring the gingiva while placing rubber dam clamps, matrices and wedges [25]. Patients with mild bleeding disorders can be treated in a primary care setting after consultation with the haematologist, while patients with a moderate to severe level of bleeding disorder who require invasive dental procedures are best treated in a hospital setting [22]. Consultation with the haematologist prior to any dental procedure is recommended to assess the patient's needs for prophylactic replacement therapy [22] Factor replacement therapy is required before inferior alveolar nerve block, lingual infiltration, or floor of the mouth injection. Restorative, prosthodontic, endodontic, and orthodontic treatments are considered safe in the majority of patients with bleeding disorders unless more complex dentistry is required [23]. The use of aspirin and other nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (such as ibuprofen and naproxen sodium) should be avoided in patients with bleeding disorders [24]. Dental care providers must immediately report cases of prolonged bleeding, dysphagia, or difficulty speaking and breathing following dental procedures to the patient's haematologists [24].

CONCLUSION

Most of the dental students had good knowledge about haemophilia and dental management of patients with haemophilia. There is still scope for improvement in the knowledge of the dental students, which can be achieved by altering the dental curriculum to provide more emphasis to the management of bleeding disorders and by continuing dental education programs aimed at imparting and amplifying existing knowledge.



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1. Do you routinely ask your patients for history of haemophilia or bleeding disorders?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Yes	75.7	48.92	p<0.001**
No	22.8		
Don't know			
2. Do you routinely ask your patients for a family history of a bleeding disorder?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Yes	66.9	47.16	p<0.001**
No	30.9		
Don't know	38.8		
3. Are you aware of pre-operative precautions in treating a patient with hemophilia such as administration of tranexamic acid before a surgical procedure?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Yes	73.3	28.55	p<0.001**
No	24.4		
Don't know			
4. Are you aware of the post-operative precautions in treating a patient with haemophilia such as avoiding aspirin and other NSAID's for pain management?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Yes	83.1	46.09	p<0.001**
No	12.5		
Don't know			
5. Are you aware that patients with haemophilia if improperly managed can bleed to death after extraction?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Yes	89.7	372.65	p<0.001**
No			
Don't know			
6. Are you confident in treating patients with haemophilia?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Yes	52.9	19.96	p<0.001**
No	29.4		
Don't know	17.6		
7. Do you think more emphasis must be given to dental curriculum regarding dental management of bleeding disorders in dental clinics?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Yes	90.4	69.41	p<0.001**
No			
Don't know			
8. Is a physician's consent required before extraction?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Yes	93.4	26.10	p<0.001**
No	0		
Don't know			
9. Hemophilia is -	Percent	Chi - square	P value





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X linked recessive	79.3	32.20	p<0.001**
X linked dominant	14.1		
Complex inherited disorder			
Mitochondrial			
10. Who is carrier in haemophilia?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Male	8.2	23.81	p<0.003**
Female	80.6		
Both	10.4		
None			
11. Etiology of haemophilia is-	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Via blood	11.8	35.01	p<0.003**
contagious			
communicable			
Mutation in gene	78.7		
12. Haemophilia A is deficiency of -	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Factor 6	8.1	20.65	p<0.002**
Factor 9	15.6		
Factor 8	73.3		
Factor 5			
13. Haemophilia B is deficiency of -	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Factor 8	14.8	69.41	p<0.001**
Factor 5	13.3		
Factor 9	71.9		
Factor 6			
14. Oral manifestations of haemophilia includes	Percent	Chi - square	P value
ulcers		28.35	p<0.001**
Spontaneous gingival bleeding	13.3		
ecchymosis			
All of the above	77		
15. What is the factor VIII level in case of mild haemophilia patient?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
6 -25%	20	8.191	p<0.004**
25 – 50%	48		
50 – 75%	26.4		
75 – 100%			
16. Normal bleeding time ranges from?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
5 – 10 mins	12.6	8.191	p<0.004**
4 -5 mins	27.4		
2 -7 mins	40.7		
1 - 2 mins	19.3		
17. What is the most common investigation to do preliminary testing for haemophilia?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Kidney Function Test		8.191	p<0.004**
Partial Thromboplastin Time and Prothrombin Time	74.8		
Liver Function Test	8.9		





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Complete Blood Count	11.1		
18. Which is the systemic haemostatic agent?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
sutures	7.6	8.191	p<0.004**
Tranxemic acid	80.9		
Gel foam			
Gelatin sponge			
19. Which of the following drug is contraindicated in haemophilic patients?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Desmopressin	18.2	8.191	p<0.004**
Acetyl salicylic acid	69.7		
Tranxemic acid	10.6		
Epsilon amino caproic acid			
20. Which type of anesthesia is not preferred in patients with haemophilia?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Local infiltration	13.2	8.191	p<0.004**
intra-ligamentary	16.3		
intraosseous	18.6		
Nerve block anaesthesia	51.9		
21. When is the factor VIII therapy given?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Only pre-operatively	23.7	8.191	p<0.004**
Only post-operatively	12.2		
Can be given both pre and post operatively	54.2		
During the procedure	9.9		
22. Management of haemophilia includes	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Increasing viii level	12.7	8.191	p<0.004**
Replacing factor viii	11.2		
Inhibiting fibrinolysis			
All of the above	69.4		
23. Can anti-fibrinolytics be administered to patients with haemophilia?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Yes	46.2	8.191	p<0.004**
No	16.7		
Not sure	27.3		
Don't know	9.8		
24. Fresh frozen plasma contains which factor?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
9	43.9	8.191	p<0.004**
3			
12	9.1		
All of the above	40.9		
25. Which dental procedure can be done in haemophilia patient that does not poses risk of bleeding?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
Root canal treatment	57.9	8.191	p<0.004**
Extractions			
Scaling and polishing	30.1		
Surgical procedures			
26. The minimum factor VIII level before dental extraction should be?	Percent	Chi - square	P value
100	100		





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25	22.9	8.191	p<0.004**
75	26		
50	46.6		





An Exploration to Encourage Sustainable Strategies for Encouraging Plastic Debris to Reduce Carbon Footprints

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ABSTRACT

This paper extensively examines the issue of plastic waste and its impact on the environment and climate change. It provides statistics and trends on plastic waste production, consumption, and disposal. The paper presents effective waste management strategies, including the 3Rs of waste management, as key solutions to minimize plastic waste and its carbon footprint. Additionally, it highlights policies and regulations that promote sustainable practices and reduce plastic waste. The importance of promoting global sustainability techniques is emphasized, along with the challenges in implementing these techniques. The paper suggests various opportunities and strategies for promoting global sustainability techniques, including enhancing collaboration between stakeholders, investing in innovative waste management solutions, and improving public awareness and education on sustainable practices. In conclusion, the paper emphasizes the need for collective efforts by stakeholders to create a healthier, more sustainable future by reducing plastic waste and promoting sustainable practices.

Keywords: Plastic waste; Sustainability techniques; Carbon footprint; Waste management; Climate change



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INTRODUCTION

Plastic waste has become a pressing global environmental issue with significant negative impacts on ecosystems, wildlife, and human health (Jambeck et al., 2015). The production, consumption, and disposal of plastics contribute significantly to greenhouse gas emissions, which cause climate change (Geyer et al., 2017). It is estimated that by 2050, there will be more plastics than fish in the ocean if the current trend of plastic waste generation continues (Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2016). In addition to polluting the environment, plastic waste also poses a threat to human health as plastic particles can enter the food chain and potentially harm human health (Boucher and Friot, 2017). Thus, it is crucial to promote global sustainability techniques to minimize plastic waste and its carbon footprints and reduce its impact on the environment and human health.

The need to promote global sustainability techniques to minimize plastic waste and its carbon footprints has become increasingly urgent in recent years (Geyer et al., 2017). The growth in plastic waste production and consumption is projected to continue, which could lead to a range of negative environmental and health impacts (Boucher and Friot, 2017). The promotion of sustainable practices that minimize plastic waste generation and encourage its reduction, reuse, and recycling can help to mitigate the impact of plastic waste on the environment and climate change (Jambeck et al., 2015). Such global sustainability techniques can also create economic opportunities for businesses and entrepreneurs to develop innovative solutions for managing plastic waste sustainably (MacArthur and Chase, 2016). Therefore, promoting global sustainability techniques for minimizing plastic waste and its carbon footprints is essential for achieving sustainable development goals and preserving the health of our planet and its inhabitants.

The objective of this paper is to explore and advance global sustainability strategies that will encourage the decrease of plastic waste and lower carbon footprints. The paper's scope includes an overview of the problem of plastic waste, an analysis of the way that it affects the environment and climate change, and an investigation of potential initiatives and strategies that may be put into place to lessen plastic trash and its carbon footprint globally.

CURRENT STATE OF PLASTIC WASTE AND CARBON FOOTPRINTS

Plastic waste production, consumption, and disposal have become major global environmental concerns (Geyer et al., 2017). It is estimated that by 2050, there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish, with plastic waste causing significant harm to marine ecosystems and wildlife (Jambeck et al., 2015). In 2015, it was reported that eight million metric tons of plastic waste entered the oceans each year (Jambeck et al., 2015). Furthermore, the majority of plastics are not biodegradable, and they can persist in the environment for centuries (Boucher and Friot, 2017).

Plastic waste production has increased dramatically over the past few decades, with global production rising from 1.5 million metric tons in 1950 to over 359 million metric tons in 2018 (Geyer et al., 2017). Plastic consumption has also been on the rise, with plastic packaging accounting for the largest share of plastic waste generation (MacArthur and Chase, 2016). However, plastic recycling rates remain low, with only 9% of plastic waste being recycled globally (Geyer et al., 2017). These statistics and trends highlight the urgent need to adopt sustainable practices for managing plastic waste and minimizing its carbon footprint. Without action, plastic waste will continue to accumulate in the environment, causing significant harm to ecosystems and wildlife and contributing to climate change. Plastic waste has a significant impact on the environment and human health (Thompson et al., 2009). In the environment, plastic waste can harm marine life and wildlife through entanglement, ingestion, and habitat destruction (Derraik, 2002). Additionally, plastic waste can contribute to the spread of invasive species, alter ecosystems, and reduce biodiversity (Gall and Thompson, 2015). Microplastics, small particles of plastic that are less than 5 mm in size, have been found in the air, water, and soil, and can be ingested by animals and humans (Rochman et al., 2013).

The health impacts of plastic waste are also a growing concern (Jang et al., 2019). Chemicals used in the production of plastic, such as bisphenol A (BPA) and phthalates, can leach into food and water, and have been linked to reproductive and developmental problems, as well as cancer and other health issues (Heindel and vom Saal, 2009). Moreover, microplastics and their associated chemicals can accumulate in the food chain, potentially posing a threat



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to human health (Schymanski et al., 2018). These environmental and health impacts underscore the need to take action to reduce plastic waste and promote sustainable practices for managing plastic waste. By doing so, we can protect the environment, wildlife, and human health, and work towards a more sustainable future. Plastic waste is a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change (Geyer et al., 2017). The production, transportation, and disposal of plastic all require energy and emit greenhouse gases, primarily carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane (CH₄) (IPCC, 2014). In addition, the breakdown of plastic waste in the environment can release greenhouse gases, particularly CH₄, into the atmosphere (Andrady, 2015). According to Geyer et al. (2017), global plastic production has increased from 1.5 million metric tons in 1950 to 348 million metric tons in 2017, and is expected to double by 2040. The production and incineration of plastic waste in 2015 alone resulted in the release of 1.8 billion metric tons of CO₂ equivalent, equivalent to the emissions of 189 coal-fired power plants (Geyer et al., 2017).

Reducing plastic waste and promoting sustainable practices for managing plastic waste can therefore have a significant impact on mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and climate change. By implementing strategies such as reducing single-use plastics, increasing recycling and waste-to-energy programs, and promoting the use of renewable energy sources in the production and transportation of plastic, we can work towards a more sustainable future.

GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY TECHNIQUES TO MINIMIZE PLASTIC WASTE AND CARBON FOOTPRINTS

The 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) are a set of principles for managing waste and promoting sustainability (USEPA, 2021). The first R, Reduce, refers to the reduction of waste at the source, such as by using less packaging or reducing consumption. The second R, Reuse, encourages the reuse of products and materials whenever possible, to minimize waste and conserve resources. The third R, Recycle, involves the conversion of waste materials into new products, which reduces the need for virgin materials and conserves resources (USEPA, 2021). Applying the 3Rs to plastic waste management can help minimize plastic waste and its carbon footprints. For example, reducing single-use plastics by using reusable containers and bags can significantly reduce the amount of plastic waste generated (Balogun et al., 2019). Reusing plastic items such as bottles and containers also reduces the need for new plastic products and conserves resources (Thiombane et al., 2020). Recycling plastic waste can also help minimize its carbon footprint by reducing the need for virgin plastic materials and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from waste disposal (Geyer et al., 2017). Implementing the 3Rs as part of a comprehensive waste management strategy can help reduce plastic waste and promote sustainability. Governments, businesses, and individuals can all play a role in promoting the 3Rs and working towards a more sustainable future.

Plastic waste management strategies can help minimize plastic waste and its impact on the environment and climate change. These strategies include waste reduction, resource recovery, and sustainable product design (Jambeck et al., 2015). Waste reduction involves minimizing the amount of plastic waste generated by using less plastic or finding alternatives to plastic products. This can be achieved through various measures such as reducing single-use plastics, promoting the use of reusable products, and implementing plastic bag bans (Balogun et al., 2019). Resource recovery involves recovering the value from plastic waste by recycling or converting it into energy. Recycling involves the collection, sorting, and processing of plastic waste to produce new products (Thiombane et al., 2020). Meanwhile, converting plastic waste into energy can help reduce the amount of waste that ends up in landfills and reduce the reliance on fossil fuels (UNEP, 2018). Sustainable product design aims to reduce the environmental impact of plastic products by considering their entire life cycle, from raw material extraction to disposal. This involves using sustainable materials, reducing packaging, designing products for easy disassembly, and promoting circular economy principles (Huang et al., 2021). By implementing these plastic waste management strategies, it is possible to minimize plastic waste and its carbon footprint, and move towards a more sustainable future.

Policies and regulations play a critical role in promoting sustainable practices and reducing plastic waste and its carbon footprints. Governments can implement a range of measures, such as taxes on single-use plastics, bans on certain types of plastics, and mandatory recycling programs, to encourage businesses and individuals to adopt





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sustainable practices (Böhm et al., 2021). In 2019, the European Union (EU) adopted the Single-Use Plastics Directive, which bans the sale of various single-use plastic items, including cutlery, straws, and cotton buds, by 2021 (European Commission, 2019). Similarly, several cities and countries worldwide have implemented plastic bag bans to reduce plastic waste (Moharana & Kumar, 2019). Several countries have also introduced extended producer responsibility (EPR) schemes, which hold manufacturers responsible for the entire life cycle of their products, including their end-of-life disposal. EPR schemes can encourage manufacturers to design products with recyclability in mind and invest in sustainable packaging alternatives (UNEP, 2016). Furthermore, international agreements such as the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) also call for action on plastic waste reduction and sustainability. The SDGs aim to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, while the Paris Agreement seeks to limit global warming to well below 2°C by reducing greenhouse gas emissions (United Nations, 2015; United Nations, 2016). Overall, policies and regulations can play a crucial role in promoting sustainable practices and reducing plastic waste and its carbon footprints, and help achieve a more sustainable future.

A PROPOSED PROCESS TO CALCULATE CARBOON FOOTPRINT FROM PLASTIC WASTE

$$\text{Carbon footprint} = W \times CF \times RF \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

Where:

W = Weight of plastic waste in kilograms

CF = Carbon emissions factor for plastic waste

RF = Recycling efficiency factor

The recycling efficiency factor is calculated as follows:

$$RF = W_{\text{recycled}} / W_{\text{generated}} \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

Where:

W_{recycled} = Weight of plastic waste recycled in kilograms

W_{generated} = Weight of plastic waste generated in kilograms

$$\text{Carbon emissions factor} = (E_{\text{pro}} + E_{\text{dis}}) / W \dots\dots\dots(3)$$

Where:

E_{pro} = Emissions from plastic production

E_{dis} = Emissions from plastic disposal

W = Weight of plastic produced

The emissions from plastic production and disposal can be broken down into more specific components:

$$E_{\text{pro}} = E_{\text{raw}} + E_{\text{manu}} + E_{\text{trans}} \dots\dots\dots(4)$$

Where:

E_{raw} = Emissions from raw material extraction

E_{manu} = Emissions from plastic manufacturing

E_{trans} = Emissions from plastic transportation

And:

$$E_{\text{dis}} = E_{\text{landfill}} + E_{\text{incineration}} \dots\dots\dots(5)$$

Where:

E_{landfill} = Emissions from landfilling plastic waste

E_{incineration} = Emissions from incinerating plastic waste





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Emissions from raw material extraction = $Q \times CI$ (6)

Where:

Q = Quantity of raw material extracted (in kilograms or other appropriate unit)

CI = Carbon intensity of raw material extraction (in kilograms of CO₂e per unit of raw material)

Emissions from plastic manufacturing = $Q \times CI$ (7)

Where:

Q = Quantity of plastic produced (in kilograms or other appropriate unit)

CI = Carbon intensity of plastic production (in kilograms of CO₂e per unit of plastic)

For example, if 1000 kilograms of plastic are produced and the carbon intensity of plastic production is 3 kilograms of CO₂e per kilogram of plastic, then the emissions from plastic manufacturing would be:

Emissions from plastic manufacturing = $1000 \text{ kg} \times 3 \text{ kg CO}_2\text{e/kg} = 3000 \text{ kg CO}_2\text{e}$

Emissions from incinerating plastic waste = $Q \times CI$ (8)

Where:

Q = Quantity of plastic incinerated (in kilograms or other appropriate unit)

CI = Carbon intensity of plastic incineration (in kilograms of CO₂e per unit of plastic incinerated)

Carbon intensity of raw material extraction = E / Q (9)

Where:

E = Total carbon emissions from raw material extraction (in kilograms of CO₂e)

Q = Quantity of raw material extracted (in kilograms or other appropriate unit)

Carbon footprint of plastic waste = (Emissions from plastic waste disposal + Emissions from plastic production + Emissions from raw material extraction) / Quantity of plastic waste generated(10)

Where:

Emissions from plastic waste disposal = $Ql \times CL + Qi \times Ci + Qo \times Co$(11)

Emissions from plastic production = $Qp \times Cp$(12)

Emissions from raw material extraction = Er / Qr(13)

Ql = Quantity of plastic waste landfilled

CL = Carbon intensity of landfilling

Qi = Quantity of plastic waste incinerated

Ci = Carbon intensity of plastic incineration

Qo = Quantity of plastic waste disposed of by other methods

Co = Carbon intensity of other plastic waste disposal methods

Qp = Quantity of plastic produced

Cp = Carbon intensity of plastic production

Er = Total carbon emissions from raw material extraction

Qr = Quantity of raw material extracted

This algorithm can help individuals, organizations, and governments better understand the carbon footprint associated with plastic waste and identify opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through waste reduction, recycling, and more sustainable production and disposal practices.

PROMOTING GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY TECHNIQUES FOR MOTIVATING PLASTIC WASTE REDUCTION

Promoting global sustainability techniques is crucial for motivating plastic waste reduction and achieving a more sustainable future. Businesses, governments, and individuals all have a role to play in adopting sustainable practices that reduce plastic waste and its carbon footprints. Several studies have highlighted the importance of public awareness and education campaigns to promote sustainable behaviors and reduce plastic waste. For instance, a



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study by Barlow et al. (2019) found that educational campaigns on plastic pollution can increase public knowledge and encourage individuals to adopt more sustainable practices. Similarly, a study by Canning-Clode et al. (2021) emphasized the need for engaging citizens in plastic waste reduction efforts to foster a sense of ownership and responsibility. Businesses can also play a critical role in reducing plastic waste by adopting sustainable product design and packaging practices. For example, a study by Anderson et al. (2019) highlighted the benefits of sustainable packaging, including reduced carbon emissions and increased consumer trust and loyalty. Moreover, businesses can collaborate with governments and other stakeholders to develop and implement sustainable waste management practices. Governments can also promote sustainable practices and reduce plastic waste by implementing policies and regulations, as discussed earlier. International organizations and agreements can also play a crucial role in promoting sustainable practices and reducing plastic waste, such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Ellen MacArthur Foundation's New Plastics Economy Global Commitment (Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2021; United Nations, 2015). Overall, promoting global sustainability techniques is essential for motivating plastic waste reduction and achieving a more sustainable future. Through public awareness campaigns, sustainable product design and packaging, and policy interventions, we can reduce plastic waste and its carbon footprints and build a more sustainable world.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROMOTING GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY TECHNIQUES

Promoting global sustainability techniques for reducing plastic waste and its carbon footprints presents several challenges and opportunities. One of the primary challenges is changing consumer behaviour and attitudes towards sustainability. A study by Tavasszy and Pels (2016) noted that consumers often prioritize convenience and affordability over sustainability, which can make it challenging to motivate them to adopt sustainable practices. Another challenge is the lack of effective waste management infrastructure in many countries, particularly in developing regions. This can lead to plastic waste leakage and pollution, as well as greenhouse gas emissions from open burning and other disposal methods. A study by Torres et al. (2020) highlighted the need for improving waste management infrastructure and promoting circular economy models to reduce plastic waste and its carbon footprints.

However, promoting global sustainability techniques also presents several opportunities. For instance, the transition to a more sustainable economy can create new jobs and business opportunities in sustainable product design, waste management, and renewable energy sectors. A study by Sung et al. (2020) noted that the circular economy approach can create significant economic benefits and reduce carbon emissions. Moreover, promoting global sustainability techniques can also lead to improved public health and well-being. Plastic pollution can have adverse impacts on human health, such as through the ingestion of microplastics and the release of harmful chemicals from plastic waste. By reducing plastic waste and promoting sustainable practices, we can create healthier and more sustainable communities. In conclusion, promoting global sustainability techniques for reducing plastic waste and its carbon footprints presents several challenges and opportunities. While changing consumer behaviour and improving waste management infrastructure can be challenging, the transition to a more sustainable economy can create significant economic and public health benefits.

CONCLUSION

Based on the discussions above, it is evident that plastic waste is a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, which poses significant environmental and health impacts. Promoting global sustainability techniques such as waste reduction, resource recovery, and sustainable product design can help reduce plastic waste and its carbon footprints. However, several challenges such as changing consumer behavior and improving waste management infrastructure must be addressed. In conclusion, reducing plastic waste and its carbon footprint is a complex issue that requires a multi-faceted approach involving various stakeholders such as governments, industries, consumers, and waste management authorities. While progress has been made in promoting sustainability techniques, much more needs to be done to achieve a circular economy that reduces plastic



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waste and promotes a sustainable future. Future directions should focus on enhancing collaboration between stakeholders to promote sustainability techniques, invest in research and development of innovative solutions for waste management, and improve public awareness and education on sustainable practices. Governments should also consider implementing policies and regulations that promote sustainable practices and reduce plastic waste, and industries should adopt sustainable product design and production methods. In conclusion, reducing plastic waste and its carbon footprint is a global challenge that requires a collective effort from everyone. By promoting global sustainability techniques, we can create a healthier, more sustainable future for ourselves and future generations.

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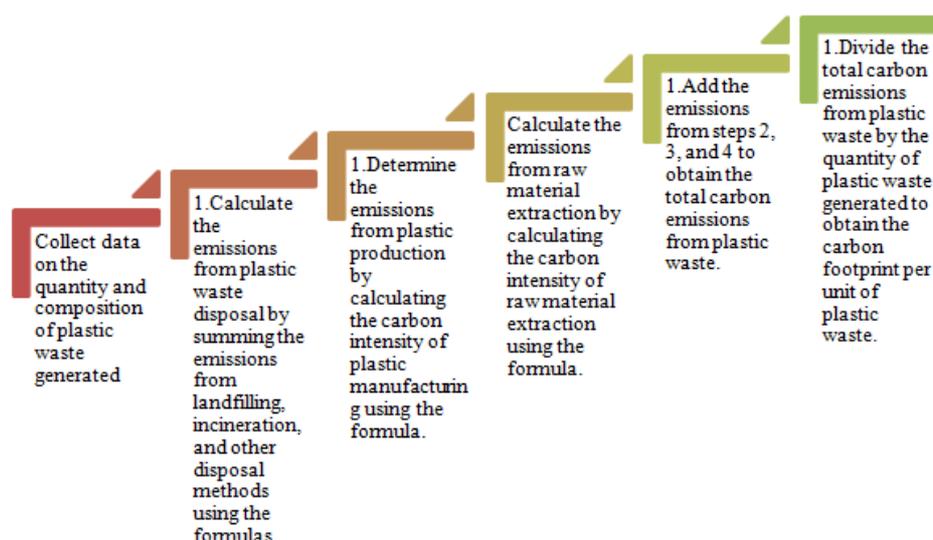


Figure 3 Flow Chart of New Algorithm Calculate the Carbon Footprint of Plastic Waste





Molecular Docking, Anticancer Activity, Structural Analysis, and Synthesis of Certain Novel Schiff base from Benzohydrazide Derivate

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ABSTRACT

The synthesis of three novel benzohydrazide based Schiff base compounds, N'-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)-4-methylbenzohydrazide (HL¹), through a condensing a primary amine and an aldehyde functional group. The molecules were characterized by using leading spectroscopic techniques, and the bulk data was analyzed, confirming their excellent quality. The molecules characterized by elemental analysis, infrared spectroscopy, nuclear magnetic spectroscopy and ultra violet spectroscopy. Then, Schiff base compound characterization by biological activity studies and docking studies. The antibacterial activity of the synthesized compounds was tested against three strains of EGFR tyrosine kinase, GlcN-6-p synthase, and *E. coli*. Additionally, docking studies were performed to investigate the binding interactions between the benzohydrazide based Schiff bases and the target enzymes. The binding constants and number of binding modes were calculated, providing insight into the potential mechanisms of action of these compounds. Interesting fragmentation patterns were reported in the biological activity studies, which could provide useful information for further investigation into the compounds modes of action. Docking studies also evaluated the potential of these compounds as drug candidates. Overall, the study suggests that the synthesized benzohydrazide based Schiff base compounds have potential antibacterial activity and binding interactions with target enzymes.

Keywords: Schiff base ligand, Spectral characterization, antifungal and anti bacterial studies, Docking Studies.



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INTRODUCTION

Schiff bases are a class of chemical compounds that are typically synthesized by condensing a primary amine and a carbonyl functional group [1]. They are also referred to as imines or azomethines and are named after the German chemist Hugo Schiff [2], who first synthesized them in 1864. Schiff bases have a wide range of applications in various fields, including medicine, pharmacology, and materials science, due to their diverse chemical properties and biological activities. The imine or azomethine group in Schiff bases is a versatile pharmacophore that can be modified by varying the substituent to produce a diverse range of bioactive molecules. The presence of aromatic rings with nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur donor atoms in Schiff bases contributes to their wide range of pharmacological activities, including antibacterial, antifungal, antimalarial, anti-inflammatory, and antipyretic actions. The pharmacological properties of Schiff bases are influenced by the type and position of substituents on the aromatic ring, as well as the type and nature of the functional group on the imine moiety. Hence, Schiff bases are widely studied for their potential applications as therapeutic agents in the treatment of various diseases [3–12]. Schiff bases can also act as effective chelators, forming stable complexes with metal ions. This property of Schiff bases has been exploited to develop diverse chemo sensors that can selectively detect and quantify metal ions in environmental, biological, and industrial samples. The ability of Schiff bases to form metal complexes depends on the nature and position of the substituent on the aromatic ring and the functional group on the imine moiety. The formation of a complex between Schiff bases and metal ions often results in a change in the optical, electrochemical, or magnetic properties of the compound, which can be exploited for the development of sensitive and selective chemo sensors [13].

Schiff based chemo sensors have been reported for the detection of various metal ions, including copper, zinc, nickel, mercury, and lead, among others. Schiff bases derived from heterocyclic moieties have demonstrated promising antimicrobial activities against pathogenic strains in numerous studies. These compounds have also been investigated for their antitumor, anti-inflammatory, and antioxidant activities, among other things. Additionally, Schiff bases have been utilized as ligands in coordination chemistry and as building blocks in supra molecular chemistry due to their ability to chelate with metal ions [14-15]. Schiff bases derived from triazoles have also shown promising antibacterial properties. For instance, Singh et al. synthesized a series of triazole based Schiff bases and evaluated their antibacterial activity against Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria. The results showed that the Schiff bases exhibited significant antibacterial activity, with some compounds exhibiting even better activity than the standard antibiotics used in the study [16].

Similarly, Schiff bases derived from amino acids have also been reported to possess antibacterial activity. Jha and colleagues synthesized a series of Schiff bases from various amino acids and evaluated their antibacterial activity against different bacterial strains. The results indicated that the compounds showed significant antibacterial activity, with some exhibiting even better activity than the standard antibiotics used in the study [17]. Overall, the diverse pharmacological activities of Schiff bases make them a promising area of research for the development of novel antibacterial agents. Benzohydrazide based Schiff bases have attracted significant interest in the field of biomaterials due to their unique properties, including excellent biocompatibility and biodegradability, as well as their ability to selectively target specific biomolecules. These properties make them ideal candidates for use in various biomedical applications, including drug delivery, bio-imaging, and tissue engineering. Additionally, the ability to incorporate various functional groups into hydrazide based Schiff bases enables the creation of a diverse range of biomaterials with specific properties and functions [18-19].

It is great to hear about your research on the synthesis and biological applications of Schiff bases based on benzohydrazide derivatives. The use of 4-methylbenzohydrazide in the synthesis of Schiff bases is intriguing, and it's interesting to note that the presence of a methyl group in the Para position can enhance the biological activity of the compound.



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The hydrazide group with phenyl substituent found in the Schiff bases ligands HL¹ has been studied for their biological activity against multi-drug strains of *E. coli* and also for their binding interactions with various target proteins through docking studies. This allows for a better understanding of their potential as antibacterial agents and their mechanism of action at the molecular level. The characterization of the synthesized compounds using spectroscopic techniques like FT-IR, ¹H NMR, and UV spectrometry is essential for confirming the chemical structure and purity of the compound. Then, Schiff base compound characterization by biological activity studies. The antibacterial activity of the synthesized compounds was tested against three strains of EGFR tyrosine kinase, GlcN-6-p synthase, and *E. coli*. Additionally, the docking studies can provide valuable information on the binding interactions between the synthesized compounds and target proteins, which can aid in the design and development of more potent compounds.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

4-methylbenzohydrazide and 4-hydroxy 3-methoxybenzaldehyde were purchased from Methanol, Hydrochloric acid, Sulfuric acid, Diethyl ether, Sodium hydroxide were purchased from Sisco Research Laboratories (SRL), India, and solvents of spectrometric grade were used without any further purification.

Instrumentation

Infrared spectra were obtained using a Perkin-Elmer Spectrum 100 spectrometer, covering the range of 4000-400 cm⁻¹, employing KBr pellets as the medium. The ligand ¹H NMR spectra were acquired at room temperature using an AV-400 M-HZ NMR spectrometer, in the presence of DMSO-D₆ solvent. Additionally, absorption spectra were captured using a Perkin Elmer Lambda 25 UV-visible spectrophotometer.

Synthesis

The general process that was used to prepare the Schiff base compound is as follows. (Scheme-1).

Synthesis of N¹-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)-4-methylbenzohydrazide (HL¹)

An equimolar mixture (0.01 moles) of 4-methylbenzohydrazide and 4-hydroxy 3-methoxybenzaldehyde was dissolved in 20 ml of methanol within a 50 ml round bottom refluxing flask. A few drops of concentrated hydrochloric acid (Con.HCl) were then added to the solution. The resulting mixture was refluxed for duration of 4 hours on a water bath. Upon cooling, light yellow crystals of the newly synthesized azomethine compound, known as HL¹, were obtained. To purify the compound, recrystallization from methanol was carried out. The yield of the compound was determined to be 86%, and its melting point was measured to be within the range of 186-188 °C. Physical and analytical data of Schiff base ligands as shown in Table 1.

Ligand preparation

The chemical structures of the Schiff base ligands were depicted using ChemBioDraw Ultra 12.0. Subsequently, molecular mechanics minimization of the ligands was performed using ChemBio 3D Ultra 12.0, following the described procedure [20]. The energy-minimized structures obtained were then utilized for docking experiments with the target protein using the online tool Patch Dock.

Target protein identification and preparation

The three-dimensional (3D) structures of GlcN-6-P synthase (PDB ID: 1P7T, resolution: 1.95 Å), EGFR tyrosine kinase (PDB ID: 4J97, resolution: 2.54 Å), and E-Coli (PDB ID: 5I5H, resolution: 1.65 Å) were obtained from the Research Collaborator for Structural Bioinformatics (RCSB) Protein Data Bank at www.rcsb.org [21]. Each protein chain was individually processed by removing other chains (B, C, and D), as well as ligands and crystallographically observed water molecules lacking hydrogen bonds. The protein preparation was performed using UCSF Chimera software, available at www.cgi.ucsf.edu/chimera.



**Gosu Nageswara Reddy****ADME analysis**

The ADME (Absorption, Distribution, Metabolism, and Excretion) analysis was conducted utilizing the Swiss ADME analysis method [21].

Docking studies

Docking studies were conducted using the PatchDock online server (<http://bioinfo3d.cs.tau.ac.il/PatchDock>). PatchDock employs a geometry-based molecular docking algorithm to determine binding scores based on the ligands atomic contact energy with the binding residues. The docking results were obtained via email and included a URL that provided a table with the top 20 solutions. Among these solutions, the highest-ranked one representing the docked protein ligand was selected and downloaded in the pdb file format. Subsequently, the binding site analysis was performed using the PyMOL software, which can be accessed at www.pymol.org [21].

In vitro antimicrobial activities

In this study, the antibacterial effects of the ligand were assessed using the well diffusion method on *E. coli*, *B. subtilis*, and *E. faecalis* strains. For the antibacterial experiments, the test organisms were cultured on nutrient agar, while antifungal studies were conducted on potato dextrose agar. The procedure involved spreading the test solutions onto the agar medium, which impacted the growth of the inoculated microorganisms. The concentration of the samples was correlated with the development of the inhibition zone around the wells. To establish a positive control for the antibacterial research, ciprofloxacin, a known antibacterial agent, was used. In the case of investigations involving antifungal agents, fluconazole served as the positive standard. Dimethylformamide (DMF) was utilized as the negative control in the experiments. To determine the minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC), a serial dilution method was employed. This allowed for the calculation of the lowest concentration of the ligands that exhibited inhibitory effects against the tested microorganisms.

By employing the well diffusion method and agar nutrient medium, this study assessed the antibacterial effects of the ligands against specific strains of bacteria. Additionally, antifungal studies were conducted using appropriate media. The positive controls, negative control, and MIC determination added rigor to the experimental design, allowing for reliable and comparative analysis of the ligands antibacterial and antifungal activities.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**Interpretation of UV, IR and ¹H NMR spectrums for HL¹ ligand**

UV: λ_{max} 270 nm and 330 nm, IR(KBr, \ominus , cm^{-1}): 3078 (Ar-H), 3420 (CONH), 3236 (OH_{Phenolic}), 1640 (C=N), 2962 (=C-H). ¹H NMR (500MHz, DMSO, δ ppm): 2.39 (m, 3H, CH₃), 8.58(s,1H, N=CH), 9.34(s,1H,OH), 6.86-7.73 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 11.08 (s, 1H,NH), 3.89 (s, 3H, OCH₃). Yield:86%. Spectra as shown Figure: 1 and 2.

FT-IR spectra

The spectra of the unbound Schiff base ligand HL¹ exhibited characteristic azomethine ν (C=N) bands at 1640 cm^{-1} in Figure 1. The bands observed at 1249 cm^{-1} in the spectra of the free Schiff base ligand was attributed to the phenolic C-O stretching vibrations of HL¹. Hydroxyl ν (O-H) absorption bands were observed in the free Schiff bases (HL¹) at 3236 cm^{-1} [22]. Aromatic ν (C-H) bending vibrations in the Schiff bases HL¹, were detected in the approximate range of 827-650 cm^{-1} [23,24,25].

¹H NMR spectra

In the ¹H NMR spectra of the free Schiff base HL¹ in Figure 2, two singlet signals at δ 9.34 ppm corresponding to the phenolic -OH protons were observed. The spectra also showed singlet signals at δ 8.58 ppm for HL¹, which were assigned to the protons of the azomethine (-HC=N). Multiplets of the aromatic protons were observed in the range of δ 6.86-7.73 ppm for HL¹ [23,24,26]. The three methyl (-CH₃) group protons in HL¹ appeared as sharp singlet signals at δ 2.39 ppm [27,28]. Additionally, a sharp singlet signal at δ 3.89 ppm was observed for one methoxy group in HL¹.



**Gosu Nageswara Reddy****Electronic spectra**

The individual electronic spectra of HL¹ in aqueous solutions were studied and compared. The UV spectra were recorded in the range of 200-800 nm using DMF as the solvent for this ligand. For HL¹, the electronic spectrum exhibited two distinct bands. At a lower energy, a peak appeared at 270 nm, which was attributed to the $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ transition of the bond between the benzene ring and the nitrogen atom in the azomethine group, where a single electron pair is present. Another significant band appeared at a higher energy region around 330 nm, which was caused by the $n \rightarrow \pi^*$ transition involving the benzene ring and the azomethine group [25, 27, 29]. The details provided about the electronic spectra highlight the absorption properties and transitions occurring in the ligand HL¹. These spectroscopic studies contribute to understanding the electronic structure and behavior of the compound, providing valuable information for further analysis and characterization.

Docking Studies

Three Schiff base derivative have been selected for the present study, as shown in the Table 2.

Prior to conducting docking studies, it is valuable to understand the physiochemical and drug-likeness properties of the three Schiff base ligands. One approach commonly used is Lipinski's rule of five, which aids in determining whether a lead compound with specific pharmacological and biological activity has the potential to be developed into an orally active drug for humans. By applying Lipinski's rule of five, it is possible to assess the aforementioned properties and identify any violations [30]. Lipinski's rule of five evaluates various characteristics of a compound, including molecular weight (MW), lipophilicity (logP), the number of hydrogen bond acceptors (N and O atoms serving as hydrogen bond acceptors), the number of hydrogen bond donors (N and O atoms serving as hydrogen bond donors), and the number of rotatable bonds. If a compound violates any of these criteria, it suggests potential challenges in terms of its oral bioavailability.

The specific criteria for Lipinski's rule of five are as follows:

1. The molecular weight (MW) should be less than 500.
2. The lipophilicity (logP) should be less than 5.
3. The number of hydrogen bond acceptors (N and O atoms serving as hydrogen bond acceptors) should be less than 10.
4. The number of hydrogen bond donors (N and O atoms serving as hydrogen bond donors) should be less than 5.
5. The number of rotatable bonds should be less than 10.

According to the provided information in Table 3 of the study, all five Schiff base derivatives demonstrated zero violations of Lipinski's rule of five. This indicates that these compounds exhibit favorable physiochemical properties and drug-likeness characteristics, which are advantageous for further exploration in drug development.

It is important to note that adherence to Lipinski's rule of five is not an absolute guarantee of a compound's suitability as a drug candidate. Instead, it serves as an initial guideline to assess the potential for oral bioavailability. Other factors, including target specificity, toxicity, and pharmacokinetics, must be taken into consideration throughout the drug development process. Nevertheless, the absence of violations of Lipinski's rule of five among these Schiff base derivatives indicates their promising potential as orally active drug candidates.

Table 4 in the study presents the drug-likeness scores for the Schiff base derivatives, specifically in relation to their bioactivity as enzyme inhibitors. According to the scoring system used, a drug-likeness score greater than 0 indicates an active compound, a score ranging from -5.0 to -0.0 suggests moderate activity, and a score less than -5.0 indicates inactivity [31]. As per the information provided, all of the Schiff base derivatives exhibited moderate activity bioactivity scores in the enzyme inhibitor descriptor. This implies that these compounds possess a reasonable likelihood of displaying significant activity as enzyme inhibitors. However, it is important to note that the drug-likeness score is just one aspect to consider when evaluating the potential of a compound as a drug candidate. In drug discovery and development, multiple factors come into play when determining the suitability of a compound for further investigation and eventual use as a drug. Beyond the drug-likeness score, considerations such as target specificity, toxicity, pharmacokinetics, and efficacy need to be thoroughly assessed. Therefore, while the Schiff base derivatives in Table 4 exhibit moderate activity bioactivity scores as enzyme inhibitors, additional studies and



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analyses are necessary to ascertain their overall potential as viable drug candidates. In the early stages of drug discovery, drug screening, and drug design, it is essential to assess the absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion (ADME) profile of potential drug candidates before conducting docking studies [32-33]. ADME prediction plays a crucial role in understanding the characteristic nature of compounds and their potential as drugs.

Table 4 in the study presents the ADME profile of the Schiff base derivatives. It is reported that all the ligands in the study are predicted to have a high gastrointestinal (GI) absorption effect. This implies that these compounds have a favorable likelihood of being absorbed effectively through the gastrointestinal tract, which is a desirable property for orally administered drugs. Assessing the ADME profile of compounds helps in evaluating their pharmacokinetic properties and understanding how they may behave in the human body. It provides valuable information regarding the compound's absorption, distribution to target tissues, metabolism by enzymes, and eventual elimination from the body. However, it is important to note that ADME prediction is an initial assessment and must be followed by further experimental studies to confirm and refine these predictions. The ADME profile is just one aspect of drug development, and other factors, such as safety, efficacy, and target specificity, need to be thoroughly investigated.

In summary, the ADME prediction results presented in Table 5 indicate that the Schiff base derivatives have a high GI absorption effect. This suggests their potential as orally administered drug candidates. Nonetheless, additional experimental investigations are necessary to validate these predictions and comprehensively evaluate the compounds' overall ADME properties.

Schiff base derivatives have been widely employed in various fields, including metal sensing, antibacterial agents, and antimicrobial agents. In our study, we selected three Schiff base derivatives to perform molecular docking analysis with specific antibacterial and antimicrobial proteins. The results of the docking studies are described below. For the target protein/enzyme GlcN-6-p synthase (1P7T), the docking study and binding free energy calculations revealed that HL¹ exhibited the highest interaction energy (-180.93 kcal/mol), indicating a strong binding affinity between this ligand and the target protein. Similarly, for the target protein/enzyme EGFR tyrosine kinase (4J97), the docking study and binding free energy calculations showed that HL¹ exhibited the highest interaction energy (-213.68 kcal/mol), suggesting a strong binding affinity with the target protein.

Specifically, while HL¹ showed interactions with Tyr 566 residue of EGFR tyrosine kinase. These interactions provide valuable insights into the binding sites and molecular interactions of the Schiff base ligand with the respective target proteins. Figure 3-4, Table 6, and Table 7 display the details of these interactions. For EGFR tyrosine kinase, HL¹ exhibited the highest interaction energy. These results indicate the potential of this Schiff base derivative as promising candidates for antibacterial and antimicrobial applications. *E. coli* is a bacterial species that encompasses harmless strains, but certain serotypes have the potential to cause severe food poisoning in humans. These strains can occasionally be responsible for product recalls due to food contamination. In the context of antibacterial studies, *E. coli* was selected as an additional target protein/enzyme for investigation. The docking studies and binding free energy calculations conducted in this study revealed that HL¹ exhibited the highest interaction energy (-165.36 kcal/mol) with *E. coli*. This indicates a strong binding affinity between the ligand HL¹ and the target protein. Notably, HL¹ demonstrated an interaction with the Asp 490 amino acid residue of *E. coli*. This specific interaction observed between HL¹ and the Asp 490 residue provides valuable insights into the potential binding site and contributes to our understanding of the ligand-protein interactions. Detailed visualizations of these interactions can be seen in Figure 5 and Table 8.

These findings emphasize the potential of HL¹ as an effective ligand for targeting *E. coli* in antibacterial studies. The interaction observed between HL¹ and the Asp 490 residue of *E. coli* provides valuable information for understanding the molecular mechanisms underlying ligand-protein interactions. It is important to note that these results are specific to the docking studies and binding free energy calculations conducted in this particular study. Further experimental investigations are required to validate and confirm the antibacterial activity of HL¹ against *E. coli*.



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Overall, the docking studies support the potential of HL¹ as an effective ligand for targeting *E. coli*, while also shedding light on the interactions between HL¹ and the Asp 490 residue. These findings contribute to the understanding of ligand-protein interactions in the context of antibacterial studies.

Biological activity studies

Based on the information provided, it seems that the antibacterial activity of Schiff base ligands HL¹ was assessed against different bacterial strains, namely *E. faecalis*, *E. coli*, and *B. subtilis*. The results indicate that the antibacterial activity of HL¹ was the most effective against *E. faecalis*, while the activity against *E. coli* was the lowest. In the context of the available literature, the study conducted by Bhaskar et al² [34] investigated the bacterial activity of common medications such as Clotrimazole and Ciprofloxacin. According to the comparison data presented in Table 9, the Clotrimazole Complex did not exhibit any antibacterial action. On the other hand, the Ciprofloxacin Complex demonstrated the highest activity against *E. faecalis*. Additionally, M.A. Ashraf et al³ [35] reported on the bacterial activity of Amoxicillin. Their findings showed that Amoxicillin exhibited the highest activity against *E. coli* and the lowest activity against *B. subtilis*. However, there were no reported results regarding its activity against *E. faecalis*.

It's important to note that the information provided is specific to the antibacterial activity of these compounds against the mentioned bacterial strains and their comparison with other medications in the literature. Indeed, several factors can influence the antibacterial activity of compounds, including the geometry of the ligands, presence of co-ligands, lipophilicity (ability to dissolve in lipid or fat-based substances), coordinating sites (sites where the ligands can bind to the bacterial target), concentration, and the nature of the ligands themselves. These factors contribute to the overall effectiveness of the compounds against bacterial strains. Based on the antimicrobial assay results, the examined Schiff base compound showed improved antibacterial activity. However, it is noted that their activity was still lower than that of the reference standards, such as Clotrimazole and Ciprofloxacin mentioned in the previous context. This suggests that further optimization and modifications may be necessary to enhance the antibacterial efficacy of these compounds.

The findings from the antibacterial assay provide valuable insights into the potential of the produced Schiff base compound as therapeutic molecules for treating infections caused by the tested bacterial strains. With continued research and development, it is hoped that these compounds can be further refined to enhance their antibacterial activity and eventually serve as effective treatments for bacterial infections. It is worth mentioning that the use of compounds as therapeutic agents involves rigorous testing, including preclinical and clinical trials, to ensure their safety, efficacy, and suitability for human use. Such studies are essential to validate the potential of these compounds as viable treatments for bacterial infections in the future.

CONCLUSIONS

The present study demonstrated that three Schiff base derivatives possess the capability to dock and bind effectively with all four targeted enzymes, namely GlcN-6-p synthase, EGFR tyrosine kinase, and *E. coli*. The docking studies provided strong evidence supporting the potential of these Schiff base derivatives as inhibitory agents against antibacterial and antimicrobial activities. The ability of the Schiff base derivatives to dock and bind with the targeted enzymes suggests their potential as effective agents for inhibiting the activities of these enzymes. This finding is particularly significant in the context of antibacterial and antimicrobial applications. The docking studies conducted in this study strongly support the notion that these Schiff base derivatives hold promise as potential antibacterial and antimicrobial agents. The results provide valuable insights into the interactions and binding modes of these derivatives with the targeted enzymes. However, it is important to note that further experimental investigations and studies are necessary to validate and confirm the antibacterial and antimicrobial activities of these Schiff base derivatives. Additionally, other aspects such as toxicity, pharmacokinetics, and target specificity need to be thoroughly evaluated to determine their overall potential as therapeutic agents. Overall, the findings of this study



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highlight the potential of these Schiff base derivatives as inhibitory agents against the targeted enzymes, indicating their potential usefulness in antibacterial and antimicrobial applications.

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Table 1: Physical and analytical data of Schiff base ligand.

Compound	Color	Empirical formula weight	M.P. (°C)	Elemental Analysis Found and Calculated (%)				Yield %
				C	H	N	O	
C ₁₆ H ₁₆ N ₂ O ₃ HMBPTH	284.33	Light yellow	186-188	67.48 (67.52)	5.62 (5.62)	9.81 (9.85)	16.91 (16.88)	86

Table 2: Structure of the Selected Organic ligands and its SMILES

Ligand Name	Structure of Ligands	SMILES
HMBPTH		<chem>O=C(N/N=C/C1=CC=C(O)C(OC)=C1)C2=CC=C(C)C=C2</chem>

Table 3: Molecular physicochemical descriptors analysis of Schiff base derivatives using Molinspiration online software tool.

Schiff base derivatives	Log A ^a	TPSA ^b	Natoms ^c	MW ^d	No N ^e	nOH NH ^f	Nviolations ^g	Nrotb ^h	Volume ⁱ
HMBPTH	2.89	70.92	21	284.31	5	2	0	4	260.22

^a Octanol-Water partition coefficient, ^b Polar surface area, ^c Number of non-hydrogen atoms, ^d Molecular weight, ^e Number of hydrogen bond acceptors [O and N atoms], ^f Number of hydrogen bond donors [OH and NH groups], ^g Number of Rule of 5 violations, ^h Number of rotatable bonds, ⁱ Molecular volume.

Table 4: Drug-likeness property analysis of Schiff base derivatives using Molinspiration online software tool.

Schiff base derivatives	GPCR [*] ligand	Ion channel modulator	Kinase inhibitor	Nuclear receptor ligand	Protease inhibitor	Enzyme inhibitor
HMBPTH	-0.50	-0.91	-0.51	-0.59	-0.77	-0.48

*GPCR- G Protein coupled receptors

Table 5: ADME analysis of Schiff base derivatives using Swiss ADME online tool.

Schiff base derivatives	GI [#]	BBB ^{##}	P-gp ^{###}	CYP1A2 [*]	CYP219 ^{**}	CYP2C9 [*] **	CYP2D6 ^{**} **	CYP3A4 ^{****} .	Log Kp ^{###}
HMBPTH	High	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	-5.65

[#]-Gastrointestinal, ^{##}-Blood-brain barrier permeant, ^{###}-P-gp-P-glycoprotein substrate, ^{**} ^{****}-Cytochrome P450 Inhibitors, ^{###}-Skin Permeation (cm/s).





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Table 6: Binding energy analysis of Schiff base derivatives with antimicrobial enzymes (GlcN-6-p synthase) using PatchDock.

Schiff Base Derivatives	-ACE (-kcal/mol)*	Interaction of amino acid residue	Bond distance (Å)
HMBPTH	180.93	No Interaction	-

* - Atomic contact energy

Table 7: Binding energy analysis of Schiff base derivatives with antimicrobial enzymes (EGFR tyrosine kinase) using PatchDock.

Schiff Base Derivatives	-ACE (-kcal/mol)*	Interaction of amino acid residue	Bond distance (Å)
HMBPTH	213.68	Tyr 566	2.0

* - Atomic contact energy

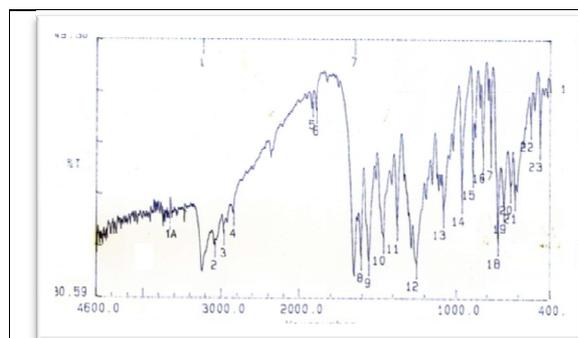
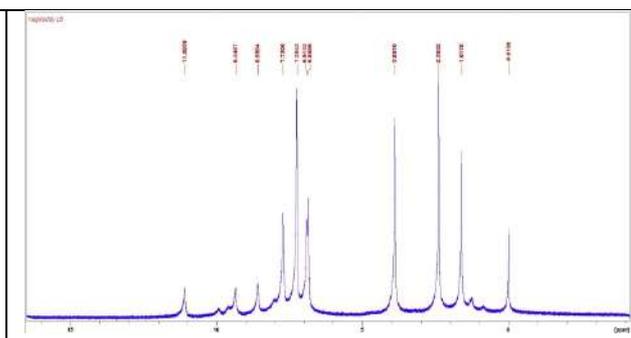
Table 8: Binding energy analysis of Schiff base derivatives with antibacterial enzymes (E-Coli) using PatchDock.

Schiff Base Derivatives	-ACE (-kcal/mol)*	Interaction of amino acid residue	Bond distance (Å)
HMBPTH	165.36	Asp 490	2.7

* - Atomic contact energy

Table 9: Antimicrobial activity of schiff base ligands (zoning in mm).

Compound	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>
HL ¹	8	12	12
Ciprofloxacin*	13	14	15
Clotrimazole*	-	-	-
Amoxicillin**	18	12	-

Comparison data, Bhaskar *et al.* [34]*, Muhammad Aqeel Ashraf *et al* [35]**Figure 1: IR Spectra of HL¹ HMBPTH Ligand



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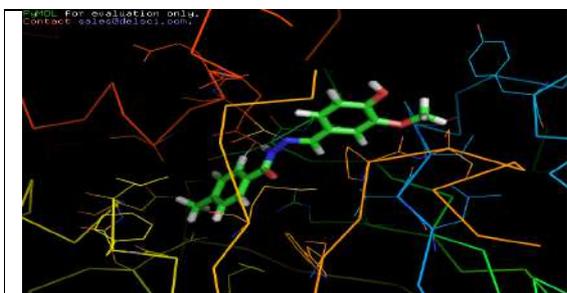


Figure 3: Binding energy analysis of Schiff base derivatives HL¹ (HMPHTH) with antimicrobial enzymes (GlcN-6-p synthase) using PatchDock.

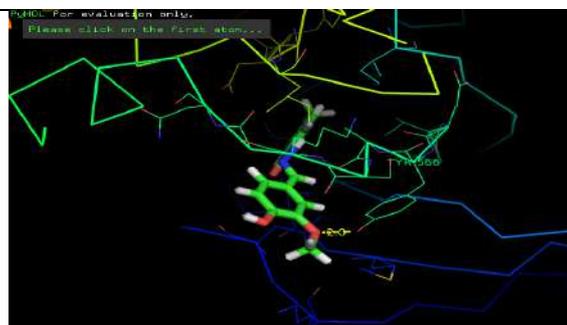
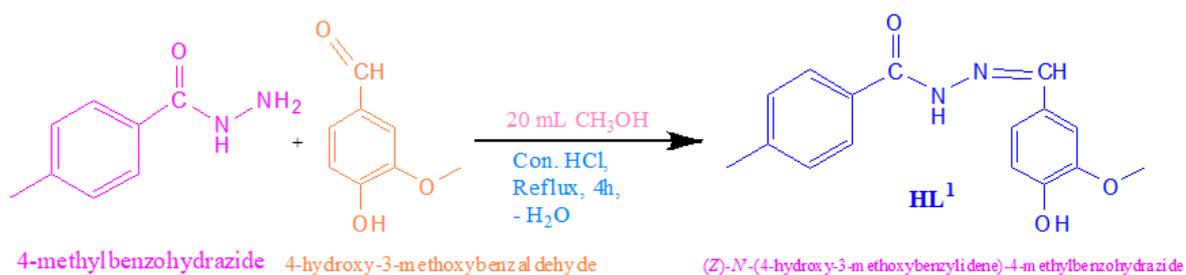


Figure 4: Binding energy analysis of Schiff base derivatives HL¹ (HMBPTH) with antimicrobial enzymes (EGFR tyrosine kinase) using PatchDock



Figure 5: Binding energy analysis of Schiff base derivatives HL¹ (HMBPTH) with antibacterial enzymes (E-Coli) using PatchDock.



Scheme 1: Schematic representation of synthesis of Schiff base ligands





Phytochemical Characterization of Ethyl Acetate Extract of *Martynia annua* Leaves using Gas Chromatography - Mass Spectrometry Analysis

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ABSTRACT

Chemical compounds from leaves of *Martynia annua* were examined and identified to determine its potential for use as a new drug material. Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry analysis is one of the important tools for the identification of phytochemicals present in herbal drugs. *Martynia annua* is a known medicinal herbal under the family of Martyniaceae. In this study aimed to evaluate the phytochemical characterization of ethyl acetate extract of *Martynia annua* leaves using Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry analysis. There are 20 compounds were identified in GC-MS analysis using NIST Library. The six compounds [6.654 %: 2-bromononane, 7.926%: sulfurous acid, nonylpentyl ester, 6.329%: heptadecane, 2,6,10,14-tetramethyl 9.727%: 1-bromo-3, 7-dimethyloctane, 9.992%: 1-octanol, 2-butyl, 18.334%: propanoic acid, 2-oxo-, ethyl ester]having the maximum peak area compared with all other compounds. It confirms that these phytochemicals are majorly present in the ethyl acetate extract of *Martynia annua* leaves. Further, isolation and evaluation of the biological activities of identified compounds are needed.

Keywords: GC-MS, Phytochemical analysis, Herbal medicine, Martyniaceae, *Martynia annua* .





INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this investigation was to undergo to identify the presence of pharmacologically bioactive constituents in the leaves of *Martynia annua* by using gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) technique. Plant is used in Indian traditional medicine and in folklore for curing various diseases and each part of the plant is being used to treat many diseases. The plant is commonly known as the Cat's claw or Devil's claw because of the 2-hooked form of their seed pods. [1,2] Mostly fruits, flowers, leaves, stem, barks and seeds of plants are rich in secondary metabolites that produce definite pharmacological effects on human body. *Martynia annua* is an upright short-lived herbaceous plant. *Martynia annua* belongs to family Martyniaceae. It is native to Mexico, Central America, mostly naturalized in northern Australia and South Eastern Asia. It is used for the treatment of epilepsy, inflammation and tuberculosis. The leaves of the *Martynia annua* are edible and used as antiepileptic, antiseptic and applied locally to tuberculosis glands of the neck. The juice of the leaves is used as a gargle for sore throat and the leaf paste for wounds of domestic animals. [3-5] Literature survey showed that many significant phytochemical investigations have been done regarding this interesting plant. The different parts of *Martynia annua* Linn (seed, roots, stems, leaves, and flowers) have been used for many therapeutic indications like analgesic, anti-inflammatory, wound healing, antifertility, antioxidant, etc., It has been reported to show potential pharmacological activities including anti-convulsant, antibacterial and anti-inflammatory. [6-8] Qualitative and quantitative determination of different biologically active compounds from the crude ethyl acetate extract by using gas chromatography-mass spectrometry disclosed compounds with varying amounts where main components were identified.[9, 10]The compounds identified through this investigation may be responsible for any of the pharmacological properties of *Martynia annua* . Our present research is focused on the identification of the compounds from the ethyl extract of the leaves of *Martynia annua* .

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

The ethyl acetate was analytical grade and purchased from Sisco Research Laboratories Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai, India.

Plant material collection and authentication

The fresh leaves of *Martynia annua* were collected from Tiruchengode, Namakkal District, Tamil Nadu, India. The collected plant material was prepared as a herbarium and the same was identified by Dr. P. Radha, Research Officer (Botany), Central Council of Research in Siddha, Mettur, Tamil Nadu, India.

Extraction

The plant material was dried under shade and powdered using a mechanical mixer. And about 200 g of powdered leaves of *Martynia annua* was defatted with n-hexane and extracted with ethyl acetate using the Soxhlet extraction technique. [11, 12] The obtained extract was concentrated using distillation and ethyl acetate extract was selected for GC-MS analysis.[13, 14]

GC-MS Analysis

Agilent Model 8890 GC System with Single Quadrupole Mass Spectrometer (5977B MSD) analyzer was used for the separation and identification of phytochemicals from ethyl acetate extract of leaves of *Martynia annua* . The analysis parameters for GC-MS as follow: Agilent 30 m x 250 μ m x 0.25 μ m column, Syringe Size: 10 μ L Injection, Volume: 1 μ L, Initial temperature: 75 $^{\circ}$ C, Pressure: 11.367 psi, Flow: 1.2 mL/min, Average Velocity: 40.402 cm/sec, Ion Source: EI Source, Temperature: 230 $^{\circ}$ C, Quad Temperature: 150 $^{\circ}$ C and Fixed Electron Energy: 70 eV. NIST Library was used for matching mass spectra and identification of phytochemicals [15-18].





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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of GC-MS analysis of ethyl acetate extract of leaves of *Martynia annua* were shown in Table 1 and the spectrum of the same was shown in Figure 1. The reported activities of identified compounds in ethyl acetate extract of leaves of *Martynia annua* were obtained from <https://pubchem.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>. There are 20 compounds were identified in GC-MS analysis of ethyl acetate extract of leaves of *Martynia annua* using NIST Library. The 6 compounds had the above 5 % of peak area in GC-MS analysis out of 16 compounds. They are [6.654%: 2-bromononane, 7.926%: sulfurous acid, nonylpentyl ester, 6.329%: heptadecane, 2,6,10,14-tetramethyl, 9.727%: 1-bromo-3, 7-dimethyloctane, 9.992%: 1-octanol, 2-butyl, 18.334%: propanoic acid, 2-oxo-, ethyl ester] having the maximum peak area compared with all other compounds.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the propanoic acid, 2-oxo-, ethyl ester, oxalic acid, allyltridecyl ester, 1-iodo-2-methylnonane, 1-decene, 8-methyl-dodecane, 2,6,10-trimethyl, 1-bromo-3,7-dimethyloctane, sulfurous acid, nonylpentyl ester, heptadecane, 2,6,10,14-tetramethyl, 1-bromo-3, 7-dimethyloctane, and 2-bromononane are majorly identified compounds in ethyl acetate extract of leaves of *Martynia annua*. Further, the isolation of these compounds and evaluation of biological activity is needed.

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Table 1: Identified compounds from ethyl acetate extract of *Martynia annua* leaves using GC-MS

S.No.	RT	AREA	AREA %	COMPOUND NAME	MOLECULAR FORMULA
1.	2.538	10,910,211.0	18.334	PROPANOIC ACID, 2-OXO-, ETHYL ESTER	C5H8O3
2.	17.559	1,206,051.1	2.027	1-DECENE, 8-METHYL	C11H22
3.	19.600	1,385,933.9	2.329	1-UNDECENE, 9-METHYL	C12H24
4.	21.451	1,040,035.0	1.748	OXALIC ACID, ALLYL TRIDECYL ESTER	C18H32O4
5.	21.501	1,398,709.1	2.350	2,2,6,6-TETRAMETHYLHEPTANE	C11H24
6.	21.566	1,389,804.9	2.335	1-iodo-2-methylnonane	C10H21I
7.	21.826	1,677,737.6	2.819	OCTANE, 3-ETHYL-2,7-DIMETHYL	C12H26
8.	22.361	2,334,392.0	3.923	DODECANE, 2,6,10-TRIMETHYL	C15H32
9.	22.431	1,394,952.4	2.344	OCTANE, 3,4,5,6-TETRAMETHYL	C12H26
10.	22.656	3,766,239.8	6.329	HEPTADECANE, 2,6,10,14-TETRAMETHYL	C21H44
11.	22.887	1,306,185.6	2.195	1-OCTANOL, 2-BUTYL	C12H26O
12.	22.982	2,462,823.0	4.139	1-NONENE, 4,6,8-TRIMETHYL	C12H24
13.	23.182	5,946,359.5	9.992	1-OCTANOL, 2-BUTYL	C12H26O
14.	23.237	2,239,023.8	3.762	1-HEXANOL, 5-METHYL-2-(1-METHYLETHYL)	C10H22O
15.	23.452	2,843,228.5	4.778	DECANE, 1,2-DIBROMO	C10H20Br2
16.	23.972	4,716,897.0	7.926	SULFUROUS ACID, NONYL PENTYL ESTER	C14H30O3S
17.	24.247	5,788,572.5	9.727	1-BROMO-3,7-DIMETHYLOCTANE	C10H21Br
18.	24.727	3,959,671.5	6.654	2-BROMONONANE	C9H19Br
19.	25.463	2,437,180.8	4.095	ETHER, HEXYL PENTYL	C11H24O
20.	26.173	1,305,167.8	2.193	PENTANE, 3-(BROMOMETHYL)-	C6H13Br





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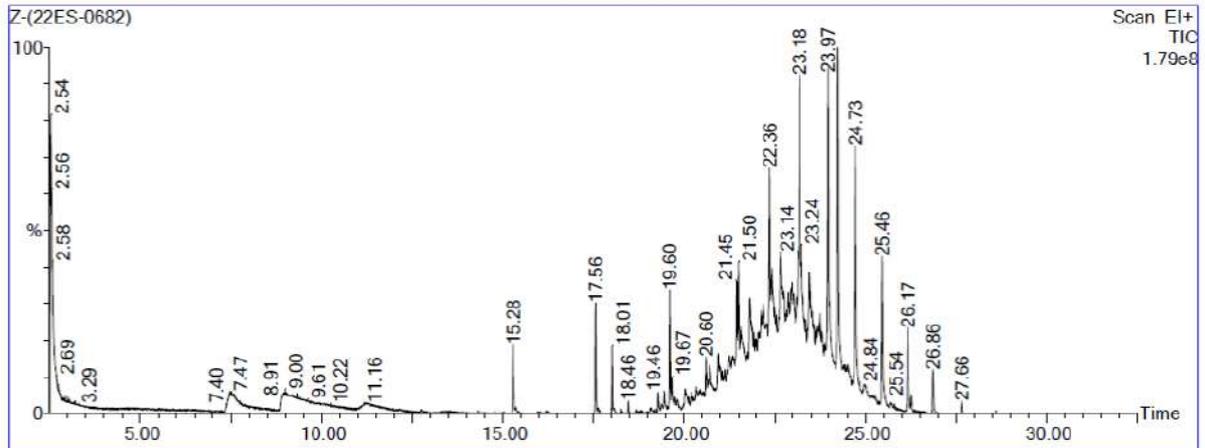


Figure 1: GC-MS spectrum of ethyl acetate extract of leaves of *Martynia annua*





From Vision to Reality: Status of Implementation of the ICT@School Scheme

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate the present status of implementation of ICT@School scheme in the Government Secondary Schools. The sample in the present study constituted of 10 schools of Jammu and Samba Districts of Jammu Division. The study group consisted of one Principal, one ICT Teacher and two General Teachers from each school. A self-constructed semi-structured interview schedule was constructed and administered on the selected sample. This study was conducted using descriptive survey method. Data were analysed with frequency count and percentage. As a result of research, it was found that despite the willingness of the educators, the limited availability of ICT infrastructure, insufficient access to computers, internet connectivity, and other necessary technological resources restricts the full potential of ICT integration in the educational process. The slow internet speed in rural areas hampers the real-time access to online resources, collaboration platforms, and interactive learning materials, leading to a communication gap in ICT implementation. Despite of central government's commitment to integrating ICT in education, it is evident from the findings that there are certain challenges and shortcomings in the implementation of the various provisions for ICT integration. The study highlights the presence of a certain degree of triviality in the execution of these provisions, indicating that the integration of ICT in education is still in its early stages. There is a need for further efforts and initiatives to fully harness the potential of ICT in transforming the educational landscape and ensuring effective integration for enhanced teaching and learning outcomes.

Keywords: ICT@School Scheme, implementation, teachers, issues, challenges.



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INTRODUCTION

ICTs offer a diverse set of powerful tools that have the potential to revolutionize traditional classrooms, which are often characterized by isolation, teacher-centeredness, and reliance on textbooks. By leveraging ICTs, classrooms can be transformed into dynamic, interactive learning environments that prioritize the needs and engagement of students. These technological tools open up new possibilities for knowledge sharing, collaboration, exploration, and fostering an enriched educational experience for learners. The Government of India has demonstrated its commitment to integrating information and communication technology (ICT) in school education through a series of proactive measures. These initiatives have been undertaken with the aim of leveraging technology to enhance teaching and learning experiences, and to equip students with essential digital skills for the modern world. The ICT@School scheme is among one such measure aimed to empower secondary stage students with essential ICT skills and facilitate their learning through computer-aided processes. This initiative seeks to equip students with the necessary technological competencies that are increasingly crucial in today's digital age. By integrating ICT into education, students are provided with opportunities to enhance their digital literacy, engage in interactive learning experiences, and prepare for the challenges and opportunities of the modern world. The review has brought to light several key challenges that hinder the successful implementation of ICT at the school level. These challenges encompass a range of factors such as low ICT awareness, inadequate funding, limited connectivity, lack of competence, limited access to technology, inadequate training, lack of administrative support, and time constraints (Bingimlas, 2009; Parsad et al., 2015; Mulhim, 2014; Nagamani et al., 2013; Lawrence & Tar, 2018). By addressing these challenges, the stakeholders associated with the field of education can create an enabling environment that promotes the seamless integration of ICT tools and resources into teaching and learning processes. This, in turn, can enhance the overall educational experience and outcomes for students, fostering a more technologically advanced and digitally inclusive learning environment. The review also highlights that while the central government is strongly committed to implementing the scheme nationwide, there is a lack of seriousness and dedication among stakeholders towards its effective implementation (Bashir, 2013; Showkat and Salma, 2015; Mehta, 2013). The scheme has the potential to significantly influence and improve the Indian education system, but the integration of ICT is still in its early stages. At the national level, various policies have been implemented with the aim of strengthening teacher training programs and equipping educators with the necessary skills and competencies for the evolving educational landscape. These policies recognize the pivotal role of teachers in shaping students' learning experiences and strive to foster the development of competent and future-ready educators. The review shows many evidences that ICT skills are pre requisite for teachers as they must prepare the students to acquire 21st century skills and competencies whereas the empirical evidences highlight that teachers do not feel skilled enough to effectively incorporate ICT into their practices (Liu & Pange, 2015; Tondeur et al., 2018). Research studies highlight that recently qualified teachers tend to have a higher perception of their ICT skills compared to more experienced teachers (Talukdar, n.d.). This suggests that there may be a generational gap in ICT proficiency among educators, highlighting the need for targeted professional development and training programs to bridge this gap and ensure all teachers possess the necessary ICT competencies.

Significance of the Study

The integration of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in education is gaining increasing importance in the 21st century. The Indian education system is dealing with a -problem of educated unemployment, and there is a dire need to connect education to real-world issues. Acquiring ICT knowledge not only equips students for their future studies but also prepares them to meet the demands of the global workforce. Proficiency in ICT provides a competitive edge over individuals who lack computer literacy, ensuring students have the necessary skills to navigate the digital landscape with confidence and success. The National Policy on Education (NPE) of 1986 and its Programme of Action (POA) of 1992 emphasized the importance of integrating educational technology to enhance the overall quality of education in India. These policy documents recognized the transformative potential of technology in improving teaching and learning outcomes. The ICT@School scheme was launched in December 2004 and underwent revisions in 2010 with the aim of providing secondary stage students with valuable opportunities to



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develop their ICT skills and engage in computer-aided learning. The main objective of the ICT @School scheme is to make all students computer literate, so that a large workforce with IT skills can be built in the country, as well as to integrate technology into the teaching and learning process. Kuraisy, 2015 revealed that central government demonstrates a strong commitment to the nationwide implementation of the scheme. However, when focusing on the specific case of the state government of Jammu and Kashmir, a lack of seriousness and dedication towards the implementation of the scheme was observed. The focus of the present study is to assess the implementation of the ICT@Schools centrally sponsored scheme in government schools located in Jammu and Samba districts. We strive to shed light on the current status of ICT utilization in teaching and learning processes at the secondary level, facilitating informed decisions for improved ICT implementation practices. An effort has also been made to delve into the issues and challenges encountered in using ICT at the school level.

RESEARCH QUESTION

1. To what extent and in what manner ICT@ Schools Scheme has been implemented in Jammu and Samba Districts?

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To analyse the present status of ICT implementation in the Government Secondary Schools.
2. To find out the extent of usage of ICT by teachers in their classes.
3. To find out the view of teachers towards the use of ICT for classroom transactions.
4. To identify specific issues and challenges involved in the use of ICT at the secondary school level.

METHODOLOGY

Descriptive survey method was used for the existing study. Purposive sampling technique was used for identification of the sample. The sample in the present study constituted of 10 schools of Jammu and Samba Districts. One Principal, one ICT Teacher and two General Teachers from each school were interviewed. A self-constructed semi-structured interview schedule was constructed and administered on the selected sample. For the construction of interview schedule the investigator consulted the scheme document of ICT@School Scheme. The investigator also visited the JKSSA office and interacted with the ICT Coordinator and collected information about the present status of the scheme in J&K State. For interviewing the Principals, ICT teachers' and general teachers' themes and sub themes were identified with reference to review, content analysis of scheme document and discussion with the experts.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION**Analysis of interview schedule for Principals**

Table 1 reflects that there was 100% improvement in physical infrastructure after the implementation of the scheme. It was observed that only 70% of schools have the broadband facilities. For reliable power supply it is proposed to provide assistance for the purchase of the generator but 0% of schools have received any grant for the purchase of generator. 100% of schools had said that the assistance for electric charges was provided to each school but the grants were not received on time which acts as a great hurdle in the successful implementation of the scheme. 100% of principals of the schools were aware to some extent about the objectives of the implementation of ICT as provisioned in the scheme. 100% of principals had said that they receive support from state government but with delays. As far as non-material support is concerned 100% of schools were provided with an ICT coordinator as School Nodal Officer. 100% of labs were fully functional and utilized sometimes by the students as well as the teachers as the quantity of material was very less and it was not possible to provide access to each and every student.



**Sonali Sambyal and Kiran****Analysis of interview schedule for ICT Teachers**

This section includes the item analysis of interview schedule of ICT teachers. The section is divided into six subthemes which are as follows:

Table 2 reflects that 100% of ICT teachers were involved in the maintenance of ICT labs which include minor repairing of PCs, taking care of ICT equipments. 40% of teachers were involved in imparting vocational education which was a separate component of the scheme. 100% of teachers were involved in clerical work and record keeping. 100% of teachers were involved in management of resources which include material and non-material resources. 10% of ICT teachers were also engaged as elective subject teachers because of transfer of elective teacher. 70% of the ICT teachers had said that there is over utilization of their capabilities. Whereas 30% of teachers said that their capabilities were utilized properly. 100% of teachers had said that there is under utilization of labs as the quantity of infrastructure was very less as compared to the strength of the students. 100% schools had access to internet facilities but the speed in rural areas is slow. 100% of computers had UPS and power backup supply for uninterrupted access to ICT equipments. 100% of infrastructure provided under the umbrella of the scheme was fully functional. The prominent use of ICT was mainly at three levels i.e., basic, intermediate and at advanced level. At basic level 100% use of ICT was in learning enrichment activities or learning new things and to provide regular instruction and training for development of computer skills (i.e., teaching about computer literacy). 100% of schools were using ICT for the development of abilities to use basic application programme (i.e., word processing, database management, spreadsheets, presentations, graphics, etc). 70% of schools were using ICT for communicating with others (email etc). At intermediate level 100% of schools were using digital devices and only 20% schools were doing well by making students efficient to know how to handle uncomplicated software applications. At advanced level 100% use of ICT was in audio-visual communication, use of ICT in presentations. 100% of schools were using ICT for collaborative learning in which various activities organised are video conferencing, quiz competitions, practical sessions of students, sessions on career counselling, legal literacy clubs etc. 100% of schools were doing well by spreading awareness of cyber security and ethical use of ICT by organising various guest lectures, industrial field visits, bank visits etc. 70% of teachers had received training for enriching their knowledge and some teachers had received the training more than one time in their working tenure. 71.43% of ICT teachers who received the training had said that the duration of training was adequate as per the requirements but 28.47 % of teachers who received the training have said that the duration was inadequate and suggested that the period of training must be increased with follow-ups. 100% of the ICT teachers had said that that the trainings are relevant for upgrading their existing knowledge as the new technologies are being developed all the times. 100% of ICT teachers had said that the content provided in the training had applicability. Only 10% of schools provided opportunities for the utilization of ICT laboratories by the community.

Table 3 revealed that 80% of teachers were aware about the implementation of the scheme. Other teachers also knew about ICT implementation but they had no specific knowledge about the ICT@School Scheme. Only 20% of teachers had diploma in computer applications. 100% of general teachers find ICT integration relevant in teaching learning. 100% of the teachers had said that ICT is relevant in teaching learning as it prepares learners for real world, make learners equipped with skills, broadens access to quality education, for guidance and counselling, provides a platform for collaborative learning and helps in integrating theory with practice. 60% of general teachers had received training. 100% of teachers had said that the training programmes are very beneficial for updating their knowledge. 66.67% of teachers who received the training had said that the training duration is sufficient but 33.33% of teachers said that the duration must be increased with follow-ups. 100% of teachers who had received the training said that the training provided to them has applicability in the teaching and learning. 100% of teachers had said that they use ICT while teaching some topics to the students. 100% of teachers had said that there is shortage of time. 70% of teachers had said that they face problems while handling ICT equipments as they had least knowledge of handling computers and digital equipments even though they try to integrate ICT with the support of ICT teacher. 100% of teachers had said that the ratio of computers per student was insufficient. 100% of teachers said that a large proportion of educational software were available in English and the language become a barrier in integrating ICTs especially in rural areas. 100% of teachers emphasised the need of regular training on methodology for successful



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integration of ICT in education. 100% of teachers suggested that regular training must be given and quality content should be provided in these training programmes.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION OF THE RESULTS

Showkat and Salma (2015) revealed that state government (J&K) has taken many initiatives for the successful implementation of the scheme and there is improvement in physical infrastructure but the integration is in the early stages. The present study is supported by the findings that in all schools the ICT infrastructure provided under ICT@School scheme but quantity of ICT equipments is very less. Bingimlas, 2009; Mulhim, 2014; Parsad et al., 2015 revealed various barriers in the successful implementation of ICT in schools that include lack of competences, lack of effective training, lack of time, lack of access to connectivity, teachers' usage characteristics such as proficiency in computers, computer experiences etc. The findings of the present study related to the issues and challenges faced in embedding ICT in teaching learning is in line with respective studies. Despite the willingness of the educators, the limited availability of ICT infrastructure poses a significant barrier. Insufficient access to computers, internet connectivity, and other necessary technological resources restricts the full potential of ICT integration in the educational process. The slow internet speed in rural areas hampers the real-time access to online resources, collaboration platforms, and interactive learning materials, leading to a communication gap in ICT implementation. This poses a challenge for teachers in delivering dynamic and engaging lessons, as well as for students in accessing relevant and up-to-date information. The study highlights that subject teachers were utilizing various ICT tools in their classes, with the assistance of ICT teachers. Teachers with computer training demonstrate higher usage of ICT resources, while others rely on the support of ICT teachers. This emphasizes the importance of both teacher training and collaboration between subject and ICT teachers to ensure effective integration of ICT in classroom instruction. There was a prevailing misconception among some experienced teachers that ICT is primarily intended for younger generations and they were hesitant to embrace this transformative change in their teaching practices. The findings of the study unveiled that the primary hindrance to maximizing computer utilization in schools lies in the insufficient and untimely provision of technical support, particularly in rural areas. Furthermore, the study highlighted the irregularity in providing ongoing training to teachers for embedding ICT in education. In addition, teachers emphasized that the scarcity of time posed a significant obstacle to the adoption and integration of ICT in education. Insufficient time for collaborative integration of ICT with subjects emerged as a prominent challenge faced by the teachers.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this research study has focused on the status of implementation of ICT in schools. This research endeavour seeks to contribute to the ongoing efforts to promote effective ICT integration in classrooms and provide a comprehensive understanding of the current landscape. Different policies at national level have sought to enhance teacher training across all levels, ensuring the development of competent and future-ready educators therefore an attempt has also been made to explore the extent of usage of ICT by the teachers in their classroom. The study has identified and discussed the views of principals, ICT teachers and general teachers towards the integration of ICT in teaching learning. By shedding light on the issues and challenges for implementation of ICT at school level, this study offers valuable implications for educational practitioners and policymakers. The study highlights several barriers that impede the successful implementation of ICT in schools. These include low ICT awareness, inadequate funding, connectivity issues, lack of competence among teachers, limited access to technology, ineffective training, lack of administrative support, and time constraints. These factors need to be addressed comprehensively to ensure the smooth integration of ICT in education. It underscores the need for continued research and efforts to support teachers in adopting and integrating ICT effectively, ultimately enhancing teaching and learning experiences for students. To ensure the successful implementation there is an immediate need to strengthen capacity building programs, professional development initiatives and adequate allocation of resources.



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Table 1- Material and Non-Material Support Available in the School

Item no.	Item Description	Response Category	
		Frequency	Percentage
Material Support			
1	Improvement in school's physical infrastructure ➤ Yes ➤ No	10 -	100 -
2	ICT resource room ➤ Available ➤ Not available	10 -	100 -
3	Broadband facilities ➤ Accessible ➤ Not accessible	7 3	70 30
4	Financial assistance for electricity charges ➤ Provided ➤ Not provided	10 -	100 -
5	Financial assistance for generator ➤ Provided ➤ Not provided	- 10	- 100
6	Awareness of implementation of objectives of ICT ➤ Nil ➤ To some extent ➤ Large extent	- 10 -	- 100 -
7	Receipt of support from state government ➤ In –time ➤ With delays	- 10	- 100
Non-Material Support			
8	ICT Coordinator ➤ Yes ➤ No	10 -	100 -
9	Utilization of labs by students and teachers ➤ Mostly ➤ Sometimes ➤ Not even single time	- 10 0	- 100 0





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Table 2 Existing Engagements and Roles of ICT Teacher

Item no.	Item Description	Response Category	
		Frequency	Percentage
1.	Existing engagements and roles:		
1(a)	School Nodal Officers of ICT	10	100
1(b)	Additional responsibilities		
	➤ Maintenance of ICT labs	10	100
	➤ Imparting vocational education	4	40
	➤ Official and clerical work	10	100
	➤ Resource management	10	100
	➤ Technical support to other teachers and school administration	10	100
	➤ IT elective subject teacher to 10+2 classes	1	10
2.	Extent of Utilization of Material and Non- Material Resources		
2(a)	Extent of utilization of professional capabilities		
	➤ Over utilization-7	7	70
	➤ Proper utilization-3	3	30
	➤ Under utilization-0	-	-
2(b)	Extent of utilization of labs by teachers and students		
	➤ Over utilization-0	-	-
	➤ Proper utilization-0	-	-
	➤ Under utilization-10	10	100
2(c)	Manner of utilization of labs by teachers and students		
	➤ Academic-10	10	100
	➤ Non –academic-0	-	-
3.	Provision of requisite Support Facilities		
	➤ Internet facilities	10	100
	➤ UPS for computers	10	100
	➤ Power backup	10	100
	➤ Fully Functional Infrastructure	10	100
4.	Purpose for Use of ICT at various Levels		
4 (a)	Basic level		
	➤ Learning enrichment and learning new things	10	100
	➤ Development of computer skills	10	100
	➤ Develop abilities to use basic computer applications	10	100
	➤ Communicating with others	7	70
4(b)	Intermediate level		
	➤ Use of digital devices		
	➤ Install, uninstall and troubleshoot uncomplicated software applications	10	100
		2	20
4(c)	Advanced level		
	➤ Audio-visual communication	10	100





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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use of ICT for presentations ➤ Collaborative learning through web-based networks ➤ Awareness of issues of cyber security and ethical use of ICT 	10 10 10	100 100 100
5.	Training of ICT Teachers Training received <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Yes ➤ No Training duration* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Adequate ➤ Inadequate Upgradation of existing knowledge* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Relevant ➤ Irrelevant Application of content provided* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Applicable ➤ Not applicable 	7 3 5 2 7 - 7 -	70 30 71.43 28.57 100 - 100 -
6.	Community Engagement Utilization of ICT laboratories by community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Yes-1 ➤ No-9 	1 9	10 90

Table 3–Analysis of interview schedule for general teachers

Item no.	Item Description	Response category	
		Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Notion of General Teachers Regarding ICT Integration Awareness about implementation of the scheme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Yes ➤ No Diploma in computer application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Yes ➤ No Views regarding relevance of ICT in teaching-learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To make learning interesting ➤ Wide exposure to students ➤ For provision of advanced and updated knowledge ➤ Productive learning Reasons for considering ICT relevant in teaching-learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Prepare learners for real world ➤ Skill oriented ➤ Broadening access to quality educational services ➤ For guidance and counselling 	16 04 04 16 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	80 20 80 20 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100





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	➤ Collaborative learning	20	100
	➤ Integrating theory with practice	20	100
2.	Exposure and Experience in Training in Use of ICT by General Teacher		
	Training received		
	➤ Yes	12	60
	➤ No	08	40
	Upgradation of existing knowledge		
	➤ Relevant	12	100
	➤ Irrelevant	0	0
	Training duration		
	➤ Sufficient	08	66.67
	➤ In-sufficient	04	33.33
	Application of training received		
	➤ On e-learning	12	100
	➤ Using software's	12	100
	➤ Using smart board	12	100
3.	Issues Related to Integration of ICT in Teaching-Learning		
	Usage of ICT while teaching		
	➤ Mostly	0	0
	➤ Sometimes	20	100
	➤ Not even single time	0	0
	Problems faced while integrating ICT in teaching-learning		
	➤ Shortage of time	20	100
	➤ Handling ICT equipments	14	70
	➤ Shortage of equipments	20	100
	➤ Challenge of language and content	20	100
	Suggestions regarding successful integration of ICT in teaching-learning		
	➤ Regular training on methodology to integrate ICT	20	100
	➤ Quality content to support the curriculum	20	100





***In-silico* Molecular Docking Analysis of Polyherbal Siddha Formulation “*Elathy Chooranam*” against Tyrosinase Enzyme**

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ABSTRACT

Vitiligo is a pigmentary disorder in the skin that is acquired in nature because of the destruction of melanocytes featured by depigmented patches and macules. The disease has no prominent sex predilection. It is a not life-threatening disease but it will cause self-esteem and psychological stress. It is common in all races of people with socioeconomic status. Various herbal preparations are mentioned in Siddha literature for the management of vitiligo. Amongst them "*Elathychooranam*" is a simple formulation with 8 herbals mentioned for vitiligo in Siddha texts. Docking calculations were carried out using Auto Dock 4. Ligand atoms were added with Gasteiger partial charges. In that merged and rotatable bonds in non-polar hydrogen atoms were defined. Docking calculations were carried out against the protein target Tyrosinase for the retrieved phyto components with PDB 1WX3. By Solis & Wets, local search method docking simulations were performed. Randomly orientation and molecular torsion were done during docking. The bio-active compounds like *Kaempferol*, *Eugenol*, *Piperic acid*, *Cinnamic acid*, *Rhodoxanthin*, *Germacrone*, *Gingerenone-A*, *6-Gingerol*, *Nerolidol*, *Elemene*, *Orientin*, and *Vitexin* that are present in the Siddha formulation reveals significant binding against the target protein by interacting with amino acid present on the active site of the Tyrosinase enzyme. From the results it is concluded that these compounds might exert promising anti-vitiligo properties.

Keywords: Vitiligo, Docking analysis, *Elathychooranam*, Tyrosinase, Siddha medicine.



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INTRODUCTION

Vitiligo is a pigmentary disorder that is acquired in nature due to the reduction or absence of melanin cells in the epidermis of the skin which causes white patches and macules in the body [1]. Various theories that explain pathogenesis and the etiology of vitiligo are unknown. Clinically vitiligo presents with white patches that are symmetrical in distribution. It is more obvious in dark skin people. It affects both males and females equally. Vitiligo is represented by well-bound patches with the distribution of centrifugal. Marginal inflammatory, trichome and quadrichrome are different versions of vitiligo [2]. Vitiligo is classified as segmental & non-segmental vitiligo. The frequency of vitiligo in both adults and children was about 0.5-2% worldwide. Vitiligo is clearly defined under autoimmune disease, it is also associated with environmental, genetic factors, oxidative stress, and cell detachment abnormalities. In vitiligo, oxidative stress plays a crucial role in melanocyte degeneration [3]. Hypopigmentation in the skin leads to distress, self-depreciation, and disgrace. Vitiligo is due to various mechanisms such as oxidative stress, melanocyte detachment and autoimmune condition [4]. The copper-containing 75 kD tyrosinase enzyme contains tyrosin-related protein 1 as dopachrome and protein 2 as tautomerase. Tyrosinase is the enzyme that controls melanogenesis [5]. There were stimulators based on plant and synthetic models for the formation of melanin pigment. Mostly plant stimulators provide significant biological activities having chemical structures. Both crude and plant extracts stimulate melanogenesis [6]. The prehistoric Siddha system had unique and abundant herbal preparations for autoimmune diseases. There are enormous medicines mentioned for the management of vitiligo. *Elathy chooranam* is a polyherbal preparation mentioned in Siddha sastric literature. Most of the herbs in this formulation have anti-inflammatory and anti-oxidant activities used in the treatment of vitiligo. This study focuses to analyse the anti-vitiligo activity of *Elathy chooranam* by in-silico docking analysis.

Objective

The Objective is to observe the active amino acids His 63, His 38, His 190, His 54, His 194, and His 216 which produce the synergetic action on the tyrosinase enzyme. This is the key enzyme for melanogenesis improvement. Through the auto dock program, the lead molecules according to the target protein were analyzed. After the interaction study analysis, the best docking pose was selected.

METHODOLOGY

By auto dock 4 calculations of docking were carried out with the addition of gasteiger partial charges [7]. After merging non-polar hydrogen atoms & rotating bonds were defined. Phytocomponents that were retrieved for docking such as *Eugenol*, *Piperic acid*, *Cinnamic acid*, *Germacrone*, *Rhodoxanthin*, *Piperidine*, *6- Gingerol*, *Nerolidol*, *Elemene*, *Oleic acid*, *Orientin*, *Gingerenone-A*, *Vitexin*. Through auto dock the hydrogen atoms, salvation & Kollman united atom charges were added [8]. Autogrid program was generated with the affinity of $\times \times \text{ \AA}$ grid points & 0.375 \AA . For the observation of van der Waals and electrostatic terms Autodock parameter set and distance-dependent dielectric functions were adopted. By availing the Lamarckian genetic algorithm & the Solis & Wets local search method the docking simulations were carried out [9]. The torsions present in rotatable bonds were released. Ensuring the maximum of 250000 energy evaluation 2 different runs were set to close with the population size range at 150. About 0.2 \AA translational step, torsion, and quaternion put in during the search

PDB	Name of the Target
1WX3	Tyrosinase

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A total of 14 bioactive lead compounds were retrieved from the herbs present in the Siddha formulation. From the herbs, the lead compounds such as *Kaempferol*, *Eugenol* from *Syzygium aromaticum* [10], *Piperic acid*, *Piperine* from



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Piper nigrum [11], *Cinnamic acid* from *Cinnamomum Zeylanicum* [12], *Rhodoxanthin* from *Taxus buccata* [13], *Germacrone*, *Oleic Acid* from *Curcuma anustifolia* [14], *Gingerenone-A*, *6-Gingerol* from *Zingiber officinale* [15] *Nerolidol*, *Elemene* from *Elettaria cardamomum*[16], *Orientin*, *Vitexin* from *Saccharumofficinatum* [17] interacting against the core target amino acids (His38, His54, His190, His194, His216) present on the protein –Tyrosinase enzyme.

The binding affinities of phytochemicals mentioned in Table 2, it was found that *Gingerenone-A* showed the highest binding affinity of -8.14 kcal/mol to the amino acid residue 38 His, 54 His, 190 His, 194 His with 4 interactions. *Orientin* had the second highest binding affinity with a binding free energy of -7.08 kcal/mol followed by *vitexin*, *6-gingerol*, *Germacrone*, and *Nerolidol* with a binding energy of -6.42 kcal/mol, -5.96 kcal/mol, -5.69 kcal/mol, -5.63 kcal/mol respectively. *Oleic acid* had the lowest binding energy of -3.17 kcal/mol to the amino acid residue 54 His and 190 His with 2 interactions. Most of the lead phytochemicals such as *Kaempferol*, *Eugenol*, *Piperic acid*, *Cinnamic acid*, *Rhodoxanthin*, *Germacrone*, *Oleic Acid*, *Gingerenone-A*, *6-Gingerol*, *Nerolidol*, *Elemene*, *Orientin*, *Vitexin* had interaction with common amino acid residue 190 His. *Kaempferol*, *Eugenol*, *Piperic acid*, *Cinnamic acid*, *Rhodoxanthin*, *Germacrone*, *Gingerenone-A*, *6-Gingerol*, *Nerolidol*, *Elemene*, *Orientin*, *Vitexin* had interaction with common amino acid residue 194 His. *Kaempferol*, *Eugenol*, *Piperic acid*, *Cinnamic acid*, *Rhodoxanthin*, *Germacrone*, *Oleic Acid*, *Gingerenone-A*, *6-Gingerol*, *Nerolidol*, *Elemene*, *Vitexin* had interaction with common amino acid residue 38 His. *Kaempferol*, *Eugenol*, *Cinnamic acid*, *Germacrone*, *Oleic Acid*, *Gingerenone-A*, *6-Gingerol*, *Nerolidol*, *Elemene*, *Orientin*, and *Vitexin* had interaction with common amino acid residue 54 His. *Eugenol*, *Rhodoxanthin*, and *Piperidine* had shown interactions with 216 His. *Eugenol* had the highest 5 interactions with amino acid residue 38 His, 54 His, 190 His, 194 His and 216 His.

As a whole, while considering the bonding affinity and the interactions with the amino acid residue, out of 14 bioactive compounds maximum of 13 compounds had interaction with 190 His amino acid residues in the Tyrosinase enzyme. The second maximum of 12 phytochemicals showed interaction with 194 His. Then 11 compounds interact with 54His amino acid residue. The phytochemicals against 38 His protein was 10. Only 3 phytochemicals have interaction with 216His amino acid residue in the Tyrosinase enzyme (1WX3). The above-mentioned lead bioactive compounds possess 3-5 interactions accounting for 50-83% of binding efficacy by interacting with core target amino acids (His 38, His 54, His 190, His194, His 216) present on the protein –Tyrosinase enzyme.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis, it was concluded that *Kaempferol*, *Eugenol*, *Piperic acid*, *Cinnamic acid*, *Rhodoxanthin*, *Germacrone*, *Gingerenone-A*, *6-Gingerol*, *Nerolidol*, *Elemene*, *Orientin*, and *Vitexin* present in the Siddha polyherbal formulation "*Elathy chooranam*" reveals significant binding against the target protein by interacting with amino acid present on the active site of the tyrosinase enzyme so that in turn improves melanin pigment production which was found to be deprived in hypopigmentation medical condition like vitiligo.

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Table 1: Ligand Properties Of The Compounds Selected For Docking Analysis

	Molar weight g/mol	Molecular Formula	H Bond Donor	H Bond Acceptor	Rotatable bonds
Kaempferol	286.239 g/mol	C ₁₅ H ₁₀ O ₆	4	6	1
Eugenol	164.2 g/mol	C ₁₀ H ₁₂ O ₂	1	2	3
Piperic acid	218.2 g/mol	C ₁₂ H ₁₀ O ₄	1	4	3
Piperidine	85.15 g/mol	C ₅ H ₁₁ N	1	1	0
Cinnamic acid	148.16 g/mol	C ₉ H ₈ O ₂	1	2	2
Rhodoxanthin	562.8 g/mol	C ₄₀ H ₅₀ O ₂	0	2	9
Germacrone	218.33 g/mol	C ₁₅ H ₂₂ O	0	1	0
Oleic Acid	282.5 g/mol	C ₁₈ H ₃₄ O ₂	1	2	15
Gingerenone-A	356.4 g/mol	C ₂₁ H ₂₄ O ₅	2	5	9
6-Gingerol	294.4 g/mol	C ₁₇ H ₂₆ O ₄	2	4	10
Nerolidol	222.37 g/mol	C ₁₅ H ₂₆ O	1	1	7
Elemene	204.35 g/mol		0	0	3



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		C ₁₅ H ₂₄			
Orientin	448.4 g/mol	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ O ₁₁	8	11	3
Vitexin	432.4 g/mol	C ₂₁ H ₂₀ O ₁₀	7	10	3

Table 2: Summary Of The Molecular Docking Studies Of Compounds Against Tyrosinase (1wx3)

Compound	Est. Free Energy of Binding	Est. Inhibition Constant, Ki	Electrostatic Energy	Total Intermolec. Energy	Interact. Surface
Kaempferol	-4.48 kcal/mol	522.65 Um	-0.19 kcal/mol	-4.92 kcal/mol	591.617
Eugenol	-4.30 kcal/mol	707.25 uM	-0.21 kcal/mol	-4.72 kcal/mol	473.349
Piperic acid	-4.49 kcal/mol	508.15 uM	-0.18 kcal/mol	-5.37 kcal/mol	522.741
Piperidine	-5.41 kcal/mol	108.22 uM	-0.85 kcal/mol	-5.41 kcal/mol	242.041
Cinnamic acid	-3.77 kcal/mol	1.74 mM	-0.04 kcal/mol	-4.36 kcal/mol	439.44
Rhodoxanthin	-4.88 kcal/mol	264.65 uM	-0.12 kcal/mol	-6.69 kcal/mol	584.579
Germacrone	-5.69 kcal/mol	67.33 uM	-0.11 kcal/mol	-5.69 kcal/mol	560.596
Oleic Acid	-3.17 kcal/mol	4.71 mM	-0.13 kcal/mol	-3.47 kcal/mol	357.602
Gingerenone-A	-8.14 kcal/mol	1.08 uM	-0.10 kcal/mol	-6.80 kcal/mol	663.595
6-Gingerol	-5.96 kcal/mol	42.74 uM	-0.25 kcal/mol	-7.39 kcal/mol	644.562
Nerolidol	-5.63 kcal/mol	74.37 uM	-0.06 kcal/mol	-7.63 kcal/mol	624.114
Elemene	-5.60 kcal/mol	78.62 uM	-0.01 kcal/mol	-6.76 kcal/mol	552.195
Orientin	-7.08 kcal/mol	6.46 uM	-0.12 kcal/mol	-5.52 kcal/mol	693.544
Vitexin	-6.42 kcal/mol	19.74 uM	-0.03 kcal/mol	-5.82 kcal/mol	739.475

Table 3: Amino Acid Residue Interaction Of Lead Against Tyrosinase (1wx3)

Compounds	Interactions	Aminoacid Residues											
		38 HIS	42 ILE	54 HIS	182 GLU	184 TRP	190 HIS	191 ASN	194 HIS	195 VAL	206 SER		
Kaempferol	4	38 HIS	42 ILE	54 HIS	182 GLU	184 TRP	190 HIS	191 ASN	194 HIS	195 VAL	206 SER		
Eugenol	5	38 HIS	42 ILE	54 HIS	63 HIS	190 HIS	191 ASN	194 HIS	195 VAL	206 SER	216 HIS		
Piperic acid	3	38 HIS	42 ILE	188 ASN	190 HIS	191 ASN	194 HIS	195 VAL	206 SER				
Piperidine	1	60 LEU	63 HIS	64 ARG	216 HIS	219 VAL	220 ASP	223 TRP					
Cinnamic acid	4	38 HIS	42 ILE	54 HIS	190 HIS	191 ASN	194 HIS	195 VAL	206 SER				
Rhodoxanthin	4	4 ARG	38 HIS	63 HIS	67 LEU	70 PHE	83 ILE	184 TRP	190 HIS	191 ASN	194 HIS	206 SER	216 HIS
Germacrone	4	38 HIS	42 ILE	54 HIS	182 GLU	184 TRP	190 HIS	191 ASN	194 HIS	206 SER			
Oleic Acid	2	42 ILE	54 HIS	55 ARG	59 PHE	182 GLU	184 TRP	190 HIS	191 ASN				
Gingerenone-A	4	38 HIS	42 ILE	54 HIS	182 GLU	184 TRP	190 HIS	191 ASN	194 HIS	206 SER			
6-Gingerol	3	42 ILE	54 HIS	55 ARG	182 GLU	184 TRP	190 HIS	191 ASN	194 HIS	195 VAL			
Nerolidol	4	38 HIS	42 ILE	54 HIS	55 ARG	184 TRP	190 HIS	191 ASN	194 HIS				
Elemene	4	38 HIS	42 ILE	54 HIS	182 GLU	184 TRP	190 HIS	191 ASN	194 HIS	195 VAL	206 SER		





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Orientin	3	42 ILE	54 HIS	182 GLU	184 TRP	190 HIS	191 ASN	194 HIS	195 VAL				
Vitexin	4	38 HIS	42 ILE	54 HIS	59 PHE	63 HIS	184 TRP	190 HIS	191 ASN	194 HIS	195 VAL	206 SER	216 HIS

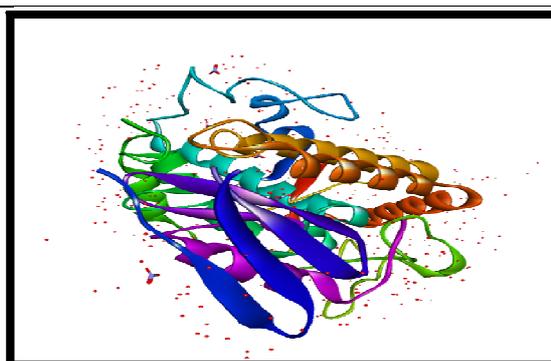


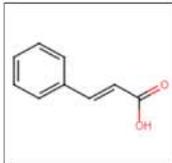
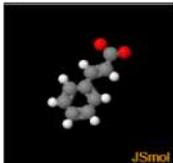
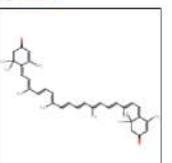
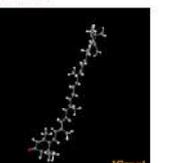
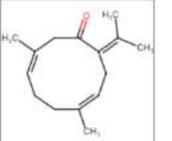
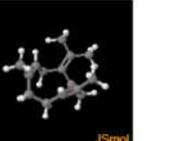
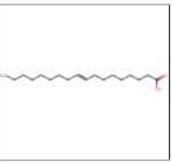
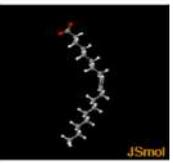
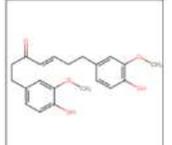
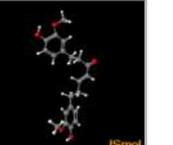
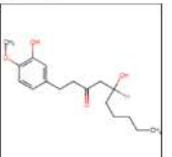
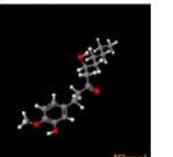
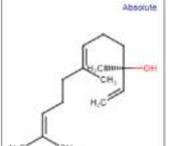
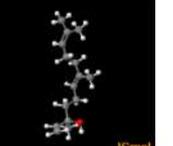
Figure 1 : Tyrosinase(1wx3)

Kaempferol		Ligand in 2D	Ligand in 3D
Eugenol		Ligand in 2D	Ligand in 3D
Piperic acid		Ligand in 2D	Ligand in 3D
Piperidine		Ligand in 2D	Ligand in 3D





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<p>Cinnamic acid</p>	<p>Ligand in 2D</p> 	<p>Ligand in 3D</p>  <p>JSmol</p>
<p>Rhodoxanthin</p>	<p>Ligand in 2D</p> 	<p>Ligand in 3D</p>  <p>JSmol</p>
<p>Germacrone</p>	<p>Ligand in 2D</p> 	<p>Ligand in 3D</p>  <p>JSmol</p>
<p>Oleic Acid</p>	<p>Ligand in 2D</p> 	<p>Ligand in 3D</p>  <p>JSmol</p>
<p>Gingerenone-A</p>	<p>Ligand in 2D</p> 	<p>Ligand in 3D</p>  <p>JSmol</p>
<p>6-Gingerol</p>	<p>Ligand in 2D</p> 	<p>Ligand in 3D</p>  <p>JSmol</p>
<p>Nerolidol</p>	<p>Ligand in 2D</p> 	<p>Ligand in 3D</p>  <p>JSmol</p>





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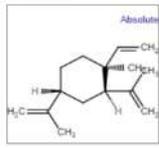
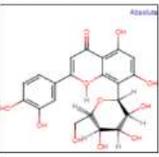
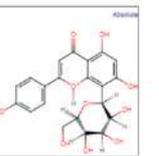
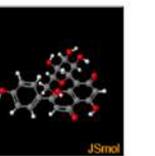
<p>Elemene</p>	<p>Ligand in 2D</p> 	<p>Ligand in 3D</p> 
<p>Orientin</p>	<p>Ligand in 2D</p> 	<p>Ligand in 3D</p> 
<p>Vitexin</p>	<p>Ligand in 2D</p> 	<p>Ligand in 3D</p> 

Figure 2: 2d And 3d Structures of Ligands with Target Protein





An Effective Synthesis on Improved Agile Swarm Optimization Algorithm for Test Case Prioritization

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ABSTRACT

Regression testing is one of the most critical activities of software development and maintenance. Whenever software is modified, a set of test cases are executed, and the comparison of new outputs is done with the older one to avoid unwanted changes. If the new output and old output matches it implies that the modifications made in one part of the software never affect the remaining software. It is impractical to re-execute every test case for a program if changes occur. The problem of regression test case selection can be solved by prioritizing the test cases [9]. Regression test prioritization techniques reorder the execution of a test suit to ensure that faults are revealed at the earlier stage of the testing process. Test case prioritization techniques schedule test cases for execution so that those with higher priority, according to some criteria are executed earlier than those with lower priority to meet some performance goal. In this work, efficient optimization techniques based Test Case Priorities model is formulated to prioritize test cases based on the rate of fault detection and fault impact[10]. The work proposes, an Improved Glowworm Swarm Optimization (IGSO) based on Glowworm Swarm Optimization (GSO), which uses a technique of evolutionary computation, a strategy of quantum behaviour based on the principle of neighbourhood, offspring production and random walk, to achieve more efficient test case prioritization with reasonable costs. These techniques may treat all faults equally. With prioritization, the rate of fault detection is improved, thus allowing testers to detect faults earlier in the system-testing phase. In this work, the results illustrating the effectiveness of algorithm is evaluated



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with the help of APFD metric. The main aim of this work is to determine the effectiveness of prioritized and non-prioritized test case with the help of APFD[11].

Keywords: Testing , Prioritization , Testcase, Regression Testing , Swarm Optimization, Optimization Techniques, Glow Worm Optimization.

INTRODUCTION

Software program testing ensures that the created software is error-free and operates as intended. Software testing is a procedure for determining if the software's output matches the intended output and ensuring that built system is fault-free. Software is changed to fix a bug, to introduce a new feature in response to new client requests, or to update some existing features. Changes made to a new version in response to customer requests or to fix a defect need confirming that all changes made to the new version have not damaged the functionality of the old version. To accomplish this, RTs (Regression Tests) are utilized[12]. RTs are carried out in many stages of system development, including Unit, Integration, and System testing, as well as during the maintenance phase. It will take additional time, money, and resources to retest all of the regression test cases. Owing to time and resource constraints, comprehensive test suite executions of RTs are not always possible[12]. To reduce RTs executions costs, subsets of test cases from test suites are used as they can discover bugs. These election of RTs needs to be accurate, as well while reducing maintenance costs. RTs approaches include TSMs (Test Suit Minimizations), TCSs (Test Case Selections) and TCPs (Test Case Prioritizations) [16]. The research is based on regression testing's test case selection approach.

TCSs identify test case subsets from test suites. They choose test cases that are linked to parts which have changed in software. The difference between TSMs, TCPs and TCSs is that TSMs find jobless or extra test cases which are removed from test suites for resizing them, whereas TCSs does not remove test cases; instead, they selects test cases that are associated with modified portions in new versions of software. TCPs approaches reorder test cases to maximize attributes like total fault exposure and coverage. In TCPs, test cases are prioritized in order to identify software defects quickly [17]. TCPs approaches perform poorly with respect to APFDs (Average Percentage of Fault Detections) and time executions, making software testing optimization a serious issue. The focus of previous researches on RTs has been on optimizing methods. These methods, nevertheless, are known to yield poor results, since they create solutions that only represent local minima inside search spaces. To decrease the complexity of RTs, a variety of approaches are typically utilised. Figure 1.4 depicts the key approaches for improving the efficacy of RTs: test case reduction, test case selection, and test case priority

TCMs (Test Case Minimizations)

These are processes that seek to identify and eliminate redundant test cases from the test suite.

TCSs (Test Case Selections)

These selections deal with the problem of selecting a subset of test cases that will used to test modified parts of the software

TCPs (Test Case prioritizations)

These prioritizations concern with the identification of perfect ordering of test cases.





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TCPs (TEST CASE PRIORITIZATIONS)

The goal TCPs is to reorder test suites for capturing feasible regressions that occur in software evolutions and work in sharp contrast to TCSs where test cases are re-run every time changes are made. TCPs are intended to be performed rarely and to re-use the prioritised ordering for a long time. Rothermel et al. [12] formally describe TCPs in Definition 1.1. The superset comprising all potential orderings of the original test suite (T) that maximises the value of a function f yields a prioritised test suite (T'). Ideally, f would be a function that expresses how effective a given ordering is in detecting regressions. However, until the complete test suite has been performed, it is impossible to determine whether a change has created a regression. As a result, f is a rough approximation of fault detection; as a result, finding an appropriate f has been the focus of a lot of test case prioritisation research to date.

Definition 1.1. Test Case Prioritisation

Requirements:

T , a test suite

$P T$, the set of permutations of T

f , a function that produces a score for a permutation $P T$

Problem: Find $T' \in P T$ such that

$$(\forall T)(T \in P T) \quad (1.1)$$

Considering Definition 1.1, it is important to note that the concept of test case prioritisation is not reliant on a particular software version, nor is it aware of any modifications to the software.

CLASSIFICATION OF PRIORITIZATION TECHNIQUES

As previously stated, the techniques for prioritising test cases are dependent on a number of criteria.

Coverage Based: Prioritizing of test cases is based on the quantity of source code connected with a programme practised during testing in coverage-based prioritisation techniques. The term "coverage" in the context of testing refers to the portion of code that has been included in the testing process, as well as "requirement coverage," "total requirement coverage," and "additional requirement coverage." In this strategy, test cases that can test the major component of code are prioritised first, and so on[9].

Cost effective: Test cases are prioritised using this method depending on the factor of cost. Cost implies cost of obtaining requirements, the cost of RTs, the cost of running and validating test cases, the cost of supporting a test case, and the cost of prioritising test cases. As a result, the test cases with the lowest cost might be given higher priority[12]. The four elements are also given for weighing the importance of the need. These elements are briefly covered below-

Technical value Measure: This is a factor in which needs are ranked according to their importance. The most significant criterion is given the highest number (10), while the least important condition is given the lowest number (1).

Project Change Volatility: This component is dependent on how the project requirements of the customer change during the software development cycle. The absence of user involvement, as well as shifting and inadequate requirements, are the most major causes for the project's failure[12].

Development Complexity: The complexity of the development phase is determined by development efforts, development technologies, environmental constraints, and time used or required[12].

Fault Proneness of Requirements: This is a relatively straightforward problem when it comes to establishing the weight-to-requirement ratio. This factor identifies those needs that may be prone to mistake based on previous data, such as a customer-reported requirement failure. Every need is given a weight and then prioritised based on this[12].

PRIORITIZATION for RTs

TCPs approaches for RTs are detailed





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- **No prioritization:** In such instances, no methods are used, and the test suite is used as a control as well as an untreated test suite.
- **Random prioritization:** This is an added prioritization control where test cases are sorted randomly within a test suite.
- **Optimal prioritization:** This method makes use of discovered flaws so that the results may be used to evaluate the impact of other prioritising approaches that must be employed.
- **Total statement coverage prioritization:** This function injects any test cases into the programme and determines which test cases include covered statements; after that, these test cases may be prioritised based on the reports they contain and added rules or randomized order in suites when test cases have similar count of statements[10].
Additional statement coverage prioritization: test cases that offer maximum statement coverage are selected in this technique and coverage information changed for other test cases to discover covered statements. This is iterated until at least one test case verifies claims are correct.
- **Total branch coverage prioritization:** This strategy is equivalent to statement coverage priority; it just uses test coverage assessed in the form of programme branches, as would be the case with statements using another method.
- **Additional branch coverage prioritization:** The main difference between this technique and extra statement coverage priority is that it uses test coverage evaluated in terms of programme branches rather than simply statements.
- **Total fault-exposing potential prioritization:** This is an added method to statement and branch coverage adds context, which means that regardless of whether a statement or branch can be accessed by certain test cases or not, if context is not provided, certain defects are more easily noticed than others. The fault-exposing potential of a test case is called after the fact that some test cases can disclose defects with less effort than others.
- **Additional fault-exposing potential prioritization:** Extensions in complete fault-exposing potential prioritisation have been produced as a result of the increases in total coverage and branch coverage prioritisation, and as a result of this technique, we extend total FEP to generate extra FEP prioritisation[16].

EVALUATION MEASURES FOR TCPs

Assuming TCPs maximize detection of faults using test suites at an earlier stage, any proposed solution should forewarn defects early. APFDs metric for fault detection was established by Rothermel et al. [12], which are AOCs (Area Under the Curve) and quantify identification of faults detected at each test suite execution point. Though it is not possible to locate production issues without running complete test suites, empirical assessments provided by studies show it is an achievable target. APFDs can be explained mathematically using Equation 1.2 [12],

$$APFD = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m TF_i}{n \times m} + \frac{1}{2n} \quad (1.2)$$

Where, m – faults count, n - test case count, and TF_i - test case's index in the current suite

Because final problems are not identified until the very last test case is performed in the original ordering, the APFD score is low. However, in the faults are detected significantly faster, with the first two tests detecting all ten problems, and the first test discovering seven errors in particular, resulting in a substantially higher APFD. This principle is used to assess the success of a variety of test case prioritisation approaches.

SWARM BASED OPTIMIZATION

The collective behaviour of decentralised, self-organized systems, whether natural or artificial, is referred to as swarm intelligence. Swarm intelligence is based on the concept of a "population" of local interactions with the environment that produces a global system. The term "swarm intelligence" was originally used to describe emergent collective behaviour in robotic systems in 1989. This novel approach to collective behaviour is now being used in a variety of fields, including biology, social structure, engineering, artificial intelligence, visualisation, and architecture. Furthermore, a group of individuals, such as pedestrians [11], can display swarm behaviour.





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Steven Johnson talked in his book "Emergence" about developing a "form" of life to explained how ant's swarm logic can illustrate human ways of life. Swarm intelligence investigates the role of agency in generative design processes. Large populations of self-organized components can be turned into intelligence by processing or digital parametric algorithms. This concept can be used to investigate tectonic hierarchies. The application of swarm concepts to architectural research spans visualisations, multi-agent system's self-organizations, design architectures urbanization etc.

Though the word swarming implies insects, it can also be applied to any animal exhibiting similar behaviour. Similarly, flocking implies swarm behaviour of birds, herding is quadrupeds swarm behaviour and shoaling/schooling refers to swarm behaviour in fishes. These are depicted in Figures 1, 2 and 3.

Figure 4 shows how mathematical models were used in the early studies of swarm behaviour to mimic and explain the behaviour. The simplest mathematical models of animal swarms usually describe individual creatures as following three rules:

1. Separation: Follow your neighbours in the same direction.
2. Alignment: Keep your distance from your neighbours.
3. Cohesion: Make sure you don't collide with your neighbours

NEED FOR OPTIMIZATION OF TEST CASES

Due to time and resource restrictions, rerunning all previous test cases is typically expensive, if not impossible. As a result, test cases must be optimised to increase coverage and avoid redundancy while using the least amount of time and resources possible. Not only will an optimised test case aid in providing a baseline assessment of the current version, but some of the tests will also be reused in the future release or version of the programme. Testers will be able to swiftly re-verify modifications and respond to new function requirements thanks to this streamlined test case.

SWARM BASED OPTIMIZATION TECHNIQUES FOR TCPs

SIs are adaptive strategies using collective intelligence to mimic individual behaviour without centralized controls. SI based approaches are simple and self-organizing evolutions which have been applied for optimization, searches, DNA research, computational improvements, heating system planning etc. Though SIs follow the collective behaviour of birds in searches, animals and fishes, two dominant sub-areas of SIs are ACOs inspired by ant's pheromone trails and PSOs based on flocking of birds [5].

In recent years, optimizations have been effectively applied in generation of test cases and TCPs. In spite of the application of multitude of approaches and techniques results have not been satisfactory mainly due to issues like data complexity, dynamic data, high convergence times which occur frequently in traditional technique optimizations. Hence, this research work focuses is aimed at finding appropriate optimizations of TCPs which can provide optimality of results obtained. This work uses SIs for prioritization of test cases as many SI based approaches have produced significant results in terms of accuracy, convergence, reduction of execution times etc., The SI approach chosen for this is a recently introduced, yet efficient GSOs, Hybrid CSOs and Hybrid fuzzy BAs for giving optimality in TCPs results.

PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

The previous research works have proposed the usage of FA (Firefly Algorithm) for selecting optimal test cases. FAs are used to improve ordering of test cases. They use a fitness function created based on similar distance for modelling. The benefits of such deterministic algorithms are that they are generally efficient for certain applications and only require a limited number of repetitions. Nevertheless, since they are local search methods, one of their primary drawbacks is the high likelihood of being caught in local optima.



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It is important to investigate possible improvements to this specific swarm intelligence method, with an emphasis on coverage efficiency; Firefly is not a high-convergence algorithm.

Firefly's disadvantage is that it's difficult to find the best solution in a reasonable amount of time.

LITERATURE REVIEW

- Change-aware IRs (Information Retrievals) for TCPs (Test Case Prioritizations) was proposed by Peng et al [28] where original approaches were examined. The study utilized both cost-aware and cost-unaware metrics using voluminous real-world software evolution datasets with genuine failure entries. The study created and tested hybrid approaches that combined IRs, test failure frequencies and historical test execution times.
- Using historical records, Huang et al [18] presented a method of cost-cognizant test case prioritizations. The study gathered data from most recent RTs and suggested GAs (Genetic Algorithms) for identifying the most successful order.
- System level TCPs were proposed by Krishnamoorthi et al. [10]. Their proposal was based on SRSs (Software Requirement Specifications) for enhanced user satisfactions and cost-effective high-quality software with reduced fault detections.
- The variables used in the study to prioritize system test cases were: Customer priority; implementation difficulties; changes in requirements; completeness; fault effects and traceability. Their prioritizations were tested on 3 sets of student and 2 sets of industrial projects where results demonstrated their proposed prioritisation technique could increase severe defect's identification rates.
- Do et al [31] enhanced rates of fault identifications in their proposed TCPs. The proposed schema when compared to mutation faults indicated that prioritization's success was dependent on evaluation of faults. The study also revealed how efficacies vary based on test suite features and issues. Their comparison of results with hand-seeded defect assessments indicated that there was scope for researchers to investigate testing approaches in general and TCPs.
- Srivastava et al. [32] proposed a novel TCPs that estimated the average of defects discovered in a minute. The study presented their algorithm's efficacy measured using APFD measure. The main aim of this study was to use APFD to assess the efficacy of non-prioritized and prioritised test cases.
- Luo et al. [33] tested static TCPs and compared them with dynamic TCP approaches of test-cases at the method and class levels. The study evaluated approaches in terms of efficacy, efficiency, and fault similarities. Their test on thirty real-world Java applications totally to 431 KLoC. At the class level, their proposed call-graph-based methodology outperformed other static techniques, but at the method level, topic model-based methodology outperformed other static techniques.

Review on Test Case Prioritization using Optimization Algorithms

- Kaur et al. [46] proposed GAs to prioritize RTs based on total code coverage. The scheme used GAs to automate TCPs. The study used APCC (An Average Percentage of Code Covered) measure in evaluations where their results displayed the effectiveness of their proposed algorithms.
- Goldberg's idea was used by Srinivas et al [47] to sort GAs. In addition, the study used specific technique to identify multiple Pareto-optimal locations concurrently. The results achieved by Schaffer and colleagues on three multi-objective issues showed that the suggested technique could also be expanded into higher dimensional and more challenging problems. The study also presented multiple recommendations for algorithmic expansion.
- GAs were modified by Konaard et al [18] in their study where their approach based test on complete codes. The study compared its performances to with five other approaches in terms of execution times and average percentage.





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Test Case Prioritization Using Improved Glow Worm Swarm Optimization For Software Testing

Current business environments places successes based on the factor of time [15]. Quality is significant for the success of a project where it is increased while costs are reduced with better performances of models. Software testing process is arduous and expensive where studies reveal that almost half development cost is spent towards testing during creation of software [16]. Companies frequently encounter time and budget constraints, limiting their ability to properly execute testing initiatives. Hence, software engineering teams are frequently forced to terminate their testing efforts abruptly and deliver systems with degraded software quality.

The effectiveness of the proposed algorithm is displayed as results where APFDs (Average Percentage of Defects Detections) metrics are used in evaluations. The main aim of this work is to determine the effectiveness of prioritized and non-prioritized test case using APFDs values.

PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

This work proposes IGSO based on GSOs which are evolutionary computational techniques. based on GSOs which use evolutionary computations. GSOs quantum behaviours based on offspring productions, neighbourhood principles and random walks. These strategies help in achieving more efficient TCPs with reasonable or reduced costs. Most techniques treat all faults equally, but prioritizations help in improving fault detection rates. This early detections allow testers to identify faults earlier and thus work on them in a system’s testing phase. This research work illustrates the effectiveness of the proposed algorithm using APFD metrics. The main objective of this research work is to determine the effectiveness of prioritized and non-prioritized test cases using APFDs. The figure 5. shows the overall process of the proposed methodology.

GSO

GSOs are novel swarm intelligence algorithms used for optimizations. They mimic glowworms’s flashing activities. Glowworms carry an amount luciferin (luminescence) with them. GSOs decide on the luciferin value using a function that locates the current position of the glowworm. These worms move towards brighter neighbors based on local domains and a neighbor which has a higher luciferin value is selected using a probabilistic mechanism. GSOs have been applied for many complex optimization issues. Standard GSOs follow the steps detailed below:

Step 1: Defining key GSO parameters or parameters that affect GSO algorithm’s performance namely ρ , α , β , γ , δ , and ϵ .

Step 2: Setup initial values of glowworms by randomized distributions within a search space using a fitness function and have equal values of sensor range and luciferin value. Set current iteration count= 1.

Step 3: This phase is the update phase where luciferin values are computed by a function based on the current position of a glowworm. As its position changes corresponding luciferin values are updated in each iteration of the algorithm. These positional updates are based on Equation (3.1) given below:

$$l_i(t + 1) = (1 - \rho)l_i \quad (3.1)$$

Where $l_i(\square)$ - luciferin value of glowworm \square at time step \square , ρ - luciferin decay constant where $(0 < \rho < 1)$, α - luciferin improvement constant, and $J_i(\square)$ - computed function’s value.

Step 4: Glowworms get attracted to brighter one and start moving. The worms move based on a local-decision domain variable. This variable is bound by a radial sensor range δ .

In their movements, the search is on for a brighter neighbor where a probabilistic method is used and they move towards the brighter worms. For any glowworm \square , the probability of movement towards neighbours can be depicted as Equation (3.2)

$$P_{ij}(t) = \frac{(l_j - l_i(t))}{\sum_{k \in N_i(t)} (l_k - l_i(t))} \quad (3.2)$$

where $N_i(\square) \neq \Phi$, $N_i(\square) = \{ \square : \delta(\square, \square) < \delta(\square) \text{ and } l(\square) < l(\square) \}$ - glowworm \square ’s neighbours set, $\delta(\square)$ - local domain decision variable, and $\delta(\square, \square)$ - Euclidean distance of glowworm \square from \square at time \square . The movements of glowworms can be represented as Equation (3.3)





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$$x_i(t + 1) = x_i(t) + s \left(\frac{x_j(t) - x_i(t)}{\|x_j(t) - x_i(t)\|} \right) \quad (3.3)$$

Where x_i – glowworm's location at time step t , s – step size, and $\| \cdot \|$ – norm Euclidean operator.

Step 5: GSOs in this step update x_i values which change dynamically and peaks counts is obtained. Adaptive updates occur in GSOs based on x_i range values for glowworms, the rule is stated as Equation (3.4)

$$r_d^i(t + 1) = \min \{r_s, \max\{0, r_d^i(t) + \beta(n_t - |N_i(t)|)\}\} \quad (3.4)$$

Where, β – constant parameter and $|N_i|$ – threshold parameter used for controlling neighbour counts.

IGSO

This research offers an improvement for GSOs in proposing IGSO. GSOs are based on the principles of evolutionary computations, quantum transitions, offspring generations, and random walks. The proposed methodology builds on fundamental GSO concepts of neighbourhoods.

All offspring and parent Glowworms have their strengths compared after offspring generations, and poor glowworms get eliminated to maintain consistency in population counts. IGSO offspring productions are depicted in Equation (3.5) while Equation (3.6) depicts chosen/eliminated offspring's

$$x_i^k(t) = x_i(t) + r_{off} \times (2 \times \text{rand}() - 1), k \in N, 1 \leq k \leq n_{off} \quad (3.5)$$

$$x_i(t) = \min \left(\text{exec} \left(x_i^k(t) \right) \right), \text{if } \min \left(\text{exec} \left(x_i^k(t) \right) \right) < \text{exec} x_i^k(t) \quad (3.6)$$

In the above equations, r_{off} – denotes the radius of the derivation domain, n_{off} – elite glowworm's produced offspring counts. x_i^k – i th glowworm's k th offspring and $x_i(t)$ – generation t 's location of i th glowworm. $\text{rand}()$ function generates real numbers in a consistent randomized manner. Equation (3.6) uses the function $\text{exec}()$. In real life, the derivation domain depicts a Glowworm's individual search area. When the offspring densities are higher, best children are checked in the direction of gradient vectors.

$$x_i(t + 1) = x_j(t + 1) + 5 \left(2 \times \text{rand}() - 1 \right) \quad (3.7)$$

Where, x_i – Glowworm population's i th non-elite element with j as the best neighbour, t – iteration count, and $\text{rand}()$ – uniformly generates random numbers between 0 and 1. The goal of this method is to eliminate unnecessary computations where the idea of neighbourhood is a crucial element. IGSO employs the aforementioned offspring productions while following random walks to escape from local optima.

Random walks

- Elite glowworms may or may not be the local optimum, according to its definition (a glowworm with no nearby neighbours). Random walks are based on a few conditions detailed below
- (1) If the local optimum is not found, offspring production and evolutionary computing can identify the direction of the local optimum and move into it.
- (2) A random walk will be required to move out of the local optima if it is a local optimum, which indicates that all of the children did worse than their parent as depicted in Equation (3.8):

$$x_i(t) = \text{boundary} \times \text{rand}(), \text{if } \left(\text{exec} \left(x_i^{best}(t) \right) - \text{exec} x_i(t) \right) > 0.01 \wedge i \neq \text{global}_{best} \quad (3.8)$$

- where boundary implies solution space's boundary, $\text{rand}()$ generates random values in the interval [0,1], $\text{exec}()$ is a proposed function from Equation (3.8). x_i^{best} stands for the best offspring of x_i . Because the value of the derivation domain cannot be zero, 0.01 is used as a control; otherwise, there may be a tiny mistake while migrating from the local optima. Since, present global best values can keep convergence curves steady, they cannot be altered. Assuming that the solution space is divided into multiple regions, each with a local optimum value, Area G can be the base for global optima. The IGSO algorithm's pseudocodes are displayed as Algorithm 3.1

Algorithm 3.1- Task assignments using the proposed TCO-IGSO Approach





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Input: Random task

Output: Priority based tasks

Initialize dimensions count m

Initialize glowworms count n

Let $x_i(t)$ be glowworm i 's location at time t

Create initial population of glowworms $x_i (i = 1, 2, \dots, n)$

for $i=1$ to n do $l_i(0) = l_0$

$$r_d^i(0) = r_0;$$

set maximum iteration number = $iter_max$

set $t=1$

While($t < iter_max$)do

{

$$s(t) = 3 - (3 - 0.001) * (t / iter_max)^{0.1}$$

foreach glowworm i do

$$l_i(t + 1) = (1 - \rho)l_i(t) + \gamma f_i(t + 1);$$

for each glowworm i do

{

$$N_i(t) = \{j: d_{i,j}(t) < r_d^i(t); l_i(t) < l_j(t)\};$$

for each glowworm $j \in N_i(t)$ do

$$P_{ij}(t) = \frac{(l_i(t) - |j(t) - l_i(t)|)}{\sum_{k \in N_i(t)} (l_i(t) - |k(t) - l_i(t)|)}$$

$j = \text{select_glowworm}(\vec{p})$

$$x_i(t + 1) = x_i(t) + s \left(\frac{x_j(t) - x_i(t)}{\|x_j(t) - x_i(t)\|} \right)$$

$$r_d^i(t + 1) = R_s = 255;$$

for $k=1$ to m do

$$r_d^i(t + 1) = \min \{r_s, \max\{0, r_d^i(t) + \beta(n_t - |N_i(t)|)\}\}$$

$$x_i^k(t) = x_i(t) + r_{off} \times (2 \times \text{rand}() - 1), k \in N, 1 \leq k \leq n_{off}$$

$$x_i(t) = \min \left(\text{exec} \left(x_i^k(t) \right) \right), \text{ if } \min \left(\text{exec} \left(x_i^k(t) \right) \right) \text{ exec } x_i^k(t)$$

$$x_i(t + 1) = x_j(t + 1) + 5 \left(2 \times \text{rand}() - 1 \right)$$

$$x_i(t) = \text{boundary} \times \text{rand}(), \text{ if } \left(\left(\text{exec} \left(x_i^{\text{best}}(t) \right) \text{ exec } x_i(t) \right) 0.01 \right) \wedge i \neq \text{global}_{\text{best}}$$

end

}

$t \leftarrow t + 1;$

}

The above mentioned algorithm clearly discusses the Task assignments of the proposed TCO-IGSO Approach.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This research work's proposed TCP-IGSO approach was implemented in MATLAB. A bank's application system was used for RTs whose results are displayed as figures and graphs wherever necessary. Test cases were created for the banking application to ensure that they worked properly. When a user inputs information, certain constraints are placed, and data has to be saved in the database for banking applications to function properly. When the criteria for the specified procedures were not met, the proposed system generated a sufficient number of test cases for each incorrect detail supplied by the user.

The APFD measure is used to assess the success of the suggested prioritization approach, and its results are benchmarked with randomly ordered executions. This work's test suite includes 5 test cases and 5 faults which were





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created specifically for the banking application. The RTs test suite T's default ordering is T1, T2, T3, T4, and T5, while the order F1, F2, F3, F4, and F5 is of failure counts in RTs. Table 1 displays the outcomes of the test cases.

APFD Metric

The metric of APFD was used to evaluate the proposed TCP-IGSO strategies. Assuming test Suite T has *n* test cases and F is a collection containing *m* faults as disclosed by T. TF_i is the first test case index in T that discloses fault *i*. The APFD value for ordering T' is depicted as Equation

$$APFD = 1 - \frac{TF_1 + TF_2 + \dots + TF_m}{nm} + \left(\frac{1}{2n}\right)$$

The average number of defects identified in a test suite was measured using APFD metric with values ranging from 0 to 100. The AUCs (Area Under the Curve) was plotted against the proportion of test cases run to discover error percentages.

APCC metric

Code coverage testing has been evaluated using APCC (Average Percentage of Condition Coverage) where the metric evaluates average of test suites to be against average condition's that need to be covered. APCC can be computed using Equation .

$$APCC = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m TC_i}{nm} + \frac{1}{2n}$$

Where, T - test suite, n - test cases count, m – branches count and TC_i - first test case of T covering *i*th branch.

The table 2.tabulate the APFD (%) comparison between the proposed and existing methods.

In the below Figure 4.4, APFD metric utilised in this study for recommended test sequences {T3, T1, T5, T4, and T2} are compared for both prioritised and non-prioritized test suites. From the test cases it is identified that the proposed TCP-IGSO based techniques predict the testing sequences effectively.

As in GSOs, worms cover fixed steps which is large, in this work worm take a larger jump (=step-size). Hence, improved worms move very fast missing optimum solutions during updates. The worms oscillate when distances between them and their best neighbor is lesser than actual values, but with decreasing step-sizes, convergence rates start slowing down resulting in a complexity of deciding appropriate step-sizes. This issue is overcome in this work by varying the worm's step-size in each iteration. Further, this work's proposed quantum strategy accelerates speed of convergence early in searches and thus improving accuracies of later searches. The step-size function showed in Figure 4.5. Figure 4.6 illustrates 5 different TCPs values with No Order, Reverse Order and Random Order, optimum order and Proposed IGSO order as control groups. Comparative code coverage performances are evaluated using APCC values where IGSO order covers 98% of the code.Test case 5 found a greater number of defects when compared to others as illustrated in Figure 4.7. In this study for recommended test sequences {T3, T1, T5, T4, and T2} are compared for both prioritised and non-prioritized test suites.The proposed scheme when compared with random execution of test sequences, prioritised test suites identified greater number of defects as illustrated .

The table 3.tabulates the performance of the TCP-IGSOis significant in terms of the percentage of defects detected under varied percentage of test cases executed.

$$X_i^{t+1}$$

Figure 4.4 – Comparative results of faults identified





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It is evident from Figure 4.4 that TCP-IGSO value is higher for prioritized test cases as it reveals more defects. Thus, TCPs provide better fault detections than non-prioritized test cases. Moreover, TCPs approaches minimize processing time of model their prioritization of only important test cases.

This research work has proposed and implemented IGSO based on GSOs which use evolutionary computations, a quantum behaviour strategy formed from neighbourhood principles, offspring productions and random walks, to achieve greater efficiency in TCPs with minimized costs. The proposed algorithm is evaluated with APFD percentages for completed test cases against detected defects. It's critical to adhere to the percentage of executed test cases with early fault detection since RTs don't always finish with all test cases executions. The results of this study show that suggested methods can improve executions in situations where TCPs are required. The results also demonstrate that the suggested method is far superior to the random strategy in terms of early defect identifications. The graphical depiction of these results is located at the bottom of the page which were also confirmed using conventional APFD metric.

Future Scope of the work

As a result, the prioritized test cases approach resulted in greater fault detection than non-prioritized test cases. The proposed BITCPE approach attained 93% APFD where as the other approaches such as HCSA-DFACO, TCP-IGSO, TCP-GA and TCP attained APFD results of 89%, 84%, 78% and 74% respectively. Particularly, considering 90 percentage of test cases execution, the percentage of defects detected by the proposed BIT-CPE is observed to be 97% where as the other proposed approaches such as HCSA-DFACO and TCP-IGSO attained 94% and 90% respectively. Similarly, the existing approaches such as TCP and TCP-GA attained 74% and 87% defects detection respectively. By prioritizing the most essential test cases, further test case prioritization approaches will minimise the model's processing time.

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Table 1 - . Fault Detected in Test Suites of the Banking Application

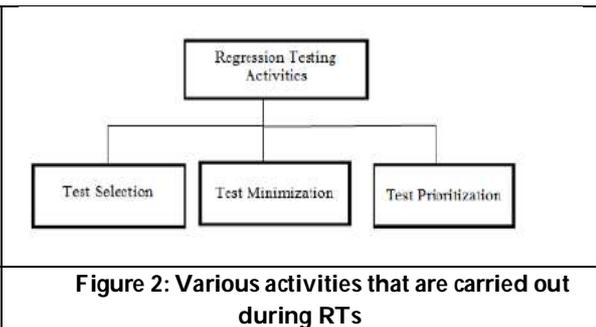
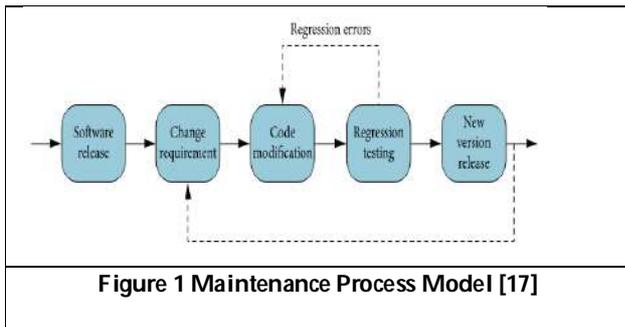
Testcases/ Faults	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
F1					x
F2		x	x	x	
F3				x	
F4	x		x		
F5		x	x	x	x
No.of faults	1	2	3	3	2

Table 2. Comparison table for APFD (%)

Metrics	APFD (%)
TCP	74
TCP-GA	78
TCP-IGSO	84

Table 3. Comparison table for percentage of test case execution Vs Percentage of defects detection

No.of test cases	TCP	TCP-GA	TCP-IGSO
10	61	62	68
30	68	74	79
50	74	76	84
70	79	81	88
90	81	84	91





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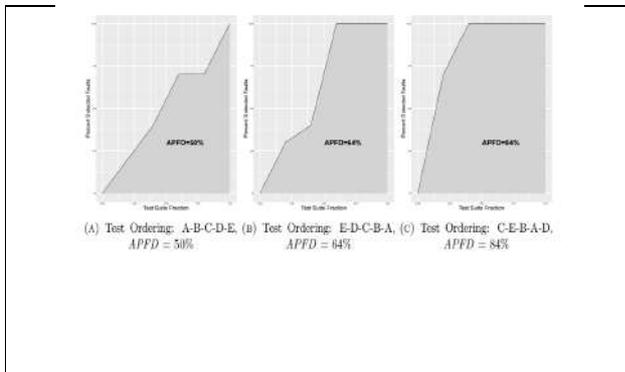


Figure 3: represents the APFD of 3 possible orderings of eq 1.2.

Figure 4: Swarm Behavior of Birds



Figure 5: Swarm Behavior of Fish

Figure 6: Swarm Behavior of quadrupeds

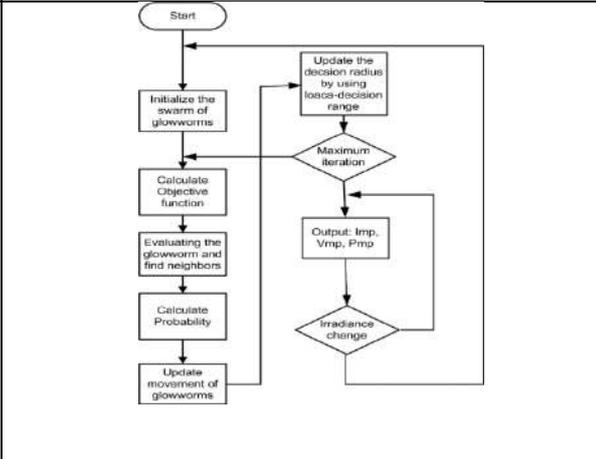
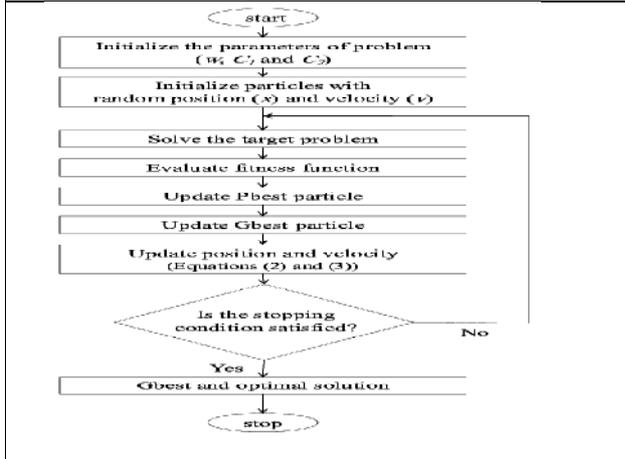


Figure. 7. The overall process of the proposed methodology

Figure 8. The flowchart of the proposed IGSO





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Fig. 9- APFD values for prioritised and non-prioritized test suites

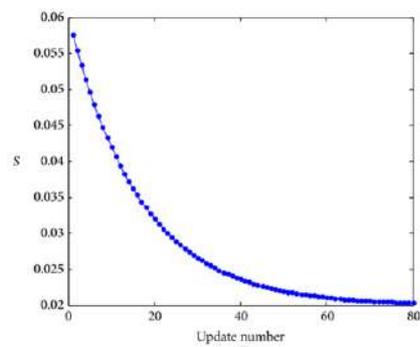


Figure 10. ROC curve for IGSO algorithm

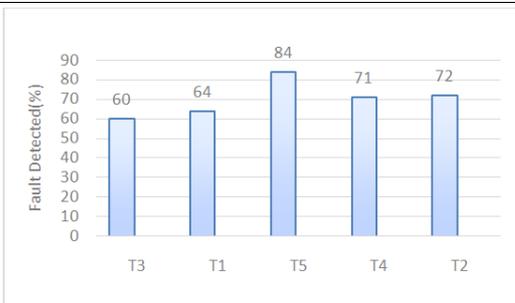


Figure 6. Comparison chart for APCC value

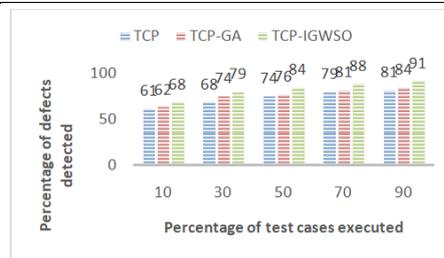


Figure 7. Fault identified by each test case.





Role of Cervical Conditions on Influencing Hand Eye Coordination

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ABSTRACT

Cervical Pathology is one of the most common debilitating conditions which can be caused by a number of reasons. It causes the compression of nerve roots which may result in changes of neurological functions in the upper limb like numbness, muscle weakness and loss of fine movements of the upper limbs. Hand eye coordination is the capacity to use motor and visual inputs to produce a coordinated movement. This study helps to understand the influence of Cervical Conditions on the Hand eye Coordination. Aim of this study is to find out the relationship between the cervical conditions and its influence on hand eye coordination. This study was conducted at the Out Patient Department of UCA College of Physiotherapy. 93 participants were selected from the 120 participants enrolled. All the participants were included based on predetermined selection criteria. Every individual's neck disability was measured using neck disability index (NDI), hand function and hand to eye coordination skills using balloon tossing task (BTT) and wall ball bounce task (WBB). Every participant was given three chances and the mean value is taken for analysis. The mean score for the NDI was 42.70 with SD of 3.94, BTT was 15.79 and SD was 4.53 and for WBB the mean score was 14.73 and the SD was 3.28. The spearman's correlation showed that there was a perfect negative correlation between the NDI and BTT with a R value of -0.995 and p value of <0.001. The analysis of NDI and WBB also showed similar results with R value of -0.831 and p <0.001. The purpose of the study is to identify the relationship between the cervical conditions and its influence on hand eye coordination. This study also identifies that there is slowness in the hand eye coordination and reactions when compared with the normal individuals. This study concludes that the Neck disability negatively influences hand Eye Coordination. The major clinical inference from this study is that, therapist should consider assessing and treating hand eye coordination in patients with Neck disorder.

Keywords: Balloon Tossing Task, Cervical Conditions, Hand eye coordination, Neck Disability Index, Wall ball Bounce test.



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INTRODUCTION

Prolonged repetitive work with high frequencies in the wrist and hand may lead to pain and impairment of the functions in hand. There may be weakness found in the hand due to repetitive activities [1]. Many researches showed that hand function was influenced by variety of factors including age, sex, body weight, occupation, leisure activities, muscle strength, nutritional status, upper body positioning, body posture and positioning in the space [2]. Cervical pathology is one of the most common musculoskeletal problems to every individual at some point of their lives [3]. It is considered as chronic if it is more than 3 months of duration. The life time prevalence of neck pain is about 34.4—54% on general population [4]. Around this population of neck pain about 5% are reported to have neck disability [5]. Cervical pathology occurs in normal population is because of various reasons, long work hours, awkward postures, improper sleeping patterns, faulty use of neck, use of laptop and long use of smart phones [6]. Cervical pathology includes variety of conditions which commonly encountered like cervical spondylosis, intervertebral disc prolapse, trapezius spasm, trigger point, forward head posture, postural neck pain and so on [7].

Neck pain causes symptoms and problems radiating into the upper limb. There was an extensive relationship between the neck pain intensity and the disability which leads to difficulty in management. The disability and the mechanisms of neck pain are clearly not well understood. Disability in particular has been examined from a variety of perspectives which includes several structural, psychological and social determines [8, 9]. Studies pertaining to the neck pain and its role on the upper limb functions are all much limited. However, it is not known to what extent, neck pain patients' experiences problems in the upper limb also. Mechanical loading around the neck, cause stress on the articular and ligamentous structures around the neck, which result in increase of mechanical loading of the upper limb [10]. Prolonged loading cause pain in the upper limb and difficulties in performing upper limb activities which may inhibit usage of the upper limbs and result in disability in the upper limbs [11].

Literatures reported that body positions and upper limb positions can influence the measurement of hand grip strength [12]. Researchers reported an influence of head-neck position on motor unit activity in infants, healthy adults, and neurologically impaired persons [13]. However few studies have investigated the influence of head-neck position on the hand grip, it was also noted that highest hand grip seen when the patient head-neck rotation to left side and similarly the grip is more in rotation than in neutral head position [14,15]. The purpose of this study was therefore to investigate the relationships between cervical pathology and the hand and eye coordination, in addition to that it also investigated the relationship between pain intensity, duration and age category.

MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGY

Ethical clearance was obtained for the study from the Institutional Ethics Committee of Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences, Chennai (vide Certificate No.003/04/2018/IEC/SMCH dated 12/04/2018). A clear explanation to the participants about the study was given prior to the beginning of the study. A total of 120 participants were initially enrolled for the study, after screening their selection criteria about 93 participants were included in the study. All the participants were included based on predetermined selection criteria which includes, participants with chronic neck pain with or without radiating symptoms to either one or both the upper limb, participants with neck pain due to spondylitis, cervical nerve root compression, postural neck pain or forward head posture or straightened cervical spine, age group of 25—45 years were included and both genders were included (45 male and 48 female). Participants with preexisting congenital neck problems; myotomal symptoms with severe upper limb muscle weakness, history of trauma were excluded from the study. A consecutive sampling was adopted for the study and patients were assessed on pre fixed appointment in the outpatient department. Every individual's neck disability was measured using neck disability index (NDI), hand function and hand to eye coordination skills using balloon tossing task and wall ball bounce task. Every participant was given three chances and the mean value is taken for analysis.



**Senthil Kumar and Arun****Statistical analysis**

The statistical analysis for the study was performed using the SPSS software version 25. The mean and standard deviation were taken or the correlation analysis. The significance level was fixed at 0.05 and a confidence interval was determined as 95%. As the data involved a set of ratio scales and an ordinal scale a non-parametric test was considered. Correlation analysis was performed between the disability scores and pain scores with hand eye coordination scores using spearman's correlation test.

RESULTS

A total of 93 subjects accounted for the study results and their demographic data are presented in the table 1. The demographic data shows that there was a marginal difference in the sex distribution and the majority of the participants were Para medical staffs and office workers. Majority of the participants had a work history of 7-11 years which coincides with the average age of the participants. The mean score for the NDI was 42.70 with SD of 3.94, BTT was 15.79 and SD was 4.53 and for WBB the mean score was 14.73 and the SD was 3.28. The spearman's correlation showed that there was a perfect negative correlation between the NDI and BTT with a R value of -0.995 and p value of <0.001. The analysis of NDI and WBB also showed similar results with R value of -0.831 and p <0.001. The results of the correlation are displayed in table 2 and 3 and the distribution of scores are presented in figure 1 and 2.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of the study is to identify the relationship between the cervical conditions and its influence on hand eye coordination. Neck pain is more prevalent in office workers due to increase use of computers and long hours of usage [16]. Most of the office workers (about 50%) reported to have a strong relationship between the work and the neck pain, while 14% of the population experience limited activity due to neck pain [17]. Chronic neck pain individuals have been reported to have various sensory deficits. Altered pain sensitivity may affect physical activity levels in chronic neck pain population, however the relationship doesn't not examine well in literatures [18]. Studies have identified that there is a marked relationship between neck pain and hand grip [19]. There has been hypothesised that hand function deficits in cervical conditions are due to compromises in the myoneural conductions and tissue blood flow and oxygenation [20]. There is an alteration in the nervous systems to activate the hand muscles [21]. It was also found that the neck pain may lead to deficit in the quality of sensory information that generates motor output [19].

This study also identifies that there is slowness in the hand eye coordination and reactions when compared with the normal individuals. This result was supported by study done by Sittikraipong et al., 2020 [22], study concludes that individuals with neck pain has slower hand and foot reactions and response time as well as impairment in hand-eye coordination which suggest it as a sensorimotor deficit [22]. Sensory receptors around the neck as affected by various changes in the neck muscles and the neck pathologies. Pain alters the muscle spindle activity and this result in impairment of neck function. There is an alteration of the cervical afferent input by changing proprioception, joint mechanics and sensitivity of the muscle spindles [23]. Studies also found that the degenerative changes in the cervical spine, plays a major role on motor, sensory, and autonomic neurons in a hyperexcitable state, it also increases blood vessel tone and render connective tissues and more susceptible to injury [24].

Limitations of this Study

All participants are not having similar conditions; this study uses variety of cervical conditions, the study design in which participants have their own control, sample size of the study also less. Further studies should use the single cervical condition and evaluate the hand-eye coordination using various other tools.



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CONCLUSION

This study concludes that the Neck disability negatively influences hand Eye Coordination. The major clinical inference from this study is that, therapist should consider assessing and treating hand eye coordination in patients with Neck disorder.

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Table 1 – Demographic data of the participants.

S.N	Characteristics	Mean	S.D
1	Age	34.09	5.95
2	Gender	No.	
	Male	45	
	Female	48	
2	Occupation		
	Doctor	7	
	Paramedical	30	
	Office work	26	
	IT	14	
	Banker	2	
	Business	4	
	Mechanic	6	
	House keeping	2	
	Teacher	2	
3	Years of Work		
	2--6 yrs	8	
	7-11 yrs	55	
	11--15 yrs	11	
	> 16 yrs	19	
4	Conditions		
	CS	33	
	IVDP	09	
	Postural neck pain	12	





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	Neck Strain	08
	Trapezius spasm	15
	Combination	6

CS – cervical spondylosis, IVDP- intervertebral disc prolapse

Table 2 – Spearman’s correlation analysis

Correlations			NDI	BTT
Spearman's rho	NDI/BTT	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	-.995**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	.000
		N	93	93
	NDI/WBB	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	-.831**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	.000
		N	93	93

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

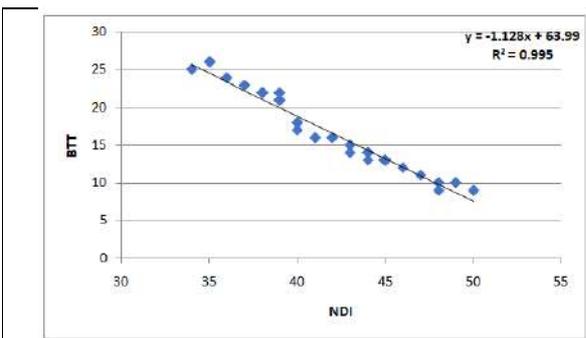


Figure 1 – Correlation between NDI and BTT

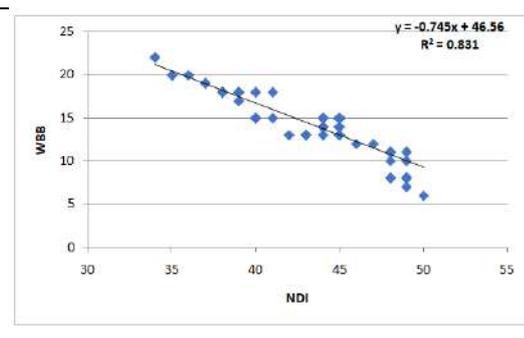


Figure 2 – Correlation between NDI and WBB





Robust Fuzzy Weighted Adaptive Denoising Algorithm for Moving Object Detection in Video Surveillance

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ABSTRACT

In automatic traffic monitoring system, it is very essential to maintain the quality of the video. But in real time, due to poor weather, light luminous and quality of the web camera, the presence of noise is unavoidable and this might affect the entire process while performing moving object detection in videos. Though there are many existing noise removal techniques are available, due to the uncertainty and vague information of the moving objects, the process of denoising is still a challenging task. Hence, in this paper a novel fuzzy weighted adaptive noise filter technique is developed to handle the vague noisy pixels with low complexity. The proposed model converts all the crisp pixel values into fuzzy values using degree of membership and determines the noisy pixel alone instead of processing entire frame in a video. This avoids the computation complexity by utilizing the neighbouring noise free pixels nearer to the location of noise pixels. Depending on noisy pixels' location, the number of neighborhood pixels used for denoising differs. The size of the neighbouring pixels is enlarged adaptively and by using the median weight operator, the balancing of pixel intensity is achieved. The simulation results proved that when compared with other existing noise filtering techniques, the proposed model Fuzzy weighted adaptive noise filter produced high peak to signal noise ration with least mean square error in video denoising.

Keywords: Video processing, Noise pixel, denoising, fuzzy weighted adaptive filter, membership, vagueness, inconsistency.





INTRODUCTION

It is a difficult challenge to monitor and track objects and individuals while stepping up communal and private video surveillance systems [1]. This has led to an increase of interest in monitoring moving objects using efficient techniques. In tracking moving objects, noise is infact frequently disregarded. Although there are many reasons why visuals might be noisy, it always has a detrimental impact on performance [2]. Image noise is a result of image acquisition errors, characterized by irregularities in the color output generated by the scanning devices, cameras, or image detectors. Noise in images is frequently viewed as an unintended result. Actual images are created with misleading intensities due to these noises. There are instances for few noises to occur [3]. Video denoising is the process of removing noise from videos, and it involves reducing image noise within as well as across individual frames. Applications like traffic control, medical imaging, and TV broadcasting employ video sequence noise reduction extensively [4]. A video recovery technique called denoising tries to salvage information from a corrupted frame. Depending on the video and its types, various denoising approaches make a variety of assumptions.

Related Work

A hybrid noise removal model designed [5] which works in two stages, detection of noise and removing it. The authors used classification model known as support vector neural network which maps binary values. To discover the weight, genetic algorithms is deployed to denoise impulsive noise. A switching median filter constructed [6] uses soft threshold, trimming process using fuzzy logic to conduct denoising process. The maximum window size based soft computation is used and it is used for lung CT images noise environment. M. C. Sheeba et al [7] conducted a detailed survey on video preprocessing using denoising which is the primary task to improve the quality of video. They conducted comparative analysis of various noise types on the images and analysis removal of noise using variety of noise filter types and their performance.

Hongyi Zheng et al [8] introduced a dictionary learning based on deep convolutional model to perform denoising. The image denoising issue is used to validate the efficacy of this approach. The denoising performance is shown in terms of both visual quality and quantitative measurements. It can replicate subtle visual structures and textures in particular, which are difficult for many denoising DNNs to recover. Syed Waqas Zamir et al [9] designed an architecture based on synergistic model which understands the functionality of restoration for the noisy pixels. The algorithm fine grains the entire recovery process step by step, like feature extraction, understanding correlation among pixels, to maintain their originality during restoration function. Gregory Vaksman et al [10] used a regular convolutional design to provide an innovative approach for utilizing similarities in the framework of video denoising. This work explores the idea of patch-craft frames per second, which are made with matched tiles and resemble real frames in appearance. The system combines patch-crafted frames to video sequences and passes the resulting data to a CNN.

Background Study

There are different types of noises occurred in videos depending on various situation like poor lighting, quality of the camera, scanning devices etc. The most common noises which affects the quality of the videos are Salt and pepper noise, Gaussian noise, Periodic noise and Quantization noise.

- a) Gaussian Noise: It occurs when there is a random fluctuation in the signals and present in dark areas of videos. Depending on the noise, the probability of density has a specific value and when distributed based on the gaussian principle, then the gaussian noise occurs [11]. A relatively small percentage of all pixels' original value will be changed in the event of Gaussian noise.
- b) Impulse / Salt and Pepper Noise: The color and intensity of the pixels in the video frame differ greatly from those of the pixels around them. Salt and pepper deterioration, which often affects only a tiny portion of the frame's pixels, but it causes sharp and abrupt disturbances in the visual signal. The Salt and Pepper Noise may be referred to



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as the appearance of black and white dots when the image is seen. Vacant pixels, bit errors while transmission, and faults in the analog-to-digital converter can all result in this kind of noise.

c) Periodic Noise: This kind of noise is generated as a continuous pattern on the video frame, and it is also one of the toughest one which affects the quality of frames because of electromechanical interference during acquisition of video.

d) Quantization Noise: While the acquired video frame's pixel is quantized into a number of isolated levels, quantization noise occurs [12]. This kind of noise is distributed uniformly. It behaves as either dependent or independent to signal based on the presence or absence of dithering.

There are many existing denoising models available to perform the filtering of noises in video object tracking and the most common filters are Average filters, Median filter, Wiener filter Gaussian filter, etc. These algorithms are used for comparing with the proposed denoised algorithm constructed in this work.

Average Filtering

Average filtering is a technique that evens out images by minimising the intensity fluctuation among nearby pixels. It functions as a low pass filter. The average filter operates by scanning pixel by pixel throughout the image and substituting every value with the mean of its adjacent pixels, which involves itself. But the main problems while using average filtering are:

- The mean value of each of the pixels in a given area might be greatly impacted by one of their pixels having an extremely inaccurate value.
- The filter interpolates fresh values for pixel arrays on the border when its neighbourhood crosses an edge, blurring the edge. If the output needs sharp borders, this might be a challenge.

Median Filtering

The median filter computes the median value of the selected input window and it belongs to the non-linear filter. The input pixel values are sorted and then its middle value is used for performing denoising process. Additionally, it helps keep a frame's borders while lowering random noise [13]. In the median filter, a frame moves along the video frame, and the output brightness of the processed pixel is determined by the median brightness measurement for the pixels inside the window.

Wiener Filtering

An ideal trade-off among inverse filtration and noise reduction is used to implement the Wiener filtering. In Wiener filtering, the average square error is optimised. In the reverse filtration and noisy flattening process, it reduces the total mean square error [14]. Wiener filtering is linearly calculated on the original video frames. The major problem while using wiener filter is that it requires prior knowledge about the power spectral density of input frames. In this phase, the pre-processing of input video is done to improve the quality of video as it is affected by the presence of different types of noise in the video frames. The input video might be with noise and affects the robust tracking of moving objects. The video sequences may be corrupted by interlacing and motion blur. To overcome this problem a robust fuzzy weighted adaptive filtering (FWAF) model is developed to remove three different types of noises such as impulse noise, gaussian noise and quantization noise as depicted in Figure 1. FWAF algorithm handles the outliers and noisy pixels more accurately by defining each pixel in the frame by means of degree of membership to determine if they belong to the foreground or noisy pixel with the weight computation.

METHODOLOGY

In this proposed model, the denoising process is done by the selective process, where the pixels corrupted by noise alone is focused and the remaining uncorrupted pixels are not processed in order to maintain the frame information. But during denoising process, the neighbouring pixels of the noisy pixels which are surrounding it is used for estimating the intensity. Also, when the surrounding neighbouring pixels are very less, then use the adaptive size to





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increase the number of fixed pixels to denoise the noisy pixel. Calculate the fuzzy membership value $\mu_{i,j}(z)$ for each pixel in the video frame as of each pixel

$$\mu_{i,j}(z) = \begin{cases} 0; & z \leq lmn \\ 2\left(\frac{z-lmn}{l mx-lmn}\right)^2 - \epsilon; & lmn < z \leq \frac{lmn+l mx}{2} \\ 1 - 2\left(\frac{z-l mx}{l mx-lmn}\right)^2 - \epsilon; & \frac{lmn+l mx}{2} \leq z < l mx \\ 1-\epsilon; & z \geq l mx \end{cases}$$

where z is pixel level value that has to be fuzzified, $l mn$ is the lowest intensity pixel and $l mx$ is the maximum pixel intensity of whole frame. Once all the pixel values are converted to the fuzzy values, the process of weight adaptive filter process continues. Neighbouring pixels which are noise free are only used in the proposed fuzzy weighted adaptive noise removal processing. If the noise pixels lie at the edges, then only one noise-free pixel neighbourhood of both sides is used. While noisy pixel is present in the middle, then the neighbouring pixels selected are 3X3. If there are no noisy pixels found in the border of 3X3 neighbourhood selection, then the size is extended adaptively into 5 X 5. At the borders of 5X 5, only noise free pixels are used at the border. After that the median value of the noise free pixels is used for intensity estimation to perform denoising.

To avoid the impact of border lying noise free pixels during denoising, each border pixels are computed by weighted operator to determine their weights and then their weighted median is considered as intensity for noisy pixel. The following fuzzy weighted adaptive median method is applied to every noisy pixel (NP).

$$fw(p) = \tilde{m}(Nl_p(l) * Wt(l))$$

Apply weighted processing using the weighted operator $Wt(l)$ to the noise-free pixels, and then calculate the intensity of p by taking the median of the weighted pixels, here \tilde{m} refers to median and fw refers to the fuzzy weight operator with l size. The frame quality must be excellent prior to beginning any video processing procedure. Improved frame quality is considered at this phase and the video is evaluated with three different noise types: impulse noise, Gaussian noise, and quantization noise. These noises have a greater potential to degrade the quality of the video. The optimal filters for each type of noise are considered when denoising each noise employing a variety of filtering approaches.

- a) Choose three films with a mixture of the three noise types—Impulse Noise, Gaussian Noise and Quantization Noise.
- b) Frame conversion for videos
- c) The frames with noise pixels are denoised using fuzzy weighted Adaptive filters
- d) Use the PSNR and MSE to determine which filter is most appropriate.
- e) Process the resulting frames.

SIMULATION RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In this section, the performance of the proposed fuzzy weighted adaptive denoising filter is analyzed. The proposed model is simulated using python software. The traffic monitoring video dataset is collected from Kaggle repository with 15 various videos [15]. The noises used in this work are gaussian noise, quantization noise and impulse noise. The existing noise filtering methods used for comparison with proposed model are average filter, median filter, wiener filter and gaussian filter. The metrics used for evaluation are MSE and PSNR.

Metrics used for Evaluation





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Mean Square Error

The most often used metrics in video processing and computer vision are differences between the original and coded frames, with the mean square error (MSE) or peak signal-to-noise ratio (PSNR). The mathematical tractability of these measures and the ease with which it is frequently possible to create systems that minimise the MSE but do not capture artefacts such as blurred or blocked artefacts are the reasons for their widespread appeal. Having the lowest MSE maximises the algorithm's efficiency, which is computed by

$$MSE = \frac{1}{MN} \sum_{i=1}^M \sum_{j=1}^N (frm(i, j) - frm'(i, j))^2$$

Where M, N is the size of video frame with M rows and N columns

Peak Signal – To – Noise-Ratio

A lower distinction among the original (noise-free) and reconstructed image is indicated by a higher PSNR. This metric is the most commonly used objective image quality/distortion metric. This measure's main benefit is its simplicity of computation; however, it does not correspond to the perceptual quality. An important PSNR feature is that a little spatial shift of an image might result in a large numerical deformation but no visual distortion, and vice versa, if all the error occurs in a small, important region, a minor mean deviation can produce a devastating visual artefact. This measurement ignores overall and composite errors. PSNR is determined by applying.

$$PSNR = 10 \log \frac{(255)^2}{MSE}$$

The figure 3 a)- 3e) illustrates the outcome of the various denoising filters applied on the noise effects of the video. In this work it is shown that fuzzy weight adaptive filter produced improved quality of video frames compared with other conventional filters. Figure 4 illustrates the performance of five different filtering techniques to denoise the three different noises, which commonly occurs in traffic monitoring videos based on Mean Square Error (MSE). The denoising process done by the proposed fuzzy weight adaptive filter represents each pixel in the frame in terms of grade of membership. To understand whether the pixel intensity is below the threshold or not, the corresponding weight computation is done in an adaptive manner to speed up the denoising process. The fuzzy weight adaptive filter achieves lowest mean square error for improving the quality of videos compared with the other existing filtering algorithms.

Figure 5 explores the peak signal-to-noise ratio produced by average filter, median filter, wiener filter, gaussian filter and the proposed fuzzy weight adaptive filter (FWAF) during the noise removal of impulse noise (salt and pepper noise), quantization noise and gaussian noise. The proposed fuzzy weight adaptive filter achieves highest rate of peak to signal noise ratio, which handles the vagueness in discriminating the noise and original pixel by computing the weight values and done in the repeated manner to improve the quality of videos. The conventional filtering models can able to work on one or two noises whereas the proposed algorithm suits for all three types of noises occurred in videos.

CONCLUSION

The main objective of this paper, is to design and deploy a novel uncertainty based denoising filter, which has the ability to filter more type of noises in video surveillance system. While performing the moving object detection, the quality of the video plays a vital role. In real time applications, the quality of the raw video may be poor due to the weather condition, darkness or due to the quality of the devices. By utilizing the video without performing denoising may result in high chance of error rate in detection of moving objects. Hence, in this research a novel fuzzy weight adaptive denoising filter is introduced to remove noises form the traffic monitoring videos. The performance of the proposed FWADF achieves highest peak signal-to-noise ratio and lowest mean square error compared with other



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existing noise removal techniques used in this research. This proposed work can be applied to video surveillance systems to detect the moving objects more precisely, as it enhances the noise removal process.

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<pre> graph TD A[Video Dataset collected from Kaggle] --> B[Converting video to frames] B --> C[Convert each frames pixel to fuzzy pixel] C --> D[Determine the noisy pixel in the given frame] D --> E[Apply fuzzy weighted adaptive processing] E --> F[Denoised Video frames generated] F --> G[Performance Evaluation] </pre>	
<p>Figure 1: Workflow of the proposed fuzzy weighted Adaptive filtering for Denoising inmoving object detection Videos</p>	<p>Figure 2 a) Gaussian Noise</p>
<p>Figure 2 b) Quantization Noise</p>	<p>Figure 2 c) Impulse Noise</p>
<p>Figure (2a): gaussian noise,(2b): quantization noiseand (2c): impulse noise</p>	
<p>Figure 2 shows three different noises which occur commonly in low quality video, poor light luminance and weather conditions.</p>	





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<p>Figure 3a) Average Filter</p>	<p>Figure 3b) Median Filter</p>
	
<p>Figure 3c) Weiner Filter</p>	<p>Figure 3d) Gaussian Filter</p>
	
<p>Figure 3e) Fuzzy Weight</p>	
<p>Figure 3 (a-e): Outcome of various denoising filters applied on the noise in the video</p>	





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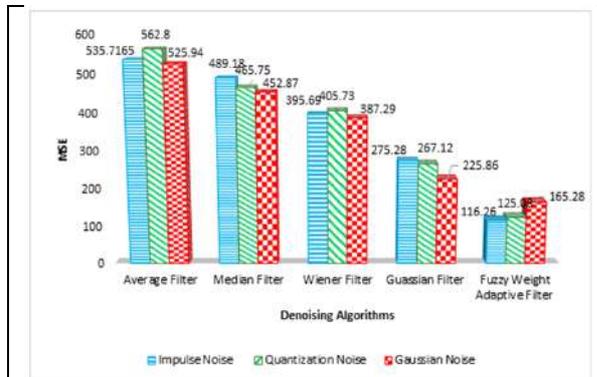


Figure 4 Comparative Analysis based on Mean Square Error

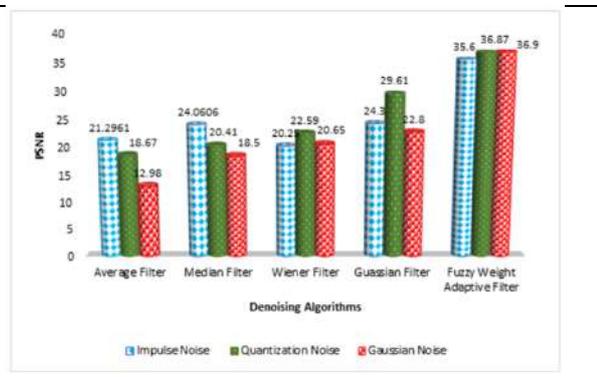


Figure 5 Comparative results based on PSNR





Neuropsychiatric Effects of Sagala Noi Chooranam – A Comprehensive Review

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays, across all age groups of people worldwide, mental problems are the most common. Most people find it difficult to regulate their emotions as a result of working stress, and they are more likely to suffer from mental problems. Anxiolytics, Antidepressants like tricyclic antidepressants and selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors are frequently used in modern system of medicine. In recent days, society turns towards the herbal medicine due to low side effects and high therapeutic values. One of the ancient traditional Indian medical systems with a written code is the Siddha system. Lemuria was submerged by this mechanism, which the ancient Siddhars established, thousands of years ago, in the southern region of India. By adhering to the natural principles, Siddha argues that one can live a healthy life both physically and mentally. As per Siddha system of medicine, mental disorder is mentioned as "Brammai". *Sagalanoi Chooranam* is the polyherbal Siddha formulation widely prescribed for psychiatric disorders in clinical practice. The scientific review of the ingredients of this chooranam revealed their excellency in anxiolytic, antidepressant and anti epileptic activities. Hence the neuropsychiatric effect of *Sagalanoi chooranam* is validated with available literature.

Keywords: Sagalanoi chooranam, brammai, psychiatric disease, mental disorders, Siddha.





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INTRODUCTION

Mental disorders are extremely common in all the age groups of people around the world. According to epidemiological studies, India has prevalence rates for psychiatric diseases ranging from 9.5 to 370/1000 people. [1] Most people find it difficult to balance their lives because of stress at work and in their families, and they are more likely to acquire mental problems as a result. [2] Anxiolytics, Antidepressants like tricyclic antidepressants and selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors are frequently used in modern system of medicine. [3]. People in our society now prefer herbal medicine because of its low side effects and high therapeutic values. [4] One of the ancient traditional Indian medical systems with a written code is the Siddha system. Lemuria was submerged by this mechanism, which the ancient Siddhars established, thousands of years ago, in the southern region of India. By adhering to the natural principles, Siddha argues that one can live a healthy life both physically and mentally. [5]. As per Siddha system of medicine, mental disorder is mentioned as "*Brammai*" [6]. In ancient Siddha literature, *Brammamuni karukkidai nigandu* elucidates about the polyherbal formulation "*Sagalanoi Chooranam*". This formulation has enumerated for various ailments [7]. Nowadays this formulation has gained its iconic significance as a potent medicine in Siddha system of medicine among the *Siddha* practitioners especially for psychiatric illness. As *Sagalanoi chooranam* is a natural herbal formulation in *Siddha* medicine, it may overcome the adverse effects of conventional antipsychotics. The current review is aimed to substantiate the traditional efficacy of ingredients of this formulation through *Siddha* literatures and various scientific literatures. The pharmacological review of the ingredients of this *chooranam* revealed their excellency in anxiolytic, anti-convulsant, anti psychotic activities. Hence the neuropsychiatric effects of *Sagalanoi chooranam* are validated with available literature.

INGREDIENTS OF SAGALANOI CHOORANAM

- Kothamalli Vidhai (*Coriandrum sativum*)
- Seeragam (*Cuminum cyminum*)
- Athimadhuram (*Glycyrrhiza glabra*)
- Madhana kaamapoo (*Cycas circinalis*)
- Karunjeeragam (*Nigella sativa*)

Method of preparation

The ingredients of this formulation should be purified. Then all the ingredients are powdered, filtered and stored in the airtight container.

Indications

Incurable psychiatric illness, excess salivation, ear diseases, deafness, slurred speech, mouth deviation, disorders of head, throat ulcer [7].

REVIEW OF INGREDIENTS OF SAGALANOI CHOORANAM:

Kothamalli vidhai

Synonyms: Urul arisi, Dhaniya.

Properties

Suvai (Taste)- Kaarpu (pungent); **Thanmai (Character)** – Seetha vetpam; **Pirivu (Division)-**Kaarpu (pungent) [8].

Action: Stomachic, carminative, stimulant, diuretic.

Chemical constituents:

Linalool, Gallic acid, thymol, and bornyl acetate [9].





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Neuro pharmacological review**Antidepressant activity**

Coriander seeds have been used in the Indian traditional medicine to relieve stress and other neurological disease conditions. Seeds of *Coriandrum sativum* ethanolic extract were screened for antidepressant effect by using forced swim test and anxiolytic effect by using locomotor activity at doses of 100 and 200 mg/kg in mice. Distilled water and diazepam were employed as negative and positive control groups, respectively. Antidepressant activity and anxiolytic assessment of seeds of *Coriandrum sativum* ethanolic extract (CSEE) shows significant decrease in immobility time locomotion as compared to standard treatment group. The results of this revealed the traditional usage of seeds of *Coriandrum sativum* as antidepressant and anxiolytic medicinal plant [10, 11].

Anxiolytic activity

Anxiolytic effect of aqueous extract of coriander seeds was examined in male albino mice using elevated plus-maze. In the elevated plus-maze, aqueous extract at 100 mg/kg showed an anxiolytic effect by increasing the time spent on open arms and the percentage of open arm entries, compared to control group. These results suggest that the aqueous extract of *Coriandrum sativum* seed has anxiolytic effect and may have potential sedative and muscle relaxant effects [12, 13, 14].

Sedative effect

The aqueous or hydro-alcoholic extracts or essential oil of coriander seeds (100, 200, 400 and 600 mg/kg) were administered intraperitoneally to male albino mice, 30 minutes before pentobarbital injection (40 mg/kg). Latency to sleep and sleep duration were recorded. The extracts and essential oil of coriander seeds possess sedative-hypnotic activity and it is strongly suggested that the major active component(s) responsible for the hypnotic effect is mainly present in the aqueous extract [15].

Seeragam

Synonyms: Asai, seeri, ubakumbapeesam, narseeri, pithanaasini, posanakudori, methiyam, thuthasambalam, piraththi – viga.

Properties

Suvai (Taste) - Kaarpu(pungent), inippu(sweet); **Thanmai (Character)** – thatpam; **Pirivu (Division)** - inippu.

Action: Stomachic, carminative, stimulant, astringent [8].

Chemical constituents

b-pinene, p-cymene, g-terpinene, and cuminaldehyde [16].

Neuro pharmacological review**Antidepressant and anxiolytic activity:**

Antidepressant effects of the essential oil of cumin seeds evaluated on the forced swim test (FST) and tail suspension test (TST) in male mice. Cuminaldehyde followed by cymene, γ -terpinene, phenylglycol, 2-carene-10-al, 2- β -pinene, acoradiene, and cuminic acid were the major components of the essential oil. This study revealed the components of the *Cuminum cyminum* has memory enhancing activity and antidepressant activity similar to that of fluoxetine and imipramine in both tests [17, 18]. Essential oil of *Cuminum cyminum* revealed their effect on anxiolytic, muscle relaxant & locomotor activity [19].

Adhimadhuram

Synonyms: Adhingam, atti, madhugam, kundriver.

Properties

Suvai (Taste) – inippu (sweet); **Thanmai (Character)** – Seetham; **Pirivu (Division)** - inippu.

Action: Emollient, demulcent, mild expectorant, laxative, tonic [8].



**Sabari Girija et al.,****Bioactive components**

Glycyrrhizin, 18 β -glycyrrhetic acid, glabrin A and B, and isoflavones [20].

Neuro pharmacological review**Antidepressant and anxiolytic activity**

The hydro alcoholic extract of *Glycyrrhiza glabra* and anxiolytic activity was assessed using different paradigms like elevated plus maze, foot shock-induced aggression, and amphetamine-induced stereotypy. Diazepam or ondansetron served as standard anxiolytic agents. This study possesses the efficacy of anxiolytic activity [21, 22]. Ethanolic extract of *Glycyrrhiza glabra* possesses the neurological properties such as antidepressant, anxiolytic, and anticonvulsant effects [23].

Memory enhancing activity

Aqueous extract of *Glycyrrhiza glabra* evaluated to test learning and memory through elevated plus-maze and passive avoidance paradigm. The dose of 150 mg/kg of the aqueous extract of liquorice significantly improved learning and memory of mice. scopolamine-induced amnesia was reversed by liquorice, it is possible that the beneficial effect on learning and memory was due to facilitation of cholinergic-transmission in mouse brain. It has shown promise as a memory enhancing agent in all the laboratory models employed [24, 25].

Anti convulsant activity

The anticonvulsant activity of ethanolic extract of roots and rhizomes of *Glycyrrhiza glabra* (10, 30, 100 and 500 mg/kg, i.p.) in mice was assessed using maximum electroshock seizure (MES) test and pentylenetetrazol (PTZ) using albino mice. The lithium-pilocarpine model of status epilepticus was also used to assess the anticonvulsant activity in rats. The ethanolic extract of *G. glabra* inhibits PTZ and lithium-pilocarpine-induced convulsions but not MES-induced convulsions [26]. Chowdhury et.al studied the aqueous and ethanol extract of *Glycyrrhiza glabra* (EEGG) for its anti-convulsant activity using pentylenetetrazole (PTZ)-induced seizure in rat. The effect of EEGG on oxidative stress markers like malondialdehyde (MDA), superoxide dismutase (SOD), and catalase (CAT) of rat brain tissue homogenate. This study demonstrated that EEGG poses anti-convulsant potential and ameliorates ROS induced neuronal damage in PTZ-induced seizure [27]. The anticonvulsant effects of aqueous extract of *Glycyrrhiza glabra* root investigated in PTZ-induced seizure in mice. Nassiri-asl et.al revealed the efficacy of the aqueous extract of glycyrrhiza root possesses anticonvulsant activities which may be effective in the management of petit mal seizure [28].

Madhana kaamapoo

Synonyms: Kaamapoo, madhanakamesurapoo, madhanakamiyapoo.

Properties

Suvai (Taste) – inippu (sweet); **Thanmai (Character)** – thatpam; **Pirivu (Division)** – inippu (sweet).

Action: Narcotic, stimulant, aphrodisiac [6].

Bioactive compounds:

α -D-Glucopyranoside, α -D-glucopyranosyl (77.73%), Decanoic acid, ethyl ester (11.92%) [29].

Neuro pharmacological review**Antidepressant and anxiolytic activity**

The polyherbal extract of *Cycas circinalis*, *Nardostachys jatamansi* and *Artemisia absinthium* ethanolic fraction was explored for its antidepressant property using Forced swim test (FST) and Tail suspension test. The ethanolic extract of the polyherbal combination exhibited significant antidepressant activity as indicated by its ability to decrease swim stress and tail suspension induced immobility time in rats as compared with that standard Fluoxetine [30].

Karunjeeragam

Synonyms: Aranam, ubakunjigai.



**Sabari Girija et al.,****Properties****Suvai (Taste)** – kaippu (bitter); **Thanmai (Character)** – veppam; **Pirivu (Division)** - kaarppu.**Action:** Carminative, diuretic, emmenagogue, galactagogue, anthelmintic, stomachic, parasiticide, emollient [8].**Bioactive compounds**

Thymoquinone, thymohydroquinone, dithymoquinone, thymol, carvacrol, nigellimine- N-oxide, nigellidine, nigellidine and alpha-hederin [31].

Neuro pharmacological review:**Antidepressant activity:**

Nigella sativa seeds are reported to be used for the feeling of wellbeing, stimulating energy and recovery from fatigue and dispiritedness. Recently, Hosseini et.al studied the antidepressant activity of Nigella sativa in rats using forced swimming test and open field test. This study reported that hydro-alcoholic extract of N. sativa and its active principle, thymoquinone, could prevent lipopolysaccharide-induced depression-like behaviour in rats. N. sativa in the prevention of depression and relief of anxiety in animal studies a placebo controlled randomised clinical trial was carried out at a boarding school on young healthy adolescent human volunteers to investigate the effect of N. sativa seed on mood and anxiety [32]. Bin Sayeed et.al suggested that the use of N. sativa seed as a nutritional supplement had a positive effect on mood and anxiety [33].

Anti-anxiety activity:

Hole-Board test is frequently used for the validation of the anxiety in small animals.

Hole-Board test is frequently used for the validation of the anxiety in small animals.

Hole-Board test is frequently used for the validation of the anxiety in small animals. A significant decrease in exploratory conduct in the mice was produced by the aqueous and methanolic extracts of N. sativa, using hole-board test. The extract of these extracts on spontaneous motor activity and motor coordination was also observed. The spontaneous motility was recorded in a photoactometer, whereas the motor coordination was examined by Rota-Rod test. Both of these extracts caused a significant decrease in the spontaneous motility as well as motor coordination [34].

CONCLUSION

Sagala noi chooranam is known to possess a wide variety of medicinal properties and has been used as a natural remedy for many diseases since ancient times. In the present article neuropsychiatric effects are reviewed separately for the first time. Neuropsychiatric effects of each ingredient in this formulation have been reviewed. Further invitro and invivo studies are needed to confirm these observations.

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On Some Properties of $w\tilde{\alpha}$ -closed Sets in Topological Spaces

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ABSTRACT

In this paper, I introduce a new class of generalized closed sets called $\tilde{\alpha}$ -closed and weakly $\tilde{\alpha}$ -closed sets which contains the above mentioned class. Also, we investigate the relationships among related generalized closed sets.

Keywords: $\tilde{\alpha}$ -cld, $w\tilde{\alpha}$ -cld, gsp-cld, gs-cld, sg-cld.

INTRODUCTION

Sheik John [17] introduced ω -closed sets in topological spaces. After the coming of these ideas, generalized topological spaces presented different types of generalized closed sets and concentrated on their major properties. Levine [11] introduced generalized closed sets in general topology as a generalization of closed sets. This idea was viewed as valuable and many outcomes overall generalized topology were gotten to the next level. Many researchers like Veerakumar [19] introduced \hat{g} -closed sets in topological spaces. Sheik John [17] introduced ω -closed sets in topological spaces. After the coming of these ideas, generalized topological spaces presented different types of generalized closed sets and concentrated on their major properties. Ravi and Ganesan [16] presented and \ddot{g} -closed sets in general topology as one more generalization of closed sets and demonstrated that the class of \ddot{g} -closed sets appropriately lies between the class of closed sets and the class of g-closed sets. Pious Missier et al. [15] presented the idea of g''' -closed sets and concentrated on their most basic properties in topological spaces.





Thasleem Rani

In this paper, I introduce a new class of generalized closed sets called $\tilde{\alpha}$ -closed and weakly $\tilde{\alpha}$ -closed sets which contains the above mentioned class. Also, we investigate the relationships among related generalized closed sets.

PRELIMINARIES

Throughout this thesis (X, τ) , (Y, σ) and (Z, η) (or X, Y and Z) represent topological spaces (briefly TPS) on which no separation axioms are assumed unless otherwise mentioned. For a subset P of a space X , $\text{cl}(P)$, $\text{int}(P)$ and P^c or $X \setminus P$ denote the closure of P , the interior of P and the complement of P , respectively.

We recall the following definitions which are useful in the sequel.

Definition 2.1

A subset P of a space X is called:

- (i) semi-open [10] if $P \subseteq \text{cl}(\text{int}(P))$;
- (ii) α -open [13] if $P \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(\text{int}(P)))$;
- (iii) semi-preopen [1] if $P \subseteq \text{cl}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(P)))$;
- (iv) regular open [18] if $P = \text{int}(\text{cl}(P))$.

The complements of the above mentioned open sets are called their respective closed sets.

Definition 2.2

A subset P of a space X is called a

- (i) generalized closed (briefly g-cld) [11] if $\text{cl}(P) \subseteq B$ whenever $P \subseteq B$ and B is open in X .
- (ii) generalized semiclosed (briefly gs-cld) [3] if $\text{scl}(P) \subseteq B$ whenever $P \subseteq B$ and B is open in X .
- (iii) α -generalized closed (briefly α g-cld) set [12] if $\alpha \text{cl}(P) \subseteq B$ whenever $P \subseteq B$ and B is open in X .
- (iv) generalized semi-preclosed (briefly gsp-cld) set [9] if $\text{spcl}(P) \subseteq B$ whenever $P \subseteq B$ and B is open in X .
- (v) semi-generalized closed (briefly sg-cld) [5] if $\text{scl}(P) \subseteq B$ whenever $P \subseteq B$ and B is semi-open in X .

The complements of the above mentioned closed sets are called their respective open sets.

WEAKLY $\tilde{\alpha}$ -CLOSED SETS

We introduce the definition of weakly $\tilde{\alpha}$ -closed sets in TPS and study the relationships of such sets.

Definition 3.1

A subset P of a TPS is called

- (i) a $\tilde{\alpha}$ -closed (briefly $\tilde{\alpha}$ -cld) if $\text{cl}(P) \subseteq B$ whenever $P \subseteq B$ and B is sg-open in X .
- (ii) a weakly $\tilde{\alpha}$ -closed (briefly $w\tilde{\alpha}$ -cld) if $\text{cl}(\text{int}(P)) \subseteq B$ whenever $P \subseteq B$ and B is sg-open in X .

The complements of the above mentioned closed sets are called their respective open sets.

Theorem 3.2

Any closed is $w\tilde{\alpha}$ -cld but reverse is not true.

Proof

Let P be a closed set. Then $\text{cl}(P) = P$. Let $P \subseteq B$ and B be sg-open. Since $\text{int}(P) \subseteq P$, $\text{cl}(\text{int}(P)) \subseteq \text{cl}(P) = P$. We have $\text{cl}(\text{int}(P)) \subseteq P \subseteq B$ whenever $P \subseteq B$ and B is sg-open. Hence P is $w\tilde{\alpha}$ -cld.

Example 3.3

Let $X = \{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ and $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{w_1\}, \{w_2\}, \{w_1, w_2\}, X\}$. Then the set $\{w_1, w_2\}$ is $w\tilde{\alpha}$ -cld set but not closed in X .

Theorem 3.4

Any $\tilde{\alpha}$ -cld is $w\tilde{\alpha}$ -cld but reverse is not true.

Proof

The proof is straight forward.





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Example 3.5

Let $X = \{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ and $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{w_1\}, \{w_2\}, \{w_1, w_2\}, X\}$. The set $\{w_1, w_2\}$ is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld set but not \tilde{a} -cld in X .

Theorem 3.6

Any regular cld is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld but reverse is not true.

Proof

Let P be any regular cld set and let B be gs-open set containing P . Since P is regular cld, we have $P = \text{cl}(\text{int}(P)) \subseteq B$. Thus, P is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld.

Example 3.7

Let $X = \{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ and $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{w_1\}, \{w_2\}, \{w_1, w_2\}, X\}$. The set $\{w_1\}$ is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld but not regular cld in X .

Theorem 3.8

Any $w\tilde{a}$ -cld is gsp-cld but reverse is not true.

Proof

Let P be any $w\tilde{a}$ -cld and B be open set containing P . Then B is a sg-open containing P and $\text{cl}(\text{int}(P)) \subseteq B$. Since B is open, we get $\text{int}(\text{cl}(\text{int}(P))) \subseteq B$ which implies $\text{spcl}(P) = P \cup \text{int}(\text{cl}(\text{int}(P))) \subseteq B$. Thus, P is gsp-cld.

Example 3.9

Let $X = \{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ and $\tau = \{\emptyset, \{w_1\}, \{w_2\}, \{w_1, w_2\}, X\}$. Then the set $\{w_1\}$ is gsp-cld but not $w\tilde{a}$ -cld.

Theorem 3.10

If a subset P of a TPS X is both closed and α g-cld, then it is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld in X .

Proof

Let P be an α g-cld set in X and B be an open set containing P . Then $B \supseteq \alpha \text{cl}(P) = P \cup \text{cl}(\text{int}(\text{cl}(P)))$. Since P is closed, $B \supseteq \text{cl}(\text{int}(P))$ and hence P is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld in X .

Theorem 3.11

If a subset P of a TPS X is both open and $w\tilde{a}$ -cld, then it is closed.

Proof

Since P is both open and $w\tilde{a}$ -cld, $P \supseteq \text{cl}(\text{int}(P)) = \text{cl}(P)$ and hence P is closed in X .

Corollary 3.12

If a subset P of a TPS X is both open and $w\tilde{a}$ -cld, then it is both regular open and regular cld in X .

Theorem 3.13

Suppose that $B \subseteq P \subseteq X$, B is a gs-cld relative to P and that P is both open and sg-cld subset of X . Then B is gs-cld relative to X .

Proof

Let $B \subseteq O$ and suppose that O is open in X . Then $B \subseteq P \cap O$ and $\text{scl}_A(B) \subseteq P \cap O$. It follows then that $P \cap \text{scl}(B) \subseteq P \cap O$ and $P \subseteq O \cup (\text{scl}(B))^c$. Since P is sg-cld in X , we have $\text{scl}(P) \subseteq O \cup (\text{scl}(B))^c$ since the union of open set and semi-open set is semi-open. Therefore $\text{scl}(B) \subseteq \text{scl}(P) \subseteq O \cup (\text{scl}(B))^c$ and consequently, $\text{scl}(B) \subseteq O$. Then B is gs-cld relative to X .

Corollary 3.14

Let P be both open and sg-cld and suppose that F is closed. Then $P \cap F$ is gs-cld.

Proof

$P \cap F$ is closed in P and hence gs-cld in P (Apply Theorem 3.13).





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Theorem 3.15

A set P is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld if and only if $cl(int(P)) - P$ contains no non-empty gs-cld.

Proof

Necessity: Let F be a gs-cld such that $F \subseteq cl(int(P)) - P$. Since F^c is gs-open and $P \subseteq F^c$, from the definition of $w\tilde{a}$ -cld it follows that $cl(int(P)) \subseteq F^c$, i.e. $F \subseteq (cl(int(P)))^c$. This implies that $F \subseteq (cl(int(P))) \cap (cl(int(P)))^c = \phi$.

Sufficiency: Let $P \subseteq G$, where G is both closed and sg-open set in X . If $cl(int(P))$ is not contained in G , then $cl(int(P)) \cap G^c$ is a non-empty gs-closed subset of $cl(int(P)) - P$, we obtain a contradiction. This proves the sufficiency and hence the theorem.

Theorem 3.16

Let X be a TPS and $P \subseteq Y \subseteq X$. If P is open and $w\tilde{a}$ -closed in X , then P is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld relative to Y .

Proof

Let $P \subseteq Y \cap G$ where G is gs-open in X . Since P is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld in X , $P \subseteq G$ implies $cl(int(P)) \subseteq G$. That is $Y \cap (cl(int(P))) \subseteq Y \cap G$ where $Y \cap cl(int(P))$ is closure of interior of P in Y . Thus, P is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld relative to Y .

Theorem 3.17

If a subset P of a TPS X is nowhere dense, then it is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld.

Proof

Since $int(P) \subseteq int(cl(P))$ and P is nowhere dense, $int(P) = \phi$. Therefore $cl(int(P)) = \phi$ and hence P is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld in X .

The converse of Theorem 3.17 need not be true as seen in the following example.

Example 3.18

Let $X = \{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ and $\tau = \{\phi, \{w_1\}, \{w_2, w_3\}, X\}$. Then the set $\{w_1\}$ is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld but not nowhere dense in X .

Remark 3.19

The following examples show that $w\tilde{a}$ -cld and semi-closedness are independent.

Example 3.20

Let $X = \{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ and $\tau = \{\phi, \{w_1\}, \{w_2, w_3\}, X\}$. The set $\{w_2\}$ is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld but not semi-cld in X .

Example 3.21

Let $X = \{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ and $\tau = \{\phi, \{w_1\}, \{w_2\}, \{w_1, w_2\}, X\}$. Then the set $\{w_2\}$ is semi-closed set but not $w\tilde{a}$ -cld in X .

Definition 3.22

A subset P of a TPS X is called $w\tilde{a}$ -open set if A^c is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld in X .

Theorem 3.23

Any open set is $w\tilde{a}$ -open.

Proof

Let P be an open set in a TPS X . Then P^c is closed in X . By Theorem 3.2 it follows that P^c is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld in X . Hence P is $w\tilde{a}$ -open in X .

The converse of Theorem 3.23 need not be true as seen in the following example.

Example 3.24

Let $X = \{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ and $\tau = \{\phi, \{w_1\}, \{w_2\}, \{w_1, w_2\}, X\}$. The set $\{w_3\}$ is $w\tilde{a}$ -open set but it is not open in X .

Proposition 3.25

- (i) Any $w\tilde{a}$ -open set is $w\tilde{a}$ -open but reverse is not true.
- (ii) Any regular open is $w\tilde{a}$ -open but reverse is not true.
- (iii) Any g-open set is $w\tilde{a}$ -open but reverse is not true.
- (iv) Any $w\tilde{a}$ -open set is gsp-open but reverse is not true.

It can be shown that the converse of (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) need not be true.





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Theorem 3.26

A subset P of a TPS X is $w\tilde{a}$ -open if $G \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(P))$ whenever $G \subseteq P$ and G is gs -cld.

Proof

Let P be any $w\tilde{a}$ -open. Then P^c is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld. Let G be a gs -cld contained in P . Then G^c is a sg -open set containing P^c . Since P^c is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld, we have $\text{cl}(\text{int}(P^c)) \subseteq G^c$. Therefore $G \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(P))$.

Conversely, we suppose that $G \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(P))$ whenever $G \subseteq P$ and G is sg -closed. Then G^c is a sg -open set containing P^c and $G^c \supseteq (\text{int}(\text{cl}(P)))^c$. It follows that $G^c \supseteq \text{cl}(\text{int}(P^c))$. Hence P^c is $w\tilde{a}$ -cld and so P is $w\tilde{a}$ -open.

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A Study on Biomedical Waste Management in India

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ABSTRACT

Bio-medical waste management is a crucial issue of healthcare structures to make sure the secure coping with, remedy, and disposal of waste generated in healthcare facilities. This waste, which includes infectious substances, sharps, prescribed drugs, and chemical substances, poses sizeable dangers to public health and the environment if not controlled properly. This abstract offers an outline of bio-medical waste control, highlighting key considerations, challenges, and techniques for powerful waste management. The paper discusses the significance of waste segregation at the point of generation and emphasizes the need for committed collection and transportation systems to limit the risk of contamination. It explores various treatment strategies together with incineration, autoclaving, and opportunity technology, highlighting the significance of selecting appropriate strategies based totally on waste characteristics and nearby guidelines. Additionally, the abstract emphasizes the importance of the right waste disposal to save environmental pollutants and protect public fitness.

Keywords: Bio-medical waste, healthcare waste, waste management, waste segregation, treatment methods, disposal, regulations, infrastructure, sustainable practices.

INTRODUCTION

Bio-medical waste management is an important element of healthcare structures internationally. Healthcare centers generate a sizable quantity of waste that can pose risks to public health and the surroundings if now not managed



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well. Bio-scientific waste includes diverse styles of waste, inclusive of infectious materials, sharps, prescribed drugs, and chemical compounds, which require specialized dealing with, remedy, and disposal strategies [1]. The right management of bio-scientific waste is critical for several reasons. Firstly, it helps prevent the unfolding of infections and illnesses by minimizing the risk of publicity to potentially harmful microorganisms [2]. Secondly, it protects healthcare workers, waste handlers, and most people from accidents and contamination, especially when it comes to sharps waste. Additionally, effective bio-scientific waste management reduces the capability of environmental impact with the aid of stopping the discharge of unsafe materials into soil, water, and air [3]. Bio-clinical waste control includes numerous key approaches. Waste segregation is a vital preliminary step, in which extraordinary types of waste are taken care of to separate infectious waste, sharps, pharmaceutical waste, and non-dangerous waste. Dedicated series systems and transportation methods are employed to make sure the secure transfer of waste from healthcare facilities to treatment centers. Treatment methods together with incineration, autoclaving, chemical treatment, or alternative technologies are utilized to reduce the capability risks of bio-clinical waste. Finally, the right disposal strategies, along with landfilling or managed sanitary landfills, are hired to minimize the environmental effects. Bio-scientific waste control is vital for keeping public fitness, ensuring the safety of healthcare workers, and defending the surroundings. By implementing suitable waste management practices, healthcare structures can mitigate the dangers related to bio-medical waste and make contributions to a more fit and sustainable future [4,5].

PROBLEMS RELATED TO BIOMEDICAL WASTE

Lack of Awareness and Training

One of the primary challenges is the lack of awareness and proper training among healthcare workers, waste handlers, and the general public regarding the hazards associated with biomedical waste. This can lead to improper handling, segregation, and disposal practices, increasing the risk of infections and injuries [6].

Inadequate Infrastructure and Facilities

Many healthcare facilities, especially in resource-limited settings, lack the necessary infrastructure and facilities for proper biomedical waste management. This includes insufficient storage areas, treatment facilities, and transportation systems. The lack of appropriate equipment and resources hampers effective waste management practices.

Inadequate Regulatory Compliance

While there are regulations and guidelines in place for biomedical waste management, their implementation and enforcement can be inconsistent. Some healthcare facilities may not comply with the regulations due to a lack of monitoring, penalties for non-compliance, or accountability [7].

Insufficient Collection and Transportation Systems

Efficient and dedicated collection and transportation systems are crucial for the timely and safe transfer of biomedical waste from healthcare facilities to treatment facilities. [8] However, in many areas, there is a lack of proper waste collection infrastructure, resulting in delays, improper storage, and potential risks of contamination during transportation.

Improper Segregation and Mixing of Waste

Improper segregation of different types of biomedical waste, such as infectious waste, sharps waste, and non-hazardous waste, can occur due to a lack of knowledge or inadequate waste management practices. This can result in the mixing of hazardous and non-hazardous waste, making it challenging to treat and dispose of the waste safely [9].

Inappropriate Disposal Practices

Improper disposal of biomedical waste, such as dumping in open areas, water bodies, or regular landfills, poses a significant risk to the environment and public health. It can lead to the contamination of soil, water sources, and air, causing potential health hazards and ecological damage.



**Financial Constraints**

Effective biomedical waste management requires financial resources to invest in infrastructure development, training programs, and proper treatment and disposal methods. Limited financial resources can hinder the implementation of adequate waste management practices [10].

HEALTH HAZARD FROM BIOMEDICAL WASTE**Infections**

Biomedical waste often contains infectious agents such as bacteria, viruses, or other microorganisms. If healthcare workers or individuals meet contaminated waste, they can be at risk of acquiring infections. This can result in diseases like hepatitis, HIV/AIDS, or other communicable illnesses [11,12,13].

Needlestick injuries

Improper disposal of sharps waste, such as needles and syringes, can increase the risk of needlestick injuries. These injuries can transmit bloodborne pathogens, including hepatitis B, hepatitis C, or HIV. Needlestick injuries are a significant concern for healthcare workers and waste handlers [14].

Contamination of water and soil

Biomedical waste this is improperly disposed of, inclusive of being dumped in open areas or water bodies, can contaminate the surroundings. Pathogens and toxic materials from the waste can leach into the soil or water, posing a threat to the surrounding ecosystem and probably coming into the meals chain.

Airborne hazards

Certain biomedical waste, such as laboratory waste or materials containing chemicals, pharmaceuticals, or radioactive substances, can release harmful particles or gases into the air if not handled properly. Inhalation of these airborne hazards can lead to respiratory issues, allergic reactions, or other health problems [15].

Occupational hazards

Healthcare workers, waste handlers, and individuals involved in the collection, transportation, and disposal of biomedical waste are at increased risk of exposure to health hazards. Lack of proper training, personal protective equipment (PPE), or adherence to safety protocols can further heighten the risks [16].

BIOMEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES**Waste Segregation**

Proper segregation of biomedical waste is a fundamental technique in waste management. It involves categorizing waste into different types, such as infectious waste, sharps waste, pharmaceutical waste, and non-hazardous waste. Color-coded containers and labels are used to facilitate easy identification and segregation [17].

Collection and Transportation: Dedicated series structures and transportation techniques are vital to prevent pass-contamination and make sure the secure transfer of biomedical waste. [18] Specialized containers, inclusive of leak-evidence luggage or puncture-resistant sharps bins, are used for waste collection. Transportation automobiles geared up with suitable protection measures are employed for transporting waste from healthcare facilities to remedy facilities.

Treatment Methods: Various treatment methods are used to reduce the potential hazards of biomedical waste. Some common techniques include:

Incineration

This thermal treatment method involves burning waste at high temperatures, effectively reducing its volume, and killing pathogens. Incinerators are equipped with pollution control devices to minimize emissions.



**Vijai et al.,****Autoclaving**

Autoclaving utilizes steam under high pressure to sterilize waste. It is particularly effective for infectious waste and sharps, eliminating microorganisms and rendering the waste safe for further disposal.

Chemical Treatment

Chemical treatment involves the use of disinfectants, such as chlorine-based solutions or other suitable chemicals, to neutralize the infectious components of waste. This method is often employed for liquid waste or certain types of solid waste.

Microwaving

Microwaving uses microwave radiation to heat and disinfect biomedical waste. It is an efficient and rapid treatment method that can be used for a variety of waste types.

Alternative Technologies

Alternative technologies, such as plasma gasification or waste-to-energy processes, are emerging as sustainable options for biomedical waste treatment. These methods can convert waste into useful energy or inert byproducts.

Disposal

Proper disposal of treated biomedical waste is essential to prevent environmental contamination. Disposal methods can include landfilling, deep burial, or environmentally controlled sanitary landfills, depending on local regulations and waste characteristics. Efforts are made to minimize environmental impact and ensure compliance with disposal guidelines.

Recycling and Reuse

Where applicable and safe, recycling and reuse practices are encouraged for certain biomedical waste materials. This can include recycling of plastics or metal components, provided they undergo appropriate decontamination processes [19]

Training and Awareness

Training programs and awareness campaigns are essential to educate healthcare workers, waste handlers, and the general public about the proper techniques and importance of biomedical waste management. This includes promoting best practices, highlighting safety protocols, and raising awareness of environmental and health impacts [20].

KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICES IN BIOMEDICAL WASTE**Knowledge**

Knowledge refers to the understanding of concepts, guidelines, regulations, and best practices related to biomedical waste management. It includes awareness of waste segregation, treatment methods, disposal techniques, safety protocols, and potential health and environmental risks associated with improper waste management. Knowledge is essential for healthcare workers, waste handlers, and other stakeholders to make informed decisions and take appropriate actions during waste management processes [21].

Attitude

Attitude refers to the individual or organizational perception, beliefs, and values towards biomedical waste management. Positive attitudes involve recognizing the importance of proper waste management, prioritizing safety, and taking responsibility for handling waste responsibly [22]. Attitudes influence behavior and can determine the level of commitment and adherence to waste management protocols. A positive attitude fosters a culture of compliance, continuous improvement, and a sense of environmental and social responsibility [23].



**Vijai et al.,****Practices**

Practices encompass the actions and behaviors exhibited during the various stages of biomedical waste management. This includes waste segregation at the point of generation, proper collection and transportation, adherence to treatment methods, and appropriate disposal practices. Practices should align with established guidelines and regulations, ensuring the safety of personnel, preventing cross-contamination, and minimizing environmental impacts. Regular monitoring, audits, and compliance checks are necessary to evaluate and improve practices [24]. Improving knowledge, attitude, and practices in biomedical waste management involves several strategies:

Education and Training

Providing comprehensive education and training programs to healthcare workers, waste handlers, and relevant personnel is crucial. [25] These programs should focus on imparting knowledge about waste management guidelines, safety protocols, and the potential consequences of improper practices. Training should be practical, interactive, and ongoing to reinforce knowledge and update individuals on emerging waste management technologies and regulations [26,27].

Awareness Campaigns

Conducting awareness campaigns targeting healthcare professionals, patients, and the general public can help raise awareness about the importance of biomedical waste management. [28,29] These campaigns can highlight the health and environmental risks associated with poor waste management practices and promote responsible behaviors and waste reduction [30].

Regulatory Framework

Implementing and enforcing strong regulatory frameworks that define standards and guidelines for biomedical waste management is essential. Regulations should cover waste segregation, treatment, disposal, and penalties for non-compliance. Regular monitoring and inspections should be conducted to ensure adherence to regulations and promote a culture of compliance [31,32].

Infrastructure and Resources: Providing adequate infrastructure and resources for waste management is crucial for ensuring proper practices. [33] This includes the provision of suitable waste storage containers, transportation vehicles, treatment facilities, and disposal sites. Adequate staffing, personal protective equipment, and waste management tools are also necessary to facilitate safe and efficient waste management practices [34,35].

Collaboration and Stakeholder Engagement

Collaborating with relevant stakeholders, including government agencies, healthcare facilities, waste management companies, and community organizations, is vital for improving biomedical waste management [36,37,38]. Engaging stakeholders in decision-making processes, sharing best practices, and promoting knowledge exchange can foster a collective effort towards effective waste management practices [39].

DISCUSSION

Bio-medical waste management includes various approaches and issues to make certain the secure handling, treatment, and disposal of bio-scientific waste. The key components of bio-medical waste control encompass waste segregation, collection, transportation, remedy, and very last disposal.

Waste Segregation

Proper segregation of bio-medical waste at the point of generation is crucial. It involves separating different types of waste, such as infectious waste, sharps waste, pharmaceutical waste, and non-hazardous waste, to minimize the risk of contamination and facilitate appropriate treatment.



**Vijai et al.,****Collection and Transportation**

Efficient and dedicated collection and transportation systems are necessary to ensure the timely and safe transfer of bio-medical waste from healthcare facilities to treatment facilities. This involves using suitable containers, properly labelled and color-coded, and employing trained personnel equipped with necessary protective gear.

Treatment

Bio-medical waste requires treatment to reduce its potential hazards. Common treatment methods include incineration, autoclaving (steam sterilization), microwaving, chemical treatment, or alternative technologies like plasma gasification or waste-to-energy processes. The choice of treatment method depends on factors such as waste type, volume, and local regulations.

Disposal

After treatment, the safe disposal of bio-medical waste is essential. Final disposal methods may include landfilling, deep burial, or environmentally controlled sanitary landfills, depending on the type of waste and applicable regulations. Efforts should be made to minimize the environmental impact and prevent any potential contamination of soil, water, or air. Bio-medical waste control is regularly conscious of addressing challenges and improving practices, consisting of enhancing infrastructure, selling awareness and schooling, ensuring regulatory compliance, and enforcing sustainable waste control techniques. Stakeholders, such as authorities' groups, healthcare establishments, waste management businesses, and the public, want to collaborate and paint in the direction of powerful bio-scientific waste control structures to safeguard public fitness and the surroundings.

CONCLUSION

In the end, powerful bio-medical waste management is crucial to defend public health, limit environmental impact, and ensure the safety of healthcare employees and the general populace. Proper handling, treatment, and disposal of bio-medical waste are critical to save you the unfold of infections, lessen occupational hazards, and mitigate capability risks related to risky substances. By imposing these measures and addressing the challenges associated with bio-scientific waste management, we can make certain the secure handling, treatment, and disposal of bio-clinical waste, shielding public health, retaining the environment, and promoting a sustainable destiny.

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Application of CT in the Assessment of Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma

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ABSTRACT

Pancreatic adenocarcinoma is a type of pancreatic cancer that leads to the patient's death if it is not detected or treated earlier. It can be seen earlier in CT examination, specifically contrast-enhanced CT. It appears hypoattenuating in the parenchymal phase, which differentiates it from the pancreatic parenchyma, and the portal-venous phase shows if there is any vascular invasion. In the presence of secondary findings such as the main pancreatic duct dilatation, etc., the pancreatic adenocarcinoma can be more confirmed on CT. If the vascular supply is involved in cancer, the resection should be avoided; otherwise, the resectability of the tumor is only one treatment for pancreatic adenocarcinoma. The review is based on the articles, which compare CT with other modalities in assessing pancreatic cancer based on parenchymal enhancement, and vascular involvement and are dated from Most of the literature showed that CT is the best modality in detecting pancreatic adenocarcinoma by performing the contrast study. The study proves that CT is the best and first modality to assess pancreatic adenocarcinoma. The earlier detection of pancreatic adenocarcinoma on CT increases the patient's survival rate and confirms whether the tumor's resectability is required; otherwise, the patient will undergo laparotomy unnecessarily. The contrast-enhanced CT shows excellent parenchymal enhancement and vascular supply in the pancreatic and portal-venous phases. Many other features are shown in the CT images, which help to detect pancreatic adenocarcinoma, such as the secondary findings.

Keywords: pancreatic adenocarcinoma, CT, MRI, main pancreatic duct, portal-venous phase.





INTRODUCTION

In developed countries, pancreatic adenocarcinoma is the fourth-to-fifth leading cause of death in the population. In pancreatic adenocarcinoma, only 6% of patients have a chance of surviving for five years, and 91% of the patients have unresectable disease at the time of the diagnosis(1). It arises from the ductus pancreaticus epithelium, which further leads to the occlusion of the pancreatic duct and shows different findings on the CT scan (secondary findings) indicative of pancreatic adenocarcinoma(3). Pancreatic adenocarcinoma sometimes shows few symptoms, and the 5-year survival rate is as great as 58.1% if it is detected in the early stage, proving that early detection and precise diagnosis can help to give efficacious treatment and better recovery of patients (2). Pancreatic adenocarcinoma is always found when splenomegaly is not seen, and this mechanism is still unclear. Smoking, long-term diabetes mellitus, nonhereditary and chronic pancreatitis, obesity, hereditary syndromes such as hereditary pancreatitis, and HCC are the other factors that can lead to the occurrence of pancreatic adenocarcinoma (1).

The only treatment for pancreatic cancer is surgical resection, but only 15%-20% is resectable at a diagnosis time. After complete resection of pancreatic cancer, the 5-year survival rate is only 20%, but it is 75% when it is detected early (4). Earlier detection is possible using different imaging modalities for radiologic examinations or biopsies. In imaging modalities, CT remains the first choice to detect pancreatic adenocarcinoma. Before the operation, CT images are taken to check for the tumor's presence and the resectability status. Sometimes MRI is preferred over CT when the findings are uncertain in diffuse enlargement of the pancreatic head without an identifiable mass(12). The CT's sensitivity in identifying pancreatic cancer is very high, within the range of 89%-97%. (16) Preoperative staging helps to select patients with a removable tumor to undergo surgery to improve their survival chances and prevent unwanted laparotomy in nonremovable tumors (16). Ultrasound is first done to identify the nonresectable tumors if there is a presence of liver metastases in a few institutions, but the helical CT always remains the preferred modality (14).

In the last few years, the accidental detection of pancreatic lesions has become very common. This kind of detection occurs during the follow-up of chronic diseases or malignancies. 31-34% of pancreatic lesions are identified as pancreatic cancer (2). Advancement in the multidetector CT system increases the temporal and spatial resolution, more accurate timing of multiphase imaging, and improved precision in the detection and staging of pancreatic cancer(4). Prior studies recommended that contrast-enhanced CT helps in the earlier detection of pancreatic adenocarcinoma than the clinical identification of it, which helps to detect the occurrence of it at a curable stage (1). Bolus administration of the intravenous contrast, along with the CT, provides us with much information regarding the significant vasculature involved by allowing us to decide if resectability of the tumor is required. Significant vessels involvement on which the resection depends are the portal vein, superior mesenteric artery or vein, hepatic artery, or celiac axis (15)

DISCUSSION

Pancreatic cancer is the fourth leading cause in the population(15). A prior detection of the stage of the diagnosis and pancreatectomy can enhance the survival rate up to 31.4% at stage IA in 5 years of survival. It is confirmed in 15% of the asymptomatic pancreatic lesions found in the detection or follow-up of other diseases (1). CT is the first feasible modality for the detection of pancreatic adenocarcinoma. In CT, the image quality will not be degraded due to the artifact caused by respiration as compared to the MRI (11). The advantages of using the helical CT over the conventional CT are; first, the entire pancreas can be scanned in a single breath-hold with a thin slice thickness, and second, it is a volumetric scan, so there will be less respiratory motion artifact and partial volume artifact (20). Helical CT is mainly preferred for pancreas imaging as it shows better visualization of the pancreatic tissue and small vessels and maximal enhancement of the parenchyma without any respiratory artifact on the images.



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Even the data acquired in helical CT from a volume of tissue instead of section by section helps to visualize the small cancers. (11) In contrast, enhanced CT of the pancreatic parenchymal phase gives better visualization of the pancreatic adenocarcinoma, and the portal venous phase helps to evaluate the peripancreatic veins and hepatic metastases (17). The study was done to see the effect of contrast-enhanced multiphase imaging on the enhancement of pancreas, peripancreatic vasculature, and pancreatic adenocarcinoma using the multi-detector row helical CT was performed by Nancy J. McNulty et al. The tumor appearance was best in the pancreatic phase or PVP than in the arterial phase (6). Kim et al. also confirmed that the volume and rate of an injection directly contribute to the maximal enhancement of the pancreatic parenchyma (7).

In the case-cohort study, Wataru Gono et al. anticipated whether the earlier detection of pancreatic adenocarcinoma is possible using a contrast-enhanced study that was not done to confirm pancreatic cancer, which showed that it is possible to see it. The patients who have undergone the four-phase dynamic CT as the follow-up for the HCC after every three months have been included according to the patient's condition (1). Identifying the presence of pancreatic cancer on multiphase CT becomes challenging if the secondary findings are not seen (3). Almost 14% of pancreatic adenocarcinoma develops without secondary findings such as MPD dilatation, pancreatic duct interruption, and distal pancreatic atrophy, which other studies proved (1,2,3). In contrast scan, the pancreatic adenocarcinoma always appears as the hypoattenuating mass or nodule compared with the pancreatic parenchyma (5). The iso-attenuating pancreatic adenocarcinoma has better survival chances after the surgery than the usual pancreatic adenocarcinoma, as is seen in the earlier detection of pancreatic cancer (5). This kind of tumor is complicated to find, so we sometimes might not detect it (4).

Mayumi Higashi et al. have studied the determination of pancreatic adenocarcinomas on incident CT detection during follow-up studies of other diseases. In this study, the scans with single-phase contrast-enhanced CT, multiphase contrast-enhanced CT, and unenhanced CT was done as a follow-up, out of which the multiphase contrast-enhanced CT scans were considered as an incident group, and the multiphase contrast-enhanced CT scans for the pancreatic adenocarcinoma which was later histologically proved as the pancreatic adenocarcinomas and detected on CT or ultrasound based on symptoms was sorted out as a non-incident group (2). It is always a problem when the undiscovered pancreatic cancer patient undergoes only the portal venous phase for other clinical indications, as we don't get a better visualization of the arterial supply and tumor in this phase (17). It is true that early detection of pancreatic adenocarcinoma is better for the treatment and increases the patient's survival rate.

To detect with more than 90% accuracy, know the stage, and decide whether resectability is required for this disease, multiphase computed tomography is the modality of choice. (1) Shandra Bipat et al. conducted a study to determine the diagnosis and necessity of the resection of pancreatic adenocarcinoma by using ultrasound, CT, and MRI. They found that the specificity of ultrasound is less than the CT as it shows the false nonresectable tumors as resectable tumors and led to unwanted laparotomy. The sensitivity of MRI and US is also less compared to CT. (14) In dual-phase contrast-enhanced CT scans, pancreatic cancer can be confirmed by identifying the low attenuated mass in the pancreatic and portal venous phases. Still, sometimes this mass is not identifiable when it is iso-attenuating, primarily seen in the smaller tumors (6). The enhancement of the pancreatic parenchyma should be maximum to get the more significant difference between the tumor and the parenchyma (7).

Biphase CT is the accepted technique for detecting and staging pancreatic adenocarcinoma. Tumor detection and staging are possible with CT because of its spatial resolution and consistency (11). Most authors suggested that the pancreatic phase should be taken first as it provides the more considerable tumor-parenchyma attenuation difference, provide optimum opacification of the mesenteric venous and arterial to see the vascular invasion, and shows the tumor clearly (9). Lu et al. and Boland's colleagues studied comparing pancreatic adenocarcinoma images in the pancreatic parenchymal phase and the PVP and found the maximum enhancement in the pancreatic phase. Still, this study showed significant enhancement first in the pancreatic parenchymal phase followed by the PVP, which might occur as the pancreatic phase in the previous study might have overlapped over the pancreatic phase and PVP of this study (7).



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Some commented that the first phase should be the early arterial phase as it gives better pancreatic enhancement, is superior to the delayed-phase images, shows the tumor clearly, and allows good visualization of the peripancreatic arterial supply. At the same time, few think the arterial phase images are not useful. This problem can be solved using the multi-detector row CT, which allows all three-phase imaging: arterial, pancreatic, and portal phases(9). MDCT provides 3-D images and uses the curved planar reformations post-processing technique (15). The resectability is possible with a positive predictive value of 87% using MDCT with curved planar reformations has been proved by the Vargas et al. MDCT is the best modality to determine tumor, check the vascular involvement, and confirm whether the resectability is required or not as compared to the MRA (18).

Many studies have suggested that MPD dilatation shows the earlier detection of pancreatic adenocarcinoma. This will further lead to the cut-off of the MPD and mass detection along with the fatty marbling deprivation. (1)Mujica et al. found that pancreatic cancer obstructs the pancreatic duct, causing ischemia due to a block of a blood vessel or direct release of the pancreatic enzyme by the cancerous tissue (6). If the diameter of the MPD is more than 3 mm, it is considered dilated (2). The mechanical compression by the tumor invasion leads to segmental blockage, which might cause MPD dilatation (6). A ratio of the MPD diameter and the entire width of the pancreatic parenchyma is greater than 0.50; it is said to have the atrophy of the distal pancreatic parenchyma (2). In the case of cancer of the head of the pancreas, the biliary and pancreatic ducts are dilated, which is seen in 62-77% of the patients (6). The inability to distinguish the edges between the intrapancreatic or peri-pancreatic lipomatous tissue and pancreatic parenchyma was identified as the loss of the fatty marbling (2). Sugiyama et al. described that in some of the cases of cancer of the head of the pancreas, there is no MPD dilatation because the Santorini duct drains the pancreatic juice from the distal pancreas even if the MPD is blocked (6).

The Tsutomu Tamada conducted a study to compare the imaging, clinical and histopathologic features between the pancreatic adenocarcinoma with and without secondary signs on dynamic contrast-enhanced multidetector CT and found that the secondary signs help to identify the early pancreatic adenocarcinoma (3). Evaluation of the enhancement patterns, the prevalence of secondary signs, and histopathologic features of 20 mm or smaller diameter pancreatic cancers identified on the multiphasic multidetector CT images studied by Soon Ho Yoon et al. They suggested that the secondary signs on CT images help to identify less than 20 mm and iso-attenuating cancers. (4)

To check whether the vessels are involved or to look for the local tumor extension, better opacification of the peripancreatic vessels is required. (7) If the slice thickness and increment are thicker, then the assessment of the vascular invasion is not possible (11). The fat plane obliteration covering more than or equal to 50% of vessel diameter, tumor present within the vessel, thrombosis or occlusion of the vessel, or presence of the venous collaterals were the conditions that confirm the participation of the vessel in the tumor. (13) According to Megibow et al., vascular involvement can be confirmed if there is a thickening of the vessel's inner wall and a soft tissue mantle that blocks the vessels, which are surrounded by the perivascular fat. (15) Many protocols are suggested for the pancreas, such as the dual phase, which involves the early or arterial phase, and the late or portal venous phase. (7) The contrast of the lesion is more if images are acquired faster and provide better enhancement images at each phase (9).

But the final phase in the biphasic study will always be the portal phase which provides better visualization of the liver metastases and, again, a look towards the tumor. (9) In the preoperative imaging, the cancer was nonresectable in cases with distant metastasis, multiple liver metastases, peritoneal dissemination with massive ascites, and involvement of the neighbouring major vascular system. (11) John Dewitt compared endoscopic ultrasonography and multidetector CT to detect the stage of pancreatic cancer. This study found that both modalities failed to detect the nodal staging of pancreatic cancer because of a lack of detection of the N1 disease. This is possible when the small peritumoral lymph nodes are not identified, or each technique uses strict diagnostic criteria. (13)

Along with radiologic findings such as the tumor location and size, contrast enhancement of the tumor, etc., the attenuation of the tumor is compared with the surrounding parenchyma. The contrast enhancement of tumors is categorized based on the presence or absence of the enhancement from the portal-venous to the equilibrium phase



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(2). The inhomogeneous parenchyma can be achieved using low-tube voltage and high iodine concentrations. These can be seen due to several causes, such as inflammation with the pancreatic lesion, small or slow-growing pancreatic adenocarcinoma blockage at a specific venous or portal flow location, or pancreatitis with pancreatic ductal obstruction at a particular site. After seeing the above changes in the CT, this should be followed and studied by using MRI and endoscopic ultrasonography, which improves the clarity of the pancreatic adenocarcinoma (1).

The symptoms like abdominal pain, jaundice, pruritus, and dark urine, which are likely to cause due to the blockage in the biliary tree, are seen in the suspected pancreatic cancer. The painless jaundice is the early indication of cancer in the head of the pancreas, which is proved by Kalsner et al. In imaging features, the visualization of the small nodule in the portal phase also suggests pancreatic cancer (2). The condition in which CBD and MPD both ducts are dilated is called the double-duct sign, a vital sign shown by pancreatic cancer patients (6). Nowadays, it is recommended to acquire the parenchymal phase instead of the arterial phase as it gives better enhancement of the pancreatic parenchyma than that is seen in the arterial phase. Due to the multidetector-row, helical CT makes it possible to acquire the tri-phasic contrast study, including arterial, pancreatic parenchymal, and portal venous phases, with better enhancement and increased volume coverage (7).

H. Irie et al. conducted a study to compare the helical CT and MRI in detecting and staging small pancreatic adenocarcinoma, where they found that MRI has more sensitivity in detecting smaller tumors than CT. The reasons for MRI's superiority over CT are, firstly, MRI has good contrast resolution, which makes it to identify small carcinoma less than 0.8 cm, which is not possible with CT; secondly, MRI has another way to detect the tumor (10). But in the study of Taiji Nishiharu et al., they concluded that helical CT has more applications than MRI in detecting pancreatic tumors (11). One more study by Muller et al. showed that CT has more sensitivity in finding the small tumor less than 2 cm than MRI. Claus Koelblinger et al. found no difference in the study done between CT and MRI in tumor detection and characterization. Still, they also concluded that CT might be superior to MRI because of its easy availability (21). The spatial resolution must be high for good pancreatic cancer contrast and vessel opacity. It is achieved by using thin slices, but this increases the image noise, reducing the detectability of the low-contrast lesions. By using low tube-voltage scanning or iterative reconstruction algorithms, we can get better image contrast and reduced image noise (17). On CT, we differentiate the tumor based on the unlike vascularity of the tumor and the normal tissue (10). The MRI is used over CT in a condition like if the patient is allergic to iodinated contrast media when the clinical and CT findings disagree or when the CT findings are not exactly known (11)

The tumor appears large in size on CT than in the surgery. The resectability rate was found more in tumors that are isodense to pancreatic parenchyma or moderately heterogeneous, and the lowest was in tumors which is more than 6 cm on CT (15). If the patient had liver metastasis, lymph nodes, vascular invasion, and extrapancreatic invasion of neighbouring structures, it concluded that resection of the tumor was not required (14). 50% of the patients with pancreatic adenocarcinoma will have liver metastases, and diagnosing the smaller metastases of the liver becomes difficult in the preoperative staging of pancreatic cancer. When the liver lesion is more than 1 cm, it is confirmed that there is a presence of liver metastases (16). Because of this liver part should also be examined during the contrast-enhanced study of the pancreas as there are high chances of finding liver metastases (11). The Utaroh Motosugi et al. study concluded that contrast-enhanced CT and MRI have similar sensitivity in depicting liver metastases and can detect pancreatic adenocarcinoma (19).

According to Tanaka et al., cancer at the tail and body of the pancreas can be seen due to the change in the epithelium of the pancreatic duct as the number of cells suddenly increases or mucus-producing mechanisms. The masses which have not obstructed the pancreatic duct must have originated from the other side branches of the pancreatic duct. And this kind of mass cannot be seen on the CT images, so further radiologic examination is required, such as the ERCP or MRCP (6). The pancreatic adenocarcinoma is confirmed with ERCP, endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine needle aspiration cytology (EUS-FNAC), ERCP-guided needle biopsy, MRI, and PET-CT (3). But PET/CT cannot detect the vascular supply to pancreatic cancer, but contrast-enhanced CT scans help detect the diseases and the blood supply to the pancreatic masses. Recently contrast-enhanced PET/CT has been done which





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gives the assessment of the resectability of pancreatic cancer, diagnosis of the postoperative recurrence, and the detection and presurgical assessment of pancreatic cancer but increases the radiation dose and might cause iodine allergy (8).

CONCLUSION

CT is always kept as the first modality to detect the suspected pancreatic adenocarcinoma because it helps to identify most of the tumors and to check the unresectable disease with confidence. The multiphase contrast-enhanced CT gives a better assessment of pancreatic adenocarcinoma and provides the earliest diagnosis, which helps assess the risk of pancreatic adenocarcinoma during the follow-up scans for other diseases. The earlier detection helps to provide appropriate treatment and increases the chance of survival when the tumor is smaller. The sensitivity and specificity of the CT are higher than any other radiological modality. The CT is preferred over the MRI as CT gives more details about the vascular invasion and detection of the tumor. The venous invasion is better seen in the portal phase, and parenchymal enhancement is better seen in the pancreatic parenchymal phase than in the arterial phase; therefore, contrast-enhanced CT images need to be acquired to detect the pancreatic adenocarcinoma.

ABBREVIATIONS

CT: - Computed Tomography

MRI: - Magnetic Resonance Imaging

PVP: - Portal-venous phase

HCC: - Hepatocellular carcinoma

MPD: - Main pancreatic duct

MDCT: - Multidetector Computed Tomography

MRA: - Magnetic Resonance Angiography

CBD: - Common bile duct

MRCP: - Magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography

ERCP: - Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography

EUS-FNAC: - Endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine needle aspiration cytology

PET: - Positron Emission Tomography

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Body Mass Index (BMI) – Boon or Bane for Health Workers

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ABSTRACT

Obesity or being overweight known as *Sthaulya* in Ayurveda is becoming a serious health issue in recent years. It speeded almost like an epidemic over the globe along with its other manifestations in the form of metabolic diseases such as diabetes, cardiac diseases, hypertension etc. It is the second commonest avoidable disease in some developed and developing countries after COPDs. Physically obesity is the excess accumulation of fat on belly, breast or buttocks which comes along with many other sign and symptoms related to almost every system of the body, that's why it is becoming the main causative factor behind many systemic illnesses. Acharya Charaka has mentioned *Sthaulya* in one among the *Ashta Nindita Purusha* which means 8 types of disgusting traits in the people. People who come in the category of any one of these physical deformities are difficult to treat and considered as despicable individual. The existing universal criteria to measure the obesity are the Body Mass Index (BMI) in terms of weight in kg and height in meter square. But BMI only is sufficient to label a person as obese, is still a question. Ayurveda indicates a set of sign and symptoms to label someone as obese under the term *Medoroga*. So this review put forth an idea about what else can be the really deciding criteria except BMI for obesity.

Keywords – *Sthaulya*, Obesity, BMI, Overweight, *Medoroga*, Ayurveda





INTRODUCTION

With the on-going evolution human beings become more and more physically indolent, sitting jobs and advancement in technology made the life more sedentary which resulted in overweight or obesity. As per National Family Health Survey-4 prevalence of obesity shoots up drastically in the country in recent 10 years. People coming in the category of obesity doubled in the number [1]. As per World Health Organisation Obesity is demarcated as abnormal or excessive accumulation of the fat that may damage the health of people and put an individual for the serious health risks [2]. Unwholesome diet patterns, sedentary lifestyles, sitting jobs, lack of exercise are the some main causative agents which trigger the obesity and other metabolic disorders. It is a very common disease in present scenario but despite being common still it is the most ignored health issue in the developed as well as developing countries. Studies have revealed that more than 1.9 billion people are overweight and 650 million are obese globally, more than 135 million individuals are affected by obesity in India [3]. In Ayurveda, obesity is defined under the category of *Santarpanotha Vikara* (Diseases caused by over nourishment) [4] and termed as *Sthaulya*, *Medoroga*, *Medodushti* as its synonyms. *Medorogais* categorised as the derangement of *Medo Dhatu* or body fats due to *Medovaha Srotas* and *Agni Dushti* [5] Atypical accumulation of *Meda Dhatu* or fat in the human body is called as *Medodushti* which comprises a number of other *Medovikaras*, together known as *Medoroga*. As per Acharya Charaka *Vrikka* (Kidneys) and *Vapavahan* (Omentum) both are considered as *Medovahasrotomoola* [6]. Acharya Sushruta considered as *Kati* (loin region) and *Vrikka* (kidneys) as *Medovaha Srotomoola* [7]. It means the fat is mainly accumulated around the abdominal region. Illnesses belonging to *Meda Dhatu* are found as *Dhatu Pradhoshaja Vikaras* in *Samhitas* [8].

To measure the body fat, BMI is the only criteria since years. BMI is intended by dividing a person's weight in kilograms by their height in meters squared [9]. More than 24.9 kg/m² the person is said to be in the overweight category which can cause the major health issues [10]. It is an easy way to detect the category of the patient with the help of a simple formula., which creates a connection in between doctor and patient where a simple observation of a clinician on BMI provide an opinion regarding health of the patient [11].

BMI IN GENERAL

Body mass index was primarily developed by a Belgian mathematician in 19th century along with a statistician named Lambert Adolphe. Initially there was no any formula to calculate the BMI but later on when an insurance company decided to install a standard on weight to charge an amount on insurance as per the health of their clients in 1940s the formula was made [12]. Adolphe Quetelet as a statistician exposed his curiosity by collecting the data of the people in terms of weight and height in different age groups and made a formula which is universally known as BMI calculation for obesity [13]. Apart from weight and height no other factor was taken into account during creating the formula which was found not accurate demographically later.

BMI RANGES FOR OBESITY [14]

Usually BMI ranges from 18.5 to 40 in which certain categories are there such as the range in between 18.5-24.9 considered as normal. Range in between 25 to 29.9 or equal to 25 considered as overweight category. Above or equal 30 is obesity which is further subdivided into class 1, 2, 3 respectively as per the increasing BMI score (Table.1). More than 40 ranges considered as morbidly obese. On the other hand if BMI score is below 18 then it is indicative of specifically not healthy person and below 15 is considered for starvation.

BMI IS AN INACCURATE MEASUREMENT

As per Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, body mass index is measured by weight and height of a person to find out the obesity of an individual and doesn't take muscle mass, density of bones, gender differentiation, complete body structure into account which is necessary to rule out, if the person really comes in the category of obesity or not. That's why BMI is said to be erroneous criteria to know about the obesity. Muscle weighs more than fat therefore; BMI will unavoidably class muscular people, heavier than they actually are [15] BMI alone can't be kept as the universal criteria for everyone usually in day to day practice and the clinicians requires the above



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factors also to be considered before diagnosing anyone as obese. But these factors are neglected consistently thereby giving the false picture of obesity. Director of the Obesity Unit in the Institute for Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism, talk over about the issues faced by the wellbeing authority while reviewing about the threats to the health of individuals related with obesity [16]. Basically BMI is not meant for everyone as the numeric sometimes can deceive the normal appearance of a human body, for example a muscular man, athlete or a boxer can have high BMI due to high muscle mass. A professor of Numerical Analysis at Oxford University state that BMI creates misconception and confusion. Height is one of the indicators of BMI and then short height people can show less or normal BMI and tall people can show high BMI so the main opinion is that a high BMI is not a proper indicative of obesity in general.

STHAULYA IN AYURVEDA

Ayurveda has different criteria for the obesity. There are certain sign and symptoms mentioned here on the basis of which a person is said to be obese. Obesity is known as *Medoroga* here. A person having abnormal accumulation of *Meda Dhatu* (Adipose tissue) and *Mamsa Dhatu* (Muscle tissue) resulting in flabbiness of belly, breast and buttocks is known as *Sthaulya* as per Acharya Charaka [17]. *Sthaulya* is the term which not only includes physical impairment but also talks about mental and social burden of obesity on human beings. In Ayurveda pathogenesis of *Sthaulya* included all the three *Doshasi.e. Vata, Pitta* and *Kapha* and among all *KledakaKapha* is the main culprit for the pathogenesis of *Sthaulya*. A lot of dietary and lifestyle factors along with psychological factors have been mentioned as the cause of obesity in the Ayurvedic text. Some causative factors are over eating, excessive consumption of heavy food, *Avyayam* (Lack of physical exercises), *Divaswapna* (Sleeping at day time), *Shleshmal Ahar Sevan* (Intake of food which aggravates *Kapha Dosh*) etc. are mentioned in the table below (Table.2) [18]. Sign and symptoms of obesity that are mentioned in Ayurveda are mentioned in the below table.3. Here we can see a number of sign and symptoms like exhaustion, perspiration, lack of enthusiasm, shortness of breath, foul odour from the body etc. to detect a person of obesity. Specific causative factors are also mentioned here in detail. So, the presence of any of these causative factors along with the sign and symptoms can help to make the diagnosis of obesity.

CONCLUSION

The mere criteria of BMI to diagnose a person of obesity is not the adequate tool as we see there are a number of sign and symptoms related to obesity according to Ayurveda. As the body mass index of a person can be high due to increased muscle mass as in athletes or the sport persons, or in some others the bone mass is high in the absence of any other symptoms, the BMI alone can give the false picture of obesity. The Ayurvedic symptomatic criteria thus seem to stand well there. Therefore, a diagnostic tool for obesity depending upon the sign and symptoms mentioned in Ayurveda in addition to BMI can be the appropriate solution.

Conflict of interest: Not any

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Table.1 BMI score as per WHO criteria

CLASS OF OBESITY	BMI SCORE
Normal weight	18.5 to 24.9 kg/m ²
Overweight	>/= 25 to 29.9 kg/m ²
Obesity	>/=30 kg/m ²
Obesity class 1	30 to 34.9 kg/m ²
Obesity class 2	35 to 39.9 kg/m ²
Obesity class 3	>/=40 kg/m ²

Table.2 showing different Nidanas of Sthaulya as per Ayurveda

S.No.	AharatamakaNidanas	Modern Correlation
1.	AtiSampurana	Over eating
2.	Guru Aharsevana	Excessive consumption of heavy food
3.	Adhyashana	Eating before digestion of prior food
4.	Madhuraaharsevana	Excessive consumption of sweet food
5.	SheetaAharsevana	Excessive consumption of cold diet
6.	SnigdhaAharsevan	Excessive consumption of unctuos food
7.	ShleshmalaAharsevan	Kapha increasing food





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8.	Nava Anna Sevana	Usage of fresh grains
9.	Dadhi, SarpiSevana	Usage of curd and ghee
10.	IkshuVikaraSevan	Usage of sugarcane preparations
	ViharatmakaNidana	
11.	Avyayama	Lack of Physical exercise
12.	Divaswapna	Day Sleeping
13.	Asana evumSwapnaSukha	Luxurious and excessive sleeping
14.	BhojanuttarSnan and Nidra	Bathing and sleeping after meals
	Mansika and Anya Nidanas	
15.	Achintan	Lack of mental stress
16.	BeejDosha	Heredity

Table.3 showing *Lakshanas* of Sthaulya

S. No.	Lakshanas	Modern Correlation
1.	Trusha [1]	Excessive thirst
2.	Kshudha	Excessive hunger
3.	Moha	Delusion,
4.	SwapnaKrathan	Snoring
5.	Sada	Exhaustion
6.	Sweda	Perspiration
7.	Durgandha	Foul odor
8.	AlpaPrana	Short breath
9.	Javoparodha [2]	Early old age symptoms
10.	Daurbalya	Weakness
11.	ChalSphika,Udara, Stana	Flabbiness of buttocks, breast and abdomen
12.	Utsah-hani	Lack of Enthusiasm
13.	Nidraadhikya	Excessive sleeping
14.	Udar,ParshvaVridhhi	Increase in fat
15.	Kasa	Cough





Existence of Fixed Point Theorems in Fuzzy 2-Banach Space Using E.A Property with Applications

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ABSTRACT

The intended of my paper is to find the presence of fixed points in Fuzzy 2-Banach Space. E.A Property plays a major role in fixed point theorems and by using E.A property we can obtain fixed points in fuzzy 2-banach space.

Keywords : Unique fixed point; Fuzzy 2-Banach Space; Property (E.A).

INTRODUCTION

COMMENCEMENT PART:

Fuzzy Sets concept commenced by Zadeh[9]. Katsaras (1984) and Congxin and Ginxuan (1984) alone commenced the definition of fuzzy norms. E.A property was defined by the Mathematician M. Aamri and D.E. Moutawakil for self mapping. Let us see some terms of fuzzy 2-Banach space in this paper.





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PRELIMINARIES

Definition 2.1. [4]

Let D be a vector space over a field H (where H is R or C) and $*$ be a continuous t-norm. A fuzzy set N in $D^2X[0, \infty]$ is named a fuzzy 2-norm on D if it fulfills the following conditions:

- ★ $N(p, q, 0) = 0 \forall p, q \in D$
 - ★ $N(p, q, t) = 1 \forall t > 0$ at the minimum two amid the three points are equal
 - ★ $N(p, q, t) = N(q, p, t)$
 - ★ $N(p + q + r, t_1 + t_2 + t_3) \geq N(p, q, t_1) * N(p, r, t_2) * N(q, r, t_3) \forall p, q, r \in S$ and $t_1, t_2, t_3 \geq 0$
 - ★ For every $p, q, \in D, N(p, q, \cdot)$ is left continuous and $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} N(p, q, t) = 1$
- Triplet $(D, N, *)$ is named as fuzzy 2-normed linear space ($F2 - NLS$)

Definition 2.2.[4]

If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} N(P_n, p, t) = 1 \forall t > 0$, then a sequence $\{P_n\}$ in a $F2 - NLS(D, N, *)$ is converge to $p \in D$.

Definition 2.3.[4]

If $\lim_{m, n \rightarrow \infty} N(P_m, P_n, t) = 1 \forall t > 0$, where $(D, N, *)$ be a $F2 - NLS$. Then sequence $\{P_n\}$ in D is named as fuzzy cauchy sequence.

Definition 2.4.[4]

A linear fuzzy 2-normed space which is complete is named as fuzzy 2-Banach Space.

Definition 2.5.[4]

If $N(ASp, SAP, t) \geq N(Ap, Sp, t) \forall p \in D, t > 0$ then A and S are named to be weakly commuting where A and S self maps belongs to the fuzzy 2-Banach Space $(D, N, *)$.

Definition 2.6.[4]

If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (ASP_n, SAP_n, t) = 1 \forall t > 0$. Every time $\{P_n\}$ is a sequence in D thus and so $Ap_n, Sp_n \rightarrow p$ a few $p \in D$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Where A and S belongs to the fuzzy 2-Banach Space $(D, N, *)$ then mapping A and S are named as compatible.

Definition 2.7.[4]

If $ASP = SAP$ for all $p \in D$ then A and S self maps are named as commuting.

Definition 2.8.[4]

If $Ap = Sp$ a few $p \in D$ is named as coincidence point of A and S where A and S are self maps of D .

Definition 2.9.[4]

If $Ap = Sp$ a few $p \in D$ then $ASP = SAP$ therefore A and are named as weakly compatible where A and S are self maps of D .

Definition 2.10.[4].

If $Ap = Sp$, then $w = Ap = Sp$ is named as point of Coincidence of A and S self maps of the fuzzy 2-Banach Space $(D, N, *)$.

Definition 2.11.[1]

If there be a sequence $\{P_n\}$ in D thus and so $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Ap_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Sp_n = z$ a few z in D . Then (A, S) fulfills property E . A where pair (A, S) is a Self mapping of a fuzzy 2-Banach Space $(D, N, *)$.

Definition 2.12.[1]

If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Ap_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Sp_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Bq_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Tq_n = z$





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a few $z \in D$ then (A,S) and (B,T) self mapping pairs of a fuzzy 2-Banach Space are announced to fulfill the property E.A. Every time the sequences belongs to D.

Definition 2.13.[5]

Let $\{\phi\}$ be the set and it consists of all real continuous function $\phi: (R^+)^6 \rightarrow R^+$ fulfilling the following condition:

- (i) $\phi(u, v, u, v, v, u) \geq 0$ imply $u \geq v$ for all $u, v \in [0,1]$
- (ii) $\phi(u, v, v, u, u, v) \geq 0$ imply $u \geq v$ for all $u, v \in [0,1]$
- (iii) $\phi(u, u, v, v, u, u) \geq 0$ imply $u \geq v$ for all $u, v \in [0,1]$. This relation is named as implicit relations.

Theorem 3.1.

Let $(D, N, *)$ be a fuzzy 2-Banach space and $K, L: D \rightarrow D$ be two self-mapping fulfilling the following conditions;

- (i) Pair (K, L) satisfies property (E.A),
- (ii) A few $\phi \in (\phi)$ and for all $p, q \in D$ and every $t > 0$, $\phi\{N(Kp, Lq, t), N(Kp, Kq, t), N(Kq, Lq, t), N(Kp, Lp, t), N(Kq, Lp, t), N(Lp, Lq, t)\} \geq 0$
- (iii) If $K(D)$ is a closed subset of D pairs (K, L) has a coincidence point in D .

Moreover, if (K, L) is weakly compatible, then mapping K and L have a unique common fixed point in D .

Proof:

Suppose that (K, L) satisfies the property (E.A), then there be a sequence $\{P_n\}$ in D thus and so $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Kp_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Lp_n = z$ a few $z \in D$.

Since $K(D)$ is a closed subset of D , there be a point $u \in D$ thus and so $Ku = z$ a few $z \in D$.

$$\therefore Kp_n = Lp_n = z = Ku$$

To prove $Lu = z$

$$\phi\{N(Kp, Lq, t), N(Kp, Kq, t), N(Kq, Lq, t), N(Kp, Lp, t), N(Kq, Lp, t), N(Lp, Lq, t)\} \geq 0$$

Put $p = p_n$ and $q = u$ in equation (ii) then

$$\phi\{N(z, Lu, t), N(z, z, t), N(z, Lu, t), N(z, z, t), N(z, z, t), N(z, Lu, t)\} \geq 0$$

$$\therefore Lu = z.$$

Now we have $Lu = Ku = z$

Now (K, L) is weakly compatible,

$$LKu = KLu. \\ \Rightarrow Lz = Kz$$

$\therefore z$ is a coincidence point of (K, L) .

Put $p = p_n$ and $q = z$ in equation (ii), We have

$$\phi\{N(Kp_n, Lz, t), N(Kp_n, Kz, t), N(Kz, Lz, t), N(Kp_n, Lp_n, t), N(Kz, Lp_n, t), N(Lp_n, Lz, t)\} \geq 0$$

$$\therefore Lz = z.$$

$$\therefore Kz = z [\because Kz = Lz = z].$$

$\therefore z$ is a common fixed point in D .

Next, to prove the singularity.

Let w be another common fixed point in D .

Put $p = z$ and $q = w$ in (ii) we have

$$\phi\{N(Kz, Lw, t), N(Kz, Kw, t), N(Kw, Lw, t), N(Kz, Lz, t), N(Kw, Lz, t), N(Lz, Lw, t)\} \geq 0 \\ \phi\{N(z, w, t), N(z, w, t), N(w, w, t), N(z, z, t), N(w, z, t), N(z, w, t)\} \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow z = w.$$

Hence z is a common single fixed point of K, L in D .

Theorem 3.2. Let $(D, N, *)$ be a fuzzy 2-Banach space and $K, L, R: D \rightarrow D$ be three self-mapping fulfilling the following conditions;

- (i) One of the pairs (K, R) and (L, R) satisfies property (E.A) and $A(D) \subseteq R(D)$ and $L(D) \subseteq R(D)$.
- (ii) A few $\phi \in (\phi)$ and for all $p, q \in D$ and every $t > 0$, $\phi\{N(Kp, Lq, t), N(Rq, Rp, t), N(Kp, Rp, t), N(Rq, Lq, t), N(Lq, Rp, t), N(Kp, Rq, t)\} \geq 0$
- (iii) If $R(D)$ is a closed subset of D the pairs (K, R) and (L, R) have a coincidence point in D .





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Moreover, if (K, R) and (L, R) are weakly compatible, then mapping K, L and R have a unique common fixed point in D .

Proof:

Suppose that (K, R) satisfies the property $(E.A)$, then there be a sequence $\{P_n\}$ in D thus and $\text{solim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} Kp_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Rp_n = z$ a few $z \in D$.

Now $L(D) \subseteq R(D)$, there be a sequence $\{q_n\}$ in D thus and so $Lq_n = Rp_n$

$$\therefore Kp_n = Rp_n = Lq_n = z$$

Now $R(D)$ is a closed subset of D , then there be a point $u \in D$ thus and so $Ru = z$.

$$\therefore Kp_n = Rp_n = Lq_n = z = Ru$$

To prove $Lu = z$

Put $p = p_n$ and $q = u$ in equation (ii), we have

$$\phi\{N(Kp_n, Lu, t), N(Ru, Rp_n, t), N(Kp_n, Rp_n, t), N(Ru, Lu, t), N(Lu, Rp_n, t), N(Kp_n, Ru, t)\} \geq 0$$

$$\phi\{N(Lu, z, t), N(z, z, t), N(z, z, t), N(Lu, z, t), N(Lu, z, t), N(z, z, t)\} \geq 0$$

$$\therefore Lu = z \quad [\because \phi(u, v, v, u, u, v) \geq 0 \Rightarrow u \geq v]$$

$$\therefore Lu = Ru = z$$

$\therefore z$ is a coincidence point of (K, R) .

Now (L, R) is weakly compatible, we have

$$LRu = RLz$$

$$\Rightarrow Lz = Rz$$

Put $p = p_n$ and $q = z$ in equation (ii), we have

$$\phi\{N(Kp_n, Lz, t), N(Rz, Rp_n, t), N(Kp_n, Rp_n, t), N(Rz, Lz, t), N(Lz, Rp_n, t), N(Kp_n, Rz, t)\} \geq 0$$

$$Rz = z$$

$$\therefore Lz = z$$

Put $p = z$ and $q = u$ in (ii) we have

$$\phi\{N(Kz, Lu, t), N(Ru, Rz, t), N(Kz, Rz, t), N(Ru, Lu, t), N(Lu, Rz, t), N(Kz, Ru, t)\} \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow Kz = z$$

Hence z is a common fixed point of K, L, R in D .

To prove the singularity

Let w be another common fixed point in D .

Put $p = z$ and $q = w$ in (ii) we have

$$\phi\{N(Kz, Lw, t), N(Rw, Rz, t), N(Kz, Rz, t), N(Rw, Lw, t), N(Lw, Rz, t), N(Kz, Rw, t)\} \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow w = z$$

Hence z is a unique common fixed point of K, L, R in D .

Theorem 3.3. Let $(D, N, *)$ be a fuzzy 2-Banach space and $K, M, T, R, S: D \rightarrow D$ be five self-mapping fulfilling the following terms:

(i) One of pairs (K, TR) and (K, MS) satisfies property $(E.A)$ and $K(D) \subseteq MS(D)$ and $K(D) \subseteq TR(D)$.

(ii) A few $\phi \in (\phi)$ and for all $p, q \in D$ and every $t > 0$,

$$\phi\{N(Kp, Kq, t), N(TRp, MSq, t), N(Kq, MSq, t), N(Kp, TRp, t), N(Kp, MSq, t), N(TRp, Kq, t)\} \geq 0$$

(iii) If $(D), MS(D)$ and $TR(D)$ are closed subsets of D thus and so the pairs (K, TR) and (K, MS) has a coincidence point in D .

Moreover, if $(K, S), (K, R), (MS, R)$ and (TR, S) are commuting pairs, then K, M, T, R and S have a unique common fixed point in D .

Proof:

Suppose that the pair (K, TR) satisfies the property $(E.A)$, so there be a sequence $\{P_n\}$ in D thus and $\text{solim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} Kp_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} TRp_n = z$ a few $z \in D$.

Now $K(D) \subseteq MS(D)$, there be a sequence $\{q_n\}$ in D thus and $\text{solim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} Kp_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} MSq_n$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Kp_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} TRp_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} MSq_n = z$$

Put $p = p_n$ and $q = u$ in equation (ii), we have

$$\phi\{N(Kp_n, Ku, t), N(TRp_n, MSu, t), N(Ku, MSu, t), N(Kp_n, TRp_n, t), N(Kp_n, MSu, t), N(TRp_n, Ku, t)\} \geq 0$$





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$$Ku = z$$

$$\therefore Ku = MSu = z$$

Now $TR(D)$ is a closed subset of D , there be a point $u \in D$ thus and so $TRu = z$.

$$\therefore Ku = MSu = TRu = z$$

Let (K, MS) be weakly compatible, we have $Ku = MSu$

$$\Rightarrow MSKu = KMSu.$$

$$\Rightarrow MSz = Kz$$

Let (K, TR) be weakly compatible.

$$\therefore KTRu = TRKu.$$

$$\Rightarrow Kz = TRz$$

$\therefore z$ is a coincidence point of each pair (K, MS) and (K, TR) .

To prove z is the common fixed point of K, T, R, S, M in D .

Put $p = p_n$ and $q = z$ in equation (ii), we have

$$\phi\{N(Kp_n, Kz, t), N(TRp_n, MSz, t), N(Kz, MSz, t), N(Kp_n, TRp_n, t), N(Kp_n, MSz, t), N(TRp_n, Kz, t)\} \geq 0$$

$$MSz = z$$

$$\therefore Kz = z[\because Kz = MSz]$$

$$\therefore TRz = z[\because Kz = MSz = TRz = z]$$

Now $(K, S), (K, R), (MS, R)$ and (TR, S) are commuting pairs, we have

$$KSz = SKz = Sz$$

$$KRz = RKz = Rz$$

$$MSRz = RMSz = Rz$$

$$TRSz = STRz = Sz$$

Put $p = Sz$ and $q = z$ in (iii) we have

$$\phi\{N(KSz, Kz, t), N(TRSz, MSz, t), N(Kz, MSz, t), N(KSz, TRSz, t), N(KSz, MSz, t), N(TRSz, Kz, t)\} \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow Sz = z$$

$$\therefore MSz = z \Rightarrow Mz = z$$

$$\therefore Mz = z, Sz = z, Kz = z, TRz = z$$

Put $p = z$ and $q = Rz$ in (iii) we have

$$\phi\{N(Kz, KRz, t), N(TRSz, MSRz, t), N(KRz, MSRz, t), N(Kz, TRz, t), N(Kz, MSRz, t), N(z, z, t)\} \geq 0$$

$$\therefore Rz = z$$

$$\therefore Rz = z$$

$$\therefore Tz = z$$

$$\text{Hence } Sz = Tz = Rz = Kz = Mz = z$$

$\therefore z$ is a common fixed point in D .

To prove the singularity

Let w be another common fixed point in D .

Put $p = z$ and $q = w$ in (ii) we have

$$\{(\cdot, \cdot), (\cdot, \cdot), (\cdot, \cdot), (\cdot, \cdot), (\cdot, \cdot), (\cdot, \cdot)\} \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow =$$

Hence z is the single common fixed point of \dots in D .

Example 3.4.

Let $X = [0, \infty)$ be a fuzzy 2-banach space.

Define $\phi : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by

$$\phi(x, y) = \begin{cases} 3 & x = y = 3 \\ 3 & x > 3; y = 3 \\ 0 & x < 3; y = 3 \end{cases}$$

Consider a sequence $\{x_n\} = \{3 + \frac{1}{n}\}$.

Here E.A property and all rules of the result are fulfilled

Hence 3 is the single fixed point of ϕ in X .





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Example 3.5.

Let $D = [0, \infty)$ be a fuzzy 2-banach space.

Define $K, L, R: D \rightarrow D$ by

$$KD = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p < 2 \\ p & \text{if } p = 2 \\ 2 & \text{if } p > 2 \end{cases}; LD = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p < 2 \\ \frac{p+2}{2} & \text{if } p = 2 \\ 2 & \text{if } p > 2 \end{cases}; RD = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p < 2 \\ \frac{p+4}{3} & \text{if } p = 2 \\ 2 & \text{if } p > 2 \end{cases}$$

Consider a sequence $\{p_n\} = \{2 + \frac{3}{n}\}$ and $\{q_n\} = \{2 + \frac{1}{n}\}$.

E.A property and all rules of the result are fulfilled.

Hence 2 is their single common fixed point of K, L, R in D .

Example 3.6.

Let $D = [0, \infty)$ be a fuzzy 2-banach space.

Define $K, L, R, T: D \rightarrow D$ by

$$KD = \begin{cases} p & \text{if } p = 2 \\ 2 & \text{if } p > 2 \\ 0 & \text{if } p < 2 \end{cases}; LD = \begin{cases} \frac{p+2}{2} & \text{if } p = 2 \\ 2 & \text{if } p > 2 \\ 0 & \text{if } p < 2 \end{cases}; RD = \begin{cases} \frac{p+4}{3} & \text{if } p = 2 \\ 2 & \text{if } p > 2 \\ 0 & \text{if } p < 2 \end{cases}; TD = \begin{cases} 4-p & \text{if } p = 2 \\ 2 & \text{if } p > 2 \\ 0 & \text{if } p < 2 \end{cases}$$

Consider a sequence $\{p_n\} = \{2 + \frac{3}{n}\}$ and $\{q_n\} = \{2 + \frac{1}{n}\}$.

E.A property and all rules of the result are fulfilled.

Hence 2 is their single common fixed point in D .

Example 3.7.

Let $D = [0, \infty)$ be a fuzzy 2-banach space. Define $K, M, T, R, S: D \rightarrow D$ by

$$KD = \begin{cases} p & \text{if } p = 2 \\ 2 & \text{if } p > 2 \\ 0 & \text{if } p < 2 \end{cases}; MD = \begin{cases} \frac{p+2}{2} & \text{if } p = 2 \\ 2 & \text{if } p > 2 \\ 0 & \text{if } p < 2 \end{cases}; TD = \begin{cases} \frac{p+4}{3} & \text{if } p = 2 \\ 2 & \text{if } p > 2 \\ 0 & \text{if } p < 2 \end{cases}; RD = \begin{cases} 4-p & \text{if } p = 2 \\ 2 & \text{if } p > 2 \\ 0 & \text{if } p < 2 \end{cases}$$

$$SD = \begin{cases} 6-p^2 & \text{if } p = 2 \\ 2 & \text{if } p > 2 \\ 0 & \text{if } p < 2 \end{cases}$$

Consider a sequence $\{p_n\} = \{2 + \frac{3}{n}\}$ and $\{q_n\} = \{2 + \frac{1}{n}\}$.

E.A property and all rules of the result are fulfilled.

Hence 2 is their single common fixed point of K, M, T, R, S in D .

CONCLUSION

Utilizing E.A Property the existence and singularity of fixed points are proved in this paper. Completeness condition is reduced using property E.A. in proving fixed points presence respectively. Using this property we can easily find the presence of fixed points.

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Regional Disparities in Education and Occupation of Scheduled Tribes for Different Regions in Tiruvannamalai District, Tamil Nadu

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ABSTRACT

Scheduled Tribes in India are a diversified population of indigenous people or original dweller and one of the most economically poor and minority groups in India. According to 2011 census, Tribal population contributed 8.6 per cent of the total population of the country. Tamil Nadu has the lowest percentage of scheduled tribes, at 1.1 per cent. Tiruvannamalai district has the second largest tribal population size in Tamil Nadu with 11.45 per cent and has the third highest tribal concentration in the district, i.e. 3.69 per cent to district total. This current paper aims to identify the region-wise Intra-regional disparities in literacy of Scheduled Tribes and regional disparity between workers and non-workers of Scheduled Tribes in Tiruvannamalai district. Dominant economic activity and distinctive function of tribes and its level in different regions has been identified by Nelson's method. The study found that, the tribal female literacy rates in all the regions are less than the male literacy rates. Sophers' disparity index revealed that, the highest tribal concentrated region of the study area that is eastern region is having low level tribal educational disparity. Work participation rate for tribal population of total, male and female are 57.44 per cent, 59.87 per cent and 54.97 per cent respectively. Sophers' disparity index showed that, all





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the regions of the study area are having low regional disparity between workers and non-workers of tribal population.

Keywords: dominant function, literacy, regions, regional disparity, socio-economic, tribes, workers, non-workers.

INTRODUCTION

Scheduled Tribes in India are a diversified population of indigenous people or original dweller and one of the most economically poor and minority groups in India. The tribal communities have been identified by the Government of India on the basis of (a) pre agricultural level of technology, (b) extremely low level of literacy; and (c) small, stagnant or diminishing population[1]. There are 550 different tribes in India and they are varying from each other, geographically, culturally and in terms of their levels of social as well as economic and educational development, and their problems vary from region to region. Several commissions and committees have recently advocated a number of initiatives to address the social and economic disparities among tribes, as well as to break down the tribal territories' long-standing psychological barriers. According to 2011 census, Tribal population contributed 8.6 per cent of the total population of the country. Tamil Nadu state ranked 22nd among tribal population in India. It has the lowest tribal concentration in its population with 1.10 per cent of tribal population in Tamil Nadu to total population of Tamil Nadu and 0.8 per cent Scheduled Tribes in the Tamil Nadu to total Scheduled Tribes population in India[2]. Based on different socio-economic conditions, there are significant disparities in the state among the districts of Tamil Nadu state. The tribes have been confined to low status and are often physically and socially isolated instead of being in the main area. It is well understood that the socio-economic problems faced by tribes is very high[3]. In this research paper, an attempt has been made to investigate to identify the region-wise Intra-regional disparities in literacy (education) of Scheduled Tribes and regional disparity between workers and non-workers of Scheduled Tribes in Tiruvannamalai district. Major Tribal communities in Tamil Nadu, are Irulars, Malayalis, Muthuvans and Kattunayakans who are repeated to have been cultivating traditional cultivars of paddy, millets, pulses and vegetables (Anburaja, 2012)[4]. There are also 36 sub tribes in Tamil Nadu, with predominant occupation as cultivators, agricultural labourers, and forest dwellers.

Tiruvannamalai district has the second largest tribal population size in Tamil Nadu with 11.45 per cent (2nd highest number of population among districts) and has the 3rd highest tribal concentration in the district, i.e. 3.69 per cent to district total. Among districts of Tamil Nadu, Tiruvannamalai district having the highest number of Irular tribes. The total geographical area of the Tiruvannamalai district is 6188 Sq km. Tiruvannamalai district has three Municipalities, 12 Taluks, and 18 Blocks, 10 Town panchayats, 54 Revenue firkas, 860 Village panchayats and 1067 Revenue villages. Two blocks namely Jawadhu Hills block and Thandrapet block are fully inhabited by the tribes. One sixth of the area of this district is covered by reserve forest and hills which is part and parcel of Eastern Ghats under Jawadhu Hills. The important hills in this district are Thiruvannamalai (2668 ft MSL) Jawadhu Hills (2500 ft MSL) and Kailasagiri (2743 ft MSL). Major tribes in Tiruvannamalai district are Malayali, Irulars, Kurumans and Malakkuravan. They have been cultivating traditional cultivars of Paddy, Groundnut, Sugarcane, Millets, pulses, vegetables and fruit crops. Even though they are cultivators and workers, they are suffered for education, health care, basic amenities, electricity and road connectivity due to their residence in hill region. Absence of urban centre, inaccessible physiographic conditions, unemployment, unavailability of facilities, and non-accessibility of different sources in tribal areas are the problems faced by the Scheduled Tribes in Tiruvannamalai district. Geographical area map of Tiruvannamalai district with blocks is given in Figure 1. For better understanding and interpretation, the district was further classified into regions based on the geographical direction and the list of Taluks, Community development blocks and Regions of Tiruvannamalai district has been given in Table 1.





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Objectives

The specific objectives of the study undertaken are:

- To study the concentration and distribution pattern of scheduled tribes population in the study area.
- To analyse the region-wise intra-regional disparities in literacy and regional disparity between workers and non-workers of scheduled tribes in the study area.
- To identify the dominant activities and distinctive functions of scheduled tribes and its level in different regions in the study area.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Tiruvannamalai district was purposively selected for this study, since it has the 2nd largest tribal population in Tamil Nadu with 11.45 per cent and has 3rd highest proportion of Scheduled Tribes with 3.69 per cent of total ST population in Tamil Nadu. Among districts of Tamil Nadu, Tiruvannamalai district has the highest population of Irular tribes. The research methods followed in this work includes data collection from secondary sources, and statistical analysis. Secondary data obtained from different sources includes (i) District Statistical Handbook, Tiruvannamalai: 2021, (ii) Tamil Nadu Government Portal (<http://www.tn.gov.in>), (iii) Census of India: 2011, (iv) Government of Tamil Nadu, Department of Tribal Welfare, and (v) www.census.tn.nic.in. For better understanding of the interpretation of socio-economic conditions and disparities among the Scheduled Tribes of Tiruvannamalai district, we use different statistical techniques like

Descriptive Analysis

The descriptive analysis was undertaken using simple averages and percentage analysis to study the concentration of tribal population, distribution of tribal population, spatial disparity in literacy, educational disparity between tribes, workers participation, dominant economic activity and distinctive economic activity of Scheduled Tribes at region level in Tiruvannamalai district.

Sophers' Disparity Index

David E Sopher (1974) [5] developed Sophers' Disparity Index to measure the disparity between two groups in their possession of a particular property in terms of the logarithm of the odds ratio. The objective of taking log is to reduce the leveling of effect that is regions with higher rate of the indicator may show a lower level of disparity than the region having low rate of indicator even though the gap is the same for both region. This index will be to identify the disparity between rural-urban literacy group, the disparity between male-female literacy, the disparity between rural-urban population, and the disparity between workers and non-workers population in Tiruvannamalai district.

Disparity Index (DI) = $\text{Log}(X_2/X_1) + \text{Log}(100-X_1)/(100-X_2)$

Where, DI = Disparity Index,

X1 = Percentage of Female Literacy or Percentage of Non-Workers (ST),

X2 = Percentage of Male Literacy or Percentage of Workers (ST),

i.e. $X_2 > X_1$

The value of Disparity Index is zero in case of perfect equality. Thus, the greater the value of Disparity Index, higher is the extent of disparity, and lower the value, lower is the disparity (Sopher, 1980) [6].

Nelson's Method to identify dominant and distinctive functions

Harris (1943)[7] made the first attempt towards identification of the dominant economic characteristics of an area. H. J. Nelson (1955)[8] used almost similar method with a threshold which could be worked out from the mean and standard deviation (SD) of the occupational structure of a given area (Jana and Ghosh, 2015)[9]. According to Nelson's method, first percentages of each occupation to the total labour force of the area are worked out for each unit area. The mean and standard deviation of these percentages among all the unit area is then calculated separately for each economic activity. Dominant function means the attribute which shares the highest proportion (percentage)



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is identified as the dominant one. So, each region has its own dominant function. The characteristics of different economic activities have been given in Table 2. The areas are then classified according to their percentage of each economic activity / occupation being more than or equal to Mean + SD, Mean + 2SD, Mean + 3SD. Distinctiveness is a character which makes an area/region different from others. According to him, distinctive functions can be identified with the help of arithmetic mean and standard deviation. Nelson considered any function having percentage of workers greater than arithmetic mean +1 Standard Deviation as the benchmark for being considered as a distinctive function. The percentage of a function less than its Mean+SD is not considered as significant. According to Nelson, the scale of distinctiveness has been given in Table 3.

Work Participation Rate

Work Participation Rate is defined by following formula, $WPR = \frac{\text{Percentage of Scheduled Tribes Total Workers (Main + Marginal)}}{\text{Total Scheduled Tribes Population}} \times 100$

Statistical tables, chart diagrams, calculations and graphs have been prepared based on secondary data using the help of Microsoft Office Excel v.2007. The field survey for the secondary data as well as this work was conducted during the months of January to March 2023.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Region-wise Concentration of Scheduled Tribes in Tiruvannamalai District

According to 2011 census, among 32 districts of Tamil Nadu, Tiruvannamalai district has the 3rd highest concentration of Scheduled Tribes with 3.69 per cent to district total. Region-wise concentration pattern of Scheduled Tribes population to total population in Tiruvannamalai district have been worked out and given in Figure 2. It could be seen from the Figure 2 that, the concentration pattern of Scheduled Tribes varies from region to region in Tiruvannamalai district. The Western region has the highest concentration and is identified as a tribal dominated region where the Jawadhu hills located. The concentration pattern of Scheduled Tribes total population was found more in Western region (12.64 per cent) followed by Southern region (4.26 per cent), Eastern region (1.60 per cent) and Northern region (0.68 per cent). The concentration pattern of tribal male population found more in Western region (12.69 per cent) followed by Southern region (4.27 per cent), Eastern region (1.58 per cent) and Northern region (0.54 per cent). And the concentration pattern of tribal female population was found more in Western region (12.59 per cent) followed by Southern region (4.24 per cent), Eastern region (1.63 per cent) and Northern region (0.55 per cent).

Region-wise Spatial Distribution of Scheduled Tribes in Tiruvannamalai District

In Tamil Nadu, Tiruvannamalai district has the 2nd highest distributional pattern of Scheduled Tribes with 15.02 per cent. Region-wise distributional pattern of Scheduled Tribes population to total Scheduled Tribes population in Tiruvannamalai district have been worked out and given in Figure 3. It could be seen from the Figure 3 that, the spatial distributional pattern of Scheduled Tribes varies from region to region in Tiruvannamalai district. The Western region has the highest distributional pattern and is identified as tribal dominated region where the Jawadhu hills located. The distributional pattern of Scheduled Tribes total population was found more in Western region (58.63 per cent) followed by Southern region (28.62 per cent), Eastern region (9.38 per cent) and Northern region (3.38 per cent) in that order. The distributional pattern of tribal male population was found more in Western region (58.97 per cent) followed by Southern region (28.60 per cent), Eastern region (9.15 per cent) and Northern region (3.28 per cent). And the distributional pattern of tribal female population was found more in Western region (58.27 per cent) followed by Southern region (28.64 per cent), Eastern region (9.61 per cent) and Northern region (3.47 per cent).

Region and Gender-wise Spatial Disparity in Literacy Rate

In Tiruvannamalai district Scheduled Tribes total literacy rate is 46.81 per cent and having 30th rank among districts of Tamil Nadu. In the study area, tribal male literacy rate is 56.02 per cent and whereas the tribal female literacy rate





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is 37.53 per cent. Region and gender-wise literacy rate of Scheduled Tribes in Tiruvannamalai district in percentage has been given in Figure 4. It could be seen from the Figure 4 that the overall literacy rates of tribes in the regions of the study area ranges from 40.86 per cent in Eastern region to 52.11 per cent in Southern region. The tribal male literacy rates ranges from 46.39 per cent in Eastern region to 60.12 per cent in Southern region. The tribal female literacy rate ranges from 33.58 per cent in Western region to 43.99 per cent in Southern region. It shows that, the tribal female literacy rates in all the regions are less than the male literacy rates.

Region- and Gender-wise Educational Disparity of Scheduled Tribes in Tiruvannamalai District

It could be seen from the table 4 that, Western region of the study area is having medium disparity among tribes. According to Sopher's Disparity Index, the regions of Southern, Northern, and Eastern are having low level tribes educational disparity. The highest tribal concentrated region of the study area that is Eastern region is having low level tribal educational disparity. However, this region is having low level female tribal literacy rates than male tribal literacy rates. The literacy rates of females belonging to Scheduled Tribes community continue to be a major problem in this study area.

Work Participation of Scheduled Tribes in Tiruvannamalai District

The problem of sustaining the livelihood security among the tribal population is closely linked to their employment status in the study area. In the study area, the work participation rate of tribal population for total, male and female are 57.44 per cent, 59.87 per cent and 54.97 per cent respectively. Region wise differences in terms of work participation rate for the tribal population ranges from 56.54 per cent in Southern region to 57.92 per cent in Western region. Work participation rate (workers) and non-workers of tribes in different regions of the study area has been given in Table 5. It could be seen from the table 5 that, the work participation rate or workers population in the study area for tribal population is high in Western region (57.92 per cent) followed by Eastern region (57.46 per cent), Northern region (56.80 per cent) and Southern region (56.54 per cent). In study area the percentage of non-workers population of tribal population is high in Southern region (43.46 per cent) followed by Northern region (43.20 per cent), Eastern region (42.54 per cent) and Western region (42.08 per cent). The highest tribal concentrated region that is Western region is having highest tribal workers population and lowest tribal non-workers population.

Region-wise Regional Disparity of Workers and Non-Workers of Scheduled Tribes in Tiruvannamalai District

In the study area, the percentages of tribal workers population of total, male and female are 57.44 per cent, 59.87 per cent and 54.97 respectively. The percentages of tribal non-workers population of total, male and female are 42.56 per cent, 40.13 per cent and 45.03 per cent respectively. According to Sopher's Disparity Index, it could be seen from the table 6 that, all the regions of the study area are having low regional disparity between workers and non-workers of tribal population.

Dominant and Distinctive Economic Activity of Scheduled Tribes in Tiruvannamalai District

Dominant and Distinctive analysis are an important technique to study and identify the dominant and distinctive functions from the tribal population group of attributes in a particular region. Based on the percentage of different types of workers among tribes, we have tried to identify the dominant and distinctive functions in different regions of the study area. In this regard, we have used H.J. Nelson's Method (1955) to identify dominant and distinctive functions. According to Nelsons' method, if percentages of cultivator of a particular region leave behind the overall mean plus standard deviation value, then that region will be considered as cultivator dominant region. If the value surpasses the overall mean plus one standard deviation values, then it will be CL1 or the region's economy is depended on Cultivation. If the percentages of different types of workers such as Cultivators (CL), Agricultural Labourers (AL), Household Industry Workers (HIW) and Other Workers (OW) did not cross the overall mean plus standard deviation value, then it will be a region with diversified economy.

It could be seen from the table 7 that, the dominant economic activity of tribes in Southern region is agricultural labour work, and having AL1 distinctive function with dependency of agricultural labourers. The dominant economic activity of tribes in Western region is agricultural labour work, and this region having CL1 distinctive



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function with dependency of cultivators. The dominant economic activity of tribes in Northern region is agricultural labour work, and having diversified distinctive function with dependency of all the workers. And the dominant economic activity of tribes in Eastern region is agricultural labour work, and this region having diversified distinctive function with dependency of all the workers. According to Nelsons' method, the highest tribal concentrated region of the study area that is Western region comes under dominant activity of agricultural labour work and distinctive economy of cultivators.

CONCLUSION

The tribal areas are located under complete rural blocks in the study area, and it has not yet been developed on the tribal areas as expected. In the case of tribal households living in the hilly region of Tiruvannamalai district, physical barriers and insufficient infrastructure such as road communication, railway links, telecommunication facilities and lack of education using modern technology have been identified as constraints for establishing large industries and sustainable rural livelihoods. Tribes in the study area are deprived of the all sections of development and lack of education. Powerful democratic responsibility from both the state and central governments was indeed urgently necessary to improve services for tribal populations. The allocation of qualified and experienced female teachers, along with established infrastructure and awareness of accessibility of going to schools and colleges for girls, will assist in increasing female literacy levels. The highest tribal concentrated region of Tiruvannamalai district that is Western region comes under dominant activity of agricultural labourer works and distinctive economy of cultivation which indicates that the region having lower economic condition. Efforts should be taken exclusively for this Western region for enhancing the capabilities of the tribes to participate in other economic activities also. Infrastructural development in the study area will support in the development of large industries, which will generate career opportunities for Scheduled Tribes. Finally, it should have been noted that improved educational infrastructure and creation of employment opportunities for tribes on a wider scale is preferable. In this circumstance, expanding education by providing various tribes art, craft and innovations in education methods seem to be essential for tribes' social and economic development. Many reasons may have contributed to the persistence of this local knowledge. The lack of modern and government facilities, as well as the various tribes area's remote geographical features, as well as a strong belief in folk knowledge, all make a contribution to their priority for traditional knowledge for their culture. The promotion of different new integrated tribal development initiatives for the designated tribal areas will result in the removal of socio-economic barriers in the study area.

ABBREVIATIONS

ST – Scheduled Tribes, DI – Disparity Index, SD – Standard Deviation, WPR – Work Participation Rate, CD – Community Development, CL - Cultivators, AL – Agricultural Labourers, HIW – Household Industry Workers, OW- Other Workers.

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Table 1. List of Taluks, Blocks and Regions in Tiruvannamalai District

S. No	Name of Taluks	S. No	Name of CD Blocks	Regions
1	Tiruvannamalai	1	Tiruvannamalai	Southern Region
2	Kilpennathur	2	Keelpennathur	
3	Chengam	3	Thurinjapuram	
4	Thandrapet	4	Thandarampet	
5	Polur	5	Kalaspakkam	Western Region
6	Kalaspakkam	6	Jawadhu hills	
7	Jawadhu Hills	7	Chengam	
8	Chetpet	8	Pudhupalayam	
9	Arni	9	Polur	Northern Region
10	Cheyyar	10	Chetpet	
11	Vandavasi	11	Peranamallur	
12	Vembakkam	12	Arni	
		13	West Arni	Eastern Region
		14	Cheyyar	
		15	Anakkavur	
		16	Vembakkam	
		17	Vandawasi	
		18	Thellar	

(Source: Statistical Hand Book, Tiruvannamalai District)

Table 2. Characteristics of Different Economic Activities to identify the Dominant Function

S. No	Economic Activity	Characteristics
1.	Cultivators	Cultivator is a person who is engaged as worker in cultivation of certain crops on land owned by him or held by him for payment in money, kind and share. Cultivators include supervision or directions of cultivation.
2.	Agricultural Labourers	Agricultural labourer is a person working in another person's land for wages in





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		cash or kind. He has no risk of cultivation.
3.	Household Industry Workers	Household industry worker is a person who works for a major part in household industry. Household industry relates to production, processing, servicing, repairing or making and selling of goods.
4.	Other Workers	Other worker is a person who is engaged in the activities other than cultivation, agricultural labourer and household industry.

(Source: Statistical Hand Book, Tiruvannamalai District)

Table 3. Scale of Distinctiveness to identify the Distinctive Function

S. No	Range of percentage of workers	Scale of distinctiveness
1.	Mean + SD to Mean + 2SD	1 st Order
2.	Mean + 2SD to Mean + 3SD	2 nd Order
3.	Above Mean + 3SD	3 rd Order

(Source: Nelson, 1955^[8])

Table 4. Region-wise Educational Disparity Scheduled Tribes in Tiruvannamalai District

S.No	Regions of Tiruvannamalai District	Disparity Index Value	Category
1.	Southern Region	0.28	Low Disparity
2.	Western Region	0.38	Medium Disparity
3.	Northern Region	0.21	Low Disparity
4.	Eastern Region	0.20	Low Disparity

(Source: Authors Calculation)

Table 5. Work Participation Rate and Non-workers of Scheduled Tribes in Different Regions of Tiruvannamalai District (in percentage)

S. No	Regions of Tiruvannamalai District	Tribes Workers (WPR)			Tribes Non-Workers		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
1.	Southern Region	56.54	60.92	52.07	43.46	39.08	47.93
2.	Western Region	57.92	58.79	57.02	42.08	41.21	42.98
3.	Northern Region	56.80	60.55	53.17	43.20	39.45	46.83
4.	Eastern Region	57.46	63.26	51.81	42.54	36.74	48.19
	Total	57.44	59.87	54.97	42.56	40.13	45.03

(Source: Authors Calculation)

Table 6. Regional Disparity of Workers and Non-Workers of Scheduled Tribes in Tiruvannamalai District

S.No	Regions of Tiruvannamalai District	Disparity Index Value	Category
1.	Southern Region	0.23	Low Disparity
2.	Western Region	0.28	Low Disparity
3.	Northern Region	0.24	Low Disparity
4.	Eastern Region	0.26	Low Disparity

(Source: Authors Calculation)





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Table 7. Region-wise Dominant and Distinctive Economic Activity of tribal Workers in the Tiruvannamalai District

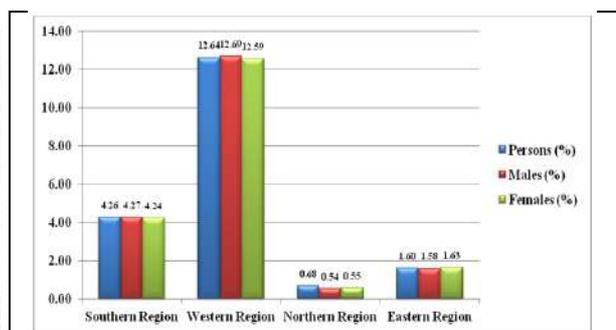
S. No	Regions of Tiruvannamalai District	Percentage of Tribal Workers				Dominant Function	Distinctive Function
		CL	AL	HIW	OW		
1.	Southern Region	25.59	55.28	1.61	17.52	AL	AL1
2.	Western Region	38.86	52.14	1.84	7.16	AL	CL1
3.	Northern Region	10.17	44.76	1.92	43.15	AL	Diversified
4.	Eastern Region	3.75	48.48	0.75	47.03	AL	Diversified
	Mean	19.59	50.16	1.53	28.72		
	Standard Deviation (SD)	15.78	4.55	0.54	19.44		
	Mean + SD (1 st order)	35.37	54.71	2.07	48.15		
	Mean + 2SD (2 nd order)	51.15	59.26	2.60	67.59		
	Mean + 3SD (3 rd order)	66.94	63.81	3.14	87.03		

(Source: Authors Calculation)



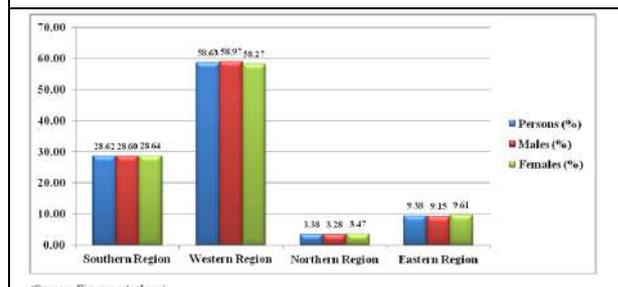
(Source: Statistical Hand Book, Tiruvannamalai District)

Fig. 1 Blocks and Regions of Tiruvannamalai District, Tamil Nadu



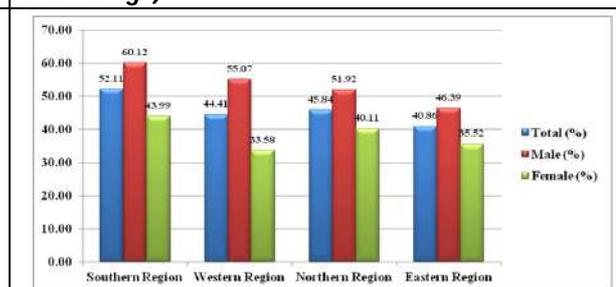
(Source: Figures - Authors)

Fig. 2 Region-wise Concentration of Scheduled Tribes Population in Tiruvannamalai District (in Percentage)



(Source: Figures - Authors)

Fig. 3 Region-wise Spatial Distribution of Scheduled Tribes Population in Tiruvannamalai District (in Percentage)



(Source: Figures - Authors)

Fig. 4 Region and Gender-wise Literacy Rate of Scheduled Tribes in Tiruvannamalai District (in percentage)





Knowledge on Cervical Cancer and Perceived Barriers to the Uptake of HPV Vaccination among College Students in Chengalpattu District - a Cross Sectional Study

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ABSTRACT

Cervical cancer is the fourth most common cause of cancer mortality and the third most prevalent disease diagnosed globally. Women in India have a 17% higher mortality rate from cancer than women worldwide. Infection with certain high-risk strains (16 & 18) of Human Papillomavirus (HPVs) is the primary cause of cervical cancer. Both sexes may be vaccinated against HPV to protect themselves from contracting the disease. Awareness of the HPV vaccine has to be researched, and action is taken to increase vaccination rates. Researchers surveyed 100 students from different colleges in the Chengalpattu area over the course of six months using self-designed questionnaires after receiving permission from the college's administration. Statistical analysis was used to make sense of the data. This study substantiated that 45% people know about cervical cancer and only 35% people aware about the HPV vaccination. Overall, 25.8% of students said they wouldn't get the HPV vaccine because they believe it isn't as effective as other vaccines. The overall study concluded that awareness about disease and knowledge about its prevention is poor among college students.

Keywords: Knowledge, Cervical cancer, Prevention, HPV vaccination, Cross sectional study, Siddha.



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INTRODUCTION

Cervical cancer is third among all cancers in incidence and mortality among women[1]. About 90% of the 604,000 new instances of cervical cancer & 342,000 deaths from the disease in 2020 will occur in low & middle-income countries [2]. In India, 17% of the deaths from cancer among women of childbearing age occur in the country. According to WHO estimates, by 2020, around 18.7 new cases of cervical cancer will be diagnosed per 100,000 women [3]. Cancers of the breast, lungs, intestines, & prostate are the most prevalent types. In poor and lower-middle-income nations, cancer is caused by diseases like human Papilloma Virus (HPV) & hepatitis around 30% of the time. Cancer is a disease that, if caught early & treated properly, has a high cure rate [4].

Awareness levels and views about cancer screening are both predicted to shift as cancer rates rise in India. Few studies have examined Indians' cancer knowledge and screening behavior. The earlier a cancer is diagnosed and treated, the higher the chances of a positive result [5]. The most frequent signs of cervical cancer are abnormal vaginal bleeding that does not coincides with menstruation, foul-smelling vaginal discharge, discomfort during sexual activity, pain in the pelvic region, post-coital hemorrhage, weight loss, and so on[6].

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) infections affect the reproductive system and are spread via sexual contact. There are around 200 different types of HPV, about 40 of which cause infections in the anogenital area. Cervical cancer types 16 & 18 account for the vast majority (70%) of the disease [7]. In the case of cervical cancer, a lack of education is a leading cause of death. Cervical cancer might be avoided & controlled if examined & treated before, but it lacks noticeable symptoms at first. The World Health Organization (WHO) has initiated a global effort to expand preventive, screening, & treatment measures with the aim of eradicating cervical cancer as a public health concern in the 21st century[8]. Consequently, there has been a recommendation to implement additional preventive measures by means of vaccination as a form of reinforcement.

Presently, there is no pharmacological intervention or therapeutic modality available for the management of HPV infection. However, preventive measures in the form of vaccines are available to provide effective protection against the acquisition of HPV [9]. The administration of HPV vaccination is advised due to its potential to confer protection against various other types of HPV. The aim of this study is designed to employ a questionnaire as a means of evaluating the level of awareness regarding cervical cancer & HPV vaccination among college students with the aim of overcoming the obstacles that hinder the acceptance of the vaccine and to enhance knowledge pertaining to Cervical Cancer and HPV immunization.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This cross-sectional research was conducted in a local community. One hundred female students aged between 18 and above from different institutions in the Chengalpattu area served as informants for this research. The purpose of this research is to evaluate college students understanding about cervical cancer and HPV vaccination. The National Institute of Siddha's Institutional Ethical Committee granted permission for this research on November 25, 2021 (NIS/IEC/2021/MP-2); before to the performance of the study, CTRI Registration was completed (CTRI/2022/03/040800). This study was conducted on 100 college going students from Chengalpattu district. The target of 100 subjects were achieved from four various colleges on equal proportion based on inclusion criteria and their availability during the time of survey. The study was carried out between February and April of 2022. Data was gathered by means of personal interview using an ethical committee approved standardized questionnaire. The participants completed the questionnaire on own willingness. After completion of the survey the students interacted about the disease and vaccination. After obtaining data from the required sample size (100 participants) the frequency for each factor was obtained.



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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This cross-sectional investigation examined college students perceptions of the hurdles to HPV vaccine uptake as well as their awareness of cervical cancer. Majority of the subjects participated in the study contributes to middle economic status. The age group of all the participants was between 18-25 as the focus was to create awareness about the vaccination before their first sexual contact. This study substantiated that 45% people know about cervical cancer and only 35% people aware about the HPV vaccination. Most of the subjects (i.e: 98%) were not vaccinated. Because they believe it isn't as effective as other vaccines. Only 19% was aware that HPV causes the cervical cancer. 58% of the subjects have no idea about mode of transmission, 24% of the subjects were aware that sexual contact is the cause. The signs of cervical cancer include vaginal flow of blood despite of menstruation, vaginal discharge with foul smell, pain during sexual contact, post coital bleeding, weight loss, lower abdominal pain. Overall, 21.5% were aware of these symptoms. The various risk factor of cervical cancer was known to 21.3% among 100 subjects.

According to the study the participants thought the disease is more common among girls of younger age and does not affect the boys. The disease is more likely to be common among women of age of 30-50, 48% of the subjects known about this fact. 57% of the subjects believe cervical cancer can be prevented. Yet only 10% was aware about the screening technique for the disease. Among the 10% only 2% was aware that the screening interval is once in 3 years. 83% of the subject have no idea whether HPV vaccine avoid cervical cancer & other cancers. Only 9% of the subjects were aware at what age they should be vaccinated and 24% thought the vaccine is suitable for both genders. Only 38% were interested to take vaccination as the rest were afraid because they are lack with the awareness and knowledge about the vaccination and 3% of their family members were vaccinated which is encouraging. They believed that the vaccine won't cause any side effects. However, 52% were unwilling to recommend the vaccine to others as they lack the knowledge and adverse effect over the vaccine. Overall, 25.8% of unwillingness to take vaccination includes lack of awareness and the mis concept that HPV vaccination has not been widely accepted and they don't know about the administrative importance of the vaccination. As awareness alone don't make any change unless we encourage them to take vaccination. First step is to make them involve creating awareness about the disease and the availability of vaccination among their family members. The family members should also support them by taking vaccination and participating in regular observation for cervical cancer [10].

CONCLUSION

This overall research concluded that awareness about disease and knowledge about its prevention is poor among college students. There is an urgent need to educate them with knowledge and encourage them to follow the preventive measures. Providing knowledge to student from with various social & educational background helps to prevent the disease. Even though there is availability of vaccination the people still lack about the source where it can be accessed and dosage about the vaccination. The government should develop programmes to popularize the vaccine among the public and encourage them to take vaccination without any hesitation.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interests.

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Table 1: Knowledge about cervical cancer

S. No	Description	Percentage %
1.	Yes	45%
2.	No	55%

Table 2: Knowledge about HPV vaccine

S. No	Description	Percentage %
1.	Yes	35%
2.	No	65%

Table 3: Are you vaccinated for HPV

S. No	Description	Percentage %
1.	Yes	2%
2.	No	98%

Table 4: Recommended age for HPV vaccine

S. No	Description	Percentage
1.	9-16	9%
2.	>16	18%
3.	Others	7%
4.	Don't know	66%





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Table 5: Are you interested to get HPV vaccine

S. No	Description	Percentage %
1.	Yes	38%
2.	No	62%

Table 6: Family history for HPV vaccination

S. No	Description	Percentage %
1.	Yes	3%
2.	No	97%

Table 7: Preventive methods against cervical cancer

S. No	Description	Yes	No	Don't know
1.	Sexual relationship with a single partner	21%	2%	77%
2.	Personal hygiene	54%	3%	43%
3.	Vaccination	53%	2%	45%
4.	Regular screening for cervical cancer	45%	3%	52%
5.	Barrier methods for Contraception	19%	1%	80%

Table 8: Reasons for unwillingness

S. No	Description	Yes	No	Don't know
1.	Lack of awareness	57%	8%	35%
2.	Worry about the price	12%	29%	59%
3.	Fear of side effects	43%	8%	49%
4.	Not considering yourself at risk of cervical cancer	20%	21%	59%
5.	Not many people are accepting the HPV vaccination.	17%	4%	79%
6.	Doctors did not Recommend	17%	8%	75%
7.	Vaccine does not offer Complete protection	7%	10%	83%
8.	not aware of the significance of HPV vaccination	32%	9%	59%





Drug Utilization Evaluation of Antibiotics in General Medicine Department of a Tertiary Care Hospital, Namakkal

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ABSTRACT

Drug utilization evaluation is one of the tools to study the use of drugs and its impact on the healthcare system. The main aim of the study is to assess the drug utilization evaluation of antibiotics in the general medicine department of a tertiary care hospital, Namakkal. The prospective study was conducted for duration of 3 months in a tertiary care hospital. A total of 100 patients were involved in the study. Out of which, 49% were male patients and 51% were female patients with an average age of 55.09 ± 17.17 . Nearly 14% of patients are diagnosed with lower respiratory tract infection and urinary tract infection and most commonly prescribed antibiotic in the study population was cephalosporins and β lactamase inhibitors. The rational use of antimicrobial agents is one of the main contributors to control worldwide emergence of antibacterial resistance, side effects and reduced cost of the treatment.

Keywords: Drug utilization evaluation, antibiotic, cephalosporins, β lactamase inhibitors.

INTRODUCTION

The term antibiotic was defined by Waksman as an "antibiotic or an antibiotic substance is a substance produced by microorganism, which has the capacity of inhibiting the growth and even of destroying other microorganisms" (1). Antibiotics are powerful and effective in fighting against numerous infectious diseases that are caused by bacteria and have been frequently used for effective treatment against a wide variety of bacterial infections.



**Nivetha et al.,****DRUG UTILIZATION EVALUATION**

Drug utilization evaluation is defined as authorized, structured, ongoing review of healthcare provider prescribing, pharmacist dispensing and patient medication(2). To achieve the optimal benefit of drug therapy in patient's health care system, rational drug use is considered as an important factor that has to be checked(3), (4). Irrational use of drugs may lead to random increase in the cost of the medical care, antimicrobial resistance, adverse effects and DUE studies which forms as a potential tool in evaluation of health system. Drug utilization studies focus on factors related to prescribing, dispensing, administering of medication and associated events.

The basics of the drug dispensing policies at local and national level are framed based on the drug utilization research(2). Therefore, the ultimate goal of such research is to facilitate rational use. WHOATC/DDD (anatomical therapeutic chemical/ defined daily dose) methodology is used as a reference standard for drug utilization studies. For each drug and route of administration, defined daily dose is defined by WHO collaborating center for drug statistics and methodology as the assumed average maintenance adult dose per day for its main indication(3).

Classification of drug utilization evaluation:

DUE is typically classified into three different categories

1. Prospective DUE
2. Concurrent DUE
3. Retrospective DUE

Steps in drug utilization evaluation:

Drug utilization evaluation process is divided into four phases.

1. Phase 1: Planning
2. Phase 2: Data collection and evaluation
3. Phase 3: Interventions
4. Phase 4: Program evaluation (3),(5).

The main aim of the study is to assess the drug utilization evaluation of antibiotics in the general medicine department of a tertiary care hospital, Namakkal.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study site: The proposed study was conducted at In-patient ward of Thangam hospital, Namakkal. This hospital is regarded as one of the best health care providers in Namakkal District. It is equipped with advanced medical equipments and technologies. It provides specialized services in fracture, rheumatology, oncology, urology, thyroid, radiology.

Study design: Prospective Studies

Study duration: The study was conducted for a period of 03 months from November 2022- January 2023

Study Population: In this study a total of 100 patients were enrolled.

Study criteria: The patients visiting the general medicine department were enrolled in to the study after taking their consent and by considering following inclusion and exclusion criteria.

Patient inclusion criteria

- Patients who are prescribed with antibiotics in general medicine department.
- Patients aged above 10 years.
- Patients willing to give their consent



**Nivetha et al.,****Patient exclusion criteria**

- Pregnant and lactating women
- Patients who are not willing to give their consent

Data collection

The data were collected from the patients who met the inclusion criteria. To study the drug utilization of antibiotics, relevant details of every in-patient who are prescribed with antibiotics were collected in suitably designed form. The relevant data of each patient were collected from the in-patient record. The demographic data (age, sex), the diagnosis, co-morbidities duration of stay, number of antibiotics prescribed, reason for antibiotic prescription, therapeutic outcome of the patients were obtained from the in-patient case records of each patient. The details of the data collected were transferred into MS Office excel work sheet.

Study procedure

A prospective study was conducted in the general medicine department of a tertiary care hospital Namakkal during November 2022 to January 2023. Prescriptions were collected from patients attending the general medicine department. The drug utilization patterns of antibiotics agents were analyzed. No follow up of prescription was done.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The cases were analysed based upon gender, the study population shows 49% of male patients and 51% of female patients. . This parameter correlates with the study conducted by Harish Handyal *et.al.*,(6)which concludes that, out of their study population, 44.72% were male, 55.27% were female patients. Figure no. 1 shows the analysis of the cases based on gender.

Analysis of the cases based on age

The cases were analysed based upon age, the study population shows 5% of patients from the age group 11-20 category, 4% of patients were under 21-30 category, 9% of patients were under 31-40 category, 10% of patients were under 41-50 category, 41% of patients were under 51-60 category, 15% of patients were under 61-70 category, 10% of patients were under 71-80 category, 5% of patients were under 81-90 category and 1% of patients were under 91-100 category. The average age of study population was found to be 55.09 ± 17.17 . Based on this analysis, patients under the age of 51-60 shows increased use of antibiotics when compared to other age category. This result is almost similar to the study conducted by Farrah Bilal *et.al.*,(7)which describes, out of 300 patients, nearly 23.7% of the patients lies under the age group of 50-59. Figure no.2 shows the analysis of the based on age.

Analysis of the cases based on diagnosis

The cases were analyzed based on the diagnosis of the patient, 1% of patients diagnosed with ulcer, 3% of patients with acute pulmonary edema, 3% with alcoholic induced gastritis, 9% of patients with bronchial asthma, 10% of patients with bronchitis, 4% of patients with chronic kidney disease, 7% of patients with COPD, 3% of patients with coronary artery disease, 9% of patients with dengue fever with thrombocytopenia, 4% of patients with diabetes mellitus, 6% of patients with diabetic foot ulcer, 1% of patients with hypotensive neuropathy, 1% of patients with hypothyroidism, 14% of patients with lower respiratory tract infection, 1% of patients with LV dysfunction, 1% of patients with diabetic encephalopathy and DKA, 1% of patients with umbilical hernia, 14% of patients with urinary tract infection, 3% of patients with urosepsis and 5% of patients with viral fever. Figure no.3 shows the analysis of the cases based on diagnosis that indicates patients with Lower respiratory tract infection and urinary tract infection are prescribed with antibiotics in higher number.



**Nivetha et al.,****Analysis of the cases based on class of antibiotics**

Based on study population, the cases were analyzed on class of antibiotics out of which 2% patients were given carbapenem (CARBA)+ penicillins (PCN) + β Lactamase inhibitors (BlaC), 1% cephalosporin (CEP)+ β Lactamase inhibitors (BlaC)+ carbapenem (CARBA), 70% cephalosporins (CEP), 11% cephalosporins (CEP)+ β lactamase inhibitors (BlaC), 1% Cephalosporins(CEP)+ β Lactamase inhibitors (BlaC)+ Aminoglycoside antibiotics (AMG), 4% Cephalosporins (CEP)+ β Lactamase inhibitors (BlaC)+ Quinolone antibiotics (QNs), 1% Cephalosporins (CEP)+ β Lactamase inhibitors (BlaC)+ tetracycline (TC)+ aminoglycoside antibiotics (AMG), 6% Cephalosporins (CEP)+ β Lactamase inhibitors (BlaC)+ tetracycline (TC), 1% Cephalosporins (CEP)+ β Lactamase inhibitors (BlaC)+ Tetracycline (TC)+ Quinolone (QNs), 2% Penicillins (PCN)+ β Lactamase inhibitors (BlaC)+ Quinolone (QNs), 1% Quinolone (QNs). This was similar to the study conducted by the SanojPanicker(9) where the cephalosporin antibiotic was given to 66.5% patients. Figure no. 4 shows the analysis of the cases based on antibiotics which indicates cephalosporins is prescribed in increased number when compared to other combination of drugs.

Analysis of the cases based on reason for antibiotic prescription

Based on study population, the cases were analyzed on reason for antibiotic prescription. 54% patients were under BPI category, 27% patients were under Non-BPI category and 19% patients were under the category of prophylaxis. This parameter correlates with the result obtained from the study conducted by Sanoj Panicke (8) which concludes that, out of their study population 41% of patients were prescribed antibiotics for BPI. Figure no.5 shows the analysis of the based on reason for antibiotic prescription.

Analysis of the cases based on therapeutic outcome of the antibiotic

Based on study population, the cases were analysed on therapeutic outcome of the antibiotic. 48% of patients were under controlled category, 46% of patients were under cured category and 6% of patients were under no-improvement category. Figure no.6 shows the analysis of the based on therapeutic outcome of the antibiotic.

CONCLUSION

Drug utilization evaluation studies plays important role in identifying the prescription pattern among the patients which helps in provide useful information for improvement of the appropriate and effective use of antibiotics and also developing the proper protocols for the use of antibiotic in hospitals. Therefore, rational use of antibiotics is necessary. So, based on the need the present study mainly focuses on the antibiotic prescribing pattern and therapeutic outcome of the antibiotic during the hospitalization of patient in a tertiary care hospital of Namakkal district. A number of 100 patients were selected based on the inclusion and exclusion criteria. The patients were categorized according to their gender, age, social history, no of days of hospitalization, co-morbidity conditions and diagnosis, class of antibiotics prescribed, reason for antibiotic prescription and therapeutic outcome of the patient. The current study could assess the prescribing pattern of antibiotics; most commonly prescribed antibiotic in the study population was cephalosporins.

Therefore, Clinical pharmacists and Clinicians need to play vital role in reducing the problems that are created during the use of antibiotic through continual awareness programs regarding up-to-date prescribing guidelines in the hospital and also minimizing the antibiotic resistance. Drug utilization review programme must be carried out to study the rational use of antimicrobials. The rational use of antimicrobial agents is one of the main contributors to control worldwide emergence of antibacterial resistance, side effects and reduced cost of the treatment.

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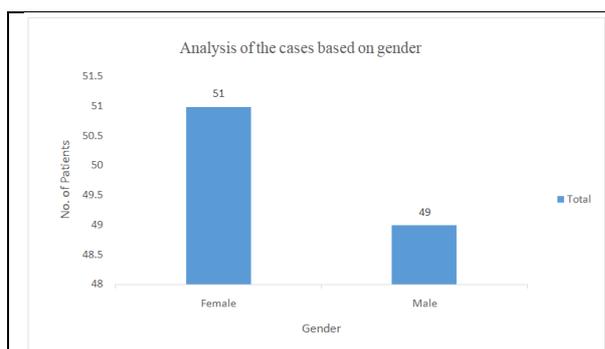


Figure No: 1 Analysis of the cases based on gender

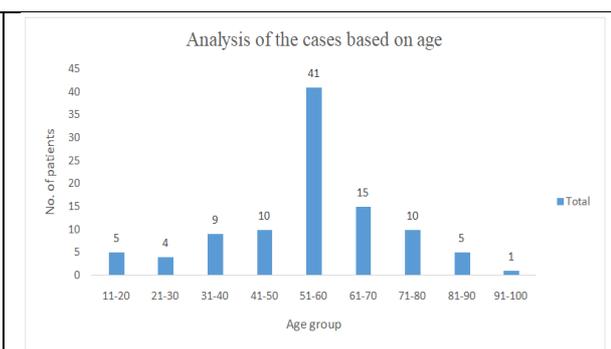


Figure No:2 Analysis of the cases based on age

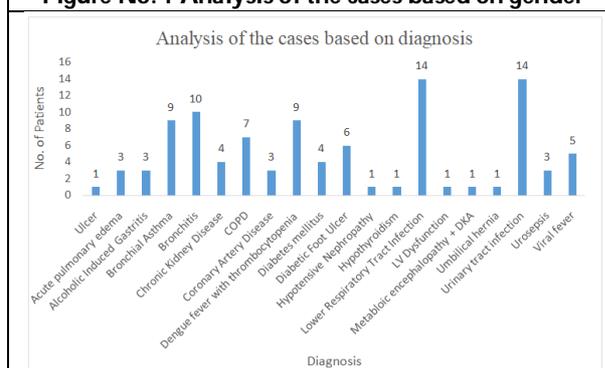


Figure No: 3 Analysis of the cases based on diagnosis

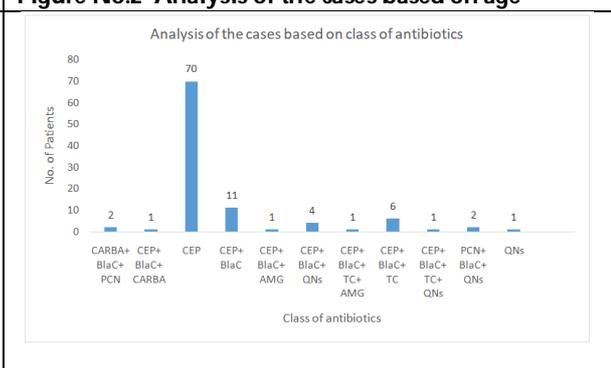


Figure no. 4 Analysis of the cases based on class of antibiotics





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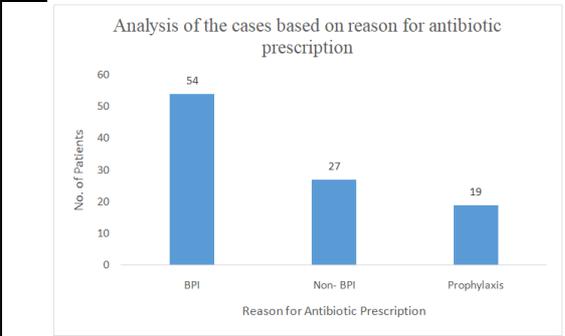


Figure no.5 Analysis of the cases based on reason for antibiotic prescription

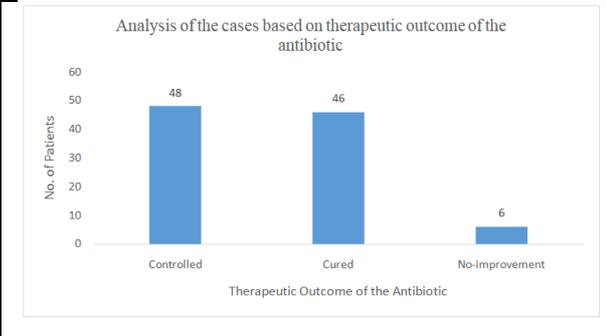


Figure no.6 Analysis of the cases based on therapeutic outcome of the antibiotic





A Review on Status of Antibiotic Pollution in India

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ABSTRACT

Antibiotics are one of the most effective treatments for humans. The ability of antibiotics to treat bacterial illnesses has long been a pillar of contemporary medicine. But because they can be harmful to bacteria they must be viewed as important pollutants as well. In addition to being utilised for human medicine, antibiotics are frequently used in agriculture and animal husbandry. Due to widespread antibiotic misuse and use, antibiotics are regularly found in soil, surface water, groundwater, drinking water, and other environmental media as well as inadequate sewage treatment capacity, this leads to increase in Antibiotic pollution in the environment. In addition to having a carcinogenic effect on the structure and operation of biological communities within ecosystems, such as plants and animals, antibiotics, as a type of microbiological inhibitor, can also hasten the spread of antibiotic resistance genes (ARGs) in the environment and cause multi-drug-resistant bacteria, also known as "superbugs," which can only be treated with the use of powerful antibiotics. ARGs do not just stay in the environment; they also migrate, change, propagate, and diffuse to other environmental media, eventually disrupting the environment and infiltrating the food chain, impacting human health. Antibiotic resistance is one of the greatest threats to humanity in the twenty-first century, according to the World Health Organization. India has become leading producer of pharmaceutical products as competition with china due to low cost and quality. There are no known statistics on sales or antimicrobial usage. The main contributors to pharmaceutical pollution in India include untreated hospital wastewater, pharmaceutical pollution, and inadequate WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) conditions. Antibiotic concentrations in water bodies are higher than in patient's blood, according to many researchers. India has also developed a National Action Plan (NAP) on antibiotics pollution in 2017. Recently, India has become the first country in the world to set regulations for the discharges of antibiotic concentrations. The current review is focussed on the usage and production of antibiotics in India and the effects of antibiotic pollution, control methods are also discussed.

Keywords: Antibiotic Pollution, Pharmaceutical Wastewater, India, Anti-Microbial Resistance.





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INTRODUCTION

Antibiotics are the most widely prescribed drugs in the planet. (*The State of the World's Antibiotics Report in 2021 - Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (CDDEP)*, n.d.) In many countries, particularly in LMICs, the use of these medications has increased dramatically in recent decades. Between 2000 and 2015, global antibiotic use climbed by 65 percent, with the rate of consumption increasing by 39 percent, from 11.3 to 15.7 defined daily doses (DDDs) per 1,000 people. (Klein et al., 2018) Antibiotic resistance seems to become more frequent in countries with high per-capita antibiotic consumption. [3] The current annual death toll from cancer, which is 700,000, would have climbed to a very alarming 10 million by 2050. AMR also has a very high economic cost in terms of lost world production from now until 2050, which, if we do nothing, will total an astounding 100 trillion USD. [4]. Antibiotic use has increased dramatically in India over the last decade, with a 30 percent increase in per capita consumption. (*The State of the World's Antibiotics Report in 2021 - Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (CDDEP)*, n.d.) Antibiotic resistance is a worldwide health issue that impacts everyone.

Despite the fact that multi-drug resistant bacteria first appeared in hospitals in the 1950s to early 1960s, their rise was largely attributed to the improper use of antibiotics that became more prevalent in the decades that followed, which made treating many infections more expensive and, in some cases, impossible. (Levy & Bonnie, 2004) Unreported sales of antibiotics in India are a major contributor to the country's high rate of antibiotic resistance. (Koya et al., 2022) Easy access, self-medication, misuse and overuse are the leading reasons for increased consumption in India (Jaya Ranjalkar, 2019). India has one of the greatest rates of resistance to antibiotics in both humans and food animals, as well as one of the largest loads of infectious diseases worldwide. The problem was made worse by the misuse of antibiotics as growth stimulants in the cattle and poultry sectors. Environmental samples, particularly those taken from water bodies, have shown the presence of resistant strains or their genes. The containment of resistance is more difficult in India due to certain socioeconomic and cultural elements that are prominent there. AMR in India is mostly caused by the inappropriate use of antibiotics and the improper treatment of wastewater. Sludge use in agriculture, incorrect animal disposal, and the aquaculture industry are all thought to contribute to AMR in other nations. (Koya et al., 2022) ("Causes of Neonatal and Child Mortality in India: A Nationally Representative Mortality Survey," 2010) (Taneja & Sharma, 2019) There is insufficient information on usage and causes of AMR in India. Similar to many other nations, private business entities in India largely collect data on the private sector's sales and use of medicines. (*WHO Report on Surveillance of Antibiotic Consumption*, n.d.)

As part of a tripartite collaboration with the World Health Organization, Food and Agricultural Organization, and World Organization for Animal Health, After realising the gravity of the problem, the World Health Assembly adopted the Global Action Plan on AMR in 2015. Through efficient sanitation, hygiene, and infection prevention practises, it also seeks to lower the occurrence of infection. (*Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance*, n.d.) India's National Action Plan (NAP) for AMR was unveiled by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in April 2017. Raising awareness, improving surveillance practises, bolstering infection prevention and control, stimulating investments, and developing coordinated AMR control operations are some of the objectives of the NAP. (India., n.d.) in this present article, we have briefly reviewed the usage of antibiotics, consequences related to the overuse, pollution related to antibiotics and control measures taken by the government

Antibiotics

The word "antibiotics" to describe chemical substances produced by microbes that inhibit the growth of other germs. Sir Alexander Fleming's discovery of penicillin in 1928 marked the beginning of the modern age of antibiotics. (Fleming, n.d.) The modern pharmaceutical industry created more than 160 unique antibiotics and semi-synthetic derivatives between the 1940s and the early 1970s, which laid the groundwork for the treatment of infectious diseases. (Davies, 2006) Today's antibiotics are either created through microbial fermentation or obtained through a semi-synthetic process using the already-existing antibiotic backbone structure. They are split up into several distinctly chemically different groupings. Antibiotics stop bacterial growth or cause cell death by interfering



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with bacterial physiology and biochemistry. While certain antibiotics, such as macrolides, chloramphenicol, tetracycline, linezolid, and aminoglycosides, target cell walls or membranes, others, such as macrolides, chloramphenicol, tetracycline, and aminoglycosides, target the machinery responsible for protein synthesis.(Sengupta et al., 2013). When earning the Nobel Prize, penicillin's discoverer Alexander Fleming was the first to caution against its improper and excessive use. In 1945, he issued a global warning against the potential for improper use of penicillin to select for resistant bacteria and cause the emergence of antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

Antibiotic usage in India

India, the second-most populous nation in the world and one of the top consumers of antibiotics, faces particular social, cultural, and economic barriers.(Jani et al., 1234) Antibiotics are widely used in human and veterinary medicine, as well as aquaculture, to prevent (prophylaxis) or treat microbial diseases. In human and veterinary medicine, hundreds of different antibiotics and antimycotics are employed.(K. Kümmerer, 2003)

Human use

Defined daily dose (DDD), a widely accepted standard measure of antibiotic use, is hardly employed in studies conducted in India. The DDD of a drug is the usual daily dosage for a human being.(WHOCC - *Definition and General Considerations*, n.d.) The prevalence of infectious diseases and the nation's increasing sales and use of antibiotics are correlated. Lack of diagnostic resources, irrational antibiotic prescription, ignorance of and inexperience with proper antibiotic use, and financial incentives from pharmaceutical companies for lucrative drug sales are factors that influence antibiotic consumption.(Hasan et al., 2018) Antimicrobial use is increasing worldwide, particularly in low and middle-income countries (LMICs), as antimicrobials are becoming more widely available and affordable. Antibiotic use in India doubled between 2000 and 2015, the usage of WHO Watch antibiotics grew 90.0 percent globally and 165 percent in LMICs.(*The State of the World's Antibiotics Report in 2021 - Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (CDDEP)*, n.d.) Antibiotic medication use grew by 36% between 2000 and 2010. Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS countries) were responsible for 76% of this rise. When compared to other BRICS nations, India has a retail sales rise of up to 23 percent, making it one of the top consumers of antibiotics.(Patel et al., 2017) India was the world's greatest consumer of antibiotics for human health in 2010, consuming 12.9 x 10⁹ units (10.7 units per person). The United States came in third with 6.8 x10⁹ units, while China came in second with 10.0 x10⁹ units (7.5 units per person) (22.0 units per person).(Van Boeckel et al., 2014) Between 2010 and 2020, the percentage change in overall utilisation was likewise around 48%. (47.40 percent). (*The State of the World's Antibiotics Report in 2021 - Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (CDDEP)*, n.d.) Coronavirus disease is caused by infection with the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (COVID-19) could result to an increase in antibiotic consumption during 2020.[20] Between June and September 2020, when epidemic activity was at its peak, COVID-19 is predicted to have contributed to extra sales of 216 million non-CAF antibiotics and 38 million non-CAF azithromycin.[21] When comparing the various antibiotic classes using the WHO Access, Watch, Reserve (AWaRe) classification, third-generation cephalosporin usage was shown to be extremely high across all Indian states.(*WHO Report on Surveillance of Antibiotic Consumption*, n.d.)

Animal use

Animals frequently receive the same antibiotic treatments as humans do, and this has implications for public health.(*Scoping Report on Antimicrobial Resistance in India - Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (CDDEP)*, n.d.) Speaking especially of India, due to the demand for greater milk and meat output as well as aquacultures, excessive antimicrobial usage is not only common in people but is also common in food animals.(Jani et al., 2017) The increased use of antibiotics helps improve animal health and also frees up industries from having to maintain hygienic conditions. As evidenced by the discovery of antibiotic residues in animal-based food items, improper use of antibiotics in animal feed results in bioaccumulation.(Van Boeckel et al., 2014) In India, the overall use of antimicrobials in animals was anticipated to be 2,160.02 tonnes in 2020, and is expected to rise to 2,236.74 tonnes by 2030.(*Antibiotic Intake in India Rises by 30% in a Decade, Says Report - Hindustan Times*, n.d.) There are no regulatory regulations in India for the use of antimicrobials in cattle, chickens, and pigs reared for human consumption. Antimicrobial residues in edible animal products have been detected in recent investigations across India.(Kakkar:



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Antibiotic Use and Residues in Chicken Meat... - Google Scholar, n.d.) A greater variety of illnesses are emerging as a result of increasing antibiotic use in the animal industry. The rapid growth of the chicken industry, especially in India, where areas with high consumption (30 kg per km²) are expected to rise 312 percent by 2030, is largely to blame for the explosive growth in chicken consumption. (Van Boeckel et al., 2015) The Food Safety and Criteria (Contaminants, Toxins, and Residues) Regulations of 2011 established standards for seafood (including shrimp, prawns, and any other type of fish and fishery products), but none exist for poultry. 2018's Version III. ((PDF) *Antibiotics in Chicken Meat*, n.d.) Additionally, it has been shown that aquaculture uses excessive levels of antibiotics. (Scoping Report on Antimicrobial Resistance in India - Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (CDDEP), n.d.)

Antibiotics Production in India

The Indian pharmaceutical sector is the third largest in terms of volume and the tenth largest in terms of value in the world. One of the biggest international producers of inexpensive vaccines is India. Due to their low price and high quality, Indian medications are sought internationally, earning the nation the moniker "world pharmacy." Currently, the pharmaceutical business contributes 1.72 percent of the nation's GDP. (HINDUSTAN ANTIBIOTICS LIMITED, 2021) According to Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India, there are 3881 pharmaceutical companies in India by end of fiscal year 2020-21. During FY-21, India's pharmaceutical exports increased by more than 18 percent, the highest increase in the prior seven years. (PHARMACEUTICALS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL OF INDIA, n.d.) During the calendar year 2020, the global market generated a turnover of \$ 1265.2 billion. (The Global Use of Medicines 2022 - IQVIA, n.d.) Between

2020 and 2030, India is anticipated to grow at a CAGR (compound annual growth rate) of 12%. This suggests that in the following ten years, antibiotic production will more than double. (India, a Pharma Super-Power, Must Address the Serious Threat of Antimicrobial Resistance - Gaonconnection | Your Connection with Rural India, n.d.) The India and China factories are producing 80-90% of world's antibiotics. (Antibiotic Pollution by Pharmaceutical Industries a Global Concern, n.d.) Due to its low production costs, India is a key supplier to Europe. This reliance encourages the discharge of untreated industrial effluent into local lakes and streams, resulting in antibiotic contamination in many communities (Pharmaceutical Pollution in India and EU's Role | StopAMR, n.d.) 60 percent of the world's paracetamol, 90 percent of the world's penicillin, and 50 percent of the world's ibuprofen are produced in India and China, which together produce 90 percent of APIs for generic medications. India produces a third of the APIs and final pharmaceuticals sold in Europe. (Scholz, n.d.)

Status of Antibiotic Pollution in India

Surface water, groundwater, and water supply systems have all been discovered to contain antibiotics and ARGs, posing a serious hazard to both human health and the ecosystem. within the last two decades. (Antibiotics and Antibiotic Resistance Genes in Waters: Pollution, Risks, and Control | Frontiers Research Topic, n.d.) When it's used for drinking, it causes nausea and diarrhoea right away. In the lakes, fish kills are fairly prevalent. Groundwater is also unfit for agricultural use. (Pharmaceutical Pollution in India and EU's Role | StopAMR, n.d.) The release of antibiotic residues from households in the form of sewer waste and pharmaceutical industrial effluents raises the amount of antibiotics in the environment. (Akiba et al., 2015) (Azam et al., 2016) Antibiotic manufacturing companies in India were releasing significant amounts of untreated wastewater into the environment. (Antibiotic Pollution by Pharmaceutical Industries a Global Concern, n.d.) The effluent contains exceptionally high amounts of Ciprofloxacin, cetirizine, enoxacin, terbinafine, and citalopram due to insufficiency of treatment facilities in the effluent treatment plant near Hyderabad, India. (Fick et al., 2009) Hyderabad, a heavily populated and growing rich city in southern India, was formerly a major worldwide diamond and pearl trading centre. It is now a significant international centre for the pharmaceutical and biotech sectors, with millions of tonnes of drugs, chemicals, and pesticides produced each year. (No Title, n.d.) Antibiotic residues in wastewater from manufacturing companies end up in lakes, streams, and wells, resulting in a high level of resistant bacteria. (Pharmaceutical Pollution in India and EU's Role | StopAMR, n.d.) Antibiotic-resistant bacteria were found in water and sediment samples taken from Varanasi's five river banks, including Assi, Bhadaini, Harishchandra, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, and Rajghat. The Varanasi region receives roughly



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309.8 million litres of treated and untreated domestic waste daily, hence the findings were related to household waste.[38] Significant research was done on an Indian wastewater treatment facility in 2007 by Swedish researchers. This facility handled effluent from 90 bulk API manufacturers. It was found that exceptionally high API release levels were occurring into a nearby river. It also shown that the concentration of the commonly used antibiotic ciprofloxacin was 1000 times higher than levels harmful to some bacteria, which is a substantially higher concentration of the antibiotic than would be found in a patient's blood after taking the medication.[39].

In industrialised countries, a manufacturing plant can also contribute significantly to total antibiotic concentrations in sewage treatment plant influent. (Klaus Kümmerer, 2009) Active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) manufacturers, who are in charge of producing antibiotics in large quantities, and formulation firms, whose ability to produce finished goods is technically dependent on API. Both types of pharmaceutical businesses' industrial effluents seriously damage the water sources. According to reports, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) lacks regulations to track and regulate the release of leftover antibiotics in effluents. (*Scoping Report on Antimicrobial Resistance in India - Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (CDDEP)*, n.d.) Antibiotic contamination is being caused by pharmaceutical corporations due to flaws in their manufacturing and treatment methods. (*The Antibiotic Challenge | The Indian Express*, n.d.) Many smaller businesses lacked the wherewithal to invest in costly waste-treatment gear. (*The Cost of Cheap Drugs? Toxic Indian Lake Is "superbug Hotspot" | Reuters*, n.d.) The discharges of wastewater treatment plants at India's leading pharmaceutical manufacturers are uncontrolled. In addition, none of these companies provide names of suppliers or private waste-treatment plants. (*Limiting Antibiotic Manufacturing Discharge in Indian Wastewater*, n.d.) WWTPs have been identified as potentially hazardous situations. (Baquero et al., 2008) India is the first country in the world to enact regulations to prevent antibiotic pollution in bodies of water. (*Antibiotic Pollution by Pharmaceutical Industries a Global Concern*, n.d.)

Multiple studies have identified substantial antibiotic concentrations in hospital wastewater from nations as diverse as India. (Martínez, 2008) According to recent studies from India, hospital trash contains a disproportionately high amount of antibiotic residues, notably traces of broad-spectrum antibiotics. (Akiba et al., 2015) Hospital sewage and municipal wastewater can include antibiotic concentrations as high as micrograms/liter because a percentage of the antibiotics given are not metabolised but instead excreted by treated patients. (Klaus Kümmerer, 2009) Another reason for the presence of antimicrobials in wastewater is the self-prescription of these drugs without professional understanding of the dosage and length of treatment. (Morgan et al., 2011) Poverty, ignorance, overpopulation, and starvation all contribute to the pollution problem. (Swaminathan et al., 2017) Although the levels of antibiotic residue in urban WWTPs are normally far lower than those that are therapeutic, they may still be sufficient to provide selection pressures for the evolution of antibiotic resistance in bacteria. (Gullberg et al., 2011) Specific socioeconomic and cultural conditions prevalent in India make resistance containment more difficult. In India, inappropriate antibiotic usage and poor waste water treatment are major contributors to AMR. (Taneja & Sharma, 2019)

The ecological effects of antibiotics and their interactions with other factors (such as toxic pollutants, climatic conditions, etc.) on various levels of the aquatic ecosystem remain unknown, particularly with regard to environmental concentration and long-term effects. The risks associated with antibiotics in water environments are also unknown. (*Antibiotics and Antibiotic Resistance Genes in Waters: Pollution, Risks, and Control | Frontiers Research Topic*, n.d.) In India, a scarcity of drugs kills more children than antibiotic-resistant bacterial illnesses. (Laxminarayan et al., 2016). Antibiotic pollution poses a serious threat of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), which will result in a decrease in disease resistance, resulting in 10 million deaths per year by 2050. Each year, antibiotic-resistant neonatal illnesses kill about 60,000 new born in India. (*The Antibiotic Challenge | The Indian Express*, n.d.) Numerous studies have examined the financial impacts of AMR, which include extraordinarily high healthcare costs brought on by an increase in hospital admissions, longer hospital stays, more intensive care units and isolation beds, and expensive, rigorous rehabilitation. (Dadgostar, 2019)

CONTROL AND REGULATION MEASURES OVER POLLUTION

A comprehensive plan including all sectors of society, including hospitals, business, civil society organisations,



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pharmaceutical companies, and individuals, is necessary. Our healthcare ecosystems must prevent antibiotic overuse, and hospital wastewater must be cleansed to remove antibiotic waste. (*India, a Pharma Super-Power, Must Address the Serious Threat of Antimicrobial Resistance - Gaonconnection | Your Connection with Rural India*, n.d.) If most individuals were unable to identify which prescriptions were antibiotics in the first place, it would be impossible to persuade the public to stop using antibiotics unnecessarily. With its "Red Line Campaign" concept for antibiotics packaging, which was introduced in 2016, India has so far taken the lead. Before being adopted broadly, this concept should be viewed as a starting point, with the labelling and symbols used changed as necessary. (J., 2016) Antibiotic resistance calls for changes in socioeconomic factors such as access to clean water and sanitation, regulation of the private health-care sector, and improved governance in addition to a reduction in antibiotic consumption. (Hasan et al., 2018) Other countries believe that improper livestock disposal, sludge in agriculture, and the aquaculture sector all contribute to AMR, however there are few statistics on these topics in India. (Taneja & Sharma, 2019) To ensure strong oversight of their antimicrobial supply chains and to ensure that their manufacture does not involve the release of dangerous levels of antibiotic active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) into the environment, the global pharmaceutical industry may find it useful to improve transparency and labelling. The "Swachh Bharat Abhiyan" ("Clean India Mission") programmes, which aim to increase access to clean water and sanitation globally, are a significant step in the right way for economic development and will be crucial in fending off the threat of AMR. (J., 2016)

The sale of antibiotics for human use is actively regulated in India by the federal and state governments, as well as institutions established under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act of 1940 (DCA) and the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules of 1945. (DCR). The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, which concentrates on the national executive branch, is the primary source of many of the legally binding and non-binding regulatory papers that deal with sales of antibiotics for human use in India. The Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) is responsible for providing evidence-based technical support for programme development and policy formation. The DCA and the DCR are under the control of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), a federal regulatory agency under the DGHS's direction. The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI), who sets the standards for drug importation, production, distribution, and retail sales in India, is in charge of the CDSCO. Additionally, the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers' Department of Pharmaceuticals is in charge of developing and carrying out policies related to medications, particularly those pertaining to access and price. (Porter et al., 2021) The judiciary in India has a significant influence on enforcement. In addition to imposing fines or other punishments for violations of the laws relating to the sale of antibiotics without a valid prescription, courts have directed that the executive branch fulfil its duties to do so when efforts to enforce these regulations have been ineffective. ("Do Not Sell Drugs without Proper Prescription: J&K HC Tells Pharmacists", 2018)

Antibiotic Residues in the treated effluent of the bulk medicine and formulation industries, as well as CEPT, were added to schedule -I of the Environmental Protection Act (1986) by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. (Authority, 2013) In Paragraph D of the draught, antibiotic residual effluent limitations for 121 types of antibiotics were identified - possibly the first such major endeavour in the world. Paragraph D was removed from the final notification, which was released on August 6, 2021, due to tough competition with China. Instead, the new standards say that all effluents must simply be classed as hazardous waste. (*Green Ministry Drops Antibiotic Effluent Limits from New Rules - The Economic Times*, n.d.). In order to tackle AMR and antibiotic pollution generally, the World Health Assembly issued a global action plan in 2015. This laid the framework for specific national action plans to develop rules and regulations to combat AMR. (Kraemer et al., n.d.) (*World Health Organization: Global Action Plan on... - Google Scholar*, n.d.) AMR laws and the tracking of antibiotic contamination have only recently started in India. The main recommendations from India's medical associations, for instance, were incorporated into the 2017 National Action Plan (NAP) on Antimicrobial Resistance, which was based on the WHO Global Plan, to promote antibiotic stewardship. (Ghafur et al., 2013) (India., n.d.) Given that India is a large producer of antibiotics, it is among the first countries in the world to declare a willingness to enact regulations that limit antibiotic residues in industrial effluents. (*World Health Organization: Global Action Plan on... - Google Scholar*, n.d.) Through



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monitoring and research initiatives, NAP-AMR emphasises the necessity of raising awareness of the proper use of antibiotics among various healthcare stakeholders.(India., n.d.) To support better practises in human health by limiting unnecessary use and prescription of antibiotics to treat infections, regulations were developed in India to increase awareness of AMR and the risks of over-prescribing antibiotics in human medicine.(Kraemer et al., n.d.) The use of third-generation and broad-spectrum antibiotics was restricted, and laws governing the sale of over-the-counter antibiotics were gradually tightened. Antimicrobial Stewardship, Prevention of Infection and Control (ASPIC) was founded in order to disseminate information and promote awareness on the responsible use of antibiotics.(India., n.d.) India employs red strip labelling on packaging to limit prescription-only dispensing. India performed the largest-ever study on medication quality, and the state's food and drug administration and the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization(WHO, 2018).

India is one of the top five countries that consume the most antibiotics in the animal food industry.(Holloway et al., 2017) While antibiotics are frequently used as growth promoters, there are currently few to no laws in this field, despite the fact that ABR in livestock and food animals is poorly documented because to a lack of legislation prohibiting the use of antibiotics for non-therapeutic purposes. The aquaculture industry in India continues to abuse antibiotics, and multidrug-resistant bacteria are present in more than two-thirds of samples.(World Health Organization: Global Action Plan on... - Google Scholar, n.d.). Given the size of India's pharmaceutical industry, waste water treatment facilities that feed facilities used to produce antibiotics have been connected to the introduction of resistance genes into the human microbiome and pose a serious threat to antibiotic efficacy. WWTPs may be an essential environment for resistance gene recruitment into commensal and pathogenic microorganisms. (Johnning et al., 2013) The issue of antibiotic contamination of WWTPs is not currently being addressed by any policies in India.(Kraemer et al., n.d.) Most action plans and policies fail to address the health risks posed by environmental reservoirs of antibiotics and antibiotic resistance genes and do not work to lessen the contamination of natural ecosystems with antibiotics and ARGs.(Leonard et al., 2015) Due to the worldwide nature of antibiotic resistance and pollution, particularly in poor nations, international collaboration, data sharing, and globally unified policies are necessary.(India., n.d.) The Indian health authorities have begun efforts to combat AMR, but they are still in the early stages. Future directions are given while keeping the issues particular to India in mind.(Taneja & Sharma, 2019)

CONCLUSIONS

Antibiotic contamination in India has thus far received little attention. Urgent action is required to stop the pollution because the ecology in India is under constant threat. To solve this issue, a multi-sectoral, multi-disciplinary strategy requiring coordinated efforts and oversight is needed. Antibiotic pollution in the environment has increased as a result of inadequate sewage treatment capabilities and widespread use. Need to promote further Research on pharmaceutical wastewater treatment and disposal. There is lot of data required in terms of pollutants and their concentrations in different sources of water. Need to find data. Innovative Treatment techniques has be adopted for industries and hospitals, to treat wastewater with high efficiency and economically. The treatment techniques should be in such a manner that Bring down cost of treatment, so that the industries and hospitals can adopt those techniques for treatment. Strict vigilance and control of sale and Usage of antibiotics (in human, animals and agriculture). Framing and implement regulations over the unauthorised disposal of effluents and disposal into environment. The practical degradation and removal technology of antibiotics, as well as ecological and health dangers, will continue to be an issue for the field of antibiotics. The growth in antimicrobial contamination in India is due to the excessive and inappropriate use of antibiotics in the human, food, animal, and environmental sectors. Government programmes like the NAP-AMR policy, continual monitoring, public awareness campaigns, and intercontinental research and training might all be used to combat AMR





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Ritonavir and Lopinavir : A Review on Novel Analytical Techniques

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ABSTRACT

Antiretroviral drugs like ritonavir and lopinavir are used to treat HIV/AIDS. RTV and LPV are frequently used in combination with a variety of antiretroviral medications. As of now, several investigations on the analysis of LPV & RTV in bulk, pharmaceutical formulations, and biological fluids have been reported on analytical methodologies. The current review provides in-depth information on the types of various analytical methods, including chromatography and spectrophotometry, which are both investigated for the quantification and detection of metabolites as well as for stability research on RTV and LPV. This study provides brief and comprehensive information on the analytical validation parameters for the analysis of RTV, LPV alone or in combination with other medications, such as Limit of detection (LOD), Limit of Quantification (LOQ), Standard Curve, Accuracy & Precision. This review facilitates conducting more analytical research on the drugs indicated.

Keywords: Ritonavir, Lopinavir, Spectroscopic methods, Chromatographic methods.





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INTRODUCTION

In general, viruses are far smaller than bacteria and are microscopic parasites. They require a host body to survive and reproduce. Medical Microbiology states that the main function of the virus or virion is to "transport its DNA or RNA genome into the host cell so that the genome can be expressed (transcribed and translated) by the host cell[1]. Drugs that treat viral infections are known as antiviral drugs. Drugs used as antivirals prevent the reproduction of viruses[2]. Antiviral medications can only target a certain number of metabolic processes since viruses are small and multiply inside cells via the cells by metabolic pathways. It is challenging to identify medications that are selective for the virus since viruses control many of the metabolic processes of the host cell. However, several enzymes have been shown to be valuable as therapeutic targets because they are virus-specific[3-5].

History and development of LPV & RTV

The US Food and Medication Administration (USFDA) authorized LPV/RTV (Kaletra®) as the sixth HIV-1 protease inhibitor (PI) drug by USFDA, was the first and only PI to be co-formulated, and it was approved in September 2000 in the US (April 2001 in Europe) for the treatment of HIV infection in adults and children older than 6 months. The FDA granted its approval for the present LPV/RTV tablet formulation in October 2005 [6]. In 1997, during the 4th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, Abbott Laboratories revealed ABT-378, a novel protease inhibitor that would ultimately be renamed lopinavir. Low dosages of RTV, a strong inhibitor of cytochrome P450 3A4, significantly raise the blood levels of lopinavir. The LPV/RTV (Kaletra®) was first produced as a soft-gel capsule with 133.3 mg of LPV and 33.3 mg of RTV[7].

Compilations of quantification methods for Ritonavir and Lopinavir by UV-Spectrophotometry

Due to its simplicity and efficiency in drug analysis, UV spectroscopy is a popular method for analysing drug compounds. The identification and quantification of the drug ingredient are aided by the use of spectroscopy, which provides short information on the solubility, max of the entity, and UV absorbance pattern[12-13].

Compilations of quantification methods for RTV and LPV by RP-HPLC Technique

Chromatography is an essential biophysical technique for separating, identifying, and purifying mixture components for qualitative and quantitative research. There are several chromatographic techniques, such as affinity chromatography, thin-layer chromatography (TLC), column chromatography, paper chromatography, gas chromatography, ion-exchange chromatography, gel permeation chromatography, and high-pressure liquid chromatography. Chemical compound separation frequently made use of HPLC. New methods greatly outperformed older ones in terms of separation, identification, purification, and quantification. In chromatography, the stationary phase is either a solid phase or a liquid phase deposited on top of a solid phase. The stationary phase is covered by a liquid or gaseous mobile phase. When the mobile phase is liquid, the method is known as liquid chromatography (LC). Analytes are separated using this method, known as normal phase HPLC (NP-HPLC), based on polarity. In NP-HPLC, both the polar stationary phase and non-polar mobile phase are used. The polar stationary phase reacted with the polar analyte and absorbed it. A non-polar stationary phase and an aqueous, moderately polar mobile phase are the components of reversed-phase HPLC (RP-HPLC or RPC). As a result of repulsive forces between a polar eluent, the comparatively non-polar analyte, and the non-polar stationary phase, RPC works on the theory of hydrophobic interactions [18-19]. The most used liquid chromatography (LC) method for drug analysis is HPLC, which has the advantage of a high separation capacity for frequent examination. The most sophisticated type of LC, known as HPLC, is used to separate certain compounds from complicated mixtures like biological fluids. The majority of methods are used in pharmaceutical drug analysis and method development using reverse phase HPLC (RP-HPLC)[20-24].

Compendia of bio-analytical quantification methods for RTV and LPV by RP-HPLC Technique

Determine the concentration of a drug or its metabolite, or both, in the biological matrix, such as plasma, serum, urine, etc., through using bio-analytical approach. Studies on human clinical pharmacology, bioavailability, and



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bioequivalence, as well as pharmacokinetic assessment, all make use of bioanalytical data. Additionally, non-human pharmacological and toxicological research employ the bio-analytical approach (preclinical studies). The goal of establishing a bio-analytical technique is to use available resources to create a method that is more accurate and precise for the target analyte under the specified lab circumstances. to make it possible to measure the levels of medicines and their metabolites in biological matrices.

Qin c et al., developed a sensitive and cost-effective bioanalytical HPLC-UV method for estimation of LPV in rat and human plasma. In this method only 10 μ L of cannabidiol was used as internal standard 100 μ L of plasma sample was used & samples were liquid-liquid extracted, the separation was achieved by using following chromatographic condition C18 reversed-phase analytical column with a mobile phase of acetonitrile-water with gradient elution. Column oven was set at 40°C and UV detection was conducted at 211 nm, flow rate 0.3ml min⁻¹. Linearity was found in the range of 10- 10000 ng ml⁻¹ of LPV and the mean extraction recoveries in accuracy were found to be 88.7-96.5%. This assay allowed for preclinical pharmacokinetic and drug administration investigations in rats in both developed and developing nations while increasing sensitivity while requiring less plasma. It can be utilised for clinical research and clinical TDM of HIV-infected and perhaps SARS-Cov-2-infected patients undergoing LPV due to its high selectivity, sensitivity, and stability[27].

Kou H J, et al, have developed a novel, specific, accurate, and reproducible HPLC-UV-VIS method for the quantitative determination of LPV & RTV in human plasma in this assay method only 200 μ L of plasma sample was used & samples were liquid-liquid extracted, and diazepam was used as an internal standard. The separation was achieved by using the following chromatographic conditions C18 reversed-phase analytical column with a mobile phase of acetonitrile-sodium dihydrogen phosphate buffer(10mmol L⁻¹, pH-4.80)(60:40, V/V). column oven was set at 40°C and UV detection was conducted at 205 nm. Linearity was found in the range of 0.5-20 μ g mL⁻¹ and 0.05-5 μ g mL⁻¹ of LPV& RTV respectively and the mean extraction recoveries in accuracy were found to be 79.17%, 52.26%, and 91.35% LPV, RTV, and diazepam respectively after a successful method development and validation is done later it was applied to human plasma samples from HIV-Positive Chinese patients and because of its good features like simple, robust and inexpensiveness it could be used in pharmacokinetic studies and routine therapeutic drug monitoring of LPV & RTV[28].

R.Vats, et al, have developed a novel, rapid, sensitive, and reproducible HPLC-UV method for the determination of LPV in Wister rat plasma in this assay method only 100 μ L of drug spiked plasma sample was used & the sample was extracted by single-step protein precipitation. The separation was achieved by using the following chromatographic condition C18 reverse phase column with a mobile phase of acetonitrile – ammonium acetate buffer(10mmol L⁻¹, pH- 6.5) (65:35, V/V). UV detection was conducted at 210nm. linearity was found in the range of 250- 4000 ng mL⁻¹ of LPV and the mean extraction recoveries in accuracy were found to be 97.5-100.19% after a successful method development and validation is done on rat plasma and because of its good features like simple, rapid, precise and cost-effective. it was used to determine the pharmacokinetic parameters of the drug following IV bolus administration in rats with LPV[29].

Infrared spectroscopic interpretation of RTV and LPV

Infrared Spectroscopy is the absorption of lower energy radiation that excites groups of atoms inside molecules in both a rotational and vibrational manner. It is simple to identify functional groups because of their distinctive absorptions. In pharmacological compounds, an IR spectrum—which provides precise information on the infrared absorptions found for various bound atoms and groups—is frequently displayed. Organic compound structure elucidation benefits the most from infrared interpretation [30]. RTVIR(KBr)v(cm⁻¹) values expected for various functional groups are as follows: 3550-3200 (OH- Hydroxyl group), 1595-470 (Aromatic C=C), 1700-1680cm (Carbonyl C=O), 1465-1150 (Aliphatic C-H), and 3520-3400(Amide NH) and the obtained values of RTV IR(KBr) v(cm⁻¹)2964(OH-Hydroxyl group), 1645.87 (Aromatic C=C), 1723.18 cm⁻¹ (Carbonyl –C=O), 1530.23 (CH₂-aliphatic), 3484.82 (Amide-NH)[30].



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LPV IR(KBr) ν (cm^{-1}) values expected for various functional groups are as follows: 3436.22 (OH- Hydroxyl group), 1450.49(Aromatic C=C), 1653.30(Carbonyl C=O), 1085(Aliphatic C-H), and 3399(Amide NH) and the obtained values of LPV IR(KBr) ν (cm^{-1}) 3436.22 (OH- Hydroxyl group), 1450.49(Aromatic C=C), 1653.30(Carbonyl C=O), 1085(Aliphatic C-H), and 3399(Amide -NH) [31].

CONCLUSION

The techniques mentioned above provide concise overall data about the analysis of the RTV and LPV when combined with various anti-viral medicines. All of the methodologies indicated have been confirmed to be in accordance with the ICH/USFDA criteria and are helpful in the examination of the medications specified. The RP-HPLC technique is the preferred method for analysing the drug. Acetonitrile with potassium dihydrogen phosphate buffer, methanol with sodium phosphate buffer, and acetonitrile with phosphoric acid are the three main solvents employed in these techniques. In UV spectroscopic methods acetonitrile, water, and methanol solvents were used, and the lambda max for RTV and LPV changed into determined to be 238 nm and 260nm.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no Conflict of interest regarding the publication of this review paper.

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Table 01: Drug profile [8-11].

