

# Influence of walking accessibility on older people walking preference

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## Abstract

Travel behaviour models are necessary to identify travel demand and planning transport systems. Many studies identify various approaches to measure walking accessibility and travel behaviour modelling. However, a limited model is developed to analyse the older peoples' walking as a transport mode preference based on travel time, population, street connectivity and spatial area. This study presented a Binary logistic regression model to observe the older commuters' transport mode preference. This research examines four major travelled destination types (shopping centres, health care centres, education centres and recreational centres) for the elderly. The framework of this study comprises four parts. Firstly, the study develops a walking accessibility index for older commuters to observe the access level. Afterwards, several numbers of the various binary model (BL) are evaluated and compared. The binary models are developed using older commuters' walking accessibility index, socio-economic (gender, relation, car license, car numbers, income, disable parking permit, dwelling type, dwell ownership), and built-in environmental (home sub-region, land mix use) variables. Then two BL model is proposed after model validation. Finally, the best fit model is validated using statistical methods (Omnibus test, Hosmer and Lemeshow test). Moreover, the probabilities of selecting walking as a transport mode by older travellers are analysed by statistical model and compare with actual travel survey datasets. The results confirm that the proposed time-based walking model can describe the older commuters' walk related travel decisions. The proposed walking accessibility index and the preference model can be helpful to plan distributions of essential destinations coverage. Future urban and policy planners can use the walking preference to evaluate older peoples' walking access towards different destinations.

**Keywords:** Older commuters' walking; active transport; older people mode choice model, walking access

## 1. Introduction

The number of older populations is increasing rapidly all over the world. A World Population Prospects (2019) study predicts, one in six people in the world will be over age 65 (16% of the total population) by 2050. The ageing population growth impacts nearly all sectors of society, including financial markets, the demand for goods/services, housing, transportation and social protection. Ageing can face different challenges in mobility and transport. Walking is one of the main modes of transportation and mobility. Walking is a transport mode which is free from traffic congestion and decreases environmental pollution. Walking is one of the most

45 recognised exercises (Watts et al. 2016; Kelly et al. 2018), which has numerous benefits to  
46 physical and mental health (Black et al. 2015; Branco et al. 2015; Department of Health 2016;  
47 Duncan et al. 2016; Staying Steady 2017; Walk Your Way to Health 2017). For the elderly,  
48 risks of developing major cardiovascular, metabolic diseases, muscular weakness and dementia  
49 can be reduced through regular walking (McPhee et al. 2016).

## 50 **2. Literature review**

51 Previous studies covered a range of walking access topics, including health-related aspects,  
52 accessibility analysis, mode choice analysis, evaluating the influencing factors on walking and  
53 walking behaviour studies. Although walking is related to many benefits, older people are  
54 relatively less interested to walk than other adults (Nordbakke 2013; Lavery et al. 2015;  
55 Keadle et al. 2016). Researchers, policymakers and health officials promote walking as a  
56 sustainable transportation mode (Lee and Buchner 2008; Pucher and Buehler 2010; Yang 2016)  
57 specifically for older people. To encourage walking as a mode of transportation, understanding  
58 older peoples' travel behaviour is important (Hatamzadeh and Hosseinzadeh 2020). Elderly  
59 commuters' travel behaviour is different from other age groups (Nathan et al. 2012; Wong et  
60 al. 2017). For instance, less travel, limited walking speed, limited mobility, need for assistance  
61 and fear of falling may discourage the elderly from walking (Barnes et al. 2007; Wijnhuizen et  
62 al. 2007). For the older people, independent travel needs may be higher than the working-age  
63 group to attend more social and health services (Kim and Ulfarsson 2004). Therefore, elderly  
64 walking studies need exclusive attention (Borst et al. 2009). Choosing walking as a mode of  
65 transport depends on destination accessibility, basic safety, convenience and cost (Schneider  
66 2013).

### 67 **2.1. Built-in environment and socio-economic study**

68 Many studies have focused on the influence of built-in environmental characteristics and socio-  
69 economic variables to analyse older commuters' transport mode choice Zandieh et al. 2019;  
70 Zlatkovic et al. 2019).

