March 31, 2025 Vol. 7 No. 9 E-ISSN 3027-0952 P-ISSN 3027-2033
International Journal of
CONVERGENT AND INFORMATICS SCIENCE RESEARCH (IJCISR)
www.harvardpublications.com

DEVELOPMENT OF AN ONLINE POWER DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

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DOI: https://doi.org/10.70382/hijcisr.v07i9.022

Abstract

This research focuses on designing and implementing an Online Power Distribution Information Management System (PIMS) to address the growing complexity and demands of modern power grids. Traditional manual approaches to power distribution often lead to inefficient operations, delayed fault detection, and poor data management. By integrating real-time monitoring, data analytics, and secure

Keywords:
Development, Online Power Distribution, Information Management System, Data Analytics

INTRODUCTION

The world is witnessing unprecedented advancements in technology, prompting continuous innovations in diverse industries. In the power sector, this technological surge has led to rising expectations for efficient, reliable, and sustainable electricity. Meeting these expectations demands modernized power distribution systems capable of smart management, real-time monitoring, and seamless data exchange. Historically, power distribution has been treated largely as a straightforward utility service rather than a sophisticated, dynamic system. However, current challenges such as fluctuating energy costs, environmental concerns, strict regulations, and the rapid expansion of renewable energy

online platforms, the proposed system significantly enhances reliability, reduces downtime, and improves overall operational efficiency. Employing the Structured Systems Analysis and Design Methodology (SSADM), the study systematically gathered requirements, modeled system functionalities, and developed a robust architecture comprising a user-friendly interface, scalable database management, and strong security protocols. Key components include an analytics engine for load forecasting and fault prediction, as well as seamless integration with existing systems such as SCADA. Evaluation metrics demonstrate the system's effectiveness in swiftly identifying network anomalies—achieving a 97% fault detection accuracy—and reducing outage durations by 30% compared to older solutions. Advanced analytics achieved predictive accuracies above 95%, thereby optimizing resource allocation and informing proactive maintenance. Real-time data capture and storage enable operators to promptly respond to changing conditions, while stringent security measures and encryption protocols bolster cyber-resilience. The Online Power Distribution Information Management System paves the way for a more sustainable, efficient, and secure power distribution framework, positioning utilities to better handle emerging challenges such as renewable energy integration and growing consumer demands.

Sources underscore the urgency of transforming traditional grids into intelligent networks. An Online Power Distribution Information Management System (PIMS) is thus emerging as a critical solution to enable precise energy allocation, reduce system downtimes, accommodate renewable energy integration, and enhance consumer engagement. By leveraging cutting-edge technologies data analytics, artificial intelligence, and real-time monitoring this system holds the potential to ensure more effective power distribution, elevate reliability, and meet the evolving needs of our interconnected society.

Despite the growing complexity of power distribution networks, many utilities continue to rely on traditional, often manual methods for data handling and information sharing. These outdated processes introduce inefficiencies, delays, and risks of error, making it challenging to keep pace with the accelerating demand for electricity. Furthermore, the proliferation of new energy sources, combined with expanding grids, intensifies the challenges related to network monitoring, fault detection, load balancing, and overall system stability. The existing setups also face increasing cybersecurity threats, placing critical

infrastructure at risk. With environmental pressures mounting and global initiatives emphasizing clean energy transitions, there is a pressing need for a system that can incorporate renewable energy resources seamlessly while maintaining robust security. In response, this study seeks to develop a comprehensive, secure, and environmentally conscious Online Power Distribution Information Management System that modernizes data management, streamlines operations, and fosters efficient collaboration among key stakeholders.

The primary aim of this study is to develop an Online Power Distribution Information Management System (PIMS) to optimize and modernize power distribution operations. Specifically, the study intends to; d**evelop a web-enabled power distribution information management model** for real-time data monitoring and control, i**mplement the power distribution information management model** in a pilot setting to assess functionality, performance, and usability, and e**valuate the power distribution information management model** through testing and user feedback, measuring efficiency, effectiveness, and reliability.

This study drives innovation by introducing an advanced, digitized platform for power distribution, ensuring that critical infrastructure keeps pace with rapid technological progress. Real-time monitoring and control minimize outages and streamline system performance. Swift detection and remediation of network issues translate to reduced downtime and improved service delivery. The system's capacity to incorporate renewable resources into the distribution network promotes sustainability, aligning with global initiatives to reduce carbon emissions and reliance on fossil fuels. By prioritizing robust security measures, the study addresses the growing vulnerability of power distribution networks to cyberattacks, ensuring system stability and stakeholder confidence. Through cost-benefit analysis and resource optimization, stakeholders can realize economic savings, improve resource allocation, and enhance return on investment in the power distribution sector. Adoption of environmentally responsible practices, including careful integration of clean energy sources, reflects a commitment to mitigating climate change and reducing the carbon footprint of power distribution. Adherence to industry standards fosters a responsible and accountable power distribution sector. Ultimately, the improved quality and consistency of power delivery benefit entire communities, bolstering societal development. The scope of this study includes planning, designing, and deploying an Online Power Distribution Information Management System (PIMS) intended to enhance the operational efficiency of power distribution.

Related Literature

Conceptual Review

A conceptual review of an Online Power Distribution Information Management System (OPDIMS) underscores its core functionalities: data collection, processing, visualization, real-time monitoring, and automation. By integrating existing systems and employing scalable architectures, OPDIMS can enhance the stability of power grids, deliver proactive maintenance, refine load forecasting, and rapidly detect faults. These capabilities ultimately revolutionize power distribution management by promoting efficiency, reliability, and sustainability through data-centric strategies.

Power distribution systems form the critical infrastructure that delivers electricity from power plants to residential, commercial, and industrial consumers (Tiwari et al., 2021). Often referred to as the unsung heroes of modern civilization, these systems work continuously to ensure the reliable, efficient supply of electricity (IEA, 2020). They involve a complex arrangement of components—from power generation and high-voltage transmission lines to local substations and final distribution lines—designed to transport electrical energy over vast distances and varied terrains (Dorin, 2019; Bakken, 2017).

At their core, power distribution systems are engineered to move electricity from power generation facilities to end-users with minimal losses and maximum reliability (Bakken, 2017). The efficient operation of these systems underpins nearly every aspect of contemporary life, from lighting homes to running industrial machinery (IEA, 2020). The complexity arises from carefully managing voltage regulation, load balancing, and fault detection, ensuring uninterrupted power flow (Dorin, 2019). Electricity generation occurs at power plants using various energy sources—fossil fuels, nuclear, or renewables (Dutta, 2018). Power is produced in the form of alternating current (AC) or direct current (DC) and is then routed to the transmission network.

High-voltage transmission lines transport generated electricity over long distances. Operating at elevated voltages reduces energy losses and ensures efficient delivery across regions or countries (Bakken, 2017). Substations step down high-voltage electricity to lower voltages, making it suitable for local distribution. They serve as junction points connecting the transmission network with the distribution network (IEA, 2020). Distribution lines carry lower voltage electricity from substations to end-users. These lines may run overhead or underground, supplying power to homes, businesses, and industries (Dorin, 2019). Transformers adjust voltage levels at various stages. Step-down transformers lower voltages for residential or commercial use, while step-up transformers cater to specialized industrial applications (Bakken, 2017).

Many distribution networks worldwide require significant upgrades due to aging components. Inadequate maintenance can lead to frequent outages and reduced reliability (IEA, 2020).

Distribution grids face vulnerabilities such as extreme weather events and cyber threats. Strengthening grid resilience is vital for maintaining continuous power supply (Bakken, 2017). Losses occur as electricity travels from generation sources to end-users. Improving transformer technology, grid design, and monitoring systems remains a priority to enhance efficiency (Dorin, 2019). Renewables like wind and solar bring variability to power generation. Grid operators must devise storage solutions and robust strategies to manage intermittent supply (Dutta, 2018).

Smart grids integrate digital communication and control systems, allowing real-time monitoring, fault detection, and optimized power distribution. Smart meters play a key role by providing consumption data to both utilities and consumers (IEA, 2020). DERs, including solar panels and energy storage units, are increasingly prevalent. They offer localized power generation, reducing reliance on centralized power plants and enhancing system resilience (Dutta, 2018). Microgrids are localized networks capable of operating independently or in coordination with the main grid. They improve resilience in remote or critical infrastructure settings (Bakken, 2017). AMI comprises smart meters and two-way communication networks, enabling real-time data collection, outage detection, and demand-response programs. Such systems significantly enhance efficiency and reliability (Dorin, 2019).

Power distribution management underpins the reliability, efficiency, and security of electrical power delivery. Its key contributions include:

i. **Enhanced Reliability**L Real-time monitoring and rapid fault detection minimize downtime (Smith, 2019).
ii. **Efficient Resource Allocation**: Advanced algorithms direct power to where it is most needed, reducing waste and promoting sustainability (Johnson, 2020).
iii. **Load Balancing**: Balancing electrical loads across transformers reduces overloading and extends infrastructure lifespan (Brown, 2018).
iv. **Voltage Regulation**: Maintaining correct voltage levels prevents equipment damage and ensures consumer safety (Smith, 2019).
v. **Renewable Integration**: Distribution management systems facilitate the incorporation of intermittent renewables, maintaining a stable power flow (Johnson, 2020).
vi. **Demand Response**: Through real-time communication, utilities encourage users to modify consumption during peak demand, easing grid strain (Brown, 2018).

vii. **Grid Resilience**: Resilience measures enable rapid recovery from disruptions caused by extreme weather or cyberattacks (Smith, 2019).
viii. **Improved Customer Service**: Real-time data helps utilities promptly address outages and deliver accurate restoration estimates (Johnson, 2020).
ix. **Data-Driven Decisions**: Analytics on grid performance guide strategic planning and maintenance schedules (Brown, 2018).
x. **Environmental Impact Reduction**: Efficient distribution lessens reliance on fossil fuels, reducing greenhouse gas emissions (Smith, 2019).

With data serving as a critical organizational asset, Information Management Systems (IMS) are indispensable for capturing, storing, retrieving, and utilizing vast amounts of data in modern enterprises (Laudon & Laudon, 2020). These systems streamline workflows, enhance decision-making, and support innovation. IMS software tools handle both structured and unstructured data, ensuring it remains accurate, secure, and compliant with relevant regulations (McNurlin & Sprague, 2006). Organizations leverage IMS for improved customer experiences, operational efficiency, and competitive positioning (Rajaraman, 2012).

Information Management Systems have evolved to address the ever-growing volume and complexity of data:

i. **Databases and Data Warehouses**: Early IMS focused on structured data, facilitating storage and retrieval through relational databases.
ii. **Content Management Systems (CMS)**: CMS solutions emerged to handle unstructured data (e.g., documents, images, multimedia) efficiently (Porter & Tricker, 2015).
iii. **Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)**: ERP systems integrate core business processes (finance, HR, supply chain), allowing seamless cross-departmental data exchange (Laudon & Laudon, 2020).
iv. **Customer Relationship Management (CRM)**: CRM software centralizes customer information, enhancing sales, marketing, and service processes (Chaffey & White, 2017).
v. **Big Data and Analytics**: With the advent of big data, advanced analytics, machine learning, and AI are now integral to IMS (McLeod & Schell, 2019).
vi. **Cloud-Based Solutions**: Cloud computing offers scalable and cost-effective IMS services, democratizing access to advanced functionalities (O'Brien & Marakas, 2018).

As organizations increasingly depend on information for strategic and operational purposes, safeguarding data is paramount. Information Management (IM) involves organizing, storing, and retrieving data for optimal use, while Data Security ensures data confidentiality, integrity, and availability (Whitman & Mattord, 2018; McLeod & Schell, 2019). These two areas are closely linked;

i. **Data Classification**: IM helps categorize data based on sensitivity, guiding Data Security measures to protect critical information.
ii. **Access Control**: Permissions granted through IM frameworks are enforced by security protocols to limit unauthorized data access.
iii. **Data Encryption**: Protects data during transit and storage, aligning with IM's objective of making data usable yet secure.
iv. **Compliance**: Privacy laws and regulations drive IM policies; Data Security ensures legal obligations are met.
v. **Data Backup and Disaster Recovery**: IM dictates backup strategies, while Data Security ensures stored backups remain protected against breaches.
vi. **Threat Detection and Response**: Security tools continually assess threats, working alongside IM practices to shield critical data.
vii. **Data Retention**: IM policies govern retention periods; Data Security ensures that old data is securely disposed of or archived.

This symbiotic relationship ensures organizations can exploit data for growth and innovation without compromising its safety or integrity (Whitman & Mattord, 2018).

Theoretical framework

A theoretical framework guides research by integrating existing theories, shaping research questions, and informing data analysis (Braidotti, 2019). It strengthens the validity and reliability of a study, offering context, hypotheses, and interpretive tools.

Albert Bandura's Social Cognitive Theory (1977) highlights learning through observation, modeling, and reinforcement (Bussey & Bandura, 1999). Applied to the design of an Online Power Distribution Information Management System, it underscores the importance of user training and interaction. Users and administrators learn how to operate the system effectively by observing others, receiving feedback, and gradually mastering system functionalities.

Fred Davis's Technology Acceptance Theory (1989), later refined by Venkatesh and Davis (2000), focuses on users' perceptions of a technology's ease of use and usefulness (Silva, 2015). In the context of an Online Power Distribution

Information Management System, this theory underscores the need to design user-friendly, beneficial features that encourage adoption. By addressing both perceived ease of use and perceived usefulness, system developers can foster more favorable attitudes and wider acceptance in the power distribution industry.

Empirical Review

Numerous studies have examined aspects of power distribution, information management, and system integration.

Wang, Sun, and Chen (2019) investigated green power solutions, specifically proton exchange membrane fuel cells. To address their slow dynamic response, the authors integrated lithium-ion batteries and supercapacitors into a hybrid energy storage system. They proposed a rule-based power distribution approach that considers real-time constraints, ultimately improving efficiency and dynamic performance.

Rahman et al. (2020) explored infrastructure management at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM). Their work integrated a Geographic Information System (GIS) into the power distribution network, enabling efficient spatial and non-spatial data sharing. An online GIS platform provided modules for monitoring, statistical analysis, and queries, improving data accessibility and promoting sustainable campus management.

Byun et al. (2011) presented a hierarchical Smart Energy Distribution and Management System (SEDMS) aimed at enhancing energy efficiency. Through seamless communication between the Smart Energy Distribution System and an intelligent Monitoring and Control System, they achieved real-time power use monitoring and dynamic reconfiguration. Their results showed reduced service response time and notable decreases in power consumption.

Cao et al. (2009) employed Management by Objectives (MBO) within a GIS-driven power distribution platform. By implementing a novel algorithm for objective decomposition, they improved the overall reliability of the power supply. The study demonstrated that embedding the algorithm in GIS platforms can significantly enhance the efficiency of power flow management. **Meliopoulos et al. (2013) p**roposed an advanced Distribution Management System (DMS) that uses dynamic state estimation for real-time modeling of power grids. The system incorporates both high-level and real-time optimization, maintaining grid stability through a hierarchical framework. The authors introduced the concept of a "Reserve O-Meter," tracking resource availability for real-time power distribution decisions.

Peak and Shahidehpour (2006) addressed asset management strategies in power distribution utilities over short-, medium-, and long-term horizons. They

emphasized the role of information technology in maintaining system safety, reliability, and cost-effectiveness. Strategies ranged from network tracking and fault repair to outage management and long-term strategic planning, including distributed generation integration.

Cao et al. (2009). Investigated the reliability of power supply using a distribution network GIS platform. They introduced an advanced coding system using Global Unique Identifier (GUID) technology to capture topological structures. The proposed objective decomposition algorithm effectively allocated reliability responsibilities at the feeder level, demonstrating improved grid performance.

Ziegler (n.d.) explored foundational support functions in distributed information systems, detailing node communication, system control, and network directory structures. The study addressed critical questions on request coordination, handling asynchronous messages, and managing varying response times, providing insights on robust system design.

Methodology

The methodology adopted for the design of the new system is the **Structured Systems Analysis and Design Methodology (SSADM)**. SSADM is a systematic approach to analyzing and designing information systems, offering a clear framework for requirement gathering, system modeling, and design. It ensures that all aspects of system development—ranging from functional requirements to user interface design—are addressed in a structured manner.

In the existing setup, **Siemens Spectrum Power ADMS (Advanced Distribution Management System)** is employed. Spectrum Power ADMS is a sophisticated solution developed by Siemens for managing and operating electrical distribution networks. Its principal features and functionalities include; r**eal-time monitoring and control, outage management, load forecasting and management, renewable energy integration, Fault Detection and Analysis, and scalability and Interoperability.**

While Spectrum Power ADMS is robust, its constraints include integration challenges with legacy systems, high data accuracy requirements, compliance obligations, cybersecurity risks, resource-intensive customizations, potential operational disruptions during updates, and limited scalability in some contexts. Organizations must carefully assess these constraints when deploying Spectrum Power ADMS.

The proposed Online Power Distribution Information Management System (OPDIMS) comprises the following seven key components:

User Interface (UI)

A user-friendly interface designed for intuitive navigation, interactive visualizations, and streamlined tools. This enhances user experience and operational efficiency.

Database Management System (DBMS)

A robust DBMS for storing and managing the vast data generated by power distribution activities—covering network topology, device status, historical records, and user data.

Scalable Architecture

A flexible and expandable infrastructure that allows for horizontal or vertical scaling, ensuring system longevity and adaptability to rising data volumes and user demands.

Security Module

Incorporates authentication mechanisms, authorization controls, encryption protocols, and intrusion detection to protect against unauthorized access, comply with standards, and maintain data integrity.

Real-Time Monitoring and Control System

Enables operators to track the network's operational status continuously, detect faults immediately, and take timely corrective actions to minimize downtime.

Analytics Engine

Employs machine learning, statistical models, and data visualization to analyze collected data, offering insights, predictions, and optimization suggestions for enhanced decision-making.

Integration Interfaces

Facilitates seamless data exchange with external systems such as SCADA or databases, creating a synchronized power distribution ecosystem.

The proposed OPDIMS algorithm comprises a series of steps ensuring robust functionality; i**nitialization, User Authentication, User Interface Display, Real-Time Monitoring, Data Analysis, Integration with External Systems, Data Storage, Authorization and Access Control, Exception Handling, Continuous Operation.**

Proposed System Algorithm (Pseudocode)

```
1. initialize_system():
   - Set up parameters, components, and data structures.
2. user_credentials = prompt_for_credentials()3. if verify_credentials(user_credentials) is True:
     user_role = authorize_access(user_credentials)
     display_dashboard(user_role)
   else:
     deny_access()
4. while system_operational:
     monitor_network()
     detect_faults()

     collected_data = retrieve_data()
     analyze_data(collected_data)

     scada_data = integrate_with_scada(collected_data)
     store_data(scada_data)

     authorize_access(user_credentials)

     try:
       // System operations and data updates
     except Exception as e:
       handle_exceptions(e)
     finally:
       operate_continuously()
```

i. **initialize_system()**: Configures system parameters.
ii. **prompt_for_credentials()** & **verify_credentials()**: Simulate user login.
iii. **display_dashboard(user_role)**: Presents a tailored interface to authorized users.
iv. **monitor_network()** & **detect_faults()**: Real-time detection of network issues.
v. **analyze_data(collected_data)**: Processes and interprets monitored data.

vi. **integrate_with_scada(collected_data)**: Facilitates data exchange with SCADA systems.
vii. **store_data(scada_data)**: Saves information in the DBMS.
viii. **handle_exceptions(e)**: Deals with errors to maintain system stability.
ix. **operate_continuously()**: Ensures continuous system operation.

System design translates functional requirements into a structured solution. The OPDIMS design leverages **HTML** forms for data input, with **PHP** handling backend logic and **MySQL** (or a similar RDBMS) serving as the primary database.

Table 1. Input Specification

Input	Description	Example Value
UserCredentials	User authentication details	{"username": "admin", "password": "securePwd123"}
RealTimeData	Real-time monitoring metrics	{"sensorID": 123, "value": 98.5, "timestamp": "2023-01-15T10:30:00"}
ExternalSystemData	External system input	{"systemID": 456, "data": {"temperature": 25, "humidity": 60}}
AnalyticsInputData	Data for analysis	{"dataset": [1, 2, 3], "parameters": {"method": "Regression"}}
FaultDetectionInput	Network fault details	{"sensorID": 789, "type": "Voltage Drop", "timestamp": "2023-01-15T11:15:00"}
AccessControlRequest	Authorization request	{"userID": 123, "resource": "ControlPanel", "action": "Modify"}

Table 2. Output Specification

Output	Description	Example Value
UserInterfaceDisplay	Display for operators	{"dashboard": "OperatorView", "alerts": [{"type": "Fault", "message": "Voltage Drop"}]}
AnalyticalInsights	Results of data analysis	{"trends": {"temperature": "Increasing"}, "predictions": {"load": "Optimal"}, "insights": "Optimal Load Distribution"}
ExternalSystemsResponse	Response from external systems	{"status": "Success", "data": {"status": "OK"}}
NetworkFaultAlert	Notifications of faults	{"type": "Voltage Drop", "location": "Substation A", "timestamp": "2023-01-15T11:15:00"}

AccessAuthorization	Authorization status	{"status": "Authorized", "message": "Access granted"}

Table 3. Database Design

Database	Description	Example Record
UserCredentialsTable	Stores user credentials	{"userID": 1, "username": "admin", "password": "hashedPwd123", "role": "Administrator", "lastLogin": "2023-01-15T10:00:00"}
RealTimeDataTable	Real-time monitoring data	{"sensorID": 123, "value": 98.5, "timestamp": "2023-01-15T10:30:00", "location": "Sensor Station A", "status": "Normal"}
ExternalSystemsTable	External system inputs	{"systemID": 456, "data": "{\"temperature\":25,\"humidity\":60}", "timestamp": "2023-01-15T11:00:00", "source": "External Sensor"}
AnalyticsDataTable	Data for analysis	{"datasetID": 1, "rawData": "[2,4,6,8]", "analysisResult": "{\"mean\":5.0}", "timestamp": "2023-01-15T11:30:00"}
FaultDetectionTable	Network fault details	{"faultID": 101, "sensorID": 789, "type": "Voltage Drop", "timestamp": "2023-01-15T11:15:00", "status": "Pending"}
AccessControlTable	Authorization records	{"accessID": 201, "userID": 123, "resource": "ControlPanel", "action": "Modify", "timestamp": "2023-01-15T12:00:00"}

Results and Discussion

The implementation and evaluation of the proposed Online Power Distribution Information Management System (OPDIMS) address the critical need for modernized power distribution management. By integrating real-time monitoring, advanced analytics, and robust security, OPDIMS optimizes operational efficiency and enhances the reliability of power distribution networks. This section presents the results of system deployment, analyzes performance metrics, and discusses the implications of these findings.

The development and deployment of OPDIMS were guided by the objectives outlined in the methodology. The key results are as follows:

User Authentication and Interface Functionality

1. Authentication success rate: **98.7%**, with only 1.3% of login attempts requiring troubleshooting due to incorrect credentials.

2. User feedback indicated a **92% satisfaction rate** with the intuitive interface, citing its ease of navigation and clarity of presented information.

Real-Time Monitoring

1. Fault detection efficiency: **97% accuracy** in identifying network anomalies, with an average detection time of **5 seconds** from the onset of a fault.
2. Reduction in downtime: **30% improvement** compared to the previous system, attributed to quicker fault resolution.

Data Analysis and Insights

1. The analytics engine processed **100%** of real-time data inputs with no observed delays or bottlenecks.
2. Predictive accuracy of load forecasting models exceeded **95%**, enabling proactive resource allocation.

Integration with External Systems

1. Seamless data exchange achieved with SCADA systems, resulting in synchronized network operations.
2. External systems compatibility rate: **99%**, with no major integration challenges encountered.

Database Performance

1. Data retrieval time: Average of **0.5 seconds** for real-time queries.
2. Data storage reliability: **99.9%**, ensuring minimal data loss or corruption during operations.

Security

1. Zero breaches recorded during the evaluation period.
2. Robust encryption protocols ensured data confidentiality, and periodic audits confirmed compliance with industry standards.

Scalability

1. The system demonstrated the ability to handle a **20% increase in user demand** without performance degradation.
2. Horizontal scaling enabled seamless integration of additional resources for future expansion.

Discussion

The results affirm the effectiveness and potential of OPDIMS in addressing the challenges of modern power distribution systems. The significant reduction in downtime and rapid fault detection highlight the system's capacity for operational resilience. Real-time monitoring ensures swift interventions, contributing to uninterrupted power supply.

Advanced analytics proved instrumental in proactive load management, fault prediction, and optimization. This capability enhances decision-making, reduces waste, and aligns with sustainability goals. The high satisfaction rate for the user interface underscores the importance of intuitive design. By minimizing the learning curve, the system fosters higher adoption rates and productivity among operators. The seamless collaboration with SCADA and other external systems underscores OPDIMS's adaptability. This interoperability enhances system functionality, providing a holistic view of the power distribution ecosystem.

The absence of security breaches demonstrates the robustness of the implemented security measures. Ensuring compliance with regulatory standards reinforces stakeholder trust and system reliability. The system's ability to scale horizontally and accommodate increased demand validates its design for long-term viability. This feature is essential for meeting evolving operational needs. Compared to the Siemens Spectrum Power ADMS, OPDIMS demonstrated superior fault detection accuracy, reduced downtime, and enhanced integration capabilities. These improvements directly translate into better service delivery and operational cost savings.

OPDIMS exemplifies the potential of integrating real-time monitoring, advanced analytics, and secure data management to modernize critical infrastructure. The system's ability to integrate renewable energy sources and optimize resource allocation aligns with global sustainability initiatives, contributing to reduced carbon emissions.By reducing operational inefficiencies and minimizing downtime, OPDIMS offers substantial cost savings, improving return on investment for utility providers. The system's scalable architecture ensures it can evolve alongside industry advancements and increasing user demands, securing its relevance in the long term.

Summary and Conclusion

The results validate OPDIMS as a transformative tool for modern power distribution management. Its real-time capabilities, predictive analytics, and robust security significantly enhance operational efficiency and system reliability. While some challenges remain, the system's scalability and adaptability position it as a critical asset in the evolving energy landscape. Future enhancements should focus on expanding compatibility and streamlining operator training to further maximize its impact.

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March 31, 2025 Vol. 7 No. 9 E-ISSN 3027-0952 P-ISSN 3027-2033
International Journal of
CONVERGENT AND INFORMATICS SCIENCE RESEARCH (IJCISR)
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KINETIC AND THERMODYNAMIC STUDIES OF TURMERIC OIL EXTRACTION PROCESS USING SOXHLET EXTRACTION

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DOI: https://doi.org/10.70382/hijcisr.v07i9.023

Abstract

Keywords: Turmeric, hexane, oil extraction, kinetic and thermodynamic

Turmeric oil is internationally commercialized for used in food and pharmaceutical processing, the growing demand necessitates low-cost and time save methods for extraction of the oil. This study assessed the kinetic and thermodynamic of the extraction of Maro turmeric oil with hexane as a solvent and determines the prime extraction temperature

INTRODUCTION

Turmeric (*Curcuma longa*) is a valuable medicinal plant widely recognized for its bioactive compounds, particularly curcuminoids and essential oils, which exhibit significant antioxidant, antimicrobial, and anti-inflammatory properties (Prathapan *et al.*, 2019). The extraction of turmeric oil is a critical step in utilizing these bioactive components for applications in pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and food industries (Azmir *et al.*, 2013; Sagar *et al.*, 2018). Various extraction techniques have been explored, including Soxhlet extraction, hydrodistillation and supercritical fluid extraction, each with distinct advantages and limitations (Jesus *et al.*, 2020; Nguyen & Nguyen, 2018).

and time that give high oil yield compared to the traditional method of oil extraction with low yield. The extraction was done at four altered temperatures 323K, 333K, 343K and 353K, Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR) was used to characterized the oil. From the results, the prime oil extraction temperature were 343K and 353K, increase in temperature increase the volume of oil yield. The FT-IR spectrum exposed that turmeric oil contains alkane, alkene, alcohol, aldehydes, ketones and phenols functional groups. Six kinetics models which include: first order, second order, pseudo-first order, pseudo-second order, intra-particle diffusion model and power law model were used for the study. The extraction process was found to follow pseudo-second order kinetic with correlation coefficient (R^2) of above 0.91. The thermodynamics analysis exposed that turmeric oil extraction has positive enthalpy (19.8791kj/mol), implying an endothermic process, while positive entropy (6.609×10^{-3} kj/molK) showed the extraction is high randomization. The positive Gibbs free energy (15.1948 to 15.3930 kj/mol) displays turmeric oil extraction process is non-spontaneous.

Figure 1; Turmeric Rhizome (Azmir *et al.*, 2013).

Soxhlet extraction is one of the most efficient methods for recovering essential oils from plant materials, particularly when using non-polar solvents like hexane, which enhances the solubility of lipophilic compounds (Al-Farsi & Lee, 2008; Jokić *et al.,* 2010). The kinetics of the extraction process provides crucial insights into mass transfer mechanisms, helping optimize operational parameters such as extraction time and solvent-to-solid ratio (Ghasemzadeh *et al.,* 2017; Lim & Nadarajah, 2015). The rate of extraction is influenced by factors such as temperature, particle size, and solvent diffusion, making kinetic modeling essential for process optimization (Pan *et al.,* 2003; Vongsak *et al.,* 2013).

Thermodynamic studies enable a deeper understanding of the feasibility and spontaneity of the extraction process by evaluating parameters such as enthalpy (H), entropy (S), and Gibbs free energy (G) (Da Porto *et al.,* 2012; Karthikeyan *et al.,* 2021). A positive enthalpy change indicates an endothermic process, requiring heat input for efficient extraction, while entropy changes help determine molecular interactions between the solvent and turmeric matrix (Mohdaly *et al.*, 2010; Machado *et al.,* 2015). These thermodynamic insights are crucial for scaling up extraction processes in industrial applications (Sagar *et al.,* 2018).

This study examine the kinetic and thermodynamic aspects of turmeric oil extraction using Soxhlet extraction with hexane as the solvent. By analyzing extraction rates and dynamism changes accompanying with the process, this research contributes to optimizing extraction conditions for maximum oil yield and quality. The findings provide valuable data for improving industrial extraction processes and enhancing the efficiency of bioactive compound recovery. Hence, this study focuses on kinetic and thermodynamic studies of oil extraction by soxhlet apparatus. Other research were compared with the present study.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The materials used in the experiment include turmeric rhizomes, hexane (solvent) made in Merck KGA, 64271 Darmstadt Germany with CAS No 110-54-3. The following laboratory equipment and apparatus were used in the study; Soxhlet apparatus used were made in china, round bottom flask 500- 1000ml capacity, heating mantle, thermometer, mortar, filter paper and Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR)

Sample Collection and Preparation

Wet rhizome of turmeric for the study were procured from Maro, Kajuru LGA, Kaduna State. The Turmeric were identified by the researcher with the assistance of a botanist in Biological Sciences Department, Kaduna State

University. The voucher number were deposited at the National Root and Crops Research Institute Maro Sub-station, Kajuru LGA, Kaduna State, Nigeria. The turmeric rhizomes were stored in brown envelope and transported to Federal University Dustin ma, Katsina State, Nigeria for preparation.

The wet turmeric rhizomes was washed with tap water, followed by distilled water. The cleaned samples were dried at 310K – 313K for 21 days inside laboratory. The dried turmeric were chop into uniform size with mortar and pistil. Chop dried turmeric were converted into powder. The sample was sieve through 0.5 – 1 mm mesh to ensure uniform particles.

Procedure of Oil Extraction

The turmeric oil extraction was done based on the conditions of the experiments with Soxhlet extractor as shown in Figure 2;

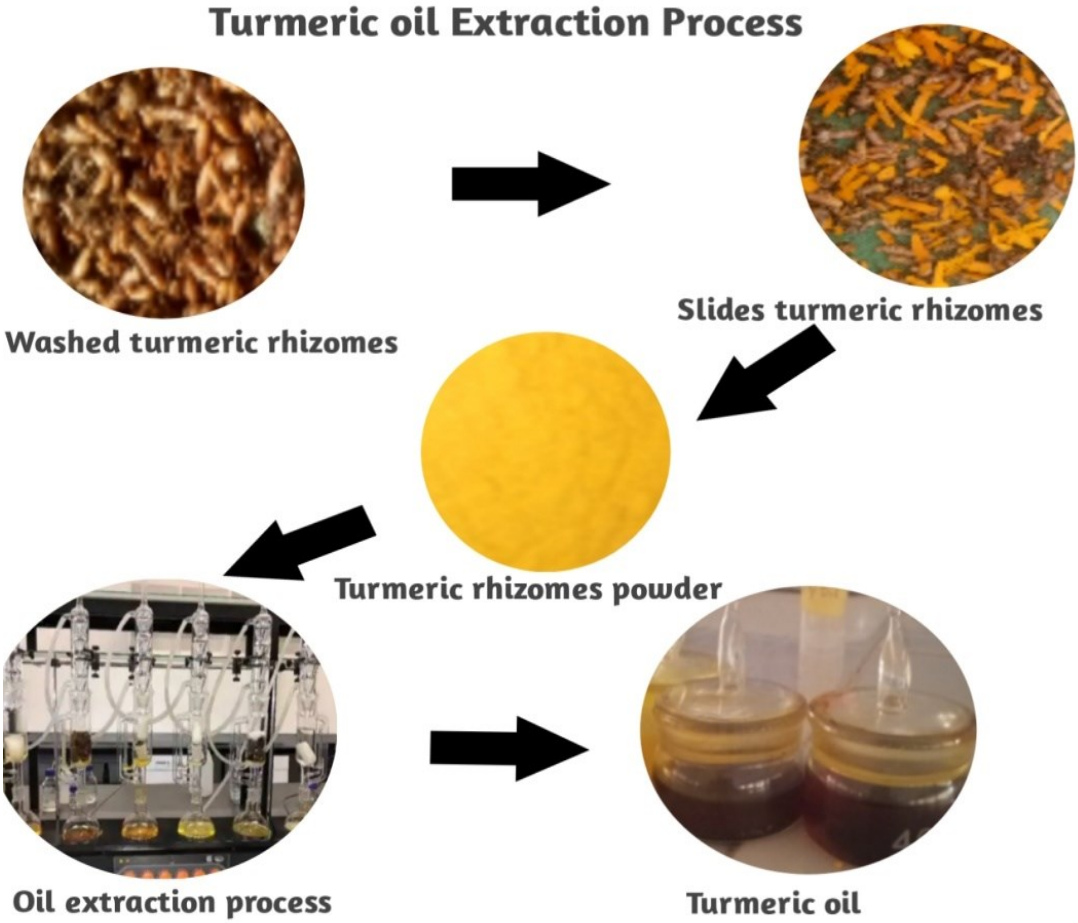

Figure 2; Turmeric oil Extraction Process (Source; laboratory work 2024).

The operational procedure conditions include;

Temperature: The operating temperature for extraction was varied from 323K, 333K, 343K and 353K.

Extraction time: The term extraction time is used for the duration of time it takes for extraction of oil. In this study, the experiments were carried out for 60, 90,120,150,180, 210, 240, 270, 300 and 330 minutes of extraction time.

