

1 Developing a Geologically-Based V_{S30} Site-Conditions
2 Model for Portugal: Methodology and Assessment of
3 the Performance of Proxies

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10 The electronic supplement to this paper contains the V_{S30} database flat-file
11 developed and used in the context of the paper.

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13 **Abstract**

14 The inclusion of site-specific conditions is essential to adequately represent the seismic haz-
15 ard and the seismic risk for a region. We acquired, gathered and organized a near surface
16 shear-wave velocity database for Portugal, and applied a three-step methodological approach
17 for developing a V_{S30} site-conditions map using extrapolation based on surface geology. The
18 methodology includes: 1) defining a preliminary set of geologically defined units; 2) calculat-
19 ing the probability distribution of $\log V_{S30}$ for each unit; and 3) merging the units according
20 to the results of statistical tests. The final model comprises three geologically defined units
21 characterized by $\log V_{S30}$ distributions that are statistically significantly different from each
22 other: F1 - Igneous, metamorphic and old sedimentary rocks; F2 - Neogene and Pleistocene
23 formations; and F3 - Holocene formations. The site conditions for F3 unit may be fur-
24 ther refined using correlations with topographic slope based on the SRTM3 dataset. We
25 analysed the performance site-conditions models based on correlations with exogenous data
26 (topographic slope and surface geology analogues). The results show that the residual dis-
27 tributions between $\log V_{S30}$ values measured and estimated from those proxies are strongly
28 biased for some geological units, emphasizing the need for acquiring regional V_S data.

29 Introduction

30 Earthquake ground motion maps such as seismic hazard maps or instrumental intensity maps
31 provide critical information for a variety of societal applications. They support decision-
32 making processes that include the development of regulatory legislation, the estimation
33 of insurance rates, land-use planning and emergency planning. Since local site conditions
34 strongly affect the characteristics of ground motion, estimating first-order site-conditions at
35 the regional scale is essential for improving the information delivered by such maps.

36 The importance of the near-surface shear-wave velocity (V_S) structure on ground motion
37 amplification is supported by both theoretical considerations (e.g., Aki and Richards, 1980;
38 Stein and Wysession, 2009) and observational studies (e.g., Joyner *et al.*, 1981; Borchardt,
39 1994). Within unbounded and homogeneous media V_S is proportional to the square root
40 of the quotient between the shear modulus and the density of the medium. Both the shear
41 modulus and the density tend to increase with depth and the overall tendency of V_S is to
42 decrease as the waves propagate from depth towards the surface. This reduction of V_S has
43 important implications for the conservation of elastic energy. For vertically propagating SH
44 waves in an elastic medium the energy flux is given by the product of density and V_S (seismic
45 impedance) and the particle velocity squared (e.g., Aki and Richards, 1980). Because the
46 conservation of energy requires the flux to remain constant, the decrease of impedance needs
47 to be compensated by the increase in particle velocity and therefore amplitude of the seismic
48 wave. This effect is however partially counteracted by that of anelastic attenuation, which
49 tends to be greater on soft soils (e.g., Reiter, 1990; Kramer, 1996).

50 The modification of ground motion by site-conditions, usually referred to as site-effects,
51 includes local ground response, basin effects, and topographic effects (e.g., Stewart *et al.*,
52 2001; Kamai *et al.*, 2016). Local ground response represents the effects of the variation of
53 the physical properties of the near-surface materials on nearly-vertically propagating SH
54 waves. In local ground response abrupt changes in medium impedance at depth result in
55 large amplification at specific frequency ranges of ground motion (resonance). Both basin

56 and topographic effects refer to the influence of 2-D or 3-D geometric configurations on the
57 propagation of seismic waves, and its importance, which can be large, is usually restricted
58 to specific locations. Although the detailed study of site-effects is essential for site-specific
59 studies, regional assessments must necessarily rely on simplified approaches.

60 Joyner *et al.* (1981) proposed the use of a quantitative V_S -based parameter for a simplified
61 representation of site conditions the V_S corresponding to the depth associated with one
62 quarter-wavelength at the period of interest. Due to the economical constraints associated
63 with obtaining data at the required depths this measure has been superseded by the use of
64 the time averaged V_S to 30 m depth, given by

$$V_{S30} = \frac{30}{\sum t_i} \quad (1)$$

65 where t_i is the travelttime of the S wave within each layer up to the depth of 30 m.

66 Borcherdt (1994), based on previous empirical work, recommended the use of V_{S30} for
67 classifying sites for building codes and the parameter is included in both in the National
68 Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (NEHRP) seismic design provisions (e.g., BSSC,
69 2004) and in the Eurocode 8 (CEN, 2004).

70 Because V_{S30} is strongly correlated with deeper velocity structures (Boore, 2004; Boore *et al.*,
71 2011) it has been shown to describe site-effects at ground motion frequencies corresponding
72 to wavelengths much longer than 30 m (Stewart *et al.*, 2014).

73 V_{S30} has increasingly become the reference parameter for classifying site conditions in
74 several applications. It is currently used for characterizing site-conditions in ground motion
75 prediction equations, and for modeling ground motion amplification in both seismic hazard
76 maps and instrumental intensity maps. It has long been known that V_{S30} present several lim-
77 itations as a site-conditions parameter (e.g. Castellaro *et al.*, 2008). Additional parameters,
78 such as the natural frequency of the site, are being investigated for improving the regional
79 site characterization in a variety of applications (e.g. Cadet *et al.*, 2010; Motazedian *et al.*,
80 2011; Hassani and Atkinson, 2016).

81 Developing V_{S30} Site-Conditions Maps

82 Estimating spatially-continuous variables from discrete datasets requires either the corre-
83 lation with spatially extensive datasets or the application of extrapolation or interpolation
84 techniques.

85 Surface geology-derived classification schemes have been used to produce regional V_S site
86 conditions maps based on rock type and/or geological age (e.g., Tinsley and Fumal, 1985;
87 Park and Elrick, 1998; Wills and Silva, 1998). The correlation between V_S and geologic units
88 relies on the fact that V_S depends on physical properties of the materials such as density,
89 porosity, cementation, and fracture spacing.

90 Wills and Silva (1998) correlated V_{S30} data with geologic units in California and extrap-
91 olated based on surface geology in order to obtain a statewide map of V_{S30} . That approach
92 has been further refined by using depositional environment and geographic criteria as addi-
93 tional constraints (Wills and Clahan, 2006; Wills *et al.*, 2000). Similar approaches have been
94 also used for the state of Utah (e.g., Ashland and McDonald, 2003; McDonald and Ashland,
95 2008).

96 Park and Elrick (1998) developed a geologically-based (V_{S30}) map for the southern Cal-
97 ifornia region. Their approach differs from that of Wills and Silva (1998) in that their goal
98 was to achieve the simplest model supported by the dataset. To attain that objective they
99 used statistical tests (the t-test and the Komolgorov-Smirnov test) to justify the subdivision
100 of an initial set of geological units, if statistically significant.

101 The most extensively used V_{S30} extrapolation method is however that based on topo-
102 graphic slope. The approach, which has been introduced by Wald and Allen (2007), relies
103 on the correlation of V_{S30} measurements and the topographic slope for both regions of active
104 tectonics and stable tectonics. Although there is no explicit physical relationship connecting
105 V_{S30} and topographic slope, it is expected that the later will relate to different geomorphologic
106 environments and lithology in a broad sense, since more competent high-velocity materials
107 can maintain a steep-slope, whereas fine basin sediments will be deposited in nearly-flat

108 basins. The main advantage of the method is that since topographic data are globally avail-
109 able, a V_{S30} model can be derived for any region. One of the limitations of the model is that
110 it is not expected to be effective in regions of flat-lying rocks.

111 When dense V_S datasets are available and the values are spatially correlated geostatistical
112 interpolation tools can be used to develop spatially-continuous V_{S30} models. Thompson *et al.*
113 (2007) employed such an approach for mapping V_{S10} in the San Francisco Bay Area, finding
114 spatial horizontal correlations on the order of 4 km.

115 Thompson *et al.* (2014) presented a framework that combines surface geology maps with
116 topographic data for developing V_{S30} maps. Their approach is based on identifying trends
117 between surface-geology derived V_{S30} residuals and topographic slope. The results show that
118 both Quaternary alluvium and Pleistocene sedimentary units exhibit trends with topographic
119 gradient. They applied a kriging-with-a-trend technique to obtain a final V_{S30} map for
120 California.

121 The terrain-based classification is an automatic procedure developed by Iwahashi and Pike
122 (2007) and relies on the development of a set of geomorphic categories based on gradient,
123 convexity and surface texture, using an automatic procedure. This methodology has been
124 applied to characterize V_{S30} in California with promising results (Yong *et al.*, 2012).

125 Due to the scarceness of shear-wave velocity data in most regions, models developed for
126 data-rich regions have been employed to estimate site conditions elsewhere. In particular,
127 the topographic slope method has become the standard way for incorporating site effects
128 into regional studies worldwide given the convenience provided by the global V_{S30} server
129 (Allen and Wald (2007); see Data and Resources).

130 Lemoine *et al.* (2012) evaluated the performance of the topographic slope method for
131 stable and active regions of Europe using the V_{S30} dataset compiled in the context of project
132 SHARE (Seismic Hazard Harmonization in Europe). The results show that while the method
133 provided better estimates than pure randomness for active regions that was not the case for
134 stable continental regions. Lemoine *et al.* (2012), however, acknowledged the fact that their

135 analysis for stable continental was based on a very limited dataset.

136 Stewart *et al.* (2014) compiled and analyzed a large V_S dataset for Greece. They propose
137 a framework for estimating V_{S30} for sites in Greece based on geology and slope. They
138 recommend both the geology-slope approach and the terrain approach of Yong *et al.* (2012)
139 over the slope approach of Wald and Allen (2007). They nevertheless acknowledge that the
140 latter is probably the only available approach for many regions of the world.

141 Project SCENE, funded by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT),
142 aimed at gathering and acquiring shear-wave velocity profiles in diverse lithological and geo-
143 logical formations in Portugal, in order to 1) characterize sites where strong-motion stations
144 are deployed and 2) develop a regional site conditions map to be used in seismic hazard
145 maps.

146 In this paper we focus on the methodological approach used for developing a statistically
147 robust site-conditions map for Portugal. The database includes 160 V_S profiles and is the
148 largest published for stable continental regions, making it particularly suited to test the
149 applicability of proxies based on exogenous V_S empirical correlation.

150 **Brief Tectonic and Geological Setting of the Study Re-** 151 **gion**

152 The study area, Portugal, is located in the western region of the Iberian Peninsula, within
153 the Eurasian tectonic plate (Figure 1a). It is defined as a stable continental region ac-
154 cording to the geological criteria proposed by Johnston (1989), and displays moderate seis-
155 micity rates (e.g., Custódio *et al.*, 1996). The seismic record for Portugal includes several
156 intraplate earthquakes with magnitude estimates in the **M6.0 – M7.3** range, both historical
157 (Vilanova and Fonseca, 2007; Stucchi *et al.*, 2013) and pre-historical (Rockwell *et al.*, 2009;
158 Canora *et al.*, 2015). Western Iberia is also affected to some extent by the large to great
159 interplate earthquakes nucleating in the Azores-Gibraltar plate boundary, such as the $M_S7.8$

160 1969 earthquake (Fukao, 1973) and the M8.5–M8.7 1755 Lisbon earthquake (e.g., Johnston,
161 1996; Vilanova *et al.*, 2003; Martínez Solares and López Arroyo, 2004; Fonseca, 2005).

162 Portugal displays in general moderate hazard levels ($0.1 \text{ g} \leq \text{PGA} \leq 0.25 \text{ g}$ for 10%
163 exceedance probability in 50 years) according to the 2013 European Seismic Hazard Map
164 (Woessner *et al.*, 2015). This result is consistent with the previous regional study by Vilanova and Fonseca
165 (2007).

166 The basement of the Iberian Peninsula, known as the Hesperic Massif, or Iberian Massif,
167 is composed of igneous and metamorphic rocks of Paleozoic and Precambrian ages, which
168 have been accreted together during the Paleozoic. The Hesperic massif represents the largest
169 continuous exposure of the Variscan Orogen in Europe. Above this cratonic block several
170 basins developed in both the western and southern margins as a consequence of the rifting
171 episodes that, during the Mesozoic, led to the opening of the Atlantic Ocean and the Tethys
172 Ocean. These basins have been further deformed and inverted during subsequent compressive
173 tectonics in the Eocene (Pyrenean Orogeny) and Miocene (Africa-Eurasia collision). Further
174 details on the geology and geological evolution of the region can be found, for instance, in
175 Ribeiro *et al.* (1979), Pinheiro *et al.* (1996) and references therein.

176 **Data and Methods**

177 Both invasive and non-invasive methods can be employed to characterize the near-surface
178 structure of the shear-wave velocity. Determining the shear-wave velocity using invasive
179 methods involves directly measuring the wave travel-time to a range of depths. Non-invasive
180 methods involve the acquisition of waves at the surface and require the use of an inversion
181 algorithm and/or forward modeling to resolve the structure at depth.

182 Although invasive methods are well known and highly reliable, the non-invasive ap-
183 proaches are significantly less costly. The latter also have the advantage of providing a more
184 spatially extensive sample of the subsurface. Comparisons between invasive and non-invasive

185 data at same sites show that, in general, compatible velocity structures or V_{S30} values are
186 obtained (e.g., Xia *et al.*, 2002; Williams *et al.*, 2003; Scott *et al.*, 2006; Boore and Asten,
187 2008). Moss (2008) evaluated the intramethod uncertainty in measuring V_{S30} from different
188 techniques both invasive and non-invasive reporting coefficients of variation on the order of
189 1%-3% for invasive techniques and 5%-6% for non-invasive techniques.

190 **Seismic Refraction**

191 We used seismic refraction as the main tool for characterizing the shear-wave subsurface
192 structure at the selected locations. The seismic refraction is a widely known and applied
193 method in geophysics. It uses active seismic sources at the surface and involves measuring
194 the travel times of the seismic waves as they travel from the source towards a set of aligned
195 receivers. Assuming that wave velocity increases with depth, at some distance from the
196 source the direct waves will be overcome by the critically refracted waves at the first layer
197 interface. Likewise, at greater distances the waves refracted at deeper layers will overcome
198 those refracted above. Due to its underlying assumptions, the method cannot detect velocity
199 inversions with depth. However, some indications of the presence of a velocity inversion
200 or hidden layer may be obtained using interpretation methods (e.g. Palmer, 1981) or well
201 control.

202 Within the scope of project SCENE thirty sites where strong motion stations are installed
203 have been characterized using this technique. The surveys were performed, in general, within
204 200 m from the stations and within the same geologic unit, according to geological maps and
205 field inspections. The SCENE shear-wave database also includes a significant amount of
206 shear-wave refraction data available from FCT project NEFITAG using the same method-
207 ological approach. We used as shear-wave source a 3 m long wood beam, coupled to the
208 ground with a four-wheel drive, and stricken on both sides by a sledgehammer, in order to
209 allow data corroboration and to eliminate P-wave contamination (Hasbrouck, 1991). Two
210 shots were performed at both ends (minimum offset distance of 1.75 m) of the array and

211 three shots within the array. The recording system consisted of a linear array of 24 40-Hz
212 horizontal receivers and 24 50-Hz vertical receivers spaced 3.5 m apart. The overall length
213 of the array, which constrains the depth reached by the survey, was 84 m.

