APPLICATION ARTICLE



An intuitive fuzzy approach for evaluating financial resiliency of supply chain

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Abstract

Since the financial crisis of 2008, financial resiliency has gradually become a crucial tools employed by supply chains worldwide to resist external risks and shocks. Risks and shocks sometimes creating a turbulent environment can vary in intensity and frequency and may be attributed to a system's internal or external factors. Resilience is defined as the capacity to withstand risks that are more significant, rapid recovery after risks, and reduced degradation by virtue of a certain number of hazards. Financial resiliency focuses on how an organization efficiently deploys the remaining financial resources and invests in maintenance and reconstruction strategies to accelerate the recovery process. This study aims to identify and classify the criteria for measuring supply chain financial resilience using the hybrid Fuzzy Delphi Method (FDM) and intuitive fuzzy DEMATEL technique with interval values (IVIF-DEMATEL). For this purpose, by reviewing the literature, 29 criteria of supply chain financial resiliency were identified, and after screening by FDM, 12 criteria were finalized. In the next step, the desired criteria were classified into two category, and the importance of each was determined.

Keywords Financial resiliency · Redundancy · Intuitive fuzzy number · DEMATEL

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1 Introduction

Today's supply chain is subject to a diverse and changing environment, threatening them with shocks, risks and natural hazards. Threats sometimes creating a turbulent environment can vary in intensity and frequency and may be attributed to a system's internal or external factors [46]. Many factor have made organizations more vulnerable such as increasing complexity of transactions between supply chain partners, fierce competition, bargaining power of customers, dependence on suppliers, the constant demand for innovation, changes in regulatory conditions, new expectations of society and customers and changes in rules and regulations [3]. Natural disasters, terrorist attacks, recessions, and international economic sanctions are among the threats that could further jeopardize the organization's survival (S. [35, 65]. Therefore, in today age where changing and uncertainty play an important part, continuing the organization's life at the time of a hazard strike requires rapid recovery, getting back to the initial state, and learning from experience. The ability of an organization to mitigate vulnerability of threats, the ability to change itself and adapt to changes in the surrounding environment, and the ability to recover when a disaster strikes in the shortest time as possible are essential prerequisites referred in the literature as organizational resilience [23]. A resilient supply chain is ready to deal with shocks, hazards and risks and retain its performance under challenging conditions. Resiliency empower the supply chain to quickly return to their initial state after experiencing shocks [10, 11]. In addition, resiliency by increasing the capacity and capability of supply chain, can gain competitive advantage over time [55].

Financial resiliency refers to the ability of a supply chain to acquire financial resources in a timely manner in order to prevent or take advantage of uncertain events and seize valuable investment opportunities. The typical reasons for enterprises to reserve financial resiliency are to minimize the negative impacts of environmental uncertainty and financing constraints on enterprise survival and success [64]. However, an organization's ability to respond to various disorders depends on the organization's goals and maturity level in facing a risk [5]. Still, when an organization faces shocks and those affecting its financial crisis, organizational resilience is interpreted as financial resilience [31, 37]. As mentioned, financial resources and invests in maintenance and reconstruction to accelerate recovery.

In the process of supply chain development, enterprises often face problems such as legality, information asymmetry, and difficulty in obtaining external resources, which will lead to severe environmental uncertainty and financing constraints. Therefore, enterprises need to reserve certain financial resiliency to prevent potential threats to their development and at the same time to improve their legitimacy and establishing competitive advantages. Therefore, how to obtain financial resiliency is one of the most important issues for supply chains. DeAngelo [19] provides the first research to systematically explain how corporations obtain financial resiliency, and to propose that the acquisition of financial resiliency should be examined and analyzed from three aspects: cash resiliency, debt resiliency, and equity resiliency. So far, research on financial resiliency has mainly focused on three aspects: the definition of financial resiliency [14, 21, 48], the impact of financial resiliency on corporate investment and financing [2], and the impact of financial resiliency on corporate performance or valuation [26, 30, 53].

For all organizations, financial resilience has become a necessity to maintain survival in today's unstable environment. Regarding the evaluation of supply chain financial resilience, the results in the literature have been inconsistent. Although the existing literature on organizational resilience has taken a prescriptive and normative position and emphasizes the need for further empirical research as well as the development of resilience measurement framework. In addition, few studies have specifically focused on the measurement criteria of supply chain financial resilience. In other words, it is worth mentioning that there is a gap in the existing literature on providing an approach to measure financial resilience. Hence, in this paper, we fill this important research gap. Therefore, this study aims to provide an approach to analyze the measuring criteria of supply chain financial resilience. The research questions as follows:

RQ1 What are the measurement criteria of supply chain financial resilience? *RQ2* How are the importance and effectiveness of the financial resilience measurement criteria of supply chain?

