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Article

# The Role Of Smart Transport In Urban Planning And The Transition From Traditional To Smart Cities In Developing Countries With Sustainability Requirements

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#### Abstract:

Background: Smart transport plays a crucial role in urban planning and the transition from traditional to smart cities in developing countries with sustainability requirements. Traditional cities in developing countries often suffer from traffic congestion, air pollution, and inadequate public transportation systems, which can impede economic growth and negatively impact the quality of life for residents. Smart transport solutions can address these challenges by providing more efficient, sustainable. Here is a possible business model for an ITS system in a high-potential city in Iran, Based on IoT analysis, Mashhad city in Iran selected as a high-potential city to be changed to a smart city in the transportation sector. In the localization business model, the Uber smart transportation business model as a successful world experience is considered the base model. Methods: Based on the literature review, various criteria and sub-criteria were identified and determined in designing a new localized transportation business model. A questionnaire was prepared and filled with the help of 11 experts, method IAHP technique; Results: The present study showed the possibility of monthly payments for customers, software development, and the addition of luxury cars are among the most important sub-criteria with high weights; Conclusions: Working with transport companies, schools and universities as key partners solves reaching a strong and sustainable smart transportation system.

Keywords: Traditional To Smart cities; Smart Transportation, Mashhad City.

#### 1. Introduction

A land planning process is based on the use of planning tools, which refer to theories and model studies at different levels and administrative scales to define and analyze study areas. Italian law lays the basis for planning, which consists of national and regional laws. Therefore, it is often not sufficient to meet the needs of the territories, since legislation is rigid and generalized, whereas territorial characteristics tend to be determined by geography and politics. As a result, territorial evolution adapts to the social, economic, and historical-cultural demands generated by the process of territorial evolution.[1], In history, cities have either innovated and stayed ahead of the times, or fallen behind and

begun to malfunction, with services not keeping pace with the needs of the population. If a community does not embrace progress or take advantage of new technologies, it could be at risk of slowing down its growth and eventually falling behind. This can lead to the community becoming isolated from the rest of the world, thereby diminishing commercial and tourist demand. Smart cities are the result of two different processes: a historical process that has caused stratification in cities, and a technological process that provides smart services to its inhabitants. At present, urban planning is adapting to the changes in territories in order to regulate their effects as they arise, rather than following predetermined norms and regulations [4]. In recent years, a revolution has taken place that has affected the entire world and created a completely new civilization. That has affected all human activities, and with the development of the internet and communication and information technologies, the world has moved towards an intelligent civilization [2,]. Over time, the internet is slowly moving from the internet to the Internet of Things (IoT), affecting everything. In the IoT, everything will be connected, and objects can communicate with each other through different sensors [2]. The growth and development of the IoT in recent years have expanded the scope of data and information [3, 61-62]. In the last decade, businesses and incomes without the internet and the IoT have become increasingly difficult. In fact, a company with no specific business plan will fail [5, 61]. Therefore, this new science has been supported and considered in countries such as the United States, China, the European Union, Egypt, and Iran. The convergence of massive data, highly efficient networks, social media, low-cost sensors, and a new generation of advanced analytics has opened up countless opportunities for businesses to make the most of them or enter a new market. Find or strengthen their operations in the current market [6]. The IoT is one of these new markets that can offer countless opportunities to businesses in various fields. Big changes are made with small changes. And the IoT could be the source of millions of changes in many areas over the next few years. Looking at the IoT as a source of data production and its impact on information technology infrastructure and the use of advanced methods in data analysis are among the exceptional and important opportunities in this regard [7-8]. In urban planning, interest in smart planning is high in order to holistically integrate choices and decisions that are suitable for complex territorial systems. Smart planning assumes this role of a connection process where 'there is a scientific approach to urbanization, based on a holistic and rigorous plan of action which shapes the entire city, homogeneously, making it sustainable' [3]. Moreover, smart planning has the important role of connecting the city's technological network with territorial resources, in order to let them become part of the heritage of the city [6]. Because of the expansion of machine life and the increase in using mobile phones, the need to use smart transportation in the country is felt more and more. Metropolises such as Mashhad, like most advanced cities in the world, pursue the development of information and communication technology through comprehensive programs as smart cities [9-10]. In Iran, because of the development of cities and increasing population and limitations of energy and economic resources, the use of old systems that have little efficiency, the use of the current approach is not considered correct feedback; For this reason, in transportation, which is one indicator of the development and advanced of cities, it is not possible to control and manage transportation networks in traditional ways, and one of the main components of a smart city is the use of smart systems in transportation.

The paper has a particular interest in the transportation system as a possible example of real smart and integrated development in Mashah city in iran. Because Smart planning, applied to this type of landscape, has a positive influence on the development of the environment, the landscape, infrastructure, mobility, services, energy, research, and innovation [11,12]. This hypothesis is based on the concept that the territories must be planned by the urban planning instruments drawn up in observance with the legal norms, but must be administered with smart planning process. Territories should be

governed by strategic plans, which define objectives and implement actions based on priorities and compatibility through a decision-making process, According to the paper, the Importance and necessity should be: Aging of public transport fleets, especially buses, Administered with smart planning processes, Low-cost gasoline for private cars, Governed by strategic plans that choose priority decisions for sustainable development, environmental protection and the prevention of natural risks, Motorcyclists' aggressive behavior and disobedient behavior towards the law, Businesses is the intelligent transportation, According to the specific business framework, developers can use the IoT as a starting point to create applications. Therefore, the present study seeks a new and developed model for intelligent transportation in Mashhad iran.

#### 2. Literature review

Various researchers have studied measuring and evaluating smart city indicators. They use different methods to determine the criteria and sub-criteria of smart cities and the importance of each criterion. The following table 1 gives information about previously published studies on smart cities.

Table 1. Some previous studies about smart cities, (Source: Author).