### 71 **2.2. Mode choice model study**

72 The mobility mode choice model identifies the variables that influence the travel behaviour for  
73 a specific group or area. Yang (2016) discussed various mobility mode choice models which  
74 focused on walking behaviour. Duncan et al. (2016) examined the correlation between  
75 neighbourhood walkability, transportation mode choice and walking among older adults in  
76 Paris, France. Böcker et al. (2017) analysed binomial and multinomial logit regression models  
77 to evaluate the elderly trip and mobility mode choice. Despite these research studies, analysing  
78 the older commuters' walking preference as a mode of transport is still limited. Most of the  
79 older peoples' walkability studies are based on health-related aspects (Notthoff and Carstensen  
80 2015) or the theoretical method (Koschinsky et al. 2017). Older commuters' walking as the  
81 travel mode choice has not been widely discussed. Also, considering the elderly walk time,  
82 street connectivity and the population is not very common to develop a walking mode choice  
83 model. This research intends to address these gaps in the older commuters' walking behaviours.  
84 This research develops a walking mode choice model considering a time-based elderly walking  
85 accessibility index, built-in environmental characteristics and socio-economic variables.

## 86 **3. Study area and datasets**

87 For this study, metropolitan Melbourne, Australia older commuters' walking travel datasets are  
88 considered. The datasets for metropolitan Melbourne at the SA1 level (Statistical Area level  
89 one) is analysed in this study. The datasets such as different trip destinations, older population

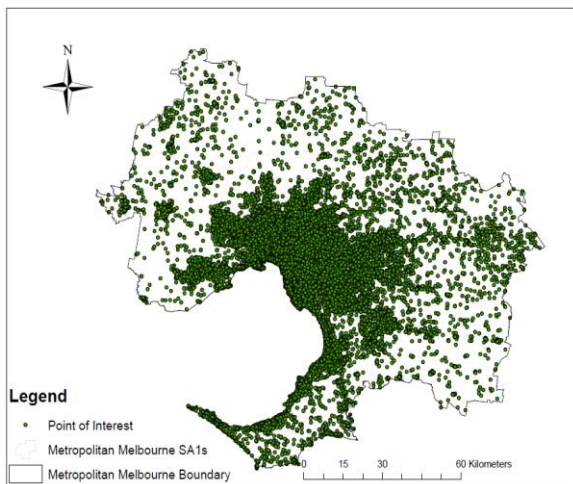
90 data, land use mix, street connectivity dataset, travel time dataset, household survey data and  
 91 census data are collected from various sources. The detailed datasets used for model  
 92 development in this study are as follows.

93 **3.1. Household survey data**

94 Victorian Integrated Survey of Travel and Activity (VISTA 2016) data sets are a wide range  
 95 of data, including all age classifications, destinations, travel modes and travel times for all  
 96 statistical areas. The elderly socio-economic (gender, relation, car license, car numbers,  
 97 income, disable parking permit, dwelling type, dwell ownership) and home sub-region (built-  
 98 in environment variables) datasets are extracted from VISTA trip information. More than  
 99 18,000 household travel survey was collected. Among that, 7024 older peoples' trip responses  
 100 were separated from the original datasets using IBM SPSS 26 analysis. From this survey  
 101 datasets, only 1024 older people use walking to reach a destination.

102 **3.2. Trip destinations/POIs**

103 A detailed point of interest (POIs) database is collected from Australian government open  
 104 datasets. POIs are considered as the destination/trip purpose. This research examines four  
 105 major types of POI (shopping centres, health care centres, education centres and recreational  
 106 centres) which are common destinations for the elderly (Fatima and Moridpour 2019). Figure  
 107 1 represents the four POIs distribution within Metropolitan Melbourne SA1s.  
 108



109  
 110 **Figure 1: Four POIs coverage within metropolitan Melbourne SA1s**

111 **3.3. Older population**

112 The population density is a significant indicator of walking accessibility measure calculation  
 113 (Frank et al. 2005; Habibian and Hosseinzadeh 2018). According to the Australian Bureau of  
 114 Statistics (2016), 14% of the total population is aged 65 or over in Metropolitan Melbourne.  
 115 Population data sets for the elderly are calculated from census data by region-population and  
 116 AURIN (Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network). Some inner Melbourne SA1s  
 117 have a lower elderly population density, whereas some outer Melbourne SA1s have a higher  
 118 elderly population density. Therefore, considering the elderly population is necessary to  
 119 calculate the walking mode choice analysis. Depending on the population density, transport  
 120 planners can prioritise the development area.