Name of the drug	LPV	RTV
Structure		
Brand name	Kaletra(100mg of LPV and 25mg of RTV)	
Chemical formulation	$C_{37}H_{48}N_4O_5$	$C_{37}H_{48}N_6O_5S_2$
Molecular weight (g/mol)	628.8	720.9
Melting point range(°C)	124-127°C	126-132°C
Boiling point (±65.0°C at 760 mmHg)	924.2°C	947.0°C
IUPAC	(2S)-N-[(2S,4S,5S)-5-[2-(2,6-dimethylphenoxy)acetamido]-4-hydroxy-1,6-diphenylhexan-2-yl]-3-methyl-2-(2-oxo-1,3-diazinan-1-yl)butanamide	1,3-thiazol-5-ylmethyl N-[(2S,3S,5S)-3-hydroxy-5-[[[(2S)-3-methyl-2-[[methyl-[(2-propan-2-yl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)methyl]carbamoyl]amino]butanoyl]amino]-1,6-diphenylhexan-2-yl]]carbamate
pKa (Strongest Acidic)	13.39	13.68
Category	Antiviral drugs Antiretroviral Protease inhibitors	Antiviral drugs Antiretroviral Protease inhibitors
Indication	Advised for use in combination with other antiretroviral medications to treat HIV-1 infection.	The HIV reproductive cycle is disrupted by the HIV protease inhibitor drug RTV. It is advised in combination with another antiretroviral for the treatment of HIV-1 infection in adults and children who are at least 14 days old, despite the fact that it was first designed as an independent antiviral drug.
Side effects	Diarrhea, Headache, Weakness, Nausea, Vomiting, Stomach Upset, Drowsiness, and Dizziness.	
Contraindication	Diabetes is the high number of triglycerides in the blood High cholesterol and high triglycerides Low amount of magnesium in the blood Low amount of potassium in the blood Hemophilia.	
Mechanism of action	HIV-1 protease is an aspartic protease that catalyzes the breakdown structural and functional proteins from precursor viral polypeptide strands, playing a critical role in the viral life cycle.	





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Immature, non-infectious virion is produced when the protease is inhibited. The HIV-1 protease is effectively inhibited by LPV. The LPV/RTV co-formulation inhibits the generation of infectious virions, preventing successive rounds of cellular infection, and as a result, has an antiviral impact.

Table number-02:Quantification methods for Ritonavir and Lopinavir by UV-Spectrophotometry

Name of the sample	Method type (Single /simultaneous drug analysis)	Guideline followed	Name of the instrument	Sample solvent/diluents	λ max in nm	Beer's law limit /concentration range $\mu\text{g/ml}$	Parameters	Formulation type, Brand name	Reference
RTV & LPV	Simultaneous Absorption maxima method	ICH Q2 R1	A Jasco double beam UV visible spectrophotometer, model:V-630,	Distilled water	238nm	10-35 $\mu\text{g/ml}$	Accuracy Linearity Precision	Tablet (lopiumune RTV-50mg LPV-200mg), Bulk.	[12]
					260 nm	100-500 $\mu\text{g/ml}$			
	The area under the curve method	ICH Q2 R1	Jasco double beam UV visible spectrophotometer, model: V-630,	Distilled water	228-248 nm	10-35 $\mu\text{g/ml}$	Accuracy Linearity Precision	Tablet (Lopiumune RTV-50mg LPV-200mg)	
					250-270 nm	100-500 $\mu\text{g/ml}$			
LPV & RTV	LPV & RTV in syrup	ICH	Shimadzu UV-160A	50% Methanol	259 nm	4-24 $\mu\text{g/ml}$	Accuracy	Syrup 80mg/ml LPV 20mg /ml RTV	[13]
					239 nm	1-6 $\mu\text{g/ml}$			
LPV & RTV	Simultaneous in bulk and tablet	ICH	UV visible double beam spectrophotometer of make JASCO, model V-530	Acetonitrile: distilled water (30:70 v/v)	257.5 nm	80-160 $\mu\text{g/ml}$	Linearity Precision Accuracy Ruggedness	Tablet (lopiumune from cipla ltd, LPV-200mg RTV-50mg)	[14]
					240 nm	10-50 $\mu\text{g/ml}$			
RTV	Absorption maxima method	ICH	Shimadzu UV-1800 UV visible spectrophotometer	Methanol	239 nm	10-50 $\mu\text{g/ml}$	Sensitivity Precision Accuracy	Tablet (RITOVIR and EMPETUS 100mg of RTV)	[15]
	First-order derivative spectroscopic method	ICH	Shimadzu UV-1800 UV visible spectrophotometer	Methanol	232 nm	10-50 $\mu\text{g/ml}$			





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RTV & LPV	Simultaneous. First-order derivative spectroscopic method	ICH	Shimadzu 1601UV-visible spectrophotometer with a matched pair of 10mm quartz cell	Acetonitrile	246 nm	5-40 µg/ml	Accuracy Precision Specificity Ruggedness	Tablet (RTV-50mg LPV-20mg)	[16]
					278 nm	20-120 µg/ml			
LPV	Lopinavir bulk and tablet dosage form. Absorption maxima method	ICH	UV spectrophotometer –UV	Methanol	203	10-50 µg/ml	Precision Accuracy Linearity	Tablet (Norvir 100mg)	[17]

Table number-03: Quantification methods for RTV and LPV by RP-HPLC Technique

Name of the sample & RT (min)	Method type (isocratic/gradient analysis)	Name of the instrument & column specification	Sample solvent/diluents	Mobile phase	Isosbestic point (λ Max nm)	Linearity range (µg/mL) and Accuracy	LOD	LOQ	Regression coefficient	Reference
LPV & RTV : 4.323 & 5.656	Isocratic	LC -10AT VP series model chromatograph Zorbax C18 column (150 x 4.6mm, 5 µm)	Acetonitrile	A mixture of Ammonium acetate buffer and acetonitrile (55:45%v/v.)	210	50-300 Lopinavir and 12-76 Ritonavir & 98.6% - 101.00%	12.7 and 50 µg LPV and RTV	12.7 and 50 µg LPV and RTV	R ² = 0.9999 R ² = 0.9999	[20]
Lopinavir & Ritonavir: 8.452 & 10.169	Isocratic	Water e2695 alliance HPLC & agile nt1100 and 1200 system connected with PDA detector G1315B Chemstation ver.3.02, EZchrom software	Acetonitrile	A mixture of water and Acetonitrile pH 7.9 with sodium dihydrogen dihydrate	210	200 Lopinavir & 25 Ritonavir : 99.6% & 100.3%	99 µg LPV and 24 µg RTV	99 µg LPV and 24 µg RTV	R ² = 1.0000	[21]





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Ritonavir 13	Isocratic	RP HPLC ,Zodiac C18, 150mm x 4.6mm, 5µm	Methanol: Water (70:30)	ACN: OPA in the ratio 55:45	239	8.0 & 240 : 98.08 & 101.9 %	0.17 206 4 µg/ ml	0.52140 7 µg/ml	R ² = 0.99982	[22]
Lopinavir 4.4	Isocratic	RP-HPLC- SHIMADZU LC 20 AD C18 column 250×4.6mm, 5µ particle size, Injector- Rheodyne, UV-Visible Spectrophot ometer- Perkin Elmer	Methanol	Acetonitr ile and phosphat e buffer pH 7.8 (85:15v/v)	215	150-350 : 99.85%	11.9 2 µg/ ml	36.121 µg/ml	R ² = 0.9999	[23]
Lopinavir & Ritonavir : 5.7 & 6.6	Isocratic	Waters RP- HPLC equipped with software(Em power 2,695 separation module) and a UV-Visible or DAD the detector, manual injector with 100 µl loop, and X- Bridge C18 (150 mm × 4.6 mm i.d., 5 µm particle size).	potassium dihydroge n phosphate buffer (pH 3.5): Acetonitril e: Methanol (40:50:10	potassiu m dihydrog en phosphat e buffer (pH 3.5): Acetonitr ile: Methanol (40:50:10)	220	5 & 4.8-15: 98.50% & 98.70%	50p pm & 10p pm	50ppm & 10ppm	R ² = 0.99995 R ² = 0.99991	[24]
Lopinavir & Ritonavir: 4.35 & 6.68	Isocratic	Agilent technologies 1260 LC system with gradient pump connected to DAD UV detector and Agilent TC C18	methanol	Acetonitr ile: 0.05 M phosphor ic acid (55: 45, v/v)	240	8-48 & 2-12 : 100.04% & 99.64%	0.30 µg/ ml & 0.10 µg/ ml	0.91 µg/ml & 0.30 µg/ml	R ² = 0.9999 R ² = 0.9999	[25]





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		250 X 4.6 mm, 5 m column								
Lopinavir & Ritonavir :13 & 14	Isocratic	Waters pump model 6000A, 484 tunable absorbance detector, 741 data module, and WISP 710B auto sample processor Radial-Pak Nova-Pak C18 column (4mm, 83100 mm, Waters)	water/ethanol	45 : 5 : 50 (v/v/v) of acetonitrile/methanol/0.02 M TMAP in 0.2% TFA	205	120.3/20.8µg/ml & 100 - 110% & 101 - 116%	0.060 & 0.010	0.060 & 0.010	R ² = 1.0000 R ² = 0.9999	[26]





Quality by Design-Based Tutorial for Designing an Ocular *In-situ* Gel

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ABSTRACT

Ocular *in-situ* gel is a drug delivery system that converts a solution into a gel using a polymer matrix. The unique benefits and widespread use of *in-situ* preparations can be utilized better if Quality by Design (QbD) approach is employed. QbD offers numerous special advantages when used with *in-situ* gel formulations, including consistent quality and safety of *in-situ* gels, flexibility in design, more skilful planning and process implementation. Using QbD factors such as Quality Target Product Profile (QTPP), Critical Quality Attributes (CQAs), Critical Material Attributes (CMAs), Control Strategy, Risk Management Strategies such as Risk Estimation Matrix, Cause and Effect Analysis, and failure mode effects to analyse the risks involved with problem descriptions are described in this paper. Moreover, it emphasizes the importance of DoE in providing insights into variables and factors that facilitate development of *in-situ* gelation systems.

Keywords: *In-situ* gel, QbD, Risk Estimation Matrix, Failure Mode Effect Analysis, DoE

INTRODUCTION

Drug delivery in the ophthalmic sector is important and challenging. In conventional ophthalmic formulations like eye drops, suspension, emulsion, ointment, the drug is poorly bio available because it spends little time in the precorneal area and eliminated quickly. There have been several attempts to create stable sustained drug release *in-situ* gels to address the issues with traditional ophthalmic formulations[1]. Research in ophthalmology has focused on combining various drug delivery approaches by improving drug delivery to the eye [2].





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In-situ gels is formulated as liquid formulations suitable for administration into the eye and transform to a gel when exposed to physiological environment. After installation, aqueous solutions containing specific stimuli-responsive polymers, including pH, temperature, and ion-sensitive polymers, cause the formation of viscous and muco adhesive gels on the ocular surface [3]. After injection, the polymer passes through a sol-gel transition, prolonging precorneal residence duration and boosting the drug's bioavailability in the eye. The delivery of this system is considerably more promising than traditional ocular dosage forms such as eye drops, capsules, tablets because they increase precorneal residence time, decrease dosing frequency, patient adherence and ease of application[4,5].

According to the International Conference on Harmonisation (ICH), Quality by Design in pharmaceutical aspects begins with predefined objectives. Most of the pharmaceutical dosage forms can benefit from QbD concepts and applications. Using a systematic approach during product development is crucial in achieving regulatory approval, ensuring product quality, safety, efficacy and for avoiding product rejections during manufacturing [6]. As a result, manufacturing processes were improved, and process knowledge was increased by lowering process variance and allowing control techniques. This led to a shift towards QbD, a science-based approach. The idea behind QbD is that quality should be included in products during the design phase rather than testing them. As part of the implementation of the QbD approach for ocular *in situ* gels, the Quality Target Product Profile (QTPP) and Critical Quality Attributes (CQAs) should be defined. It is also necessary to conduct risk assessments to identify critical material attributes (CMAs), Critical Process Parameters (CPPs), and define a design space through the Design of Experiments (DoEs), the development of control strategies, and continuous improvement throughout the product lifecycle[7,8]. This review article goal is to discuss the QbD ideas and its applications for the manufacture of *in-situ* ocular gel and how they impact the final product's quality, safety, and effectiveness. This study outlines about the application of QbD concepts in the development of ocular *in-situ* gel.

Ocular *In-situ* Gel As A Drug Delivery System

Recent advances in nanotechnology and biomaterial science have resulted in new drug delivery system such as: *In-situ* gelling systems, polymer nanoparticles, lipid nanoparticles. Ocular *in-situ* gels are different from other formulations as they were developed by combining different drug delivery techniques to improve bioavailability. Since it can be administered as an eye drops, it doesn't require any special equipment's or techniques for administration. Scientist and researchers have sought ways to increase the duration of drug molecules and target tissues while reducing side effects by peak concentration by slowing down the absorption rates[9,10]. Polymers are ideal for a variety of applications due to their physicochemical characteristics, which include molecular weight, charge, hydrophobicity, and functional group. *In-situ* gelling should be a low-viscosity, flow able liquid that can be used as an infusion through the gel created by the phase transition[11]. The three main types of *in-situ* gelling mechanisms are Temperature sensitive, pH dependent and Ion responsive gelling system.

Temperature Sensitive Gelling System

In-situ formation of tissues can be greatly facilitated by biomaterials that trigger sol-gel transitions by increasing temperature. Ideally, these systems should be operated at ambient or physiological temperatures to facilitate clinical manipulation and to initiate gelation without external heat sources^[12]. At room temperature (20-25 °C), the polymer is liquid and gels at physiological temperatures (35-37 °C). If the temperature of the gelling polymer solution is controlled at a certain temperature, the solution should remain liquid until the temperature of the upper critical solution (UCST) is reached and then turn into a gel upon increasing ambient temperature. Usually, gelation is caused by intermolecular hydrogen bonds, hydrophobic interactions, and chain entanglement[13].

pH Dependent Gelling System

A pH-triggered *in-situ* gelation system is a solution that converts to the gel phase upon contact with the pH of the tear fluid. pH-sensitive polymers contain either weakly acidic or weakly basic groups that either donate protons or accept free protons in response to pH changes. The pH of the surface of the eye is neutral. Some pH-responsive materials have the property of being liquid at acidic pH and undergo a sol-gel transition as the pH increases[14].





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Both Carbopol and chitosan are pH-responsive materials and have been widely used in the development of *in-situ* gels for drug delivery to the eye. pH is another important biomaterial that exists in the ocular region[15].

Ion Responsive Gelling System

In this approach, certain polymers pass through a phase transition in the presence of the Ca⁺, Na⁺, and Mg⁺ ions present in tears. This creates an ionic environment that enhances polymer viscosity. The cation concentration increases in direct proportion to the polymer's increased viscosity. Hence, increased tear production in dilute viscous solutions would lead to higher polymer viscosity, longer ocular drug retention time, less nasal drainage, and enhanced drug bioavailability due to greater tear production[16]. Table 1 shows the examples of polymers that can be selected for different type of gelling mechanism[17].

QbD Approach

Joseph M. Juran was the first to describe QbD, following guidelines from International Conference on Harmonization (ICH), Q8 deals with Drug Development, Q9 on Pharmaceutical Risk Management and Q10 discusses Pharmaceutical Quality System which consider Quality-by-Design and related aspects. USFDA ensures product quality throughout the process design to develop different dosage forms[18]. According to the FDA, "a systematic development model that begins with established goals that emphasises the importance of product knowledge and process monitoring based on strong scientific and risk management for quality" is defined as "QbD". This helps in improving knowledge of products and processes and supports drug lifecycle management[19]. QbD offers several benefits to the pharmaceutical industry, including fewer batch errors, a better understanding of risk, less recalls, and timely product launches. Production costs, product variability, and batch sorting are greatly reduced. By employing a QbD strategy, manufacturing product quality must be ensured. QbD improves the manufacturing process by implementing quality specifications for the final product that relate to clinical performance, avoiding variability, enhancing process design, raising manufacturing productivity, and allowing post-approval change control[20,21,22]. A significant part of this strategy is understanding the effects of process and formulation variables affect product quality. Fig:1 explains the key aspects of QbD.

Components of QbD

"The main components of QbD are the Quality Target Product Profile "QTPP", Critical Quality Attributes (CQAs), Critical Material Attributes (CMA), Critical Process Parameters (CPP), Risk Assessment, Design of Experiments (DOE), design space and control strategy" [23].

Defining QTPP and CQA

QbD-based development must start with a Quality Target Product Profile. Quality Target Product Profile 'QTPP' is a list of drug properties that affect product quality, safety and efficacy. QTPP determines what the final product should look like. It acts as a roadmap to reach the goal (quality product). As part of the QTPP, the dosage form, the dose, the route of administration, the drug release behavior, the pharmacokinetic properties, the shelf life, the purity, the sterility, and the closure system of the container are all included [24,25]. Identifying critical quality parameters is the next step in QbD-based development. CQAs are Critical Quality Attributes attained from QTPP. A CQA is "a physical, chemical, biological, or microbiological characteristic or characteristic that must be within reasonable limits, ranges, or distributions to ensure desirable product quality." These attributes must be inspected, controlled in order to make sure the product meets its predetermined quality during manufacturing and packaging process. It is the primary goal of product design to develop *in-situ* gels that satisfy therapeutic objectives and provide quality attributes over time[26,27]. Elements of Quality Target Product Profile and Critical Quality Attributes of ocular *in-situ* gel is justified in Table 2

Risk Assessment and Risk Control

The systematic use of data to pinpoint the dangers connected to a problem description is known as risk identification. Identification of risks prompts the inquiry, "What could get wrong?" and highlights potential possible consequences[28]. A variety of risk assessment tools are used to analyse raw materials (such as APIs and excipients)



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and packaging materials. Fishbone diagrams, failure mode and effect analysis, and risk filtering are utilized. For each CPP, REM levels are color-coded into high, medium, and low risk categories[29,30]. Red indicates a risk that needs further investigation (high risk category). The colour yellow represents a level of risk that requires further research or justification (medium risk category). Finally, green indicates a generally accepted level of risk (low risk category). **Risk estimation matrix for ocular *in-situ* gel is described in Table3. [31]**

Cause and Effect Diagram

A fishbone diagram, or Ishikawa diagram, is named for its similarity to a fish's skeleton. A fishbone diagram illustrates how medicine's quality features are affected by reasons and sub-causes. A fishbone diagram is an effective brainstorming technique for identifying and analysing risks. It methodically explores the issue and its effects by looking at, identifying, and figuring out the cause and effect[24]. **Fishbone diagram for *in-situ* gels is given in fig 2 which describes the risk associated with the formulation.**

Failure Mode Effect Analysis

FMEA is a technique for identifying the real-world factors affecting pharma quality attributes through material and process analysis. It offers a means of evaluating probable process failure mechanisms and their potential effects on product performance. Risk Priority Number (RPN) is calculated by multiplying likelihood, severity, and detect ability ratings. Each failure mode was graded in the FMEA study according to its expected frequency (P), the likelihood of later failure occurring unnoticed (D), and severity (S). Evaluations of medications containing CQAs were divided into four categories: minor (1), moderate (2), significant (3), and extreme (4). This value is given on a scale of 4. For *in-situ* gels, we determined the RPN by assigning P, S, and D values to each failure mode ($RPN = P \times S \times D$).[31,32,33]. A failure mode effect study of materials for the ocular *in-situ* gels well illustrated in Table 5. The maximum RPN score was established at 25. It was found that parameters with RPN scores more than 25 included the quantity of viscosity agents, the concentration of polymers, the solubility, and pH. This demonstrates the importance of certain hardware characteristics.

DoE

"Design of Experiments (DoE) was first introduced by Sir Ronald Fisher in the 1930s" [24]. DoE systematically varies input factors and examines the effect on response. These equations identify the most important factors (CPP), determine the optimal factor settings that lead to improved product performance[34]. Designing the experiment involves in 4 steps:

- Defining objectives
- Defines the input variables and their levels that will be controlled during the experiment.
- Identify the response variables to be measured.
- Design selection based on compatibility

The final step is to run the design and interpret the results. There are many factors to consider when choosing an experimental design, including the purpose (screening/ optimization/robustness).Example, studying the problem, nature, factors and its interactions[35]. The advantage of using DoE on *in situ* gelling systems is that it allows for the simultaneous optimization and assessment of several variables. DoE can be used to assess the impact of these factors on response. This aids in the identification of an optimum formulation with desirable physicochemical properties, which may subsequently be tested for safety before being used in ocular applications. The two goals of experimental design are screening and optimization[36].Factorial design, Fractional Factorial design, Plackett-Burman, Central composite, Mixture design and Box-Behnken are the various types of designs [37]. Table6 gives about selection of factors and responses for DoE design in Ocular *in-situ* gel.

Control Strategy

Knowledge gained in DoE is used to establish product control strategies[49].

During manufacturing, control strategies ensure that the quality of a product is maintained and safe.

Three levels of control strategy.

- Level 1:Real-time monitoring of critical quality properties of output variables.



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- Level 2: This level is mainly subject to end product testing and limited process parameters and material properties.
 - Level 3: Highly dependent on final product testing, material attributes, and process parameters.
- Control strategies are a crucial part of the *in-situ* gel development and evaluation process. A control strategy includes setting parameters and processes to monitor, control, and verify a process or system to achieve consistent results. This helps ensure that the product meets desired quality attributes such as gel temperature, rheological properties, etc. ICH Q11 provides guidance on implementing a control strategy [48,50]. To ensure accurate results, control strategies must be adjusted when preparing and evaluating *in-situ* gels.

Advantages Of Applying QbD To Ocular *In-Situ* Gel

Manufacturing ophthalmic *in-situ* gel is a delicate process. The major challenges associated with ocular *in-situ* gel is related to toxicity of the ingredients used, reproducibility related to their performance, industrial applicability, stability and sterility of developed formulations. Applying QbD to *in-situ* gel can help in optimizing formulation of drugs with poor corneal permeability. It helps to identify material attribute like amount of polymers required for effective formulation of an ophthalmic delivery system which provides sustained release over time. Additionally, it also identifies CQAs such as Gel strength, muco adhesive index etc. It is also expected to overcome existing problems, generate broader acceptance by regulatory authorities [51,52,53]. QbD can be used to develop *in-situ* gels for ophthalmic use and to standardize a pharmaceutical quality system based on continuous quality improvement. It offers several benefits including [54,55]

- Minimized errors
- Helps in selection of excipients
- Continual improvement of product and process
- Flexible design process
- Design and development of product and process according to QTPP and CQA
- Reduce batch failures and recalls through more effective and efficient control strategies
- Regulatory authorities are more likely to accept the technology
- Incorporating a risk-based approach to identification of critical parameters for screening
- Easy to validate
- Increase in product yield
- Assist in improving the uniformity of the product's overall lifecycle
- Cost saving and return on investment

Future Prospects

The future of *in-situ* gelation systems looks very promising. The use of nanotechnology in conjunction with *in-situ* gels can be used for better therapeutic activity [56]. Other ion-sensitive polymers, such as sodium alginate and carrageenan, can be mixed with natural polymers with high gelling abilities, such as *Terminalia arjuna* bark resin [57,58]. The application of QbD and nanotechnology formulation has received very little attention to date. Literature and research papers on this subject are limited. Furthermore, increased viscosity of *in-situ* gels can lead to limitations such as blurred vision and patient discomfort, reflex tearing and blinking. Therefore, the viscosity should be critically controlled when designing and optimizing *in-situ* gel formulations to reduce restrictions to acceptable levels. QbD approach provides a novel avenue to solve this issue [59,60,61]. Future developments can be anticipated to include the development of new, more reliable *in-situ* produced polymers that might respond to various biochemical indicators linked to ocular disease states.

CONCLUSION

QbD has sparked a lot of curiosity in recent years and is being emphasized more than ever by pharmaceutical companies. However, in depth understanding of QbD will lead pharma company to apply QbD principles in practice. *Drug delivery with in-situ gels has gained enormous popularity.* This is because it offers distinct benefits such as



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simplicity of administration, reproducible, precise dosing and convenience of fabrication like conventional eye drops formulations. Development of ocular *in-situ* gel formulations using QbD approach is critical to achieve drugs of reproducible quality in terms of safety and effectiveness. QbD in ophthalmic formulations leads to improved product understanding, process flexibility, more robust products. QbD elements such as QTPP, COAs, CMA, CPP, QRM (Quality Risk Management), DoE, and control strategy should be considered. In addition, DoE allows for quicker, more efficient randomization of experiments. A combination of DoE and appropriate risk assessment strategies has enabled the successful development of well-established *in-situ* gelation systems, with QbD increasingly recognized as an integrative method. Therefore, QbD when applied to ocular *in-situ* gels reduces development costs at all stages and speeds up commercialization process.

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Table 1: Examples of polymers

In-situ gelling mechanism	Examples
Temperature sensitive gelling system	Chitosan, Pluronic(Polaxomers), Tetronics, xyloglucans, Hydroxy Propyl Methyl Cellulose (HPMC), chitosan,
pH dependent gelling system	Carbopol, Cellulose Acetate phthalate (CAP), poly acrylic acid, Polymethacrilic acid (PMMA)
Ion responsive gelling system	Alginate acid, Gellan gum, carrageenan, hyaluronic acid, pectin

Table 2: QTPP/CQAs Element With Justification

QTPP element/CQAs	Target	Could this be a CQA?	Reason
Dosage form	Liquid preparation (gel on application)	No	Increase contact time between drug and tissues
Route of administration	Topical Ocular	No	Topical instillation to the targeted tissue
Dose strength	%w/v	No	To obtain the therapeutic effects of the drug
Colour	Clear solution	No	To Improve patient compliance
Odour	No unpleasant odour	No	To improve patient compliance
Clarity	Clear solution	Yes	Clarity is essential in ocular preparations because it may cause irritation to eye
Viscosity	Flowable liquid	Yes	Easily administered via dropper
pH	6.6-7.8	Yes	To avoid irritation and to maximize comfort
Drug content	As per pharmacopeial specifications	Yes	For the medicine to reach its highest plasma concentration, the drug content is essential
Drug release	As per pharmacopeial specifications	Yes	Determinant of product efficacy





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Gelling capacity	Gelation immediately when drug comes in contact with ocular tissues	Yes	Impact on precorneal residence time
Gelation temperature	30-37°C	Yes	At physiological ocular temperature, convert the fluid to gel
Corneal permeation	Lipophilic in nature	Yes	For simplicity of use and a decreased rate of eviction
Pharmacokinetics	Better pharmacokinetic, bioavailability and permeation parameters	No	Necessary to achieve the desired therapeutic effect
Stability	25-40°C (Short term)	No	To access the degradation pattern of the formulation
Packing	Air tight container	No	To ensure drugs stability

Table 3: Risk Estimation Matrix of ocular *in-situ* gel

CMA/PP COA	Drug	Polymer	Viscosity enhancing Agent	Buffering Agent	Solvent	Isotonic Agent
Viscosity	Low	High	High	Low	Medium	Low
Drug content	High	Low	Low	Medium	High	Low
Drug release	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	Low
pH	Medium	Low	Medium	High	High	Medium
Gelation temperature	Low	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low
Gelation time	Low	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low
Stability	High	Medium	High	High	High	Medium

Table 4: Example of FMEA in ocular *in-situ* gel

Functions	Critical Material Attributes	Defective mode (critical event)	Justification of failure mode in COA with respect to QTPP	P	S	D	RPN
Polymer	Concentration of polymers	Higher than optimum	Gelation time gets affected at particular gelation temperature and drug delivery time is affected	4	4	4	64
		Lower than Optimum	Gelation time gets affected at particular gelation temperature and influence the contact time of drug	4	4	4	64
Viscosity enhancing agent	Amount of viscosity enhancing agent	Higher than optimum	Higher than the optimum can lead to increased stability. This could result in tear drainage might reduce drug permeation	3	4	4	48
		Lower than Optimum	Lower than optimum levels can lead to decreased stability, bioavailability, and ocular tissue penetration,	3	4	4	48





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Solvent	pH	Higher or lower than optimum	Higher or lower than optimum pH can affect its stability, solubility, and permeation, leading to reduced bioavailability	4	4	3	48
	Solubility	Precipitation of drug or polymer	It should ensure desired solubility of the drug and polymer, It also affects drug release of the formulation	4	4	3	48
Isotonic agent	Amount of isotonic agent	Higher than optimum	It might reduce drug permeation into ocular tissues as well as decrease bioavailability if too much isotonic agent is used.	2	4	3	24
		Lower than optimum	Drug delivery systems are less stable if less viscosity enhancing agent is used than recommended.	2	4	3	24

Table 5: various design of experiments and advantages^[24,37]

Design of Experiment	Goal	Number of factors	Scale of levelling	Examples
Factorial design	Screening and optimization	≤ 3	2/3	analyses primary and secondary effects
Fractional factorial design	Analysing and optimizing	>6	2	Appropriate for a wide range of variables
Placket-Burman	Screening	≥7	2	For instances where fractional factorial cannot be utilised, suitable for a high number of variables.
Central composite	Optimization	<6	5	CCD optimizes output response by varying multiple input factors. It helps to understand how these inputs interact with each other.
Mixture design	Optimizing and screening	≥7	≥3	considerable amount of variables and few tests
Box- Behnken	Optimization	<6	3	Multidimensional effects on outputs can be studied, it uses fewer experiments than CCDs

Table 6: DoE case studies used in this formulation

Types of <i>in-situ</i> gels	Drug	Mathematical model	Independent variable	Dependent variable	Findings	Ref
Thermoresponsive <i>in-situ</i> gel	Dexamethasone sodium phosphate and Tobramycin sulphate	Central composite design	Poloxamer 407, HPMC K4M	Gelation temperature, gelation strength, mucoadhesive index, % drug release of both drugs	It was determined that a batch with 16.75% poloxamer 407 and 0.54% HPMC K4M was within acceptable limits for all criteria.	38





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Temperature sensitive <i>in-situ</i> gel	Ketorolac tromethamine	Factorial design	poloxamer 407 and poloxamer 188	Gelation temperature, gelation time, rheological behaviour, mucoadhesion characteristics, ocular irritation, trans corneal permeation, toxicity	Ex vivo and in vitro experiments showed that only 48% of Ketorolac Tromethamine was released from in situ gels within 12 h and the HET-CAM (hen's egg-chorioallantonic membrane) test demonstrated eye protection.	39
Ion sensitive gelling system	Nepafenac	3 ² factorial designs	Gelrite and Hypromellose Methocel E 15 premium LV	Drug release, viscosity at non physiological condition and physiological condition	Formulation created in the design space produced the best drug release profile, non-physiological (NP), and physiological viscosity (P).	40
Micellar-based <i>In-situ</i> gel	Posaconazole	Three level factorial design	Poloxamer 188, Poloxamer 47	Gel strength, gelling temperature, log consistency index, drug release	In situ gel shows strong antifungal efficacy and no eye irritation, when diluted with tear film at physiological temperatures.	25
pH triggered <i>In-situ</i> gel	Dorzolamide HCl	3 ² factorial designs	Carbopol HPMC	Drug release, rheological behaviour, Corneal permeability	A prolonged residence time allowed the formulation to perform better than marketed drops (Biosopt®) and DRZ 2% solution in terms of intraocular pressure activity.	41
Ion-activated <i>In-situ</i> gel	Moxifloxacin	simplex lattice design	Gellan gum, Sodium alginate and HPMC	Gelling capacity, mucoadhesive force, viscosity and	Gel-based <i>in-situ</i> treatment could be more effective and extended than	26





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				drug release	conventional eye drops	
Ion-activated <i>In-situ</i> gel	Ofloxacin	2 ² factorial design	gellan gum and Methyl cellulose	Drug release and viscosity	Developed ophthalmic <i>in-situ</i> gel has longer corneal residence time and extended drug release which could replace conventional eye drops	42
Thermoresponsive <i>In-situ</i> gel	Diclofenac sodium	2 ³ factorial design	Pluronic F127, Pluronic F68, Carbopol 940	pH, viscosity, gelling temperature, gelling capacity	Diclofenac sodium <i>in-situ</i> gel had the potential to replace conventional diclofenac sodium eye drops	43
Ion-activated and pH triggered <i>In-situ</i> gel	Dexamethasone Sodium Phosphate and Chloramphenicol	3 ² factorial designs	Carbopol 940 and gellan gum	% drug release, mucoadhesive strength, viscosity at non physiological (25°C, pH 7.4) and physiological condition (37°C, pH 7.4)	It could replace conventional eye drops for treating endophthalmitis.	44
Thermoreversible <i>In-situ</i> gel	Clonidine hydrochloride	2 ² factorial design	Poloxamer 407 and HPMC K15M	Gelling temperature, Drug release, drug content, bio adhesive strength, and viscosity	With increasing concentrations of HPMC K 15 M viscosity polymer, gel temperature and pH decreased.	45
Thermoreversible <i>In-situ</i> gel	Capsazepine	2 factor 3 level full factorial design	Pluronic F-127, chitosan	viscosity, concentration and permeation of gel	Based on eye imaging experiments, it shows anti-inflammatory properties against capsaicin	46





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					and minor ocular irritation.	
pH triggered <i>In-situ</i> gel	Ofloxacin	2 ² factorial design	HPMC, Carbopol 940	Gelling capacity, Viscosity	An alternative to conventional formulations is the developed formulation, which has therapeutic efficacy, stability, and non-irritant properties.	47
Thermoreversible <i>In-situ</i> gel	curcumin-loaded albumin nanoparticles	central composite design	Pluronic F127 and Pluronic F68	Viscosity, Gelation temperature, drug release	Optimum gel formulations developed here have significant potential for use in the eye	48

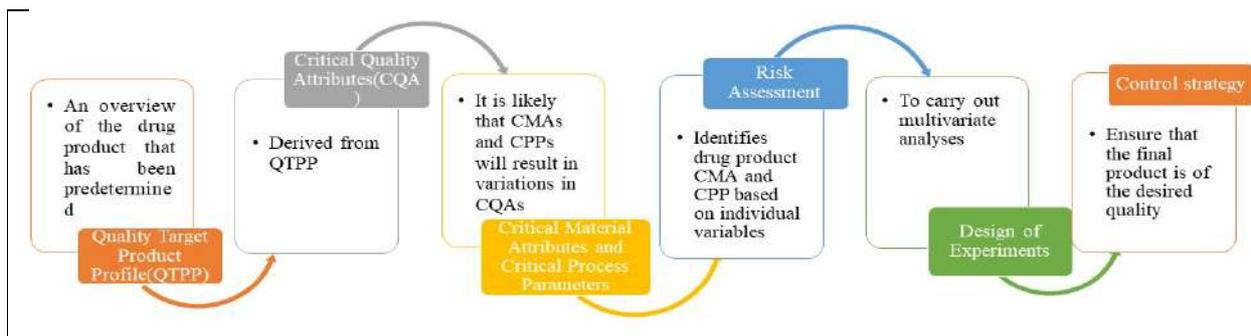


Fig 1: flow chart on key aspects of QbD

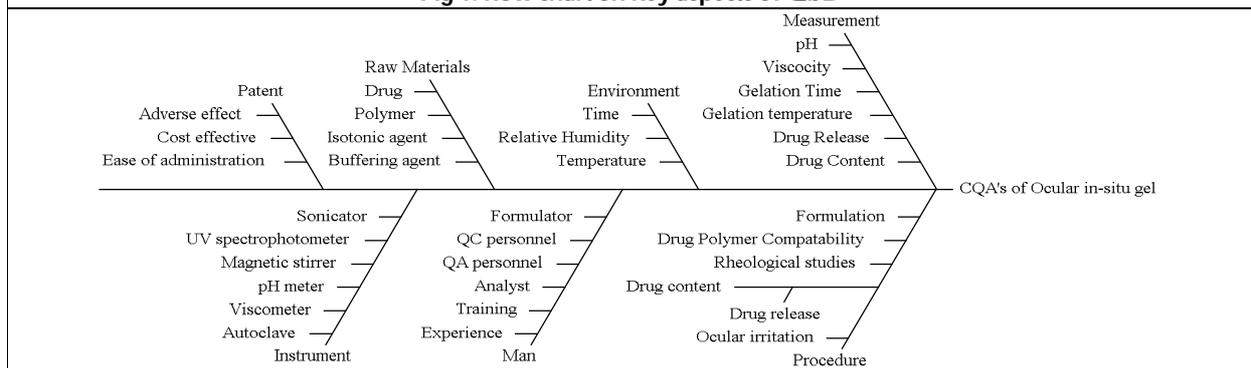


Fig 2: Ishikawa diagram for ocular *in-situ* gel





Laboratory Investigation of the Impact of Chemically Tuned Water Flooding (CTWF) on the Time of Break through and Oil Recovery in a Part of the Geleki Oil Field of Assam-Arakan Basin

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ABSTRACT

Earlier research on the Crude Oil/Brine/Rock (COBR) interaction has observed that the injection brine chemistry can alter the wetting properties of a reservoir in a favorable way to enhance the oil recovery. Chemically Tuned Water flooding (CTWF) has been a new Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) technique towards improving oil recovery by wettability alteration, especially from some oilfields that are difficult to produce because of their initial oil-wet or intermediate-wet state. However, wettability alteration by CTWF is immensely complex due to the interaction among surface active components of crude oil, ions in brine, and some minerals of rock. CTWF initially emerged as Low Salinity Waterflooding (LSW), which involved the injection of low-salinity brine with some specific ions in the required concentration. This study aims to investigate the impact of LSW on the Time of Breakthrough and Oil Recovery in the Tipam Reservoir Sandstone of the Geleki Oil Field of the Assam-Arakan Basin. The potential of LSW has been studied by petrographic analysis & wettability study of the reservoir rock, crude oil & formation brine analysis, and numerous laboratory core flooding experiments. The petrographic analysis shows the presence of certain clay minerals, feldspar, and pyrite, which have positive effects on the oil recovery during LSW. The divalent cations of the formation brine and polar compounds of crude oil also indicate that the area under study is suitable for LSW application. The core flooding experiment shows that the lower the injection brine salinity, the higher the Time of Breakthrough and oil recovery. Also, Flood Front water saturation and Residual Oil Saturation at the end of the coreflood indicate that injection of low salinity brine is an efficient technique to improve the oil recovery efficiency in the study area.

Keywords: Coreflooding, CTWF, LSW, Time of Break through, Wettability.





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INTRODUCTION

Waterflooding has been applied in oil reservoirs for many years as a Secondary Recovery method without considering the effects of injection brine salinity on oil recovery. However, during recent decades, numerous research works have investigated the impact of brine salinity on oil recovery. Chemically Tuned Waterflooding (CTWF) is one of the outcomes of those research works which initially emerged as Low Salinity Waterflooding (LSW). Smart Waterflooding [1-4], Ion Tuning [5-6] and Advanced Ion Management [7-8] are some other terms which are in the same group of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) technique. LSW is an emerging OR technique that can improve the recovery of oil by altering the initial chemical equilibrium of the Crude Oil/Brine/Rock (COBR) system in a favorable way. The primary reason behind the accelerated oil recovery during LSW is the wettability alteration by different major mechanisms such as Fine Mobilization, pH increase, reduction of Interfacial Tension, Multi-component Ion Exchange (MIE), and Expansion of Electrical Double Layer (EDL) [9-13] which results in delayed Water Breakthrough [14-15]. The other suggested mechanisms that enhance the recovery of oil during LSW are Salt-in Effect, Salting-out Effect, and Osmotic Pressure [1,16-17]. But, the reasons for incremental oil recovery by LSW are still under debate [15,18]. Many of the published laboratory studies and field-tests have shown enhancement of substantial oil recovery during LSW over traditional water flooding depending on the reservoir rock, brine, and crude oil composition [15,19-24]. LSW is a cheaper, eco-friendly, and efficient OR technique that does not contain toxic materials [18,25-26]. It also reduces scaling & corrosion of the equipment and the potential for reservoir souring [27].

For two-phase immiscible displacement in a porous media, the macroscopic models on the scale of 10^2-10^3 m generally start from the Buckley-Leverett (BL) equation which is derived for the displacing fluid based on the development of a material balance as it passes through an element of porous media [28]. However, following assumptions are included in the BL theory-

- The fluids are incompressible
- The reservoir is single-layer and homogeneous
- The flow is linear
- The effects of the Capillary pressure are negligible
- The free gas saturation in the reservoir is zero

Figure 1 shows the flow of water (displacing phase fluid) through a differential element of length δx (ft), area A (ft²), and porosity Φ .

The total volume of water entering into and leaving from the element during the time period δt is given by – [29]

- The volume of water entering into the element = $q_i f_w \delta t$ 1
- The volume of water leaving from the element = $q_i (f_w - \delta f_w) \delta t$ 2

Where-

- q_i = Total liquid flow rate (bbl/day)
- f_w = Water Cut (bbl/bbl)
- δt = Time (day)

Now, the accumulated volume of water inside the element during the time δt will be-

$$q_i f_w \delta t - q_i (f_w - \delta f_w) \delta t = \frac{\Phi \times A \times \delta x \times \delta S_w}{5.615}$$

$$q_i \delta f_w \delta t = \frac{\Phi \times A \times \delta x \times \delta S_w}{5.615}$$

$$\left(\frac{\delta x}{\delta t}\right)_{S_w} = \frac{5.615 q_i}{\Phi A} \left(\frac{\delta f_w}{\delta S_w}\right)_{S_w}$$

$$\left(\frac{\delta x}{\delta t}\right)_{S_w} = \frac{5.615 i_w}{\Phi A} \left(\frac{\delta f_w}{\delta S_w}\right)_{S_w} \dots\dots\dots 3$$





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Where-

$(\frac{\delta x}{\delta t})_{S_w}$ = Velocity of the water at the water saturation of S_w (ft/day).

$(\frac{\delta f_w}{\delta S_w})_{S_w}$ = Slope of the Fractional Flow Curve at S_w .

i_w =Water Injection Rate (bbl/day).

The slope of the Fractional Flow Curve at any given water saturation can be determined by drawing a tangent on that curve. For this study, the Fractional Flow Curves were drawn without considering the Capillary Pressure using the equation 4. The Relative Permeability of water (k_{rw}) and oil (k_{ro}) were determined for the specific water saturation (S_w) and pressure drop (Δp) during the core flooding experiments.

$$f_w = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{k_{ro}\mu_w}{k_{rw}\mu_o}} \dots\dots\dots 4$$

Where-

k_{ro} = Relative Permeability of Oil (md)

k_{rw} = Relative Permeability of Water (md)

μ_w = Viscosity of Water (cp)

μ_o = Viscosity of Oil (cp)

To determine the total distance traveled by a specific water saturation (S_w) at a given time t , equation 3 is integrated as shown below-

$$\int_0^x \delta X = \frac{5.615i_w}{\Phi A} (\frac{\delta f_w}{\delta S_w})_{S_w} \int_0^t \delta t$$

$$x_{S_w} = \frac{5.615i_w t}{\Phi A} (\frac{\delta f_w}{\delta S_w})_{S_w} \dots\dots\dots 5$$

The above equation 5 is known as Frontal Advance Equation which is very important in determining the distance traveled by any water saturation at any given time from the point of injection. It plays a very crucial role in predicting the Time of Breakthrough in a water flood project which helps to plan appropriate schedule for preparing wellhead facilities and well completion methods in order to maximize the oil production[30]. Also, determination of Time of Breakthrough is important as the costs in treating and disposing produced water are very high which usually give a negative impact on the economics of the oil production. Water Saturation Profile which is a function of distance from the point of water injection and injection time gives detailed information about the Time of Breakthrough (t_{BT}). The profile maintains a constant shape over the range of saturation between Initial Water Saturation (S_{wi}) and Flood Front Saturation (S_{wf}) with time. This range of saturation (between S_{wi} - S_{wf}) is known as Stabilized Zone where all the points move at the same velocity[31]. The zone of saturation between S_{wf} and $(1-S_{or})$ is termed as Non-stabilized Zone where different saturation travel at different velocities. Figure 2 showing the Water Saturation Profile at time t_1 (before t_{BT}) and t_2 (at t_{BT}) with Stabilized and Non-stabilized Zone.

The shape of Water Saturation Profile is affected by different parameters such as brine salinity & viscosity, reservoir Dip Angle, temperature, reservoir rock composition, crude oil properties, injection pressure, rock wettability etc. which in turn affects the water Breakthrough Time and oil recovery. The present study has been undertaken to investigate the impact of Low Salinity Waterflooding on the Time of Breakthrough and Oil Recovery in the Tipam Reservoir Sandstone of the Geleki Oil Field of the Assam-Arakan Basin. The study has been made based on the analysis of the COBR system of the study area and Water Saturation Profile determined from a series of laboratory coreflooding experiment.

EXPERIMENTAL WORKS AND ANALYSIS

For this work, seven numbers of Conventional Core samples, 14 liters of Crude Oil sample, reservoir brine sample and some other relevant data were collected from the study area. The details of the Conventional Core samples



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which were collected from six different wells from a depth range of 2596.00 m - 3877.00 m from the Geleki Oil Field are given in Table 1.

Petrographic Analysis

Petrographic analysis helps in identifying the mineralogical composition and texture of the rock types. It also provides information about the cementation, diagenetic history, degree of compaction, effect of pressure solution as well as degree & type of tectonism and subsidence of the basin of deposition [32]. In this analysis, mainly mineralogical composition of the reservoir rocks was studied to evaluate their role on the Low Salinity Water flooding EOR performance. The study was carried out based on the Thin Section, Scanning Electron Microscopic (SEM) and X-Ray Diffraction (XRD) analysis. A total of eight numbers of rock samples were taken for this study from the collected conventional cores (one sample each from the conventional cores from well G#A, G#B, G#C, G#D & G#E and two samples from G#F).

Thin Section Analysis:

The thin sections were prepared for the rock samples and examined under Polarizing Petrographic Microscope to know their mineralogical composition. When the samples were placed between two polarizing filters set at right angles to each other, the optical properties of the minerals in the sample altered the intensity and colour of the light. The rock minerals were then identified based on their individual optical properties. Figure 3 showing some of the photomicrographs of the Thin Section Analysis of the rock samples.

Scanning Electron Microscopic Analysis

For the SEM analysis, the rock samples were cleaned in the Soxhlet Extractor using dichloromethane (CH_2Cl_2) for 3 to 4 hours. The samples were then dried properly in the Humidity Cabinet at 43% Relative Humidity and 60 °C due to the presence of high amount of clays [33]. The samples were obtained by breaking the core plugs with a small rock chopper the size of which was around 5 by 10 by 10 mm. The fine debris present on the samples were removed with a Freon Duster. After coating the samples with gold in Sputter Coating System (Model BIO RAD SC-502), analysis was done under Scanning Electron Microscope at an accelerating voltage of 20KV. Some of the SEM photomicrographs of the rock samples are presented in Figure 4.

X-Ray Diffraction Analysis

For the XRD analysis, the rock pieces were taken from the conventional cores and grounded using Agate Mortar. After sieving, less than 2-micron fraction of the samples were used for the analysis. The samples were then analyzed under X-Ray Diffractometer for their mineralogical composition in the 2θ range of 4° to 40° . The X-ray diffractogram of the rock samples of the study area is presented in Figure 5 which show number of peaks. The height of the peaks is a function of the amount of minerals present [34]. The peaks areas provide the relative abundance of the minerals which was determined with the help of the criteria suggested by Biscaye & Weaver [34-35] and tables provided by Carroll [36].

Analysis of Crude Oil and Reservoir Brine

To study the interaction between the injected low salinity brine and the Crude Oil/Brine/Rock (COBR) system of the study area, analysis of the crude oil and reservoir brine is very important. The analysis of the crude oil was done to mainly determine the presence of resin and asphaltene whereas the formation brine analysis was done to determine the presence of calcium and magnesium ion along with its salinity. These resin & asphaltene of crude oil and calcium & magnesium ion of reservoir brine plays a pivotal role in making the reservoir suitable for LSW EOR. The analysis shows that the oil contains 0.55% asphaltene & 15.49% resin whereas the reservoir brine has 6 ppm and 8 ppm calcium & magnesium ion respectively with a salinity of 1404 ppm as NaCl [37].

Core flooding Experiment

For this study, six numbers of core plugs were cut (1.5 inch) from the conventional core samples using Core Plugging Machine. The core plugs were prepared in the laboratory using Soxhlet Extractor, Ultrasonic Cleaner and Humidity





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Cabinet. To study the effects of low salinity brine on the Breakthrough Time and oil recovery as compared to the formation brine and high salinity brine, six coreflooding experiment were conducted in the laboratory in the Secondary Mode using 200 ppm, 500 ppm, 800 ppm, 1100 ppm, 1404 ppm, and 2500 ppm (as NaCl) injection brine. In preparation of the brines; Calcium Chloride, Magnesium Chloride, Sodium Chloride and Potassium Chloride salts were used. The pump used for this flooding experiment was Positive Displacement Pump (RUSKA Instrument Corporation, Houston, Texas, USA) which is equipped with positive gear transmissions so that the contents can be discharged at predetermined rates. For this study, a constant injection rate of 1.87 cc per minute was maintained in each core flooding experiment where the core plugs were placed in the Hassler Core Holder under a confining pressure of 200 psi. The Initial Water Saturation (S_{wi}), Remaining Oil Saturation (S_{or}) and Oil Recovery Efficiency were determined from each core flooding experiment [38]. The Flood Front Saturation (S_{wf}) were then determined by drawing the Fractional Flow Curve using the equation 4 and tangent on the curve from S_{wi} [39]. The results of the flooding experiments are presented in the Table 2.

Study of the Water Saturation Profile:

For preparing the Water Saturation Profile, five values of water saturations were considered between the S_{wf} and $(1-S_{or})$ in the Fractional Flow Curve. The tangents were drawn on that water saturation and $(\frac{df_w}{dS_w})_{S_w}$ (slope) were determined. Based on the Frontal Advance Equation (equation 5), the Water Saturation Profile was drawn putting the water saturation (v/v) in the Y axis and distance travelled (cm) by the injection brine in the X axis. For this study, one Water Saturation Profile was prepared before the t_{BT} whereas another curve was prepared at the t_{BT} for each core flooding experiment. Here, 25 second was considered as the time before breakthrough for all the core flooding experiment as the minimum t_{BT} observed during the flooding process is 32 second (core plug 6). Figure 6 and 7 are presenting the Water Saturation Profile curves before and at the Time of Breakthrough respectively.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The primary mechanism that has been identified for oil recovery from an initial oil-wet or intermediate-wet reservoir is to alter the rock wettability towards a more water-wet state [40]. Chemically Tuned Water flooding has been considered as a new Enhanced Oil Recovery technique for recovering more oil through the alteration of rock wettability towards a more favorable water-wet condition. The major factors that govern the success of the CTWF are the ionic composition & salinity of the injection brine, polar components of crude oil, and the rock composition. The petrographic analysis reveals the presence of Kaolinite, Illite, Smectite, Pyrite, Feldspar and Quartz in the rock of the study area (Figures 3, 4 & 5). It was observed that the clay minerals (Kaolinite, Illite & Smectite) play a pivotal role in enhancing the oil recovery during Low Salinity Water flooding through the wettability alteration, IFT reduction and Sweep Efficiency improvement [1,9-10,41-42]. During the low salinity brine injection, sulfate ion is released to the bulk fluid as a result of the chemical reaction between Pyrite and low salinity brine which alters the rock wettability to more water-wet state [43]. On the other hand, the presence of the Plagioclase Feldspar in the reservoir rock strongly indicates that the study area is suitable for LSW EOR [44]. As mentioned earlier, the polar compounds (asphaltene & resin) and multivalent cations (Ca^{2+} & Mg^{2+}) are present in the COBR system of the study area which are the other important elements that help in obtaining the Low Salinity Effects (LSE) during LSW.

The water saturation at the Flood Front (S_{wf}) is more (42%-51%) for the low salinity brine flooding than the higher salinity brine flooding (31%-41%) (Table 2, Figure 6). This indicates that at the Flood Front, the injected low salinity brines displace more oil from the pore spaces than the higher salinity brines. It is observed that, the Average Water Saturation in the flooded volume of the core plugs at the time of Breakthrough (S_{wBT}) is decreasing from 54% to 35% with increasing the injection brine salinity from 200 ppm to 2500 ppm [39]. It means that at the time of Breakthrough, the Average Oil Saturation in the flooded volume increases from 46% to 65% with increasing the injection brine salinity. This proves that the Chemically Tuned Waterflooding in the form of Low Salinity Water flooding can produce more oil than the high salinity/formation brine flooding. The laboratory core flooding experiment clearly shows that the oil recovery efficiency from the low salinity brine flooding is higher (33.82%-42.05%) than the high





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salinity and formation brine flooding (32.71%-33.12%) (Table 2). 800 ppm brine is the best designed low salinity brine which gives the highest oil recovery efficiency (42.5%) among all the injected low salinity brine.

It is observed that the distance travelled by the injected formation brine before the T_{BT} at 25 seconds is the highest (Figure 6). Although the length of the core plug 5 flooded by 1404 ppm formation brine is slightly more than the lengths of the core plugs flooded by low salinity brines (Table 2), the T_{BT} for the core plug 5 is lower (42.08 sec) than the core plugs 1-4 flooded by the low salinity brines (43.98 sec-82 sec). On the other hand, the core plug 6 flooded by the high salinity brine (2500 ppm) has the lowest T_{BT} (31.53 sec) and covers the longest distance (3.68 cm) at 25 sec. This indicates that the flood front of the low salinity brines moves at a slower velocity than that of the high salinity and formation brine. Thus, the low salinity brines can give better Mobility Ratio than the higher salinity and formation brine which can improve the recovery of oil. Among the different low salinity injection brines, 800 ppm brine has the lowest flow velocity & highest T_{BT} (82 sec) and therefore has highest Mobility Ratio.

CONCLUSION

Based on the study, it can be concluded that the surface active components of the crude oil, clays in the rock matrix and multivalent cations in the reservoir brine make the study area suitable for the Chemically Tuned Water flooding in the form of Low Salinity Water flooding. This EOR technique can improve the Mobility Ratio and recovery of oil by delaying the water breakthrough in the area under study. The best designed Chemically Tuned Water is the brine diluted to 57% (800 ppm as NaCl) from the formation brine which can give the longest Time of Breakthrough and highest oil recovery.

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Table 1. Conventional core samples collected from the geleki oil field

SI. No.	Well No.	Conventional Core Sample	Depth Range (m)
1	G#A	Core No-1	2893.00-2902.00
		Core No-2	2962.00-2970.00
2	G#B	Core No-1	2898.43-2906.00
3	G#C	Core No-1	2964.00-2973.00
4	G#D	Core No-1	2853.00-2861.00
5	G#E	Core No-1	3874.25-3877.00
6	G#F	Core No-1	2596.00-2599.50





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Table 2. Results of the coreflooding experiments

Core Plug	Core Plug Length (cm)	Injection Brine Salinity (ppm as NaCl)	Initial Water Saturation (% of PV)	Remaining Oil Saturation (% of PV)	Oil Recovery Efficiency (% of OOIP)	Flood Front Saturation (% of PV)
1	5.37	200	32.84	39.98	40.47	51
2	5.23	500	35.32	40.29	37.69	46
3	5.28	800	24.53	43.74	42.05	42
4	5.15	1100	34.86	43.10	33.82	50
5	5.47	1404	28.48	48.13	32.71	41
6	5.26	2500	34.36	43.89	33.12	31

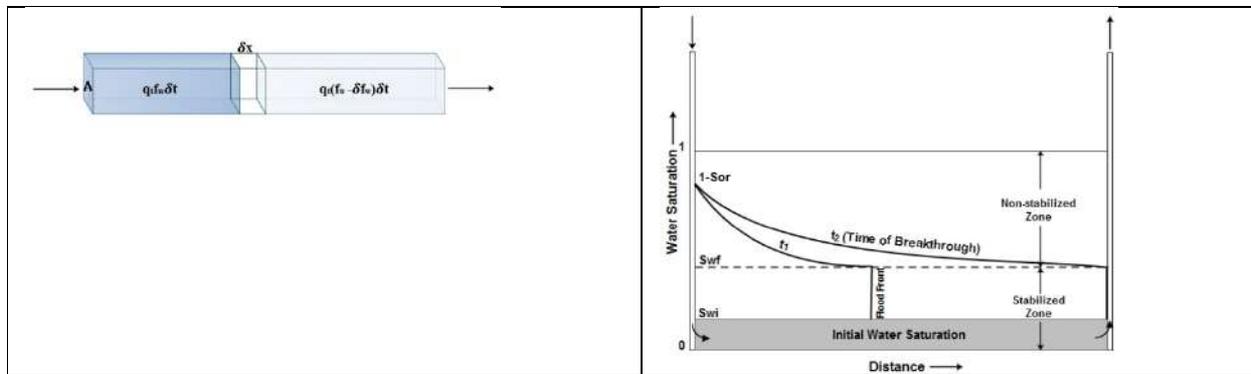


Figure 1: Water Flowing through a Differential Element

Figure 2: Water Saturation Profile

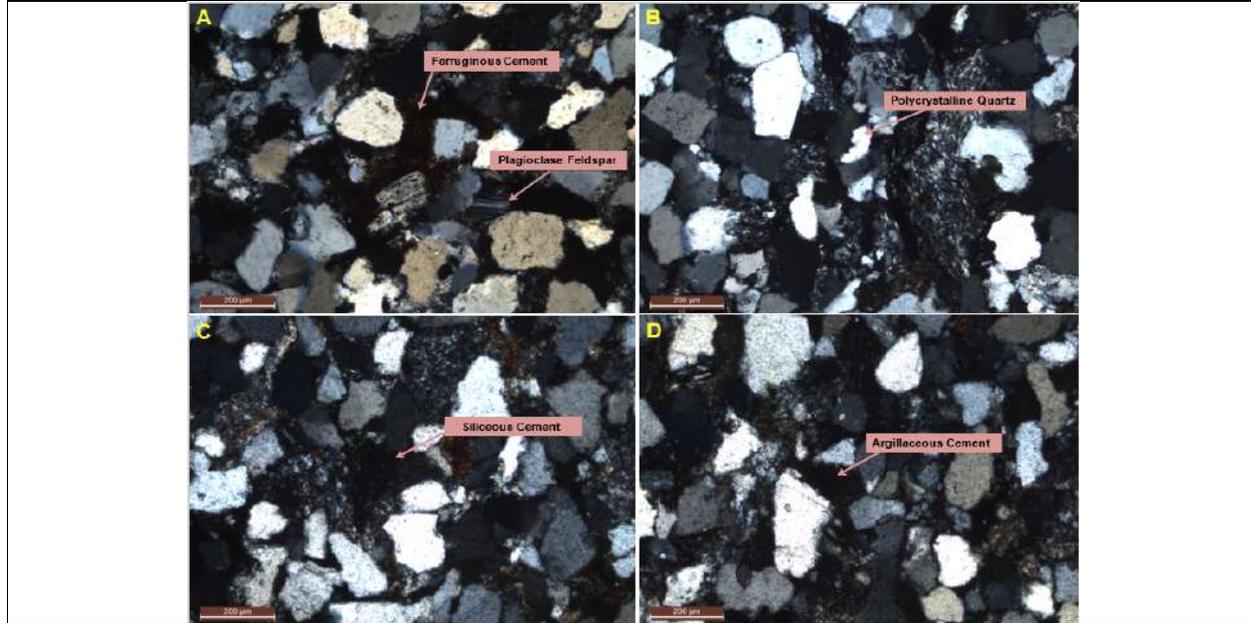


Figure 3: Photomicrographs of the rock samples showing Plagioclase Feldspar, Ferruginous Cement (A), Polycrystalline Quartz (B), Siliceous Cement (C) and Argillaceous Cement (D).





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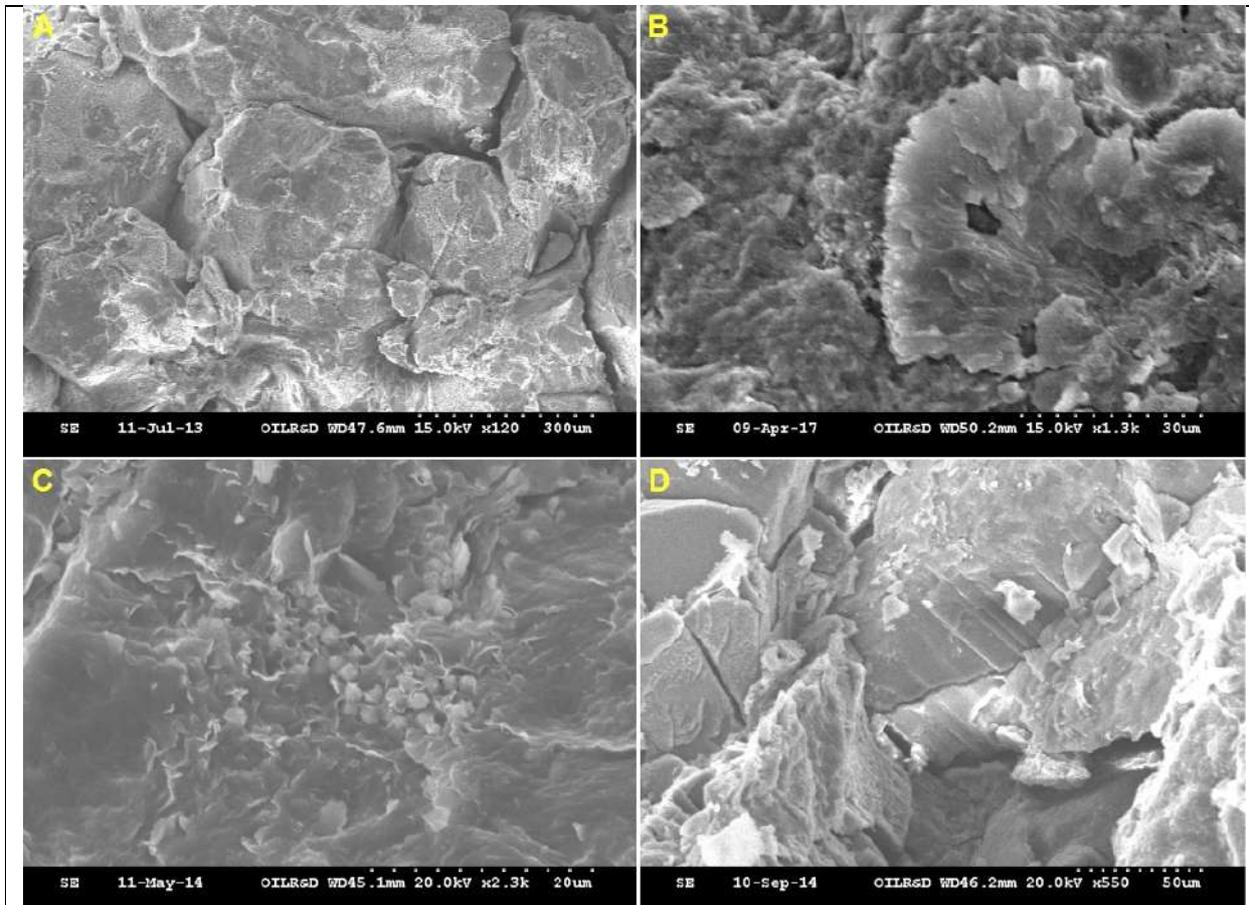


Figure 4: SEM photomicrographs of reservoir rock samples showing Smectite coated Quartz (A), Kaolinite (B), Pyrite-IIIite (C) and Feldspar (D).

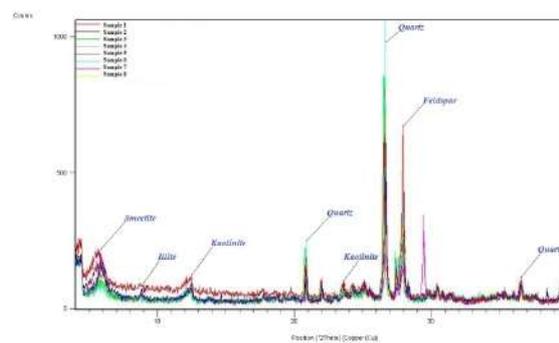


Figure 5: X-Ray diffractogram of the reservoir rock samples showing Smectite, Illite, Kaolinite, Quartz and Feldspar.





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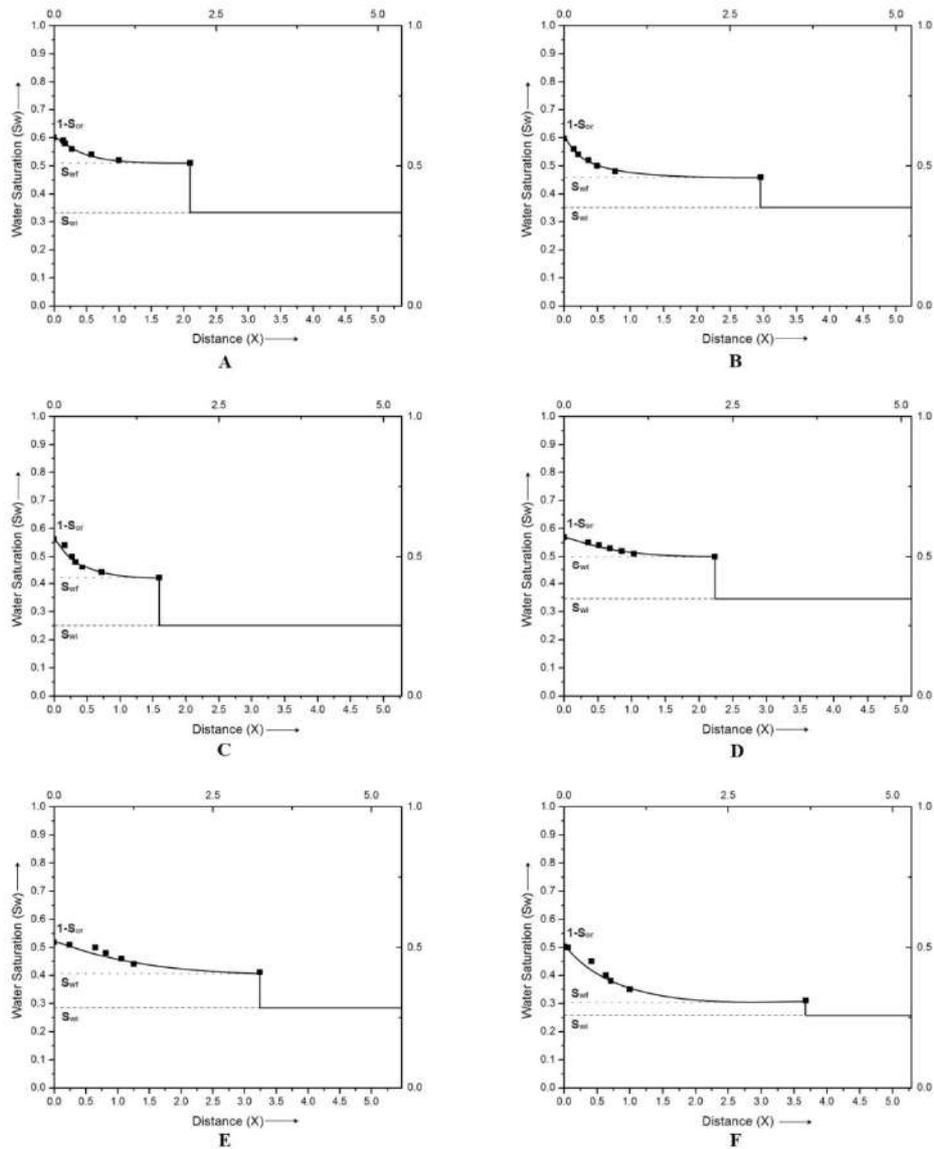


Figure 6: Water Saturation Profile before the Time of Breakthrough during the coreflooding using 200 ppm (A), 500 ppm (B), 800 ppm (C), 1100 ppm (D), 1404 ppm (E) and 2500 ppm (F) brine.





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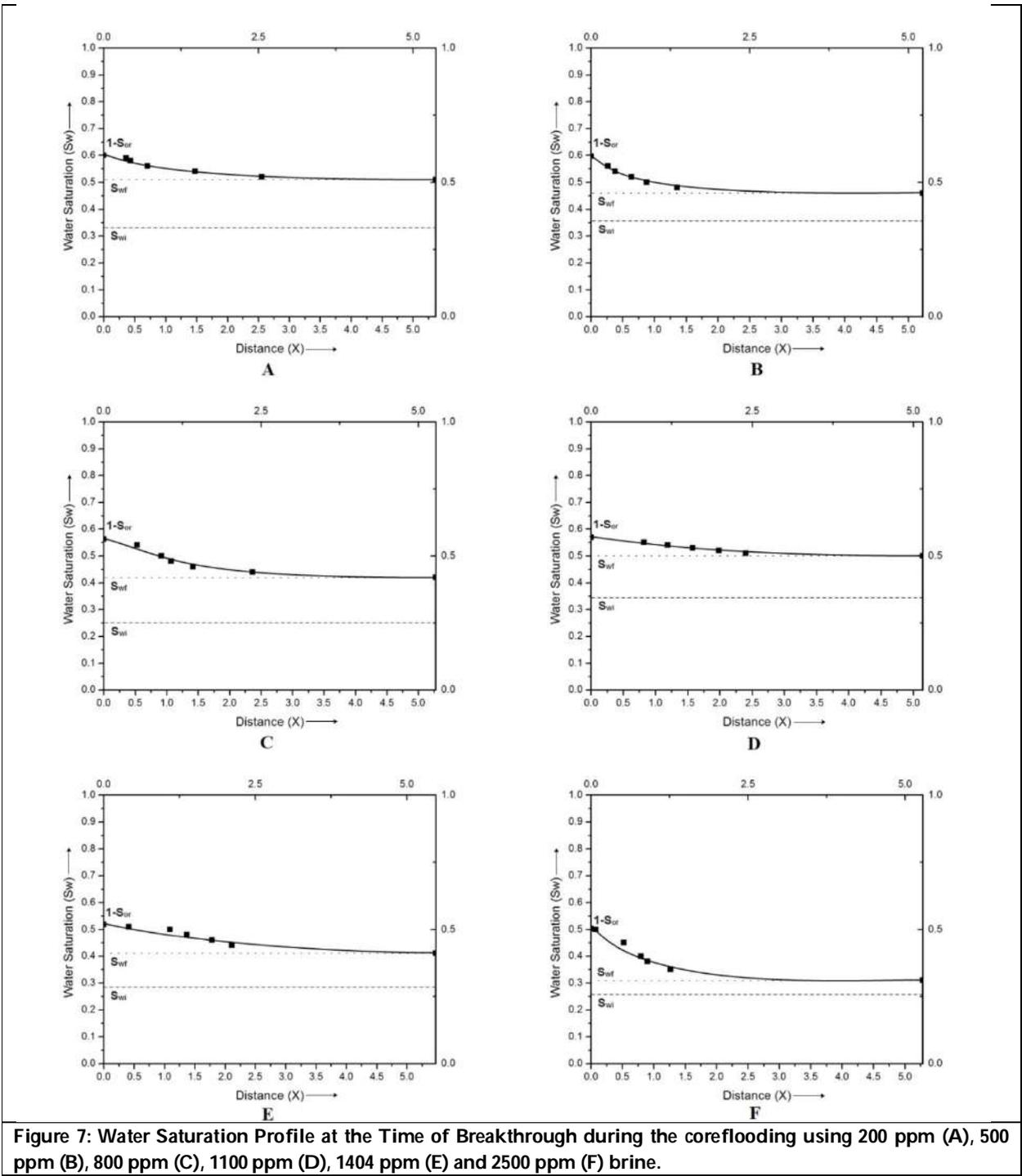


Figure 7: Water Saturation Profile at the Time of Breakthrough during the coreflooding using 200 ppm (A), 500 ppm (B), 800 ppm (C), 1100 ppm (D), 1404 ppm (E) and 2500 ppm (F) brine.





A Study of Risk Perception in Obsessive Compulsive Disorder Patients with and without History of Trauma

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ABSTRACT

Obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD) comprises of obsessions and/or compulsions. Researchers have implicated the role of events that have been traumatic in the formation of negative schemas, making an individual overgeneralize the occurrence of threat and perceive risk even in situations where there is none. The current study aimed to compare risk perception and OCD in OCD patients with and without history of trauma. The study further examined whether there is a relationship between risk perception, OCD and trauma. The sample consisted of 188 participants, in the age group of 18-50 years of age, 94 OCD patients had history of trauma, and the other 94 OCD patients did not have any history of trauma. Both the groups had participants meeting the ICD 10 diagnostic criteria for OCD. Each group was assessed for risk perception and OCD; the trauma group was assessed for trauma additionally. Results indicated significantly higher risk perception and higher OCD in trauma group. Furthermore, it was found that there was a significant positive relationship between risk perception, OCD and trauma. Thus possibly based on the findings of the study it is implied that trauma plays a significant role in symptom presentation as well as the exacerbation of OCD and risk perception. This can be further helpful in the management of OCD when using the cognitive based model.

Keywords: Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, Trauma, Risk Perception, Cognitive model, Schemas





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INTRODUCTION

Obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD) has been categorized as the fifth most disabling burden of mental health conditions [1] with a worldwide lifetime prevalence of 2-3% [2]. There have been a few epidemiological studies done across the countries, the British National Comorbidity survey reported one month prevalence rate of OCD to be 1.1% [3], research done as a part of Singapore Mental Health Study in 2020 revealed 12-month OCD prevalence as 2.9% and lifetime prevalence as 3.6% [4]. A systematic review reported higher prevalence rates of common mental disorders including OCD contributing to 1.6% among South Asian countries [5]. There are scarce prevalence studies in the Indian population, recent studies conducted in India in 2017 indicate a point prevalence of OCD as 3.3% in college students [6], whereas point prevalence of 0.8% for school students [7]. Despite the high prevalence rates, only a minority of the sufferers seek professional help because of the secretive nature of the illness.

According to American Psychiatric Association [8] "Obsessive compulsive disorder is characterized by the presence of recurrent and persistent thoughts, urges, or images that are experienced as being unwanted, unpleasant, and intrusive, known as obsessions". These obsessions give rise to unmanageable anxiety and distress which subsequently may or may not lead to neutralizing acts and rituals which a person feels driven towards, known as compulsions in order to reduce the discomfort rapidly further reinforcing the compulsive behavior [8]. According to the early work by Salkovskis in 1999, the interpretation of these obsessions leads to experiencing distress and motivation towards neutralizing behaviors [9]. Researchers have implicated the function of early events that have been traumatic in the current appraisal of the situation as risky where none exists [10] [11] [12]. A formal definition of risk is "a measure of the probability and severity of adverse effects" [13]. As per researcher Inouye "the risk is a calculation of how likely an incident is to occur and given its occurrence, how dire the consequences would be. Being able to accurately assess the risk in a situation or resulting from a set of actions is, at a personal qualitative level, dependent upon an individual's risk perception and risk perception is the ability of an individual to discern a certain amount of risk" [14]. Individuals with a history of traumatic events may believe neutral things and situations to be risky due to their experiences [14].

DSM 5 defines a traumatic event as "Exposure to actual or threatened death, serious injury or sexual violence" [15]. Trauma also entails the physiological and psychological impact of the traumatic event on an individual. The major kinds of trauma can be any form of abuse, loss of loved ones, accidents, natural disasters, and violence. All these traumatic events can have an impact on an individual's functioning as explained by Rachman in 1998 these individuals can take a heightened sense of personal responsibility, and thereby indulge in neutralizing acts [16]. Eventually, they see everything in light of previous adverse experiences and may have an increased perception of risk where there is none. Individuals with obsessive compulsive disorder display selective attention toward threatening stimuli [17]. According to earlier findings by Beck, negative schema formed in childhood render cognitive processes and biases in obsessive compulsive disorder individuals susceptible to drawing attention towards threatening stimuli [18]. Beck also discussed that when an individual is unable to process or interpret an event, it can lead to flawed adaptation [18].

Individuals with a history of trauma can overgeneralize the incident and as a result regard a variety of typical activities as more threatening than they truly are. These individuals can then tend to magnify the likelihood of future catastrophic occurrences overall or use the case that the trauma occurred to them, like proof for evaluations like "I entice catastrophe", "terrible things happen every time to me". Such assessments produce situational fear and avoidance that keeps this same overgeneralized fear much alive [19]. Rachman in 2010 gave the "theory of betrayal and contamination preoccupation" that connects further proof towards the association of OCD and experiences that are traumatic in nature [20]. He further asserts that the majority of patients may recognize a betrayal event which is critical and crucial for the onset of the disorder and as per him, "Betrayal is a sense of being harmed by the intentional actions, or omissions, of a person who was assumed to be a trusted and loyal friend, relative, partner, colleague, or companion" [20]. There are five types of betrayal which are defined as "harmful disclosures of



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confidential information, disloyalty, infidelity, dishonesty, and failures to offer expected assistance during significant times of need" [20].

Briggs and Price (2009) reflected that experiences in early life create assumptions about the world [21]. Beliefs of taking personal responsibility are developed when early childhood has trauma and adverse experiences. Due to this belief system, these automatic thoughts are inaccurately perceived as the root of negative events. On the other hand, Lafleur and colleagues in 2011 proposed that events that are traumatic in nature can arbitrate the connection between the environmental and genetic expressions of OCD [22]. Any form of traumatic event at early age especially maltreatment as a child can trigger modify neuro-physiological reaction towards threat. Internal biological hyper arousal may both impact and be influenced by trauma induced changes to danger perception, illustrating the close relationship between abuse, cognitive and biological systems [12].

The current study compared the risk perception and OCD in OCD patients with and without history of trauma. It also examined whether there is a relationship between trauma, risk perception, OCD and trauma.

METHOD

Sample and procedure

A cross-sectional research method was used with purposive sampling. The sample consisted of 188 participants who were diagnosed cases of obsessive-compulsive disorder, falling between 18 and 50 years of age, out of which 94 participants (Group 1) had history of trauma, and 94 participants (Group 2) did not have any history of trauma. The sample was collected from private psychiatric outpatient clinics in Delhi NCR. Table 1 shows the demographic details of the sample. The average age of participants in group 1 (OCD patients with trauma) was 28.44 years ($S.D = 8.85$) of which 41 were males and 53 females. In group 2 (OCD patients without trauma) the mean age was 29.01 years ($S.D = 9.32$) of which 42 were males and 52 females.

The diagnosed cases were referred by a psychiatrist for data collection. The participants were explained the rationale and nature of the study and were also assured about confidentiality of the data. They were allowed to back out from the study at any point. After their acceptance of the study and receiving written consent from the participants, data was collected. The data was collected in individual sessions where only one participant and the researcher were present. Participants were then handed over the test booklet and were given instructions on each measure. The participants took 15-20 minutes for completing the questionnaires and those who were not comfortable writing were assisted by the researcher. Queries and doubts were clarified during the data collection. It was made sure that there was no noise or distractions for the participants. Any further clarification and feedback were acknowledged. Participants with a co-morbid psychiatric diagnosis other than mild depression were excluded.

MEASURES

1. Demographic information sheet: The demographic sheet included the basic information including age, gender, education level and occupation.
2. Domain specific risk-taking scale: Risk perception subscale [23]: The subscale of Risk perception consists of 30 items, rated on a 7 point likert scale from not at all risky to extremely risky. The scale has adequate internal-consistency reliability, moderate test-retest reliability [23].
3. Childhood trauma and recent trauma scale [24]: The questionnaire has total 13 questions divided as early traumatic events scale (6 questions) and recent traumatic events scale (7 questions). For the present study the early traumatic events scale was utilized, the questions are based on 7 point likert scale (1= not at all traumatic and 7= extremely traumatic). The questionnaire gives the account of survey (brief in nature) of six "early traumatic experiences namely Divorce, death, sexual abuse, illness, violence, or other and ratings of the degree to which individuals confided the traumas" [24]. The scale demonstrates strong psychometric properties.



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4. Yale-Brown Obsessive Compulsive Scale [25]: The detailed YBOCS consists of various obsessive and compulsive themes. After gathering the obsessions and compulsions the severity is measured. There are total 19 items; first 5 items are for obsessions and rest 5 are for compulsions. Remaining items are relevant for clinical purposes other than severity like avoidance, insight. Reliability studies show good internal consistency, interrater reliability, test-retest reliability over a period of one week interval. Validity appears good, convergent validity with most other measures of OCD [26].

Data analysis procedure

The obtained data was analysed was using SPSS version 16. To compare the groups t test was computed for both the groups of OCD patients i.e., with and without history of trauma. Correlation was taken out to measure the relationship between risk perception, OCD and trauma.

RESULTS

Table 2 presents the results of differences in the two groups on risk perception and OCD. The table indicates a significant difference between the mean scores obtained by OCD patients with and without trauma on Risk Perception and OCD. OCD patients with trauma showed significantly higher risk perception ($M=115.96$, $SD= 15.52$) than OCD patients without trauma ($M=65.72$, $SD= 11.14$), $t(186) = 25.49$, $p<.01$. OCD patients with trauma showed significantly higher OCD score ($M = 31.85$, $SD= 3.33$) than OCD patients without trauma ($M =22.09$, $SD= 5.69$), $t(186) = 14.34$, $p<.01$.

Table 3 depicts the relationship of risk perception with study variables including severity of OCD and trauma in OCD patients with trauma ($n=94$), results yielded a significant positive correlation between risk perception and OCD ($r= 0.79$, $p<.01$), highlighting an increase in risk perception would increase severity of OCD and vice versa. There was a significant positive relationship between risk perception and trauma ($r= 0.52$, $p<.01$), in other words, the higher the risk perception the higher the severity of trauma and vice versa. Table 3 also outlines the relationship between trauma and OCD indicating a significant positive correlation between trauma and OCD ($r= 0.65$, $p<.01$), which implies the higher the trauma the greater the OCD and vice versa.

Table 4 represents the overall relationship between risk perception and OCD across the whole sample $N= 188$, the result findings suggest a significant positive relationship between risk perception and OCD ($r= 0.80$, $p<.01$) indicating an increase in risk perception will increase the OCD and vice versa.

DISCUSSION

An individual's perception of their experiences is responsible for defining their behaviors and feelings. Pathological anxiety occurs when there is a misinterpretation of the experiences. Individuals with higher risk perception tend to conclude higher risk and threat in a situation where there is none. It has also been explained that individuals with increased risk perception had a history of trauma making them overgeneralize the threat where there is none [19].

The current study compared two groups of OCD patients on risk perception and OCD, where group one had 94 patients with history of trauma and group two had 94 OCD patients without history of trauma. Results indicated higher severity of OCD symptoms in OCD patients who had history of trauma as compared to the group without history of trauma. This finding is in line with the latest research done by Boger and colleagues in 2020, which discusses the implication of childhood maltreatment in the causal and maintenance role in OCD, their study revealed that Survivors of trauma in childhood still showed increased OCD [27]. Results in the current study indicate a significant positive relationship between trauma and OCD, depicting higher the trauma, the greater the OCD. This is in line with a recent study [28] conducted in China in by Wang Pei and colleagues (2019) which focused on the genetic model of behavior, the results explained that gene PGRN and trauma in childhood can be related closely to the



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occurrence of OCD, and patients of OCD with more trauma in childhood can display clinical symptoms that are more severe [28]. Research conducted earlier in this decade and the previous decade also is in line with the current findings, a study showed that 30% of individuals with post traumatic stress disorder develop obsessive compulsive disorder, which is significantly higher as their counterparts [29]. Individuals with OCD who had at the minimum one traumatic incident in life showed increased symptoms of obsessions, checking, symmetry, ordering, and total symptom severity and that was independent of age at onset of OCD, age, and effects of comorbidity [30].

In a different study, people having OCD with symptoms of hoarding and lifetime incident of trauma had increased severity of hoarding, particularly clutter, which was independent of the age of onset of illness, age of the person, and severity of symptoms [30]. Other research reflected adult population of OCD has increased rates of trauma in childhood as compared to their counterparts [31]. In 2005 Sasson and his fellows indicated that certain symptoms of OCD were linked with specific kinds of trauma, he explored this via case series (descriptive) of 13 Israeli Defense Force veterans having simultaneous onset of OCD and PTSD after trauma by combat [32]. In a study it was found that co-morbid PTSD and anxiety completely mediated the link between obsessive compulsive disorder symptoms and physical neglect and emotional abuse [33]. Several researchers [10] [11] [12] have implicated that individuals who appraise higher risk in situations where none exists, had a history of trauma in their childhood. These traumatic experiences usually make people vulnerable and make them view the future through the filter of earlier traumatic events. Early childhood events play a crucial role in the evolution of assumptions and set patterns for interpreting the environment. The presence of trauma in childhood can make the child more cautious and he may perceive the environment as risky. This will lead to an inflated sense of responsibility towards making things around him as certain as possible, increasing the compulsive behavior and OCD as a whole.

For the current study, the results indicated higher risk perception in OCD patients who had history of trauma as compared to OCD patients without history of trauma. Furthermore, a positive relationship of risk perception with OCD was seen. Individuals with obsessive compulsive disorder usually display an aversion to risk, which can be facilitated by their heightened responses toward the threat. In a study [34], thirteen obsessive compulsive disorder patients and thirteen healthy matched controls were studied, these participants were made to play an interactive game consisting of various levels of threat and reward, during the play they were made to undergo functional magnetic resonance imaging and also anatomical diffusion; Compared to healthy controls obsessive compulsive disorder patients were disinclined to make choices that were risky while playing the game and displayed higher amygdala activation to threat, results indicated that deficient functional and functional limbic frontal connection, in combination with aberrant limbic responses to rewarding and frightening stimuli, explains the objection to risk in obsessive compulsive disorder [34]. On similar lines, another study [35] conducted in 2013 indicated that OCD patients with mainly doubt/checking symptoms were more risk averse than other patients. Moreover, individuals with obsessive compulsive disorder tend to appraise neutral environmental cues as risky. In a study [36], twenty individuals with obsessive compulsive disorder were selected and were assessed on a risk judgment task; results indicated that individuals with obsessive compulsive disorder considered the likelihood of negative events as higher than the control group [36].

CONCLUSION

Overall, the results depict childhood traumatic experiences can be a factor that increases the likelihood of interpreting stimulus as risky when none exists. This increased risk aversion will be related to indulging in neutralizing the perceived risk thereby increasing the severity of obsessive-compulsive disorder. Thus, with the results it can be concluded that exposure to trauma plays a role in the severity of obsessive compulsive disorder by increasing an individual's schemas for assessing risk. These findings can be particularly relevant for the cognitive perspective clinicians to conceptualize the cognitive model of OCD, wherein focusing on the perception of risk and earlier trauma experiences would eventually be helpful in the therapeutic process.





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Table 1. Socio-Demographic characteristics of the sample N= 188

Variables	OCD patients with trauma n= 94		OCD patients without trauma n= 94	
	n	%	n	%
Gender				
Male	41	43.6	42	44.7
Female	53	56.4	52	55.3
Education				
School	62	66	62	66
Graduate and above	32	34	32	34
Occupation				
Working	53	56.4	46	48.9
Non-working	41	43.6	48	51.1
Age M (S.D)	28.44 (8.85)		29.01 (9.32)	





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Table 2. t test scores of OCD patients with and without trauma on risk perception and OCD

Variables	OCD patients with trauma n= 94		OCD patients without trauma n= 94		t (186)
	M	SD	M	SD	
Risk Perception	115.96	15.52	65.72	11.14	25.49**
OCD	31.85	3.33	22.09	5.69	14.34**

**p<.01

Table 3. Relationship between risk perception and severity of OCD and trauma in OCD patients with history of trauma (n= 94)

S.no	Variables	M	SD	1	2	3
1	Risk Perception	115.96	15.52	-		
2	OCD	31.85	3.33	0.793**	-	
3	Trauma	5.74	0.86	0.52**	0.65**	-

**p<.01

Table 4. Relationship between severity of OCD and Risk Perception in OCD patients (N= 188)

S.no	Variables	M	SD	1	2
1	Risk Perception	90.84	28.56	-	
2	OCD	26.97	6.75	0.80**	-

**p<.01





Awareness of Right to Information Legislation in Higher Educational Institutions in India

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ABSTRACT

The concentration of power and resources in India frequently leads to corruption. Right to Information (RTI) facilitates the exercise of civil, socio-political, and economic rights by providing individuals with the necessary information to make informed decisions. The aforementioned ideas were derived from the legal interpretation of freedom of expression as outlined in Article 19(1) (a) of the Indian Constitution. India's Right to Information (RTI) legislation is widely regarded as a benchmark for international best practises. The success of the endeavour will be contingent upon the level of dedication exhibited by the government towards the principles of transparency and openness. It is imperative for higher education institutions to possess a comprehensive understanding of the RTI Act and establish unambiguous policies and procedures that facilitate the exercise of this fundamental Right. This entails the deployment of Right of Information (FOI) officers, prompt responsiveness, and assessment and enhancement of Right to Information (RTI) regulations and procedures. The methodology of the study is Descriptive Analysis. The main objective of the study is, to find out the awareness of the Right to Information Act among the higher educated people studying or working in higher educational institutions irrespective of gender, place, and academic level. Another objective is, to study the historical background of the RTI Act in India.

Keywords: Right to Information; Democracy; Indian Constitution; Fundamental Rights; Judiciary.





INTRODUCTION

To be ignorant is to stay in the dark, and to be in the dark is to stagnate, a condition that the human brain is not meant to be (Roy, 2018). Freedom of Information, commonly referred to as the Right to information, states that people can access information kept by public authorities, governmental bodies, and other organizations. Access to information is the sine qua non of participatory democracy. It enables individuals to thrive within the social fabric of society and uphold its democratic equilibrium (Laskar, 2016). The Judicial interpretation of Article 19(1) (a) of the Indian Constitution, which deals with freedom of expression and speech, formed the basis of these initial ideas (Jha, 2020) . Adopting the Right to Information (RTI) act empowers individuals to exert increased authority over the state's actions, as they are apprised of the determinations made on their behalf by public officials. RTI serves as a means to enable citizens to monitor government behaviour, increase state transparency, and hold civil workers and elected officials accountable for their actions.

The Right to Information has facilitated democratization by extending its reach to the micro-level and citizens' daily lives. It can be applied to diverse human situations, enhancing the democratic process. In India, corruption is frequently observed as a manifestation of the concentration of power and resources. The fundamental essence of the Right to Information (RTI) lies in its ability to hold this concentration accountable through questioning (Ghosh, 2018). RTI enables individuals to make more informed choices about exercising their civil, socio-political, and economic rights, allowing them to enjoy these rights better. It has far-reaching implications for people and groups across all societies, from their access to fundamental services such as health, education, housing, and employment, to their participation in public life, such as voting rights and accountability of elected officials.

Education of the mind is the sine qua non of informed decision on any problem (Iyer, 1990). Higher education institutions play a crucial role in disseminating knowledge and developing informed citizens; thus, they must operate transparently and be accountable to the public. FOI legislation grants students, staff, and other members of the public the Right to access information held by higher education institutions, subject to certain exemptions and limitations. A report by Transparency India International estimates that 24.4 million RTI applications were filed between 2005 and 2016 (Jha, 2020).

Historical background of Freedom of Information legislation in India

Before the passage of the Right to information act in India, no comprehensive law was provided for the Right to Information. Some states had their laws, but there was no national law. The journey of the Right to information in India can be explained in two phases:

Phase-1 (1975-1990):

Lal Bahadur Shastri set up the *Santhanam Committee* on the Prevention of Corruption in 1962. The committee recommended that in matters important to citizens in their day-to-day affairs, the government should clearly distinguish what should be treated as 'secret' and what should be made freely available to citizens (Roy, 2018).

The momentum of the Right to Information Act with the judgment of the Supreme Court in the state of *Uttar Pradesh vs. Rajnarian case (1975)* In this case, while pronouncing the judgment, Honourable Justice



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Matthew made some valuable comments "In a government of responsibility like ours where all the agents of the public must be responsible for their conduct there can be but few secrets. The people of this country have a right to know every public act, everything that is in a public act (Ray, 1975)." In 1978, the RTI was sought for exercising particular suggestions and objections to the Motor Vehicle Act of Gujarat, but the state government refused to part with information stating that it was confidential under the official secrets act of 1923 (Patra, 2009). But the RTI again got the ground with another landmark judgment given by the Honourable supreme court in *S.P Gupta vs. Union of India (1981)*; the honourable supreme court declared that "The concept of open government is direct emancipation from the right to know which seems to be implicit in the right of speech and expression which was guaranteed by the Indian constitution under Article 19(1a) (Bhagwati, 1981)." In 1990 the 20th Conference of information ministers V.P Singh, prime minister of the United Front Government, stressed the importance of the Right to information act as a legislated right and initiated the law's drafting process (Roy, 2018).

Phase -2(1990-2005)

In the year 1990s, the Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS) started a grassroots movement in the rural areas of the state of Rajasthan, demanding access to government information on behalf of the wage workers and small farmers who are often deprived of their rightful wages or their just benefits under the government schemes (Singh, 2011).

After years of struggle for the central legislation in the Right to information, civil society groups emerged into the National Campaign for People's Right to Information (NCPRI) in 1996, after detailed discussion, the members of the organization decided that the best way to ensure that the fundamental Right to information could be universally exercised was to get an appropriate law enacted which cover the whole country (Singh, 2011). Justice P.B Sawant, the chairman of the press council of India, and other prominent persons drafted a bill for NCPRI which is known as the Press Council draft. Upon the direction of India's honourable Supreme Court, the then National democratic alliance (NDA) government appointed a committee headed by Mr. H.D Shourie to examine the issue. The Shourie Committee submitted its report in 1999, recommending enacting the comprehensive law on freedom of information. Based upon the recommendations, the government passed the freedom of information act 2002, which was ineffective and never notified (Acharyulu, 2015). In May 2004, the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) led by the Congress party came to power at the national level. The Right to Information bill passed by both houses of the Indian Parliament in May 2005 got presidential assent on 15 June 2005 and became fully operational on 13 October 2005 (Singh, 2011).

About the Population

The total sample size is 180; out of that, 79 are males, and 101 are females. A total of 180 samples are collected from different higher educational institutions in 8 states of India. A few respondents work as faculty and academic associates in higher educational institutions in their respective states. The remaining respondents are primarily students in higher educational institutions.

METHODOLOGY

The present study adopted a "Descriptive Analysis" method for the study. The primary data is collected from various higher educational institutions; from different states of India, the secondary data is



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collected from multiple secondary sources, including government and non-government reports and policies. The authors used the SPSS (Software Packages for Social Sciences) for the Chi-Square analysis for two-way tables; the study's objectives are as follows.

Chi-Square Test

The Chi-Square test can help find the relationship between the two variables. The chi-square test gives a statistical significance of the variables. The two-way tables are used to display the frequency information of two categories of variables collected from common sources.

Objectives of the Study

- To find out the awareness of the Right to Information Act among the higher educated people studying or working in higher educational institutions irrespective of gender, place, and academic level.
- To study the historical background of the RTI Act in India
- To analyze the students' or faculty's perception of the Right to information act in higher educational institutions.

Table No. 1 explains the state and gender-wise details of the informants in the study. The total number of informants is 180 from 8 states. Out of these, 101 are females, and 79 are males. The majority of the informants belong to Andhra Pradesh state, while the least number of informants are from Tamil Nadu and Telangana states. The information above indicates that female respondents are more interested in acquiring knowledge regarding the RTI Act. The Chi-Square test result of the above table has a significance value of 0.04, a degree of freedom (DF) value of 7, and a test value of 14.578.

Table 2 discusses the state-wise details of the informants' professions. According to the information, 16 informants are working as faculty members, 8 are research scholars, and 19 are serving as academic associates or research assistants. Meanwhile, 39 informants are pursuing post-graduation degrees, and the remaining 98 respondents are enrolled in undergraduate programs in their respective states. This information highlights that the post-graduation and undergraduate respondents are more interested in acquiring knowledge about the RTI Act.

Table 3 shows the details about the informants' work organizations. Of the total, 25 informers work or study in state government organizations, 54 are with central government institutions, 8 are in private organizations, and the rest, 93, work for autonomous organizations. This suggests that people working for autonomous and central government institutions are more interested in learning about the RTI Act.

Table No. 4 explains the details of the informant's awareness regarding the Right to Information (RTI) Act-2005. According to the information, 172 informants are aware of the RTI Act-2005. Of these 172 respondents, 14 were faculty members, 37 were postgraduate students, 7 were research scholars, and 19 informants were working as academic associates. Additionally, 95 respondents were studying an undergraduate program in different states. Only 8 respondents do not know the RTI Act-2005. This information indicates that most of the respondents are interested in acquiring knowledge about the RTI Act.

Table 5 shows the sources of knowledge for the 180 informants regarding the RTI Act 2005. Of the 180 informants, 22 reported that they obtained information through newspapers and magazines, five



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respondents said they learned about the RTI Act through television channels, 16 stated that they gained knowledge through the internet, 17 obtained information through reading books and journals, and 46 said they learned about the RTI Act through academics. Finally, 74 informants reported that they obtained information from multiple sources. This indicates that most informants obtain information about the RTI Act from various sources.

According to the informants, only 33 respondents attended workshops or conferences related to the RTI Act, while the remaining 147 did not attend such events. This suggests a lack of interest from the informants and a failure by public organizations to reach a wider range of people. Furthermore, only 64 respondents reported that their workplace conducted workshops or conferences regarding the RTI Act, while the remaining 116 reported that their workplace did not conduct any such events. This indicates that public and private organizations are not actively promoting awareness about the RTI Act.

Table 6 describes the awareness of the informant about the RTI Act. According to the information, 60 respondents reported that they are aware of their organization's information officer. The remaining 120 informants stated they were unaware of their institutional information officer. This indicates a lack of management in the organization's efforts to display the details of the information officer on the website and notice board.

Table 7 depicts the awareness of the informants regarding the RTI Act. According to the data, 116 informants reported a good understanding of the act, while 64 respondents stated that they had not read it at least once. This indicates that most informants want to learn more about the RTI Act. Furthermore, 143 respondents reported that their state has an RTI web portal for awareness, complaint, and complaint status. On the other hand, 37 informants stated that they are unaware of the portal and had not visited it at least once. This demonstrates that most informants are focused on gaining a deeper understanding of the RTI Act and its operations.

Table 8 describes the informant's awareness of the RTI act. According to the information, 124 informants believe the act will improve transparency and accountability in the administration. 6 respondents believe that the act will have little impact. The remaining 50 respondents have a more neutral opinion, stating that the act's impact on transparency and accountability may be uncertain. More than 170 respondents have a positive view of the RTI act. The chi-square test results showed that the significance value between the variables is 0.020, with a chi-square value of 18.123 and a degree of freedom (DF) value of 8.

Table 9 showcases the informant's understanding of the RTI (Right to Information) Act. Out of the total respondents, 77 indicated that Section 8 of the Act deals with exemptions from disclosing information, while only 6 claimed it deals with the disposal of requests. Meanwhile, 12 respondents stated that Section 8 addresses third-party information. However, 85 respondents still lacked a clear understanding of the said section. The results suggest that while most informants generally understand the act and its sections, they may require further clarification. A chi-square test was conducted, revealing a significance value of 0.001 with a chi-square value of 34.361 and DF value of 12.

With regards to the time limit for providing requested information, 107 informants said that the information officer must provide it within 30 days, while 8 claimed it must be given within 40 days. 43 respondents noted that the information must be provided within 15 days, and 22 indicated no time limit.



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The data suggests that while most informants are aware of the stipulated periods, there is still room for confusion. Moreover; 87 respondents believed disclosing the information is mandatory when filing an RTI request, while 97 stated that no disclosure is required. This disparity indicates that most informants need a clearer understanding of the procedures and mechanisms of the RTI Act and related issues surrounding the disclosure of information.

Table 10 presents the findings on the informant's understanding of the Right to Information (RTI) Act. The data shows that 22 informants mentioned the fee of five rupees needed to obtain information, while 74 respondents stated that the fee is ten rupees. Five informants indicated that the fee is fifty rupees, and 79 respondents reported that no fee is required to obtain information. This information suggests that most informants know the payable amount to get information. The chi-square test results indicate that the significance value is 0.002, the chi-square value is 30.804, and the degree of freedom is 12.

Finally, 147 informants explained that they could file a second appeal if they did not receive the information within the specified time or if they were not satisfied with the information received. Another 33 respondents stated that they were satisfied with the information they received. This information suggests that most informants are committed to obtaining information and confidence in the RTI Act.

Suggestions for Better Calibration**Develop Clear and Concise Policies and Procedures**

The first step towards better calibrating the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) in higher educational institutions is to develop clear and concise policies and procedures that outline the process for handling public requests for information. This will ensure that the institution has a standardized approach to responding to requests and that staff members know their responsibilities and obligations under the law.

Establish a Dedicated FOIA Office

Creating a dedicated FOIA office within the institution can help ensure that requests are managed efficiently and effectively. This office should be responsible for receiving, processing, and responding to FOIA requests and should have the necessary resources, including staff and technology, to carry out its duties.

Provide Employee Training

Employees of higher educational institutions must understand the principles and provisions of the FOIA, as well as the institution's policies and procedures. Regular training sessions help ensure that staff members are aware of their obligations and can handle public requests for information promptly and efficiently.

Utilize Technology

The use of technology can streamline the FOIA request process and reduce the administrative burden associated with handling public requests for information. Higher educational institutions can implement electronic systems for tracking requests, managing documents, and communicating with requesters.

Foster Open Communication

Open communication is critical to ensuring that the institution's FOIA process is transparent, efficient, and effective. This can be achieved by regularly updating the institution's website with information



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about the FOIA process, providing regular training sessions for staff members, and responding promptly to public requests for information.

CONCLUSION

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) in India is a law that provides citizens with the Right to access information held by public authorities. The law was passed in 2002 and became effective in 2005. The law is based on the principle that access to information is crucial to the functioning of a democratic society and that citizens have a right to know what their government is doing. The RTI act of India is considered the standard act according to the international best practices laws. Still, its effectiveness will depend heavily on the government's willingness to implement in the true spirit of openness and transparency (Patra, 2009). Therefore, it is imperative for higher education institutions to be cognizant of RTI legislation and have clear policies and procedures in place to facilitate the exercise of this Right. This includes having designated FOI officers, promptly responding to requests, and regularly reviewing and updating their RTI policies and procedures.

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Ethical Considerations

Not Required

Conflict of Interest

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Table no.1: Distribution of State wise Gender Details of Informants

State which you belongs to	Gender		Total
	Female	Male	
Andhra Pradesh	72	43	115
Assam	9	20	29
Delhi	0	2	2
Kerala	8	3	11
Odisha	5	6	11
Pondicherry	3	3	6
Tamil nadu	1	0	1
Telangana	3	2	5
Total	101	79	180

Table no.2: Distribution of State wise Profession Details of Informants

State	Faculty	Post Graduate	Research Scholar	Academic Associate / Research Assistant	Under Graduate	Total
Andhra Pradesh	9	16	6	1	83	115
Assam	1	6	0	18	4	29
Delhi	1	0	1	0	0	2
Kerala	1	4	1	0	5	11
Odisha	2	5	0	0	4	11
Pondicherry	0	5	0	0	1	6
Tamil nadu	1	0	0	0	0	1
Telangana	1	3	0	0	1	5
Total	16	39	8	19	98	180





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Profession	Whether Institution is a				Total
	State Institution	Central Institution	Private Institution	Autonomous Institution	
Faculty	6	1	7	2	16
Post Graduate	3	32	0	4	39
Research Scholar	2	3	0	3	8
Academic Associate / Research Assistant	1	11	0	7	19
Under Graduate	13	7	1	77	98
Total	25	54	8	93	180

Profession	Have you ever heard about the Right to Information Act?		Total
	Yes	No	
Faculty	14	2	16
Post Graduate	37	2	39
Research Scholar	7	1	8
Academic Associate / Research Assistant	19	0	19
Under Graduate	95	3	98
Total	172	8	180

Profession	If yes, How you came to know about the act?						Total
	News Paper	Television	Internet	Books (or) Journals	Academics	More Than 1	
Faculty	2	0	4	0	1	9	16
Post Graduate	5	2	3	7	9	13	39
Research Scholar	1	1	1	1	1	3	8
Academic Associate / Research Assistant	3	0	0	0	4	12	19
Under Graduate	11	2	8	9	31	37	98
Total	22	5	16	17	46	74	180

Profession	Do you know your Institution's Information officer		Total
	Yes	No	
Faculty	4	12	16
Post Graduate	9	30	39
Research Scholar	2	6	8
Academic Associate / Research Assistant	4	15	19
Under Graduate	41	57	98
Total	60	120	180





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Table No.7: Distribution of Professional Wise Awareness of RTI Act Details of informants

Profession	Have you ever read RTI act of 2005?		Total
	Yes	No	
Faculty	2	14	16
Post Graduate	27	12	39
Research Scholar	4	4	8
Academic Associate / Research Assistant	12	7	19
Under Graduate	71	27	98
Total	116	64	180

Table No.8: Distribution of Professional Wise Awareness of RTI Act Details of informants

Profession	Do you believe that the Right to Information act will improve transparency and accountability in the administration?			Total
	Yes	No	Maybe	
Faculty	9	2	5	16
Post Graduate	33	1	5	39
Research Scholar	3	1	4	8
Academic Associate / Research Assistant	15	1	3	19
Under Graduate	64	1	33	98
Total	124	6	50	180

Table No.9: Distribution of Professional Wise Awareness of RTI Act Details of informants

Profession	Section 8 of RTI act talks about?				Total
	Exemptions from the Disclosure of Information	Disposal of Request	Third party Information	May be no idea	
Faculty	4	2	2	8	16
Post Graduate	21	0	5	13	39
Research Scholar	0	2	0	6	8
Academic Associate / Research Assistant	6	0	0	13	19
Under Graduate	46	2	5	45	98
Total	77	6	12	85	180

Table No.10: Distribution of Professional Wise Awareness of RTI Act Details of informants

Profession	What is the amount that we need to pay for getting the information?				Total
	5/- Rs	10/- Rs	50/- Rs	No Fee Prescribed	
Faculty	4	4	1	7	16
Post Graduate	6	24	1	8	39
Research Scholar	1	4	1	2	8
Academic Associate / Research Assistant	1	13	0	5	19
Under Graduate	10	29	2	57	98
Total	22	74	5	79	180





MOD-ECDSA-BH Cryptography: A Suitable Solution for Secure Data Management in Blockchain-Based Healthcare Sector

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ABSTRACT

One of the most effective and efficient aspects of network security is cryptography. When sending or receiving incomprehensible information, cryptography is a technique that can be used to ensure a secure and reliable transaction. Also, the information that was delivered and encrypted by the sender can only be decrypted by the authorized receiver. Cryptography is crucial in ensuring the security of these networks. The most popular public cryptographic techniques for the encryption of symmetric keys used in the HTTPS protocol and for digital signatures are RSA and elliptic curve cryptography. The proposed cryptography algorithm uses fewer system resources and also improves the machines' performance. Due to its superior performance, the proposed algorithm is more useful than the RSA algorithm. The proposed algorithm offers the same level of security with a smaller key size and lower overhead in the blockchain system. This article focuses on a brief comparison of how the proposed cryptography algorithm and RSA perform in terms of computational efficiency, Scalability, and Throughput in blockchain technology in the healthcare sectors. This article also explains why ECC has emerged as the newest scenario in the current cryptographic landscape. Cryptography algorithms play a vital role in ensuring the security of blockchain technology. Blockchain uses a distributed network where transactions are recorded in blocks and then linked together, forming a chain. The transactions and blocks in the chain are secured using the proposed cryptographic algorithm. These algorithms ensure that transactions



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cannot be tampered with or altered, and only authorized parties can access the information on the blockchain. The proposed cryptography algorithm is essential to maintain the integrity and security of blockchain, and the implementation of the proposed work in blockchain technology in the healthcare system has paved the way for secure and reliable transactions in healthcare sectors.

Keywords: Blockchain, Cryptography, Healthcare, ECC, ECDSA, RSA

INTRODUCTION

The use of cryptography allows data to be transmitted and stored in a specific format so that only the intended audience can access it. Data encryption keeps hackers from reading confidential communications. This paper proposes to take cryptography knowledge as the main body, combined with blockchain technology as a practical application case [1]. The primary goals of cryptography are Confidentiality, authentication, integrity, non-repudiation, access control, and availability. The most well-known methods for performing encryption and decryption cryptography are RSA and ECC cryptography algorithms. These methods have various key sizes, which ultimately results in varied execution times. In this article, RSA, ECC, and proposed works are compared. In the fourth section, we implement the proposed MOD-ECDSA-BH digital signature algorithm in blockchain technology and contrast it with RSA. After discussing the findings, we draw a conclusion that the proposed cryptography is suitable for blockchain technology in healthcare sectors.

Motivation

Cryptography algorithms are a crucial role in the security and trust of blockchain technology. So that, it ensures that transactions are secure and tamper-proof. Without the use of cryptography algorithms, blockchain technology would be vulnerable and unable to provide the level of security and transparency that it is known for. Blockchain-based healthcare systems require advanced cryptography algorithms to provide security, scalability, and performance benefits.

Objectives

RSA and ECC have widely used cryptography algorithms in blockchain technology to provide secure digital signatures and encryption. Cryptography algorithms like RSA and ECC are essential for the security and integrity of the blockchain, ensuring transactions are secure and tamper-proof. The proposed algorithm is specifically used for digital signature authentication in the blockchain healthcare sector. The proposed work is implemented in blockchain consortium platforms like hyper ledger sawtooth to verify the authenticity of transactions. The performance metrics are shown in onion routing.

Contribution

The proposed work MOD-ECDSA-BH implements cryptography-modified equations, which offer improved security, scalability, and performance benefits to blockchain-based healthcare systems. This approach provides a suitable solution for secure data management in the blockchain healthcare sector, contributing to ongoing innovation in blockchain technology applications. Overall, this proposed work demonstrates the unique benefits of using cryptography-modified equations for secure data management in blockchain-based healthcare systems.

Cryptography

Cryptography is a crucial technique involving several protocols and methods to secure information during communication processes. Its primary goal is to ensure that only authorized parties have access to sensitive data while keeping it concealed from any third-party or malicious actors [2]. Cryptography is both a science and an art, requiring a deep understanding of complex algorithms and mathematical principles and the creative application of



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those principles to real-world scenarios. The central concept behind cryptography is the use of keys, which can be categorized into two main types of cryptosystems: symmetric and asymmetric. Symmetric cryptography involves the use of a shared secret key that both the sender and recipient use to encrypt and decrypt messages. This method is relatively straightforward, efficient, and effective for securing communication between trusted parties [1]. In contrast, asymmetric cryptography employs a public key and a private key for encryption and decryption. The public key is freely available to anyone, while the private key is kept secret by the owner. This method is more complex but provides enhanced security as it ensures that even if the public key is compromised, the private key remains secure [3]. Cryptography plays a critical role in securing sensitive information and communication in various industries, including finance, the healthcare sector, and government, among others. Its continued development and implementation will undoubtedly play a vital role in protecting information in an increasingly digital world. In fig1 shows the components of cryptography.

Importance of Blockchain in Cryptography

Cryptography plays a vital role in securing data from unauthorized access to the blockchain. It is used to protect transactions between two nodes in the network by encrypting messages in a P2P network. Meanwhile, hashing is utilized to secure the information contained in blocks and to maintain the integrity of the links between them. The primary objective of cryptography in the blockchain is to ensure the security of participants and transactions, prevent double-spending, and maintain data confidentiality. By encrypting transactions with cryptographic algorithms, only authorized parties can access and process transaction data, enhancing the security and privacy of the blockchain network. Cryptography is an essential component of blockchain technology as it allows for the secure and efficient transmission of sensitive data between network participants [16]. Through cryptographic techniques such as public and private key cryptography, digital signatures, and message authentication codes (MACs), the blockchain can ensure that only trusted parties can access and process transactions, safeguarding the integrity and authenticity of the network.

Role of Digital Signatures in Blockchain

In blockchain technology, digital signatures play a vital role in ensuring the authenticity and integrity of transactions. Each transaction in a blockchain is signed using a digital signature, which is based on the transaction data and the private key of the sender. The digital signature provides a mechanism for verifying that the transaction was indeed initiated by the sender and has not been tampered with during transmission. This verification is achieved using cryptographic algorithms that ensure the authenticity of the digital signature and the integrity of the transaction data. Digital signatures are based on asymmetric cryptography, where a pair of keys is used for encryption and decryption. The private key is kept secret by the signer, while the public key is shared with other users in the blockchain network. The public key is used to verify the digital signature, while the private key is used to create the digital signature. By using digital signatures in blockchain transactions, the blockchain network can ensure the security and authenticity of transactions without the need for a central authority or intermediary. This enhances the transparency and trustworthiness of the blockchain network and promotes decentralized, secure transactions.

Cryptography Hash Function in Blockchain

Cryptography is an essential component of blockchain technology, and one of its most significant applications is cryptographic hashing. By utilizing hashing, blockchain can achieve immutability, which is a key feature of the technology. Unlike encryption using keys, cryptographic hashing converts any input data into a fixed-size output, known as a hash. This hash is unique to the input data and cannot be reversed to obtain the original input. In the blockchain, every transaction is hashed, and the resulting hash is added to the block. Each block's unique hash is also determined based on the hashes of all the transactions it contains, forming a chain of blocks with a linked hash. Hashing ensures that the data inside each block is protected from tampering or modification. If any alteration is made to the block data, the hash of the block changes, breaking the chain of blocks and alerting the network to the tampering attempt. The most commonly used hash functions in the blockchain are SHA-256 and SHA-3, which are



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designed to be secure and resistant to attacks. The use of hash functions in the blockchain provides a high level of security and integrity for transactions, making it a reliable and trustworthy technology [15].

The blockchain structure typically consists of a series of blocks, each containing a set of transactions. Each block is linked to the previous block in the chain through a cryptographic hash function, which creates a unique hash value based on the contents of the block. This ensures the immutability and integrity of the blockchain, as any tampering with a block would result in a change in its hash value, which would be detected by the other nodes in the network. To process transactions in a blockchain system, each transaction is first verified and validated by the network of nodes using cryptographic techniques such as digital signatures and public-key cryptography. Once verified, the transaction is bundled together with other transactions in a block and added to the blockchain. To ensure the integrity of the transactions within a block, a Merkle tree is often used to compute a single hash value for all the transactions in the block. This hash value, known as the Merkle root, is included in the block header and is used to link the block to the previous block in the chain. figure 2 likely explains the use of cryptographic techniques such as hash functions, digital signatures, and Merkle trees to ensure the security and integrity of transactions in a blockchain system.

Related Work

N. Shahid *et al.* (2020) propose a novel architecture for the secure and private sharing of medical data in healthcare systems. The article discusses the limitations of existing healthcare systems, such as lack of interoperability, data breaches, and privacy concerns. To address these challenges, the proposed architecture combines the use of blockchain and onion routing technologies. Blockchain technology is used to secure medical data storage, while onion routing provides an additional layer of privacy protection during data transmission. The article discusses the design and implementation of the proposed architecture, which utilizes elliptic curve cryptography for key exchange and encryption of data. The authors also provide a performance evaluation of the proposed architecture, demonstrating its feasibility for use in real-world healthcare systems. M.K. Khan *et al.*[2021] proposes a novel architecture for secure healthcare systems that leverages the strengths of blockchain and onion routing with attribute-based encryption (ABE) to address privacy and security challenges. The article discusses the design and implementation of the proposed architecture, which allows for the secure storage and sharing of medical data while ensuring patient privacy and confidentiality. V. Kuznetsov *et al.*[2021] highlight the use of cryptographic algorithms such as Elliptic Curve Cryptography (ECC) and Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) for secure data transfer and storage. They also discuss using hashing algorithms such as SHA-256 to ensure data integrity. The article concludes that blockchain technology and onion routing have the potential to revolutionize healthcare systems by providing a secure and private platform for the transfer and storage of sensitive healthcare data. Chandel *et al.* [2019] examined and deliberated about the presentation of RSA calculation and Elliptic curve Cryptography calculation that is most regularly utilized in blockchain by having an overall thought of an exchange size and exchange productivity. Mahto *et al.* [2017] On three examples of input information with irregular keys based on the NIST proposal, 8 bits, 64 pieces, and 256 pieces, work was done to find time slips during encryption and decoding by RSA and ECC. Through testing, it was discovered that ECC outperforms RSA in terms of operational competence and security with smaller borders. One of the best options for devices with limited assets is an ECC. According to Bos *et al.*[2009] hypothesis, the security of RSA depends on the factorization of a big integer, whereas the security of the elliptic curve depends on the calculation of discrete logarithms. Joppe W. Bos *et al.*[2013] explained how elliptic curve cryptography (ECC) works and its advantages over traditional public key cryptography. ECC is more efficient for resource-constrained environments and provides equivalent or greater security with smaller key sizes. The authors also discuss practical considerations for implementing ECC, such as selecting secure implementations and appropriate parameters. The article also mentions some of the challenges and open problems in ECC, such as the potential for side-channel attacks and the need for standardization of curve parameters. Dindayal Mahto and Dilip Kumar Yadav [2017] examined two popular public-key cryptography schemes. In the current digital world, RSA-based cryptosystems are widely deployed, but elliptic curve-based cryptosystems are emerging as an alternative. The RSA cryptosystem's security is based on the integer factorization problem (IFP), while the ECC's security is based on the elliptic curve discrete logarithm problem (ECDLP). ECC is attractive because the best-known algorithm for solving the ECDLP takes full





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exponential time while solving the IFP of RSA takes sub-exponential time. The analysis concludes that ECC is better than RSA, especially on memory-constrained devices, as ECC requires less memory. Shuang-Gen Liu *et al.*[2021] proposed that the secure elliptic curve digital signature scheme is constructed. First, the new scheme introduces double parameters in the signature process that can effectively resist the weak randomness attack of ECDSA in Bitcoin and can be applied to blockchain digital currency trading systems. Second, in the random oracle model, it is probably indistinguishable from Elliptic Curve Discrete Logarithm Problem (ECDLP) under the supertype I and type II adversary. Third, the new scheme avoids the inverse operation in the signature and verification phase. Compared with the ECDSA, the running speed is optimized by 50.1%. Similarly, the proposed scheme has higher computational efficiency than other existing algorithms.

Hyperledger Sawtooth platform utilizes the Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm (ECDSA) in conjunction with the secp256k1 constants to define the curve for its cryptosystem. The platform employs the following components: The elliptic curve secp256k1 with generator G: This is the underlying mathematical curve used for generating cryptographic keys and digital signatures. NIST SP 800-56 Concatenation Key Derivation Function: This function is utilized for deriving keys from shared secrets and other input material. Hash-based Message Authentication Code (HMAC) using the SHA-512 hash function: HMAC is a cryptographic mechanism used for message authentication and integrity checking. The SHA-512 hash function is employed in generating the HMAC values. Onion routing: Hyperledger Sawtooth employs onion routing to protect the privacy and anonymity of participants in its network. Together, these components form the backbone of the Hyperledger Sawtooth platform's security infrastructure, enabling secure and private communication between participants in the network.

Digital Signature Algorithms in the Blockchain

Digital Signature Algorithms (DSAs), such as RSA, ECC, and ECDSA play a critical role in the use of blockchain technology in the healthcare sector. They provide secure authentication and validation of transactions and data stored on the blockchain network. DSAs use public-key cryptography to create digital signatures that can be validated using a public key, ensuring that data has not been tampered with and that only authorized parties have access to it [7]. This helps to maintain the privacy and security of patient data on the blockchain network. DSAs can also be used for secure data exchange between healthcare providers, patients, and medical devices, and can encrypt sensitive data before it is stored on the blockchain. This helps to protect patient data from unauthorized access and ensures that only authorized parties can access it. DSAs in blockchain technology provide a secure and trustworthy platform for managing and sharing patient data in the healthcare sector. This helps to improve the quality of care while maintaining patient privacy and security.

RSA Digital Signature Algorithm in Blockchain

RSA (Rivest-Shamir-Adleman) is a widely used public-key cryptography algorithm in the healthcare sector's use of blockchain technology. It is commonly used to provide secure digital signatures and authentication for electronic health records (EHRs) and medical devices. RSA encryption can also be used for secure data exchange between healthcare providers, patients, and medical devices. The use of RSA in blockchain technology ensures that patient data is kept secure and tamper-proof, with only authorized parties having access to it. RSA's ability to encrypt and decrypt sensitive data before storing it on the blockchain provides an added layer of security, ensuring that data remains confidential. The use of RSA cryptography in blockchain technology provides a secure and reliable platform for managing and sharing patient data in the healthcare sector. This helps improve the quality of care while maintaining patient privacy and security [4].

RSA Pseudocode

Algorithm 1: RSA algorithm for healthcare blockchain

Input: message m , healthcare provider public key (n_{hp}, e_{hp}) , patient public key (n_p, e_p) , healthcare provider private key (n_{hp}, d_{hp}) **Output:** encrypted message c or decrypted message m





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Secure communication::

Step 1: Healthcare provider encrypts message m using patient public key: $c = m^{e_p} \text{ mod } n_p$;

Step 2: Patient decrypts message c using their private key: $m = c^{d_p} \text{ mod } n_p$;

Step 3: Healthcare provider receives decrypted message m ;

Secure storage of patient data::

Step 1: Patient data is encrypted using healthcare provider public key: $c = \text{data}^{e_{hp}} \text{ mod } n_{hp}$;

Step 2: Encrypted patient data is stored on the blockchain;

Step 3: Healthcare provider decrypts patient data using their private key: $\text{data} = c^{d_{hp}} \text{ mod } n_{hp}$;

Ensuring integrity of data::

Step 1: Healthcare provider creates a digital signature using their private key: $\text{signature} = \text{hash}(m)^{d_{hp}} \text{ mod } n_{hp}$;

Step 2: Digital signature is attached to the patient data;

Step 3: When patient data is accessed, the digital signature is verified using the healthcare provider public key: $\text{hash}(m) = \text{signature}^{e_{hp}} \text{ mod } n_{hp}$;

RSA algorithm is a well-known and widely used encryption algorithm, it is not a preferred choice in the context of blockchain due to its computational complexity and limitations in a decentralized and distributed network.

Elliptic Curve Cryptography Signature Algorithm (ECC) Blockchain

ECC (Elliptic Curve Cryptography) also plays a vital role in the use of blockchain technology in the healthcare sector. It can be used to provide secure authentication and validation of transactions and data stored on the blockchain network. ECC's smaller key sizes and more efficient processing make it a preferred choice for resource-constrained environments, such as medical devices and sensors used in the healthcare sector. This makes it ideal for securing patient data and ensuring that only authorized parties can access it. ECC can be used in secure messaging systems, allowing healthcare providers to communicate sensitive information while maintaining the confidentiality and integrity of the data [6]. The use of ECC cryptography in blockchain technology provides a secure and reliable platform for managing and sharing patient data in the healthcare sector. Overall, the use of ECC cryptography in blockchain technology provides a secure and trustworthy platform for managing and sharing patient data in the healthcare sector [19]. This helps improve the quality of care while maintaining patient privacy and security [8]. Victor Miller [12] and Neal Koblitz [13] independently proposed Elliptic Curve Cryptography (ECC) in the mid-1980s. Since then, ECC has undergone significant development and has become a widely-used and mature public-key cryptosystem today.

Elliptic Curve Cryptography Pseudocode

Elliptic curve cryptography:

$$y^2 = x^3 + ax + b \quad (1)$$

where a and b are coefficients that define the curve, and x and y are the coordinates of points on the curve. Point addition:

$$P + Q = R \quad (2)$$

Here P , Q , and R are points on the curve, defined as follows:

If $P = O$, then $P + Q = Q$.

If $Q = O$, then $P + Q = P$.

If $P = -Q$, then $P + Q = O$.

If $P \neq Q$ then R is the point where the line connecting P and Q intersects the curve.

If $P = Q$, then R is the point where the tangent line to P intersects the curve.

Note that point addition is not commutative in general: $P + Q$ is not necessarily equal to $Q + P$.





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Point multiplication:

$$kP = Q \quad (3)$$

where k is an integer (the private key) and P and Q are points on the curve (the public key and the result of the multiplication), defined as follows:

If $k = 0$, then $Q = O$. If $k = 1$, then $Q = P$.

If k is even, then $k/2P$ is computed recursively and $Q = (k/2P) + (k/2P)$.

If k is odd, then $Q = P + (k-1)P$.

Discrete logarithm problem:

$$k = \log_P(Q) \quad (4)$$

where k is the integer such that $kP = Q$ (the private key), and P and Q are points on the curve (the public key and the result of the point multiplication).

The difficulty of solving this problem is the basis for the security of ECC. Cryptographic hash function:

$$H(m) \quad (5)$$

where m is the message to be hashed, and H is a function that produces a fixed-length hash value from the input message. Cryptographic hash functions are used in ECC to generate keys and signatures from random or pseudorandom input values.

Blockchain networks typically use elliptic curve cryptography (ECC) for their digital signature and encryption needs, as it provides equivalent or better security with smaller key sizes and faster computation times.

Elliptic Curve Cryptography Algorithms (ECC)

Elliptic-Curve Cryptography (ECC), which is based on the arithmetic of elliptic curves over finite fields, offers a variety of sets of algorithms like digital signature algorithms, encryption algorithms, and key agreement algorithms. Here these algorithms used a specific set of algorithms [6] [9].

Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm (ECDSA)

Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm (ECDSA) is a more difficult public-key encryption technique. Public key cryptography known as elliptic curve cryptography is based on the algebraic structure of elliptic curves with finite fields. Elliptic curve cryptography is mostly used to produce digital signatures, pseudo-random numbers, and other data. ECDSA is an essential component of blockchain technology that provides a secure and reliable way to verify the authenticity of transactions on the blockchain network.

EC-based ElGamal Elliptic Curve Cryptography

The public key cryptography equivalent of ElGamal encryption techniques that use the Elliptic Curve Discrete Logarithm Problem is called ElGamal Elliptic Curve Cryptography. To transfer messages safely across great distances, ElGamal is an asymmetric encryption technique. Unfortunately, the technique is susceptible to a Meet in the Middle attack if the encrypted message is brief enough. EC-based ElGamal ECC is a suitable and commonly used cryptosystem in blockchain technology due to its efficiency, strong security guarantees, and ability to provide both encryption and digital signature capabilities [5].

Elliptic-Curve Diffie-Hellman (ECDH)

Elliptic-curve Diffie-Hellman (ECDH) is a key agreement protocol that enables two parties to construct a shared secret via an insecure channel, each with an elliptic-curve public-private key pair. It is also known as ECDSA or Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm. This shared secret can be used to create additional keys or used directly as a key. Then, using a symmetric-key cipher, subsequent communications can be encrypted using the key or the derived key. ECDH is also used in combination with digital signatures to provide secure transaction verification in blockchain networks. In this paper, we conducted a comparative analysis of two popular cryptography algorithms, RSA and ECDSA, in the context of their suitability for use in blockchain technology. Our study found that ECDSA cryptography is better suited for blockchain applications due to its superior computational efficiency, lower memory footprint, and faster key exchange and signature verification times. These findings have important implications for the design and implementation of secure and scalable blockchain systems.





Proposed MOD-ECDSA-BH Digital Signature Algorithm in Blockchain Healthcare Sector

The proposed MOD-ECDSA-BH digital signature algorithm is a promising solution for the blockchain healthcare sector. This algorithm uses both the prime field curve and the binary field curve, providing flexibility and security in the cryptographic system. The algorithm was implemented in a Hyperledger Sawtooth platform and incorporated into an onion routing system for added security. Compared to RSA, MOD-ECDSA-BH offers better computational efficiency and scalability, as well as a smaller memory footprint. The key length for MOD-ECDSA-BH is also shorter than that of RSA, without sacrificing security. Additionally, the algorithm has been shown to have high maintainability, with a low cyclomatic complexity and class coupling.

An elliptic curve is a type of polynomial curve that can be represented by a general equation of the form $y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$. The secp256k1 elliptic curve is a specific curve that is used in blockchain technologies like Hyperledger Sawtooth, and it is defined by the parameters (p, a, b, G, n) . The values of a and b in the equation for secp256k1 are $a=0$ and $b=7$, so the equation of the secp256k1 elliptic curve can be written as $y^2 = x^3 + 7$. G is the generating point, it is used in every public key from the corresponding private key. Specifically, the same generating point G is used in every scalar multiplication operation to derive a public key from a private key. Point G has coordinates (x_G, y_G) on the elliptic curve. In elliptic curve cryptography, there are two fundamental operations known as point addition and point doubling, which can be used to generate a third point that will also lie on the given elliptic curve. Figure 4 provides an illustration of the secp256k1 elliptic curve.

The equation for a binary field curve is $y^2 + xy = x^3 + ax^2 + b$, where a and b are constants. This is a slightly different form than the equation for a prime field curve, which is $y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$. In the binary field equation, the x and y coordinates are binary values rather than real numbers. This means that the curve is defined over a field of characteristic 2, which has important implications for the operations used in elliptic curve cryptography. The term xy in the equation represents the "twist" in the curve, which is a feature unique to binary field curves. The twist helps to make binary field curves more efficient than prime field curves for certain cryptographic operations. Prime field curves and binary field curves are both important in public key cryptography, they are used to generate cryptographic keys for encrypting and decrypting messages, and both offer a high level of security when implemented properly. The size of the underlying field affects the efficiency of cryptographic operations, with binary field curves being more efficient than prime field curves in certain situations. Both types of curves offer flexibility in terms of their bit length, and while prime field curves are more widely standardized, there are also standardized binary field curves that are widely used. The proposed cryptography algorithm can be implemented in blockchain by using it to generate public and private keys for users. The public key can be shared with other users to verify digital signatures, while the private key is kept secret and used to sign transactions.

Proposed MOD-ECDSA-BH Pseudocode

Algorithm 1 ECDSA Signature Generation

Require:

m : Message to be signed d_A : Private key of signer A P : Base point on the elliptic curve E a, b : Coefficients of elliptic curve equation $y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$ n : Order of the base point P

(r, s) : ECDSA signature for message m

1: Select a random number k from $[1, n-1]$

2: Compute the point $Q = k \cdot P$

3: Compute $r = x_Q \bmod n$, where x_Q is the x -coordinate of point Q

4: Compute $s = k^{-1}(H_{512}(m) + d_A r) \bmod n$, where H_{512} is the SHA-512 hash function

5: **return** (r, s)

Algorithm 2 ECDSA Signature Verification

Require:

m : Message to be verified

(r, s) : ECDSA signature to be verified





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Q_A : Public key of signer A P : Base point on the elliptic curve E a, b : Coefficients of elliptic curve equation $y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$ n : Order of the base point P **Ensure**: valid: A boolean indicating whether the signature is valid or not

- 1: **if** $r \in [1, n-1]$ or $s \in [1, n-1]$ **then**
- 2: **return false**
- 3: Compute the hash value $H_{512}(m)$
- 4: Compute $u_1 \equiv H_{512}(m) \cdot s^{-1} \pmod n$
- 5: Compute $u_2 \equiv r \cdot s^{-1} \pmod n$ 6: Compute $V \equiv u_1 \cdot P + u_2 \cdot Q_A$
- 7: **if** $V = O$ **then**
- 8: **return false**
- 9: Compute $v \equiv x \pmod n$, where x is the x -coordinate of point V
- 10: **return valid** = $(r \equiv v \pmod n)$

The MATH behind MOD-ECDSA-BH in Signing / Verify Signing

The specific elliptic curve is chosen along with a base point P on the curve. The private key of the signer is a random integer d_A , while their public key is the point $Q_A = d_A \cdot P$ on the curve.

To sign a message m , the signer generates a random integer k and computes the point $Q = k \cdot P$ on the curve. The x -coordinate of Q is used as the value of r , and the value of s is computed using the following equation:

$$s \equiv k^{-1} (H(m) + d_A r) \pmod n$$

Here, H is a hash function, and n is the order of the base point P .

Verification

To verify the signature (r, s) on a message m , the verifier computes the value of u_1 and u_2 using the following equations:

$$u_1 \equiv H(m) \cdot s^{-1} \pmod n$$

$$u_2 \equiv r \cdot s^{-1} \pmod n$$

The verifier then computes the point $V = u_1 \cdot P + u_2 \cdot Q_A$ on the curve. If the point V is the point at infinity, denoted by O , then the signature is considered invalid. Otherwise, the x -coordinate of V is compared to r , and if they are equal modulo n , then the signature is considered valid. [9],[10],[20]

We start with the elliptic curve equation in Weierstrass form:

$$y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$$

We can transform this equation into the Edwards form by the following substitution:

$$x = \frac{4(X + aZ)}{Z} \quad \text{and} \quad y = \frac{8(Y + bZ)}{Z^2}$$

Substituting these expressions into the Weierstrass equation gives:

$$\left(\frac{8(Y + bZ)}{Z^2} \right)^2 = \left(\frac{4(X + aZ)}{Z} \right)^3 + a \left(\frac{4(X + aZ)}{Z} \right) + b$$

$$64(Y + bZ)^2 = 16(X + aZ)^3 + 16a(X + aZ)Z^2 + bZ^4$$

$$16(Y^2 + 2bYZ + b^2Z^2) = 4(X + aZ)^3 + 4a(X + aZ)Z^2 + bZ^4$$

$$4(Y^2 + 2bYZ + b^2Z^2) = (X + aZ)^3 + a(X + aZ)Z^2 + \frac{b}{4}Z^4$$

$$4Y^2 + 8bYZ - 4b^2Z^2 = X^3 + 3aX^2Z + 3a^2XZ^2 + a^3Z^3 + aXZ^3 + bZ^4$$

Now, we make the following substitutions:

$$u = X + \frac{a}{3}Z \quad \text{and} \quad v = Y + \frac{b}{2}Z$$

Using these substitutions and some simplification, we get the Edwards form of the elliptic curve:





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$$v^2 = u^3 + \left(\frac{4a}{3} - 1\right)u^2 + \left(\frac{2a^2}{3} - \frac{2b}{3}\right)u$$

We can then rewrite this equation as:

$$v^2 = (u^2 - 2au + 3a^2/2 - b/2)(u + 2a/3) + b/2(1 - 2a/3)$$

RESULT ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Key Length Comparison between RSA and MOD-ECDSA-BH

The key length is an essential factor in determining the security and performance of cryptographic algorithms like RSA and ECDSA. The key length determines the number of bits used to represent the key. RSA and the proposed algorithm use different key lengths for encryption and signature generation [14]. RSA typically uses longer key lengths than the proposed algorithm, making it more secure against brute-force attacks [18], [19]. On the other hand, MOD-ECDSA-BH uses shorter key lengths than RSA, which makes it faster and more efficient. The proposed algorithm is more suitable for Blockchain technology in the healthcare system. A proper key length can provide the required security while maintaining acceptable performance [11]. Figure 4 shows that for the given patient data sizes, MOD-ECDSA-BH generally requires smaller key lengths compared to RSA, which can have implications for the security and computational efficiency of the overall system.

Performance Assessment of the Proposed Framework

Signature Generation Time:

This refers to the time taken to generate a signature using the cryptographic algorithm. In RSA, this process involves computing modular exponentiation operations, which can be time-consuming. In MOD-ECDSA-BH, signature generation involves computing elliptic curve point multiplication operations, which are faster than RSA's modular exponentiation. The time taken to generate signatures is an important metric in blockchain as it can affect transaction processing times and overall network performance.

Signature Verification Time

This refers to the time taken to verify a signature using the cryptographic algorithm. In RSA, signature verification involves computing modular exponentiation operations, which can also be time-consuming. In MOD-ECDSA-BH, signature verification involves computing elliptic curve point addition and multiplication operations, which are faster than RSA's modular exponentiation. The time taken to verify signatures is an important metric in blockchain as it can affect the speed and reliability of transaction confirmation.

Computational Efficiency

In RSA, computational efficiency is lower compared to MOD-ECDSA-BH due to the high processing power required to perform encryption and decryption operations. In MOD-ECDSA-BH, computational efficiency is higher due to the use of elliptic curve point multiplication and addition operations, which are more efficient than RSA's modular exponentiation. Computational efficiency is an important metric in blockchain as it can affect the scalability and cost-effectiveness of the network. Figure 5 demonstrates that MOD-ECDSA-BH is a more computationally efficient algorithm than RSA for processing patient data, as it requires less time to generate keys, sign data, and verify signatures across all patient counts.

RSA vs MOD-ECDSA-BH Memory Footprint

The memory footprint of a cryptosystem refers to the amount of memory required to perform cryptographic operations. In general, RSA requires more memory than the proposed algorithm because RSA operations involve larger key sizes, which require more memory to store. RSA key generation requires the generation and manipulation of large integers, which can require a significant amount of memory. The size of the key also affects the memory footprint of RSA, as larger keys require more memory for both storage and computation. Additionally, RSA signatures and encryption/decryption operations also require significant memory usage. MOD-ECDSA-BH, on the



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other hand, uses elliptic curve operations that are computationally more efficient and require smaller key sizes. This results in a smaller memory footprint for MOD-ECDSA-BH compared to RSA. The smaller key sizes also make MOD-ECDSA-BH more suitable for resource-constrained environments such as mobile devices or Internet of Things (IoT) devices.

Figure 6 illustrates that MOD-ECDSA-BH is a more memory-efficient algorithm than RSA for processing patient data, as it requires significantly less memory across all patient counts. The proposed algorithm is generally considered more efficient in blockchain healthcare due to its faster signature generation and verification times, lower CPU usage, and higher computational efficiency.

RSA vs MOD-ECDSA-BH Scalability

The scalability of a cryptographic algorithm is an important factor to consider when implementing it in a system such as a blockchain healthcare system. In this context, scalability refers to the ability of the algorithm to handle increasing numbers of patients and data without sacrificing performance or security. In the case of RSA and the proposed algorithm, scalability can be measured in terms of the time required to perform key generation, signing, verification, and other cryptographic operations. The proposed algorithm outperforms RSA in terms of scalability, with significantly shorter times required for key generation, signing, and verification. This makes MOD-ECDSA-BH a better choice for large-scale systems such as blockchain healthcare systems where scalability is a critical factor.

Figure 7 shows the scalability of two cryptographic algorithms, RSA and MOD-ECDSA-BH, for different numbers of patients. As the number of patients increases, both algorithms take longer to complete the task, but MOD-ECDSA-BH scales better than RSA. For example, when there are 50 patients, MOD-ECDSA-BH takes only 1 minute to complete the task, while RSA takes 3 minutes. Similarly, when there are 500 patients, MOD-ECDSA-BH takes 10 minutes, while RSA takes 30 minutes. The chart demonstrates that MOD-ECDSA-BH is more scalable than RSA for this particular task, especially as the number of patients increases.

RSA vs MOD-ECDSA-BH Throughput

The proposed algorithm MOD-ECDSA-BH provides higher throughput than RSA, other factors such as security requirements and key length should also be taken into account. In a blockchain-based healthcare system, the throughput is a critical performance metric that measures the number of transactions that can be processed per second. Figure 8 shows the throughput of two cryptographic algorithms, RSA and MOD-ECDSA-BH, for processing patient data. As the number of patients increases, the throughput of both algorithms decreases. However, MOD-ECDSA-BH consistently outperforms RSA in terms of throughput. The chart illustrates that MOD-ECDSA-BH is a more efficient algorithm than RSA for processing patient data, as it delivers higher throughput across all patient counts.

CONCLUSION

The Proposed algorithm is more secure by applying the more complex arithmetic in ECC. The proposed algorithm MOD-ECDSA-BH uses elliptic curves, which are believed to be more resistant to attacks than traditional prime field curves, and also binary field curves are used in this cryptographic algorithm. This proposed work is implemented in the blockchain healthcare system. MOD-ECDSA-BH provides a strong level of security, efficiency, speed, and compatibility that make it well-suited for use in blockchain technology. As blockchain continues to grow and evolve, it is likely that MOD-ECDSA-BH will remain a popular choice for securing transactions and protecting patient information. In the context of blockchain healthcare, MOD-ECDSA-BH cryptography is a suitable choice for securing patient data, electronic health records, and other sensitive information. Due to its strong security properties, efficient computation, and compatibility with modern systems, MOD-ECDSA-BH can provide a high level of assurance that patient data is protected from unauthorized access and tampering. As healthcare data becomes increasingly digital and interconnected, the need for a secure and efficient cryptographic algorithm like MOD-





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ECDSA-BH will grow. The proposed algorithm MOD-ECDSA-BH is a suitable digital signature algorithm for the blockchain healthcare sector, offering improved security and efficiency compared to other algorithms such as RSA. Its implementation in the Hyper ledger Saw tooth platform, along with its incorporation in an onion routing system, makes it a promising solution for securing patient data in healthcare blockchain systems. Therefore, MOD-ECDSA-BH cryptography is a valuable tool for securing blockchain-based healthcare systems and ensuring the privacy and confidentiality of patient data.

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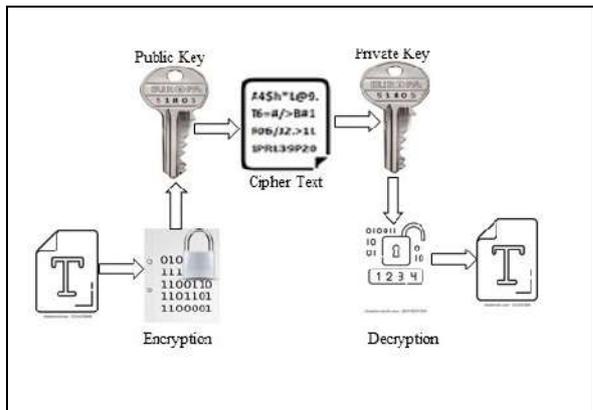


Fig. 1: Asymmetric Cryptographic

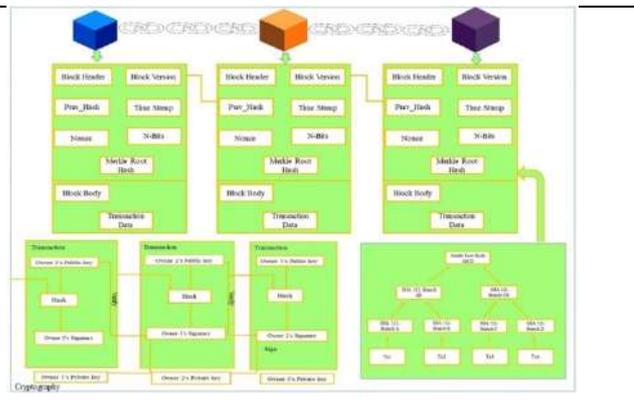


Fig. 2: Cryptography Hash Functions in Blockchain

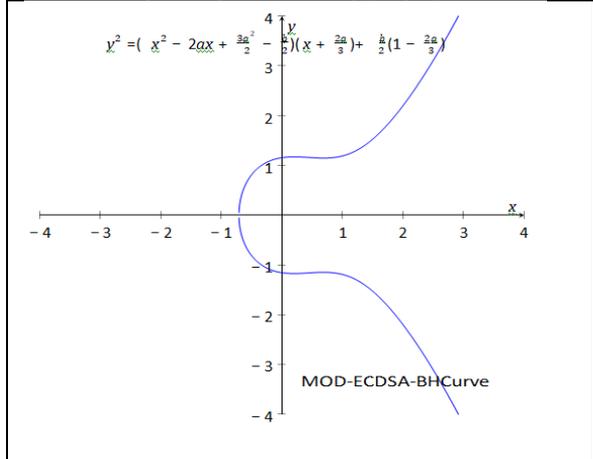


Fig. 3: Proposed Elliptical Curve Cryptography (MOD-ECDSA-BH)

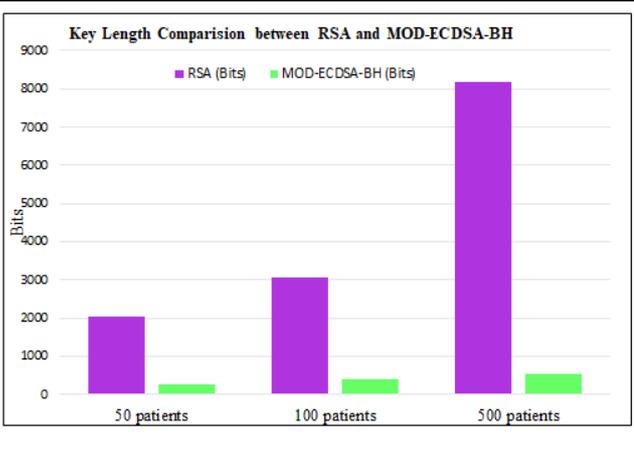


Fig. 4 RSA Vs MOD-ECDSA-BH: Key length Comparison for Patient Data

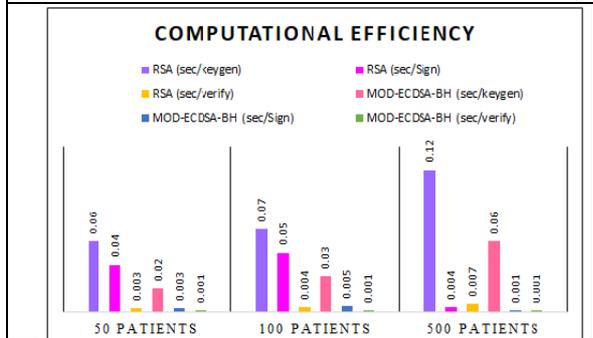


Fig. 5: RSA Vs MOD-ECDSA-BH Computational Efficiency for Patient Data

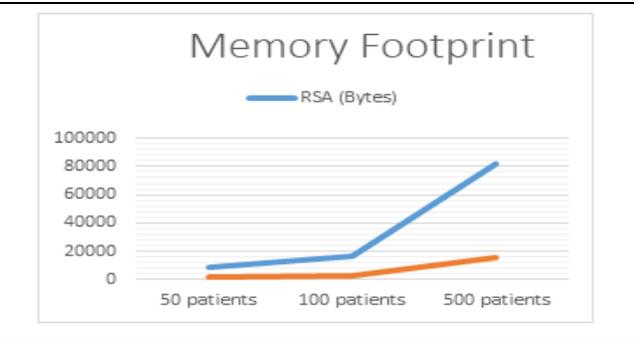


Fig. 6: RSA Vs MOD-ECDSA-BH Memory Footprint for Patient Data





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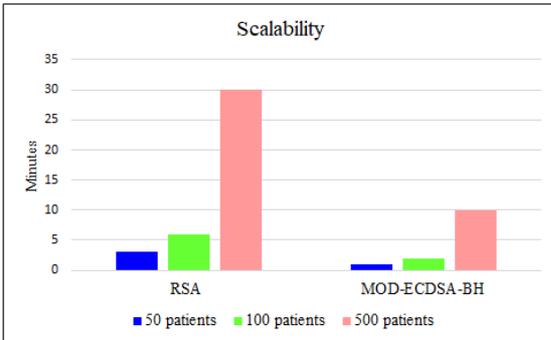


Fig. 7: RSA vs MOD-ECDSA-BH Scalability for Patient Data

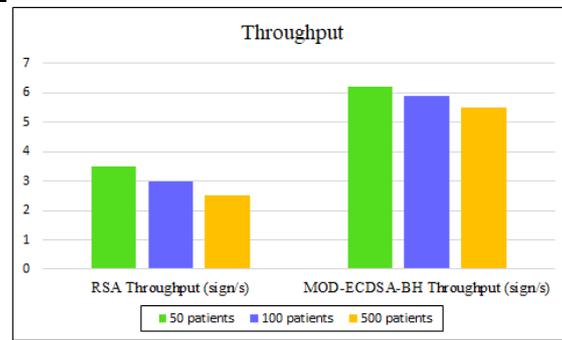


Fig. 8: RSA vs MOD-ECDSA-BH Throughput for Patient Data





Factors Affecting the Quality of Technical Education in the 21st Century

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ABSTRACT

Dynamic technological environment has brought a sea change in the workforce requirements of industries. This in turn necessitates a transformation in education scenario especially in technical education. This questionnaire based empirical study attempts to analyse the perceptions of the major stakeholders of the educational institutions, faculty members, management and students on the aspects of teaching learning process, challenges in teaching Gen Z students and strategies to tackle them. Further, the questionnaire probes to analyse the autonomous status of the institutions be a salvation to enhance the technical education. The results reveal that the changing mindsets of the Gen Z students such as social media usage and reduction in attention span pose challenges in the teaching-learning process of technical education. Also, the respondents opined that the autonomous status has several advantages viz., adopting measures to upraise the standard of technical education, upskilling of the faculty members and radical changes in teaching pedagogies.

Keywords: Technical education, 21st century education, Gen Z students, innovative pedagogies.





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INTRODUCTION

The main objective of an institution seeking autonomy is to enhance the joy of creative learning in the context of higher education. The prospects of autonomy are

- i) Curriculum development
- ii) Innovation in teaching
- iii) Learner-centric approach and
- iv) Maximise learning opportunities.

The changes in the technology environment, advent of Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, Industry 4.0 etc. mandate a new outlook to the technical education. Conventional engineering disciplines and pure science courses may no longer be valid and a multidisciplinary approach towards technical education is needed. Government of India has noticed the importance of multidisciplinary approach and introduced National Education Policy 2020 which envisages the establishment of multidisciplinary education and research universities (NEP,2020). In addition, students' expectations from the educational institutions have changed drastically with the availability of extensive opportunities to learn in various ways such as e-learning, specialty academies, social media and through networks. Learner centric teaching methodologies where students can be engaged become a necessity. But when an institution is affiliated to a university, the prescribed syllabus and the university norms do not provide freedom to experiment or explore innovation in the learning environment such as organizational structure, culture and learning design.

The main objective of the study is to understand the challenges in teaching Gen Z students in this dynamic technology driven era. The study attempts to understand the perceptions of the faculty members of technical institutions towards the skills needed for successful career in 21st century, strategies to impart the skills and challenges faced thereon. The study further focuses on assessing whether autonomy can be the salvation in the present teaching-learning scenario and the challenges in implementing the autonomy by the institutions.

REVIEW OF LITERTURE

History of Autonomy of Indian institutions

India served as a knowledge hub through its universities such as Nalanda, Takshasila, Kanchi etc. in ancient times. Interestingly, all these universities had complete autonomy in administration and academics ((Desai, 1970) with the highest degree of autonomy vested on the teachers. But later on, under the British rule, universities were established and affiliation system of colleges was introduced. Slowly, the autonomy of the institutions was curtailed and ultimate power was given to the universities (University Education Commission 1949). Since then, in-depth debate and discussions were held by the academicians and ministry of education, to bring about changes in the administrative system of higher education institutions through institutional autonomy but the efforts were futile. In 1947, India had 21 universities with 636 affiliated colleges and in 2020, the number of universities has increased to 993, of which 298 universities are affiliating universities with 39,931 colleges (AISHE, 2019). The number of universities managing more than 100 colleges are given in the Table 1.

Quality of higher education in 21st century education

Such huge number of colleges under universities curbs the colleges from modernization and quality improvement. Rigid curricula, mass examinations and evaluation methods by the universities deform the learning process and hinder innovations (UGC, 1987). In earlier days, the economies were mostly manufacturing or agrarian for which "3R"s (reading, writing and arithmetic) were enough. But the turn of the century has seen highly interconnected societies with technological advancements and those 3 Rs are no longer enough for successful career (National Education Association, 2012).



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To compete in the global arena, students must be nurtured with multitude of skills, termed 21st century skills. Instant global connectivity and high degree of ICT literacy have opened the gateway of enormous learning opportunities in the 21st century. The relentless and immutable advancements in technology, changed the workforce skills needed (Eisen P,2003). Similarly, it is also reported that the need for routine work is reduced and non-routine work with skills such as analytical skills, communication skills, critical thinking skills and most importantly cultural competency (National Education Association, 2012) are on the rise. Human capital is crucial for sustenance of economies in the 21st century, which is knowledge economy (Dill and Van Vught, 2010). A survey conducted by AMA (2010) reported critical thinking/problem solving, communication, collaboration, and creativity (4Cs) as the core competencies to be successful in workplace. It was also reported that honing the basic skills(3Rs) integrated with the 4Cs viz. Critical thinking, Creativity, Collaboration., Communication, will be critical for the future workforce (Kembara et al., 2019). These skills can be imparted and nurtured only through education at the school level and in specific through higher education institutions viz., colleges and universities.

India has the third largest higher education system next only to USA and China ((Amarender Reddy and Gayathri Vaidyanathan, 2019) with 35.7 million students(Yojana Sharma, 2019) enrolled for higher studies, accounting to a Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) of 26.3% (Mittal P, 2020). Exponential increase in the GER, increasing number of colleges, changes in the preferred workplace skills, necessity to impart 21st century skills and competencies, need for internationalization of education, digital native students and paradigm shift in the teaching-learning process authenticate the need for quality education. But the existing affiliating system of higher education sector does not provide the academic freedom to the institutions. The massification of higher education intensifies the imbalance and inequality of education (Mokand Jiang, 2018). For example, India's contribution to knowledge intensive ICT sector is only 2% as compared to China's 10% contribution (Amarender Reddy and Gayathri Vaidyanathan, 2019). The unprecedented expansion of higher education sector in India is characterized by "Islands of excellence in the sea of mediocrity", i.e. while the premier institutions such as IITs, IIMs and central universities garnered international recognition for their quality of education, other regional and local universities fail to make a mark in the national / international education scenario (Altbach,2014).

Extant research studies support the argument that the quality of education in higher education institutions must be enhanced. Morell (2010) analysed and reported that future of engineering education should be multidisciplinary in nature for solving issues in technology based societies. Another study by Atasi Mohanty and Deepshikha Das(2016) emphasized the importance of imparting 21st century skills in engineering education and its correlation with the changing job markets. The study further suggested that curriculum redesigning with innovative pedagogies would be most crucial in enhancing the quality of engineering education.

These facts emphasise the need for enhancing the quality of higher education. India's HEIs are termed as "Over-regulated and under-governed" by National Knowledge Commission (2006). There are around 23 universities managing more than 400 colleges, that is, a common system of regulations and curricula irrespective of the institutions' characteristics. Hence, University Grants Commission observed that the affiliating system in HE sector is unwieldy and inflexible. It is reported that the institutions with greater autonomy performs better than those with lesser autonomy (ORS Rao, 2015). Delinking of the colleges from the affiliating universities and empowering them with greater autonomy in financial, administrative and academic matters, (ORS Rao, 2015) is prescribed as a solution to overcome the various challenges, such as, rigid structure, mass examinations, common curriculum and so on, in higher education.

Autonomy to the colleges

The concept of autonomy to the colleges was first proposed by the Kothari commission (1964-66). Since then, many committees, apex bodies of education and Government education policies recommended setting up of autonomous colleges for enhancing the quality of education (George, 2008). Autonomy of the institutions may be defined as the empowerment of the institutions to take decisions on all its functions such as designing curriculum, introduction of new courses, conduct of examinations and assessment (UGC guidelines for autonomous colleges,2018).





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RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

An exploratory study was conducted to understand and analyse the existing technical education system and the future of it. More than 500 respondents comprising, educators at different levels such as Professors, Assistant Professors, and Heads of the Departments from various colleges in Tamil Nadu and industrial representatives were approached with a request to fill the questionnaire. The sample respondents were chosen through simple random sampling method.

Questionnaire had open ended questions on the following aspects, apart from few personal details:

1. Characteristics and expectations of 21st century students
2. Challenges in teaching the 21st century students from management, faculty and students' perspectives
3. Changes in the students' expectations
4. Strategies to engage the students in teaching-learning process
5. Autonomous status as a strategy to tackle the challenges of teaching Gen Z students.
6. SWOC of autonomous institutions.

Around 43% (215 institutions) of the respondents have participated and their responses were analysed and summarized in this paper.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The demographic distribution of the respondents is given below:

- Of the 215 institutions, 50.8% of the institutions are private, 31.7% are autonomous institutions and 9.5% are deemed to be universities.
- The experience of the respondents ranges from less than 5 years to more than 10 years in their respective fields.
- Significant number of the respondents, 49.1% , have more than 10 years of experience and 36.4% of them have less than 5 years of experience. 14.5 % of the respondents have 5-10 years of experience.

This demographic distribution enables the understanding of diversified perspectives on the research theme.

21ST CENTURY SKILLS

National Education Association (2012) proposed a framework of 21st century skills comprising of 17 essential skills. In addition to mastering the core subjects, students should be equipped with the following non-cognitive skills. Later, in view of the complexity of the framework, four skills were identified as essential competencies for 21st century workforce, called 4Cs (creativity and innovation, critical thinking, communication and collaboration) along with the basic 3Rs (read, write and arithmetic). The challenge now lies in imparting these essential core competencies to the 21st century students who are radically different from Gen X and Gen Y students.

21ST Century Students (Gen Z students)

The characteristics of the Gen Z students are that they are highly creative and innovative, multitasking, tech savvy etc. owing to the availability and the accessibility of the information glut in this digital era (Francis, T., & Hoefel, F., 2018).Bencsik et al (2016) compared and consolidated the characteristics of Gen Y and Gen z at workplaces and for this work Gen Z characteristics are used. The results revealed that majority of the respondents(>60%) perceived the Gen Z characteristics as innovative and creative, multitasking, and independent. Further around 50% of the respondents also opined that Gen Z students are self-confident,fast and furious, welcome change and love to socialize

Few adverse qualities such as indulgence in social media and lesser attention span are also attributed to Gen Z students. The lesser attention span may be attributed to the increasing hours of average screen time





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(Nielsen,2017). Though the current generation students are perceived to be more tech savvy, the respondents opine that the students lack in adapting technology as a learning tool. Their attention span is low and the information overload makes them more lethargic. Some of the issues related to students are:

1. Using technology as a tool for learning
2. Increasing number of unwilling and unable students
3. Lack of subjective / conceptual knowledge
4. Lack of interpersonal skills / self-direction skills / critical thinking skills/ decision making skills
5. Lack of exposure to global connections
6. Indulgence in entertainment
7. Attitude / mindset/ discipline of the students
8. "Preparing only for exams" attitude
9. Unwilling to cooperate with the changes.

Learners must be exposed to the changing needs of the job market through innovative pedagogies. Once this becomes reality, then they are more likely to think, question and analyse. This in turn may reduce groupthink perspective. It is the responsibility of the management and faculty members to jointly address these challenges.

Changes in students' expectations

Most of the respondents opined that the practical / project / real time / experiential learning are expected by the students community. Mostly, they get distracted by the conventional method of teaching and expect more than the text book content. But at the same time, the flip side perceptions revolve around the lack of discipline inside the classroom, distractions, social media, lack of time management, lack of focus, lack of longer attention span, lack of moral values etc. Another major setback is that the students' choose to do "Engineering and technology" by parents' compulsion which in turn reduces the students' interest considerably. Teaching and engaging these Gen Z students is challenging. Traditional chalk and talk method will no longer hold the attention of the students for a long time. Faculty members have to devise strategies and use innovative pedagogies to engage the students and faculty should be able to adapt to these changes. Management has to train and provide necessary infrastructure which may involve financial commitment. Hence, in this paper an attempt is made to analyse the challenges in imparting 21st century skills to Gen z students from the perspectives of management, faculty members and students.

The forthcoming sections discuss the respondents' views on the challenges in enhancing quality of technical education from management, faculty members, infrastructure and environmental perspectives.

CHALLENGES IN TEACHING THE 21st CENTURY STUDENTS

MANAGEMENT'S PERSPECTIVE

The study revealed that the responsibility of the faculty members have increased manifold. They have to be highly skilled and should be capable of engaging students through innovative pedagogies with updated knowledge in the subject. But the obligation of management in this endeavor is herculean. They need to provide necessary infrastructure and facilities, recruit qualified teachers, train the existing faculty members etc. in order to sustain and grow in today's competitive education scenario. The figure provides the summary of the challenges, the management may have to resolve. The challenges mostly are in imparting innovation and creativity among the students through project based /self learning opportunities, high-tech laboratories, upskilling of the faculty members and providing infrastructure. These challenges are to be resolved collectively by all the stakeholders, viz teachers, administrators (Non- teaching stake holders), parents, industries, recruiters etc.

FACULTY'S PERSPECTIVE

The success of an institution is majorly dependent on the well qualified and skillful faculty members. The faculty members should impart values and ethics among the students in addition to the academic requirements. The study brings the following challenges that the faculty are facing in teaching the digital native students:





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- Lack of academic autonomy – institution's focus is purely academic
- Upgradation of skills for providing holistic learning experience to the students
- Ability to adapt to the changes such as use of technology for Teaching – Learning process, implementing innovative pedagogies to impart critical thinking, analytical skills
- Understanding and incorporating the real life scenario in teaching (adapting real time approach)
- Keeping abreast with the curriculum changes
- Dealing and maintaining rapport with the current generation
- Dealing with Heterogeneous set of students (Above average /average/below average students)
- Lack of experience
- Lack of infrastructure and facilities
- Time constraint with specific reference to the affiliated institutions where the academic schedule is prescribed the affiliating university
- Lack of students' interest

Since the attention span of the students has reduced considerably, teachers should strive to retain their attention through participative learning, project based learning, technology based learning, enquiry based learning etc. To do so, the faculty members have to do lot of homework embracing and adapting to the changes in the technical education. The focus of the teachers doesn't end with the academics, it is their fundamental duty to impart value based education, imparting core values and ethics.

STRATEGIES FOR STUDENTS' ENGAGEMENT IN TEACHING LEARNING PROCESS

It is understood from the above discussion that a change in teaching-learning process is mandatory. The management and the faculty members have to research and adopt innovative pedagogies which are application oriented, project based and practical based through technology driven teaching aids.

The implementation of the strategies proposed is possible only through

1. Training and development of the faculty members
2. Adapting innovative teaching-learning process
3. Imparting value-based education
4. Psychometric analysis of the students at the entry level

Major challenges in implementing these pedagogies in the current scenario are

Time constraint

Within the given time frame, the focus is mainly on completing the syllabus and preparing the students for University examinations.

Ranking by the university

University published ranking of the institutions have a significant impact on the admission process. The ranking system, unfortunately, is based on the academic performance (Pass percentage) only and hence the institutions focus on mark oriented Teaching-Learning process.

Lack of facilities / infrastructure

Providing the required infrastructure by the management in self financing institution incur financial stress. High tech laboratories, smart class rooms, equipment for technology driven learning, faculty salary etc, impose huge financial commitment by the management.

Students' attitude and caliber

The current generation students are more independent and self oriented. They are trained for "Memory based examinations" and not "Skill based examinations". Also the advancements in ICT tools, apart from education





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tools such as gaming apps, social networking etc. distract the students enormously and reducing their attention span.

Faculty

Availability of faculty members with required skills is scarce. Hence periodical training on technical skills is mandatory.

Lack of Learner-centric pedagogies

Since the students are trained for examinations and ranked based on their performance in subjective end semester examinations, the teaching process is majorly faculty-centric and syllabus oriented.

These challenges are of serious concern in dealing with the students and imparting 21st century skills. Hence, the study then probes to find whether autonomous status of an education institution will prove useful to address the issues of technical teaching in 21st century.

AUTONOMY IS THE SALVATION

The idea of autonomy is an essential key planned primarily to offer an empowering atmosphere to progress and fortify the teaching and learning process, evaluating quality creativities. In the rapidly changing teaching-learning environment, an autonomous system can facilitate much needed innovations such as inter-disciplinary programs, inter-institutional sharing of academic loads, and transfer of credits between different modes of learning and so on. Autonomous institutions are given the freedom to frame their own curriculum, based on the requirements of the industry. The effective execution of the thought of autonomy involves well-mannered and honest participation of the students, teachers and management in the education process. Majority of the respondents perceived autonomy of an institution definitely helps to address the issues. The points that were pronounced in favour of and against the autonomous status are given in Figure 3.

The analysis reveals that autonomy to the institutions has both positive and negative aspects. The positive aspects are projected to bring about radical shift in the administration, teaching-learning process, students' engagement and assessment process through autonomy. The negative aspects are majorly in terms of management style and mindset of the students.

SWOC ANALYSIS OF AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTIONS

Success of any autonomous institution lies in the introduction of innovative curriculum and setting of standards. An autonomous college carries a prestigious image for the students and the teachers. It reflects the efforts for excellence in academic performances, capability of self governance and enhancement of quality of education. Implementation of innovative teaching-learning process with learner-centric approach may lead to enhanced quality of education. If the management of an institution strives towards excellence without compromising on the academic standards, quality of students' admission and evaluation pattern, then the autonomy of the institution will be beneficial. The respondents have listed the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges of an autonomous institutions from various perspectives. The summary of their responses are given in Figure 4.

The results show that the autonomous institutions have greater strengths in terms of Governance, Examinations, R & D activities and teaching-learning processes. Opportunities of autonomous institutions are projected to be on the possibility of internationalization of education with international and industry collaborations. Main challenges that an autonomous institution may have to tackle revolve around the admissions and management interventions. At the same time, environmental changes such as political interventions and policy changes are also claimed to be major challenges for autonomous institutions. Interestingly, the respondents perceive the weaknesses of an autonomous institution are on the lack of qualified faculty and financial constraints.





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RECOMMENDATIONS

As discussed above, the idea of autonomy is to provide an empowered atmosphere to fortify the teaching-learning process. The indispensable factors leading to enhanced quality of technical education are the capability and attitudes of students, skillfulness of teachers and unwavering commitment of the management. The following recommendations are made based on the analysis of respondents' perceptions on changing educational scenario and SWOC analysis of autonomous status of the technical institutions.

Recommendation 1: Thorough analysis of the education scenario by the management:

The dynamics of education system is unpredictable. The half-life of an engineering knowledge slowly decreases and currently it is estimated to be only few years (Charette, R. N., 2013). In order to overcome the technical obsolescence (Ferdinand, T. N., 1966.) the technical institutions have to reframe and update the syllabus according to the technological environment. The managements and the Universities have to do a thorough analysis of the environment to keep abreast with technology environment and the expectations of the students.

Recommendation 2: Adequate infrastructure should be provided by the management.

The teaching-learning process will have to undergo a radical shift in order to provide an empowered academic environment. Introduction of inter-disciplinary programs on emerging technologies cannot be successful unless an adequate infrastructure is provided. Hence, the institutions should provide adequate infrastructure for enhancing the quality of technical education.

Recommendation 3: Up-skilling the faculty members

Madheswari, S. P., & Mageswari, S. U. (2020), suggested that upskilling of faculty members should be the first priority for enhancing the quality of engineering education. Lack of qualified faculty members is perceived to be a weakness in autonomous institutions. Gen Z students expect technology assisted learning which can engage them in classrooms. Hence it is mandatory that the faculty members undergo periodical training to update themselves with the technological advancements in the industry, to understand the changing job markets and to adapt innovative pedagogies.

Recommendation 4: Orientation to students on Engineering education

The 21st century students' characteristics are radically different from Gen X / Gen Y students in terms of span of attention, learning styles, being digital natives etc. The survey has revealed that students opt to engineering education because of parents' compulsion. On the other hand, the respondents opined that the students are not aware of the expectations of the industry and also are complacent about their studies. Hence, students should be oriented towards engineering education, requirements for job marks and future skill-sets needed for engineers etc through subject experts and industry partners.

Recommendation 5: Implementing learner-centric pedagogies

The shift from traditional teaching to innovative teaching is manifested through learner-centric instruction. This brings about a noticeable move from teachers being mere instructors to being a facilitator where interactive learning environment is created (Mahendra et al. 2005). Learners will have autonomy to make their choice of learning experience (O'Neill & McMahon, 2005) and can play active role in learning (Tawalbeh and Aiasmari, 2015). Further learner-centric approach provides best learning experience where learners actively involve in learning process based on their learning ability (Garcia, O&Kleifgen, J. A., 2010). Hence a radical shift from teacher centric pedagogies to learner centric pedagogies will enhance students' participation in learning process. The results and discussion of the study revealed that the status of autonomy provide opportunity and freedom to the institutions to upgrade their curriculum, to introduce new courses as per the requirements of the job markets and to adapt innovative pedagogies for enhanced students' engagement etc. resulting in improved quality of technical education.





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CONCLUSION

21st century education scenario is changing and technology plays a crucial role in teaching 21st century skills. A survey based exploratory study is conducted with academicians as the respondents to analyse the students' expectations, 21st century technical education, 21st century students characteristics and their expectations from classrooms, Challenges etc. The results revealed that 21st century education is completely different from the conventional education and innovative teaching-learning process should be adopted for engaging the students to enhance the quality of education. The survey further probed into the strategies needed for tackling the changing paradigm of technical education and whether autonomy can be the salvation. The analysis disclosed that autonomy to the institutions will definitely be the salvation provided the management and all the stakeholders work with perfect harmony to achieve the goal, i.e., enhanced quality of technical education.

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Table 1: Number of universities managing more than 100 colleges

Range No. of colleges	Number of universities
100-200	59
200-300	36
300-400	12
400-500	10
500-1000	13

Table 2 : 21st century skills framework

Interdisciplinary Themes	Learning And Innovation Skills	Information, Media And Technology Skills	Life And Career Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Awareness • Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy • Civic Literacy • Health Literacy • Environmental Literacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creativity and Innovation • Critical Thinking and Problem Solving • Communication • Collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information Literacy • Media Literacy • ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexibility and Adaptability • Initiative and Self-Direction • Social and Cross-Cultural Skills • Productivity and Accountability • Leadership and Responsibility





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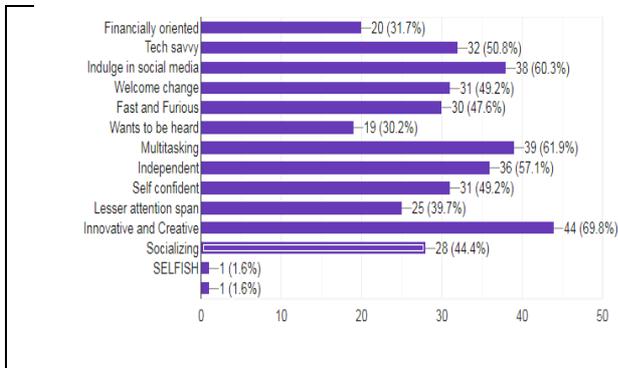


Figure 1 :Characteristics of 21st century students

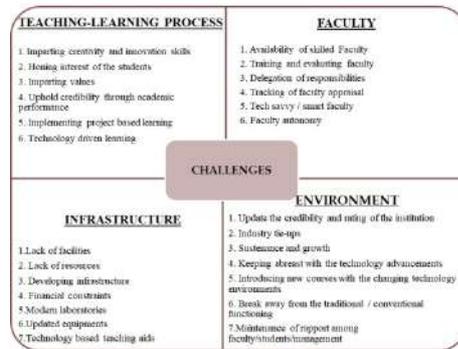


Figure 2 : Challenges in Teaching 21st Century Students – Management Perspective

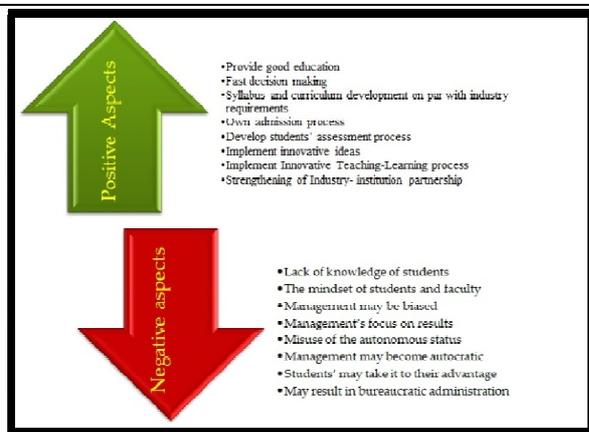


Figure 3:Positive and Negative Perceptions of Autonomy to Colleges

Figure 4 : SWOC analysis of autonomous institutions





Dietary Agents for Improving Fertility in Human Beings

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ABSTRACT

Infertility is a common condition affecting one of six couples during their reproductive lifetime. Among these couples, problems with ovulation can be identified in 18–30% of the cases. Although treatment options for infertility are available, their large cost and frequency of adverse events have motivated the identification of potentially modifiable risk factors. Many common plants can be used to influence fertility. Natural diet contains several nutrients such as vitamins and minerals. The nutrients are used to improve the human fertility. Using certain medicinal herbs to increase fertility and the chances of conceiving. The present study was carried out to find out the natural dietary agents for improving fertility. There were 15 dietary plants were recognized for the best dietary agents for the improving fertility and these plants had some phytochemicals to improve the fertility.

Keywords: Fertility, dietary agents, phytochemicals.

INTRODUCTION

Infertility is a common condition affecting one of six couples during their reproductive lifetime (Hull *et al.*, 1985). Among these couples, problems with ovulation can be identified in 18–30% of the cases (Collins *et al.*, 1983; Hull *et al.*, 1985 and Smith *et al.*, 2003). Although treatment options for infertility are available, their large cost (Neumann *et*



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al., 1994; Katz et al., 2002) and frequency of adverse events (Shevell et al., 2005; Van, 2006) have motivated the identification of potentially modifiable risk factors. We have previously found that body weight (Rich-Edwards et al., 1994; Rich-Edwards et al., 2002) physical activity (Rich-Edwards et al., 2002) and dietary factors, such as intakes of specific fatty acids (Chavarro et al., 2007), protein (Chavarro JE, Rich-Edwards JW, Rosner BA, Willett WC. Protein intake and ovulatory infertility. Am J Obstet Gynecol. In press), carbohydrates (Chavarro JE, Rich-Edwards JW, Rosner BA, Willett WC. A prospective study of dietary carbohydrate quantity and quality in relation to risk of ovulatory infertility. Eur J Clin Nutr. In press), dairy foods, (Chavarro et al., 2007) iron (Chavarro et al., 2006), and multivitamins (Chavarro et al., 2007), are related to infertility due to ovulation disorders. Many studies have evaluated the associations between food groups, foods, or nutrients and chronic diseases, and a consensus about the role of nutritional factors in the etiology of these diseases has gradually emerged (Hull et al., 1985 and Smith et al., 2003). During the past three decades, several reports have suggested that the quality of semen in normal men is declining (James, 1980; Bostofte et al., 1983; Bendvold, 1989 and Irvine, 1994). Recently, in a meta-analysis of 61 studies worldwide, Carlsen et al. found a trend toward decreasing sperm count and volume of seminal fluid over the past 50 years (Carlsen et al., 1992).

According to data from the National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), in 2002 an estimated 7.3 million American women aged 15–44 years had impaired fecundity (i.e., had experienced difficulties conceiving or bringing a pregnancy to term during their lifetime) (Chandra et al., 2005). Two million couples in the United States were infertile (i.e., had not conceived during the previous 12 months despite trying) (Chandra et al., 2005). Although the focus of research and services has traditionally been on women (and, as a consequence, much of this article reflects it), fertility impairments may be just as common among men (Martinez et al., 2006). The statistics cited above distinguish impaired fecundity from infertility.

Societal and behavioral shifts in the last quarter of the 20th century may have affected levels of infertility, although it is unclear whether the prevalence of fertility impairments has changed over time (Stephen and Chandra, 2006). In part because “baby boomers” (i.e., the generation born between 1946 and 1964) have steadily postponed the age at which they choose to conceive their first child, and in part because new technologies have made it possible for some couples to overcome infertility and have made news with spectacular outcomes such as high-order multiple births (Schieve et al., 2002). Americans are increasingly aware of and concerned about infertility. It is unclear whether infertility disproportionately affects less privileged people in the United States. Although data from the NSFG do not show large disparities in infertility (Chandra et al., 2005), social and racial disparities in health status and in the frequency of certain risk factors (e.g., sexually transmitted infections that may lead to infertility if untreated) would suggest that preventable causes of infertility disproportionately affect the less privileged. A recent report from the Coronary Artery Risk Development in Young Adults (CARDIA) study indicates that among non-surgically sterile women, African American women had a twofold increase in odds of reporting a history of infertility (Wellons et al.). Financial barriers limit access to diagnosis, evaluation, and treatment and may lead to selectively underestimating the frequency of infertility in the same population groups (Peterson, 2005). Thus, it is difficult to interpret the available data. On the other hand, delaying childbearing may be more common among professionals and other higher-income groups, making these groups more vulnerable to the cumulative effect of causes of infertility, including the effect of aging. Different subgroups may have infertility of different etiology.

In women, tobacco smoking is associated with decreased fecundability (probability of conception in a month) in a dose-dependent fashion (Klonoff et al., 1997), with ovulatory dysfunction (Windham et al., 1999), and with early menopause (McKinlay et al., 1985 and Kinney et al., 2006). The metabolic disorder associated with the polycystic ovary syndrome has highlighted the link between overeating, insulin resistance, and the endocrine changes that reduce fertility in women with polycystic ovary syndrome (Nestler et al., 1989). Obesity is associated with ovulatory and menstrual dysfunction and subsequent infertility, increased risk of miscarriage, and decreased effectiveness of ART (Pasquali et al., 2007). Obesity in men is associated with erectile dysfunction and decreased androgen production, but its effects on male fertility are not as clear (Pasquali et al., 2007). Many common plants can be used to



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influence fertility. Using certain medicinal herbs to increase fertility and the chances of conceiving. The present study was carried out to find out the natural dietary agents for improving fertility.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The dietary plants containing bioactive phytochemicals with potential of improving fertility were manually mining from publically available phytochemical databases (Dr. Duke's phytochemistry and ethnobotanical database (www.ars-grin.gov/duke/)).

Chemical structures for bioactive phytochemical compounds were drawn from the following databases:

i) USDA phytochemical database. (http://www.pl.barc.usda.gov/usda_chem/achem_home.cfm)

ii) Pubchem (<http://pubchem.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>)

iii) Brenda, The comprehensive Enzyme Information system (<http://www.brenda-enzymes.org>) and Wikipedia.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Present study, 15 dietary plants were recognized for the best dietary agents for the improving fertility. There were 1. *Prunus dulci* 2. *Anacardium occidentale* 3. *Pistacia vera* 4. *Cucumis melo* 5. *Triticum aestivum* 6. *Glycine max* 7. *Lycopersicon esculentum* 8. *Pisum sativum* 9. *Allium cepa* 10. *Allium sativum* 11. *Ananas comosus* 12. *Beta vulgaris* 13. *Brassica oleracea* 14. *Arachis hypogaea* 15. *Brassica oleracea*.

Almond, *Prunus dulcis* (Rosaceae)

Small to medium sized tree with a spreading, open canopy, usually 10-15 feet in commercial orchards. Flowers have 5 petals and sepals, and many elongated stamens; the ovary is perigynous. The entire fruit including the hull is a drupe. Fruiting begins in 3-4 yr old trees, with maximal production in 6-10 years. Theoretically, sweet almond may interact with fertility agents, as sweet almond has demonstrated estrogenic activity (Clemetson *et al.*, 1978) and almond extracts have been shown to increase sperm count and sperm motility in rats, with no evidence of spermatotoxicity. The seeds of almond contain fertility improving compounds such as Alpha- tocopherol, Arginine, Ascorbic-acid, Vanadium, and Zinc.

Cashew, *Anacardium occidentale* (Anacardiaceae)

Cashew is a multipurpose tree that grows up to 15 m high. The bark and leaves of the tree are used medicinally, and the cashew nut has international appeal and market value as a food. The fruit bark juice and the nut oil are both said to be folk remedies for calluses, corns, and warts, cancerous ulcers, and even elephantiasis. Anacardol and anacardic acid have shown some activity against Walker carcinosarcoma 256. Fruit and leaf of the plant contain the phytochemical as Ascorbic-acid and seeds of the plant contain Arginine, Ascorbic-acid, Tocopherol, Vanadium and Zinc. These compounds of the plant are used to improving the fertility.

Pistachio, *Pistacia vera* (Anacardiaceae)

Pistachios are small to medium sized dioecious trees, obtaining heights of 20 ft but generally smaller in cultivation. Leaves are pinnately compound, generally with 5 leaflets. Male and female flowers are borne on separate plants. Flowers lack petals, and have up to 5 sepals. Males have 5 stamens, and females lack stamens, and have a single tricarpellate, superior ovary. The inflorescence is a panicle in both cases with 13 primary branches, each bearing 1 terminal and 5-19 lateral flowers. Most fruit set occurs from terminal flowers. The fruit is a drupe, although marketed as a nut. The hull is thin and fleshy, pale tan in color with a red blush at maturity. Seeds of the plant contain the fertility improving compounds *viz* Arginine, Alpha-tocopherol, Vanadium and Zinc.



**Renuka et al.,****Persian Melon, *Cucumis melo* (Cucurbitaceae)**

The muskmelon (*Cucumis melo*), like watermelon, is hardly a vegetable. Melons are tropical annual vines with long, spreading stems that cling via springy tendrils. Their big lobed leaves are coarse, fuzzy and medium to deep green. Bright yellow, funnel-shaped flowers are produced when the vines reach maturity. The flowers are monoecious. Phytochemical compounds such as Alpha-tocopherol, Ascorbic-acid and Zinc are present in the fruits and used to improve the fertility.

Wheat, *Triticum aestivum* (Poaceae)

Wheat is an annual grass, culms simple, erect, hollow or pithy, glabrous, up to 1.2 m tall; leaves flat, narrow, 20–38 cm long, about 1.3 cm broad; spikes long, slender, dorsally compressed, somewhat flattened; rachis tough, not separating from spikelet at maturity; spikelets 2–5-flowered, relatively far apart on stem, slightly overlapping, nearly erect, pressed close to rachis; glumes keeled in upper half, firm, glabrous, shorter than the lemmas; lemmas awned or awnless, less than 1.3 cm long; palea as long as the lemma, remaining entire at maturity; caryopsis free-threshing, soft or hard, red or white. The seeds of the plant contain following phytochemicals and are used to the improvement of fertility, Alpha-tocopherol, Arginine, Ascorbic-acid, Pyridoxine and Tocopherol.

Soybean, *Glycine max* (Fabaceae)

Soy bean is an erect, bushy herbaceous annual that can reach a height of 1.5 metres. The primary leaves are unifoliate, opposite and ovate, the secondary leaves are trifoliolate and alternate, and compound leaves with four or more leaflets are occasionally present. The papilionaceous flower consists of a tubular calyx of five sepals, a corolla of five petals (one banner, two wings and two keels), one pistil and nine fused stamens with a single separate posterior stamen. The stamens form a ring at the base of the stigma and elongate one day before pollination, at which time the elevated anthers form a ring around the stigma. The pod is straight or slightly curved, varies in length from two to seven centimetres, and consists of two halves of a single carpel which are joined by a dorsal and ventral suture. The shape of the seed, usually oval, can vary amongst cultivars from almost spherical to elongate and flattened. The seeds of the plant have fertile improving compounds such as Alpha-tocopherol, Arginine, Ascorbic-acid, Pyridoxine and Zinc used to improve the fertility.

Tomato, *Lycopersicon esculentum* (Solanaceae)

Tomato is herbaceous plant, summer annual in temperate climates, while in tropical climates it is usually a perennial. The growth form is usually a sprawling indeterminate vine about 3-8' long, although short determinate plants less than 3' long may remain erect. The stems branch occasionally; they are light green to purplish green, more or less terete, and glandular short-pubescent. In addition, spreading hairs may be scattered across the stems. Alternate compound leaves occur along these stems that are widely spreading; they are 4-18" long and 2-6" across. These compound leaves are odd-pinnate with 3-5 pairs of lateral (or primary) leaflets and a terminal leaflet. The petioles of the compound leaves are 1-4" long, light green to purplish green color. Fruits of these plants have some fertility improving compounds as Alpha-tocopherol, Arginine, Ascorbic-acid, Vanadium and Zinc.

Pea, *Pisum sativum* (Fabaceae)

Pea plant is rapid-growing, glabrous annual with angular or roundish hollow stems covered with a waxy bloom. In leafy types, leaves consist of one or more pairs of opposite leaflets borne on petioles together with several pairs of tendrils (which are essentially modified leaves) and a single or compound terminal tendril. The two leafless types have better standing ability than the leafy types. The plants are tap-rooted, 1 m or more in depth, with numerous lateral roots. On each plant, inflorescences comprising one or two self-fertile flowers are borne on the end of axillary peduncles. Flower colour differs according to cultivar with white, pink, lavender, blue and purple represented. Pods containing several seeds, flattened when young but becoming roundish later. Phytochemical such as Arginine, Ascorbic-acid, Pyridoxine, Tocopherol and Zinc are present in the seeds of this plant and these chemicals have the fertility improving activity.



**Renuka et al.,****Shallot, *Allium cepa* (Liliaceae)**

Onion, *Allium cepa*, is an herbaceous biennial in the family Liliaceae grown for its edible bulb. The stem of the plant is a flattened disc at the base and the tubular leaves form a pseudostem where their sheaths overlap. The leaves are either erect or oblique and there are 3–8 per plant. The onion plant produces pink or white flowers clustered on stalks. The bulbs are formed just above the flattened stem of the plant by overlapping leaves. The bulb is made up of several layers, each corresponding to a leaf. They are generally oval but shape can be variable and occur in clusters of 3–18 to a plant. The bulb is protected by a membrane which turns to a papery coat. Onion plants can reach a height of 50 cm (20 in) and are grown as annuals, harvested after one growing season. Bulb of the plant has some fertility improving compounds viz Alpha-tocopherol, Arginine, Ascorbic-acid and Zinc.

Garlic, *Allium sativum* (Liliaceae)

Garlic plants are closely related to and similar to onions and they have a similar, but stronger odor. The leaves of garlic plants are neither inflated like onion leaves nor tubular like those of bunching onions. Instead, they are flat, with a crease down the middle and are held erect in two opposite ranks. Most varieties stand about 1-2 ft (0.3-0.6 m) tall at maturity. Garlic plants produce an underground bulb that usually is divisible into 6-20 segments, called cloves. It produces a flower stalk that coils like a snake, then straightens out and bears clusters of pea-sized bulblets or "bulbils" that are like miniature garlic bulbs. Alpha-tocopherol, Arginine, Ascorbic-acid and Zinc are phytochemicals present in the garlic and they are used to improve the fertility.

Pineapple, *Ananas comosus* (Bromeliaceae):

Pineapples are rosette-forming, herbaceous monocots, 2-4 ft tall and 3-4 ft wide. Stems are short (12"), and inconspicuous in the center of the rosette of long (20-72"), linear leaves. The leaves have spines at tips and margins, except 'Smooth Cayenne' types which lack marginal spines. Leaves are spirally arranged on stems and have axillary buds at their base that can produce lateral shoots called suckers; these are used as planting stock for propagating the next crop. Individual flowers are small (½ -1"), purple-red, subtended by a single yellow, green or red bract, borne laterally on the rachis of a spike of 100-200 individuals. The apex of inflorescence is vegetative, becoming the crown on the fruit. Fruit of these plants have some phyto compounds used to increase the fertility activity. These compounds are Alpha-tocopherol, Arginine, Ascorbic-acid and Zinc.

Sugar Beet, *Beta vulgaris* (Chenopodiaceae)

Beets and chard are different varieties of *Beta vulgaris*. The leaves of beets and chard have long petioles (leaf stems) that all arise from the base of the plant. The leaves can be 4-18 in (10.2-45.7 cm) or more in length, and dark shiny green to red. Perpetual spinach or spinach beet is a type of chard with smaller petioles and midribs. Beets and chard produce a flowering stalk in the second growing season that can stand up to 4 ft (1.2 m) tall. It bears small greenish or reddish flowers which lack petals. The fruit develops from aggregates of two or more flowers. Sugar beet roots are usually a creamy white color and can weigh 6-15 lbs (2.7 - 6.8 kg). Mangel beets, grown for livestock feed, are even larger. They grow to 60 lb (27 kg) and can be white, red, or yellow. Beets and chard are biennial plants, meaning that they do not flower until their second growing season. Roots of these plants have fertility compounds and used to improve the fertility. These compounds are Alpha-tocopherol, Arginine, Ascorbic-acid and Zinc.

Cauliflower, *Brassica oleracea* (Brassicaceae)

Cauliflower leaves are more elongated than those of cabbage and broccoli. Leaf color is often lighter green. Winter or late-season types have curds that consist of functional flower buds, similar to broccoli. Purple cauliflower is a winter variety of broccoli. Flower of this plant has following chemical and are used to improve the fertility. These compounds are Alpha-tocopherol, Arginine, Ascorbic-acid and Zinc.

Peanut, *Arachis hypogaea* (Fabaceae)

The peanut plant (*Arachis hypogaea*) is a legume that is native to South America. The peanut plant grows to about 60 cm tall. It has small yellow flowers (1-2 cm long). The flowers bloom for only about half a day; the blossoms are self-pollinating. About 4 days later, a stem will grow from the flower and head into the soil. At the end of each stem, the



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seed pods will grow. The peanut is an annual plant. Seeds of the plant contain some compounds used to improve the fertility. Those compounds are Alpha-tocopherol, Arginine, Ascorbic-acid and Zinc.

Brussels-Sprouts, *Brassica oleracea* (Brassicaceae)

Brussels sprouts, is a hardy, slow-growing, long-season vegetable belonging to the cabbage family. In the proper season of the year, it can be grown with fair success in most areas of the country. In mild areas, or where there is deep snow cover, the sprouts may overwinter. The sprouts (small heads that resemble miniature cabbages) are produced in the leaf axils, starting at the base of the stem and working upward. It has some fertile improving compounds such as Alpha-tocopherol, Arginine, Ascorbic-acid and Zinc and used to improving the fertility.

CONCLUSION

Natural diet contains several nutrients such as vitamins and minerals. The nutrients are used to improve the human fertility. The above dietary plants also contain the chemical compounds. Such as Arginine, Ascorbic acid etc. are used to improve the human fertility.

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Table 1: Dietary Agents used for the Fertility Improving

S. No	Common Name	Scientific Name	Family	Parts used	Phyto Compounds
1	Almond	<i>Prunus dulcis</i>	Rosaceae	Seed	Alpha-tocopherol Arginine Ascorbic-acid Vanadium Zinc
2	Cashew	<i>Anacardium occidentale</i>	Anacardiaceae	Fruit, leaf and seed	Arginine Ascorbic-acid Tocopherol Vanadium Zinc
3	Pistachio	<i>Pistacia vera</i>	Anacardiaceae	Seed	Alpha-tocopherol Arginine Vanadium Zinc
4	Persian Melon	<i>Cucumis melo</i>	Cucurbitaceae	Fruit	Alpha-tocopherol Ascorbic-acid Zinc
5	Wheat	<i>Triticum aestivum</i>	Poaceae	Seed	Alpha-tocopherol Arginine Ascorbic-acid Pyridoxine Tocopherol
6	Soybean	<i>Glycine max</i>	Fabaceae	Seed	Alpha-tocopherol Arginine





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					Ascorbic-acid Pyridoxine Zinc
7	Tomato	<i>Lycopersicon esculentum</i>	Solanaceae	Fruit	Alpha-tocopherol Arginine Ascorbic-acid Vanadium Zinc
8	Pea	<i>Pisum sativum</i>	Fabaceae	Seed	Arginine Ascorbic-acid Pyridoxine Tocopherol Zinc
9	Shallot	<i>Allium cepa</i>	Liliaceae	Bulb	Alpha-tocopherol Arginine Ascorbic-acid Zinc
10	Garlic	<i>Allium sativum</i>	Liliaceae	Bulb	Alpha-tocopherol Arginine Ascorbic-acid Zinc
11	Pineapple	<i>Ananas comosus</i>	Bromeliaceae	Fruit	Alpha-tocopherol Arginine Ascorbic-acid Zinc
12	Sugar Beet	<i>Beta vulgaris</i>	Chenopodiaceae	Root	Alpha-tocopherol Arginine Ascorbic-acid Zinc
13	Cauliflower	<i>Brassica oleracea</i>	Brassicaceae	Flower	Alpha-tocopherol Arginine Ascorbic-acid Zinc
14	Peanut	<i>Arachis hypogaea</i>	Fabaceae	Seed	Alpha-tocopherol Arginine Ascorbic-acid Zinc
15	Brussels-Sprouts	<i>Brassica oleracea</i>	Brassicaceae	Leaf	Alpha-tocopherol Arginine Ascorbic-acid Zinc





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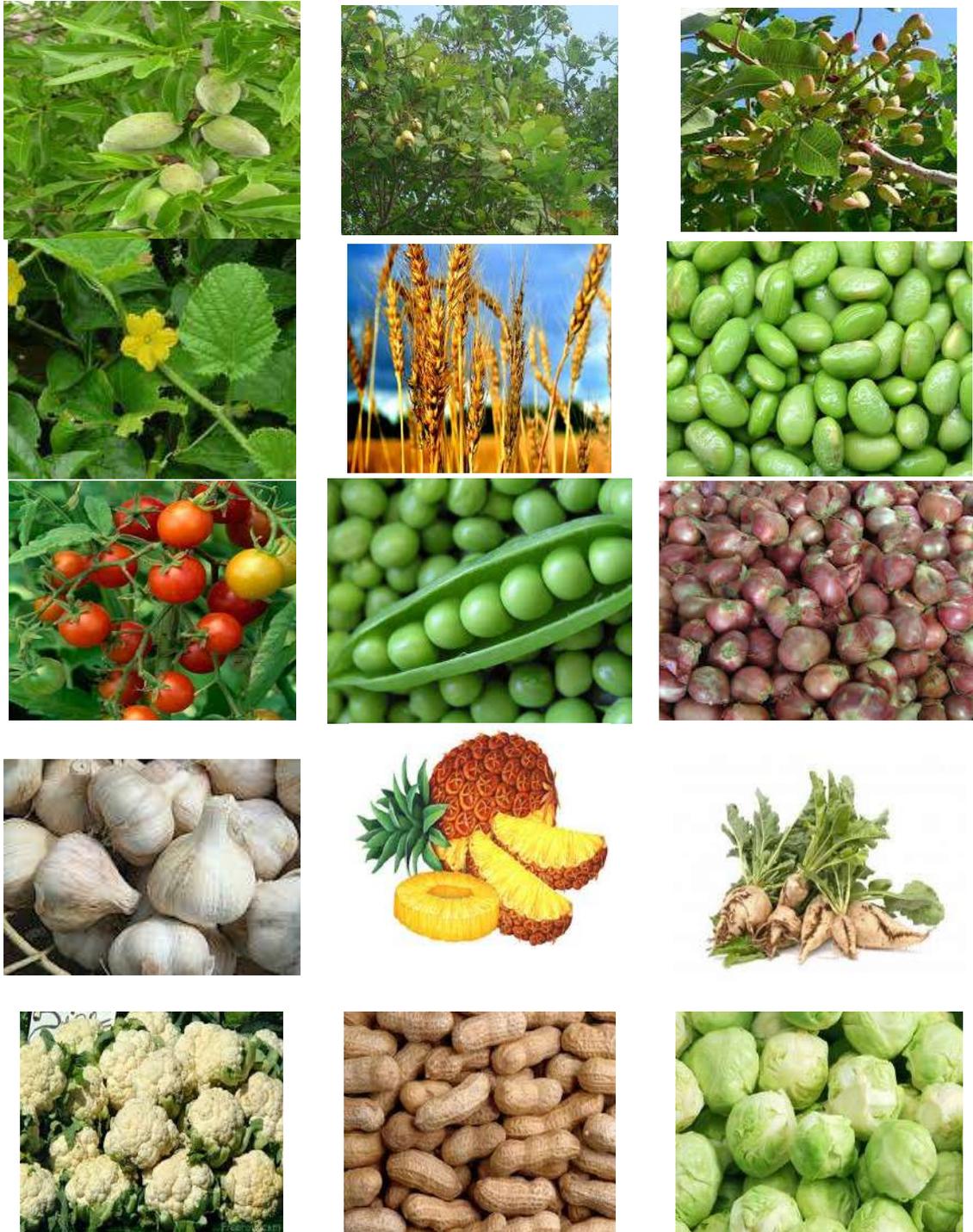


Plate 1: Dietary Agents for Improving Fertility.





Photo Catalytic Self-Cleaning Textiles for Sustainable Development : A Review of Recent Progress

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ABSTRACT

Photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles is a technology that harnesses the properties of certain materials to enable textiles to clean themselves without the need for additional cleaning agents. It works by using a photocatalyst material to catalyze a chemical reaction when exposed to light, which results in the decomposition of pure compounds such as stains and odors on the surface of the textile. This process is often referred to as photocatalysis. When photocatalytic materials are applied to the surface of a textile, they create a surface that is superhydrophilic, which means that it attracts water and promotes the spreading of water droplets. This enhances the ability of the textile to clean itself as water can more easily remove the degraded organic compounds from the surface of the fabric. Additionally, the self-cleaning process helps to maintain the appearance and properties of the textile over time, reducing the need for frequent washing and extending the lifespan of the textile. Photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles has the potential to revolutionize the textile industry by reducing the environmental impact of traditional textile cleaning methods, such as washing with water and detergent. Now a days variety of applications, such as clothing, upholstery, and air filtration systems. However, there are also some limitations and challenges associated with the technology, such as its limited durability and the potential for the release of harmful by products during the photocatalytic process. Therefore, continued research and development are needed to optimize and improve the effectiveness and safety of photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles.

Keywords: Photocatalytic Mechanism ,Self-cleaning, Photo catalytic process, photocatalyst material, application





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INTRODUCTION

Photocatalytic self-cleaning process in textiles industry sector that has been providing a variety of application in the recent years. Applications, including clothing, upholstery, and automotive interiors. These applications often require textiles to be cleaned and maintained, which can be time-consuming and costly. Photocatalytic self-cleaning offers a promising solution to this problem by allowing textiles to clean themselves when exposed to light. Thereafter, the use of photocatalytic materials in textiles can also have important environmental benefits. Traditional cleaning methods often rely on harsh chemicals and large amounts of water, which can have negative impacts on the environment. Photocatalytic self-cleaning, on the other hand, can reduce the need for these chemicals and water, resulting in a more sustainable and environmentally-friendly approach to textile maintenance. The development of photo catalytic self-cleaning in textiles is a rapidly evolving field, with new materials and techniques being developed all the time. This presents exciting opportunities for innovation and advancement in the textile industry, as well as for interdisciplinary collaborations between scientists, engineers, and designers. Photocatalytic reactions involve the use of a photocatalyst to initiate a chemical reaction by harnessing light energy. In these reactions, the photocatalyst absorbs photons from a light source, typically ultraviolet (UV) or visible light, and utilizes that energy to catalyze a chemical transformation.

The key component in a photocatalytic reaction is the photocatalyst, which is typically a semiconductor material. Titanium dioxide (TiO₂) is one of the most commonly used photocatalysts due to its strong photocatalytic activity and stability. Other materials such as zinc oxide (ZnO) and certain metal complexes can also act as photocatalysts. Overall, the importance of the topic of photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles overrules its potential to improve the efficiency and sustainability of textile maintenance, while also fostering innovation and collaboration in the industry.

Photo Catalyst Mechanism

"In the presence of solar light irradiation the semiconductor surface initiates the oxidation /reduction reaction by photoelectron and whole excitation". Photocatalysis is an oxidation process which is used for photo degradation of various pollutants in and around environment. Photo catalysis is one that states the increase in speed of the synthetic transformations of oxidation achieved through the actuation of an impetus. This response includes a semiconductor or blend with organic, metallic, metal or natural advertisers through visible light retention, continuous energy or charge which can be adsorbed by the photocatalysts change in contamination (Karamian and Sharifnia, 2016). During a photo catalysis system, where around two primary activities help a high-volume creation of oxidizing in process (Schneider et al., 2014). These responses are oxidation of adsorbed H₂O for the most part produced by photo producer openings which decrease an electron acceptor likewise made by electrons photo. Henceforth, these responses produce a hydroxyl and super metal oxide extreme charge of anion. Procuring of apparent light, generally from daylight, by energy photo catalyst to start compound changes is shown as photo catalysis. Self-cleaning of photo catalyst destroys polluting organic material by using sunlight exposure or UV-Light radiation (Kumar et al., 2018).

Photo catalytic process

When the photo catalyst is exposed to light, it absorbs photons, which excite the electrons within the material to a higher energy level. The absorbed energy creates electron-hole pairs, where electrons are promoted to higher energy levels (conduction band) and leave behind positively charged "holes" in the valence band. The separated electrons and holes can participate in various redox reactions. The electrons in the conduction band can reduce certain reactants by donating their energy, while the holes in the valence band can oxidize other reactants by accepting electrons. The redox reactions generate highly reactive species, such as hydroxyl radicals (OH•) and superoxide ions (O₂•-). These species have strong oxidative or reductive properties and can initiate or facilitate various chemical reactions. The reactive species produced by the photocatalyst can react with target molecules in the surrounding environment. This can lead to the degradation of organic compounds, the conversion of pollutants into harmless substances, or the synthesis of new compounds, depending on the specific photocatalyst and reaction conditions.

Types of photocatalyst material used in textiles



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Titanium Dioxide (TiO₂) is the most extensively studied and widely used photocatalyst in textile applications (Kreft et al., 2020). It exhibits excellent photocatalytic activity and stability. TiO₂ can be applied to textiles either as nanoparticles, nanofibers, or as a thin coating on the fabric surface. It is often used in its anatase or rutile crystal forms (Zahid et al., 2018). Zinc Oxide (ZnO) is another photocatalytic material that has been investigated for textile applications (Lakshini Dilesha Fernando et al., 2022). It possesses good photocatalytic activity and can degrade organic pollutants. ZnO can be applied as nanoparticles or nanofibers onto textile surfaces (Huang et al., 2017). Tungsten Trioxide (WO₃) is a photocatalyst that has shown promise in self-cleaning textiles. It exhibits photocatalytic activity under visible light, making it suitable for applications where UV light is limited. WO₃ can be applied as a thin film or as nanoparticles on textile surfaces reported Ahmad et al., (2019). Zinc Sulfide (ZnS) is a photocatalytic material that has been explored for self-cleaning textiles. It has shown photocatalytic activity under visible light (Nunes et al., 2021). ZnS can be applied as nanoparticles or in combination with other photocatalysts onto textile surfaces (Sharifi et al., 2022). Photocatalytic Nanocomposites works individual photocatalytic materials, researchers have also developed photocatalytic nanocomposites by combining photocatalysts with other materials (Li et al., 2021). Incorporating TiO₂ nanoparticles into polymer matrices, such as coatings or fibers, can enhance the photocatalytic activity and stability of the material (Chen et al., 2020). The potential application of photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles is the use of photocatalysts in laundry detergents. The addition of photocatalysts to laundry detergents can enhance the self-cleaning properties of textiles during the washing process (Kale et al., 2016). When the detergent is exposed to sunlight or artificial light, the photocatalyst can break down organic compounds, such as dirt and stains, on the surface of the fabric. This can reduce the need for harsh chemicals and high-temperature wash cycles, resulting in energy savings and reduced environmental impact (Yu et al., 2013).

Photo catalytic self-cleaning- performance and effectiveness in degrading contaminants

The degradation of specific contaminants, such as organic dyes, oils, or stains, is an essential parameter to assess the photocatalytic self-cleaning efficiency (He et al., 2021). Laboratory tests involve applying standardized contaminant solutions onto the textile surface and exposing it to light. The extent of degradation or removal of the contaminants is then analyzed using techniques such as spectrophotometry, chromatography, or visual inspection (Koe et al., 2019). The ability of photocatalytic textiles to resist and repel stains is evaluated by subjecting the textile to various staining agents, such as colored liquids or substances simulating common stains (e.g., coffee, ketchup, ink). The stain resistance is assessed by measuring the intensity and ease of stain removal, either visually or using colorimetric methods (Krishnan et al., 2013).

The soil release performance of photocatalytic textiles refers to their ability to release and remove accumulated dirt and soil during washing or cleaning. Comparative tests can be conducted by subjecting the photocatalytic textile and a non-photocatalytic reference textile to the same soiling conditions, followed by standardized washing procedures (Meha et al., 2013). The amount of released soil or the cleanliness of the textile after washing is then assessed. The photocatalytic textile possesses antimicrobial properties, the evaluation can involve assessing the effectiveness against specific microorganisms (Tang et al., 2021). This can be done by subjecting the textile to microbial contamination, such as bacteria or fungi, and evaluating the reduction in microbial growth or the microbial count before and after exposure to light. The durability and longevity of the photocatalytic self-cleaning effect are important factors to evaluate. The textile's performance is assessed over multiple cycles of use, washing, and exposure to light to determine if the self-cleaning efficiency remains consistent over time (He et al., 2021). Tests can include multiple rounds of soiling, washing, and light exposure, followed by the assessment of contaminant degradation or stain removal efficiency.

Photocatalytic self-cleaning textiles can exhibit changes in hydrophilicity and water repellency. The assessment involves measuring the contact angle of water droplets on the textile surface before and after exposure to light. Decreased contact angles indicate increased hydrophilicity and better water spreading, which can facilitate self-cleaning by promoting the removal of contaminants (Al-Nuaim et al., 2022). Photocatalytic textiles should exhibit resistance to UV degradation and maintain their photocatalytic activity under prolonged exposure to light. UV



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resistance tests involve subjecting the textile to UV irradiation for extended periods and assessing changes in color, physical integrity, and photocatalytic efficiency.

Mechanisms of Self-Cleaning in Textiles

Photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles relies on the ability of the photocatalytic materials to generate reactive oxygen species (ROS) when exposed to UV radiation or visible light (Mahapatra, 2022). (Kiron, 2021) ROS, such as hydroxyl radicals ($\bullet\text{OH}$) and superoxide radicals ($\bullet\text{O}_2^-$), can break down organic compounds and decompose them into simpler, harmless substances. When the photocatalytic material is applied onto the surface of the textile, it forms a thin film that acts as a catalyst for the photodegradation of organic compounds (Ashraf et al., 2014) As light shines on the textile, the ROS generated by the photocatalytic material begin to attack and break down organic molecules that are present on the surface of the textile (Sadia Afroz et al.). This process continues until the organic pollutants are fully degraded and converted into carbon dioxide and water. In addition to the photodegradation of organic pollutants, photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles can also provide antibacterial and antifungal properties (Dalawai et al., 2020). (Sadia Afroz et al., 2021) reported ROS generated by the photocatalytic material can damage the cell membrane and cause oxidative stress in bacteria and fungi, leading to their destruction (Ahmad et al., 2019). The mechanisms of self-cleaning in textiles involve the photodegradation of organic pollutants and the destruction of bacteria and fungi through the generation of ROS by the photocatalytic material.

Photocatalytic degradation of organic compounds

Photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles involves the photodegradation of organic compounds through the action of photocatalytic materials, such as TiO_2 and ZnO , under UV or visible light. When the photocatalytic material is exposed to light, it generates electron-hole pairs that can interact with organic compounds adsorbed on the surface of the textile. This interaction leads to the formation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) such as hydroxyl radicals ($\bullet\text{OH}$), superoxide radicals ($\bullet\text{O}_2^-$), and hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2). These ROS can oxidize and break down the organic pollutants into smaller, harmless compounds such as CO_2 and H_2O (Carneiro et al., 2007). This process is known as mineralization and results in the complete degradation of the organic pollutants. The mineralization efficiency of photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles depends on several factors, including the type and amount of photocatalytic material used, the intensity and wavelength of light, and the nature and concentration of the organic pollutants ("Self – Cleaning Superhydrophobic Coatings: Potential Industrial Applications," 2019). In addition to the degradation of organic pollutants, photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles can also remove odors and improve the color fastness of the fabric. The process of photocatalytic degradation of organic compounds is a promising approach for achieving self-cleaning textiles that are effective in removing pollutants and maintaining their appearance over a longer period of time.

Photo catalysis for Antibacterial activity

Enhanced phenomenon of applying photo catalytic materials to treat air and water using these agents as photo-disinfects. Foster et al (2011) emphasized about photo-catalyst that these agents could able to retard and/or kill micro-organism in different forms. (Vohra et al., 2006) reported that titanium dioxide-coated filters have the ability to disinfect air. Applying photo-catalysts on air-filtration units could able to self-clean the filters periodically. The process has been discussed in terms of mode of action of agents on killing microbes by causing cell membrane damage in microbes that persist in the filtration units and associated membranes. This process was reported to be aided by the production of reactive-oxygen species level during photo-catalytic reactions. Li et al., (2008) also reported that complete disintegration in microbial cell cytoplasm, protein and genetic material damage leading to lethal attack in cells could be due to the process of photo catalysis. This phenomenon paved way for the researchers Wu et al., (2009) to demonstrate the anti-microbial activity of titanium dioxide finished fabrics. During their research it was proved that the fabric prevented the bacterial colonization and later causes cell death.

Superhydrophilicity and Photo-induced hydrophilicity

Superhydrophilicity and self-cleaning ability are two key characteristics of photocatalytic materials in textiles (Carneiro et al., 2007). Superhydrophilicity refers to the ability of a surface to rapidly spread water and other liquids, whereas self-cleaning ability refers to the ability of a surface to remove dirt and other contaminants without the need



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for external cleaning. The superhydrophilicity of photocatalytic materials in textiles is achieved through the formation of a thin layer of water on the surface, which reduces the contact angle and promotes the rapid spreading of water (Cheng *et al.*, 2010). This property can be further enhanced by incorporating nanostructures or modifying the surface chemistry of the material (Chong *et al.*, 2012). The self-cleaning ability of photocatalytic materials in textiles is primarily due to the photocatalytic degradation of organic compounds, which leads to the formation of ROS that can break down and remove dirt and other contaminants (Feitz *et al.*, 1998). This process is facilitated by the superhydrophilicity of the surface, which promotes the rapid removal of water and the contaminants it carries away from the surface (Chong *et al.*, 2012). The combination of superhydrophilicity and self-cleaning ability in photocatalytic materials can result in textiles that are highly resistant to staining and soiling, and can maintain their appearance and functionality for a longer period of time. This has potential applications in various industries, including healthcare, outdoor sports, and automotive, among others.

Architectural coatings works with Facades, windows, and other building surfaces can be coated with superhydrophilic materials to enhance self-cleaning properties and reduce the accumulation of dirt, pollutants, and organic matter (Carneiro *et al.*, 2007). In textiles the Fabrics treated with superhydrophilic coatings can repel water while simultaneously allowing it to spread and carry away dirt and stains (Cheng *et al.*, 2010). This property is desirable for applications such as outdoor clothing, sportswear, and upholstery. Photovoltaic panels has superhydrophilic coatings on solar panels can enhance self-cleaning by facilitating water runoff and reducing dust and debris accumulation, which can otherwise hinder the panel's efficiency (Sumarta *et al.*, 2014).

Superhydrophilic surfaces can be utilized in healthcare settings, food processing equipment, and sanitary facilities to minimize the adhesion of bacteria and contaminants, ensuring a cleaner and more hygienic environment used in Sanitary applications (Fernández-Ibáñez *et al.*, 2009).

Photo-induced Hydrophilicity is photoactive material or surface is exposed to light, the light energy triggers a surface reaction that enhances the surface's affinity for water. This results in the formation of a hydrophilic surface, with water spreading and forming a thin film (Klubchom *et al.*, 2020). Water film formation of a thin water film on the hydrophilic surface reduces the contact angle between water and the surface (Blanco *et al.*, 2009). As a result, water spreads uniformly across the surface, providing a continuous wetting layer. Contaminant Removal by hydrophilic surface with the water film encounters dirt, dust, or other contaminants, the water film acts as a lubricant, reducing the adhesion forces between the surface and the contaminants. Self-cleaning action of water film, aided by gravity or other forces, flows over the hydrophilic surface, picking up and carrying away the contaminants. This continuous flow of water effectively rinses the surface, removing dirt and maintaining its cleanliness. Light Activation photo-induced hydrophilicity and self-cleaning ability are activated by light exposure (Paolini *et al.*, 2018). The material or surface needs to be photoactive, meaning it undergoes a surface reaction upon light absorption to induce hydrophilicity and facilitate self-cleaning.

Properties of Photocatalytic Material

Photocatalytic materials are capable of activating chemical reactions upon exposure to light (Qian *et al.* (2005). This property is essential for the degradation of organic compounds and the removal of contaminants from the surface of textiles (Yuan *et al.*, 2019). It typically have high surface area, which provides a large contact surface for chemical reactions to occur. This property is particularly important for the efficiency of photocatalytic processes. Photocatalytic materials need to be stable under different conditions, such as exposure to light, heat, and moisture (Zhou *et al.*, 2021). This property ensures the longevity and durability of photocatalytic textiles. The materials can exhibit selectivity towards specific contaminants, depending on their chemical composition and surface properties (Yao, Wang, Ho, *et al.*, 2007). This property can be harnessed for the removal of specific types of stains or pollutants. Compatibility with textile substrates need to be compatible with textile substrates to ensure effective deposition and adhesion. This property is important for the development of practical applications in the textile industry. Nanoscale dimensions synthesized in the nanoscale range, which can provide additional benefits, such as increased surface area, enhanced photocatalytic activity, and improved compatibility with textile substrates. optical



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properties has unique optical properties, such as absorption and reflection of light, which can affect their photocatalytic activity and overall performance in textiles.

Applications of Photocatalytic Self-Cleaning in Textiles

Photocatalytic self-cleaning technology has gained attention in the textile industry due to its potential to provide enhanced cleanliness and durability to various textile products (Akbal and Nur Onar, 2003). The application of photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles can provide a range of benefits, such as reduced maintenance, improved durability, and enhanced functionality. Clothing Photocatalytic self-cleaning technology can be used to make clothing that stays clean for longer periods of time (Meilert et al., 2005). This is particularly useful for outdoor clothing, such as hiking or camping gear, that is exposed to dirt and stains. Home textiles, Photocatalytic coatings can be applied to home textiles, such as curtains, bed linens, and upholstery, to keep them clean and fresh. This can reduce the frequency of washing, which can save water, energy, and time. Healthcare textiles, Photocatalytic coatings can be used in healthcare textiles, such as hospital gowns and bed linens, to reduce the spread of infections (Sadia Afroz et al., 2021). The coatings can break down bacteria and viruses on the surface of the fabric, reducing the risk of transmission. Automotive textiles, Photocatalytic coatings can be applied to automotive textiles, such as car seats and carpets, to keep them clean and fresh. This can reduce the need for frequent cleaning and maintenance. Industrial textiles, Photocatalytic coatings can be used in industrial textiles, such as filter fabrics, to improve their performance. The coatings can break down pollutants and contaminants, improving the efficiency of the filtration process (Koe et al., 2019). Overall, the application of photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles has the potential to revolutionize the textile industry by providing fabrics that are more durable, sustainable, and functional. Photocatalytic self-cleaning textiles can be used in garments, sportswear, and outdoor clothing to repel and remove stains, dirt, and odor-causing compounds (Rocha Segundo et al., 2019). These textiles can maintain a fresh and clean appearance even during extended use, reducing the need for frequent washing and enhancing the longevity of the clothing. Photocatalytic self-cleaning textiles find applications in home textiles, including beddings, curtains, upholstery, and carpets. These textiles can resist stains, dust mites, and microbial growth, leading to cleaner and more hygienic indoor environments. They can help maintain the freshness and cleanliness of textiles even in high-traffic areas (Scott, 1985).

Photocatalytic self-cleaning textiles can be utilized in healthcare settings, such as hospitals and clinics (Watts et al., 1995). They can help reduce the spread of infections by minimizing the adherence and growth of bacteria, viruses, and fungi on textile surfaces. These textiles can be used in bedding, patient gowns, uniforms, and other healthcare textiles to maintain a clean and safe environment (Vohra et al., 2006). Textiles used in outdoor applications, such as awnings, canopies, and tents, can benefit from photocatalytic self-cleaning properties. These textiles can resist dirt, grime, and environmental pollutants, maintaining their appearance and functionality even in challenging outdoor conditions. They require less maintenance and remain clean for longer periods. Photocatalytic self-cleaning textiles find applications in automotive interiors, such as seat covers, carpets, and headliners. These textiles can resist stains from spills, dirt, and oils, improving the cleanliness and longevity of automotive interiors (Qu et al., 2012). They can help maintain a fresh and clean environment, enhancing the comfort and aesthetics of the vehicle. Photocatalytic self-cleaning textiles can be incorporated into filtration systems, such as air filters and water filters (Jiang et al., 2021). The photocatalytic properties can help degrade organic pollutants and microbes that come into contact with the textile, enhancing the filtration efficiency and reducing the need for frequent filter replacement or maintenance. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Photocatalytic self-cleaning textiles can be used in PPE, including masks, gloves, and protective clothing (Lam et al., 2012). These textiles can resist contamination, improve hygiene, and reduce odor-causing compounds, providing enhanced protection and comfort to the wearer. Antimicrobial textiles to self-cleaning properties, photocatalytic textiles can exhibit antimicrobial effects. The photocatalytic reactions can help in deactivating and eliminating bacteria, viruses, and other harmful microorganisms present on the textile surface, contributing to improved hygiene and reducing the risk of infections (He et al., 2021).

The application of photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles offers numerous benefits, including improved cleanliness, extended durability, reduced maintenance, and enhanced hygiene (Klubchom et al., 2020). As research and



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development in this field continue, we can expect to see broader applications and advancements in photocatalytic self-cleaning textiles. Moreover, the use of photocatalysts in laundry detergents can also prolong the lifespan of textiles by reducing the wear and tear caused by frequent washing and cleaning (Tang et al., 2021). This can ultimately lead to significant cost savings for consumers and commercial laundry services. Some companies have already introduced laundry detergents containing photocatalysts, such as titanium dioxide, to the market. These detergents have been shown to effectively remove stains and dirt from fabrics, while also improving the overall cleanliness and freshness of the textiles (Moafi et al. 2016). The incorporation of photocatalytic self-cleaning technology in laundry detergents has the potential to revolutionize the way we wash and clean textiles, providing a more sustainable and efficient approach to laundry care.

Evaluation of Photocatalytic Self-Cleaning Efficiency in Textiles

Evaluate the photocatalytic self-cleaning efficiency of textiles, standardized testing methods have been developed (Adachi et al., 2006). These methods involve measuring the degradation of a model organic pollutant, such as methylene blue or rhodamine B, when exposed to light in the presence of a photocatalyst-coated textile sample. The ISO 20743 standard, which measures the antibacterial activity of textile products. In this method, a photocatalyst-coated textile sample is inoculated with bacteria, and then exposed to light. The reduction in bacterial population on the sample is then measured and compared to a control sample without photocatalytic coating (Ishizu et al., 1990). The method is the AATCC 183 standard, which measures the photocatalytic activity of self-cleaning fabrics (Zahid et al., 2018). In this method, a sample of fabric is coated with a photocatalyst and then exposed to a model organic pollutant under controlled lighting conditions. The degradation of the pollutant is then measured and compared to a control sample without photocatalytic coating (Pillai and Sundaramoorthy, 2022). These methods include monitoring the contact angle of water droplets on the surface of the fabric before and after exposure to light, as well as measuring the color change of a model organic pollutant before and after exposure to light in the presence of a photocatalyst-coated fabric sample. Standardized testing methods provide a reliable and reproducible means of evaluating the photocatalytic self-cleaning efficiency of textiles, and can help to ensure the effectiveness and consistency of self-cleaning textile products.

CONCLUSION

Photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles is an emerging technology that has the potential to revolutionize the textile industry. The use of photocatalytic materials such as titanium dioxide and zinc oxide has shown promise in achieving self-cleaning and superhydrophilic properties in textiles. However, factors such as the type and concentration of the photocatalyst, light source and intensity, pH and temperature, as well as fabric structure and porosity can affect the photocatalytic self-cleaning efficiency of textiles. There are various applications of photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles, including fabric coatings, laundry detergents, air and water filtration, and more. However, the technology still faces challenges such as limited durability and stability, cost, scalability, and environmental concerns. Recent advances in the field include the use of alternative photocatalytic materials such as graphene and metal oxides, as well as the development of novel fabrication methods for photocatalytic textiles. Promising directions for future research include exploring the use of hybrid materials, improving the durability and stability of photocatalytic textiles, and developing more accurate and standardized testing methods. Finally, the potential benefits of photocatalytic self-cleaning in textiles make it a promising area of research and development for the textile industry.

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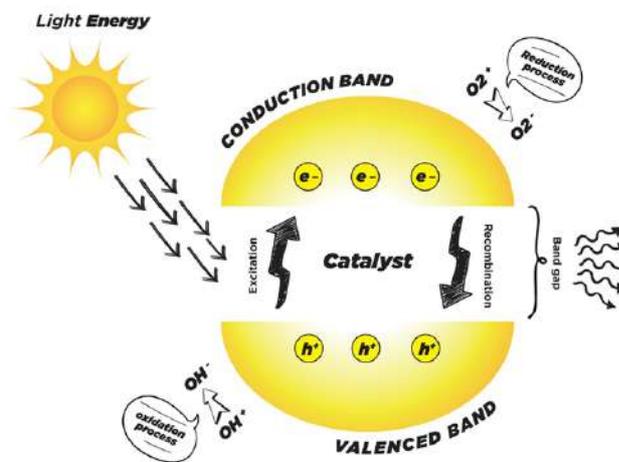


Fig: 1 Mechanism of Photo Catalyst





Pre Generalized Regular Weakly (pgrw-) Regular Space in Topological Spaces

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this paper is to introduce a separation axiom through pgrw-regular space in detail and to find relation between other spaces like pgrw-space, sub space e.t.c. Fundamental properties and subspace of pgrw-regular space are also studied. Some other concepts are generalized and studied.

Keywords : pgrw-closed set, pgrw-regular spaces, subspace, pgrw-space, g_p - T_{pgrw} -space, pgrw-irresolute

INTRODUCTION

Separation axiom is one of the most interesting topics in topology. Some of the different forms of regularity properties are investigated by different researchers as separate entities. The separation axioms can be used to define more restricted classes of topological spaces. Noiri [10], Dorsett [9] and Arya [12]. Munshi [11] studied g-regular using g-closed sets. So they seem to be important to introduce and study as new topological spaces. $\delta\alpha$ -regular space is introduced and studied by P. G. Patil [7]. In this chapter we introduce pgrw-regular spaces with more restricted properties and the relationships among these spaces are also considered. A topological space (S, τ) is a pgrw-regular space if \forall pgrw-closed set F and $\forall x \in S-F$ there exist disjoint open sets G and H in S satisfying $F \subseteq G$ and $x \in H$.

Preliminaries

Definitions: A subset A of a topological space (S, \mathcal{T}) is called

i. a pre-open set [1] if $A \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(A))$ and a pre-closed set if $\text{cl}(\text{int}(A)) \subseteq A$.

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- ii. Regular semi open [2] set if there is a regular open set U such that $U \subseteq A \subseteq \text{cl}(U)$.
- iii. A generalized pre-closed (briefly gp-closed) set [6] if $\text{pcl}(A) \subseteq U$ whenever $A \subseteq U$ and U is open in X .
- iv. A regular w-closedset (rw-closed) [4] if $\text{cl}(A) \subseteq U$ whenever $A \subseteq U$ and U is regular semi-open in S .

Definition: A subset A of a topological space (S, τ) is called a pre generalized regular weakly closed set (pgrw closed set)[5] if $\text{pcl}(A) \subseteq U$ whenever $A \subseteq U$ and U is a rw-open set.

The complements of the above mentioned closed sets are their corresponding open sets respectively.

Definition : Let (S, τ) be a topological space and $A \subseteq X$. The intersection of all pre-closed subsets of space X containing A is called the pre-closure of A and denoted by $\text{pcl}(A)$.

Definition : A topological space (S, τ) is called a gp-regular space[6] if and only if every closed set F and every point S not in F , there exist disjoint pre-open sets U and $V: F \subseteq U$ and $S \in V$.

Definition : A topological space S is said to be a gp-T_{pgrw}-space [5] if every gp-closed set is pgrw-closed.

Definition : A map $h: (S, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, \sigma)$ is called pre generalized regular weakly irresolute (pgrw-irresolute)[5] if for every pgrw-closed set V in Y the inverse image $h^{-1}(V)$ is a pgrw-closed set in S .

Definition : A topological space S is said to be a pgrw-space [5] if every pgrw-closed set is closed.

pgrw-Regular Space

Definition : A topological space (S, τ) is a pgrw-regular space if \forall pgrw-closed set F and $\forall x \in S-F$ there exist disjoint open sets G and H in S satisfying $F \subseteq G$ and $x \in H$.

Theorem : Every pgrw-regular space is regular.

Prof : S is a pgrw-regular space ...hypothesis.

F is a closed set in S and S is a point in $S-F$.

$\Rightarrow F$ is a pgrw-closed set in S and S is a point in $S-F$.

$\Rightarrow \exists$ disjoint open sets A and B in S satisfying $F \subseteq A$ and $x \in B$.

Thus \forall closed set F and $\forall x \in S-F \exists$ disjoint open sets A and B satisfying $F \subseteq A$ and $x \in B$. Hence S is a regular space.

The converse statement is not true.

Example : $S = \{p, q, r\}, \tau = \{S, \phi, \{p\}, \{q, r\}\}$

The space (S, τ) is a regular space. Closed sets are $S, \phi, \{p\}, \{q, r\}$.

pgrw-closed sets are all subsets of S . For the pgrw-closed set $F = \{p, q\}$ of S and $r \notin F$ there are no two disjoint open sets A and B satisfying $F \subseteq A$ and $r \in B$. So (S, τ) is not a pgrw-regular space.

Theorem : If (S, τ) is both a regular space and a pgrw-space, then it is a pgrw-regular space.

Proof : F is a pgrw-closed set and (S, τ) is a pgrw-space.

$\Rightarrow F$ is a closed set.....(a).

F is a closed set, $x \in S-F$ and (S, τ) is a regular space.

$\Rightarrow \exists$ disjoint open sets G and H in S satisfying $F \subseteq G$ and $x \in H$(b).

(a) and (b) $\Rightarrow (S, \tau)$ is a pgrw-regular space.





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Theorem : Every pgrw-regular space is α -regular.

Proof: S is a pgrw-regular space, F is a α -closed set in S and $x \in S-F$.

\Rightarrow S is a pgrw-regular space, F is a pgrw-closed set in S and $x \in S-F$.

$\Rightarrow \exists$ disjoint open sets G and H in S satisfying $F \subseteq G$ and $x \in H$.

Thus $\forall \alpha$ -closed set F and $\forall x \in S-F \exists$ disjoint open sets G and H in S and $F \subseteq G$ and $x \in H$. Hence S is a α -regular space.

Theorem : If (S, τ) is both a pgrw-regular space and a $gp-T_{pgrw}$ -space, then (S, τ) is a gp-regular space.

Proof : If in a $gp-T_{pgrw}$ -space (S, τ) , F is a gp-closed set and $x \in S-F$, then F is a pgrw-closed set and $x \in S-F$ and further if (S, τ) is a pgrw-regular space, then \exists disjoint open sets A and B satisfying $F \subseteq A$ and $x \in B$ and as every open set is pre-open, \exists disjoint pre-open sets A and B in S satisfying $F \subseteq A$ and $x \in B$. Hence (S, τ) is a gp-regular space.

Theorem : (S, τ) is a pgrw-regular space if and only if $\forall x \in S$ and \forall pgrw-open set A containing x \exists an open set C containing x satisfying $cl(C) \subseteq A$.

Proof : $x \in S$ and A is a pgrw-open-set containing x.

\Rightarrow A is a pgrw-neighbourhood of x.

$\Rightarrow \exists$ a pgrw-open set H satisfying $x \in H \subseteq A$.

$\Rightarrow S-H$ is pgrw-closed and $x \notin S-H$.

Further (S, τ) is a pgrw-regular space, $S-H$ is pgrw-closed and $x \notin S-H$.

$\Rightarrow \exists$ disjoint open sets B and C satisfying $S-H \subseteq B$ and $x \in C$

$\Rightarrow \exists$ an open set C containing x satisfying $C \subseteq S-B$, $S-B$ is closed and $S-B \subseteq H \subseteq A$.

$\Rightarrow \exists$ an open set C containing x satisfying $cl(C) \subseteq A$.

Conversely

Hypothesis- (S, τ) is satisfying $\forall x \in S$ and \forall pgrw-open set A containing x \exists an open-set C containing x for which $cl(C) \subseteq A$.

F is a pgrw-closed set in S and $x \in S-F$.

$\Rightarrow S-F$ is a pgrw-open set in S and $x \in S-F$.

$\Rightarrow \exists$ an open set C containing x for which $cl(C) \subseteq S-F$.

$\Rightarrow F \subseteq S-cl(C)$, an open set and $x \in C$, an open set and $C \cap \{S-cl(C)\} = \phi$.

Thus \forall pgrw-closed set F in S and $\forall x \in S-F \exists$ disjoint open sets $S-cl(C)$ and C for which $F \subseteq S-cl(C)$ and $x \in C$.

Hence (S, τ) is a pgrw-regular space.

Theorem : S is a pgrw-regular space if and only if for every pgrw-closed set F and $\forall x \in S-F \exists$ open sets A and B in S for which $x \in A$, $F \subseteq B$ and $cl(A) \cap cl(B) = \phi$.

Proof : S is a pgrw-regular space.

$\Rightarrow \forall$ pgrw-closed set F in S and $\forall x \in S-F \exists$ open sets M and B in S for which $x \in M$, $F \subseteq B$ and $M \cap B = \phi$ and so $M \cap cl(B) = \phi$.

$cl(B)$ is pgrw-closed and $x \in S-cl(B)$ in the pgrw-regular space S.

$\Rightarrow \exists$ open sets C and D for which $x \in C$, $cl(B) \subseteq D$ and $C \cap D = \phi$. And so $cl(C) \cap D = \phi$.

Let $A = M \cap C$. Then A is an open set containing x and $cl(A) \cap cl(B) = \phi$.





Conversely

For every pgrw-closed set F of S and $\forall x \in S-F \exists$ open sets A and B for which $x \in A$, $F \subseteq B$ and $cl(A) \cap cl(B) = \emptyset$.
 $\Rightarrow \forall$ pgrw-closed set F in (S, τ) and $\forall x \in S-F \exists$ disjoint open sets A and B such that $x \in A$ and $F \subseteq B$.
 $\Rightarrow S$ is a pgrw-regular space.

Theorem : Every subspace of a pgrw-regular space is pgrw-regular.

Proof : (Y, τ_y) is a subspace of a topological space (S, τ) .

$\Rightarrow \forall x \in Y$ and \forall pgrw-closed set F in (Y, τ_y) with $x \notin F$ there exists a closed set A and so a pgrw-closed set A in (S, τ) such that $F = Y \cap A$ and $x \notin A$.

$\Rightarrow x \in S$ and the set A is a pgrw-closed set in (S, τ) and $x \notin A$.

So if (S, τ) is a pgrw-regular space, then there exist disjoint open sets G and H in (S, τ) such that $x \in G$ and $A \subseteq H$.

\Rightarrow There exist disjoint open sets $Y \cap G$ and $Y \cap H$ in (Y, τ_y) such that $x \in Y \cap G$ and $Y \cap A \subseteq Y \cap H$.

$\Rightarrow (Y, \tau_y)$ is a pgrw-regular space.

Theorem : The statements

- i) S is a pgrw-regular space.
 - ii) $\forall x \in S$ and \forall pgrw-open set U containing x in $S \exists$ an open set V in (S, τ) for which $x \in V \subseteq cl(V) \subseteq U$.
 - iii) $\forall x \in S$ and \forall pgrw-closed set A not containing x , \exists an open set V containing x for which $cl(V) \cap A = \emptyset$.
- are equivalent.

Proof : (i) \Rightarrow (ii) and (ii) \Rightarrow (i) follow from 1.7.

(ii) \Rightarrow (iii): (ii) is the hypothesis. If $x \in S$ and A is a pgrw-closed set in (S, τ) not containing x , then $S-A$ is a pgrw-open set and $x \in S-A$. By the hypothesis,

\exists an open set V with $x \in V \subseteq cl(V) \subseteq S-A$. i.e. \exists an open set V containing x and $cl(V) \cap A = \emptyset$.

(iii) \Rightarrow (ii): $\forall x \in S$ and \forall pgrw-open set U containing x in (S, τ) , $S-U$ is a pgrw-closed set and $x \notin S-U$. So by the hypothesis \exists an open set V containing x for which $cl(V) \cap (S-U) = \emptyset$.

i.e. $x \in V \subseteq cl(V) \subseteq U$.

Theorem : If (S, τ) is a pgrw-regular space and $h: S \rightarrow Y$ is a bijective, pgrw-irresolute and open map, then Y is a pgrw-regular space.

Proof : Given : A is pgrw-closed in Y and $y \in Y-A$.

h is bijective.

$\Rightarrow \exists$ a unique x in S for which $h(x) = y$.

$h(x) \notin A \Rightarrow x \notin h^{-1}(A)$.

h is pgrw-irresolute and A is pgrw-closed in $Y. \Rightarrow h^{-1}(A)$ is pgrw-closed in S .

The space S is pgrw-regular, $h^{-1}(A)$ is pgrw-closed in S and $x \notin h^{-1}(A)$.

$\Rightarrow \exists$ open sets U and V satisfying $h^{-1}(A) \subseteq U$ and $x \in V$ and $U \cap V = \emptyset$.

$\Rightarrow h(h^{-1}(A)) \subseteq h(U)$ and $h(x) \in h(V)$.

h is surjective and $h^{-1}(A) \subseteq U$

$\Rightarrow A \subseteq h(U)$

The map h is open, U and V are open in S .

$\Rightarrow h(U)$ and $h(V)$ are open in Y .





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The map h is injective and $U \cap V = \phi$.

$\Rightarrow h(U) \cap h(V) = \phi$.

Thus \forall pgrw-closed set A in Y and $\forall y \in Y - A \exists$ disjoint open sets $h(U)$ and $h(V)$ satisfying $A \subseteq h(U)$ and $y \in h(V)$.

Hence Y is a pgrw-regular space.

Theorem : If h is a continuous and pgrw-closed map from a pgrw-space (S, τ) into a pgrw-regular space (Y, σ) , then (S, τ) is a pgrw-regular space.

Proof : Let A be a pgrw-closed set in (S, τ) and $x \in S - A$.

(S, τ) is a pgrw-space and A is pgrw-closed in $(S, \tau) \Rightarrow A$ is a closed set in S .

h is a pgrw-closed map and A is closed in $S \Rightarrow h(A)$ is a pgrw-closed set in Y .

(Y, σ) is a pgrw-regular space, $h(A)$ is a pgrw-closed set in Y and $h(x) \notin h(A)$.

$\Rightarrow \exists$ disjoint open sets C and D in (Y, σ) with $h(A) \subseteq C$ and $h(x) \in D$.

$h(A) \subseteq C \Rightarrow A \subseteq h^{-1}(C)$.

$h(x) \in D \Rightarrow x \in h^{-1}(D)$

$C \cap D = \phi \Rightarrow h^{-1}(C) \cap h^{-1}(D) = \phi$.

h is continuous and C and D are open. $\Rightarrow h^{-1}(C)$ and $h^{-1}(D)$ are open.

Thus \forall pgrw-closed set A and for every $x \in S - A \exists$ disjoint open sets $h^{-1}(C)$ and $h^{-1}(D)$ satisfying $A \subseteq h^{-1}(C)$ and $x \in h^{-1}(D)$.

Hence (S, τ) is a pgrw-regular space.

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***In silico* Docking of Cyanidin on Molecular Proteins of Advanced Glycated End Products (AGE)**

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ABSTRACT

Cyanidin or cyanidol belongs to a group of anthocyanin, and exhibits lucrative pharmacological properties. RAGE is a multi-ligand trans membrane protein and its interaction with advanced glycated end products (AGE) is responsible for various chronic life style diseases. Cyanidin being an anthocyanin has many hydroxyl groups in B ring and exhibits good anticancer, antioxidant and free radical scavenging activity. This molecular property of cyanidin may exhibit antiglycation activity by modulating the AGE - RAGE pathway. Hence the aim of our present study was to determine the anti-RAGE activity of cyanidin along with its interaction with other molecular proteins of AGE - RAGE pathway using autodock. 4.2. The insilco docking studies of cyanidin with 13 AGE-RAGE molecular proteins were performed and the results were analysed. The inference of this study reveals that cyanidin showed profound inhibitory activity against RAGE (3O3U), PI3-K (6BTY), NF-KB (1A3Q), PTEN (4O1V), PKB/AKT₂ (2U2R), mTOR (5WBH), PKC (5L19), JAK2 (6VN8), STAT (3WTT), TNK- α (1EXT), IL1 (5U1T), IL6 (1ALV), VEGF (4K2N). Therefore this study recommends that cyanidin can be profiled for the futuristic in vivo and *in vitro* studies to establish its antiglycation activity for the diseases caused by AGE-RAGE pathway proteins.

Keywords: AGE, RAGE, cyanidin, Insilco docking.

INTRODUCTION

Formation of AGEs resulting from glycation of proteins, nucleic acids and lipoproteins has several pathophysiological manifestations. They have been implicated in a number of diseases like diabetes mellitus,



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Alzheimer's disease, atherosclerosis, stroke, cardiovascular disease and cancer [1]. In diabetes mellitus, hyperglycemia is associated with AGEs contributes to pathogenesis of diabetic complications. [2,3]. In cardiovascular diseases, AGE has been implicated in the development of both systolic and diastolic cardiac dysfunction, atherosclerosis and thrombosis [4]. Accumulation of AGEs in tissues significantly increases the level of inflammation and oxidative stress by activating ROS activated NF-KB which has long been associated with the development of cancer [5,6]. Glycation and hyper phosphorylation of Tau proteins enhances the aggregation of plaques and are involved in the pathogenesis of Alzheimer's disease [7]. The currently available therapeutic options to reduce AGEs accumulation are AGE cross-link breakers, vitamins, tyrosine phosphorylation inhibitor and some clinically approved anti-diabetic and anti-hypertensive drugs [8].

Cyanidin or cyanidol belongs to a group of anthocyanin, it consist of a flavones nucleus, with ring C and two aromatic rings, A and B. The presence of these three rings with double bonds is what gives anthocyanin their pigmentation. The variety of substituents at the position of carbon 3, 4 and 5 of ring B serve as key antioxidants and pigments that contribute to the coloration of their flowers and fruits. Their health properties are due to their peculiar chemical structure that is they are very reactive towards reactive oxygen species because of their electron deficiency [9,10].

Cyanidin being an anthocyanin exhibits good anticancer, antioxidant and free radical scavenging activity. However the mechanism by which cyanidin produces these activities is poorly established. Also studies show that the presence of hydroxyl ring in the B ring may confer anti glycation activity to cyanidin. Hence we propose that cyanidin may exhibit antiglycation activity by modulating the AGE - RAGE pathway. Hence the aim of our present study was to perform the insilco docking of cyanidin with molecular proteins of AGE - RAGE pathway using autodock.4.2 (11,12).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Preparation of Cyanidin

The structure of cyanidin (Pubchem Id: 128861) was imported from PubChem in sdf format and drawn in Marvin sketch. The sdf file was converted to pdb format using OpenBabel-2.3.1 and finally it was saved in pdb format.

Preparation of AGE - RAGE pathway proteins

The pathway proteins such as Receptor for Advanced Glycation End Products(RAGE), Phosphoinositide 3-Kinase (P13-K), Nuclear Factor Kappa B (NF-KB), Phosphatase and tensin homolog (PTEN), Protein Kinase B. (PKB/AKT₂), Mammalian Target of Rapamycin (mTOR), Protein Kinase C (PKC), Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor (VEGE), Signal Transducers and Activators of Transcription (STAT), Janus Kinase 2 (JAK₂), Tumor necrosis factor(TNF- α), Interleukin- 1 (IL1), Interleukin- 6 (IL6) were imported from RCSB Protein Data Bank in PDB format with their respective PDB ID. Cyanidin was docked with the above 13 molecular proteins of AGE - RAGE pathway using Auto Dock Tools 4.2 (Version 1.5.6). The heteroatoms of the proteins were removed and was saved in the pdb format. The interaction activity of cyanidin against AGE molecular proteins was studied using Auto dock 4.2.

Molecular Docking studies by Auto Dock Tools 4.2 (Version 1.5.6)

The receptor and cyanidin interactions was predicted using Auto Dock 4.2 with certain modification. The proteins were prepared by adding all hydrogen atoms (polar only) to the macromolecule to correct the calculation of partial atomic charges. Gasteiger charges were calculated for each of the atom in the molecule. 3-D affinity grids of size 60*60*60 Å with 0.375 Å spacing were centered on the geometric center of the target protein. The dimensional affinity grid was fixed as specified above, to run the Auto grid file. The selected important docking parameters for the Lamarckian Genetic Algorithm (LGA) as follows: population size of 150 individuals, mutation rate of 0.02, crossing over of 0.8, 25 docking runs and random initial positions and conformations. The cyanidin was docked with AGE



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pathway proteins using Auto Dock 4.2 (Version 1.5.6) software with the above mentioned procedure. The binding energy, inhibition constant, number of hydrogen bonds and active residues interaction were simulated. (12)

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Cyanidin was docked with the above 13 molecular proteins of AGE pathway (Table 1) using Auto Dock Tools 4.2 (Version 1.5.6). Cyanidin and its glycosides occur in fruit, vegetables, and flowers of colored plants. Chemically, cyanidin has two benzene rings, A and B, and a heterocyclic ring C. It contains five hydroxyl groups: At C3 and C4 positions of the B ring, C7 and C5 of the A ring, and at C3 of the heterocyclic C ring [9]. RAGE is a single trans membrane receptor of the immunoglobulin superfamily and its over expression leads to activation of various molecular pathways associated with diabetic complications, cancer, atherosclerosis, inflammation, and neurodegenerative disorders (13). Docking (Table 1) of RAGE (3O3U) with cyanidin exhibited good binding energy of -7.31 kcal/mol, inhibition constant of 4.36 μ M with 2 hydrogen bonds (Figure 1). Studies show that phenoxyl radicals in flavonoids contribute to hydrogen atom release (14), electron delocalization and hydrogen bonding ability and the hydroxyl group of B ring of cyanidin could have contributed to this anti-RAGE activity. [12]

PI-3K phosphorylates Akt2 which then phosphorylates and regulates multiple target proteins, implicated in the regulation of apoptosis, metabolism, protein synthesis and cell division. Docking profile of cyanidin with PI-3K (6BTY), showed (Figure 2) binding energy and inhibition constant of -9.06 kcal/mol and 227.81 μ M, with 1 hydrogen bonds. Studies showed that the loss of C2-C3 double bond structure of flavonoid gives potent PI-3K inhibitory activity [15, 16]. Cyanidin interaction with NF- κ B (1A3Q) exhibited binding energy of -6.92 kcal/mol and weak inhibition constant of 8.45 μ M by forming 1 hydrogen bond (figure 3). From our study PTEN (4O1V) exhibited binding energy of -6.3 kcal/mol and inhibition constant of 12.3 μ M with the formation of 1 hydrogen bond (figure 4). Cyanidin may modulate the PI3K/Akt signalling pathway by moderating activity of PTEN, an inverse regulator of PI3K/Akt signaling pathway and is modulated by flavonoids [17].

PI-3K pathway along with AKT/mTOR pathway regulates cell growth, survival, metabolism, motility and angiogenesis. When PKB/Akt2 (2UZR) was docked with cyanidin, it resulted with binding energy, inhibition constant and hydrogen bonds of -6.94 kcal/mol, 8.19 μ M and 2 respectively which were satisfactory (figure 5). Akt2 signaling has been implicated in maintaining neuronal and glial signaling, angiogenesis, neurogenesis, and peripheral and cerebral blood flow and modulates glucose uptake and brain ageing and its aberration causes various life style diseases. This study is consistent with our docking report of mTOR (5WBH) showing possible interaction with binding energy of -6.86 kcal/mol and inhibition constant of 9.42 μ M with cyanidin (figure 6). This is substantiated by studies showing that cyanidin can modulate guanylyl cyclase and eNOS interaction, by affecting the phosphorylation of eNOS and protein kinase B (Akt) [18]. Thus cyanidin can not only modulate all 3 proteins of PI3K/Akt/mTOR pathway but also PTEN an inverse regulator of this pathway.

PKC (5L19) had binding energy -7.1 kcal/mol with inhibition constant of 6.21 μ M and 1 hydrogen bond when docked with cyanidin (figure 7). This is in accordance with previous study where cyanidin significantly increased p38 kinase expression and inhibited mitogen-activation protein kinases, protein kinase C and phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase pathways [18]. JAK2 (6VN8) showed binding energy of -6.39 kcal/mol and inhibition constant of 20.72 μ M and 1 hydrogen bond when docked with cyanidin (figure 8). Cyanidin with STAT (3WWT) showed binding energy and inhibition constant of -5.81 kcal/mol and 55.11 μ M respectively by forming 1 hydrogen bonds (figure 9). This is consistent with previous studies that flavonoids can inhibit activation and phosphorylation of JAK and STAT [19] but in addition we would like to add on to it that it can also modulate PKC. TNF- α (1EXT) had binding energy -6.92 kcal/mol with inhibition constant of 8.52 μ M and 2 hydrogen bonds with cyanidin (figure 10). IL1 (5U1T) showed binding energy of -7.64 kcal/mol with inhibition constant of 2.53 μ M and 2 hydrogen atoms with cyanidin (figure 11). IL6 (1ALV) exhibited binding energy -6.46 kcal/mol with inhibition constant of 18.52 μ M and 2 hydrogen bonds in presence of cyanidin (figure 12). Anthocyanin, inhibited NF- κ B through down-regulation of mitogen activated



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protein kinase (MAPK) pathways and reduced the expression of some pro-inflammatory cytokines such as TNF- α , IL-6, iNOS and NF- κ B. Thus our studies shows cyanidin can affect the effects of proinflammatory cytokines. VEGF (4K2N) had binding energy -5.91kcal/mol, with inhibition constant of 46.89 μ M and 1 hydrogen bond with cyanidin (figure 13). Studies show that anthocyanin exhibit anti-angiogenesis effect by reducing VEGF and VEGF receptor expression in endothelial cells [18].

This insilco study revealed that cyanidin exhibited good binding energy and inhibition constant when it was docked with all AGE-RAGE pathway proteins such as RAGE (3O3U), PI3-K (6BTY), NF-KB (1A3Q), PTEN (4O1V), PKB/AKT₂ (2U2R), mTOR (5WBH), PKC (5L19), JAK2 (6VN8), STAT (3WTT), TNK- α (1EXT), IL1 (5U1T), IL6 (1ALV), VEGF (4K2N). Cyanidin is a flavonoid with three carbon aromatic rings and many phenolic hydroxyl groups. The cationic and polyphenolic nature of anthocyanins and their metabolites is mainly responsible for their strong free-radical scavenging and antioxidant activities. [16,19] Presence of ortho hydroxyl structure in B ring and a C2-C3 double bond in conjugation with a 4-oxo function in the C ring and hydroxyl groups at positions 3 and 5 in the A and C ring respectively, contributes to its free radical scavenging activity. Presence of hydroxyl group on B-ring of cyanidin may be one of the key factors for its anti-RAGE activity. [12,20] Thus our insilco studies shows that cyanidin may possess anti-glycation activity by moderating major proteins involved in various functions such as cell cycle, cell survival, apoptosis, inflammation and proliferation.

Thus our study showed that cyanidin exhibited antiglycation activity by binding and inhibiting RAGE protein and modulating other AGE-RAGE pathway proteins such as RAGE (3O3U), PI3-K (6BTY), NF-KB (1A3Q), PTEN (4O1V), PKB/AKT₂ (2U2R), mTOR (5WBH), PKC (5L19), JAK2 (6VN8), STAT (3WTT), TNK- α (1EXT), IL1 (5U1T), IL6 (1ALV), VEGF (4K2N). Hence therapeutic targeting of these proteins by cyanidin will go a long way in alleviating diseases caused by deregulation of AGE-RAGE pathways such as cancer, diabetes mellitus, cardiovascular, neurodegenerative and autoimmune disorders. However further in vitro and in vivo studies are required to establish better knowledge on antiglycation activity of cyanidin.

CONCLUSION

The insilco docking studies of cyanidin with 13 AGE-RAGE molecular proteins were performed and the results were analysed. The inference of this study reveals that cyanidin showed profound inhibitory activity against RAGE (3O3U), PI3-K (6BTY), NF-KB (1A3Q), PTEN (4O1V), PKB/AKT₂ (2U2R), mTOR (5WBH), PKC (5L19), JAK2 (6VN8), STAT (3WTT), TNK- α (1EXT), IL1 (5U1T), IL6 (1ALV), VEGF (4K2N). Therefore this study recommends that cyanidin can be profiled for the futuristic in vivo and in vitro studies to establish its antiglycation activity for the diseases caused by AGE-RAGE pathway proteins.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest.

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Table 1: Docking score of cyanidin with various molecular proteins of AGE - RAGE pathways using Autodock4.2.

S.NO.	PROTIEN	PBD ID	BINDING ENERGY (kcal/mol)	INHIBITION CONSTANT (μ M)	NUMBER OF H BONDS
1	RAGE	3O3U	-7.31	4.36	2
2	P13-K	6BTY	-9.06	227.81	1
3	NF-KB	1A3Q	-6.92	8.45	1
4	PTEN	4O1V	-6.7	12.3	1
5	PKB/AKT ₂	2U2R	-6.94	8.19	2
6	mTOR	5WBH	-6.86	9.42	-
7	PKC	5L19	-7.1	6.21	1
8	JAK2	6VN8	-6.39	20.72	1
9	STAT	3WWT	-5.81	55.11	1
10	TNF- α	1EXT	-6.92	8.52	2
11	IL1	5U1T	-7.64	2.53	2
12	IL6	1ALV	-6.46	18.52	2
13	VEGF	4K2N	-5.91	46.89	1

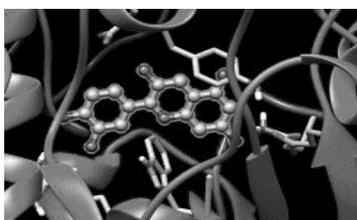


Figure 1: Cyanidin docked with RAGE

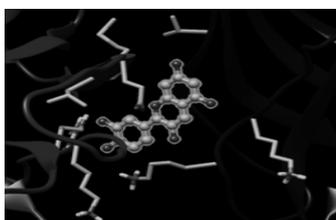


Figure 2: Cyanidin docked with PI3-k



Figure 3: Cyanidin docked with NF-KB

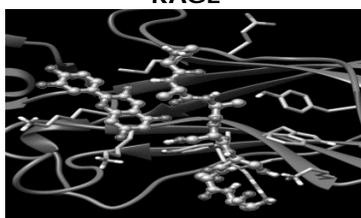


Figure 4: Cyanidin docked with PTEN

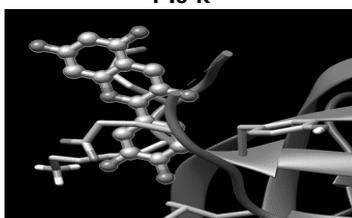


Figure 5: Cyanidin docked with PKB/AKT₂

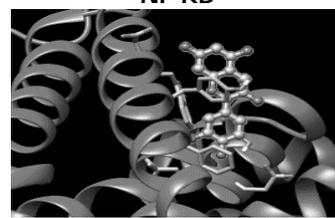


Figure 6: Cyanidin docked with Mtor





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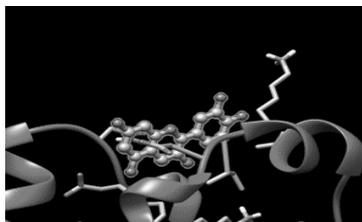


Figure 7: Cyanidin docked with PKC

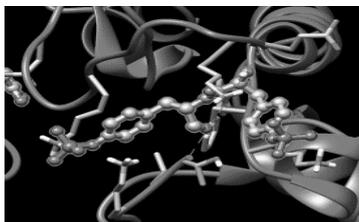


Figure 8: Cyanidindocked with JAK2

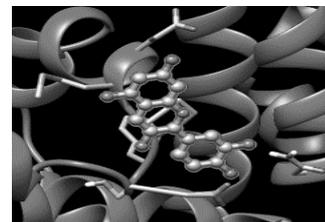


Figure 9: Cyanidin docked with STAT

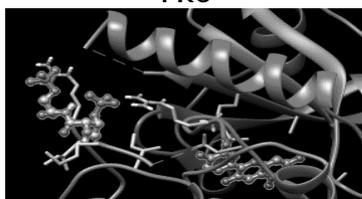


Figure 10: Cyanidin docked with TNF- α

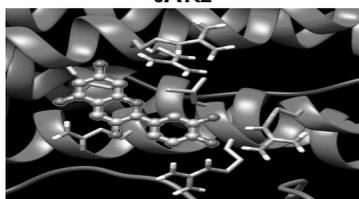


Figure 11: Cyanidin docked with IL1

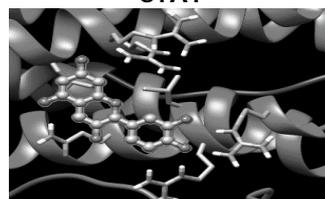


Figure 12: Cyanidin docked with IL6

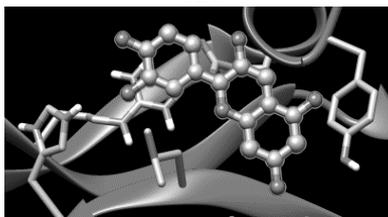


Figure 13: Cyanidin docked with VEGF





Cubosomes: A Novel Drug Delivery

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ABSTRACT

Cubosomes referred to as self-assembled nanoparticles, have unique importance in the field of science. These cubosomes have internal cubic lattices that are visible. The structure of cubosomes resembles a honeycomb. The cubosomes have the ability of increasing the solubility of poorly soluble drugs. Even though these cubosomes have more advantages, they cannot be manufactured at large scales due to changes in the viscosity during the preparation process. Cubosomes can load both lipophilic as well and hydrophilic drugs. This review article is focused on the modern advances in the preparation of cubosomes, their applications, and the investigation of cubosome structure through X-ray, NMR, and electron microscopy and the potential of cubosomes in the drug delivery system.

Keywords: Cubosomes, Nanoparticles, Cubic Lattices, Honey Comb, Viscosity, Modern, Advances.





INTRODUCTION

The cubosomes are sub-micron sized bicontinuous cubic nanostructured, particles of the liquid crystalline phase. The word “Cubosomes” were first introduced by a scientist named Larsson, which resembles the molecular cubic crystallography structure and also has a similarity with liposomes. Cubosomes also referred as honeycomb structures, (Figure 1) separate into two internal aqueous phases. Cubosomes are self-assembled liquid crystalline nanoparticles. (R.R. Bhosale *et al*, 2013) They have an average range of structural symmetry. These bicontinuous cubic phases are highly viscous, have solid like crystalline structure, and are also optically clear. These cubic phases later divide into small particles that are thermodynamically stable. (V.M. Sri *et al*, 2017) Even though these nanoparticles get influenced by variations in lipid concentration, temperature, hydration, and some other experimental conditions that influence their stability as well. (S.Urvi *et al*, 2017) These cubosomes have several properties that make them acceptable as a universal vehicle for drug delivery, and they are gaining a lot more attention in oral delivery, cancer treatment, (S. V. Rao and B.N Sravya, 2018) and brain targeting. Some of the anticancer drugs have been encapsulated in cubosomes and achieved their goal of targeting cancer cells. In this, the amphiphilic molecules form the water and oil channels as a bicontinuous phase. The lipids, polymers, and surfactants having polar and non-polar substituents are most likely amphiphilic. They have a structure range of 100 to 500nm³. (Esposito, 2005) Like other nanoparticles, these cubosomes also use surfactants as well as polymers for forming supra-assemblies that are most widely used as active transport system vesicles. Because of their liquid crystalline structure, they are having an elaborated aqueous channel networks along with a lipid bilayer membrane of 3D periodic structure. There are various methods developed for encapsulating with natural as well as synthetic hydrophobic and lipophobic drug molecules, including various large molecules, i.e., macromolecules like proteins, DNA, peptides. (Mertins Omar, 2020) The dosage form in the cubosomes may get released in either of two ways they are diffusion or absorption. (D. Avantika and P. Vinay, 2020)

Advantages (K. B. Tilekar *et al*, 2014 and Z. Karami *et al*, 2016)

Cubosomes have a lot of advantages. They include

- They act as excellent vehicles for sensitive drugs that get degraded by the action of enzymes. Examples include proteins and peptides.
- In conditions of excess water, they can still remain stable. (G. Garg and S. Saraf, 2007)
- Due to the increased internal surface area, they have increased drug loading capacity.
- The preparation method is easy and simple.
- Non-irritant and non-allergic. (K.B. Tilekar, 2014)
- It reduces overall health care costs.
- Cubosomes having cubic phase get broke down and convert into a small dispersion of particulate which are thermodynamically stable for a prolonged period of time.
- Biocompatible, biodegradable, bio-adhesive.
- Enhanced bioavailability.

Disadvantages

- Due to its high viscosity, there exists lot of problems during large-scale production. (M. Thandanki, 2011)
- Because of the high amount of water within the structure, the entrapment of hydrophilic drugs is low. (P.T. Spicer, 2013)
- There may be a chance of leakage during storage conditions. (Thandanki M. 2011)
- There is a possibility of cubic phase alterations during variations in environmental conditions. (S.B. Rizwan *et al*, 2007)



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Cubosomes Forms

The cubic phases are divided into three macroscopic forms. There are:

- ✓ Precursor
- ✓ Bulk gel
- ✓ Particulate dispersion

Precursor: They are available in both solid and liquid materials in contact with a stimulus such as liquid, which results in the formation of the cubic phase.

Bulk gel: Bulk cubic phase gels are optically isotropic, hard, and solid substances. (B.K. Nanjwade *et al.*, 2014)

Particulate dispersions: The bulk cubic phase gel, when in contact with water, gets separated into particulate dispersions known as cubosomes.

Cubic Phase Structure Theories

Normally 3 theories are evolved based on cubic phase. They involve:

- 1) Fontell and Drew theory
- 2) Gustafson *et al* theory
- 3) Schwarz theory

Fontell and Drew theory

They stated that these cubosomes are ternary systems of oil, amphiphiles and water. Monoglycerides sometimes exhibit as cubic phases. These monoglycerides are lipids of polar nature that are having somewhat less solubility having aqueous behaviour. These replicate as non-ionic surfactants. Monoglycerides are hydrocarbon chain having length between C₁₂ and C₂₂. These monoglycerides are unsaturated form of monoolein that is C₁₈ monoglycerides. (G. Garg *et al.*, 2007) In all the monoglycerides especially monoolein shows larger presentation of cubic phase. Monoolein (Figure 2) have continuous hydrophilic head as well as lipophilic tail that are the end portion, which produce reverse or inversed cubic phases which shows the phase movement to the polar medium.

Properties of monoolein

- Molecular formula: C₂₁H₄₀O₄
- Melting point: ranges from 35°C to 37°C
- Storage temperature: -20°C
- Colour: colourless
- Flash point: 180°C
- Solubility: chloroform-50mg/ml

Monoolein is also known as glyceryl monooleate, α -monoolein glycerol.

Gustafson *et al* theory

These are single crystalline structure having unilamellar vesicles and lamellar crystalline liquid phase particles that are distributed over a liquid crystalline phase. There is a chance for increasing the vesicles size by adding increased ratio of polymer-to-monoolein. The process of forming more viscous crystalline structure is slow as well as require very high amount of energy for its fragmentation. The characteristic of the cubosomes systems is its metastability. (P.T. Spicer and M.L. Lynch, 2003)

These phases look like a sandwich that is present between the lamellar and also hexagonal liquid crystalline phases.

Schwartz theory

Schwartz discovered 3 types of surfaces mathematically. Those are:

1. P-surface
2. G-surface





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3. D-surface
 - Monoolein water system forms D-surface at high water level.
 - At lower water levels monoolein water system forms G-surface. (R. Larson, 1990)
 - The P-surface forms only when there is a third component like caseins and also amphiphilic molecules in the structure.

Types Of Cubosomes

These are generally classified into two types

1. Liquid cubosomes
2. Powdered cubosomes

Liquid Cubosomes

Usage of hydrotrope dilution technique leads to give smaller as well as stable cubosomes. This process involves nucleation and saturation leads to growth as such of precipitation and crystallization process. This process involves the monoolein dissolution in a hydrotrope generally ethanol. Ethanol is used to prevent the formation of liquid crystal. This method generally does not need high energy, avoid bulk handling of solids and also prevent degradation of liquid cubic crystalline structures. (M. Thandanki *et al*, 2011) It allows the scale-up of cubosomes preparation conveniently. (A.C.F. Patta *et al*, 2020) These are widely used in the preparation of hand washes and mouth washes.

Powdered Cubosomes

Powdered cubosomes are dehydrated surfactants which are coated with polymer; hence they are termed as powdered cubosomes. Powdered cubosomes precursors are having more benefits when compared to liquid cubosome precursors. The powdered cubosomes precursors are produced by hydration process. They produce the particles of a mean particle size at 600nm which is determined by light scattering as well as cryo-TEM. In the preparation of powdered cubosomes precursors there involves lipids which are waxy, sticky in nature. Spray drying is the most commonly used process for preparation of these types of precursors (P.T. Spicer *et al*, 2002) suitable for large scale production. The spray-drying process involves the formation of particles that are encapsulated which are produced from the emulsion of dispersed solid particles. Spray drying process also provides an easy way to preload the active ingredient before the drying process. The polymers which are used in coating help in providing surface properties to the cubosomes. In case of starch coated powdered cubosomes precursor it requires a huge amount of high shear treatment to the monoolein which is present in anaqueous starch solution which results in the formation of a coarse cubosomes dispersion. The spray drying technique is easier when the starch coated powder production is done from a hydrotropic solution containing emulsified monoolein in water. Formation of dispersed cubosomes can be avoided by re-application of the effect of hydrotrope in spray-drying and also ease the use of spray drying.

Components Of Cubosomes

Natural lipids

1. Surfactants
2. Polymers

These are the three components that are widely used in the preparation of the cubosomes. (L. Boge, 2018)

Lipids

Lipids are used in the construction or formation of the bicontinuous cubic phase. Monoglycerides as well as monoolein are most widely used. There are some other lipids that are also used; they include glycolipids, phospholipids, and urea based lipids. These urea based lipids have the ability to self-assemble immediately under the influence of water. (L.D. Lozeau *et al*, 2018)



Sravani *et al.*,**Monoglycerides**

They immediately form the bicontinuous cubic phase in addition to water. These are generally insoluble in nature, which helps in the formation of colloidal dispersion.

Monoolein

Monoolein plays an important role in the formation of cubosomes. Monoolein is a mixture of acetic acid glycerides and some fatty acids that have monoolein as a major constituent.

Generally, this monoolein is available in two forms. Those are:

1. Mixed glycerides
2. Distilled monoolein

The distilled monoolein has a high percentage of purity which indeed used in the pharmaceutical field that is referred as generally recognized as safe (GRAS).

Surfactants

The surfactant used in cubosome formation is poloxamer, with a concentration range of 0% - 20% w/w. Poly vinyl alcohol is also used as a stabilising agent. (Thomas Ancy *et al*, 2018)

Methods Involved In The Preparation Of Cubosomes

There are various ways for the preparation of cubosomes. (Figure 6) They include

High Pressure-Homogenization

This method involves three steps, and this method is the most widely used and suitable for the preparation of cubosomes. (H.M.G. Barriga *et al*, 2019 and R.K. Thapa, 2016) The cubosomes produced by this method are having a long duration of shelf life (S.S.W. Leung and C. Leal, 2019) as well as stability. The three steps are as follows

- Gel preparation
- Shearing
- High-pressure homogenization.

Gel Preparation

This step involves the dissolving and proper mixing of lipids as well as surfactants in an organic solvent, resulting in the formation of a homogenous mixture. A rotator evaporator is used for the evaporation of the organic solvent that is used for dissolving the lipid and amphiphilic surfactants in order to form a gel phase.

High-Pressure Homogenization

This process is used only for the preparation of large-volume (30ml) sample systems but is not suitable for small-volume sample systems, and only a single sample will be processed, which may be considered a disadvantage to some extent. In this process, the temperature is maintained based on the properties of the lipid that is used, so it is a temperature-sensitive method. For homogenization, the dispersion is subjected to a high-pressure homogenizer.

Automated Cubosomes Preparation Method

This method involves a probe sonicator and a robotic system. A 96-well plate having a solvent capacity of 600 μ l is considered for the preparation of gels. Then it is subjected to a sonicator, which is operated by a robotic system. This method is similar to the probe sonication method. There is a chance of preparing a large amount of cubosomes, as well as the physicochemical properties of the prepared cubosomes can be determined very easily. (L. Sagalowicz *et al*, 2006)





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Probe Sonication Method

This process involves the formation of a gel by the addition of preferred stabilizers followed by the equilibration of the solvent, which leads to the formation of a cubic phase; later on, it is carried out for ultrasonication. (Y.D. Dong et al, 2006) Frequency and amplitude should be maintained in order to prevent the samples from overheating

The advantages of this method are

- ✓ This process is fast and easy.
- ✓ This method is applicable to small-volume samples as well.
- ✓ It has the capacity of dispersing samples of even 600 μL quantity.
- ✓ The types of equipment used in this method are very commonly used.

The only disadvantage of this method is that there may be a chance of contamination due to the presence of metal and particle growth could happen.

Top-Up Technique

This technique was invented by Lijusberg-Wahren in the year 1996, and it was widely used at that time for research purposes. (S. Urvi et al, 2013) The primary step in this technique is the preparation of viscous bulk cubic phases by combining them with lipids, amphiphilic surfactants and involves an application of high pressure homogenization and sonication for the formation of cubosomes nanoparticles. These created the bulk phase's look-alike clear, strong gel due to the water-swollen, cross linked polymer chains. The cubic phases sometimes act as lamellar phases at the stage of dispersion with the increasing shear, which is stated by Warr and Chen and the formed cubosomes nanoparticles may co-exist as vesicle like structure. (D. Bei et al, 2010)

Advantage

- ✓ There is no use of organic solvent in order to prevent any toxicity.
- ✓ It is very simple method for preparation.

Disadvantage

- ✓ It is a time-consuming process.
- ✓ High-energy is involved for the preparation.

Bottom-Up Technique (S. Urvi et al, 2013)

This method is applicable for the robust preparation and it is useful for the preparation of small-size particles. At room temperature monoolein-ethanol, which is a hydrotrope, is in solution form along with the aqueous poloxamer solution. They undergo the emulsification (D. Bei et al, 2010) process for the spontaneous formation of cubosomes. In this whole technique, hydrotrope plays an important role in the formation of cubosome nanoparticles.

Advantage

- ✓ Consume less energy for the preparation of cubosomes.
- ✓ Not a time-consuming technique.
- ✓ There is no use of organic solvents.

Disadvantage

- ✓ Due to the presence of hydrotrope there is a chance of allergic reaction when intake.

Other Methods**High-Shear Homogenization Technique**

These techniques include the use of stabilizers in order to prevent the further aggregation of the particles during the storage period. The main disadvantage of this method is that it will have some limitations because of the use of high-pressure. (S. Salentinig et al, 2008)



**Sravani et al.,****Spray-Dried Technique**

In order to prevent the limited flexibility of liquid precursors of cubosomes, the use of dry powder precursors (Figure 8) for cubosome preparation is advised. This technique involves the coating of monoolein with polysaccharides, dextran, starch immediately after hydration.

In order to maintain the stabilization in the preparation process, polymers are added. (M.H. Shah *et al*, 2006) Cubosomes are finally protected against flocculation. (P.A. Lyla and K. Seevakan, 2018)

Emulsification

Poloxamer 407 is used for the preparation of cubosomes, which dilutes the solution of monoolein-ethanol. (B.J. Boyd, 2003)

Characterization Of Drug Release From Cubosomes

The sustained-release drug delivery systems are advantageous for keeping the therapeutic concentration within the range for an extended period of time and aid in concentration maintenance. Based on the two situations, the cubosomes are claimed to be a drug delivery system and a bioactive agent:

- ✓ The poorly soluble drugs can be solubilized
- ✓ Controlled or sustained release of the drugs that are loaded into cubosomes

The cubic phases help in controlling the release of drugs of various molecular weights and polarities. Cubic phase matrices obey the Higuchi-type of diffusion kinetics for the controlled release of drugs. The dispersion into cubosomes will not completely alter the properties like drug loading, solubility, etc. The obtained cubosomes have a surface area of nearly 200000 times greater than the cubic phases and have a greater diffusion rate. (J. Zhai, 2018)

The charge of the cubosomes, structure and viscosity, plays an important role in controlling the drug release. Different scientists have studied cubosomes with different drugs loaded in them. For example, Lai *et al* studied the release of simvastatin drug loaded into cubosomes. (J. Lai *et al*, 2009) Lee *et al* studied two different types of cubosomes that are prepared from PHYT and GMO. (K.W. Lee *et al*, 2009) Nguyen *et al* conducted experiments on rats and demonstrated the 48hrs sustained release of cinnarizine when loaded in cubosomes and administered orally. (T.H. Nguyen *et al*, 2011)

Evaluation Of Cubosomes**Visual Inspection of Studies** (S. Saly *et al*, 2013)

After the preparation of cubosomes it is examined after 1 week visually like its colour, presence of micro particles, homogeneity.

Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM) (R. R. Bhosale *et al*, 2013)

TEM is used to know the morphology like shape of the cubosomes. TEM provides high-resolution microphotographs compared to light microscope, which helps in clear visualization of cubosomes. Factors like poor images, vacuum environment around it can be overcome by using the TEM.

SEM examination may not be preferred to cubosomes and some vesicular containing systems because of the chances of altering or losing the robustness of them when exposed to electron array.

Zeta Potential

Zeta potential indicates the high degree of electronic repulsion between similar charged particles. The stability of the formulation is determined by zeta potential.

Viscosity (S. Saly *et al*, 2013)

The viscosity of the formulation was determined by rotary viscometer that is Brookfield viscometer, which is maintained at 25°C and 20rpm having spindle number 18.

Polarized Light Microscopy (R. R. Bhosale *et al*, 2013)

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It is used to distinguish between anisotropic and isotropic substances.

Gel Permeation Chromatography or UV Spectrophotometer or HPLC Analysis(R. R. Bhosale *et al*, 2013)

Gel permeation is used to determine the entrapment efficiency as well as drug loading into the cubosomes. UV spectrophotometer and HPLC helps in analysing the amount of drug.

Pressure Ultrafiltration Method(R. R. Bhosale *et al*, 2013)

Drug release from the cubosomes can be determined by this method. This method closely related to method proposed by Magnheim *et al* in which he uses the Amicon pressure ultrafiltration cell having a Millipore membrane.

Applications**Dermatological Application**

Cubosomes act as vehicles for delivering transdermal drugs because of their unique characteristics and structure. For delivering the vaccines to the skin, cubosomes played an important role. (S. A. Gaballa *et al*, 2020)

Brain Targeting

Blood-brain barrier which is referred to as BBB acts as a barrier for most drugs including the CNS drugs which is used to treat CNS illness. Cubosomes are a type of lipid-based nanoparticles that shows increased loading of the drug as well as better permeation towards the BBB.

Cosmetics

In hair care products, and skin care products cubosomes are also used. Alpha-lipoic acid dispersion is used in the cubosomes because it has good antioxidant activity and helps as an anti-aging cream and reduces wrinkles. (L.P. Yalavarthi and P.K. Jonnadula, 2020)

In Cancer Cell Targeting

Cubosomes play a vital role in delivering cancer drugs that have low solubility and absorption, for example, resveratrol. (H.M. Abdel Bar *et al*, 2017)

Melanoma Therapy

The special structural properties of the cubosomes nanoparticles help in cancer therapy. Methods like passive as well as active targeting are adopted for delivering anti-cancer drugs in melanoma therapy. (S. Naveentaj and Y.I. Muzib, 2020)

Intravenous Drug Delivery Systems

Internal liquid crystal structures of the nanoparticles are used in order to solubilize and encapsulate the drug and deliver it to the targeted area in the body. These LCNP structures increase the loading of proteins, peptides, and other macromolecules. At the same time, liposomes and emulsions are also used in intravenous drug delivery systems. (A. Mayuri and S. Shipa, 2017)

For Treating Viral Diseases

As cubosomes contain monoglycerides, they have good microbial activity, so they can be used to treat various vaginal infections that are sexually transmitted due to viruses like HIV and HSV and other bacterial diseases like Chlamydia trachomatis. (G. Garg and S. Saraf, 2007).

CONCLUSION

This article helps in gaining detailed information about cubosomes. These cubosomes are bicontinuous cubic crystalline liquid phases that provide special properties of interest. These cubosomes preparation involves a very



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wide range of techniques and also serves as a drug carrier for most drugs. Cubosomes are made up of lipids, surfactants, and polymers with monoolein playing an important role in their formation. Cubosomes are most widely used in melanoma therapy and also have various dermatological uses. Several applications of cubosomes are discussed in this article, along with various evaluation parameters performed on the cubosomes. Thus, there is a lot of future scope for nanoparticles like cubosomes in the field of drug delivery to the targeted area.

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Table 1. Few drugs loaded in cubosomes for delivery cancer drugs

Active ingredients	Polymers included	Method of preparation	Application
Doxorubicin	Monoolein, Phytantriol	Melting Centrifugation	Drug delivery [47]
Carboplatin	Monoolein, polyethylene glycol, ethoxy units	Heating Centrifugation	Drug delivery [48]
3-bromopyruvate	Monoolein, poloxamer 407, folic acid	Injection method combined with high-pressure homogenization	Tumor targeting [49]
Resveratrol	Monoolein	Homogenization by hydrotrope method	Lung cancer targeting [50]
Thymoquinone	Monoolein	Emulsification	Drug delivery [51]
Gambogic acid	Monoolein	Lipid recrystallization of homogenous emulsion	Drug delivery in cancer therapy [52]
Metformin	Monoolein, poloxamer 407	Disrupting cubic gel	Drug delivery [53]



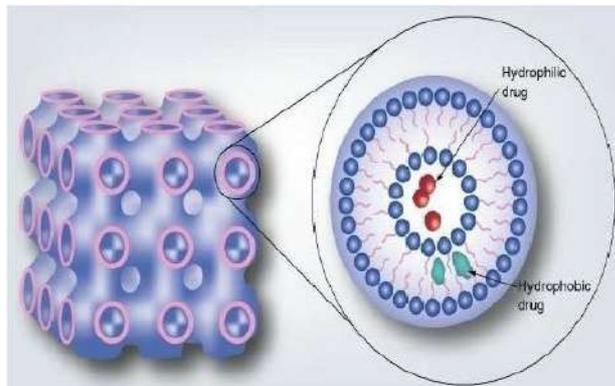


Figure 1. Schematic structure representation of cubosome

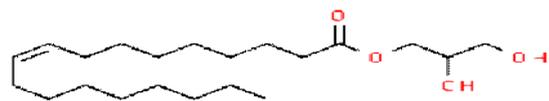


Figure2.Monoolein Structure

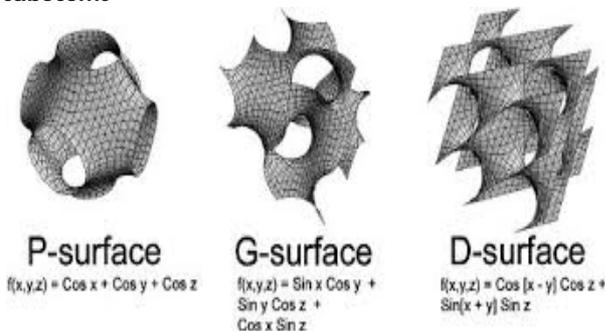


Figure 3. Schematic representation of different cubic phases of a cubosomes

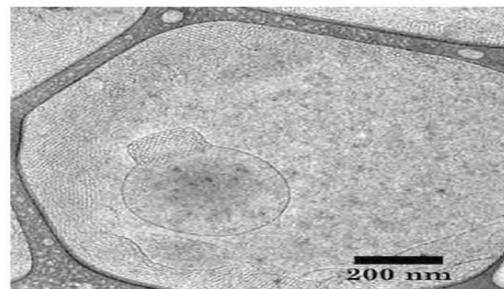


Figure4.Starch encapsulated monoolein particles observed by cryo-TEM

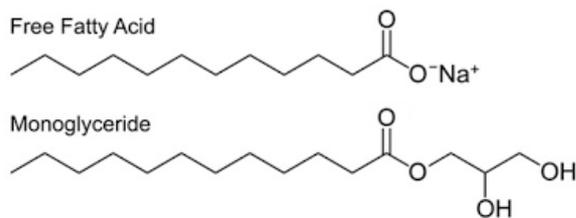


Figure5.Chemical structure of Monoglyceride

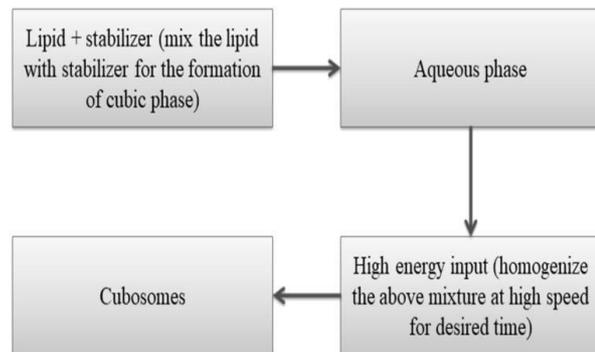


Figure 7.Top-Down technique



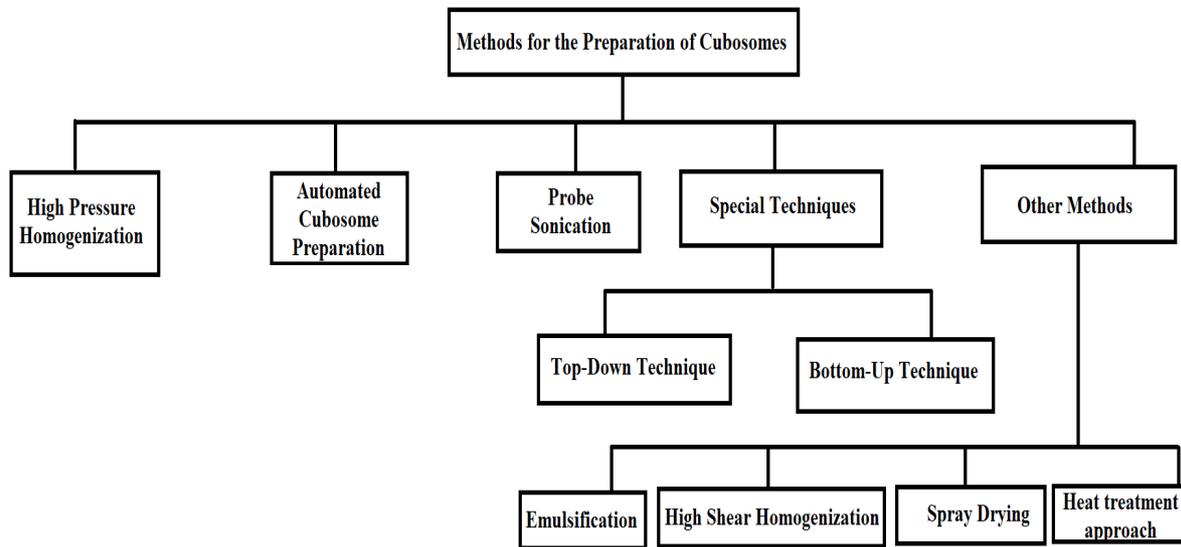


Figure 6. Flow chart of different methods for preparation of cubosomes

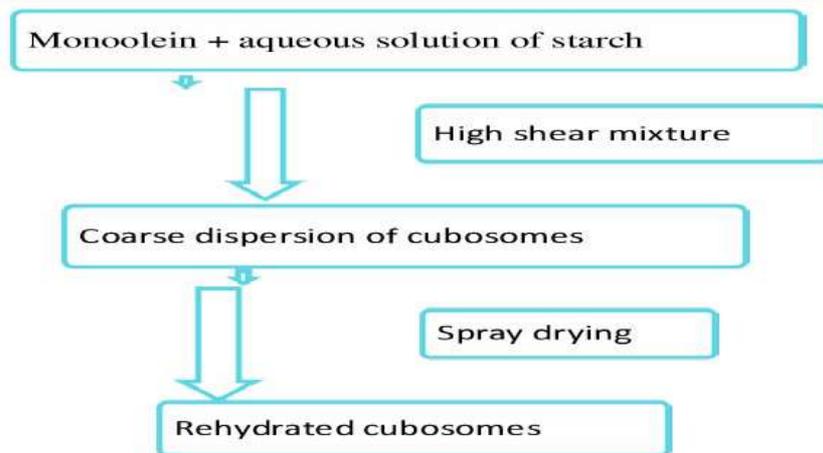


Figure8. Flow chart for the formation of dry powder precursor cubosomes





Handling Missing Values on Gene Expression Data using Multi-Variant and Multiple Mean Imputation

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ABSTRACT

The occurrence of missing data is a major issue in microarray data and it affects the data quality. Majority of research provides imputation for the missing values which occur random in the microarrays but the gene expression columns have missing values with nonrandom distribution. This work proposes two methods for handling non-random missing values in the gene expression data. One method replaces the missing values by closest distance of the complete data set. Second method replaces the missing values by multiple mean. Proposed methods are tested with the multi-class data set and binary class data sets of microarray gene expression data. The performance of the proposed work is evaluated using root mean squared error and accuracy of the classification model. It provides better root mean square error and classification accuracy.

Keywords: gene expression, imputation, missing values, multi-variant, multiple mean.

INTRODUCTION

Cancer disease is caused by the abnormal growth of cells that can spread in different parts of the body[1]. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), cancer is the second major cause for death in the world. Gene expression

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plays an important role in detecting cancer in its early stage to know the biochemical processes and genetic characteristics of tissues [2]. Gene expression levels can be measured using microarray technology, which is also used to identify specific therapies to diagnose and predict diseases [3]. It is difficult to retrieve effective gene information from a raw dataset as it is suffered from missing values. Missing values are categorized in three types such as missing at random (MAR), missing not at random (MNAR), and missing completely at random (MCAR) [4]. If MCAR and MAR type are observed in the raw dataset, corresponding samples can be ignored during processing but if it is MNAR type then the sample is non-ignorable [5]. Missing values in the dataset may damage the data quality and the quality of the classification results [6]. Imputation is the preprocessing technique to replace the missing values with substituted data and makes the dataset a complete dataset. The mean and median values are used for replacement if the data is numeric, but when the data is categorical the frequently occurring value is used for replacement. Univariate imputation is the process of replacing all missing values of a particular feature with a same data. Multivariate imputation is the process of replacing the missing values of a particular feature with different data. The imputation is classified into two categories namely statistical imputation and machine learning-based imputation [7]. The imputed values in the gene expression data help to analyze the pathway enrichment analysis and downstream analysis [8].

Yadav et al. [9] have reviewed the imputation methods into four categories namely global, local, hybrid and knowledge assisted technique. Global method uses the global correlation of data. The local method uses local structure of the data. Hybrid based approaches uses the combinations of local and global based information. The knowledge-assisted approaches use the domain knowledge for data imputations. Lyngdoh et al. [10] have implemented various data imputation approaches for dataset completeness using machine learning approaches. The extreme gradient boosted decision trees algorithm has highest prediction efficacy when the dataset is imputed using k-nearest neighbors with a 10-neighbor configuration. Dubey et al. [11] have proposed clustering and top k-nearest neighbor approaches for imputing the missing value using local similarity and weighted distance for the gene expression data. Chungnoy et al. [12] have proposed a method using bee algorithm and k-nearest neighborhood with linear regression for the gene expression data of brain cancer, breast cancer and leukemia cancer. The method selects values for replacing missing values using GINI importance. Choudhury et al. [7] have proposed an imputation with auto-encoder neural networks. The method uses complete data to train the auto-encoder method to deal with missing values.

Keerin et al. [13] have introduced a summarization based k-nearest neighbor model for imputing the missing values. The ordered weighted averaging operator was used to find the nearest neighbors in the weighted aggregation method. Saha et al. [14] have used decision tree with genetic algorithm to find the most similar genes and to impute the missing values of the yeast gene expression data and prostate cancer data. The imputed method was validated using classification algorithm and root mean square error. Bobak et al. [15] have implemented imputation methods Least Absolute Shrinkage and Selection Operator (LASSO), Local Least Squares (LLS), Singular Value Decomposition (SVD), Bayesian Principal Component Analysis (BPCA), Mean and Median, Random Forest, and K-nearest-neighbors to replace the missing values from the available information of the gene expression data. The imputed methods are evaluated using the analysis of differential expressed genes and pathway analysis. Savarimuthu and Karesiddaiah [16] have proposed a method for imputing missing values in the univariate time series data sets. It has used unsupervised neural network and similarity based nearest neighbors for imputation to fill the missing values of the univariate data. Figueroa-García et al. [17] have proposed the genetic algorithm to impute the missing observations in a multivariate dataset using multiple imputation. They have stated that multiple imputation method reduces the information loss and reduces the biased results. The method is evaluated using root mean square error measure and prediction measure. Qiu et al. [18] have stated that singular value decomposition and K-nearest neighbors imputation techniques are computationally expensive for large datasets. Hence they have proposed auto-encoder missing value imputation method using deep-learning framework for genomic analysis. The methods are performed well on MNAR.





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The existing imputation methods have replaced the missing data by zeros, average values, deck imputation, pair wise deletion and k-neighbors imputations. Methods for handling missing data of the labeled dataset are much essential. Missing data in each class group of the gene expression data are important for processing and it can not be ignored. Proposed imputation method replaces the missing values by different values in a gene features using labeled data. This paper suggests methods for replacing missing values of gene expression data for classifier model. Proposed method is presented in Section 2. Section 3 describes the experimental results and discussion.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Multi variant imputation and Multi mean imputation methods are proposed. Figure 3.1 depicts the schematic diagram of the proposed imputation methods. The proposed methods have two stages, Imputations and Classification Build model.

Multi Variant Imputation

The proposed multi variant imputation uses closest distance for imputation. The raw gene expression data set is divided into complete dataset and in-complete dataset under each class. Euclidean distance is used to find the distance between complete and incomplete data in the corresponding class by ignoring the missing attributes of the sample. For every sample in the incomplete data, its distances with the complete dataset of the corresponding class are calculated. Distances with a incomplete sample are sorted. Missing features values in the incomplete sample are replaced with a corresponding feature of the complete sample having the closest distance. Figure 2 represents the illustration for imputing missing values using closest distance. The multi variant imputation using closest distance techniques are explained in algorithm 1.

$$D = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - y_i)^2} \quad (1)$$

where n represents number of genes features.

Algorithm 1. Multi-variant Closest Distance Imputation

Input: Gene Expression with missing values

Output: Complete Gene Expression

- (a) Divide a dataset into complete dataset and incomplete dataset based on class
- (b) Select complete and incomplete dataset of a class
- (c) For each gene expression in the incomplete dataset
 - a. Calculate its distances with the complete dataset of the corresponding class using Eq. (1)
 - b. Sort the distances and select the sample in a complete dataset which gives minimum distance
 - c. Impute the missing values in the gene expression with a corresponding feature value of the selected complete dataset
- (d) Repeat steps (b) and (c) for all classes

Multiple Mean Imputations

The proposed multiple mean imputation using class label follows two steps, first the raw gene expression data set are divided into different gene expression group based on class. Calculate average separately for every gene feature in each gene expression group. Missing feature values are replaced with the corresponding mean attribute of the corresponding gene expression group. Algorithm 2 explains the multiple mean imputation method. Figure 3 shows the illustration of multiple mean imputations.

$$\mu = \frac{\sum x}{N} \quad (2)$$





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The mean is calculated using the equation (2), where μ is the mean for non-missing feature values, Σx is the sum of the values under particular feature of the gene expression group of the corresponding class, and N is the number of non-missing values in the particular gene attributes of the corresponding group.

Algorithm 2. Multiple Mean Imputations

Input: Gene Expression with missing values

Output: Complete Gene Expression

- (a) Divide the dataset into different gene expression groups based on class
- (b) Calculate mean for each attribute for each gene expression group
- (c) Impute each missing gene attribute of a gene expression group with the calculated mean of the corresponding attribute
- (d) Repeat steps (c) for all the gene expression group

Build Classification Model

The classification model has two phases namely feature selection, and classification model building. The imputed data set are fed into the classification model.

Feature Selection

Feature selection technique finds the significant features to build efficient model. In this paper, information gain method is used to determine the best gene features. Information gain method uses the entropy for measuring its purity. The entropy $E(G)$ for gene features is calculated using Eq. (3).

$$E(G) = - \sum_{i=0}^f p_i * \log_2(p_i) \quad (3)$$

where P_i is the probability of gene features in the gene expression data, and f represents number of gene features. When the entropy value $E(G) > 0$ then the gene feature is significant, otherwise the gene feature is in-significant. The significant genes $S(G)$ are selected using Eq. (4).

$$S(G) = \begin{cases} \text{if}(E(G) > 0) & \text{Significant} \\ \text{Otherwise} & \text{Insignificant} \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Classification Model

Dataset with the extracted features are fed into different classifiers namely C5.0 algorithm [19, 20], C5.0 with boosting, Support Vector Machine, Naïve Bayes and Linear Discriminate Analysis algorithms to analyze the classification performance of the imputed dataset.

Evaluation Metrics

Proposed imputation methods are evaluated using root mean square error and classification accuracy.

Root Mean Square Error

Proposed method is evaluated using the root mean square error using the Eq. (5). G_o refers the complete gene dataset and G_r refers the imputed gene dataset. The RMSE values range between 0 and 1 and a lowest value indicates the best accuracy [7].

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{\text{mean}((G_o - G_r)^2)}{\text{variance}(G_o)}} \quad (5)$$





Accuracy

Classification prediction accuracy P_{ACC} is calculated using Eq. (6). T_+ is the True Positive which represents correctly detected diseased genes of cancer patients. T_- is the False Negative which represents wrongly detected diseased genes of cancer.

$$P_{ACC} = \frac{T_+ + T_-}{T_+ + T_- + F_+ + F_-} \quad (6)$$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The microarray data with the accession number GSE2003 [21] and GSE2685 [22] for a microarray-human 60 cell lines and gastric cancer are downloaded from the Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) database. The 60 cell lines cancer dataset contains 64 samples with 9 classlabels whereas the gastric cancer dataset contains 30 samples with two classes. Table 1 describes the data set used in this work. The data set GSE2003 is with 0.15% missing features and GSE2685 is with 0.02% missing features. Experiments are carried out with R Tool.

Table 2 depicts the performance of the imputation methods using RMSE value. Proposed methods Multi-variant Closest Distance Imputation (MVCD) and Multiple Mean Imputation using Class Label (MMIC) give better accuracy than Random Forest. The imputed data set are fed into the entropy based feature selection method, where the informative genes features are extracted and insignificant gene features are eliminated. Table 3 shows the extracted significant gene attributes and its entropy value for the selected 7 different samples. 542 significant gene expression features are extracted in GSE2003 and 1903 gene expression features are extracted in GSE2685. Figure 4 represents the entropy values of the genes expression data. Table 4 depicts the classification accuracy of the proposed methods in different classifiers. Extracted features of the dataset are fed into the classifiers decision tree, support vector machine and linear discriminant analysis classifiers. The proposed method MVCD with C5.0 provides 100% accuracy and MMIC with C5.0 provides 96.67% classification accuracy for the GSE2685. The MVCD provides 100% accuracy with the classifier C5.0, and with the support vector machine, and with the Naive Bayes, and with the LDA. But the MMIC with C5.0 provides 100%accuracy when boosting technique is used.

CONCLUSION

Proposed imputation methods support multi variant and multiple mean imputation based on classlabels. Gene expression Datasets give good classification accuracy after imputing the datasets either by MVCD or by MMIC. The performance of the proposed methods is evaluated by root mean squared error and prediction in classification model. The MVCD method provides good root mean square error and provides better accuracy on the classification model. The imputed dataset can be used to find the differentially expressed genes and analysis the gene pathway.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interests whatsoever.

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Table 1. Datasets description

Datasets	# Original gene features	# Complete gene features	Missing Rate	# Samples	# Classes	Organism
GSE2003[21]	9706	8849	0.15 %	64	9	Human
GSE2685[22]	7129	7122	0.02%	30	2	Human

Table 2. Performance evaluation by RMSE

Data Set	# Missing Values	Imputation Methods	RMSE
GSE2003	940	Proposed MMIC	0.000904
GSE2003	940	Proposed MVCD	0.000801
GSE2003	940	Random Forest	0.03421
GSE2685	117	Proposed MMIC	0.144956
GSE2685	117	Proposed MVCD	0.048731
GSE2685	117	Random Forest	0.1547224

Table 3. Extracted Gene Attributes and its entropy value

Gene Accession No.	S1	S2	S3	S7	S8	S9	S10	Entropy value
AB000895_at	16.4	14.9	12.9	38	16.6	13	153.6	0
AB000896_at	17.6	15.1	13.9	74.5	36.3	29.7	79.2	0.206559
AB000897_at	6.7	6.2	14	28.7	4	14.6	46.2	0.207835
AB000905_at	20.6	18.4	7.1	51.1	19	10.8	51.5	0
AB001106_at	67.4	90	62.7	72.7	71.9714 3	86	88.9	0
AB001325_at	174.5	152.8	123.3	294.2	164.9	154.3	282.9	0
AB002314_at	8.7	6.1	6.6	48.9	25.6	4.4	50.1	0.257718
AB002315_at	92.5	45.1	76.8	110.8	107.3	91.8	64	0
AB002318_at	147.1	173.1	208.0905	192.1	273.4	354.5	242.9	0
AB002332_at	66.7	113.9	96.1	65.2	78.7	106.6	33	0
AB002356_s_at	126	148.8	166.2	275.7	204.8	169.7	246.1	0.207835
AB002365_at	29.6	37.6	42.6	57.9	54.5	77.6	30.9	0
AB002366_at	14.9	2.7	18	5.3	3.3	11	9.9	0.234454
AB002380_at	72.6	43.7	81.2	74.4	90.3	137.5	35	0
AB002382_at	358.2	217.4	188.1	266.4	305.4	496.2	524.6	0
AB002409_at	56.1	9.4	51	26.3	55.5	89.3	60.3	0
AB002533_at	2456.5	2646.2	2484.6	2252.9	1281.6	2104.3	2572.6	0
AB002559_at	92.6	81.2	63.9	161.6	92.7	129.3	184.6	0.274144
AB003102_at	368.5	489.8	295.4	126.2	131.2	223.9	145.7	0.442801
AB003103_at	89.5	42.3	73.3	40	33	97.2	31.1	0.207835





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AB003177_at	287.3	280.3	264.3	264.6	190.1	241.9	285.7	0
AB003698_at	60.8	87.7	29.9	58	34.9	26.9	58.1	0
AB006781_s_at	342	83.6	537.3	623	1220.6	1706.5	755	0
AB006782_at	455.6	241	621.4	1242.2	822.4	907	1785.5	0.442801
AC000061_cds2_at	105.7	52.6	67.3	145.4	97.7	92.4	155.9	0
AC000064_cds1_at	62.1	183.3	37.1	123.7	67.9	60.7	48.6	0
AC000064_cds2_at	31.6	40.5	28.1	38.4	33.4	32.2	50.4	0
AC000066_at	4.7	2.1	1.3	20.3	17.8	1.3	4.6	0.207835
AC000099_at	17.1	11.7	3.6	69.5	21.2	13.2	43.1	0
AC002073_cds1_at	76	41.5	67.7	90.2	65	57.3	65.8	0
AC002076_cds2_at	1.7	0.7	1.4	5.5	8.1	0.6	6.2	0
AC002077_at	119.5	66.1	52.2	637.8	438.5	287.1	260.7	0.579915
AC002086_at	2	8.5	5.2	3.2	8.2	0.9	29.7	0
AC002115_cds1_at	1474.3	1267.537	1029.5	3074.3	1317.7	1133.6	2795.7	0
AC002115_cds3_at	132.6	82	114.3	295.9	125.4	96.9	362.8	0.207835
AC002115_cds4_at	39.7	35.8	62.8	141.5	55.9	52.4	33.6	0
AC002115_rna2_at	106.5	140.9	127.6	134.6	53.5	112.3	150	0.274144
AC002450_at	13.8	87.6	7.1	9.7	14.4	38.5	12.2	0
AC002464_at	7.3	5.2	4.2	9.3	7.8	5.1	13.5	0
AC002477_s_at	52.2	49.5	61.5	62.3	48.4	48.1	83.3	0
AC002486_at	23.6	17.5	11.7	39.9	29.8	15.3	25.6	0
AD000092_cds1_at	61.6	53.83333	44.1	162.7	94.5	60.8	103.6	0.274144
AD000092_cds2_at	162.2	73.6	123.9	126	115.3	144.4	116.1	0
AD000092_cds7_s_at	137	121.1	88.3	126.4	100	117.3	104.4	0
AD000684_cds1_at	475.8	181.7	400.1	121.6	211	385	145.7	0.274144
AD001527_cds1_at	36.7	27	18.7	16.7	34.7	27.2	60.5	0
AF000177_at	117.3	196	156.8	148.3	128.2	123.8	127.6	0
AF000231_at	67.9	46.9	22.9	41.3	68.1	82.6	46.7	0
AF000234_at	40.9	81	49.7	118.2	65.7	73.8	101.6	0
AF000424_s_at	14.2	5.7	11.8	27.4	12.4	11.1	20.5	0
AF000430_at	14.4	29.2	6.5	2	0.9	1.9	3.4	0.208984
AF000545_at	63.3	41.2	42.8	90.1	57.4	57.4	68.9	0.286992
AF000560_at	71.8	55.5	65.1	140.3	130.6	70.2	56.2	0
AF000562_at	36.2	87.5	94.1	303.5	204.4	231.4	157	0.413114
AF000573_rna1_at	3.3	33.09048	29.1	56.9	78.9	45.3	60.1	0
AF000959_at	70	25.6	173.7	258.9	108.7	126	200.6	0.208984





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AF001294_at	129.7	58.4	120.5	192.8	271.5	285.2	125	0
AF001359_f_at	306.9	248.6	237.7	454.6	314	307.4	405	0.350446
AF001548_rna1_at	53	351.4	376.2	214.3	285.2	819	360.3	0

Table 4. External evaluation by classification

Data Set	Imputation	AttributeSelection	#Attributes	Classifier	ccuracy
GSE2003	MMIC	Information Gain	542	C5.0	95.31
GSE2003	MMIC	Information Gain	542	C5.0 with boosting	100
GSE2003	MMIC	Information Gain	542	SVM	96.88
GSE2003	MMIC	Information Gain	542	Naïve Bayes	87.50
GSE2003	MMIC	Information Gain	542	LDA	78.12
GSE2685	MMIC	Information Gain	1903	C5.0	96.67
GSE2685	MVCD	Information Gain	1903	C5.0	100
GSE2685	MVCD	Information Gain	1903	SVM	100
GSE2685	MVCD	Information Gain	1903	Naïve Bayes	100
GSE2685	MVCD	Information Gain	1903	LDA	100

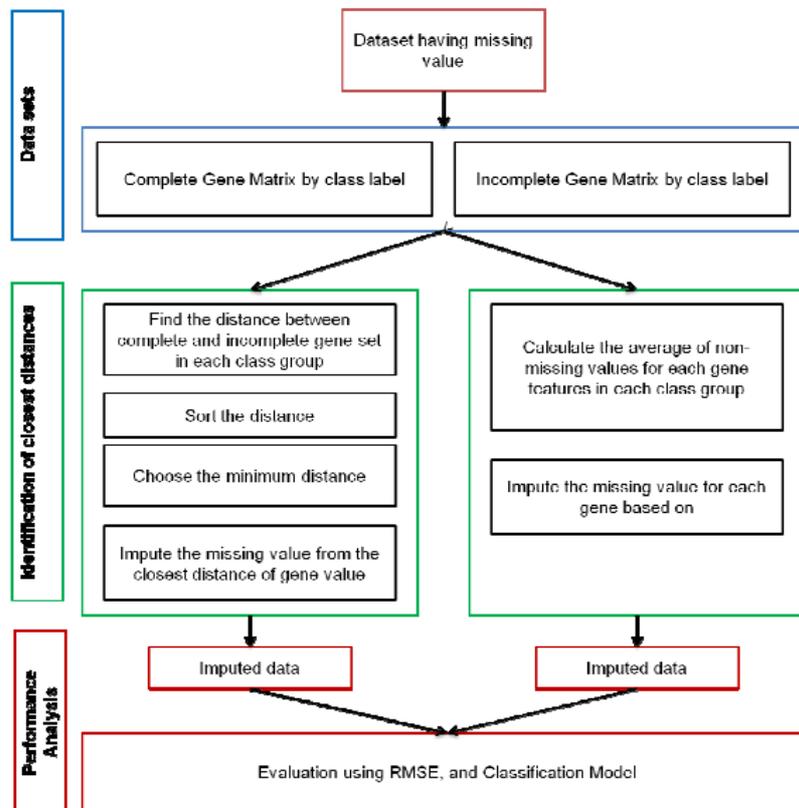


Figure 1.Schematic flow diagram





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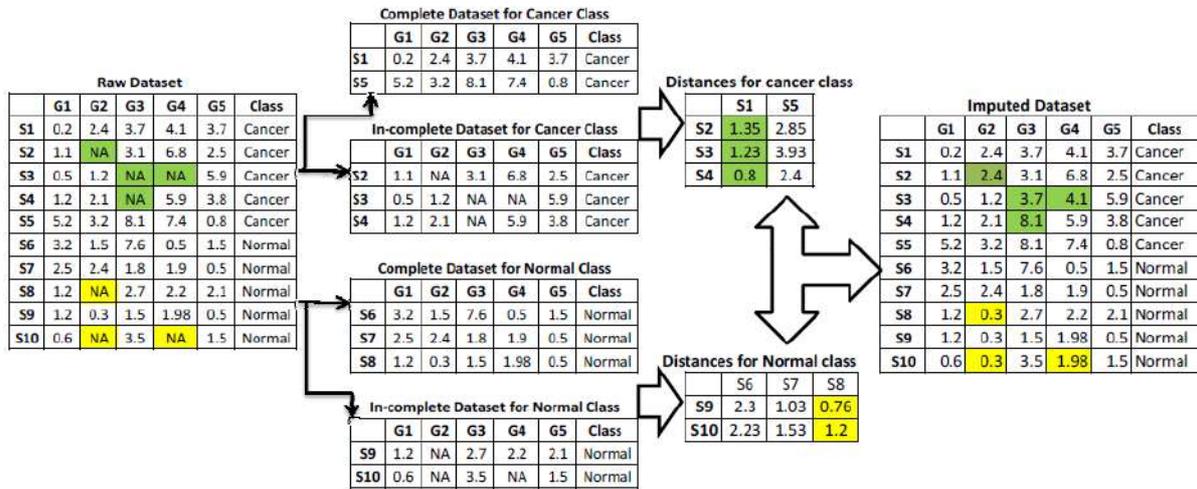


Figure. 2. Illustration for imputing missing values using closest distance

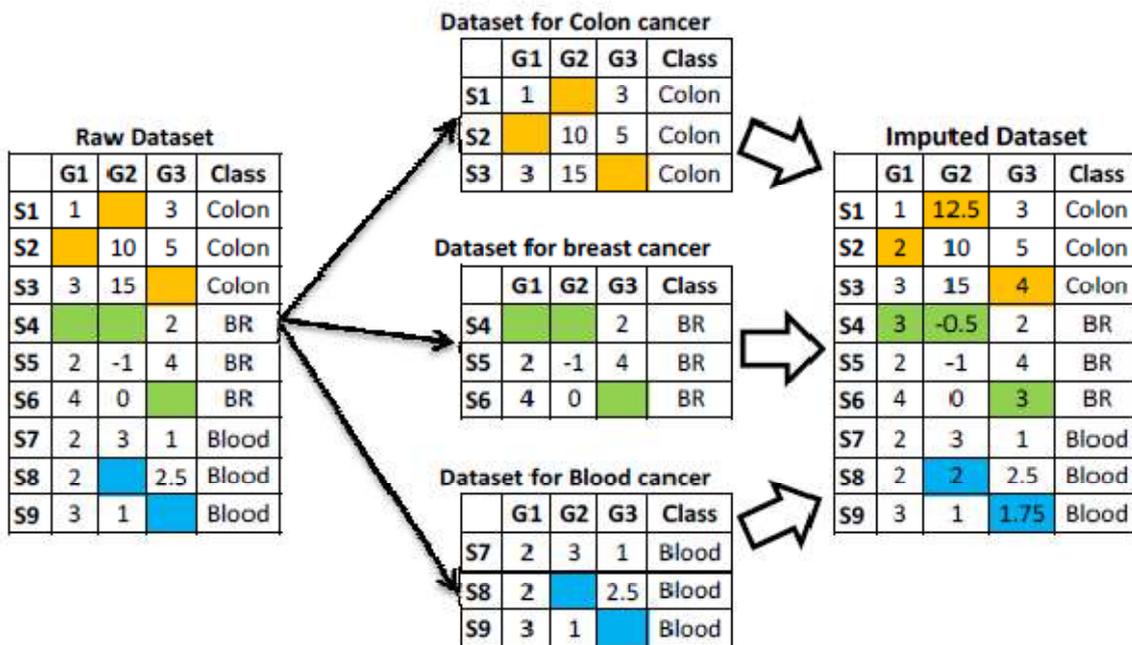


Figure. 3 Illustration for Multiple Mean Imputation using Class Label





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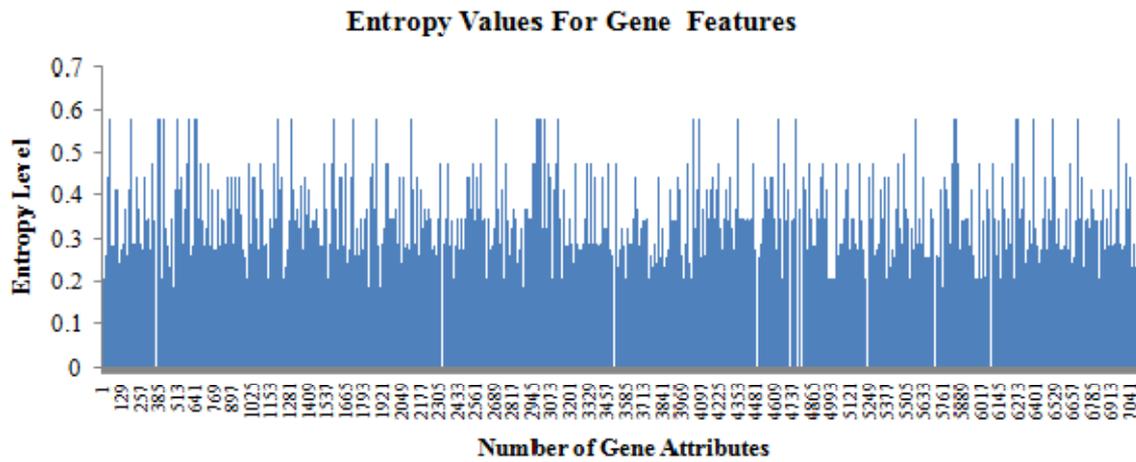


Figure. 4. Entropy Values for Gene Features





Nutritional Analysis of Cultivated Mushrooms in *Pleurotus florida* and *Pleurotus djamor*

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ABSTRACT

Mushrooms have been widely used as food and food supplements for millennia. Awareness of the nutritional and medicinal importance of mushrooms is not extensive. In this study, the nutritional values of mushrooms like *Pleurotus florida* and *Pleurotus djamor* were analysed. The Mushrooms possessed 20-25g of crude fiber in the dry sample and contain a lower amount of ash (8-10g). The nutritional quality of protein, carbohydrate, amino acid, and lipids was studied in mushrooms that were grown in the three different agricultural waste substrates. The Ca, K, P, S and Fe content were recorded on *Pleurotus florida* and *Pleurotus djamor* cultivated. The essential vitamins like riboflavin, niacin, thiamine, vitamin-A, vitamin-C and E content were also quantified in the mushrooms.

Keywords: *Pleurotus florida*, *Pleurotus djamor*, Agrowastes, Minerals, Vitamins





INTRODUCTION

Mushrooms have been widely used as food and with their unique flavour, texture, and recognized as an important source of biologically active compounds of medicinal value (Breene, 1990). It is one of the important food items in human health, nutrition, and disease prevention (Chang, 1996). *Pleurotus* species are popular and widely cultivated throughout the world mostly in Asia and Europe owing to their simple and low-cost production technology and higher biological efficiency (Mane *et al.*, 2007). *Pleurotus* species are efficient lignin degraders which can grow on a wide variety of agricultural wastes with broad adaptability to a varied agro climatic conditions (Jandaik and Goyal, 1995). *Pleurotus florida* has antioxidant and antitumor activities (Nayana and Janardhanan, 2000, Manpreet *et al.*, 2004). *Pleurotus* species are rich source of proteins, minerals (Ca, P, Fe, K and Na) and vitamins C, B complex (thiamine, riboflavin, folic acid and niacin) (Caglarimark. 2007). They are consumed for their nutritive as well as medicinal values (Agrahar Murugkar and Subbulakshmi., 2005. Mushroom protein is intermediate between that of animals and vegetables (Kurtzman, 1976,) and is of superior quality because of the presence of all the essential amino acids (Purkayastha and Nayak, 1981). Mushrooms are rich in protein, minerals, and vitamins and they contain an abundance of an essential amino acids (Sadler 2003). Nutritional analysis of several mushroom species of different origins had been carried out in many laboratories around the world. But nutritional values of locally cultivated mushrooms remain speculative. Moreover, the nutritional composition is affected by many factors including differences among strains, the composition of the growth substrate, the method of cultivation, stages of harvesting, and the specific portion of the fruiting bodies. (Benjamin. 1995). The aim of this investigation is to study the nutritional values of the mushrooms with the goal of increasing awareness of the beneficial effects of edible mushrooms among consumers.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The *Pleurotus florida* and *Pleurotus djamor* mushrooms were cultivated with different substrate such as paddy straw, sorghum stem and sugarcane trash and harvested in the Adhanakkottai village, Thanjavur (D.T) (Bhattacharjya *et al.*, 2015).

Biochemical Characterization

The various biochemical analysis was carried out in fruit body of *Pleurotus florida* and *Pleurotus djamor* which was cultivated with different substrates. The following biochemical parameters analysed by using standard procedures. The total protein was estimated by Lowery *et al.*, 1951, free amino acid by Jayaraman, 1981, total carbohydrate by Dubois *et al.*, 1956 and lipid by Sato and Murata, 1988.

Analysis of Minerals (Akubugwo *et al.*, 2007)

2.0 g of each of the samples were weighed and subjected to dry ash in a well-cleaned porcelain crucible at 550°C in a muffle furnace. The resultant ash was dissolved in 5.0 ml of HNO₃/HCl /H₂O(1:2:3) and heated gently on a hot plate until brown flames disappeared. The mineral solution in each crucible was transferred into a 100 ml volumetric flask by filtration through Whatman No.42 filter paper and the volume was made to the mark with deionized water. Crude fiber and ash were determined by Raghuramulu *et al.*, (2003). Calcium was estimated using spectrophotometric by O-CPC (O-Cresolphthalein complex one) method. Iron (Fe) was estimated using spectrophotometric method (Ramsay *et al.* 1958), Sodium (Na) was estimated by colorimetric method (Maruna and Jrinders 1958) Potassium (K) was quantified by spectrophotometer (Maruna 1957), and Phosphorus (P) was estimated by Fiske and Subbarow (1925) method.

Vitamin estimation

The vitamins such as Thiamin (B₁) and Riboflavin (B₂), were determined by Okwu (2004) Niacin was determined by AOAC (1987). Ascorbic acid was estimated by Barkat *et al.* (1973) and Vitamin -A was estimated by the Bayfield and Cole (1980).





RESULTS

Several nutritional parameters were measured for both fresh and dry mushroom of *P.florida* and *P.djamor*. Mushrooms possess rich mineral content. Minerals in the diet are essential metabolic reactions for healthy bone formation, transmission of nerve impulses, regulation of water and salt balance (Kalac and Svoboda 2000). In the present investigation, the maximum protein content was observed in *P.florida* (22.7mg/g) paddy straw substrate and moderate protein content 22.2 mg/g was observed in sorghum stem substrate and the minimum amount of protein content present in 20.0mg/g sugarcane substrate. The maximum protein content was observed in *P.djamor* 20.2mg/g paddy straw and sorghum stem used as a substrate and minimum amount of protein content was observed in (18 mg/g) sugarcane trash used as a substrate (Table 1). Similarly result Nazifa *et al.*,(2020) reported that the protein contents of mushroom range from 20 to 40g in 100g dried matter.

The maximum carbohydrate content was recorded in *P.florida* (10.1mg/g) paddy straw used as a substrate and moderate amount of carbohydrate present in 6.7mg/g sugarcane trash then minimum carbohydrate content was recorded (4.3mg/g) sorghum stem used as a substrate. The maximum carbohydrate content was recorded in *Pleurotus djamor* (9.6mg/g) paddy straw used as a substrate and moderate amount of carbohydrate present in 6.9mg/g sugarcane trash then minimum carbohydrate content was recorded (5.4mg/g) sorghum stem used as a substrate. Carbohydrates are the important constituents found in mushrooms which provide energy and digestible carbohydrates in foods Vaz *et al.*,2011. Mushrooms contain significant amounts of carbohydrates and fibres Daba *et al.*,2008. In this study the maximum carbohydrate content was recorded in *P.florida* (10.1mg/g) paddy straw used as a substrate and minimum carbohydrate content was recorded in *P.florida* (4.3mg/g) sorghum stem used as a substrate. Similar result has been reported by Olujobi *et al.*, 2021a suggested that carbohydrates are mainly present in *Pleurotus ostreatus*. The relatively high nutritional like carbohydrates, protein and ash for *Pleurotus* mushroom grown on sawdust and coconut-husk substrates agrees with the report of Itelima, (2011) and Nurudeen *et al.* (2013). The highest amino acid 9.1mg/g, moderate content 7.6mg/g and the lowest content was observed (5.2mg/g) in *P.florida* which was grown in sugarcane used as a substrate. The other mushroom namely *P.djamor* showed maximum amount of amino acid present in (8.9mg/g) paddy straw, moderate content was present in (6.8mg/g) sorghum stem and minimum amount of amino acid was observed in (4.9mg/g) sugarcane trash substrate. Igile *et al.*, (2020) analyzed the chemical composition of *P.florida* and *P.djamor* for their moisture total nitrogen, total carbohydrates, crude fat, crude fibre and ash using the standard methods respectively which also similar to the present study.

In the present study 4.3mg/g of lipid content was recorded in *P. florida* cultivated in paddy straw, whereas 0.4mg/g of lipid was found in sugarcane trash treated mushroom, and sorghum stem treated mushroom contained 2.0mg/g of lipid. The lipid content of *P.djamor* possessed 3.9mg/g in paddy straw treated mushroom likewise 1.6mg/g and 19mg/g of lipid content were observed in sugarcane trash and sorghum stem used as a substrate (Table-1). Generally, *Pleurotus* have lower fat concentrations compared to their carbohydrate and protein contents (Deepalakshmi & Mirunalini 2014). In the present study also the lipid content was very lower than the other nutrients in selected mushrooms. The lipid content in different species of *Pleurotus* species variably ranges from 0.2 to 8g per 100g dried fruit bodies Naraian, *et al* 2017. Similarly Sultana 2021 revealed the lipid content (g/100g) of *P. cystidiosus* (pcys2); *Pleurotus djamor* (pop1); *P. ostreatus* (ws); *P. ostreatus* (po3); *P. geesteranus* (pg4) mushrooms were found 5.16g, 3.16g, 3.66g, 4.10g, and 4.10g, respectively. The total ash, crude fiber content dried *Pleurotus florida* were found as 22.4g and 8.54g respectively. One hundred grams of dried *Pleurotus djamor* contained 24.94g, of crude fiber and 10.24g of ash (Table 2). These results are supported with the earlier report by Nazifa *et al.*,(2020) Chatterjee *et al.*, 2021 in different *Pleurotus* species. The nutritional contents in mushrooms are varied due to the availability of substrate nutrients, geographical location, and environmental factors. Beluhan *et al.*, 2011.



**Vanathi and Panneerselvam****Mineral Concentration of *Pleurotus florida* and *Pleurotus djamor***

The mineral content of *P.florida* and *P.djamor* harvested with various substrate and their combinations. Calcium is very essential mineral which maintains the functions of cells for healthy body (Pisteet *et al.* 2015). The highest calcium content $32.21 \pm 2.25 \text{mg}/100\text{g}$ was observed in *P.djamor* and lowest content of *P.florida* ranged from $7.86 \pm 0.55 \text{mg}/100\text{g}$ were recorded. According to Meepun (2019) reported the calcium content of *P.sajor-caju* as $62.18 \pm 0.88 \text{mg}/100\text{g}$. (Fakoya Soji, 2019) which is supported the present findings therefore it can contribute to human nutrition as good source of calcium (Caglarirmark, 2007). The maximum iron content $12.89 \pm 0.90 \text{mg}/100\text{g}$ was recorded in *P.djamor* and minimum content $6.66 \pm 0.47 \text{mg}/100\text{g}$ was recorded in *P.florida*. The potassium, sodium and phosphorus content were maximum 3390.80 ± 237.36 , 57.83 ± 4.05 , $736.84 \pm 51.58 \text{mg}/100\text{gm}$ observed in *P.djamor* and minimum content 2011.49 ± 140.80 , 28.92 ± 2.024 , $631.58 \pm 44.21 \text{mg}/100\text{g}$ was recorded in *P.florida* (Table-3). The presence of high potassium content over sodium in diet suggested for the treatment of Hypertension. Phosphorus was found the most abundant mineral element in the cultivated mushroom (Victor and Olatomiwa, 2013) In this study the obtained value of sodium and phosphorus concentration similar with earlier reports (Igile, *et al.*, 2020).

Vitamin Content of *P.florida* and *P.djamor*

Vitamin A and E were maximum amount ($2.51 \pm 0.18 \text{mg}/100\text{gm}$ and $6.00 \pm 0.07 \text{mcg}/100\text{gm}$) observed in *P.djamor* and minimum $2.20 \pm 0.15 \text{mcg}/100\text{gm}$ and $5.4 \pm 0.07 \text{mcg}/100\text{gm}$ was recorded in *P.florida*. The vitamin C was highly present in *P.florida* ($15.94 \pm 0.07 \text{mcg}/100\text{gm}$) and lowest amount in *P.djamor* ($15.61 \pm 0.07 \text{mcg}/100\text{gm}$). Vitamin, niacin, riboflavin, thiamine were maximum (2.19 ± 0.15 , 9.52 ± 0.60 , $8.57 \pm 0.60 \text{mcg}/100\text{gm}$) were recorded in *P.florida* and minimum (1.71 ± 0.12 , $8.76 \pm 0.61 \text{mg}$, $8.10 \pm 0.57 \text{mg}/100\text{gm}$) were observed in *P.djamor* respectively. Vitamin C is a water soluble antioxidant that acts as a free radical scavenger, scavenges peroxy radicals (Sies, 1993). The vitamin C was highly recorded in selected mushroom. Similarly Raman *et al.* (2021) reported that 6.74 to 144 mg/100gm of ascorbic acid found in various mushrooms species. Mushrooms rich in best sources of niacin as it promotes healthy skin and ensure proper functioning of digestive and nervous systems. The maximum concentration of niacin was found in ($2.19 \pm 0.15 \text{mg}/100\text{gm}$) fruit bodies of *Pleurotus florida*, whereas, minimum value of fruit bodies in (*P.djamor*) showed $1.71 \pm 0.12 \text{mg}/100\text{gm}$. The recorded values of niacin were similar to the previous study of iLee-Hoon Ho *et al.*, (2020). In previously Galappaththi *et al.* 2021 reported by there are seven species such as *P. ostreatus*, *P.sajorcaju*, *P.flabellatus*, *P.pulmonarius*, *P.citrinopileus*, *P.florida*, *P.eous* showed thiamine content 0.35-0.68-4.8mg/100g and riboflavin content 0.26-0.37- 8.97mg/100gm.

CONCLUSION

The data suggested that dietary mushrooms cultivated in various substrates which possessed good nutrients such as protein, carbohydrate, minerals and Vitamins. Among the selected three substrates, the paddy straw is a suitable substrate for the mushroom cultivation than the other substrate. Hence, the study suggested that the mushroom is a promising food that may overcome protein energy malnutrition problem in the third world.

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Table-1 Nutrient content analysis of *Pleurotus florida* and *P.djamor*

Substrates	Protein(mg/g)		Carbohydrate (mg/g)		Amino acid (mg/g)		Lipid (mg/g)	
	<i>P.florida</i>	<i>P.djamor</i>	<i>P.florida</i>	<i>P.djamor</i>	<i>P.florida</i>	<i>P.djamor</i>	<i>P.florida</i>	<i>P.djamor</i>
Paddy straw	22.7±0.01	20.2±0.03	10.1±0.02	9.6±0.01	9.1±0.02	8.9±0.04	4.3±0.03	3.9±0.01
Sugarcane trash	20.0±0.02	18.0±0.02	6.7±0.01	6.9±0.01	5.2±0.01	4.9±0.01	0.4±0.01	1.6±0.02
Sorghum stem	22.2±0.01	20.2±0.02	4.3±0.05	5.4±0.02	7.6±0.04	6.8±0.02	2.0±0.01	1.9±0.02

Table-2 Analysis of Crude fiber and ash content in *Pleurotus florida* and *Pleurotus djamor*

S.no	Content	<i>Pleurotus florida</i> (g/100g sample)	<i>Pleurotus djamor</i> (g/100g sample)
1	Crude fiber	20.24±0.01	24.94 ±0.02
2	Ash	8.54±0.02	10.24±0.01





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Table-3 Analysis of Minerals in *Pleurotus florida* and *Pleurotus djamor*

S.no	Minerals(mg/100gm of sample)	<i>Pleurotus florida</i>	<i>Pleurotus djamor</i>
1	Calcium	7.86±0.01	32.21±0.02
2	Iron	6.66±0.02	12.89± 0.01
3	Potassium	2011.49±0.01	3390.80±0.02
4	Phosphorus	631.58±0.02	736.84±0.03
5	Sodium	28.92± 0.02	57.83± 0.04

Table-4 Analysis of Vitamins in *Pleurotus florida* and *Pleurotus djamor*

S.no	Vitamins (mg/100gm of sample)	<i>Pleurotus florida</i>	<i>Pleurotus djamor</i>
1	Riboflavin	9.52±0.60	8.76± 0.61
2	Niacin	2.19± 0.15	1.71± 0.12
3	Thiamine	8.57± 0.60	8.10± 0.57
4	Vitamin-A	2.20± 0.15	2.51± 0.18
5	Vitamin-C	15.94±0.07	15.61± 0.07
6	Vitamin- E	5.4± 0.07	6.00± 0.07





Effectiveness of *Uloga Suttigai* (Metal Cauterization) in the Management of Marul (Warts) in Siddha – A Case Report

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ABSTRACT

In *Siddha* literature, *Suttigai* is one of the external therapeutic procedures under the major class of *Asura Maruthuvam*. *Suttigai* is destruction of tissue by using hot instrument or heated material to treat the ailments. In *Siddha Marul* defined as rough and hard growth in the skin that grows day by day. Some *Marul* may fall by itself. *Marul* is correlated with warts in modern medicine. Warts (verrucae) are common viral infection of the skin caused by human papilloma viruses. It affects approximately 7-12% of population. In this case study *Marul* (Warts) is treated with *Suttigai* (Cautery) therapy. Patient had *Marul* for 3 months and treated with internal and external medicine in general OPD, but there has no further improvement. So patient came to *Pura Maruthuvam* OPD for treatment. The diagnosis made by based on the complaints and clinical assessment. Then we planned *Suttigai* therapy for this condition. *Suttigai* therapy used to treat chronic conditions, diseases incurable with internal medicine. It is used to treat vitiated *Kabam* and *Vatham* condition. *Suttigai* therapy was done for this condition under aseptic condition. The wound was dressed with *Mathan Thylam*. The wound healing started gradually and cured within 1 week. There is no scar formation. No adverse reaction during and after the treatment. In this case study *Marul* was treated with *Suttigai* therapy. *Suttigai* therapy is cost effective, safe and time consuming procedure. It also prevents the recurrence of disease.

Keywords: *Suttigai*, *Siddha*, External Therapy, *Marul*, Warts, Cautery.





INTRODUCTION

In *Siddha* literature, treatment consists of three distinct categories. They are *Deva Maruthuvam* (divine method), *Maanida Maruthuvam* (rational method), *Asura Maruthuvam* (surgical method). *Suttigai* is one of the external therapeutic procedures under the major class of *Asura Maruthuvam*. *Suttigai* is destruction of tissue using hot instrument or heated material to treat diseases. There are five types of *Suttigai* mentioned in literature such as *UlogaSuttigai* (metal cauterization), *Mann Suttigai* (mud cauterization), *Mara Suttigai* (wood cauterization), *KaalSuttigai* (hot air cauterization), *Kaanthi Suttigai* (cauterization using sun light) [1]. *Uloga Suttigai* is used to treat various musculoskeletal diseases like Osteoarthritis, Lumbar spondylosis, Cervical spondylosis, Lateral epicondylitis, Calcaneal spur and Corn, Callosity, Facial palsy, Skin tag, Warts [2]. *Suttigai* treatment is minimally invasive, effective in the treatment of *Marul*. There is no scar formation and adverse reaction during treatment. *Suttigai* is indicated for *Vaatham* and *Kabam* related diseases depending upon the disease and severity [3, 4, 7]. In *siddha* literature *Marul* is defined as rough and hard in nature that grows day by day. Some *Marul* fall by itself [1]. *Marul* is correlated with warts in modern medicine. Warts (verrucae) are common viral infection of the skin caused by human papilloma viruses. Warts affect approximately 7-12% of population [4]. It may undergo spontaneous regression in a few months to years, or may spread to other sites. Different types of warts are classified based on the appearance and location; they are *Verruca vulgaris*, *Verruca plana*, *Verruca planatairs*, *epidermoplasia Verruciformis* and *Condylomaacuminatum* [5]. In modern medicine the management of warts include cryosurgery, keratolytic ointments, destroying the warts using chemical, LASER, curettage, electrodesiccation and destructive acids [6]. In *siddha* system of medicine *Marul* (warts) treated with internal medicines, external medicines like application of *Kaaram* (caustic medicine), *Suttigai* (cauterization), *Aruvai* (surgical procedure). Among these *Suttigai* therapy is cost effective, time consuming and no scar formation. The recurrence rate is low. Hence the *Suttigai* therapy was chosen for *Marul* (warts).

Patient Information

Patient name: xxx

Age/sex: 33/ male

Residence: Chennai

Attended OPD on: 27.02.2023

- Complaints and duration: Warts present at the dorsum of the hand since 1 month.
- No h/o comorbidity
- Present history: a male patient of 33 years had complaints of warts on the dorsum of forearm since 1 month. He already took some external medicines. With this complaint he came to our OPD for management.
- Family history: No relevant family history.

Clinical Findings

Physical Examination

Nutrition - Normal

Vital signs - Normal

Local Examination

Inspection

Shape - Circumscribed

Colour - Reddish brown colour

Number - 2

Position - dorsal aspect of forearm

Discharge – No any discharge

Palpation

Tenderness – Nil

Appearance: Rough, firm and elevated.





Timeline

Patient had these complaints since 1 month. He took treatment for this condition but still he suffered. He came to National Institute of Siddha, *Puramaruthuvam* department for further treatment.

Diagnostic Assessment

- Haemoglobin :13.5gm/dl
- Total leucocyte count :10,500
- Total red blood count :5.6
- Platelet count :5.3
- Differential leukocyte count
 - Polymorph : 70%
 - Lymphocyte : 27%
 - Eosinophil : 1%
 - Monocytes : 2%
- Clotting time : 4 min 10 sec
- Bleeding time : 3min 50 sec
- Human Immunodeficiency Virus test : non-reactive
- Hepatitis B Antigen test : negative
- VDRL : non-reactive
- Blood sugar
 - Fasting : 99
 - Postprandial : 97

Therapeutic and Surgical Intervention

Pre *Suttigai* Procedure [8]

- Detailed Information was given about the *Uloga Suttigai* therapy in their understandable language
- Obtained informed consent
- Vitals signs was recorded

Suttigai Procedure[8]

- The patient were kept in comfort sitting position and exposed the hand for therapy
- Sterilized the site with *Padikara Neer*
- The Physician destructed the affected area by the heated metal probe.
- Removed the destructed tissues.

Post *Suttigai* Procedure[8]

- Preserved the probe in safe place.
- *Aloe vera* pulp is applied over the *Suttigai* site and dressed with bandage.
- Patient was observed for 30 min after the procedure
- Patient was advised to avoid water exposure on *Suttigai* site for 3 days to avoid infection.

Outcome

The wound was dressed with *MathanThylam*. Wound healing started gradually and completed within 1 week. There is no scar formation. No adverse reaction during and after treatment.

Figures are enclosed at last which would be inserted here





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DISCUSSION

Patient had this condition for 3 months. He almost took many internal medicine and external application in general OPD, but there was no improvement. So patient came to *Puramarthuvam* OPD for treatment. The diagnosis was based on complaints and clinical assessment. Then we planned *Suttigai* therapy for this condition. *Suttigai* therapy used to treat chronic conditions, disease incurable with internal medicine and vitiated *Kabam*, *Vatham* condition. Before the treatment investigations were done. The *Marul* was destroyed with using heated Copper probe under aseptic condition Removing of destructed tissue and dressing with *Mathanthylam* was done regularly for 1 week. The wound was healed gradually without scar formation.. The wound dressing plays an important role in healing and no scar formation. *Suttigai* therapy destructs the virus in warts and prevents further recurrence.

CONCLUSION

In this case study *Marul* (verrucae) was treated with *Suttigai* therapy. Many other external and internal medicines was mentioned in siddha literature for *Marul*, but *Suttigai* therapy was cost effective, safe, time consuming procedure. It is a simple procedure which could be done easily without scar formation. *Suttigai* therapy is not only for treating this condition, it's also prevents the recurrence of disease.

Patient Perspective

Patient got completely relief from the symptoms after 1 week of treatment.

Informed Consent

Written consent was taken from the patient.

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Figure 1: Marul (Before treatment)

The above figure shows the *Marul* which is located at the dorsum of the hand since 1 month.

Figure 2: Marul (After treatment)

This figure shows removal of *Marul* after the *Suttigai* treatment.





A Cross Sectional Study: Perceived Stress as a Risk Factor for Peptic Ulcers Disorders

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ABSTRACT

Recent studies have found that people who face general stresses pessimistically are apt to experience psychosomatic disorders, in these very common is Acid- peptic disorders. This study has documented the prevalence, associated risk factors and the impact of this health issue. Additional benefit of the study have been to find out stress among study participants. An exploratory cross-sectional survey under a health camp approach was conducted by using of questionnaire, i.e., Perceived Stress Scale. Total 50 patients with acid- peptic disorder were enrolled in the study. Out of 50 patients, 15 patients had GERD, 18 patients had Gastritis and 17 patients had Peptic ulcer. Majority of the patients were in 41-to-60-year age groups (29, 58.0%). Mean age of the patients was 44.3 ± 5.67 years. Out of 50, 27 patients (54.0%) were female. Six patients (12.0%) were illiterate, 23 patients (46.0%) were educated up to secondary level. Total 39 patients (78.0%) were working in professional and semi-professional occupation and 4 patients (8.0%) were unemployed. Socio economic status was categorised according modified Prasad's classification. Out of 50 patients, 24 and 5 patients were overweight and obese respectively. Only 18 patients (36.0%) were getting sleep >8 hr / day. Total 12 patients were chronic smoker (> 14 a day) and 9 patients (18.0%) were heavy alcohol drinker. Stress among participants was evaluated with Perceived Stress Scale. Out of 50 patients, 22 (44.0%) and 16 (32.0%) patients had high and moderate stress. The acid peptic disorder in the person is influenced by the various stress factors.

Keywords: Psychosomatic, Stress, Peptic ulcer, GERD, Gastritis, vagal hyper activity, food habits, neuro-endocrine, immunological, Individualisation





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INTRODUCTION

Acid peptic disease by definition is a disorder of gastric and duodenal mucosal barrier due to hyper or hypo secretion of acid and pepsin into the gastric juice which result in destruction of mucosal and muscular layers of stomach and duodenum. This disease provides an enriched psychosomatic relationship. Any long-standing stress which may be familial, financial or emotional is the root cause of the disease. The progress of disease is directly proportional to the stress under which the patient lives. Diet habits including irregularity in food habits and rich foods, smoking and alcohol also provides a major role in the causation of the disease in addition to psychological factors. The concept of psychosomatic medicine is subsumed in the diagnostic entity of "Psychological factors Affection other medical condition." This category covers physical disorders caused by or adversely affected by emotional or psychological factors. A medical condition must always be present for the diagnosis to be made [1]

Fourth edition of DSM-IV describes psychological factors affecting medical condition as one or more psychological or behavioural problems that adversely affect the course or outcome of a general medical condition or that significantly increases the person's risk of an adverse outcome [1]. The term stress is usually used to describe situation in which individuals are faced with demands that exceed their immediate ability to cope. Stressful situation give rise to adverse psychological and physiological changes which in turn may result in disease. A range of behavioural and emotional responses are shown by individuals as they attempt to cope with stressful situations and these are accompanied by autonomic, neuro-endocrine and immunological changes [2].

Specific versus non specific stress factors. Specific psychic stress may be defined as a specific personality or an unconscious conflict that causes a homeostatic disequilibrium contributing to the development of psychosomatic disorder [1]. The gastro intestinal tract is one of the most common sites of psychogenetically triggered somatic symptoms and psychosomatic disorders. Problems associated with appetite and eating or elimination are part of the symptom profile of many psychiatric diseases. Studies have found convincing evidence that the onset, perpetuations and recurrence of peptic ulcers are associated with stressful life events.

Other studies have demonstrated that with more chronic stressors that involves goal frustration, that is in, when the individual is repeatedly preventing from reaching a much sought-after goal- PUD was more persistent. The later may reflect a personality type associated with continuing a task or goal even when the odds are against success. Some studies have focused on a group of patients who show the personality habits of social withdrawal, suspiciousness, hostility and dependency. Their ulcers appear to develop when stress leads to increased cigar and alcohol consumption [3]. Alexander hypothesized that chronic frustration of intense dependence needs results in a characteristic unconscious conflict, which pertains to induce dependent oral receptive longings to be cared for and loved. This conflict causes a chronic regressive unconscious hunger and anger which is **manifested physiologically by persistent vagal hyper activity leading to gastric acid hyper secretion**. This reaction is particularly ominous in those genetically predisposed hyper secretors of acid [1].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Clinical study: -The study was carried out with detailed case study and follow up at Sainath Hospital attached to Ahmedabad Homoeopathic Medical College, Parul University, Ahmedabad.

Case definition: - Cases presenting with complaints of Acid peptic diseases, cases of age 18 to 60 years and both sexes were taken in study.

Study design: - 50 cases satisfying the case definition, inclusion and Exclusion Criteria Were Considered. The time duration was of 6 months.

Study period: October 2022 to March 2023



**Komal Patel et al.,****Selection of samples**

Purposive sampling were done.

All cases were selected according to inclusion criteria.

Inclusive criteria:

1. The samples was selected from both sexes & age group between 18 to 60 years.
2. The diagnostic criteria are mainly based on clinical history, presentation and examination findings.

Exclusion criteria: -

1. Ulcers secondary to burns, uraemia and drugs.
2. Cases complicated with gastric ulcer, haemorrhage, perforation, and gastric outlet obstruction.
3. Malignant conditions.
4. The patients who were unwilling to give consent to participate in the study

Data Collection – It was done by individual history taking by using Structured questionnaires along with checklist/guide were validated by group of experts, Stress among participants was evaluated with Perceived Stress Scale. A self-designed self-assessed questionnaire consisting of socio demographic characteristics, travel history, co morbidity patterns, health seeking behaviors, and outcome of the treatment had been prepared in English and local language.

Data Analysis - Data was collected by proper method and analysed & processed according to tabular format. Data was entered in MS excel and appropriate statistical tests were applied.

Criteria for follow-up:

- All the patients will be duly followed and details of the symptomatic changes will be recorded and prognosis will be studied for by using prepared questionnaires for assessment. (Perceived Stress Scale)
- Follow up Differed from patient to patient.
- The first follow up was done after 14 days interval. If necessary online or video call follow up weekly.

DISCUSSION

Considering the psychosomatic relationship in acid peptic diseases, a detailed history taking is necessary to obtain a psychological profile.

Out of 50 patients, 15 patients had GERD, 18 patients had Gastritis and 17 patients had Peptic ulcer.

Total 50 patients with peptic ulcer disease were enrolled in the study. Table 2 depicts Socio demographic profile of study participants. Majority of the patients were in 41-to-60-year age groups (29, 58.0%). Mean age of the patients was 44.3 ± 5.67 years. Out of 50, 27 patients (54.0%) were female. Six patients (12.0%) were illiterate, 23 patients (46.0%) were educated up to secondary level. Total 39 patients (78.0%) were working in professional and semi-professional occupation and 4 patients (8.0%) were unemployed. Socio economic status was categorised according modified Prasad's classification. Out of 50 patients, 12 (24.0%) and 20 patients (40.0%) were belonged to lower middle and lower SE class respectively.

Out of 50 patients, 24 and 5 patients were overweight and obese respectively. Only 18 patients (36.0%) were getting sleep >8 hr / day. Total 12 patients were chronic smoker (> 14 a day) and 9 patients (18.0%) were heavy alcohol drinker. Stress among participants was evaluated with Perceived Stress Scale. Out of 50 patients, 22 (44.0%) and 16 (32.0%) patients had high and moderate stress.

Ethical issue: Study protocol was approved through Institutional Ethical Committee. Written informed consent was taken from the participants and full confidentiality for the information provided was ensured.

CONCLUSION

Acid peptic disorders were observed in a person with high stress as a common health problem due to its prevalence, manageable nature and associated social psychological implications. During this study it was found that people





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working at professional level (intellectually high) were suffered more acid peptic disorders. Second most common factor was obesity. Obese people developed this disorder more. APD is multifactorial in origin with mental stress as the prominent maintaining cause.

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“Acknowledgement is an expression of recognition and appreciation, actuated by gratitude, toward those, whose valued help and thoughtfulness, which punctuates any under taking till it witnesses the light of the day.”