The remainder of this paper is structured as follows. Section 2 includes a summary of the literature on organizational resiliency, financial resiliency and financial resiliency measurement criteria. Section 3 discusses the research methods. The measurement criteria of supply chain financial resilience are modeled using multi criteria decision making (MCDM) techniques in Sect. 4. The results, managerial consequences, and limitations of the analysis are presented in Sect. 5.

2 Literature review

Regarding the organizational resilience concept, researchers have offered many definitions, but despite the common elements, there are some discrepancies between them. After reviewing the definitions provided by previous researchers, it can be concluded that there are three main streams in conceptualizing organizational resilience: (1) resilience as a characteristic of the organization, (2) resilience as a result of the organization's activities and (3) resilience as a measure of the turmoil that an organization can withstand. They all have nearly the same meaning, emphasizing an organization's survival when facing shocks, risks, or changes [57]. Some researchers consider resilience as a necessity for organizations when coming across obstacles [13, 32]. Other researchers have defined organizational resilience as a function of specific capabilities or abilities [22, 23, 46] identified flexibility, adaptability, agility, and efficiency as the components of organizational resilience [23]. These capabilities are based on coping with changes, shocks, or environmental risks [45]. Defining resilience as a function

of these characteristics indicates that resilience is a complex concept. Instead of defining it by focusing on what a resilient organization has, other researchers define resilience by highlighting what a resilient organization does. As an illustration, resilience is defined as "maintaining positive adjustments under challenging circumstances as the organization emerges stronger and more empowered" [66]. A resilient organization can return to its performance level after the disruption [58].

In addition, organization management literature has underlined the importance of organizational members to organizational resilience during crisis situations. Some researcher insisted that organizational members or employees must learn how to be resilient because they can then quickly design and implement positive adaptive behaviors that match the crisis. In the same vein, individual (i.e., organizational member) resilience within an organization can contribute to its organizational resilience, through the individual's ability to employ emotions and to help the company quickly engage in creative and positive crisis communication [67]. Moreover, as internal publics [13], employees can have a "vested interest" in organizations' crisis recovery by providing a recovery spotlight, unlike external publics and media. Furthermore, the vast majority of studies have indicated that resilience is most likely when employees have the relevant and specific knowledge necessary to make a decision and resolve a problem [36].

Financial resilience is defined as "the ability to access and attract accessible internal and external resources supporting financial constraints" [49]. An organization with financial resilience can cope with external financial shocks and subsequent recovery. Organizations can increase their financial resilience by using maneuverability and risk awareness, and they can respond effectively to these risks [57].

The financial resilience of supply chain reserves stems from environmental uncertainty and financing constraints. Environmental uncertainty requires enterprises to reserve financial resilience, to maintain the ability to minimize environmental threats, and to quickly mobilize funds to seize investment opportunities when they come. Financing constraints also require enterprises to reserve financial resilience to cope with financing bottlenecks caused by higher external financing costs than internal financing costs, and to provide certain financial resource guarantees to realize prevention and utilization capabilities [3]. The Modigliani-Miller theorem posits that the value of a firm is unaffected by how that firm is financed, assuming that the capital market is frictionless [14]. Regarding performance metrics, it is significant for supply chains to conduct financial resilience evaluation to facilitate the understanding of risk exposure in supply chains and to evaluate resilience and risk mitigation strategies [61]. Researchers have investigated the measurement of financial resilience by evaluating, for example, density [59], stock level [15], service level, lead time and costs [15]. However, studies on financial resilience measurement criteria remain scarce [17, 38, 62], as only a few research have discussed financial resilience measurement. Without understanding the level of financial resilience of a system, it would be difficult to assess the response and reaction of the supply chain during financial disruptions. According to [52], the potential of financial resilience measurements is stated as a valuable research stream that can offer essential knowledge of financial resilience and its outcomes.

Significant positive relationships exist among supply chain management capabilities, and business performance has been expounded in many extant studies [17, 52]. Capabilities are essential in the establishment of financial resilience and therefore improve the performance of supply chain when facing disruptive events [50]; at the same time, appropriate performance metrics are necessary for evaluating financial resilience performance to achieve further improvement. A systematic literature review by Hohenstein et al. [33] analyzed eight studies on financial resilience measurement and proposed a way to measure financial resilience through readiness, responsiveness and recovery. [52] developed a framework of measuring logistical capabilities based on pre- and post-disruption aspects. Chowdhury and Quaddus [17] extended the measurement to readiness, response and recovery capabilities specifically. It could be seen that financial resilience performance could be measured through specific capabilities [29].

