

# Best Fit Probability Model for Runup Height Tsunami in Aceh Using Some Mixture Distribution

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## Abstract

Choosing best fit probability distribution to represent the height wave tsunami has been a long topic of interest in hydrology. In this study, Lognormal distribution (L), Gamma distributions (G), Weibull (W), and mixture of two lognormal (ML), two gamma (MG) or two weibull (MW) distributions were applied to data tsunami runup heights in Aceh. Parameter for each distribution are estimated by maximum likelihood techniques. For selecting the best fit model, graphical inspection (probability density function (pdf)) and numerical criteria (Akaike's information criterion (AIC), Bayesian information criterion (BIC)) were used. In most the cases, graphical inspection gave the same result but their AIC and BIC result differed. The best fit result was chosen as the distribution with the lowest values of BIC and AIC. Tsunami that happened in Aceh on 26 December 2004 at latitude 3.32 N and longitude 95.85 E, G and W distributions was not suitable to

explain the tsunami heights wave data distribution. Result show that MG and MW are better alternatives to describe height wave tsunami characteristics. We also show that MG best fit probability model in comparison to either G, M, or MW.

**Keywords:** Lognormal distribution, Gamma distributions, Weibull distribution, and mixture of two lognormal distribution, goodness of fit tests

## 1 Introduction

Tsunamis are long-period oceanic gravity waves generated by a large disruption of the entire water column, most notably via seafloor deformation resulting from a seismic event. Typically tsunamis are generated by large, shallow submarine earthquakes, but submarine landslides or volcanic activity and rarely, even an asteroid impact can generate a tsunami.

The massive earthquake on December 26, 2004 with magnitude 9.3, launched huge tsunami waves affected many coastal countries across Indian Ocean. It is important to first define the variable that defines the size of a tsunami. Although runup is the measurement most often associated with tsunamis, because it is defined as the wave height with respect to ambient sea level at the maximum inundation distance, runup will occur at different geographic locations for different tsunamis. Tide gauges, on the other hand, record wave amplitude at a fixed location.

For most probability problems, comparisons are made over broad geographic regions that may include both runup and wave amplitude measurements. Throughout this study, we will refer to runup as the tsunami size or hazard variable, although this may include other amplitude measurements of tsunamis as well. Tsunamis can be considered a stochastic process. As a result, tsunami probabilities can be defined by the frequency distribution of sizes.

Various statistical methods have been applied to analyze the observed tsunami runup height sheights or tsunami amplitudes to determine the maximum expected water level near the shore. Soloviev [21] investigated tsunami frequency-size distribution in terms of tsunami intensity and determined a classification of tsunami intensity based on the runup. Houston [7] determined frequency-of-occurrence curves based on the maximum expected wave elevation near the shore. Several authors have investigated the spatial distribution of tsunami heights along coastlines with extensive historical records, which tend to follow a log-normal distribution [1, 13, 25].

There are many variations in the existing methods for the probabilistic analysis of earthquake occurrence itself, as highlighted by Utsu [24]. Several examples of many variations of the famous and widely-used Gutenberg-Richter magnitude-frequency relation introduced in 1944 [4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17, 22], the Weibull distribution [19], the Lognormal distribution [16], variations of the Gamma distribution [8, 9], variations of the Pareto distribution [18], the use of Bayesian statistics [2, 23] and many others. In addition, some authors believe that the factors such as the b-value are universal [9, 12], while others consider regional

differences in the distribution to be significant. Given the many distributions applied with reasonable results, it suggests frequency of occurrence variations between seismic zones will be a significant factor in probabilistic analysis.

In recent past, mixture distribution were used to estimate runup heights tsunami that a quite accurate in describing heights wave tsunami characteristics. Smit et al. [20] used mixture distribution to estimate the probabilities of exceedance and return periods for tsunamis in the tsunamigenic regions of Japan, Kuril–Kamchatka, and South America. Geist and Parsons [3] used mixture distribution to estimate the largest tsunami that can be expected in a given time period at a station.

In probability theory and statistics, the concept of mixture distribution is the combination of two or more probability distributions to create a new probability distribution. The objective of this study is to propose Gamma distributions (G), Weibull (W), and mixture of two gamma (MG) or two weibull (MW) distributions for runup height wave tsunami that happened in Aceh on 26 December 2004 forecasting. Comparison of the proposed mixture distributions with existing distribution functions is done to demonstrate their suitability in describing runup heights wave tsunami characteristics.

