

# Estimating regional trends of temperature in Bangladesh

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**Abstract:** This study aims to determine trends in the long-term monthly total data series using non-parametric methods like Mann-Kendall and Sen's T test. The change per unit time in a time series having a linear trend is estimated by applying a simple non-parametric procedure, namely Sen's estimator of slope. Serial correlation structure in the data is accounted for determining the significance level of the results of the Mann-Kendall test. The data used in this study, consists of seven divisional meteorological stations across Bangladesh. Station basis trend analysis has been performed for temperature data. For temperature data most of the stations show significant trend. There are rising rates of temperature in some months and decreasing trend in some other months obtained by these statistical tests suggesting overall significant changes in the area.

**Keywords:** Temperature, Mann-Kendall, Sen's T, Trend Analysis, Serial Correlation

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## 1. Introduction

Various a climatic parameters such as rainfall, temperature, humidity, sunshine hour etc. of various regions of the world have shown significant trends. Global warming is mainly caused by the increase of green house gases of the atmosphere. The global average temperature increased by more than 1.3°F over the last century. The average temperature in the Arctic rose by almost twice as much. The buildup of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere and the warming of the planet are responsible for other changes, such as Changing precipitation patterns, Increases in ocean temperatures, sea level, and acidity, melting of glaciers and sea ice. During the 21st century, global warming is projected to continue and climate changes are likely to intensify. Scientists have used climate models to project different aspects of future climate, including temperature, precipitation, snow and ice, ocean level, and ocean acidity. Depending on future emissions of greenhouse gases and how the climate responds, average global temperatures are projected to increase worldwide by 2°F to 11.5°F by 2100. Climate change affects our environment and natural resources, and impacts our way of life in many ways. For example: Warmer temperatures increase the frequency, intensity and duration of heat waves, which can pose health risks, particularly for young children and the elderly. Crop yield may be reduced due to shortening of the growing period because of increased temperature. Excess temperature causes heat injury, retards

growth, irreparable damage to cells and cytoplasm. Besides, there are other effects of excess temperature: killing of tissues, sunburn and sun scale in leaves and fruits too. Stem growth, quality, earliness or intensity of flowering and fruit development depend on temperature rhythms.

Now it is evident from scientific study that our mother climate has undergone an abnormal human induced change. Green house gases such as carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide etc. has been increased significantly over the last century. Such increased amount of green house gases act as a blanked to store infrared radiation of solar energy. Stored energy is radiated as heat and make warmer of the cooler parts of the atmosphere as well as land surface. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has reported in their fourth assessment report that global surface temperature increased  $0.74 \pm 0.18$  °C during the 100 years ending in 2005 (IPCC 2007). It is also noted by IPCC (2007) that the rise of mean annual temperature will be 3.3 °C per century. In the past, a number of studies have been carried out on trend of climate change in climatic parameters over Bangladesh. Chowdhury and Debsharma (1992) and Mia (2003) pointed out that temperature has been changed by using historical data of some selected meteorological station. Parathasarathy et al. (1987) and Divya and Mehritra (1995) reported mean annual temperature of Bangladesh has increased during the period of 1895-1980 at 0.310C over the past two decades. Karmakar and Shrestha (2000) using the 1961-1990 data for Bangladesh projected that annual mean maximum

temperature will increase to 0.4 0C and 0.73 0C by the year of 2050 and 2100 respectively. Tesemma (2010) conducted a study by using Mann-Kendal and Sen's T non-parametric test to detect significant trends in the selected years in combination with the Trend Free Pre-Whitening (TFPW) method for correcting time series data from serial correlation. In this context, it is essential to quantify changes of temperature in recent years based on the historical data. This paper presented a study conducted on the long term changes of near surface air temperature of Bangladesh using data from historic period up to recent year. Daily average temperature data of fifty to sixty years for 7 divisional stations basis on the availability of data has been collected from Bangladesh meteorological station.

