**ORIGINAL ARTICLE**



# **Developing an earthquake model based on simultaneous peak ground acceleration occurrences using the D‑vine copula approach**

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## **Abstract**

Indonesia is susceptible to natural disasters including earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, foods, and landslides. This catastrophe wreaked havoc on infrastructure, residences, and businesses, resulting in enormous economic losses. One of the frequent natural catastrophes in Indonesia is an earthquake, particularly in the province of Banten, one of potential areas exposed to megathrust earthquake. Peak ground acceleration (PGA) can be used to measure earthquake risk, but current calculations are univariate, meaning that seismic hazard calculations are performed independently across regions. In reality, seismic conditions in a region are infuenced by seismic conditions in neighboring regions, making the independent calculation of PGA less pertinent. In this article, we propose to construct a model for earthquakes based on PGA values by incorporating the dependencies among PGA occurrences via the D-vine copula method. We discovered that the greater the distance between a quake-afected location and the epicenter, the greater the infuence of ground motion from nearby locations. These fndings can be used as a tool to mitigate earthquake occurrences in Indonesia, a similar strategy can also be implemented in other regions.

**Keywords** Dependency · D-vine copula · Earthquake · Ground motion · Peak ground acceleration

# **Introduction**

Indonesia is a country that is prone to natural disasters such as earthquakes, volcano eruptions, tsunamis, foods, and landslides. An earthquake is one of the frequent natural disasters in Indonesia. Earthquake zones on the southern coast

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of West Java and southeast Sumatra are known to be very active due to the confuence of the Indo-Australian plate and subduction under the Sunda plate (Supendi et al. [2022](#page-15-0)). In addition, earthquake events in Sumur Banten, which happened on January 2022, and Cianjur, which happened on November 2022, triggered megathrust issues. The Meteorology, Climatology, and Geophysics Agency of Indonesia (BMKG) also predicts the potential for a megathrust earthquake on the Sunda Plate with a magnitude of 8.7. These catastrophes cause signifcant damage to infrastructure, homes, and businesses, leading to substantial economic losses. As a mitigation effort, many studies have been conducted to identify the potential for an earthquake. Farid and Mase [\(2020\)](#page-15-1) provided a seismic hazard mapping based on a shear strain indicator that may cause an earthquake in Bengkulu City, Indonesia, by performing microtremor measurements that observe the geophysical characteristics. Jena et al. ([2020](#page-15-2)) estimated the earthquake risk based on probability and hazard as a mitigation effort of the earthquake occurrence in Palu, Indonesia. They used earthquake probability assessment (EPA), earthquake hazard assessment (EHA), susceptibility to seismic amplifcation (SSA), and earthquake vulnerability assessment (EVA) to generate the risk of earthquake occurrence. They also clustered the earthquakeprone areas using hierarchical and pure locational clustering. Fuady et al. [\(2021\)](#page-15-3) summarized several disaster events in Indonesia as one of the disaster mitigation efforts to minimize disaster risk, especially in urban areas. They concluded three major disasters in 2018, including earth-shaking in West Nusa Tenggara, earthquake, tsunami, and liquefaction in Central Sulawesi, and tsunamis in Sunda Strait.

One of the quantities commonly used to measure earthquake risk is peak ground acceleration. The peak ground acceleration (PGA), also known as the acceleration value in the ground, can be used to calculate the earthquake danger and its link to the destruction of building infrastructure (Irwansyah et al. [2013](#page-15-4)). This measure builds a catastrophic model through the probabilistic seismic hazard analysis (PSHA), which can probabilistically estimate the ground movement events that could result in damage. Tavakoli and Ghafory-Ashtiany [\(1999\)](#page-15-5) used historical earthquake data, geology, tectonics, fault activity, and seismic source models in Iran to build a probabilistic seismic hazard computation. They provided an Iranian seismic hazard map and probabilistic PGA estimates for 75 and 475 years of return periods. In those studies, they used the maximum expected parameter,  $M_{\text{max}}$ , the activity rate,  $\lambda$ , and the *b* value of Gutenberg–Richter relation, and used the probabilistic method of maximum likelihood estimation adopted from Kijko and Sellevoll ([1989\)](#page-15-6). One of the assumptions held by this method is that the occurrence of earthquakes is assumed to be independent from time and space domains to conform with the Poisson distribution. This means that there is no mutual connection between the locations afected by the earthquake. A similar study has also been done by Ghodrati Amiri et al. [\(2003\)](#page-15-7) and Hamzehloo et al. [\(2012](#page-15-8)). Ghodrati Amiri et al. ([2003](#page-15-7)) and Hamzehloo et al. ([2012](#page-15-8)) used the same approach as Tavakoli and Ghafory-Ashtiany ([1999](#page-15-5)). Crowley and Bommer [\(2006](#page-15-9)) performed independent probabilistic seismic hazard assessment calculations simultaneously at several locations and combined the losses at each site for each annual frequency of exceedance to create loss exceedance curves. They calculated the PSHA hazard curves at a single site and assumed that there was no need to produce a correlated random feld of ground motion.