## 2 Study Area and Data

107 data of Aceh heights wave tsunami had been collected that happened in Aceh archipelago, Banda Aceh, Seashore and Sigli. Some examples of wave position and height data are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. Aceh Tsunami Height Wave Data on Various Points**

No.	Points of Sample	Latitude		Longitude		Heights Wave Tsunami
		Degree	Minute	Degree	Minute	
1	Sigli	5	23.052	95	58.082	4.07
6	Krueng Raya port	5	35.768	95	31.560	5.10
9	Sabang	5	49.574	95	20.837	3.02
12	Center of Banda Aceh	5	33.356	95	17.044	12.0
67	West Coast of Banda Aceh	5	28.638	95	14.696	12.42
107	West Coast of Banda Aceh	5	27.000	95	14.585	20.07

## 3 Methods

Runup height wave tsunami modelling requires analysis of height wave tsunami data, it is desirable to use statistical distribution function for describing the runup

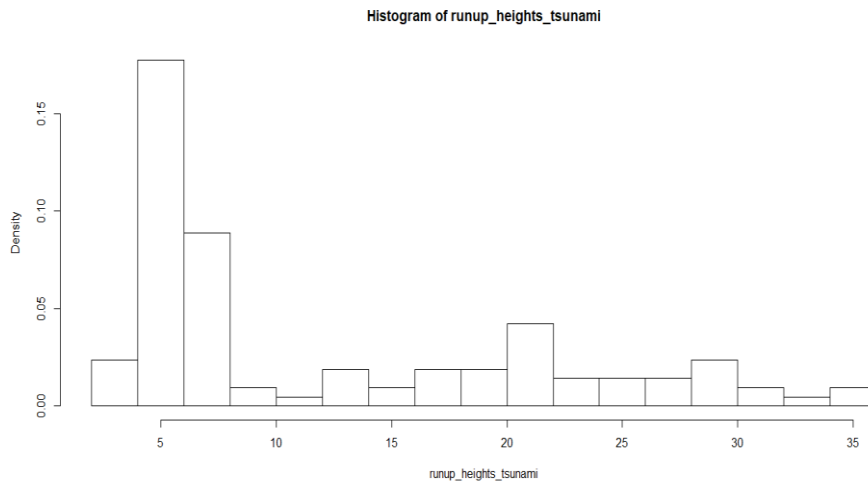
height wave tsunami variations. The primary tools to describe runup height wave tsunami characteristics are probability distribution functions. For selecting the best fit model, choice of the model definition, parameter estimation tools are important. The parameter estimation of the distribution function are calculated using maximum likelihood method. The procedure of goodness of fit tests for model selection, both numerically and graphically, is discussed. Some distributions used for data analysis are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2 List of Distributions Used in This Study**

Distribution	Formula
Lognormal (L)	$q(\log h; \mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \log h \sigma^2}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\log h - \mu}{\sigma}\right)^2\right]$
Weibull (W)	$f(h, k, c) = \frac{k}{c} \left(\frac{h}{c}\right)^{k-1} \exp\left[-\left(\frac{h}{c}\right)^k\right]$
Gamma (G)	$g(h, \alpha, \beta) = \frac{h^{\alpha-1}}{\beta^\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)} \exp\left(-\frac{h}{\beta}\right)$
Mixture Lognormal (ML)	$q(h_i; \mu_1, \sigma_1, \mu_2, \sigma_2, p) = pq(\log h_i; \mu_1, \sigma_1) + (1-p)q(\log h_i; \mu_2, \sigma_2, p)$
Mixture Weibull (MW)	$g(h_i; k_1, c_1, k_2, c_2, p) = pf(h_i; k_1, c_1) + (1-p)f(h_i; k_2, c_2)$
Mixture Gamma (MG)	$f(h_i; \alpha_1, \beta_1, \alpha_2, \beta_2, p) = pg(h_i; \alpha_1, \beta_1) + (1-p)g(h_i; \alpha_2, \beta_2)$

