

# Active and Passive Surface Wave Testing: Addressing Uncertainty using Open-Source Tools

## **Inversion of SLC Assembly Hall With Clear Low Velocity Layer**

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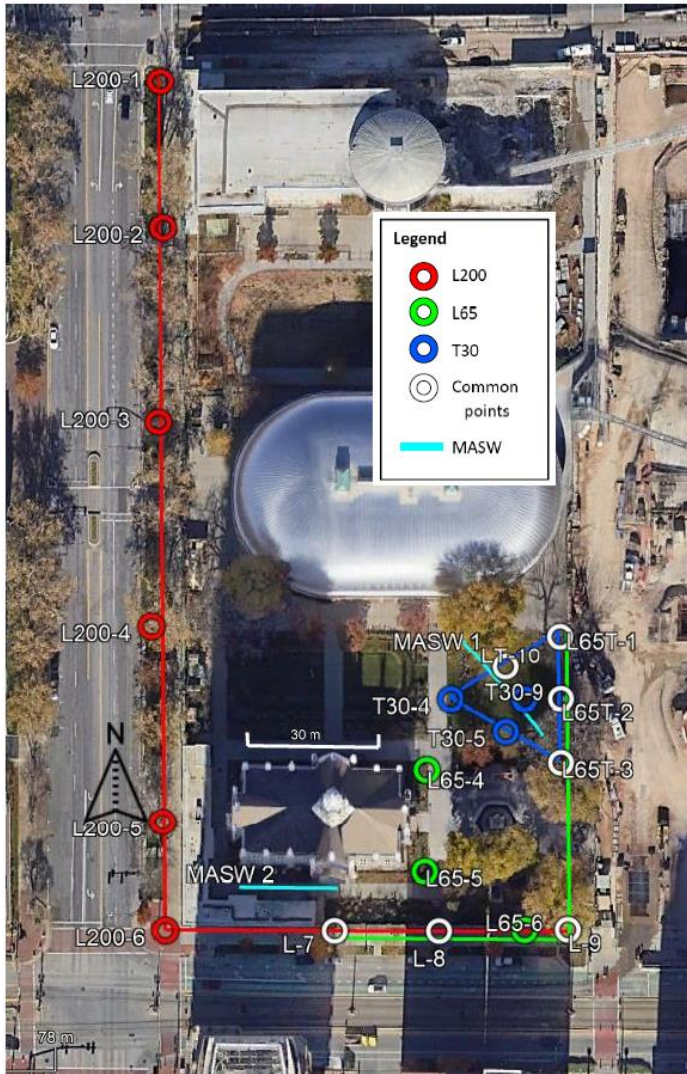
**Joseph P. Vantassel, Ph.D.**

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Virginia Tech  
Blacksburg, Virginia, USA

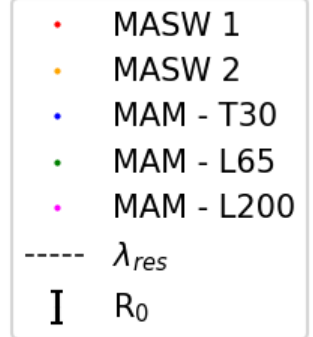
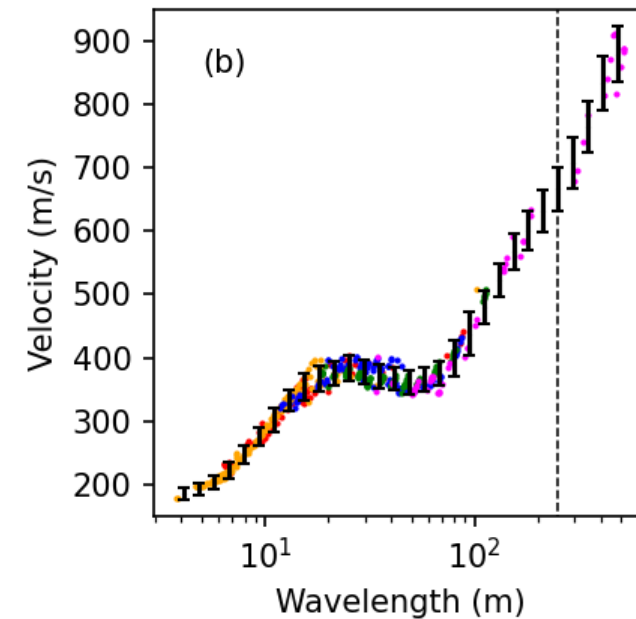
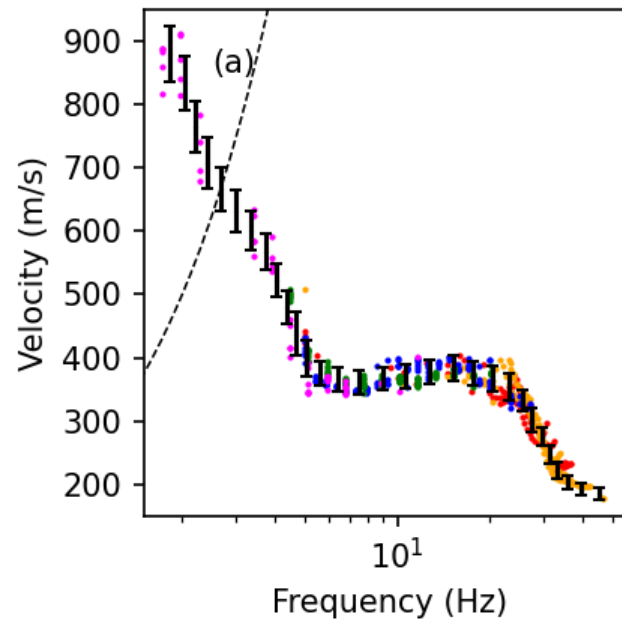
Utah State University, Logan, Utah; 29 July – 1 August 2024



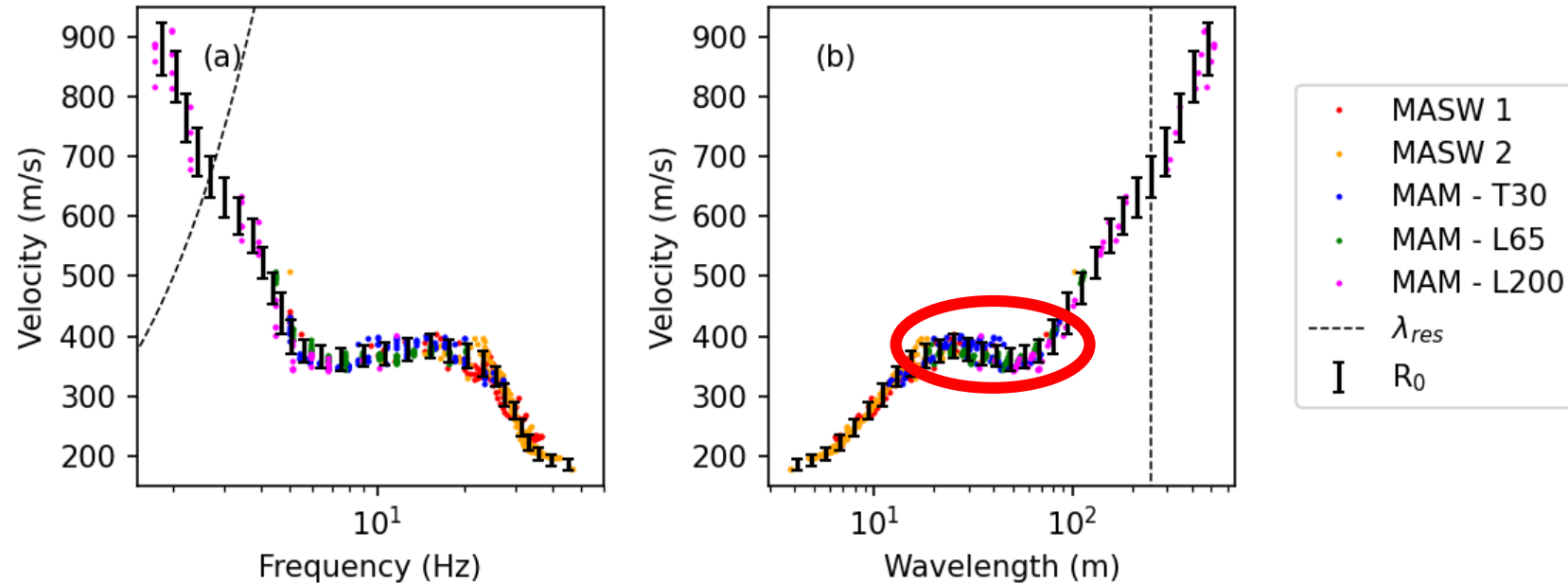
# SLC Assembly Hall



Will be skipping processing and solely focus on inverting the experimental dispersion data.

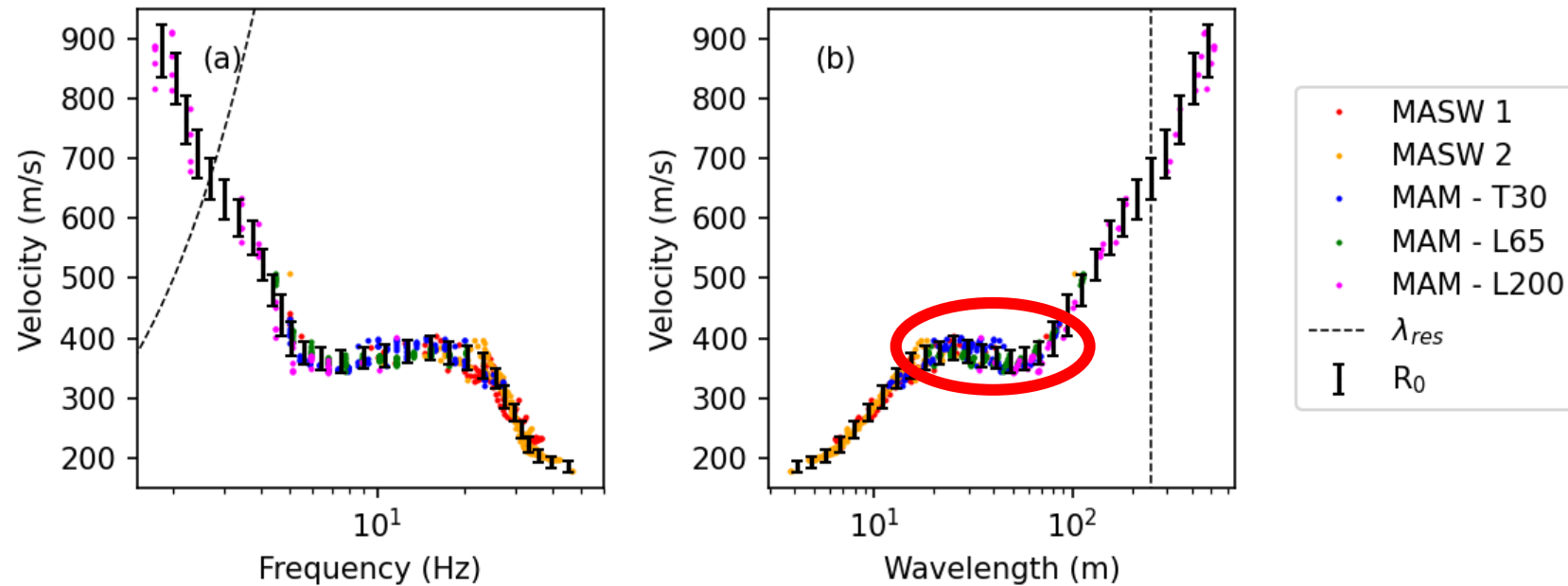


# SLC Assembly Hall



The site has a clear low velocity layer (LVL).  
We need to take this into account when we perform the inversion.

