

Article

Investigation on Current and Prospective Energy Transition Scenarios in Indian Landscape Using Integrated SWOT-MCDA Methodology

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Abstract: India has ambitious goals to increase renewable energy penetration, and significant progress has been made since 2017. However, the Indian energy mix is highly dominated by fossil fuels. To set India on the pathway of the energy transition, a comprehensive analysis of the complex factors influencing the Indian energy sector is required. This study is put forward to delineate the current energy transition scenario in India and to direct the energy sector towards a prospective scenario for accomplishing a smooth energy transition. A hybrid quantitative-qualitative SWOT-integrated MCDA methodology is employed to accomplish the objective of this study. An extensive literature review is performed to understand and sort the various factors under each SWOT category. Fuzzy AHP methodology is utilized to convert the qualitative significance of each SWOT factor into quantitative scores, through which the crucial influencing factor in the current energy transition scenario is obtained. The top three highest-influence factors include utilizing the cost-competitiveness of solar and wind energy technologies over fossil fuels, the inadequacy of manpower having specialized skillsets, and connecting households to electricity and electrifying the transportation sector. The recommendation strategies are framed and presented for prospective energy transition scenarios. These strategies are assessed against the SWOT factors by using the PROMETHEE II methodology. The assessment results highlight that developing robust regulatory and policy frameworks, increasing the contribution of local energy resources, and promoting the distributed generation and grid infrastructure development are the highest-scoring strategies that have a synergic effect on multiple dimensions of energy transition, including political, financial, and techno-economic aspects. The proposed study will be conducive to framing effective policy in the upcoming years to assist the energy transition in India.

Keywords: India; energy transition; SWOT; fuzzy AHP; PROMETHEE II; MCDA



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1. Introduction

India's annual greenhouse gas emissions are the third-highest in the globe as of 2020, and a majority of its emissions are contributed by the energy sector [1]. Given the population, urbanization, and developmental factors in India, it is more likely that energy use, as well as electricity consumption, will increase, despite the measures in energy efficiency. India is one of the crucial countries in the world where rapid efforts need to be concentrated to curb emissions. Therefore, energy transition in India is the desideratum. Research to facilitate energy transition in India can initiate by assessing renewable energy potential [2]. For instance, review studies assessing the drivers of renewables, the current situation, the barriers, and the future initiatives in the state of India will be conducive to

perceiving a holistic overview of the energy transition scenario [3,4]. Meanwhile, another study highlighted the progress of renewable energy technologies in various countries [5]. However, research regarding the current energy sector in India and their potential to witness energy transition, as well as to sort out the challenges through valid recommendations, is lacking.

The proposed study aims to provide a comprehensive investigation of the current energy transition scenario in India, as well as to recommend state-of-the-art strategies to achieve energy transition in the prospective scenario. Only when a holistic assessment is performed, effective recommendations be framed, and a comprehensive investigation requires accurate mapping of the scenario, which can be accomplished by using qualitative tools. The SWOT tool prevails as the most robust and simple qualitative tool; it provides an extensive assessment of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats for the given objective, and has been utilized in applications such as hybrid energy networks [6], clean energy development [7], comparing the renewable and sustainable energy sectors [8], energy poverty [9], and many others. The key point to utilizing SWOT analysis is its realistic, fact-based, and data-driven approach. Meanwhile, the prospective energy transition scenario is built by propounded strategies, which are, in turn, developed by using SWOT factors. The strategies can aid in supporting strengths, strengthening weaknesses, utilizing opportunities, and averting threats. However, concerning the implementation aspects, the prioritization of one strategy relative to other strategies is the desideratum. Therefore, these strategies are evaluated for their significance in the energy transition by assessing their importance against each SWOT factor. This gives rise to multi-dimensional problems, and the methodology to deal with numerous factors and options requires a robust framework. Thus, a multi-criteria decision analysis (MCDA) framework is adopted since it produces an aggregated result by managing the multitude of perspectives, conflicting criteria, and ambiguity among the influencing factors and decision makers [10,11]. Another key reason for incorporating the MCDA framework is its ability to construct an evidence-based analysis by covering the aspects of economic, social, technological, environmental, and other perspectives through qualitative as well as quantitative attributes [12]. In addition, MCDA can integrate the synergic and trade-off effect induced on the final objective by the influencing factors.

The MCDA framework is employed in several studies, and some of the applications in the energy sector include sustainable energy consumption [13], jet fuels [14], sustainability assessment of the energy sector [15,16], waste-to-energy management strategies [17], energy storage systems [18], energy planning [19], location selection for solar energy plants [20], renewable energy potential assessment [21], second-generation biofuels [22,23], and many others. There are numerous MCDA frameworks and methods to attain an aggregated ranking. Some of the commonly used methods include the analytic hierarchy process (AHP) [24], best-worst Method (BWM) [25], VlseKriterijumska Optimizacija I Kompromisno Resenje (VIKOR) [26], preference ranking organization method for enrichment evaluation (PROMETHEE)—I and II [27], elimination and choice translating reality (ELECTRE) [28], technique for order preference by similarity to ideal solution (TOPSIS) [29], multi-objective optimization on the basis of ratio analysis (MOORA) [30], and decision making trial and evaluation laboratory (DEMATEL) [31]. Further, fuzzified methodologies such as fuzzy AHP [32], and fuzzy TOPIS [33,34] are also utilized in many studies. Among various MCDA methodologies, the authors utilized the PROMETHEE methodology since it is based on an outranking framework which can potentially yield a comprehensive comparison between various strategies. The utilization of the PROMETHEE methodology can be extended to evaluate numerous factors and alternatives with reliable results when compared to other methods. The authors also employed the fuzzy AHP methodology for finding the relative significance of the SWOT factors. Fuzzy AHP is used since it has the potential to accurately map the importance of SWOT factors in line with the requirements that are to be changed in the current scenario to transform it into a better prospective scenario.

The novelty of the proposed work relies on the integration of qualitative and quantitative attributes of the current energy transition scenario via a hybrid SWOT-Fuzzy AHP methodology. Further, the novelty is extended by utilizing the outcome of the current scenario to evaluate the strategies proposed for the prospective Indian energy transition scenario which, altogether, forms a SWOT and twin MCDA framework. This research study is structured as follows: Section 2 presents the literature review and the contributions of this study. Section 3 details the methodology employed in this study. Section 4 investigates the SWOT factors, which are assessed through the fuzzy AHP method for their relative significance. Section 5 presents the recommended strategies for prospective energy transition scenarios in India, which are assessed using the PROMETHEE methodology. The conclusions are presented in Section 6.

2. Literature Review

Fragkos et al. explored national low-carbon scenarios in Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, EU-28, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Russia, and the USA [35]. An integrated assessment model has been utilized for providing a cumulative insight into the energy systems, emissions, and economic implications of low-carbon pathways in these countries by investigating factors such as energy, transport, and land systems. The study suggests that a reallocation of investments toward low-carbon technologies is pivotal to witnessing a pronounced transformation in the energy sector without causing significant affordability issues. Fossil fuel taxes can enable the low-cost pathway for clean energy resources and aid in research and development [36]. Roy and Schaffartzik demonstrated the paradox of Indian energy transition, which is attributed to a higher usage of coal while making rhetorical progress in renewables [37]. The findings are indicative of the complex multi-dimensional factors influencing the coal preference, giving coal a dominant role to play and hindering the energy transition. Sharma et al. analyzed the major stalling force for rapid decarbonization in India with a case study oriented to the eastern state of Odisha [38]. The study identifies the complexity of coal usage with local and regional economies, social institutions, and political and industrial factors that prevail as a significant bottleneck to India's decarbonization plans.

Moya et al. investigated agent-based scenarios for long-term energy transition via fuel-switching investments in India's industry sector [39]. An integrated assessment approach is utilized to evaluate the decision-driving factors such as capital costs, net present value, operating cost, and a combination of capital and operating costs. The results highlight that high capital expenditure prevails as a significant hindrance to decarbonization in the industrial sector, which should be addressed through effective policy mechanisms. Maji and Kandlikar quantify India's household energy transition in the context of air quality, climate, and equity [40]. Changes in lifestyles, economic growth, and urbanization are some of the influencing factors fueling the energy transition from traditional fuels to liquified petroleum gas (LPG). The results of the study highlight that the current initiatives in India will not be beneficial for low-income rural households by 2030, and the study suggests that a complete transition to LPG and electricity by 2030 can potentially bring down PM 2.5 exposure below the WHO guidelines throughout urban and rural landscapes. Harrington et al. analyzed the variation in rural household energy transitions from the perspective of basic lighting in India [41]. The results emphasized that microgrid-connected households contain fewer appliances when compared to grid-connected ones. The adoption of new technology in households is most commonly related to factors including awareness, access, and pricing, whereas the retention of the existing sources is often influenced by end-uses, access to repair services, and quality. Studies assessing the public willingness to utilize various energy technologies are crucial in drafting appropriate policy measures [42]. A study by Pandey and Sharma highlighted that public participation is vital to accomplishing energy transition, and the study presented three cases of renewable energy transition projects to perceive the role of the interplay of knowledge politics, vulnerability, and recognition-based energy justice [43].

Shidore and Busby investigated the reason behind India's strong embrace of solar based on the interviews and key observations, and have sorted nine possible drivers as the reason apart from the techno-economic factors [44]. Further, the study highlights four chiefly dominating drivers for high solar energy preference, which include global pressure and partnerships, domestic politics, attracting investments, and energy sovereignty. Yadav et al. propounded a revised framework to support solar home systems for accomplishing rural energy transformations, especially for those below the low-income level [45]. This is accomplished by incorporating an electronic subsidy disbursement mechanism which can ameliorate the efficiency and effectiveness of solar home systems capital subsidy schemes. Gulagi et al. analyzed a 100% renewable energy penetration scenario in India with energy storage technologies such as batteries, pumped hydro storage, thermal energy storage, compressed air energy storage, and power-to-gas technology [46]. The results indicate that 100% renewable energy penetration is achievable in 2050 with a levelized cost of energy (LCOE) of 52 €/MWh in a country-wide scenario [46,47]. Further, the energy storage technologies serve a key role in providing flexibility to the energy system, and about 42% of the total electricity demand is satisfied with battery energy storage technologies. The solar PV and battery energy storage systems emerge to be the low-cost system in India. Jain et al. performed a dynamic analysis for terawatt-scale renewable energy systems in India to estimate the energy storage requirements [48]. The analysis is carried out for a 30-year period, from 2019 to 2048. The results indicate that for a solar-dominated energy mix, small seasonal storage is required but larger storage capacity is of utmost importance for bolstering the boost charging to consistently satisfy the demand for long non-sunny hours. On the other hand, for a wind-dominated energy mix, large seasonal storage is required.

