



7<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL  
GEOLOGICA BELGICA  
MEETING 2021



AFRICA  
museum

# *The Effects of Belgian Crustal Geology and its Sedimentary Cover on Macroseismic Intensity Attenuation*

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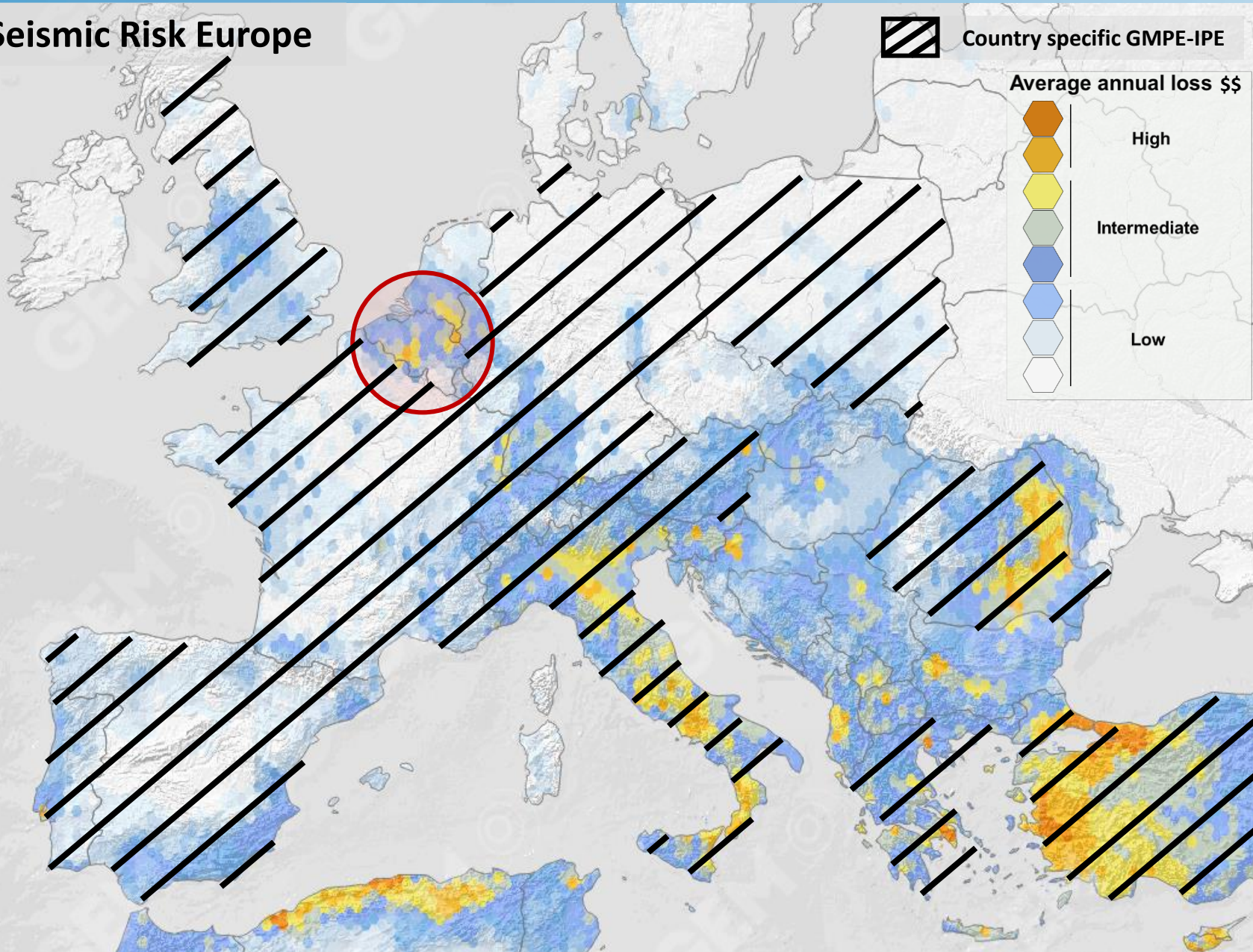
<sup>2</sup>Université catholique de Louvain





# PhD Introduction: Improving seismic risk estimations for Belgium

## Seismic Risk Europe



*Highest seismic risk in Northwestern Europe*

? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?  
 ? Belgian Ground motion attenuation characteristics ?  
 ? ? ? ? ? ? ?



**PhD!**

**Belgian Intensity Prediction Equation (IPE)**

**This presentation**  
*"The Effects of Belgian Crustal Geology and its Sedimentary Cover on macroseismic intensity attenuation"*

Silva et al. (2018). Global Earthquake Model (GEM) Seismic Risk Map.



**IPEs?**

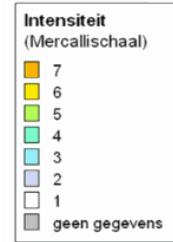
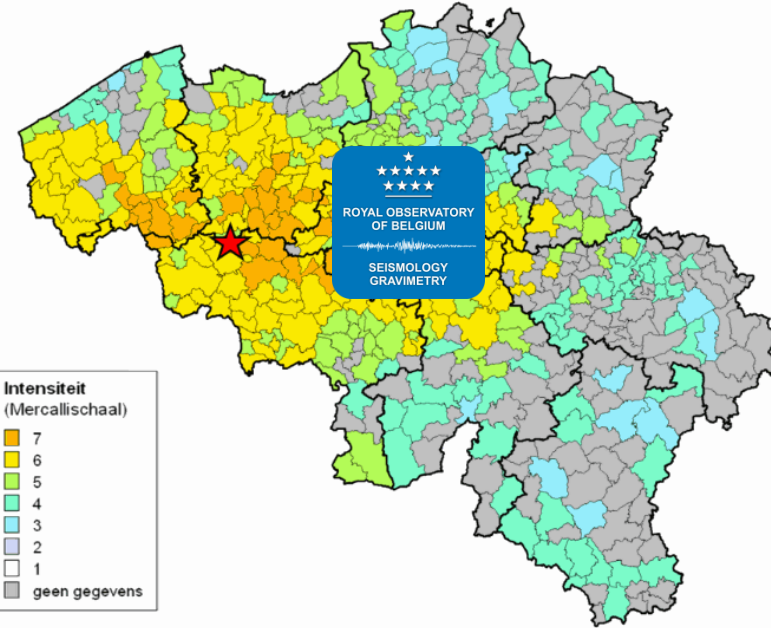
## Macroseismic intensity:

*"Severity of seismic shaking based on observed effects"*

**The people**

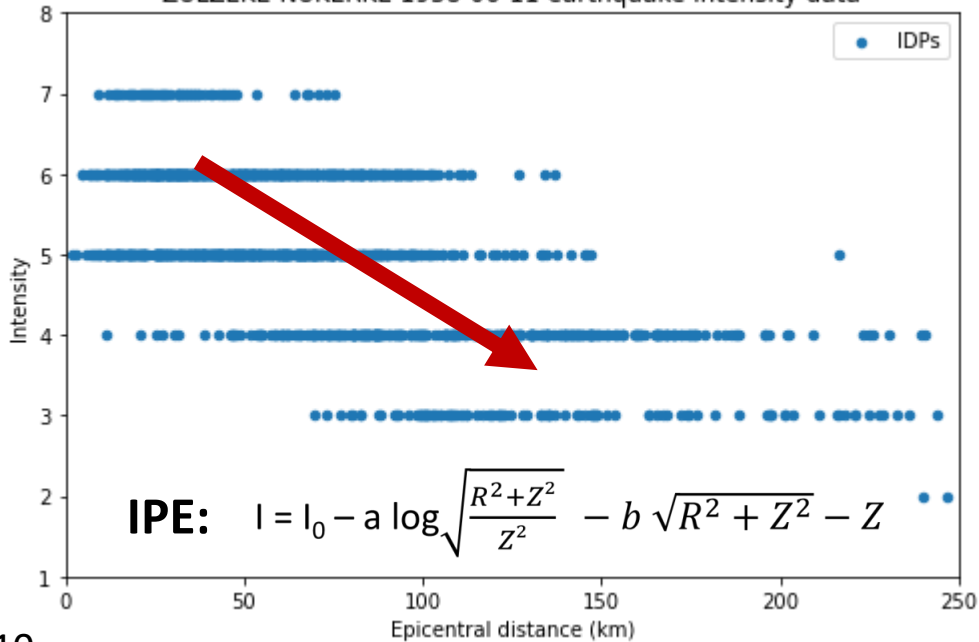


**damage reports**



EMS-98 Intensity	Felt
I	Not felt
II-III	Weak
IV	Light
V	Moderate
VI	Strong
VII	Very strong
VIII	Severe
IX	Violent
X+	Extreme

ZULZEKE-NUKERKE 1938-06-11 earthquake intensity data



**IPE:** 
$$I = I_0 - a \log \sqrt{\frac{R^2 + Z^2}{Z^2}} - b \sqrt{R^2 + Z^2} - Z$$

**Why no instrumental data?**

25 seismometers


Since 1898

> 11.5 million people

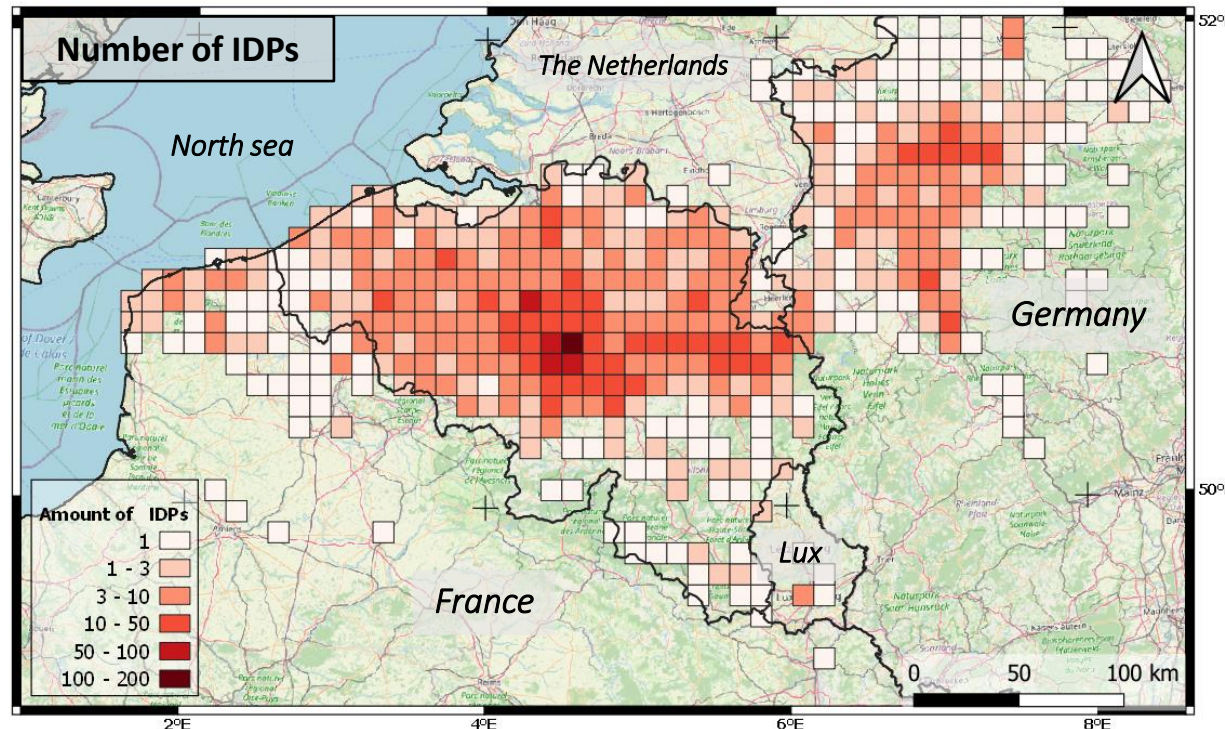
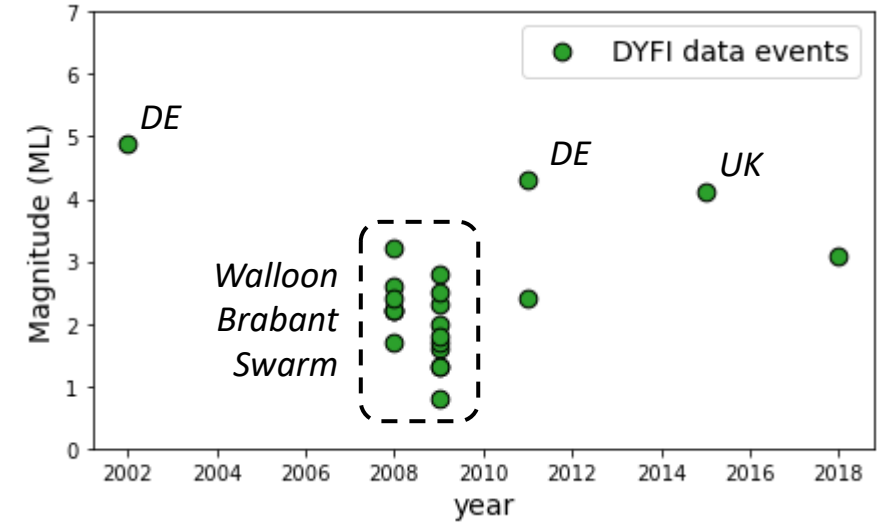
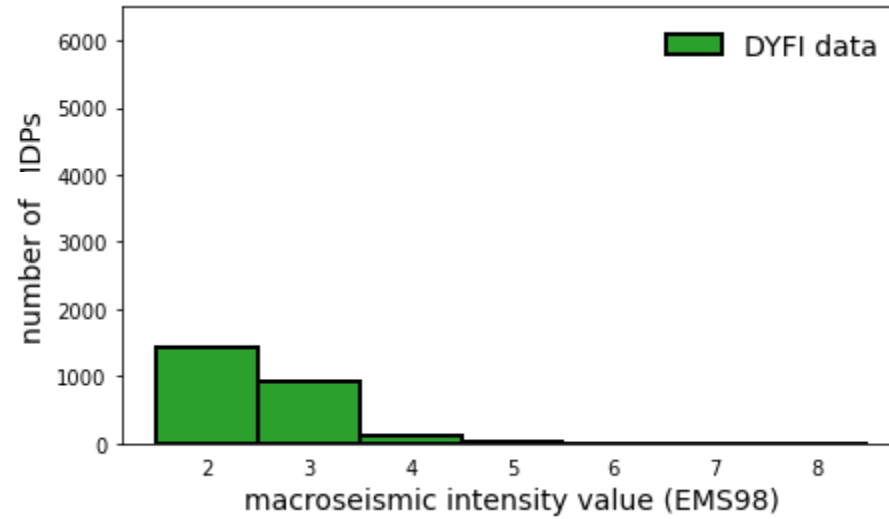
Since 801 AD



