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A complete automatic procedure to compile reliable seismic catalogues and travel-time and strong motion parameters datasets

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1 **A complete automatic procedure to compile reliable seismic catalogues and travel-time and**
2 **strong motion parameters datasets**

3

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9

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12

13 **Abstract**

14 The compilation of reliable and complete seismic catalogues represents a fundamental issue for
15 most studies in seismology. Nowadays, the availability of an ever-increasing number of stations
16 and, therefore, the huge amount of recordings to be processed and analyzed require a lot of effort in
17 terms of man-hours. In the present work, we present a fully automatic procedure for compiling
18 seismic catalogues starting from continuous recordings. The procedure relies on a multi-step
19 algorithm that includes event detection tool, automatic P- and S-phase picker, hypocenter locator,
20 and magnitude and strong motion parameter calculator. This automatic procedure is applied for
21 compiling seismic catalogues for two real-world usage scenarios starting from the open-access
22 waveform database provided by EIDA (European Integrated Data Archive). The first scenario
23 concerns the monitoring of the seismicity of North-western Italy, the second one concerns the
24 analysis of the data recorded during the first month of the 2016 sequence in Central Italy. The
25 comparison between reference manually revised and automatic seismic catalogues points out

26 negligible differences in terms of both P- and S-phase pickings, hypocentral coordinates, and local
27 magnitude values, thus showing the overall reliability of the procedure. The ability of the proposed
28 automatic procedure in detecting and locating very low-magnitude events is prominent to compile
29 automatic catalogues characterized by a magnitude of completeness significantly lower than that of
30 reference manual catalogues.

31 **Introduction**

32 Dense seismic networks made of an ever-increasing number of stations are becoming very common
33 all around the World, providing a lot of experimental data for a variety of seismic applications such
34 as seismic monitoring (Grigoli et al. 2017; Benz 2017; Moretti et al., 2016; Scafidi et al. 2015),
35 high-resolution imaging of Earth interior (AlpArray 2014), induced micro-seismicity analyses
36 (Benz et al. 2015; Ellsworth 2013), and so on. The raw data provided by these seismic networks
37 (e.g. continuous recordings of seismic signals) are generally worldwide accessible through
38 dedicated web portals. As an example, through the European Integrated Data Archive (EIDA,
39 <https://www.orfeus-eu.org/data/eida>) or the Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology Data
40 Management Center (IRIS-DMC) it is possible to easily download continuous recordings provided
41 by most seismic stations installed all around the world. The collected amount of raw data can often
42 exceed many Gigabytes per day. In order to fully take the advantage of this huge amount of
43 experimental data, seismologists have to analyze all recordings for extracting seismic events,
44 identifying seismic phase arrival times, locating earthquakes, calculating magnitude and shaking
45 parameters (i.e. Peak Ground Acceleration values), or deriving any other parameters useful for their
46 researches. Such analyses are very time-consuming and, often, they can not be carried out without
47 the aid of automatic procedures able to process raw data (e.g., seismic recordings) and extract from
48 them the parameters of interest. Obviously, the employed automatic procedures have to guarantee
49 both appropriate level of reliability, providing data comparable to those derived from manual
50 analyses, and short computing time. For example, a reliable automatic picker is an algorithm

51 capable of providing, in a short time, P- and S-phase arrival times similar to those derived from a
52 visual inspection made by an expert seismologist.

53 The automatic picker presented by Spallarossa et al., (2014) and Scafidi et al. (2018), called “RSNI-
54 Picker₂”, has been proven to be able to process huge amount of data in a short time, to detect
55 reliable P- and S-phase arrival times, and to accurately locate events (Scafidi et al., 2016). Starting
56 from this picker engine, in the present study, we present a completely automatic procedure that,
57 starting from a database of raw seismic waveforms (i.e., downloaded from EIDA), is able to
58 recognize and extract time windows containing potential earthquakes (or explosions), to detect P-
59 and S-phases arrival times, to locate earthquakes, and to calculate magnitude and some strong-
60 motion parameters (such as Peak Ground Acceleration, PGA, Peak Ground Velocity, PGV, Peak
61 Ground Displacement, PGD, Housner Intensities, IH, and Spectral Accelerations, SA). The
62 procedure produces, in a completely automatic way, a seismic catalogue. The automatically derived
63 parameters are saved in textual files (ASCII format) and stored in a PostgreSQL database too.

64 The performances of the automatic procedure proposed in the present paper is evaluated comparing
65 the outputs (e.g., P- and S-phase picks, hypocenter coordinates, magnitude values) to those
66 published in reference catalogues compiled through the accurate manual revision done by INGV
67 (Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia) seismologists. In particular, we tested the procedure
68 considering two different scenarios. In the first test, the procedure is applied to North-western Italy
69 in order to compile a regional seismic catalogue from January to July, 2017. In the second test, the
70 continuous recordings provided by a very dense network installed after the M_w 6.0 “Amatrice”
71 earthquake (occurred on 24 August, 2016 in Central Italy) are processed in order to study the
72 evolution of the sequence during the first month.

73

74 **Automatic procedure description**

75 The proposed automatic procedure for compiling seismic catalogues works on a dataset of raw

76 seismic waveforms (e.g., daily continuous seismic recordings). It consists of 4 main steps (Figure 1)
77 that are (i) detection of single station triggers, (ii) trigger association and event detection, (iii)
78 extraction of time windows including potential earthquake (or explosion), (iv) picking of P- and S-
79 arrival times, event location, and strong motion parameter calculation.

80 The software package, called CASP (Complete Automatic Seismic Processor), consists of four
81 modules written in standard “C” programming language to optimize portability across a range of
82 computer architectures and calculation speed.

83 Besides continuous waveform dataset, the procedure needs as input the meta-data of the seismic
84 stations providing the waveforms (e.g., geographical position, instrument response parameters).
85 Generally, the meta-data may be easily downloaded from the same web portal used for retrieving
86 the waveforms. They can be linked with waveform itself in the full-SEED formats, or they can be
87 taken alone in various standard formats (station XML, response file, dataless, poles and zeroes file).
88 All the cited metadata formats are supported by the presented procedure.

89 The output of CASP is a complete dataset where P- and S-phase arrival times and location
90 parameters (hypocentral coordinates and magnitude) with associated uncertainties, and strong
91 motion data (PGA, PGV, IH, SA) are listed for every earthquake.

92 The CASP procedure is equipped by a “starting” module that automatically downloads from a
93 selected web portal (e.g., EIDA database) all the continuous recordings of a list of seismic stations
94 and creates a dataset where the waveforms are organized in files, one for each station. In the default
95 setting, the waveforms to retrieve are expected to be in Mini-SEED format, according to
96 conventional standard (e.g., EIDA or IRIS data format). The “starting” module can be skipped if a
97 dataset of Mini-SEED files is already available.