121 **3.4. Land use mix**

122 Mixed land use involves a range of complementary land uses located together in a balanced  
 123 mix, including residential development, shops, employment community, recreation facilities,

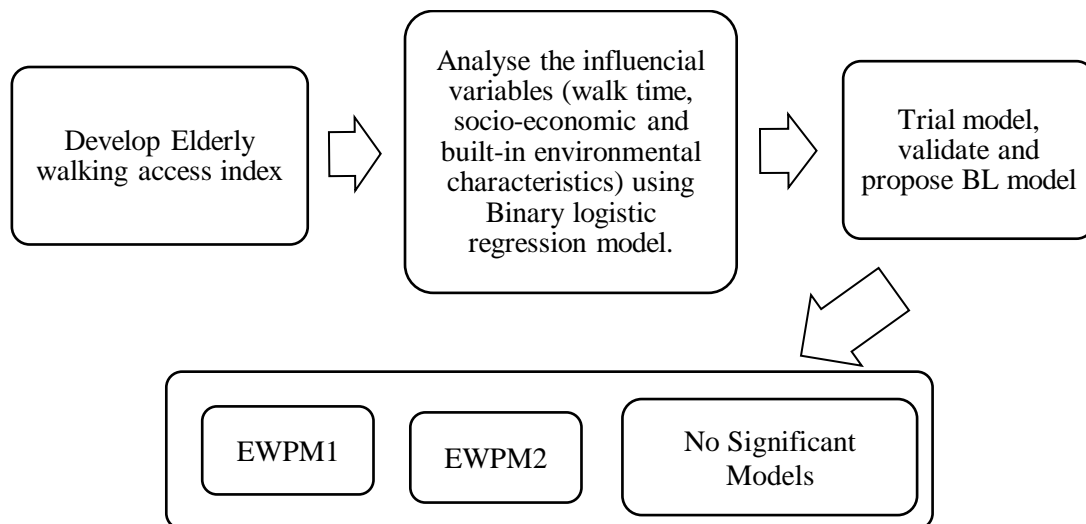
124 parks and open space. This study uses an entropy land-use mix method based on Shannon's  
 125 Diversity Index (Frank et al. 2010; Christian et al. 2011; Mavoia et al. 2018). The urban-related  
 126 datasets are available from various government open data sources.

127 **3.5. Walk time**

128 Walking speed varies from person to person. The walking speed of older adults is less than the  
 129 other adults (Azmi et al. 2012). In this study, the walking speed for the elderly is considered as  
 130 0.70 m/sec (2.5 km/hr) (Graham et al. 2010; Yang and Ana 2012).

131 **4. Research framework**

132 The framework of older commuters' walking mode choice prediction model is illustrated in  
 133 Figure 2.



134 **Figure 2: The research framework for older commuters' walking mode choice model**  
 135

136 Firstly, this research applies a time-based for model development. The developed time-based  
 137 index for older commuters considers the elderly total walk time towards a destination from a  
 138 specific origin (from one specific SA1), street connectivity and the elderly population density.  
 139 Secondly, a Binary logistic regression (BL) model is used to evaluate the older peoples' walking  
 140 preference model in this study. To examine the walking preference, several models are  
 141 developed using IBM SPSS 26 (statistical software). These models are analysed and tested  
 142 using the influencing variables. Finally, among these tested models, the two most statistically  
 143 significant models are highlighted. Moreover, the methodology of this study can be described  
 144 in four steps as follows.

