



**Determining  $V_{S30}$  based on empirical equations of  
the shear-wave velocity with void ratio and effective stress relationships  
and extrapolation methods for the Taipei Basin**

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MOTIVATION:

What is the  $V_{s30}$  ?

The time-average shear wave velocity ( $V_s$ ) of upper 30 meters of a soil profile. BSSC,2001

$V_{s30}(m/s)$	Class	Description
>1500	A	Hard rock
760-1500	B	Rock
360-760	C	Very dense soil/ soft rock
180-360	D	Stiff soil
<180	E	Soft soil

The Site classification is an important factor in seismic hazard evaluation.

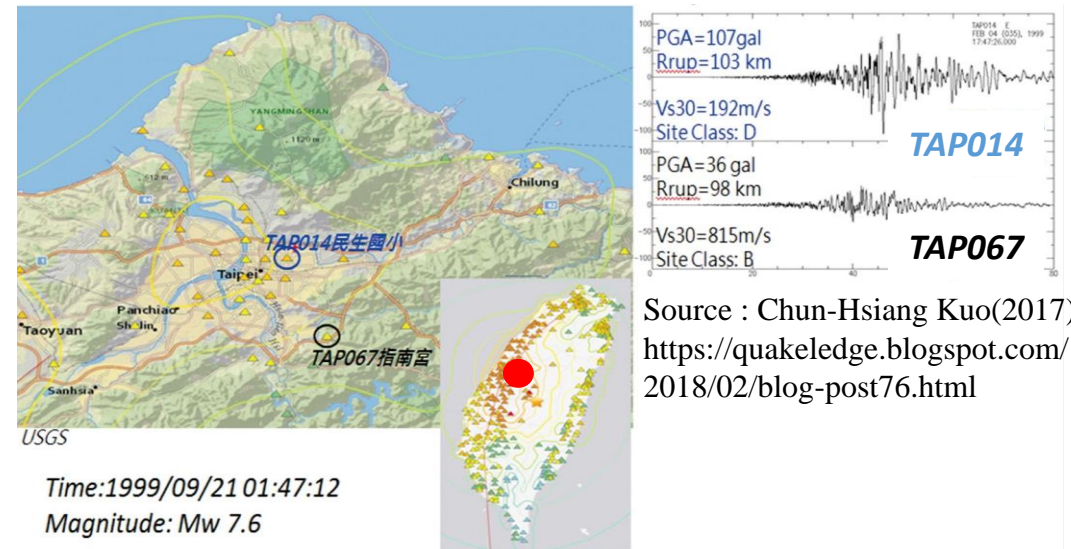
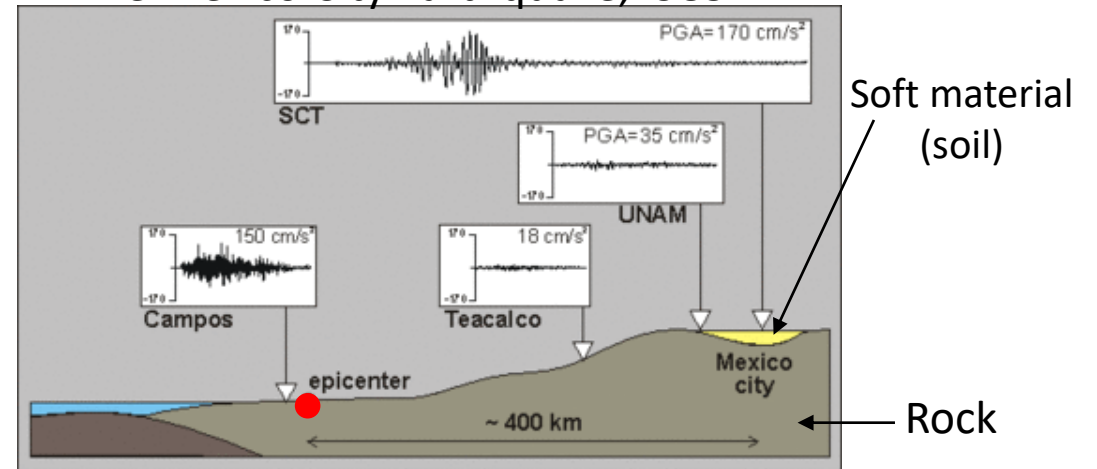
Ground Motion Prediction Equation

$$\ln(Y) = C_1 + C_2M + C_4 \ln(R + C_5 e^{C_6 M}) + C_7 R + C_8 H + C_9 \ln\left(\frac{V_{s30}}{1130}\right) + C_{10} Z_t + C_{11} F_{nm} + C_{12} F_{rv}$$

Yang (2019)

What is seismic site effect?

The Mexico City Earthquake, 1985



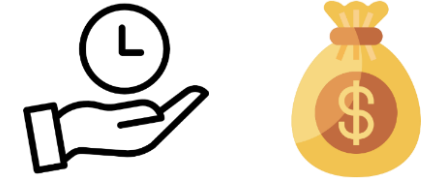
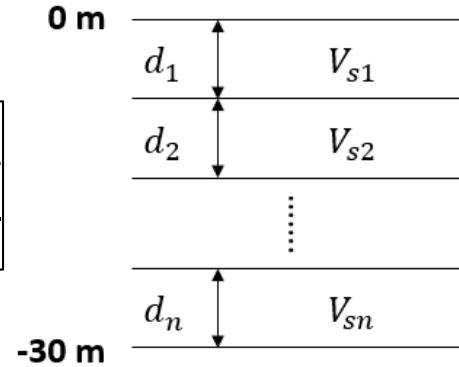
# How to estimate Vs30 ?

## Geophysical prospecting :

- Seismic refraction method
- **Suspension PS logging**
- Downhole logging
- Crosshole logging