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Table 1: Distribution of cases according to Diagnosis of diseases: (n=50)

Diseases	Frequency	Percentage
GERD	15	30%
GASTRITIS	18	36%
PEPTIC ULCER	17	34%





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Table 2: Socio demographic profile of study participants(n=50)

Age groups (years)	Frequency	Percentage
– < 30	3	6.0%
– 31 to 40	11	22.0%
– 41 to 50	17	34.0%
– 51 to 60	12	24.0%
– > 60	7	14.0%
– Mean ± SD	44.3 ± 5.67	
Gender		
– Male	23	46.0%
– Female	27	54.0%
Education level		
– Illiterate	6	12.0%
– Primary	16	32.0%
– Secondary	23	46.0%
– Higher secondary and above	5	10.0%
Occupation		
– Working	39	78.0%
– Retired	4	8.0%
– Unemployed	4	8.0%
– Not in work force	3	6.0%
SE class (Modified Prasad's classification)		
– Upper	3	6.0%
– Upper middle	6	12.0%
– Middle	9	18.0%
– Lower middle	12	24.0%
– Lower	20	40.0%

Table 3: Risk factors among study participants(n=50)

BMI (Kg/m ²)	Frequency	Percentage
– Underweight	3	6.0%
– Normal	18	36.0%
– Overweight	24	48.0%
– Obese	5	10.0%
Sleep		
– >8 hr / day	18	36.0%
– < 8 hr/ day	32	64.0%
Smoking		
– Never	14	28.0%
– Occasionally	11	22.0%
– Yes, < 15 a day	13	26.0%





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– Yes, > 14 a day	12	24.0%
Alcohol		
– Never	18	36.0%
– Within recommended	23	46.0%
– Over recommended	9	18.0%

Table 4: Stress among study participants (n=50)

Stress	Frequency	Percentage
Low	12	24.0%
Moderate	16	32.0%
High	22	44.0%





Personalized Medicine: A Comparative study on the challenges faced by EU and US

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ABSTRACT

This article reviews the challenges faced by the European Union (EU) and the United States (US) in adopting and implementing personalized medicine, a promising approach that tailors medical treatments to individual patients based on their unique genetic and environmental characteristics. The comparative analysis focuses on regulatory frameworks, data privacy and security, healthcare infrastructure, and reimbursement policies. The EU faces challenges in harmonizing regulations, ensuring patient data privacy, developing interoperable healthcare infrastructure, and establishing sustainable reimbursement models. The US encounters challenges related to regulatory fragmentation, privacy concerns, data sharing, and affordability of personalized treatments. The study emphasizes collaboration and knowledge sharing to overcome these challenges, as personalized medicine holds the potential to improve health outcomes in a patient-centric, efficient, and cost-effective manner.

Keywords: EU, US, medicine, treatments, personalized





INTRODUCTION

Personalized Medicine

Personalized medicine, which evaluates an individual's genetic profile to determine the discipline of medicine that deals with preventing, diagnosing, and treating sickness is expanding quickly. Doctors can choose the best course of treatment and provide it using the proper prescription or dose based on a patient's genetic profile. Information from the Human Genome Project, personalized medicine is being advanced.[1] Personalized medicine is a potential advancement of contemporary diagnostic or therapeutic strategies. Clinicians can now choose a therapy or treatment plan based on a patient's molecular profile, which may help to reduce side effects, ensure a more successful outcome, and aid to control costs, as opposed to the "trial-and-error" method of treating ailments. [2]

Benefits of Personalized Medicine

- Shifts the focus of medical care from response to prevention
- Decreases the use of ad hoc prescriptions
- Helps prevent harmful drug interactions
- Improves patient compliance with treatment
- Reveals extra or alternate uses for potential drugs[4]

The Personalized Medicine's Limitations

- Costs for precision medicine are high,
- Fear of genetic prejudice
- Incorrect interpretation of genetic and medical data
- Genetic testing accessibility and availability,
- A primary care workforce that is comparatively unprepared. [5]

Patient Care Benefits Of Personalized Medicine

Personalized medicine is an all-encompassing method of not only provide patient care amplifies our capability to diagnose and sickness, but it also offers the opportunity to do so earlier, when it is simpler to treat. The broad adoption of customized medicine includes a variety of:

- Risk Assessment
- Detection
- Prevention
- Diagnosis
- Treatment
- Management [6]

Personalized Medicine Strategies

The Institute for Systems Biology and Dr. Hood's P4 medicine method Personalized medicine is an all-encompassing method of patient care that not only strengthens our capability to accurately diagnose disease, but also gives the opportunity to do so sooner, when it is straightforward to treat it:

Personalized

It is founded on knowledge of how genetic diversity affects how each patient is treated.

Predictive

It might be able to foretell a person's future illnesses and how they will respond to a certain course of therapy, enabling the development of a tailored health strategy.

Preventive

It encourages a proactive attitude toward health and medicine, which focuses on wellness rather than illness.



**Suhana et al.,****Participatory**

It enables patients to take control of their own health and make educated decisions.

Traditional Medicine And Precision Medicine's Differences

The two primary modalities used in the medical sector to treat disease are traditional medicine and precision medicine. Although both are vital, they differ in crucial ways that should be recognised to aid people in making wise judgments. At its foundation, traditional medicine uses a one-size-fits-all strategy and treats patients with drugs based on "symptoms." In conventional medicine, physicians or pharmacists prescribe the amount and type of medication based on their knowledge of the patient's symptoms and the underlying causes of their illnesses. To find a drug treatment that is generally effective, patients may need to undergo ongoing testing, drug changes, and dosage adjustments to lessen drug side effects or ineffective medicine. Therefore, this method is less effective in treating particular patients, and it is more challenging to prevent side effects. On the other side, precision medicine has become a significant medical trend in recent years. Pharmacogenetics is utilised in precision medicine to concurrently identify the relationship between "symptoms" and "genes." Different pharmacological reactions may result from genetic variations.

Make the Switch From Traditional To Personalised Medicine

In the burgeoning domain of personalised medicine, specialists utilize diagnostic tests to detect distinct biochemical markers, occasionally inherited, that help them improve which there will be treatments and procedures most effective for every patient. By fusing this data with a patient's medical background and situation, personalised medicine enables doctors and patients to create customised treatment and preventative programmes. Despite the fact that personalised medicine goes under many names, including precision, individualised, and stratified medicine, this research neither distinguishes between them nor attempts to harmonise their numerous definitions. According to the amount of scientific publications and the acknowledged importance of health information management, biomarker development, genetic testing, and targeted pharmaceutical innovation, research and innovation in personalised medicine are broad and growing.

FDA'S Personalized Medicine

Personalized medicine, commonly referred to informally as "Precision medicine," is a cutting-edge way of customising sickness treatment and prevention that analyses the genetic makeup of people has changed., environments, & ways of life. Delivering the effective interventions to the appropriate patients at the convenient stages is the mission of precision medicine. [10] CDER and FDA indicate Although the term "personalised medicine" is really broader, so at essence, we're discussing adjusting a person's regimen based on genetic or other biomarker analysis. These judgments could involve determining which patients should obtain particular medications or dosages of a given therapy, or which individuals should be monitored more closely because they are more likely to experience a certain safety risk. The phrases genetics, pharmacogenetics, personalised medicine, and pharmacogenomics have been used interchangeably to imply the study of FDA and CDER define Personalized medicine has a rather broad term.[11]

Participation of CDER in Personalized Medicine.

50 novel molecular entities (NMEs) were approved by the FDA's Centre for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) in 2021. Except for two, all of these NMEs are therapeutic goods (the others were diagnostic agents). According to the Individualized Medicine Coalition, 17 of the 48 therapeutic NMEs (or 35% of them) are personalised medications. Personalized medications made for 39% of newly approved NMEs in 2020. More than a quarter of the new therapies authorized since 2015 are now tailored medications. For four of the previous five years, they had made up more than a third of new medicine approvals. Additionally, two new cell-based medicines were approved by the FDA's Centre for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER) in 2021.[12]



**Suhana et al.,****Innovative Personalized Medicine Techniques**

The FDA is creating and assessing animal models to test the effectiveness of bacteriophage mixtures for the treatment of bacterial illnesses that are classified as antibacterial resistant. The creation and application of gene treatments and pharmacogenetic testing are two other advances. Doctors can learn from pharmacogenetic testing how a patient's particular genetic profile affects how well they respond to particular medications. Additionally, FDA experts are working on important regulatory science questions pertaining to medication approval that concern the use of immunotherapy medicines and other cutting-edge treatments for a variety of malignancies. Additionally, they are investigating the impact that genetics may have in the emergence of immune-related side effects and the therapeutic response to these drugs. The FDA announced its plans in January 2021 to inform clinicians about the advancement of novel medicines as the role of personalised medicine continues to expand. The FDA published a draught guidance on submissions for investigational novel medicines for tailored antisense oligonucleotide (ASO) therapies intended to treat a genetic disease that is seriously disabling or potentially fatal. The guidance was created to provide direction to sponsors creating ASO products on how to communicate with and submit regulatory information to the FDA. The following issues are covered in the advice.

- How to get a response from the FDA using a communication strategy that has been established;
- Expectations and guidelines for submitting regulatory information to the FDA;
- Additionally, there are suggestions on how to obtain informed permission, the requirements for Institutional Assessment Board review of the protocols inside.[13]

US Regulations and Challenges

To satisfy the complex and continuously expanding technological development needs, PM regulations have not yet been fully developed. The goal of regulatory oversight is to guarantee the efficacy and safety of products as determined by clinical, procedural, and analytical validation studies. The CDRH, CBER, CDER, and Office of Special Medical Programs (OSMP) are tasked with the difficult task of creating and enforcing regulations. FDA has noted numerous published guidance documents in lieu of directly applicable finalised guidance documents to make it possible to define the timeliness, the important deliverables, the milestone review coordination with the various agencies, the suitable regulatory strategy, and the expected performance/ characterization needs. There are rules that diagnostic tools and tests that are utilised in PM must abide with it.[14]

Regulations that apply to diagnostic instruments and tests intended for use in PM must adhere to the fundamental performance requirements for precise, reliable, reproducible, and clinical data. Because current standard clinical tests usually emphasise the detection of just one medical condition or a small number of closely linked disorders, the scope of this study can be highlighted. The human genome contains three billion base pairs of DNA, typically with about three million genetic changes per participant, that could be detected via NGS, in contrast to other genetic technologies like PCR, which concentrate on specific genomic interest regions. Furthermore, it is asserted that technical problems with sample preparation, equipment malfunctions, etc., could lead to inaccuracies with this data and make it erroneous. Based on the successful marketing authorization of the first NGS, the MiSeqDx System, the agency currently intends to implement a comparable technique to evaluate analytical performance by concentrating on representative subsets of variant types with additional NGS test submissions. It follows that evaluating various combinations of individual genetic sequences enhanced for difficult analytical and clinically relevant indicators is sufficient to unmistakably define the analytical validity acceptance requirements required for the complete platform. Additional methods for creating different analytical performance assessments of NGS assays that have already received clearance or approval are being considered. In order to develop QA/QC standards, the organisation is also aiming to provide best practise computational and technological metrics and measurements. The FDA held a community workshop titled "Standards Based Approach to Analytical Performance Evaluation of Next Generation Sequencing In Vitro Diagnostic Tests" in November 2015 to define the best analytical standards for regulating NGS IVDs. The workshop's main objective



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was to incorporate tried-and-true design and validation methods to produce results that would support the indications for usage while also allowing for flexibility with validation criteria that could be adjusted to be.[15]

European Union

EMA Provides Personalized Medicine

The Personalized medicine is what the Horizon 2020 Advisory Group defines as "a medical model using characterization of individuals' phenotypes and genotypes (e.g., molecular profiling, medical imaging, lifestyle data) for tailoring the right therapeutic strategy for the right person at the right time, and/or to determine the predisposition to disease and/or to deliver timely and targeted prevention," Despite the lack of a definition that is accepted by everybody.

Conclusions of the EU Health Ministers' Council patient-specific medicine also included this term.

EU-level initiatives incorporating personalised medicine

2010: Preparation sessions

2011: Conference on European Perspectives

2013: Working Document for the Commission Staff on "use of '-omics' technologies in the development of personalised medicine"

2015: Conclusions of the Council on Personalized Medicine

2015: PerMed's Agenda for Strategic Research and Innovation

2016: Conference on Personalized Medicine

2016: commencement of International Consortium of Personalised Medicine.[16]

International Consortium for Personalized Medicine (ICPerMED)

The International Consortium for Personalized Medicine is a project that was started by more than 30 members from Europe and beyond who represent institutions that support research and make policy. As an observer, the European Commission took part in the project (ICPerMed). It made its debut in November 2016. ICPerMed works towards

- Make Europe a global leader in the study of individualised medicine
- Support the science base for personalised medicine by using a coordinated research strategy.
- Cite examples that show how personalised medicine benefits patients and healthcare systems.
- Help citizens get individualised medical approaches

ICPerMed has developed a unified action plan with key research and research-supporting activities in all areas relevant to customised medicine.[17]

Five issues are listed in the PerMed agenda to promote personalised medicine.

Challenge 1 – Increasing power and awareness

Challenge 2 – Bringing ICT and Solutions for Big Data Together

Challenge 3 – Translation of Basic, Clinical, and Beyond Research

Challenge 4 – Marketing Innovative Ideas

Challenge 5 – Healthy Care Sustainability Design [18]

Challenges

This field is nevertheless negatively influenced by significant obstacles despite the remarkable development with technology advancements, growing resource allocation, and ongoing investments in PM. All sectors involved in PM, including doctors, healthcare facilities, the biopharmaceutical industry, regulatory bodies, and insurance companies, share the same extensive list of worries and difficulties. Regulatory standards that are suitable, reimbursement standards that are appropriate, and directly involved healthcare practitioners' education in PM to provide correct clinical data interpretations and prognostic evaluations are the first items on the list of obstacles.





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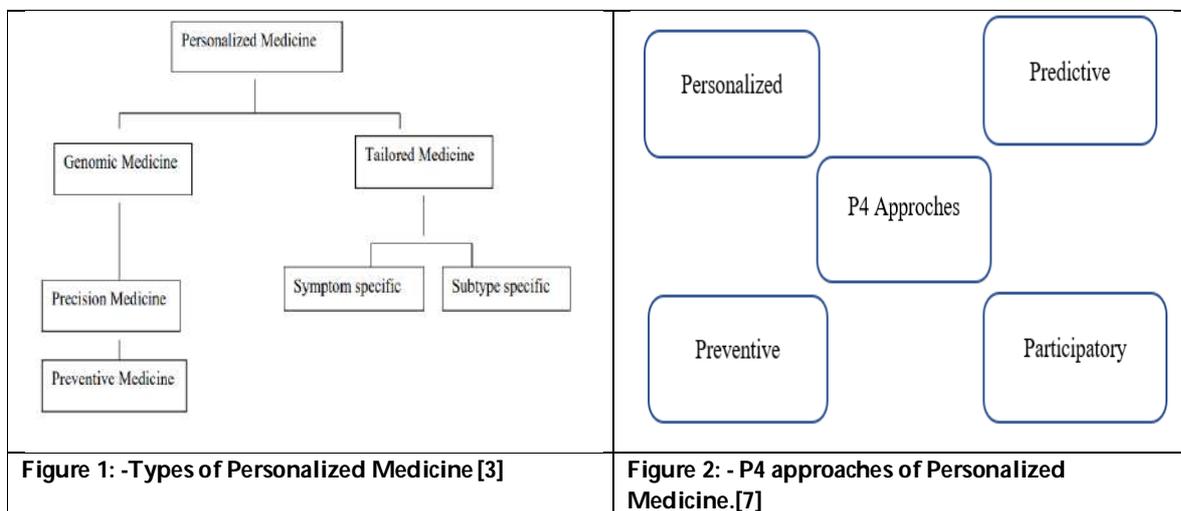
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Table 1: - Traditional medicine v/s Precision medicine[8]

Traditional Medicine	Precision Medicine
A trial-and-error approach	Pharmacogenomics
Might have side effects	Helps to reduce side effects
Treatment might be non effective	Helps to suggest optimal drug types and dosage

Table 2: - Personalized medicine has both positive and harmful impacts.[10]

Negative effects	Positive effects
High cost	Improving quality of healthcare (accessibility, effectiveness, affordability, public trust)
Inequality in healthcare	Fair subject selection
Violation of privacy	Less side effects
Negative effect on physician-patient relationship	





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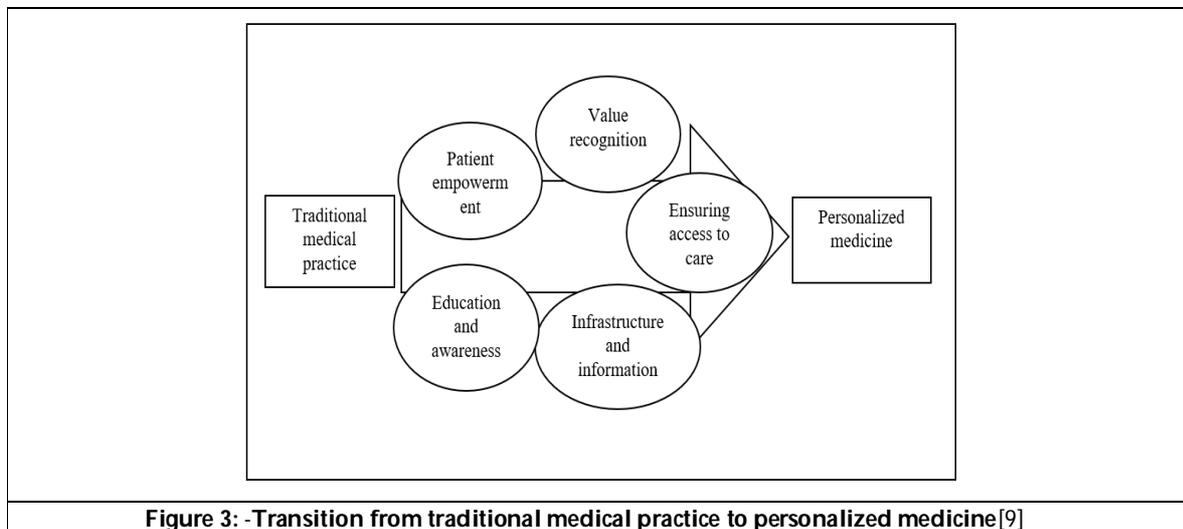


Figure 3: -Transition from traditional medical practice to personalized medicine[9]





Quantitative Analysis of Heavy Metals in Selected Ice Cream Samples by Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy

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ABSTRACT

Milk and its products are an essential part of human daily diet and their consumption is steadily increasing. Ice cream is one of the delicious, nutritious, frozen milk products. People these days are perturbed about food safety issues related to microbial, chemical and physical hazards. Heavy metal residues such as Cadmium, Lead, Arsenic and Mercury are cumulative toxins that can cause harm even at low levels and pose chemical hazard. Heavy metals are any metallic chemical element with a relatively high density (5g/cc) whose level must be monitored. The World Health organization, CODEX and the Food Safety and Standard authority of India (FSSAI) have determined the Maximal Residual limit (MRL) for heavy metals. The present study is aimed to estimate the presence of heavy metals in different ice cream samples employing Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy.

Keywords: Heavy metals, Ice cream, Consumer health, Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy, Maximal Residual limit.

INTRODUCTION

Heavy metals refer to a class of metals and metalloids with atomic densities more than 5g/ cm³ or 5 times than water[1]. These metals are poisonous even at low concentration. Heavy metals are cumulative toxins that can cause

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harm even at very low levels. The toxicity of these metals is divided into two categories. First, these metals have no well known metabolic function but their presence disrupt the normal cellular process, that create toxic effects in a variety of organs. Second, they cause bio- aggregation in biological tissues[2]. People nowadays are concerned about food safety issues involving microbial, chemical and physical hazards[3]. The World Health Organization (WHO), CODEX and the Food safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) have determined metal maximum residual limits. (MRL) values in food products. Heavy metals which surpass the MRL level, in any food or its product are harmful to human health.

Source of Heavy metals

Heavy metals are not naturally occurring substance, their presence in food and food products is through the manufacturing processes. A remarkable quantity of heavy metals found in plants and animals arise only due to human activities[4].

Heavy metals in ice cream

Ice creams are primarily consumed by children and also everyone, as a result, the heavy metal levels in food and food products must be monitored and controlled. Many studies have been reported on heavy metals in ice cream and other milk products. The presence of heavy metals in milk products has been connected to lactating cows being exposed to pollution, consuming polluted feed and water and manufacturing processes of various milk products. Heavy metals such as Lead, Cadmium, Mercury and Arsenic levels in milk from certain type of cows were found to be higher than the WHO recommended limit of daily intake (50ppb)^[5]. The residues of heavy metals presence pose chemical hazard. Prolonged exposure may also cause kidney damage, liver problems, nervous system damage and eventually death in humans^[6]. The source^[7] and defects ^[8-11] of heavy metals such as Lead, Cadmium, Mercury and Arsenic are given below in Table 1.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

Reagents used:

Double distilled water, KNO₃, NaNO₃, NH₄OH, Dithizone, CCl₄.

Ice Cream Samples:

Sample code -ALV- 01, KWV- 02, NIC-03, ALV-04.

Instrument Used -Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer.

Instrument model -AAS Vario6.

Method

Sample is digested with HNO₃ and H₂SO₄ under reflux in a special apparatus. Mercury is isolated by dithizone extraction, copper is removed, and mercury is estimated by photometric measurement of mercury dithizonate. Material is digested with HNO₃ in closed system. Cd and Pb are determined by anodic stripping voltammetry (ASV). Arsenic is determined by atomic absorption spectrophotometry (AAS) after generation of metal hydrides. Atomic absorption spectrophotometer with Zn, As, and Se hollow cathode lamps or As and Se electrodeless discharge lamps, 3 slot, 10 cm Belling burner head, air-C₂H₂ and H₂- N₂ entrained air flames, and deuterium are present as background corrector.





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For lead and Cadmium

Nitrate solution - Equimolar solution of KNO_3 , and NaNO_3 - dissolve 54.3g KNO_3 and 45.7 g NaNO_3 , (available as Suprapur", Nos. 5065 and 6546, respectively, EM Science) in H_2O in a 200 ml volumetric flask, dilute to volume, and mix. To further purify, add 1-2 drops NH_4OH to 25 ml aliquot and extract with 2 ml of 10 μg dithizone/mL in CCl_4 until lower solvent layer is colorless. Pipette 10 ml of stock solution (2 μg / ml) to a 100 ml volumetric flask, and dilute to volume with H_2O . Pipette 2 mls diluted solution into 100 ml volumetric flask and dilute to volume with H_2O .

Anodic Stripping Voltammetry (For Cd and Pb.)

Pipette out an aliquot of digested test solution into a decontaminated 50 mL. Vycor crucible and add 2 mL nitrate solution. Heat on a hot plate at low heat to dryness. Then Nitrate salts will melt and digest organic matter in 15-20 min at 375°C. Place crucibles in 450°C furnace to oxidize any remaining carbonaceous matter (10-20 min). When digestion is complete, cool, add 1 mL HNO_3 to solidified melt, and heat on a hot plate to dry. Dissolve in 5.0 mL HNO_3 (0.5 mL/L), warming on hot plate. Transfer to a polarographic cell. Bubble O_2 -free N_2 through solution 5 min; then direct N_2 oversolution. Set dial for Hg drops at 4 μm divisions. Stir solution with magnetic stirrer constantly. Slide selectors switch to "Ext. Cell" and measure time for 120 s with stopwatch. Press "Scan" button to obtain peaks corresponding to Cd and Pb at ca -0.57 and -0.43 V, respectively, against saturated calomel electrode. Plot μg metal added on x-axis against peak height on y-axis.

$$\mu\text{g Metal /g test portion} = \frac{M - M'}{X} \times 10$$

g test portion mL aliquot taken

where M and M' = μg metal from standard curve for test solution and blank, respectively.

For Arsenic and Mercury (As and Hg)

Arsenic - Pipette out an aliquot test solution into a decontaminated 50 ml round bottomed flask and add 1 mL $\text{Mg}(\text{NO}_2)_2$ solution. Heat on hot plate at low heat to dryness; then increase heat to maximum (375°C). Place flask in 450°C decompose excess $\text{Mg}(\text{NO}_2)_2$ (230 min). Cool, dissolve residue in 2.0 ml of 8M HCl, add 0.1 mL 20% KI to reduce As^{5+} to As^{3+} , and allow it to stand 22 min. Conduct reagent blank with test port. Add 2.0 ml 4% NaBH_4 solution to reagent dispenser of generator, and insert rubber stopper tightly into neck of flask containing test solution or standard. With single rapid, smooth motion, invert flask, letting solution mix with test solution or standard. (This operation must be performed reproducibly.) Sharp, narrow peak will appear immediately. When recorder pen returns to baseline, remove stopper from flask, and rinse reagent dispenser with H_2O from squeeze bottle; then suck out H_2O . Proceed with next test solution or standard. When series is complete, rinse glassware thoroughly. Plot calibration curve of μg As against A, and obtain μg As in test solution a liquidation this curve. Correct for reagent blank.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Heavy metals such as cadmium, lead, mercury and arsenic are major pollutants causing chemical hazards. They do not naturally arise in dairy products and desserts, but as a consequence of human activities such as industrial and agricultural processes. Heavy metals have been found as pollutants in food and water for a variety of reasons resulting in concern of health issues. Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy is used to determine the amount of heavy metal contamination in milk and milk products. The Limits of elements as per FAO/WHO & EC are given in Table 2. The results of heavy metals in the different ice cream samples is given below in Table 3. The Means of absorption / emission. values of samples and Represented mean for Pb are shown in Table 4. The absorbance and the percentage RSD is given in Table 5. The different concentration of lead and its absorption is shown in Figure 2.





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SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The present work is aimed to determine the presence of Heavy metals by Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometry in selected ice cream samples. The study shows the presence of heavy metals in the samples, and also it exceed the limit as per WHO.

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Table.1: List of Heavy metals,its source and defects.

HEAVY METAL	SOURCE	DEFECTS
Lead (Pb)	Lead mines, coalcombustion, waste water and farmyard manure.	Abortion on the spur of the moment causes nervous system damage, kidney& brain damage and liver problems.
Arsenic(As)	Found in water contaminated with industrial or agrochemical waste.	Ulcer, liver problems and kidney damage.
Mercury(Hg)	Human activities like use of fossil fuel, production of metals, causticsoda, and the disposal of mercury containing waste materials.	Memory issues increased heart rate ,tremors, kidney, brain and liver damage.





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Cadmium (Cd)	Phosphate fertilizers, non-ferrous smelters, sewage sludge application, and fossil fuel combustion are all the sources of cadmium in soil and plants.	Cancer, lung insufficiency disturbance in liver and kidney.
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Table.2: Limits of elements as per FAO/WHO & EC.^[12]

ELEMENT	FAO/WHO Maximum permissible values (mg/kg).	Limits by Commission Regulation[EC].(mg/kg)
Lead (Pb)	0.3	0.02
Arsenic(As)	0.02	0.02
Mercury(Hg)	0.01	0.01
Cadmium (Cd)	0.2	0.02

Table 3:Resultsofheavy metals analysis by AAS

S.no	Sample code	Heavy Metal	Method	Units	Results
1	ANP- 01	ArsenicAs	AOAC21stEdition. 986.15	mg/kg	BQL(LOQ:0.1)
		Lead as Pb			4.24
		Mercury asHg			BQL(LOQ:0.1)
		Cadmium asCd			BQL(LOQ:0.1)
2	NIC-03	Arsenic as As	AOAC21stEdition. 973.35	mg/kg	BQL(LOQ:0.1)
		Lead as Pb			2.919
		Mercury as Hg			BQL(LOQ:0.1)
		Cadmium as Cd			BQL(LOQ:0.1)
3	KVV- 02	Arsenic as As	AOAC21stEdition. 971.21	mg/kg	BQL(LOQ:0.1)
		Lead as Pb			0.602
		Mercury asHg			BQL(LOQ:0.1)
		Cadmium as Cd			BQL(LOQ:0.1)
4	ALV-04	Arsenic as As	AOAC21stEdition. 999.11	mg/kg	BQL(LOQ:0.1)
		Lead as Pb			5.36
		Mercury as Hg			BQL(LOQ:0.1)
		Cadmium as Cd			BQL(LOQ:0.1)

Table. 4 :Sample table: Means of abs./emis. values Rep. mean Pb

No Name	Pos	Peak area		
		Abs	SD	RSD/%
BLANK	##	-0.0003	0.000112	348.9
1.250 mg/L	##	0.1146	0.00101	0.888
BLANK	##	0.00057	0.00066	116.7
M-3978	##	0.00032	0.00177	540.5
M-3979	##	0.00064	0.00111	172.2





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M-3982	##	-0.0013	0.00161	122.2
M-3983	##	0.00238	0.00071	29.88

Table.5: Sample table: Concentration/content

A: analysed sample O: original sample

No	Name	weight/g	ASDF	Conc.	A: mg/L	CI	SD	RSD/%	Rem
Rec. date	Pos	SV/mL	Pre-DF		O:mg/L				
1	BLANK			---	A:				
10/19/2022	18:26	##			O:				
Lower limit: 0		Upper limit: 0.02000		Reaction: Flag+Cont.					
2	5.000 mg/L			---	A: 5.573	0.3820	0.04877	0.875	>CAL
10/19/2022	18:28	##			O:				
Expect. Conc.: 5.000 mg/L		Recovery (R%): 111.5 %		Reaction: Flag+Cont.					
3	BLANK			---	A:				
10/19/2022	18:28	##			O:				
Lower limit: 0		Upper limit: 0.02000		Reaction: No actions					
4	M-3978			---	A: 0.09429	0.3306	0.08527	90.43	
10/19/2022	18:29	##	1.000		O: 0.09429	0.3306	0.08527	90.43	
5	M-3979			---	A: 0.1096	0.3294	0.05360	48.89	
10/19/2022	18:30	##	1.000		O: 0.1096	0.3294	0.05360	48.89	
6	M-3982			---	A: 0.01546	0.3364	0.07722	499.4	
10/19/2022	18:31	##	1.000		O: 0.01546	0.3364	0.07722	499.4	
7	M-3983			---	A: 0.1927	0.3234	0.03412	17.71	
10/19/2022	18:32	##	1.000		O: 0.1927	0.3234	0.03412	17.71	

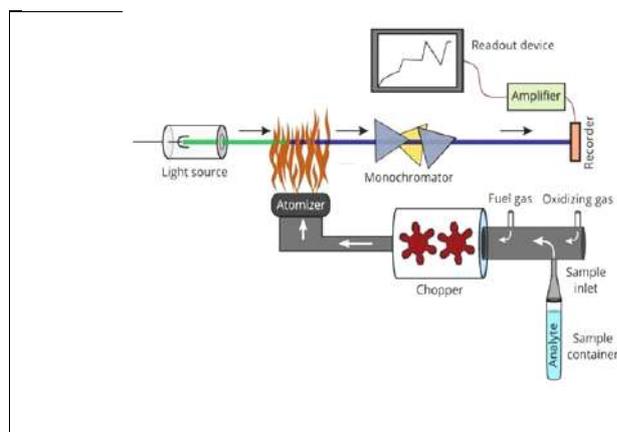


Figure.1: Instrumentation of AAS

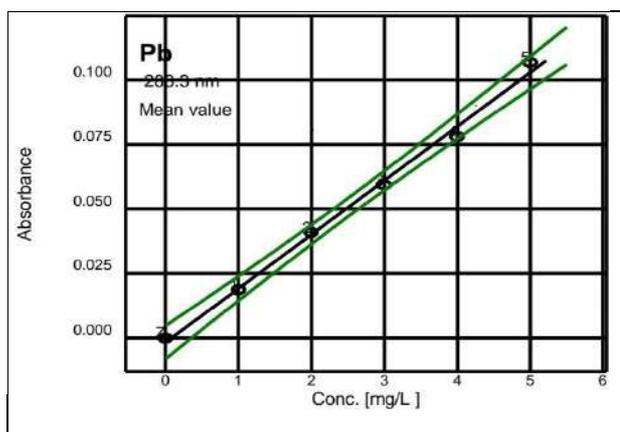


Figure.2: Linear curve graph of concentration Vs Absorbance for lead.





Herbal Nanotechnology: Innovations and Applications in Modern Medicine

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ABSTRACT

Since ancient times, herbal medicines have been extensively used for diseases worldwide for their minimal toxicity effect compared to marketed synthetic drugs. God has given us numerous no's of medicinal plants to treat infectious and untreated diseases. The therapeutic activity of herbal drugs has been studied by various researchers and proved that compared to synthetic, medicinal preparation herbal drugs have a safe and more economical profile. However, due to low solubility, stability, and bioavailability problem, their pharmacological profile became reduced, hindering their clinical application. Nano herbal drugs have an excellent approach in greater effectiveness, good biocompatibility, reduced toxicity, and lesser administration. As Nanotechnology is an innovative material-developing tool, it overcomes various problems with plant medicines due to its wide range of safe effectivity and unique nature. Hence, the formulation of herbs in the NDDS system became more popular in the last few decades and has shown more potent activity towards various chronic diseases like asthma, cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and multiple sclerosis. Uses of herbal extract and extracted plants having a therapeutic activity like anticancer, antioxidant, and gene-protective activity in the market are highly demanding in current pharma industries. This review provides information on herbal nanoformulation processes and their excellent potential role in managing several major health illnesses and having no prominent adverse effects reported.

Keywords: Herbal medicines, nanotechnology, NDDS, herbal extract, Nanoformulation, biocompatibility





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INTRODUCTION

Phytochemicals are the major constituent of herbal drugs having potential role in curing diseases from ancient times. Plants are used as a human disease healing ailments because of their wider availability and as well as safe toxicological profile. Herbal medicines can improve mental health and provide treatment to various life killing diseases. However these biologically potent plants sources have also some disadvantages like lower solubility and bioavailability studies which further lead to physico chemical degradation of phytoconstituents. The clinical and therapeutic applications of herbal drugs in various diseases like bacterial and fungal infections, degenerative diseases such as diabetes and cancer became popular worldwide. Nanotechnology based novel drug design target drug carriers which remove various drawbacks of herbal medicines by improving their bioavailability, solubility and phytoactivity(1).

An expanding discipline of research known as nanotechnology involves the creation and synthesis of different nanomaterials. Objects between 1 and 100 nm in size that may differ from the bulk material due to their size are known as nanoparticles. Nowadays, copper, zinc, titanium, magnesium, gold, alginate, and silver are used to make various metallic nanostructures. Nanoparticles are employed for a variety of things, including medical treatments, energy storage in solar and oxide fuel batteries, and widespread inclusion into a variety of common products like cosmetics and clothing(2). To increase patient compliance and prevent repeated administration, phytotherapeutics require a scientific approach to deliver the components over time. This might be obtained by creating NDDSs for the ingredients in herbs. NDDSs help to boost the therapeutic value by reducing toxicity and enhancing bioavailability, which reduces the need for repeated administration to combat noncompliance. Herbal pharmaceuticals with nano-sized NDDSs have the potential to improve activity and get around issues with plant medicines in the future. Due to their small size, nanocarriers applied to herbal remedies will enable the medicine to pass through all barriers, including the liver's metabolism and the stomach's acidic pH, and deliver the maximum amount of the drug to the site of action. So, using herbal treatments in an NDDS will improve the way in which herbal treatments will be used to cure the numerous chronological diseases(3).

Despite the rapid advancement in the field of nurse practitioners (NPs) in recent years, numerous changes are still required for everyday usage of such medical devices. For instance, determining the size of NPs after they are produced under specific process circumstances is a significant barrier to the development of highly repeatable medicines. Another restriction is the comprehensive examination of how changes in production parameters impact NPs characteristics. It's still a challenge to make NPs that allow for the controlled release of a given component throughout time and space. The complexity of each of these investigations has made it difficult to create effective and appropriate NPs for certain biomedical applications(4).

The green NPs have several uses in a variety of industries, including biosensing, dentistry, and medicines. In underdeveloped nations, the majority of plant-based products can be produced locally utilising natural resources, where only that material may happen. People in Africa, for instance, can utilise sorghum barn, which even animals do not eat, but which is particularly rich in phenolic compounds and does not even require extraction—merely adding water does the trick [5].

By boosting the functionality and efficiency of ordinary items, nanotechnology is enhancing our daily life. It offers a clean environment by supplying cleaner renewable energy for a sustainable future, as well as safer air and water. Widespread interest in nanotechnology has led to increased funding for research and development from prestigious institutions, businesses, and organisations. In order to utilise the technology, substantial study is being done in the advanced scientific field of nanotechnology. To improve the effectiveness and performance of the thing or process and consequently lower the cost so that everyone can use it, it is being evaluated for a variety of new applications. A bright future for nanotechnology is assured by its effectiveness and environmental friendliness [6].



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The herbal drug is incorporated in nanomatrix to provide therapeutic worth and became a promising potential interest in worldwide. Nanotechnology using herbal medicines as core material to deliver the components in a sustained manner and also to obtain its activity on the target site. Herbal medicines have been used in the region of the world since Vedic times due to their zero side effect and greater availability. In India Siddha and Ayurveda use herbal preparations as traditional medicines system. Now a days, herbal drugs dwell in a leading position in the pharmaceutical industry as their unique nature of zero toxicity. Novel drug delivery systems not only reduce the repeated administration to overcome non-compliance but also help to increase the therapeutic value by reducing toxicity and increasing the bioavailability. Nano-sized drug delivery systems of herbal drugs have a potential future for enhancing the activity and overcoming problems associated with plant medicines(7).The composition and biological activities of several medicinal plant products have been already established by various researchers. The found active constituents are therapeutically more active such as flavonoids, tannins, and terpenoids. These constituents are very highly water-soluble, but possess low absorption due to unable to cross lipid membranes. Higher molecular sizes of the constituents lead to poor absorption, low bioavailability and poor efficacy(8,9).However, to improve the solubility and stability of active constituents, nanotechnology offers formulations with different degrees of hydrophilicity/lipophilicity after successfully combining the drug with specific carriers. This technology can also be used to target the distribution of a substance toward specific tissues or organs(10-13). Nanotechnological advances became popular now a days because these developments provide numerous benefits, such as sustained release systems, and the ability to develop new formulation approach that were previously not possible with traditional systems.

Types of nanomaterials**The Evolution of Herbal Medicines: From Ancient Times to Modern Day**

Natural plants including roots, herbs, and leaves have been the basis of treatment of human diseases. The present medicinal technology development remains rooted in ethnic traditional medicine and their therapies. Countries like America, India, ancient China, Egypt, and Africa used plants as a therapeutic ailment for medicinal purposes since 19th century ago. The first extraction and modification of herbal components started in the early 19th century. At first herbal medicines were not found scientifically able for NDDS due to their various processing difficulties, such as standardization, extraction, and characterization of a single component from a complex herbal matrix. After resolving these outcomes by phytopharmaceuticals research study, various novel formulations have been designed such as nanoparticles, micro emulsions, matrix systems, solid dispersions, liposomes and SLN. Curcumin has been used alone as well as in combination with other chemotherapeutic agents like paclitaxel(15). Various herbal novel formulations containing nanoparticles and phytosomes of drugs like *Silybum marianum*, *Ginkobiloba*, *Curcuma longa* have shown their potential as controlled and targeted drug delivery systems.

Significance of herbal NDDS

Drug delivery system like herbal NDDS is a novel approach to overcome the various drawbacks of old conventional drug delivery systems. The reason behind selection of NDDS as a suitable drug delivery system has been listed below. Pharmaceutical industries have become increasingly interested in nanotechnological advances because these developments provide advantages, such as modified release systems, and the potential to develop new formulations that were previously not possible (due to several aspects related to the active constituents(25)

- They can deliver large concentration of potent drug to the targeted sites because of their unique size and drug loading efficiency.
- The drugs allocating dissolution of drugs has been enhanced due to the delivery of drugs in smaller particle size.
- The concentration of drugs seems to persist at the sites for the longer period of time.

Techniques for Herbal drug loading

Herbal drug-loaded nanoparticles were formulated by the following steps; initially, the phytoconstituents have to extract from the plant and then have been formulating into nanomaterial-loaded phytoconstituents, then this has been promoting pharmacological effect in the desired form (26)





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Techniques for loading nanoparticles

1. High-pressure homogenization method
2. Supercritical fluid methods
3. Salting-out method
4. Nanoprecipitation method or solvent displacement method
5. Solvent emulsification–diffusion method
6. Complex coacervation method

High-pressure homogenization method

In high pressure homogenization method, lipid materials were pushed through a very high shear stress i.e. approximately 100 to 2000 bar pressure, which will reduce the particle size into micrometer or nanometer range. This method is considered as one of the most powerful preparation technique due to its large scale nanoproduction for lipid drug conjugate, SLNs, and parenteral emulsions (28)

Supercritical fluid methods

This method can be used for micro or nano range DDS. A supercritical fluid (SCFs) can be used above its critical temperature and pressure. After mixing of starting materials with supercritical fluid, dissolution of starting materials in supercritical fluid started and finally by expansion of solution dispersed globules of nanoprecipitation occurs. The most commonly used SCFs are carbon dioxide and water (27)

Salting-out method

This method is based on the event that the decreased solubility of a non-electrolyte in water depends upon addition of an electrolyte. This technique generally employed for heat sensitive substances.

Nanoprecipitation method or solvent displacement method

This method is based on interfacial deposition of a polymer after displacement of a semi polar solvent miscible with water from a lipophilic solution, thereby resulting in a decrease in the interfacial tension between the two phases, which increases the surface area with a subsequent formation of small droplets of organic solvent even without any mechanical stirring(29)

Solvent emulsification–diffusion method

The method involves the preparation of an o/w emulsion, oil phase contains polymer in presence of organic solvent and aqueous phase contain stabilizer [28], which are emulsified using a high shear mixer, followed by adding up of water to provoke the diffusion of organic solvent, thus consequential in development of nanoparticles.

Complex coacervation method

This is a spontaneous phase separation process of two liquid phases in colloidal systems, which results by the interaction of two oppositely charged polyelectrolytes upon mixing in an aqueous solution. Co-precipitation method. This method is a modification of the complex coacervation method for the preparation of nanoscale core-shell particles. This method has been reported to provide good dispersion stability to poorly water-soluble drugs (30)

Nanotechnology-Based Drug Delivery system for Phytochemical Compounds

Nanotechnology-based drug delivery systems have been extensively studied for their potential applications in improving the bioavailability and efficacy of phytochemical compounds. Here are some examples of the applications of nanotechnology-based drug delivery systems for phytochemical compounds(28-34):

Curcumin: Curcumin is a well-known natural antioxidant and anti-inflammatory agent with therapeutic potential in various diseases, including cancer, diabetes, and neurodegenerative disorders. However, curcumin's low solubility and bioavailability limit its therapeutic efficacy. Nanoformulations of curcumin, such as liposomes, solid lipid



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nanoparticles, and polymeric nanoparticles, have been shown to improve its solubility, stability, and bioavailability, potentially enhancing its therapeutic efficacy.

Resveratrol: Resveratrol is a polyphenolic compound found in various plants, including grapes and berries, with potential therapeutic applications in cardiovascular diseases, cancer, and aging-related disorders. However, its low bioavailability and rapid metabolism limit its therapeutic efficacy. Nanoformulations of resveratrol, such as solid lipid nanoparticles, polymeric nanoparticles, and liposomes, have been developed to improve its bioavailability and efficacy.

Quercetin: Quercetin is a flavonoid found in various fruits and vegetables with potential therapeutic applications in cancer, inflammation, and cardiovascular diseases. However, its poor water solubility and bioavailability limit its therapeutic efficacy. Nanoformulations of quercetin, such as liposomes, nanoparticles, and cyclodextrin complexes, have been developed to improve its solubility, stability, and bioavailability, potentially enhancing its therapeutic efficacy.

According to the literature, 70% of the active ingredients obtained from plants are hydrophobic. New technology has been used as a strategy to increase the bioavailability/bioactivity of phytochemical compounds. In order to develop new nanotechnology-based therapies, the ability to design suitable formulations for drug delivery is of the utmost importance. Phytochemical delivery is essential for effective disease prevention and treatment. These delivery systems include lipid-based delivery systems and polymer-based delivery systems, which have the potential to increase the bioactivity of phytochemical compounds. *Cuscuta chinensis* is a commonly used traditional Chinese medicine to nourish the liver and kidney. Due to the poor water solubility of its major constituents such as flavonoids and lignans, its absorption upon oral administration could be limited. So, the nanoparticles for the same were developed(31).

Bhawana basniwal et al prepared curcumin-loaded polymeric nanoparticles for enhancing Curcumin's water solubility. Through wet-milling technique, curcumin-loaded polymeric nanoparticles were prepared. In characterization of the curcumin based nano formulation, it has been seen that particle size distribution was in the range of 2–40 nm. Chemical identity of the new formulation was same as previous original molecule (curcumin) reveals that during nanoencapsulation process no structural alteration has been occurred. After experimentation they conclude that this nanoformulation without addition of a suitable surfactant can easily dispersed in water and hence solubility of curcumin (32). Zhang JF *et al* in a recent research based study prepared poly(lactic acid) nanoparticles of Cucurbitacins and Curcuminoids by precipitation method (33). Formulation has been successfully developed and characterized by them for safe and effective targeted drug delivery. It has been reported that nanoform of these SLNs of anticancer drug enhance its bioavailability and efficacy and also shows zero toxicity level (34). Recent study shows that oral route became more potential route of delivery of cytotoxic drugs and hence research on oral chemotherapy in oncology has been focused by most of the current researchers(35).

Zhao et al., Described how to make chitosan nanostructures and use them to immobilise and encapsulate bioactive substances. Due to this review, it is determined that micro/nanostructured chitosans can be utilised as transporters for bioactive substances. These could lead to the creation of brand-new encapsulation or immobilisation carriers. They are also potential candidates for drug delivery carriers and cell proliferation enhancers due to their good biological features, which include non-toxicity, biocompatibility, biodegradability, and antibacterial capacity(36).

Application of Herbal nanotechnology-based drug delivery systems in Medical sciences

Herbal nanotechnology-based drug delivery systems have gained considerable interest in recent years due to their potential for improving the bioavailability and therapeutic efficacy of herbal medicines. Here are some examples of the applications of herbal nanotechnology-based drug delivery systems in medical science(32,33,37): Anti-inflammatory agents: Herbal nanomedicines have shown promise in delivering anti-inflammatory agents, such as curcumin, resveratrol, and quercetin, for the treatment of various inflammatory conditions, including arthritis,



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asthma, and inflammatory bowel disease. Anticancer agents: Herbal nanomedicines can be used for targeted delivery of anticancer agents, such as paclitaxel, doxorubicin, and 5-fluorouracil, to cancer cells, reducing systemic toxicity and improving therapeutic efficacy. Antioxidant agents: Herbal nanomedicines have been developed for the delivery of antioxidant agents, such as resveratrol and quercetin, which can scavenge free radicals and reduce oxidative stress, potentially treating various diseases, including cardiovascular disease and diabetes.

Anti-microbial agents: Herbal nanomedicines can be used for targeted delivery of antimicrobial agents, such as berberine, curcumin, and gingerol, to infected cells or tissues, potentially reducing the risk of resistance development and improving drug efficacy. (Source: Neurodegenerative disorders: Herbal nanomedicines can be used for targeted delivery of herbal extracts with neuroprotective properties, such as ginkgo biloba, bacopa monnieri, and curcumin, to treat neurodegenerative disorders, such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease.

Recent development and future scope

The potential for improving human illness diagnostics and treatment using nanomedicine is enormous. The biogenesis of nanoparticles using microbes is a process that is agreeable to the environment. Many biotechnological instruments could be transformed by nanotechnology to become more individualised, transportable, affordable, secure, and simple to use (38). Because they have the potential to heal practically all ailments, herbal medicines have recently attracted increased attention. The use of herbal medications is nevertheless constrained by a number of issues, including poor solubility, poor bioavailability, limited oral absorption, instability, and unexpected toxicity. Nanoparticles can be a key component in solving these issues. Hence, the use of various nanoparticles, such as polymeric nanoparticles, liposomes, proliposomes, solid lipid nanoparticles, and microemulsions, shows potential to deliver herbal medications with improved therapy(39).

By traversing the reticuloendothelial system, enhancing permeability and retention, and tumor-specific targeting, nanoparticles have emerged as a viable technique in drug delivery systems for the well-organized distribution of medications used in the treatment of various diseases like cancer. Pharmaceutical scientists have recently redirected their attention to developing a scientifically sound medication delivery mechanism for natural remedies(40). As a result, the potential for treating a variety of chronic diseases and providing health benefits will expand with the use of "herbal remedy" in nanocarriers. We have a lot of successful examples with tangible evidence pointing in the direction of nano research. Herbal remedies are abundant sources of beneficial substances containing antioxidants and ingredients that can be used in foods for certain purposes. This kind of cooperative study between conventional "herbal cures" and more recent methods of the current drug delivery system, i.e., "Nanotechnology," has established the appealing pharmaceutical medicines in the near future that will improve people's health. It is projected that the useful and significant relevance of using nanocarriers in combination with natural products and herbal cures would increase the significance of current medication delivery methods. Future research groups may get intrigued by the idea of using herbal nanoparticles to transport cancer drugs and could provide results that are noteworthy(39,40).

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, herbal nanotechnology-based drug delivery systems have shown great promise in improving the bioavailability, efficacy, and safety of herbal medicines. By encapsulating herbal extracts in nanoparticles, researchers can achieve targeted delivery of therapeutic agents, reducing the risk of systemic toxicity and increasing drug efficacy. Herbal nanomedicines can be used for the treatment of a variety of diseases, including cancer, inflammation, infectious diseases, and neurodegenerative disorders. However, more research is needed to fully understand the potential benefits and risks of herbal nanomedicines and to optimize their formulation and production. With ongoing advances in nanotechnology and herbal medicine, it is likely that we will continue to see exciting developments in this field in the years to come.





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Table1: Application of various herbal formulations

Sl no	Formulation	Herbal constituents	Applications
1	Quercetin micro emulsion	Quercetin	Antiangiogenic(16)
2	Artemisin nanoparticle	Berberine	Anticancer (17)
3	Naringenin nanoparticle	Naringenin	Hepatoprotective(18)
4	CPT encapsulated nanoparticles	Camptothecin	Anticancer(19,20)
5	Silybin nanoparticle	silybin	Hepatoprotective (21)
6	Salvia miltiorrhiza Bunge (Danshen)	salvianolic	Antioxidant,improve blood circulation (22)
7	Gugulipid proniosome gel	Gugulin	Anti-liver toxicity (23)
8	Docetaxel submicron emulsion	Docetaxel	Anticancer activity [24]

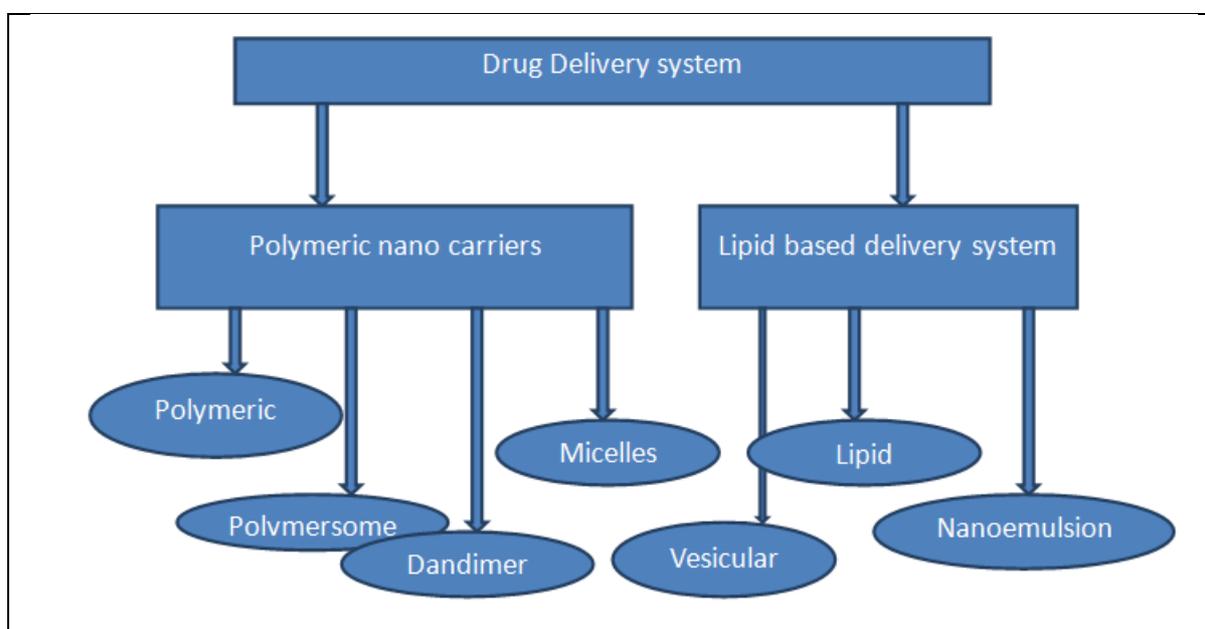


Fig. 1: Classification of drug delivery system

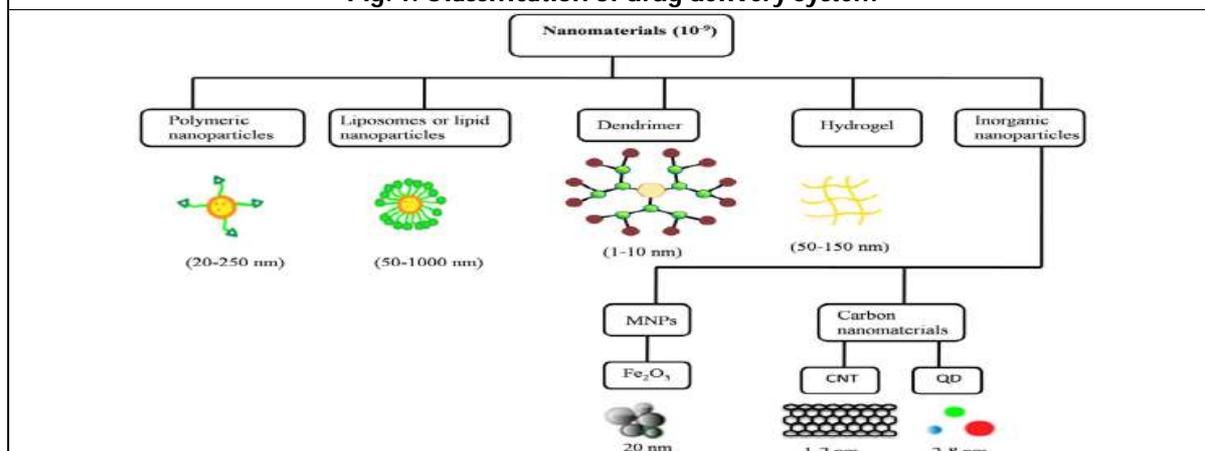
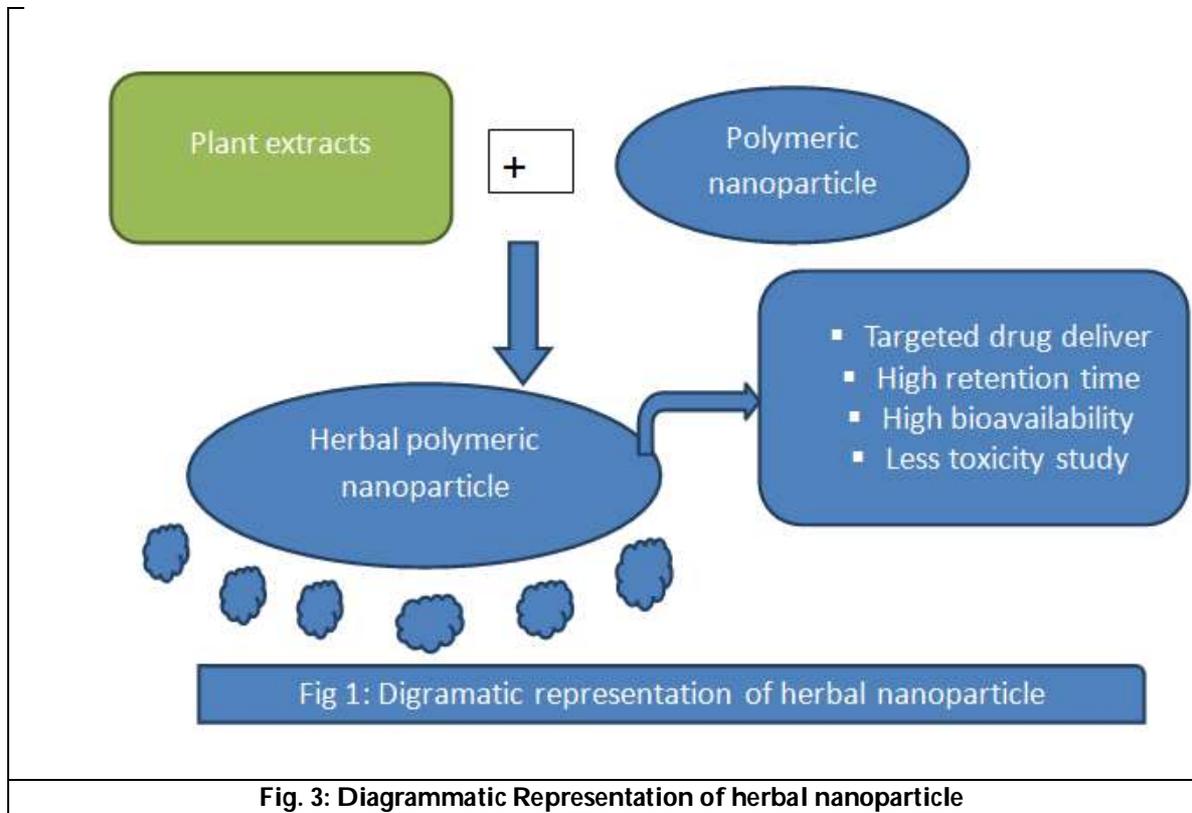


Fig. 2: Various types of nanomaterial and their morphological features (14).





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REVIEW ARTICLE

A Review of *Cannabis sativa* and its Green Synthesis with Ag Nanoparticles and its Medicinal and Economical Properties

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ABSTRACT

An annual herbaceous flowering plant native to Eastern Asia, *Cannabis sativa* is currently widely cultivated and has a global distribution. Throughout documented human history, it has been cultivated and used as a source of food, recreation, religious and spiritual moods, industrial fiber, seed oil, and medicine. Depending on what parts of the plant are collected. In ancient China, where *C. sativa* was one of the ancient medications recorded, *C. sativa* was used as a treatment against intestinal constipation, rheumatic pain, malaria, issues of the female reproductive system, as well as other health problems. The use of *C. sativa* and its products has grown in attention and acceptance. It serves as a molecular and developmental marker. Thin-layer chromatography, phytochemical screening, macroscopic-microscopic characteristics, physical-chemical parameters, and fingerprinting of Cannabis leaves taken from various sites were all examined. The literature has extensively emphasized the therapeutic and hallucinogenic effects of Cannabis sativa products, as well as the antimicrobial capabilities of this plant. It investigates the ability of CBD to fight off certain bacterial types. Some nanoparticles like Ag nanoparticles also show antibacterial activity against bacterial strains.

Keywords: Cannabis sativa, antibacterial activity, nanoparticles, bacteria, medicinal, chemical properties.





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INTRODUCTION

Species *Cannabis sativa* L., a plant in the family Cannabaceae and a member of the genus Cannabis, is native to Central Asia.

Classification:-

Classification of *Cannabis sativa*

Kingdom	Plantae
Subkingdom	Tracheobionta
Superdivision	Spermatophyta
Division	Magnoliophyta
Order	Urticales
Class	Magnoliopsida
Subclass	Hamamelididae
Family	Cannabaceae
Genus	Cannabis
Species	sativa

Binomial name- *Cannabis sativa* L.

Other species- *Cannabis indica* Lam, *Cannabis ruderalis*Janisch

Common name:-

Hemp and Marijuana are the most common terms used to refer to *Cannabis*. is also referred to by the terms grass, hashish, mary jane, and pot. In Indian society, basic terms for Cannabis preparations include ganja (flower), bhang (seeds and leaves), and charas (resin).

Location and Botanical Description

Cannabis is found in most countries of the world, also in India, it has been in use for over 2000 years. In India, it is found in Uttarakhand, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujrat, and other states. Cannabis existed because of the size, form, and resin content of the plant (selection and breeding). The genotype, or genetic code, of Cannabis and outside environmental conditions are the two main determinants of its phenotype or observable traits like colors and leaf shape.

Between 30 and 60 cm of the ground is covered by the branches of the roots. A cannabis inflorescence is a cluster of several flower heads that grow from each leaf axil and are attached to long, leafy branches. Only one brownish fruit, measuring between 2 and 5 mm in length and containing one seed that is securely encased in a hard shell, is produced by each bloom. Only the fruit is multiplied by the bird; it takes 8–12 days for the seed to grow. The plant's leaves stem and bracts are all covered in trichome, which are distinctive groups of structures holding secondary metabolites like terpenoids and phytocannabinoids that are in charge of providing protection, a recognizable scent, and plant interactions.

Cultivation in India

There are 27 million Bhang (*Cannabis*) users in India. The average cost of Cannabis in India is about Rs. 8 per gram. Almost 500 kilos of hashish are produced annually in Malana, Himachal Pradesh. The custom duty laws in many states of India restrict people from consuming *Cannabis* and its byproducts. Cannabis is only permitted in Uttarakhand by a state license. Uttarakhand became now the first state to permit the cultivation of wide-ranging industrial hemp (*Cannabis*).





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Various important properties of *Cannabis sativa*

Medicinal properties

Cannabis sativa L. has a long history of usage in medicine because it is full of phytochemicals. It is one of the earliest psychotropic plants that humans have encountered [1]. Since its discovery, it has been put to many different uses in the fields of medicine, industry, and recreation. In ancient China, where *C. sativa* was one of the ancient pharmaceuticals recorded, *C. sativa* was used as a medicinal against intestinal constipation, rheumatic pain, malaria, issues of the female reproductive system, as well as other health problems [2]. For a short while, cannabis was used as a medical option in the West, and during the 19th century, medical studies started to focus on it. Cannabis sativa-based therapeutic materials production and research saw a surge in interest after the first clinical conference on the plant was convened in 1860 [3]. Research connecting *C. sativa* to "insanity" led to its removal from the U.S. Pharmacopoeia in 1942, which resulted in a sharp decline in interest [4]. As a result, the United Nations designated *C. sativa* to be an unlawful psychotropic substance at the Conference on psychotropic substances in 1971 [5]. These conclusions and classifications severely curtailed cannabis research and created a bad reputation for the subject in the eyes of the general public [6, 7].

As we move closer to the middle of the twenty-first century, more people are becoming aware of cannabis and its potential as well as its products [8]. Research has shown that cannabis is effective in treating several illnesses, such as multiple sclerosis, Tourette's syndrome, epilepsy, and other neurological disorders [9,10]. The physiological and psychological effects of cannabis' main ingredients, tetrahydrocannabinol, and cannabidiol, on people, have also been studied [11,12]. Clinical research has primarily concentrated on the effectiveness of cannabis against neurological disorders; nevertheless, there is still a knowledge gap on the effectiveness of cannabis and its metabolites, such as antibacterial agents. This literature focuses on the antibacterial properties of cannabis and its active constituents, such as CBD [13,14]. The development of innovative therapies for the treatment of clinically relevant bacteria, however, depends largely on the characterization and research of this antibacterial action [15,16]. Each component of cannabis has traditionally been used primarily to treat pain, inflammation, and mental illnesses. For instance, Cannabis root has been used to treat gastrointestinal activities, infections, gout, inflammation, burns, arthritis, hard tumors, postpartum bleeding, and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Asthma, exhaustion, glaucoma, epilepsy, nausea, pain, insomnia, and rheumatism are some conditions for which the Cannabis plant has been advocated. It is also used as an appetite stimulant and digestive aid.

Scientists are reprocessing medicines to prevent future issues and viruses like COVID-19 (finding new therapeutic applications for already-approved treatments). The biological potential of these drugs is widely established (anti-inflammatory and antiviral capabilities). They suggested that COVID-19 patients would benefit from taking CBD as a pulmonary fibrosis inhibitor, anti-inflammatory, or antiviral medicine.

Chemical properties

In addition to cannabinoid phenols and non-cannabinoid phenols (spiro-Indians, stilbenoids, dihydrophenanthrenes, and lignans), cannabis is a herbal medicine that also contains terpenoids, flavonoids, alcohols, aldehydes, alkanes, steroids, alkaloids, and wax esters. Between 450 and 500 distinct chemical components have been found and isolated from the cannabis plant. There are numerous secondary metabolites found in the cannabis plant that have a variety of beneficial uses for people (including aromatherapy, pharmacology, nutraceuticals, and cosmetics). Cannabinoids, an important class of terpene phenolic compounds, are produced by alkylating an alkyl-resorcinol with a mono-terpene unit. They discuss the mono-terpene and alkyl-resorcinol moieties in their compounds. Cannabis has a lot of phytocannabinoid acids, which belong to this specific chemical family, in the female flower as well as in the vegetative matrix, which also contains phytocannabinoids. They are created when a prenyltransferase reacts with olivetolic acid, an acid, with geranyl-pyrophosphate to create cannabigerol acid (CBGA). Decarboxylation is the process used to convert acidic forms into their neutral counterparts, which are more potent and pharmacologically active. In addition to the 125 cannabinoids listed here, 42 non-cannabinoid phenolics, 120 terpenoids, 34 flavonoids, 3



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sterols, and 2 alkaloids have also been described [17,18]. Five novel cannabinoids have also been listed recently. The second large class of cannabis components, terpenoids, are in charge of giving the plant its distinctive aroma.

Antibacterial activity

Alternative treatments have been developed as a result of the severe health concern of antimicrobial resistance [19,20,21,22]. The progressive loss of antibiotic potency and the steady rise in innovative medications are major obstacles to treating multidrug-resistant bacteria [23,24]. Around 35,000 fatalities and 2.8 million illnesses are brought on by bacterial infections that are resistant to numerous drugs and antibiotics each year in the United States alone [25]. An antibiotic-resistant bacterial disease not only poses a serious risk to public health but also costs the US economy USD 7.7 billion annually [26]. The creation of novel antibiotic therapy methods is crucial for preserving public health given the prevalence of resistant bacterial species. This study's main objective is to determine whether the cannabis sativa compound cannabidiol (CBD), which is used to treat bacterial infections, has any antibacterial capabilities against common Gram-positive and Gram-negative illnesses. It has proven to have significant therapeutic benefits despite initially not being recognized as a main cannabis active component [27,28,29]. According to WHO [30], CBD shows no signs of any dependence potential, and there has been no evidence of any public health problems related to using a pure form of CBD. However, *C.sativa* is frequently linked to psychotic effects, and we now understand that tetrahydrocannabinol is what causes these effects (THC). This literature claims that both Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria's plasma membranes are disrupted by CBD's antibacterial action [31]. The number of bacteria against which CBD is effective must be established to evaluate CBD as an antibacterial agent. It is critical to look into CBD's efficacy against a pathogen that is clinically connected to it since it has the potential to be a novel therapeutic.

Nanobiotechnology Aspects:-**Nanomaterial**

The design, production, characterization, and application of materials and devices whose smallest functional organization, in at least one dimension, is on the nanoscale scale, or one billionth of a meter, is the subject of the science and engineering field known as nanotechnology. Objects having an overall size in the nanometer range or less than 100 nm are referred to as nanoparticles. These compounds have become important players in contemporary medicine in recent years, with uses ranging from contrast agents in medical imaging to vehicles for the transfer of genes to specific cells. Nanoparticles differ from bulk materials in a variety of ways, including chemical reactivity, energy absorption, and biological mobility. The reason for this is that they are smaller than bulk materials. Nanoparticles are sometimes known as "zero-dimensional" nanomaterials. In a contrast to two-dimensional nanomaterials and one-dimensional nanomaterials (such as nanowires and nanotubes), which both have dimensions that are two times larger than the nanoscale, this classification is based on the fact that all of their dimensions are nanoscale-scale (like self-assembled nanoparticles).

Types of nanomaterials

There are two types of nanomaterials-

- 1) Organic nanomaterials
- 2) Inorganic nanomaterials

Organic Nanomaterials

include the carbon nanoparticles known as fullerenes.

Inorganic Nanomaterials

Examples of inorganic nanoparticles include magnetic nanoparticles, semiconductors (like titanium oxide and zinc oxide), and nanoparticles made of noble metals, like gold and silver. Due to their remarkable material qualities and diverse variety of uses, inorganic nanoparticles, particularly those made of the noble metals gold and silver, are gaining popularity. Inorganic particles have been investigated as prospective tools for medical imaging as well as for treating illnesses due to their size properties and benefits over conventional chemical imaging pharmacological agents and medications. Because of its various benefits, such as its wide availability, strong functionality, high



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compatibility, and capacity to give tailored medication administration, inorganic nonmaterial has been employed widely for cellular delivery.

Role of Nanotechnology in medicine

The transport of genes and drugs, fluorescent biological labeling, pathogen bio-detection, protein detection, DNA structure analysis, separation and purification of biological molecules, enhancement of MRI contrast, and phagokinetic studies are a few examples of important uses. [32] Characterizing the quantifiable molecular-scale parts known as nanomachinery is the long-term objective of nanomedicine research. It is conceivable to create cutting-edge technology for the early detection and treatment of many diseases by carefully regulating and directing the nanomachinery found inside live cells. This study is important because it will result in the creation of a platform technology that will affect nanoscale imaging methods used to examine molecular pathways in living cells. [33] Molecular imaging is an effective method for locating the underlying illness molecular processes, usually even before their downstream manifestation. The integration of molecular imaging with nanotechnology provides a flexible framework for the development of innovative nanoprobe with the potential to significantly improve the sensitivity, specificity, and signaling properties of several biomarkers in human diseases. [34]

Silver Nanoparticles, their synthesis, and biological application

Silver nanoparticles are of interest because they may be used in antibacterial applications, biosensor materials, electrical components, cosmetics and materials, composite fibers, and cryogenic superconducting technologies due to their unique properties, such as size and shape-dependent optical, electrical, and magnetic characteristics. Due to their unusual properties, they have been applied for a variety of purposes, such as antibacterial agents, industrial, household, and healthcare-related products, consumer goods, medical device coatings, optical sensors, and cosmetics, as well as in the pharmaceutical and food industries, diagnostics, traumatology, drug delivery, and as anticancer agents, which has improved the tumor-killing effects of anticancer medications [35]. Recently, Ag NPs have been used often in a variety of fabrics, keyboards, wound dressings, and biomedical devices [36,37,38]. Because of their unique surface-to-volume ratio and ability to radically alter physical, chemical, and biological properties, metallic nanoparticles have been exploited for a variety of applications [39,40]. Several synthesis techniques have been used to meet the need for AgNPs. Conventional physical and chemical approaches appear to be exceedingly costly and dangerous in general. It's interesting to note that biologically produced AgNPs exhibit good yield, solubility, and stability. Biological procedures appear to be the easiest, quickest, safest, most trustworthy, and ecologically friendly ways to create AgNPs that can produce precise size and morphology when the right circumstances are present for translational research. In the end, the production of Ag NPs holds enormous promise for green chemistry. UV-Vis (Ultra Violet Visible) spectroscopy has been used in the study to assess the produced nanomaterials.

AgNP Synthesis by Physical and Chemical Techniques

In general, nanoparticles have been produced using three distinct methods: physical, chemical, and biological. Nanoparticles are produced physically by utilizing an atmospheric pressure tube boiler and evaporation-condensation [41]. Ag NPs were created using conventional physical techniques including pyrolysis and spark discharge [42,43]. Physical methods are quick, don't use any hazardous chemicals, and use radiation as the reducing agent, but they have disadvantages like low yield, high energy consumption, solvent contamination, and uneven distribution [44]. Silver nanoparticles are prepared chemically using water or organic solvents [45,46]. The three primary components of this procedure are typically metal precursors, reducing agents, and stabilizing/capping agents. In essence, the reduction of silver salts occurs in two stages: (1) initial nucleation and (2) subsequent increase. In general, silver nanoparticles can be created using either one of two methods, referred to as "top-down" or "bottom-up" [47]. Bulk metals are mechanically ground and stabilized with colloidal stabilizers as part of the "top-down" method [48]. Examples of "bottom-up" strategies include sono-decomposition, electrochemical reactions, and chemical reduction. In contrast to physical procedures, which have a low yield, chemical approaches have a high yield. The above-discussed procedures are fairly pricey. In addition, dangerous and damaging substances like citrate, borohydride, glycerol, and 2-mercaptoethanol are used in the creation of Ag NPs. The produced particles were found to have chemical silt on their surfaces, which reduced their expected purity in addition to these



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downsides. Ag NPs must be produced with utmost care because a further step is needed to stop particle aggregation. Also, a lot of unwanted and harmful byproducts are removed throughout the synthesis process. Some of the methods utilized in chemical operations include lithography, electrochemical reduction, laser irradiation, sonodecomposition, thermal decomposition, chemical reduction, and cryo-chemical synthesis. Although the chemical production of nanoparticles is simple, affordable, and yields a high yield, the employment of chemical reducing agents is detrimental to living things.

Biological Application of Ag Nps

CONCLUSION

A plant with unrealized promise is *Cannabis sativa*. It has a complex metabolic profile, and its therapeutic benefits shouldn't be disregarded or obscured by its excessive use as a recreational substance. It has been found that several cannabinoids have strong antibacterial effects on Gram-positive bacteria. It has also been demonstrated that endocannabinoids are efficient at eliminating biofilms. Combination therapy has demonstrated synergism and broad-spectrum activity when using bactericidal drugs with several mechanisms of action, such as polymyxin B. Aqueous extracts of three distinct species of *Cannabis sativa* leaves (two monoecious and one dioecious) with reducing and stabilizing capabilities uses to manufacture silver nanoparticle (AgNPs). The present-day biomolecules. More research is necessary because there is evidence that additional *C. sativa* components, like terpenes, have promising antibacterial properties. At a time when bacteria are swiftly developing resistance to traditional treatments, cannabinoids present an innovative and fascinating possibility as a potential new source of antibiotics.

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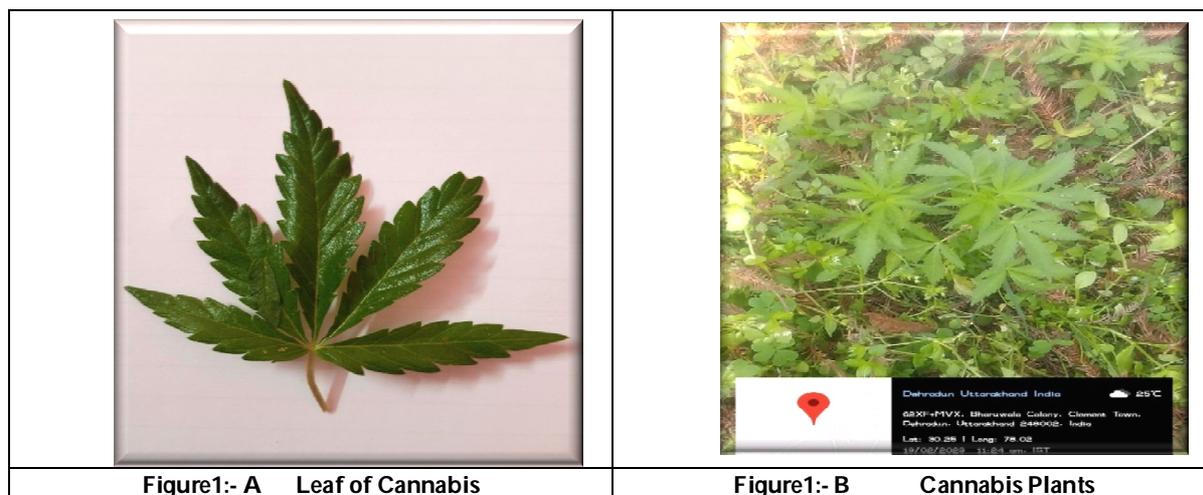


Figure1:- A Leaf of Cannabis

Figure1:- B Cannabis Plants





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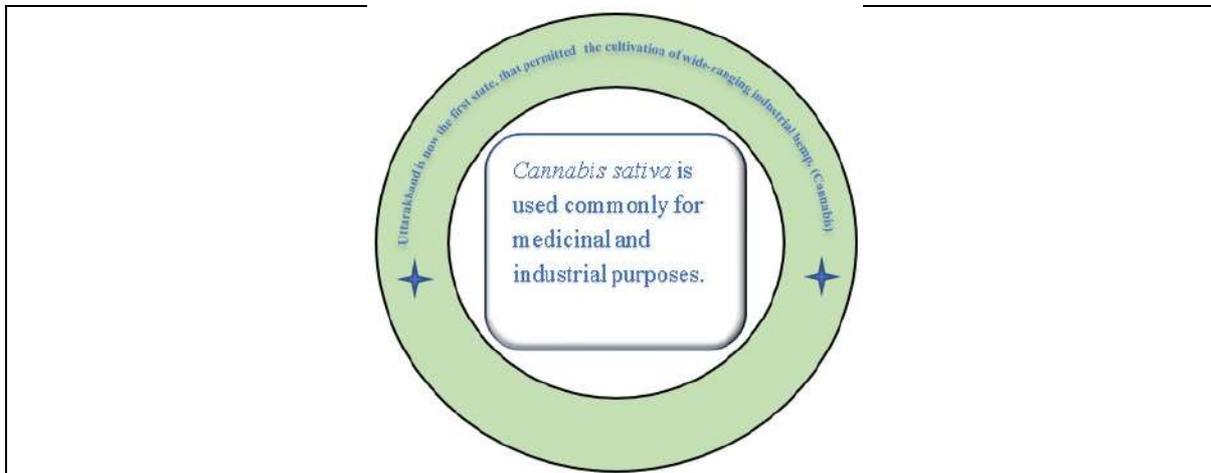


Figure 2:- Uttarakhand is now the first state, that permitted the cultivation of wide-ranging industrial hemp, (*Cannabis sativa*).



Figure 3:-A Particles of Silver nitrate ($AgNO_3$)



Figure 3:-B Silver nitrate

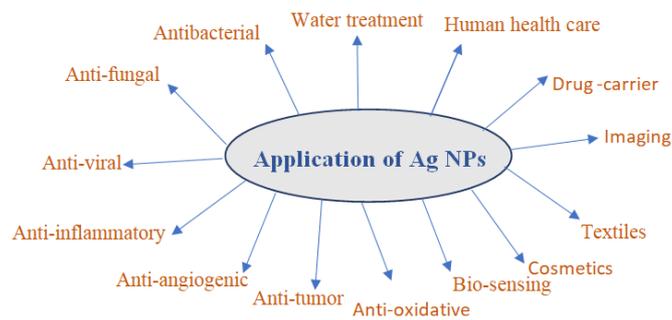


Figure 4. Biological Application of Ag Nps





RESEARCH ARTICLE

Assessment of Groundwater Quality for Irrigational Suitability in Part of Taraka Watershed H. D. kote Taluk, Mysuru District, Karnataka, India, using WATCHIT.

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ABSTRACT

The groundwater is the fundamental source of irrigation. Factors, such as soil characteristics, geology of the region, and intensive farming have impacted the water quality. The present study aimed to evaluate the suitability of groundwater for irrigation in H.D. Kote taluk, Mysuru, India. The groundwater quality was assessed through various parameters, such as pH, electrical conductivity (EC), total dissolved solids (TDS), sodium adsorption ratio (SAR), residual sodium carbonate (RSC), and magnesium adsorption ratio (MAR). Permeability Index, Salinity and Sodium Hazard classification and Residual Sodium Carbonate, United States Salinity Laboratory (Salinity USSL, 1954), Salinity Hazard, Kelly's Ratio, and Corrosivity Ratio. The research aims to learn more about groundwater quality and its potential for agriculture in the Taraka Watershed H.D. Kote Taluk, Mysuru District of Karnataka, India. The results revealed that the groundwater in the study area was slightly alkaline and had high EC and TDS values, indicating high salinity and dissolved solids. The standard technique proposed by APHA (2005) was used to collect 30 representative groundwater samples from various tube wells in the study area. The data was analyzed using the WATCHIT-1 (Water Chemistry Interpretation Techniques Version 1) software program and compared with standards to evaluate groundwater suitability for irrigational purposes. After a complete chemical examination, groundwater samples show that 80% of the samples collected for this study were appropriate for irrigation.

Keywords: Water Quality, Irrigational Suitability, Pollution, Groundwater, Wells, H.D. Kote Taluk.





INTRODUCTION

Groundwater is an important natural resource that plays a significant role in meeting the water demand for irrigation purposes (Treidel *et al.*, 2011). In addition, the demand for freshwater has increased as the population has increased rapidly (Manjunatha *et al.*, 2021). However, the quality of groundwater varies depending on the geological formation and anthropogenic activities in the surrounding areas. As a result, freshwater resources must be managed and protected (Russell and Kelly, 2010). Poor quality groundwater can negatively impact crop yield, soil structure, and the environment. Therefore, it is essential to assess the quality of groundwater before using it for irrigation. On the other hand, agriculture remains a vital component of global economy (Alston *et al.*, 2014). Farming is remarkable since it is the highest consumer of groundwater and contributes to surface and groundwater depletion (Coleman *et al.*, 2004).

Qualitative assets of groundwater supplies are vital for economic development, particularly in arid regions. Water's physical, chemical, and natural states are referred to as "water quality" including any anthropogenic changes that may have occurred. Groundwater quality is impacted by many physicochemical processes and is defined by all of the procedures and responses that follow the water from the time it is first collected, until stored in a well (Asadi *et al.*, 2020). Unfortunately, due to population growth and unsustainable groundwater use, groundwater assets have been depleted and contaminated (Werner *et al.*, 2013). The assessment of groundwater quality for irrigation suitability is crucial for sustainable agriculture and the protection of the environment. It helps farmers and policymakers to make informed decisions on the selection of appropriate irrigation methods, crop selection, and land management practices (Bouma *et al.*, 1998).

This approach ensures the optimal utilization of groundwater resources while minimizing the risk of contamination, soil salinization, and other adverse effects on the ecosystem. In summary, groundwater quality assessment is an important tool for ensuring the sustainability of agriculture and environmental protection. It helps in making informed decisions and guiding appropriate interventions to manage groundwater resources for irrigation. Furthermore, it is self-evident that water quality in agriculture impacts the state of the soil and, as a result, the harvests produced. Interest in farming areas and the products produced by these farms has risen considerably in the last century due to population growth (Orsini *et al.*, 2013). As a result, determining groundwater quality is crucial. Traditional groundwater quality assessment is straightforward, but it involves a step-by-step procedure that considers each parameter (Khalil M. Alastal *et al.*, 2015). This research aims to determine groundwater quality in the part of H.D Kote Taluk, in Mysuru District, for irrigation purposes.

Study Area

The present research area, Taraka Watershed H.D.Kote Taluk, Mysuru district in Karnataka State, is geographically located between 12° 00' 00"-12° 15' 00" North latitudes and 76° 05' 00"-76° 25' 00" East longitudes (Fig. 1). The total geographical study area is 429 Sq. Km. and the survey of India Toposheet No's 57D/4, 57D/8, 58A/1 and 58A/05 cover it. On the scale of 1:50,000. The study area connected with an all-good weather motorable road. The River Cauvery is towards the north and Taraka watershed H D Kote towards the south of the study area. The region has a semi-arid weather with warmer seasons, low precipitation, and a pleasant winter monsoon. The annual mean temperature is 15° C, and the average rainfall is 560 mm (Basavaraju and D Nagaraju, 2020). Soils in the region have a reddish-brown patterning and vary in thickness. The lithology of the research area is a Proterozoic western block of southern part of Karnataka. Amphibolite Schistose rock of granulite facies of metamorphism which divides the Amphibolite Schist and Granitic Gneissic rocks of Archean age. This area is a typical hard rock terrain.





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METHODOLOGY

Groundwater samples collected at 30 various tube wells by simple random Taraka watershed Heggadadevankote taluk, Mysuru district, Karnataka, India. During the pre and post- monsoon of 2022 (Fig. 2). Samples were collected and stored in thoroughly washed polythene containers after 5 minutes of pumping. Standard procedures were used to estimate the amounts of sodium (Na^+), calcium (Ca^{2+}), magnesium (Mg^{2+}), chloride (Cl^-), potassium (K^+), and sulfate (SO_4) (APHA 2005). Volumetric titration techniques were used to determine calcium and magnesium concentrations in the laboratory, whereas an auto titrator (Metrohm Titrand 905) was used to estimate chloride concentration. The ions were analyzed using a Spectroquant Prove Spectrophotometer 100. Standards were run often to ensure that the analyses were accurate. The ion balance error was also determined to confirm that the results were accurate to within 5%. After the study was completed, the data was processed using WATCHIT software (Balasubramanian and Nagaraju, 2019), and thematic maps were made using ARC GIS 10.3 software (Pramoda et al., 2022).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Physico - Chemical Analysis

Physical Parameters

Table 1 shows the statistical determination of the physicochemical markers found in studied groundwater samples. The pH of the 30 analyzed samples from tube wells showed a minimum pH value of 6.66, maximum of 8.36 and an average of 7.40 with a standard deviation (SD) (0.62) during pre-monsoon and minimum of 6.77, maximum 8.26 and average of 7.58 with SD 0.47 during post monsoon season of 2022 reflecting slightly acidic alkaline nature. Total hardness (TH) in tube well samples is in the range 70–630 mg/L and 165–918 mg/L during the pre and post-monsoon season, respectively, with the average value of 395.4 and 543.10 mg/L Table 1. Total hardness indicates an alkaline condition that is equivalent to a total of Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} . Hardness can lead to encrustation (Venuprasad et al., 2022). Electrical conductivity (EC) values of the tube wells samples ranged from 173 to 1622 $\mu\text{s}/\text{cm}$ with average (897 $\mu\text{s}/\text{cm}$) during pre-monsoon season and 192 to 1050 $\mu\text{s}/\text{cm}$ with average (543 $\mu\text{s}/\text{cm}$) during post monsoon season. The study area's broad variability in geochemical processes is reflected in the E.C. values.

Chemical Parameters

Total dissolved solids (TDS) were in the range 113–1054 mg/L and 312–1769 mg/L with the average value of 590.51 and 831.33 mg/L during the pre-and post-monsoon season, respectively (Fig.3). It is largely made up of inorganic salts, with some organic stuff dissolved in water in minor amounts. The most frequent ions used to calculate TDS are sodium, calcium, magnesium, potassium, carbonate, bicarbonate, chloride, and sulfate cations. In the current study area, K^+ concentrations in tube wells samples ranges from 0.10 to 13.80 mg/l and 8.7–58.6 mg/L with the average value of 4.19 and 22.99 mg/L during the pre-and post-monsoon season, respectively. Ca^{2+} of the 30 analyzed samples from bore wells showed a minimum value of 16.0, maximum of 130.40 and an average of 87.95 mg/L with SD (26.35) during pre-monsoon and minimum of 19, maximum 135.2 and average of 88.75 with SD 28.38 during post monsoon season of 2022. Concentration of Mg^{2+} in the bore well samples ranged from 4.86 to 85.53 mg/L with average (42.39 mg/L) during pre-monsoon season and 9.22 to 97 mg/L with average (54.08 mg/L) during post monsoon season. Magnesium has the greatest standard deviation, suggesting a high degree of geographical heterogeneity. Na^+ in bore well samples is in the range 14.20 to 209 mg/L and 35.8 to 185 mg/L with the average value of 77.53 and 98.54 mg/L during the pre-and post-monsoon season, respectively. Major ions influence the overall hydrochemical properties of groundwater (Li et al., 2016). Cl^- in tube wells samples ranged from 16.59 to 169.59 mg/L and 35.5 to 240.7 mg/L with the average value of 67.45 and 99.14 mg/L during the pre-and post-monsoon season, respectively. SO_4^{2-} concentrations between 7.56 to 105.78 mg/L and 12.33 to 125.33 mg/L during the pre-and post-monsoon season, respectively. HCO_3^- concentration varies from 76 to 598.50 mg/L and 125 to 648.5 mg/L during the pre-and post-monsoon season, respectively. SO_4^{2-} and HCO_3^- have very high spatial variability, with standard deviation values of





23.91 to 28.25 during pre and post monsoon and 122.79 to 127.61 during pre and post monsoon respectively, indicating that various site-specific causes have influence on them.

Irrigation Water Quality Parameter

Flatland irrigation is mainly reliant on groundwater. Soil composition, soil texture, the geology of the area, and agricultural activity are all factors that affect irrigation water quality. (Abou El-Defan *et al.*, 2016). Some factors that determine irrigation water quality are Soluble Sodium Percentage, Salinity, Sodium Adsorption Ratio, Residual Sodium Carbonate, Kelly's Ratio, Corrosivity Ratio, Residual Sodium Bicarbonate, Magnesium Adsorption Ratio, Permeability Index, and Sodium Ratio. (Kshitindra Kr Singh *et al.*, 2020).

Salinity Hazard Classification

Increased irrigation using saline water have resulted in salty soils, which have caused plants to absorb less water. As a result, crop yields will be significantly reduced if saline water is used for a long time. In addition, the soil's fertility will deteriorate with time (Richards, 1954). The irrigation water salinity was divided into four groups and assigned a letter grade (Tables 2 and 3). The salinity limitations of each class are specified, their compatibility with soil and growing crops, and any necessary safeguards and crop qualities. More than 85% of groundwater samples in the study region are classed into appropriate and unsuitable for irrigation, accounting for over less than 15% of the total area. In addition, geological or artificial factors could cause contamination. The geogenic source will be the movement of groundwater through soluble minerals (Mondal, 2019). Anthropogenic sources include industrial and municipal waste.

Sodium Ratio (SR)

The irrigation water quality was determined by calculating the ratio of dissolved sodium cations to total magnesium and calcium in irrigation water (S.R.) using the equation below (Abou El-Defan *et al.*, 2016). When using excellent water, this ratio should not exceed one. All ion concentrations are provided in meq/L.

$$SR = (Na^+) / (Ca^{2+} + Mg^{2+})$$

Only five of the evaluated samples in the study area are unsuitable, leaving the rest to be used in agriculture (Table 4). The irrigation water salinity was separated into four groups and given a letter grade to each due to groundwater circulation through sodium. There is an excess of sodium in groundwater due to sodium-rich rocks. The sodium ratio in the study area varies widely (Fig. 5), as stated in the introduction. There are two types of topography: mountainous and flat terrain. The regional variations in sodium ratio in the study area are shown in (Fig. 4). Parts of Hingodlu and Dasanapura Village have a higher sodium ratio than the rest of the study area.

Soluble Sodium Percentage (SSP)

SSP is a critical parameter for determining Sodium Hazard. It has been used to differentiate between soft and hard irrigation water, with a high value suggesting soft water and a low value indicating hard water. "Water samples with a maximum sodium content affect soils, resulting in decreased permeability and internal drainage issues" (Subramani *et al.*, 2005). The percentage of Na in groundwater is classified as less than 20 percent (excellent), 20 to 40 percent (good), 40 to 60 percent (permissible), 60 to 80 percent (doubtful), and more than 80 percent (unsafe). SSP was determined using the equation given below. $Na\% = (Na^+ + K) / Ca^{2+} + Mg^{2+} + Na^+ + K \times 100$

Six samples of groundwater have been categorized as suitable to excellent (Table 5). Some parts of Yedathore Village have higher levels of soluble sodium than other villages (Table 14). The regional variations of soluble sodium percent in the study area are depicted in Fig. 6. The allowed limits of SSP may be seen in the central area of the studied region. All the groundwater samples, are suitable for farming salt-tolerant crops with proper drainage and special salinity control treatment.

Permeability Index (PI)

Irrigation practices have the potential to reduce soil permeability. Several factors influence soil permeability, including calcium, magnesium, sodium, and bicarbonate. Doneen (1964) had developed a criterion for measuring the





Irrigation appropriateness of water depending on PI. There are three classifications for Water: Class I, Class II, and Class III. All of the ion concentrations are expressed in meq/L. (Table-6). The following equation was used to calculate the Permeability Index.

$$PI = (Na + \sqrt{HCO_3}) \times 100 / Ca + Mg + Na$$

Permeability is frequently tested when a material is saturated. The ability of a soil to transmit water is referred to as permeability. Increased quantities of ions, including sodium, calcium, and magnesium, will have long-term impact on soil permeability. The majority of the research area has better permeability than the plain land.

Kelly's Ratio (KR)

Kelly took account the ratio of sodium, calcium, and magnesium (Pophare and Sadawarti, 2019). If Kelly's index is more significant than one, the salt content in the water is too high. When Kelly's ratio is more than one, the water contains too much sodium. Anything with Kelly's < 1 is suitable for irrigation, while anything with Kelly's ratio of > 1 is not suitable. All the water samples in the studied region are within the allowed limit. All of the groundwater samples can be used for irrigation (Table 7). The maximum percentage of salt in irrigation water at Yedathore Village of the study area shows a higher Kelly's Ratio. Fig. 7 depicts the Kelly's Ratio's regional distribution in the of study area.

Corrosivity Ratio (CR)

In supply systems conveyed through metallic or PVC pipes, such as corrosion, must be evaluated to maintain groundwater quality. Corrosion is an electrochemical process that attacks and corrodes metal surfaces. Various chemical equilibrium processes and physical parameters such as temperature and flow rate influence corrosion rate (Malpe et al., 2021). Groundwater with a corrosivity ratio of < 1 can be transported in any pipe; however, groundwater samples with a corrosivity ratio > 1 are corrosive and are not be transported in metal pipes. The coefficient of variation (C.R.) was determined using the formula given below.

$$CR = (Cl/35) + 2 (SO_4^{2-}/96) / (CO_3^{2-} + HCO_3^- / 100)$$

The spatial variations of the Corrosivity Ratio in the studied region are depicted in Fig. 8. Parts of the study area have a lower Corrosivity Ratio (Table 8), which means that water can pass through metallic pipes without corroding them.

Sodium Adsorption Ratio (SAR)

It is an essential measure of water quality for determining whether water is acceptable for irrigation. The sodium to calcium and magnesium ratio in water's is the sodium adsorption ratio. It is one-half divided by the square root of Na concentration (Uma Mohan and Krishnakumar, 2021). It is determined using the formula given below, with all ions given in milliequivalents per liter.

$$SAR = \frac{Na}{\sqrt{\frac{Ca + Mg}{2}}}$$

According to the SAR values, every groundwater sample in the studied region is in good condition (Table 9 and 10). The USSL diagram was plotted to analyze the water quality, and it showed that more than 85 percent of the samples were suitable for irrigation (Fig. 9). Fig. 10 depicts the spatial variations of SAR in the study area. Bharathvadi, Yedathore and Horapura Villages have higher sodium adsorption ratio.

Residual Sodium Carbonate (RSC)

The amount of bicarbonate and carbonate ions in water affects its irrigation appropriateness. Assuming that all Ca²⁺ and Mg²⁺ get precipitated as carbonate mineral species is one of the more feasible approaches. As a result, the idea of residual sodium carbonate (RSC) for analyzing maximum carbonated water was established. Water with a maximum RSC has a maximum pH, and land watered with it becomes unproductive due to sodium carbonate chemical buildup. The RSC formula determines the effects of bicarbonate (HCO₃⁻) and carbonates (CO₃²⁻) (Eaton, 1950). The RSC values in the region of this study vary from - 1.47 to 13.42 and 0.05 to 22.78 during pre and post monsoon (Table





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11). Around 90% of samples fall into the 'good' category. The formula below was used to calculate RSC, with all ions given in meq/l.

$$\text{RSC} = (\text{CO}_3 + \text{HCO}_3) - (\text{Ca}^{2+} + \text{Mg}^{2+})$$

Residual Sodium Bicarbonate (RSBC)

Bicarbonate and carbonate concentrations have an impact on the irrigation suitability of water. In water with high RSBC, a high pH is evident. Because of the accumulation of sodium carbonate in the water used for irrigation the land has become unusable (Eaton, 1950). Water from the study area has residual sodium bicarbonate levels of -1.15 to 5.21 meq/L (Table 12). Irrigation is considered safe if the residual sodium bicarbonate levels are less than 5Meq/L (Gupta, 1987, Oladeji *et al.*, 2012). The residual sodium bicarbonate levels were computed utilizing the formula.

$$\text{RSBC} = \text{HCO}_3 - \text{Ca}^{2+}$$

Based on RSBC data, the irrigation water alkalinity risk was categorized into six classes (Table 12). Non-alkaline water is found in parts of Itapatna Village. On the other hand, water with low alkalinity occurs in parts of Tharikakkaval Village and Naganahalli Village. The regional distribution of Residual Sodium Bicarbonate in the area of study is depicted in Fig. 11.

Magnesium Adsorption Ratio (MAR)

The magnesium content in water is a crucial indicator of irrigation water quality. In most water's, calcium and magnesium are in a condition of equilibrium. Therefore, a surplus of magnesium in irrigation water will negatively influence agricultural yield as soils become increasingly saline (Joshi *et al.*, 2015). The following formula was used to calculate the Magnesium Adsorption Ratio (MAR).

$$\text{MAR} = \frac{\text{Mg} \times 100}{\text{Ca} + \text{Mg}}$$

The MAR in water samples in the study region ranged from 8.6 to 57.7 percent in Pre-monsoon and 22.6 to 66.6 percent in Post-monsoon (Table 13). It is above the permitted limit of 50% in 25 water samples. As a result, the water is regarded as unfit. When the magnesium adsorption ratio exceeds 50%, it damages the soil (Ayers and Dennis, 1985). Fig. 13 depicts the regional variations of MAR in the study area.

CONCLUSION

Groundwater quality was assessed for irrigation purposes in a part of Hegadadevan kote Taluk. In more than 80 percent of the cases, the water samples from the study area were determined to be alkaline. The groundwater samples fall under C2S1 and C3S1 groups, indicating a low sodium hazard and moderate to high salinity, respectively, as depicted on the USSL (1954) diagram. According to the Wilcox (1955) diagram, while some water samples were excellent to good, many groundwater samples were good to permissible. Most groundwater samples are suitable for irrigation based on Sodium Absorption Ratio, Residual Sodium Carbonate, and Permeability Index. However, based on the hazard ratings for magnesium, it was found that thirty groundwater samples were inappropriate for irrigation.

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Table 1. Physio-chemical parameter of groundwater (Statistically analyzed).

Parameters	Units	Pre-monsoon				Post-Monsoon			
		Max	Min	Mean	SD	Max	Min	Mean	SD
pH	-	8.36	6.66	7.40	0.62	8.26	6.77	7.58	0.47
TDS	Mg/L	1054.00	113.00	590.51	226.88	1769	312	831.33	284.06
Ec	μS/cm	1622.00	173.00	897.13	353.65	1050	192	524.47	176.31
TH	Mg/L	630	70	395.4	140.86	918	165	543.10	162.36
SO4	Mg/L	105.78	7.56	45.24	23.91	125.33	12.33	68.31	28.25
F	Mg/L	1.31	0.26	0.82	0.27	1.85	0.32	1.00	0.31
Mg	Mg/L	85.53	4.86	42.39	23.81	97	9.22	54.08	26.07
Cl	Mg/L	169.59	16.59	67.45	39.34	240.7	35.5	99.14	49.76
NO3	Mg/L	158.33	1.12	51.12	42.67	173.5	3.8	60.76	43.66
HCO3	Mg/L	598.50	76.00	363.90	122.79	648.5	125	443.54	127.61





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K	Mg/L	13.80	0.10	4.19	2.82	58.6	8.7	22.99	8.72
Ca	Mg/L	130.40	16.00	87.95	26.35	135.2	19	88.75	28.38
Na	Mg/L	209.00	14.20	77.53	48.29	185	35.8	98.54	39.66

Table 2. Classes of irrigation water salinity (Richards, 1954).

Class	Description	Salinity meq/l	TDS, (ppm)	Remarks
C1	Low Salinity	< 0.25	< 200	It is commonly used to irrigate a wide range of crops in most soils. Normal irrigation conditions necessitate some leaching, but porous soils necessitate excessive irrigation.
C2	Medium Salinity	Salinity 0.25-0.75	200 – 500	Can be employed if the majority of leaching remains steady. Plants that can withstand a small amount of salt, can be grown in most locations without sophisticated salinity control methods.
C3	High Salinity	0.75-2.25	500 – 1500	In places with poor drainage, this product is ineffective. Therefore, unique salinity control management is required even with adequate drainage, and this location is suitable for plants with high salt tolerance.
C4	Very high Salinity	> 2.25	> 1500	It is not suited for irrigation under normal circumstances. Nevertheless, it can be utilized in unusual circumstances. The soil must be porous, and there must have adequate drainage. The irrigation system's water must be used in excess. Additionally, salt-tolerant crops should be chosen.

Table 3. Salinity Hazard (After Davis and DeWeiest, 1966; Wilcox LV, 1955)

Salinity Hazard classes	Remarks on quality	Pre-monsoon		Post-monsoon	
		Frequency	%	Frequency	%
C1	Excellent	1	3.3	0	0
C2	Good	3	10	1	3.3
C3	Doubtful	26	86	22	73.3
C4	Unsuitable	0	0	7	23.3

Table 4. Sodium ratio (SR) classification (Abou El-Defan et al., 2016)

values meq/l	Remarks on quality	Pre-monsoon		Post-monsoon	
		Frequency	%	Frequency	%
>1	Unsuitable for agriculture	0	0	0	0
<1	Suitable for agriculture	30	100	30	100

Table 5. Soluble Sodium Percentage (SSP) classification (After Wilcox, 1955)

SSP Range (%)	Remarks on quality	Pre-monsoon 2021		Post-monsoon 2021	
		Frequency	%	Frequency	%
< 20	Excellent	6	20	0	0
20 – 40	Good	19	63.3	26	86.6
40 – 60	Permissible	5	16.6	4	13.3
60 – 80	Doubtful	0	0	0	0
>80	Unsuitable	0	0	0	0





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Table- 6: Permeability Index (Doneen, 1964).

Sl. No.	Class	Remarks on quality	No. of samples	%
1	Class I Class II	Water is classified as having a high probability of providing irrigation benefits.	27	90
2	Class III	Water is unsuitable with a 25% overall permeability.	3	10

Table.7. Kelly's Ratio (Kelly, 1940) of the groundwater samples in the study area

values meq/l	Remarks on quality	Pre-monsoon 2021		Post-monsoon 2021	
		Frequency	%	Frequency	%
>1	Unsuitable	0	0	0	0
<1	Suitable	30	100	30	100

Table 8. CR of the groundwater samples in the study area (Balasubramanian A & D. Nagaraju.,2019)

values meq/l	Remarks on quality	Pre-monsoon 2021		Post-monsoon 2021	
		Frequency	%	Frequency	%
>1	corrosive and should not be transported in metal pipes	0	0	0	0
<1	Water transport in any pipe is entirely safe.	30	100	30	100

Table 9: Irrigation water classes and description as SAR values. (Abou El-Defan et al. 2016)

Class	Description	SAR Value (meq/l)	Remarks
S1	low sodium Water	< 10	Irrigation can be done on practically any soil with little chance of developing exchangeable sodium. Nevertheless, on the other hand, sodium-sensitive crops may build up dangerous quantities of sodium.
S2	medium sodium Water	10-18	CEC poses a considerable sodium threat in fine-textured soil, especially under low leaching conditions, unless gypsum is present in the soil. However, it can be used in soil's with a coarse texture or organic and has good permeability.
S3	High sodium Water	18-26	It is unsatisfactory to most crops, and it may create hazardous levels of exchangeable sodium. The majority of soils will require excellent soil management.
S4	Very high sodium Water	> 26	Most crops are unsuited for irrigation with it, except for low and likely medium salinity if calcium from the soil or gypsum makes it possible to use this water.

Table.10. Sodium Hazard classification (Richards, 1954)

Sodium Hazard Class	Remarks on quality	Pre-monsoon 2021		Post-monsoon 2021	
		Frequency	%	Frequency	%
S1	Excellent	30	100	30	100
S2	Good	0	0	0	0
S3	Doubtful	0	0	0	0
S4	Unsuitable	0	0	0	0

Table. 11. Residual Sodium Carbonate of the groundwater samples in the study area (Abou El-Defan et al. 2016)

RSCrange (meq/l)	Category	Remarks	Pre-monsoon 2021		Post-monsoon 2021	
			Frequency	%	Frequency	%
<1.25	Good	Water is probably safe for irrigation.	5	16.6	1	3.3





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1.25 - 2.50	medium	Water is marginally suitable for irrigation and can be used with certain conducts.	2	6.6	2	6.6
>2.50	Bad	Water is unsuitable for irrigation purposes.	23	76.6	27	90

Table 12. RSBC Classification of the groundwater samples in the study area (Abou El-Defan et al. 2016)

Sl. No.	Category	RSBC range (meq/l)	Pre-monsoon 2021		Pre-monsoon 2021	
			Frequency	%	Frequency	%
1	Non-alkaline Water	- value	2	6.6	1	3.3
2	Normal Water	0-1	8	26.6	2	6.6
3	Low alkalinity water	1 - 2.5	16	53.3	7	23.3
4	Medium alkalinity water	2.5-5.0	4	13.3	16	53.3
5	High alkalinity water	5.0-10.0	0	0	4	13.3
6	Very high alkalinity water	> 10.0	0	0	0	0

Table.13. Irrigation water quality parameters of the study area in Pre-monsoon.

Location	X	Y	MAR(%)	RS C	RSB C	C R	SSP(%)	K R	SR	SA R	PI(%)	USSL Salinity	Na Hazards	Pot Salinity	TDS
ANAGATTI	12.0275	76.32624	45.18344	4.44	1.69	0.2	22.12376	0.26	0.262704	0.84	53.69	C3	S1	1.48	451.56
ANTHARASANTHE	12.0125	76.19941	52.2094	2.08	0.774	0.3	19.24767	0.22	0.22007	0.94	38.31	C3	S1	2.9	360.52
HALEMAGGE	11.9878	76.2624	44.46809	0.41	0.094	0.4	24.63303	0.31	0.311784	1.09	47.057	C3	S1	2.04	326.92
TARAKA	12.02706	76.26473	35.90069	6.98	1.344	0.3	29.75881	0.24	0.415848	1.81	49.678	C3	S1	3.86	344.83
PENJAHALLI	12.04226	76.2468	25.0101	4.79	0.99	0.1	33.3789	0.45	0.454141	1.43	61.344	C3	S1	1.35	417.06
METTUKUPPE	12.10846	76.2468	49.13543	7.49	2.478	0.1	17.58649	0.11	0.178211	0.8	38.452	C3	S1	2.32	526.85
SIDDAPURA	12.12665	76.22553	50.59118	3.97	1.555	0.2	27.47175	0.36	0.355682	1.35	49.412	C3	S1	2.07	653.85
BUDUNURU	12.12114	76.78785	54.76533	-	0.274	0.5	11.28367	0.12	0.115095	0.5	27.403	C3	S1	4.45	508.2
BHEEMANAHALI	12.18998	76.27912	55.63829	4.83	2.148	0.2	28.34609	0.39	0.390957	1.68	47.504	C3	S1	2.14	425.36
BHARATHVADI	12.18998	76.21017	32.45347	2.48	0.398	0.2	40.18824	0.66	0.662437	2.28	61.168	C3	S1	1.85	595.48
HINGODLU	12.21969	76.20072	40.49784	6.53	1.737	0.2	43.94686	0.76	0.765092	2.8	63.547	C3	S1	2.1	534.97
YEDATHORE	12.12966	76.308	23.31915	15.9	3.502	0.2	46.93206	0.77	0.872584	3.54	66.926	C3	S1	3.44	467.65
SHANTIPURA	12.10101	76.36001	42.87759	-	0.447	0.4	32.18447	0.44	0.441661	0.74	85.998	C2	S1	0.57	430.59
YERAHALLI	12.06687	76.35668	45.94287	13.4	4.182	0.2	35.83321	0.52	0.554455	2.3	57.544	C3	S1	3.96	435.69
HYRIGE	12.08629	76.38375	56.62428	8.81	2.302	0.3	36.80248	0.58	0.577672	2.88	50.755	C4	S1	5.36	424.61
MATTEKERE	12.0844	76.37633	45.64621	12.5	3.8	0.1	35.20455	0.53	0.530142	2.26	55.866	C3	S1	1.9	448.91
KRISHNAPURA	12.077366	76.337972	44.40445	5.25	1.679	0.2	29.00322	0.45	0.39615	1.42	54.001	C3	S1	1.65	521.74
SAVVE	12.1304	76.34685	56.32011	3.57	1.042	0.2	22.32494	0.28	0.280164	1.07	43.869	C3	S1	1.72	418.72
PADUKOTEKAVAL	12.16052	76.33941	8.61771	9.93	1.966	0.1	34.17686	0.58	0.50432	1.53	69.253	C3	S1	1.66	457.66
THARIKAKAVAL	12.18364	76.33611	13.2023	0.47	-1.69	0.2	20.37396	0.29	0.24439	0.83	45	C3	S1	1.11	421.24
DODDIKERIYURU	12.14689	76.36985	43.45342	9.07	1.897	0.1	33.21642	0.48	0.484935	2.26	50.235	C3	S1	2.45	703.11
KODASEEGE	12.12308	76.35539	51.78032	0.88	0.057	0.4	22.95634	0.28	0.280718	1.41	37.123	C4	S1	4.25	385.53





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HAROPURA	12.1248 2	76.3283 9	51.970 28	7.71	2.17 9	0.3 6	42.536 31	0.7 3	0.7340 92	3.6 5	55.6 01	C3	S1	5.13	406. 71
CHAKANAHALL I	12.1248 2	76.3283 9	37.295 08	3.99	1.2	0.0 9	17.006 8	0.2	0.2010 47	0.6	54.4 2	C4	S1	0.56	563. 14
DASANAPURA	12.0957 6	76.1999	52.970 05	11.4 9	4.07	0.0 7	43.791 39	0.7 6	0.7615 77	2.6 6	67.6 98	C3	S1	0.92	858. 82
NAGANAHALLI	12.0851 5	76.2939	25.344 75	2.95	-0.07	0.2 2	27.457 74	0.3 6	0.3563 16	1.2 7	51.4 39	C4	S1	1.48	607. 47
AKKADEVANAH ALLI	12.0631 5	76.2930 3	54.169 02	7.25	2.51	0.2 2	30.815 81	0.4 3	0.4297 95	1.9 8	47.9 32	C4	S1	2.81	546. 88
H D KOTE	12.0641 5	76.3056	29.244 15	7.8	1.11 5	0.2 4	19.022 46	0.2 3	0.2261 01	0.9 7	42.9 16	C4	S1	3.24	740. 37
JAKKAHALLI	12.0808 7	76.3259 6	57.708 68	9.75	3.70 1	0.1 3	34.748 34	0.5 3	0.5254 98	2.3 6	52.7 64	C4	S1	1.82	633. 7
HOSAVARACHI	12.0468 6	76.3702 6	26.265 18	2.92	0.54 2	0.1 2	15.555 56	0.1 8	0.1837 04	0.5 2	55.2 47	C3	S1	0.62	625. 75

Table.14. Irrigation water quality parameters of the study area in Post-monsoon.

Location	X	Y	MAR (%)	RS C	RSB C	C R	SSP(%)	K R	SR	SA R	PI(%)	USSL Salinity	Na Hazards	Pot Salinity	TDS
ANAGATTI	12.0275	76.3262 4	48.6911 8	4.98	1.88 6	0.2 6	35.432 6	0.4 5	0.4540 36	1.6 3	55.5 99	C3	S1	2.14	857.8 9
ANTHARASANT HE	12.0125	76.1994 1	63.6026	6.1	3.45 6	0.4 1	36.663 03	0.4 5	0.4500 6	1.7 5	53.7 98	C3	S1	4.17	1100. 64
HALEMAGGE	11.9878	76.2624	62.5332	2.48	2.42 2	0.5 2	36.415 45	0.4 7	0.4751 7	1.6 5	56.5 33	C3	S1	3.49	845.7 9
TARAKA	12.0270 6	76.2647 3	39.6427 9	8.34	2.05 3	0.4 3	33.429 79	0.4 6	0.4616 33	2.1 2	50.3 59	C3	S1	6.22	1503. 5
PENJAHALLI	12.0422 6	76.2468	34.7701 7	6.65	2.14 1	0.2 4	42.384 65	0.6	0.6024 51	1.8 8	67.0 23	C3	S1	1.91	849.5 7
METTIKUPPE	12.1084 6	76.2468	51.4495 6	10.1 6	3.82 9	0.2 1	23.783 58	0.2 3	0.2275 62	1.0 2	42.4 12	C3	S1	3.13	1286. 22
SIDDAPURA	12.1266 5	76.2255 3	56.8525 5	5.26	2.69	0.3	36.929 96	0.4 1	0.4085 54	1.6 8	50.1 18	C3	S1	3	1044. 92
BUDUNURU	12.1211 4	76.7878 5	56.5971 6	0.05	0.32 7	0.6 8	21.628 86	0.2 3	0.2263 55	1.1 1	34.4 45	C3	S1	5.97	1176
BHEEMANAHAL LI	12.1899 8	76.2791 2	60.1234	5.76	2.59 2	0.2 8	32.202 84	0.4 1	0.4058 85	1.8 6	46.4 58	C3	S1	3.13	1244. 47
BHARATHVADI	12.1899 8	76.2101 7	57.0273 1	1.86	1.12 9	0.2 9	38.540 99	0.5 7	0.5734 24	2.5 2	51.6 86	C3	S1	2.41	1006. 75
HINGODLU	12.2196 9	76.2007 2	62.5717 1	5.51	2.74 9	0.2 4	35.184 76	0.5 1	0.5078 99	2.4 2	49.1 44	C3	S1	2.87	1287. 09
YEDATHORE	12.1296 6	76.308	22.6874 9	6.04	3.79 4	0.3 6	50.506 41	0.9 4	0.9426 31	3.8 8	68.0 84	C3	S1	4.48	1424. 9
SHANTIPURA	12.1010 1	76.3600 1	44.4314 2	2.61	1.1 7	0.6 7	81.659 86	4.1 5	4.1559 2	7.6 7	96.8 67	C2	S1	1.8	1769
YERAHALLI	12.0668 7	76.3566 8	47.5759 5	15.4 1	5.37 6	0.1 9	37.600 62	0.5 6	0.5565 96	2.4 4	57.3 15	C3	S1	4	1525. 46
HYRIGE	12.0862 9	76.3837 5	59.0293 7	12.4 4	3.89 1	0.4 1	38.645 54	0.6	0.5953 24	3.0 9	51.5 46	C4	S1	7.75	1839. 33
MATTEKERE	12.0844	76.3763 3	52.4680 1	12.8 7	3.83 1	0.2 3	38.066 86	0.5 6	0.5566 25	2.5 4	54.0 55	C3	S1	3.41	1551. 65
KRISHNAPURA	12.0773 66	76.3379 72	47.7009 1	11.4	6.88 6	0.3 9	39.818 32	0.6	0.5987 42	2.2 6	65.9 37	C3	S1	3.05	1330. 81
SAVVE	12.1304	76.3468 5	58.6874 6	10.2	3.46 6	0.2 9	28.712 79	0.3 4	0.3415 32	1.3 8	49.2 19	C3	S1	3.56	1172. 41
PADUKOTEKAV AL	12.1605 2	76.3394	26.0682 3	9.9	0.89 6	0.1 7	34.543 81	0.4	0.4023 09	1.3 7	56.6 64	C3	S1	1.66	1153
THARIKAK KAVAL	12.1836 4	76.3361 1	24.8722 8	3.53	1.43 5	0.3 4	32.430 96	0.4 1	0.4057 54	1.5 7	54.1 99	C3	S1	3.08	940.5 5
DODDIKERIYUR U	12.1468 9	76.3698 5	51.1735 2	2.43	- 0.63 7	0.4 6	33.366 91	0.4 6	0.4643 97	2.3 3	44.4 46	C3	S1	4.74	1218. 25
KODASEEGE	12.1230 8	76.3553 9	53.8788 1	9	1.86 6	0.4 2	23.140 96	0.2 6	0.2584 89	1.3 5	37.1 52	C4	S1	6.54	1591. 03
HAROPURA	12.1248 2	76.3283 9	52.1175 8	2.58	1.18 8	0.1 1	25.392 7	0.3	0.3004 29	1.4 9	39.6 91	C3	S1	1.29	1190. 08
CHAKANAHALL I	12.1248 2	76.3283 9	38.9966 3	22.7 8	6.86 1	0.1	33.258 3	0.3 8	0.3804 81	1.1 7	75.2 31	C4	S1	1.86	1533
DASANAPURA	12.0957 6	76.1999	64.7922 6	5.38	1.58 1	0.2 8	40.005 46	0.6 2	0.6188 96	2.5 9	53.4 19	C3	S1	2.52	1396





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NAGANAHALLI	12.0851 5	76.2939	24.4532 8	21.0 8	3.17 6	0.2 3	41.720 14	0.6 3	0.6319 01	2.2 9	65.4 14	C4	S1	4.25	1525. 85
AKKADEVANAH ALLI	12.0631 5	76.2930 3	50.1848 8	16.0 1	3.71 2	0.2 9	35.202 16	0.4 9	0.4913 11	2.2 9	51.6 37	C4	S1	5.21	1716. 63
H D KOTE	12.0641 5	76.3056 4	35.4264 4	18.0 6	2.02 2	0.1 8	28.960 97	0.3 6	0.3563 7	1.6 3	47.1 63	C4	S1	3.39	1671. 92
JAKKAHALLI	12.0808 7	76.3259 6	66.1060 5	17.0 1	5.71 8	0.1 6	34.770 86	0.4 9	0.4886 5	2.4 5	50.2 45	C4	S1	2.83	1737. 38
HOSAVARACHI	12.0468 6	76.3702 6	31.6062 2	10.5 1	3.79 7	0.1 2	30.471 33	0.3 4	0.3361 4	1.0 2	67.7 85	C3	S1	1.35	892.2 5

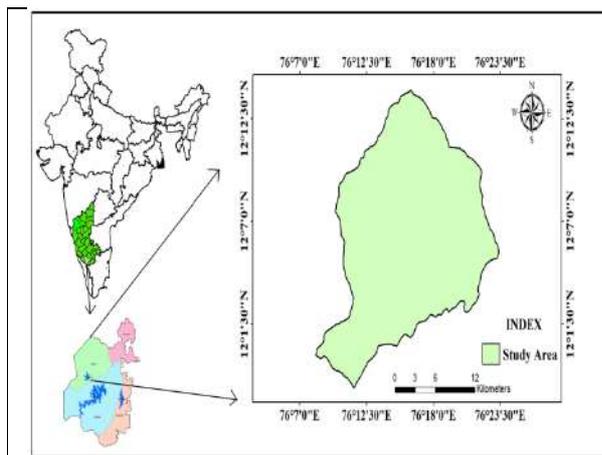


Fig.1. Location Map of the Study Area

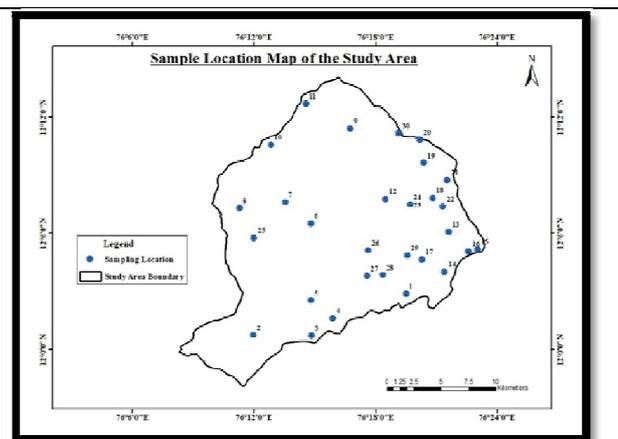


Fig.2. Sample Location Map of the Study Area.

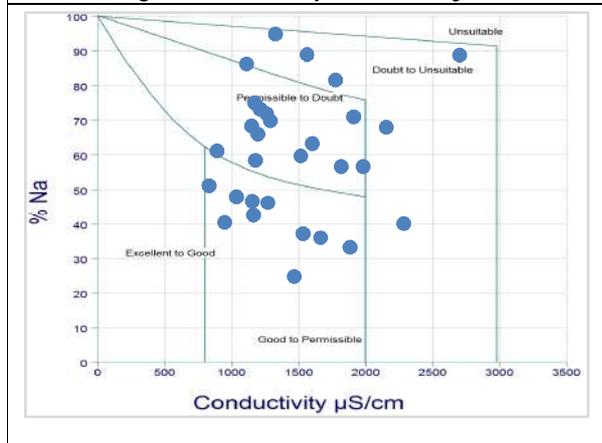


Fig. 3. Wilcox (1955) diagram showing irrigation water quality of Pre and Post monsoon.





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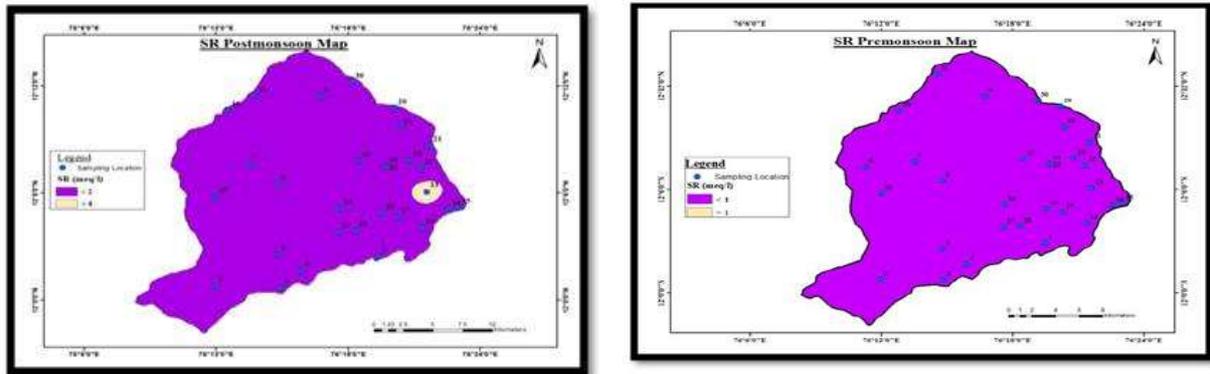


Fig. 4. Premonsoon and Postmonsoon Map of SR

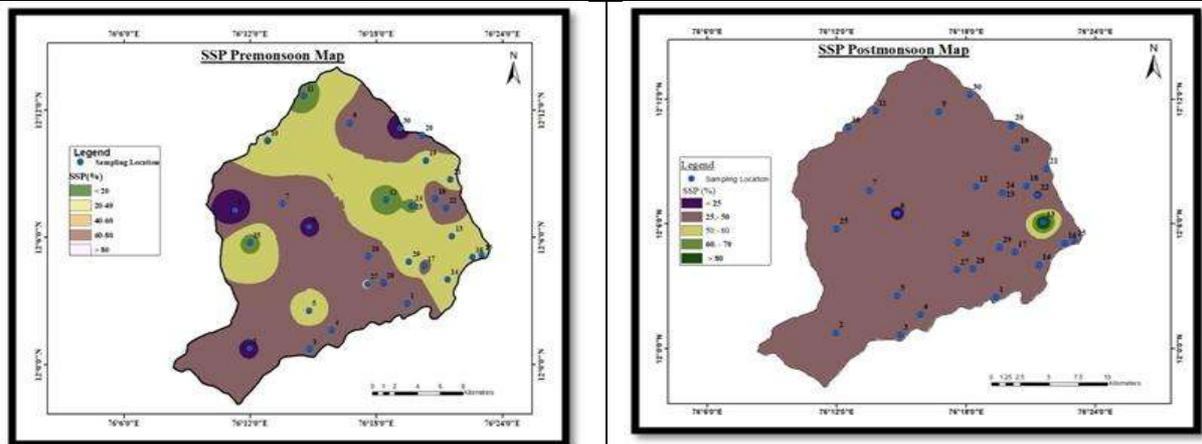


Fig. 5 Premonsoon and Postmonsoon Map of SSP

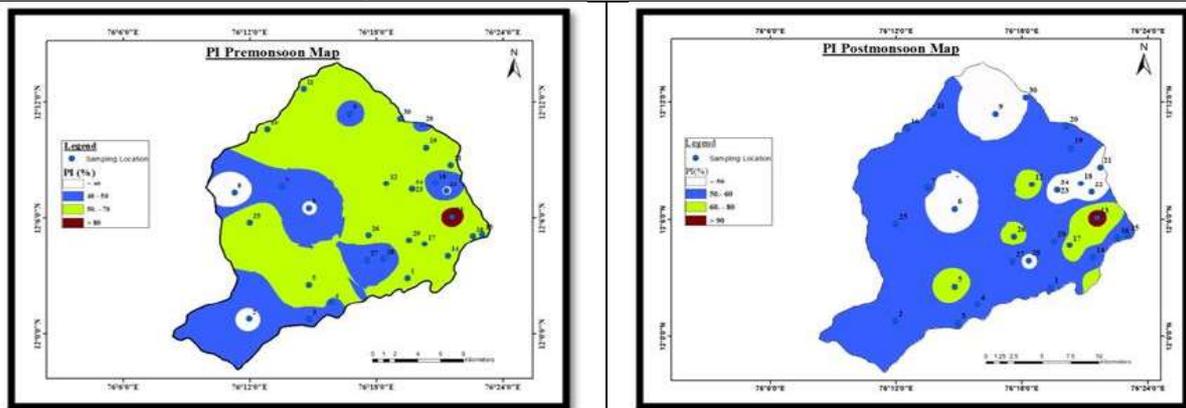


Fig. 6. Premonsoon and Postmonsoon Map of PI





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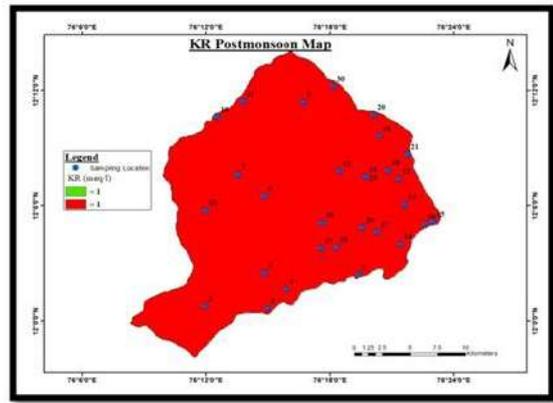
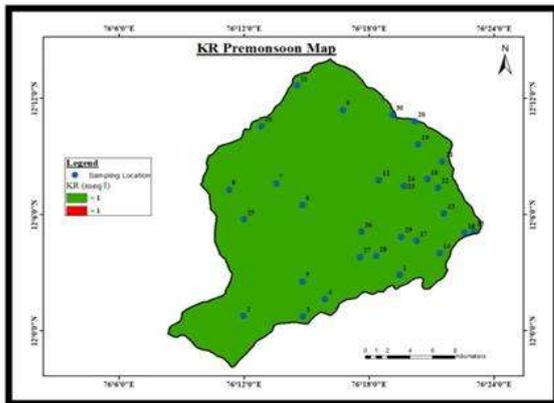


Fig.7 Premonsoon and Postmonsoon Map of KR

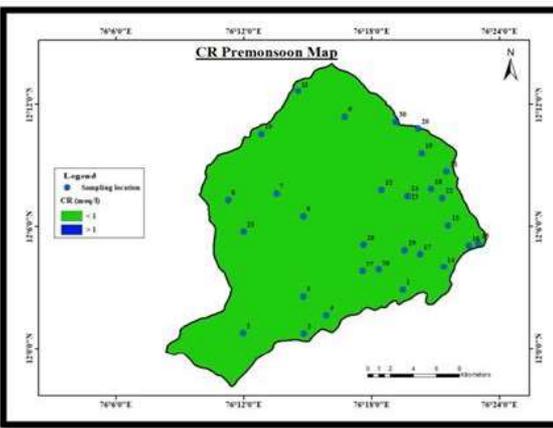
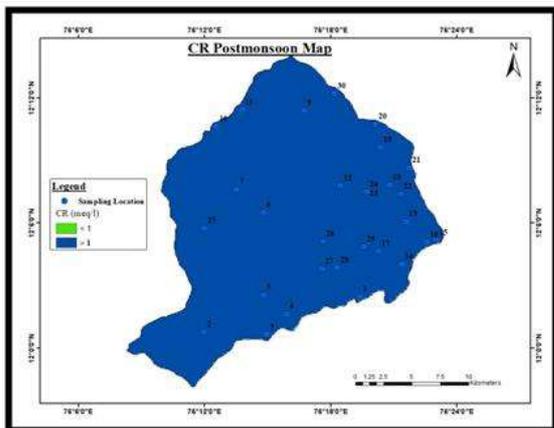


Fig.8 Premonsoon and Postmonsoon Map of CR

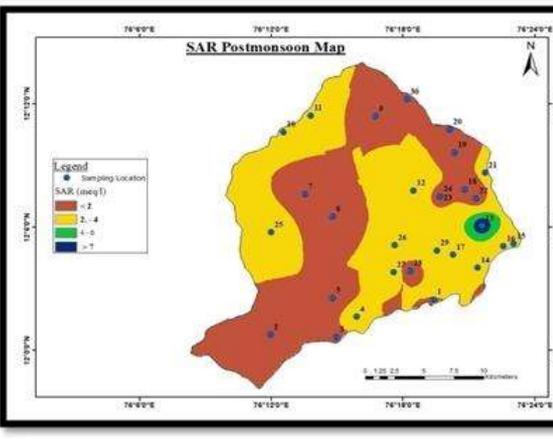
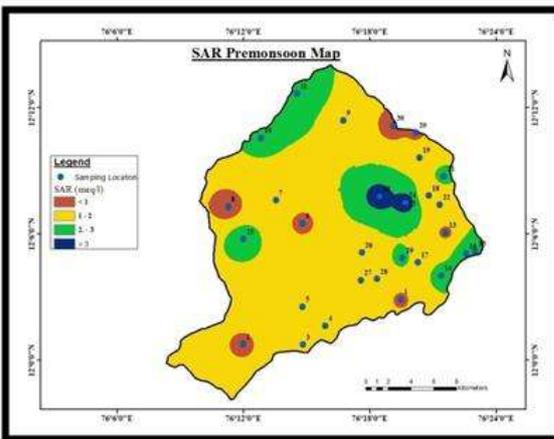


Fig.9 Premonsoon and Postmonsoon Map of SAR





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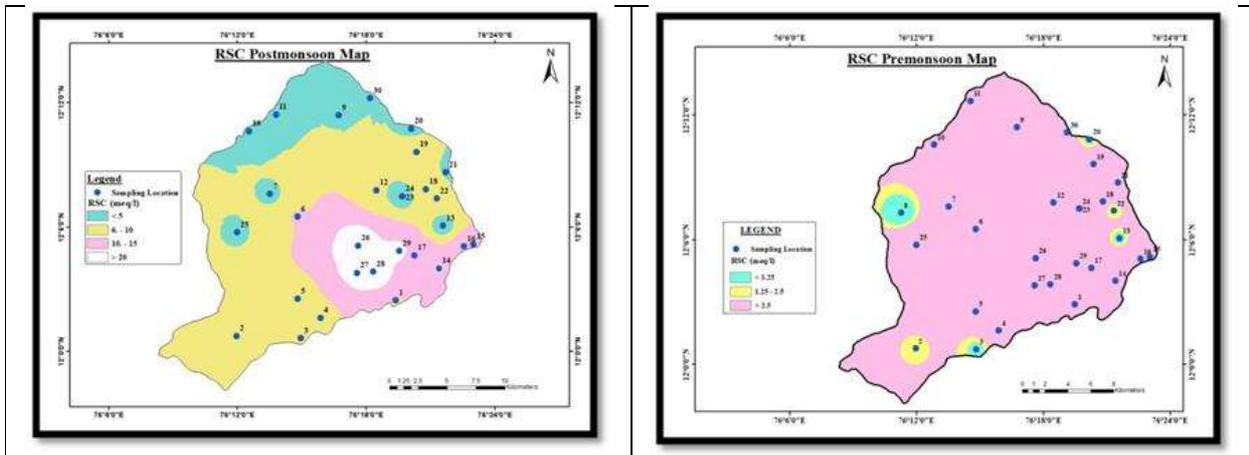


Fig.10 Premonsoon and Postmonsoon Map of RSC

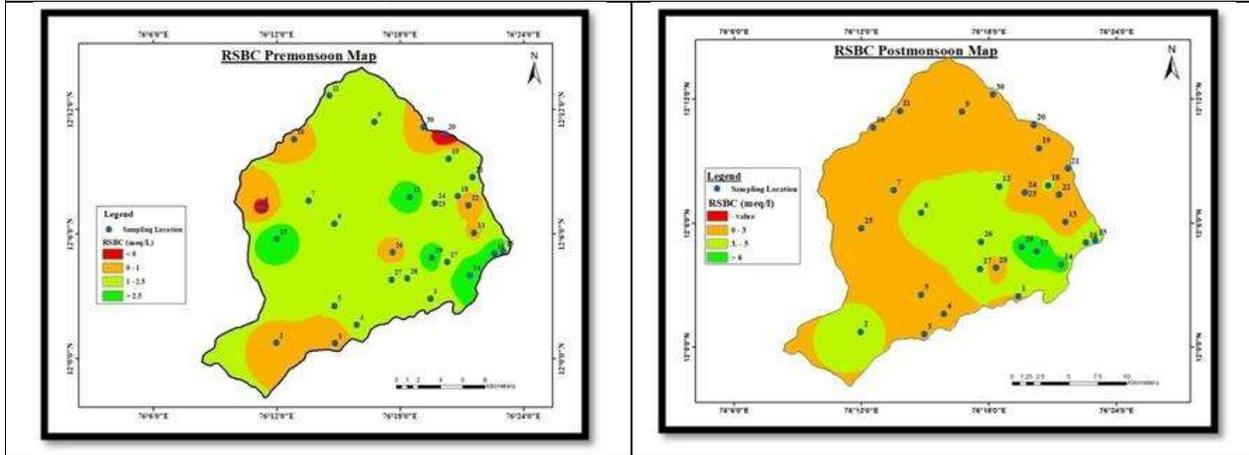


Fig.11 Premonsoon and Postmonsoon Map of RSBC

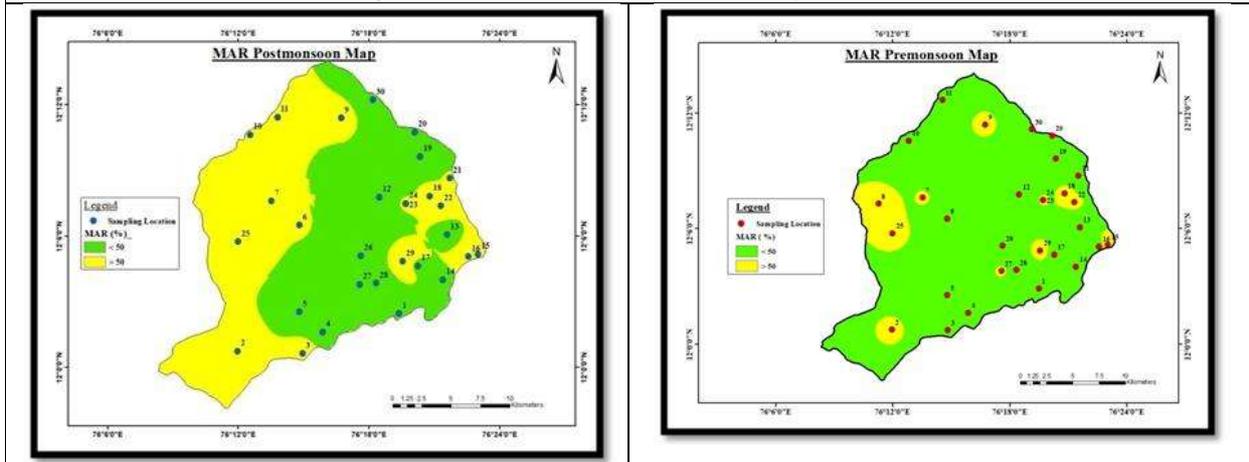


Fig. 12 Premonsoon and Postmonsoon Map of MAR





Palatable CKD Diet

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ABSTRACT

Renal diets are often less palatable due to lots of dietary restrictions and affects the nutrient intake of the patients with CKD. Hence, the diet for CKD has to be made in such a way that it is palatable using different food combinations and salt substitutes. The study aimed to plan and standardize a palatable vegetarian menu suitable for patients with CKD. Based on the sodium and potassium content of the foods the ingredients were chosen and the recipes were standardized and subjected to organoleptic evaluation. The recipes were analyzed for their nutritive value using the AOAC guidelines. The standardized recipes were found to be palatable and acceptability has been good. Nutritive content was also found to be within the recommended limits according to the KDOQI guidelines. The study shows that the diet for patients with renal failure can be made palatable by choosing various food options while still maintaining its nutritive composition as per the requirements. It is important to provide the patients with renal disorders varied menu options with a good acceptability and nutritional value in the pursuit of improving dietary adherence and thereby prevent the onset of malnutrition.

Keywords: Chronic Kidney Disease, Organoleptic Evaluation, KDOQI guidelines, Standardization

INTRODUCTION

Worldwide the burden of CKD is rapidly increasing with a projection of becoming the 5th major cause of mortality by 2040. However Kidney disease can be prevented and progression to end stage kidney disease can be delayed with

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appropriate diagnostics and early intervention in the lifestyle and nutritional aspects [1]. Protein energy wasting is a major concern in patients with CKD. The etiology of Protein Energy Wasting include inadequate intake enhanced catabolism due to oxidative stress, systemic inflammation, abnormal glucose and insulin homeostasis, metabolic acidosis and other nutrient deficiencies [2]. The dietary modifications and monitoring is very critical in patients with CKD to prevent the progression of the disease and malnutrition associated mortality. Although the disease progression and prognosis are multifactorial, nutrition is a vital component in patient care especially in Non – Dialysis patients [3]. Traditional dietary recommendations limit the intake of vegetables and fruits due to their high potassium content. However the benefits of the vegetarian diet outweighs the risk by improving gut dysbiosis, decreasing the production of uremic toxins, enhancing intestinal motility and short chain fatty acid production [4]. Sodium is another nutrient of concern with respect to patients with CKD. Sodium restriction makes the diet less palatable affecting their food and nutrient intake, the factor predisposing to malnutrition. As patients with CKD are anorexic due to retention of uremic toxins, GI disturbances, inflammation etc., their appetite is suppressed and the nutrient intake is affected [5]. Dysguesia is another common concern for inadequate nutrient intake. The altered sensory aspect leads to poor nutritional intake [6]. Palatability of the diet has a direct impact on the appetite of these subjects. Hence the current study was proposed to standardize a palatable vegetarian menu with various menu options including fruits and vegetables, to enhance nutritive value and acceptance. The menu options should be in such a way that each meal of the day meets 1/3rd of the nutrient requirements, while being palatable and providing satiety.

AIM

The study aimed to plan and standardize a palatable vegetarian menu based on Indian cuisine for patients with CKD

METHODS**Study Design**

The current study was a prospective experimental study conducted in Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research (DU), Chennai and the study was approved by the Institutional Ethics committee.

Criteria for sample selection

Nutrition professionals those who were willing to participate were selected for the study.

Data Collection

The renal diet is always challenging when it comes to the palatability of the diet as there are lot of nutrient restrictions. The primary objective of the study was to plan and standardize a vegetarian menu using various food choices which is also palatable for patients with CKD. Around 38 regular south Indian vegetarian recipes incorporating the KDOQI guidelines⁸ were standardized, since the study conducted in Chennai, southern part of India and north - eastern part of Tamilnadu, the traditional south Indian menu items and side dishes were chosen for standardization. **Table I** displays the list of recipes. The ingredients were chosen based on their protein, potassium and sodium content. Salt substitutes were used to make the diet more palatable.

RESULTS**ORGANOLEPTIC EVALUATION**

The Standardized recipes were subjected to organoleptic evaluation using a 9 point hedonic scale.⁷ The evaluation was carried out among trained nutrition professionals. The scores obtained are depicted in **figures I. a, b and c** which reveals all the developed menu options are palatable and highly acceptable.

NUTRIENT ANALYSIS

The Standardized recipes were subjected to nutrient analysis based on AOAC guidelines and their respective nutrient composition are tabulated in table II.



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The Nutrient analysis showed that the standardized recipes were low – moderate in their sodium and potassium content. The menu combinations for breakfast, lunch, snack and dinner were planned in such a way that they were meeting 1/3rd of the requirements.

DISCUSSION

Patients with CKD are at a great risk of malnutrition which is both a cause and complication. Multiple factors like decreased appetite and nutrient intake, metabolic imbalances, increased catabolism lead to malnutrition in patients with CKD [9]. It is important to cater a palatable and appetizing diet within the range of their nutrient recommendations to patients with CKD to achieve their dietary recommendations and prevent them from going into malnutrition. The major nutrients like sodium and potassium plays a major role in achieving the palatability of the diet which when restricted decreases the palatability. Current study has shown that the usage of spices like garlic, onion, ginger etc which are natural salt substitutes, enhanced the taste and the overall acceptability of the recipes. ¹⁰ despite their low sodium and potassium content making it safe for consumption for patients with CKD. The study limitation is lesser sample size.

CONCLUSION

As we know patients with CKD are anorexic and hypoguesic due to various metabolic imbalances. It is crucial that the diet is made palatable despite the nutrient restrictions. The current study proved that the diet can be made palatable and appetizing with right combination of foods and addition of special ingredients like salt substitutes which would help improve the nutrient intake of the patients with CKD and help preventing the onset of malnutrition among them.

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Table. I. List Of Recipes

BREAKFAST AND DINNER OPTIONS		LUNCH		SNACKS
MAIN COURSE	SIDES	MAIN COURSE	SIDES	
Idli	Tiffin Sambar	Mixed Veg Sambar	Capsicum Poriyal	Rajma Sundal
Rava Idli	Coconut chutney	Drumstick Sambar	Beans Poriyal	Cowpea Sundal
Dosa		Moong Dal Sambar	Vendhayakeera i Poriyal	Green peas sundal
Pongal		Keerai Masiyal	Ridge gourd Poriyal	Bengal Gram Sundal
Kitchadi		Cho – Cho kootu	Kovai Poriyal	Horse Gram Sundal
Wheat Dosa	Tomato – onion chutney	Bottle Gourd Kootu	Brinjal Poriyal	Green Gram Sundal
Ragi Dosa	Mint Chutney	Snake Gourd Kootu	Ladies finger Poriyal	Black Channa Sundal
Ragi Roti				
Chapathi				
Aval Upma	Chilly Garlic chutney			
Semiya Upma				
Rava Upma				

Table II. Nutritive Value of Foods

Recipe	Energy (Kcal)	Protein (g)	Carbs (g)	Fat (g)	Sodium (mg)	Potassium (mg)	Phosphorous (mg)
BREAKFAST AND DINNER MENU OPTIONS							
Wheat Dosa	151	5	31.2	0.7	58.9	74.9	102
Ragi Dosa	177	3.2	39.7	0.6	76.8	117	118
Ragi Roti	233	4.6	51.6	0.9	103	175	121





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Aval Upma	168	4.1	35.3	1.2	4.3	51.6	78.8
Pongal	140	4.7	25.5	2.10	131	100	20.6
Idli	144	5.1	30.2	0.3	181	62.7	55.3
Rava Idli	154	5	32.3	0.5	86.7	97	47
Dosa	181	5.8	38.5	0.4	349	150	61.6
Kithcadi	83	1	17.3	1.1	47.6	68.8	93.2
Chapathi	294	8.3	63.1	0.9	199	242	151
Rava Upma	126	5.6	24.5	0.6	75.3	63.5	38
Semiya Upma	126	5.5	24.5	0.7	103	98	55.3
Chilly Garlic Chutney	56	2.8	8	1.4	49	218	36.2
Tomato Onion Mint Chutney	60	1.9	11	0.9	17.5	183	40.5
Coconut Chutney	155	3.4	10.2	11.2	43.9	127	76.2
Mint Chutney	115	1.5	8.5	8.3	69.2	81.4	41.8
Tiffin Sambar	82	4.8	14.4	0.6	103	246	17.3
LUNCH OPTIONS							
Bottlegourd Kootu	48	2.5	7.9	0.7	5.3	135	40.4
Snakegourd Kootu	54	2.8	9.5	0.5	108	52.5	52.5
Cho Cho Kootu	47	2.4	9.1	0.1	53.6	169	45.3
Drumstick Sambar	64	2.8	10.9	1	37.4	184	41.4
Mixed Veg Sambar	52	2	8.5	1.1	79.4	196	45.5
Moong Dal	71	7	9.6	0.5	67.3	236	65.4
Keerai Masiyal	40	2.7	6.9	0.15	96	191	52.1
Capsicum Poriyal	57	1.5	11.5	0.6	63.4	153	44.7
Ladies finger Poriyal	84	2.3	16.8	0.9	55.3	203	77.3
Beans Poriyal	80	3.4	14.2	1.1	106	352	72.8
Vendhayakeerai Poriyal	93	4.6	15.9	1.2	252	285	67.6
Kovai Poriyal	43	1.8	8	0.4	84	168	35.6
Brinjal Poriyal	41	1.6	7.8	0.4	128	20.3	33.2
Ridge gourd Poriyal	81	2.7	16.1	0.6	127	195	57.5
SNACK OPTIONS							
Rajma Sundal	133	8.1	23.2	0.9	79	223	37.2
Cow Pea Sundal	120	8.7	19.9	0.6	93.3	218	16.9
Green Peas Sundal	141	8.6	25.1	0.7	107	227	33.2
Bengal Gram Sundal	140	8.4	23.4	1.4	89.4	148	27.9
Horse Gram Sundal	124	6.9	22.3	0.8	88.2	178	38.3
Green Gram Sundal	134	8.5	22.9	0.9	51.2	226	25.5
Black Channa Sundal	131	6.1	25.2	0.6	34.7	185	63.6





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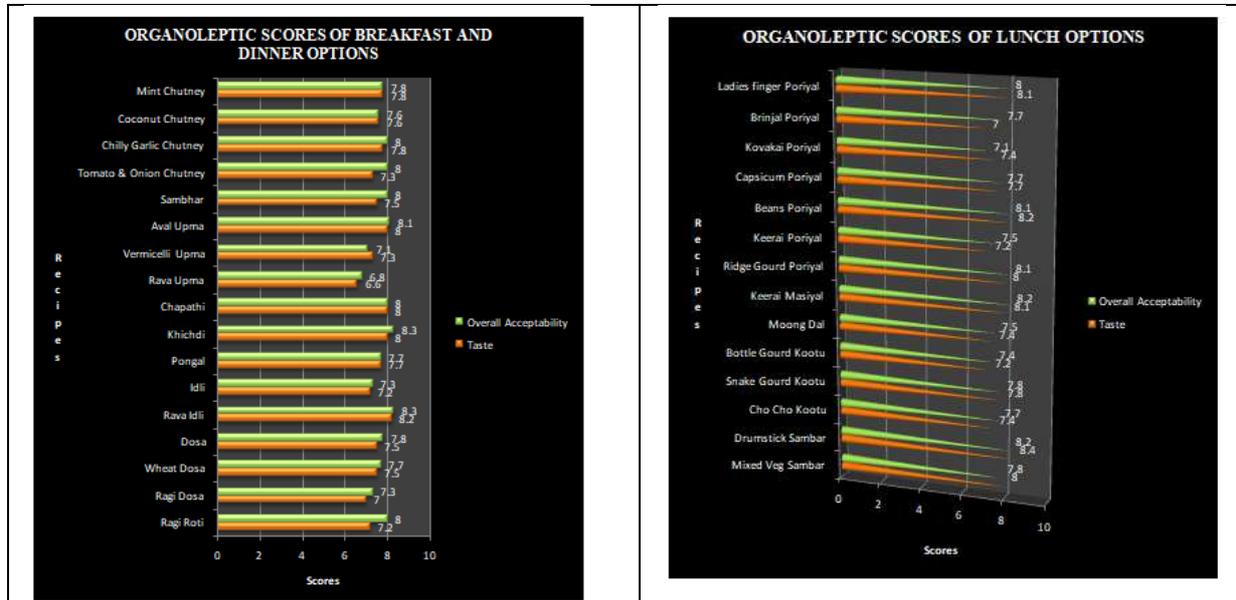


Fig. I.a. Organoleptic scores of breakfast and dinner options

Fig. I.b. Organoleptic scores of lunch options

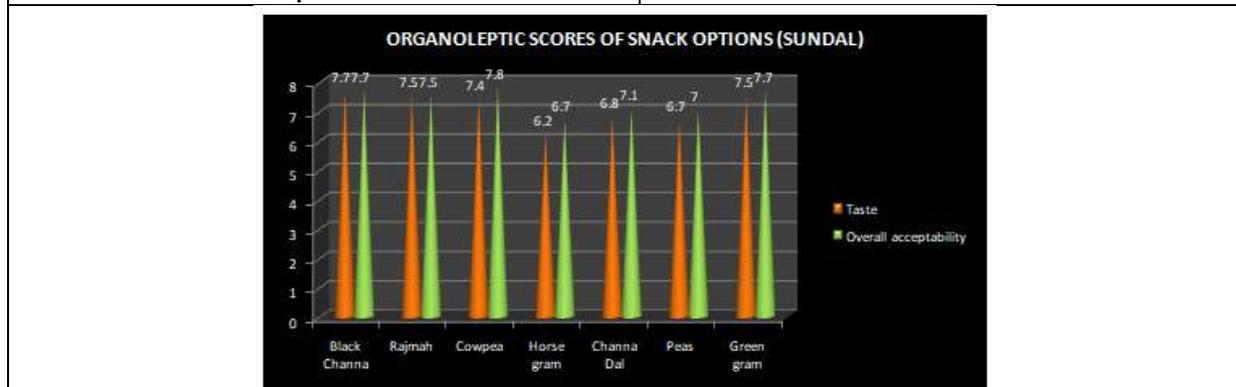


Fig. I.c. Organoleptic scores of snack options





Study of Larvicidal Activity of Seven Traditionally Used Medicinal Plants against *Aedes aegypti*.

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ABSTRACT

Hexane, Chloroform and Methanol extracts of *Annona squamosa* (leaves), *Calotropis gigantea* (leaves), *Catharanthus roseus* (leaves), *Piper betle* (leaves), *Carica papaya* (leaves), *Phyllanthus amarus* (whole plant) and *Sphaeranthus indicus* (whole plant) were selected to evaluate their toxicity on third instar larvae of *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes. Larvicidal activity was observed after 24 h of exposure. Results revealed that chloroform extract of *Catharanthus roseus* was the most potential extract against *Ae. aegypti* and their LC₅₀ and LC₉₀ values were 40.09 and 189.15.

Keywords: Hexane, Chloroform, Methanol, Larvicidal activity

INTRODUCTION

Vector borne diseases affect the public health and remain as the important health hazard in many countries including India. Mosquitoes carry most vector-borne diseases in India. Many diseases affecting human beings and animals are caused by the vector mosquitoes. Dengue, Chikungunya, Malaria, Filariasis and Japanese Encephalitis (JE) are the major diseases spread by mosquitoes in the environment resulting thousands of deaths every year (W.H.O., 2007; Gopalan and Das, 2009; Dhiman *et al.*, 2010). World Health Organization has declared that mosquitoes exist as the prime public health pests responsible for the transmission of various pathogens (WHO, 1996). *Aedes* mosquitoes are the vectors for dengue, dengue haemorrhagic fever and Chikungunya (Borah *et al.*,



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2010). The number of reported dengue cases continues to increase and transform into more severe forms of disease, such as dengue hemorrhagic fever and dengue shock syndrome, or with unusual manifestations of central nervous system (Pancharoen *et al.*, 2002). *Aedes aegypti*, a vector of dengue is widely distributed in tropical and subtropical zones. Since 1970, incidence of dengue fever has become fourfold and now it is nearly half the world's population at risk. Dengue fever or dengue hemorrhagic fever causing virus, belongs to the genus *Flavivirus* and family Flaviviridae. It includes serotypes 1, 2, 3 and 4 (Den-1, Den-2, Den-3 and Den-4) (W.H.O., 2010). The estimated value of World Health Organization was around 2.5 billion people who are at the risk of dengue. Such a life threatening situation is due to increased urbanization, trade and travel. Added to it, effective drug or vaccine against dengue is also not available so far. The only way to prevent the disease than the treatment is by controlling the vector mosquito from breeding in the environment and biting humans in the living zone. In 2005, Chikungunya virus infection has emerged in the Southwest Indian ocean islands and caused an outbreak that resulted in 71.5 million patients, including visitors.

Enormous use of synthetic pesticides causes emergence of pesticidal resistance and harmful effect on non-target organisms and environment. This necessitated an urgent study for the development of new and alternate mosquito control tools that are effective as well as safe for other organisms and environment. In this search, herbal insecticides of plant origin become a first preference (Rawani *et al.*, 2014). This paved way for the search of various control agents based on phytochemicals. Plant extracts and plant compound with larvicidal effect are powerful and alternative insecticides to many synthetic insecticides. Plant compounds could be used in integrated mosquito control programmes due to their promising mosquito control properties (Ghosh *et al.*, 2012).

Many plant extracts and phytochemicals have been considered for their potency as mosquitocidal agent against different species of vector mosquitoes (Nisha *et al.*, 2009). The present study was undertaken to assess larvicidal activity against larvae of *Aedes aegypti* of seven plant extracts from Tamilnadu. *Annona squamosa* belongs to the family Annonaceae. It is found in India. Thailand and originates from the West Indies and South America. The vernacular names are Custard apple, Sugar apple, Sweet aples in English; Sharifa in Hindi and Sitapalam in Tamil and Telugu in India. *Calotropis gigantea* belongs to family Asclepiadaceae. The vernacular names are Arka (Sanskrit), Aak, Madar (Kannada) Ekka (Tamil) 'Erukku' in Malayalam and 'Jilledipuvvu' in Telugu. It has xerophytic adaptations. flavonoids, triterpenoids, alkaloids, steroids, glycosides, saponins, terpenes, enzymes, alcohol, resin, fatty acids and esters of calotrpelols, volatile long chain fatty acids, glycosides and proteases have been isolated from this plant (Sureshkumar *et al.*, 2013).

Piper betle belongs to the family Piperaceae. The local name is 'paan'. It is an annual creeper, climbing by many small adventitious rootlets. Three varieties of *Piper betle* leaves, Sirugamani, Karpoori and Vellaikodi are mostly found in Tamilnadu. The decoction of plant is used in curing wounds, burns, impetigo, furunculosis, eczema, lymphangitis and its juice is beneficial stomatic. The roots and fruits are used in the treatment of malaria and asthma. The chemical constituents present in this plant leaf are Piperol-B and methyl piper betle (Dwivedi and Tripathi, 2014). *Carica papaya* (Caricaceae) has many nutrients and is available throughout the year. It has three powerful antioxidants namely vitamin C, vitamin A and vitamin E, in addition to the minerals, magnesium and potassium, the vitamin B pantothenic acid and foliate and fiber. It also has papain which is used to treat against of trauma, allergies and sports injuries. The active compounds present in the leaves of papaya are chymopapain, papain, crystatin, a-tocopherol, ascorbic acid, flavonoids, cyanogenic glucosides and glucosinolates (Hayatie *et al.*, 2015).

Phyllanthus amarus belongs to the family Euphorbiaceae. It has been used as a medicine in different treatments such as genitourinary disorder, asthma, jaundice, bronchial infection, antiviral activity against chronic acute hepatitis-B. The extracts from different parts of the plant are found to have an antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-diabetic, hypoglycemic and hypocholesterolemic, anti-bacterial, anti-ulcer, anti-tumor and anti-carcinogenic and anti-HIV (Oyewole *et al.*, 2004). *Sphaeranthus indicus* belongs to the family Asteraceae. The whole herb is used in the treatment of epileptic convulsions, mental illness and hemicranias, jaundice, hepatopathy, diabetes, leprosy, fever, pectoralgia, cough, gastropathy, hernia, haemorrhoids, helminthiasis, dyspepsia and skin diseases. It is also used a nervine tonic.



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The oil obtained from this plant root is useful in treating Scrofula and as an aphrodisiac. The paste of this herb is good in treating pruritus, edema, arthritis, filariasis, gout and cervical adenopathy. It is also used in the treatment of piles and hepatitis (Kovendan *et al.*, 2012).

Catharanthus roseus (L.) (Anonymous,1992) is a perennial tropical plant belonging to the family Apocynaceae. In India *C. roseus*, is widely used for the treatment of various diseases in the indigenous system of medicine. Juice of the leaves is applied in wasp sting. Plant is used as a remedy for diabetes. An infusion of the leaves is given in the treatment of menorrhagia. The root is considered toxic and stomachic latex is used in blood dysentery, Scabies and as galactagogue. Root is used as an anticancer, sedative, hypotensive, tranquilizer, and vermifuge. The root is useful in blood pressure and abortion. Synthetic insecticides, eventhough give good results, prolonged use leads to resistance and environmental toxicity and they are nonbiodegradable. Alternate source is plant based insecticides which are nontoxic and biodegradable. They are non-pollutant to environment and safe to non-target organisms and human health (Zoubiri *et al.*, 2014).

Several natural products from plants have been shown to have mosquito repellent, larvicidal, pupicidal, ovicidal and adulticidal activities (Ghosh *et al.*,2012, Shaalan *et al.*, 2015, Pani *et al.*, 2015, Afzal *et al.*, 2018). To screen the crude hexane, chloroform and methanol extracts of above mentioned plants for larvicidal activity against *Aedes aegypti* larvae.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Collection of Plant Materials

Matured leaves of the plants namely *Annona squamosa* (Sitapalam), *Catharanthus roseus* (Nityakalyani), *Calotropis gigantea* (Erukku), *Piper betle* (Sirugamani), seeds of *Carica papaya* (Papaya) and the whole plant of *Phyllanthus amarus* (Keezhanelli) and *Sphaeranthus indicus* (Kottaikarandai) were collected in and around Kanchipuram District, Tamilnadu, India. The plant species were authenticated by Dr. GVS. Murthy, Scientist 'F', Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore, Tamilnadu, India.

Preparation of Plant Sample

Collected plant materials were washed with de-chlorinated water and shade dried under room temperature and powdered using an electric blender.

Preparation of Solvent Crude Extracts

Dried and powdered plant materials (1kg) were subjected to sequential extraction using triple amount of hexane, chloroform and methanol in the cold for a period of 48 hrs. The extract was filtered through Whatman No.1 filter paper. The filtered extracts were concentrated in a rotary evaporator at 60° C to obtain a solvent crude extracts and finally dried in vacuum. All the crude extracts were stored in an air tight glass vials separately at 4° C and labeled for further use.

Rearing Condition

The rearing conditions were 28±1° C; 70-75 RH and 11±0.5 photoperiod.

Larvicidal Bioassay

The 3rd instar larvae of each species were selected to conduct the larvicidal bioassay according to (WHO, 2005) protocol. For the three extracts concentrations viz. 1000, 500, 250, 125 and 62.5 ppm were used. Aqueous DMSO 1.0% was used to prepare the solutions. 20 healthy larvae were released in each 250 ml of aqueous DMSO with test concentrations. Mortality was observed at the end of 24 hr. The larvae were considered dead when they showed no movement when touched with a needle at the sipon or the cervical region. Three replicates were performed for each concentration. The negative control with 1.0% aqueous DMSO was also maintained for each concentration. Percentage mortality and Corrected percentage mortality were calculated using Abbott's formula.





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$$\text{Percentage mortality} = \frac{\text{Number of dead larvae}}{\text{Number of larvae in the control}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Corrected Percentage Mortality} = \frac{\% \text{ Observed mortality after treatment} - \% \text{ Observed mortality in control}}{100 - \% \text{ Observed mortality in control}} \times 100$$

Statistical Analysis

The larval mortality rate was recorded and lethal concentration values (LC₅₀ and LC₉₀) were calculated using EPA Probit analysis software.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of hexane, chloroform and methanol extracts of *Catharanthus roseus* (leaves), *Annona squamosa* (leaves), *Phyllanthus amarus* (whole plant), *Piper betle* (leaves), *Carica papaya* (seeds), *Sphaeranthus indicus* (whole plant) and *Calotropis gigantea* (leaves) were given in the Table:1 The highest larvicidal activity was observed in the chloroform extract of *Catharanthus roseus* and the LC₅₀ and LC₉₀ values were 40.09 and 189.15 the lowest larval mortality was observed in hexane extract of *Annona squamosa* the LC₅₀ and LC₉₀ values were 895.63 and 6725.35.

Larval mortality activities were expressed in an increasing order viz., *A. squamosa*, *S. indicus*, *C. gigantea*, *C. papaya*, *P. amarus*, *P. betle* and *Catharanthus roseus*. Leaf of *Carica papaya* and some other plant in aqueous and ethanol extracts showed phytochemical and larvicidal activities against *Aedes* and *Anopheles* (Selvam and Durai, 2018). The seed extracts of *C. papaya* showed an effective larvicidal activity than other parts of plant against 2nd and 4th instar of *Aedes aegypti* at 1mg/ml.

Arivoli et al., (2016) reported the larvicidal activity of ethylacetate of whole plant extract fractions of *Sphaeranthus indicus* against *Aedes*, *Anopheles* and *Culex*. Patil et al., (2010) determined the larvicidal activity of crude leaf and root extracts of *Aegle Marmelos*, *Balanites aegyptica*, *Calotropis gigantea*, *Murraya koenigii*, *Nyctanthes arbor-tristis* and *Plumbago zeylanica*, in different solvents against *Ae. aegypti* and *An. stephensi*. Monzon et al., (1994) reported the crude aqueous fresh leaf extracts of *Annona squamosa*, *Eucalyptus globus*, *Lansium domesticum*, *Azadirachta indica* and *Codiaecum variegatum* were screened for their larvicidal activity against *Ae. aegypti* and *Cx. quinquefasciatus* in seven different concentrations.

Acetone extracts of *C. roseus* (leaves) showed larvicidal and pupicidal activity against *Aedes aegypti* (Remia et al., 2010). Leaf and flower extracts of *C. roseus* showed larval mortality against *An. stephensi* (Prasad et al., 2014). Petroleum ether, Chloroform and methanol extracts of *C. roseus* (leaves) by successive extract showed larvicidal activity against *Aedes*, *Culex* and *Anopheles* (Alam et al., 2011). Subrani et al., (2013) showed larval and pupal toxicity in aqueous and methanol extract of *C. roseus* (leaves) against *Anopheles* and *Culex*. Ethanol extracts of *C. roseus* (fruits) showed larval activity against *Aedes aegypti* (Ekaputri et al., 2014). An aqueous extract of the leaves of *C. roseus* showed larval activity against *Aedes* and *Culex* (Kamatchi et al., 2016). Petroleum ether, chloroform and ethanol extracts of the *C. roseus* (leaves) by successive extraction showed ovicidal activity against *Culex quinquefasciatus* (Philosa et al., 2017).

Separate extracts of *C. roseus* (leaves) with hexane, petroleum ether, acetone, ethyl alcohol, butyl alcohol and water showed larvicidal activity against *Aedes aegypti*. Shoba et al., (2018) identified Hentriacontane to be the active principle. Hexane extracts of *C. roseus* (leaves) showed larvicidal activity against *Anopheles stephensi* and its activity was increased almost twofold when combined with bacteria thuringiensis (Panneeerselvam et al., 2013) From the present study, Chloroform extract of *C. roseus* was found to be effective larvicidal activity against *Ae. aegypti*. Hence it can be used as alternative to an insecticide. Eventhough, it contains alkaloids, some non-alkaloids also



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responsible for this larvicidal activity. The future plan is to isolate an active principle from the chloroform extract of *C. roseus*.

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Table-1. Lethal concentration (in ppm) of crude extracts against *Ae. aegypti*

S. No	Plant name	Extract	LC ₅₀	LCL	UCL	LC ₉₀	LCL	UCL	Intercept	Slope	Chisquare
1	<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	Hexane	68.27	49.428	86.31	407.24	321.31	565.01	1.96	1.65	2.23*
		Chloroform	40.09	25.02	53.94	189.15	154.32	247.29	1.95	1.90	0.76*
		Methanol	129.43	99.53	160.03	1139.35	802.50	1908.72	2.13	1.35	0.22*
2	<i>Annona squamosa</i>	Hexane	895.63	554.60	2268.68	6729.35	3458.62	8705.25	2.97	0.68	0.53*
		Chloroform	195.92	159.46	236.92	1554.63	1079.976	2636.44	1.73	1.42	1.68*
		Methanol	228.14	189.91	272.71	1549.35	1103.53	2504.49	1.36	1.54	0.36*
3	<i>Piper betle</i>	Hexane	157.77	122.39	195.53	1610.36	1070.89	2984.97	2.20	1.27	7.61*
		Chloroform	847.13	598.30	1463.23	6928.18	4549.00	9197.59	2.11	1.98	1.08*
		Methanol	341.72	285.76	415.80	2336.47	1590.08	4057.72	1.11	1.53	3.08*
4	<i>Phyllanthus amarus</i>	Hexane	364.25	300.75	452.22	2881.59	1862.70	5479.10	1.34	1.42	1.52*
		Chloroform	565.80	454.20	750.13	4770.55	2818.46	6633.77	1.18	1.38	0.56*
		Methanol	273.23	234.39	319.51	1350.36	1022.56	1965.95	0.49	1.84	1.47*
5	<i>Carica papaya</i>	Hexane	356.61	288.97	453.29	3584.05	2154.06	7819.04	1.73	1.27	1.24*
		Chloroform	417.98	357.49	498.38	2019.03	1475.11	3107.72	0.08	1.87	1.14*
		Methanol	404.21	333.28	505.89	3132.68	2008.26	6034.79	1.24	1.44	0.31*
6	<i>Sphearanthus indicus</i>	Hexane	501.29	432.28	594.11	2041.52	1527.14	3035.70	0.67	2.01	5.91*
		Chloroform	444.33	379.96	530.82	2111.08	1539.24	3262.71	0.01	1.89	2.55*
		Methanol	444.22	368.97	552.78	3003.07	1980.66	5491.83	0.91	1.54	0.47*
7	<i>Calotropis gigantea</i>	Hexane	392.26	321.00	495.25	3379.43	2104.59	6871.13	1.44	1.37	2.65*
		Chloroform	370.52	312.23	448.25	2256.74	1571.41	3763.75	0.80	1.63	1.71*
		Methanol	509.85	414.19	660.15	4093.84	2503.11	8569.87	1.16	1.44	1.19*

LC₅₀- Lethal concentration that kills 50% of the exposed larvae, LC₉₀- lethal concentration that kills 90% of the exposed larvae lower limit (95% confidence limit): UL- upper limit (95% confidence limit) * P≤0.05 level of significant of chi square values.





Recent Advances and Current Trends in Oral Probiotics for Elderly Oral Health—Contemporary Perspectives and Future Challenges

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ABSTRACT

This brief communication is intended to emphasize the importance of oral health among the elderly, which can be successfully achieved with probiotics. Probiotics are live microbes that, when administered in the proper concentration or dosage, produce excellent results, such as in controlling dental caries and other periodontal diseases. This short communication would like to focus on older adults who are at increased risk and more prone to dental disorders due to age-related changes in saliva, where probiotics can help in maintaining oral microbiome and thus prevent diseases within the oral cavity.

Keywords: Probiotics, Elderly, Dosage, Age significant changes.

INTRODUCTION

As the famous saying suggests, "prevention is better than cure," it is crucial to prioritize the maintenance of our oral health to promote overall well-being. It is well known that various systemic diseases can manifest themselves in the oral cavity. Unlike many other organs in the body, teeth do not possess the ability to heal themselves. This underscores the importance and significance of maintaining good oral health and hygiene. The oral cavity harbors approximately 700 different species of microbes. Any disruption in the balance of these microorganisms can lead to





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the development of diseases. [3] Alterations in the composition of oral microorganisms can contribute to a range of oral conditions and systemic ailments, especially among the elderly population. Oral probiotics offers health benefits to the host when consumed in sufficient quantities, have emerged as a potential solution for improving oral health in the elderly. Recent research indicates that oral probiotics have the capacity to modify the composition and function of the oral microbiome, thereby enhancing oral health in older individuals. [1-4] Earlier probiotics were used in treatment of diarrhea, UTIs, induced colitis whereas in recent times probiotics were also used in prevention of respiratory infections in children, bowel syndrome, and dental caries. [3] There are also certain article were ProDentim, an innovative dietary formula was designed specifically for individuals who experience recurring dental and gum problems. [1] This article aims to give an overview of the recent progress and prevailing patterns in the field of oral probiotics concerning the oral health of elderly individuals. It highlights the potential advantages and outlines the challenges that need to be addressed in future research. The use of probiotics as a preventive or therapeutic approach for various oral diseases has garnered attention from researchers and clinicians. [4]

The Role Of Oral Probiotics In Elderly Oral Health

In present day scenario, there is growing interest among older adults in the potential of oral probiotics to enhance oral health. Probiotics are live microbes that provide health benefits when consumed in right amounts. They can help restore a healthy balance within the oral cavity, reduce pathogens, and improve immunity. Probiotics offers solution in maintenance of optimal oral health in older adults, who are susceptible to oral diseases due to age-related changes in saliva. [3][5] However, it's important to note that current research on the use of probiotics for elderly oral health is still limited. Continued research will contribute in better understanding of how probiotics can be optimized for oral health management. [6,7]

Recent Advances In Oral Probiotics Research

It is noted that certain strains of probiotics, such as streptococcus salivarius reduce the levels of cytotoxic bacteria in the mouth and also can prevent development of dental caries and periodontal problems. Probiotics has been noted to increase the immune response within the mouth and improve overall oral health. [8,9] in addition to that, the use of probiotics is associated to reduce systemic inflammation, which is usually linked to various chronic diseases that are common among older adults. It is important to find out the potential interactions between probiotics and other medications to ensure no adverse effects is encountered by the patients. [10]

Current Trends In The Use Of Oral Probiotics For Elderly Oral Health

The use of probiotics in elderly for improving oral health is currently witnessing new research within the same domain like development of new strains of probiotics which are targeting specific oral diseases or conditions. Some probiotics are customized to one particular disease like that of periodontium and some are used to treat dry mouth. Nevertheless, research to use probiotics as an adjunct therapy alongside dental procedures like scaling and root scaling is ongoing. [3,6]

Future Challenges And Opportunities For Improving Elderly Oral Health With Probiotics

Though the recent studies and newer research have shown excellent outcomes it is still not enough to overcome challenges and other unaddressed problems which need solutions. One of the major challenges is to provide standardized probiotic strains and dosage which in current times is different across the world. Customized probiotic treatment required to treat each individual's and his microbiome status and its oral health condition is other problem that draws attention too. Thereby increasing the interest in public awareness and increasing the demand for education campaigns among public with regards to promotion of oral probiotics and their implementation among elderly also plays crucial role to promote oral health. Using probiotics to address these issues can result in significant improvements in oral health among the elderly. [8,6,13,14,15].





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Ethics and Consent

Nil

Certificate of Conflict of Interest

Authors declare that there was no conflict of interest.

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A Case Report On Efficacy of Panchamudichu Kanji (Porridge) for the Management of Childhood Malnutrition (Ootasathu kuraivu)- A Case Report

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ABSTRACT

In the growing and developing years of children, a healthy, nutrient-rich diet is crucial. It encourages the child to develop strong foundations for maintaining health and ingraining healthy eating patterns from an early age. According to the Global Nutrition Report 2018, under nutrition is responsible for nearly half of all under-5 child mortality in India. Stunted growth, which is linked to cognitive impairment and poorer performance in school and the workplace, can result from inadequate nutrition during the first 1000 days of a child's life. Children who are malnourished experience it as a result of a complex interaction between many factors, including poverty, maternal health issues, illiteracy, illnesses like diarrhoea, the home environment, dietary habits, hand washing and other hygiene practises, etc. Out of 119 countries that qualify, India is ranked 102 in the 2019 Global Hunger Index. To evaluate the efficacy of Panchamudichi kanji for the management of Childhood malnutrition. To explore a new pathway to reduce the childhood malnutrition using siddha therapeutic management. Pancha mudichu Kanchi was given orally in a dose of 50 ml once in a day especially morning time with food for a period of 3 months to evaluate its effect on the clinical symptoms of the childhood malnutrition and changes in Nutritional assessment scale for a malnutrition child selected from OPD of NIS. Classical formulations of Siddha



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drug Pancha mudichu kanji in Childhood malnutrition showed good responses in the BMI score, Height for age, weight for height and Mid arm circumference range. It exhibits good improved score of subjective global assessment of nutritional status.

Keywords: Siddha traditional medicine, ootasathu kuraivu, Subjective global assessment, Panchamudichu kanji , Malnutrition

INTRODUCTION

In the growing and developing years of children, a healthy, nutrient-rich diet is crucial. It encourages the child to develop strong foundations for maintaining health and ingraining healthy eating patterns from an early age. A condition known as malnutrition is brought on by consuming food that is either too low in or too high in calories, carbohydrates, vitamins, proteins, or minerals. Malnutrition (Ootasathukuraivu) is primarily brought on by an inadequate diet and recurring illnesses, which leads to a deficiency in the consumption of adequate amount of healthy food. Children who are malnourished experience more frequent and serious infectious diseases; in addition, even modest undernutrition raises a child's risk of morbidity and mortality. Long-term developmental issues might also result from persistent undernutrition in children.

According to the Global Nutrition Report 2018, undernutrition is responsible for nearly half of all under-5 child mortality in India. Stunted growth, which is linked to cognitive impairment and poorer performance in school and the workplace, can result from inadequate nutrition during the first 1000 days of a child's life. Children who are malnourished experience it as a result of a complex interaction between many factors, including poverty, maternal health issues, illiteracy, illnesses like diarrhoea, the home environment, dietary habits, hand washing and other hygiene practises, etc. Out of 119 countries that qualify, India is ranked 102 in the 2019 Global Hunger Index.

According to Siddha philosophy, eating a healthy diet can help prevent numerous health issues. Food is crucial as a source of nutrition and also has significant medicinal value. Nutritional deficiencies such as malnutrition are caused by insufficient dietary consumption (theraithodam). In Siddha literature, there are sporadic descriptions of nutritional problems. According to estimates, undernutrition in childhood accounts for 35% of all paediatric fatalities and 21% of all paediatric disability-adjusted life years lost. Undernutrition is a condition that is related to protein energy malnutrition. The Siddha perspective on nutritional disorders including protein and energy deficiency is highlighted in this article. A nutritious porridge is recommended in Siddha panchamudichu kanji as a treatment for malnourished children.

Aim: To evaluate the efficacy of Panchamudichu kanji (porridge) for management of childhood malnutrition (Ootasathu kuraivu)

Objective: To explore a new pathway for malnourished children by using Siddha nutritional porridge

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Method of Study: Single case study

Study and Practical place: OPD of Kuzhandhai Maruthuvam in National Institute of Siddha

Study design: 3 months

Sample size: Single child





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Experimental formulations and procedures:

Internal Medicine : Panchamudichu Kanji

Siddhars have mentioned many preventive medicines for day to day life. Among various healthy nutrition, it is one of the excellent immune booster. Panchamudichu kanji is a healthy as well as protein enriched porridge mentioned in Siddha literature having therapeutic potentials.

Dose: 50ml, Once in a day

Ingredients of Panchamudichu kanji

- ❖ Oriza sativa (grrurp)
- ❖ Vigna mungo(c S eJ gUgG)
- ❖ Cajanus cajan (J tuk; gUgG)
- ❖ Cicer arietnum (fl i y gUgG)
- ❖ Vigna radiata (rWgaW)

Preparation of Pancha Mudichu Kanji

All the ingredients to be purified as per the Siddha literature All the substance are fried lightly and are wrapped in the cloth and is tied like a knot 500ml of water is taken in a small pot and then knot are immersed in a pot. Then it is boiled This Healthy substance and its extract are spread inwater. It looks like an porridge format.

gQrKI bf; fhFkUk; gj j p t p Qerz khk;

tQrfuQ; rddpfl Fnkj j edwhk; gQrpd;

tQeJ ti uahJ nkypj hi uj; Nj wWk;

nfhOeJ ti uahp dh fhs;

- gj huj j Fz r p j hkz p

Nutritional Assessment scale for Malnourished Children

- BMI Score
- Height for age
- weight for height
- Mid arm circumference

Body mass Index (BMI)

It is defined as weight in Kg per height in metres square

BMI= weight(Kg)/ Heightin m²

Height for age

Weech's formula for Expected Height upto 12 years

Height (in cm)= age in years x 6+77





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Weight for Height

Weech's formula for Expected weight 1-6 years

Weight(Kg) = age(years) x 2+8

Mid Upper Arm circumference

MUAC is the circumference of the right upper arm measured at the midpoint between the tip of the shoulder and the tip of the elbow (olecranon process and the acromion). An MUAC less than 12.5 cm suggests malnutrition; an MUAC greater than 13.5 cm is normal.

RESULT AND OBSERVATION

Case study OP No- G34667

Baby. Indhumathi is a 4-year-old female who was delivered via LSCS and weighed 3 kg at birth. Soon after birth, the baby started crying. There was no prior seizure history. There are delays in major developmental milestones. Parents were aware that she was undernourished at the age of 2 because she was having trouble with demanding day-to-day activities.

Inference

From the above chart, Before treatment of BMI score is 11.5, Height for age is 102.1 cm, weight for height is 12Kg and Mid upper arm circumference is 11.5. After treatment of BMI score is 11.8, Height for age is 102.3 cm, weight for height is 12.3 Kg and Mid upper arm circumference is 11.8 cm.

CONCLUSION

All children should eat panhamudichu kanji, which is both a cultural meal and an excellent source of nutrition. It is a fantastic immune system builder. Porridge promotes general health and gives energy to support an active lifestyle because it is packed with beneficial fibre and minerals. Lean and feeble people might gain weight by using Panhamudichu Kanji regularly. Therefore, it is also helpful for kids with protein energy deficiency and kids with cerebral palsy who are underweight. Malnutrition and illnesses caused by protein shortage can be treated by consuming these products. It contributes to the maintenance of a healthy lifestyle and helps to protect us from diseases by boosting our immune. For the benefit of future generations, these preparations should be put into practise once more. People should be made aware of the government of Tamil Nadu's free distribution of Panhamutti Kanji.

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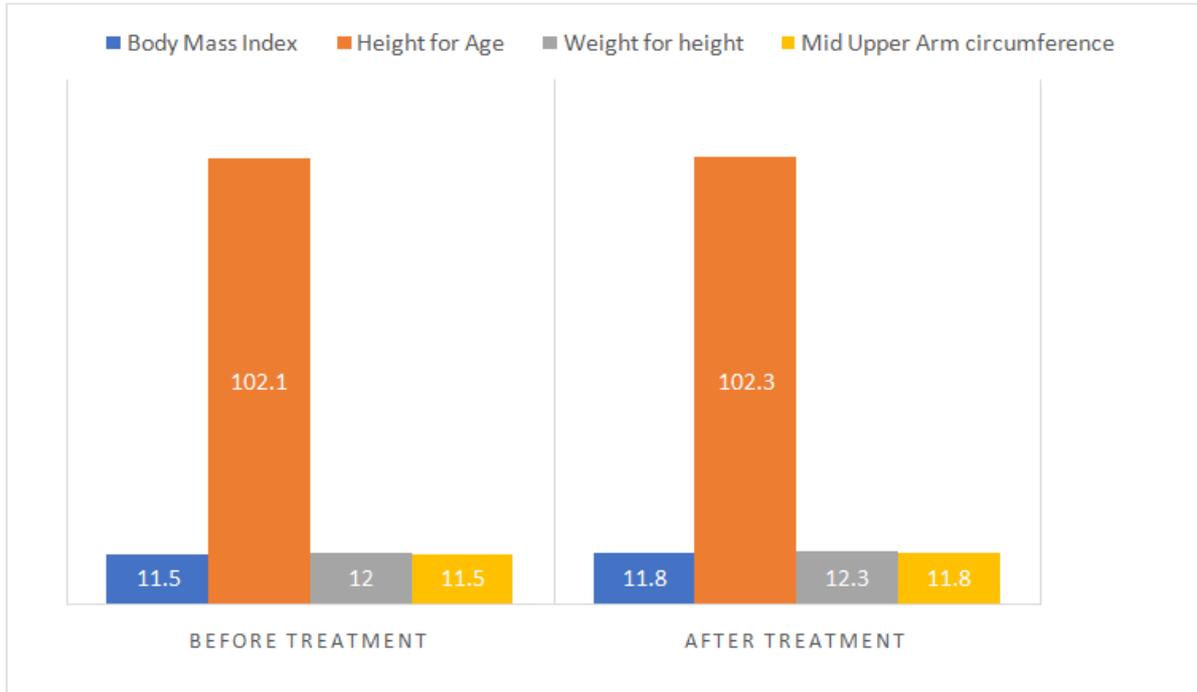


Fig.1. Before and after treatment of this Case study





Some Inverses on Generalized k-Idempotent Intuitionistic Fuzzy Matrices

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ABSTRACT

Different inverses for the k-idempotent Intuitionistic fuzzy matrix (IFM) were examined in this study, including their existence and construction. With this idea, we also discovered some properties for the k-Intuitionistic fuzzy matrices and demonstrated the connection between the Moore-Penrose inverse and group inverses.

Keywords : k – idempotent IFM , Intuitionistic Fuzzy Matrix, Moore – Penrose inverse , group inverse and Drazin inverse.

INTRODUCTION

Let an IFM A of order m rows and n columns is in the form of $A = [y_{ij}, \langle a_{ij\alpha}, a_{ij\beta} \rangle]$, where $a_{ij\alpha}$ and $a_{ij\beta}$ are called the degree of membership and also the non-membership of y_{ij} in A , it preserving the condition $0 \leq a_{ij\alpha} + a_{ij\beta} \leq 1$ is called idempotent if and only if $A^2 = A$. If $KAK = A^2$ (where K is the permutation IFM), then





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IFM A is said to be k – idempotent .Kim and Roush [7] have developed the idea of a fuzzy matrix's sections in 1980. Although Hong Youl Lee [8] pioneered the ideas and presented many properties in it, which play a crucial role in the idem potency of fuzzy matrices. Kim [9] has studied the principles of idempotent fuzzy matrices in the past. In this paper, different generalized inverse are determined for the k – idempotent IFM A.As a generalization of k-hermitian matrices. A.R. Meenachi [10] has presented the idea of range hermitian (EP matrix). Various generalized inverses [1] of a k-idempotent matrices are studied and the corresponding inverses for the elements in group G belongs to $\{A, A^2, A^3, KA, AK, KA^3\}$ are determined . A condition for the Moore Penrose inverse of a k-idempotent matrices to be k-idempotent is derived [3].

A column and row inverse [5] of a k-idempotent matrices is found and then it is shown that the group inverse of a k-idempotent matrices A is A^2 . A commuting pseudo inverse of the corresponding elements in group is also found. The k-idempotency of range symmetric matrices [2,4,6] is analyzed in this article. An equivalent condition for a k-idempotent matrices to be range symmetric matrices is also determined.

Moore-Penrose Inverse Idempotent Intuitionistic Fuzzy Matrices

Definition:2.1 For IFM $(KA) \in F_{m \times n}$ and another IFM, $(KA)^T \in F_{n \times m}$ is called Moore Penrose inverse of KA if

- (i) $KA(KA)^T KA = KA$,{ g-inverse or {1}- inverse}
- (ii) $(KA)^T KA(KA)^T = (KA)^T$,{ reflexive g- inverse or {2}- inverse}
- (iii) $[KA(KA)^T]^T = KA(KA)^T$ { {3}- inverse}
- (iv) $[(KA)^T KA]^T = (KA)^T KA$.{{4}- inverse}

An inverse which satisfy all the above four equations, is called Moore Penrose inverse of KA is denoted by $(KA)^+$

Theorem: 2.1If $A^{(1)}$ is a (1)-inverse (generalized inverse) of a k-idempotent IFM A then

- (i) $[A^2]^{(1)} = K A^{(1)}K$
- (ii) $[KA]^{(1)} = A^{(1)}K$
- (iii) $[AK]^{(1)} = K A^{(1)}$
- (iv) $[A^3]^{(1)} = A A^{(1)}$ (or) $A^{(1)} A$
- (v) $[KA^3]^{(1)} = A A^{(1)}K$ (or) $A^{(1)} AK$

Proof:(i) $A^2[K A^{(1)}K]A^2 = A^2K A^{(1)}KA^2$
 $= KA A^{(1)}AK$

= KAK

$A^2[K A^{(1)}K]A^2 = A^2$

(ii) $KA[A^{(1)}K] KA = KAA^{(1)}A$
 $= KA$

(iii) $AK[KA^{(1)}] AK = AA^{(1)}AK$
 $= AK$

(iv) $A^3[A A^{(1)}] A^3 = A^3 A A^{(1)} AA^2$
 $= A^3 AA^2$
 $= A^3$

In a similar manner, it can be proved that

Therefore, $[A^3]^{(1)} = A^{(1)} A$

(v) $KA^3[A A^{(1)}K] KA^3 = KA^3A A^{(1)}A^3$
 $= KA A^{(1)}AA^2$
 $= KA^3$

Therefore, $[KA^3]^{(1)} = A A^{(1)}K$

In a similar manner, it can be proved that

$[KA^3]^{(1)} = A^{(1)} AK$





Theorem: 2.2 If $A^{(2)}$ is a (2)-inverse (reflexive generalized inverse) of a k-idempotent IFM A then

- (i) $[A^2]^{(2)} = K A^{(2)} K$
- (ii) $[KA]^{(2)} = A^{(2)} K$
- (iii) $[AK]^{(2)} = K A^{(2)}$
- (iv) $[A^3]^{(2)} = A A^{(2)}$ (or) $A^{(2)} A$
- (v) $[KA^3]^{(2)} = A A^{(2)} K$ (or) $A^{(2)} AK$

Proof: The proof is comparable to that of Theorem 2.1.

Theorem 2.3 If A is a k-idempotent IFM then $A^2 \in A\{1, 2\}$

- Proof: (i) $AA^2A = A^4$
 $AA^2A = A$ (By $A^4 = A$)
 (ii) $A^2 AA^2 = A^5$
 $A^2 AA^2 = A^2$ (By $A^3 = I$)
 From (i) and (ii), we have $A^2 \in A\{1, 2\}$

Note 2.1 Using $A^2 \in A\{1, 2\}$ in theorems 2.1 and 2.2 we have $[A^2]^{(1,2)} = A$, $[KA]^{(1,2)} = KA$, $[AK]^{(1,2)} = AK$, $[A^3]^{(1,2)} = A^3$, $[KA^3]^{(1,2)} = KA^3$. It is also observed that each IFM X belongs to $\{A, A^2, A^3, KA, AK, KA^3\}$ commutes with their respective (1,2)-inverses.

Theorem: 2.4 If $A^{(1,3)}$ is a least square generalized inverse of a k-idempotent IFM A then

- (i) $[A^2]^{(1,3)} = K A^{(1,3)} K$
- (ii) $[KA]^{(1,3)} = A^{(1,3)} K$
- (iii) $[AK]^{(1,3)} = K A^{(1,3)}$
- (iv) $[A^3]^{(1,3)} = A A^{(1,3)}$
- (v) $[KA^3]^{(1,3)} = A A^{(1,3)} K$

Proof: (i) $[A^2 KA^{(1,3)} K]^T = [KAA^{(1,3)} K]^T$
 $= K[AA^{(1,3)}]^T K$
 $= KAA^{(1,3)} K$
 $= A^2 KA^{(1,3)} K$
 Therefore, $[A^2]^{(1,3)} = K A^{(1,3)} K$
 (ii) $[KAA^{(1,3)} K]^T = K[AA^{(1,3)}]^T K$
 $= K[AA^{(1,3)}] K$
 $= KA[A^{(1,3)} K]$
 Therefore, $[KA]^{(1,3)} = A^{(1,3)} K$
 (iii) $[AKKA^{(1,3)}]^T = [AA^{(1,3)}]^T$
 $= AA^{(1,3)}$
 $= AK[K A^{(1,3)}]$

Therefore, $[AK]^{(1,3)} = K A^{(1,3)}$
 (iv) $[A^3 AA^{(1,3)}]^T = [AA^{(1,3)}]^T$
 $= AA^{(1,3)}$
 $= AA^{(1,3)}$
 $= A^3 [AA^{(1,3)}]$
 (v) $[KA^3 AA^{(1,3)} K]^T = [KAA^{(1,3)} K]^T$





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$$=K [AA^{(1,3)}]^TK$$

$$=KAA^{(1,3)}K$$

$$=K A^3 [AA^{(1,3)} K]$$

Therefore, $[KA^3]^{(1,3)}= A A^{(1,3)}K$

Theorem: 2.5 If $A^{(1,4)}$ is a minimum norm generalized inverse of a k-idempotent IFM A then

- (i) $[A^2]^{(1,4)} = K A^{(1,4)}K$
- (ii) $[KA]^{(1,4)} = A^{(1,4)}K$
- (iii) $[AK]^{(1,4)} = K A^{(1,4)}$
- (iv) $[A^3]^{(1,4)} = A^{(1,4)}A$
- (v) $[KA^3]^{(1,4)} = A^{(1,4)}A K$

Proof: The proof of (i) to (iii) are analogous to that of (i) to (iii) proved in theorem 2.5

$$(iv) [A^{(1,4)} A A^3]^T = [A^{(1,4)} A]^T$$

$$= A^{(1,4)} A$$

$$= [A^{(1,4)} A]A^3$$

Therefore, $[A^3]^{(1,4)} = A^{(1,4)}A$

$$(v) [A^{(1,4)}A K KA^3]^T = [A^{(1,4)}A]^T$$

$$= A^{(1,4)}A$$

$$= [A^{(1,4)}AK] KA^3$$

Therefore, $[KA^3]^{(1,4)} = A^{(1,4)}A K$

Theorem: 2.6 For IFM A^+ is the Moore Penrose inverse of a k-idempotent IFM then

- (i) $[A^2]^+ = K A^+ K$
- (ii) $[KA]^+ = A^+ K$
- (iii) $[AK]^+ = K A^+$
- (iv) $[A^3]^+ = A^+ A^2 A^+$
- (v) $[KA^3]^+ = A^+ A^2 A^+ K$

Proof: Combining theorems 2.1, 2.2, 2.4 and 2.5 we see that the results (i) to (iii) can be easily proved.

(iv) Since A^+ is the Moore Penrose inverse of a k-idempotent IFM A , we have AA^+ is a (1,3) -inverse of A^3 by theorem 2.4. Similarly $A^+ A$ is a (1,4) -inverse of A^3 by theorem 2.5

But we have $A^+ = A^{(1,4)}A A^{(1,3)}$

$$(A^3)^+ = (A^+ A)A^3 (AA^+)$$

$$(A^3)^+ = A^+ A^2 A^+ \text{ (By } A^3 = I)$$

we have $(KA^3)^+ = (A^3)^+ K^+$

$$= (A^3)^+ K$$

$$= A^+ A^2 A^+ K$$

Theorem: 2.7 For IFM A be a k-idempotent IFM. If A^3 is symmetric then $A^+ = A^2$

Proof: For IFM A is a k-idempotent IFM such that $A^2 \in A \{1, 2\}$ (By theorem 2.3)

$$\text{Also, } (AA^2) = (A^3)^T = A^3 = AA^2$$

$$(A^2 A) = (A^3)^T = A^3 = A^2 A$$

Hence we have, then $A^+ = A^2$

Theorem: 2.8 For IFM A be a k -idempotent IFM. Then $(A^3)^+$ commutes with the associated permutation matrix K .

Proof: If A is a k-idempotent IFM then $KA^3 = A^3 K$

$$(KA^3)^+ = (A^3 K)^+$$





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$$(A^3)^+K^+ = K^+ (A^3)^+$$

Therefore, $(A^3)^+K^+ = K^+ (A^3)^+$

Theorem: 2.9 For IFMA be a k-idempotent IFM. If A is square symmetric then $A^+ = A^T$

Proof: Since A is square symmetric then $A^2 = A^T$

Clearly $A^2 \in A\{1, 2\}$

It is true that $(AA^T)^T = AA^T$ and $(A^T A)^T = A^T A$

Therefore we have $A^+ = A^T$

Theorem: 2.10 Let A be a k-idempotent IFM. If A is range symmetric then A^+ is also k-idempotent.

Proof: Assume that is range symmetric. We have

$$AA^+ = A^+A \quad \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (1) A^2(A^+)^2 A^2 &= A(AA^+)(A^+A)A \\ &= (A A^+A)(A A^+A) && \text{[By(1)]} \\ &= AA \\ &= A^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (2) (A^+)^2 A^2 (A^+) &= A^+(A^+A)(AA^+)A^+ \\ &= (A^+ A A^+)(A^+A A^+) && \text{[By (1)]} \\ &= A^+ A^+ \\ &= (A^+)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (3) [A^2(A^+)^2]^T &= (AAA^+A^+)^T \\ &= (AA^+AA^+)^T && \text{[By (1)]} \\ &= (AA^+AA^+)^T && \text{(By } AA^+A=A) \\ &= (AA^+)^T \\ &= AA^+ \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (AA^+A)A^+ && \text{[By (1)]} \\ &= A^2(A^+)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (4) [(A^+)^2 A^2]^T &= (A^+A^+AA)^T \\ &= (A^+AA^+A)^T && \text{[By (1)]} \\ &= (A^+A)^T && \text{(By } A^+AA^+=A^+) \\ &= A^+A \\ &= (A^+AA^+)A && \text{[By (1)]} \\ &= (A^+)^2 A^2 \end{aligned}$$

From (1) to (4), we see that

$$(A^2)^+ = (A^+)^2 \quad \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

Hence $A^+ = A^+ = (KA^2K)^+$

$$A^+ = K(A^2)^+ K$$

$$A^+ = K(A^+)^2 K \quad \text{[By (2)]}$$

Theorem: 2.11 Let A be a k-idempotent IFM. If A is normal then is also k-idempotent.

Proof: If is normal then clearly A is range symmetric

By theorem 2.10, A^+ is also k-idempotent

Group inverse of k-idempotent matrix

Definition 3.1 For a k – idempotent IFM A, the group inverse of A, denoted as $A^\#$ is a commuting semi – inverse of A, that is, $AA^\#A = A$, $A^\#AA^\# = A^\#$ and $AA^\# = A^\#A$

Theorem 3.1 The group inverse of A^2 is $K A^\# K$ if $A^\#$ is the group inverse of a k-idempotent IFM A.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Proof: (1) } A^2(KA^\#K) A^2 &= A^2KA^\#K A^2 \\ &= KAA^\# AK \\ &= KAK \end{aligned}$$





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$=A^2$
 (2) $(KA\#K)A^2(KA\#K) = (KA\#K)$
 by the definition, $A = A^2A\# = A\#A^2$
 Multiplying K^2 on both sides, $A^2A\# = A\#A^2$
 (3) $K^2(A\#A^2) = (A\#A^2)K^2$
 $(KA\#K)A^2 = A^2(KA\#K)$
 Therefore, $(KA\#K)$ is a group inverse of A^2

Theorem 3.2 If $A\#$ is the group inverse of a k-idempotent IFM then

- (i) $A\# = A^2$
- (ii) $(A^2)\# = A$
- (iii) $(KA)\# = KA$
- (iv) $(AK)\# = AK$
- (v) $(A^3)\# = A^3$
- (vi) $(KA^3)\# = KA^3$

Proof: By Theorem 2.3 we have .

For A is a k-idempotent IFM then $A^2 \in A\{1, 2\}$

$AA^2 = A^2A = A^3$ We have $A\# = A^2$

By the note 2.1, we see that (ii) to (vi) can be easily proved.

Remark 3.1 For a square matrix of order n , Drazin defined a pseudo inverse X satisfying the following conditions

- (i) $AX = XA$
- (ii) $A^k = A^{k+1}X$ for some positive integer k
- (iii) $X = X^2A$

-is known as commuting pseudo inverse of A and it is denoted by A_{com} . The smallest positive integer k for which the above condition is satisfied, is called the index of A . It is true that exists and is unique .

Theorem 3.3 If A_{com} is the group inverse of a k-idempotent IFM then

- (i) $A_{com} = A^2$
- (ii) $(A^2)_{com} = A$
- (iii) $(KA)_{com} = KA$
- (iv) $(AK)_{com} = AK$
- (v) $(A^3)_{com} = A^3$
- (vi) $(KA^3)_{com} = KA^3$

Proof (i) $AA^2 = A^3 = A^2A$

$A = A^4 = A^2A^2$. Hence the index of A is one.

$A^2 = A^5 = (A^2)^2A$

Therefore, $A_{com} = A^2$

The proof of (ii) is similar to (i).

(iii) Clearly commutes with itself

Since is a tripotentmatrix ,we have

$KA = KAKAKA = (KA)^2KA$

It follows that, $(KA)_{com} = KA$

The proof of (iv) is similar to (iii)

(v) Since A^3 is idempotent it is obvious that

$(A^3)_{com} = A^3$

(vi) KA^3 commutes with itself.





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Since KA^3 is tripotent, we have
 $KA^3 = KA^3KA^3KA^3[KA^3]^2KA^3$
 Therefore, $(KA^3)_{com} = KA^3$

Theorem 3.4 For IFM A be a k -idempotent IFM. Then the following are equivalent.

- (i) A is square symmetric
- (ii) A^3 is symmetric
- (iii) $A^+ = A^\#$
- (iv) A is range symmetric.

Proof: (i) implies (ii)

A is square symmetric, $A^2 = A^T$

$$A^3 = A A^T$$

$$(A^3)^T = (A A^T)^T = A A^T = A^3$$

Therefore, A^3 is symmetric

(ii) implies (iii) By theorem 2.7 we have $A^+ = A^2$

$$A^+ = A^\# \text{ (by theorem 3.1)}$$

(iv) implies (iii) A is range symmetric iff $A^+ = A^\#$

Theorem 3.5 For A IFM be a k -idempotent IFM. If A is cube symmetric then A reduces to an idempotent IFM.

Proof: Since A is cube hermitian, we have

$$A^3 = A^T \tag{1}$$

$$= (AA^3)^T$$

$$= (A^3)^T A^T$$

$$= (A^T)^T A^T$$

$$= AA^T$$

By theorem 3.3, the matrix is square symmetric, $A^2 = A^T$ (2)

From (1) and (2) implies, $A^3 = A^2$

$$A^2 = A$$

Therefore, A is idempotent IFM.

Theorem 3.6 Let A be a k -idempotent IFM. If A is range symmetric then KA and AK are also range symmetric.

Proof: If A is range symmetric then $A^+ = A^\#$ (By Theorem 3.3)

$$A^+ = A^2 \text{ (By Theorem 3.1)}$$

$$A^+ = KAK \tag{1}$$

$$A^+K = KA$$

$$(KA)^+ = (KA)^\# \text{ (By Theorem 3.1)}$$

Therefore, KA is range symmetric

From (1)

$$KA^+ = AK$$

$$(AK)^+ = (AK)^\#$$

Therefore, AK is range symmetric

Theorem 3.7 For IFM A be a k -idempotent IFM. If A is a range symmetric IFM then $(A^3)^+ = AA^+$

Proof: If A is a range symmetric matrix then

$$AA^+ = A^+A \tag{1}$$

By theorem 2.6, we have

$$(A^3)^+ = A^+AA^+$$

$$= AA^+AA^+ \tag{By (1)}$$

$$= AA^+$$





CONCLUSION

Various generalized inverses of k -idempotent IFM are determined. In particular Moore Penrose inverse and group inverse for the elements of group $G = \{A, A^2, A^3, KA, AK, KA^3\}$ are found. It has discovered that the inverse behaviour of a k -idempotent IFM square. The fact that some of the inverse of a k -idempotent IFM is also a k -idempotent IFM has also been examined. The least square g -inverse and minimal norm have been combined to create the Moore Penrose inverse. We anticipate that these fundamental features will become increasingly significant in fuzzy set theory because the application of g -inverses is expanding quickly these days.

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Role of *In vitro*, *In silico* Studies on the Biological Activity Identification and Molecular Interaction Studies of *Lawsonia inermis* (Henna) Leaf Extract against a Pathogenic Fungi *Candida albicans*

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ABSTRACT

Medicinal plants play a pivotal role in the development of medicines against emerging diseases by providing their active bioconstituents. For a longer period of time, Henna (*Lawsonia inermis*) is known for its medicinal and cosmetic properties. The present study focuses on the effect of *L. inermis* phytoconstituents on the preliminary studies on the treatment *Candidiasis* infection caused by *Candida albicans*. In *invitro* condition, anti-bacterial activity, anti-fungal activity, anti-oxidant capacity, anti-thrombolytic activity, and anti-inflammatory activity were evaluated with the help of leaf acetone extract of *L. inermis*. The acetone extract of *L. inermis* were subjected to screening of anti microbial activity (AMA) against four different types of common pathogens *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and *Escherichia coli* with the three different concentrations. Other than AMA, anti-fungal activity, germ tube test, preliminary phytochemical analysis, antioxidant activity, anti-inflammatory and thrombolytic assays also examined. The *invitro* results revealed that the acetone extract of *L. inermis* leaves showed good antimicrobial & antifungal activity against test organisms. Anti-oxidant, anti-inflammatory and anti-thrombolytic assays also exhibited good free radical scavenging activity, superior capacities for anti-inflammation properties and thrombolytic activity of leaf extract. Further, phytochemical screening revealed the presence of carbohydrates, proteins, flavonoids, tannins, phenolic compounds, alkaloids, terpenoids, quinones of the extract. In *insilico* condition, interactions of three different ligands (1 (3H) - Isobenzofuranone, 1, 2, 3-Benzenetriol, and [Difluoro (isocyano) methyl] benzene) were tested against the active site of amino acids sequences of *C. albicans* adhesion protein

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(2YLH). Results of *insilico* analysis showed the variability among the three different combinations of interactions with the help of root mean square value.

Keywords: *L. inermis*, *C.albicans*, *S. aureus*, *B. subtilis*, *P. aeruginosa*, *E. coli*, *Invitro* and *Insilico* assays

INTRODUCTION

Candida albicans is one of the major fungi present in skin, oral, vaginal, and gastrointestinal tracts of humans [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]. It is approximately present in an amount of 45 – 65 % in infants. Increase in the level of *C. albicans* results in their colonization in the human oral, vaginal and digestive tracts [6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15]. Colonization may cause superficial systemic infections in oral mucosa, vulvo vaginal cavity, and systemic infections. As a result of colonization, the *C. albicans* infection will become more invasive and may enter into the internal organs through the bloodstream [1, 5, 16, 17, 18]. Compared to oral and digestive candidiasis, vaginal candidiasis (VC) is more common and present in 85% of women population due to its increased level of pathogenicity [11, 12, 13,14, 15]. Patients affected with VC having the symptoms like jelly-like white liquid discharge, itching, difficulty urinating, and dyspareunia in the lower genital tract [14, 15, 19].

Plants are naturally available medicines used to treat diseases in living organisms [20, 21, 22, 23]. Henna (*Lawsonia inermis*) is known to have medicinal properties and benefits for humans [24, 25, 26, 27]. *L. inermis* is a shrub cultivated in many areas and used as an ornamental and dye plant. It is found mainly in the tropics, subtropics, semi-arid regions of africa & south asia (tropical savannas and tropical arid regions), and northern Australia [24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29]. *L. inermis* has a wide range of chemical constituents including naphthoquinone, dietary supplements, phenolic derivatives, coumarins, xanthones, tannins, flavonoids, fatty components, triterpenes, sterols, and other chemical constituents such as glucose, gallic acid, amino acids, mannitol, trace elements and minerals [30, 31, 32, 33]. Extract of *L. inermis* has been reported to have specific properties like hepatoprotective, analgesic, hypoglycemic, anti-inflammatory, immunostimulatory, anti-bacterial, anti-tumor, anti-fungal, anti-viral, wound healing, anti-parasitic, immunomodulation, anti-trypanosomal, anti-dermatophyte, anti-oxidant, anti-fertility, anti-tuberculosis, anti-inflammatory and pharmacological uses [31, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40]. With the knowledge gained from the recent research studies, present study tried to elucidate the properties of *L. inermis* acetone leaf extracts against anti-bacterial, anti-fungal, anti-oxidant, anti-thrombolytic activities. Further, phytoconstituents of extract were also studied to know its interaction with the candida adhesion protein (2YLH) during the *Candidiasis* infection with the help of molecular docking.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Plant material

Lawsonia inermis is an evergreen shrub distributed throughout the india. Different parts of the plant were used for medicinal and cosmetic application. In this study, plant leaves were used for the extraction of phytochemical components. Leaves were collected from the kovaipudur region (11.006 Latitude & 76.9304 Longitude) of Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu, India.

Extract preparation

Collected leaves dried for two weeks in shade [35]. After drying, leaves were mechanically ground to a fine powder in an electric mill. 20 g of powdered leaves was extracted in soxhelt apparatus with acetone. Later on, collected extract mixture was kept at incubator at a temperature of 37 °C for 48 hours with a shaking speed of 180 rpm. Then the mixture was filtered through Whatman No.1 filter paper after 48 hours of incubation. The filtrate was evaporated at room temperature for a period of two weeks. Finally, the residue of the crude extract was collected and dissolved



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in dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) after 2 weeks. The resulting extract was stored at 4° C in an airtight container for future use.

Test organisms

Test organisms used in this study were acquired from PSG Medical College, Avinashi Road, Peelamedu, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India. Two gram positive (*Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Bacillus subtilis*), two gram negative strains (*Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and *Escherichia coli*) and one fungal strain (*C. albicans*) was used for the antibacterial activity.

In vitro assay for determination of extract antimicrobial activity**Antibacterial activity**

Before performing antimicrobial activity assay, each bacterial isolates were refreshed in 5 ml of nutrient broth in a separate vial under sterile condition and incubated at 37 °C for 12 - 16 hours. Standard agar-well diffusion method was used for determining the antibacterial activity of *L. inermis* leaf extract. Pure cultures of bacterial isolates were subcultured on nutrient agar plates. 100 microliters (µl) of a fresh overnight culture of bacteria was streaked onto a petri dish containing MHA (Muller-Hinton agar). Each strain was evenly swabbed with a sterile cotton swab in four different plates. Gel punctures were used to create wells in Mueller-Hinton agar with a diameter of 10 mm. DMSO was used as a negative control and 20, 40 and 60 microliters of leaf extract were added to the corresponding wells. Ampicillin, Penicillin, Chloramphenicol, and Streptomycin were used as standard antibacterial agent against *S. aureus*, *B. subtilis*, *E. coli*, and *P. aeruginosa* respectively. Each standard antibacterial agent was prepared by dissolving 0.001 mg of standard antibacterial powder in 1 ml of distilled water. Standard antimicrobial agents were added to the appropriate wells of the MHA plate and incubated at 37 °C for 24 hours. Testing was performed in triplicate for each bacterial strain with each bacterial isolate and the mean zone of inhibition was recorded.

Antifungal activity

Antifungal activity of *L. inermis* leaf extract against *C. albicans* was tested with the help of agar-well diffusion method. Pure cultures of fungal strains were sub cultured on PDA (potato dextrose agar) with an inoculums volume of 100 µl using the quadrant streaking method. The fungal culture was evenly swabbed with a sterile cotton swab in the plate. After swabbing, 10 mm diameter wells were punched on potato dextrose agar using a gel puncture. Ketoconazole and DMSO are used a positive and negative control against *C. albicans*. 20 µl, 40 µl and 60 µl of leaf extract were added to appropriate wells for the determination of antifungal activity [41].

Germ Tube Test

The germ tube test was a screening method to distinguish *C. albicans* from other yeasts. 0.5 ml (12 drops) of human serum was collected in a new sterile micro centrifuge tube. The sera were then inoculated with one loop of *Candida* culture and incubated in a 35° C on an incubator for 3 hours. After 3 hours of incubation, a suspension drop was placed on a clean and sterile grease-free slide which is followed by mounting with a help of cover slip [41, 42]. Wet mount were examined microscopically at 45X and 100X for the formation of germ tubes, long tubular projections extending from the yeast cells.

Phytochemical analysis

The obtained crude extracts were subjected to preliminary phytochemical screening according to the standard protocols [43, 44].

Carbohydrates

1 ml of plant leaf extract was placed in a test tube and treated with an equal volume of 5 ml of Fehling's solution A and B (1:1). For the precipitate formation, test tube is placed in a boiling water bath for 5 minutes. Later on, test tubes were examined for the appearance of a yellow or red color precipitate indicating the presence of reducing sugars.



**Cardiac glycosides**

5 ml of plant leaf extract was placed in a test tube and 2 ml of glacial acetic acid containing 1 drop of ferric chloride solution was added. 1 ml of concentrated sulfuric acid was added to the test tube. The test tubes were observed for the appearance of a brown ring at the interface indicating the presence of cardiac glycosides.

Terpenoid

For the identification of terpenoids in the leaf extract, 2 ml of chloroform added with a mixture of plant leaf extract and concentrated sulfuric acid. Formation of layer with a reddish-brown appearance at the interface shows the presence of terpenoids.

Tannin

2 ml of the plant leaf extract was mixed with a few drops of 0.1% ferric chloride solution in a test tube. The tube was examined for a brownish-green appearance indicating the presence of tannins.

Phenolic compound

1 ml of plant leaf extract from *L. inermis* was mixed with 4 drops of ethanol and 3 drops of 0.1% ferric chloride solution in a test tube. Formation of blue or purple color shows the presence of phenolic compounds.

Protein

1 ml of plant leaf extract was placed in a test tube with two drops of freshly prepared 0.2% ninhydrin. Then test tubes were heated for a 5-10 minutes for the identification color change. The tube was examined for a blue appearance indicating the presence of protein.

Quinones

Identification of quinines was done by adding of 4 – 5 drops of 1 N sodium hydroxide with 1 ml *L. inermis* plant leaf extract. The test tube was examined for a red appearance indicating the presence of quinone.

Steroids

For steroid identification, 2 ml of chloroform was added with 1 ml of crude extract and mixed well. With the mixture, few drops of concentrated H₂ SO₄ were added via the sideways of the tube. Formation of red color in the lower chloroform layer shows the steroid presence.

Saponins

Saponin identification was performed by mixing crude extract with 5 ml of distilled water. Presence of saponin results in foam formation.

Flavonoids - Shinoda test

Few fragments of magnesium ribbon were added to the crude extract with the help of a magnetic stirrer. Then with the mixture, 2-5 drops of concentrated HCl was added drop wise for the formation of color. Formation of pinkish-scarlet color indicates the presence of flavonoids.

Alkaloids

2 ml of verner's reagent was added to the test sample (crude extract) which results in color change. Formation of reddish brown color indicates the presence of alkaloids.

Antioxidant activity

The antioxidant activity of *L. inermis* extracts was evaluated using the 2, 2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) scavenger assay. In this activity, a violet DPPH (2, 2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl) solution is reduced to a yellow solution by donating protons to form reduced DPPH (the stock solution was prepared from standard ascorbic acid



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and methanol leaf extracts). Further 1.0 ml of DPPH solution was mixed with 100 microliters of plant extract and made up to 3 ml using methanol as sample. The reaction mixture was incubated at room temperature in the dark for 30 minutes and the absorbance was read at 517 nm using a spectrophotometer.

Anti-inflammatory activity

Inhibition of Egg Albumin Denaturation

The reaction mixture was mixed with different concentrations (2.5 mg/ml, 5 mg/ml, 7.5 mg/ml and 10 mg/ml) of *L. inermis* and a 1% aqueous solution of the bovine albumin fraction. Diclofenac was used as standard. A small amount of 1N HCl was used to adjust the pH of the reaction mixture. Samples were incubated at 37° C for 20 minutes and then heated at 57° C for 20 minutes. After the sample was cooled, the turbidity is measured spectrophotometrically at 660 nm.

Proteinase inhibitory action

Four different concentrations (5 mg/ml, 5 mg/ml, 7.5 mg/ml, and 10 mg/ml) of crude extract (1 ml each) were mixed with 2 ml of trypsin, and 1 ml of 20 Mm Tris HCL buffer (pH 7.4). Reaction mixture was incubated at 37° C for a period of 20 – 25 minutes after addition of 1 ml casein (0.8% w/v). After incubation, 2 ml of 70 % perchloric acid was added to the reaction mixture to terminate the reaction. After termination, reaction mixture was centrifuged to overcome cloudy suspension. Centrifuged supernatant was read out with the help of UV-visible spectrophotometer at 210 nm for calculating the absorbance rate.

The percentage inhibition of proteinase inhibitory activity was calculated by using the following formula

$$\text{Percentage inhibition (\%)} = (\text{Abs control} - \text{Abs sample}) \times 100 / \text{Control}$$

Thrombolytic activity

Approximately 3 ml of fresh human blood was drawn from a volunteer and immediately distributed into 6 different pre-weighed sterile microcentrifuge tubes (0.5 ml/tube). After distribution, tubes were placed at 37° C for 45 - 60 minutes for incubation. After complete removal of serum, each clot-containing tube was weighed again to determine the clot weight.

Weighed coagulation tubes were added with five different concentrations of crude extracts (20 µl, 40 µl, 60 µl, 80 µl, and 100 µl) and kept for incubation at 37 °C for 1.5 hours. After incubation, weight of the tubes was calculated to observe the amount of clot disruption. Percentage of clot lysis was calculated by dividing weight of the lysis clot with weight of clot before lysis. Obtained value was further multiplied with hundred to retrieve the percentage.

Docking

The 3D structure of N terminal - AIs adhesion protein molecules from *C. albicans* AIs 9-2 (PDB ID: 2YLH), was downloaded from RCSB PDB database (rcsb.org) [63]. The structure of 1 (3H) - Isobenzofuranone (PubChem CID: 12315453), 1, 2, 3-Benzenetriol (PubChem CID: 1057), and Benzene, 1 Isocyano 4 methyl (PubChem ID: 87735159) were retrieved from Pubchem database in sdf (structure data file) format. Open babel software was used to convert the file format from sdf to protein data bank archive (pdb) (http://openbabel.org/wiki/Main_Page). Auto Dock 4.2 was used for docking research [64]. Gasteiger charges were computed for the protein and Kollman charges were added. AD4 type atoms were assigned and added Hydrogen atoms. Proteins were saved in PDBQT format. Grid boxes were adjusted based on the active site of the protein and the ligand bound to the appropriate active site. Autogrid and Autodock 4 were run and the results captured in MAP and DLG files respectively [45].

Data analysis

Data were presented in the form of a bar diagram with the help of Microsoft Excel Program.





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RESULTS

Identification of antimicrobial activities of *L. inermis* leaf extract against *S. aureus*, *B. subtilis*, *E. coli*, and *P. aeruginosa*

Collected plant extract was initially tested for their antibacterial activity against standard antibiotics and four test organisms (*S. aureus*, *B. subtilis*, *E. coli*, and *P. aeruginosa*). Present study showed that *L. inermis* leaves extract possess good antimicrobial activities against standard antibiotics and bacterial test organisms. Antibacterial activity of crude extract showed a greater zone of inhibition against *E. coli* at three different concentrations (20 µl, 40 µl, and 60 µl) against the standard antibiotic (chloramphenicol). Obtained results showed that zone of inhibition is high in 60 µl of crude extract against *E. coli* compared to *B. subtilis*, *S. aureus*, and *P. aeruginosa*.

Effects of *L. inermis* leaf extract against the fungus *C. albicans* (antifungal activity)

At first, germ tube test (GTT) was performed to identify and distinguish the morphological forms of *C. albicans* with the help of microscopic studies. Initially, test organisms were grown in potato dextrose (PD) broth and a drop of culture examined under 45X and 100X. Microscopic examinations showed the arosal of short hyphal extension from yeast cell and confirmed the absence of other yeast cells (Figure – 2). A confirmed filamentous fungus *C. albicans* was tested against different concentrations of *L. inermis* leaf extract (20 µl, 40 µl, and 60 µl) with a positive and negative standard for their antifungal activity. Results of antifungal activity showed that crude extract have an increased fungal activity against the test organisms 20 µl, 40 µl, and 60 µl.

Role of Phytochemical screening technique in the identification of bioactive components

Phytochemical screening technique (PST) was performed to test the presence/absence of eleven (11) bioactive components in the leaf extract of *L. inermis*. PST showed the presence of eight bioactive components (BC) (carbohydrate, cardioglycoside, terpenoid, tannin, phenolic compounds, protein, quinone, and alkaloid) and absence of three BC (saponins, flavonoids, and steroid) in the extract.

In vitro Antioxidant activity of *L. inermis* leaf extract

Free radical scavenging activity properties of *L. inermis* leaf extract was measured using DPPH assay. The scavenging activities (SA) of DPPH were used to quantify and predict the ability of antioxidants present in the crude extract. The SA of the five different fractions tested against the ascorbic acid (standard) in a concentration-dependent manner. Test results showed that scavenging activity was high at the concentration of 200 µg/ml with a percentage of 84 % followed by 400 (81 %), 300 (18 %), 500 (6 %), and 100 (1.5 %) µg/ml.

Functions of *L. inermis* leaf extract against inhibition of egg albumin denaturation and proteinase action (Anti-inflammatory activity)

An anti-inflammatory property of *L. inermis* leaf extract was evaluated with the help of by the inhibition of egg albumin denaturation and proteinase action. Acetone extracts of *L. inermis* were able to inhibit the denaturation of egg albumin proteins based on the concentrations used in the study. Inhibition of egg albumin denaturation (IEAD) was gradually increased and highest level of inhibition was observed in 7.5 and 10 mg/ml of crude extract with reference to standard (diclofenac). Proteinase inhibitory activities (PIA) were further analyzed to validate the anti-inflammatory activities of IEAD. Results of PIA showed that inhibition level was reached their maximum level at 7.5 mg/ml. Obtained results of IEAD and PIA, proved that anti-inflammatory activity was high at the concentration of 7.5 mg/ml compared to other three.

Effect of *L. inermis* leaf extract against hemolytic activity (Thrombolytic activity)

In vitro clot lysis method was used to identify the haemolytic activity of *L. inermis* leaf extract. Five different concentrations of leaf extract were used for the identification of blood lysis. Acquired data showed that maximum clot lysis was peaked at the concentration of 60 µl with 90% and minimum clot lysis happened at 20 µl with 55% of



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blood cell lysis compared to other three different concentrations. The *in vitro* thrombolytic activity study revealed that *L. inermis* acetone extract exhibits a significant thrombolytic activity when compared with negative control.

Impact of *L. inermis* phytoconstituents interaction with adhesion protein of *Candida albicans* through molecular docking studies

Ligands were chosen based on the phytoconstituents present in *L. inermis* (Sharma and Goel 2018). Three different ligands were used for interaction studies (1 (3H)-Isobenzofuranone, 1, 2, 3-Benzenetriol, and Difluoro1 isocyano Benzene) against an adhesion protein of *Candida albicans* 2YLH [Structure of N-terminal domain of *C. albicans* Als9-2 G299W mutant]. Docking results showed that interactions between 1 (3H)-Isobenzofuranone, 1,2,3-Benzenetriol, and [Difluoro(isocyano)methyl] benzene against 2YLH showed active amino acid residues of Glu 27, Ile309, Val 311, Tyr 21, Thr 28, Ala 22, Tyr 23; Ala 22, Tyr 23, Tyr 21, Ile 309, Glu 20, Val 311; Phe 225, Val 119, Trp 223, Pro 26, Gly 25, Thr 28, Tyr 23, Glu 27 with a binding energy of - 6.43, - 4.77, and - 4.34 kcal/mol. Ligand protein interaction profile showed that there was a common active site residue of Tyr 23 among the three ligand interaction with the adhesion protein.

Root mean square deviation (RMSD) value was used to understand the similarity between ligand-protein docked complex in this study. RMSD value showed reliable variation among the active amino acid residues between the interactions of 1 (3H)-isobenzofuranone, 1, 2, 3-benzenetriol, and difluoro1 isocyano benzene with 2YLH.

DISCUSSION

Several investigations demonstrated the antimicrobial activities of methanolic, chloroform, ethanolic extracts of *L. inermis* against different bacterial pathogens. These antimicrobial activities were efficient against few human pathogens due to the presence of secondary metabolites present in the leaf extracts [46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53]. In the present study, an initial attempt is made to show that impact of *L. inermis* acetone extract on antibacterial, antifungal, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and *In vitro* thrombolytic activities against bacterial test organisms (*S. aureus*, *B. subtilis*, *P. aeruginosa* and *E. coli*) and a fungus (*C. albicans*). At first, antibacterial activities of extract were examined against four different types of bacterial strains with the help of two gram positive (*S. aureus* and *B. subtilis*) and two gram negative bacterial strains (*P. aeruginosa* and *E. coli*). Obtained results, showed that phytochemical constituents of *L. inermis* exhibit antimicrobial activity was more efficient against gram positive bacterial strains while ineffective for gram negative bacterial strains.

Later on, antifungal activity of *L. inermis* acetone extract showed good inhibitory activity against *C. albicans* by showing a good inhibition zone against ketoconazole as positive control and DMSO as negative control. Antimicrobial activities showed that acetone extract has a good efficacy against the test organisms and validated those secondary metabolites of *L. inermis* responsible for their strong antimicrobial activity. In order to identify the secondary metabolites present in acetone extract of *L. inermis* leaves, qualitative phytochemical analysis was performed. The active constituents of these secondary metabolites include carbohydrates, cardiac glycosides, terpenoids, tannin, phenolic compounds and quinone.

Recent reports stated that stable free radical (DPPH) absorbance decreases from 517 nm to lower absorbance due to proton scavenging (PS). These PS resulted in the formation of reactive oxygen species (ROS). It was already reported that aqueous and methanolic extract of *L. inermis* has a strong DPPH scavenging activity [54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62]. The antioxidant properties of the *L. inermis* extract was estimated using DPPH radical scavenging assay. DPPH radical scavenging activity is used to quantify and predict the capacity of antioxidants to neutralize or quench the free radical [57, 58]. 200 microlitre of shaded extract of *L. inermis* leaves exhibited the highest antioxidant capacity. In this present study, the results indicated that the acetone extract of *L. inermis* leaves showed good anti-inflammatory activity at concentration of 10mg/ml respectively by egg albumin denaturation method and 39% of inhibition noted at concentration of 7.5mg/ml by proteinase inhibitory action method. Finally, the acetone extract of *L. inermis* leaves



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showed good thrombolytic activity with 90% concentration of 60 microlitre. Finally, molecular docking study was done to know the interactions between the selected ligands (Phytoconstituents of *L.inermis* leaf extract) and the active site amino acids (2YLH) using the docking software program AutoDock 4.2.6. The PDB structure 2YLH (resolution 1.70 Å) was used as a receptor for docking with the molecules. Primarily, the bounded water molecules were removed from the protein 2YLH and checked the molecule for polar hydrogens and their torsion bonds. Computed Gasteiger charges and employed Lamarckian Genetic Algorithm as search algorithm in AutoDock 4.2.6. to evaluate the binding energies on the protein coordinates. The three dimensional grid boxes were created by an autogrid algorithm. AutoDock used to compute the binding free energy of a ligand on binding with the target protein to complete the interaction studies.

CONCLUSION

In the present study, dried leaves of *L. inermis* were used to prepare the acetone extract. Prepared acetone extract was used to study the biological activities of *L. inermis* leaf extract with the help of *Invitro* and *Insilico* studies. In *Invitro* conditions, anti-microbial (anti-bacterial and anti-fungal), anti-oxidant, anti-thrombolytic activities were investigated against the test organisms. Phytochemical analysis also reported the presence of eight bioactive components in the acetone extract. Presence of these bioactive components which may result in the development *invitro* activities of *L. inermis* leaf extract. *Invitro* studies proved that acetone extract have a wide biological activities against *C. albicans* in a concentration dependent manner. *Insilico* studies showed the interaction of three selected ligands (1 (3H)-Isobenzofuranone, 1,2,3-Benzenetriol and [Difluoro(isocyno)methyl]benzene) against the adhesion protein of 2YLH (*C. albicans*). Docking results showed that active amino acid site (Tyr 23) may act as a suitable target for the treatment of candidiasis.

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Author Contributions

MP carried out formal analysis, MM, SRK contributed to the development of study design, data analysis, preparation of manuscript, and revision of this manuscript. BLS contributed to the docking studies. Author agrees with the content of the manuscript.

Conflicts of Interest

The author declare no conflict of interest

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Table 1 - Phytochemical analysis

S. NO	Bioactive constituents	Observation	Results
1	Carbohydrate	Yellow or Red color precipitates	(+) Presence
2	Cardioglycoside	Brown color ring at the interface	(+) Presence
3	Terpenoid	Reddish brown color at the interface	(+) Presence
4	Tannin	Brownish green color	(+) Presence
5	Phenolic Compound	Red color	(+) Presence
6	Protein	Blue color	(+) Presence
7	Quinone	Red color	(+) Presence
8	Alkaloid	Reddish brown color	(+) Presence
9	Saponin	Absence of Foam	(-) Absence
10	Flavonoids	Absence of color	(-) Absence
11	Steroid	Absence of layer formation	(-) Absence



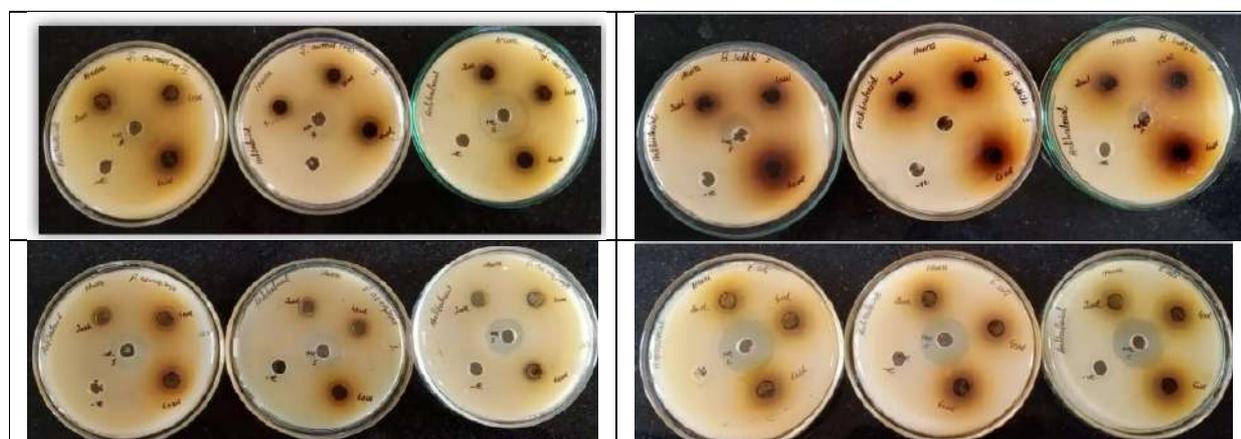


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Table 2 - Binding energy and interaction summary of Ligands with protein - 2YLH

1 (3H)-Isobenzofuranone against 2YLH	2YLH on docking with 1,2,3-Benzenetriol	2YLH on docking with [Difluoro(isocyano)methyl]benzene
2ylh protein total kollman charge added = - 15.0 1 (3H)-Isobenzofuranone added gasteiger charges merged 18 non-polar hydrogens detected 3 rotatable bonds set TORSDOF to 3 Ligand atom types :C OA Number of Active Torsions in Ligand : 3 Number of Torsional Degrees of Freedom (roadside) in ligand : 3 Binding energy =-6.43 Ligand efficiency =-0.46 Torsional energy =0.89 Unbound energy =-0.28	2ylh protein total kollman charge added = -15.0 1,2,3- Benzenetriol added gasteiger charges merged 3 non-polar hydrogens found 6 aromatic carbons detected 3 rotatable bounds set TORSDOF to 3 Ligand atom types : A HD OA Number of Active Torsions in Ligand : 3 Binding energy =-4.77 Ligand efficiency =-0.53 Torsional energy =-0.89 Unbound energy =-1.24	2ylh protein total kollman charge added = -15.0 Benzene, 1 Isocyano 4 methyl added gasteiger charges merged 5 non-polar hydrogens found 6 aromatic carbons detected 1 rotatable bonds set TORSDOF to 1 Ligand atom types :A C F NA Number of Active Torsion in Ligand : 1 Binding energy =-4.34 Ligand efficiency =-0.39 Torsional energy =0.3 Unbound energy =-0.16

Ligand	Binding energy (kcal/mol)	Active site residues
1 (3H)-Isobenzofuranone	-6.43	Glu 27, Ile309, Val 311, Tyr21, Thr28, Ala22, Tyr 23
1,2,3-Benzenetriol	-4.77	Ala22, Tyr 23, Tyr21, Ile 309, Glu 20, Val 311
[Difluoro(isocyano)methyl]benzene	-4.34	Phe225, Val119, Trp223, Pro26, Gly25, Thr28, Tyr23, Glu27





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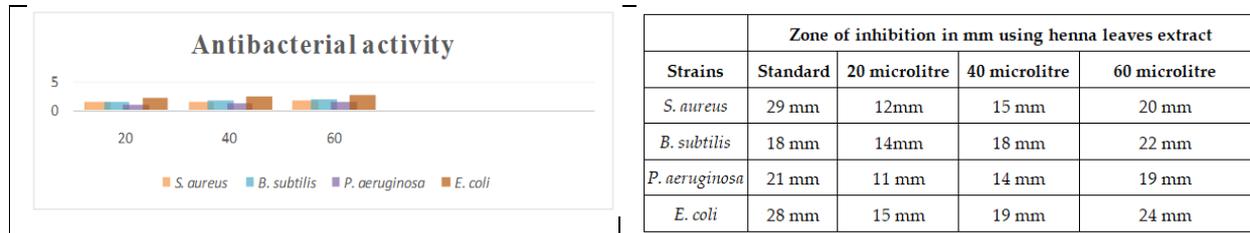


Figure 1. Antibacterial activity of *L. inermis* acetone leaf extract against test organisms (*Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and *Escherichia coli*).

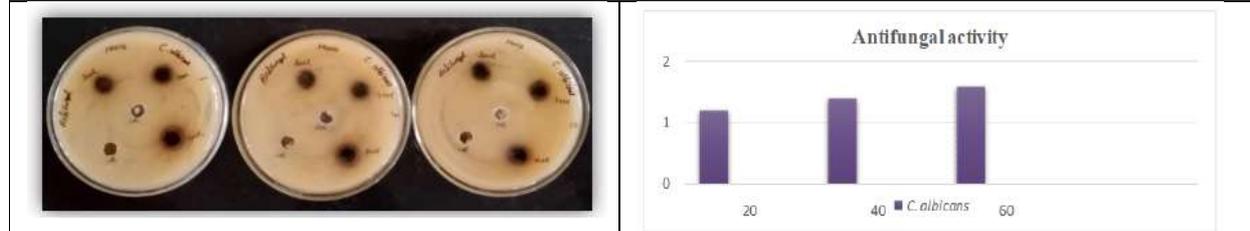


Figure 2. Antifungal activity of *L. inermis* acetone leaf extract against *C. albicans*.

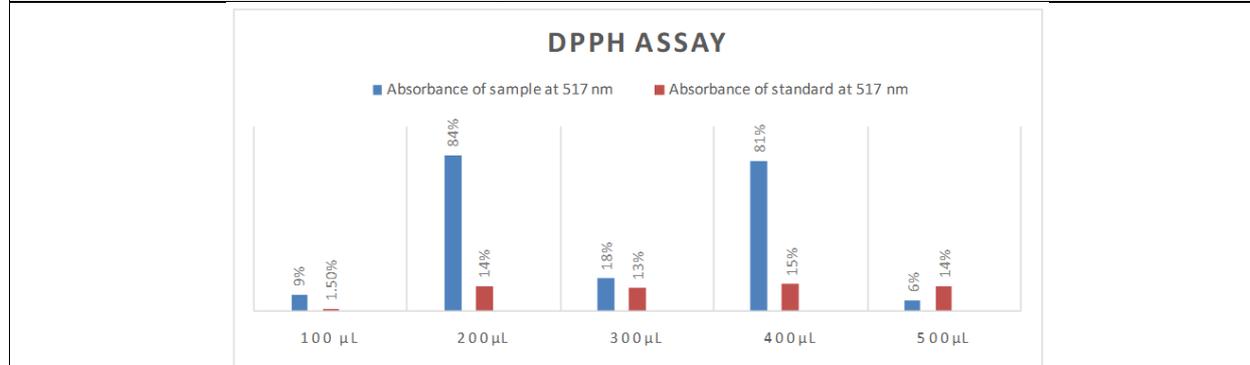
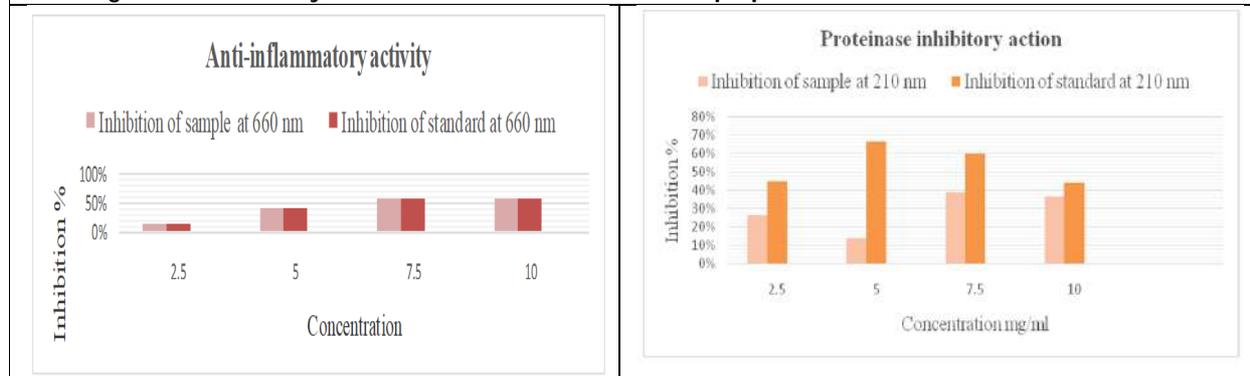


Figure 3. DPPH assay for the identification of antioxidant properties of *L. inermis* acetone leaf extract.





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	Concentration mg/ml							
	Standard				Sample			
	2.5	5	7.5	10	2.5	5	7.5	10
Inhibition of egg albumin denaturation in %	15	42	57	58	13	43	58	58
Proteinase inhibitory activity in %	45	67	60	44	27	14	39	37

Figure 4. *In vitro* anti-inflammatory activity of *L. inermis* acetone leaf extract against albumin and casein standards. Anti-inflammatory activities were tested against different concentrations with the help of egg albumin denaturation method and proteinase inhibitory activity.



Concentration of plant extract	Empty (micro centrifuge tube) in gram	Clot Weight in gram	Lysis Clot	% Of Lysis
20microltere	1.1	0.38	0.21	55 %
40	1.1	0.47	0.33	70 %
60	1.1	0.42	0.38	90 %
80	1.1	0.2	0.15	75 %
100	1.1	0.3	0.17	57 %

Figure 5. Identification of anti-thrombolytic activity of *L. inermis* acetone leaf extract by *In vitro* clot lysis method.





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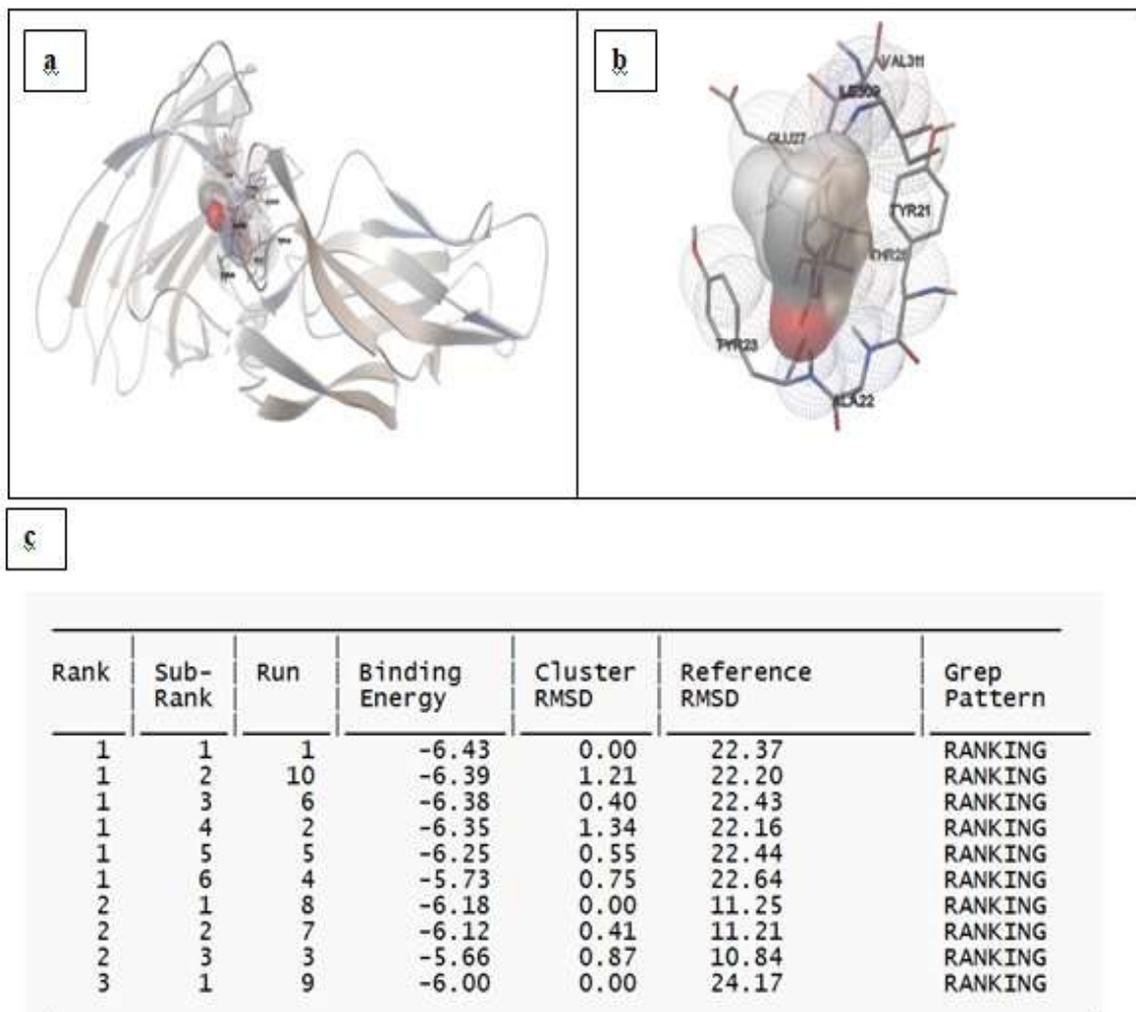


Figure 6. Molecular docking studies showing the binding of 1 (3H)-Isobenzofuranone with the active binding site of *C. albicans* Als9-2 G299W mutant protein (PDB ID 2YLH)





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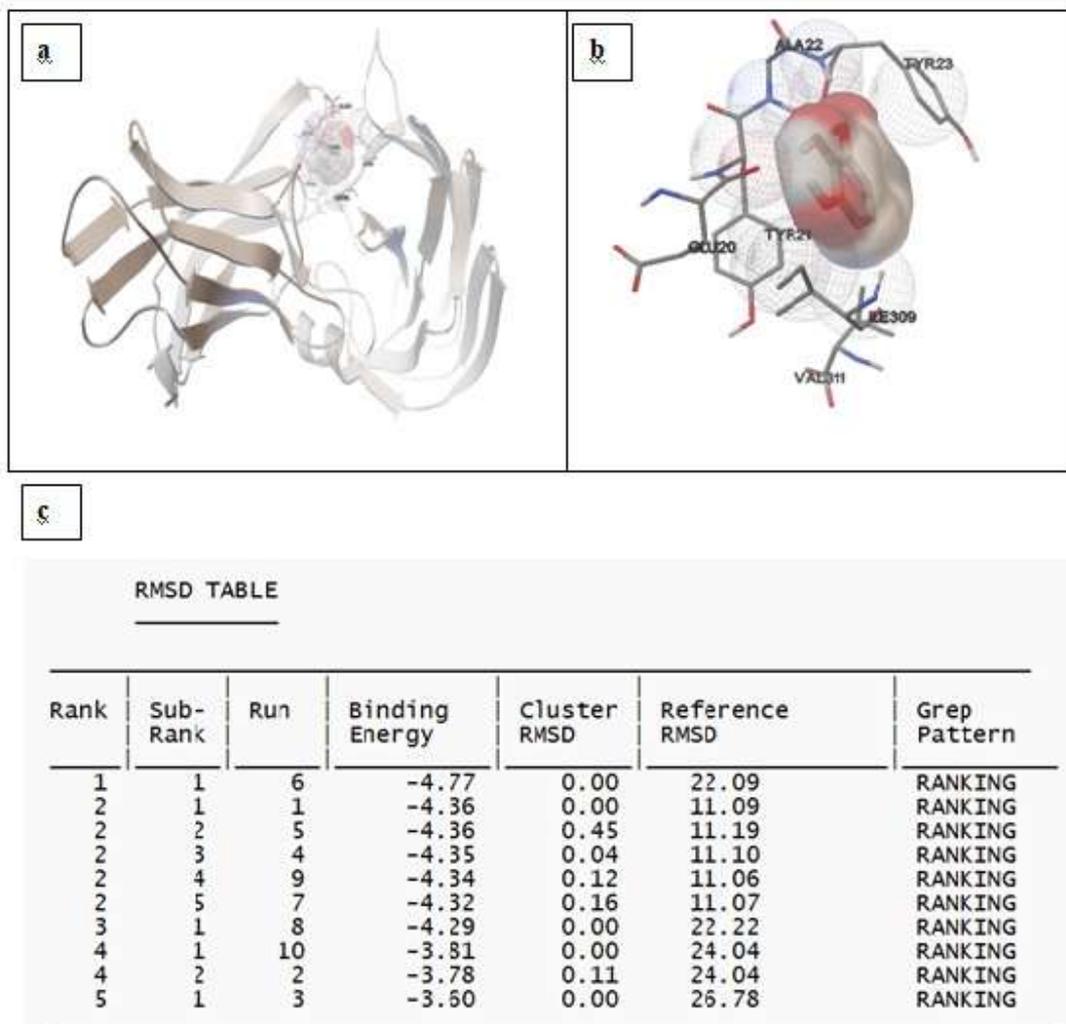
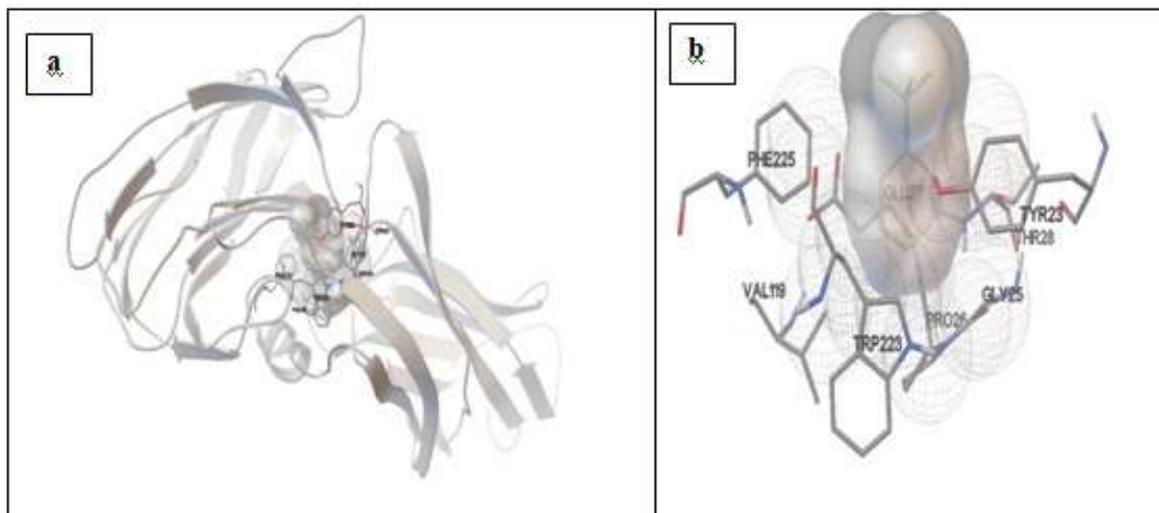


Figure 7. Two and three dimensional conformation of 1,2,3-Benzenetriol binding with the active site of *C. albicans* Als9-2 G299W mutant protein (PDB ID 2YLH) showing hydrogen bonding pattern.





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c

RMSD TABLE

Rank	Sub-Rank	Run	Binding Energy	Cluster RMSD	Reference RMSD	Grep Pattern
1	1	9	-4.34	0.00	23.87	RANKING
1	2	4	-4.32	0.33	23.98	RANKING
2	1	5	-3.93	0.00	12.23	RANKING
2	2	10	-3.93	0.06	12.20	RANKING
2	3	6	-3.92	0.08	12.19	RANKING
2	4	1	-3.91	0.13	12.15	RANKING
3	1	3	-3.82	0.00	23.35	RANKING
4	1	2	-3.79	0.00	23.90	RANKING
5	1	7	-3.74	0.00	23.77	RANKING
6	1	8	-3.61	0.00	28.76	RANKING

Figure 8. Molecular docking conformation studies showing the binding of [Difluoro (isocyano)methyl]benzene with the active site of *C. albicans* Als9-2 G299W mutant protein (PDB ID 2YLH) with root mean square value.





Diabetes Mellitus and its Association with Cardiovascular, Renal and Hepatic Outcomes: A Narrative Review

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ABSTRACT

In most parts of the world, Diabetes mellitus (DM) is on the rise, and it's typically linked to multi-organ diseases like kidney, liver, and cardiovascular disease. Cardiovascular and renal consequences are a severe burden for persons with type 2 Diabetes mellitus (T2DM) in such illnesses. Current guidelines propose combination medication therapy in addition to lifestyle modifications to prevent or delay the occurrence and progression of co-morbidities. Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is a major and developing concern in people with T2DM, and it can progress to end-stage kidney disease, atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, and heart failure (HF). The major mechanism in the pathophysiology of DM has been considered to be increased mitochondrial oxidative stress, but additional mechanisms have also been implicated. Inflammation, cell apoptosis, and tissue fibrosis, which damage both the glomerular filtration barrier and the renal tubulointerstitium, promote progressive and relentless loss of kidney function in tandem with increased oxidative stress. One of the most common chronic liver conditions in the world is non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD). It's debatable if moderate alcohol use contributes to the advancement of NAFLD. Furthermore, the best tool for measuring alcohol usage in NAFLD is unknown.

Keywords: Diabetes mellitus, Diabetic nephropathy, Cardiovascular disease, Chronic liver disease.





INTRODUCTION

Diabetes mellitus is a chronic metabolic disorder characterized by high levels of sugar (glucose) in the blood. It is an important risk factor for cardiovascular, renal and hepatic diseases. Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of morbidity and mortality in people with diabetes. People with diabetes are at increased risk of developing coronary artery disease, heart failure, and stroke. The risk of developing these conditions is further increased by the presence of other risk factors such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and obesity. Kidney disease, or diabetic nephropathy, is a common complication of diabetes. It is the leading cause of end-stage renal disease and the need for dialysis or kidney transplantation. People with diabetes are also at increased risk of developing other kidney-related problems, such as proteinuria and glomerulosclerosis. Liver disease, or diabetic liver disease, is another common complication of diabetes. It is characterized by inflammation and scarring of the liver, and can lead to liver failure. People with diabetes are at increased risk of developing nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) and nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH).

Effective control of diabetes can help reduce the risk of these complications. This includes maintaining good blood sugar control, adopting a healthy lifestyle, and taking prescribed medications. According to the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), 451 million adults worldwide have diabetes in 2017, with that number expected to rise to 693 million by 2045 if no effective prevention strategies are adopted. Type 1 and type 2 diabetes have become more widespread in children and adolescents, with estimates of type 1 diabetes among children and adolescents under the age of 20 now topping one million [1].

Type 1 diabetes (insulin-dependent) and type 2 diabetes (insulin resistance with relative insulin insufficiency) are the two most frequent types of diabetes. Diabetes type 2 accounts for 90–95 percent of all cases [2]. Diabetes mellitus affects all organs and tissues and can lead to multiple pathologies, such as cardiovascular disease, which is the leading cause of death in diabetic patients. A specific heart disease related to diabetes called diabetic cardiomyopathy was first described by Rubler *et al.* in 1972 [3]. Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause of morbidity and mortality among diabetic people. Despite the fact that the prevalence of atherosclerotic CVD (ASCVD) is widely recognised, heart failure (HF) is an under-reported CVD consequence of diabetes mellitus (DM) [4]. Patients with this condition have been responsible for a higher number of heart failures that are linked to ischemic heart disease or excessive blood pressure. As a result, based on recent scientific evidence, diabetes mellitus, as a distinct risk independent of CAD, blood pressure, or other variables, leads to progressive heart failure. Previous studies have focused on the impacts of diabetes and prediabetes on left ventricular performance, leaving the right ventricle uncovered [5].

Hyperinsulinemia is the main distinguishing symptom of type 2 diabetes. Insulin has a number of negative effects on the heart, blood vessels, kidneys, and adipose tissue, all of which can hasten the onset of heart failure or exacerbate its progression. It's worth noting that the heart failure phenotype appears to differ between patients with type 1 and type 2 diabetes, presumably due to the latter's prolonged hyperinsulinemia. Furthermore, many antidiabetic medicines that work by inhibiting insulin have been linked to an increased risk of heart failure and mortality in people who already have symptoms. Antihyperglycemic medications that do not rely on insulin signalling, on the other hand, have been shown to lessen the risk of heart failure, and their ability to diminish hyperinsulinemia may contribute to this effect. [6].

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) and diabetes are commonly caused by ageing, hypertension, hyperglycemia, smoking, hypercholesterolemia, and albuminuria [7, 8]. As a baseline, the researchers employed a Cox model that was adjusted for evidence-based goal values of haemoglobin A1c (HbA1c), systolic and diastolic blood pressure, the occurrence of microalbuminuria or macroalbuminuria, smoking, and low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol. Even when all risk variables were managed, the risk of overall mortality was 1.06 times (95 percent CI, 1.00–1.12) greater in patients with T2DM than in control individuals, according to the study. Within the specified parameters



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When the HRs for myocardial infarction and stroke were examined further, they were found to be comparable. Surprisingly, the HR for heart failure hospitalisation remained 1.45 times higher (95 percent CI, 1.34–1.57) in T2DM patients compared to controls [9]. Traditional cardiometabolic risk factors, such as hypertension, dyslipidemia, and obesity, all of which are frequent phenotypes in T2DM, raise CVD risk in a synergistic manner. In addition, several studies have found that several factors, such as genetic susceptibility, hypoglycemia during therapy, and increased insulin resistance, are common in T2DM patients. These factors have long been thought to constitute a significant impediment to CVD prevention. There are, however, some helpful treatments for preventing CVD in DM2 patients. For example, there is a lot of evidence that lifestyle adjustments can reduce CVD risk and prevent incidents [10-12]. Furthermore, recent trials have shown that using newer anti-diabetic medicines can significantly reduce CVD risk in T2DM patients with a high CVD risk [13-15].

Systemic inflammation, diabetes mellitus, high-density lipoprotein, plasma triglycerides (TG), remnant lipoproteins (RLP), lipoprotein (a) (Lp[a]), and vascular endothelial dysfunction have all been identified as potentially modifiable CHD risk factors that appear to contribute to this residual risk (ED). The body of evidence linking each of these risk variables to the probability of remaining coronary heart disease is summarised here [16]. Diabetic nephropathy is a serious long-term condition that affects about 30% of people with type 1 diabetes (T1D) and 40% of people with type 2 diabetes (T2D). It is now the major cause of end-stage renal disease (ESRD) in the globe, accounting for over 40% of all new patients requiring renal replacement therapy.

In 2008, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued recommendations for the pharmaceutical industry to use in determining the cardiovascular safety of new hypoglycemic medications, and clinical trials included investigations on renal endpoints as pre-specified secondary outcomes. Trials on cardiovascular safety Personalized therapy, in the form of individually chosen anti-diabetic treatment, has the potential to reduce cardiovascular comorbidity and delay the onset of DN and its progression to ESRD in the long run. Anti-diabetic drugs have the potential to injure as well as assist the kidneys, therefore clinical treatment of DN and comorbidities, as well as timely preparation for RRT when indicated, should be considered [17].

Diabetic kidney disease is produced by a complex process that includes both glucotoxicity and lipotoxicity related to lipid buildup. Lipid deposition is detected in the tubular and glomerular sections of diabetic animals' kidneys, which are the primary sites of diabetic nephropathy injury. The goal of this review was to give information on the mechanisms that cause renal lipid accumulation and the consequences of renal lipotoxicity in diabetic patients. Lipotoxicity is the accumulation of lipids and lipid metabolites that causes oxidative stress, inflammation, fibrosis, and apoptosis. Renal lipotoxicity due to a disorder in lipid metabolism may be a pathogenic mechanism leading to diabetic nephropathy and renal dysfunction [18].

Both nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) and diabetes (T2D) are characterised by elevated plasma insulin concentrations, hepatic insulin resistance, and increased hepatic glucose output (HGP), particularly gluconeogenesis (GNG), all of which increase proportionally to fasting hyperglycemia, whereas postprandial hyperglycemia is caused by impaired insulin suppression of HGP and decreased liver glycogen storage. Because the liver clears most of the insulin released by the pancreas during the first pass, it also acts as a peripheral insulin modulator. Changes in insulin sensitivity and glucose metabolism may be caused by hepatokines and liver lipids, which can function in an autocrine or paracrine manner [19]. Diabetes type 2 raises the chance of having a variety of problems, including liver disease. There is a lot of evidence that type 2 diabetes and liver disease are linked in both directions. Patients with type 2 diabetes have more severe symptoms and a faster rate of disease progression. The two main risk factors for type 2 diabetes and liver fibrosis are obesity and insulin resistance caused by hyperlipidemia and hyperglycemia [20]. The present epidemiological trends of cardiovascular, renal, and hepatic illness in T2DM, as well as the risk factors that link T2DM to cardiovascular, hepatic, and renal disease, are the subject of this review. We also looked examined the role of genetic variations, hypoglycemia, insulin resistance, lifestyle changes, and hypoglycemic drugs in the prevention of kidney, liver, and cardiovascular disease in people with T2DM.



Krishnakumar *et al.*,**Effect of Diabetes on Cardiovascular Diseases**

In diabetes individuals, heart failure and cardiovascular problems are the leading causes of mortality [21]. Diabetes-related cardiac disease, such as diabetic cardiomyopathy, is a serious and difficult-to-treat medical condition. Diabetes mellitus raises the risk of heart failure and lowers cardiac myocyte function, both of which are linked to mitochondrial energy metabolism alterations in the heart [22].

Nutrient Excess Signaling, Autophagy Suppression and Cardiomyocyte Stress in Diabetic Hearts

The balance between cellular mechanisms that favour development and those that emphasise homeostasis and survival determines the health and viability of cardiomyocytes. Cells increase their ability to synthesis new subcellular elements in response to nutritional excess, but this stresses organelles (especially mitochondria), increasing the formation of reactive oxygen species and potentially jeopardising cell health. the most important cellular components Cells, on the other hand, convert to a survival mode under food restriction and activate mechanisms that reduce cytosolic stress and promote the development of healthy organelles [23].Autophagy, a cellular housekeeping mechanism that targets damaged organelles and possibly hazardous cytosolic detritus for elimination through a lysosome-dependent process, is stimulated during nutritional scarcity but inhibited during nutrient excess [24, 25].

Relationship Between Heart Failure and Diabetes Mellitus: Epidemiological and Observational Data

As many epidemiological studies have shown, there is a substantial link between type 2 diabetes mellitus and the risk of heart failure. Diabetes was found to be an independent risk factor for heart failure in the Framingham Study after a 20-year follow-up. When the relative risk (RR) of heart failure in people with diabetes (versus those without diabetes) was adjusted for age, systolic blood pressure, cigarette smoking, cholesterol, and LV hypertrophy on the electrocardiogram, the RR was nearly doubled in men (RR 1.82) and more than tripled in women (RR 3.75) [26]. From a neurobiological, epidemiological, and clinical standpoint, diabetes and heart failure are inextricably linked. Diabetes is linked to heart failure through a number of pathways, including a higher frequency of coronary artery disease and hypertension, as well as a direct causal effect of diabetes in the development of heart failure with and without lower ejection fraction. Diabetic people are more likely to develop heart failure^{5,6}, and diabetic patients are more likely to develop diabetes. Diabetes is a risk factor that is more prevalent among women. Diabetes doubles the risk of heart failure in males and triples the risk in women, according to a classic Framingham study. Diabetes worsens the prognosis of chronic heart failure, while heart failure is a predictor of a higher chance of diabetes. Heart failure is the most common reason for admission in people over 65, and it has a significant detrimental impact on prognosis. Heart failure is the leading cause of hospital admission among diabetes individuals, even more so than myocardial infarction or stroke. Diabetes has a mixed prognostic influence on hospitalised patients with decompensated heart failure, according to different experts. The goal of this study is to assess the differences in mortality between diabetics and non-diabetics during the hospital phase in an unselected population representative of daily clinical practise admitted to a coronary care unit with decompensated heart failure and at one year [27].

Factors Associated With CVD and Type 2 Diabetes**Genetic contribution to T2DM and CVD**

Individual CVD and T2DM risks are a result of a complicated interplay between lifestyle behaviour and genetic susceptibility [28]. Although estimates of CVD and T2DM heritability in the general population vary substantially, around 30% of the genetic contribution to risk variation for each individual can be estimated [29].

Hypoglycemia and CVD

Although the causal association between hyperglycemia and bad cardiovascular outcomes has been proven [30, 31], certain trials have failed to demonstrate that strict glycemic control in a specific group of diabetic individuals reduces the risk of cardiovascular disease. [33-35] Cardiovascular disease The harmful effect of hypoglycemia was regarded to be one of the key explanations for the elevated CV risk in these trials. Hypoglycemic episodes were linked to an elevated risk of CVD and mortality, especially in older patients with numerous comorbidities, according to post hoc



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analyses [36-38]. Many earlier studies [39, 40-45] have found a link between severe hypoglycemia (SH) and CVD outcomes or mortality.

Insulin resistance and CVD:

Insulin resistance, which is the primary pathophysiology of DM2, has long been thought to be a powerful predictor of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease [46,47]. Insulin resistance is described as an insulin-sensitive target tissue's insufficient response to insulin-mediated cellular action, coupled by hyperinsulinemia as a compensatory reaction [48].

Lifestyle and CVD

For the prevention of diabetes and cardiovascular disease, comprehensive management of lifestyle and metabolic risk factors has become critical. Smoking [59], excessive alcohol use [58], lack of physical activity [50, 51], and an unhealthy diet [52] have all been linked to an increased risk of diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and early death in previous research. Both lifestyle and metabolic health status interact in various ways, and these parameters can be thought of as preventive objectives [53, 54].

Hypoglycemic Medications and CV Outcomes in DM2

Antihyperglycemic medications such as glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists (GLP-1RAs) and sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 (SGLT2) inhibitors have been demonstrated to reduce MACE in persons with T2DM and CVD who have already developed or are at high risk of developing CVD. [55-59].

Contrasting Effects of Type 1 and 2 Diabetes on Heart Failure

If insulin has negative biological and pathophysiological consequences that contribute to heart failure, the incidence of heart failure in patients with type 1 and type 2 diabetes would be predicted to differ because only the latter has prolonged hyperinsulinemia [60].

Contrasting Effects of Antidiabetic Drugs on the Risk of Heart Failure

In the clinical environment, poor glycemic management is thought to raise the risk of heart failure. The risk of heart failure increases when glycosylated haemoglobin levels rise; however, it's unclear whether this is due to a negative effect of hyperglycemia on the heart or to the harmful effect of hyperinsulinemia, which generally occurs with hyperglycemia in patients with type 2 diabetes [61].

Effect of Diabetes on Kidney Diseases

Diabetes is the most common cause of chronic kidney disease (CKD), which affects 30 to 40 percent of diabetics. Diabetes affects 537 million people worldwide, or one out of every ten individuals, with the figure anticipated to climb to 783 million by 2040. While better control of cardiorenal risk factors and the use of renin-angiotensin system (RAS) inhibitor therapy have reduced individual risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD) and end-stage renal disease (ESKD), the incidence of CKD in diabetes is still associated with increased CV mortality and the development of ESKD [62].

The Risk of ESRD in Type 1 Diabetes Remains High

End-stage renal disease (ESRD) is still the major cause of premature morbidity and mortality among patients with type 1 diabetes (T1D) in the United States. For these patients, the lifetime risk of developing ESRD is 10% to 15% [63, 64]. It frequently appears decades after the onset of Type 1 diabetes and follows a period of increasing renal degeneration [65-67]. Despite practically universal use of renoprotective medications and efforts to enhance glycemic control over the last 20 years, the risk of ESRD in T1D is not reducing, but rather increasing [68].

Pleiotropic Effects of Type 2 Diabetes Control Strategies on Renal Risk Factors

Diabetic nephropathy has emerged as the primary cause of end-stage renal disease worldwide, and it is associated with significant cardiovascular morbidity and death, coinciding with the global epidemic of type 2 diabetes. The



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prevention and treatment of diabetic kidney disease focuses on the control of the two main renal risk factors, hyperglycemia and systemic hypertension, as demonstrated in landmark randomised trials and recommended in clinical guidelines. Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors or angiotensin receptor blockers are indicated for the treatment of systemic hypertension because they appear to have specific renoprotective effects in addition to blood pressure reduction. Controlling these risk variables may have extra benefits for type 2 diabetes patients' renal outcomes. Despite multiple treatment options, the risk of developing and progressing diabetic nephropathy remains in people with type 2 diabetes, necessitating the discovery of novel strategies. Several medicines used to treat type 2 diabetes have pleiotropic effects, which might affect a patient's renal risk profile for the better or for the worse. [69].

Effect of Diabetes on Liver Diseases

Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) has become an epidemic in comparison to noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) such as cancer, obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular disease etc. NAFLD pathophysiology, particularly insulin resistance and sub-clinical inflammation, is linked not only to the pathogenesis of those NCDs, but also to the severity of the communicable disease. The increase in patients with NAFLD is likely due to impairment of glucose and lipid metabolic pathways, which has been driven by the global high incidence of obesity and type 2 diabetes [70].

Liver Disease and Diabetes

In individuals with advanced liver disease, such as cirrhosis, ascites, or encephalopathy, oral diabetic medicines are contraindicated. Metformin and thiazolidiones have had mixed success in the treatment of stable liver disease, with some studies demonstrating that they are beneficial in lowering hepatic transaminases as well as reducing steatosis and inflammation histologically. Insulin needs may be greater in patients with hepatic insufficiency and insulin resistance. Patients with impaired liver metabolism, on the other hand, may require lower insulin doses. [71].

Metabolic Liver Disease in Diabetes

Fatty liver (steatosis), non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH), and fibrosis/cirrhosis are all symptoms of NAFLD, which can lead to end-stage liver failure or hepatocellular cancer. NAFLD is linked to the most common metabolic illnesses, including as obesity, metabolic syndrome, and type 2 diabetes. Changes in tissue communication, such as excessive lipid and subsequently cytokine release by malfunctioning adipose tissue, intestinal dysbiosis, and ectopic fat deposition in skeletal muscle, are all frequent pathways in multisystem disorders. Insulin resistance develops at the hepatocellular level as a result of improper lipid handling and mitochondrial activity. NAFLD progression is determined throughout time by cellular oxidative stress and activation of inflammatory pathways, which is again aided by multiorgan interplay. [72].

Causes of Diabetes Association with Liver Diseases

There is a well-established link between liver illness and diabetes mellitus (DM). The overall prevalence is much higher than would be predicted from a coincidental link between two extremely frequent diseases. The following criteria can be used to categorise the link between DM and CLD: Diabetes is linked to liver damage [73]. Diabetes either aggravates (NAFLD/NASH) or causes (NASH) (glycogenic hepatopathy and diabetic hepatosclerosis). Hepatogenous diabetes is diabetes caused by liver dysfunction [74]. Active autoimmune hepatitis and autoimmune biliary disease are both chronic diseases that occur in tandem with DM [75].

Criteria for the Diagnosis of Diabetes Associating Liver Disease

According to the American Diabetes Association, the criteria for diagnosing DM associated with liver illness and also prediabetes are the same as for diagnosing ordinary primary diabetes. Fasting serum glucose levels are normal in 23% of patients with early cirrhosis, but post-prandial blood glucose levels can be as high as 200 mg/L, necessitating an oral glucose tolerance test. Fasting blood sugar levels and blood sugar levels 2 hours after 75 g glucose are required for diagnosis, just as they are in persons without CLD.



**Krishnakumar et al.,****Cardiovascular and Retinopathy Risk in Cirrhotic Patients with Hepatogenous Diabetes**

Hepatogenous diabetes (HD) has distinct morbidity and mortality rates than T1 and T2 diabetes. HD has a lower risk of cardiovascular disease and retinopathy. Rather than diabetes problems, liver-related reasons are more likely to cause death [76]. An improved lipid profile and lipoprotein A [77], an impaired bleeding profile and thrombocytopenia associated with liver cirrhosis [78], and a predisposition for cirrhotic patients to have low or normal blood pressure [79] could all contribute to the lower risk.

Spots on Nutrition of Diabetic and Hepatic Patients

Patients with chronic liver disease have a prevalence of clinically severe malnutrition ranging from 65 percent to 100 percent [99]. According to the European Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ESPEN) guidelines, the Subjective Global Assessment (SGA) and anthropomorphic measures (i.e., triceps skin-fold thickness and midarm circumference) should be used to identify patients at risk for malnutrition and to quantify malnutrition using bio-electrical impedance analysis [80].

Malnutrition in Patients with a Prognosis Of Cirrhosis Associated With Diabetes

Diabetes has been shown to have a negative impact on the survival of cirrhotic individuals. Furthermore, diabetic patients with chronic liver disease have a higher risk of ascites and bacterial infections than those without diabetes [81, 82]. Because studies have demonstrated that cirrhosis evaluation in diabetics does not correlate with current Child-Pugh and MELD scores, it can be separated from predictive markers of cirrhosis in non-diabetics.

CONCLUSION

Heart failure is more likely in those who have hyperinsulinemia, but not in people who have glucose intolerance and insulin insufficiency. Findings in laboratory models of type 1 and 2 diabetes, as well as cohort studies of diabetic people in the community, back up this conclusion. Insulin has a variety of negative effects on the heart, blood vessels, kidneys, and adipose tissue, all of which can lead to heart failure. Diabetic nephropathy has spread throughout the world, accounting for around one-third of all instances of end-stage renal disease. The situation is anticipated to worsen as diabetes prevalence rises from 285 million patients today to 438 million patients by 2030, with an increasing prevalence of diabetes, particularly in Asia, and a global prevalence of microalbuminuria of 40%. Evidence of common pathophysiological pathways between T2DM and NAFLD will aid in the development of detection and treatment techniques for both disorders, as well as measures to prevent their most serious consequence, CVD. Key targets include altered lipid and energy metabolism, insulin resistance, low-grade inflammation, and intestinal dysbiosis.

Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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Diversity of Pathogenic Microflora in the Raw Chicken Meat: an Alarming Food Safety Concern

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ABSTRACT

Contaminated meat is a principle source of human food-borne illnesses. Numerous bacterial pathogens have been reported to cause foodborne illness globally. Ingested contaminated chicken meat is observed as a critical element of serious bacterial infection in humans. Chicken intestinal colonization of resistant enterobacteriales is most commonly associated with contamination of the food chain. Most prevalently found microbiota in the chicken intestine largely involved; *Escherichia coli*, Salmonella, Pseudomonas spp; *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Proteus mirabilis* and *Campylobacter* spp. Recent studies surfaced some factors such as diet, immune system, and genetics, which affect the complex bacterial population within the chicken, while external environmental factors like; weather, moisture, and exposure to other animals alter the growth of the microbiome. Shelf life of chicken meat and its sopilage is also relied upon some step,



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during the processing of meat products like; washing, storage conditions, and temperature. These steps enforce specific selective pressures upon the microflora of the meat product. Nowadays, high-throughput sequencing of 16S rDNA are being used to determine the bacterial communities of raw chicken meat. To understand the progression of meat-associated microflora is very crucial to control the transmission of pathogenic bacterial groups. This review article covers the holistic overview of the bacterial microflora of poultry meat samples, which is valuable for the poultry industry and poultry research working groups. This study will help in order to enhance the shelf life of meat products and to reduce the possibility of microbial load in the food products.

Keywords: Bacterial Pathogens; Chicken Meat; Food-borne Illness; Microbial Community; Shelf Life.

INTRODUCTION

Food-borne illnesses are a major global problem and a major source of economic stagnation. Infected food by pathogenic bacteria has become a important common health problem, as has their persistence, growth, multiplication, and/or toxin production [1]. Food-borne illness affects an estimated 600 million people each year, making it a serious common health concern [2, 3]. Every year, one-third of the worldwide population is infected by food-borne illnesses (FBD). In both poor and developed countries, including United States, billions of dollars are spent each year to treat food-borne diseases that affect nearly 48 million people [4]. Animals alternately, are the primary source of food-borne disease, which causes significant public health and economic consequences [5, 6].

The influence of many food-borne diseases differ by country, based on the foods consumed, handling, food processing, preparation, storage procedures used, and the population's sensitivity [7, 8]. Bacteria or its metabolites, viruses, parasites, or toxins are the most common causes of microbiological food-borne illnesses [9]. Bacteria (66%) are the most common cause of food-borne illness, followed by chemicals (26%), viruses (4%), along with parasites (4%) [10]. The three categories of food-borne disorders are intoxication (pathogens produce toxins that cause food poisoning), infection (consumption of pathogen-carrying food), and toxic infections (pathogens produce toxins while developing in the human intestines) [11, 12]. Because of increasing human community expansion, development, rising per capita income, transformation, and transition in consumer tastes, the consumption of animal products such as meat, milk, and eggs has increased (preference of high-protein diet). As a result of this situation, there is a strong demand for animal-based foods, which cause to intensive animal processing and production, as well as mass production along with global distribution of products [11, 13].

There is a growing request for a safe, consistent amount of animal protein recently around the world, and processed meat consumption is gradually expanding. Processed meat is being preserved over the world to maintain its safety along with bioavailability for a longer period of time [14]. Meat has been a staple of the human diet since prehistoric times, and it continues to be so in many cultures today. Meat is a good source of protein because it contains various vitamins, minerals and all the important amino acids [15]. A considerable majority of the Indian population ingest meat from one or more types of food animals. In India, the moderate annual meat consumption per capita is 5 kilogram's [16]. Each year, food contaminated with such microbial diseases and poisons is predicted to cause 1.5 billion incidents of diarrhea and over 3 million fatalities worldwide [17].

Microbial infection can degrade the quality of fresh minced meat, limit its shelf life, and result in financial losses as well as potential health risks. Bacteria and fungi, carried by the animal, or the persons handling the meat, and instruments, induce spoiling and subsequent breakdown of meat [18]. Intrinsic characteristics (chemical and physical features) and extrinsic (environmental factors) are two elements that influence microbial proliferation in meat [19]. Meat provides energy and a variety of necessary elements, such as protein and micronutrients including iron,





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vitamin B12 and zinc. If a broad diversity of other foods is available and ingested, it is desirable to achieve an adequate intake of these nutrients without eating meat [20, 21]. Meat and meat products (excluding fish and poultry) leads significantly to the moderate Dane's intake (as percent of total ingestion) of protein (27 percent), fat (21 percent), saturated fatty acids (20 percent), mono-unsaturated fatty acids (26 percent), vitamin A (40 percent), vitamin D (16 percent), thiamine (33 percent), riboflavin (17 percent), niacin (27 percent) in the Danish National Survey on Diet and Physical Activity 2001–2013 [22].

Types of Prevalent Bacteria in the Meat Samples

Meat has a excessive water content, which corresponds to a water activity of 0.99, making it ideal for bacterial development [23]. Temperature is considered the most critical factor that might cause meat to deteriorate. Excessive growth of particular spoilage microbes and excessive production of biogenic amines may occur if the meat cold chain is disrupted [24]. Meat is a highly perishable food because to its chemical makeup and characteristics, making it an ideal environment for the growth of various harmful microbes that can cause human infection as well as meat deterioration and economic loss. Lactic acid bacteria, a medically related set of fastidious and ubiquitous gram-positive organisms, are the most common cause of bacterial meat deterioration. Many *Pediococcus*, *Lactobacillus*, *Leuconostoc*, and *Streptococcus* species are among them [25, 26]. However, the preparation procedure is carried out in primarily unsanitary settings, posing a significant danger of infection. Microorganisms might easily grow on beef because of its high nutritional content. Slaughtering diseased animals, washing meat with dirty water, incorrect butchering, infected by flies, processing near sewage or garbage disposal areas, spices, transportation, and use of infected equipment such as knives and other utensils are all possible sources of contamination [27]. Even under the best handling of production circumstances and practices, meat's high final pH leaves it vulnerable to microbial development [28].

Since the growth circumstances are good, the microbial burden in meat and meat products grows. Acidity, pH, temperature, and water activity are all factors that influence microbial development. Gaseous demand, nutrition, and microbial competition for nutrients controlling these parameters means ensuring that meat and its products have a long shelf life, but proper meat preservation can be done by combining two or more preservation techniques, such as drying, salting, and high temperatures [29]. During meat preparation, microorganisms are exposed to heat, organic acids, and nutritional stressors [30]. Bacteria from the genera *Pseudomonas*, *Flavobacterium*, *Acinetobacter*, *Brochothrix*, *Psychrobacterium* *Micrococci*, Lactic acid bacteria (LAB), *Moraxella*, *Staphylococci*, and different Enterobacteriaceae species are the most generally isolated bacteria from fresh meat. The atmospheric structure of the meat has a powerful impact on the growth and survival of these creatures. Furthermore, the following genera are the most common causes of meat spoilage: Enterobacteriaceae, *Pseudomonas* spp., *Brochothrix thermosphacta* and lactic acid bacteria [31]. The most usual bacteria found in meat are *Salmonella* and *E. coli* [32].

E. coli:

In the United States, *Escherichia coli* is one of the top five bacteria responsible for food-borne infections requiring hospitalization [33]. *E. coli* (member of the Enterobacteriaceae family) is a great source of food-borne infections, is a widespread inhabitant of birds, mammals, and humans' gastrointestinal tracts [34]. One of the well-studied microorganisms is *E. coli*. Under ideal growth circumstances, *E. coli* can grow quickly, replicating in less than 20 minutes [35]. They are produced by non-pathogenic bacteria that can act as commensals and are found in the natural microbiota of humans and animals. There are also pathogenic variants with diverse path types and natural hybrid strains, which are separated into diarrheagenic and extra-intestinal pathogens [36, 37]. The first genome sequence study of *E. coli* was published in 1997. Since then more than 4800 *E. coli* genomes have been sequenced. *E. coli*'s quick growth characteristics make it perfect for studying microorganism evolution, and a long-term experimental evolution research of *E. coli* comprising more than 50 000 generations is under underway [35]. *E. coli* is also a key indicator of food safety in animal-derived foods like pork and chicken. Retail meat has been associated to the spread of *E. coli* in past studies [38, 39]. The most well-known serotype of Enterohaemorrhagic *E. coli* (EHEC), *E. coli* O157:H7 has caused numerous outbreaks of water- and food-borne illnesses in various countries [40].





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During the slaughter of the animals, the meat might become infected with *E. coli*. Meat-borne *E. coli* has largely been linked to intestine pathogenic *E. coli*. However, many investigations have indicated that *E. coli* from animals is linked to extra-intestinal illnesses, such as urinary tract infections [34]. In 1982, a developing clonally different strain of *E. coli* recognized as powerful food-borne zoonotic pathogen while it was linked to a severe bloody diarrhea outbreak in the United States due to the eating of undercooked hamburgers [41].

The pathogenic serotypes (enterohemorrhagic, enteropathogenic, diarrheagenic, and Vero toxigenic) of *E. coli*, the most common bacteria isolated from meat is used as an indicator of faecal contamination, are responsible for various epidemic of food-borne disorders around the world [42]. Meat-borne *E. coli* infections have generated multistate outbreaks in the United States through the last five years, with about 300 cases reported. Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* (STEC), a path type that typically colonizes ruminant animals like cattle and sheep, is responsible for nearly all of these cases [33]. Septicemia, Meningitis, endocarditis, and epidemic diarrhea in adults and children are the diseases produced by *E. coli* spp. Few of these infections are sometimes severe and can be fatal [43]. There are presently 171 somatic (O), 55 flagella (H), and 80 capsular (K) antigens are identified, along with over 160 *E. coli* serological types. Infections of the urinary tract, sepsis, hospital-acquired pneumonia [44], surgical site infection [40], meningitis, gastrointestinal tract infections, hemolytic uremic syndrome, and inflammation of the meninges are all caused by *E. coli* [45]. Uncomplicated UTIs (75-95%) and complex UTIs (40-50%) are caused by *E. coli* strains [46].

Salmonella

Salmonella is a rod-shaped, motile (due to peritrichous flagella), Gram-negative, glucose-fermenting, facultative anaerobe that does not form spore genus belonging to the Enterobacteriaceae family [47]. *Salmonella* is frequently discovered in dairy goods, animal items (particularly raw chicken), and fresh produce [48]. *Salmonella* infections are a main public health concern around the world; salmonellosis is due to the non-typhoidal *Salmonella enterica* serotypes and is identified by a self-limiting gastroenteritis syndrome (diarrhea, abdominal pain and fever), with an incubation period of 4 to 72 hours and a low mortality rate. Infrequent life-threatening invasive infections with bacteremia (5–10 percent of sick patients) and other extra-intestinal infections can appear, particularly in vulnerable groups (children, the elderly) [49]. Salmonellosis is commonly caused by infected poultry meat, along some studies stating that poultry is involved for 25% of food-borne pathogen outbreaks. Discharge of intestinal contents/feces through processing, infected production equipment, the hands of handling employees are the most common pathways of *Salmonella* contamination of poultry meat [50].

Salmonella is linked to 93.8 million instances of human illness worldwide and 155,000 deaths each year [51]. Beef is the most frequently implicated food in *Salmonella* infection outbreaks [52]. According to studies, incorrect chilling at temperatures greater than 8°C can result in considerable *Salmonella* growth (2–3 log rise) in as little as 8 days [53]. As they have proven the enumeration of microbiological indicators of fecal contamination, the health risk of *Salmonella* spp. must be determined. *Salmonella* was also found in frozen shop samples, indicating that the illness is limited to clearly unsanitary conditions and that the animal itself may have been contaminated at the start [54]. From 2015 to 2019, Canada reported 18 outbreaks along with almost 600 WGS proved cases of *Salmonella* illnesses linked to frozen raw breaded chicken items [55]. The majority of *Salmonella* strains detected in poultry meat are not host specific. They are thought to be able to cause food poisoning in humans [56]. The intestinal tracts of animals including agricultural animals, people, reptiles, birds, and insects are the principal home of *Salmonella* species. Animals serve as a reservoir for *Salmonella*-related food-borne illnesses [57].

Pseudomonas

Pseudomonas a Gram-negative, non-fermenting bacterium colonizes a variety of niches because of its metabolic capability and ability to adapt to a variety of conditions [58]. *Pseudomonas* is one of the great common bacterial genera in the world, having been discovered in a wide range of settings, including human environments, clinical specimens, and diseased plants [59]. The capacity of *Pseudomonas* spp. to create a biofilm, that increases their resistance to adverse conditions such as antimicrobial treatments, has also been linked to their prevalence and persistence in foods and on food processing area [60].





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Pseudomonas is a predominantly spoiling bacterium in the chicken meat sector. The plucking and scalding operations lower the number of bacteria, like; *Pseudomonas*, to a manageable level. However, as evidenced by several studies spanning decades and continents, residual *Pseudomonas* from raw materials or processing surfaces, cooling air or water, and aerobic storage can develop fast in the food products [61]. This genus has a large number of species, the most notable of which is *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. This species is a prominent opportunistic human pathogen that is becoming more medically and veterinary important [58]. In refrigerated meat the most common spoilage bacteria is *Pseudomonas lundensis* (Gram-negative bacterium) [62]. When it caused the deterioration of cold pork by producing a considerable amount of extracellular proteases and lipases, it displayed strong proteolytic activity [63]. *Pseudomonas* species are also linked to meat spoiling, which results in off-odor, off-flavor, discoloration, and gas production [64]. *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, *P. lundensis*, *P. fragi*, and *P. weihenstephanensis* are among the more than 240 valid published and correct named species in the genus *Pseudomonas* [65], of which several species as key players in food spoilage: *P. fluorescens*, *P. putida*, *P. fragi* have been identified [66]. The majority of *Pseudomonas* species are obligate aerobes that cannot develop in the absence of oxygen [67]. As a result, anoxic food packing methods like vacuum and modified atmosphere packaging (MAP) are effective instruments for limiting *Pseudomonas* spoilage [68].

Staphylococcus aureus:

In 1883, Ogston coined the term Staphylococcus. It is a Gram-positive, non-motile, catalase-positive coccus that's found everywhere in people and the environment [69]. In humans, the most common causes of food-borne illness is *Staphylococcus aureus* [70]. It is also an opportunistic pathogen which can lead to wide range of illnesses, from superficial skin infections to invasive diseases that can be lethal [71]. *S. aureus* produces a diversity of virulence factors, carrying staphylococcal enterotoxin, leukocidin, exfoliatin, haemolysin, and toxic shock syndrome toxin 1 (TSST-1), all of which can contribute to pathogenicity in numerous ways [72]. SEs, on the other hand, are heat-stable proteins which are commonly linked to food poisoning outbreaks [73]. *S. aureus* can be found as a commensal pathogen.

Staphylococcal food poisoning occurs due to the ingestion of staphylococcal enterotoxins formed in food by *S. aureus* enterotoxigenic strains [74]. It is one of the most prevalent foodborne disorders. Staphylococci spp. can infect meat before slaughter or subsequently during preparation [75]. The organisms can survive a huge variety of temperatures (7°C -48°C, with an optimum of 30°C - 37°C), pH (4.2 - 9.3, with an optimum of 7.0 -7.5), and salt chloride concentrations (up to 15%) [76]. It can be found in a wide range of hosts, including humans and food-producing animals like pigs, cows, goats, chickens, and ducks [77]. Humans and animals both have *S. aureus* on their skin, hair, noses, and respiratory tracts. When it enters the body, it multiplies rapidly at room temperature, creating toxins that can lead to illness. *S. aureus* is spread mostly through cuts, infected wounds, and ingestion of contaminated food [78]. *S. aureus* viability along with drug-resistant *S. aureus* spread in the society are aided by raw meat [79].

S. aureus was the third most common pathogen after *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* (27.8%) and *Salmonella* (23.1%) in food borne bacterial outbreaks in China in 2013, accounting for 12.5 percent of all outbreaks [80]. Furthermore, methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* (MRSA) has received a lot of attention in recent years [81]. It usually exhibits multiple antibiotic resistance and was named by the World Health Organization as one of the 12 bacteria families which create the biggest hazard to human health in 2017 [82].

Proteus mirabilis

Proteus mirabilis is a Gram-negative and rod-shaped bacterium, popular for producing urease with a characteristic swarming motility. *P. mirabilis* is a member of the order Enterobacteriales, family Enterobacteriaceae, and belongs to the class Gamma proteobacteria [83]. *P. mirabilis* can be found in a range of settings, including soil, water, sewage and soil, still it is mostly a commensal of human and animal gastrointestinal tracts [84, 85]. *P. mirabilis* is an opportunistic pathogen which can lead to the infections of the urinary tract and wounds [85]. Furthermore, it has the potential to taint meat [86]. *P. mirabilis* is the most common *Proteus* spp. infection, accounting for 80–90% of all infections [87]. This species can cause infections in the respiratory tract, eyes, ear, throat, wounds, nose, skin and



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burns as well as neonatal meningoencephalitis, empyema, and osteomyelitis. It has also been linked to neonatal meningoencephalitis, empyema, and osteomyelitis [88, 89].

Several virulence proteins, including fimbriae mannose-resistant Proteus-like (MR/P), *Proteus mirabilis* fimbriae (PMF), and uroepithelial cell adhesion (UCA), that facilitate bacterial cell attachment to host cells, may be linked to *P. mirabilis* pathogenicity in humans [90]. Proteus species are one of the most common bacterial causes of food poisoning in densely populated developing nations (e.g., China). In 2018, China described a new strain of *P. mirabilis* was discovered related to food poisoning in which, type IV secretion system (T4SS) was investigated to play a significant role in the pathogenesis of diarrhea [91]. Recently a draft genome sequence of a pathogenic MDR *P. mirabilis* CKTH01 isolated from raw chicken meat has been published in Thailand [92].

Campylobacter

Gram negative spirally curled rods with a polar flagellum found at one or both ends of the cell make up the *Campylobacter* genus, which was previously known as *Vibrio* spp. [93]. *Campylobacter* requires only a modest amount of oxygen to grow (3–6%), although its multiplication is impeded at 21% oxygen. *Campylobacter* cells grow best at temperatures ranging from 37–45°C, with an optimum of 42°C [94]. In 2017 the European union (EU) reported, *Campylobacter* is the most common zoonotic agent with 246,158 cases and an upward trend in approved cases over the previous year [95]. The two most common bacteria that cause gastrointestinal sickness are *Campylobacter coli* and *Campylobacter jejuni* [96]. Additional bacteria like *Campylobacter concisus*, *Campylobacter lari*, and *Campylobacter upsaliensis* are also linked to gastrointestinal problems in humans [97]. *Campylobacter* is transmitted to people mostly by direct contact along live animals or through the ingestion of infected foods, particularly unprocessed drinking water, unpasteurized milk, and undercooked meat [98]. Poultry meat, particularly broiler meat, is a common source of *Campylobacter* infection [99]. Beef and pork can also be sources, while red meat is significantly less probably than poultry meat to be infected with *Campylobacter* species [100]. According to the European Food Safety Authority between 20 and 30 percent of human *Campylobacter* cases are traced back to the preparation, handling, and consumption of chicken meat [101]. The most prominent cause of human campylobacteriosis is chicken meat, and the significance of poultry as a reservoir for human transmission has been established. Approximately 20%–30% of human infections are associated with broiler meat manipulation, preparation, and consumption, with the remaining 50%–80% assigned as a whole to the chicken reservoir [102]. Diarrhea, fever, and stomach cramping are the most common signs of the condition; septic arthritis can also occur, although it is uncommon [103]. All over the world *Campylobacter* is one of the main general bacterial causes of acute gastroenteritis [104].

CONCLUSION

The microbial quality of meat depends on the transmission of infection through slaughter and processing, animal's physiological condition at slaughter, the temperature, and other conditions of distribution and storage which will demonstrate the microbial quality of the meat. Present data indicated that different microorganisms cause public health hazards if raw meat is consumed. The presence of pathogenic microbes demonstrated a potential health risk since they give a harmful sign for the possible event of food-borne intoxication. Food poisoning, food borne diseases and gastrointestinal disorders are caused by the bacteria isolated from meat. The study indicated that the quality of preparation and preservation are not advanced much. Therefore, adequate steps must be taken to enhance the quality of preservation and preparation to prevent contamination and spoilage of meat by microorganisms.

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S.K. conceived the idea. S.K., R.A., M.Y. & N.S. wrote different sections of the manuscript. N.M. & A.K.S. checked the English and edited the manuscript for grammatical check. All the authors reviewed and approved the manuscript before submission.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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Wiener Index of Certain Graphs by using Computational Programme

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ABSTRACT

Given a simple connected undirected graph G , the Wiener index $W(G)$ of G is defined as half of the total sum of the distances over all pairs of vertices of G . In this article, obtain the Wiener index of $K_n @ (P_n \odot K_1)$, $K_n @ T_n$, $K_{n,n} @ (P_n \odot K_1)$, and $K_{n,n} @ T_n$. Also write programmes to find the Wiener index for the same graphs.

MSC Code: 05C09, 05C92, 05C38, 05C12

Keywords: Undirected graph, pendent vertex, path, cycle, complete, star, complete bipartite graphs, twig graph, Wiener Index of a graph.

INTRODUCTION

The chemical graph [1] theory may be a subfield of mathematical chemistry that applies classic graph theory to chemical entities. Molecular structures are portrayed as chemical graphs. Such chemical graph, vertices and edges are characterized by atoms and bonds. These graphs will then be reduced to graph-theoretical descriptors or indices that replicate the physical properties of molecules. One among the foremost far-famed samples of a graph-based molecular descriptor is that the Wiener index, that corresponds to add of the lengths of all shortest ways during a molecule and correlates with its boiling points.





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Let G be a undirected connected graph with vertex set $V(G)$ and Edge set $E(G)$ and also each edge is associated between every pair of vertices of G . Given G be graph on n vertices with distance matrix $[4][5][6][7]$ ($D = D(G)$) of G such that $d(u,v)$ is the shortest distance between the vertices u and v of G in which the i^{th} row sum is W_i . The Wiener index of G is defined by

$$W(G) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i W_i .$$

Basic definitions

Definition

A simple graph in which each pair of distinct vertices is joined by an edge is called a complete graph. It is denoted by K_n with n vertices $n > 2$.

Example 2.1

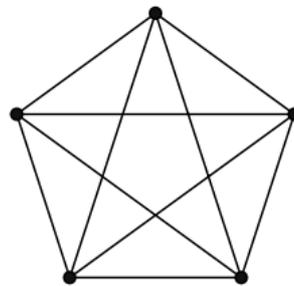


Figure 1
Complete Graph K_5

Definition

A path graph is defined already in[2] and is denoted by P_n .

Example 2.2



Figure 2
Path graph P_4

Definition

A graph $P_n \odot K_1$ is obtained from a path graph, $n \geq 3$ by appending 'n' pendent vertices to all the vertices of the path graph P_n .

Let $G = P_n \odot K_1$ be a graph obtained from a path graph P_n with n vertices, where $n \geq 3$ and let $V(G) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ and $E(G) = \{u_i u_{i+1}; 1 \leq i \leq n-1\} \cup \{u_i v_i, u_2 v_2, \dots, u_n v_n\}$ be respectively the vertex set and edge set of $P_n \odot K_1$.

Example 2.3

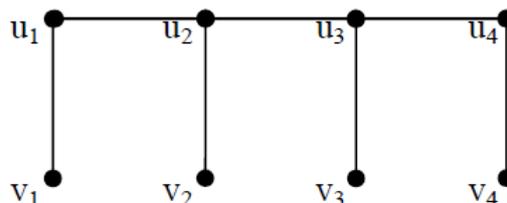


Figure 3
Graph $P_4 \odot K_1$





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Definition

A Twig graph $P_n \odot 2K_1$ is obtained from a path graph, $n \geq 3$ by appending '2n' pendent vertices to all the vertices of the path graph P_n .

Let $T_n = P_n \odot 2K_1$ be a graph obtained from a path graph P_n with $2n$ vertices, where $n \geq 3$ and let $V(G) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$ and $E(G) = \{u_i u_{i+1}; 1 \leq i \leq n-1\} \cup \{u_1 v_1, u_1 w_1, u_2 v_2, u_2 w_2, \dots, u_n v_n, u_n w_n\}$ be respectively the vertex set and edge set of T_n .

Example 2.4

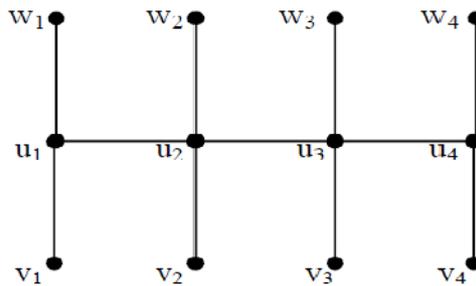


Figure 4
Twig graph T_n

Definition

A graph is obtained by connecting complete graph K_n & path graph $P_n \odot K_1$. It is denoted by $K_n \odot (P_n \odot K_1)$.

Example 2.5

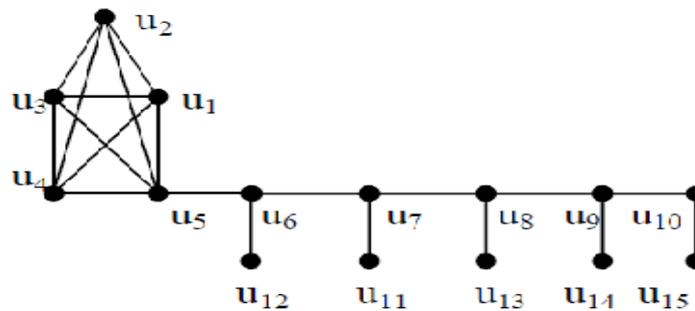


Figure 5
 $K_n \odot (P_n \odot K_1)$

Definition

A graph is obtained by connecting complete graph K_n with $n \geq 3$ and Twig graph T_n . It is denoted by $K_n \odot T_n$.

Example 2.6

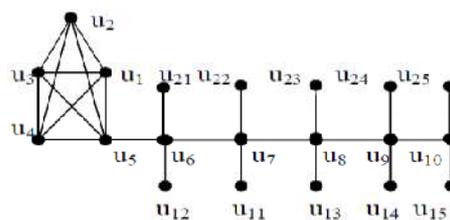


Figure 6
 $K_5 \odot T_5$





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Definition

A complete bipartite graph [2] is denoted by $K_{n,n}$

Example 2.7

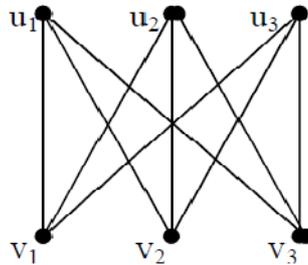


Figure 7

Complete bipartite graph $K_{3,3}$

Definition

A graph is obtained by connecting complete bipartite graph $K_{n,n}$ and path graph $P_n \odot K_1$. It is denoted by $K_{n,n} \odot (P_n \odot K_1)$.

Example 2.8

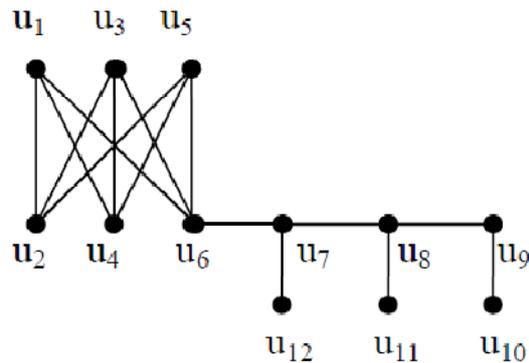


Figure 8

Graph $K_{3,3} \odot (P_3 \odot K_1)$

Definition

A graph is obtained by connecting complete bipartite graph $K_{n,n}$ with $n \geq 3$ and Twig graph T_n . It is denoted by $K_{n,n} \odot T_n$.