Researcher	Method	Model	Subject	A most important requirement for smart cities/studied factors
Anand et al.[63]	A.H.P. Fuzzy AHP	DEA: AR-CCR	importance of various criteria for sustainability in smart cities in India, study on sustainable indicators for designing smart cities	Economic prosperity is the most important output
Ozkaia and Erdin [64]	ANP (analytical network process) and TOPSIS technique	MCDM	Evaluation of smart and sustainable cities for 44 cases	Most important: Smart living  Lowest important: Smart governance
Zapolskytė et al.[65]	rank correlation method	MCDA, A.H.P.	Criteria for the smart city	The following factors were studied:  Motor travel and congestion reduction

		mobility system's	measures; pollution reduction
		evaluation	measures; travel safety and accident
			reduction measures; traffic
			management tools and services; smart
			infrastructure measures.
		creating a	The development of sustainable
		foundation for	resources, the development of smart
V 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	hybrid Interpretative Structural Modeling	sustainable smart	buildings, the development of advanced
Yadav et al. [66]	(ISM)-Best Worst Method (BWM) (ISM.)	cities for	research and development systems, and
		developing	the development of intelligent
		nations like India	transportation systems.
		Finding the cities	
		with the most	
		potential for	
	Ordering preferences	becoming smart	
	according to how	cities by studying	The most crucial components of smart
Hajduk [67]	closely they resemble MCDM	66 cities:	cities are urban resistance and
	the ideal solution	Multi-Criteria	transportation efficiency.
	(TOPSIS)	Analysis of	
		Smart Cities on	
		the Example of	
		Polish Cities	
			Among the first-level indicators, digital
		MCDM for smart	infrastructure accounts for 46.92%,
Ye et al. [74]	MCDM	city ranking: a	followed by the digital economy and
		case study in	smart life at 32.48% and 20.60%,
		China	respectively.

Shokouhi et al. [75]	Fuzzy TOPSIS te	chnique	Evaluation of Smart City Criteria in Ahvaz City, Iran	It has been recognized that "stable economies and the ability to transform," "social and ethnic diversity," "crisis management and the ability to organize human resources," "local and regional accessibility," "sustainable resource management," and "individual safety" are all important factors in making a smart city.
Present study	improved Analytic Hierarchy Process (IAHP)	MCDM	smart transportation in modern urban in developing countries	Transportation companies, Quick and easy access, software development, Schools and universities, License from the Tourism Organization, Monthly payment for regular customers, Software development, and infrastructure

Moreover, the above table is based on Dashkevych et al. [76]. Systematic 2022 literature review about Criteria for Smart City Identification only the transportation is noticed only in 6 articles between more than 50 studied articles. Although in the same six articles, the transportation issue is not specifically focused on, this case has been examined along with other cases. This shows the lack of attention to the issue of transportation as an important category in the smartening of cities.

After reviewing the present research, it was found that there is no study for developing countries on the subject of evaluating smart city indicators and smart transportation in modern urban planning with the developed IAHP method. Also, newly designed and considered criteria and sub-criteria for analyzing smart transportation in developing countries are another novelty of the present study. Next to all the novelties mentioned

earlier, the case study of Mashhad as the second most populated city in Iran makes this study more unique.

It should be noted that not every technology-based business is necessarily a startup, but all startups use the web, mobile, internet, and new technologies in some way to grow.

According to the Statistics Center of Iran, 40 million smartphone users in the country, and about 45 million people use their mobile Internet (Statistics Center of Iran, 2018 https://www.amar.org.ir/). There are more than 300,000 active trucks in the country, of which more than 20% are owned by themselves, and the volume of domestic transportation of goods reaches 381 million tons per year, which is done with 97 million shipments (bill of lading) and the volume of 1.4 million tons of goods. It has also crossed the country's borders with 980 thousand trips, 144 million tons of imports with 70 thousand trips, and 6.6 million tons of exports with 13 thousand trips. According to estimates, the freight road transport industry in Iran is an industry of 900 thousand billion US Dollars (about a quarter of oil revenue per year), and more than 71% of freight transport in the country is done by trucks and a share of the freight transit market. It can be 3 thousand billion US Dollars. Regarding region and geographical location, Iran is prone to provide services to countries in the region, and there is a surplus of carrying capacity in the country [11].

This paper aims to Assessment of smart city indicators and smart transportation in modern urban planning in developing countries. We conducted this study in Iran, a developing country, especially in the city of Mashhad, as one of the metropolises of this country.

Therefore, there is an opportunity to set up online businesses in the freight market in Iran. Such businesses do not suddenly but gradually affect the current state of the market and the performance of the main factors that make up the freight market. The main reasons for the demand for this type of startup business in Iran are:

- A) Productivity in the road transport industry
- B) Transparency in the movement of goods
- Faster access to carrying capacity
- D) Expansion of the activity market in neighboring countries
- E) Doing things more efficiently, including eliminating traditional methods (multiple phone calls and e-mail and physically exchanging documents and invoices) in moving goods.

In Iran, we are witnessing the emergence of several business models. Companies will support this business if the plan is acceptable and what it seeks to achieve.

Although in recent years we have seen an increase in the startup of many business companies, contrary to the good things that happen to most startups in developed countries, the fate of Iranian business activists is not so successful. Therefore, we can mention the main and structural reasons for the failure of businesses; the purpose of this study is to solve the following problems.

The lack of corporate identification to business models and the increase in business risk is one of the important characteristics of the business that starts a new business. It differs from a normal business with no previous experience and therefore has its own risk. Unfortunately, due to their specific characteristics, they are faced with failure. This situation

caused investors to have few willingness to participate. Investors tend to invest in a place with little risk, and the money is not at risk. Like private investors, banks tend not to participate in high-risk capital investments. Banks are unaware of the risks in our banking system and are responsible for them. If the investment fails to fail, the entrepreneur should turn the whole bank's capital and be responsible for all the project failure costs. These conditions have made it difficult for investors to absorb capital and start work with a serious obstacle. Always attracting investors for business is one of the main problems.

As mentioned, the lack of necessary infrastructure on the internet of objects is often in the information and communication field. Most of the countries started in different countries based on their similarities and differences. One of the requirements for their success is the existence of necessary infrastructures in the field of information processing, especially the internet of objects. Once your business is about to deal with it and is based on its foundation, it is also necessary to set up its infrastructure. High internet penetration, broadband internet with suitable bandwidth, cost of internet use, internet access in all places, and internet access are important infrastructures for promoting online and online mechanisms. Without universal access to the internet, there will be no possibility of development and success. The most important development of our country in the field of infrastructure is information, and significant progress has been made in this field, but still far from the world's global standards. These conditions can be a major obstacle to success.

