

Modelling Delay of Road Construction Projects in 'No Funding-Stress' Scenario using Ordinal Logistic Regression Approach

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Abstract

The study examined critical delay causative factors impacting the delivery of road projects in 'no funding stress' scenario and modelled the variables as a procedural step towards capturing and managing their occurrence in such a scenario. The study adopted a quantitative descriptive approach, which was based on a questionnaire survey. A total of thirty-six organisations that were involved in the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) road projects in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria constituted the study population. These were distributed as; 8 client organisations, 13 consulting organisations, and 15 contracting organisations. A total enumeration of the 36 organizations enabled 153 professionals distributed as; 33 quantity surveyors and 120 civil/structural engineers to be sampled. Inferential statistics, rating weighted agreement (RWA), and impact weighting (IW) were employed to isolate the critical factors. Ordinal logistic regression (OLR) was used to model the delay, which was validated using a split-quarter cross-validation method. Twenty-nine critical causative factors were derived with the top three as; mobilization delay, interference by political leader, and high rate of inflation. Ordinary Logistic Regression enabled 11 variables, which had Wald's statistic significant at a p -value ≤ 0.25 to be selected among the 29 critical causative factors for developing a model that predicts project delay quantum in 'no funding stress' scenario. The study provided implications both for project management and government policy development. In the first place, empirical evidence provided is suitable for managing road project delivery in a 'no funding stress' scenario through the development of metrics for improvement of time performance. Most importantly, the study modelled the time variables in this scenario to assist in predicting project delay quantum from inception. The findings also provide implications for government policy response, which would guide the delivery of regional intervention projects. Empirical evidence is provided on road project delivery with special funding intervention that results in a 'no funding stress' scenario. Modelling delay occurrence in such a scenario extends the quantitative approach to the body of knowledge on time performance management in road project delivery.

Keywords: Critical impact factors, delay, Niger Delta Region, ordinal logistic regression, Pareto principle, road construction projects.

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1. Introduction

Road construction is one of the cardinal investments that are meant to bring about growth and development in every nation, as it provides access to many socio-economic activities. Road construction is characterised by complexities in the procedure, which is defined by many stakeholders; the client, project managers, construction professionals, material traders, and users, among others, that are involved (Divya & Ramya, 2015). Mulla and Waghmare (2015) asserted that it is difficult for a road project to be completed within the projected cost, stipulated

and highly developed technologies, the parties' contributions and recurrent client-desired changes, the construction industry's inherent qualms and convolutions in the face of socio-economic and environmental factors in which most projects are executed are making the completion of road projects within the planned time a complicated task to achieve (Mulla & Waghmare, 2015). Consequently, the issue of construction delay has assumed a grave disquiet to the participants in the construction environment. Shahid *et al.* (2015) established that delays are the major sources of disputes confronting the construction industry. The level of delays and how the causative factors influence project performance are becoming frightening and disturbing, thus demanding a pragmatic investigation.

Delays in road construction projects remain a major object of disapproval in the construction industry such that scholars' attention has been drawn to it from different parts of the world such as Hong Kong, Jordan, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia and Thailand (Al-Kharashi & Skitmore, 2009; Al-Momani, 2000; Simon, 2017). Opinions from researchers reveal similarities and dissimilarities as to what constitutes the root causes and effects of delay

depending on location and execution time. Meanwhile, several attempts by construction professionals and researchers to tackle the causes and effects of delay in road projects have not yielded sufficient positive results in developing countries. Emerging facts revealed that recent technology and improved expertise have not been able to prevent delay of road construction projects, so completion dates still suffer setbacks (Ekanem, 2019).

This study attempts to study delay in a special scenario where time performance is influenced by factors other than funding, described as '*no funding stress*' scenario in this study, using a case study of Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) road projects. The Federal Government established the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) in response to the agitations from the Niger Delta region of Nigeria due mainly to environmental degradation ensuing from oil exploration activities in the area. Despite the region's highest contributions to Nigeria's wealth, the development of road projects in the region remain very stunted (Aybu, 2005; Jike, 2005). The logic of recurrent agitations, hostility, and militia movements originate from the persistent deprivation of people in the region in terms of infrastructural development. Moreover, during various constitutional conferences before 1960, when Britain officially approved Nigeria's independence, the Niger Delta region was recognised as an area for special development. The Nigerian constitution, at that time, spelt out 50% of the royalty resulting from oil and gas exploration to the region where the oil was drilled. This was the principle standard approved after the Nigerian civil war (1967-1970). Upon the establishment of NDDC, several road projects were commissioned to address under-developmental challenges in the region. These projects were funded by 13% of Nigeria's federation account, which provided surplus funding for road projects in the region (Dafinone, 2007).

Despite the huge capital available to road projects, through the NDDC, many road projects that were awarded since 2000 have not achieved acceptable performance as most of the contracts are either not commenced, partially completed, or in some cases, were totally abandoned (Isidiho & Sabran, 2015). This situation raises the questions of characteristics of regional intervention road projects in '*no funding stress*' scenario, most especially, what is the level of delay in this scenario? What are the factors influencing the delay of road projects in the '*no funding stress*' scenario? How does delay impact on completion time in this type of scenario? With virtually no empirical evidence of the management of delay of road projects in this scenario in the Nigerian construction industry, this study aims to evaluate road project delivery in '*no funding stress*' special intervention scenario with a view to developing metrics for time performance of road projects.

The study is expected to provide implications for the execution of special regional intervention road projects, especially in the construction industry, with similar socio-political, environmental, and economic climates to the Niger Delta region. Most importantly, the study attempts to model the time variables in this scenario that could assist in predicting possible delay occurrence and install adequate planning techniques at the project inception. The overall findings of the study are expected to provide implications for policy response, which would guide the delivery of regional intervention projects.

2. Theoretical and Literature Review

Delay as a product of poor performance of a construction project's time objective has attracted many studies (Al-Kharashi and Skitmore, 2009; Al-Momani, 2000). According to Enshassi, Mohamed and Abushaban (2009), delay in the completion of construction projects remains an area of criticism in the global context. Delay, essentially can be viewed as the time lag between the final and initial completion time prescribed at the commencement of construction work. Shahsavand *et al.* (2018) described delay in construction as the extra plan performed either beyond completion date specified or beyond the date that was agreed by the parties in the signed document for delivery of the project. The assertion of Sunjka and Jacob (2013) that construction delay is an occurrence that is universal in the life of every project with the levels and causative factors differing from project to project and from region to region suggests a possible variation of causative delay factors in different region context.

Findings of earlier studies have revealed similarities and dissimilarities as to what constitutes the root causes of delay and their effects depending on location and execution time. Meanwhile, existing studies on the causes and effects of delay of road projects appeared not to have yielded sufficient positive results in developing countries. Even with recent technology, and managerial techniques, road projects still suffer from delay, and completion dates get pushed forward (Aibinu & Odeyinka, 2006). Kikwasi (2012), for example, opined that delays occur in road construction projects as a result of the parties involved regarding road projects merely as linear and straight-line projects with no adequate planning attached at the inception. The work of Assaf and Al-Hajji (2006) revealed that about 70% of road construction projects experienced averagely 10% -30% of the time overrun of the original contract duration. Similar assessment by Opawole (2015) on project time performance using institutional building projects in selected Nigerian Universities as a case study revealed time overrun ranging from 27-333% as a result of insufficient cash flows. However, the findings of these studies may not be generalised based on two major reasons. Firstly, Opawole (2015) focused essentially on building projects while Assaf and Al-Hajji (2006) captured

only contractors', consultants', and clients' perceptions, excluding other stakeholders' views. Secondly, environmental conditions that are highly significant in NDDC road projects may limit the comparison of the level of delay in the two cases and most of the earlier studies to the road projects in the Niger Delta region.