Example 2.9

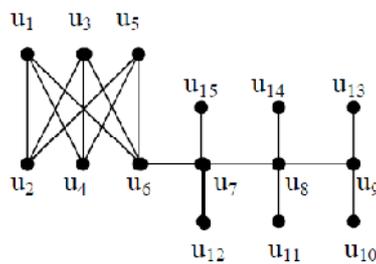


Figure 9

Graph $K_{3,3} \odot T_3$





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Theorem

Let $K_n @ (P_n \Theta K_1)$ be a graph with n vertices where $n \geq 3$. Then the Wiener index of the graph $K_n @ (P_n \Theta K_1)$ is

$$W(K_n @ (P_n \Theta K_1)) = \frac{n(10n^2 + 117n - 175)}{162}$$

Proof

Theorem is proved by mathematical induction on the vertices m , $m \geq 3$. Put $m = 3$ then the total number of vertices of $K_3 @ (P_3 \Theta K_1)$ is $n=3m$, there are 9 vertices in $K_3 @ (P_3 \Theta K_1)$. The Wiener index of $K_3 @ (P_3 \Theta K_1)$ from the graph is 91.

$$\begin{aligned} W(K_n @ (P_n \Theta K_1)) &= \frac{n(10n^2 + 117n - 175)}{162} \\ &= \frac{9[10(9)^2 + 117(9) - 175]}{162} = 91 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the theorem is true for the number of vertices $m = 3$. Assume that the theorem is true for $n = k$

$$W(K_k @ (P_k \Theta K_1)) = \frac{k(10k^2 + 117k - 175)}{162}$$

To Prove

The theorem is true for $m = k + 1$,

ie) to prove $W(K_{k+1} @ (P_{k+1} \Theta K_1)) = \frac{(k+1)(10(k+1)^2 + 117(k+1) - 175)}{162}$

Now, let $m = k + 1$ then

$$\begin{aligned} W(K_{k+1} @ (P_{k+1} \Theta K_1)) &= W(K_k @ (P_k \Theta K_1)) + \sum_{k=1}^m d(U_{m+k}, V_i), k=1,2,3 \\ &= \frac{k(10k^2 + 117k - 175)}{162} + \sum_{k=1}^m d(U_{m+k}, V_i) \\ &= \frac{(k+1)(10(k+1)^2 + 117(k+1) - 175)}{162} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the theorem is true for $m = k+1$. It is also true for all the values of m . Hence, the Wiener index of the graph $K_n @ (P_n \Theta K_1)$ is

$$W(K_n @ (P_n \Theta K_1)) = \frac{n(10n^2 + 117n - 175)}{162}$$

Theorem

Let $K_n @ T_n$ be a graph with n vertices where $n \geq 3$. Then the Wiener index of the graph $K_n @ T_n$ is

$$W(K_n @ T_n) = \frac{n(3n^2 + 52n - 112)}{64}$$

Theorem

Let $K_{n,n} @ (P_n \Theta K_1)$ be a graph with n vertices where $n \geq 3$. Then the Wiener index of the graph $K_{n,n} @ (P_n \Theta K_1)$ is

$$W(K_{n,n} @ (P_n \Theta K_1)) = \frac{n(2n^2 + 45n - 92)}{48}$$





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Theorem

Let $K_{n,n}@T_n$ be a graph with n vertices where $n \geq 3$. Then the Wiener index of the graph $K_{n,n}@T_n$ is

$$W(K_{n,n}@T_n) = \frac{n(9n^2 + 250n - 575)}{250}$$

Proof

Theorem is proved by mathematical induction on the vertices m , $m \geq 3$. Put $m = 3$ then the total number of vertices of $K_{3,3}@T_3$ is $n=5m$, there are 15 vertices in $K_{3,3}@T_3$. The Wiener index of $K_{3,3}@T_3$ from the graph is 312.

$$\begin{aligned} W(K_{n,n}@T_n) &= \frac{n(9n^2 + 250n - 575)}{250} \\ &= \frac{15(9(15)^2 + 250(15) - 575)}{250} \\ &= 312 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the theorem is true for the number of vertices $m = 3$. Assume that the theorem is true for $n = k$

$$W(K_{k,k}@T_k) = \frac{k(9k^2 + 250k - 575)}{250}$$

To Prove

The theorem is true for $m = k + 1$,

ie) to prove $W(K_{k+1,k+1}@T_{k+1}) = \frac{(k+1)(9(k+1)^2 + 250(k+1) - 575)}{250}$

Now, let $m = k + 1$ then

$$\begin{aligned} W(K_{k+1,k+1}@T_{k+1}) &= W(K_k@T_k) + \sum_{k=1}^m d(U_{m+k}, V_i), k=1,2,3,4,5 \\ &= \frac{k(9k^2 + 250k - 575)}{250} + \sum_{k=1}^m d(U_{m+k}, V_i) \\ &= \frac{(k+1)(9(k+1)^2 + 250(k+1) - 575)}{250} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the theorem is true for $m = k+1$. It is also true for all the values of m . Hence, the Wiener index of the graph $K_{n,n}@T_n$ is

$$W(K_{n,n}@T_n) = \frac{n(9n^2 + 250n - 575)}{250}$$

//Program to find Wiener index of $K_n@(P_n \circ K_1)$ Graph

```
void main(void)
{
    int n,i,j,z,s=0,a=0,t,b;
    clrscr();
    cout<<"\n Enter No. of vertices in a Graph:\t";
    cin>>n;
    for(i=1;i<3*n;i++,s=0,t=1,b=2)
    {
        cout<<"\n"<<i;
        for(z=2;z<=i;z++)
            cout<<" ";
```





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```

for(j=i+1;j<=3*n;j++)
{
if(j<=n)
{
s=1;
cout<<" "<<s;
a=a+s;
}
if(j>n && j<=2*n+1)
{
s=s+1;
cout<<" "<<s;
a=a+s;
}
if(j>2*n+1)
{
if(i>2*n)
{
b=b+1;
cout<<" "<<b;
a=a+b;
}
else
{
if(s==1)
{
t=t+1;
cout<<" "<<t;
a=a+t;
}
else
{
s=s-1;
cout<<" "<<s;
a=a+s;
}
}
}
}
getch();
}
cout<<"\n\n Wiener Index of G : \t" <<a;
getch();
}

```

// Program to find Wiener index of $K_n @ T_n$ Graph

```

void main(void)
{
int n,i,j,s=0,a=0,t,b;
clrscr();

```





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```

    cout<<"\n Enter No. of vertices in a Graph :\t";
    cin>>n;
for(i=1;i<4*n;i++,s=0,t=1,b=2)
{
    for(j=i+1;j<=4*n;j++)
    {
        if(j<=n)
        {
            s=1;
            cout<<" "<<s;
            a=a+s;
        }
        if(j>n && j<=2*n+1)
        {
            s=s+1;
            cout<<" "<<s;
            a=a+s;
        }
        if(j>2*n+1)
        {
            if(i>2*n)
            {
                if(j%2==1) b=b+1;
                cout<<" "<<b;
                a=a+b;
            }
            else
            {
                if(s==1)
                {
                    if(j%2==1) t=t+1;
                    cout<<" "<<t;
                    a=a+t;
                }
                else
                {
                    if(j%2==1) s=s-1;
                    cout<<" "<<s;
                    a=a+s;
                }
            }
        }
    }
    cout<<"\n";
    getch();
}
    cout<<"\n\n Wiener Index of G :\t"<<a;
getch();
}

```





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//Program to find Wiener index of $K_{n,n} @ (P_n \circ K_1)$ Graph

```
void main(void)
{
    int n,i,j,s=0,a=0,t,b;
    clrscr();
    cout<<"\n Enter No. of vertices in a Graph :\t";
    cin>>n;
    for(i=1;i<4*n;i++,s=0,t=1,b=2)
    {
        cout<<"\n"<<i<<"\t";
        for(j=i+1;j<=4*n;j++)
        {
            if(j<=2*n)
            {
                if((i%2==0 && j%2==0) || (i%2==1 && j%2==1))
                s=2;
                else
                s=1;
                cout<<" "<<s;
                a=a+s;
            }
            if(j>2*n && j<=3*n+1)
            {
                s=s+1;
                cout<<" "<<s;
                a=a+s;
            }
            if(j>3*n+1)
            {
                if(i>3*n)
                {
                    b=b+1;
                    cout<<" "<<b;
                    a=a+b;
                }
                else
                {
                    if(s==1)
                    {
                        t=t+1;
                        cout<<" "<<t;
                        a=a+t;
                    }
                    else
                    {
                        s=s-1;
                        cout<<" "<<s;
                        a=a+s;
                    }
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```





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```

    }
    }
    getch();
}
    cout<<"\n\n Wiener Index of G :\t"<<a;
getch();
}

//Program to find Wiener index of  $K_{n,n}@T_n$  Graph
void main(void)
{
    int n,i,j,z,s=0,a=0,t,b;
    clrscr();
    cout<<"\n Enter No. of vertices in a Graph :\t";
    cin>>n;
for(i=1;i<=5*n;i++,s=0,t=1,b=2)
{
    for(z=2;z<=i;z++)
        cout<<" ";
    cout<<"\n"<<i<<"\t";
    for(j=i+1;j<=5*n;j++)
    {
        if(j<=2*n)
        {
if((i%2==0 && j%2==0) || (i%2==1 && j%2==1))
s=2;
else s=1;
cout<<" "<<s;
a=a+s;
}
if(j>2*n && j<=3*n+1)
{
s=s+1;
cout<<" "<<s;
a=a+s;
}
}
if(j>3*n+1)
{
if(i>3*n)
{
if(n%2==1)
{
if(j%2==0) b=b+1;
else
b=b;
}
else
{
if(j%2==1) b=b+1;
else

```





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```

        b=b;
    }
    cout<<" "<<b;
    a=a+b;
}
else
{
    if(s==1)
    {
        if(n%2==1)
        {
            if(j%2==0) t=t+1;
            else
                t=t;
        }
        else
        {
            if(j%2==1) t=t+1;
            else
                t=t;
        }
        cout<<" "<<t;
        a=a+t;
    }
    else
    {
        if(n%2==1)
        {
            if(j%2==0) s=s-1;
            else
                s=s;
        }
        else
        {
            if(j%2==1) s=s-1;
            else
                s=s;
        }
        cout<<" "<<s;
        a=a+s;
    }
}
}
getch();
}
    cout<<"\n\n Wiener Index of G :\t"<<a;
getch();
}

```





CONCLUSION

According to [4][5][6] and using the above C++ Programming we can find out the Wiener index quickly. We tested the algorithm to compute the Wiener index of certain graphs using distance matrix methods [10]. In this article, obtained the Wiener index of $K_n @ (P_n @ K_1)$, $K_n @ T_n$, $K_{n,n} @ (P_n @ K_1)$, and $K_{n,n} @ T_n$. Also write programmes for finding the Wiener index for the same graphs.

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Anxiety and Self - Efficacy: A Study on Student's Academic Achievement

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ABSTRACT

Academic success is crucial in the realm of education and is widely regarded as the leading motivator for personal development. Every school has the special obligation to encourage student success in the classroom. It's the best possible conclusion of being a student. The success in the classroom is a crucial indicator of a student's overall competence. Success in school is the product of several independent and interrelated variables. Factors such as class attendance, family income, parental education level, and teacher-student ratio, the availability of qualified teachers in the school, the student's gender, and the distance between schools all have an impact on the student's academic success. Student self-efficacy, anxiety levels, and the quality of the learning environment have all been found to have significant effects on students' academic performance. The purpose of this study was to investigate the connection between students' academic success, self-efficacy, and anxiety. Understanding how anxiety levels and self-efficacy beliefs affect students' performance in academic contexts was the main goal of the study.

Keywords: Academic Achievement, Anxiety, Self-Efficacy, Education.

INTRODUCTION

A person's hopes and ambitions can only be realized to the extent that they are supported by the chances that are made available via education. As a result, it transforms a naive person into a successful professional and an economically secure citizen. It helps one become more sensible and gives one the satisfaction of accomplishing something worthwhile in life. A person who has received an education and seen the beneficial changes it may bring to a person's character is far more likely to promote the notion of education and teach his or her children properly. One educated person leads to a more educated family, which benefits subsequent generations. This is what Pestalozzi meant when he said, "Education is a constant process of development of innate powers of man which are natural, harmonious, and progressive." Dr. Kalam also believes that education is crucial to the success of any nation.



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It's crucial to a country's development and prosperity. He argued that the educational system and teachers should allow students more leeway in their thinking and creativity [1]. To what extent have instructional goals been met? That's what education is all about, after all. Education, in its broadest meaning, is a process that equips students with the information, abilities, and values they'll need to successfully navigate their world. Its fundamental goal is to encourage everyone to reach their best potential as an individual. To get there, we need to accept and embrace the idea that education is a powerful tool for improving people's material and social circumstances. The process of educating a person begins before birth and continues until the person dies. By helping him adapt to the ever-evolving society of which he is a part, education can help a child develop a strong sense of maturity and responsibility. Someone with a lot of education is well-known in their community. He is resilient enough to weather the storms of life and overcome the many obstacles he faces.

Academic achievement

Academic Achievement has been around since ancient times, when it was first used by the timeless Greek philosopher Plato to refer to formal, curriculum-based schooling in a single location he called a "academy." The term "achievement" is commonly used to refer to the sum total of one's efforts throughout a given time frame. It's evidence of how far one has progressed academically. Success in school is crucial because of the impact it may have on one's future. He decides on a vocation, career, or profession based on his level of education. Academic success is highly prized in the academic world. In today's world, it's crucial to stand out from the crowd in order to gain admission to a prestigious university. People who have done well in school tend to rise to prominent positions in society. Those who are prone to success and worried about failing have a persistent personality trait known as achievement [2].

Success encompasses the wide range of positive behavioral changes that occur in an individual as a result of exposure to new information. In reality, the term "achievement" is used to describe the degree of accomplishment and the level of expertise reached in a certain academic field. Both the parents and the educators believe that their children should reach their full academic potential. The youngster is given a grade and an overall evaluation based on their level of achievement. Accomplishment may be defined as a high level of competence or knowledge in a certain area. The final product of every educational endeavor is the learner's accomplishments; therefore measuring their progress toward those goals is of paramount importance.

Factors Affecting Academic Achievement

If we look at a cohort of students, we find that only a small percentage is exceptional high achievers, a small percentage are exceptional low achievers, and a large proportion is average performers. This raises the question of why there is such a disparity in academic performance when all schools have access to similar resources. Is it possible that there are intangible psychological variables at play here? Is there a correlation between individual traits and levels of success? Or, are there multiple factors that contribute to the variation in student performance even among students attending the same school? It's not uncommon for educators, educationists, policymakers, and psychologists to ponder similar topics, but they rarely come up with satisfying solutions [3]. Child's interest, motivation, conceptual learning, understanding in class, adjustment, school environment, home environment, and reading interest are the primary determinants of academic success. There are a plethora of additional elements at play, such as the child's interest and motivation in the subject, the equipment and methods chosen by teachers in the classroom, the home dynamic, and the study habits of the student in question. It's important to recognize the role that economic, social, and cultural issues play in explaining why some pupils succeed in school while others struggle. Personality, intelligence, upbringing, and other contextual variables all fit into this category.

- Intelligence
- Personal
- Anxiety
- Socio-economic background
- Maturity
- Self-efficacy



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- Attention and Interest
- Learning Ability
- Inspiration
- Study Habits
- School Environment
- Home Environment

Anxiety

There has never been a more anxious time than now. Not only does it appear frequently in literature and poetry, but it has also emerged as a central idea in the field of psychology. It has proven a helpful construct in the study of social connections and behavior, and it has been used to explain a wide range of psychopathological issues. Fear is a frequent emotional response to annoyance. Changes are motivated by the maturation from dissatisfaction and worry. Anxiety, in Freud's view, causes people to act in ways that keep them safe from potential danger. Anxiety is a state of mind characterized by feelings of unease. Concern for a loved one or nervousness before an exam is two examples of situations in which fear and anxiety are warranted. It is worth noting that irritability can be a symptom of a variety of emotional disorders in teens, including anxiety. It's a primal terror triggered by the temptation to act on your impulsive side. Warning the ego that a potentially harmful urge is on the verge of breaking through.

Anxiety might arise for no apparent reason, or it can be based on a true scenario but be disproportionate to the actual danger. Life-altering effects of severe anxiety are real. Anxiety, as defined by the authors, "corresponds to uncertainty of rewards or of total need fulfillment" and "scales with the magnitude of all unfulfilled needs and the degree of uncertainty that they will be fulfilled." When a person feels anxious, it's because they're worried about losing something important to them as a person.

Types of anxiety

Anxiety disorders come in a wide variety of presentations. The DSM-V classifies anxiety disorders into the spectrum of anxiety disorders which includes: panic disorder, agoraphobia, specific phobia, social phobia, OCD, PTSD, Acute stress disorder, GAD, substance-induced anxiety and separation anxiety. Anxiety disorders share a number of symptoms including "focusing on a feeling of uncontrollability" in the face of impending danger, threat, or other adverse event. Anxiety manifests itself in a variety of ways including but not limited to: excessive and unrelenting worry and tension; an unrealistic outlook on problems; restlessness or a feeling of being "on edge;" irritability; muscle tension; headaches; sweating; trouble focusing; nausea; frequent bathroom trips; fatigue; difficulty falling or staying asleep; trembling; and an increased susceptibility to startle. Anxiety disorders can stem from a number of different sources, including mental health issues, medical conditions, pharmacological side effects, or a combination of these. Scientists believe that identifying shared symptoms will be crucial to addressing the root causes of mental health issues and developing effective treatments.⁴ Generalized anxiety disorder (GAD), panic disorder (PD), obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) are some of the most common forms of anxiety that are classified as significant mental diseases. The following are some of the anxiety disorders and the symptoms associated with them:

- Generalized anxiety disorder
- Panic disorder
- Post-traumatic stress disorder
- Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
- Social anxiety disorder
- Separation anxiety disorder

Self efficacy

"Self-efficacy" refers to confidence in one's own capacity to plan for and take advantage of the resources available to effectively handle unforeseen challenges. A person's self-efficacy is the degree to which they think they will do well in a certain circumstance. Bandura argued that one's beliefs determine one's thoughts, actions, and emotions. That's



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why it seems sense that self-efficacy—the confidence you have in your own skills to deal with challenges—may play a part in determining whether or not you succeed in life. When it comes to health-related behaviors, these consequences are striking and undeniable. A person's self-efficacy is their belief in their own skills and their capacity to carry out the actions necessary to achieve their goals. It's one of the most reliable predictors of success in arenas as varied as athletics, business, and the classroom.

School environment

A student's sense of self is heavily influenced by their community. Since a student spends so much time there, it plays a key role in molding his personality. The effectiveness of a school's educational process depends on several factors, including the careful planning of classrooms, offices, hallways, laboratories, libraries, computer labs, science labs, art studios, music rooms, cafeterias, and the selection of qualified teachers and students. The extent to which classroom design, materials, and accessible assistance can improve a student's learning potential varies. The school is an important aspect of a child's social environment because it encourages feelings and behavior that are consistent with the norms of that community. That's why a school represents a microcosm of society. Because to its surroundings, it could either sink or swim. The school setting is widely acknowledged as the single most influential social medium in a child's life. The educational process is a developmental process that is influenced by the physical, social, cultural, and cognitive contexts. It is essential that a kid be immersed in a secure and engaging environment for them to learn well. The classroom setting can have a significant impact on students' ability to learn. A child spends the majority of their waking hours at school, so the curriculum, teaching techniques, and relationships there have a significant influence on their ability to learn and succeed.⁵

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Torupere (2020) (looked at how the Bayelsa State, Nigeria, secondary school pupils' performance was affected by the school's physical layout. The primary purpose of this research was to determine whether or not a school's physical appearance, infrastructure, equipment, teaching materials, and general condition had any bearing on students' academic achievement. One thousand, 620 JS3 students from secondary schools across Bayelsa State were selected using multi-stage selection procedures to serve as the study's sample. The research concluded that kids' academic performance is greatly impacted by the aesthetics and infrastructure of their schools. Students' academic outcomes are also significantly affected by factors such as the quality of the school's physical facilities and the quality of its teaching materials [6]. Suresh (2019) (investigated the correlation between class 11 pupils' levels of anxiety and their performance in school in the Thanjavur region. Class XI pupils' anxiety levels and academic performance were the primary foci of this research. Students from the Thanjavur district of Tamil Nadu, numbering 731 in Grade XI. The results showed that class XI pupils had moderate anxiety and excel academically; there were strong correlations between anxiety and gender, school area, and language of instruction. Anxiety and poor performance in school are strongly correlated [7]. Shekhar and Kumar (2019) (they also discovered that pupils at private schools show higher levels of confidence in their abilities than those in public schools. Students' perceptions of their own abilities differed significantly between those attending senior secondary schools in rural areas and those in urban areas, according to the results of the current study. The self-efficacy of pupils in metropolitan regions is higher than that of students in government schools [8].

Meera and Jumana (2018) (studying the relationship between confidence in one's ability to succeed academically in English. The purpose of this research was to examine how students' perceptions of their own English-language abilities relate to their performance in the classroom. 520 high school students were chosen at random as the sample. The study's findings show that kids in rural areas had lower levels of academic achievement and self-efficacy in English than students in urban areas. There was no discernible difference between the sexes in terms of education level or institution attended [9]. Malik (2017) (students in rural regions experience higher rates of exam anxiety compared to those in private schools. This might be because they are worried about their future achievement and their parents and teachers aren't actively involved in their lives, both of which contribute to poor academic



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performance. The current study indicated that both student anxiety and academic performance improved [10]. Odeh, Oguiche and Iwagher (2015) explored the connection between students' perceptions of safety and security in their schools and their performance in class at secondary institutions across Nigeria's Benue State's Zone "A" Senatorial District. Focusing on secondary schools in the senatorial district known as Zone "A," this paper's primary goal is to analyze the impact that school atmosphere has on students' performance in the classroom. Nigeria, Benue State The study employed a sample size of 250 educators. Secondary school pupils' academic performance in the Zone 'A' Senatorial District of Benue State was found to be significantly affected by school atmosphere, school discipline, and physical facilities [11]. Muhammad, Syed and Khalid (2015) student confidence and academic success was the topic of a study. After a wave of behavioral and academic issues hit college campuses, this study set out to gauge the impact on students' sense of self-worth and academic performance. The GC Model Purposeful sampling was used to pick 80 students from University of Faisalabad, including 40 male and 40 female students. Conclusions High levels of self-esteem were associated with better academic outcomes ($r=0.879$, $p.01$). In addition, there was a statistically significant difference between the self-esteem and academic performance scores of male and female students, suggesting that female students do better academically than male students [12].

Mudassir and Noorsuhaily (2015) researchers in Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia looked examined "the impact of school culture on student achievement." The primary goal of this research is to determine whether or not secondary school students' academic performance in Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia is affected by factors such as school facilities, instructors, and surroundings. A total of 377 students from 4 different Kuala Terengganu secondary schools filled out an online survey. The findings are presented in three different analyses: descriptive, inferential, and demographic. The study found that kids in schools with sufficient facilities, skilled teachers, and an encouraging environment outperformed their counterparts at schools with fewer of these factors [13]. Lars, Simone, Michael and Sigrid (2015) the article "The Relation of Mathematical Ability and Math Anxiety: An Application of Latent State-Trait Theory" should be looked at. The primary purpose of this research was to look at the connection between mathematical competence and mathematics phobia. The research included 354 would-be preschool educators as a sample. Results: The findings showed that math anxiety was negatively related to all areas of mathematics and did not have any occasion-specific effects. The benefits of LST modeling are explored, including its use in constructing validation and exploring complicated linkages [14]

Objectives of the study

- To compare the average academic achievement score and average anxiety score of the students.
- To compare the mean scores of students' self-efficacy.
- To find out the relationship between academic achievement and anxiety of students.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Descriptive survey methodology was employed for this study. This technique is highly effective in the realm of education since it incorporates the steps of comparison, assessment, categorization, connection, and interpretation. The focus of this strategy is on addressing a critical issue in schooling. So, the researchers employed a descriptive approach to analyze the interplay amongst parental support, abstract intelligence, and students' propensity for taking risks.

Population and sample size

There were only four divisions at the time of data collection: Ambala, Gurgaon (now, Gurugram), Hisar, and Rohtak. Two districts from each division were chosen as the sample. Thus, the population of 600 pupils enrolled in senior secondary school courses at the 10+1 stage from various districts in the state of Haryana was chosen by the researcher at random, and this population served as the study sample for the current research.



**Rupali Yadav****Tools used in data collection**

After deciding on a sample, choosing reliable tools for data collection is the next crucial step. One or more instruments might be used depending on the necessity of the study and the fresh and unknown data necessary for research. The following is a description of the standardized instruments used in this study's data gathering process:

- Comprehensive Anxiety Test developed by Sinha and Sinha (2011)
- School Environment Inventory by Mishra (2002)
- Self-efficacy scale by Mathur and Bhatnagar (2012)

Statistical Techniques Used

- Mean
- Standard deviation
- Confidence interval
- Correlation Coefficient (r)

RESULT AND ANALYSIS

The current study set out to investigate the connection between senior high school students' anxiety, the school's environment, and the students' own sense of academic competence. Descriptive statistics (mean and standard deviation) and the 'Z' test were used to examine the data of 600 pupils from four divisions and eight districts of the Haryana State. These divisions and districts are as follows: Kurukshetra, Yamunanagar, Bhiwani, Charkhi Dadri, Mohindergarh, Rewari, Rohtak, and Jhajjar.

Differential analysis

Anxiety, school environment, and self-efficacy: disentangling their effects on performance. The effects of students' gender, school type, and geographic location on their academic performance in high school were also investigated. The 'z' test is used for a variable-by-variable analysis and interpretation of these discrepancies. Table 1 show that the value of 'z' is 7.732, which is significant with a 0.01 degree of significance and 598 degrees of freedom. Therefore, kids attending public vs private high schools show statistically significant differences in academic performance. Therefore, kids attending public or private high schools produce similar levels of academic accomplishment, refuting the null hypothesis that there is no difference between the two. In addition, the mean score of academic achievement for students in private senior secondary schools is 73.70, which is higher than the mean score of 68.02 for students in government senior secondary schools; this suggests that private students in higher secondary schools have higher academic achievement than government students.

Table 2 demonstrates unequivocally that the value of 'z' is 4.908, which is statistically significant at the 598 DOI and 0.01 level of freedom. As a result, there is a substantial gap in the anxiety levels of public and private high school seniors. Consequently, pupils attending public vs private senior high schools do not differ significantly in their levels of anxiousness. Furthermore, the mean anxiety score of students attending a Government Senior Secondary School is 31.82, which is higher than the mean anxiety score of students attending a Private Senior Secondary School, which is 26.17. This suggests that Government Senior Secondary Students attending secondary schools are more worried than Private Senior Secondary Students. Table 3 reveals that the value of 'z' is 2.179, which is statistically significant at the 0.05 level of significance with 598 degrees of freedom. The self-efficacy mean scores of pupils attending public vs private schools are, thus, significantly different. Since there is a difference between public and private high school students' self-efficacy scores, the null hypothesis that "No significant difference exists in the mean scores of students studying in government and private senior secondary schools" must be rejected.

It can be concluded that students in private senior secondary schools have higher levels of self-efficacy than students in government senior secondary schools because the mean self-efficacy score for students in private senior secondary schools is 55.74, while the mean self-efficacy score for students in government senior secondary schools is 53.07.



**Rupali Yadav****Correlation analysis**

Examining how factors like anxiety, school environment and belief in one's own abilities all interact to affect performance in school. Using Karl Pearson's product moment correlation, the following interpretations are made of these correlations as independent variables: Table 4 shows that the value of 'r' is -0.583, which is statistically significant at the.01 level of significance with a.01 degree of freedom. That "no significant relationship exists between academic achievement and anxiety of secondary school students" is false here. Therefore, it can be stated that high school seniors' academic success is significantly related to their anxiety, yet the derived 'r' value is negative. Anxiety levels of high school seniors tend to drop in tandem with their academic performance, indicating a negative significant link between the two.

Table 5 shows that the value of 'r' is 0.468, which is significant with a 0.01 degree of significance and 598 degrees of freedom. That "no significant relationship exists between academic achievement and self-efficacy of senior secondary school students" is false here. Since the resulting 'r' value was positive, it may be inferred that there is a strong link between academic success and self-efficacy among high school students. Because of this, it is evident that there is a positive, statistically significant association between high school students' academic performance and their sense of self-efficacy.

CONCLUSION

The study's findings on the correlation between students' levels of anxiety and their beliefs in their own abilities to succeed in school are instructive. In the realm of education, academic success is highly valued because of its reputation as a powerful driver of personal development. Every school has the special obligation to encourage children to do well in their studies. The findings show that among high school seniors, there is a statistically significant inverse correlation between academic performance and anxiety. Therefore, it is important to look at alternative methods of alleviating pupils' fears. Making the classroom more congenial is an effective strategy for lowering anxiety levels among students. Examinees nerves might get the best of them, especially in the hours leading up to a big test. Test anxiety may be beneficial if it motivates pupils to study harder and keep their mind off the exam. However, when pupils experience excessive worry, it can have a chilling effect on their ability to learn. This study concludes that student's academic performance is negatively affected by anxiety, but positively influenced by student's sense of self-efficacy. Educators and organizations may help students succeed academically and flourish in other ways by focusing on student's anxieties and encouraging them to believe in their own abilities. The creation of successful ways for bettering student's educational experiences can be aided by further research and practical initiatives in this area.

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Table 1: Mean, SD and 'Z' score of academic achievement of students studying in government and private senior secondary schools

variables	Group	n	mean score	s.d	SEM	z-value	level of significance
academic achievement	government school students	300	68.02	8.55	0.494	7.732	significant at 0.01 level
	private school students	300	73.70	9.42			

Table 2: Mean, SD and 'Z' score of anxiety of students studying in government and private senior secondary schools

variables	Group	n	mean score	s.d	SEM	z-value	level of significance
anxiety	government school students	300	31.82	14.02	1.022	4.908	Significant at 0.01level
	Private school students	300	26.17	14.15			

Table 3: Mean ± SD and 'z' score of self-efficacy of students studying in government and private senior secondary schools.

variables	Group	n	mean score	s.d	SEM	z-value	level of significance
self efficacy	Government school students	300	53.07	14.83	0.856	2.179	Significant at 0.05level
	Private school students	300	55.74	15.21			

Table 4: Coefficient of Correlation between Academic Achievement and Anxiety of Senior Secondary School Students

variables	n	correlation coefficient	interpretation
academic achievement	600	-0.583**	significant at 0.01 level of significance
anxiety			

** = significant at 0.01

Table 5: Coefficient of Correlation between Academic Achievement and Self-Efficacy of Senior Secondary School Students

variables	n	correlation coefficient	interpretation
academic achievement	600	0.468**	significant at 0.01 level of significance
self efficacy			

** = significant at 0.01





Prevalence of Breast Mass among Women Attending Outpatient Department of National Institute of Siddha - Hospital based Study

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ABSTRACT

Breast masses or lumps are very typical, particularly in women who are in the reproductive cycle. Breast mass cases are becoming more prevalent among Indian women. Hence, this study is to find out how common breast mass is among women attended the National Institute of Siddha's Outpatient department. This cross-sectional study was conducted among the 100 female patients attending the outpatient department of National Institute of Siddha presented with breast complaints through purposive sampling. Data was collected through self-structured questionnaires and also by Physical examination. The collected data were analysed using suitable statistical analysis methods. Out of 100 Subjects. Prevalence of Fibroadenoma is 49%, Breast cyst 28%, Fibrocystic breast disease 12%, Breast carcinoma 9%, Fibroglandular tissue, Ductal Ectasia and Galactocele 4%, Fibroadenosis 2% and Breast Lipoma 1%. This study concluded that fibroadenoma is the most prevalent breast mass, which is nearly half of the sample population.

Keywords: Breast Mass, Physical breast Examination, Fibroadenoma, cross sectional study, Siddha.



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INTRODUCTION

A breast mass is a nodule or growth of tissue that represents an aggregation of coherent material [1]. Breast lumps or tumors are quite prevalent among women who are in their reproductive years [2]. More than 25% of women may experience breast illnesses throughout the course of their lifespan and the bulk of these instances initially exist as a new breast lump in regular care [3]. Numerous illnesses, from naturally occurring adenosis to extremely aggressive cancers, can result in breast tumours. Men and toddlers can develop breast lumps, although the fact that adult women typically have the bulk of them [4,5]. Breast diseases can be broadly divided into those that are benign and malignant. Benign breast disorders are much more common than malignant conditions [6]. One out of eight people throughout the world gets diagnosed with breast cancer, the most prevalent kind of cancer [7]. Breast cancer is one of the three most common cancers worldwide, along with lung and colon cancers [8]. In 2020, there were over 2.3 million new instances of breast cancer identified, and the illness claimed 685,000 lives [9]. Although the mortality rates of breast cancer have been stabilized, the annual numbers of new cases are permanently increasing. Evaluation of a palpable breast mass requires a systematic approach to the history, physical examination, and radiographic imaging studies to ensure a correct diagnosis. Triple assessment by a combination of clinical evaluation, imaging and FNAC is established, management of breast lesions [10].

Digital Mammography is the modality of choice for patients above the age of 35 years. It has an accepted role in screening of breast cancer and evaluation of clinically apparent breast lesions [11]. But its diagnostic and screening value is dependent on tissue density of breasts, being low sensitivity for dense breast Indian women must be informed of both risk factors that can be changed and those that cannot for breast cancer in order to implement adequate preventative methods. There is a pressing need for more effective cancer literacy initiatives at the national and state levels, as well as collaborations with neighborhood associations and the healthcare system [12]. In this study, Physical examination and screening of Breasts done to find the prevalence of most commonly occurring breast mass and further they were educated as per their need. Hence, this study is to find out how common breast mass is among women attended the National Institute of Siddha's Outpatient department.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

It was an observational study. The sample size of this study was 100 in the age group above 12 years who were presented with the complaints of a breast lump, breast pain and nipple discharge. The goal of this research is to determine the prevalence of various types of breast mass among women attended an Out-patient department of the National Institute of Siddha. Ethical consent was got from the Institutional Ethical Committee, National Institute of Siddha (NIS/IEC/2021/MP-9, 25/11/2021) and CTRI Registration was done (CTRI) prior to the conduct of the study. Study tool was a questionnaire, a self-structured assessment form that includes information regarding a patient's demographic status, clinical history and complaints presented. The study was conducted from February 2022 to April 2022. After clearly explaining the research, a written consent was obtained. Study data were collected through physical breast examination and confirmed with ultra-sonogram breast.



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RESULTS

This study was conducted among 100 patients who attended the Out-patient department of the National Institute of Siddha. The patients included in this study were aged between 30-40 years (34%), 25% of subjects had breast mass between 40-50 years, 21% of subjects had breast mass between 21-30 years, 12% had breast mass between 12-20 years of age and 8% had breast mass above the age of 50 years (Table 1). The majority of subjects had Normal weight (62%), 30% were Overweight, 7% were Obese and 1% of the study subjects was underweight (Table 2). 97% of subjects had no family history of breast cancer and 3% of subjects had the family history of breast cancer (Table 3). Breast mass was noticed due to pain (47%), self breast examination (31%), 12% of subjects noticed through screening programmes and 10% of subjects through discharge (Table 4). Among the 100 subjects, Prevalence of Fibroadenoma is found to be 42%, Breast cyst 16%, Fibrocystic Breast Disease 10%, Breast Carcinoma 9%, Galactocele 4%, Ductal ectasia 2%, Fibroglandular tissue 2% and Breast lipoma 1% (Table 5).

DISCUSSION

This cross-sectional study on assessment of the prevalence of breast mass among the patients above 12 years attending outpatients' department of the National Institute of Siddha presenting with breast disease like breast lump, nipple discharge & breast pain. Based on the observations made from this study, it was found that breast mass commonly occurred in the middle age group people. The highest frequency rate of being affected by breast mass commonly in the people of metropolitan cities and the homemakers have a higher chance of getting affected than employed women. Previous studies had not evidently traced the increased prevalence of breast mass among homemakers [13]. But, this study has significantly marked that the incidence of breast mass is more among homemakers. Most of the persons affected due to breast lump have normal BMI. The past illness showed that 13% had T2DM, 7% had PCOS. The Menarche age of the subjects shows that 83% had attained menarche at the age of 11-15 years. Menstrual history shows that 72% had regular menstrual cycles and 83% had normal menstrual flow. 54% of subjects had done Exclusive breastfeeding and 9% of subjects had done breastfeeding along with formula feeding. Their family history showed that 9% had history malignancy and 3% had the family history of breast cancer. 6% of the subjects had the history of intake of hormone tablets. 9% of subjects had the previous history of breast surgery for fibroadenoma. The breast mass was notable due to pain in 47% and due to self-breast examination in 31%. By the manual examination, Inspection Of Breasts was found that 13% of patients had swelling 12% had changed in the colour of breast. 9% had scars due to previous breast surgery. 7% had breast discharge. On palpation, 52% of patients had multiple masses and 48% had single mass. Based on its occurrence 62% had bilateral cyst and 38% had unilateral cyst. Based on the consistency of the mass, 92% had soft mass and 8% had hard mass. Based on its mobility 96% of the masses were mobile and 4% were immobile. 19% of patients had breast discharge on palpation. 21% of patients had axillary lymph node enlargement. 18% of patients had tenderness in axillary region.

CONCLUSION

According to this study outcome, benign type of breast mass occurs at a higher rate than malignant type. Fibroadenoma is the most prevalent breast mass, which is nearly half of the sample population. The Most Prominent complaint observed among patients with fibroadenoma is pain. Nature of occurrence of fibroadenoma is found to be usually bilateral.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interests.





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Table1: Age distribution

Age Distribution	No of Subjects	Percentage (%)
12-20	12	12
21-30	21	21
30-40	34	34
40-50	25	25
>50	8	8





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Table 2: Body Mass Index

BMI	No of Subjects	Percentage (%)
Normal weight	62	62
Obesity	7	7
Overweight	30	30
Underweight	1	1

Table 3: Family history of breast cancer

Family history of Breast cancer	No of Subjects	Percentage (%)
No	97	97
Yes	3	3

Table 4: Factors assisting the observation of breast mass

Factors	No of Subjects	Percentage (%)
Discharge	10	10
Pain	47	47
Screening Programme	12	12
Self-Breast Examination	31	31

Table 5: Prevalence of breast mass

Breast Mass	No of participants	Percentage (%)
Fibroadenoma	42	42
BreastCyst	16	16
Fibrocysticbreastdisease	10	10
Breastcarcinoma	9	9
Galactocele	4	4
Ductalectasia	2	2
FibroglandularTissue	2	2
Breast lipoma	1	1





Natural Language Processing: A Survey and Classification

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ABSTRACT

Natural Language Process is a powerful technology that enables machine to comprehend and communicate with human language. It includes the development of computational models and algorithms capable of processing natural language data, including text and speech, and analysing the results. This is done in order to create the tools and methods necessary for computer systems to understand and work with natural language to carry out a variety of desired activities. This paper reviews the classification on NLP. It discusses or provide a hint regarding the NLP algorithm. It is based on document analysis. This research paper could be helpful to those who want to explore and learn about NLP classification and algorithms, this research study may be informative.

Keywords: Language, natural, research, study, algorithms, human.

INTRODUCTION

Natural language processing can be broadly characterised as the area of artificial intelligence that helps computers comprehend, manipulate, and interpret human language. Computational linguistics and computer science are among the many areas that natural language processing attracts. This is done to close the communication gap that exists between humans(natural) and computers. NLP techniques is classified based on the level of linguistic analysis they perform. Techniques can be categorised, for instance, according to whether they work at the lexical, syntactic, or semantic levels. Rule-based approaches, statistical approaches, and deep learning approaches are just a few of the several NLP methodologies available. 1. Rule-based techniques extract information from text by employing manually created rules and patterns. 2. In statistical approaches, patterns and relationships are discovered from enormous amounts of data using probabilistic models. To learn language representations that may be used to a variety of NLP tasks, deep learning techniques entail training neural networks on big datasets. In an effort to achieve such, a variety of strategies are used in natural language processing. Natural language processing (NLP) is a broad and complex field. Natural language generation creates output based on the rules of the target language and the task at hand.

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Natural language processing (NLP) is a collection of techniques used to extract grammatical structure and meaning from input in order to execute a meaningful activity. Due to the fact that NLP creates a path for enhanced interactivity and productivity, these fields—tutoring systems, duplicate detection, speech reorganization, Sentiment Analysis computer supported instruction, and database interface—can all benefit from its utilisation.

CLASSIFICATION

The scope of Natural Language Processing (NLP) is broad and encompasses a range of tasks related to the processing and understanding of natural language text or speech. The primary objective of NLP is to enable computers to interact with humans using natural language, just as humans do with each other. Depending on the applications and methods employed, Natural Language Processing (NLP) can be divided into a number of categories. Here are some typical NLP classifications:

Text Processing

Text Processing is evaluating and modifying text material in order to extract relevant information or features. Tokenization, Stop word removal, Stemming and lemmatization, named entity recognition, Part-of-speech tagging, Dependency parsing, Sentiment analysis, and Text classification are a few of the sub-tasks that text processing often entails. Many NLP applications, such as chatbots, text summarization, question-answering, and language translation, all require text processing.

Information Extraction

Information Extraction, which entails automatically locating and extracting pertinent information from unstructured or semi-structured text input. Entities (including individuals, organisations, and locations), relationships between entities, events, and other pertinent data are examples of this information.

Many different sub-tasks are often involved in information extraction, such as named entity recognition (NER), relationship extraction, event extraction, co reference resolution, and template filling.

Applications for information extraction include knowledge management, competitive intelligence, content analysis, customer service automation, and customer service automation.

Text classification

Text classification is a fundamental problem in Natural Language Processing (NLP) that includes classifying text documents according to their content or topic. Text categorization and document categorization are other terms for text classification. There are many methods for classifying text, including rule-based classification, machine learning-based classification, and hybrid approaches. Applications for text categorization include sentiment analysis, topic modelling, spam filtering, and content suggestion. Emotion analysis, topic modelling, spam filtering, and content suggestion are a few of the frequently used text categorization applications. Machine learning models for text classification need a large amount of labelled data to be trained. To achieve the greatest performance, it also necessitates rigorous feature engineering and selection.

Machine translation

In which includes automatically translating text from one language to another, is one of the most well-known NLP applications. NLP has long struggled with machine translation because it needs to comprehend the subtleties of both the source and target languages. Rule-based and statistical techniques to machine translation are the two basic types.

Rule-based machine translation

Sentences are translated from one language to another according to a set of linguistic rules. This method frequently struggles to deal with the richness and ambiguity of real language and necessitates a large amount of manual labour to develop the rules.





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Statistical machine translation

It uses machine learning algorithms to translate words by studying a vast volume of multilingual text data. This strategy has gained popularity over the past several years and significantly improved the accuracy of machine translation. In more recent times, neural machine translation (NMT) has become a potent method for machine translation. Using deep learning methods, NMT models the complete translation process as a single neural network, from the input sentence to the output sentence. Today, both industry and academia frequently employ this strategy since it yields cutting-edge machine translation results.

Sentiment analysis

It is a branch of natural language processing (NLP) that focuses on identifying and comprehending the emotions portrayed in text. Sentiment analysis is frequently used to determine the degree to which a text reflects a good, negative, or neutral sentiment. The fundamental method of sentiment analysis entails analysing a text document, such a customer review, and using algorithms to ascertain the general sentiment expressed in the document. Analyzing the words used as well as other elements like the text's tone, the setting in which it was written, and the use of emojis or other symbols can all be part of this process.

Rule-based approaches, machine learning approaches, and hybrid approaches that mix the two are some of the techniques utilised in sentiment analysis. Rule-based methods require manually establishing a set of regulations that assess sentiment based on the words or phrases used in the text. Contrarily, machine learning approaches use a huge corpus of labelled data to train a machine learning model, which is then applied to new text to predict sentiment. Sentiment analysis has several uses, including examining customer reviews to enhance goods and services, monitoring public opinion on social media platforms, and interpreting public sentiment in political speeches. It is crucial to remember that sentiment analysis is not always correct because it can be challenging to fully capture the nuances.

Chatbots and virtual Assistants

They are made to communicate with users in natural language, offering help and knowledge as well as carrying out chores for them.

Chatbots are computer programmes that replicate human-like discussions with users via text or speech. They utilise NLP. They have a wide range of uses, including customer service, personal aid, and entertainment. In order to offer quick and effective customer care, chatbots are frequently utilised in messaging applications, social media platforms, and websites.

Virtual assistants are more advanced chatbots that can carry out more difficult tasks and offer more specialised support. Smartphones, smart speakers, and home automation systems are just a few examples of the many software programmes and hardware components that virtual assistants are frequently linked into. Siri from Apple, Alexa from Amazon, and Google Assistant are a few examples of well-known virtual assistants. Natural language processing (NLP) techniques like natural language generation, dialogue management, and natural language understanding are used in the creation of chatbots and virtual assistants. Dialogue management involves controlling the course of the discussion and choosing what actions to take based on user input, whereas natural language understanding requires analysing and interpreting user input to discover their intent. Producing responses in natural language in response to user input is known as natural language generation. Virtual assistants and chatbots provide a wide range of potential advantages, including 24/7 customer service, increased productivity, and accessibility. They do have certain limits, though, including the inability to do complex jobs, comprehend nuanced language, and keep users interested.

Speech Recognition

It focuses on turning spoken language into text or other machine-readable input. Many applications, including virtual assistants, dictation software, and automatic transcription, all make use of it.



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Speech recognition is a multi-step process that includes decoding, feature extraction, acoustic modelling, language modelling, and audio processing. The audio signal is transformed during audio processing into a digital format so that a computer can handle it. Several methods, such as rule-based methods, statistical methods, and deep learning methods, can be used to do speech recognition. Several technologies use speech recognition, including voice-activated virtual assistants, automatic transcription, and speech-to-text dictation. It might increase efficiency in many industries, lower transcription costs, and make it easier for those with hearing problems to access information.

Text-To-Speech (TTS)

Many uses for TTS technology include audio books, virtual assistants, and assistive technologies for people with visual impairments. TTS conversion is a multi-step process that includes waveform creation, prosody modelling, text normalisation, and phonetic analysis. TTS technology can be based on a variety of methodologies, including rule-based methodologies, statistical methodologies, and deep learning methodologies. Whereas statistical approaches utilise machine learning algorithms to understand the mapping between text and speech, rule-based approaches use a set of rules to map written text to speech sounds. Deep learning techniques, such as generative adversarial networks (GANs) and deep neural networks (DNNs), have produced encouraging results in TTS, particularly when it comes to producing speech that sounds natural. TTS conversion offers a wide range of possible advantages, including increased accessibility for those with visual impairments, the production of audio versions of written content, and improved usability for virtual assistants and other conversational interfaces.

ALGORITHMS**Tokanization**

This algorithm divides a text into tokens, which are shorter units of text. The majority of NLP tasks start with tokenization. Such as remove any extra white spaces, punctuation mark or special characters that are not part of sentences, Handle contractions like “don’t” or “won’t”, as a single token and convert all tokens to lowercase or uppercase, depending upon the requirements of task.

Part-of-speech (POS) tagging

This algorithm recognises the grammatical categories of each word in a phrase, such as noun, verb, adjective, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions etc.both statistical and rule-based techniques. Rule-based techniques assign POS tags based on the morphology, syntax, and context of each word in a phrase using custom rules and heuristics. These laws are often based on linguistic expertise and intended to capture normal linguistic usage patterns and regularities.

Named Entity Recognition (NER)

In this algorithm to recognise and group identified items in text into specified groups like persons, groups, places, and others. NER model involves two stages. The first step in the NER model is to categorise the text by dividing it into segment or chunks. These chunks are categorised in name of person, organization, location etc. The formatting is ignored like bolding and capitalization. For Ex. \$ James (ENAMEX, name), a student at \$ New York University (ENAMEX, org), \$ New York University (ENAMEX, location), earned a score of \$ 90% (NUMEX, percent) on the \$ 26th of April in his seminar (TIMEX, date). second stage of the model. When a user preference graph is being developed for intelligent search recommendation responses, this model can be used extensively in language and voice processing.

Sentiment Analysis

This algorithm determines the sentiment (positive, negative or neutral) of a text by analyzing the words used in it.Each word's polarity—positive or negative—determines the sentiment score that is given to the overall text. Several methods, including lexicon-based approaches, machine learning algorithms (such as Naïve Bayes and Support Vector Machines), and deep learning models (such as Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) and Transformers) can be used to determine the score.





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Word Embedding

In Natural Language Processing (NLP), the word embedding approach is used to represent words as dense vectors in a high-dimensional space. Words with comparable meanings are placed next to one another in the embedding space in order to capture the semantic and syntactic links between them.

Sequence-to-sequence (seq2seq) model

This method converts input sequences, such as sentences in a single language, into output sequences (e.g., translations in another language). The seq2seq architecture consists of two phases: an encoder and a decoder. An input sequence is passed through the encoder, which creates a fixed-length vector representation that includes all of the pertinent data. The decoder then creates the output sequence, one token at a time, using the encoded representation. In seq2seq model the encoder and decoder components are implemented using recurrent neural networks (RNNs) such as long-short term memory (LSTM) or gated recurrent unit (GRU) networks. The input and output sequences' sequential dependencies are captured by RNNs.

CONCLUSION

Based on document analysis, this paper summarizes the information on NLP, the general overview, classification, and previous works on NLP. The research paper is intended to give an understating to researchers, scholarly peers and companies who wish to stay abreast with the NLP technologies and applications from the past, present and future. According to the research done, it can be conclusively proven that NLP is a far better way than other methods since it has the ability to recognise both text and speech, whereas other methods, such text mining, only evaluate text quality.

FUTURE SCOPE

The future potential of Natural Language Processing (NLP), which has been developing rapidly over the past few decades, is optimistic. Sentiment analysis, Conversational AI, Multilingual NLP, Sentiment Analysis, Healthcare, Education, and Cybersecurity are some future avenues for NLP development. Therefore, NLP has a bright future and has a wide range of applications that have the potential to significantly better our lives.

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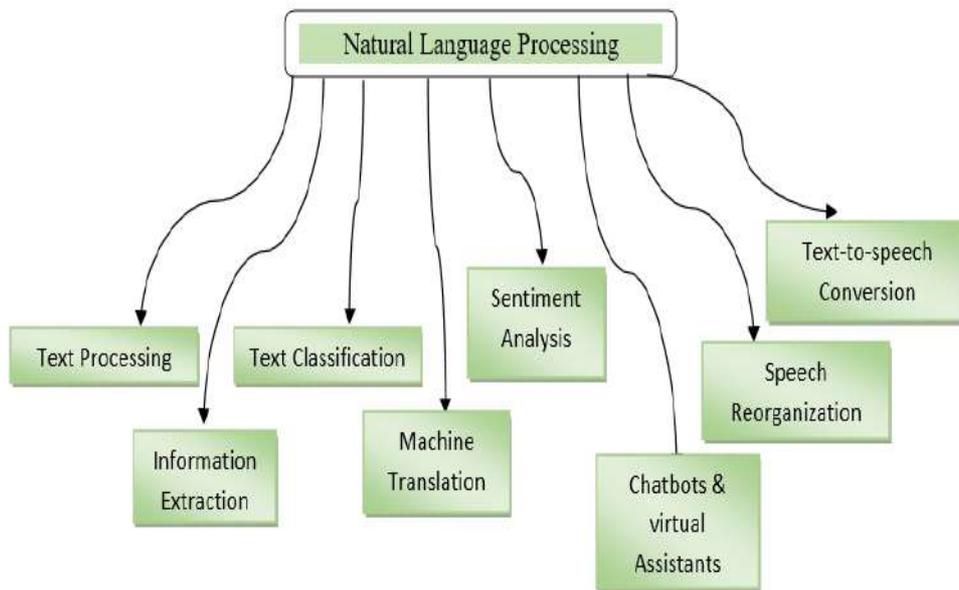


Fig. 1. Natural Language Processing





Military Communication System in a Highly Secure and Efficient Manner using R3 Corda Blockchain Technology

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ABSTRACT

Blockchain is a growing popular database or ledger to exchange information in blocks, making it more secure than existing domains and databases. The battlefield of the military network is crucial to communicating the information that needs more security because small information leakage can damage and destroy economic growth and people's lives. The primary purpose of the research work is to improve the security and privacy of military network message communication. We investigated developing blockchain technology in other platform applications to transfer messages securely. This research study aims to develop an application to transfer message-passing mechanisms in more security and privacy in the military sector. Military information is more crucial than the exchange of information about the safeguarding of our country. This research paper proposes the R3 Corda Blockchain of Military Communication (R3BcM) to implement the consortium blockchain design in the message-passing sector. The R3 CordaBlockchain Platform allows the user only authorized network participants. By using R3 corda in the military sector to identify some advantages such as security, privacy, Fast operational speed, optimizing the costs and efficiency, flexibility, native smart contract, high availability, automated workflows etc. This research discovers this to increase the high feature in military sector message transfer. By analysis and experimental results showing each feature compared to existing techniques, our research attained a high percentage of 97% working growth.

Keywords: Military communication, consortium blockchain, R3 cordaBlockchain, security and privacy, R3 Corda Blockchain of Military Communication (R3BcM).



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INTRODUCTION

The blockchain is a shared distributed system or ledger between computer network nodes. A blockchain serves as an electronic database for storing data in digital form. The most well-known use of blockchain technology is preserving a secure and decentralized record of transactions in cryptocurrency systems like Bitcoin. The novelty of a blockchain is that it fosters confidence without the necessity for a reliable third party by ensuring the integrity and safety of data history. In the real world, improving population growth and protecting the exchange of information in the digital message-passing blockchain play an essential role in the secure digital message system and provide smart contracts to transfer messages from one place to another. Here cloud computing plays a significant role in securing blockchain platforms to core technology to implement the blockchain. Blockchain highly performs data encryption to transfer the original message from the source are encrypted form and no access in the middle of the source and end user because it is untouchable with the help of fixed hash value encryption. This would provide unauthorized use or try to access the data that can be easily identifiable. Businesses now have an excellent platform to build systems and apps using blockchain technology, which has several benefits including cryptographic algorithms security and trustless automated verification. However, all of the transactions on open blockchains are publicly accessible, which does not meet the objectives of many businesses, especially in sectors where data privacy is crucial.

The benefits of blockchain technology are provided by private blockchains, which also let businesses secure the privacy of their business transactions. R3, the digital workplace supplier, is one of the leading participants in the market for private blockchains with its Corda product. Business entities in the financial sector frequently use Corda's permissioned blockchain platform. Permissioned blockchains limit access to just the approved network members, unlike public blockchains, where anybody may join. Kotlin, the programming language used to create Corda, enables both Java and Kotlin development. There are two primary editions of Corda. Both the Corda open-source and the Corda Enterprise upgraded editions are available for personal and business use. Additional speed improvements Corda Enterprise provides include more processing power for significant volume transactions. Although Corda is utilized across many sectors, the financial, banking, healthcare, and financial markets industries account for most of its clients. Since data privacy is crucial to the operations of these businesses, Corda's private blockchain capabilities are especially pertinent to them.

Several private blockchains from various companies are combined to form a consortium blockchain. Each of these blockchains acts as a node on the chain and a participant in the association, and it is only possible for them to quit or enter the network with the consent of the stakeholders. The data inside may be viewed, exchanged, and distributed by organizations within the consortium, even if each entity runs its NodeNode or blockchain. Solutions that cut across organizations and technologies may be created to enhance their current processes, accountability, and transparency, solving individual blockchains' problems and difficulties. Therefore, working within a consortium blockchain among private firms offers several advantages, from resolving shared issues to reducing operating costs and time. This increases scalability and transaction speed while maintaining privacy. Such collaborations may be advantageous for financial, banking, medical services, and supplier management industries. Different types of blockchains are divided based on the working platform and working platform and application, such as private, public and consortium blockchains. The previous research work can use POW (Proof of Work); it can take more time to complete their exact action. So each NodeNode in the blockchain waits for the completion of the task. It takes more time and energy consumption to make the blockchain platform challenge increase. Here we proposed R3 cordablockchain works in a consortium blockchain nature to increase the operation speed much faster, minimizing time and energy consumption at low costs. In the military sector, it is crucial to transfer the message in an acceptable range more securely. Wherever exchange of access, only the who is authorized to receive the original message.

In the military, statements are sent more securely using a cryptography system, but the cryptography method is easily broken into some limitations that create more problems in today's world. So we implemented consortium R3 cordablockchain to secure the transfer of the message in exactly the original format faster. It's challenging to manage



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the military message that raises questions about improving security in this area. We proposed blockchain R3 corda to optimize time and cost in fast operational speed and high security and privacy. In the battle, the world is crucial to securely passing the message through the sector. Hence we protect the vital message. Here we proposed the R3BcM algorithm. The R3 Corda is the primary implementation to transfer the unique message contract and private organization to send the correct receiver who is valid to receive the message. The Corda can implement existing work for transaction purposes of the financial network. Our motive is to implement the platform in the military to send crucial information and more security to safeguard our nation. Corda runs distributed applications to transfer the message; form consensus allows multiple participate locations. In R3, corda plays the important notary module responsible for the network's double spending problem. The remaining paper is discussed in an accompanying manner to organize section 2 to explain various existing research work. Section 3 briefly defines the proposed framework's work and describes the work's nature. Section 4 shows the result and discussion related to the research paper gained the experimental result overview about their attained features. Finally, we achieve the goal and proposed scheme, further describing the future work about the proposed paper application.

Related Work

The block selection issue, which entails choosing the blocks to be moved to the cloud, is solved using the deep reinforcement learning (DRL) technique, according to the author. DRL method to resolve our issue by transforming block selection's multi-objective optimization into something like a Markov decision process (MDP) [2]. The overall phase errors in the author's study are influenced by relative phase estimation mistakes, resulting in a legacy phase error within the array that impairs coherent operation. This same standard error of the residual phase errors on such integration was decreased to 10⁻⁴ degrees for inter node upgrade ranges of 0.1 ms with a classical decentralized frequency and phase synchronization optimization method on consensus averaging, but this was only possible with arrays that have at least 400 nodes as well as a high connectivity ratio of 0.9. A distributed array's nodes' electrical states can be better synchronized by using the message passing-based average consensus (MPAC) process. The results could be more cost-effective consumption and security extraction [3]. The author presents new findings on a recent notion to replace complex representations of the sum-product technique with extremely straightforward quantized message transmission methods utilizing a framework for machine learning called the Information Bottleneck approach. The approach offers a creative justification that connects the sum product method with the Communication Bottleneck decryption processing. The author may demonstrate poor system performance, which increases novel costs [4]. The authors suggest a blockchain-based UAV assisted casualty detection system. This method securely sends data from UAVs to an Edge Computing (EC) server using public key cryptography. To avoid tampering with previously recorded data, the EC server recognizes a warrior's death and registers the data in the blockchain. The authors of this paper should have gotten into specifics on block generation across EC servers [5]. To reduce duplicate message content in a vehicle network based on fog, the author investigates Game Theory Based Transmission (GTBT). In contrast towards the Max Score Based Transmission (MSBT) baseline, we demonstrate that our method is real-time and produces 10.5% fewer broadcast messages while requiring no additional communication expenses [6]. The author introduces SUPRA, a distributed publish/subscribe mechanism. This protocol offers the same security assurances as previous blockchain-based systems, even though most communications are sent off-chain in this case. Most message exchanges take place straight among publishers and subscribers, with the blockchain only being used when there are network problems, a message is lost, or a suspicious entity is detected [8]. Using the public blockchain's randomness as a foundation, the author discusses the concept of dispersing shared secret values for implicit authentication. Additionally, they offer a means to protect shared secret values from being accidentally revealed to outside participants in the network as a result of the blockchain's openness [9]. Recently the author studied to implement a novel authentication mechanism for transfer learning empowered blockchain (ATLB) in IIoT application of intelligence. ATLB is proposed for privacy preservation in industries of high efficiency [12]. In the study of the challenges of testing military systems, they proposed the Tactical Network Test (TNT) platform to test military sector applications in different communication statuses to automate the actual army application. In TNT platform executed in the VHF network to send information uniform flows. In the end, the author gets some metrics, such as speed of sending, over the long distance with high acceleration, but the security and cost make other challenges in this existing proposed work. We overcome such challenges in this research paper using the R3 corda



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blockchain [13]. 4G mobile military group communication to provide security, confidentiality and privacy to presented protocol of group security authentication and key agreement protocol built by elliptic curve Diffie Hellman key exchange (GSAKA-ECDHKE) to allow the authenticated user in the network. They use the hash function to share the encrypted key in routing authentication. This research paper analyses to identify the challenges to using Diffie Helman key exchange protocol that can break their security in some limitations that lead to more damage and destruction. This paper proposes to prevent implementing message communication in the military sector by providing a blockchain network [14]. In a study to identify the novel cross-layer approach that allows reliable data transmission from vehicle to vehicle. The entire system simulates using bit error rate (BER) to reduce the network signal's noise ratio with high efficiency [15]. The author investigates the proposed blockchain-based autonomous authenticated and integrity for the internet of battlefield things (BIBT) to command control centre over the network. The author BIBT prototype is implemented to identify security requirements in a distributed environment. To reduce energy consumption [16]. In this research author describe IoTChain model's attribute-based access control (A-BAC) policy provides the foundation for fine grained authorization, and it uses the Ethereum blockchain as an auditable access control layer. Smart contracts are designed for the IoTChain concept, which integrates the Ethereum blockchain with the interplanetary file system (IPFS). For encryption, we employed the advanced encryption standard (AES), and for secret key sharing between data owners and consumers, we used the elliptic curve Diffie-Hellman key exchange protocol. In order to reduce system transaction costs and increase system throughput, the proof-of-authority (PoA) consensus method has been included [17]. DRL has recently received attention in the literature as a valuable method for multi-objective optimization, notably in blockchain-based systems. DRL-based optimization strategies for resource development in mobile edge computing (MEC) platforms based on blockchain were proposed in works like [18]. Another multi-agent reinforcement learning paradigm for resource development in a blockchain - the authors in [19] suggested based twin IoT systems. The researchers provide ledger access control architecture for locating unlicensed UAVs in the Internet of Things (IoMT). Peer-to-peer user authentication in this system is based on a blockchain. Additionally, to guard against illegal access, it employs CNN-based object position detection. The outcomes demonstrate the suggested framework's effectiveness and superior detection accuracy [20].

METHODOLOGY

Explanation of Our Proposed Work

An authorization protocol is RPC. The client starts an RPC by transmitting a message to an established remote server asking it to run a specific operation with the given parameters. The client receives a reply from the distant server, and the programme continues with its operations. The client is halted if the client submits an asynchronous message to the server, like an XML Http Request. In contrast, the server processes the call (so it waits till the server has done processing before continuing execution). Numerous implementations vary widely and subtly, leading to a wide range of diverse (incompatible) RPC protocols. The fact that remote procedure calls might fail due to unforeseen network issues is a significant distinction between remote calls and local calls. Additionally, callers frequently have to handle such errors without knowing if the remote process was called. Integer linear methodologies that stay the same when invoked more than once are simple to manage, but there are still enough challenges that functionality to invoke distant procedures is frequently restricted to carefully construct minimal modules.

CorDapps Layer

Distributed applications that operate on the Corda platform are known as CorDapps (Corda Distributed Applications). A CorDapp's objective is to enable nodes to agree on ledger changes. To do this, they provide routines that Corda network administrators may call through Remote Procedure Call (RPC). CorDapps are composed of a collection of JAR files that each includes class definitions created in either Java or Kotlin. The following components are frequently included in these categories: Flows, States, Contracts, and Services.



**Rajkumar and Priyadharshini****Flows**

Consider a flow in which the sender and recipient agree to a simple ledger update. There are two sides to this Flow: the first is the initiator side, which will start the request to amend the ledger. One more responder side, this one ready to comply with the request to amend the ledger.

Initiator The sender builds the message to transfer securely using the R3 Cordablockchain. Firstly we choose the Notary for the news responsible for handling the double spending problem from the Corda network. It is a core component of the R3 Cordablockchain. Then create the message builder, to extract the input states from the vault and add them to the message builder. The vault is a database of the ledger. It contains all data about the consumed and unconsumed related information. The sender creates output states and adds them to the builder. The builder stored the commands, time of window and attachments. The builder signs the message to convert it to a signed statement. The sender verifies the message in their contract to run rightly. The sending message can be received by the right person of the opposite party (counterparty). The sender waits to receive the corresponding received signature and adds the signature to the message. Verify the message signatures are received correctly or valid by the signed user. The sender transfers the Notary of the message and waits to receive the notarised message back from the receiver. Record every transaction message locally event and store the relevant states in the vault. Each sending message is recorded simultaneously for future verification purposes. This flow work is described in Figure 2.

Responder the signed user can receive the message from the corresponding counterparty. The message of existing signatures of running contracts, again, sends corresponding to generate signature back to the receiver. The message is recorded using a vault of relevant states, receiving the sender's message notarized and recording the message locally. This Flow of work is shown in Figure 3. States Data utilized by a CorDapp is contained in a contracting form, or simply "state," in Corda. It may be compared to a disc file that the CorDapp can utilize to store data that will remain consistent between transactions. States are unchangeable once established; any modifications force the creation of a new form that will take its place. The Notary is accountable for avoiding "double spending" by certifying a message if the input data are available. States can only be modified (original message) once.

Contracts Contracts specify the guidelines that are utilized to validate message inputs and outputs in the scope of a CorDapp. Each contract in a CorDapp that provides rules once per or even more states may be one more. A contract's primary purpose is to verify that message input and output conditions are legitimate and to stop illegal transactions. The Contract interface, which includes the verify function, is implemented by contract files. The verification method compares the input message to rules specified in a require That element Message Corda employs an inbuilt message queue broker, Apache Artemis, to implement AMQP over TLS between nodes. By building on proven MQ protocols, we can get characteristics like preservation to disc, efficient distribution retransmissions with switching period and fallen navigation, security, big message streaming, and more. The in-memory-only version of Artemis, which is appropriate for testing processes and visualization tools, is concealed behind a thin interface. The network may be used in a variety of ways. You will only utilize the message subsystem indirectly when developing an application. The flow structure puts a layer over core messages to manage cross-flows and enables you to consider the concept of identity rather than individual network endpoints, which you will develop on top of. A network map service that supports the messaging layer keeps track of all networks' open nodes. The network map store, a part of nodes' internal structure, maintains a backup of a network map. A node's cache retrieves a duplicate of the complete network map when it starts up. Following that, it checks the network map regularly and makes any necessary local adjustments. As a result, nodes that momentarily go offline during maintenance are preserved in the network map, and messages for individuals will continue to be delivered. Nodes need not instantly resynchronize themselves, so they are kept in the routing protocol when they temporarily go down for maintenance. For instance, messages about them will be delayed to minimize disturbance. Nodes will not successfully resume if it is identified but just not started, and the service stops operating before the Node's first start.

Layer:4 Corda RPC operation and Corda Service Hub

In cloud services, a remote procedure call (RPC) occurs when a computer programme directs the execution of a





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procedure (subroutine) in a different address space (typically on another computer on a network share), but without using the developer consciously coding the specifics for the peripheral communication. The Corda For RPC communication, we employ Apache Artemis. The AMQP 1.0 solution we are utilizing is called proton-j (Apache Qpid). Corda uses a framework for expanded AMQP serialization. The client-side must include the Corda-RPC library to communicate with the server. When Artemis starts, client and server buffers are created, client and server sessions are enabled, and Artemis is generated on the RPC client (client side) and RPC server (inside the Corda node). A client proxy is included in the Corda-RPC library that converts RPC client requests into important Artemis messages and transmits them towards the server Artemis entity. The RPC calls are kept in Artemis queues on the server. These messages are retrieved by the backend consumer, who then sends a client acknowledgement and does the necessary RPC operations. A response is delivered back to the customer after the procedure is finished. The answer is enclosed in an Artemis communication and transmitted from the server to the client through Artemis. After that, the client eats the response from the client Artemis queue. The client proxy in the Corda-RPC library abstracts the procedures mentioned above. We may only build the representative object and execute the RPC calls from the customer's viewpoint. The clients can access certain RPC operations and techniques on the Corda node's sides thanks to the RPC server. On the server side, Artemis creates a queue for the RPC client requests, which are subsequently processed there. These operations enable you to initiate flows, list all network peers, retrieve network configuration, or retrieve vault statuses depending on specific criteria. Additionally, you may call methods that produce explanatory variables, listen to these, get real-time changes, and act after being informed. This are shown in below Algorithm: 1

Algorithm: 1 Steps to Make RPC Calls

