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Abstract

In this case study, Daily Rainfall Data (1984-2019) of Sambra Rain gauge station in North Karnataka is used. An attempt was made to fit various probability distribution functions to the datasets of 1 day and 2 to 5 consecutive days annual maximum rainfall. The goodness of fit of probability distribution functions were tested by comparing the Chi-square (χ^2) values. No single probability distribution was adequate to describe the entire datasets. Various trendlines were also fitted to the rainfall datasets mentioned above; the best fit was decided based on the value of coefficient of determination R^2 , no single trendline equation was able to describe the entire datasets. The magnitudes of 1 day as well as 2 to 5 consecutive days annual maximum rainfall corresponding to 2 to 100 years return period were estimated best fit distribution function, it was found that even though Normal distribution function had low Chi-square value comparatively, it cannot be used overall for estimation of rainfall values of different return periods for all the datasets. Rainfall was also estimated by best fit trendline equation i.e. polynomial 3rd order, for all the datasets corresponding to 2 to 100 years return period. It was observed the rainfall values predicted for 100 years return period for 1 to 5 consecutive days maximum rainfall were extremely high and unrealistic with respect to climate conditions of Sambra region. Chi-square test (χ^2) was conducted between observed rainfall and predicted rainfall by different trendline equations to ascertain the best fit as determined by R^2 , it was not able to establish the same results as determined by coefficient of determination.

Keywords: Rainfall, Frequency Analysis, Probability Distribution, trendline equation, Chi-square test

1. Introduction

In India, rain is the principal form of precipitation, except in the Himalayan region where there is snowfall (Subramanya, 2011). The major portion of the country gets more than 75% of its annual rainfall due to monsoon winds, which extends generally from June to September and little rainfall during retreating monsoon season in the months October and November. The rainfall data is of prime importance for all hydrologic studies (Reddy, 2014) and the variation in rainfall distribution both spatially and temporally causes serious hydrological problems (extreme events) such as floods and droughts (Subramanya, 2011).

The magnitude of an extreme event and its frequency of occurrence are inversely related to each other; like very severe event occurs less frequently than more moderate events (Chow et al., 2010). For economic planning, the design engineer associated with water infrastructure projects such as dams, flood control structures, irrigation and drainage work and others often require estimates of extreme maxima events with recurrence interval of 2-100 years, for this they resort to frequency analysis of rainfall /streamflow data.

1.1 Frequency Analysis

The frequency analysis is the estimation of frequency of occurrence of a hydrological event (Bhakar et al., 2006) relating the magnitude of extreme events to their frequency of occurrence using probability distributions. The hydrologic data analyzed are assumed to be independent and identically

distributed, and the hydrologic system producing them is considered to be stochastic, space independent and time independent (Chow et al., 2010).

Adlouni and Ouarda(2010) mentioned the steps to carry out the frequency analysis in accordance to Annual Maximum Series (AMS) approach. The steps involved in AMS are (i) selection of a sample in the form of a data series, which satisfies certain statistical criteria, (ii) fitting of the best theoretical probability distribution to represent this sample using the best fitting technique available for the distribution, and (iii) use of this fitted distribution to make statistical inferences about the underlying data.

1.2 Studies Carried out on Frequency Analysis

Frequency analysis of rainfall data has been studied extensively in different parts of India at various temporal scales such as daily rainfall(annual daily maximum, seasonal daily maximum etc.) and consecutive days maximum rainfall, varying from 2days to 7 days (May, 2004; Guhathakurta et.al., 2005; Bhakar et al., 2006; Ramesh et.al., 2008; Patel and Shete, 2008; Deka, et.al., 2009; Vivekanandan and Mathew, 2010; Singh, 2012; Mandal and Choudhury, 2014; Singla et al., 2014; Kandpal, 2015 and Sabarish, 2017), weekly rainfall (Sharda and Das, 2005; Bhakar et al., 2008; Nemichandrappa, 2010; Kusre and Singh, 2012; Singh et al., 2016; Rajeshkumar, 2016), monthly rainfall, seasonal rainfall, annual rainfall (Bhakar et al., 2008; Kusre and Singh, 2012; Singh et al., 2016; Kumar, 2017; Sukrutha, 2018).

The commonly used probability distributions were Normal, Lognormal, Gamma, Weibull, Log-Pearson type III, and Gumbel distributions. On the other hand, the goodness of fit were tested by comparing the Chi-square values, Akaike Information Criterion and Bayesian Information Criterion, Kolmogorov-Smirnov tests or by using combination of these. Attempts were also made to compare the different forms of distribution functions viz. Lognormal (2P, 3P), Gamma (2P, 3P), Weibull (2P, 3P), log-logistic(2P, 3P), generalized gamma (3P, 4P) etc. and the goodness of fit were tested by comparing Kolmogorov–Smirnov test, Anderson Darling test and Chi-Square test (Sharda and Das, 2005; Mandal and Choudhury, 2014; Kumar, 2017).