All of the studies mentioned above assume that the occurrence of earthquakes calculated from the PGA value is independent of each other between locations. However, several studies have shown that the link between locations cannot be ruled out. Amendola et al. ([2000\)](#page-14-0) proposed a spatialdynamic, stochastic optimization model that considers the complexities and dependencies of catastrophic hazards. The risk management model is tailored for this goal, explicitly incorporating the location's geological characteristics, seismic risks, and the built environment's sensitivity. Ansari et al. ([2015](#page-14-1)) conducted a recent study that combined fuzzy

clustering analysis and Monte Carlo simulation to determine and model the seismic sources. They compared the observed PGA on a grid of points and the simulation values and found that the defnition of seismic sources and the distribution of earthquakes within each source are better consistent with seismological and seismotectonic observations when the fndings of clustering analysis are used. The results showed that the clustered areas produced a higher estimated PGA value. This shows that the relationship between locations in the PGA calculation cannot be ignored because the clustered areas generally have similar characteristics. Cheng et al. [\(2020\)](#page-15-10) also proved that ground motion parameters are interconnected.

PGA calculations generally involve several parameters, such as the earthquake's magnitude, the horizontal distance to the epicenter, and the depth of the epicenter. Hence, the PGA calculation is univariate at each location point. However, intuitively, the movement of the ground in a specifc area can be infuenced by the movement of the ground in nearby locations. Therefore, the assumption of dependencies between locations must be addressed. This assumption has also been demonstrated by Amendola et al. [\(2000](#page-14-0)), Ansari et al. ([2015\)](#page-14-1), and Cheng et al. ([2020\)](#page-15-10), as mentioned before. Consequently, the univariate PGA calculations are considered less representative of the actual conditions. Using this basis, we propose a catastrophic model that assumes dependencies between the locations around the subject area of the calculation using a D-vine copula. A D-vine copula is an innovative mathematical technique that can model the probability distribution of the joint occurrence of multivariate events as an extension of the conventional bivariate copula (Bedford and Cooke [2001](#page-14-2); Kurowicka and Cooke [2005;](#page-15-11) Aas et al. [2009](#page-14-3); Brechmann and Czado [2013\)](#page-14-4). Compared to conventional techniques such as linear regression models, the advantage of the D-vine copula model is that it can model the dependencies of multivariate events, both having linear and nonlinear relationships, which are not found in conventional models. In addition, the D-vine copula is also more fexible to use because the probability density function of multivariate events is decomposed into a bivariate function so that the dependency structures between locations that may vary can be identifed. Therefore, this paper aims to develop an earthquake model based on simultaneous peak ground acceleration occurrences using the D-vine copula.

We also develop the model computationally using an open-source framework to facilitate the computation process. We take the following steps: First, we identify and determine the earthquake sources. Then we determine the peak ground acceleration (PGA) for the given epicenter using probabilistic seismic hazard analysis (PSHA). Subsequently, we determine the dependencies between locations in the area that contains the earthquake epicenter using a D-vine copula. Finally, we determine the exceedance probability of the original and D-vine copula-based PGA, compare the results, and draw conclusions. This model would support the development of all needs related to catastrophic models, such as disaster mitigation, catastrophic insurance, and so on.

# **Methodology**

In this section we provide an in-depth discussion about the original model of the univariate PGA calculation through the use of the ground motion prediction equation and the basic concept of the D-vine copula in modeling the dependence of PGA between the quake-afected areas.

#### **Ground motion prediction equation (GMPE)**

The development and testing of earthquake models requires the use of accurate and thorough earthquake catalog data. The International Seismological Centre (ISC) is one such source of earthquake catalog data. The ISC keeps track of earthquakes that happened all around the world from 1904 to the present. In order to concentrate primarily on earthquakes that happened in and close to the Banten Region, we have fltered the ISC earthquake database for this study. We also added updated data found from several other sources. Banten is a seismically active area situated in the western portion of Indonesia's Java Island. We can learn more about the seismic activity and features of the Banten Region by restricting the earthquake catalog data to this area.

Ground motion is a crucial element in earthquake modeling that must be precisely observed and accounted for in models. The term "ground motion" describes the trembling that takes place at a specifc location when an earthquake occurs. Peak ground acceleration (PGA), a popular gauge of ground motion, is the highest acceleration a particle on the ground experiences during an earthquake (GEM Foundation [2021\)](#page-15-12).

Ground motion sensors, often positioned at key points in earthquake-prone areas, can be used in practice to assess PGA. The models that are created to estimate PGA values for places without sensors can subsequently be built using the recorded ground motion data.

In order to predict the shaking that might happen at a location when an earthquake of a specifc magnitude occurs, ground motion prediction equations (GMPEs) are utilized. GMPEs are empirical models that forecast the anticipated ground motion for future earthquakes of comparable magnitude and distance using recorded ground motion data from prior earthquakes.