Moallemi et al. assessed the energy transition pathways of the Indian electricity sector by policy analysis through a narrative-informed exploratory modelling approach [49]. This approach highlighted that realizing the 100 GW solar electricity target is far-fetched, and further developments towards energy transition is significantly dependent on the active role of the government. Reddy developed a green economy scenario, employing a bottom-up approach, and showed that the introduction of green technologies and improving energy efficiency can yield significant savings in resources by 2030. Furthermore, emphasizing the green energy economy will also create pathways out of poverty with an additional 10 million job opportunities [50]. Deshwal et al. analyzed the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the renewable energy scenario in India, exploring the associated challenges, lessons, and emerging opportunities [51]. Specifically, the study investigated the impact of the pandemic on power demand, electricity generation, changes in financial performance, progress in renewable energy penetration, and impacts on the solar industry, projects, and operational projects in India. Further, studies recommend a revamped policy approach for the energy sector in the post-pandemic world [52,53]. A study by Chaturvedi suggests that the power sector has to be elementally reformed for deep decarbonization [54]. Further, alternative economic development efforts should be prioritized in the fossil fuel-dependent states, while strategies such as engagement with citizens and the workforce, low-cost financing, and carbon pricing are crucial to the vision for a net-zero energy system in India. Mottaleb and Rahut provided implications for entrenching sustainable energy in India by assessing clean energy choices and energy consumption patterns by urban households in India [55]. The study highlights that, still, firewood emerges as the primary fuel source for urban households. Nevertheless, wealthy households utilize clean energy fuels. The study also suggests that education- and income-enhancing policy can accelerate the energy transition.

The studies discussed above deal with specific scenario analysis, policy investigation, socio-economic, and techno-economic themes of individual strategies toward energy transition. However, there are relatively few studies that direct the country towards energy transition, and there is no study that points to the significance of certain barriers and strategies unique to the Indian landscape. This study performs an extensive literature study to sort out the SWOT factors and evaluates them via fuzzy AHP methodology to identify

the gravity of each factor given the objective of facilitating effective energy transition. Subsequently, the proposed strategies are assessed for their significance by their capability to revitalize the negative SWOT factors and coordinate the positive SWOT factors. Therefore, policymakers can benefit hugely from the direction that this study shows through the SWOT–MCDA framework. The contributions of this study are as follows:

- Designing a hybrid qualitative–quantitative framework with the tools of SWOT, fuzzy AHP, and PROMETHEE II into a single integrated framework;
- A comprehensive multidisciplinary investigation is performed and sorts out the unique strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats prevailing in the current energy transition scenario in India;
- Distinctive recommendation strategies for enhancing the energy transition in India are propounded;
- Highly significant strategies and SWOT factors are highlighted through the analysis for effective policy planning.

3. Methodology

A hybrid methodology is utilized in this study to investigate the current and prospective energy transition scenarios in India. Figure 1 represents the methodology of this study. This methodology can be split into two parts. The first part focuses on energy transition in the current scenario, while the second part of the methodology is used to analyze the best-suited strategy for accelerating the energy transition in the prospective scenario. The former objective is accomplished by using SWOT–fuzzy AHP methodology, whereas the latter objective is attained by utilizing PROMETHEE II multi-criteria decision analysis methodology.

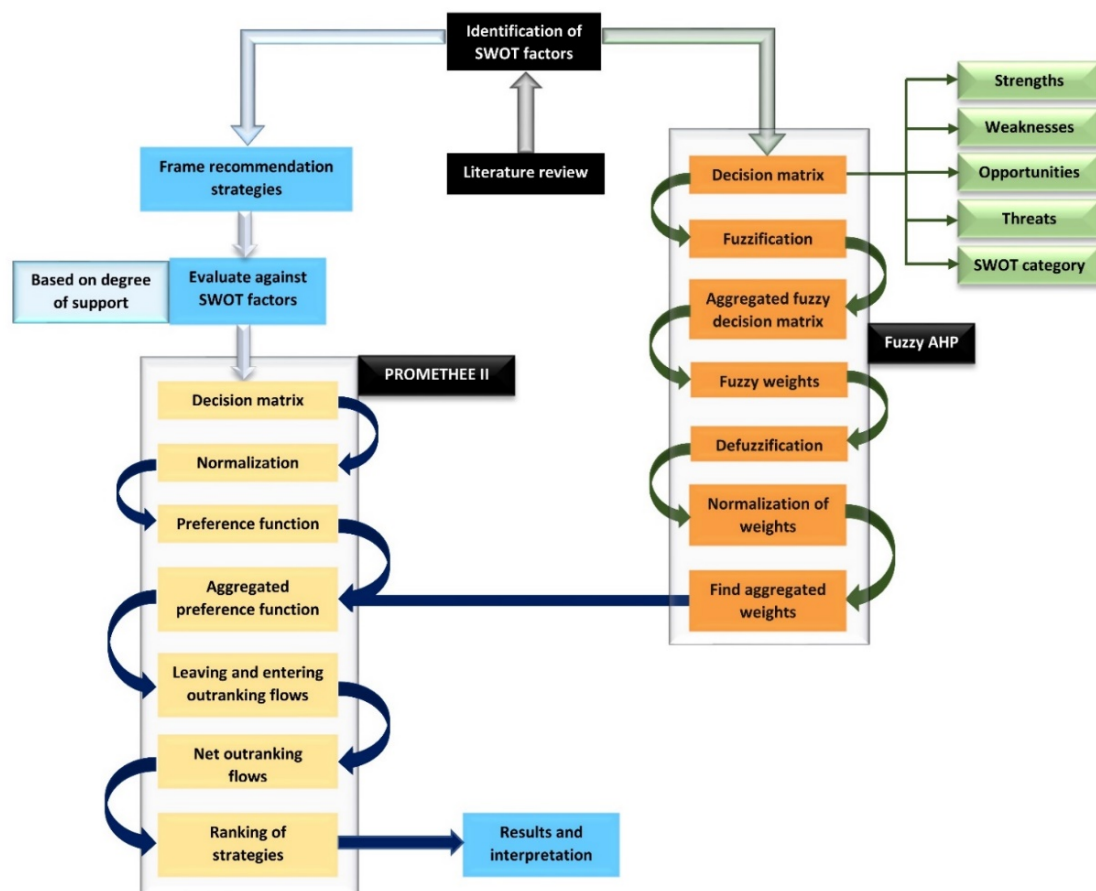


Figure 1. Research methodology of the proposed study.

3.1. SWOT–Fuzzy AHP

SWOT analyses are commonly performed to map a present scenario with the tools of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. Since SWOT is a qualitative tool, the significance of each SWOT factor is often unknown. Therefore, the authors utilized a hybrid qualitative–quantitative method, which can be obtained by integrating the fuzzy AHP methodology with SWOT analysis. Such hybrid methods have been used in studies dealing with ecotourism strategies [56], the space industry [57], public acceptance of hydrogen stations [58], sustainable energy planning [59], and many others. The various steps involved in SWOT–fuzzy AHP are shown below:

Step 1: Identify the SWOT factors

According to the objective of the SWOT, the various factors corresponding to the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats are to be sorted out. The strengths and weaknesses represent the already-existing abilities and inabilities. Meanwhile, the opportunities and threats represent a feasible pathway to achieve the objective and possible threats in future.

Step 2: Create a decision matrix

A pairwise decision matrix corresponding to each SWOT category is constructed. The decision matrix is of size $n \times n$, where n represents the number of factors in a given category (such as strengths). The comparison score in the decision matrix is based on Saaty's comparison scale [60]. In this decision matrix, the A_{ji} element is always the reciprocal of element A_{ij} . The mathematical representation of the decision matrix is given in Equation (1):

$$A_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & \dots & A_{1n} \\ A_{12}^{-1} & A_{22} & \dots & A_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_{n1}^{-1} & A_{n2}^{-1} & \dots & A_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

The decision matrix is created for all the factors within each category as well as for the four categories of SWOT.

Step 3: Fuzzification

Fuzzification is the process of converting the pairwise comparison matrix into triangular fuzzy numbers (TFN), which represent the corners of the triangle in the format of (a, b, c). The fuzzification process and the constraints are shown in Equation (2):

$$A_{ij} = (l_{ij}, m_{ij}, u_{ij}) \text{ and } A_{ij}^{-1} = (l_{ij}, m_{ij}, u_{ij})^{-1} = \left(\frac{1}{u_{ij}}, \frac{1}{m_{ij}}, \frac{1}{l_{ij}} \right), \text{ such that } l_{ij} < m_{ij} < u_{ij} \quad (2)$$

Step 4: Evaluate aggregated fuzzy decision matrix

The aggregation is accomplished by taking the geometric mean of each TFN corresponding to each element. This is represented in Equation (3):

$$r_i = (l_i, m_i, u_i) = \sqrt[n]{\prod_{i=1}^n A_{ij}} \quad (3)$$

Step 5: Determination of fuzzy weights

The fuzzy weights are determined by obtaining the ratio of r_i to the summation of all the r_i elements. The mathematical representation is shown in Equation (4):

$$w_i = \frac{r_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n r_i} = r_i \times \left(\sum_{i=1}^n r_i \right)^{-1} \quad (4)$$

where w_i is the fuzzy weight of the criterion i .

Step 6: Defuzzification of fuzzy weights

The obtained fuzzy weights are subjected to defuzzification by finding the center of the weight, as represented in Equation (5):

$$\text{Centre of weight}(M_i) = \frac{l_{Wi} \oplus m_{Wi} \oplus u_{Wi}}{3} \quad (5)$$

where M_i is the weightage corresponding to the i th factor.

Step 7: Normalization of weights

The weights obtained after defuzzification might not be always equal to one. Therefore, normalization is accomplished to adjust the weights such that the summation of weights equals one. The normalization formula is shown in Equation (6):

$$N_i = \left(\frac{M_i}{\sum_{n=1}^N M_i} \right) \quad (6)$$

where N_i is the normalized weight corresponding to the i th factor.

Step 8: Find aggregated weights

After finding the fuzzy AHP weightage for factors corresponding to each SWOT criterion, the fuzzy AHP is again performed to find the weightage among the criteria such as strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. The weights obtained for individual factors are treated as local weights and the weights obtained for the SWOT categories are termed global weights. The aggregated weight is obtained for an individual factor by multiplying its local weight with the corresponding global weight.

3.2. PROMETHEE II

PROMETHEE II is based on an outranking method where the alternatives are compared with one another to obtain a cumulative ranking [61]. PROMETHEE II is utilized in this study due to its robust methodology to effectively rank the alternatives. The various applications in which PROMETHEE II are employed include suitability analyses of onshore wind farms [27], the selection of airport locations [62], ranking websites to support renewable energy market opportunities [63], and many others. In this study, the recommended strategies to accelerate the energy transition in India are evaluated and ranked with the PROMETHEE II methodology. This is accomplished to understand the impact of each strategy since the evaluation criteria are the various identified SWOT factors. The procedure of the PROMETHEE II method is illustrated as follows:

Step 1: Frame the decision matrix

The proposed strategies to accelerate the energy transition in India serve as alternatives and the SWOT factors prevail as the evaluation criteria. The decision matrix is an $m \times n$ matrix, where m and n are the number of strategies and the number of evaluation criteria, respectively. The strategies are evaluated against each SWOT factor using a simple score-conversion process based on Table 1. This process enables measurements of the performance of the strategies by converting the qualitative performance into a quantitative value. Nevertheless, the approach for allocating the performance score, as shown in Table 1, is based on the following approach. When a strategy is evaluated against a strength factor, the evaluation should be based on how the strength factor supports the strategy. The evaluation must be based on how the proposed strategy improves the weakness factor when the strategy is evaluated against a weakness factor. Meanwhile, the evaluation should be based on how a strategy favors in grabbing the opportunity and how it helps to avert the threat factors when a strategy is evaluated against an opportunity and threat factor, respectively.