- 145 • Develop an older commuter walking accessibility index
- 146 • Analysis of all the influential characteristics of older commuters' travel behaviour using
- 147 Binary logistic regression model.
- 148 • Observe the Hypothesised relationship of the variable using IBM SPSS 26.
- 149 • Develop two different walking mode choice prediction models to compare and
- 150 introduce a simplified prediction model structure for elderly travel.

151 **5. Model development**

152 Table 1 (next week) shows the independent/categorical variables, their description, and the  
 153 correlation relationship with the dependent.

154

**Table 1: Independent variables description**

Variables	Description & dummy variable	r**
Elderly walking	It is the dependent variable. In this study whether elderly is walking or not walking is considered.	n/a
<b>Time-based walking accessibility index</b>		
Elderly walking access index	A measure to evaluate walking access levels for the elderly. In this study, six classifications/dummy are used to identify access levels. The categories are very poor, poor, moderate, good, very good, excellent.	-
<b>Socioeconomic characteristics</b>		
Gender	Male and female.	+
Relation	Four dummy variables are used: Self, Spouse, Child/Grandchild/Sibling, Other/unrelated/blank.	-
Car license	Three driver's license dummy variable types as Full, Green/Red P, Learners/No/relative/blank.	-
Car numbers	Two dummy variables as one car or more than one cars	+
Income	Four dummy variable as, missing/refused/Negative Income/Zero Income/1-199, 200-299/300-399/400-599, 600-799/800-999/1000-1249, 1250-1499/1500- 1999/2000+.	+
Disable parking permit	Two dummy variables as Holding a permit or not.	-
Dwelling type	Two dummy variables as Separate House or Flat/Apartment/Terrace/Townhouse.	+
Dwell ownership	Two dummy variables as Fully owned/Being purchased or Being rented.	-
<b>Built environment characteristics</b>		
Home sub-region	Three dummy variables as Melbourne-inner, Melbourne-middle, Melbourne- outer.	-
Land use mix	Consider four destinations: shopping centres, healthcare centres, education centres and recreation centres	-

155 r\* is the correlation

156 **5.1. Walking accessibility index**

157 The walking index assesses elderly total walk time and population as a Z-score. Datasets are  
 158 analysed using IBM SPSS 26 and ArcMap 1071 network analyst tool. The time-based walking  
 159 accessibility index structure for older people is as follows:

160  
 161 
$$EWAI = (Z\text{-score Walk Time}) + (Z\text{-score Pratio}) + (Z\text{-score Street-connectivity}) \quad (1)$$

162  
 163 
$$WT_{SA1i} = \sum_{j=1}^n \left( \frac{WT_j^M - WT_{ij}^A}{WT_j^D} \right) \quad (2)$$

164  
 165 Where  
 166  $WT_{SA1i}$  = Total walking time for elderly form SA1 centroid,  
 167  $WT_j^M$  = maximum walking time to destination j,  
 168  $WT_j^D$  = average walking time from an SA1-weighted centroid i to destination j,  
 169  $WT_{ij}^A$  = Desirable walking time to destination j.

170

$$P_{ratio} = \frac{\sum_1^n \text{Elderly Population for a specific SA1}}{\sum_1^n \text{All group Population for a specific SA1}} \quad (3)$$

172  
173  $P_{ratio}$  = Population ratio,  
174  $n$  = number of SA1.

175  
176 The elderly walking accessibility index is calculated for metropolitan Melbourne SA1s. The  
177 accessibility index is classified into six levels (as very poor, poor, moderate, good, very good  
178 and excellent). For a higher index value, the access level is lower (very poor). Inner Melbourne  
179 SA1s are more accessible for older peoples' walking access compared to outer Melbourne SA1.  
180 For each POI, two thresholds, including the desirable and maximum walking travel times, are  
181 defined for the elderly. These values are adopted and converted from Austroads, the  
182 Association of Australian and New Zealand Road Transport and Traffic Authorities  
183 (Authorities, T. 2011). The maximum (11.6 mins) and desirable time (5.83 mins) is considered  
184 to calculate the time component for the elderly walking accessibility index (Equation 2). The  
185 desirable walk time is the time, where around 50% of pedestrians feels comfortable. A  
186 maximum travel time is where a significant percentage of people would find it within the  
187 comfort walking limit. As the walking speed is different for the elderly, the standard travel time  
188 also varies compared to the other adults.