98 The four main steps of the automatic procedure are summarized below.

99 Step 1 (“RSNI-Trigger” module): for each station separately, the vertical component of the
100 continuous recording is processed in order to perform trigger calculation. In details, the signal is

101 band-pass filtered and the STA/LTA ratio (i.e., the ratio of the short-term average over the long-term
102 average) is calculated. When the ratio exceeds a threshold value, a single station trigger is declared.
103 The final trigger time is then determined as the minimum of the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC)
104 function (Akaike 1974) computed within a signal window around the trigger identified by STA/LTA
105 analysis. The use of the AIC-based algorithm allows to overcome typical STA/LTA analysis errors.
106 For example, in case of a low-magnitude event recorded by a seismic station very close to the
107 hypocenter, the STA/LTA tool can place the trigger time in correspondence of the S-wave arrival
108 time. The subsequent application of the AIC algorithm allows to move the trigger time to the right
109 position, in correspondence of the P onset. The output of the “RSNI-Trigger” module is a list of
110 trigger times for each station. This module is driven by a set of parameters that has to be empirically
111 calibrated for each station as a function of background noise at station, sensor type, and so on.
112 These parameters are (i) the corner frequencies of the band-pass filter, (ii) the short- and long-term
113 average constants, (iii) the STA/LTA ratio threshold, (iv) the search window length for the AIC
114 function calculation, and (v) the minimum time-interval permitted between two consecutive
115 triggers. Of note, it is convenient to set the “RSNI-Trigger” module in order to be very sensitive and
116 to not loose any potential seismic trigger because the following modules of the CASP procedure are
117 able to identify triggers not related to seismic events.

118 Step 2 (“RSNI-Detect” module): the lists of the single station trigger times are read and analyzed in
119 order to identify the signal windows including potential events (e.g., earthquakes and explosions).
120 The module “RSNI-Detect” has been engineered to be easily and effectively portable to different
121 application cases, from small local seismic networks to large and dense regional ones. The event
122 detection algorithm may work considering a set of sub-networks, which may overlap, designed to
123 maximize the detection capability. The usage of sub-networks also optimizes the detection of
124 earthquakes with similar origin time but occurred in different areas. The “RSNI-Detect” module
125 requires an input configuration file containing the number of sub-networks, and the list of stations

126 belonging to each sub-network. The detector algorithm is based on a coincident system (that works
127 independently on each sub-network) defining the number of data channels (e.g., vertical
128 component) which must have triggered coincidentally within a coincidence window in order to
129 declare the start of a potential event. The module makes a further check on events detected
130 considering each sub-network in order to avoid the multiple identification of a same event. This
131 check is based on the comparison among earthquake locations computed using the trigger times as
132 P-phase picks by the NonLinLoc (Lomax et al. 2000, 2009) software (with a configuration
133 optimized for the study area).

134 As in the previous step, the parameters controlling the “RSNI-Detect” module (i.e., sub-network
135 geometries, number of stations which must be triggering coincidentally, coincidence window
136 length) can be set to have a very low detection threshold. This way, it is possible to recognize very
137 low-magnitude earthquakes and, generally, many false events too. All false events will be
138 effectively recognized and discarded during the last step of the automatic procedure (RSNI-Picker₂
139 module).

140 Step 3 (“RSNI-Extract” module): the seismograms of the recognized potential events are extracted
141 from the dataset collecting all the continuous recordings and converted in SAC format. Such
142 extraction is controlled by some user-definable parameters that are (i) the pre-event time (i.e.,
143 number of seconds before the event origin time as derived from the preliminary location obtained in
144 the previous step), (ii) the window length to extract, and (iii) the extraction radius (the maximum
145 epicenter-station distance, derived from the same preliminary location, allowed for the data
146 extraction of a station).

147 Step 4 (“RSNI-Picker₂” module): the extracted seismograms relevant to each recognized event are
148 processed through the “RSNI-Picker₂” software (Scafidi et al. 2018) in order to pick P- and S-phase
149 arrival times, locate the earthquake, compute magnitude and strong motion parameters (e.g., PGA,
150 PGV, PGD, IH, SA).

151 As described in detail in Spallarossa *et al.* (2014) and Scafidi *et al.* (2018), the “RSNI-Picker₂” is an
152 iterative procedure for automatically identifying phase arrival times through AIC algorithm (Akaike
153 1974) where pick identification is checked and refined based on locations computed at each
154 iteration. Such iterative structure allows an optimized recognition of false or imprecise picks. The
155 picking algorithm implements the NonLinLoc probability-based locator code (Lomax *et al.* 2000)
156 for locating events by using a 1D or 3D velocity model. Local magnitude (M_L ; Richter 1935, 1958)
157 and strong motion parameters calculations are performed by a multi-thread algorithm that allows to
158 overcome problems due to waveform saturation and/or distortion. “RSNI-Picker₂” provides a
159 quality estimate for each calculated parameter such as quality weight of automatic picks, standard
160 quality parameters of locations and uncertainty of the M_L values. The “RSNI-Picker₂” is also
161 equipped with a tool for identifying out-of-network events such as teleseisms or regional
162 earthquakes through an appropriate spectral analysis. Moreover, as shown by Scafidi *et al.* (2018)
163 that deeply tested the performances of the “RSNI-Picker₂”, all false events are recognized by this
164 algorithm since they are not locatable or located with a high level of uncertainty. The RSNI-Picker₂
165 module is controlled by several parameters driving, for example, the picker engine (e.g., filtering,
166 pick validation), and the location and magnitude computation tool (e.g., velocity model, attenuation
167 coefficients). Such parameters have to be carefully and empirically defined by the user as a function
168 of the kind of application (e.g. seismicity of the study area, network geometry, seismic signal
169 quality).

170 All processed data are stored in a PostgreSQL database from which they can be easily extracted
171 through SQL queries according to own needs.

172 The automatic procedure described above is summarized in the flowchart of figure 1.

173

174 **Comparison between manual and automatic catalogues**

175 In order to assess the reliability of the outcomes of the CASP procedure, we have compared

176 automatically derived catalogues with reference ones. The last have been provided by INGV and
177 they have been compiled through a careful manual revision made by expert seismologists. In the
178 present paper, we present two different application of the automatic procedure considering two
179 typical scenarios of use in seismology. In the first, the CASP procedure is tested analyzing the
180 seismicity of a wide area covered by a regional network, while, in the second, it is applied to study
181 the evolution of a seismic sequence in a small area and recorded by a dense network. The
182 comparison between reference and automatic catalogues has been made considering differences
183 among P- and S-phase picks (e.g., number of picked phases and arrival times), earthquake locations
184 (e.g., epicentral coordinates and depth), and local magnitude values.

185

186 **1) Regional seismicity case study: seismic catalogue of North-western Italy and surrounding** 187 **areas**

188 The first case study is aimed at testing the capability of the automatic procedure to compile a
189 complete and reliable seismic catalogue of a wide region. The seismically active area of the North-
190 western Italy (Figure 2) has been considered for this test, considering a period of 7 months starting
191 from January 1, 2017 to July 31, 2017. The area is 450 x 450 km wide (box in figure 2) and its
192 seismicity is monitored through 302 permanent seismic stations (triangles in figure 2). The daily
193 continuous recordings of all the seismic stations have been automatically downloaded from the
194 EIDA database (contributed from the Rete Sismica IV (Italian Seismic Network, INGV 2006) and
195 Rete Sismica GU (Regional Seismic Network of North-western Italy, University of Genoa, 1967),
196 using the “starting” module, and analyzed through the CASP procedure in order to compile the
197 seismic catalogue.

198 In order to optimize the event detection process (step 1 and 2), 23 different sub networks have been
199 defined considering the seismicity of the area and the network geometry (Figure 3). In a wide area
200 like the one here taken into account, the correct definition of these sub-networks is of crucial

201 importance mainly to correctly detect events with nearly coincident origin time, but occurred in
202 different places. In particular, 13 sub-networks are designed to detect the seismicity of the Alpine
203 region in the northern and western parts of the area, 5 sub-networks cover the area spanning from
204 the gulf of Genoa to the northern Apennines, 4 sub-networks extend in the Po Plain and foothill
205 areas, and 1 sub-network is specifically designed for detecting offshore earthquakes in the Ligurian
206 Sea.