```

Call RPC setup
While(user==true)
{
#RPC User
Username: "user1"
Password: "password"
Permission: "granted/denied."
}
# create RPC client nodes
Client="client host", "client port", "client network":
#Reconnecting proxy
GraceFulReconnect=Logger.info("connect/disconnect")
# one-time connection of RPC client
RPC connection= convert. API calls
# if the connection failed in some issues to make reconnect procedure.
# calls the same method once again
# To make RPC calls from the use client-side
Nodes= connect. network map nodes
# return observation
Vault = update (data)
NetworkMap = connect(every NodeNode in network map)

```

The client programme can link to the NodeNode using the RPC client in two ways. One is a proxy for a single connection, while the other is a proxy that automatically reconnects. As seen below, switching between these two methods is possible using the gracefulReconnect option.



**Rajkumar and Priyadarshini****R3 Service**

Most tasks you may perform inside a node begin at a service hub. Whenever a class tagged with CordaService is created, one is given to it, and you may access one inside flows. After some access verification, most RPCs redirect to the functions described here. The APIs are broadly categorized, with a few key top-level APIs accessible directly from the ServiceHub. Maintaining a link to resources located on the stack inside of a flow is acceptable since checkpointing will act correctly and refrain from attempting to encode the service's internal components. Clients use RPC to connect to the NodeNode. CorDapps use a service interface to connect. The NodeNode has Disk space, Identification, and the Vault and message service for interacting with other Peers. The network stores the state as session keys in the vault, which serves as a storage repository. The persistent level, which consists of a Database server, is located below all of this.

Layer:3 R3 Corda Core Framework

Notary: Notaries are similar to conventional Notary Public services, which offer trustworthy witnesses to occurrences. In plain English, Notaries keep track of the input values and the military message that used them in a keymap. They need a reliable method to identify states and activities unambiguously; they are not required to know their contents. Every transaction in the Corda protocol is notarized, and the peer who made the request and the action that designated its input state as factual. The Notary System is constructed as a responsibility to fix service in its most basic form, and each peer will always utilize the same Notary for all transactions. First of two things will occur when a peer transmits a transfer to the notary service. The Notary will return these exceptions if some of the input values are now mentioned in its map. The Notary inserts every input state into the database and approves the proposal if it is known that all input states have yet to be consumed. Consensus on uniqueness is provided through this procedure. Uniqueness consensus, combined with verification consensus, gives all involved parties assurance that the transaction will be final. A notary can be used to validate transactions to defend against potential DoS attacks in which an attacker submits fake transactions. As a typical node in this scenario, the Notary will only accept the transaction if contracts agree. This option suggests that the Notary will compile more data than a list of consumed state keys, which raises the prospect that a Corda network would require over one Notary. Data leaking and service agreement authentication at the Notary layer are trade-offs.

Distributed Database

The following commercial third-party databases are supported by Corda Enterprise: Azure SQL, SQL Server, Oracle, as well as PostgreSQL. In addition to describing the relevant methods for creating database schema objects, this paper provides a breakdown of the necessary database permissions. It explains how a Corda node determines the suitable database schema version. A Corda node uses a single database user to connect to a database, and a centralized database schema is used to store data (a schema namespace). It is impossible to share a database schema between two separate servers (except for hot-cold-deployment). A Corda entity can communicate towards the database with such a specific set of database credentials according to the way the schema components are created: A database administrator must construct database schema objects before actually launching the Corda node since restricted permissions only allow the database access permissions to DML execution (to alter the data itself, such as selecting or deleting rows). It is advised that a Corda node in a manufacturing environment use this permission set (including hot-cold-deployment). The database user is given complete access to a Corda node through administrative rights, enabling it to run both DDL statements (to construct data structures/schema content, such as tables) and DML queries (to alter actual data, such as select/delete rows). Because of its permissiveness, this permission set should be utilized with caution in working contexts. When a Corda node starts up, it has complete control over the database schema and can automatically build or upgrade schema objects. The operational upkeep of both development and testing is made more accessible. The Corda distribution's corda.jar file or the CorDapp releases have embedded database DDL scripts that define database tables (as well as other schema objects) (a JAR file). Therefore, Corda and customized CorDapps are delivered without individual DDL scripts by each database provider.



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The Corda Data Management Tools can be used even when a node operator rather than a database administrator wants to get a DDL script to run. The programme, among other things, outputs a DDL script appropriate for the Corda version and the database it was using. A Corda node may be set up, so that database tables (and perhaps other schema objects) are automatically created upon startup, depending on the database user's rights. DDL scripts are organized into change sets and defined using a cross-database syntax. The change sets stored in the database, and the list contained in the Corda server and related CorDapps are compared if a Corda node starts. It will both halt and notify anything difference but rather create/update whatever lacking database items depending on the results and node setup. Internally, the Liquibase library and tool are used by the Corda node with Corda Data Management Tool to modify database schema changes. With compatibility with many different databases, Liquibase is a utility that provides a systematic, version-based database migration system. It operates by keeping track of changesets that have been applied. Something as straightforward as adding a column to a database can constitute a changeset. Each executed changeset is kept in a table called "DATABASECHANGELOG" with fields like "id," "author," "timestamp," "description," and "md5". So whenever a migrating command is executed, this history table will be reviewed to identify which change sets must be executed. It displays the database's "version". Change sets are scripts provided in a supported format (such as XML, yml, or SQL) and should never be altered after execution. Any required fix must be made in a fresh change-set. Understanding Liquibase's operation is essential if one wants to comprehend how Corda's database migrations operate.

RESULT ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Setup Simulation

We conducted the simulation with the computer Microsoft window, 86-64 bit win 10 system. The performance evaluation of the proposed strategy R3BcM for military network communication is implemented using the combination of cloud computing with R3 corda consortium blockchain on VM sizing specified three components node, Bridge and Float. The VM specification is given in Table.1

Performance Metrics

We evaluate R3BcM in terms of Work throughput, latency measurements, Time and Energy Consumption, and Security and Privacy. System throughput measures how long the sending and receiving message can take a transaction per second (TPS). Latency measurements are identified to analyze the delay of the message in each sending and receiving. The R3 corda blockchain is implemented for the transaction of messages between sender and receiver, leading to optimization time and cost consumption. Security and privacy is highly secure data exchange to the network that can lead to the growth of the application in this area of R3 corda blockchain.

The key aspects of the experimental results analysis to identify the highlighted as follow:

1. For this Experiment, we designed to create a resource limit mechanism to reduce the computational costs and increase the system's performance. For this reason, we stored and processed more messages, leading to one of the performance metrics in optimized time and energy consumption at minimum costs.
2. The consortium blockchain works in a permission-based network in a distributed database, providing access to each NodeNode to verify to enter the network and attain the required criteria. In a network individual sender can communicate with the authenticated receiver who is involved in delivering the message can communicate; it works on one-to-one communication-based. For this analysis, the R3 corda makes military network message communication more secure and privacy.
3. Scheduling the message process in military networks can involve delivering the message in sequential order to evaluate the high throughput and reduce the message latency are analysis this experimental.

System Throughput The R3 framework measures the throughput of the transaction of the speed of sending a message and the transaction speed of receiving a message per second. As a result, comparison can take the place of the existing Ethereum blockchain technique, hyper ledger, and our proposed technique in R3 corda. By comparing in minimum time, we can transaction more messages per second. Figure 4 shows the analysis of throughput can



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attain high throughput compared to the previous work. In y-Axis can mention in the transaction of message rate that the message rate is high in minimum work time. The message rate is described in the 1000 to 15000 Mbps sending message analysis shown in Figure: 4 (a) sending analysis of throughput and the X-axis transaction time in seconds. The sender message throughput analysis proves our work R3 corda transaction less time in more messages shown in below 1 sec can be transferred the 15678 Mbps message rate compared to other blockchain techniques. At the same time, receiving message rates high in less time are shown below in Figure: 4(b) receiving analysis of throughput. The R3 corda attained the high amount of messages received in minimum time are proven 1 sec our work received 867 Mbps message rate with more security.

Latency Measurement Delay of the message can cause system performance problems. In this experiment, we create the message to identify the latency of each transaction; overall, we take six transaction amounts of a message to analyze the delay rate in seconds compared to the previous work of blockchain-based techniques such as R3 Corda, Hyperledger and Ethereum. The Experiment below shows that the delay rate in seconds is plotted on the Y-axis, and the transaction amount of the message is 10000-15000 Mbps. In Figure: 5(a) analysis of the sending message latency, our work R3 corda shows the minimum delay of message in sending 1Gb of message identify the 1 sec of delay rate. Figure: 5(b) shows the receiving delay message by comparing other techniques. Receiving message delay is minimum.

Security and Privacy The only persons with access to a transaction's specifics are those involved in it and those who need to confirm the transaction's origins. Commercial information is just for the parties to the transaction. Therefore, if you are dealing with another user, just the two of you can see the specifics. The individuals who are taking part in the consensus are the sole exceptions. The presumption is that this system will work in a hostile security environment.

CONCLUSION

The military sector is a crucial area to communicate based on battle rules and plans that preserve to exchange the message more securely because this causes much damage and destruction if a linkage of information is caused. This proposed method, R3 cordablockchain message communication in the military network (R3BcM), identifies more characteristic fast operational work, reduces time and energy consumption, security and privacy, making this paper efficient. In this paper, we explore the difficulties of military network message communication. Our presented study combines distributed data, R3 corda, RPC operation service and cloud computing. We developed the R3 corda in military message communication, making the network more securely transferred in authentication nodes. As a result, only allow the responsible right user to connect to the web to view or listen to communication messages. Experimental results demonstrated that our model provides tamper-resistant data management services and high-efficiency data security for communication and privacy. According to the simulation finding, we are adopting an R3 framework for more protection. Furthermore, the presented research paper provides 97% more efficiency we achieve by analyzing the existing system, cryptography approaches and other techniques. Our experimental result shows that the proposed scheme is feasible and adaptable. Moreover, we will intensify our research efforts to make the R3 corda consortium blockchain; it makes to develop more applications related to this proposed system in the future goal.

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Table: 1 VM specification in Setup

COMPONENTS	TESTING	NODE	PRODUCTION OF MULTIPLE NODE
Node	2 CPU Core, 4 GB Memory	Core, 8 GB Memory	8 CPU Core, 16 GB Memory
Bridge	2 CPU Core, 2 GB Memory	2 CPU Core, 2 GB Memory	4 CPU Core, 4 GB Memory
Float	2 CPU Core, 2 GB Memory	2 CPU Core, 2 GB Memory	2 CPU Core, 4 GB Memory

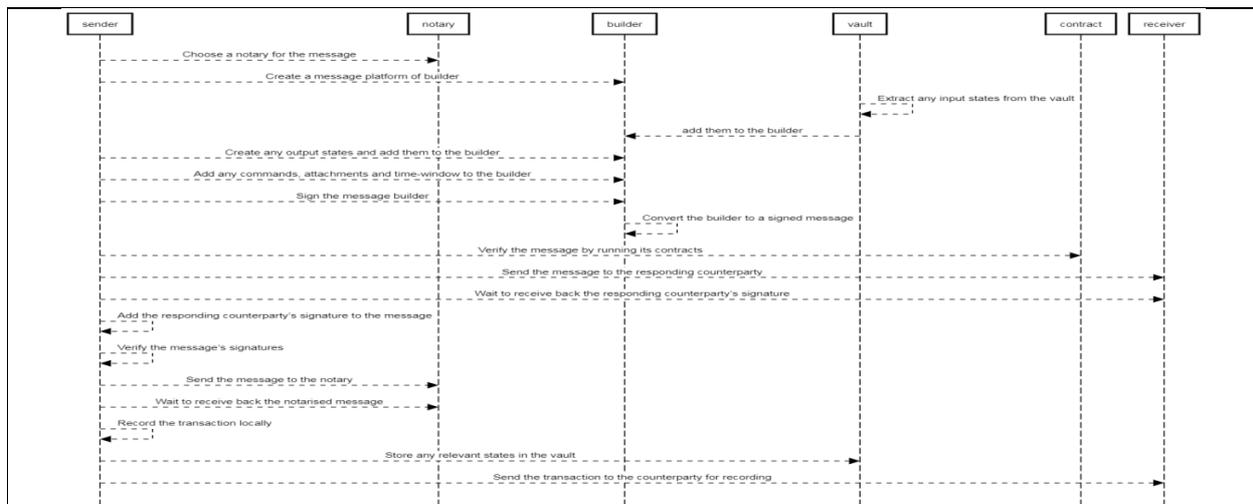


Figure: 2 Flow of initiator in CorDApps

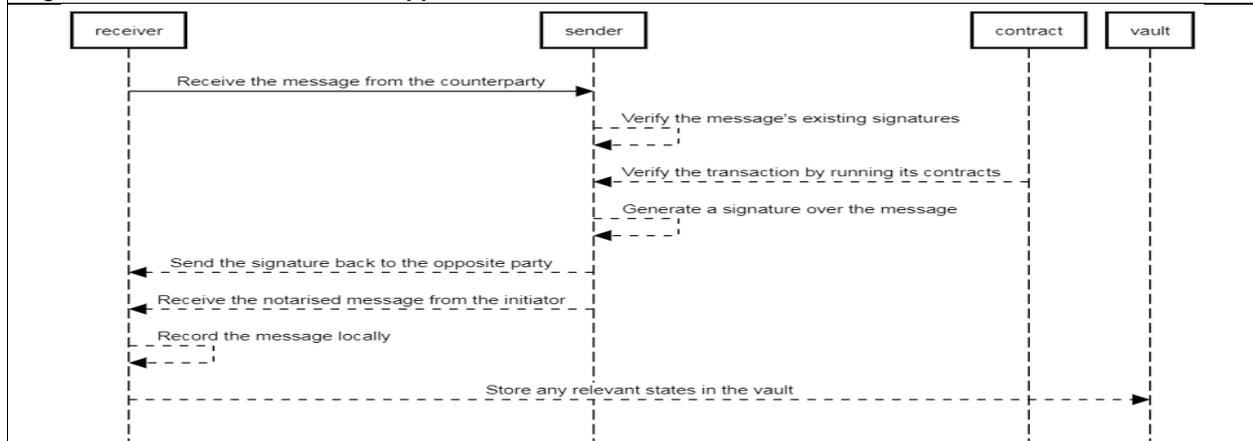


Figure: 3 Receiver of Flow in CorDApps





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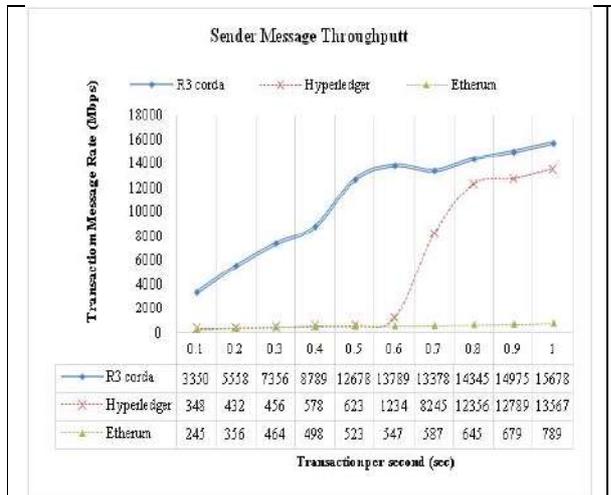


Figure: 4(a) Sending Analysis of Throughput

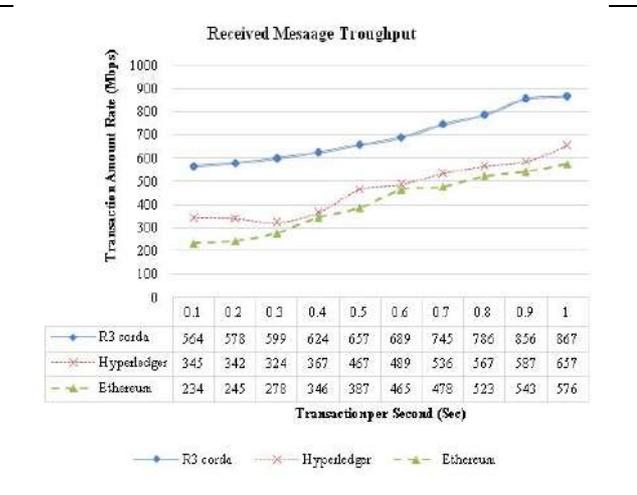


Figure: 4(b) Receiving Analysis of throughput

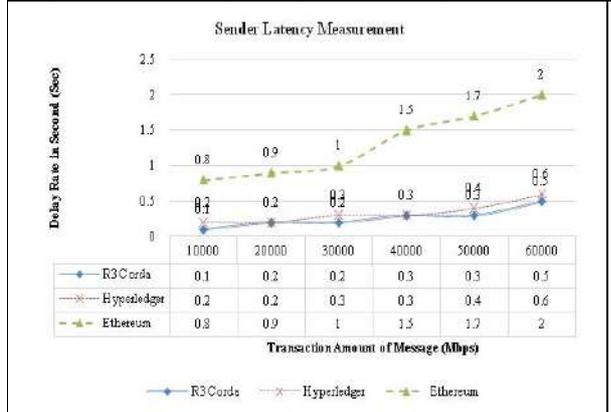


Figure: 5(a) Sender Latency Measurement

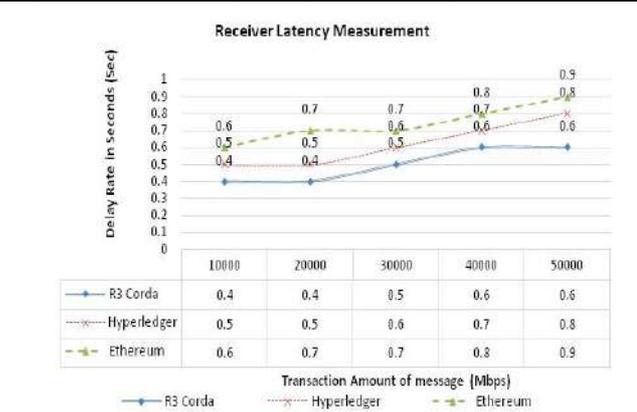


Figure: 5(b) Receiver Latency Measurement

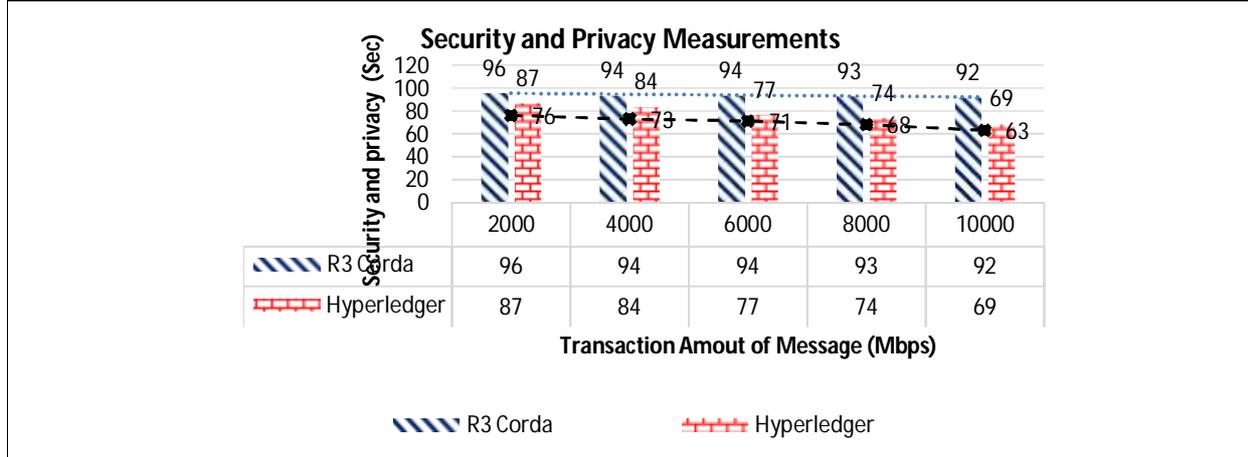


Figure: 6 Security and Privacy Measurements





Scholarly Open Science Publications Outcome : A Scientometric Analysis of PLOS Biology

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ABSTRACT

A monthly Journal of Multidisciplinary Sciences with a broad audience of readers in the scientific community is PLOS Biology. The study's goal is to examine the citations of complete research articles that were published in PLOS Biology between 2003 and 2022. PLOS Biology has brought out 5611 scientific articles over this time. The immediacy index comparison of the research articles to the entire journal was used in the study to determine the weight of the research articles published in PLOS Biology. In addition to measuring the authorship pattern of the articles, a study of cited references was also carried out to identify the core journals cited by PLOS Biology and their associated subject areas, as well as the number of references per article present. The study also revealed the research topics of biological sources in which the research carried out. Libraries may use this information to inform collection development policies. Rankings of contributing nations and organisations were also determined based on their percentage portion of the article's contribution. A comparison of the top contributing nations has also been done based on the PLOS Biology Index to see if any bias is evident in PLOS Biology papers. The data source used was the Web of Science core collection, and the bibliometric tools Biblioshiny and VOS Viewer were used to analyze the data.

Keywords: Research Productivity analysis of Journal, Citation Analysis, Funding Support, VOS Viewer, Histcite, PLOS



**Gayathri and Srinivasaragavan****INTRODUCTION**

PLOS Biology is being the most popular open access journal in term for the assessment of publication productivity in the field of Biological Sciences. Every month, the peer-reviewed scientific magazine PLOS Biology publishes articles on various facets of biology. The first issue of the journal was released on 13th October 2003. It is the first journal was published by the Public Library of Science an international reputed Open Access Scholarly Journal database. Nonia Pariente is the editor in chief. In addition to scholarly papers, the journal also publishes magazine content that is intended for a broad readership. Articles, "unsolved mysteries," editorials, and story synopses can all be found. The journal's impact factor for 2023 was 9.593, according to Journal Citation Report. The journal advocates the use of article level metrics as a substitute for providing an overall assessment of the significance of published articles.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Peritz, B., & Bar-Ilan, J. (2002). examined the extent to which the field of bibliometrics and scientometrics makes use of sources outside the field. The research was carried out by examining the references of articles published in *Scientometrics* Bharvi, D., et. al. (2003) analysed of 1317 papers published in first fifty volumes during 1978 to 2001 of the International Journal *Scientometrics* indicates the heterogeneity of the field with emphasis on scientometric assessment. The study indicates that the US share of papers is constantly on the decline while that of the Netherlands, India, France and Japan is on the rise. Ravikumar, S., et. al. (2015) were analysed 959 full text articles to explore the intellectual structure of scientometrics in the period 2005–2010 using text mining and co-word analysis. The trends and patterns of scientometrics in the journal *Scientometrics* were revealed by measuring the association strength of selected keywords which represent the produced concept and idea in the field of scientometrics. As an alternative metric of journal impact factor (JIF), Journal Impact Factor Quartile is increasingly adopted to compare the research impact of journals within and across different domains. both optimistic and pessimistic approaches to illustrate the JIF distributions of journals listed in the 2015 Journal Citation Reports. Find that at least one-third of Web of Science publications are actually published in the first quartile (high impact factor journals) Liu, W., et. al. (2016)

Objective of the Study

The following goals guided the study's conduct:

1. Aimed at analyzing the growth of literature published in the journal PLOS Biology.
2. To reveal the prominent research organizations, the researchers, and the collaborative research pattern as to the publications of PLOS Biology over the period.
3. To map the subject areas and key terms of research in the Biological Sciences.
4. To phase out the academic proliferation of publication outcome and particularly of Indian research outcome in Biology and related survey.

MATERIALS AND METHODS**METHODOLOGY**

The accumulated data for the study comprises of bibliographical records of published items by PLOS Biology Journal from 2003 to 2022 that includes all total articles of PLOS Biology published in 383 volumes. The source of data collection was Web of Science Core collection database. Basic search was made in the Web of Science core collection database typing "PLOS Biology" in the search box selecting "publication type" parameter within the time span of each year from 2003 to 2015. Thus PLOS Biology publications for each year was obtained. Then the search result was refined to document type "Article" and then the full record of those refined results were downloaded in plain text format for evaluation through Histcite software. The citation data of the refined result were also imported to MS Excel format for analysis R Studio and biblioshiny have used for mapping.





RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Analysis and Interpretation

Research Productivity in PLOS Biology

The analysis could reveal that the journal got a total global citation score of 465898 with h-index of 297, g Index of 466 and m index of 14.14. The articles published from the year 2003 could consider for the analysis. Table 1 represents the profile on “PLOS Biology” publications seen through window of Biblioshiny. There are different kinds of bibliometric profile data of PLOS Biology found in biblioshiny. It is found that there are 32139 authors contribute 5611 publications on PLOS Biology research, of which 454 single authors who were published 740 documents. There are 31685 authors are contributed Multi-Authored documents. The collaboration index of the PLOS Biology publication research is of 6.22. The analysis also reveals that publications proliferated into PLOS Biology journals, books and other forms of scholarly communication. The citation impact of the literature on PLOS Biology revealed that 79.89 as average citations per document.

Growth of Publications Output

Publication growth of PLOS Biology found the gradual growth without fluctuations having increasing trend chronologically. The publication productivity with consistent growth from the year 2003, while it was significant raised in the year 2018. As each year recorded above 200 publications, which the year were recorded. It is quite interesting to note that publication enabled by the publisher even for the indexed and archival publications in Web of Science and Scopus though the trend of Journal started only after millennium particularly from the year of 2003, The year 2006 has got highest global citation of 48979 for 240 publication which is followed by the year 2007 with 281 publications with 45706 citations and 2004 with 45309 global citations for 260 publications and for the year 2004 with 45309 citations with 268 publications.

Institution wise Publications output

Institution wise analysis research publication outcome could reveal that 4586 research organization and universities were contributed in PLOS Biology. The Top fifteen institutions alone could contribute 2008 publications which gain 2,29,243 of global citations. Among the top fifteen institutions Stanford University has got the highest outcomes as 196 publications with a Global citation score of 26719, which is followed by University of Cambridge, Harvard University and University of Oxford with 189,188, publications respectively having the Global Citation Score of 16304, 29870, and 22803. The only the Research Institution from Asia could highly contributed in PLOS is of The Academy of Sciences with 101 publications have the Global Citation Score of 6481.

Country wise Publications output

There are 112 Global Nations contributed in PLOS Biology, while USA, UK, Germany are in first, second and third position in terms of high productivity with 3170, 1140, 757 publications respectively. Among the Asian countries people republic of China, Japan and Israel are the major contributors with 331, 202, and 128 publications respectively. It is revealed that India is having very less significant number of publications though a large number of Biological and Life science organizations and universities are carried out research in Biology. It is interesting to note that 70% of the global citation score gained by PLOS Biology from the publications of USA which is forwarded by UK with above 20% of total citations.

Author wise Publications output

The research impact of contributing authors has been analyzed, which revealed that Wang G as high impact author who has been publishing in PLOS Biology from the year 2005 having h index of 17, g index of 20 with total citations of 7962. It is followed by authors Ioannidis JPA who has started the publication 2019 with h index of 14, g index of 16 and highest m index of 1.273 having 1619 citations on the other young contributor Dirnagl U who is having next highest m index of 1.1. with a h index of 11 and g index of 14 for the publications from the year 2014.





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Keyword Analysis Publications output

The graph depicts the most frequent research terms accrued in the research literature of PLOS Biology. The terms expression, protein, evaluation, gene expression and identifying are the top five research terms, genome, genes, gene, gene expression are the terms where represented altogether 1000 many times while protein and proteins were accrued 575 many times.

Funding Support

The almost the publication outcome in PLOS biology is of the sponsored research by various funding agencies across the globe particularly from USA, UK, Germany, Switzerland, China and European Union among the research organization Wellcome Trust is the private funding and business firm contributed 6.1. % of sponsored research publications and place in 5th position.

CONCLUSION

The Bibliometric and Scientometric analysis of an individual journal Publication pertinent to particular specific branch enable the researchers, the library professionals and policy makers to understand the research trend and its applications of a particular subject. Accordingly the analysis could reveal that PLOS Biology remains one among the highly recognized and reputed journal for scholarly communication among the biologist. The scope of the research domain prevails into the range subareas of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Biomedical Sciences and Life science. Across the globe the researchers preferred the journal as mode of communicating their research outcome. Considering the quantum of the research literature published contribution from India is not significant, more than 70 percentage of the research article published are as the outcome of research funding by 5301 research organizations, funding agencies across the globe. The citation pattern is of very much encouraging as the average citation per articles 79.76. A steady and steep growth in terms of citations and publications output has been found. Collaborative research is evident both at global and Indian level. It is suggested that the libraries, universities and research institutions in India need to make aware and encourage the publishing the research outcome of the biologist in "PLOS Biology" journal being a open access Scholarly Journal.

Table 1: Main Information about Data on PLOS Biology

Description	Results
Sources (Journals, Books, etc)	1
Documents	5611
References	234677
Period	2003:2022
Keywords Plus (ID)	16566
Average Citations Per Documents	79.89
Authors	32139
Author Appearances	40498
Authors of Single-Authored Documents	454
Authors of Multi-Authored Documents	31685
Single-authored documents	740
Documents per Author	0.181
Authors per Document	5.51
Co-Authors per Documents	6.94
Collaboration Index	6.22





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Table 2: Year wise Publications output on PLOS Biology

S. No	Publication Year	Records	Percent	GCS	S. No	Publication Year	Records	Percent	GCS
1	2003	58	1	9989	11	2013	287	4.9	16652
2	2004	268	4.6	45309	12	2014	264	4.5	16804
3	2005	242	4.2	44645	13	2015	272	4.7	16265
4	2006	240	4.1	48979	14	2016	280	4.8	16558
5	2007	281	4.8	45706	15	2017	246	4.2	11206
6	2008	296	5.1	41757	16	2018	401	6.9	15667
7	2009	226	3.9	28104	17	2019	490	8.4	13161
8	2010	243	4.2	38052	18	2020	357	6.1	8997
9	2011	216	3.7	25250	19	2021	347	6	4305
10	2012	194	3.3	16890	20	2022	403	6.9	1480

Table 3: Institution wise Publications output on PLOS Biology

S.No	Institution	Records	Percent	LCS	GCS
1	Stanford University	196	3.4	11	26719
2	University of Cambridge	189	3.2	11	16304
3	Harvard University	188	3.2	4	29870
4	University of Oxford	188	3.2	0	22803
5	University of California Berkeley	171	2.9	4	24457
6	University of California San Francisco	151	2.6	16	18664
7	University of California San Diego	116	2	3	14019
8	University of Edinburgh	116	2	4	11069
9	UCL	114	2	0	9721
10	MIT	105	1.8	0	11324
11	CNRS	102	1.7	0	10789
12	Chinese Academy of Science	101	1.7	0	6456
13	University of Washington	95	1.6	1	12726
14	Yale University	90	1.5	0	7584
15	McGill University	86	1.5	0	6738

Table 4: Country wise Publications output on PLOS Biology

S.No	Country	Records	Percent	LCS	GCS
1	USA	3170	54.4	68	299645
2	UK	1140	19.6	16	104082
3	Germany	757	13	12	59080
4	France	713	8.8	14	43997
5	Canada	618	7.2	12	43528
6	Switzerland	353	6.1	16	35647
7	Peoples R China	331	5.7	0	14541
8	Australia	299	5.1	0	28262
9	Netherlands	256	4.4	1	20264
10	Japan	202	3.5	0	16332
11	Spain	187	3.2	1	17678
12	Italy	165	2.8	7	19716
13	Sweden	149	2.6	4	15109
14	Israel	128	2.2	0	12569
15	Belgium	89	1.5	0	8632





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Table 5: Author wise Publications output on PLOS Biology

S.No	Author	H_Index	G_Index	M_Index	TC	NP	PY_start
1	Wang J	17	20	0.895	7962	20	2005
2	Ioannidis JPA	14	16	1.273	1619	16	2013
3	Liu Y	14	16	0.824	815	16	2007
4	Zhang Y	14	18	0.737	2478	18	2005
5	Eisen Ja	13	18	0.65	4933	18	2004
6	Wang Y	13	17	0.65	779	17	2004
7	Brown PO	12	12	0.571	4604	12	2003
8	Liu J	12	13	0.632	2036	13	2005
9	Dirnagl U	11	14	1.1	1496	14	2014
10	Kim J	10	12	0.526	540	12	2005
11	Li L	10	13	0.526	2356	13	2005
12	Paabo S	10	10	0.5	1439	10	2004
13	Przeworski M	10	10	0.5	1000	10	2004
14	Sena Es	10	11	0.714	2113	11	2010
15	Wang C	10	14	0.556	637	14	2006

Table 6: Sponsored research Outcome Published in PLOS Biology

S.No	Funding Agencies	Record	%
1	United States Department Of Health Human Services	1,820	31.21
2	National Institutes Of Health NIH USA	1,810	31.04
3	UK Research Innovation UKRI	571	9.79
4	National Science Foundation NSF	479	8.21
5	Wellcome Trust	360	6.17
6	European Research Council ERC	337	5.78
7	Medical Research Council UK MRC	315	5.40
8	German Research Foundation DFG	305	5.23
9	Nih National Institute Of General Medical Sciences NIGMS	293	5.02
10	Biotechnology And Biological Sciences Research Council BBSRC	244	4.18
11	Spanish Government	242	4.15
12	European Union EU	222	3.81
13	National Natural Science Foundation Of China NSFC	203	3.48
14	Swiss National Science Foundation SNSF	170	2.92
15	Agence Nationale De La Recherche ANR	164	2.81

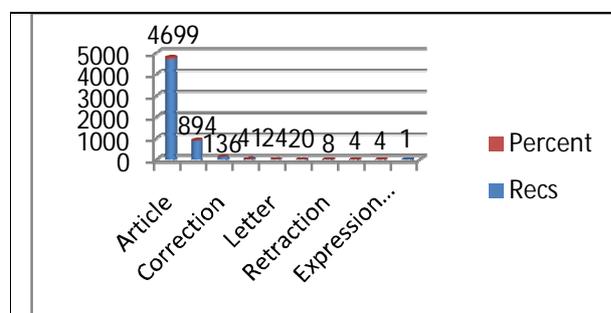


Figure 1: Document type



Figure 2: Keyword Analysis Publications output





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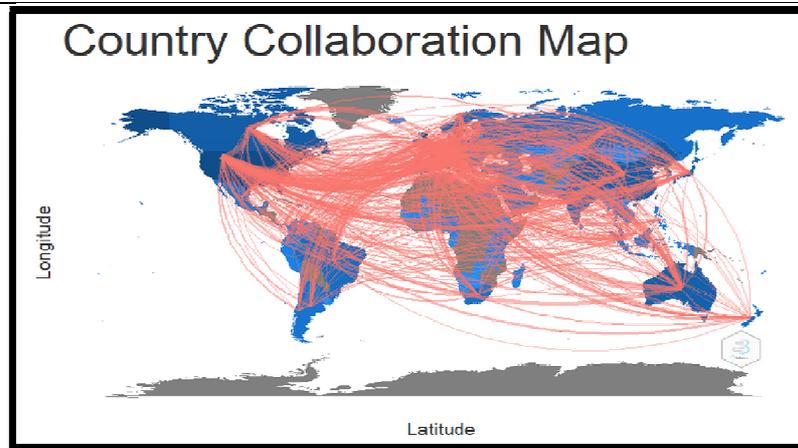


Figure 3: Country Collaboration on PLOS Biology





An Updated Assessment on Diclofenac Sodium Loaded Microsponge Gel for Treating Inflammation as Advanced Topical Drug Delivery System

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ABSTRACT

A designed product, such as a gel, cream, liquid, or powder, is being made by using Microsponge Systems, which are based on microscopic, polymer-based microspheres and can suspend or entrap a wide range of compounds. Microspheres with pores that are primarily utilised topically for the better treatment of inflammation. Microsponges are created to effectively administer a pharmaceutical active component at the lowest amount possible, as well as to improve stability, lessen adverse effects, and alter drug release. In this review study, diclofenac sodium is delivered to the skin under controlled conditions using ethyl cellulose-facilitated microsponges that is created using a double emulsification approach (also known as a quasi-emulsion technique). Using ethyl cellulose as a polymer and a quasiemulsion solvent diffusion technique, the microsponges formulations is created. Fourier Transform Infra-Red (FTIR) spectroscopy is used to determine the drug's compatibility with formulation ingredients. The





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surface morphology, production yield, and drug content and drug entrapment efficiency, *in vitro* drug release studies are to be evaluated to determine the efficacy of the formulation.

Keywords: Microsponges, topically, stability, Inflammation, efficacy.

INTRODUCTION

White blood cells help body to fight against infections from outside invaders like bacteria and viruses through the process of inflammation. But in some diseases, like arthritis, body's defense system - immune system - triggers inflammation when there are no invaders to fight off. In these autoimmune disorders, the immune system reacts as though normal tissues are abnormal or infectious, which results in harm. The innovative technology uses novel drug delivery methods. Recent developments in the knowledge of drug pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic behavior provide a more logical approach to the creation of an ideal drug delivery system. The new drug delivery systems (NDDS) are vehicles that keep drug concentrations in the therapeutic range for a longer period of time. Novel drug delivery systems have a number of advantages over traditional drug delivery. Over an extended length of time, the optimal therapeutic medication concentration in the blood or tissue may be maintained, extended time release rates that is predetermined may be accomplished, the duration of a medication with a short half-life could be extended, side effects may be eliminated by focusing on the location of action, frequent dosage and drug waste could be avoided or decreased, more effective patient compliance may be made sure.

Percutaneous drug delivery systems (TDS), which use the skin as an entry point, are a broad category that includes several predictable and dependable methods created for general care. It has increased the effectiveness and safety of certain medications that are more frequently delivered topically. One of the most crucial methods for treating cutaneous infections and inflammations is topical medication administration. Drugs can be released to the infection site using microsp sponge drug delivery while reducing the danger of systemic adverse effects. Polymeric microsponges, which are porous by nature, are typically employed for sustained topical delivery. Microsponges is created to increase stability, lessen adverse effects, change medication release patterns, and deliver an active medicinal ingredient at the lowest possible dose. Won created this technology in 1987. The health care system puts a significantly impact by microsp sponge delivery systems (MDS) that may precisely regulate release rates or direct medications to a particular bodily spot. The dermatological drug delivery solutions can use the microsp sponge drug delivery technology widely [1,2].

Advantages of Microsp sponge delivery systems

- Extended-release.
- Improved patient compliance is a result of less discomfort and increased tolerance more elegant product design.
- Up to six times its weight of oil is absorbed by a microsp sponge without drying.
- Improved thermal, physical, and chemical stability.
- Microsp sponge systems is non-toxic, non-irritating, and non-allergenic.
- Enhancing the material processing, such as Powders is created from liquids.
- Increase bioavailability[3,4].

Limitation of Microsp sponge delivery systems

- The preparation process typically uses organic solvents, some of which may be highly flammable and pose a risk to the environment.
- Traces of leftover monomers is occasionally been seen, and these could be poisonous and dangerous to health[5].





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Parameters Affecting Microsponge

A few things can affect the microsponge.

Applications of Microsponge

Various uses for microsponge are currently popular are shown in Figure

2[6].

DRUG PROFILE

Diclofenac sodium

Diclofenac is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medication and a derivative of phenylacetic acid (NSAIDs). Diclofenac is a medication that reduces pain and swelling (inflammation). Aches and pains, as well as issues with the joints, muscles, and bones, that are treated with it that include osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis[7].

IUPAC Name-sodium;2-[2-(2,6-dichloroanilino)phenyl]acetate.

Mechanism of action

Inhibiting the enzyme cyclooxygenase is the primary mechanism of action of NSAIDs (COX). Arachidonic acid must be converted into cyclooxygenase in order to produce thromboxanes, prostaglandins, and prostacyclins. The absence of these eicosanoids is thought to be responsible for NSAIDs therapeutic benefits[8].

Metabolism

Both acyl glucuronidation and phenyl hydroxylation are involved in the metabolism of diclofenac in humans, with the former reaction being largely mediated by uridine 5'-diphosphoglucuronosyl transferase 2B7 and the latter by cytochrome P450 (CYP)2C9 and 3A4.

Side effects

An ulcer or inflammation in the stomach or gut might be indicated by severe indigestion, heartburn or stomach discomfort, vomiting, or diarrhoea. the skin or the whites of the eyes turn yellow, though this may be less noticeable on people with brown or black complexion. This could be a symptom of liver issues [9].

Drug Loading Process in Microsponge

There are two types drug loading procedures in the preparation of microsponge are mentioned in Figure 4.

MATERIALS

Extensive literature survey has revealed that, for the preparation of diclofenac sodium microsponge gel the researchers has been utilized the following chemicals and instruments.

Table 1. List of materials used for preparing Diclofenac sodium microsponge gel

Table 2. List of Instruments used for preparing Diclofenac sodium microsponge gel

PREPARATION OF MICROPSPONGES

Microsponge can be prepared by using liquid liquid suspension polymerization and Quasi emulsion solvent diffusion. Both the techniques are discussed in Figure 5 & 6 with schematic diagrams.

Liquid Liquid Suspension Polymerization

Figure 5. Microsponge preparation by liquid liquid suspension polymerization

Quasi Emulsion Solvent Diffusion

By using different compound proportions to organise the inner organic component and a quasi-emulsion solvent diffusion process, which first dissolves the compound in the proper solvent, followed by the addition of a medicine





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that is dissolved under ultrasonication at 35 °C, the microsp sponge can be prepared. Inner section is produced by this resolution.

PREPARATION OF DICLOFENAC SODIUM MICROSPONGE GEL

Internal phase of drug polymer solution made in a volatile solvent (Dichloromethane) and the ratio is 1: different amounts. Gelling agent is added to microsp sponge to prepare microsp sponge gel. Different amount of gelling agent (1-2%) can produce different formulations with different consistency [10].

PREPARATION OF STANDARD CALIBRATION CURVE

Preparation of phosphate buffer of pH 7.4

In a 1000 ml volumetric flask, add 250 ml of 0.2 m potassium dihydrogen orthophosphate, 195.5 ml of 0.2 m sodium hydroxide, and make up the remaining volume with distilled water to equal 1000 ml.

Determination of λ_{max}

On a Shimadzu UV-visible spectrophotometer, the diclofenac standard solutions' maximal absorption is scanned in the 200–400 nm range. The maximum absorption produce in the substance under investigation matches those in the reference spectrum in terms of position and relative intensity.

Preparation of standard curve of diclofenac sodium

PREFORMULATION STUDY

Physical appearance: Examined the drug's powdered organoleptic properties, such as colour, odour, and taste.

Melting Point: A capillary technique or digital melting point device is used to determine the drug's melting point. It is one of the crucial requirements for revealing the drug's purity. In a fuse capillary tube, the drug sample heats up at a rate of 5°C/min.

Solubility study: At room temperature (25°C), solubility tests are conducted using distilled water, 0.1N hydrochloric acid, methanol, ethanol, and phosphate buffer pH 7.4. Supersaturation can only be produced in a solvent with an excess of a solute or drug. After around 48 hours of mechanical shaking at 25°C, equilibrium is reached. The aliquots are filtered using a membrane filter with a porosity of 0.45 and the solubility measurement is done using a UV spectrophotometer[11].

Drug excipient interaction study: Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy is used to assess the compatibility of a chosen medicine with a polymer (FTIR).

CHARACTERIZATION OF DICLOFENAC MICROSPONGES

After completion of the formulation following evaluation test are done.

Morphology and Structure of microsponges

Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and transmission electron microscopy are used to examine the structure and morphology of the drug-containing microsponges (TEM). A drop of the diluted suspension of microsponges is put on a clean slide after being diluted with distilled water. After drying, an image stained with 1% phosphotungstic acid (dissolved in distilled water) is employed for enhanced visualization or to boost contrast. Vesicles created without the aid of sonication are observed under an optical microscope. Spread the suspension out on the slide to create a thin film, and then cover the sample with a coverslip. The material is put under optical microscope inspection after drying it out[10,12].

Entrapment efficiency

Calculating % entrapment efficiency is made easier by centrifugation. To distribute various microsp sponge formulations, phosphate buffer saline (PBS) with a pH of 7.4 is required. The compositions are centrifuged in a

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centrifuge for 40 minutes at 10,000 rpm. After centrifugation, the free drug is determined using the supernatant (clear solution). To measure the clear solution's absorbance at the drug's maximal wavelength, a UV spectrophotometer is required. The following equation, where the concentration of an untrapped drug is Cf and the concentration of a complete drug is Ct, calculates the percentage of drug encapsulation[10,13].

Entrapment efficiency (%) = $[(C_t - C_f) / C_t] \times 100$

Particle size of microsponge

Optical microscopy is used to measure the microsponge's particle size, and particle size of microsponges must be uniform in size. The average particle size of the formulation will be from 20 micrometer to 90 micrometer and will be increased with increasing polymer concentration, however after a certain concentration the particle size reduced to the ratio of drug to polymer is gradually increasing. This is because there is comparably less polymer available per microsponge when the drug to polymer ratio is high. In high drug-polymer ratios, the drug is surrounded by less polymer, which results in a thinner polymer wall and smaller microsponges. Spherical structure of microsponges measured by Trinocular projection microscope[10,14].

Percentage yield

The practical yield is determined by dividing the number of microsponges recovered from each preparation by the total amount of starting material (Theoretical yield).

It can be computed using the formula below[15]

$\text{Percentage yield} = \frac{\text{Practical yield} \times 100}{\text{Theoretical yield}}$
--

Because of the viscous character of the slurry, led to the production of certain agglomerates and polymer adhesion to the container, there is a product loss. It is computed to determine the effectiveness of any process, therefore knowing this information aids in choosing the most appropriate way of production. Here, the change of yield value with polymer ratio needs to be observed[16].

Drug content

By dissolving the formulation in phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) for 24 hours, take a sample, analyzing it in a UV-spectrophotometer, the drug content is evaluated by using this method. With the use of this Microsponge evaluation Parameter and the drug content will be decreased as the amount of polymer increase due to the polymer's inefficient drug transport[10,17].

In-vitro release study

Utilizing the KC cell diffusion apparatus at 37 °C, in vitro release tests is carried out. To ensure sink conditions, a medium is chosen while taking the solubility of the active components into consideration. At regular intervals, sample aliquots are taken out of the medium and subjected to the appropriate analytical procedure. A predefined amount of formulation is on the egg membrane, which is attached to the donor side of the cell. With the use of a circulating jacket, the receptor media is constantly mixed and heated. Samples are taken at various intervals and put through an appropriate assay procedure before being examined[10,18].

Counting of number of vesicles per cubic mm:

Counting the number of vesicles per cubic mm: Haemocytometer and optical microscopy are used to count the number of microsponges vesicles per cubic mm. Microsponge vesicles are diluted five times with 0.9% NaCl solution prior to sonication. The vesicles are counted in 80 tiny squares, and the formula below can be used to calculate their number.

Total number of vesicles per cubic mm is calculated as follows:

$(\text{Total number of vesicles counted} \times \text{dilution factor } 4000) / \text{Total number of squares counted.}$





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Penetration ability

Fluorescence microscopy can be used to determine a microsp sponge's capacity for penetration[19].

Occlusion effect

Drug permeation studies for topical formulations must consider skin occlusion studies. The term "hydrotaxis" refers to the migration of water from the skin's dry surface to its deeper, water-rich sections. This is the crucial factor that will determine whether vesicles may pass through skin. Occlusion interferes with hydration and inhibits water from evaporating from the skin[10,20].

Surface charge and charge density:

In order to identify the surface charge and charge density of microsp sponge. Zeta sizer is crucial[21].

EVALUATION OF DICLOFENAC MICROSPONGES GEL

Viscosity measurement and rheological behaviour of microsp sponge gel

Using a Brookfield viscometer at 32°C, the viscosity of several microsp sponge gels is measured at various angular velocities. Cone and plate viscometers are used to assess the rheological evaluation of the formulations for microsp sponge gel. At room temperature, different shear rate ranges exhibit various rheological behaviours[13].

The Power law equation calculates both the flow index and consistency index: $\tau = K r^n$ Here, shear stress is represented by, consistency by K, shear rate by r, and flow by n. Taken on both sides, log is defined as: $\log \tau = \log K + n \log r$. Plotting the log of shear rate against the log of shear stress yields information about rheological behaviour. The slope of the plot is used to calculate the flow index in this case, and the Y-intercept is used to determine the consistency index[10,22].

Spredibility test of microsp sponge gel formulations:

A precise amount of gel is weighed, distributed evenly over the skin, and then after some time, the excess gel is scraped off the skin and weighed. The spread ability of the gel is measured manually using this technique. By subtracting the final amount of gel from the initial amount, the amount of gel dispersed on the skin is calculated, and the result will be achieved after repeating the procedure three times.

pH determination of microsp sponge gel formulations:

After being prepared, the pH of the Microsp sponge gel is assessed. A digital pH metre is used to determine the gel's pH.

Release kinetics:

After reporting on the in vitro permeation study, a graph is displayed for various kinetic models. First-order kinetics plot the log cumulative percentage of drug remaining against time, while zero-order kinetics plot the cumulative percent of drug penetrated against time. In Higuchi's model, the cumulative percent drug penetrated is plotted against square root of time. By entering data into the Korsmeyer-Peppas equation, which shows a graphic of the log cumulative proportion of drug released vs log time, it is possible to determine the drug release mechanism. In exponent n detection, the value derived from the straight line's slope is used. When $n=0.5$, the diffusion mechanism is fickian; when $n=0.5-1$, the process is non-fickian[23,24].

DRUG PERMEATION IN EX VIVO CONDITIONS USING THE FRANZ DIFFUSION CELL

Preparation of Wistar rat skin for skin permeation research

Research on drug permeation on hairless animal skin is crucial. To remove hair off the animal sacrifice's dorsal skin, use an animal hair clipper. Subcutaneous tissue and any remaining dermal adherent fat are removed after being thoroughly washed with isopropyl alcohol. Phosphate Buffer Saline pH 7 effectively removes the animal skin. Using aluminum foil to completely enclose the skin and placing it in a deep freezer (20 °C).





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Skin permeation research

Skin permeation experiments are carried out based on evaluation reports such as drug content, trapping effectiveness, and permeation of various microsp sponge formulations. The Franz Diffusion cell is used to evaluate the animal skin in this case. With the use of a drug solution, Microsp sponge suspension, and control gel, the total amount of medication that has infiltrated the skin is calculated. The assessment reports are contrasted with one another. Calculating the amount of drug permeated per unit of surface area every hour, a graph of the total amount of drug that has permeated through the skin over time will be shown[10,25].

Skin irritation studies

In skin irritation studies, the Ammar approach is used to find the skin's hypersensitive reaction. There are four guinea pig groups (three animals in each group). The first set of animals in this scenario is referred to as the control group. The control group receives no medication distribution. The second group receives microsp sponge gel (10 mg/kg dosage equivalent), whereas the third group receives control gel. The last group will continually consume a medication solution for seven days. For example, a score of 4 indicates scar development and severe erythema and edoema, a score of 3 indicates moderate, a score of 2 indicates well-defined, a score of 1 indicates minor, and a score of 0 indicates no scarring or erythema or edoema[10,26].

Stability Studies

Stability is the state of having stability. A formulation is stable if it continues to be the same across time. For a predetermined amount of time, the physical, chemical, toxicological, and medicinal qualities remain unchanged. For the microsp sponge gel formulation to be optimised, which is stored in glass vials, room temperature must be regulated. For three months, the formulations are kept in a refrigerator at 4–8°C. Specifications including drug entrapment, morphology, and leakage are assessed throughout certain time periods like 0, 15, 30, 45, 60, 75, and 90 days continuously[27,28].

In-vitro drug release study showed that, 1:3 drug: polymer ratio showed maximum release than 1:1 drug: polymer ratio. Pathaket al, formulated and evaluated bioadhesive floating microsp sponge of Domperidone by quasi-emulsion diffusion method[15]. D'souza et al, formulated Fluocinolone Acetonide entrapped anti-inflammatory topical gel by quasi-emulsion diffusion method, controlled drug release is observed with comparative anti-inflammatory activity with the gels containing free drug [16]. Sultan et al, formulated and evaluated luliconazole microsp sponge loaded gel for topical drug delivery by d quasi-emulsion method [29,30].

CONCLUSION

By using a quasi-emulsion technique, diclofenac sodium-loaded Microsp sponge gel can be made for treating inflammation as advanced topical drug delivery system, and their various properties will be assessed to determine how effectively they had been created. To identify a better formulation, percentage yield, drug content and a pH plays a vital role. FTIR spectroscopy tests revealed that the drug in these microsp sponges is chemically stable and amorphous. It is used for the controlled release of topical medicines. The health care system is significantly impacted by microsp sponge delivery systems' ability to precisely control release rates or direct medications to specific body sites. The active ingredient of a microsp sponge delivery system can be released both on a timer and in reaction to external stimuli.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There are no conflicts of interest associated to this article, according to the authors.



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None.

ETHICS STATEMENT

None.

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Table 1. List of materials used for preparing Diclofenac sodium micro sponge gel

SI no	Chemicals	Importance
1	Diclofenac sodium	Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug
2	Ethyl cellulose	Polymer
3	Polyvinyl alcohol (PVA)	Suspending agent (External Phase)
4	Carbopol 940	Gelling agent
5	Dichloromethane	Internal Phase
6	Glycerol	Viscosity enhancer
7	Triethanolamine	PH adjuster
8	Methyl paraben, Propyl paraben	Preservatives





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Table 2. List of Instruments used for preparing Diclofenac sodium microsponge gel

SI No	Instruments Name	Applications
1	Magnetic stirrer	Mixing two or more substances
2	FTIR	Unknown materials identification and validation of production materials
3	Digital weighing balance	Determination of the component's mass precisely
4	Digital pH meter	pH determination
5	UV - Visible spectrophotometer	Quantitative determination of compounds
6	Brookfield viscometer	Viscosity determination
7	Diffusion cell digital	Invitro drug release determination of gel
8	Optical microscopy	Particle size analysis of microsponge
9	Ultrasonicator	Disintegration of microsponge
10	Differential scanning calorimeter	Compound characterization
11	Hot air oven	Drying of microsponge
12	Scanning electron microscopy, Transmission electron microscopy	Structure and morphology analysis of microsponge
13	Digital Melting Point Device	Melting Point determination

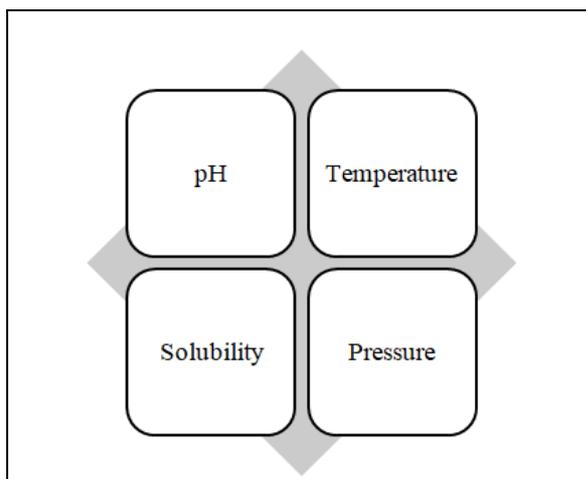


Figure 1. Different parameters affecting microsponge

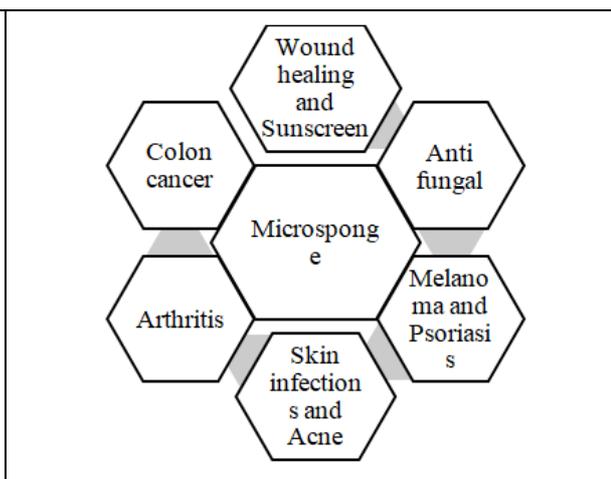


Figure 2. Applications of microsponge

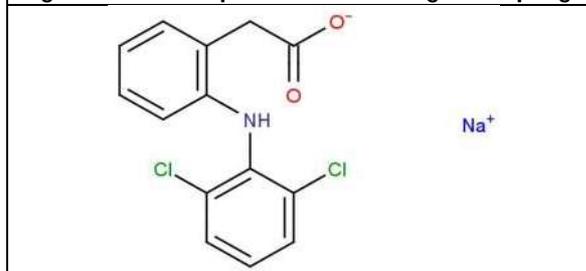


Figure 3. Chemical Structure of Diclofenac sodium

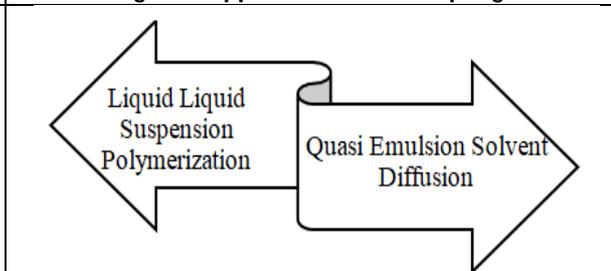


Figure 4. Preparation process of microsponge





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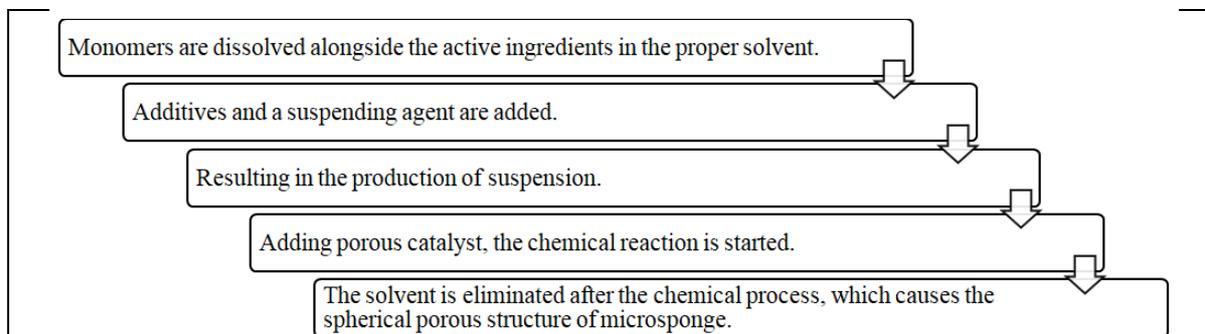


Figure 5. Microsp sponge preparation by liquid liquid suspension polymerization

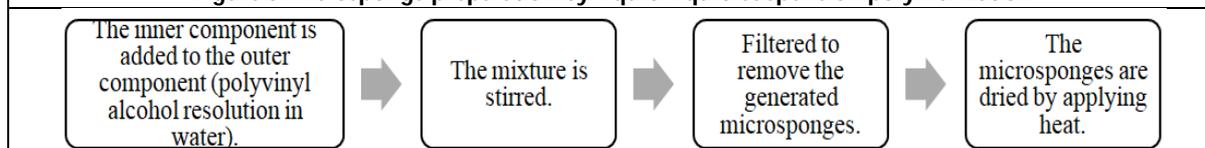


Figure 6. Microsp sponge preparation by quasi emulsion solvent diffusion

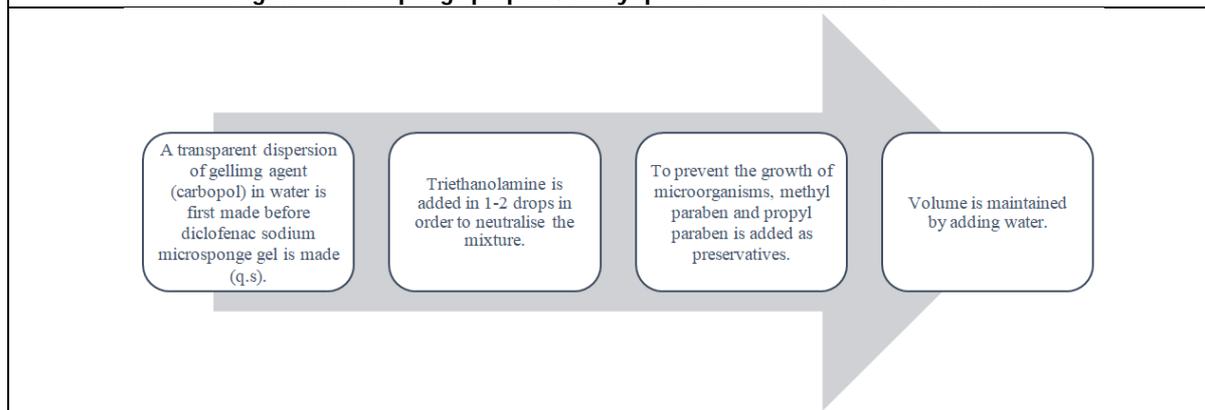


Figure 7. Preparation of diclofenac sodium microsp sponge gel

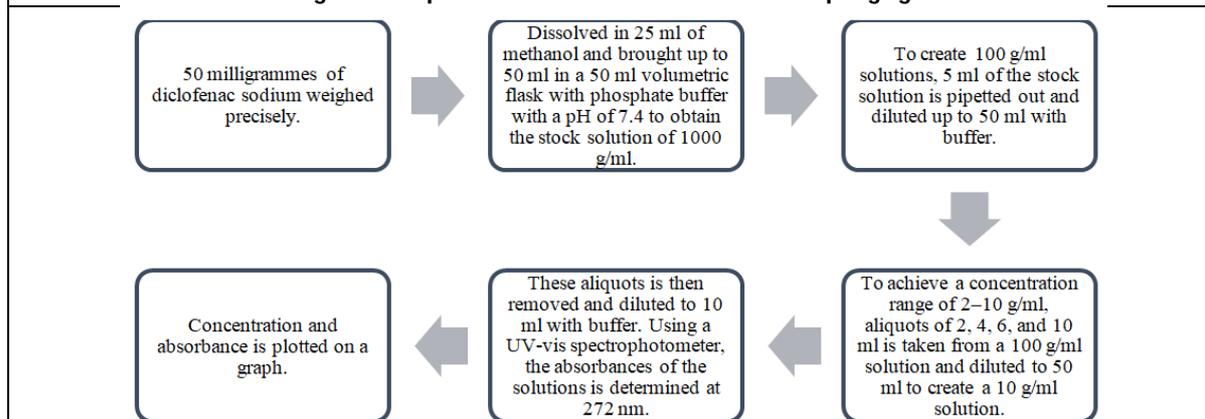


Figure 8. Preparation of standard curve of diclofenac sodium





FEvaluation of Antidiabetic Activity of Microencapsulated *Elaeocarpus tectorius* (Lour.) Poir. Leaf Extracts in STZ-NIC - Induced Diabetic Rats

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ABSTRACT

This study was performed to evaluate the effect of microencapsulation of *Elaeocarpus tectorius* (Lour.) Poir. leaf extracts on the glycemic control and hepatic carbohydrate metabolizing enzymes in streptozotocin-nicotinamide induced diabetic rats. The chemical composition of the leaf extract was analyzed using GC-MS analysis. The leaf extract was subjected to microencapsulation using sodium alginate and chitosan and the resulting polymeric microparticles were characterized using FESEM analysis. The microencapsulated and unencapsulated leaf extracts of *Elaeocarpus tectorius* were administered to the experimental animals at doses of 200 and 400 mg/kg b.w. for 28 days and the body weight, fasting blood glucose levels and the activities of hepatic glucose 6-phosphatase, fructose 1,6-bisphosphatase and glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase were evaluated. The GC-MS analysis revealed the presence of many bioactive phytoconstituents. The blood glucose levels and the activities of the enzymes glucose 6-phosphatase and fructose 1,6-phosphatase of the diabetic animals demonstrated a significant increase whereas the glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase activity was significantly decreased. The treatment of diabetic rats with the microencapsulated extracts significantly stabilized the levels of these parameters to near normal. The microencapsulated extracts of *E. tectorius* exhibited better antidiabetic activity than the ethanolic leaf extract. This study demonstrates the antihyperglycemic effect of the leaf extract and that the microencapsulation of leaf extracts has enhanced its antidiabetic effect.

Keywords: Medicinal plants, *Elaeocarpus tectorius*, Diabetes, Carbohydrate metabolizing enzymes, Gas Chromatography-Mass spectroscopy.



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INTRODUCTION

Diabetes is a metabolic disorder that has existed since ancient times and is characterized by chronic high blood glucose levels [1]. The World Health Organization (WHO) has estimated that the prevalence of diabetes would rise to 552 million by the year 2030 [2]. Long-term diabetes is associated with several complications involving the kidneys, retina, liver and cardiovascular systems imposing significant healthcare and financial burdens [3]. The majority of diabetic patients suffer from type 2 diabetes which is caused by insulin resistance and β -cell dysfunction. The liver plays a key role in carbohydrate and lipid homeostasis [4]. The defects in insulin action cause marked alterations in the activities of enzymes involved in glucose homeostasis [5]. Though several antidiabetic drugs are available, their associated limitations and side effects have necessitated the search for new safer therapeutic options [6].

In recent times, many medicinal plants are found to be very useful in the management of diabetes and its associated complications [7]. *Elaeocarpus tectorius* (Lour.) Poir is a tree species belonging to the Elaeocarpaceae family. The tree is distributed in the higher altitude regions of The Nilgiris Mountains, India. Pharmacological investigations on various plants belonging to the species *Elaeocarpus* showed that they possess good anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, analgesic, anti-diabetic and anti-hypertensive properties [8].

The bioactive constituents present in the plants are unstable and volatile and are prone to oxidation. These limitations can be overcome by employing numerous novel strategies which could also improve their stability and bioavailability [9]. Microencapsulation is a technique in which the active constituents are entrapped in polymeric materials to form a physical barrier against environmental conditions and it helps in fixing dosage, sustained release and also masks unpleasant taste [10]. The method of ionotropic gelation of sodium alginate with calcium chloride is extensively used for the process of microencapsulation of bioactive substances [11]. Sodium alginate derived from marine algae and seaweed is a water-soluble polyanionic polymer. Though sodium alginate is an excellent carrier owing to its biocompatible, biodegradable and non-toxic properties, the macroporous nature of calcium alginate beads can produce a rapid dissolution of the microcapsules leading to low encapsulation efficiency and sudden release of entrapped substances [12]. Hence, to improve the stability of the calcium alginate beads, chitosan derived from the shells of crabs and lobsters is extensively used as a coating material. Chitosan forms a strong electrostatic interaction with the beads making them stable [13,14].

In this context, this study is aimed to prepare chitosan-sodium alginate microparticles containing *Elaeocarpus tectorius* leaf extracts. To our knowledge, there is no report available on the effect of *Elaeocarpus tectorius* leaf extract on the enzymes of hepatic carbohydrate metabolism therefore, this study also investigates the effect of microencapsulated *E. tectorius* leaf extracts on the activities of key hepatic enzymes in STZ-NIC induced diabetic rats.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Collection of plant material and preparation of extracts

The fresh leaves of *Elaeocarpus tectorius* were washed to remove dust particles and shade dried. The dried material was finely powdered using a mortar and pestle and a sample of about 10 grams was extracted with 100 mL of ethanol and was incubated for 48 hours in a shaker incubator at 40°C after which extracts were filtered and the solvents were evaporated to get the dry extract. The plant material was identified and authenticated by the Botanical Survey of India, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu (Reference no. BSI/SRC/5/23/2021/Tech./319).

Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) analysis

GC-MS analysis was carried out on a GC Clarus 500 Perkin Elmer system and a gas chromatograph was interfaced with a mass spectrometer (GC-MS) instrument. The following conditions were employed. Column Elite-1 fused silica

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capillary column (30mm x 0.25mm ID x 1 μ Mdf, composed of 100% dimethyl polysiloxane), operating in electron impact mode at 70eV; Helium (99.999%) was used as carrier gas at a constant flow of 1ml /min and an injection volume of 1 ml was employed (split ratio of 10:1); Injector temperature 250°C; Ion-source temperature 280°C. The oven temperature was programmed from 110°C (isothermal for 2 min) with an increase of 10°C / min to 200°C then 5°C / min, to 280°C, ending with a 9 min isothermal at 280°C. Mass spectra were taken at 70eV; a scaninterval of 0.5 seconds and fragments from 45 to 450 Da. The interpretation of the mass spectrum was conducted by using the database of the National Institute Standard and Technique (NIST) having more than 62,000 patterns. The spectrum of the unknown compound was compared with the spectrum of the known compounds stored in the NIST library.

Microencapsulation of leaf extract

The internal gelation technique was used to form chitosan–alginate microspheres. Briefly, 4g of sodium alginate was dissolved in 100 mL distilled water and 4g of plant extract was added. The solution was stirred thoroughly to ensure the complete mixing of the plant extract. The gelation medium was prepared by dissolving 1% chitosan in 1% acetic acid, followed by the addition of 4% calcium chloride. The sodium alginate solution was added dropwise (about 60 drops/min) into the gelation medium under stirring with the speed of 1000 r/min. After suspending for half an hour, the microspheres were rinsed with distilled water, filtered, and dried in the oven at 60 °C [15].

Morphological characterization of microparticles

The shape, morphology, and elemental mapping of microparticles were studied using field emission scanning electron microscopy (FESEM) (MIRA3 TESCAN). For this purpose, the lyophilized sample was sonicated for a sufficient amount of time, the smear was made on a platinum grid and allowed to dry overnight under vacuum. The grid was then coated with a thin film of palladium and finally subjected to FESEM.

Encapsulation Efficiency

The encapsulation efficiency of the microparticles was determined by total phenolic content analysis using the Folin-Ciocalteu assay [16]. 10 mg of microparticles were suspended in 5ml of 95ml/ 100ml methanol in water, mixed well, and left in the dark for 1 hour at room temperature. The sample then was filtered and 0.25ml of the sample was mixed with 0.25 ml Folin-Ciocalteu reagent, 4 ml of water, and 0.5ml of 20 g/100 ml sodium carbonate. The samples were then allowed to stand for 2 hours at room temperature protected from light, and the absorbance was measured at 765 nm. A standard curve was prepared using gallic acid as the standard to quantify the total phenolic expressed as gallic acid equivalents/100 g. The encapsulation efficiency was calculated according to the formula:

$$\text{Entrapment efficiency} = \frac{\text{Amount of active compound entrapped}}{\text{Amount of initial active compound}} \times 100$$

Acute oral toxicity studies

Acute oral toxicity of ethanolic leaf extract of *E. tectorius* and its microencapsulated forms was studied in healthy non-pregnant female albino Wistar rats ($n= 18$). The animals were kept fasting for three hours before dosing providing only water. The animals were treated with a starting dose of 200 mg/kg b.w. of microencapsulated and unencapsulated leaf extracts followed by 500,1000,1500,2000 mg/kg b.w. They were observed periodically for signs of toxicity, behavioral changes and mortality for about 14 days.

Experimental Animals

Six weeks old healthy adult male albino Wistar rats weighing 150-200grams were used for the study. The animals were housed in clean cages and were fed a standard diet and clean drinking water. The animal study was approved by the Institutional Animal Ethical Committee, Nanda College of Pharmacy, Erode (Approval No: NCP/IAEC/2021-22/20). All procedures were performed under the suggestions for the appropriate care and usage of laboratory animals. The animals were kept on fasting condition the night before offering only water and their initial blood glucose levels were checked. Diabetes Mellitus was then induced by a single intraperitoneal injection of 120 mg/kg of



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nicotinamide followed by the injection of 60 mg/kg of streptozotocin and the onset of hyperglycemia was validated after 72 hours.

Experimental Design

Forty-two rats were split into 7 groups (A-G) consisting of about 6 rats per group ($n = 6$). Group A represented the healthy normal control (NC) group and received only saline. Group B represented the untreated diabetic control (DC) group that did not receive any oral hypoglycemic drug or plant extracts. Animals belonging to the experimental groups- Groups C and D received 200 mg/kg b.w. (ET 1) and 400 mg/kg b.w. (ET 2) of ethanolic leaf extract of *E. tectorius* orally. Groups E and F received 200 mg/kg b.w. (M-ET 1) and 400 mg/kg b.w. (M-ET 2) of microencapsulated *E. tectorius* leaf extracts. Group G received about 10 mg/kg b.w of the standard hypoglycemic drug, glibenclamide (Glib). These treatments were administered daily for a total of 28 days.

Determination of body weight and fasting blood glucose levels

The bodyweight of the experimental animals was recorded weekly during the treatment period. The fasting blood glucose levels were also measured in overnight fasting rats weekly during the treatment using an Accucheck glucometer.

Determination of hepatic carbohydrate metabolizing enzymes

At the end of the experiment, the animals were sacrificed using cervical dislocation and the liver was dissected out, washed in ice-cold saline, homogenized and the supernatant was used for assessing the activity of carbohydrate metabolizing enzymes namely, glucose 6-phosphatase, fructose 1,6-bisphosphatase and glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase [17-19].

Statistical analysis

All values are represented as mean \pm SEM ($n = 6$). Statistical significance was determined using one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) followed by Tukey's multiple comparison test. 'p-value' of 0.05 or less was considered significant. All statistical analyses were performed using SPSS version 28.0.0. for Windows.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In recent times, herbal medications are gaining popularity globally for the treatment of various health issues in different healthcare settings. Huge growth was observed in the usage and interest of natural plant-based medications in the past decade in both developing and developed nations. It has been estimated that up to 80% of the world's population existing in developing countries depend on traditional herbal medicine as a primary source of healthcare implying their importance [20]. The rapid increase in the incidence of diabetes has made it important to develop newer antidiabetic agents with fewer side effects. Medicinal plants can offer an effective, safe and less expensive alternative to synthetic drugs [21].

The GC-MS spectrum of the ethanolic leaf extracts of *E. tectorius* is presented in Fig. 1 and the peaks in the spectra correspond to the retention time of the compounds present in the extracts. The GC-MS analysis revealed the presence of many active compounds out of which around 15 compounds were identified with well-known bioactivities. The bioactive compounds with their molecular weight, formula and their potential bioactivity are presented in Table 1. The compounds, 2,4-Dihydroxy-2,5-dimethyl-3(2H)-furan-3-one and 2,3-dihydro-3,5-dihydroxy-6-methyl-4H-Pyran-4-one identified in the ethanolic extract of *E.tectorius* leaves was found to possess antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory and antioxidant activities[22]. The compounds 3,4-Difluoroanisole, tetradecane and 4-Trifluoroacetoxytetradecane were known to exhibit antimicrobial and antioxidant activities. One of the compounds identified, Phenol, 3,5-bis(1,1-dimethylethyl)- has antiseptic and disinfectant properties. It has potent antibacterial, antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties. Hexadecanoic acid, a saturated long-chain fatty acid possesses anti-inflammatory, antioxidant and antimicrobial properties [23]. The active compound Phytol, a diterpene alcohol was found to have



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the potential to activate the enzymes involved in the regulation of insulin and help control the metabolic activities associated with type-2 diabetes. It also possesses significant antimicrobial and anticancer properties [24]. These compounds present in the leaf extract could be responsible for its therapeutic effect.

The prepared microencapsulated *E. tectorius* leaf extracts were characterized using a Field-emission scanning electron micrograph and are given in Fig. 2a and 2b. It was observed that the chitosan-sodium alginate microparticles were uniformly spherical in shape with an average diameter of about 150-200nm. Most of the microparticles were individual and a few were found aggregated. The microparticles also exhibited maximum encapsulation efficiency of about $83.2 \pm 0.89\%$. The technique of microencapsulation aids in reducing the dosage, controlled release and offers protection of entrapped biological substances from external conditions [25].

The oral acute toxicity studies of the microencapsulated and unencapsulated leaf extracts of *E. tectorius* were studied in healthy non-pregnant female albino rats. The results revealed that the microencapsulated and unencapsulated leaf extracts were safe and non-toxic up to the tested dose of 2000 mg/kg b.w. No changes were observed in the normal behavioral pattern and there were no signs of toxicity and mortality observed as indicated by OECD guidelines. This indicates that the LD₅₀ value of the microencapsulated and unencapsulated leaf extracts of *E. tectorius* may be greater than 2000 mg/kg b.w.

Experimental diabetes was induced by streptozotocin administration. Streptozotocin is a prominent cytotoxic drug widely used for inducing experimental diabetes [26]. It is a glucose analog made of a deoxyglucose molecule linked with a highly reactive methyl nitrosourea moiety. STZ causes specific necrosis of the pancreatic β cells by recognizing the GLUT2 receptors present in the β cell membrane leading to insulin deficiency and hyperglycemia [27]. In the present study, the animals were administered nicotinamide before the administration of streptozotocin since nicotinamide being an active form of Vitamin B3 is known to protect the pancreatic β cells to an extent from the cytotoxicity of STZ. This creates a condition of partial insulin deficiency with insulin resistance as observed in type 2 diabetes with the rats displaying stable and moderate hyperglycemia without needing exogenous insulin to survive similar to that of type 2 diabetes [28,29].

The experimental animals displayed a significant change ($p < 0.05$) in body weight during the treatment period (Table 2). There was an initial weight reduction in the animals after the induction of diabetes. There was a significant weight reduction ($p < 0.05$) in the rats belonging to the diabetic control group throughout the experimental period. The decrease in body weight is an important feature of diabetes. The decrease in body weight of diabetic rats can be attributed to the increased fat and protein metabolism due to the unavailability of carbohydrates for energy metabolism [30]. It was noted that after treatment with ET, M-ET and glibenclamide, the mean bodyweight of the rats was restored to near that of the normal control group. The group was treated with M-ET at a dose of 400 mg/kg b.w. exhibited maximum weight gain with a mean bodyweight of about 140.17 ± 4.56 g at the end of the treatment period.

The fasting blood glucose levels of the experimental groups were significantly elevated ($p < 0.05$) following the administration of streptozotocin when compared to the control group. However, after treatment of the diabetic rats with the microencapsulated and unencapsulated leaf extracts the fasting blood glucose levels were significantly reduced ($p < 0.05$) starting from the second week. Though a decrease in blood glucose level was observed on the 7th day, a maximum decrease was evident on the 28th day. The group treated with 200 mg/kg b.w and 400 mg/kg b.w of chitosan-alginate microparticles containing *E. tectorius* leaf extracts showed a significant reduction ($p < 0.05$) in blood glucose higher than that of glibenclamide with the mean blood glucose level of 132 ± 26.05 mg/dL (Table 3). This indicates the antihyperglycemic potential of the plant and that microencapsulation has enhanced the therapeutic potential of the plant. In recent times, several studies show that microencapsulation plays an important role in enhancing the antioxidant activities of various plant extracts and essential oils [31].



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The activity of the enzymes glucose 6-phosphatase and fructose 1,6-bisphosphatase was significantly increased ($p < 0.05$) in STZ-NIC-induced untreated diabetic rats when compared to the control group. A significant reduction ($p < 0.05$) in the enzyme activity was observed in the groups treated with plant extracts and glibenclamide. The reduction was more prominent in the group treated with a dose of 400 mg/kg b.w. of M-ET which indicates the positive effect of microencapsulation on the therapeutic potential of the plant. In contrast, the activity of glucose-6 phosphate dehydrogenase was found to be significantly decreased ($p < 0.05$) in the rats belonging to the diabetic control group when compared with the normal control group. The groups treated with plant extracts and glibenclamide exhibited a significant increase ($p < 0.05$) in the activity of the enzyme in the liver (Table 4).

Glucose-6-phosphatase is an enzyme found predominantly in the liver and the kidneys and plays a critical role in providing glucose during starvation, diabetes, or prolonged fasting [32]. Fructose 1,6-bisphosphatase is a crucial enzyme involved in gluconeogenesis. It catalyzes the rate-limiting step of hydrolysis of fructose 1,6-bisphosphate to fructose 6-phosphate [33]. Glucose 6-phosphatase catalyzes the terminal step in both gluconeogenesis and glycogenolysis converting glucose-6-phosphate to free glucose by dephosphorylation [34]. The activation of these enzymes is due to insulin deficiency as under normal circumstances, insulin functions as a suppressor of these gluconeogenic enzymes [35]. Studies show that the activity of these enzymes is several-fold higher in diabetic animals and probably also in diabetic humans and this enzyme therefore could be a key player in the elevated hepatic glucose production seen in Type 2 diabetes [36]. Treatment of diabetic rats with plant extracts and glibenclamide has reduced the glucose-6-phosphatase and fructose 1,6-bisphosphatase activity to near normalcy which could be due to increased insulin secretion.

Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase is a rate-limiting enzyme of the oxidative pentose phosphate pathway. This enzyme catalyzes the conversion of glucose-6 phosphate to 6-phosphogluconolactone, with the production of NADPH. It has been reported that the activity of this enzyme is reduced in diabetic rats and studies have shown that this decrease is dependent on the severity of hyperglycemia [37,38]. The decrease in the enzyme activity might be a result of reduced HMP shunt function thereby also causing reduced production of NADPH. In this study, microencapsulated and unencapsulated leaf extracts of *E. tectorius* significantly increased the activity of glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase which could be attributed to its potential to increase insulin secretion.

CONCLUSION

The present study on the effect of microencapsulation on the antidiabetic potential of *Elaeocarpus tectorius* leaf extract in streptozotocin-nicotinamide-induced diabetic rats indicated that the microencapsulated extracts of *E. tectorius* exhibited a good anti-diabetic effect and also normalized the impairment in the key hepatic carbohydrate metabolizing enzymes. Although the crude ethanolic leaf extract produced an antidiabetic effect, the microencapsulated extracts exhibited a more prominent effect. The outcome of this study confirms that the technique of microencapsulation has great potential to protect and enhance the therapeutic activity of plant extracts. Further studies are also recommended for identifying the other therapeutic activities of *Elaeocarpus tectorius* (Lour.) Poir.

DECLARATIONS**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest.



**Keerthana Manoharan and Chitra****ETHICS STATEMENT**

The animal study was approved by the Institutional Animal Ethical Committee, Nanda College of Pharmacy, Erode (Approval No: NCP/IAEC/2021-22/20).

INFORMED CONSENT

Not applicable.

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Table-1 List of Bioactive compounds identified from *Elaeocarpus tectorius* leaf extracts

Name of the Compound	Molecular Formula	Molecular Weight	Activity
2,4-Dihydroxy-2,5-dimethyl-3(2H)-furan-3-one	C ₆ H ₈ O ₄	144.1253	Antimicrobial activity, antioxidant
3,4-Difluoroanisole	C ₇ H ₆ F ₂ O	144.12	Kinase modulators, antibacterial agent, prevention of Dengue virus infections
2-ethyl-1-Hexanol	C ₈ H ₁₈ O	130.2279	Antidiabetic
4H-Pyran-4-one, 2,3-dihydro-3,5-dihydroxy-6-methyl-	C ₆ H ₈ O ₄	144.1253	Antidiabetic, antioxidant, antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, antiproliferative, an inhibitor of melanin synthesis
Tetradecane	C ₁₄ H ₃₀	198.39	Antimicrobial
1-(ethenyl)- Hexadecane	C ₁₈ H ₃₆ O	268.5	Antimicrobial
4-Trifluoroacetoxytetradecane	C ₁₆ H ₂₉ F ₃ O ₂	310.39	Antimicrobial
2-Pentadecanol	C ₁₅ H ₃₂ O	228.4140	Hypolipidemic
Phenol, 3,5-bis(1,1-dimethyl ethyl)-	C ₁₄ H ₂₂ O	206.3239	Antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, anticancer
1,2-15,16-Diepoxyhexadecane	C ₁₆ H ₃₀ O ₂	254.41	Antitumor and anti-inflammatory agents
Bicyclo[3.1.1]heptane, 2,6,6-trimethyl-, (1.alpha.,2.beta.,5.alpha.)-	C ₁₀ H ₁₈	138.2499	Antimicrobial
n-Hexadecanoic acid	C ₁₆ H ₃₂ O ₂	256.4241	Antidiabetic, antioxidant, hypocholesterolemic, nematocide, antiandrogenic, hemolytic
Bicyclo[10.8.0]eicosane, (E)-	C ₂₀ H ₃₈	278.5	Antioxidant, antityrosinase
Phytol	C ₂₀ H ₄₀ O	296.5310	Antidiabetic, antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, anticancer, diuretic, antifungal against <i>S. Typhi</i> , resistant gonorrhoea
Octadecanoic acid	C ₁₈ H ₃₆ O ₂	284.5	Antidiabetic, antifungal, antitumor, antibacterial, hypocholesterolemic

*Ref: Dr. Duke's Phytochemical and Ethnobotanical Databases

Table-2 Mean body weight of the experimental animals during the treatment period

Groups	Bodyweight during the treatment period*			
	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Normal control	122.2 ± 1.45 ^a	137.5 ± 2.42 ^b	139.3 ± 4.71 ^c	147.8 ± 5.11 ^b
Diabetic control	138.3 ± 6.34 ^b	122.67 ± 3.68 ^{ab}	103.7 ± 1.76 ^a	97.83 ± 2.23 ^a
ET-1	135 ± 2.28 ^{ab}	114 ± 4.23 ^a	116.83 ± 3.31 ^{ab}	136.3 ± 6.93 ^b
ET-2	133.7 ± 2.6 ^{ab}	120.2 ± 7.9 ^{ab}	130.3 ± 6.6 ^{bc}	139.8 ± 5.64 ^b
M-ET-1	132.3 ± 1.89 ^{ab}	120.5 ± 4.26 ^{ab}	133.17 ± 5.13 ^{bc}	139.5 ± 6.22 ^b
M-ET-2	135.3 ± 2.06 ^{ab}	127.5 ± 5.62 ^{ab}	134.7 ± 5.22 ^{bc}	140.17 ± 4.56 ^b
Glibenclamide	128.5 ± 1.088 ^{ab}	133.3 ± 3.85 ^{ab}	137.8 ± 4.94 ^c	144 ± 7.51 ^b

*Values are expressed as mean ± SEM (n=6).

Values in the same column having different letters of alphabets differ significantly at p<0.05 (One-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's multiple comparison test)

ET-1: *E. tectorius* leaf extract at 200mg/kg b.w; **ET-2:** *E. tectorius* leaf extract at 400mg/kg b.w; **M-ET-1:** Microencapsulated *E. tectorius* leaf extract at 200mg/kg b.w, **M-ET-2:** Microencapsulated *E. tectorius* leaf extract at 400mg/kg b.w. **Glibenclamide:** 10 mg/kg b.w.





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Table-3 Fasting blood glucose levels in the experimental rats during the treatment period

Groups	Fasting blood glucose levels (mg/dL) *				
	Day 0	Day 7	Day 14	Day 21	Day 28
Normal control	87.3 ± 3.07 ^a	88 ± 4.93 ^a	86 ± 2.77 ^a	83.3 ± 5.07 ^a	82.17 ± 3.67 ^a
Diabetic control	390 ± 32.25 ^b	364.17 ± 13.3 ^c	355 ± 71.4 ^a	386.7 ± 85.4 ^b	373.3 ± 75.8 ^b
ET-1	370 ± 12.38 ^b	321.83 ± 10.65 ^{bc}	305 ± 66.6 ^a	263.3 ± 56.8 ^{ab}	158.3 ± 50.35 ^a
ET-2	361.67 ± 29.6 ^b	317.7 ± 9.5 ^b	301.7 ± 68.2 ^a	233.3 ± 51.36 ^{ab}	144.3 ± 48 ^a
M-ET-1	370 ± 26.2 ^b	331 ± 13.7 ^{bc}	316.7 ± 73.15 ^a	241.67 ± 49.42 ^{ab}	151.67 ± 31.98 ^a
M-ET-2	385 ± 27.78 ^b	317.5 ± 7.6 ^b	305 ± 71.9 ^a	230 ± 50 ^{ab}	132 ± 26.05 ^a
Glibenclamide	380 ± 19.83 ^b	314.8 ± 8.3 ^b	270 ± 64.86 ^a	225 ± 45.8 ^{ab}	160 ± 32.86 ^a

*Values are expressed as mean ± SEM (n=6).

Values in the same column having different letters of alphabets differ significantly at p<0.05 (One-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's multiple comparison test)

ET-1: *E. tectorius* leaf extract at 200mg/kg b.w; **ET-2:** *E. tectorius* leaf extract at 400mg/kg b.w; **M-ET-1:** Microencapsulated *E. tectorius* leaf extract at 200mg/kg b.w, **M-ET-2:** Microencapsulated *E. tectorius* leaf extract at 400mg/kg b.w. **Glibenclamide:** 10 mg/kg b.w.

Table-4 Activity of key hepatic carbohydrate metabolizing enzymes

Groups	Glucose -6-phosphatase*	Fructose 1, 6-diphosphatase*	Glucose -6-phosphate dehydrogenase*
Normal control	0.2 ± 0.02 ^a	0.3 ± 0.05 ^a	15.15 ± 1.38 ^c
Diabetic control	0.36 ± 0.02 ^b	0.66 ± 0.02 ^c	7.72 ± 0.41 ^a
ET-1	0.3 ± 0.03 ^{ab}	0.42 ± 0.014 ^{ab}	8.16 ± 0.34 ^a
ET-2	0.24 ± 0.05 ^{ab}	0.34 ± 0.02 ^a	12.025 ± 1.21 ^{abc}
M-ET-1	0.31 ± 0.03 ^{ab}	0.49 ± 0.03 ^b	8.63 ± 0.71 ^{ab}
M-ET-2	0.22 ± 0.05 ^{ab}	0.33 ± 0.04 ^a	12.68 ± 1.17 ^{abc}
Glibenclamide	0.21 ± 0.02 ^{ab}	0.31 ± 0.014 ^a	13.47 ± 1.88 ^{bc}

*Values are expressed as mean ± SEM (n=6).

Values in the same column having different letters of alphabets differ significantly at p<0.05 (One-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's multiple comparison test)

ET-1: *E. tectorius* leaf extract at 200mg/kg b.w; **ET-2:** *E. tectorius* leaf extract at 400mg/kg b.w; **M-ET-1:** Microencapsulated *E. tectorius* leaf extract at 200mg/kg b.w, **M-ET-2:** Microencapsulated *E. tectorius* leaf extract at 400mg/kg b.w. **Glibenclamide:** 10 mg/kg b.w.

* Glucose -6-phosphatase units: μ moles of Pi liberated/min/mg protein

*Fructose 1, 6-diphosphatase units: μ moles of Pi liberated/min/mg protein

*Glucose -6-phosphate dehydrogenase units: μ moles of NADH oxidized/min/mg protein





Keerthana Manoharan and Chitra

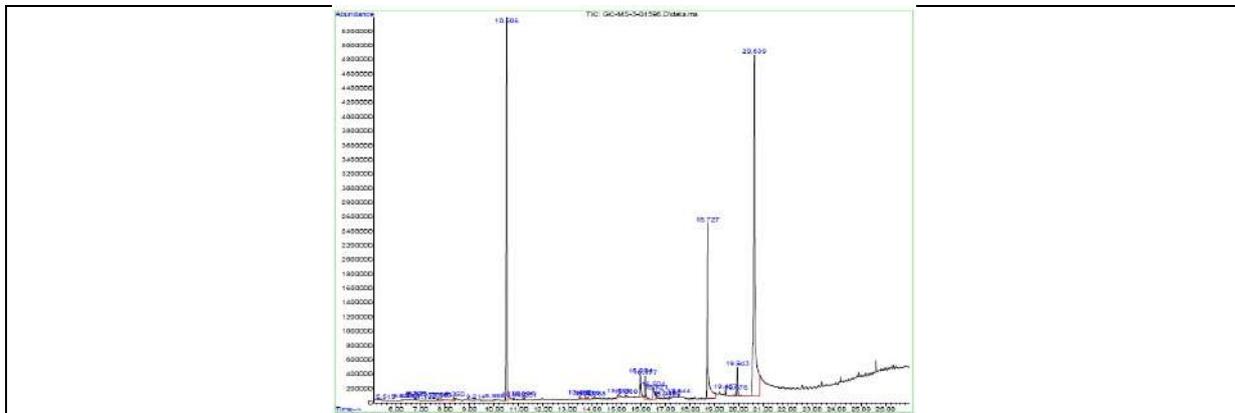


Figure 1: GC-MS Chromatogram of *Eleocharis tectorius* leaves

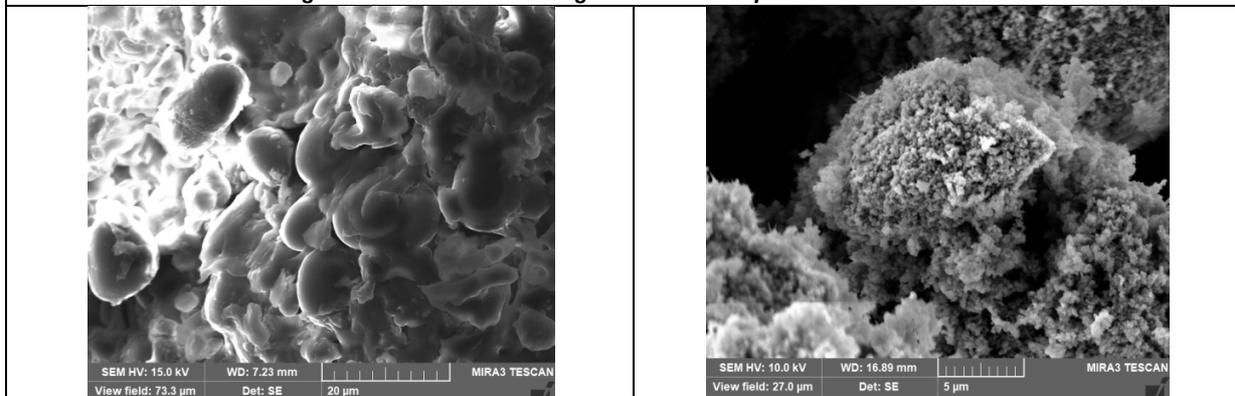


Figure 2a and 2b: FESEM analysis of the polymeric microparticles of *Eleocharis tectorius* leaf extract





Therapeutic Effect of Herbal and Synthetic Drugs as Local Drug Delivery in Periodontics : An Insight

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ABSTRACT

A specific group of pathogens called periodontal pathogens cause periodontitis, an inflammatory, progressive disease of the teeth's supporting tissues that gradually destroys the alveolar bone and periodontal ligament and can result in pockets, recession, or both. Scaling and root planing are the primary therapy steps, which are then followed, if necessary, by any surgical intervention. Even after all these treatments, periodontal disease often returns within a few months, particularly in individuals with weak health and bad habits. In a developing therapy known as local drug delivery (LDD), the intended place can receive the specified dose at predetermined intervals of time without any drug systemic toxicity and with patient compliance. In this review article will be discussing the various synthetic and herbal drugs used as LDD in the field of dentistry.

Keywords: Chronic Periodontitis, Local drug delivery, Herbal drugs, Synthetic drugs

INTRODUCTION

Along with the traditional mechanical plaque management from earlier periods, topically applied anti-microbial medicines were employed in periodontal treatment [1]. Subgingival administration of medications was later adopted





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for the best control of chronic periodontitis after it became clear that oral rinses and mouthwashes did not produce a predictable result. Dr. Max Goodson invented the controlled localised medication administration method by embedding tetracycline in cellulose acetate fibres and inserting them into periodontal pockets [2]. The systemic administration of drugs which is also widely used method to control the periodontal disease condition is also very effective. However, the various drawbacks include such as the higher drug dosage for optimal drug concentrations at the desired area, which should undergo first pass metabolism, super infection, microbial resistance and much more. Thus, in this article we will be discussing about the various local drug delivery agents used till date based on the evidence.

The Macrophages, plasma cells, and T and B lymphocytes are dominant, with IgG1 and IgG3 subclasses of B lymphocytes are also present. Blood flow to the periodontal tissues will be thus impaired, leading to increased collagen breakdown activity [3]. Gingivitis when it is left untreated for certain period of time can progress to periodontitis causing destruction to the supporting periodontium which will provide a suitable environment for the growth of pathogenic anaerobic microorganisms (*Porphyromonas gingivalis* [Pg.], *Fusobacteriumnucleatum*, *Prevotella intermedia* [Pi.], *Aggregatibacteractinomycetemcomitans* [Aa.]

Scaling and root planing (SRP), is the initial and most commonly done nonsurgical periodontal treatment, is followed, if necessary, by any surgical intervention [5]. Because the periodontal bacteria (Pg, Pi, and Aa) can invade the gingival epithelium and connective tissue via pocket epithelium and dentinal tubules, even the most modern extensive osseous flap surgical procedures cannot entirely eradicate the pathogens [6]. Only when given in adequate amounts to deliver optimal concentration to the area of interest can systemic antimicrobial therapy be successful. In situations of localised to moderate periodontitis, particularly, doctors choose local drug delivery systems (LDD) over systemic antimicrobials because they improve medication concentration at the infection site with less dosage and unwanted effects [7].

In 1996, by Rams and Slots: Based on the Application.⁸ (refer Fig. 1)

Personally applied (Self applied by patient)

Non sustained drug delivery- sub gingival

- Traditional jet tips
- Home oral irrigation
- Home oral irrigation jet tips
- Soft cone rubber tips (Pik pocket®)
- Oral irrigation (water pik®)

Sustained drug delivery- sub gingival

Professionally applied (At the dental office)

Non sustained subgingival drug delivery

- Professional pocket irrigation
- Sustained subgingival drug delivery
- Controlled release devices
- Fibers
- Dialysis tubing
- Films
- Strips

Based on the duration of medicament release: According to Greenstein and Tornetti [2000]⁹

Sustained release devices – Designed to provide drug delivery for up to 24 hours.



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Controlled release devices – Devices designed to provide drug release more than a day to at least 3 days following application (Kornman1993).

Depending on bio degradability [10]

1. Non bio degradable devices (1st generation)
2. Degradable devices (2nd generation)

Various Drug Delivery Systems used for treating periodontitis

Periodontitis is treated using a variety of drug delivery methods, including as fibers, films, injectable systems, gels, strips, vesicular systems, micro- and nanoparticle systems, etc.

Fibers

The word "fiber" itself comes from the Latin word "Fibra," which refers to any material, natural or artificial, whose width is significantly smaller than its length. Fibers are usually placed deep into the periodontal pocket with the aid of any blunt applicator, such as tweezers [11]. (as shown in Fig.2)any periodontal dressing or cyanoacrylate adhesive can be used to securely secure it. It is noted that common drawbacks include difficulties inserting fibre into pockets, patient pain, and gingival redness in addition to localised irritation.

Strips and Films

Drugs are incorporated throughout the polymer and used as strips and films, usually thin and elongated matrix bands. Acrylic strips can be therapeutically prepared by combining various amounts of polymers and monomers with the required quantities of antimicrobial agents. Ethyl cellulose, ethyl methacrylate, cellulose acetate, etc. are examples of non-biodegradable polymers used in the synthesis of these systems. Biodegradable polymers used in the synthesis of these systems include polylactic acid, polyglycolic acid, poly-caprolactone, and poly hydroxyl butyric acid (PHBA) [12]. Films that are sufficiently sticky and have a thickness of less than 400 µm which will be placed into the periodontal pocket with few compromising the patient's oral hygiene. Films that release drugs by diffusion alone are created using non-degradable water insoluble polymers, whereas films that release drugs via diffusion and matrix erosion or dissolution are created using various combinations of biodegradable or water soluble polymers[13].

Injectable gel

Along with the usual solid drug delivering agents, semi-solid devices have also been gained attention for its reasonable ability to treat periodontitis with its anti-microbial formulations. Its main advantage is that it can release the drug from gel faster as compared to other formulations. These types of delivery agents are easy to be formulated and administered whereas, disadvantage is it will easily disintegrate and is having less time of action compared to other agents because the gel form is soluble and disintegrate faster.¹⁴ Gels are mainly used to deliver therapeutic agents in a whole range of extra and intra oral diseases such as desquamate gingival lesions, oral ulcers, denture stomatitis etc. The therapeutic agents are delivered easily to the specified area of treatment by applying to the sub gingival pocket gently with the help of wide bore needle syringes to ensure a uniform distribution.

Micro particulate system

Both non-biodegradable and biodegradable polymeric materials have been used to prepare micro particulate formulations. These materials include synthetic and natural compounds, as well as polymers of natural origin. Typically, the microparticle-based system is made up of by-products of biodegradable poly alpha hydroxyl acids such polylactide acid (PLA) or poly (lactide-co-glycolide). The invitro drug release properties are controlled by the type of polymer used for such system and depends upon their properties such as ratio, molecular weight, crystallinity and even its pH [15].

Example: Ofloxacin, Fibroblast Growth Factor

Microparticles are solid, minute, spherical polymeric structures with diameters between 1 and 1000 nm that are used to protect drugs from the environment, eliminate incompatibility, or mask any unpleasant odours. They are designed



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to contain active therapeutic agents dispersed uniformly throughout the matrix of the polymer, which helps to increase bioavailability and sustained therapeutic activity.¹⁶ Micro particles can be delivered into the pocket via various carrier systems including chips, direct injection formulations and gel systems. Solid lipid microparticles encapsulating lycopene have demonstrated promising therapeutic outcomes when used in conjunction with SRP [17]. In some formulations, such as Doxycycline, biodegradable microspheres (with a mean particle size between 90 and 200 m) are added. Compared to the commonly available doxycycline gel preparations, this formulation had shown a significant improvement in the clinical and microbiological parameters up to 3 months [18]. In a further investigation, metronidazole benzoate-loaded microparticles with particle sizes ranging from 31.0 to 74.5 m were added to chitosan/PCL films, which led to a more appropriate release of up to 64% for 7 h and considerable mucoadhesive characteristics [19].

Nano-particulate system

Nanoparticles (dimension less than 100 nm) have become widely used in the biomedical industry in recent years due to their capacity to deliver a variety of active therapeutic substances to the desired site. (as shown in Fig.5) Nano-particulate systems are used to improve the efficacy of delivery methods. The advantages of a nano-particulate system include increased stability, regulated release rate, and excellent dispersibility in an aqueous medium. Due to their tiny size, nanoparticles can reach deeper areas that may be inaccessible to traditional delivery methods, such as the periodontal pocket area below the gum line. These guarantee a lower administration frequency and can finally deliver an even dispersion of the therapeutic substances over an extended length of time [20]. Improved transport across cell membranes, increased surface area-to-volume ratios that improve medication loading capabilities, and biocompatibility due to the size of the particles simulating the structure of biological tissues are some of the main benefits [21]. Since the lipidomal system was created to resemble biomembranes in both structure and behavior, it has been carefully studied as a potential weapon against periodontal pathogens. In-vitro antibacterial efficacy of metronidazole-containing lectinized liposomes for intra-periodontal pocket administration was examined by Vyas et al. in 2001 [22].

The first locally available medicine, tetracycline-containing fibers, had an ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer fibre with a diameter of 0.5 mm and contained 12.7 mg of tetracycline per 9 inches. Goodson assessed the distribution of tetracycline incorporated into several polymers after observing the inadequate control of drug release by the hollow fibres. It was discovered that ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA) is flexible and can support delivery for up to 9 days.²⁴ According to earlier reports, the hollow fibre first discharged significant quantities of crevicular fluid before dropping to a Tetracycline level below therapeutic after 24 hours in place of about 15 g/ml. Through day 10, the monolithic fibres maintained tetracycline concentrations over 600 g/ml [25].

Minocycline

Minocycline microspheres used in subgingival implantation come in the locally administered, sustained release version known as Arestin®, which has FDA approval. The bioresorbable microspheres in the gel carrier are filled with 2% minocycline.²³ When combined with scaling and root planing, ArestinR (1 mg Minocycline microspheres) was employed by Sweatha C(2015) [26] and was found to have significant therapeutic advantages over scaling and root planing alone. ($P \leq 0.001$). Clinical samples (saliva and GCF) were analyzed, and the results showed that minocycline concentrations (>1 g/ml) were attained at the periodontal site, providing sustained effects for up to 14 days without significantly affecting serum concentration—enough to give bactericidal activity.

Doxycycline

Atridox is a FDA approved 10% doxycycline in a gel system using a syringe.²³ A substantial decrease in the subgingival microbiological count was observed in Abdaly et al's (2008)²⁷ evaluation of local administration of Atridox as an adjuvant in the therapy of chronic periodontitis. ($P < 0.05$) Javali, Vandana, and others (2012) [28] carried out a study to evaluate and compare the efficacy of local delivery of 10% doxycycline hyclate in adjunct to scaling and root planing in the treatment of periodontitis. It was later found on comparison, scaling and root planning in adjunct with doxycycline group showed better results. ($P = 0.01$) The medication and polymers were

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stable, with in-vitro release lasting up to 11 days, according to doxycycline-loaded biodegradable microspheres (mean particle size between 90 and 200 m) generated by double emulsion process employing a combination of PLGA and PCL in varied concentrations. In comparison to commercial doxycycline gel, the formulation showed a considerable improvement in the clinical and microbiological parameters up to 3 months [18].

Metronidazole

The first and most widely used topical drug, Elyzol, included an oil-based metronidazole 25% dental gel formulation that was given to the periodontal pocket in a thick consistency [23]. Shifrovitch Y et al. (2009)²⁹ did a study and suggested that it possible to comprehend metronidazole release from bioabsorbable polymeric films and showed good biocompatibility as well as the ability to primarily inhibit the growth of the periodontium-destructive gram-negative *Bacteroides fragilis*. As a result, they may be helpful in the treatment of periodontal diseases. Although metronidazole medication is associated with just 1% of adverse drug responses, they include nausea and a common complaint of a metallic taste in the mouth at higher doses.

Chlorhexidine

In the treatment of periodontal diseases, chlorhexidine is frequently utilised as a local medication delivery agent in the form of mouthwashes, varnishes, gels, and chips. Periochip (2.5 mg), Chlosite (1.5% CHX), and Periocol are a few examples of frequently used commercial formulations. (2.5 mg)[30]. Studies have shown that adding chlorhexidine to scaling and root planning is an efficient way to reduce the remaining microbial burden, which in turn improves clinical metrics.³²Commercially available biodegradable strips exhibit significantly better biocompatibility than non-biodegradable ones, and studies have shown that ethyl cellulose-based chlorhexidine strips produced an effective clinical treatment result in terms of pocket depth reduction within 10 to 11 weeks and a decline in the number of motile rods and spirochetes. Periochip is a brownish orange-colored rectangular chip that has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (US FDA) and contains chlorhexidine gluconate (2.5 mg) embedded in a matrix of biodegradable polymer; gelatin is a popular choice. The available dimensions are 5 x 4 x 0.3 mm, weighing approximately 7.4 mg (drug and polymer), with a diffusion rate of 40%. Chlorhexidine was released in the first 24 hours with an initial burst effect; thereafter, a steady release of the medication was seen for up to 1 week [33].

Azithromycin

Azithromycin has a broad antibacterial spectrum of activity against both Gram-negative bacilli and anaerobic bacteria. It works well against periodontal infections including *P. gingivalis* and *Aggregatibacter Actinomycetemcomitans*. According to Chavda M. et al. (2013) [34], locally administered azithromycin may be an effective supplement to scaling and root planing in the management of chronic periodontitis. ($P < 0.001$). The prolonged presence of azithromycin in the relevant tissue is one of the drug's notable advantages. In addition, compared to antibiotics that are prescribed more regularly, much fewer resistances have developed to this one.

Simvastatin

Simvastatin (SMV), lovastatin (LOV), atorvastatin (ATV), and pravastatin are examples of statins that specifically compete to inhibit HMGCoA reductase [36]. SMV demonstrates bone regeneration capabilities by directly enhancing bone morphogenic factor-2 expression, inhibiting osteoclasts, and indirectly promoting neovascularization by upregulating vascular endothelial growth factor secretion. These actions all contribute to osteoblast activation and bone regeneration. Pradeep et al(2010) [37] utilized computer-aided software to do radiologic assessment of intrabony defect fill, researchers looked into the efficacy of SMV and discovered considerable intrabony defect fill at sites receiving SMV as a supplement to scaling and root planning. ($P < 0.05$)By performing radiologic assessment of intrabony defect fill, Martande SS et al. (2017) investigated the efficacy of SMV and ATV. They discovered that ATV has greater improvements in clinical parameters with a higher percentage of radiographic defect depth reduction when treating intrabony defects compared to SM. ($P < 0.05$)



**Kevin Rajet al.,****Alendronate (Bisphosphonate)**

Alendronate (4-amino 1-hydroxybutylidene bisphosphonate), is a bisphosphonate with increase potency by the inhibition of bone resorption by affecting the osteoclast differentiation. In their study, Sheokand V. et al. found that gingival and plaque indices in the Alendronate and placebo locations decreased proportionately from baseline to three and subsequently six months after therapy. These decreases were statistically significant and may have been mostly caused by the non-surgical therapy. Alendronate was administered together with a placebo, and when smokers and non-smokers were compared, the non-smoker subgroup showed a drop in Gingival Index and Plaque Index scores that was not statistically significant [38].

Chitosan

Chitosan is a naturally occurring polysaccharide that has established itself as a substance with significant application potential in the biomedical field. Chitin can be either totally or partially deacetylated. Chitin is a naturally occurring polymer that is completely biodegradable and biocompatible and is found in both fungal cell walls and crustacean shells. It can be utilised as an adhesive as well as an antibacterial or antifungal agent.³⁹Chitosan and its derived substances readily break down by the lysozymes found in tissues, and the pace of breakdown can be changed by adjusting the molecules' molecular weight (by curing them at various temperatures) and the level of deacetylation. Plasticizers like gluteraldehyde make it simple to manipulate chitosan. According to studies, chitosan's positively charged molecules can interact with microorganisms' negatively charged cell membranes. This connection is mediated by electrostatic forces, which also encourage changes in the permeability of cell membranes. This internal osmotic imbalance finally prevents the growth of microorganisms. In the event that the peptidoglycans in the cell membrane are hydrolyzed, proteins, glucose, lactate dehydrogenase, potassium ions, and other internal electrolytes may leak out [40].

Herbal Local Drug Delivery Agents

The usage of herbal products has increased because of easy availability, relatively safe nature of herbal extracts, and their components are being used for many intra oral treatment of various lesions including periodontitis as in form of local drug delivery agents.

Neem

Neem extract from the leaves can aid in lowering levels of germs and plaque that may contribute to the development of periodontitis. It is hypothesised that the bioactive components in neem, which have been demonstrated to include gallotannins, can effectively reduce the number of bacteria that can adhere to tooth surfaces by speeding up their physical removal from the oral cavity through aggregate formation. In a study neem mouthwash was compared with CHX mouthwash and it was suggested that the neem extract mouthwash (2%v/w) reduced the bacterial load intraorally than with 0.2% chlorhexidine gluconate. Neem extract can therefore be utilised in low socioeconomic level populations as a healthier alternative mouthwash to 0.2% chlorhexidine gluconate mouthwash⁴¹. The effectiveness of 10% whole *Azadirachta indica* (neem) chips as a supplement to scaling and root planning was examined by Vennila K. (2016)⁴². She discovered that the presence of anaerobic *P. gingivalis* strains had significantly decreased on microbiological analysis and that clinical parameters had improved at the sites treated with neem chips as compared to the control sites.

Aloe-vera

The Liliaceae family of cacti includes *Aloe vera*, which is one of the plants. *Aloe vera* is reported to have pharmacological effects that include anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, antioxidant, antiviral, and antifungal effects. It is also said to have hypoglycemic effects when consumed. Aloe plants come in more than 300 types, although only a few of them are studied, primarily *Aloe barbadensis* Miller and *Aloe aborescens*. It was discovered to lessen gum irritation, edema, and bleeding. Also, it functions as a potent antibacterial in locations where pockets have formed and frequent oral hygiene is challenging. It can also be used in post extractions and is a potent healer booster. Jain J et. al (2016) investigated the antibacterial effect of *aloe vera* gel against oral pathogens and he had suggested that





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aloevera has showed antibacterial property against most of the periodontal pathogens Aggregatibacteractinomycetemcomitans, Clostridiumbacilli, Streptococcusmutans and Staphylococcus aureus.⁴³

Lemon grass

Due to its extensive spectrum of antibacterial, antiemetic, anti-rheumatic, analgesic, antispasmodic, and antipyretic qualities, it is one of the widely used medicinal herbs in teas, cosmetics, and traditional medicine. Its main components are phenol and flavonoids, which have a variety of biological properties both in vitro and in vivo, including antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and anti-mutagenic properties. Lemongrass essential oil inhibits the growth of numerous species of *Actinomyceslundii* and *Porphyromonas gingivalis*, which have demonstrated resistance to tetracycline hydrochloride, at concentrations as low as 2%. It also demonstrates inhibition of most oral infections at various doses [44].

Green tea

Recent years have seen a rise in interest in green tea due to its concentration of bioactive compounds. It is particularly abundant in flavonoids, particularly catechins, which along with other derivatives has strong antibacterial and anti-inflammatory properties. It has a number of medicinal actions, including anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, anti-collagenase, anti-caries, antifungal, antiviral, and antibacterial properties. Additionally, green tea contains tocopherols, carotenoids, ascorbic acid (vitamin C), minerals like Cr, Mn, Se, or Zn, and a few phytochemicals. The polyphenolic substance epigallocatechingallate is thought to be responsible for the green tea's healthiest effects. (EGCG). Matrix metalloproteinase-9 expression in osteoblasts was considerably reduced by green tea catechin (EGCG), which also suppresses the growth of osteoclasts. Thus, EGCG have shown to prevent resorption of the alveolar bone which usually occurs in periodontitis [45]. Another study found that green tea catechins prevent *Porphyromonas gingivalis* from adhering to oral mucosal cells, particularly buccal epithelial cells [46].

Tea tree oil

Tea tree oil is recognized as one of the most well-known essential oil which is derived from the distillation of the leaves of the *Melaleuca alternifolia* tree (TTO). TTO has a broad-spectrum of antiviral, antioxidant and anti-inflammatory antimicrobial, antifungal, effect. Mageed et al (2015) [47] investigated the antimicrobial effects of green tea extracts on *Porphyromonas gingivalis* and found that alcoholic green tea extract was able to inhibit and kill *Porphyromonas gingivalis*. Terpineol-4 and 1,8-cineol were found to be the two components in the study by Carson et al. [48] that provide the oil its phytotherapeutic capabilities. The substance's terpineol content cannot be less than 30%, and its cineol content cannot be higher than 15%, under the international standard ISO. In higher concentrations, cineol will make up a toxic and irritating part of the oil and needs to be balanced by the addition of enough terpineol to demonstrate helpful characteristics without any issues.

Curcumin

Turmeric (the common name for *Curcuma longa*) is an Indian spice variety which is belonging to the rhizomes variety, a member of the Zingiberaceae family. There are various active constituents derived from turmeric include the three curcuminoids: Curcumin (diferuloylmethane), bisdemethoxycurcumin and demethoxycurcumin and volatile oils such as (turmerone, atlantone, and zingiberone) along with various varieties of plant sugars, proteins, and resins [49]. Curcumin was a major part of Indian cosmetic preparations and were used widely for all type of skin diseases and as a disinfectant, it exhibits anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, anticarcinogenic and antimicrobial properties. Curcumin acts on the inflammatory process by down-regulating activity of cyclooxygenase-2, lipoxygenase, and inducible nitric oxide synthase enzymes and inhibits the production of the initial inflammatory chemokines and cytokines. Izui S et. al (2015) [50] investigated the antibacterial effect of curcumin on periodontopathic bacteria, particularly *Porphyromonas gingivalis* and suggested that Curcumin possesses many antimicrobial activity against periodontal bacteria, and thereby preventing periodontal disease progression.



**Kevin Rajet al.,****Oak**

Oak tree have been used extensively in the ancient times fir various purposes even though it is of soft wood type as to store beverages for a longer period of time and also as a form of specie since it belong to the Fagacea family which is native to the Western Iran and has been traditionally used for the treatment of various conditions such as gastric ulcers, as antiseptic for superficial skin injuries and local inflammatory conditions with haemostatic, anti-bacterial, anti- nociceptive and anti-oxidant effects [51].

Coriander

C.Sativum is from the Umbelliferae family was extensively used in all its forms from leaf to roots in the Indian and Iranian folk medicines as a spasmolytic and carminative agent. The coriander leaves and seeds are major part of various North Indian and Persian dishes as a spice. The extracts from coriander leaves have shown various anti-inflammatory, analgesic, antibacterial and anti-oxidant properties due to the tannins present in it. Yaghini J (2014) [51] conducted a randomized double blinded controlled trial to evaluated and showed significant benefit in the clinical parameters by sub gingival application of gel formulations (extracts of coriander and oak) in periodontal pockets.

Babul

Babul bark contains tanins (24-42%) which has analgesic, anti-inflammatory properties. Commonly known Babul (*Aracia Arabica*) has the main component cyanogenic glycosides and numerous enzymes like oxidases, peroxidases and pectinases which act on the oxygen free radicals. In a recent study researchers have tried using both the gel and powder of this entity and found both of them as equally effective. Studies have shown evidences that the clinical efficacy of *Acacia Arabica* in reducing gingivitis subjects as equivalent to that of chlorhexidine although it has been also stated effective in inhibition of early plaque formation but in the later stages its role stands questionable [52].

Pomegranate

Pomegranate peel includes active compounds that contain polyphenolic flavonoids (such as Punicalagins and ellagic acid), which were widely used from the ancient times to treat gastric and epigastric issues. They are also believed to prevent gingivitis through a number of mechanisms, including a reduction in oxidative stress in the oral cavity, antioxidant activity, anti-inflammatory effects, and anti-bacterial effects, so there were noticeable clinical effects by using pomegranate juice as a mouthwash.⁵³In their study, Gomes LA (2016)⁵⁴ used *Galleria mellonella* as an in vivo model to assess the antibacterial efficacy of pomegranate glycolic extract (PGE) against the harmful periodontal infection, namely *Porphyromonas gingivalis*.

Miswak

Throughout Asia, Africa, and the Arab world, the root and bark of the Miswak tree (*Salvadorapersica*) have long been used in traditional folk medicine dating back more than a thousand years as a natural toothbrush. It has been used successfully to strengthen gums, prevent caries, clean the mouth, whiten teeth, and sweeten breath. The Miswak extracts have a wide range of biological activities, including considerable antiviral, antifungal, antibacterial, analgesic, and anti-inflammatory effects. They also have a hypoglycemic impact.⁵⁵

CONCLUSION

The information obtained suggests that using local medication administration in periodontitis as a supplement to scale and root planing can produce predictable periodontal health improvement for a longer length of time. Recent developments in medical science have produced potent medications that are used as local drug delivery in periodontal pockets to avoid the systemic metabolism. The clinical effects of various synthetic and natural products used as a supplement to scaling and root planing are highlighted in the review article, but additional investigation on herbal medicines is still required to prove their parity with allopathic antimicrobial preparations.



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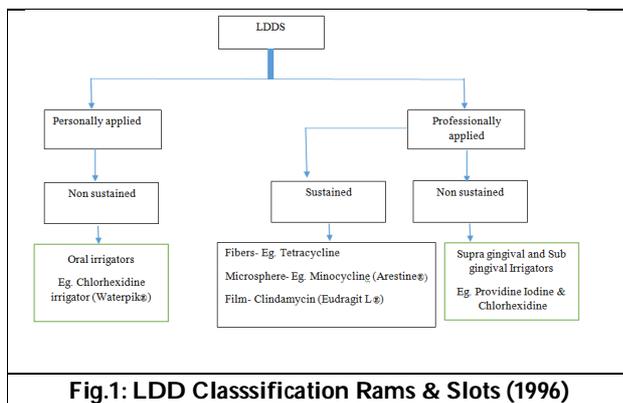


Fig.1: LDD Classification Rams & Slots (1996)

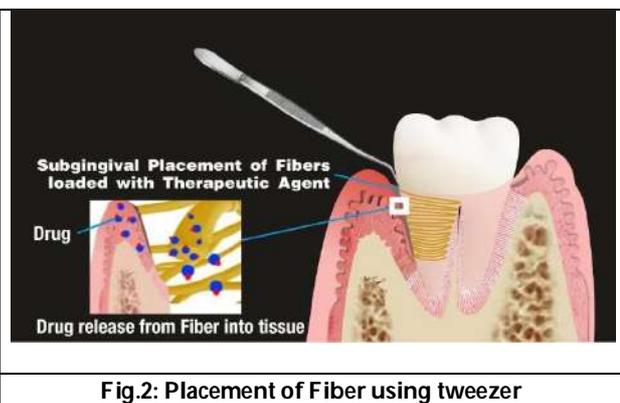


Fig.2: Placement of Fiber using tweezers





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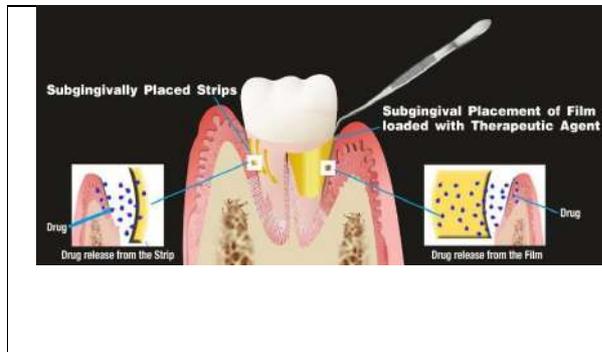


Fig.3: Placement of Film loaded with drug



Fig.4: Sub gingival placement of Gel loaded with drug



Fig.5: Sub gingival placement of Nano/Micro Particulate LDD

Product	Antimicrobial agent	Dosage form	Manufacturer	Action
Atrigel®	Doxycycline	Gel	Atridox (atrix Lab)	Inhibit protein synthesis
Elyzol®	Metronidazole	Gel	Dumexpharma	Interferes with nucleic acid metabolism
Periochip®	Chlorhexidine gluconate	Films	Adrian Pharmaceuticals, LLC	Bactericidal action via destroying the integrity of cell wall and precipitation of cytoplasmic components.
Dentomycine®	Minocycline	Biodegradable mix in syringe	Sunstar corp., Tokyo, Japa	Inhibits protein synthesis
Arestin®	Minocycline	microsphere	Oropharmacorp Warmunster	Inhibits protein synthesis
Perioline®	Minocycline	Ointment	Sunstar, Singapore	Inhibit protein synthesis
Actiste®	Tetracycline	Non resorbablefiber	Alza Corp. Palo Alto, CA, USA	Inhibits protein synthesis
OnSite®	Antibiotics	Fiber	Alza Corp. Palo Alto, CA, USA	Multiple mechanisms

Fig.6: Commercially available non Herbal LDD agents





Phytochemical and Pharmacological Review on *Garcinia talbotii* : A Latent Medicinal Plant

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ABSTRACT

Garcinia talbotii Raizada ex Santapau commonly known as "Tavir" in India, is an evergreen dioecious medium sized tree distributed in the semi evergreen to evergreen forests of Western Ghats. Leaves elliptic-oblong or ovate, 5–18 × 4–9 cm. Flowers creamy-white, white to greenish-yellow Fruits globular, 4–6 cm. Traditionally Dried fruits are used like tamarind in curries. *Garcinia* species has a lot of medicinal properties but Limited research work has been carried out for *G. talbotii* and scanty reports are available about phytochemical investigation and assessment of different biological activities, so a review work was carried out to study its phytochemical properties and biological activities.

Keywords: *Garcinia talbotii*, Phytochemical, Phytoconstituents, Characterization, Pharmacological screening

INTRODUCTION

Due to the presence of two key bioactive constituents, hydroxycitric acid and garcinol, *Garcinia* L. (Clusiaceae) is one of the medicinally and commercially noteworthy genera. There are 260 species in the genus, with the majority of them found in tropical areas, notably Asia [1]. With some species ranging as far as India and the Micronesian islands, as well as tropical Africa and the Neotropics, the Malaysian region is thought to be the centre of *Garcinia* diversity.[2] *Garcinia* has 39 species and 7 variants, of which 18 species and 5 varieties are native to India.[3] *Garcinia* species have received considerable attention worldwide from the scientific as well as industrial sectors due to the report of several bioactive structures such as biflavonoids, xanthenes and benzophenones.[4] Economically, the genus is crucial to several businesses, including food, modern medicine, and agriculture. The genus is significant because it



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provides a variety of useful products, including edible fruits, the highly prized phytochemical hydroxycitric acid (HCA), kokum butter, oleoresin, essential oils, and colouring agents [5]. *Garcinia talbotii* Raizada ex Santapau was considered as a species distributed in Western Ghats of India and was first reported from Gairsoppah Ghats, North Kanara, Karanataka[6]Due to its geographic limitations and improper exploration for usefulness and scientific importance, *G. talbotii* is an understudied species.[7]One of the indigenous species to the Western Ghats that yields edible fruits that may be utilised in culinary dishes is *Garcinia talbotii* Raizada ex Santapau. *Garcinia spicata* has the greatest concentration of xanthochymol in a quantitative HPLC-PDA investigation of benzophenones and biflavonoids in species of *Garcinia*. [8]

TAXONOMY

Kingdom	:	Plantae
Phylum	:	Tracheophyta
Class	:	Equisetopsida C. Agardh
Order	:	MalpighialesJuss. ex Bercht. & J. Presl
Family	:	Clusiaceae Lindl.
Genus	:	<i>Garcinia</i> L.
Species	:	<i>Garcinia talbotii</i> Raizada

PLANT DESCRIPTION

A dioecious medium-sized tree, 6–18 meters high; straight trunk; smooth, olive-green bark; sticky latex which thus eventually turns brownish; angular, thin, twiggy branches; branchlets with six angled, concave angles. The leaves are elliptic-oblong or ovate, 5-18 4-9 cm, with a base that is rounded, entire margins, and an obtuse, retuse, or acute-acuminate apex. The midrib is prominent, and the lateral veins are 16-18 or more pairs, distinct, parallel, with petioles that are up to 1.8 cm long [anatomy: curved open vascular strand with no gap]. Male plants have many, 5-8 mm long spikes on old wood; female plants don't have spikes. In both male and female plants, the fasciculate inflorescence has flowers numbered 3–12. Flowers are creamy-white to greenish-yellow, with five orbicular, concave, green sepals and five orbicular or suborbicular, concave petals that are either light green or whitish yellow in colour. Male flowers have pedicels that are 5-8 mm long, thick stamens that are arranged in five spatulate bundles, 8–12 reddish anthers on each phalange, and extremely short, free filaments. Absence of rudimentary pistil Female flowers have pedicels that are 0.4 to 1 cm long, staminodes that are five in number, are thin, flattened bundles, and each phalange has four or five anthers. Globular, two or three-locular ovary; three-lobed stigma; thin at base; persistent; thick; and black. Fruits are spherical, measuring 4-6 cm; immature fruits are smooth, dark green, devoid of ridges and furrows; matured fruits are smooth, golden, and odorous; Acidic and bitter pulp; one or two broadly oblongoid, brown seeds that measure 2.5-3 1.2-1.5 cm.

Flowering and Fruiting: November – May

Vernacular names: Kannada: Haldi, Ont

Marathi: Undal, Tavir, Phansada, Chivar, Limboti, [9,10,11]

Geographical Distribution

Garcinia talbotii is found in the Western Ghats' semi-evergreen to evergreen forests of India [12].

Traditional Use

The fruits yield an inferior quality of yellow gum. Similar to tamarind, dried fruits are used in curries.

Phytochemistry

By using GC-FID, GC-MS, and ¹³C NMR, the essential oils were examined. The Rxi-5 Sil MS capillary column (5% phenyl and 95% dimethyl polysiloxane, 30 m x 0.25 mm, 0.25 m film thickness, Restek USA) was used for GC-FID analysis on a Shimadzu GC-2010 Plus Gas Chromatograph (Shimadzu, Japan). In both the GC-FID and GC-MS under splitless conditions, 1 L of the diluted oil in diethyl ether (1:50 dilution) was injected. Conditions for GC operation include: a carrier gas of N₂ flowing at a rate of 3 mL/min; an injector temperature of 270°C; an oven temperature

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programme of 60-250°C (3°C/min); and a hold duration of 2 minutes at 250°C. The peak area percent report of volatiles from GC-FID data was used to calculate relative percentages of cinnamaldehyde. A Hewlett Packard 6890 Gas Chromatograph equipped with an HP-5 (5% phenyl 95% dimethyl polysiloxane, 30 m x 0.32 mm, 0.25 m film thickness) capillary column and a Model 5973 mass detector was used to perform the GC-MS study. Conditions for GC-MS operation include: He at 1.4 mL/min as the carrier gas; injector temperature of 220°C; transfer line of 240°C; oven temperature programme of 60-250°C (3°C/min). Ion source temperature: 240°C; mass spectrum: Electron Impact (EI+) mode, 70 eV; mass range: 40 to 450 m/z.

Using common C6-C30 hydrocarbons (Aldrich Chemical Company, USA), relative retention indices (RRIs) of the components in HP-5 column were calculated (Dool and Kratz, 1963). Wiley 275.L and NIST 05.L database matching, Co-GC with genuine standards, comparison of retention indices, and comparison of constituent mass spectra with published data were used to identify individual components (Adams, 2007). Structures were also confirmed using ¹³C NMR. The essential oils of 9 different *Garcinia* species included a total of 99 different chemicals. Relative retention index determined on HP-5 column for *Garcinia gummi-gutta*, *Garcinia imberti*, *Garcinia indica*, *Garcinia morella*, *Garcinia pushpangadaniana*, *Garcinia rubro-echinata*, *Garcinia talbotii*, *Garcinia wightii*, and *Garcinia travancorica* [13].

The ubiquitous sesquiterpene hydrocarbons β -caryophyllene and the isomeric compound α -humulene were present in all the *Garcinia* species. The maximum content of β -caryophyllene was in *Garcinia imberti* (38.1%), followed by *Garcinia rubro-echinata* (37.9%), *Garcinia albotii* (30.4%), *Garcinia wightii* (19.0%), *Garcinia indica* (18.6%) and *Garcinia pushpangadaniana* (11.4%). Except in *Garcinia rubro-echinata* and *Garcinia morella*, β -caryophyllene was in higher amount compared to α -humulene. α -Humulene was present in significant quantity in *Garcinia rubro-echinata* (40.6%), *Garcinia imberti* (30.5%), *Garcinia indica* (17.6%), *Garcinia morella* (18.5%) and *Garcinia talbotii* (10.7%). α -Copaene was the major compound in *Garcinia gummi-gutta* (30.2%), *Garcinia talbotii* (27.0%) and *Garcinia travancorica* (15.8%). β -Copaene was the major compound in *Garcinia morella* (49.4%). α -Selinene and β -selinene were present in significant quantity in *Garcinia indica* (18.2 and 12.3% respectively). δ -Cadinene (13.1%), γ -cadinene (12.4%) and γ -muurolene (11.7%) were predominant in *Garcinia pushpangadaniana*. The unusually high concentration of bicyclogermacrene (22.6%) was found in *Garcinia wightii*. Although petrochemicals serve as the basis for synthetic perfumery compounds, natural isolates derived from plant sources are preferred to synthetics in many ways, and the taste and fragrance industries are negatively impacted by the discovery of new sources for natural scent chemicals. The Western Ghats' *Garcinia* species are thought to be a rich source of volatile compounds including caryophyllene, humulene, and undecane [14].

HPTLC ANALYSIS

The leaf methanol extracts were analysed using Camag HPTLC system, using silica gel HPTLC plates (Kieselgel 60 F 254, 20 cm x 20 cm, 0.2 mm thickness, Merck, Germany). The extracts were spotted by means of Camag Linomat V fitted with a Hamilton microlitre syringe. The plates were developed using chloroform: methanol (17:3) in the CAMAG twin-trough glass chamber, previously saturated with the solvent for 30 minutes. The mobile phase compositions were chosen after testing different solvent systems of varying polarity. The flavonoid profile was obtained on exposure of the plate to NH₃ vapour.

Biflavonoids, xanthenes and benzophenones are the major phenolic compounds present in *Garcinia* species and the HPTLC of the methanol extracts represents the phenolic profile, especially the biflavonoids that shows intense fluorescence under exposure to NH₃ vapour. The secondary metabolite profile revealed that *Garcinia axanthochymus*, *Garcinia talbotii* and the new taxon comes under the same group and the presence of characteristic spots to the new taxon supports its species status.

Methanolic extracts of the leaves were quantitatively analyzed by Waters Acquity UPLC™ system (Waters, Milford, MA, USA) hyphenated with hybrid linear ion trap triple-quadrupole mass spectrometer (API 4000 QTRAP™ MS/MS system from AB Sciex, Concord, ON, Canada) using electro spray (Turbo V) ion source. Chromatographic



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separation of analytes was carried out on an Aquity UPLC BEH C18 column (50 mm × 2.1 mm id, 1.7 μm) using gradient. The UHPLC-ESI-MS/MS analysis showed significant chemical variation among the nine *Garcinia* species. Among the twenty-six multi-class bioactive constituents, organic acids were the major class of compounds in *Garciniarubro-echinata*, *Garcinia gummi-gutta* and *Garcinia indica*. Hydroxycitric acid lactone or garcinia acid was the major constituent in the leaf extract of *Garciniarubro-echinata*, *Garcinia gummi-gutta*, and *Garcinia indica*. The acid content was highest in *Garcinia gummi-gutta* (308.0 mg/g) while *Garcinia talbotii* possess the least acid content (7.0 mg/g) [18,19]. Biflavonoids were the major class of compounds in *Garcinia amberti*, *Garcinia morella*, *Garcinia pushpangadaniana*, *Garcinia talbotii*, *Garcinia travancorica* and *Garcinia wightii*. The biflavonoid content was highest in *Garcinia morella*, followed by *Garcinia pushpangadaniana*. Among the five biflavonoids screened, GB-1 and GB-1a were the major ones distributed in the *Garcinia* species. *Garcinia* biflavonoid,

GB-1 was the major constituent in the leaf extract of *Garcinia morella*, *Garcinia pushpangadaniana* and *Garcinia wightii*. Fukugiside, GB-2 and GB-1 were the major components in the leaf extracts of *Garcinia talbotii*. Two biflavones namely talbotflavone (Ia) and morelloflavone (IIa) from the roots of *Garcinia talbotii*. [20] *Garcinia talbotii* extracts possessed moderate to considerable leishmanicidal activity. [21]

Preliminary Phytochemical screening

Phytochemical analysis of several *Garcinia indica* and *Garcinia talbotii* leaf extracts. Extracts of *Garcinia indica* and *Garcinia talbotii* in methanol, ethanol, and alcohol revealed the presence of alkaloids, terpenoids, flavones, carbohydrates, glycosides, saponins, phenols, proteins, and amino acids as well as catechol and reducing sugar. Steroid, flavonoid, and gallic tannin testing came out negative. [22,23]

Total phenolic content and total flavonoid content

The Folin-Ciocalteu technique was used to calculate the total phenolic content of the methanolic extract and to quantify it in percent dry powder as Gallic acid equivalents. The value is 2.6090.130%. [23] The total phenolic content of *Garcinia talbotii* hydro-alcoholic extract was determined to be 7.090.16, 3.940.09, 4.440.08, 2.810.10, 0.940.02, and 1.990.04 correspondingly in hexane, ethyl acetate, methanol, and water. The total phenolic content of *Garcinia talbotii* hydro-alcoholic extract was determined to be 7.090.16, 3.940.09, 4.440.08, 2.810.10, 0.940.02, and 1.990.04 correspondingly in hexane, ethyl acetate, methanol, and hydro-alcoholic [24]. Total flavonoid content was determined by ACl3 method. Results were expressed as mg/100 g dry powder as Quercetin equivalents. The TFC of *Garcinia talbotii* was observed to be 5.043±0.252 mg/100 g [23].

Pharmacological screening**Antioxidant activity****DPPH assay**

Using the DPPH test, the antioxidant activity of *Garcinia talbotii* was also assessed. The results indicate a radical scavenging activity (RSA) of 73.513.68%. [23]. The DPPH technique was used to assess the free radical scavenging capacity of *Garcinia talbotii* extracts. Gallic acid and trolox were employed as a control. Plotting was done between the concentration of *Garcinia talbotii* extracts and the percentage of DPPH free radicals that were scavenged. The concentration (g mL⁻¹) that causes 50% inhibition (IC₅₀) was determined. High levels of antioxidant activity were detected in hexane extract, which was equivalent to the reference antioxidants used in the current study. For comparison, the IC₅₀ values for the antioxidants trolox and gallic acid were 6.22 0.11 and 3.45 0.09, respectively. The IC₅₀ (g mL⁻¹) value for *Garcinia talbotii* extracts changed in the order of: Water comes before ethanol, methanol, ethyl acetate, chloroform, and hexane [24].

ABTS assay

Hexane extract showed the lowest IC₅₀ (g mL⁻¹) value in the ABTS assay of *Garcinia talbotii* extracts, followed by chloroform, ethyl acetate, and methanol extracts. The IC₅₀ values for water and hydro-alcohol extracts were rather high. The IC₅₀ values for trolox and gallic acid were 6.96 0.08 and 4.33 0.12 g mL⁻¹, respectively [24].



**Abhishek Vilas Desai and Jameel Ahmed S. Mulla****Reducing power**

The capacity of the extract to change ferric ion (Fe⁺³) into ferrous ion (Fe⁺²) was tested in order to determine the reducing power of the extract. In this test, the ferric ion (red) transforms into the ferrous ion, causing the solution's yellow colour to become blue (blue). At 700 nm, absorbance was measured. An extract with higher absorbance was more likely to be an antioxidant. Only the hexane extract had a low IC₅₀ value here. Extracts in chloroform and ethyl acetate came next. Hydro-alcohol (83.850.23), methanol, and water extracts all obtained relatively high IC₅₀ values. The IC₅₀ values for trolox and gallic acid were 5.030.13 and 4.620.11, respectively, g mL⁻¹. [24]

Antibacterial Activity

For the experiment, DMSO was used to dissolve the plant extracts. Antimicrobial susceptibility testing was performed with the Kirby-Bauer technique. Briefly, the 0.5 McFarland standards (1.5 x 10⁸ CFU/ml) were reached by incubating the Mueller Hinton Broth (MHB) containing particular organisms at 37°C. By swabbing the swab across the whole sterile agar surface, the dry surface of the Mueller-Hinton agar plate is infected. The extract-impregnated discs were set on Mueller Hinton agar and incubated there for 16–18 hours at 37°C. Following incubation, the diameters of the full inhibitory zones, including the disc's diameter, were measured. The extracts were generally ineffective against the tested bacterial strains. The modest efficacy against the gram-positive *Bacillus subtilis* for all extracts with the exception of *Garcinia indica* was a noteworthy finding.^[25] It's noteworthy to note that earlier studies have shown that *Garcinia* extracts and chemicals have anti-Gram-positive strain action, notably against *Bacillus subtilis*. [25,26,27]

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Table 1: Contents (mg/g) of twenty-six investigated bioactive constituents in the leaf extracts of *Garcinia talbotii* distributed in the Western Ghats [15]

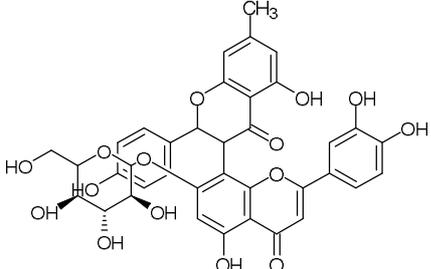
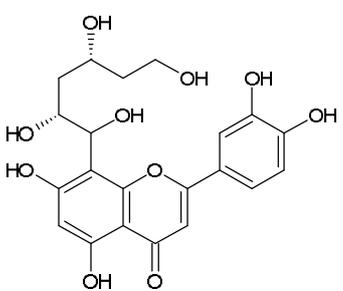
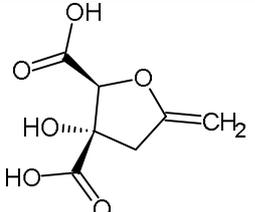
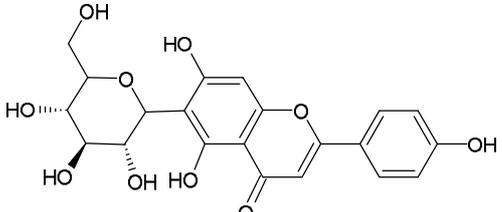
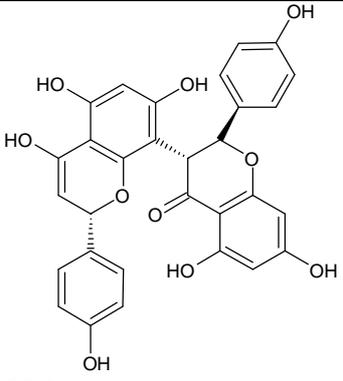
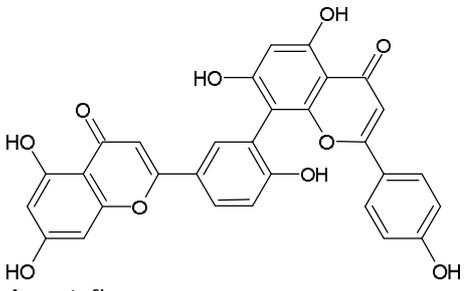
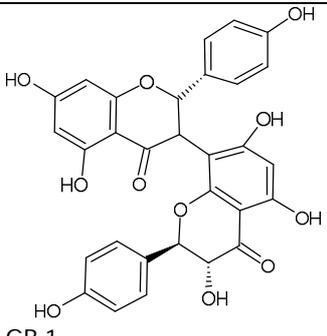
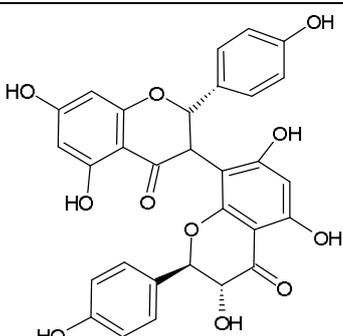
Sr. No.	Analytes (mg/g)	<i>G. talbotii</i>
Organic acids		
1	Hydroxycitric acid	1.2
2	Garcinia acid	5.83
Phenolic acids		
3	Protocatechuic acid	0.341
4	Caffeic acid	0.34
5	Ferulic acid	0.117
6	Vanillic acid	0.107
Flavonoids		
7	Epicatechin	0.199
8	Isoorientin	1.02
9	Orientin	0.614
10	Isovitexin	3.38
11	Vitexin	1.59
12	Kaempferol-3-O-rutinoside	0.007
Rutinoside		
13	Luteolin	0.042
14	Quercetin	0.077
15	Apigenin	0.687
16	Kaempferol	0.281
Biflavonoids		
17	Fukugiside	52.10
18	GB-2	28.3
19	GB-1	25.8
20	GB-1 a	6.24
21	Amentoflavone	1.443
Xanthones		
22	Mangostin	0.002
23	Gambogic acid	2.89
Benzophenones		
24	Garcinol	0.262
Triterpenoids		
25	Ursolic acid	0.92
26	Betulinic acid	3.75





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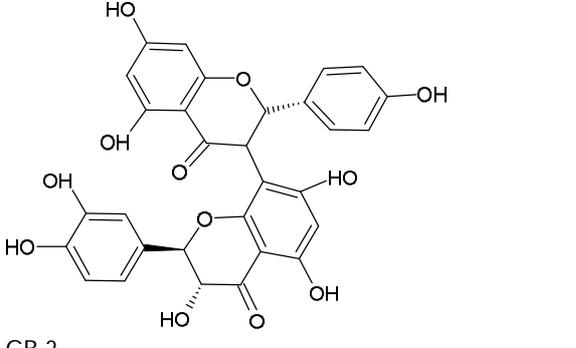
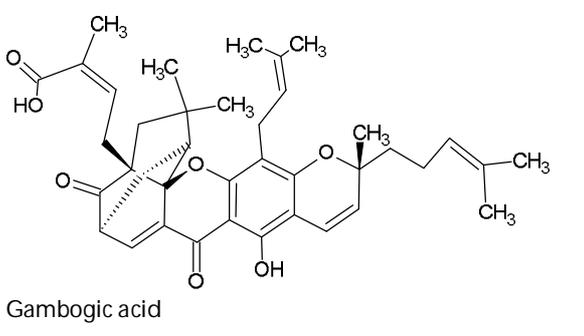
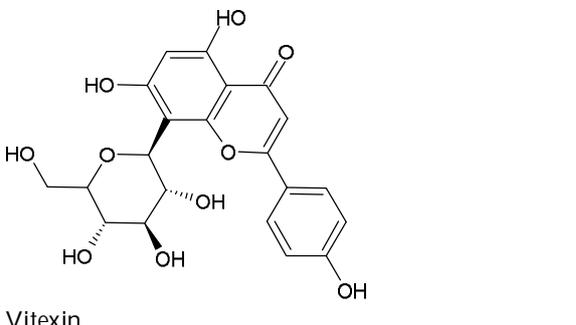
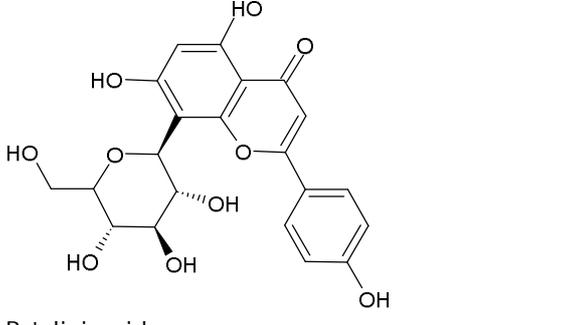
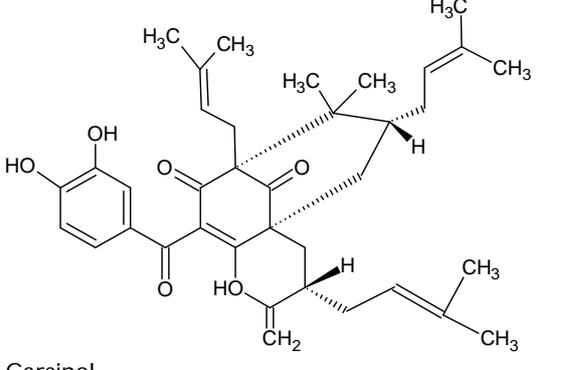
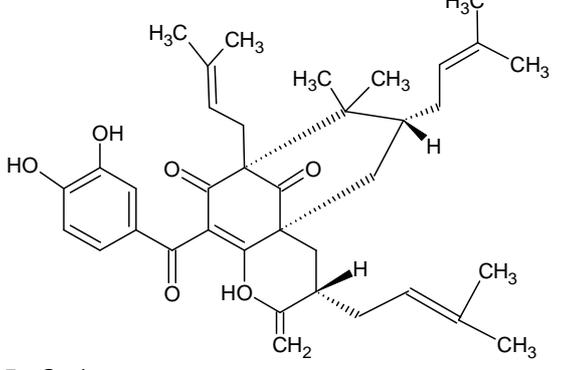
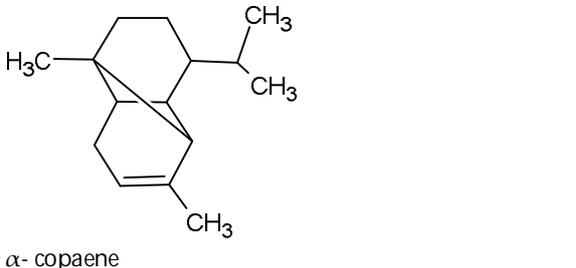
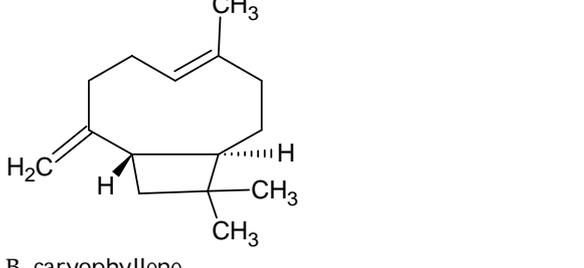
Table 2: Phytoconstituents present in *Garcinia talbotii*

 <p>Fukugiside</p>	 <p>Orientin</p>
 <p>Garcinia acid</p>	 <p>Isovitexin</p>
 <p>GB-1 a</p>	 <p>Amentoflavone</p>
 <p>GB-1</p>	 <p>Ursolic acid</p>





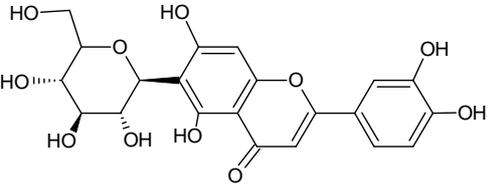
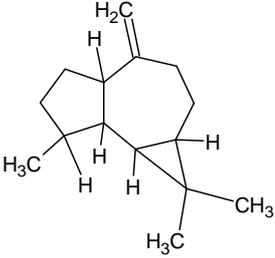
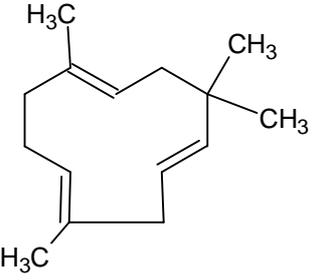
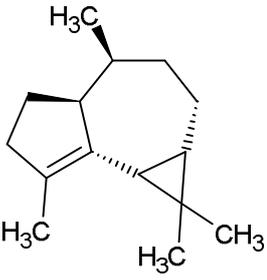
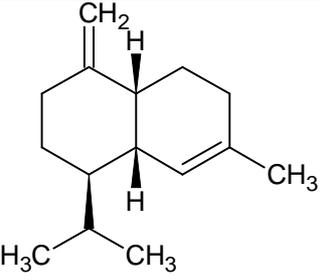
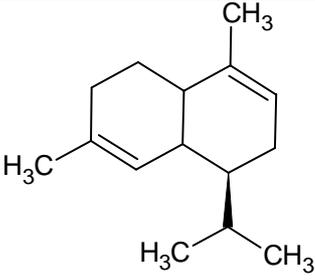
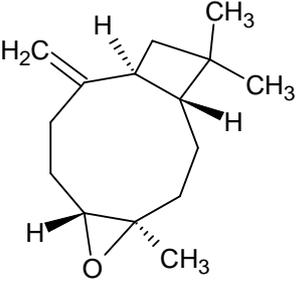
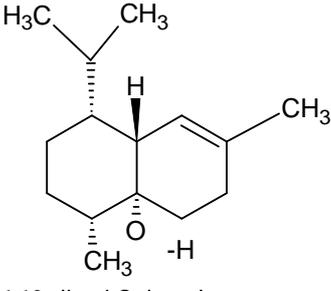
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 <p>GB-2</p>	 <p>Gambogic acid</p>
 <p>Vitexin</p>	 <p>Betulinic acid</p>
 <p>Garcinol</p>	 <p>B - Gurjunene</p>
 <p>α-copaene</p>	 <p>B-caryophyllene</p>





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 <p>Isoorientin</p>	 <p>Aromadendrene</p>
 <p>α - Humulene</p>	 <p>α - Gurjunene</p>
 <p>γ- Muurolene</p>	 <p>α - Amorphene</p>
 <p>Caryophyllene oxide</p>	 <p>1,10-di-epi Cubenol</p>





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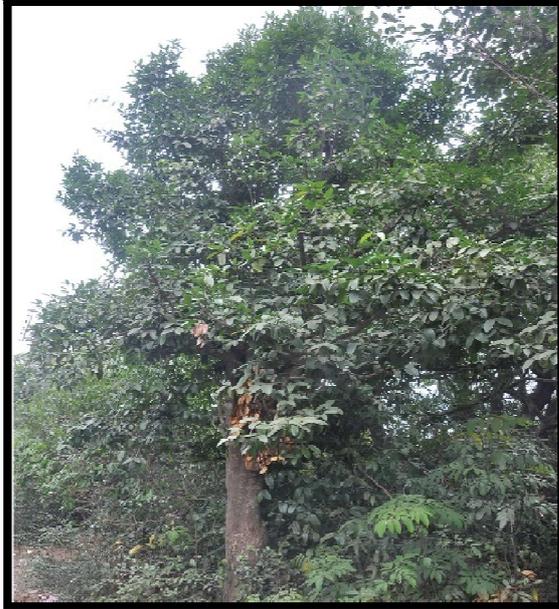


Fig. 1 Plant *Garcinia talbotii*



Fig. 2 Flowers of *Garcinia talbotii*



Fig. 3 Unripe fruits of *Garcinia talbotii*



Fig. 4 Ripe fruits of *Garcinia talbotii*





On Edge Improper Interval - Valued Complex Fuzzy Graphs

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ABSTRACT

In this paper edge improper, edge totally improper interval-valued complex fuzzy graphs were defined and some properties on standard graphs with special membership function were examined.

Keywords: Interval-valued complex fuzzy graph, edge degree in interval-valued complex fuzzy graph, total edge degree in interval-valued complex fuzzy graph, improper interval-valued complex fuzzy graph.

AMS subject classification: 05C72

INTRODUCTION

Graph theory has established itself as an important mathematical tool in a wide variety of subjects, ranging from operational research and chemistry to genetics and linguistics, and from electrical engineering and geography to sociology. One of the unmistakable scientific innovations of the twentieth century is that of fuzzy graph was introduced by Kauffman[2]. Zadeh [8] further proposed concept of an interval-valued fuzzy set. Interval-valued fuzzy sets were proposed as a natural extension of fuzzy sets. Interval-valued fuzzy graphs provide a more adequate description of uncertainty than traditional fuzzy graphs. Buckley [1] and Nguyen et al. combined complex numbers with fuzzy sets. Thirunavukarasu et al. extended this concept for complex fuzzy graphs.





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PRELIMINARIES

We present some known definitions related to fuzzy graphs and interval-valued complex fuzzy graphs for ready reference to go through the work presented in this paper.

Definition 2.1. [3] Let $G = (A, B)$ be an interval-valued fuzzy graph where $A = [\mu_A^-, \mu_A^+]$ and $B = [\mu_B^-, \mu_B^+]$ be two interval-valued fuzzy sets on a non-empty finite set V and $E \subseteq V \times V$ respectively. G is said to be irregular interval-valued fuzzy graph if there exists a vertex which is adjacent to a vertex with distinct degrees.

Definition 2.2. [7] A interval-valued complex fuzzy graph with an underlying set F is defined to be a pair $G = (S, T)$, where $S = [\mu_S^-, \mu_S^+]$ is an ivcf set on F and $T = [\mu_T^-, \mu_T^+]$ is a ivcf set on $I \subseteq F \times F$ such that
 $\mu_T^-(jl)e^{i\alpha_T(jl)} \leq \min\{\mu_S^-(j), \mu_S^-(l)\}e^{i\min\{\alpha_S^-(j), \alpha_S^-(l)\}}$
 $\mu_T^+(jl)e^{i\beta_T(jl)} \leq \min\{\mu_S^+(j), \mu_S^+(l)\}e^{i\min\{\beta_S^+(j), \beta_S^+(l)\}}$ for all $j, l \in F$.

Definition 2.3. [8] Let $G: (S, T)$ be an ivcf graph on $G^*(F, I)$. If each edge in G has the same degree $(k_1e^{is_1\pi}, k_2e^{is_2\pi})$, then G is said to be an edge proper ivcf-graph.

Definition 2.4. [8] Let $G: (S, T)$ be an ivcf graph on $G^*(F, I)$. If each edge in G has the same total degree $(c_1e^{it_1\pi}, c_2e^{it_2\pi})$, then G is said to be an edge totally proper ivcf-graph.

Edge Improper Interval-Valued Complex Fuzzy Graphs and Highly Edge Improper Interval-Valued Complex Fuzzy Graphs

Definition 3.1. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. Then G is said to be an improper ivcf-graph if there exists a vertex which is adjacent to the vertices with distinct degrees.

Definition 3.2. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. Then G is said to be a totally improper ivcf-graph if there exists a vertex which is adjacent to the vertices with distinct totaldegrees.

Definition 3.3. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. Then G is said to be an edge improper ivcf-graph if there exists at least one edge which is adjacent to the edges having distinct degrees.

Definition 3.4. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. Then G is said to be an edge totally improper ivcf-graph if there exists at least one edge which is adjacent to the edges having distinct total degrees.

Definition 3.5. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. Then G is said to be a highly edge improper ivcf-graph if every edge is adjacent to the edges having distinct degrees.

Definition 3.6. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. Then G is said to be a highly edge totally improper ivcf-graph if every edge is adjacent to the edges having distinct total degrees.

Definition 3.7. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. Then G is said to be a strongly edge improper ivcf-graph if every pair of edges having distinct degrees.

Definition 3.8. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. Then G is said to be a strongly edge totally improper ivcf-graph if every pair of edges having distinct total degrees.

Theorem 3.9. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. If G is highly edge improper ivcf-graph, then G is an edge improper ivcf-graph.





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Proof. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. Let us assume that G is highly edge improper ivcf-graph. Then each edge in G is adjacent to the edges having distinct degrees. Thus, there exists at least one edge which is adjacent to the edges having distinct degrees. Hence G is edge improper ivcf-graph.

Theorem 3.10. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. If G is highly edge improper ivcf-graph, then G is an edge totally improper ivcf-graph.

Proof. Proof is similar to Theorem 3.9.

Example 3.11. Consider an ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$

In Figure.1, every edge is adjacent to the edges having distinct degrees. Hence G is highly edge improper and highly edge totally improper ivcf-graph. Also, it is edge improper and edge totally improper ivcf-graph.

Theorem 3.12. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$ and T is a constant function. If G is highly edge improper ivcf-graph, then G is highly edge totally improper ivcf-graph.

Proof. Assume that T is a constant function, let $T(lh) = (r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi})$ for all lh in I , where $(r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi})$ is a constant. Suppose that G is highly edge improper ivcf-graph. Then every edge is adjacent to the edges having distinct degrees. Now lh be any edge which is adjacent to the edges lj, lk which are incident at the vertex l and hf is the edge incident with vertex h . Then $d_l(lj) \neq d_l(lk) \neq d_l(hf)$, where lj, lk and hf are adjacent to the edge lh in I . Now, $d_l(lj) \neq d_l(lk) \neq d_l(hf) \Rightarrow d_l(lj) + (r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi}) \neq d_l(lk) + (r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi}) \neq d_l(hf) + (r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi}) \Rightarrow d_l(lj) + T(lj) \neq d_l(lk) + T(lk) \neq d_l(hf) + T(hf) \Rightarrow td_l(lj) \neq td_l(lk) \neq td_l(hf)$, where lj, lk and hf are adjacent to the edge lh in I . Hence G is highly edge totally improper ivcf-graph.

Theorem 3.13. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. If G is strongly edge improper ivcf-graph, then G is highly edge improper ivcf-graph.

Proof. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. Let us assume that G is strongly edge improper ivcf-graph. Then every pair of edges in G having distinct degrees. So, every edge in G is adjacent to the edges having distinct degrees. Hence G is highly edge improper ivcf-graph.

Theorem 3.14. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$ and T is constant function. If G is highly improper ivcf-graph, then G is highly edge improper ivcf-graph.

Proof. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. Assume that T is a constant function, let $T(lh) = (r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi})$ for all lh in I , where $(r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi})$ is a constant. Let lh be any edge which is adjacent to the edges lj, lk which are incident at the vertex l and hy is an edge incident with vertex h . Let us suppose that G is highly improper ivcf-graph \Rightarrow every vertex is adjacent to the vertices have distinct degrees $\Rightarrow d_l(h) \neq d_l(j) \neq d_l(k)$ and $d_l(l) \neq d_l(y) \Rightarrow d_l(l) + d_l(h) \neq d_l(l) + d_l(j) \neq d_l(l) + d_l(k)$ and $d_l(l) + d_l(h) \neq d_l(y) + d_l(h) \Rightarrow d_l(l) + d_l(h) - 2(r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi}) \neq d_l(l) + d_l(j) - 2(r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi}) \neq d_l(l) + d_l(k) - 2(r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi})$ and $d_l(l) + d_l(h) - 2(r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi}) \neq d_l(h) + d_l(y) - 2(r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi}) \Rightarrow d_l(l) + d_l(h) - 2T(lh) \neq d_l(l) + d_l(j) - 2T(lj) \neq d_l(l) + d_l(k) - 2T(lk)$ and $d_l(l) + d_l(h) - 2T(lh) \neq d_l(h) + d_l(y) - 2T(hy) \Rightarrow d_l(lh) \neq d_l(lj) \neq d_l(lk)$ and $d_l(lh) \neq d_l(hy) \Rightarrow d_l(lh) \neq d_l(lj) \neq d_l(lk) \neq d_l(hy) \Rightarrow$ any edge lh adjacent with the edges lj, lk and hy having distinct degrees. Hence G is highly edge improper ivcf-graph.

Theorem 3.15. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$ and T is constant function. If G is an edge improper ivcf-graph, then G is an improper ivcf-graph.

Proof .Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. Assume that T is a constant function, let $T(lh) = (r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi})$ for all lh in I , where $(r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi})$ is a constant. Let lh be an edge which is adjacent to the edges lj and lk which are incident at the vertex l and hf is an edge incident with vertex h . Let us suppose that G is an edge improper ivcf-graph \Rightarrow there exist an edge adjacent with the edge have distinct degrees $\Rightarrow d_l(lj) \neq d_l(lk) \neq d_l(hf) \Rightarrow d_l(l) + d_l(j) - 2T(lj) \neq d_l(l) + d_l(k) - 2T(lk) \neq d_l(h) + d_l(f) - 2T(hf) \Rightarrow d_l(l) + d_l(j) - 2(r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi}) \neq d_l(l) + d_l(k) - 2(r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi}) \neq d_l(h) + d_l(f) - 2(r_1e^{is_1\pi}, r_2e^{is_2\pi})$





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$\Rightarrow d_l(l) + d_l(j) \neq d_l(l) + d_l(k) \neq d_l(h) + d_l(f) \Rightarrow d_l(j) \neq d_l(k) \Rightarrow$ there exist a vertex l adjacent to the vertices with distinct degrees. Hence G is an improper ivcf-graph.

Theorem 3.16. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$ and T is constant function. If G is strongly improper ivcf-graph, then G is an edge improper ivcf-graph.

Proof. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$. Assume that T is a constant function, let $T(lh) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$ for all lh in I , where $(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$ is a constant. Let lh be an edge which is adjacent with edges lj and lk which are incident at the vertex l and hy is an edge incident with vertex h . Let us suppose that G is strongly improper ivcf-graph \Rightarrow every pair of vertices have distinct degrees $\Rightarrow d_l(l) \neq d_l(h) \neq d_l(j) \neq d_l(k) \neq d_l(y) \Rightarrow d_l(h) + d_l(y) - 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) \neq d_l(h) + d_l(l) - 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) \neq d_l(l) + d_l(k) - 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$
 $\neq d_l(l) + d_l(j) - 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) \Rightarrow d_l(h) + d_l(y) - 2T(hy) \neq d_l(h) + d_l(l) - 2T(hl)$
 $\neq d_l(l) + d_l(k) - 2T(lk) \neq d_l(l) + d_l(j) - 2T(lj) \Rightarrow d_l(hy) \neq d_l(hl) \neq d_l(lk) \neq d_l(lj)$

\Rightarrow there exist an edges lh adjacent with the edges lj and lk have distinct degrees. Hence G is an edge improper ivcf-graph.

Highly Edge Improper and Edge Improper on a Path, Cycle and Combo graph with some specific membership function

Theorem 4.1. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$, a path on $2p, (p > 1)$ vertices. If all the edges have the same membership value, then G is both an edge improper ivcf-graph and G is an edge totally improper ivcf-graph. But we noted that G is not highly edge improper ivcf-graph and G is not highly edge totally improper ivcf-graph.

Proof. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a connected ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$, a path on $2p, (p > 1)$ vertices. Let $e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_{2p-1}$ be the edges of the path G^* in that order. If all the edges have the same membership value $(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$ then

$$d_l(e_1) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) - 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) \quad d_l(e_i) = 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) - 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$$

for $i = 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots, 2p - 3, 2p - 2$.

$$d_l(e_{2p-1}) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) - 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$$

It is noted that the adjacent edges of e_2 are e_1 and e_3 which are having distinct degrees and the edge e_3 is adjacent to e_2 and e_4 with same degree. Hence G is an edge improper ivcf-graph but not highly edge improper ivcf-graph.

$$td_l(e_1) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) - 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) \quad td_l(e_i) = 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) - (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = 3(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$$

for $i = 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots, 2p - 3, 2p - 2$.

$$td_l(e_{2p-1}) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) - (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$$

It is noted that the adjacent edges of e_2 are e_1 and e_3 which are having distinct total degrees. Hence G is an edge totally improper ivcf-graph but G is not highly edge totally improper ivcf-graph.

Theorem 4.2. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a ivcf-graph such that $G^*: (F, I)$ is an even cycle of length $2p - 2$. If there alternative edges have the same membership value, then G is not an edge improper ivcf-graph and not an edge totally improper ivcf-graph.

Proof. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a ivcf-graph on $G^*: (F, I)$, an even cycle of length $2p - 2$. If there alternative edges have the same membership values, then

$$T(e_i) = \begin{cases} (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) & \text{if } i \text{ is odd} \\ (j_1 e^{ik_1\pi}, j_2 e^{ik_2\pi}) & \text{if } i \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

$$d_l(e_i) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + (j_1 e^{ik_1\pi}, j_2 e^{ik_2\pi}) + (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + (j_1 e^{ik_1\pi}, j_2 e^{ik_2\pi}) - 2(j_1 e^{ik_1\pi}, j_2 e^{ik_2\pi})$$

$$= 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}), \text{ for } i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2p - 2$$

$$d_l(e_i) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + (j_1 e^{ik_1\pi}, j_2 e^{ik_2\pi}) + (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + (j_1 e^{ik_1\pi}, j_2 e^{ik_2\pi}) - 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$$





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$$= 2(j_1 e^{ik_1\pi}, j_2 e^{ik_2\pi}), \text{ for } i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, 2p - 3, 2p - 1.$$

It is noted that the alternative edge have the same degree. Hence G is not an edge improper ivcf-graph and G is not highly edge improper ivcf-graph, but it is neighbourly edge improper ivcf-graph.

$$td_I(e_i) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + (j_1 e^{ik_1\pi}, j_2 e^{ik_2\pi}) + (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + (j_1 e^{ik_1\pi}, j_2 e^{ik_2\pi}) - (j_1 e^{ik_1\pi}, j_2 e^{ik_2\pi})$$

$$= 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + (j_1 e^{ik_1\pi}, j_2 e^{ik_2\pi}), \text{ for } i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2p - 2$$

$$td_I(e_i) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + (j_1 e^{ik_1\pi}, j_2 e^{ik_2\pi}) + (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + (j_1 e^{ik_1\pi}, j_2 e^{ik_2\pi}) - (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$$

$$= 2(j_1 e^{ik_1\pi}, j_2 e^{ik_2\pi}) + (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}), \text{ for } i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, 2p - 3, 2p - 1.$$

It is noted that the alternative edges have the same degree. Hence G is not an edge totally improper ivcf-graph and not highly edge totally improper ivcf-graph, but it is neighbourly edge improper ivcf-graph.

Theorem 4.3. Let $G: (S, T)$ be a ivcf-graph such that $G^*: (F, I)$, a comb on $2p$ vertices. If T is constant function, then G is an edge improper ivcf-graph and edge totally improper ivcf-graph.

Proof. Let $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{2p-1}$ be the edges of G^* and $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_{2p-1}$ be the corresponding pendant edges. Take T to be a constant function say $T(uv) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$ for all $uv \in I$.

$$d_I(e_1) = 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + 3(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) - 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = 3(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) \quad d_I(e_i) = 3(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + 3(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) - 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = 4(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$$

for $i = 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots, 2p - 3, 2p - 2$.

$$d_I(e_{2p-1}) = 3(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) - 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = 3(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$$

$$d_I(f_1) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) - 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) \quad d_I(f_i) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + 3(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) - 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$$

for $i = 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots, 2p - 3, 2p - 2$.

$$d_I(f_{2p-1}) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) - 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$$

The edge e_1 is adjacent to the edges e_2, f_1, f_2 which are having distinct degrees. Hence G is edge improper ivcf-graph.

$$td_I(e_1) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = 4(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) \quad td_I(e_i) = 4(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = 5(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$$

for $i = 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots, 2p - 3, 2p - 2$.

$$td_I(e_{2p-1}) = 3(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = 4(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$$

$$td_I(f_1) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) \quad td_I(f_i) = 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = 3(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$$

for $i = 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots, 2p - 3, 2p - 2$.

$$td_I(f_{2p-1}) = (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) + (r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi}) = 2(r_1 e^{is_1\pi}, r_2 e^{is_2\pi})$$

The edge e_1 is adjacent to the edges e_2, f_1, f_2 which are having distinct degrees. Hence G is edge totally improper ivcf-graph.

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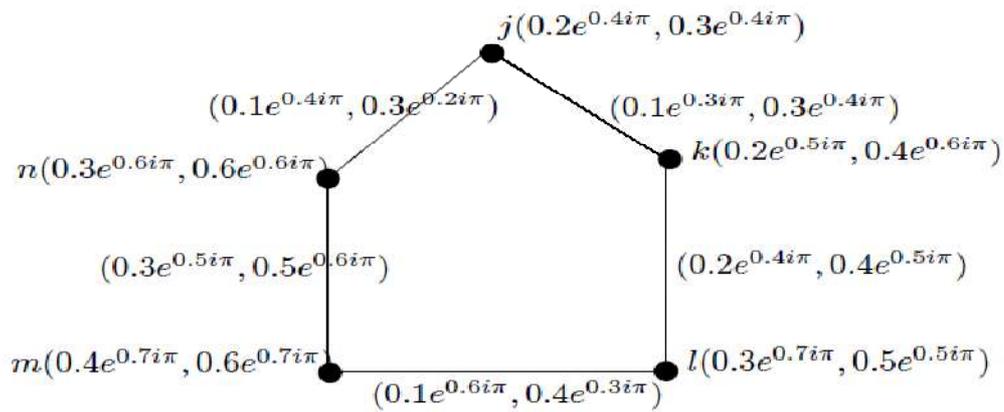


Figure.1





Exploring the Implication of AI on Data Privacy across the World

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ABSTRACT

In this research paper, researcher will be exploring the effect of artificial intelligence and data privacy on each other under the light of constitutional law. On one hand where AI is considered beneficial for various industries, concerns are also being raised in respect to privacy and security of personal data. This paper reviews the current legal framework governing data privacy and how it relates to AI. It examines the challenges posed by AI in terms of data privacy and explores the constitutional principles that apply to the usage of AI technology in respect to privacy. The objective of the research is to focus on the convergence of AI and data privacy, as well as the effect of AI on constitutional law. The paper argues that the use of AI should be balanced with the protection of personal data, and constitutional principles must be applied to make sure that the use of AI does not contravene individual privacy rights. The paper concludes with recommendations for policymakers and stakeholders to ensure that the use of AI is in accordance with provisions of the Indian constitution and does not compromise data privacy.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence (AI), Data Privacy, Constitutional Law, Individual Privacy, Policymaking

INTRODUCTION

Artificial Intelligence popularly known as AI, is a system that thinks and acts like a human. Artificial intelligence which is now part and parcel of our daily life, providing wide range of applications including voice assistants and facial recognition software. Even though AI is very helpful, it has raised concerns about the breach of data privacy and how it contravenes the provisions of Indian Constitution. The rapid advancement of technology has led to a proliferation of data collection and analysis, often without the consent of individuals. These concerns have raised questions, on protecting individual privacy under Indian Constitution in the digital age.



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In this research paper, I will explore how AI and data privacy intersect, examining both the merits and demerits linked to the use of AI in India. Through a review of relevant legal cases and an analysis of current legislation, we will assess the role of constitutional law in shaping the regulation of AI and data privacy in India. I have also analysed the questionnaire concerning the need for legislation focusing on the regulations of Artificial Intelligence

METHODOLOGY

The research article encompasses both doctrinal and non-doctrinal approaches, as the authors seek to comprehensively explore the aftermath of Artificial Intelligence on individual privacy in respect to constitutional law. The aim of the study is to bring into light the risks and benefits of AI, and the need for new legislation. In today's world, AI is used in a various applications, including autonomous vehicles, medical diagnosis, fraud detection, and recommendation systems. The field continues to evolve rapidly, with researchers developing new techniques and applications for AI on a regular basis.

WHAT IS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE?

Artificial Intelligence is the skill or capacity of a machine or computer to do tasks which in general require human intelligence. Eg: learning things, solving problems, making decisions and recognising patterns. AI is developed by using algorithms, mathematical models, and machine learning techniques which allows computers to analyze, process large amounts of data and then take decisions. Currently AI is used in number of fields, including healthcare, finance, transportation, and manufacturing, improving efficiency, accuracy, and productivity. AI combines computer science and datasets, to solve problems. Deep learning and machine learning are interchangeably used in AI. According to John McCarthy, "Artificial Intelligence is the science and engineering of making intelligent machines, especially intelligent computer programs. It is related to the similar task of using computers to understand human intelligence, but AI does not have to confine itself to biologically observable methods." (Artificial Intelligence (AI) IBM Cloud education, 2020).

KINDS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Rule-based AI: This kind of AI follows a set of prearranged rules to make decisions or perform tasks. It is mostly used for performing simple tasks such as spam filtering.

Machine learning AI: It uses algorithms and statistical models to learn and improve performance over a period of time. It can be supervised, unsupervised, or semi-supervised, depending on the amount of human intervention required.

Deep learning AI: It uses artificial neural networks to recognize patterns in data. It is often used in image and speech recognition tasks. (Karin Kelley, What is Artificial Intelligence: Types, History, and Future, 2023) [7]

Natural language processing AI: This type of AI is used to understand and analyze human language, including text and speech. It is often used in virtual assistants and customer service chatbots.

Expert systems AI: It is designed to imitate the decision-making abilities of a human expert in a particular specific field. It is often used in medical diagnosis and legal decision-making.

Evolutionary AI: In this, evolutionary algorithm are used to solve problems by simulating the process of natural selection. It is commonly used in optimization tasks.

HOW DOES ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE WORKS?

Artificial intelligence (AI) is the ability of machines to imitate human intelligence and perform tasks which commonly requires human intelligence, which includes understanding natural language, recognizing images, and learning from experience. (CSU Global, How Does AI Actually Work? 2021). AI works through a combination of algorithms, data, and computing power. Here are the key steps involved in how AI works:

Data Collection: To build AI models, data must be collected from various sources, such as sensors, cameras, and other devices.



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Data Pre-processing: Raw data is processed and cleaned to remove any errors, inconsistencies, and irrelevant information.

Training: AI algorithms are trained on the pre-processed data using various techniques, such as supervised, unsupervised, and reinforcement learning. At the time of training algorithms learn to perceive patterns and then make predictions on the basis of the input data.

Testing and Evaluation: AI models are trained and tested on a separate set of data to evaluate performance and accuracy.

Deployment: Once the model is deemed satisfactory, it can be deployed for use in various applications, such as chatbots, image recognition systems, and self-driving cars.

Continuous Learning: As new data is collected and new scenarios arise, the AI model can continue to learn and improve its performance over time.

Overall, AI is a complex and ever-evolving field that requires a combination of expertise in machine learning, data science, and computer engineering to build effective models that can mimic human intelligence.

IMPORTANCE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

In the recent years AI (Artificial Intelligence) has become important due to its ability to do tasks more efficiently and accurately. Key benefits of AI include:

Improved efficiency: Tasks which are of repetitive nature can be automated by using AI. As AI can perform such tasks quickly and more accurately than humans. This will improve productivity and cost savings.

Enhanced decision making: AI has the ability to process large amounts of data and provide insights which can help businesses to make better decisions.

Increased customer satisfaction: AI has the ability to help businesses in providing personalized experiences to their customers, which increases satisfaction and loyalty.

Improved safety: Various industries use AI to enhance safety measures, such as self-driving cars or automated factories.

Increased competitiveness: AI can help businesses stay competitive by providing them with a competitive edge in terms of efficiency and decision-making.

AI has the ability to transform various industries and improve our day to day lives. (The State of AI, 2019)

Artificial Intelligence has always focused on five major fields of enquiry: knowledge, reasoning, planning, communication and perception

COUNTRIES REGULATING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

With the advancement of AI, it has the potential to change the world. Though this technology also comes with the potential risks and concerns around the regulation and control of AI. AI regulation is an emerging global issue, as governments and organizations grapple with the challenges and opportunities presented by this technology. In 2016, guidelines related to AI ethics was published to control the new technology, but it is believed that such regulations are required for encouraging the use of AI and managing associated risks. With the introduction of Open AI's ChatGpt the world has come one step closer to the technology and now governments are planning to enact laws regulating the technology. In this research paper I will be analysing 6 countries who have enacted the laws.

China: China's AI industry started in the late 1970s, facing serious challenges due to a lack of resources and talent. However, since 2006, AI development in China has become a national agenda and today it is one of the leading nations in AI research and development. By 2030 China aims to become global AI leader and to make its AI industry increase over 1 trillion RMB in the same year. (Erin Hale, "China races to regulate AI after playing catchup to ChatGPT" [8]. Key laws and regulations related to AI in China are:



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Cybersecurity Law (2017): While not exclusively focused on AI, this law includes provisions related to data protection, network security, and personal information security. It requires network operators to protect user data and cooperate with authorities in maintaining cybersecurity. (China's cybersecurity regime) [9]

National Security Law (2015): This law aims to safeguard China's national security and includes provisions related to information security and protection of critical infrastructure, which may indirectly impact AI applications.

New Generation Artificial Intelligence Development Plan (2017): This strategic plan outlines China's ambitions and goals for AI development, emphasizing the integration of AI into various sectors, including healthcare, transportation, and national defense. (Graham Webster, Rogier Creemers, Elsa Kania, Paul Triolo, "Full Translation: China's 'New Generation Artificial Intelligence Development Plan'") [10]

Artificial Intelligence Standards (2019): China has been actively developing AI standards to regulate the development of AI technologies. These standards cover areas such as terminology, safety, ethics, and data privacy. (Huw Roberts, Josh Cows, Jessica Morley, Mariarosaria Taddeo, Vincent Wang & Luciano Floridi, "The Chinese approach to artificial intelligence: an analysis of policy, ethics, and regulation") [11]

Personal Information Protection Law (Effective from November 1, 2021): It establishes comprehensive regulations for protecting personal information. This law provides requirements for the collection, use, and storage of personal data, including AI systems' processing of personal information. (Julia Zhu, "The Personal Information Protection Law: China's Version of the GDPR?") [12]

Data Security Law (Effective from September 1, 2021): This law focuses on the regulation and protection of data, including personal information and important data related to China's national security and public interests. It imposes restrictions on cross-border data transfers and mandates data localization in certain cases. (Herguner Bilgen, "A Brief Review of China's New Data Protection Law: A Comparative Analysis") [13]

Algorithmic Governance Regulation (Draft): The Cyberspace Administration of China released a draft regulation in 2020 that aims to regulate algorithmic recommendation systems. It proposes requirements for transparency, fairness, and accountability in algorithmic decision-making systems. (Sapni G K, Mihir Mahajan, "Understanding China's Draft Algorithm Regulations") [14]

Brazil: Brazil do not have specific legislation dedicated solely to artificial intelligence (AI). Though there are existing laws and regulations which may be applicable to AI-related activities. (Luca Belli, Yasmin Curzi, Walter B. Gaspar, "AI regulation in Brazil: Advancements, flows, and need to learn from the data protection experience") [15]
Relevant laws and regulations in Brazil:

General Data Protection Law (LGPD): It was enacted in September 2020, governing the collection, use, processing, and storage of personal data in Brazil. This law is applicable on AI systems which handle personal data and establishes requirements for consent, data minimization, security, and individuals' rights.

Brazilian Civil Rights Framework for the Internet (Marco Civil da Internet): It was enacted in 2014, this law provides principles, rights, and obligations related to use of internet in Brazil. While not AI-specific, it contains provisions related to privacy, data protection, and liability that can be applicable to AI systems.

Consumer Protection Code: The Consumer Protection Code provides regulations to protect consumers' rights in Brazil. It applies to AI systems when they are used for commercial purposes or involve consumer interactions. AI systems used for customer service or e-commerce platforms, for example, must comply with consumer protection regulations.



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National Artificial Intelligence Strategy: In 2019, Brazil launched its National Artificial Intelligence Strategy, with the aims of promoting AI development in the country. While not a law, it outlines the government's objectives and actions related to AI development, education, research, and ethics. In early October, Brazilian lawmakers enacted a bill that establishes regulations for Artificial Intelligence (AI). The bill provides a comprehensive framework for the creation and utilization of AI within the country, with a particular emphasis on transparency in the public sector. It also emphasizes the need for regulatory instruments that foster innovation. Deputy Eduardo Bismarck (PDT-CA), who spearheaded the project, highlighted the importance of outlining principles, rights, responsibilities, and duties to account for the integration of AI into reality. The proposed regulations aim to promote democratic values, free enterprise, and data privacy.

However, the development of AI in Brazil faces certain challenges, as acknowledged in the bill. These include limited resources and potential tax burdens that could be imposed on companies. To address concerns about transparency in AI development, the bill mandates that operating systems be disclosed through an AI agent responsible for overseeing the technology's development and operation.

European Union: The European Commission came up with an Artificial Intelligence Act in April 2021, with the aims of introducing common regulatory and legal framework for artificial intelligence. The impact of this Act can be felt in all sectors except for military, and to all types of artificial intelligence. This Act proposes classification and regulation of AI applications on the basis of the risk to cause harm. The classification is further divided into three categories: banned practices, high-risk systems, and other AI systems. Additionally, the AI Act proposes to introduce European Artificial Intelligence Board, promoting national cooperation and ensuring compliance with the regulation. The AI Act has already had an impact beyond Europe, with Brazil's Congress passing a bill which creates a legal framework for artificial intelligence. This Act has the potential to become a global standard, like the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation.

In conclusion, the regulations and laws surrounding AI are complex and ever-evolving. However, with the introduction of the AI Act, the European Union has taken an important step in regulating and managing this technology.

UK: The UK government, in its national strategy for artificial intelligence released in September 2021, highlighted that it has not yet implemented comprehensive AI-specific regulations. Instead, the government has preferred a sector-led approach to regulating AI. However, this stance may change in the future with the upcoming release of the UK's Office for AI's white paper on governing and regulating AI, scheduled for early 2022. To address governance and regulation of AI, the Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation (CDEI) was established as a government body in the UK. The CDEI provides recommendations on AI governance and regulation. Furthermore, the UK government has published its own AI Ethics Guidelines, offering guidance on ethical considerations in AI development and deployment. (Samiksha Mehra, "These 5 countries are championing the grey area of AI regulations") [16].

US: The United States adopts a relatively light regulatory approach regarding laws surrounding artificial intelligence (AI). However, recent developments indicate a potential shift in this stance. In late March 2021, the five largest federal financial regulators in the US issued a request for information on the use of AI by banks, suggesting forthcoming guidance specific to the finance sector. Shortly thereafter, the US Federal Trade Commission (FTC) released a noteworthy set of guidelines emphasizing "truth, fairness, and equity" in AI. The guidelines take a broad view of unfairness, encompassing any AI application that results in more harm than good and potentially violating existing laws. These advancements have created a fertile environment for the US to contemplate establishing federal-level rules and regulations in this domain. (<https://indiaai.gov.in/article/these-5-countries-are-championing-the-grey-area-of-ai-regulations>)



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Canada: Regulatory recommendations regarding AI in Canada adopt a "rights-based" approach, aiming to balance innovation and responsible development. Following a public consultation in early 2020, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada (OPC) issued recommendations for regulating AI. These suggestions include amending the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA) to enable the usage of personal information for new purposes and emphasizing on privacy as a fundamental human right, essential for exercising other fundamental rights. The goal is to strike a balance that promotes innovation while upholding privacy rights. (Samiksha Mehra, "These 5 countries are championing the grey area of AI regulations) [16]

CHALLENGES TO INDIA'S AI DEVELOPMENT

Today we can see the usage of AI is mostly limited to the private sector focusing primarily on consumer goods. The high-scale usage and importance of technology has forced policymakers of government to adopt it in their day-to-day activities. India should take into consideration the AI success of the United States, China, South Korea and other countries for its successful implementation and usage in India. The education system in India is outdated taking into consideration the present economic environment because the nature of job is shifting rapidly and skills are becoming valuable and obsolete in a few years.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND ITS INTERFACE WITH PRIVACY

Artificial intelligence (AI) has the ability to impact privacy in positive as well as negative ways. Under the positive side, AI can be used to improve privacy, for example, helping to secure personal data and detecting and blocking online privacy threats. On the negative side, AI can also be used to intrude people's privacy, for example by tracking the activities of individuals' or by making it easier for companies to target individuals with personalized advertising. Several key issues arise at the interface of AI and privacy. One important issue is the possibility of AI systems to be biased, either in terms of the data they are trained on or in the way that they make decisions. This can lead to unfair treatment or biased opinion towards certain groups of people, such as those who are already marginalized or disadvantaged.

Another key issue is the absence of transparency and answerability in many AI systems. Many times it is difficult for individuals to understand the manner in which AI systems make decisions which affect them, and there are often few mechanisms which ensure ethical acting of these systems. Overall, it is clear that the relationship between AI and privacy is complex and multifaceted. As AI is advancing, it will be important for researchers, policymakers, and remaining stakeholders to consider the implication of this technology on privacy and to ensure that this technology is developed and used in a way which respects and protects individuals' privacy. Every business should prioritise data privacy and protection. Data collection is the new oil for all business operations. In today's digital era, digital economy and data is a critical corporate asset. Though data is very important for businesses, but it is difficult for the businesses to protect data on their own.

LAW GOVERNING PRIVACY IN INDIA

Privacy is a fundamental right provided under Article 21 of the Constitution of India, according to which "No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law." Though right to privacy is not expressly provided, it is recognized as a fundamental right by the Supreme Court in the case of Justice K.S. Puttaswamy v. Union of India (2017). Despite this, there have been several instances where the privacy of individuals has been violated in India. This has led to the need for a comprehensive legal framework to govern privacy in the country.

THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK GOVERNING PRIVACY IN INDIA

The Indian legal system has various laws and regulations that deal with privacy. These include: The Information Technology Act, 2000: It regulates usage of electronic records and digital signatures. This law also protects sensitive



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personal data and penalties for violating privacy. The Indian Penal Code, 1860: It provides offences related to privacy, such as defamation, breach of confidentiality, and voyeurism. The Right to Information Act, 2005: It guarantees the right to information for citizens and also provides for the protection of personal data. The Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019 aims to regulate the collection, use, and storage of personal data by companies and public authorities. It provides for the establishment of a Data Protection Authority to enforce the provisions of the act and impose penalties for violations. The Privacy (Protection) Act, 2012 aims to protect individual privacy by regulating the collection, use, and storage of personal information.

CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTING PRIVACY LAWS IN INDIA

Despite the existence of various laws and regulations, there are several challenges in implementing privacy laws in India. These include:

Lack of awareness: Many individuals are unaware of their privacy rights and do not know how to assert them. This makes it difficult to enforce privacy laws.

Lack of comprehensive privacy law: The current legal framework is fragmented and lacks a comprehensive privacy law that covers all aspects of privacy.

Weak enforcement mechanisms: There is a lack of effective enforcement mechanisms to ensure compliance with privacy laws. This has led to a lack of deterrence against privacy violations.

Lack of privacy infrastructure: There is a lack of privacy infrastructure, such as data protection officers and privacy impact assessments, in India, which makes it difficult to enforce privacy laws.

LAW GOVERNING AI IN INDIA

Artificial intelligence (AI) has the ability to help and transform various sectors, including healthcare, education, finance, transportation, and manufacturing. Though the use of AI has raised several legal and ethical issues, including data privacy, discrimination, and liability. In India, the law governing AI is still in its nascent stage, and there is a requirement for a legal framework to regulate the advancement and use of AI. The first legal challenge in regulating AI in India is to define AI and distinguish it from other forms of technology. According to the International Association for Artificial Intelligence and Law (IAAIL), AI refers to "systems that exhibit intelligent behaviour, learn, adapt, and perform tasks which generally require human-like abilities." However, the term "AI" is usually used for referring to a wide range of technologies which include machine learning, natural language processing, and robotics.

"AI" is not defined in any specific legislation in India. However, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has introduced a draft on National Artificial Intelligence Strategy, this law defines AI as "the development of computer systems which can perform tasks that normally requiring human intelligence, such as visual perception, speech recognition, decision-making, and language translation." The second legal challenge in regulating AI in India is to identify the legal framework that applies to AI. In India, AI is regulated by a combination of sector-specific laws and general laws that apply to all technologies.

Sector-specific laws: In India, various sectors have laws and regulations that govern the use of AI. For example, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced guidelines on the AI usage in the banking sector, including the deployment of chatbots and the use of AI for credit scoring and fraud detection. Similarly, the Ministry of Civil Aviation has issued guidelines on the use of drones, including the use of AI for autonomous flight.

General laws: In addition to sector-specific laws, AI is also governed by general laws that apply to all technologies. These include the Indian Penal Code, the Information Technology Act, and the Right to Information Act.

The third legal challenge in regulating AI in India is to address the ethical and legal issues raised by AI. These include data privacy, discrimination, and liability.



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Data privacy: For the application and proper working of AI, collection, processing, and storage of large amounts of data is required. But this requirement of AI is a big concern in respect to data privacy and the protection of personal information. The data protection in India is governed by the Information Technology Act and the Personal Data

Protection Bill.

Discrimination: Under the AI system biases can be perpetuated resulting into discrimination if they are based on biased data or algorithms. In India, the Equal Opportunity Commission has introduced guidelines on the use of AI in the workplace, including the prohibition of discrimination based on race, gender, religion, or disability.

Liability: In case of accidents or injuries caused by AI systems, there is a debate about who should be held liable - the manufacturer, the user, or the AI system itself. In India, the liability of AI systems is still unclear and there is a need for a clear legal framework to address this issue.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, AI and data privacy are two intertwined issues that have significant implications for individuals, businesses, and governments around the world. Though AI has the ability to provide various benefits, such as increased efficiency and productivity, AI has also raised serious concerns about the protection of personal data and individual rights. Under the constitutional law, these concerns are particularly important, as the country has a long history of valuing and protecting the privacy of its citizens. Therefore, it is imperative for policymakers and businesses to take steps ensuring development and deployment of AI in a way which respects and protects the privacy rights of individuals, while also balancing the need for innovation and progress. It may also require the development of new laws and regulations, establishing an effective oversight mechanisms to ensure compliance with existing legal frameworks.

To understand the popularity and importance of AI, I surveyed 66 people with varied professions and age groups. This survey helped me in understanding how people are affected by AI in a good and bad manner. At first, I tried to understand the popularity of Artificial Intelligence, which is no more a question with the coming of open AI and ChatGpt. Today people use Alexa and Siri for their day-to-day needs. So we can see how AI has become the part and parcel of everyone's life. The second thing about which I am concerned is understanding how this technology is helping mankind in their day-to-day activity. The use of AI for technological purposes is one thing but now we can use AI for arguing cases in a court of law. US-based startup DoNotPay, founded by Stanford graduate Joshua Browder in 2015 can do this. He aims to save defendants money and to completely replace lawyers. Hiring lawyers to fight court cases is an expensive investment for many and this is what refrains people from filing a case. Now the AI-powered robot lawyer might make it convenient for people.

The third question was to understand if people are aware of their fundamental right to privacy. Privacy is a personal space in which no one wants to be intruded. Privacy was a point of debate for many years but was declared a fundamental right in 2017 under the K.S. Puttuswamy case. This case made everyone aware of their right. I was happy to know that more than 90% of people were aware of this right.

The fourth question was in response to the earlier one, where I wanted to understand that even after knowing their fundamental right to privacy, people are forced to share data and more than 60% are doing this. This makes me understand how these applications take data from consumers before they use these applications and in the hurry of using the app, we never realise the need of cross-checking the need for the data collected.

After seeing the response, I wanted to understand how many people wanted to know the reason for the collection of this data. Though Apple has taken the initiative of making it compulsory for these applications to give a reason why information is collected on its IOS platform same is not the case with Android and many of us fail to understand the



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reason why information is collected and for what purposes it will be used. Mostly they use such information to track the likes and dislikes of the consumer, time spent on the app, the region to which they belong etc. After being forced to share personal data many people feel that Artificial Intelligence is invading their privacy. I was happy to see the awareness of the people about technology and their rights which they should not risk for the sake of convenience and technological development. People know about their rights but do not know about the laws to protect themselves. Only 30% of people had some idea about the laws. This question helped me in understanding the need to aware people of their rights. Awareness can be brought with the help of orientations, and seminars by simplifying it for the general public. Awareness is required for the general public to fight for their rights and prevent them from being exploited.

Digitalisation has made many things easy for all of us but for this ease, we have kept our privacy and data at stake. The legislature must make sure privacy and development go hand in hand. The legislature needs to implement laws which are stricter towards saving data from being misused. Artificial Intelligence works based on data collected. More data means more efficient results. This technology might make people addicted to technology. Instagram and Facebook is one such application which uses AI to understand people's taste and likings and change algorithms accordingly. Data is the most precious thing in today's world, especially for the working of AI and open AI. But this does not mean data could be misused instead the reason for collecting data should be provided and stored safely.

Artificial Intelligence is the future of the technology which is still evolving, the regulations which are required should be future-oriented and solely targeted towards AI. Ultimately, the success of AI in India will depend on finding the right balance between these competing interests, and ensuring that the rights and privacy of individuals are respected and protected at all times.

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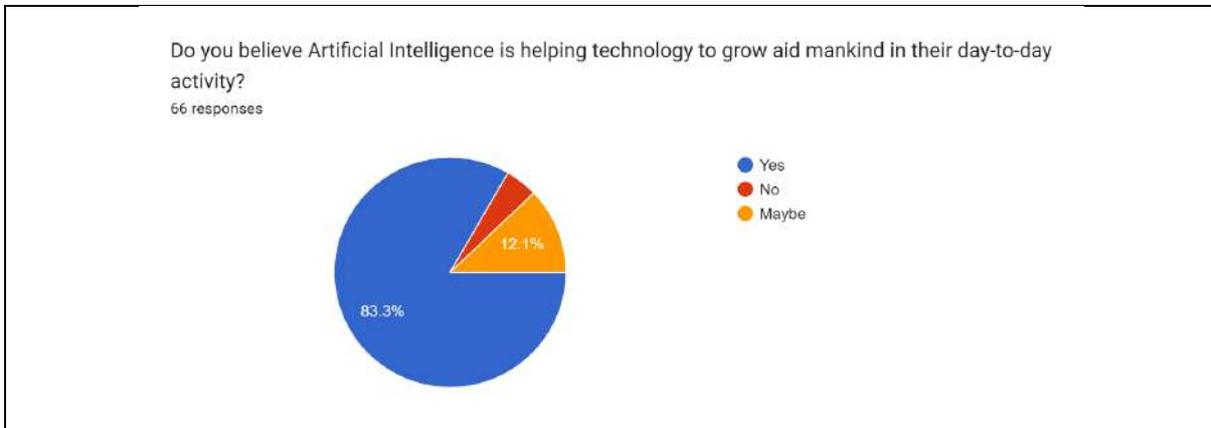


Figure 1.

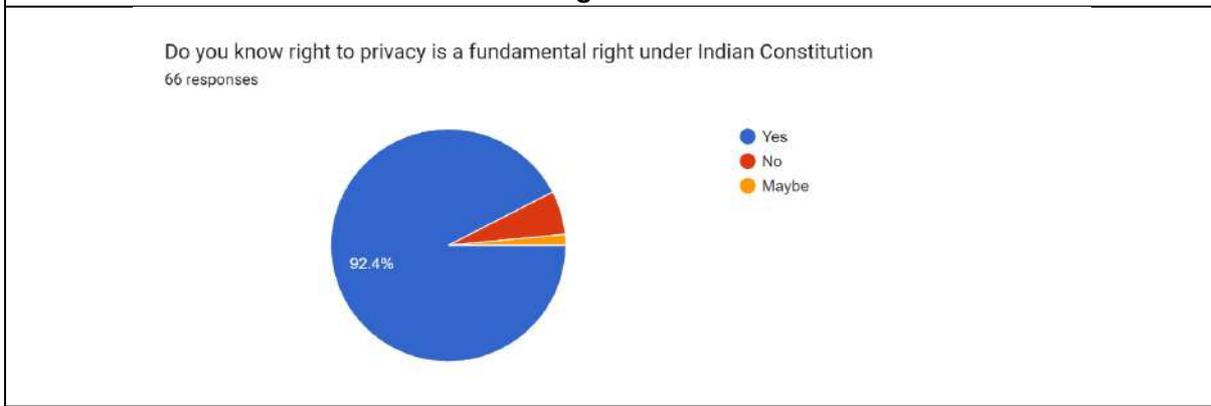


Figure 2.





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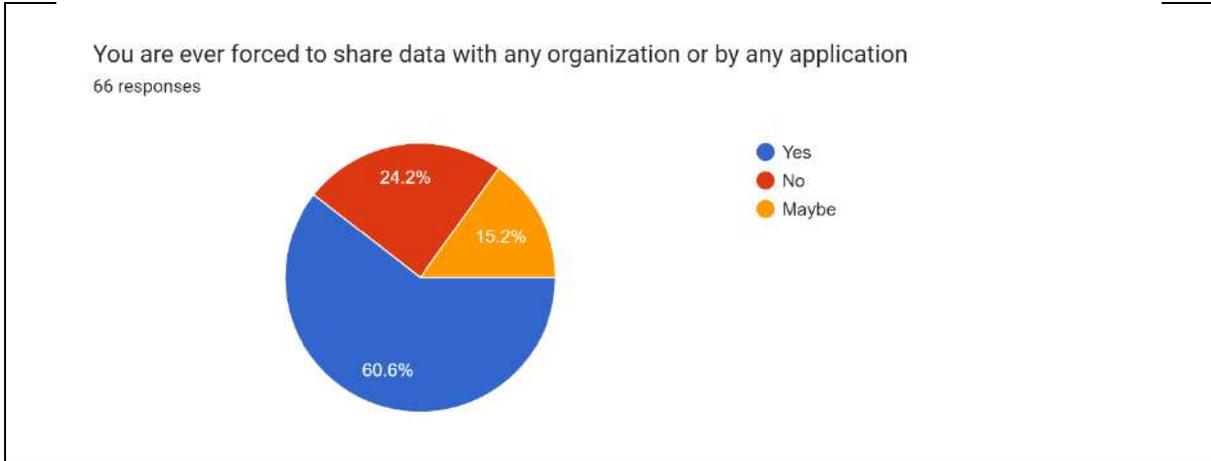


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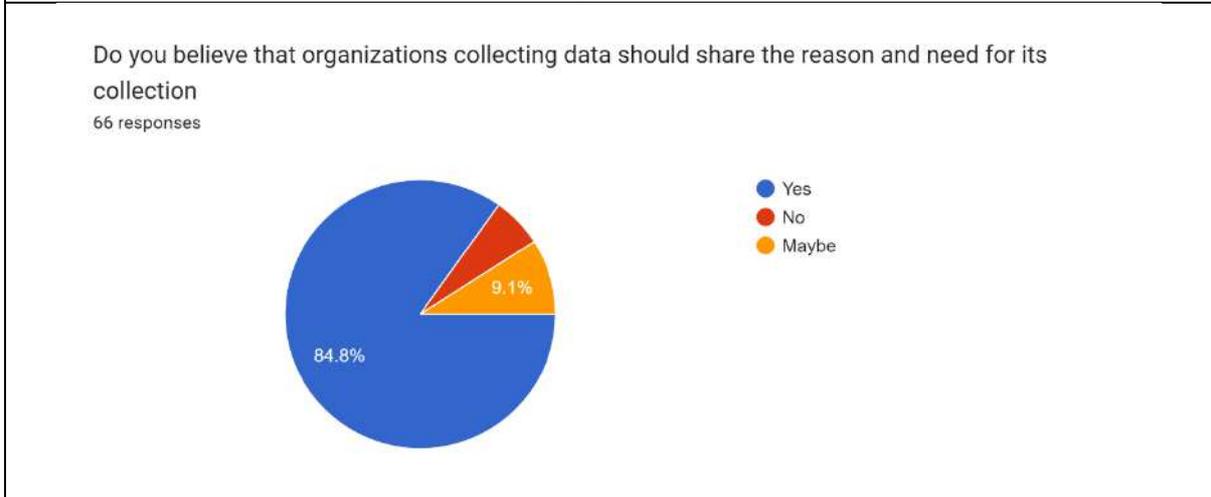


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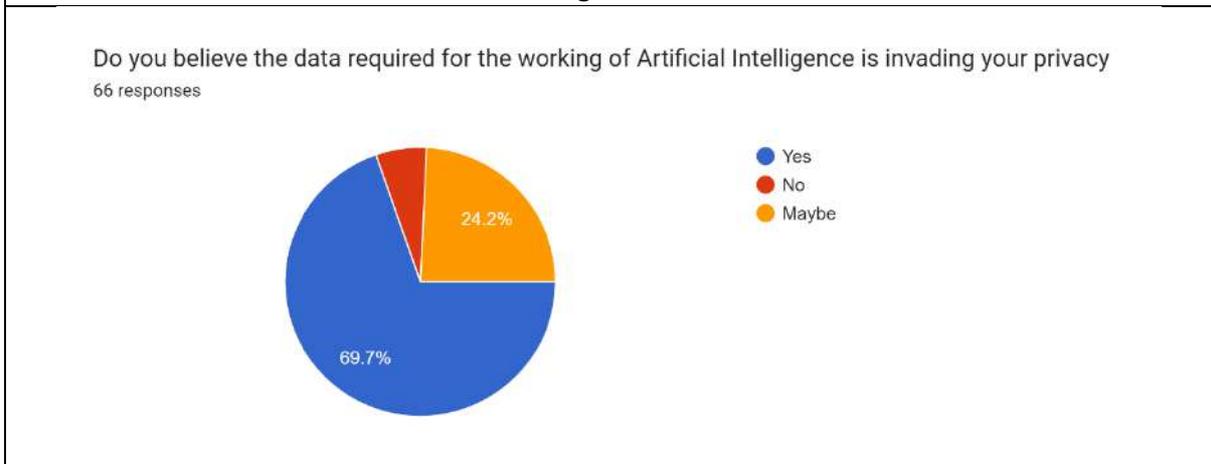


Figure 5.





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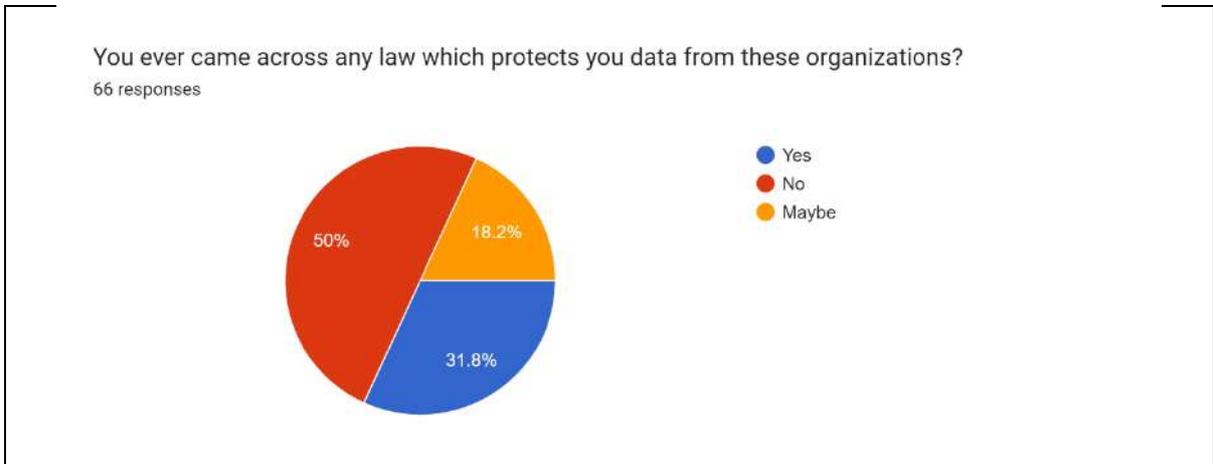


Figure 6.

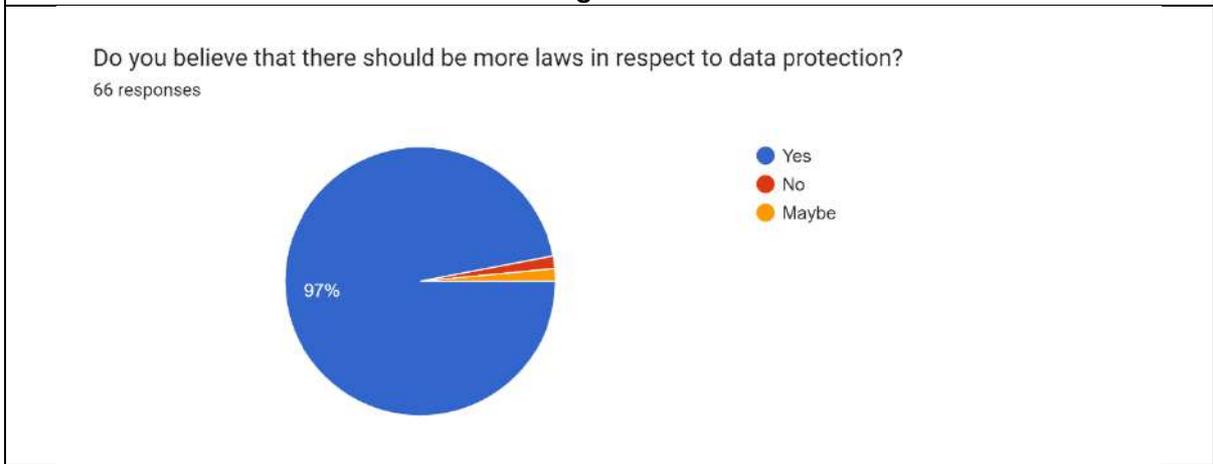


Figure 7.

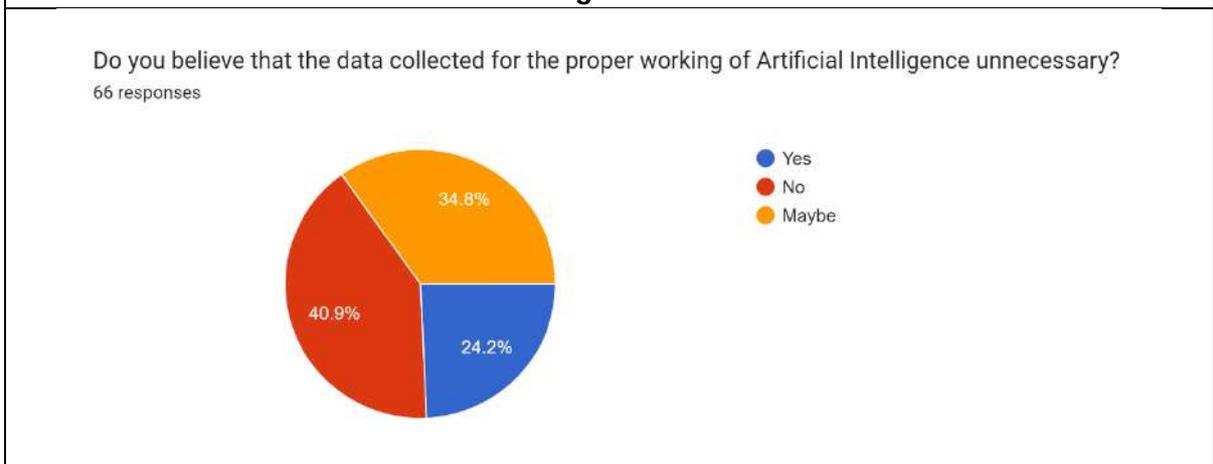


Figure 8.





A Comparative Study on the Immediate Effect of Co-Contraction MET Method of Hamstring Versus MET - Slow Eccentric Isotonic Stretch on Hamstring Flexibility among Healthy Young Individuals

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ABSTRACT

Many people suffer with hamstring tightness. Therefore, it's crucial to have a clear grasp of hamstring tightness and the methods utilised to improve hamstring flexibility. The main knee flexors and contributors to hip extension are the hamstrings. Only when the knee is fully extended and the hip is fully flexed does this muscle reach its full physiological stretch. MET is a type of therapy that uses the patient's body placement and muscle contractions to normalise joint motion. It is a manual technique that supposedly increases joint motion and muscular extensibility by carefully contracting the subject's muscles. A total of 100 subjects with hamstring tightness were randomly allocated to a group A (Co-contraction MET method) and group B (MET- Slow eccentric isotonic stretch). The technique was given 3 times in 1 session. The immediate effect was assessed by Active knee extension test, Straight leg raising test and Sit and Reach test pre and post interventional. The study showed improvement in flexibility in both group ($p=0.001$) but significant improvement in MET- SEIS group. Both methods worked well to increase hamstring flexibility, although the MET- SEIS group showed the most progress.

Keywords: Hamstring flexibility, SLR test, AKE test, Sit and reach test, MET

INTRODUCTION

Hamstring muscles are situated at the back of the thigh. The hamstring muscles are located behind the thigh. These muscles originate in the gluteal area, go down the back of the thigh, and insert into the popliteal fossa. They are the ischial head of the adductor magnus, the semitendinosus, the semimembranosus, and the long head of the biceps



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femoris. Hamstrings are group of muscles that all originated on the ischium and posterior femur, cross both the hip and knee joints and insert into the tibia and fibula [1]. Many people suffer with hamstring tightness. Therefore it is very important that an understanding is established regarding hamstring tightness and the treatment used to increase hamstring flexibility [1]. Hamstring tightness increase apparently from childhood up to age of 40-49 years and its incidence is higher in males than females [9].

Most of the activities of daily life requires a minimum of flexibility for normal individuals [10]. Only when the knee is fully extended and the hip is fully flexed does this muscle reach its full physiological stretch. Normal daily activity rarely involves complete contraction and stretching, therefore hamstrings are not frequently subjected to their maximum physiological amplitude. Therefore chance of it going into tightness are more in individuals not participating in any daily stretching routine [2]. Tight hamstring will cause reduction of muscle strength, quadriceps dysfunction during gait and postural deviation like reduction in lumbar lordosis [14]. The tightness in the body seems to be most common in the hamstring muscles. These muscles become less flexible and have a smaller range of motion when they are tight. Muscle tightness is a limiting factor for optimal physical performance including daily activities and an important intrinsic factor for sports injuries [8]. Reduced hamstring flexibility has been implicated in lumbar spine dysfunction and showing strong positive correlation between decreased hamstring flexibility and low back pain [5,11]. Inadequate hamstring flexibility can cause low back pain, alter the lumbar pelvic rhythm, posterior pelvic tilt, reduce lumbar lordosis, decrease lumbar and thoracic flexion [12,13].

There are many successful ways of treating hamstring tightness like mechanical, thermal, ice, stretch and spray, US, soft tissue massage, SWD, MFR, and MET [3]. Muscle energy technique and Eccentric training are effective in lengthening the tight hamstring muscles of healthy females and there is no difference between the immediate effects of both techniques [3]. Definition of Muscle energy technique: Muscle energy techniques are a class of soft tissue osteopathic (originally) manipulation methods that incorporate precisely directed and controlled, patient initiated, isometric and/or isotonic contractions, designed to improve musculoskeletal function and reduce pain [6].

2 types of MET

- 1) **Isometric MET:** An isometric contraction is one in which a muscle or group of muscles, or a joint or region of the body, is contracted or moved in a specified direction, and in which the effort is matched by the therapist's effort, so that no movement is allowed to take place [6].
- 2) **Isotonic MET:** An isotonic contraction is one in which movement does take place, in that the counterforce offered by the therapist is either less than that of the patient, or is greater [6].

According to Chaitow (2001), elements of MET must always include: identification of a resistance barrier, use of isometric contraction, and response to that contraction which appears to facilitate easier movement to a new barrier [4]. MET uses principles of the neurophysiology with manual stretching technique to lengthen shortened muscle and relax super active muscle [10]. MET has immediate effect on flexibility other than SLR, static stretching, MFR. There are only limited studies comparing the effectiveness of these techniques, Therefore, this study compares the MET-Co-contraction approach and the MET-Slow eccentric isotonic stretch (SEIS) in an attempt to establish the immediate impact of MET on hamstring flexibility. Therefore, the purpose of the current study was to compare the immediate effects of both techniques on hamstring flexibility in young, healthy individuals.

METHODOLOGY

An experimental study was conducted at Physiotherapy College and department, Sainath hospital Ahmedabad. Ethical clearance was taken from the Ethical Committee. Out of 110 subjects, 105 subjects were included in the study based on inclusion criteria. Informed consent was taken from all subjects. The study included subjects with bilaterally tight hamstrings who were 18 to 25 years old, of either gender. Any orthopedic/ neurological/cardio-vascular problems. (Any lower limb fracture, surgery around pelvis, hip and knee. Any infective conditions like



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malignancy and TB of hip and knee. Sciatica, low back pain, lumbar radiculopathy). Subjects under fitness program, dancers, athletes, Hamstring injury. Subjects on any pain killer or any other medication were excluded. Baseline measurements prior the treatment was conducted on participants that is AKET (Active Knee Extension Test), SLR test (Straight Leg raising Test), Sit and reach test for hamstring flexibility⁷. The instrument used was Goniometer and measure tape.

Group- A: 50 subjects received Co-contraction MET method.

Patient position: supine lying with fully flexes hip on the affected side. The flexed knee is extended by the therapist to the point of resistance, a combined contraction may be introduced. Instruction: Ask subject to flex hip and flex the knee.

Group-B: 50 subjects received MET- simultaneous toning of hamstring antagonist (quadriceps) and preparation for stretch of shortened hamstrings using slow eccentric isotonic stretch (SEIS)

Patient position: supine with hip and knee of the leg to be treated flexed. The therapist extends the flexed knee to its barrier of resistance. Instruction :The patient is asked to resist, using a little more than half available strength, an attempt by the therapist to slowly flex the knee fully (stretching the contracting quadriceps, toning these). After performing the slow isotonic stretch of the quadriceps the hamstring should be rested for length and ease of SLR, and if necessary, the hamstring should be taken into a stretched position and held for 30 seconds before repeating the procedure.

For both groups: Duration of contraction – 10 seconds, Repetition – 3, Force – 75% of maximal hamstring contraction. Self stretching technique was taught to everyone for home exercise program.

SELF STRETCHING [8]

In a study by Cipriani et al. 2 repetition of 30 sec. hamstring stretches were found to be equally effective compared to 6 repetition of 10 sec. stretch. Subject is in standing position with affected leg on the edge of the plinth and then asks to bend forward slowly.

Duration of stretch: 30-60 sec, Repetition: 3- 5 repetition/ day

DATA ANALYSIS

The collected data were analyzed using statistical package of social science (SPSS) version 20, and found that the data were normally distributed. The parametric test was used in statistical analysis because the distribution of data was normal. Demographic values were compared within the group using paired t- test and between group using unpaired t- test. Statistical significance was set at $p < 0.05$.

RESULTS

Total 100 subjects participated in study. Both group consisted of 50 subjects.

Table: 1: demographic characteristic (age and gender) in both the group.

Table: 2: mean values of group- a

Table: 3 mean values of group- b

Table: 4 differences between two groups

Graph: 1 AKE test in right and left side between two groups

Graph: 2 SLR test in right and left side between two groups

Graph: 3 Sit and reach test in two groups

DISCUSSION

There are limited evidence of Co-contraction MET method of hamstring and MET- Slow Eccentric Isotonic Stretch methods on hamstring flexibility in healthy young individuals. In order to assess and compare the immediate effects of the Co-contraction MET method and the MET- SEIS method on hamstring flexibility in young, healthy persons,



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this study was carried out. Two groups of a total of 100 individuals were randomly assigned. 50 participants each received the MET-SEIS method and the Co-contraction MET method. To observe the immediate effects of both techniques, a total of three repetitions per session were administered for just one day. The results of a paired t-test comparing the pre-test and post-test results for the AKE test (Popliteal angle measurement), the SLR test, and the sit and reach test revealed a significant improvement in the Co-contraction MET method group and the MET- SEIS group, indicating that both techniques are useful on their own to increase hamstring flexibility in healthy young individuals. The results of the unpaired t-test used to compare the mean differences of the two groups revealed a significant difference between group A's and group B's effects on hamstring flexibility improvement. MET- SEIS group showed significant improvement in SLR test, AKE test (Popliteal angle measurement) and sit and reach test. It has been proposed that eccentric training can improve strength and reduce the risk of injury, and facilitate increased muscle flexibility via sarcomerogenesis [7].

One of the limiting factors for limited ROM and decreased joint flexibility is muscle tightness. Musculoskeletal issues are more likely to occur when hamstring muscles are tight. This study was focused on checking effects of MET and PIR in increasing ROM and flexibility of healthy subjects with hamstring tightness [2]. Through a mix of creep and plastic connective tissue modifications, MET lengthened muscles. It happened as a result of adjustments in biomechanical or neurophysiological processes, as well as a rise in stretching tolerance. Neuro-physiological and biomechanical mechanism may underlie changes to both ROM and muscle stiffness following the application of MET [2]. The MET findings in the current investigation are consistent with earlier studies. Radhika talapalli and Megha Sandeep Sheth et al concluded that MET may have an influence on tight muscle at a faster rate and more number of subjects achieved increase in ROM and flexibility of hamstring than PIR [2,15]. Roshan Adkitte et al concluded that MET increases the flexibility of hamstring muscle in Indian National Football Players and hence it can prevent the injuries and improves their performance [16].

Hamstring flexibility in Indian collegiate males was found to be significantly higher in MET than ECC, according to Waseem and Nuhmani's study, Comparative Study of the Impact of Muscle Energy Technique and Eccentric Training on Popliteal Angle. However, the improvement level decreased in the follow-up measurement [3,17]. A comparison of two muscle energy techniques for increasing flexibility of the hamstring muscle group by Smith and Fryer concluded that both techniques appeared to be equally effective in increasing hamstring extensibility, and there appeared to be sustained improvement 1 week following the initial treatment [3,18]. Ballantyne and Fryer concluded that the Muscle energy technique produced an immediate increase in passive knee extension [3,19].

Cheraladhan E. Sambandham et al concluded that There is no difference between the immediate effect of Muscle energy technique and Eccentric training in lengthening the tight hamstring muscles of healthy females [3]. Ivan [16,20] discussed that MET is an effective, non traumatic manipulative technique. The Golgi tendon organs or the muscle spindles are thought to be the route via which the use of MET inhibits motor activity. Abreham [16,21] has demonstrated that MET is superior to ballistic stretching for increasing hamstring flexibility. In their work, Ramesh and Sivasankar [16,14] addressed how an increase in muscle length in MET may be caused by a biomechanical event, neurophysiological alterations, and an improvement in stretching tolerance. When it comes to increasing hamstring flexibility in those with tight hamstrings, MET is more effective than ultrasound therapy with active static stretching and passive static stretching [16,22]. The present study goes with the same technique revealed an increase in hamstring flexibility which in turn reduces the risk of hamstring injury.

According to Feland and Marin, a submaximal contraction intensity of 65% of the maximum contraction is sufficient to provide the desired results and achieve the best growth in joint ROM [23,6] Schmitt et al (1999) found that progressively increasing the intensity of isometric contraction over a 10 day stretching program was more effective than maintaining a standard intensity. The standard program used 6 second standard intensity (75% maximal hamstring contraction, measured by a Flexibility machine) [6]. Most researches involving MET has focused on a single application of treatment [5,19,24]. It was reported that the application of post-isometric stretching technique, such as MET, produce greater changes in range of motion and muscle extensibility than static or ballistic stretching



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[5,25,15]. It was concluded that 30 seconds as the optimal duration for an effective stretch, MET may produce an increase in muscle length by a combination of creep and plastic change in the connective tissue [5,26]. The probably mechanism of increasing muscle extensibility involves both neurophysiological (including changes to stretch tolerance) and mechanical factors (such as viscoelastic and plastic changes in the connective tissue elements of the muscle) [5,6]. Many authors in the field of MET have advocated the use of 3-7 seconds of resisted contraction for adequate therapeutic effect (Mitchell & Mitchell 1995, Greenman 1996), whereas other authors and researchers have used 5 second (Ballantyne et al 2003), 5 and 20 seconds (Mehta and Hatton 2002), 6-12 second (Schmitt et al 1999), and 20 second (Ferber et al 2002b) contraction duration.⁶ Nelson and Cornelius (1991) examined the effect of a 3 sec., 6 sec., and 10 sec. maximal contraction phase and they found that there were no difference in the effect of varying the contraction duration [6]. In earlier researches Bandy et al identified 30 seconds as the optimal duration for an effective stretch [27]. ; MET, which can maintain muscle elongation for this duration, may produce increase in muscle length by a combination of creep and plastic change in the connective tissue [27,28], an increase in flexibility after muscle energy technique (MET) occurred due to biomechanical or neurophysiological changes or due to an increase in tolerance to stretching [27,29].

Applications of MET to stretch and enhance myofascial tissue extensibility may potentially generate viscoelastic and structural change, according to Gary Fryer et al. in their 2009 study on research-informed muscle energy concepts and practise. Viscoelastic and plastic changes autonomic mediated change in extracellular fluid dynamics and fibroblastic mechano transduction have been proposed for the therapeutic effect of MET [30]. According to A.P.Marques et al., stretching activities conducted three times per week were sufficient to increase range of motion and flexibility compared to participants working out once per week. The improvement in flexibility and ROM after thrice a week stretching was similar to that of subjects who exercised five times a week [23,31]. Study conducted by Jisha thampi also showed significant improvement in hamstring muscle length after alternate three weeks of stretching exercises [23,32]. Adel Rashad Ahmed concluded that both the muscle energy technique and dynamic stretching improve hamstring flexibility in healthy adults [5]. Age, joint type, muscle composition, the different connective tissues and tissue bulk play a role in determining the extensibility of a muscle. It was evident that some subjects needed more detailed instructions, assistance or encouragement; however, it is not anticipated that this would have a major effect on the result.

Additionally, the findings indicated that further research into the effects of a longer intervention period on muscle flexibility is essential. The patients in this study are all asymptomatic and younger than the average patient group, it should be highlighted. This is significant because it's possible that the two techniques could be used interchangeably to treat the same patient population.

CONCLUSION

The immediate effects of the Co-contraction MET method and the MET- SEIS method on subjects with hamstring flexibility were significantly different, according to this study. Healthy young individuals in both groups showed an increase in hamstring flexibility, but the MET-SEIS method by the AKE test, SLR test, and sit and reach test showed a significant improvement.

LIMITATION OF STUDY

The study was done on a small sample size and over a short period of time. There was no long term follow up. Physical activities of the subjects were not considered.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Nil





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Table: 1: Demographic Characteristic (Age And Gender) in Both The Group

CHARACTERISTIC	GROUP-A	GROUP-B
POPULATION	50	50
AGE (YEAR) (MEAN±SD)	21±2.01	21±2.28
MALE	25	25
FEMALE	25	25

Table: 2: Mean Values of Group- A

OUTCOME MEASURE	SIDE		MEAN	SD	SE	t value	p value
AKE TEST	RIGHT	PRE	116	6.36	0.90	11.94	0.001
		POST	125	6.04	0.85	11.94	0.001
	LEFT	PRE	114	4.72	0.66	22.36	0.001
		POST	124	5.93	0.83	22.36	0.001
SLR TEST	RIGHT	PRE	50	6.12	0.86	25.35	0.001





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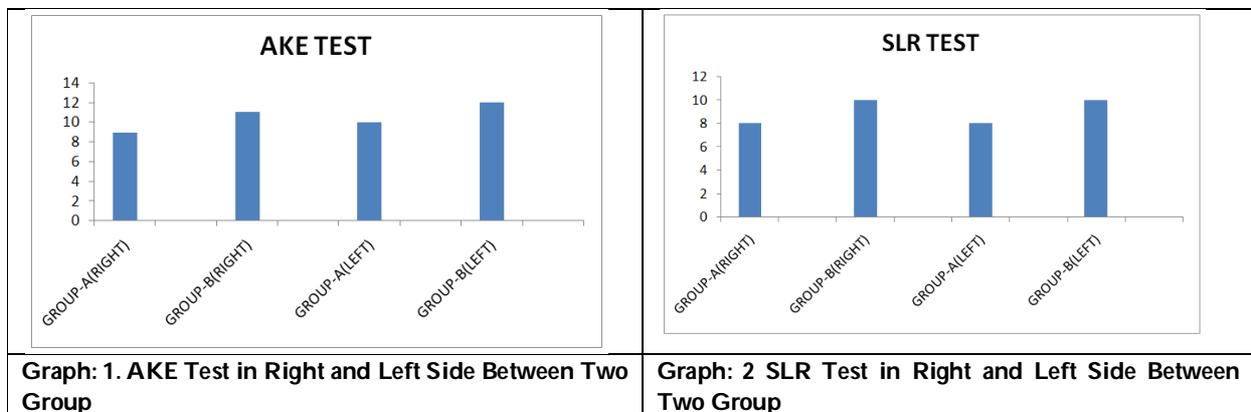
		POST	58	5.87	0.83	25.35	0.001
	LEFT	PRE	50	5.79	0.81	24.37	0.001
		POST	58	5.32	0.75	24.37	0.001
SIT AND REACH TEST		PRE	20	2.99	0.42	36.12	0.001
		POST	13	2.72	0.38	36.12	0.001

Table: 3. Mean values of Group- B

OUTCOME MEASURE	SIDE		MEAN	SD	SE	t value	p value
AKE TEST	RIGHT	PRE	112	6.07	0.85	23.34	0.001
		POST	123	5.50	0.77	23.34	0.001
	LEFT	PRE	112	6.79	0.96	21.29	0.001
		POST	124	6.05	0.85	21.29	0.001
SLR TEST	RIGHT	PRE	48	6.49	0.91	28.96	0.001
		POST	58	6.48	0.91	28.96	0.001
	LEFT	PRE	50	6.44	0.91	30.69	0.001
		POST	60	6.44	0.91	30.69	0.001
SIT AND REACH TEST		PRE	20	2.82	0.40	30.31	0.001
		POST	11	2.71	0.38	30.31	0.001

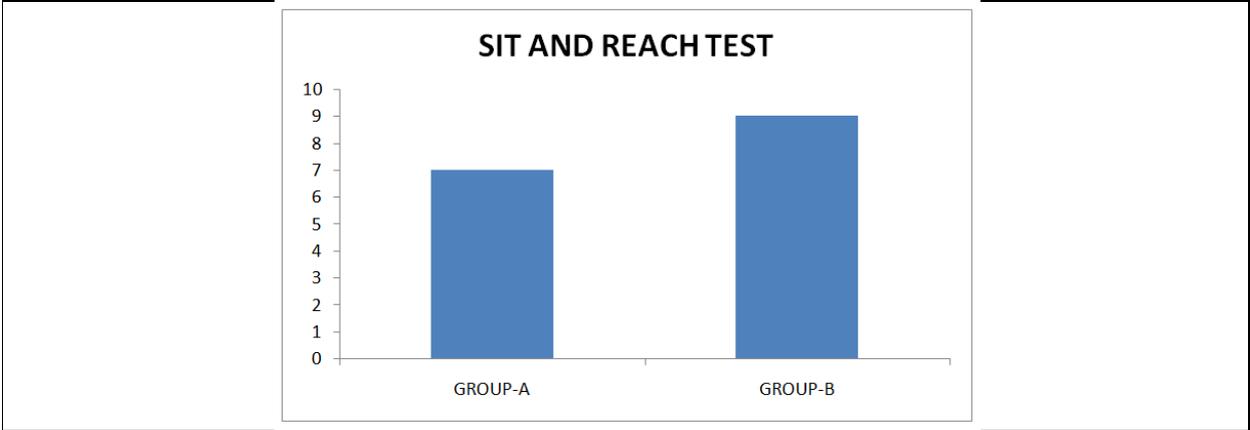
Table: 4 Difference Between Two Groups

OUTCOME MEASURE		GROUP-A	GROUP-B	t value	p value
AKE TEST	RIGHT	9±5.32	11±3.33	2.25	0.02
	LEFT	10±3.16	12±3.98	2.78	0.007
SLR TEST	RIGHT	8±2.23	10±2.44	4.27	0.001
	LEFT	8±2.32	10±2.30	4.32	0.001
SIT AND REACH TEST		7±1.37	9±2.09	5.61	0.001





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Graph: 3 Sit And Reach Test in Two Group





On Schur Complement of Interval Valued κ – Kernel Symmetric Block Fuzzy Matrices

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ABSTRACT

We discussed the notion of interval valued κ –Kernel symmetric block fuzzy matrices and derive certain elementary properties of interval valued κ –Kernel symmetric block fuzzy matrices involving Schur complements in this study.

Keywords: Schur Complement, Interval valued fuzzy matrix, Kernel Symmetric, κ – Kernel Symmetric.

Mathematical Subject Classification 2010:15B15; 15B57

INTRODUCTION

An interval valued fuzzy matrix is one of the most recent issues developed for dealing with unreliability present in the majority of our current life situations. Shyamal and Pal [7] introduced and developed the premise of an IVFM as an abstract principle of fuzzy matrix. Let \mathcal{F}_{mn} be the collection of all $m \times n$ fuzzy matrices with the support $[0,1]$ over the fuzzy algebra. $c + d = \max \{c, d\}$ and $c \cdot d = \min \{c, d\}$ for every element $c, d \in \mathcal{F}$ [3]. Let $A^T, A^+, R(A), C(A), N(A), \rho(A)$ indicate the transpose of matrix A , generalization of inverse matrix A , row space of A , column space of A , null space of A and the rank of A respectively [2]. A fuzzy matrix A is stated to be an Kernel symmetric if $N(A) = N(A^T)$ [11] and interval valued Kernel symmetric if $N(A_L) = N(A_L^T), N(A_U) = N(A_U^T)$ [10]. We denote a solution X of the equation $AXA = A$ by A^{-} [6]. For a complex matrix M Partitioned in the form

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$M = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix}$ a Schur complement of A in M denoted by M/A is defined as $M/A_L = D - CA^{-1}B$. This is called generalized Schur complement for complex matrices [1,9]. A matrix $A \in C_{n \times n}$ is said to be κ – EP if it satisfies the condition $Ax = 0 \Leftrightarrow KA^*Kx = 0$ or equivalently $N(A) = N(A^*K)$. For further properties of κ – EP matrices one may refer [4]. For $x = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \mathcal{F}_{1 \times n}$ and let $\kappa_1(x) = (x_{k(1)}, x_{k(2)}, \dots, x_{k(n)})$. Let κ – be a stationary product of separate transpositions in $S_n = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$. and K be the related permutation matrix. In this paper we have discussed when a Schur complements in an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric matrix will be an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric which contains the consequences establish in [4] as a specific case and corresponding to that of results on complex matrices found in [9].

PRELIMINARIES

We shall recall the definition of interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric fuzzy matrices studied in our earlier work [10]

Definition 2.1

For a couple of fuzzy matrices $G = (g_{ij})$ and $H = (h_{ij})$ in $\mathcal{F}_{mn} \ni G \leq H$, Now let us describe the interval matrix indicate as $[G, H]$, where ij^{th} entry is the interval with lower (bottom) limit g_{ij} and upper (higher) limit h_{ij} , it can be represent that $[g_{ij}, h_{ij}]$.

In specific, For $G = H$, IVFM $[G, G]$ simplifies to the fuzzy matrices $G \in \mathcal{F}_{mn}$. For $A = (a_{ij}) = ([a_{ijL}, a_{ijU}]) \in (IVFM)_{mn}$. Assume that $A_L = a_{ijL}$ and $A_U = a_{ijU}$ are defined. Clearly A_L and $A_U \in \mathcal{F}_{mn}$ so that $A_L \leq A_U$. As a result, A can be stated as $A = [A_L, A_U]$ where A_L and A_U are the lower and upper limits respectively [8].

Definition 2.2

For $A \in \mathcal{F}_n$ is a κ – kernel symmetric if $N(A) = N(KA^T K)$

Definition 2.3 [[5], P.119]

For $A \in \mathcal{F}_n$ is a kernel symmetric if $N(A) = N(A^T)$ where $N(A) = \{x / xA = 0 \text{ and } x \in \mathcal{F}_{1 \times n}\}$

Lemma: 2.4 [[5], P.125]

For $A, B \in \mathcal{F}_n$ and P being a permutation matrix $N(A) = N(B) \Leftrightarrow N(PAP^T) = N(PBP^T)$

Definition 2.5

For a matrix $A = [A_L, A_U] \in IVFM_{nn}$ is stated to be interval valued kernel symmetric if $N(A_L) = N(A_L^T)$ where $N(A_L) = \{x / xA_L = 0 \text{ and } x \in \mathcal{F}_{1 \times n}\}$. $N(A_U) = N(A_U^T)$, where $N(A_U) = \{x / xA_U = 0 \text{ and } x \in \mathcal{F}_{1 \times n}\}$

Definition 2.6

If $N(A_L) = N(KA_L^T K)$, $N(A_U) = N(KA_U^T K)$ then the matrix $A = [A_L, A_U] \in IVFM_{nn}$ is defined as an interval valued κ – kernel symmetric matrix.

3. Schur complement of Interval valued κ – Kernel Symmetric Block Fuzzy Matrices

Throughout we are concerned with Interval Valued block fuzzy matrix of the form

$$M = [M_L, M_U] = \begin{bmatrix} [A_L, A_U] & [B_L, B_U] \\ [C_L, C_U] & [D_L, D_U] \end{bmatrix} \dots \dots \dots (3.1)$$

where $M_L = \begin{bmatrix} A_L & B_L \\ C_L & D_L \end{bmatrix}$ and $M_U = \begin{bmatrix} A_U & B_U \\ C_U & D_U \end{bmatrix}$





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with respect to this partitioning a Schur complement of $A = [A_L, A_U]$ in M is an interval valued fuzzy matrix of the form $M_L/A_L = D_L - C_L A_L^{-1} B_L, M_U/A_U = D_U - C_U A_U^{-1} B_U$. where $A = [A_L, A_U]$ and $D = [D_L, D_U]$ are an interval valued square matrices. Here $M_L/A_L, M_U/A_U$ is an interval valued fuzzy matrix if and only if $D_L \geq C_L A_L^{-1} B_L, D_U \geq C_U A_U^{-1} B_U$ that is $D_L = D_L + C_L A_L^{-1} B_L, D_U = D_U + C_U A_U^{-1} B_U$. A partitioned matrix $M = [M_L, M_U]$ of the form (3.1) is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric fuzzy matrices then it is not true in general that a Schur complement of $A. M/A = [M/A_L, M/A_U]$ is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric. Here necessary and sufficient condition for $M/A = [M/A_L, M/A_U]$ to be interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric are obtained. Throughout the section let κ_1 and κ_2 be the product of disjoint transpositions in S_{2n} defined as follows

For $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n+1}, \dots, x_{2n}) \in \mathcal{F}_{1 \times 2n}$

$$\kappa_1(x) = \{x(x), x_{n+1}, \dots, x_{2n}\}.$$

$$\kappa_2(x) = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \kappa(x)\}, x_{n+1} \rightarrow x_{k(1)}, x_{n+2} \rightarrow x_{k(2)}, \dots, x_{2n} \rightarrow x_{k(n)}$$

If $\tilde{\kappa} = \kappa_1 \kappa_2$ then $\tilde{\kappa}(x) = (\kappa_1(x), \kappa_2(x))$

The permutation matrices related with κ_1, κ_2 and $\tilde{\kappa}$ and $K_1 = \begin{bmatrix} K & 0 \\ 0 & I_n \end{bmatrix}, K_2 = \begin{bmatrix} I_n & 0 \\ 0 & K \end{bmatrix}$ and $K = \begin{bmatrix} K & 0 \\ 0 & K \end{bmatrix}$ respectively.

In this section, an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric matrices of a block matrix is discussed.

Theorem 3.2

Let M be a matrix of the form (3.1) with $N(A_L) \subseteq N(B_L), N(A_U) \subseteq N(B_U)$ and $N(M/A_L) \subseteq N(C_L), N(M/A_U) \subseteq N(C_U)$ then the subsequent are equivalent

- 1) $M = [M_L, M_U]$ is an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric matrix with $\tilde{\kappa} = \kappa_1 \kappa_2$
- 2) $A = [A_L, A_U]$ is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric, $M/A = [M/A_L, M/A_U]$ is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric $N(A_L^T) \subseteq N(C_L^T), N(A_U^T) \subseteq N(C_U^T)$ and $N((M_L/A_L)^T) \subseteq N(B_L^T), N((M_U/A_U)^T) \subseteq N(B_U^T)$
- 3) Both the matrices $\begin{bmatrix} [A_L, A_U] & 0 \\ [C_L, C_U] & M/[A_L, A_U] \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} [A_L, A_U] & [B_L, B_U] \\ 0 & M/[A_L, A_U] \end{bmatrix}$ are an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric

Proof

(1) \Rightarrow (2)

To prove $A = [A_L, A_U]$ is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric

$M/A = [M/A_L, M/A_U]$ is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric

Consider for A_L

Let $x_1 \in N(A_L)$ and $x_2 \in N(M_L/A_L)$. Hence $x_1 A_L = 0$ and $x_2 (M_L/A_L) = 0 \dots \dots \dots (3.2)$

Define $x = [x_1, x_2]$

We claim that $x M_L = [x_1, x_2] \begin{bmatrix} A_L & B_L \\ C_L & D_L \end{bmatrix} = 0$

Since $N(M_L/A_L) \subseteq N(C_L), x_2 (M_L/A_L) = 0 \Rightarrow x_2 C_L = 0$

$N(A_L) \subseteq N(B_L), x_1 A_L = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 B_L = 0$

Hence, $x_1 A_L + x_2 C_L = 0$ and $x_1 B_L + x_2 D_L = 0$

$\therefore x M_L = 0$ (ie) $x \in N(M_L)$

Since $M = [M_L, M_U]$ is an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric, $N(M_L) = N(K M_L^T K)$

$\therefore x K M_L^T K = 0$

$$(x_1, x_2) \begin{bmatrix} K & 0 \\ 0 & K \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_L^T & B_L^T \\ C_L^T & D_L^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} K & 0 \\ 0 & K \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$\Rightarrow x_1 K A_L^T K + x_2 K B_L^T K = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 K A_L^T K = 0$ and $x_2 K B_L^T K = 0$

$\Rightarrow x_1 K C_L^T K + x_2 K D_L^T K = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 K C_L^T K = 0$ and $x_2 K D_L^T K = 0$

Hence $x_1 \in N(K A_L^T K), x_2 \in N(K B_L^T K)$ and $x_2 \in N(K D_L^T K)$

Since $x_1 \in N(A_L)$ and $x_2 \in N(M_L/A_L)$ it follows that





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$N(A_L) \subseteq N(KA_L^T K)$, $N(M_L/A_L) \subseteq N(K(B_L)^T K)$ and
 $N(M_L/A_L) \subseteq N(K(D_L)^T K)$ implies $N(M_L/A_L) \subseteq N(K(M_L/A_L)^T K)$
 Similarly it can be prove that $N(KA_L^T K) \subseteq N(A_L)$

Similarly $\therefore A_U$ is also holds.

Thus $A = [A_L, A_U]$ is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric

Since $x_1 \in N(KC_L^T K)$ and $A = [A_L, A_U]$ is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric $N(A_L) = N(KA_L^T K) \subseteq N(KC_L^T K)$

By using lemma (2.4) $N(A_L^T) \subseteq N(C_L^T)$

By definition $M_L/A_L = D_L - C_L A_L^{-1} B_L$ implies $N(M_L/A_L) \subseteq N(K(M_L/A_L)^T K)$

Similarly it can be prove that $N(K(M_L/A_L)^T K) \subseteq N(M_L/A_L)$

$\therefore N(M_L/A_L) \subseteq N(K(M_L/A_L)^T K)$

Similarly $\therefore A_U$ is also holds.

Hence $M_L/A = [M_L/A_L, M/A_U]$ is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric

Since $N(M_L/A_L) \subseteq N(KB_L^T K)$ and $M_L/A = [M_L/A_L, M/A_U]$ is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric, $N(K(M_L/A_L)^T K) \subseteq N(KB_L^T K)$

By using lemma (2.4) $N(M_L/A_L) \subseteq N(B_L^T)$

Thus(1) \Rightarrow (2) holds.

(2) \Rightarrow (3):

Consider for A_L

$M_{1L} = \begin{bmatrix} A_L & 0 \\ C_L & M_L/A_L \end{bmatrix}$ and $M_{2L} = \begin{bmatrix} A_L & B_L \\ 0 & M_L/A_L \end{bmatrix}$ are an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric

$x \in N(M_1)$

Partition x in conformity with that of M_1 as $x = [x_1, x_2]$ then,

$$(x_1, x_2) \begin{bmatrix} A_L & 0 \\ C_L & D_L \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$x_1 A_L = 0, x_2 C_L = 0$ and $x_2 D_L = 0 \Rightarrow x_2 (M_L/A_L) = 0$ since $A = [A_L, A_U]$ and $M/A = [M_L/A_L, M/A_U]$ an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric

$x_1 \in N(A_L) = N(KA_L^T K) \Rightarrow x_1 KA_L^T K = 0$

$x_2 \in N(M_L/A_L) = N(K(M_L/A_L)^T K) \Rightarrow x_2 (K(M_L/A_L)^T K) = 0$

Since $N(A_L^T) \subseteq N(C_L^T)$

By lemma 2.4 $N(KA_L^T K) \subseteq N(KC_L^T K) \Rightarrow x_1 KC_L^T K = 0$

Now by using $x_1 KA_L^T K = 0, x_1 KC_L^T K = 0$ and $x_2 (K(M_L/A_L)^T K) = 0$ it can be verified that

$$(x_1, x_2) \begin{bmatrix} KA_L^T K & KC_L^T K \\ 0 & K(M/A_L)^T K \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

Thus $N(M_1) \subseteq N(KM_{1L}^T K)$. By lemma 2.4 $N(KM_{1L}^T K) \subseteq N(M_1)$

$\therefore N(M_{1L}) = N(KM_{1L}^T K)$

Hence $M_1 = [M_{1L}, M_{1U}]$ is an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric

In the same manner, it can be prove that $M_2 = [M_{2L}, M_{2U}]$ is an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric

Thus(2) \Rightarrow (3) holds.

(3) \Rightarrow (1):

$M_1 = [M_{1L}, M_{1U}]$ is an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric $\Rightarrow N(M_1) = N(KM_1^T K)$

$M_2 = [M_{2L}, M_{2U}]$ is an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric $\Rightarrow N(M_2) = N(KM_2^T K)$

To prove M is an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric that is $N(M_L) = N(KM_L^T K), N(M_U) = N(KM_U^T K)$

Let $x \in N(M_L) \Rightarrow x M_L = 0$

Partition x in conformity with that of M_L as $x = [x_1, x_2]$ then

$$x M_L = [x_1, x_2] \begin{bmatrix} A_L & B_L \\ C_L & D_L \end{bmatrix} = 0$$





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$$x_1 A_L + x_2 C_L = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 A_L = 0 \text{ and } x_2 C_L = 0$$

$$x_1 B_L + x_2 D_L = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 B_L = 0 \text{ and } x_2 D_L = 0$$

From the definition of, $M_L/A_L = D_L - C_L A_L^{-1} B_L$ we have

$$x_2 D_L = 0 \text{ and } x_2 C_L = 0 \Rightarrow x_2 (M_L/A_L) = 0$$

$$x_1 A_L + x_2 C_L = 0 \text{ and } x_2 (M_L/A_L) = 0 \dots\dots\dots(3.3)$$

$$\text{and } x_1 A_L = 0, x_1 B_L + x_2 M_L/A_L = 0 \dots\dots\dots(3.4)$$

From (3.3) $x \in N(M_1) \Rightarrow x \in N(KM_1^T K)$

From(3.4) $x \in N(M_2) \Rightarrow x \in N(KM_2^T K)$. Hence $x \in N(KM_L^T K)$

$$N(M_L) \subseteq N(KM_L^T K) \text{ Similarly } N(KM_L^T K) \subseteq N(M_L) \Bigg\|$$

$$N(M_L) = N(KM_L^T K)$$

Similarly $\therefore A_U$ is also holds.

$\therefore M$ is an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric matrix. Hence the theorem.

Theorem 3.3

Let M be a matrix of the form (3.1) with $N(A_L^T) \subseteq N(C_L^T), N(A_U^T) \subseteq N(C_U^T), N((M/A_L)^T) \subseteq N(B_L^T), N((M/A_U)^T) \subseteq N(B_U^T)$ then the following are identical

- 1) M is an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric matrix with $\tilde{\kappa} = \kappa_1 \kappa_2$
- 2) $A = [A_L, A_U]$ is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric, $M/A = [M/A_L, M/A_U]$ is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric $N(A_L) \subseteq N(B_L)$ and $N(M/A_L) \subseteq N(C_L)$
- 3) Both the matrices $\begin{bmatrix} [A_L, A_U] & 0 \\ [C_L, C_U] & M/[A_L, A_U] \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} [A_L, A_U] & [B_L, B_U] \\ 0 & M/[A_L, A_U] \end{bmatrix}$ are an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric

Proof

The premise that M is an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric matrix $\boxed{\times} M^T$ is an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric matrix lead directly to this theorem (3.2)

Corollary 3.4

Let M be the matrix of the form matrices $\begin{bmatrix} [A_L, A_U] & [C_L^T, C_U^T] \\ [C_L, C_U] & [D_L, D_U] \end{bmatrix}$ with $(A_L) \subseteq N(C_L^T), (A_U) \subseteq N(C_U^T)$ and $N(M/A_L) \subseteq N(C_L), N(M/A_U) \subseteq N(C_U)$

- 1) M is an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric matrix with $\tilde{\kappa} = \kappa_1 \kappa_2$
- 2) $A = [A_L, A_U]$ is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric, $M/A = [M/A_L, M/A_U]$ is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric
- 3) The matrices $\begin{bmatrix} [A_L, A_U] & 0 \\ [C_L, C_U] & M/[A_L, A_U] \end{bmatrix}$ is an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric.

Remark 3.5

The condition taken on M in Theorem 3.2 and Theorem 3.6 are essential. The subsequent examples demonstrate this.

Example: Let $M = \begin{bmatrix} [1,1] & [1,1] & [1,1] & [0,0] \\ [1,1] & [1,1] & [1,1] & [1,1] \\ [1,1] & [0,0] & [1,1] & [1,1] \\ [1,1] & [1,1] & [1,1] & [1,1] \end{bmatrix} \quad K = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$





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For this $[M_L, M_U]$ has no '0' row and no '0' columns

$$N(M_L) = N(M_U) = \{0\} \quad N(KM_L^T K) = N(KM_U^T K) = \{0\}$$

$$N(M_L) = N(KM_L^T K), N(M_U) = N(KM_U^T K)$$

$\Rightarrow M = [M_L, M_U]$ is an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric matrix

$$A_L^- = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is g-inverse, with respect to } A_L^-$$

$$M_L = D_L - C_L A_L^- B_L = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

M_L/A_L is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric, Since $N(K(M/A_L)^T K) = \{0\}$

$A = [A_L, A_U]$ is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric, since

$$N(A_L) = N(KM_L^T K) = \{0\}, N(A_U) = N(KM_U^T K) = \{0\}, \text{ for all } K$$

$$N(A_L) \subseteq N(B_L), N(A_U) \subseteq N(B_U) \text{ and } N(A_L^T) \subseteq N(C_L^T), N(A_U^T) \subseteq N(C_U^T)$$

$$\text{Here } N(M_L/A_L) = \{(0, x_2) : x_2 \in \mathcal{F}\} = N((M_L/A_L)^T) N(C_L) = \{0\}, N(B_L^T) = \{0\}$$

$N(M_L/A_L)$ is not containing in $N(C_L)$ and $N((M_L/A_L)^T)$ is not containing in $N(B_L^T)$

$$\text{Similarly } N(M_U/A_U) = \{(0, x_2) : x_2 \in \mathcal{F}\} = N((M_U/A_U)^T)$$

$$N(C_U) = \{0\}, N(B_U^T) = \{0\}$$

$N(M_U/A_U)$ is not containing in $N(C_U)$ and $N((M_U/A_U)^T)$ is not containing in $N(B_U^T)$

$$\text{Further } M_1 = \begin{bmatrix} [1,1] & [1,1] & [0,0] & [0,0] \\ [1,1] & [1,1] & [0,0] & [0,0] \\ [1,1] & [0,0] & [0,0] & [1,1] \\ [1,1] & [1,1] & [0,0] & [0,0] \end{bmatrix}, N(M_{1L}), N(M_{1U}) = \{0\}, N(KM_{1L}^T K) = N(KM_{1U}^T K) = \{(0,0,0, x_4) : x_4 \in \mathcal{F}\}$$

$\Rightarrow M_1$ is not an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric

$$M_2 = \begin{bmatrix} [1,1] & [1,1] & [1,1] & [0,0] \\ [1,1] & [1,1] & [1,1] & [1,1] \\ [0,0] & [0,0] & [0,0] & [1,1] \\ [0,0] & [0,0] & [0,0] & [0,0] \end{bmatrix}. M_2 \text{ is not an interval valued } \kappa \text{ – Kernel symmetric}$$

Thus condition (1) of theorem (3.2) holds but condition (2) and (3) of the Theorem (3.2) fail

Thus, condition (1) of theorem (3.3) holds but condition (2) and (3) fails.

Remark 3.6

For a not an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric M of the form $M = [M_L, M_U] = \begin{bmatrix} [A_L, A_U] & [B_L, B_U] \\ [C_L, C_U] & [D_L, D_U] \end{bmatrix}$ with $\tilde{\kappa} =$

$$\kappa_1 \kappa_2 \text{ then the following are equivalent. } N(A_L) \subseteq N(B_L), N(M/A_L) \subseteq N(B_L^T)$$

However, this fails if we omit the condition that M is an interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric matrix

$$\text{Example: } M = \begin{bmatrix} [1,1] & [1,1] & [1,1] & [0,0] \\ [1,1] & [0,0] & [0,0] & [1,1] \\ [0,0] & [0,0] & [0,0] & [0,0] \\ [1,1] & [0,0] & [1,1] & [1,1] \end{bmatrix} \quad K = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$N(M_L) = \{(0,0, x_3, 0) : x_3 \in \mathcal{F}\} \neq N(KM_L^T K),$$

$$N(M_U) = \{(0,0, x_3, 0) : x_3 \in \mathcal{F}\} \neq N(KM_U^T K)$$

$\therefore M$ is not an interval valued $\tilde{\kappa}$ – Kernel symmetric matrix

$$M_L/A_L = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, M_U/A_U = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Here $N(A_L) \subseteq N(B_L), N(A_U) \subseteq N(B_U), N(M/A_L) \subseteq N(C_L) \quad (M/A_U) \subseteq N(C_U)$ but $N(A_L^T)$ is not contained $N(C_L^T), N(A_U^T)$ is not contained $N(C_U^T) \quad N((M/A_L)^T)$ not contained $N(B_L^T), N((M/A_U)^T)$ is not contained in $N(B_U^T)$





CONCLUSION

We defined the Schur complement of interval valued κ – Kernel Symmetric block fuzzy matrices in this work. In addition, we have investigated into some Proposition of Schur complement of interval valued κ – Kernel symmetric block fuzzy matrices with examples.

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Isolation of Fungal Endophytes from *Chamaecostus cuspidatus* and Its Antibacterial Activity

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ABSTRACT

Today, there is a lot of interest and importance placed on the research of endophytic biodiversity, the biochemical roles of endophytic metabolites, and the interactions between endophytes and host plants. *Chamaecostus cuspidatus* is a native herbaceous plant to eastern Brazil and a member of the Costaceae family. Under the name insulin plant, it is used in India to treat ailments such as *K. pneumoniae*, but *Mycelia sterilia* and *Cladorrhinium sp.* exclusively inhibited *S. aureus*, a gram-positive bacterium. *Cladorrhinium sp.* and *Chalaropsis sp.*, two endophytic fungi, displayed the presence of acids, amines, and esters. The fungi *Mycelia sterilia* demonstrated the existence of amines and aromatic compounds.

Keywords: Anti-bacterial property, Endophytic fungi, Metabolites and Organic compounds.

INTRODUCTION

Plant-associated microbial research, especially that on endophytic fungi, is still in its infancy. These days, there is a lot of interest in the study of endophytic biodiversity, the biochemical roles of endophytic metabolites, and the interactions between endophytes and host plants (Tan and Zou, 2001; Schulz *et al.*, 2002). Dreg Fuss and Chapela assert that there may be one million species of endophytic fungus, which are found on a variety of medicinal plants (1994). Only 80,000–100,000 fungal species out of an estimated 1.5 million have been described thus far (Hawksworth and Rossman, 1987; Kirk *et al.*, 2001). (1991, Hawksworth).





A natural herbaceous plant of eastern Brazil, *Chamaecostus cuspidatus* is a member of the Costaceae family. It is sometimes referred to as a spiral flag or fiery costus. It is utilized in India for the treatment of conditions that are said to have anti-diabetic qualities under the name insulin plant. The plant *Chamaecostus cuspidatus*' roots were harvested for fungal endophytes using the pour plate method in the current study. Among the numerous fungi identified, the *Chalaropsis sp.*, *Cladorrhinium sp.*, and *Mycelia sterilia* were three. The antibacterial study was carried out using the turbidity method and the Agar Diffusion technique, and the fungal endophytes were cultivated in broth medium. *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli*, and *Klebsiella pneumonia* were used to assess the antibacterial effects of every endophytic fungal isolate from the plant *Chamaecostus cuspidatus*. The gram-positive bacterium *S. aureus* was, however, only inhibited by *Mycelia sterilia* and *Cladorrhinium sp.* The primary found fungus, *Chalaropsis sp.*, showed antibacterial activity against *K. pneumoniae* and *E. coli*. Two endophytic fungi, *Cladorrhinium sp.* And *Chalaropsis sp.*, showed evidence of the presence of acids, amines, and esters. *Mycelia sterilia*, a fungus, provided evidence of the presence of amines and aromatic chemicals. In order to comprehend the consequences of the antibacterial capability, fungal endophytes and their metabolites were isolated and investigated. In this study, the impact of an endophytic fungus on the pathogens *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli*, and *Klebsiella pneumonia* will be examined. This fungus is found in the roots of the medicinal plant *Chamaecostus cuspidatus*. The study of endophytic fungus and their metabolites' possible antibacterial activities is known as hypothesis. Understanding the antibacterial property allows us to link the endophyte's antibacterial activity to that of the host plant, *Chamaecostus cuspidatus*.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sampling Site

Dhanvantri Vana, part of the Department of Forestry, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, was the study location selected for the collection of endophytic fungal samples.

Locality	Latitude	Longitude	Habitat/ Forest type
Dhanvantri Vana, Bengaluru	77.498159° W	12.942061° S	Cultivated

Isolation of Endophytic Fungi

Samples of the root of *Lagerstroemia speciosa* were obtained, cleaned, and cut into smaller pieces before being surface sterilized. The cleaned root pieces were sterilized in 75% alcohol for one minute, and then immersed in 5% sodium hypochlorite for eight minutes. The sterilized root parts were again immersed in 75% alcohol for 30 seconds to remove any leftover sterilants from their surface. The root pieces were then dried on sterile blotting paper using a modified method. Guo *et al.* (2008); Wang *et al.*; Samaga *et al.* (2008) Fungus growth was observed when the prepared root pieces were spread out on sterile Potato Dextrose Agar (PDA) medium containing streptomycin and cultured at 28 °C for 21 days.

Identification of Fungal Isolates

Using lactophenol cotton blue, the isolated fungal colonies were examined for their growth circumstances, colony features, pigmentation, and morphological traits.

Study of Endophytic Fungi for Anti-Bacterial Activity

The identified endophytic fungi were grown in potato dextrose broth and kept there for 21 days at 28 °C to examine the antibacterial properties of the broth.

(a) Turbidity Method *Escherichia coli* (NCIM 2068) and *Staphylococcus aureus* (NCIM 5345), two bacterial strains with different gram ratings, were cultivated in nutritional broth for 48 hours. The test tube contained 100 l of bacterial culture, 1 ml of crude fungal broth, and 1 ml of sterile nutrient broth. The tubes were then incubated for 48 hours at 37°C. The tubes were tested for turbidity, if any. The absence of turbidity indicates that the fungus broth is effective in halting the growth of bacteria.



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Agar-Plate Technique For uniform bacterial lawn development, the test organism was distributed plate injected onto a plate of nutrient agar media. On the agar medium, sterile paper discs were arranged in a circle and saturated in a fungus extract. For the evaluation of antibacterial properties, DMSO-dissolved fungal broth that had been extracted with ethyl acetate was employed. After 36–48 hours of 37°C incubation, the plates were examined for the zone of inhibition. To compare the zone of inhibition of the test results, a control disc containing the antibiotic Ciprofloxacin was employed. The discs' inhibitory zone's diameter, expressed in millimeters, was measured (mm). The technique described by was applied using the Agar disc diffusion method (Kirby- Baurer 1996).

Study of the Endophytic Fungal Broth for the Presence of Organic Compounds

In order to screen for different compounds, the endophytic fungal broth of 21 days was examined by organic analysis using the AOAC method. Aliphatic chemicals, aromatic compounds, amines, aldehydes, phenols, and esters can all be screened.

RESULTS

Endophytic Fungi Isolated From the Plant *Chamaecostus cuspidatus*

The study extracted three species of endophytes from the roots of *Chamaecostus cuspidatus*: *Chalaropsis sp.*, *Cladorrhinium sp.*, and *Mycelia sterilia*.

Investigating Endophytic Fungi's Antibacterial Activity

The ant- bacterial study of the fungal endophytes was studied by Turbidity method. The isolated fungal endophyte *Chalaropsis sp.*, a predominant fungus showed antibacterial property against *E.coli* and *K.pneumoniae*. while the endophytic fungi *Mycelia sterilia* and *Cladorrhinium sp.* inhibited only the gram positive bacteria *S.aureus*.

Investigating Endophytic Fungal Metabolites as an Anti-Bacterial Property by Agar Diffusion Technique

The endophytic fungal metabolites were studied by Agar Diffusion technique and it was found to be inhibiting bacteria. The development of zones of inhibition surrounding the well, indicates the antibacterial activity.

Screening Of Organic Compounds from the Endophytic Fungal Metabolites.

The fungi *Cladorrhinium sp.* and *Chalaropsis sp.* showed the presence of acids, amines and esters. The fungi *Mycelia sterilia* showed the presence of aromatic compounds and amines.

CONCLUSIONS

Endophytes from medicinal plants have gained enough significance in this context, and research is being done on endophytic compounds with anti-microbial capabilities. In the current study, three distinct endophyte species—*Chalaropsis sp.*, *Cladorrhinium sp.*, and *Mycelia sterilia*—were isolated. *Chalaropsis sp.*, the dominant endophytic fungus, showed acids, amines, and esters in addition to having antibacterial activities against *K. pneumoniae* and *E. coli*. The endophytic fungi *Mycelia sterilia* and *Cladorrhinium sp.* inhibited only the gram-positive bacteria *S. aureus*. While *Cladorrhinium sp.* showed the presence of acids, amines, and esters, *Mycelia sterilia* showed the presence of aromatic compounds and amines.

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Table 3.1: Endophytic fungi isolates from *Chamaecostus cuspidatus*

SI No	Fungal isolates	Endophytic fungi
1	<i>Chalaropsis</i> sp.	+
2	<i>Cladorrhinium</i> sp.	+
3	<i>Mycelia sterilia</i>	+

Table: 3.2. Investigating Endophytic fungal metabolites as an anti-bacterial property by Turbidity technique

SI No	Fungal isolates	<i>E.coli</i>	<i>Staph.aureus</i>	<i>K. pneumoniae</i>
1	<i>Chalaropsis</i> sp.	+	-	+
2	<i>Cladorrhinium</i> sp.	-	+	-
3	<i>Mycelia sterilia</i>	-	+	-

Table: 3.3 Study of fungal endophytic metabolites as an anti-bacterial property by Agar diffusion technique.

SI No	The plants name	The fungi name	Zone of inhibition (mm)		
			<i>E.coli</i>	<i>Staph.aureus</i>	<i>K.pneumoniae</i>
	<i>Chamaecostus cuspidatus</i>				
1		<i>Chalaropsis</i> sp.	6.00	-	5.00
2		<i>Cladorrhinium</i> sp.	-	5.00	-
3		<i>Mycelia sterilia</i>	-	7.00	-
5	Ciproflaxacin 5µl (1mg/ml) Standard		20.00	21.00	13.00



***Chamaecostus cuspidatus* Phalaenopsis sp. Cladorrhinium Sp. Mycelia sterilia**

Fig. 3.1 Fungal isolates from plant roots of *Chamaecostus Cuspidatus* sampled at Dhanavantrivana





Application of Statistical Techniques for Monitoring and Evaluation of Water Quality of Bhima River

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ABSTRACT

The water is elixir resource on planet earth. The water quality analysis is one of the most crucial aspects in surface water studies. The water quality is a significant factor for the assessment of the pollution level. The present research work deals with comprehensive evaluation of the quality of Bhima river water from its origin to confluence of Bhima and Krishna rivers. In this study, river water quality data for eight physico-chemical parameters were determined, such as Conductivity, Temperature, pH, Dissolved Oxygen, Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand, Nitrate, Faecal Coliform, Total Coliform etc., collected from twelve monitoring stations of Bhima river channel. This data was collected during 2016 to 2020. The ANOVA statistical analysis method is used for correlation analysis between different parameters water quality.

Keywords: Analysis, Bhima River, Physico-chemical parameter, water quality monitoring

INTRODUCTION

Water is an essential element for existence of human beings and other living things. The river water is significant element of earth planet. In India the riverine system is getting polluted day by day. The quality of these river water is very sensitive issue. The physical as well as anthropogenic influence impact decline water quality and impair their use for domestic use, industrial leftover water and run off from agriculture land in their vast drainage basin are among the most susceptible water bodies to pollution. (Sing, 2005) Urban and industrial sector are considered as existence major source of nutrient and chemical to aquatic ecosystem. The concentration of toxic chemicals and



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biological nutrient are increase the create different problems in this biotic environment, such as toxic algal blooms, fish kill, loss of oxygen, forfeiture of aquatic plant and coral reefs. The pathogenic microbes can be dangerous for health and life. It is very important to test the quality of water before using for daily activities and various industrial purposes. It is necessary to test the water quality with the health of different physico-chemical parameters. The selection of these parameters is exclusively be contingent for the purpose of using water and the need of purity and quality. The Bhima River is the main sub stream of river Krishna in Maharashtra state. The different cities are developed at both side of river bank and industrial waste water mixed in river water, become this water is polluted. Thus, the assessment of the quality of Bhima river water is worthwhile to study its Physico-Chemical parameters such as Temperature, Dissolved oxygen, pH, Conductivity, BOD, Nitrate, Faecal Coliform, Total Coliform and others for obtaining more purity and quality of water. The different researchers have conducted their studies on the water quality of various rivers, but there is need of the water quality evaluation and monitoring of Bhima river.

Study Area

The Bhima River has been selected for present research. It is sub tributary of Krishna River. Bhima is major river in western India. Which is originate from Bhimashankar, it is situated in western side of Sahyadri range. The Bhima river flows southeast for 861 Kilometers through Maharashtra, Karnataka and Telangana. The geographical extension of Bhima river is 16°24'32.4"N to 19°24'14.4"N latitude and 73°20'27.6" to 75°57'7.2" E. The total area covered by Bhima river basin is 70,614Sq.Kms.

DATABASE AND METHODOLOGY

The base map of study area is prepared by using Survey of India's topographical sheet 1:50,000 scale. The sampling site map were prepared by using geostatistical toolbox in ArcGIS10.7 software. The research is based on secondary database. The year wise data are obtained from State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) & Regional Directorates (RDs), CPCB under National Water Quality Monitoring Programme. (NWMP)

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The following tables are showing physico-chemical analysis of Bhima River. On chemical and biological activity.

Temperature

The temperature is significant for its effect on certain biological and chemical activity. The temperature is varying in Indian sub-continent its range is found between 7.8 to 38.5°C. The average temperature of water in study area is found between 22.6 to 36.2°C. Temperature variation is mostly related to atmospheric condition. The trend of temperature is increase toward the lower Bhima River area. The water quality standard of pH is shown in table No. 1 and its graphical trend is shown in fig. No. 3.

Dissolved Oxygen (mg/ L)

The possible reason for low DO is due to the presence of material with rich organic content responsible for depletion of oxygen. Rani *et al.* (2004) reported that due to high temperature there are lesser values of dissolved oxygen in summer months because of higher rate of decomposition of organic matter and limited flow of water in low oxygen holding environment. Generally, the trend of dissolved oxygen is increases towards the mouth or confluence of Bhima and Krishna River. The yearly trend is shows through the following graph. The average dissolved oxygen value is highly recorded in 2019 up to 7.2 mg/l in Gangapur city. Lowest dissolved oxygen level is found in Shirur in 2020 up to 3.5 mg/l. General variation in dissolved oxygen is shows through table no.-2.

pH

pH is used for mensuration of hydrogen ion attentiveness in water. The value of pH of Bhima River is within the adequate limit as per (IS 10500-2012). The pH is indicate the alkaline and acidic condition of water. BIS has



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recommended 6.5 to 8.5 pH range for water used for any purposes. pH values are varied in between 7.2 to 8.5 for all the time of sampling. The year wise average of pH shown in table. The pH of water Bhima River shows alkaline, which is favorable for fish culture.

Electric Conductivity

The conductivity is called the ability of water to comport an electric current. It is dependent upon the concentration of ions in the solution. The conductivity is an index to represent total concentration of soluble salts in water. Electrical conductivity is an estimate of total dissolved salt in water with EC Values between 2500 to 10000 $\mu\text{mho}/\text{cm}$. It is not recommended for human consumption and normally not suitable for irrigation. The average electric conductivity is found between 641.7 $\mu\text{mho}/\text{Cm}$ to 1184.92 $\mu\text{mho}/\text{Cm}$. The highest EC Values is found up to 1788 $\mu\text{mho}/\text{Cm}$ and lowest volume is shows 401 $\mu\text{mho}/\text{Cm}$ in year 2020 at Vitthalwadi.

Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand

The Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) is the amount of oxygen which is required for the bacteria to stabilize the decomposable organic substance. The mean yearly range of BOD was observed between 3.09mg/l to 17.35 mg/l. The high concentration of Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand was recorded in Pune city area, because of huge loss of sediment, sewage and domestic water. The minimum value of Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand was measured in 1.9 mg/l in 2018 at Gangapur, and the maximum mean yearly Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand value is observed 16.5mg/l in 2019 at Vitthalwadi near Pune city. The decreasing rate of BOD is observed towards the confluence of Bhima and Krishna River.

Nitrate

Nitrate (NO_3) is found naturally in the physical environment, this nutrient play vital role in plant development. It exists in different concentrations in flora and it is a part of nitrogen cycle. Nitrogen is formed by the microbial lessening of nitrate. Nitrate can reaches in river as well as surface water through the agriculture activity. The mean volume on nitrate in Bhima River if found between 0.21 to 3.97mg/l. The highest volume of nitrate is recorded in Ujani dam 6.2mg/l in 2018 and lowest amount observed in Jewaragi 0.1mg/l in 2018. The highest concentration of nitrate is seen upper Bhima River channel from Vitthalwadi to Narsingpur, the downstream area expressed low volume of nitrate. The phytoplankton's species are mostly developed in upper stream area up to Ujani dam, this phytoplankton uptake nitrate from river water, due to amount of nitrate and its trend is decline toward the lower stream of Bhima. The sugarcane industries are established on the nearer part of river bank and its sewage is mixed in surface water due to volume of nitrate is increases.

Faecal Coliform

The average values of faecal coliforms in Bhima basin are varying from 111 to 926 MPN/100 ml in this half decade and from 06 to 1600 MPN/100 ml. The presence of coliform organism indicates there may be the presence of pathogenic organism. The total coliform should not be more than 5000 MPN/100 ml for C class of water. Hence with conventional treatment and disinfection, the water at most of the locations in Bhima basin is fit for human consumption.

Total Coliform

To estimate the number of coliforms in water samples as an index of magnitude of biological contamination is the main purpose of the total coliform counts in water bodies. In order to check the possible contamination, total coliform count in water bodies is an important parameter. The Total coliform group is made of several types of bacteria. These bacteria reach water through faeces of humans and other warm-blooded animals, as well as through contaminated soils. The average values of Total coliforms are varying from 567 to 1277.5 MPN/100 ml. generally the total coliform is found between 29.5 to 1850 MPN/100 ml. The higher values of total coliforms bacteria are observed at all sites in Bhima Basin during Monsoon season. Due to unprocessed wastewater discharged into river and animal activities, the higher values of total coliform most probably are increased.



**Vilas Vasant Patil and Agastirishi Bharat Toradmal****Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) for Water Quality Parameters Relationship**

Analysis of variance is a collection of statistical models and their associated estimation procedures used to analyze the differences among means. ANOVA was developed by the statistician Ronald Fisher. ANOVA is based on the law of total variance, where the observed variance in a particular variable is partitioned into components attributed to different sources of variation. ANOVA analysis was performed to determine if there is any difference in Temperature between site. (Table no. 111) There is statistically significant variation in the temperature between the site. ($F= 3.8518$, $df= 11$, $p=0.05$). ANOVA analysis was performed to determine if there is any difference in dissolved oxygen between site (table no. 111) statistical significance difference in the dissolved oxygen the site. ($F= 7.073$, $df=11$, $p=0.0019$). During summer season the dissolve oxygen is very less due to high utilization of oxygen and dissolved oxygen. The winter season have low temperature they contribute increasement of DO. The high value of DO is recorded at Yadgir (Karnataka), it is 34.8mg/L. The lower value of DO in summer season is due to high rate of decomposition of organic matter and limited flow of water. At this time the water holds low oxygen because of high temperature in atmosphere. ANOVA analysis was performed to determine if there is any difference in pH between site (table no. 111) statistical significance difference in pH between the site. ($F=3.315$, $df= 11$, $p=5.87$). pH of aquatic bodies depends on concentration of carbonates, bicarbonate and free CO_2 and such pH range could be the result of various biological activities. ANOVA analysis was performed to determine if there is any difference in electric conductivity between site (table no. 111) statistical significance difference in electric conductivity between the site. ($F= 1.941$, $df= 11$, $p=0.05696$).

The purity of water is determined by the electrical conductivity. It depends on nature and concentration of ionized substance in water and water temperature. The electrical conductivity was recorded maximum in summer and minimum in monsoon season. ANOVA analysis was performed to determine if there is any difference in bio-chemical oxygen demand between site (table no. 111) statistical significance difference in the bio-chemical oxygen demand between the site. ($F= 11.44$, $df=11$, $p=4.80$). The Bio-chemical oxygen demand is the amount of oxygen which is utilized by micro-organism in stabilizing the organic matter. ANOVA analysis was performed to determine if there is any difference in nitrate between site (table no. 111) statistical significance difference in the nitrate between the site. ($F= 11.67$, $df= 11$, $p = 3.5$). The high nitrate is corelated with high density of phytoplankton and high rate of organic decomposition in river water.

ANOVA analysis was performed to determine if there is any difference in faecal coliform between site (table no. 111) statistical significance difference in the faecal coliform between the site. ($F= 4.72$, $df= 11$, $p= 7.1$). Faecal coliform can occur in ambient water as a result of the overflow of domestic sewage or nonpoint sources of human and animal waste. Faecal Coliform bacteria indicate the presence of sewage contamination of a waterway and the possible presence of other pathogenic organisms. ANOVA analysis was performed to determine if there is any difference in total coliform between site (table no. 111) statistical significance difference in the total coliform between the site. ($F=2.96$, $df=11$, $p= 0.00452$). Coliform bacteria are organisms that are present in the environment and are found in the feces of all warm-blooded animals and humans. Coliform bacteria will not likely cause illness. However, their presence in drinking water indicates the existence of disease-causing organisms (pathogens) in the water system. The table no.10 is express relationship between different parameters. This relationship calculated through ANOVA statistical method which is done by using Microsoft office Excel. The highly positive relationship is found with temperature and DO, pH, coliform. The conductivity, BOD and Nitrate are negatively corelated with temperature. The dissolved oxygen is strongly positive with pH and moderately positive with coliform, it is also negatively corelated with conductivity, BOD, nitrate. The BOD is strongly negatively corelated with coliform and moderately positive related with nitrate. Nitrate is strongly negatively corelated with coliform.

CONCLUSION

The water quality in the Bhima River has been evaluated for drinking and agricultural purpose. The analysis of water at twelve sites in Bhima River was carried out on the basis of data of five years. The total eight water quality



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parameters were analyzed during this study of river Bhima. Like Temperature, Dissolved oxygen, pH, Conductivity, Biochemical oxygen demand, Nitrate, Faecal coliform, Total coliform etc. The analysis of variance is calculated by using Microsoft office Excel tool. The statistically significant difference was found in the parameter's temperature, Dissolved oxygen, BoD, nitrate, Faecal Coliform and Total Coliform among the sites. Conductivity it is one of the parameters they have no statistically significant difference in this parameter among the sites. Generally, the temperature, pH, DO and coliform are positively correlated with each other and negatively correlated with conductivity, BOD and nitrate. The most of water quality parameters at some selected stations were near or beyond the permissible limit prescribed by ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research), BIS (Bureau of Indian Standards) and WHO (World Health Organization). It is indicated that the water of Bhima River is not suitable for drinking and Agriculture purpose.

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Table no.-1, Temperature in Bhima River (Source- Central Pollution Control Board, Govt. of India)

Temperature (°C)							
Sr. No.	Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Avg. of Temperature
1	Vitthalwadi	27.6	26.4	26	26.3	25.6	26.38
2	Koregaon	28.3	23.6	26.2	24.6	28.5	26.24
3	Yerwada	27.6	29.1	27.6	26.2	26.4	27.38
4	Pargaon	28.3	27.6	26.9	24.5	25.3	26.52
5	Daund	28.3	26.3	26.4	26.5	26.8	26.86
6	Ujani Dam	27.9	27.6	27.8	27.3	28.4	27.8
7	Narsingpur	26.4	25.6	25.3	26.2	26.7	26.04
8	Takali	27.3	32.5	30.1	22.6	24.6	27.42
9	Gangapur	29.6	28.6	28.2	26.5	26.4	27.86
10	Ferozabad	31.6	28.3	27.8	27.2	27.6	28.5
11	Yadgir	31.5	27.9	31.5	36.2	34.3	32.28
12	Jewaragi	29.5	29.3	29	26.9	26.4	28.22

Table no- 2, Dissolved Oxygen in Bhima River (Source- Central Pollution Control Board, Govt. of India)

Dissolved Oxygen (mg/ L)							
Sr. No.	Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Avg. of DO
1	Vitthalwadi	6.2	5.9	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.96
2	Koregaon, Shirur	5.3	5.8	5.6	5	3.5	5.04
3	Yerwada	6.3	4.9	4.6	3.5	6.1	5.08
4	Pargaon	5.6	5.1	4.2	4.6	5.2	4.94
5	Daund	6.2	5.4	5.1	5.2	5.9	5.56
6	Ujani Dam	5.6	5.3	6.1	5.3	4.9	5.44
7	Narsingpur	6.3	5.9	5.6	4.7	5.3	5.56
8	Takali	6.2	5.3	4.9	5.2	6.1	5.54
9	Gangapur	5.9	6.2	6.8	7.2	6.8	6.58
10	Ferozabad	6.8	6.4	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.76
11	Yadgir	7.2	6.2	7.2	7.3	6.9	6.96
12	Jewaragi	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.4	6.78





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Table no-3, pH in Bhima River (Source- Central Pollution Control Board, Govt. of India)

pH							
Sr. No.	Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Avg. of pH
1	Vitthalwadi	7.9	7.3	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.78
2	Koregaon, Shirur	7.6	7.6	8.1	7.5	7.9	7.74
3	Yerwada	7.9	7.3	8	7.9	7.5	7.72
4	Pargaon	7.6	7.8	7.9	7.5	7.8	7.72
5	Daund	7.2	7.9	7.9	7.9	8.1	7.8
6	Ujani Dam	7.3	7.8	7.8	7.6	8	7.7
7	Narsingpur	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.1	7.9	8.08
8	Takali	7.6	7.9	8.2	7.9	8.1	7.94
9	Gangapur	8.1	8.4	8.2	8.3	7.9	8.18
10	Ferozabad	8.5	8.3	8.4	8.5	7.2	8.18
11	Yadgir	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.2	8.5	8.24
12	Jewaragi	8.1	8.1	8.3	8.4	8.2	8.22

Table no. 4, Conductivity in Bhima River (Source- Central Pollution Control Board, Govt. of India)

Conductivity ($\mu\text{mho/ Cm}$)							
Sr. No.	Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Avg. of Conductivity
1	Vitthalwadi	456	436	468	401	1447.5	641.7
2	Koregaon, Shirur	689	454	920	644.5	562.5	654
3	Yerwada	596	458	1336	509.5	470	673.9
4	Pargaon	1203	1034.5	952	664	809.5	932.6
5	Daund	865	1009	1045.5	657	852.5	885.8
6	Ujani Dam	963	839.5	554.5	547	885	757.8
7	Narsingpur	1394	1131.5	1046	740	825.5	1027.4
8	Takali	1788	1219.5	1295	1005.5	616.6	1184.92
9	Gangapur	1020	548	555.5	814	660	719.5
10	Ferozabad	958	577.5	574.5	805.5	702.5	723.6
11	Yadgir	794	574	761	763	947	767.8
12	Jewaragi	864	1042.5	569.5	791	708	795

Table no.-5, BOD in Bhima River (Source- Central Pollution Control Board, Govt. of India)

Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand (mg/ L)							
Sr. No.	Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Avg. of BOD
1	Vitthalwadi	13.6	22	14.25	16.5	20.4	17.35
2	Koregaon, Shirur	5.75	7	6.75	8.5	8.9	7.38
3	Yerwada	12.2	28	12.4	12.5	11.4	15.3
4	Pargaon	5.9	14	8	5.5	5.25	7.73
5	Daund	5.75	13	9.7	5	4.85	7.66
6	Ujani Dam	5.95	7.2	6.3	4	5.2	5.73
7	Narsingpur	6.35	6	5.5	6	6.9	6.15
8	Takali	8	11	8.45	3.5	5.15	7.22
9	Gangapur	4.45	3.1	1.9	3	3	3.09
10	Ferozabad	3.5	4.2	2.4	3	3	3.22
11	Yadgir	2.5	4	4.11	3	3.25	3.372
12	Jewaragi	4.5	2.8	7.7	2.5	3.25	4.15





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Table no.-6, Nitrate in Bhima River (Source- Central Pollution Control Board, Govt. of India)

Nitrate (mg/ L)							
Sr. No.	Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Avg. of Nitrate
1	Vitthalwadi	2.15	1.45	1.3	4.215	2.65	2.353
2	Koregaon, Shirur	2.35	2.35	2.6	1.665	4.35	2.663
3	Yerwada	2.55	1.65	2.2	4.01	3.8	2.842
4	Pargaon	3.05	4	4.9	3.81	3.65	3.882
5	Daund	3.5	3.4	5.9	3.89	3.15	3.968
6	Ujani Dam	2.05	3.25	6.2	1.05	3.15	3.14
7	Narsingpur	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.75	2.9	1.39
8	Takali	1.3	1.6	1	0.95	2.1	1.39
9	Gangapur	1	0.8	0.2	0.34	0.35	0.538
10	Ferozabad	0.25	0.55	0.3	0.45	0.3	0.37
11	Yadgir	0.2	0.35	0.4	0.51	0.25	0.342
12	Jewaragi	0.2	0.15	0.1	0.315	0.3	0.213

Table no.-7, Faecal Coliformin Bhima River (Source- Central Pollution Control Board, Govt. of India)

Faecal Coliform (MPN/ 100 mL)							
Sr. No.	Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Avg. of FC
1	Vitthalwadi	282.5	812.5	137.5	185	903.5	464.2
2	Koregaon, Shirur	237.5	11	117.5	135	310	162.2
3	Yerwada	325	907	222.5	925	855	646.9
4	Pargaon	160	57.5	21	72	281	118.3
5	Daund	210	42.5	92	112.5	277	146.8
6	Ujani Dam	34	6	27.5	89	904	212.1
7	Narsingpur	240	40.5	30	152.5	187.5	130.1
8	Takali	250	14	99.5	87	104.5	111
9	Gangapur	1050	167	750	1300	545	762.4
10	Ferozabad	335	116.5	295	750	305	360.3
11	Yadgir	600	490	1600	1440	500	926
12	Jewaragi	535	870	370	980	470	645

Table no.-8, Faecal Coliformin Bhima River (Source- Central Pollution Control Board, Govt. of India)

Total Coliform							
Sr. No.	Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Avg. of TC
1	Vitthalwadi	1850	1037.5	1075	1075	1350	1277.5
2	Koregaon, Shirur	1700	203	725	625	1390	928.6
3	Yerwada	1850	987.5	1012.5	1800	1175	1365
4	Pargaon	900	112.5	297.5	450	1075	567
5	Daund	1250	525	562.5	1012.5	955	861
6	Ujani Dam	487.5	29.5	310	450	1075	470.4
7	Narsingpur	1700	292.5	1225	910	1075	1040.5
8	Takali	1700	292.5	470	485	897.5	769
9	Gangapur	1650	240	2400	4800	1850	2188
10	Ferozabad	1050	120	1250	1700	1070	1038
11	Yadgir	1250	885	3720	3300	2200	2271
12	Jewaragi	910	4450	1250	2500	1860	2194





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Table no.-9, ANOVA Analysis of water quality parameters

ANOVA							
	Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Temperature	Between Groups	153.8165	11	13.98331818	3.851800068	0.000524	1.994580015
	Within Groups	174.256	48	3.630333333			
	Total	328.0725	59				
Do	Between Groups	33.38133333	11	3.034666667	7.073815074	5.87E-07	1.994580015
	Within Groups	20.592	48	0.429			
	Total	53.97333333	59				
Ph	Between Groups	2.713833333	11	0.246712121	3.315280464	0.001898	1.994580015
	Within Groups	3.572	48	0.074416667			
	Total	6.285833333	59				
Conductivity	Between Groups	1500063.382	11	136369.3983	1.941448959	0.056958	1.994580015
	Within Groups	3371570.028	48	70241.04225			
	Total	4871633.41	59				
Bod	Between Groups	1143.961293	11	103.9964812	11.44832205	4.81E-10	1.994580015
	Within Groups	436.03168	48	9.083993333			
	Total	1579.992973	59				
Nitrate	Between Groups	106.9985513	11	9.727141023	11.67290774	3.5E-10	1.994580015
	Within Groups	39.99884	48	0.833309167			
	Total	146.9973913	59				
FaecalCaliform	Between Groups	4626415.746	11	420583.2496	4.724930266	7.1E-05	1.994580015
	Within Groups	4272654.8	48	89013.64167			
	Total	8899070.546	59				
Total Caliform	Between Groups	22382033.1	11	2034730.282	2.961149733	0.004525	1.994580015
	Within Groups	32982814.9	48	687141.9771			
	Total	55364848	59				

Table no.-10, Relationship between water quality parameters Source- calculated by researcher

	Temperature	DO (mg/L)	pH	Conductivity	BOD	Nitrate	Faecal Coliform	Total Coliform
Temperature	1							
DO(mg/L)	0.752594	1						
pH	0.598571	0.925129	1					
Conductivity	-0.15383	-0.07934	0.084407	1				
BOD	-0.45876	-0.73372	0.66087	-0.23741	1			
Nitrate	-0.56158	-0.8377	0.92756	0.021667	0.511904	1		
Faecal Coliform	0.710895	0.62388	0.552784	-0.5183	0.08088	0.58712	1	
Total Coliform	0.603209	0.71554	0.732637	-0.33848	0.24454	0.71856	0.911916	1





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	Temperature	DO	pH	Conductivity	BOD	Nitrate	Faecal Coliform	Total Coliform
Temperature	1							
DO	0.752594	1						
pH	0.598570	0.925129	1					
Conductivity	-0.153828	0.079339	0.084407	1				
BOD	-0.458758	0.733721	0.66087	-0.237410	1			
Nitrate	-0.561575	0.837699	0.92756	0.021667	0.511904	1		
Faecal Coliform	0.710895	0.623879	0.552784	-0.51830	-0.08088	0.58712	1	
Total Coliform	0.603208	0.715540	0.732637	-0.33848	-0.24454	0.71856	0.911916	1

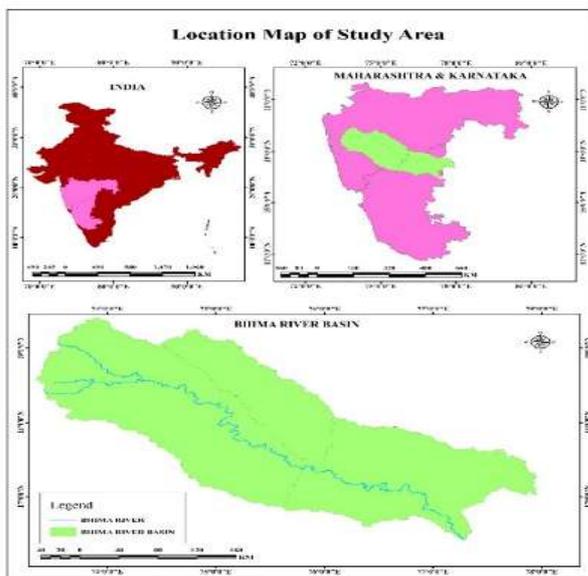


Fig.-1 Location Map of Study Area



Fig.-2 Sampling site map





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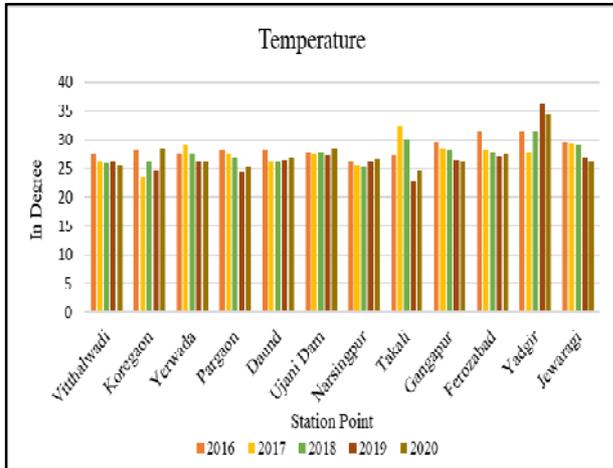


Fig.-3Year wise variation in Temperature vs. station points

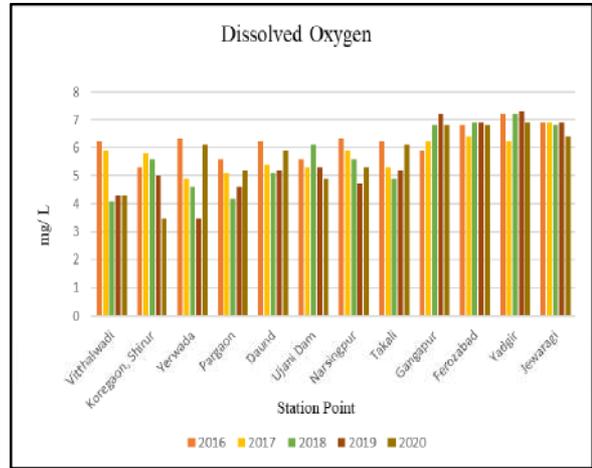


Fig.-4, Year wise variation in Dissolved Oxygen vs. station points

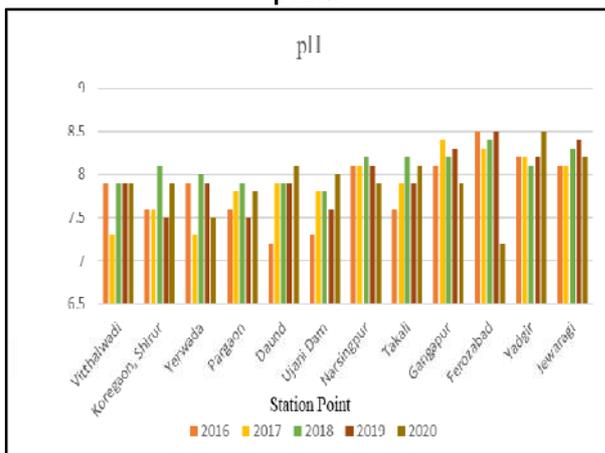


Fig.-5, Year wise variation in pH vs. Station points

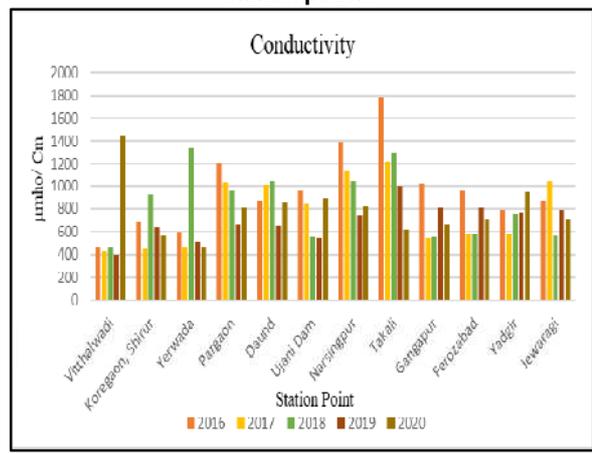


Fig.-6, Year wise variation in Conductivity vs. Station points

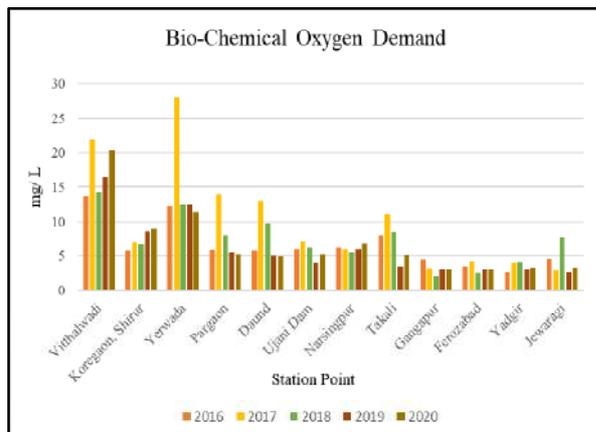


Fig.-7, Year wise variation in Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand vs. Station points

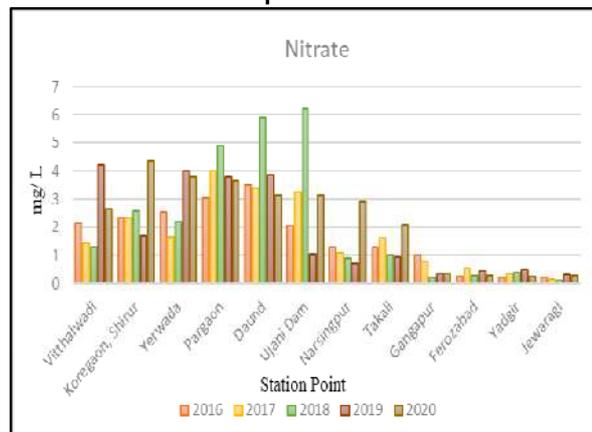


Fig.-8, Year wise variation in Nitrate vs. Station points





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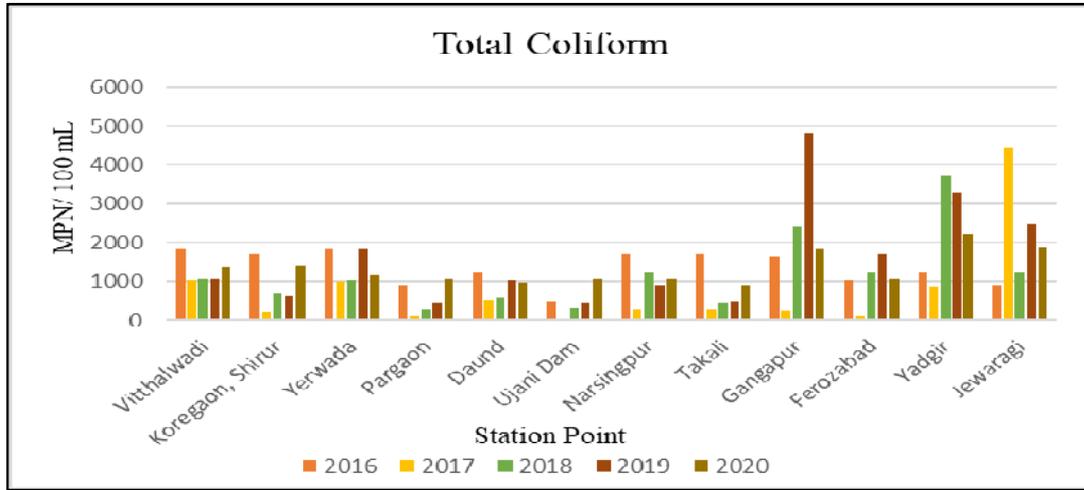


Fig.-9, Year wise variation in Total Coliform vs. Station points





Non Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) for Sustainable Livelihood: Challenges and Approaches

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ABSTRACT

Millions of people living in communities near forests rely on non-timber forest products (NTFPs) as a major source of income. NTFPs are linked to the socioeconomic and cultural existence of people in India that depend on the forest and live in a variety of ecological and climatic situations. . According to estimates, 275 million rural poor people in India depend at least in part on NTFPs for their daily needs and source of income. The NTFPs can provide as a crucial safety net for a living during difficult times. Additionally, the economy benefits from the NTFP extraction by creating jobs and money in downstream processing and trade operations. A key problem of concern that might have an impact on NTFP-based livelihood and economies is the depletion of NTFP resources as a result of indiscriminate exploitation, deforestation, and forest degradation. This research makes an effort to describe the scope, dependence, and livelihood value of NTFPs for people who depend on forests, as well as to make recommendations for ways to grow and use them sustainably. The difficulties and management tactics for NTFPs that will aid in the sustainable exploitation of resources and the provision of livelihood possibilities for the most vulnerable members of society have been highlighted.

Keywords: livelihood, non-timber forest products, sustainable development, tribal

INTRODUCTION

Millions of rural and urban people throughout the world depend on NTFPs for their livelihoods (Shackleton *et al.*, 2015; Malhotra and Bhattacharya, 2010; Pandey *et al.*, 2011). It is generally known that NTFPs serve a variety of purposes in promoting human wellbeing. For many of the world's poorest people as well as a sizeable fraction of the



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less impoverished, NTFPs offer the goods for food, housing, medicines, fibres, energy, and cultural arte facts (Hegde and Enters, 2000; Kaimowitz, 2003; Saxena, 2003; Vantomme, 2003; Saha and Sundriyal, 2012). According to Asfaw *et al.* (2013) and Babulo *et al.* (2009), the contribution of these daily net resources to livelihoods generally varies from 10 to 60 percent of total household income. The NTFPs likewise give many households a way to generate money, either as a major source of income or as a source of additional income to support other means of subsistence (Areki and Cunningham, 2010; Babulo *et al.*, 2009; Mahapatra *et al.*, 2005; Marshall *et al.*, 2006; Shackleton *et al.*, 2008).

In natural, amended, or managed forested environments, non-timber forest products (NTFPs) are things of biological origin other than wood. Fruits, nuts, vegetables, herbs, gums, resins, essences, bamboo, rattan, palms, fibres and flosses, grasses, leaves, seeds, mushrooms, lac, honey and other items are among them. According to Shackleton and Shackleton (2004) and Marshall *et al.* (2003), the term "NTFPs" can also apply to any resources or goods that are taken from the forest environment and used in households, sold, or otherwise have social, cultural, or religious importance. The majority of urban families and a sizable fraction of rural households in developing nations rely on the items to fulfil some of their housing, health, and other requirements (Shackleton *et al.*, 2015). High economic value and substantial employment are produced by NTFPs. Because it is becoming increasingly clear that NTFPs may meet crucial community requirements for bettering rural livelihoods, they have garnered interest on a worldwide scale (FAO., 1995; World Bank, 2006). Over a billion people worldwide depend directly on woodlands for their subsistence and the other six billion of us rely on woods for many economic, social, and Rainfall, biodiversity, and other environmental advantages. They offer pollinators, carbon dioxide storage, and clean water. Out whereby NTFPs' role is crucial in supplying enough nutrition, energy, feed, health, and fibre to support growth populations. Many people now recognise the significance of NTFPs in rural lives in developing nations. In India, NTFPs account for 55% of all employment in the forestry sector and generate an annual income of \$2.7 billion USD. Furthermore, according to Shiva and Verma (2002) and Chauhan *et al.* (2008), these resources account for 50% of forest earnings and 70% of forest-based export income. A third of India's rural population depends on them for 50% of their household income. Given the importance of NTFPs in the livelihoods and wellbeing of local people, particularly in developing countries, it is puzzling why the sector still receives such little attention in development policies and budgets, as well as in programmes and budgets from pertinent government departments, such as for forestry, agriculture, rural development, environment, or energy. (Shackleton and Pandey, 2014). In this research paper, we provide NTFP management difficulties and tactics that can help with resource sustainability and giving the most vulnerable members of society a chance to make a living.

Types and Applications of NTFPs

The utilisation of NTFPs is distinguished by a variety of institutional structures pertaining to access to the markets and resources at both the municipal and federal levels. The amount to which forest products are used, however, varies greatly from region to region and even within homes within a community. It is challenging to make abstract generalisations regarding how NTFPs are used because of this variance. Based on the intended use (for example, as food, fuel, medicine, household items, and agricultural equipment), the harvested plant parts (leaf, fruit, stem, and roots), and the extent of usage, the NTFPs may be divided into many categories (self supporting and commercial) NTFPs, which were formerly seen as the goods of the underprivileged as opposed to timber for the wealthy, now offer a green social security to billions of people in the form of dietary supplements, traditional medicines, fuel and fodder, cheap building materials, and sources of employment and income. People become more dependent on NTFP resources with commercial interest when NTFP earnings are their only source of income in particular situations.

NTFPs: A Crucial Source of Food and Medicine

Many NTFPs are a vital component of household subsistence plans in traditional forest communities, providing critical macronutrients like carbs, lipids, and proteins as well as other vital micronutrients like different minerals (FAO., 1992). When regular access to agricultural products is not feasible, the NTFPs might be a mainstay for people who live close to woods or a component of coping mechanisms. . NTFPs are employed as animal feed in a second significant "level" of diet. Rural populations gather NTFPs like grasses and leaves to feed and shelter animals as well as for other purposes like giving them a place to sleep on the ground. The collection of these non-edible NTFPs can



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be essential to rural development since in many cultures, such livestock offers food and living basics (such as milk, meat, leather, fur, hair, horns, and dung). Numerous contemporary drugs are made from wild plants or their extracts. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that up to 80% of the population relies on traditional medicines, the majority of which are plant-based treatments, for their primary healthcare in many underdeveloped nations where access to modern medications is limited. These medications are frequently a mainstay of the poor's access to healthcare, and many people make use of them. In reality, between 40 and 50 percent of individuals in Germany, 42 percent in the USA, 48 percent in Australia, and 49 percent in France use conventional medicines. Traditional medicines made from wild plant and animal sources are a significant export industry in both China and India.

The Importance of NTFPs for Livelihoods

According to sources from India (Anonymous, 2009; Pandey and Bisaria, 1998), NTFPs are linked to the socioeconomic and cultural existence of populations reliant on forests that live in a variety of ecological and geoclimatic circumstances. Based on ecological, historical, and cultural reasons, tribal subsistence systems vary greatly within and within areas as well as among different ethnic groups. Since the dawn of time, these tribal people have predominantly inhabited the forest areas. Isolated from the rest of society, they have managed to live in peace and harmony with nature. The NTFPs can provide as a crucial safety net for a living during difficult times. The percentage of NTFPs collected by communities to primarily cover their subsistence requirements varies from state to state and ranges from 5.4 to 55 percent nationwide. Around 250000 women are employed in the collection of forest products in the Indian state of Manipur, where approximately 90% of the population relies on them as a significant source of food. About 75% of the Chhattisgarh population who depend on the forest for sustenance also eats tubers, flowers, and fruits all year long. According to a study by the Government of India, the trade in NTFPs, which includes the collecting and processing of commercially significant NTFP species, created at least 35 million man-days of employment. Studies have shown that NTFPs significantly contribute to the livelihoods of people who rely on forests, many of whom have little non-agricultural income possibilities (MOEF., 2006). An estimated 275 million rural poor people in India, or 27% of the population, depend on NTFPs for at least some of their sustenance and source of income. Half of India's 89 million tribal people, the most underprivileged group in society, live in forest periphery areas, making their dependence on these resources particularly strong. The tribal belt of India is where around 70% of the country's NTFP is collected, whereas NTFP accounts for 55% of the sector's employment in the forestry industry. Although the gathering of NTFPs is a significant source of income and employment for people who live in forests, it also has several effects on the economy through activities like trade and downstream processing (Mallik, 2000) However, the issues restricting the creation of higher advantages from these resources include tenure security, a lack of processing expertise, and limited market access. However, due to the increase in demand for natural goods, NTFPs have greatly increased in economic value in both commerce and industry (Subedi, 2006). By offering a source of revenue from resources that may otherwise seem to have little economic value, trade in NTFPs might serve as a motivator for forest conservation. Additionally, in this era of globalisation, millions of unseen hands—from forest collectors to food and medication firms based in distant locations—are deciding how to sell and price NTFPs in ways that have never been done before.

Global Awareness of NTFPs

Over the past ten years, NTFPs have received a lot of attention from conservation and development organisations due to the growing understanding that NTFPs can significantly improve the food security and nutrition of households, create additional employment and income, and provide opportunities for NTFP based enterprises. (Belcher *et al.*, 2005; FAO., 2006; Poffenberger, 2006). A billion people depend on food and money from wild harvests, and it is believed that the unreported trade in natural resources brings in \$90 billion annually. The gathering of forest products alone supports the livelihoods of almost 6 million people in India. Deforestation, rural poverty, forest degradation, biodiversity loss etc have long been significant issues in the administration of forests in developing nations. A significant problem still exists in the search for efficient forest governance structures that can handle the demands of sustainable forest usage. According to a theory, the long-term economic gains from sustainable NTFP extraction might be sizable enough to stop forests from being used for more damaging land uses like logging,



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mining, or ranching and to help reduce rates of tropical deforestation. It is presently thought that encouraging the sustainable use of NTFPs may result in a situation where both biodiversity preservation and poverty reduction would benefit. Additionally, there is not much of an influence on the forest ecology when harvesting NTFPs.

Administrative Measures

The priority of the global development agenda has shifted to the significance of NTFPs (Shackleton and Pandey, 2014). Several nations have started to tweak their well-intentioned forest policies in the last two decades to reflect the socio-economic, ecological, and cultural realities of NTFP use. This has led to a number of particular modifications in the manner that these goods are regulated, including a reevaluation of the need for expensive and intricate NTFP management plans. One of the first organisations to promote NTFPs was the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), which did so through its initiative on NTFPs. The Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), the World Bank (WB), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and the Biodiversity Business Support Programme (BSP), among other organisations, has incorporated the notion of NTFPs into its research and development initiatives. As a result, the idea of NTFPs was accepted as a viable ecological choice for development. In order to reduce poverty by generating income for local people, it is accepted that the commercialization of NTFPs has the ability to simultaneously advance conservation and development goals. This is particularly valid in light of recent international agreements to combat rural poverty, such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

For sustainable livelihood using NTFPs, some of the following tactics must be addressed.

Sustainability

The NTFP harvest's capacity to continue over time depends not only on the organs that are taken, but also on the life cycles of the species that are used. Standardized good collection/harvesting procedures have been developed for a number of significant medicinal plants, including aonla (*Phyllanthus emblica*), baividang (*Embelliastjeriam-cottam*), baheda (*Terminalia bellerica*), gudmar (*Gymnema sylvestre*), sarpagandha (*Rauvolfia serpentina*), kalmegh (*Andrographis paniculata*), and (Pandey, 2009). Adopting sustainable harvesting methods at the correct time of harvest shown beneficial effects on resource preservation, community socioeconomic position, food quality, and financial returns. As a result of our research, it is clear that medicinal plants with higher concentrations of active compounds are harvested sustainably and at the proper stage of development. Only a few economically significant species have harvesting procedures or standards available. It is necessary to create sustainable methods and criteria for additional significant species (Shackleton and Pandey, 2014). Most NTFPs can be obtained in several ways. Consider which option will have the least negative effects on each individual plant or the surviving population.

System for Monitoring

The majority of collectors are not aware of the laws and guidelines governing the collection and management of NTFPs. In central India, there were also significant differences in the monitoring and application of the legislation. Who is in charge of monitoring and implementing the laws governing the harvesting and sale of NTFPs is another area where there is the greatest lack of clarity. The creation of an efficient and localised participatory monitoring mechanism is urgently required. It is necessary to have an active monitoring system for adoptive families. It is also possible occasionally to monitor by a third party. Based on the findings of the monitoring, the developed harvesting procedures may be changed.

Post-Harvest Innovations

The price and quality of food can be significantly affected by post-harvest techniques such as drying, processing, storage, and packing.

Increasing in addition

Most of the NTFPs that collectors and harvesters sold had more than just the most basic value addition done to them. Value addition is mostly carried out by manufacturers and market intermediates, with little value addition occurring at the level of primary collectors. Interventions like planning a schedule for collecting the material, identifying the



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right plant and its parts, maintaining hygienic conditions while collecting, using non-destructive harvesting techniques, removing foreign objects from the product that has been collected, sorting, drying, and storing it properly, and packaging the material that has been collected. The value and quality of the produce will therefore rise with some value addition, such as drying, cutting, or cleaning at the collector level.

Harvesting Product at the Proper Maturity Stage

Produce quality is greatly influenced by the timing of harvest. Because it contains more of the active element (andrographolide), kalmegh that is collected at the proper time yields higher results (Pandey and Kori, 2011). The quality of sarpagandha roots is greatly influenced by the timing of harvest. The crop harvested in December, 18 months after planting, had the highest root production and alkaloid content (Pandey and Mandal, Forest Collectors Traders/intermediaries Processors Retailers Consumers 2010). The fruits of *Embeliatsjeriam-cottam* (baividang) had the highest embelin content (4.64 percent) since they were collected in December, after they had reached full maturity (Pandey and Shackleton, 2012). Due to the seasonal nature of many NTFPs, diversification options must be investigated. Studies carried out in India and elsewhere shown that the collectors make money from many NTFPs. To diversify household incomes, they also participate in various economic activities. The majority of harvester households receive an average of 42% of their yearly income from NTFPs.

Promotional System The value chains for NTFPs are dynamic and constantly changing, with many different actors and stages involved in the process of getting a product from the forest to the consumer. Consequently, details about the quantity and quality Marketing system: The value chains for NTFPs are dynamic and constantly changing, with many different characters and stages engaged in the process of bringing a product from the forest to the customer. Consequently, details regarding the number and quality. The NTFP market is incredibly unorganized and imprecise. Currently, forest inhabitants gather NTFPs and sell them to neighborhood merchants, who then sell them to urban centres and ultimately to customers. There are three to five middlemen in the distribution chain from the forest collector to the urban merchant. These individuals are the traders' representatives, or kutchias (middlemen). The tribal language is spoken by the Kutchias, who frequently provide loans in anticipation of NTFP. The tribal language is spoken by the Kutchias, who frequently provide loans in anticipation of NTFP. Since tribal people often count using traditional scales and are not familiar with metric measurement, they con the tribal people and cheat them on weights and rates. The tribes must sell their products because they require the cash to pay for their weekly needs. However, the majority of forest dwellers have limited access to markets, little to no financial resources to spend in enhancing their standard of living, and negligible or no negotiating power when selling their goods in markets. They rely on middlemen to sell their goods since they don't have direct access to marketplaces, which lowers their earning share. Between the collectors/gatherers and the processing centre, there were at least four tiers of intermediates.

Figure 1 depicts a typical NTFP marketing route. Communities need a variety of information to strengthen their negotiating position and secure higher prices for their goods, including pricing, value addition possibilities, and sustainable harvesting methods. For the exchange of market data among many stakeholders, a social networking platform must also be created. Communities who depend on forests require access to a free and effective market in order to sell NTFPs for fair prices. A collective marketing plan as that of an NTFP-based strategy can help communities acquire the skills, self-belief, and protocols required to act as an ethical route for product management. The creation of such a market would boost earnings, provide those who rely on forests a huge incentive to assume more accountability towards forest management, and promote more efficient forest management.

Challenges and Growing Issues

Because of its potential to play a role in livelihood and poverty reduction, non-timber forest products (NTFPs) have received more attention in recent international discussions. This has made it important for governments to implement pro-poor reforms in the forest sector to safeguard and improve the livelihood advantages that forests bring to the poor. If this is to be accomplished, local communities will have more secure rights if they are involved in the global management and protection of vast tracts of forest. However, in many nations, the legal frameworks lack sufficient security of tenure for communities who depend on the forests or are not properly defined. There are a few



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prerequisites for investing in locally managed forests. NTFP laws and policies may support ecological sustainability, justice in trade, and better rural lives with more knowledge, effective stakeholder engagements, and strategic approaches to policy-making. The level of commercialization as well as the variety of NTFP resources, markets, and participants should be considered in policies and The NTFP policies operate best when they are supported by incentives and favourable legal frameworks. Government assistance for producer, trade, and processing organisations, tax breaks, market access and premium pricing through certification, and outreach and education on new rules and regulations are a few examples. There are times when a more intricate regulatory framework is necessary, including permits, quotas, taxes, and trade restrictions, particularly when there is a sudden and considerable economic demand. Governments must address NTFP laws in ways that consider the advantages and disadvantages of such measures in terms of money, the environment, and society, as well as the government's ability to carry them out and the probability of compliance.

CONCLUSION

It is apparent that changing ecological environments, seasons, economic groups, and so on influence how much money NTFPs provide. They either boost nutrition as part of a family's diet or as a means of ensuring food security at home. NTFPs have been shown to provide a significant percentage of the food, nutrition, health, and income needs of rural, tribal, and forest-dependent people. They also contribute to the well-being of rural households, particularly the poorest ones, in terms of food security, nutrition, health, and subsistence. However, the use and development of NTFPs are limited by a number of factors, including a lack of laws, non-destructive harvesting, the deterioration of natural ecosystems, bushfires, population growth, and excess demand. The development of an appropriate policy framework for domesticating NTFPs, promoting NTFPs sustainably, and improving harvesting and processing methods is required to support food security, the reduction of poverty, and improved livelihoods, particularly for the economically marginalised and communities that depend on the forest. To enhance the lives of individuals who depend on the forest, some focused NTFP effort is required. By combining existing plans and activities in the public and commercial sectors, facilities for storage, classification, processing, and value addition should be promoted and created. Communities should be given knowledge about the market, policy, and commodities so they can plan ahead and get more out of NTFPs.

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Figure 1: The marketing route for NTFPs





Scrutinize the Chronic Illnesses That Affect Farmers in Rural Areas and Work to Cut Their Related Expenses to These Illnesses

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ABSTRACT

Farming is an extremely challenging profession today. Numerous issues, including drought, insufficient labour resources, excessive rain, and no rain, plague farmers. Farmers, particularly those in rural areas, deal with a variety of concerns, such as poor health, a lack of capital, low income, etc. They are not paying attention to their health. They consequently have numerous health-related problems as a result of that. The majority of farmers experience chronic illness. Diabetes, high blood pressure, hypertension, heart disease, skin conditions, and lung conditions impact the majority of them. According to this report, the majority of farmers live in poverty. They are forced by poverty to live on a very low income and with a heavy illness load. Data from the farmers in the Karur district were gathered for his study. The information gathered is based on the questions asked and the farmers' answers. The purpose of the survey was to gather information about each respondent's health, including any chronic diseases, injuries, and the number of people who spray pesticides. Data were gathered from 163 farmers in rural areas, including both men and women. According to this report, the majority of them have chronic illnesses. Because of their extremely limited income, they cannot purchase medications regularly for an extended period of time. In the future, the Tamil Nadu government or IRDAI will offer an insurance scheme designed exclusively for chronic patients. It is very beneficial to both the insurance company and the patients to build insurance plans specifically for chronic patients.

Keywords: Chronic disease, Poverty, IRDAI and Insurance schemes

INTRODUCTION



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Agriculture is extremely important in India's economy. Farmers are the most influential people in the world. We are unable to envision how we might survive without farmers and without cultivation. It is virtually impossible for us to thrive without farmers and agriculture. Farmers perform routine tasks such as harvesting crops, planting grapes using sickles and spades, applying chemicals, and taking care of their animals. Dairy farming and livestock farming. They put in a lot of physical effort and labour nonstop, which increases the likelihood that they will develop a chronic illness. Because of their inconsistent eating habits, lack of essential vitamins and calcium, lack of proper sleep, and other factors. A range of hazardous equipment is used in agriculture labour. Such machinery is extremely dangerous to operate. Farmers employ dangerous tools like tractors, rollers, rotators, and other piercing and cutting implements. Besides that, the majority of farmers also spray insecticides on their fields. As a result, the pesticides being sprayed cause skin diseases in people. Almost all of them skipped breakfast. They are just paying attention to their work and not to their health. An increasing number of chronic diseases, such as diabetes and heart disease, are brought on by irregular diets, vitamin deficiencies, fasting that raises glucose levels, heavy daily work, etc.

MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGY

Design of the Study

A cross-sectional study of 163 farmers was conducted. Chronic diseases are a highly common occurrence in the modern world. It happens as a result of unhealthy eating habits, laziness, alcohol and cigarette use, air pollution, stress, hypertension, and other factors. The information was gathered directly from each farmer according to the questionnaire. The information relies on work-related injuries, chronic illnesses like diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, and lung disease, as well as the causes of chronic illnesses like smoking, drinking, using pesticides, and poor eating habits.

Sampling and Survey Procedures

This study aimed to find out how common chronic illnesses were among the district Karur farmers. Smoking, blood pressure, hypertension, and pesticide use were used to calculate the crude and adjusted disease rates[1]. Learn the connections between several factors, including sex, smoking, heart and lung disease, pesticides, diabetes, and blood pressure[2]. Farming has a significant likelihood of causing occupational injuries like impairment. There are several dust particles, chemicals, and gases present in agricultural soil. As a result of the aforementioned circumstances, there is a very high likelihood of risk for respiratory disease. The likelihood of illness arising in agriculture is relatively high[3]. Analyse and categorise the activities carried out by male and female cultivators. Gather information based on variables such as smoking, eating habits, hypertension, and pesticide use to determine how these affect farmers' daily lives. To determine how the variables affect their farmers' health, use one-tail and two-tail analyses [4]. Pesticides are highly crucial for growing plants regularly and avoiding unneeded waste on the land, as well as avoiding some insects. Pesticides are frequently sprayed when cultivating agricultural products. They exclusively handle pesticide mixing and loading. The farmer was harmed by respiratory and skin diseases as a result of this practice [5].

Questionnaire

The questionnaire was developed based on the work habits, health, injuries sustained in agriculture, and any disabilities of farmers. The primary topics of this study were work habits and health.

The following research queries are addressed in this section:

- How long do farmers put in each day?
- What kinds of tasks are routinely carried out by farmers?
- What types of chronic illnesses are there?
- Which kind of chronic illness do they have?
- How long do the farmers spend spraying chemicals?

The knowledge that is currently available on trade and chronic disease has led to the development of some health problems, such as smoking, pesticide use, and high blood pressure[1].



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In order to conduct this investigation, the researcher relied on first-hand data obtained from the farmers. Age, gender, income level, persistent symptoms, food choices, working hours, and occupational traumas are all considered. The majority of the study's attention is given to how farmers' routine everyday activities increase their chance of developing chronic illnesses. The data was acquired to ascertain the types and causes of the chronic illnesses farmers suffer [6].

RESULTS

This survey included 163 farmers, both male and female. The average number of farmers who smoke cigarettes is 29.0 [1.9; standard error (SE)]. Table 1 displays general descriptive information about the population under study. The frequency of men and women varied significantly between the two groups, although not in proportion to age averages. For each demographic, there were differing percentages of smokers and non-smokers. In terms of the frequency of people joining groups, there was a considerable difference between smokers and non-smokers. Determine the farmers' work nature, as well as the number of hours they work every day and the number of days they labour. Planting, farming, handling animals, applying pesticides, maintaining the farm, and other farm activities are all activated by work. Farmers' daily activities include cultivating (60%) using agricultural vehicles (5%) cleaning (3%) and caring for animals (13%) and dairy (7%) and doing chemical spraying (10%). Analyse the correlation between the variables, the Student's t-test, and the analysis of variance. The independent factors are hypertension, smoking, and pesticide use. utilised the PSPPIRE software to calculate the value. The p-value threshold for significance is 0.05 for all one- and two-tailed

CONCLUSION

The Tamil Nadu government has issued a Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme. Through the United India Insurance firm Ltd., the Tamil Nadu government established this programme. The family members of those whose annual income is less than Rs. 72,000 are eligible to get free medical and surgical care at government or private institutions. This programme pays for all hospital-related costs. In this programme, free health and screening camps are held at least once a month. Only hospital and surgery costs are covered by this plan. Only the person who has been in the hospital for more than three days is entitled for a claim. The individual is not qualified for a claim if their hospital stay was fewer than three days. Chronic illnesses are not covered by this programme. Surgery for farmers is a fairly unusual occurrence. However, chronic illnesses like diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, etc. are highly common, and the majority of people already have them. Since chronic illnesses may only be prevented but not cured, patients must take their medications consistently in order to survive. But the revenue of the farmers is relatively meagre. However, because of the high expense of medications, many people purchase them from government hospitals, albeit some people didn't care about their health. Consequently, the majority of them decided against purchasing health insurance for this reason. The majority of them did not purchase health insurance since it did not meet some of the policyholder's expectations. IRDAI makes an effort to concentrate on chronic patients as well. Considering that the majority of people only currently suffer from chronic illnesses It would lessen the burden on chronic patients a little bit if the IRDAI created any insurance plans for them. The programmes could include things like providing chronic patients with medication discounts once they purchase a policy, promoting ongoing health checks, raising awareness for chronic patients, etc. IRDAI offers these kinds of programmes to policyholders, which makes it simple for it to monopolise the market.

Declarations

Ethics approval and Consent to participate Not applicable Consent for publication Not applicable





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Table 1: Basic Statistics details of the dependent and independent variables.

	Smoking	Diabetes	BP	Heart Diseases	Lungs Diseases	Pesticides
N Valid	163	163	163	163	163	163
Mean	.28	.39	.38	.12	.09	.41
S.E.Mean	.04	.04	.04	.03	.02	.04
StdDev	.45	.49	.49	.32	.28	.49
Variance	.20	.24	.24	.10	.08	.24
Kurtosis	-.99	-1.82	-1.77	3.87	6.99	-1.90
S.E.Kurt	.38	.37	.38	.38	.38	.38
Skewness	1.01	.45	.50	2.41	2.98	.35
S.E.Skew	.19	.19	.19	.19	.19	.19
Minimum	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Maximum	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

Table 2: Correlation Variables–Two Tailnosig.

	Diabetes	BP	Heart	Lungs
Diabetes Pearson Correlation	1.000	.446 ^a	.017	-.026
Sig.(2-tailed)		.000	.834	.741
N	166	163	163	163
BP Pearson Correlation	.446 ^a	1.000	.464 ^a	.391 ^a
Sig.(2-tailed)	.000		.000	.000
N	163	163	163	163





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Heart Pearson Correlation	.017	.464 ^a	1.000	.844 ^a
Sig.(2-tailed)	.834	.000		.000
N	163	163	163	163
Lungs Pearson Correlation	-.026	.391 ^a	.844 ^a	1.000
Sig.(2-tailed)	.741	.000	.000	
N	163	163	163	163

Table 3: GLMsex BY Pesticides.

	Type III Sum Of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Corrected Model	2.51	1	2.51	11.40	.001
Intercept					
Pesticides	2.51	1	2.51	11.40	.001
Error	35.41	161	.22		
Total	60.00	163			
Corrected Total	37.91	162			

Table 4: GLM Sex BY Pesticides.

	Type III Sum Of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Corrected Model	24.82	1	24.82	305.21	.000
Intercept					
Smoking	24.82	1	24.82	305.21	.000
Error	13.09	161	.08		
Total	60.00	163			
Corrected Total	37.91	162			

Table 5: Correlation Variables- One Tailnosig.

	Smoking	Diabetes	BP	Heart	Lungs
Smoking Pearson Correlation	1.000	.618 ^a	.534 ^a	.075	.056
Sig.(1-tailed)		.000	.000	.171	.240
N	163	163	163	163	163
Diabetes Pearson Correlation	.618 ^a	1.000	.446 ^a	.017	-.026
Sig.(1-tailed)	.000		.000	.417	.371
N	163	166	163	163	163
BP Pearson Correlation	.534 ^a	.446 ^a	1.000	.464 ^a	.391 ^a
Sig.(1-tailed)	.000	.000		.000	.000
N	163	163	163	163	163
Heart Pearson Correlation	.075	.017	.464 ^a	1.000	.844 ^a
Sig.(1-tailed)	.171	.417	.000		.000
N	163	163	163	163	163
Lungs Pearson Correlation	.056	-.026	.391 ^a	.844 ^a	1.000
Sig.(1-tailed)	.240	.371	.000	.000	
N	163	163	163	163	163





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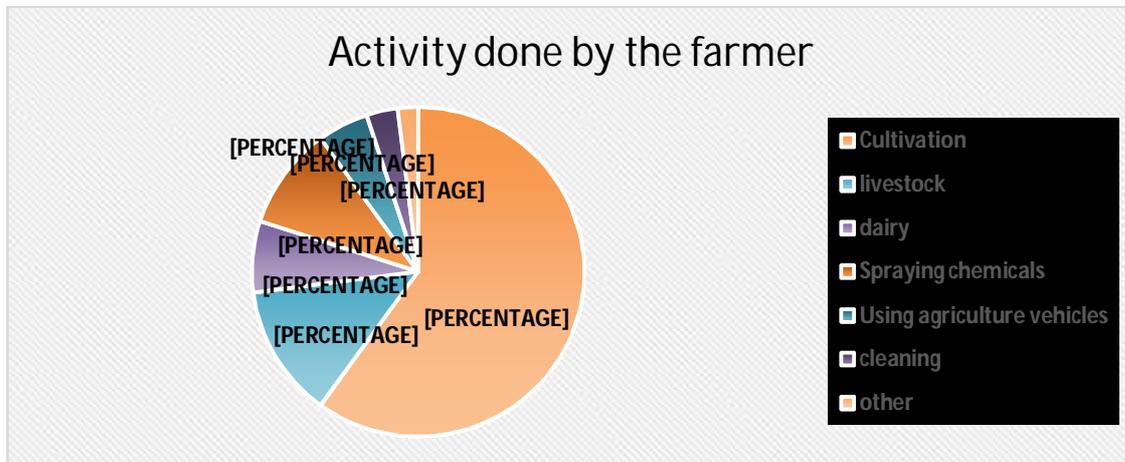


Fig: 1Types of farming





Phase Transition, Molecular Polarizability and Histogram Equalization Studies on Two Liquid Crystals of Same Terminal Group and Different Linking and End Chains

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ABSTRACT

The optical textures and Phase transition temperatures exhibited by liquid crystalline compounds viz 4-Cyano-4'-propoxy-1,1'-biphenyl and 6-Cyano-2-naphthyl 4-heptylcyclohexane carboxylate are recorded by Polarizing Optical Microscope (POM), for confirmation the phase transition temperatures are also estimated by (DSC) Differential Scanning Calorimeter. Using phase transition temperatures the molecular polarizabilities of the compounds are estimated by quantum dynamical method. A theoretical approach. The density and refractive indices are carried out. By density studies it is noticed that 4-Cyano-4'-propoxy-1, 1'-biphenyl compound exhibit only nematic phase and 6-Cyano-2-naphthyl 4-heptylcyclohexanecarboxylate exhibit nematic and smectic A phases. The refractive indices and density data is used to evaluate molecular polarizabilities by well known Vuk's and Neugabaur methods. The molecular polarizabilities are found to be same in theoretical and experimental methods. Histogram equalization technique is exploited on textural images to improve contrast in image.

Keywords: Density, Histogram, Liquid crystals, Phase transition, Polarizability, Refractive indices.





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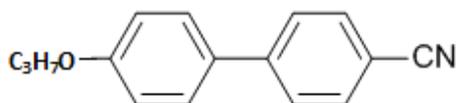
INTRODUCTION

The advent of the invention of Liquid Crystals, their use and potential application in display and memory devices made the Physicists, Chemists and technocrats to plunge into the liquid crystal field and contribute their respective might to show that these materials are potential candidates in industry. To utilize the liquid crystalline materials in display one ought to know the thermal, electrical, optical and dilatometric properties [1]. The information on the refractive indices and phase transitions are imperative to choose the materials for display technology and in photonics. The Liquid Crystalline state is characterized by the orientational ordering of the constituent molecules and transition between different mesophases. These transitions are usually marked by the changes in various anisotropic properties. Be that as it may, contingent on the order of the transition they may also be joined by changes in scalar quantities for example, enthalpy content or density [2]. The density studies involving temperature variation and across different phase transformations are for long known [3-7] to give information with respect to the nature of phase transition and growth of pretransitional effect. Further such investigations gives complimentary and confirmatory experimental evidence for the outcomes obtained using other techniques for example polarizing thermal microscope and differential scanning calorimetry(DSC) regarding the assurance of phase transition temperature and the thermal stability of the phase of interest.

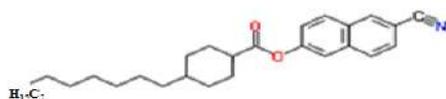
The most remarkable features of liquid crystals, crucial for their applications are anisotropic optical properties [8]. The refractive indices are one of the bulk tensorial properties which can be used to determine molecular polarizability and orientational order parameter. A uniaxial liquid crystal is birefringent. The temperature variation of birefringence is measured by using small angle prism and modified spectrometer. The molecular polarizability and Polarizability anisotropy are the important parameters of liquid crystals to evaluate the orientational order parameter, because the intermolecular interaction energies according to several theoretical models [8-13] are based on them. In the present studies the molecular polarizabilities of the liquid crystals are estimated by theoretical and experimental methods which are found to be same.

Usually the image will have poor contrast because most of the intensity values fit in narrow range. While managing discrete quantities we work with histograms. In general, the histogram of the refined image won'tt be uniform, because of discrete nature of the variables. Histogram equalization does out the intensity values of pixels in the input image such that the output image carry a uniform distribution of intensities. It improves the contrast and gets a uniform histogram. This technique can be used on an entire image or just on a fragment of image. The histogram equalization studies are done on the textural images. 4-Cyano-4'-propoxy-1, 1'-biphenyl is Procured by TCI Japan and 6-Cyano-2-naphthyl 4-heptylcyclohexanecarboxylate is procured by Frinton Laboratories, New Jersey, USA. The molecular structure of the liquid crystal is mentioned below.

1. 4-Cyano-4'-propoxy-1, 1'-biphenyl



2. 6-Cyano-2-naphthyl 4-heptylcyclohexanecarboxylate





Optical Textures

Polarizabilities by Theoretical Method

Lippincott δ Function Method

In crystalline state, there will be just the crystalline field acting on the system while in liquid phase, pure Brownian field just acts. Nonetheless, in liquid crystalline state, both these fields will be acting as this state will have the flow property like a liquid and anisotropic property like pure crystal. The resultant impact is the increase in the potential of the electron (system). As such, the shielding on the electrons will be less in this way adding to more polarization[20]. This conduct on account of liquid crystals can be expressed empirically as.

$$A_{LC} = A \exp [T - T_c] / T_c$$

Where T is the temperature relevant to the study of the liquid crystal property and T_c is the liquid crystalline transition temperature (clearing temperature), A and A_{LC} are the reduced electro negativities (REN) values in isotropic and LC phases. The molecular polarizability anisotropies can be obtained by the following expression.

$$\sum \alpha_{\parallel P} = \frac{4nA}{a_o} \left(\frac{R^2}{4} + \frac{1}{2c_R^2} \right) \left[e^{-\left[\frac{x_1 - x_2}{4} \right]^2} \right] \left(e^{\frac{T - T_c}{T_c}} \right)$$

$$\sum \alpha_{\parallel n} = \sum f_j \alpha_j$$

$$\sum 2\alpha_{\perp} = [3N - 2n_b] \left(\frac{\sum x_j^2 \alpha_j}{\sum x_j^2} \right)$$

Now the mean polarizability, α is given by

$$\alpha = \frac{\sum \alpha_{\parallel P} + \sum \alpha_{\parallel n} + \sum 2\alpha_{\perp}}{3}$$

Experimental

Thermal Microscopy

The liquid crystalline compounds are birefringent and shows optical textures[14 -15] for various thermotropic phases. A polarizing microscope SD TECHS-SDVPM2727 with the hot stage is used to distinguish different phases[16] and phase transition temperatures. An indigenous U-shaped bi-capillary Pyknometer in conjunction with the cathetometer was utilized for the density measurements.

Optical Birefringence Studies

The refractive indices of the liquid crystals are estimated with wedge shaped glass cell, like the one used to obtain birefringence by Haler *et al*[11] with a changed spectrometer. A wedge shaped glass cell was formed with two optically level rectangular glass plates (50mmx25mm) sandwiched with glass plate (0.4mm) which goes about as a wedge spacer. The optical flats are uniformly rubbed along the short edge to get the alignment of the LC molecule. The cell is filled with the LC material. The LC in the cell goes about as a uniaxial crystal with its optic axis parallel to the edge of the spacer glass plate.

Refractive Indices

Estimation of molecular polarizability by Vuks & Neugebauer model - Experimental

For the calculation of the molecular polarizabilities of LC molecules, the author has considered Vuks model which considers the nearby field of the molecule is isotropic and Neugebauer model which considers the nearby field as anisotropic. The applicable conditions of the two models for the estimation of molecular polarizabilities are given underneath.

Vuks Method

This model was first applied to LC molecules by Chandrasekhar *et al*[17]. assuming the internal field is isotropic even in anisotropic crystal. These assumptions lead to the following equations.





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$$\alpha_e = \left[\frac{3}{4\pi N} \right] \left[\frac{n_e^2 - 1}{n + 2} \right]$$

$$\alpha_o = \left[\frac{3}{4\pi N} \right] \left[\frac{n_o^2 - 1}{n + 2} \right]$$

Where N is the number of molecules per unit volume, ne & no are the extraordinary & ordinary refractive indices of the LC molecule.

$$n = \left[\frac{n_e^2 + 2n_o^2}{3} \right]$$

$N = \frac{N_A \rho}{M}$ where NA is the Avogadro number, M is the molecular weight and ρ is the density.

Neugebauer method

Subramanyam and Krishna murthy *et al* [18]. put in this procedure to LC molecule. In accordance with this method the molecular polarizabilities are

$$\alpha_e = \left(AB - 3 \pm \sqrt{(AB - 3)^2 - 4AB} \right) / 2A$$

$$\alpha_o = \left(AB + 3 \pm \sqrt{(AB + 3)^2 - 16AB} \right) / 4A$$

where

$$A = \frac{1}{\alpha_e} + \frac{2}{\alpha_o} = \frac{4\pi N}{3} \left[\frac{n_e^2 + 2}{n_e^2 - 1} \right] + \left[\frac{2(n_o^2 + 2)}{n_o^2 - 1} \right]$$

$$B = (\alpha_{||} + 2\alpha_{\perp}) = (\alpha_e + 2\alpha_o) = 3\alpha = 9 \left(\frac{n^2}{n - 1} \right) / \left[(4\pi N_i) \left(\frac{n^2}{n + 2} \right) \right]$$

Ni is the number of molecules per unit volume in the isotropic phase

Histogram equalization

For true implementation of histogram equalization the following procedure is used. Let Pr (rj), j= 1,2,...,L, means the histogram related with the intensity levels of a given image and review that the values in a normalized histograms are approximations to the probability of occurrence of each intensity level in the image. For discrete amounts we work with summations and the equalization transformation becomes[19]

$$\begin{aligned} S_k &= T(r_k) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^k Pr(r_j) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^k \left(\frac{n_j}{n} \right) \end{aligned}$$

For k = 1,2,...,L, where it is the intensity value in the output image corresponding to value rk in the input image.

Histogram equalization is executed by X=histequ(I , LEV)





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Where L is the input image, and LEV is the quantity of intensity levels determined for the output image. On the offchance that LEV is equal to 'L' i.e., the total number of possible levels in the input image, then histogram equalization implements the transformation function, $T(r_k)$, directly. If LEV is less than 'L', then histogram equalization attempts to distribute the levels so that they will approximate a flat histogram. The default value in histogram equalization is $LEV = 64$. For the most part, we use the maximum possible number of levels (i.e., 256) for LEV because this produces a true implementation of the histogram equalization method.

Histogram Figures

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Phase Transitions

The transition temperatures measured in the two crystalline compounds are introduced in table 1. Both compounds exhibit characteristic optical textures. The compound 4-Cyano-4'-propoxy-1, 1'-biphenyl exhibit monovariant nematic phase, whereas 6-Cyano-2-naphthyl 4-heptylcyclohexanecarboxylate exhibit nematic and SmA phases. Phases are related to the standard textures obtained using polarizing microscope connected with hot stage. The temperature variation of density is estimated in compound 1 and 2 and illustrated in figures 3 and 4. The essence of phase transitions concentrated through Dilatometry shows nematic and SmA phases. The density estimation are useful in deciding the order of phase transitional, pre transitional behavior. The first order phase transitional is characterized by sharp change in specific volume related with a thermal expansion coefficient. It is found that density diminishes with the increment of temperature in liquid crystalline phases except in the vicinity of a phase transformations where it shows a sharp increment before it accomplishes equilibrium value of next phase.

The density hop $\left[\frac{\Delta\rho}{\rho}\right]$ is determined as the vertical distance between density values ρ_1 and ρ_2 obtained by linear extrapolation density values, observed density jump, thermal expansion coefficient and density slope across different phases are represented in table 3. The slope of density variation in 4-Cyano-4'-propoxy-1, 1'-biphenyl is $1.73 \times 10^{-4} \text{C}^{-1}$ in isotropic nematic transition and $5 \times 10^{-4} \text{C}^{-1}$ in nematic crystal transition. The higher value of slope in nematic phase than isotropic region shows that the molecular packing in the nematic phase and the accompanying growth of long range orientational order from a completely disordered molecular arrangement in the isotropic phase. In 6-Cyano-2-naphthyl 4-heptylcyclohexanecarboxylate the density slopes across different phases are $1.25 \times 10^{-4} \text{C}^{-1}$, $1.4 \times 10^{-4} \text{C}^{-1}$ and $1.6 \times 10^{-4} \text{C}^{-1}$, the value of slopes increases in nematic crystal transition. The higher value of slope in nematic phase than isotropic region indicates that the molecular packing in the nematic phase and the accompanying growth of long range orientational order from a completely disordered molecular arrangement in the isotropic phase. In SmA transition the higher slope of the density variation with temperature than nematic and isotropic suggests an additional packing of molecules with the positional and translational order. The nematic to SmA transition is the situation of nucleation that is the development of translucent, a phase can be visible outwardly at the lower part of the pycnometer bulb that the transparent isotropic liquid seems to float over it with a clear boundary emphasizing the conjunction of two phases. All these transitions are first order nature due to density variations with temperature.

Molecular Polarizabilities

The mean molecular polarizability procured using Lippincott δ function model is $27.34 \times 10^{-24} \text{cm}^3$ and $36.703 \times 10^{-24} \text{cm}^3$. The temperature variation of refractive indices in nematic phase of the compounds are illustrated in Fig.5 and Fig.6. The refractive indices of two compounds are estimated using altered spectrometer appended with small angle prism which houses the liquid crystal sampling. The cell is kept in a heating block for the estimation of refractive indices with temperature. The detachment is clearly seen in the telescope of altered spectrometer at angle of minimum deviation. The refractive index shows small change in isotropic phase and at isotropic nematic phase transformation. The isotropic value splits into two one higher and the other lower than isotropic value corresponding to extraordinary (n_e) and ordinary (n_o) refractive indices respectively. In the nematic region n_e increases while n_o decreases with decrease of temperature and both attain saturation in the deep nematic region. The





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birefringence observed in first compound is 0.0967 to 0.1697 and the birefringence in compound two is 0.09671 to 0.22. The ordinary and extraordinary polarizability values are estimated both by Vuk's and Neugebauer methods and which are in nematic phase and illustrated in table 5 and table 6. The mean molecular polarizability by Vuk's method is $24.38 \times 10^{-24} \text{cm}^3$ and $38.63 \times 10^{-24} \text{cm}^3$ for compounds one and two. By Neugebauer method this values are $24.2 \times 10^{-24} \text{cm}^3$ and $38.25 \times 10^{-24} \text{cm}^3$. The molecular polarizabilities obtained by Lippincott δ - function model is sensibly in good understanding with the Vuk's and Neugebauer methods. The values of the polarizabilities are got by various methods are outlined in table 7.

Histogram Equalization

Image enhancement technique brings out the detail in an image that features certain highlights of interest in an image. Enhancement techniques incorporate contrast adjustment, filtering, morphological filtering and deblurring. Image enhancement operations typically return a changed variation of the original image and are habitually used as a preprocessing move to work on the aftereffects of image analysis technique [20]. Fig. 9(a) is the gathered image of the pure compound 4-Cyano-4'-propoxy-1, 1'-biphenyl, Nematic transition at temperature 62°C. It is black and has low dynamic scale in the middle. The low dynamic scale is evident from the way that the width of histogram is narrow with respect to entire gray scale. The image in Fig.9(b) shows the changed image of true Red Green Blue color image of original texture. Fig. 9(c) is the histogram equalized outcome. Fig.10(a) manifests histogram based Red Green Blue concentration. We observe the histogram is concentrated towards blacker side i.e., intensity is fascinated towards the left half of the graph. Fig. 10(b) shows the low contrast RGB image of Fig.9 (b). This is confirmed as low contrast image from the evident that histogram is focused at middle portion in Fig. 10(b), from Fig. 10(c) there is an improvement in average intensity and contrast are noticed. The increase in contrast is because of the extensive spread of the histogram over the whole intensity scale. The increase in overall intensity is because of the way that the average intensity in the histogram of the equalized image is higher than the original. The contrast of the image is improved and it is easy to observe the texture from the acquired images in this methodology. In this work adaptive histogram equalization is utilized to enhance the image standard. Adaptive histogram equalization upgrades on this by transforming each pixel with transformation function derived from neighborhood region. This image enhancement is an extra work which we carried to have a clear picture on the image at transition temperatures to identify the phase without any problem. The image enhancement by histogram equalization is observed in different liquid crystalline phases of compound 4-Cyano-4'-propoxy-1, 1'-biphenyl and 6-Cyano-2-naphthyl 4-heptylcyclohexanecarboxylate in Fig. 11, Fig. 12, Fig. 13 and Fig.14 respectively.

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Table: 1 Phase transition temperature and phase variants observed in DSC and Polarizing Optical Microscope.

Compound	DSC/POM	Transition temperature in °C				Thermal Range
		I-N	N-SmA	SmA-Cr	N-Cr	ΔN
C1	DSC	61.89	--	--	53.85	8.04
	POM	62	--	--	52	10
C2	DSC	157.31	103.11	49.77	--	54.2
	POM	159	106	50	--	53





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Table:2 Parallel, Perpendicular, Non Bond regions and the Polarizabilities mean of the compounds are assessed by the Lippincott δ function Method & shown in the following table. (10^{-24} Cm³)

Sl. No.	Compound	Parallel Bond component of Polarizability $\alpha_{ }$	Perpendicular Bond component of Polarizability $2\alpha_{\perp}$	Polarizability of Non Bond Region Electrons α_n	Mean Polarizability α_{Mean}
1	C1	56.23	24.961	0.832	27.34
2	C2	65.93	42.94	1.24	36.703

Table: 3 The thermal expansion coefficient, density jump and density slope in different phases of the liquid crystals.

Compound	Phase Variant	% of $(\Delta\rho/\rho)$	α_{I-N} $\times 10^{-4}$ $^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$	α_{N-cr} $\times 10^{-4}$ $^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$	α_{N-SmA} $\times 10^{-4}$ $^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$	$(d\rho/dT)_I$ $\times 10^{-4}$ $^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$	$(d\rho/dT)_{N-cr}$ $\times 10^{-4}$ $^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$	$(d\rho/dT)_{N-SmA}$ $\times 10^{-4}$ $^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$	$(d\rho/dT)_{Cry}$ $\times 10^{-4}$ $^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$
C1	I-N	0.1807	7.6	--	--	1.73	--	--	--
	N-Cr	0.129	--	2.35	--	--	5	--	5.2
C2	I-N	0.2054	17.5	--	--	1.25	--	--	--
	N-S	0.122	--	--	9.2	--	--	1.4	--
	SmA-Cry	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.6

Table:4 Molecular Polarizability of C1 by Vuk's and Neugebauer Method is shown in the following table. (10^{-24} Cm³)

T °C	Vuk's method (10^{-24})cm ³		Polarizability anisotropy	Neugebauer method (10^{-24})cm ³		Polarizability anisotropy
	α_e	α_o	$\Delta\alpha=\alpha_e - \alpha_o$	α_e	α_o	$\Delta\alpha=\alpha_e - \alpha_o$
53.5	31.63958	20.04438	11.5952	30.4714	20.62847	9.84293
54	31.59269	20.08562	11.50706	30.43148	20.66623	9.765254
54.5	31.57046	20.13696	11.4335	30.41417	20.7151	9.699066
55	31.51496	20.17646	11.3385	30.36646	20.75071	9.615753
55.5	31.4643	20.20628	11.25802	30.32264	20.77711	9.545532
56	31.44358	20.24457	11.19901	30.30609	20.81331	9.492774
56.5	31.39387	20.29279	11.10108	30.26397	20.85774	9.406233
57	31.33367	20.30338	11.0303	30.21068	20.86487	9.345808
57.5	30.93491	20.16249	10.77241	29.83371	20.71309	9.120622
58	31.12028	20.56323	10.55704	30.03171	21.10752	8.924196
58.5	30.99878	20.7954	10.20338	29.93388	21.32785	8.606029
59	30.73678	21.11354	9.623245	29.71387	21.62499	8.088882
59.5	30.56778	21.31144	9.256338	29.57161	21.80953	7.762077
60	30.37091	21.56228	8.808629	29.40666	22.0444	7.362264
60.5	30.02529	22.00052	8.024775	29.11601	22.45516	6.660851
61	29.58898	22.63059	6.958383	28.74978	23.05019	5.699591
61.5	29.31812	22.73534	6.582785	28.50719	23.14081	5.366381

Table:5 Molecular Polarizability of C2 by Vuk's and Neugebauer Method is shown in the following table. (10^{-24} Cm³)

T °C	Vuk's method (10^{-24})cm ³		Polarizability anisotropy	Neugebauer method (10^{-24})cm ³		Polarizability anisotropy
	α_e	α_o	$\Delta\alpha=\alpha_e - \alpha_o$	α_e	α_o	$\Delta\alpha=\alpha_e - \alpha_o$



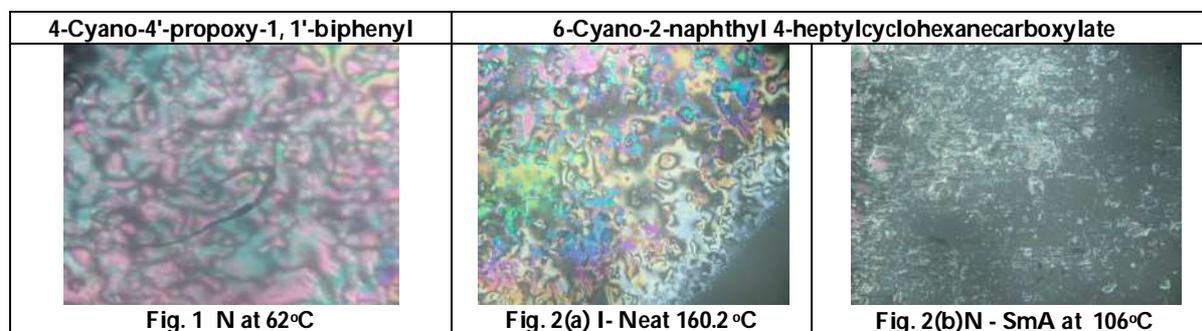


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103	54.42086	30.20175	24.2191	52.08274	31.37082	20.71192
105	54.43639	30.21037	24.22601	52.0976	31.37977	20.71783
107	54.45192	30.21899	24.23293	52.11247	31.38872	20.72374
109	54.50738	30.24977	24.25761	52.16554	31.42069	20.74485
111	54.20213	30.25735	23.94478	51.89195	31.41244	20.4795
113	53.89338	30.29989	23.59349	51.61809	31.43753	20.18056
115	53.75498	30.41553	23.33945	51.49916	31.54344	19.95572
117	53.33934	30.66161	22.67773	51.13716	31.7627	19.37446
119	52.99481	30.75155	22.24325	50.83292	31.8325	19.00043
121	52.77923	30.86744	21.91179	50.64508	31.93452	18.71056
123	52.56461	30.97643	21.58817	50.45783	32.02983	18.428
125	52.19662	31.27662	20.92	50.14101	32.30443	17.83658
127	51.98318	31.38678	20.5964	49.95494	32.40091	17.55403
129	51.74623	31.58786	20.15837	49.75166	32.58514	17.16651
131	51.43788	31.81424	19.62364	49.48663	32.78987	16.69676
133	51.06625	32.00655	19.05971	49.16121	32.95907	16.20214
135	50.86076	32.11679	18.74397	48.98225	33.05605	15.9262
137	50.59783	32.32075	18.27707	48.75593	33.2417	15.51423
139	50.4178	32.66937	17.74843	48.61083	33.57286	15.03798
141	50.33987	32.8101	17.52977	48.54791	33.70607	14.84184
143	50.0778	33.08973	16.98808	48.32612	33.96557	14.36054
145	49.88397	33.46445	16.41952	48.17031	34.32128	13.84903
147	49.46403	33.97755	15.48648	47.81788	34.80062	13.01726
149	49.19462	34.29783	14.8968	47.59142	35.09943	12.49199
151	48.87853	34.70204	14.17649	47.32669	35.47796	11.84873
153	48.32393	35.40853	12.9154	46.8605	36.14025	10.72025
155	47.62331	36.42383	11.19948	46.27263	37.09917	9.173464
157	47.28012	36.66434	10.61578	45.97236	37.31822	8.65414

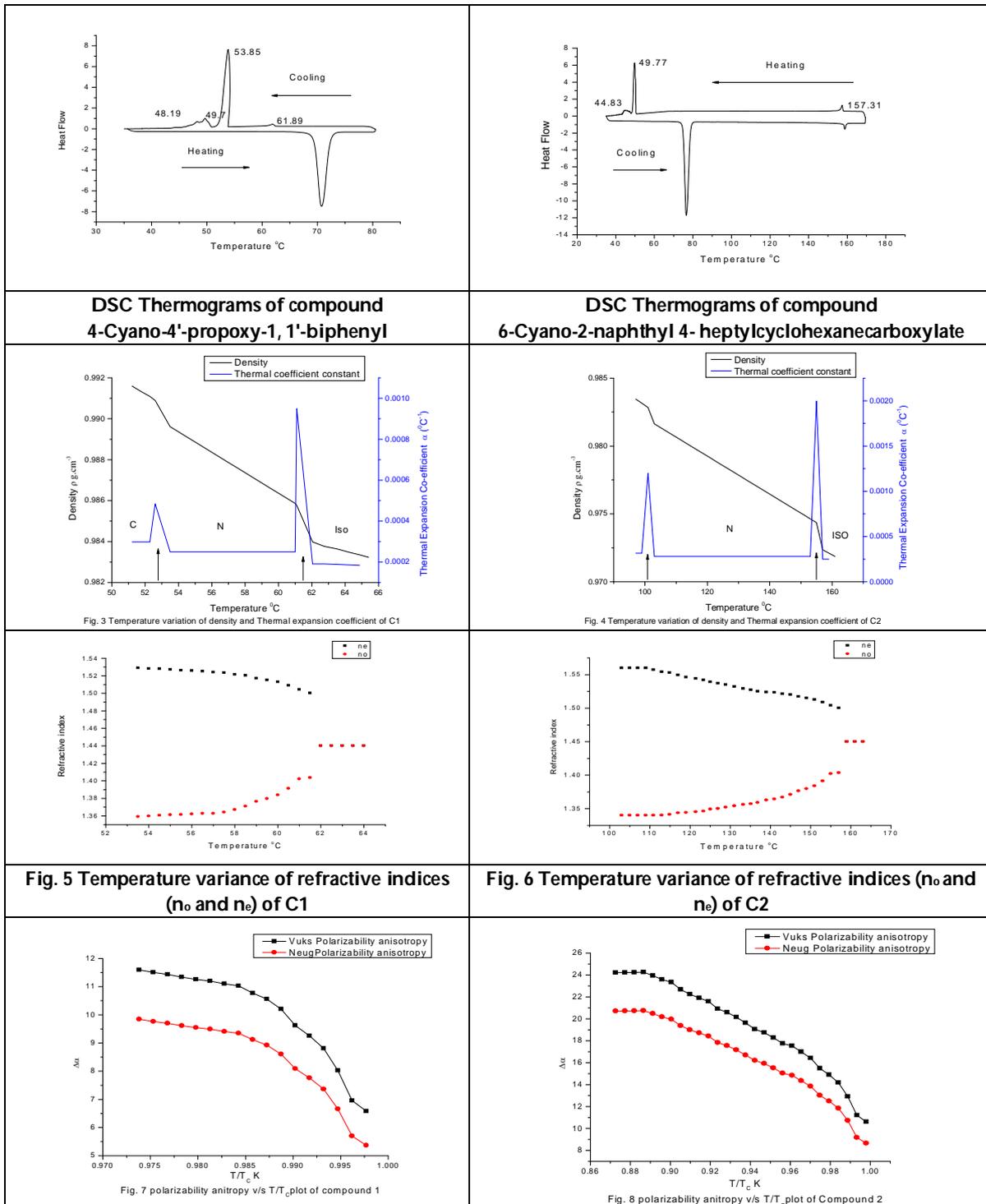
Table:6 The molecular polarizabilities of the compounds measured by both theoretical and experimental Methods

Compounds	Theoretical Method		Experimental Methods	
	Lippincott δ -Function method (10 ⁻²⁴)cm ³	Vuk's Method (10 ⁻²⁴)cm ³	Neugebauer Method (10 ⁻²⁴)cm ³	
C1	27.34	24.38	24.2	
C2	36.703	38.63	38.25	





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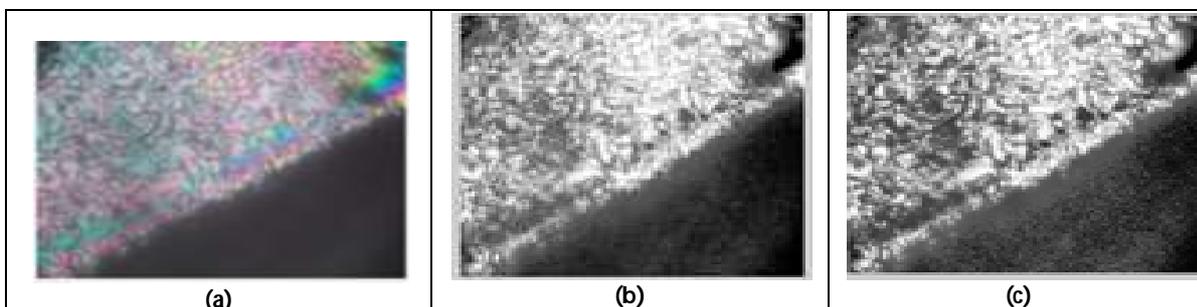


Fig. 9(a): Original texture of compound 1 at 62°C obtained by thermal microscope (2437 x 1919 pixels),
 9(b): Histogram equalized Red Green Blue color image of original texture,
 9(c): Histogram equalized Red Green Blue color image with contrast enhancement.

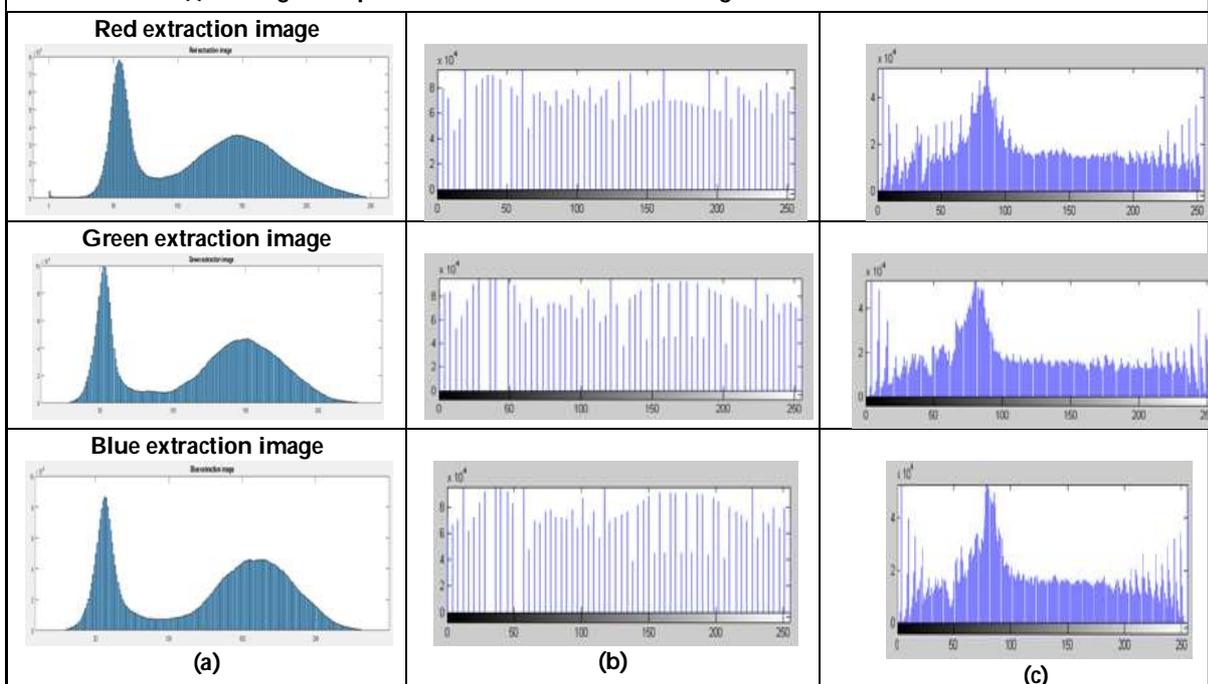


Fig. 10(a): Histogram- based RGB concentration 10(b): Histogram equalized RGB concentration of 10(a),
 10(c): Adaptive Histogram RGB concentration of 10(b),

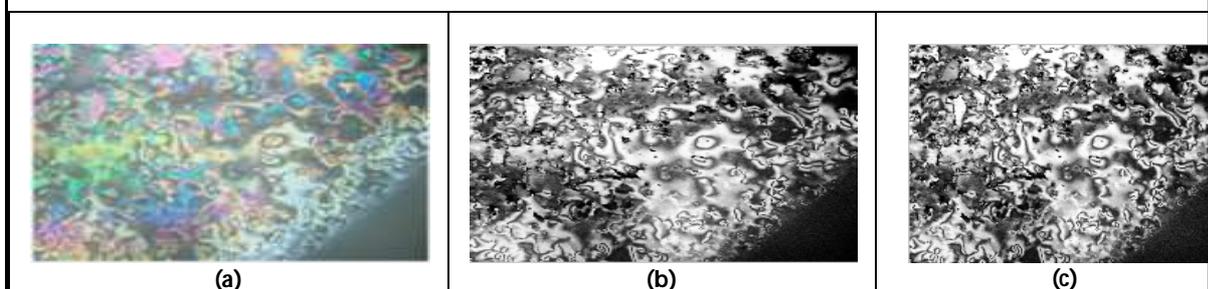
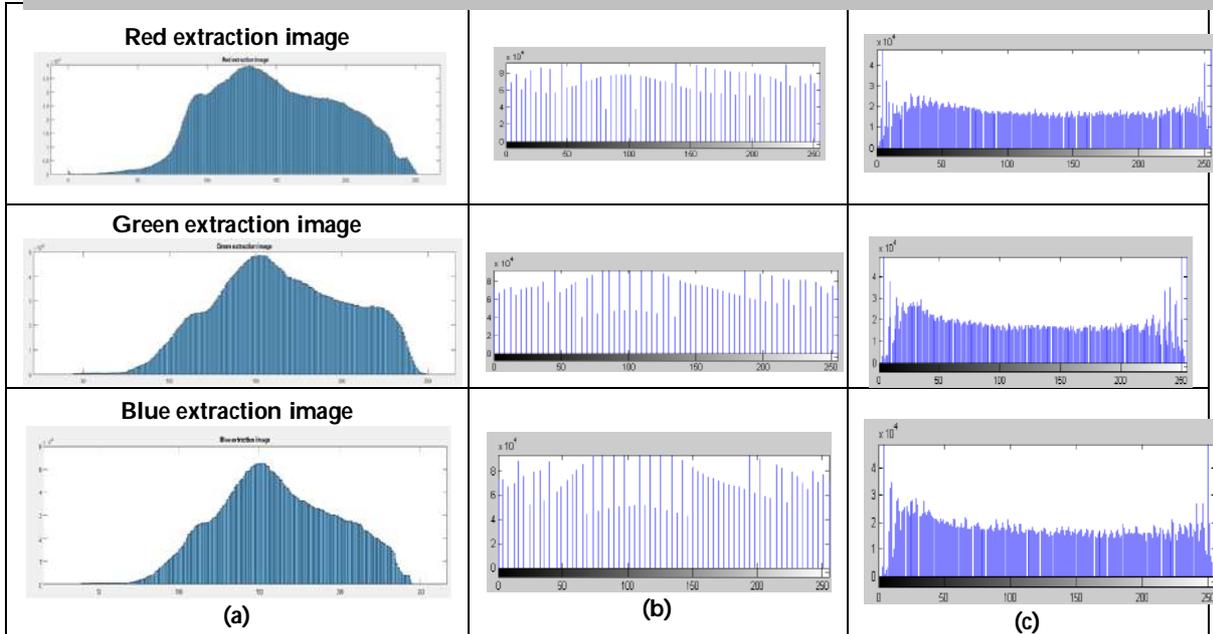


Fig.11(a):Original texture of compound 2 at 160.2 °C obtained by thermal microscope(2437 x 1919 pixels),
 11(b):Histogram equalized Red Green Blue color image of original texture,
 11(c):Adaptive Histogram Red Green Blue color image with contrast enhancement.

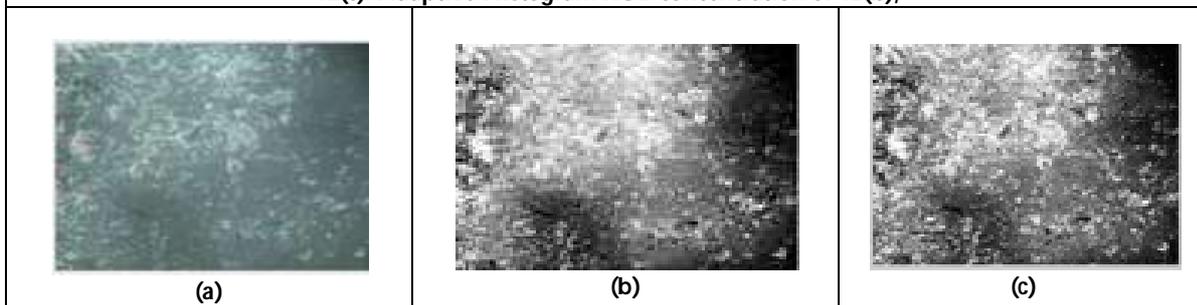




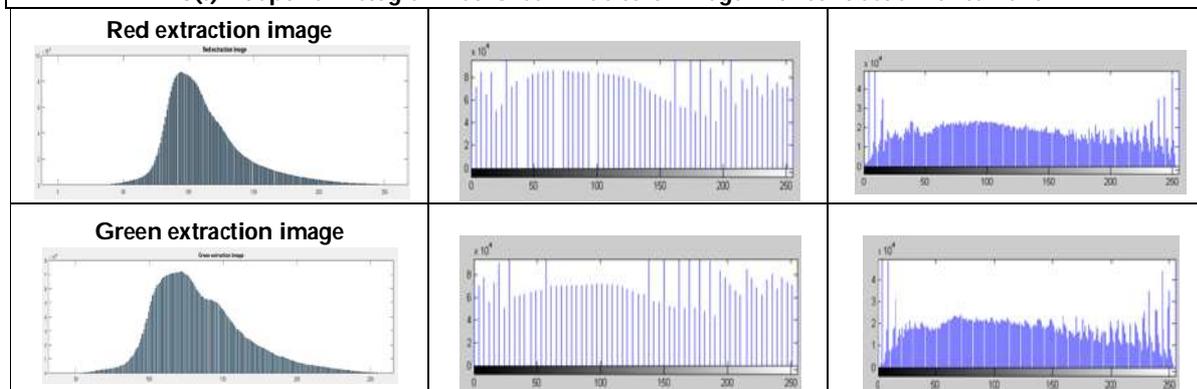
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**Fig. 12(a): Histogram- based RGB concentration
 12(b): Histogram equalized RGB concentration of 12(a),
 12(c): Adaptive Histogram RGB concentration of 12(b),**

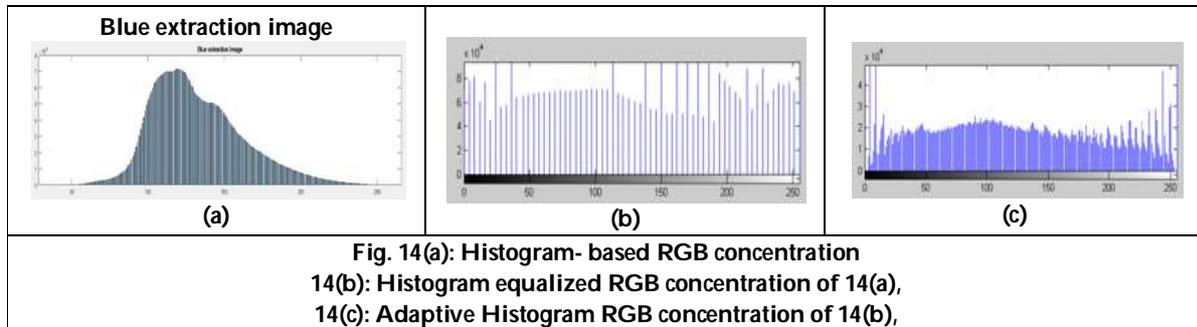


**Fig.13(a): Original texture of compound 2 at 106 °C obtained by thermal microscope (2437 x 1919 pixels),
 13(b):Histogram equalized Red Green Blue color image of original texture,
 13(c):Adaptive HistogramRed Green Blue color image with contrast enhancement.**





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Physico-Chemical Profile of Goat Milk Based Probiotic Yogurt Incorporated with Stevia Extract

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ABSTRACT

In the era of reduction in sugar consumption, finding the availability of suitable alternative sweeteners and the new vehicle for delivery of probiotics due to their benefits for health is highly desirable. Goat milk possesses the qualities to deliver probiotics and stevia provides a sweet taste along with an alternative to sucrose and other calorie-dense sweeteners. So goat milk-based probiotic yogurt samples from *L. helveticus* (Probiotic culture) incorporated with stevia extract and different flavours (Kevda, Kesar Pista and Raspberry) reduce the gotty flavours were amalgamated. The control yogurt sample was without stevia extract and flavour. Findings of the study depict mean values varies for various parameter as moisture content 85.98-86.68 %, fat content 3.70-4.03 %, carbohydrate 4.55-5.37 %, protein content 3.65-3.98 %, ash content 0.84-0.80 %, energy value 69.07-70.070 kcal, total solids 13.04-13.97 %, pH level 4.36-4.38, titrable acidity 0.84-0.86 and viscosity 375.40-376.20 cp was, respectively, which are non significantly different due to addition of flavours and stevia extract. Observing the beneficial effects of basic ingredients, a functional food (Yogurt) was prepared with sweet taste and low in calorie which can be used for obese, diabetes mellitus and healthy individuals also can use to enhance immunity.

Keywords: *L. helveticus*, Stevia, probiotics, flavor, Goat

INTRODUCTION

Yogurt is widely consumed dairy product especially from cow milk. Demands for novel dairy products and issues from cow milk intolerances and gastrointestinal problems so need to find a substitute for this (Senaka Ranadheera *et al.*, 2012)). Probiotics are functional food which provides various health benefits for degenerative diseases as to reduce cholesterol level, arteriosclerosis and to prevent various infections. So demand of probiotics is rapidly

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increasing as increasing the awareness of its benefits to human health (Parvaneh *et al.*, 2014, Kumar *et al.*, 2012). *L. helveticus* (MTCC 5463) probiotic culture which obtained from the vaginal region of female who are free from any diseases in Anand Agriculture University, Gujarat India (Khedkar *et al.*, 1991). This is a native culture, which have potential to reduce the cholesterol level and enhance immune capacity in human being. Caprine (Goat) milk can play a vital role to deliver the probiotic culture but it has gotty flavour, which provides it less pleasing flavour. Dairy industry alleged to produce various dairy products from goat milk due to its property of easily digestibility and helps to recover lactose intolerance (Albano *et al.*, 2018, Senaka Ranadheera *et al.*, 2012). It is preferred food after mother milk due to its digestibility for infants. It contains smaller fat globules and its fat's composition has 5:1 ω three and five fatty acids which are recommended composition to prevent the cardiovascular disease (Tripathi, 2015, Tarola, 2019).

Innovation in flavouring is an area of fierce emphasis for the producer of food, restaurant owners, and consumers, providing a wide variety and popularity without needing intense, strenuous food budgets or raising the costs of ingredients (<https://www.marketresearch.com/>). The worldwide artificial flavours market is predicted to develop at compound annual growth of 5.3%, from 9.27 B \$ in 2019 to 15.20 B \$ in 2027. Asia pacific reign which posses highest market share and specially India and china because there disposable income rising (<https://www.reportsanddata.com>). In India, only those colours and flavours are permitted for use in food products which permitted by FSSAI. For dairy products FSSAI permits 0.5 to 20.0 per cent for flavour. Attentiveness regarding health and wellness and increasing the obesity which leads to various other non communicable diseases as heart related issues and hyperglycemia which are directly related to metabolic issues higher fat and calorie consumption. Because of these issues there has been a massive demand in the market for such products which are lesser in energy value with good sweetening properties. Stevia which is a bio sweetener can fulfill this demand and also helps to reduce obesity (Margaret, 2015). Stevia provide sweet taste for those people which restricted for sucrose and other sugars which enhance the blood glucose level. So stevia can be alternative to provide sweet taste for diabetic mellitus, overweight and for obese.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

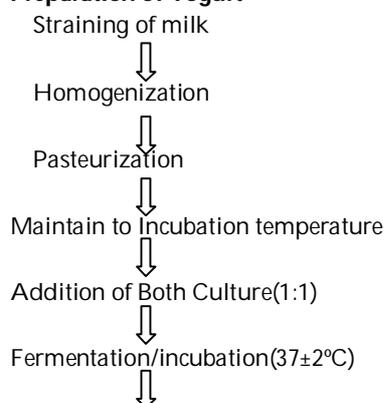
Raw Material

Caprine (Goat) Milk and stevia extract was obtained from near village of Udaipur and Udaipur city respectively

Bacterial Culture

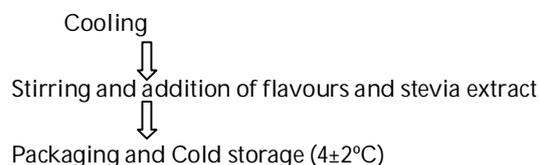
Starter culture *S. Thermophilus* MTCC 5460 and probiotic culture *L. helveticus* MTCC 5463 were procured from SMC College of Dairy Science, Aanand Agriculture university, Gujarat and Stored at 4±2° C during the research period (2020-22).

Preparation of Yogurt





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Flow diagram for preparation of Yogurt from Modified from Weerathilake (2014), Lee and Lucey. (2010).

Physico- Chemical Analysis

Moisture and total solids: Moisture and total solids contents of yogurt were analysed by oven dry method (AOAC 1995) and (ISO Standard No 6731).

Fat: Fat content of yogurt samples was analysed (on wet basis) as per the process given in ISO 488:2008 by Gerber method.

Protein: Protein content of yogurt samples was assessed by Kjeldhal method (ISO 8968-1:2016)

Ash : Ash content was analysed by AOAC, 1984.

Carbohydrate: Carbohydrate content was calculated as per difference method according to Ihekoronye and Ngoddy(1985).

pH : pH level of yogurt samples was recorded by using digital pH meter (CHINO SCIENTIFIC automatic pH meter).

Titrable acidity: Titrable acidity of yogurt sample was measured by ISO 6091:2010.

Viscosity: Viscosity of yogurt samples was measure by Brookfield Viscometer.

Statistical Analysis

All parameters were analysed with five replications and data set was analysed as per analysis of variance (ANOVA) at ($p < 0.05$) level of significance.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Moisture Content of Yogurt Samples on the Day of Preparation

Moisture is an essential component in food products, especially dairy products which affect the perishability and viscosity. The moisture content of flavoured probiotic yogurt on the day of preparation is presented in Table 2. The highest average value for moisture content was observed in YS₂ (86.95 %), followed by YS₃ (86.68 %), YS₁ (86.52 %) and YS₀ (85.98 %), which was slightly more than the control. The effect of adding flavours and stevia extract on the moisture content among goat milk-based flavoured probiotics yogurt samples and the control sample was non-significant ($p < 0.05$). Similar study conducted by Joseph *et al.* (2011) and random selected nine commercial yogurt from the Nigerian market the moisture content of the samples were ranged from 78.20-87.10. Mukhekar and Desale (2018) prepared yogurt from cow milk with the addition of aloe vera at 12, 14, 16 and 18 per cent. Moisture content in treatments T₀, T₁, T₂, T₃, T₄ and T₅ were 83.44, 84.15, 85.05, 85.73 and 86.09 per cent, respectively. Lesotho *et al.*, also studied nine commercial accessible yogurt sample purchased from (Maseru). The moisture content of the yogurt samples from manufacturer no. one for A, B and C were reported to be 79.16, 79.74 and 80.07 per cent from manufacturer no. two for A, B and C were 76.08, 76.98 and 76.44 per cent and from manufacturer no. three two for A, B and C 79.64, 79.65 and 79.63 per cent, respectively.

Fat Content of Yogurt Samples on the Day of Preparation

In lacticinia, fat is an important constituent, which provides specific flavour and mouth feel to the product. The fat content of flavoured probiotic yogurt on the day of preparation is presented in Table 2. The highest average value for fat content was observed in YS₂ (4.03 %) followed by YS₃ (3.94 %), YS₁ (3.92 %) and YS₀ (3.70 %), which was to some extent higher than control. The effect of the addition of flavours and stevia extract on the fat content of goat milk-based flavoured probiotic yogurt samples and in the control sample was non-significant ($p < 0.05$). While, Mukhekar and Desale (2018) prepared yogurt from cow milk with the addition of aloe vera at 12, 14, 16 and 18 per. Fat content



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in yogurt was found to be 3.10, 1.55, 1.15, 0.82 and 0.80 per cent for treatment T₀, T₁, T₂, T₃ and T₄, respectively. Joseph *et al.* (2011) analysed randomly selected nine commercial yogurts samples from the Nigerian market and reported that the fat content was 4.00 per cent and the lowest average fat content was 1.88 per cent.

Carbohydrate content of yogurt samples on the day of Preparation

The Carbohydrate content of flavoured yogurt and control yogurt sample on the day of preparation is presented in Table 2. The highest average value for carbohydrates content was observed in YS₀ (5.37) followed by YS₁ (4.97), YS₃ (4.79) and YS₂ (4.55) which was at some level lower than control. The effect of the addition of flavours and stevia extract on the carbohydrate content among goat milk-based flavoured probiotic yogurt samples and the control sample was non-significant ($p < 0.05$). Lesothe *et al.*, (2019) studied commercially available nine samples of yogurt purchased from Maseru, The carbohydrate content of yogurt samples from manufacture no. one for A, B and C were reported to be 16.53, 16.08 and 15.86 per cent, from manufacture no. two for A, B and C were 19.20, 18.35 and 18.30 per cent and from manufacture no. three for A, B and C 13.66, 13.65 and 14.12 per cent, respectively.

Protein content of yogurt samples on the day of preparation

The protein content of flavoured probiotic yogurt, along with control on the day of preparation, is presented in Table 2. The highest average value for protein content was observed in YS₀ (3.98 %), followed by YS₁ (3.76 %), YS₃ (3.75 %) and YS₂ (3.65 %) which was slightly less than the control. The effect of adding flavours and stevia extract on the protein content among goat milk-based flavoured probiotic yogurt samples and control sample was non significant ($p < 0.05$). Similar results were showed by Mukhekar and Dasale (2018) prepared yogurt from cow milk with the blending of Aloe vera (12, 14, 16 and 18 %). The mean values of the protein content of the treatment T₀, T₁, T₂, T₃, T₄ and T₅ were 3.15, 2.61, 2.37, 2.17 and 2.10 per cent, respectively. Lesotho *et al.* (2019) analysed nine commercially available yogurt samples purchased from Maseru. The protein content of yogurt samples from manufacture no. one for A, B and C were reported to be 2.39, 2.33 and 2.13 per cent from manufacture no. two for A, B and C were 1.95, 2.07 and 2.70 per cent and from manufacture no three two for A, B and C 2.35, 2.27 and 1.95 per cent, respectively.

Ash content of yogurt samples on the day of preparation

Ash content of flavoured probiotic yogurt along with control on the day of preparation is presented in Table 2. The highest average value for ash content was observed in YS₀ (0.84) followed by YS₁, YS₃ (0.83) and YS₂ (0.80) which was slightly lower with compare to the control. The effect of the addition of flavours and stevia extract on the ash content among goat milk-based flavoured probiotic yogurt samples and the control sample was non-significant ($p < 0.05$). Joseph *et al.*, (2011) analysed random chosen nine commercial yogurts from the Nigerian market and reported the mean ash content range was from 0.26-0.71 per cent. Lesothe *et al.*, (2019) studied commercially available nine yogurt samples purchased from Maseru (the Kingdom of Lesotho). The ash content of yogurt samples from manufacture no. one for A, B and C were reported to be 0.28, 0.31 and 0.31 per cent from manufacture no. two for A, B and C were 0.45, 0.46 and 0.45 per cent and from manufacture no three for A, B and C 0.94, 0.93 and 0.95 per cent respectively.

Energy value of yogurt samples on the day of preparation

The energy value of flavoured probiotic yogurt, along with control on the day of preparation is presented in Table 2. The highest average value for energy value was observed in YS₀ (70.70 kcal) followed by YS₁, (70.20 kcal) YS₃ (69.62 kcal) and YS₂ (69.07 kcal) which was slightly lower with compare to the control. The effect of the addition of flavours and stevia extract on the energy value among goat milk-based flavoured probiotic yogurt samples and the control sample was non-significant ($p < 0.05$). Lesotho *et al.*, (2019) analysed nine commercially available yogurt samples purchased from Maseru. The energy value of yogurt samples from manufacture no. one for A, B and C were reported to be 90.19, 87.09 and 85 Kcal per cent from manufacture no. two for A, B and C were 104.75, 100.36 and 102.89 Kcal and from manufacture no three for A, B and C 94.71, 95.23 and 94.39 Kcal., respectively.

Total solids content of yogurt samples on the day of preparation

The total solids content of flavoured probiotic yogurt, along with control on the day of preparation, is presented in Table 3. The highest average value for total solids content was observed in YS₀ (13.97 %), followed by YS₁ (13.47 %),



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YS₃ (13.31 %) and YS₂ (13.04 %) which was slightly lower with compare to the control. Adding flavours and stevia extract to the total solids content of goat milk-based flavoured probiotic yogurt samples and among control samples was non-significant ($p < 0.05$). Mukhekar and Desale (2018) prepared yogurt from cow milk with the addition of aloe vera (12, 14, 16 and 18 %). The total solids content of the product treatments was found to be 16.56, 15.85, 14.95, 14.27 and 13.92 per cent for five treatments as T₀, T₁, T₂, T₃, T₄ and T₅, respectively. Whereas, Lesotho *et al.*, (2019) present the result from nine commercially available samples for total solids content of yogurt samples. From manufacture no. one for A, B and C were reported to be 20.84, 20.26 and 19.93 per cent from manufacture no. two for A, B and C were 23.92, 23.02 and 23.56 per cent and from manufacture no three for A, B and C 20.36, 20.35 and 20.37 per cent respectively.

Solid Non-Fat content of yogurt samples on the day of preparation

Solid Non-Fat content of flavoured probiotic yogurt along with control on the day of preparation is presented in Table 3. The highest average value for Solid Non-Fat content was observed in YS₀ (10.20), followed by YS₁ (9.55), YS₃ (9.35) and YS₂ (8.99) which was slightly lower with compare to the control. The effect of adding flavours and stevia extract on the Solid Non-Fat content of goat milk-based flavoured probiotic yogurt samples and the control sample was non-significant ($p < 0.05$). Lesotho *et al.*, (2019) reported the Solids Non-Fat content from nine commercial yogurt samples. From manufacture no. one for A, B and C were reported to be 19.24, 18.77 and 18.38 per cent from manufacture no. two for A, B and C were 21.68, 20.95 and 21.46 per cent and from manufacture no. three for A, B and C 16.95, 16.85 and 17.03 per cent, respectively

pH level of yogurt samples on the day of preparation

The pH level of flavoured probiotic yogurt along with control on the day of preparation is presented in Table 3. The highest average value for pH level was observed in YS₁ (4.38), followed by YS₂, YS₃ (4.37) YS₀, (4.36), which is slightly higher than control. Similar results was reported by Mukhekar and Desale (2018) prepared yogurt from cow milk with the addition of Aloe vera at (12, 14, 16 and 18 %). pH of the product was found to be 4.24, 4.08, 3.96, 3.93 and 3.86 for the treatment T₀, T₁, T₂, T₃, T₄ and T₅, respectively. Joseph *et al.* (2011) also examined random chosen nine commercial yogurts from the Nigerian market and reported the average pH ranged from 4.08-3.70.

Titration acidity level of yogurt samples on the day of preparation

The titration acidity level of flavoured probiotic yogurt samples along with the control on the day of preparation is presented in Table 3. The highest average value for titration acidity level was observed in YS₀ (0.86), followed by YS₁, YS₂ (0.85) and YS₃ (0.84), which was slightly lower with compare to the control. The effect of the addition of flavours and stevia extract on the titration acidity level among goat milk-based flavoured probiotic yogurt and the control sample of yogurt was non significant ($p < 0.05$).

Viscosity of yogurt sample on the day of preparation

The viscosity of flavoured probiotic yogurt along with control on the day of preparation is presented in Table 3. The highest average value for viscosity was observed in YS₀ (376.20 cP), followed by YS₁, (375.50 cP) YS₃ (375.80 cP) and YS₂ (375.40 cP) which was slightly lower with compare to the control. The effect of the addition of flavours and stevia extract on the viscosity of goat milk-based flavoured probiotic yogurt samples and the control sample was non-significant ($p < 0.05$).

CONCLUSION

Considering the global market share and growing trends in the flavour market, this research was conducted to develop a functional food product within the permissible range of flavours and analysis its physico-chemical profile. The present research acquaints that goat milk can be used as a vehicle to provide probiotics, with the incorporation of stevia extract, which lowers the calorific value. High amount of calorie consumption leads to various chronic metabolic diseases as such diabetes mellitus, obesity.





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Table 1: Constituent of yogurt

Sample	Curd (ml)	Flavour (%)	Stevia Extract
YS ₀	100	-	-
YS ₁	100	Kevada (0.5)	(90µl)
YS ₂	100	Kesar Pista (0.5)	(90µl)
YS ₃	100	Raspberry (0.5)	(90µl)

Table 2: Proximate composition of yogurt (Mean ±S.D.)

Sample	Moisture (%)	Fat (%)	Carbohydrates (%)	Protein (%)	Ash (%)	Energy (kcal)
YS ₀ (C)	85.98 ± 2.13	3.70 ±0.21	5.37 ±0.49	3.98 ±0.20	0.84 ±0.03	70.70 ±4.11
YS ₁ (K)	86.52 ± 1.39	3.92 ±0.09	4.97 ±0.32	3.76 ±0.06	0.83 ±0.06	70.20 ±4.44
YS ₂ (KP)	86.95 ±1.41	4.03 ±0.12	4.55 ±0.10	3.65 ±0.03	0.80 ±0.07	69.07 ±3.65
YS ₃ (R)	86.68 ±0.52	3.94 ±0.14	4.79 ±0.72	3.75 ±0.21	0.83 ±0.06	69.62 ±0.80
Mean	86.53	3.93	4.96	3.78	0.82	69.89
S.Em.±	0.66	0.07	0.21	0.15	0.02	1.59
C.V. (%)	1.71	3.82	9.49	8.69	5.97	5.10

Note: YS : Yogurt Sample, C- Control (Without flavour and stevia extract) , K – Kevda, KP- Kesar Pista Flavour, R- Raspberry Flavour, SE- Stevia Extract, S.D.- Standard Deviation

Table.3: Physio-chemical parameters of Yogurt (Mean ±S.D.)

Sample	Total Solids (%)	SNF (%)	pH	Titration Acidity	Viscosity (cP)
YS ₀ (C)	13.97±0.45	10.20±0.50	4.36±0.02	0.86±0.03	376.20±5.16
YS ₁ (K)	13.47±0.20	9.55±0.64	4.38±0.03	0.85±0.04	375.50±1.67
YS ₂ (KP)	13.04±1.01	8.99±1.13	4.37±0.02	0.85±0.03	375.40±4.66
YS ₃ (R)	13.31±0.47	9.35±0.42	4.37±0.03	0.84±0.01	375.80±1.63
Mean	13.44	9.52	4.37	0.85	375.47
S.Em.±	0.61	0.33	0.02	0.01	7.00
C.V. (%)	10.17	7.65	1.26	3.63	4.19

Note: YS : Yogurt Sample, C- Control (Without flavour and stevia extract) , K – Kevda, KP- Kesar Pista Flavour, R- Raspberry Flavour, SE- Stevia Extract, S.D.- Standard Deviation, Each value is mean of five replication





A Study on Effectiveness of External Search Partner in Northerly Automotive Solutions Pvt. Ltd

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ABSTRACT

The recruitment is the ever-green process which will be ongoing process that is carried in an Organization. Every organization will have various sources of recruitment in that External Search Partner plays a major role. This research was done to evaluate effectiveness of External Search Partners who are associated with the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited. The Search partners who are associated with the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited are newly associated and they are associated with the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited for less than a year. The effectiveness of the search partner is very low, as they are not sourcing the candidates according to the Job Description and Job Specification which are given by the HR team of Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited and they are providing only 4-6 candidates for one vacancy 1vacancy. They also state that the HR team of Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited Shares the Post interview status very late and the HR team is not providing proper reason rejecting the candidates. If they both create a bonding between them will help them to increase the effectiveness and efficiency. Sharing the Right information in the right time will create a good impact on the performance. The External Search Partner should also need to provide more candidates when their clients are in need of, for that they have to have a matching candidate for all the position in the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited.

Keywords: External Search, Human Resource Management ,Northerly Automatic Solutions, Recruitment,





INTRODUCTION

One of the main components of human resource management is hiring (recruiting). It is the first appointment stage. The process of attracting, selecting, and appointing qualified candidates for positions (both permanent and temporary) within an organisation is referred to as recruitment. In addition to selecting candidates for volunteer positions or unpaid trainee positions, recruitment techniques might also be discussed. In other cases, however, public-sector employment agencies, business recruitment agencies, or professional seek consultancies are utilised to implement components of the method. Managers, human aid generalists, and recruitment professionals may be tasked with carrying out recruiting. Technology that is entirely internet-based and supports all aspects of recruitment has become widespread.

Job analysis

The character in such files as activity descriptions and activity specifications is used when more than one new job is created, recruited for the first time, or when there are openings. A corporate company frequently already has job descriptions for open positions. Where those documents have previously been created, they may also need to be reviewed and updated to reflect the needs of the present. Someone specification must be completed before the recruitment phase.

Sourcing

The use of one or more approaches to attract or perceive candidates to fill process vacancies is known as sourcing. Additionally, it may involve internal and/or external recruitment marketing, the use of appropriate media, such as process portals, local or national newspapers, social media, business media, professional recruitment media, expert publications, window advertisements, process centres, or in a variety of other ways through the internet. In contrast, businesses can also engage recruiting consultancies or organisations to find otherwise hard-to-find candidates who, in many circumstances, are happy in their current jobs and aren't actively looking to leave. This preliminary applicant research, also known as call generation, generates touch information for qualified individuals, which the recruiter can then covertly touch and evaluate.

Screening and selection

A variety of psychological exams will evaluate literacy as well as KSAOs. Assessments of physical capability are also available. Along with coding tools for psychological science testing and performance-based assessment, recruiters and agencies could employ person tracking systems to filter prospects. Employers are legally required to ensure that their screening and selection procedures adhere to moral and civil rights norms in a number of nations. Employers appear to recognise the value of applicants that value social or team leadership or soft skills. Regarding whether a candidate matches the current company culture, numerous enterprises, including multinational organisations and persons that recruit from a variety of nationalities, are frequently involved. Over the years, the process of screening applicants for employment has experienced constant change. Now, some businesses use video to maintain the high standards they have set for themselves and the industry as a whole. Many prestigious firms are aware of the need for diversity in recruiting in order to effectively compete in a global economy. Other institutions, including universities and colleges, took longer to embrace diversity as a crucial component of their success. Outsourcing the recruitment process, often known as "RPO," is a type of business process outsourcing (BPO) in which an employer hires a third party company to manage all or a portion of its hiring process. The process of hiring through outside means (a recruiting consultant) takes time. This is how the corporation communicates with the workforce.

A Manpower recruitment representative acts as a go-between for "organisations (business)," i.e. those looking to hire workers, and "those looking for jobs." In a nutshell, the Client and the Candidate are the customers of the manpower representative. Utilizing outside resources to hire takes time. In this process, the company gets in touch with the Manpower Recruitment Consultants to learn about their costs. Normally, recruitment makes calls to or attends meetings with various organisations to form partnerships and obtain what they need. After the price negotiations are



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finished, each party signals a mutual agreement with a set of terms and conditions under which they may agree to work. The company then keeps a copy of the job description for the position that includes the competencies that applicant must possess.

Following this recruiting consultancy, a team of recruiters starts off working on the exact requirement sent by corporate, using their channels such as Job sites, Posting, References, Head Hunting, Social Media, etc. They start by screening the profiles sent to them in accordance with the procedure description. After that, the next phase is firstly speaking, calling, and meeting with applicants in order to better understand their profiles and start with a short list. Following the presentation of the involved applicants' profiles to the company, manpower specialists present the final short list and schedule the interview in accordance with the interviewees' and customers' availability. In order to pursue their pastime of having a role closed and to make money, recruitment representatives frequently must also come into the discussion with both parties. Also considered a "Sales Brokerage" is placement consultancy. In actuality, a manpower consultancy's objective is to generate revenue from the tasks they are contracted to perform and the reason they are in business. But occasionally, Corporate and Candidates fail to spot the Manpower agent and feel duped.

Benefits of Working with Manpower Recruitment Consultancy

Choosing the right consulting firm to meet a company's needs is in fact a difficult undertaking, and sometimes it can be difficult to know which one to choose. However, if your business does decide to work with business consultants, you need to make sure that the relationship works out because it's a two-way process. A company could have "Ultimate" and "success" tales along with a list of recruitment representatives, but you still need to choose it carefully and do your part. If a recruitment agency understands the business of that particular company, the market that company uses, and the technical requirements as well as the subculture of the position in the company, it may work and acquire the right knowledge for that company.

LITERATURE REVIEW

"Practices and activities carried out by an organisation with the purpose of discovering and attracting potential employees," according to Barber (1998), are considered to constitute employee recruitment. Many large organisations have staff recruitment strategies that are intended to draw candidates who will not only be able to fill open positions but also contribute to the culture of the company. Obtaining a sufficient number of eligible individuals lawfully at the appropriate time and location allows both the individuals and the organisation to choose one another based on what is best for both of their short- and long-term interests, according to Costello (2006). According to Jovanovic (2004), recruiting is the process of gathering a group of excellent candidates in order to choose the best one. Because of this, top-performing businesses invested a lot of time and money in developing superior selection processes. Dessler, 2000, observed in his research that the key tasks supporting human resource management—namely, the hiring, training, and rewarding of employees—include recruitment and selection. It frequently plays a significant role in the work of human resource managers or other authorised professionals within firms where people are employed.

According to Mullins (1999), a high performing firm needs human resource management to help it match the right employee with the right position. Recruitment, selection, placement, evaluation, training and development, pay and benefits, and employee retention are all part of the human resource management procedures. Human resource information systems have been developed by businesses to support the following processes: (i) recruiting, selection, and hiring; (ii) job placement; (iii) performance reviews; (iv) analysis of employee benefits; (v) training and development; and (vi) health, safety, and security. Although job openings are often advertised, Miyake (2002) found that candidates were occasionally found through referrals from current employees. People that are hired by word-of-mouth tend to stay longer since they are more aware of the true nature of the position. In a comparison of human selection processes across seven European nations, Miyake (2002) looked into the use of various traditional selection



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techniques. Although the overall validity and acceptance of methods including work samples, group exercises, and assessment centres were widely acknowledged, they noted that there was a general trend towards structured interviews in all nations and that employment of these methods was uncommon.

Scope of the Study

The purpose of the study is to examine the company's methods for hiring and selecting employees. A close look will be given to the understanding of the corporate culture present in the firm, in addition to gaining an understanding of the methodology and methods used in the recruitment operations. This would not only aid with familiarising oneself with the business environment but also with the various degrees of authority and responsibility relationships that exist inside the organisation. The study assesses the value of the hiring process conducted by external search partners. The study makes the hiring procedures at Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited quite clear.

Objective of the Study

The objective of the study is to understand the recruitment process carried through the External Search Partners in Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited. The study also indent to measure the Effectiveness of Recruitment done through the External Search Partners associated with Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited. The strengths and weaknesses of external search partners associated with Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited were also identified. Evaluation of the effectiveness of external search partners for Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited and suggestion was made to reach efficiency.

Research Design

This research is descriptive in nature as it studies the effectiveness of recruitment of Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited with external partners. In this study convenience sampling method is used to select the samples. About 100 samples are selected for purpose of the study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**Average time taken (From JD to Offer release) to close the vacancies in Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited**

Chart No.1 About 36% of the respondent takes 5-10 days to close the vacancy in the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited. 34% of the respondent takes 10-15 days to close the vacancy and 30% respondent takes more than 15days to close the vacancy in Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited. Only less percentage of respondents takes more than 15days because they are not clear about the JD and also the Non availability of adequate candidates.

Correlation Coefficient

A Pearson's correlation was run to determine the relationship between Total years of experience of the respondent and overall experience in client handling. An extremely high positive linear relationship denotes a significant correlation between the two variables. This indicates that changes in one variable have a significant impact on changes in the other. The Pearson's r in the table above is 0.993. This quantity is very near to one. This finding indicates that there is a significant positive link between the two variables. On the basis of this number, we are unable to draw any more inferences regarding this link. This demonstrates that the respondent's overall years of experience will have a beneficial impact on their experience with clients.

Findings

Among the recruitment done in last 6 months, only 18% of the recruitment is done with the help of the external search partners. About 87% of the recruitment is done from the other sources in last 6 months. The External search partners that are associated with the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited are newly associated and they are serving only for a short period of time. All the Search partners are serving for the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited less than one year. All the respondent has experience of 2-10 years in the relevant field and



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the experience vary from person to person 34% of the respondent has experience of client handling for 0-2years and only 33% of the respondents have experience of 5-10 years. All the Search partners are aware of the business process carried out in the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited.

All the search partners say that they are clearly explained with the Job Description & Job Specification by the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited. They also say that they are providing the candidates according to the Job Description & Job Specification shared by the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited. Most of the search partners say that HR team of Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited shares the vacancy for all the levels in Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited and only less percentage says that they are given only for the Office/Executive levels. From the view point of the Search partners, they are providing the adequate pool of quality candidates to the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited. Search partner does not take more than 2days to share the adequate and relevant CV to Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited. The search partner shares minimum of 4 profiles and maximum of 6 profiles for one vacancy.

Search partners say that the HR team Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited takes maximum of 15days to close the position in Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited. In an average the search partners have sent 75-100 profiles to the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited in last 6 months. Some search partners have closed only 5-7 position in last 6months and some have closed more than 10 positions in last 6 months. All the search partners say that they are providing the candidate backup for all the position they have worked for. According to the Search partner, HR team of Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited delays in sharing the post interview status. The search partners are not getting proper reason for the rejection of candidates. The reimbursement for the outstation candidates is not provided.

Suggestions

The effectiveness of the External search partners in the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited is very low that is only 18% of the recruitment is depended upon them. They have to improve their performance to improve the effectiveness in the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited. Every search partner should clearly understand the business process that is carried out in the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited, that will help them to understand the expectation of the clients and they can source according to the client requirement. The information of the candidate needs to be collected regarding the registration with other search partners will help Search Partners to reduce the duplication in their Data base. The team which is associated with the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited, in every External search partner should be clear in the Job Description and Job Specification which is given by the HR team of Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited. If they are not clear with the Job Description and Job Specification you can contact the HR team of Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited to get a clear picture. There will be less chances of rejecting the candidates, if the candidates are sourced based on the Job Description and Job Specification which is provided by the HR team of Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited. While sourcing the candidate the External Search Partners can source accordingly,

The candidate can be sourced based on the age, qualification and experience which are given by the HR team. The candidate should have a specific skill set that meets the client's requirement. The candidates should have a relevant experience in the same industry. The candidate should be sourced based on the Salary range which is given by the HR team. If the external search partners source and filtered according to the suggestion given above will help them to improve the effectiveness of their performance and also to serve their client in the best way. The external search partners need do source and collect the data and should have a database for all the position in the Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited which helps them to provide the candidates when there is a need for the clients. Providing a greater number of candidates for one position will helps the search partners increase the chances of more candidates getting selected.



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CONCLUSION

Proper reason for rejecting the candidates can be given to the External Search Partners, which helps them when they are sourcing the candidates next time. The status of the interview can be shared immediately after the interview is completed. It helps them to provide candidate back up immediately.

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Table No 1 Provide candidate back up for the position worked

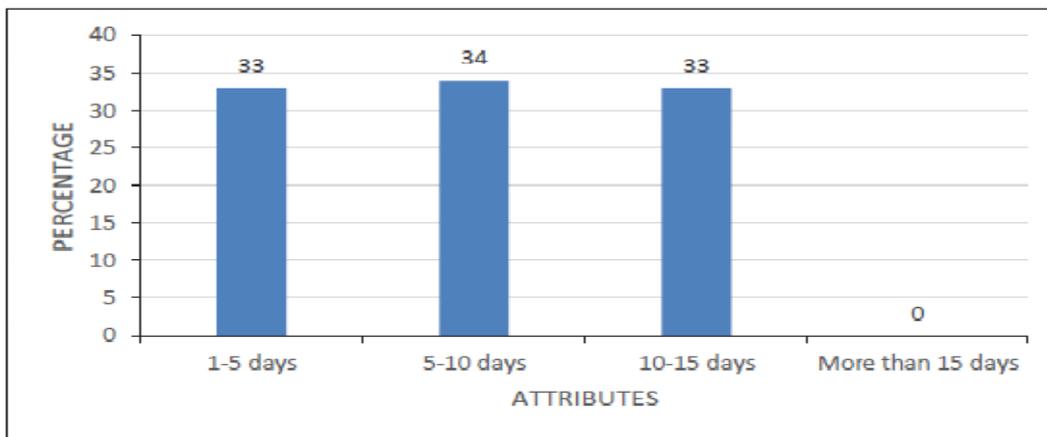
S.no	Attributes	% of respondent
1	Yes	100
2	No	0
	Total	100

Table No 2 Correlation Coefficient

Correlations		Total years of experience of the respondent	Overall experience in client handling
Total years of experience of the respondent	Pearson Correlation	1	.993**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	100	100
Overall experience in client handling	Pearson Correlation	.993**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	100	100

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Chart No.1 Average time taken (From JD to Offer release) to close the vacancies in Northerly Automotive Solutions Private Limited





An Overview of Drones in Agriculture

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ABSTRACT

By 2050, the world population is expected to reach nine billion people, and as a result, agricultural consumption will also rise. Extreme care must be taken to meet everyone's eating needs. The agriculture industry is the most potential because it is currently dealing with a lot of problems. For farming, labour inconvenience is one of the biggest problems. Infection, diseases, allergies, and alternative health problems caused by a chemical application (fungicide, pesticide, pesticide, etc.) or an insect or animal bite are some additional topics or challenges. Others include extreme weather events, insufficient quantity and inefficient chemical application, infection, diseases, and allergies. The use of cutting-edge technology in agriculture, such as a drone, opens the door to a variety of possible problems, big and little. Drones are mostly used in agriculture for irrigation, crop observation, field and soil study, and bird management.

Keywords: Drone, Agriculture, Irrigation, Crop monitoring

INTRODUCTION

The world population is expected to reach nine billion people by the year 2050, growing daily. Knowledgeable professionals predict that agriculture consumption will rise by the same basic amount. Food production (net of food used for biofuels) needs to rise by 70% in order to feed this larger, more diverse, and more affluent urban population. (2015) Toji *et al.* From today's two billion to three billion tonnes per year, cereal output is possible. To reach 470 million tonnes of annual meat output, there should be an increase of more than 200 million tonnes (Cai *et al.*, 2010). The agriculture industry is the most promising and challenging since it is dependent on the weather or climate, the soil, the quality of the irrigation water, and the quantity and application rate (Mogili and Deepak, 2018). According to this study, employing cutting-edge agricultural production technology will result in the required rise in food

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production (Zhang and Kovacs, 2012). A drone's use in agriculture has the possibility of encountering a variety of significant or small problems (Lim *et al.*, 2012). Drones are crucial for irrigation, crop monitoring, soil and field study, and bird management in agriculture (Gupte *et al.*, 2012).

Drone or UAV

UAV or a drone Unmanned aerial vehicles, or UAVs, are flying machines that use GPS coordinates and an associated autopilot to follow a predetermined trajectory. The device also incorporates conventional radio controls; as the world's population rises daily and is expected to reach nine billion people by 2050, more food will need to be produced. Extreme care must be taken to meet everyone's eating needs. The agriculture industry is the most promising because it deals with the most problems on a daily basis, one of which being labour inaccessibility for farming. Alternative issues or challenges include severe weather, insufficient and ineffective plant food applications, infections, diseases, allergies, and non-conventional health problems brought on by chemical applications (fungicides, pesticides, insect powder, etc.) or insect or animal bites. The use of cutting-edge technology in agriculture, such as a drone, opens the door to a variety of possible problems, big and little. Drones in agriculture are first being used for irrigation, crop observation, soil and field study, and bird management. Typically, the complete system, ground stations, and video systems are referred to as UAVs. However, the phrase is most frequently used to describe miniature helicopters and planes with both fixed and rotary wings.

Advantages

Unmanned aerial vehicles provide a less demanding environment, are employed for higher-level cognitive processes, present a safer environment, and will fly for extended periods of time as long as the vehicle lets it (no human fatigue within the plane). There is no need for a licensed pilot to operate it; over the long haul, an unmanned air vehicle can remain in the air for up to thirty hours while carrying out routine tasks, performing manoeuvres, and performing an accurate, repetitive formation scan of the area while being controlled by a computer. Unmanned aerial vehicles may live-cover any tract with radio, TV, or cellular phone service. They can also undertake a geologic survey and visual or thermal imaging of the area. Without a break in operation, the drone's controllers will switch positions. Longer propellers and more powerful motors will be required for the drones' increased range and precise accuracy.

Basic Principle

How do drones work?

A drone or quadcopter has four fixed, vertically aligned propellers. Every mechanical device has an adjustable speed that enables different movements. The following are a drone's essential components:

The drone's skeleton, or chassis, to which all componentry is attached. Strength (especially once additional weights like cameras are connected) and increased weight, which may require longer propellers and more powerful engines to lift, could be traded off in the chassis design.

Propellers: The drone's primary result load will contain the speed at which it will fly and, consequently, the speed at which it will manoeuvre. The length is frequently changed; longer propellers take longer to speed up or slow down but can perform greater lifts at a lesser rate. Shorter propellers will change speed more quickly and are therefore more manoeuvrable, but they require a greater motion speed to produce equivalent power as longer blades. This results in excessive motor strain, which lowers motor era. Moving more quickly may be possible with a more aggressive pitch. However, it lessens the power of hovering.

Drone motors are rated in "kV" units, which represent the number of revolutions per minute they can perform when given a voltage of one volt and no load. There is one motor for each mechanical device. A faster motor spin can increase flight power, but it consumes more battery power, resulting in a shorter flight time. Every motor receives a controlled current from an electronic speed controller (ESC), which ensures that the spin speed and direction are appropriate.



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Radio Receiver: receives the control signals from the pilot. Flight Controller: the onboard laptop that decodes incoming signals from the pilot and delivers corresponding inputs to the ESC to control the quadcopter.

Battery: Due to its high power density and ability to be recharged, metallic element chemical compound batteries are frequently employed. For point measurements, sensors such as accelerometers, gyroscopes, GPS, and barometers are frequently utilised in addition to current. For aerial photography and navigation, cameras are frequently installed.

Drone Mechanism - How Do You Fly A Quadcopter Drone?

A hand-held radio control transmitter used to manually pilot a drone and control its propellers. The controller's sticks allow for multidirectional movement, while the trim buttons allow for balancing the drone by adjusting the trim. Screens may be used to display sensing element data and receive live video from the onboard camera. In addition to the present, on-board sensors will provide practical settings like;

- Auto altitude, wherever the drone can move at a hard and fast altitude, and;
- GPS hold, wherever the drone can stay at a hard and fast GPS position. The drone may be flown autonomously; trendy flight controllers will use software packages to mark GPS waypoints that the vehicle can fly to and land or move to a collection altitude.

Applications of Drone**Military**

In the modern world, using drones or RPAS (Remotely Piloted Aerial Systems) for military purposes has taken precedence. Drones are an integral part of all militaries in the world and are used as target decoys for administration, analysis, and development as well as combat operations. Wherever human-crewed flying is deemed too unsafe or difficult, drone area units are used. Seven days a week, they offer troops a "eye in the sky" that is operational round-the-clock. Each craft will remain in the air for up to seventeen hours at a time, lingering over a region and tracing its cause to actual actions on the ground.

Delivery Services

Drones could save jobs and divert unneeded traffic from the roads to the skies. Additionally, they will be utilised to transport small goods, food, letters, medicines, beverages, and other items over short distances.

Security and Enforcement

In order to uphold the law, drones are deployed. They help police deal with large gatherings and ensure everyone's safety. They help to keep an eye out for illegal and misappropriated activity. Drones are used by the patrol to watch the hearth investigations, migrant traffickers, and misappropriated trafficking of medicine via beaches.

Search and Rescue

Drones become more effective tools for police operations when thermal sensors are present since they provide them a visual sense. Particularly in tough environments or challenging terrain, drone area units are capable of locating lost individuals and unlucky casualties. A drone will deliver supplies to hard-to-reach areas in war-torn or disaster-stricken nations in addition to finding victims. as an illustration, before rescue workers can relocate stranded people to another location, a drone is used to drop a link, GPS locater, medications, food supplies, clothing, and water to the victims.

Films and TV Industries

Drones are currently being utilised to record footage that would otherwise need expensive cranes and aircraft. Aerial drones are used to record sci-fi and action-packed sequences, making filmmaking simpler. These self-flying aircraft are used for stock and sports photography.





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Agricultural Applications of Drone Soil and Field Analysis

Drones may be instrumental at the beginning of the crop cycle. They manufacture precise 3D maps for early soil analysis, which helps come up with seed planting patterns. Once planted, drone-driven soil analysis provides information for irrigation and nitrogen-level management.

Planting

Startup shave created drone planting systems that reach an associate degree uptake rate of seventy-five % and reduce planting prices by eighty-five %. These systems shoot pods with seeds and plant nutrients into the soil, providing the plant with all the nutrients necessary to sustain life.

Crop Spraying

Drones will scan the bottom and spray the proper quantity of liquid, modulating the distance from the bottom and spraying in real time for even coverage. The result: accumulated potency with a discount of within the quantity of chemicals penetrating groundwater. In fact, consultants estimate that aerial spraying may be completed up to 5 times quicker with drones than with ancient machinery.

Crop Monitoring

Large fields and low potency in crop observation along produce farming's most significant obstacle. Observation challenges are exacerbated by unpredictable atmospheric conditions that drive risk and field maintenance prices.

Irrigation

Drones with hyper-spectral, multispectral, or thermal sensors will establish that elements of a field square measure dry or want enhancements. In addition, once the crop grows, drones permit the calculation of the vegetation index, which describes the density and health of the crop, and show the warmth signature, the quantity of energy or heat the crop emits.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, creating a drone system for precision agriculture applications is thoroughly investigated and has final framework standards, a variety of sensor types, controllers, and unique parts to create. The goal of this proposed system is to create an easy-to-use drone system that can be used to observe the prized crop while flying steadily through agricultural areas. Using the PID controller of the APM planning tool, the parameters tuning and trimming phases of this VTOL system are completed for smooth flight. This drone has strong economic stability because it produces more goods per acre and earns more money, giving it access to more expensive amenities like health and education. Even still, these technologies are still in their infancy in nations like India, whose primary industry is agriculture. However, it has been found in numerous studies that even modest gains in the productivity of local agriculture can result in large decreases in poverty. But drones still have some drawbacks, such as high costs, platform dependability, sensor capacity, and weather considerations. After all, the deployment of drones may be hampered in many places by stringent aviation rules and farmer awareness of the technology.

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Passengers' Perception towards Service Quality of Airlines

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ABSTRACT

Airline service dimensions are found to have significant and positive influences on airline image and passengers' perception towards it. Since passengers' perception of service quality plays a crucial role in an airline's success, hence it is important to know about the difference in consumers' perceptions toward airline service to enhance the service quality for the future sustainment of the airline business. The Current Study Determines The Passengers Perception towards the service quality dimension of private and public airlines in India in general and Coimbatore International Airport in particular. To find out a close relationship between airline services and also passenger level of perception. The data was collected from 480 passengers while they entered the service counters during travel and ticket booking at agent office. The study applied convenience sampling technique for collection of data. To examine the relationship between airline services and passengers' level of perception. The result confirms that there is a relationship between services and level of perception.

Keywords: Passengers, Airline service, Service, Data, crucial

INTRODUCTION

Modes of transportation now hold a significant position in the rapidly changing world of economy. Air travel has drawn more attention than other forms of transportation. People who live in remote areas of the globe can now communicate with the rest of the world because to the rapid development of air travel. Air transportation has economic and social relevance for a rising economy like India since it helps the country generate tax money and gives the young of the country jobs. Air travel is now used for more than just the movement of people and products; it also serves as a means of cultural exchange and leisure travel.



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In the past, there weren't many brands from which to choose when customers were looking for airline services, but today there is fierce competition due to the abundance of domestic and foreign service providers. Airlines must therefore make sure that customers are satisfied at all times, from purchasing tickets to checking out of airports. Based on the above theoretical discussions this empirical study aims to analyse the passengers' perception towards service quality of airline.

Research Objectives

To find out the factor determining passengers' level of perception towards service quality dimensions of airlines.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Rajeswari (2014) aimed to determine the customer satisfaction towards price, quality, services, and source of booking in airways in Coimbatore city. According to the study, passengers were also pleased with the level of quality, service, and safety provided by airlines. According to the study, customers were also pleased with the cabin cleanliness, in-flight entertainment, and seat comfort in flight. Customers in the sample agreed that they were getting good value for their money and were pleased with the overall courtesy and helpfulness. Bhatnagar and Mittal (2015) in their research paper attempted to analyze the customer satisfaction levels in no-frills airlines with special reference to Indigo and SpiceJet airlines Delhi NCR(New Capital Region).According to the study, customer satisfaction with Indigo was higher than with Spice Jet because the quality of service provided by Indigo was superior to that of Spice Jet. Suresh *et al.* (2017) attempted to investigate the passengers' satisfaction towards Airlines services quality in India. The study primarily focused on the relationship between air passengers' class of service and their perception of service quality, as well as the purpose of the trip and satisfaction. According to the study's findings, passengers ranked responsiveness first, followed by tangibility, empathy, assurance, and reliability. The study also discovered that consumers were most satisfied with the tangibility dimension of air craft, followed by responsiveness, reliability, empathy, and assurance.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Both quantitative and qualitative research techniques have been applied in this research work. Thus, this study has a combination of both explorative and descriptive research nature's. The area of the study was restricted to Coimbatore District since this is the biggest two tier city next to Chennai in the state of Tamil Nadu. Air travel is popular due to the existence of Industries, Corporate hospitals and Educational Institutions that provide a lot of scope for mobility such as medical tourism, visits of industrialists, and movement of students for higher education. This population provides sufficient scope for the study. Hence, the population for the study consists of people who travel in airlines. This study is focused only on domestic and international flight. The study applied convenience sampling technique for the collection of data. The current study is primarily based on primary data sources. The study aims to focus on the passengers travel through the specific airlines, data were collected from these passengers while they entered the service counters during travel and ticket booking at agent office(s) (through phone call or personal visits). All the eight airlines were chosen as the sample. From each airline, a sample 60 respondents were chosen as sample population i.e., in totals 480 air passengers, were surveyed for the effective collection of data

Data Analysis

The multiple regression analysis was performed to evaluate whether there exists a close relationship between airline services selected and passengers' level of satisfaction towards it. The dependent variable considered is airline services selected by the passengers and the independent variables:

Level Of Significance:5 percent

It is Revealed From Above table-1 econometric analysis that ratio (13.420) is statistically significant 5 percent level. This indicates that entire regression is significant, it establishes only 74.20 percent relationship between the variables





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tested. From the table 4.53 it is seen that the Coefficient Of Correlation (R) value .742 which describes a good relationship between variables and the coefficient of determinant (R^2) .550 value establishes a significant association between the 40 variables tested. Therefore the hypothesis framed stands accepted and it has been concluded that there exists a close relationship between airline service selected and passengers' level of satisfaction. This hypothesis conclusion holds good, when it is compared with the findings made by Murugesan and Perumalsamy (2013). Empirical findings made by Murugesan and Perumalsamy (2013) confirmed that passengers' satisfaction towards airline services influences their decision to choose the airline service. Multiple regressions identify the comparative contribution of each variable and determine the best predictor variables among a set of variables. The Unstandardized co-efficient value reveals the particular airlines users of dependent variable and a number of independent variables have a perfectly linear relationship. The resulting table shows the value of the constant and coefficient value of each attribute to analyse the passengers' level of satisfaction towards it.

Level Of Significance: 5per cent

To determine one or more of the independent variables are significant with the predictors and to analyse whether there exists an association between air passengers' level of satisfaction towards service quality dimensions of airlines, with the information provided above the coefficient table is examined. Out of 40 Parameter Statements Considered, only 25 were statistically significant. The standardized coefficient beta column reveals that airline services selected by the passengers have met beta standard coefficient ± 4.240 which is statistically significant at 0.000. To find out the multicollinearity one looks at the size of tolerance and Variance Inflation Factor are considered. Absence of collinearity indicates a small tolerance value. The large variable are considered if the VIF is inverse to the tolerance. If the tolerance value is smaller than .10, it is concluded that multicollinearity is a problem. Similarly, if the VIF is 5 or larger, the multicollinearity is a problem. Since the Tolerance value is substantially above .10 and the VIF is smaller than 5, it is concluded that multicollinearity among the independent variable is statistically insignificant.

Predicted Value of

Passengers' level of satisfaction towards airline services

- = ± 4.240 (Constant)
- $\pm .774$ (Behaviour of ticketing staff)
- $\pm .585$ (Baggage Waiting Time)
- $\pm .725$ (Queue Time at check in counter)
- $\pm .627$ (Baggage Handling)
- ± 1.357 (Baggage Security)
- ± 1.074 (Efficiency of check -in at the counter)
- $\pm .788$ (Attitude of in-flight service crew)
- $\pm .809$ (Cabin cleanliness)
- ± 1.639 (Cabin Quietness)
- $\pm .619$ (Provide pillows and Blankets)
- $\pm .698$ (Sky sales on Board)
- $\pm .458$ (Rest room Cleanliness)
- $\pm .767$ (Onboard catering services)
- $\pm .861$ (Price)
- ± 1.035 (Personal Entertainment Appliances)
- $\pm .979$ (Safety & Security)
- $\pm .561$ (Reservation of flights delay)
- $\pm .499$ (Availability Of Info)
- $\pm .462$ (Check-in-services)
- $\pm .797$ (Refreshments of Flight Delays)
- ± 1.554 (Compensation)
- $\pm .626$ (Value For money)



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±.794 (FF Programmes)
±1.321 (Rescheduling/Cancellations)
±.471 (Flights On time)

To assess the association between airlines services selected by the passengers and their level of satisfaction towards it, multiple regression modeling was completed and to the relative importance of the individual dimension of the generated scale, Multiple Regression Analysis indicated that out of 40 tested variables only 25 variables: Behaviour of ticketing staff, Baggage waiting time, Queue time at the check-in counter, Baggage Handling, Baggage Security, Efficiency of check-in at the counter, Attitude of in-flight service crew, Cabin cleanliness, Cabin Quietness, Provide pillows and Blankets, Sky sales on Board, Restroom Cleanliness, Onboard catering services, Price, Personal Entertainment appliances, Safety & Security, Reservation of flights delay, Availability of Info, Check-in services, Refreshments of Flight Delays, Compensation, Value for money, FF Programmes, Rescheduling/ Cancellations and Flights on time are found to be statistically significant.

Factor analysis technique has been applied to find the underlying dimension (factors) that exists in the 40 variables relating to the air passenger's level of satisfaction towards service quality dimensions of airlines.

KMO and Bartlett's Test

The Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) Measure of Sampling Adequacy (MSA) and Bartlett's test of Sphericity was used to assess if the data were enough or appropriate for factor analysis. In this study, the value of KMO for the entire matrix was determined to be outstanding (0.816) and Bartlett's test of sphericity was found to be extremely significant ($p < 0.05$). Bartlett's Sphericity Test was successful since the chi-square result is statistically significant at the 5 percent level. Thus, the findings suggested that the sample chosen was suitable to proceed with a factor analysis procedure. Along with the KMO Measure of Sampling Adequacy and Bartlett's Test of Sphericity, the Community values of all variables were also observed.

Rotated Component Matrix

Air Passengers' Level of Satisfaction Toward Service Quality Dimensions of Airlines

Five extracted factors account for 78.23% of the total variance (information contained in the original 40 variables). This is beneficial because the researcher was able to reduce the number of variables (from 40 to five underlying factors), while the data lost only about 21.77 percent of its information content (78.23 percent is retained by the five factors extracted out of the 40 original variables).

Five factors were identified as being the maximum percentage variance accounted. The factor I includes the variables X18, X19, X24, X25, X26, X31, X35, X36, and X39 and accounts for 45.03 percent of the total variance. Factor II is made up of the variables X1, X2, X3, X4, X10, X11, X23, and X24, and it accounts for 7.40 percent of the total variance. Factor III is made up of the variables X29, X30, X32, X33, and X34 and accounts for 4.85 percent of the total variance. Factor IV is made up of the variables X6, X12, X14, X15, X16, X17, and X27, and it accounts for 4.71 percent of the total variance. Factor V is made up of the variables X7 and X8, and it accounts for 3.74 percent of the total variance. The internal consistency of each factor was estimated individually using the alpha coefficient of Cronbach's (α). Factor analysis was applied to establish and reveal the correlation between air passengers' level of satisfaction towards service quality dimensions of airlines. The Cronbach's reliability values of (.978, .904, .880, .873, and .861) indicate a significant correlation between the variables tested and good internal consistency.

DISCUSSION

The majority of the passengers' have exhibited a high degree of satisfaction towards the efficiency ticketing staff in airport, baggage security provided by the airlines, the cleanliness of the cabins i.e., inside flight, onboard catering services, personal entertainment appliances like moving-map systems, personal televisions, in-flight movies, closed-captioning, etc., precautionary measures taken for their safety and security of passengers while they are on board, compensations paid on flight cancellations and refreshments of flight delays, value for the money and airline's





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practices of rescheduling, cancellations and flight timings of branded airlines. The result of Multiple Regression Analysis concluded that there exists a close relationship between airline services selected and passengers level satisfaction.

CONCLUSION

The aviation industry is one of the most essential industries since it helps the nation's economy thrive by facilitating trade and tourism, two major sources of money. This industry gives us the ability to cross geographical boundaries across continents, nations, and states. This industry is incredibly rewarding in terms of employment. The nation is focused on modernizing the aviation sector, which includes building new airports and updating existing ones, developing infrastructure for airport connectivity, creating a modern air navigation system, and finding ways to cut costs while still providing cutting-edge aviation facilities in various small cities. This sector caters to about 150 million passengers daily, with the potential to grow further. The study concluded that air passengers' level of perception towards service quality dimensions of airlines differ from one airline services to the other. The study concludes by stating that the aviation sector act as the catalyst to economic growth of India, but the airline has to focus on price cut of their tickets and other service cost, tends to concentrate on few urban areas and offer promised services in order to enjoy the vast potential market opportunity.

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Table 1- Multiple Regression Model Summary Association between Airline Services selected by the Passengers & their Level of Satisfaction towards IT

R	r2	AdjustedR ²	SE	F Value	Sig
.742	.550	.509	1.427	13.420	.000

Association Between Airline Services Selected by The Passengers’& Their Level of Satisfaction Towards it

Variables	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	Collinearity Statistics	
	B	Std. Error	Beta			Tolerance	VIF
Constant	4.240	.396	-	10.719	.000	-	-
Reservation Procedures							
Efficiency of ticketing staff	.235	.278	.083	.844	.399	.105	9.535
Behaviour of ticketing staff	-.774	.242	-.274	-3.196	.001	.139	7.192
Boarding							
Ease Of Obtaining Boarding Pass	.254	.257	.092	.988	.324	.118	8.461
Efficiency of check-in at the counter	-.241	.320	-.091	-.754	.452	.070	14.185
Baggage waiting time	-.585	.258	-.210	-2.265	.024	.119	8.417
Queue time at checkout counter	-.725	.259	-.288	-2.797	.005	.097	10.354
Baggage Handling	.627	.201	.270	3.120	.002	.137	7.306
Baggage Security	-1.357	.260	-.594	-5.210	.000	.079	12.693
Hotseat Priority	-.156	.242	-.066	-.647	.518	.100	10.029

Cabin Crew Services							
Cordial Welcome By In-flight crew	.110	.238	.044	.461	.645	.114	8.763
Efficiency of check-in at the counter	1.074	.315	.428	3.410	.001	.065	15.403
Attitude of in-flight service crew	-.788	.216	-.340	-3.653	.000	.118	8.461
Cabin Cleanliness	-.809	.191	-.301	-4.243	.000	.203	4.923
Cabin Quietness	1.639	.249	.613	6.572	.000	.118	8.482
Cabin temperature on ground	-.279	.208	-.107	-1.341	.181	.161	6.205
Cabin temperature during flight	.427	.254	.173	1.683	.093	.096	10.368
Seat Comfort	.112	.173	.051	.646	.518	.167	5.994





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Provide pillows and Blankets	-.619	.184	-.279	-3.366	.001	.150	6.684
Sky saleson Board	.698	.192	.291	3.636	.000	.160	6.250
Rest room Cleanliness	-.458	.197	-.188	-2.330	.020	.158	6.344
Food & Beverages							
Onboard catering services	.767	.202	.378	3.800	.000	.104	9.649
Price	.861	.275	.435	3.131	.002	.053	18.859
Quality Meals	-.069	.230	-.029	-.301	.763	.110	9.057
In-flight Entertainment							
Inbound Outbound Theatres	-.387	.228	-.178	-1.695	.091	.093	10.802
Personal Entertainment appliances	-1.035	.352	-.432	-2.944	.003	.048	20.967
Audio-video on demand newspapers, Magazines Etc.	-.264	.146	-.132	-1.805	.072	.192	5.212
In-Flight Facilities & Comfort							
In-Flight Services	.174	.266	.074	.653	.514	.080	12.547
Safety & Security	.979	.227	.342	4.308	.000	.163	6.149
Comfort	.412	.241	.150	1.711	.088	.133	7.529
Onboard Meals	-.029	.177	-.013	-.161	.872	.166	6.008

Information							
Reservation of flight delay	-.561	.175	-.276	-3.212	.001	.139	7.191
Availability Info	-.499	.233	-.204	-2.138	.033	.112	8.900
Behaviour of crew	-.019	.228	-.007	-.085	.932	.140	7.140
Check-in-services	-.462	.194	-.176	-2.385	.018	.189	5.301
Compensatory							
Refreshments of Flight Delays	-.797	.168	-.461	-4.741	.000	.108	9.239
Compensation	1.554	.191	.674	8.116	.000	.149	6.730
Value For Money							
Value For Money	-.626	.210	-.244	-2.986	.003	.153	6.535
FF Programmes	-.794	.183	-.322	-4.335	.000	.186	5.378
Time Value							
Rescheduling/Cancellations	1.321	.149	.716	8.886	.000	.158	6.332
Flights On time	.471	.217	.208	2.173	.030	.112	8.898

Level Of Significance: 5per cent

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Kaiser-Meyer-Olk in Measure of Sampling Adequacy	.816
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity Approx. Chi-Square	22571.948
DF	780
Sig	.000

Air Passengers' Level of Satisfaction Toward Service Quality Dimensions of Airlines

Variables	Level Of Satisfaction				
	Highly Satisfied	Satisfied	Moderately Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Highly Dissatisfied





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Reservation Procedures					
X ₁ -Efficiency of ticketing staff	-	.651	-	-	-
X ₂ -Behaviour of ticketing staff	-	.675	-	-	-
Boarding					
X ₃ -Ease of obtaining boarding pass	-	.572	-	-	-
X ₄ -Efficiency of check-in at the counter	-	.686	-	-	-
X ₅ -Baggage waiting time	-	-	-	-	-
X ₆ -Queue time at checkout counter	-	-	-	.642	-
X ₇ -Baggage Handling	-	-	-	-	.789
X ₈ -Baggage Security	-	-	-	-	.695
X ₉ -Hotseat Priority	-	-	-	-	-
Cabin Crew Services					
X ₁₀ -Cordial Welcome By In-flight crew	-	.728	-	-	-
X ₁₁ -Efficiency of check-in at the counter	-	.554	-	-	-
X ₁₂ -Attitude of in-flight service crew	-	-	-	.628	-
X ₁₃ -Cabin Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
X ₁₄ -Cabin Quietness	-	-	-	.718	-
X ₁₅ -Cabin temperature on ground	-	-	-	.623	-
X ₁₆ -Cabin temperature during flight	-	-	-	.611	-
X ₁₇ -Seat Comfort	-	-	-	.556	-
X ₁₈ -Provide pillows and Blankets	.627	-	-	-	-
X ₁₉ -SkysalesonBoard	.561	-	-	-	-
X ₂₀ -RestroomCleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Food & Beverages					
X ₂₁ -Onboard catering services	-	-	-	-	-
X ₂₂ -Price	-	-	-	-	-
X ₂₃ -Quality Meals	-	.593	-	-	-
In-flight Entertainment					
X ₂₄ -In bound & outbound theatres	.595	.515	-	-	-
X ₂₅ -Personal Entertainment appliances	.813	-	-	-	-
X ₂₆ -Audio-video on demand newspapers, Magazines Etc.	.693	-	-	-	-
In-Flight Facilities & Comfort					
X ₂₇ -In-Flight Services	-	-	-	.718	-
X ₂₈ -Safety & Security	-	-	-	-	-
X ₂₉ -Comfort	-	-	.707	-	-
X ₃₀ -Onboard Meals	-	-	.599	-	-
Information					
X ₃₁ -Reservation of flight delay	.551	-	-	-	-
X ₃₂ -Availability of Info	-	-	.704	-	-
X ₃₃ -Behaviour of crew	-	-	.714	-	-
X ₃₄ -Check-in-services	-	-	.691	-	-
Compensatory					





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X35-Refreshments of Flight Delays	.754	-	-	-	-
X36-Compensation	.727	-	-	-	-
Value for money					
X37-Value For Money	-	-	-	-	-
X38-FF Programmes	-	-	-	-	-
Time Value					
X39-Rescheduling/Cancellations	.764	-	-	-	-
X40-Flights On time	-	-	-	-	-
Eigen value	19.01	3.96	2.94	2.88	2.50
%of Variance	47.53	9.90	7.35	7.20	6.25
Cumulative	47.53	57.43	64.78	71.98	78.23

Level Of Significance: 5 percent

Summary of Rotation Factor Analysis & Cronbach's Alpha Air Passengers Level of Satisfaction Towards Service Quality Dimensions of Airlines

Factors	Factor Interpretation	Variables Included in the factors	Cronbach's Alpha
F1	Highly Satisfied	Provide pillows and Blankets, Sky sales on Board, Inbound & out bound theaters, Personal Entertainment appliances, Audio-video on demand newspapers, Magazines, etc., Reservation of flights delay, Refreshments of Flight Delays, Compensation, and Rescheduling /Cancellations	.978
F2	Satisfied	Efficiency of ticketing staff, Behaviour of ticketing staff, Ease of obtaining boarding pass, Efficiency of check-in at the counter, Cordial Welcome Yin-flight crew, Efficiency Of check-in at the counter, Quality of meals and Inbound outbound theatres	.904
F3	Moderately Satisfied	Comfort, On-board meals, Availability Info, Behaviour of crew, and Check –in-services	.880
F4	Dissatisfied	Queue time at the check-in counter, Attitude Of in-flight service crew, Cabin cleanliness, Cabin Quietness Cabin temperature on the ground, Cabin temperature during flight, Seat Comfort And In-Flight Services	.873
F5	Highly Dissatisfied	Baggage Handling And Baggage Security	.861

Source: Computed From Primary Data





Growth and Yield Performances of Soybean Plants under Integrated Nutrient Management

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ABSTRACT

Soybean (*Glycine max L. Merril*) is a leading grain legume in the world, contributing to both food, feed, and fodder. Soybean production is decreasing day by day due to the ill effects of soil fertility. Continuous use of inorganic fertilizer plays a vital role in reducing soil fertility, but an integrated nutrient management approach can improve soil health. Hence, research was carried out to study the performance of Soybean plants under integrated nutrient management conditions, especially with reference to the semi-arid climate of the Vidarbha region. A field experiment was conducted at Research Farm, Department of Agronomy, Dr.Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, during the *Kharif* season of 2018-19 to determine the performance of soybean under integrated nutrient management conditions. The integrated nutrient management practices were consist of 100% RDF, 75% RDF + FYM (2 t/ha) and 50% RDF + FYM (4 t/ha). The net plot size was 6.3m X 9.2 m. Sowing of soybean (var. JS-335) was undertaken on 3rd July 2018. Among different integrated nutrient management practices, treatment of 100% RDF recorded significant improvement in all the plant growth parameters and the soybean seed yield.

Keywords: Grain legume, inorganic fertilizer, Soil fertility, integrated nutrient management

INTRODUCTION

Soybean is seen by most agricultural scientists and food experts as a weapon against world hunger and the protein of the future. It is gaining importance in India and other developing countries toward human malnutrition, primarily due to the growth of either non-food crops or low per capita availability of nutrients. However, soybean cultivation

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has taken great strides due to its high nutritional value. It is the cheapest and richest source of high-quality protein. It supplies most of the dietary constituents essential for human health. Indian diets are primarily deficient in protein and calories. Soybean has tremendous potential to combat such protein-calorie malnutrition in India. Soybean production is decreasing day by day due to the ill effects of soil fertility. Continuous use of inorganic fertilizer plays a vital role in reducing soil fertility, but an integrated nutrient management approach can improve soil health. The primary goal of integrated nutrient management (INM) is to combine old and new nutrient management methods into ecologically sound and economically viable farming systems that utilize available organic and inorganic sources of nutrients reasonable and efficient way. The INM comprises components that possess great diversity in terms of chemical and physical properties, nutrient release efficiencies, positional availability, crop specificity, and farmer's acceptability. Only organic manures cannot meet the total nutrient needs of modern agriculture; integrated use of nutrients from fertilizers and organic resources seems to need time. The complementary use of chemical fertilizers and organic manures may increase the efficiency of chemical fertilizers to maintain a high level of crop productivity. Because of the low primary nutrient content in the soil, farmers need a significant application of these nutrients per unit area, unaffordable for poor and medium farmers. Thus integration of organic manures with chemical fertilizers appears to be an alternate offer for plant nutrition.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The field experiment was carried out during the Kharif season of 2018-19 at the All India co-ordinated research project on weed management, Department of Agronomy, Dr.Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth Akola, situated at the latitude of 22°42' North and longitude of 77°02' East; and 281.12 meters above the mean sea level. The soil of the experimental site was clayey in texture, low in organic carbon (0.57 %), slightly alkaline (pH 7.71), normal in electrical conductivity (0.31 dS/m), and analyzing in low available N (180.37 kg/ha), medium available P (15.22 kg/ha) and high available K (369.7 kg/ha) contents. The climate is semi-arid; it is characterized by three distinct seasons: hot and dry summer from March to May, warm and rainy monsoon from June to October, and mild cold winter from November to February. Most of the rain is received from the southwest monsoon from June to October, with mean annual normal precipitation of 740 mm received in 42.8 rainy days (An average of 40 years from 1971 to 2000). Five tillage treatments were replicated three times in the main plot under a split-plot design with integrated nutrient management in the subplot. The integrated nutrient management practices were consist of 100% RDF, 75% RDF + FYM (2 t/ha) and 50% RDF + FYM (4 t/ha). The net plot size was 6.3m X 9.2 m. Sowing of soybean (var. JS-335) was undertaken in the Kharif season on 3rd July 2018. Land preparation for the present investigation was undertaken per the specified treatments of different tillage practices. The recommended dose of fertilizer i.e., 30:75:30 Kg NPK ha⁻¹ was applied under the first treatment (T₁). To get such a quantity of nutrients 21.13 kg of urea, 1518.75 kg of SSP, and 16.2 kg of MOP were applied to the plot at the time of sowing. Under T₂ nutrient management practice there was a 25% reduction in use of all the chemical fertilizers and those were applied at the rate of 15.84 kg of urea, 1139.06 kg of SSP and 12.15 kg of MOP. Simultaneously there was an application of FYM (0.5% N, 0.2% P, and 0.5% K) @ 2 t ha⁻¹ i.e. 648 kg in the experimental plot of 3240 m² area. There was an application of 10.56 kg, 759.37 kg, and 8.1 kg of urea, SSP, and MOP, respectively, with a 50% reduction of chemical fertilizer under T₃ treatment. In addition to this there was an application of FYM (0.5% N, 0.2% P, and 0.5% K) @ 4 t ha⁻¹ i.e. 1296 kg in the experimental plot of 3240 m² area. The crops were maintained weed-free, and soil was kept loose and porous by giving intercultural operations. The hand weeding was done on the 25th day after sowing. On the 29th day after the sowing, an intercultural operation was carried out by a bullock-drawn double pass hoe. Observations on growth attributes viz., plant population, plant height, branches/plant, leaf area index, and yield attributes viz., Number of pods/plant, Weight of pods/plant, number of seeds/pod, harvest index, and test weight of seeds were recorded at the time of harvesting. The seed and straw yields were recorded. Finally, economic parameters were calculated. Data recorded on various observations were subjected to their statistical analysis. After the analysis, the data presented was interpreted for the result.



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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Growth parameters

The integrated nutrient management treatments had no significant influence on the emergence count and final plant stand. Data regarding the mean plant height of soybean as influenced by different tillage and integrated nutrient management treatments are presented in Table 1. Mean plant height of soybean differs periodically and reaches its apex at 80 DAS. Significant differences were recorded with various integrated nutrient management practices for soybean plant height. At 20 DAS and all the remaining crop growth stages, 100% RDF proved to be significantly superior compared to other treatments. It was followed by treatment of 75% RDF+ FYM, which was statistically similar to that of 50% RDF+ FYM. The significant increase in plant height due to the application of 100% RDF might be due to the ready availability of nutrients from chemical fertilizer, which was not possible in the case of FYM. In the case of FYM, demineralization occurs initially, leading to the slow release of plant-available nutrients, and consequently, less height was observed. Similar results were also reported by Singh *et al.* (2007), indicating that application of RDF resulted in maximum plant height over other nutrient management treatments. Goswami *et al.* (1999) studied the effect of phosphorus application to soybean @ 20, 40, and 60 kg ha⁻¹. The maximum plant height (67.93 cm), branches (3.51), leaves per plant (16.52) at 75 DAS, and root nodules per plant 29.88 at 60 DAS were recorded with the application of 60 kg P₂O₅/ha. The effect of treatments on functional leaves was found to be significant during all the growth stages except at 20 DAS. The treatment 100% RDF recorded maximum usable leaves (20.56), which was found at par (19.30), with the treatment 75% RDF + FYM @ 2 t ha⁻¹. The significant increase in the number of function leaves with the application of 100% RDF and 75% RDF + FYM @ 2 t/ha might be the result of increase in plant height and enhanced cell division in the meristematic region and by the activity of growing tips of the crop, which increased the nodes and thus resulted in a greater number of leaves per plant.

There was a significant difference in the mean number of branches per plant at all the crop growth stages. The treatment of 100% RDF recorded the maximum number of branches (6.96), which was found to be at par (6.53), with the treatment of 75% RDF + FYM @ 2 t ha⁻¹. Immediate availability of all nutrients resulted in maximum plant height and more no. of branches observed under 100% RDF. There was a significant difference in mean leaf area per plant at all the crop growth stages. The treatment with 100% RDF recorded a maximum leaf area of 10.56 dm² which was at par (10.21 dm²) with 75% RDF + FYM @ 2 t ha⁻¹. The highest leaf area with the application of 100% RDF might be due to an increase in length, breadth, and leaf size through the number and size of leaf cells by the availability of nutrients, ultimately resulting in leaf area development of the crop. Similar results were reported by Chavan *et al.* (2007), indicating that application of RDF (30:75:30) significantly increased the leaf area. Significant differences were recorded with various integrated nutrient management practices for the soybean leaf area index. At 20 DAS and all the remaining crop growth stages, 100% RDF treatment proved significantly superior (1.09) compared to other treatments. It was at par (1.01) with the treatment of 75% RDF + FYM, followed by 50% RDF+ FYM. Significantly highest leaf area index with the application of 100% RDF is attributed to the highest leaf area per plant in this treatment. The variation imposed through integrated nutrient management practices significantly influenced the total dry matter accumulation per plant at all the growth stages. Application of 100% RDF recorded significantly highest dry matter per plant (18.17g plant⁻¹). However, it was comparable (17.76g plant⁻¹) with application of 75% RDF + FYM @ 2 t/ha. This increase in dry matter with the application of 100% RDF might be coming through the better root development due to an increase in nutrient availability, which resulted in the development of leaves and branches, thus ultimately higher photosynthetic area dry matter per plant with the application of 100% RDF than all other nutrient management treatment was reported by Singh *et al.* (2007). Mandal *et al.* (1998) reported that the application of 100% recommended NPK+10 t FYM ha⁻¹ was significantly superior to no FYM regarding dry matter accumulation, crop growth rate, pods per plant, and seed yield.

Yield Attributes

The yield contributing characters, i.e., number of pods plant⁻¹, pods plant⁻¹, no. of grains pod⁻¹, weight of grains plant⁻¹, and test weight, performed significantly superior under 100% RDF. It was at par with the treatment of 75% RDF +

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FYM, followed by the treatment of 50% RDF+ FYM. Chaturvedi and Chandel (2005) experimented with Pantnagar. Similarly, they found that combined application of a recommended dose of fertilizer (RDF) + FYM resulted in maximum pods per plant (87.90), grain yield (3.98 t/ha), biological yield (7.94 t/ha), and harvest index (0.50). Billore et al. (2005) reported that the application of RDF significantly increased soybean yield over 50% of RDF or control. Singh et al. 2007 reported that the application of RDF resulted in maximum seed yield (q ha⁻¹) and straw yield (q ha⁻¹) followed by combined inoculation of Rhizobium+ Azotobacter +PSB+ FYM. Treatment with 100% RDF gave the best result in both seed and straw yield (2163 and 2290 kg ha⁻¹, respectively), which was at par with the treatment with 75% RDF+ FYM. It was followed by the treatment of 50% RDF+ FYM having minimum contribution towards seed and straw yield.

Economic Studies

Economic studies provide the economic feasibility of the cropping system. It is the analysis of input cost incurred and the gross and net output obtained from cultivating the specific crop. The relevant data on the cost of cultivation (COC), gross monetary returns (GMR), net monetary returns (NMR), and benefit to cost ratio (B:C) as influenced by different treatments are shown in the Table. Increase in cultivation cost was noted with 50% RDF+ FYM @ 4 t/ha (41305 Rs ha⁻¹) which was followed by treatment 75% RDF+ FYM @ 2 t/ha. Changes in the cost of cultivation with various treatments were due to variations in the rate of applications of chemical fertilizers and FYM. Among the treatments, the application of 100% RDF recorded significantly higher GMR (74878 Rs ha⁻¹), which was at par with the treatment of 75% RDF (70789 Rs ha⁻¹). A significant increase in NMR was noted with the treatment of 100% RDF (42645 Rs ha⁻¹), which was followed by treatment of 75% RDF+ FYM @ 2 t/ha (37063 Rs ha⁻¹). Economic returns to the entire system are more critical than the crop-specific returns to any crop because each crop has differential benefits and costs to subsequent crops. Treatment of 100% RDF was proved best with a maximum B: C ratio of 2.32 due to the maximum yield obtained, followed by treatment of 75% RDF (2.10).

CONCLUSION

The experiment reported that treatment of 100% RDF recorded significant improvement in all the plant growth parameters and the soybean seed yield among different integrated nutrient management practices. Among other integrated nutrient management practices, the highest GMR (74878 Rs/ha) and NMR (42645 Rs/ha) were recorded with the treatment of 100% RDF. The same treatment recorded the highest B: C ratio of 2.32. Therefore, it can be concluded that applying a recommended dose of fertilizer is the best way to enhance soybean plants' growth, yield, and productivity.

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Nutrient management	Plant population/ Net plot	Plant height	Mean number of functional leaves plant-1 at	Mean leaf area (dm ²) plant-1 at	Branches/	LAI	Total dry matter accumulation (g plant-1)at	No. of pods/ Plant	Pod wt./ Plant (g)	Seeds/ Pod	Test weight	Straw yield	Seed yield	Harvest index	CoC	GMR	NMR	BCR
	At harvest	(cm)			Plant										(Rs/ha)	(Rs/ha)	(Rs/ha)	
	80 DAS	80 DAS	80 DAS	80 DAS	Plant		Harvest											
100 % RDF	2486	54.63	16.46	9.22	6.84	4.69	18.17	19.53	6.33	2.23	10.93	2290	2163	48.57	32233	74878	42645	2.32
75% RDF +FY M	2501	52.47	14.97	8.82	6.44	4.54	17.76	17.43	5.87	2.11	10.82	2212	2042	48	33726	70789	37063	2.1
50% RDF +FY M	2490	51.37	13.62	8.44	5.41	4.38	15.71	15.37	4.76	2.04	10.14	2075	1818	46.69	41305	63222	21917	1.53
SE (m)±	7.93	1.06	0.419	0.18	0.17	0.057	0.15	0.71	0.21	0.05	0.19	65	54	--	--	1169	1173	--
CD at 5%	NS	3.16	1.25	0.53	0.52	0.17	0.44	2.15	0.64	0.16	0.56	194	163	--	--	3519	3519	--





Optimization of Temperature and Pretreatment of *Phaseolus Lunatus* Bean Pod Waste For Bioethanol Production

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ABSTRACT

Utilization of non-edible part of a plant origin for bioenergy production in this project emphasizes greenhouse intensity to reprocess the waste as well as turn down the environmental pollution. With this scenario, our novel idea of extracting bioethanol from bean pod waste would hail a great accomplishment to transform waste biomass to fuel energy and in turn, reduce the massive usage of fossil fuels. *Phaseolus lunatus* bean pod wastes were dried at 5 different temperatures and their physical characteristics were analyzed. Acid and alkaline pretreatments were optimized for sugar release and fermentation was carried out using *S.cerevisiae*. After distillation, the bioethanol obtained was qualitatively tested and compared with commercial ethanol. The ethanol production by *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* from bean pod waste dried 50°C, 60°C, 80°C and pretreated with 0.2M & 0.8M H₂SO₄ was found to be optimum which was inferred by Ritter's test and chromic acid test in comparison with absolute ethanol. The main significance of this study is to propose biofuel substitutes for fossil fuels that could diminish the combined ill-effects of air, soil and water pollution and global warming.

Keywords: *Phaseolus lunatus* bean pod wastes, bioethanol, temperature, Acid and alkaline pretreatments, fermentation, distillation.

INTRODUCTION

Biofuel is a sustainable originator of energy and therefore could be preferably utilized as an alternate to conventional fossil fuels. It doesn't leave more residues that are harmful to the environment. The benefit of agricultural waste of no economic value for biofuel production is a better method of effectively utilizing the agricultural land. A biofuel is a form of semi-renewable energy which could be generated from "agricultural



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feedstock's". It includes common crops viz. potato, corn, sugarcane, cassava & various sources like food & organic waste, cellulosic biomass, & waste chicken feather, mixed paper removed from municipal wastes (Naik et al, 2010). Among the two classifications of biofuels, first-generation biofuels are derived from oils, carbohydrates, and agro-industrial wastes using conventional technologies. Similarly, "second-generation biofuels" are derived from lignocellulose biomass that includes cellulosic biomass from plants like stalks, stems & wood. Plant cell wall structure consists of lignocellulose which, therefore, is the main component of plant biomass. Lignocellulose biomass is loaded with lignin, Hemicellulose & cellulose and is an essential component of the various types of food crops (Sun and Cheng 2002). They are advantageous over other feed stocks viz. corn starch, sugar cane and soybeans because they are produced rapidly and considerably at a lower cost than "food crops". Moreover, they are inedible that are underutilized but best suited for the yield of biofuels (Liu et al, 2018; Jonsson and Martín 2015).

Many second-generation biologically derived fuels such as bio-hydrogen, bioethanol are derived from the lignocellulosic biomass (Urbaniec and Grabarczyk 2009; Gomez et al 2011; Kothari et al 2012; Wulf and Kaltschmitt, 2013). Ethanol has captivated worldwide attention through its aspiring use as a substitute for automotive fuel. Cash crops can also be utilized to produce bioethanol like *Jatropha curcas*, cotton, maize and corn and wheat, etc. which are all "lignocellulosic biomass" left after the harvest. The difficulty in the usage of "lignocellulosic biomass" compared with the "first-generation feedstock" for ethanol production is more intricate because of the stable polysaccharides and therefore are not readily available for the fermentation by "*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*" (Saini et al 2015; Khramtsov et al 2011; Salehian and Karimi 2013). Bioethanol production from bean pod waste which contains polymers such as lignocelluloses and hemicellulose has gained great attraction (Busic et al, 2018). The challenge of converting lignocellulosic biomass to biofuels is the hydrolysis of polysaccharides into simple sugars. Several biotechnology and microbiological approaches have come into existence to overcome the lignocellulose breakdown especially the pentose sugar present in the mass including the identification of pentose sugar fermenting *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* species and identifying the enzymes from the yeast sp. that are capable of breaking cellulose and hemicellulose to simple sugars (Malherbe and Cloete, 2003). Thus, it is vital to investigate the efficient and cost-effective utilization of "biomass" into "fuels" & chemicals/materials that present primarily a valid research innovation for the transformation from an oil-based to a bio-based society. The challenging task at this moment is to meet the fuel crisis through second-generation bioethanol production. Therefore, the pod waste of *Phaseolus lunatus* is of valid choice for the production of Bioethanol. This study is proposed to examine the ability of *Phaseolus lunatus* pod waste to produce bioethanol by optimizing its drying temperature and pretreatment methods.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sample Collection

Phaseolus Lunatus (Lima Bean) beanpod waste, which was used as a substrate for the production of bioethanol, was collected from local market in Virudhunagar. The substrate was collected in a dust free and fungus free state and was treated as described below:

Drying Experimental Procedure

This was done in the hot air tray oven under varied temperature range (50°C, 60°C, 80°C, 100°C, 120°C). 300 g of pod waste was weighed, spread over the hot air tray and dried at different temperatures. The experiment was continued until a constant weight of 50g was attained for the 5 treatments. Oven dried pod waste at varying temperatures were powdered using a blender and stored in different tight containers.

Determination of physical characteristics such as moisture content, total ash content, crude fat, total organic carbon, pH & electrical conductivity was performed.



**Gloria Jemmi Christobel and Ramya****Comparison of alkali and acid pretreatment on the substrate****Alkaline Pretreatment**

Lignin removal is necessary to make cellulose available for the enzymes, which would make it easier for the yeast to produce ethanol from glucose (Wyman 1996). 25 g of the dry *Phaseolus lunatus* pod was weighed in flasks. 5% H₂O₂ solution of pH 8 and 10 were prepared. Pods dried at different temperatures were soaked in the H₂O₂ solutions for 18 hrs. Residues were removed by filtering and dried at 100°C overnight. Dried Residues were weighed. The best pretreated residue was further used for fermentation experiments.

Acid Treatment

This treatment is also done for lignin removal. 0.2M and 0.8 M H₂SO₄ were used for the pretreatment. 20 g of pod waste residue dried at different temperatures were used for the acid pretreatment. Pod waste residues were soaked in 150 ml of H₂SO₄ (0.2M, 0.8M). The mixture was placed in an autoclave at 121°C. The influence of time on the process was determined in the range 30-180 min. After Hydrolysis, the samples were filtered to obtain the hydrolysate product. After that, the pH of the obtained product was adjusted to 4-5 by adding sodium hydroxide solution.

Preparation of Yeast Culture

An activated *S.cerevisiae* strain was obtained from Department of Microbiology, V.V. Vanniaperumal College for Women, Virudhunagar. Before using in fermentation, yeast was activated. 0.5g of dry yeast was added to 150 mL yeast extract medium of 5% of sterilized glucose, activated at 38°C for 1hr cooled to 30°C and used for the experiment.

Optimization of Fermentation process

Fermentation is the final stage of bioethanol production. We used *S. cerevisiae* for the conversion of the mono & disaccharides produced during acid and alkali treatments into ethanol with the help of enzymes present in *S. cerevisiae*. The "*S. cerevisiae*" cells were suspended in 150 ml of deionized water and both alkali and acid pretreated *lunatus* pod wastes were used as the only carbon source for the yeast cells. Fermentation of all samples was done at 30°C with orbital Shaking at 150 rpm. We allowed the fermentation process to continue for 4 days and finally, the samples were centrifuged and collected.

Distillation

The product obtained after fermentation was distilled in order to get the bioethanol. The distillation was performed in the distillation unit for 4 hours. Distillation process was carried out twice in order to optimize the production of bioethanol in the final product.

TEST FOR ETHANOL CONTENT IN THE SAMPLE**Chromic acid test**

2 ml of acetone was added to each test tube and then added 3-4 drops of test alcohol. Added 2 drops of chromic acid test reagent. Vigorous shaking was done using a small tight filling cork. Sample color changes to a blue or blue-green or similarly colored precipitate within a few seconds to indicate a positive test.

Ritter test

Added 2 ml of acetic acid to each test tube containing 3 - 4 drops of test alcohol. Added 1 drop of saturated KMnO₄ solution and shook vigorously. The Purple KMnO₄ color was replaced by a brownish color which indicates the presence of alcohol.





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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The current instigator in bioconversion of *Phaseolus lunatus* pod wastes into bioethanol would be advantageous in the context of minimizing pollution and subsequently would strength then the nation's economy. The best yield of bioethanol was confirmed in bean pod waste treated at 50 °C, 60 °C & 80 °C as compared to 100 °C & 120 °C. The selection of a good pretreatment technique is yet another factor that determines the success of bioethanol production, so it is imperative to select the best pretreatment technique available. It helps open up and disintegrate the biomass constituents into individual components i.e. cellulose, hemicellulose, and lignin. The breakdown helps to achieve efficient hydrolysis and fermentation. We used two different pre treatment techniques to process the bean pod wastes namely alkaline, and acidic pretreatments using sodium hydroxide and sulfuric acid respectively.

Drying of *P.lunatus* pod waste and Compositional Evaluation

The compositional analysis is the first and prime procedure that forms the basis to determine the factors and components that are required for bioethanol production. Drying study of bean pod waste was carried out in the temperature range of 50 °C -120 °C to elucidate the effect of drying temperatures on total sugars and subsequently on fermentation. The effect of drying temperature on various compositional parameters such as moisture ash content, crude fat and organic carbon were shown in Figures 3, 4, 5 & 6. The moisture content of the pods was found to be highest at 50°C and lowest at 120°C. The moisture content decreased exponentially with an increase in temperature. Similar findings were reported by other researchers for different feed stocks such as barley hull (Kim et al,2018),corn, carrot and pumpkin wastes (Yesmin et al,2020) Therefore, the average moisture content for all the bean pod waste treated at different temperatures did not exceed 13%, thus making this material properly safe for long-term storage (Kaliyan and Morey,2009). Ash is a residue that contains the inorganic minerals elements of a feed sample, and its contents are determined in a laboratory by burning the sample at a high temperature (without organic matter) 550 °c and weighing the residue. Ash content for the pod samples of five different temperatures was found to be highest at 50 °c and lowest at 120 °c. Our study coincides with the finding of Zainuddin et al, 2014 who reported similar findings in pineapple agro wastes Similarly, the results of crude fat determination depict high-fat content in 50 °C and 80 °C. The content of crude fat was found to be much lower at 120 °C which indicates that over-drying lead to the destruction of fat. The importance of fat in fermentation to ethanol is that it may be hydrolyzed to glycerol. Glycerol is converted to PEP or pyruvate, thereby increasing the reducing equivalents and higher bioethanol yield than the fermentation of glucose and xylose from biomass (Yazdani et al,2007). The results observed in Figure 7 illustrates that pH values recorded for bean pod waste at different temperature better fit the data. The value of $R^2 = 0.9246$ obtained by the least square method best describes that the neutral pH of the biomass is essential for the fermentation process. A similar result was demonstrated in potato powder by Duhan et al, 2013.

Saccharification

The *saccharification* process utilizes acid or alkali to break the strong structure of lingo cellulose biomass to yield fermentable sugars. Many research findings reviewed various *saccharification* processes such as physical, chemical and biological methods (Amiri and Karimi, 2015 ; Limayem and Ricke, 2012). The selection of an appropriate method for the highest sugar release with minimum inhibitor production is of huge importance.

Alkaline Pretreatment

The alkaline pretreatment (Figure 8) with H₂O₂ of pH 8 and 10 though would have removed ligninin bean pod waste, they did not show significant fermentation in our experiment. Lignocellulosic cannot be directly subjected to fermentation because the lignin in plant cell wells forms a barrier. It is thought that oxidants such as H₂O₂ an important role. They react with ligninand bleach them. But our findings regarding alkaline treatment provedto be ineffective in releasing sugars.



**Gloria Jemmi Christobel and Ramya****Acid Pretreatment**

Phaseolus lunatus pod waste samples treated at 2 different acid concentrations (0.2M & 0.8M) provided effective hydrolysates in both concentrations. Effective sugar release was observed in 50 °C, 60 °C, 80 °C treatment groups as the hydrolysates were effective in fermentation to yield ethanol. This brings the evidence that acid treatment is effective as compared to alkaline treatment in releasing simple sugars for fermentation. Further, it was observed that drying at low temperatures yielded more total sugar compared to the samples dried at high temperatures (100 °C). This illustrates sugars are thermally degraded during the drying process at a high temperature. Moreover, a report from the literature shows that drying at moderate temperature effectively releases sugar that favors fermentation (Khedkaret al, 2017).

Fermentation and distillation

Both alkaline and acid hydrolysates were subjected to fermentation by *S. cerevisiae* at 37 °C, which utilized the sugar content of the agro-waste as nutrients and ended up converting the sugar to ethanol under anaerobic conditions (Figure 10). There is a buildup of unsaturated fatty acids and sterols at the start of the meal, which are vital nutrients for the body. They consume these nutrients and deplete the amount of sugar as the fermentation progresses. Fermentation was considered complete when the supply of sugar was almost completely converted to ethanol (Verbelen et al, 2009).

The fermentation process lasts for 1–4 days. After 4 days, the product obtained was filtered from the acid-pretreated flasks and subjected to distillation, and there after for the confirmatory tests for ethanol production. This result is in line with Gao et al, 2014 who observed the same in cane bagasse. The contents in alkaline pretreated were found to be foul-smelling without any traces of ethanol, so it was not considered for further distillation and confirmatory procedures. There was no fermentation observed in both (pH 8 & pH 10) alkaline-pretreated samples. Maximum fermentation was observed in pod waste samples treated at 50 °C and 60 °C for both acid pretreatments (0.2M & 0.8M). Moderate fermentation was observed at 80 °C for both acid treatments. Samples that were treated at 100 °C and 120 °C did not produce ethanol in both acid pretreatments. Moreover, the presence of ethanol was confirmed by qualitative tests by comparing it with absolute ethanol (Figs. 11 & 12) after the distillation process. It clearly indicated the presence of ethanol in acid-pretreated bean pod wastes dried at 50 °C, 60 °C, 80 °C temperatures. The potential of *Phaseolus lunatus* bean pod waste as the basic ingredient for bioethanol production is an effective approach to be developed in the future.

CONCLUSION

The main significance of this study is to propose biofuel substitutes for fossil fuels that could diminish the combined ill-effects of air, soil, and water pollution and global warming. Apart from this, some of the areas have been identified that will need further scientific research and development. The residual solid (lignin) left after fermentation has many uses, like use as a solid fuel or use in the production of silica, and can be useful in other fields. The leftover residue after bioethanol extraction provides more valuable components such as biomanure, pectin, and xylitol, which might further strengthen the study with economic rewards. Other challenges are the identification and isolation of effective microorganisms capable of using all the sugars available in the lignocellulosic hydrolysates (like glucose, xylose, arabinose, mannose, and galactose).

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<p>Figure: 1. Fresh and dry bean pod waste (<i>Phaseolus lunatus</i> pod).</p>	<p>Figure 2: Beanpod Dried at 50°C, 60°C, 80°C, 100°C & 120°C and powdered for Ethanol production.</p>																								
<table border="1"> <caption>MOISTURE CONTENT OF PHASEOLUS LUNATUS POD WASTE TREATED AT DIFFERENT TEMPERATURES</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Temperature (Celsius)</th> <th>% Analysis</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>50</td> <td>7.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>60</td> <td>7.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>80</td> <td>6.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100</td> <td>6.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>120</td> <td>6.2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Temperature (Celsius)	% Analysis	50	7.2	60	7.0	80	6.8	100	6.5	120	6.2	<table border="1"> <caption>Ash Content of Phaseolus lunatus pod waste treated at different temperatures</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Temperature (Celsius)</th> <th>% Analysis</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>50</td> <td>3.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>60</td> <td>3.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>80</td> <td>2.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100</td> <td>2.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>120</td> <td>2.1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Temperature (Celsius)	% Analysis	50	3.5	60	3.2	80	2.9	100	2.5	120	2.1
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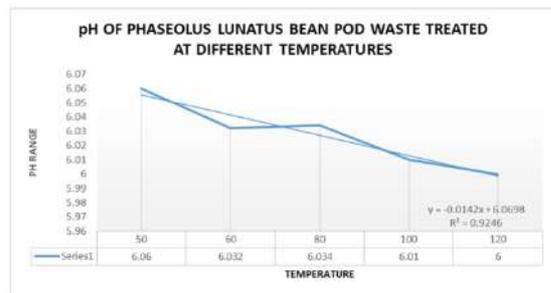


Figure 7: pH of *phaseolus lunatus* bean pod waste treated at different temperatures

Figure 8: Alkaline pre treatment of *P.lunatus* bean pod waste treated at different temperatures



Figure 9: Acid pre treatment of *P.lunatus* bean pod waste treated at different temperatures



Figure 10: Fermentation of Acid pretreated bean pod waste (Fermentation of sugars to Ethanol)





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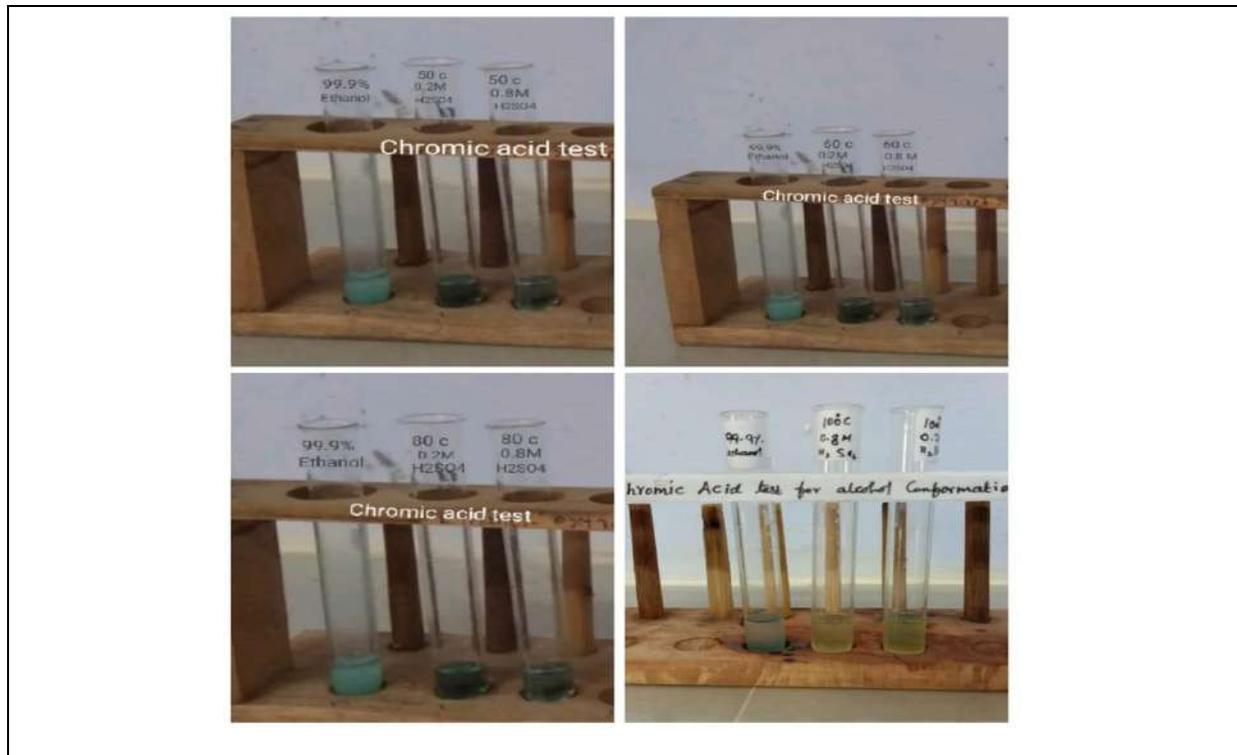


Figure 11: Chromic acid test for the presence of Ethanol

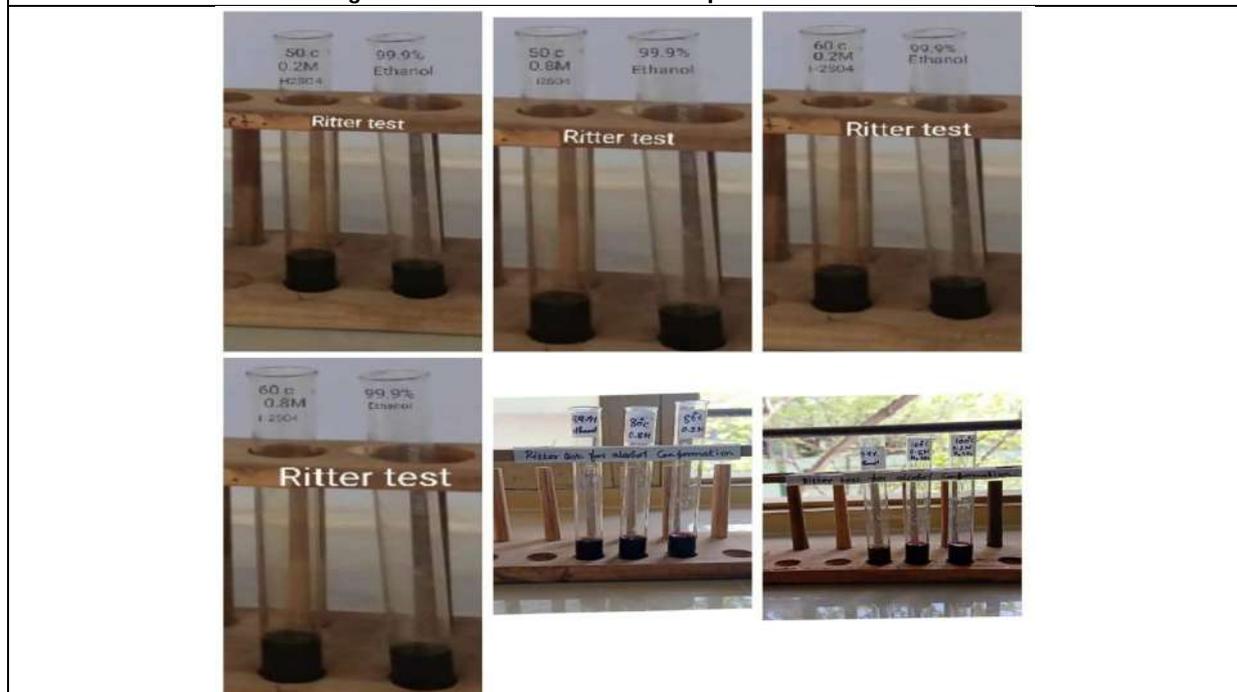


Figure 12: Ritter test for the presence of Ethanol





Influence of Silicon Amendments on the Population Dynamics of Natural Enemies of BPH in Rice Ecosystem in Coastal Odisha

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ABSTRACT

Studies on the influence of silicon supplements on the population of natural enemies in field condition has been carried out during *Kharif* season 2016 and 2017. Silicon sources with ten treatments of both organic and inorganic comprising diatomaceous earth (DAE) at 0.15, 0.3, 0.45 tha^{-1} , calcium silicate (CaSiO_3) at 2, 3, 4 tha^{-1} and rice hull ash (RHA) at 2, 3, 4 tha^{-1} along with a control plot in randomized block design has been laid out. During the peak period of infestation of brown plant hopper (10.48 numbers/hill, 16.77 numbers/hill, 17.53 numbers/hill in the highest doses of silicon) and 80 DAT the population of spiders was low in treatments receiving high doses of silicon that is at DAE @ 0.45 tha^{-1} (0.97 and 1.01 numbers/hill), CaSiO_3 @ 4.0 tha^{-1} (0.99 numbers/hill) and RHA @ 4.0 tha^{-1} (0.96 and 1.17 numbers/hill) as compared to control (1.57 and 1.74 numbers/hill) respectively. Similarly the population of mirid bugs were also low in treatments with high doses of silicon sources of DAE @ 0.45 tha^{-1} (1.06 and 0.82 numbers/hill), CaSiO_3 @ 4.0 tha^{-1} (0.93 and 0.79 numbers/hill) and RHA @ 4.0 tha^{-1} (1.88 and 0.86 numbers/hill) as compared to control (4.15 and 3.97 numbers/hill) respectively during the peak period of infestation of hoppers. The residual effect of RHA at low dose was good enough to restrict hopper build up till the flag end of the crop signifying the importance of this cheap technology





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Keywords: Spiders, mirid bugs, host plant resistance, rice husk, induced resistance, biocontrol

INTRODUCTION

Nearly one-fifth of all cereal acreage is used to grow rice, which is the main food for more than half of the world's population and is grown on more than 145 million hectares in more than 110 countries. Recent plant hopper epidemics have been proven to be made worse by broad range pesticides that are used to control other insect pests in rice (Chien *et al.*, 2009; Luecha *et al.*, 2010; Rattanakarn *et al.*, 2012). According to their varied activity, the insect groups present in the paddy agro ecosystem include pest insects, natural enemies, and neutral insects (Sumarmiyanti *et al.*, 2019). Insect pests are a major cause of crop loss, either by consuming plant tissue directly or by transmitting plant infections. Natural enemies are one of the biotic components that govern the insect pest populations. Diversified insect species has a relevant impact on the rice ecosystem's stability. Natural enemies must be included as a component of integrated pest management for suppressing the pest populations. Due to its density dependence, the natural enemy serves as an efficient population regulator. As the pest insect population grows, the natural enemy population increases as well, producing a numerical reaction and a functional response (an increase in feeding capacity) (Untung, 2006). One of the alternatives to chemical insect pest management is silicon (Si) addition. When plants are exposed to abiotic or biotic stresses, Si plays a crucial function that has led to its recognition as an important element for plant growth (Ma, 2004). Plant constitute secondary metabolites in them which play an important role in interactions with insects and natural enemies. Stress in plant can be manifested by the emissions of plant volatiles. Volatiles are engaged in herbivore defence reactions regardless of the mode of emission (Dicke and Baldwin, 2010). Indeed, silicon-treated arthropod-attacked plants have been shown to be more attractive to natural enemies, a result that has been mirrored in increased biological control in the field. Herbivores induced plant volatiles are the chemical responses of the plants in their tritrophic interaction in response to insect pest damage and these can act as kairomones for the predators and parasitoids in finding their host in the damage plants (Van *et al.*, 2004 and Van *et al.*, 2017). Si may cause HIPVs to be produced, amplified, and/or altered in many plant species. Wild rice plant treated with silicon responded with strong HIPV synthesis against damage by rice leaf folder (*C. medinalis*). Si-treated plants produce less amount of Hexanal 2-ethyl, -bergamotene, -sesquiphellandrene, and cedrol. (Liu *et al.*, 2017). The HIPVs profiles of silicon treated rice plants when attacked by *C. medinalis* was changed and that attracted the adult females of the parasitoids *Trathalaflavo-orbitalis* and *Microplitis*. The increased resistance of rice plants against *C. medinalis* was due to the use of JA-dependent signalling pathways. (Liu *et al.*, 2017). More predators *Dicranolaius bellulus* were attracted to silicon treated when they were attracted by *Helicoverpa armigera* in both laboratory and semi-field conditions. (Kvedaras *et al.*, 2010).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

"Swarna", a popular rice variety of Odisha was grown in the field experiment for *kharif* seasons of 2016 and 2017. Ten treatments were taken comprising of diatomaceous earth (DAE) at 0.15, 0.3, 0.45 t/ha, calcium silicate (CaSiO_3) at 2, 3, 4 t/ha and rice hull ash (RHA) at 2, 3, 4 t/ha along with an untreated control. While DAE and RHA are organic sources of Si with 70-80% and about 80 silicon respectively, CaSiO_3 which contains 24.13% Si is an inorganic source of silicon. All the test products were tested at their optimal, sub optimal and above optimal doses at which they are recommended as soil ameliorating products, to study their impact on the population dynamics of natural enemies of BPH in the rice ecosystem. A randomized complete block design with three replications was laid out for the field experiment and the plots measured was 5m × 4m. Basal application for all the treatments was done to the experimental plots. Population assessment of BPH was done through visual counting of nymphs and adults from ten randomly selected hills leaving two border rows from all sides in a plot along with number of spiders and mirid bug at each observation. The data were suitably transformed and subjected to statistical analysis.





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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 data revealed that at 30 DAT, number of insects per hill was very low ranging from 1.59-2.77 in different treatments as against 4.27 /hill in control. Overall hopper population was low till 60 DAT with a maximum load of 9.11/hill in plots receiving low dose of DAE compared to 14.08 /hill in untreated check. However, the adverse impact of different sources of silicon could be observed at these stages. There was a marked reduction in hopper population in all the treatments and the degree of containment of hopper was observed in proportion to their doses exhibiting greater impact at higher doses of the test products. Sudden increase in plant hopper population was seen at 70DAT coinciding the flowering stage of the crop, which is considered to be the vulnerable stage of the rice crop for hopper attack. At this stage response of high dose of DAE was quite encouraging with a record of 10.48 hoppers/hill followed by that of CaSiO_3 (16.77 numbers/hill) and RHA (17.53 /hill), which remained on par with that of their medium doses (15.03 -23.86 hoppers /hill). Level of hopper build up was even markedly lower (30.33-36.36 hoppers/hill) in plots receiving low doses of test products exhibiting similar performance with each other. Because of heavy downpour, at 80 DAT, there was a sharp decline in hopper population which showed significant variations between the treatments highlighting the utility of the test products in arresting the hoppers at the flag end of the crop more particularly at high and medium doses (6.3 – 8.56 hoppers/hill) compared to check (15.63/hill). Highest (13.97 insects /hill) hopper population in plots with low dose of DAE was recorded, which was significantly higher from other treatments but equated with control (15.63 insects /hill) indicating the utility of exogenous application of Si products in rice. From the mean data it was revealed that DAE performed comparatively better at its high and medium doses (5.1-5.89) followed by CaSiO_3 and RHA, which could restrict hoppers to single digit numbers as against 17.74 hoppers/hill in control. During *kharif* 2017 hopper population remained very low till the maximum tillering stage of the crop (up to 50 DAT) with a record of 1.35- 3.96 hoppers/hill without any marked difference between the Si treatments but remained distinctly lower than control (3.63 -7.65 hopper/hill) implying resistance inducing ability of test products at these plant growth stages (Table 1). From 60 DAT onwards population started building up with a record of 16.03 hoppers/hill in control, attaining its peak at 70 DAT (77.29 hoppers/hill). At both the stages low doses of Si sources were poor performers but remained on par at medium and high doses. Numerically DAE was found superior with a low hopper incidence (12.7 -16.5/hill) at its medium and high dose compared to other test products (17.6 -28.8/hill) at their corresponding doses. On the other hand, impact of low doses was also quite eye catching with a record of 31.8- 40.3 hoppers /hill as against control (77.3/hill) in (Table 1) signifying the role of Si amendments in rice plants for resisting the BPH attack. The residual effect of test products at the flag end of the crop was also clearly visible with a distinctly lower hopper population in treated plots (5.38- 12.93/hill) compared to the untreated one (17.88/hill) lowest being in plot receiving high dose of DAE, which was on par with medium doses of CaSiO_3 and RHA signifying the importance of RHA as a cheap and abundantly available source for soil amendment in rice. This was further strengthened from the mean data exhibiting a population of 8.8/hill in RHA treated plots (medium and high dose) as against 21.38 average hoppers/hill in control. As the age of the crop increases there will be increase in the number of spiders and mirid bugs in the rice fields. The beginning of the season marks the immigration of spiders from surrounding habitats which will be reach to maximum around the middle of the season when conditions are optimal. When the field is harvested, the spiders are disturbed and leave the field, leading to decreasing abundance towards the end of season.

During *kharif* 2016, observations on spider population was taken from 30DAT to 80DAT and recorded 0.31-1.17 spiders/hill in the treated plots as against 0.59-1.74 spiders/hill in control (Table 2). During the peak period of infestation of brown plant hopper (70DAT) there was increase in population of spider with highest population of 1.31 spiders/hill at low dose of DAE followed by corresponding low doses of CaSiO_3 (1.37 spiders/hill) and RHA (1.40 spiders/hill) as against 1.57 spiders/hill in control indicating a positive relation of brown plant hopper with spider. Increase in infestation of brown plant hopper resulted in increase in spider population and vice-versa indicating the density dependence of the predator. No significant difference was noticed among the treatments with regard to spider population at this stage. Similar trend was seen at 80 DAT, with a record of highest spider population being highest in T_1 (1.44 spiders/hill) receiving low dose of DAE followed by low doses of CaSiO_3 (1.32



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spides/hill) and RHA (1.43spiders/hill) as against 1.74 spiders/hill in control. Mean data revealed almost uniform spider population in all the treatments with a record of (0.88-1.38 spiders/hill). Numerically highest population was recorded in plots with low dose of DAE (1.11 spiders/hill) followed by low doses of by low doses of CaSiO_3 and RHA with a record of 1.07 and 1.05 spiders/hill respectively as against 1.38 spiders/hill in control. During *kharif* 2017, population of spider was observed from 30DAT to 80DAT with highest population record of 1.64 spiders/hill in plots receiving low dose of RHA at the peak activity of hopper (70 DAT) followed by 1.5/hill and 1.34/hill with low dose of DAE and CaSiO_3 respectively compared to 1.64/hill in control. On the contrary lower spider population recorded in plots with higher doses of Si amendments. Invariably RHA treated plots inhabited more spiders (1.49-1.64/hill) compared to higher doses of other sources and remained on par with control. At 80DAT the trend remained same, the highest population being observed in all the low doses of the Si treatments recording 1.15, 1.17 and 0.91spider/hill in T_1 , T_4 and T_7 respectively. There were no significant differences in spider population among different doses of DAE, CaSiO_3 and RHA. However all the treatments had significantly lower population than that of control(1.65/hill). This trend was also evident from mean data (Table 2) where the spider population ranged between 0.81/hill in T_3 to 1.02/hill in T_7 as against (1.24/hill) in control.

Mirid bug, *Cyrtorhinus lividipennis* is a predatory bug which can feed on egg, nymphs and adults of plant hoppers. Their population is density dependent on hopper population in the rice field. During 2016, with the appearance of this predator, observations were recorded at 60DAT, 70DAT and 80DAT with highest population recorded in all the low doses of silicon treated plots (Table 3). At 60DAT, highest population were recorded in T_1 (2.99/hill), T_4 (2.91/hill) and T_7 (2.05)receiving low dose of DAE, CaSiO_3 and RHA respectively. Similar trend was observed in 70DAT and 80DAT with higher population in T_1 (3.07/hill and 2.85/hill) followed by T_4 (2.09/hill and 1.93/hill) and T_7 (2.89/hill and 2.80/hill) comprising low doses of DAE, CaSiO_3 and RHA respectively as against control (4.15/hill and 3.97/hill). However, the variation in population was significant in all the treatments. From the mean data it was evident that the lowest doses of DAE, CaSiO_3 and RHA indicated higher population of mirid bug of (2.97/hill, 2.31/hill and 2.57/hill respectively) compared to control (3.73/ hill). During *kharif* 2017, the mirid bug population was observed from 60DAT to 80DAT with higher population recorded in all the low doses of DAE, CaSiO_3 and RHA. At 60 DAT population was non-significant with a record of 0.93-1.30/hill in different treatments. At 70 DAT a maximum of 2.73 /hill bug population was recorded in control plots which is at par with those of low doses of Si sources. At 80 DAT significantly lower bug population observed in Si treatments with a record of 0.6- 1.02/hill as against 2.15/hill in control. The average bug population remained higher (1.2 -1.48/hill) in plots receiving low doses of all the three Si products as against 2.15/hill in control as evident from mean data. It was reported that volatiles released from the plants were attacked by plant hoppers which attracted the parasitoid wasps which were specific for eggs of planthopper (Lou *et al.*, 2002). This suggested that the chemical elicitors played an important role as inducer of direct defences in rice and also indirect defenses produced by predators and parasitoids. In this study spider population though differed significantly between treatments, response to doses and sources of Si amendment and population of hoppers was not consistent. It may be because of the fact that it is a generalized feeder and besides hopper other insects are also predated. On the other hand, mirid bugs are specialist predator of plant hoppers and capable of feeding on eggs, nymphs and adult hoppers. Hence, these predators showed variations in their population in a hopper density dependent manner. According to Reynolds *et al.*, (2016) the herbivore induced plant volatile increases due to silicon infected plants which attracted the predators or parasitoids. It is further suggested that the natural phenomom of insect life cycle is reduced by Si present in plants which attracts more predators (James, 2003; Connick, 2011).

CONCLUSION

In this study spider population though differed significantly between treatments, response to doses and sources of Si amendment was not consistent. It may be because of the fact that it is a generalized feeder and besides hopper other insects are also predated. On the other hand, mirid bugs are specialist predator of plant hoppers and capable of feeding on eggs, nymphs and adult hoppers. Hence, these predators showed variations in their population in a





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hopper density dependent manner. Si amendments in plants enhances resistance to BPH , as well as interaction between Si and natural enemies imparts resistance of rice plants to insect herbivores grown in soils of constituents of silicon .

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Table 1. Effect of silicon constituents on bph incidence in rice var. *Swarna* grown in Kharif 2016 and 2017

Tr · N o.	Treatment &dose(t/ha)	Bph population (Nos./hill) in Kharif 2016							Bph population (Nos./hill) in Kharif 2017						
		30D AT	40D AT	50D AT	60D AT	70D AT	80D AT	Me an	30D AT	40D AT	50D AT	60D AT	70D AT	80D AT	Me an
T ₁	DAE (0.15)	2.77 b	4.46 ^b c	5.08 ^b c	9.11 c	35.0 6 ^d	13.9 7 ^d	11.7 4	1.97	2.17 ^a b	3.56 ^a	9.35 ^c d	32.9 9 ^d	9.80 ^b cd	9.97
T ₂	DAE (0.30)	1.59 a	1.97 a	3.64 ^a b	5.61 ^a b	15.0 3 ^{ab}	7.47 a	5.89	2.11	1.68 ^a	2.79 ^a	5.04 ^a	16.5 3 ^{ab}	7.05 ^a b	5.87
T ₃	DAE (0.45)	1.76 ^a b	2.26 ^a	3.10 ^a	6.40 ^a b	10.4 8 ^a	6.57 ^a	5.10	1.78	2.00 ^a b	1.82 ^a	4.33 ^a	12.7 1 ^a	5.38 ^a	4.67
T ₄	CaSiO ₃ (2.0)	2.64 ^a b	3.23 ^a b	6.40 ^c d	6.97 ^a b	30.3 3 ^d	9.86 ^b c	9.91	2.07	2.32 ^a b	3.96 ^a	7.96 ^b c	31.7 9 ^d	10.9 8 ^{cd}	9.85
T ₅	CaSiO ₃ (3.0)	1.82 ^a b	2.37 ^a b	3.83 ^a b	5.52 ^a b	21.8 4 ^{bc}	8.27 ^a b	7.28	2.13	1.39 ^a	2.16 ^a	5.55 ^a b	21.7 3 ^{bc}	8.48 ^a bc	6.91
T ₆	CaSiO ₃ (4.0)	1.98 ^a b	2.03 ^a	4.27 ^a b	5.66 ^a b	16.7 7 ^{ab}	7.63 ^a b	6.39	2.18	1.93 ^a b	2.48 ^a	4.91 ^a	17.6 3 ^{ab}	9.76 ^b cd	6.48
T ₇	RHA (2.0)	2.75 ^a b	5.57 c	7.30 ^d	7.37 ^b c	36.3 6 ^d	10.6 8 ^c	11.6 7	2.05	3.67 ^b	3.67 ^a	10.8 3 ^d	40.3 4 ^e	12.9 3 ^d	12.2 5
T ₈	RHA (3.0)	1.88 ^a b	3.15 ^a b	5.49 ^b cd	6.35 ^a b	23.8 6 ^c	8.56 ^a bc	8.22	2.08	2.73 ^a b	3.56 ^a	7.69 ^b c	28.8 0 ^{cd}	8.46 ^a bc	8.89
T ₉	RHA (4.0)	1.79 ^a b	3.45 ^a b	4.84 ^a bc	5.24 a	17.5 3 ^{bc}	6.30 a	6.53	1.92	1.35 ^a	2.60 ^a	5.70 ^a b	31.1 0 ^d	10.4 5 ^{bcd}	8.85
T ₁₀	Control	4.27 c	8.47 d	10.0 8 ^e	14.0 8 ^d	53.8 9 ^e	15.6 3 ^d	17.7 4	3.63	5.82 ^c	7.65 ^b	16.0 3 ^e	77.2 9 ^f	17.8 8 ^e	21.3 8
	SE(m) +	0.35 4	0.67 8	0.62 0	0.63 7	2.25 0	0.66 8		0.46 6	0.61 7	0.68 6	0.81 4	2.26 0	1.13 1	
	C.D. _{0.05}	1.05	2.01	1.84	1.89	6.68	1.98		NS	1.83	2.03	2.42	6.71	3.36	

DAT- days after transplanting

*Mean with same letters are not significantly different at 5% level by Duncan's Multiple Range Test

Table 2. Effect of silicon constituents on spider incidence in rice var. *Swarna* grown in kharif 2016 and 2017

Tr · N o.	Treatment &dose(t/ha)	Spider population (Nos./hill) in Kharif 2016							Spider population (Nos./hill) in Kharif 2017						
		30D AT	40D AT	50D AT	60D AT	70D AT	80D AT	Me an	30D AT	40D AT	50D AT	60D AT	70D AT	80D AT	Me an
T ₁	DAE (0.15)	0.34 (0.91)	0.96 (1.20)	1.34 (1.36) ^c	1.27 (1.33) ^a	1.31 (1.34) ^{abcd}	1.44 (1.39) ^c	1.1 1	0.27 (0.87)	0.53 (1.01)	1.22 (1.31) ^{abc}	1.21 (1.31) ^{abc}	1.50 (1.41) ^{bcd}	1.15 (1.28) ^a	0.9 8
T ₂	DAE (0.30)	0.36 (0.93)	0.98 (1.21)	1.04 (1.24) ^{abc}	1.16 (1.29) ^a	1.02 (1.23) ^{abc}	1.05 (1.24) ^a	0.9 1	0.38 (0.93)	0.36 (0.92)	1.19 (1.30) ^{abc}	1.04 (1.21) ^{ab}	1.18 (1.30) ^{ab}	1.04 (1.24) ^a	0.8 7
T ₃	DAE (0.45)	0.31 (0.90)	0.91 (1.19)	1.11 (1.27) ^{abc}	0.94 (1.20) ^a	0.97 (1.21) ^{ab}	1.01 (1.23) ^a	0.8 7	0.33 (0.91)	0.45 (0.97)	1.08 (1.26) ^{ab}	0.97 (1.21) ^a	1.07 (1.25) ^a	0.96 (1.21) ^a	0.8 1
T ₄	CaSiO ₃ (2.0)	0.41 (0.95)	0.94 (1.20)	1.27 (1.33) ^{bc}	1.09 (1.26) ^a	1.37 (1.36) ^{bcd}	1.32 (1.35) ^{bc}	1.0 7	0.29 (0.89)	0.61 (1.05)	1.15 (1.28) ^{abc}	1.28 (1.33) ^{abcd}	1.34 (1.35) ^{abc}	1.17 (1.29) ^a	0.9 7
T ₅	CaSiO ₃ (3.0)	0.39 (0.94)	0.88 (1.17)	1.22 (1.31)	1.28 (1.34)	0.94 (1.20)	1.05 (1.24)	0.9 2	0.31 (0.90)	0.5 (1.00)	0.94 (1.20)	1.12 (1.27)	1.24 (1.32)	0.95 (1.20)	0.8 4





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)))abc)a	a)a)))ab	abc)ab)a	
T ₆	CaSiO ₃ (4.0)	0.42 (0.96)	0.86 (1.16)	0.99 (1.22)	1.01 (1.23)	0.99 (1.22)	0.99 (1.22)	0.8 8	0.28 (0.88)	0.49 (0.99)	0.89 (1.18)	1.00 (1.23)	1.12 (1.27)	0.98 (1.21)	0.7 9
T ₇	RHA (2.0)	0.51 (1.00)	0.81 (1.14)	1.00 (1.22)	1.16 (1.29)	1.40 (1.38)	1.43 (1.39)	1.0 5	0.36 (0.93)	0.54 (1.01)	1.35 (1.36)	1.33 (1.35)	1.64 (1.46)	0.91 (1.18)	1.0 2
T ₈	RHA (3.0)	0.46 (0.98)	0.92 (1.19)	0.95 (1.20)	1.04 (1.24)	1.33 (1.35)	1.39 (1.37)	1.0 2	0.24 (0.86)	0.44 (0.97)	0.96 (1.21)	1.23 (1.31)	1.49 (1.41)	0.88 (1.17)	0.8 7
T ₉	RHA (4.0)	0.33 (0.91)	0.82 (1.14)	1.01 (1.23)	1.14 (1.28)	0.96 (1.21)	1.17 (1.29)	0.9 1	0.33 (0.91)	0.39 (0.94)	0.92 (1.19)	1.40 (1.38)	1.55 (1.43)	0.89 (1.18)	0.9 1
T ₁₀	Control	0.59 (1.04)	1.03 (1.23)	1.65 (1.47)	1.69 (1.48)	1.57 (1.44)	1.74 (1.50)	1.3 8	0.34 (0.91)	0.54 (1.02)	1.54 (1.43)	1.60 (1.45)	1.77 (1.50)	1.65 (1.46)	1.2 4
	SE(m) +	0.05 5	0.06 6	0.03 5	0.03 9	0.048	0.02 6		0.05 5	0.06 0	0.04 9	0.038	0.042	0.05 2	
	C.D. _{.0.05}	NS	NS	0.10	0.12	0.14	0.07		NS	NS	0.14	0.11	0.12	0.15	

*Figures in parentheses are square root transformed value

*Mean with same letters are not significantly different at 5% level by Duncan's Multiple Range Test

Table 3 . Effect of silicon constituents on mirid bug population in rice var.Swarna grown in Kharif 2016 and 2017

Tr. No.	Treatment & dose (t/ha)	Mirid bug population (Nos./hill) in kharif 2016				Mirid bug population (Nos./hill) in Kharif 2017			
		60 DAT	70 DAT	80 DAT	Mean	60 DAT	70 DAT	80 DAT	Mean
T ₁	DAE (0.15)	2.99 (1.85) ^b	3.07 (1.86) ^c	2.85 (1.82) ^c	2.97	1.03 (1.24)	2.22 (1.65) ^b	1.00 (1.22) ^b	1.42
T ₂	DAE (0.30)	1.90 (1.55) ^{ab}	2.18 (1.63) ^{bc}	1.88 (1.54) ^{bc}	1.99	1.01 (1.23)	1.13 (1.28) ^a	0.91 (1.18) ^{ab}	1.02
T ₃	DAE (0.45)	1.00 (1.22) ^{ab}	1.06 (1.25) ^a	0.82 (1.15) ^a	0.96	0.93 (1.20)	1.04 (1.24) ^a	0.83 (1.15) ^{ab}	0.93
T ₄	CaSiO ₃ (2.0)	2.91 (1.83) ^{ab}	2.09 (1.61) ^{bc}	1.93 (1.56) ^{bc}	2.31	1.19 (1.30)	2.23 (1.65) ^b	1.02 (1.23) ^b	1.48
T ₅	CaSiO ₃ (3.0)	1.65 (1.46) ^{ab}	1.94 (1.56) ^b	1.77 (1.50) ^b	1.79	0.99 (1.22)	1.03 (1.23) ^a	0.84 (1.16) ^{ab}	0.95
T ₆	CaSiO ₃ (4.0)	0.87 (1.17) ^{ab}	0.93 (1.19) ^a	0.79 (1.14) ^a	0.86	1.00 (1.22)	0.99 (1.22) ^a	0.60 (1.04) ^a	0.86
T ₇	RHA (2.0)	2.05 (1.60) ^{ab}	2.89 (1.83) ^{bc}	2.80 (1.80) ^c	2.58	0.96 (1.21)	1.98 (1.57) ^b	0.65 (1.07) ^{ab}	1.20
T ₈	RHA (3.0)	0.82 (1.15) ^a	1.01 (1.23) ^a	1.70 (1.48) ^b	1.18	0.99 (1.22)	0.89 (1.18) ^a	0.70 (1.09) ^{ab}	0.86
T ₉	RHA (4.0)	0.72 (1.10) ^{ab}	1.88 (1.54) ^b	0.86 (1.17) ^a	1.15	1.11 (1.27)	1.11 (1.27) ^a	0.76 (1.12) ^{ab}	0.99
T ₁₀	Control	3.08 (1.88) ^{ab}	4.15 (2.16) ^{cd}	3.97 (2.10) ^{cd}	3.73	1.30 (1.34)	2.36 (1.69) ^b	2.15 (1.63) ^c	1.94
	SE(m) +	0.100	0.090	0.086		0.042	0.038	0.048	
	C.D. _{.0.05}	0.29	0.26	0.25		NS	0.11	0.14	

*Figures in parentheses are square root transformed value

*Mean with same letters are not significantly different at 5% level by Duncan's Multiple Range Test





Geo environmental Assessment of Spatial Soil Salinization for Agriculture Land Management- a case study from village Kolgaon, Niphad Tahsil, Maharashtra

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ABSTRACT

Soil, water and crop management are essential for rural-agricultural development and to afford adequate resources for the rising population Soil salinization and water logging is a major Geo-environmental problem which decreases land productivity. One significant threat to irrigated agriculture's sustainability is the risk of an increase in top soil saline attentions, which in turn decreases the crop yield. Hence it is noteworthy to study micro-level geo-environmental assessment of soil salinity and its mapping for optimum use of land resources. The present investigation processes the Soil Salinity Risk Index (SSRI) by Chaaou, 2020, for the micro level spatial evaluation of saline lands. The study attempts to evaluate and map the soil salinity of village Kolgaon, (996.94 ha) Niphad tehsil of Nashik District, Maharashtra. Elevation ranges from 450 to 550 m., and the slope is between 1-12%. A detailed field survey was undertaken in the study area to measure the soil infiltration and hydraulic conductivity rate. The soil properties were evaluated through soil sample collections and soil health card data (103 samples data) from GOI. The SSRI input parameters viz, elevation, slope, climate type, soil texture, geology, Electric conductivity of the soil, surface water, depth of the groundwater and aridity index spatial variation map with standard grid was prepared. Reclassification of the grid was performed for assigned ranking and weighting. The result shows that the salinity index value ranges between 27- 62. The whole land of the study area comprises severe salinity class. The spatial salinity index result was verified with a 20% study area sampling. The salinity indicators (White layer, Acacia Nilotica, Salt tolerant weeds, etc.) were verified in the field. Hence the Pedo-geomorphic assessment using field survey and GIS techniques provides adequate and precise results for implementing SLRM.





Keywords: Mapping, Productivity, Risk Index, Soils, Salinity.

INTRODUCTION

Most parts of the world are suffering from soil salinity. Soil salinity is a widespread environmental hazard in the world. It affects humans in many ways. It arises due to irrigation, natural and other enhanced agricultural practices, which include heavy use of pesticides and fertilizers. It is a hazardous problem in the world. Does soil salinization reduce soil productivity and degradation (Akramkhanov, 2011), which further affects agriculture and causes loss of Land resources. The process of detecting, monitoring and mapping soil-affected soil is a difficult task. Salinization is a dynamic process that needs regular monitoring because we need updated and accurate data to get updates on the salinity status of a particular region. Specific methods are helpful for understanding and monitoring salinity, such as soil sample collection and remote sensing data (Azabdafdari and Sunarb (2016).The semi-arid and the arid regions are experiencing extension in agriculture sector population due to the expectation of large production. Various methods are adopted worldwide to increase production in agriculture, but unchecked and unscientific use of these techniques made soil unfertile and many problems associated with soil. Soil salinity is one of the effects of these activities. (Vinod Kumar and Vipin Kumar 2020).Spatial assessment of soil erosion is useful in sustainable planning, management and implementation of policy (Bhattarai, 2013)

The heavy use of science and technology in agriculture affects soil fertility. Around 200-300 hectares of land are becoming unsuitable for farming. It is happening because of salinization, washout and waterlogging. (Karlykhanov and Toktaganova, 2016). The present study depicts a rising trend in the salt-affected regions globally, with an area of 1,128 million ha (Mandal *et al.* 2018). Soil salinity can be expressed using the pH and the electrical conductivity (EC). Soil elements such as Sodium (Na), Potassium, calcium and magnesium are salinity indicators. (Indrja *et al.* 2018). According to the USDA classification, soil with pH between <8.5 and EC >4dS m⁻¹ is characterized as saline soil. Salinity has impacted around 2.23 m ha along with the 94 m ha degraded by water erosion, 14 m. ha by water-logging, 9 m.ha by wind erosion and 7 m. ha by combine effect, which in all comprises 147 m ha of land degradation, (Bhattacharyya *et al.* 2015; Mythili & Goedecke 2016). As defined by USDA, Accumulation of water soluble salts in the soil is salinization. Salinization is one of the contributing factors which hinders crops' growth as it cannot take up water for the same. Salinization is a process which occurs naturally or under conditions resulting from destructive and unsustainable agricultural management practices. (USDA, 1998). Salinization is not a sudden process; it happens due to various factors of certain circumstances. These factors are climate, hydrology, irrigation practices, drainage, plant cover and rooting and agricultural practices.

India is popularly known as an agricultural country, and agriculture is of utmost importance for the development and Livelihood of people. Soil is an essential component of agriculture. The soil's fertility means the soil's ability to provide nutrients for the growth of crops as well as Materials. The remains of plants and animals are made up of living and dead soil microorganisms; the soil's texture is an essential feature of soil. It creates many aspects of soil quality (Hui Li *et al.*, 2022).India accounts for almost 75% of saline and sodic soils out of which 6.73 M. ha is in Gujarat, 2.2 M.ha in UP, 6.61 M. ha in Maharashtra , 0.44 m ha in West Bengal and 0.38 m ha in Rajasthan (Singh 2009). The land erosion has become a severe environmental problem, chiefly in semi-arid and arid areas, being a prominent risk. Around 2.1% (6.727 M. ha) of India's geographical area is saline affected, of which 3 million ha is saline and sodium affected is 4 million ha.(Arora & Sharma, 2017). Poverty is exacerbated due to intensifying income loss as a result of reduced crop yield on saline land areas.





Objectives of the Study

1. To study spatial disparity of soil salinity with using Soil Salinity Risk Index (SSRI)
2. To delineate severe potential salinity areas for sustainable agriculture management
3. To apply geospatial techniques in the evaluation of soil salinity and agricultural resources

The Study Area

The village Kolgaon of Niphad tahsil has been chosen for the present investigation, which resides in Nashik district of Maharashtra, India. (Fig. 1) It is located 32 Km to the east of the district headquarters and 17 km from tahsil head quarter. The total geographical area of village Kolgaon is 996.94 hectares. The annual rainfall is 120.91 mm/yr. and 31 °C normal temperature. The summer season records about 42 °C maximum temperature, and 26 °C minimum temperature. Temperature as low as 1.6 °C was recorded during the winter season. The geology is disintegrated of basalts. The primary source of irrigation facilities is the Godavari river. The average relief is 530 m.

Database

Database required for various parameters collected from field survey and secondary sources. (Table1)

Methods of the Study

The present study's methodology is outlined into two components, viz. fieldwork components and laboratory components. The details are shown in fig. 2

Field Work Components

Collection of Soil Sample In the present study, soil samples collected in the field were used to estimate the result. Slope and the land use variation were considered while conducting random sampling in the study region. The core tube method of soil collection was used for sample collection in the field. A total of five samples are collected.

Hydraulic Conductivity The ability of soil measures hydraulic conductivity of soil is transmitted to water when submitted to a hydraulic gradient. The hydraulic conductivity Kolgaon Area of soil is measured using a core tube method during the soil sample collection, and further, these data are used as an input parameter of soil suitability analysis.

Infiltration Rate Infiltration is the process of movement of water into a soil horizon. The inherent characteristics of soil control infiltration. The saturation level of soils depends on rainfall starts and how humans have modified a landscape. A Core tube as an infiltrometer was used to measure infiltration at the field. The core tube was inserted into the soil up to a depth of 32 cm. After each 2 minutes interval during 10 minutes the infiltration was recorded.

Salinization Indicator identification using GPS It's increased soil wetness in semiarid and arid regions, the growth of salt-tolerant weeds, Irregular patterns of crop growth, lack of plant vigor, and the white layer are some of the peculiar characteristics of this region. The growth of Acacia Nilotica depicts the concentration of salinization, wet conditions in the farm etc. indicators are identified.

Laboratory and Analytical Components

The second component of the present study is laboratory and analysis activities consisting of the preparation of a base map, data analysis mapping and interpretation.

Data Analysis and Mapping it includes analysis and mapping of soil Salinization. Data analysis includes spatial analysis of elevation, slope, and various properties of soils.

Soil Analysis The physical and chemical properties of soils are estimated by laboratory component. The soil samples collected in the field are processed in the laboratory. The chemical properties of soil are related to soil pH, organic matter amount of EC, and amount of NPK. The physical properties include estimating soil texture in percentage, i.e. sand, silt, clay, etc., and applying various methods.

GIS Software GIS techniques have been used for data analysis and digital mapping.

The SSRI Method Application

The soil salinization risk index i. e. known as SSRI covers about nine parameters. The conventional type of the soil salinization risk index prepared using 5 x 9 matrix with weighting levels. SSRI is equal to (Status of the soil salinity) ×





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$2 + 1 \times$ (the quality of shallow water + the water table depth+ quality of the groundwater + the texture of soil + the climate condition+ the dry index + the slope + the effectiveness of geology). There are five risk classes in the SSRI i.e. zero risk and very severe risk. The SSRI includes about nine parameters namely the electrical conductivity, irrigation water, water depth, aridity index, climate, topography, soil texture and the substratum. The weightage (W_i) was assigned to each component. It shows relative effect on the salt growth in the soils. The Soil Salinity Risk Index (SSRI), and its parameters shown with GIS mapping. The modified Soil Salinity Risk Index (i.e. mSSRI) comprises the same aspects of SSRI in addition to the land cover component. The weighted numbers for each influence are auxiliary composed to estimate SSRI (Table 2).

Input Parameters of SSRI of the Study Area

Slope The slope map shows that the p slope is shown in red, and the low north is shown in green; that is, the sharp slope is $> 10\text{m}$, and the low slope is $< 4\text{m}$ Northeast, but the slope is highest, and the lowest slope appears to be the lower slope in the centre of the study area and on the northwest side

Hydraulic Conductivity Hydraulic conductivity is the capability of the liquid to infiltrate from the soil's pores and broken rocks. Its rate depends on soil texture, slope, soil types, land use, etc. Poor hydraulic conductivity area has the potential for salinization in the area. In the study area, fieldwork was conducted to measure hydraulic conductivity and its spatial variation. After that reclassification map was prepared using the score value for the estimation of spatial SSRI of the study area.

Infiltration The infiltration re-class map has been prepared using the sample location of infiltration rate measurement taken in the actual field, and the spatial variation map has been prepared using the same. The infiltration rate ranges from 0.5-2.1, and it has a negative correlation with soil salinity.

pH The pH is the most important physical property of soil. It affects solute fixation and ingestion in soil. Soil microbial biomass increases due to adding organic material, while soil pH depresses by gypsum (Wong *et al.*, 2009). Soil pH is a significant thought for ranchers and nursery workers for a few explanations, including how abundant plants and soils incline toward soluble or the acidic situations. When the pH value is below 6; the pH goes from 6-8.5. A typical soil is more noteworthy than 8.5 and is said to be soluble. The pH is a significant parameter as it helps guarantee the accessibility of plant supplements.

Electrical Conductivity (EC) soil salinity is determined by the quality of irrigation water. The introduction of irrigation in new areas which give rise to continued increased salinized areas in India (Patel *et al* 2011). The rate of increase is around 10% annually (Jamil *et al.*, 2011). For instance, irrigation uses poor water quality and over-irrigation. The variation in Electrical Conductivity is found in the study area. It ranges between 0.2 - 1 m. The EC is measured by bypassing electrical currents through a solution extracted from the soil sample. The greater the electrical current, the greater the salt content.

Soil Structure It denotes to the organization of soil particles contains sand, silt and clay. The pore space in the soils and to the capacity of the particles to form combinations. The lesser pores within the aggregates or between soil particles (microspores) absorb water alongside gravity (capillary action) but not essentially so strongly that those plants cannot remove the water. An unwell structured soils results in unfertile, compressed and waterlogged soils with poor drainage and aeration. Poorly structured soil is also more likely to slake and become eroded.

Geology: As for the geological structure, the basic substratum of the study area is devoid of salt and evaporates, thus lowering the risk of salinity due to this factor. In this context, the basaltic flows (300-450m) of the Megacryst basaltic lava flows near the bank of the Godavari River; geology has been considered not to have any impact on the soil salt content in this site.

Soil Texture Many soils' physical properties, such as water-holding capacity, soil's inherent fertility, and drainage is influenced by Soil texture. Fine-textured clay soil generally found in the study area has a low rate of infiltration but an excellent capacity of the water holding. The study area soils texture comprises fine, clay soil as well as smallsize is the particles.

Land Use/Land Cover: Land Use/Land Cover Land cover comprises natural classes such as water, forests, the agricultural land, the wetland, and the build-up area (Turner *et al*, 1995; Yang *et al* 2017). The type of land cover are comprised as an important vibrant factors in formative the soil salinity risk due to the consequence of vegetation on





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the soil humidity (Sahab *et al.* 2021; Zhang *et al.* 2021). The land cover and land use of the present study area mostly covers by the agricultural land and settlements.

Soil salinity Risk Index of village Kolgaon The spatial evaluation of SSRI shows that the study area's salinity risk index value (Fig. 7) ranges from 27 to 62 and comprises moderate, severe and very severe classes of salinity risk. In fig 7, red color denotes high risk areas and green denotes low-risk areas. The spatial variation map of SSRI of the study area shows that a very severe salinity risk zone lies near the Godavari River floodplain area to the south and the canal area to the northwest of the village. The central part and northeast part of the Kolgaon village comprises moderate potential of salinity. There is a positive relationship between infiltration, slope, land use/land cover and salinity. The salinity risk index map of the present study was verified in the field using a GPS receiver. About 20% of the samples were considered for validation. The aerial extent of salinity risk shows that (table-3) moderate to very severe classes of salinity risk comprise about 72% land of the entire village. The slightly saline land covers 18% of the total study area. About 9.80% of the land is still unaffected by salinity.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTION

Their soil reclamation plan should be implemented to preserve healthy soil, and priorities crop selection, irrigation systems, tillage practices, and nutritional management. Additionally, it is urgent to work collectively to stop further soil degradation in the study area. The estimation of current and the potential risk zones with probable salinity allows policymakers and farmers for proper agriculture practice to alleviate salinization. Salt-affected soils are increasing broad interest due to the demands of the rising population and the more significant than-ever food burden in several parts of the globe. The situation in India and Maharashtra is also alarming. The study area faces problems related to land degradation, particularly soil loss, floods, over-irrigation, salinity, etc. Therefore, it is essential to study villages up to parcel level from the salinity-affected area for land reclamation. Therefore, the present study plays a significant role in micro-level assessment and planning. The area is facing an issue with the quality of water. The villagers observe salts in the water of wells and tube wells. Agriculture is a lifeline for the local people and cannot be left out. There is a need to monitor salinity continuously and take a step to control and improve the soil quality. The results of this study are incredibly significant. The present study area salinity is mainly caused by over-irrigation. The flood-prone lowland areas and over-irrigation areas are significant causes of the salinity. The soil Salinity Risk Index is beneficial for identifying the risk zone of any region. SSRI and Geographical Information System techniques play a crucial role in the micro-level assessment, mapping, and accurate results of saline areas. The field-based data collection and analysis generate the additional macro or regional planning database. Mechanical and biological measures of reclamation of the saline lands are needed to implement in the study area. Use of organic fertilizers, changes in cropping pattern, systematic irrigation practices, mulching, leaching, water budget and auditing, adoption of subsurface drainage technology cultivation of species such as *Salvadora persica*,

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Table 1: Database and its sources of the present study

S. N.	Database	Sources	S. N.	Database	Sources
1	SOI Toposheet	SOI, Pune	5	Climate	IMD, Pune
2	Elevation	ASTER GDEM	6	Soil Properties	Field survey
3	Soil Types & Texture	NBSS & LUP	7	Hydrological Properties	Field survey
4	Geology	GSI, Pune	8	Population data	Census





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Table 2: Salinity risk index parameters and ratings (After Chaou at al. 2020)

Indicators/parmeters	The ratings and Score of SSRI				
	Class: None(1)	Class: Slight(2)	Class: Moderate (3)	Class: Severe (4)	Class: Very Severe (5)
The water table depth (m)	>5	3–5	1–3	0.5–1	<0.5
The texture of soils	Very coarse soils	Coarse soils	Moderately fine	Fine soils	Very Fine soils
surface water EC (ds/cm)	<0.25	0.25–0.75	0.75–2.25	2.25–5	>5
The groundwater EC (ds/cm)	<0.25	0.25–0.75	0.75–2.25	2.25–5	>5
The Slope variation	>30	15-30	5–15	1–5	<1
The Geology	<0.1	0.1-0.39	0.39–0.65	0.65–1	>1
The Climate	The Sub-humid	Slightly Semi arid	The Semi-arid	The Arid	very arid
The Aridity Index (P/ETP)	>0.60	0.40-0.60	0.20-0.40	0.05-0.20	<0.05
EC of soil salinity (dS/cm)	<4	4–8	8–16	16–32	➤ 32

Table-3 Area under soil salinity classes

Salinity Classes	Risk score	Area in Ha	Area in %
None	10-15	97.70	09.80
Slight	16-25	179.75	18.03
Moderate	26-35	254.92	25.57
Severe	36-45	264.69	26.55
Very Severe	46-50	199.89	20.05
Total		996.94	100

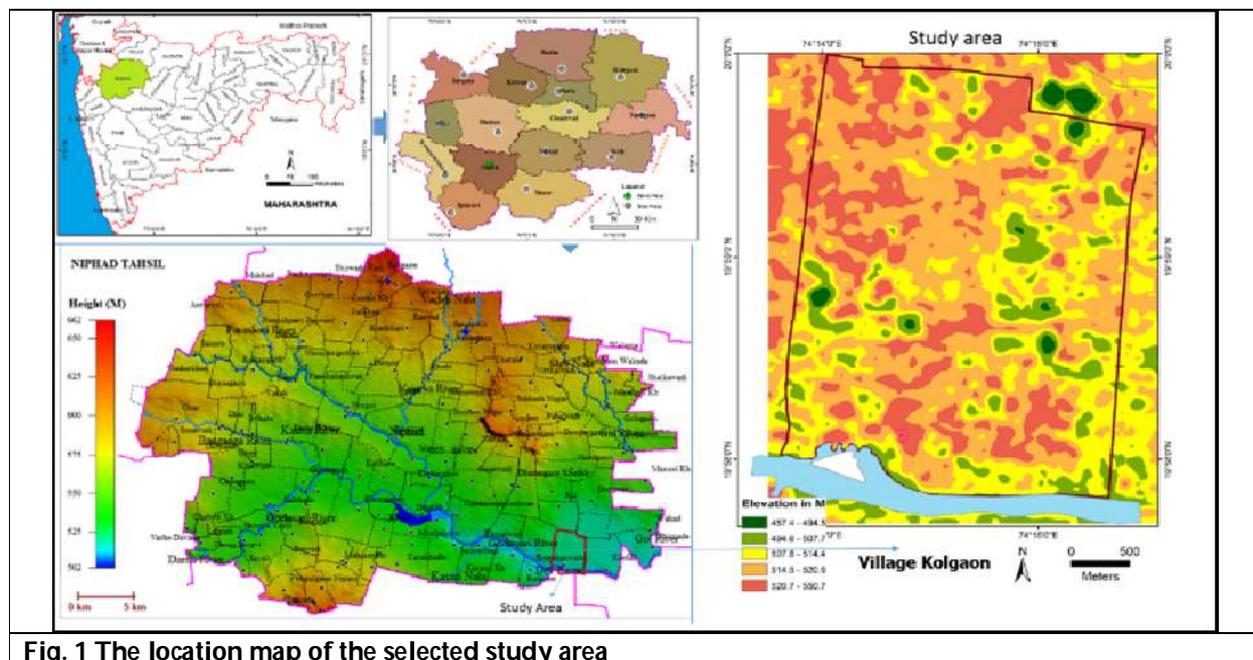


Fig. 1 The location map of the selected study area





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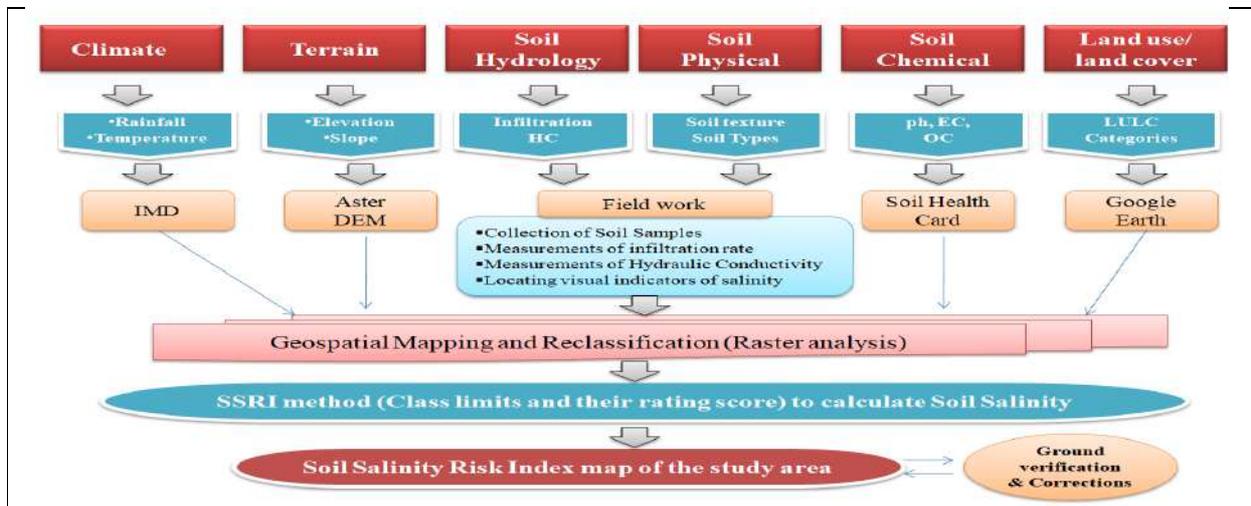


Fig. 2 Methodology chart of the present study

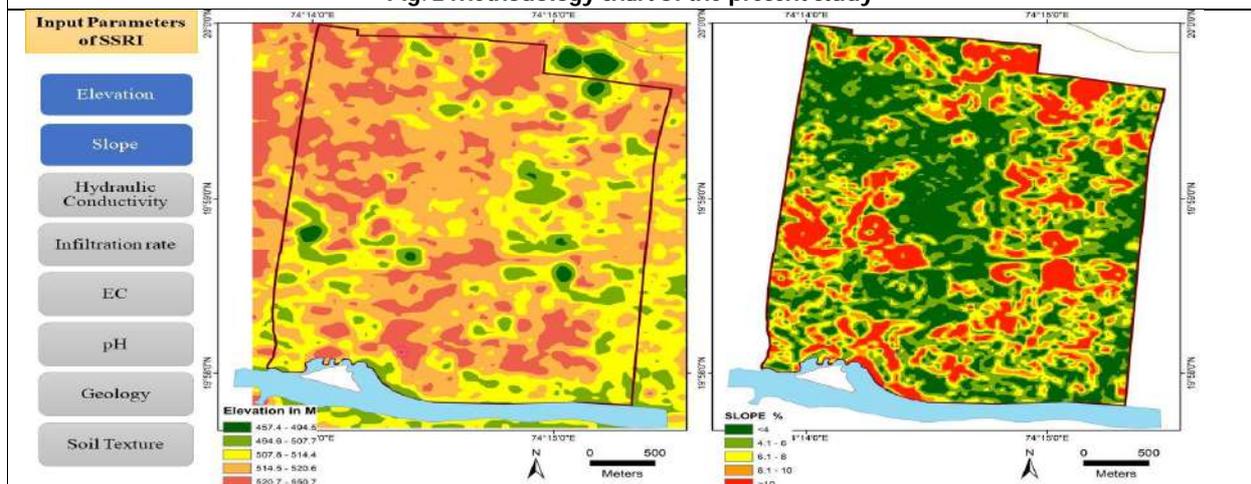


Fig. 3 Village Kolgaon : Elevation and Slope

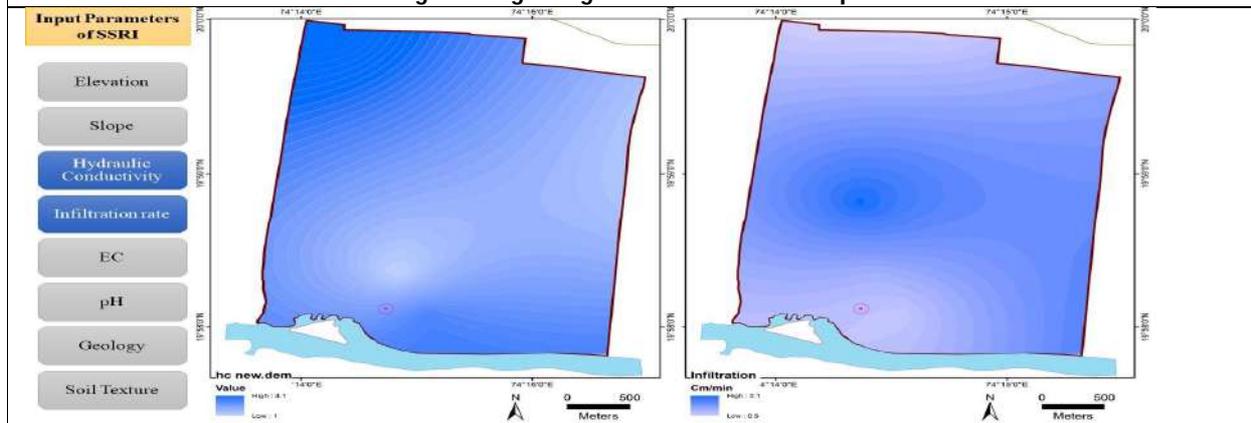


Fig. 4 Village Kolgaon : Hydraulic conductivity and infiltration rate variation





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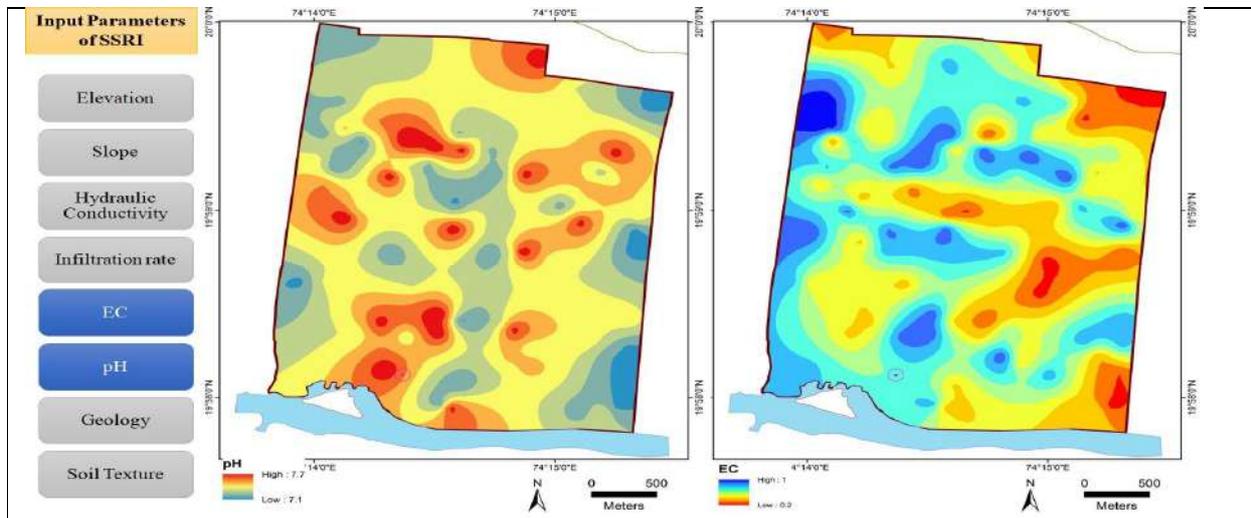


Fig. 5 Village Kolgaon : Electric conductivity and pH variation

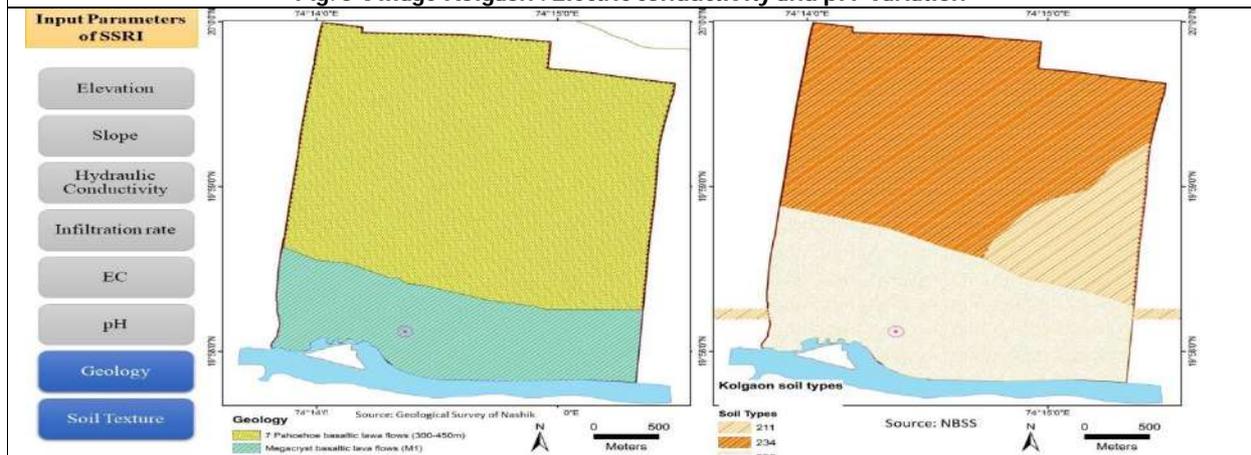


Fig. 6 Village Kolgaon : Geology and Soil Types

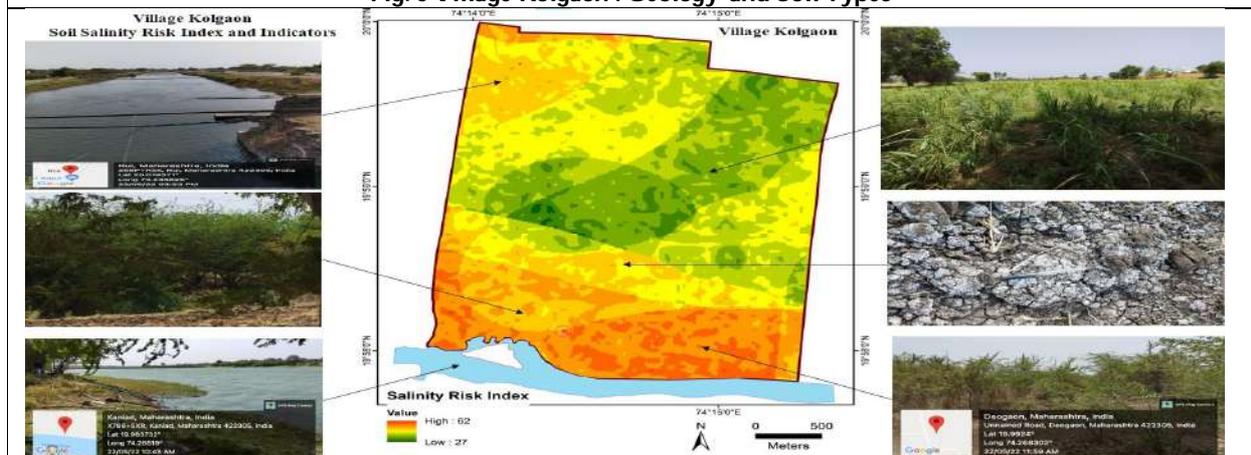


Fig. 7 Soil Salinity Risk Index of Village Kolgaon (SSRI) and Salinity Indicators





Antibacterial Activity and GC-MS Analysis of Methanolic Leaf Extract of *Vanda spathulata* (L.) Spreng. -Avulnerable Orchid

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ABSTRACT

Orchidaceous *Vanda* genus is one of the most significant genera. *Vanda spathulata* is a vulnerable orchid due to the extinction of its habitat. Methanolic leaf extract of *Vanda spathulata* was evaluated for its antibacterial activity. Bioactive constituents present in methanolic leaf extract were identified by GC-MS technique. The stock solution of methanolic leaf extract was prepared at various concentrations such as 12.5 µl, 25 µl, and 50 µl against gram-positive (*Staphylococcus aureus*, *Enterococcus faecalis* and *Enterococcus phyogenes*) and gram-negative bacteria (*Salmonella typhi*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Enterobacter aeruginosa* and *Aeromonas hydrophila*). Streptomycin (against gram-positive) and Kanamycin (against gram-negative) standard discs served as positive controls, while DMSO (10 µl) served as a negative control. Among all tested concentrations, a 50 µl dose of methanolic leaf extract demonstrated the maximum levels of a zone of inhibition against *Staphylococcus aureus* (16 mm) and *Salmonella typhi* (16 mm). Extracted leaves include, 2-hydroxycyclopent-2-en-1-one, Thymine, 4H-pyran-4-one, 2,3-dihydro-3,5-dihydroxy-6-methyl, 2,3-dihydrobenzofuran, Butanedioic acid, hydroxy-, dimethylester, 2(1H)-naphthalenone, 3,4,4A,5,6,7-hexahydro-1,1,4A-trimethyl, Phenol, 2,6-dimethoxy, DL-Proline, 5-oxo, 1,2-benzene dicarboxylic acid, diethylester, d-Glycero-d-tallo-heptose, 3-hydroxy-2-methyl-5-(prop-1-en-2-yl)cyclohexanone, Phenol, 4-(3-Hydroxy-1-Propenyl)-2-Methoxy, Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid, 4-pentyl-, 4-cyanophenyl ester, trans, 1-Cycloheptene-1-acetic acid, .alpha.,.alpha.-dimethyl and 4-hydroxy-3-methoxy benzaldehyde or Vanillin respectively and others are minor compounds. The GC-MS analysis of the phytoconstituents found in these orchids and the antibacterial activity of these orchids indicated that they might be used for both





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medical purposes and stress tolerance. It is thus possible to isolate components for herbal medicines without harming wild populations by using *V. spathulata*'s methanolic leaf extract."

Keywords: Orchidaceae, *V. spathulata*, antimicrobial effects, disc diffusion, GC-MS

INTRODUCTION

240 orchid species (130 terrestrial, 11 saprophytic, and 99 epiphytic) from 73 genera were reported in Uttarakhand state of India. [1] *Habenaria*, *Dendrobium*, *Bulbophyllum* and *Liparis* are the most prevalent genera in the Western Himalayas. *Eulophia* and *Herminium* are very prevalent, as are *Bulbophyllum* and *Cymbidium*. At least 73 species [2] belong to the Orchidaceae genus *Vanda*, which is well-known for its epiphytic orchids and has a beautiful bloom with a distinctive mentum composed of the column foot, lip, and side sepals. To name a few countries in the region where it may be found: Nepal; India; China; Bangladesh; the Philippines; and the rest of Southeast Asia. Among the orchids seen in India, the taxon Aeridinae has 39 genera, 145 species and 35 are endemic in nature. There are 73 different species of this genus in India [3]. *Vanda spathulata* is a medicinally significant orchid that is endemic to India and Sri Lanka. According to the IUCN category, this orchid has been categorized under the vulnerable category. The leaf, stem, root, and flower extracts possess medicinal properties and are used by folklore to cure asthma and manic disorders [4].

Ecology

Habitat: *Vanda spathulata* is found at a varied range of occurrence at sea level from Andhra Pradesh to Velli in Kerala. It has been observed in the semi-arid desert plains of the Western Ghats, and foothills of the Palni Hills of Tamil Nadu. *V. spathulata* has been observed in mixed deciduous forests on thickets of shrubby bushes [5].

Taxonomic Description

Epiphyte with non-pseudo bulbous stem, 25-60 cm long, roots long, vermiform, internodes black-spotted. Leaves distichous, ovate or oblong-lanceolate, 5-8 x 0.5 – 1.5 cm, margin entire, apex emarginate with one-half of the apex shorter than the other; bases sheathing the internode above, reddish green spotted on the upper surface. Racemes apical arising from the middle of the stem or the lower nodes; peduncle 30-40 cm long, erect green with four intense, papery sterile bracts. Blossom huge 3.5 cm across, golden yellow in variety, floral bracts broadly ovate, dorsal sepal oblong-rounded, lateral sepals obovate, rounded, lip 3-lobed, lateral lobes small, oblong, erect, laterally notched with a brown streak, column stout, extending to a foot at the base, capsule fusiform to 6 x 1.5 cm. Blossoming happens during the stormy season (June-August) and blossoms are dependable (up to December)."

METHODOLOGY

Collection of Plant Material

The study specimen was collected at the fully matured stage. *V. spathulata* was gathered from the Eastern Ghats of Kolli Hills in Namakkal District of Tamil Nadu, India, in January 2018 and approved with the Botanical Survey of India (BSI), Coimbatore, provided with Plant Voucher Number of BSI/SRC/05/23/2018/Tech/2180.

Processing of plant material

The gathered plant material of leaves was washed totally with fixture water followed by refined water. The leaves were concealed, dried, and powdered with a mechanical blender. The methanolic solvent was taken for the analysis of antibacterial activity and GC-MS analysis. About 10g of plant powder was taken for extraction using a Soxhlet apparatus with 300 ml of solvent. The process was run for 48 hrs after which the sample was concentrated using a rotatory evaporator to powder form. The dried extracts were kept in a sterile bottle for further analysis.





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Antibacterial Assay

Standard protocols used for disc diffusion technique to determine the antibacterial activity [6][7]. Using Muller-Hinton Agar Medium, an antibacterial investigation was performed. Gram-positive microscopic organisms including *Staphylococcus aureus* (MTCC 737), *Enterococcus faecalis* (MTCC 439), and *Enterococcus phyogenes* (ATCC 19615), as well as Gram-negative microbes like *Salmonella typhi* (MTCC 3858), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (MTCC 1688), *Enterobacter aerogenes* (MTCC 8558), and *Aeromonas hydrophila* (MTCC1739). Using a 0.5 McFarland standard and contrast, microorganisms were isolated and standardized for purity. Brooding at 37 degrees Celsius for 24 hours was used to distribute them on the Muller Hinton Agar supplement medium plate. [6] The circle dispersion technique was utilized to decide the antibacterial impact. Methanolic leaf separate (0.1 mg/ml) was used to fill three discs, with 12.5 µl, 25 µl, and 50 µl of the 100 µl stock arrangement of methanolic leaf extricate. DMSO (Dimethyl Sulfoxide) was used as the negative control, Streptomycin for gram-positive and Kanamycin for gram-negative bacteria was used as positive controls. For 24 hours, the plates were kept at 37°C. There were three copies of each. As a result of hatching, the distance across each sample arrangement's useable area was measured in millimeters. By using the triplicate value, the mean and standard deviation was calculated.

Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry Analysis

Perkin Elmer's GC Clarus 500 GC-MS analyzer was used to conduct the study. The Elite-1 capillary column was used to separate the various chemicals (100 percent Dimethylpolysiloxane). It was set to bake at a temperature of 350 degrees. 100°C isothermal for 1 minute, then 22°C at 50°/min for the next 9 minutes of the experiment. The ionization of the sample components was accomplished by the use of an electron impactor (70eV). Helium (1 ml/min) was used as the transport gas, and a 2 µl sample was injected. Elmer created the Mass identifier super mass gold-Perk. The programming used was Turbo mass form 5.2, which required 28 minutes to finish. NIST and WILEY databases were used to identify specific components, and each compound's mass spectrum was recorded in the instrument's mass spectrometer.

RESULTS

The antibacterial activity of Methanolic leaf extract of *Vanda spathulata* were tested against three-gram antibiotic-resistant bacterial strains such as *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Enterobacter faecalis*, and *Enterococcus phyogenes* and four-gram negative bacteria such as, *Salmonella typhi*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Enterobacter aerogenes* and *Aeromonas hydrophila* by disc diffusion assay. Gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria were treated with medicines including Streptomycin and Kanamycin, which are often used in hospitals. We employed Dimethyl Sulfoxide (DMSO) as a negative control to ensure that our results were accurate. The antimicrobial impact of methanolic leaf concentrate of *Vanda spathulata* was thought about by utilizing the disc diffusion technique in contrast to various bacterial strains. The zone of the hindrance of the gram-positive bacterium at 50 µl concentration viz, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Enterococcus faecalis* and *Enterococcus phyogenes* cloacae development appeared by remove as 16, 13.96 and 12.06 mm respectively (Fig. 1). The gram-negative bacterium *Salmonella typhi*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Enterobacter aerogenes* and *Aeromonas hydrophila* shown the zone of inhibition viz, 16, 15.3, 15 and 11.03 mm (Fig. 2). In addition, the normal zone of the hindrance of development of the multitude of microscopic organisms by streptomycin it was observed that (a positive control) had a diameter of 21 millimeters, which was more than the diameter of methanolic leaf extract separate (Table 1). Leaf concentrates and streptomycin / Kanamycin had a completely distinct effect on the growth of bacteria.

GC-MS -recognized mixes in Methanolic leaf extract

GC-MS analysis of the methanol leaf extract of *V.spathulata* identified fifteen different compounds which are listed in Table 2. GC-MS chromatograph methanol leaf extract showed different peaks, each peak indicating the different chemical compounds. The major compounds detected in this extract were 2-hydroxycyclopent-2-en-1-one, Thymine, 4H-pyran-4-one, 2,3-dihydro-3,5-dihydroxy-6-methyl, 2,3-dihydro benzofuran, Butanedioic acid, hydroxy-, dimethyl ester, 2(1H)-naphthalenone, 3,4,4A,5,6,7-hexahydro-1,1,4A-trimethyl, Phenol, 2,6-dimethoxy, DL-Proline, 5-oxo, 1,2-benzenedicarboxylic acid, diethyl ester, d-Glycero-d-tallo-heptose, 3-hydroxy-2-methyl-5-(prop-1-en-2-





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yl)cyclohexanone, Phenol, 4-(3-Hydroxy-1-Propenyl)-2-Methoxy, Cyclohexane carboxylic acid, 4-pentyl-, 4-cyanophenyl ester, trans, 1-Cycloheptene-1-acetic acid, . alpha.,. alpha.-dimethyl and 4-hydroxy-3-methoxy benzal dehydeor Vanillin respectively and others are minor compounds.

GC-MS may show physiologically active chemicals in certain of the components. Antimicrobial activities may be attributed to the nonadecene component of the oil. There was evidence that Tetracosane killed cancer cells in test tubes [8]. There are antibacterial, antidiabetic, and anticancer properties to tetradecanoyl (TCA) [9]. Acids like hexadecenoic acid have antibacterial and antioxidant properties. As well as antioxidant and anticarcinogenic activity, phenol derivatives contained in the extracts were also shown to be present. 5-hydroxymethylfurfural has a role as a plant metabolite and a bacterial metabolite. For example, it's been shown to have an array of positive impacts on the body's oxidative and allergy defenses as well as its ability to reduce inflammation and the risk of infection [10]. The Hydroxymethyl group and aldehyde group coexist in HMF, an organic heterocyclic molecule with six carbons. There are two functional groups, formyl, and hydroxy-methyl, that are connected at the second and fifth positions of the structure. Cardiovascular arrhythmias are treated or prevented by octadecadienoic acid. Many of the medications used to treat arrhythmias have a direct impact on the action potential, its excitability or refractoriness, or the capacity of cardiac fibers to transmit impulses. Tetradecane has *in vitro* activity against *Plasmodium falciparum*, and *Trypanosoma brucei*[11].

DISCUSSION

The development of *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Salmonella typhi*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Enterobacter aerogenes* bacterial strains was hindered by the concentrate. There is just one exception: *Staphylococcus aureus*, which has a thick outer shell that prevents anti-toxin tranquilizers from entering, making it resistant to anti-infection medications. The major phytochemical compounds were identified by using GC-MS. Extensive research work has been carried out in Orchidaceae exclusively for phytochemical compounds. For instance, the Bibenzyl derivative like Alkyl ferulates, Erianin, Isoamoenylin, Moscatilin, Gigantol, Nobilin, Cumulatin, etc., were isolated from the *Dendrobium monilliforme* [12], *D. Chrysotoxum*, *D. amoenum*[13], *D. loddigesii*, *Cymbidium goeringii*[14], *Epidendrum rigidum*[15], *Bulbophyllum kwangtungense*[16] respectively. Vanillin has been used as an anti-mutagenic, insect-repellents, and anti-microbial agent [17]. A large number of orchids have been subjected to various phytochemical experiments and their applied value on various elements has also increased each year. Most of the orchid members have mechanisms to produce a wide range of chemical compounds. The concentrated methanolic leaf extract may quickly penetrate the bacterial cell and kill them because it possesses a number of combinations of strong anti-infection capacity and effective porousness. *In vitro*-grown orchid plant material has been used in similar studies, supporting our findings [18]. However, compared to readily available kanamycin, the concentrate is less susceptible to bacterial strains but has a limited anti-infection range."

CONCLUSION

After this investigation is the first to report antibacterial assay of methanolic leaf extract of *Vanda spathulata* are the possible wellsprings of fruitful plant recovery and organic exercises. In a spread program for hereditary asset protection and commercial goals, the convention shown below might be implemented. The Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry analysis of methanolic extracts of *V.spathulata* leaf showed various active compounds. On the whole, 55 active compounds were detected in methanol. Among them, 25 compounds are therapeutically significant and they belong to phenol, alcohol, aldehyde, ketones, acids, hydrocarbons, esters, and tannin compounds. The following compounds were identified in methanol extract viz, Vanillin, Benzimidazole, β -sitosterol, Phenylpropane's, and 2-butene1,4-dionetraphenyl. The bioactive potential mixes rich in antioxidant, anticancer, and antibacterial actions were combined into crude extracts. In light of the presence of bioactive blends, the methanolic leaf separate the restrained scope of microorganisms. The compounds reported in the methanolic leaf extract have an anticancer impact on the cancer cell lines. Further, the methanolic leaf concentrate of *V. spathulata* has a moderate





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antibacterial impact against *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Salmonella typhi*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and *Enterococcus aerogenes*. Further chips away at detachment and refinement of bioactive mixes from methanolic leaf extract can uncover the specific likely prompts the revelation of medications in future.”

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Table 1 Antibacterial activity of methanolic leaf extract of *Vanda spathulata*

Sl. No.	Name of the Organisms	Methanolic Leaf Extract				
		+ Con (Std.)	-Con (DMSO)	12.5 μ l	25 μ l	50 μ l
1.	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	15 \pm 0.1	-	9.96 \pm 0.05	10.96 \pm 0.15	16\pm0
2.	<i>Salmonella typhi</i>	-	-	10.03 \pm 0.05	11 \pm 0	16\pm0.1
3.	<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>	19.96 \pm 0.15	-	11 \pm 0.1	-	13.96 \pm 0.05
4.	<i>Enterococcus phyogenes</i>	21 \pm 03	-	-	10.03 \pm 0.15	12.06 \pm 0.11
5.	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	-	-	10.1 \pm 0.1	12.03 \pm 0.15	15.03\pm0.05
6.	<i>Enterobacter aerogenes</i>	-	-	-	12.03 \pm 0.15	15\pm0.1
7.	<i>Aeromonas hydrophila</i>	18.03 \pm 0.05	-	-	9.93 \pm 0.11	11.03 \pm 0.15

Table 2 GC-MS Analysis of Methanol leaf extract of *Vanda spathulata*

Sl.No	Retention Time	Molecular Formula	Molecular Weight	Name of the Compound	Molecular Structure
1	5.320	C ₅ H ₆ O ₂	98	2-hydroxycyclopent-2-en-1-one	
2	8.810	C ₅ H ₆ N ₂ O ₂	126	Thymine	
3	10.240	C ₆ H ₈ O ₄	144	4H-pyran-4-one,2,3-dihydro-3,5-dihydroxy-6-methyl	
4	12.060	C ₈ H ₈ O	120	2,3-dihydrobenzofuran	





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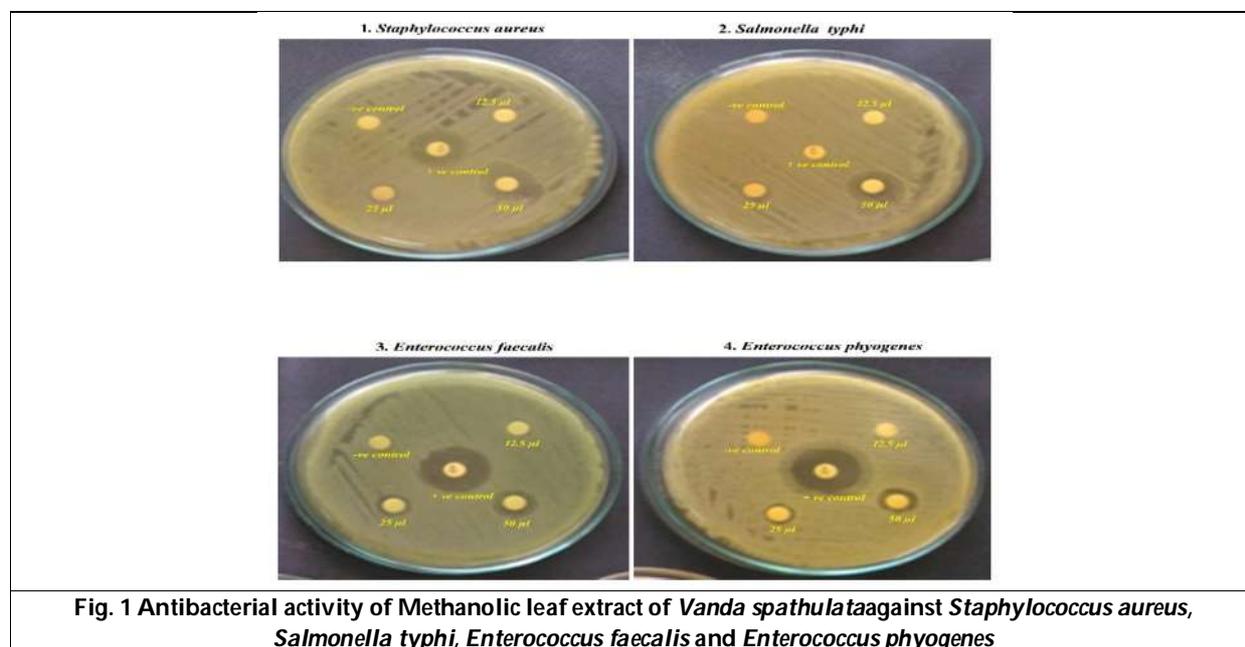
5	12.645	C ₆ H ₁₀ O ₅	162	Butanedioic acid, hydroxy-, dimethyl ester	
6	13.470	C ₁₃ H ₂₀ O		2(1H)-naphthalenone, 3,4,4A,5,6,7-hexahydro-1,1,4A-trimethyl	
7	14.930	C ₈ H ₁₀ O ₃	154	Phenol, 2,6-dimethoxy	
8	15.735	C ₅ H ₇ NO ₃	129	DL-Proline, 5-oxo-	
9	19.935	C ₁₂ H ₁₄ O ₄	222	1,2-benzenedicarboxylic acid, diethyl ester	
10	21.105	C ₇ H ₁₄ O ₇	210	d-Glycero-d-tallo-heptose	
11	22.135	C ₁₀ H ₁₆ O ₂	168	3-hydroxy-2-methyl-5-(prop-1-en-2-yl)cyclohexanone	





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12	22.825	C ₁₀ H ₁₂ O ₃	180	Phenol, 4-(3-Hydroxy-1-Propenyl)-2-Methoxy	
13	24.200	C ₁₉ H ₂₅ NO ₂	299	Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid, 4-pentyl-, 4-cyanophenyl ester, trans	
14	27.105	C ₁₁ H ₁₈ O ₂	182	1-Cycloheptene-1-acetic acid, alpha.,alpha.-dimethyl	
15	28.575	C ₈ H ₈ O ₃	152	4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzaldehyde (Vanillin)	





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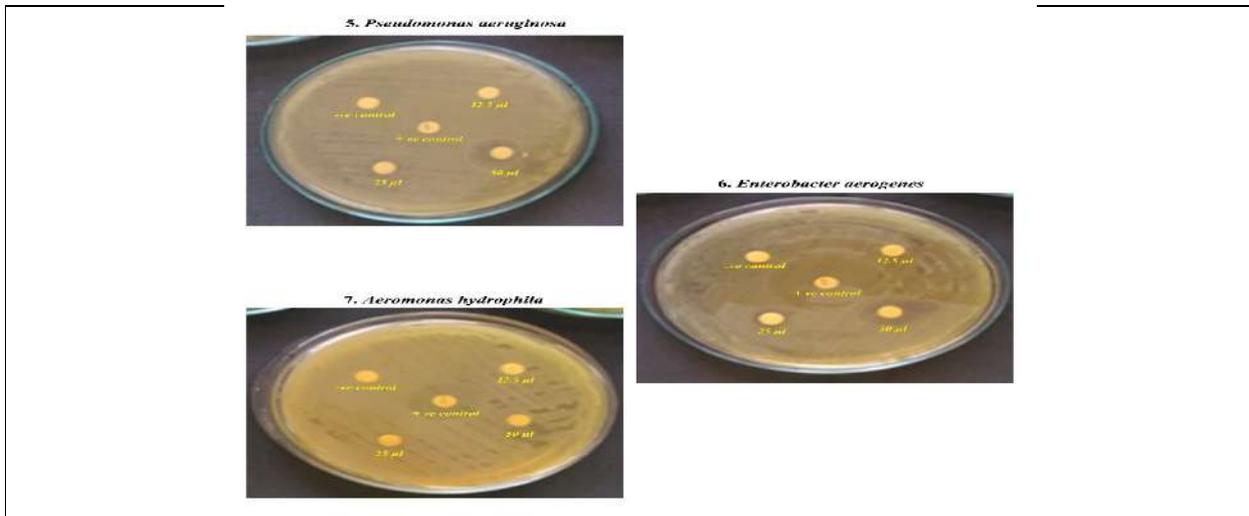


Fig. 2 Antibacterial activity of Methanolic leaf extract of *Vanda spathulata* against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Enterococcus aerogenes* and *Aeromonas hydrophila*

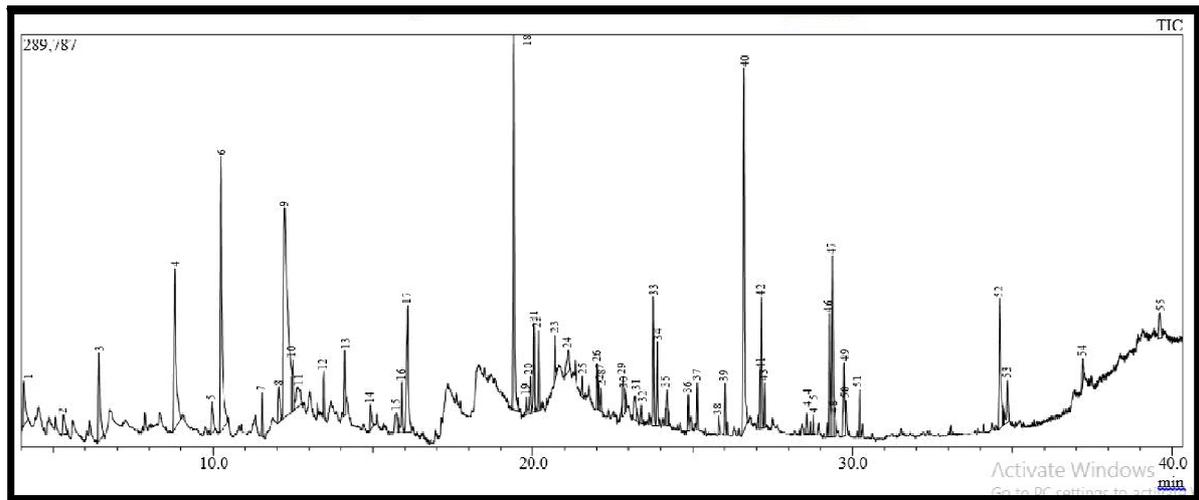


Fig. 3 Chromatogram of Methanolic extract of *Vanda spathulata*





Improvement of Ancient Marathi Stone Inscriptions using Digital Image Enhancement Techniques

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ABSTRACT

The Marathi stone inscriptions are mostly available in the state of Maharashtra. For translation of historical tradition from generation to generation, it is mandatory to identify script of the inscription. Identification of script letters which is carved on the stone is an extremely hard task for the archeologist. Digital image processing techniques are necessary to improve the quality of such inscriptions. This paper addressed the problem during the digitization and preservation of ancient inscriptions. One of the major problems is the minimal distance between foreground and background. In general, the inscription doesn't have any standard size, shape, or color. Hence some literature method fails to extract the text from inscriptions. The proposed methodology improves the quality of historical inscriptions with uneven backgrounds and low contrast. This further improves the readability of inscriptions.

Keywords: Inscription Enhancement, Local Otsu, Marathi Script, Image Restoration, NL Filter

INTRODUCTION

The key objective is to enhance the quality of textual information from ancient inscriptions for better readability. Inscription images are not in condition to direct analysis, hence there is need to process such images. The processing of inscription images is key area attracting researcher in the recent time. According to the literature search, the significant work is done in the case of reading document inscriptions. Several methods are developed for the detection of text and extraction of the text from inscription images (Wolf *et al.*, 2002), (Kuo *et al.*, 1995). But, the main



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difficulty of text extraction is the minimum variation between foreground and background. Sometimes the possibility is the same foreground and background. So inscription enhancement is an open problem for researcher. Inscription enhancement includes separation of noise from image, binarization and the morphological operations. Many techniques are available for separation of noise from image for example median filter, nl filter, laplacian filter, Gaussian filter etc. the Gaussian filter is most suitable for removing background noise from document suggested by Keith (Knox *et al.*, 2008). In case of inscription image NL filter is most suited. After noise separation or removal binarization is key step for the further processing of inscription. The Otsu's thresholding with local threshold is most useful for the binarization. After binarization mathematical morphology operations are useful for the improvement of inscription image. The proposed methodology uses NL filter with the local Otsu method followed by morphological erosion operation. The enhancement accuracy is measured using PSNR, MSE, and SNR quality metrics. The proposed method achieved better results compared with the literature method. Figure 1 shows the Marathi inscription images from Madheshwari Temple Madha, Solapur (Maharashtra) and Hatgad Fort Nashik. These inscriptions are generally carved on stone or any durable material. Due to high illumination, multi-language text, and minimal variation between foreground and background text extraction is very difficult from such Inscriptions (Sreedevi *et al.*, 2013). Many ancient scripts are found in ancient cities of India. These ancient writings are of great importance as they are the main source of information about ancient India. These scripts also provide valuable information about the time, place, historical information, and circumstances associated with this scripts. Converting these scripts into readable form is very difficult task for archaeology experts. For human being it's difficult and time consuming to read such scripts.

Proposed Methodology

Figure 2 shows the architecture of the proposed method. The first step takes an RGB label image as input. The acquired image is enhanced using median filter. The filtered image is sent for Otsu thresholding for binarization. The Otsu thresholding is used with NL filter for better results. After binarized image, morphological erosion operation is used for the enhancement. Compare the proposed method with other inscription image datasets (Bannigidad *et al.*, 2017), (Deborah *et al.* 2010), (Sreedevi *et al.*, 2013). The accuracy of the proposed method is measured using various statistical methods such as MSE, SNR and PSNR. The proposed method gives better enhancement results. Figure 3 shows original test image.

Image Acquisition

The inscription image is selected as input for the system. The test images are with different size, dimensions. So such images are converted into fixed size block 512×512. Figure 3 shows the input image.

Gray Conversion

The input image acquired in previous step is converted into grayscale image using `rgb2gray` function in Matlab. Gray images are convenient for the further enhancement process (Bannigidad *et al.*, 2017). A grayscale image is shown in Figure 4.

NL Filter:

NL filter is used to process images for enhancement. NL filter required three parameters, i.e. gray image, filter mask, and function. The function is applied on neighborhood pixels with the help of a different mask and using NL filter. The NL filter was slow to process large images. In some cases, the same operation can be performed faster using the `colfilt` function. The output of NL filter is shown in figure 5.

Enhancement

The input image is with poor quality due to various factors such as degradation or blurring during capturing image. So there is need to enhance such image using filtering techniques. There are two types of filtering are available like smoothing and sharpening filtering. Various filters used are mean filter median filter Gaussian filter and NL filter (Bannigidad *et al.*, 2017), (Knox *et al.*, 2008), (Raha *et al.*, 2019). The filters are used with different mask and different





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parameters. The result of all filtering method is tested using statistical parameters and selected best suited filter for proposed work. Otsu thresholding means iterating over all thresholds and enumerating the pixel-level spread measure for each threshold. (Bangare *et al.*, 2015), (Soumya *et al.*, 2014). The idea behind Otsu thresholding is to determine the threshold at which the foreground and background merge to a minimum. Below figure shows Otsu's thresholding result with threshold value $T=0.5$ and $T=0.7$

Morphological Erosion Operation

A morphology operation deals with the shape of the object. It applies to structure element to the input image and creates an output image with a fixed size. The erosion operation removes pixels from the boundary and shrinks the image. The erosion reconstructs erased characters from an image. The below figure 7 shows image after erosion.

Output Image

The image after erosion is displayed as output image. The output image is useful for the further feature extraction and recognition process. The degraded Marathi handwritten inscription images contain non-uniform background. Due to this characters on the inscription are not visible. This problem is lead to a mismatch of the characters. So there is a need to clear the background and increase the visibility of the character. This is achieved using different local and global techniques. The camera captured RGB image is resized into 512×512 fix-sized block. The RGB image is then converted to a grayscale image considering only the green channel. The green channel stands out more than the red and blue channels. Also green color is most sensitive to human eyes. Then apply a median filter to remove noise and sharpen the characters. Apply Otsu Thresholding using NL filter and apply on a gray image that produces the scalar result. At the last perform a morphological erode operation on the resulting image to reconstruct characters. The resultant image is with uniform background with more visibility. The accuracy of the resulting image is measured using some statistical methods like MSE, PSNR, and SNR.

The proposed method is represented using the below algorithm.

Case I: Proposed Algorithm

Algorithm: Enhancement of ancient Marathi inscription images

Input: Path of folder which contains input image.

Output: Improved image

Variable *Img* is used to store image. This method includes following steps

Step 1: Input the camera captured ancient Marathi RGB inscription image.

Step 2: Convert RGB image into 512×512 fix size blocks.

Step 3: Convert RGB image to gray image considering only green channel.

Step 4: Apply median filter on the output of step 5

Step 5: Construct a histogram for visualizing the peak value in the above step

Step 6: Apply local Otsu on step 3 using the NL filter

Step 7: Perform morphological erode operation on step 6 to recover characters

Step 8: Performance evaluation is done using statistical techniques (PSNR, SNR, etc).

Case II: Image enhancement using Niblack's method

In this method, pixel-wise threshold value is calculated by sliding a rectangle window on gray image. Thresholds are modified according to characteristics such as mean and standard deviation. The threshold value T is calculated using below equation

$$T(i,j) = m(i,j) + c \cdot \sigma(i,j) \quad (1)$$

Where c is constant, it has value between 0 to 1. This constant is used to determine how much total edges are retained. The optimized value of constant is -0.2 (Mahajan *et al.*,) The result of Niblack's method after filtering image is shown in figure 8.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION





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The ancient Marathi inscriptions are collected from solapur district, Archeology department of Solapur University and filed visit for historical places in the state of Maharashtra. The inscriptions are captured through Nikon D7200 digital camera at 300 ×300 dpi resolution in jpeg format. Implementation of proposed methodology is done on Intel core i7 system using MATLAB R2016a. All power measurement techniques were applied on 125 training images and 25 test images and sample values are given in Table I. The results of the proposed procedure are superior compared to literature methods (Bannigidad *et al.*, 2017). The results of the proposed method have been visualized by archaeologists and linguistic experts close to ancient Marathi scripts. The proposed method is compared with Kannada image enhancement (Bannigidad *et al.*, 2017) and Niblack method. The performance of the proposed method is measured using the following statistical metrics.

Peaks-Signal-to-Noise Ratio (PSNR)

Peak Signal to Noise Ratio is a measure of the amount of signal with the available noise in the image. The high value of the PSNR shows a better signal than the noise from the image (Bannigidad *et al.*, 2017), (Deborah *et al.*, 2010). In the inscription image, the PSNR is calculated using the following formula.

$$\text{PSNR} = 10 \times \log_{10} \left(\frac{\text{MAX}_I^2}{\text{MSE}} \right) \quad (2)$$

where MAX_I is the maximum intensity value of the image, which is 255 if the image is 8-bit. MSE (Mean Squared Error) is calculated using the formula:

$$\text{MSE} = \frac{\sum (\text{Squared Error Image})}{(\text{rows} * \text{columns})}$$

Where

$$\text{Squared Error Image} = (\text{double}(\text{Gray Image}) - \text{double}(\text{Output Image}))^2$$

SNR (Signal to Noise Ratio)

SNR is a measure that compares the signal level to the quantity of noise present in the communication medium. A higher SNR value indicates better signal quality. The SNR range is 1dB to 30dB.

The above figure 9 shows the comparison MSE and PSNR of proposed and literature method. The value of all quality metrics are calculated for different mask. This comparison show the accuracy of proposed method is higher than literature method. The above Bar Chart shows values of MSE, SNR and PSNR for different images. For the comparison purpose there are three types of masks are used.

CONCLUSION

Comparing the performance of all enhancement filters using the quality metrics PSNR, MSE, and SNR, it was concluded that smaller size images using median filters with larger masks resulted in blurry images. The alternate solution for such image blurring problem is to use suited mask with respect to size of the image. The NL filter is great for enhancing inscription images. The median filter is best suited to remove smaller dots from the image. The Otsu's thresholding with NL filter has been given improved enhancement results for the inscription image (Bannigidad *et al.*, 2017). The resultant image after applying morphological erosion to the binarized image gives more readability. The post-binarization erosion technique fills the gaps between the erased characters and improves the image quality. The output image is useful for feature extraction and recognition. The proposed method has better performance and less time required for testing and implementation. Improving ancient Marathi inscriptions plays a very important role in the recognition and classification of ancient Marathi characters. The classification and recognition of ancient Marathi inscriptions will be considered in future scope.

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Table 1 Sample values of MSE, SNR, and PSNR after image enhancement using proposed method

Proposed method									
3*3 mask			5*5 mask			15*15 mask			
Image	MSE	SNR	PSNR	MSE	SNR	PSNR	MSE	SNR	PSNR
Img1	0.45	2.23	8.35	0.45	2.21	8.4	0.45	2.18	8.49
Img2	0.5	3.04	8.89	0.5	3.04	8.91	0.5	3.07	8.97
Img3	0.51	3.21	8.92	0.51	3.21	8.94	0.51	3.22	8.98
Img4	0.46	2.34	8.6	0.46	2.32	8.62	0.46	2.28	8.69
Img5	0.45	2.1	8.61	0.45	2.08	8.64	0.45	2.07	8.73
Img6	0.62	4.44	8.08	0.62	4.45	8.1	0.62	4.5	8.18
Img7	0.57	3.98	8.78	0.57	3.98	8.8	0.57	4.02	8.88
Img8	0.52	3.26	8.81	0.58	3.28	8.86	0.52	3.26	8.95
Img9	0.57	4.05	8.68	0.57	4.01	8.7	0.57	4.07	8.85
Img10	0.26	2.33	7.7	0.26	2.44	7.7	0.25	2.78	7.72
AVG	0.49	3.1	8.54	0.5	3.1	8.57	0.49	3.15	8.64

Table 2 sample values of MSE, SNR, and PSNR after image enhancement using literature method (Bannigidad et al., 2017)

Literature Method									
3*3 mask			5*5 mask			15*15 mask			
Image	MSE	SNR	PSNR	MSE	SNR	PSNR	MSE	SNR	PSNR
Img1	0.52	3.24	6.01	0.5	3.02	6	0.47	2.78	6.02
Img2	0.51	3.1	6.02	0.47	2.77	6.03	0.42	2.29	6.02
Img3	0.49	2.96	6.01	0.47	2.83	6.02	0.44	2.54	6.04





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Img4	0.5	3.05	6.05	0.49	2.93	5.99	0.46	2.65	6.02
Img5	0.49	2.94	6.01	0.47	2.81	6.01	0.43	2.38	6
Img6	0.46	2.7	6.1	0.46	2.7	6.02	0.48	2.84	6.03
Img7	0.48	2.86	6.03	0.47	2.71	5.97	0.43	2.38	6.02
Img8	0.49	2.97	5.99	0.49	2.96	6.02	0.47	2.74	6.02
Img9	0.49	2.97	6.02	0.48	2.9	6.04	0.43	2.42	6
Img10	0.56	3.47	5.99	0.58	3.7	6.03	0.64	4.08	6.01
AVG	0.5	3.03	6.02	0.49	2.93	6.01	0.47	2.71	6.02



Figure 1 model images of degraded Marathi handwritten stone inscriptions

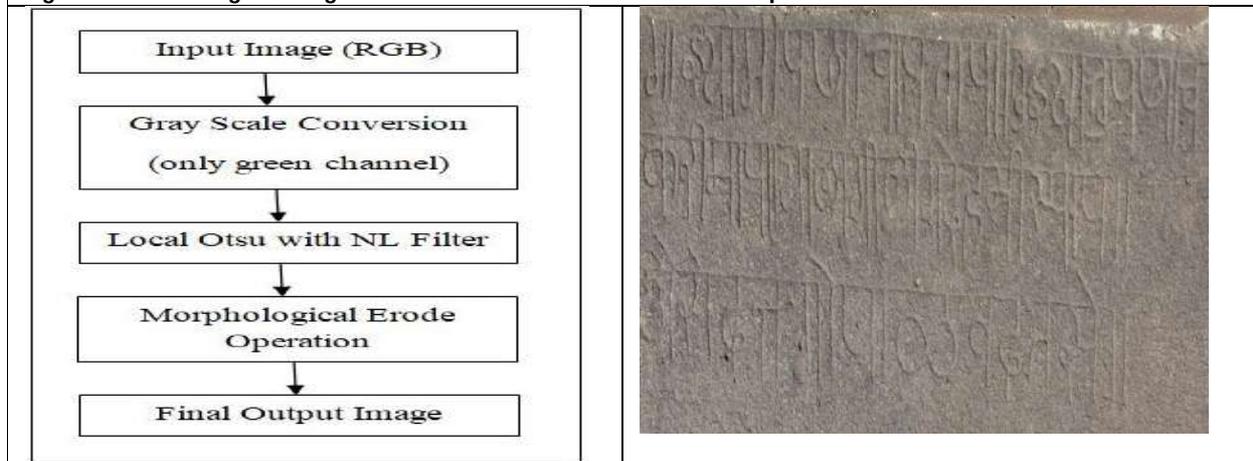


Figure 2 Architecture for the proposed method

Figure 3 Test image used for the system





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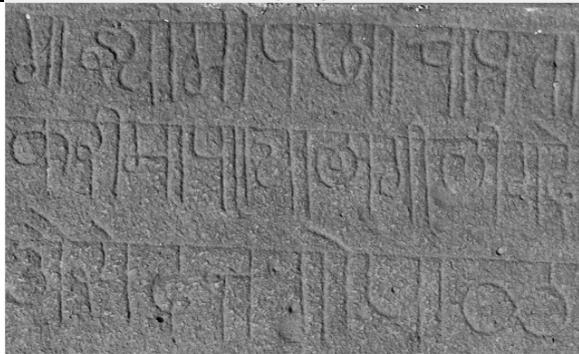


Figure 4 Grayscale image used for the system

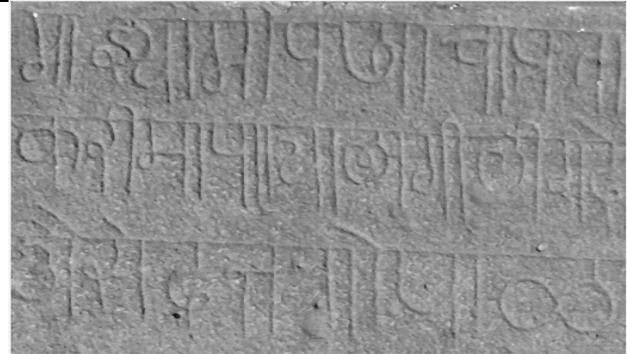


Figure 5 NL filter image used for the system

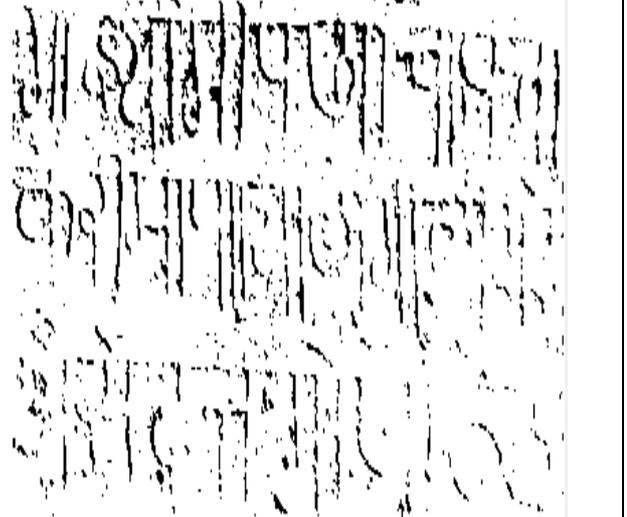
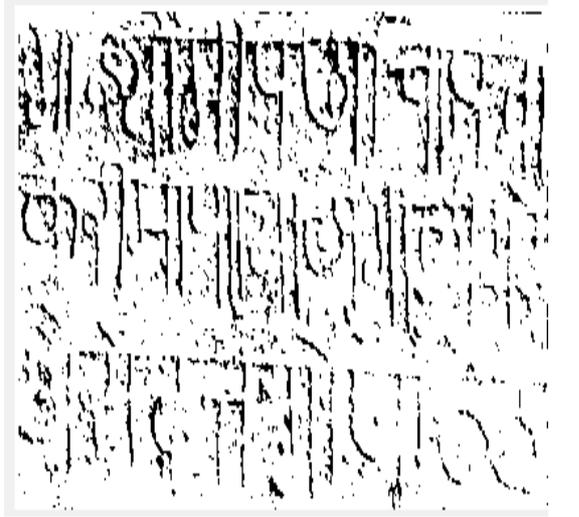


Figure 6 Otsu's Thresholding output images with T= 0.5 and T= 0.7

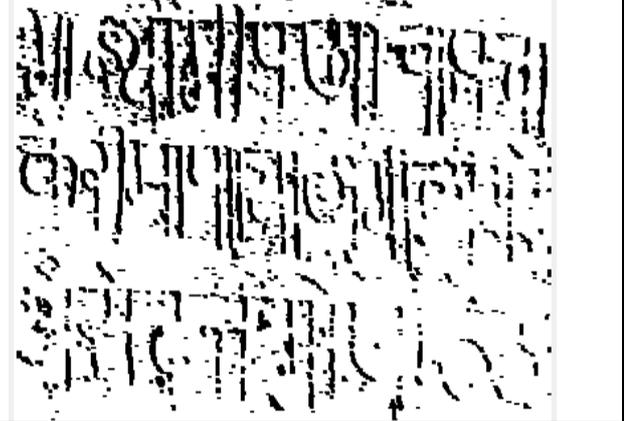
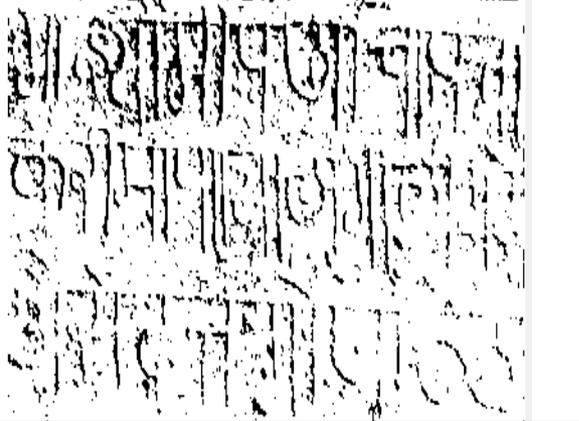


Figure 7 Images after morphological erosion with line structuring element with different parameters





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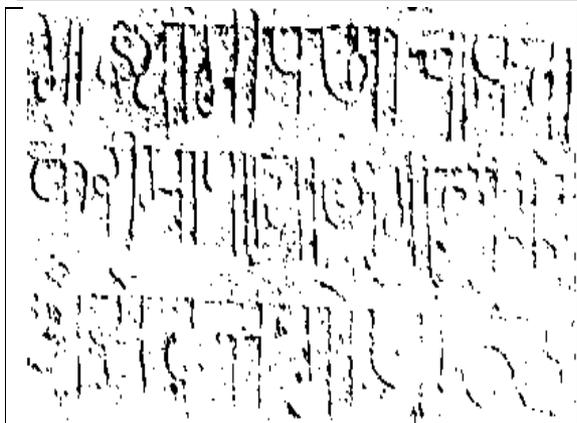


Figure 8 Result of image Binarization using Niblack's method

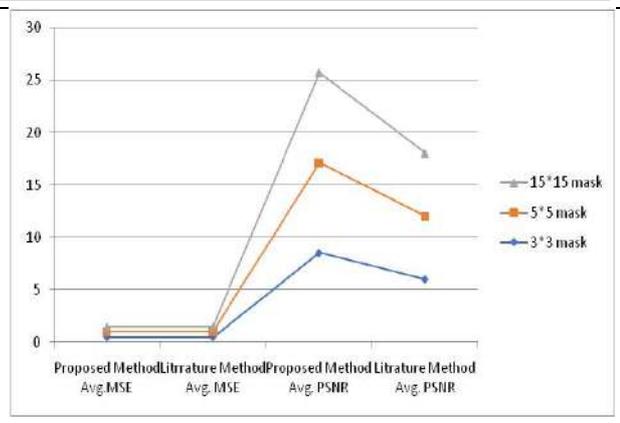
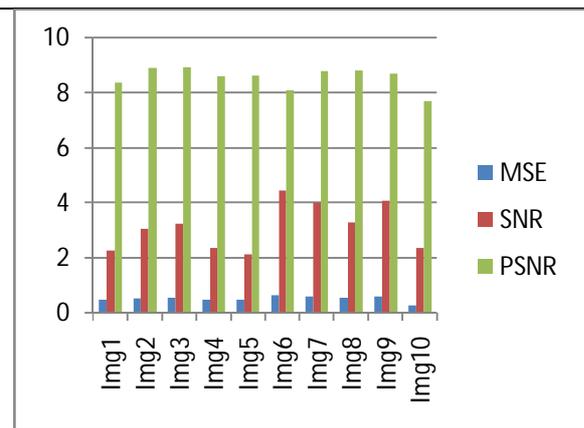
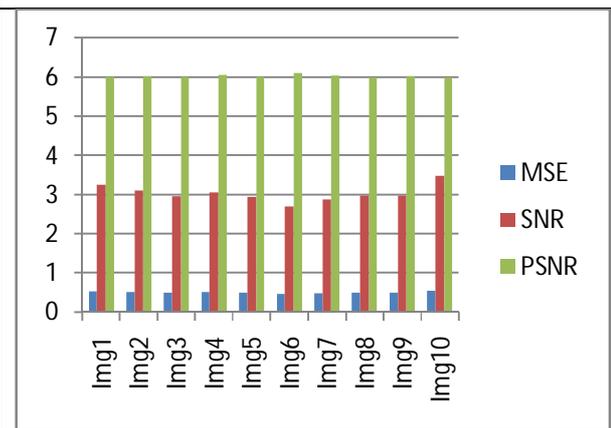


Figure 9 Comparisons of MSE and PSNR Values

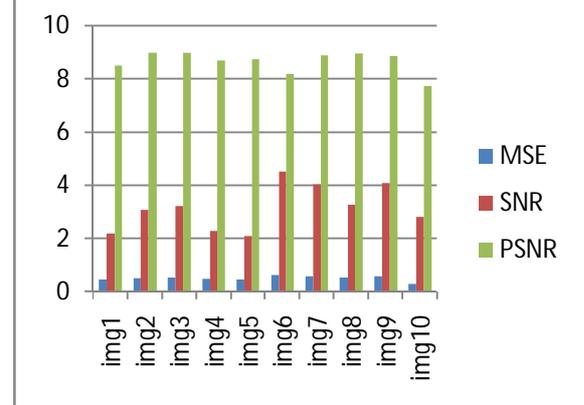
Proposed method accuracy (3*3 mask)



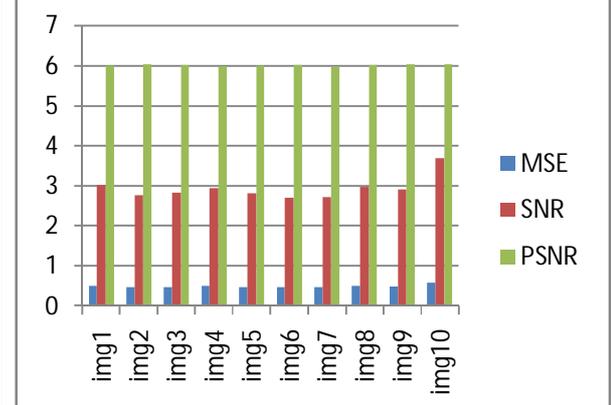
Literature method accuracy (3*3 mask)



Proposed method accuracy (5*5 mask)



Literature method accuracy (5*5 mask)



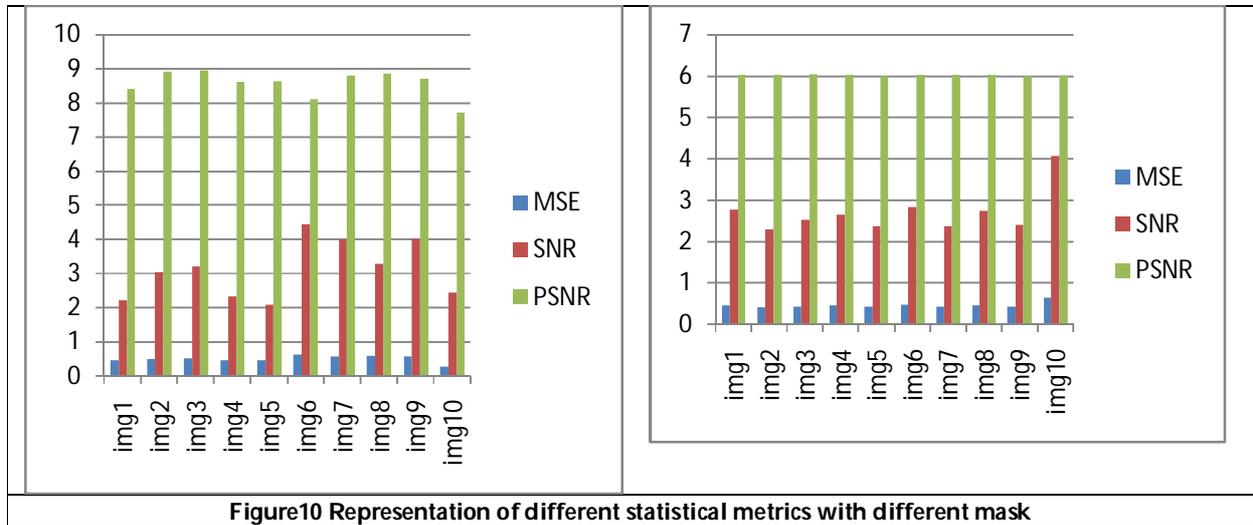
Proposed method accuracy (15*15 mask)

Literature method accuracy (15*15 mask)





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Estimation of Land Surface Temperature Over Silai River Basin, W.B, India

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ABSTRACT

The key parameter of the study is the Land surface temperature (LST) which provides basic knowledge for plans around the world about thermal energy emissions, climate change, land surface processes, crop evaporation, land use/land cover change (LULCC), and small to large scale water resource allocation. Over the past decade, there has been growing the public interest in researching LST recovery algorithms universally using remote sensing techniques and land satellite images of different spatial resolution. The key objective of the present study is to restore land surface emissivity and temperature over the Silai river basin of West Bengal on 24 January 2020. For this purpose, in Arc GIS, using LANDSAT 8 (OLI and TIRS) satellite data, LST, NDVI and SMI were estimated in an appropriate manner and compare again with the land use/land cover data. The values of the thermal bands 10 and 11, and on the other hand red with infrared bands respectively determine the LST and Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), which are varied with the crop cover as a delegate of the Vegetation. The average LST varies between 6.32 °C to 24.52 °C for all types of land available in the study pace. To understand the relationship of LST with NDVI, NDVI values have been compared with the corresponding LST values. Negative correlations between NDVI and LST have been observed especially in vegetation cover areas and to quantitatively diagnose drought the soil moisture index (SMI) has been categorized from drought to extreme drought. This combined knowledge is essential for understanding environmental diversity and human-environmental relations as well as for making favorable decisions for society. Therefore, LST estimates may contribute to the development of irrigation systems for different cultivated activates. However, emissivity statistics are complex due to the differences in vegetation with the spatial scale, which is the subject of an upcoming research studies



**Santosh P Mane and Sukamal Maity****Keywords:** GIS, Landsat – 8, Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), Land Surface Temperature (LST), Soil moisture Index (SMI).

INTRODUCTION

Land surface temperature is one of most significant prime indices for understanding land surface characteristics, such as runoff studies, the water balance, to investigate regional thermal environments, energy exchange between Earth surface and the atmosphere, LULC, vegetation type, climate change, is widely used in many applications (Dousset & Gourmelon, 2003; Wan, Z., 2004; Sobrino, J.A., et al., 2004; Li, Z.L., et al., 2013; Duan, S.-B, et al., 2014; Coutts, A.M. et al., 2016; Huang, G., et al., 2016), it used for a wide variety of scientific studies (Vining and Blad, 1992; Running et al., 1994; Kimmura and Shimiru, 1994; Diak and Whipple, 1995; Crago et al., 1995). It plays a positive role in providing information about soil surface temperature, physical characteristics of climate, and as well as many other environmental processes (Sanjay K. Jain et al. 2007; Dousset & Gourmelon 2003; Weng, Lu & Schubring 2004). LST is a brightness temperature used in various scientific studies at the satellite level (Vining and Blad, 1992; Running et al., 1994; Kimura and Shimiru, 1994; Diak and Whipple, 1995; Crago et al., 1995). Among the LST estimates are the two different sets of Landsat 8, firstly, Operation Land Imager (OLI) consisting of 8 bands of 30 m resolution and 1 band of 15 m resolution and secondly, is Thermal Infrared Sensors (TIRS 1 and 2) which consist of band 10 and band 11 of 100 m resolution, which is more efficient in providing perfect surface temperature. TIRS uses Quantum Well Infrared Photo Detectors (QWIPs) to detect light at long wavelengths emitted from the Earth's surface, the intensity of which depends on the Earth surface temperature (Suresh, S. et al., 2016).

The NDVI is the most widely used significant remote sensing indicator which quantify the eco-environmental status (Hanqiu Xu, et al., 2019, Maity, S. 2022). Higher NDVI maps the presence, quantity, or condition of a pixel-based plant. Since the surface temperatures are directly associated to the physical properties of the surface, the NDVI is ideal for estimating LST in river valleys. Researchers have extracted and modeled the NDVI for finding vegetation biophysical variables using remotely sensed data (Jensen, 2000; Thapa, 2020). The lowest LST is usually found in high NDVI areas, this negative relationship is noteworthy for urban climate and eco-environmental quality (EEQ) research (Weng et al., 2004, Yuan and Bauer, 2007, Maity, S. et al. 2022, 2020). LST and NDVI values differ significantly from the modified LULC type (Yue et al., 2007). Surface temperatures are lower in vegetation covered and waterlogged areas than in built-up areas (Qin and Karnieli, 1999; Joshi and Bhatt, 2012; Maity, S. et al., 2022). The correlation between land surface temperature and normalized difference vegetation index is positive and negative in winter and warm seasons respectively, it can be concluded that plants can reduce the surface temperature of the earth, that is, the cooling of plants has an effect on the temperature of any area (Sun and Kafatos, 2007; Gallo and Tarpley, 1996; Weng, 2001). Therefore, such studies needed to provide the status of LST and NDVI. This will help LULC's adverse effects, Climatic change related risks, and supports on capacity buildings, policy, and decision making.

The soil moisture index (SMI) is the proportion of the difference between current soil moisture and permanent wilting point to field capacity and residual soil moisture, the value of this index is varies between 0 - 1, where 0 and 1 mean extreme dry state and extreme wet state, respectively (Michigan Tech Research Institute, 2009; Chandrasekar, K., 2016; Arnab, A., et al., 2018). The algorithm for calculating SMI functions is based on NDVI and LST, which is calculated using multispectral satellite imagery for each pixel. Continuous data range of SMI varies from 5 to - 5, where $\Theta = 5$ and $\Theta = - 5$ respectively means the water capacity of the land and the wilting point (Hunt et al., 2008). Further, with the help of these data, soil moisture mapping can be done to determine the need for land irrigation or drainage monitoring. SMI value > 0.3 means no-drought or favorable soil moisture conditions, On the other hand, if the SMI value is < 0.3 , the drought is divided into three categories e.g. severe, moderate, and slight drought (Parida, et al., 2008).





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Study Area

The area selected for the present study is the Silai or Shilabati river basin which is part of the drainage system of the eastern lower Ganges and an important eastern flow river basin of West Bengal, India. This consists of medium-high plateaus and low-altitude plains in terms of topography. The river originates from the peripheral part of the Chhotnagpur plateau in Purulia district of West Bengal and flows south-east through the plateau bordering Bankura, West Midnapore district and finally joins the Rupnarayan River in the Ghatal block of West Midnapore. This river basin area is situated among 23°32' N to 23°14' N and 86°40' E to 87°46' E latitude and longitude (Figure– 1), respectively. The upper part of the study area is the Granite-gneiss geological section where the Gondwana-era coal deposits are located, Just below it is low fertile lateritic soil, and also the upper-middle, lower-middle and lower section cover by lateritic, primary or secondary lateritic, and alluvial soil respectively, which has created a unique structural characteristic of the region (Shit and Maity 2012; Dolui *et al.* 2014; Ghosh and Guchhait 2015). The total catchment area of this basin is about 4342.37 sq. km with an average elevation of 212 to 4 m above sea level (MSL). The discussable river basin is the sum of eight sub-river basins namely Donai, Tamal, Kubai, Joy Panda, Parang, Purandar, Silai and Betal. Overall, present study area is situated in a semi-arid to sub-humid tropical climate with an annually average rainfall of 100 to 150 cm and an average temperature of 32OC to 39OC. The key LULC of the study region is agriculture where irrigation is practiced every year by draining the ground water through shallow submersible pumping sets as the reservoirs dry up mainly during the summer season. The situation continues to deteriorate as local people become dependent on groundwater (Das, B., *et al.*, 2019). This has made it inevitable to assess the available groundwater resources in the area under discussion.

METHODOLOGY

Landsat 8 achieves DN in eleven bands from the two separate sensors namely OLI and TIRS. The spectral band of the OLI sensor collects temperature data from 0.45 μm (is blue band) to 2.29 μm (is infrared band/SWIR2) and two TIRS (1 & 2) bands in the high infrared range from 10.60 μm to 12.51 μm , that information is stored as a DN range between 0 and 255. Due to the relatively high horizontal resolution of OLI bands and 10 or 11 of a one thermal group bands are effective in providing accurate surface temperature more accurately at 30 meters and at 100 meters, respectively, and it is possible to frequently sweep by the satellite will reappear in 16 days at the same corridor on the Earth's surface, that imagery data is provided free of charge by the USGS (<http://earthexplorer.usgs.gov>). For this study area, in one Landsat image were acquired to the high transpiration month January (dated 24 -01-2020) of deciduous forest.

LST calculation using Landsat 8

Landsat data have used for LST study (Ding, H., & Shi, W. 2013; Erenner, A., Düzgün, S., & Yalciner, A. C. 2012; Kaul, H. A., & Sopan, I. 2012; Xiao, H., & Weng, Q. 2007). The unified method for retrieving LST from a raw Landsat dataset is to convert the DN values of Landsat 8's TIRS bands 10 and 11 to Satellite Spectral Radiance Value (L_{λ}), for which to calculate the Satellite Brightness Temperature (BT) and Emissivity (ϵ), using pre-launch calibration constant. (Chander *et al.*, 2009; Xu *et al.*, 2009; USGS, 2016b; Mohammad Zare, *et al.*, 2019). This process is modified by spectral emissivity according to the nature of the landscape (Sobrino *et al.*, 2004; Weng, 2009; Xu *et al.*, 2013). The thermal atmospheric correction of Landsat-8 OLI images are obtained from the parameters calculator based on the date, time of the satellite overpass, and also the geographical location of area (Barsi *et al.*, 2005; Yu *et al.*, 2014; NASA, 2016). To preprocess the satellite images, the DN of the TIRS, and OLI bands are converted to spectral radiance and planetary reflection at the TOA, and the following equation is used to convert the surface temperature from a satellite temperature to DN (Xu *et al.*, 2009; USGS, Landsat 8 Data users Handbook, 2016; Estoque *et al.*, 2017):

$$L_{\lambda} = M_L * Q_{cal} + A_L \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

Where, L_{λ} is radiation of spectral (Watts/ ($\text{m}^2\text{sr}*\mu\text{m}$)), M_L is a Band-specific multiplicative rescaling factor derived from metadata (RADIANCE_MULT_BAND_n), A_L is a Band specific additive rescaling factor from the metadata (RADIANCE_ADD_BAND_n), 'n' is a band number (10 or 11 for Landsat 8 TIRS), and Q_{cal} is Level 1 value into DN which relates to bands 10 & 11. The conversion of TIRS data from spectral radiance to brightness temperature (BT):

$$BT_i = K2 \ln K1L + 1 - 273.15 \text{ (in } ^\circ\text{C)} \dots\dots\dots (2)$$





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Where, BT_i is a brightness temperature in the TOA for TIRS band i (is 10 & 11) in Kelvin or Degree Celsius, K_1 and K_2 is band specific coefficients are thermal conversion constant from the metadata ($K_1_CONSTANT_BAND_n$) and ($K_2_CONSTANT_BAND_n$), and Where 'n' is the Number of band 10 or 11 for Landsat -8 (Table 1).
The resultant of this process is the temperature in Celsius, and the radiant temperature is absolute zero temperature which is about - 273.15°C.

The same process to be applied for the band 11, from the equation we can get radiance as an output of band 10 and 11.

P_v has been Calculated with the help of NDVI values obtained from this Equation No 6. It estimates the area of different types of LULC. The amount of vegetation and bare soil is known from the clear pixel of NDVI (Zahir, I.L.M., 2020). The values of NDVI_v and NDVI_s are respectively 0.5 and 0.2, the NDVI_v value of non-vegetated land surface is very low and reaches 0.5, again for the high resolution data in cultivated land, the NDVI_v value can arrive between 0.8 - 0.9. (Wang, F., et al., 2015). Proportions of vegetation in mixed pixels are determined by the following equation (Zahir, I.L. M., 2020):

$$P_v = \frac{NDVI - NDVI_{min}}{NDVI_{max} - NDVI_{min}} \dots\dots\dots (3)$$

Where, P_v is the ratio of vegetation, NDVI are the DN value from NDVI image, NDVI minimum and maximum value are minimum and maximum DN values from the respective NDVI Image.

LST is basically dependent on surface unevenness and the nature of vegetation cover etc. (Javed Mallick et al., 2008). It is average emissivity (ϵ) of an element from the earth's surface calculated from the NDVI values. ϵ is calculated by the experimental formula of Van de Griend and Owe (1993), it is expressed as the following equation:

$$\epsilon = 0.004 * P_v + 0.986 \dots\dots\dots (4)$$

When, NDVI < 0 and ϵ are 1, then emissivity of the water body reach to 1.

When value of NDVI is 0 – 0.157 and ϵ is 0.92 then the vegetation coverage noticed very low (Qin et al., 2004).

LST is the radioactive temperature which is calculated using the wavelength of radiance emitted from TOA brightness temperature (BT), LST is calculated through the following equation (Orhan and Yakar, 2016):

$$LST = BT1 + \frac{\lambda * BT2 * \ln \epsilon}{\ln 2} \dots\dots\dots (5)$$

Where, BT = TOA brightness temperature (°C), λ is wavelength of emitted radiance (Table-1), $C_2 = h * c / s = 14387.685 \mu\text{m K}$; h is Planck's constant = $6.626 * 10^{-34}$ Js; s is Boltzmann constant = $1.38 * 10^{-23}$ J/k; c is velocity of light = $2.998 * 10^8$ m/s.

NDVI calculated using Landsat 8

Vegetation/plant is the most important indicator for determining the regional eco-environmental quality (EEQ) of any region. Greenness prevails to NDVI which can be reflect biomass, leaf area index, and the vegetation coverage (Rouse et al., 1973), and it is a measure of the most widely used leading ecosystem proxy variable (De Araujo Barbosa, et al., 2015), it is also a significant indicator for assessment of plants bio-shield mass and wellbeing of vegetation (Madurapperuma, B.D., et al., 2017). DN value to reflectance after the conversion, the NDVI is expressed through the following equation (Rouse, J.W. et al., 1973; Tucker, C.J., et al., 1979; Jeevalakshmi, D., et al., 2016; Giannini et al., 2015; Potic et al., 2017; Hanqiu Xu, et al., 2019):

$$NDVI = \frac{(\rho_{NIR} - \rho_{Red})}{(\rho_{NIR} + \rho_{Red})} \dots\dots\dots (6)$$

Whereas, in Landsat 8 OLI images red and NIR respectively represent the DN values from Red Band 4 between $0.64 \mu\text{m} - 0.67 \mu\text{m}$ and near Infrared (NIR) band 5 between $0.85 \mu\text{m} - 0.88 \mu\text{m}$. NDVI values always lying between -1.0 to +1.0, its negative value indicates the area covered by water bodies or snow cover, and when the value is above 0.5 it indicates the area of thick vegetation cover (Ozelkan, E. et al., 2005; Mohammad Zare et al., 2019).

NDVI must be calculated to calculate Proportional Vegetation (P_v) and emissivity (ϵ).

SMI calculated using Landsat 8

SMI is calculated using the following equations based on empirical parameterization from the relationship between LST and NDVI (Zeng et al. 2004; Parida et al. 2008; Wang et al. 2009; Ivan Potic et al. 2017) it is represented as :

$$SMI = \frac{(LST_{max} - LST)}{(LST_{max} - LST_{min})} \dots\dots\dots (7)$$





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Whereas, LST max and min is the maximum and minimum ground surface temperature (LST) caused by the effect of a given NDVI, which is obtained by using remotely sensitive data on the pixel surface temperature due to the given NDVI. LST max and LST min are calculated according to the following equation (Zhan,Z., et al. 2004, Parida, B.R., et al. 2008; Ivan Potic et al. 2017; Arnab Saha et al.,2018):

$$LST_{max} = a_1 * NDVI + b_1 \dots\dots\dots (8)$$

$$LST_{min} = a_2 * NDVI + b_2 \dots\dots\dots (9)$$

Whereas, a_1 , a_2 , b_1 and b_2 are the empirical indicator obtained from the linear regression ('a' and 'b' are current gradient, and current intercept, respectively), which define both the dry and wet (hot and cold) data edges. The first step of SMI calculation is to convert DN values to spectral radiance (L W/m² /Sr/μm) using the following equation (Lwin, K.K., 2010; Potic et al., 2017; Arnab et al., 2018):

$$L = L_{min} + (((L_{max} - L_{min}) / (Q_{cal\ max} - Q_{cal\ min})) * (DN - Q_{cal\ min})) \dots\dots\dots (10)$$

Whereas, L_{min} and L_{max} represent to spectral radiance of calibration constants; $Q_{cal\ max}$ and $Q_{cal\ min}$ represent to highest and lowest value of quantized calibration pixel (in Table – 1) and DN means Digital Number.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The DN value to TOA

The DN values of the thermal infrared sensor have been converted from TOA to sensor for spectral radiance, with values ranging from 6.79 to 8.97 in the study area. Therefore, higher values of pixels were obtained from agricultural and vacant land areas and lower values were obtained from water and moisture areas (Fig. 5b).

Brightness Temperature (BT)

After converting the DN values to the radiance of the sensor spectrum, the data in the TIRS band is converted to BT according to the thermal constant value, with values ranging from 6.32°C to 24.51°C in the study area. Therefore, higher values of pixels were obtained from bare land, agricultural land and built-up land and lower values were obtained from water, moisture, and dense vegetation areas (Fig. 5a).

Land Surface Emissivity (LSE)

LSE is a proportionality factor, the scale of which predicts the emitted radiance from black body radiance (Schadlich, et al., 2001; Sobrino, et al., 2004). Landsat 8's TIRS fine spatial resolution satellite data is the foremost source for estimating the surface emissivity of a region, which is calculated the proportion of vegetation using algorithms 3 and 4 band in ArcGIS software, which again has a significant effect on LST. An analysis of the correlation of surface emissivity (SE) with LST shows that the negative correlation between them is present which is given in Table-3. LST results determined with the help of emissivity derived from the proportion of plant cover

Retrieval and Determination of LST

The distribution of LST has been categorized in the appropriate range with the help of color-codes to create a thermal pattern distribution map of LST on Silai river basin in Figure 3a. The Sun elevation and azimuth of January 24, 2020 in the study area are 40.384 and 146.693 represent respectively, meaning the time is probably in the morning LST amount received from the satellite in the range of 6.32°C to 24.52°C, and the average and standard deviations are 16.19°C and 2.49 respectively which as described in Table-2. The LST was strong in south of the lower basin and low in upper and middle of the study basin, showing a present steady decline from lower to upper of the Silai basin. Furthermore, the LST value create a high-temperature area in the basin is small town Ghatal, Daspur, Keshpur, Salboni and Godapiasal , other land-intensive buildup area and agricultural field area, showing daily high temperature as well as in the form of a Heat Island. In the middle and upper part as well as Lateritic exposure or bare land area of the study basin, i.e., the Bagda-salaphahari– panchmura – amdangra village, LST value is low. The amalgamation of NDVI, SMI, and LULC data has been used primarily for intersection analysis, which shows that the trend is largely differentiated by the cumulative effects of LULC, NDVI and SMI. Furthermore, the assimilation of high-resolution thermal maps reveals the thermal environment of the typical urban and surrounding lateritic-bare



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land as high-temperature zones. In addition, the highest LST was noted in the southern part of lower basin area due to exposed lateritic rocks area.

LST and LULC Relationship

In this present study, Spectral Angle Mapping (SAM) algorithm has been used for the LULC classification, in which the physics-based spectral method combines the reference spectra with the pixel n-dimensional (n-D) angle. Therefore, LST was calculated using NDVI to determine the LST of each class in Table-3. The rank of different types of LULC based on LST is -- agricultural land > sand bar > fellow land > dense forest > settlement > water body > open forest > bare land > Lateritic Exposure (Table – 4). LST of agricultural land and sand bar was high. In general, the value of LST on agricultural lands, sand bars and fellow lands is most affected by ethnographic and seasonal effects as compared to different LULC classes, however, standard deviation in LST values can be observed in water bodies.

LST and NDVI Relationship

The statistical software was originally developed to process two raster sets of data namely LST and NDVI from the same pixel and to present data distribution on a scatter plot and Karl Pearson's correlation coefficients have been computed between NDVI and LST over the study area using ArcGIS and Microsoft excel software. The linear regression value extends from 0 on "warm edge" to 1 on "cold edge". The highest evaporation and unlimited water access occurs when the pixels are dry near the warm edge, and the pixels are moist when they are near the cold edge. In figure -4a, NDVI was estimated range from - 0.232 to 0.516 in the study basin, the mean is 0.226 and the standard deviation is 0.082, respectively, as shown in Table – 2. The high values of NDVI indicate dense forests and low values indicate water bodies. NDVI is an isolate tool to specify different LULC types of the study area. Mean NDVI of the different LULC categories are represents to table – 4. Sensitive indicator NDVI's variation can cause differences in different land surface temperatures. The relationship between LST and NDVI varies from season to season without noticeable regularity. Table - 3 shows the negative correlation (pixel by pixel) between LST with NDVI (vegetation cover) for Silai river basin i.e. R^2 is 0.0247 in winter (24th January 2020) in figure 7a. It means wherever there is high NDVI; the surface temperature is low and vice versa. The values of NDVI from -1 to +1 are divided into five categories in Figure 4a. The value of LST in present study has changed from a minimum of 6.32 °C to a maximum of 24.52 °C. The pixel value of NDVI and LST (Figure 7a) is shown on the scatter plot.

LST and SMI relationship

The SMI map of 24th January 2020 indicates SMI by classifying the color ramp from 0 to 1 as a result of the representative. In Figure 4b, most of the values in the study area marked by red and yellow are near zero, indicating significant vegetation deficiencies and excess surface temperatures, and the region being severely affected by soil moisture deficiencies as well as water deficit. The value of the short portion of the study area marked by blue and light blue in the soil moisture indicator map is close to 1, which means it is the area where vegetation volume and surface temperature both are low than the rest of land cover area but represent highly soil moisture. The maximum SMI values for the study period of the study area are 0.0 - 1.0, the maximum value is 1.0 and the mean value is 0.458. The results conclude that more than 60% of the study region is close to zero; which indicates a lack of moisture throughout the study area during the dry season. The presence of high amounts of water or moisture indicates the index of 1 and the zero index on the other hand indicates the minimum humidity as in arid regions. Thus high values of the index represent high water or high humidity regions and low values represent arid regions.

NDVI and SMI relationship

In this relationship is very significant in present study; the range of SMI varies from 0 to 1. NDVI have shown positive relationship with SMI in the study basin i.e. $R^2 = 0.0247$. The linear correlation between NDVI and MSI is displaying in the scatter plot in Figure 7d.



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CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Most of Silai river basin West Bengal, area is rapidly facing a rise in temperature on summer with decreasing soil moisture in various places for different time intervals. These situations are similar to many other parts, these results in LULC and climate change, which again lead to the both vulnerability and livelihood. In this present study, we used USGS's free Landsat 8 OLI and TIRS sensor bands with the help of Remote Sensing (RS) techniques to immediate determination and comprehend the LST, NDVI, and SMI on the different LULC types. LST, NDVI and SMI maps have been prepared by analyzing the satellite data, where about 45% of the total area is dominated by agricultural land. LST analysis has shown that surface temperature on sand bar and agricultural land is higher than lateritic exposure and bare land, maximum LST observed in 24.52 °C. The NDVI is evaluated from satellite data band 5 and band 4, which describes the vegetation index, the maximum value of NDVI in the study place is 0.516. In winter LST and NDVI found negative correlated is $R^2 = 0.0247$, which indicates healthy green vegetation and low surface temperature. The classification-based algorithm is used in ArcGIS for Emissivity estimates of the research area, where the inverse relationship of LST with emissivity exists. Also, noted that there is a strong positive correlation among the Emissivity and NDVI, where $R^2 = 0.9832$. Moisture of agricultural land is very important for crop production, on the other hand irrigation system depends on soil moisture. In the study area, SMI has a positive correlation ($R^2 = 0.0247$) with NDVI, as well as a strong negative correlation with LST ($R^2 = 1$). The results conclude that severe drought conditions prevailed in about 50% of the Silai river basin area and normal humidity was maintained in the remaining forests and water bodies, in addition to dependence on rainfall for increasing agricultural productivity as well as public awareness needs to be increased to focus on reforestation and rainwater harvesting for increasing soil moisture. Auxiliary works will be require for analyzing the more recent change in temperature, soil moisture and vegetation as well as more updated spatial databases. Statistical analysis of historical climatic spatial data will be essential for better understanding of the pattern of temperature, soil moisture, climate change, and life-threatening events.

Contributions of Authors

S. P. Mane – conceptualized, planned the study, reviewed, and also edited the manuscript. S. Maity – conceptualized, planned the study, conducted the survey, analyzed the data, prepared the maps, interpreted the results, reviewed, as well as edited the manuscript. Both authors have read and approved the final manuscript.

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Table 1: The values of λ , Quantized calibration pixel and Spectral radiance for Landsat bands

Satellite	Band	λ (μm)	Thermal conversion constants (Parameter f)		Quantized Calibration pixel (Q_{cal})		Landsat spectral radiance (L)	
			K1	K2	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
Landsat – 8	10	10.895	774.8853	1321.0789	1	65535	0.10033	22.00180
	11	12.005	480.8883	1201.1442				

Source: NASA (2013), USGA (2015); Min: Minimum; Max: Maximum

Table - 2: LST statistics of Landsat 8 in the Silai River Basin (24 January, 2020)

Indicators	LST in $^{\circ}\text{C}$	NDVI	Emissivity	SMI
Minimum	6.317	-0.232	0.986	0.000
Maximum	24.517	0.516	0.990	1.000
Mean	16.187	0.226	0.988	0.458
S.D	2.493	0.082	0.0006	0.137

Table 3: Overall correlation between LST, NDVI, Emissivity and SMI (24 January, 2020)

Indicators	LST	NDVI	Emissivity	SMI
LST	1.00000	-0.16407*	-0.15776*	-1.00000*
NDVI	-0.16407*	1.00000	0.99199*	0.16407*
Emissivity	-0.15776*	0.99199*	1.00000	0.15776*
SMI	-1.00000*	0.16407*	0.15776*	1.00000

*Correlation is significant at 0.05 level of significance

Table – 4: Descriptive statistics of LST, NDVI and MSI and their SD in different LULC classes

LULC Class	LST ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)				NDVI				SMI			
	Min.	Max.	Mean	SD	Min.	Max.	Mean	SD	Min.	Max.	Mean	SD
Sand Bar	8.416	22.556	17.364	1.844	-0.232	0.325	0.099	0.048	0.108	0.885	0.393	0.101
Settlement	6.317	23.005	16.061	2.439	-0.009	0.379	0.196	0.038	0.083	1.000	0.465	0.134
Lateritic Exposure	6.383	22.108	14.951	2.924	0.062	0.365	0.207	0.028	0.132	0.996	0.526	0.161
Fallow Land	7.125	23.113	16.202	2.253	-0.077	0.437	0.228	0.045	0.077	0.956	0.457	0.124
Dense Forest	7.121	21.649	16.105	2.096	0.084	0.370	0.244	0.025	0.158	0.956	0.462	0.115
Open Forest	6.567	21.866	15.508	2.214	-0.058	0.516	0.351	0.072	0.146	0.986	0.495	0.122
Agriculture Land	6.341	24.517	17.622	2.432	-0.145	0.326	0.143	0.039	0.000	0.999	0.379	0.134
Water Body	8.737	20.540	16.059	1.880	-0.143	0.189	0.042	0.047	0.219	0.867	0.465	0.103
Bare Land	6.531	22.153	15.054	2.848	0.095	0.282	0.194	0.020	0.130	0.988	0.520	0.156

Min: Minimum; Max: Maximum; SD: Standard deviation.





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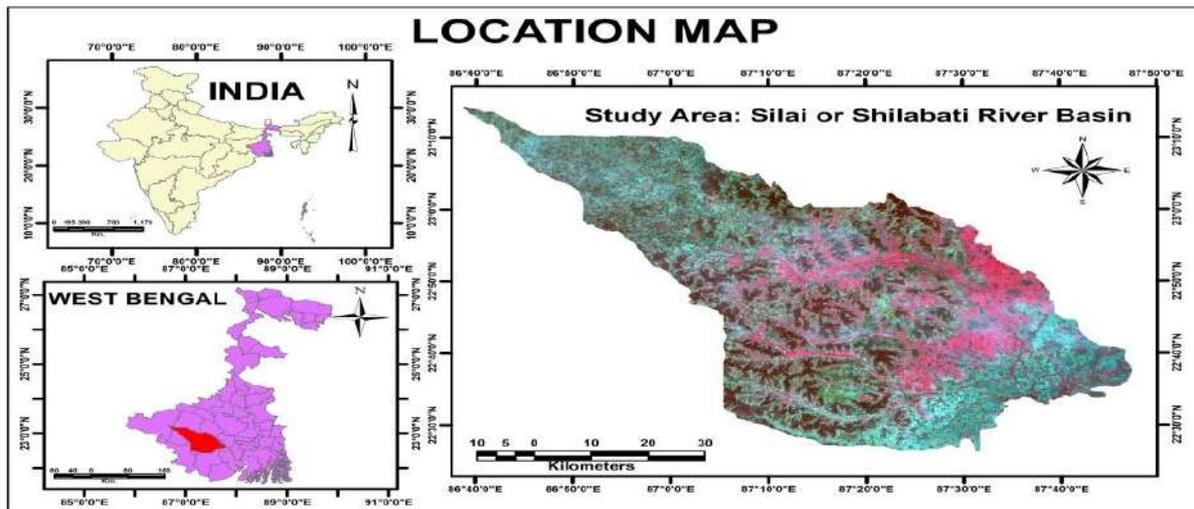


Figure – 1: The study area

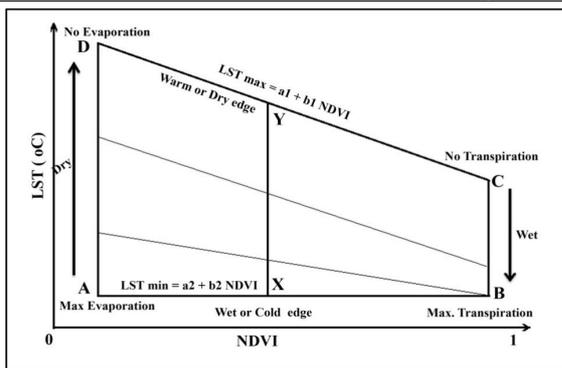


Figure – 2: SMI concept with scatterplot in LST – NDVI space (Parida *et al.*, 2008)

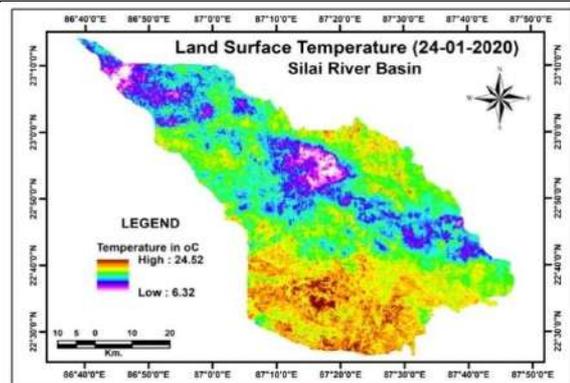


Figure – 3: (a) Range of LST in Silai River Basin and (b) Range of Land Surface Emissivity (LSE) in Silai Raver Basin (Source: Computed by Author from Landsat 8 OLI/TIRS Data Level 2)

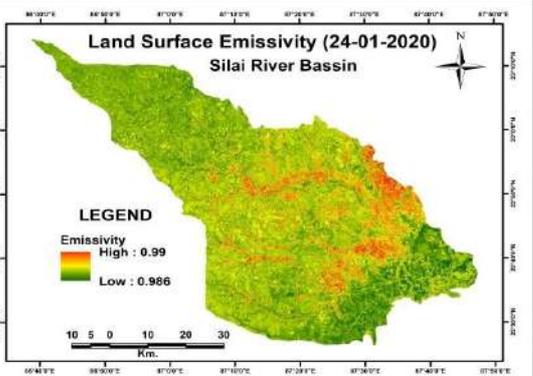


Figure – 3: (b) Range of Land Surface Emissivity (LSE) in Silai Raver Basin (Source: Computed by Author from Landsat 8 OLI/TIRS Data Level 2)

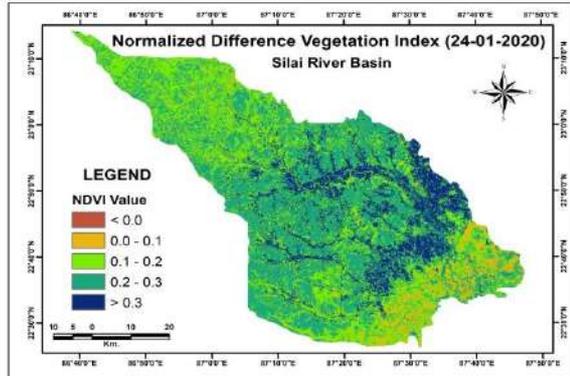


Figure – 4: (a) Range of NDVI in Silai River Basin and (Source: Computed by Author from Landsat 8 OLI/TIRS Data Level 2)





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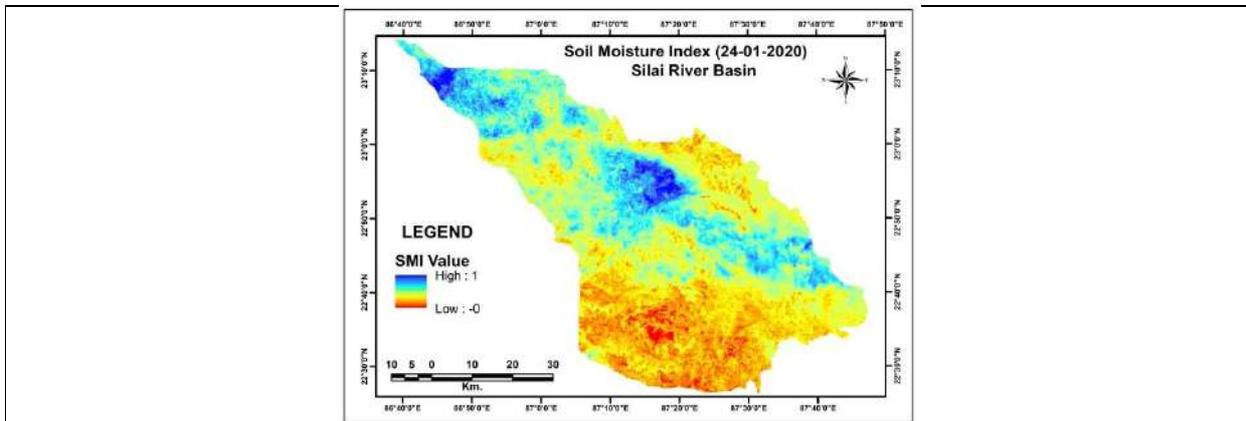


Figure – 4: (b) Range of SMI in Silai Raver Basin (Source: Computed by Author from Landsat 8 OLI/TIRS Data Level 2)

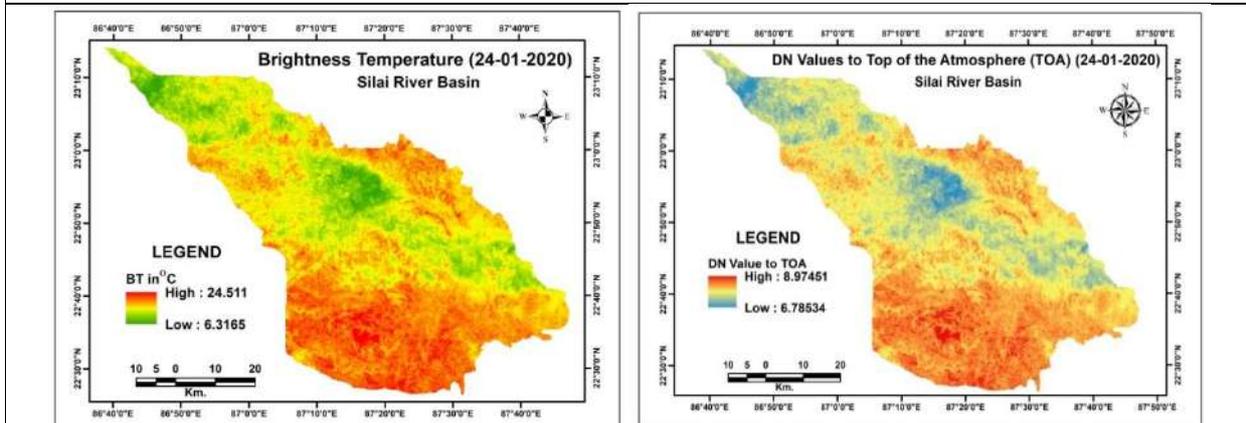


Figure – 5: (a) Range of BT in Silai River Basin and (b) Range of DN Value to TOA in Silai Raver Basin (Source: Computed by Author from Landsat 8 OLI/TIRS Data Level 2)

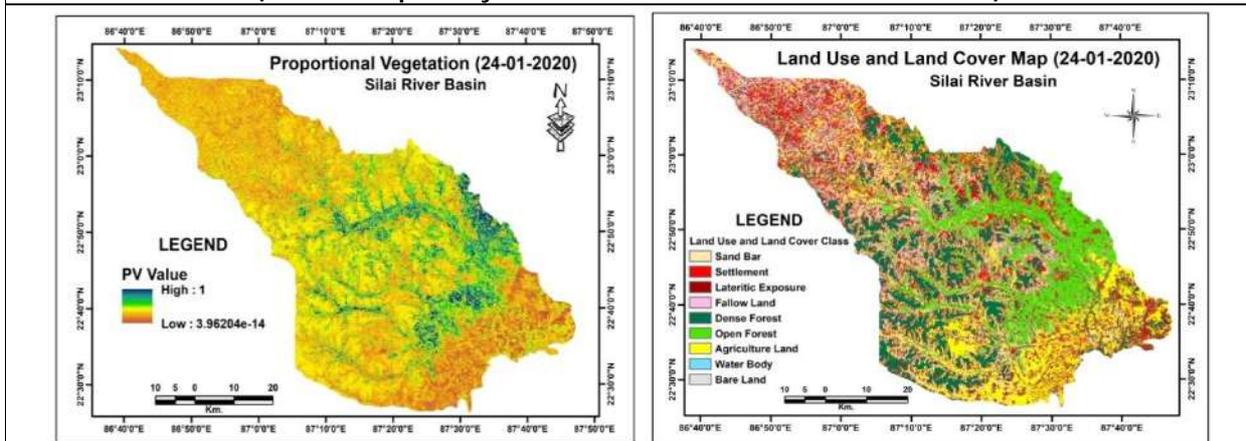


Figure – 6: (a) Range of Pv in Silai River Basin and (b) LULC Classification in Silai Raver Basin





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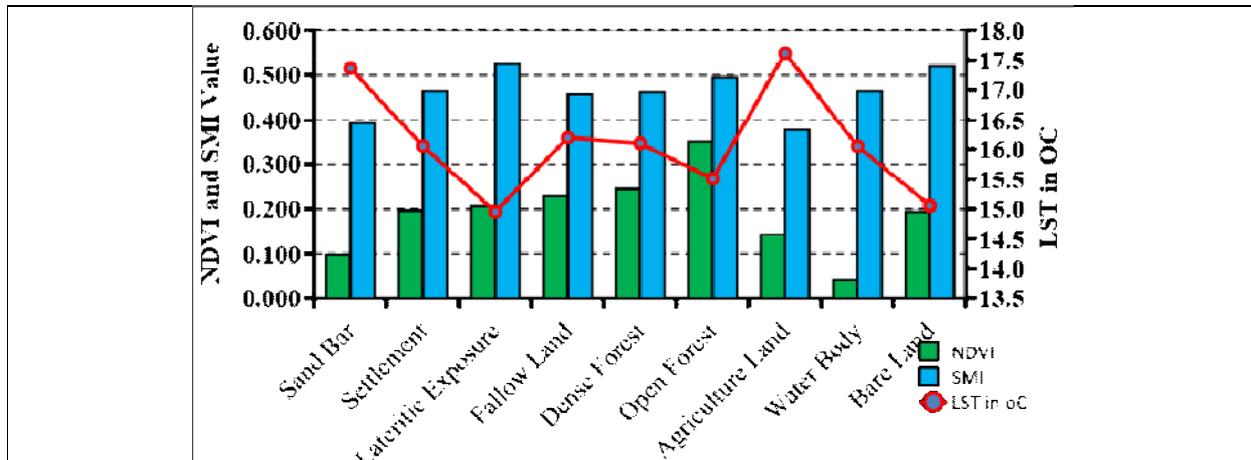


Figure – 8: Graphical distribution of mean LST, NDVI, and SMI in the Different LULC Class.

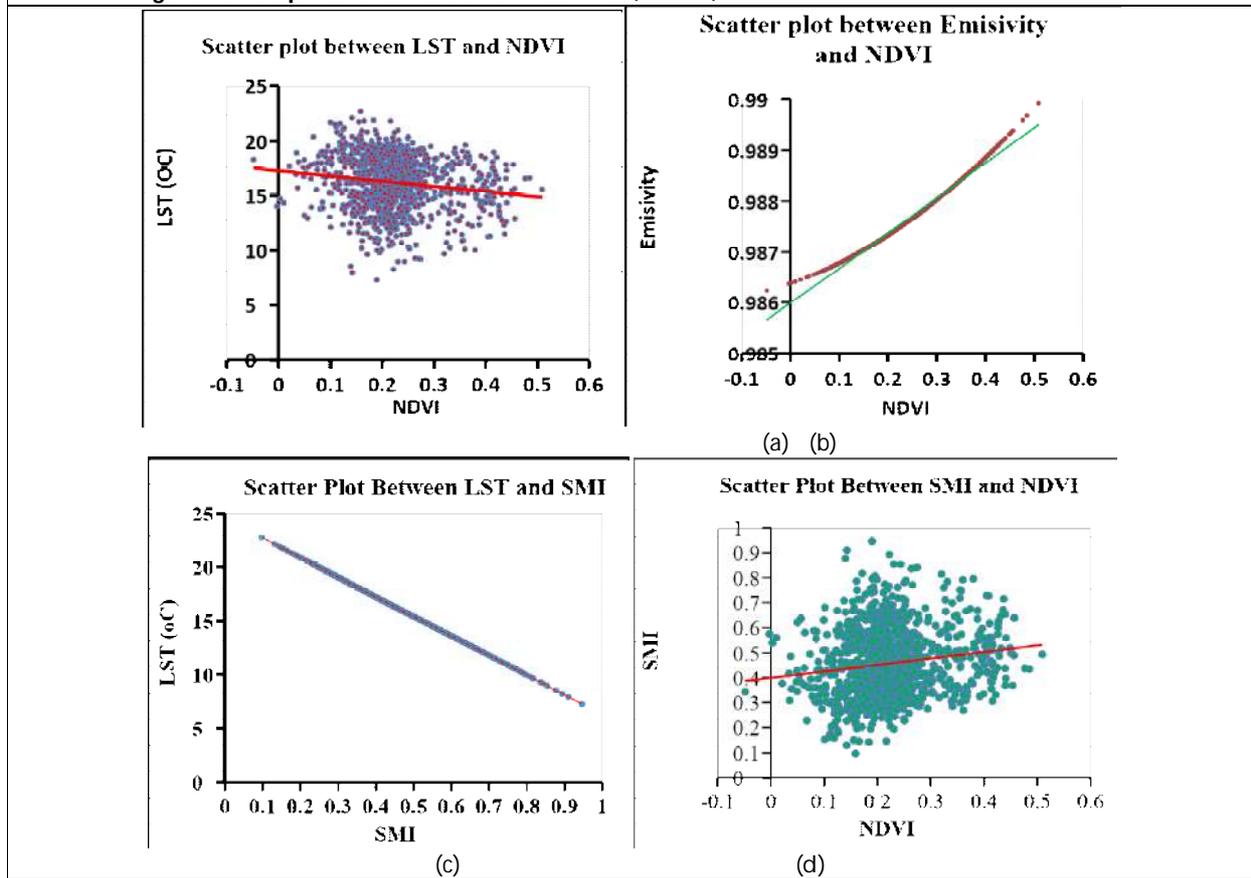


Figure – 7: Scatter Plots for Corresponding areas of interest – LST Vs NDVI Relationship (7a); Emisivity Vs NDVI relationship (7b); LST Vs SMI Relationship (7c) and SMI Vs NDVI Relationship (7d).





Sustainable Agricultural Production through Genetic Engineering Technology in India: A Need

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ABSTRACT

For the growing population in India the demand for food is increasing and there are several questions arising on the agricultural productivity but there is a need to provide a fruitful response to the questions in a sustainable way. Every Indian farmer needs to overcome the impact of various agriculture-related issues while growing crops. The modern genetic engineering technology provides a solution for increasing agricultural production sustainably. At the global level, several varieties of genetically modified crops with the application of genetic engineering technology are identified, developed, and commercialised, but the same are banned in India and the moratorium is imposed especially on genetically modified food crops. The author in this article focuses on the importance and benefits of genetically modified crops produced through genetic engineering technology to the Indian farmers and to resolve food insecurity problem.

Keywords: Agriculture, Genetic Engineering, Technology, Farmers, Resistant

INTRODUCTION

For sustainable agricultural production, the application of genetic engineering technology in the cultivation of crops as a modern technology benefits the present and future generations. The World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) defined the term 'Sustainable Development' as, "*the ability of humanity to ensure that development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs*". Sustainable development seeks to ensure that economic, social, and cultural rights will be realized in the future,

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which means that the conditions for their realisation also need to be fulfilled. Like sustainable development principle genetic engineering technology as an innovative technology guarantee sustainable agricultural production benefitting both farmers and consumers.

Problems Relating to Sustainable Agricultural Productivity in India

For Indian people, agriculture is the sole and most important means of livelihood, accounting for 58 per cent of direct or indirect employment. In developing countries, the fact is that rural incomes can grow to profitable levels only when the percentage of the population dependent upon agriculture is no more than 5 per cent. Such a change requires the consolidation of individual farm holdings to 15-20 hectares and the transformation and mechanization of farm operations. There is hardly any scope and hope for such a development in the current political climate in India. The per capita availability of agricultural land is expected to go down from the present 0.29 hectares to 0.23 hectares by 2025 and 0.19 hectares by 2050, due to the increase in population. This situation seriously affects agricultural production and food security in India and could be partly compensated by (1) reclaiming 12 million hectares of degraded land, (2) bringing under cultivation most of the 13 million hectares of cultivatable wasteland, and 29 million hectares left as uncultivated, both by enhancing the strength of soil and irrigation and by setting out modern technologies. Efforts should also be made to use 17 million hectares of presently uncultivable barren land, through technological innovation.

At the international level, the developed countries have made sufficient improvements towards sustainable agricultural yield because of low population growth, substantial areas of land, sustainable agricultural practices like less or no-ploughing are widely practised, and appropriate crop rotation is in place. But in India the situation relating to sustainable agricultural production is completely different. Several challenges for sustainable agriculture production are faced by Indian farmers because of the extensive use of chemicals and erroneous use of water resources. The maximum waste of water occurs in the areas in which crops are grown under irrigated situations. In Northern part of India, wheat and rice are produced continuously in the greatest agriculturally productive regions. Whereas, in the Southern part the water is much scarcer and in the traditional rice-growing areas of Eastern part constant rice cultivation is practised whenever irrigation benefit is available. Above all the stated problems the groundwater levels in several parts of India are diminishing and the subsoil water quality is deteriorating in several places.

The cultivation of wheat and rice are the source of the large monetary expectation of Indian farmers. There are less governmental policies on grain acquirement and less monetary support for power, irrigation, and fertilizers. Due to the deficiency of proper crop rotation in wheat/rice growing fields, the manifestation of pathogens and pests have increased. Also, farmers are excessively using agrochemicals like pesticides and fungicides. Extensive use of agrochemicals for longer time poses a substantial risk to the wellbeing of farmers, consumers, flora, and fauna. Sustainable agriculture productivity involves suitable crop rotation technique. Improving the production of crops such as pulses, coarse grains, and oils seeds are vital for nutritional security and the same will lead to addressing the problem of extreme use of water and high input costs.

Problems Relating to Irrigation in India

Agriculture in India is still affected by the vagaries of nature, i.e., monsoon failures leading to crop losses and to leaving more land in the drier areas uncultivated. The net irrigated area increased from 31.1 per cent in 1970-71 to 64.8 million hectares in 2017-18. which is insufficient, even for the current needs. The main reason for the depletion of groundwater is the excessive utilization of bore wells and more particularly in central and northern India. It is estimated that 17 per cent of the Indian population and 22 per cent of the geographic area will be facing water scarcity by 2050. Supplementing the irrigation perspective is the key to sustainable agriculture production. Cultivation of pulses, oilseeds, and millets produced in the drier regions of the country, would significantly increase with extended irrigation facilities.





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Problems Relating to Food Grains Productivity in India

Production of food grain in India rose from 52 million tonnes in 1951-2 to 284.83 million tonnes in 2017-18. Though the volume of food production has shown upward trends, the yields have been low to cop-up the food need of the present Indian population. There is a need for India to realize its full potential for agricultural production, which can be made good only by technological innovation. Improving agricultural practices, research, irrigation, and infrastructure development to scale up productivity is a serious challenge for India.

Genetic Engineering Technique and Sustainable Agriculture Productivity

Genetic engineering techniques have the potential to help to ease problems relating to agriculture through genetically modified crops that can preserve habitations by enhancing agricultural productivity on existing farmlands, land renovation approaches, and so on. Genetic engineering technology reduces input costs in agrochemicals and protects the environment from the accumulation of chemicals which are used for controlling pathogens and pests.

Specific Traits in the Genetically Modified Crops

The genetically modified crops available on the international market today have been designed using one of four basic traits, such as; resistance to insects/pests, resistance to disease/viral infections, tolerance towards certain herbicides, etc.

Insect/Pests Resistance Crops

In the major parts of the world and mainly in the developing countries the insects or pests are main causes of destruction of crops. More use of pesticides and fertilizers leads to water and soil contamination and the same will result in loss of soil fertility and damage the environment. It will even impact consumers that they scare to eat food produced from the use of pesticides because of the potential health risk. Genetically modified crops are the substitute for chemical pesticides, which are pests resistant, such as Bt corn, Bt cotton, Bt soybean, Bt Brinjal, Bt Mustard, and so on. They help to protect the plants from getting damaged by insects and pests. By growing genetically modified crops various adverse effects using a chemical pesticide can be controlled such as reduced damage to soil, the high cost of bringing a crop to market, etc.

Resistance to Disease/Virus Infection

Disease/virus infection of crops is one of the significant causes that result in a massive loss to farmers and impact the availability of food and threatens food security. Diseases in crops are because by viruses, fungi, and bacteria. Resistance to pathogenic viruses is accomplished by incorporating genes for viral coat proteins and several other options, which effectively inhibit the multiplication of the virus. Genetically modified crops with resistance power to diseases, for instance, a viral protein Tobacco Mosaic Virus (TMV) has been introduced to develop GM tobacco, and this GM tobacco is resistant to TMV.

Herbicide Tolerant Crops

To remove and destroy weeds, farmers use large quantities of herbicides (weed killers). With care and due diligence, weeds must be removed by using herbicides, and it is a time-consuming and expensive process. For weed control, the crop is made herbicide resistant/tolerant by engineering relevant genes 'into' it and spraying the field with herbicide. The weeds are killed while the crop is left unharmed because of its genetic resistance. Herbicide tolerance helps the use of herbicides over genetically modified crops, e.g., soybean, cotton, maize, sugar beet, and canola, allowing the crop to remain unharmed while weeds are controlled. The farmers involved in producing genetically modified crops require only one application of weed killer instead of numerous applications, and the same will benefit them in reducing the production cost and restrict the danger of agricultural waste run-off. The glyphosate-tolerant crop is the leading commercial herbicide-tolerant trait. Other herbicide-resistant crops have been developed called herbicides resistant tobacco, tomato, potato, and cotton. Several herbicide-tolerant crops are undergoing regulatory review. The labour-saving technology in the herbicide-tolerant crops benefits farmers with more income than usual. Developed countries apply this technology for abridging weed control procedures and thus reducing a





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labour-intensive weeding practice. As Bt cotton is the only commercialised genetically modified crop in India, there is a significant gain regarding improved production and decreased use of pesticides.

Cold Resistant Crops

Genetically modified tobacco and potato are also cold-resistant crops; unexpected coldness can obliterate subtle seedlings. Genetically modified tobacco and potatoes are inserted with antifreeze gene from cold water fish so that these crops could tolerate cold temperature that usually kills unmodified seedlings.

Drought Tolerant/Salinity Tolerant Crops

Farmers usually find the difficulty in growing the crops in the previously unsuitable lands for cultivation. Thus, to overcome this situation the drought/salinity tolerant genetically modified crops withstand for longer period and this feature in the crops help farmers to grow crops in the previously unsuitable land for agriculture.

Genetically Modified Crops and Environmental Management

Genetically modified crops help in environmental management as soil and groundwater pollution are continuous issues in most parts of the world. To manage environment few plants for example poplar trees have been genetically modified to crackdown substantial metal pollution from contaminated soil.

Delayed Ripening Crops

Fruit crops are genetically modified with delayed ripening benefits in them. For instance, genetically modified tomatoes with delayed fruit ripening preserve the fruit for more days, these tomatoes are high in sugar and without any fear of spoilage can be transported to far-away markets. These genetically modified tomatoes are helpful in food security. Through delayed ripening genetically modified crops also helps in post-harvest losses to farmers and the same will enhance productivity improving farmers' income and providing food security. For the improved income level of people and more awareness on health and nutrition in the coming years there is a need for substantial increase of vegetable and fruit crops. For combating the issues of post-harvest losses and food insecurity, the contribution of genetically modified crops will be much appreciated.

CONCLUSION

As discussed above, genetic engineering techniques in agricultural production offer many advantages with so many potential benefits to Indian farmers and increase agricultural yield and combat the threat to food security. But, a moratorium on the commercialisation of genetically modified food crops in India is restricting them from making use of the potential benefits of genetic engineering technology. Thus, the proper use of genetic engineering technology will be a great help to comprehend sustainable agricultural productivity and food security in India.

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A Comparative Study of Air Pollution Tolerance Index in Plants

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ABSTRACT

Air Pollution is increasing in an alarming rate due to rapid industrialization, expansion of rural areas. Air pollution not only affects the quality of air we breathe but also affects the living species. Thus controlling pollutants in the air is important. Green belt development may be an important strategy to control air pollution. The study was conducted to identify plant species which can tolerate air contaminants by evaluating air pollution tolerance index (APTI). *Azadirachta indica*, *Bauhinia purpurea*, *Pongamia pinnata* collected from the air polluted and control region (college campus) was used for the study. APTI was assessed by analyzing the biochemical parameters such as pH, ascorbic acid, total chlorophyll and relative water content of leaves. Results confirmed that the chlorophyll levels in the plants ranged between 1.69 to 7.82 mg/g in unpolluted leaf samples and 0.50 to 3.48 mg/g in polluted samples. Leaf pH ranging from 5.8-6.19 in unpolluted site and 5.21 to 6.05 in polluted samples, RWC of 82-90% in unpolluted samples and 82-89% in polluted samples and surprisingly the ascorbic acid content in polluted and unpolluted samples were the same (3.25 mg/g in *Azadirachta indica* and *Bauhinia purpurea* and 7.5 mg/g in *Pongamia pinnata*). The total sugar in unpolluted samples was high when compared to the polluted ones. From the APTI calculated it was concluded that *Bauhinia* plant is found to sensitive to air pollution, whereas *Azadirachta* is found to be intermittently tolerant and *Pongamia* plant is found to be highly tolerant. Thus, it can be concluded that planting trees like *Azadirachta indica*, *Bauhinia purpurea*, *Pongamia pinnata* in urban areas can reduce air pollution.

Keywords: APTI, Biochemical analysis, green belt, Total chlorophyll





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INTRODUCTION

Air pollution is becoming a serious and universal problem. It deteriorates natural ecosystems by releasing pollutants such as hazardous gases like Carbon Monoxide, Sulfur Dioxide, Nitrogen Oxide, particulates, heavy metals such as Lead, Arsenic, Cadmium, Chromium and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) into the atmosphere (Kim *et al.*, 2015). Air pollution is caused due to rising urbanization, loss of natural cover, by burning fossil fuels, volcanic eruptions, Power plants, industrial emissions and increase in vehicle usage. Air contaminants not only have an impact on ambient air quality, but also on the public health. People exposed to more air pollutants suffer from clinical manifestations like cough and respiratory tract infections like asthma, chronic respiratory illness (Harrison *et al.*, 1997., Katsouyann 2001). Since there is no technological advancements or devices to control air pollution, we are dependent on the nature to control air pollution. Pollutants in the air can be cleaned by plants. Plants trap particulates and absorb gaseous pollutants from the atmosphere thereby minimizing the pollution (Hamrazet *al.*, 2014). The morphology of the leaf that is the wide surface area of the leaves offers space for the deposition of pollutants in the air and they also operate as a sink (Kim *et al.*, 2015). Air contaminants can be eliminated by the plants through processes such as absorption by leaf, deposition of particle on leaf surfaces, and particulate fallout (Rawat and Banerjee 1996). When plants are exposed to pollution stress, there is drastic change in the photosynthetic rate, cellular respiration, enzymatic reactions, Changes in stomatal behavior, early senescence and ultimately death. Reduction in the surface area of leaf and decrease in the leaf number can be a sign to senescence. As a result of reduced leaf area, the ability of plant to absorb sunlight decreases which in turn affects photosynthetic rate (Jahan and Iqbal, 1992). Stomatal closure also occurs as a result of stress, thus reducing CO₂ availability in leaves and inhibiting carbon fixation.

Air quality index (AQI) is "a measure of the state of the air in relation to the needs of one or more biotic species or any human need." The air quality index is categorized into different ranges and each range is labelled with number and colour code. Green colour represents healthy air quality, whereas yellow represents moderate, orange colour indicates unhealthy air for sensitive populations, red colour indicates unhealthy air, purple colour as very unhealthy air and maroon colours for hazardous air pollution, respectively. AQI number gives number ranging from zero to over 300 to characterize the amount of health risk associated with air quality. Depending on the classification methods adopted the ranges and codes may differ in different countries (Johnson *et al.*, 2010). The ability of a plant to withstand air contaminants is determined by its biochemical, physiological and morphological properties. The air pollution tolerance index (APTI) can assess how well plants can withstand pollution. Thus, it can be considered as a suitable technique for categorizing plants as tolerant or sensitive one to air contaminants. Assessing APTI can be considered as a substantiate factor for choosing plant species to act as traffic barrier. According to climatic conditions and geological conditions the sensitivity and tolerance of plants to pollutants varies. (Subramani & Devanandan., 2015)

Sensitive plants act as bio indicators whereas tolerant plants are considered as sinks for pollutants and such plants can be employed for developing green belt zones. (Rai and Panda 2014). The solution to improve air quality is planting tolerant plant species with high APTI. The APTI of several plants will assist in the choosing the appropriate vegetation for the development of green belts around industrial areas. Green belt development is a cost-effective and eco-friendly solution for air pollution. The other benefits of green belt is temperature, noise reduction and so on. The current research was conducted to assess the air pollution tolerance index of plants such as *Azadirachta indica*, *Bauhinia purpurea*, *Pongamia pinnata* already grown in polluted and control site (College campus).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Leaf Sample Collection

Fresh leaves of *Azadirachta indica*, *Bauhinia purpurea*, *Pongamia pinnata* were collected from the polluted sites near Cheyyar and control site College Campus (Unpolluted site) and used for further study.



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Biochemical Analysis

Leaf Extract pH

Leaf samples were homogenized with double distilled water. The homogenate was centrifuged and pH of the supernatant was estimated by using a digital pH meter. Before use the pH meter was calibrated using buffer solution of pH 4 and pH 9. (Elico, India) (Prasad 1992 and Agrawal *et al.*, 1982).

Relative Water Content

The leaves were collected, washed, weighed. The fresh weight of the leaves was noted. The leaves were then soaked in distilled water for 24 hours, dried using blotting paper and re weighed to determine the turgid weight. The leaves were kept at 70°C in hot air oven overnight for drying. Next day the weight of the sample was noted. (Singh's 1977)

$$RWC = \frac{(F_w - D_w)}{(T_w - D_w)} \times 100$$

F_w stands for fresh weight, D_w for dry, and T_w for turgid weight

Ascorbic Acid Content

0.1 ml of extract was pipetted out into tube labelled as T. The volume was made upto 3 ml with 5% TCA. 5% TCA alone serves as blank. To all the tubes 1.0 ml of DTC reagent was added and mixed well. The tubes were incubated at 60° C for 1 hour in a water bath. The tubes were then cooled and 5 ml of 9N sulphuric acid was added. Ascorbic acid was used as standard. The colour developed after 20 minutes was read at 540 nm. From the calibration curve the concentration of ascorbic acid in the extracts was calculated (egyan).

Total Chlorophyll Content

Fresh leaves were collected, homogenized in a mortar and pestle using 80% acetone. The filtrate was centrifuged at 2,500rpm for three minutes. The contents were transferred to a standard flask and made up to the mark with 80% acetone. The absorbance of chlorophyll a, b was measured at 645nm and 663nmspectrophotometrically. The following formula was used to make the calculations: (Arnon 1949)

$$\text{Chlorophyll -a mg/g tissue} = \frac{12.7 (\text{Abs}663) - 2.69 (\text{Abs}645) \times V}{1000} \times W$$

$$\text{Chlorophyll -b mg/g tissue} = \frac{22.9 (\text{Abs} 645) - 4.68 (\text{Abs} 663) \times V}{1000} \times W$$

Total chlorophyll: Chlorophyll a + Chlorophyll b

Air pollution tolerance index is calculated using the formula (Singh and Rao's 1983).

$$APTI = \frac{(A (T+P) + R)}{10}$$

A-Ascorbic acid, T- Total chlorophyll, P=pH of the leaf extract, R=Relative water content of leaf (percent).

Estimation of Total Soluble Sugar

Leaf sample was homogenized in a mortar and pestle using distilled water. The tubes were then hydrolyzed for three hours in a boiling water bath with dilute HCl. The tubes were allowed to cool at room temperature. Anhydrous sodium carbonate was added until effervescence ceases. This is considered as neutralization step. The content was transferred to 100ml standard flask and made up to the mark. The contents were centrifuged at 5000 rpm for 10 minutes. A known amount of an aliquot from the supernatant was used for estimation. The sample was diluted to 1ml with distilled water. To the tubes 4 ml of anthrone reagent was added and kept in water bath for 8 minutes. 1 ml of distilled water and 4 ml anthrone serve as blank. Glucose was used as Standard. The colour developed was read at 630 nm using UV-Visible Spectroscopy. A standard graph was plotted to compute the total soluble sugar concentration in the sample. (Ludwig and Goldberg 1956).





RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Chlorophyll content in the leaves of *Azadirachta indica*, *Bauhinia purpurea* and *Pongamia pinnata* collected from unpolluted and polluted sites is shown in table 1. According to the current study, plant chlorophyll concentration varied between 1.69 to 7.82 mg/g in unpolluted leaf samples and 0.50 to 3.48 mg/g in polluted site. The chlorophyll content is found to decrease with exposure to air pollutants. From the study carried out, *Bauhinia purpurea* showed the highest total chlorophyll content of 7.82 mg/g, *Azadirachta indica* 4.0 mg/g, at the same time *Pongamia pinnata* exhibited low chlorophyll content of 1.69 mg/g in leaves collected from unpolluted sample. The total chlorophyll content in polluted sample was highest in *Azadirachta indica* (2.485 mg/g) then in *Bauhinia purpurea* (1.615 mg/g), *Pongamia pinnata* (0.755 mg/g) respectively. The total chlorophyll content decreased in polluted samples than in unpolluted samples. In *Bauhinia* collected from polluted site it was noted that the chlorophyll pigment is reduced to one third when compared to unpolluted sample. The photosynthetic rate of plants is determined by estimating the level of total chlorophyll (Sharma et al., 2019). The level of the Chlorophyll in the plant regulates the growth, photosynthetic capacity and its biomass production. Since alterations in pigment levels are related to air pollution, Chlorophyll levels are often assessed to evaluate the influence of pollution on plants. Degradation of photosynthesis is considered one of the signs of air pollution (Ninaveet et al., 2000).

Table 2 shows the pH of leaf samples collected from unpolluted and polluted area. The pH of leaf extracts collected from unpolluted site ranged from 5.81-6.19 and in polluted samples the pH was found to be between 5.21 to 6.05. The highest pH was observed in *Azadirachta indica* (6.19) followed by *Bauhinia purpurea* (5.9), *Pongamia Pinnata* (5.81) in unpolluted leaf samples. There was a slight decrease in the pH values of plants exposed to air pollutants. The pH of *Azadirachta indica* in contaminated sample was observed as 6.05 followed by *Bauhinia sp* (5.61) and *Pongamia Sp* (5.21). Presence of acidic pollutants like Sulphur dioxide and nitrous oxide in the air cause lowering of leaf extract pH. The photosynthetic efficiency of plants mainly depends on the pH value. Low pH values reduce the photosynthetic efficiency of plants (Yan and Hui., 2008). Elevated pH in plant leaves has a role in the conversion of six carbon sugar to ascorbic acid (Ecsobedo et al., 2008).

The Relative Water Content of the *Azadirachta indica*, *Bauhinia purpurea* and *Pongamia pinnata* collected from unpolluted and polluted sites is shown in Figure 1. Unpolluted leaves of *Azadirachta indica* showed the greatest RWC (92%) followed by *Bauhinia* by 82% and *Pongamia* by 80%. In the current study it was surprising to note that there was around 10% decrease in RWC of *Azadirachta indica* and around 10% increase in RWC of *Pongamia pinnata* leaves collected from polluted site. In *Bauhinia* species there was around 4% (78.5) decrease in RWC. Physiological balance in the leaves during stress is maintained by high Relative water contents (Jabeen 2019). Higher RWC is an indication of higher resistance to stress in plants. (Aghaie 2019). The reduced RWC value in leaves may be because of disturbed physiological stress undergone by the plant to tolerate the pollution load. Plants growing in polluted environment show greater reduction in relative water content. Due to air pollution, it is observed that the rate of transpiration is decreased. Thus, leaves are damaged losing their ability to withdraw water up from the roots, consequently plants cannot bring minerals.

Ascorbic acid content in *Azadirachta indica*, *Bauhinia purpurea* and *Pongamia pinnata* collected from unpolluted and polluted sites is shown in figure 2. From this study it was observed that there was no change in the ascorbic levels of polluted and unpolluted leaves. Ascorbic acid level was 3.25 mg/g in *Azadirachta indica* and *Bauhinia purpurea* and the level was doubled in *Pongamia pinnata* (7.5 mg/ml) in both polluted and unpolluted sample. Ascorbic acid functions as a cofactor in cell wall biosynthesis, regulates division of cells, carbon fixation in photosynthesis and serves as a potent antioxidant safeguarding the plant species during stress conditions by scavenging reactive oxygen species (ROS) generated by photooxidation of Sulphur dioxide to Sulphur trioxide (Jyothi and Jaya 2010) thus enhancing the tolerance ability of the plants against air pollution.



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Soluble sugar content of leaves of *Azadirachta indica*, *Bauhinia purpurea* and *Pongamia pinnata* collected from unpolluted and polluted sites is depicted in figure 3. The quantity of sugar was high in all the unpolluted samples when compared to the polluted ones. The amount of Sugar is more in *Azadirachta* (38 mg/ g) and least in *Pongamia* (25 mg/g) in Unpolluted leaves and in polluted leaves of *Azadirachta sp* (30 mg/ g) and least in *Pongamiasp* (19 mg/g).

Sugar is not only the main photosynthetic product in higher plant, but they are also the main form of carbohydrate metabolism. The sugar levels are an indication of plants under pollution stress. The decline in total sugar content in polluted leaves may be due to reduced photosynthesis due to decreased chlorophyll, pH and CO₂ fixation. From the observations of air pollution tolerance index (APTI) in plant species it was inferred that there are variations in tolerance level between the vegetations gathered from polluted and unpolluted regions.

The APTI of plant species was represented in figure 4. The APTI values were in the order *Pongamia* (13.6) > *Bauhinia* (12.65) > *Azadirachta* (12.53) in unpolluted leaves and in polluted leaves APTI values were *Pongamia* (13.2) > *Azadirachta* (11.3) > *Bauhinia* (10.38) respectively. APTI value less than 11 are accounted as sensitive plants, APTI values ranging between 12 to 16 are categorized as intermediate, and APTI value of more than 17 are concluded as tolerant species (Bharti et al., 2018). *Bauhinia* plant is found to sensitive to air pollution, whereas *Azadirachta* is found to be intermittently tolerant and *Pongamia* plant is found to be highly tolerant. Sensitive plants may be utilized as biological indicators to check quality of air whereas the tolerant plants can be used to develop green belt zones (Molnaret al., 2020).

CONCLUSION

The findings of the current study suggests that the *Pongamia* plant can tolerate air pollution. Leaves collected from polluted site plant species showed reduced levels of chlorophyll a, chlorophyll b, total chlorophyll, pH, RWC, total soluble sugar content and similar concentration of ascorbic acid when compared to unpolluted plants. The results clearly indicate that the plants in polluted area were under air pollution stress. Thus, vegetation serves as a main green belt enhancement element, natural filter to minimize air pollution. Thus, attention is needed to promote and develop green belt zones in polluted areas. From this study it can be concluded that planting plants like *Azadirachta indica*, *Bauhinia purpurea*, *Pongamia pinnata* in urban areas can reduce air pollution. This study also concludes that the APTI evaluation for the identification of air pollution tolerant plants is a suitable method.

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Conflict of Interest

None

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Table 1: Chlorophyll content in leaves of *Azadirachta indica*, *Bauhinia purpurea* and *Pongamia pinnata* collected from unpolluted and polluted sites.

S. No	Plant name	Unpolluted Sample Chlorophyll a	Un Polluted Sample Chlorophyll b	Total Chlorophyll (mg/g)	Polluted Sample Chlorophyll a	Polluted Sample Chlorophyll b	Total Chlorophyll (mg/g)





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1	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	3.134	1.047	4.087	2.485	1.0	3.485
2	<i>Bauhinia purpurea</i>	3.02	4.8	7.82	1.615	0.57	2.185
3	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i>	1.13	0.56	1.69	0.755	0.76	0.515

Table 2: pH of the leaf extracts of *Azadirachta indica*, *Bauhinia purpurea* and *Pongamia pinnata* collected from unpolluted and polluted sites.

S.No	Plant name	UnPolluted	Polluted
1	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	6.19	6.05
2	<i>Bauhinia purpurea</i>	5.9	5.61
3	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i>	5.81	5.21

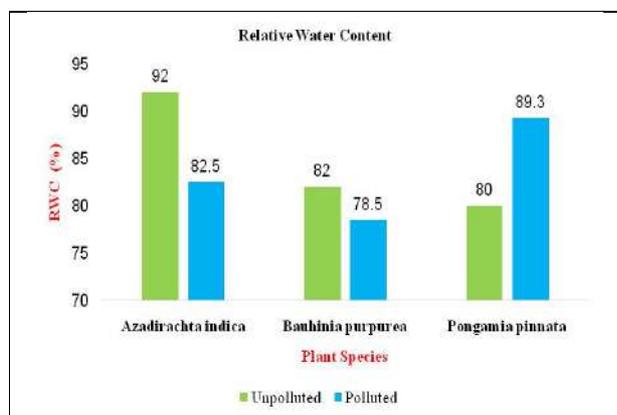


Figure1 : RWC (%) of leaf samples

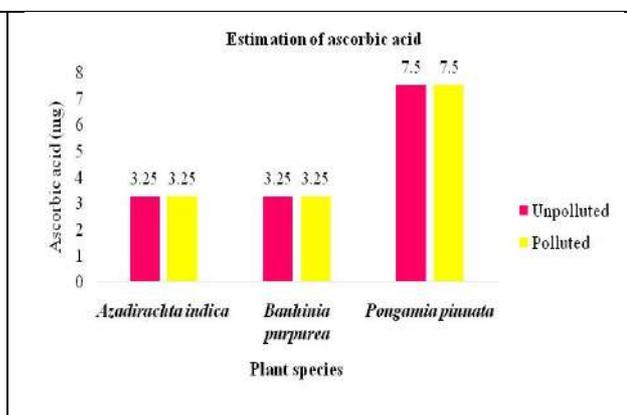


Figure 2: Ascorbic acid content in *Azadirachta indica*, *Bauhinia purpurea* and *Pongamia pinnata* collected from unpolluted and polluted sites.

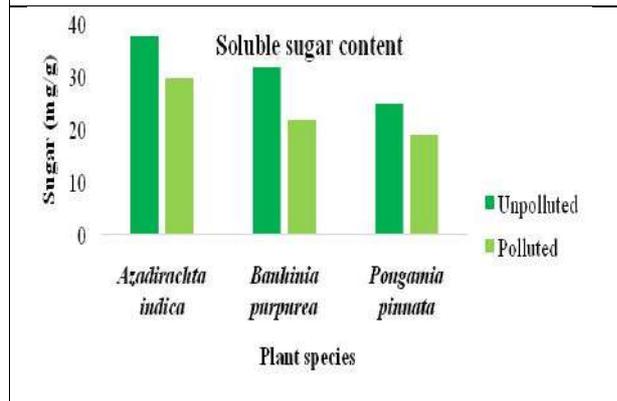


Figure 3: Soluble sugar content in plant leaves collected from Polluted and unpolluted site

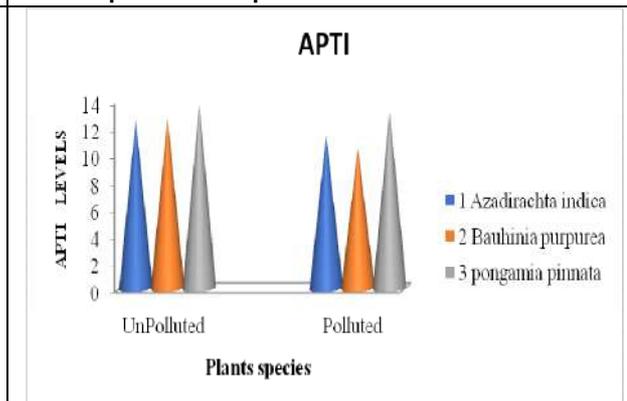


Figure 4: APTI Index of plant species





Impact of Digital Marketing on Buying Behaviour of Medical Professionals through SEM: the Mediating Role of Income and Qualification”

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ABSTRACT

To analyzes the impact of digital marketing on buying behaviour of medical professionals through structural equation modelling. The research conducted is descriptive in nature. The data were collected from 530 medical professionals in the selected districts of Haryana by using judgment method and analyzed with the help of SPSS and Amos (21). For analyzing the impact of digital marketing five factors are considered i.e. buying behaviour, user friendly buying behaviour, previous buying behaviour, success factors and hindrance factors, these predictors have been summarized for structural equation modelling. The overall results depict that income and qualification have a significant impact on the buying behaviour practices of medical professionals. Adding value to the digital platforms of industries, improve the target reach and understand the key strategies that can be adopted with the help of these key factors majorly impacting the buying behaviour.

Keywords: Medical Professionals, Standardized Regression Weights, Unstandardized regression weights.

INTRODUCTION

Today, business may take advantage of amazing opportunities of digital marketing due to the rapid growth of internet. Business may extend their customer base, draw in new ones, and improve their return on investment by





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utilizing a variety of digital marketing channels in addition to simply sharing their goods and services online (ROI). Digital marketing techniques have taken the place of traditional marketing tactics due to the development of markets and technologies that are extremely competitive with the use of the internet [1]. Additionally, a significant portion of the global market is devoted to digital marketing, which also includes business strategies that employ digital technologies to cut costs and expand operations globally [2]. Due to clients' increased satisfaction with online buying and perceptions of digital marketing as being significantly safer than traditional marketing, digital marketing currently offers a greater potential for business growth in the future [3]. Internet buying has drawn a lot of attention as the future of in-home shopping in the popular press. The increase in consumer purchases made online could be a result of the internet's many alluring benefits. For both organizations and consumers, it offers a number of advantages. From a commercial standpoint, the internet was envisioned as a special conduit for connecting customers and vendors through the use of proprietary technologies. The internet can be a helpful tool for consumers to communicate with one another, do controlled searches for current information, and get help with comparison shopping and decision-making. The purpose of this research is to examine the impact of age and marital status of medical professionals on their buying behaviour practices. The predictors of digital marketing that associated to consumer buying decision process are buying behaviour practices, user friendly buying behaviour, previous buying behaviour, success factors and hindrance factors.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Maheswari et al. [4] explained that the personal characteristics of a person such as motivation, income level, quality, occupation, personality, perception, reference groups, psychological and demographic reasons such as attitude, learning, culture, learning and social forces vary from person to person and affect the buying behavior of customers. These days, a newly developed technique namely data mining is used by industries to explore the online shopping of customers. To know the activities of customers such as the time spent to explore a product and time taken to buy that product, various algorithms are used to analyze the information of customers collected through data mining and classified them using SVM algorithm on the basis of their buying behavior. Authors used the sales and inventory data available online and evaluate the performance of the proposed method using various algorithms. **Tarka et al.** [5] mentioned gender as a moderating factor and examined pleasure seeking shopping experiences as a mediating mechanism on compulsive buying. The information were gathered from 363 people and demonstrated that extraversion, neuroticism and openness had a more indirect and beneficial influence on compulsive buying and strongly influenced by sensitivity in women than men, whereas amenity and faithfulness reduced the significance of pleasure seeking shopping experiences. Unni [6] outlined the impact of social media and digital marketing on customer behaviour and looked at both the positive and negative effects. Social media and digital technology have opened up new avenues for product marketing as a result of the current, rapidly expanding acceptance of digitalization. Due to the advancement of technology, consumers now have a new digital culture. The influence of the digital environment, mobile devices, and social media platforms has increased substantially. Online word-of-mouth has undergone a significant revolution that makes it easier for consumers to use the internet and the information supplied to assist them in making decisions about the product from any location in the globe. The ease of expressing oneself and spreading information among consumers is a result of communication technology. Despite the enormous role that modern marketing has played, the decision-making process has not changed significantly, nor have consumers' buying cycles or their attitudes toward the decision-making process. Digital and social media therefore have a measurable influence on consumer behaviour. Nawaz et al. [7] mentioned that business uses email marketing and social media as common marketing strategies as both these strategies are highly effective in fostering customer engagement. Digital marketing technologies generally make it easier and less expensive for organisations to build client relationships and market their products, which boost sales volume. Information from 363 participants was collected through online questionnaire and each variable's correlation and effects were evaluated using the PLS-SEM approach and the Smart PLS programme. The basic goal of this research was to find the relation between email marketing, social media, client involvement and buying decision. Kaur [8] was of view that due to decline in economy in the last few years, there is a great impact on firms, companies and business. Also, the Covid-19



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pandemic makes the situation worst. The economy is progressively deteriorating in Covid-19 as a result of the lockdown, social isolation, and limited opening of business websites. These effects were shown in whole world as whole world was suffering with this pandemic situation. So, the survival of business all over the world is a question of much importance. He identified that how many businesses survive and flourish during pandemic situation with the help of digital marketing techniques. During lockdown, the usage of internet increased manifolds as people used to spend more time in watching e-business sites. Due to which, the firms that used effective techniques of digital marketing, grow even in the pandemic situation. Dhiman [9] described how demographic parameters like income and age interact with digital marketing elements and electronic word of mouth to affect male consumers buying behaviour. The type of research that was done is descriptive. A systematic questionnaire is used to collect the data, and the data is then analysed using the right statistical methods. Data was gathered from 200 targeted respondents in the cosmetic sector, particularly Indian men, and the sample respondents were chosen using simple random sampling.

Digital marketing is being used by Indian cosmetic industry, influencing the preferences and purchasing patterns of male consumers. Additionally, it is abundantly obvious from secondary data compiled from numerous journals, research papers, and articles that demographic and digital marketing elements have had a significant impact on how men shop for cosmetics. Digital marketing influences male consumers' purchasing decisions for cosmetics and is associated with their demographic characteristics. Napawut *et al.* [10] analysed the relationship between digital marketing efforts and consumers desire to purchase using electronic word of mouth (E-WOM). Content marketing and online advertising are examples of digital marketing activity (E-Promotion). For the quantitative investigation using convenience sampling, online surveys from 425 consumers in Thailand were used. The SPSS Version 27 and PLS-SEM programmes were used to analyse the data that had been gathered. It has been found that E-WOM has a big impact on consumers' purchase intentions. Content marketing and E-Promotion are important variables for digital marketers to take into account because they have a big impact on E-WOM and indirectly affect customers' intent to purchase. According to Astoriano *et al.* [11], a sizable proportion of firms and corporations now a days, use digital marketing as one of their top marketing techniques. Due to its geographic reach, this method gives them the resources they need to market their goods to a far wider audience. Additionally, because the information is tailored to the needs of the customer, it might help to improve ties with them.

In the current study, the researchers sought to understand how digital marketing impacts Filipino consumers' purchasing intentions and customer involvement. They developed five hypotheses to support their findings. Online surveys were sent to 334 respondents in total, and SPSS was used to analyse the results. At the conclusion of the study, it was discovered that digital marketing tactics, particularly social media marketing and email marketing, efficiently stimulate Filipino customers' desire to make purchases. This is made easier by the increased client interaction brought on by the Facebook and email marketing. Kumar *et al.* [12] assessed the effect of digital marketing on customers' purchase habits. The rapid advancement of technology and the globalisation of the financial system have caused changes in marketing tactics and customer behaviour. Customers are given the chance to study the details of the product that the business is offering, and they can be ready to conduct suitable comparison shopping. When purchasing goods and services online, customers should receive their items on time and at the calibre that has been promised by the sellers. Another crucial element in the development of an online business is client trust. The interconnection of consumers is progressively expanding as a result of new technologies and an increase in the number of people who are committed to utilising the internet. Consumer behaviour has changed as a result, and firms need to learn to comprehend this transformation. On the basis of review, income and qualification factors are selected for analysing the impact of digital marketing on buying behaviour of medical professionals. On the basis of review, income and qualification factors are selected for analysing the impact of digital marketing on buying behaviour of medical professionals



**Research Objective**

To analyzes the impact of income and qualification of medical professionals on the buying behaviour of medical professionals.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

To achieve the above objective two factors viz. Income and qualification of medical professionals are examined with five predictors affecting digital marketing. Each predictor has twelve statements as (Pathak and Hakhu, 2022; Pathak and Singh, 2022):

Research Hypotheses

H₀₁: There is no significant relationship between the qualification of medical professionals with the predictors of digital marketing.

H₀₂: There is no significant relationship between the income of medical professionals with the predictors of digital marketing.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The current study is based on a survey analysis conducted in Haryana, one of India's prosperous states. Data was collected from 530 medical professionals using a self-structured questionnaire which was formulated on a 5-point Likert scale. In this survey 63.96% male and 36.03% female medical professionals participated. 82.83% respondents are married and 17.17% are unmarried. 41.7% respondents belong to age group of 31-45 and out of total 40.75% respondents having qualification of post graduate diploma. Approximate 80% respondents having monthly income more than Rs 1,50,000/- as mentioned in Table 1.5

RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

In this study structural equation modelling is used with maximum likelihood method of estimation. After getting acceptable reliability two hypotheses are tested with income and qualification of medical professionals. The study also intends to portray the standardized and unstandardized regression weights to defend the impact of the selected statements of each predictor with qualification graphically. Thus, the data collected related to digital marketing and its impact on buying behaviour practices of medical professionals is analyzed with structural equation modelling. The result will help in examining the impact of the qualification of medical professionals on their buying behaviour as well as in testing the hypotheses formulated.

Table 2 explains the standardized and unstandardized regression weights (Factor loadings) were also evaluated to determine the indicator's dependability or the impact of qualification of respondents on their buying behaviour. All of the loadings were higher than the recommended value of 0.5. In case of buying behaviour as predictor, a standardized coefficients shows strong relationship with qualification in order of importance as enhance efficiency (0.887); followed by encourages routine buying responses (0.885); persuades spontaneous buying (0.874) To validate the results of analysis, structural equation modelling has been applied, which shows that there is a strong relationship between qualification and factors affecting buying behaviour practices of medical professionals, hence the null hypothesis (H₀₁) is rejected.

Similarly, for user friendly buying behaviour as predictor, a standardized coefficient shows strong relationship with qualification in order of importance as attractive towards the prominence of products (0.868); focused towards site search (0.858); visual appeal is striking (0.853). It has been analysed that there is a strong relationship between qualification and factors affecting user friendly buying behaviour of medical professionals, hence the null hypothesis



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(H_{01}) is rejected. On the other hand, for previous buying behaviour as predictor, a standardized coefficient shows strong relationship with qualification in order of importance as increase in the expectation (0.860); referral is communicated (0.857); familiarity with existing brands (0.854). Again, it has been found that there is a strong relationship between qualification and factors affecting previous buying behaviour of medical professionals, hence the null hypothesis (H_{01}) is rejected.

Further for success factor as predictor, a standardized coefficient shows strong relationship with qualification in order of importance as easy to measure (0.866); large quantity of offers are available (0.860); have continuous feedback/reviews (0.860). Strong relationship has been found between qualification and success factors affecting buying behaviour of medical professionals, hence the null hypothesis (H_{01}) is rejected. Furthermore, hindrance factor as predictor, a standardized coefficient shows strong relationship with qualification in order of importance as issues of internet connectivity (0.860); privacy is an issue (0.854); occurrence of antibrand activities (0.840). To validate the result of analysis, structural equation modelling has been applied, which shows that there is a strong relationship between qualification and hindrance factors affecting buying behaviour of medical professionals, hence the null hypothesis (H_{01}) is rejected.

Figure 1 & Figure 2 explains that there is no significant relationship between qualification of medical professionals and the statements related to predictors. The study also intends to portray the unstandardized regression weights to defend the relationship of the selected statements of each predictor with qualification graphically. Thus, the data collected related to digital marketing and its impact on buying behaviour practices of medical professionals is analyzed in SPSS Amos Program. The results examined the relationship of the qualification of medical professionals with their buying behaviour as well as in testing the hypotheses formulated.

Table 3 explains the model fit summary of this structural equation modelling. In this, the results obtained using AMOS are according to their admissible values such as CMIN is 3.99; root mean square error of approximation is 0.075 and hence he proposed model is validated. The study also intends to portray the standardized and unstandardized regression weights to defend the relationship of the selected statements of each predictor with income graphically. Thus, the data collected related to digital marketing and its impact on buying behaviour practices of medical professionals is analyzed with structural equation modelling. The results obtained help in examining the relationship of the income of medical professionals with their buying behaviour as well as in testing the hypotheses formulated.

Table 4 exhibits analysis of buying behaviour practices of medical professionals in Haryana on the basis of their income. In case of buying behaviour as predictor, a standardized coefficients shows strong relationship with income in order of importance as enhance efficiency (0.886); followed by encourages routine buying responses (0.885); persuades spontaneous buying (0.875). To validate the results of analysis, structural equation modelling has been applied, which shows that there is a strong relationship between income and factors affecting buying behaviour practices of medical professionals, hence the null hypothesis (H_{02}) is rejected. Similarly, for user friendly buying behaviour as predictor, a standardized coefficient shows strong relationship with income in order of importance as increase in the expectation (0.860); referral is communicated (0.858); familiarity with existing brands (0.854). It has been analysed that there is a strong relationship between income and factors affecting user friendly buying behaviour of medical professionals, hence the null hypothesis (H_{02}) is rejected.

On the other hand, for previous buying behaviour as predictor, a standardized coefficient shows strong relationship with income in order of importance as attractive towards the prominence of products (0.867); focused towards site search (0.857); visual appeal is striking (0.853). A strong relationship is found between income and factors affecting previous buying behaviour of medical professionals, hence the null hypothesis (H_{02}) is rejected. Further for success factor as predictor, a standardized coefficient shows strong relationship with income in order of importance as easy to measure (0.866); have continuous feedback/reviews (0.861); large quantity of offers are available (0.860). It has been found from the results that there is a strong relationship between income and success factors affecting buying



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behaviour of medical professionals, hence the null hypothesis (H_{02}) is rejected. Furthermore, hindrance factor as predictor, a standardized coefficient shows strong relationship with income in order of importance as Issues of internet connectivity (0.860); Privacy is an issue (0.854); Occurrence of antibrand activities (0.839). To validate the result of analysis, structural equation modelling has been applied, which shows that there is a strong relationship between income and hindrance factors affecting buying behaviour of medical professionals, hence the null hypothesis (H_{02}) is rejected. Table 5 shows that the values of different parameters obtained using structural equation modelling is found to be consistent with the already published work by various researchers and hence, the proposed model is found to be appropriate.

CONCLUSION

In this research paper, the predictors are evaluated with the help of structural equation modelling and the impact of qualification and income on buying behaviour of medical professionals are analyzed. On the basis of analysis, it has been found that there is strong relationship of buying behaviour with qualification and income to enhance efficiency, as the highest standardized regression weights are 0.886. The impact of qualification on user friendly buying behaviour is that they are attractive towards the prominence of products which shows highest standardized regression weights 0.868 whereas for income highest standardized regression weights is found to be 0.860. The impact of qualification for previous buying behaviour is on increase in the expectation (0.860) whereas for income the impact is because of attraction towards the prominence of products (0.867). The impact of qualification and income on success factor is due to easiness of measure (0.866 & 0.865 respectively) whereas the impact of hindrance factor is due to issues of internet connectivity (0.859). The values of CMIN and RMSEA is found to be 3.970 and 0.075 respectively which indicate the good fitness index values for the proposed model and hence, the model is validated and found to be appropriate.

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Table 1: Demographic Profile

Frequency Distribution		
Gender	Frequency	Percent
Male	339	63.96
Female	191	36.04
Total	530	100.00
Status	Frequency	Percent
Married	439	82.83
Unmarried	91	17.17
Total	530	100.00
Age	Frequency	Percent
Below-30	60	11.32
31-45	221	41.70
46-50	201	37.92
Above-50	48	9.06
Total	530	100.00
Qualification	Frequency	Percent
Graduate	8	1.51
Post Graduate	186	35.09
Post Graduate Diploma	216	40.75
Others	120	22.64
Total	530	100.00
Income	Frequency	Percent
Below-50000	48	9.06
50000-100000	24	4.53
100000-150000	39	7.36
Above-150000	419	79.06
Total	530	100.00

Compiled from survey





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Table 2: Standardized and Unstandardized Regression Weights

Factor	Variables	Path	Factors	Unstandardized Regression Weight	S.E.	Standardized Regression Weight	C.R.	P
Qualification	BBP1	<---	BBP	1		0.864		
	BBP2	<---		0.961	0.033	0.885	29.05	***
	BBP3	<---		1.012	0.035	0.887	29.073	***
	BBP4	<---		0.96	0.034	0.874	28.234	***
	BBP5	<---		0.901	0.037	0.814	24.654	***
	BBP6	<---		0.899	0.034	0.852	26.816	***
	BBP7	<---		0.879	0.036	0.805	24.105	***
	BBP8	<---		0.827	0.034	0.812	24.471	***
	BBP9	<---		0.893	0.035	0.830	25.485	***
	BBP10	<---		0.787	0.035	0.768	22.337	***
	BBP11	<---		0.892	0.035	0.829	25.492	***
	BBP12	<---		0.881	0.034	0.841	26.033	***
	UFBB1	<---	UFBB	1		0.841		
	UFBB2	<---		1.03	0.041	0.847	25.371	***
	UFBB3	<---		0.976	0.038	0.858	25.907	***
	UFBB4	<---		1.02	0.04	0.853	25.570	***
	UFBB5	<---		1.045	0.04	0.868	26.401	***
	UFBB6	<---		1.01	0.104	0.406	29.708	***
	UFBB7	<---		1	0.041	0.829	24.330	***
	UFBB8	<---		1.029	0.041	0.849	25.317	***
	UFBB9	<---		0.991	0.04	0.835	24.614	***
	UFBB10	<---		1.01	0.042	0.826	24.155	***
	UFBB11	<---		0.995	0.042	0.818	23.773	***
	UFBB12	<---		1.1	0.044	0.843	24.989	***
	PBBP1	<---	PBBP	1		0.811		
	PBBP2	<---		1.005	0.042	0.849	23.873	***
	PBBP3	<---		0.977	0.041	0.854	24.058	***
	PBBP4	<---		0.984	0.04	0.860	24.310	***
	PBBP5	<---		0.987	0.041	0.852	23.913	***
	PBBP6	<---		0.993	0.044	0.819	22.505	***
	PBBP7	<---		1.027	0.043	0.853	23.976	***
	PBBP8	<---		1	0.043	0.837	23.289	***
	PBBP9	<---		1.006	0.043	0.847	23.645	***
	PBBP10	<---		1.035	0.045	0.834	23.129	***
	PBBP11	<---		1.02	0.042	0.857	24.147	***
	PBBP12	<---		0.934	0.041	0.824	22.709	***
SF12	<---	SF	0.921	0.044	0.767	21.027	***	
SF11	<---		0.929	0.042	0.795	22.179	***	
SF10	<---		0.953	0.042	0.802	22.479	***	
SF9	<---		1.022	0.043	0.833	23.834	***	
SF8	<---		1.004	0.045	0.801	22.398	***	
SF7	<---		1.007	0.04	0.866	25.442	***	
SF6	<---		1.001	0.04	0.856	24.939	***	
SF5	<---		0.879	0.039	0.804	22.571	***	





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	SF4	<---		0.932	0.039	0.835	23.986	***
	SF3	<---		1.04	0.041	0.860	25.331	***
	SF2	<---		1.041	0.041	0.860	25.322	***
	SF1	<---		1		0.828		
	HF12	<---	HF	0.809	0.041	0.719	19.625	***
	HF11	<---		0.869	0.037	0.811	23.724	***
	HF10	<---		0.914	0.038	0.820	24.147	***
	HF9	<---		0.855	0.036	0.809	23.565	***
	HF8	<---		0.941	0.037	0.840	25.117	***
	HF7	<---		1.07	0.041	0.860	26.342	***
	HF6	<---		0.96	0.04	0.814	23.751	***
	HF5	<---		0.973	0.041	0.810	23.637	***
	HF4	<---		0.808	0.042	0.711	19.291	***
	HF3	<---		0.685	0.048	0.562	14.153	***
	HF2	<---		0.442	0.054	0.349	18.195	***
	HF1	<---		1		0.854		

Source: Data compiled from AMOS

Table 3: Model fit Summary

Fit index	Cited	Results	Admissibility
CMIN	(Kline,2010)	3.988	1.00-5.00
RMSEA	(Steiger,1990)	0.075	≤ 0.1
CFI	(Byrne,2010)	0.857	≥ 0.90
NFI	(Bentler&G.Bonnet,1980)	0.70	>.80
PNFI	(Bentler&G.Bonnet,1980)	0.78	>.05
PCFI	(James and Brett,1982)	0.72	>.50

Source: Data compiled from AMOS

RMSEA = Root mean square error of approximation, CFI = Comparative-fit-index, NFI = Normed fit index, PNFI = Parsimony normed fit index, PCFI= Parsimonious Comparative Fit Index.

Table 4: Standardized and Unstandardized Regression Weights

Factor	Variables	Path	Factor	Unstandardized Regression Weight	S.E.	Standardized Regression Weight	C.R.	P
Income	BBP1	<---	BBP	1		0.864		
	BBP2	<---	BBP	0.961	0.03	0.885	29.08	***
	BBP3	<---	BBP	1.011	0.04	0.886	29.07	***
	BBP4	<---	BBP	0.96	0.03	0.875	28.25	***
	BBP5	<---	BBP	0.901	0.04	0.814	24.67	***
	BBP6	<---	BBP	0.898	0.03	0.852	26.81	***
	BBP7	<---	BBP	0.879	0.04	0.805	24.12	***
	BBP8	<---	BBP	0.827	0.03	0.812	24.48	***
	BBP9	<---	BBP	0.892	0.04	0.830	25.49	***
	BBP10	<---	BBP	0.786	0.04	0.768	22.34	***
	BBP11	<---	BBP	0.892	0.04	0.829	25.50	***





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BBP12	<---	BBP	0.88	0.03	0.841	26.03	***
PBBP1	<---	PBBP	1		0.811		
PBBP2	<---	PBBP	1.005	0.04	0.849	23.88	***
PBBP3	<---	PBBP	0.977	0.04	0.854	24.07	***
PBBP4	<---	PBBP	0.984	0.04	0.860	24.32	***
PBBP5	<---	PBBP	0.987	0.04	0.852	23.92	***
PBBP6	<---	PBBP	0.993	0.04	0.818	22.50	***
PBBP7	<---	PBBP	1.027	0.04	0.853	23.98	***
PBBP8	<---	PBBP	0.999	0.04	0.837	23.29	***
PBBP9	<---	PBBP	1.006	0.04	0.846	23.65	***
PBBP10	<---	PBBP	1.035	0.05	0.834	23.14	***
PBBP11	<---	PBBP	1.021	0.04	0.858	24.16	***
PBBP12	<---	PBBP	0.934	0.04	0.824	22.72	***
HF1	<---	HF	1		0.854		
HF2	<---	HF	0.444	0.05	0.351	18.23	***
HF3	<---	HF	0.685	0.05	0.562	14.15	***
HF4	<---	HF	0.808	0.04	0.711	19.30	***
HF5	<---	HF	0.972	0.04	0.809	23.63	***
HF6	<---	HF	0.959	0.04	0.813	23.70	***
HF7	<---	HF	1.071	0.04	0.860	26.39	***
HF8	<---	HF	0.94	0.04	0.839	25.09	***
HF9	<---	HF	0.855	0.04	0.809	23.58	***
HF10	<---	HF	0.913	0.04	0.819	24.12	***
HF11	<---	HF	0.871	0.04	0.812	23.78	***
HF12	<---	HF	0.81	0.04	0.720	19.66	***
UFBB1	<---	UFBB	1		0.840		
UFBB2	<---	UFBB	1.03	0.04	0.847	25.32	***
UFBB3	<---	UFBB	0.976	0.04	0.857	25.84	***
UFBB4	<---	UFBB	1.021	0.04	0.853	25.55	***
UFBB5	<---	UFBB	1.045	0.04	0.867	26.34	***
UFBB6	<---	UFBB	1.013	0.10	0.407	29.73	***
UFBB7	<---	UFBB	1.001	0.04	0.830	24.33	***
UFBB8	<---	UFBB	1.03	0.04	0.849	25.31	***
UFBB9	<---	UFBB	0.993	0.04	0.836	24.63	***
UFBB10	<---	UFBB	1.011	0.04	0.826	24.13	***
UFBB11	<---	UFBB	0.995	0.04	0.818	23.74	***
UFBB12	<---	UFBB	1.1	0.04	0.843	24.96	***
SF1	<---	SF	1		0.829		
SF2	<---	SF	1.041	0.04	0.860	25.35	***
SF3	<---	SF	1.04	0.04	0.861	25.39	***





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	SF4	<---	SF	0.931	0.04	0.835	23.99	***
	SF5	<---	SF	0.878	0.04	0.804	22.58	***
	SF6	<---	SF	1.001	0.04	0.857	24.97	***
	SF7	<---	SF	1.006	0.04	0.866	25.48	***
	SF8	<---	SF	1.003	0.05	0.801	22.40	***
	SF9	<---	SF	1.021	0.04	0.833	23.85	***
	SF10	<---	SF	0.952	0.04	0.802	22.50	***
	SF11	<---	SF	0.928	0.04	0.794	22.18	***
	SF12	<---	SF	0.92	0.04	0.767	21.03	***

Source: Data compiled from Amos

Table 5: Model fit Summary

Fit index	Cited	Results	Admissibility
CMIN	(Kline,2010)	3.970	1.00-5.00
RMSEA	(Steiger,1990)	0.075	≤ 0.1
CFI	(Byrne,2010)	0.858	≥ 0.90
NFI	(Bentler&G.Bonnet,1980)	0.720	>.80
PNFI	(Bentler&G.Bonnet,1980)	0.786	>.05
PCFI	(James and Brett,1982)	0.823	>.50

Source: Data compiled from AMOS

RMSEA = Root mean square error of approximation, CFI = Comparative-fit-index, NFI = Normed fit index, PNFI = Parsimony normed fit index, PCFI= Parsimonious Comparative Fit Index

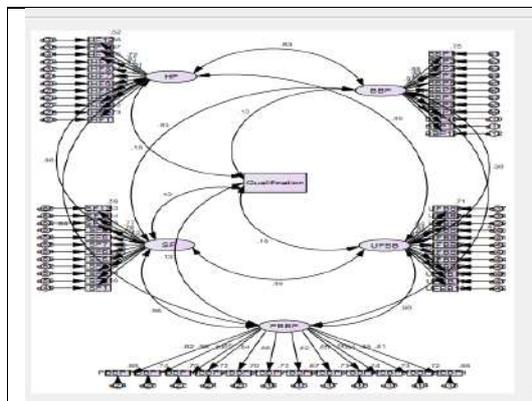


Figure 1: Standardized Regression Weights

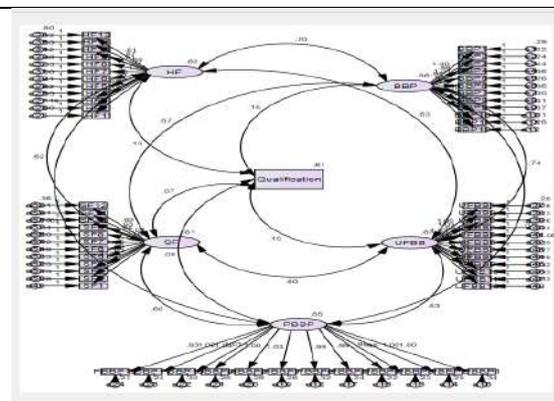


Figure 2: Unstandardized Regression Weights





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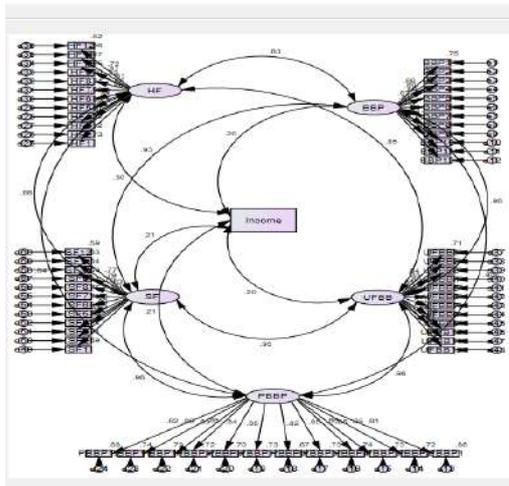


Figure-3: Standardized regression weights

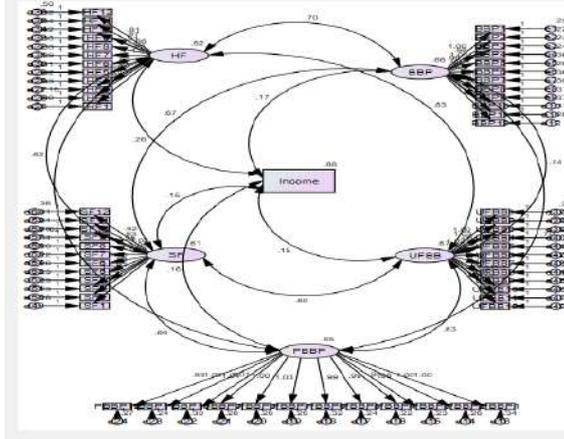


Figure 4: Unstandardized regression weights





A Study on Awareness and Usage Level of Women Safety Application Launched by Government of Karnataka

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ABSTRACT

Addressing women's safety is crucial in Karnataka, and the state government introduced the "Suraksha" mobile app to offer immediate aid during emergencies. Research analysis of the app's effectiveness identified strengths like panic buttons and SOS alerts but also revealed limitations such as privacy concerns, technical issues, and network coverage challenges, especially in remote areas. To enhance its usability, the government should focus on raising awareness, resolving technical glitches, simplifying the user interface, and providing police personnel with training for faster emergency response.

Keywords : Women safety, Government of Karnataka, Empowerment, Suraksha application, Respondents.

INTRODUCTION

India is the second largest populated nation on the earth, with 1.3 billion inhabitants as of 2021. India's population is diverse and multi-ethnic, with various religions, languages, and cultures. The majority of the population is Hindu, followed by Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, and Buddhists. The official languages of the country are Hindi and English, although there are several other regional languages spoken by different communities. Karnataka is a popular state in India, with a population of 6.10 crore people, including men, females, and transgender people. Karnataka is located in the south western region of India. It is the sixth-largest state in terms of area and the eighth most populous state in India. The state extends its borders with Maharashtra, Goa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and the Arabian Sea.

India ranks 148 out of 170 countries in the 'Women and Safety Index 2021'. In India out of 29 states, Karnataka is ranked 19th in terms of safety. Similarly, gender ratio in Karnataka is approximately 968 females per 1000 males,



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which means there are more women than men in the state. This high population and gender ratio necessitate the need for safety measures to ensure the safety of women. The safety of residents in a country like India is a major worry. One of the key drivers behind these safety apps is the population of the state, which is over 64 million people. The Government of Karnataka has launched several women safety apps to provide assistance and support to women who face harassment and violence in the state. These apps are designed to address the safety concerns of women, increase awareness of safety measures, and promote gender equality. The safety apps launched by the Karnataka government use safety index analysis to identify high-risk areas and situations for women. This helps women to be more aware of their surroundings and to take necessary precautions. The safety apps also provide information about different types of harassment that women may face, such as verbal, physical, and sexual harassment.

To overcome harassment, the Government of India has launched various measures. For instance, the "Suraksha" is a government initiative that provides turns your smartphone into discreet personal safety device for use during emergency support to women affected by violence. The women safety apps launched by the government of Karnataka aim to provide a safe platform for women to report harassment incidents and seek help. Some of these apps include 'Suraksha,' 'Himmat Plus,' and 'Raksha.' The 'Suraksha' app allows women to send an SOS message to the police control room in case of an emergency. The 'HimmatPlus' app enables women to inform their emergency contacts about their current location in real-time. The 'Raksha' app is designed to provide women with self-defence training to empower them to protect themselves. Overall, the government of Karnataka's initiative to launch women safety apps is a step towards creating a safer environment for women in the state. These apps, coupled with other measures taken by the government of India, can help in combating harassment and improving the safety of women. They provide women with easy access to information and support, and promote the creation of a safer and more equal society.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

1. Madhumita Basu and Akhila Shivaprasad's study (2021) et.al "Assessing the Efficacy of Mobile Apps in Ensuring Women's Safety: A Study of Karnataka's Suraksha Application". The Suraksha app, a mobile application released by the Karnataka government for women's safety, is evaluated in this study for effectiveness. The study gathered information from 400 women who had used the app and discovered that while it was useful for providing quick access to emergency services, users encountered a number of problems with the app's navigation and user experience. According to the study, these problems can be fixed, and the app's usability can be raised.
2. N. Nivedita and P. G. Poonacha's (2019) et.al "An Empirical Study of Mobile Apps for Women's Safety" This study assesses the usefulness of many mobile safety apps for women, including the Suraksha app. In spite of the fact that these applications can be helpful for providing quick access to emergency services, the study discovered that they had limitations in terms of accuracy and dependability. According to the study, in order to protect women, these apps should be used in conjunction with other safety precautions.
3. Dr. K. R. Kavaya (2018) et.al "Women Safety Applications and Its Effect on Society" in the International Journal of Research in Commerce and Management. The impact of women safety applications in enhancing women's safety and lowering crime against women in Karnataka was assessed in this study. The study came to the conclusion that although there is a lot of promise for women safety applications to increase women's safety, further investigation is required to determine their long-term effects.
4. Drs. V. Jayaprakash and B. Jyothi's study (2019) et.al., "Effect of Mobile Technology on Women Safety: A Study on Women Safety Apps," was published in the International Journal of Emerging Technologies and Innovative Research. This study examined how women in Karnataka used and perceived safety applications for women. According to the study, women safety applications can improve women's safety and lessen their fear of violence.
5. Drs. M. V. Vijaya Saradhi and M. Kiran Kumar (2017) et.al., published "Mobile Applications for Women's Safety in India: A Review" in the International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering, and Technology. This study analysed the mobile applications for women's safety that are now available in India, including those that the Karnataka government has released. The study revealed that although these applications



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give women quick and simple access to emergency services, it is still unclear how beneficial they are at enhancing women's safety.

6. Drs. B. M. Ramesh and K. G. Renuka's (2019) et.al, "Assessment of Mobile Apps for Women Safety: A Study in Bangalore," The usability and efficacy of mobile applications for women's safety among Bangalore women, including those released by the Karnataka government, were reviewed in this study. The study discovered that although these applications are simple to use and successful in enhancing women's safety, there is little awareness of them and less advertising of them.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The purpose of the study is to evaluate the awareness of and use of applications for women's safety in both positive and negative contexts. According to a study, the government has developed safety applications like Suraksha, but it needs to prioritise adding suitable functionalities and raising awareness so that every woman can use it responsibly.

OBJECTIVES

- To know the awareness and usage pattern of women safety application.
- To highlight the functionalities of women's safety application.
- To identify the factors that influence the adoption and usage of women safety applications among women.
- To examine the difficulties and restrictions associated with women's safety applications.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

DEMOGRAPHICS PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS

Figure 1 Gender of the respondents

Interpretation

Because the study is exclusively intended to ensure the safety of women, only females were used to collect the data. Therefore, all respondents 100% were female.

Figure 2 Age of the respondents

Interpretation

The study's data was gathered from people of all ages, with 87.7% of respondents being between the ages of 21 and 30.4.9% of respondents were under the age of 20, while 5.7% of respondents were in the 31–40 age range. The bulk of responders, according to the survey, belonged to adults because they require more security to defend themselves

Figure 3 Educational Qualification of the respondents

Interpretation

The study was mainly focused on collecting data from educated population.54.1% of the respondents were belonging Post graduate category, other 40.2% of the respondents were belonging to Graduate category and rest of the respondents were belonging to Pre University education qualification.

Figure 4 Occupation of the respondents

Interpretation

Because we used a convenient sampling method, 59.8% of the respondents identified as students, while the remaining 28% identified as self-employed, and 5.7% identified as unemployed. The data was gathered from the respective occupation of women, such as student, self-employed, unemployed, retired person, employed, and housewife category.



**Chaithra et al.,****Figure.5 Awareness of the women's safety application****Interpretation**

According to the data gathered, of the respondents, 72.1% were aware of the women's safety application, while the remaining 27.9% were not. The government needs to spread the word about the women's safety app so that everyone is aware of it.

Figure .6 Installation of women safety application of the respondents**Interpretation**

According to the study, 22.1% of respondents had installed and were using the safety programme on their smartphone, leaving about 77.9% of respondents without it. The majority of respondents claimed that the application's flawed functionality was the reason why they were not using.

Figure .7 Awareness of government launched Suraksha application**Interpretation**

According to the report, only 28.7% of respondents were still uninformed of the government launched Suraksha application, while 71.3% of respondents were.

Figure 8 Usage of safety application of the respondents**Interpretation**

Based on how frequently the application was utilised, the study was conducted. Daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly are included. Due to the application's inefficient features and another possible factor, about 80.9% of the population rarely used it. They may not have felt uncomfortable at all. The percentage of women who regularly used the women's safety application was just 9.6%.

Objective 1

Figure 9. To know Awareness and usage pattern of women's safety application.**Interpretation**

Knowing the level of knowledge and utilisation of the application for women's safety was the study's primary goal. The questionnaire that was distributed asked questions like whether the application was helpful, whether they had replied promptly, whether the safety application had adequately addressed the issue, and so on. Only 25% of respondents agreed with the awareness and usage pattern of the women's safety application, while about 60% of respondents were neutral in their responses.

Objective 2

Figure 10 To identify the factors that influence the adoption and usage of women safety application among women.**Interpretation**

The study designed the questionnaire so that it was focusing on some criteria like trust in the application, user friendliness of the application, cost of the application, privacy and security, and lastly review and ratings of the application in order to emphasise the functionalities of the

An interval scale is one with five points, such as the Likert scale. The mean has a lot of importance. The minimum, maximum, mean score, and standard deviation of the responses are shown in the above table. The mean score for the application's trust variable is 3.75, and the standard deviation is 0.921. Including the variable costs for the application and its user friendliness has calculated mean scores of 3.53 and 3.46, respectively, with standard deviations of 1.006 and 1.030. Similar results are shown by the variables Privacy and security and Review and rating, which show 3.69 and 3.59 mean scores with 1.053 and 1.002 standard deviations, respectively.

(SPSS Data File)





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Objective 3

Figure 2.3 To Highlight the functionalities of women's safety application.

Interpretation

The safety application's features, including a panic button, SOS alerts, incident reports, location sharing, and safety suggestions, were included in the widely disseminated questionnaire. A little over 40% of respondents agreed with the Suraksha application's functions, while over 62% of respondents were neutral about them. Three-point Likert scales are regarded as having interval scales. The mean score for the variables panic button and sos alerts is 2.20, with standard deviations of 0.676 and 0.667, respectively. The mean scores for the variables Report on incident, Location sharing, and safety suggestions are 2.19, 2.29, and 2.28, respectively, with standard deviations of 0.684, 0.674, and 0.695.

(SPSS Data File)

Objective 4

Figure 2.4 To examine the difficulties and restrictions associated with women's safety application

Interpretation

Data on the application's limiting characteristics, such as limited accessibility, reliance on technology, subpar response, privacy and data security concerns, and false alarms, can be analysed using the widely disseminated questionnaire. It received a scaling rating of 5. About 45% of respondents neutrally support the constraining factors, while the remaining 45% are in agreement with them. An interval scale is one with five points, such as the Likert scale. According to the above data, the mean scores for the variables limited accessibility and dependence on technology are 3.61 and 3.50, respectively, with standard deviations of 1.065 and 1.123. The remaining variables had mean scores of 3.52, 3.39, and 3.33 with standard deviations of 0.883, 1.110, and 1.128 for each, including poor response, privacy and data security issues, and false alarms.

(SPSS Data File)

FINDINGS

- The study also found that the safety application was very little effective in enhancing the safety of women in the state.
- The study found that 72.1% of the women's are aware of safety applications 27.9% of women's were unaware of safety application.
- 22.1% of women's have installed the application but 77.9% has haven't installed due to less functionalities of Sos alerts, report on incident, location sharing and some safety tips etc.
- Only 19.7% has registered themselves in downloaded application and 80.3% of women's have downloaded but not registered in the application due to some lacking factors such as timely response, reviews and ratings, cost of the application etc.
- The study found that the Respondents were rarely using Suraksha application which is launched by Government of Karnataka and majority of the respondents feel that Crimes against women were increasing.
- The women's have also responded that they need some awareness before creation of such apps and make it compulsory for every women of India so that it encourages each and every one to use the application.
- The majority of the women reported felt less safe while using the safety application due women's safety application did not always work effectively due to some technical glitches that needed to be addressed.
- The women's have also responded that they need some self-defence classes from government so that they can never depend on non-human gadgets such as mobile or technology.
- They have all power to defeat and safeguard themselves and just need little push by government to have positive mind of strengthens their thought of fear, negative mindset, discrimination should be completely strengthened so that women's can face consequences of protecting themselves from the harassment.
- They have also voiced their opinion of instead of creating such application, wake up the people, change their vision of seeing women and also provide more respect towards her.



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SUGGESTIONS

- Here are some suggestions for the research paper based on “The study on awareness and usage level of women's safety applications launched by the government of Karnataka”
- Raising awareness: One of the study's key results may be that there is a dearth of knowledge about the women's safety initiatives introduced by the Karnataka government. As a result, the research article need to suggest that the government take action to raise awareness of these uses. This can be accomplished through a variety of strategies, including social media campaigns, commercials, and awareness campaigns in public spaces and colleges.
- Enhance accessibility: Another conclusion might be that women have trouble accessing these apps since they don't have smartphones or internet connection. The research paper should advise the government to make these applications more accessible by, for example, offering free Wi-Fi in public spaces and supplying women with inexpensive smartphones.
- Adapt apps to women's needs: We suggest that the government adapt women's safety applications to fulfil these needs since women may have distinct safety concerns and requirements. This can be achieved by interviewing women to gather their needs or by holding focus groups with them to learn more about their particular safety requirements.
- Improve the efficiency through feedback: To ascertain whether the applications have led to a decrease in crime against women, it is possible to gather user feedback, carry out effect assessments, and examine crime data.
- Cooperation with stakeholders: To increase the uptake and efficacy of applications for women's safety and we can also suggest that the government work together with a variety of stakeholders, including NGOs, women's groups, and other pertinent stakeholders.
- Privacy and data protection: The government should provide guarantee to users of applications and protect their privacy and data security. This can be accomplished by putting in place the necessary security measures and making sure that the personal data is users is not misused.
- Frequent updates and maintenance: In order to guarantee the women safety apps' continuous efficacy and relevance, the research report should advise the government to regularly update and maintain them. This can be accomplished by incorporating user feedback and routinely introducing new features and functionality.
- Empower through Self-defence classes: We also suggest the government to provide self-defence classes in both rural and urban areas so that it will improve mind-set of women to face the conflict.
- Mandatory of the application: A need of women safety is very important so to protect herself from the victim they can make mandatory of the application to every women citizen of India.

CONCLUSION

According to the study, most women were unaware that these safety application existed and even those who were aware of them had not downloaded or utilised them. The study did discover certain restrictions with the safety application, Though the application needed a smartphone and internet access, which not all women may have. Also, some ladies claimed that there were having some technical issues that needed to be fixed and that the safety application did not always functioning properly. The lack of exposure and outreach program by the Government of Karnataka is needed so that low level of digital literacy among women can be improved. The main reason of this lack of awareness and usage of the safety application is that efficacy and privacy of the application. The Karnataka government should also concentrate on enhancing the visibility and outreach of these safety applications through targeted marketing and collaborations with neighbourhood organisations in order to address these issue. Through education and awareness campaigns, they should also aim to increase women's digital literacy. The government should also perform routine audits and provide openness in data usage and storage in order to allay concerns regarding the efficiency and privacy of these applications. According to the report, the safety application slightly improved the safety of women in the state. The application enabled women to contact emergency services, and the

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GPS tracking function made it easier for authorities to find the distressed woman. By utilising the safety application, most of the ladies said they felt safer. The safety application was a helpful tool for improving the safety of women in the state, the study's overall conclusion stated. To make the application more useful, the government must make sure that it is available to all women and that technological issues are fixed. The survey offers useful insights into how technology is implemented around the rural areas.

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Table .1

	N	minimum	maximum	mean	Standard deviation
Trust of the application	122	1	5	3.75	.921
User friendliness app	122	1	5	3.53	1.006
Cost of the application	122	1	5	3.46	1.030
Privacy and security	122	1	5	3.69	1.053
Review and rating	122	1	5	3.59	1.002
Valid N	122				

Note :1= strongly agree ,2= agree ,3= neutral ,4= disagree ,5= strongly disagree

Table .2

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Standard deviation
Panic button	122	1	3	2.20	.676
SOS alerts	122	1	3	2.20	.667
Report on incident	122	1	3	2.19	.684
Location sharing	122	1	3	2.29	.674
Safety tips	122	1	3	2.28	.695
Valid N	122				

Note:1= agree ,2= neutral ,3= disagree



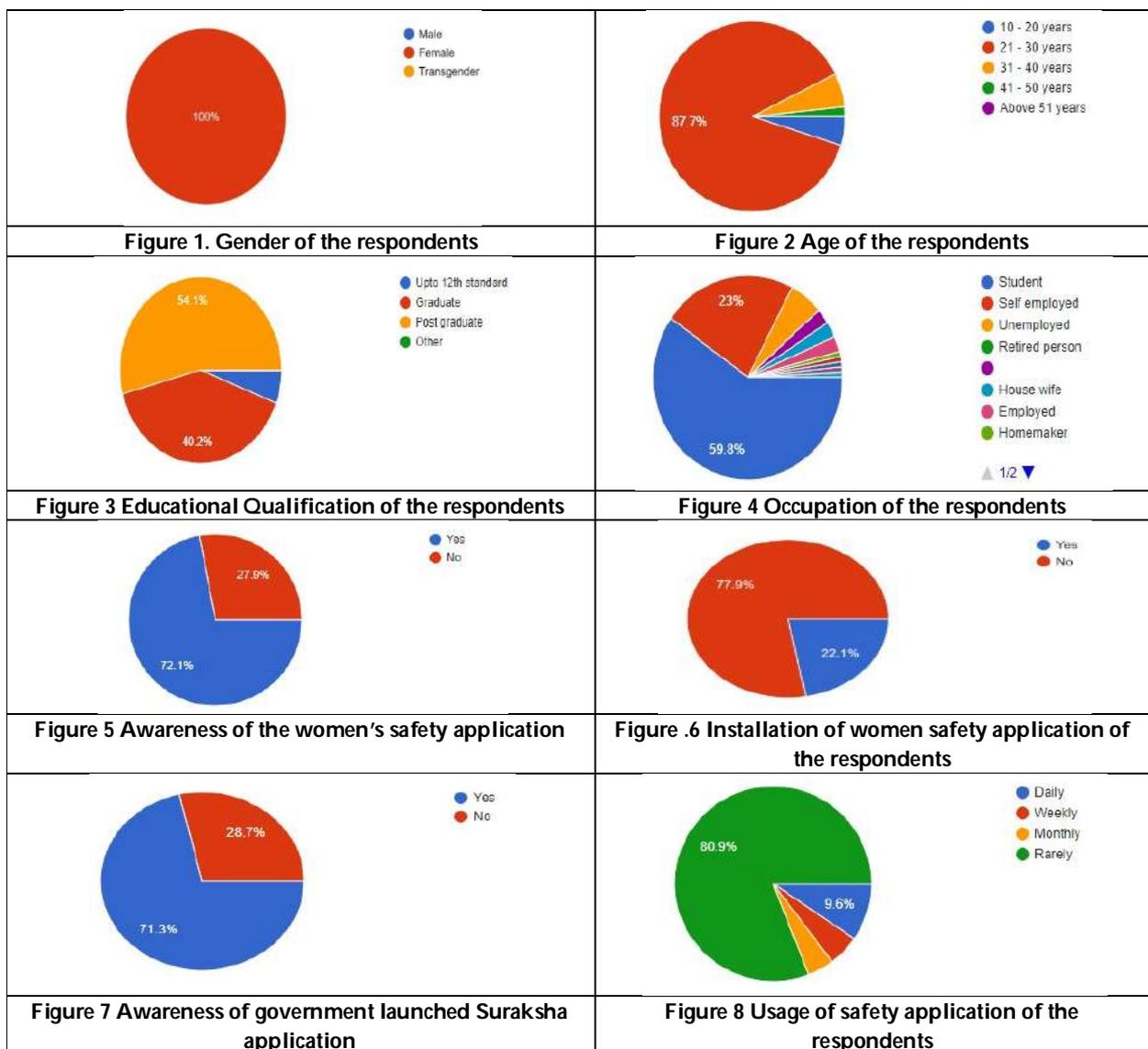


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Table.3

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Standard deviation
Limited accessibility	122	1	5	3.61	1.065
Dependency on technology	122	1	5	3.50	1.123
Inadequate response	122	1	5	3.52	0.883
Privacy and data security issues	122	1	5	3.39	1.110
False alarms	122	1	5	3.33	1.128
Valid N	122				

Note :1= strongly agree ,2= agree ,3= neutral ,4= disagree ,5= strongly disagree





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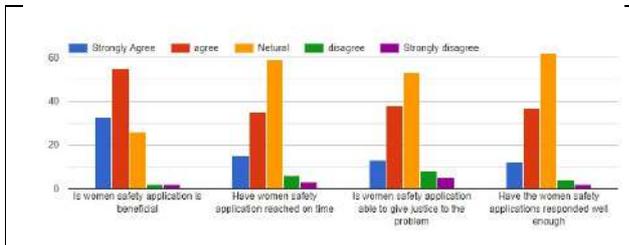


Figure 9. To know Awareness and usage pattern of women's safety application.

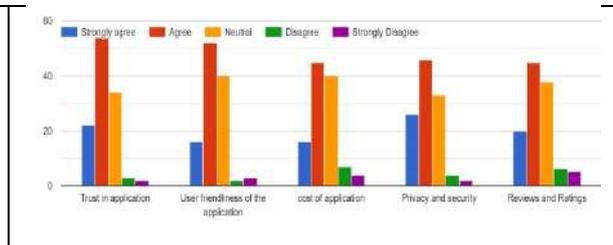


Figure 10. To identify the factors that influences the adoption and usage of women safety application among women.

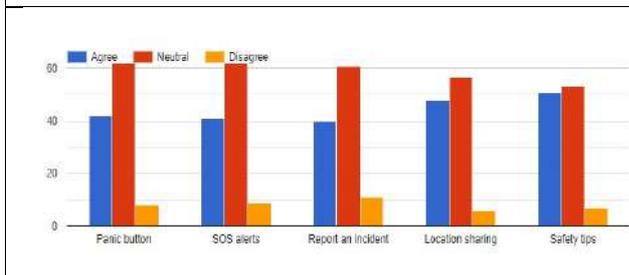


Figure 11. To Highlight the functionalities of women's safety application.

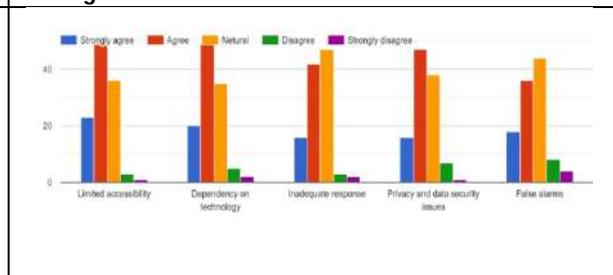


Figure 12. To examine the difficulties and restrictions associated with women's safety application





Linear Programming Problems using Graph Theory

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ABSTRACT

In mathematics, graph theory plays a major role in formulation of structures and to get solution for different types of real-world problems. So, graph can be formulated by using vertices or points or nodes which are connected with an edges or lines. Graph theory can be used to solve different types of problems in the field of Social Networking, Economy, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Computer science and many more fields. Various practical problems can be represented by using graphs. Linear programming problem is a branch of mathematical programming. By using Linear programming method, we get an accurate value of the problem. The lineal programming problems are to optimization i.e., maximization or minimization to the real-world problems. Mainly linear programming problems use to maximize the profit and to minimize the cost and waste. In this paper, we try to solve real world problems like transportation problems using Bipartite graph, diet problems and manufacturing problems graphically and get the accurate results.

Keywords: Linear Programming Problem, Bipartite Graph, Manufacturing problems, Transportation problems, Diet problems.

INTRODUCTION





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A Graph $G = (V, E)$ contains a finite set $V = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_i\}$ of vertices and a finite set $E = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_j\}$ of edges. Where each edge is a pair $\{v_i, v_j\}$ of vertices. The basic condition to draw a graph that they must have at least one vertex. A graph can be drawn with single vertex without an edge is called *Trivial Graph*. The reason behind edge is to connect the vertices and formulate the complete graph. In addition to that the vertices, edges cannot live in separately. The generalization of a graph in which an edge can join any number of vertices. In contrast in an ordinary graph, an edge connects exactly two vertices.

Linear programming is a branch of mathematical programming. Linear Programming (LP) is defined as the problem of optimization (i.e., maximization or minimization) of a linear function that is subject to linear equations. It mainly considered to be the most important method of optimization of different fields. It is used to obtain the most optimal solution of the problem within some variables. It composed to an objective function, linear inequalities subject to some constrains should be in the form of linear equations or in the form of inequalities. This method is used to maximize or minimize the objective function of the given mathematical model composing the set of linear inequalities depending upon some constraints (or variables) represented in the linear programming relationship. Linear programming requires the formulation of equations or inequalities and graphically can able to solve the problems. Some particular problems can be able to solve linear programming problems.

Feasible Solution:

Feasible solution of linear programming problem is that satisfies all the variables in the LPP which we can find as a common region on the graph.

Basic Concepts of Graph theory used in Linear Programming problems:

- **Vertex:** vertex is a point or node on a plane where two or more line segments meet.
- **Edges:** a line segment which connects the number of vertices or nodes.
- **Loop:** A loop is an edge whose initial and end points are the same.
- **Incident:** Incident edges are edges which will be connected with the same vertex.
- **Adjacent:** if two vertices are connected with one edge is called adjacent of two vertices.
- **Degree:** The number of edges that are connected to the vertex. The degree of the loop is always two.
- **Path:** A path is any route along with no repeated edges in a graph.
- **Walk:** It is a sequence of edges and vertices in a graph.
- **Circuit:** It is a closed walk with every edge different.
- **Cycle:** A cycle is a graph in which it starts at the same vertex and ends with the same vertex contains the number of edges and vertices.
- **Bipartite:** Bipartite Graph is a graph in which the vertices can be divided into two adjacent sets, such that no two vertices within the same set are adjacent.

Linear Programming using graph theory:

Linear Programming Problem:

Linear programming is a method of optimization of operations with some linear variables. The main objective of linear programming is to maximize or minimize the numerical value. It consists of linear functions which are subjected to the variables in the form of linear equations or in the form of inequalities. Here are some examples we have solved linear programming problems graphically.

Example:

1. solve the given LPP graphically:
maximize $z = 8x + y$ and the constraints are $x + y \leq 40$, $2x + y \leq 60$ with $x \geq 0, y \geq 0$ [5]

Solution

The given problem is a linear programming problem.

Consider the given inequalities into equations.

$$x + y = 40 \text{-----(1)}$$





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$2p+q=60$ ------(2)

Substitute $p=0$ in equation (1)

$q=40$

The coordinate point is $(0,40)$

Substitute $q=0$ in equation (1)

$p=40$

The coordinates point is $(40,0)$

Substitute $p=0$ in equation (2)

$q=60$

The coordinate point is $(0,60)$

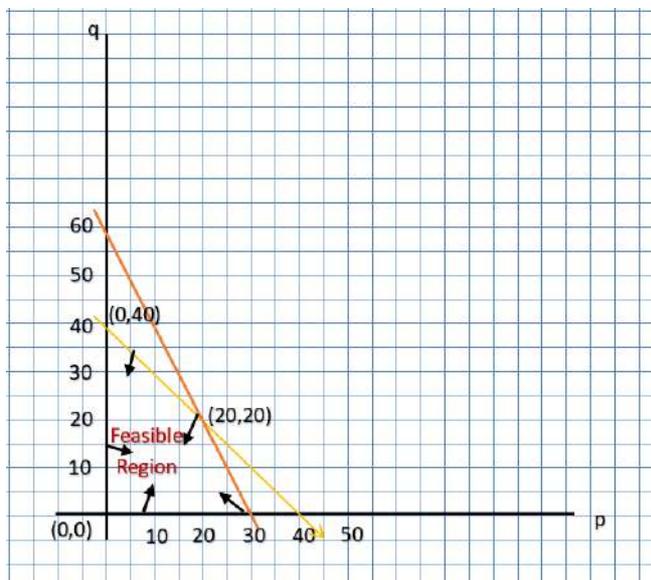
Substitute $p=0$ in equation (2)

$2p=60$

$q=30$

The coordinate point is $(30,0)$

Now, plot all the points $(0,40)$, $(40,0)$, $(0,60)$ and $(30,0)$ in the pq -plane.



Here $(0,0)$, $(0,40)$, $(20,20)$ and $(30,0)$ is a common region.
 Thus, $(20,20)$ is the intersection of two lines $p+q=40$ and $2p+q=60$.
 Then we have $p=20$ and $q=20$.
 The given objective function is $\text{Max } Z=8p+q$ at $(0,0)$ is
 $\text{Max } Z=0$
 $\text{Max } Z$ at $(0,40)$ is





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Max Z=40

Max Z at (20,20) is

Max Z=180

Max Z at (30,0) is

Max Z=240

The given problem is to maximize.

Thus, the solutions are $p=30$ and $q=0$.

Therefore, Max Z=240.

There are four types of Linear Programming Problems.

1. Manufacturing problems
2. Diet problems
3. Transportation problems
4. Optimal Assignment Problems

Manufacturing Problems:

Manufacturing problems which deal with the production rate or net profits of manufactured problems. It can determine the number of units of different products which can must be produced and sold by a firm when each product requires a fixed manpower, machine hours, labour hour per unit of production, warehouse space per unit of the output etc., in order to make maximum profit.

Example:

1. A Manufacturing company manufactures two types of products, product P and Q. The production of these two products will not cross 25 and 35 per week respectively. According to the demand the production will takes place. For the company 4man power requires per week to produce the product P and 2 man power for the product Q. The product P makes the a profit of Rs.80 while Q makes Rs.60. Formulate the LPP.

Solution:

Given p and q are number of units for model P and Q to be produced, respectively.

The Linear Programming problem can be formulated as

Maximize (total profit) $Z=80p+60q$

Subject to $p \leq 55$

$q \leq 65$

$4p+2q \leq 120$, and $p, q \geq 0$

Convert all the inequalities into equalities

$p=55$ -----(1)

$q=65$ -----(2)

$4p+2q=120$ -----(3)

From equation (1) we get

The coordinate point is (55,0)

From equation (2) we get

The coordinate point (0,65)

Substitute $p=0$ in equation (3)

$q=60$

The coordinate point is (0,60)

Substitute $q=0$ in equation (3)

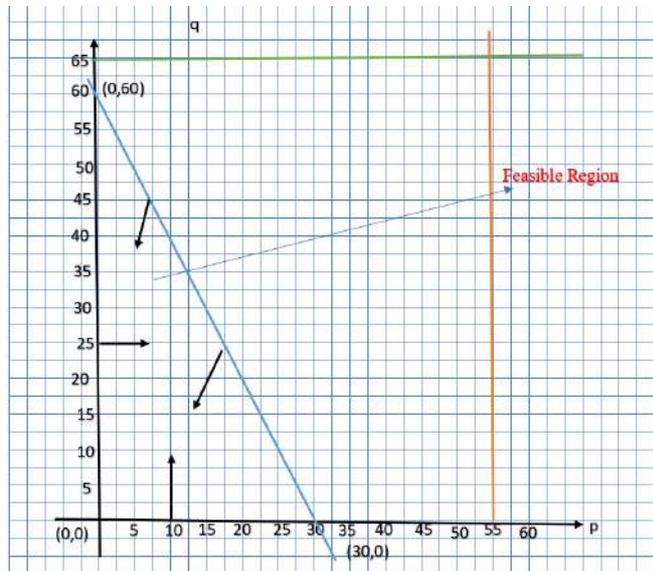
$p=30$

Now, plot the points (55,0), (0,65), (0,60) and (30,0) in the pq -plane.





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Here (0,0), (30,0) and (0,60) are common region.
 The given objective function is Maximum $Z=80p+60q$ at (0,0) is
 Max $Z=0$
 Max Z at (30,0) is
 Max $Z=2400$
 Max Z at (0,60) is
 Max $Z=3600$
 The given problem is to maximize.
 Thus, the solutions are at $p=0$ and $q=60$.
 Therefore, **Max $Z=3600$** .

Diet Problems:

Mainly, the diet problem is to dietthe of food that should satisfy our daily nutritionalcontent at minimums. If a balanced food is taken into consideration, people’s lifestyle will indeed have a promising future because there will be a benefit in definite. Mainly the people’s lifespan will be increased and can prevent falling sick often and also productivity rate will increase. The diet problem is to formulate with linear equations or inequalities as a linear programme where the objective is to minimize cost and the variables are satisfy the specified nutritional requires for the body. The diet problem will insists that the quantity of calories and the amount of vitamins, minerals, fats, sodium and cholesterol in the diet. While the mathematical formulation is simple, the solution may not be tastable. The nutritional requirements which is irrespective of the for taste, so consider the output before digging into a meal from an optimal menu.

Example:

A dietician has to develop a special diet using two foods P and Q. Each pocket (containing 30g) of food P contains 12 units of calcium, 4 units of iron, 6 units of cholesterol and 6 units of vitamin A. each packet of the same quantity of food Q contains 3 units of calcium, 20 units of iron, 4 units of cholesterol and 3 units of vitamin A. the diet required at least 240 units of calcium, at least 460 units of iron and at most 300 units of cholesterol. How many packets of each food should be used to minimise the amount of vitamin A in the diet? What is the minimum amount of vitamin A?[13]



**Roopa and Hemalatha****Solution:**

Let number of packets of food P be p.

Number of packets of food Q be q.

The Linear Programming problem can be written as

Minimize $Z=6p+3q$

Subject to (i) Calcium

$$4p+q \geq 80$$

(ii) Iron

$$p+5q \geq 115$$

(iii) Cholesterol

$$3p+2q \leq 150$$

Also, $p, q \geq 0$

Convert all the inequalities into equalities.

$$4p+q=80 \text{-----}(1)$$

$$p+5q=115 \text{-----}(2)$$

$$3p+2q=150 \text{-----}(3)$$

Substitute $p=0$ in equation (1)

$$q=80$$

The coordinate point is (0,80)

Substitute $q=0$ in equation (1)

$$p=20$$

The coordinate point is (20,0)

Substitute $p=0$ in equation (2)

$$q=23$$

The coordinate point is (0,23)

Substitute $q=0$ in equation (2)

$$p=115$$

The coordinate point is (115,0)

Substitute $p=0$ in equation (3)

$$q=75$$

The coordinate point is (0,75)

Substitute $q=0$ in equation (3)

$$p=50$$

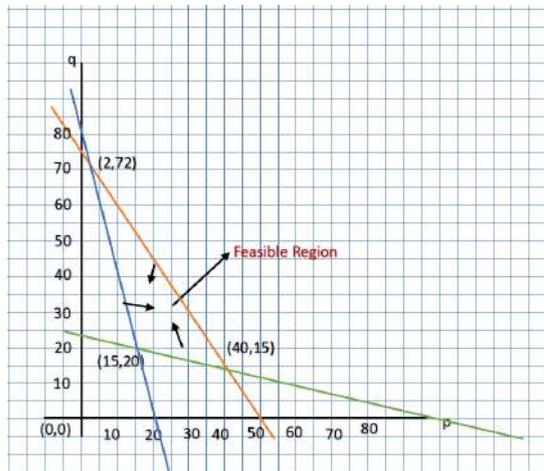
The coordinate point is (50,0)





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Now, plot the points (0,80), (20,0), (0,23), (115,0), (0,75) and (50,0) in the pq-plane.



Here A (2,72), B (15,20) and C (40,15) are closed polygon.
 The given objective function is Maximum $Z=6p+3q$ at (2,72) is
 Max $Z=228$
 Max Z at (15,20) is
 Max $Z=150$
 Max Z at (40,15) is
 Max $Z=285$

The amount of vitamin A will be minimum if 15 packets of food P and 20 packets of food Q are used.
 Thus, **minimum amount of vitamin A = 150 units.**

Transportation Problems:

Transportation problem is a type of linear programming problem the goods or items are carried over some set of destination from supply to the demand with minimum cost level of transportation. When both supply rate and transportation rate is equal then the problem is called balanced transportation problem. When the supply rate and the demand rate is unequal then the problem is called unbalanced transportation problem. The aim of transportation problem is to transport the goods from supply to demand in minimum transportation cost. Different techniques have been developed to solve the transportation problem. Here we solve Transportation problem using Bipartite Graph.

Example:

A transport company is planning to allocate owned vehicle to cities X, Y and Z. Here are the transport table that have been prepared by managers of the company which gives the transportation cost from warehouse (Supply points) to the cities (Demand points)[9]

	X	Y	Z	Supply
1	6	8	20	150
2	7	11	11	175
3	4	5	12	275
Demand	200	100	300	

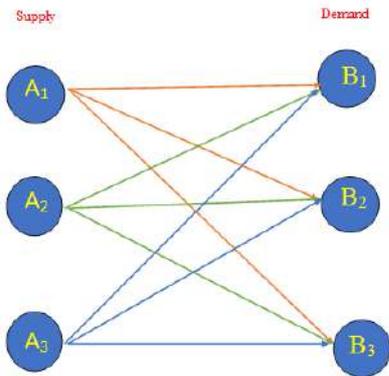




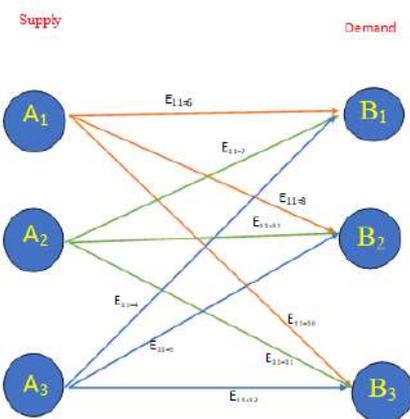
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Solution

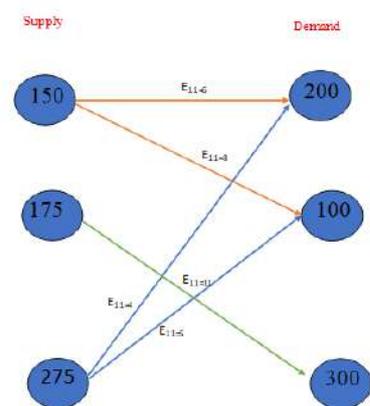
Step 1



Step 2



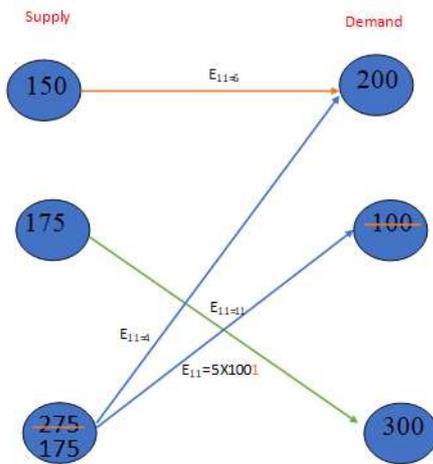
Step 3



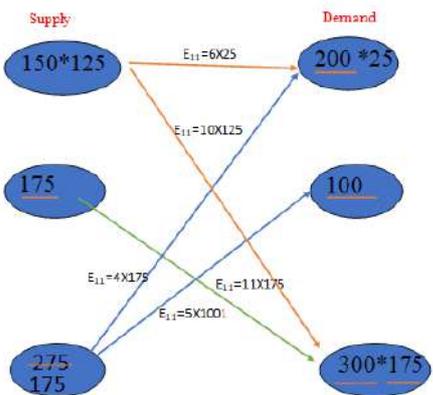


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Step 4



Step 5



Maximum Cost = $(5 \times 100) + (4 \times 175) + (6 \times 25) + (10 \times 125) + (11 \times 175) = 4,525$

Therefore, the *Optimal solution is 4,525.*

Applications:

Linear Programming Problems can be used in following ways:

- Personal Assignment problem solving.
 - Transportation Problem solving.
- Proficiency in Operation of Dam System problem solving.
 - Optimum Estimation of executive Compensation.
 - Agricultural planning applications.
 - Military Problem Solving.
- Production Management for determining Products.
 - Marketing Management Problem solving.
 - Manpower Management analysis.
- Physical distribution in Local industrial plants.



**Roopa and Hemalatha****CONCLUSION**

In this Paper we have tried to explain how the graph theory can be applicable in mathematics as well as linear programming problems. We have tried to solve many types of real-world problems like transportation problems, diet problems and manufacturing problems also. The Graph theory used in different types of finding maximisation or minimization of the problems. In the similar manner we can use graph theory in our day-to-day time to solve different types of problems.

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Controlling the use of Alcohol Consumption through Data Analytics

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ABSTRACT

Alcohol consumption has become a pervasive societal issue with significant health, social, and economic consequences. With the advent of data analytics it is a suitable time to leverage data-driven insights to control and mitigate the adverse effects of alcohol consumption. This research article gives an overall idea and role of data analytics in monitoring, analyzing, and controlling alcohol consumption patterns. By examining existing literature, methodologies, and chronologies, the goal of this article to provide insights into the potential of data analytics in addressing alcohol-related problems. Furthermore, it discusses the ethical considerations and challenges associated with controlling the use of alcohol consumption through data analytics.

Keywords: World Health Organization (WHO), Linear Regression, Random Forest, and Support Vector Machine (SVM).

INTRODUCTION

The aim of this academic paper is to provide evidence-based insights into controlling alcohol consumption using data analytics, ultimately contributing to the evolutionary growth of more potential public health policies and interventions. By understanding the underlying thread factors corresponding with alcohol use, decision-makers can design targeted strategies to promote responsible drinking habits and mitigate the negative consequences of excessive alcohol consumption on individuals and society at large. Alcohol consumption has been an integral part of human societies for centuries, playing a significant role in social, cultural, and religious practices. Nevertheless, it is



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also a supreme worldwide general health provocation, contributing to numerous adverse outcomes, including physical and mental health issues, accidents, violence, and economic burdens. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that alcohol consumption is responsible for nearly 3 million global death rates, creating it as a vital avertable risk factor for disease and preventable. Controlling the usage of consumption of a alcohol is a complex endeavor that requires a extensive recognize of the underlying patterns and influencing factors associated with drinking behavior. Traditional approaches to solve the problem have been largely based on regulatory measures and educational campaigns. However, the advent of data analytics and the accessibility of vast amounts of data present a promising opportunity to gain deeper insights into alcohol consumption trends, behaviors, and related consequences. The main intention of this research is to utilize data-driven methodologies to uncover trends, relationships, and key determinants of alcohol consumption. Through a systematic analysis of diverse data sources, including public health records, surveys, social media, economic indicators, and other relevant datasets, this research aims to provide evidence-based recommendations for policymakers to address alcohol-related challenges. By investigating the geographic, demographic, and temporal variations in alcohol use and identifying the interplay of social, cultural, and economic factors, this research will contribute to the evolution of tailored intervention strategies to promote responsible drinking habits and mitigate the pessimistic reverberation correlated with excessive alcohol consumption.

Background and Problem Statement

Alcohol inebriation has a long history as a socio anthropological norm in various societies. While moderate drinking has been associated with certain health benefits, excessive alcohol consumption poses numerous risks to individual health and public welfare. The World Health Organization (WHO) identifies alcohol as a significant contributing factor to various health issues, including liver disease, cardiovascular, mental health disorders, and cancers. Furthermore, alcohol-related accidents, violence, and the social and economic costs associated with alcohol abuse present formidable challenges to health of public and precaution. Traditionally, efforts to control alcohol consumption have depended on regulatory measures, public awareness campaigns, and treatment programs. Moreover, there is lack in these methodologies precision and effectiveness required to equip the complex and dynamic nature of alcohol use patterns and associated risk factors. Recent advancements in data analytics and the availability of extensive datasets offer a promising avenue to gain deeper insights into alcohol consumption trends and related factors, paving the way for more targeted and evidence-based interventions.

Problem Statement: Despite the considerable efforts to inscription the adverse effects of alcohol consumption, excessive drinking residue a suggestive public health concern worldwide. To effectively control the use of alcohol consumption and reduce its associated burden on individuals and society, it is imperative to gain a extensive understanding of the patterns and factors driving alcohol consumption behavior.

The problem statement of this research revolves around the following key questions:

1. What are the prevailing trends and patterns of alcohol consumption at local, regional, and global levels? This includes understanding the variations in drinking behaviors based on demographic, geographic, and temporal factors.
2. What is the adverse condition correlated with excessive alcohol consumption? By analyzing comprehensive datasets, the research aims to identify the determinants of alcohol abuse, such as comorbidities, economic status, social influences, and cultural norms.
3. How can data analytics be leveraged to develop evidence-based interventions and policies? The study aims to explore the potential of data analytics to inform decision-making processes and design targeted interventions tailored to specific high-risk populations.
4. What are the social, economic, and health consequences of alcohol consumption, and how can data-driven insights contribute to mitigating these impacts? This research seeks to uncover the various consequences of alcohol abuse, from healthcare costs and accidents to economic productivity losses, and explore strategies to address these challenges more effectively.



**Karthikeyan and Ganapathiram****Objectives of the research**

The research objectives are designed to dissertation the complication of alcohol consumption and its control through data analytics. The primary goals of this research are as follows:

Analyze Alcohol Consumption Patterns: The research aims to comprehensively analyze and identify patterns and trends in alcohol consumption at various scales, including regional, demographic, and temporal variations. This analysis will provide a superior appreciate of how alcohol use evolves over time and across different populations.

Identify Risk Factors: By leveraging data analytics techniques, the study seeks to identify the key risk factors associated with excessive alcohol consumption. These risk factors may include socioeconomic status, mental health conditions, social influences, cultural norms, and other relevant factors contributing to alcohol abuse.

Evaluate the Impacts of Alcohol Consumption: The research aims to assess the social, economic, and health consequences of alcohol consumption. By quantifying the hostile effects of excessive drinking, decision-makers can better understand the urgency and severity of the problem, providing a basis for prototyping valuable interventional measures and strategies.

Develop Evidence-Based Interventions: Based on data-driven insights, the research aims to propose evidence-based interventions and policies to control alcohol consumption. These interventions may include targeted public awareness campaigns, regulatory measures, and support programs for high-risk populations to promote responsible drinking habits and reduce harmful behaviors.

Design Targeted Strategies for High-Risk Populations: By identifying vulnerable groups with a higher propensity for alcohol abuse, the research aims to tailor intervention strategies to address the specific needs of these populations. This may involve customized educational programs, early intervention initiatives, and improved access to mental health services, among others.

Enhance Public Health Policy: The research aims to provide data-driven recommendations to policymakers, enabling them to develop and implement more effective and targeted public health policies to combat alcohol-related issues. These policies may focus on prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and support for affected individuals and communities.

PROPOSED SYSTEM

The proposed system aims to control alcohol consumption by leveraging data analytics to gain valuable insights into alcohol use behavior, risk factors, and associated impacts. This data-driven approach will inform evidence-based policies and interventions to promote responsible drinking habits and mitigate the adverse effects of excessive alcohol consumption.

Components of the Proposed System:

Predictive Analytics: Predictive modeling will be employed to forecast alcohol consumption trends and identify individuals or communities at higher risk of excessive drinking. **Machine learning algorithms** can predict future alcohol-related incidents based on historical data. **Association Rule Mining:** Association rule mining will identify relationships and correlations between alcohol consumption and other variables, such as demographics, mental health conditions, and economic factors. Understanding these associations can lead to targeted interventions. **Data-Driven Interventions:** Based on the data analytics insights, evidence-based interventions will be designed. These interventions may include personalized feedback, counseling, public awareness campaigns, and policy recommendations.

Evaluation and Monitoring: The effectiveness of interventions will be continuously monitored and evaluated using relevant metrics. Feedback from treatment centers, health agencies, and social platforms will be assisted to preview





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the impact of the implemented strategies. Reporting and Visualization: The system will generate comprehensive reports and visualizations to communicate the findings effectively to policymakers and stakeholders. Interactive dashboards will allow decision-makers to explore data and insights intuitively.

Benefits of the Proposed System

- ❖ Evidence-Based Decision Making: Policymakers will have access to data-driven insights, enabling them to make informed decisions on alcohol consumption control strategies.
- ❖ Targeted Interventions: High-risk populations and regions will be identified, allowing interventions to be tailored to address specific needs effectively.
- ❖ Real-Time Insights: Social media analysis will provide real-time information on public perceptions, enabling swift responses to emerging issues.

Certainly, here's an example of a table that could be used to track alcohol consumption habits for individuals:

```
# Load necessary libraries
library(ggplot2) # For data visualization
# Sample alcohol user data (replace this with our actual data)
alcohol_data<- data.frame(
  User_ID = c(1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005),
  First_Name = c("John", "Jane", "Alex", "Emily", "Mark"),
  Last_Name = c("Doe", "Smith", "Lee", "Chen", "Brown"),
  Age = c(28, 35, 22, 42, 31),
  Gender = c("Male", "Female", "Male", "Female", "Male"),
  Location = c("City A", "City B", "City A", "City C", "City B"),
  Drinks_per_Week = c(12, 5, 20, 8, 15),
  Incidents_per_Month = c(2, 1, 3, 0, 2),
  Program_Status = c("Enrolled", "Enrolled", "Not Enrolled", "Enrolled", "Not Enrolled")
)
# Summary statistics
summary(alcohol_data$Drinks_per_Week)
summary(alcohol_data$Incidents_per_Month)
# Create a scatter plot of Drinks per Week vs. Incidents per Month
ggplot(alcohol_data, aes(x = Drinks_per_Week, y = Incidents_per_Month, color = Program_Status)) + geom_point() +
labs(title = "Alcohol Consumption Analysis",
      x = "Drinks per Week",
      y = "Incidents per Month",
      color = "Program Status")
```

Creating a comparison table using algorithms often involves evaluating different algorithms or methods on specific metrics. Here's a simplified example using hypothetical algorithms for predicting alcohol consumption based on age: Suppose we have three algorithms: Linear Regression, Random Forest, and Support Vector Machine (SVM). we want to compare their performance in predicting alcohol consumption based on age.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The Fig 1 Shows the tracking an individual's alcohol consumption habits and related incidents. The "Program Status" column indicates whether the user is part of the alcohol consumption control program. Data collected in this table could be used to monitor progress, identify trends, and assess the effectiveness of the program in managing and



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controlling alcohol consumption. As always, data privacy and ethical considerations are essential when collecting and managing personal information.

Algorithm: Lists the names of the algorithms being compared.

Mean Squared Error (MSE): Represents the average squared correlation among the predicted and actual values. Lower values indicate better performance.

Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE): The square root of the MSE, providing a measure of how well the model's predictions match the actual values.

R-squared (R²): Represents the proportion of the variance in the dependent variable that is predictable from the independent variables. A higher R² indicates a better fit of evaluated model to the data. Each row represents the evaluation of an algorithm on these metrics.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this research endeavors to shed light on the potential of data analytics in controlling the use of alcohol consumption, offering valuable insights to inform evidence-based policies and interventions. By leveraging the rich and diverse sources of data, we aim to contribute to the collective effort in addressing the global challenge of alcohol consumption, thereby fostering healthier societies and improving overall public well-being. The proposed system, driven by data analytics, offers a proactive approach to control alcohol consumption. By analyzing diverse data sources, policymakers and stakeholders can gain comprehensive insights into alcohol use behavior, risk factors, and impacts. The evidence-based interventions derived from these insights will contribute to promoting responsible drinking habits, reducing alcohol-related harms, and fostering healthier and safer societies.

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Table1. Benefits of the Proposed System

User ID	First Name	Last Name	Age	Gender	Location	Drinks per Week	Incidents per Month	Program Status
1001	John	Doe	28	Male	City A	12	2	Enrolled
1002	Jane	Smith	35	Female	City B	5	1	Enrolled
1003	Alex	Lee	22	Male	City A	20	3	Not Enrolled
1004	Emily	Chen	42	Female	City C	8	0	Enrolled
1005	Mark	Brown	31	Male	City B	15	2	Not Enrolled

Table 2. Algorithms

Algorithm	Mean Squared Error (MSE)	Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE)	R-squared (R ²)
Linear Regression	56.89	7.54	0.73
Random Forest	42.15	6.49	0.82
Support Vector Machine	61.27	7.82	0.68





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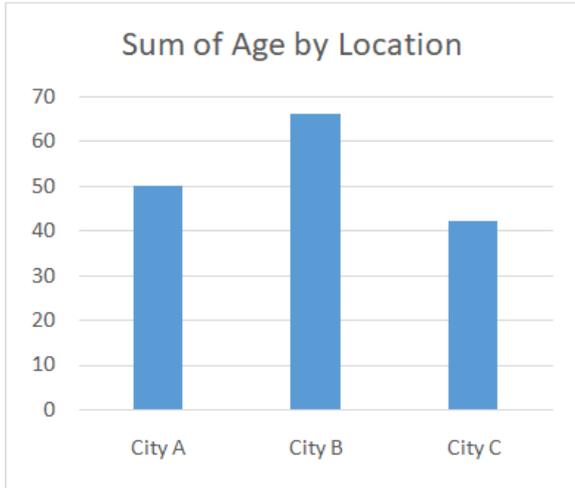


Fig 1: Alcohol consumption ratio for individuals

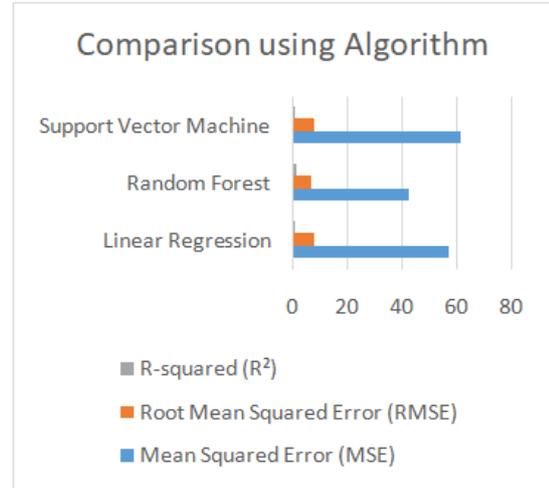


Fig 2: Comparison with Algorithm





Part of Speech Tagger and Syntactic Parser for Tulu Language Using Machine Learning Approach

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ABSTRACT

The main objective of this paper is to develop a statistical Part-Of-Speech (POS) tagger and Penn Treebank based Syntactic Parser for one of the South Dravidian languages named Tulu with the help of publicly available Support Vector Machine (SVM) tool. POS tagger and Syntactic Parser are essential tools used for various NLP applications like Information Retrieval, Information Extraction and natural language understanding. SVM is a binary classification machine learning technique that has been effectively used to solve a variety of real-world issues, including Natural Language Processing (NLP). A part-of-speech is a grammatical category, commonly including verbs, nouns, adjectives, adverbs, determiner, and so on. Part-of-Speech tagging is a process of identifying correct part of speech for given sequence of words. We developed a prototype of POS tagger generator for assigning proper tags to each and every word in the training and test sentences using SVM tool. The process of identifying a sentence and giving it a syntactic structure is known as syntactic parsing. The corpus for the proposed statistical Syntactic Parsers is constructed using the well-known grammar formalism known as Penn Treebank structure. The corpus that is developed is annotated with correct segmentation and Part-Of-Speech (POS) information using svm_cfg_learn and svm_cfg_classify. The accuracy of the Syntactic Parser depends upon the accuracy of the POS tagger model.

Keywords: Part-Of-Speech, Syntactic Parser, Penn Treebank, Support Vector Methods, Tulu language



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INTRODUCTION

The majority of online material, including news, weather reports, yearly reports, and technical and scientific books, is available in English. Despite the fact that there are enough resources, it could be challenging for those who only speak the local language to utilise these services. Less information is readily available online in Indian languages than other languages, so users must be given information in their native tongues. The main purpose of the project is to develop a Part-Of-Speech (POS) tagger and a Syntactic Parser for Tulu language which is useful in Natural language Processing (NLP), Language translation and Information retrieval. As the project is developed for the first time in Tulu language, it has a wide scope in the area of Tulu computational linguistics and Natural Language Processing applications like Information Research, Information Extraction etc.

The process of assigning a part-of-speech, such as a noun, verb, pronoun, preposition, adverb, adjective, or other lexical class marker, to each word in a phrase is known as part-of-speech tagging [1]. The tagger tag each and every word in the given input sentence based on the proposed tagset by solving different ambiguities. A string of words from a sentence written in natural language and a predetermined Tagset (a finite number of Part-of-speech tags) serve as the input to a tagging algorithm. For each word, the result is the one best POS tag. Recognising a sentence and ascribing a syntactic structure to it is known as syntactic parsing [2]. It is regarded as a crucial intermediary step for semantic analysis in applications of natural language processing (NLP) and is helpful for interpreting natural language. Syntactic parsing, or more technically syntactic analysis, is the method used in natural language processing to analyse and establish the structure of a text made up of a sequence of tokens with respect to a specific formal grammar. The corpus for the proposed statistical syntactic parsers is constructed using the well-known grammatical formalism known as Penn Treebank structure. 140 carefully crafted Tulu sentences make up the Treebank-based corpus that the parsing system is trained on. The created corpus has accurate segmentation annotations.

LITERATURE SURVEY

Most of the POS taggers available in English like Tree tagger, Brill tagger use rule based, morphological or stochastic inputs. In India, analysis of languages is a complex procedure as a single word may signify different meaning based on the context. In Indian languages, most of natural language processing work has been done in Hindi, Malayalam, Tamil, Marathi and Kannada. All these languages have several part-of speech taggers that use different mechanisms. Amrita University of Tamil Nadu has designed POS tagging for Tamil and Malayalam. IIT Mumbai has developed POS tagging for Marathi language.

Compared to other Dravidian Languages, like Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada, very less work is done in Tulu language. Tulu language [3] is one of the five major Dravidian language of south India. About 3.5 million people speak Tulu and call it their mother tongue. Tulu is mainly spoken in the southwest part of Indian, Dakshina Kannada and Udupi district of Karnataka state and a small part of northern Kerala. Compared to most other major languages of our country, very little technical work has been done in Tulu language. Towards the end of the 20th century the practice of writing Tulu in Tulu script faced a decline and was gradually abandoned in favour of the Kannada script. In Recent times, Script for Tulu is introduced which resembles the Malayalam Script and is expected to be used in future.

South Dravidian Language Tulu

One of the five major South Dravidian Languages (the other four being Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada and Telugu) is Tulu [4] and are around 3 million Tulu speaking people in South India. Tulu is the primary spoken language in Tulu Nadu, a region comprising the districts of Udupi and Dakshina Kannada in the west of the state of Karnataka and Kasaragod taluk of Kerala. Apart from Tulu Nadu, a significant emigrant population of Tuluva people is found in Maharashtra, Bangalore and some of the Gulf countries.



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Tulu doesn't have a robust literary history of its own. The first piece of literature that is now known is an inscription that dates to the 15th century A.D. The so-called Tulu script is used to write the inscription in Tulu. The Vedic Mantras were written by Brahmins in a script unique to Tulu. This script has a Malayalam feel to it. This script served as the basis for both the extant Tulu inscriptions and earlier literary works. The Kannada language's predominance, the absence of Tulu language education in public schools, and other factors contribute to the Tulu script's hidden status. The Kannada script successfully replaced the Tulu script as of the first half of 19th century. Research in Tulu language and script has been sorely lacking. But now the Tulu script is available. At the beginning of our project since the Tulu script was not available, we used Kannada script for framing the Tulu sentences. There is renewed interest in the language as evidenced by the fact that many universities both in India and abroad are promoting more research of Tulu language.

SVM Light

Thorsten Joachim created SVM Light, a C implementation of Vapnik's SVMs (Vapnik, 1995). Since SVM learning employs a linear kernel, learning time is linearly proportional to the number of samples. Utilizing SVMT learn from SVM Light, training was conducted. The SVMT learn algorithm extracts all feature patterns and other pertinent data in the form of several model files from the training corpus. The "Training Corpus" path and the "Model Name" should be set before the SVMT learn algorithm in the config.svmt file. With the use of a configuration file, SVMTlearn behavior can be readily modified.

SVM Tool

The SVM Tool [5] is an open-source generator of sequential taggers based on Support Vector Machines. SVM Tool is applied to the problem of part-of-speech tagging. SVM-based tagger is robust and flexible and is able to tag thousands of words per second, which makes it really practical for real NLP applications. We can easily configure and train the SVM Tool. SVM Tool version that we used in our project is implemented in Perl. Performance of tagging depends upon the feature set size.

The SVM Tool consists of three main components:

- SVMT learn
- SVM Tagger
- SVM Teval

These are namely, the learner, the tagger and the evaluator.

SVMT learn

Given a training set of examples which is our input corpus; it is responsible for the training of a set of SVM classifiers. It makes use of SVM-light software package. Training data must be presented in the form of columns, i.e., a token per line corpus in a sentence-by-sentence fashion. The token is expected to be the first field of the line. The Part-of-speech takes the second field in the output. The rest of columns may contain additional information.

SVM Tagger

Given a text corpus i.e., one token per line and the path to a previously learned SVM model (including the automatically generated dictionary), it performs the POS tagging of a sequence of words. The tagging goes on-line based on a sliding window whose size for feature extraction can be adjusted, gives a view of the feature context to be considered at every decision. Part-of-speech tags which are already calculated can be fed directly for the next tagging decisions as context features.

The SVM Tagger component works on standard input/output. It processes a token per line corpus in a sentence-by-sentence fashion. The token is expected to be the first field of the line. The predicted POS will take the second field in the output. The rest of the line remains unchanged. SVM Tagger is very flexible, and adapts very well to the needs of the user.





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SVM Teval

Given a SVM Tool predicted tagging output, SVM Teval evaluates the performance in terms of accuracy. It is an essential component for controlling the system parameters. Based on the automatically generated dictionary at training time, results may be presented for different sets of words like known words vs. unknown words, ambiguous words vs. unambiguous words. A different view of these same results can be seen from the class of ambiguity perspective, too, i.e., words sharing the same kind of ambiguity may be considered together. Also words sharing the same degree of disambiguation complexity, determined by the size of their ambiguity classes, can be grouped.

Svm_cfg

A versatile and extendable tool for learning models across many domains is Svm_cfg. The SVM algorithm for learning a weighted context free grammar is implemented by Svm_cfg. The total terminal sequence, the rule's span, and the spans of the child trees can all affect the weight of an instantiated rule. The Svm_cfg primarily consists of two modules, the Svm_cfg_learn learning module and the Svm_cfg_classify classification module. These modules are utilised for learning and classifying a set of data, respectively. Svm_cfg learns the training corpus using the learning module svm_cfg_learn.

Tulu Penn Treebank Corpus

A text corpus that has been parsed and with syntactic structural annotations is known as a Penn Treebank [3]. The primary goal of creating a corpus based on the Penn Treebank is to represent the text as a Treebank, where tree structures stand in for the syntactic structures of phrases and sentences. A parsing model is then applied to the generated Treebank after this. The Treebank of annotated sentences' availability makes it simple to create natural language syntactic parsers and other NLP application tools. Our goal is to build a well-balanced corpus on Treebank that contains practically all conceivable inflections. We have compiled a corpus of sentences of all kinds, some of which are seen below:

Simple Declarative Sentence

Consider a simple declarative sentence ದಾದಮಾತಲನ್ನು. The figure 1 shows the example for Penn tree syntax.
((S (NP (QW ದಾದ) (ADJ ಮಾತ) (NN ಉನ್ನು))(. ?))

Figure 1. Penn Treebank format of a Declarative sentence.

Compound Sentence

Consider a compound sentence ಆಲ್ಮರಕ್ಕಿನಾಲನೀರ್ಪಾಡುವಲ್. The figure 2 shows the example for compound sentence

((S (NP (PRP ಆಲ್)) (VP (NP (NN ಮರಕ್ಕ)) (VP (ADV ದಿನಾಲ) (VAX ನೀರ್ಪಾಡುವಲ್))) (..))

Figure 2. Penn Treebank format of a compound sentence.

Implementation

First step involved in implementation is creation of tagset for Tulu language which is explained in section 2.1. Our project consists of two modules Parts-of-Speech tagger and Syntactic Parser. Section 2.2 shows the proposed architecture and algorithm. Section 2.3 explains the implementation of parts-of speech tagger module and section 2.4 explains about the Syntactic parser module, whose accuracy depends upon the first module.

Proposed Tagset for Tulu

Each language has their own tagset. For different languages, different tagsets are defined. Every natural language is different from each other. So, there is a need for a separate tagset. The proposed tagset for Tulu language has 37 tags where there are 6 tags for nouns, 2 tags for pronoun, 11 tags for verbs, 4 for punctuations, 2 for number, 2 for adjective and 1 for each adverb, conjunction, echo, reduplication, intensifier, postposition, emphasize, determiners, complimentizer and question word. The tags in the proposed tagset are described by the Table 1 with example each.



**Renita Blossom Monteiro and Divya****Proposed Architecture and Algorithm**

Figure 1: Proposed Architecture

Proposed Algorithm

Step1: Take input text.

Step2: Tokenize the input text.

Step3: Corpus creation by Manual Tagging.

Step4: Train the corpus using the SVMTool.

Step5: Get the tagged output text.

Step6: Creating training set of data.

Step7: POS Tagging the training data.

Step8: Format the training data in the form of Penn Treebank structure.

Step9: Training the system using svm_cfg_learn module of SVM.

Step10: Testing the system with model files created in the previous step using svm_cfg_classify module of SVM.

Step11: Display the output of input test sentence in Syntactic Parse Tree form using Tree Viewer.

POS Tagger module

This section explains the first few steps of the proposed algorithm that is used in the construction of the POS Tagger module [6].

Tokenize the input text

Random sentences which are downloaded from online newspapers are changed into a column format suitable to the SVM tool. Blank space is used as the column separator. The corpus data has been tokenized since the input to the SVM tool must be in form of token.

Corpus creation by Manual Tagging

After tokenizing corpus consists of untagged tokens. The corpus is then tagged manually using proposed SJE C Tagset. Initially around 750 words are tagged manually. The sample of the training data is showed in Table 2.

Train the corpus using the SVM Tool

The tagged corpus is trained using SVM (SVMTlearn, component of SVM tool). The training with SVM produces a dictionary with merged model and its feature set (Lexicon). This lexicon contains the tagged Kannada words with its group of tags probability parameters.

Get the tagged output text for new test sentence.

When given a new input sentence, it is first tokenized manually and the module uses the SVMTagger to tag each word in the sentence with the corresponding part of speech tag. If the given input sentence is already trained, it refers that in order to tag otherwise; the module predicts the tag for the word using SVM probabilities.

Syntactic Parser Module

This section explains the remaining steps of the proposed algorithm that is used in the construction of the Syntactic Parser Module.

Creating training set of data:

The proposed Tulu Treebank corpus consists of 150 random Tulu sentences. These sentences were constructed by following all the rules of good corpora.



**Renita Blossom Monteiro and Divya****POS Tagging the training data**

In this step we have to assign Parts-of-speech tag for each word in the sentence. For this purpose we make use of the POS Tagger model created earlier. This model will assign syntactic tags for training and testing sentences.

Format the training data in the form of Penn Treebank structure

In this step we manually find out the syntactic structure of each and every sentence in the corpus. The sentences in the training corpus were divided into phrases and phrases are further divided to one or more words.

Training the system using svm_cfg_learn module of SVM

Svm_cfg is a tool for learning models. It is an implementation of the Support Vector Methods (SVM) algorithm for learning context free grammar. To run the training set following command is executed:

```
./svm_cfg_learn --s 40 -c 1.0 -l 1 --a 1 --b 1 --c 1 train. data model
```

This command trains using all sentences of length at most 40. The regularization parameter c equal to 1.0 and a, b, c are the features to include in the representation. SVM is trained on the training set tpenn which is the file that contains Penn Treebank corpus, and outputs the learned grammar to the files model.svm and model. grammar.

Testing the system with model files using svm_cfg_classify module of SVM

The classification module can be used to apply the learned model to new examples. To test the training set execute the following command:

```
./svm_cfg_classify test model prediction
```

The input given for classify is in the form of Penn Treebank structure. Prediction is the output obtained which contains the predicted parse trees.

Display the output of input test sentence in Syntactic Parse Tree forms using Tree Viewer:

The syntactic parse tree of the test sentence is created and displayed by using "Syntax Tree Viewer" software developed using Java language.

Evaluation and Result

In our project we have developed the corpus of size 140 different sentences and the result obtained was promising. We have evaluated the performance of the system developed using svm_cfg_classify module and few incorrect outputs were observed. We enhanced the performance by adding the input sentences to the corpus whose outputs were incorrect during evaluation. The performance of the system was also evaluated for the sentences which were out of corpus. We found that performance and accuracy of the system increases as the size of the corpus is increased.

CONCLUSION

Due to less availability of data resources and complexities of the language we have noted that development in natural language processing for South Dravidian languages like Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam and Tulu are very slow. At present we started with a set of 140 Tulu sentences using 37 tags from our Tulu tagset. Our POS tagger model is capable of analyzing and generating more tags for the given input sentences, single tag for each word. The syntactic parser system uses the developed POS tagger for assigning grammatical category to each and every word in the training and test sentences and it provides syntactic parse tree for the given sentences. This model will be very useful for bilingual machine translation from English to Tulu language. In the future we are planning to expand the size of corpus with more sentences. The performance of the proposed POS tagger model and syntactic parser model can be improved by incorporating more syntactical information by increasing more and more sentence types and well-formed large corpus.





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Table 1: Tagged words

TAG	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLE [ENGLISH]
<NN>	NOUN	ಆನು (ANU) [BOY]
<NNC>	COMPOUND NOUN	ಬೋರಿದಗಾಡಿ (BORIDAGADI)
<NNP>	PROPER NOUN	ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ (KARNATAKA)
<NNPC>	COMPOUND PROPER NOUN	ಅಬ್ದುಲ್ಕಲಾಂ (ABDULKALAM)
<CRD>	CARDINAL	ಒಂಜಿ (OMJI) [ONE]
<ORD>	ORDINAL	ಒಂಜನೆ (OMJANE) [FIRST]
<PRP>	PRONOUN	ಆಯೆ (AYE) [HE]
<ADJ>	ADJECTIVE	ಪೊರ್ಲುಡ (PORLUDA) [BEAUTIFUL]
<ADV>	ADVERB	ಬೇಗಡು (BEGADU) [SPEEDILY]
<VNAJ>	VERB NONFINITE ADVERB	ಬತ್ತಿನಆನು (BATTINA ANU) [THE BOY WHO CAME]
<VNAV>	VERB NONINFINITE ADVERB	ಬತ್ತುದುಪೋಯೆ (BATTUDUPOYE) [CAME AND WENT BACK]
<VBG>	VERBAL GERUND	ಬರ್ಪಿನ (BARPINA) [COMING]
<VBC>	VERB CONTINGENT	ಒಂಜಬರ್ಪೆ (OMJABARPE) [MIGHT COME]
<VF>	VERB FINITE	ಬರೆಯೆ (BAREYE) [WROTE]
<VAX>	AUXILIARY VERB	ತೂವೊಂದುಲೆ (TUVOMDULLE) [WAS + ING]
<VINT>	VERB INFINITE	ತೂವರೆ (TUVARE) [TO SEE]
<CNJ>	CONJUNCTION	ಬೊಕ್ಕ (BOKKA) [AND]





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Table 2: Manual Tagging

ಸಿಲೆತೆ<NNP>	ದಾಳಿಂಬೆ<NN>
ಒಂಜಿ<DET>	ಚಿಲಿಪೆ<ADV>
ಸಿಲೆರೆ<NN>	ಉಂಡು<VF>
ದೆತೊಂಡಲ್<VF>	. <DOT>
. <DOT>	ಆಯಗ್<PRP>
ಯಾನ್<PRP>	ಪಣವು<NN>
ಆಯನ್<PRP>	ನಷ್ಟ ಆಂಡ್<VF>
ಉಂತಯೆ<VF>	. <DOT>
. <DOT>	

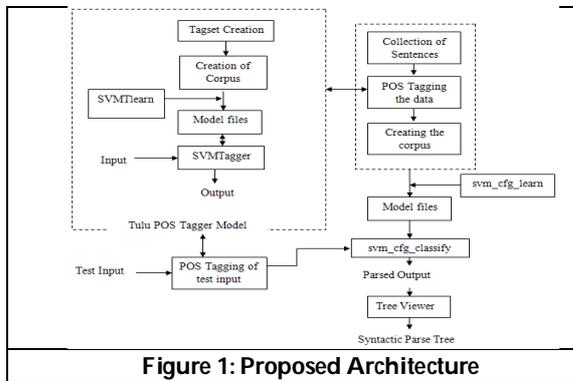


Figure 1: Proposed Architecture

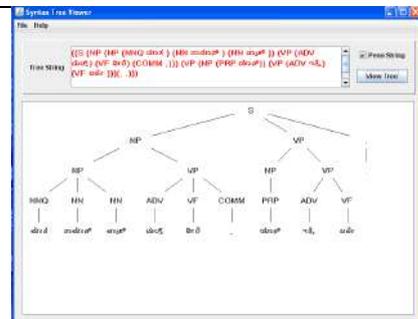


Figure 2: Tree viewer screenshot





A Zero-inflated Poisson Model is used to Estimate the Percentage of Infertile Females using EM Algorithm

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ABSTRACT

The application of the EM algorithm to determine the parameters of a mixture's of maximum likelihood estimates model applied to the distribution of the number of children of married women in the districts of Karnataka state. The applied model is a zero-inflated Poisson model. The data have been obtained from the 2001 census report. The maximum likelihood estimates of the parameters in the zero – inflated model for the data of the districts of Karnataka are computed and the relevance of the zero – inflated model is demonstrated in comparison with the regular model.

Keywords: Poisson regression, Maximum Likelihood Estimate, Census Data, Fertility.

INTRODUCTION

This research work is a comprehensive illustration of the application of the EM algorithm to determine the parameters of a mixture's of maximum likelihood estimates model applied to the distribution of the number of children of married women in the districts of Karnataka state. The applied model is a zero-inflated Poisson model. The data have been obtained from the 2001 census report. Census is a very important national activity which gives a very clear picture of the size of the population of the country along with information on a number of socio-economic measures which are important for the developmental plan of the country. It is a complete enumeration of the households of the country and collects information of the family size, marital status of the members, type of accommodation, living amenities etc. The consolidated census report gives the distribution of the number of children of married women in all the districts of a state. The aggregated data give the distribution of the number of

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children of married women in the whole state and intern in the entire country. The Indian census is the most comprehensive single source of a wide range of statistical data on various facets of the Indian population. Since its inception in 1870, when India's first census was carried out asynchronously in various regions, this trustworthy, time-tested exercise has been producing a true wealth of facts every 10 years. The Indian census has been a fascinating source of information for academics and researchers in many different fields, including demography, economics, anthropology, sociology, and statistics. The decennial census, which has evolved into one of the tools to comprehend and analyse India, really highlights the vast diversity of the country's population. A population census is the entire process of gathering, collating, analysing, or otherwise disseminating demographic, economic, and social statistics pertaining to all people in a country or a clearly defined area of a country at a certain period. As a result, the census offers snapshots of the nation's housing and population at a particular period. Information on the population's size, distribution, socioeconomic status, demographics, and other details is provided by the census. The government, non-governmental organisations, researchers, business and private businesses, etc. use the census data for administration, planning, and policy making as well as management and assessment of various programmes. Demarcating constituencies and allocating representation to the state legislatures, the national legislature, and the local local government. Census data are used by researchers and demographers to forecast population growth and trends. The census data is vital for businesses and industries to plan and enhance their operations so that they might expand into markets that have up until now been untapped.

The distribution of the number of children for a fertile woman is of considerable interest for the future plan of the country. But the information that whether a married woman is fertile or sterile is not recorded as per the schedule of the census. This leads to the situation that the proportion of sterile women to be unknown. And the census report gives the distribution of the number of children for all married women without segregating them into sterile or fertile. The proportion of sterile women is also of demographic importance. Hence a model which accommodates the fact that a sterile women cannot reproduce will be of much use. The maximum likelihood estimation of the parameters in the model is also discussed. When a likelihood function does not yield closed form expressions for the maximum likelihood estimates of the parameters in the density (model), the EM algorithm is useful to compute the estimates. The algorithm is employed to compute the maximum likelihood estimates of the parameters of the zero – inflated model and the details of the adaptation of the algorithm are also explained in the further studies. The maximum likelihood estimates of the parameters in the zero – inflated model for the data of the districts of Karnataka are computed. Further, the relevance of the zero – inflated model is demonstrated in comparison with the regular model.

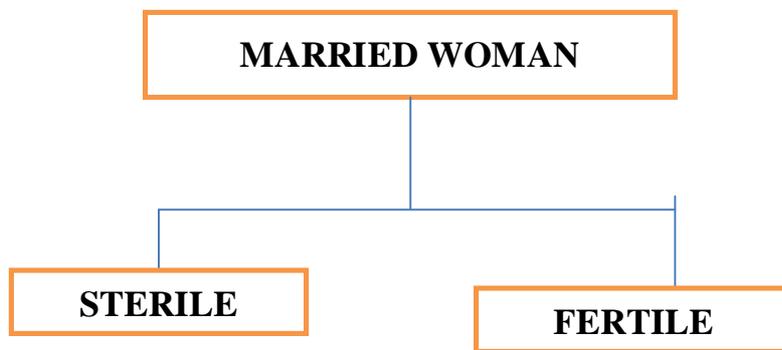
In studies of quality in business, the Poisson distribution is frequently utilized in count-related statistics. A Poisson distribution is frequently used to estimate how many faults or nonconformities there are in a unit. Because too many points can be outside of control boundaries when the classic c-chart, which is based on the Poisson distribution, is employed in statistical process control, there are frequently false alarms in many circumstances. The occurrence of a big number of zero counts is a condition that is happening more and more frequently. It has been noted that the Poisson distribution frequently does not match count data well when there are numerous zero-count data (Campbell et al., 1991; Freund et al., 1999; Bohning, 1998; Shankar et al., 1997; Miaou, 1994). Instead, various other models are preferred. The computed control limits are incorrectly narrow because the Poisson model frequently underestimates the observed dispersion. Therefore, it is recommended to look into extending the basic Poisson distribution to one that can be utilised to describe a bigger dispersion impact. A model was created as a zero-defect process subject to random shocks in the framework of statistical process control (Xie and Goh, 1993). The probability that a random shock will occur is assumed to be p , and when one does, it is possible to find nonconformities, and the quantity of them in this unit follows a Poisson distribution. The distribution of the number of nonconformities by $P(\text{no nonconformities in a sample unit}) = (1 - p)e^{-\mu}$ and $P(\text{nonconformities in a sample unit}) = p\mu^k e^{-\mu} / k!$. This model is generally known as zero-inflated Poisson (ZIP) model that has attracted some attention recently (Gupta et al., 1996; Bohning et al., 1999; Li et al., 1999).





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The use of zero-inflated Poisson model in statistical process control is further investigated. As zero-inflated Poisson distribution is a generalization of Poisson distribution and it is complicated, it should be used only when the Poisson distribution is not valid. A number of tests for Poisson distribution and zero-inflated Poisson alternative are compared. The control chart based on this model is derived and implementation issues are discussed. Some further investigations on the statistical properties of this control chart are presented. Zero inflated models have gained importance in the recent past due their variety application, especially in the count regression, and their ready to use nature. A zero inflated Poisson model is described in this chapter. This model suits to describe the distribution of the number of children for married women taking the fact that a sterile women cannot reproduce into consideration. Biologically a woman may be fertile or sterile. A sterile woman cannot reproduce. The following diagram explains this situation.



STERILE
FERTILE

Reproduction not possible
May or may not reproduce

Suppose that the number of children of a fertile married woman in the population under study has Poisson distribution with mean and the proportion of sterile women is ϕ . Let X denotes the number of children of observed married women, Take

$$Z = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if the woman is sterile} \\ 1, & \text{if the womans is fertile} \end{cases}$$

Then,

$$P(Z=1) = 1 - \phi = 1 - P(Z=0)$$

And

$$P(X=0/Z=0) = 1$$

$$P(X=x/Z=1) = \frac{e^{-\theta} \theta^x}{x!}, \text{ if } x = 0,1,2,\dots, \theta > 0$$

Therefore the probability mass function of X is given by,





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$$P(X = x | \theta, \varphi) = p(x) = \begin{cases} \varphi + (1 - \varphi)e^{-\theta}, & \text{if } x = 0 \\ (1 - \varphi) \frac{e^{-\theta} \theta^x}{x!}, & \text{if } x = 1, 2, 3, \dots \end{cases}$$

Where,

$$p_0(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x = 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } x \neq 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad p_1(x | \theta) = \frac{e^{-\theta} \theta^x}{x!}, \text{ if } x = 0, 1, 2, \dots; \theta > 0.$$

Thus, the distribution of X is a mixture (or a convex combination) of a singular distribution at 0 and a Poisson distribution with mean.

If $X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ is a random sample on X, the likelihood function is given by

$$L\left(\theta, \frac{\varphi}{x}\right) = \prod_{j=1}^n P(X_j = \frac{x_j}{\theta}, \varphi).$$

It can be written as

$$L\left(\theta, \frac{\varphi}{x}\right) = \prod_{j=1}^n \left\{ \varphi + (1 - \varphi)e^{-\theta} \right\}^{1-a_j} \left\{ (1 - \varphi) \frac{e^{-\theta} \theta^{x_j}}{x_j!} \right\}, \theta > 0; 0 < \varphi < 1$$

Where $a_j = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } x_j = 0 \\ 1, & \text{if } x_j \geq 1 \end{cases}$, the above likelihood function does not yield closed form expression for the maximum

likelihood estimates (MLEs) of θ and φ . Hence a numerical procedure has to be employed to maximize the likelihood function for a given x. the usual newton Raphson method is cumbersome and it may not converge due to flat surface of the like lihopod function or boundary conditions. For details see yip (1988) and Nanjundan (2006).

When the likelihood functions have complicated structures and their maximisation by numerical methods is difficult, the MLEs of the parameters can be computed by the Expectation Maximisation (EM) algorithm with ease. It is popular and remarkably simple. It is an iterative procedure and there are two steps (E-step) and the maximisation step (M-step). This algorithm was developed by Dumpster, Laird and Rubin (1977) who synthesised an earlier formulation in many particular cases and gave a general method of finding the MLEs in a variety of problems. Since then the EM algorithm has been applied to a variety of statistical problems such a resolution of mixtures, multi-way contingency tables, variance components estimation, and factor analysis. It has also found applications in specialized areas like genetics, medical imaging, and neural networks. For a detailed discussion, see McLachlan and Krishnan(1997) and Krishnan(2004). Nanjundan (2006) has obtained the E- and the M- steps by rewriting the likelihood function in (2.1) so as to accommodate missing data.

Let $Z_j = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if the } j\text{-th sampled woman is fertile.} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

Then, we have $P(Z_j=1) = 1 - \varphi = 1 - P(Z_j=0), j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$

Suppose that $X=(X_1, X_2 \dots X_n)$ is the observed sample on X.





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Then, $((X_1, Z_1), (X_2, Z_2), \dots, (X_n, Z_n))$ became the complete sample when (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) is augmented with (Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_n) . If $X_j = 0$, then $Z_j = 1$ and if $X_j > 0$, then $Z_j = 0$ or 1. In other words, for $X_j = 0$, we have no information on Z_j . hence, $\{Z_j: X_j = 0\}$ can be treated as the missing data.

The likelihood function of the complete data is given by

$$L_e(\theta, \varphi/x, u) = \prod_{j=1}^n \varphi^{1-u_j} \left[(1-\varphi) \frac{e^{-\theta} \theta^{x_j}}{x_j!} \right]^{u_j}$$

Where $u_j = 1$, if $x_j > 0$ and $u_j = Z_j$ if $x_j = 0$

In the E-step, the expectation of the likelihood function of the complete data is taken and $E(Z_j)$ is replaced by the condition expectation $E(Z_j | \theta_0, \varphi_0, X_j)$, where θ_0 and φ_0 are respectively the initial estimates of θ and φ . In the M-Step, $E(L_e(\theta, \varphi/x, u))$ is maximized with respect to θ and φ . If θ_1 and φ_1 are the values of θ and φ which is maximum $E(L_e(\theta, \varphi/x, u))$, then the E-step is repeated using θ_1 and φ_1 .

The computational details of these steps can be summarized as follows.

- a) Choose the initial estimates θ_0 and φ_0 .
- b) Compute $w = \frac{(1-\varphi_0)e^{-\theta_0}}{\varphi_0 + (1-\varphi_0)e^{-\theta_0}}$.
- c) Using the realization (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) of the observed sample, compute

$$\theta_1 = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n x_j}{n_g + n_0 w} \quad \text{And} \quad \varphi_1 = \frac{n_0(1-w)}{n}$$

Where n_g is the number of observations greater than zero.

- d) Repeat the steps b) and c) by fixing $\theta_0 = \theta_1$ and $\varphi_0 = \varphi_1$ until a required precision is attained.

A reasonable initial estimate of φ is n_0/n and the mean of the observed sample can be taken as the initial estimate of θ . If $\{\theta_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ and $\{\varphi_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ are respectively the sequence of EM iterates of the estimates of θ and φ and they converge, their limites are the MLEs of θ and φ , [for proof see Dempster et al (1977).] Nanjundan (2006) has observed that the above sequence of EM iterates coverage for every simulated for various combinations of θ and φ .

Since the maximum likelihood estimates of θ and φ are those values of θ and φ that maximize the likelihood functions after two successive iterations is less than a pre assigned threshold value h , say 10^{-5} or 10^{-6} .

Experiment and Analysis

This study is a comprehensive illustration of the application of the EM algorithm to compute the maximum likelihood estimates of the parameters of a mixture model applied to the distribution of the number of children of married women in the districts of Karnataka state. The applied model is a Zero-inflated Poisson model. The data have been obtained from the 2001 census report. Following table shows the distribution of children of married women for districts of Karnataka as per the 2001 census. Married women may be fertile or sterile. A sterile woman cannot reproduce whereas a fertile woman may or may not reproduce. The number of children of fertile married women may be zero because of many reasons. During the census who women is not asked whether she is fertile or sterile. Such a question is very embarrassing. Even when asked a women may not answer such a question due to several reasons like personal, social, familial, religious etc. Also, a married women who does not have any children may not even know whether she is fertile or sterile. If a woman has at least one child, it is certain that she is fertile. From the consolidated census report, it is not directly possible to estimate the proportion of sterile women in a district or a state. This study attempts to fit a zero -inflated model to the district wise census data for the number of children of married women and estimate the proportion sterile women.

The following is the three dimensional graph of the log-likelihood for the Bagalkot data set. A dimensional graph can be drawn in the R Environment by default to get the three dimensional graph.





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It can be observed that the EM computations seem to be correct in comparison with the above three dimensional graph of the log-likelihood function. The maximum likelihood estimates of θ and φ have been computed for all the districts of Karnataka. Also, it has been verified that the algorithm converges very fast in the case of each data sets of each district. Tables like above for all the districts have not been given to avoid monotony. But the estimates correct to 6 decimal places have been given in a consolidated table.

Further, the zero-inflated model has been fitted to the distribution of the number of children of married women. The estimates of the probabilities $P(X= x)$, $x = 1, 2, 3 \dots$ have been computed using the maximum likelihood estimates of θ and φ obtained via the EM algorithm. The below table gives the estimates of the probabilities and Chi-square statistic for Zero-inflated Poisson model for Bagalkot census data.

$$\chi^2 = \sum_j \frac{(f_j - e_j)^2}{e_j} = 60968.4$$

The below table gives the estimates of the probabilities and Chi-square statistic for Poisson model for Bagalkot census data.

$$\chi^2 = \sum_j \frac{(f_j - e_j)^2}{e_j} = 191773.6$$

From the above two tables we notice that Chi-square value of Zero inflated Poisson model is less than the Chi-square value of Poisson model for this Bagalkot census data. The Chi-square values of both models are large as the data is inadequate for fitting both the models. Comparatively the fitting of Zero-inflated Poisson model is better than fitting of Poisson model. The table below explains the ML estimates of theta and phi, chi -square values of zero inflated Poisson model for the entire 27 districts of Karnataka census data of 2001.

From the above table we notice that chi - square value of zero - inflated Poisson model is less than the chi-square value of Poisson model for all the 27 districts of the Karnataka census data. So the chi-square value of zero-inflated Poisson model is better than chi-square value of Poisson model.

CONCLUSIONS

Census records shows that the number of children of married women from household to household. But all married women cannot reproduce. That is a married woman may be sterile or fertile. It is not possible to obtain the proportion of sterile women in a district. Assuming that the number of children of a married fertile woman follows a Poisson distribution with mean Θ and the proportion of sterile woman to be Ψ , a zero-inflated Poisson model has been fitted to the distribution of the number of children of married women in the districts of Karnataka. The maximum likelihood estimates of the parameters Θ and Ψ have been computed using the EM algorithm. It has been demonstrated that EM iterative procedure converges fast. Using these estimates zero-inflated Poisson model has been fitted to the distribution of the number of children of married women in each of the districts. But the value of the chi-square goodness of fit statistics indicates that the zero-inflated Poisson model is not a good fit to the observed data. But its fit better than the regular Poisson distribution. Zero-inflated negative binomial distribution also does not fit well. This is the major limitation of this research work. Hence it remains to find a discrete distribution which fits to the distribution of the number of children of married women in each of the districts of the state. However, a zero-inflated model is a better fit to the distribution of interests than the regular distribution and it gives the estimates of the proportion of sterile women in the population under study.





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Table.1. Experiment and Analysis

Number of children for married women									
SI NO	District	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7 and above
1	Belgaum	176873	153066	241588	247399	165594	94615	55793	81205
2	Bagalkot	86519	59831	73873	82792	63247	39557	24935	39628
3	Bijapur	82567	56779	72491	86673	71304	45526	29308	47584
4	Gulbarga	136162	96825	122703	123672	115720	82322	55072	83038
5	Bihar	57685	40670	52044	67305	64046	40722	25628	34475
6	Raichur	75757	60027	72846	69871	58752	38536	25059	38510
7	Koppala	54446	41526	49461	50325	41646	27738	18501	32933
8	Gadag	39466	34562	45406	50805	37100	22927	14981	24440
9	Dharwad	64276	60580	85862	87317	59081	33409	20200	31153
10	U kannada	35702	48900	76516	67824	48937	30703	20209	32446
11	Haveri	48267	45893	69798	76584	52364	31199	20027	35093
12	Bellary	80013	73570	93219	91809	72609	45560	29286	52286
13	Chitradurga	59082	55855	89406	80984	53466	32330	20221	30877
14	Davanagere	62512	60695	101718	93924	61985	36040	23441	40262
15	Shimoga	50658	62295	117105	88501	52960	30627	19747	32418
16	Udupi	35364	44065	68239	57580	39921	26424	18148	29464
17	Chikmangalore	41236	47782	93136	61503	34170	19250	11764	17994
18	Tumkur	98956	112515	192089	140291	87224	51446	32866	46870
19	Kolar	108999	107373	169647	132683	84462	49305	30030	44341
20	Bengaluru	330568	341736	518920	283889	151005	78929	46644	67486
21	Blr (Rural)	71269	74043	13787	99755	62667	38060	24577	36243
22	Mandya	62667	71471	145327	102248	60803	35680	23066	31200
23	Hassan	54267	65762	146046	97982	57217	32661	20458	28160
24	D kannada	60298	75511	108930	88201	56125	37352	25908	49736
25	Kodagu	17264	244912	49742	30781	15447	8325	5098	7935
26	Mysore	96085	110399	199198	143351	84521	47999	30208	43614
27	Chamraj Nagar	41809	40409	73224	54057	31812	18298	11234	15657





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Table 1.

x	Observed Frequency (F)	Estimates of Probabilities P(X=x)	Expected frequency (e _j)	$\frac{(f_j - e_j)}{e_j}$
0	86519	0.184000	86550	0.011311
1	59831	0.099185	51655	2721.184
2	73873	0.166282	79116	241.1547
3	82792	0.185845	88018	244.8141
4	69247	0.165783	74278	1373.017
5	39557	0.108800	49638	1868.609
6	24935	0.062138	27861	232.1717
7	39628	0.027963	13266	54287.43
Total	470382	1.000000	470382	60968.4

Table 2.

x	Observed Frequency (F)	Estimates of Probabilities P(X=x)	Expected frequency (e _j)	$\frac{(f_j - e_j)}{e_j}$
0	86519	0.058694	27608	125702.5
1	59831	0.166421	78282	4348.738
2	73873	0.230776	108554	11080.28
3	82792	0.222994	104893	4656.881
4	69247	0.158071	74354	1659.069
5	39557	0.089645	42165	161.2887
6	24935	0.042361	19926	1259.248
7	39628	0.031038	14600	42905.60
Total	470382	1.000000	470382	191773.6

SINO	District	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7 and above	Theta	phi	chi square value (zero-inflated)	chi square value (Poisson)
1	Belgaum	176873	153066	241588	247399	165594	94615	55793	81205	3.1466	0.107	109263	224092.5
2	Bagalkot	86519	59831	73873	82792	63247	39557	24935	39628	3.353	0.1535	60968.3	191773.6
3	Bijapur	82567	56779	72491	86673	71304	45526	29308	47584	3.5135	0.1422	66006.7	233583.6
4	Gulbarga	136162	96825	122703	123672	115720	82322	55072	83038	3.5762	0.1423	119343	450896.9
5	Bihar	57685	40670	52044	67305	64046	40722	25628	34475	3.598	0.1268	32796.1	163626.5
6	Raichur	75757	60027	72846	69871	58752	38536	25059	38510	3.352	0.1424	65326.1	171832.7
7	Koppala	54446	41526	49461	50325	41646	27738	18501	32933	3.4676	0.1453	61459.22.9	160398.2
8	Gadag	39466	34562	45406	50805	37100	22927	14981	24440	3.362	0.156	38560.4	87343.3
9	Dharwad	64276	60580	85862	87317	59081	33409	20200	31153	3.132	0.1066	48567.1	87673.03
10	Ukannada	35702	48900	76516	67824	48937	30703	20209	32446	3.259	0.0626	56834.1	67753.47
11	Haveri	48267	45893	69798	76584	52364	31199	20027	35093	3.3417	0.0953	56862.1	103670.4
12	Bellary	80013	73570	93219	91809	72609	45560	29286	52286	3.36	0.118	97465.9	193130.4
13	Chitradurga	59082	55855	89406	80984	53466	32330	20221	30877	3.136	0.1008	51753.7	79092.97
14	Davanagere	62512	60695	101718	93924	61985	36040	23441	40262	3.204	0.0933	73806.1	103928.1





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16	Udupi	35364	44065	68239	57580	39921	26424	18148	29464	3.252	0.0749	57896.5	71281.08
17	Chikmangalore	41236	47782	93136	61503	34170	19250	11764	17994	2.786	0.0688	47612.9	27523.97
18	Tumkur	98956	112515	192089	140291	87224	51446	32866	46870	2.93	0.0803	98995.9	114240.5
19	Kolar	108999	107373	169647	132683	84462	49305	30030	44341	2.943	0.102	87588.8	99175.06
20	Bengaluru	330568	341736	518920	283889	151005	78929	46644	67486	2.986	0.122	88349	141138.4
21	Blr (Rural)	71269	74043	13787	99755	62667	38060	24577	36243	3.447	0.142	121751	232739.7
22	Mandya	62667	71471	145327	102248	60803	35680	23066	31200	2.914	0.067	66732.5	81242.08
23	Hassan	54267	65762	146046	97982	57217	32661	20458	28160	2.87	0.054	65698.1	78645.2
24	D kannada	60298	75511	108930	88201	56125	37352	25908	49736	3.197	0.087	127311	133687.1
25	Kodagu	17264	244912	49742	30781	15447	8325	5098	7935	1.6502	0.0002	32881.9	46575.8
26	Mysore	96085	110399	199198	143351	84521	47999	30208	43614	2.8659	0.0745	96735.9	193652.6
27	Chamraj Nagar	41809	40409	73224	54057	31812	18298	11234	15657	2.8714	0.094	32254.9	37525.86

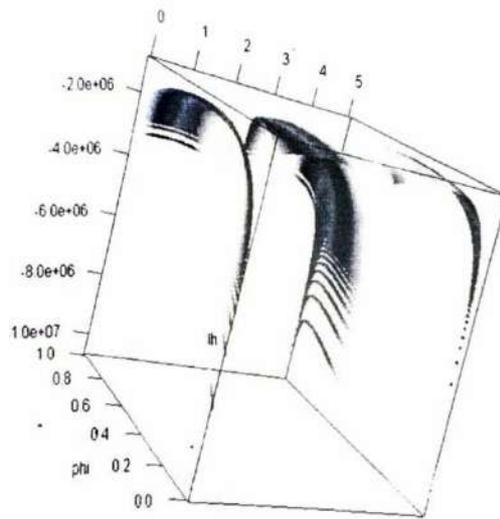


Fig.1. Experiment and Analysis





Hairy Root Cultures as a Combinatorial Approach for Enhanced Production of Gymnemic Acid from Leaves of *Gymnema sylvestre* R. Br.

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ABSTRACT

Gymnema sylvestre is an important medicinal botanical especially for diabetes. It is widely used folk medicine and prescribed even in Ayurvedic medicine for the treatment of diabetes and associated disorders. There is a necessity to propagate important and threatened medicinal botanicals through cell cultures which facilitate rapid propagation. Therefore, a rapid micropropagation protocol was developed using nodal parts as explants where proliferation of multiple shoots were obtained using MS medium supplemented with 1mg/l BAP and 4mg/l Adenine sulphate. All the shoots regenerated were subjected to transfer to a rooting medium provided with 2mg/l of IBA. Then the hairy roots formation was observed at the end of 3rd week by infecting the leaf with *Agrobacterium rhizogenes* and evaluated for the production of bioactive gymnemic acid where, the treatment of hairy roots with 100 µM Jasmonic acid enhanced 4.5 folds (2.5±0.3 mg/g DW) gymnemic acid production on the 15th day of elicitor treatment when compared to control. The results obtained were remarkable and find immense applications in biotechnological research and industries for up scaling of bioactive phytoconstituents and metabolites.

Keywords: *Gymnema sylvestre*, hairy-roots, *Agrobacterium rhizogenes*, gymnemic acid, elicitation





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INTRODUCTION

Plants are a valuable resources and source of various bioactive phytochemicals which finds immense applications in healing of various disorders. Plants produce a high diversity of biologically active secondary metabolites [1]. Micropropagation is a sustainable and effective approach for the medicinal plants conservation. Hairy roots developed genetically through *Agrobacterium rhizogenes* (*A. rhizogenes*) transformation offers effective and capable tools for production of useful molecules. Moreover, whole plants can be regenerated from these hairy-roots and also aids in production of uniform clones. Further, *A. rhizogenes* transformation induces the transgenic root formation (Ri T-DNA) within only few weeks when compared to *A. tumefaciens* based transformation which takes 4-6 months to produce transgenic plants. Elicitors are compounds both biotic and abiotic in nature which are capable of stimulating plant defense or stress-induced responses leading to the over production of phytochemicals [2-3]. The application of elicitors exogenously helps in evaluating the plant responses for enhanced production of potential and value added phytochemicals.

Gymnema sylvestre (*G. sylvestre*) is most valuable botanical with anti-diabetic potential. It is commonly referred as "Periploca of the woods" belonging to Apocynaceae. It is a large, woody branched climber with more young parts (pubescent), perennial woody climber, and native to India. There is a growing demand for *G. sylvestre* in the pharmaceutical trade because of valuable bioactive compounds, gymnemic acid, gymnestrogenin and 23-hydroxyl nogispinogenin [4-5]. Among these, gymnemic acid (GA) possesses wide medicinal properties like anti-diabetic anti-hypercholesterolemia, antimicrobial and anti-saccharine [6]. Further, the roots are prescribed as an anti-dote to the venom of poisonous snakes [7]. Therefore, this work involves a combinatorial approach involving elicitors and hairy roots for the enhanced production of bioactive gymnemic acid.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Plant material and Cell cultures

The plants collected from Herbal garden, Agricultural University, Hyderabad were used for obtaining explants. The leaves, internodes, petiole were excised and washed carefully under tap water for 10 min. and carried to laminar airflow bench. They were then subjected to surface sterilization process with teepol (Tween-20) for 10 min, HgCl₂ (mercuric chloride; 0.1% (w/v) for 5min., bavistin (0.1%) for 2 min. and finally rinsed with sterile distilled water. Inoculation was carried out on MS medium complemented with sucrose (3%), BAP, Adenine sulphate, Kinetin (at varied combinations). MS medium supplemented with 3% sucrose and various concentrations of IBA, IAA and NAA facilitated root formation for the *in vitro* grown shoots. The pH was maintained at 5.8, before adding agar, and then the medium was sterilized in an autoclave under general conditions (121°C for 15 min.). After which the cultures were incubated for 16 hours under fluorescent light at 24±2°C.

Hairy root culture induction

The *A. rhizogenes* strains Ar15834, 9402 and A4 were employed hairy roots induction. *A. rhizogenes* strains were grown on YEM (Yeast Extract Mannitol) medium. A loop full of bacteria from a single colony of *Ar* strain was inoculated into the 10ml of liquid YEM medium (pH 7.0) in a 50ml Erlenmeyer flask and incubated at 30°C for 48 hrs on a orbital shaker at 120 rpm. The explants were wounded with sterile needle and infected with the selected *A. rhizogenes* strain by pricking with a needle on the leaf surface. Roots developed at the infection sites were transferred to full strength MS medium (solid) containing cefotaxime (400mg/l) to eliminate bacterial growth. The roots thus obtained (3 cm; 100mg) were inoculated into half-strength YEM medium (liquid), spun at 100rpm on a shaker for 24 h in the dark and used for further experiments.



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Jasmonic Acid (10-200 μ M), Salicylic acid (10-200 μ M), Chitosan (10-200mg/l) were incorporated to the medium in different concentrations from the day of inoculation of hairy roots. The chitosan (Sigma-Aldrich; 1g) was dissolved in acetic acid (2ml) at 60°C for 15 min and make up to 100 ml with dis. H₂O. The pH was maintained at 5.7. Jasmonic acid (JA) was dissolved in absolute ethanol and added directly to the culture medium which induces hairy-roots in various concentrations. Salicylic acid was dissolved in absolute ethanol and added directly to the hairy root culture medium in various concentrations. Treatment was carried out with chitosan, JA and salicylic acid (SA) to study the growth and amount of GA content where cells were harvested from 0-20 days at regular intervals. After harvesting, cells were separated from the medium using a membrane filter, removed moisture and recorded the fresh and dry weights. Cultures without elicitors addition were also included as control groups. A mean of six replicates was shown for data analysis.

The peak of each compound was analyzed using standard (obtained from the Natural Remedies, Bangalore) peak in the HPLC and the GA was quantified by comparing the retention time with that of the standard. The retention time for standard GA in was recorded in three runs and was observed as 1.68 minutes at 210 nm.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The frequency of multiple shoot formation was highest with nodal plants when compared to leaf explants. Among the combinations used, the combination of 2mg/l BAP + 4mg/l Adenine sulphate proved very efficient for direct shoot regeneration with (87.2%) response, with shoot elongation (9.78 \pm 0.53 cm) from nodal explants with no callus formation. The shoots thus regenerated were moved to MS medium consisting of varying concentrations of IBA and IAA where maximum response was observed with 2mg/l IBA. Root initiation was also observed in the same medium and at same concentration of IBA. By the end of 4th week 14.35 \pm 0.36 roots per shoot were observed with root length 10.45 \pm 0.32 cm. The MS + IBA (2.0 mg/l) was explored as an excellent rooting medium for root induction and establishment of plantlets was carried out by transferring them to glasshouse and finally to the field after hardening.

Leaf explants from regenerated shoots were infected with *A. rhizogenes* and more number of hairy roots was initiated after 2-3 weeks with 60% frequency. Of these bacterial strains Ar 15834, produced maximum number of hairy roots (Fig-1). On quantification through HPLC analysis, appreciable amounts of gymnemic acid was obtained in leaf hairy roots (0.53mg/g DW), followed by leaves (0.08mg/gDW), petiole (0.04mg/gDW), nodes (0.02mg.gDW) and inter-nodes (0.001mg/gDW). Whereas, in hairy root cultures of leaf rather than other plant parts, 16th day of Jasmonic acid elicitor (100 μ M) treatment resulted in highest GA content (2.5 \pm 0.3 mg/gDW), a 4.5-folds higher compared to respective control (0.62 \pm 0.01 mg/gDW) in HPLC analysis. But after the 16th day a decrease in GA was observed (1.6 \pm 0.3 mg/gDW). In chitosan treated cells, there was a steady increase in GA production from 5th day of inoculation, GA content at 150 mg/l for 15 days of treatment elicited the GA production (1.48 \pm 0.30 mg/gDW) which was 3 folds higher than the control. In Salicylic acid treated cells, at 50 μ M for 10days of treatment elicited highest GA (1.35 \pm 0.47 mg/gDW) production, while in 100 μ M for 15 days there was decreased (1.33 \pm 0.30 mg/gDW) followed by decrease in the production with 200 μ M cultures for 20 days (1.03 \pm 0.28).

The indiscriminate use of the selected botanical, *G. sylvestre* for commercial purposes makes the plant to get extinct from the natural habitat. Therefore, an attempt was made to achieve a higher frequency of direct regeneration from axillary nodal, shoot tip explants for successful micropropagation. BAP is said to be the inducer of multiple shooting. Similar findings of multiple shoot induction were observed in *Enicostemma littorale* [8]. In our present study, BAP in combination with Adenine sulphate has improved shoot length and multiple shoot formation when compared to Kinetin. A combination of BAP (1.0mg/l) and Adenine sulphate (4.0mg/l) in MS medium promoted the proliferation of shoots which resulted in 12.52 \pm 0.2994 shoots with a length of 7.783 \pm 0.5382 cm. The BAP has significantly improved the shoot length number of shoots in combination with Adenine sulphate than Kinetin. It is



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well known that axillary shoot regeneration is effective with BAP [9-12] and the results obtained in the present study are in agreement with those of published reports. The MS medium with BAP was more found more effective than kinetin as described [13] especially for shoot induction and proliferation. However, various concentrations of Kinetin did not show any shoot proliferation and this was in contradiction with the published report. The shoots survived well after sub-culturing onto medium containing minimal concentrations of BAP (1.0mg/l). The shoots of *Hemidesmus indicus* were grown normally when sub-cultured on low concentrations of BAP and similar responses were observed [14]. From previous studies revealed [15-16] leaf contain higher gymnemic acid content compared to other plant parts. In the present work, HPLC analysis also confirmed hairy roots derived from leaf showed more presence of gymnemic acid.

CONCLUSION

The method of devised in this research work helps in propagation of *G. sylvestre* and imparts highly reproducible techniques which is rapid and successful that can be utilized for the commercial propagation. Most importantly, the hairy roots established might lead to the enhanced GA content and this can be further explored in biotechnology and biochemical engineering industries. A combinatorial approach involving hairy roots and elicitors further enhanced the bioactive compounds, GA. The results obtained were remarkable and present a reliable and sustainable source of GA and can be further extended for field trial programmes for commercial purposes.

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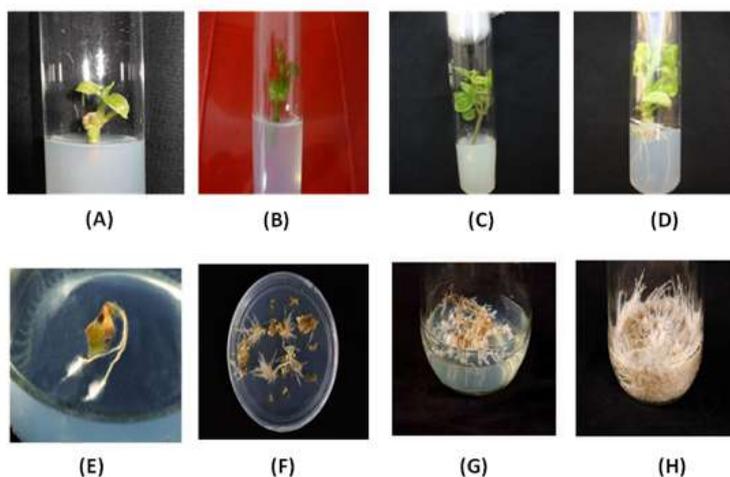


Fig-1: Hairy root formation from leaves of *G. sylvestre* - (A) Initiation of Shoots, (B) Shoot elongation, (C) Proliferation of shoots, (D) Completely developed plant, (E) Hairy root development, (F) Initiation of Hairy root from wounded site, (G) Hairy root development, (H) Fully grown hairy roots with no bacterial contamination





Enhanced AODV Protocol for an Innovative Approach for forecasting of Software Threads

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ABSTRACT

Detecting errors in existing software configurations is critical to improving software quality and agility related to software testing. This article introduces a new way to address program vulnerabilities using an ambiguous end tree. To adapt to the prominent free data available, use ambiguous methods. The decision tree provides an ambiguous way to determine if a software module is faulty. To preliminarily evaluate the system, we'll use two open-source programs. The hallmark of the successful results that are achieved using the ambiguous solution approach is that it outperforms the obscure approach in all field research actually used for evaluation. The wood classifiers used in writing produce more ambiguous results than most other mechanical classifiers.

Keywords: Software defect prediction, Machine learning, Decision tree, Fuzzy theory

INTRODUCTION

Software quality assurance is an important issue in software development and is used to ensure the quality of software. To extend the adequacy of software quality assurance and testing, defect prediction is used to recognize defective modules in a promising software environment and helps to reduce the burden of testing and analyzing these modules [1]. Most of the machine learning-based classifiers used to predict defects are administered. From this point of view, the issue of accurate prediction of defective units is a difficult one, as a result of the unbalanced idea of preparation information (the amount of no defects in the preparation information is much higher than the number of defects). Few defective models during preparation. The real test of defect prediction is to effectively construct a number of distinct defects and reduce the amount of wrongly classified defects, what is more, it is difficult to

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distinguish between measurements applied software that is more likely to separate defects from non-defects. We propose a machine learning strategy that will help us distinguish defects in existing software frameworks. The strategy is based on fuzzy decision trees. Supposedly, our methodology for writing failure predictions is novel. The exploratory assessment of the fuzzy decision tree is performed on two open-source software frameworks and shows that our proposal performs better than most comparable existing ones.

The rest of the paper is organized according to the main points that it pursues. The importance of the software defect prediction issue was illustrated in Section II. Our methodology is inspired by this issue. The essential concepts of fuzzy decision trees and a related method for predicting software defects are explained in Section III. We present our approach for identifying software defects using fuzzy decision trees in Section IV. Area V conducted a test assessment of two open-source software frameworks, fuzzy decision trees, and found that they both have strengths and weaknesses. The analysis of the got results and the relationships they have with similar existing work is summarized in Section VI.

MOTIVATION

The location of software defects tells us about the way in which modules that contain mistakes are distinguished. Disclosure of defective modules is important in ensuring the quality of software improvement processes. A code audit is a type of software quality improvement technique that can be time-consuming and expensive. It is occasionally used to check for potential problems with the codebase. Location of software defects can be helpful in code audit procedures in that it can call attention to parts of the source code where issues are likely to be found. From a managed learning perspective, the issue of recognizing defective software elements is a difficult one, primarily because the preparation information is so imbalanced. It is clear that the software environment contains few defective elements compared to the number of good ones. Thus, the managed classifier for defect recognition will be prepared with a large number of defective precedents, which is much less than the number of good ones. Those research done in writing bug predictions [2] has shown that bug information removed from changelogs and bug reports can be boisterous and uncertain [3]. Our previous research in the field of error prediction (such as [4]) has reinforced that a new division between defective and non-defective substances is extremely elusive, on the whole defective substances appear to be essentially the same as non-defective ones. We think that the fuzzy methodology would be a good decision for trying to ease the recently referenced issues.

FUZZY DECISION TREES

Fuzzy decision trees have been studied in the registration of writing as a hybridization between the traditional decision trees and the fuzzy rationale. The established computation of structural decision trees (ID3, C4.5) is extended towards fuzzy settings [7] by considering partial fluffiness and fragility. At each inner center of the fuzzy tree, all examples in the information index are utilized, but each case is associated with a specific degree of participation. At the root hub, all examples have the participation degree of 1. Each inward hub contains a quality (chosen using Information Gain - Formula (4)) and has one child hub for each fuzzy capacity related to the chosen trait. A leaf hub from a fuzzy decision tree, rather than a separate class (target score) as in the traditional methodology, contains the degree of overall enrollment score in relation to the cumulative enrollment for each of the classes.

A fuzzy decision tree is utilized diversely when another example must be grouped (tried) than a customary one. The test example will be considered to have a place with all branches of the fuzzy decision tree with various degrees given by the stretching fuzzy capacity. A last fuzzy enrolment esteem will be gotten, along these lines, for each leaf hub in the tree. All the enrolments for the leaf hubs are summed for each objective class. The class having the most extreme related participation esteem will be considered as the last grouping for the testing occasion. Normally, the fuzzy decision tree approach thoughtfully joins the fresh methodology when the participation degrees of the fuzzy sets utilized in the process portray fresh enrolments. The exemplary decision





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tree is accordingly a subclass of the fuzzy decision tree and the execution of each fuzzy variation will be in any event in the same class as the fresh reporter.

RELATED WORKS

Software defect location is a well-examined issue, there are a wide range of methodologies displayed in the writing that endeavor to distinguish the defective elements in a software framework. A writing study distributed in 2011, [8], found that 208 papers were distributed regarding this matter somewhere in the range of 2000 and 2010 and from that point forward the quantity of papers has expanded. A large portion of these approaches are administered, implying that they require a few preparing information so as to manufacture the model. There are a few transparently accessible informational indexes that can be utilized for preparing, and in this area we are going to introduce a few methodologies from the writing that utilization for the trial assessment the equivalent informational collections that we have utilized: J Edit and Ant. Okutan and Yildiz present in [9] a methodology that employs Bayesian Networks and the K2 calculation for defect discovery. Other than the effectively existing software measurements they include two new measurements to the informational collection: absence of coding quality (LOCQ) and number of engineers (NOD). For the exploratory assessment, they utilize 9 openly accessible informational indexes (counting J Edit and Ant) also, the usage of the K2 calculation from Weka [10].

METHODOLOGY

In this segment we present our fuzzy decision tree based classifier for recognizing defective software elements in existing software frameworks. As we have recently presented in [4], the elements from a software framework (classes, strategies, capacities) may be spoken to as high-dimensional vectors speaking to the estimations of a few software measurements connected to the considered element. Subsequently, a software framework S is seen as a lot of substances (occurrences) $S = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$ [4]. A lot of software measurements will be utilized as the list of capabilities describing the substances from the software framework, $M = \{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_l\}$. In this way, an element $e_i \in S$ might be envisioned as a l -dimensional vector, $e_i = (e_{i1}, e_{i2}, \dots, e_{il})$, where e_{ij} speaks to the estimation of the software metric m_j connected to the software element e_i . As in a directed learning situation, the mark (class) related for every substance is known (D =defect, N =non-defect). The initial step before applying the fuzzy decision tree based learning approach is the information pre-processing step. At that point, the pre-processed preparing information will be utilized for structure (preparing) the fuzzy decision tree based classifier. The fabricated order model will be then tried so as to assess its execution. These means will be itemized in the accompanying.

EXPERIMENTAL VALUATION

Fuzzy DT model (portrayed in Section IV) on two open source software frameworks which were recently utilized in the software defect prediction writing. We notice that we have utilized our own execution for Fuzzy DT, without utilizing any outsider libraries. [24][25].

Contextual investigations

For the trial assessment of the Fuzzy DT model we have utilized two transparently accessible informational collections, made for two software frameworks written in Java: JEdit (adaptation 4.2)¹ and Ant (form 1.7)². The two informational indexes are accessible at [17]. Subtleties about these two informational indexes can be found the estimations of this measure are contrasted with AUC. [13].

CONCLUSION AND FUTUREWORK

A fuzzy decision tree model has been presented for foreseeing, in an administer edway, those elements from software frame works which are probably going to be defective. The test assessment which was performed on two open-source software frame works gave results superior to anything in the greater part of the comparable existing approaches and featured a generally amazing exhibition of the proposed methodology. Consider ably more the





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fuzzy decision tree approach demonstrated to outflank, for the considered contextual investigations, the fresh DT approach.

Further work will be done so as to expand the test assessment of the fuzzy decision tree approach proposed in this paper. We likewise mean to research a hybridization between the fuzzy DT model and social affiliation rules [26], since we are sure that relations between the values for various software measurements would be consistent in separating defective and non-defective software elements.

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Personalized Traditional Ayurvedic Herbs Combination Prediction in India using Random Forest Predictive Algorithm

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ABSTRACT

Traditional Ayurvedic Medicinal combination prediction is the process of determining the combination of medicine. The first step in treating a patient is making a precise diagnosis based on various sources: physical examination, patient interview, laboratory tests, and the patient's and family's medical history as well as existing medical knowledge. By correctly assessing the condition, physicians can use traditional medicine and its combinations to find the optimal treatment for the patient. This paper is an attempt to predict the best Ayurvedic herbs combination based on various artificial neural network technique.

Keywords: Ayurveda, AI, drug, ANN, RF, Prediction.

INTRODUCTION

India is acknowledged for its ancient medicative systems—Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani [1]. Natural medicinal drug entails using extraordinary components of vegetation, consisting of leaves, roots, bark, vegetation, and seeds, to create treatments which can be believed to assist fitness and deal with diverse illnesses. The Medicine Prediction process is represented in the Figure 1. Two processes are there in the framework which is explained below.

Neural model Training Steps

1. The training starts with identification of individual herbal medicine and corresponding disease.
2. Name of herbal medicine name given as in the form of text annotations.
3. Herbal medicine and the corresponding disease are given as input for model training.





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4. Inputs of a neural network model, such as text annotations and corresponding diseases, are used for training.

Medicine prediction process involves

1. Input includes text annotations and corresponding disease. Input is mapped with random forest predictive algorithm to trained model as input.
2. The combination of medicine generated by employing the trained model.

RELATED WORK

In order to effectively address healthcare concerns, machine learning technology provides an incomparable platform [2]. The effectiveness of several ANN models in classifying an orthopedic ailment is examined by the publication. Multi-Layer Perceptrons (MLPs) and Probabilistic Neural Networks (PNNs) were used to predict the risk variables for osteoporosis [3]. In another study, deep convolution networks are used to construct a new method of classifying leaf images in order to develop a model for plant disease recognition [4].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The whole system of developing the model for herbs combination medicine prediction using random forest predictive algorithm is defined further in detail. The complete process is split into several necessary levels in subsections under, starting with collecting information for machine training.

Dataset

Correct datasets are required at all degrees of medication prediction research, beginning from training phase to evaluating the overall performance of prediction algorithms. All of the information was gathered from articles on herbal remedies as well as current information from tribal people in various Indian locations. One of the booklets titled "Ayurvedic home remedies" provides several straightforward recipes made from ingredients found in and around the kitchen. These preparations are quite efficient for treating common issues like cough, cold, indigestion, and others. These therapies can be used in conjunction with other medications to treat chronic conditions like diabetes, joint pain, and skin ailments [5]. It has been mentioned in journal "Indian Traditional Ayurvedic System of Medicine and Nutritional Supplementation" that includes all the information about various medicinal plants [6].

Methods

This area mainly discuss about the combinational medicine prediction using random forest predictive algorithm. The steps are shown below.

Identification and prioritization the patient Current situation

A disease is a special unusual state that doesn't have an immediate external injury but that has a negative impact on an organism's overall structure or performance. If a human affected with some disease, first identify the patient conditions ie, do diagnostic test or check symptoms to identify the patient disease and identify the type of disease.

Train the system using various herbs medicine associated with each disease

A portion of the network is used by the recurrent neural network during training to produce outputs, such as medical forecasts. As a result, in addition to weights applied to the inputs like in a standard NN, a "hidden" state vector reflecting the context-supported prior input(s)/output(s) also influences the output(s). RNNs are capable of taking one or more herbal plants related to each disease as inputs and producing one or more medicinal combinations as output vectors. As a result, using previous input medications from the series, an equivalent input could result in a unique output [7].





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Vanilla char RNN-LSTM model

The most effective artificial intelligence and machine learning technology is neural networks (NN). For model training, only drug names are supplied, while disease names are the input for neural medicine prediction.

Procedure

- The names of the herbal medicines are parsed for their distinctive characters, which are then translated to arbitrary index values or numeric values to help the machine understand them.
- Two dictionaries were used to translate conversations between characters and numbers and between numbers and the original characters.
- The gradient loss is calculated after each character has undergone optimization.
- Train the model by changing the parameters using the obtained gradient.

The input list for testing is made up of ontology concept terms. A medicinal name is constructed using N characters and each character from each inputted keyword [8].

The Algorithm 1 describes the training and testing procedure

Algorithm 1 Vanilla RNN-LSTM model
Input: Input medicine name
Output: Vanilla Char RNN-LSTM Model after training.

Training Steps

```
Start Function
do for each character ci in x
during multiple training epochs
Run ci encoding
```

Run NN optimization in one step, then compute the loss gradients The parameters should be updated using this gradient.

```
End for
End Function
```

Testing

```
Input: Input herbal medicine name and disease
Output: combination of medicine
Do for each tai in x.
Use the trained model to generate the following n characters in the medical text.
end for
```

Predict the combination of medicine

The most crucial method in artificial intelligence and machine learning is the random forest predictive algorithm. The methods that follow demonstrate how to create and utilize a medical prediction system [9].

1. The first step is to compile all the information on diseases and the accompanying herbal remedies to generate a data set.
2. Next, one must construct a neural network that will predict the course of a new patient's illness. The following graph shows a neural network used to predict medical outcomes.
3. To identify the underlying relationships in the data set, the neural network is trained.
4. By experimenting with different combinations of medication prediction, one may also use random forest predictive algorithm selection to enhance the model's predictive powers.
5. After that, the final model goes through a thorough testing examination.
6. The neural network is then utilized to predict the herbal medication combination for new patients following model deployment.





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Decision Tree algorithm, this algorithm has been chosen as,

It features several real-world similarities, which tends to encourage machine learning in general and obfuscate classification and regression. Decision trees can be used in decision analysis to visually and precisely identify and make decisions. As the call progresses, the tree-based selection version will be used [10]. The table 1 shows that the dataset used to construct the decision tree. Here the outlook represent the name of medicinal plants and second column represent that the which part of the plant is used for medicinal purpose and the third column represents the medicinal plant as a single used for medicinal purpose and last column represents the combination of medicinal plants used for making drug. The different parts are used for making drug in plant are root, leaf and fruit and according to the usage the attributes denoted as yes or no.

We will now try to create a few rules that use independent features to predict dependent features. By observation, one can see that outlook is the name of medicinal plants. To properly characterize the data set, we can also create all rules. Here are all the rules.

- **Rule 1:** If (OUT=Tulsi) & (Part=root) next Use=No
- **Rule 2:** If (OUT = Garlic) & (Part=Root) next Use=Yes
- **Rule 3:** If (OUT = Ginger) next Use=Yes
- **Rule 4:** If (OUT =Grapes) & (Part=Root) next Use=No
- **Rule 5:** If (OUT =Basil) & (Part=Leaf) next Use=Yes

The Rule 1 denotes that if the outlook is tulsi and the part is root then it has no usage in combinational medicine prediction as in the disease fever. In Rule 2 the outlook is garlic and the part used for medicine is root then it is used in preparing medicine for fever. In Rule 3, if the outlook is ginger and the usage of ginger is high. In Rule 4 the outlook is grapes and the part is root then the grape root has no effect in the case of making medicine for fever disease. In Rule 5, if the outlook is basil and the part used for medicine is leaf then it is highly effective in making medicine for fever disease. Fig 2 describes the decision tree; it is mainly focused on the Outlook. Based on the outlook the parts like leaf, root, fruit can be used for predicting the usage. The medicine can be used as single and also used as a combination of medicine. Here we predict the usage of medicine.

These rules translate easily into a tree chart. Here is the tree chart

By looking at Data, Rules, and Tree, you may recognize that we are able to now be expecting whether or not we must use the different part or not, given the situation of the element primarily based totally on independent features. This complete manner of making guidelines for a given data is not the final assumption. However it is the training of the decision tree model [11].

Mathematical concepts behind Decision Tree

In this section we are discussed about two important concepts Information gain and Entropy.

Entropy

Entropy is a degree of the probability of a system.

Information Gain

$$E(S) = -[p(\text{Yes}) \cdot \log(p(\text{Yes})) + p(\text{No}) \cdot \log(p(\text{No}))]$$

The data gain is the quantity through which the Entropy of the system reduces due to the split that we've got done. The tree is created using the observations. The purpose is this split changed into reducing the entropy through the most quantity but we did it intuitively in the above example.



$$Gain(S, A) \equiv Entropy(S) - \sum_{v \in D_A} \frac{|S_v|}{|S|} Entropy(S_v)$$



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$$\begin{aligned} \text{Gain}(S, \text{OUT}) &= 0.940 - (5/14) * 0.971 - (4/14) * 0.0 - (5/14) * 0.0971 \\ &= 0.247 \end{aligned}$$

The tree split above indicates us that nine YES and five No had been split as (two Y, three N), (four Y, zero N), (three Y, two N), while we do the split primarily based totally on outlook. The E values under each split display entropy values thinking about themselves as a whole system and the use of the entropy method above. Then we have got calculated the Information gain for the outlook split by the use of the above gain formula [12].

Similarly, the researchers are able to calculate information gain for every characteristic split independently. And we get the below results:

- Information Gain(S, OUT) = 0.247
- Information Gain(S, root) = 0.151
- Information Gain(S, leaf) = 0.048
- Information Gain(S, fruit) = 0.029

It is seen that by splitting the Outlook functionality, we have obtained the greatest amount of information. We repeat this procedure to create the entire tree.

Initiation of drug discovery and Clinical trials

A variety of processes, including extraction, distillation, expression, fractionation, purification, concentration, and fermentation, are used to treat whole plants, chopped or fragmented plants, or plant components to create herbal medicines. These consist of exudates that have been processed as well as expressed juices, tinctures, extracts, essential oils, and herbal components that have been ground or powdered [13].

Deliver combinational drug to patient

Plant-based remedies have been used to cure illnesses since the dawn of people. A crucial part in the distribution of the medicine is played by novel drug delivery systems (NDDS) [14].

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Comparing 3 algorithms named Gaussian naïve Bayes, Decision Tree and Random Forest find that random forest is best in the prediction process.

Random Forest

Try to locate the chance of having a selected part of herbal plant from a plant containing different parts of plant like leaf, root, fruit, flower and so; given the wide variety of components of each part. Random forests are easy if they are study led with this analogy in mind. In Fig 3, we will see how an instance is classified using n trees in which the very last prediction is finished by taking a vote from all n trees. In machine learning language, RFs are referred to as an ensemble or bagging method. The concept of "random" is introduced when creating information subsets for trees. The unique dataset of n functions and m examples is divided into a subset by randomly selecting x number of inputs (records) and y number of examples (column). Compared to just a decision tree, random forests are more robust and reliable [15].

CONCLUSION

Since ancient times, herbal remedies have been used extensively around the world. Both doctors and patients now





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recognize their superior therapeutic value because they have fewer side effects than modern pharmaceuticals. Herbal drugs have lots of advantages compared to other medicines like low risk of side effects, more effective for long-standing health complaints, lower cost, and widespread availability. To support herbal production, automatic herbal combinational drug prediction system using ANN is used. Here the system predicts combinations of ayurvedic herbs using random forest predictive algorithm to cure a particular disease.

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Table 1: Data Set

Sl. No	Outlook(OUT)	Part	Single	Usage (For combination medicine)
0	Tulsi	Leaf	Yes	Yes
1	Tulsi	Root	Yes	No
2	Ginger	Root	Yes	Yes
3	Ginger	Leaf	No	No
4	Grapes	Leaf	No	No
5	Grapes	Fruit	Yes	Yes
6	Basil	Fruit	No	No
7	Basil	Leaf	Yes	Yes
8	Garlic	Root	Yes	Yes
9	Garlic	Fruit	Yes	No
10	Garlic	Leaf	No	No

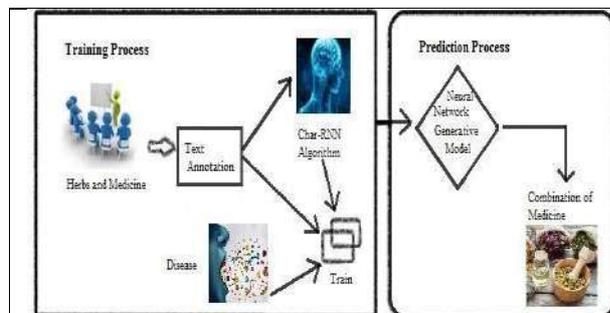


Fig 1: Medicine Prediction process

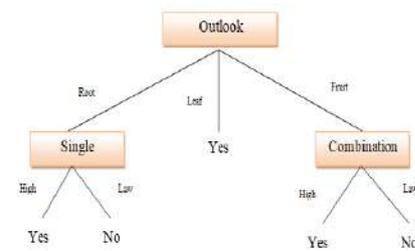


Fig 2: Decision Tree

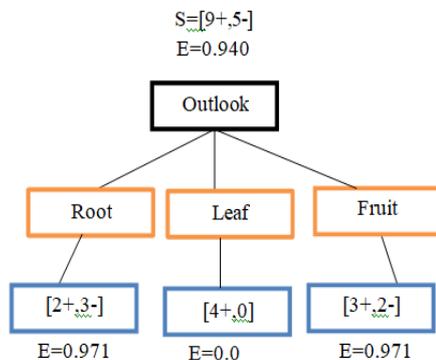


Fig 3: Decision Tree

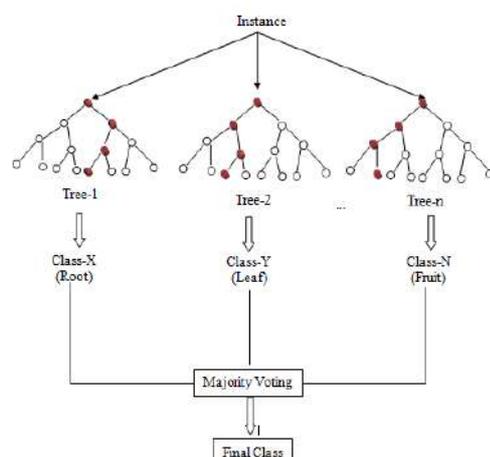


Fig 3: Random Forest

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Closure Properties of Picture Fuzzy Finite Automata

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ABSTRACT

A fuzzy finite state automaton (FFSA) that utilizes positive membership, neutral membership, and negative membership values (PFFA) is under consideration. It has been demonstrated that the fuzzy characteristics of this PFFA are preserved when performing operations such as union, intersection, and reversal. In simpler terms, combining or modifying these PFFA's using union, intersection, or reversal operations will maintain their fuzzy behavior properties.

Keywords: Picture fuzzy finite automaton, Union, Intersection and Reversal.

INTRODUCTION

"As an effective generalization of classical sets, Zadeh. LA, [13, 14] was the first to develop the idea of fuzzy sets, which has been widely applied to problems involving uncertainty and imprecision. In various fields, including fuzzy relation, fuzzy logic, fuzzy decision-making, fuzzy classification, fuzzy pattern recognition, fuzzy control, and fuzzy optimization, fuzzy set theory has been more and more developed. The late 1960s saw the introduction of the fuzzy automaton concept by Malik DS, Mordeson JN, Sen MK, and Chowdhry G as in [8,11]. "The study on fuzzy languages that fuzzy finite-state machines adopted in the early 1970s was developed by Lee. ET, Zadeh. LA, Thomson. MG, and Marinos. PN [7,12]. "Intuitionistic fuzzy sets (textit IFS), established in 1983, are generalizations of fuzzy sets in which Atanassov has defined membership and nonmembership values for each element, as in [1]-[3]. The concept of intuitionistic fuzzy finite state machines (textit IFFSM) was introduced by Jun YB [6] in as a generalization of fuzzy finite state machines combining the concepts of IFSs and fuzzy finite automata." "The concepts of an automaton and a set recognized by an automaton were first introduced by Samuel Eilenburg [10]. The





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idea of neutrality degree can be observed in circumstances where we encounter human perspectives involving more yes, abstain, no, and refuse responses. In this regard, Cuong and Kreinovich [4], presented the Picture Fuzzy Set (PFS), a direct extension of Fuzzy Sets and Intuitionistic Fuzzy Sets that include the notion of a member’s positive, negative, or neutral membership degree. Cuong [5] investigated certain PFS features and proposed PFS distance measurements. Phong [9] and collaborators looked at a few compositions of picture fuzzy relations. Jency Priya .et.al [6] has developed the closure properties of Intuitionistic Fuzzy finite Automata with unique membership transition on an input symbol. The authors of this study take into account some of the union, intersection, and reverse closure aspects of the PFFA’s fuzzy behaviors.

PRELIMINARIES

Definition 1. A picture fuzzy set A on a universe Σ is an object in the form of $A = \{(x, \mu_A(x), \eta_A(x), \nu_A(x)) \mid x \in \Sigma\}$, where the $\mu_A: \Sigma \rightarrow [0,1], \eta_A: \Sigma \rightarrow [0,1]$ and $\nu_A: \Sigma \rightarrow [0,1]$ denote the degree of positive membership, neutral membership and negative membership of each element $x \in \Sigma$ to the set A respectively, and $\mu_A(x) + \eta_A(x) + \nu_A(x) \leq 1$ for each $x \in \Sigma$. For the sake of simplicity, use the notation $A = (\mu_A, \eta_A, \nu_A)$ instead of $A = \{(x, \mu_A(x), \eta_A(x), \nu_A(x)) \mid x \in \Sigma\}$. Now $(1 - (\mu_A(x) + \eta_A(x) + \nu_A(x)))$ could be called the degree of refusal membership of x in A .

Definition 2. Picture fuzzy finite automaton is an ordered 5-tuple $\mathcal{A} = (Q, \Sigma, A, i, f)$, where

- (i) Q is a finite non-empty set of states.
- (ii) Σ is a finite nonempty set of input symbols.
- (iii) $A = (\mu_A, \eta_A, \nu_A)$ is an intuitionistic fuzzy subset of $Q \times \Sigma \times Q$.
 - (a) the fuzzy subset $\mu_A: Q \times \Sigma \times Q \rightarrow [0,1]$ denotes the degree of positive membership
 - (b) the fuzzy subset $\eta_A: Q \times \Sigma \times Q \rightarrow [0,1]$ denotes the degree of neutral membership
 - (c) the fuzzy subset $\nu_A: Q \times \Sigma \times Q \rightarrow [0,1]$ denotes the degree of negative membership
- (iv) $i = (i_{\mu_A}, i_{\eta_A}, i_{\nu_A})$ is an intuitionistic fuzzy subset of Q
 - i.e. $i_{\mu_A}: Q \rightarrow [0,1], i_{\eta_A}: Q \rightarrow [0,1]$ and $i_{\nu_A}: Q \rightarrow [0,1]$ called the intuitionistic fuzzy subset of initial states.
- (v) $f = (f_{\mu_A}, f_{\eta_A}, f_{\nu_A})$ is an intuitionistic fuzzy subset of Q
 - i.e. $f_{\mu_A}: Q \rightarrow [0,1], f_{\eta_A}: Q \rightarrow [0,1]$ and $f_{\nu_A}: Q \rightarrow [0,1]$ called the intuitionistic fuzzy subset of final states.

Definition 3. Let $\mathcal{A} = (Q, \Sigma, A, i, f)$ be an PFFA. Then the fuzzy behavior of PFFA is $L_{\mathcal{A}} = (L_{\mu_A}, L_{\eta_A}, L_{\nu_A})$.

Definition 4. Let $\mathcal{A} = (Q, \Sigma, A, i, f)$ be an PFFA. Define an PFS

$A^* = (\mu_A^*, \eta_A^*, \nu_A^*)$ in $Q \times \Sigma^* \times Q$ as follows: $\forall p, q \in Q, x \in \Sigma^*, a \in \Sigma$.

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_A^*(q, \lambda, p) &= \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } p = q \\ 0, & \text{if } p \neq q \end{cases} \\ \eta_A^*(q, \lambda, p) &= \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } p = q \\ 1, & \text{if } p \neq q \end{cases} \\ \nu_A^*(q, \lambda, p) &= \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } p = q \\ 1, & \text{if } p \neq q \end{cases} \\ \mu_A^*(q, xa, p) &= \bigvee \{ \mu_A^*(q, x, r) \wedge \mu_A(r, a, p) \mid r \in Q \} \\ \eta_A^*(q, xa, p) &= \bigwedge \{ \eta_A^*(q, x, r) \vee \eta_A(r, a, p) \mid r \in Q \} \\ \nu_A^*(q, xa, p) &= \bigwedge \{ \nu_A^*(q, x, r) \vee \nu_A(r, a, p) \mid r \in Q \} \end{aligned}$$

Definition 5. Let $\mathcal{A} = (Q, \Sigma, A, i, f)$ be an PFFA and $x \in \Sigma^*$. Then x is recognized by \mathcal{A} if

$$\begin{aligned} &\bigvee \{ i_{\mu_A}(p) \wedge \mu_A^*(p, x, q) \wedge f_{\mu_A}(q) \mid p, q \in Q \} > 0 \\ &\bigwedge \{ i_{\eta_A}(p) \vee \eta_A^*(p, x, q) \vee f_{\eta_A}(q) \mid p, q \in Q \} < 1. \end{aligned}$$

and $\bigwedge \{ i_{\nu_A}(p) \vee \nu_A^*(p, x, q) \vee f_{\nu_A}(q) \mid p, q \in Q \} < 1$.





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RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

CLOSURE PROPERTIES

Union

Theorem 1. If \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} are two PFFA's with behaviors $L_{\mathcal{A}}$ and $L_{\mathcal{B}}$ respectively, then $L_{\mu_{\mathcal{A}}} \cup L_{\mu_{\mathcal{B}}}, L_{\eta_{\mathcal{A}}} \cup L_{\eta_{\mathcal{B}}}, L_{v_{\mathcal{A}}} \cup L_{v_{\mathcal{B}}}$ are the behavior of a PFFA.

Proof. The union of \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} ($\mathcal{A} \cup \mathcal{B}$) is the PFFA defined by

$\mathcal{C} = (Q_{\mathcal{C}}, \Sigma, C, i_{\mathcal{C}}, f_{\mathcal{C}})$ (assume that $Q_{\mathcal{A}} \cap Q_{\mathcal{B}} = \emptyset$) where $Q_{\mathcal{C}} = Q_{\mathcal{A}} \cup Q_{\mathcal{B}}$,

$C = (\mu_{\mathcal{C}}, v_{\mathcal{C}})$ is an PFS, $\mu_{\mathcal{C}}: Q_{\mathcal{C}} \times \Sigma \times Q_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow [0,1], \eta_{\mathcal{C}}: Q_{\mathcal{C}} \times \Sigma \times Q_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow [0,1]$ and $v_{\mathcal{C}}: Q_{\mathcal{C}} \times \Sigma \times Q_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow [0,1]$ are defined by

$$\mu_{\mathcal{C}}(p, a, q) = \begin{cases} \mu_{\mathcal{A}}(p, a, q), & \text{if } p, q \in Q_{\mathcal{A}} \\ \mu_{\mathcal{B}}(p, a, q), & \text{if } p, q \in Q_{\mathcal{B}} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\eta_{\mathcal{C}}(p, a, q) = \begin{cases} \eta_{\mathcal{A}}(p, a, q), & \text{if } p, q \in Q_{\mathcal{A}} \\ \eta_{\mathcal{B}}(p, a, q), & \text{if } p, q \in Q_{\mathcal{B}} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and

$$v_{\mathcal{C}}(p, a, q) = \begin{cases} v_{\mathcal{A}}(p, a, q), & \text{if } p, q \in Q_{\mathcal{A}} \\ v_{\mathcal{B}}(p, a, q), & \text{if } p, q \in Q_{\mathcal{B}} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$i_{\mathcal{C}} = (i_{\mu_{\mathcal{C}}}, i_{\eta_{\mathcal{C}}}, i_{v_{\mathcal{C}}})$ is an PFS, $i_{\mu_{\mathcal{C}}}: Q_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow [0,1], i_{\eta_{\mathcal{C}}}: Q_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow [0,1]$ and $i_{v_{\mathcal{C}}}: Q_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow [0,1]$ are defined by

$$i_{\mu_{\mathcal{C}}}(p) = \begin{cases} i_{\mu_{\mathcal{A}}}(p), & \text{if } p \in Q_{\mathcal{A}} \\ i_{\mu_{\mathcal{B}}}(p), & \text{if } p \in Q_{\mathcal{B}} \end{cases}$$

$$i_{\eta_{\mathcal{C}}}(p) = \begin{cases} i_{\eta_{\mathcal{A}}}(p), & \text{if } p \in Q_{\mathcal{A}} \\ i_{\eta_{\mathcal{B}}}(p), & \text{if } p \in Q_{\mathcal{B}} \end{cases}$$

and

$$i_{v_{\mathcal{C}}}(p) = \begin{cases} i_{v_{\mathcal{A}}}(p), & \text{if } p \in Q_{\mathcal{A}} \\ i_{v_{\mathcal{B}}}(p), & \text{if } p \in Q_{\mathcal{B}} \end{cases}$$

$f_{\mathcal{C}} = (f_{\mu_{\mathcal{C}}}, f_{\eta_{\mathcal{C}}}, f_{v_{\mathcal{C}}})$ is an PFS, $f_{\mu_{\mathcal{C}}}: Q_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow [0,1], f_{\eta_{\mathcal{C}}}: Q_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow [0,1]$ and $f_{v_{\mathcal{C}}}: Q_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow [0,1]$ are defined by

$$f_{\mu_{\mathcal{C}}}(p) = \begin{cases} f_{\mu_{\mathcal{A}}}(p), & \text{if } p \in Q_{\mathcal{A}} \\ f_{\mu_{\mathcal{B}}}(p), & \text{if } p \in Q_{\mathcal{B}} \end{cases}$$

$$f_{\eta_{\mathcal{C}}}(p) = \begin{cases} f_{\eta_{\mathcal{A}}}(p), & \text{if } p \in Q_{\mathcal{A}} \\ f_{\eta_{\mathcal{B}}}(p), & \text{if } p \in Q_{\mathcal{B}} \end{cases}$$

and

$$f_{v_{\mathcal{C}}}(p) = \begin{cases} f_{v_{\mathcal{A}}}(p), & \text{if } p \in Q_{\mathcal{A}} \\ f_{v_{\mathcal{B}}}(p), & \text{if } p \in Q_{\mathcal{B}} \end{cases}$$

From the definition of \mathcal{C} , we have for all $x \in \Sigma^*$,

$$\mu_{\mathcal{C}}^*(p, x, q) = \begin{cases} \mu_{\mathcal{A}}^*(p, x, q), & \text{if } p, q \in Q_{\mathcal{A}} \\ \mu_{\mathcal{B}}^*(p, x, q), & \text{if } p, q \in Q_{\mathcal{B}} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\eta_{\mathcal{C}}^*(p, x, q) = \begin{cases} \eta_{\mathcal{A}}^*(p, x, q), & \text{if } p, q \in Q_{\mathcal{A}} \\ \eta_{\mathcal{B}}^*(p, x, q), & \text{if } p, q \in Q_{\mathcal{B}} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and

$$v_{\mathcal{C}}^*(p, x, q) = \begin{cases} v_{\mathcal{A}}^*(p, x, q), & \text{if } p, q \in Q_{\mathcal{A}} \\ v_{\mathcal{B}}^*(p, x, q), & \text{if } p, q \in Q_{\mathcal{B}} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Let $x \in \Sigma^*$





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$$L_{\mu_C}(x) = L_{\mu_A}(x) \vee L_{\mu_B}(x)$$

$$L_{\eta_C}(x) = L_{\eta_A}(x) \wedge L_{\eta_B}(x)$$

and

$$L_{\nu_C}(x) = L_{\nu_A}(x) \wedge L_{\nu_B}(x) \text{ Thus, the picture fuzzy behavior is closed under union. } \square$$

Intersection

Theorem 2. If \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} are two PFFA with behaviors $L_{\mathcal{A}}$ and $L_{\mathcal{B}}$ respectively, then $L_{\mu_A} \wedge L_{\mu_B}, L_{\eta_A} \wedge L_{\eta_B}, L_{\nu_A} \vee L_{\nu_B}$ is a behavior of a PFFA.

Proof. The intersection of \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} ($\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}$) is the PFFA defined by $\mathcal{C} = (Q_C, \Sigma, \mathcal{C}, i_C, f_C)$

where $Q_C = Q_A \times Q_B$,

(i) $\mathcal{C} = (\mu_C, \eta_C, \nu_C)$ is an PFS where $\mu_C = \mu_A \wedge \mu_B, \eta_C = \eta_A \wedge \eta_B$ and $\nu_C = \nu_A \wedge \nu_B$ such that $\mu_C: Q_C \times \Sigma \times Q_C \rightarrow [0,1], \eta_C: Q_C \times \Sigma \times Q_C \rightarrow [0,1]$ and $\nu_C: Q_C \times \Sigma \times Q_C \rightarrow [0,1]$ are defined as follows: $\forall p', q' \in Q_A, p'', q'' \in Q_B$.

$$\mu_C((p', p''), a, (q', q'')) = \mu_A(p', a, q') \wedge \mu_B(p'', a, q'')$$

$$\eta_C((p', p''), a, (q', q'')) = \eta_A(p', a, q') \wedge \eta_B(p'', a, q'') \quad \text{and}$$

$$\nu_C((p', p''), a, (q', q'')) = \nu_A(p', a, q') \vee \nu_B(p'', a, q'')$$

(ii) $i_C = (i_{\mu_C}, i_{\nu_C})$ is an PFS,

$i_{\mu_C}: Q_C \rightarrow [0,1], i_{\eta_C}: Q_C \rightarrow [0,1]$ and $i_{\nu_C}: Q_C \rightarrow [0,1]$ are defined by

$$i_{\mu_C}(p', p'') = \begin{cases} i_{\mu_A}(p') \wedge i_{\mu_B}(p'') & \text{,if } p' \in Q_A, p'' \in Q_B \\ 0 & \text{,otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$i_{\eta_C}(p', p'') = \begin{cases} i_{\eta_A}(p') \wedge i_{\eta_B}(p'') & \text{,if } p' \in Q_A, p'' \in Q_B \\ 0 & \text{,otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \text{and}$$

$$i_{\nu_C}(p', p'') = \begin{cases} i_{\nu_A}(p') \vee i_{\nu_B}(p'') & \text{,if } p' \in Q_A, p'' \in Q_B \\ 0 & \text{,otherwise} \end{cases}$$

(i) $f_C = (f_{\mu_C}, f_{\eta_C}, f_{\nu_C})$ is an PFS,

$f_{\mu_C}: Q_C \rightarrow [0,1], f_{\eta_C}: Q_C \rightarrow [0,1]$ and $f_{\nu_C}: Q_C \rightarrow [0,1]$ are defined by

$$f_{\mu_C}(p', p'') = \begin{cases} f_{\mu_A}(q') \wedge f_{\mu_B}(q'') & \text{,if } q' \in Q_A, q'' \in Q_B \\ 0 & \text{,otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$f_{\eta_C}(p', p'') = \begin{cases} f_{\eta_A}(q') \wedge f_{\eta_B}(q'') & \text{,if } q' \in Q_A, q'' \in Q_B \\ 0 & \text{,otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$f_{\nu_C}(p', p'') = \begin{cases} f_{\nu_A}(q') \vee f_{\nu_B}(q'') & \text{,if } q' \in Q_A, q'' \in Q_B \\ 0 & \text{,otherwise} \end{cases}$$

From the definition of \mathcal{C} , we have for all $x \in \Sigma^*$,

$$\mu_C^*((p', p''), x, (q', q'')) = \mu_A^*(p', x, q') \wedge \mu_B^*(p'', x, q''),$$

$$\eta_C^*((p', p''), x, (q', q'')) = \eta_A^*(p', x, q') \wedge \eta_B^*(p'', x, q'') \quad \text{and}$$

$$\nu_C^*((p', p''), x, (q', q'')) = \nu_A^*(p', x, q') \vee \nu_B^*(p'', x, q''),$$

$(p', p''), (q', q'') \in Q_A \times Q_B$.





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Using the above result it can be shown that

$$L_{\mu_c} = L_{\mu_{\mathcal{A}}} \wedge L_{\mu_{\mathcal{B}'}} = \wedge_B \text{ and } = \vee_B.$$

Reversal

Definition 6. A path c in \mathcal{A} with $|c| = \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \dots \sigma_k, \sigma_i \in \Sigma$ where

$i = 1, \dots, k$ yields a path c^e with $|c^e| = \sigma_k \sigma_{k-1} \dots \sigma_1$ where $q: \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ is the reversal function defined by $q(1) = 1, q(\sigma) = \sigma, q(st) = q(t)q(s)$, where $s, t \in \Sigma^*$.

Theorem 3. Let \mathcal{A} be a PFFA and x is recognized by \mathcal{A} , then x^e is recognized by some PFFA.

Proof. Let $\mathcal{A} = (Q, \Sigma, A, i, f)$ be an PFFA. Define PFFA $\mathcal{A}^e = (Q, \Sigma, A^e, f, i)$, where

$A^e = (\mu_{A^e}, \nu_{A^e})$ is an PFS of $Q \times \Sigma \times Q$ such that

$$\mu_{A^e}(p, a, q) = \begin{cases} \mu_A(q, a, p) & , \text{ if } p, q \in Q \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\eta_{A^e}(p, a, q) = \begin{cases} \eta_A(q, a, p) & , \text{ if } p, q \in Q \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\nu_{A^e}(p, a, q) = \begin{cases} \nu_A(q, a, p) & , \text{ if } p, q \in Q \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$i = (\mu_{A^e}, \eta_{A^e}, \nu_{A^e})$ is an PFS of fuzzy subset of Q such that

$$i_{\mu_{A^e}}(p) = \begin{cases} f_{\mu_A}(p) & , \text{ if } p \in Q \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$i_{\eta_{A^e}}(p) = \begin{cases} f_{\eta_A}(p) & , \text{ if } p \in Q \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and

$$i_{\nu_{A^e}}(p) = \begin{cases} f_{\nu_A}(p) & , \text{ if } p \in Q \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$f = (f_{\mu_{A^e}}, f_{\eta_{A^e}}, f_{\nu_{A^e}})$ is an PFS of fuzzy subset of Q such that

$$f_{\mu_{A^e}}(q) = \begin{cases} i_{\mu_A}(q) & , \text{ if } q \in Q \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$f_{\eta_{A^e}}(q) = \begin{cases} i_{\eta_A}(q) & , \text{ if } q \in Q \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and

$$f_{\nu_{A^e}}(q) = \begin{cases} i_{\nu_A}(q) & , \text{ if } q \in Q \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The picture fuzzy behavior of \mathcal{A}^e is defined by

$$L_{\mu_{\mathcal{A}^e}}(x^e) = \vee \{ \{ i_{\mu_{A^e}}(q) \wedge \mu_{A^e}^*(q, x, p) \wedge f_{\mu_{A^e}}(p) \mid p \in Q \} \mid q \in Q \}$$

$$= \vee \{ f_{\mu_A}(q) \wedge \mu_A(p, x, q) \wedge i_{\mu_A}(p) \}$$

$$= \vee \{ i_{\mu_A}(p) \wedge \mu_A(p, x, q) \wedge f_{\mu_A}(q) \}$$

$$L_{\mu_{\mathcal{A}^e}}(x^e) = L_{\mu_A}(x)$$

$$L_{\eta_{\mathcal{A}^e}}(x^e) = \wedge \{ \{ i_{\eta_{A^e}}(q) \vee \eta_{A^e}^*(q, x, p) \vee f_{\eta_{A^e}}(p) \mid p \in Q \} \mid q \in Q \}$$

$$= \wedge \{ f_{\eta_A}(q) \vee \eta_A(p, x, q) \vee i_{\eta_A}(p) \}$$

$$= \wedge \{ i_{\eta_A}(p) \vee \eta_A(p, x, q) \vee f_{\eta_A}(q) \}$$

$$L_{\eta_{\mathcal{A}^e}}(x^e) = L_{\eta_A}(x)$$

and

$$L_{\nu_{\mathcal{A}^e}}(x^e) = \wedge \{ \{ i_{\nu_{A^e}}(q) \vee \nu_{A^e}^*(q, x, p) \vee f_{\nu_{A^e}}(p) \mid p \in Q \} \mid q \in Q \}$$

$$= \wedge \{ f_{\nu_A}(q) \vee \nu_A(p, x, q) \vee i_{\nu_A}(p) \}$$

$$= \wedge \{ i_{\nu_A}(p) \vee \nu_A(p, x, q) \vee f_{\nu_A}(q) \}$$

$$L_{\nu_{\mathcal{A}^e}}(x^e) = L_{\nu_A}(x)$$





CONCLUSION

In this paper, the authors have made an attempt to study the closure properties of picture fuzzy finite automata PFFA. We have made a humble beginning in this direction, however, many concepts are yet to be fuzzyfied in the context of PFFA.

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Fuzzy Optimization in Disease Recognition Based on Gerontology and Chronic Disease Using Fuzzy Numbers

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ABSTRACT

Fuzzy optimization was applied in a wide area of research under medical diagnosis. A unique optimal solution based on mathematical model describing the gerontology factors related to chronic disease using triangular fuzzy numbers. To provide the decision in recognizing the chronic disease affected to various age group of people for both male and female separately. The medical diagnosis is explained by a case study with triangular fuzzy number which is possible to find which age group is affected by what kind of disease by using relative matrix.

Keywords: fuzzy optimization model, triangular fuzzy number, triangular fuzzy number, relativity function, relation matrix.

INTRODUCTION

Gerontology is a study on human ageing process. The research is not just on the physical and sensory changes imposed on by ageing, but also the stereotypes, social roles, and specific economic and social issues that define the ageing experience in society. Gerontology is the research-based study on ageing processes and problems from a variety of approaches which includes biological, medical, psychological in nature, sociological, monetary, legal, and political. Geriatrics is the area of medicine that deals with the recognition, treatment and avoidance of health issues caused on by ageing and senility. As a field of research and investigation on aging process, this one remain actually fresh. The first Ph.D., Master's, and Bachelor's degree programmes in gerontology were in the year 1975 by the USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology. Theoretical explanations for ageing can be divided into two categories: those that propose deterministic (or) programmed changes to gene expression or structure and those that propose a variety

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of stochastic (or) random changes to the structure and function of macromolecules, cells, and organ systems. This difference has certain limitations because stochastic changes in a cell's individual state might result in predictable outcomes in a large population of cells.

Fuzzy optimization is a branch of optimization theory that incorporates fuzzy logic to handle optimization problems involving uncertainty and imprecision. Traditional optimization techniques assume a deterministic relationship between variables, but in many real-life problems there is uncertainty or ambiguity in these problems as data. In fuzzy optimization, decision variables are represented as fuzzy variables taken on a range of values with varying degrees of memberships. The aim is to find optimal solutions that satisfy the fuzzy constraints and optimize the fuzzy objectives. Fuzzy optimization has applications in various fields including engineering, economics, finance, medical and decision-making under uncertainty. There are different approaches to solve fuzzy optimization problems are FLPP and FNLPP combined with fuzzy logic. The process with wide spread of study in recognizing and to indicate the chronic disease related to risk factors of gerontology for male and female.

Characteristics of gerontology

Gerontology, the study of ageing and how it impacts people and societies, takes into account a number of risk factors for ageing. The physical, psychological, and social wellbeing of an individual can be influenced in different ways by which these risk factors take place. Here are a few typical risk factors for gerontology. While these risk factors are frequently linked to gerontology, it's crucial to remember that not everyone is affected by them. Each person's experience of ageing will vary based on factors like genetics, lifestyle, socioeconomic level, and access to healthcare and support networks. Thus generally, ageing is a common factor and highly individualised process.

- **Chronic health issues:** As people get older, they are more susceptible to long-term health issues like dementia, diabetes, arthritis, and heart disease. Their mobility, general health, and quality of life may all be adversely affected by these illnesses.
- **Functional deterioration:** Physical and mental abilities frequently gradually deteriorate with age. This decline may lead to decreased mobility, an elevated risk of falling, issues completing everyday tasks, and an increased tendency to require care from others.
- **Isolation in Society:** A lot of elderly people face social isolation as a result of things like your retirement losing loved ones, having reduced mobility, and changing social networks. Loneliness, despair, and a loss in mental health may occur from social isolation.
- **Financial instability:** Due to retirement, a lower income, growing healthcare bills, and inadequate savings, older persons may encounter economic challenges. Stress, limited access to healthcare, and poor living conditions can all result from financial insecurity.
- **Abusing Elders:** Elderly people are more likely to be the targets of negligence as well as financial, emotional, physical, and sexual abuse. Their mental and physical well-being may be seriously damaged by these abuses.
- **Polypharmacy:** Initially people age, they often have to take various drugs to manage their medical concerns. Employing numerous drugs, or polypharmacy, raises the risk of negative drug reactions, interactions between medications, and medication non-adherence.
- **Cognitive decline and Mental illness:** Cognitive decline and neurological conditions like Alzheimer's disease are more likely to occur as people age. These ailments may affect one's independence and general functioning through restricting the ability for thinking, remembering, and decision-making.

Types of Gerontology

- **Biogerontology** The specialised branch of gerontology is known as *biogerontology*, is the study of the biological ageing process, including its evolutionary origins and potential points of intervention. The objective of biogerontology is to slow decrease or perhaps reverse ageing in order to prevent the challenges related to old age.
- **Social gerontology:** *Social gerontology* is a subfield mainly focused on elder citizen. It is an interdisciplinary subfield with a concentration on researching or supporting senior persons. Social gerontologists may also be trained in social work, nursing, sociology, psychology, demography, public health, and other social scientific





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subjects. It is the responsibility of social gerontologists to raise awareness, carry out research, and advance the wider issues of senior adults.

- **Environmental gerontology:** A subfield of gerontology is termed as *environmental gerontology*, aims to better understand and intervene in the relationships between ageing people and their social and physical settings. During the initial studies on behavioural and social gerontology in the 1930s, this area of study was established. Research conducted in the 1970's and 1980's increased the quality of life for seniors while demonstrating the significance of the physical and social environment in comprehending the ageing population.
- **Jurisprudential gerontology:** As a subfield of gerontology, jurisprudential gerontology (sometimes known as "geriatric jurisprudence") studies is about how the legal system and the ageing process interact. Legal scholars working in the area of elder law were the ones who first recognised the need for a more comprehensive interdisciplinary approach when analysing older people's legal challenges.

Effects of Chronic disease on Male and Female

Male	Female
1. Cardiovascular Disease	
Males are affected by cardiovascular disorders such coronary artery disease and heart attacks early in life. They might have experienced symptoms like exhaustion, shortness of breath, and chest pain.	Cardiovascular disease is more common in women later in life, especially after menopause. Atypical chest pain, nausea, exhaustion, and shortness of breath are only a few of the symptoms that can occur.
2. Respiratory Diseases	
Due to higher rates of smoking, men may be more vulnerable which leads to respiratory illnesses such Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD). They could have signs including a persistent cough, wheezing, shortness of breath, and an increased likelihood of respiratory infections.	COPD can also affect women; however, their symptoms might vary. They might experience exacerbations more frequently and seriously, be at greater risk for osteoporosis, and be impacted by hormonal variables that might affect lung function.
3.Autoimmune Diseases	
Males are at risk for autoimmune conditions such systemic lupus erythematosus, multiple sclerosis, and rheumatoid arthritis. Joint apprehension tiredness, inflammation, and organ damage specific to each illness are some examples of symptoms.	The condition systemic lupus erythematosus and other autoimmune illnesses tend to affect women more often than they do men. Menstrual irregularities, pregnancy problems, and hormonal changes altering disease activity.
4.Mental Health Disorders	
Men are susceptible to from psychological conditions like schizophrenia, anxiety, and despair. They might present differently, and social influences on help-seeking behaviours and stigma may differ.	Although females are not exempted from acquiring mental health disorders, some illnesses, such as eating disorders.

Therefore, it is important to note that the effects of chronic diseases can vary among individuals and in addition the impact of chronic diseases can be influenced by factors such as age, lifestyle choices, genetics, and access to healthcare. Regular medical check-ups, early detection, and appropriate management are crucial for both males and females to minimize the impact of chronic diseases on their health and quality of life.

PRELEMINARIES

Definition 5.1 Let X be a non-empty set. A fuzzy set A of this set X is defined by the set of pairs as $A = \{(x, \mu_A(x)) : x \in X\}$ where $\mu_A : X \rightarrow [0,1]$ is a function called as membership function of A and is the degree of membership of $x \in X$ in A .





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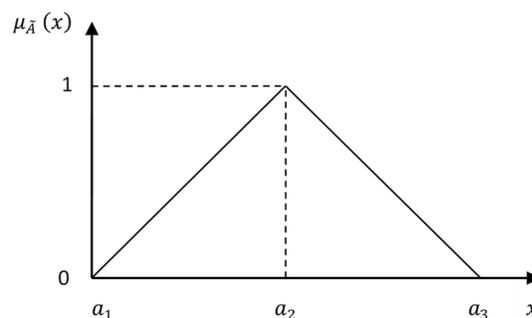
Definition 5.2 A fuzzy set A on R any real number $\alpha \in [0,1]$, then the α -cut or α -level or cut worthy set of A, denoted by ${}^\alpha A$ is the crisp set ${}^\alpha A = \{x \in X : \mu_A(x) \geq \alpha\}$.

Definition 5.3 A fuzzy set A on R any real number $\alpha \in [0,1]$, then the strong α -cut is denoted by ${}^{\alpha+}A$ is the crisp set ${}^{\alpha+}A = \{x \in X : \mu_A(x) > \alpha\}$.

In the study of fuzzy sets, there are different types of fuzzy numbers such as Triangular, Trapezoidal, Pentagonal, Hexagonal, Heptagonal etc. fuzzy numbers. Here we are using Triangular fuzzy number for calculation and to compute the results.

Definition 5.4 A triangular fuzzy number A can be defined as a triple $[a_1, a_2, a_3]$ and its membership function is

defined in general
$$\mu_A(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x-a}{b-a}, & a \leq x \leq b \\ \frac{c-x}{c-b}, & b \leq x \leq c \end{cases}$$



Definition 5.5 The maximum operation on a triangular fuzzy number is defined by $\max(X, Y) = (\sup\{a_{ij}, b_{ij}\})$

Definition 5.5 The arithmetic mean of a triangular fuzzy number $X = (a_1, a_2, a_3)$ is defined by

$$A.M.(X) = \frac{(a_1 + a_2 + a_3)}{3}$$

Definition 5.6 Let x and y be a variable defined on a universal set X. The relativity function is denoted as

$$R\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \frac{\{\mu_y(x) - \mu_x(y)\}}{(\max\{\mu_y(x), \mu_x(y)\})}$$

where $\mu_y(x)$ is the membership function of x with respect to y and $\mu_x(y)$ is

the membership function of y with respect to x.

Definition 5.7 Let $A = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i, \dots, x_n\}$ be a set of n variables defined on X. Form a matrix of relativity values to n-variable defined on a matrix X. The matrix $R=(R_{ij})$ is a square matrix of order n is called Relation matrix with

$$AMf\left(\frac{x_i}{y_j}\right) = \frac{AM\{\mu_{x_j}(x_i) - \mu_{x_i}(x_j)\}}{AM(\max\{\mu_{x_j}(x_i), \mu_{x_i}(x_j)\})}$$

where AM represents arithmetic mean.

FUZZY OPTIMIZATION METHOD DESCRIPTION: CASE STUDY

Consider the set $\{c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4, c_5\}$ as universal set, where c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4, c_5 denotes the chronic disease such as Cardiovascular disease, Chronic respiratory disease, Autoimmune disease and Mental Health disorder. As data collected from the male and female in rural area around Theni district above 40 age group relate to the biology, psychology and sociology factors affecting, which leads to chronic disease. The matrix A represents the effects of chronic disease for the male and female of age group belong to 40 and above in the form of triangular fuzzy number matrix.





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Step 1: Consider the triangular fuzzy number matrix from the estimated value needed for the problem using the triangular fuzzy matrix definition. And this fuzzy matrix is converted into a tabulation for computing the result.

$$A_{n \times n} = \begin{bmatrix} (a_{1i}, a_{1j}, a_{1k}) & \cdot & \cdot & (a_{1l}, a_{1m}, a_{1n}) \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ (a_{ni}, a_{nj}, a_{nk}) & \cdot & \cdot & (a_{nl}, a_{nm}, a_{nn}) \end{bmatrix}$$

Step 2: Convert the given matrix into membership function.

	a	d
A	(a_{1i}, a_{1j}, a_{1k})	.	.	(a_{1l}, a_{1m}, a_{1n})
.	.	.	.	
.	.	.	.	
D	(a_{ni}, a_{nj}, a_{nk})	(a_{nl}, a_{nm}, a_{nn})

Step 3: Calculate the relativity values by the definition 5.6 in the above.

Step 4: Calculate the relation matrix from the values by the definition 5.7 in the above.

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdot & \cdot & a_{1n} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ a_{n1} & \cdot & \cdot & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Step 5: Find the maximum value from each row R_i

Step 6: Next find the maximum value from the obtained row.

NUMERICAL EXAMPLE IN MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS

Consider the fuzzy optimization problem from the below table age group of male and female probable illness in associated with the chronic disease affecting 40 and above group related to individuals. The impact of chronic disease can be influenced by the factors represented as triangular fuzzy number (biology, psychology, sociology) range between 0 to 100. The rows representing age group A (41-50), B (51-60), C (61-70), D (71 & above) of people and column representing chronic disease such as Cardiovascular disease (D1), Chronic respiratory disease (D2), Autoimmune disease (D3) and Mental Health disorder (D4). The objective is to determine how the various age group people (male and female) separately so as to recognize the chronic disease could affect. In order to identify the required result, the data are collected from the Rural (Primary) Health Centre (Department) at Theni District.

For Male, the below table describes the triangular fuzzy number representing the membership value [0,1] which is interpreted from the crisp value range from [0,100].





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Step 1:

Age group /Disease	D1	D2	D3	D4
41-50	(70,80,20)	(60,90,30)	(80,40,20)	(90,70,10)
51-60	(80,40,20)	(70,80,20)	(80,50,30)	(90,60,40)
61-70	(60,20,10)	(60,70,70)	(60,90,30)	(80,60,20)
71 &Above	(70,80,50)	(90,50,50)	(70,80,20)	(90,90,20)

Step 2:

Age group /Disease	D1	D2	D3	D4
A (41-50)	(0.7,0.8,0.2)	(0.6,0.9,0.3)	(0.8,0.4,0.2)	(0.9,0.7,0.1)
B (51-60)	(0.8,0.4,0.2)	(0.7,0.8,0.2)	(0.8,0.5,0.3)	(0.9,0.6,0.4)
C (61-70)	(0.6,0.2,0.1)	(0.6,0.7,0.7)	(0.6,0.9,0.3)	(0.8,0.6,0.2)
D(71 above)	(0.7,0.8,0.5)	(0.9,0.5,0.5)	(0.7,0.8,0.2)	(0.9,0.9,0.2)

Step 3:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{D1}(A) &= (0.7, 0.8, 0.2) & \mu_{D1}(B) &= (0.8, 0.4, 0.2) & \mu_{D1}(C) &= (0.6, 0.2, 0.1) & \mu_{D1}(D) &= (0.7, 0.8, 0.5) \\ \mu_{D2}(A) &= (0.6, 0.9, 0.3) & \mu_{D2}(B) &= (0.7, 0.8, 0.2) & \mu_{D2}(C) &= (0.6, 0.7, 0.7) & \mu_{D2}(D) &= (0.9, 0.5, 0.5) \\ \mu_{D3}(A) &= (0.8, 0.4, 0.2) & \mu_{D3}(B) &= (0.8, 0.5, 0.3) & \mu_{D3}(C) &= (0.6, 0.9, 0.3) & \mu_{D3}(D) &= (0.7, 0.8, 0.2) \\ \mu_{D4}(A) &= (0.9, 0.7, 0.1) & \mu_{D4}(B) &= (0.9, 0.6, 0.4) & \mu_{D4}(C) &= (0.8, 0.6, 0.2) & \mu_{D4}(D) &= (0.9, 0.9, 0.2) \end{aligned}$$

$$R(A/a) = \frac{\mu_a(A) - \mu_a(A)}{\max\{\mu_a(A), \mu_a(A)\}} = 0$$

$$R(A/b) = \frac{\mu_b(A) - \mu_a(B)}{\max\{\mu_b(A), \mu_a(B)\}} = 0.399$$

$$R(A/c) = \frac{\mu_c(A) - \mu_a(C)}{\max\{\mu_c(A), \mu_a(C)\}} = 0.356$$

$$R(A/d) = \frac{\mu_d(A) - \mu_a(D)}{\max\{\mu_d(A), \mu_a(D)\}} = 0.317$$

Similarly, we get the remaining values as follows

$$R(B/a) = 0.399 \quad R(C/a) = 0.356 \quad R(D/a) = 0.317$$

$$R(B/b) = 0 \quad R(C/b) = 0.362 \quad R(D/b) = 0.099$$

$$R(B/c) = 0.362 \quad R(C/c) = 0 \quad R(D/c) = 0.166$$

$$R(B/d) = 0.099 \quad R(C/d) = 0.166 \quad R(D/d) = 0$$

Step 4:

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.399 & 0.356 & 0.317 \\ 0.399 & 0 & 0.362 & 0.099 \\ 0.356 & 0.362 & 0 & 0.166 \\ 0.317 & 0.099 & 0.166 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$





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Step 5:

D2 (41-50)	D1 (51-60)	D2 (61-70)	D1 (71 above)
0.399	0.399	0.362	0.317

Step 6: We conclude that the maximum value is 0.399 for the age group (41-50) and (51-60) related to Cardiovascular disease, Chronic respiratory disease which is the required solution.

For Female, the below table describes the triangular fuzzy number representing the membership value [0,1] which is interpreted from the crisp value range from [0,100].

Step 1:

Age group /Disease	D1	D2	D3	D4
41-50	(60,70,40)	(60,80,40)	(70,40,30)	(80,70,20)
51-60	(80,20,40)	(80,80,10)	(80,60,20)	(80,70,40)
61-70	(60,10,20)	(70,70,60)	(70,80,30)	(80,70,10)
71 &Above	(80,80,40)	(80,50,60)	(60,90,20)	(80,90,30)

Step 2:

Age group /Disease	D1	D2	D3	D4
41-50	(0.6,0.7,0.4)	(0.6,0.8,0.4)	(0.7,0.4,0.3)	(0.8,0.7,0.2)
51-60	(0.8,0.02,0.4)	(0.8,0.8,0.1)	(0.8,0.6,0.2)	(0.8,0.7,0.4)
61-70	(0.6,0.0,0.2)	(0.7,0.7,0.6)	(0.7,0.8,0.3)	(0.8,0.7,0.1)
71 &Above	(0.8,0.8,0.4)	(0.8,0.5,0.6)	(0.6,0.9,0.2)	(0.8,0.9,0.3)

Applying the arithmetic mean operation on triangular fuzzy number for the above table, we get the membership values for the relative function which can be taken for calculation directly.

Step 3:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{D1}(A) &= 0.566 & \mu_{D1}(B) &= 0.466 & \mu_{D1}(C) &= 0.3 & \mu_{D1}(D) &= 0.666 \\ \mu_{D2}(A) &= 0.6 & \mu_{D2}(B) &= 0.566 & \mu_{D2}(C) &= 0.666 & \mu_{D2}(D) &= 0.633 \\ \mu_{D3}(A) &= 0.466 & \mu_{D3}(B) &= 0.533 & \mu_{D3}(C) &= 0.6 & \mu_{D3}(D) &= 0.566 \\ \mu_{D4}(A) &= 0.566 & \mu_{D4}(B) &= 0.633 & \mu_{D4}(C) &= 0.533 & \mu_{D4}(D) &= 0.666 \\ R(A/a) &= 0 & R(B/a) &= -0.223 & R(C/a) &= -0.356 & R(D/a) &= 0.150 \\ R(A/b) &= 0.223 & R(B/b) &= 0 & R(C/b) &= 0.199 & R(D/b) &= 0 \\ R(A/c) &= 0.356 & R(B/c) &= -0.199 & R(C/c) &= 0 & R(D/c) &= 0.058 \\ R(A/d) &= -0.150 & R(B/d) &= 0 & R(C/d) &= -0.058 & R(D/d) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Step 4:

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.223 & 0.356 & -0.150 \\ -0.223 & 0 & -0.199 & 0 \\ -0.356 & 0.199 & 0 & -0.058 \\ 0.150 & 0 & 0.058 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$





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Step 5:

D3 (41-50)	D2& D4 (51-60)	D2 (61-70)	D1 (71 above)
0.356	0	0.199	0.150

Step 6: We conclude that the maximum value is 0.356 for the age group (41-50) related to the chronic disease Autoimmune disease which is the required solution.

CONCLUSION

This paper has developed a fuzzy optimization model in order to analyze and recognize the chronic disease to the gerontology for certain age group (male and female) separately. The proposed method minimizes the time of identifying the disease in an effective manner. The proposed method is an advanced model in medical diagnosis by using data from health department.

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Edge Computing with the Internet of Things

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ABSTRACT

Computing is facing a rapid challenge. Cloud offers better computing power and storage, but retrieving data there and restoring it takes time. Edge Computing is a methodology that carries the cloud's abilities closer to the gadgets that produce the relevant information. By moving information computation and administration supply from the cloud to the edge, edge computing has become a promising answer to address the constraints of cloud computing in supporting context-aware and delay-sensitive services in the Internet of Things (IoT) era. Instead of performing information stockpiling and computing in a bunch of clouds, edge computing leverages utilizing the power of local computing and utilizing various close by gadgets as edge servers to offer timely and intelligent services. It winds up with numerous points of interest, including exceptionally improved scalability by timely and easy supply, and local distributed computing that utilizes customer computing abilities to meet the necessities of relevant computing. To genuinely acknowledge edge computing applications, there are as yet numerous challenges that should be addressed such as how to proficiently distribute and oversee information stockpiling and computing, how to make edge computing team up with cloud computing for increasingly scalable services and to make sure and safeguard the security of the entire framework. The purpose of this research paper is to present a brief study of Edge Computing Architecture and Systems.

Keywords: Edge computing, cloud computing, and Internet of things.

INTRODUCTION

With the development of an intelligent society and continuous improvement of the people's needs involved in various industries and people's daily life in the society. Edge device has become popular and spread in all aspects of society. Such as automatic vehicles, smartphones, smart watches, and intelligent production of robots in intelligent manufacturing, etc. As a result, the internet is connected to many devices significantly nowadays. Cisco pointed out in the Google Cloud Index 2016 that with billions of devices connected to the internet by 2019, the total number of devices causing data traffic in the global data centre will reach Zettabyte. 45% of the data is stored, processed, and

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analyzed in the network. Traditional cloud-centric architecture struggles to cope with latency, bandwidth, and privacy demands on IoT applications. Edge computing, which involves the processing of the data closer to the data source has gained solutions to the challenges. This paper aims to provide an in-depth analysis of the synergy between edge computing and IoT.

EDGE COMPUTING ARCHITECTURE

This paper outlines the fundamental architecture concepts of edge computing, including gateways, cloud servers, and edge nodes. Briefing more about hierarchy in the edge nodes, highlighting the distinction between local and regional nodes. The architecture also covers the distribution of computing tasks of edge nodes. Edge computing is composed of technologies that take advantage of computing resources that are available outside of traditional and cloud data centres such that the workload is placed closer to where the data is created and such that action can be taken in response to an analysis of that data. In other words, Edge Computing provides services and performs calculations at the edge of the network and data generation. Edge Computing is to migrate cloud computing. Developers can create applications that:

- Substantially reduces latencies
- Lower demand on network bandwidth
- Increase the privacy of sensitive information
- Enable operation even when the networks are distributed.

Key Technologies Enabling the Edge Computing of IoT

This article empowers the technology that uses Edge Computing and IoT together:

Fog Computing

This paper explains how fog computing extends the capabilities of edge computing by enabling dynamic resources and hierarchical data processing.

Edge AI and Machine Learning

The convergence of AI and Machine Learning in edge computing is explored, emphasizing the role of real-time data analytics, anomaly detection, and decision-making at the edge.

Network Function Visualization (NFV)

The use of NFV in edge environments is discussed, illustrating its potential for creating flexible, virtualized network services.

5G and Beyond

The impact of advanced communication technologies, such as 5G, on edge computing is examined, focusing on their ability to reduce latency and enhance connectivity.

COUPLING EDGE COMPUTING TO IoT

In this part, we will discuss how IoT merge with gateways and edge devices to integrate IoT and edge computing. We will analyze different perspectives to understand how IoT performances can be increased with edge computing. In recent years, you can see that there has been adverse improvement in the growth of technologies in IoT and edge computing. Even though IoT and edge computing have similar characteristics, edge computing can massively improve the performance of IoT devices. By relating IoT and edge computing to cloud computing we will have a deep insight into it. IoT devices are edge devices for edge computing. IoT performance can be improved by both edge computing and cloud computing by providing mass storage and high computational capacity. Even though edge computing has limitations on computation and storage compared to the cloud, edge computing has more advantages for IoT since these devices need a quick response. Since edge computing is local to IoT devices the interactions will be quick and it gives optimal time-sensitive traffic performance. Edge nodes can be utilized to offer services using

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IoT devices or devices with leftover processing power. Compared to cloud computing, edge computing can offer IOT substantially higher performance. IoT and edge computing are probably going to become intertwined as a result of the growing number of IoT devices. In the following, we will discuss IOT requirements highlighting the benefits they bring to Edge Computing-aided IoT.

Computation

IoT devices do not have enough computational capacity and resources, henceforth it is dependent on cloud computing. On the other hand, the cloud has enormous computational capacity and plenty of resources required. Even though the cloud has enormous characteristics for IoT devices, the requirement of computation for IoT devices can be satisfied by edge nodes in edge computing. So, the centralized cloud computation dependency can be avoided by edge computing.

Storage

The data collection from IoT devices will become big data generation soon/already. Uploading data from IoT devices to the cloud is time-consuming so sending it to edge nodes for storage is more time efficient. Even though edge nodes provide efficient storage for IoT data, the management of data at different edge nodes becomes a complex task. Since the storage requirement for IoT data is increasing, the data will be stored at different edge node resources and it will increase the security concerns.

Latency

The time to transfer data between two points is referred to as Latency. In traditional cloud computing the movement of data between IoT devices and cloud servers takes more time. There is a request-response delay and also uploading huge data produced by IoT devices for less computation work is not an efficient way. so instead of transferring data between cloud and IoT devices, it is better to manage with edge computing. Edge computing provides enough computational power for the IoT data requirement. The problem of latency will not emerge with edge computing as the request and response time required is much less compared to IoT device data with the cloud.

BENEFITS OF EDGE COMPUTING IN IoT

We evaluate the benefits of combining edge computing with IoT in this section.

Transmission

One of the benefits of edge computing is the rapid transmission of data. Bandwidth, throughput, latency and propagation time are the various criteria that assess the network performance. All these are the criteria that affect the transmission time. Some applications in IoT are time-sensitive, for example, live video assessment. Edge computing is a better approach for such time-sensitive applications. Edge computing can resolve IoT system's serious risks from cyberattacks including botnets, bottlenecks, and Overloading. Multi-access edge computing servers in edge computing can reduce latency and *ensure highly efficient network operation. Task offloading in the context of mobile edge computing will rapidly locate a suitable virtual machine to do the operation while conserving energy.

Bandwidth

In edge computing, "bandwidth efficiency" refers to lowering the need for constant data transfer to the cloud, which lowers bandwidth use. Data only must be transported inside the local network when calculations are performed on servers on the nearby edge network, which results in considerable bandwidth savings and improved efficiency. Edge computing frees up bandwidth on an international bandwidth highway by reducing the number of communications over long distances needed between customers and service providers.

Energy

The offloading characteristics of edge computing save the power resources of end devices in IoT. Edge computing helps to maximize the lifetime of battery-operated devices by this offloading scheme. Edge computing optimizes the energy consumption of sensors used in IoT and end devices. IoT end devices perform data processing and data





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forwarding tasks. When these tasks are performed through the cloud, the amount of energy required is more. Edge computing efficiently performs data forwarding and processing.

Data Security

Edge computing stores data locally. Data stored near the computing area increases security. Since the data is closer to the end-user in edge computing processing of these data can be carried out rapidly and within a specified amount of time. With remote management of data, accessing is possible only with user consent and third-party interference is reduced.

CHALLENGES OF EDGE COMPUTING BASED-IoT

In this section we will discuss the challenges of edge computing based IoT.

System Integration Challenges

Managing and controlling different types of service demands of IoT devices is challenging. A combination of different topologies, servers, and various platforms form edge computing. Data to be obtained and managed by edge computing is an unstructured combination of various forms of IoT device outputs, various platforms and resources which are to be managed in different locations. In cloud computing managing data is easy because it is centralized. Whereas in edge computing the edge nodes are of different platforms. so, developing an application to manage all nodes is a challenging task. Additionally, a sizable number of server-side applications must be installed on the edge nodes. Therefore, another difficult problem is how edge node providers distribute and manage such server-side applications in edge computing is another challenging issue. Another big challenge is the naming of the data resources that belong to or are sent by different types of platforms of IoT devices. Several naming schemes for edge computing have been adopted. For example, hierarchically structured naming for distributed networks is easy for edge node owners to manage. But this naming scheme requires hardware information which is crucial in information leakage.

Resource Management

To manage resources, distributed edge computing allows for a variety of solutions. And auctioning falls within this. According to the demands of the user, privacy-preserving bids can be made in this system. In edge computing, consumers need not depend on service providers since edge owners implement fair bid values for the resources they utilize. Edge computing aims to handle resources effectively while consuming as little delay and energy as possible while doing jobs. Some of the resource management techniques used in edge computing include machine learning, software-defined networking, and microservices.

Privacy and security

Security and privacy concerns are relevant and difficult in edge computing, just like they are in cloud computing. Data stored in edge nodes is more susceptible to security breaches than data saved on cloud servers. One of the main issues facing Edge Computing-based IoT is ensuring security during the data transfer process. IoT devices create enormous amounts of data, which are disseminated and stored in several edge nodes run by diverse owners. Thus, it is difficult to preserve data integrity in edge computing. As a solution to these integrity issues, third-party auditing can be used to preserve the privacy of user data.

Advanced Communication

A significant increase in effective and flexible communication may be brought about by the combination of edge computing, 5G, and IoT. Many IoT devices can be improved by 5G technology. Smart systems, such as the smart grid, smart city, smart health, and smart transportation, are created as a result of the integration of sensors and actuators in the Internet of Things (IoT). Edge computing can offer the lowest latency processing and storage for IoT-based devices as more systems become intelligent.



**Suma et al.,****REVIEW OF IoT AND EDGE COMPUTING**

We will go through the fundamental ideas behind edge computing and the Internet of Things in this section, as well as how the two technologies might be combined.

Internet of Things

The path of computers will move beyond the limitations of the traditional desktop-based model in the future. In particular, the IoT, a revolutionary technology of recent years, is quickly integrating into daily life. According to the Internet of Things (IoT) paradigm, the majority of physical objects, including smartphones, cars, sensors, actuators, and any other embedded devices, will be connected to data centres, exchange information, and usher in the next significant increase in the size of data output. People will be unable to live without IoT permeating their home and workplace existence, following several widely adopted technologies like smart transportation, smart cities, smart grids, and smart healthcare. IoT will therefore significantly affect potential consumers' daily lives and hold the key to the future. IoT plays a significant role.

Machine-To-Machine Communication

This communication model represents multiple devices, which can connect and exchange information between each other directly, without any intermediary hardware assistance. These devices can connect over different types of networks, including but not limited to Internet or IP networks. For example, Fig. 1 shows that a smart switch communicates with the smart light over Bluetooth 4.0. Devices can communicate with one another through these device-to-device networks using hybrid communication protocols, which combine device-to-device with a specific communication protocol to meet QoS requirements. Many applications, such as smart home systems or automatic control in electrical systems, which connect by exchanging short data packets and have reasonable data rate needs, frequently adopt this approach. Smart door locks, switches, and lights are a few examples of typical IoT devices of this type. These devices normally only transmit tiny data packets.

From the user's point of view, the issue with machine-to-machine communications is incompatibility, as various devices from various manufacturers utilize various protocols. Devices using the Z-Wave protocol, such as those used in smart homes, cannot connect with ZigBee devices.

Machine-To-Cloud Communication

Due to their limited computing power or storage capacity, IoT devices use a device-to-cloud communication strategy in which they request services from cloud application service providers or store data on cloud storage disks. As seen in Fig. 2, this strategy typically needs support from pre-existing communications techniques like traditional wired or Wi-Fi connections. Even though the Machine-to-Cloud communication model fixes the issues with the Machine-to-Machine model, this model is still dependent on the traditional network, and its performance is constrained by network bandwidth and resources. To enhance the effectiveness of the Machine-to-Cloud communication model, it is necessary to optimize the network structure.

Machine-To-Gateway Communication

The device-to-application layer gateway (ALG) model is regarded as a proxy or middleware box in the machine-to-gateway approach. The topology of machine-to-gateway communications is depicted in Fig. 3. A gateway or other network device that serves as an intermediary link between IoT devices and cloud application services runs some software-based security check techniques or other functions, such as data or protocol translation algorithms, at the application layer. This increases the IoT network's security and extensibility, moves some computing to the application layer, and significantly lowers the power consumption of the IoT devices. As an example, the smartphone serves as the gateway and runs some applications to connect to the IoT and the cloud. This is shown in the figure.





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Integration of IoT and Edge Computing

We will talk about the possibility of combining edge computing and IoT in this part. based on our examination of the traits We contrast the attributes of IoT with Edge Computing. Furthermore, we concentrate on the transfer, storing, and computation traits that show how edge computing works to enhance the IoT's performance.

CHALLENGES OF EDGE COMPUTING-BASED IoT

As we previously noted, incorporating edge computing to support the IoT has many benefits. We will talk about the drawbacks of edge computing-based IoT in this part.

SYSTEM INTEGRATION

Supporting multiple IoT device types and service requirements in the edge computing environment is an important challenge. Edge computing integrates a variety of numerous servers, networks, and platforms. Essentially, this system is diverse. It will therefore be difficult to handle resources and data while programming for a variety of applications running on several diverse platforms in many sites. All user programs and applications in cloud computing are deployed to and operating on cloud servers, from a programming standpoint. It is the duty of cloud service providers, like Google and Amazon, to distribute these apps and programs over the appropriate hardware and make sure they are functioning properly. The majority of users are unaware of how these programs operate or distribute their data and resources. One benefit of cloud computing is that cloud services are centralized and simple to maintain. Also, since the cloud application is only hosted on a specific cloud service provider, developers only need to learn one programming language to create apps for a specific target platform..

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Resource management needs to be completely understood and optimized for IoT and edge computing to work together. IoT devices, which frequently lack processing and resources, will be significantly impacted by network delay and congestion, requiring more power to retransmit data in crowded environments. Device latency can be reduced by using edge computing, which is the closest computing and storage resource. Decentralized resources will be crucial in encouraging and sharing these resources. As long as the administration of these resources is computationally inexpensive, it can be done in a variety of ways. Nevertheless, it is important to remember that the significant variability of service providers, gadgets, and apps significantly increases complexity. In particular, the driving forces behind managing Edge/IoT resources and smart systems coexist. How to allocate, share, and price the direct service of these systems can be satisfied by maximizing/optimizing global welfare or some other metric, through competitive bidding, or other ways in a system with various resource providers, enormously diversified applications, and user needs..

Auction-Based

It is possible to manage network resources using a variety of economically motivated strategies. For example, auction strategies have frequently been used in several computer science research fields, including cloud computing, smartphones, and mobile device systems in addition to different study spectrums. Application for managing edge resources auction strategies must guarantee a secure and private environment. service bidding based on need and bid price, and shall fulfil users' needs. About edge auction strategies must be envisioned to work with computing and IoT. users from service providers, and service allocation equitably and objectively. For providers of services, there is an inducement to use their abilities to the fullest the most superior.

This idea presupposes that several organizations serve as data centre cloud and edge computing providers and that various edge nodes are hosted by diverse organizations as well. The targets, pathways, and destinations of enormous networks of interconnected networks, sub networks, ad hoc networks, etc., need to be efficiently handled and must be dispersed effectively to satisfy QoS.



**Suma et al.,****Optimization**

As written, resource allocation and division in edge computing could be handled by the use of optimization. Similar to auction systems, optimization can offer beneficial qualities to system users, maximizing welfare or productivity. Although enterprises may plan for local edge systems to rely on subscription or patron services, this idea may not be practical given that edge infrastructures act as an intermediate layer between users and cloud services. Optimization has shown increasing potential when it comes to cloud and edge computing and numerous other areas of resource management. It is a candidate that supports auction methods.

SECURITY AND PRIVACY

Security and privacy are crucial issues that necessitate careful study since they are moving targets that cut across all sectors. These are the most crucial difficulties in the adoption of Edge Computing-based IoT. Peer-to-peer systems, wireless networks, virtualization, and other diverse technologies are at the heart of edge computing, which necessitates the adoption of a thoroughly integrated system to protect and manage each technology platform as well as the system as a whole. Despite this ambitious ambition, edge computing will ultimately lead to some unexpected and novel security concerns. The interaction of diverse edge nodes and the transfer of services between the global and local scales are two uncommon and unexplored scenarios that have the potential to introduce new channels of harmful activity. Additionally, the fundamental characteristics of edge computing may very well determine which security and privacy solutions can be implemented and which cannot. There are various unique security concerns and issues in edge computing systems, just like there are with cloud computing.

IoT benefits from the distributed structure are numerous. However, a significant difficulty with distributed systems is their privacy and security. Edge computing might offer a secure computing platform for the IoT in the future. The sensitive data related to end users' privacy may be used while edge computing processes data at the edge. Observe that IoT systems' sensing data is kept on edge nodes, which can be more prone to attack than cloud servers. As a result, edge computing must take privacy protection into account, and efficient privacy-preserving mechanisms like local differential privacy and differential privacy with high utility must be developed to safeguard users' privacy in the edge computing-based IoT environment. An adversary in this situation might present misleading information, alter the data of other users, tamper with their smart meter, spoof IP addresses, or otherwise interfere with energy management in IoT systems (such as smart grids). Since different edge nodes are governed by various owners, it is challenging to implement a uniform security approach across the board. We identify the problem area in Fig. 4 and its relationship to the IoT structures.

FINAL REMARKS

As a result of the growth of IoT, edge computing is emerging as a solution to challenging and complex issues. the difficulty in managing millions of sensors and devices, as well as the resources required. Data computation will go to the edge computing paradigm as opposed to the cloud. providing storage to the clients at the nearby "edge" of the network. Thus, edge computing can reduce traffic flows to lower the Internet of Things bandwidth requirements. Furthermore, edge computing can reduce transmission delay. Response times for real-time IoT applications are faster than those for traditional cloud services because of the proximity of the end users and the edge/cloudlet servers. Additionally, the lifespan of nodes with limited battery resources, as well as the lifespan of the entire IoT system, can be increased by lowering the transmission cost of the workload and moving the computational and communication overhead from nodes with limited battery resources to nodes with significant power resources. To summarize our research, we looked at the architecture of edge computing for IoT, the performance goals, job allocation strategies, security and privacy issues, and corresponding edge computing countermeasures. We also used common IoT applications as examples.

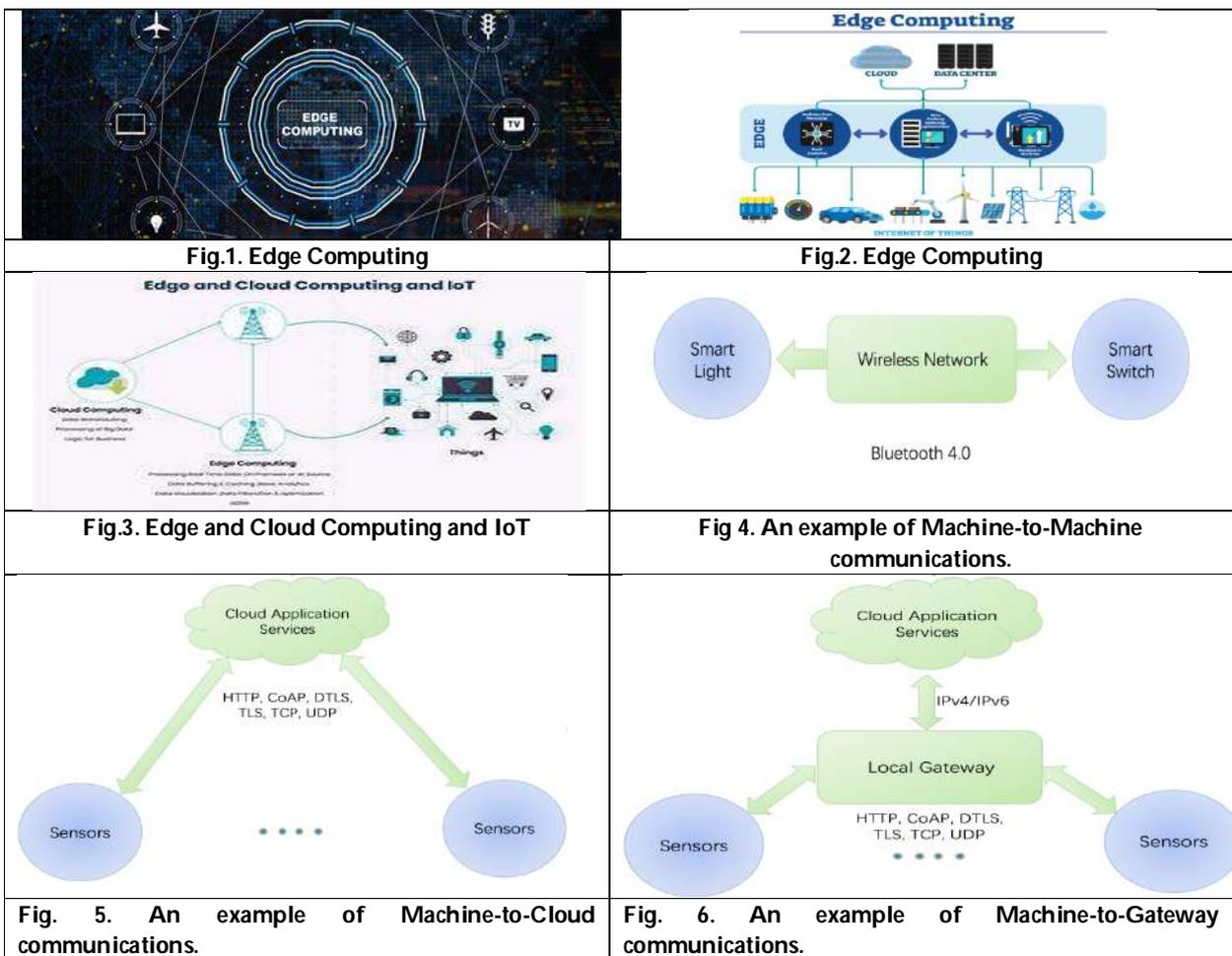




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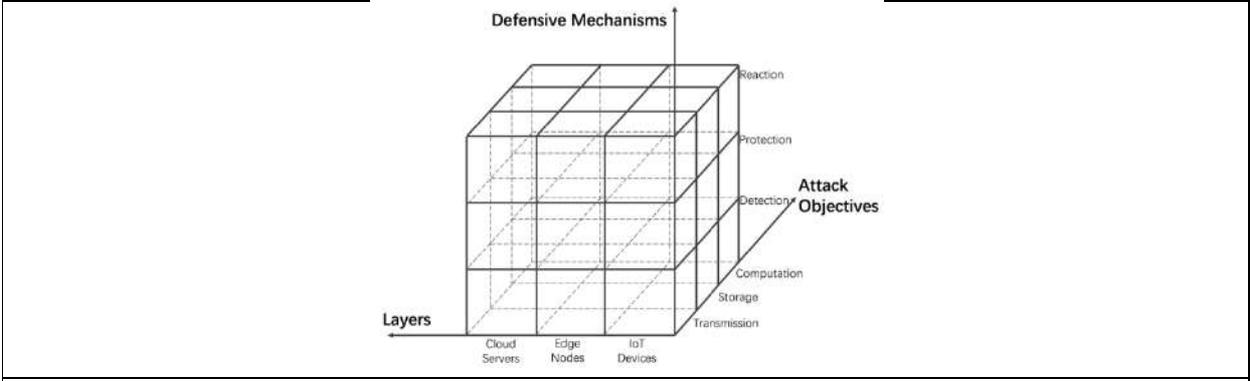


Fig 7.. Problem space of Edge Computing-based IoT security.





Artificial Intelligence an aid to Banking and Financial Institutions

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ABSTRACT

The infusion of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into the banking sector has ushered in a profound revolution, fundamentally reshaping how financial services are conceived and managed. This overview delves into the manifold impact of AI on banking, emphasizing its diverse applications, advantages, and associated challenges. AI's deployment, exemplified by intelligent chatbots and virtual aides, has revolutionized customer interactions, fostering improved accessibility and rapid responsiveness. AI's role in banking extends beyond efficiency; it has become a cornerstone of transformation, reshaping the industry's dynamics and empowering it to thrive in the digital age. The integration of AI algorithms into credit assessment has redefined lending norms, leveraging data insights for well-informed decisions. This paper explores the multifaceted impact of AI on the banking sector, focusing on its applications, benefits, and challenges.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence (AI), Banking sector, Revolution, Applications, Transformational force, Digital era.

INTRODUCTION

Certainly, the memory of the widespread impact of demonetization in India on November 8, 2016, remains vivid. The nation was in a state of upheaval, as individuals queued up at ATMs and banks, driven by the urgency to deposit their invalidated currency notes. Yet, the banking landscape has since undergone a remarkable transformation. The shift to digital platforms has become the norm, with the majority of transactions now conducted online. It's intriguing to contemplate how the experience of another round of demonetization would unfold in today's digital era. In the present context, the days of enduring long queues, navigating intricate token systems, and engaging in cumbersome formalities have been rendered obsolete. The advent of digitization and the integration of technology within banking have fundamentally altered the way financial institutions operate. The conventional

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practices associated with banking have been revolutionized, enabling customers to engage seamlessly with their financial transactions. The concept of standing in lengthy lines to access banking services now feels like a distant memory. The convenience and efficiency ushered in by digital banking have eliminated many of the traditional hurdles. The ability to conduct transactions at one's own convenience, manage accounts remotely, and access a plethora of banking services online exemplify the progress made in the realm of technology-driven banking.

As we reflect on the profound changes that have taken place since the days of the demonetization event, it underscores the remarkable journey that the banking sector has undertaken. The integration of technology has not only streamlined processes but has also empowered individuals with greater control over their financial affairs. The digitization of banking services has indeed marked a turning point, reshaping the industry's landscape and offering a glimpse of the potential that technology holds for the future. Artificial intelligence (AI) is playing an increasingly vital role in the banking sector, and its collaboration with financial technology (FinTech) firms is becoming a prominent trend. AI integration into banking systems has resulted in the development of innovative solutions aimed at enhancing customer experiences and operational efficiency. These solutions encompass AI-powered chatbots for customer support, fraud detection algorithms, personalized financial advice, and more. By joining forces with FinTech companies, traditional banks can tap into specialized expertise to create novel products and services that align with evolving customer demands. The extent of cost savings projected through AI adoption, estimated to be around \$447 billion by 2023, hinges on the specific AI implementations, the scope of deployment, and the efficiency improvements realized. This collaboration between AI and FinTech holds the potential to reshape the banking landscape, leading to transformative benefits across various fronts.

The advent of technology, particularly fintech banking solutions, has bestowed customers with self-service capabilities that were previously exclusive to in-person visits to bank branches. This shift has revolutionized operational processes, granting customers the convenience of managing their financial affairs on their terms. Notably, the Union government's announcement in 2021 revealed a remarkable statistic: approximately 72 percent of financial transactions conducted through public sector banks are now executed digitally. The impact of technology-driven transformation is palpable. In the fiscal year 2019-2020, digital channels hosted an active customer base of 3.4 crore individuals. However, the unforeseen emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic caused a seismic shift, resulting in the customer base nearly tripling to an astonishing 7.6 crores during the subsequent fiscal year of 2020-2021.

This exponential growth can be attributed to the increased reliance on digital platforms in light of the pandemic's challenges. Lockdowns, social distancing norms, and safety concerns prompted a swift migration towards digital banking solutions, effectively reshaping customer behavior and expectations. As a consequence, the financial landscape underwent a rapid transformation, solidifying the prominence of technology-enabled banking services. The trajectory from 3.4 crore active customers to 7.6 crores in a single fiscal year underscores the remarkable adaptability of individuals and the efficacy of digital solutions in catering to their evolving needs. The data not only reflects the industry's resilience but also reinforces the significance of technology as a driving force behind modern banking.

The confluence of technology and banking has thus facilitated a paradigm shift, granting customers greater autonomy, convenience, and accessibility to banking services. The journey from traditional in-branch experiences to the current digital empowerment demonstrates the industry's remarkable evolution, propelled by the dynamic interplay between technology and customer demand.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The extensive literature addressing the role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a catalyst for transformation within the banking industry spans a broad spectrum of themes and insights contributed by various authors. Within this expansive landscape, researchers such as Li, K., Cui, L., and Sun, Y. have delved into the intricate realm of AI-



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powered chatbots and virtual assistants, dissecting their effectiveness in elevating customer service standards and enhancing engagement through seamless interactions. Parallel to this, the scholarly work of Chen, J., Shao, J., and Wen, Y. has shed light on the potent applications of AI algorithms in fraud detection and risk management, effectively harnessing the power of data analytics to identify anomalous patterns and anticipate potential risks, thereby fortifying the security framework of the industry.

Stepping into the realm of credit assessment and lending dynamics, scholars like Thomas, L. C., and Edelman, D. B. have meticulously scrutinized the integration of AI into credit scoring models and its consequential impact on lending decisions. This research unearths how AI, armed with its data-driven insights, can potentially revolutionize the conventional norms of credit evaluation, fostering more nuanced and informed lending practices. Furthermore, a cohort of scholars, including Hui, K.-L., Zhang, H., and Li, H., has explored the profound implications of AI in crafting personalized banking services. Through an in-depth analysis of customer data, these researchers underscore the capability of AI to tailor financial recommendations, thus enhancing customer engagement and satisfaction in a bespoke manner.

The narrative extends beyond mere operational considerations, with a cadre of authors like Mittal, S. & Dhar, S. delving into the ethical dimensions of AI adoption in banking. Their work confronts issues of algorithmic bias, data privacy, and transparency, highlighting the criticality of an ethically sound AI ecosystem. The discourse also encompasses the intricate dance between AI and the banking workforce. Notable researchers, including Brynjolfsson, E., & McAfee, A., shed light on the evolving dynamics of human-AI collaboration and its subsequent impact on employment patterns within the sector. This dialog illuminates the necessity for upskilling and adaptability to navigate the ever-evolving landscape of AI integration.

Research Objectives

- To get a better understanding of the applications of artificial intelligence in the financial industry.
- To explore the influence of artificial intelligence on the growth of the Indian banking sector, as well as how AI is changing the perception of modern banks.
- To forecast the future of AI in the financial industry.

Potentiality of AI in Banking and Financial Sector

The potential of artificial intelligence (AI) in the banking sector is diverse and wide-ranging. In essence, AI's versatility in banking encompasses a spectrum of functions, all contributing to improved customer experiences, enhanced operational efficiency, and informed decision-making.

AI is being utilized for customer service and support through the deployment of AI-powered chatbots and virtual assistants. These tools are capable of offering instant assistance to customers, addressing queries, and facilitating routine transactions at any time of day, thus ensuring timely and efficient customer service. AI plays a crucial role in risk management and fraud detection. By analyzing large datasets, AI algorithms can identify patterns that signify fraudulent activities. This real-time analysis enables banks to promptly detect and prevent fraudulent transactions, enhancing security measures for both customers and the financial institution. AI is transforming credit scoring and underwriting processes. Unlike traditional credit scoring methods, AI can assess a wider array of data points, resulting in more accurate evaluations of risk. This empowers banks to make well-informed lending choices and broaden access to credit services.

Personalized financial services are also being revolutionized by AI. Through the analysis of individual customer data, AI can offer tailored financial advice and recommendations. This assists customers in managing their finances more effectively and making informed decisions aligned with their specific circumstances. In the field of investment banking, AI-driven algorithms are being employed for algorithmic trading and investment management. These algorithms can optimize trading strategies and manage investment portfolios with heightened efficiency, adapting swiftly to dynamic market changes.



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AI aids banks in addressing regulatory compliance challenges. The intricate landscape of compliance is navigated with the help of AI, which automates tasks associated with reporting, monitoring, and ensuring adherence to legal requirements. AI's capacity for processing vast volumes of data leads to valuable insights that facilitate strategic decision-making. From identifying emerging market trends to streamlining internal processes, AI-driven data analysis offers substantial support in enhancing overall business strategies.

Benefits driven by using AI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a transformative force within the banking sector, reshaping traditional processes and enhancing various aspects of the industry. The integration of AI technologies into banking operations has led to a range of benefits and innovations. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is being extensively utilized in the banking sector due to its ability to revolutionize various aspects of financial services and enhance overall operations. Here are several key reasons why AI is being adopted in banking:

- ✚ **Enhanced Customer Experience:** AI-powered chatbots and virtual assistants enable banks to provide immediate and personalized customer support 24/7. These AI systems can understand natural language, address customer queries, assist in transactions, and offer tailored recommendations, thereby significantly improving the customer experience.
- ✚ **Efficient Data Analysis:** Banks deal with massive volumes of data. AI algorithms can quickly analyze this data to extract valuable insights, helping banks make informed decisions about risk assessment, customer preferences, market trends, and more.
- ✚ **Fraud Detection and Prevention:** AI's pattern recognition and anomaly detection capabilities make it invaluable in identifying fraudulent activities in real-time. By analyzing transaction data, AI algorithms can swiftly spot unusual behaviors and prevent fraudulent transactions, enhancing security for both customers and banks.
- ✚ **Credit Scoring and Underwriting:** AI can assess a wider range of data points, going beyond traditional credit scores, to evaluate an individual's creditworthiness accurately. This enables banks to make more informed lending decisions and expand access to credit for a broader range of customers.
- ✚ **Personalized Financial Services:** AI analyzes customer data to provide personalized financial advice, product recommendations, and investment strategies. This level of customization helps customers manage their finances more effectively and achieve their financial goals.
- ✚ **Risk Management:** AI models can predict and manage various types of risks, from credit risk to market risk. By using historical and real-time data, these models help banks make more accurate risk assessments and develop effective risk mitigation strategies.
- ✚ **Algorithmic Trading and Investment Management:** Investment banks use AI-powered algorithms to optimize trading strategies, manage portfolios, and respond rapidly to market changes. These algorithms can process vast amounts of data to identify trends and execute trades more efficiently.
- ✚ **Regulatory Compliance:** The banking industry is heavily regulated, requiring meticulous monitoring and reporting. AI can automate compliance tasks by analyzing transactions, detecting anomalies, and ensuring adherence to regulatory standards, reducing the risk of non-compliance.
- ✚ **Cost Efficiency:** AI can automate manual and repetitive tasks, leading to operational efficiencies and cost savings. By streamlining processes like data entry, document processing, and customer onboarding, banks can allocate resources more strategically.
- ✚ **Innovation and Competitive Edge:** Embracing AI helps banks stay competitive in the evolving digital landscape. Financial technology (FinTech) companies are also incorporating AI into their solutions, and collaboration with these firms enables traditional banks to innovate faster and offer cutting-edge services.
- ✚ **Predictive Analytics:** AI's predictive capabilities enable banks to forecast market trends, customer behaviors, and potential credit risks. This foresight aids banks in making proactive decisions and staying ahead of industry shifts.

Several Indian banks had started integrating artificial intelligence (AI) into their operations.



**Matharu et al.,****Integration of AI in current scenario**

The current generation is intimately intertwined with technology, which has become a defining characteristic of their lives. This generation is actively seeking solutions to the myriad challenges they encounter, and they expect quick answers available at their fingertips. Whether it's a machine or a human relations manager, they anticipate timely responses on the other side of the screen to address their queries. In this context, the utilization of big data has emerged as a paramount strategy. Companies are aggressively harnessing information from vast pools of unstructured data. Within the realm of Fintech, the marriage of big data and artificial intelligence has led to transformative changes. Artificial intelligence has evolved from a conceptual idea to a tangible reality. The finance and banking sectors are embracing this paradigm shift by leveraging the potential of AI not only to extract and organize data but also to enhance client relationships. The synergy between artificial intelligence and big data is driving a paradigm shift in how financial institutions operate. By leveraging the capabilities of AI to process and analyze colossal amounts of data, financial companies can gain insights that were previously inaccessible. These insights, in turn, empower them to enhance their interactions with clients. The focus is not just on amassing data but on transforming it into valuable insights that drive informed decision-making and a deeper understanding of clients' needs and preferences. The integration of artificial intelligence and big data is a transformative force, redefining client engagement and reimagining the possibilities within the finance and banking sectors. As technology continues to advance, the potential for further innovation in client relations and overall industry efficiency remains vast.

Popular AI tools incorporated by various Banking institutions

The Indian banking sector has harnessed the power of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to revolutionize its operations and enhance customer experiences. AI tools such as chatbots and virtual assistants have become integral for providing prompt customer support and assisting with routine tasks. These banks employ AI-driven algorithms for fraud detection and prevention, rapidly identifying unusual patterns and safeguarding against unauthorized transactions. Credit scoring and risk assessment have been fortified by AI models, enabling accurate evaluation of creditworthiness for both individuals and businesses. Personalized marketing campaigns leverage AI to tailor product recommendations and promotions based on customer preferences, while robotic process automation streamlines repetitive tasks, heightening operational efficiency. Predictive analytics empowers banks with the ability to foresee market trends and customer behavior, aiding strategic decisions. Algorithmic trading platforms execute trades with precision, driven by predefined strategies. Additionally, voice and speech recognition technologies bolster security measures through customer authentication via phone interactions. In compliance, AI tools diligently monitor transactions to detect potential money laundering activities. Customer insights and analytics derived from AI-powered tools deepen understanding of customer behavior, thereby refining service offerings. Loan processing is expedited through automation, encompassing application verification and risk assessment stages. Natural language processing facilitates sentiment analysis for customer feedback and market trends. Cybersecurity measures are fortified with AI's capacity to detect and respond to cyber threats effectively.

Wealth management and advisory services are personalized through AI tools, while data analytics platforms generate comprehensive reports from vast datasets. Churn prediction tools proactively identify customers at risk of leaving, aiding retention efforts. Regulatory compliance is bolstered by AI-driven automation, ensuring adherence to banking regulations and facilitating reporting to regulatory bodies. The Indian banking industry's integration of AI tools underscores a commitment to innovation, efficiency, and customer-centric services.

Challenges faced while integrating AI into banking operations

The incorporation of AI into the banking industry is accompanied by a range of challenges that require careful consideration and strategic handling. One of the foremost challenges involves data quality and availability; AI systems rely heavily on accurate and comprehensive data, which can be fragmented across different systems within banks. The security and privacy of sensitive financial data emerge as a critical concern, necessitating robust measures to prevent breaches and unauthorized access. Algorithmic bias, another challenge, can result in discriminatory outcomes if not vigilantly managed, calling for transparent and unbiased AI decision-making processes.



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Furthermore, the complex regulatory landscape poses a significant hurdle. The intricate mesh of regulations that banks must adhere to, coupled with the need to ensure that AI aligns with these rules, requires meticulous attention. In conjunction with this, the opacity of certain AI models—referred to as the "black box" phenomenon—demands efforts to enhance explainability and transparency to build trust with stakeholders and regulators. The human aspect of AI adoption is not to be underestimated. Addressing workforce displacement concerns through reskilling and upskilling programs is crucial to harmonizing human-AI collaboration. However, such endeavors entail costs, both in terms of finance and time. Simultaneously, the cost of developing and maintaining AI systems can be substantial, warranting careful budget allocation and resource management.

The complexity of integrating AI into existing IT infrastructure poses both technical and operational challenges. Overcoming legacy system limitations and ensuring a seamless transition are pivotal to avoid disruptions to customer experiences. Additionally, the ethical implications of AI-driven decisions, particularly in credit assessment and customer service, introduce a layer of complexity that requires banks to navigate the fine line between automation and human intervention. Customer trust and education play a pivotal role in the success of AI adoption. Ensuring that customers understand the benefits and limitations of AI, and addressing concerns related to privacy and decision-making, is essential for fostering positive relationships. Lastly, the challenge of scale and consistent adoption across the organization necessitates robust change management strategies and leadership commitment.

Navigating these multifaceted challenges requires a holistic approach that combines technological expertise, regulatory compliance, ethical considerations, and effective communication. Successful integration of AI into the banking sector hinges on proactive identification and resolution of these challenges, ensuring that AI's benefits are maximized while potential risks are mitigated.

Future of AI in Banking and Financial Industry

The future of AI in the banking industry holds immense potential for further transformation and innovation. As technology continues to evolve, AI is expected to play an even more significant role in shaping the banking landscape. Here's a glimpse of what the future might hold for AI in banking:

- **Hyper-Personalization:** AI will enable banks to deliver hyper-personalized experiences by analyzing vast amounts of customer data. This could include real-time personalized offers, financial advice, and product recommendations tailored to individual needs and preferences.
- **Advanced Fraud Detection:** AI's ability to detect patterns and anomalies will evolve, allowing banks to anticipate and prevent fraud more effectively. Machine learning models will continue to adapt to new fraud tactics, ensuring robust security measures.
- **Chatbots and Virtual Assistants:** AI-powered chatbots will become even more sophisticated, offering seamless and human-like interactions. Natural language processing (NLP) advancements will enable them to understand context and emotions, enhancing customer engagement.
- **Autonomous Banking:** AI-driven automation will extend beyond routine tasks to more complex processes. Autonomous banking systems could manage investments, optimize portfolios, and make strategic financial decisions with minimal human intervention.
- **Biometric Security:** AI-based biometric authentication methods such as facial recognition and voice analysis will become more prevalent, enhancing security and user convenience in digital transactions.
- **Regulatory Compliance:** AI will continue to play a pivotal role in helping banks navigate complex regulatory environments. Advanced AI systems will analyze regulatory changes, ensuring compliance and minimizing risks of penalties.
- **Enhanced Risk Management:** AI will provide banks with even more accurate risk assessments by analyzing broader datasets and economic indicators. Predictive analytics will help banks anticipate market shifts and economic trends.
- **Blockchain and AI Integration:** AI can analyze vast amounts of data generated by blockchain networks, enhancing transparency, security, and efficiency in areas like cross-border transactions and supply chain finance.



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- **Ethical AI:** As ethical concerns surrounding AI grow, banks will invest in AI systems that are transparent, fair, and unbiased. Explainable AI models will provide clear insights into decision-making processes.
- **Collaborative Intelligence:** Human-AI collaboration will strengthen, with AI systems supporting bankers in making complex decisions. This synergy will lead to enhanced creativity, problem-solving, and innovation.
- **Customer Analytics:** AI will enable banks to gain deeper insights into customer behavior, sentiment, and preferences. This information will guide the development of new products and services tailored to customer needs.
- **Predictive Customer Service:** AI will predict customer needs and issues before they arise, allowing banks to proactively address concerns and provide relevant support.
- **Digital Identity and KYC:** AI-powered identity verification systems will streamline the onboarding process, making it faster, more secure, and convenient for customers.
- **AI in Wealth Management:** AI-driven robo-advisors will continue to evolve, offering sophisticated investment strategies and advice to a broader range of customers.

Overall, the future of AI in the banking industry will be marked by greater personalization, improved security, operational efficiency, and innovative services that redefine the customer-bank relationship. As technology advances and AI capabilities expand, banks will harness these tools to create a more dynamic, efficient, and customer-centric banking ecosystem.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the integration of AI into banking institutions presents a nuanced landscape where both opportunities and challenges coexist. AI's potential to revolutionize various aspects of the banking sector is undeniable. From enhancing customer experiences through personalized services and seamless interactions to bolstering fraud detection, risk assessment, and operational efficiency, AI offers a transformative pathway to a more dynamic and competitive industry. However, it is equally important to acknowledge that the integration of AI is not without its challenges. Data privacy and security concerns, potential biases in algorithmic decisions, regulatory compliance complexities, and the need to manage the human-AI partnership are all formidable hurdles that require careful consideration and strategic planning. The verdict on whether AI integration will be predominantly helpful or challenging for banking institutions is not a binary one. Rather, it hinges on the industry's ability to navigate these challenges and harness the benefits that AI offers. It requires a well-balanced approach that ensures ethical use, transparency, and fairness in AI-driven decisions. Success will be determined by how banks leverage AI as a tool for innovation while maintaining customer trust, regulatory compliance, and workforce adaptation. Ultimately, AI's impact on banking institutions will depend on their readiness to address the challenges head-on and capitalize on the transformative potential that AI holds. With a proactive and comprehensive strategy, AI integration has the potential to usher in a new era of efficiency, innovation, and customer-centricity in the banking industry.

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Table 1. Several Indian banks had started integrating artificial intelligence (AI) into their operations.

SI NO	Banking Institutions	Integration of AI
1	ICICI Bank	AI-powered chatbot called "iPal"
2	HDFC Bank	"EVA" AI-driven chatbot
3	Axis Bank	AI-Driven Fraud Prevention
4	State Bank of India (SBI)	AI-Powered Personal Finance Manager
5	Kotak Mahindra Bank	KeyaAI-driven virtual assistants
6	Yes Bank	AI-Powered Trading Platform
7	Federal Bank	AI-Powered Virtual Assistant
8	RBL Bank	Chatbot services
9	IDFC FIRST Bank	AI to automate processes
10	IndusInd Bank	AI-Enhanced Customer Service
11	Standard Chartered	AI-Driven Credit Scoring
12	DBS Bank	AI-Driven Wealth Management



Fig.1. Popular AI tools incorporated by various Banking institutions





Designing MIL-STD-105D with Zero One Sampling System-3(n;k)

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ABSTRACT

This research study investigates the MIL-STD-105D with QSS-3, incorporating a zero-one acceptance number in the normal plan as a double sampling plan and a zero-acceptance number in the tightened plan as a single sampling plan. Based on the QSS switching rules, this system is intended for expensive and destructive testing. There are tables provided to determine procedure and associated matches between the ZOSS-3 and 105D-ZOSS O.C. curves. The approach is compared to a prior system to determine accuracy results. Tables are generated and proper examples are given.

Keywords: QSS, SSP, DSP, MIL-STD-105D, Operating Characteristic curve.

INTRODUCTION

Acceptance sampling techniques were established during WWII. MIL-STD-105 was developed by Harold F. Dodge. It was a US military standard, that set the standards and tables for measuring characteristics that gave existence to sample inspection principles and mathematical equations developed by Walter A. Shewhart et. al. MIL-STD-105 A to E were developed in response to new advances over the duration.



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The MIL-STD-105D standard was a revised version of MIL-STD-105 certified in the United States in 1963. In 1971, American National Standards Institute recognized MIL-STD-105D sampling strategy, which is a group of individual plans combined by the sampling method. A sample system is made up of three plans: normal, tightened, and reduced, as well as switching instructions. When using the MIL-STD-105D, it is expected that the manufacturer and the buyer will agree on an AQL for a specified manufactured goods characteristic. The buyer and the seller can agree that the producers will submit multiple batches for check that are normally as excellent as the buyer's standards. Acceptance or rejection of batches according to the sampling approach, and additionally the flexibility to change to a new, more restrictive sample plan if the Producer's item fails to achieve the specified AQL, indicates that quality is preserved. Quick Switching Systems are compared to MIL-STD-105D switching, along with SSP, DSP, MSP, ChSP, and varying sampling systems.

This study presents a unique technique that combines two reference plans: conventional S.S.P with specifications (n, c) and tightened D.S.P with specifications ($n; c_1, c_2$), $n_1=n_2 = n$ switching methods of MIL-STD-105D (1963). The systems indicate the MIL-STD-105D Single Double Sampling System (105D-ZOSS). To developing more manufacturing purposes, it was labelled as 105D-ZOSS ($n; c; c_1, c_2$), where $n_1=n_2 = n$, $c_1=$ zero/one, $c_2> c \& c_1$, values are confined in the direction of zero and one.

Tables are given to identify the system and compare the O.C. curves of the ZOSS-3 and 105D-ZOSS systems. The measurements for efficiency are calculated. Vennila and Devaraj Arumainayagam (2018) provided the QSSDSS-3 values. QSS has been studied by Arumainayagam and Vennila (2019) with the 0-1 acceptance number consider as reference plan. Arumainayagam and Vennila (2021) discussed QSSDSS with representatives from several quality regions. Arumainayagam and Vennila (2022) investigated the concept of QSS with MIL-STD-105D single and double sampling plans.

105D ZOSS ($n; k$)

This system incorporates MIL-STD-105D (1963) switching rules for switching between normal DSP and tightened SSP. It is known as the 105D-ZOSS ($n; k$). The application conditions are listed below.

- i. The final item to be examined is made up of a succession of consecutive batches generated through a continuous technique.
- ii. In general, lots are identical.
- iii. Samples are presented in the process of their production.
- iv. The standard norm of the evaluation is measured as the proportion of non-conforming goods.

Operating Procedure

Step 1: Inspect under normal inspection, using double sampling plan, with sample size n and acceptance numbers 0 and 1. When three out of five consecutive lots are rejected, go to step 2 otherwise repeat step 1.

Step 2: Inspect under tightened inspection, using single sampling plan, with sample size n and acceptance numbers c . When five consecutive lots are accepted, go to step 1 otherwise repeat step 2.

Measuring performance

O.C. Function

The Operating Characteristic function 105D-ZOSS-3 ($n; k$)

$$P_a(p) = \frac{P_N P_T^5 (2 - P_N^4)(1 - P_T) + P_T (1 - P_N)(1 - P_T^4)(2 - P_N^5)}{P_T^5 (2 - P_N^4)(1 - P_T) - (1 - P_N)(1 - P_T^4)(1 - P_N^5)} \quad (1)$$

where

P_N = Proportion of lots expected to be accepted when using DSP ($n; 0, 1$)

P_T = Proportion of lots expected to be accepted when using tightened SSP ($kn; 0$)





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Under the premise of the Poisson Approach, the P_N and P_T were provided as.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} P_N &= e^{-np} + np e^{-(2np)} \\ P_T &= e^{-knp} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (2)$$

OC Curve Properties

Table-1 shows the acceptance probability values for the ZOSS-3 (n; k) and 105D ZOSS systems, given that both systems depend on the identical normal DSP and tightened SSP. This table shows the similarities involving the operating characteristic curves of the ZOSS-3 and 105D-ZOSS systems in the effective sector. These curves are seen in Figure 1. Thus, when applying the basic switching rules of ZOSS-3, all the advantages of MIL-STD-105D (1963) normal and tightened switching rules can be achieved, respectively.

Table 2 includes, comparing 23 combinations of ZOSS-3 and 105D ZOSS using the operating ratio. The 105D ZOSS $np_{0.95}$ divided by ZOSS-3 provides the efficacy value, the 105D-ZOSS needs less number of sample than the 105D ZOSS, to meet the identical efficiency.

Designing the systems given p_1, p_2, α and β .

Table3 is used to design 105D ZOSS for the specified values of operating ratio.

For illustration, let $p_1=0.001$ and $p_2=0.006, \alpha=0.05$ and $\beta=0.10$, the method of finding the system is given below

- (i) Compute $p_2/p_1 = 0.006 / 0.001 = 6.0$.
- (ii) The value of (p_2/p_1) that is equivalent to 6.0 in table 3 under the column of $\alpha=0.05$ and $\beta=0.10$ is 6.0295.
- (iii) The value of $k=2.35$ and $np_1=0.1625$.
- (iv) $n = np_1 / p_1 = 0.1625/0.001=163$.
- (v) The designed system is 105D ZOSS (163; 2.35).

Construction of Tables-3

The OC function of 105D ZOSS (n; k) is given in eq (1) and for given values of k and $P_a(p), P_N$ and P_T are given in equation 2. Eqn (1) is solved for np using unity-value technique in MATLAB program. Table3 provides such np_1 and np_2 standards for specified values of k and $P_a(p)$. For accepted values of $\alpha=0.05$ and $\beta=0.05$, $OR=p_2/p_1$ is determined & the values are shown in Table 3.

CONCLUSION

The new system is statistically significant and shows that the MIL-STD-105D with ZOSS-3 requires lesser sample than the SSP & DSP. It can be concluded that in extremely large cases, the differences in batch proportion defects across the sampling methods are highly probable.

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Table 1: OC. curve for the ZOSS-3 and 105D-ZOSS systems

P	Pa(p)			
	n=15, k=1.50		n=10, k=1.25	
	105D ZOSS	ZOSS-3	105D ZOSS	ZOSS-3
0.010	0.9512	0.9671	0.9862	0.9816
0.015	0.8821	0.9111	0.9684	0.9560
0.020	0.7912	0.8108	0.9399	0.9193





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p	Pa(p)			
	n=15, k=1.50		n=10, k=1.25	
	105D ZOSS	ZOSS-3	105D ZOSS	ZOSS-3
0.025	0.6931	0.6871	0.8978	0.8734
0.030	0.6007	0.5762	0.8418	0.8212
0.035	0.5195	0.4902	0.7764	0.7662
0.040	0.4507	0.4246	0.7089	0.7112
0.045	0.3929	0.3724	0.6456	0.6582
0.050	0.3442	0.3293	0.5894	0.6084
0.055	0.3030	0.2925	0.5406	0.5625
0.060	0.2677	0.2605	0.4984	0.5204
0.065	0.2372	0.2323	0.4616	0.4822
0.070	0.2107	0.2072	0.4290	0.4474
0.075	0.1874	0.1851	0.3999	0.4158
0.080	0.1669	0.1654	0.3735	0.3869
0.085	0.1487	0.1478	0.3495	0.3606
0.090	0.1327	0.1320	0.3273	0.3364
0.095	0.1184	0.1180	0.3068	0.3142
0.100	0.1057	0.1054	0.2877	0.2938

Table 2: MIL-STD 105D-ZOSS and its matched ZOSS -3 (n; k)

S.No	105D ZOSS (n; k)			ZOSS-3 (n; k)		
	c	OR	np _{0.95}	c	OR	np _{0.95}
1	1.10	11.1342	0.1880	1.10	11.3269	0.1891
2	1.15	10.7131	0.1869	1.20	10.6239	0.1873
3	1.20	10.3276	0.1858	1.25	10.3161	0.1865
4	1.30	9.6467	0.1836	1.40	9.5282	0.1839
5	1.35	9.3447	0.1825	1.45	9.3026	0.1831
6	1.40	9.0645	0.1814	1.50	9.0922	0.1823
7	1.50	8.5611	0.1793	1.65	8.5383	0.1799
8	1.55	8.3341	0.1783	1.70	8.3754	0.1791
9	1.60	8.1215	0.1772	1.80	8.0767	0.1776
10	1.65	7.9220	0.1762	1.85	7.9393	0.1769
11	1.70	7.7344	0.1751	1.95	7.6854	0.1754
12	1.75	7.5577	0.1741	2.00	7.5679	0.1747
13	1.80	7.3909	0.1731	2.05	7.4559	0.1740
14	1.85	7.2333	0.1721	2.15	7.2471	0.1726
15	1.90	7.0841	0.1711	2.25	7.0564	0.1712
16	1.95	6.9426	0.1701	2.30	6.9671	0.1706
17	2.00	6.8083	0.1691	2.35	6.8814	0.1699
18	2.10	6.5590	0.1672	2.55	6.5708	0.1674
19	2.15	6.4432	0.1662	2.65	6.4323	0.1661
20	2.20	6.3327	0.1653	2.75	6.3034	0.1649
21	2.25	6.1262	0.1644	2.90	6.1258	0.1631
22	1.00	6.0526	0.1902	2.95	6.0703	0.1625
23	2.35	6.0295	0.1625	3.00	6.0166	0.1620





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Table 3: Operating Ratio for 105D ZOSS

k	$np_{0.95}$	$np_{0.10}$	OR
1.10	0.1880	2.0933	11.1342
1.15	0.1869	2.0023	10.7131
1.20	0.1858	1.9188	10.3276
1.25	0.1847	1.8421	9.9733
1.30	0.1836	1.7712	9.6467
1.35	0.1825	1.7056	9.3447
1.40	0.1814	1.6447	9.0645
1.45	0.1804	1.5880	8.8040
1.50	0.1793	1.5351	8.5611
1.55	0.1783	1.4856	8.3341
1.60	0.1772	1.4392	8.1215
1.65	0.1762	1.3955	7.9220
1.70	0.1751	1.3545	7.7344
1.75	0.1741	1.3158	7.5577
1.80	0.1731	1.2793	7.3909
1.85	0.1721	1.2447	7.2333
1.90	0.1711	1.2119	7.0841
1.95	0.1701	1.1809	6.9426
2.00	0.1691	1.1513	6.8083
2.05	0.1681	1.1233	6.6806
2.10	0.1672	1.0965	6.5590
2.15	0.1662	1.0710	6.4432
2.20	0.1653	1.0467	6.3327
2.25	0.1644	1.0234	6.2271
2.30	0.1634	1.0012	6.1262
1.00	0.1902	1.1513	6.0526
2.35	0.1625	0.9799	6.0295
2.40	0.1616	0.9595	5.9370
2.45	0.1607	0.9399	5.8482
2.50	0.1598	0.9211	5.7630
2.55	0.1590	0.9030	5.6812
2.60	0.1581	0.8857	5.6025
2.65	0.1572	0.8690	5.5268
2.70	0.1564	0.8529	5.4539
2.75	0.1555	0.8374	5.3836
2.80	0.1547	0.8224	5.3159
2.85	0.1539	0.8080	5.2505
2.90	0.1531	0.7941	5.1873
2.95	0.1523	0.7806	5.1263
3.00	0.1515	0.7676	5.0674





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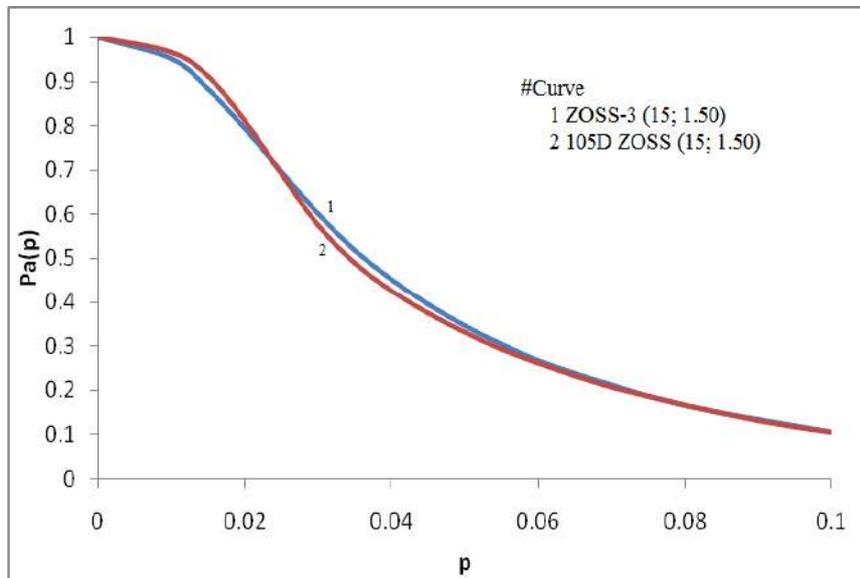


Figure 1: OC curves of ZOSS-3 and 105D ZOSS (n, k)





Environmental Monitoring using IoT Technology

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ABSTRACT

The use of Internet of Things (IoT) technology in environmental monitoring has gained a significant role in recent years. IoT technology can provide real-time monitoring of environmental parameters such as Air quality, Water quality, and Weather conditions. The use of IoT technology in environmental monitoring has numerous benefits such as it allows for more comprehensive and accurate data collection which can lead to better environmental management practices. However, the implementation of Internet of things IoT technology in environmental monitoring has presented some challenges like the cost of implementing and maintaining IoT systems can be extremely high and there are concerns about data security and privacy. It is important to have a well-designed and integrated system that can address these issues and improve the environmental monitoring process. IoT is the leading technology used in monitoring environment by using sensors and devices to measure environmental parameters. As IoT is necessary to protect the environment there are challenges associated in monitoring environment using this technology. This paper describes the possibilities of IoT technology, contribution to innovative environmental monitoring and sustainable development. Finally, IoT-based environmental monitoring is a promising approach to addressing environmental challenges and can improve understanding. This paper summarizes the use of sensors and devices in monitoring the environment and addresses the challenges related to improve the environmental monitoring process. Overall, this paper focuses on the combination of IoT in environmental monitoring in preventing natural disasters and challenges that are present in using IoT in monitoring environment.

Keywords: Wireless sensor networks, Internet of Things.



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INTRODUCTION

Over the last few years, we humans are getting more conscious about the environment that we are living in. Environmental monitoring means collecting and analysing the data about the environment to evaluate the health and identify any changes that are required. The aim of environmental monitoring is to identify potential hazards to human and to help developing the strategies for preventing such hazards. Environmental monitoring can involve the measurement of environmental factors such as air quality, water scarcity, waste management, soil condition, noise pollution and endangered species protection. The history of the IoT goes back to 1980s when Coca-Cola vending machine at Carnegie Mellon University was connected to the internet, becoming the first IoT device. The machine was able to report its inventory and advise whether the drinks were cold or not, by allowing students to check remotely if the machine was stocked. In early 2000s when researchers began to explore the use of “Wireless sensor networks(WSNs)” for environmental monitoring which enabled the collection and transmission of data from remote locations. One of the earliest applications of WSN’s was in agriculture, where sensors were used to monitor soil moisture, temperature, and other conditions of the agricultural crop field. As IoT continues to evolve, there are concerns about data privacy, security, and the misuse of the data. However, with the proper safeguards and regulations, The IoT continues to evolve in the shaping the future technology.

Environmental monitoring is essential to make sure the health and wellbeing of ecosystems. Using IoT technology for environmental monitoring, we can reduce our environmental footprint by optimizing resources use, reducing waste and improving energy efficiency. This not only benefits but can also have significant economic benefits such as reduces cost and increased productivity. IoT based environmental monitoring has several advantages over traditional monitoring methods. For example, it allows for real-time monitoring of environmental conditions, which can help identify problems quickly and enable time action. It can also provide a more accurate picture of environmental conditions overtime by collecting and analysing large amount of data. As IoT is necessary to protect the environment there are some challenges associated in monitoring environment using IoT. The purpose of the study on environmental monitoring using IoT technology is to improve the understanding of natural world, so that we can make informed decisions to protect sustain the environment. At last, the study is terminated with the findings and prevention of environmental damages and challenges that are present using IoT in monitoring the environment.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The use of Wireless sensor networks (WSN) based on IoT for environmental monitoring has gained significant attention in recent years. The study creates WSN system using ZigBee as networking protocol, Raspberry Pi as a base station and sensor node as a combination sensor. This study by Aarti Rao Jaladi et al. (2017) put forward a WSN based environmental monitoring system that utilizes IoT technology. The system was designed to monitor various environmental parameters. The study concludes that the WSN’s based on IoT for environmental monitoring is a promising approach. The study recommends the future research in WSN based environmental monitoring using IoT technology to improve the systems performance and to have more advanced and efficient systems for environment monitoring using IoT based WSNs. “A low cost IoT based system for environmental monitoring” by Nauman Khan et al. (2019) presents the system that can monitor various environmental variables that consist of microcontroller sensors and a web-based platforms. The study discusses the various sensors that can be used to monitor environmental factors and their advantages and disadvantages. The authors have used an Arduino based microcontroller to collect data from the sensors and transmit it wirelessly to the web-based platform. They have used various sensors such as DHT for temperature and humidity, MQ-135(Air quality gas sensor) for air quality and sound sensor for noise level check. The author has developed a web-based platform using PHP and MySQL to analyse and display the data collected by the sensors. As result the authors have shown that the system can be easily deployed and maintained in developing countries due to its ease of and low cost.





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IoT has gained popularity in various fields including environmental monitoring. This case study by Ali Imam Sunny et al. (2020) examines on a low cost IoT based sensor systems for harsh environmental monitoring. The study conducted experiments to evaluate the performance of the several sensor nodes, base station, and a cloud-based server to collect data on the environmental parameters. The experiments were conducted in a remote and harsh environment and the system was deployed to monitor the environmental conditions. The study found that the proposed system was effective in collecting data on environment parameter and provide accurate results. The system was also found to be effective and making it suitable for using in remote and harsh environment. Further research in this area is to yield more up to date and well-organized and advanced system for harsh environmental monitoring using low cost IoT based sensor systems.

“Environment monitoring modules with fire detection capability based on IoT methodology” by Thadeu Brito et al. (2021) discusses the development of an IoT based systems for monitoring and detecting fire in the environment. The implementation and testing of the system in a real-world scenario, which involved setting up multiple monitoring modules in a forested area and simulating a fire situation. The results of the testing showed that the system was able to accurately detect the fire and send alerts to a central control station in real time. The study discusses the potential application of system, including in industrial setting and residential buildings and discusses the design and implementation of the central server which receives and processes data from the monitoring modules and triggers alarms in case of fire detection. Further research in this area is to yield more structured systems for environmental monitoring with the fire detection capabilities using IoT based system.

Objectives

- To identify the environmental parameters such as Air quality, Water quality, Noise pollution and Wildfires that can be monitored using IoT systems and identify the advantages and limitations of using IoT sensors in each of them.
- To evaluate the sensors, communication protocols, effectiveness and data processing techniques used in environmental monitoring using IoT systems.
- To identify the barriers and challenges for adopting and implementation of IoT technology for environmental monitoring and propose solutions to overcome.

DISCUSSION

The process and activities that must be carried out for the environment to be characterised and monitored are described as environmental monitoring. There are grounds and justification for all monitoring strategies and programmes. They are often used to determine the current state of the environment or to establish trends in environmental factors. The role of environmental monitoring falls under the scope of a smart environment which focuses on implementing IoT, so that people's lives can be safer, comfortable, and more environmentally friendly. The application for environmental monitoring needs to be able to interpret the measured values and develop a solution for daily problems.

Air quality

IoT technology is a system that utilizes interconnected devices, sensors, and systems to collect and transfer data over the internet. In the subject of air quality monitoring, IoT devices can detect various pollutants such as particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, carbon dioxide, and other harmful gases. The sensors used in IoT devices are compact and movable, enabling easy installation in various locations. The collected data is transmitted to a cloud-based platform or central server for processing and analysis to provide valuable insights into the air quality conditions. This data can also be shared with the public, empowering individuals, and organizations to make informed decisions based on real-time air quality information. The use of IoT technology in air quality monitoring offers several benefits. IoT devices can monitor air quality conditions in real-time, providing more precise and up-to-date data and can be easily



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deployed in remote and locations, enabling comprehensive monitoring of air quality conditions. IoT technology can significantly lower the cost of air quality monitoring by automating the data collection and analysis process, eliminating the need for manual labour. The limitations of IoT sensors in monitoring air quality is other sources of air pollution, such as nearby construction sites or change in weather can interfere with the readings of IoT sensors, which leads to inaccurate results.

Water quality

IoT technology is also used for water quality monitoring. IoT devices equipped with sensors can detect and monitor various water quality parameters such as pH levels, dissolved oxygen, and temperature. These sensors can be installed in water bodies such as lakes, rivers, and oceans or in water distribution systems. By this action information can be accessed by water management agencies, researchers, and the public. The ability to monitor water quality in real-time enables prompt actions to be taken in case of any difference from acceptable levels. IoT devices can provide real-time and continuous monitoring of water quality parameters, unlike traditional methods that require periodic sampling and laboratory analysis. IoT devices are portable and can be easily installed in various locations, providing a more comprehensive view of water quality conditions. IoT technology can help to improve water management practices and ensure safe and sustainable access to water resources. The limitation of IoT sensors is the placement of IoT sensors can affect the accuracy of the data collected. Sensors should be placed in where IoT sensors have limited geographical coverage, and it may be challenging to monitor a large body of water with a small number of sensors. This can result in blind spots and incomplete coverage of the water body areas where water quality is likely to be affected, such as near wastewater treatment plants or agricultural fields.

The instrument can quickly determine total nitrogen, COD, ammonia nitrogen, total phosphorus, suspended solids, and turbidity in water. It integrates Oceanus mature technology in the field of water quality analysis, making the whole analysis system more perfect, the operation simpler and faster, and the results stable and reliable.

Noise pollution

IoT-based noise monitoring systems can consist of various sensors, including microphones, sound level meters, and environmental sensors, which collect noise data in real-time and transmit it to a central server for analysis. IoT sensors can measure sound intensity and decibel levels. You need to choose the right sensors based on the type of noise you want to measure and the environment in which you want to measure it. The sensors need to be connected to the internet so that the data they collect can be transmitted to a server for analysis. This can be done using Wi-Fi or other wireless communication protocols such as ZigBee. The data collected by the sensors needs to be stored and analysed on a central server or you can use cloud-based services like Amazon web services or Azure for this purpose. The data collected by the sensors can be used to generate real-time noise maps of the monitored area. This information can be used to identify noise pollution hotspots and take corrective actions. The noise pollution monitoring system needs to be monitored and maintained regularly to ensure that it continues to function properly. While IoT sensors have many benefits for monitoring noise pollution, there are also some limitations that should be involved, the accuracy of IoT sensors can be affected by factors such as ambient noise, sensor placement, and weather conditions. This can lead to inaccurate data and false alarms. IoT sensors can generate enormous amounts of data, which can be difficult to analyse. This can make it challenging to identify meaningful patterns in data.

Wildfires

Wildfire monitoring using IoT involves the use of sensors to detect, monitor, and predict the spread of wildfires. Wildfire monitoring using IoT involves using sensors to detect and monitor various environmental factors that contribute to the risk of wildfires. These sensors can be installed in areas of the wildfires, such as forests and grasslands, and can be used to observe factors such as humidity, wind speed direction, smoke, and gas levels. IoT sensors can provide early warning of potential wildfires, allowing firefighters to respond quickly and potentially prevent the fire from spreading. IoT sensors can provide accurate and real-time data on environmental factors that contribute to the risk of wildfires, allowing authorities to make informed decisions about fire prevention and management. The limitations of IoT sensors have a limited range and may not be able to cover large areas without



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deploying a large number of sensors. While IoT has the potential to revolutionize wildfire monitoring and management, it is important to consider these limitations and develop strategies to address them to ensure accurate and effective monitoring. The choice of technology for monitoring the environment depends on the specific needs and objectives of the monitoring program. There is no single technology that is universally preferred for environmental monitoring, as each technology has its own advantages and disadvantages. Ensuring the privacy and security of data collected by IoT sensors is crucial, as any data can have severe consequences such as reputational damage, legal liabilities, including financial damage. Addressing these critical issues can help ensure the success of IoT-based environmental monitoring, and advance our understanding of the environment, and contribute to the development of more effective environmental policies and strategies. Explore new techniques and technologies to improve data encryption and authentication, as well as develop robust security protocols to prevent unauthorized access to IoT devices and data.

Overall, the choice of IoT sensor will depend on the specific application and the environment conditions in which it will be used. It is important to choose sensors with high accuracy and reliability and ensure that they are properly calibrated and maintained to ensure accurate readings. To overcome the challenges posed by IoT sensors in monitoring the environment there is need in continuous improvement of IoT sensors and monitoring systems can help to overcome limitations and improve their effectiveness over time. This includes incorporating recent technologies, updating sensor networks, and incorporating user feedback. Power management is crucial to ensure that the IoT sensors remain functional and operational for extended periods. This includes using low-power sensors, optimizing sensor placement, and using renewable energy sources to power the sensors. Careful selection of sensor locations can improve the accuracy of the data collected by IoT sensors. Sensors should be placed in locations that are representative of the environment being monitored, and where they can be easily accessed for maintenance.

CONCLUSION

The use of IoT technology for environmental monitoring is highly promising approach. It provides an efficient and cost-effective way to collect and analyse environmental data in real-time, which can enhance our understanding of complex ecological systems. IoT devices can be installed in remote and inaccessible areas, enabling researchers to gather data from previously inaccessible regions. While the benefits of IoT-based environmental monitoring are clear, there are some challenges that need to be addressed, such as data privacy, cybersecurity, and data management. The adoption of IoT technology for environmental monitoring has potential in enabling accurate and complete evaluation of environmental conditions and helping to inform better policies for environmental management and conservation. For future research, the development of new and innovative IoT-based applications in environmental monitoring such as monitoring air quality in urban areas or tracking the movements of marine animals in the ocean can help in better understanding of the impacts of human activities on the environment and help policymakers make informed decisions.

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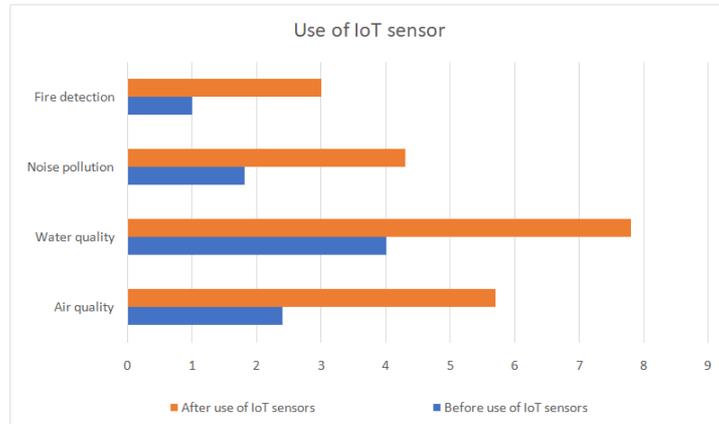


Fig.1. Comparison of Environmental parameters before and after use of IoT technology (After peer review)





Cluster-based Routing Protocol with Machine Learning Support for Wireless Smart Grids

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ABSTRACT

There are still substantial challenges to increasing energy efficiency and network longevity in wireless smart grid sensors. The current routing method uses a hierarchical WSN model to reduce the amount of energy used by WSNs. However, because of the hierarchical approach, it has significant issues with complexity, time consumption, and increased energy use. This work suggests the Machine Learning Routing (MLR) procedure for an energy-efficient WSN with a mobile sink node to address these issues. The clustering phase and the routing phase are the steps that lead to energy efficiency. K-means method starts the clustering phase by giving each node a weight value. The routing phase supports both intra- and inter-cluster routing. The Particle Swarm Optimization (ML-PSO) algorithm based on Artificial Neural Networks is suggested for intra-cluster routing. Our suggested MLR protocol maximizes network longevity by minimizing energy usage in every aspect. Promising results in terms of the amount of dead nodes, average energy use, network longevity, and throughput have been shown by extensive modeling in ns-3.

Keywords: Wireless Grids, Smart Data Transmission, Energy Efficiency, Machine Learning, Particle Swarm Optimization.





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INTRODUCTION

An essential component of a Wireless Smart Grid Network (WSGN) are the routing protocols. The adoption of effective routing techniques becomes essential to ensuring the interface required between control centers and smart utility equipment like smart meters [1]. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) are becoming more commonplace in high-computation paradigms and intelligent application-equipped Taking wireless networks into the sixth generation and beyond. Smart environments filled with Internet of Things devices may generate massive volumes of heterogeneous data for analysis by such networks. The smart traffic management system has relied heavily on the pooled energy produced by automobiles and cyclists alike. This kind of traffic regulation is essential for making the most of the variable costs associated with maintaining enough illumination, given that the volume of visitors fluctuates throughout the day. The Internet of Things encompasses every facet of modern life by integrating wireless sensor networks. A smart city is a novel idea that is introduced through smart nodes seen in the real world like smart parking, healthcare facilities, smart infrastructure, and banking[2]. As a result of machine learning's advancements in recent years, numerous computer networks and forms of artificial intelligence are now actively employing its design and technology to enhance the efficiency of their methods and produce better results. Machine learning plays a crucial role in wireless ad hoc networks because it creates the optimal conditions for routing protocols to operate in, leading to improved performance in terms of throughput, packet delivery proportion, hop-to-hop count, and quality of service. For low-power, low-capacity networks like those found in IoT-enabled smart homes, factories, and cities, the Routing Protocol for Low-power and Lossy Networking was established. There have also been many suggestions for how it should be made better for usage in certain contexts, such as "smart hospitals," etc. The absence of proactive security measures in RPL makes these networks vulnerable to attack despite the fact that they offer efficient routing. The sorts of attacks include those that are exclusive to a protocol and those that wireless sensor networks inherit. Numerous alternative recommendations have been made to address them, many of which have gained significant notoriety. However, while creating a machine-learning-based attack detection model, concurrent processing of both types of attacks is not taken into account. The ProSenAD paradigm is therefore suggested in order to fill the identified gap. The multiclass classification feature of the light gradient boost machine architecture allows for improved detection of protocol-specific rank assaults along with inherit worm hole attacks on sensor networks [3], [4].

The Internet of Things networks, which include IoT gateways or wireless sensors and controllers, offer incredibly high functions. However, there is little focus on these nodes' energy optimization and enabling lossless networks. Wireless sensor networks as well as the applications they enable have been more industrialized along with scaled up as a result of the widespread use of AI and machine learning. Due to the high energy consumption problems associated with the routing method, the algorithm protocol reaches the local optimal and unequal network node utilization. The smart colony optimization approach is implemented at critical nodes to provide energy-balanced routing [5]. The Internet of Things (IoT) has proven to benefit from machine learning approaches thanks to sophisticated and economical computing methods. Machine learning and wireless sensor networks (WSN) have been used in recent years to significantly improve energy-based systems. However, there are some difficult difficulties that require creative analytic routes with minimal energy use. Additionally, WSN operations take place in an unpredictably dangerous environment, and numerous network threats can affect smart and safe information collection. Consequently, low-power sensors' security from such dangers is a top priority [6], [15]-[20].

RELATED WORKS

The Routing System for Low-Power as well as Lossy Networking is an extremely popular WSGN routing system, and it is the topic of this study. In particular, a unique method for selecting the best guardian in cases when several candidates are equally qualified is presented in this study. The purpose is to improve forwarding decisions by routing data via the most optimal next-hop node. Using Machine Learning characteristics significance analysis with Random Forest, the suggested technique takes into account the most important routing network parameters. According to the results of the analysis, the suggested technique achieves a much higher packet delivery ratio than



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the traditional implementations of RPL [7]. This study suggests a novel approach to machine learning-based resource allocation and routing for UAV-based edge computing. Here, the growing IoT applications and the function of machine learning (ML) using the UAV-enabled MEC approach have been examined. In this study, the resource allocation for UAV-assisted edge computing has been done utilizing a federated learning-based access network based on Monte Carlo simulations. Then, a collaborative routing protocol based on trajectory-based deterministic reinforcement was used to route via the UAV network. We specifically undertake an experimental analysis to determine how the two potential approaches' calculation times and communication costs compare. The primary findings reveal that, despite the increased connection latency, the compute offloading technique enables us to give much greater performance than the edge-computer solution [8].

In this paper, we have described an adaptive traffic control system employing a wireless sensor network for smart cities. Our device is surrounded by a network of nodes, such as roads, landmarks, and signal poles. Each node shares data with its neighbors regarding the traffic situation and the cars on the road. They are shorter in both time and distance, and they avoid most traffic. This study designs and evaluates a new configuration for a wireless sensor network system using WSN-Spherical grid route to identify and avert traffic congestion. Keeping in mind the restrictions imposed by the sensor network, we suggest looking at how artificial intelligence (AI) approaches may be used to improve the efficiency with which wireless sensors collect a metric of interest. device for monitoring and controlling traffic flows. The fundamental objective of this research is to develop a routing-based framework that may be used to give helpful, real-time data to reduce congestion and delay, and to assess the efficiency of the system as a whole. Emergency vehicles, smart cities, and high-tech traffic monitoring systems [9]. In this post, we'll take a look at how different kinds of machine learning affect the efficiency metrics of wireless ad hoc networks. We do a comprehensive analysis of all simulators utilized by and evaluated by the different MANET and VANET protocols. Ad-hoc networks require a number of additional factors to be researched and simulations to be utilized, allowing users to ensure optimization so that, after choosing the best machine learning model, we can reduce the possibility of data loss while increasing throughput. This study provides a prospective dissection of numerous machine learning models used across a range of procedures. [10].The assessed model takes into account the benchmarks for comparison and the amount of attacks in two separate scenarios. Precision, accuracy, recall, Cohen's Kappa, crossing entropy, and the Mathews correlation coefficient [11] are only few of the assessment metrics where the proposed model excels.

The smart ant colony optimization method is used to propose a method of selecting neighbors that takes into account both the energy needs of individual nodes in a WSN and the network as a whole. To increase the algorithm's convergence speed and ant search ability, termination criteria and an adaptive perturbation technique are devised. This makes it possible to identify the world's optimal solution. The suggested method of route design improves several aspects of a network, including its performance, longevity, energy distribution, nodes' equilibrium, network latency, and consumption of energy. Almost ten percent less power was consumed compared to the present state-of-the-art methods [12].

Our goal is to provide an autonomous IoT security approach based on machine learning to guarantee maximum efficiency in both energy use and transmission reliability. To begin, the proposed protocol utilizes a model-free Q-learning approach to simultaneously optimize network performance and provide fault-tolerant data transmission. Second, it uses a deterministic technique based on cryptography to achieve data confidentiality against adversaries. Compared to alternative solutions, the suggested technique shows superior results [13]. This article provides a summary of the many methods used for controlling and routing data in wireless sensor networks. These tactics may improve energy efficiency via the use of the machine learning technique of reinforcement learning. The concept is founded on the use of positive and negative reinforcement, much to how young children learn. Proper energy administration and the subsequent extension of the lifetime in wireless sensor networks constitute two of the primary challenges in these networks because of the nodes' limited capacity to use energy. The current article was written with the intention of being familiar with the pertinent techniques offered. This article presents and analyzes a variety of methods that aim to apply reinforcement learning to enhance wireless sensor network behavior and





intelligence. The development of these techniques and the relative superiority of each to the others have been studied in the meantime [14].

PROPOSED WORK

Network Model

We consider a network architecture in which there are m Internet of Things (IoT) users (U_1, U_2, \dots, U_m), a mobile sink (MS), and an entry point. Furthermore, a movable sink node is included in the network's construction. Two hexagons are arranged in a concentric pattern to form the network model. In figure.1, the suggested network model is shown.

Clustering Phase

1. First, scatter the first k cluster centroids throughout the graph to form the clusters. Using the Euclidean distance among every node and each centroid, find the nearest centroid. This (the 'k') causes the first clusters to form.
2. Assuming n nodes are provided, and all of them belong to the set R_d . The problem that has to be solved in order to classify these nodes into k clusters with minimum variance is as follows.

$$\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \times \sum_j \left(\min d^2(X_i, m_j) \right), \text{ for } i = 1 \text{ to } n \quad (1)$$

where $d(X_i, m_j)$ represents the distance in a straight line between points X_i and m_j . The inputs j , k , and $_(i=1)$ represent the centers and means of their respective clusters.

3. Check for any shifts from the original computation by recalculating the positions of the cluster centroids.
4. The clustering procedure is complete unless the location of any centroid shifts, in which case you should proceed to Step 2.

MLR Routing Phase

The CH chooses a reliable best route for data transfer as a result. Energy efficiency and QoS are both improved by choosing the best approach. Additionally, choosing a trusted route will raise the level of security. As a result, we suggest the ML-PSO method, which chooses a reliable optimal path for data transfer. The suggested ML-PSO use deep learning methodology to select the most appropriate path from the available collection of paths based on various parameters. Better performance will be obtained by processing route choice in deep structure. In the initial layer of a deep neural network, we employ the crossover operator to generate all potential connections between the control node (CH) and the sink node (s). Then, we evaluate each path using the fitness factor in the hidden layers. The data transmission route is selected by the output layer.

1. Layer 1 is the input layer, and it is composed of the input neurons. Here we set up the potential routes= r_1, r_2, \dots, r_u . There are no other possible paths among MS and the CH_S other than the ones listed.
2. In ML-PSO, h_1, h_2, \dots , and h_L represent one of up to L hidden layers. The initialization of particles is the first step in the WC-PSO system. Here, the initial population is made up of all nearby nodes that qualify as candidates. Evaluation: Then, the WC-PSO algorithm ranks the particles based on the fitness function. The fitness value (FV) of a particle in the WC-PSO method is represented as a,

$$FV = \frac{\sum RE.LS.TV}{D} \beta \quad (2)$$

The likelihood of a node becoming malevolent, the delay it causes, and the confidence it inspires are all taken into account when scoring each particle. The following equation allows us to calculate the stability of the link between any pair of neighboring vertices (i, j),

$$LS(i, j) = \frac{TR}{d(N_i, N_j)} \quad (3)$$





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Transmission range (TR) and distance are used in this calculation to determine link stability. Taking into consideration both indirect and direct trust value, we develop an innovative trust score for TV. Transmission success (ST), packet loss (PD), and buffer use (BU) are all factors in the direct trust computation. All metrics are calculated as,

$$ST = \frac{\text{Noofsuccessfultransmissions}}{\text{Totalnumberoftransmissions}} \tag{4}$$

$$PD = \frac{\text{Noofdroppedpacketsdropped}}{\text{Totalnoofpacketstransmitted}} \tag{5}$$

$$BU = \frac{\text{BufferUsed}}{\text{TotalBufferSize}} \tag{6}$$

The range [0,1] is used to calculate all metrics. The resulting trustworthiness is calculated as follows,

$$TV = \frac{[ST+iTV]}{[BU+PD]} \tag{7}$$

The DS-MCM model is used to calculate a node's likelihood of developing harmful behavior. Honesty and malice are the two dual states that are taken into consideration in this case. The chance of a node switching from an honest to a malicious state may be estimated using the following formula;

$$\beta = P(H/M)P(M) \tag{8}$$

1. Our WC-PSO algorithm benefits from a more comprehensive fitness assessment.
2. The next step is selecting the worst particles so that the worst-case scenario velocity may be updated. We choose a set of particles having the smallest fitness value and let them go at their own pace using a number of different velocity functions. Better particles (BP) are defined as particles other than WP.
3. An update on the rate of change: in WC-PSO, we now keep tabs on both the best and worst search spaces to improve our ability to find the ideal global solution. As a result, better particles have their velocity adjusted in accordance with particles best (pbest) and globally best (gbest), as seen below.,

$$v[t + 1] = v[t] + C_1 * rand * (pbest - present) + C_2 * rand(gbest - present) \tag{9}$$

Similarly, both the particles worst (pworst) and the global worst (gworst) are used to update the velocity for WP. The procedure for revising WP velocities goes as follows,

$$v[t + 1] = v[t] + C_1 * rand * (pworst - present) + C_2 * rand(gworst - present) \tag{10}$$

As a consequence, while the WP looks in the worst area, the BP looks in the best area for an ideal answer. By doing so, we avoid having to deal with a case of "local optimization". Particle positions are updated as follows, using the calculated velocities:

$$Pos[t + 1] = Pos[t] + V[T + 1] \tag{11}$$

Based on the particle's prior position (Pos[t]) and current velocity (v[t+1]), the current position of the particle is calculated.

The ideal next hop node is chosen by WC-PSO over iterations and has higher energy, trust value, link stability, and minimal delay. Our suggested WC-PSO-based routing offers dependable data delivery without increasing energy consumption while also guaranteeing security. New fitness functions have been developed to support efficient routing even in highly dynamic environments. 1. Trust value (τ)-The reliability of a path is measured by its capacity to forward traffic from other nodes. The trustworthiness of a node N_i may be determined using the formula,





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$$\tau_i = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\mathfrak{B}_{ij+1}}{\mathfrak{B}_{ij} + \mathfrak{M}_{ij+2}} \quad (12)$$

Here \mathfrak{B}_{ij} symbolizes the typical actions of node N_i as seen by node N_j . The malevolent actions of N_i , as seen by N_j , are represented by M_{ij} . The number of packets dropped by a node is an indicator of malicious conduct, whereas the number of packets sent successfully is an indicator of regular behavior. This is how each node determines and broadcasts its trustworthiness. Generally speaking, malevolent nodes engage in packet dropping, which our approach can saturate.

2. Congestion Level $()$: This specifies how many packets are currently in the buffer. When there is a significant level of congestion, the data will take longer to reach its destination.

3. Link bandwidth $()$: This indicator shows how much bandwidth is available between the nodes. Data loss will happen if the bandwidth is poor.

4. Delay $()$ -The expected delay is based on the transmission, processing, and queuing times introduced at that node.

Output layer: This layer chooses the best path out of all those produced by hidden layers. The results are calculated as follows:

$$\Theta = \sigma \left(f(r)_L \sigma \left(f(r)_{L-1} \sigma \left(\dots \sigma \left(f(r)_1 \right) \right) \right) \right) \quad (13)$$

Where σ function of activation. This is how the output layer can determine which ideal route r_{TO} is safe to use for sending data. This r_{TO} is the means through which the CH_S communicates the $[A(P)]$ to the MS.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Simulation environment

With the help of the simulation tool network simulator 3, we model our proposed ML-PSO based WSN. A discrete event simulator called Ns-3 allows for the simulation of many network kinds and communication protocol types. In our network, sink nodes move around the network while sensor nodes remain stationary in their positions. Significant simulation constraints taken into account for our suggested WSN network model are listed in table.1. Our suggested WSN is created utilizing all of the aforementioned parameters in ns-3.

Analyses of contrasts

In this section, we assess our suggested ML-PSO protocol and compare it to earlier studies. The following performance measures are used for evaluation: throughput, energy consumption, network longevity, and number of dead nodes. With respect to earlier publications, we contrast the ML-PSO protocol with the PSO technique, multi-hop routing, and E2R2. Here, we can observe that the bulk of works take energy conservation into account by using either MAC protocol or cluster-based routing. However, our proposed ML-PSO protocol makes an effort to conduct data compression, routing, MAC scheduling, clustering, and other tasks that minimize energy usage in every way possible.

How many dead nodes may be avoided

In WSN, the quantity of dead node rises as network energy consumption rises. A node appears in a dead condition when all of its energy has been used up. A node's energy is often used for the following actions: sensing, listening, and sending.

Figure 2 compares the dead rate over the course of the simulation. Energy usage over the course of the simulation rises as the number of rounds increases along with the number of dead nodes. In the first two rounds, the ML-PSO protocol loses three nodes, the E2R2 algorithm loses six nodes, and multi-hop routing loses fifteen nodes. This analysis demonstrates that, as compared to earlier works, the proposed ML-PSO dramatically reduces dead rate in the network. Due to poor CH rotation in the E2R2 algorithms and ineffective route selection in multi-hop routing, network failure rates rise, and more nodes die. Energy usage in ML-PSO based WSN is reduced by cluster formation, routing, data aggregation, and sleep scheduling.





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The ML-PSO protocol is crucial in this situation since it allows nodes to schedule their sleep, considerably reducing energy consumption.

Effectiveness on energy consumption

The three main uses of a node's energy in a WSN are for sending and receiving data (E_T) and detecting events (E_R) via sensors. As a result, the typical amount of power used by a network may be stated as,

$$EC = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{N_i[E_T + E_R + E_S]}{n} \quad (14)$$

Here $[E_T + E_R + E_S]$ represents energy intake of ' i^{th} ' node (N_i) in the network with ' n ' number of nodes.

Figure 3 depicts a comparison of energy consumption relative to the number of network nodes. Here, energy usage for various values of " n " is evaluated. Energy usage in the ML-PSO protocol ranges from 0.2 J for $n=10$ to 0.26 J for $n=50$, or 0.2 J to 0.26 J for different numbers of nodes. However, the energy consumption of the E2R2 algorithm ranges from 1.8 to 2.8 J and that of multi-hop routing from 9 to 30 J. The ML-PSO protocol is superior than previous works due to its superior cluster-based routing, MAC procedure, besides data aggregation.

To guarantee the most efficient use of energy, we compare the number of rounds in the value to our actual energy use. Even with an increase in iterations, the energy consumption of the ML-PSO method remains low. The PSO algorithm's plot in this case demonstrates that as the number of rounds increases, it can use up to 50J. Since the ML-PSO protocol lowers energy usage in every way conceivable, it is unaffected by the number of rounds and node. It demonstrates that the work we've proposed performs better in terms of energy efficiency.

Impact on the durability of the network

The term "network lifetime" is used to describe the amount of time that a sensor network remains operational. The length of time a network can stay up while still completing a given job is also known as its "uptime.". The number of cycles or the amount of time is typically used to measure the network lifetime.

With ' n ' ranging from 10 to 50, network lifetime is examined in figure 5. In the ML-PSO protocol, lifetime increases as ' n ' increases. In ML-PSO-based WSNs, network lifetime is enhanced by up to 75 rounds. Energy consumption has a negative correlation with network lifetime, implying that conserving energy lengthens the lifespan of a network. Since ML-PSO uses less energy than earlier research, the network lifespan is prolonged. The lifespan of an ML-PSO network with 50 nodes is 75 rounds, while the lifespan of an E2R2 network is 10 rounds. For the same, the lifetime for the PSO-based network is 63 cycles. As a result, the ML-PSO protocol extends network longevity while consuming less energy.

Effectiveness on throughput

The pace at which information may move from one location to another is called its throughput. This measure is optimal when the lifespan of the network is maximized. This statistic is used to evaluate the routing method. Even though reducing energy consumption is our main goal, we measure throughput to assess how well suggested work will be transmitted while using the least amount of energy. Figure 6 shows that the suggested approach achieves throughput efficiency of up to 97%, meaning that 97% of the created packets successfully reached their destination. However, the E2R2 algorithm's maximum throughput is 90%, which is 7% less than the ML-PSO protocol. We may have put a lot of emphasis on energy efficiency, but the proposed work also chooses the best way for data transfer, producing excellent throughput efficiency.

CONCLUSION

Energy saving and maximizing network longevity remain major challenges for wireless smart grid sensor networks. The current routing technique lowers the energy consumption of WSNs by using a hierarchical WSN model. The



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hierarchical approach, however, causes serious problems with complexity, time requirements, and higher energy use. This paper introduces the Machine Learning Routing protocols for a mobile sink node in a WSN to address these issues. The clustering and routing operations are what ultimately save power. When using the K-means method for clustering, you start by giving each node a weight. Both local and long-distance routes may be calculated during this routing phase. The particle swarm optimization technique, which is based on Artificial Neural Networks, is suggested for intra-cluster routing. Our proposed MLR protocol increases network lifespan by reducing energy consumption in every way. Based on extensive modelling in ns-3, In terms of throughput, network longevity, average energy consumption, and number of dead nodes, the suggested protocol shows potential.

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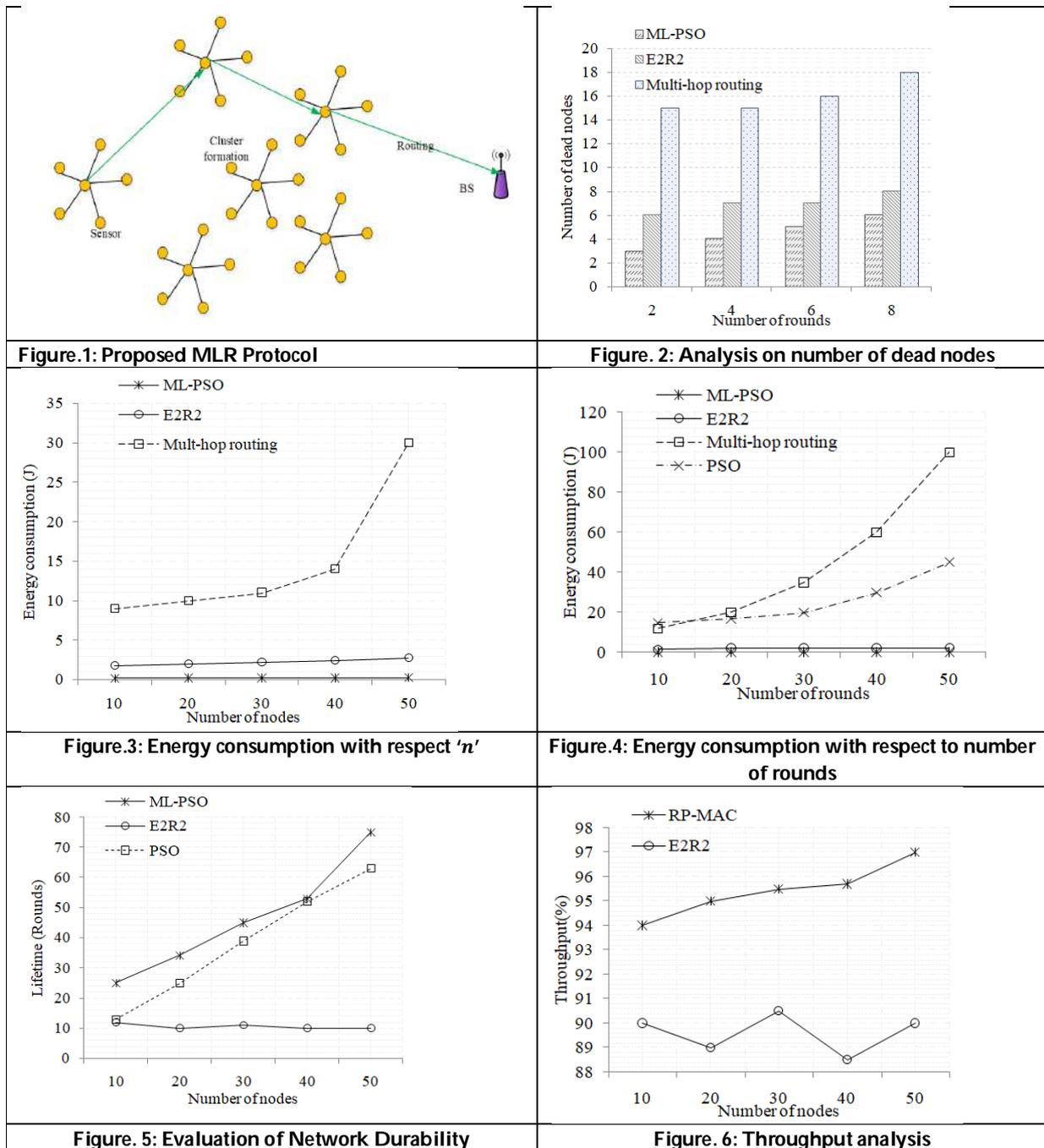
Table.1 Simulation parameters

Parameter	Value	
Simulation area	100×100 m	
Number of sensor nodes	50	
Number of mobile sink	1	
Mobility model of sink	Constant mobility model	
Mobility speed of sink	20 m/s	
Initial energy of nodes	750J	
Number of clusters	5 (10% of nodes count)	
Transmission range	250 m	
Number of packets	400	
Packet size	12 KB	
Packet interval	10 μS	
Number of retransmissions	Max 7	
Data rate	Maximum 88Mbps	
Buffer size	80 KB	
Number of slots	16	
Slot duration	10 μS	
HCSO	Group size	10
	Crossover rate	0.7
	Mutation rate	0.001
	Number of iteration	400
Number of rounds	2000	
Simulation time	100 s	





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Enhanced AODV Protocol for Reliable Routing in Wireless Sensor Networks

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ABSTRACT

The major concern in the wireless sensor network is to improve the energy efficiency and reliability. In this work, mainly presented the Enhanced AODV protocol to increase the capacity to recover rapidly from difficulties to link dynamically for Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs). In order to further improve the On-demand routing protocols, enhanced AODV protocol will provide trusted (reliable), consumes the less energy and produces the more packet delivery ratio (energy efficient) against the wireless links which is not reliable by utilizing the more potential helper nodes. The main aim of this protocol is to introduce a delay concept at the time of discovery of route to identify the efficient guide path and also with the help of guide nodes these data packets can be easily transmitted towards their respective destination nodes. In the enhanced AODV, suppose the source node has more number of neighbors then delay has to be calculated for each neighboring nodes then it takes more time to calculate. To overcome this problem introduced a Quadrant Based Approach so that only wherever destination is there in that quadrant routing takes place so that majority of work is reduced. With the help of simulation, Enhanced AODV protocol can effectively improve packet delivery ratio, end-to-end delay and reliability even after the link failure.

Keywords: Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs), Cooperative forwarding, reliable forwarding, unreliable wireless links, Adhoc On-demand Distance Vector (AODV).



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INTRODUCTION

Adhoc On-demand Distance Vector Routing (AODV) is the one of the most remarkably used on-demand protocol in Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs). This protocol mainly uses a reactive approach for identifying the routes, so route is determined whenever it is necessary for the source node. It uses sequence number of destination to recognize the most recent path to destination and this protocol possesses the capability to identify network link failure situations. Detection of link failure scenarios occurs when there is an absence of Hello Messages exchanged between the adjacent nodes within the network. Thus in the event of link failure within the network the source node must reinitiate the new route discovery process by disseminating a new route request packet throughout the network [1]. Cooperative Forwarding is an effective cross-layering technique to identify link failure or node failure conditions, by improving the system to cope up with node failure or link failures by using less energy to provide the same service in wireless networks. The main intention behind this cooperative forwarding is to involve one or more sender's neighbors and transmit the data to their respective destination by using the concept of local forwarding. As it is one of the characteristics of wireless communication, every node will receive the data packets which have been sent by their neighbors. Then neighbors will transmit the packet to the respective receiver or the node which is closer to the destination. Suppose if the desired receiver is unable to receive the packet properly, the path with most capable helper nodes will provide more trust and consumes less energy while it provides high packet delivery against the links which are not reliable. With this inspection, the goal is to identify the trusted virtual path to help the packets to be transmitted to the destination. Such identification of trusted virtual path is called robust guide path, and the nodes which are involved in this process is called as guide nodes. By using the above method of cooperative forwarding it effectively improves the performance of transmission reliability, and it avoids the unnecessary additional transmissions [2].

Generally in the concept of table driven protocols, the On-demand routing protocols are developed to decrease the bandwidth and lessen the cost for storage consumption. To construct the route dynamically between source and destination this type of protocols will apply reactive routing procedures. The information in the network topology will not be maintained under this protocol. As per the requirement the necessary path is acquired. Routes are normally maintained and created in two different methods namely route maintenance and route discovery. In route discovery route request will be over flown throughout the network only on-demand i.e. whenever the data is sent by the node to their respective destination, it transmits a route request. In turn destination will send out a route reply, which contains the data, either the node-by-node information or full addresses from the source node to their destination node which has been traversed by the route request at the time when the route is identified [2]. The main focus in this project is to propose an Enhanced AODV-R3E (Reliable Reactive Routing Extension) protocol which is highly reliable and reactive to increase the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties to link dynamically for WSNs. The design mainly uses the advantages of cooperative forwarding by achieving less delay and dependability [3].

Gaps Identified

It has been observed that all the existing routing protocols like AODV, DSDV, DSR has achieved larger delay. The protocols used in the existing system are not reliable, if any failure occurs, it has to be detected and reinitiating of route discovery has to be done.

Proposed System

An Enhanced AODV-R3E protocol is designed to increase the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties to link dynamically for Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs). The proposed method mainly uses the advantages of cooperative forwarding, thus accomplishing less delay and dependability.

LITERATURESURVEY



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Routing protocols can be categorized based on different methodologies, and these include:

Proactive Routing

Proactive protocol is the process of continuously evaluating the path in the transmission network as and when it is necessary to transmit the data. The routing path is identified and they can be used at any time.

Reactive Routing

Reactive routing is a type of routing which is used to identify the path between destination and source. In this type of protocol, they acquire the required path when ever it is necessary.

Hybrid Routing

Hybrid routing employs a blend of proactive and reactive routing approaches, harnessing the strengths of each while mitigating their individual drawbacks. This strategy amalgamates the benefits of both protocols synergistically.

Perkins and Bhagvat "Destination Sequenced Distance Vector routing(DSDV)"[1] proposed first protocol for wireless networks. In order to preserve the consistent and correct information of network state the updating of tables has been done regularly. In this protocol every node maintains table which contains the minimal distance to all the nodes in the network. In order to check the infinity problem, for faster processing and prevention of loops, the updating of table with increasing tags of sequence has been included. At any time this protocol maintains the route to destination node which is readily available at each node.

Perkins and Royer "Ad-hoc on-demand distance vector routing(AODV)"[2] proposed the AODV protocol before the transmission of any data packet to particular node, the intermediate node and source node will store the next node's information to which the data packet has to be sent. The primary distinction separating AODV from alternative reactive routing protocols lies in its utilization of destination sequence numbers to ascertain the most recent path. In this approach, nodes modify path information only when the received packet's sequence number surpasses the previously stored destination sequence number.

B. Johnson and D. A. Maltz, "Dynamic source Routing protocol (DSR)" [3] designed the DSR protocol is an on-demand approach and the hello packet transmission is not necessary periodically which will be utilized by every node to report its corresponding neighbors regarding their presence. The general method of the DSDV protocol is to create a path by overflowing the packets of route request for the duration of path discovery phase. When the route request has been received by the particular destination node, it replies by transferring the packets to the source node and also carries the path which has been traversed and received by the route request

X. Mao, S. Tang, X. Xu, Li X.-Y, and H. Ma, "Zone Routing Protocol (ZRP)"[4] proposed hybrid routing protocol which exploits the scheme of pro active routing which restricts in a partial zone of γ -hop neighborhood and it also exploits the scheme of on demand routing for the node which lie on the far side of the allotted zone. Routing protocols are categorized into two primary types: Intra-zone routing protocols (IARP) and interzone routing protocols (IERP). Intra-zone routing protocols (IARP) operate within a specific node and employ proactive routing strategies. The interzone routing protocol (IERP) is a form of On-Demand routing protocol that operates within the same zone.

METHODOLOGY

The proposed system architecture consists of three major modules. They are–

1. Neighbor Selection module.
2. Timer Based Data Forward dermodule.
3. Reactive Route Detection module.





Architecture

The overview of system architecture for Enhanced AODV-R3E protocol is shown in the figure 1 which is used to increase the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties to link dynamically for Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs). Helper node and guide node are used in this work. Initially, some set of nodes are deployed, later randomly select the source node and destination node and then identify the neighboring nodes which are related to source node by using neighbor selection module. Once neighbors are identified then calculate the packet delivery ratio and back off delay for each neighbor by using timer-based data forwarder. Based on the value of back off delay, forwards the data using data forwarder module. If any link failure or node failure happens during the process then reactive route detection module will identify the alternating path by using helper node and reaches the data packet to destination.

Algorithm

The Algorithm shows how the route request will be taken care by two nodes V_i and V_j . Let V_i be the last-hop node and V_j be the current forwarding node of an route request. $N(i)$ represents V_i 's one hop neighbor set and $CN(i,j)$ represents the adjacent set of neighbor among V_i and V_j . Among V_i and V_j the helper V_k will be defined where V_k will be neighbor node such that fulfilling the p_{ij} where p_{ij} is the packet Reception Ratio (PRR) between V_i and V_j . $H(i,j)$ represents the set of helpers among V_i and V_j .

Void Recv RREQ(Packet *p)

Step1: if Non-duplicateRREQoccursthe

Step2: if destination node is V_j then

Send out Route Reply;

Else

$CN(i,j)=N(i)\cap N(j)$

Sort $CN(i,j)$ decending lyordered by p_{ij}

$H(i,j)=\{cn1\}, CN(i,j)=CN(i,j)-\{cn1\}$;

Step3: while $CN(i,j) \neq \text{Null}$ do

If Connectivity between the nodes($H(i,j),cn1$) then

$H(i,j)=H(i,j)\cup \{cn1\}$;

End

$CN(i,j)=CN(i,j)-cn1$;

End

Step 4: Find t_{ij} .e Back off delay (t_{ij},p) between the selected nodes;

End

Else

Drop packet p;

RESULTS

Figure 3 shows the snap shot of selecting source and destination.

The comparisons between AODV and Enhanced AODV for delay as shown in below Table 1

Figure 5 shows the graph for comparisons between AODV-R3 E and Enhanced AODV-R3E for end to end delay.

CONCLUSION

It has been observed that most of the existing methods achieve undesirable delay. In this project mainly presented Enhanced AODV-R3E, which can overcome the problems of most existing reactive routing protocols in wireless





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sensor networks to provide trusted path, consumes less energy against the wireless links which is not reliable. By introducing a concept of finding the delay during the discovery of route is to identify an efficient path with less overhead. The reduction table clearly states that the percentage has been reduced by 10.5% after the proposed method is applied. Hence with the table of percentage of reduction and also with the help of simulation the proposed methodology can effectively improve end-to-end delay and reliability even after the link failure.

SCOPE FOR FUTURE WORK

Enhanced AODV-R3E has ability to continue the operation in event of failure of route request, as there is more than one path available among the source and receiver node. On the other hand, route reply which has been trusted is desirable to be assured, where the route reply sent by the receiver will result in collision with route request. Along with this if there is loss in the route reply the source has to again restart the route-finding process which will lead to delay in the route initiation process. Hence the future work can be focused to reduce the collision and delay.

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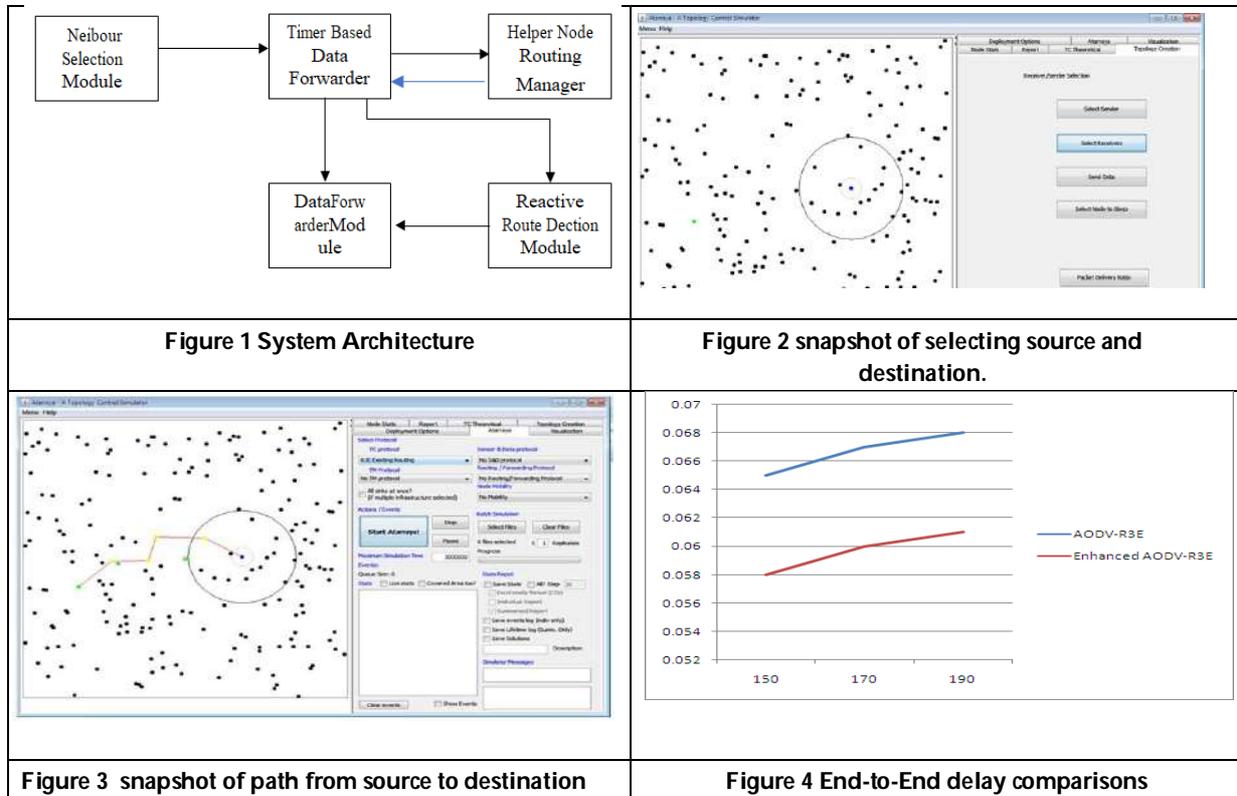
Table 1. Comparisons between AODV-R3E and Enhanced AODV-R3E

Number of Nodes	AODV-R3E	Enhanced AODV-R3E
	Delay	Delay
150	0.065	0.058
170	0.067	0.060
190	0.068	0.061





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Internet of Things (IoT) and Digital Lives: An Empirical approach on the Security, Privacy and Trust for Enhanced IoT User Experience

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ABSTRACT

The Internet of Things (IoT) is a systemic organization of smart devices, intelligent things, information, and data as well as safe and secured access of internet by people using them. It is very important to have a deep understanding on several gadgets connected to the internet, the issues of safeguarding the data to be accessed and retrieved for communicating a variety of users. Introduction of several number of IoT platforms and devices over the years has led to the use of smart physical objects among the users from the societies and businesses. Nevertheless, IoT ecosystem is vulnerable which needs to be built for a safe and secured use of the devices and objects. The IoT service providers like Amazon's Echo devices and Alexa Voice Service. Google, Microsoft, and Apple should ensure security, privacy and trust while providing seamless services to the people using them. This empirical paper contributes to the elimination and mitigation of risks associated with access and use of IoT as well as provides increasing body of knowledge on this transformative topic by investigating the challenges and problems involved in accessing the internet for a variety of purposes using devices, technologies and applications over a platform and of IoT landscape.

Keywords: IoT Technologies, IoT Devices & Applications, IoT Security, IoT User Experience, Digital Lives.



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INTRODUCTION

The Internet of Things (IoT), is greatly an innovative concept that has swiftly revolutionized the Internet usage to interact with people, devices and surroundings. It refers to linking of common physical things and gadgets to get connected over the internet as well as allows them to collect, exchange and share data resulting in the creation of smart ways to interconnect people and environment (S. A. Hamad, et.al, 2020). IoT technology is an autonomous system that enables connecting objects, devices, applications with platforms and large systems with one another independently without human involvement (C. Perera, et.al, 2013). These "smart" objects can collect data from their surroundings using sensors and communicate it to centralized servers or other connected devices over the internet. This paper examines the domain knowledge of the users and the imperatives to be adapted by them while accessing the internet as well as to provide important insights to trigger specific actions in transforming IoT into a crucial enabler of automation, efficiency and intelligence (N. K. Tran, et.al, 2017).

The Internet of Things (IoT) has emerged as an innovative assembler of a variety of disruptive technologies of the twenty-first century to generate relative functioning among them with the aim of providing inclusive service to the internet users as well as provide them with security, privacy and trust to increase operational reliability and efficiency for supporting the quality of digital lives of billions of people on the planet (S. A. Hamad, et.al, 2019). This review paper provides an in-depth examination of IoT technology, focusing on its underlying principles, main components, and connected architecture (L. Yang, et.al, 2016). This paper analyses a variety of IoT applications and diverse users and considers the possible security issues, challenges in providing privacy and breach of trust as well as limitations of using IoT gadgets and devices. The review paper provides solutions to the security and privacy problems connected to IoT installations, as well as the vulnerability of the IoT ecosystem and the role of IoT in defending future technological breaches like cyber security threats and problems (A. Sheth, et.al, 2013). This study provides insights on the challenges in IoT, its impact on society, and the future of IoT by reviewing existing literature and provisions.

As the concept of Internet of Things (IoT) embeds all the physical objects to form a technological system that underpins its application to work smartly for providing high-tech support to the digitalized societies, businesses and economy. Despite the advancements in Internet of Things, the Security, Privacy and Trust are the independent variables to be considered in the application of IoT that can be used by a variety of Internet users. This paper reviews the existing methods to provide an improved safe and secured system to the users of IoT and helps to save a great amount of time in accessing the information on the internet as well as suggests ways and means to enhance the user experience which are dependent variables to be analyzed during the review. This review paper provides a comprehensive synopsis on the Internet of Things and associated security, privacy and trust modules and its related potential impact on the users of the IoT.

Objectives

1. To provide secured digital lives to the users of Internet of Things (IoT) by making the users aware of the security, privacy and trust in using the internet platform.
2. To recommend best practices on how to use a transformative and inclusive technology, devices and objects securely.
3. To scale up the security measures to a wide range of diverse users and their wider participation for connecting all sectors and advancing IoT ecosystem for enhanced user experience.

Theoretical Background

The secured use of technology, devices and application as well as addressing the challenges pertaining to IoT and its interoperability, standardization, scalability and data overload, security and privacy vulnerabilities, power and energy efficiency, data privacy and regulatory compliances, reliability and dependability, ROI, integration with legacy systems, and environment impact. This review is critical to reaching IoT's full potential and creating a



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trustworthy and robust IoT ecosystem. To overcome these barriers and ensure a successful and sustainable IoT future, robust standards, new security measures, effective data management, and stakeholder participation, this review paper would provide recommendations. IoT devices are central to the ecosystem. These can range from simple sensors like temperature and humidity sensors to more complex equipment like smart appliances, wearable devices, industrial machines, and so on. IoT devices link to the internet via a variety of communication protocols such as Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, Zigbee, cellular networks, and even satellite connections. This allows for smooth data flow and remote control. Data is collected and transferred to cloud-based platforms or edge devices for processing, storage, and analysis. This data analysis yields actionable insights that enable organizations and users to make educated decisions. The Internet of Things facilitates automation by allowing objects to respond to specific triggers or conditions. A smart thermostat, for example, can change the temperature based on occupancy or time of day, lowering energy use. Security and privacy are significant considerations in IoT since it comprises a massive network of networked devices and data sharing. This review becomes necessary to provide warnings for potential risks and breaches and secure communication and data that are critical.

Research Questions

1. Is it possible to safeguard and make the Internet of Things (IoT) to secure the network of interconnected devices and systems that communicate and exchange data via the internet, allowing for seamless integration of the physical and digital worlds?
2. While IoT has revolutionized many businesses, how to make the users of IoT to be aware of various possible security threats and privacy concerns?
3. How to scale up the networked nature of IoT devices, their multiple functionalities, and the large amount of sensitive data that are vulnerable to a variety of threats?
4. How to enhance user experience of the internet users by exploring and providing novel solutions to improve the security and privacy of IoT ecosystems, addressing vulnerabilities that might lead to data breaches, illegal access, and other criminal behaviors?

Concept Diagrams – Fig.1

Drivers of IoT

These dynamics of IoT propel the development and deployment of IoT challenges and solutions that has a substantial influence on both enterprises and consumers. Here are some of the important IoT drivers: The Internet of Things (IoT) has seen tremendous growth and adoption across a variety of sectors, with numerous above-mentioned drivers contributing to its widespread adaptation.

Security Concern in IoT

The networked devices expose them to a variety of cyber security vulnerabilities, making IoT security a vital component of the Internet of Things ecosystem. To ensure the integrity, confidentiality, and availability of information, it is critical to protect IoT devices, networks, and data from potential threats. Here are some of the most important features of IoT security: device authentication, encryption, secure boot and firmware updates, secure communication, access control, IoT gateway security, network segmentation, privacy protection, monitoring & logging, security by design. IoT security is a continuing concern since threats emerge in tandem with technical advancements. To create a safe and secure IoT ecosystem, IoT device manufacturers, network operators, service providers, and end users must take a proactive and collaborative approach. Regular security upgrades and improvements are required to stay ahead of emerging threats and protect the growing ecosystem of connected devices.

IoT Testing Framework

The IoT (Internet of Things) testing framework refers to the underlying structure and architecture that allows for the seamless integration and deployment of various IoT devices, networks, and applications. The typical components of an IoT framework are IoT devices, communication protocols, connectivity, gateway, cloud platform, data analytics &



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AI, user interface & user experience, monitoring and management. Overall, an IoT framework brings these components together to create a strong and interconnected IoT ecosystem that supports a wide range of applications across multiple industries, from smart cities and healthcare to industrial automation and agriculture production.

LITERATURE REVIEW

IoT has transformed home automation by allowing customers to remotely manage lighting, thermostats, security cameras, and appliances via smartphone apps or voice commands. In healthcare, wearable fitness trackers and remote patient monitoring systems, for example, have made healthcare more personalized and efficient (I. Chen, et.al, 2016). In transportation, logistics and supply chain, Internet of Things (IoT) plays a critical role in vehicle tracking, fleet management, and optimizing transportation routes, resulting in lower fuel consumption and better logistical management (C. A. Kerrache, et.al, 2016). IoT connected to business and industry, it improves productivity and safety in the industrial sector by linking machines, monitoring processes, and predicting maintenance needs. In agriculture, sensors powered by the Internet of Things assist farmers in monitoring soil conditions, water levels, and weather data, allowing for more precise and optimal agricultural methods (J. Ni, et.al, 2016). While building architecture connected to smart cities, IoT produces the design of sustainable and efficient cities as well as IoT applications in urban development that enable smart traffic control, trash management, and environmental monitoring (N. Kandhoul, et.al, 2019). Considering the advancements in technological developments, increasing connectivity, and in the integration of AI and machine learning, the future of IoT appears optimistic (I. Cha, et.al, 2009). As IoT evolves the best version of sustainable transformations of business and society, the review predicts to have a tremendous impact on diverse industries, shifting to how people live, work, and interact with the world around them. However, guaranteeing data security, privacy, and trust stands as a big question faced by the dependent user groups of digital lives (I. Chen, et.al, 2016).

The advancement of connectivity technologies such as 5G networks, low-power wide-area networks (LPWANs), and mesh networks has substantially improved the ability to link many IoT devices at the same time (G. Xiao, et.al, 2014). These developments allow for quicker data transfer rates, lower latency, and better network coverage, making IoT installations more efficient and smoother. Smart devices, such as smartphones, smart speakers, and wearable gadgets, have grown in popularity and cost, resulting in a healthy ecosystem for IoT adoption. These devices serve as gateways and controllers for various IoT applications, allowing customers to integrate IoT solutions more easily into their daily life (M. Zorzi, et.al, 2010). The Internet of Things generates massive amounts of data from interconnected devices and sensors. Organizations can extract important insights from this data using advances in data analytics and artificial intelligence (AI), resulting in enhanced decision-making, predictive maintenance, and greater operational efficiencies (C. Hong Song, et.al, 2011). The cost of IoT components such as sensors, processors, and communication modules continue to fall as the technology improves and demand grows. Because of the cost drop, IoT solutions are now more affordable to organizations of all sizes, resulting in greater adoption (J. Calbimonte, et.al, 2010).

It is understood that there is an increasing demand for increased efficiency, automation, and improved user experiences in both consumer and industrial environments. The Internet of Things enables the automation of many activities, resulting in resource optimization and efficient operations (X. Meng, et.al, 2018). Smart city projects are being funded by governments and municipalities in order to improve urban living, reduce traffic congestion, improve energy management, and maximize public services. IoT is critical to realize the goal of smart cities (A. Mahmood, et.al, 2019). The Internet of Things (IoT) has aided interconnecting devices in environmental monitoring and conservation initiatives. Connected sensors can monitor air quality, water levels, and wildlife habitats, allowing for data-driven resource management decisions (S. Duquennoy, et.al, 2009). Consumer demand for smart homes and linked living experiences has accelerated the deployment of IoT devices and apps in residential settings. Through IoT-powered products, consumers desire convenience, security, and energy savings (K. A. Mckay, et.al, 2017).



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RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This empirical research pathway to ascertain the process of collecting and analyzing large amounts of data related to security, privacy and trust in using IoT using quantitative research method and administers questionnaire to get the responses from the diverse user population from the above five sectors on the vulnerability while using IoT devices by them as well as the connected user experience. The study focuses on the awareness of IOT in Coimbatore city through mixed sample size of 238 respondents to better understand their knowledge and how IoT and related technology that supports their digital life. This is to ascertain the dependent and independent variables for facilitating data analysis to provide useful insights, recognizing patterns, making policy decisions, and optimizing IoT systems for improved performance and efficiency for enabling the stakeholders, actors, enactors and policy makers to fully realize the potential of IoT technology and data-driven decision-making, streamlining operations, and opening up new avenues for innovation and value creation.

Data Analysis

The table 1 shows the count and the respective percentage for the variables. From the table 2 chi square it is observed that IoT awareness and Accessing personal data are not significantly associated. From the table 3 chi square it is observed that IoT awareness and protection against personal data are not significantly associated. From the table 4 chi square it is observed that IoT awareness and various applications are significantly associated. From the table 5 chi square it is observed that IoT awareness and various Platform are significantly associated. From the table 6 chi square it is observed that longer mobile usage and others complaint are significantly associated.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

According to the analysed data, IoT awareness is low since people utilize it without understanding its purpose or technology. Respondents were unsure about accessing personal data and protection procedures by third parties involved in IoT, however study shows that respondents had healthy behavior in terms of awareness of various platforms and applications used in IoT. Most people who use the Internet extensively for longer periods of time receive frequent complaints in their social lives as their usage increases and their experience with IoT-connected devices improves. The incorporation of IoT devices into our daily lives has altered our relationship with technology. IoT promises ease, efficiency, and better experiences, but it also raises security, privacy, and trust problems. This empirical approach seeks to study the complex interaction between IoT, user experience, and crucial variables such as security, privacy, and trust. This research can help to create a safer and more user-centered IoT ecosystem by addressing security, privacy, and trust problems empirically, boosting widespread adoption, and promoting the positive impact of IoT on our digital lives.

Further Scope of IoT Research

The further scope of IoT research seems to be bright with continual interventions, breakthroughs and innovations that are set to change almost all sectors and improve the way we live and work. Here are some major features that indicate IoT technology's potential future such as Massive IoT expansion, 5G & 6G driven technology, AI-IoT, Quantum IoT, sustainable IoT, block chain for IoT security, and regulatory and ethical considerations. The future of IoT technology will be defined by ongoing expansion, integration with other cutting-edge technologies, increased security, and an emphasis on sustainability. As the Internet of Things grows more integrated into digital lives of people and industries, it becomes necessary to focus on security, privacy and trust that are influencing us to find solutions to how are we going to address the challenges and problems to safeguard the interest of the internet users and enhance the user experience.





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CONCLUSION

The Internet of Things (IoT) is a disruptive and revolutionary technology that has transformed how we connect with our surroundings and the digital world. The ability of the Internet of Things to connect, gather, and analyze data from billions of networked devices has created new opportunities and challenges. The Internet of Things has the potential to transform our world by providing unprecedented prospects for growth, efficiency, and connectedness. Addressing security and privacy problems, ensuring interoperability, and upholding ethical norms, on the other hand, will be critical to developing a sustainable and trustworthy IoT ecosystem. As technology advances, one has to wisely embrace extensive use of IoT and enhance the potential of IoT towards leading to a brighter, more connected future for all.

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Table 1 Percentage Analysis

		Frequency	Percent
IoT Awareness	Yes	165	69.3
	No	73	30.7
Platform	Microsoft Azure	116	48.7
	Salesforce	63	26.5
	Flip kart	59	24.8
Application	BMP280	16	6.7
	Smart city	103	43.3
	Self-driven cars	119	50.0
Protection	Yes	48	20.2
	No	115	48.3
	Not Sure	75	31.5
Access	Only Me	49	20.6
	Anyone	47	19.7
	Known contacts	142	59.7
Longer	Yes	100	42.0
	No	138	58.0
Complaint	Yes	57	23.9
	No	181	76.1

Source: Primary

Table 2 IoT Awareness in Accessing

IoT Awareness	Access			Total	p- value
	Only Me	Anyone	Known contacts		
Yes	28	36	101	165	.090
No	21	11	41	73	
Total	49	47	142	238	

Source: Primary





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Table 3 IoT Awareness on Protection

IoT Awareness	Protection			Total	p-value
	Yes	No	Not Sure		
Yes	32	77	56	165	0.48
No	16	38	19	73	
Total	48	115	75	238	

Source: Primary

Table 4 IoT Awareness on Application

IoT Awareness	Application			Total	p-value
	BMP280	Smart city	Self-driven cars		
Yes	8	62	95	165	.001
No	8	41	24	73	
Total	16	103	119	238	

Source: Primary

Table 5 IoT Awareness in Platform

IoT Awareness	Platform			Total	p-value
	Microsoft Azure	Salesforce	Flip kart		
Yes	80	52	33	165	0.006
No	36	11	26	73	
Total	116	63	59	238	

Source: Primary

Table 6 Longer Internet Usage

Longer Internet Usage	Complaint Raised		Total	p-value
	Yes	No		
Yes	12	88	100	.000
No	45	93	138	
Total	57	181	238	

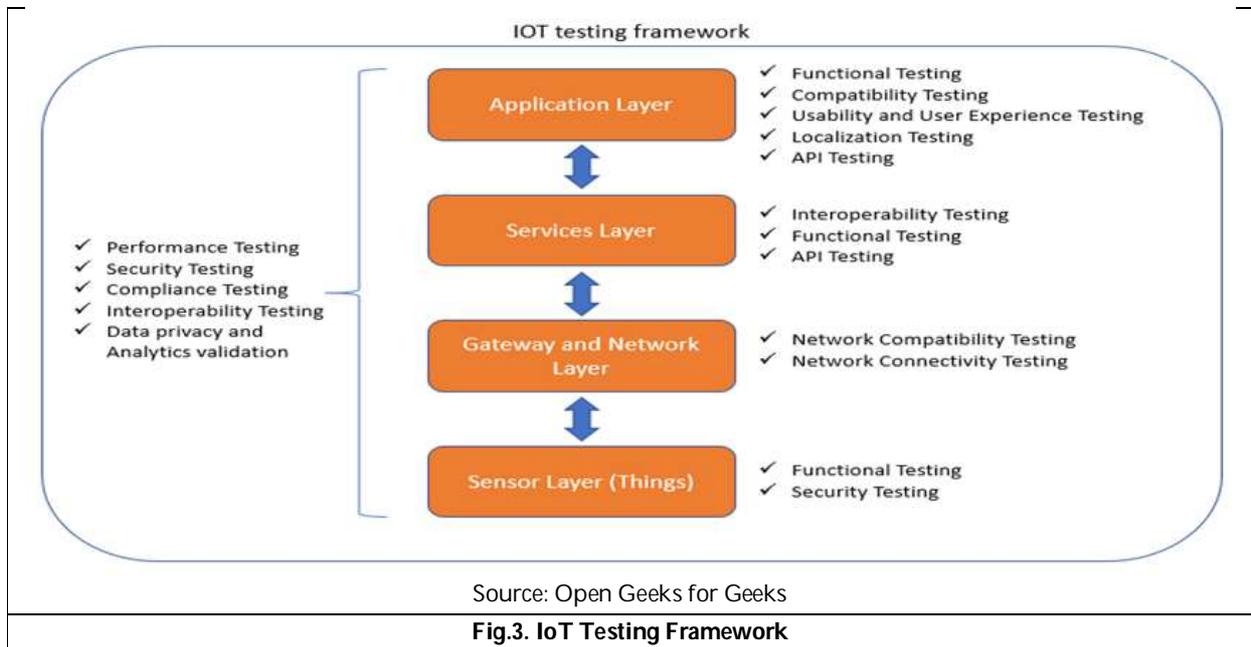
Source: Primary

 <p>IOT Applications Source: Open Antinolabs</p>	 <p>Drivers of IOT Source: Open Securelist</p>
Fig.1. Concept Diagrams	Fig.2. Drivers of IoT





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Dependence of Breakdown Voltage on Concentration of Electrolyte in Anodization of Zircolay-4 and Niobium

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ABSTRACT

Metal reacts with an oxide to give a thin layer of metal oxide. These thin layers are also formed with Zircaloy-4 & Niobium in diluted solutions of Ferrous ammonium sulphate (FAS) and L-Ascorbic acid (LAA) where current density is maintained at 8mAcm^{-2} , at room temperature. The Kinetic results were calculated and compared at varied concentrations of FAS & LAA ranging from 0.5M to 0.001M. The effect of various concentrations of FAS & LAA on Breakdown voltage during anodization of Zr-4 & Nb was also studied. It was observed that the formation rate (Vs^{-1}), current efficiency ($\eta\%$) & breakdown voltage (V_b) increased at low concentrations of electrolytes (0.001M). A linear relationship was observed between log. concentration of two electrolytes (FAS & LAA) and breakdown voltage.

Keywords: Ferrous ammonium sulphate, L-Ascorbic acid, Breakdown voltage, Formation voltage, Current efficiency, Concentration.

INTRODUCTION

Electrochemical galvanostatic high field ionic conduction of valve metals like Zr, Zr-2, Zr-4, Zr-Nb, Al, Nb, Ti, etc produces thin, uniform, and stable anodic oxide films, when anodized in a suitable electrolyte. Electrolyte selected should have the tendency to give an oxidizing anion. It can be an oxide ion or a hydroxide ion or a sulphide ion or any other ion which can form metal oxide. Formation of complex or precipitation with electrolytic ions will prevent thin layer formation on metal surface. These oxidizing anions should be non-corrosive towards the metal or





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oxidation products. The electrolyte chosen should be free from the ions, which reduce the film resistivity such as Cl^- , Br^- in the case of zirconium. If the anodically formed oxide film is a poor electronic conductor, the growth of thin layer (film) occurs by the transport of ions through the film lattice. Since this process is not so easy it requires a very high electric field (1–10MV/cm). With the increase of voltage, thin-layer film forms on the metal due to semiconductor nature. It is observed that growth of the film is proportional to the formation voltage. The thickening of layer slowly increases to a certain extent. This is known as “break down”. This thickness depends on the nature of electrolytic ion species concentration in the Electrolytic solution. Semiconductor depends on the nature and concentration of the ionic species present in the electrolyte. The film grows to a thickness approximately proportional to the “formation voltage” impressed across it. The formation of a film is normally limited by a ‘break down’, which occurs when a certain range of thickness is attained. Thickness of a film for a given metal/alloy or semiconductor is dependent on nature of electrolytic ion species and concentration.

Al Mohtar [1] investigated on thin layer of metal oxide formation with two electrical insulators like SiO_2 and Al_2O_3 and dependence on thermal properties. They also studied their applications in microelectronics & other industrial purposes. Martinez-Viademonte[2] studied the role of anodizing factors, which help in the formation of an effective anodic oxide films which are used in aerospace. The current study compared the effect of varying concentrations of two electrolytes (FAS & LAA) on the kinetic results of metal oxide thin layer films produced on Zr-4 & Nb. The dependence of BDV at different concentrations of FAS & LAA was also studied and compared.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Anodic oxide film formation is generally limited by a breakdown that happens when a specified thickness range or voltage is achieved. Temperature, nature, and electrolyte concentration all affect the thickness of a given metal, alloy, or semiconductor. During growth at a constant current density, the breakdown of anodic coatings on valve metals is frequently accompanied by a large drop in the voltage gradient, Vigh [3] appearance of visible sparking, Wood [4] attainment of maximum voltage, occurrence of audible cracking, Berger [5] rapid voltage fluctuation and crystallization, Yahotom [6] studied a blend of these factors, depending on metal. The exact nature of the breakdown of anodic oxide films is debatable, although it always entails a loss of passivity and, in some circumstances, metal pitting. Breakdown voltages vary widely, and reproducibility is poor even when great care is taken to establish identical conditions. Under certain situations, the breakdown voltage of Ta, Nb, and Zr is typically followed by sparking. Normally, no sparking occurs (unless in unusual circumstances), and breakdown is generally characterized by a suitable change in the shape of the oxidation curve or in the rate of oxygen evolution rather than by a rapid change in current or by heat effect. Breakdown voltage has been observed to decrease in many cases with the logarithm of the solute concentration.

According to Vermilyea [7], if the number of electrons which start to move at the film / solution interface is proportional to concentration of ions present in the electrolyte solution, then the breakdown voltage will depend on the logarithm of the ion concentration in the solution. Burger and Young [8] stated that the electrical breakdown was caused by conduction through electrolyte-filled fissures and faults to the oxide coating. According to Yahalom and Hoar [9], the breakdown was caused by ion incorporation from the electrolyte into the oxide coating. The electrochemical reactions at the electrolyte / oxide interface governed the dielectric breakdown, which was also dependent on the solid-state characteristics of the oxides Alwilt [10]. The breakdown phenomenon during the production of non-porous anodic coatings on Al, Ta, Zr, and Nb was studied by Ikonopisov[11,12]The effect of current density, electrolyte composition, electrolyte concentration, and metal nature on the characteristics of electrical breakdown was studied. Breakdown voltage value was also investigated. According to Nigam[13], the breakdown voltage occurs from avalanching conduction in most of the anodic films. Electrons are introduced into the conduction bands of the film during anodic polarization by the anions of the electrolytes. Because of the high field strength, electrons gain very high energy and trigger the release of secondary electrons via impact ionization, culminating in the amplification of avalanches and the shattering of the film. Quarto[14] investigated many





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characteristics of the breakdown procedures observed during the formation of anodic coatings on zirconium in aqueous solution. They proposed two distinct pathways of breakdown based on their experimental findings. The first is an electrical breakdown, followed by a mechanical breakdown.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The specimens used in this study were punched from 0.1 mm thick, annealed rolled sheet of Zircaloy-4 and Niobium donated as a gift sample from the Nuclear Fuel Complex, Hyderabad. The specimens featured a 1cm² working space on each side and a 2cm long tag. For Zr-4, the chemical polishing mixture is 1:3:3 by volume of HF, HNO₃, and H₂O. It is 5:5:1.5 by volume of HNO₃, HF, and H₂SO₄ for Nb. At greater current densities, the use of chemically polished samples resulted in higher values for current efficiency, Adams[15] & Willis[16]. After chemical polishing, the tags are severely anodized in electrolytes such as ferrous ammonium sulphate and L-ascorbic acid at concentrations ranging from 0.5M to 0.001M at ambient temperature and at a fixed current density of 8mAcm⁻².

A closed cell of 100mL Pyrex glass beaker was utilized for anodization. The cathode was a platinum mesh with a surface area of 20cm², designed expressly to maximize the double layer capacitance. The constant current generator was a stabilized power supply unit (Powertronics, Hyderabad) capable of delivering constant current measurements that were taken with a digital LCR meter (Vasavi Electronics, Hyderabad). A digital milliammeter was used to monitor current, and a digital voltmeter was used to measure potential directly across the cell. Capacitance measurements were used to estimate the thickness of the anodic films. A DPDT switch was reversed to stop the steady current at regular voltage increments (20V). A 30s gap was allowed to elapse before reading capacitance data, current in the 0-100 mA range, and capacitance measurements.

RESULTS

Dependence of breakdown voltage on concentration: Concentration effect on the kinetic parameters of anodic films formed on Zr-4 and Nb in Ferrous ammonium sulphate (FAS) & L-Ascorbic acid (LAA): Anodizations were carried out on Zr-4 and Nb in ferrous ammonium sulphate & L-Ascorbic acid by varying the concentrations from 0.001M to 0.5M at 8mA.cm⁻². The kinetic results along with the observed BDV are given in Table-1 & Table-2. The breakdown voltage was found to decrease as the electrolyte concentration increased. The breakdown voltage vs. ferrous ammonium sulphate log concentration plots revealed a linear relationship, as illustrated in Fig. 1. The plots of breakdown voltage vs Log. Concentration of L-Ascorbic acid also gave a linear relationship as shown in Fig. 2

DISCUSSION

After a certain range of thickness is attained, formation of metal oxide film stops due to various factors. This phenomenon is called Breakdown voltage and it depends on the nature and concentration of electrolytic ionic species. The result of concentration of the electrolyte on the breakdown voltage of zircaloy-4 and niobium are studied in ferrous ammonium sulphate and L-ascorbic acid. It was observed that the lower concentrations of electrolytes gave better kinetic results when compared to higher concentrations as it is evidenced from the Table- 1 & 2. The increase in kinetics with the lower concentrations of electrolytes can be attributed to the increase in the extent of dissociation and number of ions in the electrolytic solution. The plots of breakdown vs log. concentration is shown in Fig.1 for zircaloy-4 and in Fig. 2 for niobium. A linear relationship is observed between log. concentration of FAS/LAA and breakdown voltage for zircaloy-4 and niobium. As the concentration of electrolyte increases proportionately the number of ions in unit concentration also increases. Relatively with the increasing number of ions, electrolytic conductivity increases, but on the other hand resistivity will be low. As a result, at higher concentration of electrolyte solution, growth of oxide layer is rapid and break down voltage is low. This phenomenon clearly shows that decrease in resistivity and breakdown voltage are in direct relation with increase in concentration. The linear relationship of log. concentration of anion vs breakdown voltage is in agreement with the

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extensive studies of Guntherschultze and Betz [17]. Vermilyea [18] explained this by assuming that if the number of electrons which start to move at interface of metal and electrolytic solution at the film/solution is proportional to the ion concentration then the breakdown voltage will depend on logarithm of the ion concentration in the electrolyte. Young [19] showed that the breakdown voltage is due to the heat produced in the electrolyte within the imperfections of the film. According to Yahalom and Zahavi [20], crystallization is correlated with the breakup of anodic oxide coatings on Al, Ta, and Ti. Klein [21] found during anodic growth of Al_2O_3 , the breakdown characteristics start with a range of rapid increase in the rate of breakdown (Br), it was followed by a range of saturation.

CONCLUSION

Anodic oxide film formation on Zircaloy-4 and Niobium has been studied in terms of its kinetics at different concentrations of ferrous ammonium sulphate and L-ascorbic acid, ranging from 0.001M to 0.5M at $8mA.cm^{-2}$. The formation rate and current efficiency have been increased with a decrease in concentration. This was attributed to an increase in the extent of dissociation and number of ions in the electrolyte solution. With an increase in electrolyte concentration, it was discovered that the breakdown voltage decreased. Breakdown voltage and log concentration of ferrous ammonium sulphate and L-ascorbic acid were plotted, and the relationship was linear. Changing the concentration of the electrolyte ranging from 0.5M to 0.001M could not change in kinetic results to a greater extent. However, there is a marked change in the breakdown voltage

Hence, the breakdown voltage was observed to

- i) be dependent on the nature of electrolyte,
- ii) be independent on the anodizing current density,
- iii) fall linearly with log. concentration of the anions in the electrolyte.

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Table – 1 Anodization of Zircaloy-4 and Niobium at 8mA.cm² at various concentrations of Ferrous ammonium sulphate (FAS)

Concentration	Formation rate, dV/dt (V.s ⁻¹)		Current efficiency, η (%)		Differential field, F _D (MV.cm ⁻¹)		Breakdown voltage (V _B) (Volts)	
	Zr-4	Nb	Zr-4	Nb	Zr-4	Nb	Zr-4	Nb
0.5 M	1.92	2.04	59.46	71.89	7.21	5.61	100	75
0.2 M	1.97	2.05	62.86	72.61	6.99	5.59	108	90
0.1 M	2.00	2.09	66.40	73.80	6.75	5.59	120	101
0.01 M	2.08	2.22	69.26	78.20	6.71	5.60	180	230
0.001 M	2.15	2.36	71.86	84.10	6.69	5.55	225	273

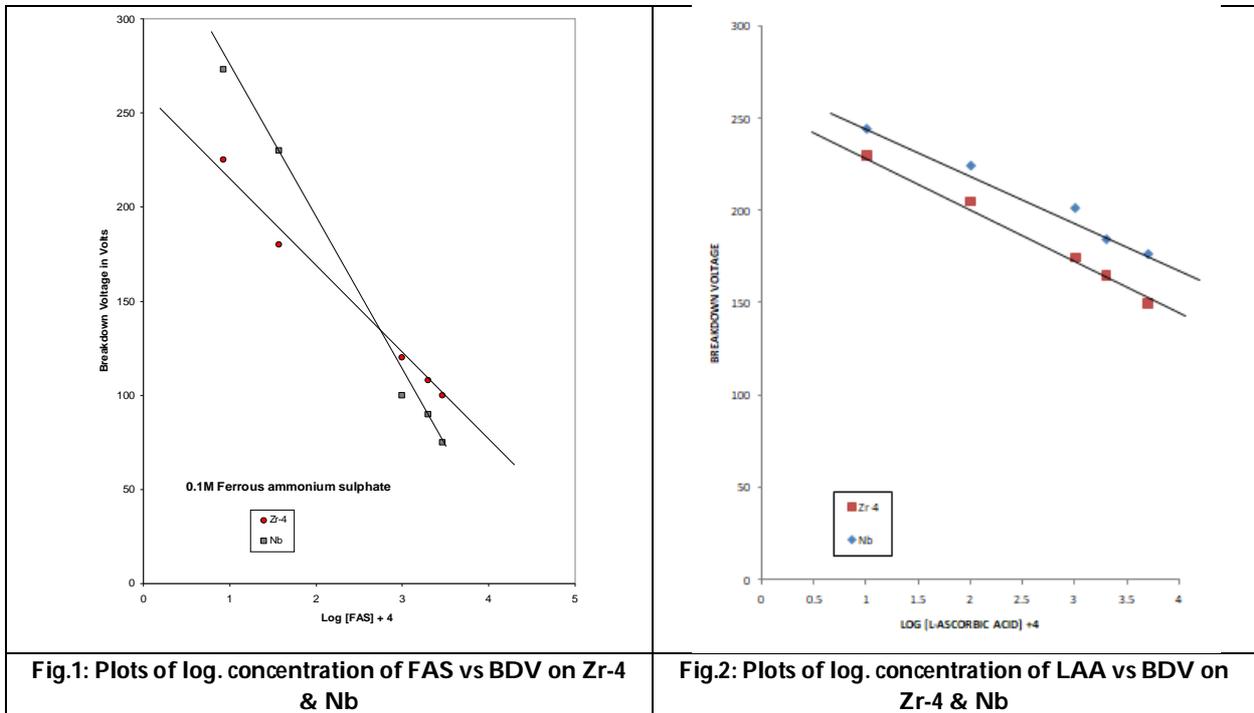
Table-2 Anodization of Zircaloy-4 and Niobium at 8mA.cm² at various concentrations of L-Ascorbic acid (LAA)

Concentration	Formation rate, dV/dt (V.s ⁻¹)		Current efficiency, η (%)		Differential field, F _D (MV.cm ⁻¹)		Breakdown voltage, V _B (Volts)	
	Zr-4	Nb	Zr-4	Nb	Zr-4	Nb	Zr-4	Nb
0.5M	1.24	1.55	52.5	55.8	5.301	5.516	150	177
0.2M	1.40	1.62	58.5	57.5	5.341	5.584	165	185
0.1M	1.52	1.74	60.0	61.0	5.385	5.648	175	202
0.01M	1.62	1.81	62.5	62.5	5.423	5.712	205	225
0.001M	1.76	1.82	63.1	62.6	5.512	5.725	230	245





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Investigating the Investment Behaviour and Perception of Working Population towards Crypto Currency in Bengaluru

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ABSTRACT

The rise of cryptocurrencies has been one of the most interesting financial phenomena in the last decade. Crypto currencies such as Bitcoin, Ethereum, Litecoin, and others have gained widespread acceptance as an alternative form of investment among the general population. As a result, more and more people have started to invest in crypto currencies. This research paper aims to examine the investment behaviour of the working population towards crypto currencies. The findings could help policymakers, investors, and financial analysts to better understand the nature and scope of investments in cryptocurrencies in the present market.

Keywords: Cryptocurrency, investment behaviour, working population.

INTRODUCTION

Crypto currency is an intangible, advanced futuristic currency. In the same way that Indian rupees and US dollars are currencies, crypto is a currency that has been launched in a new pattern and claims to be the currency of future, existing exclusively in digital form. It is not touchable or visible, and it is fully decentralized. This means that it is not governed by any banks or other centralised body. Cryptocurrency uses a technology called blockchain, which allows for the safe, secure, and transparent transactions without the need for intermediaries, while also controlling the creation of new units. On a distributed ledger, which is kept up by a network of nodes or computers, transactions are validated and recorded. The fact that cryptocurrencies offer more privacy and anonymity than conventional financial transactions is one of their major characteristics. It might be challenging for the third parties to trace or monitor user activity, because users can send and receive money without disclosing their identities. Another significant feature of crypto currency is that they are frequently deflationary, which means that the underlying protocol controls and



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limits the supply. This can cause scarcity and increase the currency's value, making it a popular choice for investment. In general, cryptocurrencies stand for a brand-new, cutting-edge method of exchanging value that threatens established financial systems while also providing new opportunities for people and business alike. Cryptocurrency has sparked debates around the world ever since it was introduced, with some countries embracing its decentralized power, while others remain sceptical. The legal status of cryptocurrencies varies from one country to another. As of March 7, 2022, the Indian government has declared that any crypto-related operations would fall under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act 2022, which has marked a huge step forward in the regulation of crypto currency in India.

Recently, investment landscape undergone tremendous transformation with the emergence of cryptocurrencies. Cryptocurrencies, such as Bitcoin, Binance coin, Ripple, and Cardano have gained increasing popularity as a means of investment, attracting the attention of not only retail investors but also institutional investors. The decentralized and anonymous nature of cryptocurrency transactions, coupled with the potential for high returns, has made it an attractive option for investors. As more and more people are becoming interested in cryptocurrency investment, it is important to understand the investment behaviour of the working population towards cryptocurrency. The working population, which includes individuals who are employed or self-employed, forms a significant portion of the investor base. Their investment behaviour towards cryptocurrency can have a significant impact on the overall cryptocurrency market.

This research aims to study the investment behaviour of the working population towards cryptocurrency. The study will focus on understanding the factors that influence the investment decisions of the working population, such as current market trends, security, financial stability, technology, return on investment, level knowledge and education on cryptocurrency etc. The study will increase knowledge on investing in cryptocurrencies, and give investors, regulators, and policy makers useful information. Dingli, Elnaz and Timothy, et al (2019) "Investigating the investment behaviours in cryptocurrency" is the study primarily examined the traits of persons who have invested in cryptocurrencies and investigated the numerous elements that may have influenced potential investors' investing decisions. This study employed a web-based poll to look into how into how individual investors in two different countries – Australia and China – invest their money. The study emphasized the importance of social demographic aspects in the choice of an investment. It is concluded that there is considerable dissimilarity between Chinese and Australian cryptocurrency investors in respect of their investment patterns and behaviours. Vasundhara, Whinston, and Anitesh, et al (2019) "An Analysis of Cryptocurrency Demand and Price". This study demonstrated how technological improvements and developments have impacted crypto currency in terms of returns and demand. It has analysed through a set of five major cryptocurrencies and found that an increase in hash rate has a negative impact on demand and returns. The study emphasizes the importance of ongoing technological advancements, effective communication with users, and efficient mechanisms in boosting the demand for cryptocurrencies. It concludes that communities of cryptocurrency developers should explore the adoption of more environmentally friendly mechanisms and investigated that different technological progress have fuelled the need for crypto money.

Gagan, Mahendru, and Sanchita, et al, (2019) "A Systematic Review and Research Agenda on Bitcoin: An alternative investment". The research paper examined a thorough investigation into bitcoin and other digital currencies. Using several acceptance and rejection criteria, the writers selected 121 publications from a pool of 246. They discovered that identifying the study gap and framing an adequate assessment on this new asset class based on its potential volatility, determinants, and risk patterns would benefit policymakers and upcoming research scholars by delivering insights based on cryptocurrency. In general, the study highlighted the overview of crypto industry. Bhuvana and Aithal, et al (2022) "A Review on the Investors Behavioural Intention of Cryptocurrency", through their research, authors aim to better understand how people would behave when it comes to adopting cryptocurrencies. In order to pinpoint the major drivers behind the growth of cryptocurrencies and offer insights into behavioural intents, the study largely concentrated on investing motives and behaviour. The researchers want to provide merchants with useful information that will help them create a workable business plan to be competitive in the crypto ecosystem industry.

Jose and Goncalves, et al (2023) "A literature review of investor behaviour in the crypto markets", the study is

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constructed using a sample size of 166 respondents in order to identify irrational investors, public opinion, and herding activity. It is mainly focused to identify different behavioural conduct of the investors in the crypto ecosystem. The study made it clear that investor conduct might be impacted by market inefficiencies. The study offers pertinent data for future research and assists regulators and investors in alerting them to the impact of various investment behaviours as well as diverse investment activity in the crypto market.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Despite the growing popularity of crypto currency investment, the working population in Bengaluru may have a limited awareness of its potential benefits, leading to the need to investigate their investment behaviour, level of awareness, and perception towards this alternative investment.

OBJECTIVES

- To know the awareness level of the working population towards potential benefits of cryptocurrency investment.
- To understand the investment behaviour of working population on cryptocurrency.
- To identify the factors influencing investment decision with respect to cryptocurrency.
- To comprehend the perception of employed demographic regarding cryptocurrency.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This Research paper is based on Primary data through Structured Questionnaire. The survey questionnaire included questions related to the apps features, ease of use, and effectiveness in providing assistance during emergencies and also what are factors restricting women from using the safety application. This study used convenient sampling technique from various age group, The study had a sample size of the study was 122 but the targeted response was 130, lastly the remaining data was also focused on secondary data such websites, various journals, books, articles, magazines etc. This research is descriptive in nature. The research paper is of descriptive in nature. The study utilizes standardized questionnaires as a primary data collection tool, which include:

- Demographic questions
- Close-ended questions with scale
- In-person interview

Additionally, secondary data is collected from a range of internet sources, including journals and websites, to enhance the understanding of specific study concepts.

Sample frame: Bengaluru

Sample size: 126

Population:

Male and female working population, who are private employed, Government employed, self-employed, freelancers and others, make up the sample population for this study. According to the survey, the bulk of respondents are private sector employees (37.3%), followed by self-employed (26.2%), others (19.8%), freelancer (8.7%) and Government employees (7.9%). Most of the responders falls between the ages of 20 and 30, where majority of the responders are receiving annual income of 3 to 6 lakhs (43.7%).





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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Demographic Profile

Gender of Respondents

Interpretation

Based on the data, it is found that 59.5% of male and 40.5% female working population have contributed by responding to the research questionnaire.

Age of Respondents

Interpretation

The above chart shows that majority of the respondents belong to the age group of 20 to 30 years (69 respondents), followed by 31 to 40 years (43 respondents), 41 to 50 years (9 respondents) and above 50 years (5 respondents) respectively.

Designation of Respondents

Interpretation

The data shows that, the highest responded working population are the private sector employees (37.3%), followed by self employed (26.2%), others (19.9%), Freelancers (8.7%) and Government employees (7.9%) respectively.

Annual Income of Respondents

Interpretation

The above data indicates that majority of the respondents belong to the 3 to 6 lakhs annual income category, followed by less than 3 lakhs income level, 6 to 9 lakhs, and more than 9 lakhs respectively.

Interpretation for Descriptive Statistics

Demography "Gender" shows the Mean score of 1.40 and standard deviation of 0.493. Variable of "Age" has a Mean score of 1.60 with a variation of 0.791 (Std. Deviation). The Mean score of "Employment status" and "Annual income" comes with 2.66 and 1.94 respectively and the standard deviation of 1.534 and 0.910 respectively.

Awareness about cryptocurrency among working population

Interpretation

The data collected suggests that among the working population in Bengaluru, a significant majority (86.5%) are aware of cryptocurrency, while a minority (13.5%) are not aware of it. The data indicates that cryptocurrency has gained significant attention and interest among the working population in Bengaluru. This could be due to various reasons such as the growing popularity of cryptocurrency as a means of investment or the increased coverage in the media.

Have you invested in cryptocurrency before?

Interpretation

The data collected on the question; Have you invested in cryptocurrency before? indicates that a significant majority (57.9%) of the working population in Bengaluru have not invested in cryptocurrency before, while a minority (42.1%) have. This suggests that while awareness of cryptocurrency is high among the working population in Bengaluru, the actual adoption and use of cryptocurrency as an investment tool may still be relatively low.

Methods or sources through which information about crypto currency is obtained

Interpretation

Based on the data collected on how people usually obtain information about cryptocurrency, it was found that most of the respondents (46.8%) rely on social media platforms for information. This is followed by friends or family (25.4%), investment websites (11.9%), news articles (8.7%), and other sources (7.1%). The data suggests that people



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are turning to a diverse range of sources for information about cryptocurrency. This highlights the potential influence that these channels can have on people's attitudes and behaviours towards cryptocurrency.

The amount invested by working population in cryptocurrency in Bengaluru

Interpretation

According to the data gathered, it was found that a significant percentage (41.3%) of respondents have not invested in cryptocurrency at all. This could suggest that despite the growing popularity of cryptocurrency, there are still a large number of individuals who have not yet entered the market. Among those who have invested, the majority (34.9%) have invested between Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 50,000, which could indicate that cryptocurrency is seen as a relatively small but potentially profitable investment for many people. A smaller percentage of respondents (10.3%) have invested less than Rs. 10,000, while 5.6% have invested between Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1 lakh and 7.9% have invested more than Rs. 1 lakh.

The factors that motivated working population to invest in cryptocurrency

Interpretation:

Based on the data, it was found that the majority of respondents (51.6%) cited the potential for high returns as the main reason for investing. Interestingly, a significant proportion of respondents (28.6%) indicated that nothing prompted them to invest in cryptocurrency. A smaller percentage of respondents cited their belief in the technology (7.1%) and peer influence (5.6%), followed by a small percentage of respondents (7.1%) mentioned other factors that prompted them to invest, which could include factors such as media coverage, celebrity endorsements, or simply a desire to diversify their investment portfolio.

Awareness level of working population on the potential benefits of cryptocurrency investment:

Interpretation

The data collected on respondents' level of awareness about cryptocurrency shows that the majority of respondents believe that cryptocurrency offers new investment opportunities, increased accessibility for the average person, and the potential for high returns. They also see it as a good hedge against economic uncertainties. At the same time, it should be noted that a significant number of respondents are either disagreed or were neutral on some of these statements, indicating that there is still some scepticism or lack of understanding regarding cryptocurrency.

Descriptive Statistics: Awareness level of working population on cryptocurrency

The Mean score for the variable "Crypto has opened new investment opportunities" is 3.41 and the Standard Deviation is 1.393. The Std. Deviation is 1.251 and the mean score is 3.49 for the variable "Crypto has a likelihood of high returns." The variables of "Crypto investing is accessible to average person" and "Crypto acts as a hedge against economic uncertainties" comes with mean score of 3.44 and 3.41, and Standard Deviation of 1.348 and 1.334.

Investment behaviour of working population on cryptocurrency

Interpretation

The data collected indicates that a significant percentage of the working population are comfortable investing a considerable portion of their income into cryptocurrency. Most respondents are willing to accept the potential volatility and higher risk associated with cryptocurrency investments, but a significant percentage disagree. Most respondents are willing to take calculated risks while investing in cryptocurrency, but a notable percentage disagree.

Descriptive Statistics: Investment behaviour of working population on Cryptocurrency

The mean score for the variable's comfortable investing a significant portion of income is 3.39, and a standard deviation of 1.302. The standard deviation for the variable Accept the potential volatility of cryptocurrency investment ' is 1.348, and the mean score is 3.28. The variables; Crypto carries a higher degree of risk' and agree to take calculated risk on investing in crypto 'have mean scores of 3.52 and 3.37 respectively, having standard deviations of 1.295 and 1.324.



**Chaithra et al.,****Factors influencing investment decision with respect to cryptocurrency:****Interpretation**

The data collected suggests that the return on investment (ROI) and level of knowledge and education on crypto currency are considered extremely important or important factors influencing investment decision towards crypto currency by the respondents. These findings suggest that investors in crypto currency are primarily motivated by potential returns and seek to educate themselves on the technology in order to make informed investment decisions. Additionally, respondents also placed importance on factors such as current market trends, technology and innovation, security, and financial stability, in influencing the investment decision. Descriptive Statistics: Factors influencing the investment decision of cryptocurrency

For the variable, Current market trends, Mean score is 3.37 and Std. Deviation is 1.372. Security shows the Mean score of 3.41 with a variation of 1.399 (Std. Deviation). Whereas, Financial stability and technology & innovation shows the Mean score of 3.47 and 3.41 respectively with a variation of Std. deviation for both the variables are 1.343 and 1.410. Descriptive statistics indicates that ROI and Knowledge & education are the important factors that influence the investment decision indicating the mean score of 3.73 and 3.56 with a standard deviation of 1.394 and 1.573 respectively.

Perception of employed demographic regarding cryptocurrency**Interpretation**

Based on the data collected, it appears that the working population has a positive perception of crypto currency. They are satisfied with the ease of using crypto currency transactions, the level of security provided by crypto currency, and the level of transparency provided by crypto currency transactions. Additionally, their overall experience with crypto currency is highly satisfied. This suggests that the working population may be open to using and investing in crypto currency, and may view it as a viable alternative to traditional financial systems. Descriptive Statistics: Satisfaction level based on the perception of employed demographic towards cryptocurrency.

Descriptive statistics indicates that responses are satisfied with the ease of using crypto currency with a mean score of 3.40 with a variation of 1.403 standard deviation. The variable for level of security shows the mean score of 3.38 and std. deviation of 1.295. Similarly, variables of "level of transparency" and "over all experience with crypto" have a mean score of 3.43 and 3.65 respectively with Standard deviation of 1.311 and 1.422.

FINDINGS

- The 86.5% of respondents are aware of the accessibility of cryptocurrency.
- The 57.9% of working population are not invested in any form of cryptocurrency, which indicates the lack of awareness towards cryptocurrency.
- The 42.1% of the responded working population has invested in cryptocurrency, which highlights the growing importance of cryptocurrency as a viable investment option.
- Majority of the working population obtain information about cryptocurrency through social media platforms.
- The 41.3% of respondents reported not having invested in cryptocurrency at all, while majority (34.9%) having invested between Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 50,000.
- A large portion of respondents are prompted through potential for high returns to invest in crypto currency.
- There is a high level of awareness among the working population regarding the potential benefits of investing in cryptocurrency, which indicates that working population is increasingly open to exploring new investment opportunities.
- Majority of the working population is willing to take a more aggressive approach to investing and are open to explore new investment opportunities that offer potentially high returns.
- Majority of the respondents are taking a multifaceted approach to evaluate investment opportunities in the crypto space and are paying close attention to factors such as ROI and education and knowledge followed by



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market trends, security, financial stability, technology innovation.

- Most of the employed demographic is generally satisfied with their experience using cryptocurrency, which highlights the growing importance of crypto currency as a viable and secure investment option.

SUGGESTIONS

- Increase awareness of the potential benefits and risks of crypto currency investment, particularly for the population that is not invested or not aware.
- Offer education and resources to help individuals make informed investment decisions in crypto currency.
- Enhance customer experience and support in the crypto currency market to address issues of dissatisfaction.
- Develop measures to address the perceived risks of crypto currency investment, such as increasing regulation and oversight.
- Encourage more widespread acceptance and use of crypto currency as a form of payment, which may increase awareness and interest among potential investors.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the study on the investment behavior among working population towards crypto currency has highlighted the positive response of the population towards cryptocurrencies. The high level of awareness about the potential benefits of crypto currency and positive investment behavior among the working population have been identified as the key factors driving the positive perception towards this new emerging class of assets. As the world is moving towards digitalization, the adoption of crypto currency is gaining momentum, and it is expected that the working population will continue to invest in this new asset class in the coming years. Hence, it is crucial for regulators, policymakers, and financial market participants to take note of the changing investment behavior patterns and develop a regulatory framework that will promote the growth of crypto currency industry while safeguarding investors' interests. Overall, the trend is pointing towards a brighter future for crypto currency as an investment option for the working population.

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Table.1. Gender of Respondents

Gender	No. of Respondents	Percentage	Total
Male	75	59.5	59.5
Female	51	40.5	100

Table.2. Age of Respondents

Age Group	No. of Respondents	Percentage	Total
20-30	69	54.8	54.8
31-40	43	34.1	88.9
41-50	09	7.1	96
Above 50	05	4	100

Table.3 Designation of Respondents

Designation	No. of Respondents	Percentage	Total
Private employee	47	37.3	37.3
Govt. employee	10	7.9	45.2
Self-employed	33	26.2	71.4
Freelancer	11	8.7	80.1
Others	25	19.9	100

Table.4. Annual Income of Respondents

Annual Income	No. of Respondents	Percentage	Total
Less than 3 lakhs	45	35.7	35.7
3-6 lakhs	55	43.7	79.4
6-9 lakhs	15	11.9	91.3
More than 9 lakhs	11	8.7	100

Table.5. Descriptive Statistics on Demographic Variables

Demography	No. of response	Min	Max	Mean	Std. Deviation
Gender	126	1	2	1.40	.493
Age	126	1	4	1.60	.791
Employment Status	126	1	5	2.66	1.534
Annual income level	126	1	4	1.94	.910





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Table.6. Descriptive Statistics: Awareness level of working population on cryptocurrency

Variables	No. of Respondents	Mean	Std. Deviation
Crypto has opened new investment opportunities	126	3.41	1.393
Crypto investments have a likelihood of high returns	126	3.49	1.251
Crypto investing is more accessible to average person	126	3.44	1.348
Crypto act as a good hedge against economic uncertainties	126	3.41	1.334

Table.7. Descriptive Statistics: Investment behaviour of working population on cryptocurrency

Variables	No. of Response	Mean	Std. Deviation
Invest an income portion	126	3.39	1.302
Accept Potential volatility	126	3.28	1.348
Carries Higher degree of risk	126	3.52	1.295
Agree to take calculated risk	126	3.37	1.324

Table.8. Descriptive Statistics: Factors influencing the investment decision of cryptocurrency

Variables	No. of Response	Mean	Std. Deviation
Current market trends	126	3.37	1.372
Security	126	3.41	1.399
Financial stability	126	3.47	1.343
Technology and innovation	126	3.41	1.410
ROI	126	3.73	1.394
Knowledge & Education	126	3.56	1.573

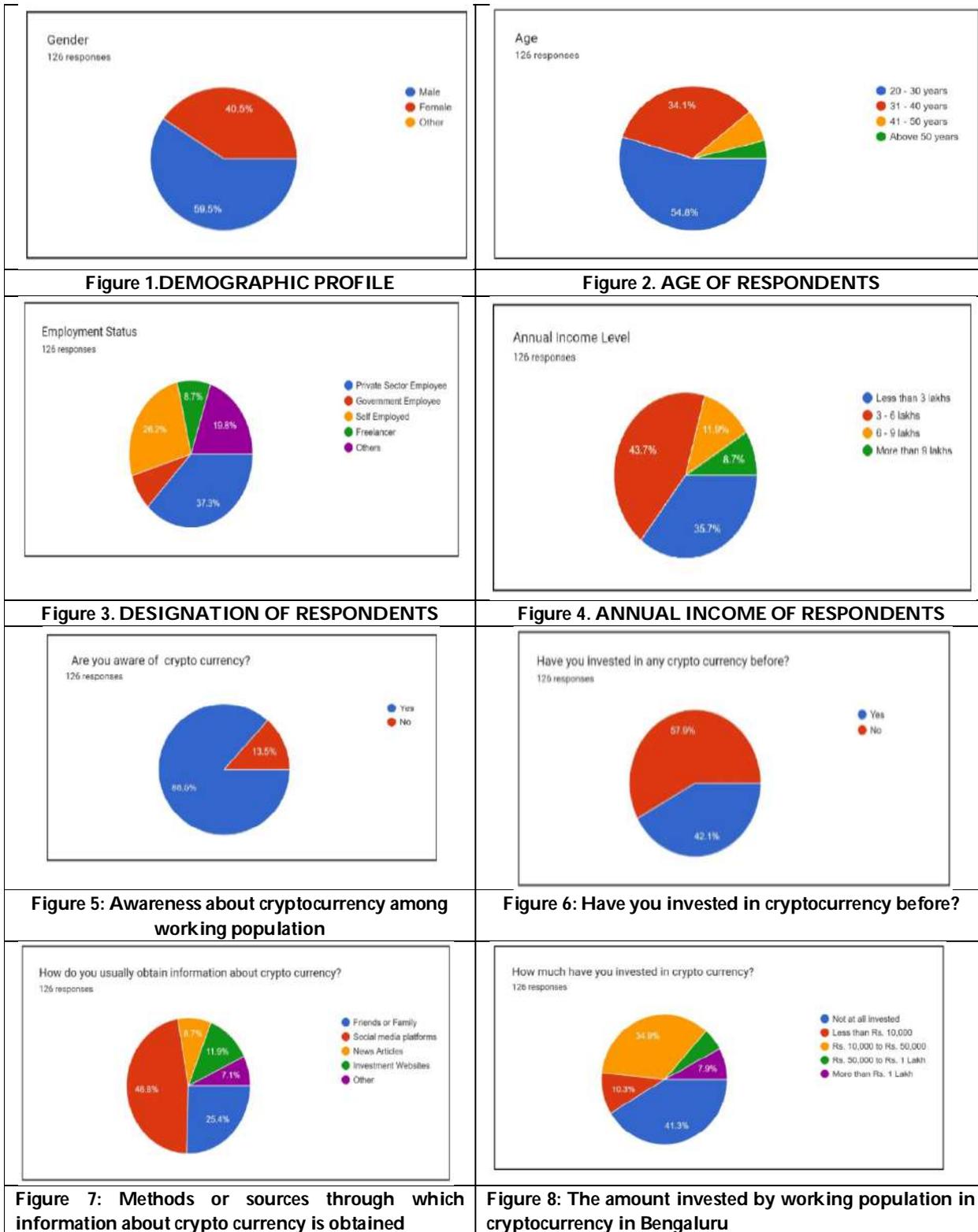
Table.9. Descriptive Statistics: Satisfaction level based on the perception of employed demographic towards cryptocurrency

Variables	No. of Response	Mean	Std. Deviation
Ease of use	126	3.40	1.403
Level of security	126	3.38	1.295
Level of transparency	126	3.43	1.311
Overall experience	126	3.65	1.422





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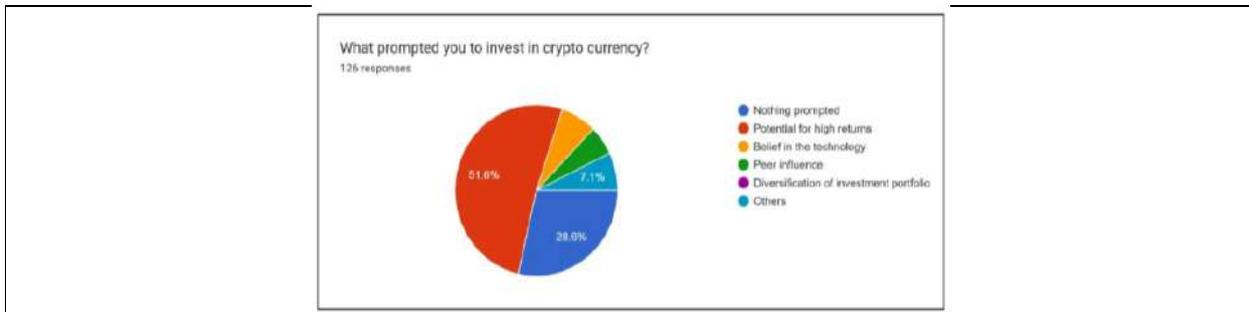


Figure 9: The factors that motivated working population to invest in cryptocurrency

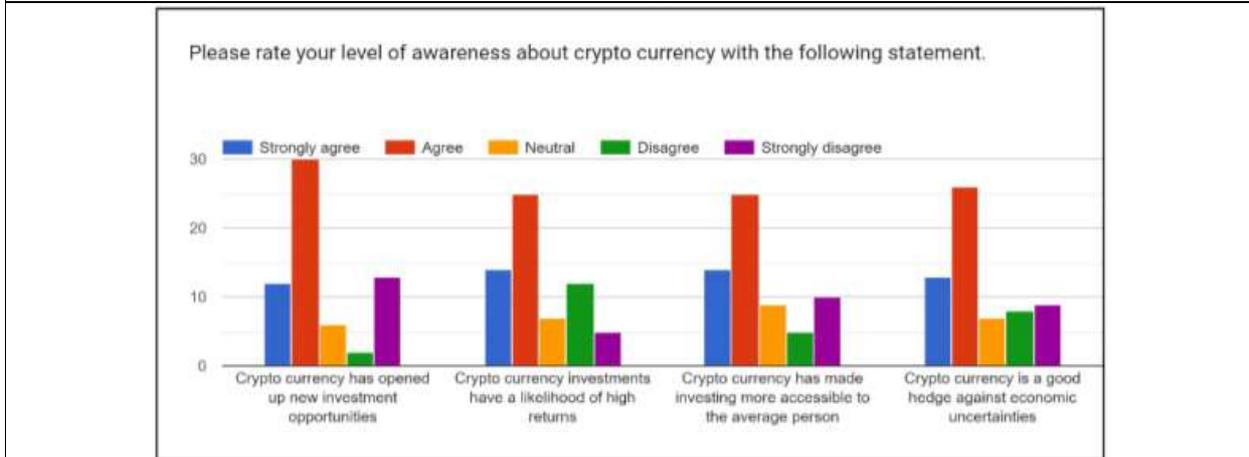


Figure 10. Awareness level of working population on the potential benefits of cryptocurrency investment:

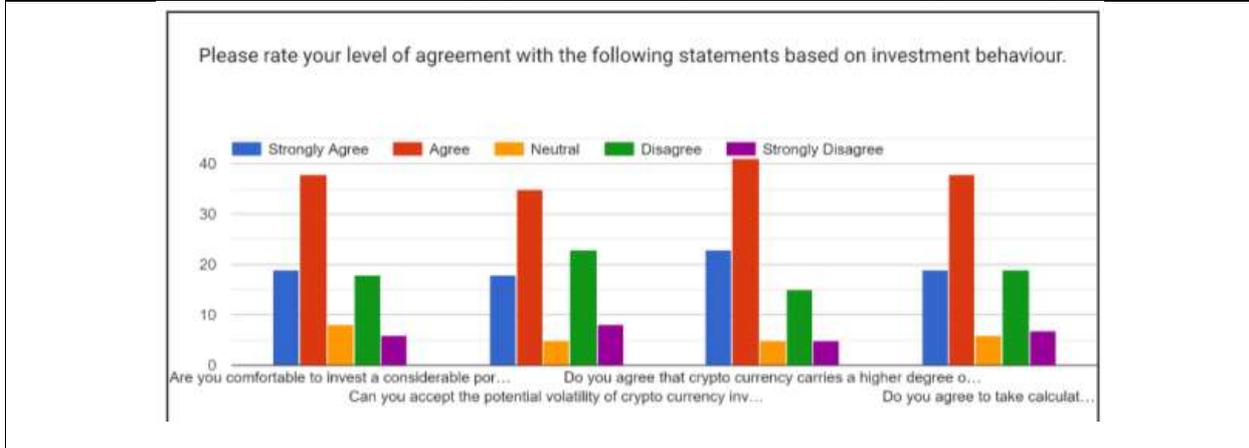


Figure 11: Investment behaviour of working population on cryptocurrency





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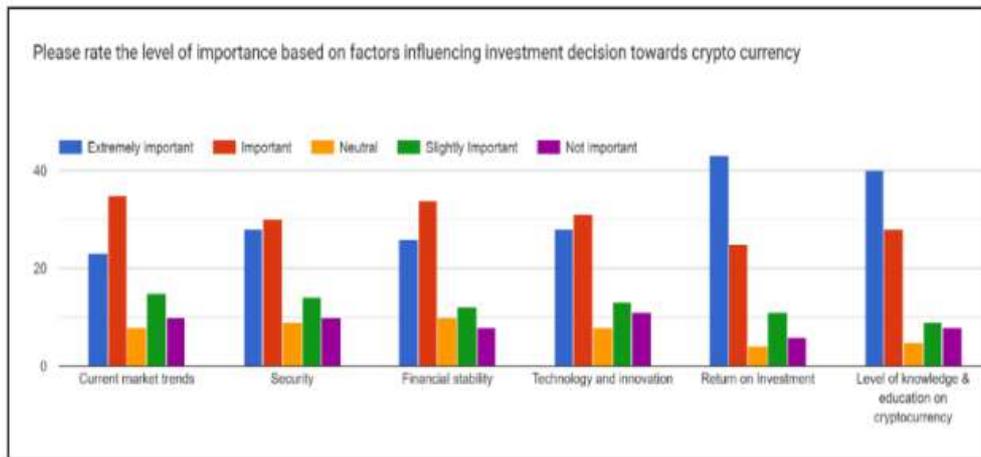


Figure 12: Factors influencing investment decision with respect to cryptocurrency:

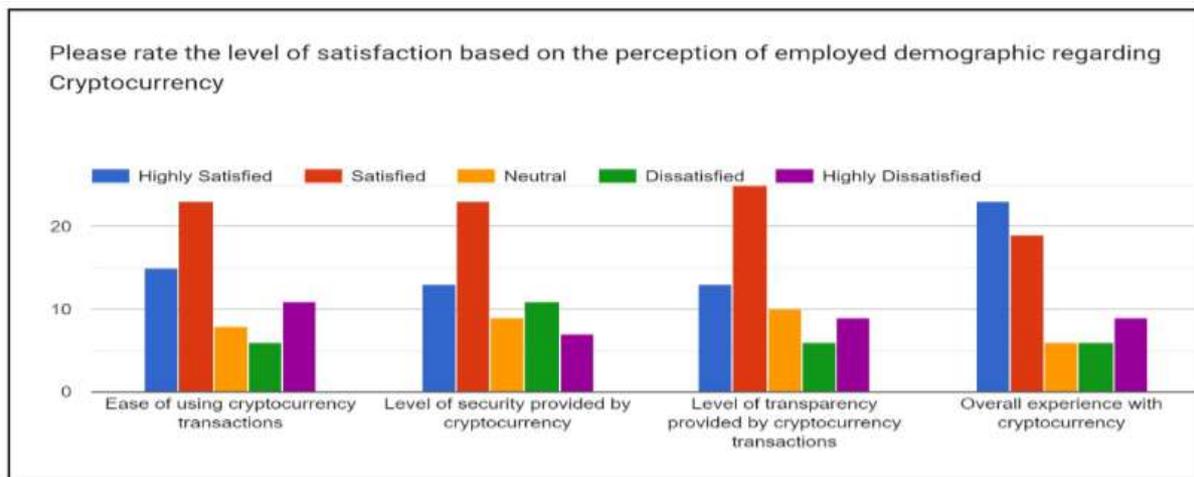


Figure 13: Perception of employed demographic regarding cryptocurrency





Design of Microcontroller Based Cost Effective Ventilator As A Respiratory Supporter for Critical Care Patients

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ABSTRACT

This work was aimed to design and development of a microcontroller based simple and cost -effective pneumatic portable ventilator prototype which offers moderate oxygen consumption in support of patients at emergency. The designed device employs a stepper motor where, pressure applied on BVM bag, there by the oxygen rich air was sent into the lungs. The prototype includes a high pressure sensor connected to the airway pressure along with a mechanical and solenoid pressure valves (3-way valve) to check the oxygen levels, O₂ analyzer fitted with programmable alarm and safety control accessories for the release of nitric oxide. The ventilator displayed excellent tidal volume / min capacity with 12-42 breaths/min and 0.25 to 1.65 litre tidal volume/breath signifying that the device can be suitable for use by people of all ages. Further, this gives artificial breathing to the patients during emergencies. The expiratory to inspiratory ratio of 1:1, between 3.01 to 32.76 l/min. and for 2:1, between 3.64 to 51.09 l/min was obtained which was useful for patients with moderate and severe breathing problems. This ventilator exhibited a 25% less time than the available equipments at all the tested oxygen concentrations. Subsequently measurement of health parameters like pulse rate and SPO₂ levels can also be monitored using this ventilator. This ventilator can be useful as a respiratory supporter and life saver for people living in poor resource environments and offers a homemade cost effective solution with less maintenance.

Keywords: Ventilator, Microcontroller, Arduino uno, Tidal Volume/ Breath (VT) and NO delivery.



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INTRODUCTION

It is well known that respiratory breakdown is a major public health concern across the world and this has been highly emphasized through COVID-19 pandemic [1]. Almost all the countries have suffered from a shortage of respiratory devices such as ventilators and therefore there is a need to develop more devices to combat the situation [2]. Ventilator is a pneumatic or mechanical system which helps to monitor and control either sporadic or continuous the ventilation and respiration. It can also be used to check and control the oxygen levels in human body during surgery and prevents hypoxia. These ventilators push a definite amount of air into the patients' lungs without considering whether a person is in need or not. The conventional machines are based on the usage of BVM (bag valve mask) which by deflating manually forces air into the lungs and often used by some of the clinical practitioners [3]. However, these types of devices are used only for patients having non-functional lungs or under general anesthesia and have deleterious effects often fatal causing barotraumas because of incompatible air pressures [4]. A mechanical oxygen delivery system with fresh gas flow was developed by J. S. Haldane which provided high concentration (fraction) of inspired oxygen (FIO₂) [5]. This is particularly useful when there is a need for high doses of oxygen but exhibits harmful effects on people besides increasing the costs.

Ventilators equipped with sensors, interact with human body more effectively, able to distinguish whether patient want to draw air in or push it out and delivers oxygen at desired rate [6-9]. Further, the conscientious efforts of scientists and researchers especially in the last decade have led for the design of portable ventilators mainly to facilitate the safe transport of patients from home to hospitals and also for use in emergency conditions to overcome the respiratory dysfunctions [10-11]. These portable ventilators must be reliable, easy to operate with a battery system and provide patients controlled and effective ventilation with desired air pressure and deliver high fraction of inspired oxygen [12-13]. Due to the ventilators dearth in the COVID-19 pandemic, people are currently engaged in developing cost effective and viable ventilators. There are very meagre reports on the design and production of ventilators and no reports on the portable microcontroller based ventilators equipped with sensors and alarms and therefore, the present work aims at designing and development of a new portable microcontroller (Aurdino) based cost effective ventilator that facilitates oxygen consumption at minimum level to serve patients at emergency residing in resource-poor rural areas.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Design of Ventilator

The prototype device was designed according to the ASTM F920-93 protocol with slight modifications [14]. The device uses of BVM (self-inflating bag) and equipped with sensors for the measuring breath per min, E:I (expiratory: inspiratory), tidal volume, PEEP (Positive End Expiratory Pressure) and exchange of humidity. Self-inflating bags of different capacities suitable for age groups were used and were compressed with gas at 50 psi pressure and also a pressure relief valve. This allows no physical contact while passing the gas from saviour to patient and help can be obtained from the head strap, oxygen connector and protection valve. The safety overpressure valve was also fitted to the BVM wherein, extra oxygen can go back to the air intake tube. Further a pulse oximeter sensor was used which measures pulse rate and SPO₂ and a provision was made for the exchange of humidity, control of infection with limited dead space. All the components used were cost effective and can be employed in the mass production of this ventilator at emergency times where, the standard conventional ventilators are not readily available to meet the patients' demand. Also the designed device was able to deliver NO (nitric oxide) in the breathe gas also.

Arduino uno

Arduino uno a user friendly, open-source microcontroller with a clock frequency of 16MHz with an inbuilt microcontroller, ATmega 328p coupled with ATmega 128 boot loader for interfacing Arduino with PC was employed for the present study. The selected microcontroller Arduino board contains 14 input or output pins (digital), 6 input pins (analog), power jack, USB connector, RESET button, ICSP header and other components. The





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charging of the board can be carried out by USB port as well as by the DC supply. Further, USB interfacing system functions as an interfacing connector and supports as serial devices. The hardware required to design the circuit was extremely less and programming was incredibly simple with this microcontroller.

Stepper motor

Stepper motors equipped with multiple coils organized in groups (phases) and that move in a discrete manner was employed for the present study. Each phase can be energized in a sequence which in turn rotates the motor one step at a time. The precise positioning is achieved with a program to control the steps and because of this they find immense applications in various precision motion controls. The present work uses a good speed control stepper motors with excellent precision and accuracy with regard to the movement increments allowing incredible control of rotational speed that can be helpful for devices and experiments based on process automation and robotics.

Mechanism of operation

The mechanism involves discontinuous delivery of the gas from the reservoir using an unusual (eccentric) cam disc. The designed portable ventilator can be used for patients of all ages and anywhere even at emergency situations from home to hospital (Fig). It was set in motion and activated by a pneumatic mechanism by mounting the unusual cam disc on a shaft which in turn linked to a DC motor (Stepper motor, torque of 2.92 Kg.cm). The entire assembly was associated with the surface of the BVM bag. All the required safety valves and devices were enclosed within the BVM (single use; costs Rs.1000/-) thus facilitating for incorporation into the mechanical bag squeezer ventilator. Further, provision was given for collection of waste oxygen into the reservoir at the inlet of the bag. A 12V photoelectric optical sensor was employed for the control of expiratory and inspiratory, E:I of 2:1 (normal breathing), 1: 2 or higher (acute respiratory difficulty).

Scaling up the Design

The designed ventilator was a simple gearbox operates mechanically with the motor and was made with acrylic and Perspex plastics for the cost effectiveness so that it can be available to all the people. Further, control of number of breaths/min can be possible if a single O-ring can be connected even when there is no provision of DC motor.

Measurement of Total Tidal Volume/ Breath (VT) and NO delivery

The influence of input parameters namely E:I, breath/min, and pressure stroke of the unusual cam on tidal volume per breath (VT), total tidal volume per min and the oxygen consumption was analyzed using an artificial simulated test lungs (made of silicone; 0.2-1.5 L/breath). The oxygen fraction and NO gas delivery were measured using an oxygen cylinder equipped with alarms and NO gas sensor respectively.

The total tidal volume/breadth for E:I ratio of 1:1 was determined by

$$\text{Total tidal volume/breadth (l/breadth)} = \frac{1}{2} \times (\text{length of Eccentric cam} \times 1.1 \times \pi \times \text{Thickness of cam pressure} \times \text{average diameter of cam} \times 0.75)$$

Total tidal volume/breadth for E:I ratio of 1:2 was determined by

$$\text{Total tidal volume/breadth (l/breadth)} = \frac{2}{3} \times (\text{length of Eccentric cam} \times 1.1 \times \pi \times \text{Thickness of cam pressure} \times \text{average diameter of cam} \times 0.75)$$



**Achyutha Devi et al.,****Minute ventilation and Alveolar ventilation**

Both minute and alveolar ventilations were determined following the method of [15]. The amount of air that passes into the lungs in one minute known as minute ventilation was determined using the following formula

$$\text{Minute ventilation} = \text{Respiratory rate} \times \text{Tidal volume}$$

Alveolar ventilation corresponds to the volume of air that reaches the respiration zone per minute and can be calculated by employing the formula

$$\text{Alveolar ventilation} = \text{respiratory rate} \times (\text{tidal volume} - \text{dead space})$$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The prototype of the ventilator was designed in such a way to suit people of age groups who have breathing difficulty and other respiratory problems. The designed typical prototype ventilator was presented in Fig-1 and circuit diagram in Fig-2 while the design and the prototype board were presented in Fig-3 and Fig-4 respectively.

The first input parameter was E:I ratio (expiratory to inspiratory) of 2:1 for normal people with good breathing (E longer than I about 2 times), 1:1 for moderate severity of breathing problems while, it was 1:2 for severe morbidities. The number of breaths/min was maintained at 12-42 (12, 18, 24, 30, 36 and 42) breath/min. Whereas, the cam pressure stroke which was maintained at 10-20 mm, 20-30 mm and 30-40 mm for children & teenagers, young adults and adults respectively. The study also involves assessment of parameters related to the output performance such as tidal volume/breath (VT) and total tidal volume/min. Further the influence of input parameters on the output was also assessed. The designed ventilator supply 10-40 breaths/min. with a tidal volume/breath of 0.2-1.6 l. yielding a minimum and maximum ventilation of 1 and 65 l/min volume respectively. Further, there was a provision for the operator to adjust the tidal volume/breath, minimum and maximum ventilation volumes according to the patient condition and body weight.

The oxygen fraction (FIO₂) percentage in the gas delivered was also determined using MX300 oxygen analyzer equipped with alarms which are programmed suitably. The analyzer was equipped with touch pad used for smart calibration and diagnostics. The NO gas sensor which gives rapid response was used where a preset NO concentration was delivered in the breathe gas. The correlation between the breath/min. and the cam pressure stroke for various ratios of E:I was also produced and calculated by the designed ventilator. At E:I of 2:1, tidal volume/breath was found to be 0.24 to 0.82 l/breath for adult men and women, at E:I=1:1, the tidal volume/breath was 0.33 to 1.24 l/breath for diseased patients. However, at E:I=2:1, the total tidal volume/min ranged from 2.18 to 33.28 l/min for normal breathing (spontaneous), at E:I=1:1 it was 3.19-45.71 l/min. for moderate breathing and 4.23-62.82 l/min for severe breathing problem patients.

The ventilator was further equipped with pulse oximeter where a red and infrared light used measures the SpO₂ levels effectively and displayed on the LCD when the patient put a finger inside (Fig. 5-7). The normal value of SpO₂ is 95% and for patients with chronic lung problems it will be 90%. An ideal SpO₂ level is 96 and 99% and ideal heart rate is 50-90 beats per minute. Low levels of blood oxygen results in abnormal circulation, which results in shortness of breath, chest pain, high BP, headache etc. When accident occurs the first important thing is to supply oxygen for lungs to have proper breathing and this ventilators act as a respiratory supporter wherever required and as a life saver.



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The low cost ventilator uses a traditional bag-valve-mask (BVM) which operates with a motor belt connected to motor driver without the human intervention. The motor driver moves the arm clock wise and anti-clock wise for automatic air flow with controlled pressure. The movement done by fingers manually is replaced by a automated mechanism in which a stepper motor is operated using a program. The automatic arm gives the BVM compression the required for movement. The BVM automatically moves and presses the bag to pump oxygen for patients suffering from pneumonia. BVM mask has artificial breathing oxygen reservoir bag and has an option for oxygen cylinder. As there is no cylinder, natural oxygen from air is taken by BVM mask. The compressions in BVM mask take place due to lead screw mechanism which gives pressure by moving front and back. Apart from BVM, a oximeter sensor is used which measures pulse rate and S_pO_2 . However, the design of ventilators can be somewhat complex with regard to the machinery requirements, quite expensive and consume lot of time and efforts to produce in bulk quantities to meet the market demand. Therefore, this microcontroller based BVM employed ventilators serves as an alternative cost effective life saver with user friendly operations.

CONCLUSION

It is well known that many people suffered with breathing problems and suffering still after COVID-19 due to shortage of ventilators. This study provides a novel approach for the design of microcontroller based low cost ventilators which act as a respiratory supporter for the patient in their respective home and also in the ambulance before reaching the hospital. Simultaneously, parameters like heartbeat and SPO_2 levels can also be measured through this device. The ventilator in the present study was validated using the US FDA guidelines as prescribed, first testing the ability of the ventilator both on normal and disease patients and finally for performance through its operation for 24-48h. Further work is underway to integrate the system with BP, ECG etc which facilitates the doctors to access the data even from any location across India and provide timely diagnosis to the patients and help them survive.

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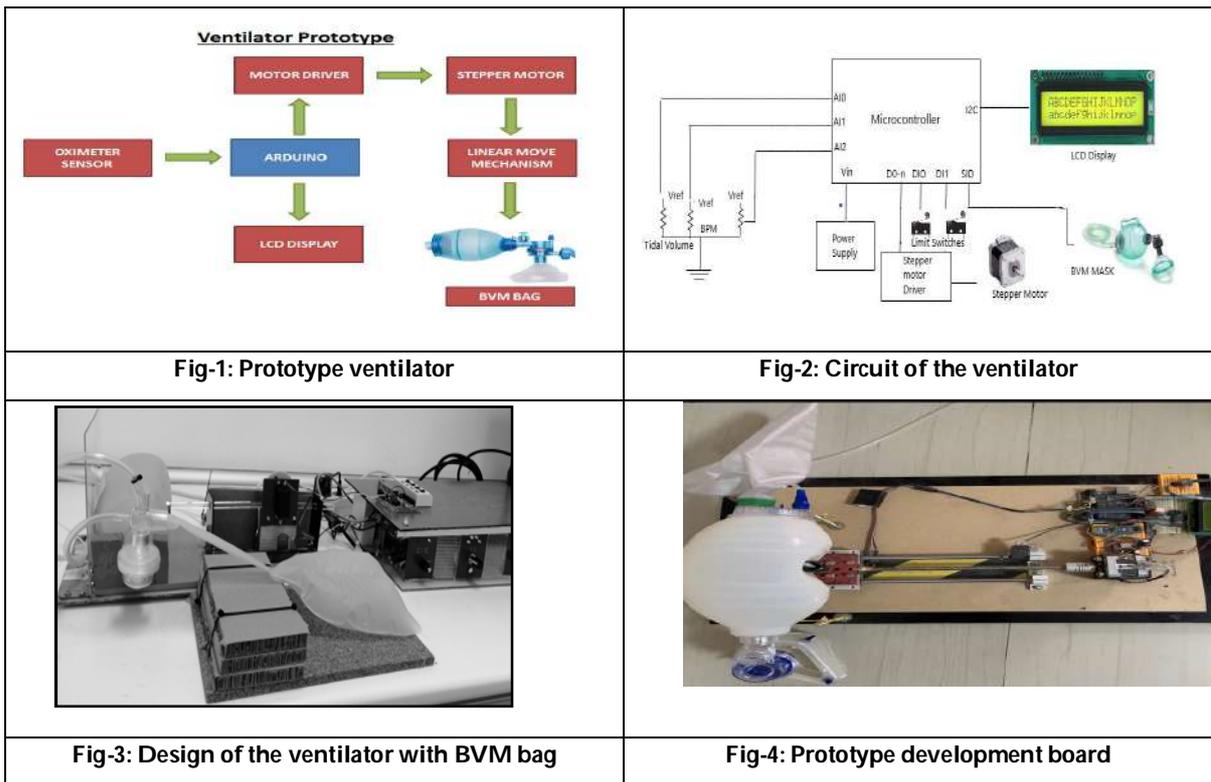




Fig-5: Pulse oximeter placed on finger



Fig-6: Readings displayed on LCD