## macroseismic intensity data types



**“Did You Feel It?”**  
Intensity Data  
**DYFI**  
Since 2002

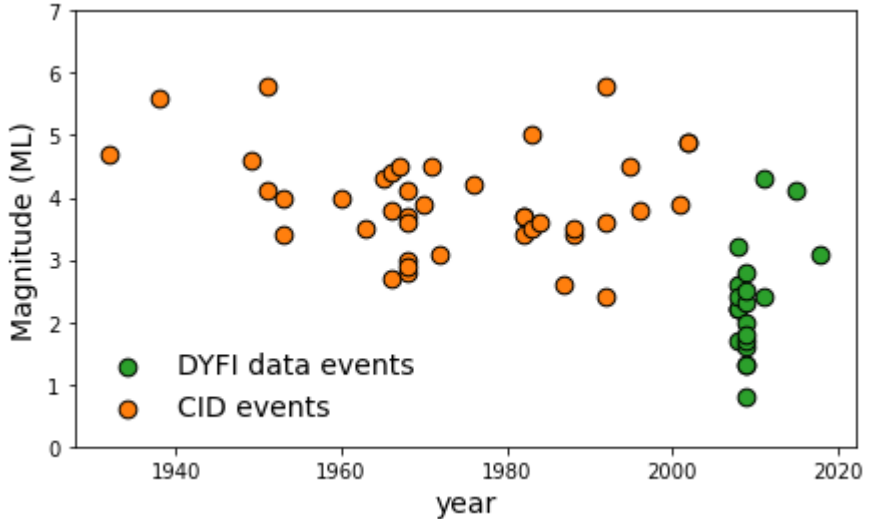
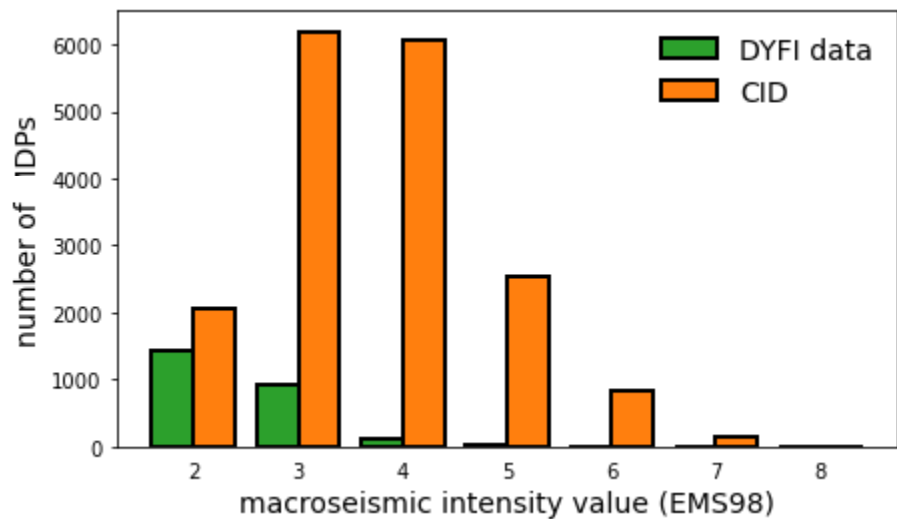





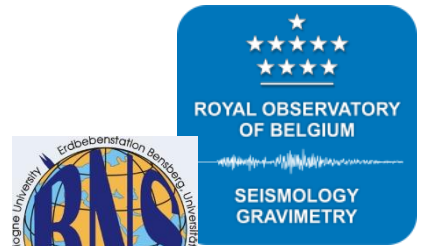
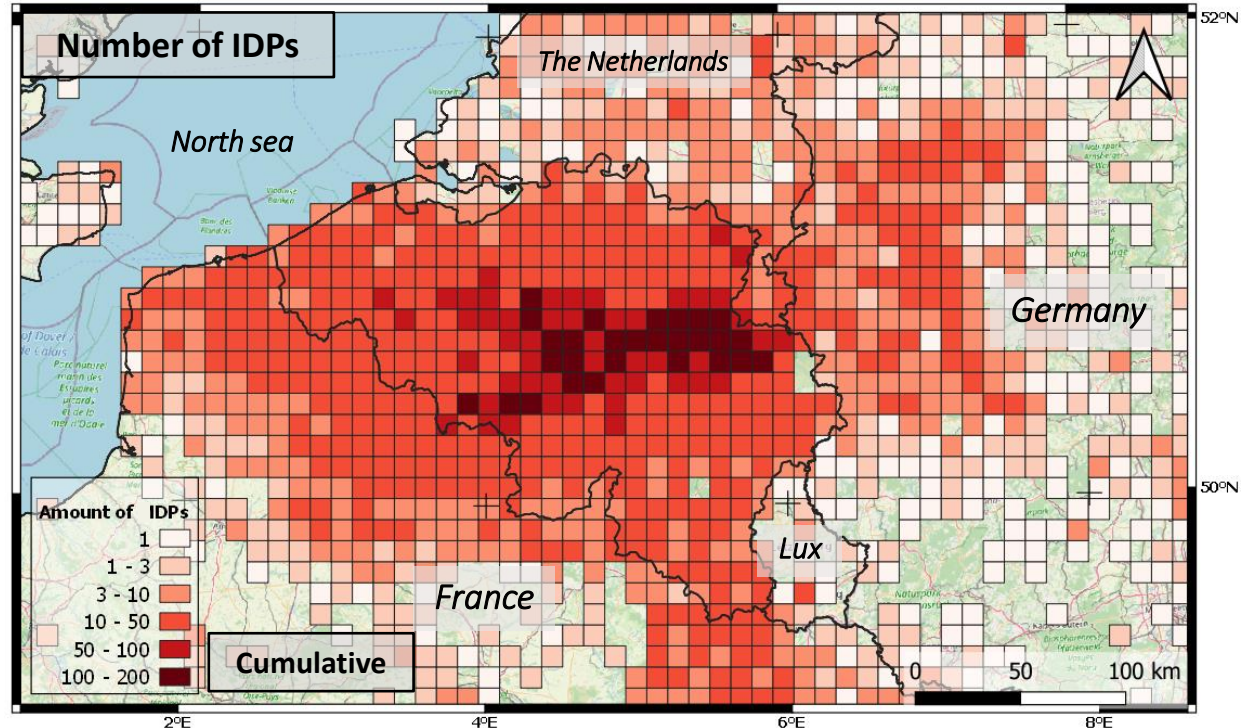
## macroseismic intensity data types