207 3186 earthquakes have been detected and processed by the automatic procedure during the 7
208 months considered in this test and a total amount of 26558 P-wave and 23911 S-wave arrival times
209 have been automatically detected. The automatic catalogue carried out by the CASP procedure has
210 been compared to the Italian Seismic Bulletin published by INGV. In the same period and in the
211 same area the Italian Seismic Bulletin reports 943 earthquakes, localized through overall 9108 P-
212 wave and 5129 S-wave arrival times, taking into account only the stations considered in this test
213 (Figure 1). Figure 4 shows the differences between manual and automatic P- (panel a) and S-phase
214 arrival times (panel b), and between manual and automatic locations in terms of epicentral position
215 (panel c), focal depth (panel d), and magnitude values (panel e).

216 Regarding P-phases, the common manual and automatic readings are 7156. The picking rate (that is
217 the ratio between the total number of common automatic and manual readings to all available
218 manual ones) is about 79%. The distribution of the differences between the reference arrival times
219 and the automatic ones (Figure 4, panel a) shows an average value of 0.00 s with a standard
220 deviation of 0.16 s. The 92% of differences are within 0.1 s and the 95% are within 0.2 s.

221 Regarding the S-phase picks, the common readings are 4769. The picking rate is about 99%. The
222 distribution of the differences shows an average value of 0.05 s with a standard deviation of 0.26 s
223 (Figure 4, panel b). The 82% of the differences are within 0.2 s and the 93% are within 0.5 s. The
224 automatic S-phase readings tend, in average, to slightly anticipate the reference ones.

225 The comparison between manual and automatic data in terms of arrival times confirms what already

226 shown by Scafidi et al., 2016, that is that the automatic procedure is suitable to create a catalogue of
227 arrival times with a level of accuracy suitable to be employed in a local tomographic study.

228 Looking at the comparison in terms of earthquake locations, we have to keep in mind that some
229 differences could be also due to the different velocity model and locating methodology used by the
230 automatic and the manual procedures. The automatic procedure adopts the probabilistic approach of
231 NonLinLoc with a three-dimensional velocity models for P- and S-wave based on local
232 tomographic studies centered on the tested area (Scafidi et al. 2009, Scafidi and Solarino 2012). The
233 manual revised locations are calculated using the methodology described in Battelli et al., 2013,
234 based on a 1D velocity model with 3 layers, with a fixed P-wave to S-wave velocity ratio.

235 All earthquakes listed in the manual bulletin for the area under study have been detected and located
236 by the CASP procedure. The average difference between manual and automatic epicentral locations
237 is equal to 2.93 km with a standard deviation of 2.59 km and the 90% of the differences are within
238 6.17 km (Figure 4, panel c). Considering depth differences (that, generally, are more influenced by
239 the difference in the location procedure), the average difference value is 0.89 km with a standard
240 deviation of 4.90 km, and the 90% of data are within 6.02 km. On average, the automatic focal
241 depths are slightly shallower than the manual ones.

242 Regarding the magnitude, the average value of differences between reference and automatic values
243 stays within 0.3 (that is the average estimated error of magnitude calculation), with a standard
244 deviation of 0.2.

245 It is worth noting that, beyond the common events, the automatic procedure has detected 2243 more
246 events and a manual visual inspection on such events confirmed that they are real earthquakes. The
247 automatic catalogue reports, for the area under study, about 3 times more earthquakes. Figure 5
248 shows the depth and magnitude distribution of all events listed in the automatic catalogue (light
249 gray) versus those of all events in the INGV bulletin (dark gray). Most earthquakes added by the
250 automatic procedure are characterized by small magnitudes, also lower than 0, that were not present

251 in the reference bulletin. As a consequence, the magnitude of completeness of the automatic
252 catalogue results significantly lowered.

253 The CASP procedure took an average of 2.4 hours of computation times to process a complete day
254 of data on a standard workstation equipped with an Intel Core i7-7700 CPU using 4 parallel threads.

255

256 **2) Seismic sequence case study: catalogue of aftershocks following the 24 August 2016**

257 **“Amatrice” earthquake**

258 The second case study is aimed at testing the capability of the automatic procedure to compile a
259 catalogue during an intense seismic crisis. To this end, the data recorded by the dense network
260 installed after the Mw 6.0 “Amatrice” earthquake has been taken into account for the period August
261 24, 2016 to September 30, 2016. The daily continuous recordings of all available stations have been
262 automatically downloaded from the EIDA database. With respect to the previous test, the
263 considered area is smaller, 150 X 150 km wide (Figure 6), while the average number of events per
264 day is considerably higher (13465 earthquakes in 38 days, as reported in the INGV bulletin).

265 Figure 6 shows the earthquake distribution reported in the reference catalogue compiled by INGV
266 seismologists. Of note, that this reference bulletin is still preliminary, since data have not been fully
267 revised. The epicentral locations (circles, top panel), and the depth and magnitude distributions
268 (bottom panels) are reported.

269 To automatically compile the catalogue, the seismic stations have been grouped into 3 sub-networks
270 (Figure 7).

271 The differences between manual and automatic revised catalogue are shown in Figure 8. The
272 picking rate for P-phases is about 76% (the common automatic and manual readings are about
273 144000) while for S-phases is about 90% (more than 133000 are the common readings). The
274 average value of P-phase differences (i.e., the difference between manual and automatic P arrival
275 times) is equal to 0.06 s with a standard deviation of 0.31 s. About 89% of arrival time differences

276 are lower than 0.1 s and about 92% are within 0.2 s. For S-phase, the average difference is 0.07 s
277 (with a standard deviation of 0.40 s), about 86% of differences are lower than 0.2 s and about 94%
278 are within 0.5 s. Similarly to the previous test, the automatic S-phase readings tend, in average, to
279 slightly anticipate the reference ones.

280 Regarding the reference and automatic epicentral location differences (Figure 7), the average value
281 is 1.15 km, with a standard deviation of 2.04 km, and the 90% of epicentral differences are still
282 lower than 1.84 km. The focal depths computed by the CASP procedure are slightly shallower than
283 the manual ones. The average difference between manual and automatic focal depths is 3.14 km
284 with a standard deviation of 2.57 km, and the 90% of depth differences are within 5.93 km.

285 The automatically computed magnitude values are generally lower than the manual ones. The
286 average magnitude difference is about 0.5 with a standard deviation of 0.30 (that is within the
287 average estimated error of magnitude calculation). Probably, this effect can be also ascribed to the
288 focal depth differences, previously observed; the manually revised earthquakes are deeper than the
289 automatically derived ones and, as a consequence, their magnitude values tend to exceed the
290 automatic ones.

291 More than 95% of the events reported in the reference catalogue have been detected and localized
292 by the automatic procedure. As in the previous test, beyond the earthquakes listed in both reference
293 and automatic catalogue, the CASP procedure has recognized and located about 35000 more
294 seismic events. Figure 9 shows the depth and magnitude distribution of all earthquakes listed in the
295 automatic catalogue (light gray) versus those of all events in the INGV bulletin (dark gray). The
296 events recognized by the CASP procedure only are in average characterized by small magnitudes.
297 Figure 10 shows the temporal distribution of the number of events per day comparing the reference
298 and the automatic catalogues. It is evident that, during an intense seismic crisis like the one taken
299 into account here, the automatic procedure allows to averagely process (detect and localize) about
300 3.7 times more earthquakes than manual revision. Therefore, the automatic catalogue presents a

301 magnitude of completeness significantly lower than the reference one.