Sambasivan and Soon (2007) revealed inadequate planning, inadequate managerial skills, cash flow problem, shortage in materials, shortage of labour supply, unavailability of equipment and failure on its delivery to site, lack of communication among the parties, and mistakes during the construction stage as significant causative factors of delay in the construction industry in Malaysia. The finding also identified major effects as a result of delays such as; cost overrun, disputes, lawsuit, and total desertion of the project. Haseeb, Xinhai-Lu, Bibi, Maloofud and Rabbani (2011) highlighted the factors contributing to delay to include; natural tragedy, monetary problems, inadequate preparation, ineffective management on site, inexperienced personnel, poor method of procurement, and environmental nuisance. Kikwasi (2012) opined that delays occur in road construction projects as a result of the parties involved regarding road projects merely as linear and straight-line projects with no adequate planning attached at the inception. In Abdullah (2013), in-house administration problems, delayed payment for completed works, poor communication networks among construction teams, and slow decision-making were identified as the key delay causative factors. Mwawasi (2015) identified alteration in the scope of work, inconsistencies in the bill of quantities and design document, delay of payment for completed works, lack of monitoring and supervision, fluctuations in materials prices, and unpredictable weather as the major delay factors. Meanwhile, in the assessment of contractors' and consultants' perceptions of delay in construction projects in Pakistan, Zafrullah (2016) identified the delay causative factors as; subcontractors' delay and change of orders by clients during project execution, in addition to those earlier identified by Mwawasi (2015). Funding for road development in the Niger Delta communities presents a model for studying delay causative factors in typical '*no funding stress*' scenario. This is because the capital allocation of 13% intervention from Nigeria's federation account is available to the region for infrastructure development (Dafinone, 2007). Practical evidence of the management of delay in this scenario in project delivery seems not readily available. This has made it impossible to develop acceptable metrics for time performance in such a scenario. Alphonsus and Mohammed (2015) opined that the performance of project objectives in NDDC road projects is generating a negative impact on socio-economic activities in the region. The delivery of road projects in Niger Delta has been observed with peculiarities regarding the climatic condition, socio-political and economic problems Odesola (2012).

Empirical shreds of evidence are not readily available on time performance of road projects characterized by such special regional projects with almost '*no funding stress*' scenario. The '*no funding stress*' of NDDC road projects is indicated by the 13% intervention from Nigeria's federation account, which provided surplus funding for road projects in the Niger Delta region (Dafinone, 2007). This does not, however, preclude the influence of bureaucratic bottlenecks and corrupt practices associated with the release of funds in the delivery of the projects. This study has become imperative to provide implications for the development of acceptable metrics for their time performance. Moreover, knowledge of the level of delay, as well as their relative impact on final contract duration, would be valuable in modelling the time variables in this scenario that could assist in predicting possible delay occurrence and install adequate planning technique at the project inception.

3. Methodology

The study adopted a quantitative descriptive approach, which was based on a questionnaire survey. A total of thirty-six firms/organisations that were involved in the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) road projects in Nigeria constituted the study population. These organisations were distributed as; 8 client organisations, 13 consulting organisations, and 15 contracting organisations. A total enumeration of the 36 organizations enabled 153 professionals represented by the organisations as; 33 quantity surveyors and 120 civil/structural engineers to be sampled. Leedy and Ormord (2010) had considered a total enumeration of a study population as appropriate for a unit of analysis that is less than one hundred (100). The survey was carried out with the aid of a structured questionnaire since the study was based on an exploration of the perceptions of respondents on variables that are mostly measured in the ordinal scale. According to Kothari (2004), a closed-ended structured questionnaire are easy to answer and relatively quick to analyze. The questionnaire was segmented into two parts (A and B). Section A elicited information about the respondent's profile, such as; the academic qualifications and professional affiliations, and to enhance the reliability of the derived data. Section B sourced data on the specific purpose of the study. Five-point Likert scale ratings of 1 to 5 were assigned to the respondent's ratings of the variables, with 1 and 5 interpreted as lowest and highest point, respectively. The criterion-related reliability test of the questionnaire was measured using Cronbach's alpha. The coefficient was satisfactory at $0.886 \leq \alpha \leq 0.969$, for the factors. Hair, Anderson, Tatham and Black (2006) had postulated a lower limit of 0.6 as satisfactory to consider a research instrument as reliable.

To determine the factors with critical impact on delay, the analysis was carried out using inter-rater agreement (IRA) scoring, as indicated in Equation 1. Estimates of IRA were used mainly to verify whether rating provided by a respondent is interchangeable or equivalent in complete terms, meaning that IRA is a perfectly reasonable technique for estimating raters' similarity. IRA represented by **RWG** (rating weighted agreement) was calculated using Equations 1 and 2 as presented by LeBreton and Senter (2008):

$$RWG = 1 - \frac{S_x^2}{\sigma_E^2} \quad (1)$$

where:

S_x^2 = the observed variance on the variable X;
 σ_E^2 = the variance expected when there is a complete lack of agreement among the judges; and

$$\sigma_E^2 = \frac{A^2 - 1}{12} \quad (2)$$

where:

A = number of response option in the scale;
 S_x^2 = the observed variance.

Inter-rater analysis is interpreted based on LeBreton and Senter (2008) which denoted 0.00 - 0.30 = lack of agreement; 0.31 - 0.50 = weak agreement; 0.51 - 0.70 = moderate agreement; 0.71 - 0.90 = strong agreement; and 0.91 - 1.00 = very strong agreement. The IRA is different from other critical index parameters in exploring consensus using the variance in respondents' judgment rather than mean score seen in others. In the second part of the analysis, establishing the degree of impact of each of the variables of the delay was done using the impact weighting (IW) method. According to Opawole and Jagboro (2016), the scale enabled the transformation of impacts of different variables of data into relative indices of the variable used by using numerical scores. The impact weighting formula was derived from the modification of relative importance index (RII) formula as presented in Equation 3, while the modified expression for deriving relative impact index of the individual variable is presented in Equation 4. The interpretation of the impact weighting (IW) is in percentages.

$$IW = \frac{RI_{mI}}{\sum_i^n RI_{mI}} \quad (3)$$

where:

IW = Impact Weighting;
 RI_{mI} = Relative Impact Index of individual variable; and

$$RI_{mI} = \frac{\sum_1^5 n_i k_i}{N * Rh} \quad (4)$$

where:

n_i = number of respondents choosing k_i ;
 k_i = constants 1-5 (on Likert scale) with 1 = lowest and 5 = highest;
 N = Total number of questionnaires collected or analysed; and
 Rh = the highest value in rating order.

For the purpose of modeling the delay in road projects (the dependent variable of the study), the ordered ratings of the respondents to the factors impacting the level of delay in road projects were employed. The question "please tick (✓) as appropriate, based on your experience, the level of impact of the following factors on the delay of road projects procured by NDDC" formed the dependent variable. The five possible answers were; very little, little, moderate, long, and very long. Due to the type of answers to the question used as dependent variables, the choice of the econometric model adopted was the ordinal logistic regression or logit (Silva & Nobre, 2018), given the fact that conventional estimation techniques (e.g., multiple regression analysis) in this context of a discrete dependent variable are not a valid option. On the one hand, the assumptions needed for hypothesis testing in conventional regression analysis are violated (it is unreasonable to assume, for instance, that the distribution of errors is normal). Moreover, many determinants can influence the delay of road projects that other conventional approaches could represent because some values cannot be converted into probabilities, which means they cannot be expressed in an interval between 1 and 5. Thus, the delay of road construction projects was estimated according to the logistic regression in Equation 5

$$P(\text{Delay}) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\alpha + \beta x)}} \quad (5)$$

where:

- P = Probability of delay in completion;
- α = Constant value in the categories;
- β = Variable coefficient;
- x = Variable (independent) value.

4. Results and Discussion of Findings

One hundred and thirty-eight (138) copies out of a total of 153 copies of the questionnaire administered were returned. Out of the 138 copies returned, 21 were rejected, as they were not correctly completed. The 117 (76.47%) valid copies, which were adequately filled, provided quantitative data for this study. Analyses were run based on the objectives of the study, and the results were presented accordingly.

4.1 Determination of Critical Factor of Delay in Road Construction Projects

The critical factors of delay in road projects were spotted with the use of inter-rater formula as expressed in Equations 1 and 2. The result, representing only the critical ones, of the descriptive analysis, is presented in Table 1, while the entire result is presented in Appendix 3. Interpretation is according to LeBreton and Senter (2008), as earlier discussed in this study. At the end of the analysis, only 29 variables were derived as critical ones based on the interpretation rule of $0.51 \leq x \leq 1$ for moderate agreement and above. Kulemeka, Kululanga, and Morton (2015) observed that attempting to manage all identified important/significant variables simultaneously and giving them all equal attention is virtually impossible. However, by adopting the Pareto rule of separating out the important few from the trivial many to focus attention on the key variables, success is more likely. Therefore, the analysis of the critical factors was expected to identify the most significant variables that will adequately define or describe the causes of delay in road construction projects with respect to Pareto's principle. The Pareto principle (also known as the 80–20 rule) states that, for many events, roughly 80% of the effects come from 20% of the causes. Concomitantly, the number of variables derived could be explained by the Pareto principles, meaning that roughly 80% of the causes of delay could emanate from about 20%, which most likely are to be the critical ones. In this view, the twenty-nine (29) variables represent about 22.14% of 131 identified factors that can impact on delay, which has fulfilled the Pareto principle, can adequately define the causes of delay in road construction projects in the study area.

