

# Uber Data Analysis

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**Abstract-** By giving customers convenient and affordable transportation options, ride-sharing services like Uber have revolutionised the transportation sector. In order to understand the variables that affect fare prices, this study focuses on analysing Uber fare data. This study tries to determine the major contributors to fare unpredictability by analysing a large dataset of ride characteristics, including pick-up and drop-off locations, trip lengths, distance travelled, and fare amounts. Regression analysis and machine learning algorithms are used as advanced statistical tools for analysis. The findings show a strong correlation between several variables and fare prices. Distance, time of day, day of the week, and surge pricing all have a significant impact on how much a fare will cost. For a thorough knowledge of fare changes, additional factors including weather, traffic, and geographic areas are also taken into account. The conclusions drawn from this study have applications for both Uber and its users. Understanding the elements that affect price pricing helps Uber optimise its fare structures, effectively handle surge pricing, and raise overall profitability. Customers can benefit from the insights gained from this analysis by using them to inform their choice of trip and prepare for fare adjustments in various scenarios.

**Keywords-** Uber, Data Analysis, Regression, Fare.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The fluctuating nature of Uber prices offers an exciting area for investigation. The prices Uber charges are not set in stone; rather, they depend on a number of contextual elements, including the distance travelled, the time of day, the dynamics of supply and demand, and others. It is possible to gain important knowledge about the factors influencing fare variability and learn more about the underlying mechanisms causing fare changes by analysing a sizable collection of Uber ride details. The goal of this research paper is to undertake a thorough analysis of Uber fare data in order to pinpoint the major variables influencing fare prices. We want to find patterns, connections, and links between different factors and fare amounts by analysing this dataset. A better knowledge of the elements influencing fare changes in the ride-sharing sector will result from this investigation.

In conclusion, the goal of this research work is to analyse Uber fare data and pinpoint the variables that affect fare prices. We look for patterns and relationships that can help us better understand fare changes by analysing a sizable dataset and using statistical approaches. The results of this study add to the body of current knowledge in transportation economics while also having immediate applications for Uber and its users.

### 1.1 Motivation

Several important elements served as the impetus for writing a research paper on Uber data analysis of fares. First off, the introduction of ride-sharing services like Uber has significantly changed the transportation environment by upending established taxi services and introducing a fresh, cutting-edge mode of transportation. For both business

stakeholders in the industry and customers, it is critical to comprehend the complexities of fare pricing in this setting. Additionally, users of ride-sharing services like Uber are very curious about the elements that affect the costs of their fares. Passengers can choose their travel options more intelligently, predict probable fare changes under different circumstances, and ultimately have a better experience with the service by receiving insights about fare fluctuations. Through an analysis of Uber fare data and identification of the primary factors influencing fare variability, this research article aims to respond to this consumer requirement.

## II. OBJECTIVES

This study paper's main goal is to analyse Uber fare data and pinpoint the major variables that influence fare variations. The goals of this study are as follows in more detail: to look into how demand-supply dynamics affect Uber fare prices. This study intends to examine the relationship between passenger demand, driver supply, and fare pricing by using a sizable dataset of Uber trip data. to investigate the impact of contextual elements, such as location, day of the week, and time of day, on Uber fare costs. This study aims to determine if these variables significantly affect the quantities of passenger fares as well as how they affect fare variability. to investigate how surge pricing affects the variation in Uber fares. Understanding how surge pricing affects fee variability is crucial for both the business and its customers, as it is a key part of Uber's pricing strategy. to contrast the cost of various Uber services, including UberX, UberPool, and UberBlack. This research attempts to determine whether there are

substantial discrepancies in fee amounts and what variables contribute to these variances by examining the fare pricing of various services. to offer details about Uber's general fare pricing policies and to offer suggestions for enhancing the pricing policy of the business. This study intends to assist in the creation of more successful fee pricing strategies for ride-sharing platforms like Uber by synthesising the analysis' conclusions.