Table 1. Conversion score for various degrees of support.

Degree of Support	Conversion Score
No support	0
Very low support	1
Low support	2
Medium support	3
High support	4
Very high support	5

Step 2: Normalization of decision matrix

The decision matrix is normalized based on the min–max normalization method. Depending on the nature of the relationship between the criteria and the objective, the criteria can be classified as beneficial or non-beneficial criteria. Beneficial criteria are the criteria in which a higher value is preferred, while the criteria in which a lower value is preferred are termed as non-beneficial criteria. Therefore, the normalization formula differs for both beneficial and non-beneficial criteria. The normalization formula for beneficial and non-beneficial criteria is represented in Equations (7) and (8), respectively.

For beneficial criteria:

$$N_{ij} = \frac{|x_{ij} - \min_i(x_{ij})|}{|\max_i(x_{ij}) - \min_i(x_{ij})|} \quad (7)$$

For non-beneficial criteria:

$$N_{ij} = \frac{|\max_i(x_{ij}) - x_{ij}|}{|\max_i(x_{ij}) - \min_i(x_{ij})|} \quad (8)$$

where N_{ij} is the element of the normalized decision matrix, $\max_i(x_{ij})$ is the maximum value in the given criterion i , $\min_i(x_{ij})$ is the minimum value in the given criterion i , and x_{ij} is the element of the decision matrix. In this study, the SWOT factors are utilized as criteria where the weaknesses and threats can be treated rationally as non-beneficial criteria. However, in this case, the recommended strategies act as an alternative and the strategies are always put forward to strengthen the strengths, revitalize the weaknesses, utilize the opportunities, and avert the threats. Therefore, all the strategies' performance scores in the decision matrix indicate the beneficial characteristics between the criteria (SWOT factors) and the objective (to accelerate the energy transition). Hence, all the criteria are treated as beneficial criteria.

Step 3: Enumerate preference function

For a given criterion, the difference in scores between two alternatives is enumerated. In this step, the difference between each strategy's score with respect to other strategies' scores is obtained. The preference function is calculated based on Equation (9). The preference function is the difference between the considered alternative's score for the given criterion when it is positive; otherwise, it is replaced with a value of 0.

$$P_j(a,b) = \begin{cases} 0, & N_{aj} - N_{bj} < 0 \\ N_{aj} - N_{bj}, & N_{aj} - N_{bj} \geq 0 \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

where $P_j(a,b)$ is the preference function between two alternatives, 'a' and 'b', N_{aj} is the normalized score of alternative 'a' for criteria j and N_{bj} is the normalized score of alternative 'b' for criteria j .

Step 4: Determine aggregated preference function

The aggregated preference function is obtained by finding the ratio of the multiplication of the weightage corresponding to each criterion with the preference function score of each alternative to the summation of all the criteria weightage. This is mathematically represented in Equation (10). As the weightage is determined by using the fuzzy AHP method, the sum of the criteria weightage equals one.

$$\pi(a, b) = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^m W_j P_j(a, b)}{\sum_{j=1}^m W_j} \quad (10)$$

where $\pi(a, b)$ is the aggregated preference function and W_j is the weightage of the criteria j .

Step 5: Calculate leaving and entering outranking flows

The leaving outranking flow of an alternative "a" is determined by using Equation (11). The leaving outranking flow indicates the average performance dominance exerted by a given alternative over other alternatives for the given set of evaluation criteria. Therefore, a higher value is preferred for leaving the outranking flow:

$$\phi^+(a) = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{b=1}^n \pi(a, b), \quad a \neq b \quad (11)$$

where ϕ^+ is the leaving outranking flow of a strategy, and n is the number of alternatives.

The entering outranking flow of an alternative "a" is determined by using Equation (12). The entering outranking flow indicates the average performance subjugation experienced by a given alternative over other alternatives for the given set of evaluation criteria. Thus, a lower value is preferred for entering outranking flow:

$$\phi^-(a) = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{b=1}^n \pi(b, a), \quad a \neq b \quad (12)$$

where ϕ^- represents the entering outranking flow of a strategy.

Step 6: Determine the net outranking flow

The net outranking flow can be enumerated by finding the difference between the leaving outranking flow and the entering outranking flow for a given strategy. The mathematical expression for the same is illustrated in Equation (13):

$$\phi(a) = \phi^+(a) - \phi^-(a) \quad (13)$$

Step 7: Ranking of alternatives

The alternatives are ranked based on the net outranking flow score. The higher the net outranking flow score of a strategy, the higher its ability to accelerate the energy transition, or the higher is its rank.

Altogether, with SWOT-fuzzy AHP and PROMETHEE-II methodology, the current scenario is assessed and the recommended strategies are evaluated against multi-dimensional SWOT factors to effectively direct the energy transition scenario. The identification of various SWOT factors and strategies to accelerate energy transition is elaborated in the upcoming sections.

4. Current Energy Transition Scenario in India—SWOT-Fuzzy AHP Analysis

The current energy transition scenario is interpreted using the SWOT qualitative assessment tool in the first part of this section, while the importance of each identified SWOT factor is determined by using fuzzy AHP analysis and is presented in the second part of this section.

4.1. SWOT Factors

The strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats in the current energy transition scenario in India are elucidated in this section. All the discussed SWOT factors are presented in Table 2.

Table 2. SWOT factors.

Strengths		Weaknesses	
S1	High solar and wind energy potential as well as increasing preference	W1	Large amounts of energy imports
S2	Slowdown in the investments and dependency on thermal power plants	W2	Inflexibility of current grid infrastructure
S3	Renewable energy sector remains coupled to economic growth	W3	Politically compromised and poor financial position of the power sector
S4	Energy sector is favorable to attracting foreign and private investments	W4	Lack of long-term vision and focus on short-term fixation
S5	One nationalized grid and diverse energy mix	W5	Lack of optimized utilization of existing-generation capacity and large demand–supply gap
Opportunities		Threats	
O1	Connecting households to electricity and electrifying the transportation sector	T1	Coordinating with the variability of the renewable energy sources
O2	Upgrading transmission infrastructure development	T2	Hike in electricity prices and losses in power sector companies
O3	Utilizing the cost-competitive advantage of solar and wind energy over fossil fuels	T3	Disparate political approaches in states without a common energy policy
O4	Developing a transparent and proper regulatory framework	T4	Inadequacy of manpower having specialized skillsets
O5	Improve energy efficiency in terms of supply, transmission, and demand	T5	Skewed energy tariff structure

4.1.1. Strengths

S1: High solar and wind energy potential as well as increasing preference

The prime strength that India stands on to pursue energy transition is its abundant solar and wind energy potential. About 5000 trillion kWh of solar energy is incident over India's land area per annum, and most of the land area receives about 4 to 7 kWh per sq. m per day [64]. On the other hand, the cumulative wind energy potential at 100 m

elevation is 302.25 GW, and its potential reaches 695.5 GW at 120 m above the ground level [65]. In recent years, the preference for solar and wind energy projects has increased substantially. The country achieved the fifth global position in deploying solar power with an installed capacity surpassing 30 GW, while it achieved fourth global position in wind power deployment with a total installed capacity of 39.25 GW [64,65]. In addition, the solar power capacity has increased by more than 11 times in the past five years [64].

S2: Slowdown in the investments and dependency on thermal power plants

In a report by Praxis Global Alliance, the analysis highlighted that India's ambitious progress towards renewable energy deployment reduces its dependency on the thermal sector or coal. The dependency on the thermal sector is predicted to be reduced to ~50% and ~43% by the financial years 2022 and 2027, respectively [66]. Due to the revamping policies in India, a long-term power purchasing agreement in the thermal sector is less likely, while renewables are more likely to obtain a long-term power purchasing agreement [67,68]. Further, due to the current financial health of financial institutions in India, existing private players in the thermal sector experience difficulties in raising money [66].

S3: Renewable energy sector remains coupled to economic growth

The renewable energy sector in India is playing an increasingly significant role in the economic growth of India. Eren et al. performed an empirical analysis on the impact of renewable energy consumption on the financial development and economic growth in India [69]. The results highlight that renewable energy consumption is bidirectionally correlated with economic growth, while financial development drives the long-term development of renewable energy and economic growth. Therefore, the energy transition in India would support economic growth, which is a significant strength considering the country's energy demand with expanding urbanization, industrialization, and population growth.

S4: Energy sector is favorable to attracting foreign and private investments

The Indian energy sector would witness a surge in energy consumption in the upcoming years due to the influence of energy-intensive industries, the growing service sector, and urbanization and population factors [70]. Thus, there exist plentiful opportunities for attracting investors, especially foreign and private investors. A study highlights that a 1% increase in foreign direct investments (FDIs) yields a 0.013% reduction in energy consumption in India [71]. By galvanizing the FDI in the renewable energy sector and establishing incentive schemes for the investors, sustainable economic and macroeconomic development can be favored [71].

S5: One nationalized grid and diverse energy mix

In India, the power transmission grid is divided into five regional grids, namely, the northern, eastern, western, north-eastern, and southern regions. The interlinking of regional grids with asynchronous HVDC enabled a limited power exchange across the regional grids, initiating the development of the national grid [72]. The subsequent development of synchronous inter-regional links gives rise to a single nationalized grid [72]. The objective of the single nationalized grid is to supply power from natural resource-rich regions to the load-centric natural resource-scarce regions [73,74]. This highly enhances the penetration of renewable energy since these resources are scattered and concentrated in some regions.

The energy mix of India is shown in Figure 2. About 45% of the energy mix is dominated by coal, and oil accounts for 25%. Altogether, fossil fuels' contribution to the energy mix of India is 76%, while renewables contribute about 23%. Among the renewables, the majority of the contribution is from bioenergy resources, while hydropower, wind, and solar contribute less than 2% each. This diverse characteristic can be conducive to energy transition as well as entrench energy security.