302 To process all data of the most seismically active day with more than 2000 detected events, the
303 CASP procedure took less than 8 hours of computation times on a standard workstation equipped
304 with an Intel Core i7-7700 CPU using 4 parallel threads. The CASP procedure has also proved to be
305 able to detect and locate up to more than 2 events occurring in a minute.

306

307 **Conclusions**

308 In this paper, we have presented a completely automatic procedure to produce a complete seismic
309 dataset (P- and S-wave arrival times, location and strong-motion parameters). This procedure uses
310 continuous recordings provided by a network of seismic stations (for example, downloadable from
311 an open-access database such as EIDA) to detect and locate earthquakes. The procedure is driven by
312 a set of user-definable parameters that can be opportunely calibrated according to network geometry
313 and seismic features of the target area. The picker engine employed into the CASP procedure is the
314 “RSNI-Picker₂” software proposed by Scafidi et al. (2018). The comparison of automatic catalogues
315 compiled by CASP with reference ones derived from the manual revision of the data made by
316 INGV seismologists, has shown the effectiveness and reliability of the proposed procedure.

317 As a result in both application tests taken into account in the present study, the most differences
318 (90% of data) among manual and automatic readings fall within 0.1 s for P-phases and 0.3 s for S-
319 phases with an average picking rate of about 77% and 94%, for P- and S-phase respectively.

320 Moreover, the automatically derived epicenters fall within few kilometers from the reference ones.

321 The focal depths computed by the CASP procedure showed an almost systematic shift with respect
322 to the reference ones even if the average differences are about 0.70 and 3.14 km for the two tested
323 scenarios. These differences are presumably due to the usage of different location methods (e.g.,
324 difference of location algorithm and velocity model) into automatic and manual processing.

325 Besides these encouraging results, it is worth stressing on the capability of the CASP procedure in

326 detecting and locating very low-magnitude earthquakes, leading to catalogue characterized by a
327 magnitude of completeness lower than that shown by reference bulletins. This advantage is
328 extremely evident when processing data during an intense seismic crisis characterized by a large
329 number of event per day. In such conditions, the very short processing time needed by the CASP
330 procedure allows a better recognition and a more complete analysis of the seismicity.

331 Following the previous considerations, our procedure appears a promising tool for automatically
332 compiling seismic datasets both in the context of seismic monitoring at a regional scale and during
333 seismic sequences. The reliability and accuracy of the automatically derived data showed that the
334 seismic datasets compiled through the CASP procedure can be confidently used in several
335 application fields in seismology or engineering-seismology such as seismic monitoring,
336 tomographic studies, seismotectonic analyses, seismic hazard assessments, and ground motion
337 prediction equation estimates.

338 Currently, the CASP software is effectively used in various scientific projects and operational
339 environments. It is used by the University of Genoa for the automatic seismic monitoring of the
340 North-western Italy and also for the automatic calculation of strong-motion parameters at dam sites
341 for the “Provincia Autonoma di Trento”. For both applications, the software automatically processes
342 data streams in real time. CASP has also been used as a state-of-the-art technique to develop a
343 comprehensive high-resolution earthquake catalog in the international scientific project “The
344 Central Apennines Earthquake Sequence Under a New Microscope”
345 (http://gotw.nerc.ac.uk/list_full.asp?pcode=NE%2FR000794%2F1&cookieConsent=A), led by
346 NERC British Geological Survey in partnership with USGS (United States Geological Survey),
347 INGV, University of Bristol, EPOS (European Plate Observing System), Stanford University and
348 Columbia University. Moreover, the research of Bindi et al., 2018, focused on Ground-Motion
349 Prediction Equations calibration in Central Italy, has been based on a high resolution earthquake
350 catalog created by the CASP software.

351

352 **Data and resources**

353 Seismic waveform data used in this study were collected by RSNI (Regional Seismic network of
354 North-western Italy, GU international code; University of Genoa, 1967) managed by the Università
355 degli Studi di Genova, and by the European Integrated Data Archive (EIDA) of the Observatories &
356 Research Facilities for European Seismology (ORFEUS). Reference manual bulletins were taken
357 from INGV(National Institute of Geophysics and Vulcanology). Most figures were prepared using
358 the Generic Mapping Tools software package (<http://gmt.soest.hawaii.edu/>).

359 Researchers interested in the CASP procedure are welcomed to contact the authors for any scientific
360 project or for a free trial.

361

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431 **Figure captions**

432

433 **Figure 1:** flowchart of the CASP procedure for compiling, in a fully automatic way, seismic
434 datasets.

435 **Figure 2:** map of the selected test area (rectangular box) for the regional seismicity case study. The
436 distribution of seismic stations (triangles) and the location of earthquakes (circles) taken from the
437 INGV manual database for the time period going from 2017-01-01 to 2017-07-31 are also shown.

438 **Figure 3:** sub-networks considered for compiling the catalogue of the North-western Italy
439 seismicity through the CASP procedure.

440 **Figure 4:** comparison between reference and automatic catalogue. Differences between reference
441 arrival times (manually picked) and concurrent automatic ones, for P- (a panel) and S-phase (b-
442 panel); Differences between reference location and concurrent automatic ones in terms of epicentral
443 differences (c panel), focal depth differences (d-panel), and magnitude differences (e panel).

444 **Figure 5:** magnitude and depth distribution of the earthquakes listed in the automatic catalogue
445 (light gray), and of earthquakes of the reference INGV bulletin (dark gray), for the north-western
446 Italy case study.

447 **Figure 6:** map of the selected test area (rectangular box) for the seismic sequence case study. The
448 distribution of seismic stations (triangles) and the location of earthquakes (circles) taken from the
449 INGV manual database for the time period going from 2016-08-24 to 2016-09-30 are also shown

450 **Figure 7:** sub-networks considered for compiling the catalogue of the seismic sequence through the
451 CASP procedure.

452 **Figure 8:** comparison between reference and automatic catalogue. Differences between reference
453 arrival times (manually picked) and concurrent automatic ones, for P- (a panel) and S-phase (b-

454 panel); Differences between reference location and concurrent automatic ones in terms of epicentral
455 differences (c panel), focal depth differences (d-panel), and magnitude differences (e panel).

456 **Figure 9:** magnitude and depth distribution of the earthquakes listed in the automatic catalogue
457 (light gray), and of earthquakes of the reference INGV bulletin (dark gray), for the seismic
458 sequence case study.

459 **Figure 10:** number of events per day as detected by the automatic procedure compared to the
460 number of events per day revised in the manual reference catalogue, for the seismic sequence case
461 study.

