

Multi-Criteria Vulnerability Estimation Technique for Edges in a Network Graph

A Project Report

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THESIS CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis titled **Multi-Criteria Vulnerability Estimation Technique for Edges in a Network Graph**, submitted by **Manognya Param Koolath**, to the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, for the award of the degree of **Bachelor of Technology**, is a bonafide record of the research work done by her under our supervision. The contents of this thesis, in full or in parts, have not been submitted to any other Institute or University for the award of any degree or diploma.

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ABSTRACT

KEYWORDS: Flood; AHP; TOPSIS; Regression; Clustering; Risk; Vulnerability

This project is aimed at designing and quantifying vulnerability of different streets and localities. The available vulnerability measures only consider the level of inundation from past experiences. But the actual risk/vulnerability would depend on a variety of other factors like the amount of impact the disaster has, resources at hand (government's) to save affected lives and property, and other environmental factors. We come up with a way to take in all these factors into consideration and to give us a vulnerability score, in particular for streets. We have trained the model using data available for Chennai, however, it is possible to reuse this method to other localities and districts as well.

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ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|---------------|---|
| IITM | Indian Institute of Technology, Madras |
| OR | Operations Research |
| DOM | Disaster Operations Management |
| AHP | Analytic Hierarchy Process |
| TOPSIS | Technique for Order of Preference by Similarity to Ideal Solution |
| NIS | Negative Ideal Solution |
| PIS | Positive Ideal Solution |

CHAPTER 1

Introduction

Disasters are any unforeseen serious disruption which can overwhelm the systems in place and involves human, environmental and economic impacts that exceed the society's ability to cope on its own. Most disasters cannot be prevented, but their effects can be mitigated to a great extent as explained in Salamati and Kulatunga (2017). Disaster management aims at avoiding or even reducing the effects in case of a disaster, and at achieving a speedy recovery. Due to the uncertainty of disaster occurrence including various location-based scenarios which can arise, probability of occurrence, the complication in estimating the demand and supply, and the difficulty in identifying the resources available, operations management has become very popular in disaster management. The use of various tools and methods such as OR in disasters is referred to as Disaster Operations Management (DOM), and it has become very popular in the past few years.

There are four main stages or phases in the DOM life cycle, according to FEMA (2004). These are:

1. Mitigation
2. Preparedness
3. Response
4. Recovery

Mitigation includes those measures taken to avoid a disaster from happening, reduce its chance of happening, or diminish its wrecking effects. For example, vulnerability and risk assessment, construction of barriers, building protocols, etc come under the mitigation phase.

Preparedness refers to those plots and plans made to deal and respond in case of a disaster. This stage helps save lives by facilitating quick rescue operations. By procuring and positioning resources, response time during a disaster could be significantly

lowered. Acquiring needed resources, equipment, vehicles, constructing shelter homes, recruiting and training a crew, etc come under the preparedness phase.

Response phase is how we respond immediately to a disaster. During this phase, all measures to keep affected people safe are adopted. It includes evacuation of vulnerable people and animals, search and rescue operations, supplying emergency medical and food kits, etc.

The recovery phase is the long term plans and methods to go back to the normal situation. Removal of debris, reconstruction of damaged infrastructure, financial assistance schemes, etc come under the recovery phase.

For any disaster, the first two phases, mitigation and preparedness, are very important to carry out an efficient disaster response and recovery, and thereby to protect and safeguard lives and property. We can observe from the past few years that to ascertain our goal of safety and low impact in Chennai, the preparedness and disaster management needs to be significantly enhanced.

Disasters seem to be those uncontrollable problems that test the ability of societies and countries to effectively safeguard their people and infrastructure, and to reduce the impacts on human lives and property loss, and to recover soon. The randomness in impacts and problems, and the uniqueness of events demand dynamic, real-time, effective and cost efficient solutions, thus making disaster management very fitting to be solved using OR tools and techniques, as detailed by Altay and Green (2006). Different OR methods have been tried out earlier as described by Hoyos *et al.* (2015) and Bayram (2016). Let's consider the location allocation problem: Given a geographical map of a region, how do we optimally allocate new facilities? As a preparation for any disaster, there are relief centers managed by state governments in our country. These relief centers are not disaster-particular as they are pretty generic and could be used during times of any disaster. For example, the nearest relief center itself might have been affected by the disaster. Now let's consider the problem where we need to allocate new relief centers to satisfy the needs of all disaster-affected (predicted) areas. It involves allocating relief centers to satisfy the demand and needs of vulnerable areas. Location allocation problems map areas to relief centers based on demand, supply and other factors. Since the problem should be solved at a planning stage, it would help to incorporate vulnerabilities of both the shelter locations and different streets. Hence we model the entire

geographic area as a network graph, $G(V, E)$ where V (nodes) is the set of relief centers and demand locations and E is the set of 'edges', or the streets that connect the nodes.