The selection of GMPEs is extremely reliant on the local environment in one place. The equality of the geological and tectonic conditions in the region where GMPE is created is the basis for selecting GMPE (Irsyam et al. [2008](#page-15-13)). We have chosen GMPE for this study from Youngs et al.  $(1997)$  $(1997)$ , which is used by Irwansyah et al.  $(2013)$  $(2013)$  to model earthquake hazards in Aceh. The formula is as follows:

<span id="page-2-0"></span>
$$
\ln Y_i = 0.2418 + 1.414M + C_1 + C_2(10 - M)^3
$$
  
+ C<sub>3</sub> ln (r<sub>rup,i</sub> + 1.7818e<sup>0.554M</sup>)  
+ 0.00607H + 0.3845Z<sub>T</sub> (1)

where  $Y_i$  is the PGA value of location *i*, *M* is the earthquake magnitude,  $r_{rup,i}$  is the horizontal distance of location *i* from the epicenter, *H* is the depth of the earthquake center, and  $Z_T$  is the indicator function identifying whether it is an interface (0) or intraslab (1) earthquake. These are the output and four input parameters for the GMPE. All earthquakes from the catalog data are assumed to be interface earthquakes.

Based on the GMPE formula defned in Eq. [1,](#page-2-0) the PGA value can be calculated as follows.

<span id="page-2-1"></span>
$$
Y_i = \exp \{0.2418 + 1.414M + C_1 + C_2(10 - M)^3 + C_3 \ln (r_{rup,i} + 1.7818e^{0.554M})
$$
  
+ 0.00607H + 0.3845Z<sub>T</sub> } (2)

The PGA formula defined in Eq. [2](#page-2-1) is used to calculate the ground motion in a single site, overriding any links to other sites. Through the D-vine copula, we accommodate the dependence assumption of the joint occurrence of the ground motion in the afected locations (Table [1](#page-2-2)).

The United States Geological Survey developed the shake maps based on the value of the PGA which characterize the range value of the PGA with its perceived shaking and potential damage as presented in Table [1](#page-2-2) (U.S. Geological Survey [2011](#page-15-15)).

<span id="page-2-2"></span>



#### **D‑vine copula**

The calculation of the PGA using GMPE in Eq. [2](#page-2-1) is a univariate and deterministic calculation. Meanwhile, as we have previously explained, the acceleration of ground motion in an area is very likely to be afected by ground motion in the surrounding areas so univariate calculations that are independent of each other between locations become less relevant. In addition, even though the PGA calculation is deterministic, earthquake events that result in accelerated ground motion are probabilistic, so PGA events are also indirectly probabilistic. Based on these two reasons, it is necessary to have a PGA calculation that considers the infuence or interdependence between PGA events in adjacent locations. In this paper, we propose the use of the copula function, specifcally the D-vine copula, to evaluate the dependency of multivariate PGA events.

Suppose  $Y_1, Y_2, \ldots, Y_n$  is a set of random variables representing the PGA values of each location and have a joint probability function  $f(y_1, \ldots, y_n)$  for the joint occurrence of the PGA events. This joint probability function can be factorized as.

$$
f(y_1, ..., y_n)
$$
  
=  $f(y_n)f(y_{n-1}|y_n)f(y_{n-2}|y_{n-1}, y_n) \cdots f(y_1|y_2, ..., y_n).$  (3)

The joint probability function of the PGA occurrences implicitly describes both the marginal behavior of individual variables of PGA in each location and the structure of their dependencies. Copula, a multivariate distribution function, describes their dependence structure (Aas et al. [2009\)](#page-14-3). Based on Sklar's theorem (Sklar [1959\)](#page-15-16), the multivariate distribution function of the joint occurrences of PGA events can be expressed as a copula function.

$$
F(y_1, ..., y_n) = C(F_1(y_1), ..., F_n(y_n)).
$$
\n(4)

The joint probability function in Eq. [3](#page-3-0) can also be expressed in the copula function by deriving the multivariate distribution function of Eq. [4](#page-3-1) such that.

$$
f(y_1, ..., y_n) = \frac{\partial^n}{\partial y_1 ... \partial y_n} F(y_1, ..., y_n)
$$
  
=  $\frac{\partial^n}{\partial y_1 ... \partial y_n} C(F_1(y_1), ..., F_n(y_n))$  (5)  
=  $c_{1,...,n} (F_1(y_1), ..., F_n(y_n)) f_1(y_1) ... f_n(y_n)$ .

The multivariate density copula  $c_{1,...,n}(F_1(y_1),...,F_n(y_n))$ in Eq. [5](#page-3-2) is quite complex; however, we can decompose it into the bivariate density copula. To do so, we can express the conditional probability function provided in Eq. [3](#page-3-0) in the bivariate copula function so that later we can get the pair copula decomposition form of the multivariate density

copula defned in Eq. [5](#page-3-2). First, for the bivariate case, we have the following formula.

$$
f(y_1, y_2) = c_{12}(F_1(y_1), F_2(y_2))f_1(y_1)f_2(y_2).
$$
 (6)

Therefore, the conditional probability function of  $f(y_1|y_2)$ can be written as

<span id="page-3-3"></span>
$$
f(y_1|y_2) = c_{12}(F_1(y_1), F_2(y_2))f_1(y_1)
$$
\n(7)