## 189 5.2. Walking preference model

### 190 5.2.1. Elderly walking preference model one (EWPM1)

191 As mentioned before, the first elderly walking mode choice model, *EWPM1*, considers the  
192 walking accessibility index. The *EWPM1* structure is presented in Equation 4.

$$EWPM1, P(Y) = \frac{e^{(\beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{Elderly walking accessibility index})}}{1 + e^{(\beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{Elderly walking accessibility index})}} \quad (4)$$

195  
196 Where

197 P-Probability of elderly commuters' weekday public transport preference  
198  $\beta_0, \beta_1$  is the regression coefficient.

199  
200 The odds ratio (*OR value*) identifies the differences in influencing factors between the choice  
201 mode (whether walking or non-walking). The *OR value* is calculated using Equation 5.

$$OR = P / (1 - P) \quad (5)$$

### 205 5.2.2. Model with elderly walking accessibility index and correlated variables (EWPM2)

206 The second model, *EWPM2*, is a combination of time-based index and correlated socio-  
207 economic components (car licence, gender). Equation 6 is used to predict the elderly walk  
208 travels.

$$EWPM2, P(Y) = \frac{e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{Elderly Walking accessibility index} + \beta_2 * \text{Car Licence} + \beta_3 * \text{Gender}}}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 * \text{Elderly Walking accessibility index} + \beta_2 * \text{Car Licence} + \beta_3 * \text{Gender}}} \quad (6)$$

## 211 6. Results and discussion

212 The *EWPM1* and *EWPM2* are assessed for all four destination types. Table 2 presents the model  
213 accuracy test results for both models. Here "link mode" indicates the elderly walking as the  
214 preferred travel mode. Walking usage is dummy coded as "0". Other transport usages (public  
215 and private transport) are dummy coded as "1".

216

**Table 2: Model accuracy summary**

Description	Dummy Variable	Prediction Percentage (%)	
		<i>EWPM1</i>	<i>EWPM2</i>
Link mode	1	5897	5894
	0	1127	1130
Overall Percentage		86.0	83.9

217 Elderly walking dummy coded as "0", Other modes of mobility dummy coded as "1".

218

219 From Table 2, around 7024 elderly travel data is analysed using *EWPM1* and *EWPM2*. Overall  
 220 model accuracy is 86% and 84% for *EWPM1* and *EWPM2* respectively. From the Table 2  
 221 *EWPM1* model accuracy results, 1127 elderly prefer walking as a mobility mode. Similarly,  
 222 *EWPM2* predict around 1130 elderly prefers walking as a mode of transport towards four POIs.  
 223 From VISTA (2016), around 1,012 elderly walking as a travel mode to reach a destination.  
 224 Both model accuracy results match the household survey (VISTA) datasets indicating that the  
 225 proposed model structures implying the elderly walking prediction correctly.

226 **6.1. *EWPM1* analysis results and discussion**

227 Table 3 represents the results for *EWPM1*. Here, *B* is the coefficient for the target group (elderly  
 228 walking usage as transportation mobility) and *sig.* represents the *p-value*. A *p-value* is smaller  
 229 than 0.005 proves the model significance. *Exp(B)* is the exponentiation of the *B* coefficient.  
 230 *Exp(B)* is also called the *odds ratio (OR)*. A negative correlation (*B*) is a relationship between  
 231 two variables in which one variable increases as the other decreases, and vice versa. For each  
 232 unit of the target group increases, then the dominant variable coefficient decreases. Wald test  
 233 is used to test the association between the independent variables (predictors) and the criterion  
 234 variable (dependent) variable. Wald test (Chi-square test) checks the null hypothesis. This  
 235 hypothesis is rejected if the *p-value (Sig. value)* is smaller than the critical *p-value* of 0.005.