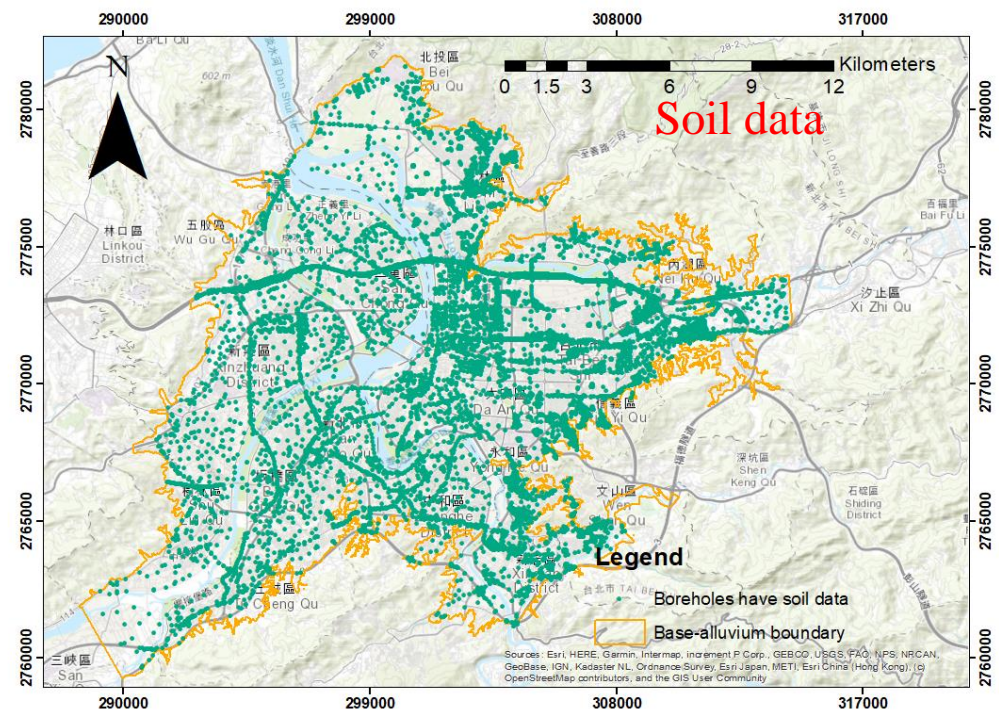
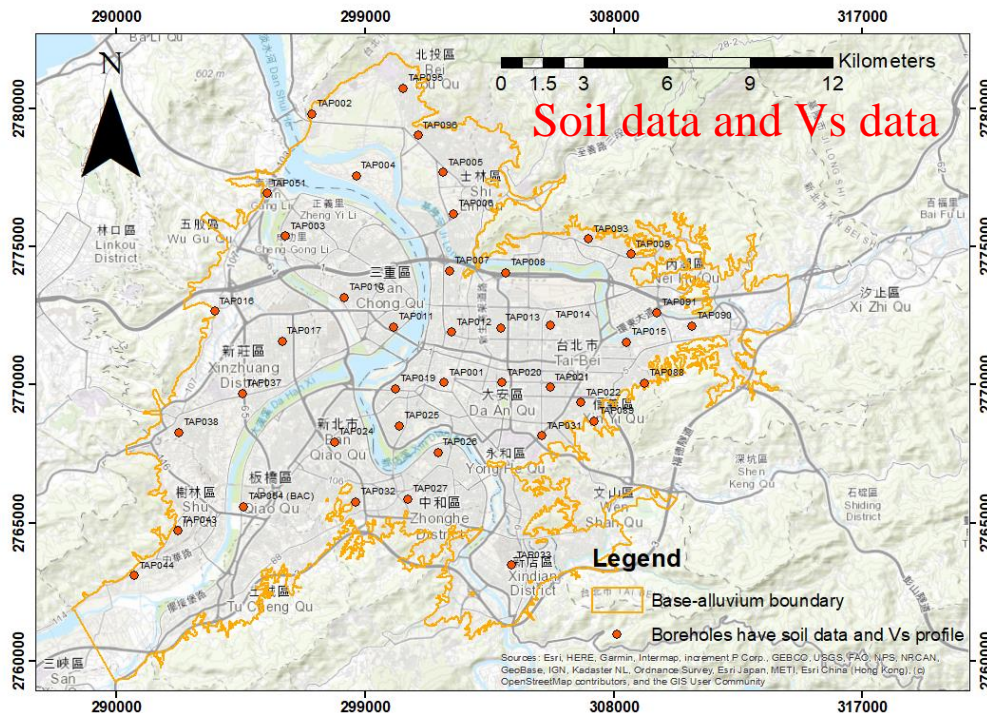


$$V_{s30} = \frac{30}{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{d_i}{V_{si}}}$$



It is **time-consuming** and need a lot of **money** in **large area** investigation

# Study Area: Taipei Basin



**The Vs estimate from other parameters :**

$V_s = aN^b D^c$	Ohta and Goto (1978)
$V_s = aN^b$	Lee and Tsai (2008)
$\ln(V_s) = f(N_{60}, \sigma'_v, FC, PI, OCR)$	Tsai et al. (2019)

*D*: Depth

*N*: SPT-N value

$\sigma'_v$  : Vertical effective stress

*FC*: Fines content

*OCR*: Over Consolidation Ratio

*PI*: Plasticity index

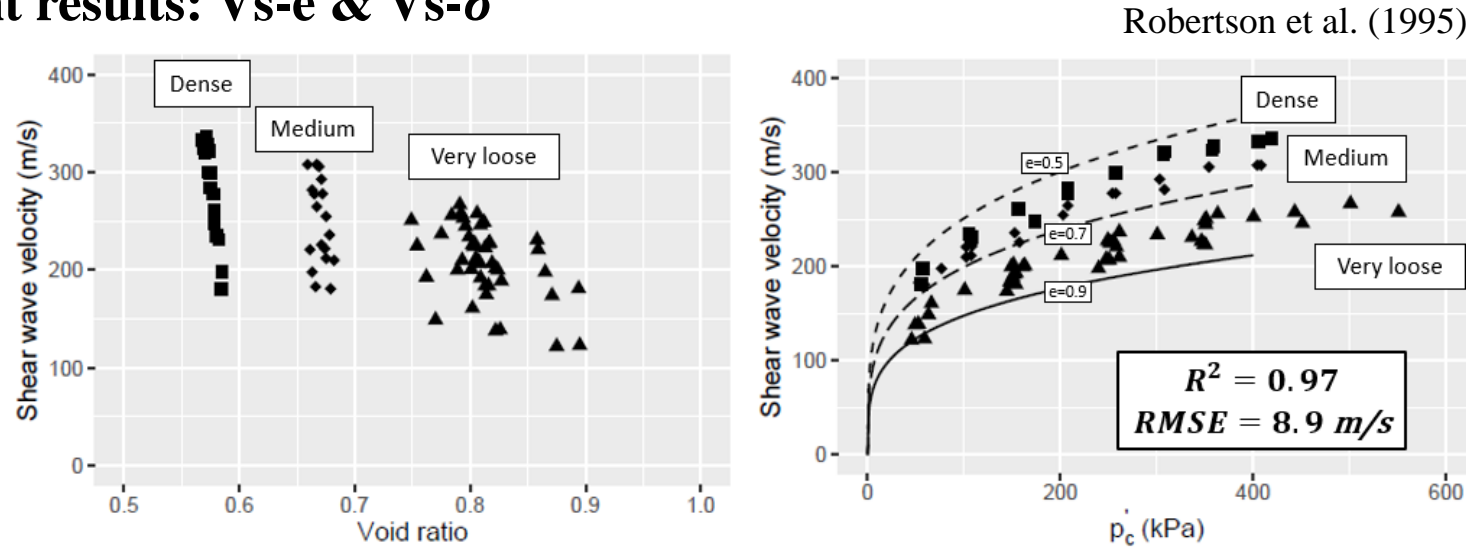
**The Vs estimate by extrapolation methods :**

$\log V_{s30} = a + b \log V_{s(d)}$	Boore (2004)
Bottom constant velocity	Kuo et al. (2009,2011)
Conditional independence property	Dai et al.,2013