**“Did You Feel It?”**  
Intensity Data  
**DYFI**  
Since 2002

**Communal Intensity Data**  
**CID**  
Since 1932

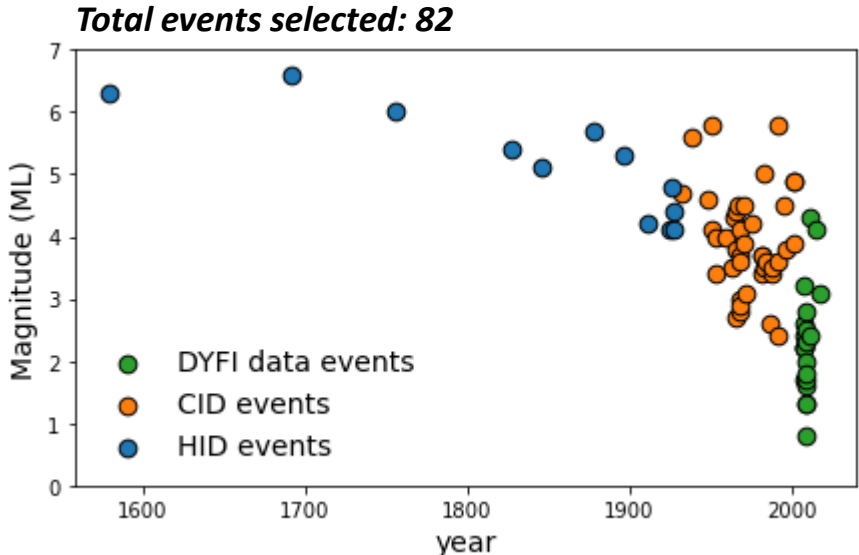
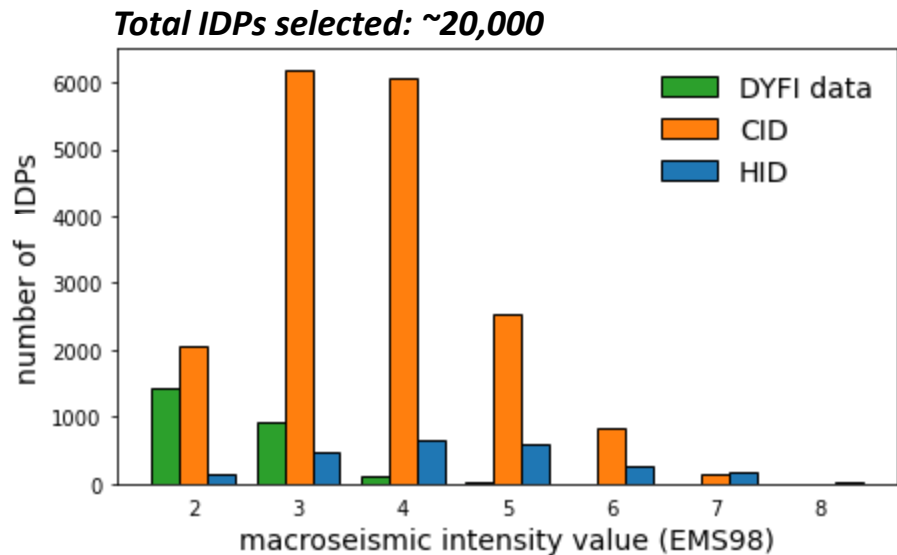





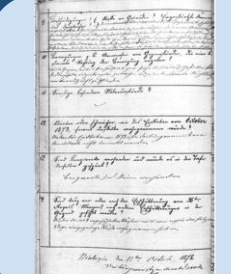
## macroseismic intensity data types



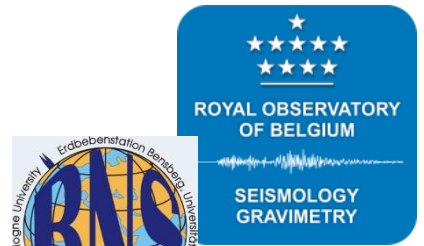
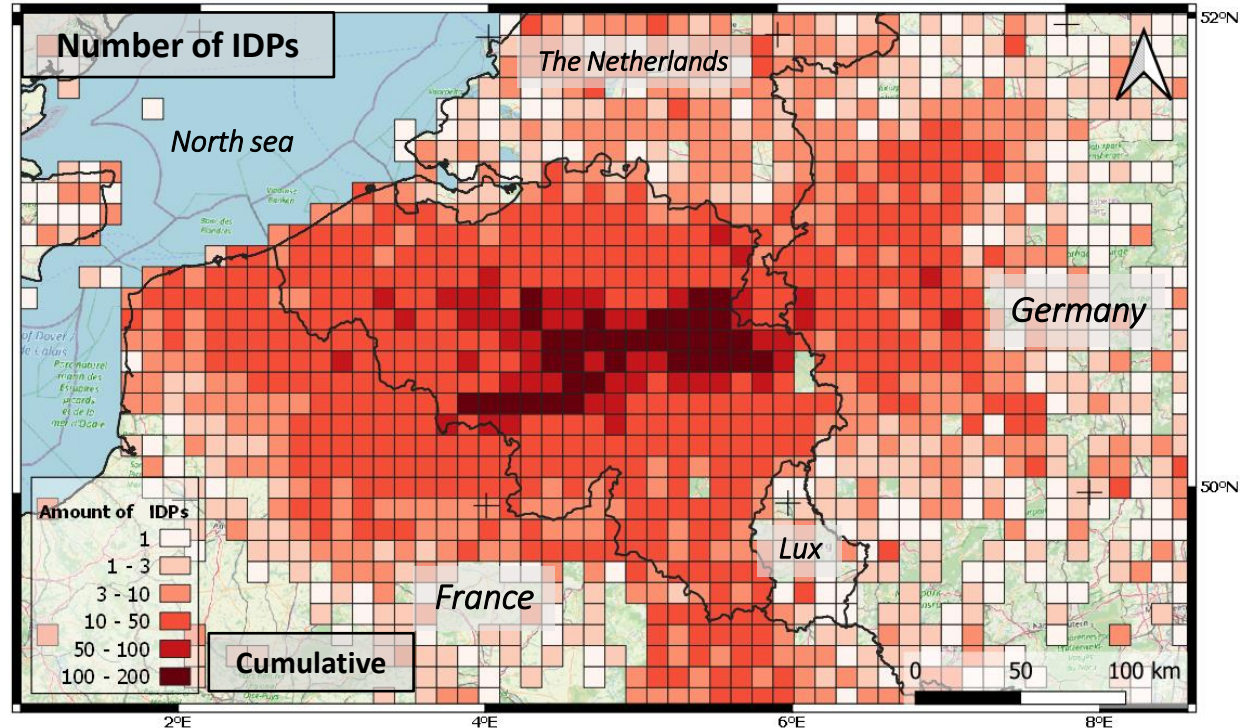
**“Did You Feel It?”**  
Intensity Data  
**DYFI**  
Since 2002