The vulnerability of a street varies due to multiple reasons like the type of disaster, population of the area, disaster specific factors, available shelters in case of evacuation, etc. It is hence important to know the vulnerability of a particular location towards a particular disaster. Earthquakes and floods are the common disasters studied across the world, and since Chennai is prone to floods, we will focus more on floods as the type of disaster, unless explicitly specified otherwise.

1.1 Problem Statement

For the location allocation problem, we need vulnerability to perform any sort of optimization, and it should be measurable. It is therefore important to have a metric to quantify vulnerability for a given locality (can be reused for relief center locations as well). Similarly, to map localities with relief centers, we need the vulnerability of edges (streets) inter-connecting them.

There are multiple factors to consider while coming up with a vulnerability score for a region or a street, and can hence be formulated as a multi-criteria decision making problem. In this project, we came up with a generic method to calculate flood-vulnerability scores, and evaluate and test it for streets in the Chennai district of Tamil Nadu.

1.2 Available Data

The main source of data is the City Disaster Management Plan 2018 book published by the Greater Chennai Corporation which has details about different zones, wards, streets, relief centers and 2015 floods.

Chennai is divided into 15 zones and each zone is divided into multiple wards, making it 200 in total. We use 172 relief centers and 184 streets spanning the entire Chennai for this project.

The input dataset was a precompiled file with pairwise distances between those 184

streets and 172 relief centers.

Chapter 2 discusses in detail the methods we have used to come up with a vulnerability score, and in chapter 3, there is detailed explanation about how exactly we implemented each of it, and the results obtained.

CHAPTER 2

Methodology

Since the idea is to come up with a vulnerability score from different criteria, this would be a multi-criteria decision making (MCDM) problem. Hence we have used various MCDM methodologies to tackle the problem at hand:

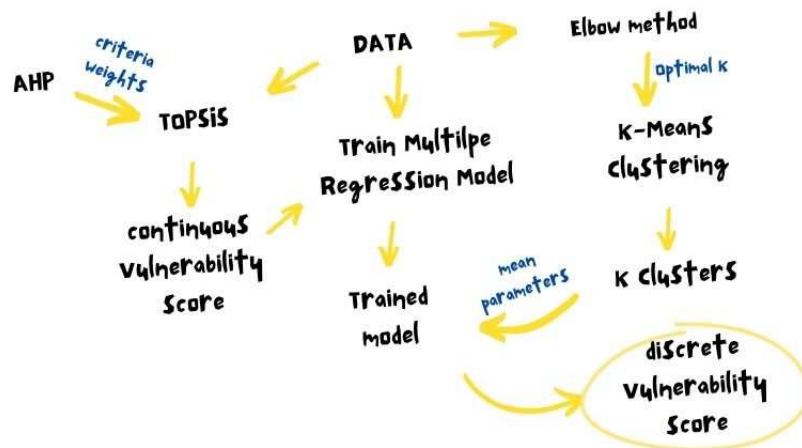


Figure 2.1: Methodology: Summary

2.1 Analytic Hierarchy Process

The Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) is a multi-criteria decision making method developed by Saaty (1990). It combines math and psychology to reach a numeric criteria weights for each criteria from pairwise comparison values. Rather than recommending a "universally correct" set of weights, it takes the user's intuitions and preferences into consideration, to get the values which best suits the problem at hand.

Let's say we have N criteria for which we have to obtain weights using the AHP algorithm, the following steps are followed:

1. We have to construct a pair-wise comparison matrix, C of dimensions $N \times N$, where rows and columns represent each chosen criteria. $C_{i,j}$ is given a relative importance score of criteria i over criteria j . Hence, it is intuitive that $C_{i,i} = 1 \forall i \in \{1..N\}$ and $C_{i,j} = \frac{1}{C_{j,i}} \forall i, j \in \{1..N\}$.

