

Paper Type: Original Article

Ranking Triangular Intuitionistic Fuzzy Numbers: A Nagel Point Approach and Applications in Multi-Criteria Decision Making

K. Arun Prakash¹, M. Suresh^{1*} 

¹ Department of Mathematics, Kongu Engineering College, Erode, Tamil Nadu, India; arunfuzzy@gmail.com; mathssuresh84@gmail.com.

Citation:

Received: 23 June 2025

Revised: 26 September 2025

Accepted: 13 January 2026

Prakash, K. A., & Suresh, M. (2026). Ranking triangular intuitionistic fuzzy numbers: A nagel point approach and applications in multi-criteria decision making. *Uncertainty discourse and applications*, 3(2), 123-136.

Abstract

Ordinary fuzzy sets have been expanded into several varieties, including type 2 fuzzy, intuitionistic fuzzy, hesitant fuzzy, and others, to assist us model uncertainty. For every element in an Intuitionistic Fuzzy Set (IFS), there are membership and non-membership functions. Intuitionistic Fuzzy Numbers (IFNs) plays a vital role in many applications. In this paper, a new ranking approach of IFNs were done based on nagel points. The proposed new ranking was validated by certain results and numerical examples. In last section, we put the suggested ranking principle into practice for the installation of an aeronautical research organization center through a case study.

Keywords: Intuitionistic fuzzy sets, Intuitionistic fuzzy number, Triangular intuitionistic fuzzy number, Nagel Point, Multi-criteria decision making problem.

1 | Introduction

Fuzzy numbers are real numbers with inaccurate precision that may deal with numerical amount impreciseness. Generalizing the idea of fuzzy numbers, Intuitionistic Fuzzy Numbers (IFNs) are highly helpful in modeling situations with imprecise and insufficient data. The literature proposes a variety of IFNs to model real-life problems using different concepts. These include Real-Valued Intuitionistic Fuzzy Numbers (RVIFNs), Interval-Valued Intuitionistic Fuzzy Numbers (IVIFNs), Triangular Intuitionistic Fuzzy Numbers (TIFNs), and Conventional Trapezoidal Intuitionistic Fuzzy Numbers (CTrIFNs). Each variety of IFNs has a distinct benefit for modeling real-world scenarios, and they are all necessary. For applying suitable ranking procedures for real-time problems, it is necessary to order them.

 Corresponding Author: mathssuresh84@gmail.com

 <https://doi.org/10.48313/uda.v3i2.95>



Licensee System Analytics. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>).

A new parametric method for ranking IFNs was proposed, and its superiority over other methods was demonstrated using appropriate examples in [1]. Total ordering on the entire class of IFN using upper lower dense sequence was proposed and compared with existing techniques using illustrative examples in [2]. A new ranking based on considering a fuzzy origin and measures distance of each IFN from fuzzy origin in [3]. The method based on the incircle of the membership function and non-membership function of TIFN uses lexicographical order to rank IFNs was investigated by Atalik and Senturk in [4]. A new type-2 intuitionistic exponential triangular fuzzy number was introduced in [5] and some of properties and theorems of this type of fuzzy number with graphical representations have been studied and some examples are given to show the effectiveness of the proposed method. Also, the ranking function based on the centroid concept and Euclidean distance of the generalized exponential TIFN is computed. The defuzzification measure based on area of region for intuitionistic triangular fuzzy numbers was introduced in [6]. Christi [7] applied Ranking technique called Accuracy Function and Russell's Method to find the optimal solution of the transportation problem in 2015. Salahshour [8] suggested a new defuzzification for obtained TFNs using their values and ambiguities. The mean value of intuitionistic fuzzy variables is obtained with the help of credibility distribution. Then, a more comprehensive ranking method based on mean value of intuitionistic fuzzy variable was developed [9]. A new ranking method is developed on the basis of the concept of a ratio of the value index to the ambiguity index and applied to multiattribute decision making problems in which the ratings of alternatives on attributes are expressed with TIFNs [10]. Ummusalma and Selvakumari [11] presents a solution methodology for Multi Criteria Decision Making (MCDM) problems in intuitionistic fuzzy environment in which the ratings of choice on attributes are represented by TIFNs. In 2014, Liang et al. [12] developed the method for ranking TIFNs based on score and accuracy functions. Later it was applied to solve MCDM problems. Stanujkic et al. [13] used Hamming distance to rank TIFNs, which was applied to a case study of hotels' websites evaluation. An extended model of DEA is proposed under the triangular intuitionistic fuzzy environment where the inputs and outputs of DMUs are TIFNs in [14]. A new ranking based on preference degree of TFNs is defined combining the probability with possibility of TFN, which considers all the possible values in TFN. Based on this ranking, a new method is proposed to solve triangular fuzzy MAGDM problem [15]. A ranking algorithm for TIF-MCDM issue for the accessible options by processing the various distances between the perfect option and all the accessible options has been proposed [16]. An extension of fuzzy TOPSIS for MCDM problem in intuitionistic fuzzy environment based on magnitude ranking was studied by Gautam and Singh [17]. Selvaraj and Majumdar [18] proposed a non-membership score function which has been utilized in IVIF-TOPSIS using numerical examples. For many decision problems with uncertainty, TIFN is a useful tool in expressing ill-known quantities. Xu et al. [19] develops a novel decision method based on zero-sum game for multiple attribute decision making problems where the attribute values take the form of TIFNs and the attribute weights are unknown.

