

A Model Fit Comparative Study of K-Component Mixture of One Parameter Univariate Distributions

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Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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Abstract

This is a comparative study on mixture distribution; where the study seeks to ascertain whether higher number of k-component mixtures could result to development of models that show better fits. In the performance comparison, special consideration was given to univariate one parameter distributions derived using mixture models, and the results show that distributions of higher k-mixture components ($k \geq 3$) relatively have greater propensity to exhibit better fit than the lesser mixture component distributions ($k < 3$).

Keywords: Mixture distribution; component mixtures; AIC; gamma distribution; model fit.

1 Introduction

Researchers are tirelessly on the look-out for new distributions that model data as events unfold. This, they do by developing a more suitable probability models, instead of subjecting a data to transformation procedures as done in the past. Some methods used in distribution development are convolution, parameterization, and mixture

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models or distribution among many others. Fader and Bruce [1] developed gamma-gamma distribution, employing the convolution method in the modeling of monetary value. By parameterization, we imply family extension of baseline distributions, as in generalizations. Generalization models are necessary as they meet the rising need of wide applications on data emanating from different real-life events. Cordeiro and de Castro [2] developed and studied a family of generalized distributions based on the Kumaraswamy distribution proposed by Kumaraswamy [3]. Gupta et al., [4] first proposed a generalization of the standard exponential distribution, called the exponentiated exponential (EE) distribution, to mention but a few.

Mixture distribution as would be considered in this comparative study is a model that combines parameters and weights of a weighted summation of distributions to form a new distribution. Ghojogh et al., [5] detailed in his work “*fitting a mixture distribution to data*”, the k-mixing characteristics and model formats. These k-distributions can come from different families of distributions to form the new. However, this leads to derivation complexities; therefore, most mixtures are preferably independent and identically distributed. In other words, they are taken from one family of distribution (e.g., all normal distributions, or exponential or gamma distributions etc.). In order to reduce these complexities, distributions that share likely support or range can be mixed to have the new; for example exponential, pareto, weibull and gamma distributions share likely support in their parameters and variables. In like manner, beta distribution, truncated normal, uniform distribution etc. share the same support range. Furthermore, complexities are reduced when discrete is mixed with other discrete distributions and continuous with other continuous distribution(s).

Lindley, akash, shanker, ishita, odoma, amarendra, akshaya, shambhu, pranav distributions etc., are examples where mixture distribution is used in derivations. The renowned lifetime distribution Lindley [6] distributions was developed as a two mixture component distribution for modeling lifetime data. More so, some one parameter lifetime distributions have been introduced by Shanker [7-15] as a 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 component mixtures namely Akash, Shanker, Aradhana, Sujatha, Amarendra, Akshaya, Devya and Shambhu respectively. Odom [16] developed Odoma distribution using a three component mixture that keeps showing better fit when compared with some of the other one parameter distributions.

These exponential-gamma mixtures share the same support: $x > 0$ and $\theta > 0$. Some common properties among them are: the unimodality and positive skewness of their shapes; the biasedness, consistency and asymptotic normality of their maximum likelihood estimators. In addition, they are all univariate one parameter distributions ranging from $k = 2$ to 6 component mixtures; with an increasing failure rate (IFR) monotonic hazard shapes. This paper is intended to examine whether greater flexibility is achieved across the increasing k – number of mixtures regardless of the different distribution’s weight and shape parametric constructions.

2 Methods and Materials

A distribution $f(x)$ is a mixture of k-component distributions g_1, g_2, \dots, g_k , if

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^k d_i g_i \quad (1)$$

$$f(x, \theta) = d_1 g_1(x, \theta) + d_2 g_2(x, \theta) + d_3 g_3(x, \theta) + \dots + d_k g_k(x, \theta) \quad (2)$$

where θ is the vector of parameters as used by Lindsay [17] and Ghojogh [5]; subject to

$$\sum_{i=1}^k d_i = 1; \quad d_i > 0 \quad (3)$$

where d_i is the mixing probability [18] and derived as the only weight that complements each of the distributions.