Based on Likelihood ratio (LR) test, Sharda and Das (2005) revealed that three parameter distributions did not significantly improve the fit over two-parameter distributions within the same family. Even though the three-parameter probability distributions provided a better fit over two-parameter distributions in certain cases, the estimated percentiles and/or bounds of 95% confidence interval were found to be inadmissible and/or physically unrealistic whenever improvement in the fit was observed.

The exceedance probability of an event is obtained by the use of empirical formula, known as plotting position. Various plotting-position formulae have been listed (Rao and Hamed, 2000). To analyze the rainfall data by plotting position method, the conclusion of Cunnane (1978) as cited by Chow et.al.(2010) is duly acknowledged. He concluded that the Weibull plotting formulae is biased and plots the largest values of a sample at a too small return period for normally distributed data. He also found the Blom (1958) plotting position ($b=3/8$) is closest to being unbiased, while for data distributed according to the Extreme Value Type-I distribution the Gringorten (1963) formula ($b=0.44$) is the best. Makonnen (2008) mentioned that Weibull's plotting position formula is the correct plotting position in the extreme value analysis. The various other methods for determining the plotting positions, suggested during the last 90 years, such as the formulas by Blom, Jenkinson, and Gringorten, the computational methods by Yu and Huang (2001), as well as the modified Gumbel method, are incorrect when applied to estimation of return periods (Makkonen, 2005).

2 Datasets and Methodology

Sambra is a suburban area located in Belagavi taluk of Belagavi district in Karnataka, India. The normal rainfall of Belagavi taluk is 1504 mm with an average of 68 rainy days. The region experiences pleasant winters and dry hot summers. The taluk falls under Northern transition zone according to agro-climatic zones of Karnataka. Most parts of Belagavi district contributes runoff to the Krishna river basin except small catchments of Khanapur, Belagavi and Bailhongal taluks which contribute runoff to the Mahadayi and Kalinadi rivers that flow towards the west. The daily rainfall data (1984-2019) of Sambra Observatory obtained from Indian Meteorological Department, Pune is used in present study. The Sambra observatory is located at 15.84°N 74.53°E, at an elevation of 747 m above mean sea level. Figure 1 presents the location map of Sambra observatory station.

Location of Sambra, Belagavi District, Karnataka State, India

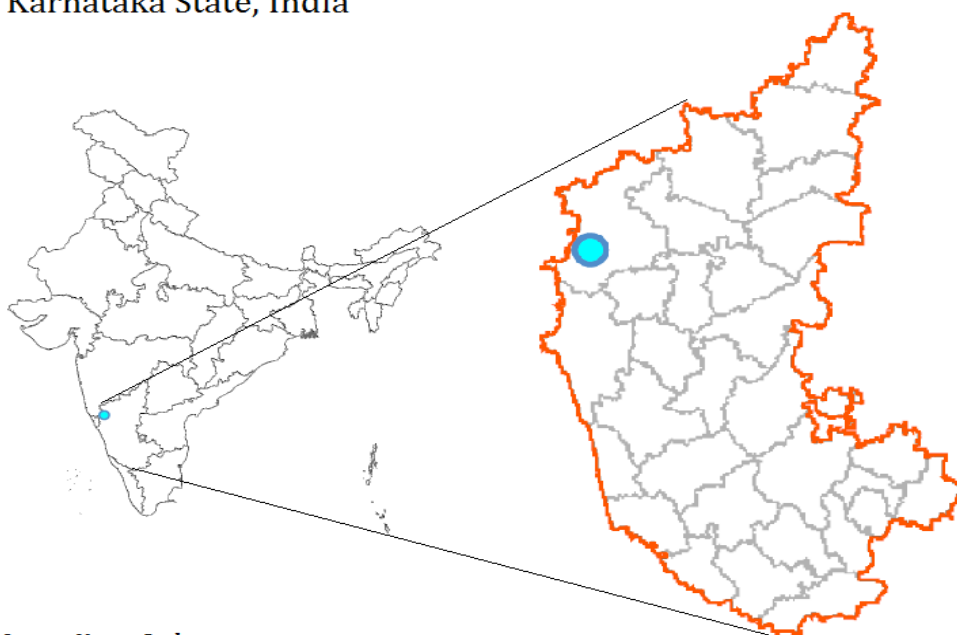


Image: Not to Scale

Figure 1: Location map of Sambra, Belagavi District, Karnataka State, India
(Image Source: <https://bharatmaps.gov.in>)

The daily data in a particular year is converted to 2 to 5 days consecutive days rainfall by summing up the rainfall of corresponding previous days. The maximum amount of 1 day and 2 to 5 consecutive days rainfall for each year was taken for analysis (Bhakar et al., 2006). The statistical parameters of 1 day and 2 to 5 consecutive days annual maximum rainfall are furnished in Table-1.