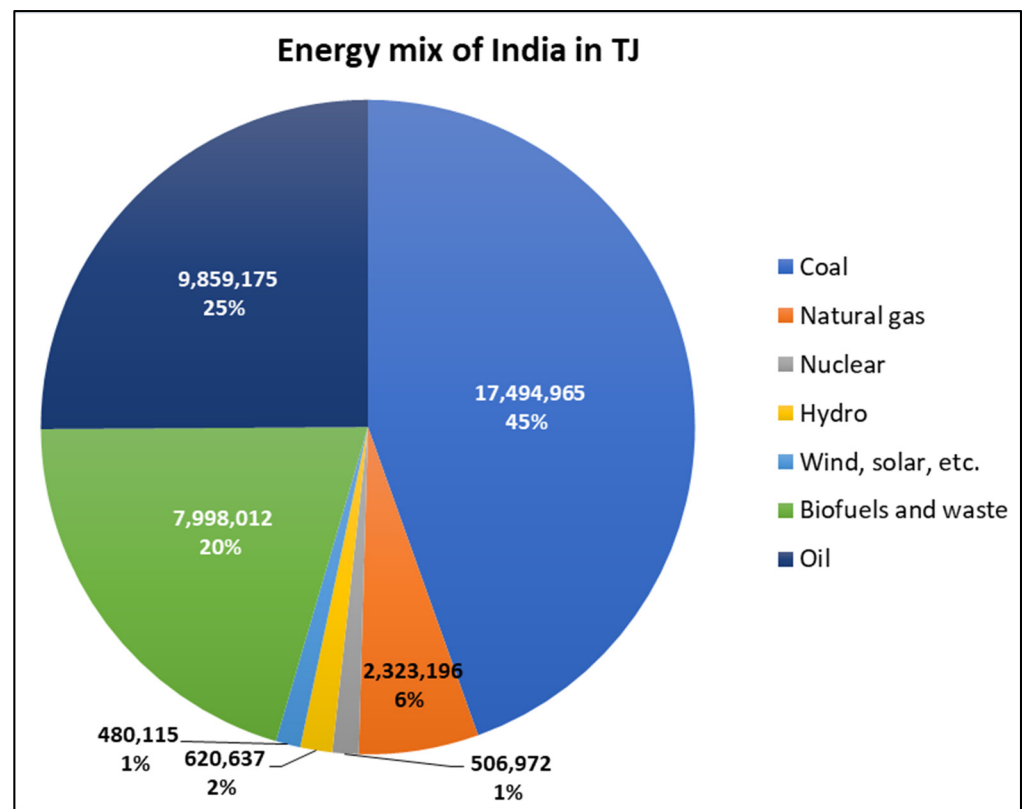


Figure 2. The energy mix of India. Data source: [75].

4.1.2. Weaknesses

W1: Large amounts of energy imports

The Indian energy mix is dominated by fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and gas. The coal reserves are abundant in India, but these are depleting, and the domestic production of coal is witnessing a declining trend. The import dependence on coal constituted about 34% during the 2019–2020 period, and it has since experienced an upward trend. Similar to coal, the domestic production of crude oil is also declining, but the importation of crude oil is much higher than coal [76]. In 2019, India produced 32.2 million tons while it consumed 214.12 million tons of crude petroleum, marking an 85% dependency on imports [76]. Further, in monetary terms, oil imports contributed around 18% of the total imports in India in the fiscal year 2018–2019 [77]. On the other hand, 50% of India's natural gas is imported [76]. The prime issue with the large importation of energy is energy security since a sudden disruption of supply from exporting countries can cause interruptions to the satisfaction of the energy demand of the country [78,79].

W2: Inflexibility of current grid infrastructure

The term inflexibility refers to the incapability of the grid to maintain balance between the supply and demand during uncertain scenarios, leading to a decrease in grid efficiency and resiliency. The current grid infrastructure in India is less likely to support increased renewable energy penetration due to its intermittent characteristics. The power transmission from the region where the power generation is higher to regions of lower power availability in real time requires sophisticated smart equipment for monitoring, planning, and controlling the energy distribution to minimize the curtailment [80]. Further, the hour-to-hour variations in solar and wind power production are predicted to triple over the next decade, and wider fluctuations in the peak demand can also be expected [81]. Thus, the inflexibility of the grid to accommodate and respond to the changes in power generation and demand is a major hindrance to energy transition, despite having one nationalized grid.

W3: Politically compromised and poor financial position of the power sector

The financial position of the power sector is worse, especially the DISCOMs. The energy rates have not increased due to the political pressures which compromise the financial performance of the power sector [82]. The perennial losses that power distribution companies experience stress the further development and investments in the generation, the grid, and the consumer billing infrastructure [83]. Even after significant reform efforts, the financial situation is getting worse. On the other hand, approximately more than one-fifth of the power distributed to the consumers is lost because of an inefficient grid infrastructure, or is never billed because of power theft and other factors [83]. Massive losses in the power sector cumulatively affect the public finances, which ultimately impacts economic growth.

W4: Lack of long-term vision and focus on short-term fixation

The state government usually focuses on short-term problem-solving strategies, such as ensuring temporary energy security, rather than focusing on the long-term benefiting vision of energy sustainability. This short-term focus has long-favored investment in the thermal sector, and the subsidies for coal and other fossil fuels are still higher than for alternative fuels. For instance, oil and gas subsidies were up by over 65% from the fiscal year 2017 to 2019 and coal subsidies remained unchanged, while the subsidies for renewable energy witnessed a 35% decline in the same period [84].

W5: Lack of optimized utilization of existing-generation capacity and large demand–supply gap

The optimized utilization of the existing generation capacity will offer numerous advantages and aid in minimizing the dependency on fossil fuels. For instance, if the state of Karnataka faces an energy deficit and plans to invest in expanding its energy generation capacity through an additional coal-based power plant, then the state's dependency on fossil fuels will increase further. On the other hand, if the neighboring state of Tamil Nadu produces more energy through wind energy at the same time that Karnataka faces an energy deficit, then transmitting the power from Tamil Nadu to Karnataka will reduce the dependency on fossil fuels, create profit for wind farm owners, and strengthen regional coordination. Such benefits can be retrieved from the optimized utilization of existing generation capacity. The main issue that prevents such utilization is grid inflexibility, political influence, and disparate energy policy. In addition, the demand–supply gap prevails as a major concern for India, who has more demand than supply; this is especially experienced in the north-eastern and western regions [80].

4.1.3. Opportunities

O1: Connecting households to electricity and electrifying the transportation sector

In 2020, about 96.7% of Indian households are connected to the grid; 0.33% of the households rely on off-grid electricity and the unelectrified households contribute around 2.4% [85]. Energy poverty remains a major problem for unelectrified households. On the other hand, an average Indian household receives 20.6 h of electricity per day [85]. Therefore, improving energy access quality should be the key focus of the government of India. Electrification can introduce people into the country's economy, but more importantly, it can reduce the dependency on polluting fuels as well as the energy intensity. This is because unelectrified households depend on fossil fuels or bioresources to satisfy their energy demands, and the equipment used for energy conversion is mostly inefficient. The transportation sector is the most difficult sector to decarbonize in India since it is almost completely dependent on fossil fuels. Therefore, electrifying the transportation sector will slowly decouple the fossil fuel dependency, provided that the renewable energy contribution in the electricity mix increases with time.

O2: Upgrading transmission infrastructure development

The major impeding factor for the energy transition in India would be the transmission infrastructure. In the current scenario, the grid infrastructure might support the renewable

energy contribution, but as the renewable energy penetration increases, the grid would fail to maintain its efficiency and resiliency in providing uninterrupted power. Therefore, strategies and policy measures should be concentrated to upgrade the transmission infrastructure in terms of increasing its response, efficiency, inclusiveness, and robustness. Further, it will be conducive to the penetration of electric vehicles [86]. An incremental approach to upgrading towards a smart grid is recommended, and a study argues that social, financial, and political interventions underpin the transmission infrastructural development [87].

O3: Utilizing the cost-competitive advantage of solar and wind energy over fossil fuels

In 2019, the LCOE of fossil fuels ranges from USD 0.050 to USD 0.177 per kWh, while the average LCOE of solar photovoltaic and onshore wind energy is USD 0.068 per kWh and USD 0.053 per kWh, respectively [88]. Years of research and development for solar and wind energy have improved the affordability of solar and wind energy technologies, which are even cost-competitive with fossil fuel technologies. If these technologies are widely utilized on a large scale throughout the country, the LCOE trend can witness a further decrease without considering the subsidies. The financial debt of the Indian power sector can be minimized with investments in solar and wind energy technologies.

O4: Developing a transparent and proper regulatory framework

A transparent and proper regulatory framework is required to monitor the energy sector in all aspects. This can potentially minimize the risks experienced by the generation, transmission, and distribution companies. Power theft, debt, and political pressure, which are some of the key factors affecting the Indian energy sector, should be tackled by the regulatory framework. For example, DISCOMs are in long-term debt due to their outdated and untransparent billing system, as well as an obsolete distribution infrastructure, which has caused excessive power losses and power theft [89]. On the other hand, even if the auctioned power price is low, it is barely felt at the consumer end. Therefore, the regulatory framework should be entrenched to improve the financial performance of the distribution sector and the affordability of energy at the consumer end.

O5: Improve energy efficiency in terms of supply, transmission, and demand

Improving energy efficiency needs a comprehensive strategy from the energy generation to the consumer side [90,91]. Despite the existence of national codes and state regulations for energy efficiency enhancement, these measures are not firmly followed at a local level due to ineffective enforcement, a lack of elaborate technical methodology, and poor regulation structures [92]. Another study by Sahoo et al. highlights that the energy efficiency targets set for the power sector of India are much less than the actual energy saving capacity of the thermal power sector [93]. Further, the study finds substantial inefficiencies in the energy consumption systems as well as in managerial dexterity. The thermal power sector alone is expected to generate additional 4.7 million Energy Saving Certificates if the sector realizes its full energy-saving potential [93]. The energy efficiency improvement throughout the energy sector, from production to the consumer end, can cumulatively increase the electricity tariff—however, the consumer will experience a reduced energy consumption [94].

4.1.4. Threats

T1: Coordinating with the variability of the renewable energy sources

The variability of the renewable energy sources introduces volatility to the electricity price [95]. The variability can be either a lesser-supply-than-demand or a higher-supply-than-demand scenario. In the former scenario, the usage of dispatchable generators, usually powered by fossil fuels, in response to demand can be utilized. Further, the usage of energy storage technologies such as pumped hydropower and battery energy storage can be supportive [96,97]. Energy trade beyond the borders of a region can also be utilized to tackle the variability of intermittent energy resources. If the supply is higher than the demand, then it can be fed to charge the energy storage elements and utilized for other purposes,

such as hydrogen production, heating fuels, and many others. In addition, the energy can be also traded to the neighboring grid. To make such solutions feasible, grid flexibility and upgrades to quickly respond to the intermittency are pivotal [98]. Therefore, coordinating all the energy resources, energy storage technologies, grid responses, and energy trades is a crucial step toward energy sustainability. Without such coordination, energy transition ceases to exist.

T2: Hike in electricity prices and losses in power sector companies

Investments in upgrades to the infrastructure as well as replacements for the existing thermal power plants might increase the electricity prices to assure quality and carbon-free energy. However, if such an increase in electricity prices is beyond the affordability for people in the lower and lower-middle-income categories, then the achieved energy transition will not be sustainable. Therefore, energy affordability is also a vital element in the process of the energy transition. On the other hand, in the process of development towards energy transition, the power sector companies might end up with severe losses due to their current poor financial performance. This might be possible if the government did not utilize the cost-competitive advantage of solar and wind energy over fossil fuels. Further, the regulatory framework, proper energy tariff structure, and subsidies favouring energy transition can be conducive to averting the threat of the insolvency of power sector companies.

T3: Disparate political approaches in states without a common energy policy

Political approaches are more focused on the development aspect rather than on emphasizing sustainable development. This gives rise to increased investments and subsidies toward fossil fuels. Despite India having a national goal, the key piece of information, such as the methodological aspects of achieving targets, individual states' contribution to the timeline for achieving the target, detailed policy, and regulatory approaches, are not transparent. The loopholes in the policy framework can encourage the states to lean on fossil fuels with insignificant progress in renewables. Due to the same reason, no serious progress in reducing emissions is witnessed in the Indian landscape at the local level. The more refined the energy policy, goal, and political approaches are, the better the progression towards energy transition in India.