214 The data interpretation was performed with commercial software relying on the gener-
215 alized reciprocal method (Palmer, 1981) and slope intercept method, and the method of
216 Haeni *et al.* (1987). The latter uses delay-times for constraining a first preliminary velocity
217 model, followed by three iterations of ray tracing and minimization of residuals by least
218 squares. The results are a 2-D V_S cross section. Further details on both the survey and
219 data interpretation can be found on Carvalho *et al.*, unpublished report, 2017, see Data and
220 Resources;

221 A total of 61 V_S depth sections have been acquired using this methodological approach.
222 In general we are confident to have reached 30 m deep in the seismic sections. In many
223 cases we were actually able to identify interfaces deeper than 30 m, which demonstrates that
224 both the source used and the equipment setup allowed for the 30 m to be reached. However,
225 investigation depth depends on the velocity distribution at each site. Therefore, we compared
226 our interpretations with other available information such as borehole data in the vicinity of
227 the profiles. The vertical resolution in seismic refraction data is usually accepted to vary
228 between 10% to 20% of the reflector’s depth or one quarter of the wavelength (e.g., Briaud
229 (2013), page 155). Therefore using the described procedure we are not expected to detect
230 layers thinner than around 3 m (except the uppermost layer) and around 6 m at 20 – 30 m
231 deep. The lateral resolution is typically around 1/2 to 1 of the spacing between receivers,
232 which corresponds to about 2 – 3 m.

233 **Multichannel Analysis of Surface Waves**

234 The use of surface-wave methodologies to estimate the V_S depth structure of a site relies
235 on the dispersive characteristics of Rayleigh-type surface waves traveling through a hetero-
236 geneous medium. The velocity of this type of waves depends on the mechanical properties

237 of the propagation medium. Since lower frequencies and long wavelength waves penetrate
238 deeper into the material than high frequency and short wavelength waves, their velocities
239 will reflect the differences in the mechanical properties of the volumes they travel through.
240 Because more information is available for the upper layers, these are better constrained than
241 the deeper ones.

242 The dispersion curve is obtained by converting the data to frequency domain and by
243 identifying the different propagation modes. An inversion algorithm is then applied for ob-
244 taining a V_S structure compatible with the experimental dispersion curve. The multichannel
245 analysis of surface wave technique (MASW) (Gabriels *et al.*, 1987; Park *et al.*, 1999) uses
246 an array of receivers to record the seismic wave-field produced by an active source. The
247 refraction microtremor technique (ReMi) (Louie, 2001) employs a similar approach but with
248 passive sources.

249 In spite of the inherent non-uniqueness associated with MASW results several studies
250 have shown that different profiles that fit a particular dispersion curve lead to similar V_{S30}
251 values (e.g. Comina *et al.*, 2011).

252 Seven sites have been analyzed using MASW methodology. We used a 10 kg sledgeham-
253 mer striking a metal plate as source, and the acquisition system was composed of a 48 m long
254 line with 24 vertical 4.6 Hz geophones spaced 2 m apart. Ten shots were performed at both
255 ends of the acquisition line with an offset of 2 m. We used 2 s long recording intervals with
256 a sampling rate of 1 ms. Several separate acquisitions were performed in order to evaluate
257 the uncertainty in determining the dispersion curve. In some cases, considering the geologi-
258 cal setting and the site-specific characteristics, different line configurations were tried. The
259 data processing and inversion was performed with the SWAN software (Geostudi Astier)
260 although software Dinver (Wathelet *et al.*, 2004; Wathelet, 2008) was used for comparison.
261 The software SWAN uses an automatic inversion algorithm that allows for an iterative trial
262 and error fit to the dispersion curve. The Dinver algorithm searches the space of solutions by
263 minimizing a misfit curve. The final model was built using the best-fit models together with

264 additional constraints rendered by geological and geotechnical information in the vicinity of
265 the profiles, and some degree of expert judgment with respect to the velocity of the deeper
266 layers.

267 **Invasive Measurements**

268 The seismic cone penetrometer test (SCPTu) is an invasive methodology for directly mea-
269 suring V_S at specific depths. The probe introduced into the soils contains seismic receiver
270 that records the shear wave travel time from a source located at the surface to the recording
271 depth, as in a downhole test. In four sites located within soft sediments we used SCPTu
272 methodology to determine V_S subsurface structure. We used a single receiver seismic cone
273 and the data was interpreted using the cross-correlation method. The seismic signal was
274 acquired and processed using commercial software provided by the manufacturer of the equip-
275 ment (See Data and Resources). Measurements were performed every meter until reaching
276 stiff material, which occurred within the depth range of 22 – 26 m.

277 **Other Available Data**

278 We included in the database V_S information available from both the literature and un-
279 published technical reports using a variety of methodologies: seismic refraction (24 sites,
280 Carvalho *et al.* (2008), Carvalho *et al.* (2009)), MASW (56 sites, Lopes (2005), Lopes *et al.*
281 (2005), Santos (2011), Fontoura (2013), and unpublished surveys performed in the context
282 of service provisions and scientific projects provided by Rui Moura), and ReMi (8 sites,
283 Carvalho *et al.* (2016)). In general, the depths of the profiles included in the database range
284 from 20 – 30 m. However, for some seismic refraction sections the deepest mapped interface
285 is shallower than 15 m, raising questions about the actual depth of the models.

286 The shear-wave database presently consists of 160 profiles or sections from a variety of
287 lithological/geological formations. From these, about 40% have been acquired within the
288 framework of projects SCENE and NEFITAG, and more than 50% have been estimated

289 using the seismic refraction method. Figure 1b shows the distribution of V_{S30} values in the
290 database. Figure 1c and Figure 1d show, respectively, the geographic distribution of sites
291 sorted by the geologically defined unit and by the methodology used to characterize the V_S
292 depth structure.

293 **Developing the Database Flat-File**

294 In this section we describe the procedures employed in the parametrization of the V_{S30}
295 database. The corresponding flat-file is available as Table S1 in the electronic supplement
296 to this article.

297 **Calculating V_{S30} and Associated Variability**

298 As discussed previously, for seismic refraction data acquired within the scope of projects
299 SCENE and NEFITAG, we are confident that the V_S models extend to 30 m deep. However,
300 since the seismic refraction method maps the interfaces between subsurface layers character-
301 ized by different seismic velocities, unless an interface has been actually detected below 30 m,
302 one cannot be totally sure that a depth of 30 m has been reached for a particular section.
303 To evaluate the impact of this uncertainty in the V_{S30} distributions we combined the use of
304 a best-case scenario in which we assumed that all sections reached 30 m (e.g., we assumed
305 constant extrapolation V_{S30C}), with that of a worst-case scenario in which we assumed that
306 the deepest interface roughly corresponds to the maximum depth of the model. In the latter
307 case we use an extrapolation method to obtain V_{S30} from V_{SZ} (V_{S30z}). We used the same
308 approach for profiles whose V_S model is shallower than 30 m. Overall, only about 11% of the
309 profiles are suspected to have depth models that do not reach 15 m deep.

310 **Assuming constant extrapolation down to 30 m deep (V_{S30c})**

311 To calculate the value of V_{S30} for each site included in the database we proceeded as follows.
312 For seismic refraction sections acquired in the context of projects SCENE and NEFITAG we
313 used the values of the 2D velocity models at the receivers locations and calculated the V_{S30}
314 according to equation (1) assuming that all V_S models reached 30 m depth.

315 We then calculated the log-average value for the section. We used the log-average instead
316 of the arithmetic mean because of our underlying assumption that V_{S30} follows a lognormal
317 distribution (see section Developing a geologically-based V_{S30} model for Portugal). Using
318 the arithmetic mean leads, however, to very similar values of V_{S30} .

319 The 2D sections obtained within the scope of previous refraction campaigns (Carvalho *et al.*,
320 2008, 2009) have been graphically interpolated at five locations within the acquisition line
321 because the original data files have been lost. Then, the same procedure previously described
322 for 2-D sections has been applied. For all available seismic refraction sections we calculated
323 the standard deviation associated with the log V_{S30} value at each site. This provides a mea-
324 sure of the spatial variability of V_{S30} associated with the sites.

325 For the MASW-based measurements we calculated the V_{S30} using the preferred final
326 profile, using constant extrapolation when required to reach the depth of 30 m. We calculated
327 the standard deviation of log V_{S30} at each site by using a set of automatically inverted best-fit
328 profiles as a measure of the variability associated with the methodology.

329 The log-average has been calculated for the profiles presented by Carvalho *et al.* (2016)
330 for each single site analyzed with the refraction microtremor technique. In this case the
331 associated standard deviation provides a measure of the uncertainty associated with the
332 technique.

333 At last, for sites analyzed with different methodological approaches, V_{S30} was calculated
334 for each method as described previously and the final V_{S30} value for the site was log-averaged.

335 In a few sites we had reservations regarding the results of some measurements due to
336 specific difficulties faced during acquisition or analysis. This was the case for seismic re-

337 fraction section at SC-VFX and multichannel analysis of surface waves profile at SC-BEJ.
338 The corresponding V_S structures were not further considered in the analysis. The standard
339 deviation of $\log V_{S30}$ at sites characterized by multiple techniques provides an estimate of
340 the inter-method variability.

341 **Using Extrapolations Based on V_{SZ} (V_{S30z})**

342 We checked the applicability of the relationship proposed by Boore (2004) and Boore *et al.*
343 (2011) to extrapolate V_{S30} from shallower velocity structures, based on data from California
344 and Japan, respectively, to our data. The relationships are based on the parameter V_{SZ} ,
345 which represents the time averaged V_S to the depth z , and is given by

$$V_{SZ} = \frac{z}{\sum t_{iz}} \quad (2)$$

346 where t_{iz} is the travel time within each layer up to the depth z .

347 We calculated V_{SZ} for profiles reaching 30 m deep for $z = 10, 15, 20$, and 25 m. In the
348 seismic refraction data we assumed that profiles exhibiting interfaces at depth $z > 25$ m did
349 reach 30 m depth. Refraction profiles that reached high values of V_S , typical of bedrock,
350 have also been included. Profiles obtained with other methodologies were included only
351 if the model explicitly reached a depth of 30 m. V_{S30} is plotted as a function of V_{SZ} in
352 Figure 2, together with the relationships proposed for California (Boore, 2004) and for Japan
353 (Boore *et al.*, 2011). The results indicate that the relationships developed for California are
354 more suited to represent the trends of regional data than those for Japan, in particular in
355 what concerns the shallower depths considered ($z = 10$, and 15 m). We therefore consider
356 the functional forms proposed by Boore (2004) to extrapolate the profiles that may have not
357 reached 30 m depth.

358 **Classifying the Surface Geology**

359 The site classification was performed using the 1:50.000 scale geological maps published by
360 Serviços Geológicos de Portugal. If that scale was not available we used the 1:200.000 scale
361 geological maps. In few locations the only available geological map was at the 1:500.000
362 scale.

363 The consistency of the maps was a problem in particular for the southernmost region of
364 Portugal. In some cases the same unit was attributed a different geological age in adjacent
365 maps. We corrected the units according to the 1:200.000 scale geological map, which was
366 consistent throughout the region, and a comment was introduced in the flat-file. This type
367 of inconsistency has been also reported by Stewart *et al.* (2014) for Greece.

368 **Calculating the Topographic Slope**

369 Following Wald and Allen (2007) we calculated the topographic-slope associated with each
370 site in the database using the Generic Mapping Tools slope function *gradgradient*; Wessel and Smith
371 (1991). We used freely available topographic data sets from the Shuttle Radar Topography
372 Mission at 30 arcsec resolution (SRTM30) and at 3 arcsec resolution (SRTM3)(see Data and
373 Resources). The topographic-slope value for each site was calculated using the nearest neigh-
374 bor interpolation.

375 **Developing a geologically-based V_{S30} model for Portugal**

376 In this section we describe the methodological approach used for deriving a V_{S30} site condi-
377 tion model for Portugal using extrapolation based on surface geology. Our objective was to
378 estimate the most accurate model statistically supported by the dataset. To accomplish this
379 goal we followed an iterative three-step procedure which consisted of 1) defining a prelimi-
380 nary set of geologically defined units based on the literature; 2) estimating the probability
381 distribution of $\log V_{S30}$ for each of those units; and 3) performing statistical tests in order

382 to estimate the statistical significance of the difference in the $\log V_{S30}$ distribution charac-
383 teristics between the units. The units were merged according to the results of the statistical
384 tests and the procedure was repeated.

385 It has been debated whether V_{S30} or the (decimal) logarithm of V_{S30} ($\log V_{S30}$) should be
386 used as the variable for deriving V_{S30} predicting models. (e.g., Lemoine *et al.*, 2012). The
387 use of $\log V_{S30}$ as a variable assumes that V_{S30} observations follow a lognormal distribution
388 (e.g., Park and Elrick, 1998; Ashland and McDonald, 2003). Boore *et al.* (2011) show that,
389 unlike V_{S30} , $\log V_{S30}$ values in their database follow a normal distribution. This is also the
390 case for our dataset as can be graphically illustrated by the quantile-quantile plot in Figure
391 3. Since most statistical tests require that data are normally distributed we used $\log V_{S30}$ as
392 the dependent variable in our model.

393 The preliminary model consisted of six preliminary geologically defined units that are
394 summarized in Table 1. We used as variables V_{S30c} , in which we assumed constant extrap-
395 olation for all profiles, and V_{S30z} , in which we used the functional forms proposed by Boore
396 (2004) to extrapolate the profiles that did not or may have not reached 30 m depth. Figure
397 4 shows histograms for $\log V_{S30c}$ together with fitted normal distributions for both $\log V_{S30c}$
398 and $\log V_{S30z}$. The dataset is not, in general, significantly affected by uncertainty regarding
399 the extrapolation method for profiles that may have not reached 30 m depth. The unit most
400 affected by this type of uncertainty is P4 (Pliocene formations). The dispersion of data is
401 similar and around 0.2 for every geologically defined unit except P4 ($\sigma = 0.1$). This issue
402 may be related with the relatively lower lithological variety associated with the Pliocene
403 age in the region. However, more data is necessary in order to confirm this hypothesis. In
404 general the $\log V_{S30}$ distributions for each geologically defined unit do not show systematic
405 trends with the data's geographical region.

406 Declustering

407 Attributes measured in clustered datasets may not be representative of those of the pop-
408 ulation since closely spaced observations may exhibit strong spatial autocorrelation (e.g.,
409 De Smith *et al.*, 2015). This issue is particularly relevant for cases where preferential sam-
410 pling applies. In preferential sampling a large number of observations are spatially aggre-
411 gated in regions of interest, where the variable to be analyzed is expected to take consistently
412 high or low values. In these cases population attributes such as the mean values, standard
413 deviation will probably be substantially biased.

414 The database developed for this study includes shear-wave profiles acquired in the con-
415 text of research projects with different aims. For project SCENE, the adopted strategy of
416 acquiring data in the vicinity of sites where strong-motion instruments were installed led to a
417 dataset that is spatially disperse. That is also the case for project NEFITAG, and data from
418 Carvalho *et al.* (2008, 2009, 2016) whose data-acquisition policy aimed at sampling different
419 geological units within relatively large regions. However, in other studies, a relatively small
420 region was extensively sampled, producing datasets that exhibit strong spatial clustering. In
421 particular, data from Santos (2011) are probably affected by preferential sampling since the
422 aim of that study was to map the thickness of altered rocks.