Extant literature reviews have mainly focused on three perspectives. First is the analysis of financial resilience definition and identification of capabilities e.g. (A. [6, 33, 38, 40]. The second is the review on the evolution of financial resilience research and identification of future directions e.g. [7, 51]. The other perspective is the review of research methods, such as quantitative modelling methods applied in analyzing financial resilience e.g. [35, 54]. There is a wide theoretical literature on what makes supply chain operate in the way that they do [24] Provide a survey of how these models of management have been used to analyze financial vulnerability, distress and survival. However, there is a substantial identification problem: the same findings (for example that supply chain facing financial risk appear to stay in operation) can be consistent with many different theories. Hence, the literature review indicated that no research has examined and evaluated the criteria of supply chain financial resilience so far. In general, this research's innovations are divided into three categories pertinent to the proposed hybrid approach are listed as follows:

- (1) Trying to determine the degree of relations' interaction with numerical points. It also utilizes a new multi-criteria decision-making method named Decision-Making Trial and Evaluation Laboratory (DEMATEL) with interval values intuitive fuzzy number (IVIF). Another superior feature of this decision-making method is that each element can affect all of its higher and lower levels.
- (2) Extraction of financial resilience measurement criteria, because in previous work, researchers had mentioned a small number of these indicators in their model.
- (3) Combining the methods used for the first time in a research project considers the advantages of each in different decision-making stages.

Moreover, according to the literature, a comprehensive investigate in financial resilience criteria of supply chain with a managerial approach has not been conducted. The criteria were obtained from literature described in Table 1.

Table 1 Criteria of supply chain fina	Table 1 Criteria of supply chain financial resilience extracted from the literature	
Criterion	Definition	References
Innovative strategy	A plan to grow market share or profits through product and service innovation	[37, 45, 61]
Competitiveness	Possession of a strong desire to be more successful than others	[8, 24]
Visibility	Ability to observe the entire organization for a comprehensive assessment of the internal and external environ- ment	[3, 38, 54]
Collaboration	Ability to work with other institutions to benefit from mutual benefits	[17, 35, 54]
Flexibility	Ability of the organization to adapt to the required changes with minimal time and effort	[3, 38, 54]
Agility	Ability to respond quickly to unforeseen changes	[7, 14, 38, 47]
Velocity	The speed of adaptation determines the time required to recover from a doubt	[14, 18, 38, 55]
Vulnerability	The quality or state of being exposed to the possibility of being attacked or harmed	[63, 65, 66]
Research & development	The set of innovative activities undertaken by corporations	[49, 55, 57]
Risk awareness	The need to be aware of the risks associated with assets, process, organization	[10, 32]
Technological capability	An ability to apply knowledge into products and process to operate and to create technology	[14, 18, 38, 55]
Risk management culture	the values, beliefs, knowledge, attitudes and understanding about shared risk	[13, 16, 22, 38]
Safety	The condition of being protected from or unlikely to cause danger, risk, or injury	[12, 41, 42, 46]
Supply chain structure	The suppliers of raw materials, components and services that a company needs to manufacture and distribute its products to intermediate or final customers	[10, 11, 20]
Adaptive capability	The general ability of institutions, systems, and individuals to adjust to potential damage	[31, 38, 65]
Trust	Sharing risks among different members of the organization	[14, 18, 38, 55]
Risk & revenue sharing	distribution of revenue	[14, 18, 38, 55]
Sustainability	The ability to be maintained at a certain rate or level	[7, 14, 38, 47]
Financial strength	Power and financial status are one of the most important indicators to ensure the survival of companies in today's turbulent business environment	[3, 5, 8]
Knowledge management	Efficient handling of information and resources within a commercial organization	[3, 10, 13, 41, 45]
Information sharing	Exchange of information between different members of the organization to reduce risks	[3, 10, 13, 41, 45]
Redundancy	The state of being no longer in employment because there is no more work available	[14, 18, 38, 55]
Complexity	The state or quality of being intricate or complicated	[49, 61, 63]

Table 1 (continued)		
Criterion	Definition	References
Lead Time	The time between the initiation and completion of a production process	[3, 10, 13, 41, 45]
Distance	Long distances between different components of the organization increase the risk of disruptions	[17, 35, 54]
Contingency planning	Predicting potential events and identifying ways to deal with them before they occur	[3, 38, 54]
Demand management	Planning methodology used to forecast, plan for and manage the demand for products and services	[49, 61, 63]
Human resource management	The strategic approach to the effective and efficient management of people in a company	[17, 35, 54]
Supplier selection	The process by which firms identify, evaluate, and contract with suppliers	[3, 10, 13, 41, 45]

3 Research methodology

The present study is an exploratory-descriptive study in terms of nature. The experts of this research consist of 10 persons with these specifications: powerful background and experience in the supply chain (at least 15 years), At least an M.A. or PhD degree, fully familiar with the financial resilience supply chain, and finally interested in participating in this research. The snowball method was used to select the experts. This number of samples is quite suitable for achieving the goal of the research and is even more than some similar researches done by using the IVIF-DEMATEL such as [1, 39, 43, 44], 68. Figure 1 illustrates the steps of conducting research.

