

Hazard-dependent soil factors for site-specific elastic acceleration response spectra of Italian and European seismic building codes – an update from recorded accelerograms

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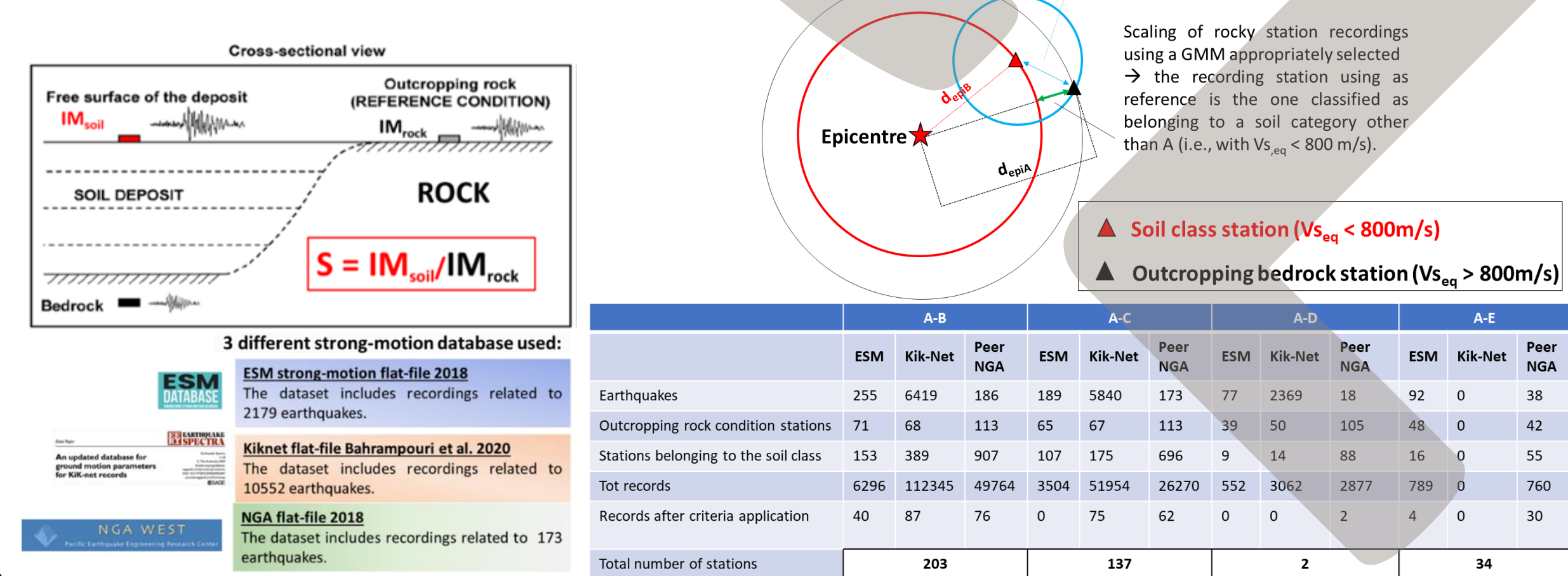
OVERVIEW

Most seismic building codes worldwide allow the definition of the seismic action (horizontal component of ground motion) using a simplified approach based on modifying the ordinates of an elastic acceleration or displacement response spectrum expected on outcropping bedrock through appropriate soil factors.

In 2018 the authors have published an article on assessing the reliability of current Eurocode 8 and the Italian building code (NTC18) soil factors using the results of a large number of numerical simulations. In this work the same authors update their 2018 study by including strong motion data from real recordings. Updated hazard-dependent soil factors for Eurocode 8 and the Italian building code (NTC18) are defined by complementing numerical and real ground motion data. The role of epistemic uncertainty in specifying soil amplification factors is highlighted also through a comparison with soil factors calculated from other international building codes (e.g. 2021 IBC and ASCE 7-16) and recent publications

COMPOSITE DATASET OF GROUND MOTION

A composite dataset of weak and strong-motion recording has been constructed using three accelerometric archives: ESM, Kik-Net, PEER-NGA West. The composite dataset includes recordings that were simultaneously recorded by pairs of seismic stations located at outcropping bedrock sites (i.e. soil class A) and at the ground surface (i.e. soil classes other than A). To correct the potential differences in the strong motion data due to the source-to-site distances between soil and bedrock outcropping seismic stations, the recordings have been scaled using appropriate ground motion models (GMM).