423 Declustering methods are based on the weighting of the sample data in order to account
424 for spatial representativity. Closely spaced observations receive a reduced weight because
425 of its redundancy. Cell declustering and polygonal declustering are the most widely used
426 declustering methods (e.g., Olea, 2007). In polygonal declustering the domain is divided into
427 polygons that define the area of influence of each observation and the attributed weights are
428 proportional to that area. This method has the disadvantage of being extremely sensitive
429 to the location of the domain boundaries (e.g., Olea, 2007; De Smith *et al.*, 2015). In cell
430 declustering (Journel, 1983; Deutsch, 1989; Deutsch and Journel, 1992) a regular grid of cells
431 is superimposed over the data domain and the attributed weights are inversely proportional
432 to the number of observations per cell. Deutsch (2015) discusses the parametrization for cell

433 declustering and proposes that the cell size should be related to the spacing of data in sparse
434 sampled areas. A set of randomly selected locations is usually used for the origin of the cell
435 grid.

436 We evaluated the extent to which spatial clustering or preferential sampling affects the
437 mean value of $\log V_{S30}$. We compared the histograms calculated from both the full dataset
438 and a dataset obtained by using the cell declustering technique. The cell size was chosen on
439 the basis of the average nearest neighbor distance for the sparse areas of the dataset. Cell
440 sizes of 10 km, 15 km and 20 km have been tested with similar results. For each grid size a
441 randomly selected set of 10 grid origins have been used. A square grid size of 10 km was
442 retained for the final analysis.

443 Figure 4 shows the fitted normal distributions for the declustered dataset. The normal
444 distribution fitted to generalized geologic unit P1 shows a significant degree of bias that may
445 be attributed to spatial clustering or preferential sampling. However, the attributes of the
446 remaining generalized geological units are not significantly affected by declustering. For the
447 subsequent analysis we used a declustered version of the dataset assigned to geologic unit
448 P1.

449 **Statistical Tests**

450 The analysis of variance (ANOVA) is a statistical test that is used for assessing whether there
451 are statistical significant differences between the means of a set of independent groups. The
452 method relies on computing the F value, which is the ratio between the variances within and
453 between groups, and determining the corresponding F -distribution under the null hypothesis
454 that data from all groups belong to a common distribution function. A p -value determined
455 from the F -distribution reflects the probability that the calculated F value has occurred by
456 chance. The ANOVA test assumes that 1) the samples are independent, 2) the underlying
457 populations are normally distributed, and 3) the variance of data in groups are homogeneous.
458 Unlike using multiple t-tests, the ANOVA procedure ensures that the final significance level

459 is achieved. If the null hypothesis is rejected one can proceed the analysis using a post-hoc
460 test such as the Tukey-HSD (Honestly Significant Difference). The Tukey-HSD approach
461 uses the Studentized Range distribution to evaluate which group's means are significantly
462 different from each other. The test computes the value q , which is the difference between the
463 means divided by the standard deviation, for all pairwise comparisons. The corresponding
464 p -value is obtained by comparing that value with Studentized Range distribution for the null
465 hypothesis.

466 **Results**

467 We tested the null hypothesis for the independent variable $\log V_{S30}$ distributed by six groups,
468 corresponding to the preliminary set of geologically defined units. The resulting F value of
469 22.9467 corresponds to a P -value of $2.5e-15$, much below the common significance level of
470 5%. Therefore we reject the null hypothesis and proceed the post-hoc analysis using the
471 Tukey-HSD method. The results for the Tukey-HSD test for the preliminary model are
472 summarized in Table 2.

473 The Tukey-HSD post-hoc test results indicate that there is no statistically significant
474 difference between groups P1 and P2 and between groups P3, P4 and P5, and to a lesser
475 extent between groups P2 and P3 and P2 and P5. We merged the groups exhibiting higher
476 values for p -value and repeated the procedure. The resulting set of groups of geological
477 units defined by the tests – F1, F2 and F3 – are summarized in Table 3. The results of the
478 statistical tests for F1, F2 and F3 are presented in Table 2. The ANOVA test produced a
479 F value of 57.4279 which corresponds to a p -value of $1e^{-16}$. The ensuing Tukey-HSD test
480 indicates that the difference in the means of the groups is statistically significant.

481 The final model is illustrated in Figures 5 and 6. The median V_{S30} values for the geolog-
482 ically defined units F1, F2 and F3 are 829 m/s, 470 m/s and 237 m/s, respectively. However,
483 the 68% confidence interval for V_{S30} overlaps for F1 and F2 and for F2 and F3, i.e, the lower
484 limit for F1 is lower than the upper limit for F2, and the lower limit for F2 is lower than the

485 upper limit for F3. This is partially related to the inherent limitations of surface geology
486 as a predictor for V_{S30} . A geologically defined unit includes different rock types, lithologies
487 and layer thicknesses, which influence the VS depth structure and consequently the corre-
488 sponding V_{S30} value. Other geologically-based V_{S30} models display similar dispersion values
489 despite the fact of presenting more specific geologically defined units (Wills and Clahan,
490 2006). Nevertheless, some dispersion could be related to the limited size of the database.
491 A larger dataset that would allow the definition of more specific geologically defined units
492 or the inclusion of other geographic criteria (e.g., Holocene in narrow valleys, small basins,
493 etc.), might eventually decrease the dispersion within some units.

494 **Relationship with Topographic-Slope**

495 We investigated the relationship between topographic slope and $\log V_{S30}$ in order to evaluate
496 the extent to which that variable could be used to refine the V_{S30} model. Figure 7 shows
497 $\log V_{S30}$ as a function of topographic slope for both the SRTM30 and SRTM3 elevation
498 datasets, sorted by the final set of generalized geological units F1, F1 and F3. The rela-
499 tionship between V_{S30} and topographic slope is in general extremely poor for the SRTM30
500 dataset, regardless of the geological unit. There is however a slight tendency for some F3
501 sites to concentrate in the lower-left part of the graphic (lower V_{S30} corresponding to lower
502 slope). The SRTM3 dataset shows a much clearer correlation between those two variables
503 for F3 sites only. Tentative V_{S30} -slope classes for F3 sites are outlined in Figure 7b). A t-test
504 run indicates that the differences in V_{S30} distributions pertaining to the topographic slope
505 classes $0.002\text{m/m} < slope < 0.016\text{m/m}$ $0.016\text{m/m} < slope < 0.100\text{m/m}$ are statistically
506 significant at a 5% confidence level (pvalue=0.08). However, since the sample sizes are fairly
507 small (less than 15) the statistical power of the result is low, which means that there is a
508 reduced likelihood that a statistically significant result reflects a true effect.

Evaluation of Proxies Based on Exogenous Data

In the absence of local V_{S30} data is is common practice to estimate that variable using proxies derived from data pertaining to other regions. We used the database developed in this study to evaluate the performance of V_{S30} proxies proposed in the literature. The topographic-slope is the most widely used V_{S30} proxy (Wald and Allen, 2007). The model relies on correlations between the topographic-slope calculated for the SRTM30 elevation data set and V_{S30} data from California, Utah, Central United States, Taiwan, Italy and Australia. We use the model as implemented in the global V_{S30} server (Allen and Wald (2007); see Data and Resources).

In the geologic analogue proxy approach, local geologic units are correlated with geologic categories developed in a different geographic context, which are characterized by V_{S30} distributions. Vilanova *et al.* (2012) used the geologically-based V_{S30} model developed by Wills and Clahan (2006) for California as a proxy for estimating V_{S30} at sites, in Portugal, where ground motion stations were deployed. It has been shown by Stewart *et al.* (2008) that Wills and Clahan’s (2006) model had no significant bias with respect to V_{S30} distributions for geologic units in Italy. Vilanova *et al.* (2012) used Stewart *et al.* (2008) V_{S30} distributions for estimating V_{S30} for geologic conditions that do not have geological analogue in California.

Silva *et al.* (2015) likewise used both the geologically-based V_{S30} models of Wills and Clahan (2006) and Stewart *et al.* (2008) to estimate the site conditions for Portugal. They selected, however, dissimilar geological analogues with respect to Vilanova *et al.* (2012) for the local geological units. For instance, Silva *et al.* (2015) used “Quaternary (Pleistocene) sand deposits” ($V_{S30} = 302 \pm 46\text{m/s}$) as the geological analogue for “Sandstones, more or less argillaceous limestone, sands, gravels, clays, from Miocene and Pliocene”, while Vilanova *et al.* (2012) correlated that unit with “Tertiary sandstone units” ($V_{S30} = 515 \pm 215\text{m/s}$). This example illustrates the difficulties associated with implementing V_{S30} proxies based on the geological analogue methodological approach.

Figure 8 shows the residual distributions for $\log V_{S30}$, for both the proxy model based on

536 slope and that based on the geological analogues. We used the Silva *et al.* (2015) geologically-
537 based model because since it applies to the most extensively representative geological units
538 of Portugal, the exercise corresponds to a truly blind comparison.

539 The use of proxies based either on geological analogues or on correlations with the to-
540 pographic slope shows fairly unbiased total residual distributions of $\log V_{S30}$. However, the
541 performance of the methods varies significantly with the generalized geological unit analyzed.
542 The topographic-slope proxy is biased towards lower values of V_{S30} for F1 sites (Igneous,
543 metamorphic and old sedimentary rocks) and it is biased towards higher values of V_{S30} for
544 F3 sites (Holocene formations). It is unbiased for the most extensive dataset which pertains
545 to F2 sites (Neogene and Pleistocene formations). The residual's distribution shows clear
546 linear trends with the independent variable (topographic-slope) for all geological categories.
547 The residuals are positive for lower values of $\log V_{S30slope}$ and negative for higher values
548 of topographic slope, indicating that the relationship between V_{S30} and topographic-slope
549 assumed by the model doesn't apply to the three subsets.

550 The geological analogue model of Silva *et al.* (2015) is slightly biased for sites located
551 both on F1 and F3 geological units (Igneous, metamorphic and old sedimentary rocks, and
552 Holocene formations, respectively). It is however strongly biased towards lower values of
553 V_{S30} for F2 sites (Neogene and Pleistocene formations). This is probably related to the
554 fact that Pleistocene formations in our dataset display $\log V_{S30}$ distributions similar to those
555 of Neogene, with a mean value higher than what would be expected from the model of
556 Wills and Clahan (2006). In addition, the fact that Silva *et al.* (2015) considered some
557 Miocene and Pliocene formations correlated with Pleistocene formations in California, also
558 contributed to exacerbating the bias.

559 Discussion and Conclusions

560 We developed a V_{S30} database for Portugal, by acquiring and gathering of V_S profiles using
561 different techniques. Most of the sites in the database have been characterized in terms of V_S
562 depth profile using the seismic refraction technique. Other techniques used include MASW,
563 seismic cone penetrometer and ReMi. Few sites tested using different techniques showed in
564 general compatible V_S depth profiles and corresponding V_{S30} values.

565 We present a geologically-based V_{S30} model for Portugal, which includes three geological
566 categories: F1 - Igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks of Mesozoic or Paleogene
567 age; F2 - Neogene and Pleistocene Formations; and F3 - Holocene Formations. The $\log V_{S30}$
568 distributions pertaining to each geologic category are statistically significantly different from
569 each other.

570 The methodological approach used for developing this model involves an iterative three-
571 step procedure which consists of: 1) Defining a preliminary set of geologically defined units
572 based on the literature; 2) calculating the $\log V_{S30}$ distribution for each geologically defined
573 unit; and 3) merging the units according to the results of statistical testing.

574 We investigated the correlation between $\log V_{S30}$ and topographic-slope in order to eval-
575 uate the extent to which the last could be used as a variable for refining the model. The
576 topographic-slope has been successfully used for this purpose by Thompson *et al.* (2014) and
577 Stewart *et al.* (2014).

578 We find that, in general, and in what concerns our dataset, the correlation between slope
579 and V_{S30} is poor. The relationship is similar to that reported by Lemoine *et al.* (2012) for
580 stable continental regions within Europe, with slope values ranging between 0.05 – 0.10m/m,
581 regardless of the $\log V_{S30}$ value. Part of the F3 sites (Holocene formations) in our dataset
582 tends, however, to display lower topographic-slope values than the remaining geological
583 defined units. This becomes more evident using SRTM3 elevation dataset for calculating the
584 topographic-slope than using the SRTM30 dataset. In this case the topographic slope can
585 be used to refine the model for F3 sites. However, because the sample sizes are relatively

586 small, this issue needs to be further investigated whenever a larger dataset pertaining to F3
587 is available. The correlation between topographic-slope and V_{S30} for Holocene formations is
588 probably related to the relationship between the sedimentation environment and grain size.

589 Stewart *et al.* (2014) also reported that the topographic slope calculated using the SRTM3
590 dataset revealed better correlation with V_{S30} than either higher or lower resolution digital
591 elevation models. The decrease in performance with higher than 3 arc seconds resolution el-
592 evation models has been attributed to canopy effects (Allen and Wald, 2009; Stewart *et al.*,
593 2014).

594 We believe that our final model, although relatively broad, is the best that can be achieved
595 with the currently available dataset. Whenever a larger dataset is available, it may be possi-
596 ble to develop a better model, both in terms of accuracy and precision, without compromising
597 the corresponding statistical robustness.

598 The underlying dataset presents several important limitations. In particular, some data
599 are heavily clustered, some geological units are poorly sampled, and some geographical re-
600 gions are underrepresented. This database will be used to assist the selection of future sites
601 to be characterized in terms of V_S depth distribution. For instance Holocene formations
602 along the western coast and small basins need to be better sampled in the future. The
603 log V_{S30} distributions show, however, no evidence of systematic trends with geographic loca-
604 tion, suggesting that those limitations in the dataset do not significantly affect the results.

605 We evaluated the performance of models for V_{S30} developed from proxies, such as topographic-
606 slope or surface geology, with data coming from exogenous regions. We used the model based
607 on topographic-slope as implemented by Allen and Wald (2007) and the model based on ge-
608 ologic analogues with the model by Wills and Clahan (2006) for California as implemented
609 by Silva *et al.* (2015). Both models display overall unbiased residuals between estimated and
610 measured V_{S30} values. However their performance relative to data pertaining to each geo-
611 logically defined unit is highly irregular. The model based on topographic slope is unbiased
612 for F2 sites, but strongly biased for both F1 and F3 sites. We find that the model based

613 on topographic-slope presents, overall, spurious spatial variations of V_{S30} . A positive point
614 about this methodology is that it seems to effortlessly be able to partially identify F3 sites,
615 which are in general characterized by lower values of V_{S30} with respect to F1 and F2 sites.

616 The model based on geological analogues is fairly unbiased for both F1 and F3 sites, but
617 is severely biased for F2 sites. This bias is in part related to the challenges associated with
618 correlating geological units from regions with different geological and lithological conditions.
619 Due to these difficulties, the usefulness of this model in estimating V_{S30} should be regarded
620 in a qualitative sense only.

621 We conclude that in the absence of endogenous data the method based on analogue
622 surface geology units should be preferred to that based on topographic-slope. We stress
623 however that topographic-slope may be useful in identifying Holocene basins in the absence
624 of more pertinent data. Both proxies should be regarded as supplying qualitative information
625 on the distributions of V_{S30} , emphasizing the need for acquiring regional V_S data.