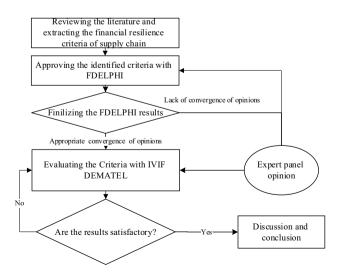
3.1 Fuzzy Delphi method

The Fuzzy Delphi method (FDM) contains some steps that must be followed for expert approval. In addition, the FDM by applying Binary Terms rating ranges from 0 to 1, making this method faster and reducing the laps from Delphi's method. This method can reduce the number of rounds of surveys and experts can fully express their opinions, ensure perfection and provide consistent opinions. The FDM does not misinterpret the original opinion of the expert and illustrates their real reaction. Therefore, in this research, FDM was used to screen and identify the appropriate financial resilience criteria in the supply chain.

This technique's implementation steps are as follows [28].

Step Identifying the research attributes.

In this step, based on the literature, the identified financial resilience criteria are illustrated in Table 1.





Step 2 Collect expert opinions using decision group.

After identifying criteria, n experts invited to determine the relation score of the identified attributes to the research problem through a questionnaire using linguistic variables presented in Table 2. This study uses fuzzy triangular numbers and a geometric mean model for evaluating the criteria and determining the experts' group decisions.

Step 3 Identification of the most related criteria.

The final step in this method is identifying the most related criteria, which is done by comparing the score of each attribute with the threshold \tilde{S} . The value of \tilde{S} is calculated by the average of all attributes scores. In this regard, we should set up the fuzzy triangular numbers (TFNs) τ . for each attribute as defined in (1).

$$\widetilde{a}_{ij} = \left(a_{ij}, b_{ij}, c_{ij}\right) \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n, j = 1, \dots, m$$

$$\tag{1}$$

$$\widetilde{\tau}_j = \left(a_j, b_j, c_j\right) \tag{2}$$

$$a_j = \min\left\{a_{ij}\right\} \tag{3}$$

$$b_j = \left(\prod_{i=1}^n b_{ij}\right)^{\frac{1}{n}} \tag{4}$$

$$c_j = max\{c_{ij}\}\tag{5}$$

where in this equations index, *I* referred to expert and index *j* referred to attribute. \tilde{a}_{ij} Referred to the fuzzy value of each attribute obtained from each expert and $\tilde{\tau}_i$ referred to the fuzzy average value of each attribute.

Also, this fuzzy average value of each attribute defuzzified as follows:

$$Crisp = \frac{a+2b+c}{4} \tag{6}$$

After calculating mentioned values, if the crisp value of $\tilde{\tau}_j \geq \tilde{S}$ then attribute j is selected, and if the crisp value of $\tilde{\tau}_i < \tilde{S}$, then attribute j is rejected.

Table 2 Linguistic scales	Linguistic term	Fuzzy number
	Very low (VL)	(0, 0, 0.25)
	Low (L)	(0, 0.25, 0.5)
	Medium (M)	(0.25, 0.5, 0.75)
	High (H)	(0.5, 0.75, 1)
	Very high (VH)	(0.75, 1, 1)

Language preference	Numerical expression	IVIFS
Affectless	0	([0.050, 0.150], [0.750, 0.850], [0.000, 0.200])
Low effect	1	([0.175, 0.325], [0.525, 0.675], [0.000, 0.300])
Medium effect	2	([0.450, 0.550], [0.350, 0.450], [0.000, 0.200])
High effect	3	([0.725, 0.775], [0.175, 0.225], [0.000, 0.100])
Very high effect	4	([0.875, 0.925], [0.025, 0.075], [0.000, 0.100])

 Table 3
 Preference criteria in IVIF-DEMATEL [1]

 Table 4
 Preference criteria for calculating the weight of decision-makers [1]

Language preference	IVIFS
Very insignificant	([0.050, 0.150], [0.750, 0.850], [0.000, 0.200])
Insignificant	([0.175, 0.325], [0.525, 0.675], [0.000, 0.300])
Medium	([0.450, 0.550], [0.350, 0.450], [0.000, 0.200])
Significant	([0.725, 0.775], [0.175, 0.225], [0.000, 0.100])
Very significant	([0.875, 0.925], [0.025, 0.075], [0.000, 0.100])

3.2 IVIF-DEMATEL

The DEMATEL technique was first used at the BMI Institute in Switzerland in 1972 in a Geneva Research Center project [9]. DEMATEL methodology aims to calculate which criteria are more important in decision-making process. The biggest advantage of this model is generating impact relation map. Owing to this issue, the causality relationship between the items can be found Linguistic information is used in fuzzy sets with the aim of minimizing this problem in decision-making. However, making exact evaluation is sometimes very difficult in this process. For this situation, the results of linguistic evaluation are provided intuitive fuzzy number. Intuitive fuzzy steps with interval values are as follows:

Step 1 Collect phrases or verbal data from the new range of preferences. According to the number of experts and based on the verbal expressions of Table 3, the experts were asked to determine the effect of each factor on the other using the IVIF set.