SOIL FACTORS IN CURRENT BUILDING STANDARDS

NTC18

$$S_e(T) = \begin{cases} a_g \cdot S_s \cdot \left[\frac{T}{T_B} \cdot (\eta \cdot F_0 - 1) + 1 \right] & 0 \leq T \leq T_B \quad (1.1) \\ a_g \cdot S_s \cdot \eta \cdot F_0 & T_B \leq T \leq T_C \quad (1.2) \\ a_g \cdot S_s \cdot \eta \cdot F_0 \cdot \left[\frac{T_C}{T} \right] & T_C \leq T \leq T_D \quad (1.3) \\ a_g \cdot S_s \cdot \eta \cdot F_0 \cdot \left[\frac{T_C \cdot T_D}{T^2} \right] & T_D \leq T \quad (1.4) \end{cases}$$

EC8

$$S_e(T) = \begin{cases} a_g \cdot S \cdot \left[\frac{T}{T_B} \cdot (\eta \cdot F_0 - 1) + 1 \right] & 0 \leq T \leq T_B \quad (2.1) \\ a_g \cdot S \cdot \eta \cdot F_0 & T_B \leq T \leq T_C \quad (2.2) \\ a_g \cdot S \cdot \eta \cdot F_0 \cdot \left[\frac{T_C}{T} \right] & T_C \leq T \leq T_D \quad (2.3) \\ a_g \cdot S \cdot \eta \cdot F_0 \cdot \left[\frac{T_C \cdot T_D}{T^2} \right] & T_D \leq T \leq 4s \quad (2.4) \end{cases}$$

2021-DRAFT EC8

$$S_e(T) = \begin{cases} \frac{S_\alpha}{F_A} & 0 \leq T \leq T_A \quad (3.1) \\ \frac{S_\alpha}{T_B - T_A} \left[\eta(T - T_A) + \frac{T_B - T}{F_A} \right] & T_A \leq T \leq T_B \quad (3.2) \\ \eta S_\alpha & T_B \leq T \leq T_C \quad (3.3) \\ \eta \frac{S_\beta T_\beta}{T} & T_C \leq T \leq T_D \quad (3.4) \\ \eta T_D \frac{S_\beta T_\beta}{T^2} & T \geq T_D \quad (3.5) \end{cases}$$

Where:

$$T_B = \begin{cases} \frac{T_C}{\chi} & 0.05s \leq \frac{T_C}{\chi} \leq 0.10 \\ 0.05s & 0.05s < \frac{T_C}{\chi} \\ 0.10s & \frac{T_C}{\chi} > 0.10s \end{cases}$$