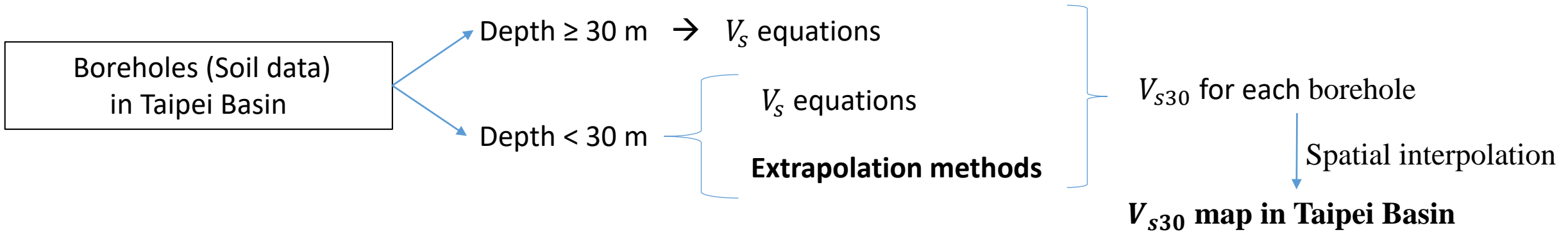
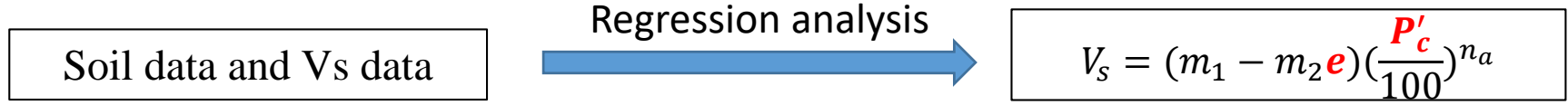
PURPOSE:

Correlation between  $V_s$ ,  $e$  and  $\sigma'_v$  (laboratory data)

Experiment results:  $V_s$ - $e$  &  $V_s$ - $\sigma'$



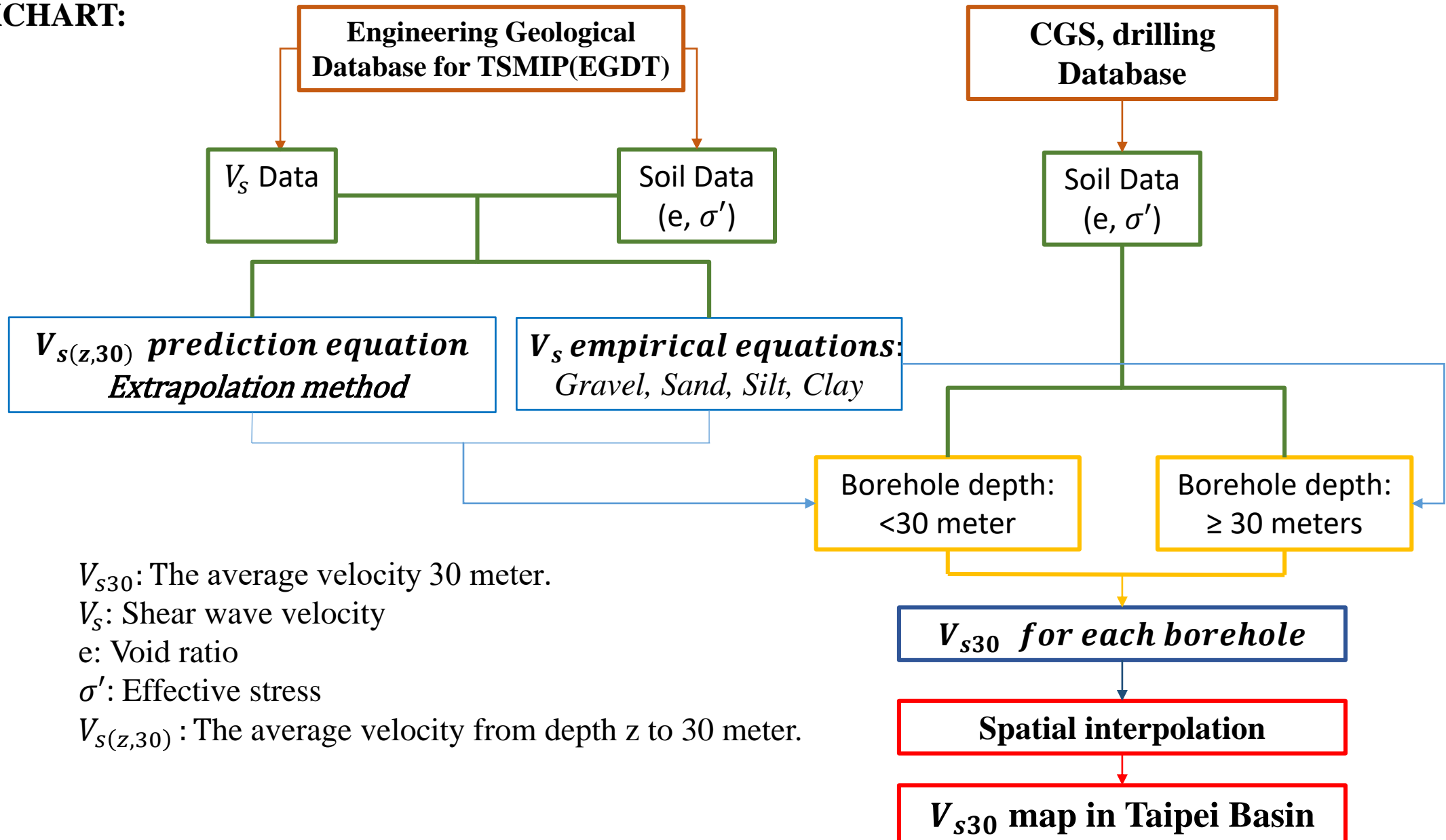
$e$  : Soil void ratio  
 $\sigma'_v$  : Vertical Effective Stress  
 $\sigma'_h$  : Horizontal Effective Stress  
 $P'_c$  : Mean Effective Stress





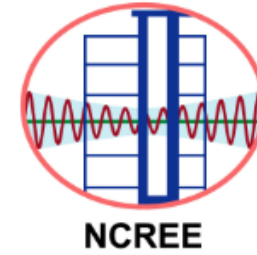
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# Methodology

**WORKCHART:**



Engineering Geological Database for TSMIP (EGDT)



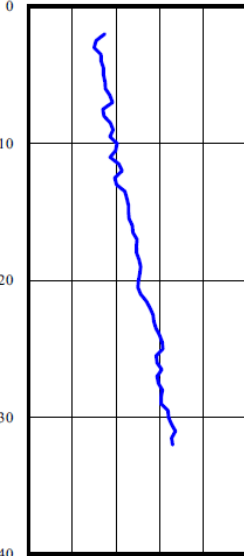
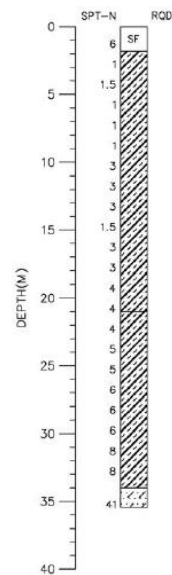
41 boreholes

Soil profile characteristics are determined by subsurface investigation and field/lab testing program.