The inadequacy of business models to understand what is of particular importance in business is the speed in delivering work. Someone who will take action will also consider another alternative. Many of the shortcomings in the original design show themselves if they are on stage. Therefore, they must put aside their obsession and turn the idea into practice. The business needs to have a business environment. When business is not appropriate in the country, it is impossible to make a quick conclusion. Unfortunately, the business environment in our country does not have appropriate conditions. The inadequacy of business space is one of the main obstacles in shaping our country that can make the success of these businesses impossible or very difficult.

In a simple definition, the weakness of ecosystem transport/ecology is a set of elements in the form of an array of elements in the field of intelligent transportation in which they do not exist. The ecosystem's components include growth and acceleration centers, capital centers, media, universities, educational centers, related government agencies, and legal systems. In some countries and cities, transportation systems are more successful than others because of the difference in this ecosystem. Looking at the country's situation, it can be seen that our country has a serious weakness in these cases, and there is no suitable ecosystem for them. These conditions have led to a serious weakness in our country and insufficient space for growth and prosperity. Therefore, this research aims to present a local model for intelligent transportation.

#### 3. Case study

# 3.1 Case study of Mashhad: A high potential city for localizing smart transportation system

Mashhad is a significant pilgrimage city located in the northeastern Iranian province of Khorasan Razavi. The Imam Reza shrine is visited by millions of pilgrims each year (more than 20 million pilgrims and tourists combined). After Tehran, the country's capital, it boasts Iran's second-largest population. In addition to refugees from Iraq and Afghanistan, the city also attracts tourists and pilgrims. There are 6,434,501 people living there (2021 census). The road and railroad networks in Mashhad have been greatly in-

creased thanks to infrastructure development programs. After Tehran Mehrabad Airport and ahead of Tehran's Imam Khomeini International Airport, the second busiest airport in the nation serves Mashhad. It offers 57 connections with frequent flights to 27 locations in Central Asia, the Middle East, East Asia, and Europe in addition to 30 cities inside of Iran. As the easternmost of Iran's major cities, Mashhad is a hub for trade with the nations that border Iran to the east and is connected to many other cities by the Urban Railway, Railway, and numerous roads. The large population of Mashhad and the growth of Mashhad city in various aspects, especially in transportation, make it necessary to propose a smart transportation system. Figure 5 shows Mashhad's Public transportation infrastructure and holy shrines.

Table 2: Mashhad City in Iran Characteristics, (Source: Author).

	_	
Population	6,434,501	millon
Visitor	20 million	Every year
Density	9,000	per km2
Area 351 km2	Area 351 km2	Area 351 km2
Elevation	1050	m
Precipitation	250	millimeters
Climate	Steppe	climate
Coordinates	36°18′N 59°36′E	-

# 3.1.1. Transportation facilities for the public in mashhad

- > LRT
- > Bus
- > Tax

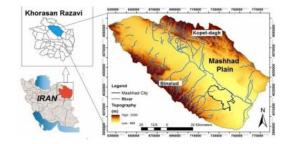


Figure 1: Mashhad City (Iran) location

Figure 2: Transportation Infrastructure city Mashhad(Iran)

N





A:LRT lin Map

B:LRT line

Figure 3: Mashhad transportation infrastructure (A: LRT lin Map, B: LRT line), (Source: Author).







D: airport

Figure 4: Iran Mashhad International Airport (C: Airport Location, D: airport), (Source: Author).





E: Taxi F: Bus

Figure 5: Mashhad transportation infrastructure (E: Taxi, F: Bus).

# 3.2 Smart city and transportation

An intelligent transportation system refers to a set of tools, facilities, and specialties, such as traffic engineering concepts, software, hardware, and telecommunication technologies, that are used in a coordinated and integrated manner to improve the efficiency and safety of the transportation system [18].

In recent years, advanced societies have taken advantage of what is now known as IT benefits by creating intelligent transportation systems (ITS) to provide a convenient infrastructure for traffic professionals to access appropriate technologies in traffic planning, navigation, and control [19]. Provided. Assuming that these developments are positive and the current situation, 16 main systems, and more than 160 services have been pro-

vided by ITS. In this regard, achieving the goals of transport planners that always increase safety and comfort in travel, reduce costs and adverse environmental effects, reduce energy consumption and unwanted delays during travel and ultimately satisfy passengers and streamline traffic flow and transportation will be quoted. ITS intelligent transportation systems consist of new technologies of electronics, computers, IT, electro mechanics, etc., which play a very important role in the planning of land transportation systems today [20].

Intelligent transportation systems (ITS) use and planning date back to the early 1990s, when developed countries began to study, design, and expand these systems. Due to the development of different land transportation systems and the increase in travel demand at random and supply problems, different branches (ITS) have provided very positive effects in solving transportation challenges for governments [21].

Although smart cities are becoming faster and smarter in their function, they are not fully resilient against the impact of disasters. Khatibi et al. [71-73] have conducted valuable and applicable research about the resilience of smart cities. Their studies simultaneously focused on smart and resilient aspects as new city characteristics.

#### 3.3 IoT business models

The use of the IoT in the field of (e-commerce) can have important and positive effects on increasing profitability and starting new and emerging businesses. Dimensions include payment, logistics transportation, financial operations, and warehouse control. The IoT can take over many traditional and manual activities electronically. This technology in e-commerce can affect both the activities of the seller and the producer and the activities of the consumer. Using location and data recognition technologies such as WiFi, GPS, RFID, and low-power Bluetooth can greatly help e-commerce and issues such as supply chain, transportation, and warehousing. For example, in a food factory, the implementation of this technology to manage the warehouse and the inputs and outputs of the warehouse, the condition of the goods, the management of the production date, and the control of the expiration date of the goods can be of great help to the producer. It can also track and collect product information anonymously for post-supply and use it in marketing and sales orientation and decisions [22-24].

According to EU Directive 2010/40 / EU ITS, ITs are described as systems that employ information and communication technology for communication with other modes of transportation as well as in the sphere of road transportation, including infrastructure, vehicles, and users. But ITS might apply to any form of transportation. Numerous programs are among its services and goods. Alberta segmented ITS applications into the eight important performance categories listed below in 2014 [25-26]:

Passenger information services (such as travel advice, etc.)

services for traffic management (such as advanced traffic systems, accident detection, management systems, etc.)

public transportation options (for example, information on electronic transport plans, GPS tracking of bus and place transport, etc.)

Operation of commercial vehicles (such as moving vehicles, clearing trucks at vehicle checkpoints and border crossings, etc.)

e. Services for electronic payments (such as electronic toll payment, etc.)