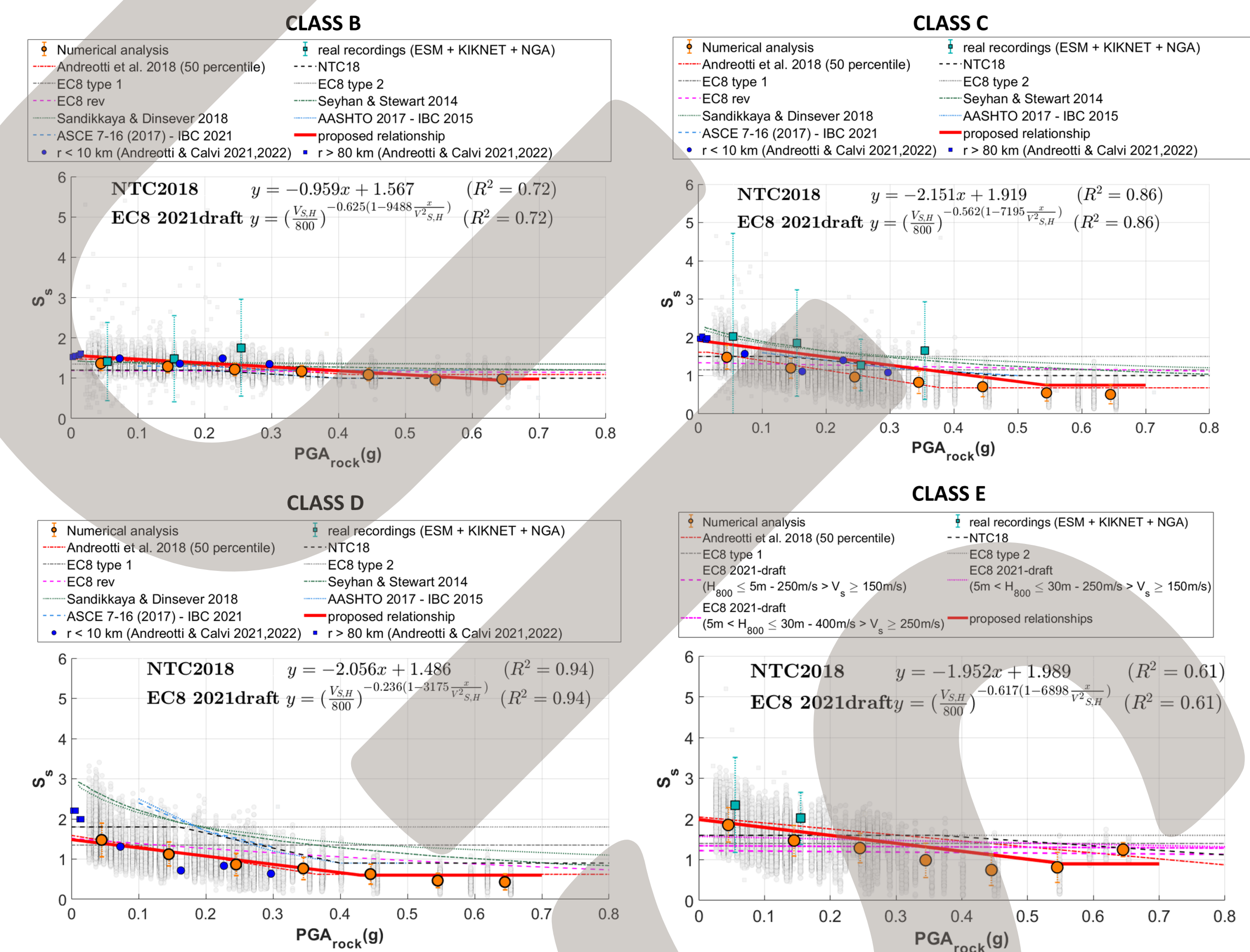
$$T_C = \frac{S_\beta T_\beta}{S_\alpha}$$