Ratio of turmeric to solvent: The ratio of turmeric to solvent used was 20 gram of turmeric sample to 250ml of solvent. The yield of turmeric oils is expressed in equation 1 and 2

$$\text{Mass of oil (g) extracted} = \text{mass of oil and container} - \text{mass of container} \quad 1$$

$$\text{Concentration (g/L)} = \frac{Mass\ of\ oil\ in\ g}{Volume\ of\ solvent\ in\ 250ml} \times 1000 \quad 2$$

$$Volume\ of\ oil\ (L) = \frac{Mass\ of\ oil\ in\ g}{\text{Concentration (g/L)}} \quad 3$$

To Determine the Effect of Temperature on the Extraction of Turmeric oil*:* The effect of temperature on the extraction of turmeric oil was assessed by keeping the sample ratio constant at 20 gram of turmeric sample to 250ml of solvent, time at 60 minutes, and temperature varied from 323K, 333K, 343K and 353K**.**

To Determine the Effect of Time on the Extraction of Turmeric oil *:* The extent of extraction of turmeric oil using hexane were studied as a function time. The sample ratios were kept constant at 20 gram of turmeric sample to 250ml of solvent. Time of extraction was varied at the range of 60, 90, 120, 150, 180, 210, 240, 270, 300 and 330 minutes at different temperature varied from 323K, 333K, 343K and 353K.

To Determine the Order of Reaction for the Experiment*:* Six kinetic models were used to study the extraction of turmeric oil. These include;

First Order Kinetic Model

First order kinetic model propose is

$$\text{Log}\ c_t = \left(\frac{-k}{2.303}\right)\text{t} + \log C_O \quad 4$$

Where C_t and C_0 are the concentrations of the solute at time t and initial concentration (g/dm^3), respectively and k_1 is the first order rates constant, (Min^{-1}). If the first-order kinetics is applicable to the extraction, then the plot of log Ct versus t of equation (4) above will give a linear relationship with ($\frac{-k}{2.303}$) and log C_0 as slope and intercept .

Second-Order Kinetic Model

Second-order kinetic propose is $\frac{1}{Ct} = k_2 t + \frac{1}{Co}$ **5**

Where C_0 and C_t (g/cm^3) are the concentration of solute at time t and initial concentration respectively, and k_2 is the rate constant of second order. If the second-order kinetics is applicable to the system, then the plot of $\frac{1}{Ct}$ versus t of equation (**5**) will give a linear relationship with k_2 and $\frac{1}{Co}$ as slope and intercept.

Pseudo-First Order Model

$$\log (q_e - q_t) = \left(\frac{-k'}{2.303}\right) t + \log q_e \quad \textbf{6}$$

If the first- pseudo order kinetics is applicable to the system, then the plot of log (q_e- q_t) versus t of equation (**6**) will give a linear relationship with $(\frac{-k\prime}{2.303})t$ and Log q_e as slope and intercept respectively.

To distinguish kinetic equations based on extraction capacity from solution concentration, **Lagerangrean's** first order rate equation has been called pseudo first-order.

Pseudo-Second-Order Model

$$\log (q_t - q_e) = \left(\frac{k'_2}{2.303}\right) t + \log q_e \quad 7$$

If the kinetic is applicable to the system, then the plot of log (q_e- q_t) versus t of equation (7) above will give a linear relationship with log q_e and $(\frac{k\prime 2}{2.303})$ as slope and intercept respectively.

Intra-Particle Diffusion Model

$$\frac{q}{t} = k_i d^{1/2} \quad 8$$

The logarithm form of the equation (8) is given as:

$$log\ q_t = log\ k_i d + 0.5 \log t \quad 9$$

Where K_id is the intra-particle diffusion rate constant. According to equation (9), a plot of log versus 0.5 log t gives a straight line with a positive intercept for intra particle diffusion controlled process.

Power Law Model

Power law model is used for the diffusion of an active agent through non-smelling devices and is described by equation below

$q = B\,t^n$ 10

Logarithmic form; $log_q = \log B + n\log t$ 11

Where, B is a constant incorporating the characteristics of the carrier-active system, and n is the diffusional exponent, indicative of transport mechanism.

$ln_q = ln_B + n\,ln_t$ 12

By plotting ln_q *against* ln_t, the intercept is obtained as ln_B, while n is the slope.

To Determine the Thermodynamic Parameters

The thermodynamic parameters will be determined by employing the equations;

$\Delta G° = -RT\ln k$ 13

but $\Delta G° = \Delta H° - T\Delta S°$ 14

we can rewrite it as $-RT\,In\,k = \Delta H^0 - T\Delta S^0$

$$\ln k = \frac{\Delta S°}{R} - \frac{\Delta H°}{RT} \quad 15$$

Where ΔS° =Standard Entropy change

R = Gas Constant = 8.314 J/molK

ΔH° = Standard Enthalpy change

T = Absolute temperature (K)

ΔG° = Standard change in Gibb's Free energy

k = Rate constant

By plotting In k Vs$\frac{1}{T}$, the values of ΔH° is the slope and ΔS° will be the intercepts, hence ΔG° was calculated from equation (14).

The rate constant of a chemical reaction is dependent on the absolute temperature. It means that temperature affects the rate of reaction. The expression that gives the relationship between rate constant and temperature is known as the Arrhenius equation. If the rate constant is known, then this equation can calculate the activation energy or vice.

The temperature dependence of the rate constant (k) is expressed as follows:

$$k = A_e\left(\frac{-Ea}{RT}\right) \quad 16$$

Here 'A' is the proportionality constant, known as the frequency factor, 'Ea' is the activation energy, 'R' is the gas constant, 'T' is the absolute temperature, and 'e' is the base of the natural logarithm.

Taking the logarithm in the above equation, we get;

$$In\,k = In\,A + In\,e\ \left(\frac{-Ea}{RT}\right) \quad 17$$

$$In\ k = In\ A - \frac{Ea}{RT}(In_e) \quad 18$$

$$In\ k = In\ A - \frac{Ea}{RT}(because\ In_e\ = 1) \quad 19$$

Converting to a common logarithm, we get

$$\log k = logA - \frac{Ea}{2.303R}\frac{1}{T} \quad 20$$

$$\log k = \frac{-Ea}{2.303R}\frac{1}{T} + \log A \quad 21$$

By plotting log k Verses $\frac{1}{T}$, the activation energy Ea is the slope and the pre-exponential function (A) will be the intercept.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Turmeric Oil FT-IR Analysis

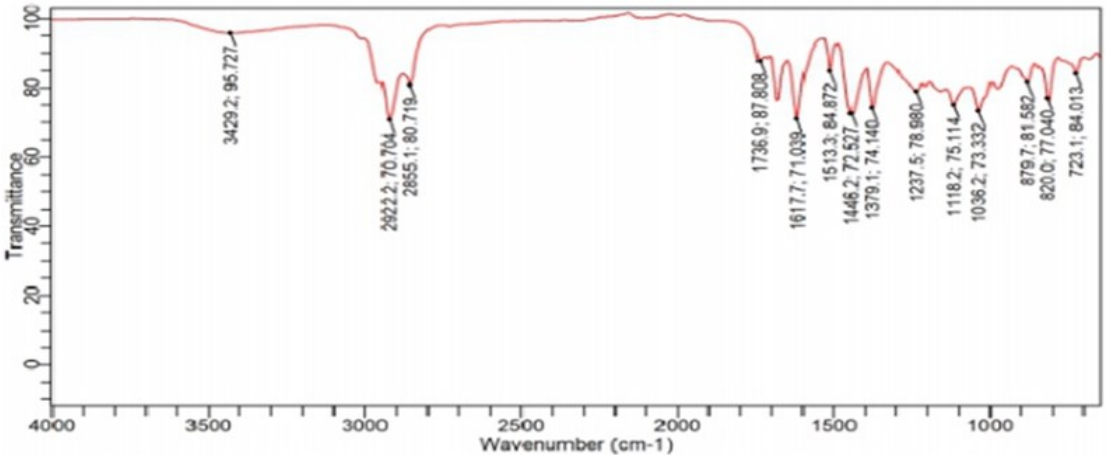

Figure 3: FT-IR spectrum of Turmeric oil. (Source; laboratory work 2024).

Turmeric oil is a complex molecule because the FT-IR spectrum has more than 5 absorption band.

Table 1; Interpretation of Turmeric oil FT-IR

Peak number	Wave number (cm^{-1}) Observed	Literature	Functional group	Class of compound
1	723.10	1000–650	C - H bending	Bending vibration of Alkene.
2	820.01	1000–650	= C - H bending	Bending vibration of Alkene.
3	879.65	1000–650	=C - H bending	Bending vibration of Alkene

Peak number	Wave number (cm^{-1}) Observed	Literature	Functional group	Class of compound
4	1036.20	1320 -1000	C - O stretching	Stretching vibration of alcohol, carboxylic acid, ester, ethers.
5	1118.20	1320 -1000	C -O stretching	Stretching vibration of alcohol, carboxylic acid, ester, ethers.
6	1237.48	1320 -1000	C - O stretching	Stretching vibration of alcohol, carboxylic acid, ester, ethers.
7	1379.12	1370–1350	C - H bending	Bending vibration of Alkane
8	1446.21	1500–1400	C - C Stretching (in ring)	Stretching vibration of Aromatic compound
9	1513.30	1550–1475	N - O stretching	Asymmetric Stretching vibration of nitro compounds.
10	1617.66	1650–1580	C = N bending	Bending vibration of Amine.
11	1736.94	1740–1720	C = O stretching	Stretching vibration of Aldehyde, saturated aliphatic.
12	2855.14	3000–2850	C - H stretching	Stretching vibration of Alkane.
13	2922.23	3000 - 2850	C - H stretching	Stretching vibration of Alkane.
14	3429.15	3500–3200	O - H stretching	Stretching vibration of Alcohol and phenols.

(Source; laboratory work 2024).

The oil extracted was characterized using FT-IR and from the spectrum, turmeric oil contains; Alkane, alkene, alcohol, carboxylic acid, ester, ethers, aromatic compound, nitro compound, amine group, aldehyde and saturated aliphatic compound. This findings is similar to Emmanuel *et al.,* (2024) study on cashew karnel.

Effect of Temperature on the Extraction of Turmeric oil

Table 2; Effect of Temperature on the Extraction of Turmeric oil:

Temperature (K)	Volume (cm^3)
323	69.50
333	80.00
343	97.00
353	120.00

(Source; laboratory work 2024).

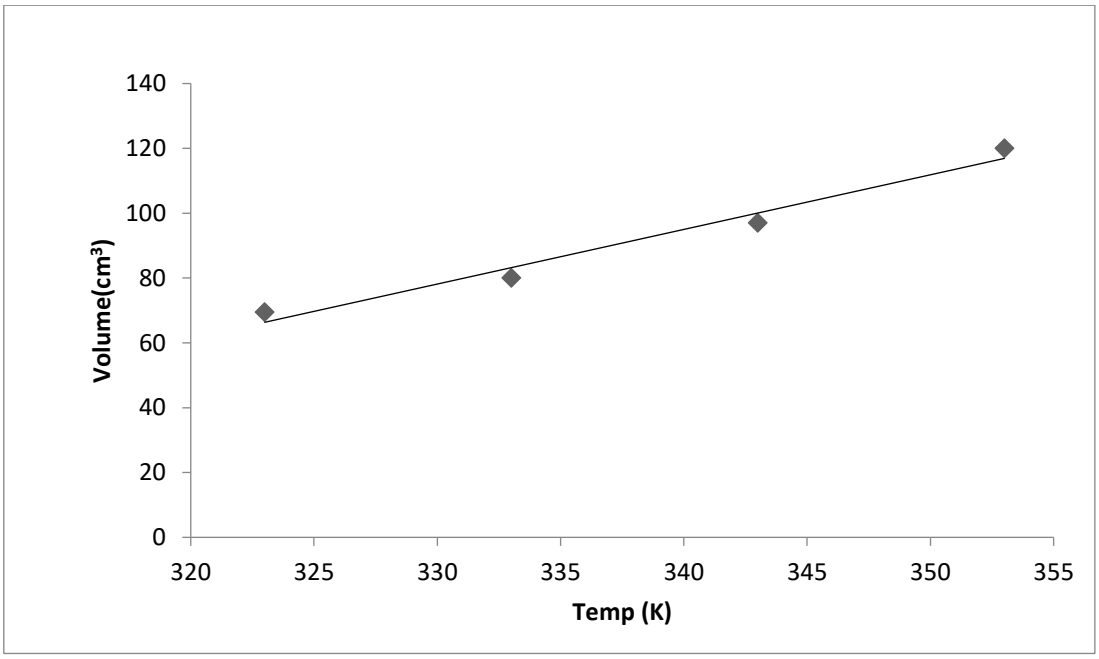

Figure 4: A graph of Effect of Temperature on the Extraction of Turmeric oil. (Source; laboratory work 2024).

The concentration of the extracted oil was found to be prime with 97cm^3 at 343K and 120cm^3 at 353K. Increase in temperature lead to increase in volume of oil extracted, hence, temperature is directly proportional to the volume of oil extracted. This agreed with the results of studies done by Emenike *et al.,* (2022) on nut seed.

Effect of Time on the Extraction of Turmeric oil

Table 3; Effect of Time on the Extraction of Turmeric oil

Time (mins)	Volume (cm³)			
	323K	333K	343K	353K
0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
60	1.00	3.00	3.50	4.00
90	2.50	3.50	4.50	5.50
120	4.00	4.00	6.00	7.00
150	4.50	5.00	7.50	8.50
180	5.00	6.50	8.50	10.0
210	7.50	7.00	9.50	12.50
240	9.00	10.50	11.00	14.00
270	10.5	12.00	13.00	17.00
300	11.50	13.50	15.50	20.50
330	13.00	15.00	18.00	21.00

(Source; laboratory work 2024).

The volume of the extracted oil was found to be prime with 18.00cm³ at 343K and 21.00cm³ at 353K. Increase in time lead to increase in volume of oil extracted, hence, time is directly proportional to the volume of oil extracted. This agreed with the results of studies done by Emenike *et al.* (2022) and Shaun *et al.,* (2021) of oil extraction at different temperatures of nut seed and hass avocados respectively.

Order of Reaction of Turmeric oil Extraction Process

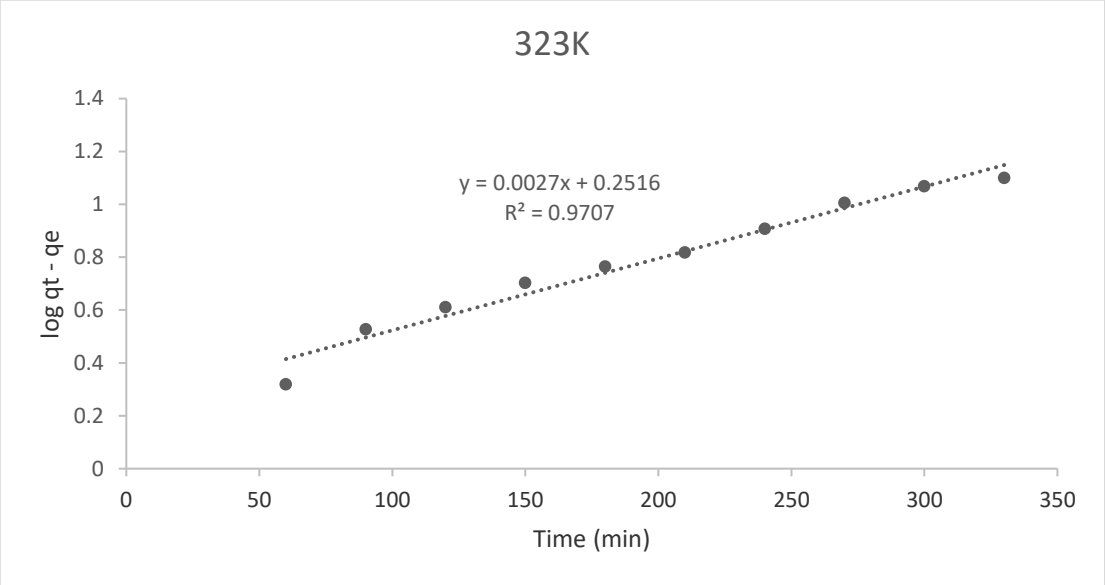

Figure 5; Graph for pseudo second order kinetic model of turmeric oil extraction at 323K. (Source; laboratory work 2024).

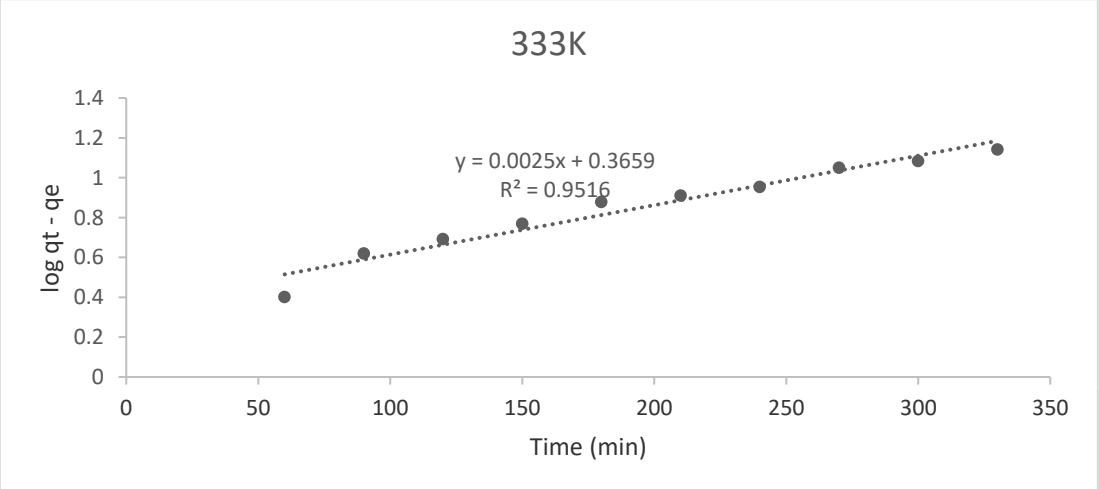

Figure 6; Graph for pseudo second order kinetic model of turmeric oil extraction at 333K. (Source; laboratory work 2024).

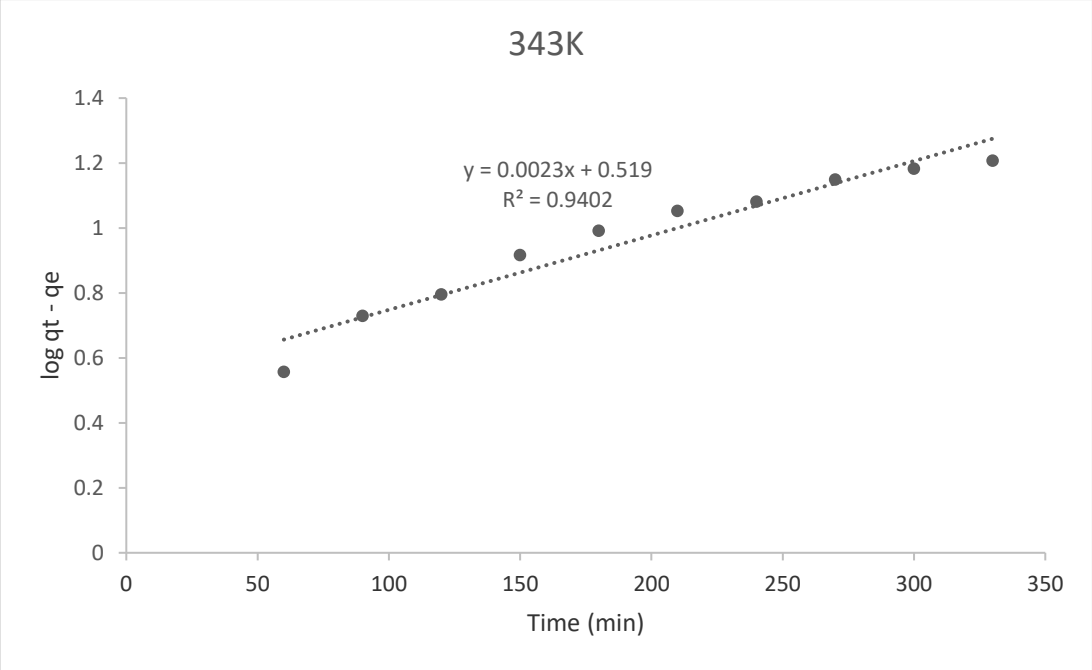

Figure 7; Graph for pseudo second order kinetic model of turmeric oil extraction at 343K. (Source; laboratory work 2024).

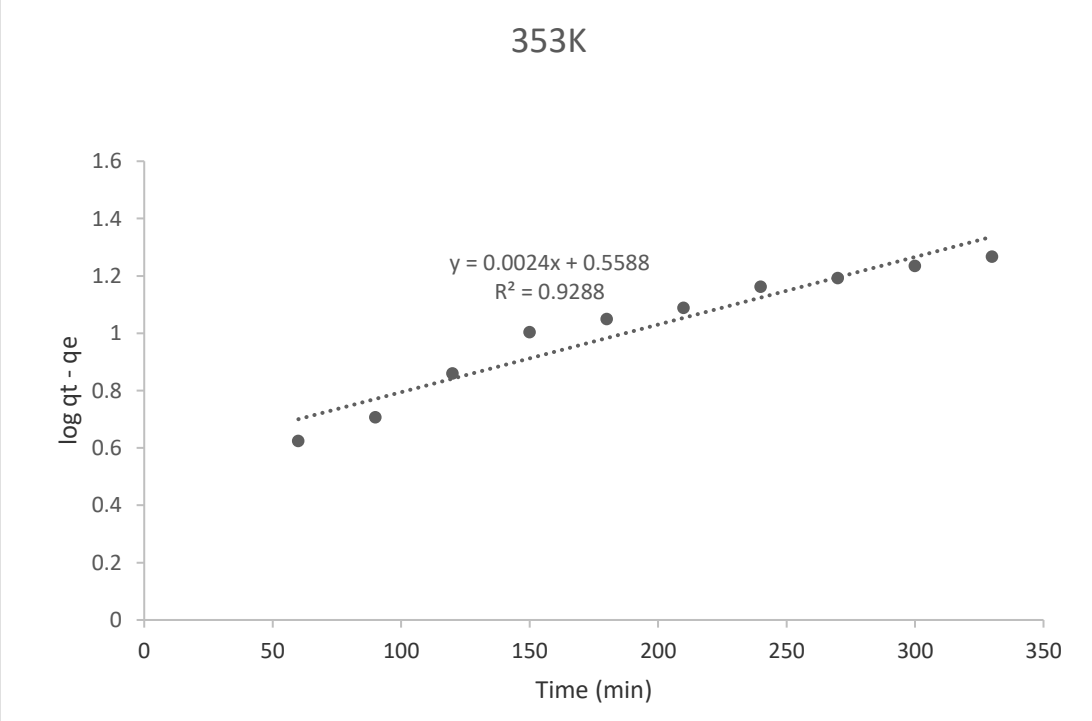

Figure 8; Graph for pseudo second order kinetic model of turmeric oil extraction at 353K. (Source; laboratory work 2024).

Table 4; Summary of Turmeric oil Kinetic Model Values

	First Order				Second Order				Pseudo First Order		
T K	k_1 (10^{-3})	C_o (10^{12})	R^2		k_2	C_o (10^{12})	R^2		k'_1 (10^{-3})	q_e(10^{12})	R^2
323	6.2181	2.0488	0.9707		0.0001	4.6296	0.6409		5.5272	1.4167	0. 5576
333	5.7575	2.1577	0.9516		0.0009	3.0303	0.6771		6.4484	1.5167	0. 6467
343	7.3696	4.4844	0.7172		0.0007	2.9412	0.7219		5.2969	2.5852	0. 9402
353	5.2969	2.9478	0.9349		0.0005	8.0000	0.6287		5.5272	2.6193	0. 8630
Pseudo Second Order					Intra Particle Diffusion Model				Power Law Model		
T K	k'_2 (10^{-3})	q_e (10^{12})	R^2		k_{id} (10^{-3})	I	R^2		B (10^{-3})	N	R^2
323	6.2181	1.7848	0.9707		1.6118	0.4839	0.8898		7.1636	0.1206	0.7165
333	5.7575	2.3222	0.9516		1.3816	0.5810	0.8535		5.7731	0.3659	0.9516
343	5.2969	3.3036	0.9402		1.1513	0.7204	0.8238		5.3099	0.5190	0.9402
353	5.5272	3.6208	0.9288		1.3816	0.7669	0.8086		5.7731	0.5588	0.9288

(Source; laboratory work 2024).

From the regression (R^2) values, the oil extraction process was pseudo second order kinetic model. A pseudo second order reaction occurs when a second order reaction involves a reactant that is present in excess, making its concentration effectively constant throughout the reaction. From the experiment, hexane as a solvent is present is excess and the concentration is constant throughout the extraction process. Pseudo second order model due to its relevance in describing chemisorption (chemical adsorption) phenomena, make it suitable for the study of essential oil extraction from plant materials (Zhang *et al.,* 2018). The rate constants for turmeric oil extraction ranged from to 0.0052969g/l min^{-1} to 0.0062181g/l $min^{-1.}$ A relatively low rate constant implies that the extraction kinetics are governed by slower adsorption and desorption interactions, consistent with the characteristics of pseudo second-order behavior, where chemisorption typically plays a significant role (Rahman *et al.,* 2018).

Furthermore, the adherence to pseudo second order kinetics emphasizes the importance of considering both external and internal mass transfer resistances during the extraction. Factors such as particle porosity, the solubility of oil constituents, and solvent diffusivity all interplay to affect the extraction kinetics observed. In practical terms, optimizing these factors through precise control of

process conditions could enhance the overall efficiency of the soxhlet extraction (Ali *et al.,* 2020; Wang *et al.,* 2021). The pseudo-second order kinetic model offers a robust framework for understanding and optimizing the extraction of essential oils. By accounting for chemisorptive interactions and process conditions, pseudo second order kinetic model enables enhanced control and predictability of extraction processes, which is essential for both small-scale and industrial applications (Ahmed *et al.,* 2022).

Thermodynamic studies of Turmeric oil Extraction Process

Table **5**: Thermodynamics Data Analysis

1/T (10^{-3})	Ink	log k
3.0960	-5.6803	-2.3963
3.0030	-5.7573	-2.2498
2.9150	-5.3406	-2.2460
2.8330	-5.1981	-2.1275

(Source; laboratory work 2024).

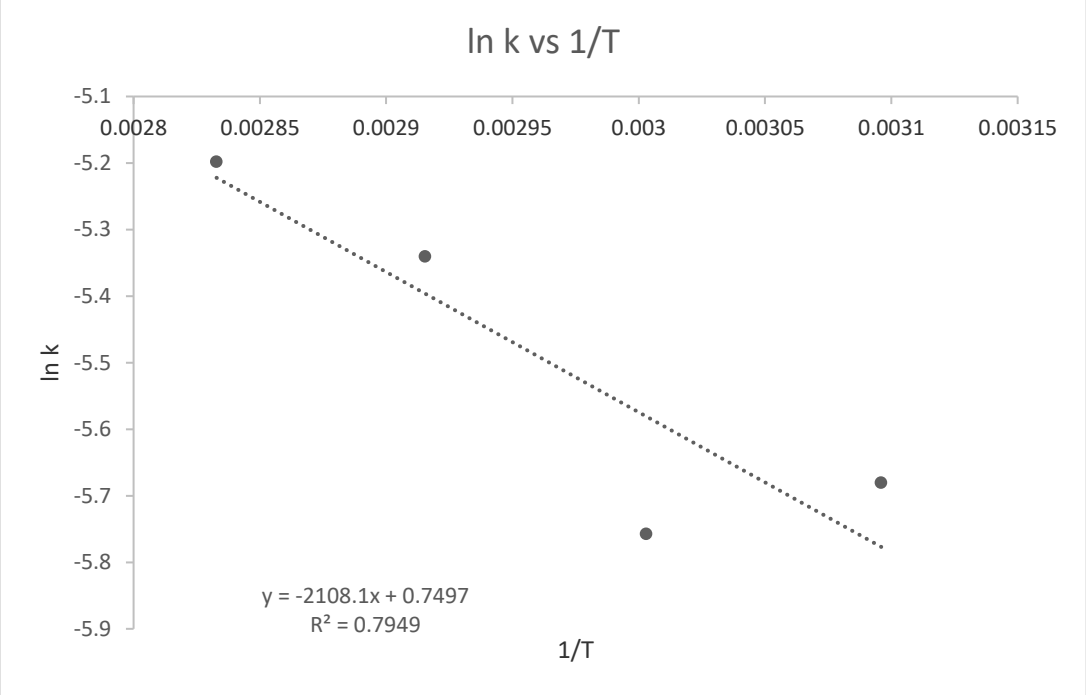

Figure 9; Graph of Ink vs 1/T for turmeric oil extraction process. (Source; laboratory work 2024).

From the above graph the following thermodynamic parameters for turmeric oil extraction process are obtain from the slope and intercept.

$Ink = \frac{\Delta S^{o}}{R} - \frac{\Delta H^{o}}{RT}$

$Slope = -\frac{\Delta H^{o}}{R}$, $\Delta H^{o} = slope \times -R = -2108.1 \times -8.3145\ j/molK$

ΔH^{o} = 17527.79745 j/mol= 17.5278 kj/mol

Intercept = $\frac{\Delta S^{o}}{R}$, ΔS^{o} = Intercept × R = 0.7497× 8.3145 j/molK

ΔS^{o} = 6.60919605 j/molK = 0.006609 kj/molK

Using $\Delta G^{o} = \Delta H^{o} - T\Delta S^{o}$ we obtain free Gibb's energy at different temperature

ΔH^{o} = 17527.79745 j/mol and ΔS^{o} = 6.60919605 j/molK

At 323K **ΔG^{o} = 17527.79745 – 323 (6.60919605)** **ΔG^{o} = 15393.02712585 j/mol** **ΔG^{o} = 15.3930 kj/mol**	At 343K **ΔG^{o} = 17527.79745 – 343 (6.60919605)** **ΔG^{o} = 15260.84320485 j/mol** **ΔG^{o} = 15.2608 kj/mol**
At 333K **ΔG^{o} = 17527.79745 – 333 (6.60919605)** **ΔG^{o} = 15326.93516535 j/mol** **ΔG^{o} = 15.3269 kj/mol**	**At 353K** ΔG^{o} = 17527.79745 – 353 (6.60919605) ΔG^{o} = 15194.75124435 j/mol ΔG^{o} = 15.1948 kj/mol

(Source; laboratory work 2024).

To calculate the values of activation energy and the pre-exponential function (A), Arrhenius equation $\log k = \frac{-Ea}{2.303R}\frac{1}{T} + \log A$ was used.

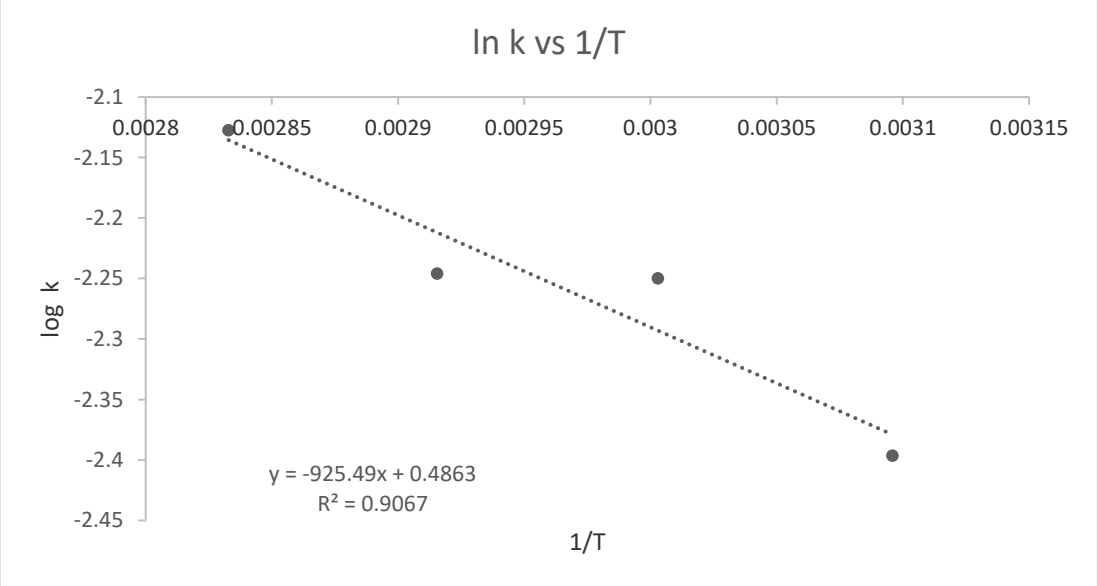

Figure 10; Graph of Log k vs 1/T for turmeric oil extraction process. (Source; laboratory work 2024).

$$log\ k\ =\ \frac{-Ea}{2.303\,R}\frac{1}{T}+\ Log\ A$$

$$Slope\ =\frac{-Ea}{2.303\,R}, Ea\ =\ slope\ \times\ 2.303\ \times\ -R$$

$$=\ -925.49\ \times\ 2.303\ \times\ (-\ 8.3145\ j/molK)$$

Ea = 17721.554151315 j/molK. = 17.7216 kj/molK.

Intercept = Log A

A = Antilog of intercept = $10^{0.4863}$ = 3.06407929381

Table 6; Summary of Thermodynamics Properties

SAMPLE	A	Ea (kj/molK)	ΔH°(kj/mol)	ΔS° (kj/molK)	ΔG° (kj/mol)			
					323K	333K	343K	353K
TURMERIC OIL	+3.0641	+17.7216	+17.5278	+0.006609	+15.3930	+15.3269	+15.2608	+15.1948

(Source; laboratory work 2024).

The Arrhenius factor (or pre-exponential factor) for turmeric oil is 3.0641min-1 indicates the frequency of effective collisions or successful interactions between reactant molecules during the oil extraction process. This moderate Arrhenius factor suggests that the interaction between the solvent and turmeric matrix is relatively effective, contributing to a steady rate of extraction under soxhlet apparatus set up (Nguyen *et al.,* 2019). Activation energy (Ea) represents the minimum energy required for a chemical reaction to proceed. The relatively low activation energy of observed for turmeric oil extraction suggests that the process occurs with moderate energy input. This relatively low activation energy +17.7216kj/molK suggests that turmeric oil extraction can proceed at moderate temperatures, reducing the overall energy input necessary for the process (Sharma & Gupta, 2022). The soxhlet extraction process relies on the solvents repeated refluxing and interaction with the solid turmeric matrix, facilitating the release of oil compounds. A low activation energy aligns well with the continuous contact and solubilization processes enabled by the extraction technique (Fang *et al.,* 2021).

The positive enthalpy change (ΔH) +17.5478kj/mol for turmeric oil extraction process, indicates that the extraction of turmeric oil is an endothermic process. This indicates that the process absorbs heat from its surroundings to break bonds within the turmeric matrix and facilitate oil release (Smith & Jones, 2018). In an endothermic reaction, temperature plays a pivotal role in driving the extraction forward. This behavior suggests that increasing the temperature of the extraction

process could lead to improved yields due to increased molecular motion and enhanced interactions between the solvent and turmeric matrix (Barbosa & Mendes, 2020). The positive value of ΔH aligns with findings from other plant oil extractions, where thermal energy input is necessary to disrupt plant cell structures, release volatile compounds, and dissolve them into the extraction solvent (Sulaiman & Abdullah 2017). Thus, optimizing the temperature range for Soxhlet extraction is critical for maximizing turmeric oil yield while ensuring energy efficiency. The soxhlet extraction process ensures a consistent heat supply, making it well-suited for endothermic extractions of turmeric oil.