Step 2 Calculate each decision maker's weight: Each decision-makers weight is calculated using Table 4 and Eq. 7.

$$E(A) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[\frac{2 - \left| \mu_i^{\mathrm{L}}(x) - \nu_i^{\mathrm{L}}(x) \right| - \left| \mu_i^{\mathrm{U}}(x) - \nu_i^{\mathrm{U}}(x) \right| + \pi_i^{\mathrm{L}}(x) + \pi_i^{\mathrm{U}}(x)}{2 + \left| \mu_i^{\mathrm{L}}(x) - \nu_i^{\mathrm{L}}(x) \right| + \left| \mu_i^{\mathrm{U}}(x) - \nu_i^{\mathrm{U}}(x) \right| + \pi_i^{\mathrm{L}}(x) + \pi_i^{\mathrm{U}}(x)} \right]$$
(7)

Step 3 Consolidate the decision-makers 'preferences: Using Eq. 8, we combine the decision-makers' preferences to arrive at a final IVIF expression.

$$\left(\left[1-\prod_{j=1}^{n}\left(1-\mu_{j}^{L}\right)^{\lambda_{j}},1-\prod_{j=1}^{n}\left(1-\mu_{j}^{U}\right)^{\lambda_{j}}\right],\left[\prod_{j=1}^{n}\left(\nu_{j}^{L}\right)^{\lambda_{j}},\prod_{j=1}^{n}\left(\nu_{j}^{U}\right)^{\lambda_{j}}\right]\right)$$
(8)

$$\left(\left[\prod_{j=1}^{n}\left(1-\mu_{j}^{U}\right)^{\lambda_{j}}-\prod_{j=1}^{n}\left(\nu_{j}^{U}\right)^{\lambda_{j}},\prod_{j=1}^{n}\left(1-\mu_{j}^{L}\right)^{\lambda_{j}}-\prod_{j=1}^{n}\left(\nu_{j}^{L}\right)^{\lambda_{j}}\right]\right)$$

Step 4 We also calculate the initial direct relations/matrix's definite values using the IVIF entropy calculator given in Eq. 7. The initial direct matrix, which is calculated by the intuitive fuzzy method with values of intervals, is the first step of the DEMATEL method, which is performed according to [1].

4 Findings

This section focuses on the evaluation for financial resilience criteria of supply chain. In this study, it is aimed to find the important criteria in the effectiveness of the supply chain. For this purpose, IVIF-DEMATEL is considered. In the literature, there are many approaches, which aim to weight the criteria, such as analytic hierarchy process (AHP) and analytic network process (ANP). The main reason of selecting DEMATEL technique is that it can create impact relation map for the criteria [60]. This situation provides an opportunity to make causality analysis for these factors [39, 56].

The main benefit of hesitant fuzzy sets is accepting similar opinions as common decisions (B. [34]. This issue is quite beneficial when not all decision makers have the same opinion (W. [69]. Moreover, intuitive fuzzy number provide more accurate fuzzification in the evaluation process [27]. Additionally, this proposed model includes a hybrid MCDM methodology. In other words, two different MCDM techniques are considered in both screening and weighting the criteria. When the model is not hybrid, only one MCDM method is used with the aim of ranking the alternatives [4]. Hence, it is obvious that considering hybrid model provides more appropriate results because of making objective evaluations [25].

In order to confirm the indicators of financial resilience, 29 criteria obtained from the literature (Table 1) were placed in the FDM questionnaire. Afterward, the linguistic variables were converted into fuzzy triangular numbers, and then, the average of the experts' opinions in the first stage was calculated. In the next step, the experts' average opinions were defuzzified. Then the difference between the crisp value of each expert and the aggregate defuzzy value of the expert was calculated. This is because there was no consensus between the experts' opinions. The average value of the opinions was more than (0.2), i.e., the threshold. Afterward, the FDM continued in the second stage to reach a consensus. In the second stage, in order to check the agreement between the experts, the questionnaire of the first stage was resent to the panel members after making the necessary changes along with the defuzzy value of the average opinions of the experts and the opinion of each expert. They were also asked to review the answers and reconsider their opinions and judgments if necessary. After the initial feedback was given to the experts and the second stage of FDM took place, the experts' corrected opinions were obtained. Besides, in the second stage, the experts' average opinions were calculated. In addition, at this stage, the average of the opinions was defuzzified. Then, the difference between the defuzzy value of each expert's and the average defuzzy value was calculated. After calculating the difference between the defuzzy values of the experts' opinions in the two stages, a consensus has been reached because the opinion difference of the experts between the two stages was less than the threshold. Thereby, the FDM process was stopped, and the results were presented in Table 5. According to the [28], the threshold in the study is 0.7.