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Automatic Procedure Flowchart

**RAW SEED
WAVEFORMS**
*downloaded from
open archives
(i.e.: EIDA)**

* Also the data download
could be automatically
performed by the
"CASP" procedure for
an EIDA archive

STEP 1

RSNI-Trigger:
Station trigger
detection

STEP 2

RSNI-Detect:
event detection

STEP 3

RSNI-Extract:
time window
data extraction

STEP 4



integrated data analyses:
P+S phase picking,
event location and
characterization

Figure 2

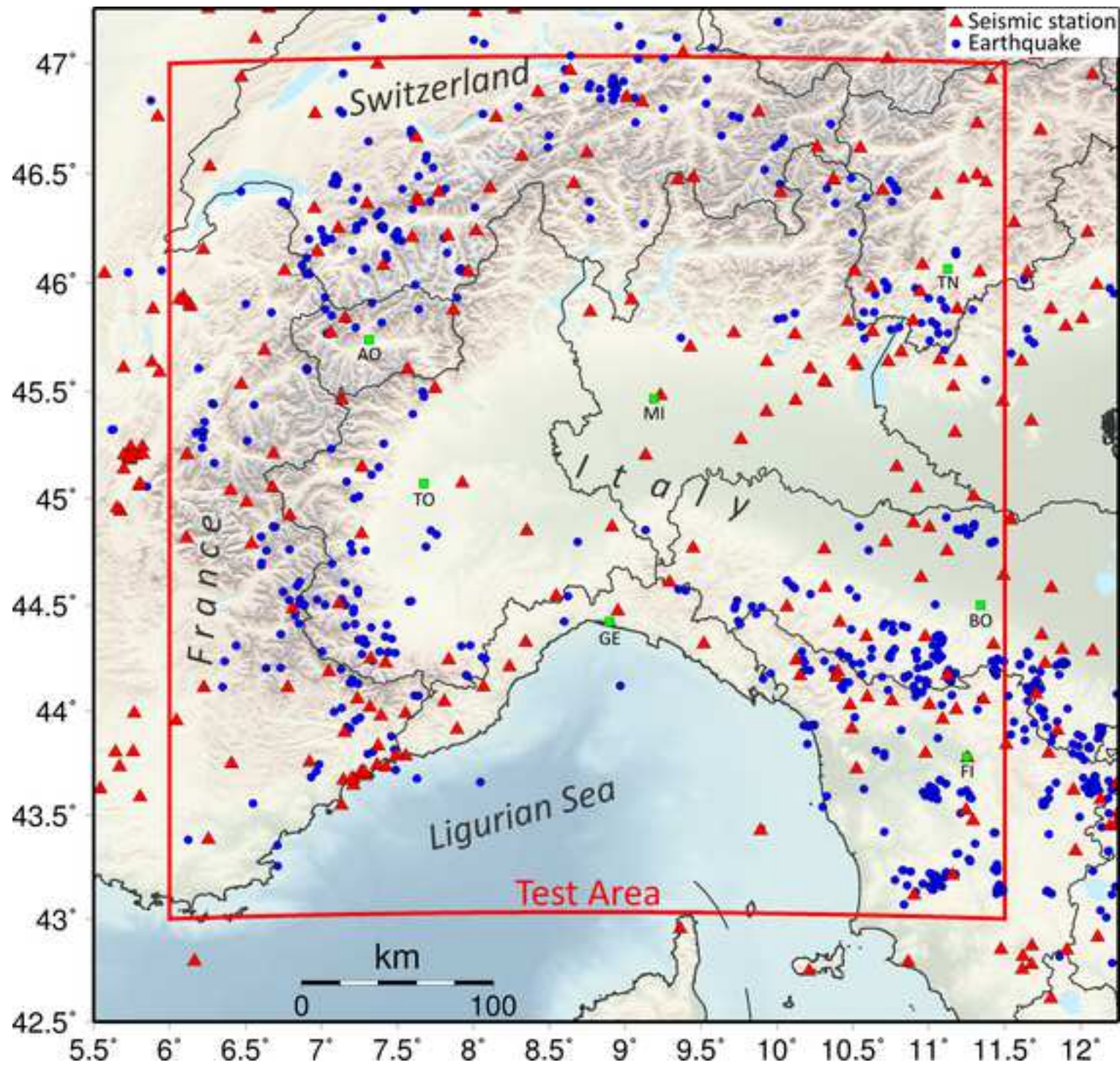


Figure 3

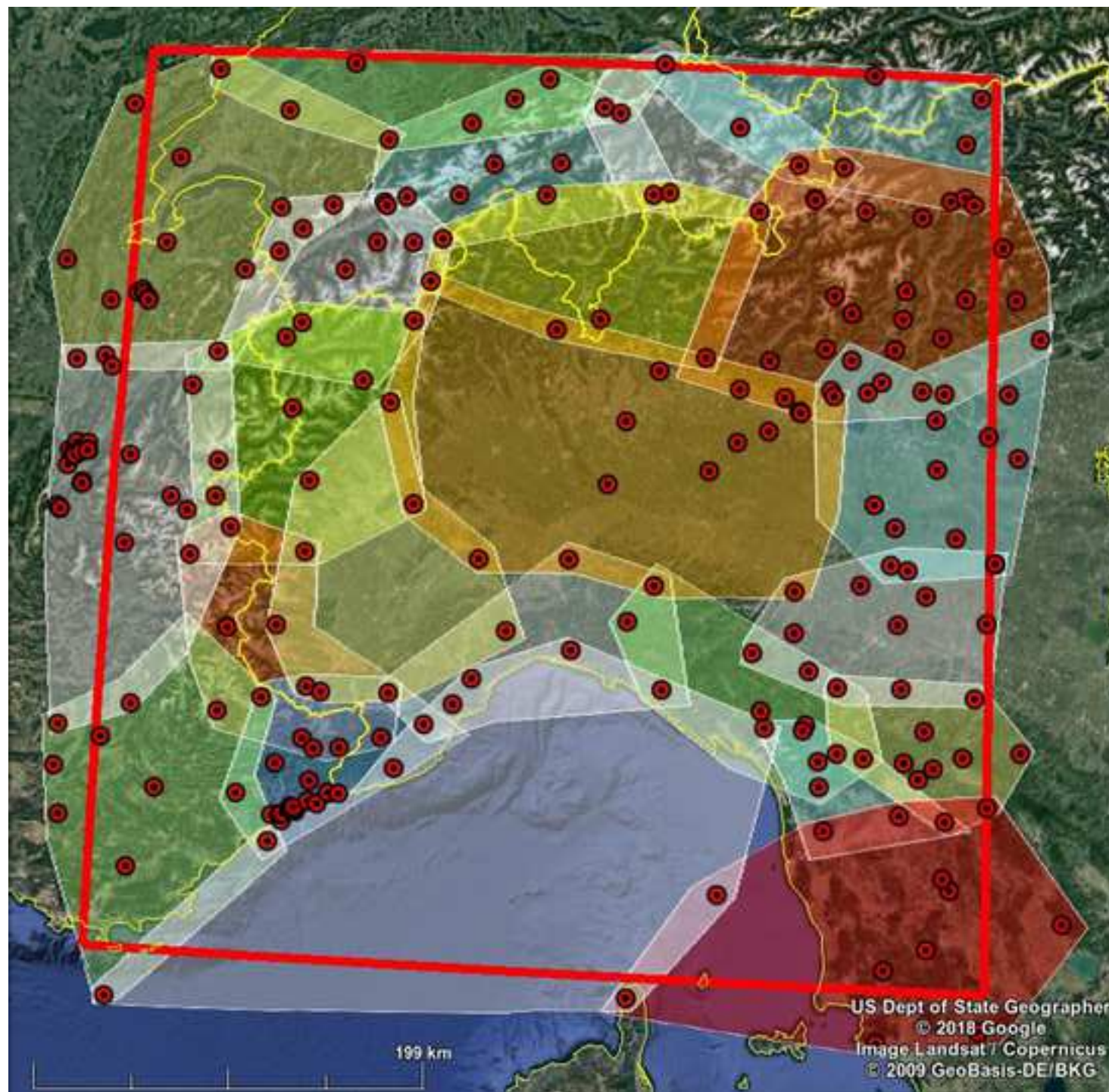
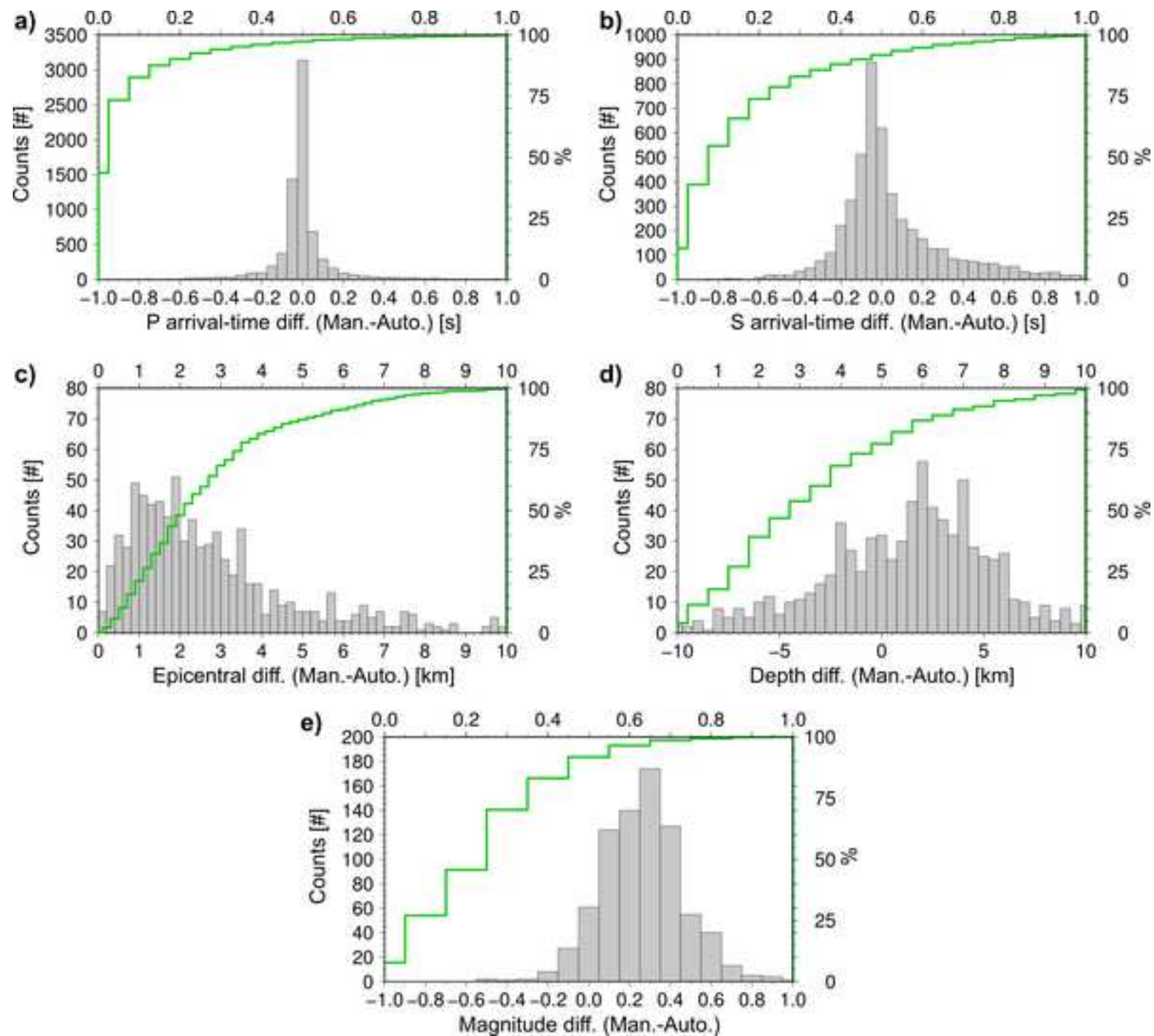


Figure 4

[Click here to access/download;Figure;Fig4.tif](#)