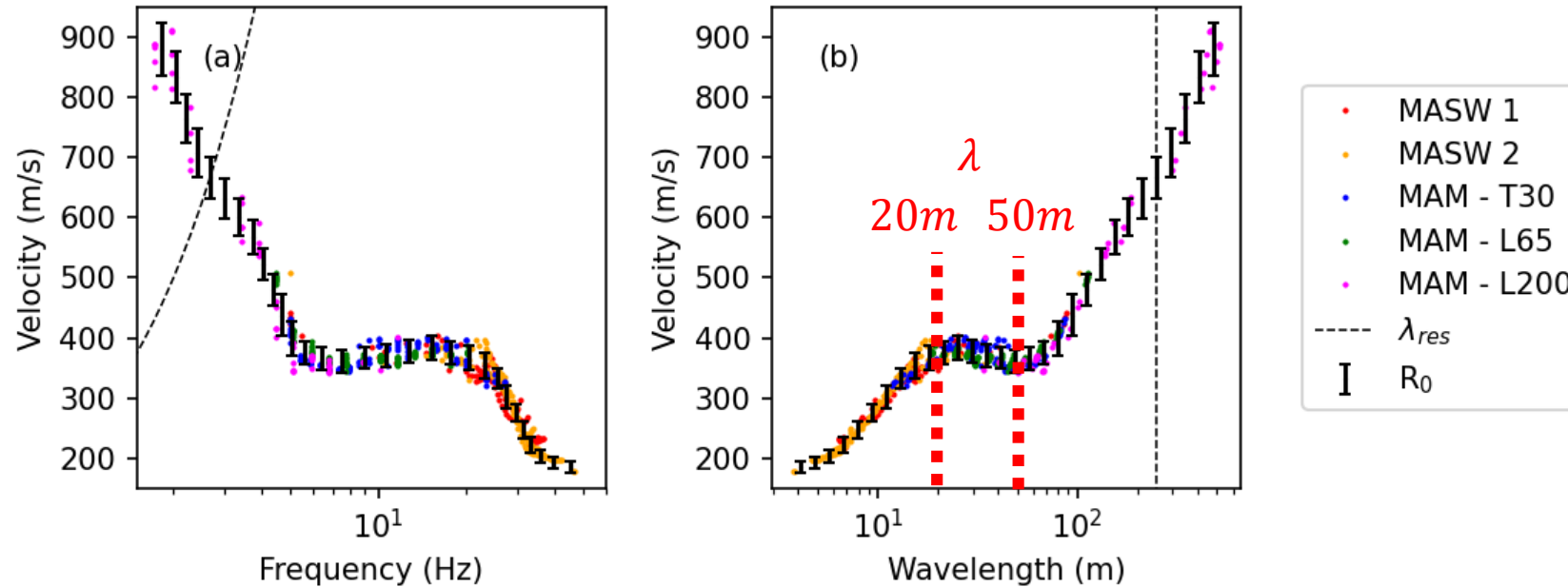
# SLC Assembly Hall



We do not want to allow reversals everywhere, this will result in an over parameterized inversion that would likely not yield reasonable results.

# SLC Assembly Hall

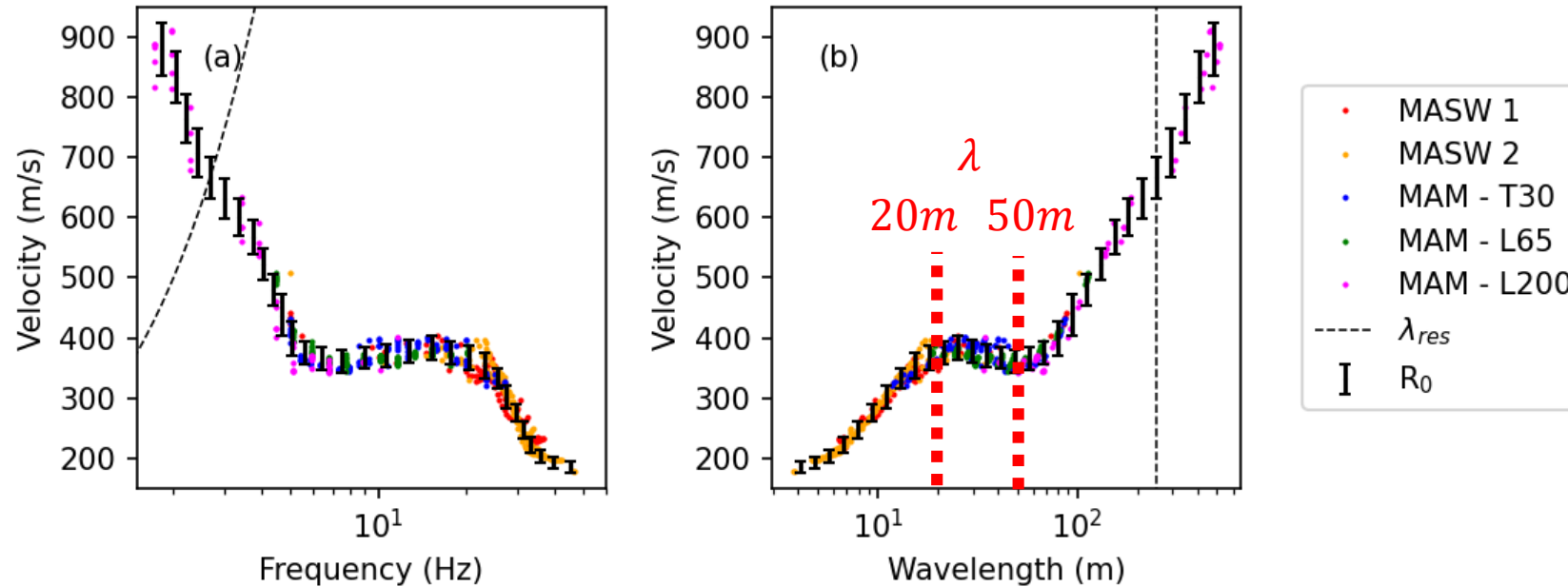
Implies depths  
between ~7 and 25m.



We want to be strategic in selecting at which depth we allow the reversal. We can get a rough idea of the depth by looking at the wavelengths.

# SLC Assembly Hall

Implies depths  
between ~7 and 25m.



We want to be strategic in selecting at which depth we allow the reversal. We can get a rough idea of the depth by looking at the wavelengths.

# SLC Assembly Hall

## Defining the Inversion Target

## Importing the Experimental Dispersion Data

Note that the data is in the format associated with Geopsy v2.10.1

1. Select the desired approach by commenting/uncommenting the appropriate line in the cell below.
2. Review the figure to ensure your data has loaded correctly, then proceed to the next cell.

[Back to top](#)

```
[10]: # Approach 1: Import from comma seperated text file (see swprepost documentation for details).
      # target = swprepost.Target.from_csv("example.csv")

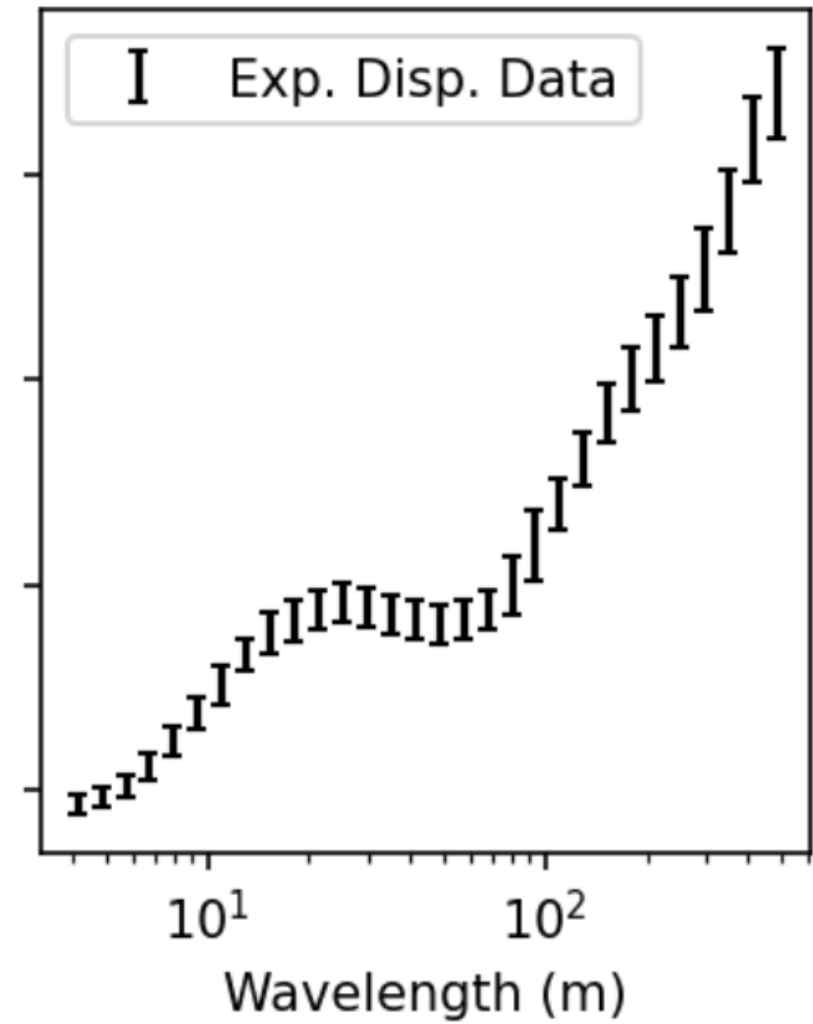
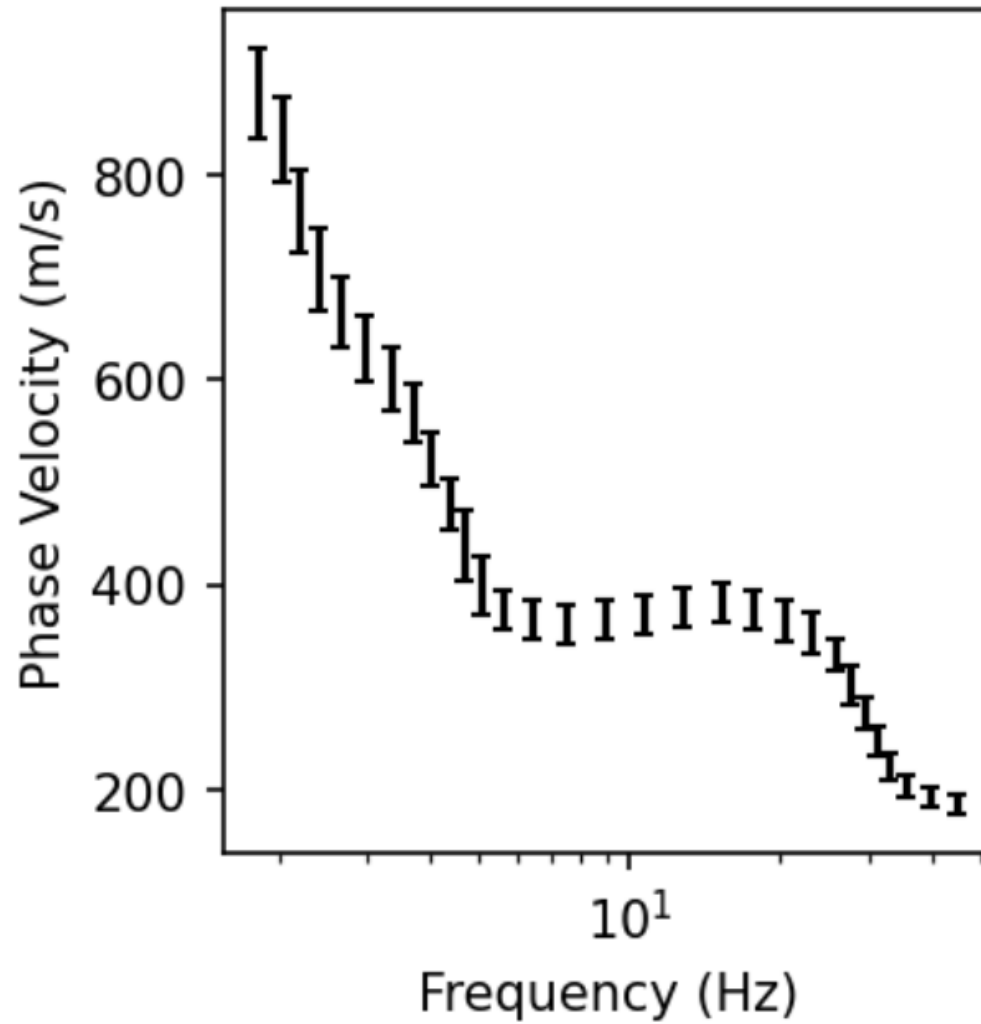
      # Approach 2: Import from version 2.X.X dinver-style text file (see swprepost documentation for details).
      target = swprepost.Target.from_txt_dinver("AssemblyHall_R0.txt", version="2.10.1")

      # Approach 3: Import from version 3.X.X dinver-style text file (see swprepost documentation for details).
      # target = swprepost.Target.from_txt_dinver("example_dv3.txt", version="3.4.2")

      fig, axs = plot_target(target)
      print("Import successful, you may proceed.")
```