Table 1: Statistical Parameters of Annual 1day and 2 to 5 Consecutive Days Maximum Rainfall

| S. No | Parameters | 1 day | 2 days | 3 days | 4 days | 5 days |
|-------|------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1 | Minimum (mm) | 150.0 | 273.1 | 382.2 | 434.5 | 506.6 |
| 2 | Maximum (mm) | 41.0 | 56.4 | 59.0 | 62.6 | 66.2 |
| 3 | Mean (mm) | 76.7 | 107.7 | 129.6 | 146.3 | 159.6 |
| 4 | Standard deviation (mm) | 29.9 | 44.8 | 58.3 | 64.8 | 74.8 |
| 5 | Coefficient of variation (%) | 37.7 | 41.6 | 45.0 | 44.3 | 46.9 |
| 6 | Coefficient of skewness | 1.04 | 1.74 | 2.26 | 2.38 | 2.71 |

The probability of exceedance of rainfall is computed using the Weibull's plotting position formula and was applied to the prepared dataset of 1 day and 2 to 5 consecutive days annual maximum rainfall. The probability of exceedance of rainfall is given by $p = M/(N+1)$, where M is the order or rank and N is the total number of events. The recurrence interval or return period T is computed as inverse of probability p ($T = 1/p$).

In the present study, an attempt is being made to fit various probability distribution functions viz. Normal (2P), Lognormal (2P), Gumbel (EVI), Pearson Type III and Log Pearson Type III to the datasets of 1 day and 2 to 5 consecutive days annual maximum rainfall. The summary of probability distribution functions is given in Table-2. The goodness of fit of probability distribution functions will be tested by comparing the Chi-square (χ^2) values. Also, various trendlines will be fitted to these datasets mentioned above; the best fit will be decided based on the value of coefficient of determination R^2 . The magnitudes of 1 day and 2 to 5 consecutive days annual maximum rainfall corresponding to 2 to 100 years return period will be estimated using best fit probability distribution function and compared with estimated values of rainfall with best fit trendline equation.

Table 2: Probability Distribution Functions (as adopted from Chow et.al.2010)

| S. No | Distribution | Probability Distribution Function | Parameters in terms of sample moments |
|-------|------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | Normal | $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$ | $\mu = \bar{x}, \sigma = s_x$ |
| 2 | Lognormal* | $f(x) = \frac{1}{x\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y-\mu_y)^2}{2\sigma_y^2}\right)$ | $\mu = \bar{y}, \sigma_y = s_y$ |
| 3 | Gumbel (EVI) | $f(x) = \frac{1}{\alpha} \exp\left[-\frac{x-u}{\alpha} - \exp\left(-\frac{x-u}{\alpha}\right)\right]$ | $\alpha = \frac{\sqrt{6}s_x}{\pi}$ $u = \bar{x} - 0.5772\alpha$ |
| 4 | Pearson Type III | $f(x) = \frac{\lambda^\beta (x-\epsilon)^{\beta-1} e^{-\lambda(x-\epsilon)}}{\Gamma(\beta)}$ | $\lambda = \frac{s_x}{\sqrt{\beta}}, \beta = \left(\frac{2}{C_s}\right)^2$ $\epsilon = \bar{x} - s_x\sqrt{\beta}$ |
| 5 | Log Pearson Type III** | $f(x) = \frac{\lambda^\beta (y-\epsilon)^{\beta-1} e^{-\lambda(y-\epsilon)}}{x\Gamma(\beta)}$ | $\lambda = \frac{s_y}{\sqrt{\beta}}, \beta = \left(\frac{2}{C_s(y)}\right)^2$ $\epsilon = \bar{y} - s_y\sqrt{\beta}$ |

* $y = \log_e x$ and ** $y = \log_{10} x$

3 Frequency Analysis Using Frequency Factors

According to Chow et.al. (2010), the variable X_T of a hydrologic event is expressed as in equation (1):

$$X_T = \mu + K_T \sigma \quad (1)$$

where μ is the mean, σ is the standard deviation and K_T is the frequency factor, which is the function of return period and type of probability distribution used for analysis. For Normal distribution function, the frequency factor can be expressed as:

$$K_T = \frac{(X_T - \mu)}{\sigma} \quad (2)$$

Equation (2) is same as the standard normal variate z . The value of z corresponding to an exceedance of p ($= 1/T$) can be calculated by finding the value of an intermediate variable w given by

$$w = \left[\ln \left(\frac{1}{p} \right) \right]^{1/2} \quad (0 < p \leq 0.5) \quad (3)$$

The standard normal variate z is computed using the equation (4) given by Abramowitz and Stegun (1965). When $p > 0.5$, $(1-p)$ is substituted for 'p' in equation (3) and the value of z is computed by equation (4), however it is given a negative sign. The frequency factor K_T for normal distribution is taken equal to variable z (Chow et.al. 2010).

$$z = w - \left[\frac{2.515517 + 0.802853w + 0.010328w^2}{1 + 1.432788w + 0.189269w^2 + 0.001308w^3} \right] \quad (4)$$

In case of Lognormal distribution, the same procedure of normal distribution applies except that the logarithms of the variables Y_T is used in place of X_T , and their mean and standard deviation are used in equation (5). The required value of X_T is found by taking the antilogarithm of Y_T .

$$Y_T = \mu_y + K_T \sigma_y \quad (5)$$

The equation (6) given by Chow (1953) was used for determination of frequency factor in case of Extreme Value Type I:

$$K_T = -\frac{\sqrt{6}}{\pi} \left\{ 0.5772 + \ln \left[\ln \left(\frac{T}{T-1} \right) \right] \right\} \quad (6)$$

For Pearson Type III Distribution, frequency factor is computed using equation (7) given by Kite (1977) as mentioned in Chow et.al. (2010).

$$K_T = z + (z^2 - 1)k + \frac{1}{3}(z^3 - 6z)k^2 - (z^2 - 1)k^3 + zk^4 + \frac{1}{3}k^5 \quad (7)$$

where $k = C_s/6$, and C_s = coefficient of skewness.