We can also decompose the other conditional probability provided in Eq. [3.](#page-3-0) For example, for the second conditional probability  $f(y_1|y_2, y_3)$  we have

$$
f(y_1|y_2, y_3) = c_{12|3}(F(y_1|y_3), F(y_2|y_3))f(y_1|y_3)
$$
\n(8)

or

<span id="page-3-4"></span>
$$
f(y_1|y_2, y_3) = c_{13|2}(F(y_1|y_2), F(y_3|y_2))f(y_1|y_2)
$$
\n(9)

By substituting Eq. [7](#page-3-3) to Eq. [9](#page-3-4), we have

$$
f(y_1|y_2, y_3) = c_{13|2}(F(y_1|y_2), F(y_3|y_2))
$$
  
\n
$$
c_{12}(F_1(y_1), F_2(y_2))f_1(y_1)
$$
\n(10)

<span id="page-3-0"></span>Therefore, the general formula for the conditional probability of the multivariate density function defned in Eq. [3](#page-3-0) is

<span id="page-3-5"></span>
$$
f(\mathbf{y}_i|\mathbf{y}) = c_{\mathbf{y}_i\mathbf{y}_j|\mathbf{y}_{-j}}(F(\mathbf{y}_i|\mathbf{y}_{-j}), F(\mathbf{y}_j|\mathbf{y}_{-j}))f(\mathbf{y}_i|\mathbf{y}_{-j})
$$
(11)

where  $y_j$  is an arbitrarily chosen variable of **y** and  $y_{-j}$  is the **y**-vector excluding **y***<sup>j</sup>* .

<span id="page-3-2"></span><span id="page-3-1"></span>For multivariate distribution with higher dimensionality, many possible copula pairs exist. Bedford and Cooke ([2001](#page-14-2)) introduced a Regular vine (R-vine) copula to help organize the copula pairs. Kurowicka and Cooke ([2005](#page-15-11)) and Aas et al. ([2009](#page-14-3)) provided special cases of R-vine copula, known as canonical (C-) and drawable (D-) vine copula. The vine copula decomposes the multivariate copula into bivariate copula through the nested set of trees which consist of nodes and edges. If we have *n* variables, then we will have  $n - 1$  trees, each tree consists of *n* nodes and *n* − 1 edges. Specifcally, for the C-vine copula, the tree structure is constructed into a star structure with a key node connecting to all other modes (Kurowicka and Cooke [2005](#page-15-11); Aas et al. [2009](#page-14-3); Cheng et al. [2020\)](#page-15-10). While for the D-vine copula, the tree structure is constructed into a path, where each node is connected to no more than two other nodes (Aas et al. [2009](#page-14-3); Cheng et al. [2020](#page-15-10)). In this paper, we focus on utilizing the D-vine copula because the pair of locations to be checked for dependencies are considered to have the same position; in other words, there is no specifc location as a key variable as is commonly described in the C-vine copula. The pair structure of the D-vine copula for four variables is provided in Fig. [1](#page-4-0).



<span id="page-4-0"></span>**Fig. 1** Example of the tree structure of the D-vine copula for four variables

Based on the pair decomposition, the multivariate density function of *n* variables of PGA events defned in Eq. [3](#page-3-0) can be written as.

$$
f(y_1, ..., y_n) = \Pi_{k=1}^d f_k(y_k) \times
$$
  
\n
$$
\Pi_{i=1}^{d-1} c_{j,i+j|j+1,...,(i+j-1)}(F(y_j|y_{j+1}, \dots, y_{i+j-1}))
$$
  
\n
$$
..., y_{i+j-1}), F(y_{i+j}|y_{j+1}, ..., y_{i+j-1}))
$$
\n(12)

Parameter estimation of the D-vine copula is conducted using the two procedures of maximum likelihood estimation method: (1) parameter estimation for the marginal distribution and (2) for the copula function (Patton [2006](#page-15-17); Jondeau and Rockinger [2006;](#page-15-18) Aas et al. [2009\)](#page-14-3). Suppose Ψ and Θ are the parameter spaces of the marginal distributions and the copula functions.

$$
\hat{\Psi} = \arg \max \mathcal{L}(\Psi | \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_i)
$$
\n(13)

$$
\hat{\Theta} = \arg \max \mathcal{L}(\Theta | \tilde{u}, \tilde{v}) \tag{14}
$$

where  $\tilde{y}$  is the vector of the PGA values in location *i*,  $\tilde{u} = F_i(y_i)$  and  $\tilde{v} = F_j(y_j)$  are the cumulative distribution functions of the PGA values at location *i* and *j*,  $i \neq j$ , and  $\mathcal{L}(\Psi|\tilde{\mathbf{y}})$  and  $\mathcal{L}(\Theta|\tilde{u}, \tilde{v})$  are the log-likelihood functions of the marginal distributions and the copula functions, respectively.

Several popular copula families can be used, in Table [2](#page-5-0) we provide some popular copula families.