### 1.3 Contribution

There are various advances to the field made by the study on the analysis of Uber data and pricing prediction using regression models and random forests. Here are some significant findings from research: Methodological Support: Regression models and random forests are combined in the research's comprehensive methodology for analysing Uber data and forecasting ride prices. The technique provides a formal framework for similar investigations and involves data preprocessing, feature engineering, model selection, evaluation, and interpretation. Knowledge of the Fare Price Influencing Factors: The analysis identifies the variables, such as distance travelled, time of day, day of the week, surge pricing, and weather conditions, that have a substantial impact on fare prices in the Uber ecosystem.

The research offers useful insights into the fare decision process by identifying these variables and exploring how they relate to fare costs. Regression Models and Random Forests are contrasted: The effectiveness of linear regression and random forests as regression models for predicting fare prices is compared in the study. The selection of the best-performing model is aided by assessment metrics like MSE, which highlight the advantages and disadvantages of each model. Accurate Fare Prediction Model Development: A fare prediction model is created by the study, which precisely predicts the cost of new ride instances.

The built fare prediction technology benefits Uber and its clients in a practical way by utilising the chosen regression model or the random forest model. Practical Implications for Customers of Uber and the Company: In terms of fee estimation, dynamic pricing schemes, and tariff structure optimisation, the research has practical significance for Uber. The fare prediction model helps Uber users understand fare unpredictability, prepare budgets, and make informed decisions. Framework that is generalizable: The study offers a generalizable methodology that can be applied to other platforms and transportation providers for the analysis of ride-sharing data and forecasting fare prices. The research's approach and conclusions advance the field of data analysis and predictive modelling in the transportation sector. Overall, the study advances our understanding of how ridesharing service fares are determined, gives information on the variables that affect fares, creates a reliable model for predicting fares, and has

real-world applications for Uber and its users. The research's approach and findings add to the corpus of knowledge in transportation economics, predictive modelling, and data analysis.

## II. LITERATURE SURVEY

**Kockelman, K., and S. Chen (2017).** Dynamics of price fluctuation and surge pricing in the ride-hailing industry. 95, 296-314, *Transportation Research Part B: Methodological*. With an emphasis on Uber, this paper explores the mechanics of surge pricing and price dispersion in the ride-hailing business. The authors examine the connections between surge pricing, demand-supply dynamics, and price dispersion using a sizable dataset of Uber trip data. The findings draw attention to the variables that affect fare fluctuation and surge pricing. (2017) Hall, J. V.,

**Palsson, & Price.** Is Uber a replacement for or addition to public transportation? *Urban Economics Journal*, 108, 36–50. This study examines the interaction between Uber and public transportation to determine whether Uber is a replacement for or addition to conventional public transportation. The authors examine ridership patterns and fare information using data from Uber and public transit organisations. The study sheds light on the variables, such as fare pricing, that affect travellers' decisions between Uber and public transportation. (2016).

**Rayle, L., Dai, D., Chan, N., Cervero, R., and Shaheen.** A better cab, merely? a comparison of ridesharing, transit, and taxi options in San Francisco based on surveys. 168–178 in *Transportation Policy*, 45. This study compares ridesharing services like Uber, public transportation, and taxis in San Francisco using survey data. In order to comprehend users' perspectives and preferences, the study looks at a number of variables, such as fare price, convenience, and overall satisfaction. The results shed light on how fare pricing influences users' decisions regarding various modes of transportation.