236

237

**Table 3: *EWPM1* analysis results**

Variable	Coefficient ( <i>B</i> )	Wald Test	df	Sig. ( <i>p-value</i> )	OR/ <i>Exp(B)</i>
Elderly walking access index	-1.518	2348.77	1	0.000	0.219
Constant ( $\beta_0$ )	-1.518	2448.77	1	0.000	0.219

238

239 From Table 3, the *sig. value* is 0.000 indicates the *EWPM1* is statistically significant. *EWPM1*  
 240 analysis results show the antagonistic relation between elderly time-based walking access index  
 241 and walking as mobility mode. It means if the index value increases, the elderly walking as  
 242 mobility choice decreases. For example, if the index value is higher, it indicates a “very poor”  
 243 level of elderly walking access (Table 1). The result predicts a higher probability of the elderly  
 244 not preferring walking transport for travel. Therefore, an *odds ratio/EXP(B)*<1 can be  
 245 interpreted as a decreasing likelihood of being in the target group (elderly walking usage as  
 246 transport mobility) as scores on the predictor increase. From Table 3, the *Exp(B)* results show  
 247 that if the index value is higher, the probability of choosing walking as mobility is more minor  
 248 than choosing other modes (private or public mode of transport) by the elderly. The probability  
 249 of preferring walking decreases by 0.219 units. In another way, for the highest index value and  
 250 lower elderly walking access level, the probability of prioritising other modes of transport is

251 4.57 units. Moreover, the elderly have five times higher possibility of prioritising walking over  
 252 different mobility modes towards various destination types.

253 **6.2. EWPM2 analysis results and discussion**

254 *EWPM2* is a combination of elderly walk travel time-based index, car licence and gender. The  
 255 correlation test shows better significant results among these dependent variables. A  
 256 summarised *EWPM2* prediction model result is presented in Table 4.

257 **Table 4: EWPM2 analysis results**

Variable	Coefficient ( <i>B</i> )	Wald Test	df	Sig. ( <i>p-value</i> )	<i>OR/Exp(B)</i>
Elderly PT access index	-0.48	0.892	1	0.345	0.618
Car License	0.077	0.543	1	0.461	0.926
Gender	0.702	0.679	1	0.302	2.017
Constant ( $\beta_0$ )	-2.374	9.043	1	0.003	0.093

258  
 259 From Table 4, *EWPM2* analysis results show the opposed relation between elderly time-based  
 260 walking access index and walking preference as mobility mode. It means the if walking index  
 261 value decreases, elderly walking as a transport usage increases. As an example, if the index  
 262 value is lowest, it indicates an “excellent level” (Table 1) of elderly walking access for four  
 263 POIs. From Table 4, the *Exp (B)* results show that if the index value is higher, the chances to  
 264 prefer walking is less by the elderly (towards analysed four POIs). The probability of choosing  
 265 walking decreases by 0.618 units. In another way, for the highest index value and lower  
 266 walking access level, the probability of prioritising walking is 1.618 units. However, the sig  
 267 value for the elderly walking index is over 0.005. According to the *p-value* standard, it is not  
 268 significant.

269  
 270 From Table 4, car licence odd ratio *EXP (B)* is less than 1. In the case of an *odds ratio/EXP (B)*  
 271  $< 1$ , it can be interpreted as a decreasing likelihood of being in the target group as scores on the  
 272 predictor increase. It demonstrates if the elderly holds a driver license, there is a higher  
 273 possibility (Unit 1.07) of not choosing walking as a transport mode. From table 4, gender odd  
 274 ratio *EXP (B)* is greater than 1. If  $OR/Exp(B) > 1$ , it is interpreted as an increased likelihood of  
 275 being in the target group (walking as transport usage) on the dependent variable. The decrease  
 276 of elderly walking access level and specific gender (male or female) will not choose walking  
 277 as a mobility mode. However, the categorical variables are not significant with the independent  
 278 variable "Travel mode (walking)". The reason might be the developed elderly walking  
 279 accessibility index variables are somehow correlated to other dependent variables. For  
 280 example, the index already calculated the elderly population, which might conflict with the  
 281 variable "gender". Besides, the *sig* value (*p-value*) for categorical variable gender and car  
 282 licence is not significant (over 0.005). Moreover, these independent variables may be similar  
 283 or positively correlated, affecting the *EWPM2* model performance. Therefore, *EWPM2* cannot  
 284 be considered as a proper prediction choice model for the elderly walk.