626 **Data and Resources**

627 The database (flat-file) used in this paper is available as Table S1 in the electronic supplement
628 to the paper. The digital elevation models used, the 3-arcsec resolution (SRTM3) and the 30-
629 arcsec resolution (SRTM30) datasets, were obtained respectively at <http://srtm.csi.cgiar.org>,
630 last accessed June 2017, and https://dds.cr.usgs.gov/srtm/version2_1/SRTM30/, last ac-
631 cessed June 2017.

632 The global V_{S30} model based on slope is available at <https://earthquake.usgs.gov/data/vs30>,
633 last accessed June 2017.

634 We used the ISC Catalogue (ISC, 2014) for plotting the seismicity: International Seis-
635 mological Centre (2014), On-line Bulletin., Internatl. Seismol. Cent., Thatcham, United
636 Kingdom, available at <http://www.isc.ac.uk>, last accessed January 2017.

637 The figures were plotted using the Generic Mapping Tools package developed by Paul

638 Wessel and Walter Smith (<https://www.soest.hawaii.edu/gmt/>), last accessed June 2017,
639 and the QGIS 2.6.1 Geographic information System, Open Source Geospatial Foundation
640 Project (<http://qgis.osgeo.org>), last accessed June 2014.

641 The SCPTu data was acquired and interpreted using the software provided by the man-
642 ufacturer (Pagani Geotechnical Equipment, <http://www.pagani-geotechnical.com>, last ac-
643 cessed October 2017).

644 The following reference is in the process of publication: “Near surface characterization of
645 the Lisbon and Lower Tagus Valley area, Portugal, for seismic hazard assessment: V_{S30} and
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Table captions

Table 1: Preliminary set of geologically defined units

Table 2: Results of the Tukey-HSD post-hoc tests

Table 3: Statistics for the final model

Figure captions

Figure 1: a) Tectonic setting of the study area. Seismicity $M \geq 3.0$, all magnitude scales, according to ISC (2014)(see Data and Resources) is represented for the period 2000-2014; b) Distribution of V_{S30} values in the database. NEHRP site classes (A – $V_{S30} > 1500$ m/s; B – $760 < V_{S30} \leq 1500$ m/s; C – $360 < V_{S30} \leq 760$ m/s; D – $180 < V_{S30} \leq 360$ m/s; E - $V_{S30} < 180$ m/s) are represented in the background; c) Geographic distribution of V_S depth profiles in the database. The geological units represented are simplified from the 1:500.000 scale geological map of Portugal (Serviços Geológicos de Portugal, 1992); d) Geographic distribution of V_S depth profiles sorted by the characterization method;

Figure 2: V_{S30} as a function of V_{SZ} for $z = 10, 15, 20,$ and 25 m. The relationships proposed by Boore (2004) for California are represented by solid lines and their 95% confidence limits by dotted lines. The relationship proposed by Boore *et al.* (2011) for Japan is represented by dashed lines.

Figure 3: Quantiles derived for the normalized V_{S30} and $\log V_{S30}$ data distributions as a function of the theoretical quantiles for the normal distribution. The solid line represents the reference 1:1 line. V_{S30c} and V_{S30z} represent, respectively, the datasets derived using constant extrapolation and extrapolation based on V_{SZ} .

Figure 4: Normalized frequency distribution for $\log V_{S30c}$, sorted by the preliminary set of geologically defined units. The solid line shows the corresponding fitted normal distributions with mean μ and standard deviation σ . The dotted lines correspond to the fitted normal distributions for V_{S30z} . The fitted normal distribution for the declustered P1 dataset ($\mu = 2.9$ and $\sigma = 0.2$) is represented by a dashed line. NEHRP site classes are represented in the background.

Figure 5: Normalized frequency distribution for $\log V_{S30c}$, sorted by the final set of geologically defined units. The solid line shows the corresponding fitted normal distributions with mean μ and standard deviation σ . The dotted lines correspond to the fitted normal distributions for V_{S30z} . NEHRP site classes are represented in the background.

Figure 6: Geographic distribution for the final V_{S30} model; a) log-averaged V_{S30} value, b) upper limit of the 68% confidence interval for the V_{S30} distribution, and c) lower limit of the 68% confidence interval for the V_{S30} distribution.

Figure 7: V_{S30} as a function of slope sorted by the final set of geologically defined units (F1 - Igneous, metamorphic and old sedimentary rocks, F2 - Neogene and Pleistocene formations, F3 - Holocene formations). The boxes outlined in gray represent the V_{S30} -slope class correlations proposed by Wald and Allen (2007) for stable continental regions. The boxes outlined with dashed lines represent tentative V_{S30} -slope class correlations for Holocene data in this study.

Figure 8: Residual distributions of $\log V_{S30}$ with $\log V_{S30}$ values predicted by a) the topographic slope model (see text for details), and b) from the geological analogue method as implemented by Silva *et al.* (2015).

Table 1: Preliminary set of geologically defined units

| Name | Geological Unit | General Description |
|------|---|--|
| P1 | Igneous and metamorphic rocks | Granites, basalts, schists, gabbros, marbles, quartz, turbidites, etc. Includes other formations of Palaeozoic age or older. |
| P2 | Old Sedimentary rocks (Mesozoic or Paleogene age) | Limestones, marly limestones, dolomites, conglomerates and sandstones |
| P3 | Miocene formations | Sands, sandstones, clays and conglomerates |
| P4 | Pliocene formations | Sandstones, gravels, sands and clays |
| P5 | Pleistocene formations | Sand and clays, terrace deposits |
| P6 | Holocene formations | Alluvium, mud, sands, clay, silt and sand dunes |

Table 2: Results of the Tukey-HSD post-hoc tests

| Group pairs | q | p -value | Null hypothesis* |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| P1-P2 | 1.308 | 0.900 | accepted |
| P1-P3 | 5.827 | 0.001 | rejected |
| P1-P4 | 6.480 | 0.001 | rejected |
| P1-P5 | 5.114 | 0.006 | rejected |
| P1-P6 | 13.164 | 0.001 | rejected |
| P2-P3 | 3.902 | 0.073 | accepted |
| P2-P4 | 4.562 | 0.158 | accepted |
| P2-P5 | 3.428 | 0.158 | accepted |
| P2-P6 | 10.481 | 0.001 | rejected |
| P3-P4 | 0.939 | 0.900 | accepted |
| P3-P5 | 0.201 | 0.900 | accepted |
| P3-P6 | 8.331 | 0.001 | rejected |
| P4-P5 | 1.030 | 0.900 | accepted |
| P4-P6 | 6.984 | 0.001 | rejected |
| P5-P6 | 7.449 | 0.001 | rejected |
| F1-F2 | 7.639 | 0.001 | rejected |
| F1-F3 | 14.987 | 0.001 | rejected |
| F2-F3 | 9.969 | 0.001 | rejected |

* The null hypothesis is rejected at a 5% significance level.

Table 3: Statistics for the final model

| Name | Geological Unit | N | $\mu \log V_{S30}^*$ | $\sigma \log V_{S30}$ | V_{S30} (m/s) | V_{S30} 68%CI (m/s) [†] |
|------|--|----|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| F1 | Igneous, metamorphic and old sedimentary rocks | 23 | 2.91 | 0.20 | 829 | [523, 1315] |
| F2 | Neogene and Pleistocene formations | 55 | 2.67 | 0.15 | 470 | [329, 672] |
| F3 | Holocene Formations | 29 | 2.38 | 0.22 | 237 | [144, 392] |

* Represents the log-averaged V_{S30} value

† Represents the 68% confidence interval.