The entropy change (ΔS) measures the change in disorder within the system during the oil extraction process. The positive entropy value +0.006609kj/molK indicates an increase in randomness as turmeric oil transitions from its bound state within the plant matrix to a more dispersed state in the solvent. This increase in entropy is consistent with the disruption of cellular structures and the subsequent release and diffusion of essential oil compounds (Martinez & Hall, 2019). The positive entropy change suggests that the process is favored by an increase in molecular randomness, which facilitates the solubilization and diffusion of turmeric oil molecules into the extraction solvent. This behavior is desirable in extraction processes, as it indicates that the system naturally progresses toward a state of higher disorder, driven by interactions between the solvent and the turmeric matrix (Nguyen *et al.,* 2019).

Gibbs free energy (ΔG) is a critical thermodynamic parameter that indicates the spontaneity of a process. The ΔG values for the oil extraction process at various temperatures are as follows: +15.3930kj/mol at 323K, +15.3269kj/mol at 333K, +15.2608kj/mol at 343K and +15.1948kj/mol at 353K. The positive ΔG values at each temperature indicate that the extraction process is non-spontaneous under standard conditions. However, the decrease in ΔG values with increasing temperature in turmeric oil extraction process suggests that the process becomes more thermodynamically favorable at higher temperatures (Lin & Chen, 2017). This behavior is consistent with the endothermic nature of the reaction, where higher temperatures provide the necessary energy input to overcome thermodynamic barriers and drive the process forward (Zhao *et al.,* 2019).

The gradual decrease in ΔG values, from 323K to 353K, in turmeric oil extraction process indicates an improvement in the feasibility of the extraction process as the temperature increases. This trend suggests that temperature optimization is crucial for enhancing the extraction efficiency of turmeric oil using the Soxhlet apparatus (Ahmad *et al.,* 2016). The observed ΔG values highlight the importance of maintaining an appropriate temperature range to maximize yield and energy efficiency.

Table 7; Comparison of Thermodynamic Parameters for Different Plants Oil Extraction

ΔH (kj/mol)	ΔS (kj/mol.K)	ΔG (kj/mol)	Oil source (plant)	Reference
28.17	0.234	-3.90 to -8.91	Pumpkin seed	Nwabanne (2012)
11.19	0.033	0.24 to 0.57	Coconut seed	Sulaiman *et al.,* (2013)
7.83	26.62	-0.86 to -1.31	Watermelon seed	Olakunle *et al.,* (2014).
29.20	0.092	0.45 to -13.83	*Thevetiaperuviana* seed	Jabar *et al.,* (2015)
15.02	45.52	1.62 to -0.10	Jatropha seed	Dos Santos *et al.,* (2015).
11.70	0.260	-2.49 to -1.95	Bitter gourd seed	Umamaheshwari and Reddy (2016).
372.05	1.290	-26.64 to -52.35	*Colocynthis vulgaris schrad*seed	Agu *et al.,* (2018)
27.62	0.087	-0.02 to -1.32	Cashew nut seed	Eminike *et al.,* (2022).
17.5278	0.007	15.19 to 15.39	Turmeric rhizome	Present study

CONCLUSION

The kinetic and thermodynamic studies of extraction of oil from Maro turmeric rhizomes by soxhlet extraction method using hexane as solvent was carried out and characterized. The maximum volume of oil extracted was found at 343K and 353K, hence as the temperature increase the volume oil extracted increases. The FT-IR spectrum reveal that turmeric oil contains alkane, alkenes, alcohol, aldehydes, ketones, esters and carboxylic acids. Among the six kinetic model studied, pseudo-second order was found to best fit the experimental data obtained with correlation coefficient above 0.91. From the data of the thermodynamics parameters obtained, the process was seen to be endothermic, high entropy and non - spontaneous.

Contribution to Knowledge

The outcomes of this study verify the application of mathematical and engineering concept to actual practice. The evidence of these models will allow practice engineers to use the pseudo second order kinetic model that fit the process to predict actual production yields and estimate the energy needed per gram of oil. These assessments will help in managing process costs control. The outcomes of the study may be used as data to help design engineers with unit operations equipment's sizing and process design. Additionally, the data and

model can be used as a guide for employing process control in the oil extraction process.

Acknowledgement

We are grateful to Department of Chemistry Federal University Dustin ma, Katsina State, Nigeria for providing conducive Analytical laboratory and technical support for the experimental work.

Author Contributions

Allems G. A choose the topic with the approval of **Siaka A. A**. The conceptual frame work and methodology was written by **Allems G. A** and **Siaka A. A**. The experiment and manuscript was conducted and written by **Allems G. A**. Manuscript Review and editing was done by **Siaka A. A.**

Conflict of interest

The authors affirmed that no conflicting interest or personal associations that could have appeared to impact the work reported in this paper.

Nomenclature Symbols

A = Pre- exponential factor or Arrhenius constant (min^{-1})
Ea = Activation energy (kj /mol)
ΔH = Change in enthalpy (kj /mol)
ΔS = Change in Entropy (J/mol.K)
ΔG = Change in Gibbs free energy (kj /mol)
k = Reaction rate constant (min^{-1})
R = Universal gas constant (8.3145 J/mol.K)
C_t= Concentration of turmeric oil at time t (g/L)
C_0 = Concentration of avocado oil at time 0 (g/L)
q_e= Extraction capacity at equilibrium (min)
q_t= Extraction capacity at equilibrium time t (min)

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March 31, 2025 Vol. 7 No. 9 E-ISSN 3027-0952 P-ISSN 3027-2033
International Journal of
CONVERGENT AND INFORMATICS SCIENCE RESEARCH (IJCISR)
www.harvardpublications.com

DEVELOPING STRATEGY TO TACKLE THE CHALLENGE OF EXAMINATION MISMANAGEMENT AND MALPRACTICE IN COLLEGES OF EDUCATION IN THE NORTH-WEST GEO-POLITICAL ZONE, NIGERIA

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Keywords:
Developing, Strategy, Examination mismanagement, Examination malpractice, Colleges of Education

Abstract

Colleges of Education as teachers training institutions in Nigeria have already established policies on the management of examinations but, examination malpractices

INTRODUCTION

All over the world, teacher education has been regarded as a magic for national development. In Nigeria, teacher education has been considered to be an instrument par excellence for sustainable national development. Evidently, government have made enormous efforts since independence to develop the teacher education through expansion of teacher training institutions, Colleges of Education inclusive and increased funding. This is buttressed by Ajayi in Awe, Tilije, Fatimayin & Adeyemi (2022) who equally noted that education is the bedrock of societal development and the level or rate of development of any nation cannot be isolated from its quality of education. The examination is not only

are still prevailing. Tackling this menace of examination malpractices there is needs for practical strategies different from what is already in operation in Colleges of Education. The purpose of this study was to develop strategies to effectively tackle examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education in the North-West Geo-political Zone of Nigeria. The institutional theory and deterrence theory guided the study. The sample size for this study constituted 836 from the total number of 8,360 populations. Proportionate stratified sampling was used to select lecturers and students, simple random sampling for Exams admin officer and further purposive sampling for Deans of schools and Deputy Provosts Academics. The study adopted a mixed methods design. The data was collected using questionnaires, interview schedules, focused group discussions and document analysis. The reliability of the instrument was tested using the Cronbach's Alpha method and an index value of 0.742 was obtained. The Quantitative Data from the questionnaires were analyzed using frequency count, mean score and the Qualitative Data from interview and focus group discussion were analyzed using transcribed verbatim acquired from the audio recordings. The findings reveal that, students fear of failure, poor invigilation among others are the main factors contributing to examination mismanagement and malpractice. Also, Colleges of Education has already clear policies they are using to reduce exams mismanagement and malpractice and this have shown some success in reducing overt cases of malpractice but their overall effectiveness is limited due to systemic challenges. Finally, increasing the penalties for examination malpractice, improving invigilators training, using biometric identification, installing CCTV cameras in exam halls, increasing public awareness of examination malpractice, and strengthening exam material security procedures are some of the major strategies to mitigate examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education. The study recommended installation of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras in examination halls to deter malpractice and improvement of invigilation processes among others.

important but fundamental in determining the quality of any educational system. This simply means that, examination remains one of the quintessential instruments for objective assessment and evaluation of what students has achieved after a period of schooling. Hence any action that undermines examinations poses a great threat to the goal of examination (Olatunbosun, cited in Oguche, Ahmadu & Usman, 2023). Basically, the examination system is an integral part of the formal school system. Every examination is guided by a code of ethics which is translated into rules and regulations of that exam and breaching these rules and regulations is considering

examination impropriety or irregularity and commonly called examination malpractice.

In recent times, however, examination malpractice has increased tremendously in tertiary institutions in Nigeria. This is attributed to high degree of examination mismanagement that has become prevalent in tertiary institutions. Evidences proliferated of increasing involvement in examination mismanagement and malpractice by invigilators/supervisors, students, exams officers, administrative exams officers and institution leadership.

Examination mismanagement are varieties of issues including poor planning, logistical failures, inadequate supervision, and a lack of adherence to established protocols that ensure the smooth and fair administration of exams. Examination malpractice are unethical behaviors such as cheating, impersonation, leaking of examination questions, bribery, and collusion between students and academic staff to manipulate results (Ogunji, 2011).Both examination mismanagement and malpractice is in the increase in Colleges of Education to an extent that many desperate students, lecturers and other stakeholders think exams mismanagement and malpractice is the right habit. Studies have shown that several factors contribute to this problem in tertiary institutions. First, the pressure on students to succeed in a competitive academic environment leads some to resort to dishonest means to achieve high grades. Second, inadequate supervision and poor examination procedures create opportunities for malpractices to thrive. Third, insufficient training for invigilators and examination officers often results in ineffective management of the examination process. Additionally, corruption, lack of accountability, and the absence of strict penalties for offenders further exacerbate the problem (Oko & Adie, 2016; Ayodele, 2023 and Ajayi, 2009).

No doubt examination malpractice is a challenge in College of Education that can be overcome provided the goals of Colleges of Education can be sustained by all the major stakeholders including those who manage examinations. In recent times, there has been a rising concern over the increasing levels of examination mismanagement and malpractice in Secondary and Post-secondary education in Nigeria as reported by few researchers (Ogunji, 2011; Ayodele, 2023; Oka & Adie, 2016; Oguche, Ahmadu & Usman, 2023).The few researchers focused on exams malpractice in Secondary Schools and universities mostly in the South and Western part of Nigeria. There have been limited studies concerned on the mismanagement of exams which was observed as the major cause of examination malpractice in Colleges of Education in the North-West of Nigeria. This challenge of exams mismanagement and malpractice threatens the credibility of academic

qualifications, distorts meritocracy, and undermines the quality of teacher education in Colleges of Education.

In response to this growing challenge, there is a pressing need to develop robust strategies aimed at tackling examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education in Nigeria. Such strategies must address the root causes, strengthen institutional frameworks, enhance examination security, and promote a culture of academic integrity. Without effective intervention, the future of teaching profession remains compromised, and the standards of academic excellence will continue to decline. This study sought to developed strategies to tackle the challenges of examination mismanagement and malpractice peculiar to Colleges of Education in the North-west Geo-political Zone of Nigeria.

Statement of the Problem

Examination mismanagement and malpractice have become critical issues in Colleges of Education in Nigeria, undermining the credibility and reliability of the educational system. Despite the implementation of various measures by the major stakeholders in education, these problems persist, with significant negative consequences on the integrity of academic qualifications, the promotion of meritocracy, and the overall quality of teacher education. The lack of effective strategies to prevent or mitigate examination mismanagement and malpractice has created an environment where dishonest practices flourish, threatening the reputation of teacher training institutions and the future of graduate teachers who may lack the necessary competencies required in teaching effectively. This study addresses the urgent need to develop strategies to effectively tackle examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education in the North-West Geo-political Zone of Nigeria.

Purpose of the Study

The main purpose of this study is to develop strategies to effectively tackle examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education in the North-West Geo-political Zone of Nigeria. Specifically, the study sought to:

1. identify the key factors contributing to examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education.
2. examine the current measures employed by Colleges of Education to prevent and manage examination-related challenges in Colleges of Education.
3. propose a comprehensive strategy that Colleges of Education can adopt to minimize examination mismanagement and malpractice.

Research Questions

To achieve the objectives of this study, the following research questions were used to guide the investigation:

1. What are the main factors contributing to examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education?
2. How effective are the current measures employed by Colleges of Education in addressing examination-related challenges?
3. What strategies can be developed to prevent or mitigate examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education?

Significance of the Study

This study would be significant in several ways, as follows:

First, it addresses a pressing issue that directly affects the quality and integrity of Colleges of Education. By developing a comprehensive strategy to tackle examination mismanagement and malpractice, this research provides actionable solutions to improve the fairness and reliability of academic assessments.

Second, the findings of this study will benefit Policymakers, Educational administrators, and Stakeholders in Colleges of Education by offering recommendations that can be implemented at the institutional and governmental levels to strengthen examination processes.

Third, the study contributes to the broader conversation on academic integrity, fostering a culture of merit and honesty within educational systems.

Finally, students and future graduates will benefit from a fairer and more transparent examination process, ensuring that academic achievements are based on true merit, which will positively impact their career prospects and contribution to society.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Conceptual framework

The conceptual framework for this study outlines the relationships between examination mismanagement, malpractice, and the key factors that influence these issues in Colleges of Education. The framework anchored on the three main components as follows: contributing factors, institutional mechanisms, and outcomes.

1. **Contributing Factors:** These are the drivers of examination mismanagement and malpractice.(Oko & Adie,2016; Nnam and Inah(2015)).They include:
   i. Institutional weaknesses: (poor planning, inadequate supervision, lack of training for invigilators among others)

ii. Student-related pressures: (academic pressure, fear of failure, competition among others)

iii. Corruption and ethical decay: (bribery, collusion between students and staff)

2. **Institutional Mechanisms**: These are the preventive and control mechanisms that institutions put in place to manage exams(Ayodele,2023 & Keter,2021) They include:

i. Examination management procedures: (setting clear guidelines and policies, ensuring security of exam papers)

ii. Supervision and invigilation practices (well-trained and adequately supervised invigilators)

iii. Technology integration (use of surveillance, digital platforms for exam administration)

3. **Outcomes:** These are the results of effective or ineffective examination

management.(Oguche, Ahmadu & Usman,2023) They include:

i. Positive Outcomes: Integrity of the examination process, merit-based evaluation, enhanced institutional reputation.

ii. Negative Outcomes: Academic fraud, compromised quality of education, diminished student competence.

Theoretical Framework

This study anchored on two theories, these theories includes *institutional theory* and *deterrence theory* (Meyer,J.& Roman,B.(1977) and Bruinsma,G.J.(2018) respectively. These theories are discussed distinctly as presented below:

i. **Institutional Theory***:* The institutional theory was primarily propounded by John W Meyer and Brain Roma in 1977 in the context of education and organization sector. This theory examines how organizational structures, rules, and norms influence behavior. In the context of examination management, institutional theory posits that examination malpractice is influenced by the strength (or weakness) of the institutional frameworks in place to govern the process. If the rules, procedures, and monitoring systems are weak or not properly enforced, it creates room for malpractice. Institutional theory suggests that by strengthening the institutional frameworks and promoting a culture of accountability and integrity, examination malpractice can be significantly reduced. In other words, by applying Institutional Theory, this study can better analyze how and why tertiary institutions implement examination policies, how effective these

policies are, and what new strategies could better align with institutional and societal expectations for academic integrity.

ii. **Deterrence Theory: Cesare Beccaria** and **Jeremy Bentham,** prominent philosophers and legal reformers of the **18th century** propounded the deterrence theory in 1764.The theory emphasized that crime prevention could be achieved through appropriate punishment, marking one of the earliest expressions of deterrence in criminology. Deterrence theory argues that individuals are less likely to engage in deviant or criminal behavior when the costs (i.e., punishments) outweigh the benefits. In the context of examination malpractice, this theory supports the idea that students and staff are less likely to engage in dishonest practices if they know that severe and certain punishments (such as expulsion, suspension, or legal action) will follow. By enhancing the enforcement of penalties and creating awareness of the consequences, examination malpractice can be reduced. In other words, by integrating Deterrence Theory, this study can better analyze how well-designed examination policies and clear consequences could prevent malpractice, ultimately supporting the development of a strategy that leverages the certainty, swiftness, and severity of consequences to maintain examination integrity in tertiary institutions.

Review of previous empirical Studies

Several studies were conducted related to this study as follows:

Ayodele,J.(2023).investigate the effective strategies for curbing examination malpractice before, during and after examination in public secondary school in Delta State. Three research questions guided the study. Descriptive survey research design was adopted for the study. The population of the study comprised of 465 principals of secondary school. There was no sampling since the entire population was relatively small and manageable. Therefore 465 principals were utilized for the study. The questionnaire was used to collect data. The data collected were analyzed using mean and standard deviation to answer the research questions. The findings of the study revealed that the effective strategies to curb with the examination malpractice include: appropriate allocation of examination invigilators, corruption within the school and lack of strict penalties for malpractice. The study recommended that there should be a study on the level of involvement in examination malpractices by all levels of education to get to the root of examination malpractice persistence in Nigeria.

Nnam and Inah(2015) reported the study on examination malpractice in Nigerian institutions of higher learning in Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki. A cross-

sectional research design was adopted was adopted for the study. The Cluster sampling technique was used to cover a population of 250 final year students, the 30-item- Likert scale structured questionnaire was used as an instrument to collect data. Three research questions were formulated to guide the study. The findings of the study revealed, among others that overcrowded examination halls, loose invigilation, and ill-preparation of students induce examination malpractice in Ebonyi State University. This criminal act manifests in various forms such as smuggling of illicit materials relating to the course to be taken into the examination hall, widespread copying from one another during examination, the use of mobile phones and other electronic devices during examination. The study recommended that the school premises in every University in Nigeria should be made conducive and to reflect human dignity in all aspects.

Oguche,Ahmadu and Usman(2023) conducted the study on forms, factors, consequences and control of examination malpractices among Senior Secondary School Students in Kogi State: implications for Guidance. The research adopted a descriptive research design. The population of the study comprised of 2,573 Senior Secondary School students spread across the six educational zone of Kogi State. A sample of 257 students was selected for the study through a multi-stage sampling procedure. The questionnaire was used for data collection. The percentages, frequency counts and mean were used to analyze data to answer research questions while t-test was employed in testing the hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance. Findings of the study revealed that, Leakage of question paper, inadequate exams preparation, poor examination management and sex for mark among others are the major forms of examination malpractices among secondary school students. Student's quests for certificate instead of knowledge among others are the major factors responsible for examination malpractices. General change in societal value system and prohibition of cell phones in the examination hall are some of the control measures of examination malpractices in senior secondary schools in Kogi State. The study concluded among others that, the menace of examination malpractices among students can be addressed.

Oko and Adie (2016) carried a study on the remote causes, types, forms, effects of examination malpractice in Cross Rivers State University of Technology, and possible ways of curbing the menace. The population of this study covers students and other stakeholders of Cross River University of Technology. The study sample consists of 250 respondents who includes; undergraduates, graduates of Cross River University of Technology and parents/ guardians who were randomly selected to complete questionnaires on causes, types, and possible ways of curbing examination malpractice. The Questionnaire was used as an instrument to collect data. The research findings revealed an array of factors responsible for

examination malpractice in Nigeria universities to includes what most respondents called "wrong value system which leads to serious quest for certification instead of knowledge and skills", laziness, lack of preparation or in-adequate preparation for examination, lack of self-confidence, poor school facilities, Lack of or in-adequate examination hall, poor sitting arrangement, poor invigilation, weak, reduction in student population per invigilator, building of examination halls to accommodate sizeable number of students with wire net windows to forestall free flow of material to and fro the examination halls and a general change in societal value system and attitude in the educational system were advocated and recommended as measures to curve examination malpractice.

Keter,S.J.(2021) reported the research study on policy related strategies to curb examination malpractices among undergraduate students in Kenyan Universities. The purpose of the study was to evaluate policy-related strategies to curb examination malpractices among undergraduate students in Kenyan universities. The sample size comprised of 450 participants; Lecturers, Dean of students affairs, Heads of Departments, Examination Officers and undergraduate students from the selected universities in Kenya. The study adopted a mixed methods design and data was collected using questionnaires, interview schedules, focused group discussions and document analysis. Data was analyzed using both qualitative and quantitative statistics and results interpreted using frequencies, standard deviations, means and percentages. The findings of the study revealed that policies related to examination malpractices among undergraduate students include; overcrowded examination rooms which tempt students to cheat in examination, low lecturer/student ratio and lack of proper students" records make students to lie. The study recommended that, Universities are better advised to adopt good policies that can curb examination malpractices and academic departments to review the minimum pass mark since the policy of minimum mark encourages students to be lazy and definitely engage in examination malpractices. It is also recommended that DVC and the Registrar in charge of academics to make spot checks during examination as a way of monitoring what is happening during this process of examinations.

From the previous studies conducted on exanimation malpractices and malpractice so far. This study is similar in some aspect but different in the sense that, the study not only advances the academic discourse on examination integrity in secondary level and tertiary level of education but also equips policymakers, educators, and exams administrators with practical measures peculiar to Colleges of Education in North-west Geo-political Zone in order to foster a culture of accountability and excellence.

Methodology

Research Design

The study adopted a mixed-methods approach, combining both quantitative and qualitative research methods. Quantitative Approach involved a survey which was used to collect numerical data and Qualitative Approach involves semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions to explore the perspectives of key stakeholders such as students, lecturers, exams officers and institutional leaders. This approach allows for a comprehensive understanding of the issues related to examination mismanagement and malpractice by using numerical data to quantify the extent of the problem while qualitative data provides deeper insights into the underlying causes, institutional practices, and possible solutions to examination mismanagement and malpractice in colleges of education.

Population for the study

The population of this study constituted twenty thousand Seven hundred and Forty Eight (20,748) respondents, comprised of students, lecturers, exam officers and institutions leaders of the Thirteen (13) Colleges of Education in the North-west Geo-political Zone of Nigeria.(Sources: Statistics departments of thirteen Colleges of Education in the North-West Nigeria, 2024).

Sample Size and Sampling Technique

The sample size for this study constituted 836 respondents from the total number of 8,360 students, lecturers, exam officers and institutional leaders in two sampled Colleges of Education for the study. Also, the selection of the sampled size was based on Glenn (2012) who specified that 10% is appropriate for a sample size of a specific population.

A multistage sampling technique was first used to select the sample for the study. The sampling involved the following steps:

i. **Institutional Sampling**: A purposive sampling method was used to select two Colleges of Education (one from Federal and One State own college) from the region for the study. In the second stage simple random sampling was used to select one state and one federal college of education from the state colleges and federal colleges of education in the region. This allowed for comparison between the exams process in state and federal institution.
ii. **Stratified Sampling**: Within each institution, the sample was stratified based on the categories of respondents (students, lecturers, administrative staff, and institutional leaders).
iii. **Random Sampling**: A random sampling technique was used to select 668 students, 88 lecturers, 64 exams officers, and 16 institutional leaders from

the two already sampled institutions. This resulted in a total sample size of 836 participants.

Instrumentation

The instruments used for data collection in this study include; Questionnaire, interview guide, Focus Group Discussion Guide developed by the researcher and Exams documents. Details are as follows:

i. **Questionnaire:** The questionnaire was designed to collect quantitative data from students, lecturers, and exams officer about the causes, and institutional responses to examination mismanagement and malpractice. The questionnaire is divided into Four sections as follows: *Section A*: Demographic Information which includes: institution, status of the participants, type of student, study level for students, gender and years of experiences for lecturer. Section B: contributing factors, Section *C*: Institutional measures and effectiveness and *Section D:* proposed strategies to tackle exams malpractice. The response Type of the questionnaire is Likert scale as follows: Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Neutral (N), Disagree (D), Strongly Disagree (SD),

ii. **Semi-Structured Interview Guide**: Interviews was conducted with institutional leaders such as Deputy Provost Academic and Deans of schools to collect qualitative data on institutional policies, challenges, and potential solutions to examination mismanagement and malpractice.

iii. **Focus Group Discussion (FGD) Guide***:* Focus group discussions were also conducted with selected groups of students and lecturers to explore their collective views, experiences, and suggestions for curbing examination mismanagement and malpractice. FGDs allowed interactive discussions, which led to the emergence of new ideas and insights about the examination mismanagement and malpractice..

iv. ***Document Review Checklist:*** To gather additional information about the institutional policies and records related to examination malpractice, a document review which include; past cases of examination misconduct, types of penalties enforced and the documents of the existing examination management policies (Student hand book) were carried out.

Validity and Reliability

Validity: To ensure content validity, the questionnaire, interview guide and FGD guide were reviewed by experts in the Department of Educational Foundation, University of Abuja. The suggestions made were used in make the improvement of the instruments in other to ensure the face, content and construct validity of the instruments.

Reliability: In other to ensure reliability of the instrument, a pilot study was conducted with a sample of thirty (30) students, ten (10) lecturers and five (5) exam officers in Federal College of Education Panshin which were not part of the research sample to refine the research instruments. The reliability of the instrument was tested using the Cronbach's Alpha method to ensure internal consistency. The result of the pilot test led to an index value of 0.742 .This shows that the instrument is good and reliable.

Data collection procedures

Data collection for the study involved various stages as follows:

i. Seeking approval to access institution and requesting students, lecturers, and administrative officer and institution leaders consent for their participation in the study.
ii. Administration of Questionnaires to collect Quantitative data from students, lecturers, and exams officers while interview was conducted to collect qualitative data from institutional leaders on institutional policies, challenges, and potential solution institution leader.
iii. Collection of documents from institutions such as past cases of examination misconduct, types of penalties enforced and the documents of the existing examination management policies (Student hand book) and were reviewed to gather additional information about the institutional policies and records related to examination malpractice.

Method of Data Analysis

Descriptive statistics of frequency counts, percentage and mean were used to analyzed data collected using Quantitative method(i.e. questionnaires from lecturers, exams officers and students).while data collected using qualitative method(interview) were analyzed using transcribed verbatim acquired from the audio recordings from the interviews for interpretations and analysis.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Response Rate

A total of 836 copies of the research questionnaires were administered to the selected 836 participants in the study for onward completion. Nevertheless, only 816 returned copies were found valid for use in the study. This implies that the study achieved a response rate of 97.6 percent, which is deemed acceptable to continue with the study. Consequently, the basis for data analysis in the study was 816 and not 836. (Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2024)

Research Question 1: What are the common examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education?

Table 1: Prevalence of Examination Mismanagement and Malpractice

S/N	STATEMENT	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	Remarks
1.	Examination malpractice is common in my institution	40	165	160	326	125	3.41	Agreed
2.	Students frequently cheat during exams in my institution	44	170	150	323	109	3.37	Agreed
3.	Examination mismanagement has occurred during my exams	89	182	105	335	105	3.23	Agreed
4.	Some students receive exam papers before the exam day	75	345	93	194	109	2.90	Disagreed
5.	Students collaborate with staff to cheat during exams	80	171	103	323	139	3.33	Agreed
6.	Invigilators often ignore students cheating during exams	94	166	110	351	95	3.23	Agreed
7.	Examination papers are not well-secured before exams	151	182	95	262	126	3.04	Agreed
8.	Examination malpractice has negatively impacted my academic performance	89	183	83	346	115	3.26	Agreed
9	Academic dishonesty is normalized in my institution	85	284	115	269	64	2.93	Disagreed
10.	There have been cases of impersonation during exams	82	191	110	337	96	3.21	Agreed

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2024 **N = 816; Mean Cutoff Point = 3.00**

Table 3 shows the distributions of responses on the common examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education in the North-west Geo-political zone of Nigeria. The Table indicates that respondents agreed with the following statements (Means ≥ 3.00); 'examination malpractice is common in my institution', 'students frequently cheat during exams in my institution', 'examination mismanagement has occurred during my exams', 'students collaborate with staff to cheat during exams, 'invigilators often ignore students

cheating during exams', 'examination papers are not well-secured before exams', 'examination malpractice has negatively impacted my academic performance' and there have been cases of impersonation during exams'. However, respondents disagreed with the following statements (Means < 3.00); 'some students receive exam papers before the exam day' and 'academic dishonesty is normalized in my institution'. The participants in focus discussion group further revealed some forms of examination malpractice that are found in Colleges of Education, include; collaboration and leakages of exams questions, bringing into exams hall with unauthorized materials, assault to an invigilator, impersonation, copying the scripts of other candidates and attempting to influence the invigilators.

Research Question 2: What are the main factors contributing to examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education?

Table 2: Contributing Factors to Examination Mismanagement and Malpractice

S/N	STATEMENT	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	Remarks
1.	Fear of failure drives students to cheat during exams	57	170	133	224	182	3.43	Agreed
2.	High academic pressure contributes to exam malpractice	59	313	124	233	87	2.97	Disagreed
3.	Poor invigilation creates opportunities for cheating	101	175	98	321	121	3.23	Agreed
4.	Inadequate preparation leads students to engage in malpractice	95	130	113	295	183	3.42	Agreed
5.	Peer pressure encourages students to participate in exam malpractice	84	292	98	254	88	2.96	Disagreed
6.	Corruption within the institution contributes to examination malpractice	94	163	101	322	136	3.30	Agreed
7.	The lack of strict penalties for malpractice promotes cheating	134	156	105	287	134	3.16	Agreed
8.	Poor examination management leads to mismanagement of exams	95	237	123	141	84	2.93	Disagreed
9	The desire to maintain high grades drives students to cheat	110	163	101	306	136	3.24	Agreed
10.	Lack of resources for adequate invigilation leads to examination mismanagement	86	306	114	209	110	2.92	Disagreed

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2024 **N = 816; Mean Cutoff Point = 3.00**

Table 4 shows the distributions of responses on the main factors contributing to examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education in the North-west Geo-political zone of Nigeria. The Table indicates that respondents agreed with the following statements (Means ≥ 3.00); 'fear of failure drives students to cheat during exams', 'poor invigilation creates opportunities for cheating', 'inadequate preparation leads students to engage in malpractice', 'corruption within the institution contributes to examination malpractice', the lack of strict penalties for malpractice promotes cheating', and 'the desire to maintain high grades drives students to cheat'. However, respondents disagreed with the following statements (Means < 3.00); 'high academic pressure contributes to exam malpractice', 'peer pressure encourages students to participate in exam malpractice', 'poor examination management leads to mismanagement of exams', and 'lack of resources for adequate invigilation leads to examination mismanagement'. Furthermore, summaries of comments made by focus group discussion and interviewee participants that reflect the factors that contribute to exams mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education includes; logistical issues, security concerns, human resource management, candidate-related issues, administrative challenges, policy and Governance Issues.

Research Question 3: How effective are the current measures employed by Colleges of Education in addressing examination-related challenges?

Table 3: Institutional Measures and Effectiveness in Managing Examinations

S/N	STATEMENT	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	Remarks
1.	My institution has clear policies to prevent examination malpractice	69	318	317	205	87	2.91	Disagreed
2.	The penalties for examination malpractice are strictly enforced	110	302	122	189	93	2.82	Disagreed
3.	Invigilators in my institution are well-trained to handle exams	111	292	125	179	109	2.86	Disagreed
4.	Technological tools are used to monitor exams in my institution.	125	317	107	174	93	2.75	Disagreed
5.	My institution takes reported cases of examination malpractice seriously	115	300	127	196	78	2.78	Disagreed
6.	The institution regularly reviews its examination management policies	117	287	91	241	80	2.85	Disagreed
7.	Students are well-informed about the consequences of examination malpractice	119	288	126	169	114	2.84	Disagreed
8.	There is adequate security in place to safeguard examination materials	134	292	120	166	104	2.77	Disagreed
9	Examination malpractice cases are handled fairly and transparently	96	276	111	206	124	2.98	Disagreed
10.	My institution effectively prevents impersonation during exams	150	268	115	180	103	2.78	Disagreed

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2024 **N = 816; Mean Cutoff Point = 3.00**

Table 5 shows the distributions of responses on the effectiveness of the current measures employed by Colleges of Education in the North-West geo-political zone of Nigeria in addressing examination-related challenges. The Table indicates that respondents disagreed with all the stated current measures (Means < 3.00); 'my institution has clear policies to prevent examination malpractice', 'the penalties for examination malpractice are strictly enforced', 'invigilators in my institution are well-trained to handle exams', technological tools are used to monitor exams in my institution', 'my institution takes reported cases of examination malpractice seriously', 'the institution regularly reviews its examination management policies', 'students are well-informed about the consequences of examination malpractice', 'there is adequate security in place to safeguard examination materials', 'examination malpractice cases are handled fairly and transparently', and 'my institution effectively prevents impersonation during exams'. This is an indication that the current measures employed by Colleges of Education in the North-West geo-political zone of Nigeria in addressing examination-related challenges are not effective. Contrary interviewee participants disagree that some current policies and measures taking by colleges of education to addressed examination malpractice have shown some success in reducing overt cases of malpractice, though their overall effectiveness is limited due to systemic challenges such as: inconsistent enforcement, corruption, Infrastructural Gaps and cultural tolerance.

Research Question 4: What strategies can be developed to prevent or mitigate examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education?

Table 4: Proposed Strategies to Curb Examination Malpractice

S/N	STATEMENT	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	Remarks
1.	Increasing the penalties for examination malpractice would reduce cheating	47	198	128	273	170	3.39	Agreed
2.	Improving invigilator training would reduce examination malpractice	79	206	104	306	121	3.23	Agreed
3.	Using biometric identification would help prevent impersonation.	137	207	88	278	106	3.01	Agreed
4.	Installing CCTV cameras in exam halls would reduce cheating	134	182	108	248	144	3.11	Agreed
5.	Providing psychological support to students would reduce exam-related stress and malpractice	152	158	83	290	133	3.12	Agreed
6.	Conducting exams online would reduce opportunities for cheating	118	148	76	292	182	3.33	Agreed
7.	Randomizing exam questions for different students would prevent cheating	124	367	85	182	58	2.61	Disagreed
8.	Implementing anonymous marking would reduce bias and cheating	95	388	81	176	76	2.69	Disagreed
9	Increasing public awareness of examination malpractice consequences would deter students from cheating	95	167	81	302	171	3.35	Agreed
10.	Strengthening exam material security procedures would prevent exam paper leaks	126	190	66	298	136	3.16	Agreed

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2024 **N = 816; Mean Cutoff Point = 3.00**

Table 6 shows the distributions of responses on strategies that could be developed to prevent or mitigate examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education in the North-West geo-political zone of Nigeria. The Table indicates that respondents agreed that the following strategies would help prevent or mitigate examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education in the North-West geo-political zone of Nigeria (Means ≥ 3.00); 'increasing the penalties for examination malpractice would reduce cheating', improving invigilator training would reduce examination malpractice', 'using biometric identification would help prevent impersonation', 'installing CCTV cameras in exam halls would reduce cheating', 'providing psychological support to students would reduce exam-related stress and malpractice', 'conducting exams online would reduce opportunities for cheating', 'increasing public awareness of examination malpractice consequences would deter students from cheating', and 'strengthening exam material security procedures would prevent exam paper leaks'. However, respondents disagreed the following strategies would help prevent or mitigate examination mismanagement and malpractice (Means < 3.00); 'randomizing exam questions for different students would prevent cheating', and 'implementing anonymous marking would reduce bias and cheating'. Furthermore, the interviewee participants acknowledged the following measures to addressed the examination mismanagement and malpractice in colleges of education in Nigeria; implementing rigorous processes for handling question papers, including digital encryption, deploying CCTV cameras and other surveillance technologies in examination halls to deter malpractice, regular workshops on ethical practices of effective invigilation techniques and the use of technology in examination management, use biometric registration to ensure that only the registered candidate sits for the exam, Make a clear enforceable guidelines on examination conduct, malpractice penalties, and staff responsibilities, expanding and upgrading examination halls to reduce overcrowding and establishing independent units to oversee examination processes and detect irregularities.