T4: Inadequacy of manpower having specialized skillsets

As the scenario shifts from fossil fuels to clean energy fuels, the requirement of skills to encounter new problems such as coordinating the variability of renewable energy sources will vary from that of handling power from fossil fuels. Therefore, the reskilling of workers is of the utmost importance in the process of the energy transition. The energy transition will be hindered if there is not a sufficient number of workers to tackle the problems in the emerging scenario. India's 100 GW solar target would require 81,000 highly skilled workers, and 182,400 low-skilled workers annually [99]. Entrenching training programmes near the renewable energy sites and seeking employees who have experience in the related fields are some efforts that can be conducive to gathering sufficient manpower with suitable skillsets.

T5: Skewed energy tariff structure

The energy tariff structure in India is based on the cross-subsidization scheme, which is also utilized as a political advantage to maintain lower prices for certain consumer segments. This strained the financial performance of the power sector of India with frequent losses and further hindered them from making efforts to develop new transmission lines and upgrade existing ones. Therefore, a revamped energy tariff system that benefits the power sector and that is reasonable to the consumer is required under an appropriate regulatory framework.

4.2. SWOT–Fuzzy AHP Analysis

The identified SWOT factors illustrate the current scenario of the energy transition, and these factors are crucial for the effective energy transition in India. To further analyze

the significance of each SWOT factor, the authors integrated fuzzy AHP analysis with the SWOT investigation. The fuzzy AHP multi-criteria decision analysis methodology handles the uncertainties in the decision making and converts the linguistic terms to quantitative values. Therefore, fuzzy AHP is utilized in this study, and the detailed methodology is elaborated on in Section 3. The SWOT categories such as strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats are regarded as primary-level threats, and the weightage obtained among the categories is called the global weightage. Meanwhile, the individual factors in each category are considered at a secondary level, and the weightage obtained within the category is called the local weightage. Therefore, a five-decision matrix is required for performing the fuzzy AHP analysis in this case.

Under the strengths category, S1 is provided with higher weightage since, without clean energy potential, energy transition is less likely. S5 is allocated with a lower weightage, as the other strengths, such as higher clean energy potential, slowdown of investments in the thermal sector, attractive sector for investment, and one nationalized grid, are far more important than the energy sector being coupled to economic growth. This is because the other strengths can intensify the relationship between economic growth and energy sector development. The decision matrix of the strengths category is represented in Table 3.

Table 3. Decision matrix of the strengths category.

	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5
S1	1	6	9	4	5
S2	0.17	1	3	0.33	0.50
S3	0.11	0.33	1	0.20	0.33
S4	0.25	3	5	1	3
S5	0.20	2	3	0.33	1

Concerning the weaknesses category, the political pressure, political incoherency with national goals, and other political factors prevail as major weaknesses for India in pursuing the path of energy transition, and they might be threatening factors for prospective developments. Therefore, W3 (“politically compromised and poor financial position of the power sector”) is given the highest weightage in the weaknesses category. The grid inflexibility and humongous energy imports are provided with the second- and third-highest priorities, respectively, since grid inflexibility can cause more major hindrances in the progress of energy transition than energy import characteristics. W4, i.e., “lack of long-term vision”, is provided with the least weightage due to its relative insignificance. Further, by strengthening the rest of the weaknesses factors, a long-term vision and energy policy will be accomplished. The decision matrix of the weaknesses category is shown in Table 4.

Table 4. Decision matrix of the weaknesses category.

	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5
W1	1	0.50	0.25	3	1
W2	2	1	0.33	5	2
W3	4	3	1	6	4
W4	0.33	0.20	0.17	1	0.33
W5	1	0.50	0.25	3	1

For the decision matrix of the opportunities category, the weightage is given from highest to lowest in the following order: O3, O1, O4, O2, and O5. Utilizing the cost-competitive advantage of renewables is the vital approach that the government should consider, and is, thus, provided with the highest weightage. Despite the improvement of energy efficiency in all aspects being significant for energy transition, the other opportunities are relatively vital to energy-transition pursuits in the Indian landscape. The decision matrix of the opportunities category is presented in Table 5.

Table 5. Decision matrix of the opportunities category.

	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5
O1	1	3	0.50	2	4
O2	0.33	1	0.33	0.50	2
O3	2	3	1	3	4
O4	0.50	2	0.33	1	3
O5	0.25	0.50	0.25	0.33	1

Regarding the threats category, the “inadequacy of manpower” threat, i.e., T4, is provided with the highest weightage to prioritize the reskilling of the workers to support the energy transition scenario. The second priority is given to T5 since the energy tariff structure is key to improving the financial performance of the energy sector in India, so as to sustainably focus on energy transition. On the other hand, the threat factors T1, T2, and T3 are provided with the same weightage, as they can significantly hinder the energy transition but not to the extent of the threat factors T4 and T5. The decision matrix of the threats category is represented in Table 6.

Table 6. Decision matrix of the threats category.

	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
T1	1	1	1	0.33	0.50
T2	1	1	1	0.33	0.50
T3	1	1	1	0.33	0.50
T4	3	3	3	1	2
T5	2	2	2	0.50	1

Among the categories of SWOT, utilizing opportunities and averting threats is the rational way to approach an objective. Further, by pursuing the opportunities, some of the threats can be avoided. Therefore, the opportunities category is given a higher weightage than the threats. Meanwhile, the strengths and weaknesses are provided with lower weightages since these represent the current scenario and do not influence future efforts. Nevertheless, the weaknesses are required to be improved and, thus, the weaknesses category is provided with a higher weightage when compared to the strengths category. The decision matrix for the SWOT categories is shown in Table 7.

Table 7. Decision matrix of the SWOT category.

	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
Strengths	1	0.50	0.33	0.33
Weaknesses	2	1	0.33	0.33
Opportunities	3	3	1	2
Threats	3	3	0.50	1

The result of the SWOT-fuzzy AHP analysis is illustrated in Table 8. A graphical representation of the SWOT-fuzzy AHP scores is shown in Figure 3. The results indicate that utilizing the cost-competitive advantage of solar and wind energy is the most significant factor that can ultimately favour the Indian energy sector towards effective energy transition. The second- and third-highest influencing factors include the threat of inadequacy of manpower (T4) and the opportunity of electrification (O3), respectively. The least-influencing factor includes a slowdown of investments in the thermal sector (S2), the lack of long-term vision (W4), and the renewable energy sector coupled to economic growth (S3).

Table 8. SWOT–fuzzy AHP weights.

SWOT Factors	Factor Weights	SWOT Weights	Aggregated Weights	Rank
S1	0.5373	0.1101	0.0591	7
S2	0.0868		0.0095	18
S3	0.0416		0.0046	20
S4	0.2199		0.0242	14
S5	0.1144		0.0126	17
W1	0.1288	0.1478	0.0190	15
W2	0.2250		0.0333	12
W3	0.4662		0.0689	6
W4	0.0511		0.0076	19
W5	0.1288		0.0190	15
O1	0.2742	0.4256	0.1167	3
O2	0.1116		0.0475	8
O3	0.3751		0.1596	1
O4	0.1703		0.0725	5
O5	0.0688		0.0293	13
T1	0.1244	0.3165	0.0394	9
T2	0.1244		0.0394	9
T3	0.1244		0.0394	9
T4	0.3852		0.1219	2
T5	0.2417		0.0765	4

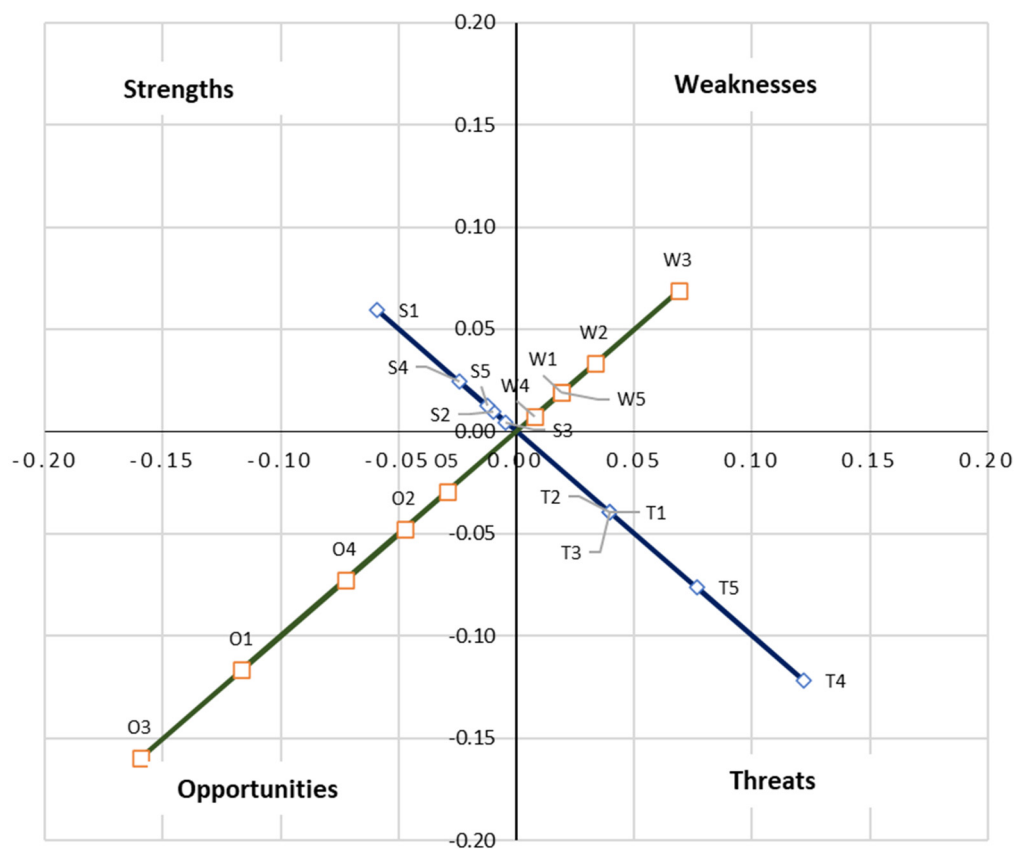


Figure 3. Results of SWOT–fuzzy AHP analysis.

5. Enhancing Energy Transition in the Indian Landscape—The Prospective Scenario

The SWOT analysis elucidates the current energy transition scenario in India, while the fuzzy AHP analysis highlights the significant factors among the identified SWOT

factors. The energy transition in the prospective scenario should be built on the strengths, overcome the weaknesses, utilize the opportunities, and avert the threats. Thus, in this section, the strategies for coordinating the SWOT factors to entrench the energy transition are proposed, and the strategies are evaluated for their significance.