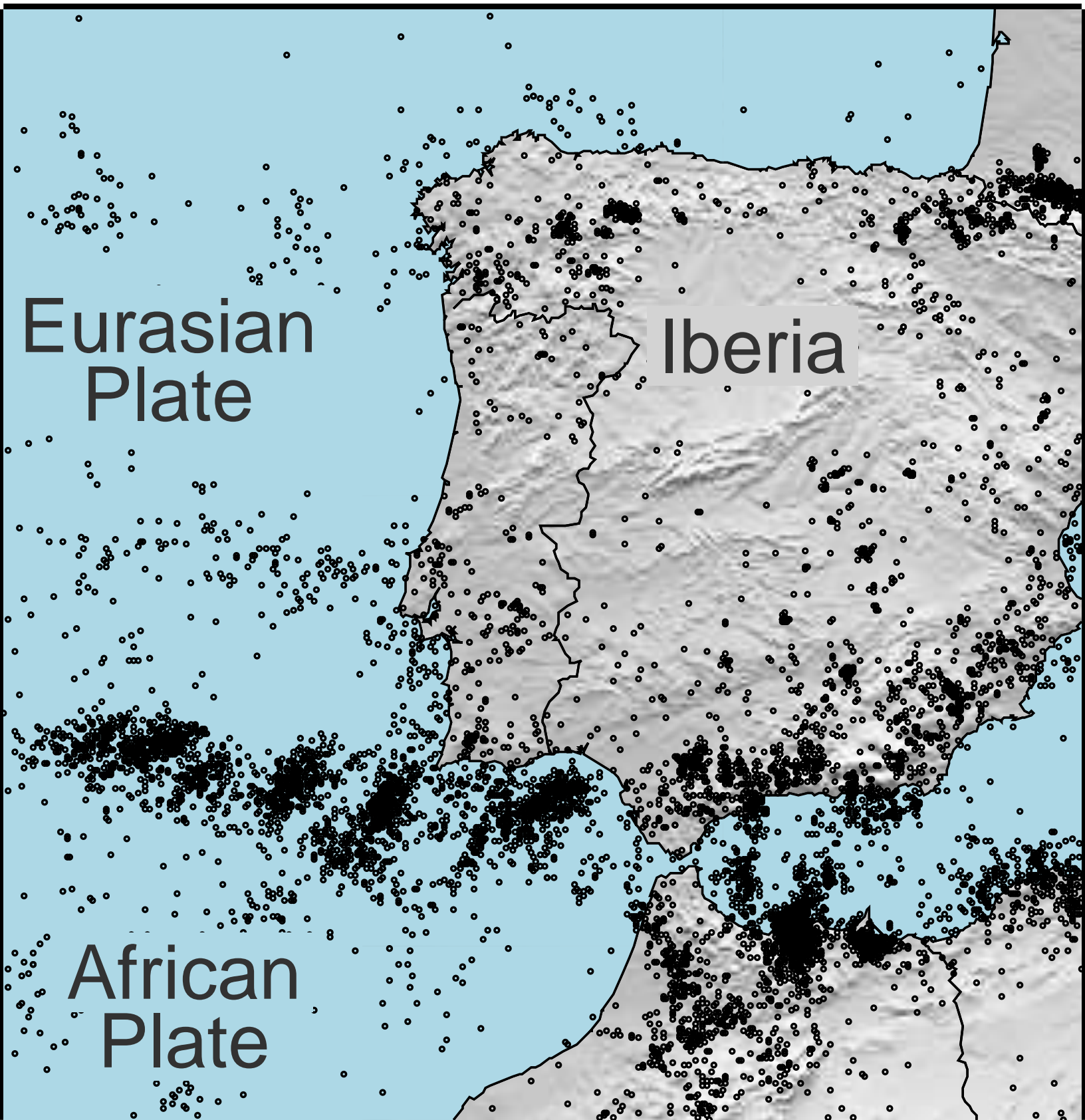


Figure 1b

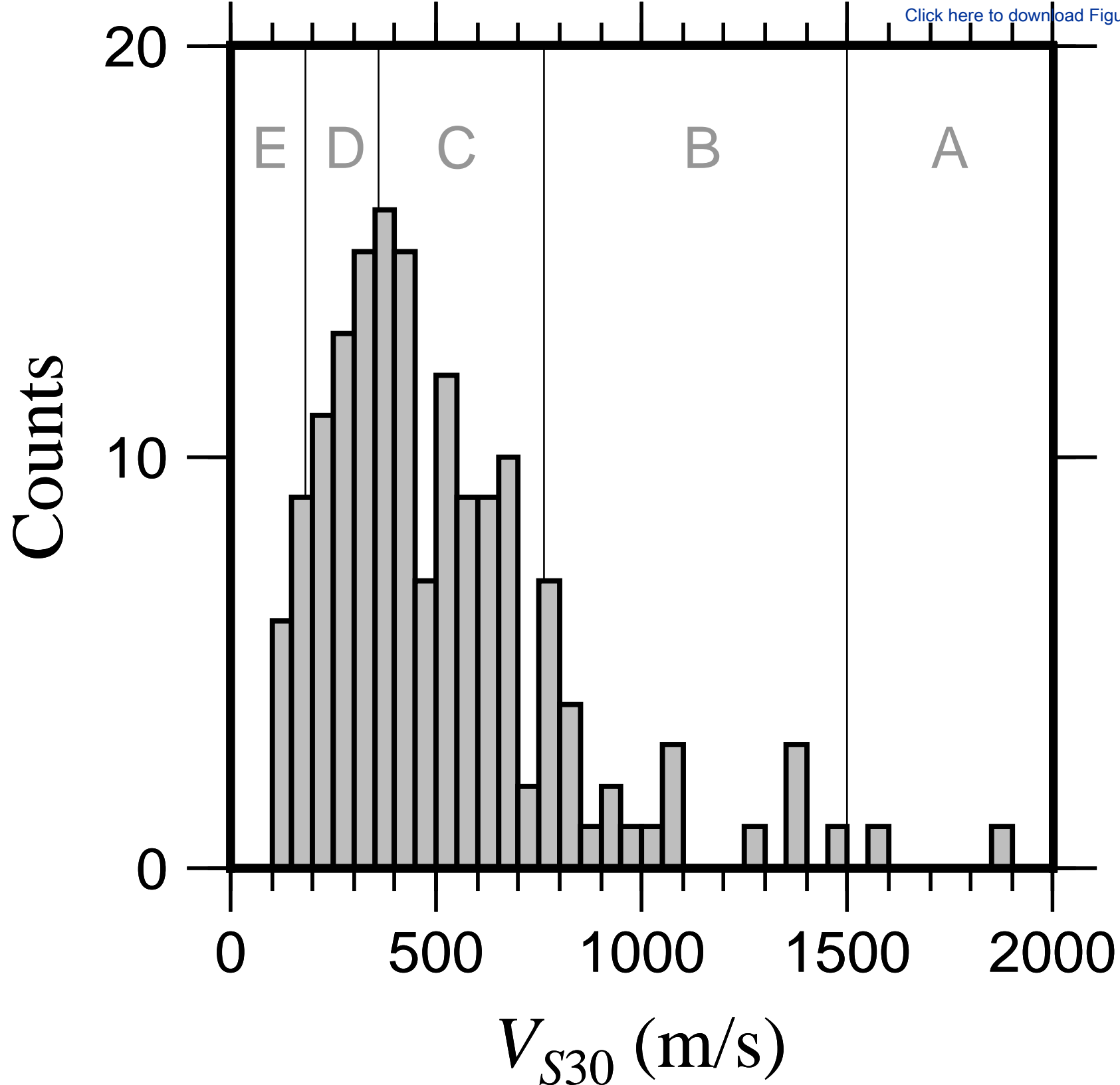


Figure 1c

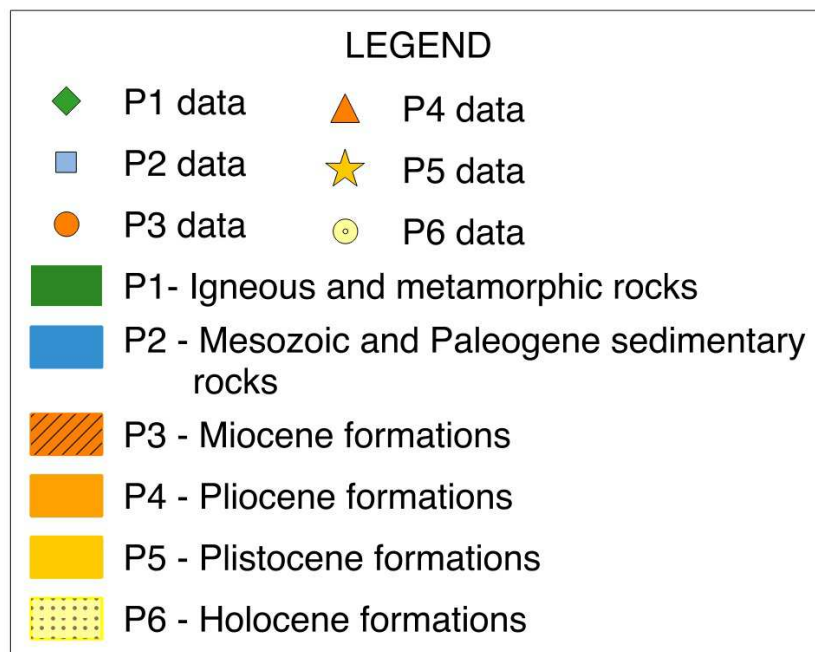
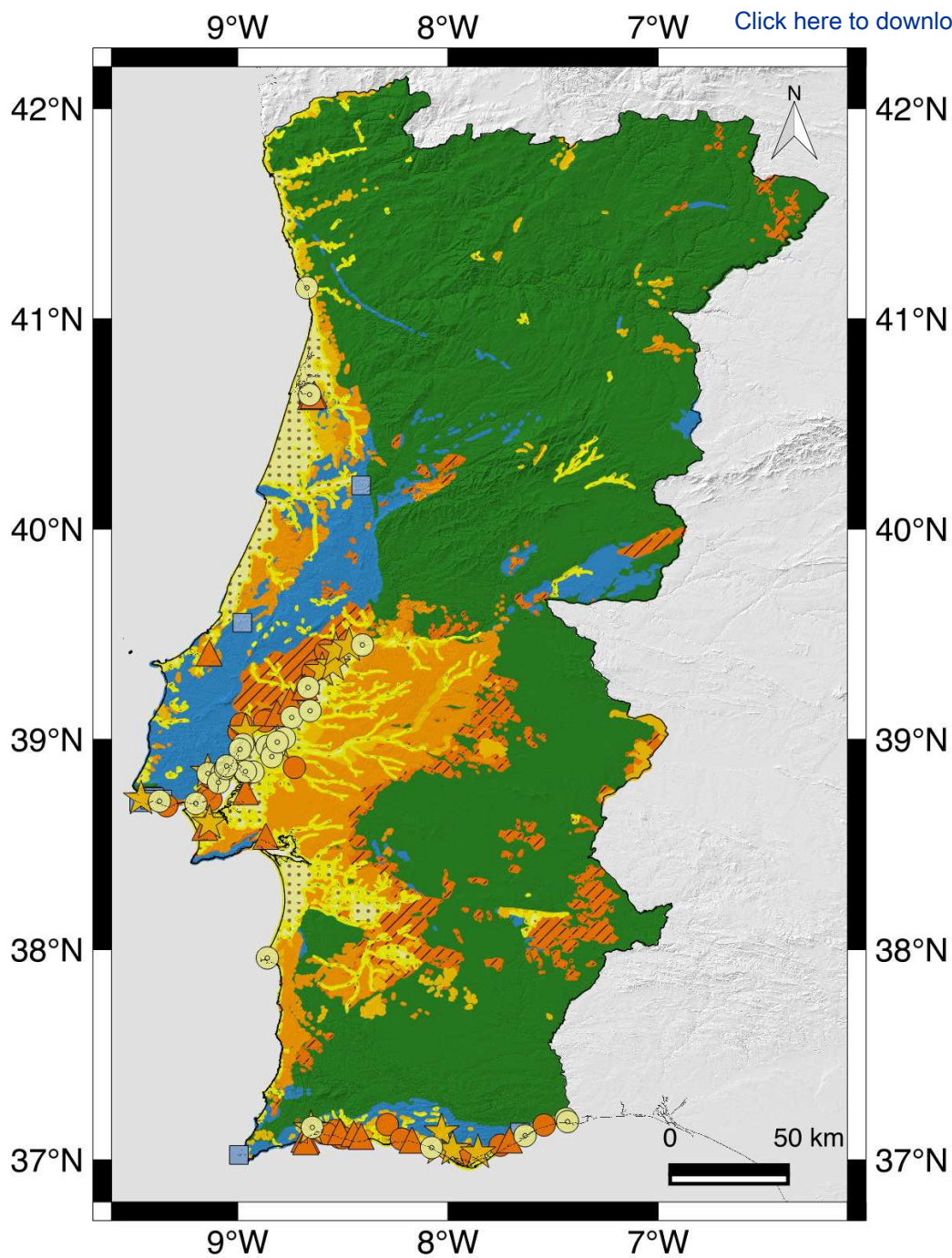
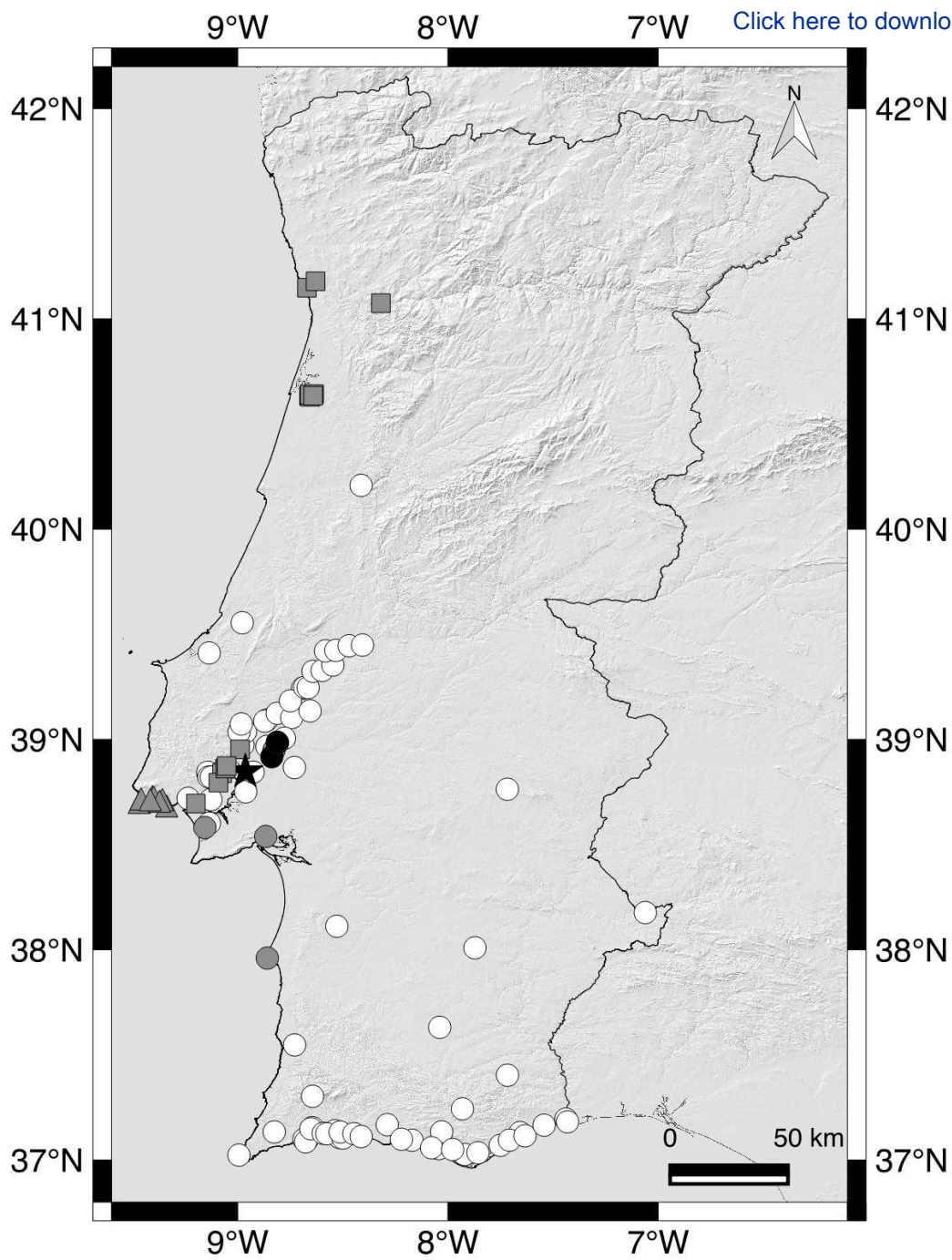


Figure 1d



LEGEND

- S. Refraction
- MASW
- ▲ ReMi
- ★ SCPTu
- S. Refraction / MASW
- S. Refraction / SCPTu