Criteria	Defuzzified value of the first phase	Defuzzified value of the second phase	Defuzzy difference	Results
Innovative strategy	3.9772	4.5881	0.0698	×
Competitiveness	4.4616	3.4821	0.1120	×
Visibility	6.4128	7.6907	0.1461	\checkmark
Collaboration	4.4988	5.5390	0.1189	×
Flexibility	6.6989	7.0799	0.0435	\checkmark
Agility	4.5634	4.5365	0.0031	×
Velocity	7.7311	7.7311	0.0000	\checkmark
Vulnerability	3.1626	3.4329	0.0309	×
Research & development	7.0873	7.3931	0.0349	\checkmark
Risk awareness	7.4858	7.5360	0.0057	\checkmark
Technological capability	7.8325	7.5200	0.0357	\checkmark
Risk management culture	7.0669	7.1281	0.0070	\checkmark
Safety	7.3091	7.4060	0.0111	\checkmark
Supply chain structure	4.7282	5.5903	0.0985	×
Adaptive capability	6.6224	7.5808	0.1095	\checkmark
Trust	6.4323	7.0873	0.0749	\checkmark
Risk & revenue sharing	2.9479	3.4329	0.0554	×
Sustainability	2.9310	3.6382	0.0808	×
Financial strength	3.5601	3.3388	0.0253	×
Knowledge management	3.9591	3.3852	0.0656	×
Information Sharing	2.6293	3.0000	0.0424	×
Redundancy	7.8260	7.8260	0.0000	\checkmark
Complexity	3.2800	4.4861	0.1378	×
Lead TIME	3.3082	3.4821	0.0199	×
Distance	2.5537	3.4329	0.1005	×
Contingency planning	2.0719	2.0000	0.0082	×
Demand management	7.3151	7.3151	0.0000	\checkmark
Human resource management	4.5645	4.4367	0.0146	×
Supplier selection	3.5399	3.5846	0.0051	×

Table 5 Results of FDM

At this stage, financial resilience criteria were classified using an IVIF-DEM-ATEL technique. According to the experts, the experts determined each criteria effect on another. In the next step, each expert's weight was calculated using the mentioned preferences in the IVIF-DEMATEL, the results of which are given in Table 6.

The decision makers' preferences were aggregated and obtained as a final IVIF expression in the next step. In the following step, each cell's definite value of the initial direct relation matrix was calculated using the IVIF entropy calculator, as shown in Table 7.

After normalizing the initial direct relation matrix, the total relation matrix (T) was calculated. This matrix represents the direct and indirect effects of the matrix elements on each other, as shown in Table 8.

After calculating the total relation matrix, the importance and effectiveness of each criterion were determined, which can be seen in Fig. 2.

In order to determine the network relations map, the threshold must be calculated. In this study, the T-matrix's average values have been calculated to determine the value of the threshold in the IVIF-DEMATEL. The calculated threshold value is 0.1783. The partial relationships can be omitted, and a network of significant relationships can be drawn this way. According to Table 9 and Fig. 3, merely the relationships whose values in the T matrix are greater than or equal to the threshold value are shown in the network relationship map. All the matrix T values that are smaller than the threshold are zero (i.e., they are not considered in causal relations).

No	The importance of expert	IVIF lan of each	0 0 1	erence crite	eria accordi	ng to the ir	nportance	Crisp value
		$\pi_{\rm U}$	π_L	$\nu_{\rm U}$	$\nu_{\rm L}$	$\mu_{\rm U}$	$\mu_{\rm L}$	
1	2	0.200	0.000	0.450	0.350	0.550	0.450	0.0833
2	1	0.300	0.000	0.675	0.525	0.325	0.175	0.0533
3	3	0.100	0.000	0.225	0.175	0.775	0.725	0.0313
4	2	0.200	0.000	0.450	0.350	0.550	0.450	0.0833
5	3	0.100	0.000	0.225	0.175	0.775	0.725	0.0313
6	3	0.100	0.000	0.225	0.175	0.775	0.725	0.0313
7	3	0.100	0.000	0.225	0.175	0.775	0.725	0.0313
8	1	0.300	0.000	0.675	0.525	0.325	0.175	0.0533
9	4	0.100	0.000	0.075	0.025	0.925	0.875	0.0105
10	2	0.200	0.000	0.450	0.350	0.550	0.450	0.0833