Table 1: Critical Factors of Delay in Road Construction Project

Delay Factors Impacting on Project Performance	Sum	Mean	SD	Var	RWG	Decision
Late procurement of materials	381	3.256	0.82162	0.675	0.66	MA
Irregular attendant at site meeting	324	2.769	0.87479	0.765	0.62	MA
Shortage of construction materials on site	312	2.667	0.90019	0.810	0.59	MA
Late identification of errors and omissions in contract document	340	2.906	0.91898	0.845	0.58	MA
Non-compliance to contract conditions	362	3.094	0.92832	0.862	0.57	MA
Under estimation of materials	301	2.573	0.93141	0.868	0.57	MA
Late drawing and specification delivery	316	2.701	0.94015	0.884	0.56	MA
Inadequate feasibilities study	345	2.949	0.95454	0.911	0.54	MA
Fluctuation in price of materials	420	3.589	0.95731	0.916	0.54	MA
Interference by political leader (Government interest)	454	3.880	0.95739	0.917	0.54	MA
Incompetent technical staff	327	2.795	0.96077	0.923	0.54	MA
Unavailability of special equipment for special work	305	2.607	0.96452	0.930	0.53	MA
Change in government regulation and market condition	399	3.410	0.96627	0.934	0.53	MA
Incompetent foreman	321	2.744	0.96627	0.934	0.53	MA
Poor materials management on site	301	2.573	0.96772	0.936	0.53	MA
Lack of training of workers	318	2.718	0.97243	0.946	0.53	MA
Mobilization delay	478	4.085	0.97885	0.958	0.52	MA
Lack of skilled and unskilled site manpower	323	2.761	0.97953	0.959	0.52	MA
Lateness to work by workers	273	2.333	0.98261	0.966	0.52	MA
Change orders from client	328	2.803	0.98470	0.970	0.52	MA
Rework due to changes ordered by the client or consultant.	341	2.915	0.98762	0.975	0.51	MA
Lack of incentive to motivate work force	324	2.769	0.99468	0.989	0.51	MA
Low quality/ standard of material supply	327	2.795	0.99601	0.992	0.51	MA
Poor handing of materials	308	2.633	0.99653	0.993	0.51	MA
Delay by sub-contractor's work	330	2.821	0.99668	0.993	0.51	MA
High rate of inflation	447	3.821	0.99668	0.993	0.51	MA

Slow decision making	326	2.786	0.99985	0.995	0.51	MA
Poor coordination of contract information	325	2.778	0.99986	0.995	0.51	MA
Improper contract packaging/delivery	331	2.829	0.99988	0.997	0.51	MA

MA = Moderate Agreement, RWG = Rated Weighting; SD = Std. Deviation; Var = Variance

Having obtained the critical factors from inter-rater analysis, progress was made to evaluate their impact on delay using impact weighting (IW) analysis, as expressed in Equation 3. The relative impact indexes (RLmI) of the individual variables were derived with the use of the expression in Equation 4. The result of the evaluation, in percentage, is presented in Table 2.

The first five factors with the highest critical impact include mobilisation delay, interference by political leader (government interest), high rate of inflation, fluctuation in the price of materials and change in government regulation and market conditions with IW of 4.833%, 4.590%, 4.519%, 4.246%, and 4.034%, respectively. The study revealed that 4.833% of delay experienced in road construction projects is due to mobilisation. Meaning that delay in the mobilisation of a contractor to the site can have a significant influence on timely completion. Delay accruing from the mobilisation of a contractor may be attributed to bureaucratic bottleneck and misapplication/misappropriation of project funds. Mobilisation delay can prolong project duration, thereby resulting in poor time performance. Interference by political leaders is the second most critical factor that accounted for a 4.590% impact on delay in the study area. NDDC road construction projects suffered delay and timely completion as a result of the political leaders' personal interest, which is responsible for this factor, becoming a critical one. A high rate of inflation is responsible for 4.519% of delay. Fluctuation in prices of materials is another influential factor impacting on timely completion of road projects with 4.246% impact weighting. Both high rates of inflation fluctuation were significant to the contractors' organisations because most of the projects were not driven with adequate political will from the government. The factors were, however, not significant to government funding as the 13% crude oil sale derivative is on standby for the project financing.

Table 2: Impact Weightings of Critical Factors of Delaying Road Project

Factors Impacting on Time Performance	RLmI	IW	%Impact
Mobilization delay	0.817	0.048	4.80
Interference by political leader (Government interest)	0.776	0.046	4.60
High rate of inflation	0.764	0.045	4.50
Fluctuation in price of materials	0.718	0.042	4.20
Change in government regulation and market conditions	0.682	0.040	4.00
Noncompliance to contract conditions	0.619	0.037	3.70
Inadequate feasibilities study	0.590	0.035	3.50
Rework due to changes ordered by the client or consultant.	0.583	0.034	3.40
Late identification of errors and omissions in contract document	0.581	0.034	3.40
Improper contract packaging/delivery	0.566	0.033	3.30
Delay by sub-contractor's work	0.564	0.033	3.30
Change orders from client	0.561	0.033	3.30
Low quality/ standard of material supply	0.559	0.033	3.30
Incompetent technical staff	0.559	0.033	3.30
Slow decision making	0.557	0.033	3.30
Poor coordination of contract information	0.556	0.033	3.30
Lack of incentive to motivate the workforce	0.554	0.033	3.30
Irregular attendant at site meeting	0.554	0.033	3.30
Lack of skilled and unskilled site manpower	0.552	0.033	3.30
Incompetent foreman	0.549	0.032	3.20
Lack of training of workers	0.544	0.032	3.20
Late drawing and specification delivery	0.540	0.032	3.20
Shortage of construction materials on site	0.533	0.032	3.20
Poor handily of materials	0.526	0.031	3.10
Unavailability of special equipment for special work	0.521	0.031	3.10
Poor materials management on site	0.515	0.030	3.00
Under estimation of materials	0.515	0.030	3.00
Frequent site accident due to lack of health and safety measures	0.487	0.029	2.90
Lateness to work by workers	0.467	0.028	2.80

These findings agreed with earlier studies like Thika, Elinwa and Buba (1994) and Stephen (2014). For example,

Stephen (2014) revealed late procurement and delivery of materials to the site as a factor influencing the timely completion of power and lighting project in Thika. Elinwa and Buba (1994) had also indicated that fluctuation in materials prices and fraudulent practice among stakeholders are significant causes of delay that impact time performance in road construction projects. The analysis also showed that change in government regulation and market conditions with a 4.06% weighted impact as one of the most influential factors of delay that can have an impact on the execution of road construction projects in the study area. Other factors include none compliance to contract conditions with IW of 3.660%, inadequate feasibility study (IW = 3.488%), and rework due to changes ordered by client or consultant with IW = 3.448%. These factors revealed that, if properly managed during the execution of road construction projects, reduction in delay can be achieved.

Factors that have the least impact include frequent site accidents due to lack of health and safety measure and lateness to work by workers with IW of 2.881% and 2.760%, respectively. The critical factors identified explain to a greater extent, the undue delay or total abandonment of some road projects in the study area.

4.2 Variables Selected for the Model Development

As in all functional models, logical representations of the dependent and independent variables must be available. For this study, the selection of the parameters to be used in the model development is based on the available project data and the significant relationship among the independent and the dependent variables. In addition, since the intention of the model is not only for the identification and explanation of the parameters affecting delay in road projects but also for use in estimating the delay, the quantitative characteristics or measurability of the values of the variables; availability with reasonable accuracy in the early project stages when conceptual delay estimation is required. The data were derived from selected States of the Niger Delta region in Nigeria, for the road projects procured by NDDC between 2007 and 2016. However, their distributions are not even, with most projects concentrated in some states. Due to this unevenness in distribution, and the very limited representations of the data for most states and year, the time and location influences on the road project data were accounted for and adjusted for through the data normalisation process in the course of developing the model.