For Log-Pearson Type III Distribution, the logarithms to the base 10 of the hydrologic data was computed. The mean, standard deviation and coefficient of skewness C_s were computed for the logarithmic values of the data and the frequency factor was computed using equation (7).

4 Goodness of Fit

The goodness of fit of a probability distribution can be tested by comparing the theoretical and sample values of the relative frequency or the cumulative frequency function (Chow et.al., 2010). In case of the relative frequency function, the χ^2 test is used. The relative frequency of interval i is given by

$$f_s(x_i) = \frac{n_i}{n} \quad (8)$$

where n_i is number of observations in the interval i and n is the total number of observations.

The theoretical value of the relative frequency function, called the incremental probability function is computed by equation (9)

$$p(x_i) = F(x_i) - F(x_{i-1}) \quad (9)$$

The χ^2 test statistic χ_c^2 is given by

$$\chi_c^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{n[f_s(x_i) - p(x_i)]^2}{p(x_i)} \quad (10)$$

where m is the number of intervals. It may be noted that $nf_s(x_i) = n_i$, the observed number of occurrences in interval i , and $np(x_i)$ is the corresponding expected number of occurrences in interval i .

In χ^2 test, degree of freedom is $\nu = m - p - 1$, where m is the number of intervals and p is the number of parameters used in fitting the proposed distribution. A confidence level is chosen for the test; it is often expressed as $(1 - \alpha)$, where α is the significance level. A typical value for the confidence level is 95 percent ($\alpha = 5\%$). The null hypothesis for the test is that the proposed probability distribution fits the data adequately. This hypothesis is rejected (i.e., the fit is deemed inadequate) if the value of χ_c^2 in equation (10) is larger than a limiting value, $\chi_{\nu, 1-\alpha}^2$ determined from the χ^2 distribution with ν degrees of freedom as the value having cumulative probability $(1-\alpha)$.

4.1 Curve Fitting or Trendline to Frequency Analysis Datasets

The recurrence interval and rainfall values from the datasets of 1 day and 2 to 5 days consecutive maximum rainfall was used to plot the variation of rainfall versus return period (in logarithmic scale). Various trendlines such as exponential, linear, logarithmic, polynomial (order-2), polynomial (order-3), and power were fitted to the data. The best fit was determined based upon the value of coefficient of determination R^2 . The table mentioned in Annexure I gives information about the different trendlines fitted, trendline equation along with coefficient of determination R^2 for the datasets of 1 day and 2 to 5 days maximum rainfall.

5 Results and Discussions

Figure 2 shows the variation between maximum rainfall and probability for observed 1 day and 2 to 5 days consecutive maximum rainfall and estimated rainfall values by various probability distributions. The estimated values of rainfall by normal distribution follow the trend of straight line except at the extremities where the trend deviates to curvilinear as also observed by Christopoulos and Liakopoulos (1963). The normal distribution underestimates the observed rainfall values (both high and low) at boundaries. On the other hand, lognormal and Log Pearson type III distributions are the special cases of one another at low skewness coefficient and are in close agreement to each other (Sharda and Bhushan, 1985) and in turn with observed values of rainfall except at high boundary. At high boundary, both distributions estimate less rainfall compared to the observed value with increase in consecutive days of rainfall. Further, the Extreme Value Type I distribution underestimates the observed rainfall values (both high and low) at boundaries. The estimated rainfall by Pearson Type III distribution is close to observed values for 1 and 2 days maximum rainfall except at higher boundary where it underestimates the observed rainfall. For 3-5 consecutive days maximum rainfall, Pearson Type III overestimates observed rainfall at lower boundary and underestimates observed rainfall at lower boundary.

The Chi-square (χ^2) values of different probability distribution have been furnished in Table-3. For 1 day annual maximum rainfall and 2 days consecutive maximum rainfall, the normal distribution had least chi-square values of 0.137 and 0.518, respectively whereas the extreme value type (I) distribution exhibit maximum chi-square values of 9.331 and 10.04, respectively, in these series. In case of 3 days consecutive maximum rainfall, lognormal distribution had least chi-square value of 0.534 while extreme value type (I) distribution yields maximum chi-square value of 9.583. For 4 days

consecutive maximum rainfall log-Pearson (III) distribution results least chi-square value of 0.649, on the other hand lognormal distribution gives maximum chi-square value of 9.386. Further for 5 days consecutive maximum rainfall, normal distribution shows least chi-square value of 0.557 while extreme value type (I) distribution results maximum chi-square value of 4.818. Based on the statistical comparison of chi-square values for goodness of fit, normal distribution is the best fit for the observed values of 1 day annual maximum rainfall and 2 days and 5 days consecutive maximum rainfall, whereas lognormal distribution is the best suited for the observed values of 3 days maximum rainfall and log-Pearson type (III) distribution is best fit for the observed values of 4 days maximum rainfall. In all the series, extreme value type (III) exhibits the highest χ^2 values.