As directed by Saaty (1990), the relative importance score is:

- 1 for equal importance
- 3 for moderate importance
- 5 for strong importance
- 7 for very strong importance
- 9 for extreme importance
- 2,4,6,8 for intermediate importance
- Inverse values accordingly

2. The next step is to calculate the normalize pairwise matrix, NPM . For each element $C_{i,j}$ in C , it is calculated as $N_{i,j} = \frac{C_{i,j}}{\sum_{i=1}^N C_{i,j}}$.
3. The criteria weights for each criteria $i \in \{1, ..N\}$ is given as $W_i = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^N NPM_{i,j}}{N}$.
4. Now that we have criteria weights, we have to calculate the consistency ratio (CR) with the obtained weights. We can accept the weights if $CR < 0.1$. To calculate CR :
 - (a) Calculating weighted pairwise matrix $WPM_{N \times N}$: $WPM_{i,j} = C_{i,j} * W_j$.
 - (b) Calculating weighted sum for each criteria $i \in \{1, ..N\}$: $WS_i = \sum_{j=1}^N WPM_{i,j}$.
 - (c) Next we calculate the ratio(R) of weighted sum to the calculated criteria weight for each criteria $i \in \{1, ..N\}$. $R_i = \frac{WS_i}{W_i}$.
 - (d) λ_{max} is calculated by taking the average of all these N ratios obtained in the previous step.
 - (e) Consistency index CI is calculated as $CI = \frac{\lambda_{max} - N}{N - 1}$.
 - (f) Finally consistency ratio, CR , is given by dividing CI by the random index for that particular N . Random index is the consistency index of the randomly generated pairwise comparison matrix.

2.2 Technique for Order of Preference by Similarity to Ideal Solution

This technique, abbreviated as TOPSIS is another multicriteria decision making method developed by García-Cascales and Lamata (2012). It is based on the logic that the

chosen criteria should have high geometric distance from the negative ideal solution (NIS) and should be closer to the positive ideal solution (PIS). Since most criteria are of incongruous dimensions, normalization is essential before calculating the distances. We can develop a score based on these distances, which gives us a priority ordering based on the score.

2.3 Multiple Linear Regression

Linear regression is a statistical method to model a linear relation between reasons (independent variables) and results (dependent variable), as described by de A. Lima Neto *et al.* (2004), Uyanık and Güler (2013) and Helwig (2017). In linear regression, we mathematically model the dependent variable as a linear dependency of the independent variables and try to evaluate the suitable coefficients to reduce the error in prediction.

The model has the form:

$$y_i = b_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p b_j x_{ij} + e_i \quad (2.1)$$

for $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ where

- $y_i \in \mathbf{R}$ is the response for the i -th data point.
- $b_0 \in \mathbf{R}$ is the regression intercept.
- $b_j \in \mathbf{R}$ is the j -th predictor's regression slope.
- $x_{ij} \in \mathbf{R}$ is the j -th predictor for i -th data point.
- e_i is a gaussian error term.

In multiple regression, $p > 1$. The idea is to estimate the unknown constants, $b_i \forall i \in \{0, 1, \dots, p\}$. One common approach is to minimize ordinary least squares error, to estimate these constants. After estimation, the dependent variable is predicted as :

$$y = b_0 + \sum_{j=1}^p b_j x_j + e_i \quad (2.2)$$

2.4 K-Means Clustering

K-Means clustering is an unsupervised clustering algorithm which is quite popular, as explained by Mannor *et al.* (2011). The objective of this is to group data points that are similar and discover patterns. We define a number k which is the number of cluster centroids we'll have at the end of clustering. Every data point is allocated to one of these k clusters, and the idea is to ensure centroid stability of each cluster.

2.4.1 Elbow method

The elbow method is a way to determine the optimal number of clusters in a given dataset to be clustered. The idea is to plot 'Distortion' against candidate values of K . Distortion is calculated as the average of sum of squared distances from each data point to its respective cluster center. The optimal K is picked as the candidate K at the elbow of the curve (The point where the curve changes its slope visibly from high to low or from low to high). The method is explained in detail by Marutho *et al.* (2018) and Umargono *et al.* (2019).

In the next chapter, we'll go through how each of these methods were executed and the results obtained.

CHAPTER 3

Execution and Results

An AHP-TOPSIS model has been introduced in Jena and Pradhan (2020) to study and improve the earthquake risk assessment. We apply a similar method to improve vulnerability evaluation of floods.

3.1 Identifying Parameters

Many factors can contribute to losses during a disaster, the major factors being environmental and due to population and occupancy. We have determined six major factors which can contribute to making a region more or less vulnerable in terms of floods. As we work with streets mainly, we have the following parameters with respect to any street:

- P1: Weighted sum of capacities of relief centers within a distance of 1 km from the street.
- P2: Weighted sum of capacities of relief centers at a distance less than 3 km, but greater than or equal to 1 km from the street.
- P3: Population of the ward where the street is located.
- P4: Number of water bodies (pond, lakes, etc) in the same ward as the street.
- P5: Sum of lengths of canals and rivers in the same zone (in km)
- P6: Score based on water inundation in 2015 floods.