The independent variables considered appropriate for this study are; length of the road (LR), initial project Duration (IPD), and the associated critical factors. These road construction process parameters selected are quantitative measures that are well established with precise definition. These parameters are also usually the first few parameters identified for road construction projects with a significant effect on time performance. The delay (time overrun) of the project is the dependent variable for the model, which is designated P(Y).

4.3 Ordinal Logistic Regression

Ordinal logistic regression models determine the probability of an observation fall into a specific group when there are two or more ordered levels of the dependent variable. A specific mathematical tool for developing a model that relates the final duration to the initial duration (delay), magnitude of the road projects (road length), and the causal factors of delay is required. Hence, logistic regression techniques and terminologies associated with them are presented in this section. The logistic regression technique was employed to fit the road project delay in this study. Logistic regression techniques have been used to model probabilistic systems to predict future events (Harrell, 2011) if p is the probability that a binary response variable $Y = 1$ when the input variable $X = x$, then the logistic response function is modelled as presented in Equation 6.

$$p = P(Y = 1|X = x) = \frac{e^{\beta_1 + \beta_0 x}}{1 + e^{\beta_1 + \beta_0 x}} \quad (6)$$

This function represents an s-shaped curve and is non-linear. Here, β is the coefficient of the predictor or input variable x used in a regression equation. In Ordinal Logistic Regression (OLR), the response variable can contain more than two ordered levels. The interest may be to decide the likelihood that the response will be one of these levels. When there are three or more ordered categories of the response variable, the ordinal logistic regression (OLR) method is used for modelling (Chatterjee & Hadi, 2006). The dichotomous dependent variable in binary logistic regression has two levels, 0 and 1, but the ordinal response variable has three or more distinct levels increasing in magnitude. An ordered logit model has the form of Equation 7, 8, and 9.

$$\log\left(\frac{p_1}{1 + p_1}\right) = \alpha_k + \beta'X \quad (7)$$

$$\log\left(\frac{p_1 + p_2}{1 - p_1 - p_2}\right) = \alpha_k + \beta'X \quad (8)$$

$$\log \left(\frac{p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_k}{1 - p_1 - p_2 - \dots - p_k} \right) = \alpha_k + \beta'X \quad (9)$$

OLR is a logistic regression technique that fits two or more regression curves simultaneously. The equation series above, for example, indicates the odds of belonging to the group represented by $Y = 1$ against belonging to the groups represented by $Y = 2$ to k . The numbers of equations modelled in this series are the number of ordered categories minus one. If Y has three ordered levels, then the number of equations modelled are 2). Each of such equations represents its own logit model, and hence the individual equations are called logits. The sum of the probabilities from P_1 to P_k is 1; hence, the OLR model's cumulative probability. One crucial assumption in modelling with OLR is that the relationship between independent variables and logits is the same for all the equations in the series (Norusis, 2008). The assumption implies that the coefficients of the independent variables will not vary significantly. Hence, the variable coefficients β in all the equations in the series are the same. However, each equation has a different constant term α_k .

According to Wiryanto (2018), in OLR analysis, the researchers may have reason(s) to believe that the "distances" between the points of the dependent variable are not equal. For example, the "distance" between "unlikely" and "somewhat likely" may be shorter than the distance between "somewhat likely" and "very likely." It is worthy of note that the intervals for scaling the ordered level of the delay as the dependent variable are not equal. Therefore, this study, in consonance with the suggestion of Wiryanto (2018); scaled the interval for rating delay as; very little, little, moderate, long, and very long, representing 0-5%, 6-20%; 21-40%; 41-75% and >75% delay respectively. This was based on several studies revealing that delay, especially in developing countries, is almost like a recurring decimal of every construction project (Aibinu & Odeyinka, 2006).

For ordinal regression, the regression coefficients are assumed to be the same for all logits. The test for parallelism checks this assumption. The null hypothesis here is that the coefficients of the variables are the same across all response categories. A high significance value ($p > 0.05$) indicates that the null hypothesis cannot be rejected. These tests have been used in SPSS logistic regression procedures for checking model goodness of fit and validating model assumptions; therefore, it is adopted by this study. Wald's statistic checks how well each predictor contributes to the model individually. Hence, a statistically significant Wald's statistic for a variable indicates that it should be retained in the model. The analysis was conducted with Wald's statistic significant p-value fixed at 0.25. This was based on some previous studies (Mickey & Greenland, Kavade, 1989; Bendel & Afifi, 1977), which suggest the adjustment of Wald's statistic significant p-value to 0.25 to enhance the model by capturing almost all the significant variables.

4.4 Model Fit Indices

The final model is compared against the baseline to see whether it has significantly improved the fit to the data. The statistically significant chi-square statistic ($p \leq 0.05$) indicates that the Final model gives a significant improvement over the baseline intercept-only model. This implies that the model gives better predictions than just guessing based on the marginal probabilities for the outcome categories. Chi-square (χ^2) tests the null hypothesis that the coefficients of the variables in the model are zero. Hence, if χ^2 is statistically significant ($p < 0.05$), the null hypothesis is rejected. Rejecting the null hypothesis means that the variables enable the model to make better predictions than the model without variables. Pearson's statistic (X^2) is used along with deviance as an indication of goodness-of-fit. Both values should be small, and the significance values large. The large significance value ($p > 0.05$) indicates that the null hypothesis is rejected, and the model is a good fit (Norusis, 2008).

There are three pseudo-R-squared values generated by OLR analysis (Cox and Snell R^2 , Nagelkerke R^2 and McFadden R^2). Logistic regression does not have an equivalent to the R-squared that is found in Ordinal Least Square (OLS) regression. Statistical Regression Method in Education (2016) advised that in ordinal logistic regression, the measures of association such as the pseudo R^2 are a better method of indexing the goodness of fit than relying on the chi-square significance value, especially when the sample size is large. Hence, this study used the Nagelkerke's *Pseudo R-Square* value to explain the proportion of variance in the outcome that can be accounted for by the explanatory variables.

4.5 The Model

The initial model included the entire contributing variables (evaluated in Table 1), the 29 critical impact factors, and the two ratios scaled variables (road length and initial project duration). At first, the model was compared against the baseline to observe whether it has significantly improved the fit to the data. The statistically significant chi-square statistic ($p = 0.043 < 0.05$ in Table 3) indicates that the initial model gives a significant improvement over the baseline intercept-only model. This implies that the model predicts better than just guessing based on the marginal probabilities for the outcome categories.

The first leg of OLR was run in order to reduce the 31 variables to the number that is most significant and suitable for the model. It is worthwhile explaining the information extracted, as presented in Table 3. The *Model Fitting Information* gives hints about determining whether the model improves the ability to predict the outcome. This is done by comparing a model without any explanatory variables (the baseline or 'Intercept Only' model) against the model with all the explanatory variables (the 'Final' model) on the basis of the significant value of the chi-square ($p \leq 0.05$ for this study). Although, the model did pass the test of parallel lines ($p = 0.246 > 0.05$), which determines if the coefficients of the variables are the same for all logits in the ordinal logistic regression model as presented in Table 4, some of the variables' Wald's statistic significant values were above the targeted value of 0.25. Therefore, the variables which did not contribute significantly towards the prediction of the model were eliminated from further analysis.

Table 3: Delay Model Fitting Information

Model	-2 Log Likelihood	Chi-Square	Df	Sig.
Intercept Only	334.545			
Final	283.974	50.571	35	0.043

Link function: Logit.

Table 4: Initial Delay Model Test of Parallel Lines

Model	-2 Log Likelihood	Chi-Square	Df	Sig.
Null Hypothesis	283.974			
General	169.394 ^a	114.580 ^b	105	0.246

The null hypothesis states that the location parameters (slope coefficients) are the same across response categories.

a. The log-likelihood value cannot be further increased after maximum number of step-halving.

b. The Chi-Square statistic is computed based on the log-likelihood value of the last iteration of the general model. Validity of the test is uncertain.

c. Link function: Logit.

The remaining variables were selected for fitting in further models. The variables that had their Wald's statistic significant at a p -value ≤ 0.25 were selected for fitting in the next model. The procedure continued until all constants and variables had a significant Wald's statistic. The final model for predicting delay in a road construction project has eleven independent variables that are significant, as shown in Table 5. The delay model was developed based on the eleven significant variables with the model fitting information of 324.030 of 2Log likelihood, chi-square of 41.19, and the significance level of 0.000, indicating the fitness and suitability of the variables to the model as presented in Table 6.