## 2. Methodology

### 2.1. Serial Correlation

One of the problems in detecting and interpreting trends in hydrologic data is the confounding effect of serial dependence. Specifically, if there is a positive serial correlation (persistence) in the time series, then the non-parametric test will suggest a significant trend in a time series that is, in fact, random more often than specified by the significance level (Kulkarni and Van Storch, 1995). For this, Von Storch and Navarra (1995) suggest that the time series should be 'pre-whitened' to eliminate the effect of serial correlation before applying the Mann-Kendall test. This study incorporates this suggestion, and thus possible statistically significant trends in a precipitation observations ( $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ ) are examined using the following procedures:

1. Compute the lag-1 serial correlation coefficient (designated by  $r_1$ ).
2. If the calculated  $r_1$  is not significant at the 5% level, then the Mann-Kendall test is applied to original values of the time series.
3. If the calculated  $r_1$  is significant, prior to application of the Mann-Kendall test, then the 'pre-whitened' time series may be obtained as  $x_2 - r_1x_1, x_3 - r_1x_2, \dots, x_n - r_1x_{n-1}$ .

### 2.2. Mann-Kendall Test

First of all, test for the trend in annual series was made so as to get an overall view of the possible changes in data processes. To determine If the trends found are significant, the Mann-Kendall trend test was used (Mann, 1945 and Kendall, 1948). This test is chosen over other trend detection tests based on the following factors:

(1) the Mann-Kendall test is a rank based non parametric test. When compared to parametric test like t-test the Mann-Kendall test has a higher power for non-normally distributed data which are frequently encountered in hydrological records (Onoz and Bayazit, 2003; Yue and Pilon;2004). (2) In comparison to other non-parametric tests like Spearman's rho test, the power of the Mann-Kendall test is similar to the point where both give

indistinguishable results in practice (Yue et al, 2002). (3) The Mann-Kendall test has been extensively used to determine trends in similar hydrologic studies done in the pa

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^n \text{sgn}(x_j - x_i) \quad (1)$$

The application of trend test is done to a time series  $x_i$  that is ranked from  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$  and  $x_j$ , which is ranked from  $j = i+1, 2, \dots, n$ . Each of the data point  $x_i$  is taken as a reference point which is compared with the rest of the data points  $x_j$  so that,

$$\text{sgn}(x_j - x_i) = \begin{cases} +1, & > (x_j - x_i) \\ 0, & = (x_j - x_i) \\ -1, & < (x_j - x_i) \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

It has been documented that when  $n \geq 8$ , the statistic  $S$  is approximately normally distributed with the mean.  $E(S) = 0$   
The test statistics  $Z_c$  is computed as

$$Z_c = \begin{cases} \frac{S-1}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(S)}}, & S > 0 \\ 0, & S = 0 \\ \frac{S+1}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(S)}}, & S < 0 \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

$Z_c$  here follows a standard normal distribution. The variance statistic is given as

$$\text{Var}(S) = \frac{n(n-1)(2n+5) - \sum_{t=1}^m t_i(t_i-1)(2t_i+5)}{18} \quad (4)$$

Where  $t_i$  is considered as the number of ties up to sample  $i$ .

A positive (negative) value of  $Z$  signifies an upward (downward) trend. A significance level  $\alpha$  is also utilized for testing either an upward or downward monotone trend (a two-tailed test). If  $Z_c$  appears greater than  $Z_{\alpha/2}$  where  $\alpha$  depicts the significance level, then the trend is considered as significant.

### 2.3. Sen's T Test

This technique is an aligned rank method having procedures that first remove the block (season) effect from each datum, then sum the data over blocks, and finally produce a statistic from these sums. The aligned rank test is more powerful than its counterpart. It is distribution free and not affected by seasonal fluctuations (Sen 1968a; Van Belle and Hughes, 1984).

Test Statistic:

$$T = \left[ \frac{12m^2}{n(n+1) \sum_{i,j} (R_{ij} - R_j)^2} \right]^{1/2} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \left( i - \frac{n+1}{2} \right) \left( R_i - \frac{nm+1}{2} \right) \right] \quad (5)$$

The test statistic  $T$  follows an  $N(0, 1)$  distribution under the null hypothesis of no trend. Positive values of  $T$  indicate an 'upward trend' and negative values indicate 'downward trend'.

**2.4. Sen's Slope Estimator**

If a linear trend is present in a time series, then the true slope (change per unit time) can be estimated by using a simple non-parametric procedure developed by Sen, 1968. The magnitude of trend is predicted by the Sen's estimator.

$$Q_j = \frac{x_j - x_k}{j - k} \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N \quad (6)$$

where  $x_j$  and  $x_k$  are considered as data values at time  $j$  and  $k$  ( $j > k$ ) correspondingly. The median of these  $N$  values of  $T_i$  is represented as Sen's estimator of slope which is given as:

$$Q_i = \begin{cases} Q_{\frac{(N+1)}{2}} & N \text{ is odd} \\ \frac{1}{2} \left( Q_{\frac{N}{2}} + Q_{\frac{(N+2)}{2}} \right) & N \text{ is even} \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

At the end,  $Q_{med}$  is computed by a two sided test at 100  $(1-\alpha)\%$  confidence interval and then a true slope can be

obtained by the non-parametric test. Positive value of  $Q_i$  indicates an upward or increasing trend and a negative value of  $Q_i$  gives a downward or decreasing trend in the time series.