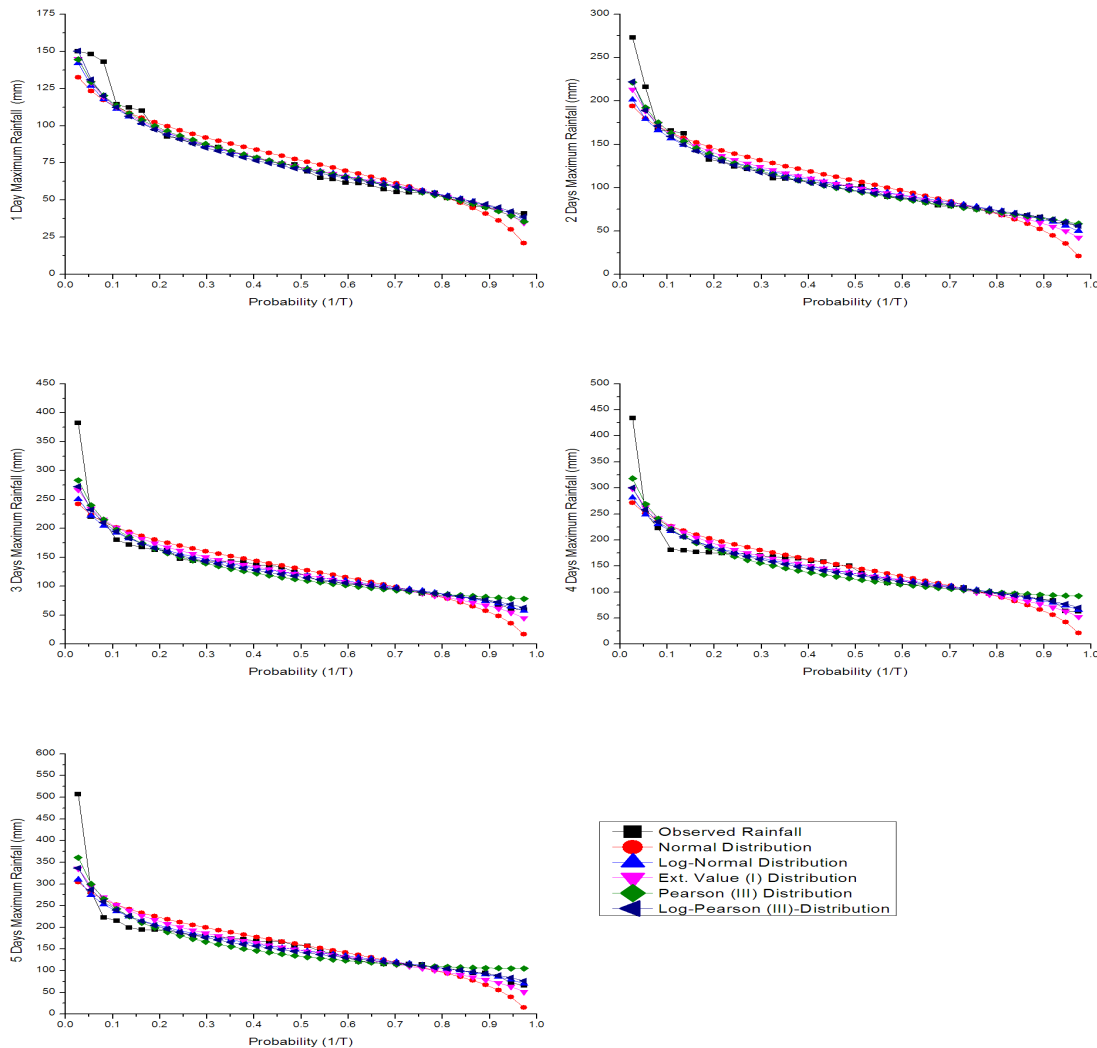


Figure 2: Variation of maximum rainfall with probability for observed 1day and 2 to 5 days consecutive Maximum Rainfall and estimated Rainfall values by various Probability Distributions

The Chi-square (χ^2) test values for different probability distribution functions mentioned in Table-3 viz. Normal, Lognormal, Extreme Value Type I, Pearson Type III and Log-Pearson Type III are calculated using equation (10) were found to be less than the limiting value of Chi-square at 95% confidence level i.e., $\chi^2_{v,1-\alpha}$ for all the data series. Hence, the null hypothesis for the test i.e., the proposed probability distribution fits the data adequately and is well accepted at 95% confidence level.