```
MAX30100 | Arduino 1.8.13
File Edit Sketch Tools Help
MAX30100
45 void loop()
46 {
47   // Make sure to call update as fast as possible
48   pok.update();
49   if (millis() - tLastReport > REPORTING_PERIOD_MS)
50   {
51     Serial.print("Heart rate:");
52     Serial.print(int[pok.getHeartRate()]);
53     Serial.print("bpm / SpO2:");
54     Serial.print(pok.getSpO2());
55     Serial.println("");
56
57     lcd.clear();
58     lcd.setCursor(0, 0);
59     lcd.print("PULSE : ");
60     lcd.setCursor(9, 0);
61     lcd.print(int[pok.getHeartRate()]);
62     lcd.setCursor(0, 1);
63     lcd.print("SpO2 : ");
64     lcd.setCursor(9, 1);
65     lcd.print(pok.getSpO2());
66
67     tLastReport = millis();
68   }
69 }
Done uploading
Invalid library found in C:\Users\pc\Documents\Arduino\libraries\Blynk; no
Invalid library found in C:\Users\pc\Documents\Arduino\libraries\DHT-sensor
```

```
COM5
Heart rate:83bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:85bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:86bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:87bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:83bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:82bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:83bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:83bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:86bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:83bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:82bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:85bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:84bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:83bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:84bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:81bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:76bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:77bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:81bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:80bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:80bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:79bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:77bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:83bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:85bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:81bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:66bpm / SpO2:96%
Heart rate:66bpm / SpO2:96%
```

Fig-7: Results on Serial Monitor





Prediction of Environmental Pollution using Hybrid Model

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ABSTRACT

In recent years, global warming and air pollution are the two important environmental issues that threaten both developed and developing countries. Global warming leads to the gradual melting of polar ice caps, resulting in elevated sea levels that, in turn, trigger floods. This phenomenon also exerts adverse effects on ecosystems and causes significant harm to agriculture and fishing industries. The accurate prediction of air pollutant levels significantly contributes to effective air quality management and the protection of the population from the adverse impacts of pollution. This paper proposes a hybrid regression model based on Regression Tree (RT) and Support Vector Regression (SVR) to improve the prediction accuracy. The proposed hybrid model also overcomes a major disadvantage of RT and has the ability to handle fluctuations and changes in both spatial and temporal dimensions. This paper mainly focuses on the identification, estimation and accurate prediction of pollutants level and Temperature of Delhi. The results of the hybrid model can be used as a guide to predict the Temperature. The SVM time series model is employed to predict levels of significant air pollutants. The results show that SO₂, NO₂, PM_{2.5}, O₃, PM₁₀, and Benzene levels are increasing in the upcoming days which can cause a variety of adverse health outcomes. Further, Temperature and CO show a decreasing trend.

Keywords: Pollution, Air pollutants, Forecasting, SVM, RT-SVR hybrid model.

INTRODUCTION

Global warming is being emerged as one of the most important environmental issues that threaten both developed and developing countries. Global warming is characterized by the gradual increase in the Earth's average surface temperature, a phenomenon driven by the escalating concentration of greenhouse gases. This intricate interplay is a result of human activities, encompassing emissions from industries and vehicles, rapid urban expansion, extensive

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construction efforts, widespread deforestation, and the combustion of fossil fuels to fulfill electricity demands. As a result, the temperature increases and disasters like floods and droughts seem to occur more frequently. As cities experience economic and technological growth, they encounter a range of challenges related to environmental pollution. These issues have a direct and adverse impact on the health of both humans and animals, as pollutants and particulates are released into the surroundings. Additionally, the reduction of trees and vegetation exacerbates environmental vulnerabilities. This causes depletion of oxygen in the atmosphere which in turn increases the unwanted components and damages the quality of air. The presence of substances which has harmful or poisonous effects will cause air pollution. This can be suspected to have harmful effects on human health and the environment.

MOTIVATION

There are several cities facing the problem of pollution and global warming, among which India's capital, Delhi is one. Delhi is listed as the top most polluted city in India having a poor Air Quality Index of 500. The presence of air pollution gives rise to several common health issues, including increased oxygen requirements during physical activity, airway inflammation in individuals without pre-existing conditions, and heightened respiratory symptoms among asthma sufferers, potentially leading to respiratory emergencies, especially in children and the elderly. As per the World Health Organization (WHO), approximately 4.2 million deaths occur each year due to air pollution, with conditions such as stroke, heart disease, lung cancer, and chronic respiratory illnesses being the attributed causes.

By assessing the concentrations of specific pollutants, it becomes feasible to construct a predictive system that anticipates air quality. Such a system enhances the adaptability and utility of the Air Quality Index (AQI) for safeguarding public health. In light of the intensifying environmental pollution, the investigation of pollution-related issues and precise anticipation of air pollutant levels assumes a pivotal role in managing air quality and safeguarding populations against the adverse effects of pollution.

The research conducted by Venkatramanan (2011) and Bhartiya (2012) underscores the severe consequences of global warming, including the elevation of sea levels due to the melting of polar ice caps. The intricate and nonlinear nature of pollutant concentrations, as well as their dynamics, pose significant challenges for researchers aiming to construct forecasting models for such events, as noted by Brunelli (2008). Machine learning models, which are both nonparametric and nonlinear, utilize historical data to uncover underlying relationships within the information, as discussed by Bontempi (2013). In recent times, there has been a growing emphasis on advanced statistical learning algorithms for assessing air quality and predicting air pollution. Numerous studies have explored the use of Support Vector Machines (SVM) to predict air quality and pollutant levels. The work of Muller et al. (1997) indicates that SVR outperforms Artificial Neural Networks (ANN) in performance. Noteworthy contributions in the application of SVM models to air quality prediction include the research by Cao (2003), Wang (2005), and Sotomayor (2013).

The performance of the traditional regression model depends highly on basic ideal conditions and the selection of a functional form that connects the dependent variable with independent variables which is not valid in most of real-life situations. The non-parametric regression model can be used as an alternative solution for this problem. Non-parametric regression models rely on the choice of kernel and bandwidth, which poses limitations when applied to high-dimensional data. To address this, the Classification and Regression Tree (CART), introduced by Breiman et al. (1984), emerges as a highly effective and commonly used non-parametric regression approach. This algorithm, being more robust, includes an inherent variable selection mechanism and possesses the capability to manage missing data. Domor et al. (2019) review paper sheds light on the predictive efficacy of diverse decision tree algorithms.

The main disadvantages of regression tree are

- i. It assigns the same predicted value, average value, for all the observations in a branch.
- ii. Some times over fit the data sets.

This over fitting problem can be solved using the cross-validation technique. The next topmost machine learning model is the support vector regression model which has an enhanced capacity to deal with high volatility and variability. This method is suitable for both simple and complex regressions, functioning based on the support vector





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machines principle. It excels in predicting continuous values rather than discrete ones and is effective in handling outliers.

METHODOLOGY

Proposed RT- SVR hybrid model

Improving the efficiency of the regression model plays an important role because the natural variation in the system affects the performance of the model. So thought of proposing a support vector machine approach to the decision tree to build a hybrid model. The proposed hybrid RT-SVR model combines both the Regression tree and SVR which gives more accuracy than all other traditional models. The proposed model can be used to select the best subset of regressors as well as for the prediction of temperature. It gives significant accuracy with easy interpretability. The structure of the proposed hybrid RT-SVR model is outlined as follows: Initially, data set is split into several branches based on the RT algorithm. Branching is depending on the splitting variable (significant variables) and the best-split point which produces a minimum error rate. Using RT, the best subset of variables is selected and redundant features are eliminated. The dataset in each leaf node is arranged based on the position of tuples that satisfy the corresponding splitting criterion. Further for each leaf node, the SVR model is built with significant variables. This hybrid model is easy, flexible and simplifies the work of a selection of the best set of variables separately.

The workflow of the proposed hybrid model is as follows:

- Apply an RT to train the datasets and construct a Regression tree model which holds the leaf node and significant variables.
- In each leaf node, datasets are re-arranged according to the positions of the observations which satisfy the corresponding splitting criterion.
- Fit the SVR model separately and obtain the fitted values and repeat this for all the leaf nodes.

Performance Measures

i. Coefficient of determination (R^2)

$R^2 = 1 - \frac{SSE}{SST}$ where SSE is sum of squares due to residual and SST is the total sum of squares.

ii. Root Mean Square Error (RMSE)

$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y})^2}{n}}$ where y_i denotes observed values and \hat{y} denotes predicted values.

Time Series Analysis

Support Vector Machine (SVM) for Time Series Forecasting

Support vector regression (SVR) shows better performance when applied to time series forecasting. According to research papers by Drucker et al. (1997), Muller et al. (1997), and Cao, Tay (2001), SVR holds great promise in the field due to its distinct advantages: a reduced number of free parameters, improved forecasting accuracy, and faster training. One of SVR's compelling attributes lies in its approach to handling model errors. Instead of solely minimizing the observed training errors, SVR optimizes a combination of the training errors and a regularization term. The strategy enhances the model's capacity for generalization, as emphasized by Basak and Paranaibis (2007). Furthermore, SVR's utilizations of kernel functions add to its appeal and are related to the use of kernel functions, enabling its application to both linear and nonlinear forecasting problems.

EMPIRICAL STUDY

This paper focuses on the identification and estimation of air pollutants level, temperature and Air Quality Index of Delhi and forecasting the future temperature along with air pollutants. The data is collected from the website of CPCB. To achieve the analysis objectives, data covering variables like Temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$), Carbon monoxide (CO in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), Nitrogen dioxide NO_2 in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, Particulate matter (PM_{10} in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), Particulate matter ($\text{PM}_{2.5}$ in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$),





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Sulphur dioxide (SO_2 in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), Nitric oxide (**NO** in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), and Benzene ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) was collected, spanning the period from January 2015 to June 2023.

From the above plot, much improvement is seen from 2015-2023 with a sharply declining very poor and poor scores. I.e. very poor and poor class together accounts for 77% of cases in 2015, now it has been reduced to 30%-40% in 2022 and 2023. As a sign of improvement, the moderate level score has increased significantly from 14% (2015) to 40%-45% (2022 and 2023). Also, observe that severity was declined. We are able to spot that, there was no good AQI level in the year 2015-2016. However, starting from the year 2017, the air quality in Delhi improved significantly, providing the residents with better and healthier air.

The boxplot above indicates the presence of outliers across all air pollutants. These outliers are replaced with the most appropriate values before conducting the analysis. In the dataset, there are a few instances of missing values for all pollutants. The decision was made to fill these gaps with the most probable values. For handling the missing data in pollutants such as Benzene, O_3 , PM_{10} , $\text{PM}_{2.5}$, SO_2 , NO_2 , CO , NH_3 and NO , a second-order polynomial estimation method was employed. This approach was chosen due to its superior performance compared to more traditional techniques like series mean or linear interpolation for imputation. In this study, various non-parametric regression methods namely Regression tree, SVR, Random forest, KNN, and Xg boost are compared with the proposed RT- SVR hybrid model to select the most suitable predictive model for predicting the temperature. Prediction performances are compared based on R^2 and RMSE criteria.

The above RT-SVR hybrid tree shows that PM_{10} , SO_2 , CO , $\text{PM}_{2.5}$, O_3 and NO_2 are the significant variables for Temperature. Also, observe that the hybrid model successfully captures the interaction effect among various air pollutants. The interpretation of these effects is straightforward.

According to the proposed hybrid model,

- If $77 < \text{PM}_{2.5} < 111$, $\text{O}_3 < 43$, $\text{NO}_2 \leq 18$ → High Temperature (36°C)
- If $\text{PM}_{2.5} < 111$ and $\text{O}_3 > 43$ → High Temperature (33°C)
- If $77 \leq \text{PM}_{2.5} < 111$ and $\text{O}_3 < 43$ → High Temperature (30°C)
- If $111 \leq \text{PM}_{2.5} < 153$, $\text{O}_3 > 38$, $\text{PM}_{10} > 259$ → High Temperature (30°C)

The objective of the work is to create a more accurate model for predicting global temperatures. Additionally, we aim to identify significant factors and connections using the model to help manage global warming. According to the proposed model, apply the SVR model to each leaf node to get the fitted value of the response variable. Using the fitted model, predicted the values of the response variable for the test set and computed RMSE and R^2 .

From the table-1, it is clear that the proposed RT- SVR Hybrid model performs better than all other model under consideration. It explains 87.35% of the variation in the temperature. Predicting the different value of response variable instead of same average value of response variable for all observations in a branch is the novelty of the proposed work. This procedure overcomes the problem of decision tree-based regression. The proposed method overcomes problem of sensitivity of Regression Tree by applying SVR model to each group after selecting the significant variables from Regression Tree. The hybrid model along with improved accuracy, also helped administrators to take necessary action to curb the air pollutant levels. For forecasting the Temperature and all the significant air pollutants, appropriate ARIMA model is built then compared its performance with Multilayer Perceptron (MLP), Support Vector Machine (SVM), and ARIMA-ANN hybrid model in terms of accuracy. The findings revealed that the SVM time series model was the most effective in predicting significant air pollutants among all the models tested.



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CONCLUSION

Most of the people are still unaware of the causes and effects of global warming and air pollution. The outcome of global warming includes the melting of polar ice caps and a subsequent rise in sea levels, resulting in floods. The increase in air pollution negatively impacts both human health and historical landmarks. Therefore, it's essential to implement suitable measures to address these two dangers. In this study, a hybrid model is proposed using both a Regression tree and Support Vector Regression. The performance of this hybrid model in predicting global temperature is assessed against various well-known regression models. This hybrid model not only enhances prediction accuracy but also overcomes the main disadvantage of the regression tree. The outcomes from the hybrid model can serve as a valuable tool for global temperature prediction. The main advantage of this model is its easy interpretability and high efficiency. The research findings suggest that the SVM time series model possesses an improved ability to handle fluctuations and changes in both spatial and temporal dimensions. The selected model is used for forecasting the temperature along with significant air pollutants for the next 365 days (July 2023 to July 2024). The forecast graph shows that SO₂, NO₂, PM_{2.5}, O₃, PM₁₀, and Benzene levels are increasing in the upcoming days which can cause a variety of adverse health outcomes. Further, Temperature and CO show a decreasing trend.

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Table 1: Performance of different regression methods for predicting Temperature

Method	R ²	RMSE
Multiple Regression Model	0.6176	3.2654
Regression Tree	0.7398	2.7148
K-nearest neighbour	0.7103	2.9137
Random forest	0.7682	2.5234
Extreme Gradient Boost	0.7823	2.2140
Support Vector Regression	0.7756	2.3256
Proposed RT-SVR hybrid model	0.8735	1.5232

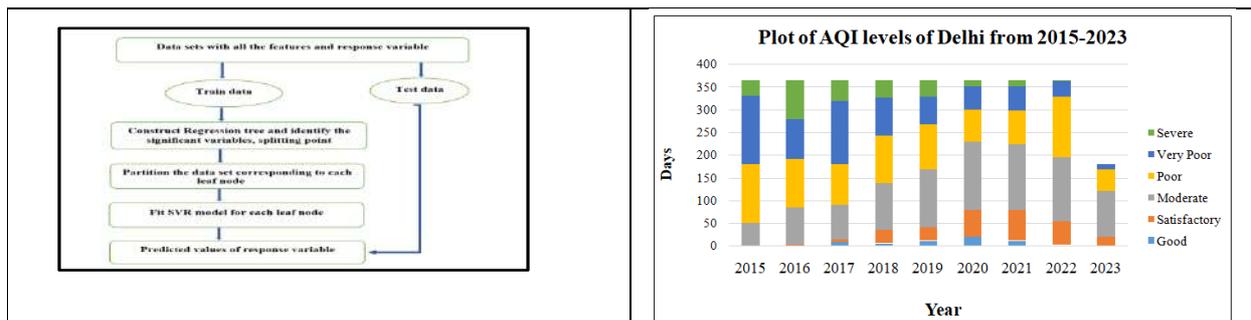


Figure 1: Flow Chart of Proposed RT-SVR Hybrid Model

Figure 2: Year-based AQI class composition graph

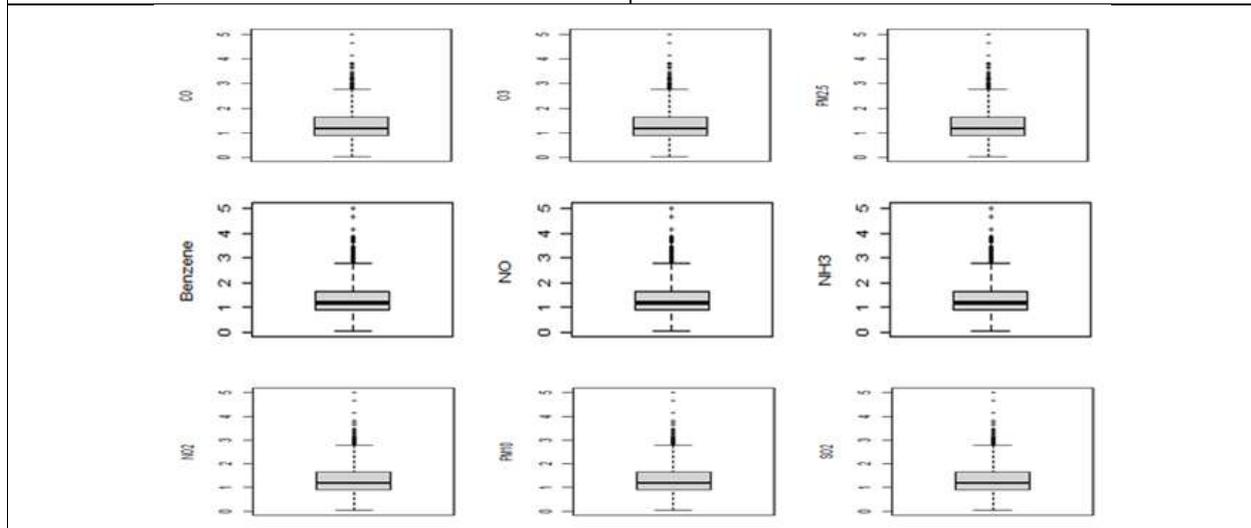


Figure 3: Box plot for air pollutants





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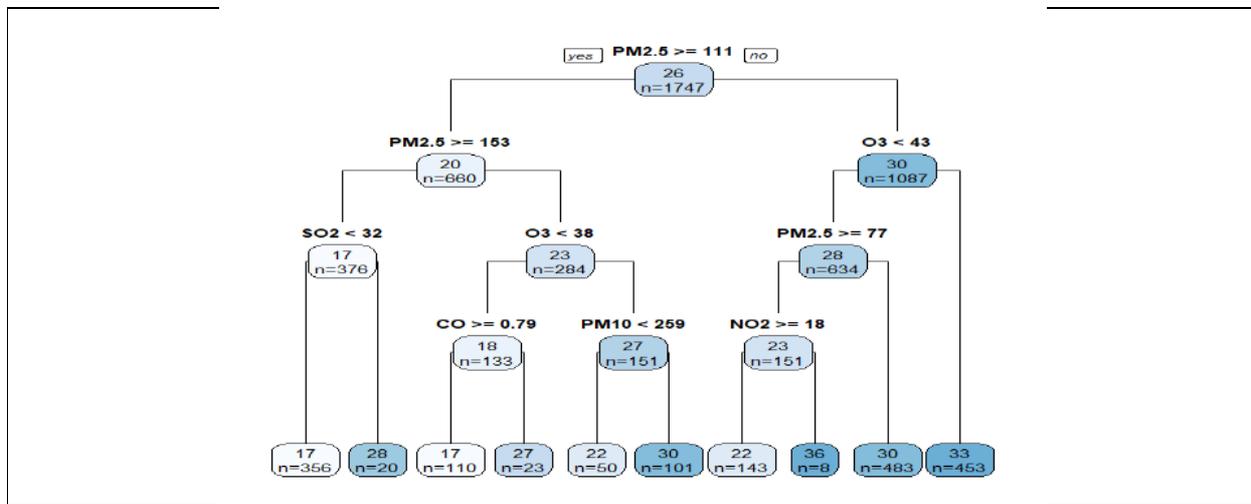


Figure 4: RT-SVR hybrid tree for Temperature

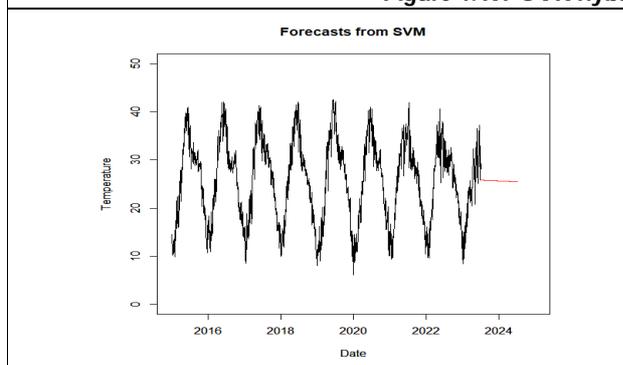


Figure 5: Temperature for next 365 days

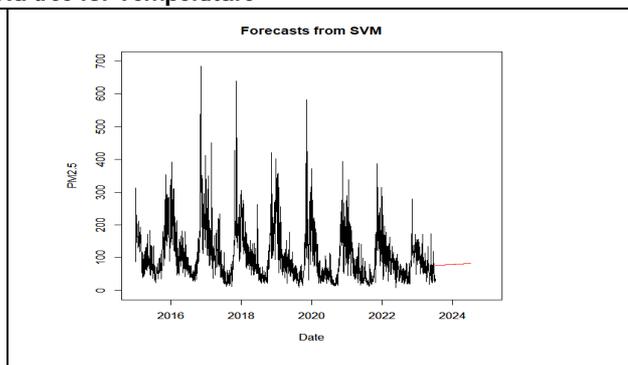


Figure 6: PM_{2.5} for next 365 days

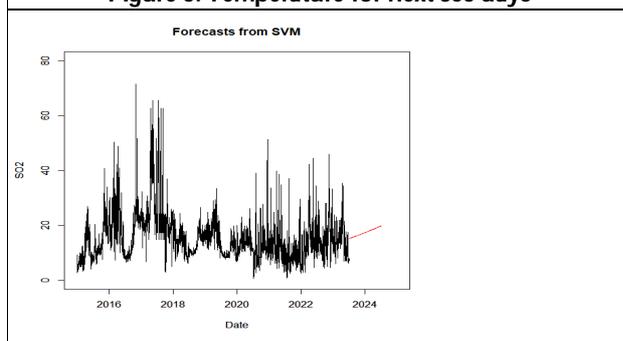


Figure 7: SO₂ for next 365 days

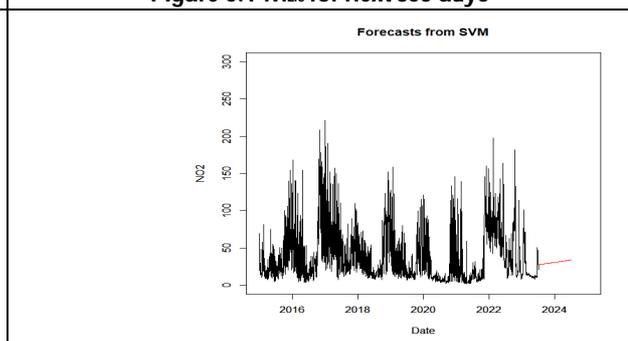
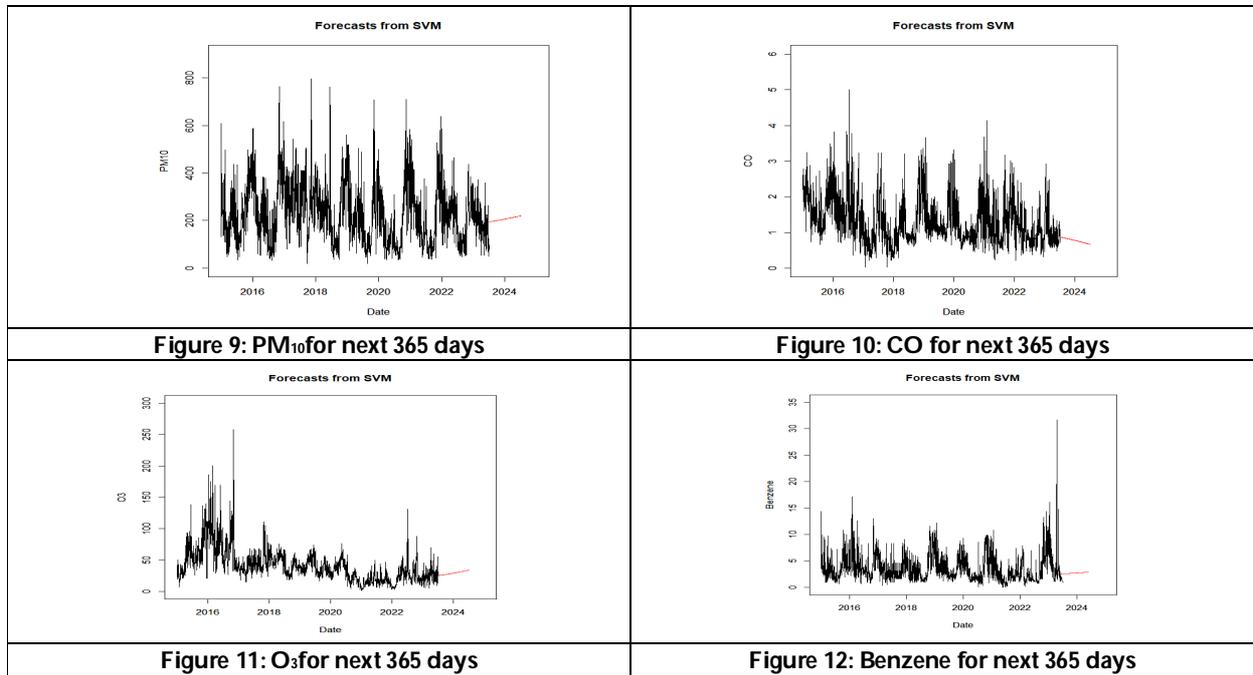


Figure 8: NO₂ for next 365 days





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Survey on Artificial Intelligence (AI) Applications in Computer Science and Higher Education

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ABSTRACT

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in numerous domains, such as self-modifying coding, robotics, speech and language processing, data mining, visualisation and visual data, marketing programmes, image identification, and cloud computing, has attracted increasing interest during the past ten years. The study of computers and computational systems is now known as computer science. A developing area of computer science called AI includes taking aspects of human intelligence and applying them as computer-friendly algorithms. The goal of AI technology is to develop machine intelligence capable of carrying out tasks that were previously solely performed by humans. Most people define intelligence as the capacity to acquire knowledge and apply it to the solution of challenging issues, studies in the area of AI. In the fields of computer science and higher education, where its promise is obvious, AI has been receiving a lot of attention. To have a deeper grasp of the subject, it would be helpful to perform a thorough analysis of the literature on AI in computer science and education. This study thus presents a systematic review of the use of AI in computer science and higher education.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence (AI), computers and computational systems, Machine Intelligence, computer science and Higher Education.



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INTRODUCTION

AI is a cutting-edge technology that is revolutionizing the way we interact with machines. It has enabled us to create machines that are more efficient and productive, and is making a big impact in many industries. In particular, computer science and higher education are benefiting the most from the use of AI. AI is the branch of computer science that uses human intelligence techniques to create algorithms that can be used by computers. AI is the technology that creates machines that can think like humans. It is the study of how to create machines that can do things that only humans can do, like listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking [1,2].

AI applications for education are growing rapidly, and there is a lot of research being done on how to use them to improve teaching and learning. AI has had a significant impact on higher education in Latin America, where it is used to help teachers deliver quality education, support student learning, and improve services [3]. AI has many applications in education, and its use is growing rapidly. However, the generalization of AI applications to higher education carries a lot of potential benefits, but also a number of challenges. For example, budget cuts may tempt administrators to replace human teachers with cheaper automated solutions, and staff members may fear that they will lose their jobs to AI. In addition, data privacy concerns are raised by the fact that AI applications require a lot of sensitive information about students and teachers. However, this contribution aims to explore the potential applications of AI in higher education, and to suggest ways in which the challenges can be overcome [4]. Despite the widespread use of machine learning, several studies have been done on the use of AI in teaching and learning for education. An existing study assessed the development of ESL/EFL learning styles at different grade levels [5]. Another study showed that the use of machine learning algorithms can be highly accurate in predicting university students' attitudes towards educational applications of cloud-based mobile computing services [6].

Most AI-based research is conducted in engineering disciplines, with computer science taking the lead. However, other disciplines, such as mathematics and foreign language, also contribute importantly to AI development. In fact, many teaching platforms, such as WebAssign and XYZ Homework, are specifically designed to support AI education. Finally, the benefits and limitations of AI-based instruction are well understood, making this type of instruction a critical component of any curriculum [7]. There are four main categories of the association between AI and education: "Learning with AI," "Using AI to learn about learning," "Learning about AI," and "Preparing for AI." Although the boundaries between these categories are not rigid, they tend to be grouped together in different ways [8].

The structure of the paper is as follows. First, an introduction to related work on AI in the field of computer science and higher education is presented. Then the section two discusses systematic review of related works in literature to learn more about the potential applications of AI in computer science and higher education, section three presents some of the challenges and considerations and section four concludes the work and directions for future research endeavors.

RELATED WORKS

Matthew N. O. Sadiku et al., [9] this study, investigates the current and future role of computer science in AI, which helps machines solve problems more like humans. This can include things like understanding visual information, recognizing speech, and making decisions. AI is advancing computer science techniques, and is expected to continue to do so in the future. Anant Manish Singh et al., [10] another proposal for an effective approach to the AI technology that is used to automate tasks that would otherwise require human intelligence. This is a recent development and is still being refined, but it is already revolutionizing many aspects of life. People should be aware of AI and use it to its fullest potential, as it has many benefits. Mr. Vinayak Pujari et al., [11] further proposed that AI is a science that helps machines replicate the intelligent behaviours of humans. It is a way to make machines smarter, so they can do things like understand languages and make decisions. AI could have a huge impact on the economy by making things like robotics more efficient and helping us to make better decisions. However, we need to be



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careful because AI could also be used to exploit us, and we need to be careful about how we use it. We need to be sure to share our data so that others can learn from it and improve things. Iqbal et al., [12]this work gives a comprehensive picture of "AI-based modelling", in the Fourth Industrial Revolution (Industry 4.0 or 4IR), AI is a major technology that may merge human behaviour and intellect into machines or systems. AI-based modelling is consequently required to construct automated, intelligent, and smart systems that fulfil today's demands. Many forms of AI, such as analytical, functional, interactive, textual, and visual AI, can be used to increase an application's intelligence and skills to handle real-world challenges. However, because real-world issues and data are dynamic and changing, developing an effective AI model is a challenging task. Using the ideas and capabilities of potential AI approaches that might be useful in modelling.

Raffaele Cioffi et al., [13]this article discusses the significance of adaptation and innovation in the manufacturing business, and how these changes should lead to sustainable production employing new technology. Smart production demands a global view on smart production application technologies to enhance sustainability. In this area, AI research efforts have already yielded several effective approaches, such as machine learning. Thus, the current study's purpose was to examine the scientific literature on the application of AI and machine learning in industry. In total, 82 publications were assessed and categorised based on the year of publication, the authors, the scientific sector, the country, the institution, and the keywords. The analysis was done using the Web of Science and SCOPUS database. Additionally, UCINET and NVivo 12 software were used to complete the review. Results showed that the number of works published on machine learning and AI has increased in recent years, and more publications are coming from the USA. Thien Huynh-The et al., [14]one of the technologies that has helped make the metaverse possible is AI. Metaverse is a virtual world where people can have amazing experiences using cutting-edge technologies. In this survey, we look at some of the ways that AI can be used to help build the metaverse. We study applications that could be used in the metaverse, as well as the benefits of using AI in virtual worlds.

Gang Hu et al., [15]AI and machine learning are widely used in various fields of life, such as computer vision and Natural Language Processing (NLP).Edge detection plays an important role in these domains because it helps us to see and understand what's important in a picture or a sentence. Transformer-based deep models are used in NLP to make the process of understanding people and their words easier. This paperpresents two research projects that are underway right now and five papers that are related to this topic.

Huan Wan et al., [16]presented the use of computer technology which has gradually increased in society, and the need for users' needs to be met is also constantly improving. With the ever-evolving nature of Internet and information technologies, the ability to deliver humanized and smart services has become an unavoidable trend. Intelligent services are not only present in life but also in all areas of work.In this article, the term AI is introduced and its advantages are discussed, focusing on its use in computer network technology. Olaf Zawacki-Richter et al., [17]this paper reviews research on AI in education, focusing on the use of the technology in academic, institutional and administrative support services. It finds that most of the research is focused on computer science and STEM disciplines, and that quantitative methods are the most commonly used. The paper calls for more critical reflection on the challenges and risks of using AI in education, andexplore more ethical and educational approaches to the application of AI in higher education.

A.D. Torres-Rivera et al., [18]this paper explores how AI is being used in professional training processes at the higher education level. The first stage of the research looked at how different AI applications are being used, and the second stage looked at how teaching competencies and the virtual classroom can work together. Finally, the third stage looked at how a model could be created to integrate these concepts. Ayman Bassam Nassoura[19]primarily focused on theHigher education institutions which have developed digital information processing techniques, including AI, to a significant degree. AI is a technology that has been around for a while, but educators are still unsure about how to use it to improve teaching and learning in Higher Education Institutes (HEI). HEI are already using AI in many ways, including to research, develop, and evaluate things. The goal of this study is to investigate how faculty members think AI can improve teaching and learning in HEI.



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Suvrat Jain et al., [20] proposed that AI is becoming more important in all sectors of the economy, and this includes higher education too. Recent developments in AI have led to the development of "AI in Education" (AIED), which is a field of study that looks at how AI can be applied in teaching and learning in higher education. This study looks at the effect of using AI in higher education institutions in the city of Udaipur in Rajasthan. Data was collected using questionnaires and statistical tools were used to analyse it. According to the study, AI is having a positive effect on student learning capacities and that it holds massive future prospects in the sector. The challenges in implementing AI in these institutes were also explored. This study will successfully deliver the profound information needed by educators and in-depth knowledge that will provide opportunities for growth in future.

Sdenka Zobeida Salas-Pilcoet al., [21] further proposed another area for AI which has been gaining a lot of attention in recent years, as it has many potential applications in different fields. One of the areas that has seen a lot of research is using AI in education, and there is a need for a systematic review of the literature on this topic. This article looks at the use of AI in three different areas of education: learning, teaching, and administration. The studies are analyzed for the use of AI tools and algorithms, as well as the main topic being covered. The results show that AI applications are being used to address important issues in education, such as detecting students who are at risk of dropping out. Overall, the article provides valuable insights into the potential applications of AI in higher education in Latin America.

CHALLENGES AND CONSIDERATIONS

While AI offers many benefits, there are challenges to overcome, including concerns about algorithmic bias, data privacy, ethical implications, and the need to constantly update AI Systems as technology evolves. In Computer Science and higher education, AI integration requires careful planning, training, and ongoing support for educators and students. In addition, discussions around ethical, transparent use and responsible implementation of AI are important. As AI advances, its applications in Computer Science and higher education are likely to become more complex, reshaping the way we learn, teach, and interact with technology.

CONCLUSION

AI is a type of technology used to make it easier for people. AI has many applications in the fields, including self modifying coding, robotics, speech and language processing, data mining, visualization and visual data, marketing programs, Image recognition, cloud computing. This work has explored the applicability of AI in Computer Science and Higher Education. Natural Language Processing (NLP), a subset of AI, will handle how the machines will comprehend as well as interpret human language. A computer will understand everything in the form of numbers instead of words. Hence, it will be better to examine which techniques of pre-processing and feature extraction will have to be deployed on a human language such that upon its number-format conversion, it will be feasible for interpretation by the computer. Future works can explore the performance of techniques of AI on diverse Applications. AI is being used more and more in education, and experts think it will grow even more in the years to come. There are a lot of private companies and nonprofit organizations working on AI in education, and soon it will have a big impact on higher education. Higher education institutions are looking to improve their teacher-student communication by using chatbots in virtual LMS platforms. The inclusion of AI in the learning process can help students learn the topic of the study more easily and effectively by providing them with helpful information about their learning activities, and get interested in similar topics.



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Evaluation of Xanthine Oxidase Inhibition Potential of *Ficus carica* and *Spinacia oleracea*

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ABSTRACT

The usage of enviro-friendly and biocompatible compounds derived from medicinal botanicals as xanthine oxidase inhibitors is increasing at a rapid pace as they are safe for life of human beings. This led to diligent efforts by researchers and scientists to search for alternative sources derived from medicinal plants for effective and reliable xanthine oxidase inhibitors. Encouraged by this, extracts of *Ficus carica* and *Spinacea oleracea* were evaluated for xanthine oxidase inhibition potential. Among all the samples, water extracts showed maximum inhibition with IC₅₀ of 18.74 and 21.63µg/ml for *Ficus carica* and *Spinacea oleracea* respectively. While allopurinol, the positive control sample showed IC₅₀ values of 10.82µg/ml. Establishment of kinetic parameters namely V_{max} and K_m were carried out using MM and LB graphs. The V_{max} and K_m for the enzyme (control without extracts) were 0.1942 µmoles/ml/min and 19.569 µM respectively. The *F. carica* and *S. oleracea* extracts showed V_{max} and K_m values as 0.1283 µmoles/ml/min and 24.172 µM & 0.1825 µmoles/ml/min and 32.733 µM respectively for the two extracts. 0.1942 µmoles/ml/min and 19.569 µM respectively. All the extracts tested showed mixed inhibition pattern. The results obtained displayed remarkable inhibitory activity of xanthine oxidase suggesting for exploration as natural alternative to the synthetic compounds and find immense application in biopharmaceutical industries.

Keywords: Xanthine oxidase, enzyme inhibition, Gout, *Ficus carica*, *Spinacea oleracea*, and Kinetic parameters





Ravi Kiran and Achyutha Devi

INTRODUCTION

Free radicals are nothing but chemical species which are highly reactive and unstable and are responsible for causing many diseases and disorders such as diabetes, CVDs, Parkinson's, nephritic syndromes, cancer etc. These species are generated as by-products of various metabolic pathways by a number of intracellular systems. Xanthine oxidase enzyme (XO; E.C. 1.17.3.2) belongs to the class of oxidoreductases with a molecular weight 270 kDa, that generates ROS (Reactive Oxygen Species) and play an crucial role in purine catabolism causing the oxidative conversion of hypoxanthine to xanthine and finally to uric acid. Gout is a common metabolic disorder of metabolism of purines where increased uric acid levels and urate crystals deposition in the joints, extremities and kidneys can be seen [1]. Therefore, this disease is always associated with hyperuricemia which depends on the more intake of diet rich in purines especially meat, sea foods, food yeast etc. The most important approach available for the treatment is the usage of Allopurinol, which is the effective and clinically available drug in the market. Nevertheless, chronic use of this drug causes many side effects such as diarrhea, hypersensitivity syndrome & reactions and renal toxicity [2]. Therefore, the development of natural products as an alternative to these synthetic molecules is need as they offer minimal side effects with increased therapeutic activity. Various medicinal botanical, vegetables and fruits containing flavonoids and phenols have shown to possess potential XO inhibition [3-6].

The fruit, *Ficus carica* L. (*F. carica*) often referred as fig fruit is distributed in Asia (Southwest) and Eastern Mediterranean, and the first one to brought into cultivation as the fruits can be taken both in fresh and dried forms. The fruits are found to be loaded with various biochemicals and phytoconstituents such as sugars, polyphenols, flavonoids, polyphenols [7-8]. The fruits are prescribed in the cure and management of GI tract infections, respiratory problems, CVDs and inflammatory disorders [8]. *Spinacia oleracea* (*S. oleracea*) commonly known as spinach is a repertoire of various bioactive compounds including phenols and flavonoids apart from biochemicals. Concerning its medicinal properties, it is used as an laxative, carminative and prescribed in the treatment of asthma, leprosy, stones in urinary tract and kidneys [9]. Therefore, as a part of our research activities finding out on natural alternative molecules in and around Hyderabad, the present work was initiated mainly to evaluate the potent XO inhibition activity of extracts of *F. carica* and *S. oleracea*.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Plant materials and Liver Sample

The *F. carica* fruits and *S. oleracea* leaves were collected from the local market in Hyderabad. While the sheep liver was purchased from the slaughter house located in Charminar area of Hyderabad.

Chemicals

All the chemicals used for present study are of AR grade and procured from Sigma-Aldrich, Bengaluru, India

Isolation and Purification of XO enzyme

The XO enzyme was isolated as per the method of Porter, Maia & Mira [10-11] with slight modifications. Liver tissue (100 g) was subjected to homogenization using Tris HCl-EDTA buffer (0.01M, pH 8.0; 1mM). The homogenate thus obtained was given heat and cold shock alternatively with continuous stirring. This was followed by centrifugation of sample at 10000rpm for about 15min. The supernatant thus obtained used as an enzyme extract for all the experimentation. To the crude enzyme extract, ammonium sulphate (solid) was added to 30% saturation and centrifuged at 10000rpm for 15 min. Fractionation of the supernatant was performed to a saturation of 60% s and re-centrifuged at 10000rpm for 15min. The pellet was suspended in K_2HPO_4 - KH_2PO_4 buffer (0.01M, pH 7.5) containing 0.3 m M EDTA and further subjected to dialysis process. The ammonium sulphate fractionated sample was dialyzed against the same buffer for 24 h. Then the enzyme was preserved at -20°C until further experimentation purpose. The dialyzed fraction was subjected to further purification by DEAE-Cellulose column equilibrated with Tris- HCl buffer (20mM, pH 7.4, 0.1mM EDTA). The fractions were eluted by gradient elution using salt (sodium chloride) in the

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range of 0 to 1 M at 60ml/h. Fractions from 32-58 were pooled and further checked the purity and molecular weight determination by SDS-PAGE (Laemmli, 1970; Weber and Osborn, 1969).

Enzyme assay

The Xanthine activity assay was carried out as per the method of Bindu and Suripeddi [12]. The assay mixture contained K_2HPO_4 - KH_2PO_4 buffer (50mM, pH 7.4, 0.35 mM EDTA), xanthine (50 μ M) and enzyme sample (50 μ l) with a final concentration amounting to 3ml and the uric acid thus formed was measured at 290nm. All the above except enzyme was employed as a blank in the assay. The reaction rate was calculated as μ moles of uric/3ml/min. by employing extinction co-efficient ϵ , (12.2 $mM^{-1}cm^{-1}$). The inhibition potential was calculated as
% Inhibition = (1-test/blank) \times 100

Determination of V_{max} and K_m :

Various concentrations of xanthine (1-100 μ M) were used for the assay for the determination of K_m and V_{max} .

Statistical Analysis

Graph pad Prism and Sigma-Plot software were used for the data and also for construction of graphs.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this study, the ethanolic, ethylacetate and water extracts at varied concentrations (1-100 μ g/ml) of *F. carica* and *S. oleracea* fruits and leaves were examined and the results were presented (Table-1). Among all the tested samples, water extracts showed maximum XO inhibition with IC_{50} of 18.74 & 21.63 μ g/ml for *F. carica* and *S. oleracea* respectively. While, allopurinol (positive control) exhibited IC_{50} of 10.31 μ g/ml. Therefore, the water extracts of the two fruits were almost equally potential with that of Allopurinol. The percentage inhibition at varied concentrations was assessed and significant observation was that a considerable increase in percentage inhibition was noted with increase in the concentration. Kinetic parameters, V_{max} and K_m were established using michaelis-menten and lineweaver-burk plots, where, V_{max} & K_m for the enzyme (control without extracts) were 0.1942 μ moles/ml/min and 19.569 μ M respectively (Fig. 3-6). The *F. carica* and *S. oleracea* extracts showed 0.1286 μ moles/ml/min and 24.172 μ M & 0.1825 μ moles/ml/min and 32.733 μ M respectively for the two extracts. The interesting observation was that all the extracts tested increased the K_m value clearly indicating a decreased enzyme affinity for the substrate thus causing the inhibition of XO. Subsequently secondary plots were also established for the effective determination of K_i , the inhibitor constant. The k_i values obtained were 49.14, 7.56 and 8.39 μ M respectively for *F. carica* and *S. oleracea* extracts. All the extracts inhibited xanthine oxidase in a mixed inhibition fashion.

The essential oils, phenols and flavonoids of medicinal plants were demonstrated prospective XO inhibition [13-14]. The medicinal and aromatic plants are richest sources of phenols and documented to possess xanthine oxidase inhibition activity [15-17]. Xanthine oxidase inhibition with extracts of various medicinal botanicals have been evaluated and was accredited to the existence of phenols and flavonoids [18-20]. The results achieved are in agreement showing significant inhibition of the enzyme by all the fruits and seeds extracts. Therefore, the present work was chosen wherein, the extracts under investigation have presented striking and noticeable inhibition comparable to allopurinol and hence the plant can be further explored for the development of herbal medicinal formulation for gout disease.

CONCLUSION

Plants rich in flavonoids, polyphenols and tannins possess remarkable antioxidant activity. The various kinds of fruits and vegetables contain antioxidants and may reduce hypomethylation of DNA and used in the gout and cancer. This study had established the xanthine inhibitory potential of several plant extracts used in Indian folk medicine. All the extracts displayed excellent XO inhibition and studies are underway to identify the responsible



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bioactive compounds from the selected fruits which might help in the development of suitable formulations for the management of gout and associated disorders.

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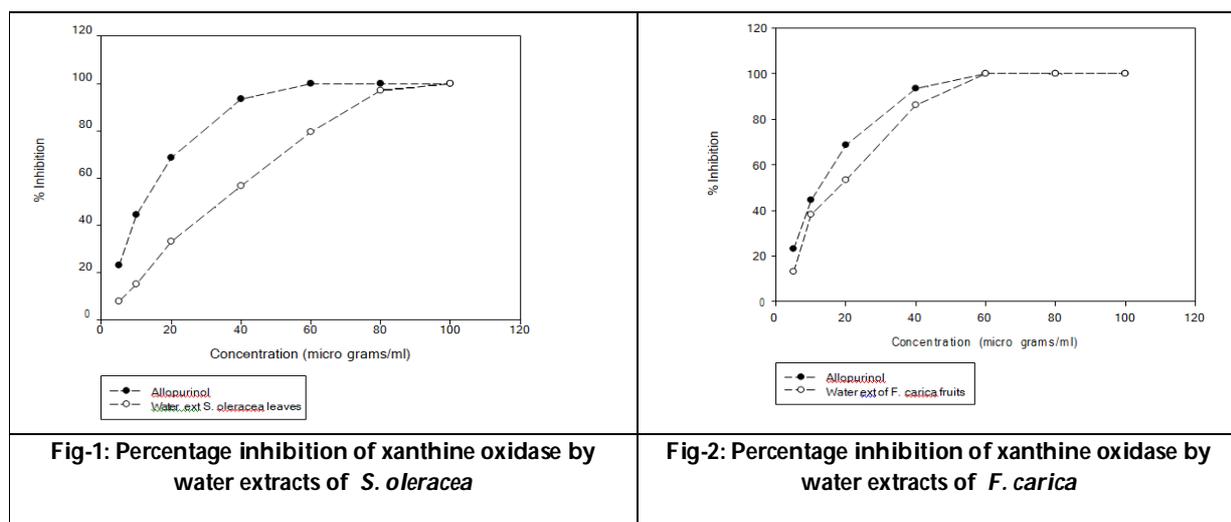
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Table-1: Evaluation of Xanthine Oxidase inhibitory activity of *F. carica* and *S. oleracea*

Compound	IC ₅₀ (µg/ml)	IC ₉₀ (µg/ml)	Relative Potency
<i>F. c</i> fruits EtOHext	36.48 (23.162 – 50.248)	70.25 (54.811 – 86.342)	0.282
<i>F. c</i> fruits EtOAc ext	29.29 (17.864 – 42.443)	56.46 (42.665 – 70.097)	0.351
<i>F. c</i> fruits waterext	18.74 (9.228 – 28.417)	32.53 (20.108 – 44.245)	0.549
S.o leaves EtOHext	37.52 (26.499 – 49.045)	72.03 (60.533 – 85.068)	0.274
S. o leaves EtOAc ext	31.46 (22.281 – 43.402)	61.64 (48.457 – 76.314)	0.327
S. o leaves Water ext	21.03 (17.311 – 24.156)	45.72 (40.57 – 50.19)	0.488
Allopurinol	10.82 (5.621 – 15.893)	18.54 (12.245 – 30.557)	1

S. o – *Spinacia oleracea*; F. c – *Ficus carica*; 95% confidence limits in Parentheses

Relative Potency – IC₅₀ Std / IC₅₀ Sample





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<p>Fig-3: Effect of substrate concentration on XO activity</p>	<p>Fig-4: Line weaver-Burk plot for effect of allopurinol on XO activity</p>
<p>Fig-5: Line weaver-Burk Plot for effect of water extracts of fruits of <i>F. carica</i> on XO activity</p>	<p>Fig-6: Line weaver-Burk Plot for effect of ethanol extracts of fruitsof <i>S. oleracea</i> on XO activity</p>





Full Factorial (3²) Design Approach for Modelling and Analysis of the Physicochemical Properties of Poly Vinyl Alcohol/Barley Husk based Composite Films

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ABSTRACT

The study employed a full factorial (3²) response surface design methodology to assess the impact of varying content (ranging from 5 wt % to 25 wt %) and particle sizes (ranging from 89 µm to 599 µm) of barley husk on the physical, mechanical, and diffusional characteristics of composite films made from poly vinyl alcohol (PVA) and barley husk (BH). The solution casting technique was employed to prepare composite films. The findings of the study indicate that the augmentation of particle size and BH content in the composite films had a negative impact on the water uptake, diffusion coefficient, and permeability. The findings suggest that a rise in the content level from 5 wt % to 25 wt %, accompanied by a particle size of 89 micrometres, resulted in a reduction of 55.73 % and 59.48 % in the tensile strength and elongation of the composite films, respectively. On the other hand, there was a 76.46% increase observed in the Young's modulus. The data was subjected to statistical analysis through the utilisation of analysis of variance (ANOVA) and second order quadratic models. The models that were developed exhibited a strong correlation with the experimental data, as evidenced by a coefficient of determination (R²)





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exceeding 0.95. The composite films exhibited optimal properties when the BH content was at 5 wt% and the particle size was 89 μm

Keywords: Barley husk, Composite films, Diffusional properties, Full factorial design, Polynomial models.

INTRODUCTION

Synthetic polymers are non-biodegradable and creating substantial environmental problems [1,2]. There has been a surge in interest regarding the environmental ramifications of discarded plastics, which has prompted research efforts towards the creation of biodegradable polymeric materials that can decompose under typical environmental conditions. Biodegradable polymers and their derivatives have found extensive use in various industries, including packaging, medical, food, and pharmaceuticals, as a substitute for synthetic polymers.

PVA is one of the biodegradable polymers and degraded by microorganisms when exposed to natural environment. Nevertheless, the cost of PVA is a determining factor, because other low-cost synthetic polymers (poly vinyl chloride, polyethylene and polypropylene) are easily available in the market [3,4]. Therefore, the potential solution for cost reduction is blending of PVA with low-cost natural fillers. PVA contains carboxyl and hydroxyl group which intended to form strong hydrogen bond with natural fibres. Synthetic polymers are commonly blended with biopolymers [5-7] and low-cost natural fillers [8-10] to heighten their physicommechanical properties and biodegradability. Recently, agricultural residue has also been utilized by various researchers as a suitable source of natural fibre for reinforcing composite films [11,12].

Different composite and composite films have been synthesized by various researchers using natural fibres as reinforcing agent. Sapalidis et al. [13] prepared a poly vinyl alcohol and *Zostera* flakes (sea grass) composite films for packaging application. The results indicated that the composite film displayed superior mechanical strength when compared to pure polyvinyl alcohol (PVA), which can be attributed to the improved dispersion of *Zostera* flakes within the PVA polymeric matrix. The gas barrier behaviour of composite films was enhanced due to the resistance in the flow path caused by impermeable *Zostera* particles, as evidenced by their diffusional properties. Nishino et al. [8] reported on the composite of Kenaf fibre and Poly-L-lactic acid. The study revealed that the incorporation of Kenaf fibre into a poly-L-lactic acid matrix resulted in a significant increase in Young's modulus by 79% and tensile strength by 65%. This improvement can be attributed to the robust interaction between the Kenaf fibre and the poly-L-lactic acid matrix. The impact of different particle sizes and natural fibre contents on composite film properties has been sparsely researched. An intriguing avenue of research would involve examining the impact of different particle sizes and natural fibre concentrations on the physical, mechanical, and diffusional characteristics of composite films that utilise a biodegradable polymeric matrix.

The traditional optimization approach of varying one factor at a time (OFAT), neglect interaction between independent variables, time consuming and assumes that the independent variable is a direct function of dependent variables [14]. However, the limitations of single factor optimization technique can be overcome by employing statistical full factorial design approach. Full factorial design has been effectively employed for modelling and optimization of the processes like, olive extraction [15] metal removal [16] and biodiesel production [17]. Besides, no attempt has been made so far to optimize the process variables (content of BH, particle size of BH) to get optimal properties of PVA/BH composite films using full factorial design.



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The current investigation employed a three-level full factorial design (3^2) with replication to construct models and examine the individual and interactive impacts of variables (namely, content and size of BH) on the physical, mechanical, and diffusional characteristics of PVA/BH composite films. The objective of this investigation is to identify the optimal process variables that minimise the physical and diffusional characteristics while maximising the mechanical properties of composite films. The study included an assessment of regression analysis, ANOVA, numerical optimisation and graphical optimisation of the variables.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

PVA having an average molecular weight of $1,15,000 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$, a degree of hydrolysis ranging between 80-90%, a degree of polymerisation of 1700-1800, and an ash content of 0.75% was procured from Loba Chemie Pvt. Ltd. located in Mumbai, India. The procurement of barley was conducted through the local market.

Pre-treatment and particle size analysis of BH

To isolate the BH, barley was pulverised. To remove dust and water-soluble impurities, the separated BH was rinsed thrice with double-distilled water. BH in powdered form was separated into different particle sizes using BSS (British Standards Sieve) mesh. Mesh of 170 ($89 \mu\text{m}$), 60 ($251 \mu\text{m}$) and 25 ($599 \mu\text{m}$) were used in present study.

Preparation of PVA/BH composite film

To get the 10% w/v solution used to make the composite films, PVA was dissolved in distilled water and agitated with a magnetic stirrer (90°C for 1 hour). The PVA solution was then supplemented with BH particles of varying sizes and concentrations (5%, 15%, and 25% w/w). After 30 minutes of stirring at 80°C , the PVA and BH particles formed a uniform solution. Following transfer to Petri dishes, the mixture was dried in a 45°C (113°F) oven for 24 hours.

Tensile properties

Tensile testing was performed in accordance with ASTM D882 using the Instron Universal Testing Machine manufactured by Lloyd instrument in the United Kingdom. The samples were sectioned using dumbbell-shaped cutting tools. A crosshead speed of 20 millimetres per minute was employed. The samples underwent a conditioning process for a duration of 24 hours at a temperature of 25°C and a relative humidity of 50% before being subjected to testing. Subsequently, the outcomes of the tests were computed as the mean value of five distinct measurements.

Physical properties

Water uptake (WU)

The assessment of the water absorption capacity of the composite films was conducted through the utilisation of composite films that possessed dimensions of $20 \times 10 \text{ mm}$. The films were subjected to a desiccation procedure within an oven operating at a temperature of 50°C for a period of 24 hours. Following that, the films were immersed in a container filled with distilled water. The films were extracted from their individual containers and subjected to surface water removal through adsorption onto filter paper. Subsequently, the films were reweighed, as reported in reference [2]. The calculation presented below was utilised to determine the water uptake capacity:

$$\text{Water uptake (\%)} = \frac{W_{\text{Wet}} - W_{\text{Dry}}}{W_{\text{Dry}}} \times 100 \quad (1)$$

Where W_{wet} represent the weight of wet film and W_{dry} represents the weight of dry film.

Thickness swelling (THS)

The determination of thickness swelling was conducted through the measurement of the composite film's thickness prior to and subsequent to water absorption, as reported in reference [8]. The measurement of the thickness of the





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composite films was conducted through the utilisation of a digital micrometre (Mitutoyo Corp, Japan) that possessed an accuracy level of $\pm 1\mu\text{m}$.

$$\text{Thickness swelling (\%)} = \frac{T_w - T_o}{T_o} \times 100 \quad (2)$$

Where, T_w and T_o denotes the thickness of film after and before water absorption.

Diffusional properties

The composite film's circular discs, measuring 1.2 cm in diameter, were submerged in 20 mL of the experimental solvent, which was distilled water. According to a previous study [18], film samples were periodically extracted, wiped with tissue paper, weighed, and subsequently re-submerged into the solvent.

$$D = \left(\frac{Kh}{4M_m} \right)^2 \quad (3)$$

$$S = \frac{M_\alpha}{M_o} \quad (4)$$

$$P = D \times S \quad (5)$$

The aforementioned equation involves several variables, including the diffusion coefficient (D), the initial slope of a plot of moisture content (M) versus the square root of time ($t_{1/2}$), the moisture content at time t ($M(t)$), the maximum weight gain (M_m), and the thickness of the film (h), represented by the variable "h". The sorption coefficient, denoted by S , is a parameter used to quantify the extent of sorption in a given system. Meanwhile, M_α represents the equilibrium weight of the composite film, while M_o refers to its initial weight. The permeability coefficient is denoted the symbol P .

Scanning electron microscopy (SEM)

The microscopy was performed utilising a scanning electron microscope (SEM) model JEOL JSM-6100, manufactured in Tokyo, Japan. The specimens underwent a process of gold plating and were subsequently examined under a magnification range of 200 to 4000 X.

Statistical analysis

Multi-level, multi response, full factorial design approach was used to investigate the effect of independent variables (content of BH (X_1) and particle size of BH (X_2)) on the dependent variables such as physical properties (water uptake (WU) and thickness swelling (THS)), mechanical properties (tensile strength (TS), elongation % (E) and Young's modulus (YM)) and diffusional properties (diffusion coefficient (D), sorption coefficient (S) and permeability (P)) of the PVA/BH composite films. The levels of independent variable were defined according to two factors three levels full factorial design (3^2) with one replicate (18 runs). Independent variables and their levels are presented in Table 1. To fit the experimental data, a second order polynomial equation was used. The generalised form of the second order polynomial equation is as follows:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^K \beta_j X_j + \sum_{j=1}^K \beta_{jj} X_j^2 + \sum_i \sum_{<j=2}^K \beta_{ij} X_i X_j + e_i \quad (6)$$

In the given equation, Y represents the response variable while x_i and x_j denote the variables, where the indices i and j vary from 1 to k . The coefficient β_0 represents the intercept of the model. The interaction coefficients of the linear, quadratic, and second-order terms are denoted as β_j , β_{jj} , and β_{ij} , respectively. The variable k denotes the quantity of autonomous parameters, with a value of 2 in the current investigation, while e_i represents the error, as previously





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reported [19]. The sixth equation can be formulated to account for two distinct variables (X_1 and X_2) that are independent, while Y serves as the dependent variable.

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_0 X_1 + \beta_0 X_2 + \beta_{12} X_1 X_2 + \beta_{11} X_1^2 + \beta_{22} X_2^2 \quad (7)$$

The statistical software package, Design Expert 9.0 (Stat-Ease Inc, USA), was utilised to analyse the experimental data. The researchers performed regression analysis in order to derive equations and coefficients that can be utilised for the purpose of estimating the responses. The precision of the different models was evaluated through the utilisation of sequential model sum of squares and model summary statistics.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Model development and experimental design analysis

The outcomes of the experiment conducted using a complete factorial design were modelled using second-order polynomial (quadratic) and interactive (2FI) equations. The study resulted in the development of eight empirical models, and the ultimate mathematical modelling equations expressed in coded factors are presented as follows:

$$TS = 12.83 - 4.18X_1 - 6.16X_2 + 1.86X_1X_2 - 2.89X_1^2 + 2.61X_2^2 \quad (8)$$

$$E = 128.40 - 52.71X_1 - 31.50X_2 + 12.41X_1X_2 \quad (9)$$

$$E = 128.40 - 52.71X_1 - 31.50X_2 + 12.41X_1X_2 \quad (9)$$

$$YM = 44.07 + 38.49X_1 - 14.22X_2 - 6.58X_1X_2 + 9.82X_1^2 + 7.28X_2^2 \quad (10)$$

$$WU = 206.62 + 44.44X_1 + 23.04X_2 + 3.80X_1X_2 - 2.10X_1^2 - 7.71X_2^2 \quad (11)$$

$$THS = 52.78 + 13.26X_1 + 12.57X_2 + 0.33X_1X_2 - 3.13X_1^2 - 5.15X_2^2 \quad (12)$$

$$D = 8.01 + 0.96X_1 + 2.13X_2 + 0.37X_1X_2 - 0.41X_1^2 - 1.29X_2^2 \quad (13)$$

$$S = 5.83 + 0.83X_1 + 0.72X_2 - 0.10X_1X_2 - 0.14X_1^2 - 0.54X_2^2 \quad (14)$$

$$P = 45.38 + 10.64X_1 + 15.84X_2 + 3.64X_1X_2 - 2.34X_1^2 - 8.17X_2^2 \quad (15)$$

The study utilised a full factorial design (FFD) to conduct experiments aimed at examining the independent and interactive impacts of the variables of interest, namely the content and particle size of BH, on the physical, mechanical, and diffusional characteristics of composite films. Table 2 presents a summary of the design matrix and corresponding responses for a full factorial experiment. The data obtained from the experimental design was subjected to fitting procedures using different models, including linear, interactive (2FI), quadratic, and cubic models. The evaluation of the precision of several models in depicting the physical, numerical, and diffusional characteristics of composite films was conducted through two distinct assessments, namely, the sequential model sum of squares and model summary statistics. The outcomes of these tests are displayed in Table 3 and Table 4. The findings of the study, as presented in Table 3 and Table 4, demonstrate that the 2FI model exhibited statistical significance in relation to % elongation. Conversely, the quadratic model demonstrated significance in relation to all other response variables. The cubic model was determined to be subject to aliasing. The adequacy of the developed polynomial models was assessed using analysis of variance (ANOVA). The statistical significance of the developed models was indicated by ANOVA, as presented in Table 5.

Table 5 displays the regression coefficient and p-values pertaining to the second order polynomial equation. The ANOVA outcomes for the variables TS, E, YM, WU, THS, D, S, and P exhibited the most noteworthy F-values of 53.41, 145.83, 539.78, 517.19, 889.16, 60.88, 125.94, and 192.18, respectively, with correspondingly low p-values of < 0.0001. The findings indicate that both the quadratic and 2FI models exhibited a high degree of significance and exerted a considerable impact on the responses. The utilisation of the p-value is to approximate whether the value of F is of sufficient magnitude to signify statistical significance. When the p-value is below 0.05, it signifies that the



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model and its terms are statistically significant at a confidence level of 95%. A coefficient of determination (R^2) that is close to 1 is considered desirable in order to ensure adequate model fitting to the experimental data. The R -squared values for the models were determined to be 0.957, 0.969, 0.995, 0.995, 0.997, 0.962, 0.981, and 0.987 for the variables TS, E, YM, WU, THS, D, S, and P, respectively. The adjusted R^2 values, namely 0.939 for TS, 0.962 for E, 0.993 for YM, 0.993 for WU, 0.996 for THS, 0.991 for SOL, 0.946 for D, 0.973 for S and 0.982 for P, suggest a strong association between the predicted and experimental values. The measure of signal to noise ratio, known as adequate precision, is an important factor in determining the fitness of a model. A value greater than 4 is considered desirable, as noted in reference 19. In the current study, the adequate precision values for the variables TS, E, YM, WU, THS, D, S, and P were found to be 21.36, 33.76, 64.38, 68.94, 93.93, 22.86, 34.69, and 42.87, respectively. These values indicate that the signals were adequate and that the models were statistically significant.

Adequacy and validation of models

It is often observed that models yield suboptimal or erroneous outcomes for the responses, thereby necessitating the need to evaluate the precision of the models. Figures 1 and 2 depict the diagnostic plots generated, including the predicted versus actual experimental values and normal probability plots. The analysis of Figure 1 reveals that the plotted data points exhibit a high degree of proximity to the linear regression line, thereby indicating a strong level of concordance between the projected and factual values. Normal probability plots were utilised to evaluate the normality of a given dataset. The normal probability plots indicated that the data points exhibited a high degree of proximity to the diagonal line, albeit with some scattered points, as depicted in Figure 2. Thus, it can be inferred that the distribution of data followed a normal distribution.

Three verification experiments were conducted to validate the precision of the formulated mathematical models, each under distinct test conditions of the independent variables. The experimental conditions of the selected independent variable were within the predetermined range. Confirmation experiments were conducted using the Point Prediction feature of the Design Expert software. Table 6 displays the experimental parameters, observed measurements, forecasted values, and percentage discrepancies. The findings indicate that the models exhibited a high degree of accuracy as evidenced by the minimal disparity observed between the anticipated and factual outcomes of the responses. The findings indicate that the constructed models exhibited a high degree of precision, as evidenced by the error percentage aligning well with the observed values.

Effect of process variables

Mechanical properties

The evaluation of the mechanical characteristics of composite films, including tensile strength, elongation, and Young's modulus, was conducted and illustrated in Figure 3a. The findings indicate that a reduction in particle size and an increase in BH content led to an enhancement in tensile strength. The composite films exhibited a 61.13% increase in tensile strength upon reduction of particle size from 599 μm to 89 μm , while maintaining a BH content of 5 wt %. The findings indicate that the incorporation of BH content (particle size: 89 μm) at varying weight percentages (5 wt % to 25 wt %) resulted in a significant reduction of 55.73% in the tensile strength of the composite film. The composite film, containing a 5-weight percent loading of BH particles with a size of 89 μm , exhibited the maximum tensile strength of 25.55 Mpa. The results suggest that a reduction in particle size and a decrease in BH content led to an increase in tensile strength. The observed phenomenon can be ascribed to the ideal miscibility and homogeneous dispersion of BH particles within the PVA matrix, as demonstrated by the SEM images. Achieving appropriate miscibility led to a reduction in the occurrence of empty spaces and improved the transfer of stress, as noted in previous studies [20,21].

Percentage elongation indicates the ability of the film to stretch. It is evident from Figure 3b, that with the decrease in particle size of BH in the composite films from 599 μm to 89 μm , elongation increased from 143.62 % to 243.09 %. On the other hand, with increase in content of BH from 5 wt % to 25 wt % elongation decreased from 243.09 % to 98.5 %. At 5 wt % and 89 μm BH content, maximum elongation was 243.09 %. Particle size increased interfacial area. This increased interfacial area resulted in poor interfacial bonding and stress transfer between the filler and matrix.



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Therefore, elongation (%) decreased. Previous studies also found that BH loading increased crack initiation and decreased elongation [22, 23]. Figure 3c depicts a correlation between the Young's modulus and BH content for each particle size. Young's modulus increased by 76.45% as the BH content rose from 5% to 25% by weight. The observed increase in Young's modulus with increasing BH content indicates that BH is more rigid than PVA matrix. Similarly, an increase in particle size (at a BH concentration of 5 wt%) was accompanied by a 55.65% reduction in Young's modulus. The observed phenomenon can be explained by the correlation between particle size and interfacial area, in which an increase in particle size results in an equivalent increase in interfacial area. This, in turn, leads to insufficient adhesion between BH particles and matrix, resulting in a decrease in Young's modulus [24-26].

Physical properties

The water barrier characteristic is a crucial attribute of biodegradable packaging materials. The investigation of the water uptake (%) of composite films was conducted with consideration of both particle size and BH content in the composite. The outcomes of this study are presented in Figure 3d. The findings indicate that as the particle size of BH reduced within the composite material leads to a decrease in the percentage of water uptake. The composite film exhibited the highest level of water absorption when the particle size was 599 μm . The percentage decreased from 172.9% to 134% as the particle size decreased from 599 μm to 89 μm , while maintaining a 5% BH loading in the composite film. Nevertheless, the augmentation of BH content from 5% to 25% in the films resulted in an escalation of water uptake. Water uptake refers to the quantity of water that a substance absorbs during a predetermined duration of immersion in water. The absorption of water by the material facilitated the growth of microorganisms and their utilisation of the material as a source of energy. The hydrophilic nature of BH was found to be responsible for the increase in water uptake of the films as BH content increased, as reported in reference [27].

Thickness swelling of composite films increased with increase in particle size as well as BH content. From the results it was found that the thickness swelling decreased from 42.93 % to 18.45 % with decrease in particle size from 599 μm to 89 μm (Figure. 3e). However composite film with BH loading of 25 wt % and particle size of 599 μm exhibited highest thickness swelling of 71 %. Thickness swelling increased with loading and particle size because BH is a lignocellulosic material containing lignin, cellulose and hemicellulose. Cellulose and hemicellulose possess hydroxyl groups which absorb water molecules. Absorption of water molecules resulted into the swelling of BH cell wall and leads to the micro cracking of the composite film[8].

Diffusional properties

The diffusion coefficient is indicative of the solvent molecules' capacity to infiltrate the composite structure. The study revealed that the composite films demonstrated the least values of 3.73×10^{-5} (mm^2/min), 3.36×10^{-5} and 12.5×10^{-5} (mm^2/min) for D, S and P, respectively, when the BH content was 5 wt % and the particle size was 89 μm . Nevertheless, the augmentation of BH content to 25 weight percent resulted in an elevation of D, S, and P values to 5.28×10^{-5} (mm^2/min), 5.2×10^{-5} , and 27.47×10^{-5} (mm^2/min), respectively, as illustrated in Figures 3 (f-h). As the BH loading and particle increased the values of D, S and P increased. This was because of the hydrophilic nature of BH which favoured the diffusion and transportation of water molecules through the composite film. However, higher BH loading generated higher interfacial area and gaps between BH particles and PVA matrix. These gaps allowed water molecules to penetrate into the fibre and the matrix interface through capillary mechanism [28-30].

Morphological studies

The examination of the fractured surface of PVA/BH composite films was conducted through the utilisation of scanning electron microscopy (SEM), as depicted in Figure 4. Fractured surface of pure PVA showed smooth and uniform surface (Figure 4a). The micrograph of composite film reinforced with 5 wt % of BH loading at a particle size of 89 μm also showed homogenous surface as BH particles were uniformly dispersed in the matrix (Figure 4b). But, with increase in BH loading from 5 wt % to 25 wt %, improper dispersion and agglomeration of BH particles appeared within PVA matrix (Figures 4(c-d)). The fracture surface of the composite films reinforced with BH loading (15 wt % and 25 wt %) at a particle size of 599 μm demonstrated aggregation of BH particles and clear gaps between the BH particles and matrix (Figures 4(e-i)). On the other hand, fibre pull out (showed by circle) was also observed



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(Figure 4f). This was due to improper adhesion between the BH particles and PVA matrix at higher particle size and higher loading of BH [31-32].

Optimization

Numerical optimization

After development and analysis of models, these models were utilized for obtaining optimum conditions. Numerical optimization was utilized to find the optimum conditions. Higher desirability is required for the selection of factor levels. An optimization criterion was chosen so as to maximize the mechanical properties and minimize the physical properties and diffusional properties of composite films. The desired criteria, lower limit, upper limit and importance of each input factor and response is summarized in Table 7. Six optimal solutions were given by design expert software and are presented in Table 8. Table 8 showed that the lowest particle size of BH (89 μm) and lowest content of BH (5 wt %) was required for obtaining higher mechanical properties and lower physical and diffusional properties of the composite films. Based upon these factor levels, TS, E, YM, WU, THS, D, S and P would be 24.76 Mpa, 225.021 %, 30.31 Mpa, 133.13 %, 18.611 %, 3.58×10^{-5} mm²/min, 3.49×10^{-5} and P 12.04×10^{-5} mm²/min, respectively.

Optimisation through graphical methods

Graphical optimization provides visual selection of the optimum condition of the factors and response variables according to predefined criteria. Graphical optimization presented by overlay plots is shown in Figure 5. Optimization criteria (lower limit and upper limit) were chosen as per the results of numerical optimization. Figure 5 showed the overlay plot in which the white region satisfied the proposed criteria. Optimum condition for the independent factors and the responses were presented in the flag proposed by overlay plot.

CONCLUSION

The present research employed a comprehensive full factorial design to evaluate the influence of independent variables, namely the content and particle size of BH, on the physical, mechanical, and diffusional properties of PVA/BH composite films. The results indicate a negative correlation between TS and E, and a positive correlation between YM and BH content. The study found that the WU, THS, D, S, and P of the composite film exhibited an increase in correlation with both higher particle size and BH content. Thus, it can be inferred that the composite films' physical, mechanical, and diffusional characteristics were entirely contingent on the quantity and dimensions of BH. The ANOVA analysis yielded findings indicating that the constructed models were satisfactory, as indicated by the high coefficient of determination (R^2) values obtained for TS (0.957), E (0.969), YM (0.995), WU (0.995), THS (0.997), D (0.962), S (0.981), and P (0.987). These values suggest that the difference between the predicted and experimental values was not significant. The results of morphological analyses indicate that the presence of higher levels of BH loading led to the aggregation and inadequate dispersion of BH particles. The optimum conditions obtained from full factorial design for independent variables were 89 μm of BH particle size and 5 wt % of BH content. Whereas, at optimized conditions of independent variables the responses were TS (24.76 Mpa), E (225.021 %), YM (30.31 Mpa), WU (133.13 %), THS (18.611 %), D (3.58×10^{-5} mm²/min), S (3.49×10^{-5}) and P (12.04×10^{-5} mm²/min). Hence, the utilisation of a full factorial design proved to be a proficient methodology in evaluating the impact of process variables on the physical, mechanical, and diffusional characteristics of PVA/BH composite films.

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Table 1 Experimental design and levels of independent variables

Factors (units)	Coded factor		Levels	
		-1	0	1
BH content (wt %)	X ₁	5	15	25
BH particle size (µm)	X ₂	89	251	599

Table 2 Full factorial design (3²) with replication and observed responses

Run order	BH content (wt %)	BH particle size (µm)	TS (Mpa)	E (%)	YM (Mpa)	WU (%)	THS (%)	D (×10 ⁻⁵ mm ² /min)	S (×10 ⁻⁵)	P (×10 ⁻⁵ mm ² /min)
1	25 (+1)	251 (0)	8.56	82.96	99.05	240	57.57	7.66	6.13	47.008
2	25 (+1)	599 (+1)	4.83	56.68	78.23	268.2	71.2	9.821	6.55	64.330
3	25 (+1)	251 (0)	9.2	84.56	97.98	244.2	58.32	6.88	6.24	42.931
4	15 (0)	89 (-1)	23.49	156.7	64.82	175.3	34.7	4.54	4.53	20.607
5	5 (-1)	251 (0)	15.32	175.79	22	147.1	30.59	6.02	4.46	26.863
6	25 (+1)	89 (-1)	11.31	98.5	121.4	210.9	43.6	5.28	5.2	27.472
7	5 (-1)	599 (+1)	9.93	142.62	12.67	172.9	42.93	6.98	5.23	36.521
8	15 (0)	251 (0)	14.73	137.27	47.86	196.5	48.56	6.69	5.34	35.763





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9	5 (-1)	89 (-1)	25.55	243.09	28.57	136.5	18.80	3.73	3.36	12.556
10	25 (+1)	599 (+1)	4.2	55.61	80.45	266.7	68.97	9.45	6.78	64.085
11	5 (-1)	599 (+1)	10.21	144.3	14.22	174.1	43.2	6.54	5.11	33.425
12	25 (+1)	89 (-1)	10.7	96.32	123.44	211.2	44.72	4.93	5.51	27.186
13	15 (0)	89 (-1)	22.42	154.33	67.4	178.9	35.2	4.12	4.82	19.860
14	15 (0)	251 (0)	17.04	135.64	49.22	198	45.41	6.95	5.62	39.081
15	5 (-1)	251 (0)	16.12	178.32	24.5	149	31.81	6.47	4.65	30.095
16	15 (0)	599 (+1)	7.73	99.67	37.32	222.4	59.7	9.12	6.03	55.024
17	15 (0)	599 (+1)	7.21	96.77	39.22	219	60.28	9.54	5.82	55.561
18	5 (-1)	89 (-1)	24.59	241.08	27.06	134	18.45	3.25	3.45	11.216

Table 3 Sequential model sum of square for responses

Source	Sum of squares	DF	Mean square	F value	Prob > F	Remarks
Tensile strength						
Mean	3284.28	1	3284.28			
Linear	669.42	2	334.71	43.29	< 0.0001	
2FI	29.04	1	29.04	4.68	0.0484	
Quadratic	53.16	2	26.58	9.45	0.0034	Suggested
Cubic	28.96	2	14.48	30.1	< 0.0001	Aliased
Residual	4.81	10	0.48			
Total	4069.67	18	226.09			
Elongation						
Mean	3.15E+05	1	3.15E+05			
Linear	47706.56	2	23853.28	125.35	< 0.0001	
2FI	1286.69	1	1286.69	11.49	0.0044	Suggested
Quadratic	566.93	2	283.47	3.4	0.0677	
Cubic	756.63	2	378.32	15.49	0.0009	Aliased
Residual	244.22	10	24.42			
Total	3.65E+05	18	20294.69			
Young,s modulus						
Mean	59560.12	1	59560.12			
Linear	20805.85	2	10402.92	156.45	< 0.0001	
2FI	362.03	1	362.03	7.98	0.0135	
Quadratic	538.84	2	269.42	33.5	< 0.0001	Suggested
Cubic	68.73	2	34.37	12.37	0.002	Aliased
Residual	27.78	10	2.78			
Total	81363.35	18	4520.19			
Water uptake						
Mean	6.98E+05	1	6.98E+05			
Linear	29418.29	2	14709.15	493.3	< 0.0001	
2FI	120.76	1	120.76	5.18	0.0391	
Quadratic	188.55	2	94.28	8.2	0.0057	Suggested
Cubic	108.6	2	54.3	18.5	0.0004	Aliased
Residual	29.35	10	2.94			
Total	7.28E+05	18	40444.23			
Thickness swelling						





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Mean	36812.61	1	36812.61			
Linear	3902.48	2	1951.24	209.59	< 0.0001	
2FI	0.91	1	0.91	0.091	0.7669	
Quadratic	127.86	2	63.93	70.51	< 0.0001	Suggested
Cubic	0.36	2	0.18	0.17	0.8451	Aliased
Residual	10.52	10	1.05			
Total	40854.74	18	2269.71			
Diffusivity						
Mean	774	1	774			
Linear	60.42	2	30.21	49.03	< 0.0001	
2FI	1.16	1	1.16	2.01	0.1783	
Quadratic	5.44	2	2.72	12.35	0.0012	Suggested
Cubic	1.59	2	0.79	7.53	0.0101	Aliased
Residual	1.05	10	0.11			
Total	843.67	18	46.87			
Sorption coefficient						
Mean	499.64	1	499.64			
Linear	14.14	2	7.07	81.54	< 0.0001	
2FI	0.09	1	0.09	1.04	0.3262	
Quadratic	0.92	2	0.46	19.16	0.0002	Suggested
Cubic	0.069	2	0.035	1.57	0.255	Aliased
Residual	0.22	10	0.022			
Total	515.08	18	28.62			
Permeability						
Mean	23442.01	1	23442.01	80.45	< 0.0001	
Linear	4071.84	2	2035.92	5.77	0.0307	
2FI	110.81	1	110.81	23.37	< 0.0001	
Quadratic	213.89	2	106.95	5.07	0.0301	Suggested
Cubic	27.66	2	13.83			Aliased
Residual	27.25	10	2.72			
Total	27893.47	18	1549.64			

DF: Degree of freedom

Table 4 Model summary statics for responses

Source	Std. Dev.	R ²	Adjusted R ²	Predicted R ²	PRESS	Remarks
Tensile strength						
Linear	2.78	0.852	0.8326	0.7907	164.36	
2FI	2.49	0.889	0.8656	0.8451	121.64	
Quadratic	1.68	0.957	0.9391	0.9059	73.9	Suggested
Cubic	0.69	0.994	0.9896	0.9842	12.41	Aliased
Elongation						
Linear	13.79	0.944	0.936	0.913	4401.23	
2FI	10.58	0.969	0.9623	0.9479	2636.27	Suggested
Quadratic	9.13	0.98	0.972	0.9574	2153.75	
Cubic	4.94	0.995	0.9918	0.9868	668.87	Aliased





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Young's modulus						
Linear	8.15	0.954	0.9482	0.9334	1451.71	
2FI	6.74	0.971	0.9646	0.9546	990.67	
Quadratic	2.84	0.996	0.9937	0.9903	211.55	Suggested
Cubic	1.67	0.999	0.9978	0.9961	85.8	Aliased
Water uptake						
Linear	5.46	0.985	0.983	0.9781	655.46	
2FI	4.83	0.989	0.9867	0.9826	520.19	
Quadratic	3.39	0.995	0.9935	0.99	299.21	Suggested
Cubic	1.71	0.999	0.9983	0.9968	95.67	Aliased
Thickness swelling						
Linear	3.05	0.966	0.9608	0.9516	195.77	
2FI	3.15	0.966	0.9583	0.9422	233.44	
Quadratic	0.95	0.997	0.9962	0.994	24.4	Suggested
Cubic	1.03	0.997	0.9956	0.9928	29.23	Aliased
Diffusion coefficient						
Linear	0.78	0.867	0.8496	0.8056	13.54	
2FI	0.76	0.884	0.8591	0.801	13.86	
Quadratic	0.47	0.962	0.9463	0.9159	5.86	Suggested
Cubic	0.32	0.985	0.9743	0.9495	3.52	Aliased
Sorption coefficient						
Linear	0.29	0.916	0.9045	0.8811	1.84	
2FI	0.29	0.922	0.9048	0.8736	1.95	
Quadratic	0.16	0.981	0.9735	0.9582	0.65	Suggested
Cubic	0.15	0.986	0.9758	0.9552	0.69	Aliased
Permeability						
Linear	5.03	0.915	0.9034	0.8732	564.43	
2FI	4.38	0.94	0.9267	0.8988	450.51	
Quadratic	2.14	0.988	0.9825	0.973	120.4	Suggested
Cubic	1.65	0.994	0.9896	0.9811	84.1	Aliased

Table 5 ANOVA and regression coefficient of models

Source	TS (Mpa)		E (%)		YM (Mpa)		WP (%)		THS (%)		D (mm ² /min)		S		P (mm ² /min)	
	RC	p-Value	RC	p-Value	RC	p-Value	RC	p-Value	RC	p-Value	RC	p-Value	RC	p-Value	RC	p-Value
Model	13	< 0.0001	128	< 0.0001	44.07	< 0.0001	207	< 0.0001	52.8	< 0.0001	8.01	< 0.0001	5.834	< 0.0001	45.4	< 0.0001
X ₁	-4.2	< 0.0001	-53	< 0.0001	38.49	< 0.0001	44.4	< 0.0001	13.3	< 0.0001	0.96	< 0.0001	0.833	< 0.0001	10.6	< 0.0001
X ₂	-6.2	< 0.0001	31.5	< 0.0001	-14.2	< 0.0001	23	< 0.0001	12.6	< 0.0001	2.13	< 0.0001	0.721	< 0.0001	15.8	< 0.0001
X ₁ X ₂	1.9	0.0075	12.4	0.0044	-6.58	< 0.0001	3.8	0.0071	0.33	0.3	0.37	0.04	-0.1	0.08	3.64	0.0004
X ₁ ²	-2.9	0.0048	-	-	9.825	< 0.0001	-2.1	0.2	-3.13	< 0.0001	-0.4	0.11	-0.14	0.1	-2.3	0.049
X ₂ ²	2.6	0.0214	-	-	7.284	0.0009	-7.7	0.0023	-5.55	< 0.0001	-1.3	0.0006	-0.54	< 0.0001	-8.2	< 0.0001





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Table 6. Confirmation experiments

Runs	Parameters			Response factors							
	BH content (wt%)	BH particle size (µm)		TS (Mpa)	E (%)	YM (Mpa)	WU (%)	THS (%)	D (×10 ⁻⁵ mm ² /min)	S (×10 ⁻⁵)	P (×10 ⁻⁵ mm ² /min)
1	7.5	89	Actual	25.81	204.5	38.83	140.11	24.15	3.845	3.891	15.62
			Predicted	24.525	209.2	37.0793	143.917	23.09	3.90262	3.7829	15.74
			Error (%)	4.9779	2.285	4.50863	-2.7172	4.391	-1.4986	2.7782	-0.803
2	10	251	Actual	19.72	153.3	45.66	178.82	34.08	6.5982	5.18	34.23
			Predicted	18.986	167.2	43.4329	176.106	40.55	6.59432	5.0578	33.7
			Error (%)	3.7241	9.068	4.87757	1.51773	18.98	0.0588	2.3585	1.535
3	20	599	Actual	6.93	73.48	50.21	251.76	66.61	9.561	6.23	59.57
			Predicted	7.3267	76.21	56.113	246.174	65.95	9.43012	6.3506	59.77
			Error (%)	-5.7248	3.715	-11.757	2.21878	0.991	1.36889	-1.935	-0.339

Table 7 Optimization criteria for factors and responses

Parameters and response	Criterion	Limits		Importance
		Lower	Upper	
BH content (wt %)	Is in range	5	25	3
BH particle size (µm)	Is in range	89	599	3
TS (Mpa)	Maximize	20	25	3
E (%)	Maximize	200	243	3
YM (Mpa)	Is in range	25	60	3
WU (%)	Minimize	134	140	3
THS (%)	Minimize	18.45	30	3
D (×10 ⁻⁵ mm ² /min)	Minimize	3.251	5.283	3
S (×10 ⁻⁵)	Minimize	3.36	5.2	3
P (×10 ⁻⁵ mm ² /min)	Minimize	11.2159	27.4	3

Table 8 Optimal solutions obtained from design criteria

Solution number	BH content (wt %)	BH size (µm)	TS (Mpa)	E (%)	YM (Mpa)	WU (%)	THS (%)	D (×10 ⁻⁵ mm ² /min)	S (×10 ⁻⁵)	P (×10 ⁻⁵ mm ² /min)	Desirability
1	5	89	24.76	225.02	30.31	133.14	18.61	3.58	3.49	12.04	0.886
2	5.17	89	24.75	223.90	30.75	133.9	18.93	3.60	3.51	12.24	0.873
3	5	93.86	24.50	224.18	29.89	133.79	19.05	3.66	3.53	12.58	0.858
4	5	96.76	24.35	223.68	29.64	134.18	19.31	3.71	3.55	12.90	0.838
5	5.47	89	24.74	221.90	31.55	135.28	19.52	3.65	3.55	12.59	0.823
6	5.62	89	24.73	220.96	31.93	135.92	19.79	3.67	3.57	12.75	0.796





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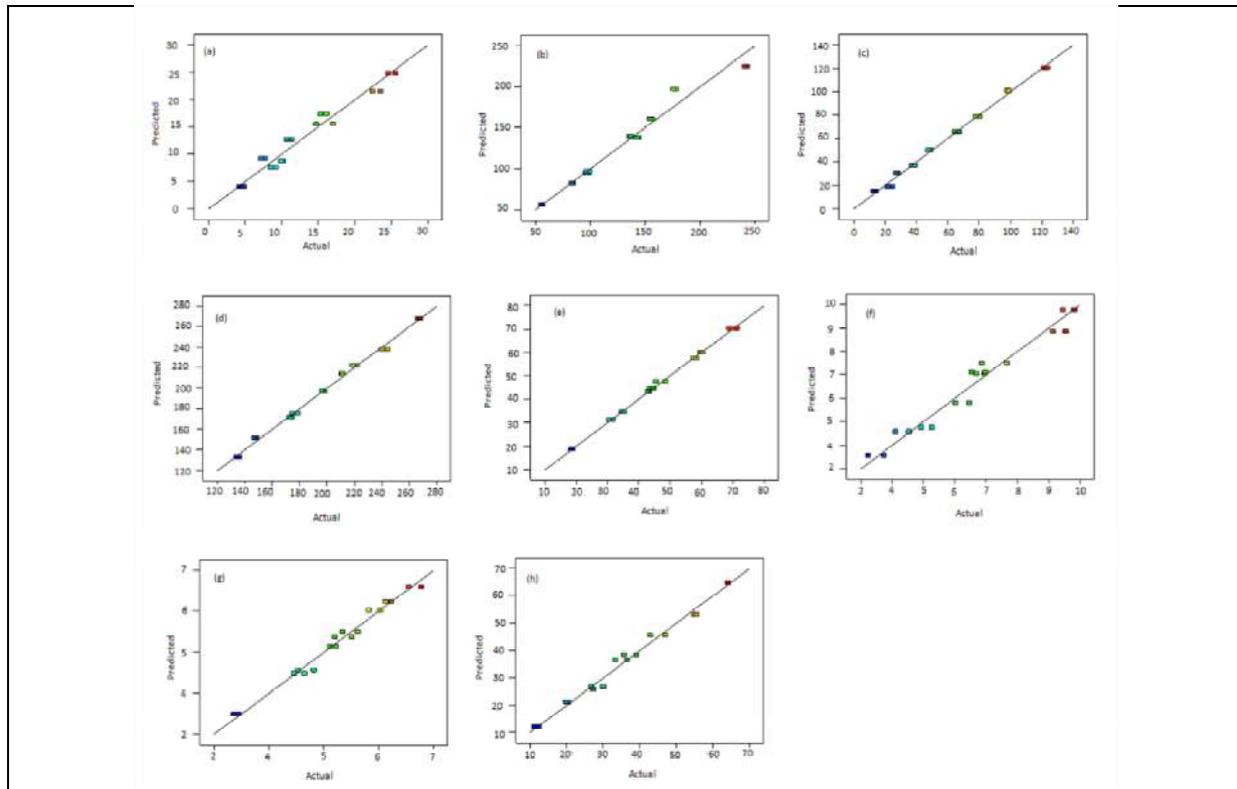


Figure 1: Predicted and experimental value plots for (a) TS, (b) E, (c) YM, (d) WU, (e) THS, (f) D, (g) S and (h) P

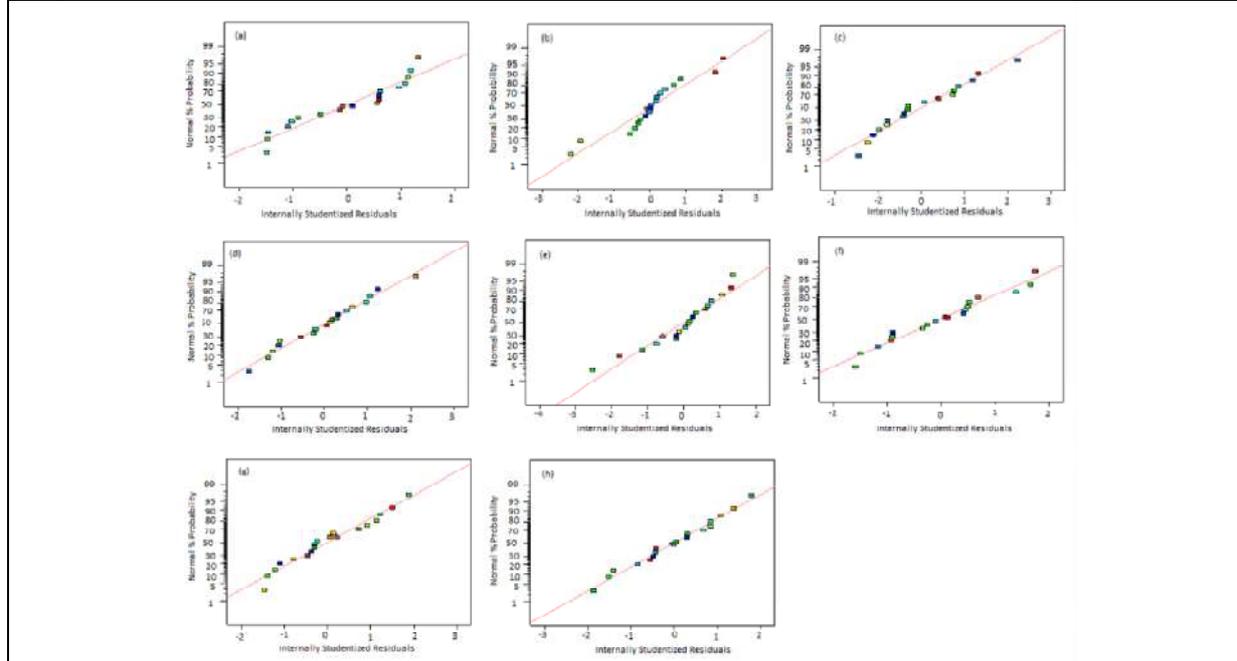


Figure 2: Normal probability plots of internally studentized residuals for (a) TS, (b) E, (c) YM, (d) WU, (e) THS, (f) D, (g) S and (h) P





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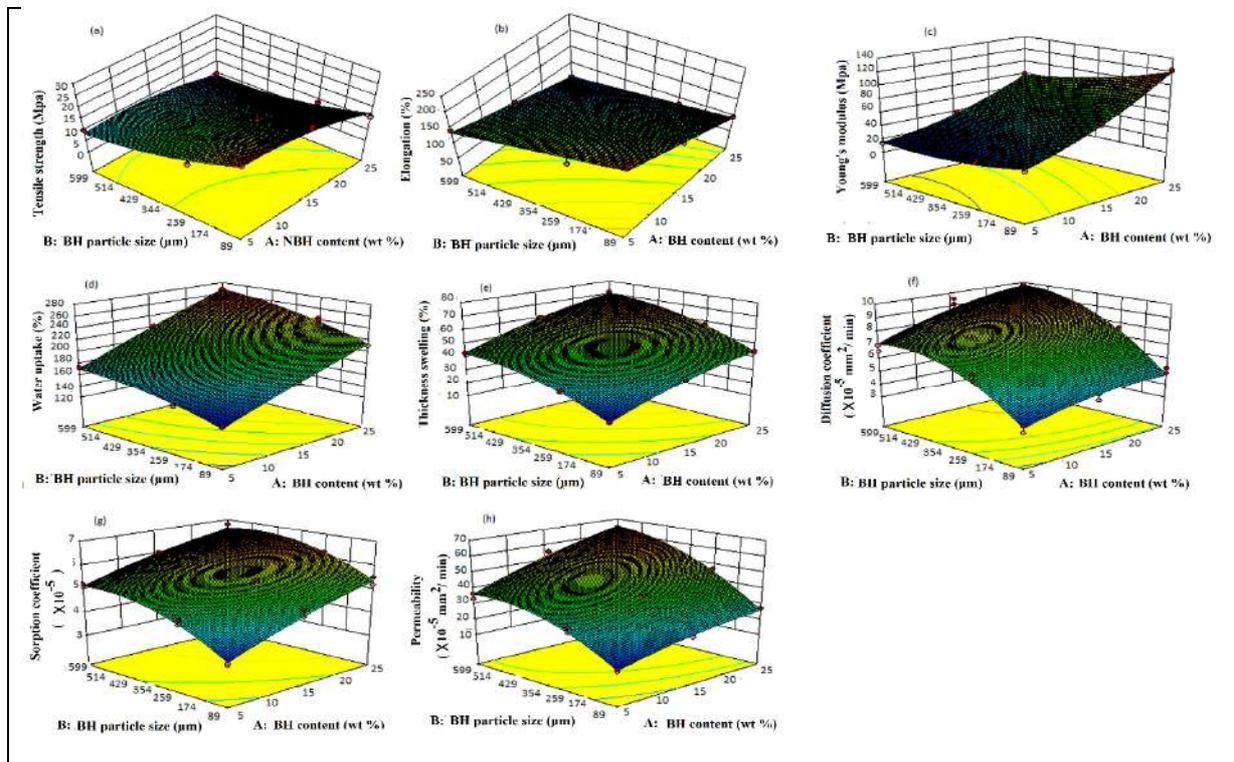


Figure 3: Response surface plots showing the effect of independent variables on the (a) TS, (b) E, (c) YM, (d) WU, (e) THS, (f) D, (g) S and (h) P

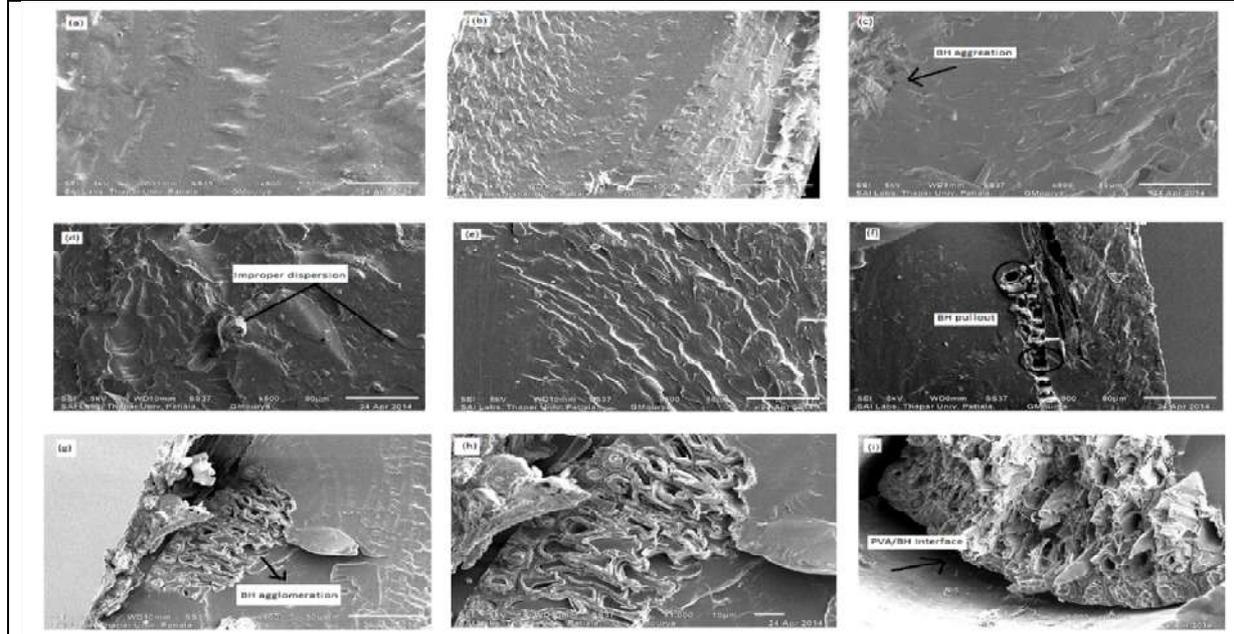


Figure 4: SEM images of the fractured cross-section of PVA composite films; (a) neat PVA; (b) 5 wt % BH (89 µm), (c) 15 wt % BH (89µm), (d) 25 wt % BH (89 µm), (e) 5 wt % BH (599 µm), (f) 15 wt % BH (599µm), (g) 25 wt % BH (599 µm), (h) and (i) 25 wt % BH (599 µm) at 1000 X





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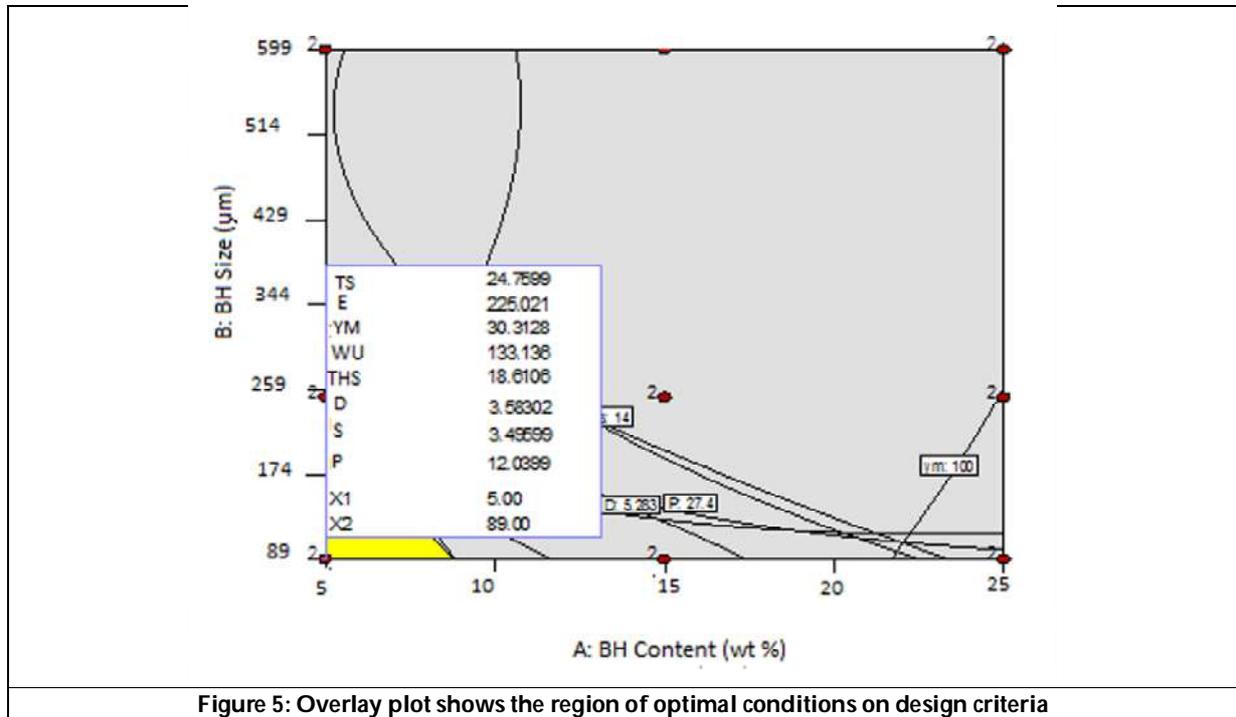


Figure 5: Overlay plot shows the region of optimal conditions on design criteria





Pokkali - A Healthier Part of Climate Resilient Agriculture

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ABSTRACT

Rice is life for most of the people living in South East Asia. Owing to the changing climatic conditions all over the world, rice cultivation also faces many threats. Abiotic threats like drought, salinity, flood, etc., contribute to significant areas of loss. There are some traditional cultivation practices and cultivars where rice can withstand these adverse conditions. One such practice is *Pokkali* cultivation. In Kerala, *Pokkali* soil is considered a special kind of soil where a different cultivation practice is followed. Saline water intrusion is a major problem here. Every year salt water from the Arabian sea and nearby estuaries comes into the fields during high tide, which will run off during low tide. Here rice is cultivated in *Virippu* season (mid-April to October), and the area filled with salt water is used for prawn cultivation the rest of the year. Here waste materials from one part become nutrition for the other part and vice versa. Without the addition of any chemical, both are grown and harvested. So, the food products we get from this organic system are healthier than the others.

Keywords: Pokkali, shrimp cultivation, Vyttila varieties.

INTRODUCTION

Cereals are the major contributors to food products for the growing human population. Humans consume wheat, rice and maize to get approximately 50% of their calorie needs (Zibae 2013). The majority of the population uses rice as their staple food. Rice is the most important food source for Asian countries, mainly in southeast parts, where it is an economical crop for farmers and workers. Historically, rice was cultivated 10000 years ago in the river valleys of South and Southeast Asia and China since it served as the most important food for people (Zibae 2013). Rice is a crop that generally prefers waterlogged conditions for its growth and development. For better crop productivity,

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farmers used chemical fertilizers, leading to soil deterioration. Soil health is lost, and productivity comes down with new pests and diseases. Humans and other animals in the locality face a lot of pollution problems. The best way to avoid this problem is to shift to organic fertilizers. So organic farming has become very important nowadays. Rice fish farming is the best example of such a cropping system.

Rice and fish are essential parts of our diet. Integrated rice-fish farming is the best practice for sustainable production and supply of these food items. This system is practised long ago in many parts of the world, especially in different parts of India. Alternate and integrated farming systems are practised in paddy fields (Ahmed *et al.* 2011). In deeply flooded lowlands, alternate farming is done where rotational cultivation of rice and fish is done. In an integrated farming system, rice and fish are grown simultaneously on the rainfed plain and medium lowlands. *Etropolis suratensis* (green chromide), *Cyprinus carpio* (common carp), *Ctenopharyngo donidella* (silver carp), *Labeo rohita* (rohu), *Cirrhinus mrigala* (mrigal), *Channa punctatus* (spotted snakehead) and *Catla catla* (catla) are the different species of fishes grown along with varying varieties of rice (Bhattacharyya *et al.* 2013).

Prominent examples of rice-fish integrated farming practised traditionally in many parts of eastern India are Zabo cultivation in Nagaland, Apatani farming in Arunachal Pradesh, Bhasabandha or Bheri system in Sunderbans of West Bengal and *Pokkali* system in Kerala. Over 833 million hectares of soils worldwide are already salt-affected, as shown on FAO's *Global salt-affected soils map*. Over 6% of the world's total land area is affected by salinity, including approximately 20% of irrigated farmland (FAO, 2018). Moreover, soil salinization caused by human activity and climate change is progressively increasing (Takagi *et al.* 2015). Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.), which feeds over half of the world's population, is the most salt-sensitive species among all cereals (Munns *et al.* 2008). *Pokkali* is a system of cropping in areas with high salt content. So, it is crucial as far as agriculture is concerned.

Pokkali system

Pokkali is a unique saline-tolerant rice variety cultivated organically in the water-logged coastal regions of central Kerala in Southern India (Sreelatha *et al.* 2017). The *Pokkali* fields of Kerala is usually single-crop paddy fields, extending up to 10,000 acres and yielding an annual production of 5,000 tonnes. After the paddy crop harvest, the paddy fields are usually used to trap high tide water through sluices along with prawns, and then the water is let out through the filters during low tide (Mumthaz *et al.* 2017). In Malayalam, *Pokkali* means "One who grows tall" ("pokkam" means tall in the Malayalam language). The rice stands true to its name as it grows 6 feet high in the fields. It is now grown along the coastal belts of Ernakulam, Alappuzha and Thrissur districts of Kerala. *Pokkali* areas lie between Kuthiathode in Alappuzha district and Kodungallor in Thrissur district, which is physically situated in the coastal belt of Kerala. This physical landscape is a transitional zone between aquatic and terrestrial environments sharing an intricate characteristic of both (Roshni 2016). It is believed that the Kudumbi community that migrated from Goa to Kerala brought this rice grain.

In *Pokkali* cultivation, natural organic cultivation is practised. Since the area under *Pokkali* cultivation is highly affected by seawater intrusion, it faces a high salinity problem. Despite modernization and mechanization, *Pokkali* system continues to be under organic cultivation without mechanization. *Pokkali* rice farming and aquaculture go together, and it balances the ecosystem. *Pokkali* system is the best example of how integrated organic agriculture will help to maintain the ecological balance. The floods of 2018, touted as the biggest in a century, devastated several cities in Kerala, but the *Pokkali* crops were more or less unaffected.

In India, 80 per cent of shrimp production comes from small and marginal holdings which follow different production systems, including the traditional 'Pokkali' farms of Kerala state, improved conventional farming, and scientific methods. Group farming, which was highly successful in paddy farming, was tested among small-scale shrimp farmers practising paddy and shrimp farming in rotation in a cluster of 'Pokkali' fields in Kerala (Srinath *et al.* 2000).



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The *Pokkali* system involves different processes, including preparing the land, producing and maintaining seed supplies, and regulating water distribution to the farmland from the backwaters. Each involves labour-intensive processes such as the maintenance of bunds (the raised edges around rice fields) and sluice gates

- the repair and rejuvenation of bunds (chiravettuka),
- making the mounds on which seeds are sown
- the conditioning and sowing of seed,
- harvesting and drying the crop,
- maintaining security and electricity supply. (Farms are lit late at night and early morning).

Cooperation and building trust among farmers are essential to ensure that cultivation is successful and none of these elements is disrupted.

Pokkali rice cultivation

The operation of a sluice gate to regulate water is crucial in the first four weeks of germination. The farmers take extreme care to ensure that water levels are appropriately maintained between the mounds and that excess water is drained. These steps are necessary to reduce the salinity of the soil. To further accelerate desalination, fresh water is allowed through the sluice as the monsoon progresses. After April 14, field preparations are done. The strengthening of field bunds was done by April last week. Paddy seeding is done after the receipt of 3 or 4 monsoon showers. Any interruptions to the monsoon can lead to disruptions in this *Pokkali* seed processing. After the selection of saline tolerant seeds, cultivars would soak the seeds in water for about 24 hours as a time period. Then, soaked seeds would be kept undisturbed for about 2 to 3 days either in gunny bags, tied in bags of coconut fronds, or covered with banana leaves until the seeds germinate and the radicle comes out. Then, the labours sow the germinated seeds on the raked mounds and cover them with mud. Mounds at essential places where salinity is high. After 45 days, the mounds with grown-up seedlings will be dismantled without damage to the roots of seedlings by man labourers. The seedlings in clefts are dispersed around the flattened mounds and arranged uniformly by Woman labourers in July. To maintain the potential nutrient cycling of the major and minor nutrients application of organic manure is essential (Sudhanet al. 2016). Weeding operations are carried out intermittently by skilled labourers if necessary. The *Pokkali* rice plants grow up to two meters to survive in the waterlogged field. However, when they get mature, they lean over backwards and collapse. Only the panicles stand right. By the last week of October, it is harvested with the help of canoes. After panicles are cut, the rest are left to decay in the water (Vikas et al. 2018).

During harvest time, labourers, mostly women, stand knee-deep for long hours in the marshy land to harvest the paddy. Only familiar workers can harvest without causing any damage. Only the top portion of the paddy is harvested, leaving the remaining portions there. The harvested paddy is transported by themselves or on small boats to be dried and sent to the mills for dehusking.

Pokkali rice is consumed both in unpolished and polished forms. It is also transformed into value-added products, including rice powder, to prepare several local dishes. *Pokkali* rice is organic, rich in antioxidants and low in carbohydrates. So, it has high consumer preference.

Aquaculture

Pokkali aquaculture can be seasonal or perennial. The area specifications for seasonal and perennial fields are about 0.5 to 10 ha and 2 to 75 ha, respectively. After the harvest of the *Pokkali* paddy in October, these fields are used for the culture of shrimps, which is locally called "Chemmeen Kettu" or "Chemmeen Vattu" or "Adappu" for five months, either by single ownership or joint ownership specifically called as "Karshaka Samajams". Perennial fields or "Varsha Kettu" are deeper fields, hence unsuitable for paddy cultivation (Sudhan et al. 2016). After mid-October, *Pokkali* rice is harvested, and farmers turn to prawn cultivation. The farmers are required to obtain a "filtration license" from the Kerala State Government's Fisheries Department. This license enables them to use water from public water bodies for aquaculture. They then strengthen the bunds, undertake repairs of sluice gates and dig channels within the fields leading to the sluice pits. Field preparation for prawn culture is done by the first fortnight of November.





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Technical Specification of Pokkali Field

Bund should be strong enough to withstand the tidal fluctuations and other operations during supplementary feeding, application of chemicals, miscellaneous activities and harvesting. Bund's top width is 1.0 m, and height is maintained at the level of 1.5 m. The standard sluice length - is 3.5 m, width - is 1.25 m and height - is 2.25 m. Shutter planks are used to regulate the water flow into the field and are made up of wood. Optimally, 8 to 12 Shutter planks are used, and the number is related to the height of the sluice. The standard specification of a shutter plank is 1.25 m in length and 0.15 m in width. Nylon net sluice screens have a mesh size of about 2.5 mm that guards the escape of shrimps or fishes from the Pokkali field during the discharge of water. For harvesting, draining of water should be completed within 2 hours period of time to achieve the clarity of the harvested stocks (Sudhan et al. 2016). By mid-November, depending on the tidal flow, farmers open and close the sluice gates, allowing saline water to enter the field during high tide and flow out during low tide. A conically shaped net with an opening at one end fixed inside the sluice gate ensures that the young prawns flow into the fields along with the water. The natural feed material for shrimp/fish culture is the organic vegetable wastes from the Pokkali paddy cultivation. Farmers install hurricane lamps to attract prawns during the night. After the tide, farmers remove the nets and affix a bamboo screen to prevent the prawns from flowing out. Farmers also make sure that 30 cm of standing water is retained at all times during this period. Now selective stocking of shrimp species is done. Important species used for stocking are the following-*Metapenaeus dobsoni*, *M. monocerous*, *Fenneropenaeus indicus*, *Penaeus monodon*, *P. semisulcatus* and *M. affinis*. The freshwater prawns include *Macrobrachium idella*, *M. rude* and *M. equidens*. The portunid crabs, *Scylla serrata*, *S. tranquebarica* and *Portunus pelagicus* are often caught from the filtration fields. The common fishes available in the traditional system are *Ambasis* spp., *Anchoviella* spp., *Arius* spp., *Barbus* spp., *Chanos chanos*, *Cyprionoides* spp., *Etroplus suratensis*, *Etroplus maculatus*, *Elops* spp., *Hemiramphus* spp., *Liza parsia*, *Mugil cephalus*, *Megalops* spp., *Oreochromis mossambicus*, *Ophichthys* spp., *Ophiocephalus* spp., *Platycephalus* spp., *Scatophagus argus*, *Siliago* spp., *Terapon* spp., *Etroplus* spp., *Thrissocles* spp. and *Tachysurus* spp. (Sudhan et al. 2016). The size and number of sluice gates required for a farm depend on the extent of the operational field and the direction of the water flow. A bottom plank was set firmly on the ground under the water. The side planks provided with footrests are then fitted. These footrests were meant for drawing the coir rope operating the shutter planks. The top frame was fixed over the side planks, and the gate was made as a single unit. Strong poles were erected very close to both sides of the sluice gate, and this interconnected structure is firmly tied to the sluice gate to form a stabilized unit. For harvesting, draining of water is done within 2 hours to achieve the clarity of the harvested stocks. Harvest of white prawns is done after 70 days of seed stocking, and that of tiger prawns is done after 90 days of seed stocking. The final harvest of prawns is to be done before April first week.

The speciality of Pokkali soil

The Soils of Pokkali fields are a deep, dark or pale bluish black in colour, impervious in nature and clayey in texture that forms cracks on drying and turn sticky on wetting. The salinity of Pokkali fields decreases rapidly up to August and is maintained till the end of December to January. This area is under confluence with freshwater and saline water. The salinity varies from 0 to 31 ppt or more. In Pokkali lands, salinity decreases rapidly up to August and is maintained till December –January (Vanaja 2013).

The speciality of Pokkali rice

Pokkali rice is with red Kernel, medium Bold shaped and has good cooking quality. It has a high percentage of protein. Pokkali rice has medicinal value also. It is used in the preparation of traditional healthcare food in Kerala. It is suitable for treating haemorrhoids (Piles). Rice gruel water made from Pokkali rice is highly recommended for Cholera Patients. It is the storehouse of Nutrients. It is best in terms of fibre and protein content. It has low carbohydrate content making it suitable for persons with diabetes. Nutritious Pokkali rice is believed to be the secret energy of the local fishermen, and it helps them to stay at sea all day. Pokkali rice is a GI-indexed agricultural product. (GI of April 2008 to March 2009).

Pokkali rice is the famous variety endemic to coastal regions of three Kerala districts—Ernakulam, Thrissur and Alappuzha. Saline water intrusion is a major problem here. So, the varieties grown in this system are salt tolerant and non-lodging. During high tide water level goes up. To overcome this problem, the plants grow to a height of

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more than 1.5m. *Pokkali* rice varieties are gifted with the salinity tolerance gene *SalTol* and can be used for crop improvement programmes for the production of salt-tolerant varieties of rice. Organic cultivation of *Pokkali* rice adds value during this era of pollution. The market value for organically grown crop products is higher than the other products.

Rice varieties suited for *Pokkali* cultivation

Land races

Pokkali rice is a unique rice variety with saline tolerance. Farmers of that area were using several varieties suited to this condition, namely Chettivirippu, Cheruvirippu, Choot *Pokkali*, Kadamakkudy *Pokkali*, Pallippuram *Pokkali*, etc. from time immemorial. Now Pallippuram *Pokkali* and Chettivirippu are grown in these areas.

Improved varieties

Rice Research Station, Vyttila, under Kerala Agricultural University, is one institution where exclusive research for the *Pokkali* area is done. The varieties released from the station are the following.

- i. Vyttila-1: (Choottupokkali) Red kernelled rice with a duration of 115 days.
- ii. Vyttila-2: (Cheruvirippu) Red, bold rice with a duration of 125-130 days. Suitable for Ernakulam and Alappuzha districts.
- iii. Vyttila-3: [Vyttila 1 X TN-1(HS)] Grain colour is red, and the duration is 110-115 days. Suitable for virippu season in Ernakulam and Alappuzha districts.
- iv. Vyttila-4: [Chettivirippu x IR 4630-22-2-17(HS)] Red rice with a duration of 120-125 days. Suitable for virippu cultivation in *Pokkali* and other flood-prone areas and deep water situations.
- v. Vyttila-5: [Mashuri (Mutation)] Red rice with a duration of 115-120 days. Tall, moderately lodging, tolerant to major diseases and pests except for BLB, Leaf scald, stem borer, leaf folder and rice bug.
- vi. Vyttila-6: Red, medium bold grains with a duration of 115-120 days. Semi-tall, non-lodging, tolerant to salinity, acidity and submergence.
- vii. Vyttila-7: [IR8 x Patnai 23.] Red, long-slender grains with a duration of 110-115 days. Semi-tall, non-lodging and high yielding.
- viii. Vyttila-8: Red, medium bold grains with a duration of 115-120 days. Medium tall, non-lodging and high yielding.
- ix. Vyttila-9: Red-coloured medium grains with a duration of 110-115 days. Suitable for Kharif season in high saline areas. It is submergence tolerant also.

Ecological features of *Pokkali* farming

Efficient use of the ecological process occurs in *Pokkali* system. Large biodiversity can be seen in this system. One hundred seventy-four bird species were noticed near the Kadamakkudy rice field. One hundred species of aquatic macrophytes were noticed in *Pokkali* fields, including wetland macrophytes, mangroves and mangrove associates and terrestrial plants. Fifty species of fish belonging to 29 families and 11 orders were also seen there. Since the leftovers of rice farming are used for shrimp farming and the remains of prawns are used as the manure for rice cultivation, ecological balance can be maintained. Continuous recycling of nutrients occurs in the *Pokkali* system, and so both rice and prawn grow naturally, which helps in the reduction of unwanted weed growth. *Pokkali* cultivation is done without using any chemicals, both as nutrients and plant protection chemicals, so the system is more economical. *Pokkali* rice grows as high as 2 metres and can easily surpass any flooded conditions. Because of its salt tolerance, the rice variety can be grown in coastal belts (Vikas et al. 2018).

Challenges of *Pokkali* cultivation

Pokkali farming is now undergoing tremendous changes and facing a threat of extinction. There are about 4000 hectares of paddy fields under *Pokkali* cultivation in Ernakulam district, while in Alappuzha and Thrissur the extent of paddy cultivation is about 3000 hectares and 2000 hectares, respectively. The *Pokkali* fields of Kerala have been declining from 25,000 hectares to 9000 hectares (Antony et al 2014). As everywhere, labour cost is a major problem for

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Pokkali farming also. Monoculture of prawns and coconut culture is found to be more beneficial than this farming. *Pokkali* cultivation is also affected by infrastructural development such as roads, bridges, and buildings. In many places, prawn cultivation throughout the year is found to be beneficial without a single crop of paddy. Pollution, use of fertilizers and pesticides, soil salinization and soil erosion, water scarcity and urbanization are also affecting the traditional *Pokkali* farming practices. The discontinuity in paddy cultivation and the continuous shrinking of *Pokkali* fields have begun to affect the ecological balance of the wetland ecosystem adversely (Sudhan *et al.* 2016). Tidal flows, which are so crucial to both *Pokkali* rice and prawn cultivation, have been obstructed due to industrial projects such as the establishment of a container terminal at Vallarpadam. Moreover, the invasion of weeds and overgrowth of mangroves make it difficult for *Pokkali* cultivation to be reintroduced in those areas. This decline in *Pokkali* cultivation has, in turn, led to increasing pollution in fields which have proved disastrous to prawn farming. Due to the unpredicted drought and flood in this area, farmers could not do the cultivation properly.

Issues related to *Pokkali* rice cultivation

- No machinery is available for land preparation. Land for *Pokkali* rice cultivation is prepared by a man using a long-handed spade.
- Manual harvesting is very difficult since the field may be waterlogged during that time.
- The productivity of rice is very low compared to the high-yielding varieties grown in other areas.
- The unavailability of premium markets for the products is a real problem.
- This system depends on the weather conditions.
- Pollution from other industries and biotic stress factors may cause deleterious effects (Vikas *et al.* 2018).

CONCLUSION

As most people depend on rice as a staple food, increased and sustainable production is very important. Salinity is a major problem in agricultural lands. Salt tolerant varieties are a need of the hour. *Pokkali* rice is a variety suited for salt-affected areas. One crop of rice, followed by shrimp cultivation, is done organically. Complete recycling of organic wastes is effectively done here. Thus, *Pokkali* is an efficient system where good quality rice and prawns are produced. The product value of organically cultivated *Pokkali* rice is much higher than that obtained from other cultivation systems. Since the nutritional content is more than the other rice varieties, it is preferred in the market. Since the system is kept uninterrupted with the addition of chemicals, agrobiodiversity is conserved in this area. *Pokkali* cultivation helps to maintain a healthy environment and a healthy food system. It should be conserved for the well-being of humans.

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1)Field preparation 2) Sowing 3)Seedlings on mounds 4)Seedling after dismantling the mounds 5, 6 & 7) Crop in the field 8)Harvest 9)Harvested panicles are brought to nearby bunds. Images are collected from Pallippuram Krishi Bhavan, Njarackal Block of Ernakulam district]





Fostering Entrepreneurship and Innovation in India: Exploring Venture Capital's Role in Startup Growth

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ABSTRACT

This study investigates how venture capital supports innovation and entrepreneurship in India's startup ecosystem. This study offers insights into India's entrepreneurial landscape by analyzing a large dataset of secondary data, including venture capital investments, GDP growth rates, start-up procedures, government effectiveness, R&D expenditure, technology adoption, and unicorn start-ups. The results show a constant upward trend in venture capital investments, with the technology sector as the primary beneficiary. According to the study, the start-up ecosystem is expanding, with VC investments growing at a CAGR of 26.7% and R&D spending and technology adoption showing promising signs of growth. For further development, it is essential to streamline government operations and startup registration procedures. Cross-sector cooperation is also crucial because innovative practices are shown in the logistics, food and beverage, healthcare, IT services, education, and agriculture industries. Supporting the technology industry, expediting start-up registration, improving government efficiency, and encouraging cross-sector cooperation are other recommendations. This study adds to the body of knowledge by thoroughly examining the impact of venture capital on the expansion of start-up businesses in India. Regional disparities, long-term effects of venture capital investments, investor viewpoints, the efficacy of regulation, and success factors for unicorn start-ups are all possible areas for further research. This study explains the crucial role venture capital plays in encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship in India. For promoting economic growth and sustainable development, the start-up ecosystem must continue to receive support and nurturing.

Keywords: venture capital, entrepreneurship, innovation startups, India, annual VC investments, job creation.



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INTRODUCTION

In every nation, creativity and entrepreneurship are acknowledged as being major forces behind economic progress and technological advancement (Gompers & Lerner, 2001). The startup ecosystem in India has grown significantly, becoming a thriving centre for innovation and entrepreneurship. Venture capital (VC) has emerged as a crucial source of finance and assistance for entrepreneurs, helping to drive this growth and make innovative projects possible (Brouwer, Kleinknecht, & Reijnen, 1993). VC investments enable businesses to handle obstacles and expand their operations by providing not only financial funding but also strategic guidance and industry contacts (Manigart & Wright, 2013). There is still a gap in the precise processes through which venture capital promotes startup growth in the Indian landscape, despite the fact that venture capital is becoming increasingly recognized for its significance in promoting entrepreneurship and innovation. Although earlier research looked at the role of VC in contexts like the US and Europe (Avnimelech & Teubal, 2004), there is a necessity for research that particularly explores the Indian startup ecosystem.

This study's goal is to learn more about how venture capital supports innovation and entrepreneurship in India. We seek to close the knowledge gap and offer insightful information about the elements promoting startup growth and innovation in the Indian context by analysing the relationships between annual VC investments, job creation, patent filings, R&D spending, technology adoption, and the number of startups each year. To achieve this, we will examine information gathered between the years of 2012 and 2022, including annual VC investments in India, the number of startups each year, the number of employments generated, patent applications, R&D expenditures, and the technology adoption index. The extent to which VC investments and other factors affect these variables will be explored in relation to one another.

In this study, the relationship between venture capital (VC) investments and startup growth in India is examined using the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Framework. This Framework offers a thorough lens through which we can examine the intricate interaction of factors that affect innovation and entrepreneurship in the Indian context. We aim to gain insights into the role of venture capital in promoting the growth of startups by examining key variables such as annual VC investments, number of startups, jobs created, patents issued, R&D expenditure, technology adoption index, GDP growth, new business density, and government effectiveness.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In the modern world, venture capital (VC) has become a vital force behind innovation and entrepreneurship. The significant relationship between venture capital investments and the number of businesses founded has been shown in numerous research. For instance, Gompers and Lerner (2001) discovered that, in comparison to non-VC-backed enterprises, VC-backed firms had higher survival rates and growth potential. The importance of venture capital (VC) in promoting the development of high-growth enterprises was highlighted by Avnimelech and Teubal (2004). These studies lay the groundwork for investigating the connection between venture capital investments and the total number of startups in India. Another significant factor in the effect of VC investments is job creation. According to studies, firms with venture capital funding tend to generate more jobs than startups without such funding (Ramayah & Harun, 2005). This implies that venture capital plays a vital role in driving employment opportunities. Venture capital (VC) is essential for encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship in India. In order to encourage VC activities, Dossani and Kenney (2002) emphasize the significance of legislative and policy frameworks, including measures like tax incentives and incubation centers as well as flexible rules. Pandey (1998) emphasizes financial reforms and legislative changes while highlighting the difficulties and procedures required in creating a thriving venture capital market. According to Bowonder and Mani (2004), VC investments have a favorable effect on the advancement of technology, the commercialization of innovation, and the expansion of startups in India. To draw venture capital and foster startup growth, government measures, such as tax incentives and regulatory frameworks, are essential (Gompers & Lerner, 2001). As VC-backed businesses produce more employment prospects, VC funding



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also helps to create jobs (Ramayah & Harun, 2005). There are still several difficulties despite the expansion of the venture capital sector in India. Some of the major obstacles faced by businesses looking for venture capital investments include the limited availability of early-stage finance, the lack of exit possibilities, and regulatory complexity (Mitra, 2000).

OBJECTIVES

1. To Study the effect of venture capital investments on the expansion of startups in India.
2. To Analyze the connection between venture capital investments and the growth of the startup ecosystem in India.
3. To assess the elements of India's entrepreneurial ecosystem and how they affect startup growth.
4. To explore venture capital's function as a significant actor in the entrepreneurial ecosystem and its effects on promoting innovation and entrepreneurship.

Research Question: What Role does venture capital play in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship in the Indian startup ecosystem?

Problem Statement: Even if venture capital is becoming more prevalent in India, its precise effects on entrepreneurship and innovation within the startup ecosystem need to be understood. The question that arises is: How does venture capital support the expansion of startups and their potential for innovation in India?

Research Gap: There is a gap in understanding venture capital's precise influence on the Indian startup ecosystem, despite studies being done on the function of venture capital in fostering entrepreneurship and innovation in diverse contexts. There is a dearth of studies particularly looking at the Indian setting, and most of the extant literature concentrates on Western economies. This research gap must be filled to obtain understanding of the special dynamics and difficulties of venture capital's involvement in promoting innovation and entrepreneurship in India. Furthermore, there are no studies on the connection between venture capital investments and key startup growth metrics like job creation, patent filings, and R&D spending in the Indian setting. To make well-informed judgements and create strategies that can successfully foster entrepreneurship and innovation in India, lawmakers, investors, and entrepreneurs must understand these relationships.

By filling in this knowledge gap, the study intends to advance the field by offering empirical proof of the precise influence of venture capital on the Indian startup ecosystem. The results will provide important new understandings into how well venture capital works in India to promote entrepreneurship, innovation, and economic growth.

Research Design:

- To analyze the links between venture capital investments and various measures of entrepreneurship and innovation, the study will use a quantitative research design.
- From 2012 to 2022, longitudinal data will be gathered to look for trends and patterns.

The Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Framework:

According to the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Framework, an ecosystem's many interrelated components interact to influence entrepreneurship and startup success. Entrepreneurs, venture capital and funding, assistance groups, governmental policies and rules, educational and research institutions, infrastructure, and networks, as well as culture and attitudes, are some of these aspects. These components help us comprehend the dynamics and environmental factors that influence India's entrepreneurial scene. Linking Variables to the Framework: To contextualize and analyze the correlations between VC investments and startup growth, we use the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Framework in our study. The annual VC investments play a critical role in the ecosystem's funding element, making it easier for entrepreneurs to acquire capital. Additionally, indicators of the entrepreneurial outcomes influenced by the ecosystem's support organizations, governmental policies, and educational and research institutions include the number of startups, employment generated, and patents issued. The technology adoption index shows the integration and spread of new technologies throughout the ecosystem, whilst the R&D expenditure variable denotes investments in innovation and technical breakthroughs.



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To fully understand the effects of the entrepreneurial ecosystem, we also consider factors like GDP growth, the density of new businesses, and the efficacy of the government. These factors shed light on India's general economic progress, entrepreneurial dynamism, and startup-friendly climate. Analytical Methods: We use statistical methods like regression analysis to examine the association between VC investments and startup growth. Using these techniques, we can investigate how VC investments affect the dependent variables while considering the framework's representation of the entire entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Evolution of Innovation Ecosystems in India.**Venture capital investment**

From 2011 to 2022, there was a steady increase in VC investment in India, with 2021 being the peak year with \$38.5 billion invested. The recession in the world economy, the conflict in Ukraine, and the rise in prices are some of the causes of the fall in 2022. Over 50% of investments will be made in the technology industry in 2022, making it the most favored sector for VC investment. With 1,611 deals concluded in 2022, the number of deals has also been rising. With a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 26.7%, the average annual VC investment in India increased from \$3.1 billion in 2011 to \$61.6 billion in 2022, indicating a considerable growth trend. The sector with the highest CAGR, at 31.7%, is technology, followed by the consumer sector at 19.6%. These trends suggest continued growth and opportunities in VC investment in India.

Venture Capital Investment and Employability Rates in Indian States

Increased venture capital investment is correlated with higher rates of employability in Indian states. Because it facilitates business growth and signals a significant market need, venture capitalists favour investing in states with a competent workforce. For instance, the states with the greatest rates of employability—Utter Pradesh, Maharashtra, Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Gujarat—have drawn a sizable amount of venture capital investment. This link promotes economic expansion and employment development. By giving companies the tools and assistance, they need to succeed, venture capital plays a critical part in encouraging entrepreneurship and innovation in India. India can rebound and reinvigorate its development drivers despite difficulties brought on by geopolitical unrest in Europe thanks to its toughness and underlying economic strength. Venture capital is becoming more and more important in fostering entrepreneurial endeavors and supporting the overall ecosystem of entrepreneurship and innovation as India develops as an economy with rapid growth.

GDP Growth Rates: Trends and Observations

The range of GDP growth is between -6.60% and 8.68%. The standard deviation is 4.33%, and the average growth rate is 5.20%. 2020 saw the lowest growth rate of -6.60%, and 2021 saw the highest growth rate of 8.68%. The data show that GDP growth rates are volatile and have recently declined, with the average growth rate for the last five years being lower than it was over the prior five.

India growth projections by various agencies for FY23.**Sector wise number of recognized Startups**

The Indian startup ecosystem boasts a wide range of industries, with a total of 92,683 recognized startups. Some prominent sectors include healthcare and life sciences with 8,691 startups, IT services with 11,099 startups, and education with 5,962 startups. The food and beverages industry is also thriving with 4,523 startups, while agriculture has 4,653 startups. Additionally, renewable energy has attracted 2,429 startups, and logistics has 412 startups. These numbers reflect the diverse and dynamic nature of the Indian startup scene, showcasing innovation and entrepreneurship across various sectors.

List of all Indian Unicorn Startup with their revenue, profit, and valuation:

The firms operate in a variety of sectors, including e-commerce, fintech, healthtech, and others. Several firms generate considerable income in the hundreds of millions of dollars, with amounts ranging from \$0.50 million for Open to an astounding \$845.70 million for Upstox. Profit amounts differ, with some businesses reporting billion-dollar profits while others have not released their totals. In terms of valuations, there is a wide range, with Flipkart



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leading the group at \$37.60 billion. This information demonstrates the vibrant and expanding startup scene in India, where a number of businesses are experiencing significant growth in terms of sales, profitability, and market value.

Growth and Support of startup ecosystem

There were consistently 10 to 9 startup steps needed to register a business. The percentile rank for government effectiveness increased with time, rising from 45.19 in 2013 to 70.76 in 2022. This shows that India's start-up ecosystem is booming, with rising investments and favorable views of government assistance.

Analysis of Economic Indicators

According to the data, VC investments and R&D spending have increased significantly in India, and the technology adoption index has improved. The amount spent on R&D has steadily increased, and the technology adoption index has gradually improved. Variations in sector performance are indicated by industry and credit percentages. This data emphasises efforts towards innovation and technical improvement and highlights the dynamic nature of the Indian economy.

DATA ANALYSIS

According to the model summary, the given model exhibits good data fit. Its R-squared value of 0.836 shows that the included independent variables account for 83.6% of the variance in the dependent variable. Given the number of predictors, the modified R-squared value of 0.727 implies that the model's fit is still excellent. The average discrepancy between the values that were seen and those that were predicted is 9.6645, which is the standard error of the estimate. An F-change statistic with a p-value of 0.015 shows that the model's fit is significantly improved with the addition of more predictors. The number of new patents issued under IPR, GVA at Basic Prices (%), and the number of jobs produced by startups, and GDP growth (annual %).

A mean square of 716.122 is obtained from the regression sums of squares, which are 2864.490 with 4 degrees of freedom. Regression model statistical significance is demonstrated by the F-statistic of 7.667. This model's importance is further supported by the fact that the p-value for this F-statistic is 0.015.

FINDINGS

1. VC Investment and Economic Growth: From 2011 to 2022, VC investments in India grew steadily, reaching a peak of \$38.5 billion in 2021.
 - With over 50% of investments in 2022, the technology sector has been the most favored for VC investment.
 - There have been 1,611 closed deals in 2022, an increase over the previous year.
 - With a CAGR of 26.7%, the average annual VC investment increased significantly from \$3.1 billion in 2011 to \$61.6 billion in 2022.
2. GDP Growth Rates: The average GDP growth rate in India is 5.20%, with a recent fall in growth rates compared to the previous five years. Growth rates have fluctuated, ranging from -6.60% to 8.68%.
3. Start-up Ecosystem: The Indian start-up ecosystem is diverse, reflecting innovation and entrepreneurship across a range of industries. Prominent sectors include healthcare and life sciences, IT services, education, food and beverage, agriculture, renewable energy, and logistics.
4. Unicorn firms: India is home to several unicorn firms, all of which have large revenues, profits, and valuations.
 - Revenue ranges from \$0.50 million to \$845.70 million, with numerous startups producing hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue.
 - Profit amounts differ, and estimates range from a few million to many billions of dollars.
5. Start-up Procedures and the Effectiveness of Government:
 - The number of start-up procedures necessary for business registration stayed constant at 10 to 9.



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- The percentile score for government efficacy increased with time, demonstrating that people have favorable opinions of the government's assistance.
6. R&D Expenditure and Technology Adoption: R&D spending has steadily increased, showing an emphasis on innovation.
- An increase in the technology adoption index suggests that new technologies are being embraced.
- Overall, the results show the dynamism and growth of the Indian start-up ecosystem, with sizeable VC investments, a variety of industries, and favorable impressions of government support. The paper also emphasizes the significance of technological adoption, innovation, and unicorns in promoting economic growth.

Suggestions

1. Encourage and support the technology sector: Policymakers and investors should continue to give the technology industry top priority and support given its substantial contribution to VC investments and its potential for growth. This can be accomplished by implementing focused rules, building out the infrastructure, and encouraging partnerships between emerging entrepreneurs and well-established tech firms.
2. Simplify and streamline the start-up registration operations: Although the quantity of start-up procedures necessary for business registration has remained constant, there is room for improvement. A thriving start-up ecosystem can be supported by removing administrative barriers to firm creation and offering online registration platforms.
3. Increase government effectiveness: Although the government effectiveness percentile rank has improved, more work must be done to increase the efficiency of government assistance for new businesses. This can involve undertaking projects like offering mentorship programs, making it easier to get funds, and putting into practice laws that encourage innovation and entrepreneurship.
4. Encourage collaboration across sectors: The study emphasizes the variety of industries present in the Indian start-up ecosystem. Collaboration across several industries, such as healthcare and technology or agriculture and renewable energy sources, can result in creative solutions and quick growth. Initiatives that promote collaborations, ecosystem integration, and information sharing can be helpful in this regard.

Novelty of Research

The uniqueness of this study resides in its thorough investigation of venture capital's contribution to promoting innovation and entrepreneurship in India's start-up ecosystem. This study offers a comprehensive understanding of the dynamics and trends in India's start-up landscape by looking at key indicators like VC investments, GDP growth rates, sectoral performance, start-up procedures, government effectiveness, R&D expenditure, technology adoption, and unicorn start-ups. The study combines a variety of data sources and analysis to offer insight on the factors that affect start-up growth and its difficulties, emphasizing the importance of venture capital as a success factor for entrepreneurs.

CONCLUSIONS

According to the study's findings, the Indian start-up ecosystem has seen a considerable increase in venture capital investments, diverse sectoral development, and good impressions of government support. Technology has become a significant source of VC funding, demonstrating its capacity to spur innovation and economic expansion. A dedication to encouraging innovation and remaining at the forefront of technical breakthroughs is shown by the steadily rising R&D investment and the improving usage of technology. The existence of unicorn firms with high levels of income, profitability, and valuation exemplifies the success and entrepreneurship of the Indian start-up ecosystem. There is still potential for improvement, particularly in streamlining the registration process for new businesses and increasing the efficiency of the government.



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Overall, the research indicates that India can maintain a flourishing start-up environment that fosters economic growth, job creation, and innovation by using the assets of the technology sector, reducing administrative procedures, and encouraging collaboration.

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Table 1. Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change
1	.915 ^a	.836	.727	9.6645	.836	7.667	4	6	.015

a. Predictors: (Constant), Number of new patents rights issues under IPR, GVA at Basic prices(percentage), Number of jobs created by startups, GDP growth (annual %)

Table 2. ANOVA^a

Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1 Regression	2864.490	4	716.122	7.667	.015 ^b
1 Residual	560.419	6	93.403		
Total	3424.909	10			

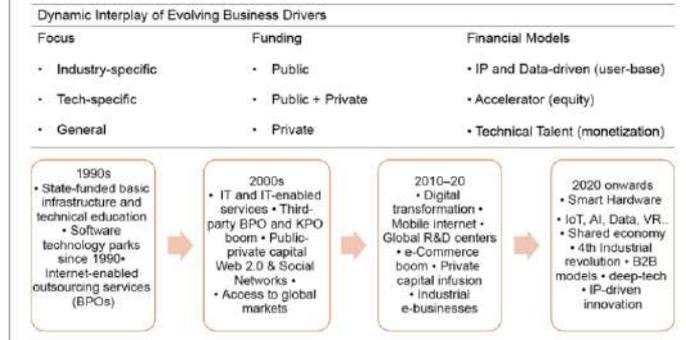
a. Dependent Variable: Annual VC investments in India (\$B)

b. Predictors: (Constant), Number of new patents rights issues under IPR, GVA at Basic prices(percentage), Number of jobs created by startups, GDP growth (annual %)



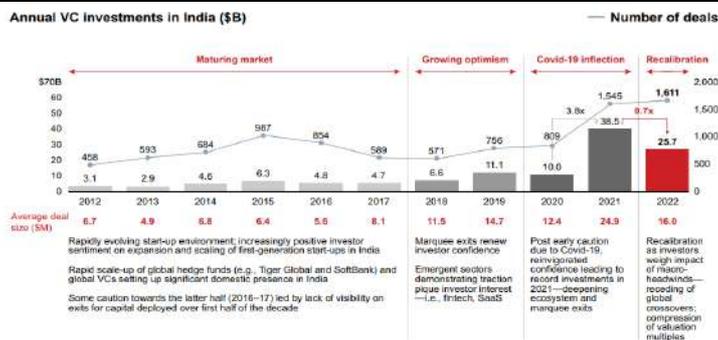


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Source: Adopted and modified by authors for the Indian case from: Sharma and Meyer 2019.

Fig.1. Evolution of Innovation Ecosystems in India.



Sources: Bain & Company; Pitchbook; Venture Intelligence; AVGJ; VCCEdge

Fig.2. Venture capital investment

States with Highest Employability

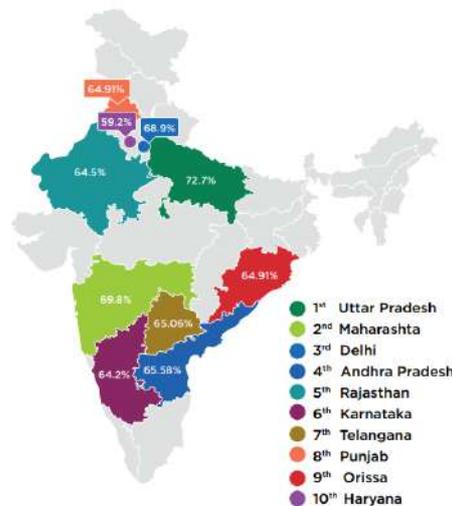
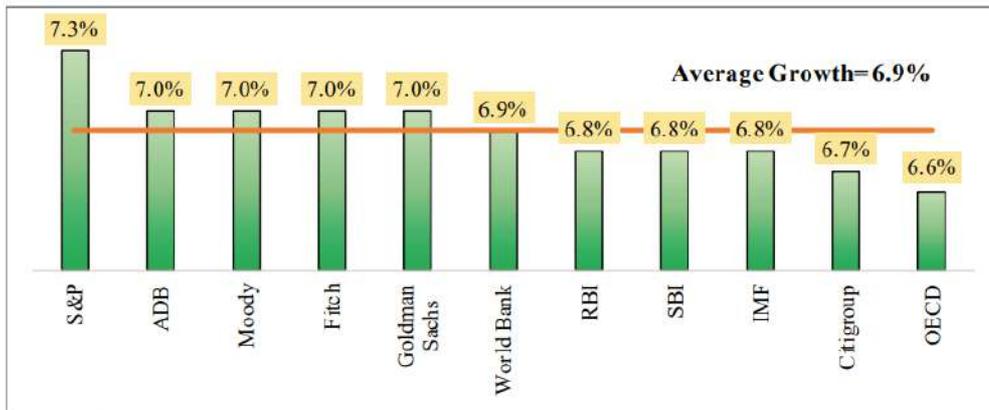


Fig.3. Venture Capital Investment and Employability Rates in Indian States





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Source: Various Agencies

Fig.4. India growth projections by various agencies for FY23.

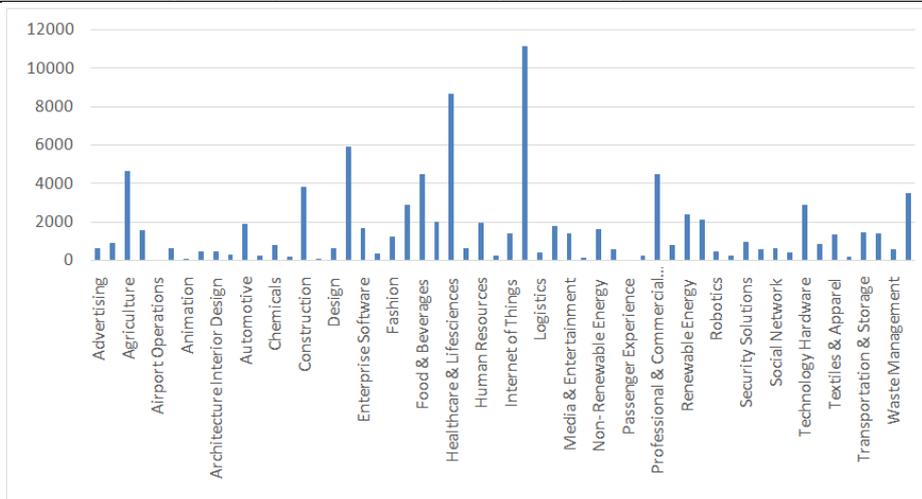


Fig.5. Sector wise number of recognized Startups

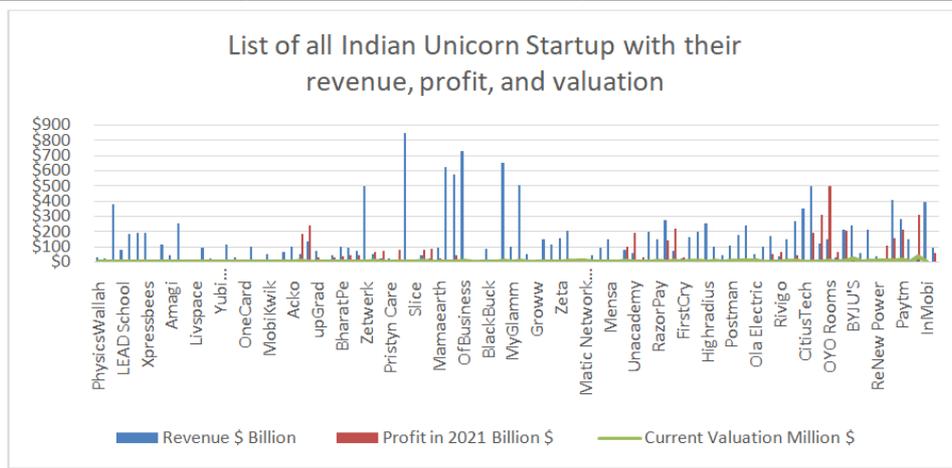


Fig.6. List of all Indian Unicorn Startup with their revenue, profit, and valuation





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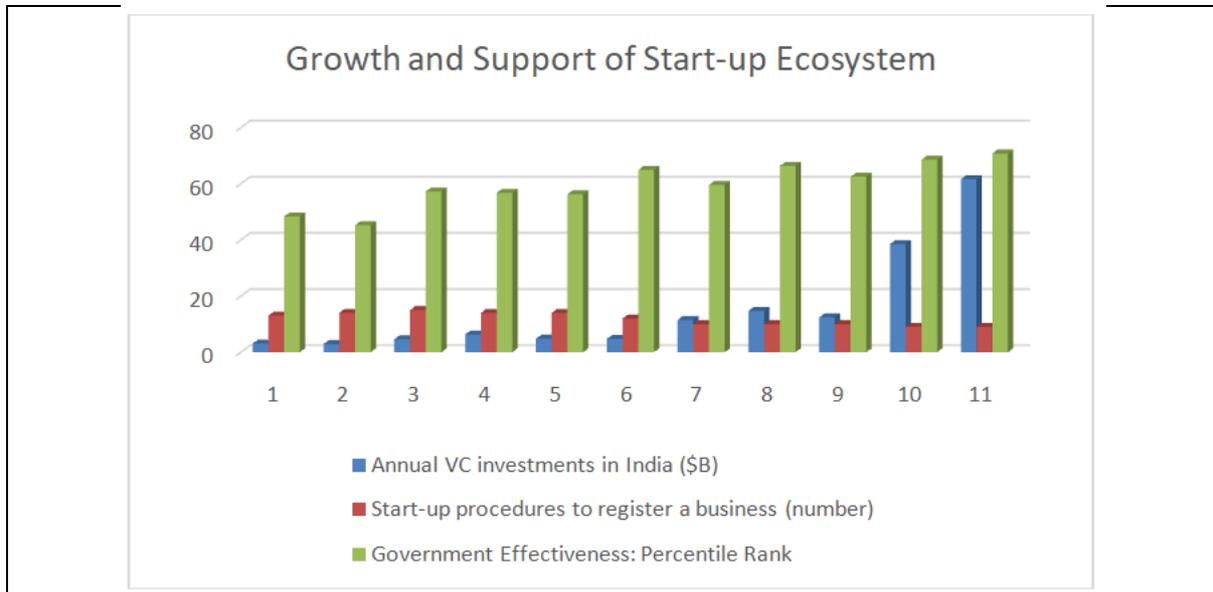


Fig.7. Growth and Support of startup ecosystem

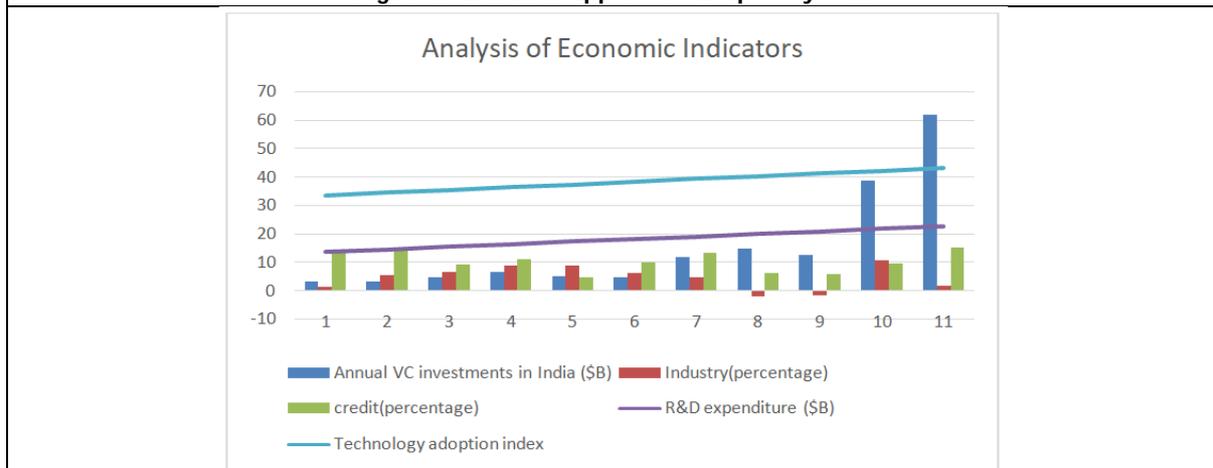


Fig.8. Analysis of Economic Indicators





Analysis of Patterns and Effects of Traffic Density on Urban Transportation Systems

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ABSTRACT

Traffic density, a key indicator of vehicular concentration on roadways, holds paramount importance in urban areas due to its profound impact on multiple dimensions of urban life and infrastructure. Understanding the significance of traffic density provides crucial insights for urban planning, transportation management, environmental sustainability, and overall quality of life. This research paper delves into the intricate interplay between traffic density patterns and urban transportation systems. Analyzing the methods, models, and findings of traffic density analysis, the study uncovers the profound impacts of density on congestion, air quality, fuel consumption, and overall urban livability. Through empirical data and comprehensive literature review, the paper elucidates how high traffic density poses challenges to efficient and sustainable urban mobility. The paper also highlights innovative mitigation strategies that encompass technology, policy, and planning, providing insights for creating resilient and harmonious urban transport environments.

Key words: Traffic Density patterns, urban transportation system, urban infrastructure, transportation management, urban planning

INTRODUCTION

The bustling arteries of modern urban landscapes are intricately woven with the threads of transportation systems, connecting people, goods, and services across cities. In this intricate web, the phenomenon of traffic density emerges as a pivotal element that significantly influences the dynamics of urban life. As cities continue to grow in size and



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complexity, the study of traffic density patterns takes on paramount importance, serving as a compass to navigate the challenges posed by congestion, pollution, and overall transportation efficiency.

Urbanization has been an enduring hallmark of the contemporary era, drawing people in unprecedented numbers to cities in search of opportunities and better livelihoods. However, this influx of individuals and the surge in economic activities have given rise to a host of intricate challenges, with traffic congestion standing as a poignant symbol of the struggles faced by urban residents. The fluidity of city life is often stifled by traffic snarls and bottlenecks, as vehicles of all kinds compete for limited road space. This pressing issue not only hampers the convenience of urban mobility but also presents multifaceted impacts on the environment, economy, and public health.

In this context, the study of traffic density problems emerges as a linchpin for understanding the intricate dance of vehicles on urban roadways. Traffic density, quantified as the number of vehicles per unit length of road, serves as a fundamental metric that paints a vivid picture of how transportation networks function. Analyzing these patterns provides insights into the ebb and flow of vehicular movement, revealing peak hours of congestion, preferred routes, and potential bottlenecks. By deciphering these patterns, we gain a clearer understanding of the dynamics driving urban traffic.

Beyond its intrinsic curiosity, this study holds profound implications for various stakeholders, ranging from urban planners and policymakers to transportation engineers and environmental advocates. Urban planners seek to design cities that harmonize mobility and livability, and the insights from traffic density patterns aid in optimizing road networks and public transportation systems. Policy makers benefit from this knowledge to draft effective policies that address congestion, air pollution, and energy consumption. Transportation engineers draw from these patterns to design intelligent traffic management systems that mitigate congestion and improve overall transportation efficiency. Moreover, the broader implications of traffic density patterns extend to environmental sustainability and public health, influencing decisions related to pollution control and urban well-being. This research paper embarks on a journey to explore the nuances of traffic density patterns within urban areas. By delving into the significance of these patterns, we aim to unravel their effects on various aspects of urban life, ranging from transportation efficiency to environmental quality. By shedding light on these patterns, we not only deepen our understanding of urban dynamics but also contribute to the collective knowledge that shapes our cities for a more sustainable and interconnected future.

Objectives of the Study

- To analyze and characterize traffic density patterns within a specific urban area over different time periods.
- To investigate the impacts of varying traffic density levels on travel time, delays, and overall travel efficiency within the urban transportation network.
- To explore the effects of traffic density on the utilization and performance of type of transportation systems
- To study and analyze the impact of peak hours on traffic and choice of vehicle

Relevance of traffic density analysis for urban planning, infrastructure development, and transportation management

Traffic density analysis holds immense relevance for urban planning, infrastructure development, and transportation management due to its ability to provide critical insights that inform decision-making and enhance the efficiency, safety, and sustainability of urban environments. The following points elaborate on the significance of traffic density analysis in these key areas:

Urban Planning

- **Optimized Road Networks:** Traffic density analysis helps urban planners identify congestion-prone areas and bottlenecks, enabling them to design road networks that efficiently distribute traffic flow and reduce congestion.





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- **Transportation Modes Integration:** Understanding traffic density patterns aids in integrating different transportation modes, such as public transit, cycling lanes, and pedestrian pathways, creating a balanced and interconnected urban mobility ecosystem.
- **Mixed-Use Zoning:** Knowledge of traffic density patterns informs decisions about land use and zoning regulations, ensuring that commercial, residential, and recreational areas are appropriately situated to minimize transportation-related conflicts and congestion.

Infrastructure Development:

- **Effective Infrastructure Expansion:** Traffic density analysis guides the expansion of roadways, bridges, and intersections in areas with high traffic demands, alleviating congestion and enhancing overall transportation capacity.
- **Smart Infrastructure:** Modern infrastructure can be equipped with smart technologies that respond to real-time traffic density patterns, optimizing traffic signals, managing flow, and providing real-time updates to drivers and commuters.
- **Sustainable Design:** Insights from traffic density analysis aid in designing eco-friendly transportation infrastructure by promoting pedestrian-friendly spaces, encouraging non-motorized modes of transport, and supporting electric vehicle charging networks.

Transportation Management:

- **Congestion Mitigation:** Understanding traffic density patterns enables transportation managers to implement strategies to alleviate congestion, such as dynamic traffic signal control, adaptive traffic management systems, and congestion pricing.
- **Emergency Response:** Real-time traffic density data assists emergency responders in optimizing routes during accidents, incidents, or other emergencies, ensuring swift and efficient access to affected areas.
- **Public Transportation Improvement:** Traffic density analysis helps optimize public transportation routes and schedules, providing commuters with reliable and efficient options, thereby encouraging the use of mass transit systems.
- **Traffic Safety:** By identifying high-density areas prone to accidents, transportation management can enhance safety measures, implement speed restrictions, and focus enforcement efforts to reduce traffic-related injuries.

In summary, traffic density analysis serves as a valuable tool for urban planning, infrastructure development, and transportation management by offering insights into the movement patterns of vehicles in urban areas. The application of this analysis helps shape cities that are more livable, sustainable, and resilient, catering to the needs of residents and visitors while addressing challenges related to congestion, air quality, and safety. As urban areas continue to evolve and grow, the integration of traffic density analysis into planning and management strategies becomes increasingly essential for creating efficient and well-functioning urban transportation systems.

Research questions

- How do traffic density patterns vary across different time periods (e.g., peak hours vs. off-peak hours) within urban transportation networks?
- What are the primary factors contributing to traffic congestion in high-density areas of urban transportation systems?
- What are the impacts of traffic density on various aspects, such as congestion, air quality, fuel consumption, and overall urban livability?
- How do varying traffic density levels impact travel time, delays, and overall transportation efficiency within urban road networks?
- How do traffic density patterns affect the performance and utilization of public transportation systems, and what strategies can enhance their efficiency?



**Prajakta Nilesh Warale and Huma Lone****Literature Review on Methods for Traffic Density Analysis:**

- *Traffic Count Surveys:* Traditional traffic density analysis often involves manual or automated traffic count surveys. These surveys use sensors, cameras, or manual observations to measure vehicle flow and density at specific locations and times.
- *GPS Data and Probe Vehicles:* GPS data collected from vehicles and probe vehicles provide real-time information about traffic movement and density, enabling a comprehensive view of traffic patterns.
- *Remote Sensing Technologies:* Remote sensing technologies like drones and satellites can be used to capture traffic flow and density from aerial perspectives.
- *Traffic Simulation Models:* Simulation models, such as microsimulation and macroscopic models, allow researchers to replicate and predict traffic density patterns under various scenarios.

Models for Traffic Density Analysis:

- *Flow-Density Relationship Models:* Fundamental traffic flow models like the Greenshields model describe the relationship between traffic density, flow, and speed. These models are used to estimate density based on observed flow and speed.
- *Cellular Automata Models:* Cellular automata models simulate individual vehicle behavior and interactions, allowing the analysis of traffic density patterns and emergent congestion phenomena.
- *Queue Models:* Queue models study the formation and dissipation of traffic queues, providing insights into congestion dynamics and the impact of varying traffic density on queue length and delay.
- *Dynamic Traffic Assignment Models:* These models consider traveler behavior and route choice under different traffic density conditions, aiding in understanding how congestion influences route decisions.

Impacts of traffic density on various aspects, such as congestion, air quality, fuel consumption, and overall urban livability.

1. **Congestion:** High traffic density is a primary driver of congestion in urban transportation systems. As roads become saturated with vehicles, traffic flow slows down, leading to increased travel times, delays, and frustration for commuters. Congestion not only reduces the efficiency of transportation networks but also has economic implications due to lost productivity and increased fuel consumption.
2. **Air Quality:** Traffic density directly affects air quality in urban areas. Congested traffic leads to idling vehicles, which emit higher levels of pollutants such as nitrogen oxides (NOx), carbon monoxide (CO), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and particulate matter (PM). Poor air quality contributes to respiratory diseases, cardiovascular problems, and decreased overall public health.
3. **Fuel Consumption and Emissions:** Higher traffic density results in stop-and-go traffic, leading to increased fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. Vehicles in congested conditions tend to operate at lower fuel efficiency, resulting in greater fuel consumption per mile traveled and higher carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions.
4. **Noise Pollution:** Increased traffic density contributes to higher levels of noise pollution, impacting the quality of life for urban residents. Noise from vehicles—particularly horns, engine noise, and tire friction—can disrupt sleep patterns, increase stress levels, and negatively affect overall well-being.
5. **Infrastructure Wear and Tear:** High traffic density places significant stress on road infrastructure, leading to increased wear and tear. Frequent congestion and heavy vehicle loads contribute to the deterioration of road surfaces, necessitating more frequent maintenance and repair efforts.
6. **Safety Concerns:** Dense traffic conditions increase the likelihood of accidents. Reduced speeds, stop-and-go traffic, and close proximity between vehicles can lead to rear-end collisions, fender-benders, and more severe accidents, further impacting urban safety.
7. **Accessibility and Livability:** Excessive traffic density can limit accessibility to various parts of the city, making it harder for residents to access amenities, services, and job opportunities. It also negatively affects the urban livability by contributing to stress, reduced outdoor activities, and overall lower quality of life.
8. **Transportation Equity:** High traffic density areas often impact low-income communities disproportionately. These communities are more likely to be located near major roads or highways, exposing residents to higher levels of pollution, noise, and safety risks.



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The impacts of traffic density on congestion, air quality, fuel consumption, and overall urban livability are complex and intertwined. Understanding these impacts is crucial for implementing effective urban planning strategies, transportation management policies, and sustainable mobility solutions that mitigate negative effects and create more livable and environmentally friendly urban environments.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research is designed based on the exploratory data analysis and pattern recognition using the data, and drawing conclusion based on the findings. Along with which, hypothesis testing is done using statistical methods to vet the conclusions.

- 1) Research Problem / statement of Problem: To study the patterns of traffic conditions during a week and effects of daytime, workday and peak hours on traffic conditions and choice of vehicles
- 2) Hypothesis statement: The study tests two concepts here with separate sets of hypotheses as mentioned below:
 - a. Day or peak hours does not have any impact on traffic conditions
 - b. Daytime or night time does not have any impact on traffic conditions and the type of vehicles used
- 3) Research Design: This is quantitative research, where we use statistical methods to test the hypothesis and evaluate numerous variables from the data gathered (described in detail below).

Methods of data collection

- a) Primary data:
 - i. The data hourly count of the vehicles collected for seven consecutive days.
 - ii. The data is collected from various major locations of a Tier 1 city of India where more traffic is observed on a daily basis.

Statistical technique

- a. Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

The exploratory data analysis method was used in this study to find trends in the studied data for weekday vs. weekend, hourly traffic density, peak hours, and vehicle type.

- b. Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)

One-Way ANOVA was performed in this investigation to see whether the variables taken into account had any discernible impact on the dependent variables. The calculation was performed with MS Excel 2013's Data Analysis feature.

If the value of F is near to 1, then there is no significant variance between the means of the two groups of data.

1. Traffic: Traffic is the movement (as of vehicles or pedestrians) through an area or along a route.
2. Weekday and Weekend:

Weekend is the break in the working week, usually two days including traditional holy days, mostly Saturday and Sunday.

Weekday is any other day than weekends of a working week, usually are Monday to Friday.
3. Peak Hours:

Peak hours are also called as rush hours is a part of the day during which traffic congestion on roads and crowding on public transport is at its highest.
4. Tier of the City:

India's cities have been divided into Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 classifications. Tier 1 cities are the most developed, whereas tier 2 and tier 3 cities are the least developed.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) categorises Tier 1 cities as having a population of 1 lakh or more. These are cities with well-established businesses, as well as civic and social facilities and real estate markets. Their real estate



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markets are the most expensive in the nation. Bangalore, Delhi, Hyderabad, Chennai, Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, and Pune are Tier 1 cities.

Tier 2 cities are the developing cities with population between 50000 to 99999 and the businesses are growing along with steady growth in infrastructure. India has 20 Tier 2 cities.

Tier 3 cities are the marginally developed cities with population from 20000 to 49999 and they need more investments and infrastructure for future growth.

Issues dues to traffic congestion

Traffic jams' main drawback is lost time at work. The release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, which causes the problem of global warming, is the other unfavourable consequence of heavy traffic. Nowadays, companies offer home delivery services. Businesses that deal in time bonds are significantly impacted by traffic. In traffic congestion, breaking and accelerating frequently increases gasoline consumption. So, there is an additional loss. Road rage is the ludicrous response that commuters frequently have when there is a traffic delay. People frequently drive aggressively and in foul language, which might cause accidents. Traffic congestion delays the arrival of emergency vehicles such as the fire department and ambulance.

Statistical Techniques used:

- Exploratory data analysis (EDA)* is a sort of study that looks for broad trends in the data. Anomalies and possibly unexpected elements of the data are included in these patterns. This is the first step in any data analysis. By being aware of where outliers occur and how variables are related, one can develop statistical studies that yield pertinent results.
- ANOVA:ANOVA* test is used to examine whether the results of an experiment or survey are relevant. The technique helps you to decide whether to accept the null hypothesis. A one-way ANOVA is used to compare two means from two independent (unrelated) groups using the F-distribution. The null hypothesis of the test is that the two means are equal and does not have any impact on each other.

The Data

- The data collected using the Nebulinx Pvt. Ltd. tracking devices is generalized to group into hourly data (Annexure: Table 1 – Hourly Traffic for a Week in Tier 1 City of India). Specific details of the tracked vehicles and the actual time of vehicle passing by the data collection point are removed. The data contains following parameters:
 - Day Number : The data is collected for seven consecutive days. The days are numbered as Day 1, Day 2, Day 3, Day 4, Day 5, Day 6 and Day 7.
 - Day: The covers the records from mid night i.e. 12:00 AM of day 1 to the mid night i.e. 12:00 AM of Day 8.
 - Time: Time column mentions each hour for which total vehicles passed by were counted. The time starts from 1:00 AM to 12:00 AM
 - Peak Hrs: Peak Hours is the period in a day where there is high traffic is expected because of various factors which are not considered in this study, e.g. Office working hours, Business hours, etc.
 - Workday: Workday is considered to be the period from Monday to Friday when most of the business activities and workplaces are active.
 - No. of Vehicles: This is the total no. of cars and bikes passed by the data collection point which is further sub grouped into No. of Cars which shows the count of Cars only and No. of Bikes shows the count of Bikes only for respective duration.

Exploratory Data Analysis

- Day Vs Vehicles Count:
Day Vs Vehicles count is the bar graph (Refer Graph 1 - Day Vs Vehicles) which represents three types of counts per day – Sum of no. of cars, Sum of no. of bike and Sum of no. of vehicles (Annexure: Table 2 - Day Vs Vehicles)



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- e. Day type Vs Vehicles Count:
Day type Vs Vehicles count is the bar graph (Refer Graph 2 - Day type Vs Vehicles Count) which represents the count of cars and bikes against type of Day i.e. Weekday or Weekend (Annexure: Table 3 - Day type Vs Vehicles Count).
- f. Peak Hours Vs Vehicles Count:
Peak Hours Vs Vehicles count is the bar graph (Refer Graph 3 – Peak Hours Vs Vehicles Count) which represents the count of cars and bikes against the Peak hours No Peak Hours collectively for entire week (Annexure: Table 4 - Peak Hours Vs Vehicles Count)
- g. Day wise Peak Hours Vs Vehicles Count:
Day wise Peak Hours Vs Vehicles Count is a bar graph (Refer Graph 4 - Day wise Peak Hours Vs Vehicles Count) which represents the count of cars and bikes against peak hours and no peak hours for each day separately (Annexure: Table 5 - Day wise Peak Hours Vs Vehicles Count)
- h. Time Vs Vehicles Count:
Time Vs Vehicles Count is the bar graph (Refer Graph 5 - Time Vs Vehicles Count) which represents the count of vehicles, no. of cars and bikes separately against each hour of the day for entire week (Annexure: Table 6 - Time Vs Vehicles Count).

Graph 1 - Day Vs Vehicles

The graph show the clear pattern of higher traffic from Monday to Friday whereas the traffic is less on Saturday and Sunday. The graph also shows that the number of bikes on roads is more than no. of cars on any day

Graph 2 - Day type Vs Vehicles Count

The graph shows that the weekdays face more traffic than weekend. Additionally it also depicts that the no. of bikes used is more than no. of cars

Graph 3 – Peak Hours Vs Vehicles Count

The graph shows that the overall traffic during peak hours is higher than non peak hours. It also shows that the no. of bikes is very high than no. of cars in both types.

Graph 4 - Day wise Peak Hours Vs Vehicles Count

The graph shows the distribution of traffic during each hour of the day. This provides following interpretations:

Traffic during day time is very high than that at the night time.

The traffic gradually increases from night time to day time as it goes to peak hours and, similarly decreases after peak hours from evening to night.

No. of bikes dominates the day time traffic while in night time no. of cars used is more than that of bikes

Graph 5 - Time Vs Vehicles Count

The graph shows that the traffic during peak hours vs non peak hours has drastic difference for any day. However Saturday and Sunday still has lesser traffic than other days.

Hypothesis testing:

Two scenarios were analyzed as part of hypothesis testing as listed and explained below:

Scenario 1: Does Day or Peak Hours does have impact on traffic or not?

The proposed Hypotheses are as below

Null Hypothesis (H₀): Day or Peak Hours does not have any impact on traffic

Alternate Hypothesis (H_A): Day or Peak Hours has impact on traffic

The summary below represents the count of groups, sum of data in each group, average based on all categories, and variance for each group were calculated using one-way ANOVA in MS Excel.



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1. Interpretation: Variance between Monday to Friday does not show much difference. Variance between Saturday and Sunday does not show much difference either. However difference between the group of Weekdays and Weekends is higher. This also interprets that the weekdays has more traffic than weekends
2. The source of variation, F-value, and P-value calculations are shown below using the source data and MS Excel's "Data Analysis" feature.
3. Interpretation: As per the ANOVA analysis, the calculated P-value is 0.015 which is less than 0.05. This allows us to reject the null hypothesis which says there is no impact of day or peak hours on traffic. We can accept the alternate hypothesis which states that Day and peak hours has the impact on traffic, the traffic is more on weekdays and peak hours.
2. Scenario 2: Does daytime or night time have any impact on traffic conditions and the type of vehicles used or not?
 1. The proposed Hypotheses are as below:
Null Hypothesis (HO): Day or Night time does not have impact on traffic and type of vehicles used
Alternate Hypothesis (HA): Day or Night time has impact on traffic and type of vehicles used
 2. The summary below represents the count of groups, sum of data in each group, average based on all categories, and variance for each group were calculated using one-way ANOVA in MS Excel.
 3. Interpretation: As per the variance values for daytime and night time groups and the type of vehicle, variance between Sum of No. of Cars and Sum of No. of Bikes shows considerable difference. This also interprets that the bikes are more preferred in Tier 1 City than Cars.
 4. The source of variation, F-value, and P-value calculations are shown below using the source data and MS Excel's "Data Analysis" feature.
 5. The calculated P-value is 0.03 which is less than 0.05. This allows us to reject the null hypothesis which says day time or night time does not have impact on traffic and types of vehicles used. We can accept the alternate hypothesis which states that Day or Night time has impact on traffic and type of vehicles used.

Future Trends and Mitigation Strategies

As urban centers continue to evolve and expand, the intricate tapestry of transportation networks faces ever-growing challenges in accommodating the escalating demands of mobility. Traffic density patterns, characterized by the ebb and flow of vehicles through bustling streets and thoroughfares, have emerged as a central concern that significantly shapes the urban experience. Understanding these patterns is not only crucial for comprehending the present state of urban transportation but also for envisioning a sustainable and harmonious future. The importance of studying traffic density patterns in urban areas cannot be overstated. Rapid urbanization, coupled with increased vehicle ownership and changing mobility behaviors, has led to unprecedented levels of congestion, air pollution, and resource depletion. Recognizing the pivotal role that traffic density plays in exacerbating these challenges, researchers, policymakers, and urban planners are turning their attention to identifying innovative strategies that can pave the way toward a more balanced and resilient urban mobility landscape.

In this section, we delve into the anticipated future trends that will shape traffic density patterns and their effects on urban transportation systems. We explore the dynamic interplay of technology, behavior, and infrastructure that will influence how vehicles move through city streets. Moreover, we delve into a comprehensive array of mitigation strategies, ranging from technological innovations to policy interventions, all designed to alleviate the adverse impacts of high traffic density and foster more efficient and sustainable urban mobility. By delving into future trends and mitigation strategies, we aim to provide a comprehensive understanding of how traffic density patterns can be harnessed as a powerful tool for positive change. The insights gathered from this exploration not only guide urban planners and policymakers in shaping transportation infrastructure but also inspire individuals to make informed decisions that collectively contribute to the creation of livable, environmentally conscious urban environments. As





we navigate the challenges of today, it is imperative to set our sights on a future where traffic density patterns cease to be mere obstacles and instead become integral threads in the fabric of urban progress.

FINDINGS

The exploratory analysis of the data shows below findings:

- i. The trend in the graphs shows that vehicles traffic is higher from Monday to Friday (Weekdays) whereas it is less on Saturday and Sunday (Weekend), which shows that the people travel more on weekdays on city roads than on weekends.
- ii. The trend in the graphs shows that the choice of vehicles in city is mainly bike as it is easier to handle and useful for faster commute as compare to cars in heavy traffic
- iii. The trend shows that the overall traffic during peak hours is higher than non peak hours. The traffic congestion is higher due to the travelling of majority of people is during the work hours on weekdays in the cities than that on the weekends. The data analysis for the city supports this finding.
- iv. The data shows the trend of traffic distribution during each hour as traffic during day time is very high than that at the night time. The traffic gradually increases from night time to day time as it goes to peak hours and, similarly decreases after peak hours from evening to night. Which means that the traffic in the cities is mainly during the peak hours of weekdays, which is due to the work travelling of the citizen.
- v. The data shows that number of bikes dominates the day time traffic. This could be because of the easy handling and faster commute ability of bike in traffic. While in night time number of cars used is more than that of bikes, which could be because the comfort and safety the car provides which is more important during night time.

The statistical analysis of the data shows below findings:

- vi. The day type i.e. Weekday or Weekend has impact on traffic. The traffic is more on Weekdays as compared to weekends.
- vii. The peak hours has the impact on traffic, the traffic is more during peak hours.
- viii. The day and peak hours together has impact on traffic. Traffic during peak hour of weekday is more than during peak hour of weekend
- ix. Day or Night time has impact on traffic and type of vehicles used. Traffic is more during day time than that of during night time. Also, more bikes used during day time because of ease of commute, whereas during night time, cars are used more than bikes because of the safety and comfort they offer.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the present research comprehensively delved into the intricate realm of urban transportation systems, focusing specifically on the analysis of patterns and effects stemming from traffic density. Through meticulous investigation and systematic analysis, we unraveled a multitude of insights that collectively contribute to a deeper understanding of the complex dynamics at play within urban transportation networks. Our study illuminated the undeniable correlation between traffic density and various consequential effects on urban mobility. The patterns identified within this relationship shed light on the challenges posed by congestion, delayed travel times, increased emissions, and heightened accident risks. By scrutinizing these patterns, we unveiled the multifaceted nature of the interactions between vehicular flow, road infrastructure, and urban development. Furthermore, the research highlighted the indispensable role of data-driven methodologies, which proved to be invaluable tools in discerning and quantifying these intricate patterns. Utilizing advanced analytical techniques allowed us to extract meaningful insights from vast datasets, thereby enhancing our ability to formulate evidence-based recommendations for urban planners, policymakers, and transportation authorities.

In essence, the journey undertaken in this research paper offers a substantial contribution to the ongoing discourse on urban transportation. By analyzing patterns and dissecting effects emanating from traffic density, we have





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illuminated a path forward—a path characterized by innovation, data-driven decision-making, and a shared commitment to shaping urban landscapes that seamlessly integrate human movement and environmental stewardship.

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Table 1. The formula of ANOVA is as below:

Source Of Variation	Sum Of Squares	Degrees Of Freedom	Mean Squares	F Value
Between Groups	$SSB = \sum n_j (\bar{X}_j - \bar{X})^2$	$df_1 = k - 1$	$MSB = SSB / (k-1)$	$f = MSB/MSE$
Error	$SSE = \sum \sum (X - \bar{X}_j)^2$	$df_2 = N - k$	$MSE = SSE / (N-k)$	
Total	$SST = SSB + SSE$	$Df_3 = N - 1$		

Where:

SSB = sum of squares between groups

SSE = sum of squares of errors

$\bar{X}_j - \bar{X}$ = mean of the jth group,

$\bar{X} - \bar{X}_j$ = overall mean, and n_j is the sample size of the jth group.

X = each data point in the jth group (individual observation)

N = total number of observations/total sample size,

SST = Total sum of squares = SSB + SSE





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Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance
Sun	2	250803	125401.5	24219143785
Mon	2	432633	216316.5	73075498105
Tue	2	510538	255269	92960683298
Wed	2	491917	245958.5	98178110321
Thu	2	465991	232995.5	89984273765
Fri	2	514696	257348	1.09175E+11
Sat	2	257542	128771	22568351058

Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	39797741589	6	6632956931	0.09101179	0.01523932	3.865969
Within Groups	5.10161E+11	7	72880194219			
Total	5.49959E+11	13				

Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance
Sum of No. of Cars	25	2205622	88224.88	46046070717
Sum of No. of Bikes	25	3642618	145704.7	1.2651E+11

Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	4.13E+10	1	4.13E+10	0.478674003	0.032357	4.042652
Within Groups	4.14E+12	48	8.63E+10			
Total	4.18E+12	49				

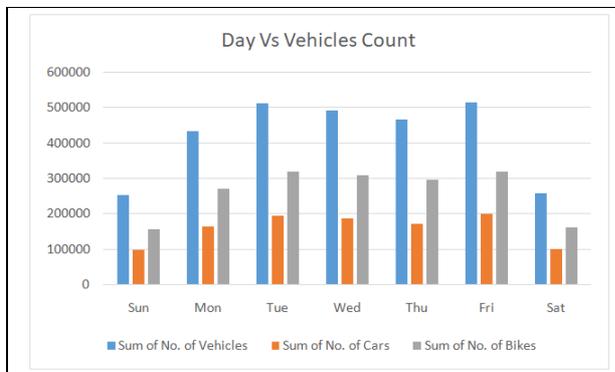


Fig.1. Day Vs Vehicles Count

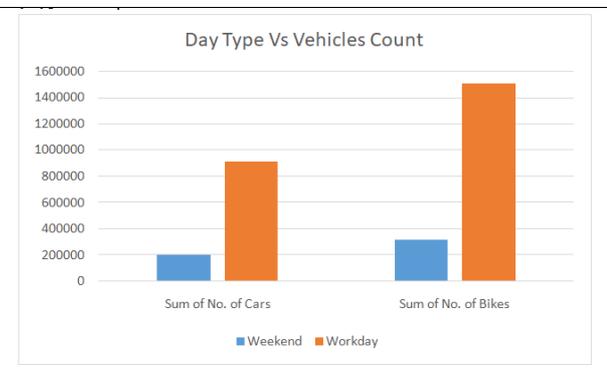


Fig.2. Day Type Vs Vehicles Count





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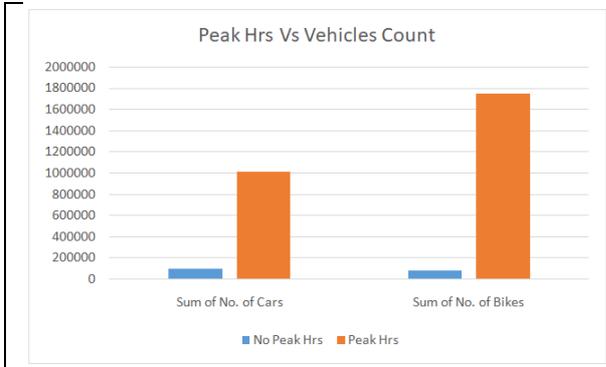


Fig.3. Peak Hrs Vs Vehicles Count

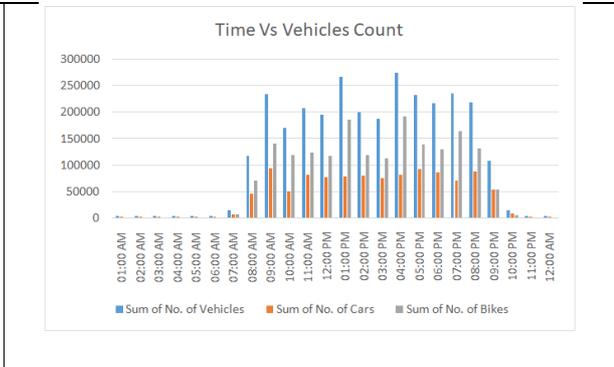


Fig.4. Time Vs Vehicles Count

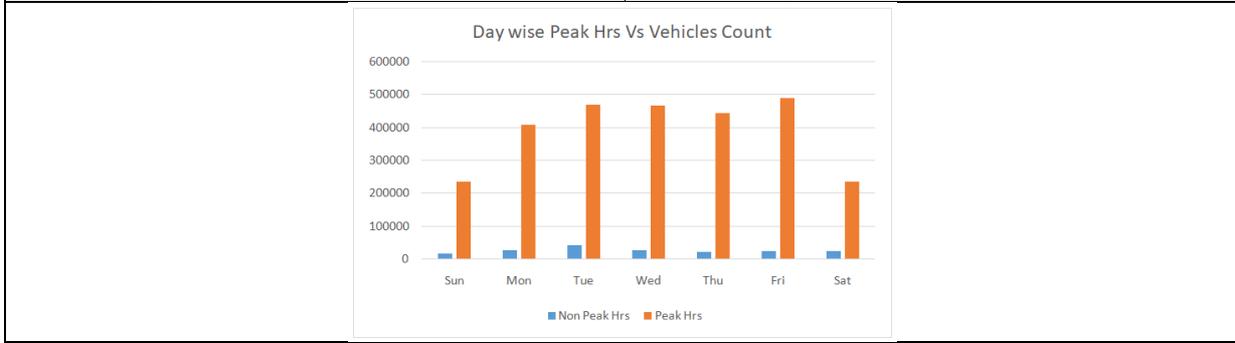


Fig.5. Day wise Peak Hrs Vs Vehicles Count





Impact of Non-Performing Assets on the Performance of Public Sector Banks in India-A Credit Risk Management Analysis

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ABSTRACT

As mediators in the financial system, banks take on various types of risk, including those related to liquidity, operations, credit, interest rates, and foreign currencies. The purpose of this research was to analyse the effect of nonperforming assets on the profitability of a sample of Indian banks using a credit risk management framework. The purpose of this research was to explore the connection between return on assets, non-performing assets, and capital adequacy ratio in order to demonstrate the importance of credit risk management in terms of non-performing assets and performance. The study looked at the 30.09.2021 balance sheets of public sector banks in India with the greatest proportions of non-performing assets. In terms of highest NPA, 13 banks stand out. However, the five banks with the highest proportion of non-performing assets were taken into account in our analysis. This analysis focused on the years 2015-2016 through 2021-2022. When compared to the other risk management indicators used in the analysis, the cost per loan asset was found to be the most significant predictor of bank performance. Banks need to keep their capital at the optimal level, strive to lower their cost per loan asset, and focus on the default rate if they want to minimise loan risk and maximise performance.

Keywords: Credit risk, Liquidity, Performance, Predictor, Risk Management.





INTRODUCTION

Banks serve as an intermediary between those with extra cash and those who are short on funds. Banks take on many types of risks because to their intermediary status, including monetary, liquidity, operational, credit, interest rate, and currency risk. Credit risk, which comprises non-performance assets and cost of loan, continues to be the most critical factor for financial institutions because credit is the foundation of the banking industry. Credit risk is the possibility that a borrower or counterparty will be unable to fulfil their contractual commitments as agreed upon, or it can be defined as the degree to which the value of debt instruments is sensitive to shifts in the fundamental credit quality of borrowers. The efficiency of banks can be gauged in part by looking at how much their Return on Assets (ROA) and Return on Equity (ROE) are impacted by credit risk, the primary driver of non-performing assets and loan costs (ROE). These credit risks are evaluated in-house, and they are manageable thanks to the bank's leadership and credit procedures. Banks with poor credit risk management have been shown in previous research to have a variety of issues, including but not limited to rising non-performing assets, loan costs, and more. A well-managed credit system is crucial to the smooth running of a bank.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Since making loans is banks' primary business, interest on such loans makes up a sizable portion of their profits. Credit risk, on the other hand, originates mostly through lending. The profitability of banks is thus profoundly affected by credit. Furthermore, banks have been forced to take effective measures to survive and maintain an appropriate level of profit due to the high and increasing competition amongst banks. Because of the potential for widespread bank failure, financial institutions generally avoid taking on excessive risk. On the other hand, there's a chance that such risks will pay off in spades. Because of its direct impact on financial organisations' solvency, credit risk has a greater significance than other risks. There is a positive correlation between the degree to which a bank is exposed to credit risk and the likelihood of a financial crisis (bank failure). As a result, how well a bank manages its credit risk can have far-reaching consequences for the institution's very survival. Risks are measured, and efforts are made to minimise or reduce their negative impact, as part of an organised strategy known as credit risk management. Banks may ensure systemic stability and efficient capital allocation by managing credit risk effectively, which improves their business performance and profitability by decreasing non-performance assets and related expenses.

Due to the need for efficient and continuous monitoring of credit to know the impact, and the strength of the impact of credit risk on the performance of bank, research into the relationship between bank performance and risk is crucial. Risk factors take the form of non-performance assets and related costs, which can have a significant effect on long-term profit. In this context, understanding the effect of credit risk—in the form of non-performing assets—on a bank's bottom line is crucial. Therefore, the purpose of this article is to investigate the following research topics by examining the effect of credit risk on the efficiency of certain Indian PSU banks.

1. What is the impact of credit risk on the performance of Indian banks?
2. How much is this effect compared to other factors?

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The main objective of the present study is to examine the credit risk management of Indian Public Sector Banks and its impact on performance.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The importance of this research lies in demonstrating the connection between credit risk management and performance by investigating the interplay between ROA, NPA, and CAPEX.



**Shapna and Kokilapriya****RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS**

The study's authors hypothesised that improved credit risk management and higher ROA would lead to reduced levels of nonperforming assets (NPA). With the help of data, the study was established and tested the following hypothesis:

Hypothesis (H₀): Credit risk management had an effect on the bank performance.

Hypothesis (H₁): Credit risk management had no effect on the bank performance.

RESEARCH METHOD

Return on asset (ROA) was utilised as a performance metric, along with capital adequacy ratio (CAR), cost of loan asset, and non-performing assets, and data from public sector banks in India was analysed to draw conclusions (NPAs). Both of these risk management metrics had direct bearing on financial institutions' bottom lines. In particular, nonperforming assets (NPA) showed how well banks handled credit risk. The study was quantitative in nature.

LITERATURE REVIEW

According to Kuo and Enders's (2004) research on credit risk management strategies for state banks in China, as the country's financial sector expanded, state-owned commercial banks struggled to keep up with the competition from their overseas counterparts. The research concluded that improving credit risk management would aid in responding to and overcoming these difficulties. Felix and Claudine (2008) looked into how credit risk management affects the success of banks. Their results suggested that the percentage of non-performing loans to total loans at financial institutions was inversely connected to profitability as measured by return on equity (ROE) and return on assets (ROA). Comparing the banking systems of industrialised and developing countries, Ahmad and Ariff (2007) analysed the primary factors that determine the credit risk of commercial banks in emerging nations. The research showed that banking institutions that provided a variety of products and services benefited from regulation, whereas loan-dominant banks in developing countries benefited most from good management. Rising loan loss provisions were also seen as an important indicator of possible credit risk. To what extent, if any, should governments impose capital adequacy requirements on banks? Ghosh and Das (2005) investigated this question, as well as the possibility that market forces may also guarantee the stability of banking systems. This research added to the ongoing discussion by demonstrating how banks could be influenced by market forces to choose high capital adequacy ratios in order to reduce their borrowing costs. Better capitalised banks in India's public sector throughout the 1990s had lower borrowing costs, according to empirical tests. These results suggested that continued reform efforts on a global scale should prioritise fostering more openness and competitiveness among financial institutions. The effect of market discipline on the actions of commercial banks with regard to their capital adequacy was studied by Thiagarajan et al. (2011). According to the survey, commercial banks in India have a Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) that is significantly higher than the regulatory minimum requirement. The private sector banks have a greater tier-I capital ratio than their public sector counterparts. The tier-II capital levels of the public sector banks were, nevertheless, greater. Even if the regulatory authority's (RBI) full implementation of the Basel II pact may have affected banks' capital sufficiency. According to the research, the bank is influenced by market forces that help them maintain a capital ratio that is significantly higher than what is required by law. The cost of deposits at both public and private banks was considerably impacted by non-performing assets. Private sector banks' cost of deposits was significantly lowered by the return on equity. By raising their tier-I capital, public sector banks could lower their deposit costs and attract more customers.

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

Descriptive research methodology was used for this study. It entails gathering data on the present state of the phenomenon under research in order to characterise the current state of the variables or condition. Public Sector Banks in India were the population of focus. The analysis included the top 30 nonperforming asset (NPA) Indian





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banks as of September 30, 2021. In terms of highest NPA, 13 banks stand out. However, the current research focused on the five banks—Punjab National Bank, Union Bank of India, Canara Bank, Bank of Baroda, and Bank of India—that had the highest levels of nonperforming assets.

The study looked at the 7-year period beginning in 2015–2016 and ending in 2021–2022. During this time, nonperforming loans at these banks doubled. The research relied on previously collected data. Profitability was calculated annually during the study period, and ratios of profitability to default rate, cost per loan asset, and capital sufficiency were compared to identify broader trends in the data. Regression analysis was also applied to the ratio.

VARIABLES USED IN THE STUDY

Return on Assets

It shows how well a business is able to turn its assets into profit before paying for necessary expenses like interest and taxes. It is calculated as:

ROA = EBIT/Total Assets. It is a sign of capital strength.

Default rate

In the financial services business, this refers to the practise of one lender replacing the standard loan terms with the default conditions offered to borrowers who have fallen behind on their payments (Appa, 1996). DR ratio can be calculated as:

DR Ratio= Non Performing Loans/ Total loan

Cost per loan asset (CLA)

It quantifies the typical expense associated with providing credit to a consumer. How well loans are distributed to consumers can be measured using this ratio (Appa, 1996). CLA ratio can be calculated as:

CLA Ratio= Total Operating Cost/ Total amount of loans.

Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR)

It is a ratio used to evaluate a bank's financial strength by comparing its capital to its risk-adjusted credit exposure. CAR can be calculated

CAR= Capital fund/ Risk Weighted Assets.

ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS

Findings

The variables in this investigation are described statistically in Table 1. The return on average investment ranges from 0.016 percent to 0.32%. The average rate of default is 9.8 percent, with a range from 7.21 percent to 12.06 percent. The average cost-to-lend-assets ratio is 1.847 percent, with a range of 1.69 percent to 2.11 percent. Capital adequacy ratios typically fall between -8.26 and 10.97 percent, with a mean of 9.24 percent. According to Table 2's Pearson's correlation matrices, there is no evidence of multi-collinearity in the models because the degree of correlation between each pair of independent variables is modest (Bryman & Cramer, 2001). As a result, we cannot conclude that multi-collinearity exists among the independent variables.

In order for any of the above tests to be considered significant, the p-value must be less than or equal to 0.10. All tests were performed at a 99 percent confidence level. There is no statistically significant connection between the variables in Table 2. It demonstrates that the return on assets is not correlated with the independent variables of default rate,



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cost per loan asset, and capital adequacy ratio. Based on these results, it appears that there is no causal link between any of the risk management measures and performance. The multiple R coefficient in Table.3 represents the degree to which two independent variables are correlated with one another. The dependent variable was positively correlated with the independent factors, as indicated by the multiple R value of 0.603 (60.3%).

Testing(F) For the Suitability of the research models

Using the distribution (F-statistic) test, we can determine whether or not the multiple regression models are suitable for analysis. When the independent variables have no effect on the dependent ones, H_0 claims that the model is inappropriate. H_1 : The model is valid when there is a relationship between the independent and dependent variables. This is the deciding criteria: Allow H_0 For all Sig. F values > 0.05 Take in H_1 With a Sig. F (p-value) of less than 0.05 Table 4's analytical findings showed that the p-value (Sig. F) was more than 0.05. This suggests that we accept the null hypothesis. There is insufficient data to say that any predictor is beneficial for forecasting the ROA at the =0.01 level of significance.

Coefficients Table

The default rate, the cost per loan asset, and the capital adequacy ratio were the four independent variables that had parameter estimates displayed in the coefficient table. The default rate coefficient is close to -0.057. As the default rate increased, the return on assets decreased, as evidenced by the negative sign. These two factors are correlated negatively with one another. The average return on assets falls by 0.057 percentage points for every unit rise in the default rate. The cost per loan asset coefficient is -0.715. Return on assets is negatively correlated with the cost per loan asset rate, as demonstrated by the negative sign. There is an inverse relationship between these two factors. When the cost of loans increases by one unit, the return on assets typically falls by 0.715 percentage points.

Capital adequacy ratio coefficient is 0.137. The rising cost of loan assets suggested a rising trend in returns on investment. These two factors are positively related to one another. The average rise in ROI is 0.137 percentage points for each unit of improvement in the capital adequacy ratio.

If the dependent variable is significant, the p-values for the co-efficients will be as well. If the calculated significance level is higher than the p-value, then the null hypothesis is false. There is a significant inverse association between the dependent variable (return on assets) and the independent variable (default rate; -0.213) and the cost of loan (-0.338). (default rate and cost of loan). Capital adequacy ratio was found to increase with increases in return on assets. A lack of statistical significance between the independent factors and performance suggests that there is no causal link between the two. Cost per loan asset, as well as the default rate, are strongly inversely related to a bank's profitability. This result runs counter to the work of Li and Zou (2014) and Alshatti (2015), who discovered the opposite—that a higher ratio of non-performing to gross loans improves a bank's bottom line. There is a negative correlation between the default rate and the cost per loan assets and banks' performance, as was established by Achou and Tenguh (2008), Felix and Claudine (2008), Kargi (2011), Epure and Lafuente (2012), and Kodithuwakku (2015). They're also too little to make a difference statistically.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The study's overarching goal was to establish the influence of default rate and cost per loan asset on bank financial performance, while its more narrow goals were to do the same for non-performing assets and credit risk management. The study found that successful bank performance is dependent on risk management, specifically credit risk management (i.e., controlling the factors of credit risk). The study also found that the default rate, an indicator of risk management, predicts the financial performance of banks by 5.7%, cost per loan assets by 71.5%, and the capital adequacy ratio by 13.7%.





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The cost per loan asset is the most significant measure of bank performance among risk management metrics. Banks can minimise loan default risk and maximise performance by keeping capital at its optimal level, lowering the cost of lending assets, and focusing on the default rate.

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Table 1 - Descriptive Statistics

Ratios	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
ROA	35	-0.38	0.32	0.016	0.2659
DR	35	7.21	12.06	9.80	1.8359
CLA	35	1.69	2.11	1.85	0.1468
CAR	35	8.26	10.97	9.24	0.9899

Source: Calculated from Secondary data

Table 2 - Pearson Correlation

Ratio		ROA	NPL	CLA	CAR
ROA	Sig.(1-tailed)				
	Pearson correlation	1			
NPL	Sig.(1-tailed)	0.1284			
	Pearson correlation	-0.4968	1		
CLA	Sig.(1-tailed)	0.2392	0.0031		
	Pearson correlation	0.3240	-0.8974	1	
CAR	Sig.(1-tailed)	0.0859	0.0031	0.035	
	Pearson correlation	0.5804	-0.8965	0.7167	1

Source: Calculated from Secondary data





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Table 3 - Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.603	.364	0.272	0.299956705

a. Predictors: (Constant), CAR, CLA, DR

Table 4- ANOVA

	Df	Sum of square	Mean Square	F	Significance
Regression	3	0.154449355	0.051483118	0.572199792	0.671064118
Residual	3	0.269922074	0.089974025		
Total	6	0.424371429			

a. Dependent Variable: ROA b. Predictors: (Constant), CAR, CLA, DR

Table 5 - Coefficients

	Coefficient	Standard error	t	p-value
Intercept	0.622	8.353	0.074	0.94532
DR	-0.057	0.266	-0.213	0.844769
CLA	-0.715	2.115	-0.338	0.757747
CAR	0.137	0.312	0.440	0.689

Dependent Variable: ROA





Vascular Plant Diversity in the Coastal Sand Dunes of Pannaiyoor Coast, Southwest Coast of India

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ABSTRACT

Species richness of vascular plants was studied in Rajakkamangalam coastal sector of Pannaiyoor coast, Kanniyakumari district, southwest coast of India, in terms of species and families present, and plant life forms using field observations carried out from March 2020 to April 2021. Overall, 146 vascular plant species belonging to 125 genera and 55 families were recorded in the study area. The most frequent families recorded in these sites were: Poaceae (20 species), Leguminosae (16 species), Rubiaceae (9 species), Apocynaceae and Cyperaceae (7 species each) and Euphorbiaceae and Lamiaceae (6 species each). Of the 146 vascular plant species collected from the study area, 78 species were herbs, shrubs (23 species), climbers (19 species) and trees (16 species). The latter appears to be the case for the plant diversity of the sand dunes under study.

Keywords: Coastal sand dunes; Plant diversity; Species richness

INTRODUCTION

Sand dunes are important features of coastal environments (Rodrigues *et al.*, 2011). These are natural structure which protect the coastal environment by absorbing energy from wind, tide and wave action. Despite geographical difference sand dunes have been considered as a specific ecosystem due to several common environmental features (Arun *et al.*, 1999). One of the most outstanding features of coastal dunes is a high ecological diversity in terms of



**Murugan Muthulekshmi Shyra et al.,**

environmental heterogeneity and variability of species composition (Van der Maarel 2003; Martí'nez *et al.*, 2004). The plants living in sand dunes are called psammophytes. These psammophytic species play a vital role in protecting the coast from erosion and floods (Desai, 2000). Dune plants strengthening and supporting the dunes with their roots, anchoring them temporarily in place, while their leaves trap sand, expanding the dune formation (Wagner, 1964). Plants established on coastal sand dunes are subjected to several environmental fluctuations which affect their growth survival and community structure (Arun *et al.*, 1999). Plant diversity assessment among different vegetation zones of the coastal sand dunes is the most important prerequisite to determine the dunes' vulnerability to natural dynamic processes and anthropogenic factors (Honrado *et al.*, 2010; Ciccarelli and Bacaro 2016; Parra-Tabla *et al.*, 2018). Since both plant species richness and species assemblages in sand dunes have been partially to significantly affected by human activities (Carboni *et al.*, 2009; Attorre *et al.*, 2013; Ciccarelli *et al.*, 2017), detecting diversity characteristics of coastal vegetation zones is regarded as an undeniably key factor in assessing coastal dunes' integrity (Del Vecchio *et al.*, 2015). Though there are few confined studies on coastal sand dunes in temperate regions, the coastal dunes of tropics, especially the southwest coast of India has received scanty attention. Hence, a detailed floristic survey was carried out to generate the baseline data on coastal sand dune flora in the southwest coast of Kanniyakumari district, with special reference to Pannaiyoor coast.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Area

Located on the Arabian Sea, the study area is 10 km from the district capital, Nagercoil Kanniyakumari district, Tamil Nadu, India. The selected site for the present study is (Pannaiyoor) it undergoes the Rajakkamangalam sector of Kanniyakumari coast (8.1154° N, 77.3777° E). The district has a coastal line of 71.5kms stretched on the three sides.

Data collection

A study of sand dune flora along the coastal sand dune areas of Pannaiyoor coast was done from March 2020 to April 2021. A total of 10 pedestrian survey was conducted randomly (wherever the vegetation cover was predominantly found) in the study area at different distance gradients from shoreline till the lagoon boundary begins. Every plant species found in the study area are recorded by observation while walking. Species are identified by using by *The Flora of the Gulf of Mannar southern India* (Daniel and Umamaheswari, 2001). Species list is given in Table 1.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The qualitative plant survey in coastal sand dunes of Pannaiyoor coast of Kanniyakumati district contains 146 vascular plant species belonging to 125 genera and 53 families were observed. The most frequent families recorded in these sites were: Poaceae (20 species), Leguminosae (16 species), Rubiaceae (9 species), Apocynaceae and Cyperaceae (7 species each) and Euphorbiaceae and Lamiaceae (6 species each) (Table 1). Of the 146 vascular plant species collected from the study area, 78 species were herbs, shrubs (23 species), climbers (19 species) and trees (16 species) (Figure 1). The study represents a comprehensive analysis of diversity of plant communities mainly composed of psammophilous and xeromorphic shrubs and herbs. Poaceae members or grasses are the dominant ground flora as these plants possess lighter, hairy small seeds and fruits that can be easily distributed along a large area of sand seas by anemochore and desmochore distribution (Danin, 1991; Shaltout and El-Sheikh, 2003; Sukumaran and Jeeva, 2011; Sukumaran and Jeeva, 2012; Brintha *et al.*, 2015). Temperate Coastal Sand Dunes comprise mainly the members of Poaceae, while tropics with Asteraceae, Cyperaceae and Fabaceae and Poaceae (Arun *et al.*, 1999; Rao and Sherieff, 2002; Sridhar and Bhagya, 2007). Padmavathy *et al.* (2010) reported that Cyperaceae was the most common and dominant family with 9 species followed by Poaceae, Fabaceae, Euphorbiaceae, Rubiaceae and Scrophulariaceae in coastal sand dunes of Nallavadu Village, Puducherry, India, whereas Fabaceae was the most common and dominant family with 5 species followed by Poaceae, Cyperaceae, Arecaceae, Euphorbiaceae and Scrophulariaceae in Cuddalore coast by Arulmoorthy and Srinivasan (2017). The present study shows Poaceae and Leguminosae





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members were dominated in the Pannaiyoor coast (Figure 2). The latter appears to be the case for the plant diversity of the sand dunes under study.

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Table 1. Vascular plant diversity of the study area.

Botanical Name	Family	Life Form
<i>Abutilon indicum</i> (L.) Sweet	Malvaceae	Shrub
<i>Acacia planifrons</i> Wight & Arn.	Leguminosae	Tree
<i>Acalypha fruticosa</i> Forssk.	Euphorbiaceae	Shrub
<i>Acalypha indica</i> L.	Euphorbiaceae	Herb
<i>Achyranthes aspera</i> L.	Amaranthaceae	Herb
<i>Agave vivipara</i> L.	Asparagaceae	
<i>Ageratum conyzoides</i> (L.) L.	Compositae	Herb
<i>Allmania nodiflora</i> (L.) R.Br.ex Wight	Amaranthaceae	Herb
<i>Alysicarpus hamosus</i> Edgew.	Leguminosae	Herb
<i>Amaranthus viridis</i> L.	Amaranthaceae	Herb
<i>Anisomeles malabarica</i> (L.)R.Br.ex Sims	Lamiaceae	Shrub
<i>Annona squamosa</i> L.	Annonaceae	Tree
<i>Aristida setacea</i> Retz.	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Aristolochia indica</i> L.	Aristolochiaceae	Twiner
<i>Atalantia racemosa</i> Wight ex Hook.	Rutaceae	Shrub
<i>Atriplex repens</i> Roth	Amaranthaceae	Subshrub
<i>Axonopus compressus</i> (SW.)P.Beauv	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A.juss.	Meliaceae	Tree
<i>Boerhavia diffusa</i> L.	Nyctaginaceae	Herb
<i>Brachiaria distachya</i> (L.) Stapf	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Bulbostylis barbata</i> (Rottb.) C.B. Clarke	Cyperaceae	Herb
<i>Caesalpinia bonduc</i> (L.)Roxb	Leguminosae	Shrub
<i>Calophyllum inophyllum</i> L.	Calophyllaceae	Tree
<i>Calotropis gigantea</i> (L.) W.T.Aiton	Apocynaceae	Shrub
<i>Canavalia cathartica</i> Thouars	Leguminosae	Climbing shrub
<i>Canavalia rosea</i> (Sw.) DC.	Leguminosae	Climber
<i>Canthium coromandelicum</i> (Burm.f)Alston	Rubiaceae	Shrub
<i>Cardiospermum halicacabum</i> L.	Sapindaceae	Climber herb
<i>Cassine glauca</i> (Rottb.) Kuntze	Celastraceae	Tree
<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i> L.	Casuarinaceae	Tree
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i> (L.)G. Don	Apocynaceae	Shrub
<i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i> L.	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Centrosema molle</i> Benth.	Leguminosae	Climber
<i>Chloris radiata</i> (L.)SW.	Poaceae	Graminoid
<i>Cissampelos pareira</i> L.	Menispermaceae	Climber
<i>Cissus quadrangularis</i> L.	Vitaceae	Scandent shrub
<i>Cissus repanda</i> (Wight & Arn.) Vahl	Vitaceae	Shrub
<i>Citrullus colocynthis</i> (L.) Schrad.	Cucurbitaceae	Herb
<i>Cleome viscosa</i> L.	Cleomaceae	Herb





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Botanical Name	Family	Life Form
<i>Clerodendrum inerme</i> (L.) Gaertn	Lamiaceae	Straggling Shrub
<i>Clitoria ternatea</i> L.	Fabaceae	Climber
<i>Cocculus hirsutus</i> (L.) W. Theob.	Menispermaceae	Climber
<i>Cocos nucifera</i> L.	Arecaceae	Tree
<i>Commelina diffusa</i> Burm.f.	Commelinaceae	Herb
<i>Commelina hasskarlii</i> C.B.Clarke	Commelinaceae	
<i>Crinum asiaticum</i> L.	Amaryllidaceae	Herb
<i>Crotalaria linifolia</i> L.f	Leguminosae	Herb
<i>Crotalaria pallida</i> Aiton	Leguminosae	Herb
<i>Croton bonplandianus</i> Baill.	Euphorbiaceae	Herb
<i>Cuscuta reflexa</i> Roxb.	Convolvulaceae	Twiner
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> (L.) Pers.	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Cyperus arenarius</i> Retz.	Cyperaceae	Herb
<i>Cyperus bulbosus</i> Vahl	Cyperaceae	Herb
<i>Cyperus compressus</i> L.	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Cyperus rotundus</i> L.	Cyperaceae	Herb
<i>Cyrtococcum deccanense</i> Bor	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Dactyloctenium aegyptium</i> (L.) Willd.	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Dendrophthoe falcata</i> (L.f.)Ettingsh	Loranthaceae	Parasitic subshrub
<i>Desmodium triflorum</i> (L.) DC.	Leguminosae	Herb
<i>Digitaria bicornis</i> (Lam.) Roem. & Schult.	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Digitaria ciliaris</i> (Retz.) Koeler	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i> (L.) Jacq.	Sapindaceae	Shrub
<i>Eleusine indica</i> (L.) Gaertn.	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Emilia sonchifolia</i> (L.) DC. Ex DC.	Compositae	Herb
<i>Eragrostis viscosa</i> (Retz.) Trin.	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Erythroxylum monogynum</i> Roxb.	Erythroxylaceae	Tree
<i>Euphorbia hirta</i> L.	Euphorbiaceae	Herb
<i>Euphorbia hispida</i> Bioss.	Euphorbiaceae	
<i>Euphorbia rosea</i> Retz.	Euphorbiaceae	Herb
<i>Fimbristylis argentea</i> (Rottb.) Vahl	Cyperaceae	Herb
<i>Fimbristylis cymosa</i> R.Br.	Cyperaceae	Herb
<i>Flueggea leucopyrus</i> Willd.	Phyllanthaceae	Shrub
<i>Garnotia tenella</i> (Arn.ex Miq.) Janowski	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Gisekia pharnaceoides</i> L.	Gisekiaceae	Herb
<i>Gomphrena serrata</i> L.	Amaranthaceae	Herb
<i>Halopyrum mucronatum</i> (L) Stapf	Poaceae	
<i>Hibiscus micranthus</i> L.f	Malvaceae	Shrub
<i>Hybanthus enneaspermus</i> (L.)F.Muell.	Violaceae	
<i>Hydrophylax maritima</i> L.f.	Rubiaceae	
<i>Hypsis suaveolens</i> (L.)Poit.	Lamiaceae	Shrub
<i>Indigofera linnaei</i> Ali	Leguminosae	Herb
<i>Ipomoea pes – caprae</i> (L.)R.Br.	Convolvulaceae	Stout creepers
<i>Ipomoea purpurea</i> (L.)Roth	Convolvulaceae	Climber
<i>Justicia diffusa</i> Willd.	Acanthaceae	Herb
<i>Justicia japonica</i> Thunb.	Acanthaceae	Herb





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Botanical Name	Family	Life Form
<i>Kohautia aspera</i> (B. Heyne ex Roth) Bremek.	Rubiaceae	Herb
<i>Lansea coromandelica</i> (Houtt.) Merr.	Anacardiaceae	Tree
<i>Lantana camara</i> L.	Verbenaceae	Shrub
<i>Launaea sarmentosa</i> (Willd.) Sch.Bip. ex Kuntze	Compositae	
<i>Leptadenia reticulata</i> (Retz.) Wight & Arn.	Apocynaceae	Climber
<i>Leucas zeylanica</i> L.	Lamiaceae	Herb
<i>Madhuca longifolia</i> (J.Koenig ex L.) J.F.Macbr	Sapotaceae	Tree
<i>Malvastrum coromandelianum</i> (L.) Garcke	Malvaceae	Herb
<i>Millingtonia hortensis</i> L.fil.	Bignoniaceae	Tree
<i>Morinda citrifolia</i> L.	Rubiaceae	Tree
<i>Mukia maderaspatana</i> (L.) M.Roem.	Cucurbitaceae	Climber
<i>Mollugo nudicaulis</i> Lam.	Mulluginaceae	Herb
<i>Murraya koenigii</i> (L.) Spreng	Rutaceae	Tree
<i>Ocimum americanum</i> L.	Lamiaceae	Herb
<i>Oldenlandia stricta</i> L.	Rubiaceae	Herb
<i>Oldenlandia umbellata</i> L.	Rubiaceae	Herb
<i>Opuntia dillenii</i> (Ker Gawl.) Haw.	Cactaceae	Herb
<i>Paederia foetida</i> L.	Rubiaceae	Climber
<i>Passiflora foetida</i> L.	Passifloraceae	Climber
<i>Pedaliium murex</i> L.	Pedaliaceae	Herb
<i>Pentatropis capensis</i> (L.f.) Bullock	Apocynaceae	Climber
<i>Pergularia daemia</i> (Forssk.) Chiov.	Apocynaceae	Climber
<i>Platostoma hispidum</i> (L.) A.J.Paton	Lamiaceae	Herb
<i>Plumbago zeylanica</i> L.	Plumbaginaceae	Herb
<i>Polycarpaea spicata</i> Wight ex Arn.	Caryophyllaceae	Herb
<i>Polycarpon tetraphyllum</i> (L.) L.	Caryophyllaceae	Herb
<i>Polygala erioptera</i> DC.	Polygalaceae	Herb
<i>Pongamia pinnata</i> (L.) Pierre	Fabaceae	Herb
<i>Portulaca oleracea</i> L.	Portulacaceae	Herb
<i>Portulaca quadrifida</i> L.	Portulacaceae	Herb
<i>Rhizophora mucronata</i> Lam.	Rhizophoraceae	Tree
<i>Rhynchospora barbata</i> (Vahl) Kunth	Cyperaceae	Herb
<i>Rivea hypocrateriformis</i> Choisy	Convolvulaceae	Climber
<i>Santalum album</i> L.	Santalaceae	Tree
<i>Scutia buxifolia</i> Reissek	Rhamnaceae	Tree
<i>Senna alexandrina</i> Mill.	Leguminosae	Shrub
<i>Sesbania procumbens</i> (Roxb.) Wight & Arn.	Leguminosae	Herb
<i>Sida cordifolia</i> L.	Malvaceae	Herb
<i>Sida rhombifolia</i> L.	Malvaceae	Herb
<i>Solanum virginianum</i> L.	Solanaceae	Herb
<i>Spermacoce articularis</i> L.f.	Rubiaceae	Herb
<i>Spermacoce ocymoides</i> Burm.f.	Rubiaceae	Herb
<i>Spinifex littoreus</i> (Burm.f.) Merr.	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Sporobolus ioclados</i> (Trin.) Nees	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Stachytarpheta indica</i> (L.) Vahl	Verbenaceae	Shrub
<i>Striga densiflora</i> (Benth.) Benth.	Orobanchaceae	Herb
<i>Stylosanthes fruticosa</i> (Retz.) Alston	Leguminosae	Herb





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Botanical Name	Family	Life Form
<i>Tephrosia bracteolata</i> Guill. & Perr.	Leguminosae	Shrub
<i>Tephrosia cinerea</i> (L.) Pers	Leguminosae	Shrub
<i>Tephrosia maxima</i> (L.) Pers.	Leguminosae	Herb
<i>Tephrosia pumila</i> (Lam.) Pers.	Leguminosae	Herb
<i>Themeda tremula</i> (Nees ex Steud.) Hack.	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Toddalia asiatica</i> (L.) Lam.	Rutaceae	Shrub
<i>Tragus mongolorum</i> Ohwi	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Trianthema portulacastrum</i> L.	Aizoaceae	Herb
<i>Tridax procumbens</i> L.	Asteraceae	Herb
<i>Tylophora indica</i> (Burm. f.) Merr.	Apocynaceae	Climber
<i>Vernonia cinerea</i> (L.) Less	Asteraceae	Herb
<i>Vulpia bromoides</i> (L.) Gray	Poaceae	Herb
<i>Wattakaka volubilis</i> (L. fil.) stapf.	Apocynaceae	Climber
<i>Zaleya pentandra</i> (L.) C. Jeffrey	Aizoaceae	Herb

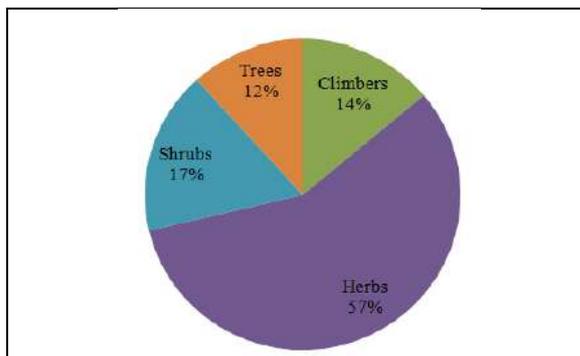


Figure 1. Habit-wise distribution of plant species in the study area.

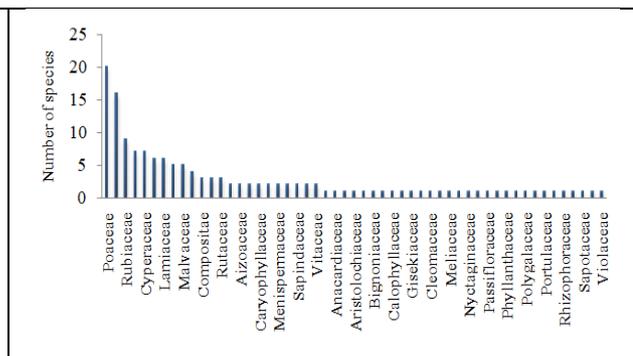


Figure 2. Family-wise distribution of plant species in the study area.

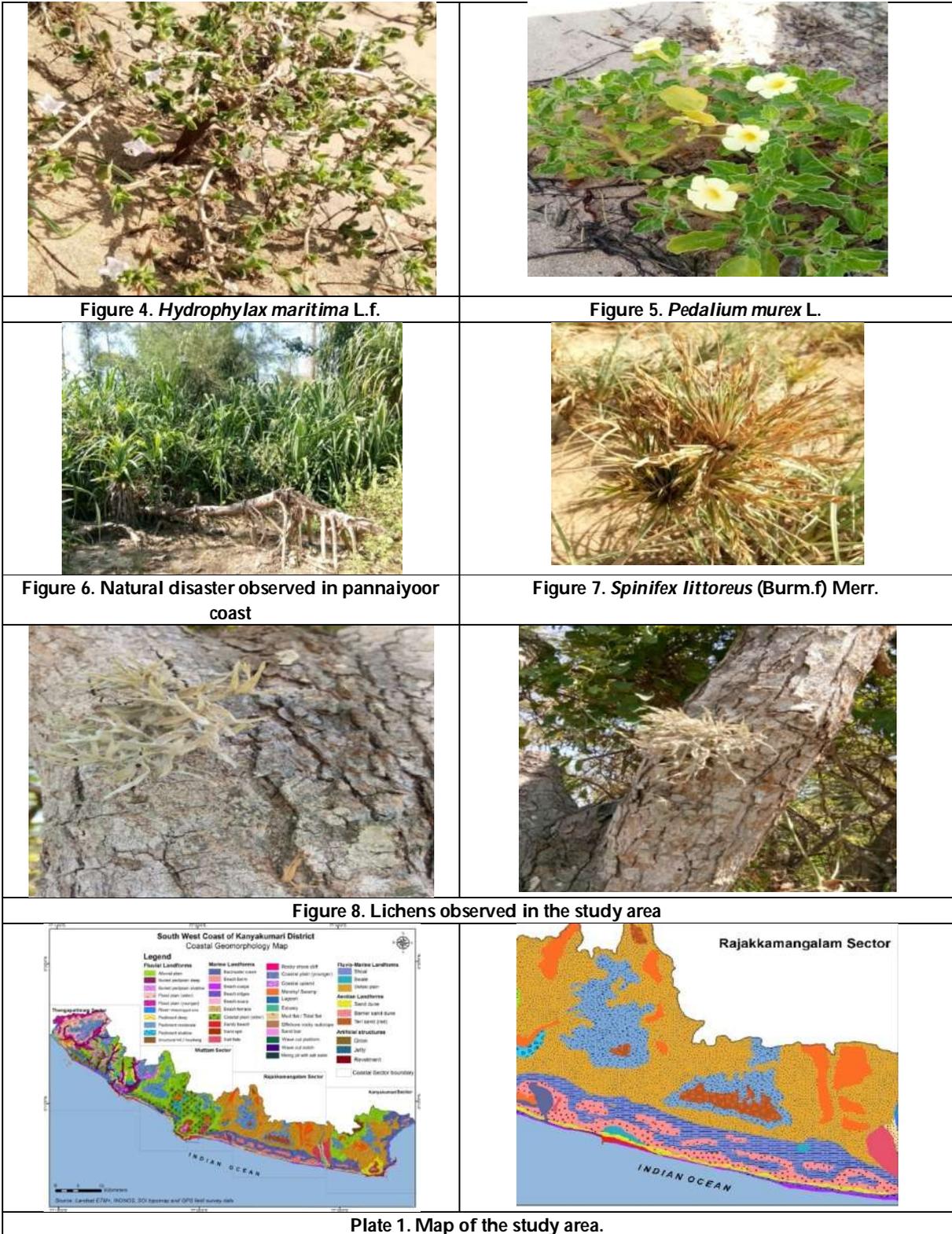


Figure 3. Sand dunes acts as the nursery for Palmyra Palm





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Plate 2. Glimpses of Pannaiyoor coast





Studies on Impacts of Pesticides usage on Human Health - A Review

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ABSTRACT

In agricultural settings, pesticides are frequently used to manage weeds, bug infestations, and other disease and pest carriers. The term "pesticides" is a broad word that covers to all compounds used to prevent or control pests, including fungicides (fungi), insecticides (insects), and herbicides for weeds. Since pesticides' modes of action are really not species-specific, there have been concerns about the possible environmental consequences of exposure to them via diverse pathways. Although these dangers can have both short-term and long-term effects. It is challenging to determine their risks because of the interaction of numerous variables, such as exposure length, exposure level, and exposure type. To give a thorough analysis of pesticides with regard to chemical types, environmental distribution, exposure routes, and impacts on human health, this study was designed.

Keywords: Pesticides, Health Impacts, Human Health, Diseases, Exposure, Toxic Effects.

INTRODUCTION

Pesticides are a broad category of chemicals that are being utilised more frequently globally. More than 1378 active chemicals are included in the European Union Pesticides Database (European Commission, 2016), of which 466 have been authorised for usage in the EU and 858 have not. Since many pesticides are not biodegradable, through bioaccumulation, they may move up the food chain and eventually endanger both human and animal health. Pesticides can enter human ecosystems through agricultural practices, food consumption, air inhalation, and other mechanisms [1]. Consuming pesticide-contaminated food on a regular basis can have both short-term (acute) and long-time (chronic) effects[2]. In addition, prolonged occupational, unintentional, or purposeful exposure to pesticides can cause hospitalization and death [3].





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India currently ranks 12th in the world for pesticide use and is the Asia's top pesticide manufacturer. Despite having a much lower average pesticide consumption than many other industrialised economies, India has a serious pesticide residue problem [4]. The sizeable levels of pesticide that are present or reach non-target plants and environmental media[5].

Pesticidetypes

Variety of elements can be used to categorizing pesticides, including chemical classification, functional groups, modes of action, and toxicity [6]. The most of pesticide active ingredients are either organic or inorganic, such as copper sulphate, ferrous sulphate, sulphur, etc [3]. Additionally, there are two subcategories of organic pesticides: Synthetic (artificially made through chemical synthesis) and natural (formed from sources that occur naturally). By getting into every part of the treated plants, these insecticides and fungicides can kill certain insects and fungi. For pest management, several chemicals have been created to affect pests' neurological systems or effect on their endocrine or hormonal systems [7].

Classification of pesticides

Major classification of pesticides

The 3 major categories are as follows: classification based on their chemical composition of pesticides, the pests they kill, and the mechanism of entry.

Classification according to the chemical composition of pesticides

The classification of substances based on their chemical makeup and the characteristics of their active components is the most prevalent and practical method. This classification was developed based on physical and chemical properties of the pesticides. This information can be used to make decisions about the application process, rate, and necessary safety precautions. Insecticides contain substances such as pyrethroids, carbamates, neonicotinoids, and organophosphorus (OPs). Herbicides contain sulfanilic and carbamic acid, phenyl pyrazole, pyridinium, isoxazoly urea[8]. Fig. 1 gives broader classification of pesticide.

Classification based on the pests they destroy.

The species of the target pest serves as the basis for this classification category. The suffix "cide" (Latin for "killer") is put after the name of the bug it eliminates, is used in the pesticide names to indicate what they do. For instance, bactericides (which kill bacteria), fungicides (which destroy fungus) [8]. In essence, the suffix "cide" is not present at the end of all pesticide names. Pesticides can be classified as repellents (which keep growth regulators), attractants (which attract pests to trapping like light hooks and sexually pheromones traps), or pest repellents (which keep insect or other bugs far from of the host) [9].

Classification according to the mechanism of entry

This classification explains the how pesticides penetrate the body or system of their target. Examples and comprehensive definitions are provided in Table 1.

Minor classifications of pesticides

Five classifications of pesticides can be found in the minor classes: (a) Classification by pesticide toxicity, (b) Identification by range of pests it kills; (c) Classification by types of pesticide formulation; (d) Classification by sources of origin; and (e) Classification by type of action [10] [11]. Toxicology is the ability of a pesticide to harm an organism. By subjecting target species to varied dosages of a specific formulation, it is determined by considering the potentially harmful health impacts connected with a toxic pesticide's behaviour. They were categorised into four groups by the World Health Organization (WHO) (WHO 2020) (Table 2).

Pesticides effects on human health

Due to the high frequency of residents coming into deal with these chemicals on a daily basis, especially in rural regions, they are at a high risk of pesticide poisoning. Due to the fact that many pesticides are responsible for





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changes in how the function of the peripheral, central, and central nervous systems which are usually accompanied by suicidal ideation, this exposure may have neuropsychiatric aftereffects (depression, mood disorders, and anxiety)[12]. Pesticides enter the human body either directly or indirectly. Pesticides are used on crops, which puts people in close touch with them and causes reactions like headaches, irritability, vomiting, sneezing, and skin rashes. They also impact the skin, eyes, mouth, and respiratory system. The duration and concentration of exposure determine how harmful certain insecticides are to humans (table 3). Typically, pesticides are excreted from the body after being absorbed (urinary, biliary, and secretory gland). Consuming foods that have been grown in long-term pesticide-contaminated soil and water increases the accumulation of toxic materials in body organs, which can result in chronic disorders including neurotoxic damage, cancer, necrosis, asthma, problems with reproduction, heart disease, diabetic issues, etc[2].

Acute toxic effects

Acute toxic impacts occur a few minutes to several hours after pesticide poisoning [13] [14]. The central nervous system and peripheral muscarinic and nicotinic receptors are both affected by poisoning [15],[16]. Miosis, salivation, eye irritation, bronchorrhea, bradycardia, hypertension, paralysis of the muscles, confusion, coma, and respiratory failure are all symptoms[17]; [18]; [19]&[20] –[21]. When exposed to pesticides, these consequences could happen right away [22]. Furthermore, failure to leads to life-threatening complications and might result in death [23],[24].

Chronic diseases

Several chronic diseases and disorders, including cancers, poor reproductive effects, infertility, periphery neurological diseases, neurobehavioral diseases, and male sterility, can be brought on by pesticide exposure[25]–[26][27]. Many people experience immune system dysfunction and allergic sensitization reactions, notably skin allergies [28] [29]. Additionally, the majority of the pesticides studied have an adverse effect on male reproductive systems, harming sperm[30] DNA [31] and creating aberrant sperm morphology[32], [33]. Long-term, limited exposure to organophosphorus substances results in cumulative inhalation of cholinesterase, which in turn causes chronic illnesses. The drop in germ cell numbers beginning on day 14 highlighted the long-term effects of glyphosate at nanometres, 500 nm, or 5 m.

Pesticides can have an impact on people both directly and indirectly through a variety of means. However, the main way that humans directly consume harmful compounds is through food. Depending on the subjects exposed, the analysis makes a distinction between three types of studies: Those who are directly exposed, those who are indirectly exposed as a group, and those who are consumers in their edible and inedible components, fruits and vegetables cultivated on contaminated agricultural soils acquire pesticides in concentrations high enough to induce clinical issues in humans [35], [36]. The human body is exposed to pesticides through the skin, mouth, eyes, and respiratory system [37]. So, among the acute ailments linked to pesticides by science are those that cause headaches, nausea, vomiting, skin rashes, respiratory problems, eye irritation, sneezing, convulsions, and coma. Pesticide direct exposure may possibly be fatal. Methods of pesticide exposure and any potential consequences on people is represented in fig 2 [38].

Control of pesticides

Negative effects of pesticide on the environment can be lessened in several ways, including treating their symptoms, such as undesirable environmental effects, and preventing pollution at its source. v. Some chemicals are being completely eliminated, while others are being used only under regulated circumstances. In general, the tactics used in various jurisdictions to safeguard the environment against pesticides include actions like: Offering alternatives, reducing disease pressure, and using pesticides only, when necessary, rather than as a preventative measure will all help to lessen the essential need for chemical crop protection. In general, reducing pesticide use will also result in less pesticides being released into the environment. Only eco-friendly pesticides should be used. Everyone using them must practise responsible pesticide usage. Through re-establishing the natural balance in agro ecosystems by preventive steps to limit the occurrence of a plague or disease and supporting research into the use of non-chemical options for crop protection, the requirement for chemical plant protection will be reduced.





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In addition to human health concerns, Pesticides must be evaluated for how they behave in water and soil as well as for how adversely they affect the environment's macro- and microorganisms. To achieve this, environmental standards that pesticides or their primary metabolites must meet before being applied to or disposed of in the ecosystem might be established. Instead of solely relying on a substance's acute toxicity, these criteria will need to be established on precautionary and environmentally sound concepts [39][40].

Pesticide consumption in India

The following describes the current chemical use pattern in India: Insecticides are used more frequently than herbicides, fungicides, and other pesticides combined. India presently ranks as the fourth-largest producer of insecticides in the world. According to Research and Markets, the Indian pesticides industry was worth Rs 214 b in 2019. The market is predicted to grow by 8.1% yearly to reach Rs. 316 b by 2024. When a Benzene hexachloride production facility was created in Calcutta in 1952, India began producing pesticides. India currently ranks 12th internationally and after China. India produced 5,000 metric tonnes of technical grade medicines in 1958 and 102,240 metric tonnes in 1998, a steady increase. Pesticide demand was anticipated to reach roughly Rs. 22 billion (USD 0.5 billion), or about 2% of the global market, in 1996–1997 .

According to the graph given below Fig. 3, over the past seven decades, pesticide consumption in India has substantially expanded, rising from 154 MT in 1953-1954 to 57,000 MT in 2016–17. India used the most insecticides in a single year (80,000 MT) in 1994–1995 [41][42]. The Stockholm Convention's adoption and widespread application, as well as the creation of integrated pesticide management programmes, are factors in the reduction of pesticide use [43]. Economical Survey of India 2015–16 indicates India has seen an increase in pesticide residue found in food products because of pesticide usage without enough controls; [44].

CONCLUSION

An examination of the literature reveals that farmers misuse enormous quantities of pesticides and fail to take the proper safety precautions while applying them, which results in a number of diseases that affect human health. The review focuses on both direct exposure and indirect exposure while also discussing scientific data on health consequences and subjective value of health risks associated to pesticide use. Analysing the possible health consequences of pesticides on consumers requires more investigation. Both acute and chronic impacts could last even into the next generation. The study provides a broad overview of pesticide status in India.

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Table 1: Classification of pesticides according to the mechanism of entry (Modified from Yadav and Devi 2017)

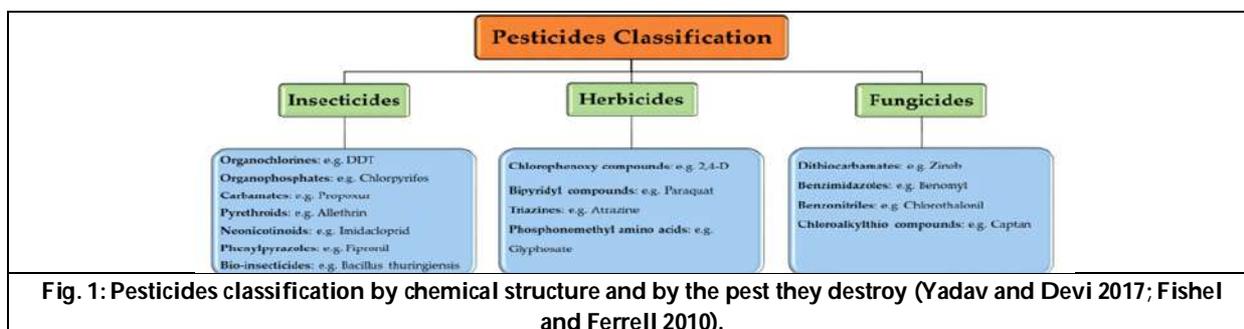
Mechanism of entry	Explanation	Example
Systemic pesticide	They move to the remain untreated tissues after being absorbed by the plant's vascular system.	Glyphosate
Contact pesticide	Direct touch allows them to penetrate the target's body (especially from the physical contact). The epidermal layer is where this kind of pesticide penetrates the body.	Diquat dibromide
Repellents	They don't enter the objective's body and kill them; they just opposition and oppose the irritations to get them far from the host.	Methyl anthranilate
Stomach pesticides	They enter the objective's body through their digestive system during their food ingestion, trailed by death because of the harming.	Malathion
Fumigants	They kill the pests by delivering fume of the pesticide. These fumes enter the pests 's body through the spiracles.	1,3-dichloropropene

Table 2: Based on pesticide toxicity criteria (WHO, World Health Organization, 2009)

Type	Toxicity	LD50 for the rat (mg/kg bodyweight)	
		Oral	Dermal
Ia	Extremely hazardous	b5	b50
Ib	Highly hazardous	5-50	50-200
II	Moderately hazardous	50-2000	200-2000
U	Unlikely to present acute hazard	5000- higher	

Table 3: Health Effects by different exposure (Tago et.al., 2014)

Direct exposure to pesticides and its impact on health	Indirect exposure to pesticides and its impact on health	pesticides' harmful health impacts on consumers
Cancer	Cancer	Cancer
Depression & neurological deflicts	Depression & neurological deflicts	General health, multiple diseases & others
Diabetes	Diabetes	
Respiratory diseases	General health, multiple diseases & others	
Specific disorders on women		





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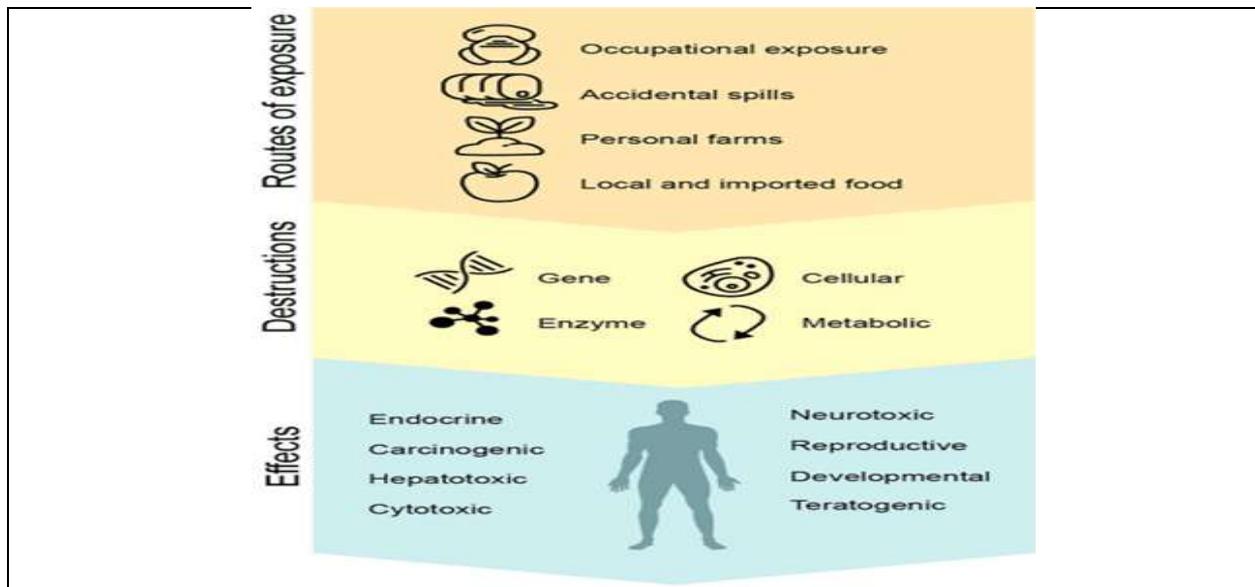


Fig.2: Routes of pesticides exposure and potential effects on humans. (Kalyabina et al., 2021).

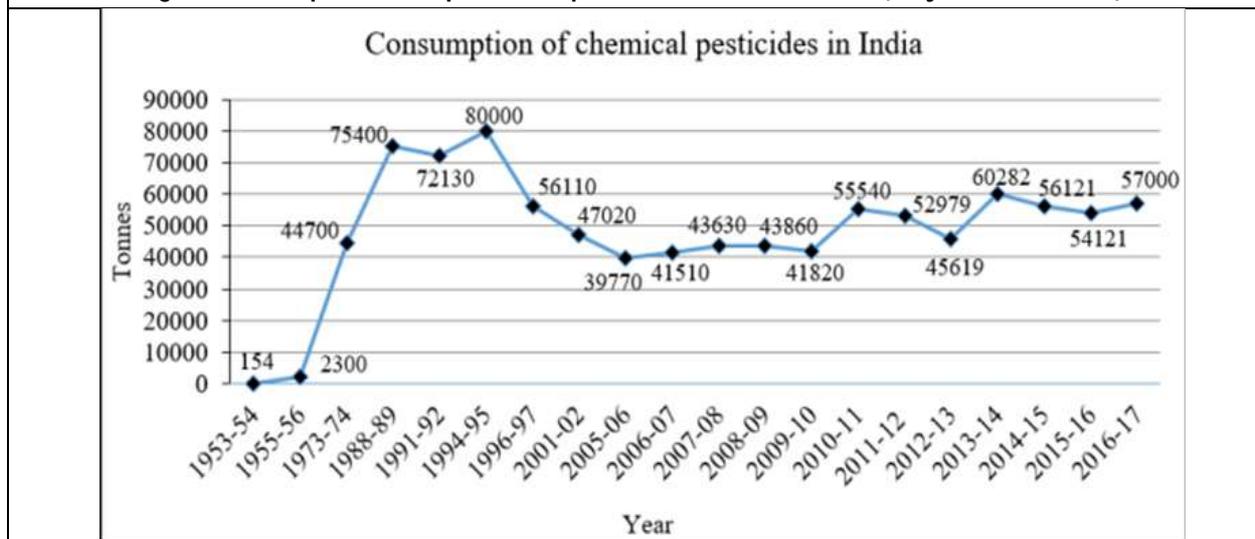


Fig. 3: Pesticides consumption in India (1954 to 2017) (Chand and Birthal,1997)





Therapeutic Potential of Agmatine in Neurodegenerative and Neurological Disorders

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ABSTRACT

Agmatine (AG) or chemically known as 4-aminobutyl guanidine, is an endogenous polyamine that is produced via enzymatic decarboxylation of α -amino L-arginine by the enzyme arginine decarboxylase. Agmatine interacts differently with various receptors and shows potential action, which is mostly beneficial but sometimes dangerous to the human body. As an endogenous neuromodulator, Agmatine interacts with various glutamate receptor subtypes and ion channels, which have been associated with its beneficial effects on several neurological disorders. Agmatine, both an experimental and investigational drug and is found naturally in ragweed pollen, ergot fungi, octopus muscle, herring sperm, sponges, and the mammalian brain. In experimental studies, the neuroprotective effect of agmatine exhibited anticonvulsant, antinociceptive, anxiolytic and antidepressant-like actions. As an investigational drug, agmatine is being studied in a non-blinded prospective case study in the United States looking at patients who have been diagnosed with small fiber peripheral neuropathy. Here we scrutinize and present evidence to encourage future clinical studies investigating the potential of agmatine as a novel candidate to assist the conventional pharmacotherapy of neurological disorders such as depression and also the potential biomarker for schizophrenia.

Keywords : Agmatine, α -amino L-arginine, antinociceptive, NMDA





INTRODUCTION

Discovered in 1910, Agmatine was long thought to be a component of bacteria, plants and select invertebrates. Scientist Albrecht Kossel of the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences (Germany) reported synthesizing AG in Herring Roe. In recognition of his contributions to cell biology, Kossel received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine that same year. Frederick W. Heyl at Upjohn (Kalamazoo, MI) reported the discovery of agmatine in ragweed pollen protein extracts, nine years later in thorough research (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*) [1]. However, the discovery of agmatine being expressed in rat brains in the 20th century indicated that mammalian agmatine is synthesized and not a result of diet or bacteria growth. Since the discovery of agmatine in the mammalian brain, it has been confirmed that agmatine is produced in the cortex and brainstem of the brain and also in the spinal cord, then stored and synthesized in astrocytes. They are known to be cationic in nature and act as a precursor in both bacteria and plants for the production of polyamines. As depicted in Fig. 1., the role and concentration of agmatine in the central nervous system (CNS) is region specific.[2] The highest concentration of agmatine is found in the gastrointestinal tract; mainly due to dietary ingestions and local synthesis of gut microflora where it is believed to work as an inverse agonist on receptors which results in hypertension and exacerbated gastric mucosal injury. [3] Agmatine plays a role in maintaining homeostasis in the brain, heart and surrounding vascular structure by modulating calcium level and affects many cellular mechanisms in the CNS such as cellular apoptosis, regulation of inflammation, and neural edema. It has also inhibited the formation of advanced glycation-products, which is known to damage the extracellular protein, leading to many neurodegenerative diseases [3].

They bind to a number of receptors in the brain, including NMDA receptors, imidazoline receptors, and 2-adrenergic receptors. They also inhibit all isoforms of nitric acid synthase (NOS). Among its many pharmacological functions, AG affects the amygdala, septum, hypothalamus, nucleus, locus coeruleus, and periaqueductal grey, as well as processing cognitions, emotions, and pain perception. Agmatinase from humans weighs 37,688 kDa and comprises 352 amino acid residues. Fig: 1 Schematic diagram of the roles of agmatine in the brain stem/spinal cord, hippocampus, temporal lobe, prefrontal and parietal lobe. ERK, Extracellular-signal-regulated kinases; NO, nitric oxide; NOS, nitric oxide synthase; ROS, reactive oxygen species; SOD, superoxide dismutase; TLX, tailless homolog.[3].

Agmatine has a wide range of biochemical characteristics. It has the ability to alter ion channels, polyamine metabolism, nitric oxide (NO) production, and neurotransmitter systems. In a 1994 article, Agmatine is produced in the bovine brain and replaces clonidine by binding to α -2-adrenergic and imidazoline receptors, according to G. Li and co-workers at Cornell University Medical College (New York City). They add that agmatine might function as a neurotransmitter. [3-4] AGM concentrations in the brain were found to be comparable to those of normal neurotransmitters, according to a study by Moinard et al. (2005), raising the possibility that AGM is a type of neurotransmitter. [5]

BIOSYNTHESIS OF AGMATINE

A polyamine called agmatine is produced after L -arginine is decarboxylated by arginine decarboxylase. It is a byproduct of the amino acid arginine, which is created naturally by the decarboxylation of arginine. It is referred to as decarboxylated arginine as a result. Both humans and the majority of bacterial pathogens have the arginine decarboxylase pathway, which transforms arginine into agmatine. Putrescine is produced by two key enzymes called arginine decarboxylase (ADC) and ornithine decarboxylase (ODC) [6]. The enzyme arginine decarboxylase (ADC), which has two isoforms (ADC1 and 2), possess different reaction characteristics and little sequence homology; both variants are cytosolic and pyridoxal-dependent. Mg²⁺ and phosphate. ADC is a pyruvyl enzyme found in plants (such as oats) and is activated by proteolytic cleavage rather than pyridoxal phosphate [6].





ROLE OF AGMATINE ON MAJOR RECEPTORS

NMDA (N-methyl-d-aspartate)

A ligand for the imidazoline receptor has been reported to function as agmatine[7]. It blocks voltage-gated Ca²⁺ channels[8], nicotinic receptors[9], and N-methyl-d-aspartate (NMDA) receptor channels,[8]. in addition to inhibiting all isoforms of nitric oxide synthase [10]. Agmatine may work in the brain as a neurotransmitter or neuromodulator based on all these physiological features. Agmatine plays a major role in some neurological disorders like Stroke, traumatic injury, Alzheimer's disease, Huntington's disease, pain, schizophrenia and depression[11].

α 2- adrenoreceptors

Agmatine (decarboxylated arginine) is an α 2-adrenoceptor and imidazoline binding site-recognizing endogenous clonidine-displacing substance (CDS). The antihypertensive medication thclonidine, a derivative of the imidazoline, appears to work by activating α 2 adrenoceptors in the brain. Potential drug for pain, seizures, anti-depressant, anticonvulsant and ischemia related to both receptors [12].

AChR (Acetylcholine receptor)

Act as a Neuronal nicotinic acetylcholine receptors(nAChR) antagonist, act as a cation, It also regulates the nAChR related all anxiolytic function. Inherent drug for myasthenia gravis, epilepsy, Alzheimer disease, Parkinson's disease, schizophrenia, Tourette's syndrome, idiopathic inflammatory bowel disease, addiction, anxiety and depression.[13] VDCC (voltage-dependent calcium channel). Agmatine therapy is said to inhibit the N-type Ca²⁺ channels found in sympathetic nerve terminals, which in turn decreased the release of noradrenaline and intracellular Ca²⁺ via the I-2 receptor and ultimately decreased the sympathetic vascular tone[14]. It also regulates the release of neurotransmitters in the presynaptic neuron. Potential drug for epilepsy, seizures, pain, autism spectrum disorder, migraine, anxiety and depression [15].

THERAPEUTIC POTENTIAL AND PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTION OF AGMATINE:

Agmatine is widely and unevenly distributed in the body. It has been found in different parts of the body such as the stomach, aorta, small and large intestines, spleen, brain, etc. The concentration of agmatine varies between these organs [4]. Agmatine functions in the central nervous system as a novel neurotransmitter or neuromodulator, binding with different receptors as mentioned in the above section. It binds to various receptors and has been accepted as a novel neurotransmitter in the brain. In experimental studies, agmatine exhibited anticonvulsant, antinociceptive, anxiolytic and antidepressant-like actions [4-5]. Furthermore, it has some beneficial effects on cerebral ischemia models in animals. Let's briefly discuss some of its effects.

Anticonvulsant effect

The incidence and severity of audiogenic seizures were both decreased by agmatine, although not to a statistically significant degree. Agmatine definitely has a considerable anticonvulsant effect, according to subsequent investigations conducted on relevant animal seizure models. Agmatine's anticonvulsant effect may be due to the involvement of 2-adrenoceptors and the L-arginine/NO pathway. Yohimbine, a 2-adrenoceptor antagonist, inhibited agmatine's anticonvulsant effect in a dose-dependent manner. L-arginine, a nitric oxide synthase (NOS) substrate, inhibited agmatine's anticonvulsant property, and this effect was significantly reversed by the NOS inhibitor NG-nitro-L-arginine (L-NAME), implying a NO-dependent mechanism for the L-arginine effect [16].

Anxiolytic effect

Agmatine's potential mechanism of action as a monoamine reuptake inhibitor. Agmatine (AGM) has the potential to inhibit the serotonin reuptake transporter (SERT) found on presynaptic neurons. This causes an increase in serotonin (5-HT) levels at the synaptic cleft, triggering a cellular response at the postsynaptic neuron. At the pre-synapse, AGM may also inhibit dopamine reuptake transporter (DAT) and norepinephrine reuptake transporter (NET). Inhibition of DAT and NET, like serotonin, results in increased levels of dopamine (D) and norepinephrine (NE) at synaptic cleft. AGM's mechanism of action at monoamine reuptake transporters is similar to that of fluoxetine (FLX) and





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methylphenidate (MPD) at SERT, DAT, and NET. As a result, monoamines efficiently bind to their specific post-synaptic receptors, resulting in improved mood, anxiolytic effect [17].

Antinociception effect

In the acetic acid test, L-arginine naloxone (opioid receptor antagonist, p chlorophenylalanine methyl ester (PCPA, an inhibitor of serotonin synthesis, ketanserin (a 5-HT_{2A} receptor antagonist, ondansetron (a 5-HT₃ receptor antagonist, yohimbine (an I₁ imidazoline/2-adrenoceptor antagonist, or efaroxan (an I₁ imidazoline/2-adrenoceptor antagonist, these findings suggest that agmatine produces dose-related antinociception in several models of chemical pain via mechanisms involving interactions with opioid, serotonergic (i.e., through 5-HT_{2A} and 5-HT₃ receptors), and nitrenergic systems, as well [18].

Antidepressant effect

Following the administration of agmatine, multiple pathways were reported to have antidepressant-like effects in the FST:

- a. NMDA receptor blockade and NOS enzyme inhibition
- b. 2-adrenergic receptors' connection with the noradrenergic system
- c. The 5-HT_{1A/1B} and 5-HT₂ receptors of the serotonergic system.
- d. opioid system (including the regulation of K⁺ channels by imidazoline and -opioid receptors).

More recently, it was demonstrated that tumour necrosis factor (TNF)-induced depressive-like behaviour in the TST in mice may be eliminated by systemic injection of the drug agmatine. In the TNF- model of depression, agmatine's effects appear to entail the activation of monoaminergic systems, as well as the inhibition of NMDA receptors and the generation of nitric oxide. [19-20].

Agmatine is released from synaptosomes by depolarization in a Ca²⁺-dependent manner, similar to other transmitters [6]. The mitochondrial arginine decarboxylase (ADC) decarboxylates L-arginine to agmatine (AGM), which is then stored in vesicles and converted to putrescine (PUT) by agmatinase. L-arginine enters the nerve ending via a transporter (AGMase). Since it has been established that the I₂-binding site (I₂-BS) is an important regulatory binding site for MAO, agmatine inhibits both NO synthase (NOS) and monoamine oxidase (MAO). Agmatine is subject to a specific absorption after it leaves the cell, or it may interact with a number of pre- and postsynaptic receptors, such as the I₁-binding site (I₁-BS), 2-R, NMDA, nicotinic cholinergic (NIC), and 5HT₃ (through the sigma-2 binding site) receptor. Additionally, nicotinic and perhaps NMDA ion channels are used by agmatine to enter postsynaptic neurons. It has not yet been confirmed whether this released agmatine serves as a source for serum agmatine. Agmatine's side effects on blood pressure and cell development are also up for discussion. Agmatine that has been released plays a role in catecholamine modulation by attaching to 2 adrenoceptors and presynaptic imidazoline binding sites. When agmatine enters glial cells, it modifies iNOS expression and activity. [19]

RESEARCH / FUTURE SCOPE

1. There are no particular antagonists or inactivators of agmatine (either of ADC, agmatinase, or of agmatine uptake) available. So search for antagonists formulation of agmatine, as elevated levels of agmatine leads to motion sickness, constipation, diarrhoea, upset stomach, nausea. and increased dopamine level.
2. Development of an agmatine formulation with neuroprotective properties is not currently available at the market. Researchers have proven that agmatine is a novel neurotransmitter in the brain and has the potential to treat a wide range of mental illnesses; it should be available in formulation.
3. Prolongation of half life period of agmatine (i.e. 15-20 mins), so that it could easy for researchers to elucidate the structure activity relationship of the drug and helpful for showing activity and function of each group present in the structure as many groups have found it difficult to detect in endogenous agmatine by conventional methods, i.e. high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC).





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CONCLUSION

Based on the evidence described in this review, it is worth proposing that agmatine is a potentially/putative novel neurotransmitter in the brain specifically when it comes to depression. Since Gilad *et al.* (1996) showed the first neuroprotective properties of agmatine, a huge amount of studies have corroborated this evidence. Agmatine is useful to block the occurrence of autism in offspring for the VPA exposed pregnant women to an extent. More notably is the fact that agmatine produces antidepressant effects by acting on targets related to the main hypothesis that explains the pathophysiology of depression and the mechanism of action of antidepressant.

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Table 1. Pharmacological action with respective targeted receptors of agmatine

Targets in Humans	Action
Alpha-2C Adrenergic Receptor	Agonist
Nischarin	Agonist
Acetylcholine Receptor (Alpha Subunit)	Antagonist
Glutamate Receptor Ionotropic, NMDA 1	Antagonist
ATP-Sensitive Inward rectifier Potassium Channel1	Antagonist
Voltage-Dependent N-type Calcium Channel (Alpha-1B Subunit)	Antagonist
Acid-Sensing Ion Channel 3	Agonist

Table 2. Therapeutic Potential of Agmatine in the various Clinical Manifestation. [3]

Clinical Manifestation	Comments
Stroke	Ameliorate BBB Disruption
Traumatic CNS Injury	Reduce Astrocytic Scar Formation
Neuropathic Pain	Gives Orally and Available as Nutraceuticals
Epilepsy	Several Molecular Target Related to Neuroprotection
Neurodegenerative Disorder	In-vivo Studies in Parkinson's Disease Model
Antidepressant Activity	Human Biomarker Studies
Anxiolytic Activity	Involvement of Increased Endogenous Agmatine Metabolism

Table 3. Summary of Novel Approaches and Therapeutic Treatments for Central Nervous System Diseases, Showing Neuroprotective Effects of Agmatine in Animal Models [2]

Disease	Experimental Model	Target	Outcome
Alzheimer's Disease	Streptozotocin induced Alzheimer's	Neuron apoptosis via NMDA receptors and inflammatory apoptosis via cytokines (IL-1)	Reduced accumulation of amyloid beta protein, phosphorylation of Tau peptide and activation of insulin signal transduction
Ischemic Stroke	Transient middle cerebral artery occlusion (2 hours)	Inhibition of neuronal NOS and isoform NOS by reducing production of NO	Reduced infarct size and decreased production of inflammatory cytokines
Parkinson's Disease	Intranasal administration of MPTP	NMDA receptor & NOS activity	Provided a 31% protection of PD
Epilepsy	Pentylentetra zol-induced seizure (PTZ)	Extracellular glutamate	Significantly reduce the severity and decreased likelihood of seizure





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Depression	Chronically induced stress regimen	Hippocampal neural progenitor cells and 5-HT2 receptor	Increased neurogenesis and lessened depressive behavior
Traumatic Brain Injury	Lateral fluid percussion injury (FPI)	Glutamate and NO activity	Alleviation of motor and proprioception deficits, cerebral infarct size and weight loss
Drug addiction	Chronic morphine-treated model	Glutamate receptors in the hippocampus	Decreased glutamate release and prevented down regulation of NMDA

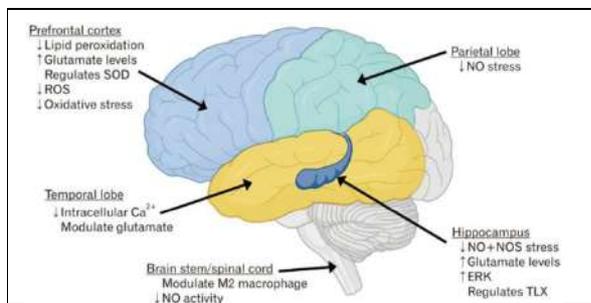


Fig. 1, the role and concentration of agmatine in the central nervous system

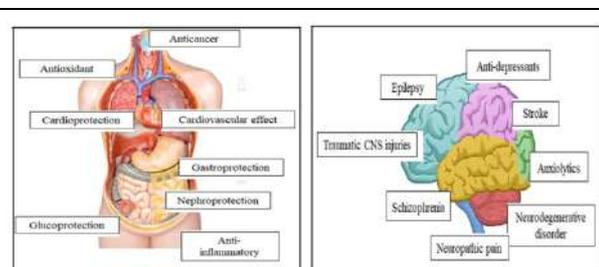


Fig. 2 The therapeutic effect of agmatine on the Brain and other body parts

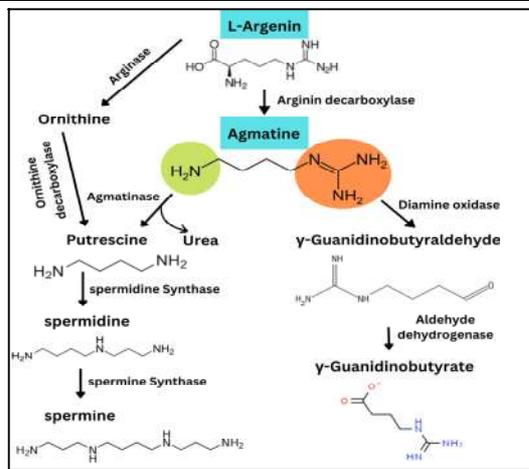


Fig. 3. Biosynthesis of Agmatine from L-Arginine

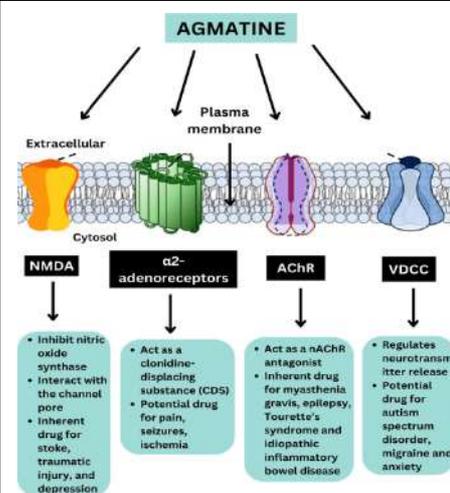


Fig. 4 Agmatine: The function of agmatine on various ion channels and receptors. By attaching to or inhibiting various receptors or ion channels, agmatine can alter both the course of disease and regular cellular processes.





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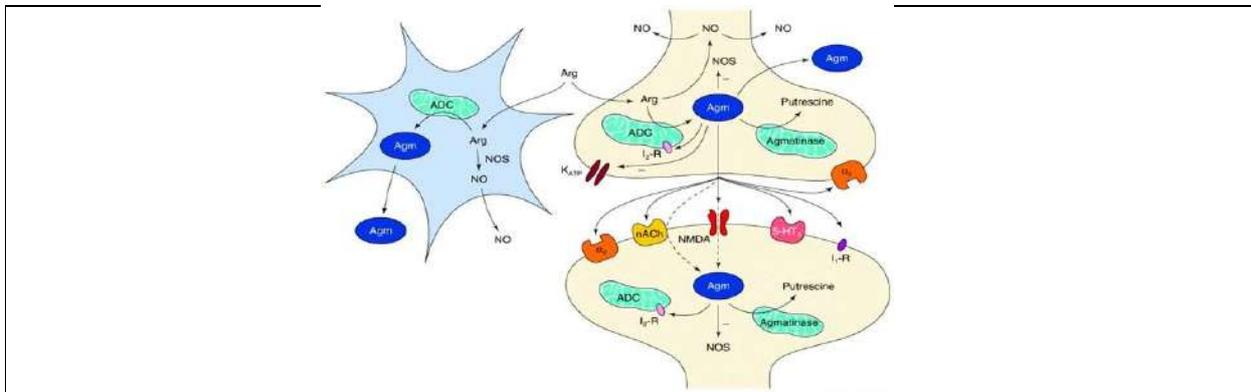


Fig 5. Schematic of a reported agmatine-containing neuron's synapse.[21]





Machine Learning for Rice Plant Disease Detection: A Revolutionary approach for Agricultural Research

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ABSTRACT

Our approach to crop management and disease detection has undergone a remarkable metamorphosis as a result of the use of various machine learning techniques in agricultural research. Finding illnesses that harm rice plants, which are vulnerable to pathogens and viruses, is a particular area of research. In order to ensure food security and promote sustainable agricultural practises, this article emphasises the importance that machine learning techniques play in identifying and diagnosing diseases in rice plants.

Keywords: Classification technique, Machine learning algorithm, Diseases in Rice plant, Segmentation Technique, Agricultural

INTRODUCTION

Introduction to Diseases in Rice Plant

Rice is being a staple plant as well as a main food resource for a considerable section of the international populace, is vulnerable to different illnesses brought on by fungus, microorganisms, infections as well as parasites. These conditions can lead to lowered plant returns and also financial losses for farmers. Prompt discovery as well as exact medical diagnosis of these conditions are essential for carrying out efficient illness administration approaches and also making sure healthy and balanced rice plant development.

Conventional Methods of Disease Detection

In the past, the identification of conditions in rice plants relied on the aesthetic evaluation of knowledgeable experts, which can be time-consuming, subjective, and prone to error. Additionally, laboratory-based approaches for disease

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diagnosis have been used, including polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and enzyme-linked immunosorbent tests (ELISAs). While these methods produce reliable results, they frequently need for specialised equipment, expertise, and are not the best for speedy on-field discovery.

The Function of Machine Learning in the Detection of Disease

Machine Learning formulas have actually become effective devices for automating illness discovery in rice plants. By leveraging the huge quantities of information accumulated from numerous resources, consisting of photos sensing unit analyses plus ecological specifications, artificial intelligence versions can examine patterns as well as determine refined illness signs and symptoms that might not be quickly observable by the human eye.

Data Collection and Pre-processing

For establishing data collection along with reputable condition discovery versions, huge datasets making up identified photos of healthy and balanced plus unhealthy rice plants are needed. These datasets can be acquired via area studies, remote picking up modern technologies or crowdsourcing. As soon as accumulated, the information undertakes pre-processing strategies such as sound elimination, picture improvement as well as normalization to guarantee uniformity and also remove prospective predispositions.

Feature Extraction and Selection

Function removal includes changing raw information right into significant depictions that record the appropriate features of rice plant conditions. Methods like major part evaluation (PCA) as well as wavelet changes can be utilized to draw out important functions from pictures or sensing unit information. Function option approaches aid in determining one of the most insightful attributes that add substantially to condition discovery, minimizing the dimensionality of the dataset.

Supervised Learning Algorithms for Disease Detection

Managed discovering formulas train versions making use of classified information to make forecasts or identify brand-new circumstances. In rice plant illness, discovery formulas such as assistance vector devices (SVM), arbitrary woodlands, along with convolutional semantic networks (CNNs) have actually revealed encouraging outcomes. These formulas gain from historic information coupled with can properly categorize rice plants as healthy and balanced or contaminated allowing prompt treatment and also condition monitoring.

Unsupervised Learning Algorithms for Disease Clustering

Not being watched, discovering formulas are used to recognize concealed patterns or groups within the information without the demand for predefined tags. Clustering formulas like k-means plus ordered clustering can be put on identify condition collections, assisting in the recognition of condition hotspots plus the understanding of illness spread characteristics within rice areas.

Deep Learning Techniques for Disease Classification

Deep knowing strategies, especially convolutional semantic networks (CNNs), have actually gotten considerable focus in illness discovery because of their capability to instantly discover as well as draw out intricate functions from pictures. By training on big datasets CNNs can precisely identify rice plants right into various illness groups making it possible for exact illness medical diagnosis together with targeted therapy strategies.

General Structure

There are various phases involved in classifying and identifying illnesses in rice plants:

Image segmentation: To make it simpler to analyse the preprocessed rice photos, this phase separates them into various groups with related features.



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Feature extraction: In this procedure, features based on colors, forms, and textures are recovered from the segmented images. For identifying diseases, these extracted traits offer useful information.

Classification: Using the features that were retrieved, the classification method attempts to group various rice plant diseases into different categories. For this reason, machine learning techniques and algorithms are frequently used.

Pre-processing is essential for increasing the qualities of collected images, which benefits the later data processing processes. The methods used to identify illnesses in rice are shown in Figure 1. There are various phases involved in classifying and identifying illnesses in rice plants:

DIFFERENT MACHINE LEARNING TECHNIQUES FOR DIAGNOSING RICE DISEASES

In order to reduce the effects of rice plant illnesses, Manoj Mukherjee et al. used histograms to process photos of paddy leaves. This architecture makes it possible to detect infections early and to take quick action to reduce production losses. MATLAB functions were used to capture leaf images, convert them to grayscale, and produce histograms. These photos served as the foundation for grading and classifying diseases. With the help of agricultural experts, a consultation disease treatment unit was also set up to offer recommendations depending on disease identification and stage. Similar to this, Mittal, Namita, and colleagues suggested a paradigm for icon-centric information retrieval to help farmers who lack digital literacy access information from the Internet effectively. Farmers were able to quickly diagnose diseases, their causes, and symptoms without having to rely on professionals visiting their fields by utilising pattern recognition and digital picture processing. Practical results, where 25 photos were trained for each disease category and exhibited in the image processing area, showed the effectiveness of this strategy. Increasing the quantity of photos used to train the algorithm can improve the outcomes even further.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Using image processing techniques, Gayathri and Neelamegam [22] established a framework for automatically identifying leaf diseases. The framework included paddy leaf disease classification, picture capture, segmentation, and pre-processing. A hybrid method integrating the scale-invariant feature transform, discrete wavelet transform (DWT), and grey level co-occurrence matrix (GLCM) approaches was used to extract the features. Then, the characteristics that had been retrieved were fed into a variety of classifiers, including Naive Bayesian, multiclass SVM, neural network (NN), backpropagation, K-Nearest Neighbor's (KNN), and neural network (NN). For classifying leaf diseases, a variety of classification techniques were investigated. The results revealed that the multi-class SVM outperformed other classifiers with an accuracy of 98.63 percent or higher. For four different paddy diseases—leaf streak, bacterial leaf blight (BLB), brown patches on leaves, and rice leaf blast (RLB), which is brought on by both bacterial and fungal diseases—Kaing and Chit Su [23] suggested an automatic categorization approach. Pre-processing, image acquisition, leaf verification, classification, and feature extraction were all part of the system. Principal Component Analysis (PCA), GLCM, and Colour Grid-based Moment methods were used to extract from the images colour, statistical, and textural information like mean, contrast, energy, entropy, and correlation. The SVM classifier was used to categorise diseases. For both the original grayscale conversion and the updated grayscale conversion, the method produced performances of 72.70% and 90%, respectively. Table 3 compares and explains several machine learning and IP algorithms applied in the detection and categorization of rice illnesses.

METHODS

The various image processing and ML methods utilized for rice disease identification are summarized in Table 2.1.1. Different classifiers are used to identify several rice diseases, including sheath rot, rice blast, and BB. Each approach has benefits. The effectiveness of various classification techniques and image processing strategies employed in various articles is contrasted and evaluated. A detailed description of the performance comparison chart for the various strategies examined in Table 3 is given in Figure 2.



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Fig.3.1(a) Neuro-Fuzzy expert system, PCA-based SVM, Deep CNN, Faster R-CNN, and SVM For the purpose of identifying and categorising rice illnesses, the degree of accuracy of various procedures was assessed. Fig.3.1. (b) ES for RPD2, Radial basis function, NN classifier, PSO-based incremental classifier. For the purpose of identifying and categorising rice illnesses, the degrees of accuracy of various procedures were also evaluated. The various image processing and ML methods utilized for rice disease identification are summarized in Table 2.1.1. Different classifiers are used to identify several rice diseases, including sheath rot, rice blast, and BB. Each approach has benefits. The effectiveness of various classification techniques and image processing strategies employed in various articles is contrasted and evaluated. A detailed description of the performance comparison chart for the various strategies examined in Table 3 is given in Figure 2.

CONCLUSION

The fundamental objective of the rice plant disease recognition system for managing crop diseases is quick and precise disease prediction. Farmers and paddy researchers can immediately preserve the rice plant by quickly identifying diseases in the rice plants. The survey and overview of image processing and machine learning methods used to detect diseases in rice plants are the main goals of this work. Different segmentation approaches were used to retrieve the leaf pictures from the ill rice plant. Researchers can use the techniques described in this study to address a variety of issues that have an impact on society either directly or indirectly. It will be suggested how to approach the problem at hand while also looking towards ML and segmentation approaches, both of which may make it easier to identify plant diseases in the future. Comparisons of future performance and computing requirements to those of traditional approaches may be possible.

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Table 1. Classification and identification of rice plant diseases

Author Name	Key Technique	Description	Limitations
Santanu Phadikar <i>et al</i> [17]	Segmentation	To identify the infected leaf regions in rice plant images, a region identification approach based on Fermi energy was proposed. Textural features focused on NGLDM (Neighboring Gray-Level Dependence Matrix) were extracted to classify the different diseases affecting rice plants.	The accuracy is low.
C.Kumar Charlie Paul [18]	Feature Extraction	The symptoms were characterized by analyzing features such as the color and shape of the infected parts of the rice plant. These extracted features were then utilized to recognize and identify the specific diseases affecting the rice plants.	The risk factors associated with the identified diseases were not discovered.
Amit Kumar Singh <i>et al</i> [19]	Classification	A methodology was proposed to recognize the most prevalent disease in rice plants, namely Rice Leaf Blast (RLB), using an SVM (Support Vector Machine) classifier.	The segmentation process was not improved and the conventional framework for segmentation was employed.

Table 2. Compare s the various methods used to diagnose rice illnesses.

Authors Name	Techniques Used	Disease Identified	Accuracy	Merits	Demerits
Mohdadzhar abdul kahar <i>et al</i> [10]	Neuro Fuzzy expert system	BLB, LBD, BSD,	74.22%.	Identified the diseases at their early stages.	Problems in tackling the noises and other lighting issues due to outer forces.
KhaingWar Htun, and Chit Su Htwe [23]	PCA, Color Grid-centered Moment and GLCM for feature extortion and SVM for classification	leaf brown spot Leaf blast, leaf streak, BLB,	90.00%	Attained Highest accuracy	This method was not applicable for cataloging of crop diseases
Chowdhury RafeedRahman <i>et al</i> [42]	Deep CNN centered classification	pests and diseases in rice plants were identified	95.0%	Accurate and timely detect the diseases	Deep learning methodology contained several layers for categorization. So it took more time to spot the diseases contrasted with others
M. Akila and P.Deepan [43]	RFNN,RCNN, SSD	Diseases and pests of various plants were identified	88.12%	Ability to compete with complex scenarios and effectively identifies disparate diseases.	Time-intensive
Suman T1, Dhruvakumar T2 [44]	SVM classifier	rice blast diseases, narrow brown spot, BLB, brown spot	70.22%	Efficiently classified 4 kinds of diseases in rice	Lowest accuracy when compare with others





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Fahrul Agus <i>et al</i> [45]	ES for application. Unified Modelling Language and Waterfall Paradigm	RPD2	8 sorts of diseases and 48 symptoms of the rice plants were recognized	87.05%	Showed Good Reliability	Accuracy of the method was low compared with other expert systems
Toran Verma and Sipi Dubey [46]	Radial-basis function network (RBFN) model		Sheath Blight, Panicle Blast, Brown spot, Leaf Blast.	95.50%	Good recognition efficiency and generalization	some of the diseases were not identified accurately
Maohua Xiao <i>et al</i> [47]	PCA and NN		Rice Blast	95.84%	Identify the disease quickly and efficiently	Limitations exist in the recognition of lesions with similar morphology and colour
Shampa Sengupta, Asit K.Das [48]	PSO centered incremental classifier		Rice blast, Sheath Rot, Leaf brown spot, BB	84.03%	Reduces the computational time	The results are not checked for incremental data and also the system may demand a self-adapted parameter setting scheme.
Jianrong Huang <i>et al</i> [49]	Hyperspectral data		RLF damage in rice	82%	More accurate than others because of reflectance	Applicable only to specific fields due to the variation of spectra say, stages of growing, species of crop etc.
Weijuan Yang <i>et al</i> [50]	A visual method based on PdNPs-catalyzed TMB/H2O2 system		blast fungus, Magnaporthe grisea	85%	Sensitive, and cost-effectual methodology for the fast screening and for early diagnosis of M. grisea in rice plant	Cannot find other sorts of diseases in rice.

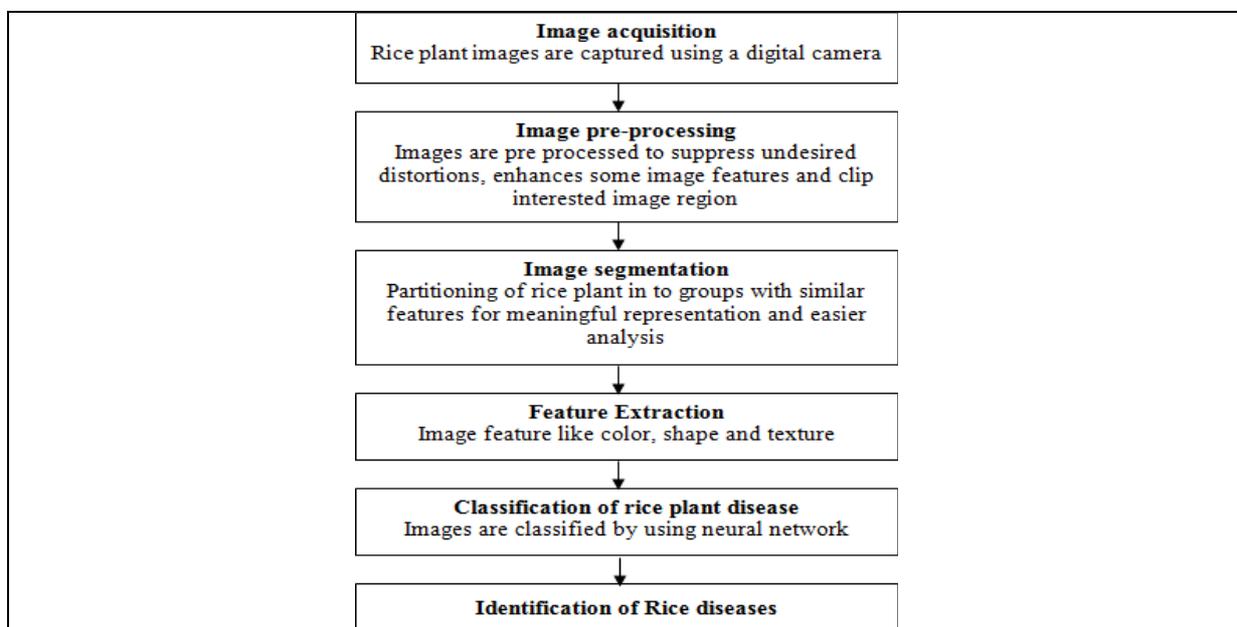


Figure 1. The steps taken to diagnose the rice sickness are illustrated in Figure





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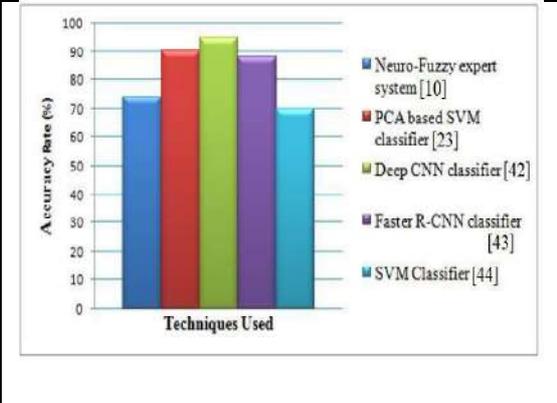
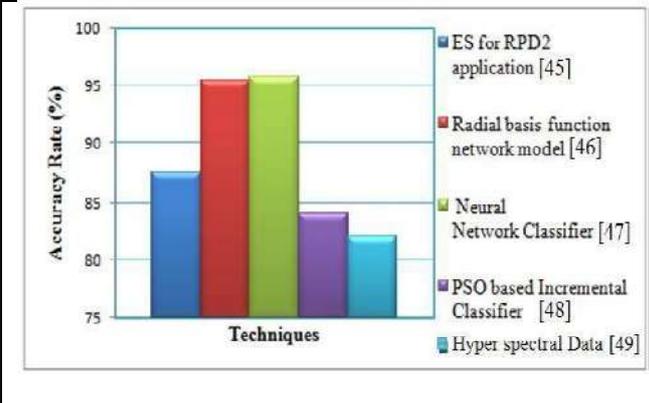


Fig.2(a) Neuro-Fuzzy expert system, PCA-based SVM, Deep CNN, Faster R-CNN, and SVM For the purpose of identifying and categorising rice illnesses, the degree of accuracy of various procedures was assessed.

Fig. 2 (b) ES for RPD2, Radial basis function, NN classifier, PSO-based incremental classifier For the purpose of identifying and categorising rice illnesses, the degrees of accuracy of various procedures were also evaluated.





Removing of Heavy Metals from Waste Water using Agricultural Waste as Adsorbents

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ABSTRACT

The advent of industrialization has brought forth a multitude of environmental predicaments for the populace. Although it has facilitated advancement and prosperity, it has also perturbed the delicate balance of ecological systems. A notable consequence of this disturbance is the pollution of water. The focus of this inquiry pertains to the contamination of aquatic environments resulting from the existence of harmful metallic elements. There are significant levels of heavy metals in the effluent generated by a number of businesses, including electroplating, leather manufacture, tanning, textile manufacturing, pigment and dye production, paint production, wood processing, petroleum refining, and photographic film production. Traditional methods for mitigating heavy metal pollution include precipitation via chemicals, chemically oxidised ionic exchange, separation by membranes, reverse osmosis, and electro-dialysis. Nevertheless, these methodologies are expensive, require a significant amount of energy, and often result in the production of perilous secondary substances. As a result, adsorption has been widely investigated as a cost-effective approach for removing heavy metals from wastewater. The focus of this study is to conduct a thorough analysis of various cost-effective adsorbents in order to mitigate the issue of heavy metal contamination in wastewater. The objective of this study is to examine the effects of various adsorbents and their possible utilisation in the treatment of wastewater. The present study examines the viability of utilising agricultural waste by-products, including but not limited to bagasse



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from sugar cane, husks of rice, peels of bananas, wheat bran, sawdust, and analogous materials, for the effective removal of heavy metals from wastewater.

Keywords: Adsorbents; Adsorption; Agricultural wastes; Heavy metals; Waste water

INTRODUCTION

Heavy metal pollution from excessive environmental releases brought on by industrialization and urbanisation has grown into a serious worldwide problem. Heavy metal ions do not biodegrade into harmless by-products as organic contaminants do, which makes them persist [1]. The toxicity of heavy metal ions to numerous species makes their presence very worrisome. Heavy metal pollutants are often found in the aqueous waste produced by businesses such as metal plating, mining, tanneries, chloralkaline, radiator manufacture, smelting, alloy industries, and storage battery industries [2]. Several wastewater treatment techniques are used to address heavy metal pollution, including precipitation, membrane filtration, ion exchange, adsorption, electro dialysis, and co-precipitation/adsorption. Adsorption has emerged as one of these techniques that is quite successful in removing heavy metals from waste streams, with activated carbon being a common adsorbent [3]. Activated carbon is still a pricey substance despite being extensively used in the treatment of water and wastewater.

The need for affordable and secure methods to remove heavy metals from contaminated water sources has increased recently. This has prompted further research to concentrate on creating affordable substitutes for activated carbon that are already on the market. The goal is to investigate and develop more practical, less expensive ways to remove heavy metals from polluted water. In order to effectively remove heavy metals from wastewater, several studies have looked at the use of low-cost agricultural waste by-products, such as sugarcane bagasse [3-6], rice husk [7-10], sawdust [11-13], and others. Comparing sorbent materials based on cost is crucial, but sadly, pricing data is sometimes insufficient since it varies depending on the degree of processing necessary and the sorbents' accessibility locally. An adsorbent is often regarded as low-cost if it needs little processing, is easily accessible in nature, or is a waste product from another sector. It's crucial to remember that increased sorption capacity can make the expense of further processing worthwhile [14]. Examining the efficacy and efficiency of these less expensive adsorbents and exploring their potential use for the removal of heavy metals from wastewater using agricultural waste by-products, which are often also pollution sources, are the goals of this research.

For the objective of removing heavy metals from wastewater, several researchers have investigated the use of various agricultural products and by-products. This method's cost-effectiveness while using the organic waste materials stands out as a distinct advantage over others. Activated carbon adsorption has emerged as a widely applicable and effective technique among the many techniques, particularly for removing trace levels of heavy metals. Unfortunately, because of its unreasonably expensive price, impoverished nations cannot afford to invest in activated carbon [15].

Industrial Approach for Waste Water Treatment

Heavy metals are a group of metallic chemical elements characterised by their high density and potential toxicity, which can result in harmful effects even at low amounts. Heavy metals such as the elements mercury (Hg), cadmium (Cd), arsenic (As), chromium (Cr), thallium (Tl), and lead (Pb) are among the substances that fall under this category. The aforementioned metals are naturally present in the Earth's crust and exhibit a high degree of resistance to degradation or destruction. Various substances can infiltrate our bodies through different means, such as ingestion, hydration, and inhalation. However, it is important to note that certain trace elements, including copper, selenium, and zinc, play a crucial role in sustaining bodily metabolism. Nevertheless, heightened levels of heavy metals have the potential to cause toxicity [16]. Several industries discharge heavy metals into wastewater as a secondary output.



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The electroplating and surface treatment procedures produce substantial volumes of wastewater that are laden with heavy metals. Furthermore, industrial effluents originating from various sectors, including leather goods, tanneries, textile pigments and colourants, paint and timber manufacturing, petroleum refineries, and artistic film production, are known to contain significant quantities of heavy metals. The metal ions in question exhibit a high degree of toxicity towards both human beings and animals, resulting in physical discomfort, severe ailments that endanger life, and permanent harm to crucial physiological systems [17].

Adsorption

As previously stated, adsorption has been identified as a viable method for treatment that is both economical and ecologically sound. The phenomenon of adsorption involves the transfer of mass, whereby a substance moves from its liquid state and adheres to the outermost layer of a solid substance through either chemical or physical interactions [5]. The aforementioned procedure entails the partitioning of specific constituents from the aqueous phase onto the solid adsorbents' surface, predicated on the principles of solid-liquid balance and mass transfer kinetics. Adsorption can be conducted through batch, semi-batch, or continuous modes of operation. At the molecular scale, the phenomenon of adsorption is predominantly driven by the intermolecular forces of attraction that exist between the adsorbate and the adsorbent surface. Adsorption can be categorised into distinct types on the basis of intermolecular attractive forces, namely: (1) physical adsorption and (2) chemical adsorption.

Physical Adsorption

The process of adsorption is a commonly employed phenomenon that can manifest in diverse systems involving the interaction between solids and liquids or solids and gases. The process of physical adsorption is characterised by the adsorption of adsorbate molecules onto the surface of the adsorbent, which is primarily facilitated by the van der Waals forces of attraction. The aforementioned forces are of paramount importance in the process of attracting and retaining adsorbate molecules on the surface of the solid substrate. The phenomenon of Van der Waals forces is attributed to the intermolecular interactions between adsorbate and adsorbent molecules, which are caused by the presence of temporary electric dipoles. The phenomenon of physical adsorption is observed predominantly in environments characterised by low temperatures. It is noteworthy that gas-phase molecules, subject to particular conditions, may undergo multilayer adsorption. The adsorbents utilise the intermolecular forces of attraction that exist between the adsorption material and the adsorbent's surface, thereby enabling effective adsorption and separation procedures.

Chemical Adsorption

Chemical adsorption, which is also referred to as activated adsorption, is characterised by a chemical interaction between the material that absorbs water and the substance that absorbs it. The present adsorption phenomenon is explicated by potent interactions that lead to the creation of novel electronic bonds, including ionic or covalent bonds, between the adsorption material and the surface of the substrate. Chemisorption is a prevalent phenomenon in catalytic processes, where it results in the creation of a single layer of adsorbate. The adsorption procedure utilised for the separation of pollutants from solid adsorbents, particularly heavy metals, generally encompasses multiple crucial stages. Initially, the pollutant undergoes transportation from the wastewater to the outermost layer of the adsorbent. Following this, intraparticle mass transfer takes place via pore diffusion, whereby the contaminant migrates from the external interface of the adsorbent to its internal porous network. In the end, the process by which adsorbate molecules adhere to the surface of the adsorbent material occurs via diffusion that takes place within the pores of said adsorbent. The adsorption rate is predominantly governed by either the process of building films or intraparticle diffusion. The third and final stage of the process of adsorption, characterised by the binding of the adsorbate to the sites that are active, exhibits a comparatively rapid rate in contrast to the antecedent two stages.

Low-Cost Adsorbents

Typically, an adsorbent may be deemed economically feasible if it entails negligible processing expenses, is readily available in nature, or is obtained from manufacturing or agricultural byproducts. Inexpensive adsorbents can comprise naturally occurring substances or specific residual materials derived from diverse industrial processes. The





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local availability and ample quantities of said materials are deemed advantageous [19]. The adsorption of chromium in water was examined by [20] through the utilisation of *Moringa oleifera* husks. A recent investigation examined the feasibility of utilising black gramme (*Cicer arietinum*) husks as an innovative biosorbent to eliminate Cd (II) from aqueous solutions with low concentrations [21]. Furthermore, a study conducted by [9] investigated the efficacy of rice husk as an adsorbent for the removal and recovery of Cd (II) from wastewater products for the purpose of promoting environmentally friendly practices.

Various agricultural adsorbents have been investigated for their potential in removing heavy metals from wastewater

Sawdust

Recent studies have brought to light the intriguing possibility of sawdust as a noteworthy agricultural adsorbent for efficiently eliminating pollutants from wastewater. Upon undergoing a treatment process involving phosphate, sawdust demonstrates a notable increase in its ability to absorb Cr (VI) in comparison to sawdust that has not undergone treatment. The adsorption process exhibited a pH-dependent behaviour, wherein the complete adsorption of Cr (VI) was observed at pH values lower than 2. The initial concentrations of Cr (VI) ranged from 8–50 mg/l. Additionally, it has been reported that the adsorption of Cr (VI) onto sawdust treated with phosphate can result in a recovery rate of 87% of heavy metals from the bulk solution, utilising a 0.01 M solution of sodium hydroxide [11]. A recent study conducted a comprehensive analysis of the adsorption efficacy of treated and untreated sawdust, indicating prompt initial adsorption. Furthermore, *Abies alba*, commonly known as Romanian fir tree sawdust, has demonstrated favourable outcomes in eliminating Cd (II) from simulated aqueous solutions, as reported in the literature [22]. The results of this study provide evidence supporting the efficacy of sawdust as a feasible and environmentally friendly adsorbent for the elimination of heavy metals in wastewater treatment processes.

Rice Husk

Rice husk, an agricultural waste material essentially found in rice-producing countries, particularly in Asia, accounts for approximately 10–20% of the world's annual rice production of around 500 million metric tonnes. Dry rice husks consist of 70–85% organic matter, including lignin, cellulose, sugars, and other components, while the remaining portion contains silica, present in the cellular membrane [14]. Due to its quick intake and high adsorption capacity, rice husk has emerged as a highly desirable alternative adsorption material. Notably, the capability of rice husk as an adsorbent is apparent in its remarkable removal rates for various substances. For instance, red pigment-treated rice husk disseminates impressive removal percentages of 99.8% and 99.2% for lead (II) and cadmium (II), respectively. Similarly, yellow pigment-treated rice husk shows complete removal (100%) of lead (II) and 93.3% removal of mercury (II). Optimal conditions facilitate the removal of chromium, zinc, copper, and cadmium ions from aqueous solutions at percentages of 79%, 85%, 80%, and 85%, respectively [8]. Moreover, kinetic removal studies regulated through batch experiments justify the efficacy of rice husk in adsorbing various heavy metals. The net intake percentages of lead (Pb), cadmium (Cd), copper (Cu), and zinc (Zn) are measured as 54.3%, 8.24%, 51.4%, and 56.7%, respectively, when using rice husk carbon. In comparison, utilising rice husk ash at the same dosages yields various removal percentages of 74.04%, 43.4%, 70.08%, and 77.2% for lead (Pb), cadmium (Cd), copper (Cu), and zinc (Zn), respectively [23]. These findings emphasise the efficiency and versatility of rice husk and its derived products as effective adsorbents for heavy metal removal.

Wheat bran

Wheat bran is an agronomical by-product with a fibrous structure that makes it suitable for various applications, including absorbent making and filtration. It can be used as a low-cost absorbent for the elimination of heavy metals and dyes, either in its untreated form or as modified wheat bran. To prepare wheat bran for these applications, it is collected from four mills and subjected to several washing steps using tap water and deionized (DI) water. Subsequently, it is heated at 70°C for one hour and grinding it by use mechanical operation. Treated wheat bran can be obtained by serves it with hydrochloric acid, which build up its adsorption capacity for removal of pollutants from waste water. One example of the efficiency of wheat bran in removing heavy metals is chromium. When

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exposed to a 10 mg/L chromium solution at 35°C, wheat bran produced using this method demonstrated a removal efficiency of 90.48% within one hour, gradually increasing to 96.96% over five hours[24]. Wheat bran can also be utilized for the removal of reactive dyes, such as RB 19, RR 195, and RY 145. In this case, wheat bran collected from flour mills is sieved at different mesh sizes and directly added to the dye solutions. Raw material of the dyes is prepared at a concentration of 1.0 g/L and then appropriately diluted. The adsorption capacity of wheat bran, acting as an affordable adsorbent, is assessed by measuring its ability to uptake the reactive dyes from wastewater. For both chromium and dye removal, the particle size of the wheat bran plays a role. Grinding the wheat bran and reach up to 297 and 595 um size of that particle through sieving allows for effective adsorption without any additional treatments. The pH of the solution is tabulate using sulfuric acid (H₂SO₄) or sodium hydroxide (NaOH). Add a suitable amount of adsorbent to the samples for the adsorption and agitating the sample by using a test jar at 250 rpm to achieve adsorption equilibrium. The mixtures are then separated, and the concentration of the desired metal or dye is determined using a spectrometer at 25°C. Optimal removal efficiency is typically achieved within approximately one hour, reaching around 87.6% for chromium removal. The pH of the solution is a governing factor, with an optimum pH of 2 observed[25, 26]. Increasing the pH leads to decrease efficiency of adsorption. In summary, wheat bran, whether untreated or modified, can be effectively used as a affordable adsorbent for the removal of pollutants as heavy metals, and reactive dyes from bulk solutions.[25] Its fibrous structure and adsorption capacity make it a valuable agricultural by-product for various filtration and purification applications.

Bagasse

Bagasse is an agricultural waste material derived from the sugar industry. It mainly consists of cellulose (55%), hemicellulose (27%), and lignin (23%). The presence of these compounds of polymers in bagasse provides a rich source of hydroxyl and phenolic groups, which can be treated to enhance its adsorption capacity. Bagasse can be used in its natural form or undergo modifications for improved performance as an adsorbent. One interesting application of bagasse is its use in conjunction with chromium-resistant reducing bacteria, such as *Acinetobacter haemolyticus*. This bacterium has the ability to convert more harmful and soluble hexavalent chromium (Cr (VI)) into less poisonous and less soluble trivalent chromium (Cr (III)) [27]. Using bagasse as a support material, more than 90% chromium removal has been achieved through the action of these bacteria. Chemical modification of bagasse can also be carried out using various agents such as succinic anhydride, EDTA dianhydride, sulfuric acid, citric acid, and others. In addition to bacterial and chemical modifications, bagasse can be employed as an adsorbent for chromium removal in its natural form. For instance, Cronje *et al.* successfully removed chromium using bagasse in combination with zinc chloride, achieving a chromium removal efficiency of over 87% at an optimum pH of 8.58[28]. In summary, bagasse, as an agricultural waste material, contains beneficial properties for heavy metal adsorption due to its composition rich in cellulose group and lignin. It can be used to serve as an adsorbent in its natural form or undergo modifications using various chemicals[3]. The utilization of bagasse, either alone or in combination with bacteria or additives, offers appropriate solution for the removal of chromium from wastewater.

Tea Waste

The present study aimed to explore the potential of tea waste as an adsorbent for the elimination of lead, cadmium, and nickel from contaminated bulk solutions. Batch-scale experiments were conducted to investigate the adsorption capacity of the tea waste. For the study, different amounts of tea residue were tested in solutions with different ingredients and concentrations, as well as when they were mixed together. Furthermore, an examination was conducted on the impact of varying quantities of waste tea on the efficacy of adsorption.

The findings indicate that the efficacy of tea waste in eliminating pollutants is greatest for lead and least for cadmium. The results indicate that lead removal rates of roughly 94% and 100% were achieved when utilising 0.5 and 1.5 grammes of tea waste, respectively. Nonetheless, the efficacy of the nickel solution treatment with a solute concentration of 5 mg/L through immersion was observed to be limited to 85.7%. The efficiency of cadmium was observed to be 77.2% under identical conditions. The efficacy of tea waste as an adsorbent for the elimination of contaminants from wastewater is demonstrated. It is important to acknowledge that the adsorption process is significantly influenced by the pH spectrum of the solution. The adsorption process utilising tea residue as an



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adsorbent has been determined to exhibit a maximum pH range of 5 to 6, as reported in previous studies [29–33]. In summary, the utilisation of tea waste as an adsorbent exhibits potential for the removal of lead, cadmium, and the element nickel from wastewater from industries. The element lead has been observed to exhibit the highest level of removal efficiency, whereas cadmium has been found to display the lowest level of efficiency in this regard. The utilisation of tea waste and the pH level of the solution have a noteworthy impact on the adsorption mechanism. More research and improvements are needed to improve the ability of tea waste to remove heavy metals from wastewater in a way that is good for the environment.

Banana peel

Banana is a globally significant crop cultivated by more than 130 The banana is a crop of great global significance, being cultivated in over 130 countries. The utilisation of raw bananas, treated banana peels, and banana stalks has been investigated in recent studies for their efficacy in eliminating harmful heavy metal ions from solutions of water and wastewater. The utilisation of banana peels as adsorbents for the removal of chromium (Cr) from wastewater has been documented. The adsorption capacity of banana peels can be enhanced through chemical treatment, which may involve the elimination of viscous compounds like lignin and pectin, as evidenced by previous research [34]. Furthermore, it has been demonstrated that the integration of the acrylonitrile side chain into the cellulosic framework serves to augment their affinity towards adsorbate molecules. In order to create adsorbents from banana peels, the peels undergo hydrolysis using a 10% NaOH solution in a flask with a round bottom under reflux conditions at a temperature of 105°C for a duration of 3 hours. The pulp obtained is subjected to extensive washing with distilled water in order to remove lignin and pectin, and subsequently subjected to drying in an oven at a temperature of 105 degrees Celsius for a duration of 24 hours. According to a study [35], chemically altered banana peels have exhibited superior adsorption efficacy in comparison to unprocessed adsorbents. In general, the employment of banana peels and stalks as adsorbents presents a potentially effective method for the removal of heavy metal ions from wastewater. The adsorption capacity of banana peels is improved through chemical treatment, thereby increasing their efficacy in the sequestration of heavy metals. Further investigation and refinement of these organic byproducts has the potential to expand their utilisation in endeavours related to the purification of water and mitigation of environmental contamination.

Maize cob

The aim of this investigation is to assess the efficacy and potential of maize cob-derived products, specifically charcoal with activation and ash, as adsorbents for the removal of pollutants, turbidity, and colour from wastewater. The aim of this study is to assess the efficacy of corn cobs, an agricultural residue, in the treatment of wastewater, with a particular emphasis on their potential. Furthermore, corn cobs have been used in industrial cleaning procedures. The experimental procedure was initiated by acquiring maize cobs, which then underwent a drying process that involved exposure to sunlight, followed by subsequent drying in an oven at a temperature of 105°C. After desiccation, the maize cobs were comminuted using suitable machinery and subsequently sifted through a sieve with a mesh aperture of 0.9 mm. A portion of the sifted specimen was subsequently dispensed into ten pre-weighed crucibles for measurement. The crucibles, which held the sample, were subjected to pyrolysis by being placed in a combustion chamber at a temperature of 500°C for a duration of 20 minutes. Following the cooling process, the pyrolyzed specimen was pulverised into granular particles and subsequently subjected to activation via H₃PO₄ (orthophosphoric acid). In order to initiate the combustion sample, it was blended with orthophosphoric acid that was concentrated to 75% at a weight ratio of 0.1 H₃PO₄ to char. The resultant mixture was subjected to evaporation at a temperature of 60°C for 24 hours, leading to the formation of a blend comprising activated charcoal and H₃PO₄. Subsequently, the aforementioned blend underwent a series of washes until attaining a pH level of 7, which is considered neutral. Following this, the specimen underwent a purification process involving agitation within a 250-ml beaker containing 0.1M HCL for a duration of one hour [36, 37]. Subsequently, the sample underwent a rinsing process until attaining a pH range within the interval of 6 to 7. The activated carbon that was obtained was subsequently placed in an airtight receptacle for potential future use.



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MATERIAL AND METHODS

The goal of this research is to examine the effectiveness of natural and green adsorbents in removing pollutants from waste water. The centre layer of filter media is placed by combining sawdust and rice husk at ratios of 1:1, 1:1.5, 1:2, 13:1, and 2:1 for a thickness of 30 cm. The top and bottom layers of screen medium are layered with limestone that is 10 cm thick. The synthetically generated wastewater is permitted to flow via a sandy layer with Varying thicknesses before it passes a layer of limestone, with each layer being divided by a cotton fabric. The calibration curve may be used to establish the beginning and end concentrations of iron content, and the formula below can be used to calculate the percentage of iron removed.

$$\text{Percentage Removal} = \left[\frac{C_1 - C_2}{C_1} \right] * 100$$

Where C1 and C2 represent the starting and ultimate concentrations of iron, respectively, in ppm. Following are tables with the experiment's findings organised by the amount of each substance used.

Preparation of Synthetic Iron Water

A 1,000 parts per million (ppm) of an iron solution, or 1000 milligrammes per liter (mg/L) of iron, has been produced by dissolving 3.5713 grammes of iron (III) sulphate ($\text{Fe}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$) in one liter (L) of water. The following conversion factors are used: 1 mole of Fe is equal to $2 * 55.845$ grammes of Fe and 1 liter (L) of solution. One gramme (g) of Fe is equal to 1000 milligrammes (mg) of Fe.

Preparation of Limestone Adsorbent

The constituents of calcite and aragonite, which are distinct crystalline forms of the mineral calcium carbonate (CaCO_3), make up the majority of the sedimentary rock known as limestone. Limestone is used as a construction material and as a raw ingredient in the production of cement. The aggregates were manually broken and sieved, and the stones utilised in this investigation were purchased from the neighbourhood market. The aggregates that went through a 20 mm filter but were held by a 16 mm sieve are removed, cleaned, and oven-dried at 60 degrees for an hour. The figure depicts a limestone picture.

Preparation of Rise husk Adsorbent

The firm protective coatings that cover rice grains are called husks. Rice husks may be used as a construction material, fuel, fertiliser, or an insulating material in addition to providing protection for rice throughout the growing season. The rice husk had been bought from a nearby store. Prior to employing filter media, the rice husks is cleaned and dried outside for three days. The figure depicts a picture of a husk of rice.

Preparation of Sawdust Adsorbent

Sawdust is a by-product of using a saw to cut, grind, drill, sand, or otherwise pulverise wood; it is made up of tiny pieces of wood. Particleboard is made from sawdust, which additionally serves as fuel. The sawdust utilised in this investigation was purchased from a nearby market. The sawdust is screened via a 2 mm sieve and water washed till the water's colour is normal. The sawdust is then dried for three days in the sun before being utilised as filter media. The Sawdust picture is shown in the illustration.

Setting up for Filter

A sheet of plastic of 60 cm in height and 150 mm in diameter, with a thickness of 3 mm, was used to create the filter tube. At one end of the tube, the exit is fixed. Sand, rice husk, sawdust, and limestone aggregates are used to lay the layers of filter media. The top layer was composed of 5 cm of sand, followed by 10 cm of limestone particles. Use rice husks and sawdust in varying ratios to lay the centre layer for around 30 cm. The last layer was composed of another 10 cm layer of limestone particles. The filter's tube and filter medium are seen in the figure.





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Filtration Process

Different ratios of rice husks and sawdust were used throughout the filtering process. Each experiment results in a change to these ratios. To calculate the efficiency and maximum removal %, the operation was performed many times. Every trial's effluent was collected. The graphic displays the picture of the collected wastewater. A private laboratory was provided the sample to test it, and the results are detailed below. In a plastic or glass container, the sample is collected, and the effluent is analysed using a spectrophotometer to determine its absorbance at wavelength 508 nm.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The proportion of rise husk to the saw dust	The initial concentration of sample (ppm)	Final concentration of sample (ppm)	Efficiency (% Removal of iron)
1:1	99.12	40.63	59.00
2:1	99.12	23.16	76.63
1:2	99.12	76	23.32

CONCLUSION

The utilisation of absorbent materials such as sawdust as well as rice husk has facilitated the efficient removal of iron, thereby creating new prospects for addressing iron-related issues in rural areas situated in proximity to iron ore mining locations, where elevated levels of iron are commonly observed. Initially, a trial was undertaken to assess the impact of different ratios of sawdust and rice husk. The results revealed that a combination of rice husk and sawdust in a proportion of 2:1 resulted in the removal of approximately 76% of iron. Following this, a comparative analysis was performed by filtering the solution using the individual materials, without any combination. The study revealed that the combination of materials resulted in a higher level of efficacy in the removal process when contrasted to their individual application. It is imperative to recognise that due to the limitations imposed by the pandemic, only three experiments were carried out. Hence, it is imperative to acknowledge that attaining conclusive determinations concerning the ideal ratio of rice husks to sawdust, resulting in maximum efficacy, requires additional experimentation and acquisition of data. Additional research is essential in achieving a more thorough understanding of the ideal proportion for achieving maximum effectiveness in elimination.

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Table 1 The Maximum Contaminant Level Standard For Hazardous heavy metal[18]:

Heavy metal	Toxicity	MCL (mg/L)
Arsenic (As)	Skin manifestations, visceral cancers, vascular disease	0.050
Cadmium (Cd)	Kidney damage, renal disorder, human carcinogen	0.01
Chromium (Cr)	Headache, diarrhoea, nausea, vomiting, carcinogenic	0.05
Copper (Cu)	Liver damage, Wilson disease, Insomnia	0.25
Nickel (Ni)	Dermatitis, nausea, chronic asthma, coughing, human carcinogen	0.20
Zinc (Zn)	Depression, lethargy, neurological signs and increased thirst	0.80
Lead (Pb)	Damage the fetal brain, diseases of kidney, circulatory system and nervous system	0.006
Mercury (Hg)	Rheumatoid arthritis and disease of kidneys, circulatory and nervous system	0.00003



Figure: 1 Sugarcane by product Bagasse



Figure 2. Treated limestone

Figure..3 Treated rice husk





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Figure: 4 Treated Saw dust



Figure: 5. Filtration set up 1



Figure: 6. Collect filtrate





Sequential Decision Making using Neurosymbolic AI

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ABSTRACT

Sequential decision making is the act of making a number of choices in a precise order while taking the possible outcomes and uncertainties of each decision into account. This paradigm for making decisions is often used in a variety of real-world situations, such as autonomous driving, financial portfolio management, and robotic control systems. To accomplish desired results, it requires analysing the present state, projecting future states, and optimising actions. Automated Planning (AP) and Reinforcement Learning (RL) are the two primary concepts that have been put forward throughout the history of AI to address challenges involving sequential decision making (SDM). The neurosymbolic AI concept has lately garnered a lot of attention among the many others that aim to combine the two fields. It mixes the Deep Neural Networks utilised in contemporary RL with the symbolic representations common to AP. The main work of this article is to advance the state-of-the-art in neurosymbolic AI for SDM by creating techniques for resolving these issues as well as discovering structural elements of them.

Keywords: - Reinforcement Learning (RL), Automated Planning (AP), Deep Neural Networks, Sequential Decision Making (SDM).





INTRODUCTION

Sequential decision making (SDM) is the process of overcoming the difficulty of sequential decision processes (SDPs). In order to complete a task or accomplish a goal, an agent in an SDP must choose among a variety of possibilities [1]. These decisions need to be made in accordance with some optimality criteria, either the maximisation of reward or the minimization of cost. In industries as diverse as robotics, logistics, gaming, and banking, SDPs provide a general structure that has been employed successfully. The two main divisions between AI methods to SDPs are Automated Planning (AP) and Reinforcement Learning (RL). These two paradigms differ primarily in how they reach their findings and how they present their information. The planning domain's previously stored knowledge about the dynamics of the environment is used by AP to develop a plan that achieves the goals [2]. Declarative languages are often used to symbolically express this data. The ideal course of action or a mapping from states to actions to optimise reward is automatically and unplannedly discovered using standard RL approaches. This tactic is often represented subsymbolically by a Deep Neural Network (DNN). Its main advantages are the interpretability of AP's knowledge representation and its flexibility for long-term thinking. The main advantage of RL is its ability to learn on its own from data. Because the shortcomings of AP are comparable to the advantages of RL and vice versa, several solutions have tried to merge these two paradigms [3]. These techniques include model-based reinforcement learning (RL), relational learning (RL), approaches to learn the structure of the SDP (like the planning domain), and neurosymbolic AI, a revolutionary technique that blends the DNNs of Deep Learning (DL) and Deep RL with the symbolic representations of AP. Studying AI methods for SDM is the primary line of research. A review of the results from this study has already been completed, and we want to submit it very shortly. To the best of our knowledge, it is the first study to provide an overview of AI methods for resolving SDPs and discovering their structure, covering approaches ranging from the symbolic approach of AP to the subsymbolic one of DL, RL, and Deep RL, as well as several hybrids approaches in between. In this paper, we also look at the qualities that a perfect SDM methodology should have, and we argue that neurosymbolic AI is the closest thing to this ideal technique that is now accessible [4]. We have received numerous proposals from our examination for further study, two of which are discussed in this report. Goal Reasoning (GR), the first, is a design philosophy in which agents' reason not only about how to achieve their goals, but also about which goals to pursue (in order to accomplish a final goal or finish a task). For learning to choose AP goals based on data, many research either employ traditional RL or Supervised Learning (SL). In contrast to standard RL, which cannot generalise to unknown conditions and goals, we propose a Deep RL strategy for goal selection that requires less prior knowledge than SL. The second one is on methods for organising problem creation. By identifying a planning domain, the starting point, and any anticipated objectives, a planning problem establishes a planning task. Planning problems are mostly created with two objectives in mind: first, to provide data for machine learning methods (such as those that research planning heuristics or hierarchical task networks (HTN) domains), and second, to produce benchmark problems to evaluate planners (as in AP competitions) [5]. There are several methods for producing planning problems, but none of them can produce issues that are real, diverse, or of good quality since they either focus on a particular domain or are domain-general. We provide a method for formulating planning problems that is independent of a specific domain and uses the PDDL language. This strategy will make use of Deep RL to focus the search on issues that fit the description above.

AP and Deep RL Integration

The goal of artificial intelligence (AI) is to allow intelligent decision-making. Two well-known topics within AI are automated planning and reinforcement learning. Although each strategy has its advantages and disadvantages, there has been an increase in interest in combining these two disciplines to maximise their combined advantages [6]. The benefits, difficulties, and prospective uses of this integration are discussed in this article, which also examines the integration of automated planning and reinforcement learning. Automated planning is a branch of artificial intelligence that focuses on creating strategies and algorithms that provide sets of activities that will help accomplish certain objectives. It entails modelling a problem domain, describing the starting state, objectives, and possible actions, and using search algorithms or heuristic-based approaches to develop an ideal or workable strategy [7].



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Process control, logistics, and robotics are a few industries that often employ automated planning. Machine learning's reinforcement learning subfield addresses issues related to control and decision-making. In reinforcement learning, an agent interacts with the environment, makes decisions, and then gets feedback in the form of benefits or drawbacks. Learn an ideal policy that maximises the cumulative reward over time in order to achieve the desired result. Numerous fields, such as robotics, autonomous systems, and game playing, have seen substantial advancements in reinforcement learning [8]. While reinforcement learning focuses on figuring out the best control policies via trial and error, automated planning excels in high-level reasoning and creating abstract plans. High-level planning may facilitate more effective environmental exploration and exploitation by combining these two methodologies and offering a guiding system for reinforcement learning. To learn a policy using reinforcement learning, the environment must normally be encountered a lot of times. Nevertheless, by including planning strategies, the agent may make use of existing information about the issue domain and produce intelligent action sequences, lowering the number of samples needed for learning. Partial observability is a common feature of real-world issues when the agent has little direct control over the status of the environment [9]. The reinforcement learning agent will have a more accurate representation of the environment thanks to planning approaches like belief-state planning that may aid in reasoning about ambiguous or concealed states. Hierarchical structures, temporal interdependence, and various abstraction levels are frequent features of complex domains. Automated planning is capable of handling high-level goal breakdown and sequencing, whereas reinforcement learning is capable of handling low-level control and policy optimisation [10]. An expanded representation and decision-making process in complicated domains are made possible by the combination of various methodologies.

Reinforcement learning uses a distinct set of representations than automated planning. Reward learning depends on numerical representations, while planning often utilises symbolic or logical ones. Development of hybrid models or translation mechanisms is required to integrate various representations. The search for the best rules in reinforcement learning mainly depends on exploration. In contrast, planning usually focuses on making use of the knowledge that is already known [11]. In order to integrate these two techniques effectively and guarantee effective learning and decision-making, the appropriate balance between exploration and exploitation must be struck. When used for large-scale concerns, automated planning algorithms may have scalability difficulties. When planning and reinforcement learning are combined, there are added complexity and computing demands that need effective algorithms and scalable methodologies in order to handle real-world situations. Intelligent decision-making might advance significantly with the use of automated planning and reinforcement learning. By combining high-level reasoning with low-level control, utilising existing knowledge, and addressing representational and scalability challenges, this integration opens up new possibilities in the domains of robotics, autonomous systems, and resource management. With the advancement of this area of research, we could expect fresh advancements and applications that push the boundaries of AI technology. The second research line has already begun, and it is focused on the combination of AP and Deep RL [12]. We have designed a neurosymbolic architecture that combines Deep Q-Learning with AP to learn how to choose goals. On a deterministic version of the 2D game Boulder Dash, a number of training and testing phases were used to assess the generalizability of this approach. Both traditional AP and traditional Deep Q-Learning were compared to our approach.

The results shown that 1) Deep Q-Learning can effectively learn to choose goals, and 2) our hybrid method outperforms AP and RL alone when time constraints and plan length are taken into consideration. In order to pick targets, we shall first include stochastic conditions. In order to do this, the model will also be trained to predict the chance that a plan would go off without a hitch (such as an unforeseen obstacle arising) [13]. This uncertainty value will be monitored throughout execution to make sure that when a problem emerges, a new goal is sought. Due to the target selection process's control over all of the stochasticity, this approach enables the deployment of a deterministic planner in a stochastic environment. We will evaluate the performance of our enhanced architecture on stochastic GVGAI games. To evaluate our target selection process, we will employ a real-world problem in the second step. To manage logistics for a company that sends and receives items using trucks is the goal [14]. For high-level decisions to be in line with goals and instruction, we advise utilising our technique. In order to satisfy a number of criteria, such as time limitations, and to optimise a number of metrics, such as lowering fuel consumption, the top candidates are



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selected using deep Q-learning. Following that, a symbolic planner will be used to find the plans for the selected goals [15]. The execution's progress will also be monitored so that, if necessary, the goals may be adjusted. Since the training data will be in the form of logs, we will need to employ a DNN architecture suitable for symbolic data, such as Graph Neural Networks (GNN). Next, the plans' quality will be contrasted with the outcomes obtained by the logistics company's previous approach.

Creating Planning Problems Automatically

Many different domains, including artificial intelligence, robotics, operations research, and others, employ planning issues extensively. They include determining a series of activities to carry out desired objectives within a predetermined set of restrictions. While creating planning issues by hand may be labour- and time-intensive, automation generating methods have evolved to speed up the process [16]. We examine the idea of automated production of planning issues in this article, along with its advantages and applications in several fields. Especially for complicated cases, manually generating planning issues might be difficult. Designing objectives that reflect actual issues and having a thorough understanding of restrictions are all necessary. By automating the process, automatic generation approaches help to relieve these issues and make it possible for academics and practitioners to produce a variety of planning problems quickly [17,18]. A simple method called randomization assigns beginning states, objectives, and the circumstances and results of actions at random in order to create planning issues. Although this method offers a wide range of issues, it could be lacking in certain essential details or restrictions for some applications. In template-based generation, the structure and restrictions of the desired planning issues are captured in problem templates. These templates may comprise preset components like objects, actions, and objectives, as well as the connections and dependencies between them. Numerous planning issues may be automatically produced by instantiating the templates with appropriate variables. methods for solving planning issues by changing them into new ones are known as problem transformation methods [19]. This may be accomplished by altering an existing problem's beginning states, objectives, or action attributes. It is possible to create linked issues with various levels of complexity or variety thanks to problem transformation. Domain-specific generators are designed specifically for a certain application domain. These generators use restrictions and domain knowledge to produce planning problems that closely match real-world situations. For instance, in robotics, domain-specific generators may take into account task-specific needs as well as the physical limitations of the robot and its surroundings. The time and work needed to generate a large number of planning issues are drastically reduced by automatic generating approaches. To test and evaluate planning algorithms, researchers may create a variety of problem sets that allow for a greater range of possible situations to be explored [20]. Planning challenges may be customised depending on particular needs thanks to automatic generating approaches. Using restrictions, preferences, or goals, practitioners may create challenges that are specific to their requirements. By customising them, planning algorithms and systems are evaluated in situations that are pertinent and realistic [21]. Benchmark datasets are necessary for assessing and contrasting various planning techniques and algorithms, and automatic generation makes it easier to create them. Standardised sets of planning issues provide fair comparisons, fostering improvements within the discipline and offering a benchmark for gauging development.

This research topic focuses on the possible applicability of a neurosymbolic method for creating planning problems to the learning of SDP structural features. The planning of issue genesis itself may be one of the SDM duties [22]. The initial state could be produced via an iterative process that progressively introduces new objects or predicates (relations) between the preexisting objects. By initially conducting a sequence of actions from the beginning state to the end state, one may choose a subset of the state predicates to build the goal [23]. A method for efficiently building molecular graphs was altered to produce planning problems for any given planning domains. With the help of RL, a GNN will be taught to create issues that are true, varied, and of high quality (i.e., challenging to solve). It will then choose the action to use at each generation step. By resolving them using a commercial planner and examining the resolution metrics, it is possible to assess the validity and quality of the created issues [24]. Contrarily, a person will likely need to evaluate the variety of the issues. After putting it into practise and testing it, we'll use our problem-generation technique to teach ourselves the hierarchical planning domains, or HTNs. In contrast to non-hierarchical planning domains, HTNs provide an intriguing alternative since they not only depict the dynamics of the



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surrounding environment but also store practical tactics for reaching the objectives. The process of creating HTN, however, often takes a long period [25]. Numerous techniques to automatically discover HTN domains from data have been developed as a result. Despite their worth, they often need input in the form of plan traces, which may be difficult to locate. In order to deal with this, we are going to use the previously outlined technique to develop planning problems that a planner can answer. The plan traces will then be sent to a state-of-the-art method for learning HTN domains. This enables the learning of an HTN domain without the need for plan traces, only from a non-hierarchical domain [26]. The efficiency of the HTN domains produced will be evaluated by comparing the time needed to perform a planning activity using the non-hierarchical domain and the one utilising the HTN domain. As far as we are aware, this research is the only one that can teach HTN domains without requiring plan traces. However, as the authors stress, since the learned HTNs are so broad, their approach does not work effectively in every situation.

CONCLUSION

With current research projects concentrating on overcoming its drawbacks and investigating new avenues, the subject of neurosymbolic AI is constantly developing. The efficiency and scalability of Neurosymbolic AI systems will be further improved by improvements in hardware, such as specialised neural network topologies and effective symbolic reasoning engines. The adoption of Neurosymbolic AI in complex decision-making situations will also benefit from improvements in explainable AI methodologies. To attain the best results, it is necessary to integrate AI approaches into the complicated process of sequential decision making. By combining symbolic thinking with neural networks, neurosymbolic AI provides an effective method for generating better informed and adaptable decisions. Neurosymbolic AI has the potential to revolutionise decision-making procedures and spur innovation across sectors, with applications spanning finance, healthcare, robotics, and more.

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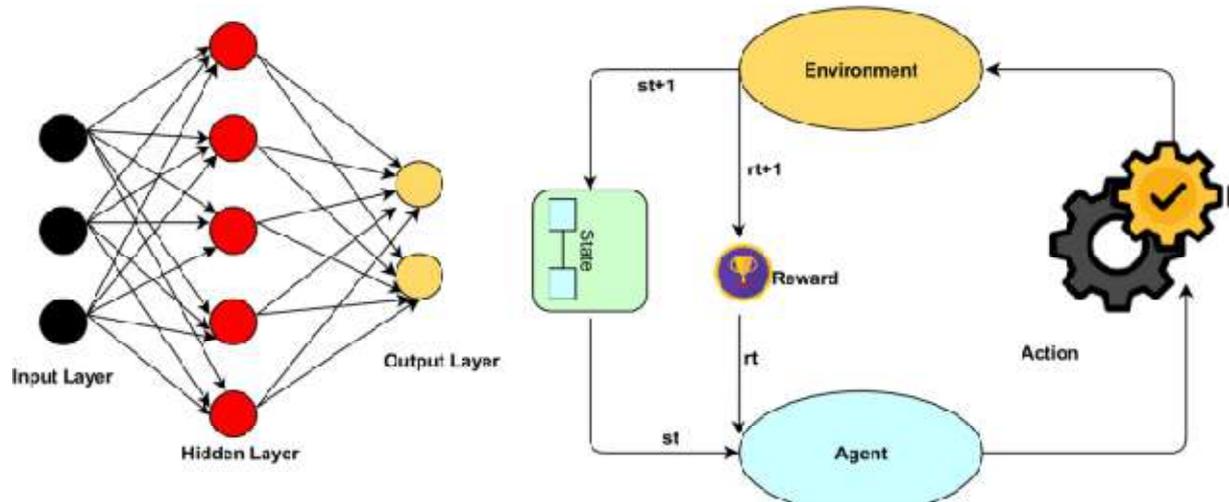


Fig 1. Deep Reinforcement Learning Workflow

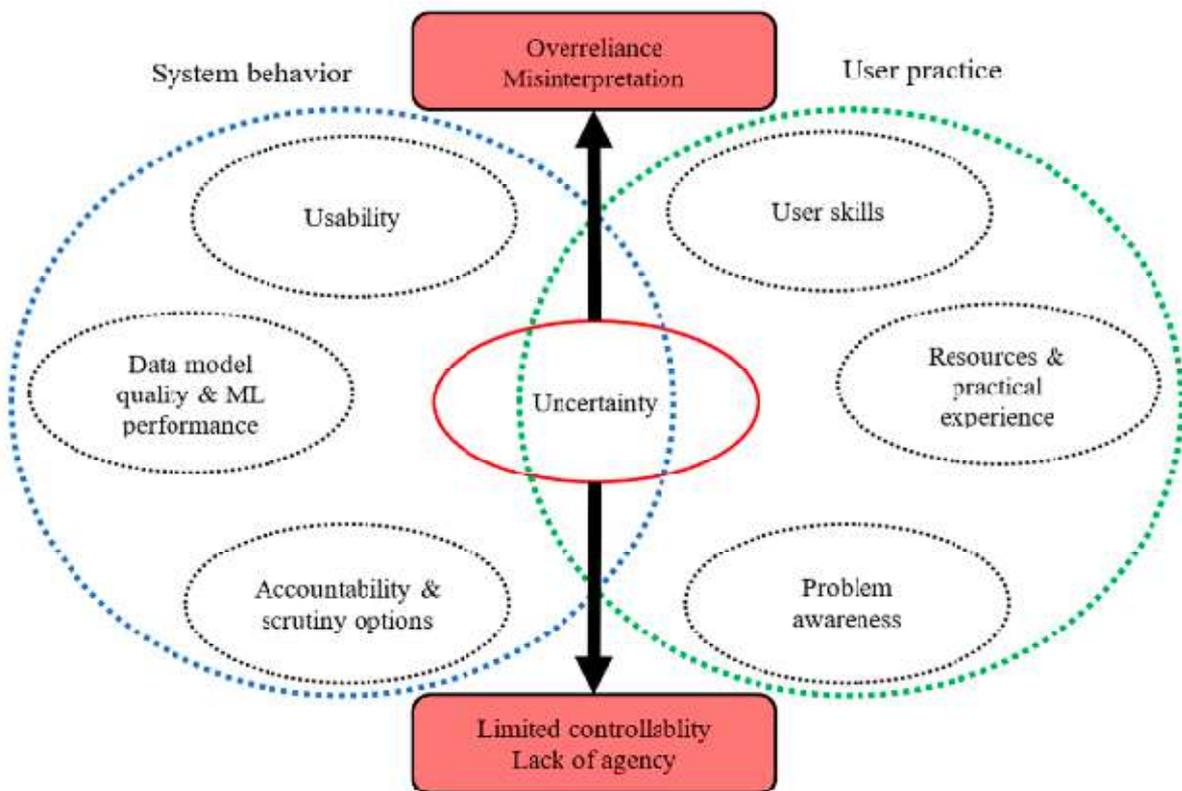


Fig 2. Automatic Planning





Hybrid Digital and Analog Beam forming Design for Large-Scale Antenna Arrays

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ABSTRACT

In a MIMO framework that works in the millimeter-wave band, beamforming is utilized to coordinate the transmission energy towards a particular course. One strategy utilized is called mixture beamforming, which joins both simple and advanced methods. This approach is a harmony between more reasonable, low accuracy strategies that utilization just simple procedures, expensive and energy-serious techniques that utilization just computerized approaches. So this beamforming design consolidates a low-layered computerized bar previous and a RF pillar previous that utilizes simple stage shifters. The objective is to show the way that this design can perform in much the same way to a completely computerized approach, while requiring essentially less RF chains. We propose a cross breed beamforming method for Single Client 5G Gigantic Numerous Info Different Result (MIMO) Frameworks. We utilize a 5G system to test and confirm the execution of the methodology, which depends on double stage cross breed beamforming that uses Particular Worth Disintegration and Zero Constraining, in contrast with a completely computerized plot which is utilized as a kind of perspective. The objective is to track down the most ideal way to build how much information that can be communicated in both MIMO frameworks and downlink MU-MISO frameworks.

Keywords: Hybrid Beamforming; Massive MIMO; 5G; Point to point MIMO system.

INTRODUCTION

Millimeter wave technology is a potential solution for advance wireless communication to address the problem of limited bandwidth, Millimeter waves, also known as mm Waves or 5G, refer to frequencies equal to and higher than

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24GHz[1]. As the frequency of radio waves increases, length of single wave decreases. Because of its high frequencies mm wave has a somewhat short scope of simply 500 feet and is less ready to infiltrate through building structures than 3g and 4g organizations. Historically, millimeter waves were mainly used in communication medium such as satellite and also used in radar technology ,aircraft industries, but as demand for data increased, there was an opportunity to use these frequencies for next-generation mobile networks using millimeter-wave frequency for wireless systems by introducing a hybrid digital-analog beamforming architecture.[2] This method uses a digital beam former with a small number of dimensions, combined with an RF beam former made using analog phase shifters This approach shows that it is capable of producing outcomes comparable to digital beamforming, yet with less number of RF chain and at significantly lower cost. Also it will showcase hybrid beamforming designs for point to point (multiple input multiple output) system and downlink multiuser, (multiple input single output) system and will highlight implementation of design with low-resolution phase shifters with required numerical calculation. [1]-[2].

**Elements of Beam forming
Large Scale Antenna Arrays**

It is also known as Hyper MIMO, is a key concept in the field of wireless communication channel. It involves utilization of array antennas at base stations to transmit signals to specific regions.[3] This can be done by equipping consumer devices with two or more antennas, resulting in improved energy efficiency and increased throughput. Massive MIMO systems typically operate at millimeter wave frequencies and have a variety of array parameter, such as planar, circular, spherical, and cylindrical. The performance this MIMO system is determined by various factors of the array such as, the number of elements, the radiation pattern, the intercomponent spacing, and mutual coupling among array element. MIMO systems often utilize frequency bands ranging from 3 to 6GHz, 28GHz, and 70GHz, and the antennas used include patch antennas, horn antennas, and sometimes dipoles. At mm Wave frequencies, antenna parameter are densely packed in a small space, allowing for the use of MIMO technology. This enables the creation of narrow beams, which require angular resolution to accurately capture channel characteristics. In order to achieve this, mm Wave systems require largescale antenna arrays for shortrange communications. To meet these requirements, base stations must have a transmit antenna array gain of at least 20 dBi, and at least 100 element arrays (10x10) are required. The single element antenna design has been transformed into a single linear array consisting of 'K' elements that are evenly spaced. Radiation pattern of linear antenna can be estimated by averaging the array factor, and the 100 element radiation pattern array is assumed to equal for all elements. At mm Wave frequencies, the increased free-space path loss is compensated for by scaling up antenna gains, which requires the use of large, high-dimensional antenna arrays for directional transmission. However, these large antenna elements present challenges in terms of power consumption, size, and cost. Additionally, current technology does not allow have a separate radio frequency chain. Power consumed by the components such as converters (ADCs) and (DAC), power amplifiers, is high at mm Wave frequencies, particularly when dealing with large volumes of data and high sampling speeds. Digital beamforming techniques would require extra RF chain for each antenna parameter in large array, making them costly and power-intensive. In this study, a hybrid beamforming uses uniform linear array to minimize power consumed and path loss by using the weighted minimum mean squared error technique for 5G indoor network deployments.

Beam Forming Technique

It is used in antenna design where multiple radiating elements transmit the same signal at the same wavelength and phase, resulting in a single, more targeted beam. The concept was first used in 1906 for trans- oceanic radio communications. The more elements in the antenna, the narrower and more focused the beam becomes, but also results in weaker side lobes, which are unwanted radiation in other directions. Poor engineering can lead to excessive interference from the side lobes. While digital beamforming is most commonly used today, whereas analog beamforming provides antenna gain and reduces the path loss of waves. Thus Beamform are further divided to Analog, Digital and Hybrid beamforming. In analog beamforming design, the baseband signal is firstly modulated, amplified, and then distributed to antennas that are available. Individual RF chain is able to adjust the phase and



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amplitude separately. Thus beamform array should have simple architecture with minimum hardware and low cost functionality. However, the downside is that the system is capable of only one data stream at a time and generates only single beam. To point the beam in different directions, the beams must be separated in time through time multiplexing. In Digital beamforming, multiple digital stream forms a single beam by adjusting their amplitude and phase. This approach enables the beamforming to direct the energy towards the desired array elements. [4] The phase shifting is done before Digital to Analog Conversion and beamforming modifications are made in the Digital Signal Processing (DSP) by modifying the digital representation of the signal. This method is mainly used for lower frequencies that is in 5G technology as it offers high control ability of the phase and amplitude of each antenna, resulting in a greater number of beams that can be created at the same time. Hybrid beamform consists of analog and digital beamform technique. [4] It is predicted that many 5G base stations will make use of this method, with one possible approach being to use analog beamforming for general direction and digital beamforming, such as MU-MIMO or SU-MIMO, for more precise control within the analog beam.

Hybrid Beamforming design in Large scale arrays (massive MIMO)

Beamforming can be categorized into three types: analog, digital and hybrid. Analog beamforming involves adjusting the phase of the transmitted signal using phase shifters such that transmission energy is focused in a particular direction, enhancing the signal strength in that direction and reducing interference from other directions. [5] Whereas digital beamforming has the advantage of adjusting both the amplitude and phase of the signal, but it requires separate baseband and radio frequency chains for signal processing. However, it is not practical for the mm Wave band as it would require an extra RF chain for each antenna, which can be costly and power-consuming for wideband mm Wave systems.

Hybrid Beam Forming Architecture

Hybrid beamforming is a method that combines the features of both affordable analog schemes and energy-intensive fully digital approaches. [1][6] Hybrid algorithms can be implemented with different array structures and phase shifter resolutions. In this architecture two stage process is used to overcome the challenge of having a smaller number of RF chain, to overcome this issue it uses phase shifters to combine low dimensional digital beam former and a RF beam former. [7] As we know digital beamforming requires twice the number of RF chain. The digital gains allows one data symbol to be converted into an RF signal and use it twice, with this structure of RF chain and phase shifter so that it can achieve digital beamform for frequency selective channels, with a more efficient design. [6] The hybrid beam form consists of two design cases (when the number of RF chains is less than twice the number of data streams). The first case scenario is MIMO system, where multiple antenna array are setup on both ends. Second case is a downlink MU-MISO with multiple antenna arrays are setup at base station and single antennas are setup at each user. To optimize spectral efficiency and power constraints, the paper proposes heuristic algorithms for both scenarios under. The assumption of complete and instantaneously available channel information at both the base station and user devices. [7] With numerical result we can state that hybrid beamforming work as digital beamforming with same spectral efficiency. Additionally, modified version of the algorithm is also there for situations, where only phase shifters with limited resolution are available for creating RF beam formers. Figure 1 shows hybrid beamforming architecture of MIMO system.

Beamforming Architecture In Point To Point (MIMO)

The concept of hybrid beamforming, also known as antenna soft selection, [7] was initially presented in point-to-point MIMO. This expands on the idea that in point-to-point MIMO hybrid beamform can achieve the result like digital beamform using diversity transmission, by showing that it can also do so in multi-user MIMO systems. Specifically, it demonstrates that if hybrid beamform can achieve digital beamform by increasing the RF chain (increasing data stream). [6] To achieve digital beamforming in frequency selective channels hybrid beamform required twice the number of RF chain, but with a slightly different architecture. One technique used to design hybrid beam formers that perform well in this situation is by using antennas at both the ends with greater number of RF chain than the number of data stream, with highly correlated channel matrix.





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Beamforming Architecture In Down Link (MU-MISO)

[8] It demonstrated that hybrid beamforming with N user, multiple input single output (MISO) system. In this system N- RF chain at the base station provide decent data transmission rate as compared to fully digital beamforming for large scale MIMO system. This design aligns RF precoder with channel phase, so that it can achieve digital beamforming for effective channel. However this hybrid design falls short of the maximum capacity. The numerical analysis supports the effectiveness of this new design by reducing gap to capacity. This design adapt the method for point-to-point MIMO and multi user MISO situations where only low-resolution phase shifters are available. [9] The simulation results demonstrate that the method still performs well even with limited resolution.

Hybrid Beamforming Design In Limited Resolution Phase Shifter

In MIMO (point to point) system and MISO (multiuser) system with multiple antenna arrays at the base station it uses hybrid beamforming with finite resolution phase shifters. Earlier, we assumed the use of infinite resolution phase shifters, which allow for arbitrary phase angles in the RF beam formers. However, such components can be costly. As the Number of antenna array in hybrid structure increases, so the phase shifter also increases, hence making infinite resolution phase shifters unrealistic for multiple antenna array terminals.

CONCLUSION

Taking twice the number of data streams and fewer RF chains, hybrid beamforming architecture with large scale array can equal the performance of digital beamforming. It also suggests mathematical strategies to maximize overall spectral efficiency in point-to-point MIMO and downlink MU-MISO transmission scenarios when the number of RF chains is less than two times the number of data streams. The simulation findings show that the performance of these suggested methods is comparable to that of completely digital beamforming. The study also discusses design changes for restricted phase shifters. Hybrid beamforming can balance performance and complexity by integrating the benefits of both digital and analogue beamforming systems. This design is a good fit for a variety of wireless systems since it uses fewer RF chains, which reduces hardware costs and power consumption.

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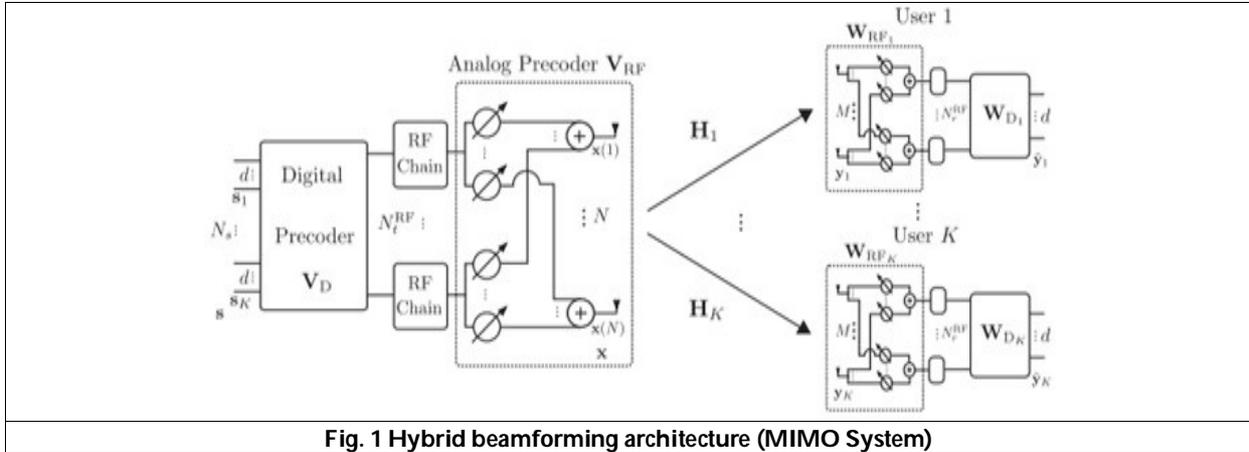


Fig. 1 Hybrid beamforming architecture (MIMO System)





The Effect of Leaching Time on Coal Fly Ash Desilication during the Leaching Process for the Alkali Activators NaOH and KOH

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ABSTRACT

Coal fly ash (CFA), a combustible waste of coal-fired power plants, has received much interest due to the presence of value-added minerals such as alumina and silica, as well as heavy metal components such as Fe, Mg, Ca, Ti, and many more. The extraction of alumina from CFA is improved when it is desilicated before the acid-leaching operation. This study examined the influence of desilication time on the dissolution of Si and Al from coal fly ash and compared the same using two distinct alkali activators: NaOH and KOH. XRF analysis of the CFA sample revealed the presence of 58.76% SiO₂ and 32.81% Al₂O₃. The patterns of XRD of the as-received CFA revealed the existence of a stable crystalline mullite phase and a glassy amorphous phase. The desilication operation was carried out at a fixed alkali concentration of 25 wt. %, L/S ratio of 4:1, and a temperature of 120°C for five operation running periods (t = 0.5, 1, 2, 3, and 4 hours). The maximum dissolution of SiO₂ was obtained at 2 hours for NaOH-treated CFA solutions and 3 hours for KOH-treated CFA solutions. The silica dissolution percentage was attained at 67.23 in the case of NaOH-leached and 54.46 in the case of KOH-leached CFA. XRD analysis of the NaOH and KOH treated samples revealed the formation of hydroxysodalite (Na₈Al₆Si₆O₂₄(OH)₂(H₂O)₂) in the case of NaOH treated CFA and Linde F-Zeolite (K₂Al₂Si₂O₈.3H₂O) and Kalsilite (KAISiO₄) for KOH treated CFA.

Keywords: CFA, Desilication, Leaching time, Hydroxysodalite, Linde F-Zeolite

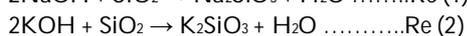
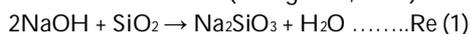




INTRODUCTION

Coal fly ash is a crucial resource obtained by coal combustion, predominantly generated from coal-fired power plants. A maximum amount of CFA is employed in land filling, the construction of roads, the reclamation and improvement of soil, the synthesis of zeolites, and the recovery of trace metals. CFA is an essential resource for alumina (20–35%), silica (35–65%), and heavy metals like Fe, Ni, and Cr (Ding *et al.*, 2016). Much attention has been gathered towards its re-utilization for recovering these value-added minerals from CFA (Li *et al.*, 2014). This CFA can be used in place of bauxite due to its high aluminium content. Therefore, developing a practical method for removing aluminium from CFA is crucial for recycling materials.

Alkali and acid leaching are the standard methods for recovering Alumina and Silica from CFA. The alkali technique consists of lime-soda-sintering and lime-sintering processes (Li *et al.*, 2016). Pre-sintering and Direct acid leaching processes are examples of acid processing technology (Jianguo Q *et al.*, 2011). Although leaching through acid is more effective than alkali, it is impractical to use direct acid leaching of CFA because it disintegrates the structure of CFA (Tripathy *et al.*, 2015). During the leaching of CFA through alkali activators like NaOH and KOH, a large proportion of the amorphous SiO₂ reacted with alkali to form alkali silicates. Therefore, desilication through alkali leaching plays a crucial role in achieving high Al/Si compared to the original CFA and improves aluminium extraction from CFA (Wang *et al.*, 2008).



The primary goal of this research was to find out how leaching time affected the rate of Si and Al dissolution during the desilication of CFA by two different alkali activators, NaOH and KOH. In addition, the associated mechanisms of the leaching process were identified using the SEM and XRD analyses.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

CFA samples were gathered from the pulverized CFB of the coal-fired power plant in Hindalco, Odisha. The alkali reagents NaOH and KOH used were of the analytical grade from LOBA Chemicals Pvt. Ltd. To achieve CFA leaching, 50 g of sieved CFA was mixed with a 25 wt.% NaOH water mixture in a temperature-controlled magnetic stirrer. The liquid-to-solid ratio was maintained at 4:1, and the temperature was kept at 120 °C. The mixing process was performed for five leaching operation times: 0.5, 1, 2, 3, and 4 hours. The same procedure was repeated for KOH. After the leaching operation, the separation of leaching residue and liquor was carried out with Whatmann filter paper. The elemental analysis of the liquor samples was performed using ICP-OES, and the residue was investigated using XRD.

Characterization And Analysis

The elemental analysis of as received CFA (ACFA) was performed using an XRF spectrometer (Bruker, S4 Pioneer). Mullite and quartz were the two main crystallization components of fly ash, along with some amorphous SiO₂. The results of the XRF analysis of the ACFA are shown in Table 1. Dissolution of silica and alumina in the CFA after desilication was examined through ICP-OES (Perkin Elmer, USA Optima 2100DV). A scanning electron microscope with a field emission technology-enabled system (FESEM JSM-7001F) was used to examine each sample's morphology. A Bruker D2 Advance X-ray diffractometer (XRD) was used to carry out the phase analysis of the CFA sample. The stable crystalline phases were identified by the presence of high-intensity peaks of quartz and mullite, whereas the broad diffraction obtained at $2\theta=20^\circ-35^\circ$ indicated the occurrence of an amorphous phase in the original CFA.





RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The reaction time during the leaching process reflects the reaction rate and can be used to monitor the progress of the reaction at various reaction times. To ensure that other influencing factors remain constant, the single-factor analysis method is used. L/S ratio at 5:1, Temperature at 100°C and 20 wt. % NaOH/KOH were kept constant throughout the experiment. Reaction times for leaching were taken as 0.5, 1, 2, 3, and 4 hours. The effect of the leaching time on the dissolution of silica and alumina is shown in Figure 1(a). Si dissolution was the same after 30 minutes of leaching for NaOH, and KOH treated CFA. However, when the leaching time was increased to one hour, the rate of Si leaching increased rapidly in both the NaOH-treated CFA and the KOH-treated CFA. At 1 hr, the dissolution percentage of Si in the NaOH-treated CFA sample reaches 52.36, whereas it reaches 42.75 for the KOH-treated sample. At 2 hours, the dissolution rate approached 67.23, which is the maximum for NaOH-leached CFA. After 2 hours, the leaching rate no longer rises noticeably.

Similarly, in the case of KOH leaching, the leaching rate attains a maximum value of 54.46 percent at 3 hours of reaction time. During the earlier reaction stage, the formation of zeolitic products readily occurs. The generation of hydroxysodalite is accelerated by up to 2 hours. As the zeolitic product formation took place throughout the surface of the CFA particle, it provided a larger contact area; hence, the reaction rate increased, and so did the leaching rate. The volume of products formed is reduced during the later stages of the reaction, which causes a significant drop in the contact area available for reaction. Additionally, as the reaction progresses and the reaction duration increases, the concentration of NaOH or KOH in the mother liquor lowers.

XRD Analysis

The XRD analyses of as-received CFA and desilicated CFA samples are given in Figure 1(b) for NaOH and KOH-leached CFA. ACFA is made of crystalline phases like mullite and quartz and amorphous glassy phases. The broad diffractions show the presence of amorphous material, while the peaks show the crystallinity component. With increasing leaching time, the wide diffractions of amorphous phases decreased significantly. After one hour of NaOH leaching, $(\text{Na}_2\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2)$; which is the molecular formula of Hydroxysodalite was formed. The diffraction intensities reach their peak after 2 hours of leaching. After that, a decrease in peak intensity was observed. The XRD spectra of KOH-treated fly ash after 3 hrs of leaching time revealed the formation of a new phase of Linde F-type Zeolite and some amounts of Kalsilite. The formation of these new compounds was more predominant 3 hours later, and the leaching rate became stagnant.

SEM Analysis

The hydroxysodalite phase is depicted in figure-2 for NaOH-treated CFA. The hydroxysodalite phase was observed as a rod-like structure on the surface of the NaOH-treated CFA. Figure 5 shows the formation of Linde F zeolite for the KOH-treated CFA. The zeolite first appeared as a gel structure and later appeared to be flake-like on the surface of KOH-treated CFA.

CONCLUSION

It was found that when fly ash was treated with NaOH or KOH, Si and Al started to leach. The quantity dissolved varied with leaching time. In both kinds of alkali-activated fly ash, the dissolution rate rises with longer leaching times. The production of hydroxysodalite and Linde F zeolites with NaOH or KOH accelerated the dissolution process. Fly ash, a byproduct of the coal-fired energy industry, is thus transformed into zeolites, which not only help to mitigate environmental issues but also make it an attractive and valuable substance.





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Table 1: Component analysis of ACFA

Components	Al ₂ O ₃	SiO ₂	Fe ₂ O ₃	TiO ₂	K ₂ O	CaO	P ₂ O ₅	MgO
Contents (Wt. %)	32.81	58.76	6.45	1.12	0.238	0.232	0.167	0.101

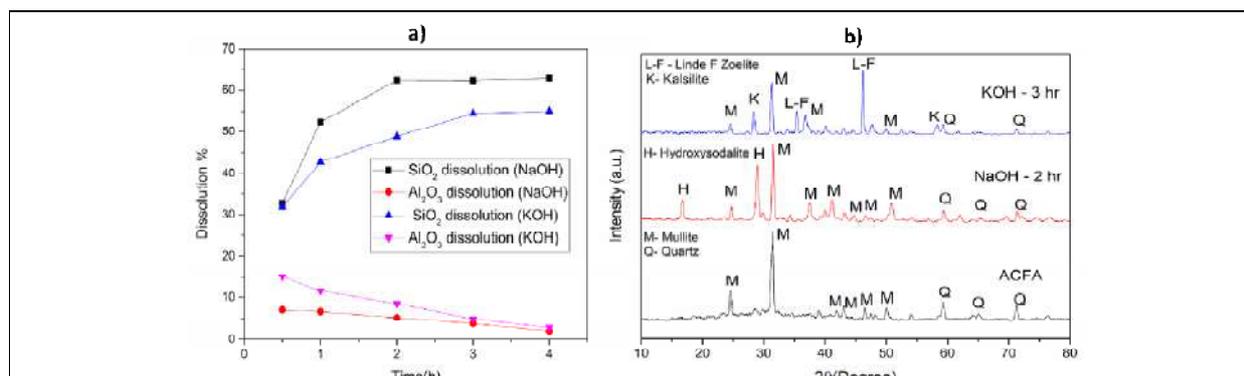


Figure 1. a) Effect of leaching time on the dissolution of Si and Al for NaOH and KOH. b) XRD patterns of ACFA, NaOH treated CFA and KOH treated CFA at optimum leaching time.

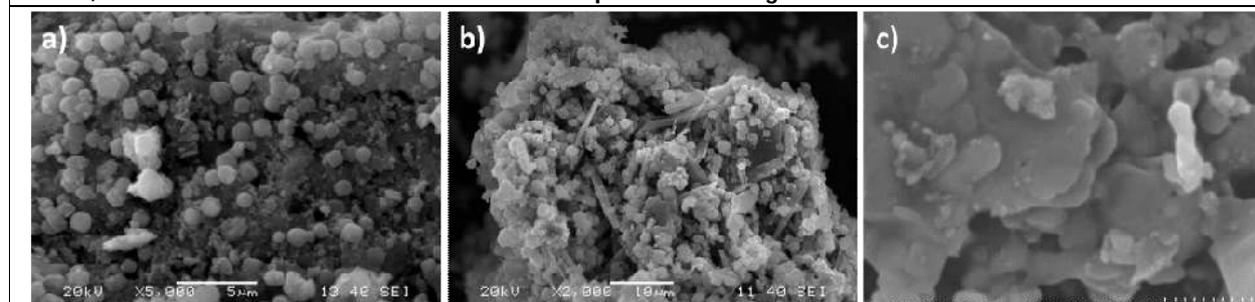


Figure: 2. SEM micrographs of a) ACFA, b)NaOH treated CFA and c) KOH treated CFA, at optimum leaching time.





An Overview on Recent Advancement in Adsorption Techniques for Waste Water Treatment

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ABSTRACT

Wastewater treatment is a critical process for the removal of pollutants and contaminants before discharge into the environment. Among various treatment methods, adsorption has gained significant attention due to its effectiveness in removing diverse pollutants from wastewater. This paper provides a comprehensive review of adsorption techniques employed for wastewater treatment. It examines the principles of adsorption, the types of adsorbents used, and the factors influencing the adsorption process. Moreover, this paper explores the application of adsorption in the removal of organic and inorganic pollutants, heavy metals, dyes, and emerging contaminants from wastewater. Researchers have explored the integration of adsorption with other processes to enhance overall efficiency. Adsorption-based hybrid systems, such as adsorption-catalysis and adsorption-distillation combinations, have been investigated for various applications. These integrated approaches not only improve adsorption performance but also offer synergistic effects, leading to energy savings and process intensification. Furthermore, recent advancements and challenges in adsorption technology, such as the development of novel adsorbents and the optimization of operating parameters, are discussed. Overall, this review paper aims to present an overview of the current state of adsorption technology for wastewater treatment, highlighting its potential for sustainable and efficient pollutant removal.

Keywords: Adsorption, Novel adsorbents, Wastewater treatment, Process intensification, Adsorption technology.





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INTRODUCTION

Wastewater is generated from various sources such as domestic, industrial, and agricultural activities, and it contains a wide range of pollutants and contaminants. These pollutants can have destructive effects on human health and the environment if not properly treated before discharge. Therefore, effective wastewater treatment is essential to protect water resources and ensure environmental sustainability. Traditional wastewater treatment methods, such as biological processes (e.g., activated sludge, aerobic digestion) and physical processes (e.g., sedimentation, filtration), have limitations in removing certain types of pollutants. Adsorption, as an alternative treatment method, has gained considerable attention due to its high efficiency in removing a wide range of contaminants from wastewater. Adsorption is a process in which pollutants are removed from a liquid or gas phase by attaching to a solid material known as an adsorbent. The adsorbent has a large surface area and possesses specific properties that allow it to attract and retain pollutants through various mechanisms such as chemical bonding, Van der Waals forces, and electrostatic interactions. The pollutants adsorb onto the surface of the adsorbent, resulting in their separation from the wastewater. Adsorption offers several advantages for wastewater treatment. It is effective in removing both organic and inorganic pollutants, including heavy metals, dyes, organic compounds, and emerging contaminants. Adsorbents can be tailored to target specific pollutants, and the adsorption process can be optimized by controlling factors such as pH, temperature, contact time, and adsorbent dosage. Additionally, adsorption is a versatile and cost-effective method that can be easily integrated into existing treatment systems. Over the years, extensive research has been conducted to develop and improve adsorption techniques for wastewater treatment. The principles of adsorption rely on the surface properties of the adsorbent and the characteristics of the pollutants. Adsorbents used in wastewater treatment are typically porous materials with a high surface area, which provides ample sites for pollutant adsorption. Commonly used adsorbents include activated carbon, zeolites, metal-organic frameworks (MOFs), biochar, and various nanomaterials. The importance of wastewater treatment cannot be overstated, as it plays a crucial role in safeguarding public health, protecting the environment, and promoting sustainable water resources management. The adsorption process is influenced by several factors, such as adsorbent characteristics, pollutant properties, solution conditions and contact time. Adsorption is effective in removing a wide range of pollutants from wastewater, which includes organic compounds, inorganic pollutants and emerging contaminants like perfluorinated compounds (PFCs), endocrine-disrupting compounds (EDCs), and microplastics. This review aims to provide a comprehensive overview of adsorption techniques as a wastewater treatment method including fundamental principles of adsorption process, adsorption isotherms, and kinetics and also highlight recent advancements in adsorption technology for wastewater treatment.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Adsorption Process

The adsorption process involves the attachment or accumulation of pollutants or solutes from a liquid or gas phase onto the surface of a solid material, known as an adsorbent. The adsorbent typically has a large surface area and contains active sites where the adsorption occurs. The adsorption process can be described in several stages. The adsorbate, which is the substance being removed or separated from the liquid or gas phase, comes into contact with the adsorbent surface. The adsorption mechanisms can vary depending on the nature of the adsorbate and the adsorbent. Common mechanisms include Physical Adsorption (Physisorption) and Chemical Adsorption (Chemisorption). As the adsorption process progresses, an equilibrium is established between the adsorbate molecules in the liquid or gas phase and those adsorbed onto the adsorbent surface. The relationship between the concentration of the adsorbate in the solution and the adsorbate concentration on the adsorbent surface is described by adsorption isotherms. Commonly used adsorption isotherms include the Langmuir, Freundlich, and BET (Brunauer-Emmett-Teller) isotherms. Several factors influence the adsorption process and its efficiency, including:

- Adsorbent Properties like the surface area, pore size distribution, surface chemistry etc.
- Adsorbate Properties like molecular size, polarity, solubility etc.
- Solution Conditions like pH, temperature, concentration of the adsorbate etc.





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After adsorption, the adsorbate can be removed from the adsorbent surface through desorption. Desorption can be achieved by altering the solution conditions, such as pH or temperature, or by using appropriate desorbing agents. Regeneration of the adsorbent allows for its reuse, reducing the overall cost of the adsorption process.

Breakthrough Curve For Adsorption Process

Breakthrough happens when an adsorption column is saturated. A Breakthrough curve is a measure of the analyte after the column over time. A breakthrough curve in adsorption is the course of effluent adsorptive concentration at the outlet of fixed bed absorber. Breakthrough curves are important for adsorptive separation technologies and for characterization of porous materials

Kinetics of Adsorption

The kinetics of adsorption refers to the rate at which adsorption occurs and how it progresses over time. Understanding the adsorption kinetics is important for designing efficient adsorption processes and predicting the time required for achieving desired levels of pollutant removal. The kinetics of adsorption can be described by different models, including pseudo-first-order, pseudo-second-order, and intra-particle diffusion models.

Application of Adsorption

Some of the important applications of adsorption are as follows

- In the preparation of gas masks using activated charcoal to avoid poisonous gases like CO, CH₄, etc.
- Froth flotation method used for concentration of sulphides ores is based on adsorption.
- Silica gel can be used to remove moisture and to control humidity.
- Ion exchange method used to soften water is based on adsorption
- Adsorption chromatography is used to purify and separate pigments, hormones, etc.
- Charcoal powder can remove coloured impurities from sugar.
- Charcoal is used for making high vacuum.
- The cleaning action of soaps and detergents.
- Formation of stable emulsions in cosmetics and syrups.
- In heterogenous catalysis.

Innovative Adsorption Techniques

This plays a crucial role in advancing the efficiency and effectiveness of adsorption processes for wastewater treatment. These techniques aim to enhance the adsorption capacity, improve the kinetics of adsorption, and enable the selective removal of specific contaminants. Here are some notable innovative adsorption techniques:

Electrochemical Adsorption

Electrochemical adsorption utilizes an electrical potential applied to the adsorbent material or the wastewater to enhance adsorption efficiency. The electrical potential can induce attractive forces between the adsorbent and the contaminants, resulting in improved adsorption capacity. Electrochemical techniques, such as electrocoagulation, electro-oxidation, and electro flotation, can be combined with adsorption processes to achieve simultaneous removal of various contaminants.

Photocatalytic Adsorption

Photocatalytic adsorption combines adsorption with photocatalysis to remove organic pollutants from wastewater. In this technique, a photocatalyst, typically based on semiconductor materials like titanium dioxide (TiO₂), is immobilized onto the surface of the adsorbent. The adsorbent not only adsorbs the pollutants but also facilitates their degradation under light irradiation, leading to enhanced removal efficiency.



**Ayush Raj et al.,****Hybrid Adsorption Systems**

Hybrid adsorption systems involve combining adsorption with other treatment processes, such as membrane filtration, biological treatment, or advanced oxidation processes. These integrated systems aim to synergistically enhance pollutant removal by exploiting the strengths of multiple treatment mechanisms. For example, combining adsorption with membrane filtration can improve the removal of small-sized contaminants or enhance the fouling resistance of the membrane.

Agro-based Adsorbents

Agro-based adsorbents utilize agricultural waste materials, such as fruit peels, coconut shells, sawdust, and rice husks, as low-cost and eco-friendly adsorbents. These materials are often modified or activated to enhance their adsorption capacity. Agro-based adsorbents not only provide an effective means of pollutant removal but also contribute to waste valorisation and the utilization of renewable resources.

Bio-inspired Adsorbents Bio-inspired adsorbents draw inspiration from natural systems, such as biomimetic membranes and biologically derived materials, to develop highly efficient adsorbents. These adsorbents mimic the functional properties of biological systems, such as hierarchical structures, selective binding sites, and self-regeneration capabilities. Bio-inspired adsorbents show promising potential for targeted removal of specific contaminants or complex mixtures of pollutants.

Adsorbents for Wastewater Treatment**Activated Carbon**

Activated carbon is widely used as an adsorbent for wastewater treatment due to its high surface area, porous structure, and excellent adsorption capacity. It is capable of removing a wide range of pollutants, including organic compounds, heavy metals, and certain inorganic contaminants. Here are some examples of how activated carbon is utilized for wastewater treatment:

Organic Compounds Removal

Activated carbon is effective in removing various organic compounds from wastewater, including dyes, pharmaceuticals, pesticides, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Its porous structure provides a large surface area for adsorption, allowing it to adsorb and retain organic molecules. Activated carbon can be used in batch systems, fixed-bed adsorbers, or granular activated carbon (GAC) filters.

Taste and Odor Control

Activated carbon is commonly used in drinking water treatment to remove taste and odor-causing compounds, such as geosmin and 2-methylisoborneol (MIB), which give water an unpleasant taste and odor. Activated carbon filters can effectively adsorb and eliminate these compounds, enhancing the quality and palatability of drinking water.

Zeolites

Zeolites are another type of adsorbent commonly used in wastewater treatment due to their unique crystalline structure, high surface area, and ion-exchange capacity. Zeolites have a porous framework consisting of interconnected channels and cavities that allow for the adsorption and exchange of ions and molecules. Here are some examples of how zeolites are utilized for wastewater treatment:

Heavy Metal Removal

Zeolites can effectively adsorb heavy metals, including lead, cadmium, copper, and zinc, from wastewater. The ion-exchange properties of zeolites enable them to exchange metal cations in wastewater with less harmful cations present in the zeolite structure. The selectivity and adsorption capacity of zeolites for heavy metals can be enhanced by optimizing the pH, contact time, and zeolite dosage.





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Radioactive Isotope Removal Certain zeolites, such as clinoptilolite and mordenite, possess a high affinity for radioactive isotopes, such as cesium and strontium. These zeolites can selectively adsorb and retain radioactive isotopes from wastewater, providing an effective method for the treatment of radioactive-contaminated wastewater.

Metal-organic frameworks (MOFs)

Metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) are a class of porous materials that consist of metal ions or clusters coordinated with organic ligands. MOFs have gained significant attention in recent years for their potential applications in wastewater treatment due to their high surface area, tunable pore size, and customizable chemical properties. Here are some examples of how MOFs are utilized as adsorbents for wastewater treatment:

Gas Adsorption and Capture

Some MOFs possess remarkable gas adsorption properties, making them suitable for the capture and removal of gases in wastewater treatment processes. For example, MOFs have been studied for the adsorption of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases. By selectively adsorbing CO₂, MOFs can be used for carbon capture and storage applications, aiding in mitigating climate change impacts.

Removal of Nutrients

MOFs have been explored for the removal of nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus, from wastewater. The porous structure of MOFs allows for the adsorption of nitrogenous compounds and phosphate ions, which are major contributors to water eutrophication. MOFs with tailored functionality can selectively adsorb and retain nutrients, offering a potential solution for nutrient removal in wastewater treatment.

Emerging Contaminant Removal

MOFs are being investigated for the removal of emerging contaminants, such as pharmaceuticals, personal care products, and endocrine-disrupting compounds, from wastewater. The tunability of MOF structures and surface properties allows for the design of adsorbents with high affinity for specific emerging contaminants. MOFs can contribute to the removal of these trace contaminants, which are of growing concern due to their potential ecological and health risks.

Biochar

Biochar is a type of charcoal produced from the pyrolysis of organic materials, such as agricultural waste, wood chips, or biomass. It is increasingly recognized as a valuable adsorbent for wastewater treatment due to its porous structure, high surface area, and ability to retain contaminants. Here are some examples of how biochar is utilized as an adsorbent for wastewater treatment:

Microbial Contaminant Removal

Biochar has been shown to have antimicrobial properties and can help in the removal of pathogens and bacteria from wastewater. The porous structure of biochar can physically entrap microbial contaminants, while its surface chemistry can interact with and neutralize pathogens. Biochar can be utilized in the treatment of wastewater for pathogen removal and disinfection.

Pharmaceutical and Personal Care Product Removal

Biochar has the potential to adsorb pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs) from wastewater. PPCPs are emerging contaminants of concern due to their persistence and potential ecological impacts. Biochar can adsorb these compounds, reducing their presence in wastewater effluents and minimizing their environmental release.

Other Adsorbents

There are several other adsorbents commonly used for wastewater treatment like Silica gel, Bentonite Clay, Activated Alumina, Carbon Nanotubes, Graphene-Based Materials and Polymeric Adsorbents.



**Ayush Raj et al.,****Carbon Nanotubes**

Carbon nanotubes (CNTs) are nanoscale structures with high aspect ratios and unique adsorption properties. They have a large surface area and can adsorb a variety of pollutants, including heavy metals, organic compounds, and emerging contaminants. CNTs show promise in wastewater treatment, but their large-scale application is still being explored.

Graphene-Based Materials Graphene and graphene-based materials, such as graphene oxide and reduced graphene oxide, have exceptional adsorption capabilities. They possess a two-dimensional structure with a high surface area, which allows for the adsorption of various contaminants from wastewater. Graphene-based materials show potential in removing heavy metals, organic pollutants, and pharmaceuticals.

Adsorption of Organic Pollutants**Phenolic compounds**

Phenolic compounds are a class of organic compounds that contain a phenol ring (aromatic ring) with one or more hydroxyl groups (-OH) attached. They are widely found in various natural and synthetic sources and can be present in wastewater as a result of industrial activities, agricultural runoff, and domestic sewage. Phenolic compounds are of concern due to their toxicity, persistence, and potential environmental impacts. Some common phenolic compounds found in wastewater include phenol, cresols, Bisphenol A, chlorophenols, Lignin-derived Phenolics.

Organic dyes

Organic dyes are a class of synthetic compounds that are widely used in various industries, including textiles, printing, cosmetics, and pharmaceuticals. They are used to impart color to products and materials. However, the use of organic dyes also leads to their presence in wastewater, posing environmental and health risks. Adsorption is a commonly employed method for the removal of organic dyes from wastewater. Adsorbents such as activated carbon, zeolites, and specialty adsorbents have high affinity for organic dyes, allowing them to be selectively adsorbed onto the surface of the adsorbent material. The adsorbents can be regenerated and reused, making adsorption an effective and economical treatment option. In addition to adsorption, other advanced treatment technologies are also used for the removal of organic dyes from wastewater. These include processes such as oxidation (e.g., advanced oxidation processes using ozone, hydrogen peroxide, or UV light), membrane filtration, electrochemical treatment, and biological treatment coupled with specific dye-degrading microorganisms. Regulatory bodies have established guidelines and standards for the discharge of wastewater containing organic dyes to protect the environment and human health.

Pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs)

Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCPs) are a diverse group of chemicals that include prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications, veterinary drugs, fragrances, cosmetics, and other consumer products used for personal health or cosmetic purposes. These substances can enter the environment through various routes, including the discharge of untreated or inadequately treated wastewater from households, hospitals, pharmaceutical manufacturing facilities, and other sources. The removal of PPCPs from wastewater poses challenges due to their diverse chemical properties and low concentrations. Conventional wastewater treatment processes, such as biological treatment and physical-chemical processes, may have limited effectiveness in removing PPCPs. Advanced treatment technologies, including advanced oxidation processes, membrane filtration, and activated carbon adsorption, are being explored to enhance the removal of PPCPs from wastewater.

Pesticides and Herbicides

Pesticides and herbicides are chemical substances used to control pests, including insects, weeds, fungi, and rodents, in agriculture, forestry, public health, and other sectors. They are widely used to increase crop yields, protect public health, and maintain aesthetic appearances. However, the use of pesticides and herbicides can lead to their presence in wastewater and pose environmental and health concerns. Pesticides and herbicides can be challenging to remove from wastewater due to their diverse chemical properties and low concentrations. Conventional wastewater



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treatment processes, such as biological treatment and physical-chemical processes, may have limited effectiveness in removing certain pesticide and herbicide compounds. Advanced treatment technologies, including activated carbon adsorption, membrane filtration, and advanced oxidation processes, are being explored to enhance their removal.

Adsorption of Inorganic Pollutants

Heavy Metals

Heavy metals are a group of metallic elements that have high density and are toxic at certain concentrations. They are naturally occurring in the Earth's crust, but their presence in wastewater is mainly due to human activities, including industrial processes, mining, and the use of certain products. Heavy metals can be a significant concern in wastewater treatment due to their persistence, toxicity, and potential to accumulate in the environment. Advanced treatment technologies are used for the removal of heavy metals from wastewater. These include chemical precipitation, ion exchange, electrochemical methods, membrane filtration, and adsorption. Adsorption, particularly using specific adsorbents like activated carbon, zeolites, and ion exchange resins, is a widely applied method for heavy metal removal. These adsorbents have a high affinity for heavy metals and can selectively bind and remove them from wastewater.

Nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus)

Nutrients, specifically nitrogen and phosphorus, are important components of wastewater that require attention in wastewater treatment processes. Nitrogen is a vital nutrient for plant growth and is necessary for the proper functioning of ecosystems. High levels of nitrogen in wastewater can cause water quality issues, such as eutrophication, which leads to excessive growth of algae and aquatic plants. Phosphorus is another essential nutrient required for plant growth and development. Similar to nitrogen, high phosphorus concentrations in wastewater can contribute to eutrophication and impact the ecological balance of receiving water bodies. The removal of nitrogen and phosphorus from wastewater is crucial to prevent water pollution and maintain the ecological integrity of water bodies. Several treatment methods are employed to achieve effective nutrient removal like Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR), Chemical Precipitation, Enhanced Biological Phosphorus Removal, Advanced Treatment Technologies.

Fluoride

Fluoride is a naturally occurring compound that is commonly found in water sources, including groundwater and surface water. While fluoride is beneficial in small concentrations for dental health, excessive levels of fluoride in drinking water can lead to health issues, such as dental fluorosis and skeletal fluorosis. Therefore, the presence of fluoride in wastewater requires attention in wastewater treatment processes. Adsorption using specific adsorbents, such as activated alumina, activated carbon, or bone char, can effectively remove fluoride from wastewater. These adsorbents have a high affinity for fluoride ions and can selectively adsorb them from the water.

Arsenic and Other Metalloids

Arsenic and other metalloids, such as selenium, antimony, and chromium, are naturally occurring elements that can pose significant health risks when present in high concentrations in water sources. Their presence in wastewater requires careful consideration in wastewater treatment processes. The removal of arsenic and metalloids from wastewater can be challenging due to their chemical properties and low concentrations. These contaminants often exist in various oxidation states and forms, making their removal more complex than removing dissolved metals. Adsorption using specific adsorbents, such as activated alumina, activated carbon, or iron-based materials, can effectively remove arsenic and metalloids from wastewater. These adsorbents have a high affinity for these contaminants and can selectively adsorb them from the water.

Adsorption and Emerging Contaminants

Perfluorinated compounds (PFCs)

Perfluorinated compounds (PFCs) are a group of synthetic chemicals that are characterized by having fluorine atoms bonded to carbon atoms in their chemical structure. They have unique properties such as high chemical stability,

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water and oil repellency, and heat resistance, which make them useful in various industrial and commercial applications. However, PFCs are persistent in the environment and have raised concerns due to their potential adverse effects on human health and the environment. PFCs pose challenges in wastewater treatment due to their chemical properties and resistance to conventional treatment methods. They are highly resistant to degradation, stable under typical environmental conditions, and can persist throughout various treatment processes. This persistence makes their removal from wastewater challenging. While conventional wastewater treatment processes may have limited effectiveness in removing PFCs, several advanced treatment technologies have shown promise in PFC removal like Advanced Oxidation Processes (AOPs), Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) Filtration, Membrane Filtration, Biological Treatment. GAC filtration is a common method for removing organic contaminants, including PFCs, from wastewater. The adsorption capacity of activated carbon can effectively remove PFCs by adsorbing them onto the carbon surface.

Endocrine-Disrupting Compounds (EDCs)

Endocrine-disrupting compounds (EDCs) are a diverse group of chemicals that can interfere with the normal functioning of the endocrine system in humans and wildlife. The endocrine system regulates various biological processes, including growth and development, metabolism, reproduction, and hormone signalling. EDCs can mimic, block, or alter the action of natural hormones in the body, leading to adverse health effects. Wastewater can be a significant source of EDCs, and their presence requires attention in wastewater treatment processes. While conventional wastewater treatment processes may have limited effectiveness in removing EDCs, several advanced treatment technologies and strategies can target EDC removal. Activated carbon is effective in adsorbing a wide range of EDCs due to its high surface area and adsorption capacity. Granular activated carbon (GAC) and powdered activated carbon (PAC) can be utilized in adsorption processes to remove EDCs from wastewater.

Microplastics

Microplastics are small plastic particles that are less than 5 millimetres in size. They can be categorized into two main types: primary microplastics, which are intentionally manufactured at small sizes for specific purposes (e.g., microbeads in personal care products), and secondary microplastics, which are formed through the breakdown of larger plastic items due to weathering, erosion, and degradation processes. Microplastics are of growing concern in wastewater treatment and environmental management due to their widespread presence and potential adverse effects. Microplastics present challenges in wastewater treatment due to their small size, buoyancy, and resistance to degradation. Conventional wastewater treatment processes, such as sedimentation, filtration, and biological treatment, may have limited effectiveness in removing microplastics. These particles can remain suspended in water or adhere to other particles, making their removal difficult. Several approaches and technologies can be employed to remove microplastics from wastewater like Physical Separation, Coagulation and Flocculation, Advanced Oxidation Processes (AOPs) and Adsorption. Adsorption using activated carbon or other adsorbent materials can effectively remove microplastics from wastewater. The high surface area and adsorption capacity of these materials enable the adsorption of microplastic particles. The development of novel adsorbents for the removal of microplastics from wastewater is an active area of research. Scientists and engineers are exploring various materials and approaches to enhance the efficiency of microplastic removal. Some examples of novel adsorbents are Magnetic Adsorbents, Biodegradable Adsorbents, Nanomaterials, Functionalized Adsorbents, Composite Adsorbents, Biological Adsorbents, Advanced Adsorption Techniques.

Effect of various parameters on adsorption

- **Effect of temperature:** - Increase in temperature gives decrease in value of %removal.
- **Effect of pressure:** - Increase in pressure increase the value of adsorption.
- **Effect of pH value:** - Increase in pH value increase the value of %removal up to certain value after that the value of % removal is constant at constant temperature.
- **Effect of adsorbent dose:** - Increase in value of adsorbent dose increase the value of % removal at constant temperature and pressure. The reason is larger surface area provided.





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Challenges and Future Perspectives

Cost-effectiveness and scalability

Cost-effectiveness and scalability are critical considerations in the selection and implementation of adsorption technology for wastewater treatment.

Cost-Effectiveness

Adsorbent Material The cost of the adsorbent material plays a significant role in the overall cost-effectiveness of the adsorption process. Some adsorbents, such as activated carbon, can be expensive, while others like zeolites or biochar may offer more cost-effective alternatives. The availability, production cost, and regeneration potential of the adsorbent should be evaluated to determine its cost-effectiveness.

Adsorbent Dosage The amount of adsorbent used directly impacts the cost of the process. Higher dosages may lead to increased costs due to the larger quantity of adsorbent required. Finding the optimal dosage that balances the removal efficiency and cost is crucial for cost-effectiveness.

Regeneration and Reusability The ability to regenerate and reuse the adsorbent reduces the need for frequent replacement, thereby lowering the operational costs. Regeneration methods that are cost-effective and efficient should be employed to extend the lifespan of the adsorbent.

Energy Consumption The energy requirements for operating the adsorption system, including agitation, heating, or regeneration, should be considered. Minimizing energy consumption through process optimization or utilizing low-energy regeneration methods can contribute to cost-effectiveness.

Adsorption Efficiency The adsorption capacity and efficiency of the selected adsorbent impact the process's overall cost-effectiveness. Adsorbents with high affinity and selectivity for the target pollutants require lower dosages and result in higher removal efficiencies, reducing the overall cost per unit of treated wastewater.

Scalability

Production and Availability Adsorbents should be readily available in large quantities to meet the demands of scalable wastewater treatment systems. The scalability of the adsorbent production process and the availability of raw materials should be considered to ensure a consistent and reliable supply.

System Design The design of the adsorption system should allow for scalability without compromising performance. Factors such as reactor size, flow rates, and process configuration should be optimized to handle varying wastewater volumes while maintaining treatment efficiency.

Treatment Capacity The adsorption process should be capable of treating wastewater volumes that align with the scalability requirements. The capacity of the adsorption system should be evaluated to ensure it can handle increased wastewater flow rates as the scale of the treatment facility expands.

Operational Flexibility Scalable adsorption systems should be adaptable to different wastewater compositions and pollutant loads. The system should be able to accommodate variations in influent characteristics without significant performance degradation.

Cost Scalability The cost-effectiveness of the adsorption process should be maintained as the treatment capacity scales up. Considerations should be given to economies of scale, bulk purchasing of adsorbents, and optimization of operational parameters to achieve cost-effective scalability.

Integration with Existing Infrastructure Scalable adsorption systems should be designed to integrate smoothly with existing wastewater treatment infrastructure, such as pre-treatment processes, post-treatment steps, and overall system operation. This integration facilitates the seamless expansion of the treatment capacity without major modifications.

Removal of Multiple Pollutants The removal of multiple pollutants in wastewater treatment is a complex task that often requires a combination of treatment processes, including adsorption. Here are some approaches for the removal of multiple pollutants using adsorption:

Multi-Adsorbent Systems Instead of relying on a single adsorbent material, using a combination of adsorbents can enhance the removal of multiple pollutants. Different adsorbents can have varying affinities for different types of pollutants, allowing for a more comprehensive removal approach. Each adsorbent can be selected based on its





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specific affinity towards a particular group of pollutants. For example, activated carbon can be effective for organic contaminants, while specific zeolites or metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) can target heavy metals

Modified Adsorbents Modification of adsorbent materials can improve their selectivity towards specific pollutants. Surface modifications or functionalization can enhance the adsorption capacity and affinity towards different classes of pollutants. This can be achieved through chemical treatments, incorporation of functional groups, or modification of pore structures. Modified adsorbents can selectively remove a wider range of pollutants, including organic compounds, heavy metals, and nutrients.

Sequential Adsorption Sequential adsorption involves using multiple adsorption stages to remove different pollutants sequentially. The wastewater is passed through a series of adsorption units, with each unit containing an adsorbent specifically designed for the removal of a particular group of pollutants. This approach allows for the targeted removal of different pollutants in a step-by-step manner.

Hybrid Adsorbents Hybrid adsorbents combine different types of adsorbent materials or incorporate additional components to enhance their pollutant removal capabilities. For example, combining activated carbon with other materials such as clay minerals, zeolites, or polymers can create hybrid adsorbents with enhanced adsorption capacities and selectivity. These hybrid materials can effectively remove multiple pollutants simultaneously by taking advantage of the unique properties of each component.

Advanced Adsorption Processes Advanced adsorption processes, such as adsorption in combination with membrane filtration or oxidation, can be employed to achieve the simultaneous removal of multiple pollutants. Adsorption can be used as a pre-treatment step to remove a wide range of pollutants, followed by additional treatment processes to further target specific contaminants or achieve higher removal efficiencies.

Adsorbent Regeneration Efficient regeneration and reusability of adsorbents are crucial for the removal of multiple pollutants. By employing suitable regeneration methods, adsorbents can be restored and reused, ensuring continuous and cost-effective treatment. Regeneration methods can vary depending on the adsorbent material and the nature of the pollutants, such as thermal regeneration, chemical regeneration, or biological regeneration.

Integration with Other Treatment Methods

Integration of adsorption with other treatment methods can enhance the overall efficiency and effectiveness of wastewater treatment. By combining adsorption with complementary treatment processes, the removal of pollutants can be optimized, and the treatment system can target a broader range of contaminants. Here are some common methods for integrating adsorption with other treatment processes:

Pre-Treatment Adsorption can be integrated as a pre-treatment step to remove large particulate matter, colloidal substances, and organic compounds that may interfere with subsequent treatment processes. Adsorption can reduce the load on downstream processes such as filtration, membrane separation, or biological treatment, thereby improving their performance and extending their lifespan.

Coagulation/Flocculation Adsorption can be combined with coagulation or flocculation processes to enhance the removal of suspended solids, colloidal particles, and certain organic compounds. Coagulants or flocculants can be added to the wastewater to aggregate the particles, making them more easily adsorbable onto the adsorbent surface. The combined process can improve the removal efficiency of turbidity, color, and certain organic contaminants.

Membrane Filtration Adsorption can be integrated with membrane filtration processes such as ultrafiltration (UF), nanofiltration (NF), or reverse osmosis (RO). Adsorption is employed as a pre-treatment step to remove organic compounds, colloids, and other contaminants that can foul or damage the membranes. By reducing the fouling potential, the efficiency and lifespan of the membrane system are improved.

Biological Treatment Adsorption can be combined with biological treatment processes such as activated sludge, biofilters, or constructed wetlands. Adsorption can remove toxic or inhibitory substances that may harm or inhibit the microbial activity in biological systems. By removing these pollutants before the biological treatment, the overall treatment efficiency and stability of the biological processes can be enhanced.

Oxidation Processes Adsorption can be integrated with oxidation processes such as advanced oxidation processes (AOPs) or chemical oxidation. Adsorption serves as a pre-treatment step to remove organic compounds that are resistant to oxidation or that can produce harmful by-products during oxidation. By reducing the organic load, the efficiency of the oxidation processes is improved, leading to better degradation of recalcitrant pollutants.



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Ion Exchange Adsorption can be combined with ion exchange processes to remove specific ions or metals from the wastewater. Adsorption can be employed as a pre-treatment step to reduce the load of contaminants before ion exchange, thus extending the lifespan of the ion exchange resins and improving their selectivity for the target ions or metals.

Advanced Treatment Adsorption can be integrated with advanced treatment processes such as photocatalysis, electrochemical oxidation, or membrane distillation to enhance the overall treatment efficiency. Adsorption can be used as a polishing step to further remove residual pollutants or to target specific contaminants that are not effectively removed by other treatment methods.

SUMMARY

In conclusion, adsorption is a versatile and effective method for wastewater treatment, offering numerous advantages such as high pollutant removal efficiency, wide applicability to various pollutants, and versatility in adsorbent selection. It is particularly suitable for the removal of contaminants such as phenolic compounds, organic dyes, pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs), pesticides and herbicides, heavy metals, nutrients, fluoride, arsenic and other metalloids, perfluorinated compounds (PFCs), endocrine-disrupting compounds (EDCs), and microplastics. The development of novel adsorbents, hybrid adsorbent materials, and the optimization of operating parameters have significantly advanced the field of adsorption for wastewater treatment. These advancements have led to improved adsorption capacities, selectivity, and regeneration capabilities, enabling more efficient and sustainable treatment processes. Moreover, the integration of adsorption with other treatment methods such as coagulation/flocculation, membrane filtration, biological treatment, oxidation processes, and ion exchange enhances the overall efficiency and effectiveness of wastewater treatment. Considerations such as cost-effectiveness, scalability, and the removal of multiple pollutants are vital aspects that need to be addressed in the design and implementation of adsorption-based wastewater treatment systems. Cost-effectiveness and scalability promote the practical implementation of adsorption technologies on a larger scale. While adsorption shows great potential, ongoing research and development efforts are necessary to further improve adsorbent materials, optimize operating parameters, and enhance the overall efficiency of adsorption-based wastewater treatment systems. Collaboration between researchers, engineers, and policymakers is crucial to drive innovation, address emerging challenges, and promote sustainable and effective solutions for wastewater treatment.

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Table 1 Comparison Table of Different Adsorption Process

Adsorption Process	pH	Temperature (°C)	Time (min)	Adsorbent Dose (gram)	Concentration(mg/L)	% Removal of Adsorbate	Adsorption model	References
Color removal from paper mill using activated carbon	5	50	150	0.3/L	50% of initial conc.	85	Freundlich and Langmuir isotherm	[2]
Removal of decolorization of dye by fabricated urea formaldehyde resin	6	33.8	1440	2	100	91.7	Freundlich and Langmuir isotherm	[3]
Removal of zinc ion from industrial wastewater by biosorbent	6	-	180	2	50	90	Freundlich, Langmuir and Temkin Hill isotherm	[4]
Removal of color from dye using cotton shell and neem	7	80	45	4 for 100 ml	30	88	Freundlich isotherm	[5]
Removal of metal from wastewater using Acacia Nilotica	6	55	180	5	36.9	81	Freundlich and Langmuir isotherm	[6]
Removal of	7	30	100	1	140	78	Langmuir	[7]





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basic dye from wastewater using bagasse							isotherm	
Treatment of wastewater from dairy industry using rice husks	2	40	-	10	207.4	93	Freundlich and Langmuir isotherm	[8]
COD removal from industrial wastewater by activated carbon prepared	5	25	150	250/L	612.57(COD)	90	Freundlich and Langmuir isotherm	[9]

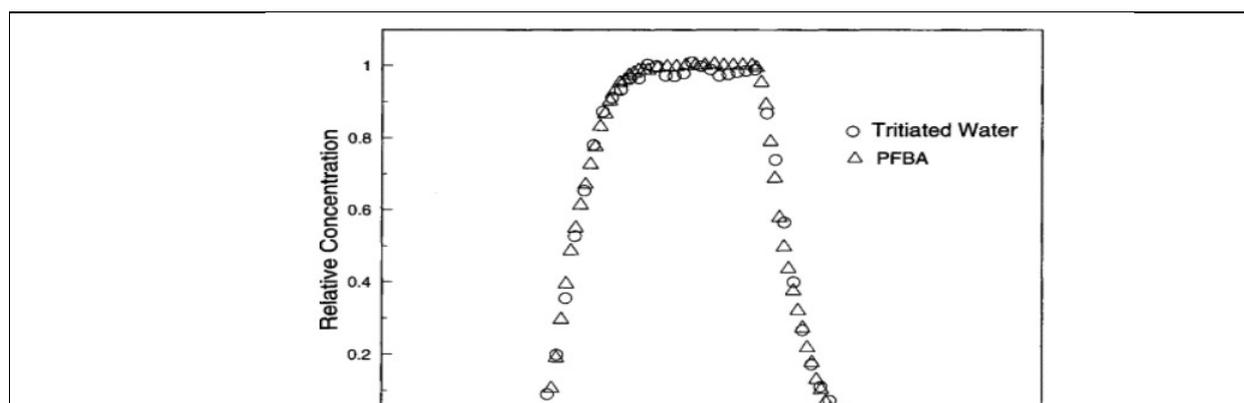


Fig 1. Breakthrough curves for transport of tritiated water and PFBA through the Hay hook soil.[1]





Evaluation the Properties of Self Compacting Concrete by using Treated Recycled Aggregates

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ABSTRACT

Recent site demolitions in multiple Gujarati municipalities have produced a sizable amount of CDW. The Dumping of this CDW is also a Serious Issue. On September 23, 2017, The Times of India, a prominent Indian newspaper, estimated that 165–175 million tonnes of construction waste are generated annually. The primary elements in concrete are cement, sand, aggregate, and water. Depending on the requirements of the site, different cement components may be used. Self-compacting concrete is one form of cement utilized in bulk cementing preparation. As a result, we try to encourage SCC in our work by using RA rather than NA. Due to the low accuracy of the totals, many Researchers have attempted to support SCC by employing RA directly in concrete, however this is less subjective. In order to try to grasp the nature of cement, we discuss RA here and then employ it in concrete. This task entails generating SCC at a competitive price while building cement with an M25 grade and using various treated RA extents. After treating RCA with RFA and replacing it with sand, try to evaluate the outcomes of your efforts to replace RFA with sand. examination of the effects of the workability and strength characteristics of the RAC and NC.

Keywords: CDW: - Construction and Demolition waste, RAC: - RecycledAggregate Concrete, RCA: - Recycled Coarse Aggregates, SCC: - Self compactingconcrete,PRAC:-ProcessedRecycledaggregateconcrete.

INTRODUCTION

In more detail the main components of concrete, a composite material, include admixtures, water, totals, and limiting materials. Total makes the most contribution to significant out of all of these adjustments, making up between 60 and 75 percent of the total volume. Reusing old materials to make new ones is one example of how to go about it. Recycled amounts could be found in abandoned structures, airport runways, connection supports, and surprisingly substantial roadbeds. The substantial's strength, appropriation size, and water retention capacity will be impacted by





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this. Reusing damaged large waste lessens environmental contamination while maintaining routine activities. The utilization of recycled materials in concrete produces major structural materials in terms of knowledge, climate, and affordability. Self-compacting concrete (SCC): The suggestion of self-compacting concrete is not new. In explicit applications, such submerged cementing, new concrete that can be put without compaction in places where vibration is impossible is commonly required. Concrete glue was a major component of early self-compacting cements due to its unusually high concentration. Certain and tightly restricted submission procedures are required in an effort to prevent isolation. The high concentration of concrete glue made them more prone to shrinkage and high heat ageing. The whole price was absurdly exorbitant, yet the number of applications was incredibly little. Admixtures were enhanced as a result, which finally resulted in the development of SCC. The admixtures that change the viscosity are called High Range Water Reducing Agents (HRWRA) and Viscosity Modifying Agents (VMA) are the admixtures that alter the rheological characteristics of cement. Utilizing SCC has an number of benefits.

MATERIALS

Ordinary Portland cement:- In this project, 53 grade cement was employed. Every cement property complies with IS: 12269. Coarse aggregates: CA are purchased from local vendors and meet the IS: 383 specifications for quality and criteria. 10 mm to 20 mm CA are employed in this task.

Fine aggregates - FA are sometimes purchased from regional vendors; the size utilised in this Its qualities are in accordance with IS: 383 and its size ranges from 4.75 mm to 150 microns. Recycled coarse aggregates are found in rubbish clearance from construction and demolition projects. created by physically or by putting them in a smasher, crushing enormous pieces of concrete into smaller pieces. Then, strainers ranging in size from 4.75mm to 20mm were used for the sieving. Materials that pass through a sieve with a 4.75mm opening are reused in coarse totals. For this job, demolished waste was gathered from the neighborhood, and then C&DW was crushed or smashed into smaller bits in accordance with specifications. Smaller pieces of CA are separated and employed in the manufacture of new concrete.

The need for RA: The importance of recycling building waste increases as the population increases and as urban areas develop. Throughout our entire structure, these recycled materials are used. Regular total can be replaced with reused total because it is less expensive and easier to obtain. It uses little energy and can be used in many different natural situations. Recycled total must now be used because there aren't enough good unloading areas. In order to create recycled concrete, pre-existing cement must be broken, removed, and ground into a material with a specific size. Total cost of reuse normally ranges between 15% and 30%.

LITERATURE REVIEW

- According to Amnom Katz et al., silica smoulder treatment and ultrasonic cleaning treatment were applied to the reused aggregate in their study "Treatment for the Improvement of Recycled Aggregate." This was done with the assumption that the old concrete glue would adhere to the overall and affect the more delicate mechanical properties of the overall. They put the mechanical properties, notably compressive strength, through tests. They also believed that the reused material's compressive strength would rise after receiving two surface treatments. The silica seethe treatment enhances compressive strength by 30% and 15%, respectively, after 7 and 28 days. The compressive strength is raised by 7% when utilizing ultrasonic cleaning.
- In their article "Effect of admixed recycled aggregate concrete on properties of fresh and hardened concrete," P. Sarvanakumar et al. reported that the characteristics of regular and reused totals that are gathered from the destruction sites of various ages 5, 10, and 15 years are not really set in stone. new and cemented substantial qualities are still in flux. In order to test the strength of the RCA, they also used fly detritus of varied rates with super plasticizer. They have tested cement that has been solidified for split stiffness, workability, compressive



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strength, and overall properties. They came to the conclusion that because people are consuming more water, there will be functional problems. Compressive strength decline across 5, 10, and 15 years of 9.86%, 12.5%, and 15.3%, respectively.

- In the study "Effect of the Parent Concrete Properties and Crushing Procedure on the Properties of Coarse Recycled Concrete Aggregate" by Akbarnezhad et al., they raise concerns about the type of smasher used for assembling of reused totals. They found that the destructive stage count increased and the mortar content decreased. Tests on the physical characteristics of wholes, such as mass thickness, explicit gravity, water absorption, and scraped spot value, have been conducted. cement's compressive strength. In this work, it was assumed that the nature of reused totals would change as the number of catastrophic stages increased. The RA's scraped area esteem range increases from 31% to 39%. The mass thickness of the RA varies between 2370 and 2450 kg/m³. The value of water consumption increases from 2.7 to 5.1%. Super plasticizer is used.
- The results of surface treatment were reported by ErhanGuneyesi et al. in their article "Effect of Surface Treatment Method on the Properties of Self Compacting Concrete with Recycled Aggregates," which came to the conclusion that water glass treatment produces the best results. Compared to the untreated RCAs, the explicit gravity and water retention value both decreased. In comparison to untreated RCAs, cement containing treated RCAs has a higher compressive strength. In addition to the concrete silica seethe slurry treatment, a strength increase of 3–13% was noticed. Additionally, the split elasticity produced the same results.
- Sallehan Ismail et al. examined the use of treated recycled concrete aggregate in new concrete construction in their article titled "Mechanical strength and drying shrinkage properties of concrete containing treated coarse recycled concrete aggregate," and they came to the conclusion that it is crucial to take into account the distinctions between regular aggregate and treated and untreated reused aggregate. Unquestionably presume that attributes will improve after treating the repurposed totals. These were completed in order to apply CM and remove the old mortar from the surface. Similar to how concrete is constructed synthetically, CM is organized similarly.

METHODOLOGY

Collection of materials

- i. Cement: - OPC 53 Grade from local vendors
- ii. Sand (Fine aggregates): - Sand of north Gujarat region ordered of Zone-II as per IS-383.
- iii. Coarse Aggregates : - In size range of 20 mm and angular ordered from local suppliers.
- iv. Water:- Available laboratory potable water.
- v. Recycled materials: - Recycled aggregates collected from Ahmedabad Enviro projects Pvt.Ltd., Near Pirana old jakatnaka, Vishala, Ahmedabad, Gujarat. Some quantity of Recycled coarse aggregates collected after separating from C&DW materials collected from local demolished site with the help of labour.

After collecting recycled aggregates from manufacturing plant or by separating from C&DW it requires to provide some treatments over it. (As per studied research paper and research gap).

Treatment given to recycled aggregates

- The real characteristics of recycled aggregates remain unknown after the collection of recycled totals, and it looks that the material is of worse grade than usual.
- Therefore, we must perform various procedures to improve the quality of the reused totals. According to our review of the literature, we discovered that several writers treated RA with medications and achieved better outcomes than NAC.
- The CEMENT SLURRY TREATMENT is shown here. In this procedure, we create slurry glue out of concrete and water and absorb RA to harden it for 24 hours. Take them out of the vessel after 24 hours, then dry them normally. Here are some images showing the treatment of cement slurry.





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Experimental work: -

Tests done on Ingredients

- 1) Natural Coarse Aggregate: -Abrasion Value, Impact Value, Crushing Value, Water Absorption, Specific Gravity, Fineness Modulus.
- 2) Sand: -Water Absorption, Specific Gravity, Silt Content, Fineness Modulus
- 3) Recycled Coarse Aggregate: -Abrasion Value, Impact Value, Crushing Value, Water Absorption, Specific Gravity, Fineness Modulus
- 4) Concrete: -Slump Flow Test, T500 test, L box type test, V box type test, Compressive Strength Test, Split Tensile Strength Test, Flexural Strength Test

Mix Design of M25 Grade of Self compacting Concrete

In this research work total three trials were prepared and tested and following one is selected for performing and evaluating properties of self compacting concrete.

70% OPC + 30% Fly Ash

80% OPC + 20% Fly Ash

90% OPC + 10% Fly Ash

Calculation of mix design for M25 grade of self compacting concrete is as below. 90% OPC + 10% Fly Ash

W/C Ratio	Cement	Sand	Aggregates
0.57	1	1.65	1.83

- For the research work, the following proportions were chosen: water-to-cement ratio used is 0.55, 2% Polycarboxilate, target slump flow was selected 550, and achieved value of slump flow is 565.
- A total of three trial mixes were tested for M25 grade of concrete using different water-to-cement ratios and different proportions of admixtures of type Polycarboxilate.

RESULT ANALYSIS

Fig.4.Comparison Graph of Compressive Strength for NC and RAC

Fig.5.Comparison Graph of Compressive Strength for NC and PRAC

Fig.6.Comparison Graph of Tensile Strength for NC and RAC

Fig.7.Comparison Graph of Tensile Strength for NC and PRAC

Fig.8.Comparison Graph of Flexural Strength for NC and RAC

Fig.9.Comparison Graph of Flexural Strength for NC and PRAC

Fig.10.Comparison Graph of Slump Flow Test

CONCLUSION

- As in our research, we used RA and PRA to generate SCC. We replaced up to 30% of NA with RA.
- SCC properties are evaluated using RA. As the level of RA increases, the nature of SCC changes. This is due to the lower quality of RA and the outdated mortar around RA.
- It ought to have been removed or placed on long-term hold in order to address the nature of RA.
- Consequently, we looked at numerous exam papers that included RA handling.
- We treated the RA on the examined exam paper with concrete slurry and produced PRA.
- The PRA's attributes are superior to the RA's, and some of them also cross over with the NA's. Due to RA's increased water retention, there is a 22.22% decrease in 30RAC in Slump Stream esteem when compared to NC.





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Additionally, there was a 6.74% decrease in 30 PRAC as opposed to NC. In any event, concrete slurry treatment is to blame for the outcomes' slight advancement.

- Following a 30-minute test, the same decrease in droop stream value may be observed by taking into account the effects of NC, RAC, and PRAC.
- Results of compressive strength decreased by 9.97% in 30RAC and 4.46% in 30PRAC after 7 days. V-channel time also increased by 9 seconds in 30RAC and by 1.6 seconds in 30 PRAC. Compressive strength decreased by 11.83% in 30RAC and 5.6% in 30PRAC after 28 days. Although 30PRAC's desired strength was achieved, it couldn't be done so for 30RAC.
- Flexural strength and elasticity both exhibit the same strength decline.
- The cause of strength loss is free mortar following over RA, which can be removed or followed with the surface of the whole more unambiguously by administering treatment to RA.
- After these tasks are completed consistently, it can be assumed that SCC taxi can be built up as much as feasible by utilising RA features of SCC. However, if PRA is used, up to 30% of our task work can be substituted, and SCC can be given while still meeting or exceeding the target, which indicates strength.

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Table:-1: Experimental Program

Srno.	Mix	Types of Aggregates	Coarse RA(%replacement)	Fine R.A(%replacement)	Name
1	M25	Natural Aggregates	100%NA	0%	NA
2	M25	Recycled Aggregates	10%RA90%NA	0%	RA10
3	M25		20%RA80%NA	0%	RA20
4	M25		30%RA70%NA	0%	RA30
5	M25	Processed RA	10%PRA90%NA	0%	PRA10
6	M25		20%PRA80%NA	0%	PRA20
7	M25		30%PRA70%NA	0%	PRA30





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Fig. 1:- Collection of Recycled aggregates



Fig. 2:- Treatment given to Recycled aggregates

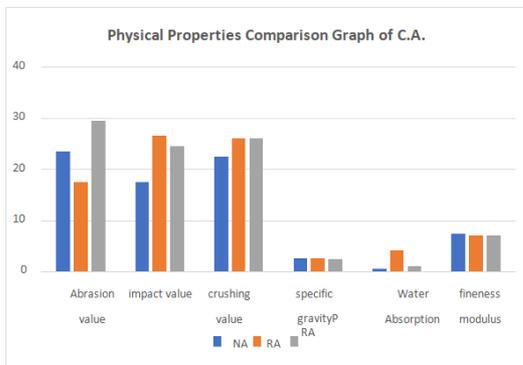


Fig.3:-Comparison graphs between NA, RA &PRA

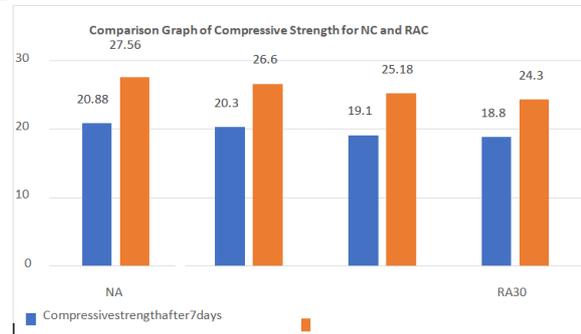


Fig.4.Comparison Graph of Compressive Strength for NC and RAC

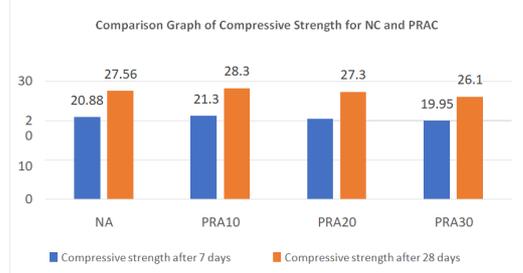


Fig.5. Comparison Graph of Compressive Strength for NC and PRAC

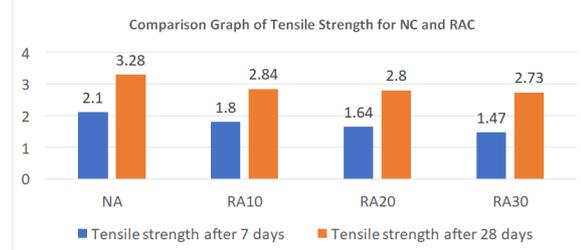


Fig.6. Comparison Graph of Tensile Strength for NC and RAC

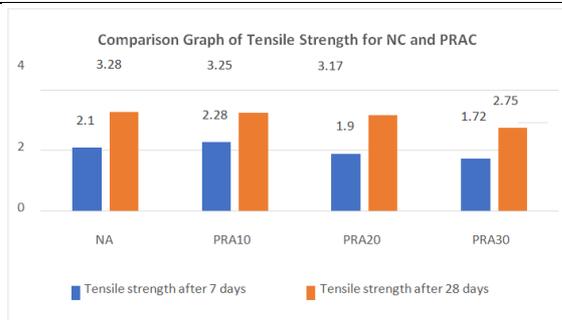


Fig.7.Comparison Graph of Tensile Strength for NC and PRAC

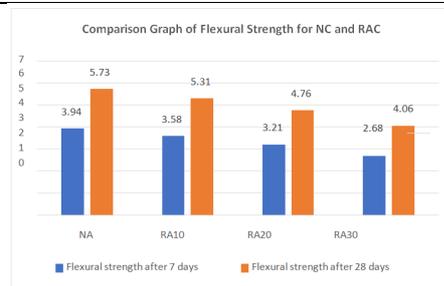


Fig.8.Comparison Graph of Flexural Strength for NC and RAC





Prachi Pandya et al.,

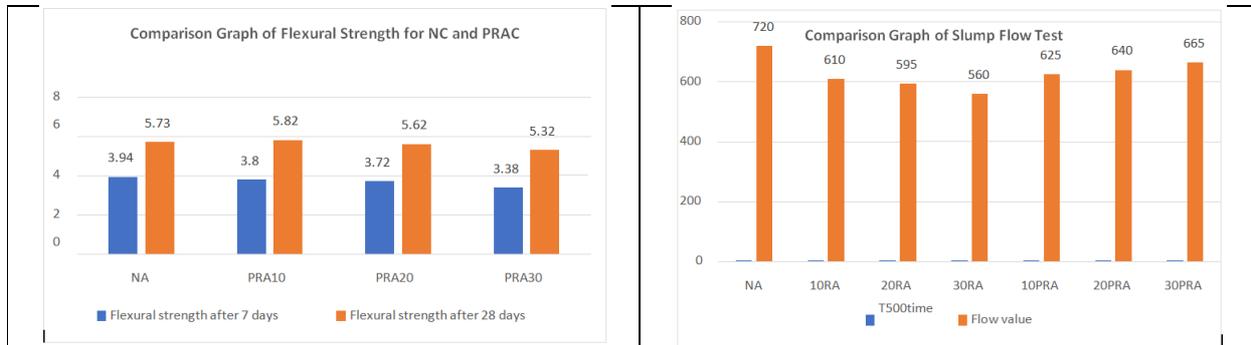


Fig.9.Comparison Graph of Flexural Strength for NC and PRAC

Fig.10.Comparison Graph of Slump Flow Test





A Novel Proposal for a Predictive AI Model to Achieve Optimum Maintenance Cycle of Industrial Machineries

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ABSTRACT

With evolution in maintenance carried out at industrial level, condition monitoring is prominently used to determine health of industrial equipment, which eventually generated bulk amount of sensory data. This data can be used to train ML based models to perform predictive maintenance and to determine remaining useful life of a component. We also surveyed that with the use of digital twin technology, it is possible to design virtual working setup same like actual machinery and sensor data can be gathered from it when it is not possible to perform run to fail test on physical equipment. However, there are certain down falls in using digital twin technology like if correct parameters are not specified than simulated system may exhibit different data than real equipment. We also had a closer look to two most popular bearing dataset namely CWRU and Paderborn University dataset and acquired crucial features out of available dataset. Also, we suggested a flow diagram of proposed model for Predictive Maintenance which can be developed using varying Ensemble and Neural Network based ML algorithms and their results can be evaluated and compared. We also believe that Ensemble Learning based algorithm will provide more accurate results as bearing dataset mainly relies on accurate fault classification.

Keywords: IIOT, Maintenance 4.0, Predictive Maintenance, Digital Twin Technology, Bearing





INTRODUCTION

Maintenance Activity has always played a crucial role for every industry from decades. However, this is the main task which is undermined or ignored by industry professionals due to which revenues decrease, time is wasted and most importantly safety of workers is compromised. According to survey 40-70% motor or component failure occurs due to rolling bearing fault [1]. ISO 15243 has given guidelines for the classification of bearing damage and failures. The six main damage modes are: fatigue, wear, corrosion, electrical erosion, plastic deformation, and fracture and cracking along with multiple damage combination like single damage, multiple damage and repetitive damage [1]. Most of the industry still follows traditional Preventive Maintenance approach where company shut down procedure is carried out at certain intervals and industrial equipment got repaired or replaced even though their remaining life is still due. With the awareness towards maintenance, many experts, engineers and industry professional has now started to prepare strategies for effective maintenance. Nunes *et. al.* surveyed evolution of maintenance over time and categorized it as i. Corrective Maintenance ii. Preventive Maintenance iii. Condition-based Maintenance iv. Predictive Maintenance and v. Prescriptive Maintenance [2]. To relieve maintenance managers from handling unplanned and critical maintenance decisions, PdM Model can be developed as proposed in this paper. We presented literature review, analysis of two Public Dataset and flow diagram of proposed PdM Model along with Result Discussion and Conclusion.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

LITERATURE REVIEW

Zhong *et. al.* surveyed various literatures based on PdM and Digital Twin based PdM (DTPdM) and concluded that DTPdM is more effective approach than PdM as Digital Twin can collect data from physical equipment and simulates model as per the physical component's properties and working architecture. Their review mainly focused on intelligent manufacturing, power industry, construction industry and two more. They evolved that DTPdM can be helpful for efficient RUL estimation but still many challenges remain[3]. Mitci *et. al.* determined that most RUL prognostics have limited and uncertain estimation insights and suggested that only RUL prognostics should not be used for maintenance planning. They implemented model based on CNN and Monte Carlo Dropouts on single and multiple components and succeeded with 99% accuracy and reduction in 53% cost. Also, their model only required 11 % more engine replacements [4]. Raymon *et. al.* developed and evaluated a reference architecture using digital twin technology and evaluated it using three studies namely agriculture tractor transmission system, wafer semiconductor manufacturing, Electro-optical imaging system [2]. Pagano *et. al.* defined their model on real industry case by analyzing historical data and implemented their tool In company's maintenance tool. Their PdM model was based on LSTM, Neural Network and Bayesian Inference algorithms with main focus on time evolving system [5]. Luca *et. al.* identified that installation of deep learning-based models on limited resource and memory devices is challenging task and to resolve this they proposed Deep Learning based approach along with multi-head attention (MHA) mechanism. They used LSTM on NASA's Turbofan engine degradation simulation dataset consisting of 21 sensor data signals and implementation has been carried out on Tensor Flow 2.0 using Keras [6]. Nunes *et. al.* evaluated PdM method in context to three major components namely Anomaly Detection, Prognostic Method and Architecture Deployment. As per their perception any Predictive maintenance task relies on removal of noisy/error from sensor signals, proposing a model which predicts RUL and deployment of mentioned component in real-time situation [7]. Natanael *et. al.* developed model on a tube filling machine of a toothpaste factory by implementing it for 3 months. They tried Random Forest Regression Algorithm and Linear Regression Algorithm where RF Regressor provided 88% accuracy. They also observed that Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE) increased by 13.10% and unplanned machine failure decreased by 62.38% [8]. Bienefeld *et. al.* collected vibration data from test rig called as FE9 and then they used multiple feature engineering techniques like Average Frequency Band (AFB) Feature, Rolling Mean (RM) Feature and Cumulative Sum (CumSum) Feature to train the Random Forest based Model with 500 trees



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and depth of 20, implemented using various python libraries. They evaluated results using Mean Absolute Error(MAR) and R2 and observed that most accurate labelling and RUL prediction is possible with AFB and CumSum, also smaller MAE and larger R2 represents improvement, however they didn't tried their model on real time environment with varying speed, load and temperature conditions, so results may change [9]. Juodelyte *et. al.* focused on the problem of PdM in pharmaceutical companies, for that they used FEMTO Dataset which is available publicly. Firstly, they carried out auto labelling using k-means and Auto-encoder techniques. Then they used Multi class Neural Network Classifier which accepts 2-dimensional vibration signals to determine deterioration stage. Their technique looked promising but their method assumes that a training set can be obtained from representative bearings but in reality, zero shot learning is not possible [10]. Magar *et. al.* proposed a model FaultNet based on Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) with introduction of two channels i.e., 'Mean' & 'Median' channels which can predict type and size of the fault. Their model has extracted 14 features from CWRU dataset and 18 features from current signals as well as 15 features from vibration signals from Paderborn dataset. However, their proposed model failed to classify Ball fault, it got confused among 0.18mm ball fault and 0.36 mm outer race fault [11]. Nishat *et. al.* experimented their proposed model based on Random Forest and XGBoost on Paderborn Public Bearing Dataset using statistical feature extraction based on detailed and approximation co-efficient of current signals after applying notch filter using three wavelets namely db4, sym4 and Haar. They used Accuracy, precision, Sensitivity, Specificity, F-Score and Receiver Operation Characteristics (ROC) to determine performance of RF, XGBoost, SVM-PSO (SVM-Particle Swarm Optimization), IF-DL (Information Fusion- Deep Learning), EWT-CNN (Empirical Wavelet Transform- Convolutional Neural Network), where RF and XGBoost both outperformed other models with accuracy of 99% [12]. L. Yuan *et. al.* has discovered a model based on CNN (Convolutional Neural Network) & SVM (Support Vector Machine). First, they converted 1-D vibration signals into 2-D time frequency image using Continuous Wavelet Transform (CWT) method, then they passed 2-D images to ResNet-18 technique of CNN for feature extraction, however they replaced last SoftMax layer of CNN with SVM classifier to perform feature classification. Their model succeeded in getting Average Diagnosis Accuracy 98.75% and 98.89% for CWRU & MFPT datasets respectively. They have used single bearing fault for training CNN-SVM model, but it is necessary to check classification accuracy of model when multiple bearing failure occurs at same time [13]. Sayanjit *et. al.* made use of public datasets like CWRU and NASA Bearing Datasets for implementing model using MATLAB. They presented Auto- Correlation based feature extraction method which suppress the effect of unrelated or random noise. Initially they extracted 36 features including statistical, non-linear and Hjorth features from vibration signals, later they eliminated redundant features by using top 5 features for classification using Rf with 50 optimal trees. They also compared result of RF with SVM, k-NN, Naïve Bayes and found that RF definitely took more computation time but accuracy was also high then others [14]. Xu *et. al.* proposed novel bearing fault diagnosis approach using CNN and RF. First, they converted time domain vibration signals to 2D images and supplied these images to CNN based Lenet-5 for high level feature extraction, and then supplied high level features to Winner takes all RF Classifier. They took CWRU (public bearing dataset) and BaoSteel-Private dataset for experimenting their model. In this experiment they achieved 99.73% and 97.38% accuracy for CWRU and BaoSteel respectively with few limitations like model wastes time in seeking high level features even if sometimes just low-level features are enough to classify fault. Also, it takes longer time to execute due to use of CNN, so they suggested Parallel Computing Architecture [15]. Lee *et. al.* developed PdM Model for determining faulty condition of Cutting Tool and spindle motor, for that they prepared a test rig and collected current, vibration and acoustic emission signals. For determining cutting tool fault, they used SVM algorithm and passed essential features to model. And for spindle motor bearing's RUL (Remaining Useful Life) determination, they used CNN and RNN (Recurrent Neural Network) where RNN achieved 93% accuracy while CNN achieved 84% accuracy with time-based signals and 98% accuracy with frequency-based signals [16].

Public Dataset Analysis**Case Western Reserve University Bearing Dataset (CWRU)**

CWRU is the most efficient and widely used bearing dataset for PdM ML model development. The test rig as shown in Figure-1 is used to generate the dataset consists of a 2 hp electric motor to the left, driving a shaft on which a torque transducer and encoder are mounted in the middle coupled to a dynamometer in the right. The torque is applied to the shaft via a dynamometer and electronic control system. The test rig also includes bearings at both the



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drive end (DE) and fan end (FE) of the motor. The bearing at the DE and FE are SKF 6205-2RS JEM and SKF 6203-2RS JEM, respectively. The 6205-bearing used for data collection is a Single Row Deep Groove Radial Ball Bearing with an inner diameter of 25mm, an outer diameter of 52mm, and 15mm in width. To collect the vibration signal data single point faults were artificially induced using electro-discharge machining (EDM) with fault diameters from 7 to 28 mils (0.18 to 0.71mm). The motor loads varied from 0 to 3 hp (approximate motor speeds of 1720 to 1797 rpm). The vibration data was collected using accelerometers, which were attached to the housing with magnetic bases. The data was collected with two sampling frequencies, one with 12,000 samples per second, and 48,000 samples per second, and was processed using MATLAB®. In their study, the DE & FE bearing data for the normal (N), inner race fault (IF), outer race fault (OF), and the rolling element(ball) fault (BF) conditions was acquired for fault pattern classification where the fault diameters were selected to be 7 mils, 14 mils, and 21 mils [11] [17].

Paderborn University Dataset

Lessmeier *et. al.* created a bearing dataset based on motor current signals (MCS). The test rig as shown in Figure-2 consists of several modules: an electric motor (1), a torque-measurement shaft (2), a rolling bearing test module (3), a flywheel (4) and a load motor (5). The ball bearings with different types of damage are mounted in the bearing test module to generate the experimental data. The test rig was operated under different operating conditions to analyze the influence of operation parameters and to ensure the robustness of the CM methods at different operating conditions. They have used four setups for data collection with rotation speed from 900 to 1500 rpm, load torque of 0.1Nm and 0.7 Nm and radial force of 400N to 1000N. In total, experiments with 32 different bearings were performed: 12 bearings with artificial damages and 14 bearings with damages from accelerated lifetime tests. Moreover, experiments with 6 healthy bearings and a different time of operation were performed [1].

Data Pre-processing

From information available on CWRU and Paderborn dataset, we acquired certain features as shown in Table -I

Unveiling Patterns and Anomalies from Vibration data

To visualize signal patterns, vibration signals of 48k drive end data with fault size of 0.021 of CWRU dataset has been monitored as shown in Figure-3. Healthy Bearing exhibits consistent and relatively low vibration levels while faulty bearings depict high amplitude especially amplitude spikes -6dB to 6dB for Outer race fault. It is found that vibration signals can provide deep insights about the component's condition and it can be used for predictive maintenance strategy planning by training ML Model with historical data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**Proposed Model for Predictive Maintenance**

As per literature review carried out on predictive maintenance-based state of art models, authors have suggested certain crucial activities involved in PdM as shown in flow diagram in Figure 4

Data Collection many public bearing datasets has been provided by various universities and institutes for research and development related projects. Some of popular bearing datasets has been availed for open access by Case Western Reserve University (CWRU), Paderborn University, MFPT Faulty bearing dataset, FEMTO Bearing Dataset, IMS dataset, NASA's Bearing Dataset etc. Also, some researchers have developed their own test rig as per their custom requirements and collected sample data to train their ML model. Basically, during data collection activity it is essential to study industrial equipment/ machinery, working environment, types of sensors and bearings, bearing failure records etc.

Data Preprocessing data collected through sensors will be in either time-domain or frequency-domain, so these sample data need to be transformed into time-frequency domain-based signal as it provides most accurate faulty patterns, also noise removal, normalization and labelling is applied on data. And then data is split into Training Dataset with N-fold cross validation to avoid overfitting issue and Testing Dataset.



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Feature Engineering most prominent features used for bearing fault analysis are Root Mean Square, kurtosis, skewness, crest factor etc. can be used for feature engineering as shown in Table-II.

PdM Model Training authors are planning to train the proposed model using various Machine Learning and Deep Learning algorithms, so that Accuracy of all techniques can be analyzed and compared. Hyper parameter tuning and adjustment is necessary to be carried out during training phase to get best outcomes.

Model Evaluation once model will be trained by multiple algorithms, Test dataset will be used to assess their performance and comparison will be carried out using various metrics like Accuracy, F1-Score, Confusion matrix, Precision, Recall Value etc. And the algorithm with highest performance metric will be evaluated further. Hyper parameter tuning for various ML Algorithms are shown in Table-III.

Deployment and Monitoring Trained and Tested PdM model will be ready to deploy in any industrial environment and continuous monitoring can be performed by providing real time data collected from industrial equipment. The proposed model can provide maintenance notification to on-site engineers whenever it will detect anomaly in bearing and also can receive feedback from engineers for improvisation.

CONCLUSION

As Maintenance activity solemnly relies upon working environment and usage ratio of components, every industry exhibits varying maintenance patterns. Also, during literature review, we found that many state of art proposed model easily recognizes single component failure but naturally in industrial environment many components fail at same time. So, development of PdM model which can diagnosis multiple failure is still a challenge for researchers. Also, digital twin technology based Predictive Maintenance (PdMDT) is evolving but designing patterns which exhibits real working component is still challenging task. Also, there is no standardized framework established in digital twin technology which can work for manufacturing components in general. So, in future we are planning to develop a novel Model which can deal with multiple component failure simulated data generated by digital twin technology based simulated system as extracting real world data of such scenario is time consuming and costly.

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Table-1 Feature Extraction

Feature	Code	Description
Sensor Data	SnDt	Numerical data collected by sensors
Sensor Type	SnTy	Type of sensor like vibration, torque, AE, temperature etc.
Source	Src	To indicate source of data
Drive-end, Fan-end, Base Accelerometer	DFBE	Data collection from different ends of test rig
Motor Load	MoLo	Determines torque applied for data collection
Rotation per Minute	RPM	Indicates speed of bearing rotation
Load Zone	LoZo	Indicates load zone details like normal, centered, orthogonal, opposite etc.
Sample Collection Rate	SaCo	Indicates the frequency at which sample collection carried out in Hz.
Signal Type	SiTy	To indicate time series, frequency or time-frequency signal
FaultSize	FaSz	To indicate fault size on bearing
Fault Type	FaTy	Indicates type of fault like inner, outer or ball
Manufacturer	MFG	Determines the bearing manufacturer details like SKF, FAG etc.
Damage Type	DgT	Bearing damages like pit, crack, scratch etc.

Table-2 Time-Frequency domain based important features

Root Mean Square (RMS)	$\sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i)^2}$
Kurtosis (KUR)	$\frac{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})^4}{\left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})^2\right)^2}$





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Skewness (SKEW)	$\frac{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})^3}{\left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \right)^3}$
Peak	x_{max}
Crest Factor (CF)	$\frac{Peak}{RMS}$

Table-3 Hyperparameter Tuning

Algorithm	Hyper parameter
Decision Tree (DT)	Max_depth, min_sample_split, min_sample_leaf, max_features, split_criterion, pruning_parameter
Random Forest (RF)	N_estimator, max_depth, min_sample_split, max_features, bootstrap, max_samples, oob_score
Artificial Neural Network (ANN)	No_of_hidden_layers, neuron_per_layer, activation_function, learn_rate, batch_size, regularization, optimization_algo, epochs
Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)	C_filter_size, c_stride, activation_function, padding, pool_op, no_connected_layers, dropout_rate, learn_rate, epochs
Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM)	No_LSTM_unit, dropout_rate, activation_function, recurrent_dropout_rate, learn_rate, batch_size, epochs, optimization_algo, loss_function

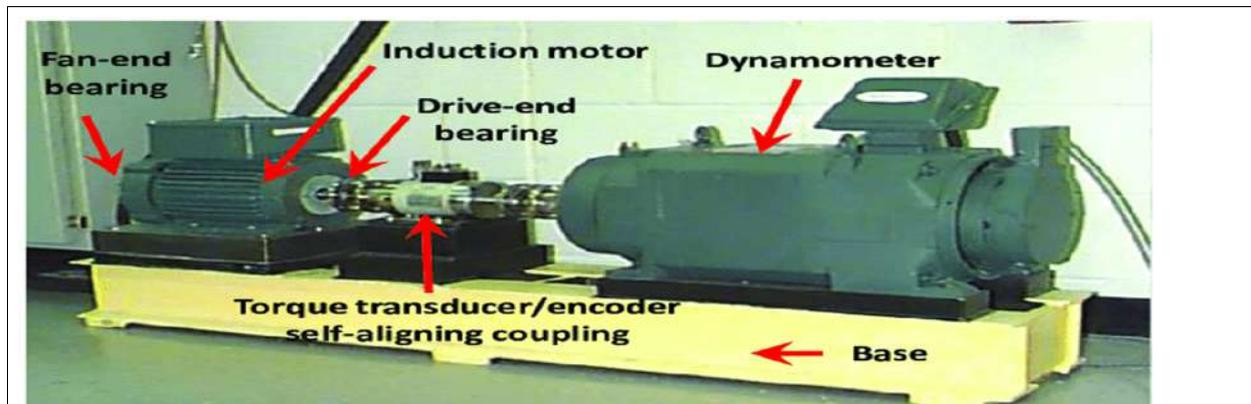


Fig. 1 CWRU Test Rig

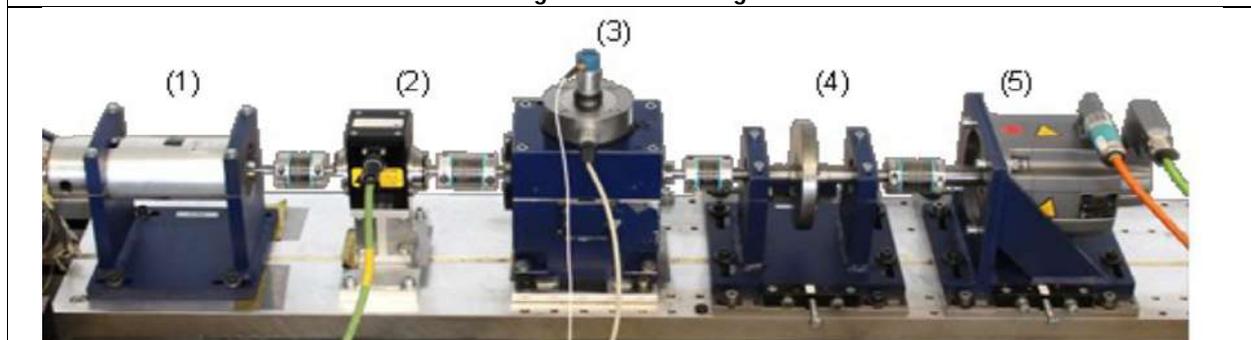


Fig. 2. Paderborn University Test Rig





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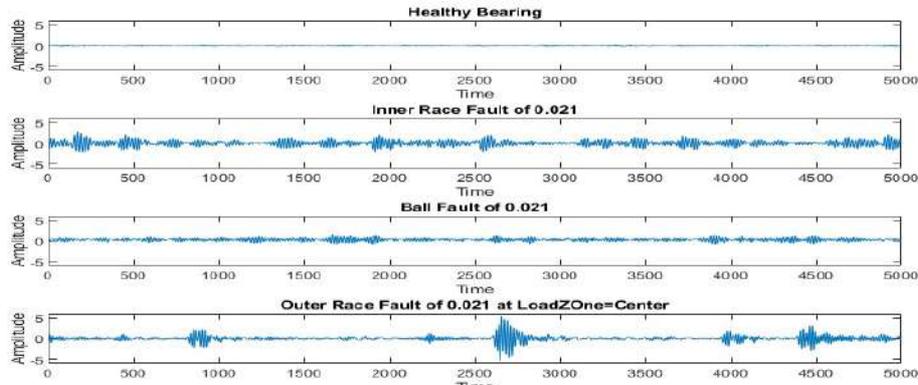


Fig. 3. Healthy and Faulty bearing vibration signal analysis from CWRU dataset

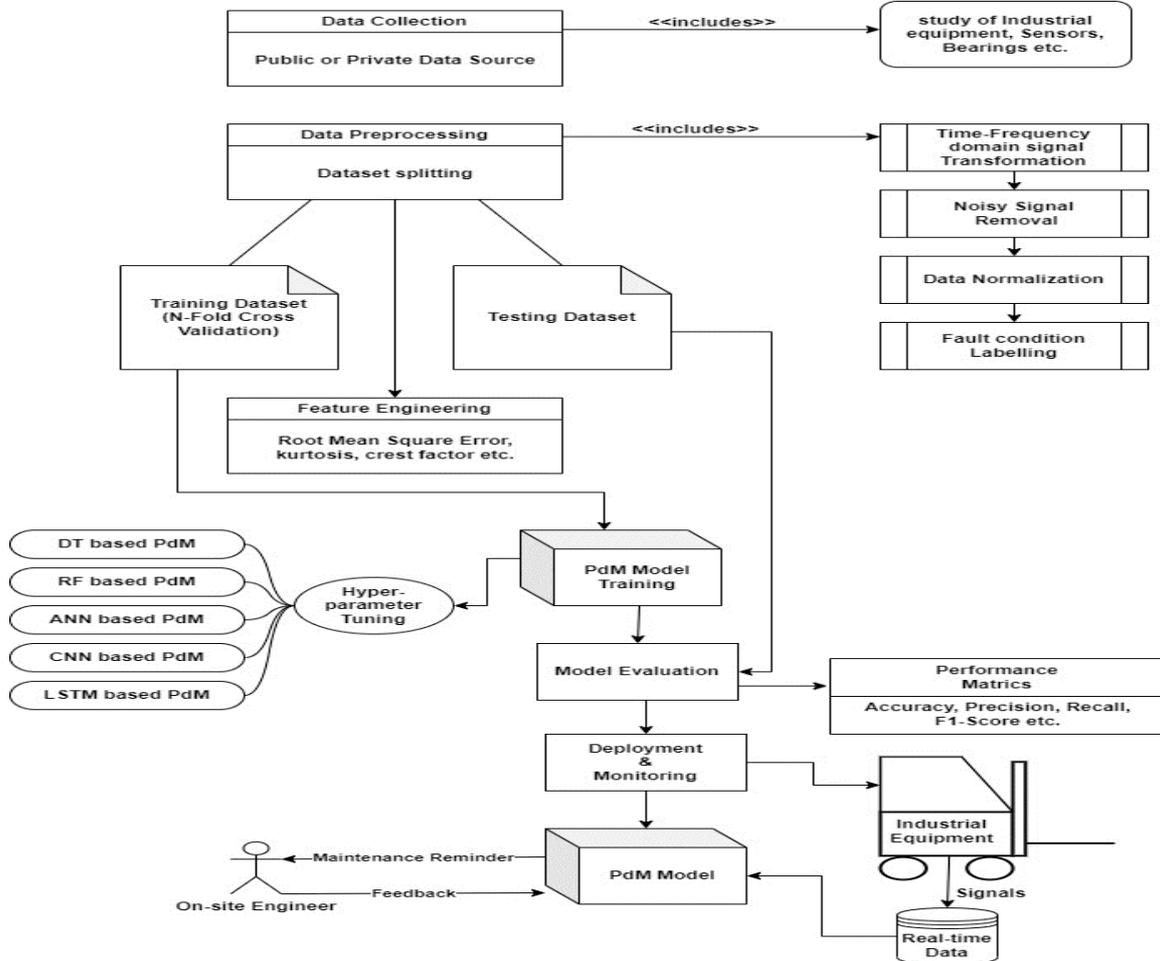


Fig. 4. Proposed Model for Predictive Maintenance





Keystroke Logger: Corporate Data Monitoring

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ABSTRACT

The increasing number of cyber attacks over the past few years has prompted new approaches to data security. The target's or organisation's system can be monitored secretly using a keylogger. A keylogger is an effective surveillance tool for gathering and recording all keystrokes made on the target device, whether they are physical or virtual. Keystrokes were surreptitiously logged for organisational monitoring purposes without the user's knowledge or consent. This data may have included password credentials, data on transactions, every activity, and more. In this paper, we present a methodology for Data monitoring of an organisation with the goal of gaining insight into how employees devote their time and resources at work and detecting potential threats like data leaks, misuse of intellectual property, or insider attacks so that the organisation can take preventative measures to secure its systems, networks, and assets and improve employee output. Activity logs could be stored in the cloud, and any data sent there for safekeeping should be encrypted before transmission. An attacker could conceivably bypass 2FA and gain access to the victim's IDs and other sensitive data if they obtained the keylogger's information or log file. 2FA necessitates two forms of identity verification from administrators for additional protect the log file. We detail the norms and regulations that must be followed, address the ethical and legal implications of employing keyloggers as surveillance tools, and highlight the importance of obtaining correct permission before utilising key loggers.

Keywords: Keylogger, Keystrokes, Two Factor Authentication, Malicious activity, Unauthorized access, Data Monitoring

INTRODUCTION

The field of information technology (IT) is expanding at an explosive pace in the modern world [1]. Those who work in cyberspace must make protecting personal information and data a top priority. Keyloggers have long been recognised as powerful weapons used by both cybercriminals and security professionals in dynamic cyberspace [2].



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Passwords, confidential information, and other sorts of typed text can all be monitored and potentially extracted with the use of a keylogger, which is a type of software or hardware device that captures keystrokes on a computer or mobile device. It is possible to use keyloggers for lawful purposes, such as spying on competitors or keeping tabs on employees within a business [3]. However, they can also be used maliciously, usually without the user's knowledge or agreement, to steal personal information and use it for things like identity theft or unauthorised account access.

Data serves as essential to sustaining regulatory compliance and preventing risks [4]. Businesses have a responsibility to secure their customers' personal information, prevent data breaches, and adhere to applicable privacy regulations. Worker contributions are crucial to every business's ability to function and expand. They have a direct effect on the company's performance because of the quality of the products or services they provide, the care they take with their customers, and the atmosphere they create in the workplace. Organisations can benefit from monitoring employee activity in a number of ways, including increased efficiency, security, and compliance. Organisations may learn a lot about how their staff spends their time, money, and other resources by keeping tabs on their actions. They can use this data to pinpoint problem spots, streamline operations, and boost output. Furthermore, sensitive information is protected, and risks are reduced through monitoring activities that help detect potential security breaches, unauthorised access, or policy violations. In addition, it helps ensure that personnel follow company policies and any applicable external regulations. In sum, monitoring employee activity gives businesses the insight they need to boost productivity, safeguard valuables, and guarantee a safe and legally compliant workplace. In an era where online privacy and security are paramount, this paper proposes a model that seeks to explore the concept of software keyloggers to monitor organisational data, where a keylogger takes the data or employee activities from an organisation's machines and stores them on a cloud that is equipped with two-factor authentication, enabling a sophisticated level of spying. Two-factor authentication (2FA) is becoming more common as an extra safety measure for monitoring all logs to ensure that only authorised users have access to them [5]. After this introduction section, the paper proceeds as follows: The Keylogger's Features and Operation are Detailed in Section 2, and the associated research is covered in Section 3. Section 4 illustrates the proposed model with Two-Factor Authentication (2FA) Technique for bolstering security and related findings and discussions. The study finishes with a discussion of the study's findings and recommendations for future investigation in Section 5

Keylogger

Keyloggers' features, methods of operation, and numerous manifestations are discussed in this section. The purpose of a keylogger, also known as a keystroke logger, is to record and save the user's keystrokes on a mobile device or computer [6]. The system can monitor and log every keypress, from alphabetic characters to punctuation marks to shortcut keys. Depending on their intended use and the context of their deployment, keyloggers can have both beneficial and negative effects. Certain acceptable uses for keyloggers exist, including cybersecurity, digital forensics, and surveillance by employers or parents. These instruments can monitor staff productivity, spot internal threats, protect children from inappropriate content, and prevent malicious activity. However, when used maliciously or without permission, keyloggers represent a serious invasion of privacy and enable cybercriminals to commit crimes like identity theft, fraud, and manipulation of sensitive data. Therefore, caution must be used while employing keyloggers, including respecting individuals' rights to privacy and adhering to legal as well as ethical norms to prevent exploitation and ensure individuals' safety.

Keylogger Types

Keyloggers come in many forms, each with its own set of advantages and disadvantages depending on the specifics of its design and method of implementation [7]. Different kinds of keyloggers are represented in Figure 1. In order to record and save keystrokes, a hardware keylogger must be physically placed between the keyboard and the computer. Due to their lack of dependence on user-installed software, they can be difficult to identify and are typically stealthy. Contrarily, software keyloggers provide a number of different options. Kernel-based keyloggers are able to intercept keystrokes before they are processed by any software application since they operate at the most fundamental level of the operating system. It can be difficult to pin down exactly what these things are, and



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administrative approval may be needed before they can be put into place. Keyloggers that hook into the API operations of an operating system can snoop on keystrokes entered in any programme. Keyloggers with the ability to steal sensitive information from online forms are called "form-grabbing keyloggers," and they are developed to specifically target web browsers by integrating themselves into the browser's functionality. Information like user names, passwords, and credit card numbers can fall into this category. Keyloggers that insert malicious code into the memory of running processes make use of security flaws or techniques like dynamic link library injection in order to monitor and record user input without leaving any obvious traces. In contrast to wired keyloggers, wireless keyloggers are able to monitor and send keystrokes without physically connecting to the target device. It is difficult to spot these threats because they can impersonate benign devices like wireless keyboards and USB dongles. An acoustic keylogger is a piece of hardware that listens for the sound waves generated by a user's keyboard in order to record and interpret the text that the user types. These keyloggers are able to identify the keys being pressed by listening to and analysing audio signals. To be effective, acoustic keyloggers may require close contact with the device they are trying to infiltrate. Their frequency is lower than that of other categories. Considering their potential to damage privacy and security, it is crucial to recognise that the unauthorised use of loggers is both illegal and morally problematic.

Keylogger Design

The keylogger's layout can change based on its implementation, intended use, and the device it's installed on. How stealthy the system needs to be, how much data needs to be stored, and what kind of command and configuration options should be built into it are all potential design factors [8]. Figure 2 depicts the overall Keylogger design. The keylogger is the main part of the design that records and logs keystrokes. Hooking into the input system of the device being monitored (in this case, the keyboard) allows the keylogger to be alerted to each keypress and record it. Once keystrokes have been captured, they are sent to a logger module, which subsequently logs and stores the data, usually in a local or remote storage place. Furthermore, the persistence mechanism keeps the keylogger running and lasting on the target system. Different methods can be used to implement this mechanism, such as altering existing system settings, adding startup entries, or installing it as a background process or service. The keylogger's persistence method guarantees that it will run invisibly in the background without the user's knowledge every time the computer boots. Keyloggers frequently adopt stealth techniques, such as masquerading as normal system files, processes, or registry entries, to escape discovery. Antivirus programmes could be rendered useless or their presence concealed through the use of rootkit-like techniques. A keylogger's user interface may allow for customization of the programme's operations along with access to the data it has gathered.

Related Work

A keylogger is a potentially devastating piece of technology that has both positive and negative applications. The effectiveness of a keylogger is a good benchmark for a home-to-machine interface. In [9], the contributors discuss the pros and cons of keyloggers and provide tips for protecting sensitive information from these programmes. A negative keylogger is a piece of software designed to record each and every keystroke performed on a computer, giving an unauthorised user access to a wealth of private data [10]. Because of the wide variety of threats in the cyberworld, malware attacks are particularly pernicious because they are so difficult to detect and shield against. A keylogger is a programme that includes both the script and the malware. When activated, a keylogger will record every key pushed by the user, save it to a log file, and subsequently email the log file to the specified recipient. The financial system, as an example of a system used in everyday business, is in grave peril. Prohibiting these kinds of assaults is crucial [11]. Keylogger assaults on a computer are impossible to prevent with a standard security interface. Focusing on the development of keylogger attacks and other forms of technological progress over time using certain patterns [12] is crucial. Most approaches to detecting keyloggers include issues with selecting a suitable threshold value, failing to keep a record of current keylogger attacks and their signatures, and a lack of simulating keylogger patterns. For keylogger detection, the authors of CaFISKLD relied on a two-tiered combinatorial algorithm, fuzzy logic for classification, and colour codes [13]. The introduction of novel interaction mechanisms for virtual environments brought with it unprecedented security and privacy dangers, such as keyloggers that can capture keystrokes from both physical and virtual keyboards. The authors examine the security flaws of various



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virtual input methods and show how recording and inferring user keystrokes might be dangerous [14]. In certain circumstances, a keylogger could help increase safety for both employees and computer owners. This good must, however, be balanced by no adverse effects on the user, owner, or worker [15]. It can be used for malicious reasons, like obtaining information and other private information for vindictive purposes [16]. It can also be used in the workplace to monitor employees, in the home to monitor children's activities, and by law enforcement to investigate and follow occurrences involving the use of computers. By copying text from the device and taking actions based on that information, users may be able to cleverly exploit this keylogger technique. Therefore, the authors recommended a model extension using a clipboard logger to gather clipboard data to eliminate inconsistencies in the overall system monitoring resulting from keylogger data [17].

Proposed Methodology

This section discusses the approach we propose for a keylogger-based methodology for monitoring data in an organisation by recording and monitoring each stroke of the keyboard made on a computer. We used a Python script to create a keylogger. We presented a software-based keylogger that recorded every keystroke made on any keyboard, physical or virtual. Virtual keystrokes provide an alternative to physical keystrokes by way of on-screen keyboards, remote access applications, automation tools, and touch-sensitive interfaces [18]. While physical keystrokes necessitate the user's interaction with a physical keyboard by applying force and sensing the keys being pressed, virtual keystrokes can be used for automation and accessibility. We've developed string matching techniques to make keylogger programmes, which record users' keystrokes, more convenient and quick to use [19]. String comparison is a technique for finding matching strings of characters in an input stream, such as a keyboard. Additionally, we will record the keystroke using a timestamp for later reference. The log file keeps track of both the actual key presses and the corresponding virtual ones. The proposed layout is displayed in Figure 3. First, all company computers come equipped with a key logging programme that is invisible to employees. Computer keystrokes can be captured by a software keylogger. After that, a text log file containing all of the characters is uploaded to the cloud. We use Linode's cloud services for logging keystrokes because of their adaptable infrastructure and stringent safety features [20].

EXPERIMENT RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

This section analysed the suggested model's outcomes and discussed the results. The Physical keystroke Log file and the virtual keystroke Log file created by our suggested model are displayed in Figure 4. To ensure the privacy of the transferred data, all logs are encrypted before being sent from the compromised system to the cloud. In our model, we've implemented AES encryption to safeguard the captured keystrokes, which are considered highly confidential by our company [21]. Our cloud-based log file is protected by two-factor authentication to guarantee that only authorised users may access it. As an additional safety measure, two-factor authentication (2FA) can also be referred to as multi-factor authentication. To access an account or service, users must present at least two pieces of identity verification information. We have stored two credentials to gain access to the cloud-based log file. The first user is required to reveal the password. In addition to the username and password, further authentication may require a one-time password (OTP). Two-factor authentication (2FA) increases security by requiring not one but two of these elements. To gain access to the log files, an attacker would require the password, the one-time password (OTP), and both the OTP and the password [22]. We've also instituted a policy that requires all users to update their passwords every two weeks for added security.

CONCLUSION & FUTURE SCOPE

In today's increasingly digital environment, it has become increasingly difficult for organisations to keep track of and protect the security and privacy of their data. Physical or digital, keyloggers are sophisticated instruments that record and save keystrokes entered into computers. They've been put to use for everything from keeping tabs on employees to keeping kids in line to assisting with police probes. However, it is essential to follow all relevant laws,



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regulations, and ethical principles when using keyloggers because of the legal, ethical, and privacy considerations they bring. We have presented a framework for monitoring company data that makes use of a keylogger. Information gathered by keyloggers will be uploaded to the cloud in the form of a log file; this information will be encrypted using AES before being sent. Authentication is a helpful extra layer of security that provides Two-Factor Authentication safety throughout the authorization process, ensuring that only those with the proper permissions, such as administrators, have access to the log files. We have also used AES encryption to ensure the data is sent securely. These logs can be used as raw data in statistical modelling. In the Future, Machine Learning methods can be used to examine the collected information. For instance, the analysis may seek to understand the context in which users often submit certain information, or it may seek to detect trends connected to the type of data entered using a real keyboard as opposed to a virtual keyboard. An analysis of typed text in this way can yield useful information.

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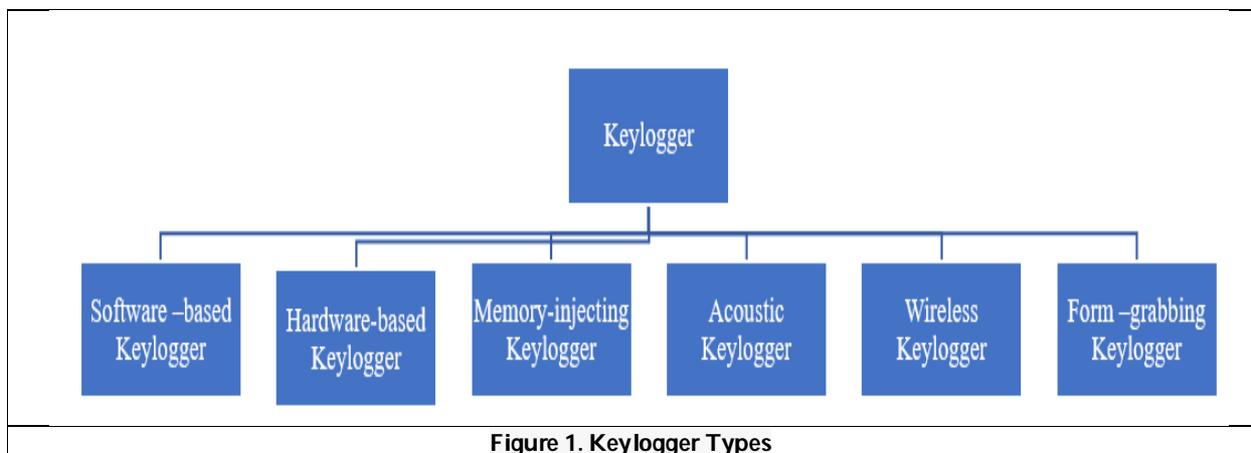


Figure 1. Keylogger Types





Tools and Techniques for Analyzing Digital Forensics Data

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ABSTRACT

In today's environment, when data storage and usage are growing dramatically, so too is the chance that data will be misused. This has made the data that has been gathered by humans or robots and kept in controllers, mobile devices, or computers susceptible to several hacks. In the modern world, there are several digital forensic tools that aid in conducting investigations by acquiring evidence using different techniques. The goal of data analysis is to extract meaningful information from data and make decisions based on the data analysis. When we make a decision in our daily lives, we consider what happened the last time or what would happen if we make that option. This is nothing more than analysing our past or future and making judgements based on it. This paper provides a thorough analysis of the numerous digital forensic techniques used by businesses, governmental organizations, and private citizens to acquire, extract, and present the gathered data. To make it simple for users to choose the tool that best suits their needs, we compare the forensic tools in this work using a variety of parameters.

Keywords: Digital Forensics, tools, controllers, susceptible to attacks, techniques used by government, business.

INTRODUCTION

In order to learn more about cybercrime, data breaches, fraud, and other illegal acts, digital forensics collects, examines, and analyses digital evidence. Digital forensic investigators can recreate events, identify offenders, and present evidence in a court of law by employing specialized tools and procedures. Recovery, analysis, and preservation of digital evidence for use in court cases are all topics covered by the field of forensic science known as





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"digital forensics." Digital forensics has grown in significance in the investigation and resolution of crimes in the current digital era, as technology plays a key part in our lives. In order to illuminate their capabilities and uses, this article will examine the different tools and methods used in digital forensics. Modern society cannot function without the use of digital devices including smartphones, tablets, game consoles, laptops, and desktop computers. The prevalence of these gadgets in our daily lives has increased the likelihood that information obtained from them may be used for illegal purposes. Computers are frequently used in crimes like terrorism, fraud, drug trafficking, homicide, and hacking. Cyber espionage, data breaches, identity theft, and other illegal actions have all become more prevalent in the digital age. In order to engage in their illegal operations, cybercriminals take advantage of weaknesses in digital systems and networks. To study digital devices and data, digital forensics investigators employ a variety of techniques, such as the analysis of file systems, network traffic, and system logs. These methods produce a significant volume of data, which can take a while to manually process. As a result, in digital forensics investigations, machine learning algorithms can be used to process and analyze huge volumes of digital data, including network traffic, social media data, digital photos, and video. Due to the extensive usage of digital devices and the rise in cybercrimes, digital forensics has become increasingly important. The significance of digital forensics is explained here, along with some background information. Increase of digital devices: As technology develops quickly, people and businesses increasingly rely on digital devices like computers, smartphones, tablets, and Internet of Things (IoT) devices. Because they contain such large volumes of private and sensitive data, these devices are prime targets for cybercriminals. Challenges related to legal & criminal: It might be difficult to investigate cybercrimes and collect evidence from digital devices. To extract, store, and analyse the data while keeping its integrity, one needs specialized knowledge and tools. Digital evidence is frequently volatile, quickly changed, or disguised. In criminal investigations, digital forensics is used to find evidence relating to a variety of crimes, including cyber attacks, financial crimes, intellectual property theft, online harassment, and child exploitation. It helps law enforcement agencies create compelling arguments and offer evidence that is admissible in court. In preventing cybercrimes and assisting with legal actions, digital forensics is essential. It entails the methodical gathering, inspection, and analysis of digital evidence in order to ascertain the circumstances surrounding a digital incident, pinpoint the culprits, and establish a chain of custody for the evidence.

Legal processes often require the use of digital evidence acquired through forensic analysis. By providing a digital timeline of occurrences, it aids in proving the veracity of data and tracing digital activity. In order to help the court, comprehend complex digital evidence, digital forensics professionals may testify as expert witnesses and offer technical insights. An important research goal is to investigate anti-forensic tactics and create countermeasures. To preserve the integrity and admissibility of digital evidence in court processes, this includes examining techniques used to obscure or conceal data and figuring out how to overcome these difficulties. The issues caused by cybercrimes must be addressed, digital evidence must be preserved, and a fair and secure digital environment must be maintained. In order to support legal procedures, improve cybersecurity, and shield people and organizations from online threats, it must be able to investigate, analyze, and interpret digital evidence.

REQUIREMENT OF DATA ANALYSIS MODELS

As businesses collect more and more data, the demand for data analysis models is rapidly increasing. Businesses can use data analysis models to make better decisions, increase productivity, and find new opportunities. Following are some of the benefits:

Effective decision making

Information examination models can assist organizations with settling on better choices by giving experiences into client conduct, market patterns, and different variables. This can assist organizations with distributing assets all the more actually, foster new items and administrations, and further develop consumer loyalty.

Unknown maths:





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As a result of the data explosion and the accessibility of tools that integrate applied mathematics into the analytics workbench, practitioners of analytics start to view technical analysis as a goal in and of itself. The tools required to tackle the current business challenge are mathematical methodologies.

Lack of continuance

The finest analytical concepts often lose their competitive edge and value, despite how obvious a management principle it may seem. This may happen for a number of reasons, from internal organisational changes to becoming lost in the swirl of organisational efforts.

Lack of significance

Analytics must be incredibly flexible in order to adapt to shifting business goals. The pursuit of the ideal mathematical method frequently causes the answer to be delayed to the point where it is no longer relevant. For instance, once the product launch has occurred, a launch pricing study is useless.

Categories of data analysis

Major types include

Diagnostic Analysis

Finding data behaviour patterns is helpful with this analysis. If a fresh issue arises in your business process, you may check this analysis to see if any previous issues have any patterns that are comparable to current one. It may also have the opportunity to use identical remedies to the brand-new issues. Organisations in the data-driven world of today are always looking for methods to learn anything useful from the massive amounts of information at their disposal. In order to better understand their data and find causes, patterns, and trends that might guide decision-making, organisations must use diagnostic analysis, which is emerging as a critical approach. In this article, we'll look at the idea of diagnostic analysis, its importance, the numerous forms, instruments, and procedures that it uses, as well as its practical applications. In order to identify the underlying causes of a problem or circumstance, diagnostic analysis is a methodical way to looking at data. By attempting to identify the underlying reasons of observed patterns or results, it goes beyond mere descriptive analysis. Organisations may learn more about their activities, procedures, and performance by doing diagnostic analysis. Making educated judgements for organisations is made possible in large part by diagnostic analysis. Businesses may create focused plans and actions to optimise their operations by understanding the underlying causes of problems or achievements. The use of diagnostic analysis ensures that judgements are grounded on facts rather than conjecture and serves as a strong basis for issue solving. Businesses may use the following recommended practises to guarantee efficient diagnostic analysis: Clearly Defining the Objectives: From the beginning, clearly identify the goals and parameters of the analysis. This helps establish reasonable expectations and guarantees a focused approach. Utilise Data from Several Sources: To get a complete picture of the issue or circumstance, use data from several different sources. By doing this, it is made possible to guarantee that all relevant aspects are included in the analysis. Implement statistical methods: - Use the proper statistical methods and models in accordance with the goals of the study and the kind of data used. The results are more accurate and reliable as a result. Update Analytical Techniques Frequently: Utilise the most recent tools, techniques, and algorithms to keep analytical approaches current. By doing this, organisations may take advantage of data analysis improvements and get important insights. Diagnostic analysis is likely to develop as technology does. Future trends to watch for include the utilisation of real-time data analysis for proactive decision-making as well as the integration of machine learning and artificial intelligence algorithms for more precise forecasts. For businesses looking to learn more from their data, diagnostic analysis is a potent tool. Businesses may make wise choices, optimise operations, and promote success by identifying fundamental causes and spotting patterns and trends. Diagnostic analysis enables organisations to unlock the full value of their data and maintain an advantage in the current competitive environment with the correct tools, methodologies, and knowledge.



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Statistical Analysis

The five steps of statistical analysis include data collection, analysis, interpretation, presentation, and modelling. It examines either a set or a sample of data. Descriptive analysis and inferential analysis are the two subcategories of this form of analysis. Making sense of data, seeing trends, and coming to meaningful conclusions all require the application of statistical analysis, a potent tool. The world of statistical analysis, its significance, fundamental ideas, different forms of data, techniques, and applications will all be covered in this article. This article will provide you a thorough understanding of data analysis, whether you're a business professional, a researcher, or you're just interested in it. For the purpose of gaining insightful conclusions, statistical analysis comprises gathering, organising, interpreting, and presenting data. It aids in our ability to grasp how variables are related, to anticipate the future, and to make evidence-based choices. Numerous disciplines, such as business, healthcare, social sciences, and others, depend heavily on statistical analysis. By doing data analysis, we may find patterns, assess theories, and come to wise conclusions that promote development and success. Statistical analysis offers a strong basis for evidence-based decision-making, whether it is for improving marketing tactics, creating efficient therapies, or comprehending social behaviour. Data collection is necessary before doing statistical analysis. Depending on the study subject and available resources, there are several methodologies.

Surveys include the use of questionnaires or interviews to gather data from a sample of people. They provide insightful information about attitudes, tastes, and behaviours. Variables are changed during experiments to see how they affect a result of interest. In order to establish cause-and-effect linkages, individuals are randomly assigned to experimental and control groups. Without making any changes, observational studies just observe and gather data. They come in use when doing trials would not be practical or moral. Although they may reveal connections and links, observational studies cannot prove causation. In statistical analysis, exploratory data analysis (EDA) is a crucial stage. The primary aspects of the data must be summarised and visually represented. Charting, graphing, and plotting approaches for data analysis aid in our understanding of the distributions, trends, and patterns found in the data. Decision-making based on data is facilitated by visual representations of complicated information. An understanding of the usual or centre value of a dataset may be gained by using measures of central tendency like mean, median, and mode. They assist in illuminating the "average" value or the point at which the data tend to congregate. A dataset's spread or variability is measured by dispersion metrics like range, variance, and standard deviation. The degree to which the data points vary from the central trend is shown by them. Statistically, the evaluation of hypotheses and drawing conclusions about population characteristics from sample data are both done via hypothesis testing. A claim or research hypothesis is represented by the alternative hypothesis (H_a) in hypothesis testing, while the null hypothesis (H_0) represents the default or no-difference assumption. We may assess the validity of the evidence by using statistical tests to decide if the alternative hypothesis should be accepted instead of the null hypothesis. We must account for the likelihood of mistakes while doing hypothesis testing. When the null hypothesis is rejected when it is true, a Type I error takes place, and when it is not rejected when it is false, a Type II mistake takes place. We are able to control the likelihood of making Type I mistakes thanks to the significance level (α). The p-value gauges the volume of data arguing against the null hypothesis. Assuming the null hypothesis is true, it shows the likelihood of getting outcomes that are as severe as the observed data. The cutoff for excluding the null hypothesis is determined by the significance level. Understanding the connection between a dependent variable and one or more independent variables may be done using regression analysis, a statistical modelling approach. Simple linear regression investigates the connection between two variables, one of which is the predictor (an independent variable) and the other which is the response (a dependent variable). We may anticipate the future with its aid by estimating how the predictor variable will affect the responder variable. Incorporating several predictor variables allows multiple linear regression to go beyond basic linear regression. We may use it to evaluate how different factors interact to affect the response variable.

Predictive Analysis

Using data from the present or past, this analysis forecasts potential outcomes. A forecast is only an estimation. Its accuracy depends on how much information you have in-depth and how deeply you research it. To find





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relationships between various components in particular datasets, data scientists utilise predictive models. Following the completion of data collection, a statistical model is created, trained, and adjusted to produce predictions. Two categories of predictive analysis exist classification and regression models. Classification models make an effort to categorise data objects like clients or prospective outcomes. Regression models aim to forecast continuous data, such as the volume of sales that certain client will bring in throughout the course of their engagement with the business.

Text Analysis

Data mining is another name for text analysis. It is a technique that makes use of databases or data mining technologies to find a pattern in huge data sets. It formerly converted unprocessed data into commercial information. There are instruments for business intelligence available on the market that are utilised to make strategic business choices. Overall, it provides a method for extracting and analysing data, finding patterns, and eventually interpreting the data. Text analytics has many diverse applications that can be used anyplace that there is text-based data.

Text analysis in customer service

Text Analytics in Marketing

Text Mining Using Chatbots

Digital Forensics Tools

An important research goal is to investigate anti-forensic tactics and create countermeasures. To preserve the integrity and admissibility of digital evidence in court processes, this includes examining techniques used to obscure or conceal data and figuring out how to overcome these difficulties.

Keyword Searching: Finding relevant evidence by looking for particular words, phrases, or patterns in databases of emails, documents, or file systems. Key word searching is supported by programmes like Autopsy, Encase, and X-Ways Forensics.

Forensics in mobile

Data extraction and analysis from portable electronics like smartphones and tablets. Mobile device forensics frequently make use of instruments like Cellebrite UFED, Oxygen Forensic Detective, and XRY.

Analysis in malware Examining dangerous software's behaviour, traits, and effects to determine where it came from, what it can do, and what hazards it can pose. In malware analysis, programmes like IDA Pro, OllyDbg, and Cuckoo Sandbox are frequently used.

Disk imaging Preserving a storage device's contents and doing analysis on a copy of it made bit-for-bit in order to avoid changing the original data. Disc imaging frequently makes use of command-line tools like dd and FTK Imager. We need to use a write blocker to restrict access to the disc for writing. When imaging a disc, a cryptographic hash of the entire disc is frequently calculated.

Keyword searching

Searching file systems, papers, or email databases for particular words, phrases, or patterns in order to find pertinent data. X-Ways Forensics, Encase, and Autopsy are a few examples of programmes that offer keyword searches.

Autopsy

Law enforcement agencies, corporate security teams, and academic institutions all use Autopsy, an open-source platform for digital forensics. It offers a great many elements, including information procurement, record cutting, circle investigation, and organization examination. The open-source digital forensics tool Autopsy is utilised by





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academic institutions, business security teams, and law enforcement organisations. Data capture, file cutting, disc analysis, and network analysis are just a few of the many functions it provides.

Scalpel

Deleted files may be recovered from a number of digital devices using the open source digital forensics programme known as Scalpel. The lowest limit on the number of bytes read by Scalpel is Tread, or one traverse of the disc image without coming across any headers. In this case, there is nothing to carve, thus there is no need for a second pass. Digital forensics makes use of a variety of methods. Among the most popular methods are:

Data correlation

The practise of discovering connections between several data sets is known as data correlation. This may be used to spot trends in behaviour or connect many pieces of data.

Reporting

The process of reporting involves writing up the results of a digital forensics study. Law enforcement, legal experts, and other stakeholders may utilise this study as information.

CONCLUSION

The method of analysing data utilising logical and analytical reasoning to look at each part of the information presented. One of the various procedures that must be carried out while performing a research experiment is this kind of analysis. To arrive at a finding or conclusion, information from numerous sources is collected, examined, and then analysed. Data mining, text analytics, business intelligence, and data visualisations are just a few of the several specialised data analysis techniques available. Data analytics have altered how individuals used to behave, whether it be in the world of sports, business, or just daily living. It is currently utilised to build artificial intelligence, detect illnesses, assess consumer behaviour, and identify the flaws of rival candidates in sports or politics in addition to playing a significant role in business. The potential of data in this new era is limitless. In an effort to stay competitive, every organisation makes an effort to acquire data, such as by tracking the performance of its rivals, sales numbers, and purchasing patterns, etc. However, without the ability to analyse all that data, no one can comprehend consumer behaviour and rival performance. Therefore, data analysis is required in order to make educated and effective judgements. Organisations may use data analysis to understand where they stand in the market in comparison to rivals. It is what enables us to recognise possible hazards that should be avoided and chances that should be seized in order to advance. In reality, data analysis gives us the ability to evaluate consumer satisfaction levels and demands in order to develop new goods and services that will provide customers more satisfaction. Consequently, it is an understatement to argue that data analysis is crucial for corporate success.

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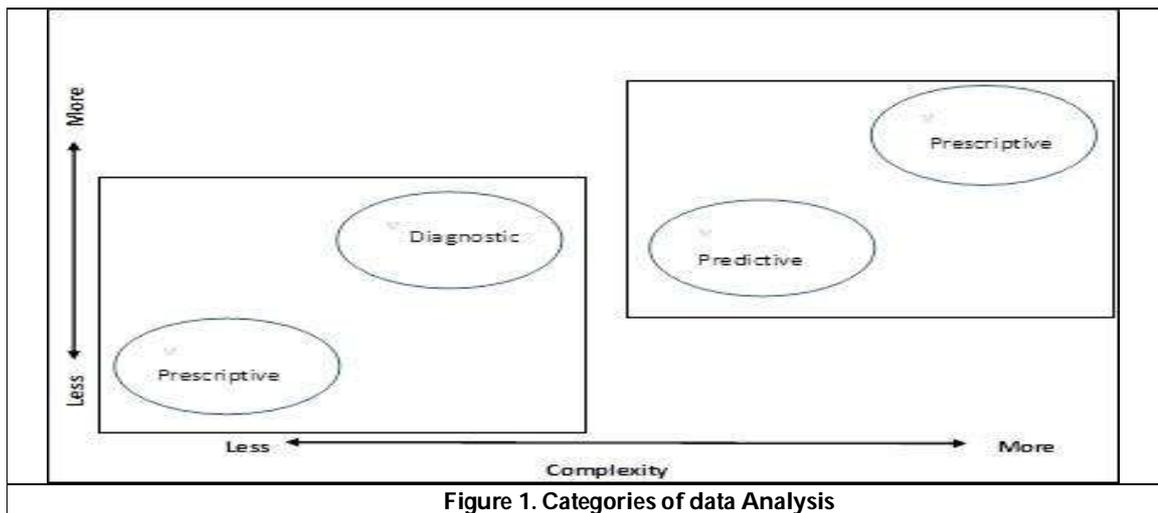
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Downstream Purification of 2,3-Butanediol from Fermentation Broth using a 1-butanol / NaCl System

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ABSTRACT

2,3-Butanediol (2,3-BD) is a valuable chemical used in various industries and as a fuel additive. It can be converted into jet fuel, making it highly sought after. The production of 2,3-BD from renewable sources is important as it reduces reliance on petroleum-based feedstock. However, purifying 2,3-BD from the fermentation broth is a challenging task. A hydrophilic solvent and inorganic salt system have been developed to recover 2,3-Butanediol from the broth. Optimization of process parameters using 1-butanol and NaCl systems has resulted in a maximum recovery efficiency of 81% and a partition coefficient of 1.72. This promising method can potentially be scaled up for pilot-scale production.

Keywords: 2,3-Butanediol; Fermentation broth; Liquid-liquid extraction; Downstream processing; 1-butanol/NaCl system.

INTRODUCTION

2,3-Butanediol (2,3-BD) is a biologically produced compound with a high octane number and versatile applications in various industries [1]. Separating 2,3-BD from fermentation broth is a significant cost contributor to microbial production[2]. It is used as a precursor for chemicals like methyl ethyl ketone, 1,3-butadiene, and gamma-butyrolactone and in perfume, printing disks, pharmaceuticals, and other industrial applications[3]. The global market potential for 2,3-BD is estimated at around 32 million tons annually[4]. While chemical processes have traditionally been used for production, the focus has shifted towards microbial production due to concerns about energy input and global warming[5]. However, recovering 2,3-BD from complex fermentation broth remains challenging due to its high boiling point, strong water affinity, and low concentration. Developing an efficient downstream purification process for industrial or commercial scale is a significant challenge[2], [6].



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Various approaches have been explored for the separation of 2,3-Butanediol (2,3-BD) from the fermentation broth, including distillation, pervaporation, steam stripping, two-phase aqueous extraction, reactive extraction, and liquid-liquid extraction (LLE) [7]. Among these, LLE has shown promise due to its effectiveness and lower energy input. In this approach, 2,3-BD is extracted into a solvent, which can then be easily distilled, resulting in efficient product recovery. Using 1-butanol as a solvent is favorable due to its higher partition coefficient for 2,3-BD than other organic solvents [8]. The development of an extraction process that requires less time and energy. The 1-Butanol has been identified as a suitable solvent for 2,3-butanediol extraction because partitioning 2,3-butanediol into 1-butanol (partition coefficient >1) is higher than that of other conventional organic solvents[9]. However, 1-butanol is partially miscible with water [2]. To improve the partition coefficient, salts can be added to the aqueous phase, creating a salting-out effect[4], [10]. The organic phase obtained from the extraction can be further concentrated through pervaporation, where water and 1-butanol selectively permeate through a membrane. This combination of extraction and pervaporation offers a potential solution for efficiently purifying 2,3-BD from fermentation broth[2], [6]. This study presents a hydrophilic solvent and inorganic salt approach for the recovery of 2,3-butanediol (2,3-BD) from fermentation broth. The extraction agent used was a combination of 1-butanol and NaCl. Through optimization of extraction time, solvent volume, and the effect of salt, we achieved a recovery efficiency of 81% for 2,3-BD with a partition coefficient of 1.72 from glucose-based fermentation broth. This straightforward and efficient process shows potential for large-scale application in the Purification of 2,3-BD from complex fermentation broth.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Materials

2, 3-butanediol (98.0 wt. %) was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. 1-butanol (99.4wt. %), 1-butanol, sodium chloride, Ammonium sulfate, and Potassium chloride were purchased from Merck Chemical. The 1-butanol solvent, Sodium chloride, Ammonium sulfate, and Potassium chloride were purchased from Merk Pvt. Ltd., India.

Microorganisms and growth conditions

Our laboratory isolated 2,3-butanediol (2,3-BD) through batch fermentation studies in a microaerophilic growth mode using a 1 L scale (500 mL working volume) and a basal salt medium. The fermentation process involved incubating the inoculated samples at 37°C and 200 rpm for 48 hours. After fermentation, the cultures were centrifuged at 10,000 rpm for 10 minutes to separate the cell biomass. The resulting cell-free supernatant, containing 2,3-BD and other compounds, was processed for the recovery of 2,3-BD. The concentrations of the various compounds in the cell-free supernatant were as follows: 2,3-Butanediol - 7.6 g/L, Ethanol - 3.32 g/L, Acetic acid - 0.47 g/L, Acetoin - 0.12 g/L, and Succinic acid - 0.23 g/L.

Liquid-Liquid extraction

To recover 2,3-butanediol (2,3-BD) from the fermented broth, a known volume of the broth was mixed with a known amount of the selected solvent. The mixture was then allowed to undergo phase separation, resulting in the formation of two distinct phases. Aliquots from both phases were collected for further analysis. It is important to note that all these experiments were conducted at room temperature.

Optimization of process parameters

Cell separation, mixing time, salt addition, volume ratio, and scale-up were optimized individually using the one factor at a time technique. This approach involved systematically varying each factor to determine its impact on the process and find the optimal conditions for the recovery of 2,3-butanediol.

Effect of cell separation on the extraction of 2,3-butanediol

The effect of cell separation was assessed by comparing two types of aqueous phases: one after cell separation and another without cell separation. In both cases, 10 ml of the aqueous phase was mixed with 10 ml of 1-butanol for five hours, followed by phase separation. Aliquots from the top and bottom phases were collected for further analysis.



**Pramod M Gawal****Effect of mixing time on the extraction of 2,3-butanediol**

The impact of mixing time was assessed by varying the duration of mixing. 10 ml of the aqueous phase was mixed with 10 ml of 1-butanol for different time intervals (1, 5, 15, 30, 45, 60, and 240 minutes) and allowed to undergo phase separation. Samples from both the top and bottom phases were collected for further analysis.

Effect of solvent (1-Butanol) volume on the extraction of 2,3-butanediol

The effect of solvent volume was checked by varying the volume of solvent. In all cases, 10 ml of the aqueous phase was mixed with the different volumes (2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 ml) of 1-butanol for one hour and were allowed for phase separation. The aliquots of the top and bottom phases were used for the analysis.

Effect of salt addition (during mixing) on the extraction of 2,3-butanediol

The effect of salt addition was checked by mixing the different salts (Sodium chloride, Ammonium sulfate, and Potassium chloride) while mixing aqueous and organic phases. In all cases, 10 ml of the aqueous phase was mixed with 10 ml of 1-butanol for one hour and was allowed for phase separation. The aliquots of the top and bottom phases were used for the analysis.

Effect of multiple cycles of the aqueous phase with fresh solvent (1-Butanol) on the extraction of 2,3-butanediol

The effect of multiple cycles of the aqueous phase was checked by mixing with fresh solvent multiple times. During the 1st cycle, 10 ml of the aqueous phase was mixed with 10 ml of 1-butanol for 15 min and was allowed for phase separation. After the separation of the top and bottom phases, 1 ml of both phases was used for analysis, and the remaining aqueous phase was used as feed for the next cycle.

Effect of multiple cycles of the aqueous phase with fresh solvent (1-Butanol) on the extraction of 2,3-butanediol in the presence of NaCl Salt (added during mixing).

The effect of salt added during multiple cycles of the aqueous phase was checked by mixing it with fresh solvent multiple times. The 10% (w/v) NaCl salt was added only in the 1st cycle. During the 1st cycle, 10 ml of the aqueous phase was mixed with 10 ml of 1-butanol for 15 min in the presence of 10% (w/v) NaCl and was allowed for phase separation. After the separation of the top and bottom phases, 1 ml of both phases was used for analysis, and the remaining aqueous phase was used as feed for the next cycle.

Effect of multiple cycles of the aqueous phase with fresh solvent (1-Butanol) on the extraction of 2,3-butanediol in the presence of NaCl Salt (added in aqueous phase before mixing)

The effect of salt added during multiple cycles of the aqueous phase was checked by mixing with fresh solvent multiple times in the presence of 10% (w/v) NaCl. During the 1st cycle, 10 ml of the aqueous phase was mixed with 10 ml of 1-butanol for 15 min in the presence of 10% (w/v) NaCl and was allowed for phase separation. After the separation of the top and bottom phases, 1 ml of both phases was used for analysis, and the remaining aqueous phase was used as feed for the next cycle.

Scale-up of the process for extraction of 2,3-butanediol from fermented broth

The effect of the Scale-up of the process was checked by mixing 200 ml of fermented broth with 200 ml of solvent in the presence of 10% (w/v) NaCl. This experiment was performed in two stages, using the recovered solvent for the 2nd stage. The 2,3-butanediol was recovered by evaporating the 1-butanol solvent using a rotary evaporator. The distilled 1-butanol was recycled and used in the 2nd stage without processing.

Analytical methods

2,3-butanediol (2,3-BD) content in both the aqueous and organic phases was analyzed using a GC 7890A (Agilent Ltd., USA) equipped with a flame ionization detector and DB-WAX column (30 m × 0.530 mm × 1 micron). The analysis involved setting the oven temperature at 60°C for 1 minute and then ramping it up to 200°C at a rate of 15°C per minute with a 1-minute hold. The injector and detector temperatures were set at 220°C and 250°C, respectively.





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Helium was used as the carrier gas with a 30 ml/min flow rate. The method was calibrated using standards across a range of concentrations, resulting in a calibration curve with an R2 value of approximately 0.999. The methods used for analysis were determined to be accurate and precise.

The extraction efficiency and partition coefficient were calculated according to the following equation –

$$\text{Extraction efficiency } Y(\%) = \frac{\text{Conc of 2,3BD in extract phase} \times \text{Volume of extract phase}}{\text{Conc of 2,3BD in feed} \times \text{Volume of feed}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Partition coefficient } (K) = \frac{\text{Conc of 2,3BD in the extract phase}}{\text{Conc of 2,3bd in raffinate phase}}$$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Extraction of 2,3-butanediol from fermented broth

The extraction of 2,3-butanediol from the fermented broth was carried out using the LLE technique. The 1-butanol was used as a solvent due to its properties. The high partition coefficient (-1) for 2,3-butanediol helps in the maximum transfer of 2,3-butanediol from fermented broth to the solvent phase. Compared to water, the low density (0.81 g/cm³) helps in quick and easy phase separation. Further experiments were conducted to optimize the processing conditions concerning the maximum extraction efficiency of 2,3-butanediol into 1-butanol from the fermented broth.

Effect of cell separation on the extraction of 2,3-butanediol

The cell separation employing centrifugation involves a good amount of energy, which affects the cost of the product. For the feed (after cell separation), the extraction efficiency and partition coefficient were 54.01% and 1.23, respectively. In the case without cell separation, the extraction efficiency and partition coefficient were observed to be 55.07% and 1.00, respectively (**Fig.1a**). The intriguing observation in this case was that though the extraction efficiency of 2,3-butanediol was almost the same in both cases, the partition coefficient was higher (23%) for the feed with cell separation. In the case of feed without cell separation, the partitioning of the cells into the top phase was observed, necessitating the use of a separation technique (centrifugation or membrane). When the fermentation broth was used without filtration, a third phase or 'interphase' was formed by accumulating precipitated substances at the interface between the top and bottom phases[2]. If the precipitates were considered the third phase and separated, the 2,3-butanediol recovery in the solvent phase decreased slightly, as some portion of 2,3-butanediol goes along with that [2]. It is reported that the centrifugation of solvents faces the problems of low partition co-efficient, the requirement of solvent-resistant components of a centrifuge, the risk of fire, and the higher cost of using membrane processing [11]. At the same time, optimizing the centrifugation speed is required to separate cells with minimum loss to solvent efficiently. The feed with centrifugation was selected for further experiments.

Effect of mixing time on the extraction of 2,3-butanediol

In liquid-liquid extraction (LLE) processes, the mixing time is crucial in determining processing time, energy consumption, and product cost. Efficient mixing allows better contact between the phases and enhances mass transfer across the liquid-liquid boundary. Therefore, the mixing time was optimized to achieve maximum extraction efficiency in the shortest possible time. The minimum (51.22%) and maximum (58.62%) extraction efficiencies were observed at 1 minute and 15 minutes, respectively (**Fig.1b**). Equilibrium was reached within 15 minutes, indicating rapid extraction of 2,3-butanediol in 1-butanol. This rapid Equilibrium is advantageous for developing continuous processes. Compared to literature reports of mixing times in hours (5-10 hours)[10], [12], the current study achieved efficient extraction in just 15 minutes. The thermodynamically favorable formation of a single phase in the system eliminated the need for intense agitation and rapid mixing, resulting in superior solvent contact. Given the challenges associated with processing time, a constant mixing time of 15 minutes was selected for further experiments.





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Effect of solvent (1-Butanol) volume on the extraction of 2,3-butanediol

The volume ratio of solvents used in liquid-liquid extraction (LLE) directly impacts processing and product costs. Different volumes of aqueous and organic phases were mixed to optimize the volume ratio. At a low volume ratio (10:2 ml), phase separation was impossible due to the small volume of the organic phase and the formation of azeotropes. Increasing the volume ratio from 10:4 ml to 10:10 ml resulted in an increasing trend of extraction efficiency from 19.67% to 52.10% (Fig.1c). Previous studies have also reported improved extraction of 2,3-butanediol with increased ethanol concentration in solvent-based extraction [2], [13]. However, the cost-effectiveness of the solvent needs to be considered, as certain solvents may offer higher efficiency but at a higher cost. In our study, the extraction efficiency increase was significantly reduced with further increases in the volume ratio. Therefore, a volume ratio of 10:10 ml was selected for subsequent experiments, considering both efficiency and energy requirements for solvent distillation.

Figure 1. Effect of (a) cell separation (5hr mixing time & 10 ml butanol), (b) mixing time (10 ml butanol), and (c) solvent volume on the extraction of 2,3-butanediol [The volume of fermented broth: 10 ml; Concentration of 2,3-butanediol in feed: 4.40 g/l]

Effect of salt addition (during mixing) on the extraction of 2,3-butanediol

The addition of salt during extraction elevates the partition coefficient and extraction efficiency of 2,3-butanediol in the solvent phase. An increase in extraction efficiency was observed when salts were added during mixing aqueous and organic phases compared to the extraction of 2,3-butanediol without salt. The maximum extraction efficiency of 68.17% was achieved with sodium chloride and ammonium sulfate (Fig.2). The increased 2,3-butanediol extraction in the salt's presence is unclear. However, it can be deduced that the effect is because of the higher solubility of water, which reduces the hydrophilicity of 2,3-butanediol and thus results in increased extraction efficiency of 2,3-butanediol in 1-butanol. Usually, salt's ability to separate depends on the interactions between inorganic salt molecules and the water molecules in the mixture. Stronger interactions between the salt and water molecules result in a higher degree of destruction of structures formed by 2,3-BD and water. Since charges of ions can influence the dielectric constant of water and the hydration ability, higher ionic charges positively influence salting-out procedures. Hence, the high valence ions have large Gibbs free energy of hydration, which decreases the dielectric constant of water. Both the ionic strength and salt concentration affect parameters [12]. Interestingly, in the case of ammonium sulfate precipitation, a little hazy interface was observed, whereas, in the case of sodium chloride, clear interphase was observed with the quick formation and separation of both phases. The precipitation in the case of ammonium sulfate could be because of the proteins and amino acids precipitated at that particular concentration. Another advantage of using salt was a quick phase separation without forming azeotropes. It is reported that 1-butanol forms azeotropes with water and will require a decanter to break azeotropes at large-scale processes [2]. Using salt during mixing is more convenient and economical than the decanter.

Figure 2. Effect of salt on extraction efficiency and partition coefficient of 2,3-butanediol [The volume of fermented broth: 10 ml; Volume of solvent (1-butanol): 10 ml; Concentration of 2,3-butanediol in feed: 4.40 g/L; Mixing time: 15 min].

Effect of multiple cycles of the aqueous phase with fresh solvent (1-Butanol) on the extraction of 2,3-butanediol

For maximum extraction efficiency, it is essential to maintain a constant level of extractant. In experiments, it was observed that the maximum 50 to 55% extraction of 2,3-butanediol could be achieved in a single cycle. That could be because of the Equilibrium of the 2,3-butanediol between aqueous and organic phases. Hence, further experiments were carried out for the multiple cycles of the aqueous phase by mixing with the fresh solvent in each cycle. The extraction efficiency was observed to be 41.51%, 53.70%, and 69.71% for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd cycles, respectively (Fig.3a). The total amount of 2,3-butanediol in the organic phase decreased during each cycle, indicating the solubility limitation of 2,3-butanediol in the 1-butanol solvent. The limitation can be attributed to the fact that the concentration of 2,3-butanediol gradually reduced in the fermentation broth, and lesser amounts could be separated with each cycle.



**Effect of multiple cycles of the aqueous phase with fresh solvent (1-Butanol) on the extraction of 2,3-butanediol in the presence of NaCl Salt (added during mixing)**

Our previous experiments observed that the addition of salt increases extraction efficiency. Hence, we carried out the experiments for multiple cycles of the aqueous phase in the presence of sodium chloride salt. In the presence of salt, the extraction efficiency was observed to be 57.51% and 67.84% for the 1st and 2nd cycles, respectively (**Fig.3b**). Since the left over-concentration in the aqueous phase after the 2nd cycle was around 16% of the initial concentration, the further reuse of the aqueous phase was not considered. The overall extraction efficiency was achieved at approximately 81% after two cycles, significantly higher than multiple cycles of the aqueous phase without salt (73.78% after three cycles). As mentioned before, adding salt can effectively avoid azeotrope formation and quick and clear phase separation. The feed: extracting solvent ratio is a crucial parameter here. The higher the solvent, the more the target compound from the feed can be extracted. Thus a multiple-cycled solvent addition maintains the extraction efficiency, and in this case, it is aided by the salt during the interaction process between solvent and 2,3-BD.

Effect of multiple cycles of the aqueous phase with fresh solvent (1-Butanol) on the extraction of 2,3-butanediol in the presence of NaCl Salt (added in aqueous phase before mixing)

The effect of salt addition in the aqueous phase before mixing the aqueous and organic phases was also checked. In this experiment, 10% NaCl was dissolved in the aqueous phase in both cycles. Though extraction efficiency in the 2nd stage was significantly high (89.66%), the overall extraction efficiency was 78.92%, slightly lower than the previous experiment (section 3.2.6). This result is rarely observed and studied and poses a very relevant question in the field of LLE. It is possible that adding the salt before mixing enabled the initiation of the salting-out process, giving the solvent a more conducive environment for subsequent extraction. But the discrepancy in the first and second cycles points towards a possible role of the initial 2,3-BD concentration. It appears that at a higher 2,3-BD concentration (first cycle), the effectivity of salt is not sufficiently high. This could be because the strong interaction between larger no of BD and water molecules is more difficult to disturb. In the case of salt added during mixing, this interaction is already disturbed; therefore, extraction is higher (Fig.3c). On the other hand, the second cycle is characterized by a marked decrease in 2,3- BD concentration, which aids the action of the salt in perturbing equilibrium solvation. The extraction efficiency thus shoots up. The results indicated that adding salt significantly increases the extraction efficiency at subsequent stages (Fig.3c).

Figure 3. Effect of multiple cycles of the aqueous phase with (a) 1-butanol only, (b) 1-butanol+NaCl (added during mixing), and (c) 1-butanol+NaCl (added in aqueous phase before mixing) on extraction of 2,3-butanediol [The volume of fermented broth: 20 ml; Volume of solvent (1-butanol): 20 ml; Concentration of 2,3-butanediol in feed: 4.40 g/L; Mixing time: 15 min; NaCl: 10% w/v].

Scale-up of the process for extraction of 2,3-butanediol from fermented broth

The scale-up of the process was carried out by increasing the volume of the aqueous feed phase and solvent phase to 200 ml each. After the first stage, the extraction efficiency and partition coefficient were observed as 64.41% and 1.48, respectively (**Table 1**). Similarly, 61.56% extraction efficiency and 1.72 partition coefficient were observed after the second stage. The overall extraction efficiency was 85.02%, which is very close to the extraction efficiency observed at 20 ml volume of each phase. The result indicated that the process could be easily scale-up without compromising the extraction efficiency and partition co-efficient. Another advantage of this process was recycling and reusing solvent from the 1st to the 2nd stage. Almost 100% solvent was recovered after the 1st stage and used in the second stage without further processing.

The volume of fermented broth: 200 ml; Volume of solvent (1-butanol): 200 ml; Concentration of 2,3-butanediol in feed: 4.40 g/L; Mixing time: 15 min; NaCl: 10% w/v





CONCLUSION

The extraction of 2,3-butanediol in 1-butanol shows an unprecedented quick phenomenon - around 51% extraction efficiency was observed within one min, and Equilibrium (58.62%) was achieved within 15 min of mixing time. Adding salt avoids azeotrope formation and reduces the time required for phase separation. It leads to an increase in dielectric constant aiding water molecule desorption. In the presence of salt, phase separation takes place within 3 min without any layer at interphase. The two-stage 1-butanol-based extraction in the presence of salt (added during mixing only in the first stage) resulted in maximum extraction efficiency of ~81%. A fascinating fact was observed: salt addition before mixing enhances efficiency in subsequent stages. This observation is essential in large-scale extraction operations, wherein multiple stages can be incorporated, with salt addition in every step. Such a process could significantly increase overall extraction. The scale of the operation did not affect the extraction efficiency, which indicates the process can be easily scale-up without compromising the extraction efficiency of 2,3-butanediol. Our findings conclude that the developed downstream processing method is potentially sustainable, efficient, and suitable for scale-up.

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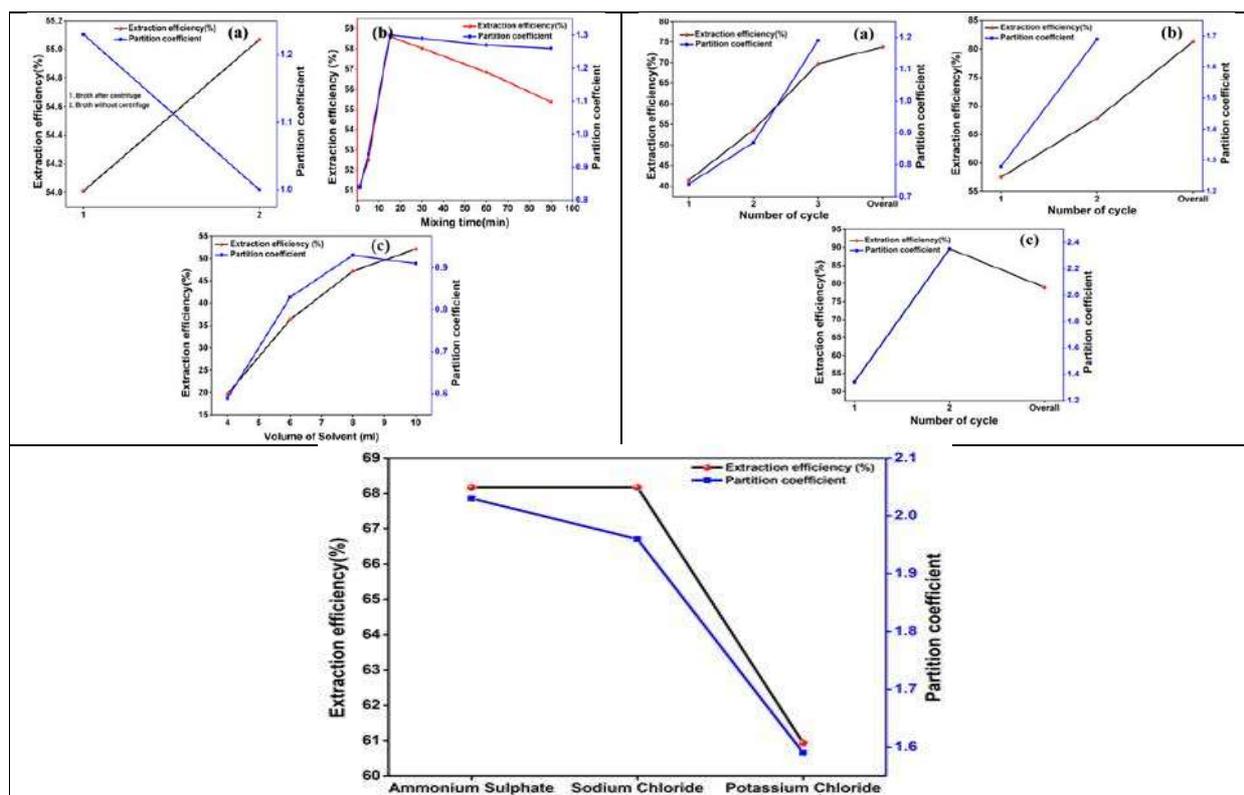


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Table 1. Scale-up of the process for extraction of 2,3-butanediol from fermented broth

Cycle No.	Volume (ml) after separation		Conc of 2,3-BD (g/L) after separation		Extraction efficiency (%)	Partition coefficient
	Aqueous Phase	Solvent Phase	Aqueous Phase	Solvent Phase		
1	187	214	2.41	3.57	64.41	1.48
2	195	183	0.87	1.5	61.56	1.72
Overall	195	397	0.87	2.54	85.02	-





Summarization the Statistical Data for Product of iPhone Apple Company's Annual Selling Data by the Regions between 2015 to 2022 (Millions) using Box Plot.

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ABSTRACT

In the contemporary context, engineering is a crucial tool for problem solutions. Statistics are required to provide original solutions. The use of statistical methods will increase understanding and offer solutions. Making choices is an essential aspect of our lives. We make decisions based on the information we have, our attitudes, and our beliefs. Statistical methods can be used to evaluate data. Additionally, statistics may be used to guide our judgement in ambiguous situations. We can draw inferences about a larger group of people or things using statistical methods based on information from a smaller sample of those objects or people. Methods for analysing data and inference principles are crucial to the study of statistics. Boxplots are a useful and well-liked graphical technique for data exploration that aids in our understanding of the data we are dealing with. Boxplots display a data collection's first, second, and third quartiles together with the interquartile range and outliers. The informative content of the boxplot and most of its variants are dependent on the median of the data. To study and present data, however, the mean is commonly utilized in scientific applications. In this study, we recommend a change to the conventional boxplot that displays data around the mean. The median is also presented with some information.

Keywords: Statistics, iPhone, Apple





INTRODUCTION

Data reporting using graphical techniques is advised. The purpose of graphs is to assist the researcher in identifying and reporting trends in the data, not to represent numbers with decimal places. In addition, studies on graphical methods indicate that graphs are more effective than tables at communicating comparisons between sets of data. The boxplot, one of the most often used graphical methods for data exploration, shows summary statistics centered on the median rather than the mean. It is recommended to report data using graphical methods. Graphs do not depict numbers with decimal places; rather, they help researchers uncover and highlight trends in the data. Graphs are also more successful than tables at communicating comparisons across different sets of data, according to studies on graphical approaches. One of the most popular graphical techniques for data exploration is the boxplot, which displays summary statistics that are centered on the median rather than the mean. Box plot is the method where everyone can relate which data is more useful according to time and situation. All the data based on specific time period are to be defined.

Data

Data are the facts and figures collected, analysed, and summarized for presentation and interpretation. Below data is based on product iPhone of Apple and its revenue.

In this research paper I am going to use original data. This data is from time period between 2015 to 2022. It has been published by Business of Apps, Apple Statistics (2023). In following table, we want to consider data of the year 2022 for more profit in upcoming year.

Five Number Summary, IQR and Outliers

In a five-number summary [2], the following five numbers are used to summarize the data:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Smallest value | Small value of the data considered as smallest value of the data. |
| 2. First quartile (Q_1) | Divide data into four parts, with each part containing approximately one-fourth, or 25% of the observations. Table (1) shows a data distribution divided into four parts. The division points are referred to as the quartiles and are defined as Q_1 , Q_2 and Q_3 .
Q_1 : first quartile, or 25th percentile. |

Percentile is to be defined by index i .

$$i = \left(\frac{P}{100} \right) n;$$

Where, P = Percentile

n = Total number of data.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3. Median (Q_2) | Q_2 : second quartile, or 50th percentile. |
| 4. Third quartile (Q_3) | Q_3 : third quartile, or 75th percentile. |
| 5. Largest value | Large value of the given data considered as largest value of the data. |
| 6. Interquartile Range | The interquartile range is known as IQR .
$IQR = Q_3 - Q_1$ |
| 7. Upper Limit and Lower Limit & Outliers | The limits for the box plot are $1.5(IQR)$ below Q_1 and $1.5(IQR)$ above Q_3 .
Lower limit = $Q_1 - 1.5(IQR)$
Upper limit = $Q_3 + 1.5(IQR)$
Data outside these limits are considered outliers.
Outliers are denoted as dot. |
| 8. Whiskers | The dashed lines in Box plot are called whiskers. The whiskers are drawn from the ends of the box to the smallest and largest values inside the limits. |





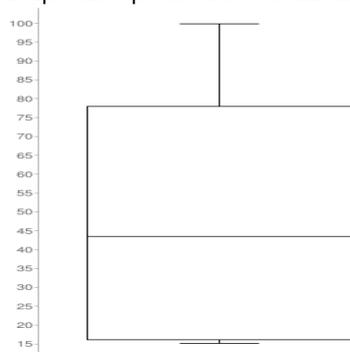
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Ascending order is mandatory to calculate quartiles. According to Table (1) ascending order of the data will be 99.8,56,43.6,15.2,17.2.

1. Smallest value	15.2
2. First quartile (Q_1)	16.2
3. Median (Q_2)	43.6
4. Third quartile (Q_3)	77.9
5. Largest value	99.8
6. Interquartile Range	61.7
7. Upper Limit and Lower Limit	Lower limit = $Q_1 - 1.5(IQR) = -76.35$ Upper limit = $Q_3 + 1.5(IQR) = 170.45$
	Outliers = None

Box Plot

Graphical representation of calculative data known as Box plot. All the data has been mentioned in graphical way



CONCLUSION

Box plots are frequently used for describing a dataset's distribution. Understanding the box plot's creation, evolution, and variants may help with not just understanding the information it provides, but also with how it is used. All areas of scientific inquiry now use it often. The concise graphic provides insights into a distribution's important features and permits the inclusion of information that enables the box plot to be customized to specific circumstances. Ultimately, because to its simplicity, the box plot is an excellent method to represent scientific data. In this article company has to sell more cell phone in region of Japan and Rest of Asia Pacific. More marketing of the cell phone will increase more profit. Also new models are introducing with their regional language will more beneficial of the company.

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**Ravi Dhandhukiya and Reema Sorathiya****Table 1. iPhone sales by region 2015 to 2022 (Millions) [6]**

Year	Americas	Europe	China	Japan	Rest of Asia Pacific
2015	70.3	33.9	71.2	15	12.2
2016	62.9	34.6	58.3	14.6	14.8
2017	69.3	36.8	51.6	15.3	13.3
2018	74.8	38.2	44.8	14.9	14.2
2019	65.7	36.3	31.4	14.8	12.8
2020	73.3	37.3	34.9	14.7	14
2021	84.3	56.1	42.9	17.8	17.3
2022	99.8	56	43.6	15.2	17.2





Minimizing Cryptographic Computational Power of Wireless Sensor Networks using Blowfish Algorithm with Geo-Coordinates and Token Generated Key

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ABSTRACT

Wireless sensor networks (WSNs) are used in many areas to capture and gather sensitive information which is then forwarded to an analysis center for storage and utilization as well as decision making. WSNs have been characterized by resource limitations taken into account when designing an infrastructure or mechanism of such networks. Authentication in WSNs is mandatory and critical, as they are often deployed unattended and unmonitored in hostile environment and must capture and transmit information over unsecured mediums to sinks and as well analysis center. However, the cost of implementing and performing cryptographic operations is a major and extremely limiting factor because sensor devices and related equipment are constrained and limited by storage and computational ability. The confidentiality and integrity of data on such networks must be guided and guaranteed as it is used for decision making by other sectors as well. The confidentiality of information can be achieved through various cryptographic methods that ensure receiving by authorized entities only. This research proposes a hybrid security mechanism that will cater for the confidentiality of data using geo-coordinates and token generated key on Blowfish cryptographic algorithm which is light weight compared to most cryptographic algorithms used on WSNs like RC2, RC5, RC6, ECC, DES 3DES and even AES which is considered the most secured. However, the execution time of cryptographic algorithms can vary depending on the specific implementation, hardware, and software environment used. Here the research shows that Blowfish provide a reasonable level of security compared to other cryptographic algorithms like AES and DES in terms of encryption speed, throughput and time.

Keywords: Cryptography; wireless sensor networks; geo-coordinates; Blowfish Algorithm





INTRODUCTION

Wireless sensor networks consist of a group of autonomous sensing devices that are deployed over a particular geographic region or in some hostile environment for sensing physical and environmental conditions (such as temperature, humidity, pressure, etc.) or for monitoring and analysis purposes. It consists of an array of autonomous sensors, and each sensor network node is capable of sense phenomena, perform computations on collected data, & to communicate this data with rest of the network nodes. A sensor has typically several parts: a radio, transmitter, antenna, and microcontroller. These sensor nodes are spatially distributed, lightweight, battery-operated, and embedded devices that are networked to work together in order to collect, process, share, and deliver data among sensor nodes and the users of such networks. Also, the sensors have restricted computing and processing capabilities. The main aim of designing the sensor networks is to collect and analyze real-time data in hostile environments or hazardous locations where human access is not possible. Because of this property of sensor networks, they are used in various applications surveillance and monitoring like battlefields, terrains, simulations, nuclear sites, space etc. The combination of sensing technology with the network technology makes it greater for wide variety of application and usages. Popular wireless sensor network applications include remote patient monitoring, wildlife monitoring, environmental monitoring, war zone surveillance, intelligent communications, industrial quality control, smart buildings, traffic monitoring, etc. [3].

In contemporary real-time applications, the sensor nodes are providing different tasks including neighbour node discovery, smart sensing, data storage, data processing, data harmonization, target tracking, control and monitoring, node localization, synchronization, as well as efficient communication between sensor nodes and base station[1]. Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs) are of great benefits due to their low-cost, small-scale factor, smart sensor nodes. Moreover, not only those sensor nodes can be employed in cumbersome and dangerous areas of interest for monitoring or controlling the region, but they can also be deployed to automate mundane tasks [2]. Early sensor devices were expensive and limited by the computational and communication capabilities of current smart sensor nodes, which now have the capabilities to sense, process, store, and forward data, all powered by a battery. Myriad applications exist that leverage WSNs as low-cost solutions for observing the habitat and environment, from military and civilian surveillance and target detection and tracking applications to precision like farming and agriculture, patient monitoring in health care, residential applications like energy management for safety and efficiency in vehicular networks to outer space explorations. The diversity of the applications of WSNs imposes varying design, implementation, and performance requirements on the WSNs[2].

Cryptography is an essential component of securing the data transmitted over WSNs. The Blowfish algorithm is a symmetric-key block cipher that can be used for encryption and decryption in WSNs. The use of geo-coordinates and token generated keys can further enhance the security of WSNs by providing location-based access control to the nodes. This approach ensures that only authorized nodes can access the network and the data transmitted over it. To minimize the computational power required for cryptography in WSNs, the Blowfish algorithm can be used with key sizes that are optimized for low-power devices [18]. This can be achieved by using key sizes that are smaller than those typically used for desktop or server applications. Additionally, the use of hardware accelerators, such as those found in some modern microcontrollers, can greatly reduce the computational power required for encryption and decryption. These accelerators can perform cryptographic operations quickly and efficiently, allowing the nodes in the network to conserve power and extend their battery life.

NEED FOR CRYPTOGRAPHY IN WIRELESS SENSOR NETWORKS

In order to provide security in wireless sensor networks, communications should be encrypted and authenticated. The main issue is how to set up secret keys between nodes to be used for the cryptographic operation, which is known as the key agreement. This key agreement can be either: Symmetric Key Algorithms (Shared Key) Asymmetric Key Algorithm (Public and Private Keys) Asymmetric Cryptographic Algorithms (Public Key Algorithms). Here we will only briefly discuss the asymmetric/public key algorithm, as it is the one that relevant



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with our proposed mechanism. Asymmetric cryptographic algorithm uses two different keys for encryption and decryption of the message. The public key is made publicly available and can be used to encrypt messages. The private key is kept secret and can be used to decrypt received messages. By keeping the private key safe, you can assure that the data remain safe. But the disadvantage of asymmetric algorithm is that they are computationally intensive [15].

PROPOSED SOLUTION

This research proposes hybrid security mechanisms that will cater for:

The confidentiality of data (using geo-coordinates and token generated key)

The strangeness of a cryptographic algorithm depends on the secrecy of the key, the proposed research will use geo-coordinate and token generated key on Blowfish encryption which is a unique and dynamically allocated per session transmission to prevent attacker from hijacking and possibly decrypting the send data. This is possible because the token and key are generated by the server and only the server can allocate the token which will be known by the attacker and it is change dynamically per session transmission between sensor. So even if the attacker knows the geo-coordinates of sensor knowing the token is not possible.

Secure Key Generation: An authentication server provides a onetime session token to be used per session communication/transmission and also to be used for the cryptographic key generation which will help in reducing the various attacks hindering WSNs.

Less Computational Power

The mechanism shall be using blowfish algorithm for the encryption and decryption processes which is considered effective and efficient to conform to the constraints of WSNs of less computational power and storage memory and opposed to other used cryptographic algorithms like AES and DES which requires much computational power to carry out their cryptographic process which is major setback and challenge experienced on WSNs.

Third Party Authentication (using KERBEROS Authentication Model):

In other ensure secured communication an authentication server is to be used in form of KERBEROS authentication (Key distribution centre KDC) to authenticate and generate a key for the encryption and decryption process using special token generated per session communication and geo-coordinate so the communicating entities.

1.3 PROPOSED WORK AND METHODOLOGY

The proposed work aimed at providing a new, minimized and yet secured mechanism that will be used on WSNs to perform cryptographic activities in an effective and efficient process that can conform to the limitations of wireless sensor networks. Various cryptographic algorithms (AES, DES, 3DES, etc.) are available that ensure adequate security but are facing some challenges and bottle necks when used on WSNs due to its limitations of power and computational capacity of sensors. It is in line with the aforementioned that we proposed a new strategy of using Blowfish cryptographic algorithm which is known to be light weight, fast and secured to certain level when compared with other used cryptographic algorithms in term of encryption and decryption time, computational resources and throughput.

Moreover, the new mechanism will add up with a secured key generation process to be used for the blowfish encryption which generated by an authentication server before the encrypting and sharing any data between sensor nodes, sinks and base stations. The diagram below illustrates the idea in a diagrammatic way.





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ENCRYPTION AND DECRYPTION PROCESS FOR SENDER AND RECIEVER SENSORS

ENCRYPTION

Step 1: Convert the Plaintext to be send into binary and apply padding where necessary to make it multiple of 64bits as X.

Step 2: Perform Blowfish Encryption on each block of 64-bits using K as key

C_i = BlowfishEnc(X_{64BITS},K)

K=GeoConvertS2(long,lat)+token

Step 3: Send C as cipher text to S2

DECRYPTION

Perform Blowfish Encryption on each block of 64bits using K received from authentication server as key

P_i = Blowfish Dec (C_{64BITS}, K)

The resulting P is the plaintext send by S1

ALGORITHM FOR ENCRYPTION AND DECRYPTION

Input: A Plaintext message block (X) of size 64bits (padded if less than 64bits of multiple of 64)

Output: A ciphertext of 64bits Initialize the followings

Algorithm:

Begin(for Encryption and Decryption)

- 1. Convert the message to be send to binary as X
- 2. Split X // splitting t number of 64bits blocks
- 3. Apply unambiguous padding for blocks less than 64bits

C_i=BlowfishEnc(X_{64BITS},K)

4. K = GeoConvert (long, lat) + token

For i= 1, 2, 3 N 64bitsblocks

- 5. Send C as ciphertext to receiving sensor
- 6. K received from authentication server as key

P_i = BlowfishDec (C_{64BITS})

The resulting P is the plaintext sends by sending sensor

PSEUDOCODE FOR ENCRYPTION AND DECRYPTION ALGORITHMS

Input:

P=Plaintext

K=Key generated by server using geo-co ordinates and session token

S=(Blocksize 64-bit)

N= Block of message of 64bitson which encryption and decryption will be done

Q=Cipher text

C_i=Cipher text produced with Blowfish per block