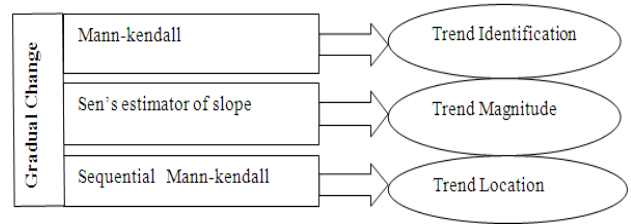


Figure 1: Trend analysis frame work

**3. Results and Discussions**

Table 1: Results of Trend Analysis for Dhaka Station

Available period (1953-2011)	Mean	SD. Deviation	Mann-kendall test value	Sen's T value	P-value	Sen's slope	Sequential MK	Sequential S'
Jan	18.642	2.661	0.136	229.000	0.135	0.001	0.237	17.000
Feb	21.850	2.401	0.273	454.000	0.096	0.029	0.251	18.000
Mar	26.251	1.870	0.212	358.000	0.763	0.017	0.074	4.000
Apr	28.363	1.042	0.116	196.000	0.202	0.010	-0.111	-8.000
May	28.612	0.891	0.103	173.000	0.261	0.008	-0.008	0.000
June	28.591	0.711	0.402	671.000	0.000**	0.022	0.471	33.000
July	28.450	0.481	0.491	821.000	0.000**	0.018	0.700	49.000
Aug	28.623	0.542	0.490	818.000	0.000**	0.020	0.651	46.000
Sep	28.371	0.470	0.371	618.000	0.000**	0.013	0.324	22.000
Oct	27.111	0.623	0.442	738.000	0.000**	0.002	0.500	35.000
Nov	23.543	0.923	0.493	826.000	0.000**	0.033	0.671	47.000
Dec	19.551	0.861	0.431	718.000	0.000**	0.027	0.399	28.000

From the above table 1 we can conclude that most of the months of Dhaka Station show significant trend except January, February, March, April and May show insignificant trend at 5% level of significance. According to

Mann-Kendall test and Sen's T test all months show upward trend. The slope estimates show positive rates of change for these months also.

Table 2: Results of Trend Analysis for Chittagong Station

Available period (1948-2011)	Mean	SD. Deviation	Mann-kendall test value	Sen's T value	P-value	Sen's slope	Sequential MK	Sequential S'
Jan	19.691	0.684	0.022	35.000	0.819	0	-0.149	-11.000
Feb	22.064	0.756	0.165	268.000	0.073	0.012	0.250	18.000
Mar	25.590	0.717	0.143	233.000	0.119	0.010	-0.083	-6.000
Apr	27.813	0.815	0.066	108.000	0.472	0.005	-0.136	-10.000
May	28.634	0.646	-0.049	-80.000	0.595	-0.003	-0.010	-1.000
June	28.053	0.634	0.220	353.000	0.018**	0.011	0.172	12.000
July	27.687	0.500	0.343	549.000	0.000**	0.012	0.293	21.000
Aug	27.848	1.054	0.320	517.000	0.001**	0.016	0.273	19.000
Sep	28.004	0.445	0.281	450.000	0.002**	0.011	0.251	17.000
Oct	27.405	0.564	0.317	510.000	0.001**	0.015	0.212	15.000
Nov	24.442	0.957	0.358	583.000	0.000**	0.029	0.425	30.000
Dec	20.708	0.865	0.296	479.000	0.001**	0.021	0.104	7.000

From the above table 2 we can conclude that most of the months of Chittagong Station show significant trend except January, February, March, April and May show insignificant trend at 5% level of significance. According to

Mann-Kendall test and Sen's T test all months show upward trend. The slope estimates show positive rates of change for these months also.