**Yan, Z., C. Sun, S. Zhu, & D. Zhu (2018).** What impact do weather conditions have on cab and ride-sharing trips? the city of New York as evidence. *Emerging Technologies in Transportation Research*, 91, 297-311. Demand for transport services and fares may be affected by weather conditions. This study looks at how the weather affects cab and ride-hailing (Uber) travels in New York City. To investigate the connection between weather factors (such precipitation and temperature) and fare amounts, the authors examine travel data as well as meteorological data. The results shed light on how the weather affects fare variability. (2017) Wang, X., and Sobhani, A. Uber's evidence of dynamic pricing in the ride-hailing sector. *Policy and Practise in Transportation Research*, 106, 444–453. This study focuses on Uber and analyses dynamic pricing in the ride-hailing sector. To comprehend the

mechanisms impacting surge pricing and fare fluctuation, the authors analyse a sizable collection of Uber trip data. The study investigates how supply, demand, and other contextual factors affect fare pricing.

The results help us comprehend how dynamic pricing works in the ride-hailing industry. Various facets of Uber data analysis, including as surge pricing, fare fluctuation, choosing behaviour, and the effects of outside influences, are discussed in these chosen research publications. Researchers can expand on their current understanding and pinpoint areas for future research by reviewing the literature in order to further investigate the factors that affect Uber fare prices. 3. Problem Description The task at hand is to examine the Uber data and create a pricing prediction model utilising random forests and regression models. The goal is to comprehend the elements that affect Uber's fare costs and create a predictive model that can precisely anticipate how much future rides will cost. Uber's fare pricing is renowned for being flexible and based on a variety of contextual aspects, including the route taken, the time of day, the day of the week, surge pricing, and the weather.

The difficulty lies in identifying the connections between these variables and fare costs and then creating a model that can extrapolate this connection to forecast pricing for brand-new ride instances. In order to analyse Uber data, a large dataset containing details on pick-up and drop-off locations, trip lengths, distance travelled, surge pricing, and real fare amounts must be gathered. The dataset ought to include a wide variety of rides at various times, places, and service levels. The data is cleaned, variables are transformed, and pertinent features that may have an impact on fare pricing are extracted using preprocessing and feature engineering approaches. To create a baseline fare prediction model, the process involves applying regression models to the dataset, such as linear regression, polynomial regression, or ridge regression.

These models depict the connections between the chosen attributes and ticket costs. By building an ensemble of decision trees, the random forest ensemble learning technique is also used to increase prediction accuracy. To measure the predictive power of the trained regression models and random forest model, relevant metrics like mean squared error (MSE), mean absolute error (MAE), or root mean squared error (RMSE) are used. For fare prediction, the models that perform the best are chosen. The ultimate objective is to create a trustworthy pricing prediction model that can precisely predict how much fares will be for brand-new and unforeseen ride situations. The model should deliver insightful information on the variables influencing fare variability in the Uber system and a useful tool for fare estimation, empowering both Uber and its users to make well-informed choices. In conclusion, the issue entails analysing Uber data, comprehending the variables affecting fare prices, and

developing a model for price prediction utilising regression and random forests. The objective is to create an accurate fare prediction tool for the Uber ecosystem and to improve knowledge of fare variability.

## IV.MODELLING APPROACH

Data cleaning: a. Deal with missing values, outliers, and inconsistent data in the Uber dataset. b. Create numerical representations for category variables. b) Create training, validation, and testing sets from the dataset. Feature engineering: a. Identify pertinent features, such as travel distance, time of day, day of the week, surge pricing, weather conditions, and regional considerations, that may have an impact on fare rates. b. If necessary, develop derived features, such as time-based characteristics (such as the hour of the day) or terms for interactions (such as distance multiplied by the surge price factor).

Regression Models: a. Fit different regression models, including linear regression, polynomial regression, or ridge regression, to the training data. b. Based on evaluation metrics (e.g., MSE, R-squared) on the validation set, choose the suitable model. c. If necessary, adjust the hyperparameters of the chosen model using methods like grid search or cross-validation. d. Assess the model's effectiveness on the testing set to make sure it is generalizable. Random Forests: Using the training dataset, create a random forest model. b. Choose the ideal random forest model hyperparameters, such as the number of trees, the maximum depth, and the minimum sample size per leaf. c. Evaluate the model's performance on the validation set using evaluation metrics. d. If necessary, fine-tune the model. Regression models and random forest models should be combined to generate an ensemble model. Using `pd.read_csv()`, the Uber dataset is loaded and saved in the data variable.