Table 5: Final Model for Delay Parameter Estimates

	Variable ID	Estimate	Std.	Wald	Df	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
			Error				Lower Bound	Upper Bound
Threshold (Dependent Variable)	[DL = 1,00]	-6.024	1.881	10.252	1	.001	-9.712	-2.337
	[DL = 2,00]	-4.484	1.848	5.888	1	.015	-8.105	-.862
	[DL = 3,00]	-2.854	1.820	2.460	1	.117	-6.420	.712
	[DL = 4,00]	-.502	1.802	.077	1	.781	-4.034	3.030
Independent Variable	F5	.408	.230	3.144	1	.076	-.043	.860
	F18	-.361	.226	2.554	1	.110	-.803	.082
	F37	.699	.280	6.234	1	.013	.150	1.248
	F38	.555	.278	3.985	1	.046	.010	1.100
	F47	.843	.281	9.015	1	.003	.293	1.393
	F54	-.507	.258	3.868	1	.049	-1.013	-.002
	F61	-.370	.211	3.069	1	.080	-.785	.044
	F66	-.929	.265	12.249	1	.000	-1.449	-.409
	F73	-.388	.196	3.933	1	.047	-.771	-.005
	F117	-.425	.267	2.526	1	.112	-.949	.099
	RL	-.388	.175	4.895	1	.027	-.732	-.044

Link function: Logit.

a. This parameter is set to zero because it is redundant.

Table 6: Final Model Fitting Information for Delay

Model	-2 Log Likelihood	Chi-Square	Df	Sig.
Intercept Only	324.030			
Final	282.842	41.187	15	0.000

Link function: Logit.

The variables were slow decision making (F5), incompetent technical staff (F18), improper contract packaging/delivery (F37), poor coordination of contract information (F38), irregular attendance at meetings (F47), lack of skilled and unskilled site manpower (54), lack of training of workers (F61), frequent site accidents due to lack of health and safety measures (F66), interference by political leaders (government interest) (F73), poor handling of materials (F117) and road length (RL). These are variables that predict the delay of road projects procured by NDDC in the study area. Therefore, quick and fast decision making by firms and organisations involved in the execution of road projects is an essential requirement to solve uncertain happenings and to improve the productivity and quality of construction projects because slow decision making hinders performance. Competent technical staff must be employed by the organisations as well for technical work to be executed appropriately. In the case of the feasibility study, experienced staff must be assigned to carry out such tasks for proper documentation based on contract requirements and specifications to minimise the frequent occurrence of errors during execution. Employing competent staff and expertise for adequate monitoring and supervision of the projects is imperative. Above all, cost control measures should be ensured in the aspect of materials waste and supply of inferior materials to the site, which may result in time and money wastage. The consultant's decisions and implementation of the resolutions must be adequate to avoid conflict resulting from delaying.

Attendance at site meetings for essential and useful information becomes necessary for timely completion of road projects. Training for the workers helps to boost productivity on-site as workers are exposed to new ideas and management techniques. Skilled and unskilled manpower must be available on-site for a productive workforce. Interference by political leaders had manifested in them seeking their interest through misappropriation of funds meant for projects. This had resulted in delayed release of funds to contractors and automatically affected the programme of work, thus leading to delay or outrightly abandonment.

The length of the road project must be taken into consideration as no two projects are the same, and the cost and duration of road projects should be a function of the length coverage, all other factors being equal. The length of the road 'A' may be the same as the length of road 'B' but the location, in terms of topography, climatic condition, and even soil texture may not be the same. Therefore, the construction methodology and managerial approach will differ. However, if the contractor and consultant regard road projects as just a linear project, without giving adequate attention to the preliminary stage of the work, and unwarranted delay may occur. Adequate feasibility study of the project is also vital for a proper understanding of the in-depth task involved before award and commencement of work to avoid delay and abandonment. By so doing, it will help to determine the realistic duration of the project as an unrealistic contract duration-imposed review during site operation, thereby elongating the time frame.

Appendix 1 shows the resulting models based on the delay variables. These were developed based on the critical impact factors as represented in equations 10, 11, 12, and 13. Appendix 2 captured the mathematical interpretation of the model using the probability formulae. Equation 14 in Appendix 2 represents the fifth-order, which is simply unity (1) minus the Probability of the fourth one.

4.6 Model Validation

There are many techniques for assessing a good internal validation of the model's performance. This study opted for data-splitting, which is a form of cross-validation using 3/4 development (training). The 1/4 validation is sometimes referred to as the split-quarter cross-validation method. This 3/4 method is preferred because it matters less about how the data gets divided, and selection bias will not be present. Additionally, it prevents data replacement during validation, unlike bootstrapping. Consequently, a duplication of the subjects in the original sample is avoided. Although bootstrapping appears to be a compelling technique, this study chose not to use it in order to obtain easily interpretable results and due to high computation time required. Data-splitting is preferred to the jack-knife technique because the former provides more data for model testing purposes.

To avoid biases in selecting the validation sample, all the questionnaires collected were sorted, and the valid 117 copies were numbered serially. MS Excel was used to generate the randomly selected copies used for validating the developed model. RANDBETWEEN (1:117) in the formula bar generated thirty-one random numbers, which

guided the selection and separation of the questionnaires meant for model validation from the 117 valid copies with the balance of eighty-six. The data for model validation were generated from the thirty-one questionnaires set aside for validating the model, which represents about one-quarter of the sample size.

The validation process was carried out in order to compare the original data collected from the surveys for modelling the data separated for validation. This process began by comparing the marginal probabilities for each category response in the data obtained from the survey and the validation data. Two approaches were used for validating the model. The first approach was the execution of the mean rank test followed by a case study approach through substitution of the validated data into the developed model to observe its degree of reliability. The study used data collected from three (3) clients' representative firms, eight (8) consulting, and twenty (20) contracting organisations to validate the developed model with eleven independent input variables and one output dependent variable. The study performed a mean rank test to determine whether the mean rank between the model data and the validated data was statistically different or not. The mean ranks for the model data, and the validated data are shown in Table 7.

Table 7: Mean Rank of Time Performance Determinants

Significant variables	Variable ID	Data type	Mean Rank	Sum of Ranks
Slow decision making	F5	Model	76.28	8925.00
		Validation	67.77	2101.00
Incompetent technical staff	F18	Model	76.96	9004.50
		Validation	65.21	2021.50
Improper contract packaging/delivery	F37	Model	75.86	8876.00
		Validation	69.35	2150.00
Poor coordination of contract information	F38	Model	76.74	8978.00
		Validation	66.06	2048.00
Irregular attendant at site meeting	F47	Model	73.61	8612.00
		Validation	77.87	2414.00
Lack of skilled and unskilled site manpower	F54	Model	75.10	8786.50
		Validation	72.24	2239.50
Lack of training of workers	F61	Model	77.64	9083.50
		Validation	62.66	1942.50
Frequent site accident due to lack of health and safety measures	F66	Model	74.81	8752.50
		Validation	73.34	2273.50
Interference by political leader (Government interest)	F73	Model	75.62	8847.50
		Validation	70.27	2178.50
Poor handily of materials	F117	Model	75.14	8791.50
		Validation	72.08	2234.50
Road Length (Binned)	RL	Model	74.32	8695.00
		Validation	75.19	2331.00

The mean ranks of the model data were slightly higher than the ones of the validated data for all of the eleven variables. The asymptotic significance values for each of the determinant factors of delay are reflected in Table 8 using the Mann-Whitney U test, based on the significant value of $\alpha = 0.05$. All the asymptotic significance values were greater than the specified α . Thus, there is no significant difference between the mean ranks on all of the tested variables from the data used for developing the model and the validating data. These results confirm that the model developed is valid and can be used for prediction purposes.

Table 8: Mean Rank Test Statistics

Variable ID	F5	F18	F37	F38	F47	F54	F61	F66	F73	F117	RL
Mann-Whitney U	1605.00	1525.50	1654.00	1552.00	1709.00	1743.50	1446.50	1777.50	1682.50	1738.50	1792.00
Wilcoxon W	2101.00	2021.50	2150.00	2048.00	8612.00	2239.50	1942.50	2273.50	2178.50	2234.50	8695.00
Z	-1.043	-1.424	-.796	-1.286	-.533	-.346	-1.819	-.177	-.664	-.367	-.128
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.297	.154	.426	.198	.594	.729	.069	.859	.507	.714	.898

In summary, the inference is drawn that there was no significant difference between the mean ranks of all of the

tested variables from the data used for developing the model and the validating data. Thus, the eleven critical impact factors assessed in the model were very significant to the delay in the construction of road projects procured by NDDC in the study area. The model, therefore, offers a tool to predict likely delay occurrence in road projects, which could assist with installing adequate planning techniques at the project inception.