For the case of pairing PGA for several locations, suppose that  $Y_i$  be the PGA values of  $i = 1, 2, ..., n$  location. We can calculate the D-vine copula-based PGA by the following procedures. First, calculate the original PGA value using the GMPEs equation provided in Eq. [2.](#page-2-1) To identify which locations, have a strong relationship, calculate the correlation between each location using the three popular

dependence measures: Pearson correlation coefficient, Spearman's rho, and Kendall's tau. Then pair the subject locations using the D-vine copula and estimate the parameters of the marginal distribution and the copula function using Eqs. [13](#page-4-1) and [14.](#page-4-2) Last, estimate the PGA values of location *i* which already involves dependencies from PGA events in the surrounding areas using the D-vine copula regression, which is defned as the following conditional expectation.

$$
E(Y_i|\mathbf{Y}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y_i f(y_i|\mathbf{y}) dy_i
$$
  
= 
$$
\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y_i c_{y_i \mathbf{y}_j|\mathbf{y}_{-j}} (F(y_i|\mathbf{y}_{-j}), F(\mathbf{y}_j|\mathbf{y}_{-j})) f(y_i|\mathbf{y}_{-j}) dy_i
$$
(15)

<span id="page-4-3"></span>where  $f(y_i|\mathbf{y})$  is the conditional density function of a PGA event in location *i* given the occurrences of the PGA events in all other locations, which is obtained from the D-vine copula decomposition such derived in Eq. [11.](#page-3-5)

#### <span id="page-4-5"></span>**Probability of exceedance**

The last part of the catastrophic model built using the D-vine copula is calculating the probability of exceedance (POE). POE is the probability that a random variable exceeds a certain amount of value. In probabilistic terminology, it is the survival function of the random variable (Casualty Actuarial Society [2021\)](#page-15-19). In seismic hazard analysis, we calculate the exceedance probability to estimate the probability that, in any given year, the condition will exceed a certain value of PGA (Aslani and Miranda [2005](#page-14-5); Bradley et al. [2009](#page-14-6)). In this paper, we use two approaches to calculate exceedance probabilities: (1) empirical POE and (2) parametric megathrust POE.

<span id="page-4-2"></span><span id="page-4-1"></span>Empirical POE is calculated based on historical PGA values, i.e. PGA calculations resulting from original calculations and based on D-vine copulas. Empirical POE calculations are carried out to estimate how big the probability is that if one day an earthquake occurs, the event will cause ground motions that exceed the historical ground motion values. Dotson ([2020](#page-15-20)) presents an empirical formula to calculate POE as follows.

<span id="page-4-4"></span>
$$
P(Y_i > y_{i,j}) = \frac{m_j}{n+1}
$$
 (16)

where  $P(Y_i > y_{i,j})$  is the probability of exceeding historical PGA value of epicenter *j* at location  $i$ ,  $m_j$  is the rank of the PGA value *j*, and *n* is the number of observations.

Furthermore, the parametric megathrust POE is calculated to obtain the description of at what probability level the <span id="page-5-0"></span>**Table 2** Copula families (Scholzel and Friederichs [2008](#page-15-22); Weber [2015](#page-15-23); Embrechts et al. [2003](#page-15-24); Taillon and Miyagawa [2019](#page-15-25); Buike [2018;](#page-15-26) Brechmann and Schepsmeier [2013\)](#page-14-7)



 $u = F_i(y_i)$  and  $v = F_i(y_i)$ ,  $i \neq j$ 

estimated PGA, both original and D-vine copula-based, will exceed the PGA value of the possibility of a megathrust event where the magnitude of the earthquake reaches 8.7 SR. First, we assume that the probability of the PGA of a megathrust event in location *i* is normally distributed (Septianusa and Ahdika [2015\)](#page-15-21).

$$
P(y_{i,m}) = \frac{1}{\sigma_m \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{y_{i,m} - \mu_m^2}{2\sigma_m}\right)\right\}
$$
(17)

where  $y_{i,m}$  is the PGA value of a megathrust event in location *i*,  $\mu_m$  and  $\sigma_m$  are the mean and standard deviation of PGA of megathrust event. Then, we obtain the parametric megathrust POE by integration.

$$
P(Y_i > y_{i,m}) = \frac{1}{\sigma_m \sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{y_{i,m}}^{\infty} \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{y_{i,m} - \mu_m^2}{2\sigma_m}\right)\right\} dy_{i,m}
$$

$$
= 1 - \phi\left(\frac{y_{i,m} - \mu_m}{\sigma_m}\right)
$$
(18)

## **Algorithm of the proposed model**

All these procedures are encapsulated in the algorithm that we run on the following open-source framework, particularly in R software.

## **PGA Calculation Algorithm**

#### *Initialization Phase*

- 1. Load the required package.
- 2. Load the earthquake catalog data.

#### *Main Phase*

- 1. Prepare the longitude and latitude data for each epicenter.
- 2. Prepare the grid points or the location coordinates where the PGA value will be calculated.
- <span id="page-5-1"></span>3. Calculate the distance between the location and the epicenter using the Haversine distance.



<span id="page-6-0"></span>**Fig. 2** Maximum PGA values of the 12 major areas in Banten Region. Calculations were performed univariately

$$
hav(\theta) = hav(\phi_2 - \phi_1) + \cos(\phi_1)\cos(\phi_2)hav(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)
$$
\n(19)

where  $\theta$  is the central angle between any two points on a sphere,  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  are the latitude of locations 1 and 2, and  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are the longitude of the location 1 and 2.