Figure 2

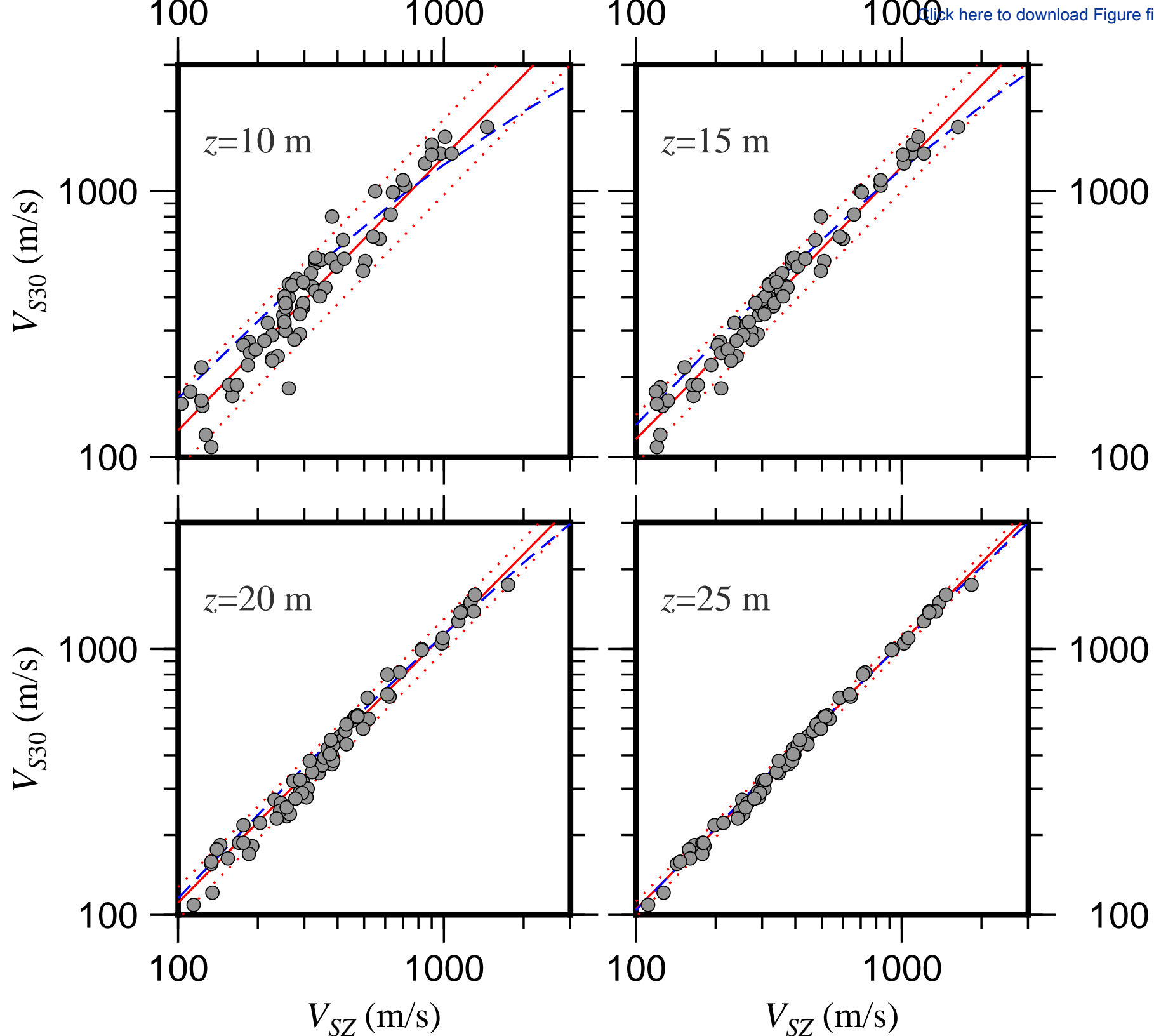


Figure 3

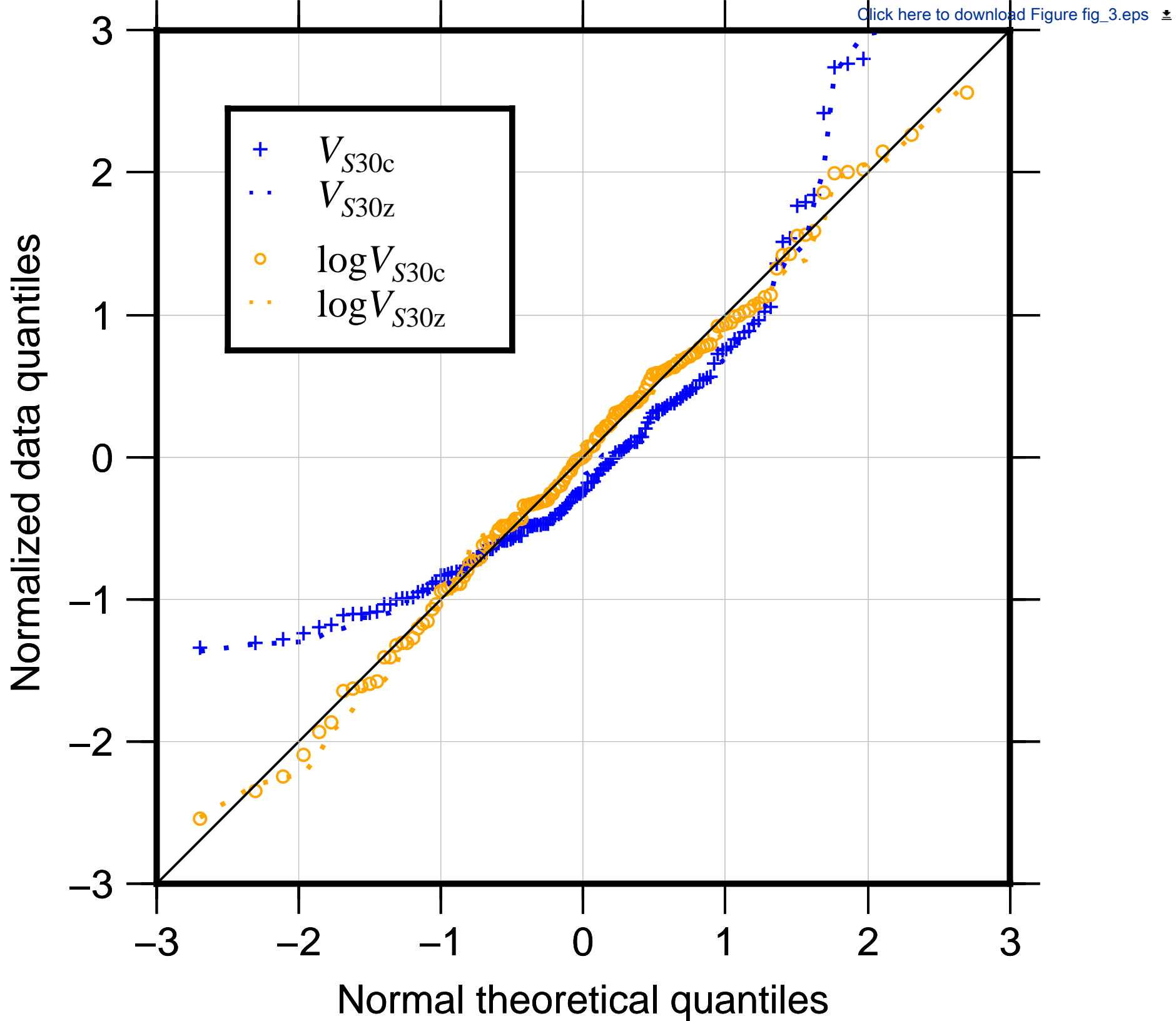
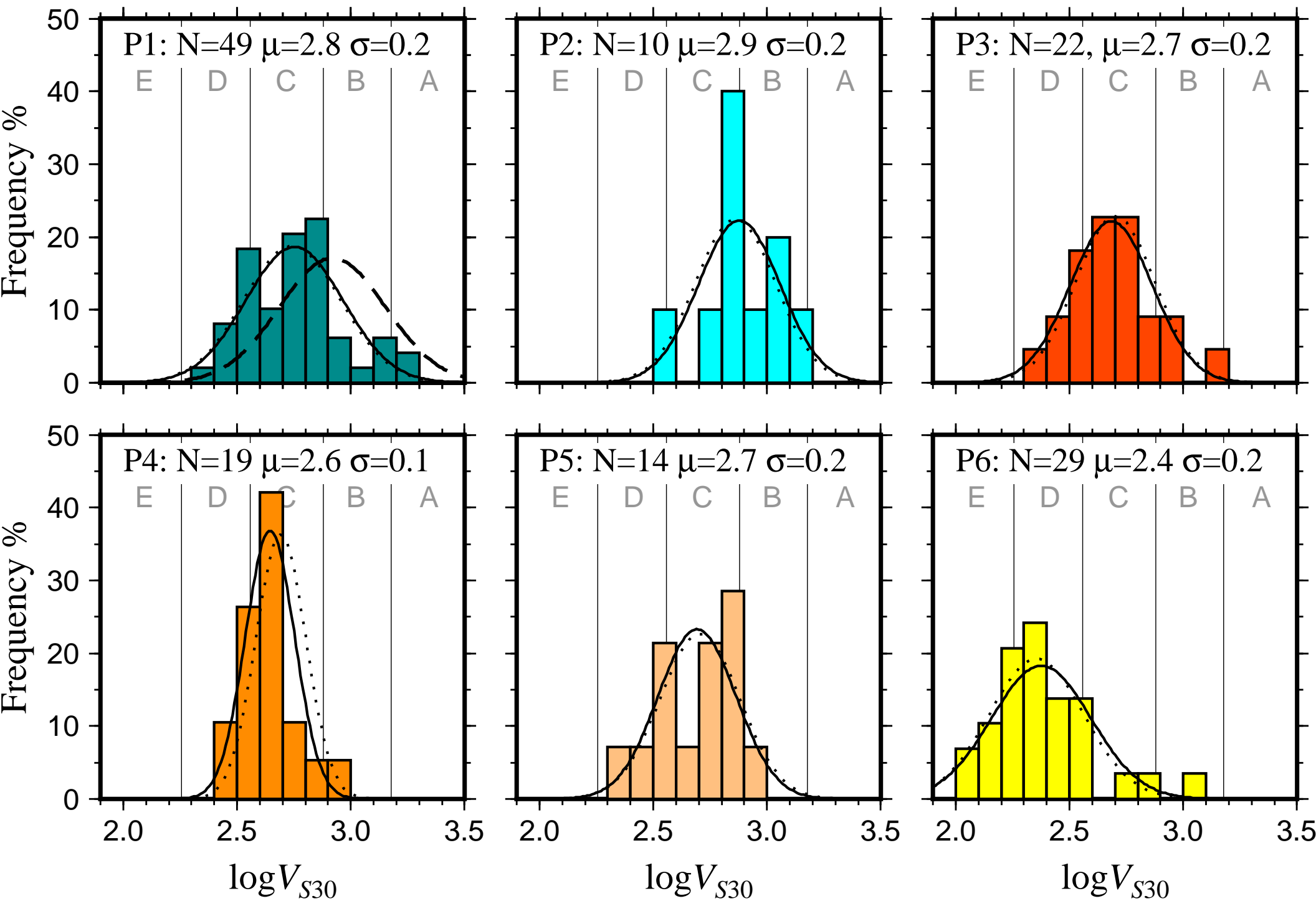


Figure 4

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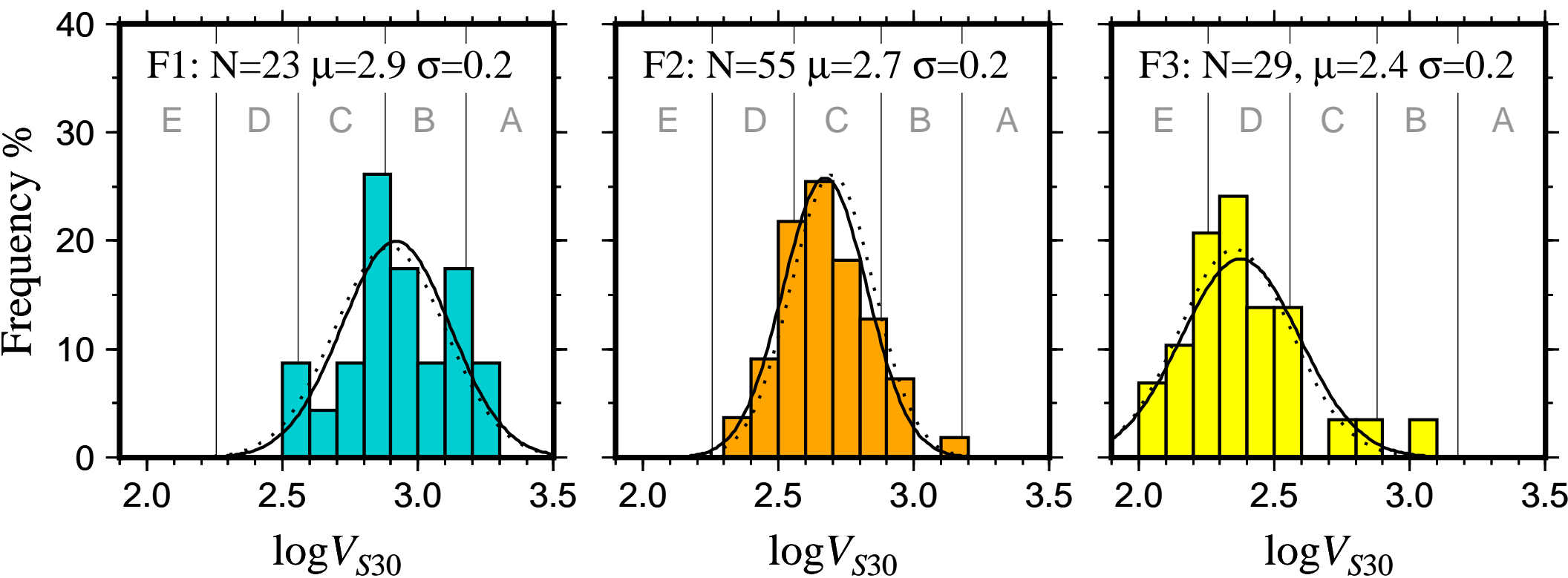
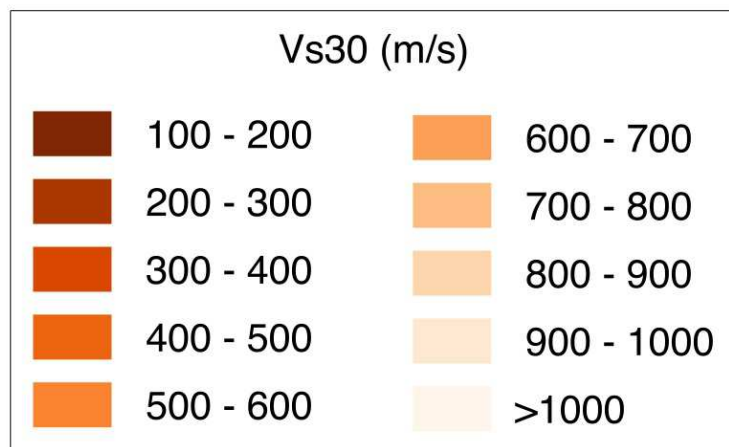
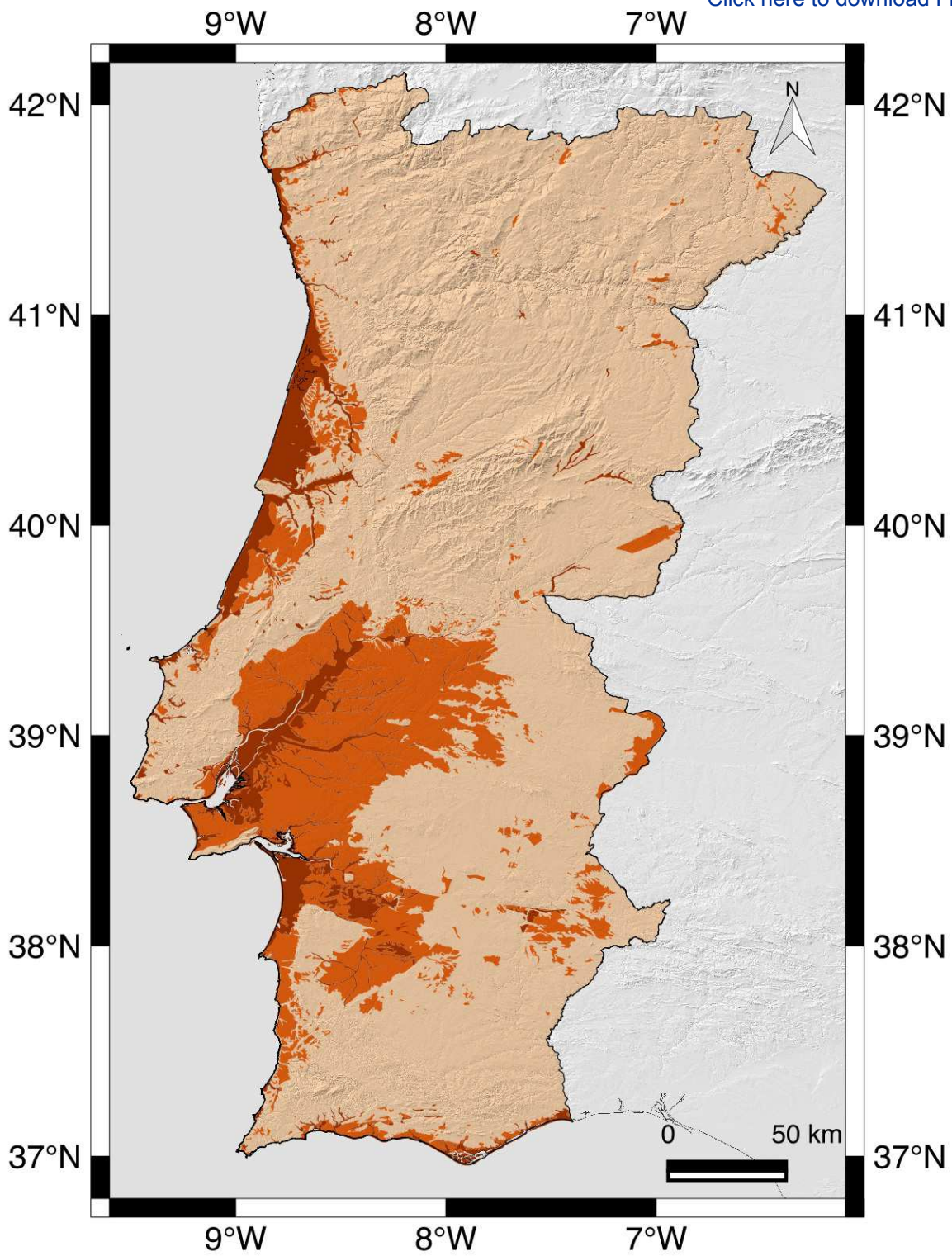
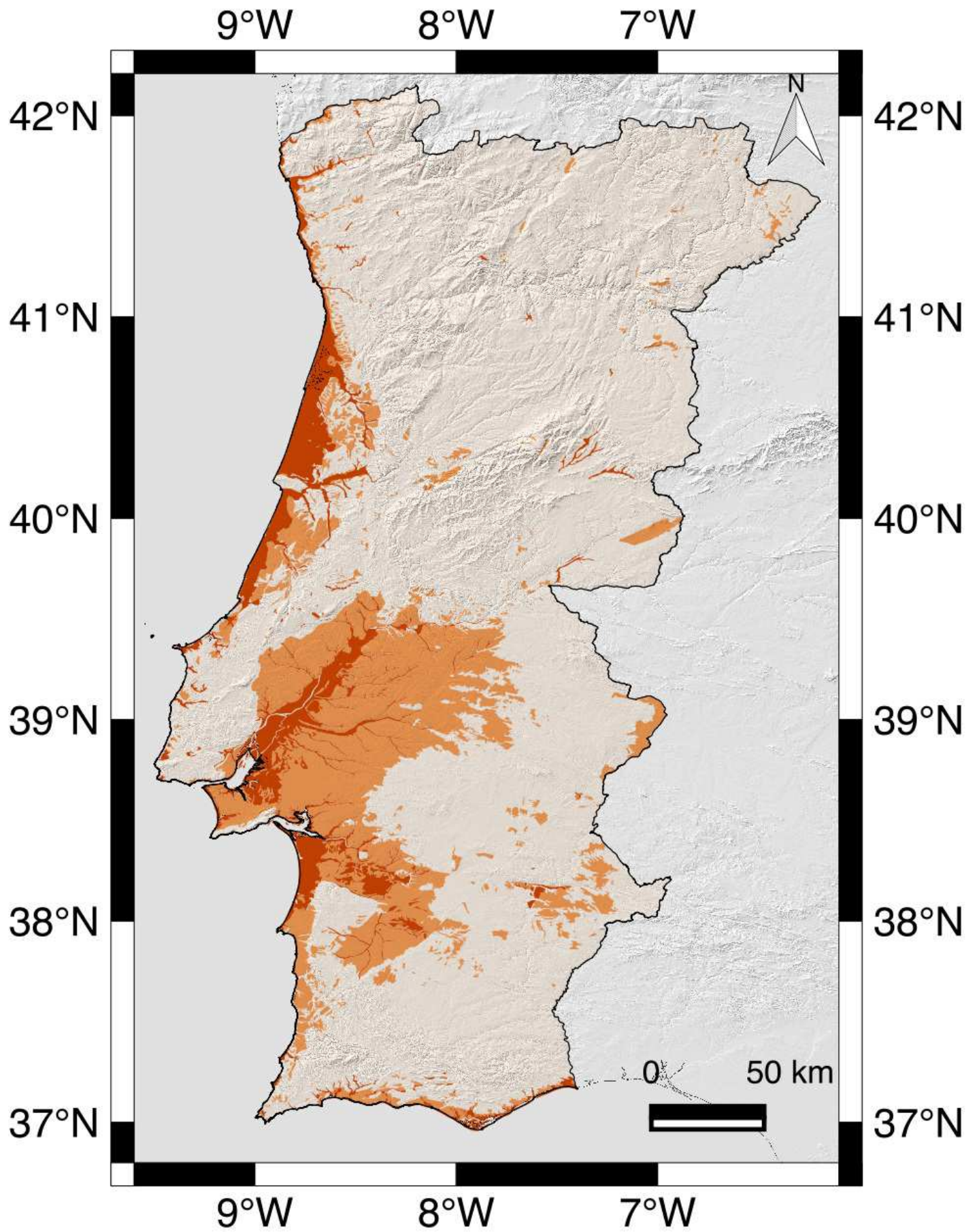
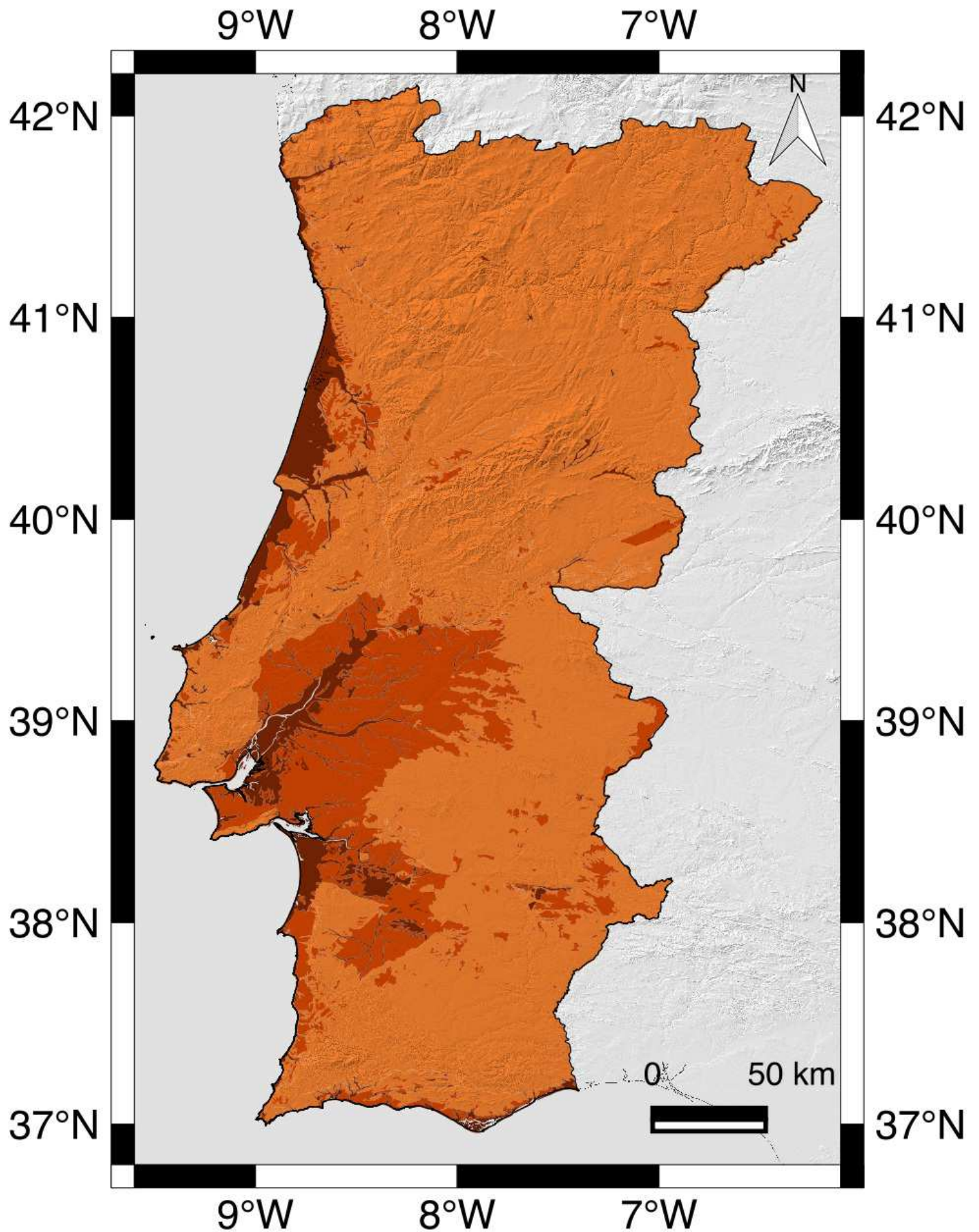