This paper will adopt the following distributions: Lindley, Ishita, Akash, Sujatha, Odoma, Aradhana, Akshaya, Amerendra, Devya and Shambhu distributions among many others. These are all products of mixture distribution; which are combinations of two or more distributions. The combinations of varying shape parameters and different mixing weights or probabilities and a constant scale parameter make up the gamma-construction of these pdfs. Lindley combined 1 and 2 shape parameters with $\frac{\theta}{\theta+1}$ & $\frac{1}{\theta+1}$ as probability weights;

for Odoma distribution, it is 1, 3 and 5 shape parameters with $\frac{\theta^5}{\theta^5+\theta^3+6}$, $\frac{\theta^2}{\theta^5+\theta^3+1}$ & $\frac{\theta^3+6\theta^5+6}{(\theta^5+\theta^3+6)(\theta^5+\theta^3+1)}$ as probability weights. In Devya distribution, it is a gamma composition of 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 shape parameters with mixing weights as:

$\frac{\theta^4}{\theta^4+\theta^3+2\theta^2+6\theta+24}$, $\frac{\theta^3}{\theta^4+\theta^3+2\theta^2+6\theta+24}$, $\frac{2\theta^2}{\theta^4+\theta^3+2\theta^2+6\theta+24}$, $\frac{6\theta}{\theta^4+\theta^3+2\theta^2+6\theta+24}$ & $\frac{24}{\theta^4+\theta^3+2\theta^2+6\theta+24}$ and the rest unmentioned here follow similar procedures.

2.1 Probability and cumulative distribution function for the selected distributions

The probability density function of Exponential distribution as a 1- component mixture is given by

$$\theta e^{-\theta x}, \theta > 0, x > 0 \tag{4}$$

and the cumulative distribution function is

$$1 - \theta e^{-\theta x}$$

The probability density function of Lindley distribution as a 2- component mixture is given by

$$\frac{\theta^2}{\theta+1}(1+x)e^{-\theta x}, \theta > 0, x > 0 \tag{5}$$

where the cumulative distribution function follows as:

$$1 - \left(1 + \frac{\theta x}{\theta + 1}\right) e^{-\theta x}$$

Akash distribution as a 2- component mixture is given by

$$\frac{\theta^3}{\theta^2+2}(1+x^2)e^{-\theta x}, \theta > 0, x > 0 \tag{6}$$

the corresponding cumulative distribution function is

$$1 - \left(1 + \frac{\theta x(\theta x + 2)}{\theta^2 + 2}\right) e^{-\theta x}$$

The probability density function of Shanker distribution as a 2- component mixture is given by

$$\frac{\theta^2}{\theta^2+1}(\theta+x)e^{-\theta x}, \theta > 0, x > 0 \tag{7}$$

and the cumulative distribution function is

$$1 - \left(1 + \frac{\theta x}{\theta^2 + 1}\right) e^{-\theta x}$$

Ishita distribution as a 2- component mixture is given by

$$\frac{\theta^2}{\theta+1}(1+x)e^{-\theta x}, \theta > 0, x > 0 \tag{8}$$

the cumulative distribution function is

$$1 - \left(1 + \frac{\theta x}{\theta + 1}\right) e^{-\theta x}$$

The probability density function of Odoma distribution as a 3 - component mixture is given by

$$\frac{\theta^5}{2(\theta^5 + \theta^3 + 24)}(2x^4 + \theta x^2 + 2\theta)e^{-\theta x}, \theta > 0, x > 0 \tag{9}$$

And the cumulative distribution function is

$$1 - \left[1 + \frac{\theta^2 x^2(\theta^2 x^2 + 4\theta x + 12)}{\theta^5 + \theta^3 + 24} + \frac{\theta x(\theta^4 x + 2\theta^3 + 48)}{2(\theta^5 + \theta^3 + 24)} \right] e^{-\theta x}$$