For P1 and P2, weighted sum is considered to make sure that the location of the relief center is not very vulnerable to floods. The weight is based on the previous (2015) water inundation score so that if the relief center had high inundation, the weightage of its capacity will be low.

Note that P4, P5, P6 are natural and environmental factors which would affect the flood vulnerability of a street. However, P1, P2, P3 are those factors which can be

used to determine the loss incurred, as supply-demand would be analogous to these parameters. For P3, if we could get the streetwise population, that score would give a more precise estimate, however since the data was unavailable for Chennai, we are using ward-wise population as an estimate in this work.

3.2 Data Collection, Compilation and Processing

The data used is mainly obtained from Corporation (2018).

3.2.1 P6

In the Corporation (2018), there are four levels of inundation specified and localities are classified into one among these four. We give a corresponding score for each:

- Above 5 feet: Score is 7
- 3 - 5 feet: Score is 5
- 2 - 3 feet: Score is 3
- Less than 2 feet: Score is 1

Note that this score can give an idea of flood vulnerability based only on the level of inundation during 2015 floods. For each street, we consider the ward's inundation to be the same as that of that street. If more localities within a ward had different inundation levels, to avoid the effect of outliers in any street's data, we take an average of all inundation scores in that ward. Whenever wardwise data was not available, we used zonewise data.

3.2.2 P1 and P2

We have the capacities of all the 172 relief centers from the Chennai Government's document. We also have the inundation score from P6. Note that this score will be between 1 and 7 where 1 represents low inundation and 7 represents the maximum. The weight for relief center capacity is calculated using:

$$w = \frac{6.7 - 0.7IS}{6} \quad (3.1)$$

where w is the weight for a location with ward inundation score of IS . Note that the weight comes out to be 1 if $IS = 1$ and 0.3 if $IS = 7$. Now we have the weight and capacities of each relief center. We also have the pairwise distance matrix between each street and relief center. From these, we can easily calculate P1 and P2 using a python code.

3.2.3 P3 and P4

The population of all wards, and the number of water bodies in each ward are directly available in the document Cooperation (2018).

3.2.4 P5

The lengths of all canals and rivers along with their lengths is available in the document Cooperation (2018). We added the lengths in each zones to get zonewise values of P5.

3.3 Weight Calculation using AHP

3.3.1 Pairwise Comparison Matrix

As mentioned in the previous section about AHP, we start by defining a pairwise comparison matrix.

| | P1 | P2 | P3 | P4 | P5 | P6 |
|-----|--------------|----|--------------|-----|----|--------------|
| P1 | 1 | 3 | 0.7 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| P2 | 0.3333333333 | 1 | 0.3333333333 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.5 |
| P3 | 1.428571429 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| P4 | 0.5 | 2 | 0.5 | 1 | 2 | 0.5 |
| P5 | 0.3333333333 | 1 | 0.3333333333 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.3333333333 |
| P6 | 0.5 | 2 | 0.5 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| Sum | 4.095238095 | 12 | 3.366666667 | 8 | 13 | 6.333333333 |

Table 3.1: AHP: Pairwise Comparison Matrix

Those cell values in light grey are defined by us and the rest follows due to the properties of pairwise comparison matrices. The logic behind the ones defined by us are:

Group 1: P1, P2, and P3

Since P1 is for relief centers within 1 km and P2 factors in those relief centers upto 3 km distance, it is only appropriate to allocate a higher priority to P1 than P2. It's hence logical to allocate P1 a priority 3 times that of P2. P3 is a measure of demand and P2 and P1 would measure the supply. Hence, it makes sense that P1 has 0.7 times the priority of P3, and P3 has a priority 3 times more than that of P2.

Group 2: P4, P5, and P6

Note that P4, P5, and P6 are environmental factors outside human control. The number of water bodies (P4) definitely affects floods as the chances of them filling up during rains are high. The previous level of inundation (P6) gives us a measure of elevation of that particular area. Also, length of canals in a zone (P5) is important, but however, since it is not very specific to the streets being considered, it should have a lower priority than P4 and P6. Hence it makes sense for P4 to have twice the priority of P5, and half the priority of P6. It is also right for P6 to have 3 times the priority of P5.