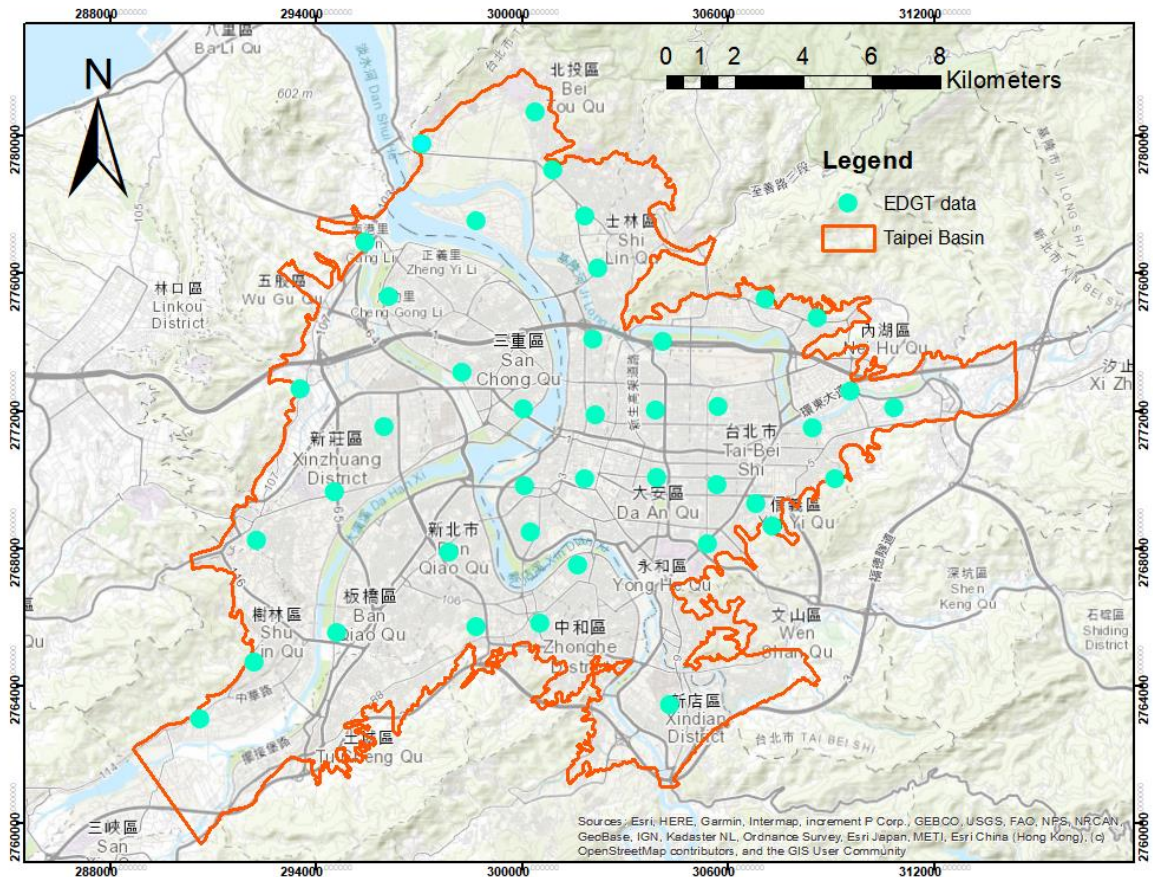
Soil Data(e,  $\sigma'$ )

Suspension PS logging method

TAP005 S-Wave (m/sec)



Sandy clay and silt clay
Silty sand and sand-silt mixture



Vs Data

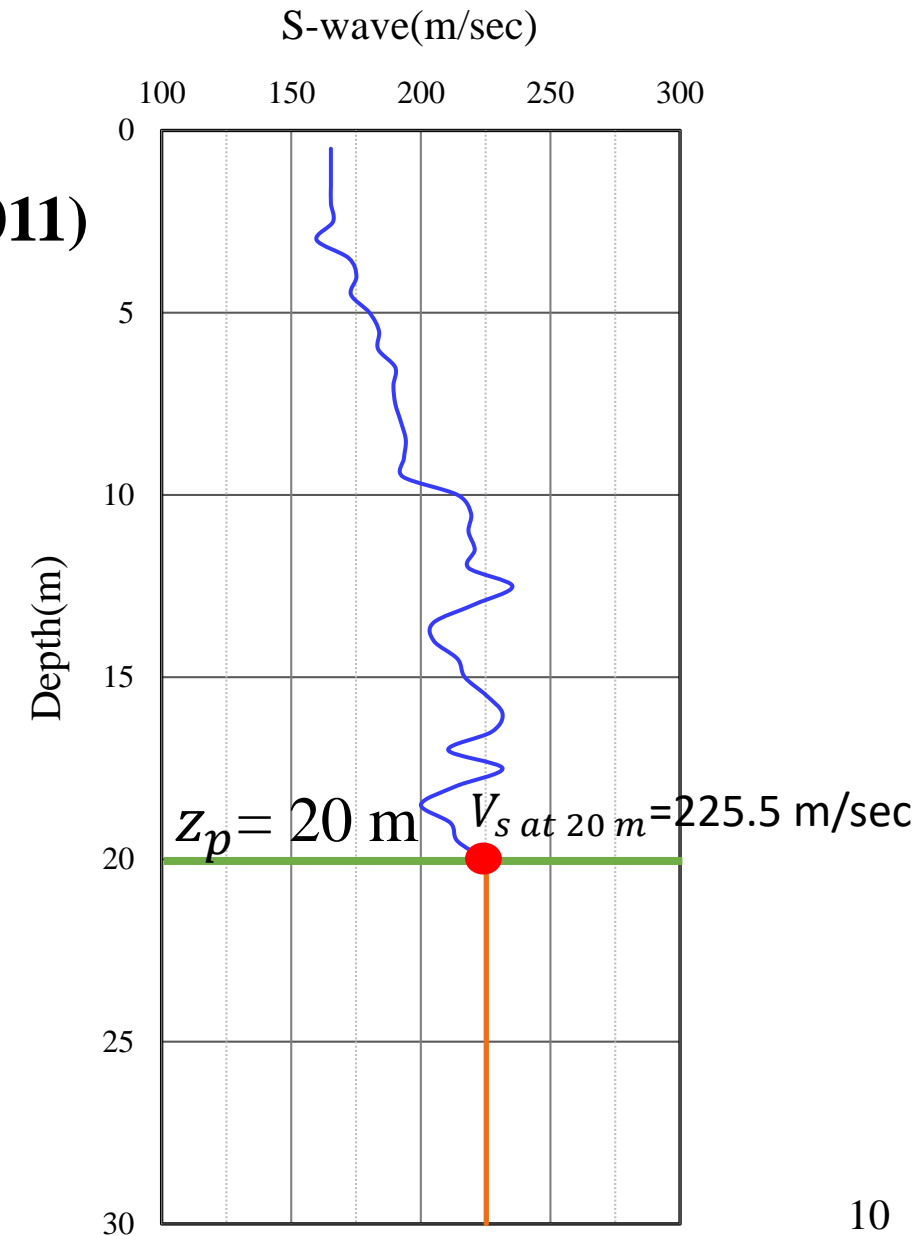
## 2.1: Extrapolation methods

### Bottom constant velocity (BCV) model (Kuo et al., 2009,2011)

- The assumption of model that  $V_s$  is constant from  $z_p$  to 30m

$$V_{s30} = \frac{30}{\Delta t_z + \frac{30 - z_p}{V_s(z_p)}} \quad (1)$$

$\Delta t_z$  the shear wave travel time from  $z_p$  to the surface



## Conditional independence property model (CIP) (Dai et al.,2013)

- The assumption that the  $V_s$  profile is a Markov process starting from  $z = 0$
- The instantaneous velocity at depth  $Z_p$ , the average velocity from surface to the depth  $Z_p$  ( $V_{SZ}$ ) cannot be effectively in estimating the average velocity from depth  $Z_p$  to 30 m ( $V_{s(z_p,30)}$ )