Novelty and motivation: The motivation behind research work in the ranking of IFNs lies in addressing the challenges posed by uncertainty and vagueness in decision-making processes. The ranking of IFNs becomes crucial in various applications, particularly in decision-making and optimization problems, where the decision-makers need to compare and prioritize alternatives under uncertainty. Here are some key motivations for research in this area:

- I. **Decision support systems:** In real-world decision-making scenarios, decision-makers often deal with incomplete or imprecise information. The ranking of IFNs is essential for developing decision support systems that can handle uncertainty effectively, enabling better decision outcomes.
- II. **Optimization problems:** Optimization problems under uncertainty require methodologies that can handle fuzzy or uncertain data. Ranking IFNs is a key step in developing optimization algorithms that can work with intuitionistic fuzzy information, leading to more robust and adaptable solutions.
- III. **Risk management:** In various fields such as finance, engineering, and environmental science, decisions are often made in the presence of risk. IFNs can model uncertainty and risk more accurately than traditional methods. Research in ranking IFNs aids in developing tools for risk assessment and management.

2 | Preliminaries

The definitions and ideas pertaining to Intuitionistic Fuzzy Sets (IFSs) and intuitionistic fuzzy numbers are briefly summarized in this section.

Definition 1 ([20]). An IFS A in X is given by $A = \{(x, \mu_A(x), \nu_A(x), x \in X)\}$, where the functions $\mu_A(x): X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ and $\nu_A(x): X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ define respectively, the degree of membership and degree of non-membership of the element $x \in X$ to the set A , which is a subset of X , and for every $x \in X, 0 \leq \mu_A(x) + \nu_A(x) \leq 1$. Obviously, every fuzzy set has the form $\{(x, \mu_A(x), \mu_{A^c}(x)), x \in X\}$.

For each IFS A in X , we will call $\Pi_A(x) = 1 - \mu(x) - \nu(x)$ the intuitionistic fuzzy index of x in A . It is obvious that $0 \leq \Pi_A(x) \leq 1$, for all $x \in X$.

Definition 2 ([21]). An IFS $A = \{(x, \mu_A(x), \gamma_A(x) | x \in X)\}$ is called IF-normal, if there exist at least two points $x_0, x_1 \in X$ such that $\mu_A(x_0) = 1, \gamma_A(x_1) = 1$, it is easily seen that given IFS A is IF-normal if there is at least one point that surely belongs to A and atleast one point which does not belong to A .

Definition 3 ([21]). An IFS $A = \{(x, \mu_A(x), \gamma_A(x) | x \in X)\}$ of the real line is called IF-convex, if $\forall x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}, \forall \lambda \in [0, 1]$.

$$\mu_A(\lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda)x_2) \geq \mu_A(x_1) \wedge \mu_A(x_2),$$

$$\gamma_A(\lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda)x_2) \geq \gamma_A(x_1) \wedge \gamma_A(x_2).$$

Thus A is IF-convex if its membership function is fuzzy convex and its non-membership function is fuzzy concave.

Definition 4 ([21]). An IFS $A = \{(x, \mu_A(x), \gamma_A(x) | x \in X)\}$ of the real line is called an IFN if

- I. A is IF-normal.
- II. A is IF-convex.
- III. μ_A is upper semicontinuous and γ_A is lower semicontinuous.
- IV. $A = \{(x \in X | \gamma_A(x) < 1)\}$ is bounded.

Definition 5 ([22]). A TIFN is an IFS in $\mathbb{R}$ with the following membership function $\mu_A(x)$ and non-membership function $\vartheta_A(x)$

$$\mu_A(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x - a_1}{a_2 - a_1}, & a_1 \leq x \leq a_2, \\ \frac{x - a_3}{a_2 - a_3}, & a_2 \leq x \leq a_3, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\vartheta_A(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{a_2 - x}{a_2 - a'_1}, & a'_1 \leq x \leq a_2, \\ \frac{x - a_2}{a'_3 - a_2}, & a_2 \leq x \leq a'_3, \\ 1, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where $a'_1 \leq a_1 \leq a_2 \leq a_3 \leq a'_3$ and $\mu_A(x) + \vartheta_A(x) \leq 1$ or $\mu_A(x) = \vartheta_A(x)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$. This TIFN is denoted by $A = (a_1, a_2, a_3; a'_1, a_2, a'_3)$.

Definition 6 ([22]). Let $A = (a_1, a_2, a_3; a'_1, a_2, a'_3)$ and $B = (b_1, b_2, b_3; b'_1, b_2, b'_3)$, then

- I. $A \oplus B = \{(a_1 + b_1, a_2 + b_2, a_3 + b_3); (a'_1 + b'_1, a'_2 + b'_2, a'_3 + b'_3)\}.$
- II. $A \otimes B = \left\{ \left(\min(a_1 b_1, a_1 b_3, a_3 b_1, a_3 b_3), a_2 b_2, \max(a_1 b_1, a_1 b_3, a_3 b_1, a_3 b_3) \right); \right. \\ \left. \left(\min(a'_1 b'_1, a'_1 b'_3, a'_3 b'_1, a'_3 b'_3), a'_2 b'_2, \max(a'_1 b'_1, a'_1 b'_3, a'_3 b'_1, a'_3 b'_3) \right) \right\}.$
- III. $kA = (ka_1, ka_2, ka_3; ka'_1, ka'_2, ka'_3).$

3 | Ranking of Triangular Intuitionistic Fuzzy Numbers using Nagel Point

This section details the method of finding coordinates of Nagel point and algorithm to order TIFNs using Nagel points.