**Communal Intensity Data**  
**CID**  
Since 1932



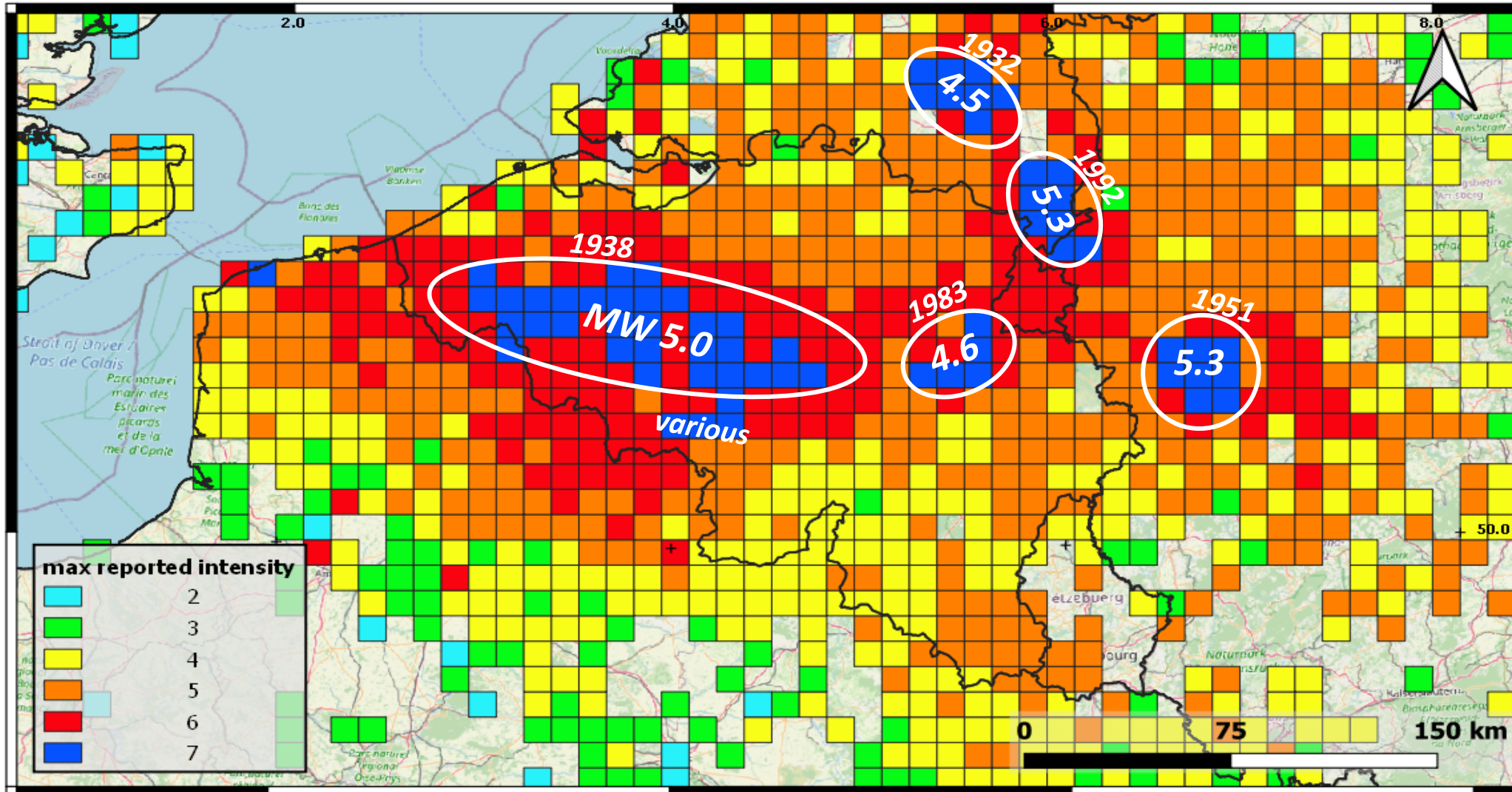
**Historical Intensity Data**  
**HID**  
801-1932