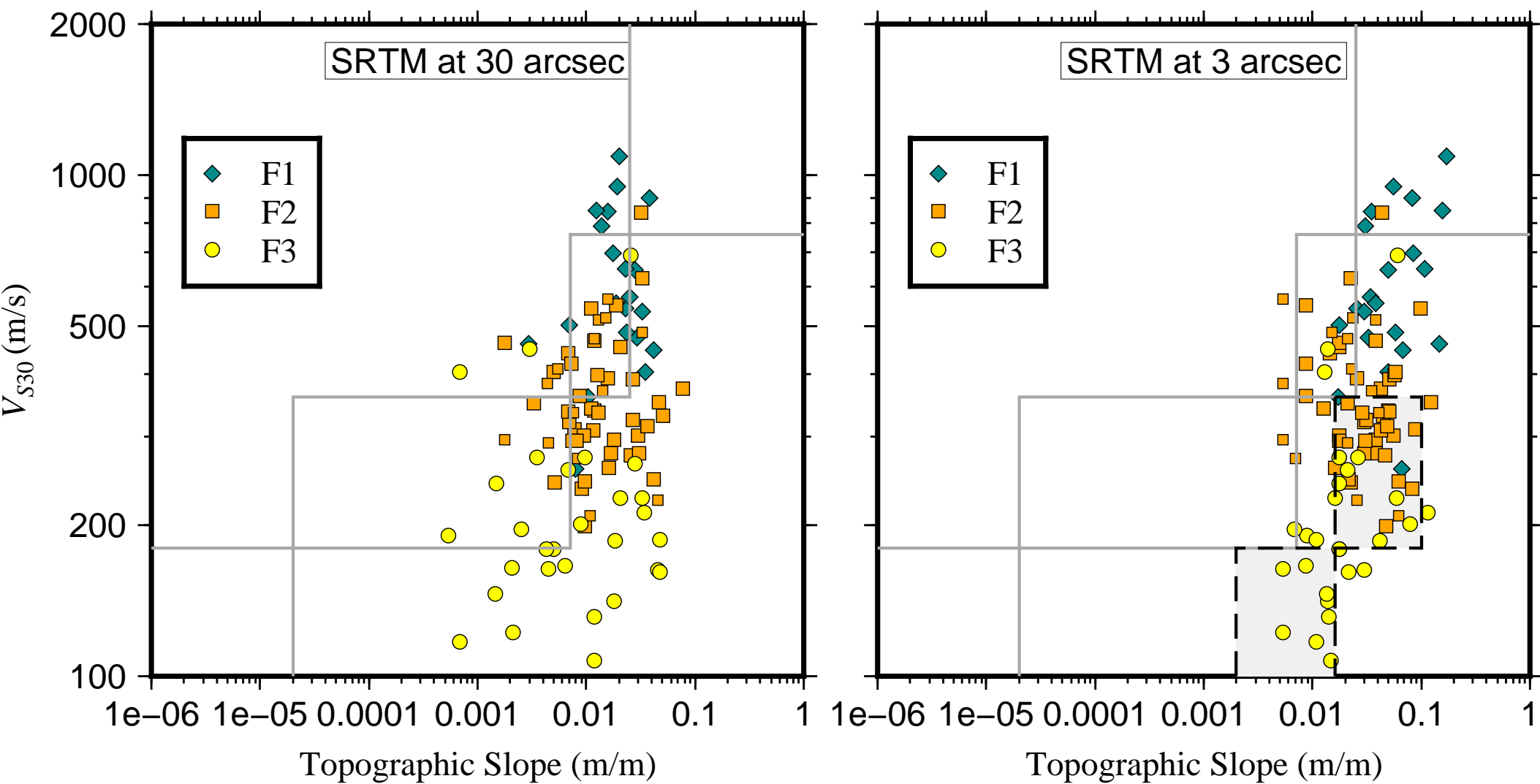
Figure 6a

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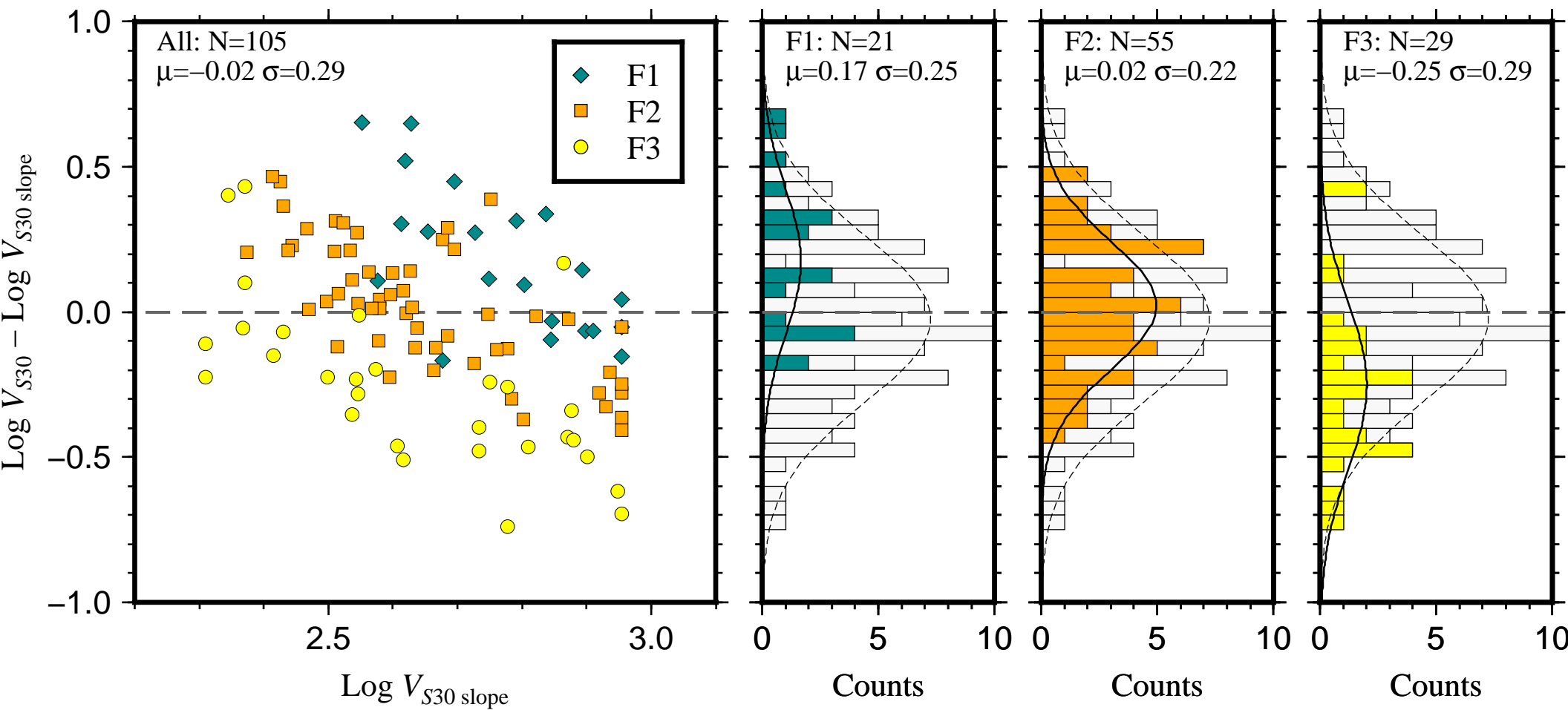
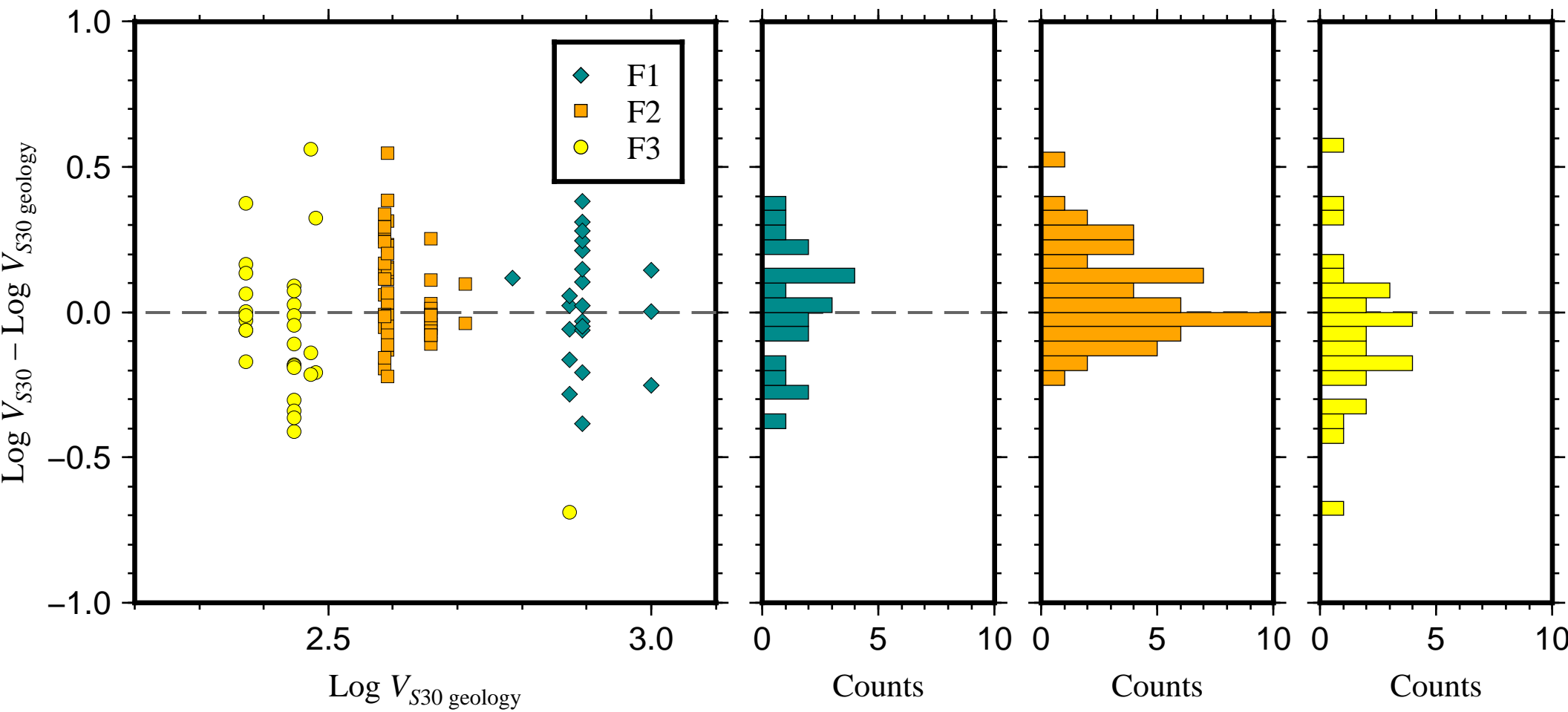