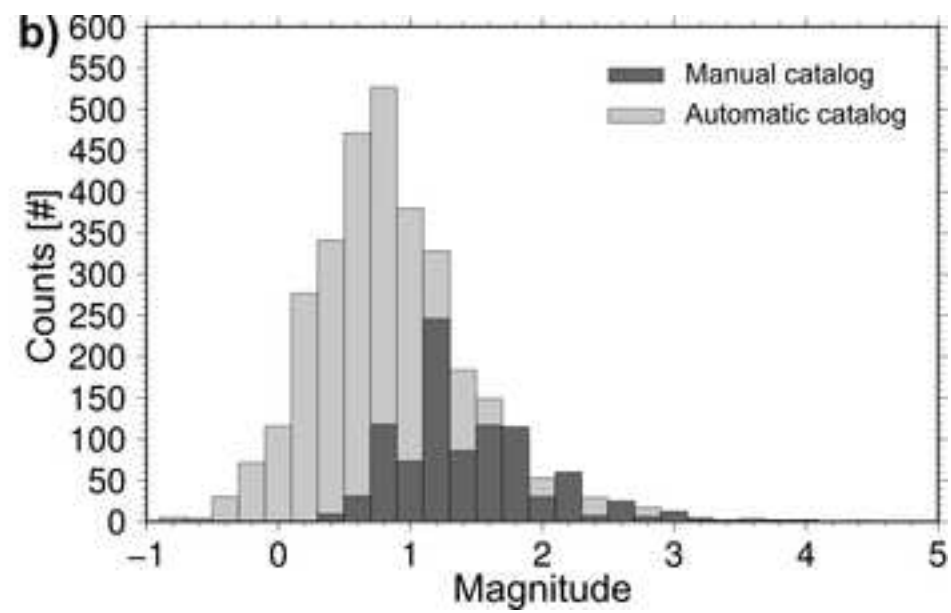
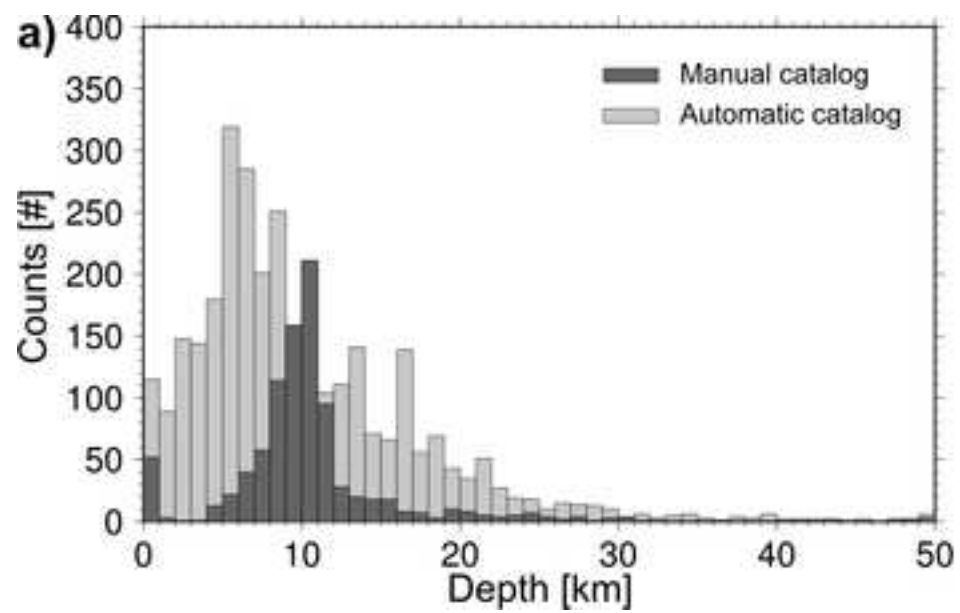
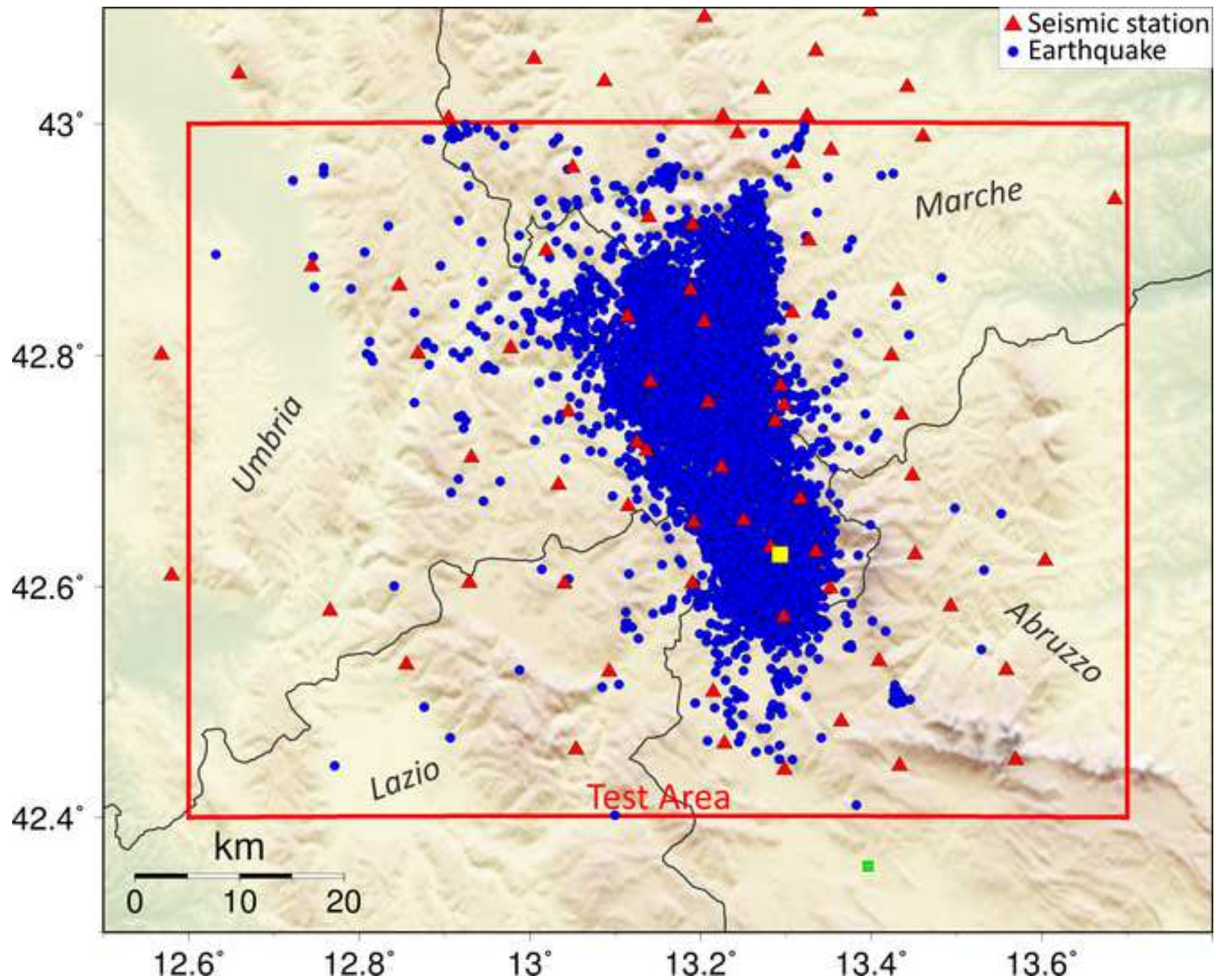