285 **6.3. Model validation**

286 As the model *EWPM2* is not significantly correct; therefore, only *EWPM1* is tested. To check  
 287 the model goodness fit, Omnibus and Hosmer & Lemeshow is conducted. Table 5 summarises  
 288 the validation test results for *EWPM1*.



289

**Table 5: EWPM1 validation comparison summary**

Statistical test	EWPM1	
<b>Omnibus test for model</b>	Chi-square	7.066
	df	12
	<i>P-value</i>	0.003
<b>Hosmer and Lemeshow test for model</b>	Chi-square	12.162
	df	8
	<i>P-value</i>	0.144

290

291 The Omnibus statistical test that explains variance in a dataset is significantly greater than the  
 292 unexplained variance. The Omnibus Tests of model coefficients contains results from the  
 293 likelihood ratio chi-square tests. If the *p-value* is less than 0.005, then the model is statistically  
 294 valid. Table 5 indicates that the EWPM1 fits the data significantly better as  $p < 0.005$ .

295

296 The Hosmer–Lemeshow (HL) is another statistical test for goodness of fit for Binary models.  
 297 It tests whether the datasets properly fit into the model or not. This HL test calculates if the  
 298 observed prediction output results coordinate with the expected output results. HL test fit better  
 299 if the model result is non-significant. The limit for HL *sig. value* is in between 0 to 1. If the *p-*  
 300 *value* is closer to 0, then the model is non-significant. Similarly, if the *sig value* is more relative  
 301 to 1, it is significant. From Table 5, the *p-value* is 0.144, which is closer to 0. It rejects the null  
 302 hypothesis, and therefore the model fits the data.

303

304 Moreover, from all the above analysis and validation tests, it can be observed the proposed  
 305 elderly walking preference model one (*EWPM1*) fits elderly walking behaviour. The proposed  
 306 *EWPM1* is controlled by the elderly walking access level, nearest POI (from specific SA1),  
 307 street connectivity and elderly population in a walking accessibility index. These variables are  
 308 correlated to other socio-economic and build-in-environmental variables. Therefore, instead of  
 309 using several categorical variables, only the elderly time-based access index can be easily  
 310 applicable.

## 311 7. Conclusion and future research direction

312 This study demonstrates different influential factors of older commuters' walking travel mode  
 313 preferences. The mode choice model, including the time-based index, is most significant to  
 314 analyse elderly travel behaviour. The results show the elderly access level towards a destination  
 315 is an essential factor for the elderly's walking preferences. For higher walking access levels  
 316 (Lower walking index value), the probability of choosing walking as mobility mode is greater  
 317 by older commuters. As the model calculation also consider population and street connectivity,  
 318 it provides more precise analysis result for elderly. The model approach is also applicable to  
 319 other geographic locations or cities around the world. Both the index and model can help  
 320 disabled commuters' travel behaviour analysis. This time-based walking access prediction  
 321 model is also applicable for other adult commuters with minor modifications (walk time, walk  
 322 speed).

323

324 This study examines the older commuters' weekdays travel datasets. The walk time is evaluated  
 325 for four specific destination types. Future research may include more destination types and  
 326 weekend travel to the analysis of the choice model using the destination distance. The urban  
 327 and transport policy planners can use the developed time-based walking index and mode  
 328 preference model for future urban development. The index indicates the elderly walking access  
 329 levels and population, so higher elderly populated areas can be provided with street signs.

330 Frequent street signs and travel time between different origins and POIs can provide more  
 331 confidence to walk for older commuters (Hess 2012). Future urban and policy planners can  
 332 modify the distribution of various essential destinations. The model EWPM1 can be easily  
 333 applicable to analysing the prediction results and improvements for the newly developed plan.  
 334

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