*Table 3: Result of Trend Analysis of Rajshahi Station*

Available period (1964-2011)	Mean	SD. Deviation	Mann-kendall test value	Sen's T value	P-value	Sen's slope	Sequential MK	Sequential S'
Jan	16.948	1.168	-0.394	-440.000	0.000**	-0.05	-0.521	-37.000
Feb	20.138	1.132	-0.072	-80.000	0.482	-0.008	-0.090	-6.000
Mar	25.276	1.280	-0.026	-29.000	0.803	-0.004	-0.111	-8.000
Apr	29.151	1.388	-0.146	-163.000	0.149	-0.017	-0.354	-25.000
May	29.456	1.404	-0.110	-123.000	0.278	-0.016	-0.186	-14.000
June	29.219	0.792	0.064	71.000	0.533	0.005	-0.046	-3.000
July	28.615	0.508	0.289	318.000	0.005**	0.016	0.352	24.000
Aug	28.740	0.435	0.393	429.000	0.000**	0.018	0.602	42.000
Sep	28.402	0.452	0.046	50.000	0.662	0	0.104	7.000
Oct	26.771	0.696	-0.139	-153.000	0.175	-0.009	-0.139	-10.000
Nov	22.738	0.899	-0.113	-125.000	0.270	-0.01	-0.056	-4.000
Dec	18.340	0.905	-0.108	-120.000	0.289	-0.009	-0.061	-4.000

From the above table 3 we can conclude that three months (January, July and August) of Rajshahi Station show significant trend and remaining months show insignificant trend at 5% level of significance. According to

Mann-Kendall test and Sen's T test June, July, August and September show upward trend. The slope estimates show positive rates of change for these months also. Only one month (September) indicates no trend.

*Table 4: Results of Trend Analysis for Khulna Station*

Available period (1948-2011)	Mean	SD. Deviation	Mann-kendall test value	Sen's T value	P-value	Sen's slope	Sequential MK	Sequential S'
Jan	18.578	1.093	-0.192	-347.00	0.031**	-0.017	-0.194	-23.00
Feb	21.900	1.092	0.090	163.00	0.313	0.009	0.135	16.00
Mar	26.495	1.186	0.098	178.00	0.270	0.009	0.079	9.00
Apr	29.314	1.178	-0.070	-125.00	0.439	-0.004	-0.055	-7.00
May	29.874	0.975	-0.072	-130.00	0.421	-0.005	-0.182	-21.00
June	29.254	0.657	0.119	214.00	0.184	0.006	0.147	17.00
July	28.448	0.599	0.458	821.00	0.000**	0.019	0.585	68.00
Aug	28.557	0.509	0.490	871.00	0.000**	0.019	0.593	70.00
Sep	28.432	0.496	0.370	656.00	0.000**	0.013	0.482	56.00
Oct	27.319	1.212	0.199	356.00	0.027**	0.011	0.193	23.00
Nov	23.892	1.112	0.283	511.00	0.001**	0.023	0.325	39.00
Dec	19.738	1.005	0.031	56.00	0.732	0.002	0.019	2.00

From the above table 4 we can conclude that six months (January, July, August, September, October, November) of Khulna Station show significant trend. According to Mann-Kendall test and Sen's T test almost all months show

upward trend except January, April and May. The slope estimates show positive rates of change for these months also.

**Table 5: Results of Trend Analysis of Barishal Station**

Available period (1949-2011)	Mean	SD. Deviation	Mann-kendall test value	Sen's T value	P-value	Sen's slope	Sequential MK	Sequential S'
Jan	18.682	2.761	-0.351	-625.000	0.002**	-0.031	-0.380	-45.000
Feb	21.562	1.123	-0.009	-17.000	0.921	0	0.105	11.000
Mar	25.981	1.101	-0.054	-82.000	0.614	-0.003	-0.004	-1.000
Apr	28.431	1.011	-0.091	-156.000	0.334	-0.007	0.032	4.000
May	29.122	0.791	-0.182	-315.000	0.050	0.013	-0.271	-32.000
June	28.631	0.642	-0.012	-21.000	0.901	0	0.047	18.000
July	27.911	0.464	0.123	214.000	0.183	0.004	0.166	2.000
Aug	28.192	0.471	0.185	328.000	0.040**	0.006	0.204	24.000
Sep	28.213	0.480	-0.101	-180.000	0.264	-0.003	-0.136	-16.000
Oct	27.600	0.428	0.026	2.000	0.951	0.006	0.333	2.000
Nov	23.661	0.936	0.067	120.000	0.458	0.005	0.108	13.000
Dec	19.511	0.999	-0.201	-361.000	0.025**	-0.051	-0.14	-17.000