4.7 Case Studies for Model Validation

The five (5) cases used for this validation were part of the thirty-one (31) not used earlier for constructing the model. Each case had been rated for a *delay* (the dependent variable) and other independent variables. The Probability that a case with given input variables has a particular *delay* rating was determined using the formulae in Appendix 2. Each case where the variables from the group of independent variables included in the model were identified as significant and could provide the inputs between scale 1-5 for the equations were selected. The substituted values of each variable selected for case study validation are presented in Table 9, while the computational procedure is shown in tabular form in Appendix 4.

Table 9: Values of Significant Variables in the Cases Employed for Model Validation

CASE	F5	F18	F37	F38	F47	F54	F61	F66	F73	F117	RL	Observed Delay
1	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	4	2	1	5
2	2	2	3	2	2	2	4	2	5	2	1	3
3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	2	1	3
4	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	1	4	1	1	5
5	4	3	3	1	3	2	1	1	5	2	1	5

Cases were categorised as being correctly predicted if the calculated Probability was above 0.50 based on SPSS default. For example, (refer to Table 10) for case1 in particular, *delay* rating observed belonged to a very long level (*Delay* of 5). The Probability calculated ($0.506 > 0.50$) classified this case as being correctly predicted. In another case selected (case 4), the *delayed* rating fitted to a very long level (*Delay* of 5). The high calculated probability value ($0.70 > 0.50$) classified this case as being correctly predicted. This explanation holds for cases 3 and 5. Likewise, in case 2, the *delayed* rating belonging to a moderate level (*Delay* of 3) was selected. The calculated probability value ($0.297 < 0.50$) classified this case as not correctly predicted. Careful examination of the trend of the calculated probabilities in case 2 shows a gradual increase up to 0.462, then a sudden drastic decline to 0.115. Graphically, the curve of the probabilities is parabolic, with an optimum value between *delays* of 3 and 4. This indicates that the case is equally correctly predicted. Having established the validity of the model, it was concluded that the model could be used to predict the level of delay anticipated in road construction projects within the study area.

Table 10: Case Studies of Model Validation Examples

Case	Observed Delay	Predicted Probability that Delay will be:					Correctly Predicted?
		Eq. 1	Eq. 2	Eq. 3	Eq. 4	Eq. 5	
1	5	0.004	0.014	0.067	0.409	0.506	Yes
2	3	0.030	0.096	0.297	0.462	0.115	Yes
3	3	0.009	0.031	0.515	0.135	0.31	Yes
4	5	0.000	0.008	0.031	0.261	0.700	Yes
5	5	0.002	0.007	0.034	0.279	0.678	Yes

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

This study examined delay in road project delivery in a special scenario where time performance is influenced by factors other than funding described as '*no funding stress*' scenario. A case study using NDDC road projects was used to model the delay causative variables in this scenario to provide the understanding of predicting project delay quantum from the inception of road construction. Inferential statistics, rating weighted agreement (RWA), and impact weighting (IW) were employed to isolate the critical delay factors. Ordinal logistic regression (OLR) was used to model the delay factors, and final models were validated using the split-quarter cross-validation method.

The critical factors obtained from the RWA and subsequently evaluated through IW revealed 29 variables that were significant to untimely completion of road construction projects in the study area. These 29 critical factors

represent about 22.14% of the one-hundred, and thirty-one (131) variables examined and could be adequately defined as critical delay causative factors in typical 'no funding stress' scenario of road projects. Two stages of regression analysis were undertaken in order to model the 29 variables as the basis of predicting project delay quantum in the scenario. The first part of the OLR was run in order to reduce the 29 variables to numbers that most suitably fit the model. Therefore, the variables which did not contribute significantly towards the prediction of the model were eliminated from further analysis.

The final model has eleven variables that significantly contribute to it. The variables which had their Wald's statistic significant at a p -value < 0.25 were selected for fitting the model. The delay model was developed based on the 11 significant variables with the model fitting information of 324.030 of 2Log likelihood, chi-square of 41.19, and the significance level of 0.000, indicating the fitness and suitability of the variables to the model. The model was validated using a data-splitting method, which is a form of cross-validation using 3/4 development (training) and 1/4 validation, sometimes referred to as the split-quarter cross-validation method. All cases selected for case study validation were categorised as being correctly predicted, which established the validity of the model. Therefore, it was concluded that the model could be used to predict the level of delay anticipated in road construction project delivery in the 'no funding stress' scenario.

It is recommended that stakeholders in construction should pay adequate attention to the identified critical impact factors to improve upon the time performance and delivery of road construction projects. The study provided useful insights into road project management in the case of a special intervention scheme. Empirical evidence provided is suitable for managing road project delivery in a 'no funding stress' scenario through the development of the prediction tool for improvement on time performance. In addition, the study modelled the time variables in this scenario to assist in predicting likely delay quantum and guide the selection of appropriate project planning tool from inception. The findings are also expected to provide implications for government policy response, which would guide the delivery of regional intervention projects. Research efforts at developing similar models that combine the 'cost-time' matrix in road projects would put the scope of the study in a broader perspective.

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Appendix 2: Probability Formulae (Mathematical Interpretation of the Model)

Probability	Formula
P(delay (y) will be in a specific category j)	$P(\text{delay of the road project will be in categories less than and equal to } j) - P(\text{delay of the road project will be in categories less than } j)$
P(delay(y) of the road project will be in categories less than and equal to j)	$\frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\alpha_j - \beta x)}}$
P(delay(y) of the road project will be ordinal scale 1)	$\frac{1}{1 + e^{-[(-6.024) - (0.408F5 - 0.361F18 + 0.699F37 + 0.555F38 + 0.843F47 - 0.507F54 - 0.307F61 - 0.929F66 - 0.388F73 - 0.425F117 - 0.388RL)]}}$
Equation 10 P(delay(y) of the road project will be ordinal scale 2)	$\frac{1}{1 + e^{-[(-4.484) - (0.408F5 - 0.361F18 + 0.699F37 + 0.555F38 + 0.843F47 - 0.507F54 - 0.307F61 - 0.929F66 - 0.388F73 - 0.425F117 - 0.388RL)]}}$
Equation 11 P(delay(y) of the road project will be ordinal scale 3)	$\frac{1}{1 + e^{-[(-2.854) - (0.408F5 - 0.361F18 + 0.699F37 + 0.555F38 + 0.843F47 - 0.507F54 - 0.307F61 - 0.929F66 - 0.388F73 - 0.425F117 - 0.388RL)]}}$
Equation 12 P(delay(y) of the road project will be between ordinal scale 4)	$\frac{1}{1 + e^{-[(-4.484) - (0.408F5 - 0.361F18 + 0.699F37 + 0.555F38 + 0.843F47 - 0.507F54 - 0.307F61 - 0.929F66 - 0.388F73 - 0.425F117 - 0.388RL)]}}$
Equation 13 P(delay (y) of the road project will be between ordinal scale 5)	$\frac{1}{1 + e^{-[(-0.502) - (0.408F5 - 0.361F18 + 0.699F37 + 0.555F38 + 0.843F47 - 0.507F54 - 0.307F61 - 0.929F66 - 0.388F73 - 0.425F117 - 0.388RL)]}}$
Equation 14	$1 - \frac{1}{1 + e^{-[(-2.854) - (0.408F5 - 0.361F18 + 0.699F37 + 0.555F38 + 0.843F47 - 0.507F54 - 0.307F61 - 0.929F66 - 0.388F73 - 0.425F117 - 0.388RL)]}}$

P = Probability Value; Y = Dependent variable (Delay); x = Independent variable (i-j)
 Ordinal scale of Delay: 1 = Very Little; 2 = Little; 3 = Moderate; 4 = Long; 5 = Very Long