Table 3: Chi-Square test Values for Various Distribution Function

| Data Series | Probability Distribution Function | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | Normal | Log-Normal | Extreme Value Type(I) | Pearson (III) | Log-Pearson (III) |
| 1 Day MR | 0.137 | 0.313 | 9.331 | 6.174 | 1.159 |
| 2 Days MR | 0.518 | 0.560 | 10.04 | 1.747 | 1.413 |
| 3 Days MR | 0.724 | 0.534 | 9.583 | 2.892 | 0.675 |
| 4 Days MR | 0.778 | 1.062 | 9.386 | 3.348 | 0.649 |
| 5 Days MR | 0.557 | 0.654 | 4.818 | 2.670 | 0.649 |

As illustrated in Table-4, logarithmic trendline is the best suited for 1 day and 2days consecutive maximum rainfall with respective R² values of 0.976 and 0.971. On the other hand, 3rd order polynomial gives highest R² values of 0.953, 0.917, and 0.934 for 3 to 5 consecutive days maximum rainfall respectively. The details of best-fit trendline type, corresponding equation along with coefficient of determination for the datasets of 1day and 2 to 5 days consecutive maximum rainfall are given in Table 4.

Table 4:Details of Best fit Trendline Equation and Coefficient of Determination

| Data Series | Best Fit- Trendline | Trendline Equation | R ² |
|-------------|----------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| 1 Day MR | Logarithmic | $y = 33.53\ln(x) + 44.81$ | R ² = 0.976 |
| 2 Days MR | Logarithmic | $y = 51.8\ln(x) + 58.38$ | R ² = 0.971 |
| 3 Days MR | Polynomial 3 rd Order | $y = 0.031x^3 - 1.700x^2 + 28.95x + 57.11$ | R ² = 0.953 |
| 4 Days MR | Polynomial 3 rd Order | $y = 0.032x^3 - 1.704x^2 + 29.04x + 72.36$ | R ² = 0.917 |
| 5 Days MR | Polynomial 3 rd Order | $y = 0.035x^3 - 1.858x^2 + 31.64x + 77.97$ | R ² = 0.934 |

As the χ^2 values of normal distribution, log-normal distribution and log-Pearson distribution were small and comparable, hence, it is decided to estimate the rainfall values for 2, 5,10, 20, 50, and 100 years return period using all the three distribution functions. Table-5 gives predicted values of rainfall for 1 day and 2to 5consecutive days maximum rainfall by all the three distribution functions. It is observed that normal distribution function estimates high values of rainfall for smaller return periods 2, 5,10 years of return period(except for 1 day). However, log-Pearson type III distribution estimates high rainfall values for larger return periods of 20, 50 and 100 years. Hence even though normal probability distribution function had low Chi-square value, it cannot be used to estimate rainfall for different return periods in general for all the time periods.

Table 5:Predicted Rainfall using Normal, Lognormal and Log-Pearson type III Distribution function

| Return Period (years) | Estimated Values of Maximum Rainfall (mm) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-------|--------------|--------------|-------|--------------|--------------|-------|--------------|--------------|-------|--------------|--------------|-------|--------------|
| | 1 Day | | | 2 Days | | | 3 Days | | | 4 Days | | | 5 Days | | |
| | N | LN | LP | N | LN | LP | N | LN | LP | N | LN | LP | N | LN | LP |
| 2 | 76.7 | 72.0 | 70.40 | 107.7 | 100.4 | 96.6 | 129.6 | 119.8 | 115.9 | 146.3 | 135.5 | 132.2 | 159.6 | 147.3 | 142.6 |
| 5 | 101.1 | 96.8 | 96.0 | 145.4 | 136.0 | 133.7 | 178.6 | 165.3 | 163.1 | 200.8 | 186.4 | 184.6 | 222.6 | 203.8 | 201.1 |
| 10 | 113.9 | 113.1 | 114.4 | 165.2 | 159.4 | 162.2 | 204.3 | 195.6 | 198.7 | 229.3 | 220.3 | 223.2 | 255.5 | 241.6 | 245.4 |
| 20 | 124.4 | 128.5 | 133.1 | 181.5 | 181.8 | 192.7 | 225.4 | 224.8 | 236.4 | 252.8 | 252.8 | 263.0 | 282.7 | 278.0 | 292.2 |
| 50 | 136.3 | 148.4 | 158.9 | 199.8 | 210.7 | 237.3 | 249.3 | 262.9 | 290.9 | 279.3 | 295.2 | 319.2 | 313.3 | 325.5 | 359.8 |
| 100 | 144.1 | 163.4 | 179.8 | 212.0 | 232.5 | 275.1 | 265.2 | 291.9 | 336.3 | 296.9 | 327.4 | 365.2 | 333.7 | 361.7 | 416.2 |

*N-Normal Distribution, LN-Lognormal Distribution, LP-Log-Pearson Type III Distribution

Table-6 shows predicted values of rainfall by 3rd order polynomial for 1 day and 2 to 5 consecutive days maximum rainfall respectively. A maximum of 64.8mm in 1 day, 89.9 mm in 2 days, 108.5mm in 3 days, 123.9mm in 4 days and 134.1 mm is expected to occur in Sambra for every 2 years. For recurrence interval of 100 years the maximum predicted for 1day, 2 to 5 days consecutive maximum rainfall are 4701.6 mm, 8031.2mm, 16952.1mm,17936.mm and 19662.0 mm respectively.