$$S_\alpha = F_T F_\alpha S_{\alpha,RP} \quad (3.6)$$

$$S_\beta = F_T F_\beta S_{\beta,RP} \quad (3.7)$$

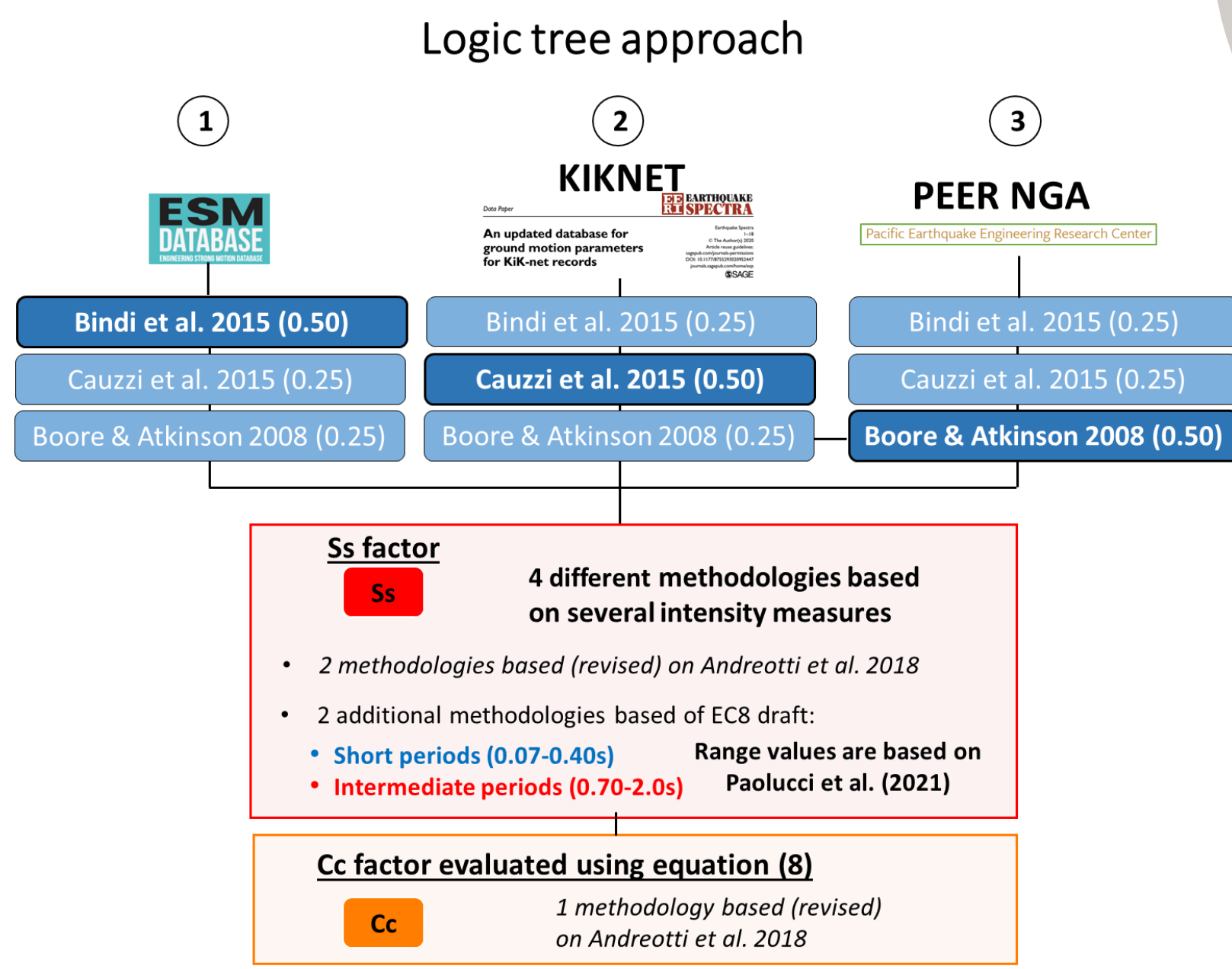
RESULTS

Empirical relationships were proposed for soil factors S_s and C_c according to the approaches proposed by the Italian Building code (NTC18) and the 2021-draft EC8 with different intensity measures were proposed. The newly proposed soil factors, obtained from an integrated dataset composed of real and synthetic ground motions, have been compared with those specified in major building codes worldwide



METHODOLOGY

A multi-parametric study that robustly calculated intensity-dependent soil amplification factor for building code applications. Strict criteria have been imposed to increase the accuracy of the results. The influence of the methodology used to define the soil amplification factors thereby investigating the epistemic uncertainty. Four distinct methods were employed to calculate the soil amplification factors S_s for both the current Italian building code NTC18 and the 2021 draft of EC8, while two formulations were used for the definition of the soil coefficient C_c