4. Calculate the PGA value using Eq. [2.](#page-2-1)

## *Additional Phase*

- 1. Load the map data for Indonesia.
- 2. Create the map providing the PGA value of each location.

After calculating the PGA value, hereinafter referred to as Original PGA, we estimate the D-vine copula-based PGA value, which is provided in the following algorithm.

## **D-vine copula-based PGA**

## *Initialization Phase*

- 1. Load the required package.
- 2. Load the Original PGA that has been calculated in the frst algorithm.

*a*. Plot the correlation between the Original PGA in several locations.

## *Main Phase*

- 1. Estimate the marginal distribution function of the Original PGA of each location.
- 2. Estimate the parameter of the D-vine copula.
- 3. Estimate the D-vine copula-based PGA using Eq. [15](#page-4-3).
- 4. Calculate the empirical and parametric megathrust POE (Eqs. [16](#page-4-4) and [18](#page-5-1)).

# **Results**

Data used in this study is Earthquake Catalogue Data taken from International Seismological Centre (1904–2019) (International Seismological Center [2023](#page-15-27)). In this study, the data is fltered to earthquakes that happened around the Banten Region with additional latest data from Wikipedia up to 2022. The data consist of 60 earthquake epicenters. The variables used are the magnitude of the earthquake in each epicenter, *M*, the depth of the earthquake epicenter, *H*, and latitude and longitude of the subject locations  $i$ ,  $\phi_i$  and



<span id="page-7-0"></span>**Fig. 3** PGA correlation pairs of the 12 major areas in Banten–Jakarta Region. The areas in the red box are the ones with the strongest relationships

 $\lambda_i$ . Most of the epicenters were located in the Indian Ocean area (located to the left and below Banten Region) and the Java Sea (water area above Banten Region).

In this study, we build the catastrophe model for 12 major areas in the Banten–Jakarta Region, two provinces close to the center of the Indonesian government, based on earthquake epicenters located in the Banten Region. The 12 major areas include Ujung Kulon, Lebak, Cilegon, Pandeglang, Serang City, Tangerang City, West Jakarta, South Tangerang, South Jakarta, North Jakarta, Central Jakarta, and East Jakarta. However, the PGA calculation involving the D-vine copula was only carried out in the seven areas with the strongest dependencies, among others. Figure [2](#page-6-0) provides the maximum value of the original PGA from 60 epicenters at each of 12 major areas in the Banten–Jakarta Region, ranging from, approximately, 0.10–0.25 g. The farther the subject location is from the epicenter, the smaller the PGA value.

Based on Fig. [2,](#page-6-0) we assume that the clustered locations at the top right of the map have very strong dependencies because the distance between the locations is quite close. However, to strengthen the assumption, we calculate the dependencies of the original PGA between locations. Figure [3](#page-7-0) provides the PGA correlation pairs.

Based on Fig. [3,](#page-7-0) very strong dependencies are shown by the areas closer to Jakarta (provided by the bottom right of the pairs), including Tangerang City, West Jakarta, South Tangerang, South Jakarta, North Jakarta, Central Jakarta, and East Jakarta. As supporting evidence, Fig. [4](#page-8-0) provides the Pearson correlation coefficient, Spearman's rho, and Kendall's tau rank correlation, whose absolute values are greater than 0.50. The three measures are used to accommodate all possible dependency structures of the PGA events between locations, both linear and nonlinear.

The darker the circle color in the correlation plot, the stronger the dependency. From the three dependence measures, we obtain some areas having very strong dependencies (greater than 0.90), consisting of Tangerang City, West Jakarta, South Tangerang, South Jakarta, North Jakarta, Central Jakarta, and East Jakarta. This proves our previous hypothesis. Therefore, we limit our analysis to these seven areas as this study focuses on showing that ground motions



#### (a) Pearson correlation coefficient



(b) Spearman's rho rank coefficient



#### (c) Kendall's tau rank coefficient

<span id="page-8-0"></span>**Fig. 4** Dependency measures of original PGA values of some locations with a dependency value of more than 0.50; i.e. those with a fairly strong relationship

To simplify the analysis, we assign a number to each area as follows: (1) Tangerang City, (2) West Jakarta, (3) South Tangerang, (4) South Jakarta, (5) North Jakarta, (6) Central Jakarta, and (7) East Jakarta.

of each other.

Following the next step in our proposed modeling, the marginal distribution of the PGA in each location can be identifed by evaluating the shape of its histogram. Figure [5](#page-9-0) shows the histogram of the PGA for the seven major areas.

The histograms show that the data are not normally distributed. Therefore, we further perform the marginal distribution ftting process and obtain the results of the marginal distribution for each location along with the parameter estimates which are provided in Table [3](#page-9-1). The results show that the marginal distribution that best fts the PGA value for all locations is the log-normal distribution. These results are consistent with the histogram which shows the data pattern tends to be positively skewed, where those kind of data pattern is more of a log-normal distribution.

Furthermore, the tree structure and the parameter estimates of the D-vine copula are provided in Fig. [6](#page-10-0) and Table [4](#page-11-0).