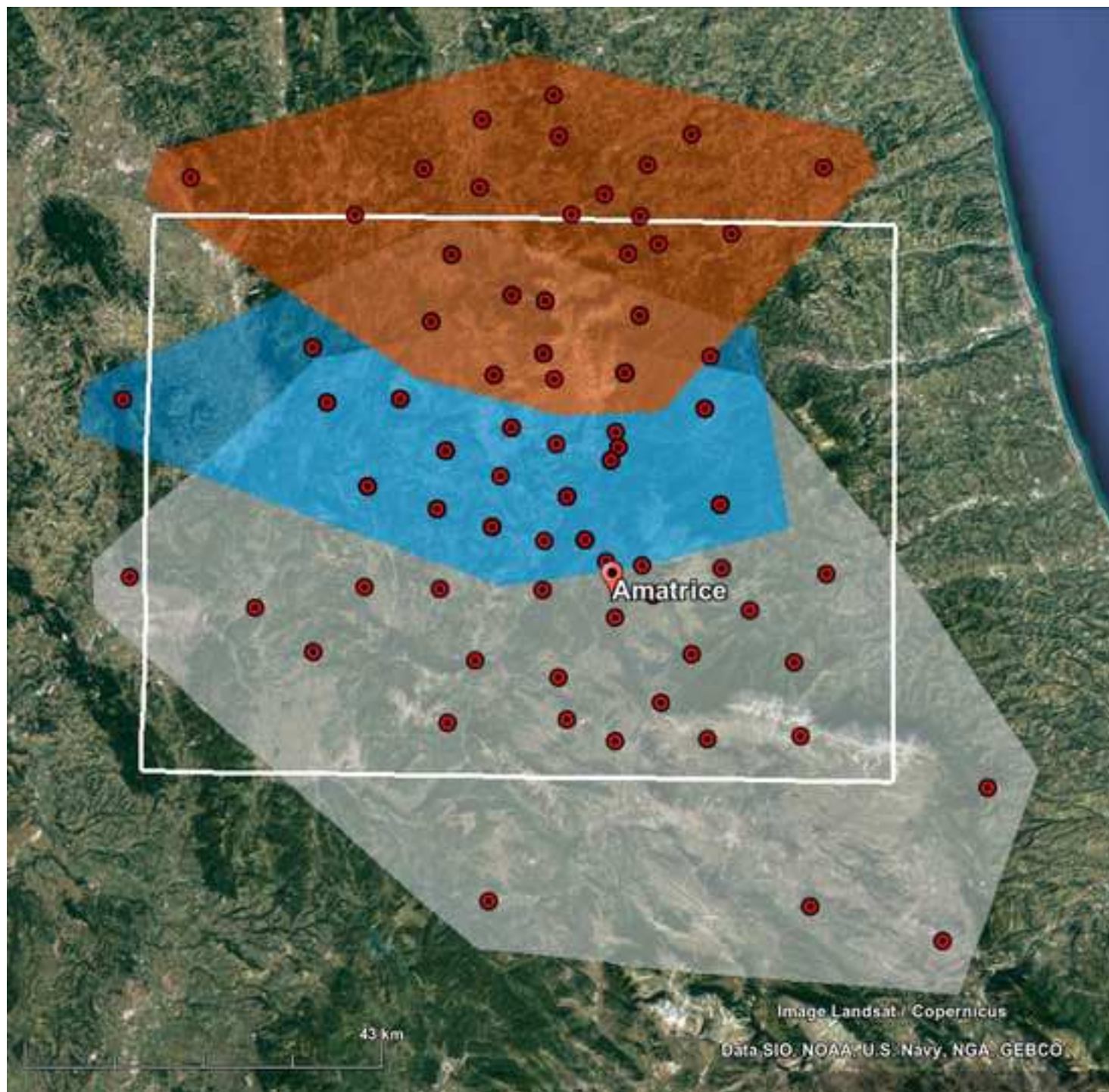
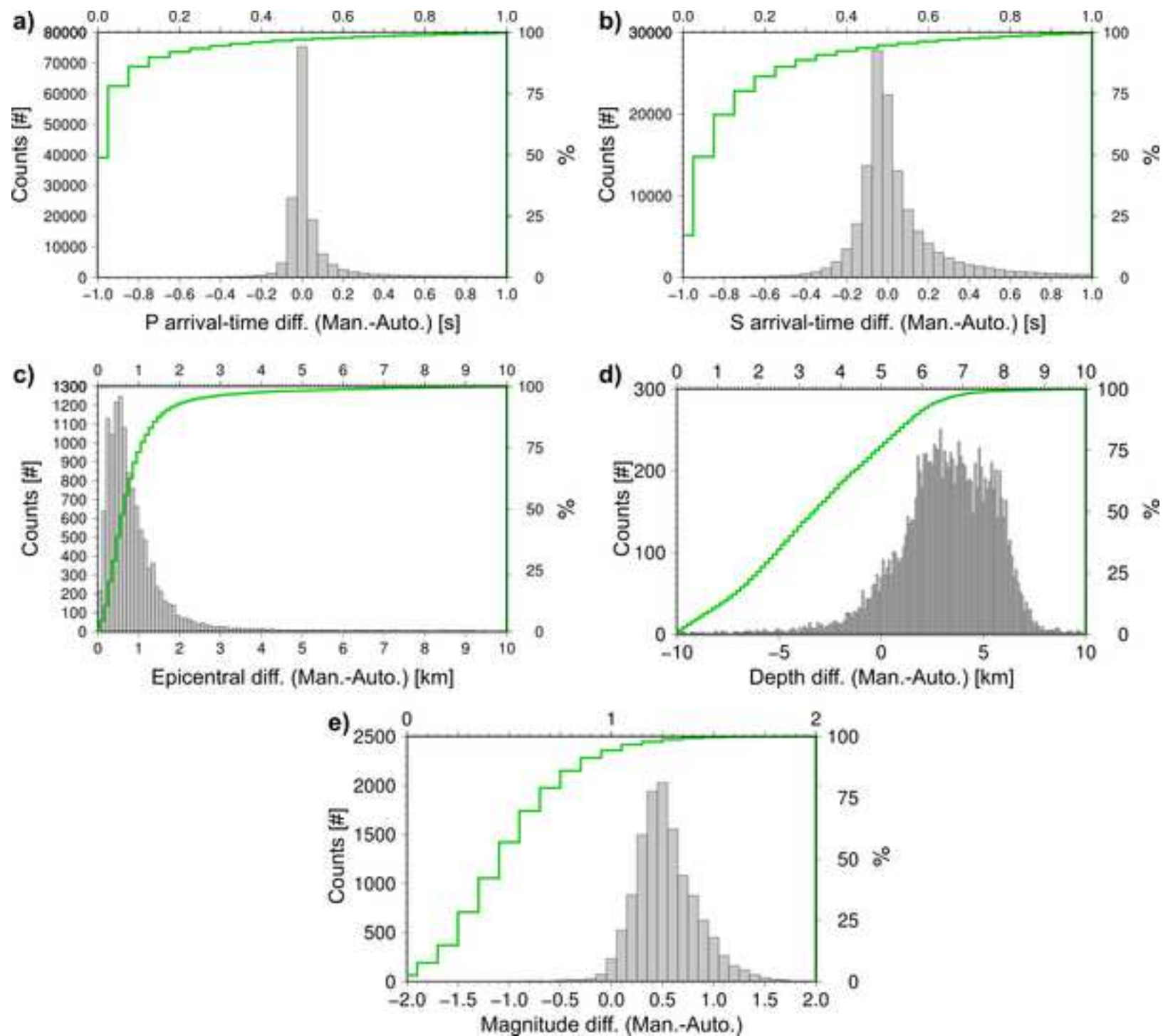