Let $\tilde{A}_{\text{TIFN}} = (a_1, a_2, a_3; a'_1, a'_2, a'_3)$ be a TIFN. The Cartesian coordinates that corresponds to the vertices of two triangles ABC and DBE representing the membership function $\mu_{\tilde{A}}(x)$ and non-membership function $\nu_{\tilde{A}}(x)$ are $A(a'_1, 0), B(a_2, 0), C(a'_3, 0), D(a_1, 0)$ and $E(a_3, 0).$

Then

$$a = |BC| = \sqrt{(a_2 - a'_3)^2 + 1}, b = |CA| = a'_3 - a'_1, c = |BA| = \sqrt{(a_2 - a'_1)^2 + 1},$$

$$d = |BE| = \sqrt{(a_2 - a_3)^2 + 1}, e = |DE| = a_3 - a_1, f = |BD| = \sqrt{(a_2 - a_1)^2 + 1}.$$

The trilinear coordinates $\alpha : \beta : \gamma$ of Nagel point $N_{1-\nu_{\tilde{A}}}$ of triangle ABC can be found as follows.

$$\alpha_{1-\nu_{\tilde{A}}} = \frac{b+c-a}{a} = \frac{a'_3 - a'_1 + \sqrt{(a_2 - a'_1)^2 + 1} - \sqrt{(a_2 - a'_3)^2 + 1}}{\sqrt{(a_2 - a'_3)^2 + 1}}.$$

$$\beta_{1-\nu_{\tilde{A}}} = \frac{c+a-b}{b} = \frac{\sqrt{(a_2 - a'_3)^2 + 1} + \sqrt{(a_2 - a'_1)^2 + 1} - (a'_3 - a'_1)}{a'_3 - a'_1}.$$

$$\gamma_{1-\nu_{\tilde{A}}} = \frac{a+b-c}{c} = \frac{\sqrt{(a_2 - a'_3)^2 + 1} + a'_3 - a'_1 - \sqrt{(a_2 - a'_1)^2 + 1}}{\sqrt{(a_2 - a'_1)^2 + 1}}.$$

The trilinear coordinates $\alpha : \beta : \gamma$ of Nagel point $N_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}}$ for triangle DBE is calculated as follows.

$$\alpha_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} = \frac{b+e-d}{d} = \frac{(a_3 - a_1) + \sqrt{(a_2 - a_1)^2 + 1} - \sqrt{(a_2 - a_3)^2 + 1}}{\sqrt{(a_2 - a_3)^2 + 1}}.$$

$$\beta_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} = \frac{e+d-b}{b} = \frac{\sqrt{(a_2-a_1)^2+1} + \sqrt{(a_2-a_3)^2+1} - (a_3-a_1)}{a_3-a_1}.$$

$$\gamma_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} = \frac{d+b-e}{e} = \frac{\sqrt{(a_2-a_3)^2+1} + (a_3-a_1) - \sqrt{(a_2-a_1)^2+1}}{\sqrt{(a_2-a_1)^2+1}}.$$

Finally the Cartesian coordinates of Nagel Point related to non-membership function $N_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}}$ and membership function $N_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}}$ are produced below.

$$N_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}} = \left(\frac{\alpha_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}} aa_1' + \beta_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}} ba_2 + \gamma_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}} ca_3'}{\alpha_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}} a + \beta_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}} b + \gamma_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}} c}, \frac{\beta_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}} b}{\alpha_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}} a + \beta_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}} b + \gamma_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}} c} \right).$$

$$N_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} = \left(\frac{\alpha_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} da_1 + \beta_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} ba_2 + \gamma_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} ea_3}{\alpha_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} d + \beta_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} b + \gamma_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} e}, \frac{\beta_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} b}{\alpha_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} d + \beta_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} b + \gamma_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} e} \right).$$

The Nagel points $N_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}}$ and $N_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}}$ corresponding to the non-membership and membership has to be combined which enables to propose ranking of TIFNs.

Hence $N_{\tilde{A}} = pN_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} + qN_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}}$, where $p+q=1$. For simpler ranking, $N_{\tilde{A}} = (x_{\tilde{A}}, y_{\tilde{A}}) = \frac{N_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} + N_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}}}{2}$.

The new ordering of TIFNs using Nagel point is given by $N(\tilde{A}) = (x_{\tilde{A}}, y_{\tilde{A}}, a_2)$. The proposed ranking procedure is well explained by the forthcoming algorithm.

3.1 | Algorithm

The approach of ranking any two TIFNs is summarized as follows.

Let $\tilde{A} = (a_1, a_2, a_3; a_1', a_2', a_3')$ and $\tilde{B} = (b_1, b_2, b_3; b_1', b_2', b_3')$ be any two TIFNs.

Step 1. Compute $N_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}}, N_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}}$.

Step 2. Compute $N_{\mu_{\tilde{B}}}, N_{1-v_{\tilde{B}}}$.