# SLC Assembly Hall





# SLC Assembly Hall

We will save the data back out  
in the format associated with  
Geopsy v3.4.2

## ▼ Save Target to Disk

After importing your experimental dispersion data and completing any desired resampling, use the cell below to create the `0_targets` directory (if it does not exist) and write your `.target` file. You can confirm that the write was successful by examining the created `.target` file using the Dinver graphical user interface.

```
[11]: target_name = "tar1"           # Name of target file (no .target suffix)
      version = "3.4.2"             # Version of Geopsy "2.10.1" or "3.4.2"

# Save to Disk
if os.path.isdir("0_targets/") == False:
    os.mkdir("0_targets/")
target.to_target(f"0_targets/{target_name}", version=version)

# Confirm file exists.
if os.path.exists(f"0_targets/{target_name}.target"):
    print(f"{target_name}.target exists, you may proceed.")

tar1.target exists, you may proceed.
```

# SLC Assembly Hall

Minimum and Maximum  $V_s$

$$100 < V_s < 1500 \text{ m/s}$$

Minimum and Maximum  $V_p$

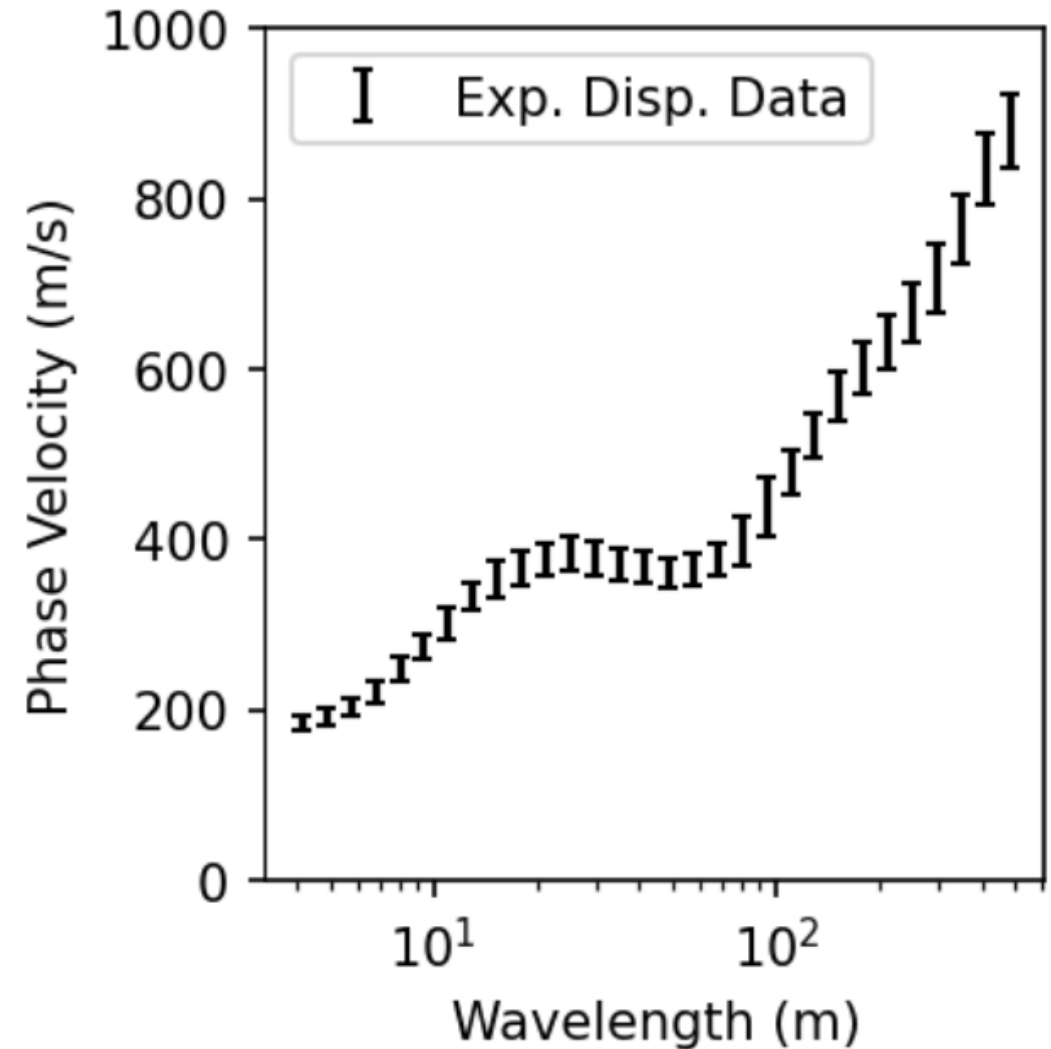
$$200 < V_p < 3000 \text{ m/s}$$

Fix Mass Density

$$\rho = 2000 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

$\lambda_{min} = 4 \text{ m}$  (no layer thinner than 1.3 m)

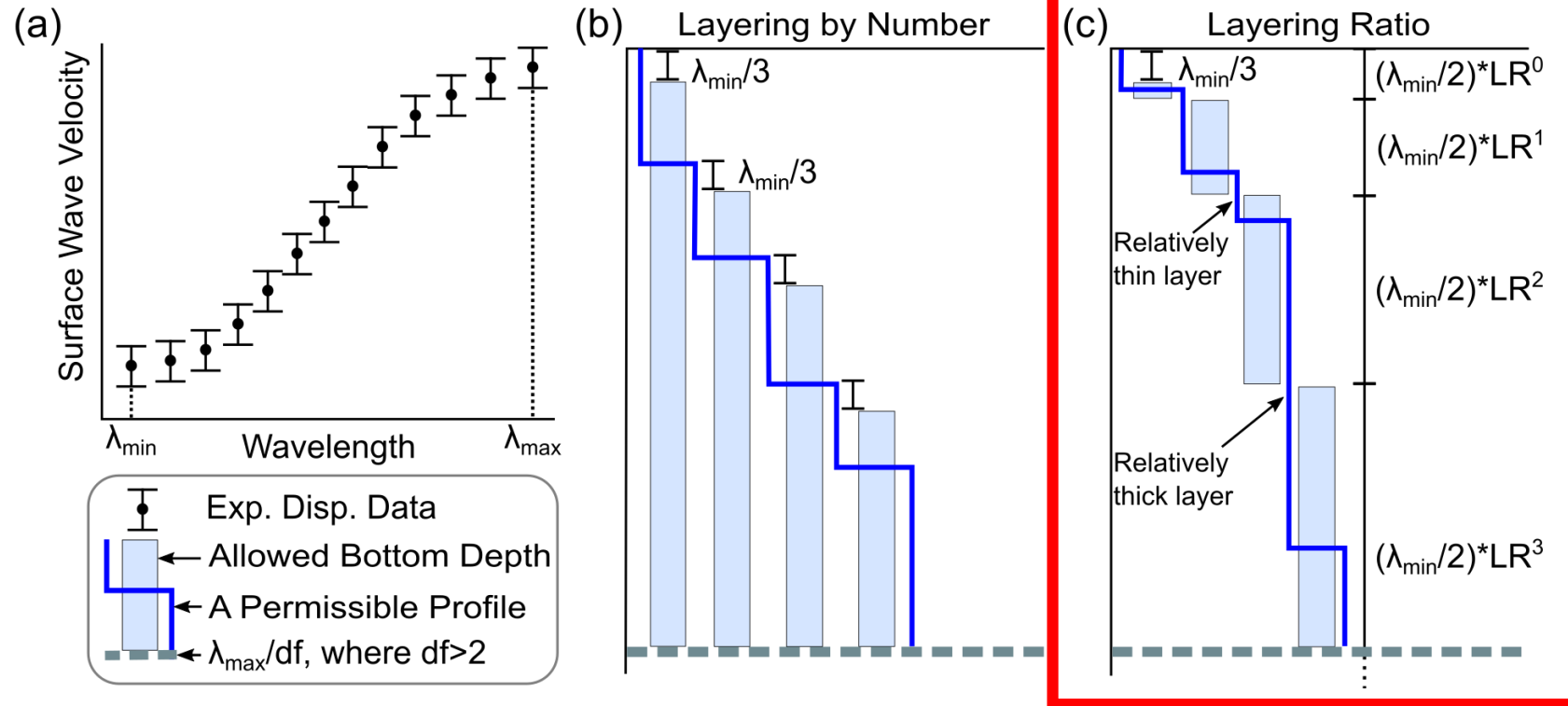
$\lambda_{max} = 500 \text{ m}$  (no deeper than 250 m)



# SLC Assembly Hall

Vantassel and Cox  
(2021a)

Cox and Teague  
(2016)



Will use Layering Ratio (LR) approach for this example. Recall both Layering by Number (LN) and Layering Ratio (LR) are valid approaches for parameterization. I know a priori that LRs are a bit easier to modify for this example.