From the above table 5, we can conclude that according to Mann-Kendall test and Sen's T test most of the months of Barishal Station show decreasing trend. But January,

August and December show significant trend at 5% level of significance. The slope estimates show positive rates of change for some months

**Table 6: Results of Trend Analysis of Sylhet Station**

Available period (1956-2011)	Mean	SD. Deviation	Mann-kendall test value	Sen's T value	P-value	Sen's slope	Sequential MK	Sequential S'
Jan	18.159	1.375	0.139	204.000	0.140	0.01	0.262	56.000
Feb	20.678	2.584	0.168	247.000	0.074	0.021	0.216	46.000
Mar	24.133	0.968	0.043	63.000	0.652	0.004	-0.020	-4.000
Apr	25.888	1.051	0.018	26.000	0.856	0	-0.005	-1.000
May	26.686	0.996	0.128	188.000	0.174	0.012	0.108	23.000
June	27.230	0.623	0.256	382.000	0.005**	0.015	0.184	39.000
July	27.627	0.583	0.196	286.000	0.038**	0.012	0.206	44.000
Aug	27.885	0.597	0.293	426.000	0.002**	0.016	0.291	62.000
Sep	27.502	0.634	0.234	341.000	0.013**	0.015	0.211	44.000
Oct	26.167	0.713	0.384	561.000	0.000**	0.026	0.429	92.000
Nov	33.185	2.149	0.325	475.000	0.001**	0.025	0.367	78.000
Dec	19.316	0.778	0.398	582.000	0.000**	0.026		

From the above table 6, we can conclude that most of the months of Sylhet Station show significant trend except January, February, March, April and May show insignificant trend at 5% level of significance. According to

Mann-Kendall test and Sen's T test all months show upward trend. The slope estimates show positive rates of change for these months also.

**Table 7:** Results of Trend Analysis of Rangpur Station

Available period (1954-2011)	Mean	SD. Deviation	Mann-kendall test value	Sen's T value	P-value	Sen's slope	Sequential MK	Sequential S'
Jan	16.600	3.182	0.043	65.00	0.651	0.003	-0.010	-1.00
Feb	19.224	2.846	0.296	451.00	0.001**	0.033	0.261	18.00
Mar	23.555	2.490	0.218	332.00	0.019**	0.031	0.194	14.00
Apr	26.419	2.607	-0.095	-146.00	0.305	-0.017	-0.083	-6.00
May	27.169	2.224	0.106	161.00	0.257	0.012	0.189	14.00
June	28.258	2.307	0.155	234.00	0.099	0.009	0.212	15.00
July	28.220	1.950	0.270	408.00	0.004**	0.020	0.296	21.00
Aug	28.524	1.871	0.251	390.00	0.007**	0.014	0.344	24.00
Sep	27.861	1.843	0.175	265.00	0.062	0.013	0.020	2.00
Oct	26.392	2.480	0.118	179.00	0.207	0.008	0.091	7.00
Nov	22.295	2.329	0.337	510.00	0.000**	0.029	0.548	39.00
Dec	18.449	2.853	0.178	271.00	0.056	0.017	0.250	18.00

From the above table 7, we can conclude that five months (February, March, July, August, and November) of Rangpur Station show significant trend and remaining months (January, April, May, June, September, October, and December) show insignificant trend at 5% level of significance. According to Mann-Kendall test and Sen's T test almost all months show upward trend except April. The slope estimates show positive rates of change for these months also.

#### 4. Conclusion

In present study, we analyze the temperature data for more than 50 years based on their data availability for divisional city like Dhaka, Barishal, Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi, Sylhet and Rangpur. That means depends on the result in terms of geographical location we can conclude the overall comments for hydro-meteorological scenario in Bangladesh. We know that Bangladesh is Agri-based country, so most of the people maintain their income depends on agricultural activities. However, each and every activities of agriculture highly correlated with weather component like temperature and rainfall. In this study we try to find out pattern or trend of temperature in 7 divisional cities. The Zc value of MK Test represents both positive and negative trend in the area. Sen's Slope is also indicating increasing and decreasing magnitude of slope in correspondence with the Mann-Kendall Test values. Majority of the months of the stations show upward trend along with some significant values. Some of the months show no trend by the value of the slope estimator. Further, study of the area may reveal other aspects which will be helpful in controlling flood, global warming and taking necessary action for agriculture activities in this particular area.

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