Table 6 The importance and weight of an expert's opinion

Table 7	Table 7 Initial direct-relation matrix												
Symbol	Financial resilience	FR_1	FR_2	FR_3	FR_4	FR_5	FR_6	FR_7	FR_8	FR_9	FR_{10}	FR_{11}	FR_{12}
FR_1	Visibility	0.0000	0.0824	0.0290	0.0527	0.0232	0.0110	0.0527	0.0527	0.0774	0.0704	0.0110	0.0229
FR_2	Flexibility	0.0383	0.0000	0.0691	0.0921	0.0698	0.0110	0.0484	0.0921	0.0901	0.0691	0.0163	0.0698
FR_3	Velocity	0.0110	0.0901	0.0000	0.0921	0.0110	0.0110	0.0296	0.0513	0.0523	0.0921	0.0110	0.0921
FR_4	R&D	0.0399	0.0710	0.0350	0.0000	0.0921	0.0110	0.0171	0.0513	0.0523	0.0921	0.0110	0.0258
FR_5	Risk awareness	0.0211	0.0921	0.0166	0.0921	0.0000	0.0110	0.0245	0.0921	0.0921	0.0921	0.0110	0.0513
FR_6	Technological capability	0.0518	0.0590	0.0590	0.0590	0.0747	0.0000	0.0921	0.0704	0.0691	0.0691	0.0421	0.0643
FR_7	Risk management culture	0.0513	0.0901	0.0921	0.0523	0.0296	0.0110	0.0000	0.0710	0.0921	0.0513	0.0110	0.0710
FR_8	Safety	0.0710	0.0921	0.0698	0.0921	0.0220	0.0110	0.0513	0.0000	0.0410	0.0921	0.0110	0.0513
FR_9	Adaptive capability	0.0503	0.0921	0.0921	0.0921	0.0113	0.0110	0.0523	0.0410	0.0000	0.0410	0.0110	0.0110
FR_{10}	Trust	0.0110	0.0921	0.0921	0.0921	0.0921	0.0110	0.0446	0.0523	0.0901	0.0000	0.0110	0.0513
FR_{11}	Redundancy	0.0862	0.0590	0.0590	0.0590	0.0590	0.0163	0.0762	0.0644	0.0644	0.0644	0.0000	0.0590
FR_{12}	Demand management	0.0731	0.0562	0.0562	0.0706	0.0844	0.0110	0.0921	0.0921	0.0762	0.0809	0.0391	0.0000

Financial resil- ience criteria	FR_1	FR_2	FR_3	FR_4	FR ₅	FR_6	FR_7	FR_8	FR_9	FR_{10}	FR ₁₁	FR ₁₂
FR_1	0.0779	0.2365	0.1509	0.2044	0.1218	0.0341	0.1436	0.1756	0.2143	0.2089	0.0402	0.1181
FR_2	0.1479	0.2021	0.2286	0.2960	0.2031	0.0416	0.1619	0.2575	0.2704	0.2586	0.0562	0.1985
FR_3	0.1031	0.2622	0.1335	0.2651	0.1302	0.0371	0.1336	0.1927	0.2063	0.2526	0.0461	0.2035
FR_4	0.1210	0.2305	0.1564	0.1549	0.1985	0.0348	0.1080	0.1802	0.1945	0.2383	0.0411	0.1246
FR_5	0.1203	0.2788	0.1629	0.2789	0.1209	0.0389	0.1335	0.2428	0.2569	0.2632	0.0469	0.1660
FR_6	0.1722	0.2803	0.2321	0.2758	0.2186	0.0318	0.2274	0.2507	0.2667	0.2714	0.0880	0.2062
FR_7	0.1552	0.2838	0.2453	0.2445	0.1517	0.0399	0.1119	0.2271	0.2628	0.2283	0.0489	0.1949
FR_8	0.1701	0.2800	0.2166	0.2775	0.1466	0.0391	0.1618	0.1473	0.2081	0.2653	0.0473	0.1708
FR_9	0.1322	0.2495	0.2153	0.2474	0.1117	0.0346	0.1428	0.1662	0.1340	0.1856	0.0406	0.1115
FR_{10}	0.1130	0.2907	0.2454	0.2905	0.2218	0.0405	0.1586	0.2133	0.2653	0.1790	0.0490	0.1775
FR_{11}	0.1996	0.2655	0.2191	0.2605	0.1913	0.0477	0.2010	0.2312	0.2482	0.2528	0.0383	0.1895
FR_{12}	0.1946	0.2822	0.2309	0.2912	0.2283	0.0446	0.2258	0.2736	0.2795	0.2864	0.0833	0.1372

 Table 8
 Total relation matrix

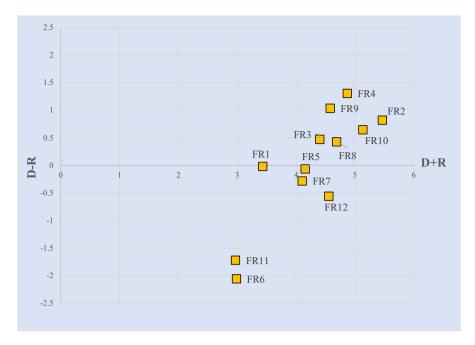


Fig. 2 Causal diagram of IVIF-DEMATEL

Financial resil- ience criteria	FR ₁	FR ₂	FR ₃	FR_4	FR ₅	FR ₆	FR ₇	FR ₈	FR ₉	FR ₁₀	FR ₁₁	FR ₁₂
FR ₁	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
FR_2	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1
FR ₃	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1
FR_4	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
FR ₅	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
FR ₆	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1
FR ₇	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
FR ₈	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
FR ₉	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
FR_{10}	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
FR ₁₁	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1
FR ₁₂	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0