# SLC Assembly Hall

Will choose  
LR=1.5, 2.0, 3.0, and 5.0  
Will start with LR=3.0

```
[13]: # Minimum and maximum for all parameters. Refer to detai
vp_min, vp_max, vp_dec = 200., 3000., False
vs_min, vs_max, vs_dec = 100., 1500., False
pr_min, pr_max = 0.2, 0.5
rh_min, rh_max = 2000., 2000.

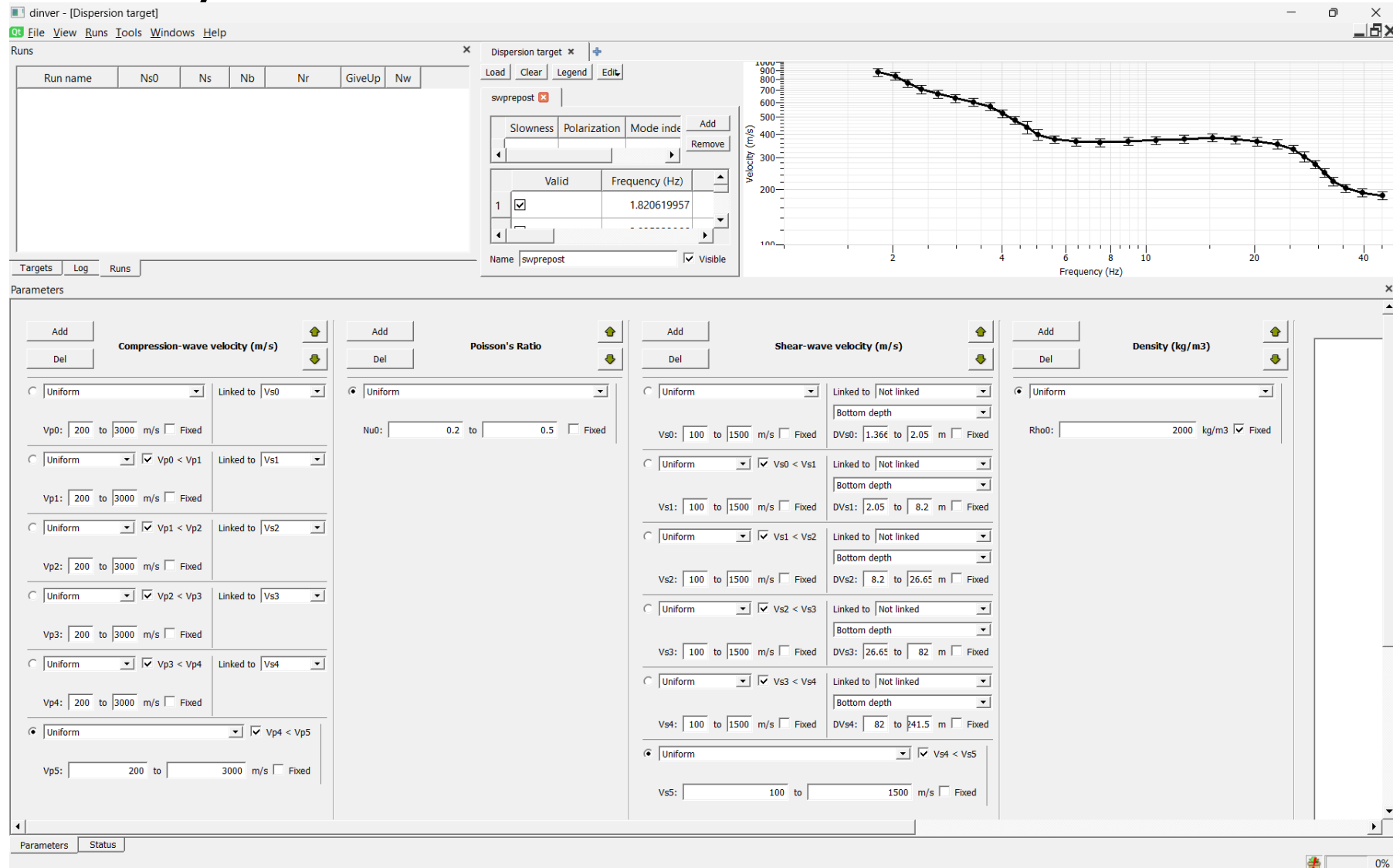
# Layering by Number (LN) parameterizations to consider. Add or remove as desired.
# See Vantassel and Cox (2021) for details.
lns = []

# Layering Ratios (LRs) parameterizations to consider. Add or remove as desired.
# See Vantassel and Cox (2021) and Cox and Teague (2016) for details.
lrs = [1.5, 2.0, 3.0, 5.0]

# Depth factor, typically 2 or 3.
depth_factor = 2

# Minimum and maximum wavelength, selected from experimental disperison data by default.
wmin, wmax = min(target.wavelength), max(target.wavelength)
```

# SLC Assembly Hall



# SLC Assembly Hall

Recall we estimated the reversal  
between about 7 and 25 m deep.

Compression-wave velocity (m/s)		Poisson's Ratio					
<input type="button" value="Add"/>	<input type="button" value="Del"/>	<input type="button" value="Add"/>	<input type="button" value="Del"/>	<input type="button" value="Add"/>	<input type="button" value="Del"/>	<input type="button" value="Add"/>	<input type="button" value="Del"/>
<input type="radio"/> Uniform	Linked to Vs0	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Uniform	Nu0: 0.2 to 0.5 <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed	<input type="radio"/> Uniform	Linked to Not linked	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Uniform	Rho0: 2000 kg/m3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fixed
Vp0: 200 to 3000 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed				Vs0: 100 to 1500 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed	Bottom depth	DVs0: 1.366 to 2.05 m <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed	
<input type="radio"/> Uniform <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vp0 < Vp1	Linked to Vs1			<input type="radio"/> Uniform <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vs0 < Vs1	Bottom depth		
Vp1: 200 to 3000 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed				Vs1: 100 to 1500 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed	DVs1: 2.05 to 8.2 m <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed		
<input type="radio"/> Uniform <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vp1 < Vp2	Linked to Vs2			<input type="radio"/> Uniform <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vs1 < Vs2	Bottom depth		
Vp2: 200 to 3000 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed				Vs2: 100 to 1500 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed	DVs2: 8.2 to 26.65 m <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed		
<input type="radio"/> Uniform <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vp2 < Vp3	Linked to Vs3			<input type="radio"/> Uniform <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vs2 < Vs3	Bottom depth		
Vp3: 200 to 3000 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed				Vs3: 100 to 1500 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed	DVs3: 26.65 to 82 m <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed		
<input type="radio"/> Uniform <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vp3 < Vp4	Linked to Vs4			<input type="radio"/> Uniform <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vs3 < Vs4	Bottom depth		
Vp4: 200 to 3000 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed				Vs4: 100 to 1500 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed	DVs4: 82 to 241.5 m <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed		
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Uniform <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vp4 < Vp5				<input checked="" type="radio"/> Uniform <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vs4 < Vs5			
Vp5: 200 to 3000 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed				Vs5: 100 to 1500 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed			

Parameters Status

# SLC Assembly Hall

Recall we estimated the reversal between about 7 and 25 m deep.

Will allow reversal but only in that area.

Parameters

**Compression-wave velocity (m/s)**

Add Del

Uniform Linked to Vs0

Vp0: 200 to 3000 m/s Fixed

Uniform ☒ Vp0 < Vp1 Linked to Vs1

Vp1: 200 to 3000 m/s Fixed

Uniform ☐ Vp1 < Vp2 Linked to Vs2

Vp2: 200 to 3000 m/s Fixed

Uniform ☒ Vp2 < Vp3 Linked to Vs3

Vp3: 200 to 3000 m/s Fixed

Uniform ☒ Vp3 < Vp4 Linked to Vs4

Vp4: 200 to 3000 m/s Fixed

Uniform ☒ Vp4 < Vp5

Vp5: 200 to 3000 m/s Fixed

**Poisson's Ratio**

Add Del

Uniform Nu0: 0.2 to 0.5 Fixed

Vs0: 100 to 1500 m/s Fixed Bottom depth DVs0: 1.36 to 2.05 m Fixed Rho0: 2000 kg/m3 Fixed