C) Services for emergency management (e.g., improving vehicle emergency response time by fleet tracking, route guidance, and signal pre-purchase, etc.)

Vehicle safety and control systems (such as vehicle technologies, including peripherals, collision avoidance sensor technologies, etc.)

Information storage services (such as traffic safety data collection, archived data management, etc.). ITIF separates ITS applications into five primary categories: Advanced Passenger Information Systems (ATIS), Advanced Transportation Management Systems (ATMs), ITS Shipping Pricing Systems, Advanced Transportation Systems, Public Transportation (APTS), and fully integrated systems (VII and V2V). The list of ITS programs is shown in seven categories in Table 2. (the previous five categories with two additional categories: car business operations and value-added services).

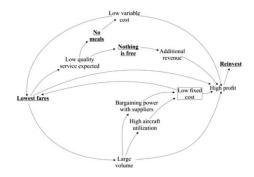
Table 3. ITS applications and	d services [27-30].
Classification	Services and applications
	Provide real-time traffic information
Advanced Passenger Information Systems (ATIS)	Navigation Guide / Navigation Systems
	Parking information
	Street weather systems
	Traffic Centers (TOCs)
Advanced Transportation Management System (ATMs)	Adaptive traffic control
	Dynamic message signs (or variable message signs)
	Measure the ramp
	Electronic Telephone Collection (ETC.)
	Canopy Pricing / Electronic Road Pricing (ERP)
ITS Shipping Pricing Systems	Express Cost (HOT.)
	Car Passenger Lines (Miles) Travel (VMT.) Expenses
	Variable parking costs
	Real-time status information for the public transportation
	system (e.g., bus, subway, rail)
Advanced Public Transportation Systems (APTS)	Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL)
	Electronic rent payment (for example, smart cards)
Car Integration (VII) and Car and Vehicle Integration (V2V)	Collision Avoidance System (CICAS)

	12 of 33
	Smart Compatibility (ISA.)
Commercial car operations	Fleet management
	Shipping management
Theft recovery	The car is connected
	Car sharing

There are numerous obstacles firms must overcome, and they must seek out novel approaches to achieve profitability, value creation, and market share. In this context, innovation in business models can be associated with a new vision for the organization, which is essential for overcoming market challenges and satisfying client needs. This section describes the primary models used in transportation and the necessity to seek out new models to better comprehend transportation business models [31-32].

Historically, the fundamental business models utilized by transportation companies were centered on either low-cost or full-service tactics. Models based on a low-cost strategy are distinguished by their value creation, which is characterized by a focus on what is required to represent value to the traveler. The consumer receives a portion of the cost savings, which reduces their purchasing power. This model has been utilized by Southwest Airlines, Ryanair, Virgin Blue, and Air Asia.

Figure 7 is a graphical representation of airline activities, events, and flows based on a low-cost strategy business model.



**Figure 7.** A simple overview of the Ryanair business model [33].

# 3.3.1 Uber: An IoT based business model

Uber started in 2009 and was launched in San Francisco in 2010. Since then, their growth as a company has been an exponential function (Figure 8). Customers request a ride through the phone app and track the location of their driver. Uber drivers use their own car. The service will be available in August 2016 in 66 countries and 536 cities worldwide. Uber app automatically calculates fare and transfers payment to driver [16].



Figure 8. Uber stock [16].

Due to the unprecedented growth of this company all over the world, the business model used by them is always one of the most important models in the world. In this research, first the business model of the company is examined and then the native model for the business model is introduced.

BMC analysis (Business Model Canvas) is an analytical model that explains ideas about how an organization is created, presented, and valued. Using this approach, 9 elements in 9 baskets are displayed in the business model. Using BMC in itself has advantages in analyzing business models that are able to describe the current state of an organization based on consumer segment, value proposition, value proposition, customer relations, revenue stream, critical assets, and they are partners.

#### 3.3.2 Business Model Canvas analysis

In this part, the results of the literature review-based analysis of Uber's business model are presented.

#### A) Customer section

Uber is a pioneer in online sharing. The customer section determines the user section provided by Uber. Uber focuses on selecting smartphone users and accessing the Google Playstore / Apple Store to download Uber apps. Uber also plans to select users who want easy transportation and want to move from one place to another. It can be concluded that Uber is aimed at mass market users [16,34-35].

#### B) Suggested value

Uber is the first online taxi-sharing company in the world to become an online brand known to users and with various value propositions that users can like. Uber offers several value propositions. First, the GPS used in the Uber app is more accurate than others. So drivers can find the user's location more easily. Second, the exchange rate, which is cheaper than its competitors. The prices charged by Uber are cheap depending on the distance per kilometer and travel time. If there is traffic, it will be in the (driver's) interest. Third, customer safety is guaranteed by attracting a driver with at least three years of experience in 2012. Fourth, Uber is more flexible because it is not point-to-point, so it is more in line with the wishes of customers who want to have more than one destination [11-14].

#### C) Distribution channel

Uber has applications that are used as the core of the shipping business. A rating in the Uber app indicates the driver's evaluation of their performance, provided by customers who use Uber services. In addition, Uber has accepted credit cards to pay for its services through a credit card login code [14-16].

#### D) Communication with the customer

Uber permits online ordering for shared services, including UberX, Uber Moto, and other in-app shipping options. Uber also accepts credit card payments from users. Utilizing a credit card while driving typically results in a minor reduction for service recipients. Similar to other online taxi-sharing services, Uber needs its users to rate the services of the driving partner using a rating system. Uber's customer care handles complaints, criticism, and suggestions from users and service partners. During the trip, the user's safety is totally covered by insurance, preventing the driver from acting negligently [17-18].

#### E) revenue stream

Uber benefits from partnering with partner organizations through profit sharing. In addition, Uber benefits from a 90:10 service ratio distribution (90% for fellow drivers and 10% for Uber). For using credit cards as a means of payment by users, Uber also receives a small profit from the bank with an undisclosed amount. As well as being an app provider, Uber will benefit from 70% of the number of applications and applications installed by Google and Apple [19-21].

#### F) Main sources

Uber has always tried to attract the right number of drivers. For this purpose, there is a sufficient proportion of the number of customers and drivers, and there are at least a few drivers for each trip; this saves customers time [22-23].