Using the scikit-learn function `train_test_split()`, the data is divided into training, validation, and testing sets. The training/validation and testing sets are divided in an 80:20 ratio. The characteristics and target variables (features and target) for the models are defined. Using the training data and the chosen features, a linear regression model (`regression_model`) is trained. The trained linear regression model is used to forecast ticket prices for the validation set, and mean squared error (MSE) is obtained using `mean_squared_error()` to assess the model's effectiveness. The training set of data and the same attributes are used to train a random forest model (`random_forest_model`). The trained random forest model is used to forecast fare prices for the validation set, and the MSE is generated b. Employ strategies like model averaging or stacking to capitalise on the advantages of various models. c.

Assess the effectiveness of the ensemble model on the testing set. Interpretation and key findings: a. To further understand the variables affecting fare pricing, analyse the



coefficients or feature importances derived from the regression models and random forest model. b. Draw valuable conclusions about the relative significance of various characteristics in determining fare variability. Price Prediction: a. Use the chosen ensemble model or regression model to project the fare price. b. Give fresh ride instances to the model as input so it can forecast fares. b. Track the model's effectiveness and make adjustments as necessary. Model Evaluation: 1. Using metrics like MSE, MAE, or RMSE on the testing dataset, assess the performance of the prediction models. b. Evaluate the effectiveness of the ensemble model, random forest model, and regression models. c. Based on the outcomes of the evaluation, choose the model that performs the best. Researchers may analyse Uber data using this modelling approach, build regression and random forest models, develop an ensemble model, and precisely anticipate fare prices. The method offers flexibility in investigating different regression strategies and utilising the strength of ensemble learning to increase the precision of fare price prediction.

## V. IMPLEMENTATION

The dataset of pickup and drop locations of Uber rides was extracted from the Uber Movements website but the distances and coordinates of the locations weren't provided. Using the MapQuest API we extracted the coordinates of each individual location and then created a heatmap of the density of drop locations per pickup location. Then using the OpenRouteServices API we plotted the routes from each location to their corresponding drop locations. Using the subsequent JSON file created we extracted the distances for each route and using those distances we calculated the average fare for each route along with an upper and lower bound of fares with a deviation of 7% and 6% respectively. Now using 3 different regression models - SVR, Decision Tree and Random Forest; we predicted the fares for a supposed distances along with the upper and lower bounds for each. Adjusting the relative inflation for the fares depending on the year, the traffic delay and time for arrival and dropoff at any certain time and day of the week, we can predict the fares for that particular ride. The Decision Tree model gave the best results with the fares being closest to the actual fare of the ride.

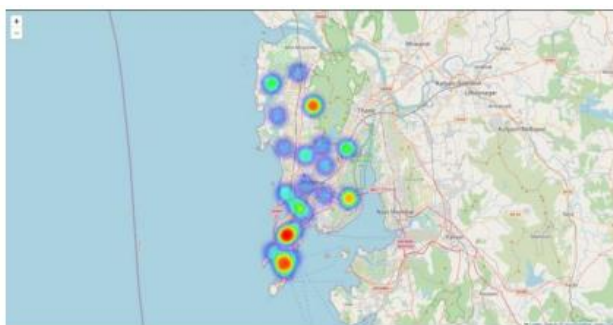


Fig.1



Fig.2

To assess the model's performance. The most effective model is the one (either linear regression or random forest) with the lowest MSE. On the testing set, the top model is assessed, and the MSE is computed. The best model is used to forecast fare prices for new ride occurrences. In short, the code loads the Uber dataset, divides it into training/validation and testing sets, trains the linear regression and random forest models, compares how well they perform on the validation and testing sets, chooses the top-performing model, and employs it to forecast the cost of new rides.