Uniform ☒ Vs0 < Vs1 Linked to Not linked Bottom depth DVs1: 2.05 to 8.2 m Fixed

Uniform ☐ Vs1 < Vs2 Linked to Not linked Bottom depth DVs2: 8.2 to 26.65 m Fixed

Uniform ☒ Vs2 < Vs3 Linked to Not linked Bottom depth DVs3: 26.65 to 82 m Fixed

Uniform ☒ Vs3 < Vs4 Linked to Not linked Bottom depth DVs4: 82 to 241.5 m Fixed

Uniform ☒ Vs4 < Vs5

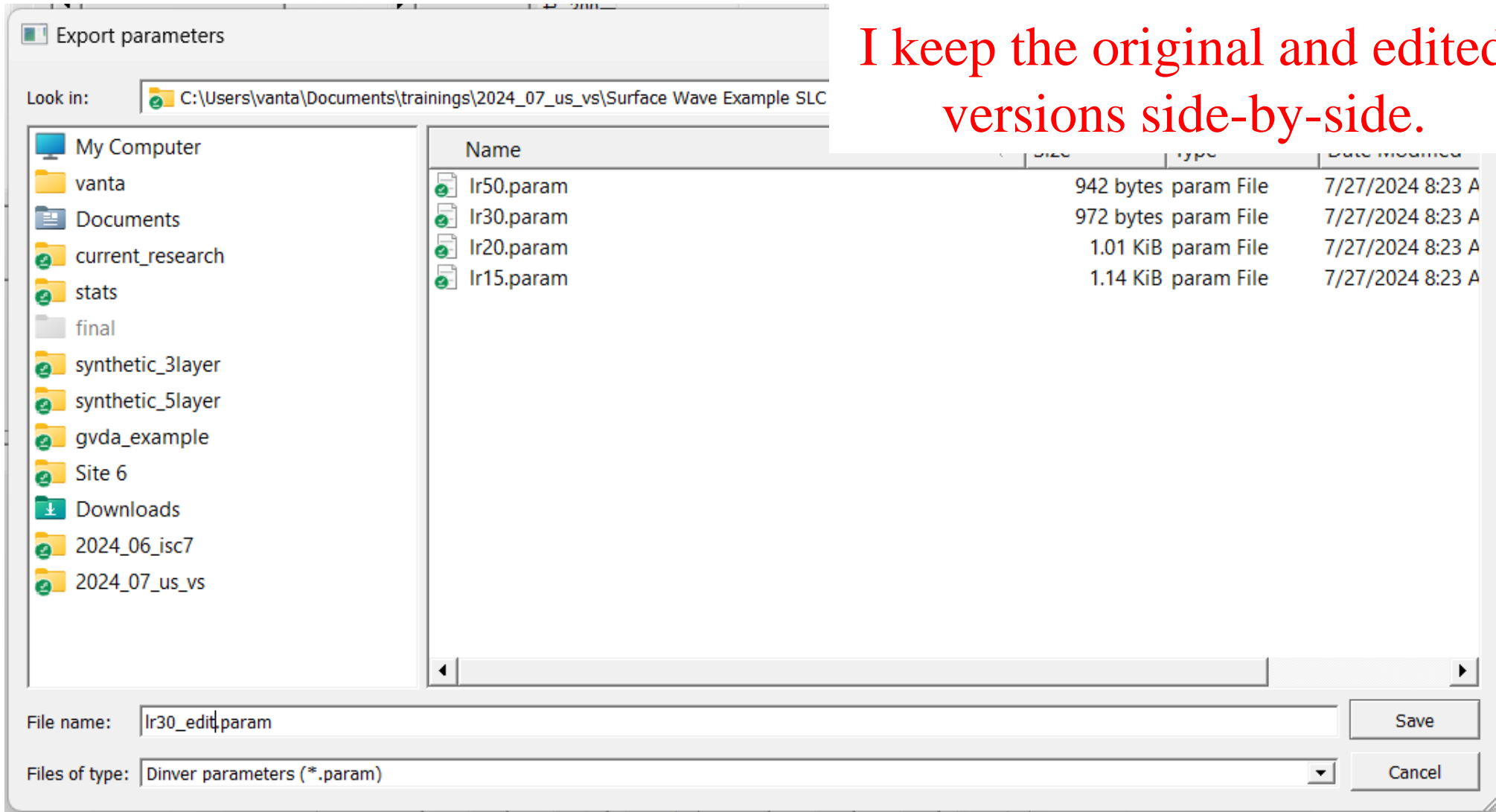
Vs5: 100 to 1500 m/s Fixed

Parameters Status

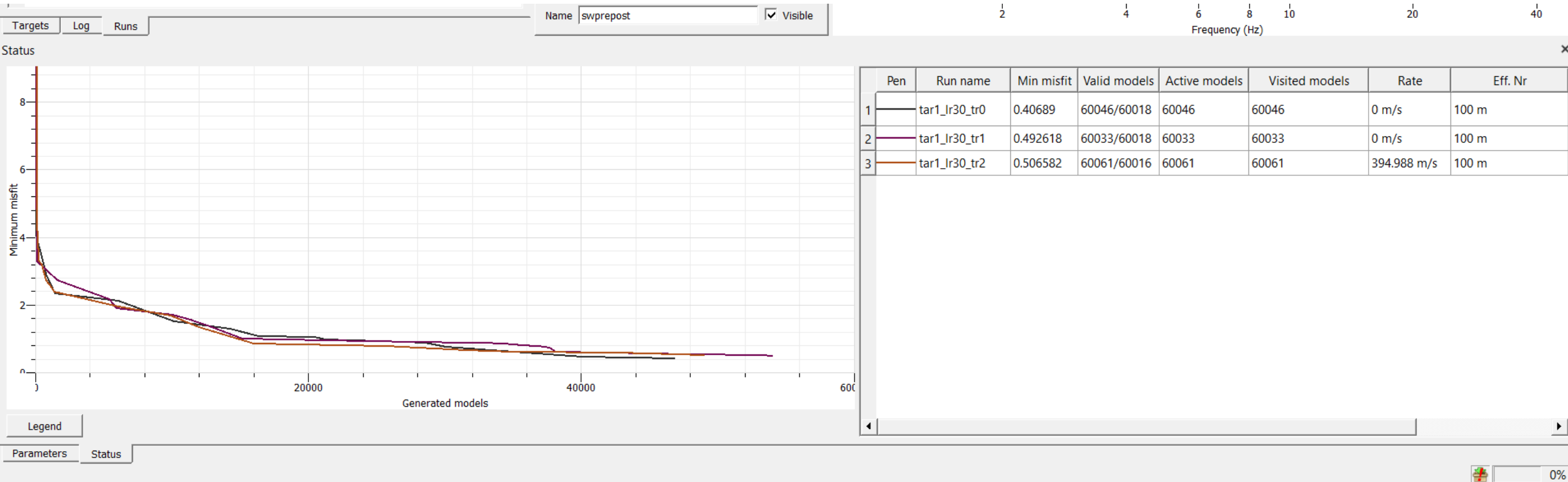


# SLC Assembly Hall

I keep the original and edited versions side-by-side.



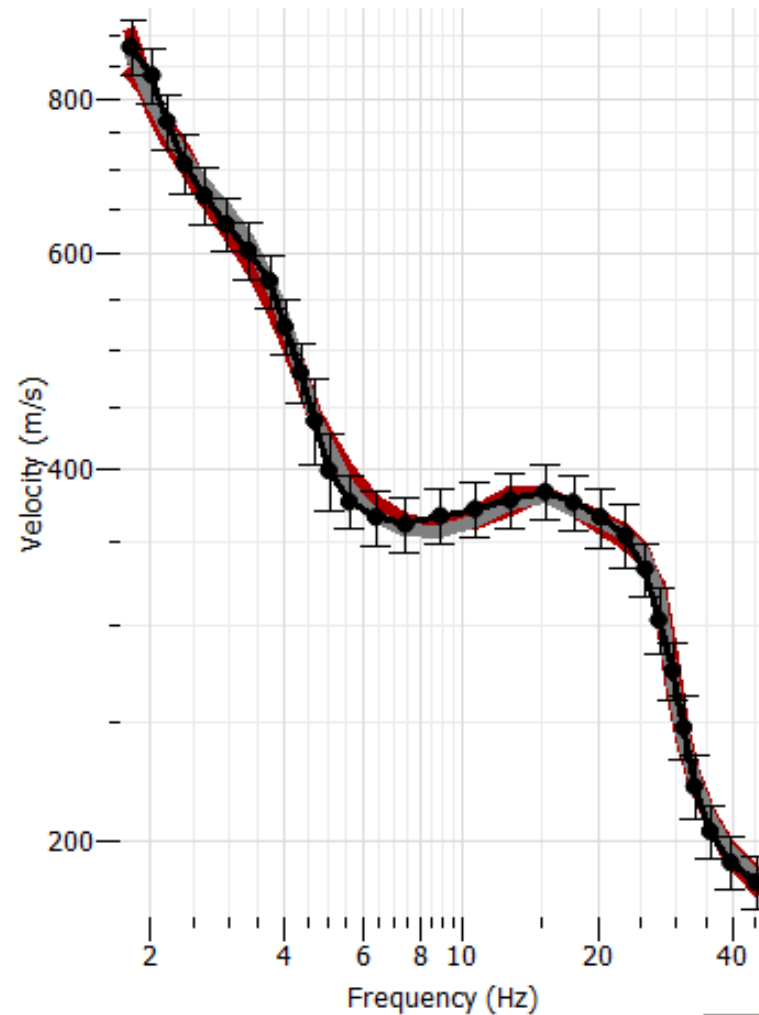
# SLC Assembly Hall



We do not get very low dispersion misfits like we saw at CUSSO. Data is more complicated and harder to fit.

# SLC Assembly Hall

Fundamental mode



Nonetheless, the fits we are getting are reasonable.

So very important to look at the experimental and theoretical data side-by-side.

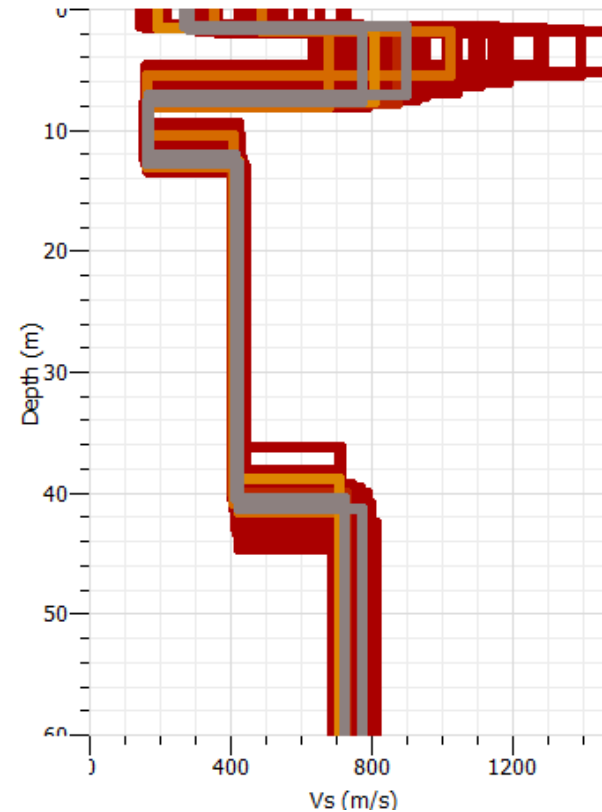
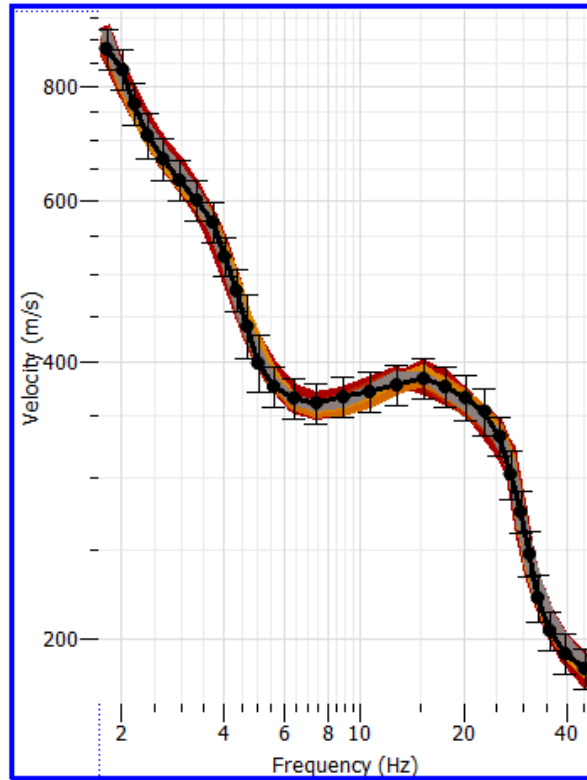
# SLC Assembly Hall

	Pen	Run name	Min misfit	Valid models	Active models	Visited models	Rate	Eff. Nr
1		tar1_lr30_tr0	0.331191	120094/120...	120094	120095	0 m/s	100 m
2		tar1_lr30_tr1	0.381114	120062/120...	120062	120062	0 m/s	100 m
3		tar1_lr30_tr2	0.332511	120119/120...	120119	120119	31.9693 m/s	100 m

But we can also increase the number of models we search if we think the interpretation is good, but more searching is required.