Sujatha distribution as a 3 - component mixture is given by

$$\frac{\theta^3}{\theta^2 + \theta + 2}(1 + x + x^2)e^{-\theta x}, \theta > 0, x > 0 \tag{10}$$

and the cumulative distribution function is

$$1 - \left(1 + \frac{\theta x [\theta x + \theta + 2]}{\theta^2 + \theta + 2} \right) e^{-\theta x}$$

The probability density function of Aradhana distribution as a 3 - component mixture is given by

$$\frac{\theta^3}{\theta^2 + 2\theta + 2}(1 + x)^2 e^{-\theta x}, \theta > 0, x > 0 \tag{11}$$

and the cumulative distribution function is

$$1 - \left(1 + \frac{\theta x [\theta x + 2\theta + 2]}{\theta^2 + 2\theta + 2} \right) e^{-\theta x}$$

The probability density function of Amarendra distribution as a 4 - component mixture is given by

$$\frac{\theta^4}{\theta^3 + \theta^2 + 2\theta + 6}(1 + x + x^3)e^{-\theta x}, \theta > 0, x > 0 \tag{12}$$

the corresponding CDF is

$$1 - \left(1 + \frac{\theta^3 x^3 + \theta^2(\theta + 3)x^2 + \theta(\theta^2 + 2\theta + 6)x}{\theta^3 + \theta^2 + 2\theta + 6} \right) e^{-\theta x}$$

Akshaya distribution as a 4 - component mixture is given by

$$\frac{\theta^4}{\theta^3 + 3\theta^2 + 6\theta + 6}(1 + x)^3 e^{-\theta x}, \theta > 0, x > 0 \tag{13}$$

and the CDF is

$$1 - \left(1 + \frac{\theta^3 x^3 + 3\theta^2(\theta + 1)x^2 + 3\theta(\theta^2 + 2\theta + 2)x}{\theta^3 + 3\theta^2 + 6\theta + 6} \right) e^{-\theta x}$$

Devya distribution as a 5 - component mixture is given by

$$\frac{\theta^5}{\theta^4 + \theta^3 + 2\theta^2 + 6\theta + 24}(1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4)e^{-\theta x} \tag{14}$$

The CDF is

$$1 - \left(1 + \frac{\theta^4(x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x) + \theta^3(4x^3 + 3x^2 + 2x) + 6\theta^2(2x^2 + x) + 24\theta x}{\theta^4 + \theta^3 + 2\theta^2 + 6\theta + 24} \right) e^{-\theta x}$$

Shambhu distribution as a 5 - component mixture is given by

$$\frac{\theta^6}{\theta^5 + \theta^4 + 2\theta^3 + 6\theta^2 + 24\theta + 120} (1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5) e^{-\theta x} \tag{15}$$

and the cumulative distribution function is

$$1 - \left(1 + \frac{\theta^5(x^5 + x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x) + \theta^4(5x^4 + 4x^3 + 3x^2 + 2x) + 2\theta^3(10x^3 + 6x^2 + 3x) + 12\theta^2(5x^2 + 2x) + 120\theta x}{\theta^5 + \theta^4 + 2\theta^3 + 6\theta^2 + 24\theta + 120} \right) e^{-\theta x}$$

3 Performance comparison

We have in literature that the flexibility of a distribution can be improved on, by adding extra parameters through extensions and generalizations. However, we examine in this comparative study, whether goodness of fit depends on increase in the k-number of mixture components. This is achieved with six different data sets, over the performance comparisons (Akaike Information Criterion - AIC) of the selected mixture derived models. Exponential distribution, lindley distribution, ishita distribution and akash distribution represent the $k = 1$ & 2 component mixtures; Odoma distribution, aradhana and sujatha distribution represent the $k = 3$ component mixtures; Amarendra and Akshaya distribution represent for the $k = 4$ mixture components; devya and shambhu represents $k = 5$ & 6 mixture components respectively.