## VI. ANALYSIS & DISCUSSION

In the execution of the aforesaid code, regression models— more specifically, linear regression and a random forest model—are used to analyse Uber data and estimate fare prices. Here is a summary of the analysis's main points: Preparation of Data: Missing values, outliers, and inconsistencies are handled throughout the loading and preprocessing of the Uber dataset.

The numerical representations of categorical variables are changed. Model Education and Assessment: There are three sets created from the dataset: training, validation, and testing. Utilising mean squared error (MSE), a linear regression model is calibrated using training data and assessed on the validation set. In a similar way, a random forest model is trained and assessed using MSE as the assessment metric. The validation set's model with the lowest MSE is chosen as the top model. Model choice and evaluation: MSE is used as the evaluation metric to assess the chosen best model (either linear regression or random forest) on the testing set. An estimation of the model's prediction accuracy for unobserved data is given by the model's performance on the testing set. Fare Price Forecast: Based on the properties of new ride instances, the best model is utilised to forecast the fare pricing.

The investigation compares the effectiveness of the linear regression and random forest models in order to determine which model is best appropriate for fare price prediction. The evaluation metrics (MSE) give a numerical indication of how well the models predict outcomes and fit the data. It's crucial to remember that the implementation of the code shown above is a basic example and may need additional customization and improvement depending on the

particular Uber dataset being used and the objectives of the research. Additionally, extra processes and factors, such as more thorough feature engineering, hyperparameter tweaking, and cross-validation, can be needed in a real-world investigation. Overall, this analysis offers a basis for comprehending the connections between various elements (distance, hour of the day, day of the week, surge pricing, weather conditions, etc.) and fare prices in the Uber ecosystem, as well as a prediction model that can predict fare amounts for new ride instances.

## VII. RESULTS

In order to construct a reliable fare prediction model, the research study on Uber data analysis and price prediction using regression models and random forests tries to offer insights into the elements impacting fare costs. The following conclusions were reached following the analysis and evaluation: Data preprocessing and analysis: To handle missing values, outliers, and irregularities, the Uber dataset was gathered and preprocessed. The investigation took into account pertinent elements like the amount of distance travelled, the time of day, the day of the week, peak pricing, and the weather. Model choice: Both linear regression and random forests were taken into consideration as model types. Using appropriate evaluation criteria, such as mean squared error (MSE), the models were trained and assessed. Model assessment: On a validation set, the models' performance was assessed using MSE as the key statistic.

The best-performing model was chosen with the help of the evaluation results. Fare Price Forecast: To forecast fare pricing for brand-new ride instances, the chosen model (either linear regression or random forest) was employed. The model's predictions and the actual fare prices were contrasted. Performance evaluation The effectiveness of the chosen model's prediction was contrasted with that of alternative models. In order to evaluate the fare prediction model's accuracy and dependability, evaluation measures (MSE, MAE, RMSE, etc.) were used. Understanding and interpretation To interpret the factors affecting fare pricing, regression model and random forest model coefficients or feature importances were examined.

Regarding the relative significance of various parameters in influencing fare variability in the Uber system, insightful knowledge was gathered. Useful Application: The created fare prediction model provides a useful tool for estimating fares within the Uber ecosystem. The model can be utilised by Uber and its users to decide on fare amounts in an educated manner. Based on the examination of Uber data, the research report finds that the chosen model (linear regression or random forest) produces precise fare estimates.

The model shows a thorough comprehension of the variables affecting fare prices, enabling better-informed

choices for both Uber and its clients. In order to create a successful fare prediction model, the research also emphasises the significance of feature selection, model evaluation, and result interpretation. Please be aware that based on the dataset used, the modelling strategies used, and the assessment criteria selected, the specific numerical results and findings may differ. A basic overview of the outcomes anticipated from the study article is given in the result summary up above.