Group 1 and Group 2

Since we want to have a vulnerability score which measures impact to lives, property and society, it is appropriate to assign a higher priority to P1, P2, and P3 (Group 1) when compared to P4, P5, and P6 (Group 2). Hence we assign P1 to have twice the priority of P4 and P6, and thrice the priority of P5. P2 has a priority equal to P5 as both are not very specific to a particular street. P4 and P6 is assigned to have a priority double that of P2. Just like P1, we assign P3 to have twice the priority of P4 and P6, and thrice the priority of P5.

In order to accept these pairwise priorities, we have to make sure that the consistency ratio after calculating criteria weights is acceptable.

3.3.2 Normalized Pairwise Matrix and Criteria Weights

The next step is to calculate the normalized pairwise matrix (explained in section 2.1.1), and subsequently, the criteria weights. The normalized pairwise matrix obtained for our problem is in Table 3.2, and the criteria weights in Table 3.3.

| | P1 | P2 | P3 | P4 | P5 | P6 |
|----|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| P1 | 0.2442 | 0.25 | 0.2079 | 0.25 | 0.2308 | 0.3158 |
| P2 | 0.0814 | 0.0833 | 0.099 | 0.0625 | 0.0769 | 0.0789 |
| P3 | 0.3488 | 0.25 | 0.297 | 0.25 | 0.2308 | 0.3158 |
| P4 | 0.1221 | 0.1667 | 0.1485 | 0.125 | 0.1538 | 0.0789 |
| P5 | 0.0814 | 0.0833 | 0.099 | 0.0625 | 0.0769 | 0.0526 |
| P6 | 0.1221 | 0.1667 | 0.1485 | 0.25 | 0.2308 | 0.1579 |

Table 3.2: AHP: Normalized Pairwise Matrix

| | Criteria Weights |
|----|------------------|
| P1 | 0.2498 |
| P2 | 0.0804 |
| P3 | 0.2821 |
| P4 | 0.1325 |
| P5 | 0.076 |
| P6 | 0.1793 |

Table 3.3: AHP: Criteria Weights

3.3.3 Consistency Ratio

Now that we have the criteria weights, we have to calculate the consistency of the assigned pairwise priorities (explained in section 2.1.1).

| | P1 | P2 | P3 | P4 | P5 | P6 | Weighted sum |
|----|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------------|
| P1 | 0.2498 | 0.2411 | 0.1974 | 0.265 | 0.2279 | 0.3586 | 1.5398 |
| P2 | 0.0833 | 0.0804 | 0.094 | 0.0663 | 0.076 | 0.0897 | 0.4895 |
| P3 | 0.3568 | 0.2411 | 0.2821 | 0.265 | 0.2279 | 0.3586 | 1.7315 |
| P4 | 0.1249 | 0.1607 | 0.141 | 0.1325 | 0.1519 | 0.0897 | 0.8007 |
| P5 | 0.0833 | 0.0804 | 0.094 | 0.0663 | 0.076 | 0.0598 | 0.4596 |
| P6 | 0.1249 | 0.1607 | 0.141 | 0.265 | 0.2279 | 0.1793 | 1.0989 |

Table 3.4: AHP: Weighted Pairwise matrix, and weighted sums

Applying calculations to table 3.5,

$$\lambda_{max} = 6.1028 \quad (3.2)$$

| | Weighted sum | Criteria Weights | Ratio |
|-----------|--------------|------------------|--------|
| P1 | 1.5398 | 0.2498 | 6.1649 |
| P2 | 0.4895 | 0.0804 | 6.0922 |
| P3 | 1.7315 | 0.2821 | 6.1386 |
| P4 | 0.8007 | 0.1325 | 6.0427 |
| P5 | 0.4596 | 0.076 | 6.0505 |
| P6 | 1.0989 | 0.1793 | 6.1279 |

Table 3.5: AHP: Weighted sums and ratios to criteria weights

$$CI = 0.0206 \quad (3.3)$$

$$RI = 1.24 \quad (3.4)$$

$$CR = 0.0166 \quad (3.5)$$

Since $CR < 0.1$, our calculations and weights are consistent. Hence we accept the criteria weights as per Table 3.3.

3.4 TOPSIS using weights

For TOPSIS, we use the criteria weights which we obtained from AHP. We have compiled data as per section 3.2. This results in a matrix, $X_{M \times N}$ where each row represents data for a particular street and parameters are organized column-wise. In our case, $M = 184$ and $N = 6$ since we have 184 streets across Chennai under consideration. The first step is to calculate the normalized decision matrix:

$$\overline{X}_{ij} = \frac{X_{ij} * W_j}{\sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^n X_{ij}^2}} \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, M\}, \quad j \in \{1, \dots, 6\} \quad (3.6)$$

where W_j is the criteria weight calculated using AHP for j -th criteria.