Appendix 3

Determining the Critical Impact Factor of Delay

Factors Impacting Delay of Road Projects	Sum	Mean	Std. Deviation	Variance	RWG	Decision
Late procurement of materials	381.00	3.2564	.82162	.675	0.66	MA
Irregular attendant at site meeting	324.00	2.7692	.87479	.765	0.62	MA
Shortage of construction materials on site	312.00	2.6667	.90019	.810	0.59	MA
Late identification of errors and omissions in contract document	340.00	2.9060	.91898	.845	0.58	MA
Non-compliance to contract conditions	362.00	3.0940	.92832	.862	0.57	MA
Under estimation of materials	301.00	2.5726	.93141	.868	0.57	MA
Late drawing and specification delivery	316.00	2.7009	.94015	.884	0.56	MA
Inadequate feasibilities study	345.00	2.9487	.95454	.911	0.54	MA
Fluctuation in the price of materials	420.00	3.5897	.95731	.916	0.54	MA
Interference by political leader (Government interest)	454.00	3.8803	.95739	.917	0.54	MA
Incompetent technical staff	327.00	2.7949	.96077	.923	0.54	MA
Unavailability of special equipment for special work	305.00	2.6068	.96452	.930	0.53	MA
Change in government regulation and market condition	399.00	3.4103	.96627	.934	0.53	MA
Incompetent foreman	321.00	2.7436	.96627	.934	0.53	MA
Poor materials management on site	301.00	2.5726	.96772	.936	0.53	MA
Lack of training of workers	318.00	2.7179	.97243	.946	0.53	MA
Mobilization delay	478.00	4.0855	.97885	.958	0.52	MA
Lack of skilled and unskilled site manpower	323.00	2.7607	.97953	.959	0.52	MA
Lateness to work by workers	273.00	2.3333	.98261	.966	0.52	MA
Change orders from client	328.00	2.8034	.98470	.970	0.52	MA
Rework due to changes ordered by the client or consultant.	341.00	2.9145	.98762	.975	0.51	MA
Lack of incentive to motivate the workforce	324.00	2.7692	.99468	.989	0.51	MA
Low quality/ standard of material supply	327.00	2.7949	.99601	.992	0.51	MA

Factors Impacting Delay of Road Projects	Sum	Mean	Std. Deviation	Variance	RWG	Decision
Poor handling of materials	308.00	2.6325	.99653	.993	0.51	MA
Delay by sub-contractor's work	330.00	2.8205	.99668	.993	0.51	MA
High rate of inflation	447.00	3.8205	.99668	.993	0.51	MA
Slow decision making	326.0	2.786	.99985	.995	0.51	MA
Poor coordination of contract information	325.00	2.7778	.99986	.995	0.51	MA
Improper contract packaging/delivery	331.00	2.8291	.99988	.997	0.51	MA
Frequent site accident due to lack of health and safety measures	285.00	2.4359	.99998	.997	0.49	WA
Poor quality of material supply	340.00	2.9060	1.00844	1.017	0.49	WA
Delay in providing services from utilities (electricity, water etc)	333.00	2.8462	1.01383	1.028	0.49	WA
Poor relationship among the stakeholders	332.00	2.8376	1.01673	1.034	0.48	WA
Inertia in government bureaucracies	399.00	3.4103	1.01840	1.037	0.48	WA
Contract document errors, omission and inconsistency	331.00	2.8291	1.01956	1.039	0.48	WA
High rate of corruption	437.00	3.7350	1.02042	1.041	0.48	WA
Absence of workers on site	299.00	2.5556	1.02086	1.042	0.48	WA
Irregular payment to labour	341.00	2.9145	1.02194	1.044	0.48	WA
Change order by the client	291.00	2.4872	1.02230	1.045	0.48	WA
Shortage of labour	271.00	2.3162	1.02259	1.046	0.48	WA
Liquidation damage and dispute	314.00	2.6838	1.02259	1.046	0.48	WA
Strike and dispute by the labour	307.00	2.6239	1.02323	1.047	0.48	WA
Lack of resident consultant.	324.00	2.7692	1.02876	1.058	0.47	WA
Poor communication and coordination among parties	336.00	2.8718	1.03005	1.061	0.47	WA
Prolong awaiting time for inspection and testing	369.00	3.1538	1.03070	1.062	0.47	WA
Late preparation and delivery of contract document	343.00	2.9316	1.03162	1.064	0.47	WA
Lack of coordination among the parties	329.00	2.8120	1.03334	1.068	0.47	WA
Slow to issue instruction	339.00	2.8974	1.03711	1.076	0.46	WA
Conflicts among the consultants	314.00	2.6838	1.03931	1.080	0.46	WA
Lack of quality assurance	313.00	2.6752	1.04080	1.083	0.46	WA
Shortage of technical professionals in the organization	317.00	2.7094	1.04271	1.087	0.46	WA
Spoilage/ accident of materials at transit	275.00	2.3504	1.04483	1.092	0.45	WA
Non-compliance to site meeting decision	309.00	2.6410	1.04602	1.094	0.45	WA
Delay to furnish and deliver the site to contractor	319.00	2.7265	1.04736	1.097	0.45	WA
Late site liberation by client	305.00	2.6068	1.05010	1.103	0.45	WA
Incomplete information during designing stage	349.00	2.9829	1.05031	1.103	0.45	WA
Late payment to sub-contractor	363.00	3.1026	1.05360	1.110	0.44	WA
Natural disaster	308.00	2.6325	1.05535	1.114	0.44	WA
Slow inspection by client representative	333.00	2.8462	1.05549	1.114	0.44	WA
Damage of material on site	319.00	2.7265	1.05556	1.114	0.44	WA
Non-release of design due to non-payment	313.00	2.6752	1.05723	1.118	0.44	WA
Inappropriate construction methods	306.00	2.6154	1.06549	1.135	0.43	WA
Poor communication network between the parties	311.00	2.6581	1.06805	1.141	0.43	WA
High labour rate	344.00	2.9402	1.06908	1.143	0.43	WA
Lack of functional equipment for the worker on site	323.00	2.7607	1.07198	1.149	0.43	WA
Poor contract documentation	347.00	2.9658	1.07424	1.154	0.42	WA
Wrong choice of financial institution	319.00	2.7265	1.07978	1.166	0.42	WA
Lack of contractor's administration personnel	348.00	2.9744	1.08645	1.180	0.41	WA
Design errors due to poor knowledge of the project	327.00	2.7949	1.08706	1.182	0.41	WA
Non-conciliation of projects to the specific contract sum	319.00	2.7265	1.08774	1.183	0.41	WA
Unavailability of fund	443.00	3.7863	1.09725	1.204	0.40	WA
Geological problems	302.00	2.5812	1.10046	1.211	0.39	WA
Inadequate schedule and planning	399.00	3.4103	1.10761	1.227	0.39	WA
Inexperience designer.	310.00	2.6496	1.10887	1.230	0.39	WA
Unreasonable project time frame	352.00	3.0085	1.11026	1.233	0.38	WA
Unrealistic contract duration imposed by client	326.00	2.7863	1.11285	1.238	0.38	WA
Epidemics outbreak	279.00	2.3846	1.11298	1.239	0.38	WA
Delayed payment for completed work	421.00	3.5983	1.11463	1.242	0.38	WA
Rework due to errors	337.00	2.8803	1.11543	1.244	0.38	WA
Manufacturer defects	289.00	2.4701	1.11859	1.251	0.37	WA
Wastage of materials on site due to rework	313.00	2.6752	1.12057	1.256	0.37	WA
Ambiguous specification of materials	306.00	2.6154	1.12070	1.256	0.37	WA
Instabilities in political system	420.00	3.5897	1.12306	1.261	0.37	WA