#### G) Main activities

Uber's most important activity is attracting customers and drivers because the two-way commission that Uber receives leads to the fact that the more customers and drivers there are, the more Uber revenue increases [24-25].

#### H) Key partners

Uber's key partners are payment networks and taxi systems [26-27].

# L) Cost structure

Uber's cost structure and revenue plan are such that it has a lot of virtual marketing. To this end, the bulk of Uber's cost is devoted to three areas of marketing and software development, as well as manpower for 24-hour support at Uber [28].

#### 4. Materials and Methods

# 4.1 Analysis of the proposed business model

In the localized business model, the SMS section is also included in the customer relationship section because e-mail is less used than SMS in Iran. It is also included in the main activity of software development because, due to the lack of proper infrastructure

in Iran, a new update must be added every month to improve the application capabilities and be more up-to-date. In terms of revenue, the commission is similar to that of Uber.

It should be noted that the items listed in red in the table above are the suggested items for localizing Uber's business model, the operational definition of each of the variables added in table 3.

	Table 3. Operational de	finition of each of the variables. (Source: Author).
Criterion	Under the criteria	Definition
Customer section	Transportation companies	Transport companies are one of the most important customers
		for smart
		Transportation
	Commercial companies	Commercial companies can make an effective contribution to the
		development of the market and smart transportation customers
	Hotels	Hotels are an important destination for smart transportation due
		to many customers.
	schools	Schools, like hotels, play a key role in smart transportation.
Suggested value	Quick and easy access	Fast and easy access is always one of the most important factors
		that intelligent transportation should have.
	Ability to use a car for	A similar value proposition has been implemented by the Tepsi
	two customers with the same	team in
	destination	Tehran.
	Ability to track and inform the	In situations where the freight transport system is used in
	status and position of the ship-	intelligent
	ment	transportation, it is possible to be able to track the status of the
		shipment.
	Activity at any time	Smart cities and smart transportation should be active and
	, ,	available at all
		Times
Main Activity	software development	Software development is one of the most important components
	sort. ac de copment	of intelligent transportation

	Attract motor courier	Attract motor courier to increase customer and speed of work in
	and pickup	intelli-
		gent transportation
	Attract the driver of the	Attracting minibus and van drivers to increase customer and
	minibus and van	speed of
		work in intelligent transportation
	Attract luxury cars for	Luxury cars have their customers, and attracting these cars is
	ceremonies	effective in increasing the customer in smart transportation
Key partners	Hotels and government	Hotels Government offices play a crucial role in smart transpor-
	offices	tation as a
		business partner due to a large number of staff.
	Freight terminals	Freight terminals, as business partners, play a crucial role in
	Ç	intelligent
		transportation due to a large number of means of transportation.
	Luxury car rental companies	Luxury car rental companies play a crucial role in smart trans-
		portation as
		a business partner.
	Schools and universities	Schools and universities, as business partners, play a crucial role
		in intelligent transportation due to a large number of staff.
Main source	Permission from Police	Obtaining the necessary permits from government departments
		and
		police are very important
	License from the Tourism	The Tourism Organization also has direct oversight of trans-
	Organization	portation and
		tourism, and obtaining a license is required
Income flow	Monthly payment for	By signing a contract, regular customers can pay the desired
	regular customers	amount on a

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			the monthly basis to make it easier for them.
		Freight with a commission of	The company's commission is determined according to similar
		90 for the driver	companies
		and 10 for the company	
		Manpower	A significant portion of the costs are spent on manpower wages
Cost	structure	Software development and in-	
Criterion		frastructure	Software development and infrastructure cost a lot.

#### 3.1.1 Multi-criteria decision method (MCDM)

The literal meaning of the word decision is to sever, and its wider meaning is to determine the intent and intention, as well as to conclude and solve. The definition of decision-making is selecting one solution from multiple options. To date, numerous ideas and strategies have been offered for resolving researchers' problems. Numerous mathematicians and industry professionals have, however, examined optimization models since the period of the industrialization of the world, and especially after the Second World War. Classical optimization models emphasize the presence of a criterion (or objective function), so the model may be linear, nonlinear, or mixed. In recent decades, however, researchers have focused on multi-criteria models for evaluating complex decisions [36-37].

Multi-criteria decision-making (MCDM) methods are separated into multi-objective decision-making (MODM) and multi-attribute decision-making (MADM) (MADM). The objective of decision-making is to select the optimal alternative or to assess the choice criteria. Each decision-making approach has a distinct objective: weighting the criteria, ranking the possibilities, and evaluating the criteria, respectively [38-39].

Hierarchical process analysis (AHP) is one of the multi-criteria decision models (MCDM) proposed by Saati in 1988 [69] and showed how the relative importance of a set of activities in decision problems could be This process can be used for a wide range of decision areas because it makes it possible to integrate judgments based on intangible qualitative criteria alongside intangible quantitative criteria. Hierarchy is based on the following principles:

1) Drawing a hierarchical tree,2) Formulating and determining priorities, 3) Logical consistency of judgments [35-39]. Hierarchical process analysis is widely used in solving many complex decision-making problems. In the following (table 4), the 9 degrees scale is defined and described for the process of MCDM and IAHP.

AHP is a technique for facilitating decision-making that highlights the significance of a decision-intuitive maker's judgments and the consistency of evaluating alternative possibilities. The AHP approach is consistent with the behavior of a decision-maker since a decision-maker bases his or her judgments on knowledge and experience, and consequently makes decisions based on this. This approach's strength is that it consistently

organizes tangible and intangible aspects and provides a structured yet relatively straightforward answer to choice difficulties. [69].

This technique, which is one of the MCDM methods, has four basic principles that must always be observed [36-37]:

The principle of inversion: If criterion C1 precedes criterion C2, criterion C2 has priority over n / 1. This principle is always observed in the formation of pairwise comparisons (this principle is known in pairwise comparison matrices in the upper and lower diameters of the main diameter).

The principle of homogeneity: Options and criteria should always be comparable. Including two options in the decision, the model is impossible, one of which is extremely important to the other.

Principle of dependence: In hierarchical models, each level depends on its higher level.

Principle of expectations: Whenever there is a change in the hierarchical model, for example, a criterion is added, all the hierarchical steps must be repeated.