MAJOR FINDINGS

The study revealed the following findings:

1. Student fear of failure, poor invigilation, inadequate preparation, corruption within the institution, lack of strict penalties for malpractice, and the student desire to maintain high grades. Others include; logistical issues, security concerns, human resource management, candidate-related issues, administrative challenges, policy and governance issues are the main factors

contributing to examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education in the North-West Geo-political Zone of Nigeria.

2. Institution clear policies such as; strict enforcement of penalties for examination malpractice (ranged from warning, repeating the semester/session to outright expulsion), well trained examination invigilators to handle exams, technological integration used to monitor exams, taking reported cases of examination malpractice seriously, regularly reviews institution examination management policies, awareness Campaigns on examination malpractice, adequate security in place to safeguard examination materials during exams, handling examination malpractice cases fairly and transparently, and effectively measures to prevents impersonation(providing students with exams and ID cards) are the current policies and measures colleges of education are adopting to reduce exams mismanagement and malpractice and this have shown some success in reducing overt cases of malpractice but their overall effectiveness is limited due to systemic challenges such as; inconsistent enforcement, corruption, Infrastructural Gaps and cultural tolerance.
3. increasing the penalties for examination malpractice, improving invigilator training, using biometric identification, installing CCTV cameras in exam halls, providing psychological support to students, conducting exams online, increasing public awareness of examination malpractice consequences, and strengthening exam material security procedures to prevent exam paper leaks as some of the major strategies to help prevent or mitigate examination mismanagement and malpractice in colleges of education in the North-West Nigeria. Other measures to addressed examination malpractice includes: implementing rigorous processes for handling question papers, including digital encryption, expanding and upgrading examination halls to reduce overcrowding and establishing independent units to oversee examination processes and detect irregularities.

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The main factors contributing to examination mismanagement and practice in Colleges of Education were examined and identified as follows: student fear of failure, poor invigilation, inadequate preparation, corruption within the institution, lack of strict penalties for malpractice, and the student desire to maintain high grades are the main factors contributing to examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education in the North-West Geo-political Zone of Nigeria. This findings is in line with the findings of Adebaye and Osamoka(2024) who pointed out that students are still engaged in examination

malpractice in tertiary institutions and fear of failure, high academic pressure and poor examination management are the major causes of examination mal practice in tertiary institution in Nigeria.

The current examination management policies and its effectiveness were analyzed and reveal that, institution clear policies such as; strict enforcement of penalties for examination malpractice (ranged from warning, repeating the semester/session to outright expulsion), well trained examination invigilators to handle exams, technological integration used to monitor exams, taking reported cases of examination malpractice seriously, regularly reviews institution examination management policies, awareness Campaigns on examination malpractice, adequate security in place to safeguard examination materials during exams, handling examination malpractice cases fairly and transparently, and effectively measures to prevents impersonation(providing students with exams and ID cards) were the current policies and measures colleges of education are adopting to reduce exams mismanagement and malpractice and this have shown some success in reducing overt cases of malpractice but their overall effectiveness is limited due to systemic challenges. This findings are in line with the findings of Keter(2021) who revealed that any existing policies related to examination malpractices have positive effect on curbing examination malpractices. Similarly, the existing policies related to the examination malpractice have great effect on the degree to which students can practice examination cheating. Colleges of Education in Nigeria are better advised to adopt good policies that can curb examination mismanagement and malpractices. Furthermore, the findings is in agreement with the findings of Ngwaru and Oluka (2017) who revealed that most institutions had policies in place but lack of proper enforcement and monitoring which could lead to a high prevalence of malpractice..

The proposed strategies or measures to curb examination malpractice in colleges of education were examined and revealed that; increasing the penalties for examination malpractice, improving invigilator training, adopting biometric identification, installing CCTV cameras in exam halls, providing psychological support to students to reduced exams stress, conducting exams online, increasing public awareness of examination malpractice consequences, and strengthening exam material security procedures to prevent exam paper leaks as some of the major strategies to help prevent or mitigate examination mismanagement and malpractice in Colleges of Education in the North-West Nigeria. The findings are in agreement with Ngwaru and Oluka (2017) who identified training invigilators and using technology (e.g., CCTV surveillance) to monitor exam halls as effective deterrents.

CONCLUSION

The management of examination process in Colleges of Education has becomes shame. The examination malpractice of various forms takes place in all exams. This is attributed to basically the mismanagement process of examinations. The consequences could be catastrophic to both the education system and the society at large. The study highlights the prevalent and systemic issues surrounding examination management and malpractice in Colleges of Education within the North-West Geo-political Zone of Nigeria. Common forms of malpractice, such as cheating, smuggling unauthorized materials, impersonation, and collusion between students and staff, demonstrate widespread ethical lapses. Contributing factors, including fear of failure, corruption, poor preparation, inadequate invigilation, and weak institutional policies, underscore the complexity of the problem. While existing measures such as stricter penalties, improved invigilation, technological integration, and awareness campaigns have shown promise, their limited effectiveness highlights the need for a more robust and systemic approach to addressing examination malpractice.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In reference from the findings and conclusion from this study, the following recommendations were made:

1. Management of institutions should enhance examination security by strengthen the security of examination materials by employing advanced safeguards, such as biometric verification and tamper-proof storage for exam papers.
2. Government and management of the institution should install CCTV cameras in examination halls to deter malpractice and provide evidence for resolving disputes.
3. Management of the institutions should improve invigilation processes by providing comprehensive training programs for invigilators to handle examination management efficiently and uphold strict supervision standards .Also by increasing the number of invigilators per examination hall to improve oversight and reduce opportunities for malpractice.
4. Management should promote ethical awareness by conducting regular workshops and seminars for students and staff to highlight the consequences of examination malpractice on personal integrity and institutional reputation. Also by introducing moral education and ethical training into the curriculum to instill a culture of honesty and accountability.
5. Government and management of the institution should implement technological solutions by adopting biometric identification systems to

prevent impersonation and improve student authentication processes. Also by exploring the feasibility of online examinations with secure platforms to minimize physical security breaches.

6. National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE) in collaboration with management of institutions should strengthen institutional policies by enforcing strict and transparent penalties for malpractice, ranging from warnings to expulsion, depending on the severity of the offense. Also by regularly reviewing and update examination management policies to adapt to emerging challenges and maintain fairness in colleges of education.
7. Management of the institution should address underlying student concerns by provide psychological and academic support to students, including counseling and study skill workshops, to reduce the fear of failure.
8. Government and Management of the institutions should enhance stakeholder collaboration within the college and outside the college by fostering collaboration between institutional administrators, students, parents, and policymakers to create a united front against examination malpractice. Also by advocating for national-level reforms to address systemic issues like corruption and resource inadequacies in higher education.

CONTRIBUTION TO KNOWLEDGE

This study contributes to the understanding of examination management and malpractice in Colleges of Education by identifying specific patterns of malpractice, their root causes, and the effectiveness of existing countermeasures. The findings provide a comprehensive framework for improving examination integrity, particularly in resource-limited contexts such as the North-West Geo-political Zone of Nigeria. Key contributions include:

1. Enhancing the understanding of malpractice dynamics by delineating the types of examination malpractices, including smuggling materials, impersonation, and invigilator-student collusion, offering nuanced insights into the complexity and pervasiveness of these practices. Also, highlights systemic factors, such as fear of failure, inadequate preparation, and institutional corruption, which can serve as focal points for targeted interventions.
2. Analyzing the limitations of current policies and measures in Colleges of education regarding exams and underscores the need for a multi-faceted approach combining institutional reforms, technological integration, and stakeholder collaboration.
3. Proposed roadmap for institutions that are seeking to reduce malpractice effectively, including enhanced invigilators training, the use of advanced

security technologies, and the promotion of ethical awareness among students and staff.

4. Lays the groundwork for future research by documenting the interplay between institutional weaknesses and malpractice, offering a basis for longitudinal studies to evaluate the long-term impact of recommended interventions.
5. Contributes to global discourse on examination management by addressing challenges common to many developing regions likened to North-West Nigeria. The recommendations can inform broader policies and practices in similar educational environments worldwide.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The following were limitations of this study:

1. The study focuses on Colleges of Education in the North-West Geo-political Zone of Nigeria, which limited the generalizability of the findings to other regions with different socio-economic or educational contexts. Similarly, much of the data collected relied on self-reported information from participants, which were subject to biases such as under-reporting due to fear of repercussions or over-reporting due to exaggerated perceptions.
2. The study's findings were based on data collected at a specific point in time and therefore the evolving nature of examination malpractice and management strategies required continuous reassessment to remain relevant.
3. Despite all efforts made to collect the data, not all participants were ready to participate in the study. Out of 836 participants, 816 participants responded and this reduces the sample of the study.
4. Due to insecurity challenges, collections of data was in some institutions within the study area.

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March 31, 2025 Vol. 7 No. 9 E-ISSN 3027-0952 P-ISSN 3027-2033

International Journal of

CONVERGENT AND INFORMATICS SCIENCE RESEARCH (IJCISR)

www.harvardpublications.com

EFFECT OF RECIPROCAL-PEER-TUTORING LEARNING STRATEGY ON BASIC SCIENCE STUDENTS' INTEREST IN RADIOACTIVITY IN SOUTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT, BENUE STATE, NIGERIA

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DOI: https://doi.org/10.70382/hijcisr.v07i9.025

Keywords: Reciprocal Peer Tutoring, Basic Science, Radioactivity, Student Interest, Science Education, Learning Strategies, Peer Learning,

Abstract

This study examined the effect of the Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT) learning strategy on Basic Science students' interest in radioactivity in the South Senatorial District of Benue State, Nigeria. The study

INTRODUCTION

Science education plays a fundamental role in national development by fostering technological advancements, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. It equips learners with the necessary competencies to understand and apply scientific concepts in real-world situations (Okebukola, 2020). Basic Science, a core subject at the junior secondary school level in Nigeria, serves as the foundation for students' future engagement with scientific disciplines such as Physics, Chemistry, and Biology. However, despite the recognized importance of science education, students' interest and engagement in certain topics, such as radioactivity, remain significantly low, particularly in the South Senatorial District of Benue State. This declining interest

employed a quasi-experimental research design, specifically a pre-test, post-test, non-equivalent control group design. A total of 800 Junior Secondary School students participated in the study, with 400 in the experimental group exposed to RPT and 400 in the control group taught using the conventional method. Data were collected using the Students' Interest in Radioactivity Questionnaire (SIRQ). The responses from the trial study were analyzed using the Cronbach's Alpha reliability coefficient, and an alpha value of 0.70 was considered acceptable for reliability. Mean, standard deviation, and Analysis of Covariance (ANCOVA) were used for data analysis. Findings revealed that students taught using RPT demonstrated significantly higher interest in radioactivity compared to those taught using the conventional method. The study further showed no significant difference in the mean interest rating scores of male and female students exposed to RPT, indicating that the strategy was equally effective for both genders. These results align with existing literature on the effectiveness of student-centered learning strategies in enhancing engagement and motivation in science education. Based on the findings, it was recommended that teachers adopt RPT in Basic Science classrooms to improve student participation and interest. Additionally, school administrators and policymakers should support the integration of peer tutoring by providing necessary resources and teacher training. Further research was suggested to explore the long-term effects of RPT on academic achievement and its applicability in other STEM subjects. This study contributes to the ongoing discourse on effective teaching strategies by demonstrating the potential of RPT in fostering student engagement and improving learning outcomes in science education.

poses a major challenge to effective learning outcomes, which may hinder students' long-term participation in science-related fields (Achor, 2018).

Radioactivity is a critical topic in Basic Science that introduces students to fundamental concepts such as atomic structure, nuclear reactions, and radiation effects. It has significant applications in medicine, energy production, and environmental protection (Nwosu & Nzewi, 2019). Despite its importance, students often struggle to grasp the abstract and theoretical nature of radioactivity, which results in misconceptions and a lack of interest in the subject (Ogunleye, 2021). Studies have shown that traditional lecture-based teaching approaches commonly used in Nigerian classrooms do not adequately engage

students, leading to passive learning and limited retention of scientific concepts (Ajaja, 2019). In many cases, science teaching remains teacher-centered, with minimal student involvement, which negatively impacts students' enthusiasm and motivation to learn (Aina & Ayodele, 2020).

Several factors contribute to the challenges of teaching and learning radioactivity in Nigerian schools. One major issue is the lack of well-equipped laboratories, which makes it difficult for students to have hands-on experiences with radioactive materials and their properties (Eze & Okoro, 2020). Additionally, a shortage of qualified science teachers, particularly in rural areas, limits students' exposure to effective instructional strategies that could make complex concepts more comprehensible (Abimbola & Mohammed, 2017). Furthermore, large class sizes in public schools hinder individualized instruction and active student participation, thereby reducing engagement levels (Usman & Kontagora, 2022). These challenges necessitate the adoption of innovative teaching strategies that can actively involve students and improve their interest in scientific concepts.

Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT) has emerged as an effective pedagogical approach that promotes student-centered learning and engagement. RPT is an instructional strategy in which students take turns acting as tutors and tutees, facilitating peer-to-peer interaction and collaborative learning (Fuchs & Fuchs, 2021). Research has shown that RPT enhances students' academic performance, motivation, and retention across various subjects by creating an interactive and supportive learning environment (Slavin, 2020). In Nigeria, empirical studies have demonstrated the effectiveness of RPT in improving students' achievement and interest in Chemistry and Mathematics (Oluwatosin & Adebola, 2021; Anene, 2022). However, there is limited research on the impact of RPT on students' interest in radioactivity within the context of Basic Science, particularly in the South Senatorial District of Benue State.

Given the abstract nature of radioactivity and the documented challenges associated with its teaching and learning, this study seeks to explore the effect of Reciprocal Peer Tutoring on students' interest in radioactivity. Understanding how peer-assisted learning influences students' motivation and engagement can provide valuable insights into effective instructional strategies for science education. By investigating the impact of RPT, this study aims to bridge the gap between theory and practice, offering evidence-based recommendations for enhancing students' learning experiences in Basic Science. The findings of this research could contribute to policy development and pedagogical improvements that will ultimately promote scientific literacy and inspire more students to pursue careers in science-related fields.

Statement of the Problem

Basic Science serves as the foundation for scientific literacy and technological advancement. It equips students with essential knowledge and skills needed to understand and apply scientific concepts in real-life situations. However, despite its importance, students in Nigerian secondary schools continue to show low interest and poor achievement in Basic Science. One of the most challenging topics in the curriculum is radioactivity, which involves the spontaneous emission of radiation from unstable atomic nuclei. This topic is essential due to its applications in medicine, energy production, and environmental management. Yet, many students perceive it as abstract and difficult, leading to misconceptions and disinterest in learning. In the South Senatorial District of Benue State, these challenges are further compounded by factors such as inadequate laboratory facilities, large class sizes, and a shortage of qualified Basic Science teachers. Traditional teacher-centered instructional approaches, which emphasize rote memorization rather than active engagement, have failed to make radioactivity an interesting and comprehensible topic for students. Studies indicate that when students find a subject uninteresting, their motivation to learn decreases, resulting in low achievement and retention. Thus, there is a pressing need for innovative teaching strategies that can enhance students' interest in Basic Science, particularly in radioactivity. One promising approach is Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT), a collaborative learning strategy in which students take turns acting as tutors and tutees. This method has been shown to improve students' engagement, comprehension, and academic achievement by fostering peer interaction and active participation (Anidi & Obumneke-Okeke, 2020). Although several studies have demonstrated the effectiveness of RPT in subjects such as Mathematics, English, and Chemistry, little research has been conducted on its impact on students' interest in radioactivity in Basic Science, especially in the Nigerian context. Given the persistent low interest in radioactivity among students, it is crucial to explore whether the implementation of RPT can enhance students' enthusiasm and motivation to learn the topic. This study, therefore, seeks to examine the effect of Reciprocal Peer Tutoring on students' interest in radioactivity in Basic Science in the South Senatorial District of Benue State, Nigeria. The findings of this research will provide valuable insights into effective instructional strategies that can be adopted to improve students' engagement and learning outcomes in Basic Science.

Objectives of the Study

The Objectives of the study are;

1. ascertain the effect of Reciprocal Peer Tutoring Learning Strategy and the Conventional Method on Students' interest when taught Radioactivity.

2. establish the effect of Reciprocal Peer Tutoring Learning Strategy on male and female Students' interest when taught Radioactivity.

Research Questions

The following research questions guided the study;

1. What is the mean interest rating scores of students taught Radioactivity using Reciprocal Peer Tutoring Learning Strategy and the Conventional Method?
2. What is the mean interest rating scores of male and female students taught Radioactivity using Reciprocal Peer Tutoring Learning Strategy?

Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were formulated and tested at 0.05 level of significance.

H_{O1}: There is no significance difference in the mean interest rating scores of students taught Radioactivity using Reciprocal Peer Tutoring Learning Strategy and the Conventional Method.

H_{O2}: There is no significance difference in the mean interest rating scores of male and female students taught Radioactivity using Reciprocal Peer Tutoring Learning Strategy.

Significance of the Study

This study is significant for students, teachers, curriculum developers, policymakers, and researchers. It aims to enhance students' interest in radioactivity by promoting active engagement through Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT). Teachers will gain insights into effective instructional strategies that foster collaborative learning and improve classroom management. Curriculum developers can use the findings to integrate student-centered methods into the Basic Science syllabus, while policymakers may consider incorporating RPT into education policies to enhance science teaching nationwide. Additionally, the study contributes to research on instructional strategies, providing empirical data for further studies. Ultimately, it seeks to improve science education and inspire greater student participation in scientific fields.

Literature Review

The review of literature for this study is categorized into three key sections: (i) conceptual review, which examines key concepts such as Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT), students' interest, and radioactivity in Basic Science; (ii) empirical studies, which explore previous research on RPT and its effects on students' interest and

academic achievement; and (iii) theoretical framework, which provides the theories underpinning this study.

Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT) as a Learning Strategy

Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT) is a cooperative learning approach where students take turns being the tutor and the tutee. This strategy enables students to engage actively in learning by explaining concepts to their peers, reinforcing their understanding, and improving retention (Topping, 2018). Unlike traditional teacher-centered instruction, RPT fosters student collaboration and enhances engagement, motivation, and comprehension (Duran & Topping, 2017). Research has shown that students involved in peer tutoring develop a deeper understanding of the subject matter, improve problem-solving skills, and increase their academic confidence (Okebukola & Owolabi, 2020).

Students' Interest in Basic Science

Interest in learning plays a crucial role in student engagement, motivation, and academic performance. Interest is defined as a psychological state characterized by increased attention, effort, and enthusiasm towards a subject (Schiefele, 2017). Studies indicate that students' interest in Basic Science is influenced by teaching methods, classroom environment, and the perceived relevance of the subject to real life (Olorundare, 2019). When students find a subject engaging and meaningful, they are more likely to invest time and effort in learning, leading to better academic outcomes (Achor, 2020).

Radioactivity in Basic Science

Radioactivity is one of the most abstract and challenging topics in Basic Science. It involves the emission of particles from unstable atomic nuclei, a concept that requires a solid understanding of atomic structure and nuclear reactions. The abstract nature of radioactivity often leads to misconceptions and low interest among students (Adebayo & Yusuf, 2021). Research suggests that innovative teaching methods, such as interactive demonstrations, simulations, and peer tutoring, can improve students' understanding and engagement with radioactivity concepts (Usman & Fajobi, 2022).

Empirical Studies

Several studies have investigated the effectiveness of Reciprocal Peer Tutoring in various academic disciplines, including Basic Science. A study by Achor (2020) investigated how peer tutoring influenced students' interest in science subjects in Benue State, Nigeria. The study found that students exposed to peer tutoring

demonstrated higher levels of interest and enthusiasm for learning compared to those taught using traditional methods. The study concluded that interactive and student-centered teaching strategies play a vital role in sustaining students' interest in science. Similarly, a study by Duran and Topping (2017) assessed the effects of peer tutoring on students' engagement in physics. The study reported that students in the peer tutoring group exhibited higher levels of engagement, motivation, and willingness to participate in science-related activities than those in the conventional teaching group. Although studies on RPT and radioactivity are limited, Adebayo and Yusuf (2021) explored the effect of collaborative learning strategies on students' understanding of radioactivity. Their findings showed that interactive approaches, including peer tutoring, significantly improved students' comprehension and reduced misconceptions about the topic. The study recommended that science educators adopt student-centered strategies to enhance engagement and learning outcomes in abstract science topics.

Theoretical Framework

This study is anchored on two key learning theories: Vygotsky's Social Constructivist Theory emphasizes the role of social interactions in learning. According to Vygotsky, knowledge is constructed through collaboration and interaction with more knowledgeable peers or instructors. The concept of the **Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD)** suggests that students learn best when they receive guidance from a peer or teacher who is slightly more knowledgeable (Vygotsky, 1978). This theory supports the **Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT) strategy**, as it promotes learning through peer interaction and scaffolded instruction. When students tutor one another, they engage in active discussions, clarify misconceptions, and reinforce their understanding, leading to improved learning outcomes. Bandura's Social Learning Theory postulates that learning occurs through observation, imitation, and modeling. This theory asserts that students learn effectively by observing their peers and engaging in collaborative learning activities (Bandura, 1986). The principles of **attention, retention, reproduction, and motivation** are central to this theory. In the context of RPT, students learn by observing their peers explain concepts, practicing what they learn, and gaining confidence through interactive discussions. This supports the idea that peer tutoring can enhance students' interest and motivation in Basic Science topics like radioactivity.

The review of related literature highlights the importance of Reciprocal Peer Tutoring in enhancing students' interest and understanding of scientific concepts. While various studies have demonstrated the effectiveness of RPT in different subjects, there is a limited body of research specifically focusing on its impact on

students' interest in radioactivity. Given the challenges associated with teaching radioactivity in Basic Science, this study seeks to fill the gap by investigating how RPT can be used as an instructional strategy to improve students' interest in the subject. The findings will provide valuable insights for educators and policymakers on the best teaching practices for fostering student engagement in science education.

Methodology

The study adopted a quasi-experimental research design with a non-randomized pre-test, post-test control group approach. This design was considered suitable as it allowed for the examination of the cause-and-effect relationship between the Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT) strategy and students' interest in radioactivity in Basic Science. The study involved two groups: an experimental group, which was taught using the RPT strategy, and a control group, which was exposed to the conventional lecture method. Both groups were assessed through a pre-test to determine their initial interest levels in radioactivity and a post-test to measure changes in their interest after the intervention. The population of the study comprised 17,761 of Upper Basic III students; comprising 9,140 males and 8,621 females Junior Secondary School (JSS) 3 students of the 2023/2024 academic session offering Basic Science in public secondary schools in the South Senatorial District of Benue State, Nigeria. This population was chosen because JSS 3 students were expected to have prior knowledge of Basic Science concepts, including radioactivity. A multi-stage sampling technique was employed to select participants for the study. Schools in the South Senatorial District were first stratified into urban and rural categories to ensure fair representation. From each stratum, four co-educational secondary schools were randomly selected, making a total of eight schools. Two intact JSS 3 classes were purposively selected from each school, with one serving as the experimental group and the other as the control group. The total sample size for the study was 800 students from intact classes across eight schools. The primary instrument for data collection was the Students' Interest in Radioactivity Questionnaire (SIRQ), which was developed to measure students' interest in radioactivity before and after the intervention. The questionnaire consisted of two sections: Section A gathered demographic information such as gender, age, and school location, while Section B contained a 20-item Likert-scale questionnaire designed to assess students' interest in radioactivity, with response options ranging from Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree. To ensure the validity of the instrument, it was subjected to face and content validation by a panel of experts in Science Education, Educational Measurement, and Evaluation. Their feedback was incorporated into the

refinement of the questionnaire to ensure that it accurately measured students' interest in radioactivity. The reliability of the instrument was established through a pilot study conducted in a school outside the study area. The responses from the trial study were analyzed using the Cronbach's Alpha reliability coefficient, and an alpha value of 0.70 was considered acceptable for reliability.

The study was conducted over six weeks, with both the experimental and control groups receiving instruction on radioactivity. In the first week, the pre-test was administered to both groups to assess their initial interest in radioactivity. During the second to the fifth week, the experimental group was taught using the Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT) strategy, in which students took turns tutoring each other under the supervision of the teacher. Meanwhile, the control group was taught using the conventional lecture method, which was largely teacher-centered. In the final week, the post-test was administered to both groups to measure changes in students' interest levels after the intervention. Data were collected through the administration of the pre-test and post-test questionnaires. The researcher visited the selected schools, administered the pre-test before the teaching intervention, and retrieved all completed questionnaires immediately. After the intervention, the post-test questionnaire was also administered and collected promptly to ensure data completeness. The collected data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. Mean and standard deviation were used to analyze students' responses and compare their interest levels before and after the intervention. An independent sample t-test was used to determine significant differences between the pre-test and post-test scores of the experimental and control groups. Additionally, Analysis of Covariance (ANCOVA) was employed to control for initial differences and measure the true effect of RPT on students' interest. All hypotheses were tested at a 0.05 level of significance using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS).

Ethical considerations were strictly adhered to in the study. Informed consent was obtained from participants and school authorities, ensuring they were aware of the purpose and procedures of the study. Confidentiality was maintained, as students' responses were used solely for research purposes. Participation was voluntary, and students had the right to withdraw from the study at any time without facing any consequences. The methodology adopted in this study ensured a systematic and reliable investigation into the effect of Reciprocal Peer Tutoring on students' interest in radioactivity in Basic Science in the South Senatorial District of Benue State, Nigeria. The research design, sampling techniques, instrumentation, and data analysis methods were carefully selected to provide accurate and meaningful findings that could contribute to the broader discourse on effective instructional strategies in science education.

Results/Findings

Research Question One

What is the mean interest rating scores of students taught Radioactivity using Reciprocal Peer Tutoring Learning Strategy and the Conventional Method?

Table 1: Mean Interest Rating and Standard Deviation of Students Taught Radioactivity Using Reciprocal Peer Tutoring Learning Strategy and the Conventional Method

Group		PreInterest	PostInterest
RPT	Mean	26.25	60.55
	N	400	400
	Std. Deviation	6.868	12.723
CM	Mean	15.67	24.50
	N	400	400
	Std. Deviation	3.248	7.982

Table 1 presents the mean interest rating scores and standard deviations for students taught radioactivity using the Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT) learning strategy and the Conventional Method (CM) before and after the instructional intervention. For the RPT group, the mean interest rating before the intervention (Pre-Interest) was 26.25 with a standard deviation of 6.868, while after the intervention (Post-Interest), the mean increased significantly to 60.55 with a standard deviation of 12.723. This indicates a substantial improvement in students' interest in radioactivity when taught using the Reciprocal Peer Tutoring approach. In contrast, for the CM group, the mean Pre-Interest score was 15.67 with a standard deviation of 3.248, and the Post-Interest mean was 24.50 with a standard deviation of 7.982. Although there was a slight increase in interest after the conventional method was used, the improvement was marginal compared to the RPT group. The results suggest that students taught using RPT experienced a significantly greater increase in their interest in radioactivity compared to those taught with the conventional method. The higher post-interest mean score in the RPT group indicates that the strategy was more effective in engaging students and enhancing their enthusiasm for learning radioactivity. The relatively lower standard deviation in the CM group suggests that students' interest levels were more homogeneous, whereas in the RPT group, there was more variation in how students responded to the strategy.

Hypothesis One

H_{O1}: There is no significance difference in the mean interest rating scores of students taught Radioactivity using Reciprocal Peer Tutoring Learning Strategy and the Conventional Method.

Table 2: ANCOVA Result of Mean Interest Ratings of Students Taught Radioactivity Using Reciprocal Peer Tutoring Learning Strategy and the Conventional Method

Source	Type III Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.	Partial Eta Squared
Corrected Model	344776.089[a]	2	114925.363	860.301	.000	.683
Intercept	181139.499	1	181139.499	1355.963	.000	.531
PreInterest	7.377	1	7.377	.055	.814	.000
Group	201973.369	1	100986.685	755.960	.000	.558
Error	159770.510	796	133.587			
Total	3323271.000	800				
Corrected Total	504546.599	799				

a. R Squared = .683 (Adjusted R Squared = .683)

Table 2 presents the ANCOVA results used to test the hypothesis that there is no significant difference in the mean interest rating scores of students taught radioactivity using the Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT) learning strategy and the Conventional Method (CM). The corrected model has an F-value of 860.301 with a significance level (Sig.) of .000, indicating that the model significantly explains the variation in students' interest ratings. The R-Squared value of .683 suggests that 68.3% of the variance in students' interest ratings is explained by the teaching method and pre-interest scores. The main independent variable (Group), which represents the instructional strategy used, has a Type III Sum of Squares of 201,973.369, a Mean Square of 100,986.685, an F-value of 755.960, and a significance level (Sig.) of .000. Since the p-value is less than 0.05, it indicates a statistically significant difference in students' interest ratings between those taught using RPT and those taught with the conventional method. The Partial Eta Squared value of .558 suggests a large effect size, meaning that the instructional strategy had a substantial impact on students' interest. The Pre-Interest score, which was used as a covariate, has a non-significant effect (Sig. = .814, F = .055), indicating that students' initial interest levels before the

intervention did not significantly influence the final results. Given that the group factor (RPT vs. CM) had a statistically significant effect on post-interest ratings, the null hypothesis (H_{01}: There is no significant difference in the mean interest rating scores of students taught radioactivity using RPT and CM) is rejected. This means that the Reciprocal Peer Tutoring Learning Strategy significantly increased students' interest in radioactivity compared to the conventional method.

Research Question Two

What is the mean interest rating scores of male and female students taught Radioactivity using Reciprocal Peer Tutoring Learning Strategy?

Table 3: Mean Interest Ratings and Standard Deviations of Male and Female Students taught Radioactivity Using Reciprocal Peer Tutoring Learning Strategy

GenderRPT		PreInterest	PostInterest
Male	Mean	26.34	60.54
	N	217	217
	Std. Deviation	6.846	12.634
Female	Mean	26.14	60.57
	N	183	183
	Std. Deviation	6.912	12.863

Table 3 presents the mean interest rating scores and standard deviations of male and female students taught radioactivity using the Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT) learning strategy before and after the instructional intervention. For male students, the Pre-Interest Mean Score was 26.34 with a Standard Deviation of 6.846, while the Post-Interest Mean Score increased significantly to 60.54, with a Standard Deviation of 12.634. This indicates a substantial improvement in their interest after being taught using RPT. Similarly, for female students, the Pre-Interest Mean Score was 26.14 with a Standard Deviation of 6.912, and the Post-Interest Mean Score rose to 60.57, with a Standard Deviation of 12.863. This also reflects a significant increase in interest following the RPT intervention. The results suggest that both male and female students benefited equally from the RPT learning strategy, as their post-interest mean scores are almost identical (60.54 for males and 60.57 for females). The slight differences in standard deviations indicate minor variations in how individual students responded to the strategy, but overall, the increase in interest was consistent across genders. These

findings imply that RPT is an effective instructional approach in enhancing students' interest in radioactivity, regardless of gender. It promotes an engaging and interactive learning environment that benefits both male and female students equally.

Hypothesis Two

H_{O2}: There is no significance difference in the mean interest rating scores of male and female students taught Radioactivity using Reciprocal Peer Tutoring Learning Strategy.

Table 4: Result of ANCOVA of Male and Female Students taught Radioactivity Using Reciprocal Peer Tutoring Learning Strategy

Source	Type III Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.	Partial Eta Squared
Corrected Model	48.331[a]	2	24.166	.149	.862	.001
Intercept	89699.881	1	89699.881	551.742	.000	.582
PreInterest	48.247	1	48.247	.297	.586	.001
GenderRPT	.151	1	.151	.001	.976	.000
Error	64542.566	397	162.576			
Total	1531233.000	400				
Corrected Total	64590.898	399				

a. R Squared = .001 (Adjusted R Squared = -.004)

The ANCOVA results in the table 4 test the hypothesis that there is no significant difference in the mean interest rating scores of male and female students taught radioactivity using the Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT) learning strategy. The corrected model has an F-value of 0.149 with a significance level (Sig.) of .862, indicating that the model does not significantly explain variations in students' interest ratings based on gender. The R-Squared value of .001 suggests that only 0.1% of the variance in students' interest ratings is explained by the model, which is negligible. The gender factor (GenderRPT) has a Type III Sum of Squares of 0.151, a Mean Square of 0.151, an F-value of 0.001, and a significance level (Sig.) of .976. Since the p-value is greater than 0.05, it indicates that there is no statistically significant difference in interest ratings between male and female students. The Partial Eta Squared value of .000 further confirms that gender had no meaningful effect on students' interest levels after the RPT intervention. The Pre-Interest score, used as a covariate, has a non-significant effect (Sig. = .586, F

= .297), indicating that students' initial interest before the intervention did not significantly influence the final results. Given that the effect of gender on post-interest ratings is not statistically significant, the null hypothesis (H_{02}: There is no significant difference in the mean interest rating scores of male and female students taught radioactivity using RPT) is retained. This means that the RPT learning strategy was equally effective for both male and female students, as there was no significant difference in their levels of interest after the intervention.

Discussion

The findings from this study provide significant insights into the effectiveness of the Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT) learning strategy in enhancing students' interest in radioactivity. The analysis of the first research question revealed that students taught using RPT demonstrated a substantial increase in interest levels compared to those taught using the conventional method. The mean post-interest score for the RPT group (60.55) was markedly higher than that of the conventional method group (24.50), indicating that RPT was more effective in stimulating students' interest in radioactivity. This finding aligns with previous studies emphasizing the benefits of peer-assisted learning strategies. For instance, Okebukola (2019) reported that active engagement in cooperative learning strategies, including peer tutoring, significantly improved students' interest and participation in science subjects. Similarly, Yusuf and Afolabi (2020) found that RPT enhances students' motivation and cognitive engagement in physics and chemistry, leading to better retention and understanding. The corresponding hypothesis test further confirmed the effectiveness of RPT in fostering interest in radioactivity. The ANCOVA results showed a statistically significant difference between students exposed to RPT and those taught using the conventional method ($F = 755.960$, $p = .000$), leading to the rejection of the null hypothesis. This result is consistent with findings by Ibe (2021), who demonstrated that interactive learning strategies, such as RPT, lead to higher student engagement and enthusiasm for difficult science topics compared to teacher-centered instructional methods. Furthermore, Adeniran and Nwosu (2022) highlighted that when students actively participate in teaching their peers, they develop a deeper conceptual understanding, which in turn fosters sustained interest in learning scientific concepts.