Table 9 Impact matrix in IVIF-DEMATEL

5 Conclusions

Supply chains are often affected by financing and environmental uncertainty, so they need to actively fulfill their performance. Previous studies focused on the impact of financing capacity from the perspectives of environmental uncertainty, financing

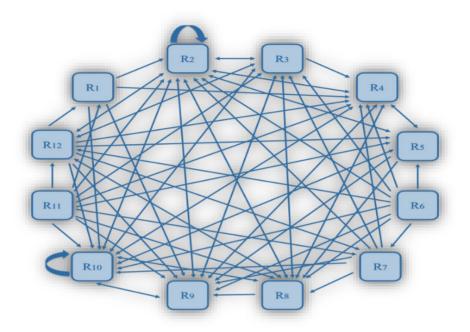


Fig. 3 Network relations map of financial resilience criteria

costs, and corporate performance. Our work researches the measurement criteria on financial resilience from the perspective of resiliency. The financial sector's importance further highlights the need to pay attention to the stability of this sector confronted with various shocks. Although financial resilience has been considered in the literature, general measurement criteria for measuring it have not been defined and presented. Given Iran's financial structure and the severe impact of various shocks in the domestic sector, financial resilience was defined as the difference between resilience and vulnerability (with respect to the analysis stating that an increase in the level of vulnerability reduces the strength of financial resistance to various shocks).

For this purpose, a review of the literature was conducted, and 29 criteria were identified for criteria of financial resilience in supply chain. Afterward, the FDM was used, and 10 experts were asked to determine how much each of the 29 criteria affects finances resiliency. After calculating the difference between the defuzzy values of the experts' opinions in the two stages of the FDM, a consensus was reached because the difference of opinion between the experts in the two stages of the survey was less than the threshold. Therefore, the survey process was stopped. Finally, 12 criteria of financial resilience were selected. Thus, the first goal of the research was achieved. In order to achieve the second goal, the IVIF-DEMATEL was used. Another advantage of this method, in addition to structuralism, which determines the compliance of the criteria, is that it measures the effects of each criterion and determines the importance by identifying cause and effect diagram. The criteria, including visibility, risk awareness, technological capability, risk management culture, redundancy, and demand management, were identified as the influential

indicators (cause), among which visibility is the most influential. Besides, indicators of flexibility, speed, research, development, financial strength, adaptability, and trust were identified as influential (disabled) indicators, among which flexibility is the most influential. In this method, the numerical value and position of each criterion in terms of importance are specified as follows: (R11 < R6 < R1 < R7 < R5 < R3 < R12 < R9 < R8 < R4 < R10 < R2).

5.1 Managerial implications

The results of the study clearly emphasize the importance of the redundancy (as the most crucial index) and visibility (as the most effective compared to other indicators) in financial resilience. Accordingly, it is suggested that organizations use these criteria as a serious factor of achieving to financial resilience, consider self-financing, and increase the likelihood of success in managing each of the indicators by adopting appropriate organizational leadership strategies and practices and applying key capabilities. Resilience systems need to be developed, as well as resilience labor. Everything in companies must be well prepared to deal with any disruption. Thus, resiliency and return to acceptable performance are undeniable and must be considered in corporate plans. Now, in order to achieve better and more resilient results in the field of finance, supply chains can put resilient measures on their agenda, which can be mentioned as follows:

- (1) Establishing a financial risk management unit in the organization to delegate responsibilities related to the investigation of disorders
- (2) Encouraging the teamwork to achieve a culture of continuous risk management learning
- (3) Implementing integrated and accessible information systems to be aware of financial changes and fluctuations in order to be prepared to deal with and make the right decisions
- (4) Identifying financial, technological changes and trying to align programs and actions with them

Though financial economists have argued that financial resilience might be used to hurt shareholders, investor activists have campaigned to force supply chains to decrease cash holdings and increase leverage, and the private equity industry has made the reduction of financial resilience intrinsic to its business model, these results should remind us that financial resilience is also a key risk management tool. However, this tool does not come for free. Future research should help us understand better how to value the downside of financial resilience to help shareholders and managers to trade off the benefits and costs of financial resilience more effectively.

This study has potential limitations that can be addressed in future research. First, the measurement methods of financial resilience, environmental uncertainty, and financing constraints in the literature have been inconsistent. The problem of selection bias also exists in this research. In future studies, more accurate measurement methods should be sought. Secondly, although we found that financial resiliency has different substitution effects on cash flexibility and liability flexibility, it has not carried out in-depth empirical research on its mechanism of action, and further research is also the next step.

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Data availability The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author, upon reasonable request.

Declarations

Conflict of interest The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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