5.1. Strategies to Accelerate the Energy Transition

Fifteen strategies (ST) are proposed to direct the current scenario of the Indian energy sector towards energy transition. These are as follows:

- ST1. Create a stable and conducive policy environment for attracting clean energy investments;
- ST2. Establishing regional coordination and enhancing collaboration between states to ensure the consistent growth of renewable energy;
- ST3. The policy must emphasize “energy transition funds” to support and remodel the economies of people affected by the energy transition;
- ST4. Create adequate incentives for renewable energy technologies;
- ST5. Develop robust, legal, regulatory, and policy frameworks and reduce the influence of politics on energy sector financing and planning;
- ST6. Increase digitalization and automation and optimize energy utilization with demand-side management strategies;
- ST7. Reskilling technicians, hiring engineers, and designing the workforce for the effective energy transition;
- ST8. Incentives for battery technologies and EVs, and investments in charging stations;
- ST9. Emphasizing distributed generation and subsequent grid infrastructure development;
- ST10. Focusing on sustainable development rather than just development by prioritizing capitalism over environmentalism;
- ST11. Improving the energy efficiency of wind and solar energy technologies as well as reducing the levelized cost of energy;
- ST12. Modernizing cooking fuels and electrifying them;
- ST13. Timely introduction of hydrogen fuels and other emerging energy storage technologies;
- ST14. Increase the contributions of local renewable energy resources, solar rooftop technologies, and renewable heating systems;
- ST15. Strengthen research and development and education in the energy sector.

These strategies are proposed to accelerate the efforts of the Indian energy sector towards energy transition in such a way that the weaknesses are transformed into strengths, while threats are suppressed with opportunities.

5.2. PROMETHEE II Analysis

The recommended strategies are treated as alternatives and are evaluated against the individual SWOT factors to perform a comprehensive analysis for identifying the strategies that are key to the energy transition. To accomplish this, the PROMETHEE II method of multi-criteria decision analysis is employed since the framework of PROMETHEE II is based on comparing and evaluating each alternative with one another against each criterion. A detailed methodological interpretation is elucidated in Section 3. In this analysis, the criteria involve the 20 SWOT factors, and the aggregated score obtained in the SWOT–fuzzy AHP analysis for individual factors is used as their corresponding weights in the PROMETHEE II analysis. Since the alternatives are strategies, the evaluation against the criteria is accomplished in linguistic terms which, in turn, are converted into equivalent quantitative terms, as described in Table 1 in Section 3. The decision matrix for the PROMETHEE II analysis is shown in Table 9.

Table 9. Decision matrix of the strategies for PROMETHEE analysis.

	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
ST1	0	3	1	5	0	0	0	5	3	0	2	4	3	3	0	0	4	1	0	2
ST2	3	0	1	0	4	4	4	3	2	4	3	2	0	2	2	4	2	5	0	0
ST3	2	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	0	3	0
ST4	5	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	3	2	5	3	0	2	0	1	0	2
ST5	1	3	1	3	0	2	3	4	5	1	5	4	5	5	3	1	3	5	1	4
ST6	0	0	0	0	4	0	3	0	2	5	2	4	0	2	5	4	0	0	0	1
ST7	0	3	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	2	3	1	2	1	0	0	5	0
ST8	3	0	0	2	4	0	5	0	3	5	5	3	0	2	3	5	1	2	0	1
ST9	5	3	0	3	4	5	5	0	3	4	4	5	5	2	0	4	2	0	0	3
ST10	5	5	1	3	0	4	0	0	4	0	3	2	5	4	1	3	0	4	0	1
ST11	4	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	3	1	0	0	4	1	4	0	0	0	0	0
ST12	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	5	0	4	2	0	0	0	2	0	0
ST13	4	0	0	4	3	3	3	0	5	4	2	2	4	3	1	4	0	3	0	1
ST14	5	4	1	2	1	5	2	0	4	4	4	1	5	4	3	4	2	4	0	3
ST15	3	0	0	3	1	3	3	0	2	4	4	2	4	1	4	5	0	1	0	2

The preference function and the aggregated preference function are presented in Appendix A, Table A1. The leaving flow, entering flow, and net outranking flow scores, and the final ranks, are represented in Table 10. The results highlight that ST5, ST14, and ST9 have the top three outranking flow scores, respectively. ST5 deals with developing a robust regulatory and policy framework for the energy sector to mitigate the influence of political factors. This strategy can be beneficial for the Indian energy sector in multiple aspects, as is evident from the highest leaving flow score. Further, the influence of a higher weightage for the opportunities criteria boosts the score of this strategy since ST5 scores high in almost all the opportunities factors. ST14 stresses increasing the contribution of local renewable energy sources, rooftop solar photovoltaics, and renewable heating systems. ST14 attained the second rank due to its high score in leaving flow and lowest score in entering flow. An interesting observation is that the entering flow score of ST14 is lower than ST5, but ST5 attains the first rank due to a higher difference in the scores of leaving flow among ST5 and ST14. ST14 scores from low to high in the SWOT factors, but the scores are high in the opportunities and weaknesses factors. ST9, i.e., distributed generation and subsequent grid infrastructural development, is the third most-significant strategy that favors energy transition in India. As the distributed generation is promoted, the utilization of solar and wind energy systems will increase, thereby making use of the cost-competitiveness of these technologies. On the other hand, the grid infrastructure development will enable the energy transition to take place more smoothly. Due to ST9's lack of focus on the policy aspect, it does not score higher in the net outranking flows.

The strategies that obtained the last three ranks are ST3 (13th), ST6 (14th), and ST11 (15th), respectively. ST3 represents a part of policy focus on energy transition funds to secure the economies of the people affected by the energy transition. The narrowed focus of this strategy is the reason for the lower score. As the framework of the PROMETHEE method involves the comparison of each alternative to one another to produce a cumulative ranking, the lack of influence on some aspects of SWOT factors increases the entering flow score when compared to the leaving flow score of the strategy. ST6 deals with promoting digitalization and optimized energy usage, and it attains the 14th position due to its focused attributes, as it does not have any influence on the criteria that emphasize economic and political characteristics. ST11, i.e., improving the energy efficiency of wind and solar energy technologies and increasing the affordability attributes, attains the last position. This position is again attributed to a narrowed focus on the strategy. Further, the capital flow on improving the efficiency of energy generation technologies can be directed to grid improvement for revitalizing the grid-related issues. This is because the improvement in terms of grid flexibility can generate more revenue and investment and enhance the trading capability of the state. The current scenario marks the financial performance and

political influence as the major stalling force for the energy transition in India. Therefore, the strategies focusing on these aspects tend to score higher in the PROMETHEE analysis.

Table 10. Results of PROMETHEE analysis.

Strategies	Leaving Flow	Entering Flow	Net Outranking Flow	Rank
ST1	0.1994	0.2072	−0.0078	8
ST2	0.1728	0.2306	−0.0578	10
ST3	0.1260	0.2772	−0.1513	13
ST4	0.1546	0.1458	0.0088	7
ST5	0.3896	0.0732	0.3164	1
ST6	0.1002	0.2932	−0.1930	14
ST7	0.1682	0.2594	−0.0911	11
ST8	0.1763	0.2169	−0.0406	9
ST9	0.2707	0.0845	0.1862	3
ST10	0.1984	0.1183	0.0801	4
ST11	0.0826	0.2812	−0.1987	15
ST12	0.1019	0.2229	−0.1210	12
ST13	0.1564	0.1322	0.0242	6
ST14	0.2780	0.0693	0.2088	2
ST15	0.1685	0.1317	0.0368	5

As a whole, the energy transition in India can be accelerated by firm planning and decentralized target allocation with coordinated energy policies in action. The expansion of solar and wind energy projects and the electrification of the transportation sector is the foundation for the energy transition in India. Concurrently, incremental upgrades to the grid, and interconnections between regions, is required. At the deepest level, the highest efforts should be concentrated on establishing an effective financial plan as well as decoupling the political influence on the energy sector by restructuring the energy tariff mechanism in India. In addition, the incentives, subsidy programmes, and carbon tax schemes have their own roles to promote energy transition. The proposed strategies can be conducive to transforming the negative attributes into opportunities and embracing the strengths to foresee a sustainable energy sector.

6. Policy and Social Implications

The policy approach should be restructured to be less influenced by political factors and redirected to achieve the energy transition. On the other hand, policies can also be channelized to emphasize carbon taxes and using them to provide incentives for supporting renewable energy development. India's approach to reducing its dependency on fossil fuels will mark its pace of energy transition. The existing fossil fuel power plants should be gradually shut down without any further investments. Moreover, the government should make efforts to reskill the workers to align them with the energy transition and also create energy transition funds to aid those who are affected by the energy transition. Otherwise, there will not be sufficient social acceptance to hasten the process of the energy transition.

The financial performance of the energy sector in India can be improved by decreasing the gap in the electricity rates in the cross-subsidization approach, while the policies should promote proper tariff schemes. By coupling all these approaches, the top-performing strategies can be underpinned to accomplish energy transition in India. The accessibility of electricity and clean fuel to people in high-population density and remote areas should be focused on.

Funds should be channelized to clean energy investments, and specific focus must be given to the industrial and residential sectors. Cheaper PV panels and incentives for PV panels would encourage people to install rooftop solar PV panels. Concerning the transportation sector, the utilization of electric vehicles should be promoted. In India, the policy approach to electric vehicles can initiate with public transport. Despite the progress of electrifying four-wheelers and two-wheelers, the country should emphasize tax incentives in insurance for electric vehicle users to attract an increase in the usage of

EVs. On the other hand, the challenge of installing charging stations requires a coordinated approach with public–private sector collaboration. Furthermore, the usage of electric stoves and electric vehicles can be run on clean energy if the rooftop PV panel approach is entrenched. This will not only increase clean energy consumption but also decrease the dependency on fossil fuels, which is the crucial challenge for India to witness the energy transition.

The recent crisis of the Russia–Ukraine war had disrupted the supply chain of oil from Russia, as Russia is the world’s largest exporter to the global markets and the second-largest exporter of crude oil [100]. The India–Russia relationship is and was always politically stable, and as such, it is expected that this war will not have much influence on energy security in India. However, India should make efforts to diversify its energy resources by focusing on solar and wind energy.

7. Conclusions

The energy transition is the key to the decarbonized and sustainable energy sector. India is one of the crucial countries that is required to decarbonize its energy sector to achieve its Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals. However, the literature review indicated that the energy transition in India is bounded by complex paradoxical factors. To delineate the complexity of the multi-fold factors influencing the energy transition, as well as to propel the current scenario towards effective energy transition, a hybrid SWOT-integrated MCDA approach is proposed to identify the complex factors, evaluate them, and assess the recommendation strategies.

Five factors of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats have been presented. Upon analyzing the importance of these SWOT factors through the fuzzy AHP method, it can be inferred that high solar and wind energy potential (S1), a politically compromised and financially insolvent power sector (W3), utilizing the cost-competitive advantage of solar and wind energy over fossil fuels (O1), and the inadequacy of manpower having specialized skillsets (T4) are the most significant strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, respectively, of the current energy transition scenario in India. To accelerate the energy transition, fifteen strategies are proposed. These strategies are assessed against the SWOT factors using the PROMETHEE II methodology. Further, the aggregated score obtained in the fuzzy AHP method is fed into the PROMETHEE II method as weightage to the SWOT criteria. The results indicate that developing a robust policy and regulatory framework (ST5), increasing the contribution of local energy resources (ST14), and promoting distributed generation and the subsequent grid infrastructure development (ST9) are the top three strategies that can ultimately aid smooth energy transition in India. These strategies score relatively higher in the political, financial, and technological SWOT factors, which yield higher net outranking flow scores. On the other hand, the strategies with a narrowed focus, such as improving the energy efficiency of wind and solar energy technologies (ST11), score lower.