Step 3. Obtain the Nagel Points for the two TIFNs $\tilde{A}_{\text{TIFN}}$ and $\tilde{B}_{\text{TIFN}}$ respectively.

Step 4. Calculate $N(\tilde{A})$ and $N(\tilde{B})$.

Step 5. Then lexicographical ordering is employed to rank the given TIFNs.

$$\text{I. } \tilde{A} \prec \tilde{B} \text{ if } N(\tilde{A}) <_L N(\tilde{B}).$$

$$\text{II. } \tilde{A} \succ \tilde{B} \text{ if } N(\tilde{A}) >_L N(\tilde{B}).$$

$$\text{III. } \tilde{A} \approx \tilde{B} \text{ if } N(\tilde{A}) =_L N(\tilde{B}).$$

In the above ordering, the notation $<_L$ represents the lexicographical ordering defined by $(x_1, x_2, x_3) <_L (y_1, y_2, y_3) \Leftrightarrow (\exists n = 1, 2, 3)(\forall j < n)(x_j = y_j) \wedge (x_n < y_n)$. To be more specific, $(x_1, x_2, x_3) <_L (y_1, y_2, y_3) \Leftrightarrow (x_1 < y_1) \text{ (or)} (x_1 = y_1 \text{ and } x_2 < y_2) \text{ (or)} (x_1 = y_1, x_2 = y_2 \text{ and } x_3 < y_3)$.

4 | Reasonable Ordering Properties of Proposed Ranking

Prakash et al. [23] provide a set of axioms as appropriate characteristics for assessing an order technique's rationality. In this part, it will be demonstrated that the suggested method satisfies Prakash et al.'s [23] reasonable qualities.

Theorem 1. Let $\mathbb{T}$ be the set of all TIFN's and E is a subset of $\mathbb{T}$. Then for any $\tilde{A} \in E, \tilde{A} \preceq \tilde{A}$.

Theorem 2. For any arbitrary finite subset E of $\mathbb{T}$ and $(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}) \in E \times E$, if $\tilde{A} \preceq \tilde{B}, \tilde{B} \succcurlyeq \tilde{A}$, we have $\tilde{A} \cong \tilde{B}$.

Theorem 3. For any arbitrary finite subset E of $\mathbb{T}$ and $(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}) \in E \times E$, if $\tilde{A} \preceq \tilde{B}, \tilde{B} \preceq \tilde{C}$, we have $\tilde{A} \preceq \tilde{C}$.

Theorem 4. Let $\tilde{A}$ and $\tilde{B}$ be any two TIFN's. Then $N_{\tilde{A}+\tilde{B}} = N_{\tilde{A}} + N_{\tilde{B}}$.

5 | Numerical Examples

In this section, an example illustrating the proposed algorithm in the previous section was initiated first. Then a comparative study with existing ordering procedures in the literature was made and results were tabulated.

Example 1. Consider any two TIFN's $\tilde{A}_{\text{TIFN}} = (3, 4, 5; 2, 4, 6)$ and $\tilde{B}_{\text{TIFN}} = (1, 2, 3; 0, 2, 6)$.

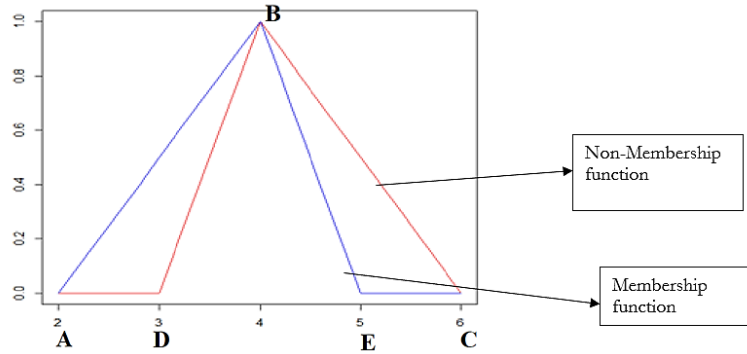


Fig. 1. Representation of $\tilde{A}_{\text{TIFN}} = (3, 4, 5; 2, 4, 6)$.

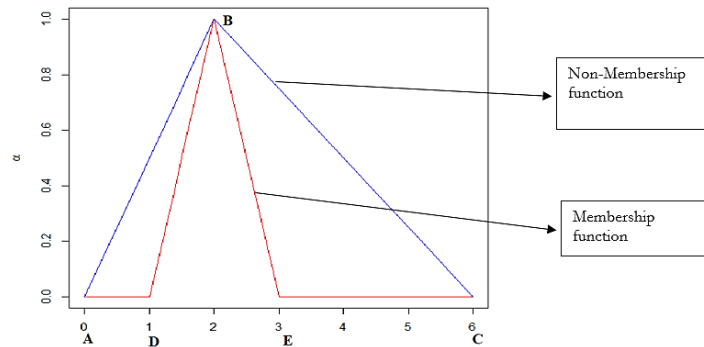


Fig. 2. Representation of $\tilde{B}_{\text{TIFN}} = (1, 2, 3; 0, 2, 6)$.