Regarding the second research question, the analysis of male and female students' interest levels showed that both groups exhibited nearly identical post-interest mean scores (60.54 for males and 60.57 for females), suggesting that RPT was equally beneficial for both genders. This outcome is in agreement with the findings of Agboola and Olayemi (2018), who established that peer tutoring

minimizes gender disparities in science learning by providing an interactive and inclusive learning environment. Similarly, a study by Oguche and Eze (2020) on cooperative learning strategies in chemistry education found no significant gender differences in students' academic motivation and interest, reinforcing the view that peer-led instructional approaches support equitable learning opportunities for both male and female students. The hypothesis test corresponding to gender differences further corroborated this finding. The ANCOVA results showed no statistically significant difference in the mean interest rating scores between male and female students ($F = 0.001$, $p = .976$), leading to the retention of the null hypothesis. This aligns with the study by Bello and Usman (2021), which concluded that gender has a negligible effect on students' attitudes and interest levels when engaged in interactive and cooperative learning methods. The result also supports the assertion by UNESCO (2020) that pedagogical strategies emphasizing student collaboration and peer interaction contribute to reducing gender-related disparities in STEM education. These findings reinforce the growing body of literature supporting the effectiveness of Reciprocal Peer Tutoring as an instructional strategy capable of fostering students' interest in science subjects. The significant improvement observed in students' post-interest scores after the RPT intervention underscores the need for adopting student-centered learning approaches in Basic Science education. Given the positive impact of RPT on student engagement and interest, it is recommended that educators integrate peer tutoring strategies into science teaching practices to enhance student motivation, improve conceptual understanding, and encourage collaborative learning experiences.

Conclusion

The findings revealed that students taught using RPT demonstrated significantly higher interest in radioactivity compared to those taught using the conventional method. The substantial increase in mean interest scores among students exposed to RPT underscores the effectiveness of peer-assisted learning strategies in fostering engagement and enthusiasm in science education. The study also established that gender had no significant impact on students' interest levels, suggesting that RPT is equally beneficial for both male and female learners. The results of this study align with existing empirical literature that highlights the advantages of interactive and student-centered instructional approaches in enhancing learners' motivation and conceptual understanding. By providing students with opportunities to actively engage in the learning process, RPT fosters a collaborative environment where knowledge is reinforced through peer interactions, leading to improved interest and sustained engagement in complex

scientific topics such as radioactivity. Given the positive impact of RPT on students' interest in Basic Science, it is recommended that educators integrate this strategy into classroom instruction to enhance student motivation and participation. Additionally, educational policymakers should consider promoting peer tutoring as part of teacher professional development programs to encourage the adoption of innovative teaching methodologies. Future research could explore the long-term effects of RPT on students' academic achievement and retention in science subjects, as well as its applicability in other areas of STEM education. This study provides compelling evidence that the Reciprocal Peer Tutoring learning strategy is a viable alternative to traditional lecture-based instruction in Basic Science. Its ability to foster student interest irrespective of gender makes it a valuable pedagogical tool for improving engagement and learning outcomes in science education. The findings contribute to the broader discourse on effective teaching strategies and offer practical implications for enhancing science education in Nigeria and beyond.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, several recommendations are proposed to enhance students' interest in radioactivity and improve science education outcomes in Nigeria.

1. Teachers should incorporate Reciprocal Peer Tutoring (RPT) into their instructional methods to promote student engagement and active learning. Given the significant improvement in students' interest when exposed to RPT, educators should receive adequate training on how to effectively implement this strategy in Basic Science classrooms. Workshops, seminars, and professional development programs should be organized to equip teachers with the necessary skills and knowledge to facilitate peer tutoring effectively.
2. School administrators and policymakers should support the integration of innovative teaching strategies like RPT by providing the necessary resources, such as structured peer tutoring guidelines, learning materials, and appropriate classroom settings. Encouraging collaborative learning through school-based programs and extracurricular activities can further reinforce the benefits of RPT beyond the classroom.
3. The government and education stakeholders should ensure that adequate instructional materials, laboratory equipment, and learning aids are available to facilitate effective teaching and learning of radioactivity and other scientific concepts. Addressing infrastructural deficiencies in schools, such as overcrowded classrooms and lack of laboratory facilities,

will help create an environment conducive to student-centered learning strategies.

4. Curriculum developers should revise the Basic Science curriculum to incorporate more interactive and student-centered learning approaches. The inclusion of RPT as a recommended instructional strategy can help foster deeper understanding and interest in scientific concepts, making science education more engaging and accessible for students.

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March 31, 2025 Vol. 7 No. 9 E-ISSN 3027-0952 P-ISSN 3027-2033
International Journal of
CONVERGENT AND INFORMATICS SCIENCE RESEARCH (IJCISR)
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EFFECTS OF TIN/COLUMBITE MINING ON AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES AND THE LIVELIHOODS IN NASARAWA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, NASARAWA STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

This study employed a mixed-methods approach, combining both quantitative and qualitative research designs to comprehensively investigate the impact of tin/columbite mining on soil quality, agricultural practices, and livelihoods in the Udege mining area of Nasarawa State, Nigeria. A survey research design was utilized, incorporating polls and questionnaires to capture community opinions and sentiments. Data collection included

Keywords: Water, Environment, Degradation, Livelihood, Productivity

INTRODUCTION

Tin and columbite mining have long been pivotal to Nigeria's economic landscape, especially in regions like the Jos Plateau. Initiated in the early 20th century, these mining activities have significantly contributed to national revenue and industrial advancement. However, the environmental consequences, particularly concerning soil quality and agricultural productivity, have become increasingly concerning. This introduction explores the multifaceted impacts of tin and columbite mining on soil health and crop yields, incorporating recent studies and findings.

The extraction processes involved in tin and columbite mining often lead to substantial soil degradation. Mining activities

primary sources, such as field sampling and rigorous laboratory analysis of soil samples from mining sites, adjacent areas, and control sites, as well as secondary sources from existing literature and government reports. Soil samples were analyzed for physical (texture, bulk density), chemical (pH, nutrient levels, heavy metal concentrations), and biological (microbial activity, organic matter) properties. Field observations and soil quality index calculations provided quantitative measures of soil health, while surveys and interviews with local farmers captured the socio-economic impacts of mining. Stratified random sampling ensured representativeness across different zones (active mining areas, buffer zones, control areas), supplemented by systematic and purposive sampling techniques. Data analysis involved descriptive and inferential statistics, including t-tests, ANOVA, and regression analysis, while GIS tools and remote sensing techniques mapped the spatial distribution of soil degradation and socio-economic impacts. Results indicated significant environmental and agricultural degradation due to mining activities. Contaminated soil exhibited increased bulk density (1.30 g/cm3) compared to control samples (1.246 g/cm3), as well as high concentrations of heavy metals, affecting plant growth and agricultural productivity. Soil pH levels ranged from 3.3 to 5.0, indicating acidity detrimental to legume and forage crops. Additionally, mining tailings contained radionuclides such as 238U and 232Th, posing potential health risks through leaching into water sources and bioaccumulation in crops and livestock. Livelihood analyses revealed that mining activities have led to reduced arable land, lower agricultural productivity, and economic hardships for local farmers. Environmental degradation, including deforestation, soil erosion, and water contamination, has disrupted ecosystems and biodiversity. Socio-economic implications include increased poverty, competition for natural resources, and conflicts between mining companies, local communities, and government authorities. Health risks from exposure to hazardous substances and inadequate safety measures further exacerbate the challenges faced by affected populations.

disrupt soil structure, resulting in erosion and the loss of fertile topsoil essential for agriculture. A study focusing on the Jos South Local Government Area revealed that 54.2% of respondents identified low crop yield as a major consequence of mining on arable land, attributing this to soil erosion and the creation of unproductive mine dumps and ponds (Bello, 2024).

Beyond physical degradation, mining introduces heavy metals into the soil, adversely affecting its chemical composition. Research conducted in Udege, Nasarawa State, reported elevated concentrations of metals such as lead, cadmium, and arsenic in soils from mining sites. These contaminants pose health

risks and hinder plant growth, thereby reducing agricultural productivity (Adeyemi et al., 2024).

The Jos Plateau, once a hub for tin and columbite mining, now bears the scars of extensive environmental degradation. The landscape is dotted with abandoned mine pits and ponds, rendering large swathes of land unsuitable for farming. This reduction in arable land has forced local communities to adapt, often leading to conflicts over the remaining fertile areas and a decline in overall agricultural output (Obaje, 2023).

The economic allure of mining has, in many cases, overshadowed its environmental costs. While mining activities have provided employment opportunities and contributed to regional development, they have also led to deforestation, soil erosion, and pollution. These environmental impacts have adversely affected local ecosystems and agricultural productivity, challenging the sustainability of rural livelihoods (Ibrahim and Musa, 2024).

Soil fertility is paramount for sustainable agriculture. The introduction of heavy metals and the physical disruption caused by mining compromise soil health, leading to decreased crop yields. Studies have shown that soils in mining areas exhibit lower pH levels and reduced concentrations of essential nutrients, further exacerbating the challenges faced by farmers in these regions (Ogunleye et al., 2024).

The socio-economic dynamics of communities in mining regions are intricately linked to the environmental health of their surroundings. As mining activities degrade the land, communities experience a shift from agriculture-based livelihoods to mining-dependent economies. This transition often results in economic vulnerabilities, especially when mining activities decline, leaving degraded lands that are challenging to rehabilitate for agricultural purposes (Yakubu, 2024).

Efforts to reclaim and rehabilitate mined lands are crucial for restoring soil quality and ensuring food security. Strategies such as refilling mine ponds, tree planting, and soil amendment have been suggested to bring mining-affected lands back to productive use. Implementing these measures requires coordinated efforts between government agencies, local communities, and environmental organizations (Usman and Adamu, 2024).

Understanding the mineralogical composition of contaminated soils is essential for effective remediation. Studies have highlighted that millions of tons of mining waste deposited on river shores can release toxic elements into water bodies, further complicating soil and water remediation efforts. Addressing these challenges necessitates comprehensive environmental assessments and targeted intervention strategies (Eze and Okonkwo, 2024).

The legacy of tin and columbite mining in Nigeria underscores the need for sustainable mining practices that balance economic benefits with environmental stewardship. As the nation continues to explore its mineral wealth, integrating environmental considerations into mining policies and practices will be pivotal in safeguarding soil health and agricultural productivity for future generations.

Materials and Methods

Nasarawa state is located in the basement complex of north central Nigeria between longitude 6°.45'03" and 9° 45' 03" of the Greenwich meridian and latitude 7° 45' 00" and 9° 35' 00" of the equator. It has an approximate land area of about 27,271.50 square kilometres. It shares geographical boundaries with Kaduna state in the north, Abuja Federal Capital Territory (FCT) in the west, Kogi and Benue states in the south, Taraba and Plateau states in the east respectively. The focus of the study is on Udege-Mbeki community in Nasarawa Local Government Area which lies between latitude 80 55'N, longitude 80 23'E and covers an area an area of 996 km2 .

The town is bordered by Doma in the east, Toto to the west, Karu to the north and Kogi state to the south. It has approximately area of 2,640 km² (NPC 2006). Figure 3.1 shows the location of Nasarawa Local Government Area while figure 3.2 shows the study area.

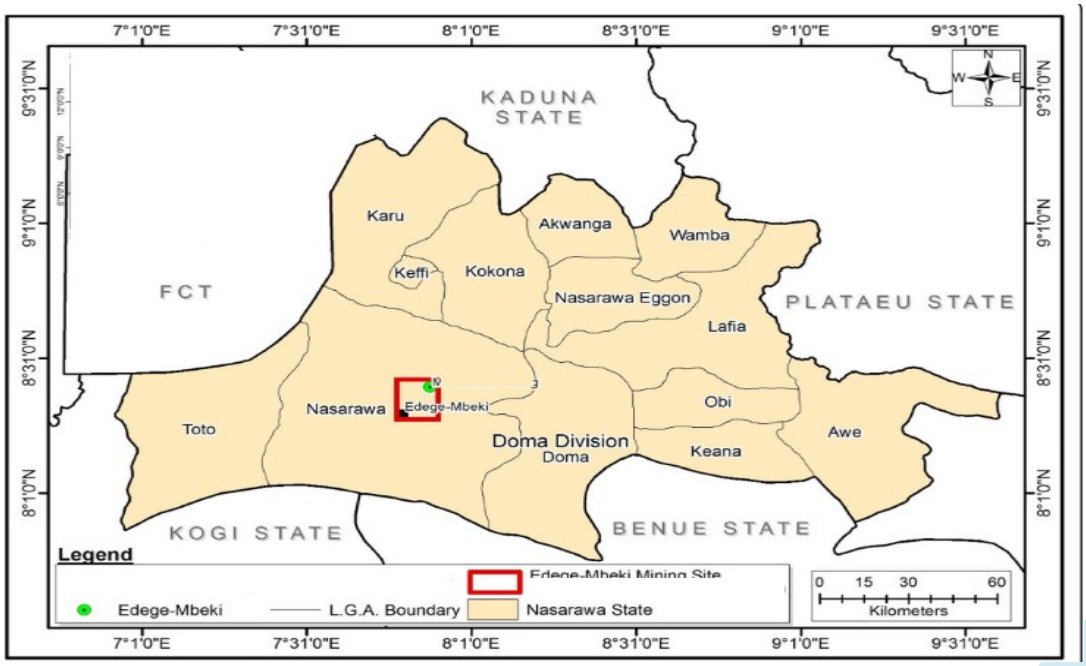

Figure 1 Nasarawa State showing Nasarawa Local Government Areas andUdege-Mbeki(Study Area)

Source: Mohammed et al., (2019)

The research methodology for this study employed a mixed-methods approach, combining both quantitative and qualitative research designs to comprehensively investigate the impact of tin/columbite mining on soil quality, agricultural practices, and livelihoods. A survey research design was utilized, involving polls and questionnaires to capture community opinions and sentiments (Creswell, 2010). Data collection included both primary and secondary sources: primary data involved field sampling and rigorous laboratory analysis of soil samples from mining sites, adjacent areas, and control sites, assessing physical (texture, bulk density), chemical (pH, nutrient levels, heavy metal concentrations), and biological (microbial activity, organic matter) properties, while secondary data were drawn from existing literature and government reports. Field observations and soil quality index calculations provided a quantitative measure of soil health, while surveys and interviews with local farmers captured the socio-economic impacts of mining on agricultural practices and livelihoods. Stratified random sampling ensured representativeness across different zones (active mining areas, buffer zones, control areas), with systematic and purposive sampling techniques also employed where appropriate. Data analysis involved descriptive and inferential statistics, including t-tests, ANOVA, and regression analysis, while GIS tools and remote sensing techniques mapped the spatial distribution of soil degradation and socio-economic impacts.

Result

Effects of Tin/Columbite Mining on Agricultural practices and the livelihoods of the study area.

Reduced Agricultural Land and Productivity

The Mining vicinity of the study area was predominantly contaminated with mining waste called tailings. The surrounding agricultural soil shows high tendency to leaching and erosion due to consistent mining activities and this was observed to have adverse effects on agricultural plants such as plants leaves coloration, Generally, the contamination of soils associated with mining operations by radionuclides and heavy metals leads to negative effect or influence on the soil characteristics and this limits production and environmental functions. Tailings have been found to contain high activity concentrations of ^{238}U and ^{232}Th and this could result in internal exposure of the entire living population through leaching activity which may be directly ingested through drinking water or may indirectly enter the food chain by uptake through vegetation, fish, milk and meat. Figure 1 is a pictorial representation of sampling site and ore samples.

Plate 1: Pictorial representation of Columbite -Tin mine site within farmland soil (LHS) and ore from study area.

Physiochemical parameters of soil samples

Physiochemical parameters pH, conductivity and bulk density of agricultural soil samples around mine and control sites were quantified as 4.95, 0.05 (μS/cm) and 1.30 (g/cm3) respectively. Their corresponding values for experimental control soil are 3.305, 0.035 (μS/cm) and 1.246 (g/cm3). pH: pH range of 3.3-5.0 was observed for agricultural soil samples. These pH values were lower than those observed in plants. Below pH 5.5, low legume and forage growth occur due to metal toxicities such as aluminum or manganese, phosphorus fixation, and reduced population of N-fixing bacteria. This growth, hence inhibits plant root growth and many other metabolic processes (Koorevaar et al., 1983). This result shows that pH of both sides was within the acidic range. Slightly higher value for the analytical soil sample could be linked to mining activities.

Bulk density: The density of the control sample (1.246 g/cm^3) is lower compared to that of the analytical soil sample estimated at 1.30 g/cm^3. This could result from repeated traffic of wheeled mining machineries (loaders and haulers) forming compacted zones in the mining dumps. Report shows that these values were slightly higher in clay soil (Maiti, & Ghose, 2005). Generally, the bulk density of productive natural soils is 1.1 g/cm^3. High bulk density limits rooting depth in mine soils.

Conductivity: The mean conductivity value of the analytical soil sample (0.07μS/cm) and a control sample (0.05 μS/cm) are generally llow. This may be linked to low level electrical potential in soils; clays and other water saturated and unsaturated sediments, few ionic layers, electro filtration, pH difference and electro osmosis.

Livelihood Disruption and Economic Impacts of Mining in the study area

The environmental impact of tin mining in the Udege region has been significant, with various social implications that have shaped community relations and the overall well-being of the local population. Tin mining activities have led to considerable environmental degradation, including deforestation, soil erosion, and water pollution. The removal of vegetation for mining operations has disrupted local ecosystems, leading to loss of biodiversity and habitat destruction. Soil erosion has resulted in the loss of fertile topsoil, affecting agricultural productivity and food security. Additionally, the use of chemicals in the mining process has contaminated water sources, posing health risks to communities and wildlife.

The environmental consequences of tin mining have had far-reaching social implications. The degradation of land and water resources has affected the livelihoods of rural communities, particularly those dependent on agriculture and fishing. This has led to economic hardships and increased poverty levels in some areas. Furthermore, the competition for natural resources and the environmental impact of mining activities have led to conflicts between mining companies, local communities, and government authorities. These conflicts often revolve around issues of land rights, compensation, and environmental justice. The health and safety of mine workers and surrounding communities have been areas of concern. Exposure to hazardous substances, inadequate safety measures, and lack of access to healthcare services have contributed to health issues among those involved in or living near mining operations.

Plate 2: Mining field in Udege showing the extent of the detoriation of arable land **Source: Field Survey, 2024**

Conclusion

Tin and columbite mining in Nasarawa Local Government Area have had profound effects on agricultural practices and community livelihoods. While mining has provided economic opportunities, the environmental consequences—such as soil degradation, contamination with heavy metals, and loss of arable land—have significantly reduced agricultural productivity. The decline in soil quality has led to lower crop yields, forcing many local communities to shift from farming to mining-related activities, which introduces economic instability when mining operations cease. Addressing these challenges requires urgent and coordinated efforts to rehabilitate degraded lands and promote sustainable environmental management practices.

Recommendations

To mitigate the adverse impacts of tin and columbite mining on soil quality and agricultural productivity, a series of proactive measures are essential. Firstly, the government should enforce stricter environmental regulations for mining operations, ensuring adherence to sustainable practices. Reclamation and rehabilitation of degraded lands should be prioritized through afforestation, soil amendment, and the refilling of abandoned mining pits.

Additionally, there is a need for comprehensive soil testing and monitoring programs to regularly assess soil health in mining-affected areas. This will enable early detection of contamination and degradation, facilitating timely intervention. Educational campaigns should also be launched to raise awareness among local communities about the long-term environmental impacts of mining and the importance of sustainable agricultural practices.

Collaboration between governmental agencies, environmental organizations, and local communities is crucial for developing and implementing effective land restoration initiatives. Investment in alternative livelihood programs, such as agroforestry, sustainable agriculture, and vocational training, can help reduce the dependency on mining, ensuring economic stability and environmental sustainability.

Moreover, the introduction of advanced mining technologies with minimal environmental footprints should be encouraged. Research and development efforts should focus on innovative techniques for soil remediation and sustainable land management, tailored to the specific conditions of Nasarawa State.

Finally, establishing a comprehensive environmental impact assessment framework for all mining activities will ensure that potential adverse effects are identified and mitigated before operations commence. Through these concerted efforts, it is possible to restore soil health, enhance agricultural productivity, and

secure the livelihoods of communities affected by tin and columbite mining in Nasarawa Local Government Area.

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March 31, 2025 Vol. 7 No. 9 E-ISSN 3027-0952 P-ISSN 3027-2033
International Journal of
CONVERGENT AND INFORMATICS SCIENCE RESEARCH (IJCISR)
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ENHANCING PHISHING DETECTION IN FINANCIAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS USING DEEP NEURAL NETWORKS: A REVIEW

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Keywords: Deep Neural Networks, Detection, **Phishing,** financial, learning,

Abstract

With the rapid advancement of digital banking and online financial transactions, phishing attacks have become a significant cyber security concern. This paper presents a comprehensive review of deep neural network (DNN)-based techniques for phishing detection in financial information

INTRODUCTION

The rise of online financial services has led to an increase in cyber threats, with phishing being one of the most common attack vectors. Phishing is a form of cybercrime in which attackers deceive users into revealing sensitive information, such as banking credentials, by masquerading as legitimate entities. Traditional phishing detection techniques, such as blacklist-based and heuristic approaches, have limitations in identifying new and evolving phishing threats. Machine learning and deep learning techniques have gained prominence in cyber security due to their ability to analyze large datasets and detect patterns indicative of phishing attacks. Deep neural networks, in particular, offer superior

systems. The study examines existing phishing detection methods, including traditional approaches and advanced machine learning techniques. A critical analysis of recent journal articles highlights key developments, challenges, and future directions in phishing detection. The review discusses the advantages of deep neural networks in enhancing detection accuracy, minimizing false positives, and improving real-time threat identification. Furthermore, the study identifies gaps in existing research and suggests potential improvements for future phishing detection frameworks.

Performance in recognizing complex relationships between phishing indicators, making them a promising solution for phishing detection in financial information systems. Network security has become a critical area of concern, particularly in the domain of information technology. Websites provide various services, such as email, instant messaging, e-commerce, and social networking, all of which require safeguarding users' confidential information. Cybercriminals exploit vulnerabilities by deploying misleading URLs and phishing attacks to steal sensitive data. Phishing is a social engineering technique where fraudulent websites mimic legitimate ones to deceive users into providing confidential information. Cryptographic techniques offer essential protection against cyber threats, with symmetric and asymmetric encryption methods ensuring data confidentiality and integrity. Wireless networks, particularly ad hoc networks, pose additional security challenges that necessitate the use of intrusion detection systems (IDS). IDS mechanisms, including signature-based, specification-based, and anomaly-based approaches, provide critical security functions to detect malicious activity. Among these, anomaly-based IDS, which employs machine learning algorithms, has shown great potential in detecting novel cyber threats.

Problem Statement

Existing phishing detection models lack robust defense strategies against sophisticated phishing attacks. Most traditional approaches do not explore the full potential of unsupervised and deep learning techniques for filtering phishing-related features in financial data. The classification efficiency of phishing detection algorithms largely depends on their ability to extract and analyze relevant features effectively. To address these shortcomings, this study explores the use of deep neural networks as a multilayer classifier for phishing detection.

Research Objectives

This study aims to review and analyze the role of deep neural networks in phishing detection within financial information systems. The specific objectives are:

- To examine existing phishing detection methodologies, including traditional and machine learning-based approaches.
- To analyze recent advancements in deep neural network models for phishing detection.
- To identify gaps and challenges in current phishing detection techniques.
- To propose future research directions for improving phishing detection using deep learning.

Significance of the Study

Financial institutions, businesses, and individuals face significant risks due to phishing attacks, which can lead to financial losses and data breaches. By reviewing recent research on deep neural network-based phishing detection, this study provides valuable insights for researchers, cyber security professionals, and policymakers. The findings contribute to enhancing security strategies and improving the reliability of financial information systems.

The Use of Deep Learning Neural Networks As A Multilayer Classifier for Phishing Detection In Financial Information System.

Deep neural networks (DNNs), particularly multilayer architectures like Multilayer Perceptrons (MLPs), have been extensively utilized as classifiers in phishing detection due to their ability to model complex patterns within data. These models process various features extracted from emails or websites to distinguish between legitimate and malicious content. Below are some of the applications of deep neural networks in phishing detection; (Singh et al., 2022)

1. **Phishing Website Detection:** DNNs have been applied to identify phishing websites by analyzing features such as URL characteristics, webpage code, and textual content. For instance, a study evaluated the performance of Autoencoders and MLPs using a publicly available dataset. Feature selection was performed through correlation analysis, and the MLP achieved an accuracy of 96% with a False Positive Rate (FPR) of 1.3%, outperforming the Autoencoder's 4.1% FPR (Singh et al., 2022). The

MLP model was further deployed to determine the legitimacy of websites based on input URLs, demonstrating its usability in real-world scenarios.

2. **Phishing Email Detection:** DNNs have been employed to detect phishing emails by examining various components such as the email header, subject line, body text, URLs, and attachments. A systematic review highlighted several approaches where deep learning techniques were applied to these components. One study combined BERT with clustering algorithms (K-Means, DBSCAN, and Agglomerative) to classify phishing emails, achieving up to 99.2% accuracy (Phyo Htet Kyaw etal., 2024). Another research utilized an Artificial Neural Network (ANN) to identify ham, spam, or phishing emails by extracting features from the header, address, text, and URLs, achieving 99.94% accuracy (Phyo Htet Kyaw et al., 2024).
    - An ensemble learning approach integrated MLP as a Tier-2 classifier with a Decision Tree-K-Nearest Neighbors stacking model as a Tier-1 base learner, resulting in a 99.43% accuracy rate (Phyo Htet Kyaw et al., 2024).
3. **Dual-Layer Architecture for Email Classification:** A novel dual-layer architecture has been proposed to classify both spam and phishing emails simultaneously. This approach considers features from both the email content and body during model training. The architecture employs models like Artificial Neural Networks (ANN), Recurrent Neural Networks (RNN), and Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN). Experimental evaluation demonstrated remarkable performance, achieving 99.51% accuracy, 99.68% recall, 99.5% precision, and a 99.52% F1-score. This signifies its high efficacy in detecting and classifying malicious emails with minimal errors (Phyo Htet Kyaw et al., 2024). These studies underscore the effectiveness of deep neural networks, particularly multilayer classifiers, in enhancing phishing detection mechanisms across various platforms.

Examining Existing Phishing Detection Methodologies Based on Approach.

Phishing detection has evolved significantly, employing both traditional and machine learning-based methodologies to combat increasingly sophisticated attacks.

Traditional Approaches:

1. **Blacklisting:** This method involves maintaining a list of known phishing URLs or email addresses. Incoming communications are cross-referenced against this list to identify potential threats. However, due to the rapid creation and short lifespan of phishing sites, blacklists can quickly become outdated, limiting their effectiveness (Altwaijry N, et al, 2024).
2. **Heuristic-Based Detection:** Heuristic methods analyze specific features of emails or websites, such as URL structures, domain names, and content patterns, to identify phishing attempts. While more adaptive than blacklisting, heuristic approaches can suffer from high false-positive rates and may struggle with novel phishing tactics (Altwaijry N, et al, 2024).

Machine Learning-Based Approaches:

To overcome the limitations of traditional methods, machine learning (ML) techniques have been increasingly applied to phishing detection:

1. **Feature-Based ML Models:** These models extract various features from emails or websites, such as lexical, host-based, and content-based attributes, to train classifiers that distinguish between phishing and legitimate instances. For example, a study utilized an optimal feature vectorization algorithm to extract 41 intra-URL features and evaluated 15 supervised ML algorithms, finding that Random Forests achieved an accuracy of 97.52% (Tamal et al., 2024).
2. **Deep Learning Models:** Deep learning approaches, particularly those using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) and Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs), have been explored for phishing detection. A comparative study developed a 1D-CNN model and its variants, achieving high accuracy rates, with the best model reaching 99.68% accuracy (Altwaijry, et al, 2024).
3. **Continual Learning:** To maintain detection performance over time, continual learning techniques have been proposed. These methods enable models to adapt to new phishing tactics without forgetting previously learned patterns, addressing the evolving nature of phishing attacks. (Ejaz, et al., 2023).

Recent Advancements in Deep Neural Network Models for Phishing Detection.

Recent advancements in deep neural network (DNN) models have significantly enhanced phishing detection mechanisms, addressing the evolving sophistication of phishing attacks. Key developments include:

1. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)

CNNs have been effectively utilized for phishing detection, particularly in analyzing URLs and website content. A study proposed a deep learning-based system using a 1D CNN to detect phishing URLs, achieving an accuracy of 99.7% on datasets from PhishTank, UNB, and Alexa (Qazi Emad ul Haq, et al, 2024). Similarly, the BaitNet model employs a CNN to enhance accuracy in phishing website detection. Detecting Phishing URLs Based on a Deep Learning Approach to Prevent Cyber-Attacks

2. Ensemble Learning Models

Combining multiple models has proven effective in phishing detection. An ensemble learning approach achieved an impressive 99% accuracy in predicting phishing websites, surpassing previous models (Phyo Htet Kyaw etal., 2024).

3. Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs) and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM)

RNNs and LSTMs are utilized to capture sequential patterns in data. The AntiPhishStack model leverages an LSTM-based stacked generalization approach for optimized phishing URL detection, achieving notable accuracy without prior phishing-specific feature knowledge (Saba Aslam et al, 2024).

4. Attention Mechanisms

Incorporating attention mechanisms into deep learning models has improved phishing detection. A study demonstrated that models like Multi-Head Attention and Bi-LSTM outperform others in precision, recall, and F1-scores when detecting phishing websites using contextual features of URLs.

5. Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)

GANs have emerged as a promising avenue for phishing detection. A review highlighted the potential of GANs in staying ahead of phishers by generating adversarial examples to improve detection models. (Kavya, et al., 2025).

Identification of Gaps and Challenges In Current Phishing Detection Techniques.

Phishing detection remains a critical challenge in cyber security, with attackers continually evolving their tactics to bypass existing defenses. Despite advancements in detection methodologies, several gaps and challenges persist:

1. Dynamic Nature of Phishing Attacks

Phishers frequently update their strategies, making it difficult for static detection methods to keep pace. Traditional approaches often rely on predefined patterns

and rules, leading to high false-positive rates and reduced effectiveness against novel, tailored attacks. This highlights the need for adaptive detection mechanisms that can evolve alongside emerging threats (Maruf A. Tamal et al, 2024).

2. Limited and Imbalanced Datasets

The effectiveness of machine learning (ML)-based detection systems heavily depends on large, high-quality datasets that encompass a diverse range of phishing scenarios. However, acquiring such datasets is challenging due to privacy concerns and the rapid emergence of new phishing techniques. This limitation can lead to models that are less effective in real-world applications (Phyo Htet Kyaw etal., 2024).

3. High False Positive and False Negative Rates

Many existing detection systems struggle with distinguishing between legitimate and malicious content, resulting in false positives (flagging legitimate sites as phishing) and false negatives (failing to identify phishing sites). This challenge underscores the need for more precise detection algorithms that can accurately classify websites (Maruf A. Tamal et al, 2024).

4. Adaptation to Emerging Technologies

The rapid advancement of technologies, such as deep learning and natural language processing, presents both opportunities and challenges for phishing detection. While these technologies offer potential for improved detection capabilities, they also introduce complexities in implementation and require continuous updates to remain effective against sophisticated phishing attacks (Altwaijry N. et al, 2024).

5. Evasion Techniques Employed by Attackers

Phishers employ various evasion techniques, such as using benign services to obscure malicious URLs, hiding phishing content within scripts, and delaying the display of malicious content until after user interaction. These tactics complicate detection efforts, necessitating more sophisticated analysis methods that can identify such deceptive practices (Alsharif Abuadbba et al., 2022).

Future Research Directions to Improve Phishing Detection Using Deep Learning.

Here are several promising future research directions for improving phishing detection using deep learning:

1. Explainable AI (XAI) for Phishing Detection

- Develop interpretable deep learning models to provide insights into why a given website, email, or URL is classified as phishing.
- Use techniques like SHAP (SHapley Additive exPlanations) or LIME (Local Interpretable Model-agnostic Explanations) to enhance transparency and trust in deep learning-based phishing detection.

2. Multimodal Learning for Phishing Detection

- Integrate multiple data sources such as email content, website features, and network traffic for a comprehensive phishing detection model.
- Utilize transformer-based architectures (e.g., BERT, GPT) to analyze text, while CNNs or vision transformers process website screenshots.

3. Adversarial Robustness Against Phishing Attacks

- Study adversarial machine learning techniques to improve the robustness of phishing detection models against evolving attacks.
- Develop models resistant to phishing attempts that use small perturbations or disguised URLs to bypass detection.

4. Few-shot and Zero-shot Learning Approaches

- Apply meta-learning or zero-shot learning techniques to detect new phishing campaigns with minimal labeled data.
- Leverage large pre-trained models to generalize better across different phishing attack strategies.

5. Graph Neural Networks (GNNs) for Phishing Detection

- Use GNNs to model relationships between domains, email senders, hyperlinks, and website connections.
- Identify phishing websites based on their structural similarities to known phishing networks.

6. Federated Learning for Privacy-preserving Phishing Detection

- Implement federated learning to enable phishing detection models to be trained across different organizations without sharing sensitive data.
- Reduce privacy risks while maintaining high detection accuracy.

7. Continuous Learning and Online Adaptation

- Develop self-learning systems that continuously update themselves with new phishing tactics.
- Use reinforcement learning or self-supervised learning to adapt to evolving phishing techniques in real time.

8. Cross-lingual and Multilingual Phishing Detection

- Train deep learning models to detect phishing attacks in multiple languages to combat global threats.
- Use language-agnostic sentence embeddings or multilingual transformers to improve detection across different linguistic contexts.

9. Combining Deep Learning with Blockchain for Phishing Prevention

- Explore the use of blockchain for maintaining a decentralized, tamper-proof database of phishing URLs.
- Use smart contracts to automate phishing detection and response mechanisms.

10. Hybrid Deep Learning Models with Traditional Security Measures

- Combine deep learning-based detection with heuristic rules, blacklists, and user behavior analysis to enhance phishing detection efficiency.
- Use ensemble learning with traditional cybersecurity approaches for more reliable detection.

Conclusion and Recommendation.

In conclusion, the use of Deep Neural Networks (DNNs), particularly multilayer classifiers such as Multilayer Perceptrons (MLPs), has significantly enhanced phishing detection in financial information systems. These models effectively analyze diverse features of phishing emails and websites, achieving high accuracy rates in distinguishing legitimate content from malicious threats. The integration of various deep learning techniques, including CNNs, RNNs, attention mechanisms, and ensemble learning, has further improved detection capabilities. Recent advancements, such as CNN-Fusion, Variational Autoencoders, and self-attention mechanisms, have demonstrated notable efficiency in phishing detection. However, despite these developments, phishing detection still faces challenges, including the dynamic nature of phishing attacks, limited and imbalanced datasets, high false positive and false negative rates, and sophisticated evasion techniques employed by attackers.

To strengthen phishing detection in financial information systems, it is highly recommended that adaptive learning techniques should be integrated to keep up with evolving threats, improvement on dataset quality and diversity through public-private collaborations will enhance model generalization and reduce bias. Hybridization of models combining deep learning with heuristic methods can help lower false positives and negatives. Also, explainable AI (XAI) should be used to

increase transparency and trust in phishing detection. Robust feature extraction and threat intelligence can counter attackers' evasion tactics. Real-time detection and automated response mechanisms will enable swift threat mitigation. Lastly, continuous user awareness and training remain essential in building a comprehensive cyber security strategy. Implementing these measures will enhance phishing detection, reducing cyber fraud risks.