To conclude, India faces a paradoxical scenario because of its progress in both renewable energy penetration and fossil fuels in the energy mix. However, the current scenario demonstrates that investment in fossil fuel projects has witnessed a declining trend. The solution for the current complex scenario relies on the financial performance of the energy sector and the political approach, as well as the influence on the energy tariff structure in India. A revamped, coordinated, and coherent policy approach throughout the states of India is a desideratum.

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Appendix A

Table A1. Preference function and aggregated preference function in the PROMETHEE II analysis.

$P_j(a,b)$		S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	$\pi(a,b)$
a	b																					
ST1	ST2	0	0.6	0	1	0	0	0	0.4	0.2	0	0	0.4	0.6	0.25	0	0	0.5	0	0	0.5	0.2498
ST1	ST3	0	0	1	0.8	0	0	0	1	0.2	0	0.4	0.8	0	0	0	0	1	0.2	0	0.5	0.2645
ST1	ST4	0	0.6	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.1618
ST1	ST5	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.25	0	0	0	0.0333
ST1	ST6	0	0.6	1	1	0	0	0	1	0.2	0	0	0	0.6	0.25	0	0	1	0.2	0	0.25	0.2852
ST1	ST7	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	1	0.6	0	0	0.4	0	0.5	0	0	1	0.2	0	0.5	0.2335
ST1	ST8	0	0.6	1	0.6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.2	0.6	0.25	0	0	0.75	0	0	0.25	0.2658
ST1	ST9	0	0	1	0.4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.25	0	0	0.5	0.2	0	0	0	0.1289
ST1	ST10	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.25	0.1561
ST1	ST11	0	0.6	1	1	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0.4	0.8	0	0.5	0	0	1	0.2	0	0.5	0.2960
ST1	ST12	0	0.6	1	1	0	0	0	1	0.2	0	0	0.8	0	0.25	0	0	1	0	0	0.5	0.2387
ST1	ST13	0	0.6	1	0.2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.25	0.1616
ST1	ST14	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	0	0.1316
ST1	ST15	0	0.6	1	0.4	0	0	0	1	0.2	0	0	0.4	0	0.5	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.1850
ST2	ST1	0.6	0	0	0	1	0.8	0.8	0	0	0.8	0.2	0	0	0	0.4	0.8	0	0.8	0	0	0.2032
ST2	ST3	0.2	0	1	0	1	0.8	0.8	0.6	0	0.8	0.6	0.4	0	0	0.4	0.8	0.5	1	0	0	0.3187
ST2	ST4	0	0	1	0	1	0	0.8	0.6	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.8	0	0	0.1790
ST2	ST5	0.4	0	0	0	1	0.4	0.2	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.0856
ST2	ST6	0.6	0	1	0	0	0.8	0.2	0.6	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	1	0	0	0.1857
ST2	ST7	0.6	0	0	0	1	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.2	0	0	0.25	0	0.6	0.5	1	0	0	0.2594
ST2	ST8	0	0	1	0	0	0.8	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.25	0.6	0	0	0.0946
ST2	ST9	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	1	0	0	0.0970
ST2	ST10	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.8	0.6	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.2	0	0	0.1371
ST2	ST11	0	0	1	0	1	0.2	0.8	0.4	0	0.6	0.6	0.4	0	0.25	0	0.8	0.5	1	0	0	0.2842
ST2	ST12	0.4	0	1	0	1	0.2	0.8	0.6	0	0.8	0	0.4	0	0	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.6	0	0	0.2333
ST2	ST13	0	0	1	0	0.25	0.2	0.2	0.6	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0.2	0	0.5	0.4	0	0	0.1242
ST2	ST14	0	0	0	0	0.75	0	0.4	0.6	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0.0815
ST2	ST15	0	0	1	0	0.75	0.2	0.2	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0.25	0	0	0.5	0.8	0	0	0.1351
ST3	ST1	0.4	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.1307
ST3	ST2	0	0.8	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	0.25	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.2315
ST3	ST4	0	0.8	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.0856
ST3	ST5	0.2	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0.0625
ST3	ST6	0.4	0.8	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	0.25	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.2551
ST3	ST7	0.4	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0.2	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0967
ST3	ST8	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	0.25	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.2266
ST3	ST9	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.25	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.0932

Table A1. Cont.

$P_j(a,b)$		S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	$\pi(a,b)$
a	b																					
ST3	ST10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.0732
ST3	ST11	0	0.8	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.1219
ST3	ST12	0.2	0.8	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.25	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.1156
ST3	ST13	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.0808
ST3	ST14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.0732
ST3	ST15	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.1170
ST4	ST1	1	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0.4	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0.1773
ST4	ST2	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	1	0.25	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	0.2412
ST4	ST3	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0.2	0	0.6	0.4	0.2	0	0	0.4	0	0.2	0	0.5	0.2350
ST4	ST5	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.0628
ST4	ST6	1	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0.2	0	0.2	0	1	0.25	0	0	0	0.2	0	0.25	0.3040
ST4	ST7	1	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0.6	0	0.2	0	0.4	0.5	0	0.2	0	0.2	0	0.5	0.2563
ST4	ST8	0.4	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.25	0	0	0	0	0	0.25	0.2358
ST4	ST9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.25	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.0260
ST4	ST10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.25	0.0191
ST4	ST11	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.5	0	0.4	0	0.2	0	0.5	0.2347
ST4	ST12	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.4	0.2	0.25	0	0.4	0	0	0	0.5	0.1757
ST4	ST13	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.25	0.0900
ST4	ST14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0095
ST4	ST15	0.4	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0.2	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0971
ST5	ST1	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.4	0.6	0	0.4	0.2	0.6	0	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.2	0	0.8	0.2	0.5	0.3359
ST5	ST2	0	0.6	0	0.6	0	0	0	0.2	0.6	0	0.4	0.4	1	0.75	0.2	0	0.25	0	0.2	1	0.4348
ST5	ST3	0	0	1	0.4	0	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.2	1	0.8	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.75	1	0	1	0.4990
ST5	ST4	0	0.6	1	0.6	0	0	0.6	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.4	0	0.5	0.6	0	0.75	0.8	0.2	0.5	0.3499
ST5	ST6	0.2	0.6	1	0.6	0	0.4	0	0.8	0.6	0	0.6	0	1	0.75	0	0	0.75	1	0.2	0.75	0.5386
ST5	ST7	0.2	0	0	0.4	0	0.4	0.4	0.8	1	0	0.6	0.4	0.4	1	0.2	0	0.75	1	0	1	0.4817
ST5	ST8	0	0.6	1	0.2	0	0.4	0	0.8	0.4	0	0	0.2	1	0.75	0	0	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.75	0.4295
ST5	ST9	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.8	0.4	0	0.2	0	0	0.75	0.6	0	0.25	1	0.2	0.25	0.2507
ST5	ST10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0	0.25	0.4	0	0.75	0.2	0.2	0.75	0.2951
ST5	ST11	0	0.6	1	0.6	0	0	0.6	0.6	0.4	0	1	0.8	0.2	1	0	0.2	0.75	1	0.2	1	0.5259
ST5	ST12	0	0.6	1	0.6	0	0	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.2	0	0.8	0.2	0.75	0.6	0.2	0.75	0.6	0.2	1	0.4120
ST5	ST13	0	0.6	1	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.4	0	0.75	0.4	0.2	0.75	0.3614
ST5	ST14	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.2	0.8	0.2	0	0.2	0.6	0	0.25	0	0	0.25	0.2	0.2	0.25	0.1993
ST5	ST15	0	0.6	1	0	0	0	0	0.8	0.6	0	0.2	0.4	0.2	1	0	0	0.75	0.8	0.2	0.5	0.3404
ST6	ST1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.6	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.1124
ST6	ST2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0.4	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.25	0.0595
ST6	ST3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.6	0	0	1	0.4	0.8	0	0	1	0.8	0	0	0	0.25	0.2162
ST6	ST4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.6	0	0	1	0	0.4	0	0	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	0.1156
ST6	ST5	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.4	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.0632
ST6	ST7	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.4	0	0.4	0.6	0	0.4	0	0.25	0.6	0.6	0	0	0	0.25	0.1378
ST6	ST8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0.0212
ST6	ST9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.0331
ST6	ST10	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.6	0	0	1	0	0.4	0	0	0.8	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.1019
ST6	ST11	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.6	0	0	0.8	0.4	0.8	0	0.25	0.2	0.8	0	0	0	0.25	0.2070
ST6	ST12	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.6	0	0	1	0	0.8	0	0	1	0.8	0	0	0	0.25	0.1695

Table A1. Cont.