Now

$$\alpha_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}} = \frac{6-2+\sqrt{(4-2)^2+1}-\sqrt{(4-6)^2+1}}{\sqrt{(4-6)^2+1}} = 1.7889.$$

$$\beta_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}} = \frac{\sqrt{(4-6)^2+1}+\sqrt{(4-2)^2+1}-(6-2)}{4} = 0.1180.$$

$$\gamma_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}} = \frac{\sqrt{(4-6)^2+1}+6-2-\sqrt{(4-2)^2+1}}{\sqrt{(4-2)^2+1}} = 1.7889.$$

$$\alpha_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} = \frac{(5-3)+\sqrt{(4-3)^2+1}-\sqrt{(4-5)^2+1}}{\sqrt{(4-5)^2+1}} = 1.4142.$$

$$\beta_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} = \frac{\sqrt{(4-3)^2+1}+\sqrt{(4-5)^2+1}-(5-3)}{5-3} = 0.4142.$$

$$\gamma_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} = \frac{\sqrt{(4-5)^2+1}+(5-3)-\sqrt{(4-3)^2+1}}{\sqrt{(4-3)^2+1}} = 1.4142.$$

Now $N_{1-v_{\tilde{A}}} = (4.0012, 0.0557)$, $N_{\mu_{\tilde{A}}} = (4.1248, 0.2553)$.

Then $N_{\tilde{A}} = (x_{\tilde{A}}, y_{\tilde{A}}) = (4.063, 0.156)$. The final ranking is given by $N(\tilde{A}) = (4.063, 0.156, 4)$.

Similarly calculations, shows that $N(\tilde{B}) = (2.903, 0.103, 2)$. Since $N(\tilde{A}) >_L N(\tilde{B}) \Rightarrow \tilde{A} \succ \tilde{B}$.

The comparison between the suggested ordering and the current approaches is displayed in the following table. Our suggested approach is consistent with the current approaches, demonstrating the reliability of the new ranking.

Consider the TIFN's $\tilde{A} = (2, 3, 4; 1, 3, 5)$, $\tilde{B} = (1, 2, 3; 0, 2, 6)$.

Table 1. Comparison of the proposed ranking method with existing ranking methods for TIFNs.

S.No	Author	Procedure Adopted	Ranking Values	Ordering
1	Bharati [3]	Sign distance of TIFN	$R(\tilde{A}) = 1.5, R(\tilde{B}) = 0.75$	$\tilde{A} > \tilde{B}$
2	Atalik and Senturk [4]	Novel ranking approach based on incircle	$\text{Rank}(A) = (2.778, 0.557, 2),$ $\text{Rank}(B) = (1.803, 0.550, 2)$	$\tilde{A} > \tilde{B}$
3	Prakash et al. [23]	Ranking based on Centroid	$R(\tilde{A}) = 2.63, R(\tilde{B}) = 1.9$	$\tilde{A} > \tilde{B}$
4	Mohan et al. [24]	Magnitude ranking	$R(\tilde{A}) = 2.42, R(\tilde{B}) = 1.83$	$\tilde{A} > \tilde{B}$
5.	Saini et al. [16]	Distance measure	$R(\tilde{A}) = 2.78, R(\tilde{B}) = 2.2$	$\tilde{A} > \tilde{B}$
6.	Nagoorgani and Ponnalagu [22]	Accuracy function	$R(\tilde{A}) = 3, R(\tilde{B}) = 2.25$	$\tilde{A} > \tilde{B}$
7	Proposed Method	Ranking based on Nagel Points	$N(\tilde{A}) = (4.063, 0.156, 4).$ $N(\tilde{B}) = (2.903, 0.103, 2).$	$\tilde{A} > \tilde{B}$

6 | Innovative Ranking Framework for MCDM: A Practical Application

This section presents a MCDM problem utilizing TIFNs as the decision-making quantifiers, based on the suggested ranking approach.

The multi criteria decision procedure is framed with the criteria $C = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n)$ to assess the m alternatives $A = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m)$. The best option that maximizes the benefit criterion and minimizes the cost criterion will be chosen by the decision maker. The weight vector of the criterion is expressed by w_j . The linguistic expression of the expert to represent criteria C_j in alternative A_i is given by the TIFNs $\tilde{A}_{ij} = (a_{ij}, b_{ij}, c_{ij}; a'_{ij}, b'_{ij}, c'_{ij})$.

Therefore MCDM problem can be constructed in matrix form as

$$D = [\tilde{A}_{ij}]_{m \times n} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & A_{1n} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & A_{2n} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ A_{n1} & A_{n2} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & A_{nn} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Now the detail step by step procedure to solve the constructed MCDM problem is as follows.

Step 1. Compute the normalized TIFNs decision matrix.

The primary step to avoid certain mismatches in measures of criteria like scaling, comparing etc., can be neutralized by the process of normalization. The normalized decision matrix has been constructed, using the following formula, the normalization of values in decision matrix can be obtained.

$$V_{ij} = \left\{ \left(\frac{a_{ij}}{a_j^{\max}} \cdot \frac{b_{ij}}{a_j^{\max}}, \frac{c_{ij}}{a_j^{\max}} \right); \left(\frac{a'_{ij}}{a_j^{\max}} \cdot \frac{b'_{ij}}{a_j^{\max}}, \frac{c'_{ij}}{a_j^{\max}} \right) \right\}.$$

$$N = [\tilde{V}_{ij}] = \begin{bmatrix} V_{11} & V_{12} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & V_{1n} \\ V_{21} & V_{22} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & V_{2n} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ V_{n1} & V_{n2} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & V_{nn} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Step 2. Compute the weighted normalized TIFNs decision matrix.