The tree structure of the D-vine copula formed arranges the sequence of locations with the strongest dependencies. Based on Fig. [6](#page-10-0), we obtain the following information. Location pairs that have strong dependencies formed in the frst tree are (6) Central Jakarta and (5) North Jakarta, (5) North Jakarta and (3) South Tangerang, (3) South Tangerang and (2) West Jakarta, (2) West Jakarta and (1) Tangerang City, (1) Tangerang City and (4) South Jakarta, (4) South Jakarta and (7) East Jakarta. Each has Kendall's tau values of 0.93, 0.90, 0.88, 0.93, 0.86, and 0.93, respectively. For the second to sixth trees, conditional marks indicate the dependency between the original PGA of two locations given the PGA values from other locations. For example, 6, 3|5 indicates the dependence between the PGA of (6) Central Jakarta and (3) South Tangerang given the PGA values of (5) North Jakarta and so on up to the sixth tree, which shows the dependency between the PGA values of (6) Central Jakarta and (7) East Jakarta given the PGA values of the other fve locations. The tree structure shows that the D-vine copula can provide an overview of the dependencies of PGA events between locations, for all location pairs, conditionally or not.

An interesting fact shows that in the frst tree, the most suitable copula for all pairs is the Joe copula, which has upper tail dependence, with values greater than 0.95. In addition, Kendall's tau values for all pairs in the frst tree are more than 0.85, indicating a very strong dependency among related location pairs. The upper tail dependence can be interpreted as the relationship between the large PGA values in each area. Meanwhile, for the second to sixth trees,



<span id="page-9-0"></span>**Fig. 5** Histogram of original PGA values of seven major areas

the dependency structure among the pairs is more varied with fewer pairs having tail dependencies.

Using the parameter estimates of the marginal distribution and the D-vine copula model, we then construct the

<span id="page-9-1"></span>**Table 3** Marginal distribution ft

Location	Marginal distribution	Parameter estimates
<b>Tangerang City</b>	Log-normal	$\hat{\mu} = -4.5873$ , $\hat{\sigma} = 0.7756$
West Jakarta	Log-normal	$\hat{\mu} = -4.6437$ , $\hat{\sigma} = 0.7668$
South Tangerang	Log-normal	$\hat{\mu} = -4.5769$ , $\hat{\sigma} = 0.7521$
South Jakarta	Log-normal	$\hat{\mu} = -4.7104$ , $\hat{\sigma} = 0.7329$
North Jakarta	Log-normal	$\hat{\mu} = -4.8576$ , $\hat{\sigma} = 0.7333$
Central Jakarta	Log-normal	$\hat{\mu} = -4.8706$ , $\hat{\sigma} = 0.7251$
East Jakarta	Log-normal	$\hat{\mu} = -4.8576$ , $\hat{\sigma} = 0.7166$

multivariate density functions of the PGA values of the seven areas (see Eq. [12](#page-4-5)). The multivariate density functions are used to estimate the D-vine copula-based PGA values using Eq. [15](#page-4-3), whose results are compared to the original PGA and are provided in Fig. [7](#page-12-0).

The black and red circles in Fig. [7](#page-12-0) indicate the original and D-vine copula-based PGA, respectively. In general, there are several diferences in the original PGA and D-vine copula-based PGA values at several epicenters. Even though it seems not so signifcant, the diference in value cannot be ignored due to uncertain natural conditions. In addition, the range of PGA values is not large, even small diferences must be considered. Based on Fig. [7,](#page-12-0) the diference in PGA values that occurred the most is in the three areas farthest from the epicenters of the earthquake, covering North Jakarta, Central



<span id="page-10-0"></span>**Fig. 6** Tree structure of the PGA values

Jakarta, and East Jakarta. This is presumably because the area farthest from the epicenter is the area that gets the most infuence from land shifts from other locations closer to the epicenter. Meanwhile, the areas where the original and the D-vine copula-based PGA value are not too diferent are Tangerang City, West Jakarta, South Tangerang, and South Jakarta because these areas are closer to the epicenter than the other four areas. Ground movement at a location closer to the epicenter is more infuenced by its proximity to the epicenter but is less afected by ground movement from the surrounding areas. Therefore, the estimated value of the D-vine copula-based PGA is not much diferent from the original PGA which involves the infuence of the distance to the epicenter rather than the infuence of other locations. As a comparison, Table [5](#page-12-1) provides the summary statistics of the original PGA and D-vine copula-based PGA for the seven areas which are calculated from 60 epicenters.