# SLC Assembly Hall

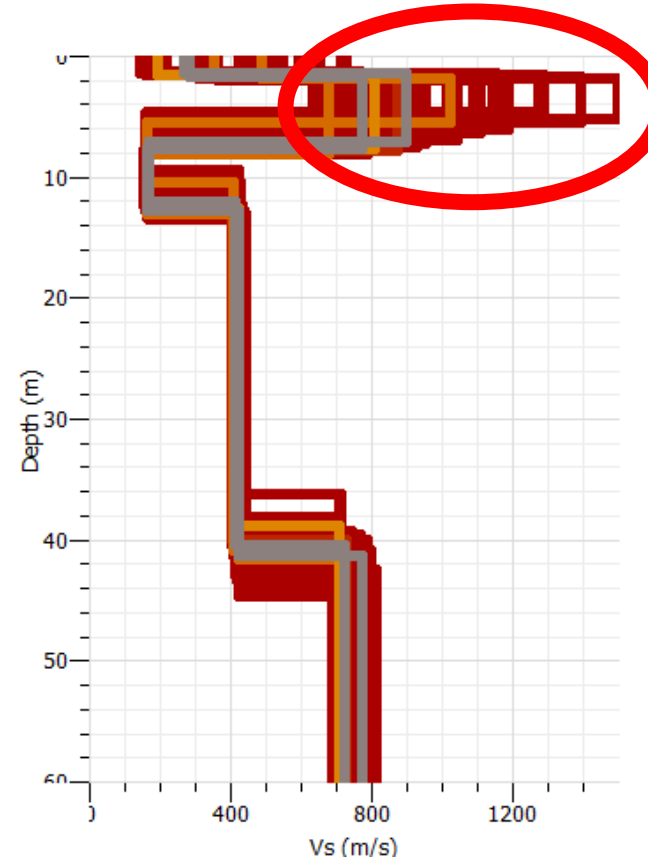
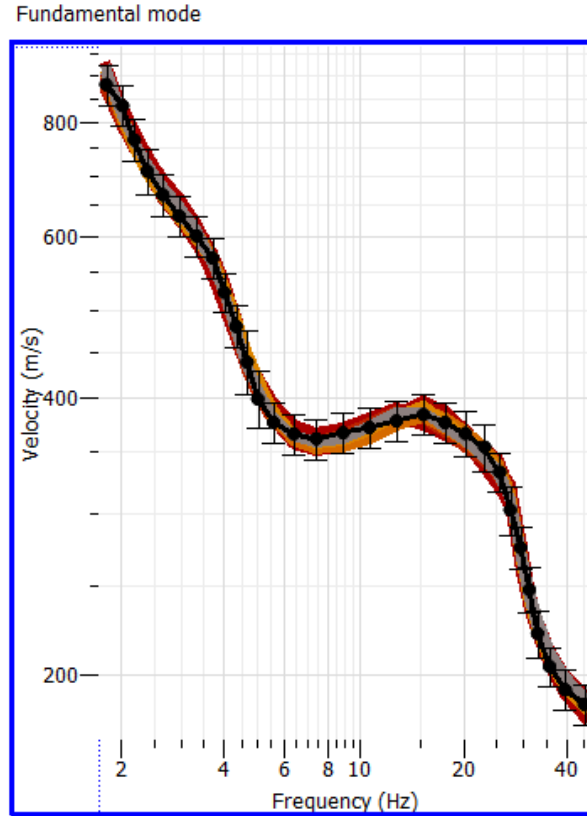
Fundamental mode



Here is our first attempt results.  
What do we think?

# SLC Assembly Hall

Good fit to data.



But this is a bit suspicious.

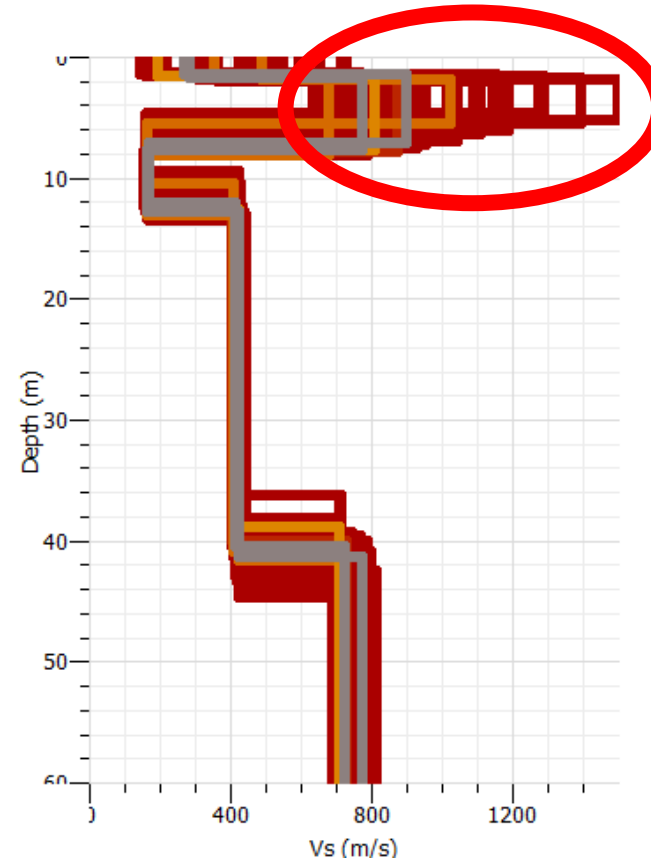
Have maximum Vs followed by minimum Vs.

What can we do?  
**Further constrain inversion using Geology and local site information.**

Here is our first attempt results.  
What do we think?

# SLC Assembly Hall

Good fit to data.

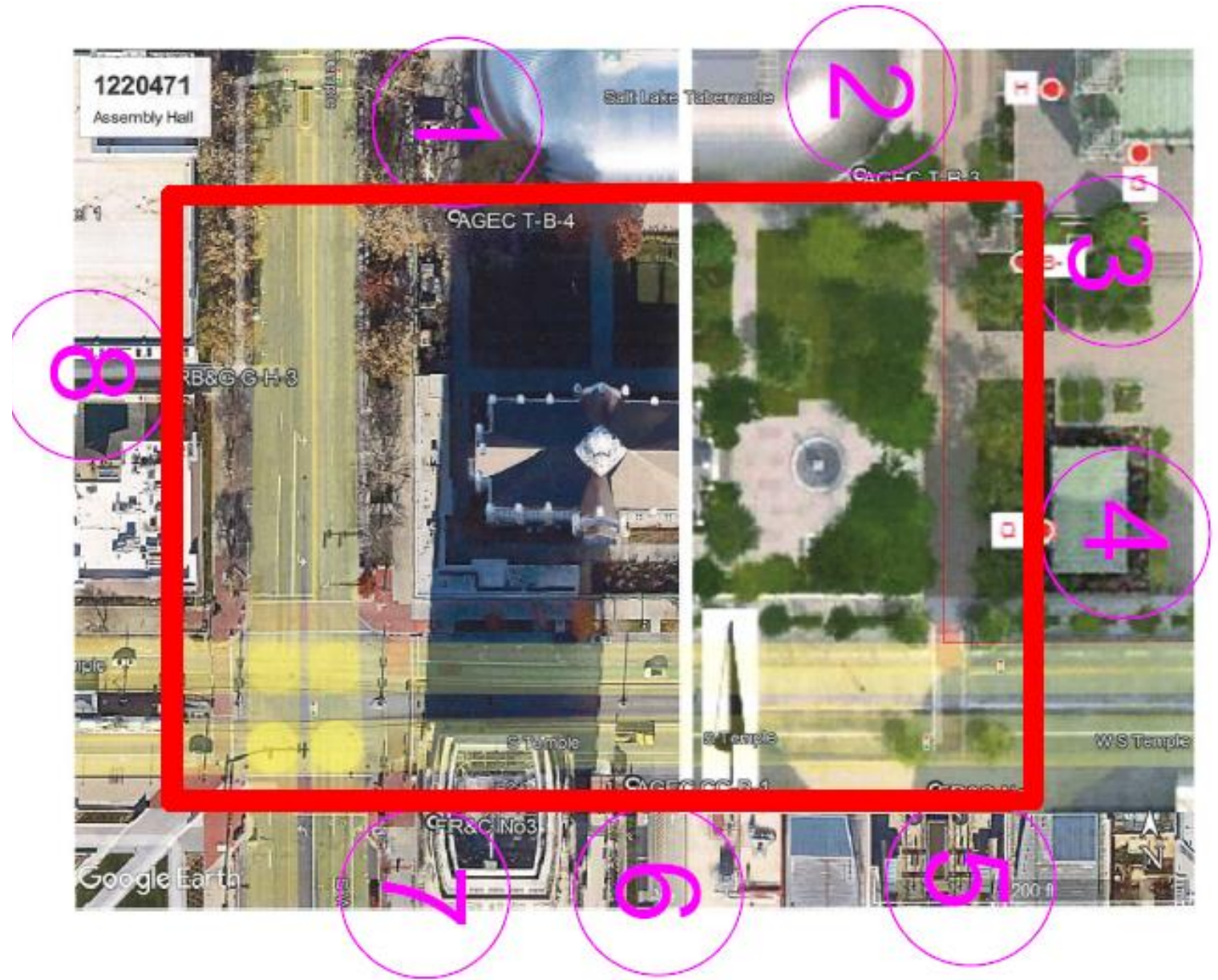




# SLC Assembly Hall

We have invasive data at the SLC.

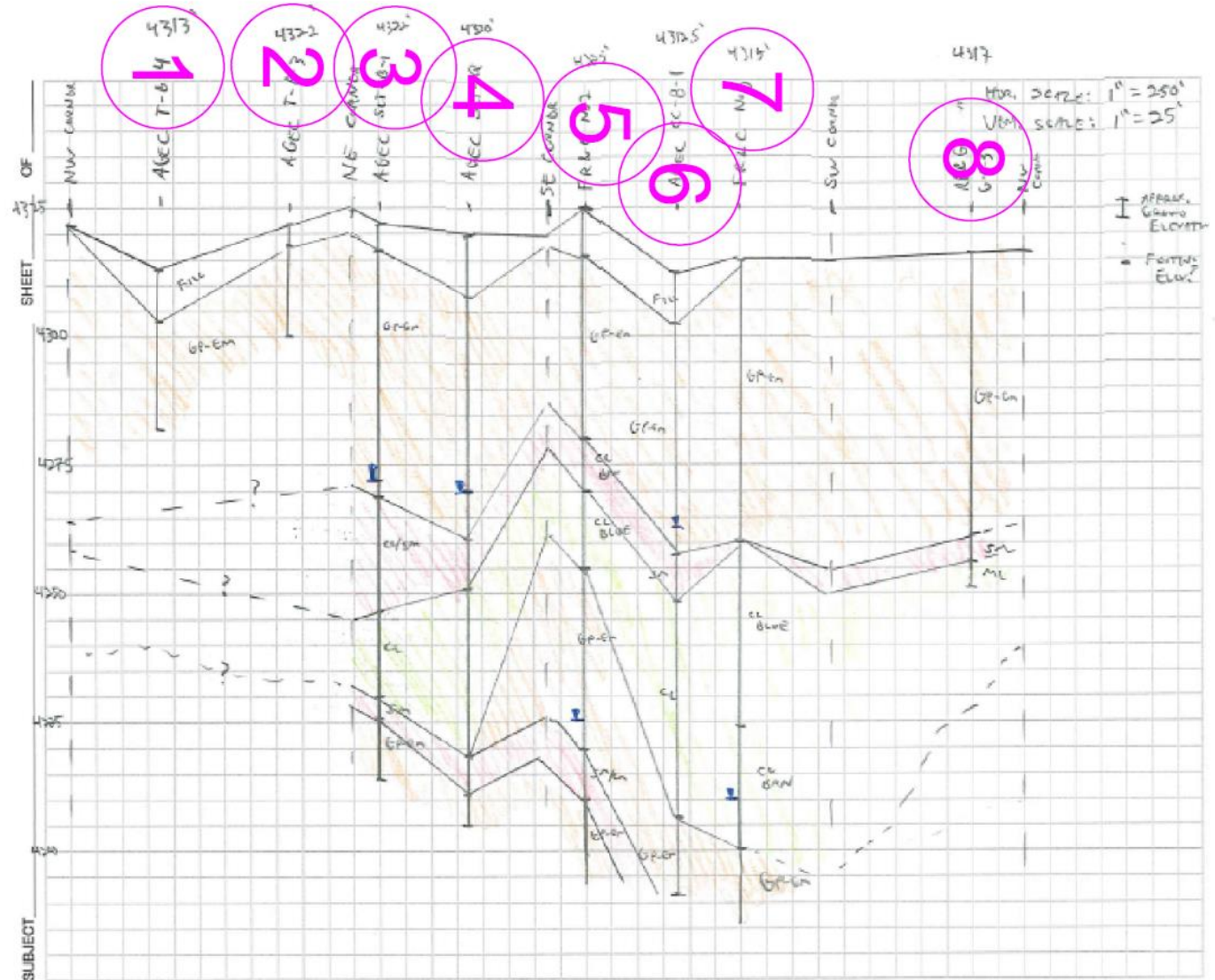
Lets look at how we could have used that in our inversion to better constrain our depths.