The elements of weighted normalized TIFNs decision matrix are computed by using the formula

$$V_{ij} = w_j \otimes v_{ij}.$$

The transformed decision matrix is given by

$$W = [V_{ij}] = \begin{bmatrix} V_{11} & V_{12} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & V_{1n} \\ V_{21} & V_{22} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & V_{2n} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ V_{n1} & V_{n2} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & V_{n3} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Step 3. Compute the aggregated values of the attributes

$$R_i = \sum_{j=1}^n V_{ij}.$$

Step 4. Now rank the alternatives.

Apply the proposed Nagel point ranking for R_i for each alternatives and conclude the problem by ranking procedure.

Step 5. Depending up on the alternatives and criterions nature conclude the decision by selection of maximum or minimum values.

6 | Case Study

This section discusses a real-world example to illustrate the suggested ranking process. Selecting the ideal site for an aerospace research organization center installation is crucial. Five areas were discovered by the space scientists group after a preliminary survey: A1, A2, A3, A4, and A5. Five criteria were used by the space scientists group to evaluate the locations: Geographic position (C_1), climatic condition (C_2), safety factor (C_3), functional area (C_4), and pollution factor (C_5). Let $w = (0.2, 0.15, 0.25, 0.1, 0.3)^T$ represent the criterion weight factor. The following table shows how the alternatives were rated using the specified criteria.

Table 2. TIFNs decision matrix for five alternatives.

Alternatives	Criteria				
	C_1	C_2	C_3	C_4	C_5
A ₁	(1,2,3 ; 0,2,4)	(3,4,5 ; 1,4,5)	(0,2,5;1,2,4)	(4,5,7; 3,5,8)	(4,5,6;3,5,7)
A ₂	(2,3,4;1,3,5)	(6,7,8;5,7,9)	(4,5,6; 2,5,7)	(3,4,5;1,4,6)	(6,7,8;4,7,9)
A ₃	(1,2,3;0,2,5)	(4,6,7;3,6,8)	(3,4,5;0,4,6)	(4,5,6;1,5,7)	(5,6,7 ;3,6,8)
A ₄	(2,3,4;1,3,6)	(5,6,7 ;2,6,8)	(2,3,5;1,3,6)	(3,4,5;2,4,7)	(4,6,7;2,6,8)
A ₅	(2,3,4;0,3,5)	(4,5,6;1,5,7)	(2,4,5;1,4,6)	(3,5,7;2,5,8)	(3,5,6 ; 2,5,7)

Table 3. Normalized TIFNs decision matrix for five alternatives.

Criteria					
Alternatives	C ₁	C ₂	C ₃	C ₄	C ₅
A ₁	(0.2, 0.3, 0.5; 0.3, 0.3, 0.7)	(0.3, 0.4, 0.6; 0.1, 0.4, 0.6)	(0.0, 0.3, 0.7; 0.1, 0.3, 0.6)	(0.5, 0.6, 0.9; 0.4, 0.6, 1.0)	(0.4, 0.6, 0.7; 0.3, 0.6, 0.8)
A ₂	(0.3, 0.5, 0.7; 0.2, 0.5, 0.8)	(0.7, 0.8, 0.9; 0.6, 0.8, 1.0)	(0.6, 0.7, 0.9; 0.3, 0.7, 1.0)	(0.4, 0.5, 0.6; 0.1, 0.5, 0.8)	(0.7, 0.8, 0.9; 0.4, 0.8, 1.0)
A ₃	(0.2, 0.3, 0.5; 0.3, 0.8)	(0.4, 0.7, 0.8; 0.3, 0.7, 0.9)	(0.4, 0.6, 0.7; 0.0, 0.6, 0.9)	(0.5, 0.6, 0.8; 0.1, 0.6, 0.9)	(0.6, 0.7, 0.8; 0.3, 0.7, 0.9)
A ₄	(0.3, 0.5, 0.7; 0.2, 0.5, 1.0)	(0.6, 0.7, 0.8; 0.2, 0.7, 0.9)	(0.3, 0.4, 0.7; 0.1, 0.4, 0.9)	(0.4, 0.5, 0.6; 0.3, 0.5, 0.9)	(0.4, 0.7, 0.8; 0.2, 0.7, 0.9)
A ₅	(0.3, 0.5, 0.7; 0.5, 0.8)	(0.4, 0.6, 0.7; 0.1, 0.6, 0.8)	(0.3, 0.6, 0.7; 0.1, 0.6, 0.9)	(0.4, 0.6, 0.9; 0.3, 0.6, 1.0)	(0.3, 0.6, 0.7; 0.2, 0.6, 0.8)

Table 4. Weighted Normalized TIFNs decision matrix for five alternatives.