# 4.1.2 Improved A.H.P. Method

The AHP approach has been widely used in MCDM. Completing a comparison matrix (CM) in AHP is very difficult. This method analyzes the reasons for inconsistent CM in AHP and proposes improved AHP (IAHP) to improve CM compatibility using a sorting and ranking method. In other words, in the traditional AHP method, when the number of criteria increases, even comparisons increase. On the other hand, responding in pairs is time-consuming and tedious for the expert. For example, when we have six criteria, in traditional AHP, 15 pairwise comparisons are formed.

On the other hand, if these pairwise comparisons are not answered correctly, it causes the comparison to be incompatible, and the incompatibility rate is more than 0.1. This problem was solved with the Improve AHP (IAHP) method. The steps of this method are given below [70].

# • Determining the set of criteria

The initial scoring of criteria by experts based on a range of 1 to 10 is called discrete ui for each criterion scored. Formation of a pairwise comparison matrix based on equations 1 and 2:

$$a_{ij}=\max(u_{i}-u_{j}.1).if u_{i}\geq u_{j}$$
 (1)

$$a_{ij}=1/(u_{j}-u_{i}).if u_{i}< u_{j}$$
 (2)

#### • Advantages of the IAHP method

This method has the following advantages compared to simple AHP [70]:

1- Compatibility in comparisons: This method with the sorting mode created for the criteria is an always consistent matrix. Simulation studies of this method show that when the number of criteria increases, the weight obtained is in line with The AHP method is typical.

- 2. The effectiveness of information extraction: Since the IAHP does not need decision-makers to perform the pairwise comparison process, a lot of effort (i.e., manpower costs) can be saved.
- 3- Convenience in action: Because in this method, even pair comparisons are not made, so the ease of filling in comparisons causes better and more accurate results.

#### • Results and discussions

First, the weight of 9 main criteria is specified, and then the problem criteria are coded as described in Table 5. These five criteria were paired by 11 experts using the Likert scale. The following table 4 gives detailed information about 11 selected experts, including work experience, job category, educational certificate, age, and gender. The questionnaire was sent to the experts, and answers were collected by the researcher who worked in the field of architecture and specialized in the Internet of Things.

Table 4. Coding of problem criteria. (Source: Author).

Criteria	Code
Customer relationship	1
Suggested value	2
Main Activity	3
Key partners	4
Distribution channels	5
Main source	6
Income flow	7
Cost structure	8
Customer section	9

Table 5. Detailed information about eleven experts. (Source: Author).

No.	work experience	Job Category	Educational	age	gender
			certificate		
1	24	Urban Management	Bachelor	50	Man
2	9	architecture	Bachelor	53	Man
3	20	IT management	Diploma	43	Man
4	19	architecture	Master's	51	Man

5 19 Green space expert Bachelor 45 Man 6 19 architecture Bachelor 39 Female 7 19 Urban Management PHD 42 Man 8 19 Urban Management Bachelor 40 Man 9 19 architecture Bachelor 42 Man 10 18 IT management Bachelor 45 Man 11 16 architecture Bachelor 35 Female						
7 19 Urban Management PHD 42 Man 8 19 Urban Management Bachelor 40 Man 9 19 architecture Bachelor 42 Man 10 18 IT management Bachelor 45 Man	5	19	Green space expert	Bachelor	45	Man
8 19 Urban Management Bachelor 40 Man 9 19 architecture Bachelor 42 Man 10 18 IT management Bachelor 45 Man	6	19	architecture	Bachelor	39	Female
9 19 architecture Bachelor 42 <b>Man</b> 10 18 IT management Bachelor 45 <b>Man</b>	7	19	Urban Management	PHD	42	Man
10 18 IT management Bachelor 45 <b>Man</b>	8	19	Urban Management	Bachelor	40	Man
	9	19	architecture	Bachelor	42	Man
11 16 architecture Bachelor 35 <b>Female</b>	10	18	IT management	Bachelor	45	Man
	11	16	architecture	Bachelor	35	Female

Then their opinions were averaged. After determining the weight of the criteria, components, and sub-criteria, the matrix comparison pair of experts' opinions for the components has been calculated in Table 6.

Table 6. Pair comparison of criteria. (Source: Author).

		Table of Tall comparison of effectian (courter frames).							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	1	1.619	3.57	3.4	3.66	2.83	6.75	5.23	1.2
									3
2	0.617665	1	2	2.66	4.75	2	3.5	6	6
3	0.280112	0.5	1	4.66	2.6	4.25	6.8	5.23	1.9
									2
4	0.294118	0.37594	0.214592	1	3.8	2.06	3.4	1.28	1.3
									3
5	0.273224	0.210526	0.384615	0.26315	1	2.66	2.5	3.1	2.3
				8					3
6	0.353357	0.442478	0.235294	0.48543	0.37594	1	3.28	1.33	1.2
				7					6
7	0.148148	0.285714	0.147059	0.29411	0.4	0.304878	1	1.375	2.6
				8					6
8	0.191205	0.16	0.191205	0.78125	0.322581	0.75188	0.72727	1	3.6
							3		6

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9	0.813008	0.166667	0.520833	0.75188	0.429185	0.793651	0.37594	0.32615	1
								8	

After normalizing the data, the sum of each row is calculated. The line sum of each component is the weight of that component. The incompatibility rate has been calculated through expert choice 11 software. Using the geometric mean and steps of the AHP method, the weighting of the problem components is done as shown in Table 7.

Table 7. Community matrix of experts' opinions and weight of criteria. (Source: Author).

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	weight
1	0.251836	0.340103	0.432015	0.237831	0.211101	0.167353	0.238236	0.208191	0.059146	0.238424
2	0.15555	0.21007	0.242025	0.186068	0.273969	0.133645	0.12353	0.248794	0.288517	0.206908
3	0.070542	0.105035	0.121013	0.325969	0.149962	0.251325	0.240001	0.208191	0.092325	0.173818
4	0.074069	0.078974	0.025968	0.06995	0.219175	0.121818	0.120001	0.050953	0.063955	0.091652
5	0.068808	0.044225	0.046543	0.018408	0.057678	0.1573	0.088236	0.123402	0.112041	0.079627
6	0.088988	0.092951	0.028474	0.033957	0.021683	0.059135	0.115765	0.052943	0.060589	0.061609
7	0.037309	0.06002	0.017796	0.020574	0.023071	0.018029	0.035294	0.054735	0.127909	0.04386
8	0.048152	0.033611	0.023138	0.054649	0.018606	0.044463	0.025669	0.039807	0.147432	0.048392
9	0.204745	0.035012	0.063027	0.052594	0.024754	0.046933	0.013269	0.012983	0.048086	0.055711
	incompatibility rate						0.0614			

It is clear that the least important and the least important component is the criterion of cost structure, and the two criteria of value proposition and customer relationship are of great importance.