# SLC Assembly Hall

Fence diagram that wraps  
the site.

For surface wave inversion  
we need some broad  
average values that we can  
use in our 1D inversion.



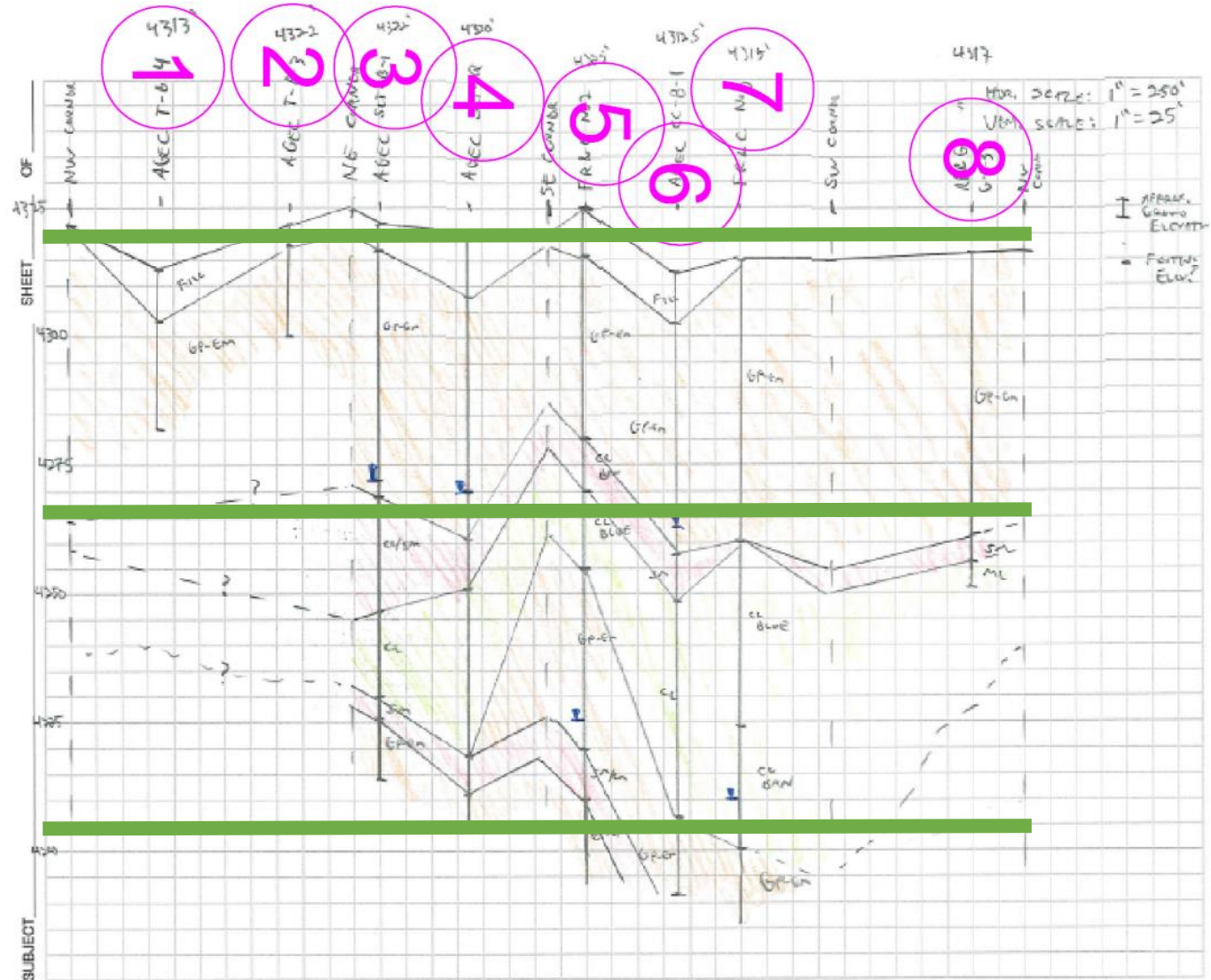


# SLC Assembly Hall

Ground Surface ELEV = 4320 ft

Bottom of Gravel ELEV = 4265 ft

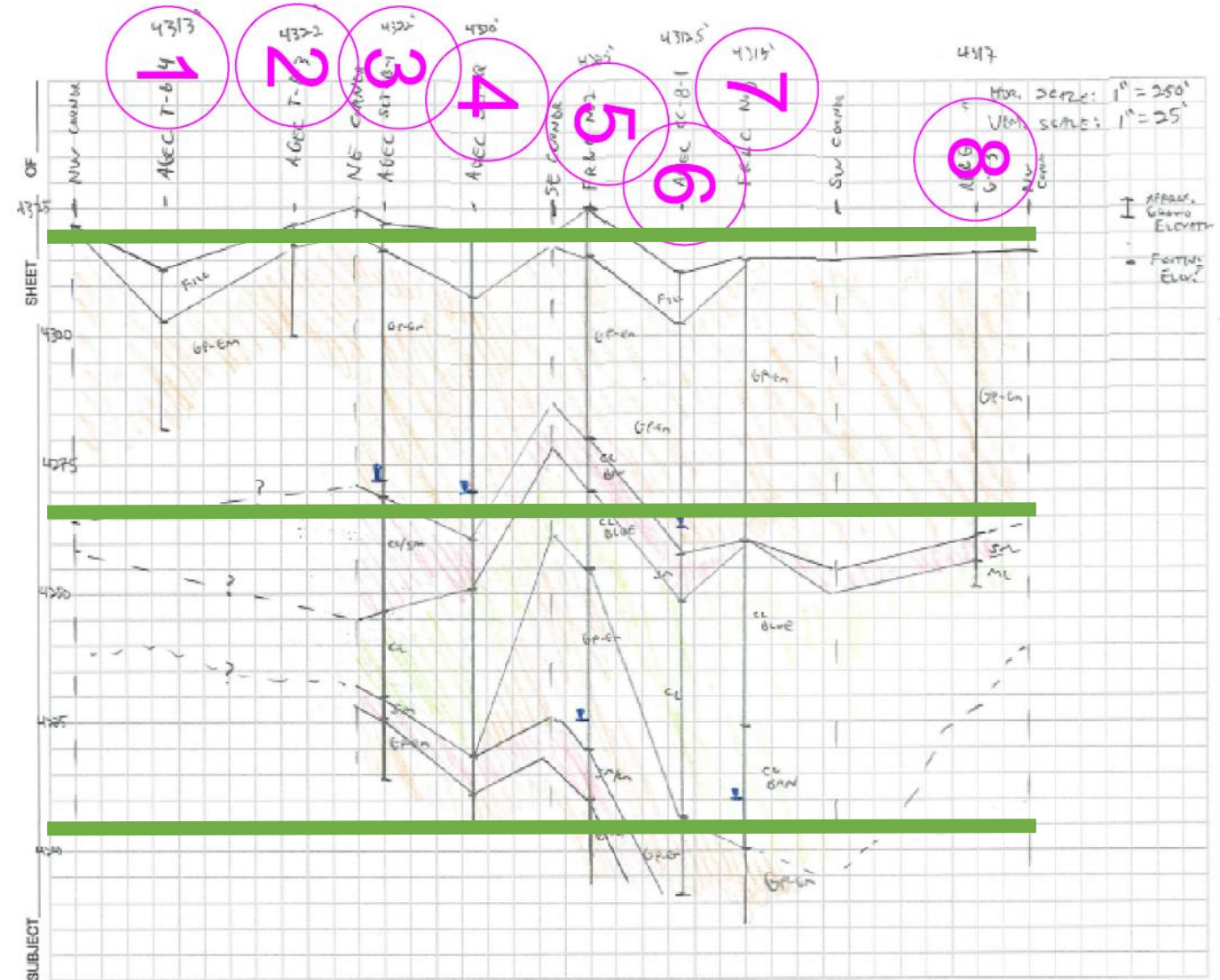
Bottom of Clay ELEV = 4205 ft



# SLC Assembly Hall

~ 16 m Gravel

~ 18 m Clay



# SLC Assembly Hall

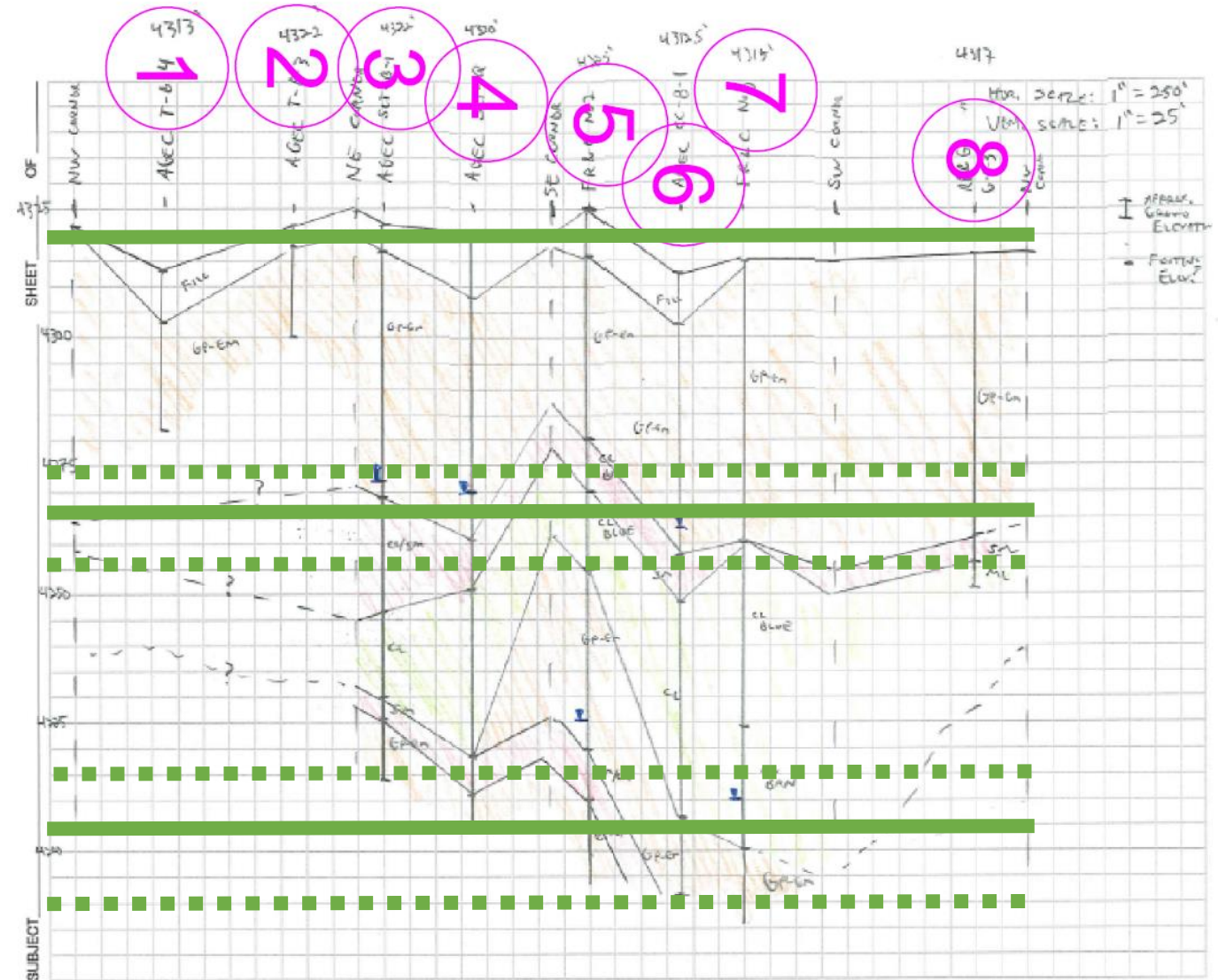
Approximate  
Depths

~ 14 m

~ 23 m

~ 32 m

~ 40 m





# Reference Vs Profiles

$$V_s = A_s(\sigma'_o/Pa)^{n_s}$$

where:

$V_s$  = shear wave velocity at any depth/confining pressure

$A_s$  = reference shear wave velocity at one atmosphere of mean effective stress confining pressure

$\sigma'_o$  = mean effective stress at any depth/confining pressure

$Pa$  = atmospheric pressure in same units as  $\sigma'_o$

$n_s$  = stress exponent of normalized mean effective stress (often assumed = 0.25)

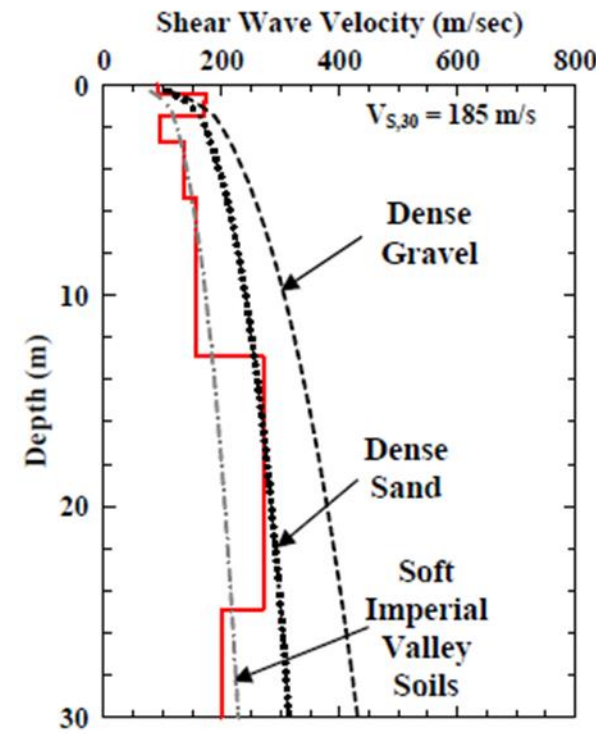
Soil Type	$V_{s,ref}$ or $A_s$ (m/s)	$n_s$
Soft Clay	103	0.273
Medium Clay	192	0.273
Loose Sand	148	0.266
Medium Sand	230	0.266
Dense Sand	255	0.261
Dense Gravel	312	0.331

Menq (2003), Lin et al. (2014), Rahimi et al. (2019)

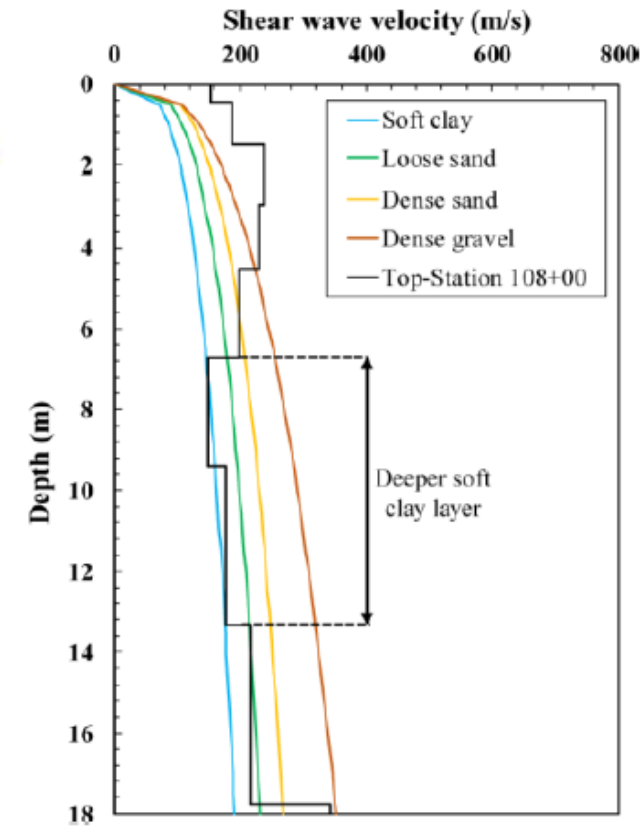
$$\sigma'_0 = \frac{\sigma'_v + 2K_0\sigma'_v}{3} ; \text{ if } K_0 \sim 0.5 \text{ then } \sigma'_0 = \frac{2\sigma'_v}{3}$$

where  $\sigma'_v$  = vertical effective stress

Lin et al. (2014)



Rahimi et al. (2019)



# SLC Assembly Hall

Parameters

Compression-wave velocity (m/s)	Poisson's Ratio	Shear-wave velocity (m/s)	Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )
<div>Del</div> <div><div>Uniform</div><div>Linked to Vs0</div></div> <div>Vp0: 200 to 1500 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed</div>	<div>Del</div> <div><div>Uniform</div><div>Linked to Nu0</div></div> <div>Nu0: 0.2 to 0.5 <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed</div>	<div>Del</div> <div><div>Uniform</div><div>Linked to Not linked</div></div> <div>Vs0: 100 to 800 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed</div>	<div>Del</div> <div><div>Uniform</div><div>Linked to Rho0</div></div> <div>Rho0: 2000 kg/m<sup>3</sup> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fixed</div>