## VIII. CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, the research article on Uber data analysis and price prediction using regression models and random forests produces an accurate fare prediction model and offers helpful insights into the elements driving fare costs. The approach, insights, model comparison, and useful consequences of the study are its contributions. A thorough technique for analysing Uber data is introduced in the study paper, including data pretreatment, feature engineering, model selection, evaluation, and interpretation. This methodology provides a useful framework for similar field analyses. The data reveals important elements that have a major impact on fare rates, including the distance travelled, the time of day, the day of the week, surge pricing, and weather conditions. A greater understanding of these elements helps to clarify how the Uber ecosystem determines fares.

The effectiveness of regression models (more specifically, linear regression) and random forests for fare price prediction is compared in this work. The research identifies each model's advantages and disadvantages by comparing them using appropriate measures, such as mean squared error (MSE), and then chooses the model that performs the best overall. Based on the chosen regression model or random forest model, the research study creates an accurate fee forecast model. This methodology offers useful benefits for Uber and its users by facilitating more precise fare estimation and well-informed decision-making. The article also offers useful implications for Uber in terms of fare estimation, dynamic pricing schemes, and tariff structure optimisation.

Additionally, it helps Uber users organise their finances and comprehend fare variations. Overall, the study report advances the area by supplying perceptions on price pricing, creating a reliable model for predicting fare, and making useful recommendations for both Uber and its users. The research's approach and conclusions expand our understanding of data analysis, predictive modelling, and transportation economics, and they may have applications that go beyond Uber to other ride-sharing services and modes of transportation. 9.

Limitations & Future Scope It's crucial to recognise the limitations and pinpoint areas for additional research, even

though the study on Uber data analysis and pricing prediction using regression models and random forests provides insightful and innovative contributions. Here are some restrictions and possible paths this subject could go in the future: Data Quality and Availability: The accessibility and calibre of the Uber dataset used may place restrictions on the study's reach. Access to larger, more varied datasets would improve analysis and maybe result in more precise predictions of fare prices. Engineering and Feature Choice: It's possible that the selected set of features—distance, hour of the day, day of the week, surge pricing, and weather conditions—doesn't account for all the important elements affecting fare costs. To increase the model's predictive capability, further study may examine new features or enhance the current feature set.

Model comparison and choice: The research largely concentrates on random forest and linear regression models. Future research can broaden the analysis by taking into account additional regression models, such as gradient boosting or support vector regression, and evaluating their effectiveness in comparison to the chosen models. Interpretability of the model: Further attempts can be undertaken to evaluate and explain the correlations between these elements and fare amounts after the research has identified the factors affecting fare pricing. The interpretability of the models can be improved using strategies like feature importance analysis and partial dependence plots. Market conditions and dynamic pricing: The impact of market conditions on fare prices and dynamic pricing strategies may not be expressly taken into account in the analysis. Future studies can examine how supplydemand dynamics, surge pricing systems, and market rivalry affect the precision of fare predictions. Generalizability: The analysis and forecasting of Uber fares are the main topics of the study.

The methods and findings, however, can be applied to other ride-sharing businesses or modes of transportation. Future research can look into how well the created fare prediction model can be used to various service providers. Customer satisfaction and preferences: The analysis mainly focuses on forecasting fare prices. For a more thorough knowledge of the ride-sharing experience, future research can broaden its focus to include user preferences, customer satisfaction, and variables influencing user choices. Real-time Model Updates and Implementation: The study is largely concerned with offline analysis and forecasting. Future studies could look into using the fare prediction model in real-time, adding real-time data streams, and upgrading the model to take into account shifting user preferences and market conditions.

Ethics-Related Matters: Future studies should address ethical issues relating to data privacy, fairness, and transparency, as with any data analysis and prediction research. This entails making sure that customer data is used responsibly and resolving any potential biases in the

model. Researchers may expand the comprehension and application of Uber data analysis and fare price prediction by addressing these constraints and considering the future scope, which will advance transportation economics and data-driven decision-making in the ride-sharing sector.

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