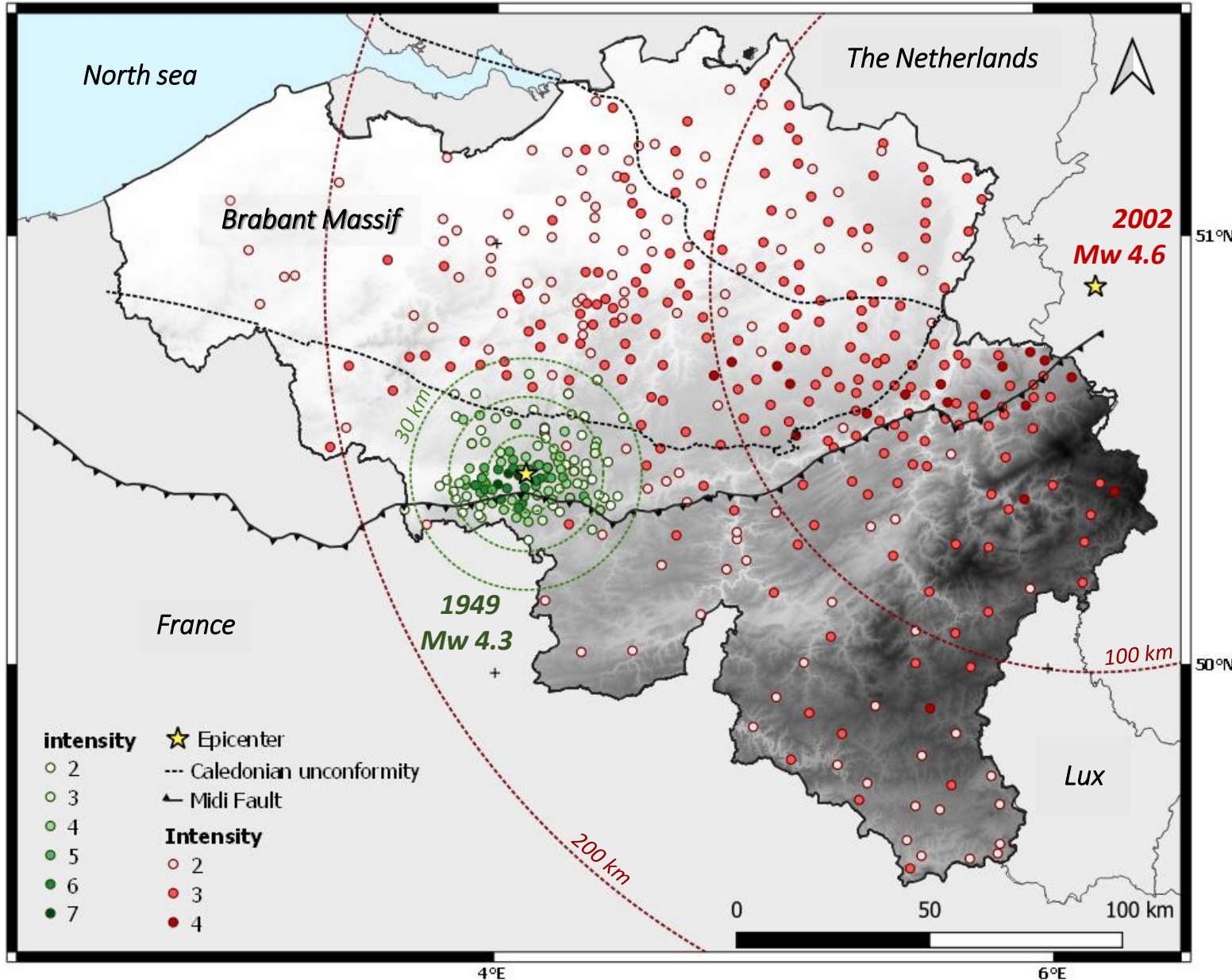




## Maximal observed intensity

1932-present

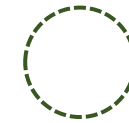




## 1949 Havré event



Mw 4.3  
3.2 km depth

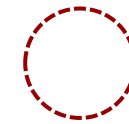


~30 km radius  
I<sub>max</sub> = 7

## 2002 Eschweiler-Alsdorf



Mw 4.6  
16.4 km depth



~200 km radius  
I<sub>max</sub> = 6



Hainaut → Next presentation

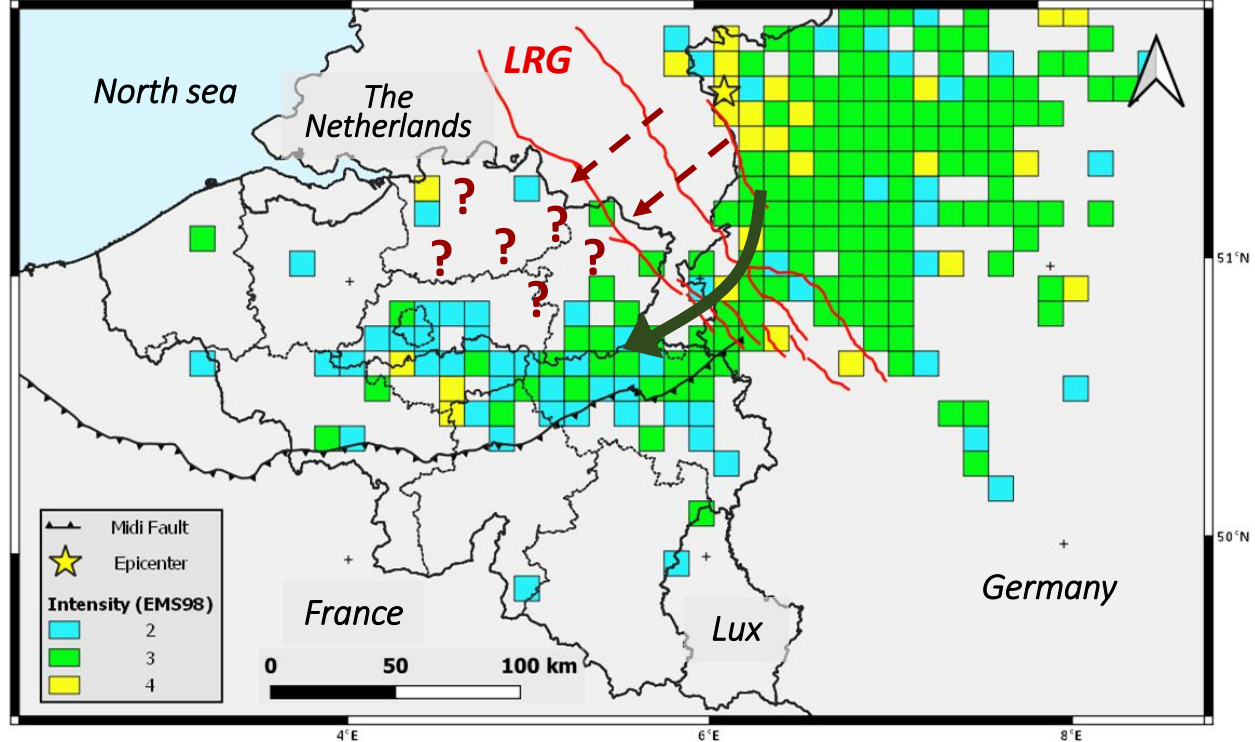
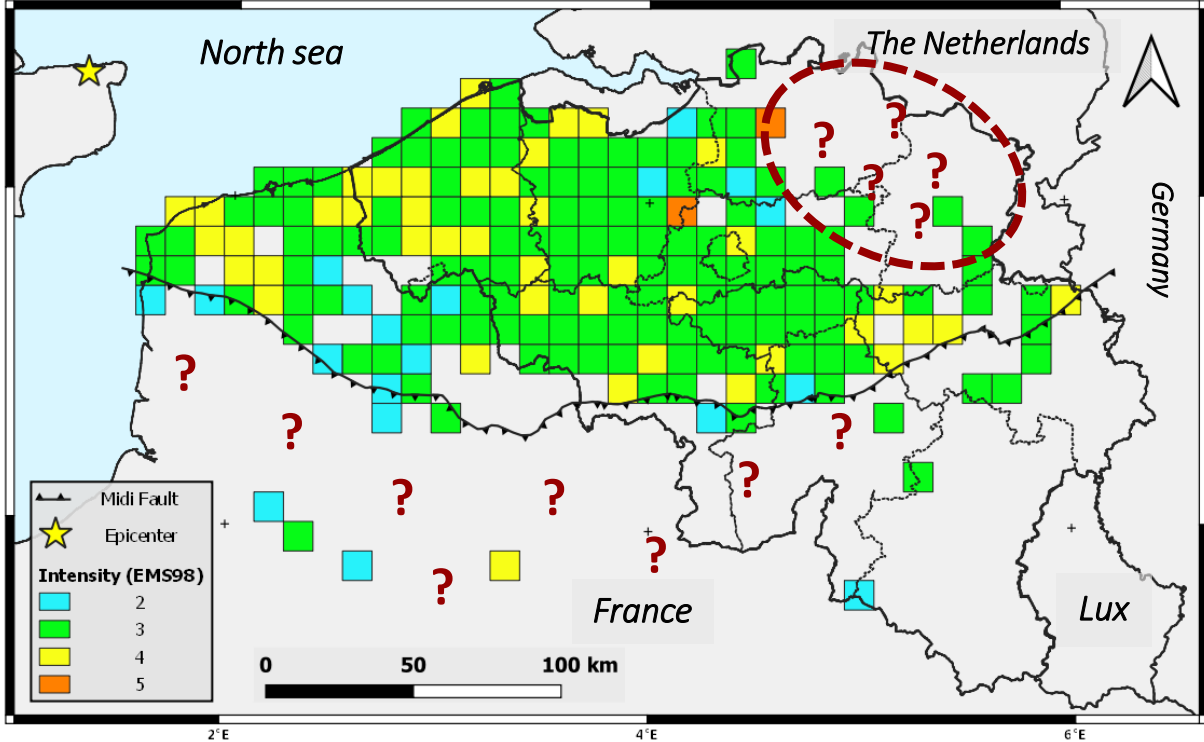