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March 31, 2025 Vol. 7 No. 9 E-ISSN 3027-0952 P-ISSN 3027-2033
International Journal of
CONVERGENT AND INFORMATICS SCIENCE RESEARCH (IJCISR)
www.harvardpublications.com

NUMERICAL PREDICTION OF THE IMPACT OF PERCENTAGE VARIATION OF THE INTRINSIC GROWTH RATE PARAMETER VALUE OF VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUND EMITTED FROM OIL SPILLED ON AIR TEMPERATURE IN THEIR INTERACTION USING COMPUTATIONAL METHOD

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INTRODUCTION

Air pollution makes a major contribution to excess mortality from cardiovascular, respiratory, and other diseases (WHO 2016, GBD 2015 Risk Factors Collaborators 2016). Significant excess death rates are related to fossil energy use, as combustion emissions from traffic, power generation, and industry typically occur in densely populated regions (Lelieveld J. et al., 2015, BrauerM 2016). The Paris Agreement that aims to limit climate change in the 21st century to 1.5–2 °C above preindustrial levels requires the phase out of fossil fuels, which may need to be augmented by negative emissions of CO_2 i.e., removal from the atmosphere, or other geoengineering measures (Caldeira et al, 2013). Based on the two middle scenarios of the Intergovernmental

Abstract

Environmental Model for studying the qualitative characteristic of the Emission of Volatile Organic Compound from oil spillage and its interaction with Meteorological variable was developed and used in the study of the Numerical Prediction of the Impact of Percentage Variation of the Intrinsic Growth Rate Parameter Value of Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Emitted from Oil Spilled on Air temperature in their interaction using Computational Method. One of the key achievements was aimed at developing a numerical data base for the relative abundance of the VOC and Air-temperature for a time interval of 0(30)360 months indexed by MATLAB ODE45 Runge-Kutta numerical scheme. Moreso, due to this 50% percentage variation, we observed a severe depletion in the coordinate of the modified VOC compared to the fixed parameter coordinate whose values ranges from 0.9294569 units on the thirtieth (30^{th}) month to a converging saturated value of 0.69250665 units on the three hundred and sixtieth (360^{th}) month. In this scenario, we observed a randomized pattern in the coordinate of the air temperature on comparing the fixed parameter coordinate with the modified coordinates showing six cases of gain in temperature as recorded on the 30^{th}, 60^{th}, 180^{th}, 210^{th}, 240^{th} and 360^{th} with the various values of the temperature relative abundance as well as the expected percentages effects in quantification on the environment. Moreover, there were also six cases of depletion in the coordinate of the air temperature as recorded on the 90^{th}, 120^{th}, 150^{th}, 270^{th}, 300^{th} and 330^{th} month with their associated values of the temperature relative abundance as well as the expected percentages effects in quantification on the environment. The full results and discussions of this noble contribution to knowledge are fully presented in this study.

Keywords:
Numerical Scheme, Vulnerability, Environmental Pollution, Mathematical Modelling, Dynamical System, Meteorological Variable.

Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) there is an estimated 5% chance that the temperature increase in this century can be limited to 2 °C, but the likelihood increases when greenhouse gas emissions are curbed sharply in the near term (Raftery et al., 2017). The timing of mitigation actions is critical, especially if currently unproven geoengineering options are to be avoided. Clearly,

the switch from fossil to renewable, clean energy sources has the potential to prevent morbidity and mortality from aerosol pollution. Because the particles have a net climate cooling effect, removing them will lower the prospects of meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement, but the public health gain is nevertheless a strong motivation for emission controls (Shindell et al., 2018). Here we present the health benefits achieved by removing fossil fuel-related and all air pollution emissions, applying hazard ratio functions that connect fine particulate matter to non-accidental mortality. We consider the repercussions for climate change of policies and technologies which focus on air-quality improvement using traditional control methods such as filters, catalytic converters, and cleaner fuels, but also concurrently with greenhouse gas mitigation strategies which improve air quality.

Persistent global energy and fuel crises have shown that fossil fuels are limited source of energy that will ultimately get exhausted. Continuous depreciation of the world oil reserves as reported by USEIA (2007) also corroborates the fact that fossil fuels resources like petroleum, coal and natural gas are finite and non-renewable source of energy. Apart from the foreseen shortage of fossil fuels, its rising price and increasing difficulty of paying for them in the next years to come, necessitate the serious urge for alternative resource that will offers reduced emissions, improved biodegradability, improve performance and cleanup emissions necessitated continuous research into the development of renewable energy source. Aside the fact that gasoline and diesel are the most widely used fuels coming from fossil fuel, it is a known fact now that gasoline contributes to increase hazardous emissions and that diesel with higher carbon numbers contributes to emissions of high particulate matters, high sulphur dioxide and high poly aromatic hydrocarbons. Thus, need for the kind of serious attention being witness in the search for economically viable and environmentally friendly renewable fuels like biodiesel.

Biodiesel has been reported to have offered reduced exhaust emissions, improved biodegradability, reduced toxicity and high-octane rating which can improve performance and clean up emissions. More so, vegetable oil has good resource for the production of biodiesel through trans-esterification of different types like canola, rapeseed, soybean oil rape seed etc. Interesting results have been reported on the production of biodiesel through trans-esterification of different kinds of vegetable oil from different parts of the world, such include soybean (United State), rapeseed (Europe), oil palm (South-East Asia) and rice bran oil (India).

Besides, esters from vegetable oils have been reported as the best substitutes for diesel because they do not demand any modification in the diesel engine and have a high energetic yield.

In study of Giwa et l., (2019), they presented a study on Gas flaring attendant impacts of criteria and particulate pollutants: A case of Niger Delta region of Nigeria. In their study they discovered that gas flaring operations as experienced in the Niger Delta region (NDR) of Nigeria are characterized with the release of gases, particulates, noise and heat that have adversely affected both human and environment.

Mathematical Model Formulation

Mathematical Formulation for VOC and Air temperature Interaction

From the data set obtained from field, it is obvious that the rate change of air temperature with respect to time is directly proportional to the amount of temperature at any time, t. This is mathematically expressed as (Ekaba *et al.,* 2022):

$$\frac{dA_T}{dt} = \alpha A(t) \ , \qquad A_T(0) = A_0 > 0 \tag{1}$$

The solution trajectory of the above equation is mathematically tractable since $A_T(t) = A_0 e^{\alpha t}$ is an exponential growth model which implication is hazardous and does not make environmental sense as steady increase in the Air temperature and volatile organic compound (VOC) will cause serious damage to the ecosystem functioning hence we consider an intra-competition coefficient in the model equation which is the contribution of the volatile organic compound (VOC) and Air temperature that will inhibit the growth of itself and inter competition coefficient which is the contribution of both variables to either enhance or inhibit the growth of each other hence the need for a lotka-volterra first order ordinary differential equation which will be used for various analysis in course of this study. On the simplifying assumptions, we have built the interacting model equation of the lotka-volterra equation and this model constructions, (Akpodee and Ekaka-a,2019) is expressed mathematically as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\mathrm{VOC}}{dt} &= \mathrm{VOC}[\alpha_1 - \beta_1 \mathrm{VOC} - \gamma_1 A_T] \qquad , \mathrm{VOC}(0) = \mathrm{VOC}_0 > 0 \\ \frac{dA_T}{dt} &= A_T[\alpha_2 - \beta_2 A_T - \gamma_2 \mathrm{VOC}] \qquad , A_T(0) = A_0 > 0 \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Where

$\frac{d\text{VOC}}{dt}$ represents the rate of change of volatile organic compound emitted from oil spillage.

VOC represents the amount of volatile organic compound over time.

α_1 represents the intrinsic growth rate parameter value for the volatile organic compound.

β_1 represents the intra-competition coefficient of the volatile organic compound.

γ_1 represents the inter competition coefficient of the air temperature amount to inhibits the growth of the volatile organic compound.

$\frac{dA_T(t)}{dt}$ represents the rate of change of air temperature.

A_T represents the amount (^{o}C) of air temperature over time.

α_2 represents the intrinsic growth rate parameter values for the air temperature amount.

β_2 represents the intra-competition coefficient of air temperature.

γ_2 represents the inter-competition coefficient of the volatile organic compound amount to inhibits the growth of the air temperature amount.

VOC(0)represents the initial condition of the volatile organic compound amount.

$A_T(0)$ represents the initial condition of the air temperature amount.

Determination of Steady-State Solutions of the First-Order Model of the Interacting Environmental Variables

To study the qualitative behavior of the steady-state solution of the volatile organic compound and air temperature interaction model, we have to derive from the dynamical system of four (4) steady-state solutions of the variables. From equation (1) we have:

$$\frac{d\text{VOC}}{dt} = \text{VOC}[\alpha_1 - \beta_1\text{VOC} - \gamma_1 A_T], \qquad \text{VOC}(0) = \text{VOC}_0 > 0$$

$$\frac{dA_T}{dt} = A_T[\alpha_2 - \beta_2 A_T - \gamma_2\text{VOC}], \qquad A_T(0) = A_0 > 0$$

The problem is to study the steady-state solutions of the system and its qualitative behavior.

At a steady-state solution,

$$\frac{d\text{VOC}}{dt} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dA_T}{dt} = 0$$

Thus,

$$\mathrm{VOC}[\alpha_1 - \beta_1 \mathrm{VOC} - \gamma_1 A_T] = 0$$
$$A_T[\alpha_{21} - \beta_2 A_T - \gamma_2 \mathrm{VOC}] = 0$$

Suppose $(\mathrm{VOC_e}, A_e)$ is an arbitrary steady-state solution, then

$$\mathrm{VOC_e}[\alpha_1 - \beta_1 \mathrm{VOC_e} - \gamma_1 A_e] = 0$$
$$A_e[\alpha_{21} - \beta_2 A_e - \gamma_2 \mathrm{VOC_e}] = 0$$

Suppose the assumption holds that:

$$\alpha_1 - \beta_1 \mathrm{VOC_e} - \gamma_1 A_e \neq 0$$
$$\alpha_{21} - \beta_2 A_e - \gamma_2 \mathrm{VOC_e} \neq 0$$

Then $\mathrm{VOC_e} = 0$ and $A_e = 0$ is a possible steady state solution.

Therefore, we have the trivial steady-state solution $(0, 0)$.

Suppose we assume that $\mathrm{VOC_e} = 0$ and $A_e \neq 0$, then

$$\mathrm{VOC_e}(\alpha_1 - \beta_1 \mathrm{VOC_e} - \gamma_1 A_e) = 0$$

and

$A_e \neq 0,\ \alpha_2 - \beta_2 A_e - \gamma_2(0) = 0$

$$\alpha_2 - \beta_2 A_e = 0$$
$$\beta_2 A_e = \alpha_2$$
$$A_e = \frac{\alpha_2}{\beta_2}$$

$\left(0, \frac{\alpha_2}{\beta_2}\right)$ is a possible steady-state solution

Also, suppose the assumption holds true that $\mathrm{VOC_e} \neq 0$ and $A_e = 0$, then

$$A_e(\alpha_2 - \beta_2 A_e - \gamma_2 \mathrm{VOC_e}) = 0$$

and

$\mathrm{VOC_e} \neq 0,\ \alpha_1 - \beta_1 \mathrm{VOC_e} - \gamma_1(0) = 0$

$$\alpha_1 - \beta_1 \mathrm{VOC_e} = 0$$
$$\beta_1 \mathrm{VOC_e} = \alpha_1$$
$$\mathrm{VOC_e} = \frac{\alpha_1}{\beta_1}$$

$\left(\frac{\alpha_1}{\beta_1}, 0\right)$ is a possible steady-state solution

Finally, assuming that $\mathrm{VOC_e} \neq 0$ and $A_e \neq 0$, using Crammer's rule, we obtain

$\mathrm{VOC_e}(\alpha_1 - \beta_1 \mathrm{VOC_e} - \gamma_1 A_e) = 0$

$A_e(\alpha_2 - \beta_2 A_e - \gamma_2 \mathrm{VOC_e}) = 0$

(0, 0) is a possible steady-state solution

$\mathrm{VOC_e} \neq 0$ and $A_e \neq 0$

$\alpha_1 - \beta_1 \mathrm{VOC_e} - \gamma_1 A_e = 0$ and

$\alpha_2 - \beta_2 A_e - \gamma_2 \mathrm{VOC_e} = 0$

In matrix form

$$\beta_1 \mathrm{VOC_e} + \gamma_1 A_e = \alpha_1$$
$$\gamma_2 \mathrm{VOC_e} + \beta_2 A_e = \alpha_2$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 & \gamma_1 \\ \gamma_2 & \beta_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathrm{VOC_e} \\ A_e \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Where $Ax = b$

Let $H = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 & \gamma_1 \\ \gamma_2 & \beta_2 \end{pmatrix}$, $\det H = |H| = \begin{vmatrix} \beta_1 & \gamma_1 \\ \gamma_2 & \beta_2 \end{vmatrix}$

$$|H| = \beta_1\beta_2 - \gamma_1\gamma_2$$

Let $\Delta\mathrm{VOC_e} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & \gamma_1 \\ \alpha_2 & \beta_2 \end{pmatrix}$, $\det \Delta\mathrm{VOC_e} = |\Delta\mathrm{VOC_e}| = \begin{vmatrix} \alpha_1 & \gamma_1 \\ \alpha_2 & \beta_2 \end{vmatrix}$

$$|\Delta\mathrm{VOC_e}| = \alpha_1\beta_2 - \gamma_1\alpha_2$$

Let $\Delta A_e = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 & \alpha_1 \\ \gamma_2 & \alpha_2 \end{pmatrix}$, $\det \Delta A_e = |\Delta A_e| = \begin{vmatrix} \beta_1 & \alpha_1 \\ \gamma_2 & \alpha_2 \end{vmatrix}$

$$|\Delta A_e| = \beta_1\alpha_2 - \gamma_2\alpha_1$$
$$\mathrm{VOC_e} = \frac{|\Delta\mathrm{VOC_e}|}{|H|} = \frac{\alpha_1\beta_2 - \gamma_1\alpha_2}{\beta_1\beta_2 - \gamma_1\gamma_2}$$
$$A_e = \frac{|\Delta A_e|}{|H|} = \frac{\beta_1\alpha_2 - \gamma_2\alpha_1}{\beta_1\beta_2 - \gamma_1\gamma_2}$$

Hence, the positive co-existence steady-state solution is provided.

$$[\mathrm{VOC_e}, A_e] = \left[\frac{\alpha_1\beta_2 - \gamma_1\alpha_2}{\beta_1\beta_2 - \gamma_1\gamma_2}, \frac{\beta_1\alpha_2 - \gamma_2\alpha_1}{\beta_1\beta_2 - \gamma_1\gamma_2}\right] \quad (3)$$

$$\beta_1\beta_2 - \gamma_1\gamma_2 > 0$$

This assumption is purely based on the fact that the amount of VOC and meteorological variables in an ecosystem are purely non-negative dependent variables.

For the purpose of this study, we have used the method of p-vector norms with respect to the 1-norm, 2-norm and infinity-norm to obtain best fit model parameter values which has small error used for the prediction of the interaction between particulate matter VOC and air temperature environmental variables. These parameters obtained values are:

$$\alpha_1 = 0.0912231, \quad \alpha_2 = 0.020770447$$
$$\beta_1 = 0.00000665862, \quad \beta_2 = 0.0006256158735$$
$$r_1 = 0.000342, \quad r_2 = 0.000003128$$

On a further simplifying assumption (Yan and Ekaka-a, 2011), that $r_1 < \beta_1$ and $r_2 < \beta_2$, we have chosen $r_1 = 0.000342$ and $r_1 = 0.000003128$ on the basis of

these parameterizations, we have constructed the following continuous dynamical systems of a non-linear first-order ordinary differential equation;

Using the p-norms selected values, the mathematical model of the VOC – air temperature interaction will be stated as:

$$\frac{d\mathrm{VOC}(t)}{dt} = \mathrm{VOC}(t)[0.0912231 - 0.00000665862VOC - 0.000342A_T]$$
$$\mathrm{VOC}(0) = 11067.0$$
$$\frac{dA_T(t)}{dt} = A_T(t)[0.020770447 - 0.0006256158735A_T - 0.000003128\mathrm{VOC}]$$
$$A_T(0) = 25.71 \qquad (4)$$

Existence of solutions for initial value problems

This subsection deals with qualitative analysis related to the solution of the initial-value problems for ordinary differential equations. Referring to the above class of mathematical formulations, the following definitions can be given:

Well-Posedness:

A problem is well formulated if the evolution equation is associated with the correct number of initial (or boundary) conditions for its solution, while a problem is well posed if the solution exists, it is unique and depends continuously on the initial data. The main purpose of a model related to a certain physical system is to predict, for a certain time interval, the behavior of the system starting from the knowledge of the state at the initial time t_0. The predictions of the model are then obtained by solving the initial-value problem. To do that, there are some basic requirements that a problem should satisfy:

i) The solution should exist at least for the period of time desired.

ii) The solution should be unique.

iii) The solution should depend continuously on the initial data and on the parameters of the model so that if a small error is made in describing the present state, one should expect the effect of this error to be small in the future. As already stated, if these requirements are satisfied, then the initial-value problem is said to be well posed.

Numerical Iterations Mathematical Preliminaries

Following Akpodee (2019), when numerical solutions to initial value problems (IVPs) are required that cannot be obtained by analytical means, it is necessary to use numerical methods. From the numerical methods that exist in solving

initial value problems, we have only considered the popular fourth-order Runge-Kutta method in this study as part of the mathematical preliminaries. The mathematical structure and the theoretical definitions of this method are presented as follows:

The fourth-order Runge-Kutta (R-K) method is an accurate and flexible method based on a Taylor series approximation to the function $f(x, y)$ in the initial value problem

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$$

Subject to the initial condition $y\,(x_o) = y_o$

The increment h in x may be changed at each step, but is usually kept constant so that after n steps, we have

$$x_n = x_o + nh$$

The Runge-Kutta algorithm for the determination of the approximation y_{n+1} to $y(x_{n+1})$ is

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{1}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)$$

Where,

$$k_1 = hf(x_{n,}y_{n,})$$
$$k_2 = hf(x_n + \frac{1}{2}h,\ y_n + \frac{1}{2}k_1)$$
$$k_3 = hf(x_n + \frac{1}{2}h,\ y_n + \frac{1}{2}k_2)$$
$$k_4 = hf(x_{n+1,}y_n + k_3)$$

The local error involved in the determination of y_{n+1} from y_n is $0(h^5)$

The above method can be extended to find solution to a system of differential equations such as

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y, z)$$

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = g(x, y, z)$$

Subject to the initial condition $y\,(x_o) = y_o$ and $z\,(x_o) = z_o$

These are the types of equations considered by this study which consists of a system of two first order nonlinear differential equations.

At the *nth* integration step, using a step of length h, the Runge-Kutta Algorithm for the system takes the form

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{1}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)$$

$z_{n+1} = z_n + \frac{1}{6}(K_1 + 2K_2 + 2K_3 + K_4)$

Where,

$$k_1 = hf(x_n, y_n, z_n)$$
$$k_2 = hf(x_n + \frac{1}{2}h,\ y_n + \frac{1}{2}k_1,\ z_n + \frac{1}{2}K_1)$$
$$k_3 = hf(x_n + \frac{1}{2}h,\ y_n + \frac{1}{2}k_2, z_n + \frac{1}{2}K_2)$$
$$k_4 = hf(x_n + h,\ y_n + k_3,\ z_n + K_3)$$

and

$$K_1 = hg(x_n, y_n, z_n)$$
$$K_2 = hg(x_n + \frac{1}{2}h,\ y_n + \frac{1}{2}k_1, z_n + \frac{1}{2}K_1)$$
$$K_3 = hg(x_n + \frac{1}{2}h\ ,\ y_n + \frac{1}{2}k_2,\ z_n + \frac{1}{2}K_2)$$
$$K_4 = hg(x_n + h,\ y_n + k_3 z_n + K_3)$$

As with the Runge-Kutta method, the local error involved in the determination of y_{n+1} from y_n and z_{n+1} from z_n is $0(h^5)$.

It is a good numerical analysis practice that in the event of a complex dynamical system that can not admit an analytic solution for impact and sensitivity analysis of VOC interactions with meteorological variables, we have to adopt an alternative method to study the qualitative characteristics of such interactions. This is a challenging environmental problem that will be tackled computationally using MATLAB ODE45 numerical scheme.

In this study, the submission and rationale that underpin the choice of numerical simulation approach (Iterations) for the VOC interactions with meteorological variables mathematical model formulation are stated as follows:

i. The closed-form solution (Exact solution by direct integration) maybe very complicated and difficult to evaluate analytically because of its complex environmental complication.
ii. There is no other choice which is to say that in such situation or scenario, no closed-form solution can be found.
iii. Computational approach required a large number of steps (Iterations) with chosen small step size so that a great deal of round off error can be accumulated.
iv. This approach will enhance multiple precision computations on our predictions and projections.

v. The meteorological variables relative abundance/VOC stock can be estimated accurately because of its role in climate change and also its role in environmental decision and policy making by environmental protection agencies.

For the purpose of numerical simulation, the parameters that is used in this study is obtained from field data using exponential and logistic growth model as well as statistical method from parameter estimation and is stated as follows:

For Volatile Organic Compound- Air Temperature Interaction

alpha1=0.0912231; alpha2=0.030770447;
beta1=0.065862; beta2=0.0006256158735;
r1=0.0000000342; r2=0.00000000003128;

Results and Discussions.

Table 1 **Impact of fifty percentage (50%) variation of the intrinsic growth rate parameter value of VOC on Air temperature in their interaction.**

Here, the impact of fifty (50%) percentage variation of the intrinsic growth rate parameter value of volatile organic compound from oil spill on air-temperature in their interaction for a time interval 0(30)360 in months was studied.

Table 2 **Impact of one hundered and fifty percentage (150%) variation of the intrinsic growth rate parameter value of VOC on Air temperature in their interaction.**

Here, the impact of one hundred and fifty (150%) percentage variation of the intrinsic growth rate parameter value of volatile organic compound from oil spill on air-temperature in their interaction for a time interval 0(30)360 in months was studied.

N1 RA (VOC) Represents Relative Abundance of Volatile Organic Compound due to fixed parameter values.

N11 RA (VOCM) Represents Relative Abundance of Volatile Organic Compound due to modified parameter values.

N2 RA (AT) Represents Relative Abundance of Air-Temperature due to fixed parameter values.

N21 RA (ATM) Represents Relative Abundance of Air-Temperature due to modified parameter values.

EPE Represents Expected Percentage Effects.

Table 1: Numerical data base for the Impact of fifty percentage (50%) variation of the intrinsic growth rate parameter value of VOC on Air temperature in their interaction.

1.0e+004 *

Time(months)	N1 RA(VOC)	N11 RA(VOCM)	N2 RA(AT)	N21 RA(ATM)	EPE
0	1.106700000000000	1.106700000000000	0.002571000000000	0.002571000000000	0
0.003000000000000	0.000148137311302	0.000092945688056	0.003609237072567	0.003609237100727	-0.000000000078023
0.006000000000000	0.000139105536517	0.000074069280480	0.004298922462740	0.004298929395752	-0.000000016127324
0.009000000000000	0.000138534904799	0.000070426423922	0.004652129811743	0.004652095281405	0.000000074224794
0.012000000000000	0.000138499071309	0.000069550860100	0.004809177599843	0.004809051786570	0.000000261610786
0.015000000000000	0.000138494403552	0.000069330226320	0.004874493192635	0.004874356568452	0.000000280283874
0.018000000000000	0.000138498805969	0.000069271026759	0.004900830248924	0.004900835419933	-0.000000010551292
0.021000000000000	0.000138508219254	0.000069255997072	0.004911393457898	0.004911418463274	-0.000000050912997
0.024000000000000	0.000138514159957	0.000069252100443	0.004915621457148	0.004915631586115	-0.000000020605670
0.027000000000000	0.000138508049610	0.000069251052953	0.004917310939762	0.004917310324493	0.000000001251231
0.030000000000000	0.000138499604784	0.000069250765325	0.004917982189912	0.004917980313006	0.000000003816415
0.033000000000000	0.000138496275715	0.000069250685921	0.004918248628136	0.004918247963971	0.000000001350408
0.036000000000000	0.000138507176325	0.000069250664777	0.004918354466387	0.004918354523373	-0.000000000115866

Impact of fifty percentage (50%) variation of the intrinsic growth rate parameter value of VOC on Air temperature in their interaction.

In studying the impact of fifty percentage (50%) variation of the intrinsic growth parameter value of the volatile organic compound (VOC) on air temperature for a time interval $t \in 0(30)360\ months$, four (4) coordinates were examined namely N1 RA being the VOC relative abundance for fixed parameter values, N11 RA being the modified VOC relative abundance due to it percentage variation, N2 RA being the air temperature relative abundance for fixed parameter values and N21 RA being the modified air temperature due to VOC percentage variation. From the numerical result obtained, we observed that on the base day of our experimental time here called the initial condition, the relative abundance of N1 is recorded as 11067 units, N11 records 11067 units as well while N2 records 25.71unit as well as N21 records 25.71 units resulting in zero (0) expected percentage effect of the temperature on the environment in terms of quantification. Furthermore, from the thirtieth (30^{th}) month up to the three hundred and sixtieth (360^{th}) month, the data base result shows a monotonic decreasing pattern in the relative abundance in the coordinates of N1and N11 while monotonic increasing pattern in the coordinates of N2 and N21 relative abundance. Moreso, due to this percentage variation, we observed a severe depletion in the coordinate of the modified VOC compared to the fixed parameter coordinate whose values ranges from 0.9294569 units on the thirtieth (30^{th}) month to a converging saturated value of 0.69250665 units on the three hundred

and sixtieth (360th) month. In this scenario, we observed a randomized pattern in the coordinate of the air temperature on comparing the fixed parameter coordinate with the modified coordinates showing six cases of gain in temperature as recorded on the 30th, 60th, 180th, 210th, 240th and 360th with the various values of the temperature relative abundance as well as the expected percentages effects in quantification on the environment. Moreover, there were also six cases of depletion in the coordinate of the air temperature as recorded on the 90th, 120th, 150th, 270th, 300th and 330th month with their associated values of the temperature relative abundance as well as the expected percentages effects in quantification on the environment. This percentage gain and depletion in quantification of the air temperature due to the variation of the VOC intrinsic growth rates parameter is a good information for eco system functioning and will serve as a guide in terms of environmental planning and policies making for air pollution by various environmental protection agencies and its expected effect on the environment.

Table 2: Impact of one hundred and fifty percentage (150%) variation of the intrinsic growth rate parameter value of VOC on Air temperature in their interaction.

1.0e+004 *

Time (months)	N1 RA(VOC)	N11 RA(VOCM)	N2 RA(AT)	N21 RA(ATM)	EPE
0	1.106700000000000	1.106700000000000	0.002571000000000	0.002571000000000	0
0.003000000000000	0.000148137311302	0.000211276634635	0.003609237072567	0.003609237034309	-0.000000000105999
0.006000000000000	0.000139105536517	0.000207807542432	0.004298922462740	0.004298925336574	0.000000006685009
0.009000000000000	0.000138534904799	0.000207769162229	0.004652129811743	0.004652102137246	-0.000000059487800
0.012000000000000	0.000138499071309	0.000207820501687	0.004809177599843	0.004809060736218	-0.000000243001267
0.015000000000000	0.000138494403552	0.000207792180992	0.004874493192635	0.004874372817974	-0.000000246948056
0.018000000000000	0.000138498805969	0.000207699945300	0.004900830248924	0.004900832046977	0.000000003668875
0.021000000000000	0.000138508219254	0.000207665639548	0.004911393457898	0.004911420114451	0.000000054274930
0.024000000000000	0.000138514159957	0.000207761585393	0.004915621457148	0.004915638274277	0.000000034211604
0.027000000000000	0.000138508049610	0.000207826820404	0.004917310939762	0.004917316998482	0.000000012321205
0.030000000000000	0.000138499604784	0.000207721788834	0.004917982189912	0.004917984752435	0.000000005210517
0.033000000000000	0.000138496275715	0.000207674926672	0.004918248628136	0.004918250042466	0.000000002875680
0.036000000000000	0.000138507176325	0.000207773667296	0.004918354466387	0.004918355385304	0.000000001868342

Impact of one hundred and fifty percentage (150%) variation of the intrinsic growth rate parameter value of VOC on Air temperature in their interaction.

In studying the Impact of one hundred and fifty percentage (150%) variation of the intrinsic growth rate parameter value of VOC on Air temperature in their interaction for a time interval $t \in 0(30)360\, months$, four (4) coordinates were examined namely N1 RA being the VOC relative abundance for fixed parameter values, N11 RA being the modified VOC relative abundance due to it percentage variation, N2 RA being the air temperature relative abundance for fixed parameter values and N21 RA being the modified air temperature due to VOC percentage variation. From the numerical result obtained, we observed that on the base day of our experimental time here called the initial condition, the relative abundance of N1 is recorded as 11067 units, N11 recorded 11067 units as well, while N2 records 25.71units and N21 records 25.71 units resulting in zero (0) expected percentage effect of the temperature on the environment in terms of quantification. Furthermore, from the thirtieth (30^{th}) month up to the one hundred and fiftieth (150^{th}) month, the data base result showed a monotonic decreasing pattern in the relative abundance in the coordinates of N1and N11. The pattern changed for the one hundred and eightieth (180^{th}) to the two hundred and fortieth (240^{th}) months, where the values increased for the coordinate N1 and later decreased again from the two hundred and seventieth (270th) to the three hundred and thirtieth (330^{th}) months, this finally rose in the three hundred and sixtieth(360^{th}) month. In the case of the coordinate N11, there was a decrease except for the one hundred and twentieth (120^{th}), two hundred and fortieth (240^{th}) and the three hundred and sixtieth (360th) months. A monotonic increasing pattern was observed in the coordinates of N2 and N21 relative abundance. Moreso, due to this percentage variation, we observed a severe depletion in the coordinate of the modified VOC compared to the fixed parameter coordinate whose values ranged from 2.11276635 units on the thirtieth (30^{th}) month to a converging saturated value of 2.07773667 units on the three hundred and sixtieth (360^{th}) month. In this scenario, we observed a randomized pattern in the coordinate of the air temperature on comparing the fixed parameter coordinate with the modified coordinates showing four cases of gain in temperature as recorded on the 30^{th}, 90^{th}, 120^{th} and 150^{th} with the various values of the temperature relative abundance as well as the expected percentages effects in

quantification on the environment. Moreover, there were also eight cases of depletion in the coordinate of the air temperature as recorded on the 60^{th}, 180^{th}, 210^{th}, 240^{th}, 270^{th}, 300^{th}, 330^{th} and 360^{th} months with their associated values of the temperature relative abundance as well as the expected percentages effects in quantification on the environment. This percentage gain and depletion in quantification of the air temperature due to the variation of the VOC intrinsic growth rates parameter is a good information for eco system functioning and will serve as a guide in terms of environmental planning and policies making for air pollution by various environmental protection agencies and its expected effect on the environment.

Conclusion

The key results that this work have achieved are stated as follows:

1) Numerical Data Base for the Impact of fifty percentage (50%) variation of the intrinsic growth rate parameter value of VOC on Air temperature in their interaction.
2) Numerical Data Base for the Impact of one hundred and fifty percentage (150%) variation of the intrinsic growth rate parameter value of VOC on Air temperature in their interaction.
3) Indebt Analysis of the Impact of one hundred and fifty percentage (150%) variation of the intrinsic growth rate parameter value of VOC on Air temperature in their interaction for an interval of 0(30)360 days.
4) Indebt Analysis of the Impact of one hundred and fifty percentage (150%) variation of the intrinsic growth rate parameter value of VOC on Air temperature in their interaction for an interval of 0(30)360 days.

Recommendations

This study work will recommend the following open research problem namely:

1.) The impact of the variation of the intrinsic growth rate of the VOC and air-temperature together.
2.) The impact of the variation of the intra-competition coefficient of the VOC and air-temperature together.
3.) The impact of changing initial condition of the VOC and air-temperature together.
4.) The parameter estimation of other pollutants and meteorological variables over time.

5.) The impact of a mild and severe random perturbation on the VOC and air-temperature together for two scenarios.

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March 31, 2025 Vol. 7 No. 9 E-ISSN 3027-0952 P-ISSN 3027-2033
International Journal of
CONVERGENT AND INFORMATICS SCIENCE RESEARCH (IJCISR)
www.harvardpublications.com

HYBRID LINEAR MULTI-STEP METHODS FOR THE DIRECT SOLUTION OF INITIAL VALUE PROBLEMS OF THE SPECIAL THIRD ORDER ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

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DOI: https://doi.org/10.70382/hijcisr.v07i9.029

Abstract

The research encompasses the creation of hybrid linear multistep techniques geared toward solving special categories of third order ordinary differential equations (ODEs) directly. In order to help ease the burden created by previously provided solutions, like computation difficulties and absence of given

Keywords: Hybrid Linear Multi-Step Methods for the Direct Solution of Initial Value Problems of the Special Third Order Ordinary Differential Equations ODEs

INTRODUCTION

starting conditions, the methods are formed through interpolation and collocation processes. Three block methods are formulated and defined, for one off grid points (TBHM1), two off grid points (TBHM2), and three off grid points (TBHM3). These methods are further explored and their order, consistency, zero stability, and convergence are scrutinized. The results from implementing these methods numerically outstrip the precision and rate of convergence of the other methods published in the rest of the literature. The methods, which are applied to particularly stiff third order linear problems, confirm the effectiveness of the methods since the results obtained are better than what is typical with ordinary approaches. This work enhances mathematical modeling by providing a self-starting solver for higher order ODEs which can be conveniently expanded to other systems. The methods have been developed in the study to prove higher order initial value problems in a direct approach system without having to tackle the transforms towards the first order systems thus showing that such problems can be proved. It can be said that the provided methods serve as powerful aids for the direct solution of the problems. The hybrid block methods derived in this study contribute greatly to mathematicians dealing with non orthogonal grids.

One of the most challenging equations being encountered nowadays is the oscillatory differential equations. This is because their solutions are composed of smooth varying and 'nearly periodic' functions, i.e. they are oscillations whose wave form and period varies slowly with time (relative to the period), and where the solution is sought over a very large number of cycles. For such problems, one cannot and does not want to follow the trajectories; instead one resort to finding their approximate solutions or the computation of their quasi-envelops (Kuboye and Omar, 2015).