Criteria					
Alternatives	C ₁	C ₂	C ₃	C ₄	C ₅
A ₁	(0.03,0.07,0.10;0.00,0.07,0.13)	(0.05,0.07,0.08;0.02,0.07,0.08)	(0.07,0.18,0.04,0.07,0.14)	(0.05,0.06,0.09;0.04,0.06,0.10)	(0.13,0.17,0.20;0.10,0.17,0.23)
A ₂	(0.07,0.10,0.13;0.03,0.10,0.17)	(0.10,0.12,0.13;0.08,0.12,0.15)	(0.14,0.18,0.21,0.07,0.18,0.25)	(0.04,0.05,0.06;0.01,0.05,0.08)	(0.20,0.23,0.27;0.13,0.23,0.30)
A ₃	(0.03,0.07,0.10;0.00,0.07,0.17)	(0.07,0.10,0.12;0.05,0.10,0.13)	(0.11,0.14,0.18;0.04,0.14,0.21)	(0.05,0.06,0.08;0.01,0.06,0.09)	(0.17,0.20,0.23;0.10,0.20,0.27)
A ₄	(0.07,0.10,0.13;0.03,0.10,0.20)	(0.08,0.10,0.12;0.03,0.10,0.13)	(0.07,0.11,0.18;0.04,0.11,0.21)	(0.04,0.05,0.06;0.03,0.05,0.09)	(0.13,0.20,0.23;0.07,0.20,0.27)
A ₅	(0.07,0.10,0.13;0.0,0.10,0.17)	(0.07,0.08,0.10;0.02,0.08,0.12)	(0.07,0.14,0.18;0.04,0.14,0.21)	(0.04,0.06,0.09;0.03,0.06,0.10)	(0.10,0.17,0.20;0.07,0.17,0.23)

Table 5. Final decision results.

Alternatives	Aggregated Values
A ₁	(0.27,0.43,0.65;0.19,0.43,0.69)
A ₂	(0.55,0.68,0.81;0.33,0.68,0.94)
A ₃	(0.42,0.57,0.70;0.16,0.57,0.87)
A ₄	(0.39,0.56,0.72;0.19,0.56,0.90)
A ₅	(0.34,0.56,0.70;0.14,0.56,0.83)

Applying Nagel point concept, the final decision can be obtained as, $A_2 > A_3 > A_4 > A_5 > A_1$ Comparative ranking with existing methods.

Table 6. Ranking using different methods.

Methods	Results
Li	$A_2 > A_3 > A_4 > A_5 > A_1$
Dubey and Mehra	$A_2 > A_3 > A_4 > A_5 > A_1$
Wei	$A_2 > A_3 > A_4 > A_5 > A_1$
Rezvani	$A_2 > A_4 > A_3 > A_5 > A_1$
Wang and Zhong	$A_3 > A_2 > A_4 > A_5 > A_1$
Das and Guha	$A_2 > A_3 > A_4 > A_5 > A_1$
Proposed method	$A_2 > A_3 > A_4 > A_5 > A_1$

From Table 5, it is evidently shows that the proposed ranking method align with the existing ranking methods.

7 | Conclusion

This article suggests a new ordering of TIFNs using nagel points as a basis. Some numerical examples to illustrate the applicability of the strategy are provided. Moreover, a comparison analysis is carried out to verify the proposed methodology. A comparison with a few other methods in use is used to demonstrate the ranking method's superiority. This research has some theoretical and managerial ramifications.

In conclusion, the process of ranking TIFNs is a complex and crucial task, given the inherent uncertainty and imprecision associated with these numbers. The study aimed to develop a systematic approach for ranking TIFNs, taking into account both the membership and non-membership degrees, to enhance decision-making processes in various real-world applications.

Through an extensive review of existing methods and a critical evaluation of their limitations, this research proposed a novel ranking method based on a comprehensive consideration of the centroid deviation and area deviation between TIFNs. The proposed method successfully addresses the challenges posed by existing approaches, offering a more robust and accurate means of ranking TIFNs.

The significance of this research extends to diverse fields where decision-making involves uncertainty and imprecision. Whether in finance, engineering, or other domains, the ability to rank TIFNs accurately contributes to more informed and confident decision-making processes. The proposed method not only fills a gap in existing methodologies but also opens avenues for further research and refinement in the realm of ranking under uncertainty.

In conclusion, the developed ranking method for TIFNs offers a valuable contribution to the field, enhancing our ability to navigate decision-making in situations characterized by vagueness and ambiguity. As decision-makers continue to grapple with complex and uncertain information, the proposed method provides a reliable tool for ranking TIFNs, promoting more effective and robust decision outcomes.

Author Contributaion

K. A. P. verified the manuscript, and M. S. wrote the manuscript.

Funding

we assure that there in no funding support we have received.

Data Availability

Not Applicable.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declared that they have no conflicts of interest to this work. We declare that we do not have any commercial or associative interest that represents a conflict of interest in connection with the work submitted.