This native model is similar to the internet and online taxis. The main product of this indigenous model is the provision of online intercity transportation services; To request a car through this application, passengers, after specifying the travel route and travel options, selecting the type of service, and viewing the cost of travel, request a car. This application automatically connects passengers with the nearest driver and sends the passenger position to the driver. The driver approves it if he wishes; Passengers can also see the position of their driver. The above issue has been examined separately for each of the nine sections.

#### • Customer section

In this part of the Native Business Model, we identify who our customers are. We are not looking for a specific customer but for common features between customers. We need to know the characteristics of customers who choose our company from different services. Attention to customer characteristics is more important than product features because it greatly impacts product design or the type of service provided. The weight of this section is 0.055711, which indicates that it has less priority than others.

#### Communication with clients

In this section, we determine the type of customer relationship. What is the customer's role in our business, how can you be involved in the customer's decisions, and to what extent should this help? What communication methods do you use to track your customers' problems? In this section, questions such as the type of feedback, information, and after-sales service should be answered. Our type of business is very influential in how we interact with customers. For example, consider a driver who performs regular, weekly, and monthly service work in a hotel or office, in which case the driver is in close contact with the customer and the company's support, and every customer contact and contact is related to his previous purchase. The situation requires the person in contact with the customers to be fully involved with their problems and to know their purchase history and problems. This criterion, with a weight of 0.238424, is of the highest importance.

#### • Distribution channels

What methods and techniques do you use to deliver your product or service to customers? Does the customer order through online services? Is it possible to access our services through the application? Should the customer come to our store, or should we go to the customer? Communication, distribution, and sales channels are the be- interface tween the company and its customers. Channels are points of contact with customers and play an important role in the customer experience. The weight of this criterion is 0.079.

#### • Revenue flow

In this section, the method or methods of revenue generation of the company are specified. Everything a business does is to make more money. If the business has several ways of generating revenue, a list of methods should be pro- vided in this section along with the figures. The income method of this business canvas is based on the commission of passenger transportation and finding a customer for the driver. The weight of this criterion is 0.043.

# 5.1 Suggested Value and Discussions

What is the most important value that this business can offer to customers? Why should a customer prefer this business canvas to others? In other words, what does the customer pay you for?

What makes the product or service of this business environment look more distinctive and attractive than other products? Each value proposition consists of a package of products or services that meet the needs of a specific segment of customers and thus create value for those customers. Values may be qualitative or quantitative. The weight of this criterion is 0.206.

# • Key resources

This section lists the most important resources we need to achieve business goals. To know the key elements in the resource sector, is it enough to remove that resource to see if it is possible to achieve a business environment without it? These main sources can be the expenses for advertising, employees' salaries, required facilities in the company's office, etc. The weight of this criterion is 0.061.

The book The Creative Business Model Canvas [40] divides the main resources needed in the business model canvas into four main categories: financial resources, human resources, physical resources, intellectual resources, and intangible assets.

Financial resources: Perhaps the first question to be considered when starting a business is how much money is needed. When writing a business model canvas, the required financial resources should be specified in numbers [41].

#### • Human resources

Every business needs different human resources according to its field of work. This business environment requires accountability experts and several certified public accountants [42-44]. The clearer the type of skills required, the better the staff will be recruited, the better it will be in the future to find out what part of the company has met the needs of the company and the more transparent their achievements.

# • Physical resources

Office costs, servers and electronic equipment such as computers and telephones, office costs, machinery, and so on.

Intellectual resources and intangible assets: Some very important business resources are not visible or physical. These resources are not quantifiable at first glance, but they play a constructive role. Such as the brand, specialized knowledge, licenses, and licenses required for the activity [45].

#### Key activities

Some activities of a business have a vital and key role in advancing the goals of that business [46], these activities constitute the main nature of the business, and their elimination means the elimination of the business. In this section, the main business activities to create the value proposition of the business canvas should be listed [47,48]. For example, for a restaurant business model canvas, branding and advertising are key activities [49], and for a proposed business canvas model [50], customer marketing and attracting the driver of minibusses and luxury cars, etc., are key activities [51]. The weight of this criterion is 0.173.

#### • Key partners

In the Key Partners section, we talk about networking with other businesses. Obviously, for the growth and development of our business, we do not need to do everything ourselves and have all the units within our business. In addition to high costs, these conditions require a lot of time, energy, and space that many businesses can handle. It does not come. In this situation, businesses need to connect. The weight of this criterion is 0.091. For example, an online store network its business requires networking with advertising agencies and does not need to be an agency owner. However, in the bank's business model, financial institutions and financial and credit companies are important business

partners [52-56]. In the proposed business boom model, key partners such as hotels, schools, universities, etc., are [57].

# • Cost structure

The cost structure is one of the most important parts of any business model canvas that calculates the share of each of the various business costs in total costs [58-60]. For example, we may have two different brands of shoes, in one of which the costs related to the production of the product are considered more than the costs related to advertising, and in the other, vice versa.

In the proposed business canvas model, marketing and software development are the cost structure's main components. The weight of this criterion is 0.048. In table 8, the weight of each of the main criteria and sub-criteria is determined.

Table 8. Weight of the sub-criteria of the problem. (Source: Author).

	Table 8. Weight of the sub-criteria of the problem. (Source: Author).						
Criterion	Under the criteria	Weight	Incompatibility rate				
	Transportation companies	0.437257					
	Commercial companies	0.299587					
Customer section	Hotels	0.15754	0.0674				
	Schools	0.105616					
	Quick and easy access	0.368421					
	Ability to use a car for two customers with	0.105263					
	the same		0.0146				
Suggested value	Destination						
	Ability to track and inform the status and	0.263158					
	position of						
	the shipment						
	Activity at any time	0.263158					
	software development	0.347826					
	Attract motor courier and	0.217391	0.0632				
Main Activity	pickup						
	Attract the driver of the minibus	0.130435					
	and van						

	Attract luxury cars for cere-	0.304348	
	monies		
	Hotels and government of-	0.117647	
	fices		0.0514
Key partners	Freight terminals	0.176471	
	Luxury car rental compa-	0.294118	
	nies		
	Schools and universities	0.411765	
main source	Permission from Police	0.466667	0.0248
	License from the Tourism Or-	0.533333	
	ganization		
	The monthly payment for regular	0.75	
Income flow	customers		0.0179
	Freight with a commission of 90 for the	0.25	
	driver and 10		
	for the company		
Cost structure	Manpower	0.4	0.0421
2 332 332 43341 0	Software development and in-	0.6	_
	frastructure		

As it is known, the inconsistency rate in all cases is below 0.1, which indicates the compatibility of the questionnaire and the lack of answers by experts.