The next step is to calculate the ideal best and ideal worst for each criteria from values in the normalized decision matrix. Since in our case, we want a high score if vulnerability is high.

If j -th criteria is a beneficial criteria, then:

$$X_j^+ = \max_i \{\overline{X_{ij}}\}, \quad X_j^- = \min_i \{\overline{X_{ij}}\}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, 184 \quad (3.7)$$

else, j -th criteria is a cost criteria, in which case:

$$X_j^+ = \min_i \{\overline{X_{ij}}\}, \quad X_j^- = \max_i \{\overline{X_{ij}}\}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, 184 \quad (3.8)$$

Accordingly, our ideal best and worst values for all criteria are in Table 3.6.

| Ideal best (X_j^+) | P1 | P2 | P3 | P4 | P5 | P6 |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Ideal best | 0 | 0 | 0.0498 | 0.0465 | 0.0111 | 0.032 |
| Ideal worst (X_j^-) | 0.0694 | 0.0172 | 0.0021 | 0 | 0.0012 | 0.0046 |

Table 3.6: TOPSIS: Ideal Best and Ideal Worst values for different criteria

The next step is to calculate Euclidean distance for each street from ideal best and ideal worst data points.

Euclidean distance from ideal best:

$$S_i^+ = \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^6 (\overline{X_{ij}} - X_j^+)^2 \right\}^{0.5} \quad \forall i \in \{0, \dots, 184\} \quad (3.9)$$

Euclidean distance from ideal worst:

$$S_i^- = \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^6 (\overline{X_{ij}} - X_j^-)^2 \right\}^{0.5} \quad \forall i \in \{0, \dots, 184\} \quad (3.10)$$

The next step is to calculate performance score of the vulnerability for each street, which could be used as the vulnerability score of that street. It is given by:

$$V_i = \frac{S_i^-}{S_i^- + S_i^+} \quad (3.11)$$

The intuition here is that vulnerability is high if distance from ideal worst is low and ideal best is high.

3.5 Multiple Regression

One issue with TOPSIS is that as we have more data points, we'll have to calculate the ideal best and worst every time and calculate the performance score. This could be eliminated by training a regression model using the available scores calculated using TOPSIS. In which case, if we have a new streets with parameters, we can just estimate its vulnerability score using the trained regression model.

3.5.1 Data

We have data of 184 streets: The 6 parameters are the independent variables and the TOPSIS vulnerability score is the dependent variable.

3.5.2 Training

Since we have only 184 data points, our ability to train complex models is limited and hence we're using a linear regression model. The *sklearn* library was used for training and testing. The dataset was split into training and testing set in the ratio 4:1. The loss function used was root mean squared error.

3.5.3 Results

We achieved an accuracy of 98.77%. The predicted vulnerability scores after training are as shown in Fig 3.1.

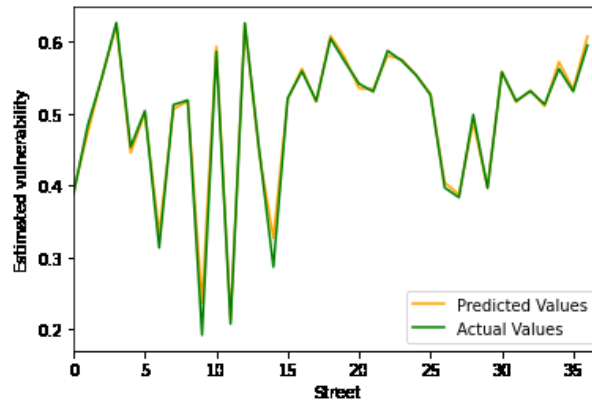


Figure 3.1: Linear Regression: Estimated vulnerability after training

We can see that the predictions of our regression model is pretty close to our TOPSIS values.

3.6 K-Means Clustering

The previous method gives us a continuous vulnerability score. If we want to have discrete vulnerability scores, clustering is the way to go (since it's unsupervised). The idea is to split the 184 streets into K clusters, and each cluster would be given a vulnerability score based on the prediction from our regression model.