References

- [1] Shakouri, B., Abbasi Shureshjani, R., Daneshian, B., & Hosseinzadeh Lotfi, F. (2020). A parametric method for ranking intuitionistic fuzzy numbers and its application to solve intuitionistic fuzzy network data envelopment analysis models. *Complexity*. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2020/6408613>
- [2] Lakshmana Gomathi Nayagam, V., Jeevaraj, S., & Sivaraman, G. (2016). Complete ranking of intuitionistic fuzzy numbers. *Fuzzy information and engineering*, 8(2), 237–254. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.FIAE.2016.06.007>
- [3] Bharati, S. K. (2017). Ranking method of intuitionistic fuzzy numbers. *Global journal of pure and applied mathematics*, 13(9), 4595–4608. https://www.ripublication.com/gjpam17/gjpamv13n9_16.pdf
- [4] Atalik, G., & Senturk, S. (2020). A noval ranking approach based on incircle of triangular intuitionistic fuzzy numbers. *Journal of intelligent and fuzzy systems*, 39(5), 6271–6278. <https://doi.org/10.3233/JIFS-189095>
- [5] Rezvani, S., & Wang, X. (2018). A new type-2 intuitionistic exponential triangular fuzzy number and its ranking method with centroid concept and Euclidean distance. *IEEE international conference on fuzzy systems*. IEEE. <https://doi.org/10.1109/FUZZ-IEEE.2018.8491685>
- [6] Elaiyaperumal, R. Gajivaradhan, P. & Suguna, M. (2019). Defuzzification by area of region (AOR) in an intuitionistic fuzzy environment. *The international journal of analytical and experimental modal analysis*. 11(9), 3282-3288.
- [7] Christi, D. M. S. A., & Kasthuri, B. (2015). Transportation problem with triangular intuitionistic fuzzy numbers solved using ranking technique and russell's method. *Fuzzy systems*, 7(6), 173–176. <https://www.citresearch.org/dl/index.php/fs/article/view/FS082015004>.
- [8] Salahshour, S. (2012). A novel approach for ranking triangular intuitionistic fuzzy numbers. *AWERProcedia information technology and computer science*, 1(12), 442-446. <https://www.academia.edu/2685596>
- [9] Kumar, T., Bajaj, R. K., & Kaushik, R. (2017). Expected value based ranking of intuitionistic fuzzy variables. *AIP conference proceedings*, 1860(1), 020030. <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.4990329>
- [10] Li, D. F. (2010). A ratio ranking method of triangular intuitionistic fuzzy numbers and its application to MADM problems. *Computers & mathematics with applications*, 60(6), 1557–1570. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.CAMWA.2010.06.039>
- [11] Ummusalma, B., & Selvakumari, K. (2017). TOPSIS method for decision making problem by accuracy function of triangular intuitionistic fuzzy number. *International journal of pure and applied mathematics*, 114(6), 161–168.
- [12] Liang, C., Zhao, S., & Zhang, J. (2014). Aggregation operators on triangular intuitionistic fuzzy numbers and its application to multi-criteria decision making problems. *Foundations of computing and decision sciences*, 39(3), 189–208. <https://doi.org/10.2478/FCDS-2014-0011>

- [13] Stanujkic, D., Zavadskas, E. K., Karabasevic, D., Urosevic, S., & Maksimovic, M. (2017). An approach for evaluating website quality in hotel industry based on triangular intuitionistic fuzzy numbers. *Informatica*, 28(4), 725–748. <https://doi.org/10.15388/INFORMATICA.2017.153>
- [14] Edalatpanah, S. A. (2019). A data envelopment analysis model with triangular intuitionistic fuzzy numbers. *International journal of data envelopment analysis*, 7(4), 47–58. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/339617696>
- [15] Wang, F. (2021). Preference degree of triangular fuzzy numbers and its application to multi-attribute group decision making. *Expert systems with applications*, 178, 114982. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.ESWA.2021.114982>
- [16] Saini, N., Bajaj, R. K., Gandotra, N., & Dwivedi, R. P. (2018). Multi-criteria decision making with triangular intuitionistic fuzzy number based on distance measure & parametric entropy approach. *Procedia computer science*, 125, 34–41. <https://doi.org/10.1016/J.PROCS.2017.12.007>
- [17] Gautam, S. S., & Singh, S. R. (2016). TOPSIS for multi criteria decision making in intuitionistic fuzzy environment. *International journal of computer applications*, 156(8), 975–8887. <https://doi.org/10.5120/ijca2016912514>
- [18] Selvaraj, J., & Majumdar, A. (2021). A new ranking method for interval-valued intuitionistic fuzzy numbers and its application in multi-criteria decision-making. *Mathematics* 2021, 9(21), 2647. <https://doi.org/10.3390/MATH9212647>
- [19] Xu, J., Dong, J. Y., Wan, S. P., & Gao, J. (2019). Multiple attribute decision making with triangular intuitionistic fuzzy numbers based on zero-sum game approach. *Iranian journal of fuzzy systems*, 16(3), 97–112. <https://doi.org/10.22111/IJFS.2019.4648>
- [20] Atanassov, K. T. (1986). Intuitionistic fuzzy sets. *Fuzzy sets and systems*, 20(1), 87–96. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0165-0114\(86\)80034-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0165-0114(86)80034-3)
- [21] Nehi, H. M. (2010). A new ranking method for intuitionistic fuzzy numbers. *International journal of fuzzy systems*, 12(1), 80. <https://openurl.ebsco.com/EPDB%3Agcd%3A13%3A16172957>
- [22] Nagoorgani, A., & Ponnalagu, K. (2012). A new approach on solving intuitionistic fuzzy linear programming problem. *Applied mathematical sciences*, 6(70), 3467–3474. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/264419657>
- [23] Arun Prakash, K., Suresh, M. & Vengataasalam, S. (2016). A new approach for ranking of intuitionistic fuzzy numbers using a centroid concept. *Mathematical sciences*, 10, 177-184. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40096-016-0192-y>
- [24] Mohan, S., Kannusamy, A. P., & Samiappan, V. (2020). A new approach for ranking of intuitionistic fuzzy numbers. *Journal of fuzzy extension & applications*, 1(1), 15-26. <https://doi.org/10.22105/jfea.2020.247301.1003>