# 6. Conclusions

The evaluation of smart transport in urban planning is becoming increasingly important as cities around the world seek to become more sustainable, efficient, and livable. Developing countries, in particular, face unique challenges in their transition to smart cities, but also have the opportunity to leapfrog traditional infrastructure and adopt cutting-edge technologies.

Smart transport refers to the use of technology to improve the efficiency, safety, and sustainability of transportation systems. This can involve a range of measures, including

the use of intelligent traffic management systems, real-time data analysis, and the integration of various modes of transport (e.g. public transit, cycling, and walking). In developing countries, smart transport can play a crucial role in addressing a range of urban challenges, including traffic congestion, air pollution, and inadequate public transport. By leveraging technology to optimize transportation systems, cities can reduce the time and cost of travel, improve accessibility, and enhance safety for all users.

Overall, the evaluation of smart transport in urban planning is critical for the transition from traditional to smart cities in developing countries. While there are a number of challenges to overcome, the potential benefits of smart transport are significant and can contribute to more sustainable, livable, and equitable cities. Iran is a country with a rapidly growing urban population and a significant need for modern, efficient, and sustainable transportation systems. Intelligent transportation systems (ITS) can play a crucial role in meeting this need by leveraging technology to improve the efficiency, safety, and sustainability of transportation systems. Here is a possible business model for an ITS system in a high-potential city in Iran:

- 1. Identify the target market: The first step is to identify the target market for the ITS system. This could include public transport operators, private transport companies, logistics and delivery companies, and individual vehicle owners.
- 2. Define the scope of the system: The next step is to define the scope of the ITS system. This could include a range of features, such as real-time traffic monitoring, intelligent traffic management, and integrated payment systems.
- 3. Develop the technology platform: The third step is to develop the technology platform for the ITS system. This may require partnerships with technology companies and expertise in areas such as data analytics, software development, and hardware integration.
- 4. Develop revenue streams: There are several potential revenue streams for an ITS system in Iran. These include:
- Subscription fees for access to the ITS system
- Transaction fees for payment processing
- Advertising revenue from targeted advertising on the ITS platform
- Data sales to third-party companies for analysis and insights.
- 5. Partner with government and private sector stakeholders: To ensure the success of the ITS system, it is important to partner with government and private sector stakeholders. This could include working with local transport authorities to integrate the ITS system with existing transport infrastructure, partnering with private transport companies to provide access to the system, and collaborating with universities and research institutions to develop and test new features.
- 6. Develop a marketing strategy: Developing a marketing strategy is crucial to promote the ITS system and attract users. This may include targeted advertising campaigns, partnerships with local media outlets, and outreach to community groups and stakeholders.
- 7. Ensure regulatory compliance: It is important to ensure that the ITS system complies with all relevant regulations and standards in Iran. This may require working closely with local authorities to obtain necessary permits and approvals.

Overall, an ITS system in a high-potential city in Iran could offer significant benefits to users and stakeholders, while also creating a profitable business opportunity. However, success will depend on careful planning, investment, and collaboration between various stakeholders.

A localized business model for a smart transportation system in Mashhad, a populated city in Iran, was proposed in the present study. After the literature review, identification of criteria and sub-criteria, and experts' comments, the prioritization of criteria and sub-criterions was made by applying MCDM and IAHP methods to find the most important ones. According to the weighting results, below highlights can be mentioned:

- 1-Among 4 sub-criterions in the customer section criteria, the transportation companies, with the weight of 0.437257, were more important than other customers like commercial companies, hotels, and schools.
- 2- Among four sub-criterions of suggested value criteria, quick and easy access to smart transportation systems is more important than the others. However, the three other sub-criteria achieved acceptable weights and are not to be ignored in the way of having a successful smart transportation system.
- 3- Analyzing the 3rd main criteria shows that software development and attracting luxury cars are among the main activities that need to be tracked.
- 4- Schools and universities achieved the highest weights among all potential key partners, with a weight of 0.41175.

Also, licenses from the Tourism Organization, Monthly payments for regular customers, and Software development and infrastructure are three other important sub-criteria with a high weight of importance. These three can be nominated as the most important sub-criteria among all studied. In addition to improving transportation, smart cities also incorporate sustainability into their planning and design. This includes prioritizing energy efficiency, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and incorporating green spaces into urban areas to improve air quality and promote a healthier environment for residents. To successfully transition to a smart city, developing countries must address the challenges of inadequate infrastructure, limited resources, and technological barriers. This requires collaboration between government, private sector, and civil society organizations to develop a comprehensive strategy that addresses the needs of all stakeholders.

Overall, the role of smart transport in urban planning and the transition to smart cities in developing countries with sustainability requirements is critical for achieving economic growth, improving quality of life, and promoting environmental sustainability. By investing in smart transport solutions and prioritizing sustainability, developing countries can create more livable and resilient cities for their residents.

# Recommendation

- For smart transportation, demand management methods and redesigning streets cross sections are used to change priorities (from private cars to public transport and active modes).
- Maintaining the quality of the intelligent transportation systems and making them more attractive to the private sector

- Information services for intelligent public transportation that are accurate and reliable
- Benefit from increased integration of public intelligent transportation and bike travel in the city.
- Balance efforts on different aspects of intelligent transportation.

# Availability of data and material

The data presented in this study are available upon reasonable request.

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#### Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

#### Author Contributions

SK conceived of the presented idea. N.SH, SH.M, MS, SF, SG,SK, RG developed the theory and performed the computations. SK verified the analytical methods SK drafted the manuscript with input from all authors N.SH, SH.M, M.S, SF, SG, SK, RG supervised and edited the final version. All authors discussed the results and contributed to the final.

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