Based on Table [5,](#page-12-1) generally, the maximum and average values of the PGA based on D-vine copula are greater than the original PGA values, especially for the last three areas farther from the epicenter. This indicates that ground motions in areas far from the epicenter are likely to be afected by ground motions in areas closer to the epicenter. In addition, modeling using the D-vine copula also provides a more varied PGA value indicated by a larger standard deviation value and a wider range of minimum and maximum <span id="page-11-0"></span>**Table 4** Parameter estimates of the D-vine copula for PGA values



par and par1 are the first and second (if any) parameters,  $\tau$  *is Kendall's tau value,*  $\lambda_U$  *and*  $\lambda_L$  *are the upper and lower tail dependencies*

values. After obtaining the original and D-vine copula-based PGA, we analyze the results of the empirical and parametric megathrust POE using original and D-vine copula-based PGA, respectively for the seven areas which are provided in Figs. [8](#page-13-0) and [9.](#page-14-8)

Based on the result provided in Figs. [8](#page-13-0) and [9,](#page-14-8) the same POE value corresponds to diferent values for original and D-vine copula-based PGA. Both POE approaches indicate similar characteristics, which show that the farther an area is from the epicenter, the greater the infuence of ground motions in surrounding areas that are located closer to the epicenter. Although the POE values are the same vertically, the PGAs are affected by area dependencies the further they are from the epicenter. As we can see from the graphs, East Jakarta is more afected by the dependencies of neighboring areas than Tangerang. If we take a closer look at the empirical and parametric megathrust POE values, especially in the three areas further from the epicenter, we can see that for the same POE values, the D-vine copula-based PGA has smaller values than the original PGA.

# **Discussion**

Earthquake modeling through the calculation of the peak ground acceleration (PGA) has been carried out by embedding the assumption of dependency on events that cause ground motion for adjacent areas. Unlike the previous similar studies which assumed that the calculation of PGA is univariate because the occurrence of earthquake is independent of time and space domain (Kijko and Sellevoll [1989](#page-15-6); Tavakoli and Ghafory-Ashtiany [1999;](#page-15-5) Ghodrati Amiri et al. [2003](#page-15-7); Hamzehloo et al. [2012](#page-15-8)), we have proven that the occurrence of earthquakes impacting on PGA events to be dependent on the space domain. This is identical to the results of the study conducted by Cheng et al. ([2020](#page-15-10)). Study shows that there are very strong dependencies between the geographically close areas, where dependency measures show a very strong dependency value between these regions, which is above 0.90. First, we obtained univariate PGA values from each study location in Banten Region from 60 epicenters. The results show that the PGA values due to these earthquakes is included in the moderate and strong vibrations, with very light and light potential damage (U.S. Geological Survey



<span id="page-12-0"></span>**Fig. 7** Original and D-vine copula-based PGA

epicenter

<span id="page-12-1"></span>



<sup>a</sup>Min diff and max diff are the minimum and maximum values of the differences between original and D-vine copula-based PGA



<span id="page-13-0"></span>**Fig. 8** Empirical POE

[2011](#page-15-15)). Next, the PGA values were checked for dependence and it was found that areas that were close to each other had a very strong correlation. These areas are Tangerang City, West Jakarta, South Tangerang, South Jakarta, North Jakarta, Central Jakarta, and East Jakarta.

To develop our model, we employ the D-vine copula to model earthquake events resulting in simultaneous PGA events. We obtained some fndings as follows. There are some diferences in the PGA values between the original and D-vine copula-based PGA. The PGA values based on D-vine copula vary more with a wider range, as evidenced by a larger range of minimum and maximum values, and a larger standard deviation. In addition, the maximum and average value of PGA based on D-vine copula in areas far from the epicenter of the earthquake is greater than the value of the original PGA. This shows that PGA values in areas farther from the epicenter get more infuence from the ground motion of locations closer to the epicenter. While the areas closer to the epicenter are more infuenced by its proximity to the epicenter.

Although numerically the diference between the original and D-vine copula-based PGA is not very signifcant, this difference cannot be ignored because the range of diferent values is still in the moderate category. Meanwhile, the results of the

exceedance probability show that for the same POE values, the D-vine copula-based PGA values are smaller than the original PGA. This indicates that if an earthquake occurs, the probability of the event causing damage is greater if the PGA is estimated using the D-vine copula, especially for areas farther from the epicenter. In these areas, the PGA values obtained were not only based on pure PGA calculations but also infuenced by the occurrence of PGA in surrounding locations that were closer to the epicenter.

## **Conclusions**

In earthquake disaster modeling, peak ground acceleration (PGA) is a crucial variable that must be precisely observed. The PGA calculation may not only be afected by the magnitude of the earthquake, the horizontal distance to the epicenter, and the depth of the epicenter but also by the ground motion in the surrounding areas, so the assumption of dependencies between locations is required. Vine copula can be used to calculate the joint probability of land movement events in adjacent areas. In this paper, we estimate the PGA value and its corresponding



<span id="page-14-8"></span>**Fig. 9** Parametric megathrust POE

probability of exceedance using a D-vine copula-based probabilistic seismic hazard analysis.

Although it seems not so signifcant, there is a discrepancy in the result obtained between the original PGA and D-vine copula-based PGA for seven major areas in Banten–Jakarta provinces, with diferences of 4.7069e−07 to 0.06998 g (see Table [5](#page-12-1)). This diference, in earthquake disaster modeling, cannot be ignored because it is included in the moderate category for perceived shaking.

Overall, this proposed earthquake model is able to capture dependencies among areas to support better quality development of catastrophe modeling for the use of mitigation toward catastrophe events, especially earthquakes.

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**Data availability** The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

## **Declarations**

**Conflict of interest** We declare that we have no confict of interest.

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