The rainfall values predicted for 100 years return period for 1 to 5 consecutive days maximum rainfall were extremely high and unrealistic with respect to climate conditions of Sambra region.

Table 6: Predicted Rainfall Values using Polynomial 3rd order Trendline Equation

| Return Period (years) | Maximum Rainfall (mm) | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 1 Day | 2 Days | 3 Days | 4 Days | 5 Days |
| 2 | 64.8 | 89.9 | 108.5 | 123.9 | 134.1 |
| 5 | 99.3 | 134.4 | 163.2 | 179.0 | 194.1 |
| 10 | 132.3 | 178.7 | 207.6 | 224.4 | 243.6 |
| 20 | 136.0 | 199.2 | 204.1 | 227.6 | 247.6 |
| 50 | 243.1 | 578.7 | 1129.6 | 1264.4 | 1390.0 |
| 100 | 4701.6 | 8031.2 | 16952.1 | 17936.4 | 19662.0 |

The trendlines are also curves, fitted to the datasets of observed values of rainfall, the bestfit being decided based upon the highest value of coefficient of determination R^2 . To ascertain the bestfit as determined by R^2 values it was also decided to conduct Chi-square test (χ^2) between observed rainfall and predicted rainfall by different trendline equations mentioned in earlier sections. Table-7 shows chi-squares values between observed rainfall and predicted rainfall by different trendline equations. The logarithmic trendline was the best fit as it had lowest χ^2 values among all the trendlines and in turn in all the observed datasets. The 3rd order Polynomial trendline, which was used to overall estimate the rainfall for 1 day maximum rainfall and 2 to 5 consecutive days maximum rainfall and for return periods for 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 years had more Chi-square value than logarithmic trendline. Thus, it can be concluded that Chi-square (χ^2) test is an important tool, which can be used instead of coefficient of determination R^2 in determining the bestfit.

Table 7: Chi-square values- Observed rainfall and Predicted rainfall by different trendline equations

| Observed Datasets | Trendline Equation Type* | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| | Linear | Logarithmic | Polynomial 2 nd order | Polynomial 3 rd Order | Power |
| 1 Day Maximum Rainfall | 33.07 | 6.05 | 6.64 | 7.63 | 12.71 |
| 2 Days Maximum Rainfall | 14.65 | 0.24 | 15.80 | 0.34 | 0.56 |
| 3 Days Maximum Rainfall | 11.12 | 1.92 | 11.45 | 5.86 | 6.03 |
| 4 Days Maximum Rainfall | 42.71 | 12.24 | 44.92 | 28.36 | 18.20 |
| 5 Days Maximum Rainfall | 22.04 | 10.28 | 17.19 | 15.41 | 31.18 |

* Exponential trendline equation was not considered

6 Conclusions

An attempt is made to fit different probability distribution functions to 1 day and 2 to 5 consecutive days annual maximum rainfall data of Sambra Raingauge station of Belagavi, Karnataka, India. The distributions included in the study are Normal (2P), Lognormal (2P), Gumbel (EVI), Pearson Type III and Log Pearson Type III. The goodness of fit of probability distribution functions is tested by comparing the Chi-square values. Following are the conclusions drawn from the study:

1. It is found that no single probability distribution is adequate to describe the annual maximum rainfall of different durations. Normal distribution is best suited for the observed values of 1 day, 2 days and 5 days consecutive maximum rainfall with chi-square values of 0.137, 0.518 and 0.557 respectively. Lognormal distribution is best fit for 3 days maximum rainfall with chi-square value of 0.534 and log-Pearson type (III) distribution for 4 days maximum rainfall with chi-square value of 0.649. All the chi-square values are found to be less than the limiting value of Chi-square at