$$\log(V_{s(z,30)}) = c_0 + c_1 \log V_{SZ} \quad (2)$$

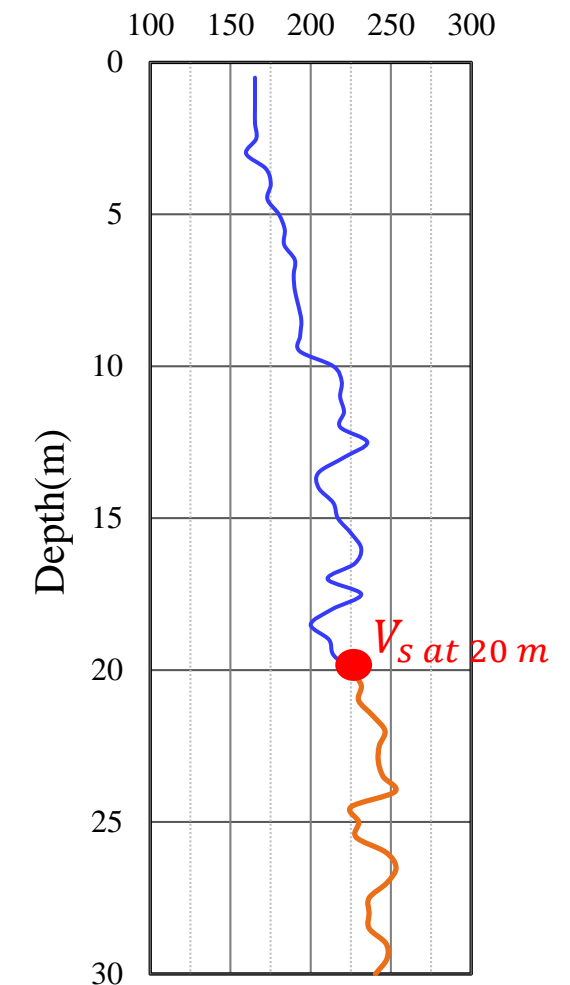
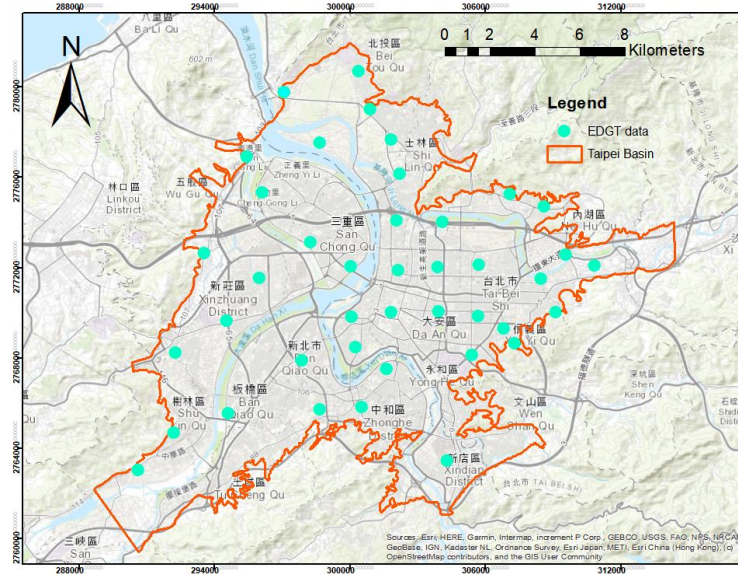
$c_0, c_1$  : regression coefficients

- Using the average velocity from  $z$  to 30 m to estimate  $V_{s30}$

$$V_{s30} = \frac{30}{\Delta t_z + \frac{30 - z_p}{V_{s(z_p,30)}}} \quad (3)$$

$\Delta t_z$  the shear wave travel time from  $z_p$  to the surface

Boreholes have Vs data



## 2.2 Correlation between $V_s$ ( Shear wave velocity), $e$ (void ratio) and $\sigma'_v$ ( effective stress)

Data collecting and selecting

Velocity Data Quality

USCS; void ratio; vertical effective stress from laboratory test

Stratum Description

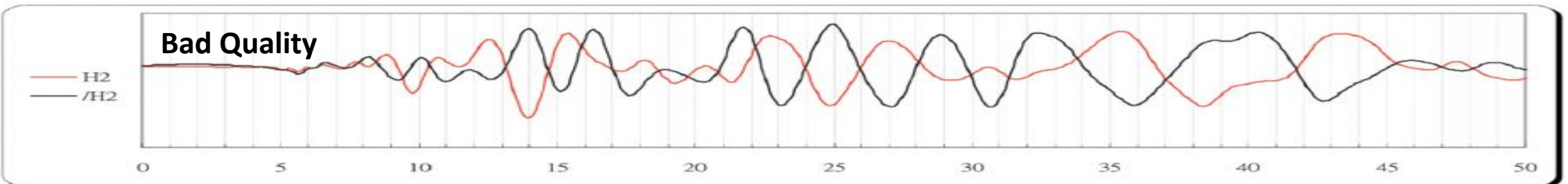
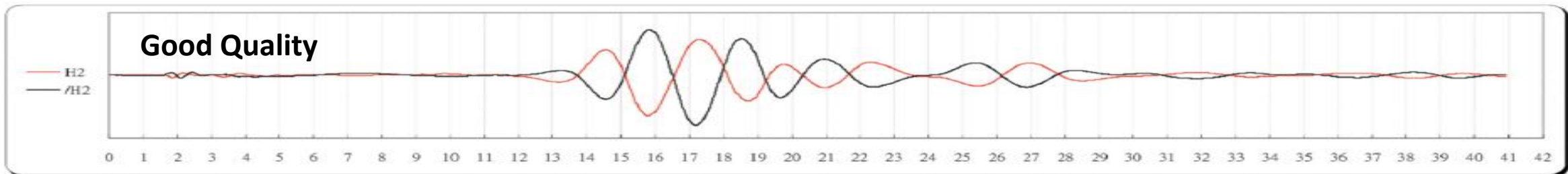
Velocity Data Quality:

Check the **original waveform** of velocity measurement via **visually inspected the first arrival** and **cross-correlation**.

