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Peer Review

Review of: "Driving Factors for the Adoption of Blockchain: A Focus on Startup Entrepreneurs"

Parisa Omidmand[1]

1. Department of Economics, Texas Tech University, United States

The paper addresses a timely topic. However, there are several issues that need to be addressed. My main concern is that the contribution sounds larger than what is actually demonstrated. The framework mainly combines well-known adoption variables from existing models, and it is not clear what is uniquely startup-specific or blockchain-specific in the final set of factors. If the paper claims novelty, it needs a short paragraph explaining exactly what the model adds beyond merging TAM, UTAUT, TRI, and RTAM.

Because this is a narrative literature review, the strength of the paper depends on transparency. Although the manuscript mentions databases, years, and keywords, the reader still cannot see how many studies were identified, how many were retained, and how the factors were selected and assigned to each stage. A brief selection summary and a table mapping each factor to a few key sources would make the framework feel more grounded and less like a general list.

A final issue is wording. In places, the manuscript reads as if the hypotheses are being tested, but no empirical testing is conducted. It would be clearer to present these as propositions for future research and to state explicitly that the main output is a conceptual model rather than evidence of what drives adoption.

Overall, the paper offers a useful starting framework, but it needs sharper positioning, clearer traceability in the review process, and more precise language that matches the method.

Declarations

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