$P_j(a,b)$		S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	$\pi(a,b)$
a	b																					
ST6	ST13	0	0	0	0	0.25	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0.4	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0.0494
ST6	ST14	0	0	0	0	0.75	0	0.2	0	0	0.2	0	0.6	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0.0601
ST6	ST15	0	0	0	0	0.75	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0.4	0	0.25	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0.0562
ST7	ST1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0.4	0.2	0	0	1	0	0.1558
ST7	ST2	0	0.6	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.2283
ST7	ST3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0	0.4	0.2	0	0	0.4	0	0.1529
ST7	ST4	0	0.6	1	0.2	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	1	0	0.1631
ST7	ST5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0.1014
ST7	ST6	0	0.6	1	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.2329
ST7	ST8	0	0.6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.2280
ST7	ST9	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	1	0	0.1382
ST7	ST10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	1	0	0.1421
ST7	ST11	0	0.6	1	0.2	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.2	0.4	0.4	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	1	0	0.2211
ST7	ST12	0	0.6	1	0.2	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.4	0	0.4	0	0	0.4	0.2	0	0	1	0	0.1899
ST7	ST13	0	0.6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	1	0	0.1381
ST7	ST14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.1314
ST7	ST15	0	0.6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.1322
ST8	ST1	0.6	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0.6	0	0	0	0.6	1	0	0.2	0	0	0.2352
ST8	ST2	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0.2	0	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	0	0	0.2	0.2	0	0	0	0.25	0.1107
ST8	ST3	0.2	0	0	0.2	1	0	1	0	0.2	1	1	0.6	0	0	0.6	1	0.25	0.4	0	0.25	0.3299
ST8	ST4	0	0	0	0.4	1	0	1	0	0	1	0.4	0.2	0	0	0.6	0.6	0.25	0.2	0	0	0.1897
ST8	ST5	0.4	0	0	0	1	0	0.4	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.0963
ST8	ST6	0.6	0	0	0.4	0	0	0.4	0	0.2	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.25	0.4	0	0	0.1634
ST8	ST7	0.6	0	0	0.2	1	0	0.8	0	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.2	0	0.25	0.2	0.8	0.25	0.4	0	0.25	0.2752
ST8	ST9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.2	0	0	0	0.6	0.2	0	0.4	0	0	0.0683
ST8	ST10	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0.4	0.2	0	0	0.4	0.4	0.25	0	0	0	0.1584
ST8	ST11	0	0	0	0.4	1	0	1	0	0	0.8	1	0.6	0	0.25	0	1	0.25	0.4	0	0.25	0.3181
ST8	ST12	0.4	0	0	0.4	1	0	1	0	0.2	1	0	0.6	0	0	0.6	1	0.25	0	0	0.25	0.2142
ST8	ST13	0	0	0	0	0.25	0	0.4	0	0	0.2	0.6	0.2	0	0	0.4	0.2	0.25	0	0	0	0.1292
ST8	ST14	0	0	0	0	0.75	0	0.6	0	0	0.2	0.2	0.4	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.0834
ST8	ST15	0	0	0	0	0.75	0	0.4	0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0.25	0	0	0.25	0.2	0	0	0.0967
ST9	ST1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.4	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0.25	0.3099
ST9	ST2	0.4	0.6	0	0.6	0	0.2	0.2	0	0.2	0	0.2	0.6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.75	0.3247
ST9	ST3	0.6	0	0	0.4	1	1	1	0	0.2	0.8	0.8	1	0.2	0	0	0.8	0.5	0	0	0.75	0.4081
ST9	ST4	0	0.6	0	0.6	1	0.2	1	0	0	0.8	0.2	0.6	0	0	0	0.4	0.5	0	0	0.25	0.1915
ST9	ST5	0.8	0	0	0	1	0.6	0.4	0	0	0.6	0	0.2	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.1292
ST9	ST6	1	0.6	0	0.6	0	1	0.4	0	0.2	0	0.4	0.2	1	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	0.5	0.3870
ST9	ST7	1	0	0	0.4	1	1	0.8	0	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.25	0	0.6	0.5	0	0	0.75	0.3970
ST9	ST8	0.4	0.6	0	0.2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	1	0	0	0	0.25	0	0	0.5	0.2800
ST9	ST10	0	0	0	0	1	0.2	1	0	0	0.8	0.2	0.6	0	0	0	0.2	0.5	0	0	0.5	0.1825
ST9	ST11	0.2	0.6	0	0.6	1	0.4	1	0	0	0.6	0.8	1	0.2	0.25	0	0.8	0.5	0	0	0.75	0.3964
ST9	ST12	0.8	0.6	0	0.6	1	0.4	1	0	0.2	0.8	0	1	0.2	0	0	0.8	0.5	0	0	0.75	0.3258
ST9	ST13	0.2	0.6	0	0	0.25	0.4	0.4	0	0	0	0.4	0.6	0.2	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	0.5	0.2067
ST9	ST14	0	0	0	0.2	0.75	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0722
ST9	ST15	0.4	0.6	0	0	0.75	0.4	0.4	0	0.2	0	0	0.6	0.2	0.25	0	0	0.5	0	0	0.25	0.1786

Table A1. Cont.

$P_j(a,b)$		S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	$\pi(a,b)$
a	b																					
ST10	ST1	1	0.4	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0.2	0	0.2	0	0.4	0.25	0.2	0.6	0	0.6	0	0	0.2381
ST10	ST2	0.4	1	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	1	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0.25	0.2657
ST10	ST3	0.6	0.2	1	0.4	0	0.8	0	0	0.4	0	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.25	0.2	0.6	0	0.8	0	0.25	0.2891
ST10	ST4	0	1	1	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.25	0.2	0.2	0	0.6	0	0	0.0856
ST10	ST5	0.8	0.4	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0.0745
ST10	ST6	1	1	1	0.6	0	0.8	0	0	0.4	0	0.2	0	1	0.5	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0.3567
ST10	ST7	1	0.4	0	0.4	0	0.8	0	0	0.8	0	0.2	0	0.4	0.75	0	0.4	0	0.8	0	0.25	0.3018
ST10	ST8	0.4	1	1	0.2	0	0.8	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	1	0.5	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0.2710
ST10	ST9	0	0.4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.5	0.2	0	0	0.8	0	0	0.0835
ST10	ST11	0.2	1	1	0.6	0	0.2	0	0	0.2	0	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.75	0	0.6	0	0.8	0	0.25	0.2953
ST10	ST12	0.8	1	1	0.6	0	0.2	0	0	0.4	0	0	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.6	0	0.4	0	0.25	0.2343
ST10	ST13	0.2	1	1	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0.2	0.25	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.1110
ST10	ST14	0	0.2	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0162
ST10	ST15	0.4	1	1	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0.2	0.75	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0.1545
ST11	ST1	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.2	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0.1179
ST11	ST2	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0.8	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0.1528
ST11	ST3	0.4	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0.0776
ST11	ST4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0.0410
ST11	ST5	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0.0452
ST11	ST6	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.2	0.2	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2017
ST11	ST7	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.2	0.6	0	0	0	0.2	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0.1207
ST11	ST8	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0.1706
ST11	ST9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0.0372
ST11	ST10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0.0352
ST11	ST12	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0.0780
ST11	ST13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0.0314
ST11	ST14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0.0196
ST11	ST15	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0271
ST12	ST1	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.1331
ST12	ST2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.1744
ST12	ST3	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0.1438
ST12	ST4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.0545
ST12	ST5	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0038
ST12	ST6	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0.2367
ST12	ST7	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0.4	0	0.6	0	0.2	0.25	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0.1621
ST12	ST8	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.1391
ST12	ST9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0.0391
ST12	ST10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0467
ST12	ST11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.25	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0.1505
ST12	ST13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0700
ST12	ST14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0233
ST12	ST15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.25	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.0493
ST13	ST1	0.8	0	0	0	0.75	0.6	0.6	0	0.4	0.8	0	0	0.2	0	0.2	0.8	0	0.4	0	0	0.1914
ST13	ST2	0.2	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0.8	0.25	0	0	0	0	0	0.25	0.2007
ST13	ST3	0.4	0	0	0.6	0.75	0.6	0.6	0	0.6	0.8	0.4	0.4	0	0	0.2	0.8	0	0.6	0	0.25	0.2445

Table A1. Cont.

$P_j(a,b)$		S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	O1	O2	O3	O4	O5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	$\pi(a,b)$	
a	b																						
ST13	ST4	0	0	0	0.8	0.75	0	0.6	0	0.4	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.4	0	0.4	0	0	0.1044	
ST13	ST5	0.6	0	0	0.2	0.75	0.2	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.0886	
ST13	ST6	0.8	0	0	0.8	0	0.6	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0.8	0.25	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0.2521	
ST13	ST7	0.8	0	0	0.6	0.75	0.6	0.4	0	1	0.4	0	0	0.2	0.5	0	0.6	0	0.6	0	0.25	0.2457	
ST13	ST8	0.2	0	0	0.4	0	0.6	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0.8	0.25	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.1897	
ST13	ST9	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0.25	0.2	0	0	0.6	0	0	0.0555	
ST13	ST10	0	0	0	0.2	0.75	0	0.6	0	0.2	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.0589	
ST13	ST11	0	0	0	0.8	0.75	0	0.6	0	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.4	0	0.5	0	0.8	0	0.6	0	0.25	0.2394	
ST13	ST12	0.6	0	0	0.8	0.75	0	0.6	0	0.6	0.8	0	0.4	0	0.25	0.2	0.8	0	0.2	0	0.25	0.2055	
ST13	ST14	0	0	0	0.4	0.5	0	0.2	0	0.2	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0336	
ST13	ST15	0.2	0	0	0.2	0.5	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0.0795	
ST14	ST1	1	0.2	0	0	0.25	1	0.4	0	0.2	0.8	0.4	0	0.4	0.25	0.6	0.8	0	0.6	0	0.25	0.3338	
ST14	ST2	0.4	0.8	0	0.4	0	0.2	0	0	0.4	0	0.2	0	1	0.5	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.75	0.3303	
ST14	ST3	0.6	0	1	0.2	0.25	1	0.4	0	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.25	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.8	0	0.75	0.4092	
ST14	ST4	0	0.8	1	0.4	0.25	0.2	0.4	0	0.2	0.8	0.2	0	0	0.25	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.6	0	0.25	0.1961	
ST14	ST5	0.8	0.2	0	0	0.25	0.6	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.0988	
ST14	ST6	1	0.8	1	0.4	0	1	0	0	0.4	0	0.4	0	1	0.5	0	0	0.5	0.8	0	0.5	0.4351	
ST14	ST7	1	0.2	0	0.2	0.25	1	0.2	0	0.8	0.4	0.4	0	0.4	0.75	0.2	0.6	0.5	0.8	0	0.75	0.4113	
ST14	ST8	0.4	0.8	1	0	0	1	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	1	0.5	0	0	0.25	0.4	0	0.5	0.3161	
ST14	ST9	0	0.2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.5	0.6	0	0	0.8	0	0	0.0933	
ST14	ST10	0	0	0	0	0.25	0.2	0.4	0	0	0.8	0.2	0	0	0	0.4	0.2	0.5	0	0	0.5	0.1364	
ST14	ST11	0.2	0.8	1	0.4	0.25	0.4	0.4	0	0.2	0.6	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.75	0	0.8	0.5	0.8	0	0.75	0.3999	
ST14	ST12	0.8	0.8	1	0.4	0.25	0.4	0.4	0	0.4	0.8	0	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.4	0	0.75	0.3311	
ST14	ST13	0.2	0.8	1	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0.2	0.25	0.4	0	0.5	0.2	0	0.5	0.2059	
ST14	ST15	0.4	0.8	1	0	0	0.4	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0.2	0.75	0	0	0.5	0.6	0	0.25	0.1952	
ST15	ST1	0.6	0	0	0	0.25	0.6	0.6	0	0	0.8	0.4	0	0.2	0	0.8	1	0	0	0	0	0.2266	
ST15	ST2	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0.8	0	0.4	0.2	0	0	0	0.5	0.2234	
ST15	ST3	0.2	0	0	0.4	0.25	0.6	0.6	0	0	0.8	0.8	0.4	0	0	0.8	1	0	0.2	0	0.5	0.2925	
ST15	ST4	0	0	0	0.6	0.25	0	0.6	0	0	0.8	0.2	0	0	0	0.8	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.1232	
ST15	ST5	0.4	0	0	0	0.25	0.2	0	0	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.0794	
ST15	ST6	0.6	0	0	0.6	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0.8	0	0	0.2	0	0.2	0	0.25	0.2707	
ST15	ST7	0.6	0	0	0.4	0.25	0.6	0.4	0	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0.2	0	0.4	0.8	0	0.2	0	0.5	0.2516	
ST15	ST8	0	0	0	0.2	0	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.25	0.1690	
ST15	ST9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	0.2	0	0.2	0	0	0.0392	
ST15	ST10	0	0	0	0	0.25	0	0.6	0	0	0.8	0.2	0	0	0	0.6	0.4	0	0	0	0.25	0.1141	
ST15	ST11	0	0	0	0.6	0.25	0	0.6	0	0	0.6	0.8	0.4	0	0	0	1	0	0.2	0	0.5	0.2469	
ST15	ST12	0.4	0	0	0.6	0.25	0	0.6	0	0	0.8	0	0.4	0	0	0.8	1	0	0	0	0.5	0.1966	
ST15	ST13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	0.6	0.2	0	0	0	0.25	0.0912	
ST15	ST14	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0.2	0.2	0	0	0	0	0.0347	

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