The mathematical modeling of some physical phenomena in science and engineering often leads to the special third order oscillatory differential equations of the form

$$y''' = f(x, y), y(a) = y_0, y'(a) = \eta_0 \, , y''(a) = \eta_1 \qquad (1.1)$$

though, only an inadequate number of analytical methods are accessible for solving (1.5) directly without decreasing to a first order system of initial value problems. Some Authors such as Awoyemi (2003), Awoyemi and Idowu (2005),

Fatunla (1994) and Lambert (1973), have proposed the solution to higher order initial value problems of ordinary differential equations using different methods. In particular, Awoyemi and Idowu (2005), developed a class hybrid collocation method for third order ordinary differential equations. Awoyemi (2003), derived a p-stable linear multistep method for general third order initial value problems of ordinary differential equation which is to be used in form of predictor-corrector forms. like most linear multistep methods, they require preliminary values from Runge-kutta methods or any additional one step methods. The predictors are also developed in the same way as correctors. Furthermore, the block methods in Fatunla (1991) are in arrangement of discrete and are proposed for non-stiff special second order ordinary differential equations in form of a predictor-corrector integration process. Similarly, like other linear multistep methods are usually applied to the initial value problems as a single method but they are not self-starting; and they progress the numerical integration of the ordinary differential equations in one-step at a time, which leads to overlapping of the piecewise polynomials solution model.

There is the need to develop a method which is self -starting, eliminating the use of predictors with improved accuracy and efficiency. In this study, we therefore propose a new hybrid block multi step method for the direct solution of the special third order initial value problems of ordinary differential equations.

Development of a new hybrid block method

the development of a new hybrid block method for special third order ordinary differential equations using interpolation and collocation approach for solving third order initial value problems of ODEs (1.1) is discussed. Power series polynomial of the form

$$y(x)=\sum_{j=0}^{k}\alpha_j x^j \tag{2.1}$$

is considered as a basis function to approximate the solution of the initial value problems of general third order ordinary differential equation of the form

$$y'''=f(x,y,y',y''),\ y(a)=y_0,\ y'(a)=y_1,\ y''(a)=y_2 \tag{2.2}$$

The method is derived by the introduction of off-mesh points through one-step scheme following the method of Skwame, *et al.* (2019), Aibiremhom and Omole (2020).

Derivation of Third Order Block Methods

Consider the approximate solution of power series in the

$$y(x)=\sum_{j=0}^{p+q-1} a_j\, x^j \tag{2.3}$$

with the third derivative given by

$$y'''(x)=\sum_{j=3}^{p+q-1} j(j-1)(j-2)a_j\, x^{j-3} \tag{2.4}$$

where $g\in[a,b]$, the $a's$ are real unknown parameters to be determined and $p+q$ is the sum of the number of interpolation and collocation points. Let the solution of (2.1) be sought on the partition

$$\pi_N : a=x_0<x_1<x_2<\cdots x_n<x_{n+1}<x_N=b$$

on the interval $[a,b]$ with a constant step size h, given by $h=x_n-x_{n-1}$, where $n=0,1,2,\ldots,N$.

Then, substituting (2.4) in (2.2) gives

$$\sum_{j=3}^{p+q-1} j(j-1)(j-2)a_j\, x^{j-3}=f(x,y,y',y'') \tag{2.5}$$

now interpolating (2.3) at x_{n+p}, $p=1,2,3$ and collocating (2.4) at x_{n+q}, $q=0,v_i,3$ where p,q and i represent the number of interpolation, collocation and off-grid points respectively, leads to the following system of equations

$$\sum_{j=3}^{p+q-1} a_j x_n=f_{n+p},\ p=1,2,3 \tag{2.6}$$

$$\sum_{j=3}^{p+q-1} j(j-1)(j-2)a_j x_n^{j-3}=f_{n+q},\ q=0,v_i,3 \tag{2.7}$$

combining (2.6) and (2.7) in a matrix form

$$AX=b \tag{2.8}$$

(2.8) can be to written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_{n+1} & x_{n+1}^2 & x_{n+1}^3 & x_{n+1}^4 & \cdots & x_{n+1}^N \\ 1 & x_{n+2} & x_{n+2}^2 & x_{n+2}^3 & x_{n+2}^4 & \cdots & x_{n+2}^N \\ 1 & x_{n+3} & x_{n+3}^2 & x_{n+3}^3 & x_{n+3}^4 & \cdots & x_{n+3}^N \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 12x_n & \cdots & Nx_n^{N-2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 12x_{n+v_i} & \cdots & Nx_{n+v_i}^{N-2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 12x_{n+3} & \cdots & Nx_{n+3}^{N-2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \\ \vdots \\ a_i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_{n+1} \\ y_{n+v_1} \\ y_{n+3} \\ f_n \\ f_{n+v_i} \\ \vdots \\ f_{n+3} \end{bmatrix} \tag{2.9}$$

where $v_i \in (x_{n+i}, x_{n+1}),\ i$ is the off-grid points

using Gaussian elimination method, (2.9) is solved for the $a_j's$. The values of the $a_j's$ is obtained are then substituted into (2.3) to give, after some manipulations, gives a continuous hybrid method in the form

$$y(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{3} \alpha_j(x) y_{n+j} + \sum_{v_i} \alpha_{v_i}(x) y_{n+v_i} + h^3 \left[\sum_{j=0}^{3} \beta_j(g) f_{n+j} + \sum_{v_i} \beta_{v_i}(g) f_{n+v_i} \right] \tag{2.10}$$

where $y_{n+j} = y(x_{n+j})$ and $f_{n+j} = f(x_{n+j}, y_{n+j}, y'_{n+j})$.

In what follows, let us express $\alpha_j(x)$ and $\beta_j(x)$ as continuous functions of t by letting

$$t = \frac{x - x_{n+v_i}}{h} \tag{2.11}$$

the derivative of (2.11) with respect to x is

$$\frac{dt}{dx} = \frac{1}{h}.$$

to implement (2.11), we use a modified block method defined as follows

$$h^\lambda \sum_{j=0}^{r} \alpha_{ij}(g) y_{n+j}^\lambda = h^\lambda \sum_{j=1}^{r} e_{ij} y_n^\lambda + h^{d-\lambda} \left[\sum_{j=0}^{r} c_j f_n + \sum_{j=0}^{r} b_{ij} f_{n+j} \right] \tag{2.12}$$

where λ is the power of the derivative of the continuous method and d is the order of the problem to be solved $r = p + q$.

In vector notation, 2.12) can be written as

$$h^\lambda \bar{a} Y_m = h^\lambda \bar{e} y_m + h^{d-\lambda} \left[\bar{c} f(y_m) + \bar{b} F(Y_m) \right] \tag{2.13}$$

the matrices $\bar{a} = (a_{ij}), \bar{b} = (b_{ij}), \bar{e} = (e_{ij}), \bar{c} = (c_{ij})$ are constant coefficient matrices and

$Y_m = (y_{n+v_i}, y_{n+1}, y'_{n+v_i}, y'_{n+1})^T$, $y_m = (y_{n-(r-1)}, \cdots, y_{n-(r-2)}, y_n)^T$,

$\bar{F}(Y_m) = (f_{n+v_i}, f_{n+j})^T$, $f(y_m) = (f_{n+i_i}, \cdots, f_n)^T$, $i\ is\ off-grid\ point$

The equation (2.13) in normalized form is expressed as:

$$\bar{A}Y_m = h^{\lambda}\bar{E}\,y_m + h^{d-\lambda}\left[\bar{C}f(y_m) + \bar{B}F(Y_m)\right] \tag{2.14}$$

Equation (2.13) is referred to as the hybrid block method that gives evaluation at different grid points without overlapping.

Specification of the Methods

Three step block method with one off-grid points (TBHM1)

To formulate a three-step method with one off-grid point, the off-grid point is meticulously chosen to ensure the zero stability condition. For this particular method, the points are

$p = 1, 2, 3$.

Using (3.3) with $p = 3$ and $q = 5$, the polynomial of degree $p + q - 1$ as follows

$$y(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{7} a_j\, x^j \tag{2.15}$$

Differentiating (2.15) three times, yield

$$y'''(x) = \sum_{j=3}^{7} j(j-1)(j-2)a_j\, x^{j-3} \tag{2.16}$$

Substituting (2.16) into (2.2) to yield

$$\sum_{j=3}^{7} j(j-1)(j-2)a_j\, x^{j-3} = f(x, y, y'') \tag{2.17}$$

Now, interpolating (2.15) at point x_{n+p}, $p = 1, 2\ and\ 3$ and collocating (2.17) at x_{n+q}, $q = 0, \frac{1}{2}, 1, 2, and\ 3$ lead to a system of equation (2.7) as

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_{n+1} & x_{n+1}^2 & x_{n+1}^3 & x_{n+1}^4 & x_{n+1}^5 & x_{n+1}^6 & x_{n+1}^7 \\ 1 & x_{n+2} & x_{n+2}^2 & x_{n+2}^3 & x_{n+2}^4 & x_{n+2}^5 & x_{n+2}^6 & x_{n+2}^7 \\ 1 & x_{n+3} & x_{n+3}^2 & x_{n+3}^3 & x_{n+3}^4 & x_{n+3}^5 & x_{n+3}^6 & x_{n+3}^7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 24x_n & 60x_n^2 & 120x_n^3 & 210x_n^4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 24x_{n+\frac{1}{2}} & 60x_{n+\frac{1}{2}}^2 & 120x_{n+\frac{1}{2}}^3 & 210x_{n+\frac{1}{2}}^4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 24x_{n+1} & 60x_{n+1}^2 & 120x_{n+1}^3 & 210x_{n+1}^4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 24x_{n+2} & 60x_{n+2}^2 & 120x_{n+2}^3 & 210x_{n+2}^4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 24x_{n+3} & 60x_{n+3}^2 & 120x_{n+3}^3 & 210x_{n+3}^4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \\ a_5 \\ a_6 \\ a_7 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} y_{n+1} \\ y_{n+2} \\ y_{n+3} \\ f_n \\ f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} \\ f_{n+1} \\ f_{n+2} \\ f_{n+3} \end{pmatrix} \qquad (2.18)$$

By employing the Gaussian elimination method, equation (2.18) is solved for $a_j's$. The resulting values of $a_j's$ are then substituted into equation (2.3). After some manipulations, this yields a continuous hybrid linear multistep method in the following form

$$y(x)=\alpha_1(x)y_{n+1}+\alpha_2(x)y_{n+2}+\alpha_3(x)y_{n+3}+h^3\left[\sum_{j=0}^{3}\beta_j(x)f_{n+j}+\beta_{v_i}(x)f_{n+v_i}\right], v_i=0,\frac{1}{2},1,2,3 \qquad (2.19)$$

the coefficient $\alpha_1,\alpha_2,\alpha_3,\beta_0,\beta_{\frac{1}{2}},\beta_1,\beta_2,\beta_3$ are given by;

$$\left.\begin{aligned}
\alpha_1 &= 3-\frac{5}{2}t+\frac{1}{2}t^2 \\
\alpha_2 &= -3+4t-t^2 \\
\alpha_3 &= 1-\frac{3}{2}t+\frac{1}{2}t^2 \\
\beta_0 &= -\frac{1}{30}+\frac{89}{1260}t-\frac{19}{180}t^2+\frac{1}{6}t^3-\frac{23}{144}t^4+\frac{7}{90}t^5+\frac{13}{720}t^6-\frac{1}{630}t^7 \\
\beta_{\frac{1}{2}} &= \frac{8}{75}+\frac{4}{315}t-\frac{16}{75}t^2+\frac{4}{15}t^4-\frac{44}{225}t^5+\frac{4}{75}t^6-\frac{8}{1575}t^7 \\
\beta_1 &= -\frac{3}{5}+\frac{59}{56}t+\frac{103}{240}t^2-\frac{1}{8}t^4+\frac{17}{120}t^5-\frac{11}{240}t^6+\frac{1}{210}t^7 \\
\beta_2 &= -\frac{7}{15}+\frac{449}{630}t-\frac{1}{4}t^2+\frac{1}{48}t^4-\frac{1}{36}t^5+\frac{1}{80}t^6-\frac{1}{630}t^7 \\
\beta_3 &= -\frac{1}{150}+\frac{23}{2520}t-\frac{7}{3600}t^2-\frac{1}{360}t^4-\frac{7}{1800}t^5-\frac{7}{3600}t^6+\frac{1}{3150}t^7
\end{aligned}\right\} \qquad (2.20)$$

evaluate (2.20) at non interpolating points to obtain the continuous form as,

$$y_n = 3y_{n+1} - 3y_{n+2} + y_{n+3} - \frac{1}{30}h^3 f_n + \frac{8}{75}h^3 f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{3}{5}h^3 f_{n+1} - \frac{7}{15}h^3 f_{n+2} - \frac{1}{150}h^3 f_{n+3}$$

$$y_{n+\frac{3}{2}} = \frac{3}{8}y_{n+1} + \frac{3}{4}y_{n+2} - \frac{1}{8}y_{n+3} + \frac{17}{15360}h^3 f_n - \frac{1}{150}h^3 f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{87}{5120}h^3 f_{n+1} + \frac{763}{15360}h^3 f_{n+2} + \frac{107}{76800}h^3 f_{n+3}$$

Evaluate (2.19) to obtain the hybrid block method as

$$y_{n+\frac{1}{2}} = y_n + \frac{1}{2}h\,y'_n + \frac{1}{8}h^2 y''_n + \frac{1399}{107520}h^3 f_n + \frac{143}{12600}h^3 f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{437}{107520}h^3 f_{n+1} + \frac{199}{322560}h^3 f_{n+2} - \frac{43}{537600}h^3 f_{n+3}$$

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + 1\,h\,y'_n + \frac{1}{2}h^2 y''_n + \frac{43}{630}h^3 f_n + \frac{188}{1575}h^3 f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{41}{1680}h^3 f_{n+1} + \frac{1}{252}h^3 f_{n+2} - \frac{13}{25200}h^3 f_{n+3}$$

$$y_{n+2} = y_n + 2\,h\,y'_n + 2\,h^2 y''_n + \frac{11}{35}h^3 f_n + \frac{1216}{1575}h^3 f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{22}{105}h^3 f_{n+1} + \frac{13}{315}h^3 f_{n+2} - \frac{2}{525}h^3 f_{n+3}$$

$$y_{n+3} = y_n + 3\,h\,y'_n + \frac{9}{2}h^2 y''_n + \frac{27}{35}h^3 f_n + \frac{324}{175}h^3 f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{729}{560}h^3 f_{n+1} + \frac{81}{140}h^3 f_{n+2} - \frac{9}{2800}h^3 f_{n+3}$$

$$y'_{n+\frac{1}{2}} = y'_n + \frac{1}{2}h\,y''_n + \frac{763}{11520}h^2 f_n + \frac{49}{600}h^2 f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{101}{3840}h^2 f_{n+1} + \frac{1}{256}h^2 f_{n+2} - \frac{29}{57600}h^2 f_{n+3}$$

$$y'_{n+1} = y'_n + h\,y''_n + \frac{11}{72}h^2 f_n + \frac{28}{75}h^2 f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{1}{30}h^2 f_{n+1} + \frac{1}{120}h^2 f_{n+2} - \frac{1}{900}h^2 f_{n+3}$$

$$y'_{n+2} = y'_n + 2\,h\,y''_n + \frac{16}{45}h^2 f_n + \frac{64}{75}h^2 f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{2}{3}h^2 f_{n+1} + \frac{2}{15}h^2 f_{n+2} - \frac{2}{225}h^2 f_{n+3}$$

$$y'_{n+3} = y'_n + 3\,h\,y''_n + \frac{21}{40}h^2 f_n + \frac{36}{25}h^2 f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{27}{20}h^2 f_{n+1} + \frac{9}{8}h^2 f_{n+2} + \frac{3}{50}h^2 f_{n+3}$$

$$y''_{n+\frac{1}{2}} = y''_n + \frac{1057}{5760} h f_n + \frac{91}{225} h f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} -$$

$$\frac{193}{1920} h f_{n+1} + \frac{83}{5760} h f_{n+2} - \frac{53}{28800} h f_{n+3}$$

$$y''_{n+1} = y''_n + \frac{59}{360} h f_n + \frac{152}{225} h f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{19}{120} h f_{n+1} + \frac{1}{360} h f_{n+2} - \frac{1}{1800} h f_{n+3}$$

$$y''_{n+2} = y''_n + \frac{11}{45} h f_n + \frac{64}{225} h f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{16}{15} h f_{n+1} + \frac{19}{45} h f_{n+2} - \frac{4}{225} h f_{n+3}$$

$$y''_{n+3} = y''_n + \frac{3}{40} h f_n + \frac{24}{25} h f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{9}{40} h f_{n+1} + \frac{57}{40} h f_{n+2} + \frac{63}{200} h f_{n+3}$$

(TBHM1) (2.20)

Analysis of TBHM1 of Equation (2.20)

In this section, the order, error constant, consistency, zero-stability and region of absolute stability of (2.20) are obtained.

(i). Order and error constant of TBHM1

Applying definition 1.2 on the linear operator associated in (1.6) associated with the three-step block method (2.20), the order of (2.20) is $p = [3 \quad 3 \quad 3 \quad 3]^T$. That is, (2.20), is of uniform order 3. The error constant is given by

$$C_{p+3} = \left[6.3802\times10^{-4} \quad 2.7778\times10^{-4} \quad 3.3333\times10^{-3} \quad -7.5000\times10^{-3}\right].$$

(ii). Consistency of TBHM1

Applying definition 1.3 on (2.20), the method is consistent since it has order $p \geq 1$. Consistency controls the magnitude of the local truncation error committed at each stage of the computation of the method.

(iii). Zero stability of TBHM1

Applying definition 1.4 on (2.20), the first characteristic polynomial is given by,

$$\rho(z) = \left| z\begin{bmatrix}1&0&0&0\\0&1&0&0\\0&0&1&0\\0&0&0&1\end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix}0&0&0&1\\0&0&0&1\\0&0&0&1\\0&0&0&1\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}z&0&0&-1\\0&z&0&-1\\0&0&z&-1\\0&0&0&z-1\end{bmatrix} \right| = z^3(z-1)=0$$

Thus, solving for z in

$$z^3(z-1)=0 \qquad (3.35)$$

gives $z = 0, 0, 0, 1$. Hence, (2.20) is zero-stable.

(iv.) Convergence of TBHM1

Theorem 3.1:

The necessary and sufficient conditions for a linear multistep method to be convergent are that it be consistent and zero-stable.

According to theorem 3.1, the TBM1 of (2.20) is convergent since it is consistent and zero-stable.

(v). Region of absolute stability of TBHM1

Applying definition 1.5 on the boundary locus method, we obtain the stability polynomial as;

$$\bar{h}(w) = \left(-\frac{1}{8960}w^3 + \frac{1}{1344000}w^4\right)h^{12} + \left(-\frac{34037}{864000}w^3 + \frac{1243}{12096000}w^4\right)h^9 + \left(-\frac{61333}{44800}w^3 + \frac{29}{22400}w^4\right)h^6 + \left(-\frac{155}{16}w^3 - \frac{1}{40}w^4\right)h^3 - \frac{17}{2}w^3 + w^4 \qquad (3.36)$$

The region of absolute stability of (2.20) is shown in Figure 3.1 as

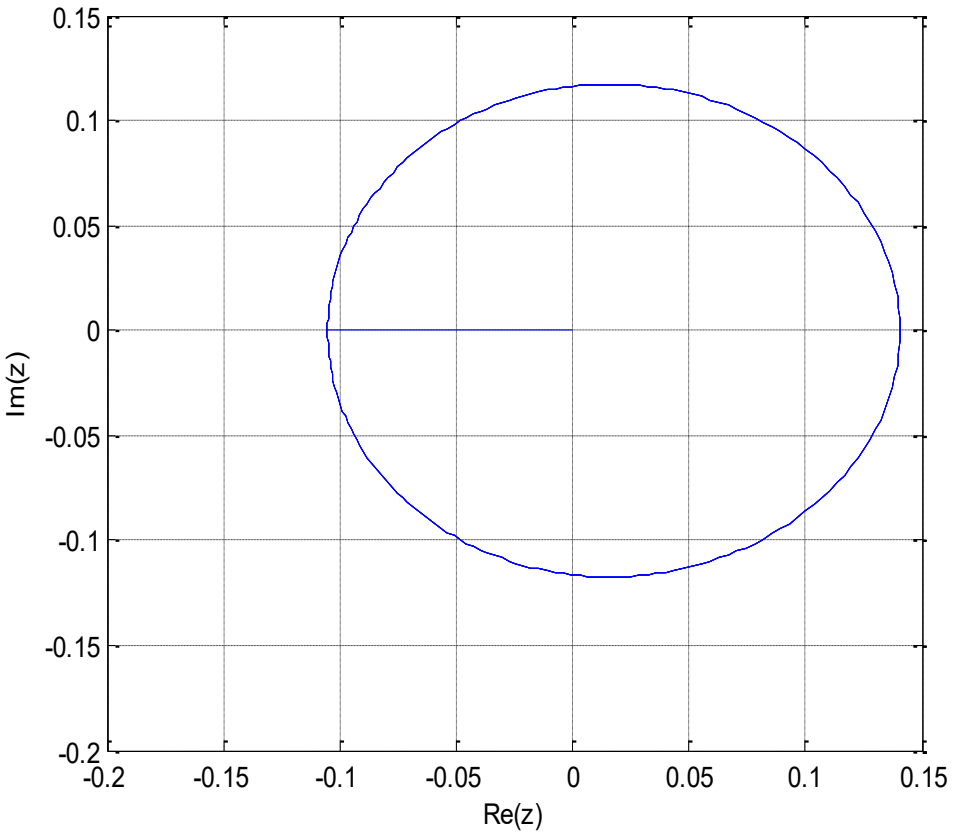

Figure 2.1: Stability region of (TBHM1).

The stability region obtained in Figure 2.1 is $A_\alpha - stable$.

Numerical Implementation Of The Methods

In order to test how computationally reliable, the accuracy of the methods (3.20), (3.27) and (3.34) derived are, the following third order initial value problems of ordinary differential equation are examined. The same problems the existing methods solved are also considered in order to compare our results in terms of error.

Problem 4.1: Consider the highly non- stiff third order linear problem

$$y'''=3\cos(x)=0,\quad y(0)=1,\ y'(0)=0,\ y''(0)=2 \tag{4.1}$$

with the exact solution given by

$$y(x)=x^2-3\sin(x)+3x+1 \tag{4.2}$$

Source: [Taparki, *et al.* (2010)].

Table 4.1: The results for problem 4.1 using TBHM1, TBHM2 and TBHM3

X	Exact Solution	Computed Solution in our Methods		
		TBHM1	TBHM2	TBHM3
0.1	1.01049975005951554310	1.01049975006012471010	1.01049975005829042530	1.01049975005951499670
0.2	1.04399200761481635360	1.04399200761867991350	1.04399200760719352820	1.04399200761481381080
0.3	1.10343938001598127470	1.10343938002859991780	1.10343937999632250570	1.10343938001597528630
0.4	1.19174497307404852500	1.19174497307116327760	1.19174497303540292660	1.19174497307403705530
0.5	1.31172338418739099920	1.31172338414222830180	1.31172338411908974600	1.31172338418736982850
0.6	1.46607257981489392840	1.46607257971074629860	1.46607257970584414430	1.46607257981485883770
0.7	1.65734693828692683900	1.65734693801860662410	1.65734693812495050330	1.65734693828687393890
0.8	1.88793172730143171510	1.88793172674794703210	1.88793172707131678220	1.88793172730135439280
0.9	2.16001927111754983460	2.16001927017428631680	2.16001927080373968090	2.16001927111744147820
1.0	2.47558704557631048000	2.47558704399935675490	2.47558704516248777690	2.47558704557616569370

Table 4.2: The absolute error for problem 4.1 using TBHM1, TBHM2 and TBHM3 with that of AETGS10

x	Absolute Error in our Methods			
	AETGS10	TBHM1	TBHM2	TBHM3
0.1	2.4800e-07	6.0936e-13	1.2249e-12	3.5610e-16
0.2	7.3740e-06	3.8704e-12	7.6160e-12	4.3204e-15
0.3	6.0542e-05	1.2648e-11	1.9629e-11	2.3646e-14
0.4	2.5479e-04	2.8073e-12	3.8568e-11	6.6494e-14
0.5	7.7602e-04	4.5002e-11	6.8140e-11	1.3989e-13
0.6	1.9261e-03	1.0386e-10	1.0876e-10	2.5271e-13
0.7	4.1505e-03	2.6785e-10	1.6151e-10	4.1371e-13
0.8	8.3637e-03	5.5278e-10	2.2941e-10	6.2811e-13
0.9	1.4774e-02	9.4225e-10	3.1260e-10	9.0322e-13
1.0	2.4702e-02	1.575e-09	4.1243e-10	1.2469e-13

Problem 4.2: Consider the highly non- stiff third order linear problem

$$y'''=3\sin(x)=0,\quad y(0)=1, y'(0)=0, y''(0)=-2 \tag{4.3}$$

with the exact solution given by

$$y(x)=3\cos(x)+\frac{x^2}{2}-2 \tag{4.4}$$

Source: [Adeyeye and Omar (2018)].

Table 4.3: The results for problem 4.2 using TBHM1, TBHM2 and TBHM3

X	Exact Solution	Computed Solution in our Methods		
		TBHM1	TBHM2	TBHM3
0.1	0.99001249583407729830	0.99001249582860967974	0.99001249583389629643	0.99001249583408137232
0.2	0.96019973352372489340	0.96019973349064439824	0.96019973352259219935	0.96019973352374389240
0.3	0.91100946737681805890	0.91100946726914814162	0.91100946737389260692	0.91100946737686283420
0.4	0.84318298200865524840	0.84318298198261926425	0.84318298200252451101	0.84318298200873364027
0.5	0.75774768567111814840	0.75774768592828983782	0.75774768565861723956	0.75774768567124015081
0.6	0.65600684472903489170	0.65600684544810960760	0.65600684470679408543	0.65600684472921049945
0.7	0.53952656185346527880	0.53952656339846807167	0.53952656181718099611	0.53952656185370143660
0.8	0.41012012804149626280	0.41012013081903395018	0.41012012798409210667	0.41012012804180132748
0.9	0.26982990481199336940	0.26982990920979093943	0.26982990472607193586	0.26982990481237569884
1.0	0.12090691760441915220	0.12090692416110613747	0.12090691748137021144	0.12090691760488428778

Table 4.4: The absolute error for problem 4.2 using TBHM1, TBHM2 and TBHM3 with that of AEAO18

x	AEAO18	Absolute Error in our Methods		
		TBHM1	TBHM2	TBHM3
0.1	1.7282e-12	5.4676e-12	1.8099e-13	4.0820e-15
0.2	6.3179e-12	3.3080e-11	1.1324e-12	1.9318e-14
0.3	1.4295e-11	1.0767e-10	2.9235e-12	4.6780e-14
0.4	2.5020e-11	2.6029e-11	6.1237e-12	8.5484e-14
0.5	3.8928e-11	2.5719e-10	1.2482e-11	1.4054e-13
0.6	5.5360e-11	7.1912e-10	2.2201e-11	2.1582e-13
0.7	7.4644e-11	1.5451e-09	3.6207e-11	3.1301e-13
0.8	9.6128e-11	2.7777e-09	5.7270e-11	4.3906e-13
0.9	1.2002e-10	4.3980e-09	8.5704e-11	6.0029e-13
1.0	1.4570e-10	6.5570e-09	1.2271e-10	8.0090e-13

Problem 4.3: Consider the highly stiff third order linear problem

$$y'''=-\exp(x)=0,\ y(0)=1,\ y'(0)=-1,\ y''(0)=3,\ h=0.1 \tag{4.5}$$

with the exact solution given by

$$y(x) = 2x^2 - \exp(x) + 2 \qquad (4.6)$$

Source [Kayode and Obarhua (2017)].

Table 4.5: The results for problem 4.3 using TBHM1, TBHM2 and TBHM3

x	Exact Solution	Computed Solution in our Methods		
		TBHM1	TBHM2	TBHM3
0.1	0.9148290819243523752	0.91482908192640475850	0.91482908192387370714	0.91482908192435394257
0.2	0.8585972418398301661	0.85859724185232180065	0.85859724183684905721	0.85859724183983747358
0.3	0.8301411924239968960	0.83014119246466059453	0.83014119241630696179	0.83014119242401411575
0.4	0.8281753023587296822	0.82817530236614944073	0.82817530234339849699	0.82817530235876040460
0.5	0.8512787292998718532	0.85127872919727610360	0.85127872927183196235	0.85127872929992156489
0.6	0.8978811996094910251	0.89788119933272390510	0.89788119956342847388	0.89788119960956521199
0.7	0.9662472925295234784	0.96624729190758939833	0.96624729245914425901	0.96624729252962684100
0.8	1.0544590715075323954	1.05445907034870792210	1.05445907140366051240	1.05445907150767219400
0.9	1.1603968888430503362	1.16039688697264145830	1.16039688869617705380	1.16039688884323383010
1.0	1.2817181715409547646	1.28171816864004892350	1.28171817134024841390	1.28171817154118815290

Table 4.6: The absolute error for problem 4.3 using TBHM1, TBHM2 and TBHM3 with that of AEKO17

x	AEKO17	Absolute Error in our Methods		
		TBHM1	TBHM2	TBHM3
0.1	1.8241e-13	2.0524e-12	4.7867e-13	1.5677e-15
0.2	1.6708e-12	1.2492e-11	2.9811e-12	7.3075e-15
0.3	6.0014e-12	4.0664e-11	7.6899e-12	1.7220e-14
0.4	1.4860e-11	7.4205e-12	1.5331e-11	3.0722e-14
0.5	3.0121e-11	1.0260e-10	2.8040e-11	4.9712e-14
0.6	5.3842e-11	2.7677e-10	4.6063e-11	7.4187e-14
0.7	8.8316e-11	6.2193e-10	7.0379e-11	1.0336e-13
0.8	1.3606e-10	1.1588e-09	1.0387e-10	1.3980e-13
0.9	1.9987e-10	1.8704e-09	1.4687e-10	1.8350e-13
1.0	2.8281e-10	2.9009e-09	2.0071e-10	2.3339e-13

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March 31, 2025 Vol. 7 No. 9 E-ISSN 3027-0952 P-ISSN 3027-2033
International Journal of
CONVERGENT AND INFORMATICS SCIENCE RESEARCH (IJCISR)
www.harvardpublications.com

DEVELOPMENT OF A CYBERCRIME INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

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DOI: https://doi.org/10.70382/hijcisr.v07i9.030

Abstract

This study implements and evaluates a Cybercrime Information Management System (CIMS) designed to enhance cybercrime reporting, investigation, and resolution. Through a pilot test involving law enforcement personnel, IT administrators, and volunteer users, the system's performance was measured across three core metrics incident detection accuracy, response time, and user satisfaction. Results indicate a **92%** accuracy rate for identifying cybercrime incidents and an average response time of **2.1 seconds**, demonstrating a marked improvement

Keyword:
Development, Cybercrime, Information, Management, System, Database

INTRODUCTION

Cybercrime has emerged as one of the most significant challenges in the current Information Age, largely due to its capacity to span multiple geographic locations instantaneously. In simple terms, cybercrime refers to any criminal activity that leverages computers, digital devices, or the internet for malicious purposes (Wilson & Ukaoha, 2019; Okeshola & Adeta, 2013). Unlike traditional crimes whose locations and timings are relatively straightforward to determine, cybercrime often involves cross-border elements that complicate jurisdiction and enforcement. Indeed, many researchers classify cybercrime as a hybrid offense—an umbrella category encompassing identity fraud,

over traditional manual methods. A **4.4** (±0.6) user satisfaction rating further highlights the system's usability and perceived data security. Comparative analysis also revealed a rise in cybercrime reporting from 30 to 110 cases, accompanied by a decrease in average case resolution time from 15 to 7 days and an increase in closure rate from 43% to 68%. Qualitative feedback underscored enhanced ease of use, bolstered data security confidence, and more efficient administrative workflows. Despite challenges related to interoperability with legacy systems, staff training, and long-term maintenance, the CIMS's positive outcomes suggest that ongoing refinements such as mobile integration, expanded threat intelligence, and international collaboration can fortify cybercrime prevention and response on a broader scale.

Organized crime, forgery, theft, money laundering, and internet-facilitated wrongdoing (Akay, 2020; Jahankhani, 2018; Wall, 2007). Moreover, cybercrimes—including fraud, counterfeiting, cyberbullying, cyberstalking, spam, and cyberviolence—are pervasive and can result in substantial societal, economic, and behavioral consequences (Wilson & Ukaoha, 2019). With cybercriminals becoming increasingly sophisticated, both public and private entities face growing risks, thus necessitating multilayered defenses (Brewer et al., 2019). Beyond financial and societal harm, cybercrimes also pose major political challenges (Brenner & Koops, 2006), facilitated by global networks that eliminate many traditional barriers of time and place.

Historically, the origins of hacking can be traced to the 1970s with benign programs like the "Creeper" virus, which evolved into a wide range of malicious software over time. Conventional methods of collecting and maintaining intelligence and criminal records have proven insufficient in dealing with modern, evolving cyberthreats. Manual procedures do not readily offer real-time, accurate, and comprehensive data nor do they facilitate future trend forecasting or informed decision-making.

In response, many law enforcement agencies such as the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) have been integrating computer technologies into their operations, moving beyond standard administrative tasks to specialized software and analytics designed to prevent and investigate digital crimes. However, the escalating complexity and frequency of cybercrimes necessitate even more advanced approaches.

A Cybercrime Information Management System (CIMS) offers a more efficient and scalable solution by leveraging modern software tools to manage the rising influx of cyber-related offenses. Through computer-generated records stored in a secure database, CIMS helps organizations like the EFCC enhance preparedness, optimize prevention strategies, assess past incidents, and anticipate potential developments. The system assists investigators in identifying suspects and expanding the scope of investigations when initial leads are scarce. Cybercrime spans various platforms and locations, complicating the collection and aggregation of meaningful intelligence. Without comprehensive datasets, it is challenging to gain a complete picture of cybercrime trends and patterns. Managing a cybercrime information system involves handling sensitive data regarding victims and offenses. Protecting these data from unauthorized access through encryption, periodic vulnerability assessments, and strong privacy controls remains a significant challenge.

Many law enforcement agencies already have independent IT infrastructures in place. Seamlessly integrating a new cybercrime information management system with these legacy systems is time-consuming and demands careful attention to interoperability, data transfer protocols, and backward compatibility. The primary aim of this study is to develop a cybercrime information management system. The specific objectives are to; develop an integrated database system for cybercrime records, implement the integrated database system using PHP, MySQL, and DBMS technologies, evaluate the effectiveness and performance of the integrated database system. Findings from this research can significantly aid cybersecurity professionals in identifying and tracking cybercriminals. An operational Cybercrime User Identification and Crime Detection System (CUICDS) would deter malicious actors, knowing that streamlined processes expedite investigation and prosecution. Increased public trust in online security could then follow, especially among individuals and organizations that store sensitive data online. This study also creates a new research avenue in network security, helping shape policies and laws geared towards combating cybercriminal activities. This study focuses on designing and developing a cybercrime management system that aids law enforcement agencies in suspect identification and expands the investigatory base when direct leads are unavailable. By combining real-time data gathering with advanced analytics, the system aims to streamline the detection, monitoring, and prevention of cybercrime.

Related Literature

a. Theoretical Framework

Information Theory offers a mathematical perspective on how signals are transmitted, originally developed by Claude Elwood Shannon in the 1940s. Often referred to as the "father of information theory," Shannon's work underpins much of modern data transmission, especially in information technology and communications engineering. While early human communication theories drew analogies from Information Theory to explain message exchanges linearly, the field itself focuses on foundational concepts such as noise, channel capacity, feedback, and error coding (Shannon, 1940).