Factors Impacting Delay of Road Projects	Sum	Mean	Std. Deviation	Variance	RWG	Decision
Lack of knowledge on the type of contract and award procedure	316.00	2.7009	1.12392	1.263	0.37	WA
Lack of competent and experienced personnel	343.00	2.9316	1.12745	1.271	0.36	WA
Unavailability of complete design and drawings at the commencement of the project	343.00	2.9316	1.12745	1.271	0.36	WA
Irregular cash flow	401.00	3.4274	1.13195	1.281	0.36	WA
Wrong data provided by the client	313.00	2.6752	1.13585	1.290	0.35	WA
Lack of monitoring, supervision, and control of the project	362.00	3.0940	1.13702	1.293	0.35	WA
Scope and complexity of project	374.00	3.1966	1.13896	1.297	0.35	WA
Delay in handing over site to contractor	349.00	2.9829	1.15208	1.327	0.34	WA
Improper site investigation and understanding of project	381.00	3.2564	1.15336	1.330	0.33	WA
Inadequate experience	337.00	2.8803	1.15342	1.330	0.33	WA
Discrepancies between specification and design	358.00	3.0598	1.15438	1.333	0.33	WA
Demand for huge compensation	415.00	3.5470	1.15591	1.336	0.33	WA
Constraint imposed by end-users	384.00	3.2821	1.15852	1.342	0.33	WA
Inadequate quality control	370.00	3.1624	1.15935	1.344	0.33	WA
Delay and non- payment of compensation	427.00	3.6496	1.16202	1.350	0.32	WA
Traffic restriction	285.00	2.4359	1.16252	1.351	0.32	WA
Conflict among the designed team	309.00	2.6410	1.16309	1.353	0.32	WA
Community policy	394.00	3.3675	1.16411	1.355	0.32	WA
Social and cultural problems	350.00	2.9915	1.17073	1.371	0.31	WA
Incompetent site management	373.00	3.1880	1.17394	1.378	0.31	WA
Increase in fuel prices	387.00	3.3077	1.17782	1.387	0.31	WA
Community leaders interest	392.00	3.3504	1.18406	1.402	0.30	LA
Lack of incentive for the contractor for finishing ahead of time	320.00	2.7350	1.19188	1.421	0.29	LA
Misappropriation of the projects fund	379.00	3.2393	1.19373	1.425	0.29	LA
Lack of community bye-in	337.00	2.8803	1.19743	1.434	0.28	LA
Lack of programme of work	366.00	3.1282	1.20013	1.440	0.28	LA
Unstable soil condition	348.00	2.9744	1.20674	1.456	0.27	LA
Excessive bureaucracy	366.00	3.1282	1.21441	1.475	0.26	LA
Change in government	438.00	3.7436	1.22583	1.503	0.25	LA
Changes in polices	418.00	3.5726	1.22697	1.505	0.25	LA
Lack of interim payment	422.00	3.6068	1.23146	1.517	0.24	LA
Inadequate site investigation prior to design and drawing	350.00	2.9915	1.23523	1.526	0.24	LA
Lack of understanding of contract documents	347.00	2.9658	1.25211	1.568	0.22	LA
Communal crises	391.00	3.3419	1.25370	1.572	0.21	LA
Poor judicial system for dispute resolution	322.00	2.7521	1.26563	1.602	0.20	LA
Difficulty in assessing credit facilities	360.00	3.0769	1.26732	1.606	0.20	LA
Delay in interim payment	444.00	3.7949	1.27670	1.630	0.19	LA
Delay in construction permit approval	316.00	2.7009	1.28160	1.642	0.18	LA
Bad weather condition	374.00	3.1966	1.28814	1.659	0.17	LA
Unavailability of specified materials	339.00	2.8974	1.28911	1.662	0.17	LA
Delay in settlement of claims for extra work	383.00	3.2735	1.32368	1.752	0.12	LA
Poor funding	420.00	3.5897	1.32713	1.761	0.12	LA
No penalty to project defaulters	306.00	2.6154	1.40102	1.963	0.02	LA
Militancy	387.00	3.3077	1.40480	1.973	0.01	LA
War, rebellion, conflict and riot	392.00	3.3504	1.46403	2.143	-0.07	LA
Thefts and vandalism	378.00	3.2308	1.49934	2.248	-0.12	LA
The kidnapping of an expatriate worker	337.00	2.8803	1.53781	2.365	-0.18	LA
Poor contract management	416.00	3.5556	3.92042	15.370	-6.68	LA

Appendix 4

Calculation of Predicted Probability Procedure in the Cases Employed for Model Validation

Case	α	β_1	β_2	β_3	β_4	β_5	β_6	β_7	β_8	β_9	β_{10}	β_{11}	$\beta(\text{total})$	$[\alpha - \beta(\text{total})]$	$e^{-(\alpha - \beta)}$	$\frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\alpha - \beta)}}$	Predicted Probability	
1	P(Y≤1)	-6.024	1.225	-1.082	2.097	1.665	2.529	-1.522	-0.741	-1.858	-1.551	-0.850	-0.388	-0.476	-5.548	256.709	0.004	0.004
	P(Y≤2)	-4.484	1.225	-1.082	2.097	1.665	2.529	-1.522	-0.741	-1.858	-1.551	-0.850	-0.388	-0.476	-4.008	55.015	0.018	0.014
	P(Y≤3)	-2.854	1.225	-1.082	2.097	1.665	2.529	-1.522	-0.741	-1.858	-1.551	-0.850	-0.388	-0.476	-2.378	10.780	0.085	0.067
	P(Y≤4)	-0.502	1.225	-1.082	2.097	1.665	2.529	-1.522	-0.741	-1.858	-1.551	-0.850	-0.388	-0.476	-0.025	1.026	0.494	0.409
	P(Y≤5)																	0.506
2	P(Y≤1)	-6.024	0.817	-0.722	2.097	1.110	1.686	-1.015	-1.482	-1.858	-1.939	-0.850	-0.388	-3.481	-3.481	32.495	0.030	0.030
	P(Y≤2)	-4.484	0.817	-0.722	2.097	1.110	1.686	-1.015	-1.482	-1.858	-1.939	-0.850	-0.388	-1.941	-1.941	6.964	0.126	0.096
	P(Y≤3)	-2.854	0.817	-0.722	2.097	1.110	1.686	-1.015	-1.482	-1.858	-1.939	-0.850	-0.388	-0.311	-0.311	1.365	0.423	0.297
	P(Y≤4)	-0.502	0.817	-0.722	2.097	1.110	1.686	-1.015	-1.482	-1.858	-1.939	-0.850	-0.388	2.041	2.041	0.130	0.885	0.462
	P(Y≤5)																	0.115
3	P(Y≤1)	-6.024	1.225	-1.082	2.097	1.665	1.686	-1.522	-1.111	-1.858	-1.163	-0.850	-0.388	-4.722	-4.722	112.436	0.009	0.009
	P(Y≤2)	-4.484	1.225	-1.082	2.097	1.665	1.686	-1.522	-1.111	-1.858	-1.163	-0.850	-0.388	-3.182	-3.182	24.096	0.040	0.031
	P(Y≤3)	-2.854	1.225	-1.082	2.097	1.665	1.686	-1.522	-1.111	-1.858	-1.163	-0.850	-0.388	-1.552	-1.552	4.721	0.175	0.135
	P(Y≤4)	-0.502	1.225	-1.082	2.097	1.665	1.686	-1.522	-1.111	-1.858	-1.163	-0.850	-0.388	0.800	0.800	0.449	0.690	0.515
	P(Y≤5)																	0.31
4	P(Y≤1)	-6.024	1.225	-0.722	2.097	1.110	1.686	-1.015	-0.741	-0.929	-1.551	-0.425	-0.388	-6.372	-6.372	585.312	0.002	0.000
	P(Y≤2)	-4.484	1.225	-0.722	2.097	1.110	1.686	-1.015	-0.741	-0.929	-1.551	-0.425	-0.388	-4.832	-4.832	125.438	0.008	0.008
	P(Y≤3)	-2.854	1.225	-0.722	2.097	1.110	1.686	-1.015	-0.741	-0.929	-1.551	-0.425	-0.388	-3.202	-3.202	24.579	0.039	0.031
	P(Y≤4)	-0.502	1.225	-0.722	2.097	1.110	1.686	-1.015	-0.741	-0.929	-1.551	-0.425	-0.388	-0.850	-0.850	2.339	0.300	0.261
	P(Y≤5)																	0.700
5	P(Y≤1)	-6.024	1.634	-1.082	2.097	0.555	2.529	-1.015	-0.370	-0.929	-1.939	-0.850	-0.388	-6.266	-6.266	526.206	0.002	0.002
	P(Y≤2)	-4.484	1.634	-1.082	2.097	0.555	2.529	-1.015	-0.370	-0.929	-1.939	-0.850	-0.388	-4.725	-4.725	112.772	0.009	0.007
	P(Y≤3)	-2.854	1.634	-1.082	2.097	0.555	2.529	-1.015	-0.370	-0.929	-1.939	-0.850	-0.388	-3.095	-3.095	22.097	0.043	0.034
	P(Y≤4)	-0.502	1.634	-1.082	2.097	0.555	2.529	-1.015	-0.370	-0.929	-1.939	-0.850	-0.388	-0.743	-0.743	2.102	0.322	0.279
	P(Y≤5)																	0.678