Various factors to influence regional intensity attenuation



**2015 Ramsgate ML 4.1**

**2011 Goch ML 4.3**



**North of Midi Fault:**

- Event felt by large amount of the population

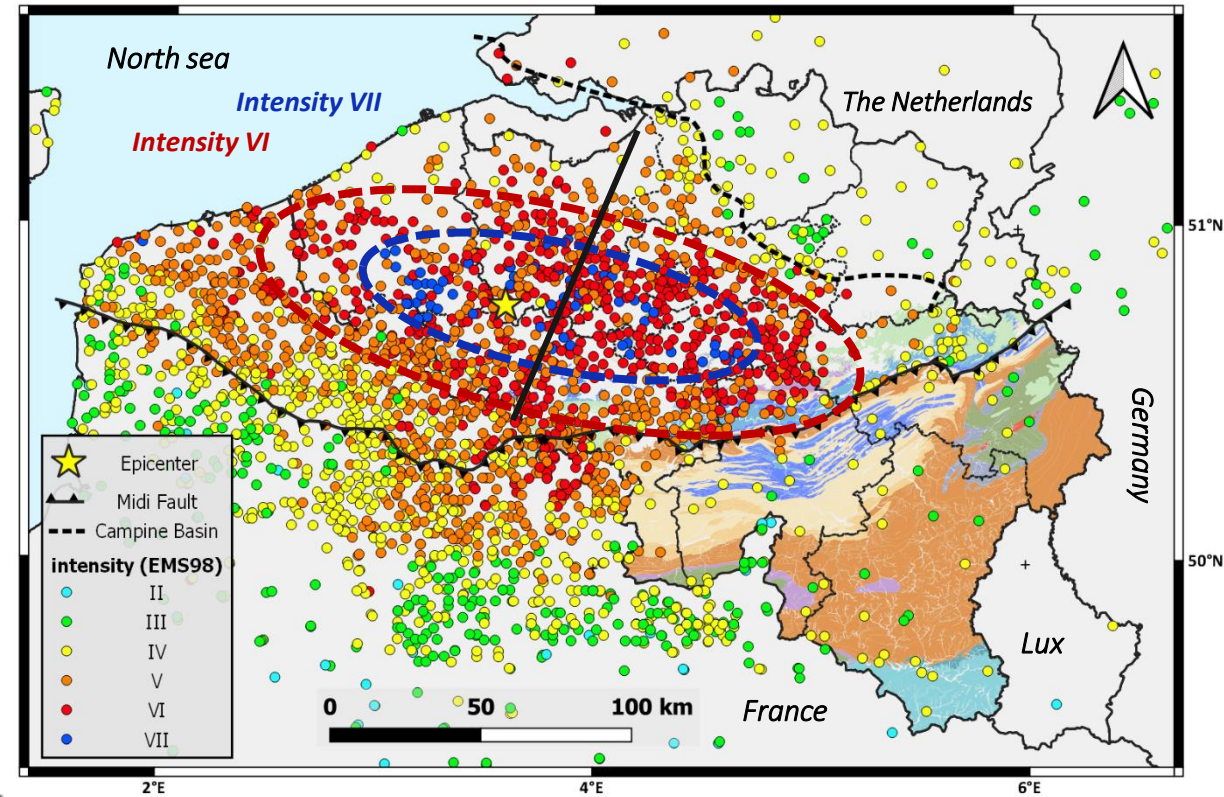
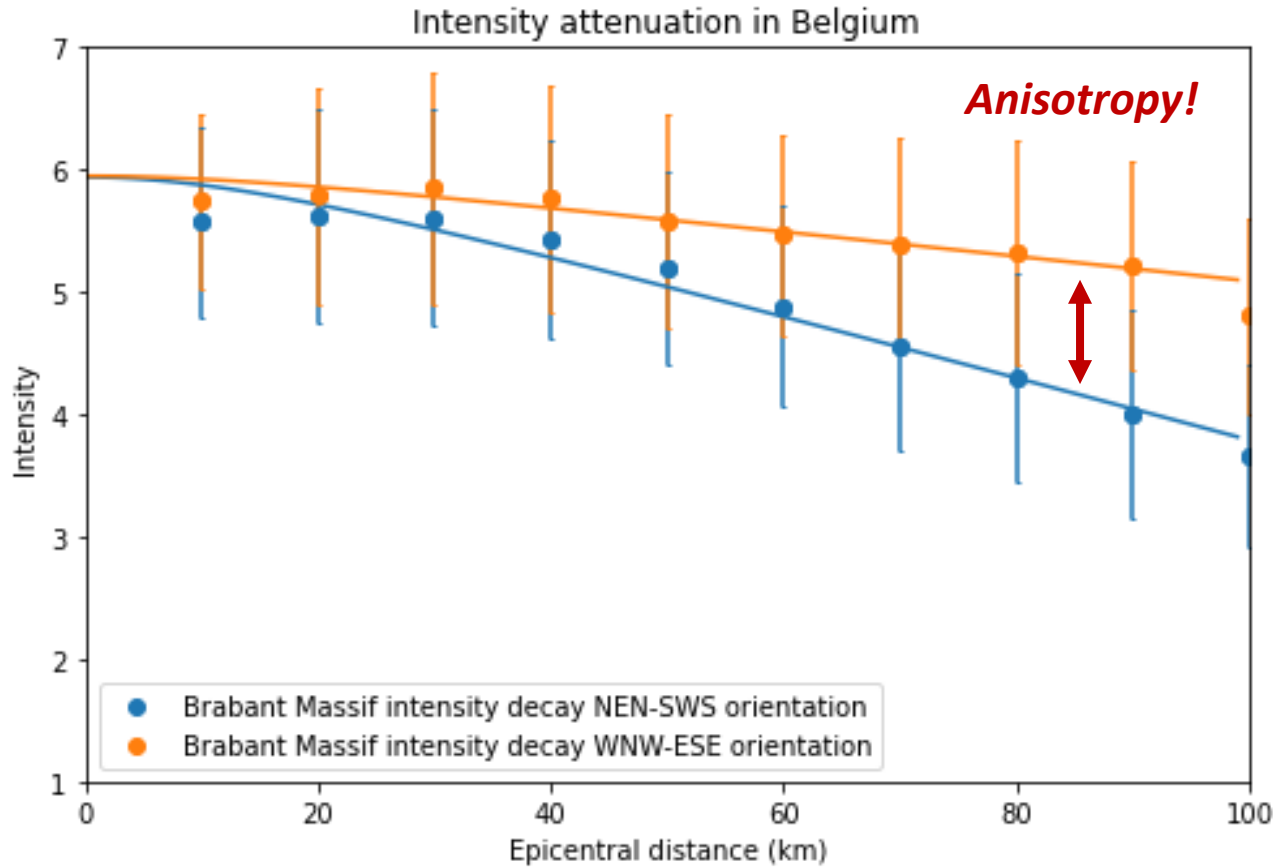
**South of Midi Fault:**

→ Barely any felt reports

**blockade of direct ground motion transfer to northeastern Belgium**

→ Lower Rhine Graben

→ Campine basin?

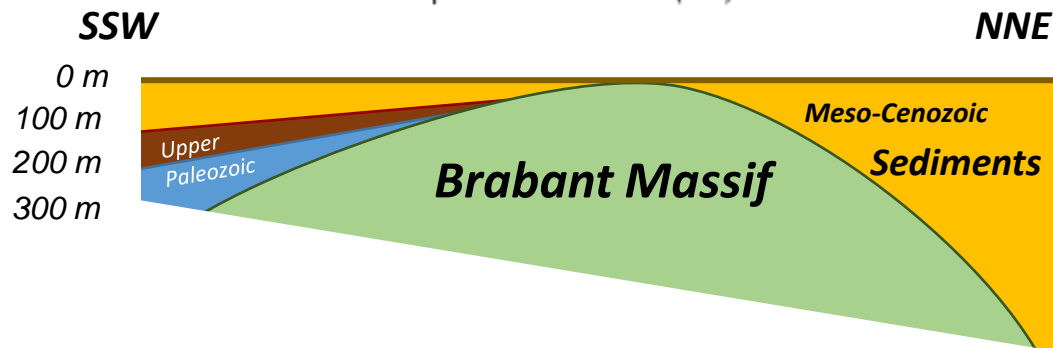


**1938 event MW 5.0**

General IPE equation:

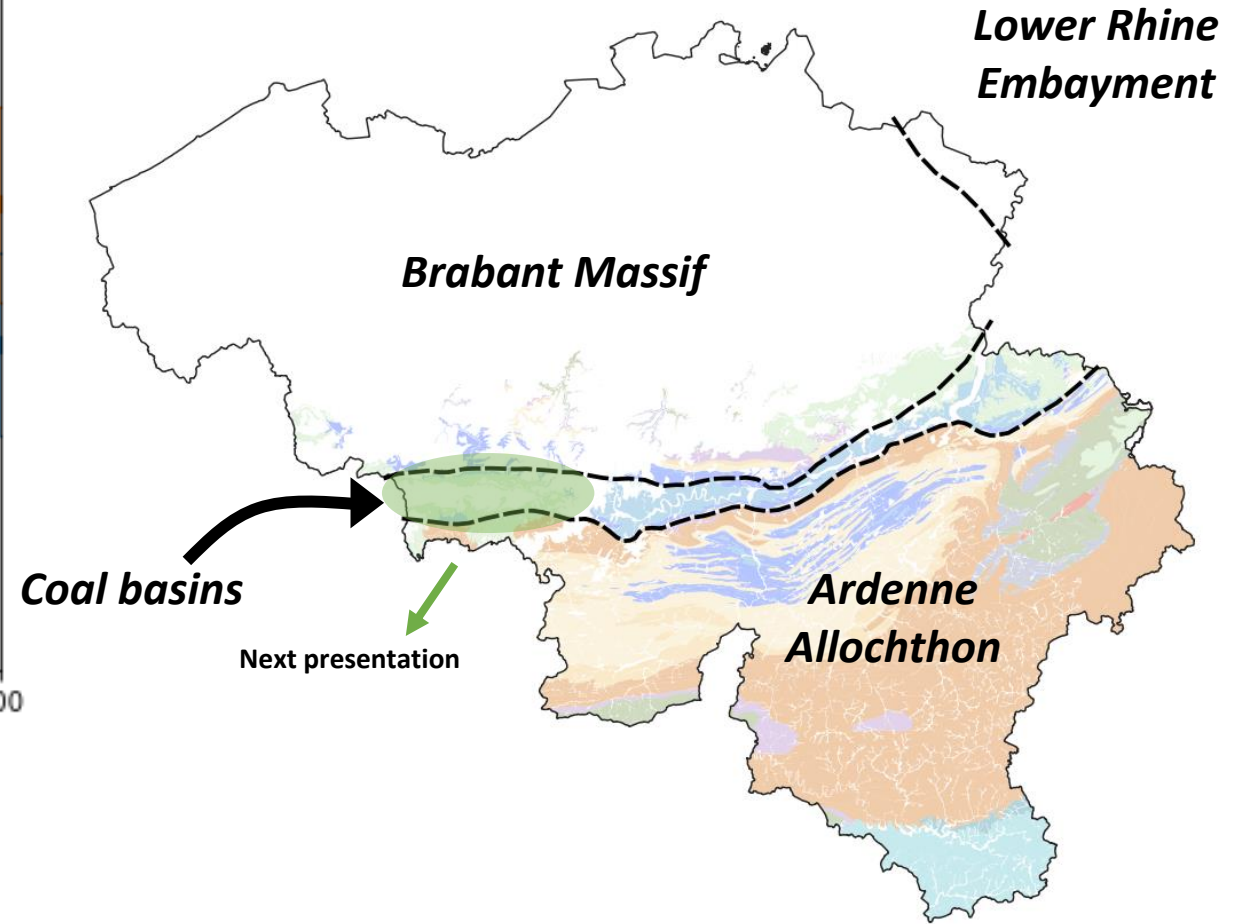
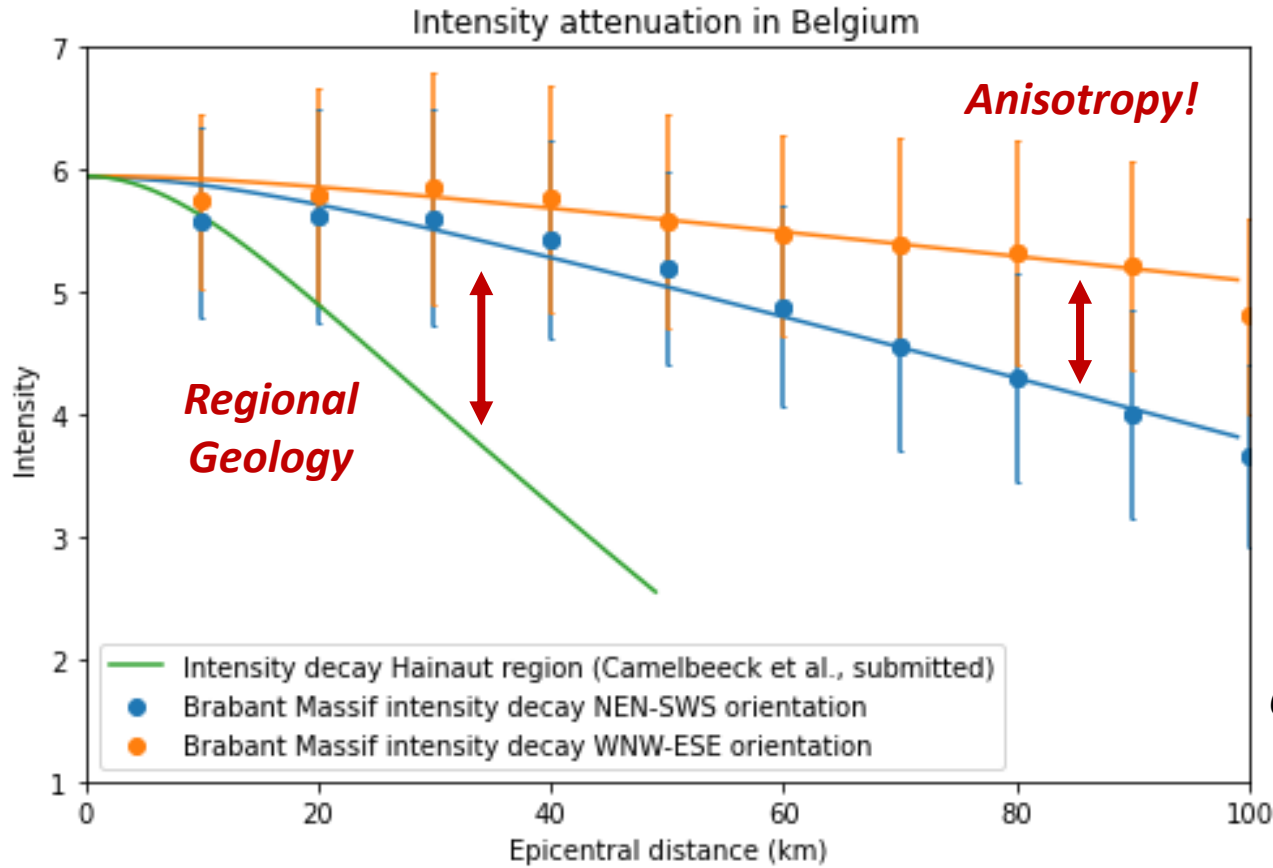
$$I = I_0 - a \log \sqrt{\frac{R^2 + Z^2}{Z^2}} - b \sqrt{R^2 + Z^2} - Z - c dD$$

*Bedrock depth*





# Intensity Attenuation – Regional attenuation characteristics



**Belgian IPE**

4 ground motion attenuation gradients

4 characteristic regions

### Impact

- Ground motion attenuation characteristics
- Highlighting regional amplification
- Improved seismic risk assessment

**Coming soon!!**  
**Real-time intensity predictions in Belgium!**