3.6.1 Elbow Method for Optimal K

As explained in section 2.1.4, elbow method gives us the optimal value of K . On plotting distortion against candidate values of K , we get the following graph:

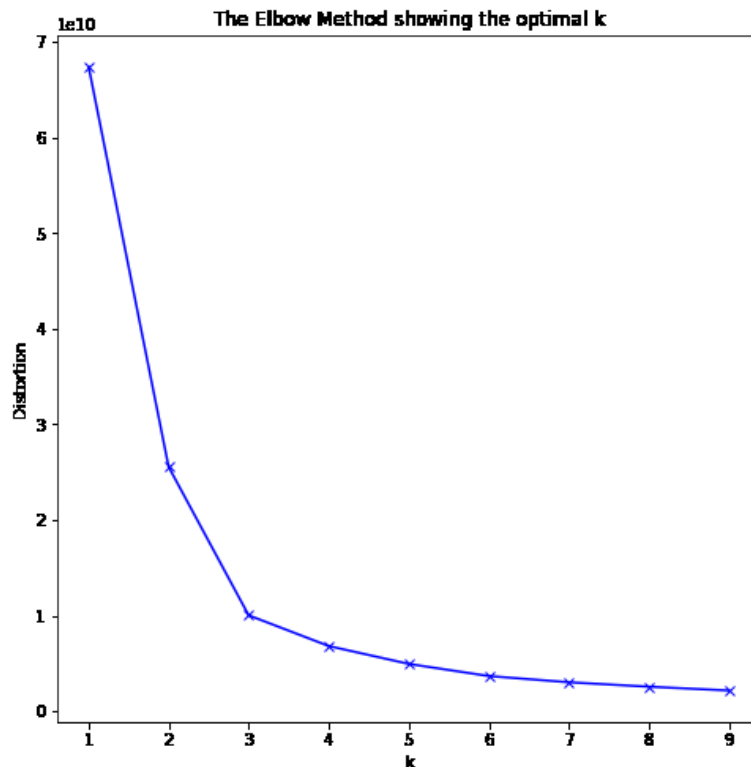


Figure 3.2: Clustering: Elbow method

It is hence clear that $K=3$ is the optimal number of clusters.

3.6.2 Clustering

We use the *sklearn* library to perform clustering. We obtained 3 clusters and their mean parameters as:

| Cluster Id | Central values | | | | | | Predicted Vulnerability Score |
|------------|----------------|----------|-----------|-------|--------|-------|-------------------------------|
| | P1 | P2 | P3 | P4 | P5 | P6 | |
| 0 | 745.949 | 3888.451 | 41110.019 | 0.657 | 12.691 | 1.884 | 0.497 |
| 1 | 922.021 | 2233.988 | 82468.100 | 1.05 | 8.935 | 4.472 | 0.574 |
| 2 | 463.807 | 1418.292 | 20614.196 | 2.643 | 12.374 | 2.161 | 0.515 |

Table 3.7: Clustering: Mean parameters

3.7 Hybrid Approach for discrete vulnerability score

The vulnerability is predicted for the central parameters of each cluster using the regression model we trained earlier. We have 3 vulnerability values as shown in Table 3.7. They are ranked in ascending order and assigned low vulnerability, medium vulnerability and highly vulnerable clusters. All streets are classified into one of these three based on the cluster they belong.

CHAPTER 4

Results and Conclusions

This work showed us that as many as 20 streets out of 184 in Chennai are highly vulnerable, and 56 are at a medium vulnerability level to floods (Table 4.1). Given that, Chennai has a decent history of floods, these should be the streets of focus to the government. Officials can increase relief centers in their vicinity, where the vulnerability is low and try to move these streets to a different vulnerability category. The government should take a look into the critical condition of infrastructure and populated areas where vulnerability reduction can be improved.

| Category | Count of Streets |
|----------------------|------------------|
| High Vulnerability | 20 |
| Medium Vulnerability | 56 |
| Low Vulnerability | 108 |

Table 4.1: Summary of Results

There are a few limitations found in this research which could affect the accuracy of the proposed model. Lack of street-specific data like population, and inundation might have reduced the accuracy of the proposed model.

The method used here provides us with practical information on risk assessment of floods in Chennai. This method could be extended to any other street or locality in any other area.

APPENDIX A

Complete Results from Clustering

The final results after clustering, showing vulnerability levels of the 184 streets considered is shown in the table below:

| Street | Vulnerability level | Street | Vulnerability level |
|----------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Street1 | Medium Vulnerability | Street93 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street2 | Medium Vulnerability | Street94 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street3 | Medium Vulnerability | Street95 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street4 | Medium Vulnerability | Street96 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street5 | Medium Vulnerability | Street97 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street6 | Medium Vulnerability | Street98 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street7 | Medium Vulnerability | Street99 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street8 | Medium Vulnerability | Street100 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street9 | Medium Vulnerability | Street101 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street10 | Medium Vulnerability | Street102 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street11 | Medium Vulnerability | Street103 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street12 | Medium Vulnerability | Street104 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street13 | Medium Vulnerability | Street105 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street14 | Medium Vulnerability | Street106 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street15 | Medium Vulnerability | Street107 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street16 | Medium Vulnerability | Street108 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street17 | Medium Vulnerability | Street109 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street18 | Low Vulnerability | Street110 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street19 | Low Vulnerability | Street111 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street20 | Low Vulnerability | Street112 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street21 | Medium Vulnerability | Street113 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street22 | Medium Vulnerability | Street114 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street23 | Medium Vulnerability | Street115 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street24 | Medium Vulnerability | Street116 | Medium Vulnerability |