- 95% confidence level and hence the proposed probability distribution fit the data adequately and are accepted at 95% confidence level.
2. Various trendlines are also fitted to the rainfall datasets. Based on the value of coefficient of determination R^2 , logarithmic trendline is the best one for 1 day and 2 days consecutive maximum rainfall with R^2 values of 0.976 and 0.971, respectively. For 3 to 5 consecutive days maximum rainfall, 3rd order Polynomial trendline with highest R^2 values of 0.953, 0.917, and 0.934 respectively, is best suited.
 3. The magnitudes of 1 day as well as 2 to 5 consecutive days annual maximum rainfall corresponding to 2 to 100 years return period were estimated using normal distribution, log-normal distribution and log-Pearson type III distribution as their Chi-square (χ^2) values were small and comparable. Normal distribution function estimated high values of rainfall for smaller return periods 2, 5 and 10 years return period (except for 1 day) while log-Pearson type III distribution estimated high rainfall values for larger return periods of 20, 50 and 100 years. In spite of low Chi-square value, normal distribution function cannot be used for overall estimation of rainfall values of different return periods.
 4. Rainfall was also estimated by 3rd order polynomial equation for all the data range corresponding to 2 to 100 years return period. It was observed the rainfall values predicted for 100 years return period for 1 to 5 consecutive days maximum rainfall are extremely high and unrealistic with respect to climate conditions of Sambra region.
 5. Chi-square test (χ^2) was conducted between observed rainfall and predicted rainfall by different trendline equations to ascertain the best fit as determined by R^2 . The logarithmic trendline was the best fit as it had lowest chi-square values (χ^2) among all the trendlines and in turn in entire datasets. The 3rd order polynomial trendline, which was used to overall estimate the rainfall for 1 day maximum rainfall and 2 to 5 consecutive days maximum rainfall and for return periods for 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 years had more Chi-square value than logarithmic trendline. This indicates that the Chi-square (χ^2) test is an important tool to determine the goodness of fit rather than coefficient of determination.
 6. The results will facilitate the design engineers and hydrologist, who require information about annual daily maximum rainfall and consecutive days maximum rainfall of different frequencies or return period for planning and design of the small and medium hydraulic and soil and water conservation structures, irrigation, drainage works.

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Annexure I

Table A Details of Trendline Type, Trendline Equation and Coefficient of Determination (R^2)

| Data Series | Trendline Type | Trendline Equation | R^2 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---------------|
| 1 Day Maximum Rainfall | Exponential | $y = 61.05e^{0.038x}$ | $R^2 = 0.508$ |
| | Linear | $y = 3.547x + 61.51$ | $R^2 = 0.646$ |
| | logarithmic | $y = 33.53\ln(x) + 44.81$ | $R^2 = 0.976$ |
| | Polynomial 2 nd Order | $y = -0.209x^2 + 10.47x + 44.66$ | $R^2 = 0.924$ |
| | Polynomial 3 rd Order | $y = 0.011x^3 - 0.800x^2 + 16.67x + 34.57$ | $R^2 = 0.961$ |
| | Power | $y = 49.35x^{0.396}$ | $R^2 = 0.918$ |
| 2 Days Consecutive Maximum Rainfall | Exponential | $y = 83.32e^{0.043x}$ | $R^2 = 0.624$ |
| | Linear | $y = 6.231x + 80.96$ | $R^2 = 0.832$ |
| | logarithmic | $y = 51.8\ln(x) + 58.38$ | $R^2 = 0.971$ |
| | Polynomial 2 nd Order | $y = -0.195x^2 + 12.7x + 65.23$ | $R^2 = 0.933$ |
| | Polynomial 3 rd Order | $y = 0.016x^3 - 1.015x^2 + 21.3x + 51.23$ | $R^2 = 0.963$ |
| | Power | $y = 67.77x^{0.412}$ | $R^2 = 0.951$ |
| 3 Days Consecutive Maximum Rainfall | Exponential | $y = 98.51e^{0.045x}$ | $R^2 = 0.608$ |
| | Linear | $y = 8.246x + 94.18$ | $R^2 = 0.863$ |
| | logarithmic | $y = 64.94\ln(x) + 67.73$ | $R^2 = 0.904$ |
| | Polynomial 2 nd Order | $y = -0.126x^2 + 12.44x + 83.97$ | $R^2 = 0.888$ |
| | Polynomial 3 rd Order | $y = 0.031x^3 - 1.700x^2 + 28.95x + 57.11$ | $R^2 = 0.953$ |
| | Power | $y = 79.81x^{0.426}$ | $R^2 = 0.901$ |
| 4 Days Consecutive Maximum Rainfall | Exponential | $y = 112.1e^{0.044x}$ | $R^2 = 0.585$ |
| | Linear | $y = 9.101x + 107.2$ | $R^2 = 0.851$ |
| | logarithmic | $y = 70.26\ln(x) + 79.39$ | $R^2 = 0.857$ |
| | Polynomial 2 nd Order | $y = -0.091x^2 + 12.11x + 99.90$ | $R^2 = 0.862$ |
| | Polynomial 3 rd Order | $y = 0.032x^3 - 1.704x^2 + 29.04x + 72.36$ | $R^2 = 0.917$ |
| | Power | $y = 91.76x^{0.409}$ | $R^2 = 0.850$ |
| 5 Days Consecutive Maximum Rainfall | Exponential | $y = 120.8e^{0.046x}$ | $R^2 = 0.611$ |
| | Linear | $y = 10.68x + 113.8$ | $R^2 = 0.879$ |
| | logarithmic | $y = 80.36\ln(x) + 83.12$ | $R^2 = 0.840$ |
| | Polynomial 2 nd Order | $y = -0.064x^2 + 12.83x + 108.5$ | $R^2 = 0.883$ |
| | Polynomial 3 rd Order | $y = 0.035x^3 - 1.858x^2 + 31.64x + 77.97$ | $R^2 = 0.934$ |
| | Power | $y = 98.70x^{0.420}$ | $R^2 = 0.861$ |