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Soil Class	PGA	Italian building code NTC18 - Ss		
		Sa-max	Short period (F _a)	Intermediate period
A	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
B	$0.98 \leq 1.57 - 0.96 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{800}$	$1.00 \leq 1.72 - 0.36 F_0 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{800}$	$1.00 \leq 1.91 - 0.49 F_0 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{800}$	$1.49 - 0.19 S_\beta$
C	$0.75 \leq 1.92 - 2.15 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{800}$	$0.68 \leq 2.10 - 0.79 F_0 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{800}$	$0.68 \leq 2.37 - 0.95 F_0 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{800}$	$2.20 - 1.24 S_\beta$
D	$0.60 \leq 1.49 - 2.06 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{800}$	$0.62 \leq 1.43 - 0.49 F_0 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{800}$	$0.40 \leq 1.38 - 0.73 F_0 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{800}$	$1.86 - 0.97 S_\beta$
E	$0.90 \leq 1.99 - 1.95 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{800}$	$0.95 \leq 2.28 - 0.72 F_0 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{800}$	$0.75 \leq 2.20 - 0.68 F_0 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{800}$	$1.25 \leq 2.60 - 2.68 S_\beta$

Soil Class	T _C (s)	NTC18 - Tc	
		C _c = $\frac{T_C}{T_C}$	
A	1.00	1.00	
B	$0.093 + 0.703 T_C^*$	$0.735 T_C^* + 0.207$	
C	$0.119 + 0.905 T_C^*$	$1.070 T_C^* + 0.225$	
D	$0.252 + 0.558 T_C^*$	$0.753 T_C^* + 0.223$	
E	$0.146 + 0.522 T_C^*$	$0.529 T_C^* + 0.227$	

Soil Class	PGA	2021-draft EC8 - soil factor S		
		Sa-max	Short period (F _a)	Intermediate period (F _b)
A	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
B	$0.98 \leq \left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.625(1-9488 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{V_{s,N}})}$	$1.00 \leq \left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.752(1-3235 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{V_{s,N}})}$	$1.00 \leq \left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.897(1-4018 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{V_{s,N}})}$	$0.560(1-1930 \frac{S_\beta}{V_{s,N}})$
C	$0.75 \leq \left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.562(1-7190 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{V_{s,N}})}$	$0.68 \leq \left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.616(1-2207 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{V_{s,N}})}$	$0.68 \leq \left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.717(1-2363 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{V_{s,N}})}$	$0.654(1-3323 \frac{S_\beta}{V_{s,N}})$
D	$0.60 \leq \left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.236(1-3170 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{V_{s,N}})}$	$0.62 \leq \left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.213(1-782 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{V_{s,N}})}$	$0.40 \leq \left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.193(1-1211 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{V_{s,N}})}$	$0.369(1-1190 \frac{S_\beta}{V_{s,N}})$
E	$0.90 \leq \left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.617(1-6898 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{V_{s,N}})}$	$0.95 \leq \left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.741(1-2200 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{V_{s,N}})}$	$0.75 \leq \left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.631(1-2384 \frac{V_{s,eq}}{V_{s,N}})}$	$1.25 \leq \left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.858(1-7233 \frac{S_\beta}{V_{s,N}})}$

Soil Class	T _C (s)	2021-draft EC8 - Tc	
		C _c = $\frac{T_C}{T_C}$	
A	1.00	1.00	
B	$\left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.860(1-1930 \frac{S_\beta}{V_{s,N}})}$	$S_{\beta,RP} T_\beta$	
C	$\left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.654(1-3323 \frac{S_\beta}{V_{s,N}})}$	$S_{\beta,RP} T_\beta$	
D	$\left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.369(1-1190 \frac{S_\beta}{V_{s,N}})}$	$S_{\beta,RP} T_\beta$	
E	$\left(\frac{V_{s,eq}}{800} \right)^{-0.858(1-7233 \frac{S_\beta}{V_{s,N}})}$	$S_{\beta,RP} T_\beta$	