| | | | |
|----------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Street25 | Medium Vulnerability | Street117 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street26 | Medium Vulnerability | Street118 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street27 | Medium Vulnerability | Street119 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street28 | Low Vulnerability | Street120 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street29 | Low Vulnerability | Street121 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street30 | Low Vulnerability | Street122 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street31 | Low Vulnerability | Street123 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street32 | High Vulnerability | Street124 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street33 | Low Vulnerability | Street125 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street34 | Low Vulnerability | Street126 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street35 | Low Vulnerability | Street127 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street36 | Low Vulnerability | Street128 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street37 | Low Vulnerability | Street129 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street38 | Low Vulnerability | Street130 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street39 | Low Vulnerability | Street131 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street40 | Low Vulnerability | Street132 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street41 | Low Vulnerability | Street133 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street42 | Low Vulnerability | Street134 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street43 | Low Vulnerability | Street135 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street44 | Low Vulnerability | Street136 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street45 | Low Vulnerability | Street137 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street46 | Low Vulnerability | Street138 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street47 | Low Vulnerability | Street139 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street48 | Low Vulnerability | Street140 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street49 | Low Vulnerability | Street141 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street50 | Low Vulnerability | Street142 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street51 | Low Vulnerability | Street143 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street52 | Low Vulnerability | Street144 | High Vulnerability |
| Street53 | Low Vulnerability | Street145 | High Vulnerability |
| Street54 | Low Vulnerability | Street146 | High Vulnerability |
| Street55 | Low Vulnerability | Street147 | High Vulnerability |
| Street56 | Low Vulnerability | Street148 | High Vulnerability |
| Street57 | Low Vulnerability | Street149 | High Vulnerability |

| | | | |
|----------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Street58 | High Vulnerability | Street150 | High Vulnerability |
| Street59 | Low Vulnerability | Street151 | High Vulnerability |
| Street60 | Low Vulnerability | Street152 | High Vulnerability |
| Street61 | Low Vulnerability | Street153 | High Vulnerability |
| Street62 | Low Vulnerability | Street154 | High Vulnerability |
| Street63 | Low Vulnerability | Street155 | High Vulnerability |
| Street64 | Low Vulnerability | Street156 | High Vulnerability |
| Street65 | Low Vulnerability | Street157 | High Vulnerability |
| Street66 | Low Vulnerability | Street158 | High Vulnerability |
| Street67 | Low Vulnerability | Street159 | High Vulnerability |
| Street68 | Low Vulnerability | Street160 | High Vulnerability |
| Street69 | Low Vulnerability | Street161 | High Vulnerability |
| Street70 | Low Vulnerability | Street162 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street71 | Low Vulnerability | Street163 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street72 | Low Vulnerability | Street164 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street73 | Low Vulnerability | Street165 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street74 | Low Vulnerability | Street166 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street75 | Low Vulnerability | Street167 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street76 | Low Vulnerability | Street168 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street77 | Low Vulnerability | Street169 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street78 | Low Vulnerability | Street170 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street79 | Medium Vulnerability | Street171 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street80 | Medium Vulnerability | Street172 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street81 | Medium Vulnerability | Street173 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street82 | Low Vulnerability | Street174 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street83 | Low Vulnerability | Street175 | Low Vulnerability |
| Street84 | Low Vulnerability | Street176 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street85 | Low Vulnerability | Street177 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street86 | Low Vulnerability | Street178 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street87 | Low Vulnerability | Street179 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street88 | Low Vulnerability | Street180 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street89 | Medium Vulnerability | Street181 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street90 | Low Vulnerability | Street182 | Medium Vulnerability |

| | | | |
|----------|-------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Street91 | Low Vulnerability | Street183 | Medium Vulnerability |
| Street92 | Low Vulnerability | Street184 | Medium Vulnerability |

Table A.1: Discrete Vulnerability Scores

APPENDIX B

Code and Supplementary Data

The compiled and processed data, calculations and predictions can be found at Data (2021). The code which was used can be found at Code (2021).

Both are added to the references section as well.

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