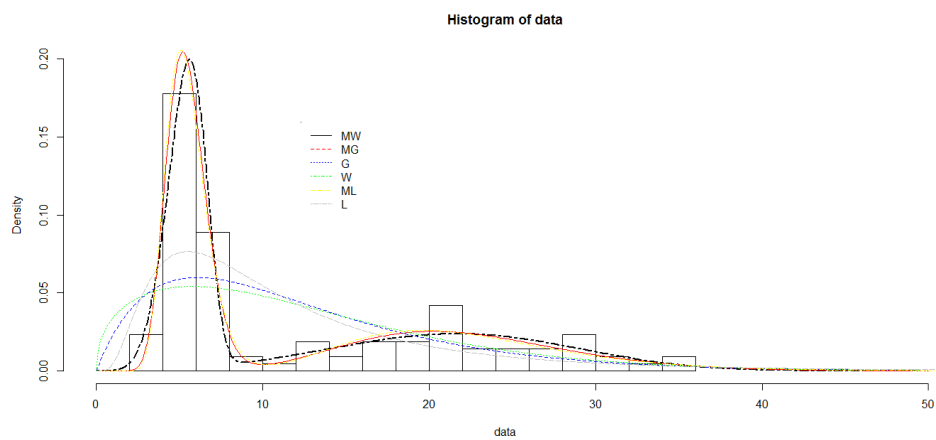
## 4 Result and Discussion

Runup height wave data were used in evaluating different probability density function, the data used for this paper are presented in table 1. In this reseearch, runup height wave tsunami data histogram on figure 1 gives a description about data that probably have more than one distribution. The visual technique of plotting data is one of the important methods for selecting a probability density function, this includes examining a histogram with the distribution overlaid and comparing the empirical model to the theoretical model.



**Figure 1. Observed Runup Height Wave Tsunanami Frequencies of Aceh**

Computed parameter values of different Probability Density Function (PDF) are presented in Table 3. The statistical parameters for fitness evaluation of PDF currently analyzed are presented in Table 4. Statistical GOF namely AIC and BIC given in Table 4 from the various components of the distribution. Given a set of candidate models for a data set, the best fit model is taken as the minimum value for every case of AIC and BIC. In this research, indicate that proposed MG distribution provides best fit for the observed runup height wave tsunami frequency distribution, which is closely followed by ML and MW distribution. Conventional PDF such as L, W, and G over predicted runup height wave tsunami aceh’s data. As seen from Figure 2 and statistical parameters from table, MG provided the best fit for observed runup height wave data, closely followed by proposed ML and MW. Figure 2 show that mixture PDF fit much better than the conventional Log-Normal, Weibull and Gamma distributions.



**Figure 2. Predicted and Observed Runup Height Wave Tsunami Frequency of Aceh**

**Table 3. Computed Parameter Values of Different Probability Density Functions**

	<b>L</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>ML</b>	<b>MW</b>	<b>MG</b>
$p$	-	-	-	0.5971988	0.5723286	0.5939644
$\mu$	2.2341940	-	-	-	-	-
$\sigma$	0.7281442	-	-	-	-	-
$ak$	-	1.417413	-	-	-	-
$c$	-	13.605415	-	-	-	-
$\alpha$	-	-	1.9829590	-	-	-
$\beta$	-	-	0.1616177	-	-	-
$\mu_1$	-	-	-	1.6745425	-	-
$\sigma_1$	-	-	-	0.2223441	-	-
$\mu_2$	-	-	-	3.0639412	-	-
$\sigma_2$	-	-	-	0.3002022	-	-
$k_1$	-	-	-	-	5.3650879	-
$c_1$	-	-	-	-	5.8103044	-
$k_2$	-	-	-	-	3.4472168	-
$c_2$	-	-	-	-	23.9537009	-
$\alpha_1$	-	-	-	-	-	21.2558594
$\beta_1$	-	-	-	-	-	3.9000931
$\alpha_2$	-	-	-	-	-	11.2609375
$\beta_2$	-	-	-	-	-	0.5062223

**Table 4. Statistical and Best-fit Result of the Runup Height Wave Tsunami**

<b>Test</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>ML</b>	<b>MW</b>	<b>MG</b>
<i>Log Likelihood</i>	-356.938	-365.800	-363.127	-314.133	-314.428	-313.294
<i>AIC</i>	717.877	735.601	730.254	638.266	638.857	636.589
<i>BIC</i>	723.223	740.946	735.600	651.631	652.222	649.954

## 5. Conclusions

In the present article, we conclude that the measured tsunami runup heights in Aceh as a whole are described by the finite mixture distributions, especially the Log Normal mixture distribution (ML), Weibull mixture distribution (MW) and Gamma mixture distribution (MG). A number of graphical (the frequency of probabilities density function) and numerical performance criteria (AIC and BIC)

were used to select the best-fit model for each of finite mixture distribution. The two-component Gamma mixture distribution (MG) gives the best-fit result of runup tsunami heights wave on Aceh Island.

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