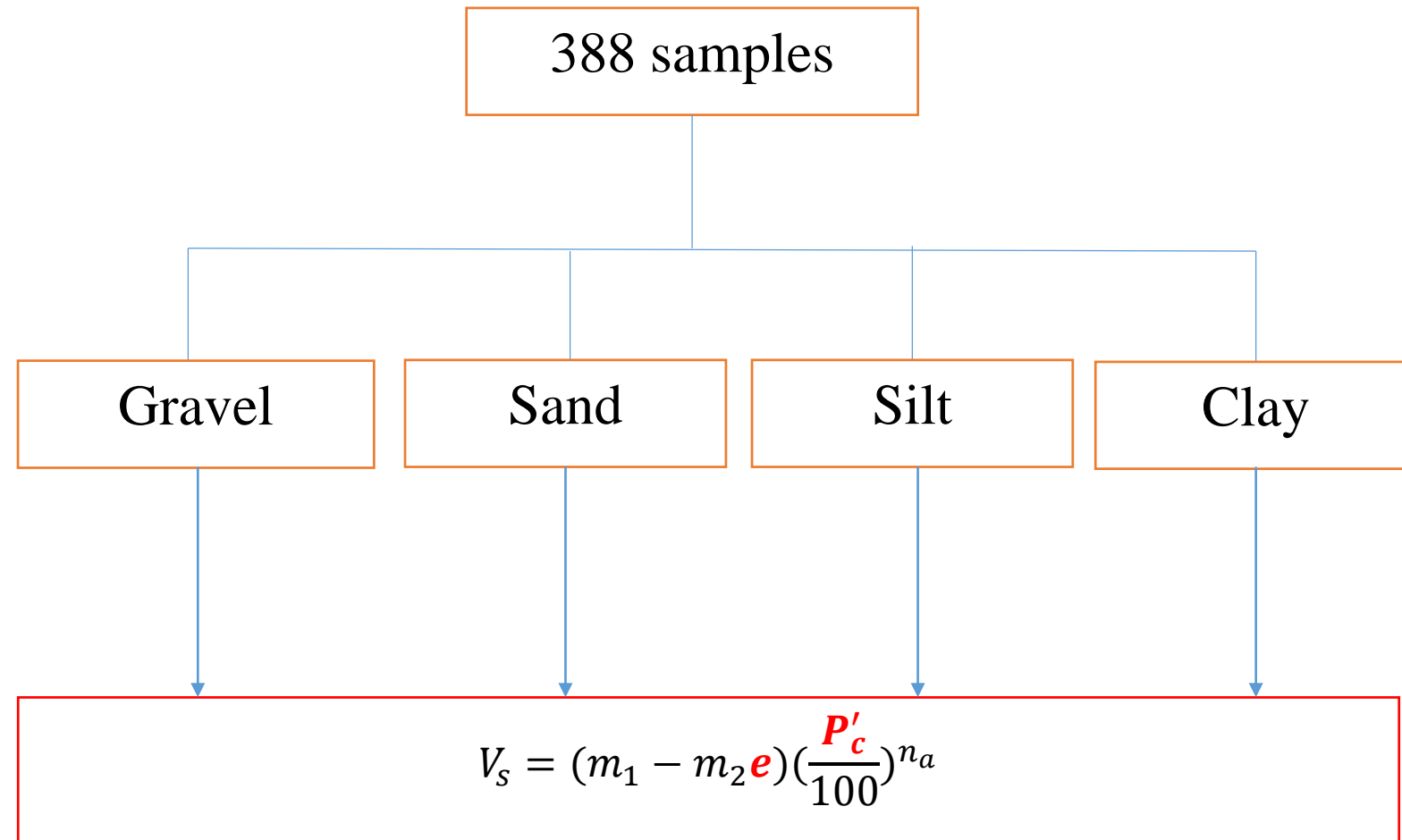
Data in 2000 ~ 2004: the result from Lee and Tsai(2008)

Data in 2005 ~ 2008: the result from Kuo (2021)

Example of good and bad quality data



After data collecting and checking:

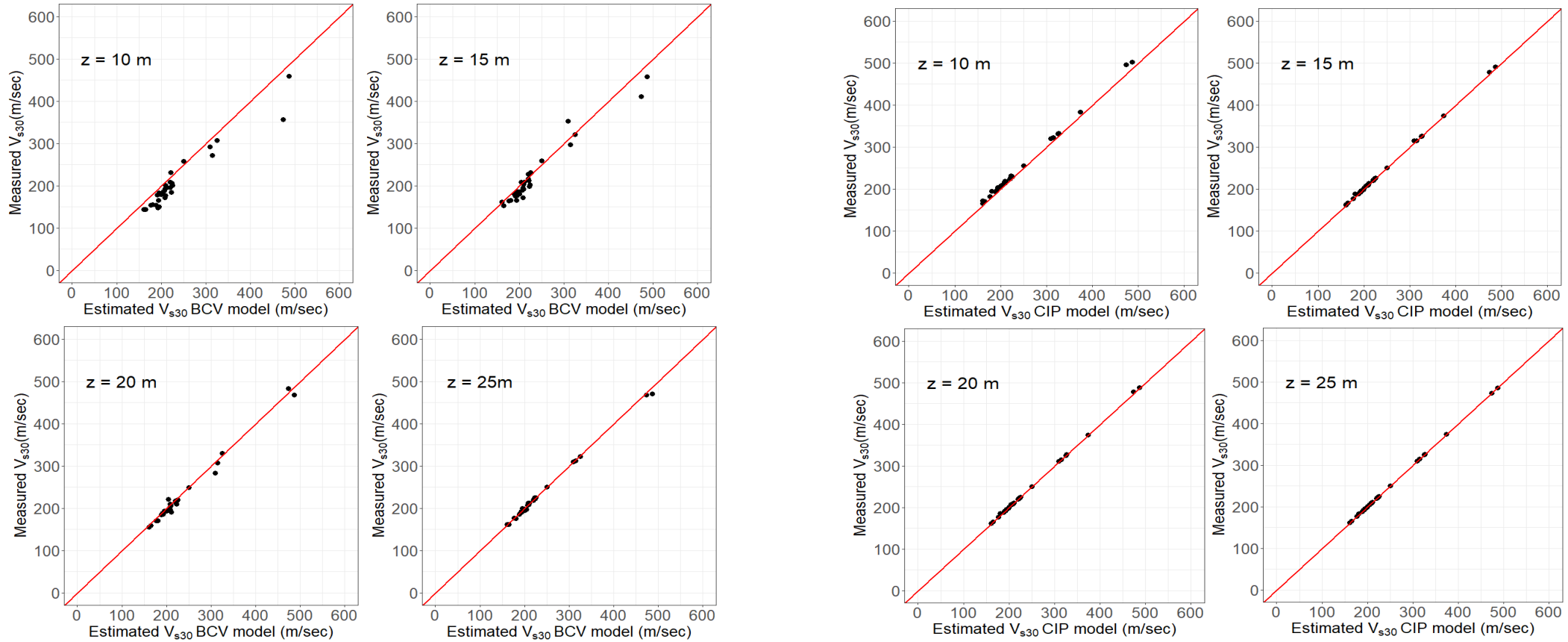




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**Preliminary result**

3.1: Result of extrapolation methods in Taipei Basin:



BCV MODEL

CIP MODEL

CIP MODEL

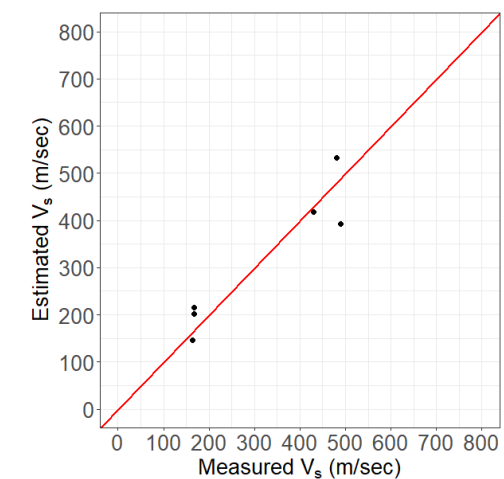
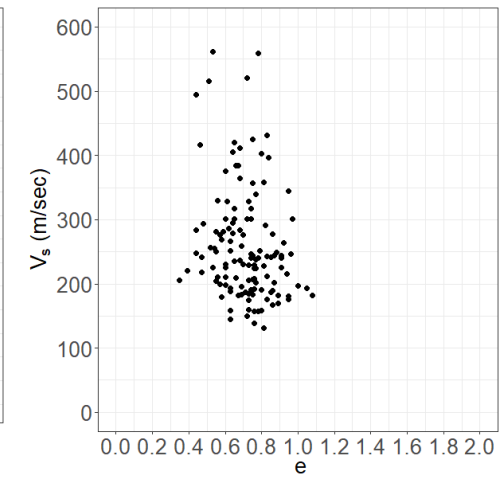
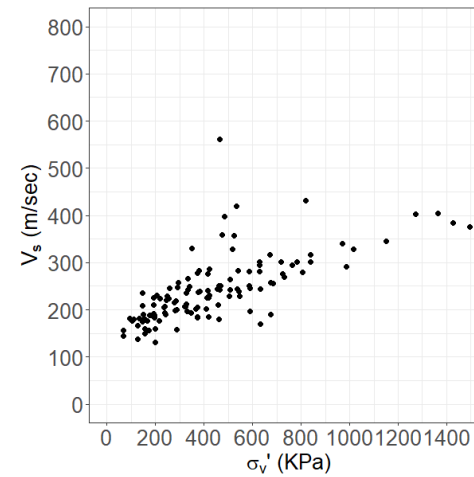
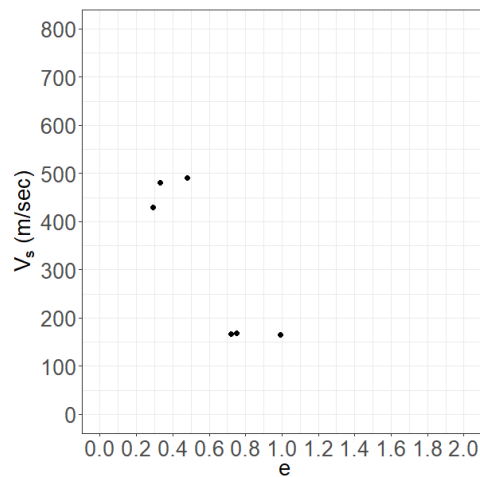
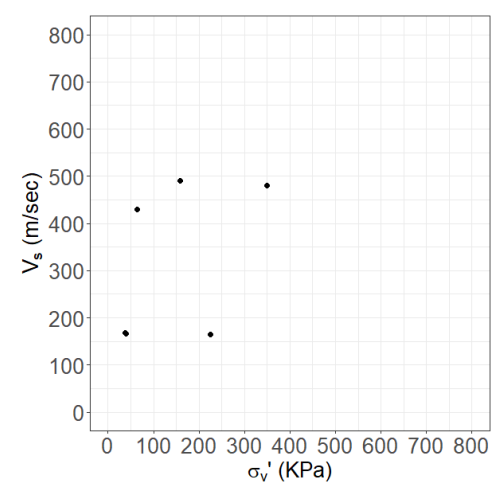
Z=10 -15( m):  $\log(V_{s(z,30)}) = 1.11\log V_{SZ} - 0.25$

Z=16 – 29 ( m):  $\log(V_{s(z,30)}) = 1.01\log V_{SZ} - 0.003$

3.2 :  $V_s$  empirical equations: Gravel, Sand, Silt, Clay

Gravel: 6 samples

Sand: 130 samples



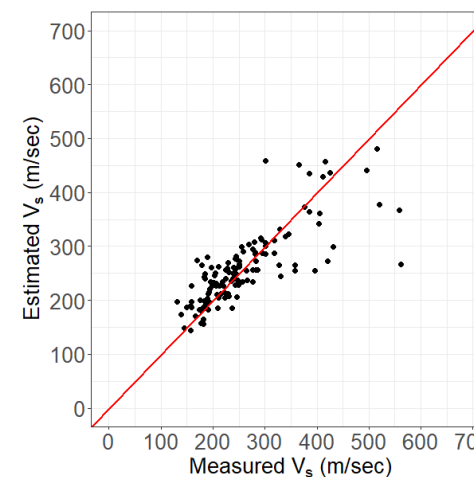
$$V_s = (584.7 - 461.1e) \left( \frac{\sigma'_v}{100} \right)^{0.17}$$

$$R^2 = 0.88$$

$$RMSE(m/sec): 52.2$$

$e$  : Soil void ratio

$\sigma'_v$  : Vertical Effective Stress



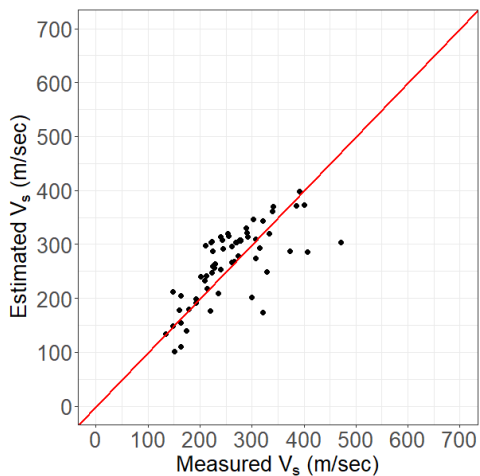
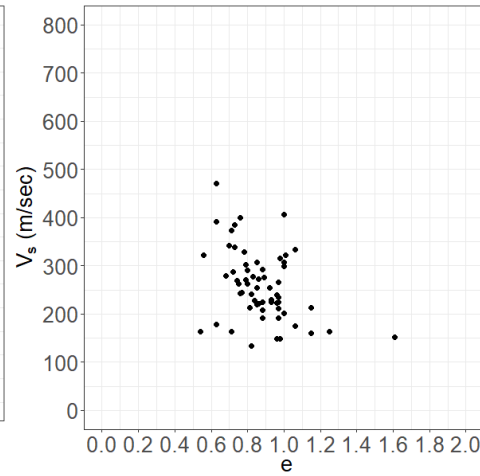
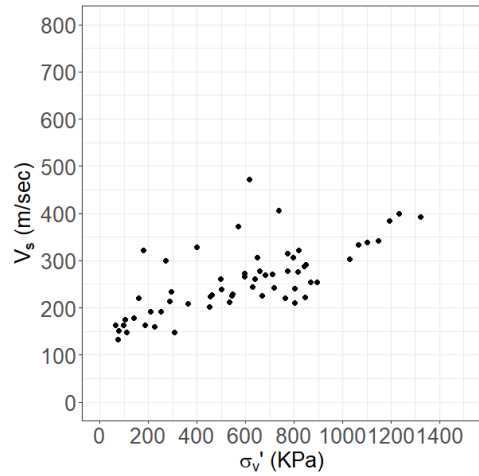
$$V_s = (186.53 + 31.9e) \left( \frac{\sigma'_v}{100} \right)^{0.29}$$