Figure 8b



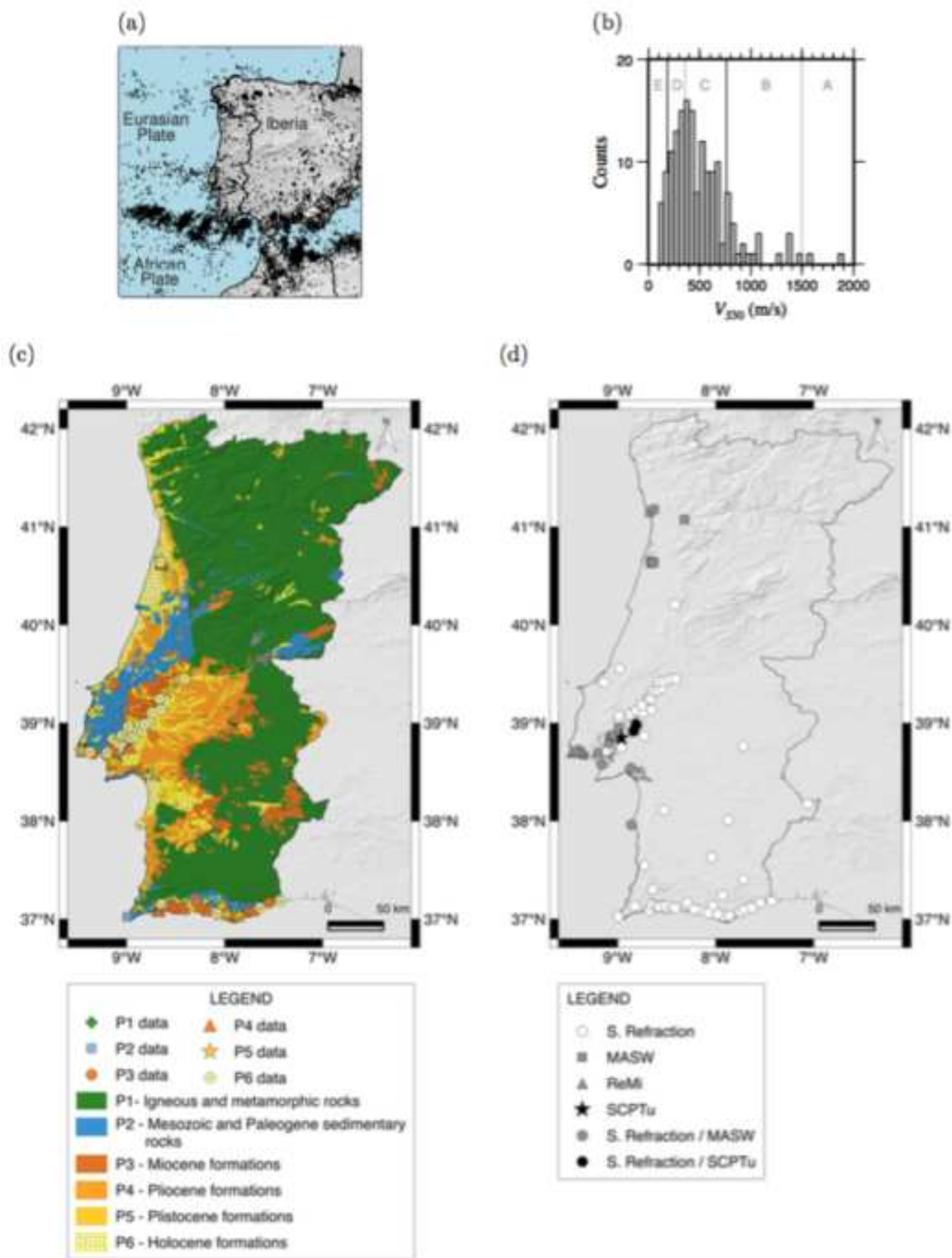
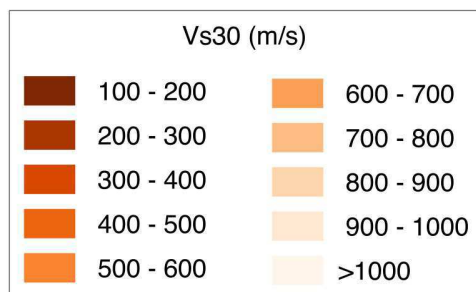
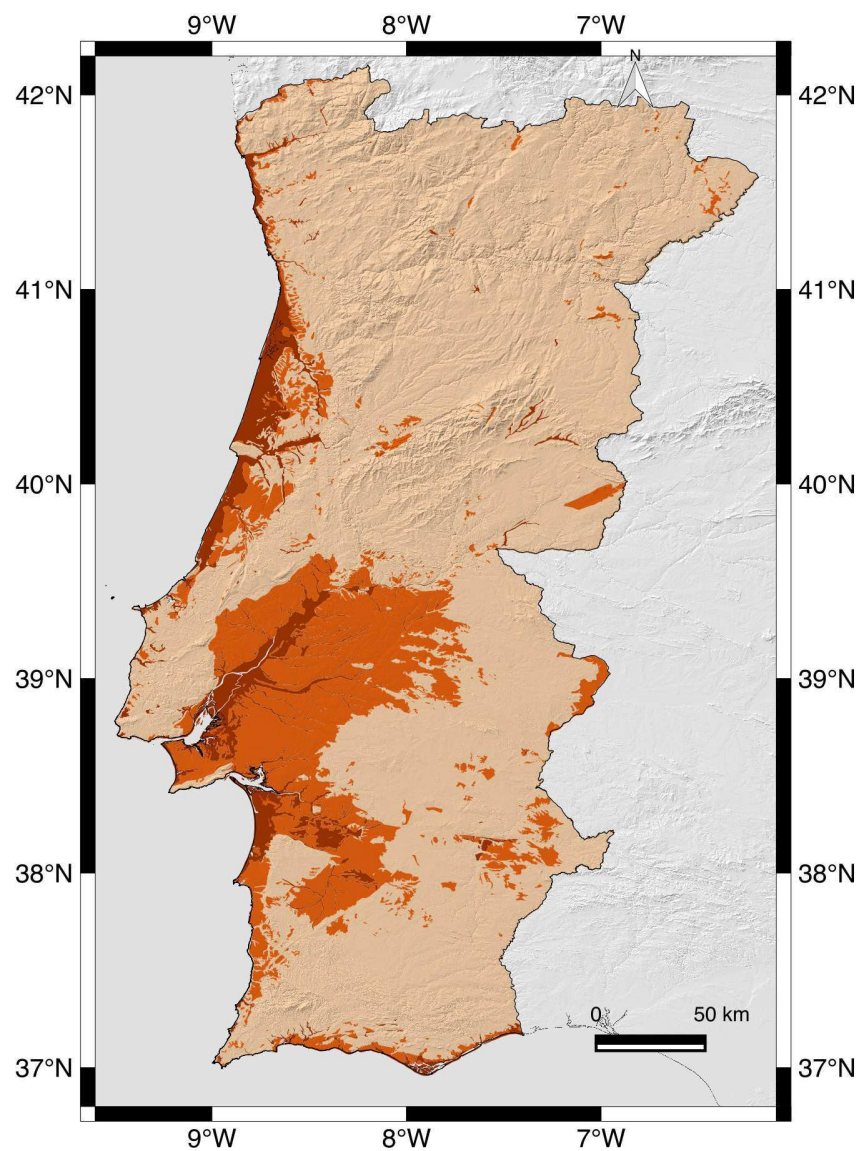
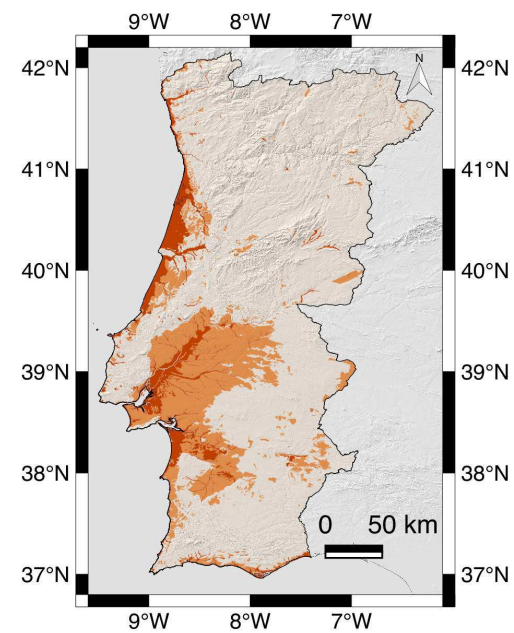


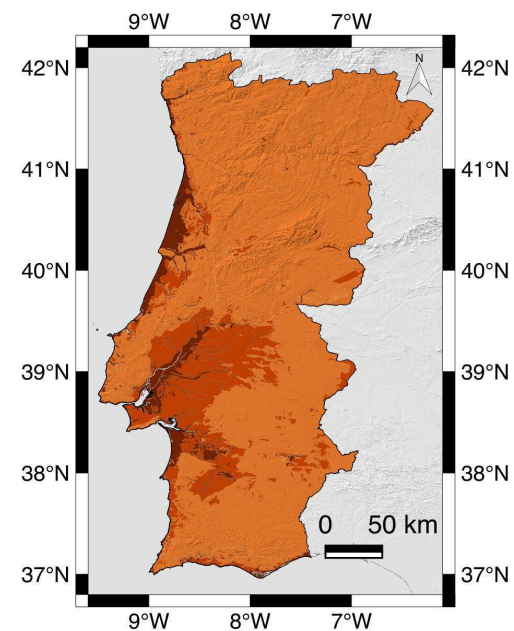
Figure 6 composed example
(a)

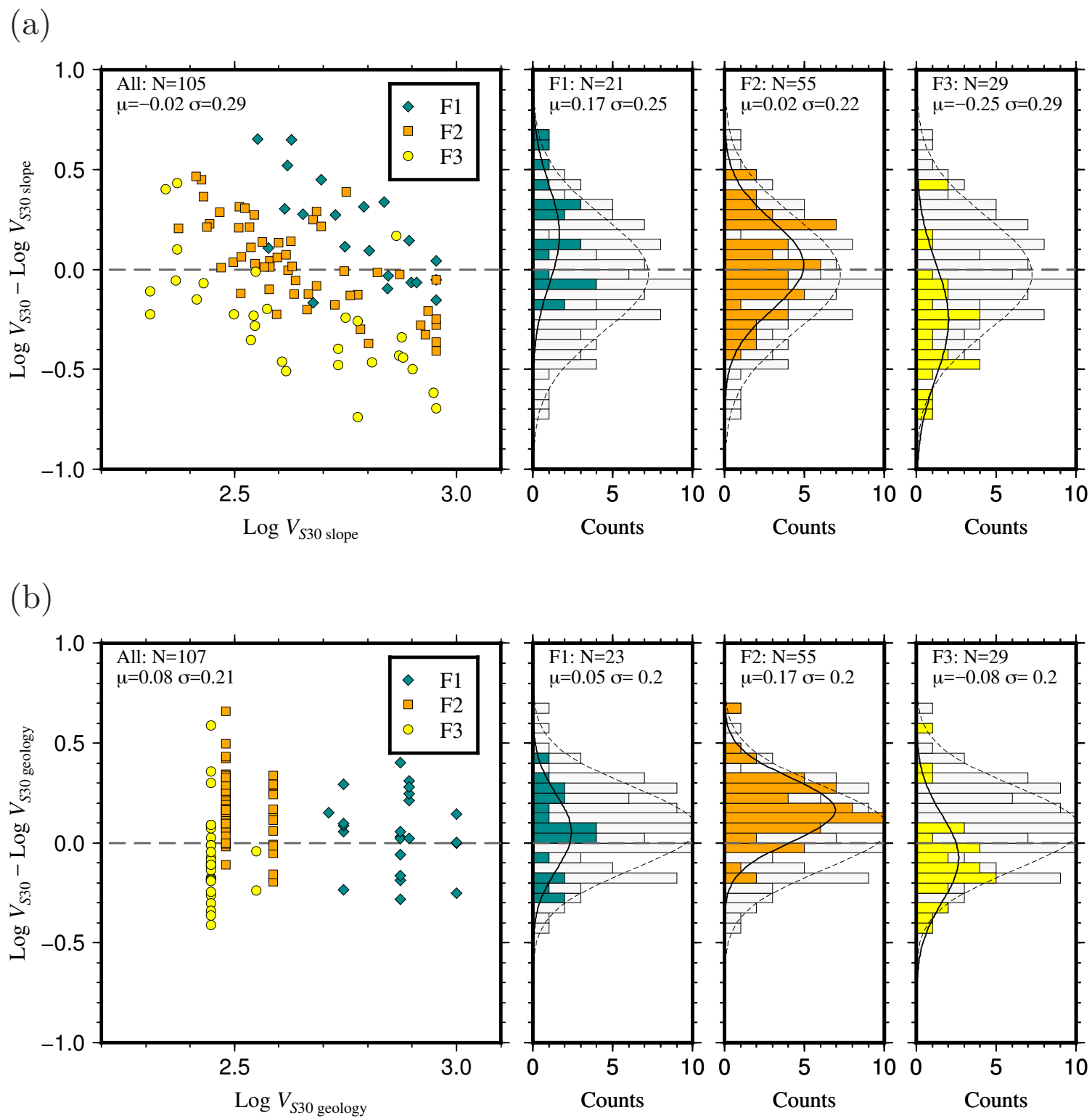


(b)



(c)





Electronic Supplement to

Developing a Geologically-Based V_{S30} Site-
Conditions Model for Portugal: Methodology and
Assessment of the Performance of Proxies

by

Susana P. Vilanova, João Narciso, João P. Carvalho, Isabel Lopes,
Mário Quinta-Ferreira, Carlos C. Pinto, Rui Moura, José Borges,
and Eliza S. Nemser

This electronic supplement includes a spreadsheet file containing the database used in this paper (Table S1).

Table S1 – Plain text comma separated values (csv) file including location of the profiles, methodology used to estimate the V_S depth structure, elevation and topographic slope calculated using both the SRTM30 and the SRTM30 datasets, geological classification using maps at 1:500.000, 1:200:000 and 1:50:000 scales, depth value z for which V_S information is available, V_{SZ} calculated, V_{S30} calculated from correlations with V_{SZ} , V_{S30} calculated using constant extrapolation, variability of $\log V_{S30}$, and V_{S30} calculated from topographic slope, and associated notes and remarks.



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