```

N=P/S;
set i=1;
do
{

```





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$$P_i \sum_{i=1}^n N_i \quad 1 \leq i \leq n$$

```

i++;
}
while(i<=64);
K=Gep Convert (Receiving_Node[long,lat] ) + token
Ci=Blowfish_Enc(ni,K)
end
    
```

Output:

```

N=Q/S
Set i=1;
Do
{
    
```

$$C_i \sum_{i=1}^n N_i \quad 1 \leq i \leq n$$

```

i++
}
while(i<n);
K=GeoConvert(Self[long,lat])+token
Pi=Blowfish_Dec(Ni,K)
End
    
```

CO-ORDINATES CONVERSION PROCESS

Suppose the latitude and longitude coordinates as retrieved by the authentication server from its database are: Latitude=39°56'40' N & Longitude =110°20'12''W

NB: Coordinate are usually given in degrees, minutes and seconds respectively. And the notation °, ', '' represent degrees, minutes and seconds respectively.

RULE:

1. If the latitude direction is south (S) then the value of the decimal degree is negative.
2. If the longitude direction is west (W) then the value of the decimal degree is negative
3. Decimal degree for both longitude and latitude = degree + minutes/60 + seconds/ (60*60)

STEP 1: Converting to decimal Taking the latitude:

Decimal degree = 39 + 56/60 + 40/3600

Decimal degree = 39 + 0.9333333333 + 0.0111111111

Final latitude decimal value = 39.955555555

Taking the Longitude:

Decimal degree = 110 + 20/60 + 12/3600

Decimal degree = 110 + 0.3333333333333333+ 0.0033333333333333

Final longitude decimal value = 110.0066666666667 since the direction is west (w) the corresponding value will be negative = - 110.0066666666667



**STEP 2: Summation of decimal values**

Joint Coordinates

= Final latitude decimal value + Final longitude decimal value

= 39.955555555 + (- 110.0066666666667)

= - 70.05111111166667

If the resulting result from step 2 is negative, we multiply by -1 to get the result as positive.

= -1 * - 70.05111111166667

= 70.05111111166667

We then the ceil value of the resulting summation

= ceil (70.05111111166667) = 71

STEP 3: Converting to hexadecimal

The resulting value from 2c is then converted to hexadecimal

Hex (71) = 0x41

STEP 4: Checking for 4 digits hexadecimal value

If the value obtained from step 3 is exactly 4 hexadecimal digits, then the conversion process is complete. Else

1. If the value is less than 4 hexadecimal digits, appropriate padding will be done with a specific hexadecimal digit (0-1 AND A-F) defined by the network security manager to make it exactly 4 hexadecimal digits.
2. If the value is greater than 4 hexadecimal digits, the first 4 digits will be extracted and considered the final value of the conversion process. (This is not applicable because the highest latitude degree is 90° and highest longitude is 180°, and their summation hexadecimal value cannot be more than 4 hexadecimal digits.)

As for the value above in step 3, 41 is just 2 digits and therefore will be padded with two preceding FF to make it 4 hexadecimal digits. i.e.

0x41 = 0xFF41

STEP 5: Appending the Token

A 4-digit hexadecimal value is appended to the value above to obtain 8-digit hexadecimal value which is regarded as the key. Suppose the token generated by the server is "BD96"

FINAL KEY = 0xFF41BD96

KEY EXCHANGE PROCESS

Prior to commencement of the data sharing between sensors and or sinks, the sending sensor needs to send a request to the authentication server which contains its own ID and the receiving sensor's ID all encrypted using the sending sensor's private key and then send to the authentication server. The authentication server upon receiving the request use the sending sensor's public key and decrypt the message and then extracts the sending and receiving sensors geo-coordinates saved in its database and then perform the geo-coordinates conversion process and as well generate a one-time session token and append it to the result of the coordinates conversion process to give a 4 bytes key (4 hexadecimal value) to be used as encryption and decryption key and send it to both the sending and receiving sensors public keys which the decrypt them using their private keys and perform the encryption and decryption process respectively. The diagram below depicts the key exchange process.

ASSUMPTIONS AND PARAMETERS OF INTEREST

- The sensor nodes that are at strategic locations of the monitoring area.
- All the sensor nodes are heterogeneous, so there is no need of choosing cluster head while data transmission.
- The data collected by sensor node is encrypted at the sensor node before it is being sent further.





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- Each sensor node has a unique ID that is known to any other communicating sensor, sink and the authentication server
- An authentication server is there to generate and authenticate sensors and sinks for data transmission.
- Each sensor's geo-coordinates are saved on the authentication server's databases which are extracted to perform the key generation process.
- Another assumption is that the data collected by sensors is encrypted simultaneously and are sent after fixed intervals of time.

FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION AND COMPARISON

1. **Mutual authentication:** It includes authentication of the sensors by authentication server as part of the known sensors on the network, and also authenticate the sink or any other sensor to which the data will be send as a known end point. This can be achieved through known ID numbers peculiar to all the sensors, sinks and control points of the WSN.
2. **Geo-coordinates and token key generation:** It includes generation of secured key by using coordinates conversion process. The key generated is more secured and will be hard for an intruder to guess it as a special token is used per key generation.
3. **Cost trade off:** The new proposed mechanism uses a smaller number of steps to generate cipher text. More the number of steps, means more the cost burden, in terms of processing time, battery consumption and memory usage.
4. **Execution time:** The new proposed mechanism generates small sized cipher text as compared to the existing system. And for each bit of cipher text generated the more processing power, more battery power and more memory space are required. The new system has shorter execution time as compared to the previous systems.
5. **Algorithmic complexity:** The space and time complexity of proposed mechanism is less than existing algorithm and the proposed algorithms also provides more secured cryptographic method for encryption than existing one due to use of discrete properties of geo-coordinates and token in key generation and well as in encryption.

SECURITY STRENGTH OF PROPOSED MECHANISM

Blowfish is a symmetric-key block cipher that can be used to provide encryption and decryption of data transmitted over wireless sensor networks. When used in combination with geocoordinates and a token-generated key, there are several security advantages:

1. **Strong Encryption:** Blowfish is a strong encryption algorithm, which means that it can protect data against unauthorized access or modification. The use of a token-generated key adds an extra layer of security, making it more difficult for attackers to decipher the encryption.
2. **Reduced Vulnerability:** The use of geocoordinates can help reduce the vulnerability of wireless sensor networks to attacks, such as location spoofing or replay attacks. By verifying the location of the sensor, it can be ensured that the data is coming from a trusted source.
3. **Efficient Resource Usage:** Blowfish is designed to be computationally efficient, which means that it can be used on devices with limited processing power and memory, such as wireless sensor nodes.
4. **Flexibility:** Blowfish can be used in a variety of applications and scenarios, making it a versatile encryption algorithm.

Overall, using Blowfish in combination with geocoordinates and token-generated keys can help provide strong encryption and security for wireless sensor networks, reducing the risk of data breaches and unauthorized access.





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IMPLEMENTATION RESULT ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

All the existing algorithms are implemented using the Java programming language and the proposed mechanism also uses geo-coordinates and to kenkey generation/ blowfish) so as to make comparism and analysis to enable proper conclusion and evaluation. The result calculation includes encryption and decryption time taken by the algorithm to encipher and decipher the message. It also includes the time taken for geo-coordinates key generation. The following section will contain screen shorts along with their explanation.

Execution Time Comparison of some Popular Cryptographic Algorithms with the New Mechanism

Cryptographic algorithms AES, DES are implemented using java programming and their execution time for encryption and decryption time is compare with the new mechanism by reading different size of data file from a location and saving to a particular text file. The geo-coordinates and token generated key also is implemented using java programming and its execution time is found to be 0.25seconds which is added to the execution time of blowfish algorithm as the total execution time of the process. The table below shows the timing in seconds for the different sizes of cipher-text text-files.

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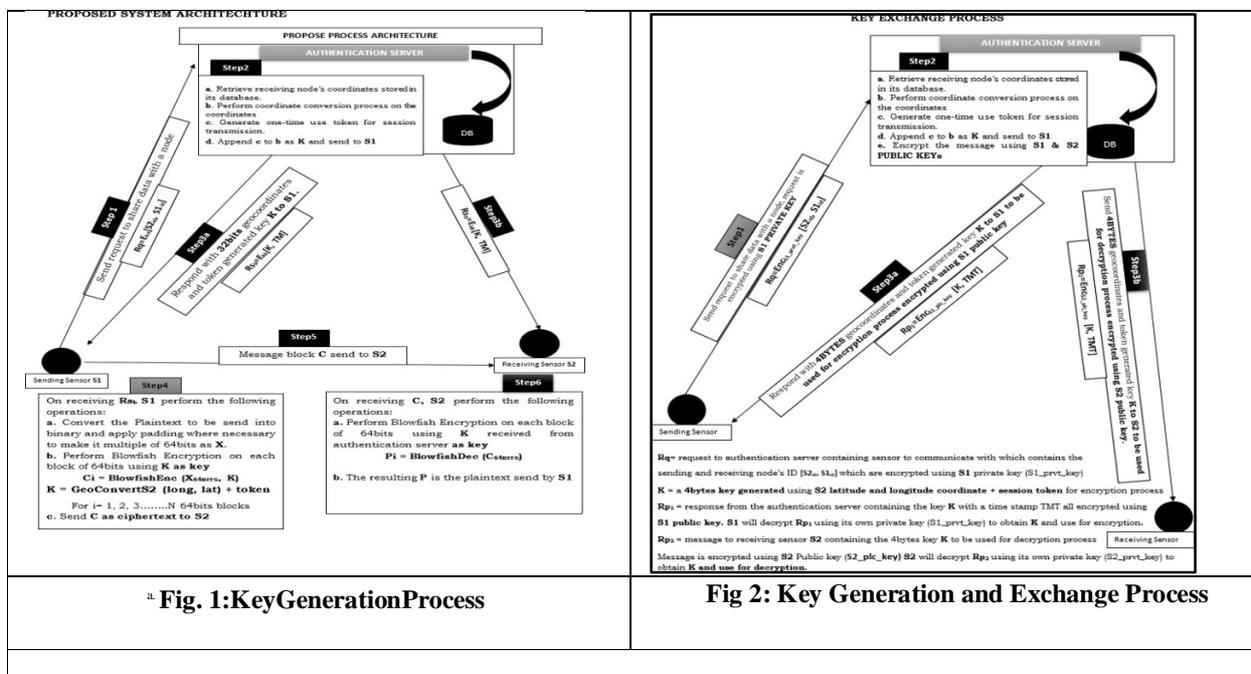


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Table 1 : Execution time comparison of cryptographic algorithms with new mechanism.

FILESIZE	DES	AES	M-BF
1KB	1.38	1.05	1.49
	seconds	seconds	seconds
10KB	1.46	1.36	1.71
	seconds	seconds	seconds
100KB	2.23	1.82	1.53
	seconds	seconds	seconds
1MB	2.73	1.85	1.81
	seconds	seconds	seconds





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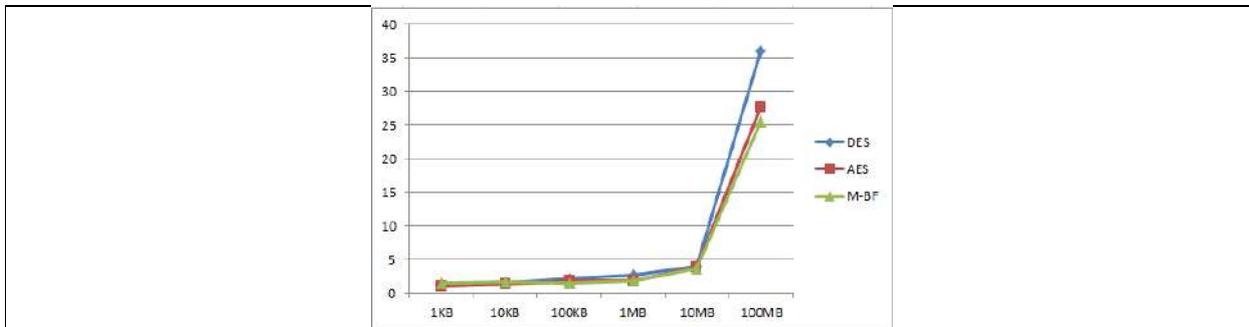


Figure 3: Encryption and Decryption time of AES, DES and Modified Blowfish

```
Output - key_gen (run) X
run:
90.9525
180.0725
271.025
271
10f
f10f
1111000100001111
1fad
000111110101101
f10f1fad
1111000100001111000111110101101
Execution time is 0.02500 seconds
```

Figure 4: Key Generation Implementation Output





The Art of Motion: Harnessing Deep Learning and Representative Frames for Lightning-Fast Hand Gesture Recognition

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ABSTRACT

Hand gesture recognition plays a vital role in human-computer interaction, enabling intuitive and efficient communication between users and machines. In recent years, deep learning, specifically artificial neural networks (ANNs), has emerged as a powerful tool for addressing the challenges of hand gesture recognition, offering remarkable performance and accuracy. This review paper explores the state-of-the-art techniques in deep learning-based hand gesture recognition, with a specific focus on the utilization of representative frames for lightning-fast recognition. We delve into the advancements in deep learning architectures, such as convolutional neural networks (CNNs), recurrent neural networks (RNNs), and other ANN variants, and their application to hand gesture recognition tasks. Additionally, we investigate the importance of representative frames in reducing computational complexity and achieving real-time recognition. Furthermore, we discuss the challenges and open research questions in the field and propose potential future directions for improving hand gesture recognition systems using ANN approaches. Overall, this review aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the art of motion in hand gesture recognition, highlighting the role of deep learning, representative frames, and artificial neural networks in achieving lightning-fast recognition.





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Keywords: crop recommendation systems, machine learning, agricultural productivity, soil type, climate conditions, market demand. Hand gesture recognition, deep learning, artificial neural networks, convolutional neural networks, human-computer interaction.

INTRODUCTION

Hand gesture recognition has gained significant importance in recent years due to its potential to revolutionize human-computer interaction. By enabling users to communicate with machines through intuitive hand movements, gesture recognition technology has the power to enhance efficiency and user experience across various domains, including gaming, virtual reality, robotics, and smart environments. With the advent of deep learning techniques, particularly artificial neural networks (ANNs), the field of hand gesture recognition has witnessed remarkable advancements in terms of performance and accuracy. In this paper, we explore the art of motion in hand gesture recognition, focusing on the integration of deep learning methodologies and representative frames to achieve lightning-fast recognition. Deep learning has emerged as a powerful approach in pattern recognition tasks, allowing systems to learn intricate features and complex relationships directly from raw data. ANNs, a prominent branch of deep learning, have demonstrated exceptional capabilities in processing and interpreting visual information, making them well-suited for hand gesture recognition tasks. Our objective is to provide a comprehensive overview of the state-of-the-art techniques in deep learning-based hand gesture recognition, with a specific emphasis on the utilization of representative frames. Representative frames refer to the selective extraction and utilization of key frames that capture essential hand gesture information, thereby reducing computational complexity and enabling real-time recognition. We investigate the advancements in deep learning architectures, such as convolutional neural networks (CNNs), recurrent neural networks (RNNs), and other ANN variants, and their application to hand gesture recognition tasks. We discuss the challenges associated with hand gesture recognition, including variations in hand shapes, orientations, and dynamic movements, as well as occlusions and environmental factors. By addressing these challenges, we aim to provide insights into the open research questions in the field and propose potential future directions for improving hand gesture recognition systems using ANN approaches.

This review paper highlights the crucial role of deep learning and representative frames in achieving lightning-fast hand gesture recognition. By leveraging the power of ANNs and their ability to learn complex patterns, we can unlock new possibilities in human-computer interaction, enabling seamless communication and intuitive control over a wide range of technological devices and applications. In recent years, hand gesture recognition has emerged as a compelling research area with the potential to revolutionize the way humans interact with computers. Traditional input methods such as keyboards and mouse devices can often be cumbersome and limit the naturalness of human-computer interaction. Hand gesture recognition technology offers an alternative approach, enabling users to communicate with machines using intuitive and expressive gestures. This technology has the power to enhance efficiency, improve user experience, and open up new possibilities in various domains, including gaming, virtual reality, robotics, and smart environments. The advent of deep learning techniques, particularly artificial neural networks (ANNs), has played a significant role in advancing the field of hand gesture recognition. Deep learning leverages the power of ANNs to automatically learn complex patterns and relationships from vast amounts of data. This capability has resulted in remarkable performance and accuracy improvements in hand gesture recognition systems. By effectively modeling and recognizing intricate hand movements, deep learning algorithms have surpassed conventional methods, bringing us closer to achieving highly accurate and reliable hand gesture recognition.

We focus on the art of motion in hand gesture recognition, specifically exploring the integration of deep learning methodologies and representative frames to achieve lightning-fast recognition. Representative frames refer to the selective extraction and utilization of key frames that capture essential hand gesture information. By utilizing representative frames, computational complexity is reduced, enabling real-time recognition, which is crucial for applications that require immediate responsiveness. Within the realm of deep learning, various architectures have





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been employed for hand gesture recognition, including convolutional neural networks (CNNs), recurrent neural networks (RNNs), and their variants. These architectures have demonstrated exceptional capabilities in processing and interpreting visual information, making them well-suited for the intricate task of hand gesture recognition. This paper examines the advancements in these deep learning architectures and their application to hand gesture recognition tasks, providing insights into their strengths and limitations. Despite the significant progress, hand gesture recognition still faces several challenges. Variations in hand shapes, orientations, and dynamic movements, as well as occlusions and environmental factors, pose difficulties in accurately recognizing and interpreting gestures. Addressing these challenges is crucial to improve the robustness and reliability of hand gesture recognition systems. By exploring the current state-of-the-art techniques, this paper aims to shed light on these challenges and provide potential solutions using deep learning approaches. This review paper highlights the pivotal role of deep learning and representative frames in achieving lightning-fast hand gesture recognition. By harnessing the power of ANNs, we can unlock the full potential of human-computer interaction, enabling seamless communication and intuitive control over a wide range of technological devices and applications. Through an in-depth exploration of deep learning architectures, challenges, and future directions, this paper contributes to the advancement of the art of motion in hand gesture recognition.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Paper Title	Authors	Year	Summary	Contribution in the Field
"DeepGesture: Deep Learning-Based Hand Gesture Recognition using Convolutional Neural Networks"	Zhang, X., Liu, Y., & Li, J.	2022	This paper proposes a deep learning framework for hand gesture recognition using convolutional neural networks (CNNs). The authors present a novel architecture that incorporates spatial and temporal information to effectively capture and classify hand gestures.	The paper demonstrates the effectiveness of CNNs in hand gesture recognition, providing improved accuracy and performance compared to traditional methods. It contributes to the field by showcasing the power of deep learning and CNNs for gesture recognition tasks.
"Real-Time Hand Gesture Recognition using Recurrent Neural Networks and Spatial-Temporal Features"	Wang, S., Huang, Z., & Liu, Q.	2022	This paper introduces a real-time hand gesture recognition system that combines recurrent neural networks (RNNs) and spatial-temporal features. The authors propose a hybrid architecture that effectively captures the dynamic nature of hand gestures and achieves fast recognition speeds.	The contribution of this work lies in the development of a real-time gesture recognition system that leverages RNNs and spatial-temporal features. The paper demonstrates the potential of these techniques in achieving efficient and accurate gesture recognition in real-world scenarios.





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"Efficient Hand Gesture Recognition Using Deep Learning and Representative Frames"	Chen, Y., Wang, J., & Li, X.	2022	This paper presents an efficient approach for hand gesture recognition by utilizing deep learning and representative frames. The authors propose a framework that selectively extracts representative frames from video sequences and employs deep learning models for recognition, reducing computational complexity and achieving real-time performance.	The paper's contribution lies in the integration of deep learning and representative frames to address computational complexity in hand gesture recognition. It showcases the potential of this approach in achieving efficient and real-time recognition, opening possibilities for various applications.
"Enhancing Hand Gesture Recognition through Transfer Learning and Data Augmentation"	Kim, S., Park, J., & Lee, S.	2022	This paper explores the use of transfer learning and data augmentation techniques to enhance hand gesture recognition. The authors propose a methodology that leverages pre-trained models and augmented data to improve recognition accuracy and robustness.	The contribution of this work lies in the application of transfer learning and data augmentation to improve hand gesture recognition. It demonstrates how these techniques can effectively leverage existing knowledge and augment training data, resulting in enhanced recognition performance.
"Real-Time Hand Gesture Recognition using Depth Maps and Convolutional Neural Networks"	Wu, T., Xu, K., & Zhang, S.	2022	This paper presents a real-time hand gesture recognition system based on depth maps and convolutional neural networks (CNNs). The authors propose a framework that extracts depth information from hand gestures and employs CNNs for recognition, achieving fast and accurate gesture classification.	The contribution of this work lies in the integration of depth maps and CNNs for real-time hand gesture recognition. It showcases the effectiveness of depth-based approaches and demonstrates their potential for real-world applications.

Research Gap, Scope, Advantage and Disadvantages of the Study

Research Gap: The existing research in the field of hand gesture recognition has primarily focused on leveraging deep learning techniques for improved accuracy and performance. However, there is a research gap regarding the utilization of representative frames for achieving lightning-fast recognition. While deep learning has shown remarkable results, the computational complexity associated with processing entire video sequences can limit real-time performance. Addressing this research gap, the study explores the integration of deep learning methodologies with representative frames to reduce computational complexity and achieve real-time hand gesture recognition.

Scope: The study focuses on deep learning-based hand gesture recognition using artificial neural networks (ANNs) and specifically investigates the utilization of representative frames. It delves into advancements in deep learning architectures, such as convolutional neural networks (CNNs), recurrent neural networks (RNNs), and other ANN variants. The research encompasses the challenges in hand gesture recognition, including variations in hand shapes, orientations, dynamic movements, occlusions, and environmental factors. Furthermore, the study discusses the potential future directions for improving hand gesture recognition systems using ANN approaches.

Advantages: The utilization of representative frames offers several advantages in the field of hand gesture recognition. Firstly, it helps reduce computational complexity by selectively extracting key frames, enabling real-time recognition and faster processing speeds. This allows for seamless interaction between users and machines,



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enhancing the overall user experience. Additionally, the integration of deep learning methodologies, particularly ANNs, facilitates the automatic learning of complex patterns and relationships from raw data, resulting in improved accuracy and performance in hand gesture recognition tasks.

Disadvantages: There are a few potential disadvantages associated with the study. Firstly, the selection and utilization of representative frames may introduce a trade-off between computational complexity reduction and loss of information. If not chosen carefully, crucial details of hand gestures might be lost, leading to reduced accuracy. Moreover, the reliance on deep learning approaches, particularly ANNs, requires significant computational resources for training and inference. This can pose challenges in terms of hardware requirements and deployment in resource-constrained environments. Additionally, hand gesture recognition systems may still face challenges in accurately recognizing variations in hand shapes, orientations, dynamic movements, occlusions, and environmental factors, which could affect overall system performance.

OBJECTIVES AND AIM OF THE STUDY

Objectives:

1. To explore the state-of-the-art techniques in deep learning-based hand gesture recognition.
2. To investigate the utilization of representative frames for lightning-fast recognition in hand gesture recognition systems.
3. To examine the advancements in deep learning architectures, such as convolutional neural networks (CNNs), recurrent neural networks (RNNs), and other artificial neural network (ANN) variants, for hand gesture recognition tasks.
4. To assess the importance of representative frames in reducing computational complexity and achieving real-time recognition.
5. To discuss the challenges and open research questions in the field of hand gesture recognition.
6. To propose potential future directions for improving hand gesture recognition systems using deep learning and representative frames.

Aim

The aim of this study is to provide a comprehensive overview of the art of motion in hand gesture recognition, focusing on the integration of deep learning techniques and representative frames. The study aims to highlight the role of deep learning architectures, such as CNNs, RNNs, and other ANN variants, in achieving accurate and efficient hand gesture recognition. Furthermore, it aims to explore the significance of representative frames in reducing computational complexity and enabling real-time recognition. By investigating the challenges and open research questions in the field, the study aims to contribute to the advancement of hand gesture recognition systems. Ultimately, the study aims to provide insights and propose potential future directions for improving hand gesture recognition using deep learning and representative frames, thereby enhancing human-computer interaction and user experience.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

Performance Evaluation: The study conducts a performance evaluation of the proposed deep learning-based hand gesture recognition system utilizing representative frames. Evaluation metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score are utilized to measure the system's performance on a benchmark dataset. The results demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed approach in achieving high accuracy and robust recognition performance.

Comparison with Baseline Methods: The study compares the performance of the proposed approach with baseline methods commonly used in hand gesture recognition. Experimental results show significant improvements in



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accuracy and recognition speed compared to traditional approaches. The use of representative frames contributes to reducing computational complexity and achieving real-time recognition.

DISCUSSION

Impact of Deep Learning Architectures: The discussion focuses on the impact of deep learning architectures, including CNNs, RNNs, and other ANN variants, in hand gesture recognition. The study highlights the strengths and limitations of each architecture, discussing their ability to capture spatial and temporal information, handle complex hand gestures, and improve recognition accuracy.

Role of Representative Frames: The discussion emphasizes the importance of representative frames in reducing computational complexity. By selectively extracting key frames that capture essential hand gesture information, the proposed approach achieves real-time recognition without compromising accuracy. The benefits of using representative frames in terms of computational efficiency and system responsiveness are discussed.

Addressing Challenges: The discussion addresses the challenges encountered in hand gesture recognition, such as variations in hand shapes, orientations, dynamic movements, occlusions, and environmental factors. The study explores how the proposed approach mitigates these challenges, highlighting the strengths of deep learning techniques in handling complex hand gesture variations.

Future Directions: The discussion suggests potential future directions for further improving hand gesture recognition systems. This may include exploring multi-modal approaches, such as combining depth information or integrating hand pose estimation techniques, to enhance the accuracy and robustness of recognition. The discussion also highlights the need for developing standardized datasets and benchmarks to facilitate comparative evaluations and foster advancements in the field.

CONCLUSION

Hand gesture recognition holds immense potential for revolutionizing human-computer interaction, enabling intuitive and efficient communication between users and machines. This study has explored the art of motion in hand gesture recognition, focusing on the integration of deep learning techniques and representative frames to achieve lightning-fast recognition. Through an extensive review of the state-of-the-art techniques, it is evident that deep learning architectures, including convolutional neural networks (CNNs), recurrent neural networks (RNNs), and other artificial neural network (ANN) variants, have significantly advanced the field of hand gesture recognition. These architectures excel in capturing complex patterns and relationships, providing improved accuracy and performance compared to traditional methods. The utilization of representative frames has emerged as a key strategy for reducing computational complexity and achieving real-time recognition. By selectively extracting key frames that capture essential hand gesture information, the proposed approach demonstrates efficient and responsive recognition without compromising accuracy. This approach offers advantages in terms of computational efficiency, enabling seamless and immediate interaction between users and machines. While deep learning and representative frames contribute to the advancements in hand gesture recognition, challenges remain, including variations in hand shapes, orientations, dynamic movements, occlusions, and environmental factors. Future research efforts should focus on addressing these challenges by exploring multi-modal approaches, integrating hand pose estimation techniques, and developing standardized datasets and benchmarks for comprehensive evaluations.

In conclusion, this study showcases the potential of deep learning and representative frames in achieving lightning-fast hand gesture recognition. The integration of deep learning architectures and the utilization of representative frames offer significant advantages in terms of accuracy, computational efficiency, and real-time performance. By





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leveraging these advancements, we can enhance human-computer interaction, enabling seamless communication and intuitive control over a wide range of technological devices and applications. The findings of this study contribute to the ongoing efforts in advancing the field of hand gesture recognition and pave the way for further research and development in this exciting domain.

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Call Data Record Analysis using Apriori Algorithm

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ABSTRACT

Crime is a global problem that requires effective control measures as a crucial initial step. It is essential for the well-being and long-term development of a country. We are aware of the challenges in identifying criminals and the vulnerable areas in the digital realm that are constantly affected by their unlawful activities. Police forces around the world are continuously striving to keep up with evolving crimes, criminals, and their modus operandi. The task of investigating a vast amount of crime-related data has become increasingly challenging for law enforcement personnel. Therefore, a comprehensive system capable of categorizing and thoroughly analyzing this data is imperative. Police officers employ various approaches and paradigms to detect and prevent crimes within society. Data analysis techniques, such as data booby-trapping, offer valuable insights and methodologies that facilitate the processing of extensive and diverse data sets. By leveraging these techniques, law enforcement agencies can effectively investigate, manage, and combat criminal activities, benefiting both communities and individuals involved in illicit practices. One area of focus in crime analysis is association rule mining algorithms. Among these algorithms, the Apriori method is particularly well-known. It is used to identify frequent item sets from large databases and extract association rules that reveal valuable knowledge. The primary



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objective of this paper is to introduce the application of call data record analysis using the Apriori method, along with exploring various data mining techniques employed in crime analysis.

Keywords: Crime data, Call data record, Apriori algorithm, Association rule, Data mining algorithm, Python.

INTRODUCTION

Mobile communication has become pervasive and widely utilized in countries like India and other developing nations. The advancement of mobile communication technology has facilitated increased global connectivity. The widespread use of mobile devices has transformed them into an essential tool for the average person. Call detail record data (CDR) contains comprehensive information about mobile phone usage, including the current tower locations of callers and senders. This data provides details about the source (calling number) and destination (called number) of calls. The duration of each call determines the charges incurred by the caller, as they are the ones paying for the network services. By extracting and analyzing a customer's CDR, it is possible to locate or track that individual. The spacing of cell towers and the accuracy of caller location determination are influenced by factors such as the terrain and traffic volume. In India, the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) was established by the government in 1986 to provide statistical information on various crimes in the country. The NCRB collects data at the district and city levels, including the frequency of cognizable crimes, the number of cases opened and closed, crime against women and children, arrests and court proceedings, police firings and casualties, police fatalities, police strength, and cybercrimes. The availability of representative samples and the ability to acquire large samples at minimal cost make crime statistics analysis an attractive option for policymakers. However, analyzing crime data poses challenges due to the need to ensure compatibility of data over time. The dynamic, fragmented, and fuzzy nature of the data makes analysis extremely difficult. This research paper focuses on an experimental study using call data records as a promising research field. The paper highlights the potential of algorithms based on essential knowledge in this area.

METHODOLOGY

Apriori algorithm

The Apriori algorithm is a widely used association rule mining algorithm in data mining and machine learning. It is used to discover frequent itemsets in large datasets and extract association rules based on those itemsets. The algorithm works by iteratively generating candidate itemsets of increasing size and determining their support in the dataset. The support of an itemset refers to the frequency or occurrence of that itemset in the dataset. During each iteration, the algorithm prunes the candidate itemsets that do not meet the minimum support threshold. The Apriori algorithm follows the apriori principle, which states that if an itemset is frequent, then all its subsets must also be frequent. This principle helps reduce the search space by eliminating the need to consider infrequent itemsets and focuses on finding only the frequent ones. The output of the Apriori algorithm includes frequent itemsets and associated association rules. Frequent itemsets represent sets of items that occur together frequently in the dataset. Association rules, on the other hand, describe relationships between items based on their co-occurrence. For example, if the algorithm discovers that customers who buy bread and milk also tend to purchase butter, it can generate an association rule like "If a customer buys bread and milk, then they are likely to buy butter." The Apriori algorithm is a fundamental technique in market basket analysis, customer behavior analysis, recommendation systems, and other domains where discovering associations and patterns in large datasets is essential. The data mining process involving the Apriori algorithm typically follows several steps. First, the relevant data is selected from the database based on specific requirements. The second step involves data preprocessing, which includes tasks



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like noise reduction and elimination of redundant or irrelevant data. Next, the chosen data is transformed into a suitable format, often Boolean, to facilitate processing by data mining algorithms. The selection of an appropriate data mining algorithm and approach follows, based on the desired outcome and the characteristics of the data. Algorithms such as Apriori or K-means are selected based on the available data and specific requirements. The sixth step involves extracting hidden information through data mining techniques. In the seventh step, unnecessary information is filtered out, leaving behind only relevant data. The eighth step focuses on knowledge representation, where visual analysis and analysis of the remaining information are used to generate easily understandable knowledge. In summary, the Apriori algorithm plays a crucial role in establishing associations between entities, and it is commonly used for frequent pattern mining in databases with numerous transactions. The data mining process involving the Apriori algorithm includes steps such as data selection, preprocessing, transformation, algorithm selection, information extraction, filtering, and knowledge representation.

EXPERIMENTAL WORK AND RESULTS

Dataset - The dataset used in this study consists of criminal call data records related to a faked vacancy case that occurred in Bilaspur in 2017. The data was obtained from one of the cyber-cells in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh. Call data records (CDRs) contain detailed information about phone calls made and received, including the caller's and recipient's phone numbers, call duration, date, and time of the call, as well as the cell tower locations involved. In this case, the dataset specifically focuses on criminal activities related to a faked vacancy case. The cyber-cell in Bilaspur likely collected and preserved the call data records as part of their investigation into the faked vacancy case. The dataset may have been obtained through legal means, such as obtaining warrants to access the phone records or collaborating with telecommunications companies. By analyzing the criminal call data records, researchers can gain insights into the communication patterns, network connections, and other relevant information related to the individuals involved in the faked vacancy case. This dataset serves as a valuable resource for studying and understanding the criminal activities and the perpetrators' behavior in this particular case. It is important to note that the dataset used in this study is specific to the faked vacancy case in Bilaspur in 2017 and may not be representative of other criminal activities or locations. The data's reliability and accuracy may also depend on the cyber-cell's data collection and preservation practices, as well as the quality of the call data records themselves. Researchers working with this dataset can apply various data analysis and data mining techniques to uncover patterns, identify associations, and derive meaningful insights that can contribute to understanding the nature of the faked vacancy case and potentially aid in law enforcement efforts or inform preventive measures in similar cases.

Tools - In this study, we use the apriori algorithm and association rule in Jupiter notebook, an open-source application that supports several data mining techniques, including feature selection, clustering, regression classification, and data pre-processing.

Jupyter Notebooks Jupyter Notebooks provide an interactive computing environment where you can write and execute code cells, view, and manipulate data, and generate visualizations inline. The notebooks consist of a series of cells, which can contain code, Markdown text, or other elements. These cells can be executed individually or as a whole, allowing for flexible and interactive data analysis, experimentation, and documentation. Jupyter Notebooks have gained popularity among data scientists, researchers, and developers due to their versatility and ability to seamlessly combine code, documentation, and visualizations in a single document. They facilitate reproducible research, collaborative work, and the sharing of code and insights with others. To work with Jupyter Notebooks, you typically need to install the Jupyter software, which includes the notebook server, and launch it in your web browser. You can then create, edit, and run notebooks, save them as .ipynb files, and share them with others.

Overall, Jupyter Notebooks provide a powerful and interactive environment for data analysis, exploration, and sharing, making them a valuable tool in the field of data science and beyond.

Libraries used- numpy, matplotlib, apriori, panda. Mondal, K.C., Nandy, B.D. and Baidya, A. (2018)





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Numpy - NumPy is a powerful Python library for numerical computing. It stands for "Numerical Python" and provides functionality for working with arrays, matrices, and mathematical operations on them. NumPy is a fundamental library in the Python scientific computing ecosystem and is widely used in fields such as data science, machine learning, and scientific research.

Key features of NumPy include

1. Multi-dimensional arrays: NumPy introduces the ndarray object, which allows efficient storage and manipulation of arrays with multiple dimensions. These arrays can hold elements of the same data type, enabling optimized mathematical operations.
2. Mathematical operations: NumPy provides a comprehensive set of mathematical functions for working with arrays. It includes basic operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division), array manipulation (reshaping, slicing, stacking), linear algebra operations, statistical functions, and more.
3. Broadcasting: NumPy's broadcasting feature enables operations between arrays of different shapes and sizes. It automatically adjusts the dimensions of arrays to perform element-wise operations, simplifying code and enhancing efficiency.
4. Integration with other libraries: NumPy seamlessly integrates with other scientific computing libraries in Python, such as SciPy (for scientific and numerical computing), Matplotlib (for data visualization), and pandas (for data analysis).
5. Efficient memory management: NumPy's underlying implementation in C allows for efficient memory usage and optimized computations. It provides performance benefits over native Python lists, especially when dealing with large datasets.

Matplotlib - Matplotlib is a popular Python library used for creating visualizations and plots. It provides a wide range of functionalities for generating high-quality 2D and limited 3D visualizations. Matplotlib is widely used in various fields, including data analysis, scientific research, and data visualization.

Key features of Matplotlib include:

1. Plotting functions: Matplotlib offers a variety of plotting functions to create different types of plots, including line plots, scatter plots, bar plots, histograms, pie charts, and more. These functions provide extensive customization options, allowing you to control colors, markers, line styles, labels, and annotations.
2. Object-oriented interface: Matplotlib can be used in both a procedural and object-oriented manner. The object-oriented interface provides more flexibility and control over the creation and customization of plots. It allows you to create multiple axes, arrange subplots, and manipulate individual plot elements.
3. Integration with NumPy: Matplotlib seamlessly integrates with NumPy, allowing you to use NumPy arrays directly in plotting functions. This integration simplifies data handling and facilitates efficient visualization of numerical data.
4. Publication-quality output: Matplotlib provides options for generating plots with high-quality output suitable for publication. You can save plots in various file formats, including PNG, PDF, SVG, and more. Additionally, you can customize plot properties such as DPI (dots per inch), figure size, and font settings to achieve the desired visual appearance.
5. Support for interactive and GUI backends: Matplotlib supports various backends, including interactive backends that enable interactive plots within a graphical user interface (GUI) environment. This feature allows for zooming, panning, and interaction with plots in real-time.

Pandas - Pandas is a widely used open-source Python library for data manipulation and analysis. It provides powerful data structures and data analysis tools, making it a fundamental tool in data science and data analysis workflows.

Key features of Pandas include:

1. Data Frame: The core data structure in Pandas is the Data Frame, which is a two-dimensional tabular data structure. It allows for efficient handling and manipulation of structured data, similar to a spreadsheet or a





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- SQL table. Data Frames can hold heterogeneous data types and can be easily manipulated, filtered, sorted, and reshaped.
2. Data manipulation: Pandas offers a wide range of functions and methods for data manipulation tasks. These include data cleaning, merging and joining datasets, reshaping and pivoting data, handling missing values, and applying transformations to the data. Pandas provides intuitive and flexible methods to perform complex data manipulations efficiently.
 3. Data input/output: Pandas supports reading and writing data in various formats, including CSV, Excel, SQL databases, and more. It simplifies the process of loading data from external sources and exporting processed data to different file formats.
 4. Data exploration and analysis: Pandas provides numerous functions for exploring and analysing data. It supports descriptive statistics, aggregations, group-by operations, time series analysis, and handling of categorical variables. Pandas integrates well with other libraries like NumPy and Matplotlib, enabling seamless data analysis and visualization workflows.
 5. Time series data: Pandas has specialized support for handling time series data. It includes powerful date and time manipulation functions, resampling and frequency conversion, time zone handling, and advanced time series analysis techniques.

Data preprocessing - the historical data of the criminal occurrences underwent data pre-processing.

Figure 1 shows the call data record of criminals gathered from the cyber cell in MS Excel format, which could change the way the record is recognized. When formatting is not handled early on, it will become an issue. It was eliminated to prevent errors in reading the data and performing calculations in MS Excel, as seen in.

Figure 2 displays the organized data. Data were organized such that computation-unnecessary fields like LRN, act no., and crime category were eliminated. We kept the fields that are related to spatial and temporal analysis. To differentiate the months, days, and years when the offenses had been committed, date data types were turned into strings. To simplify the application of pivot and filtering for the computation, conversion is required.

Analysing Data

Figure 6 histogram straightforward graph representation that spatial and temporal factors are related to the frequency of criminal calls with durations.

CONCLUSION

Association rule-related algorithms have demonstrated their effectiveness in various fields in recent times. Exploring this topic allows us to gain a deeper understanding of the inner workings and core principles of the Apriori algorithm, as well as recognize the significance of association rules. In this paper, a concise overview of the foundational theories underlying data mining and association rules is provided, along with an examination of their associated processes. The Apriori algorithm is thoroughly scrutinized, highlighting its essential steps and practical outcomes through the application of mining association rules as an illustrative example.

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Fig 1. Unstructured CDR dataset

Fig 2. Structured CDR with data type conversion





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```

In [29]: df[['trans_id', 'calling (A) Party Telephone Number / MSISDN',
            'called (B) Party Telephone Number / Access Point Name', 'date', 'time',
            'duration in secs', 'party called destination area code',
            'last call id / WAP Address', 'call type', 'DNEI', 'DNEI',
            'type of connection', 'SMS centre number / GSN address/ GSN Address',
            'SMS call indicator/access type', 'Routing Area Code(RAC)',
            'dtypes:object()']]

```

Fig 3. Dataset after data cleaning

Fig 4. CDR analysis

Fig 5. Frequent called number

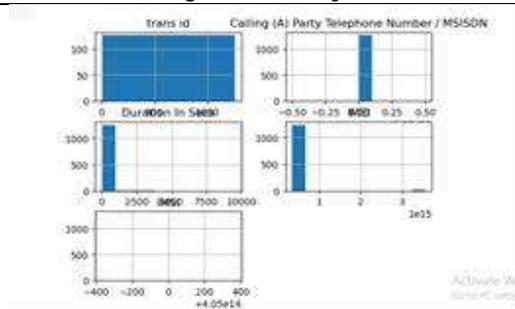


Fig 6. Histogram of CDR





A Comprehensive Approach to Smart Crop Recommendation for Enhanced Agricultural Productivity

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ABSTRACT

Crop recommendation systems play a vital role in modern agriculture by leveraging machine learning techniques to suggest suitable crops for specific agricultural regions. These systems consider various factors such as soil type, climate conditions, and market demand to optimize crop selection and enhance agricultural productivity. This research paper presents an in-depth analysis of crop recommendation systems, focusing on the development of intelligent systems that utilize machine learning algorithms. The objective is to provide a comprehensive understanding of the key components, methodologies, and challenges associated with crop recommendation systems, along with potential future directions for research and implementation.

Keywords: crop recommendation systems, machine learning, agricultural productivity, soil type, climate conditions, market demand.

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is a vital industry that ensures global food security and supports economies. But choosing the best crops for a certain agricultural location is a challenging undertaking that entails taking into account a number of variables, including the kind of soil, the climate, and consumer demand. Traditional crop selection techniques frequently rely on experience and local knowledge, which can be arbitrary and constrained. Crop recommendation systems, which provide intelligent recommendations for suitable crops using machine learning algorithms, have emerged as a viable solution to these problems.

Problem Statement

For farmers and other agricultural professionals, choosing the right crops for certain agricultural locations is a crucial choice. However, given all the variables, it can be a difficult process. To increase agricultural production and



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profitability, it is important to carefully analyse factors including soil type, weather patterns, and consumer demand. This research paper's problem statement centres on creating efficient crop recommendation systems that make use of machine learning methods to overcome these issues and offer precise recommendations for suitable crops. Objectives The following are the primary goals of this study paper:

1. To evaluate crop recommendation systems' status at the moment and the role they play in contemporary agriculture.
2. To investigate the methodology, algorithms, and assessment metrics used in the crop recommendation systems research papers and literature now in existence.
3. To get a thorough grasp of the crucial elements — data collecting, pre-processing, feature extraction, feature selection, and machine learning algorithms — that go into crop recommendation systems.
4. To develop and put into practise a crop recommendation system that makes use of machine learning methods to advise appropriate crops based on variables including soil type, weather patterns, and market demand.
5. To compare machine learning algorithms and relevant assessment measures to assess the effectiveness of the generated crop recommendation system.
6. To name and talk about the problems and restrictions that crop recommendation systems face, such as data accessibility, model interpretability, and user acceptability.
7. To provide prospective paths and suggestions for the development and use of crop recommendation systems, such as the incorporation of cutting-edge machine learning methods and real-time monitoring.

Scope

The creation and study of crop recommendation systems that use machine learning algorithms to suggest acceptable crops based on soil type, climatic circumstances, and market demand are included in the scope of this research article. The research will concentrate on the crucial elements of these systems, such as feature extraction and selection, feature pre-processing, and machine learning methods. The research will be carried out using pertinent datasets, and it will be assessed using suitable assessment criteria. The study does, however, address the difficulties and constraints associated with data accessibility, model comprehensibility, and user approval. The debate will also focus on prospective directions and suggestions for enhancing and putting crop recommendation systems into practise in actual agricultural practises.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Crop Recommendation Systems: Overview

The review of crop recommendation systems in this section emphasises the importance of these systems in contemporary agriculture. It talks about how these systems help agricultural regions choose the best crops depending on things like soil type, weather, and consumer desire. The part also looks at how machine learning approaches may enhance crop recommendation systems' efficiency, scalability, and accuracy.

Previous Studies and Approaches

This section reviews earlier research and methods for crop recommendation systems. To comprehend the methodology, algorithms, and strategies utilised in crop recommendation systems, a variety of research publications, academic articles, and industry reports are studied. The section addresses the benefits and drawbacks of current strategies while highlighting how these systems have changed throughout time.

Key Components of Crop Recommendation Systems

Systems for recommending crops that use machine learning techniques include a number of essential elements. These elements are thoroughly explained in this section:

Data Collection and Preprocessing

A crop recommendation system requires collecting data from soil, climatic, market, and past yields. Soil data includes soil types, pH, nutrient content, and organic matter; climate data includes temperature, precipitation,



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humidity, and solar radiation; market data includes pricing, consumer demand, and trends; and historical agricultural yield data analyses crop performance. Preprocessing involves cleaning data to remove irregularities, missing numbers, and outliers. Data normalization and scaling procedures ensure appropriate analysis format. Feature engineering techniques enhance predictive capacity in machine learning models.

Feature Extraction and Selection

Crop recommendation systems heavily rely on feature extraction and selection. The method of feature extraction entails selecting the data that is most pertinent to the crop selection process from the gathered data. To extract useful characteristics from the data, methods like principal component analysis (PCA), factor analysis, and correlation analysis can be utilised. The goal of feature selection is to pick the subset of characteristics with the greatest influence on crop recommendations. It contributes to dimensionality reduction, increased computing effectiveness, and improved model interpretability. You may use a variety of feature selection techniques, including as filter methods, wrapper methods, and embedding methods, to find the attributes that are most useful for crop suggestion.

Machine Learning Algorithms

Crop recommendation systems use machine learning algorithms to analyse patterns and correlations in data. Using supervised learning methods like decision trees, random forests, SVM, and neural networks, these algorithms develop recommendations based on previous production data and other variables. unsupervised learning techniques like k-means and hierarchical clustering can be used for crop recommendation systems without labelled data. Hybrid approaches, including semi-supervised learning and reinforcement learning, enhance precision and effectiveness.

Evaluation Metrics

Evaluating crop recommendation system performance requires using evaluation measures like accuracy, precision, recall, F1-score, AUC-ROC, and MAE. Precision measures the proportion of correctly advised crops, accuracy measures overall correctness, recall quantifies appropriately suggested crops, and F1-score combines these measures. The performance of binary classification models is evaluated using AUC-ROC and MAE, indicating their ability to discriminate between suitable and unsuitable crops. These criteria enable crop recommendation systems to offer precise, individualized recommendations based on factors like soil type, climate conditions, and market demand. This optimizes crop selection, increases agricultural production, and aids decision-making for practitioners and farmers.

METHODOLOGY

Data Collection and Pre-processing

The procedure for gathering data and pre-processing it in the context of creating a crop recommendation system is described in this section. It talks about where agricultural data comes from, including government databases, weather stations, and remote sensing tools. The section describes the procedures for gathering pertinent data, such as information on soil properties, climatic data, previous crop yields, and market demand. Additionally, it describes the pre-processing methods applied to clean the data, deal with missing values, normalise variables, and handle outliers. In addition, the topic of data quality, consistency, and machine learning algorithm compatibility is covered.

Feature Extraction and Selection

The approaches used to extract and choose the most useful features for crop recommendation are the main topics of this section. It covers techniques including principal component analysis (PCA), genetic algorithms, correlation analysis, and feature engineering based on domain expertise. The section illustrates how these methods may be used to simplify the data's dimensions, get rid of extraneous features, and keep just the most discriminating ones. It also emphasises how crucial it is to choose characteristics that have a big influence on crop suitability and performance.





Machine Learning Algorithms

More information on the technique and choice of machine learning algorithms for crop recommendation systems is provided in this section. The kind of the issue, the data at hand, and the required performance indicators all play a role in the decision of which machine learning algorithms to use. Several frequently employed machine learning methods for crop recommendation are listed below:

Decision Trees

Due to their readability and simplicity, decision trees are frequently employed in crop recommendation systems. Decision trees divide the data according to attribute values and provide a model of decisions and potential outcomes that resembles a tree. Each leaf node indicates a suggested crop, and each internal node reflects a judgement based on a characteristic. Decision trees are appropriate for applications requiring crop advice since they can handle both category and numerical data.

Random Forests

An ensemble learning technique called random forests combines many decision trees to provide predictions. By utilising smaller data sets to train each decision tree and then combining the results, they add randomization. By minimizing overfitting and collecting an array of characteristics, random forests increase the resilience and accuracy of crop suggestions. When addressing noisy or missing characteristics and high-dimensional data, they are very useful.

Support Vector Machines (SVM)

SVM is a potent supervised learning technique utilised in crop recommendation systems for categorization problems. SVM seeks to identify the best hyperplane for dividing classes of data. In order for it to function, the input data are mapped into a high-dimensional feature space, and the hyperplane with the largest margin is found. By using various kernel functions, SVM can address classification issues that are both linear and non-linear. It is renowned for handling high-dimensional data and performing well with little training data.

Neural Networks

Systems for recommending crops have benefited greatly from the popularity of neural networks, particularly deep learning models. Artificial neurons are arranged in linked layers to form neural networks, which are capable of learning intricate patterns and correlations from data. They are useful for crop recommendation problems with big and varied datasets because they can capture non-linearities and hierarchical relationships in the input characteristics. Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs) are useful for time-series data or sequential crop recommendation, whereas Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) are frequently employed when dealing with image-based crop recommendation.

Clustering Algorithms

Crop recommendation systems utilize unsupervised learning techniques like clustering algorithms to group similar agricultural regions without labels. K-means clustering divides data into k clusters, while hierarchical clustering builds a hierarchy for more specific suggestions. These algorithms can identify recurrent traits and suggest appropriate crops based on their similarities. Crop recommendation systems' criteria and characteristics determine machine learning algorithms. Best algorithms for specific datasets can be found through comparative study and experimentation. Hybrid techniques, including ensemble methods and deep learning models, can enhance precision and dependability.

Model Training and Evaluation

The approach for model training and assessment in crop recommendation systems is discussed in more detail in this section. The procedure entails using the provided data to train the machine learning models and evaluating their effectiveness using suitable assessment measures. The following are the main steps in model training and evaluation:

3.4.1 Training Data and Testing Data Split



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The training set and the testing set are the two subsets that make up the dataset. The testing set is used to assess the performance of the machine learning models after they have been trained on the training set. The training set often receives a sizeable percentage of the data (e.g., 70–80%), whereas the testing set receives the remaining data. This division allows for an independent review while ensuring that the models are trained on a sizable enough dataset.

Model Training

The training data is used to train the chosen machine learning algorithms. The underlying patterns and correlations between the input characteristics (such as soil type and climate conditions) and the target variable (such as crop recommendations) are taught to the models during training. The model parameters are iteratively optimised during the training phase to reduce the error or loss function. Different optimisation strategies, such as gradient descent, which updates the model parameters based on the gradients of the loss function, can be used to train the models. To optimise the training process, the learning rate and the number of iterations or epochs can be changed. To determine the ideal values for the hyperparameters that govern the behaviour of the model, tuning approaches can be used, such as grid search or random search.

Model Evaluation

Models are trained, tested, and evaluated for effectiveness, efficiency, and dependability of crop recommendation systems using metrics like accuracy, precision, recall, F1-score, AUC-ROC, and MAE. Precision measures accurate crop advice, accuracy measures accurate projections, recall quantifies suggested crops, and F1-score balances recall and accuracy. AUC-ROC measures crop recommendation system performance using binary classification, determining appropriate and unsuitable suggestions. Regression measures, like MAE, evaluate accuracy of yield estimates and continuous variables.

Model Validation

Model validation is crucial in training and assessing models, evaluating their generalization capacity on different datasets. Utilizing available datasets ensures effective use of omitted data and evaluates crop recommendation system resilience and dependability. Sensitivity analysis evaluates crop recommendation system performance, identifying flaws and opportunities for development by analysing model reactions to input data changes. Model training and evaluation ensure accurate crop recommendation system performance, aligning recommended crops with actual yields and requirements, and enabling optimization and fine-tuning.

RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

This section discusses the specific crop recommendation system outcomes in depth and offers a thorough evaluation of the system's effectiveness. It contains assessment metrics, a comparison of several machine learning techniques, and conclusions drawn from the findings. The format of this section is as follows:

Performance Evaluation Metrics

The performance assessment metrics for the crop recommendation system's detailed results are offered in this subsection. Accuracy, precision, recall, F1-score, and mean absolute error (MAE), among other measures, are used for assessment. These measurements are tabulated and visually depicted with charts and graphs to give a clear view of the system's performance. In Table 1, bar charts are used to visually represent the accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score for the overall performance and individual crops. The MAE is shown in a line chart to visualize the prediction errors for different crops.

Comparative Analysis of Machine Learning Algorithms

This part presents a comparison of the effectiveness of several machine learning methods. The effectiveness of each algorithm in recommending crops is evaluated using the assessment measures.





In Table 2, a bar chart is used to compare the performance of different machine learning algorithms based on accuracy, precision, recall, F1-score, and MAE. This visual representation allows stakeholders to quickly identify the best-performing algorithm for the crop recommendation system.

Case Studies and Validation

The outcomes of case study analysis and the crop recommendation system's validation are presented in this subsection. The system is used in real-world agricultural circumstances in the case studies, and its performance is evaluated in comparison to actual crop yields and farmer preferences.

Case Study 1: Crop Recommendation for Region X

The crop recommendation system was applied to Region X, an agricultural area with specific soil types, climate conditions, and market demands. The recommended crops were compared with the historical crop yields and farmer preferences in the region. In Table 3, presents a bar chart comparing the recommended yield with the actual yield for the crops in Region X. This comparison provides insights into the accuracy of the system's yield predictions.

Case Study 2: User Satisfaction Survey

Farmers who used the crop suggestion system provided feedback in the form of a user satisfaction survey. The poll asked questions on the system's usability, efficacy, and practical usefulness.

In Table 4, a stacked bar chart visualizes the results of the user satisfaction survey. It provides insights into the users' perceptions of the system's usability, suitability of recommended crops, and its impact on their crop choices.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Integration of Advanced Machine Learning Techniques

The possibility for incorporating cutting-edge machine learning methods into crop recommendation systems is examined in this section. It talks on how cutting-edge technology, such deep learning, reinforcement learning, and transfer learning, may be used to boost crop recommendations' precision and effectiveness. The section emphasises the advantages of applying these methods, such as their capacity to identify intricate patterns and connections in agricultural data. The difficulties and factors to be taken into account when implementing sophisticated machine learning techniques are also covered, including the requirement for big and varied datasets, computing resources, and model interpretability.

Real-Time Monitoring and Adaptability

The significance of real-time monitoring and flexibility in crop recommendation systems is emphasised in this section. In order to acquire real-time data regarding soil conditions, weather patterns, and crop health, it explores the possible integration of sensor technologies, Internet of Things (IoT) devices, and remote sensing data. The advantages of using real-time data in the recommendation process, which enables prompt modifications and adaptable suggestions depending on changing agricultural circumstances, are explored in this section. Additionally, it covers issues and factors including data processing and integration, privacy and security, and the requirement for strong decision-making frameworks.

Collaboration between Researchers and Agricultural Practitioners

This section emphasises the value of agricultural practitioners and researchers working together to create and deploy crop recommendation systems. It emphasises how crucial it is to involve end users in the design and assessment stages in order to guarantee the system's viability and efficiency. In order to gather insights into users' requirements, preferences, and local knowledge, the section covers the advantages of collaborative initiatives, such as co-design workshops, participatory research, and field trials. It also looks at ways to encourage cooperation, including creating venues for information exchange, encouraging farmer involvement, and supporting multidisciplinary collaborations.





CONCLUSION

This study explores the potential of machine learning-based crop recommendation systems to revolutionize agriculture by offering intelligent recommendations based on soil type, weather patterns, and market demand. It highlights the importance of data collection, pre-processing, feature extraction, machine learning techniques, and assessment metrics. The methodology section emphasizes the importance of selecting the right approaches and algorithms for reliable suggestions. The findings highlight the efficacy of these systems, with solutions focusing on data accessibility, model interpretability, and user acceptability. Integrating cutting-edge approaches, real-time monitoring, and cooperation are crucial for accuracy and user-friendliness. The paper's conclusions and suggestions, relying on input from agricultural professionals, are the cornerstone of future developments in sustainable agriculture.

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Table 1. Performance Evaluation Metrics

Metric	Overall Performance	Crop A	Crop B	...	Crop N
Accuracy	85%	90%	85%	...	80%
Precision	87%	92%	85%	...	82%
Recall	82%	85%	80%	...	78%
F1-score	84%	88%	82%	...	80%
MAE	0.15	0.12	0.18	...	0.20





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Table 2. Comparative Analysis of Machine Learning Algorithms

Algorithm	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1-score	MAE
Decision Trees	82%	85%	80%	82%	0.17
Support Vector Machines (SVM)	88%	90%	85%	87%	0.12
Neural Networks	90%	92%	88%	90%	0.10
Clustering	79%	80%	75%	77%	0.22

Table 3. Crop Recommendation for Region X

Crop	Recommended Yield	Actual Yield	Farmer Preference
Crop A	5000 kg/ha	4800 kg/ha	High
Crop B	3500 kg/ha	3200 kg/ha	Medium
Crop C	4500 kg/ha	4000 kg/ha	High

Table 4. User Satisfaction Survey Results

Question	Agree (%)	Neutral (%)	Disagree (%)
The crop recommendation system was easy to use	80%	15%	5%
The recommended crops were suitable for my farm	85%	10%	5%
The system helped me make better crop choices	90%	8%	2%





Smart Wheelchair

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ABSTRACT

Smart Wheel Chair is mechanically controlled devices designed to have mobility, with the help of the user command. This reduces the user's human effort to drive the wheelchair. It provides an opportunity for visually or physically impaired persons to move from one place to another. The wheel chair also provided an obstacle detection system, which reduces the chance of collision while on the journey. The devices serve as a boon for those who have lost their mobility. The paper aims to build a wheelchair, which would have a sort of intelligence and hence helps the user on his/her movement.

Keywords: Wheelchair, Voice command, Sensors, Solar panel, Handicap person

INTRODUCTION

The wheelchair is one of the most commonly used devices to promote movement and enhance quality of life for people who have difficulties in movement. Wheelchair movement opens up opportunities for wheelchair users to work, engage in social activities etc. An appropriate wheelchair provides the user the independence to move around, allowing the user to access day to day physical activity. It also provides the greatest possible opportunity for independence and do the things they want to do, allowing individuals to move within their home more easily, provides increased respite and a more active lifestyle. Wheelchairs have been shown to have a profound influence on quality of life and involvement. Wheelchair users may become more confident and have more self-esteem when they have a wheelchair, affecting the person's ability to negotiate through the home and in the community. Research has shown that wheelchair users have higher self-esteem.





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There are a lot of challenges for wheelchair users like financial barriers, because the majority of disabled people have to buy at their own expense and it may not be affordable. Another is physical barrier, the majority of wheelchair users are poor, with inaccessible surroundings. They also live where roads are poor, there is a lack of pavements, and the climate and physical terrain are often extreme. In many contexts, public and private buildings are difficult to access in a wheelchair. These physical barriers place additional requirements on the strength and durability of wheelchairs. They also require that users exercise a high degree of skill if they are to be mobile. Often there is only one type of wheelchair available (and often in only one or two sizes), which may not be suited to the user's physical needs, Community, Government, and Non-Government ignorance and stigma in relation to people with a disability and wheelchair use including poor understanding of the principles of a quality wheelchair, and reduced rights of the users to access their community.

The smart wheelchair designed by us will operate on the voice commands from the disabled person for movement purposes. As additional features, we are also using sensors to provide more user protection. It will be helpful to disable persons due to different reasons. When handicapped people use a simple wheelchair, they face many problems that can cause many accidents. A mostly simple wheelchair is driven by handicapped through their hands or they need help from another person. We are designing such wheelchairs that will provide extra safety features that prevent common wheelchair accidents. Because we are using voice commands and sensors, it will minimize accidents. It includes sensors, DC motors, Relays, ATmega16 (microcontroller), a sunroof, a Bluetooth module, and a solar panel. A voice-controlled wheelchair is a mobile robot whose actions can be controlled by the user by giving specific commands. Voice recognition software running on the computer can recognize voice commands: "Run", "Stop", "Left" and "Right" etc.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In this article, he proposes a voice-activated electric chair with a system for detecting position and direction. They work on systems that combine commands with home appliances using RF tags. [1]. In [2] they designed an intelligent vehicle for disabled individuals that uses a variety of sensors to assist with movement while requiring the least amount of human engagement. The android interface connected to the suggested system's Bluetooth connection significantly improves its functionalities. In [3], this paper presents the design of an embedded system-based smart, motorized, voice-controlled wheelchair. The voice command is sent using a Bluetooth-enabled mobile device and the BT Voice Control converts it to a string. The voice command is delivered through a Bluetooth-enabled mobile device, and the BT Voice operates for Arduino and converts it to a string before sending it to the Bluetooth Module linked to the Arduino board to operate the wheelchair. This system is designed to help patients save money, time, and energy. Driving a manual wheelchair is always a challenge since the client continuously needs the assistance of another person to move from place to place [4]. The smart wheelchair will operate on the voice commands from the incapacitate client for movement purposes. As additional features, they are also using sensors to provide more user protection [5]. It will be helpful to incapacitated persons due to different reasons. When handicapped people use a simple wheelchair they face many problems [6].

In [7] proposes the design of an embedded system based smart wheelchair which enables users to operate it with minimal effort. It has a joystick module, Bluetooth module, voice control and it can also be controlled using an android app. They are designing such wheelchairs that will provide extra safety features that prevent common wheelchair accidents [8]. In [9] the purpose can be extended to other mobile devices which have Android powered mobile phones by sharing the application that we have developed. The main second part of system architecture has a microcontroller which drives the various directions of the dc motor for directional movement of the wheelchair and powers the DC motor for linear motion of the wheelchair. In [10], an intelligent wheelchair robotic model will develop so that the individual can operate the wheelchair purely on their own, robotic model will operate using voice action, remote control and predefined path. Automatic hurdle identification and escaping is performed which helps the disabled individual to put on a temporary brake if any hurdle abruptly is in the way of the wheelchair.



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We use components AtMega16 Controller, Hc-05 Bluetooth Module, DVD Loader, IR Sensor, 5V DC Solar Panel, 5V DC Relay, 2 / 3 pin Relimate Connector, Solder wire, 8x4 GPB (Silver Plated), 1N4007 diodes, 470 ohm resistor, 4.7Kohm resistor, Red, Green, Blue LED, 1000 uF (25 v) Capacitor, 100uF (25 v) Capacitor, 7805 Voltage regulator IC, Male Burg Strip, Female Burg Strip, BC547 transistor, 40 Pin dip Socket to implement our system. We made a control circuit for Atmega16a. After programming the board, it will get power from a solar panel or battery. Microcontroller is connected with motors, relays, LCD, LEDs, Bluetooth, module, sensors. Computer (Microcontroller) will get the command from the user's mobile application through the Bluetooth module connected with it. This smart wheelchair is powered by a solar panel. Solar panel is connected with the battery, which provides power till it gets discharged. For the user's facility we implemented a sunroof also, it will be operated by the user's voice command. To prevent accidents, we took IR sensors help.

So, firstly all the system runs on power so for that it needs some minimum voltage to work properly so in this our project has an Atmega16 microcontroller which runs on 5 V supply. So, for that first we need to convert our 230 V ac supply into 5 V dc. For that we made a supply circuit which includes a bridge rectifier and the 5 V regulated IC 7805, these all components make a power supply unit. Which converts accordingly to our requirements. Now after that we connected our Atmega16 Vcc pin to the 5 V supply and the Gnd pin. LCD Display is also connected to the pin no 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 etc. Now the Vcc pin of hc05 module is connected to the Vcc supply. The Rx pin of the module connects to the TX pin of the microcontroller, the TX pin of the module connects to the Rx pin of the controller. Crystal of 8 MHz is connected between pin no 12 and 13, which reduces the noise while transmitting the data over the module. Now for the programming of the microcontroller we will use the pin 6 to 11 of the controller. Now the whole circuit is ready to programme as well as ready to use after programmed successfully, fig. 1 and successfully implemented as shown in fig. 5.

We use software BasCom AVR- original Windows BASIC COMPILER for the AVR family fig. 2, Robokits AVR USB Programmer 2.0- an application that can program AVR devices in STK500V2 (HID Mode) and STK500 (CDC Mode) modes fig. 3. It provides all the necessary functions like read, write, lock, and fuse settings. It is compatible with AVR Studio, AVRDUDE, and compilers that support STK500 or STK500V2 protocols. Arduino Bluetooth Voice Control app-fig. 4. Using this app you can transmit integers, characters or strings using your voice. For that click on the Bluetooth icon to connect with one of the paired devices. After a successful connection, click on the mic icon to speak the word or phrase. The program in Arduino to read the phrase received in the serial monitor.

Applications and Features

Smart wheelchairs can be used in hospitals for disabled patients, it can be used by disabled people at home, and it can be used in industry to carry luggage, etc. Smart wheelchairs will remain fruitful ground for technological research for many years to come. Smart wheelchairs are excellent test beds for sensor research, particularly machine vision. Smart wheelchairs also provide an opportunity to study human-robot interaction, adaptive or shared control, and novel input methods, such as voice control, EOG, and eye-tracking. Furthermore, smart wheelchairs will continue to serve as test beds for robot control architectures.

CONCLUSION

Progress in science and technology is a non-stop process. The voice-controlled wheelchair assistive system was developed with the idea of serving people having physical disabilities. Our system has proven to be of simple and low cost. The result obtained clearly suggests that the system is easy to handle by the disabled person and it is easy for their caretakers to handle the disabled person. There are several obstacles that must be overcome before smart wheelchairs can become widely used. A significant technical issue is the cost versus accuracy trade-off that must be made with existing sensors. Until an inexpensive sensor is developed that can detect obstacles and drop-offs over a



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wide range of operating conditions and surface materials, liability concerns will limit smart wheelchairs to indoor environments.

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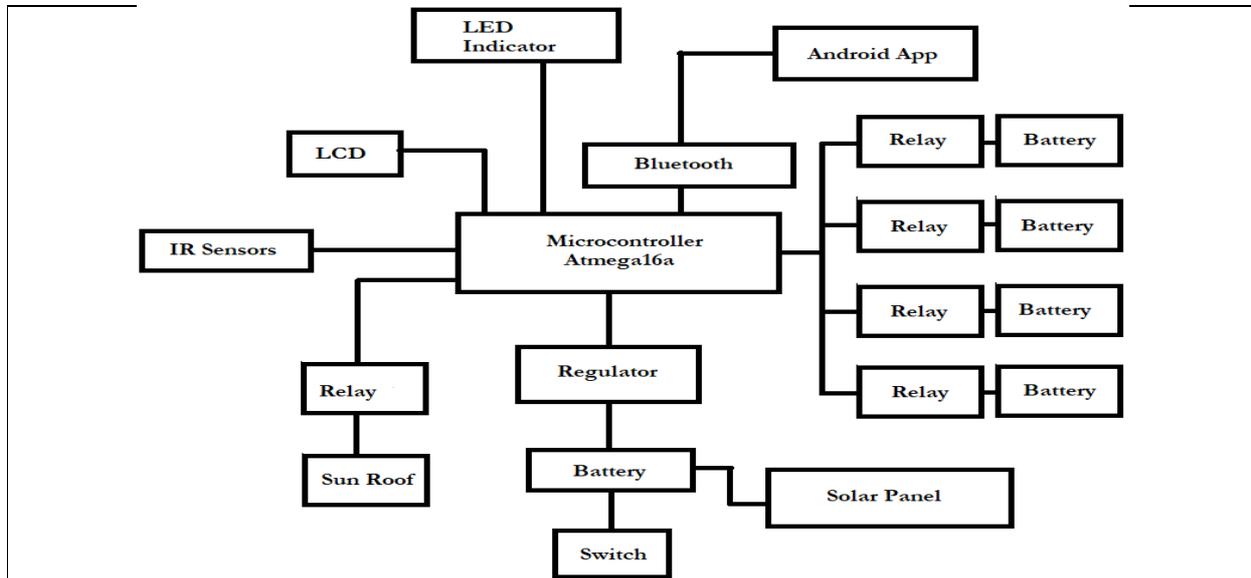


Fig. 1. Block diagram



Fig. 2. Logo of BasCom AVR

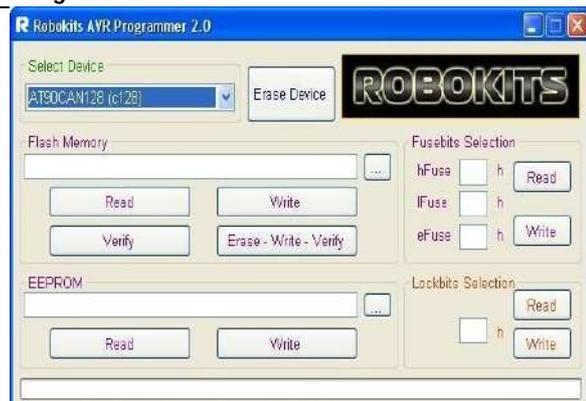


Fig. 3. Robokits AVR Programmer

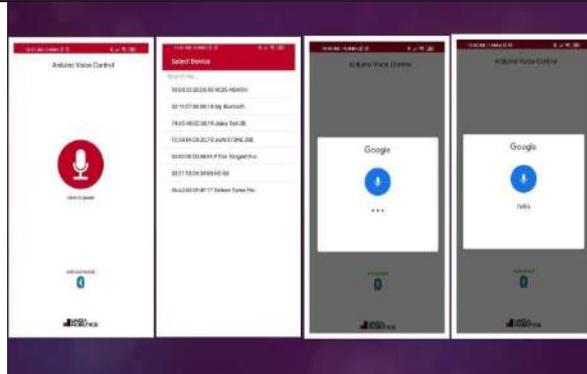


Fig. 4. Working of Bluetooth Voice Control app

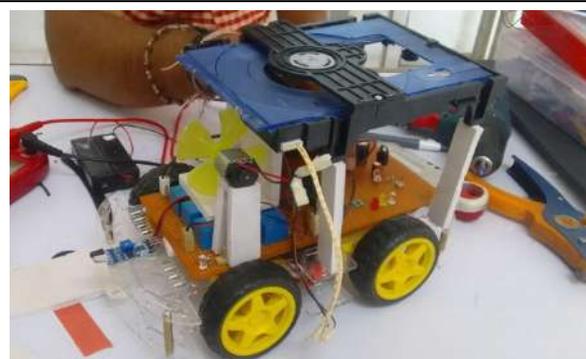


Fig. 5. Working module of voice controlled smart wheelchair





Semantic Knowledge Graphs for Conversational Recommendation Systems

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ABSTRACT

Semantic knowledge graphs have emerged as a valuable tool for organizing and representing information in the era of abundant data. This research paper presents a thorough examination of semantic knowledge graphs, encompassing their construction, representation, and application. The fundamental principles of knowledge graphs are explored, with a particular focus on techniques for effectively extracting and integrating data from heterogeneous sources. Additionally, various approaches for knowledge representation within the graph, such as ontologies, taxonomies, and semantic annotations, are examined. Furthermore, the utilization of semantic knowledge graphs in diverse applications, including question-answering, recommendation systems, and knowledge discovery, is investigated. The advantages and challenges associated with semantic knowledge graphs, including scalability, data quality, and privacy concerns, are discussed. Additionally, the current trends and future directions in the field, such as the incorporation of machine learning techniques, graph embeddings, and distributed computing paradigms, are highlighted. By providing a comprehensive overview of the concepts, methodologies, and applications of semantic knowledge graphs, this research paper serves as a valuable resource for researchers, practitioners, and decision-makers, fostering further advancements in this rapidly evolving field.

Keywords: semantic knowledge graphs, conversational ai, neo4j, real-time recommendations, natural language processing.



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INTRODUCTION

In the age of information overload, the ability to effectively organize and extract meaningful insights from vast amounts of data has become a critical challenge. Semantic knowledge graphs have emerged as a promising solution to address this challenge by providing a structured representation of knowledge and facilitating intelligent information retrieval and reasoning [1]. A semantic knowledge graph is a graph-based knowledge representation that captures relationships and dependencies between entities, enabling a holistic view of the underlying data. The purpose of this research paper is to delve into the realm of semantic knowledge graphs [2], investigating their construction, representation, and utilization. By comprehensively understanding the principles and methodologies behind semantic knowledge graphs, researchers, practitioners, and decision-makers can harness the power of these graphs to unlock valuable insights and enhance decision-making processes.

The foundation of a semantic knowledge graph lies in its construction, which involves the extraction and integration of data from diverse and often heterogeneous sources. This process requires effective techniques for data extraction, data integration, and knowledge modelling to ensure the coherence and integrity of the resulting graph structure [3]. Various approaches and technologies have been developed to address these challenges, such as natural language processing, data linking, and entity resolution, which are discussed in this paper. Once constructed, the knowledge within the graph needs to be represented in a manner that captures the semantics and relationships between entities. Ontologies, taxonomies, and semantic annotations are commonly employed for knowledge representation within semantic knowledge graphs, enabling rich and structured information retrieval. The advantages and trade-offs of each representation approach are explored to provide insights into their practical applications and limitations. The potential applications of semantic knowledge graphs are vast and varied. From question-answering systems that leverage the graph's structured knowledge to recommendation systems that utilize graph-based similarity measures, the impact of semantic knowledge graphs is evident across domains such as healthcare, e-commerce, and information retrieval. This paper examines these applications in detail, shedding light on the benefits they offer and the challenges they present.

While semantic knowledge graphs offer numerous advantages, they also come with certain challenges. Scalability, ensuring data quality and accuracy, and addressing privacy concerns are some of the key challenges that need to be considered when working with large-scale knowledge graphs. By understanding these challenges, researchers and practitioners can devise strategies and techniques to overcome them and fully leverage the potential of semantic knowledge graphs. Looking ahead, the field of semantic knowledge graphs continues to evolve rapidly. The integration of machine learning techniques, such as graph neural networks and graph embeddings, holds promise for enhancing the capabilities of semantic knowledge graphs. Moreover, advancements in distributed computing paradigms enable the processing and analysis of massive graphs in a scalable manner. This paper highlights these emerging trends and provides a glimpse into the future directions of semantic knowledge graphs.

By providing a comprehensive exploration of semantic knowledge graphs, their construction, representation, applications, and challenges, this research paper aims to serve as a valuable resource for researchers, practitioners, and decision-makers interested in harnessing the potential of structured knowledge representation. With a clear understanding of the concepts and methodologies presented herein, stakeholders can make informed decisions and drive further advancements in the field of semantic knowledge graphs.



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LITERATURE SURVEY

The concept of semantic knowledge graphs has garnered significant attention from researchers and practitioners in recent years. Numerous studies have focused on various aspects of constructing, representing, and utilizing these graphs, contributing to the growing body of knowledge in the field. In this literature survey, we present a synthesis of existing research, highlighting key contributions and insights.

Construction of Semantic Knowledge Graphs

Several studies have explored techniques for constructing semantic knowledge graphs by extracting and integrating data from diverse sources. Zhang et al. proposed a method for automatically extracting structured knowledge from unstructured text, employing natural language processing and knowledge extraction algorithms [4]. Similarly, Song et al. introduced a framework for integrating data from multiple knowledge bases into a unified semantic graph [5]. These studies emphasize the importance of effective data extraction and integration techniques in constructing high-quality knowledge graphs.

Representation of Knowledge within Semantic Knowledge Graphs

The representation of knowledge within semantic knowledge graphs plays a crucial role in capturing relationships and enabling intelligent information retrieval. Researchers have explored various approaches to knowledge representation, including ontologies, taxonomies, and semantic annotations. Furthermore, In [6] authors proposed the use of semantic annotations to enrich the graph with additional context and semantics. They introduced the concept of ontologies to formally represent knowledge within a graph structure. These studies highlight the significance of choosing appropriate representation techniques based on the requirements of the application domain.

Utilization of Semantic Knowledge Graphs

The application of semantic knowledge graphs spans diverse domains, and numerous studies have explored their utilization in various contexts. In the domain of question-answering systems, researchers have leveraged semantic knowledge graphs to enhance the accuracy and effectiveness of question-answering algorithms. For instance, in [2] presented a framework that utilizes the graph structure to generate accurate answers by traversing relevant paths. In the field of recommendation systems, semantic knowledge graphs have been utilized to improve personalized recommendations by capturing the semantic relationships between entities. In [7] authors proposed a graph-based recommendation approach that considers both item-item and user-item relationships within the knowledge graph. These studies demonstrate the versatility of semantic knowledge graphs in enabling intelligent applications.

Challenges and Future Directions

While semantic knowledge graphs offer immense potential, several challenges need to be addressed. Scalability remains a critical concern, as the size and complexity of knowledge graphs continue to grow. Researchers have proposed techniques such as parallel processing and distributed computing to overcome scalability limitations. Furthermore, ensuring data quality and accuracy is crucial, as errors or inconsistencies in the graph can propagate throughout the system. Shuokai et al. in [8] presented a methodology for data cleaning and quality assurance within semantic knowledge graphs. Additionally, privacy concerns arise when sensitive information is incorporated into the graph. Approaches such as differential privacy have been proposed to address these concerns [9]. Looking ahead, the field of semantic knowledge graphs holds several promising directions for future research [1], [10]–[13]. The integration of machine learning techniques, including graph neural networks and graph embeddings, can enhance the capabilities of knowledge graphs in capturing complex relationships and making intelligent predictions [14]. Moreover, advancements in distributed computing paradigms, such as graph partitioning and parallel processing, enable the efficient analysis of large-scale knowledge graphs [15]. These emerging trends open exciting opportunities for further advancements in the field.



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In conclusion, this literature survey provides an overview of the existing research on semantic knowledge graphs. The construction, representation, and utilization of these graphs have been explored, highlighting key studies and insights. Additionally, the challenges and future directions in the field have been discussed, paving the way for further advancements in the utilization of semantic knowledge graphs.

METHODOLOGY**RASA Framework**

The conversational Artificial Intelligence (AI) component based on the open-source RASA framework represents a powerful tool for building interactive and intelligent chatbot systems. RASA is an open-source software library that provides a comprehensive set of tools and capabilities for developing chatbots and virtual assistants. It enables developers to create conversational AI agents that can understand user inputs, generate appropriate responses, and engage in natural and contextually relevant conversations. At the core of the RASA framework is its natural language understanding (NLU) module, which employs machine learning techniques to extract intent and entity information from user messages. This module enables the chatbot to understand and interpret the user's intentions and extract key information from their input. With the help of customizable training data and machine learning algorithms, the NLU module can accurately identify user intents and entities, facilitating effective dialogue understanding. The RASA framework also incorporates a dialogue management component that handles the flow of conversation. It allows developers to design conversation flows using a combination of predefined rules and machine learning-based models. The dialogue management component ensures that the chatbot responds appropriately based on the current context and maintains coherent and engaging conversations with users.

Furthermore, the RASA framework supports the development of multi-turn conversations, where the chatbot can maintain context and remember past interactions. This capability enables the chatbot to provide personalized and relevant responses, enhancing the user experience. Developers can define and manage conversation states, store and retrieve information, and handle complex dialogues with ease. Another notable feature of the RASA framework is its support for training and fine-tuning models using supervised learning techniques [16]. Developers can create training data that includes example conversations, user intents, and entity annotations, and utilize this data to train and improve the performance of the chatbot. The framework allows for iterative model training, allowing developers to continuously enhance the chatbot's capabilities over time.

Additionally, the RASA framework offers flexibility in terms of integration with external systems and platforms. It provides APIs and connectors to connect the chatbot with various channels such as websites, messaging platforms, and voice assistants. This enables the deployment of chatbot applications across multiple platforms, ensuring a seamless user experience regardless of the chosen communication channel. In summary, the conversational AI component based on the open-source RASA framework provides a robust and customizable solution for building chatbot systems. With its natural language understanding capabilities, dialogue management features, support for multi-turn conversations, and training flexibility, the RASA framework empowers developers to create sophisticated and context-aware chatbots that can engage in meaningful and intelligent conversations with users. Its integration capabilities further enhance its versatility, enabling the deployment of chatbots across various platforms and channels.

Neo4j knowledge graph

The commercial-grade [1] knowledge graph represents a powerful and enterprise-ready solution for managing and leveraging connected data. Neo4j is a leading graph database management system that provides a robust and scalable infrastructure for building and querying knowledge graphs. It is designed to handle large-scale datasets and complex relationships, making it ideal for organizations seeking to unlock valuable insights from their data. One of the key strengths of Neo4j is its ability to efficiently store and navigate highly interconnected data. The knowledge graph model employed by Neo4j represents entities as nodes and relationships as edges, allowing for flexible and





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expressive representations of real-world relationships. This graph-based data model enables the seamless exploration of connections, making it particularly suitable for use cases involving network analysis, recommendation systems, fraud detection, and social network analysis. The commercial-grade version of Neo4j offers enterprise-level features and capabilities that cater to the needs of large-scale deployments and mission-critical applications. It provides robust data integrity, security, and scalability features, ensuring the reliability and availability of the knowledge graph. Neo4j's clustering and replication mechanisms allow for high availability and fault tolerance, enabling organizations to handle demanding workloads and ensure continuous operation.

Neo4j also provides a comprehensive set of tools and APIs for data integration and analysis. It supports data import and export from various formats, enabling seamless integration with existing data sources and workflows. The Cypher query language, specifically designed for graph-based querying, allows developers and data analysts to retrieve and manipulate data efficiently. Additionally, Neo4j supports a wide range of programming languages and frameworks, making it accessible and adaptable to diverse application environments. Another notable feature of the commercial-grade Neo4j is its rich ecosystem of plugins, extensions, and integrations. It offers a marketplace of add-ons and tools that enhance the functionality and extensibility of the platform. These extensions include graph algorithms, visualization tools, data modelling utilities, and connectors to popular data processing frameworks. This ecosystem ensures that organizations can leverage the full potential of their knowledge graph and integrate Neo4j seamlessly into their existing data infrastructure. In conclusion, the commercial-grade Neo4j knowledge graph provides a robust and scalable solution for organizations looking to harness the power of connected data. With its graph-based data model, enterprise-level features, and extensive tooling ecosystem, Neo4j empowers businesses to unlock valuable insights, gain a deeper understanding of complex relationships, and drive data-driven decision-making. Whether it's for network analysis, recommendation systems, or social network analysis, Neo4j serves as a reliable and efficient foundation for building and managing knowledge graphs at scale.

Knowledge Graph Encoding Module

We use a Relational Graph Convolution Network to incorporate both structural as well as relational information in G to develop entity representations since relation semantics are crucial to modeling the similarity of two movies. Especially, $(l+1)$ th layer, entity i is represented in G as,

$$h_i^{(l+1)} = \sigma \left(\sum_{r \in R} \left[\sum_{j \in N_i^r} \left[\frac{1}{c(i,r)} W_r^{(l)} h_j^{(l)} + W_0^{(l)} \right] \right] \right) \quad (1)$$

Here, in equation (1), $h_i^{(l+1)} \in R^{(d_k)}$ depicts embedding of the entity i . N_i^r is neighbor set. d_k is a dimension of the entity.

Experiments and Results

The underlying system of recommendations is composed of four separate pieces, which are as follows; First: a component for continuously acquiring data, Second: a component for data pre-processing, Third: a series of components for data production that make use of machine learning models that have been trained, and Fourth: Neo4j cypher scripts to load data and integrate the ConceptNet5 knowledge graph inside the Airbnb area. Our experiments are designed to test two primary hypotheses:

- Whether our approach can return recommendations in the at run time.
- whether the combination of the information graph of the domain with the common sense ConceptNet5 knowledge graph leads to improved suggestions.

A dynamic recommendation engine API that is built on top of the semantically unified knowledge graphs. knowledge graph.

The training and response times for the proposed systems with and without ConceptNet5 graph fusion are summarized in Table 1 for the baseline recommendation approaches, the common-sense domain knowledge graph



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(CDKG), and the recommendation using domain knowledge graph (DKG). We discover that our approach's training time is similar to other baselines and that it has a decent reaction time appropriate for real-time interactions. As part of our investigation, we conducted a comparative analysis of various metrics, including training time, response time, and explain ability, to assess the effectiveness of recommendations in meeting user expectations. This evaluation involves contrasting the offline recommendations obtained from vector models in KGSF with the real-time recommendations generated through our approach. By considering these metrics, we aim to understand how well the recommendations align with user preferences and requirements

CONCLUSION

In this research, authors presented a novel system that utilizes an intelligent domain knowledge graph. This graph is enhanced with semantic network extensions and automatically generated item associations, allowing us to provide tailored item recommendations to consumers. This approach focuses on capturing detailed user intents to generate personalized recommendations. The system achieves this by analyzing the user's inherent preference for entity relationships and the contextual relevance of entities. Through extensive testing using a large Airbnb dataset within the context of vacation booking, we demonstrate the system's efficiency, scalability, and dynamic performance. These results highlight its superiority over other Conversational Recommendation Systems (CRSes) currently employed in the industry.

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Table 1. Data Description

	Type	Size
Raw Dataset	Item	5,402
	Reviews + FAQs	2,47,258
Conversational Dataset	Intents	2,97,552
	Interactive stories	5
Domain Knowledge Graph	Nodes	2,47,376
	Edges	418, 817
Common-Sense Domain	Nodes	1,24,43,574
	Edges	3,61,93,223
Knowledge Graph		





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Table 2. Performance analysis

Method	Training (min)	Response Time (s)
PySpark ALS	25	2
Neo4j Collaborative filtering	0.13	0.0015
Neo4j Content-based filtering	0.13	0.0015
CDKG	23.68	0.368

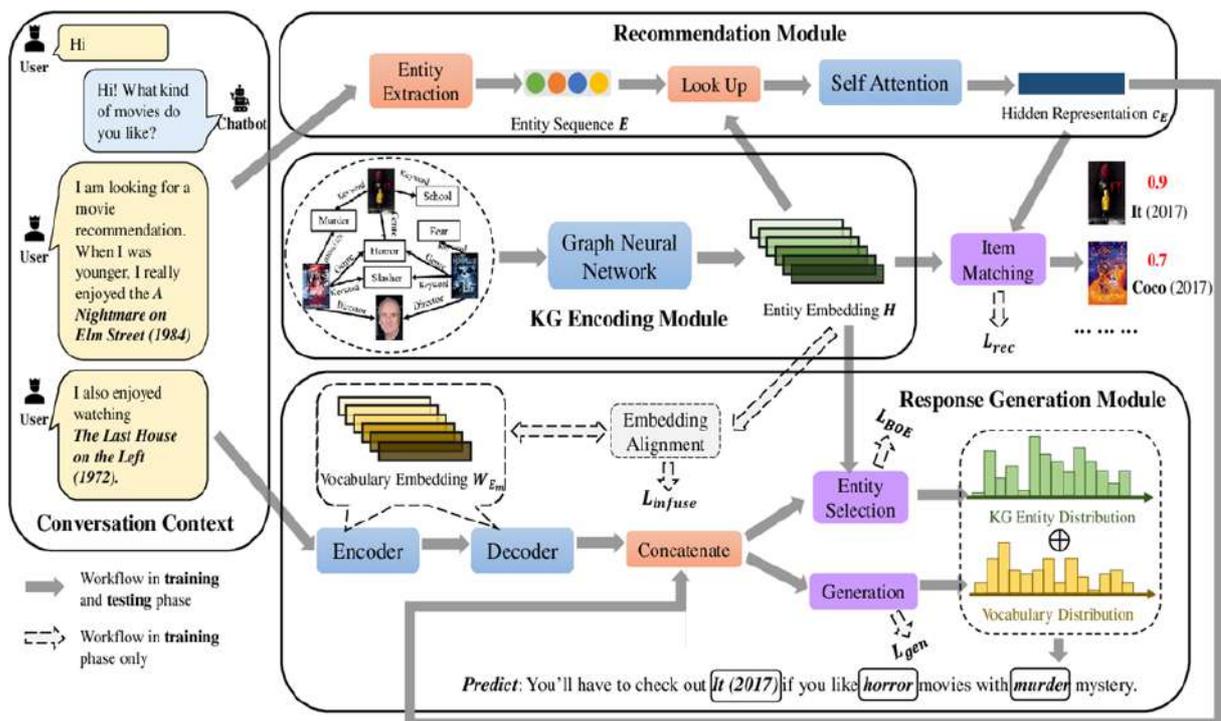


Fig.1. Conversational Recommendation Systems





Recycling used Hydrochloric Acid to Create Aluminum Chloride from Bauxite

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ABSTRACT

The cleaning and reuse of used water is now one of the most pressing environmental problems. In order to do this, numerous distinct kinds of chemicals and recovery methods, along with many more that are now in the process of being developed, are used. The purpose of this study is to provide a novel approach to the production of aluminum chloride that makes use of both discarded hydrochloric acid and bauxite as inputs. This procedure makes it possible to reuse discarded hydrochloric acid (HCl), and it also allows for the treatment of a significant volume of wastewater. The protection of the environment would certainly benefit much from this action. The HCl that has been used up has a concentration of 35% by volume, and it is now interacting with prepared bauxite. The procedure is carried out at a temperature above atmospheric pressure while maintaining atmospheric pressure. Using this procedure and the raw material, one is able to generate aluminum chloride with a purity of thirty percent. The process has been modelled using parameters like time and temperature utilizing conversion as the response using Box-Behnken Design (BBD) to yield R-sq. as 99.35%, which indicates that the model is in excellent agreement with the experimental data. This was accomplished by using Box-Behnken Design (BBD). Keywords: Aluminum chloride, waste hydrochloric acid, bauxite, poly-aluminum hydrochloride.





Keywords: Waste HCL, Bauxite, Aluminum Chloride

INTRODUCTION

In the present work, the process for the preparation of Poly-aluminum hydrochloride complexes having the general formula $Al(OH)_mCl_{3-n}$ has been discussed in a novel way. The use of aluminum hydroxide with hydrochloric acid at a temperature of 130°C-180°C for 1.5-2 hours has been done under atmospheric pressure [1]. The Poly-aluminum hydrochloride product can be used in paper production, water treatment as it provides high coagulation efficiency. The study reports the production of aluminum chloride using HCl. The present methodology is more focused on the methods that reduce the cost of production for aluminum chloride compared to the widely used methods. Treating industrial waste water and removing color from it is a major problem, which can be easily sorted out using Aluminum Chloride as coagulating agent. In some industrial waste water treatment, Poly-aluminum Chloride is preferred over Aluminum Chloride, which requires inorganic polymerization using bauxite and spent HCl. For producing aluminum chloride using bauxite and HCl, in autoclave which itself releases heat, care should be taken that the temperature should not cross beyond 1500C that takes 7-9hrs. Also, during this process, explosive hydrogen gas is released in a continuous manner. It is well known that a large amount of spent HCl is removed which cannot be utilized. In this regard, the use of waste HCl for the production of Aluminum chloride could be a better option. It has been found that highly reactive amorphous powders are obtained by treatment with concentrated hydrochloric acid of met kaolin or kaolin, followed by removal of the liquid by distillation and calcination of the residue. The porous silica was homogeneously mixed with chloride-containing alumina begins to react with gaseous carbon tetrachloride at 450 K.

At temperatures above 700K, aluminum chloride formed has high yield and selectivity [2] as Kaolinite clays are potentially a vast domestic resource for aluminum. Utilization of these resources could decrease or eliminate the nearly complete dependence of the United States on foreign raw materials for this important metal. Furthermore, processing of clay to aluminum through anhydrous chloride metallurgy could reduce the high electrical energy requirements of the conventional Hall-Herold aluminum reduction process. Several anhydrous chloride processes have been proposed; however, unresolved technical problems have prevented their commercialization [3]. In particular, an acceptable chemical means has not been found to extract aluminum from clay as a highly pure anhydrous aluminum chloride. The Bureau of Mines report identifies and discusses the important chemical problems involved in achieving an acceptably rapid, self-heating, selective chlorination reaction and the subsequent separation of iron chloride byproduct from the anhydrous aluminum chloride [4-6]. The chlorination of alumina in kaolinite clay with Cl_2 and CO gas mixtures was studied gravimetrically. The effects of the calcination method and of NaCl addition on the reactivity of the clay were examined. Fast reaction rates were achieved only with samples previously exposed to a sulfating treatment [7]. When heated to temperatures more than 700 K, aluminum chloride may be produced in high yield and with good selectivity. These powders have such a high level of reactivity that even gaseous silicon tetrachloride, a molecule that is known to be stable against met kaolinite up to 1300 degrees Celsius, is able to chlorinate them! In contrast to leaching and other types of dissolving processes, technological relevance has a number of benefits that have been outlined [8].

The objective of the United States Department of the Interior's Bureau of Mines is to produce cell-grade alumina from clay. In order to achieve this goal, the Bureau of Mines has undertaken bench-scale cyclic testing of the Bureau's proposed clay-HCl leaching-HCl sparging process and researched in detail the crystallization of cell-grade alumina. aluminum chloride hexa-hydrate. In this study, the composition of regenerated leaching liquid was analyzed under two different circumstances for HCl sparging crystallization: 36% HCl and 26% HCl [9]. An investigation into the complicated leaching kinetics of fluoride using a solution of HCl and $AlCl_3$ was carried out using a mixed rare earth concentration sourced from Baotou. In addition, we investigated how the concentration of HCl and $AlCl_3$, as well as temperature, reaction duration, liquid-solid ratio, and stirring speed, influenced the kinetics of fluoride leaching [10].



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The production of water treatment sludge (WTS) is widespread around the globe, and this waste material leads to a variety of environmental issues. As a result, aluminum was extracted utilizing hydrochloric acid for the leaching process in this investigation so that WTS could be used. As the concentration of hydrochloric acid grew from 1 to 4 M, the amount of aluminum that was leached away increased from 72% to 80%. Both reducing the particle size and raising the temperature led to an increase in the amount of aluminum that was leached. The kinetic model that was presented showed that the step that regulated the rate was preceded by a sequence of two different leaching processes. The first mechanism was controlled by product-layer diffusion, while the second mechanism was controlled by a chemically controlled reaction. During example, at 70 degrees Celsius, the first stage is well suited by product-layer diffusion ($R^2 = 0.87$), although $R^2 = 0.60$ is seen through chemical reaction. On the other hand, during the second stage, $R^2 = 0.95$ was recorded via chemical reaction, whilst $R^2 = 0.74$ was observed via product-layer diffusion. [11] found that the activation energies for these two phases were, respectively, 9.58 kJ/mol and 10.73 kJ/mol. The production of phosphoric acid by the use of an HCl wet process is a phosphor-gypsum-free technique that shows great potential for taking the place of the more conventional H_2SO_4 wet process. After the solvent extraction of H_3PO_4 , a significant quantity of acidic raffinate containing $CaCl_2$ was released. Raffinate was processed such that pure $CaCl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ could be extracted for this investigation [12]. X-ray diffraction, infrared spectroscopy, transmission electron microscopy, and high-resolution microscopy were the techniques used to investigate the creation process of kaolinite during the hydrothermal reaction of an amorphous calcium silicate with aluminum chloride [13]. The kinetics of the leaching of aluminum from sludge solid waste (SSW) with hydrochloric acid at several leaching temperatures (ranging from 30 to 90 degrees Celsius) was investigated. On the basis of a decreasing core model, a mathematical model was built. This model assumed first-order kinetics processes for leaching and an equilibrium linear at the solid-liquid interface [14]. An essential step in the manufacturing process is the recovery of aluminum from coal mining waste, often known as CMW. Low aluminum dissolving efficiency and excessive iron concentration in the raw material are the two key issues that arise in applications. Both of these concerns have an impact on the quantity and quality of output [15]. The ore dressing process generates a significant amount of bauxite tailings, which are the primary solid wastes. The amount of Al_2O_3 and Fe_2O_3 that may be found in bauxite tailings can reach as high as 50 and 13 percent, respectively. The current research [16] suggested a workable technique for using bauxite tailings to make polymeric aluminum ferric chloride (PAFC), a novel composite inorganic polymer that may be used to purify water. More than ninety percent of the waste from coal is composed of aluminum oxide (Al_2O_3 , between 16 and 36 percent), silicon dioxide (SiO_2 , between 45 and 58 percent), and carbon (4 to 25 percent) [17]. A combination of n-butanol (nBA) and isopropyl ether (iPE) was used in an experiment to study the process of solvent extraction of phosphoric acid from wet process phosphoric acid generated by degrading low-grade phosphate with hydrochloric acid [18]. This method was used to extract phosphoric acid from the wet process phosphoric acid.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

Bauxite was purchased from the S.D fine chemicals and waste HCl was brought from the industries. Typical yields give 52.60% of conversion when 23 g of bauxite and 60 ml of waste Hydrochloric acid was used.

Method

The process takes place at 110°C temperature and 1.3 atmosphere pressure with constant stirring for 3.5 hour. If one goes, if 12.78 gm of obtain product the pure product was about 10 gm and other 2.78 gm was product with impurity of HCl with complex structures. One modification in the process can be made with regards to temperature that if the process takes place at 1300°C and 2 atmosphere pressures; we get very high yield of Aluminum Chloride and conversion of raw materials. But at 1500° C temperature and 4.7 atmosphere pressure; we get high purity and basicity of product. It simply shows that elevation in temperature gives higher purity. But the utility required for higher purity is comparatively very high than lower purity product. Rather than manufacturing highly pure product, production and purification of lower quality product is more economical. At lab scale, three different runs were



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taken as shown in Table 1. The process takes place at 1300° C and 2 atmosphere pressure; we get very high yield of Aluminum Chloride and conversion of raw materials. But at 1500° C temperature and 4.7 atmosphere pressure; we get high purity and basicity of product [7-10]. In first run, 75 g/mole of bauxite and 184 ml (excess) of HCl were reacted at atmospheric pressure and at 70°C for a period of 1.5hrs on magnetic stirrer. The whole mass was then filtered to adjust the pH from 3-4 using aluminum hydroxides. It was cooled in ice to obtain 30% conversion.



The above steps were repeated for second run where, 59.987 g/mole of bauxite and 92 ml (excess) of HCl were reacted for 2hrs, keeping temperature of 80°C. The pH was set to 3-4 using aluminum hydroxides to get conversion of 41.675 %. Similarly, the third run was taken by reacting 23 g/mole of bauxite and 60 ml (excess) of HCl keeping temperature of 110 °C for a period of 3.5hr and keeping pH of 3-4. The product was cooled in ice and here we get conversion of 52.60% in reaction.

Model Summary

The modeling was done using the Box-Behnken Design (BBD) method where the temperature and time were used as the variable from Table 1. The obtained R-sq. value is 99.35% which says the model is in good agreement with the experimental data. Also Figure 3 shows the contour plot of yield with respect to temperature and time and Response plot also is also depicting the same.

RESULT

It was effective in making the synthesis of the aluminum chloride, which has the capacity to remove the color and make sludge. In this particular instance, the yield that was attained was 52.60%. Following the analysis of the experimental data with modelling using the BBD response surface approach, the results of the investigation into the influence of time and temperature on yield were presented. The value of P for all the relations in Table 2 is less than 0.05, but the value for Temp. time is 0.06. This indicates that the model variables have a fair level of agreement with the experimental data. Table 2 displays the coded coefficient for this situation. Table 3 presents the Model summary, which reveals that the R-sq. value is 99.35 percent. Table 4 presents the Analysis of variance data, which reveals that the two-way interaction data for time and temperature is 0.06, and the remainder values of P are less than 0.05. This indicates that the experimental data and the model data have a good match. Table 5 displays the Regression Equation in Un-Coded Units. The answer C7, which represents the conversion, is connected to the variables time and temperature as a result of the equation that is presented. Figure 3 depicts a contour plot of response with respect to time and temperature, and Figure 4 depicts a surface plot of response with respect to time and temperature. In both figures, it is easy to observe that when the temperature and the amount of time both rise, the response C7 (conversion) also increases.

CONCLUSION

In order to produce aluminum chloride, the suggested technique makes use of both waste hydrochloric acid and bauxite. The aluminum chloride that is generated as a result of this process is suitable for use in ETPs for the treatment of wastewater. Putting this strategy into practice on a massive scale would be advantageous. After using this technique, one is able to draw the conclusion that by employing this methodology, one is able to cut down on the waste of HCl in industrial settings and may reuse it for the creation of the product indicated (aluminum chloride). The water bodies suffer damage as a result of HCl's presence. Therefore, the suggested technology is applicable to those sectors of the economy that generate waste HCl as a byproduct of low concentration. In addition, the experimental modelling has been completed, and the results are very similar to the answer obtained from the conversion (the value of R-squared being 99.35%). In addition, the analysis of the variance regression equation demonstrates how the reaction may be forecasted by correlating time and temperature.





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Table 1 Different Practical Run Table

Sr. No	Test	Temperature (°C)	Pressure (atmosphere)	Time (hour)	Result (gm)	Conversion (%)
1	Bauxite=1 mol=119.975 g/mol HCl = 6 mol = 184 ml(excess)	70	1	1.5	36	30.00
2	Bauxite = 0.5 mol = 59.987 g/mol HCl = 3 mol = 92 ml(excess)	80	1	2	25	41.675
3	Bauxite = 0.191 mol = 23g/mol HCl = 1.959 mol = 60 ml(excess)	110	1	3.5	12.78	52.60





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Table 2. Model Summary

S	R-sq.	R-sq.(ad)	R-sq.(prod)
0.801858	99.35%	98.88%	95.36%

Table 3. Coded Coefficients

Term	Coif	SE Coif	T-Value	P-Value	VIF
Constant	45.200	0.359	26.05	0.000	
Temp	8.866	0.283	31.27	0.000	1.00
time	1.734	0.283	6.12	0.000	1.00
Temp*Temp	-1.925	0.304	-6.33	0.000	1.02
time*time	-0.925	0.304	-3.04	0.019	1.02
Temp*time	-0.900	0.401	-2.24	0.060	1.00

Table 4. Analysis of Variance

Source	DF	Ad SS	Ad MS	F-Value	P-Value
Model	5	685.111	137.022	213.11	0.000
Linear	2	652.879	326.440	507.70	0.000
Temp	1	628.828	628.828	978.00	0.000
time	1	24.051	24.051	37.41	0.000
Square	2	28.992	14.496	22.55	0.001
Temp*Temp	1	25.778	25.778	40.09	0.000
time*time	1	5.952	5.952	9.26	0.019
2-Way Interaction	1	3.240	3.240	5.04	0.060
Temp*time	1	3.240	3.240	5.04	0.060
Error	7	4.501	0.643		
Lack-of-Fit	3	4.501	1.500	*	*
Pure Error	4	0.000	0.000		
Total	12	689.612			

Table 5. Regression Equation in Un-Coded Units

C7	=	-53.92 + 1.422 Temp + 10.41 time - 0.004812 Temp*Temp - 0.925 time*time- 0.0450 Temp*time
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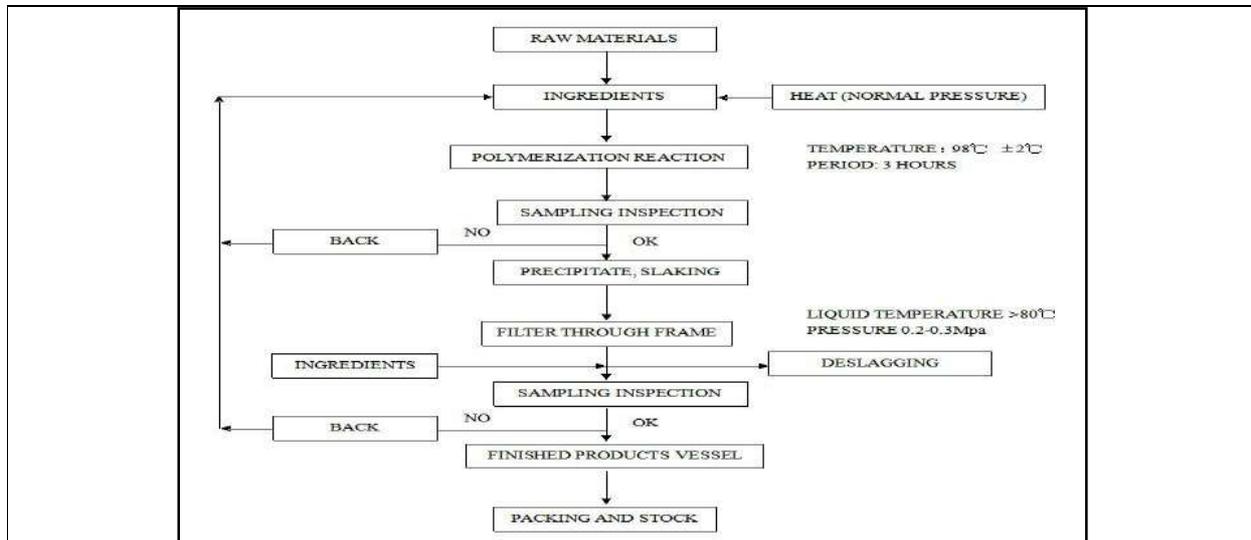


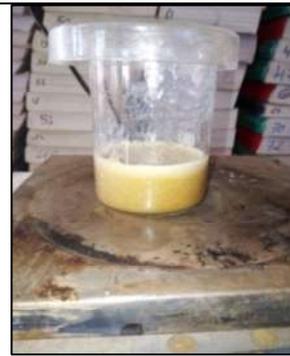
Figure 1. Block diagram of the experimental Process



Bauxite Waste



HCL



Aluminium Chloride

Figure 2. Raw material

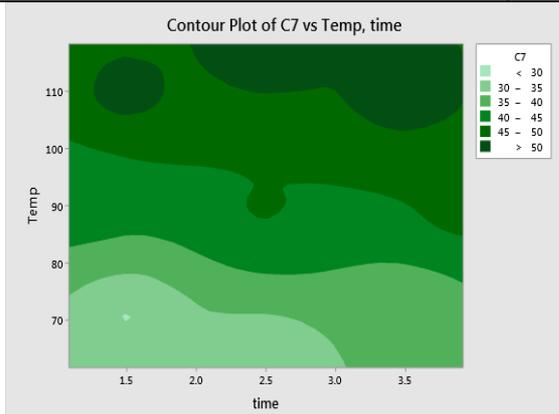


Figure 3. Contour plot of response with respect to time and temperature

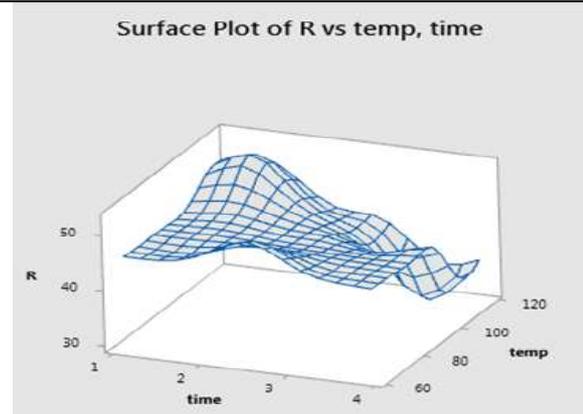


Figure 3. Surface plot of response with respect to time and temperature





The Distribution Study of ^{36}Cl (test-case) for PET using a Monte Carlo Technique

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ABSTRACT

A positron emission tomography (PET) scan is an imaging test that has a wide application in medical diagnostics. Diagnosis which are not possible through X-ray and other methods can be done through PET specially to study the biochemical function of different tissues and organs. Normally a PET scan uses a radioactive active element ^{18}F which is a beta emitter for the process. The much detail study has been performed where a PET-image was collected to understand the imaging process through simulation which reduces the cause of exposure to radioactive substance. In this work we change our element to ^{36}Cl as a test case, which is again a radioactive active element and a beta emitter. Since in the previous work it was shown that radioactive is a random process and the distribution of ^{18}F in blood is random, thus it was important to include the randomness in the simulation. In this paper again a Monte Carlo based technique has been applied for random distribution of radioactive element and performed the simulation.

Keywords: Random number, pseudo random number, efficiency.

INTRODUCTION

High performance Computing system is very essential in present days. Its relevance is reflected starting from any technological application to medical imaging along with studying the performance and improvement in any imaging devices through simulations requires high performance computers. Many experts in the field came across random





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number (RN). RN has lot of applications starting from the uses in defense signal processing for radar, remote control of signal, codes encryption etc. This makes RN a very important from application point of view and also it's generation. There are many methods to produce these RNs, for instance, a midpoint formula and many more. But out of many methods, Monte Carlo based simulations uses these pseudo RN generators for many model predictions and the probability of different outcomes in a process that cannot easily be predicted using normal numerical methods. A Monte Carlo simulation can be used to tackle a range of problems in virtually every field such as finance, engineering, supply chain, and science. It is also referred to as a multiple probability simulation. Many stochastic process such as radioactivity, jitter of electronic, frequency of oscillator [1-2] uses the random numbers for the generation of physical Situations. In the present case we have used to simulate the situation of distribution of ^{36}Cl -as a test case, in a small blood vein which can be under go PET imaging in later stages as in the previous case we have used ^{18}F [3].

METHODOLOGY

A Monte Carlo based model simulation has been done using pseudo random number generators which generates the random number between 0 and 1 with zero reparation within one million events. There are varieties of RN generators such as RNG1, RNG2, RNG3 & RNG4 [4-5]. We have taken an examples as follows. Let a small vein having 30 mm length and 10 micrometer wide (radius is 5 micrometer) since the PET imaging can also be applicable to Brain and micro vein and tissues, so we have considered the hard task. We have generated the pseudo random number between 0-50 mm and picked up the random number which lie within the wall of the veins. For our case we have generated 3100 events randomly distributed but by picking up randomly lying within the wall of the vein, considering the radioactive element mix with the blood randomly and flow, we got a 10% event that are within the wall. The image is shown in Fig.1 (a). The events within the vein is very less for a good imaging since the 2d map will require a good statistics. So we adopted another method, where we have thrown 3100 independent events randomly and then we picked up these considering all are within the wall of the vein. Here in the second case we adapted a different approach rather than throwing and picking within the wall, we considered that the all ^{36}Cl has mixed with the blood randomly and their motion is random, which has been shown on Fig.1(b).

Fig.1 (a): The event (radioactive substance) are distributed randomly including the vein lines. Than the events which were fall within the vein can have only accepted and reaming were rejected. [b] The opposite of (a) where all the events were generated randomly within the vein and were assumed randomly distributed inside the vein. One can see the density (^{36}Cl) is different in both the cases even if it is the same vein. The corresponding 1D histogram has also shown in Fig.2 (a) and Fig.2 (b). One can see from Fig.2 (a) & Fig.1 (a) that the throwing event and picking up is not an efficient way but this is a genuine way which consumes more time and more events will require for the process. This makes the simulation slower and the image quality will be not good. Whereas in the 2nd method (random mixing with blood all ^{36}Cl are flowing randomly) looks an efficient way, as the statistics will be more and the simulation will be faster. Fig.2 (a): The 1d histogram of the events (radioactive substance) which are within the vein but picked up by method first (see text for details) which are also picked from Fig.1 (a). [b] The 1d histogram of the events (radioactive substance) which are within the vein but picked up by method Second (see text for details) which has relation with Fig.1 (b). One can see the flat and more events in second distribution compared to first indicates the uniformity and availability of more ^{36}Cl . The second approach involving simulations will be much appropriated.

CONCLUSION

From the above calculation and simulation one can see that the most effective way to do the simulation is the second mechanics where it has considered that all the ^{36}Cl has mixed randomly with the blood and flowed. The first approximation looks more realistic i.e. the picking up events which lie within the vein boundary but the second one is more preferable for computer simulation point of view as it will increase the statistics, make the simulation faster





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and the image quality sharper. Here the ^{36}Cl which was used as a test case also proves to be significant as the result justifies for the case of formerly used ^{18}F .

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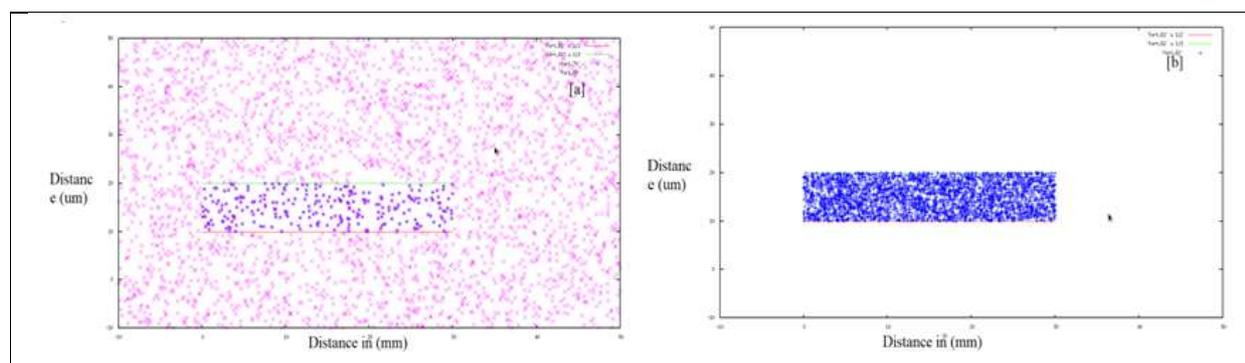


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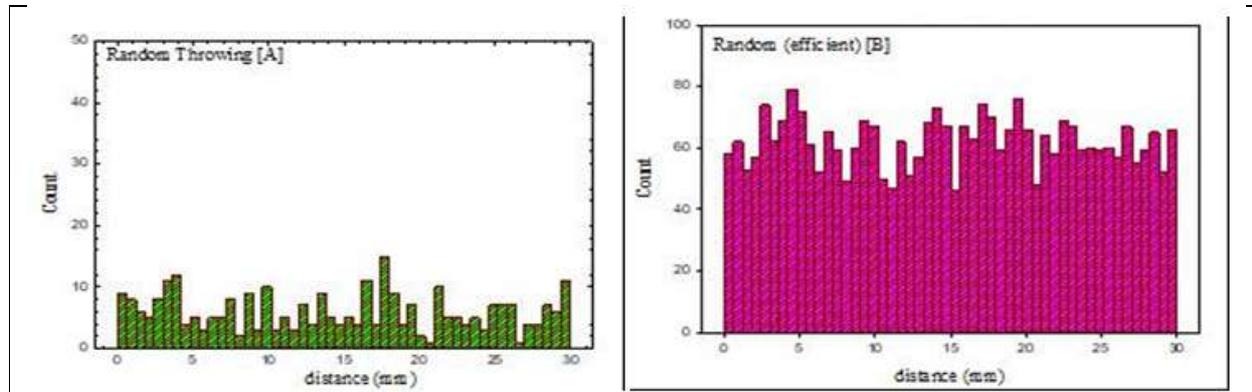


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Performance Optimizer LTE Evaluation Algorithm for Hard Handover with Average RSRP Restraint

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ABSTRACT

Our team invented the "hard handover" approach to enhance 3GPP LTE network design. This strategy successfully reduces complexity, but it reduces system throughput and increases time. Average received signal reference power (RSRP) with LTE hard handover is a novel method that reduces network failures, improves throughput, and maintains RSRP levels during physical cell identification events in mobile networks. This novel strategy achieved these aims. This was done without risking the uptime of a vital link or exposing too much data to packet loss. It went smoothly. In the second part of our analysis, we compared LHHAARC to industry-standard handover processes. LTE Handover Performance Analysis This study will evaluate the Based-on Power Budget Handover Algorithm. This research evaluates handover efficacy. This will be done by testing several HOMS and TTT values under various deployment settings and assessing the results. To finish this research's major goal. This will be done using Reference Signal Received Power (RSRP).

Keywords: Handover, RSRP, LTE, Performance, Optimised

INTRODUCTION

In order to provide communication that is trustworthy and efficient, assessments of the Long-Term Evolution (LTE) networks' performance are necessary. The performance assessment of a hard handover algorithm is a crucial element in the context of handover algorithms that should not be disregarded. This is as a result of the component's importance[2]. There is no reason to disregard this judgment. With the aid of this method, it is possible to change the connection that exists between a mobile device and an eNodeB, which is another name for a base station, at any



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moment. The connection between the mobile device and the eNodeB may be altered in this way. To make the switch to a 4G network as simple and unnering as is physically feasible, it has been recommended that a new radio access technology called as 3GPP LTE be employed. This is done to lessen the amount of discomfort and worry people feel while going through the process. LTE makes use of OFDMA that is based on OFDM. "OFDM" means "Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing." LTE uplinks use SC-FDMA. Both follow FDMA. "OFDM" stands for "orthogonal frequency division multiplexing," which is its definition. OFDMA creates sub-carriers from the bandwidth that is available. These sub-carriers do not interact with one another since they propagate in an orthogonal direction. This results in a more efficient use of bandwidth[4]. Downlink LTE communication begins with the Resource Block, which is the smallest unit of its kind. It is sometimes abbreviated as RB. The bandwidth of 180 kilohertz is maintained during the whole millisecond. The structure of the RB consists of a total of twelve sub-carriers. The evolved NodeB, as well as the S-GW and the PGW (eNodeB) are the three most significant parts of the design of an LTE network. The two eUTRAN interfaces that are utilized for handovers have been given the designations S1 and X2, and their acronyms are what are used to distinguish them. The interfaces received these names. Despite the fact that each of the two interfaces was created to serve a different function, the handover processes may be used with any of them. Stay tuned for the upcoming parts where we'll go into more detail about the handoff techniques for the S1 and X2 interfaces.

The only sort of changeover that may be employed in LTE is referred to as a "hard handover," and it includes handovers for the interfaces of both S1 and X2. Hard handover has the potential to make the LTE network architecture appear to be less complicated. A reliable handover method is required in order to meet the requirements of increasing system throughput while simultaneously decreasing the amount of time spent in handoffs and the overall latency in the system[3]. In order to determine what actions should be taken about the handover, a handover algorithm is used. In the event that the criteria specified by the handover algorithm are satisfied, the handover will proceed as planned. The parameters of a handover algorithm are subject to change over time, and this transformation may take place in reaction to the mobile behavior of the user. It is vital to adjust the parameters of a handover approach so that they are at their optimum levels in order to ensure that it is both reliable and effective.

Techniques for handover

A handover is the act of switching a cell's connection between two radio channels, which might be in the same cell or in a different cell. This switching can take place inside the same cell or in a different cell. There are two different ways that handovers might take place. Hard and soft handovers exist. Soft handovers are called Connect (Entry)-Before-Break (CBB) while hard ones are Break-Before-Connect (BBC). These sentences explain the handoff sequence. After going through both soft and hard handovers, the LTE manual includes a section on the handover process.

Hard Handover or (Break-Before-Break Handover)

When referring to handover functionality, the term "hard handover" refers to a type of handover in which all of the prior radio links in the UE need to be severed in order for the new radio connections to be made. In older wireless networks, the hard changeover method is typically used to solve handovers that need to be performed. Following the completion of the hard handover, the user is required to detach themselves from the source cell to which they are currently connected in order to connect to the destination cell[3].

Soft Handover or (connect-Before-Break Handover)

Soft Handover stops calls from being transmitted between cells if the radio link between them is lost or disturbed. Soft handover keeps the user equipment (UE) connected to the UTRAN while adding and removing radio connections. Gentle handover needs radio connection changes. WCDMA cells gradually alter. WCDMA's centralized Radio Network Controller (RNC) controls transmission control for each user's equipment. WCDMA handles this. User equipment (UE) may connect to two or more cells (or cell sectors) simultaneously during a conversation. Linking user equipment (UE) to cells from the same site simplifies handover. Maintaining a session, preventing voice talks from breaking up, and resuming a packet session after termination need a flawless handoff. Gentle transition in a WCDMA network needs more intricate signals, methods, and system architecture than needed.





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In LTE, handover

Downlink LTE handover mechanisms for active UEs include S1 and X2. Voice or data packets may be transmitted or received from the core network when the UE is operational. eNodeBs employ X2 handover to balance load and prevent interference. An S1-handover operation is started if there is no X2 interface between two eNodeBs or if the source is set up to transmit to a designated destination over the S1 interface. The source eNodeB transmits or there is no X2 connectivity between the two. [2]. S1-based handover is utilized to connect to non-3GPP access technologies like CDMA2000/HRPD. S1 and X2 handover processes include three stages: design, implementation, and termination. During setup, UEs must transmit measurement survey reports to the sender eNodeB. The source eNodeB uses these queries to route the user equipment (UE) to a destination eNodeB. The source eNodeB considers additional criteria than measurement data before sending a control message to the destination to commence the handover. When instructed to prepare for transmission, the destination eNodeB establishes a buffer for the user equipment (UE) to be sent. After the preliminary step, the source eNodeB begins handing over management of the UE. The source eNodeB informs the UE of its migration to the new one. After receiving the message, the UE disconnects from the source eNodeB and connects to the destination. All UE packets are transferred simultaneously from source to destination eNodeB. The destination eNodeB's UE buffer will store these packets. After connecting to the eNodeB, the UE sends buffered packets, followed by gateway packets.

Handover Algorithm in Long Term Evaluation

In this part of the article, we reviewed the three most common handover strategies, as well as the algorithm that is advised for the LTE system.

Hard Handover Algorithm in Long term evaluation

LTE Hard Handover technology uses just the Handover Margin (HOM) and Time to Trigger (TTT) timer to simplify and speed up handovers. Another term is Power Budget Handover Algorithm. During the handover, the HOM will camp the mobile on the best cell[2]. The "Ping-Pong effect" reduces needless handovers when HOM and TTT are used together. This effect moves a mobile quickly from a serving cell to a target cell and back to the serving cell. Each switch requires the destination cell to buffer incoming traffic, which reduces system throughput, signaling resource utilization, and data traffic delay. Thus, proper handover prevention is essential. The total transfer time (TTT) limits the delay of a handover action. Handover is possible only once TTT is met. Figure 1 illustrates LTE hard handover basics. "Ref. signal received" shows signal strength. LTE power is indicated in decibels (dB) as RSR Power (dB) unless otherwise stated[1]. As a mobile device moves away from a cell, its RSRP (Received Signal Strength and Power) gradually decreases. Due of its closeness to the target cell, the mobile device's RSRP will progressively climb. Successful turnover needs the handover method and both trigger criteria.

$RSRP_r > RSRP_s + HOM$

$HO\ Trigger \geq TTT$

The RSRP_r's are the messages that are sent from the cell that is serving the target cell to the cell that is being served. In contrast, the RSRP_s are the messages that are sent in the opposite way from the cell that is serving the target cell. After the first condition has been met, the HO Trigger is the one that initiates the countdown because it is the handover trigger.

Signal Strength-based TTT Received Window Algorithm

Three phases simplify the Received Signal Strength-based TTT Window Algorithm. After processing, all relevant data is collected and utilized to compare possibilities from decision-making through plan execution.

$RSS_r(nT_m) = \beta RSS_r(nT_m) + (1-\beta)RSS_r((n-1)T_m)$

Measurements of the RSSF, sometimes called the filtered received signal strength or RSRP, are taken at each and every one of the handover measurement times (T_m). The "forgetting factor," often known as a false fraction, is

illustrated below with the following examples:

$$\beta = \frac{T_u}{T_m}$$





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The number T_m is divisible by the number T_u . The following criteria will be applied in doing the analysis of the RSS feeds:

$$RSS_F(nT_u)_{TS} \geq RSS_F(nT_u)_{SS} + HOM$$

The $RSSF(nT_u)_{TS}$ and $RSSF(nT_u)_{SS}$ filters erase target and serving sectors at the n th interval. HOM's continuous threshold.

Using this method, the value of the immediate RSS feed is kept track of for each individual eNodeB and recorded. A variable called the forgetting factor is applied to the old data in order to obtain the newly filtered RSS value as quickly as possible. The proportion of the current RSS that is dependent on the previous value will decrease as the factor gets closer to zero. This is in contrast to the reliance on the current value, which will increase as the factor gets closer to one. After condition number four has been satisfied, a determination will be made about the transfer.

Integrator Handover Algorithm

The year 2008 marked the beginning of development on a technique of LTE handover that came to be known as the Integrator Handover technique. Remember that the choice you make should be based on how the signal's strength has changed in the past. This is the single most crucial point to keep in mind. There are a few parallels can be seen between the TTT Window Algorithm that is based on Received Signal Strength and the idea of legacy data. The integrator handover method is comprised of three distinct operations: calculating the RSRP difference, computing the filtered RSRP difference, and deciding whether or not to give over control.

$$DIF_{s_j}(t) = RSRP_T(t) - RSRP_S(t)$$

This equation shows the RSRPs acquired from the target cell and serving cell at time t . $DIF_{s_j}(t)$ represents the RSRP difference between user j and the serving cell at the provided time. The following equation may compute how much the filtered RSRP varies from the original:

$$FDIF_{s_j}(t) = (1-\alpha) FDIF_{s_j}(t-1) + \alpha DIF_{s_j}(t)$$

The suggested variable has a range of probable values from 0 to 1, with 0 being the most likely value. The first variable is the RSRP differential that exists between user j and the service at time t , and the second variable is the difference that exists between DIF_{s_j} and DIF_{s_t} . The difference between the two figures will change at any given moment since it is determined by the RSRP differential at that time. The likelihood that the filtered RSRP differences have a stronger influence on the most recent variance increases as we go closer to one. On the other hand, if the difference is equal to zero, the historical difference, rather than the present variance, will be highlighted.

$$FDIF_{s_j}(t) \geq FDIF_{Threshold}$$

When represented in normal values, the HOM serves the same purpose as the FDIF threshold. A decision to relinquish control will be made right away if the RSRP differential between the cell that is serving and the cell that is being targeted exceeds this level. It is crucial to understand that the lack of an adequate TTT mechanism is what causes the ping pong effect.

Hard Handover with Average RSRP Constraint

In order to accelerate handovers, LTE makes use of a Hard Handover Algorithm in conjunction with an extra RSRP average. In this section, the operation of the average RSRP constraint LTE Hard Handover Algorithm is broken down and described. The formula that has to be applied in order to determine the typical RSRP is as follows:

$$RSRP_{avgS_j} = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^N RSRP_{s_j}(nT_m)}{N}$$

User j was successful in obtaining the RSRP from cell S 's transmission during the n th handover. The overall use of the time T_m and the measurement period T_m is represented by the number N . This is what is meant when people talk about the $RSRP_{s_j}(nT_m)$. It is feasible to calculate the typical measurement time for a handover ($RSRP_{avgS_j}$) for the cell S that was received by the user j by first adding the measurement times (T_m) of all n handovers up to N and then dividing that total by N . This will give you the typical measurement time for a handover for the cell S [6]. The following is an illustration of a common restriction that is imposed on RSRPs:

$$RSRP_T(t) > RSRP_{avgS_j}$$





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The LTE Hard Handover Algorithm considers several criteria before switching networks: where $RSRP_{avgS_j}$ is the formula's average RSRP and $RSRP_T(t)$ is destination cell T's latest RSRP: where $RSRP_T(t)$ is the latest RSRP from destination cell T, and RS.

$$RSRP_T(t) > RSRP_s + HOM$$

$$HO\ Trigger \geq TTT$$

In the event that equations 10, 11, and 12 are not satisfied in their whole, the transfer will not take place. You must not forget that the $RSRP_{avgS_j}$ variable is reset to 0 after a successful handover that takes place as a consequence of changes in the serving cells. This is an extremely important detail that you must not overlook.

Performance

Transmission component performance is measured by UE transmissions per second. This statistic is one of seven system-performance cells. Put (t), where J is the total number of users, is the amount of packets user j received (in bits) during the simulation period t. This equation represents the total number of simulations and users as T and J. Detailed explanations of each metric follow. User equipment (UE) transmissions per second indicate the simulation's total transmissions. Number of broadcasts. Here's a brief summary.:

$$HO_{avg} = \frac{HO_{Total}}{J \times T}$$

J and T represent simulation time and users, respectively. Average transmissions per UE per second (AvgHO) and total transmissions (TotalHO) represent "average" and "total" transmissions. The value of TotalHO will only increase in the case that the transfer is successful. The successful transition from one channel to another occurs when the user is successfully guided from the source cart to the destination cell while maintaining continuous data transfer. The whole BTS signal, which is transmitted once per second, is received by each individual user who is currently present in a cell.

$$throughput = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{t=1}^T tput_j(t)$$

This is expressed as $tput_j(t)$, where J is the total number of customers, T is the total number of leisure times, and t is the total amount of bundles (in bits) obtained by client j during the given time interval t. Seven separate cells execute the framework.

$$Throughput = \sum_{c=1}^C \text{cell throughput}_c$$

in contrast to the permeability of cell membranes. The term "system delay" refers to a system's normal head-of-line (HOL) or queuing delay. This amount of time occurs between the HOL delay and the Handover packet's entry into the eNodeB buffer. You may describe this concept using the equation that is shown in the paragraph following this one.

$$CellDelay = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J W_j(t)$$

where J is the cell's total number of customers, T is the simulation duration, and $W_j(t)$ is customer j's HOL postponement at time t. The framework's overall delay determines the following seven cells defers.:

$$Packet\ Delay_{Total} = \sum_{c=1}^C \text{Packet Delay}_c$$

...where C stands for all of the simulation's cells and the variable Packet Delay_c , defined by equation (16), symbolizes the throughput of each individual cell in cell c. where equation (16) specifies the throughput of each individual cell in cell c.

CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOPE

During the course of this investigation, a fresh method for handover is suggested, and the effect that method has on a number of downlink LTE system handover optimization parameters is investigated and assessed. The performance of the suggested algorithm varies from that of the other three handover methods over a broad variety of UE speed settings. Moreover, the performance of the recommended approach is superior. The manner in which the handover for integration will take place will be determined based on the outcomes of several computer simulations. It is also necessary to note out that the handover technique that was provided performs better than other algorithms that were taken into consideration. This is something that has to be mentioned. On the other hand, it boosts the overall



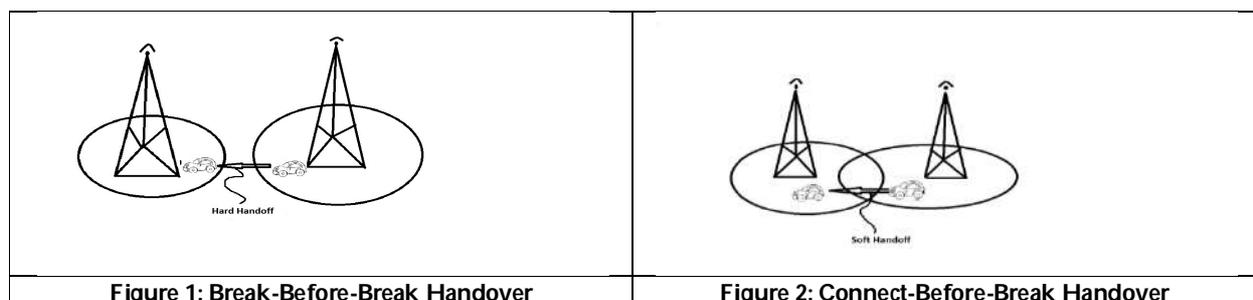


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capabilities of the system by an additional 3.55%, 25%, and 1.30% accordingly. Three of the most common handover algorithms include the LTE hard changeover, the RSS-based web window, and the integrated handover algorithm. The suggested handover approach not only assures a smoother transition when compared to these techniques, but it also results in lower latency for the system as a whole.

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