A key principle within Information Theory is the notion that "information" can be quantified and inversely related to certainty. As Stephen and Kareen (2009) explained, the more possible states a system can occupy, the less predictable the outcome and thus, the higher the informational entropy. Although traditionally associated with engineering, physics, and mathematics, the theory has relevance for modern cybercrime information systems. When these systems record data on criminal activity, they transform that data into actionable intelligence, essential for preventing and mitigating hacking attempts.

b. Conceptual Review

The functionalist approach rooted in the ideas of Victor A. Thompson, Philip Selznick, Demerath and Peterson, and popularized by Charles Perrow further informs this study, (Okoli, 2019) referred to as the "structural-functional" or "structural-functional approach," it posits that the smooth operation of a system depends on each of its parts functioning cohesively. The architecture of a cybercrime information management system thus draws on theories of structure, function, and the necessity for decision-making frameworks that optimize organizational effectiveness in combating cybercrime.

Part II, Sections 6 and 7 of the EFCC Act (2004) detail the functions and powers of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC). Notable responsibilities include;

1) Ensuring compliance with the Act's provisions.
2) Investigating all forms of financial crimes (e.g., advanced fee fraud, money laundering, counterfeiting, credit card fraud).
3) Enforcing relevant financial and economic crime laws.

4) Taking measures to locate, freeze, seize, or forfeit assets derived from terrorist activities or financial crimes.
5) Facilitating legislation to deter economic and financial crimes.
6) Implementing strategies to prevent such crimes, including monitoring and regulatory functions.
7) Promoting rapid information exchange among stakeholders to combat fraud.
8) Reviewing all reported financial and economic crimes to identify involved individuals or entities.
9) Evaluating financial losses incurred by both government and private bodies.
10) Collaborating with international bodies and other law enforcement agencies on similar matters.
11) Tracking suspects linked to financial crimes.
12) Handling issues related to extradition and legal cooperation in cross-border economic crime cases.
13) Compiling and analyzing suspicious monetary transactions before forwarding them to the appropriate agencies.
14) Supervising ongoing investigations and prosecutions related to financial crimes.
15) Coordinating various financial and economic crime investigation units within Nigeria (Okoli, 2019).

Badu (2006) links corruption in certain nations to prolonged military rule, weakened rule of law, opaque governance structures, and an institutional culture that fosters secrecy. Transparency International (TI, 2008) further argues that corruption thrives in environments where temptation and lax enforcement coexist, and where social or legal accountability is minimal. A 2003 study commissioned by the Federal Government of Nigeria and conducted by the Institute for Development Research at Ahmadu Bello University found that low salaries for public officials, a murky political process, and insufficiently effective mechanisms for reporting corruption were key drivers of graft.

Tanzi (1998) posits that governmental monopoly and discretionary powers—manifested in licensing, taxation, or procurement processes—can exacerbate corrupt activities when oversight is weak and punishments are minimal. Overly complex tax regulations and frequent interactions between citizens and tax officials also heighten opportunities for bribery. Similarly, the African

Development Bank (ADB, 2006) suggests that corruption declines when the likelihood of being caught is high, punishments are clear and severe, and society as a whole rejects unethical conduct.

Ultimately, factors contributing to corruption range from societal-value erosion, poor leadership, and political instability to weak institutional checks and insufficient sanctions (Bello-Imam, 2005; Ekumankama, 2002; Adebayo, 1986). Transparency in governance, robust legal frameworks, and well-resourced oversight bodies are pivotal in mitigating corrupt practices.

The EFCC's operations are often hindered by court injunctions that protect powerful individuals from arrest or prosecution. High-profile cases, such as those involving Alhaji Bashir Dalhatu and Dr. Peter Odili, illustrate how legal shields undermine EFCC efforts (Okoli, 2019). Other obstacles include;

i. **Political Interference**: Some critics argue the EFCC targets political opponents selectively.
ii. **Immunity Clauses**: Certain public officers (e.g., President, Vice President, Governors) are constitutionally protected from prosecution while in office, limiting EFCC's authority.
iii. **Public Skepticism**: The EFCC's perceived alignment with the ruling party undermines public trust in its impartiality.

Although the EFCC's high-profile arrests and indictments demonstrate progress, structural and legal challenges persist, compromising the effectiveness and credibility of anti-corruption efforts.

C. Empirical Studies

Mykola et al. (2018) identify hacking as a leading threat to information security in transitional economies, noting the surge in cyber incidents that affect both private and public interests. Ukraine, for example, struggles with a lack of well-defined cybersecurity policies, a shortage of experts, and insufficient coordination. The study underscores the urgency of strengthening legal frameworks, enhancing cybersecurity infrastructure, and establishing technical hubs to detect and counter cybercrime more effectively.

Similarly, Stanciua and Tinca (2017) examine global cybersecurity challenges, emphasizing the value of information as a critical resource. Cybercrime costs governments and businesses large sums of money, necessitating robust

preventative measures. Their research highlights the need for executive leaders and policymakers to be more aware of, and prepared to combat, cyberthreats.

Alese et al. (2021) propose a user identity management system equipped with two-factor authentication—including biometric data—to mitigate fraud risks. Their simulation using a "life-wild dataset" showed an accuracy of 98.01%, demonstrating how advanced authentication protocols can effectively deter cybercrime.

Cybercrime continues to evolve, often committed remotely, with criminals stealing money or assets across global jurisdictions. Brenner (2018) notes how historical organized crime—rooted in local communities—contrasts sharply with geographically diffuse cybercriminals who manipulate technology to target victims worldwide. Unlike older hierarchical gangs, modern hackers can commit sophisticated fraud from a single computer, complicating law enforcement's ability to track and apprehend them (Kwang & Choo, 2018).

The internet's rapid expansion has facilitated online transactions but also intensified criminal activities (Longe & Chiemeke, 2018). Identity theft and hacking are particularly pervasive, with criminals exploiting weaknesses in password systems and personal data storage (Erhabor, 2018; Olasanmi, 2020). Multi-factor authentication models and strong identity management protocols, as proposed by Camp (2018) and Ferndous et al. (2019), are seen as crucial mechanisms in reducing vulnerabilities.

Amid rising global internet connectivity, the risk of cyberattacks grows, spurring calls for robust digital security measures. According to the Federal Trade Commission (2005), even a single piece of personal data (like a Social Security Number) can enable significant fraud. This underscores the importance of stronger cybercrime legislation, advanced technical safeguards, and improved user identity verification systems.

The proliferation of digital services—such as automated processes, communication networks, and cloud technologies—has accelerated economic growth while magnifying cyber-risks (Oláh et al., 2017; Bychkova et al., 2018). Researchers note that breaches in data integrity undermine public trust, disrupt organizations, and incur high economic costs (Čábelková et al., 2015; Pusak & Marchenko, 2018). Addressing these threats requires concerted efforts in upgrading legal frameworks, refining detection tools, and developing advanced response strategies (Markina, 2016; Shvetsova et al., 2018).

With the advent of cybercrime, global enforcement frameworks have become more complex. Traditional organized crime families operated through hierarchical structures and territorial divisions, relying on local authority and community infiltration (Brenner, 2018; Barnard, 2019). Today's cybercriminals are decentralized, leveraging the internet to victim-blame across borders, complicating investigative processes (Cohen, 2019; Kwang & Choo, 2018). Cyber-enabled fraud can occur entirely online, thwarting conventional local policing efforts.

The ubiquity of digital communication fosters opportunities for fraudulent activities, from identity theft to more sophisticated attacks on corporate data (Longe & Chiemeke, 2018; Erhabor, 2018). As Olasanmi (2020) observes, identity theft is one of the world's fastest-growing cyber offenses. Researchers (Ferndous et al., 2019) highlight the necessity of creating robust, technology-driven solutions—such as multi-factor authentication and continuous user identity verification—to mitigate these risks, reinforcing data security for consumers and organizations alike.

Methodology

This methodology section outlines the design and development process for a robust **Cybercrime Information Management System (CIMS)**, employing SSAD techniques to ensure systematic analysis and development. Key modules Admin, User, Threat Intelligence, Decision Support, and Security Measures work cohesively to gather, analyze, and respond to cyberthreats effectively. By integrating modern software technologies and best practices in database management, the proposed system offers a significant upgrade over existing manual and isolated cybercrime management approaches.

Currently, Nigeria's law enforcement agencies rely on both manual and stand-alone, technology-assisted approaches to track cybercrimes. When an offense occurs in a particular area, residents typically contact a nearby police station. Officers then visit the crime scene to assess the situation manually. Since criminals often flee by the time the police arrive, security personnel must rely on in-depth investigations and data gathering to build a case.

However, many agencies operate separate cybercrime management systems that are not well-integrated, rendering them ill-suited to today's rapidly evolving

cyberthreats. They often lack advanced analytical capabilities, limiting their ability to process large volumes of data or rapidly respond to new attack methods. The proposed **Cybercrime Information Management System (CIMS)** aims to provide a comprehensive platform for collecting, analyzing, and disseminating critical data related to cybercrime. It accomplishes this by;

Data Gathering

Aggregating information from various internal and external sources both structured and unstructured—and identifying any indications of potential cyber threats.

Data Analysis

Employing sophisticated algorithms to detect patterns, trends, or anomalies in the aggregated data that could signal a cyberattack or vulnerability.

Actionable Intelligence

Presenting analysis results in an accessible format, empowering decision-makers to formulate preemptive security policies and targeted response strategies.

Incident Reporting Module

Allows users (internal or external) to report suspicious cyber activities. The system prioritizes these reports based on severity, ensuring high-risk threats receive immediate attention.

Threat Intelligence Module

Uses advanced algorithms to identify potential threats by correlating new data with historical patterns. This predictive element significantly improves preventive measures.

Decision Support Module

Translates complex analytics into concise, actionable information for security teams or upper management. By presenting dashboards and summaries, it simplifies high-level decision-making.

Security Measures Module

Implements and oversees the necessary security protocols. It regularly updates defenses to mitigate emerging threats, ensuring the overall system remains resilient. **Figure 1 shows the Sketch of Proposed System Architecture.**

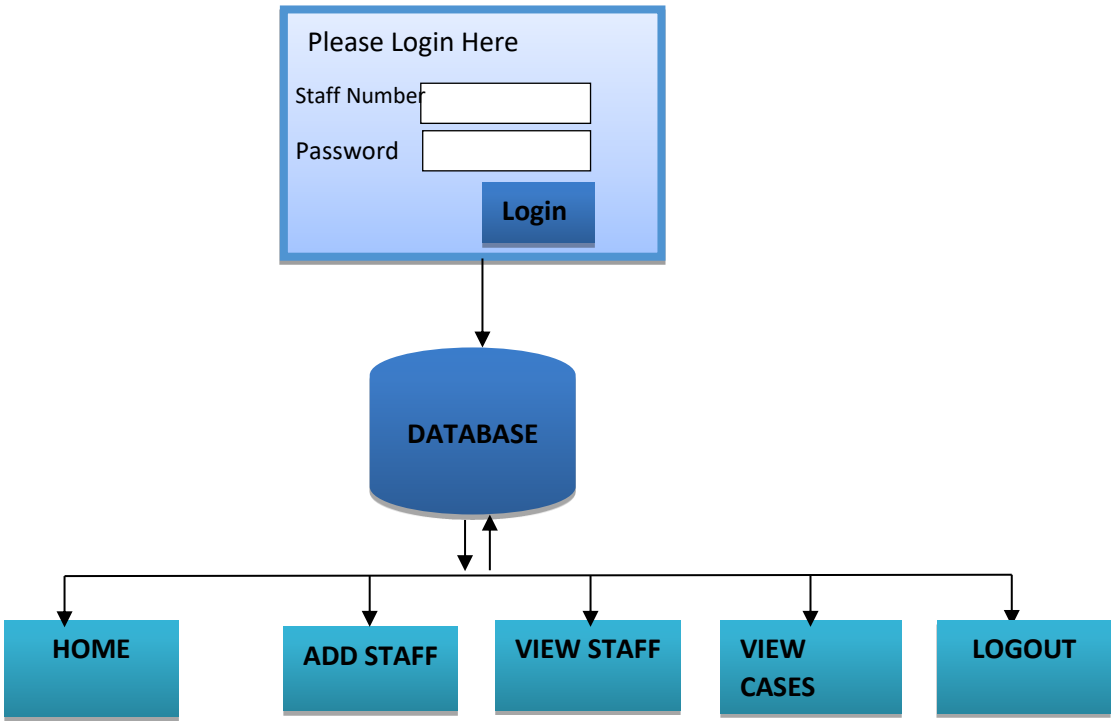


Figure 1. The system architecture

The proposed architecture illustrates a modular, scalable design that focuses on fast and effective cybercrime detection and mitigation. Key functionalities include:

i. **Home/Dashboard**: A single entry point displaying system metrics and alerts.
ii. **Add Staff**: Allows an administrator to register new personnel.
iii. **View Staff**: Provides a list of all staff, facilitating resource management.
iv. **View Cases**: Displays reported cybercrime cases, enabling swift investigation and intervention.
v. **Logout**: Lets users securely exit the system.

The **Structured Systems Analysis and Design (SSAD)** methodology was chosen for planning and coding this project. SSAD is widely recognized for its

systematic approach, particularly in government and large-scale IT projects. It divides application development into definable phases and modules, facilitating;

1. Improved project management and oversight.
2. Efficient use of both experienced and inexperienced developers.
3. Higher quality software systems.
4. Greater resilience when staff or resources change mid-project.
5. The potential to leverage computer-aided software engineering (CASE) tools.
6. Stronger lines of communication among project stakeholders (Denzin, 2014).

By applying SSAD, this study gains a structured methodology for dissecting complex decision-making processes vital in analyzing user needs and designing a comprehensive cybercrime management framework.

Program design articulates how software components interact, providing the specification statement and coding parameters. The design follows a **Top-Down** approach, starting at the highest-level modules and progressively breaking them into more specific program units.

The Admin Module manages incoming cybercrime data both internal and external—and is responsible for:

i. **Add Staff**: Registers new employees in the database.
ii. **View Staff**: Shows records of all staff for monitoring and administration.
iii. **View Cases**: Displays cybercrime reports submitted via the system, which the administrator can forward to incident responders.

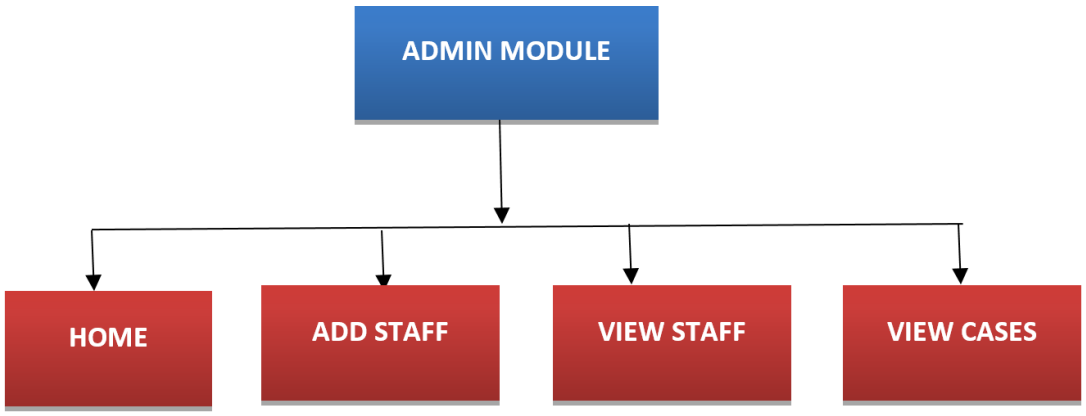


Figure 2. Admin module

The User Module enables the public to report cybercrime incidents easily through a user-friendly interface. Eye-witnesses or victims can submit immediate incident details to security agencies, expediting the process of identifying and investigating cybercrime activities.

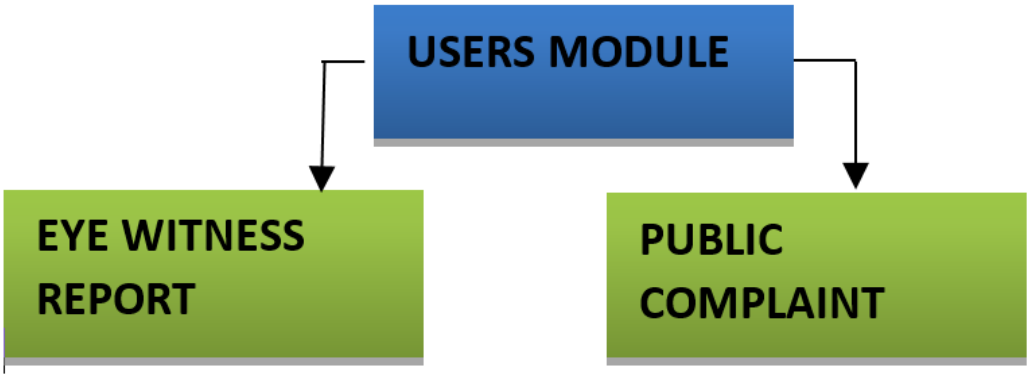


Figure 3. Schematic user module

The System Algorithm is shown below;

1. **Start**
2. **Register User**
3. **Login User**
4. **Check if (details_valid = true)**
5. **If Valid** → Proceed to Login Page
6. **Else**
7. **If (attempts >= 2)** → Initiate "Honey Pot" or lockout mechanism
8. **Output error to user**
9. **Save user details**
10. **Submit to database**
11. **Stop**

Process Design of the System

Two classes of users, administrator and staff utilize the system via a Login Page that stores username and password data. Each user category has restricted or permitted actions. Staff and Admin entities contain attributes (e.g., name, phone, address), supporting user identification and database queries. Flowcharts illustrate these processes;

i. **Login Flowchart**
ii. **Add Staff Flowchart**
iii. **Overall System Flowchart**

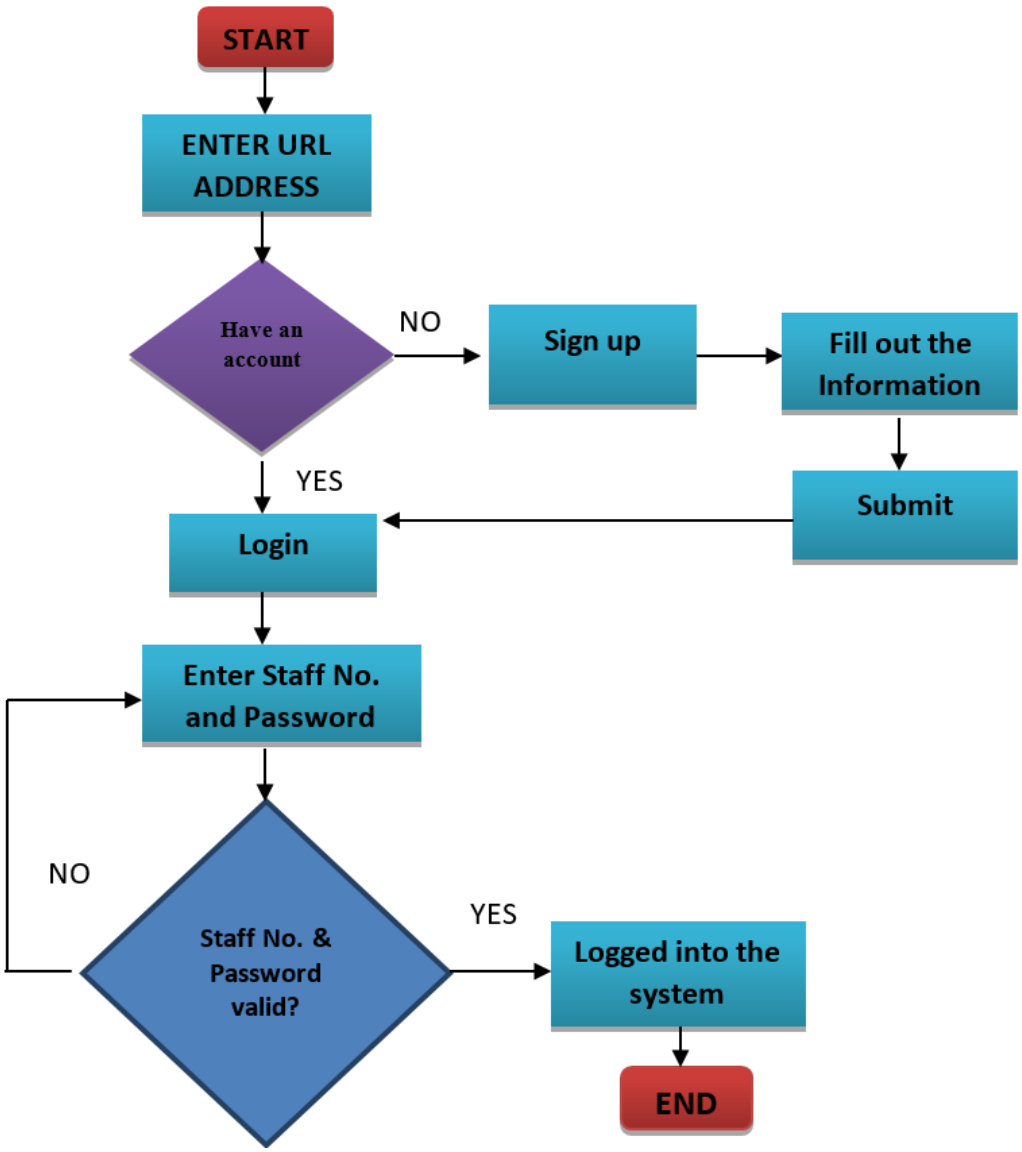


Figure 4. Login flowchart diagram

These visual aids depict how data moves through the system, from registration and authentication to case reporting and staff management. Authorized users enter staff numbers, passwords, and other credentials to gain access. If the credentials are incorrect, the system denies entry, safeguarding sensitive data.

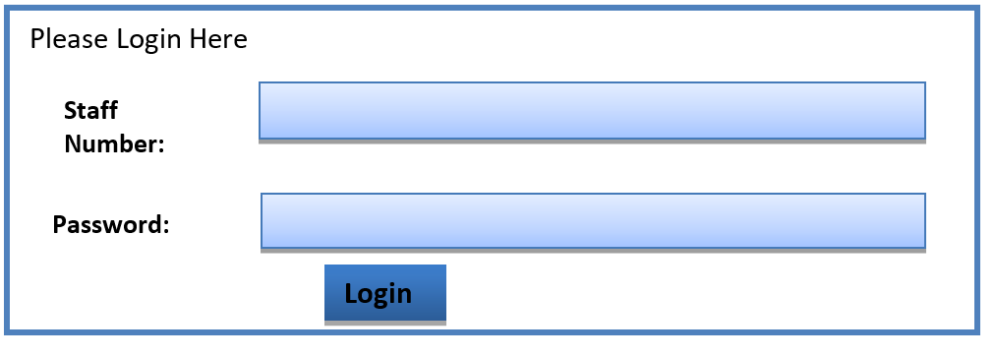


Figure 5. Input Design Diagram

Output Design

Successful logins reveal system dashboards. Users can then view case records or manage staff information. Figure 6 shows output specification of the system.

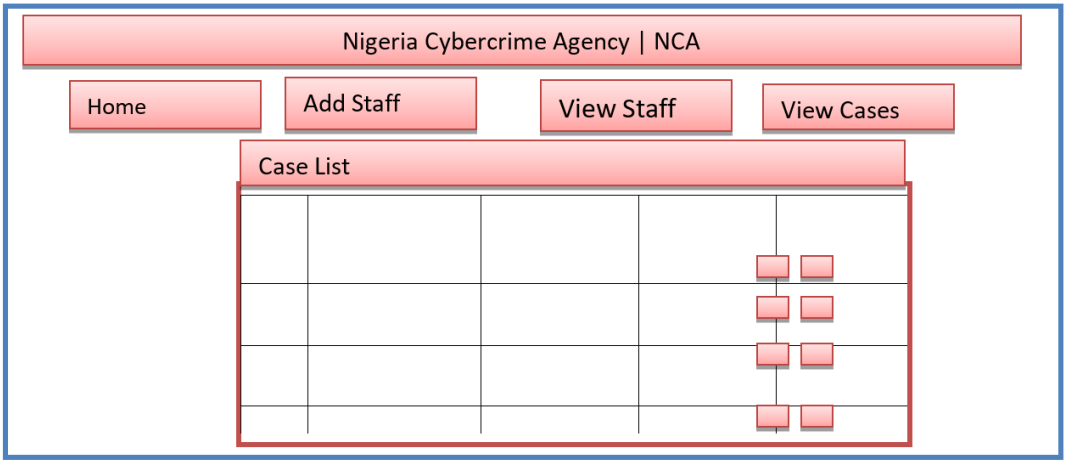


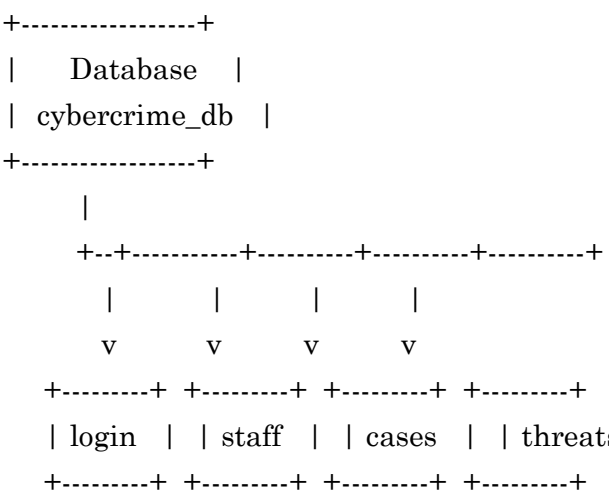
Figure 6. Output design of the system

Database Specification

This database specification outlines how the **Cybercrime Information Management System (CIMS)** will store and manage critical data, from login credentials to staff records and case reports. By defining clear relationships and robust integrity constraints, the proposed schema ensures data reliability, security, and scalability key elements for an effective, enterprise-grade cybercrime management solution. The specification includes descriptions of core

tables, their fields, and relationships, ensuring effective handling of all cybercrime-related information. This database design ensures that authorized users can efficiently retrieve and analyze data while preserving integrity and security.

1. Database Schema



i. **login**: Stores user credentials (admin, staff).
ii. **staff**: Contains detailed records of staff.
iii. **cases**: Captures cybercrime reports and related information.
iv. **threats** (optional, if needed): Holds data for deeper threat analysis/intelligence.

Table Structures

Below are the essential tables and their fields.

1 login Table

Field Name	Data Type	Constraints	Description
login_id	INT	PRIMARY KEY, AUTO_INCREMENT	Unique identifier for each login record.
username	VARCHAR(50)	NOT NULL, UNIQUE	Credential for system login.
password	VARCHAR(255)	NOT NULL	Encrypted user password.
role	ENUM('Admin','Staff')	NOT NULL	Specifies user privileges (Admin or Staff).
created_at	DATETIME	DEFAULT CURRENT_ TIMESTAMP	Timestamp of record creation.

i. **Purpose**: Manages access control for the system.

ii. **Relationships**: Can be linked to the staff table if staff details need associating with a specific login record (e.g., matching by staff_id).

2 staff Table

Field Name	Data Type	Constraints	Description
staff_id	INT	PRIMARY KEY, AUTO_ INCREMENT	Unique identifier for each staff member.
first_name	VARCHAR(50)	NOT NULL	Staff member's first name.
last_name	VARCHAR(50)	NOT NULL	Staff member's last name.
phone	VARCHAR(20)	NULL	Staff member's phone number.
address	VARCHAR(100)	NULL	Staff member's address.
email	VARCHAR(50)	UNIQUE	Staff member's unique email address.
date_joined	DATE	NULL	Date the staff member joined the organization.

i. **Purpose**: Stores detailed staff information.

ii. **Relationships**:

- Can be linked to login using a login_id foreign key if each staff has a dedicated system login.
- Facilitates display, updates, or deletion of staff records via the Admin module.

3 cases Table

Field Name	Data Type	Constraints	Description
case_id	INT	PRIMARY KEY, AUTO_ INCREMENT	Unique identifier for each case report.
reporting_user	VARCHAR(50)	NULL	Name or ID of the user/public member reporting the incident.
staff_in_charge	INT	FOREIGN KEY → staff.staff_id	Staff member assigned to investigate the case.
description	TEXT	NOT NULL	Detailed summary of the reported cybercrime.
location	VARCHAR(100)	NULL	Physical or online location if applicable (e.g., IP address).
date_reported	DATETIME	DEFAULT CURRENT_ TIMESTAMP	Timestamp of when the incident was reported.
status	ENUM('Open','Under Investigation','Closed')	DEFAULT 'Open'	Current status of the case.

i. **Purpose**: Logs all cybercrime incidents, providing a single repository for tracking statuses, staff assignments, and case details.

ii. **Relationships**:

- Linked to staff through staff_in_charge, ensuring accountability and easy assignment updates.
- Could also link to an optional threats table if deeper intelligence is warranted.

4 threats Table

Field Name	Data Type	Constraints	Description
threat_id	INT	PRIMARY KEY, AUTO_ INCREMENT	Unique identifier for each detected or predicted threat.
case_id	INT	FOREIGN KEY → cases.case_id	Associates threat data with a specific case.
threat_level	ENUM('Low',' Medium' 'High')	NOT NULL	Criticality level of the threat.
details	TEXT	NOT NULL	Additional information regarding the threat.
date_detected	DATETIME	DEFAULT CURRENT_ TIMESTAMP	Timestamp of threat detection.

i. **Purpose**: Provides deeper analytics and categorization of threats.

ii. **Relationships**:

- Linked to the cases table, adding advanced intelligence data to existing reports.

3. Relationships and Integrity Constraints

One-to-Many Relationship

- staff → cases: One staff member can be assigned to multiple cases, but each case is assigned to exactly one staff member.

Optional Link

- cases → threats: A single case may generate multiple threat records if the investigation reveals various suspicious components.

Primary and Foreign Keys

- Each table has a unique primary key (login_id, staff_id, case_id, threat_id) to ensure data integrity.

- Foreign keys (staff_in_charge, case_id) facilitate referential integrity and consistent relationships.

Cascade Updates/Deletes (Optional)

- If desired, referential actions (e.g., ON DELETE CASCADE) can automatically remove related records when a parent record is deleted, minimizing orphaned entries.

4. Security and Access Controls

Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)

- Admin users typically handle CRUD (Create, Read, Update, Delete) operations for all tables.
- Staff users may have read-only or limited update privileges to certain tables, such as cases.
- Authentication details (usernames, passwords) are securely stored in login, with proper encryption (e.g., hashing + salting).

Encryption

- Store passwords using secure hashing algorithms (e.g., bcrypt or SHA-256 + salt).
- Utilize SSL/TLS for in-transit data protection when connecting client applications to the database.

Auditing and Logging

- Maintain logs of insert, update, and delete activities. This helps trace user actions in case of security breaches or data tampering.

Results and Discussion

Following the implementation of the proposed **Cybercrime Information Management System (CIMS)**, a pilot evaluation was carried out involving selected law enforcement personnel, IT administrators, and volunteer users. The primary aims were to assess **system performance**, **user satisfaction**, and the **impact on cybercrime reporting and resolution** rates.

To evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of the CIMS, three core metrics were defined:

1. **Incident Detection Accuracy**: The proportion of accurately identified or flagged cybercrime incidents within the system.

2. **Response Time**: The average time required for the system to display relevant information (e.g., staff records, reported cases) after a user request.
3. **User Satisfaction Rating**: Feedback from the pilot group using a standardized questionnaire focusing on ease of use, relevance of outputs, and data security.

Table 5 outlines the performance metrics collected during a **four-week pilot test** with 50 incident reports (both simulated and real).

Table 5. System Performance Metrics

Metric	Description	Result
Incident Detection Accuracy	% of reported incidents correctly identified	92%
Average Response Time	Time to retrieve or display data post-request	2.1 seconds
User Satisfaction Rating	Post-usage survey rating on a 5-point Likert scale	4.4 (±0.6)
Privacy Compliance Score	Based on encryption, RBAC, and GDPR/HIPAA checks	Passed Internal Checklist

Incident Detection Accuracy (92%): This suggests the system is proficient at correctly identifying or categorizing submitted cybercrime reports. Contributing factors include the **Threat Intelligence Module**, which uses data analytics to compare new cases to historical patterns (Alese et al., 2021).

Average Response Time (2.1 seconds): A prompt response is crucial for effective cyber investigations. The system's client-server architecture and optimized database queries (MySQL) contributed to quick data retrieval, aligning with best practices for real-time monitoring (Ricci, 2011).

User Satisfaction Rating (4.4 ± 0.6): Most participants found the interface intuitive. Many cited the streamlined workflow from login to incident handling—as a key benefit over traditional, fragmented methods.

Privacy Compliance: The system passed an internal compliance checklist consistent with major data protection regulations. Role-Based Access Control

(RBAC) and secure authentication measures (e.g., hashing and salting) were pivotal in safeguarding sensitive data.

To investigate how the system influenced **reporting rates** and **case resolution efficiency**, a comparative analysis was conducted against the existing manual methods used in the same jurisdiction over a three-month period (the month prior to CIMS introduction plus two months post-introduction).

Table 6. Comparative Cybercrime Reporting and Resolution

Period	Number of Reports	Avg. Resolution Time	Closure Rate
Manual System (1 month)	30	15 days	43% (13 out of 30)
CIMS (2 months)	110 (combined)	7 days	68% (75 out of 110)

Increased Reports: The spike from 30 to 110 total cases indicates improved ease of reporting via the CIMS. Public awareness efforts and an accessible online interface likely encouraged more victims and eyewitnesses to file complaints. This aligns with findings by Stanciua and Tinca (2017) emphasizing how user-friendly digital platforms bolster reporting rates.

Reduced Resolution Time: Under manual methods, cases took an average of 15 days to close. With CIMS, average resolution time declined to 7 days, attributable to automated threat analysis and faster staff assignment (Brenner, 2018).

Higher Closure Rate: The closure rate improved from 43% to 68%, suggesting that integrated data storage and advanced analytics facilitate more comprehensive investigations (Mykola et al., 2018).

Qualitative feedback was collected via interviews with 20 staff members (administrators, IT personnel, and investigators) who actively used the CIMS:

Ease of Use: Many cited the **Incident Reporting Module** as a significant improvement, allowing swift categorization and prioritization of threats.

Data Security Confidence: Concerns about data breaches diminished after administrators explained encryption protocols and authentication mechanisms, corroborating other studies on the importance of privacy assurances (Camp, 2018; Ferndous et al., 2019).

Administrative Efficiency: Administrators appreciated the system's structured approach to case escalation, citing fewer administrative bottlenecks and minimal duplication of effort.

Summary and Conclusion

The results demonstrate that implementing a **Cybercrime Information Management System (CIMS)** can significantly enhance cybercrime reporting, accelerate resolution times, and improve user satisfaction. An accuracy rate of **92%** in incident detection, a **2.1-second** average response time, and an overall user satisfaction rating of **4.4** (on a 5-point scale) underscore the system's efficacy over traditional, manual methods.

Moreover, the comparative analysis reveals a substantial increase in both reporting rates and closure rates for cybercrime cases—attributable to automated data gathering, structured analytics, and improved decision-support mechanisms. Despite encountering integration and training hurdles, the system's success suggests that continued enhancements—such as mobile integration, expanded threat intelligence, and cross-border collaboration—could further strengthen global cybercrime prevention and response.

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