Figure 6







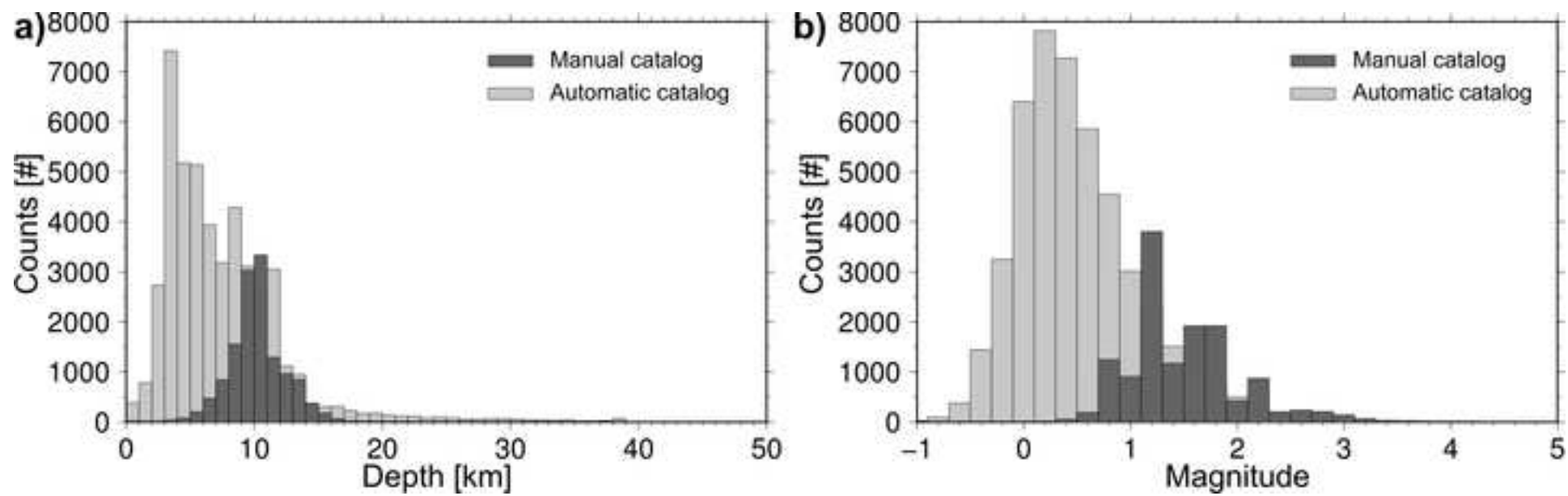


Figure 10