$$R^2 = 0.61$$

$$RMSE(m/sec): 54.41$$



Silt: 62 samples



$$V_s = (191.1 - 49.64e) \left( \frac{\sigma'_v}{100} \right)^{0.35}$$

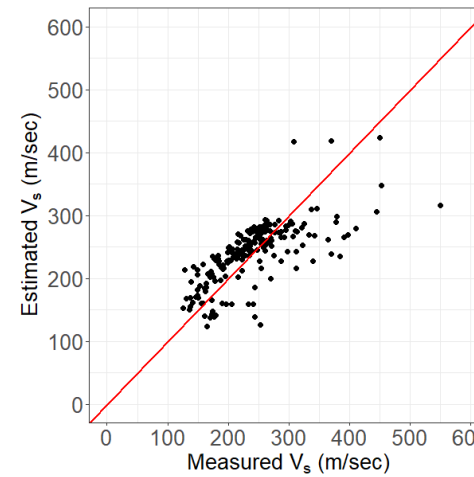
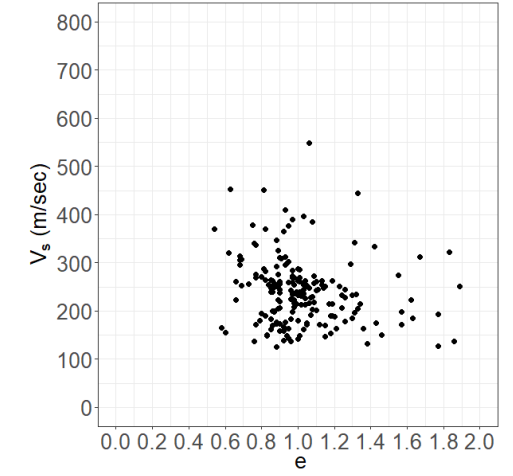
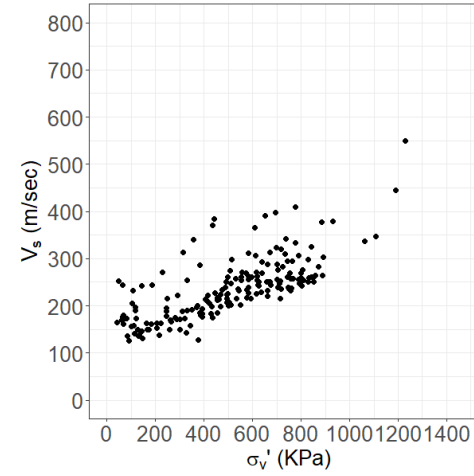
$$R^2 = 0.41$$

$$\text{RMSE(m/sec): } 78.10$$

$e$  : Soil void ratio

$\sigma'_v$  : Vertical Effective Stress

Clay: 190 samples



$$V_s = (167.8 - 12.1e) \left( \frac{\sigma'_v}{100} \right)^{0.28}$$

$$R^2 = 0.49$$

$$\text{RMSE(m/sec): } 49.29$$

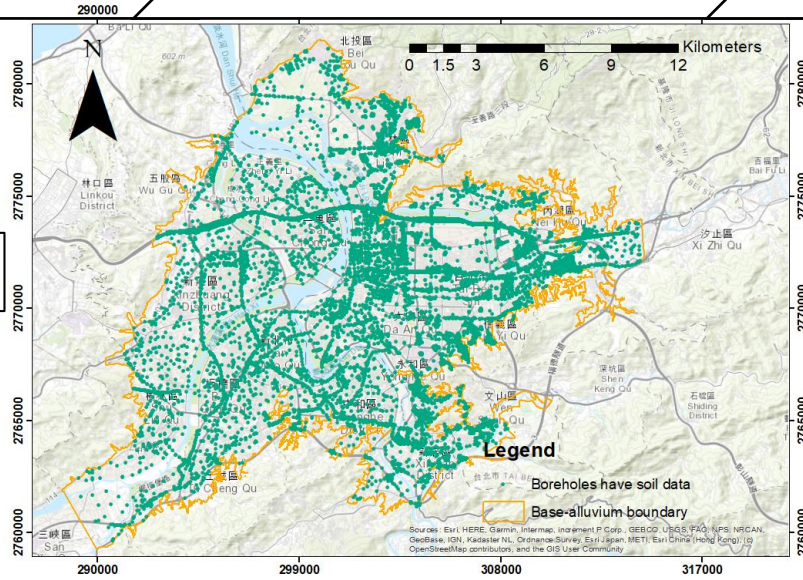


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Future work

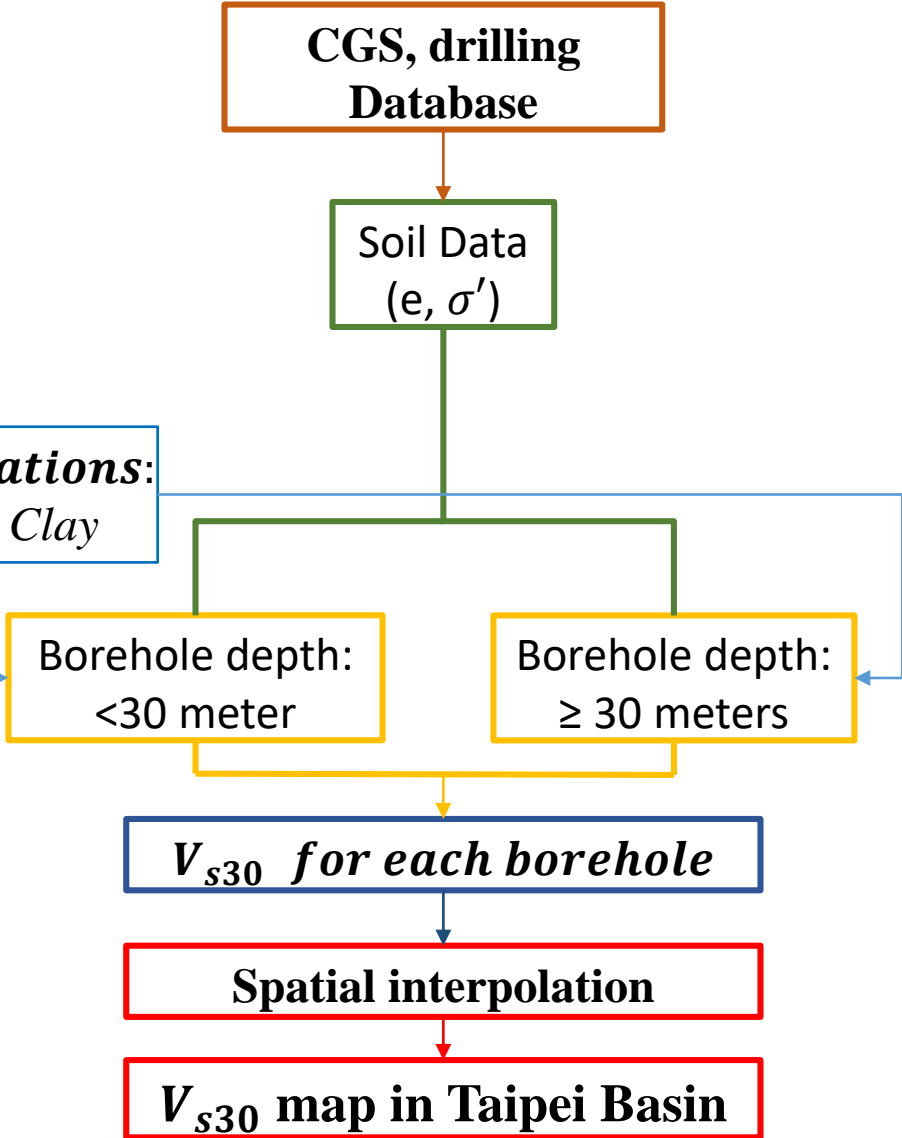


Total: 10768 boreholes



$V_{s(z,30)}$  prediction equation  
Extrapolation method

$V_s$  empirical equations:  
Gravel, Sand, Silt, Clay



$V_{s30}$ : The average velocity 30 meter.

$V_s$ : Shear wave velocity

e: Void ratio

$\sigma'$ : Effective stress

$V_{s(z,30)}$ : The average velocity from depth z to 30 meter.

The background features several overlapping watercolor washes in shades of green, yellow, pink, and blue, creating a soft, artistic backdrop. The text is centered in a black serif font.

**Thanks for your attention!**