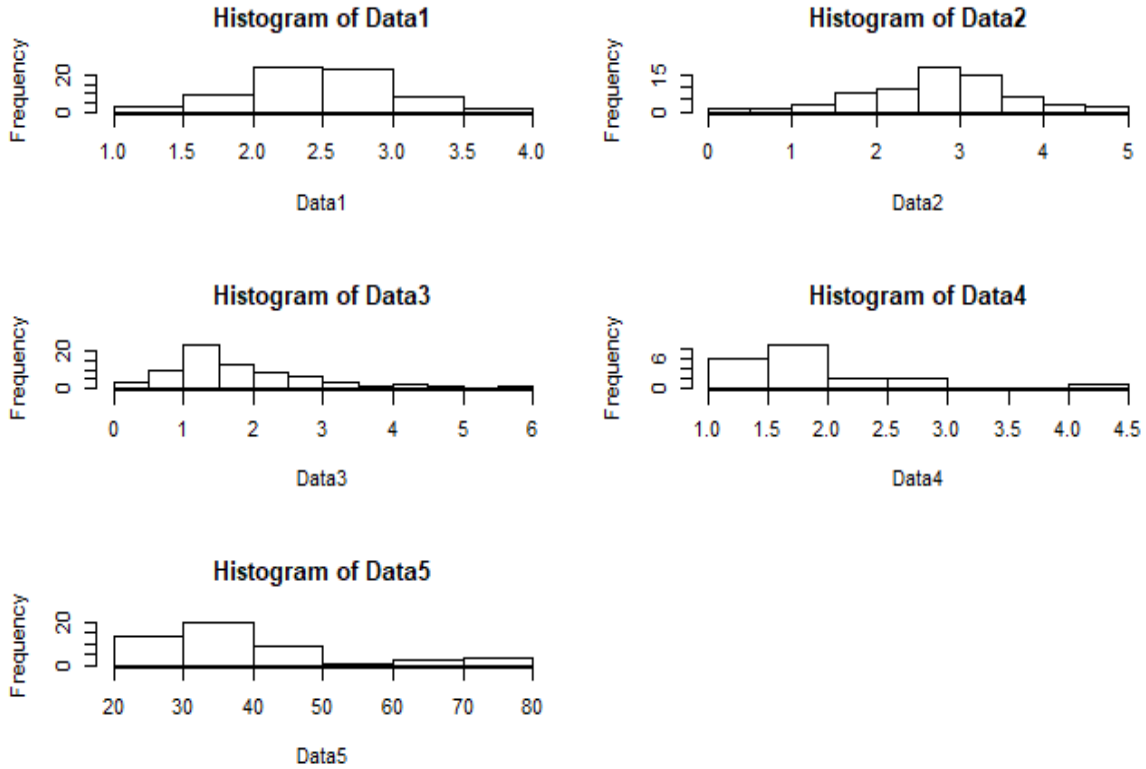


Fig. 1. The histogram represents Data set I – V

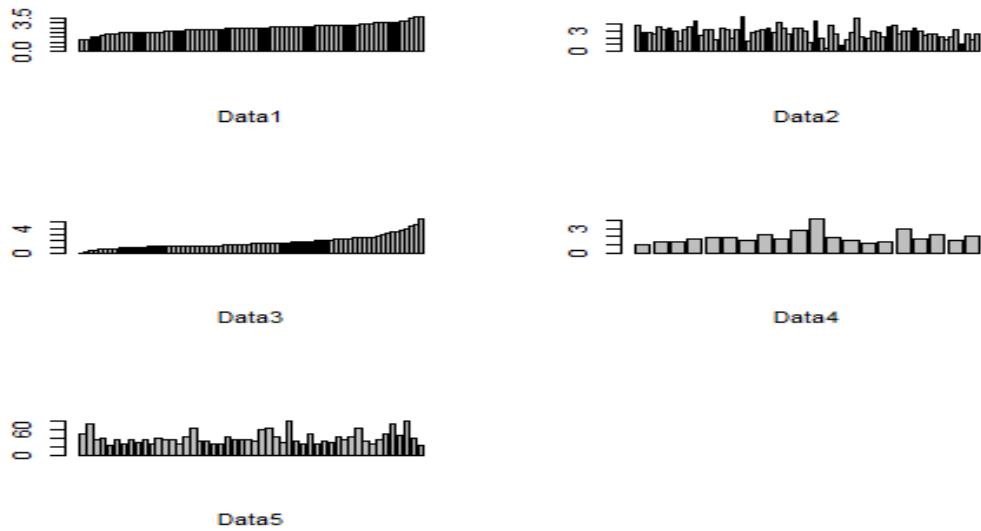


Fig. 2. Barchart plot for Data I-V

Figs 1 and 2 are simply alternative representation of the numerical data used for the performance comparison. Data 1 - Ghitany [19,20]; Data 2 - Nichol [21]; Data 3 - Elbatal [22]; Data 4 - Gross and Clark [23]; and Data5 is originally collected as the remission time (in months) of 50 breast cancer women subjected to treatment, using trastuzumab as medication. Cancer Registry Department, University of Benin Teaching Hospital, Benin, Edo State, Nigeria.

Table 1. k-Mixture component performance comparison

Distribution	k-Mixtures	Data1	Rank	Data2	Rank	Data3	Rank
Exponential	1	263.7	11	267.9	11	228.0	10
Lindley	2	240.4	10	246.8	10	215.9	7
Ishita	2	225.1	8	230.6	6	218.6	9
Akash	2	226.3	9	232.7	9	216.7	8
Odoma	3	211.3	5	215.6	3	228.7	11
Aradhana	3	221.9	6	230.8	7	207.1	2
Sujatha	3	223.6	7	231.6	8	210.4	5
Amarendra	4	209.9	4	219.5	5	208.5	3
Akshaya	4	206.9	3	218.6	4	200.9	1
Devya	5	198.2	2	209.5	2	208.9	4
Shambhu	6	187.7	1	201.2	1	211.3	6

Table 2. Continuation of Table 1

Distribution	k-Mixtures	Data4	Rank	Data5	Rank
Exponential	1	67.7	11	469.9	11
Lindley	2	62.5	10	439.2	10
Ishita	2	62.2	9	421.4	6
Akash	2	61.5	8	421.6	7
Odoma	3	64.0	7	406.9	3
Aradhana	3	58.5	5	423.3	9
Sujatha	3	59.5	6	422.5	8
Amarendra	4	57.6	4	412.8	4
Akshaya	4	55.0	1	413.8	5
Devya	5	56.5	3	406.5	2
Shambhu	6	55.9	2	403.2	1

4 Discussion and Conclusion

In Table 2, we can observe explicitly in the ranking of the AIC, that there are clusters of numbers ranging from 1-11, matched according to their performance. Now, the smaller, the AIC ranking, the more a distribution could be rated as having better fit. As observed and regardless of the data used in the comparisons, it can be seen that the AIC ranking generally indicates that distributions of higher k-mixture components *relatively* have greater propensity to exhibit better fit than the lesser mixture component distributions. Unfortunately, the higher k-mixture component distributions, say $k \geq 3$ is yet to receive massive attention in the field of statistics, due to the many complexities in the derivation of its properties. However, following the results obtained in this study, higher order mixtures seems to have better fit than the mathematically tractable ones. By implication, while we use the $k < 3$ component mixtures for classroom examples, the development and application of higher mixtures should be encouraged and recommended, at least for industrial purposes.

Competing Interests

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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