<div><div>Uniform</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vp0 &lt; Vp1</div><div>Linked to Vs1</div></div> <div>Vp1: 200 to 1500 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed</div>		<div><div>Uniform</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vs0 &lt; Vs1</div><div>Linked to Not linked</div></div> <div>Vs1: 100 to 800 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed</div>	
<div><div>Uniform</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vp1 &lt; Vp2</div><div>Linked to Vs2</div></div> <div>Vp2: 200 to 1500 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed</div>		<div><div>Uniform</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vs1 &lt; Vs2</div><div>Linked to Not linked</div></div> <div>Vs2: 100 to 800 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed</div>	
<div><div>Uniform</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Vp2 &lt; Vp3</div><div>Linked to Vs3</div></div> <div>Vp3: 200 to 1500 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed</div>		<div><div>Uniform</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Vs2 &lt; Vs3</div><div>Linked to Not linked</div></div> <div>Vs3: 100 to 600 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed</div>	
<div><div>Uniform</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vp3 &lt; Vp4</div><div>Linked to Vs4</div></div> <div>Vp4: 200 to 3000 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed</div>		<div><div>Uniform</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vs3 &lt; Vs4</div><div>Linked to Not linked</div></div> <div>Vs4: 100 to 1500 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed</div>	
<div><div>Uniform</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vp4 &lt; Vp5</div><div>Linked to Vs5</div></div> <div>Vp5: 200 to 3000 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed</div>		<div><div>Uniform</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vs4 &lt; Vs5</div><div>Linked to Not linked</div></div> <div>Vs5: 100 to 1500 m/s <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed</div>	

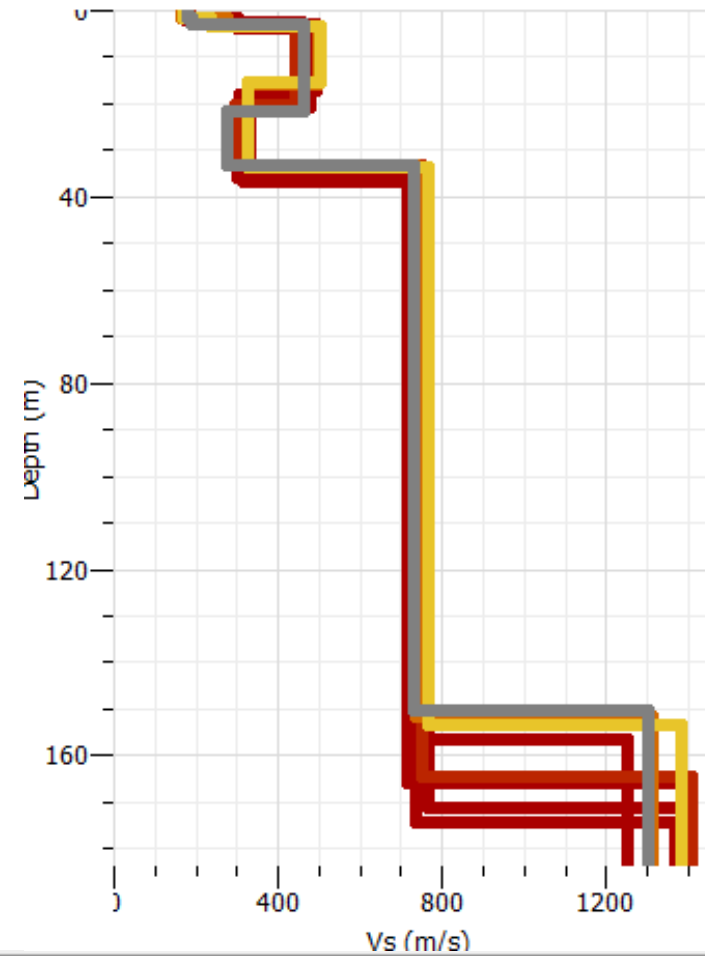
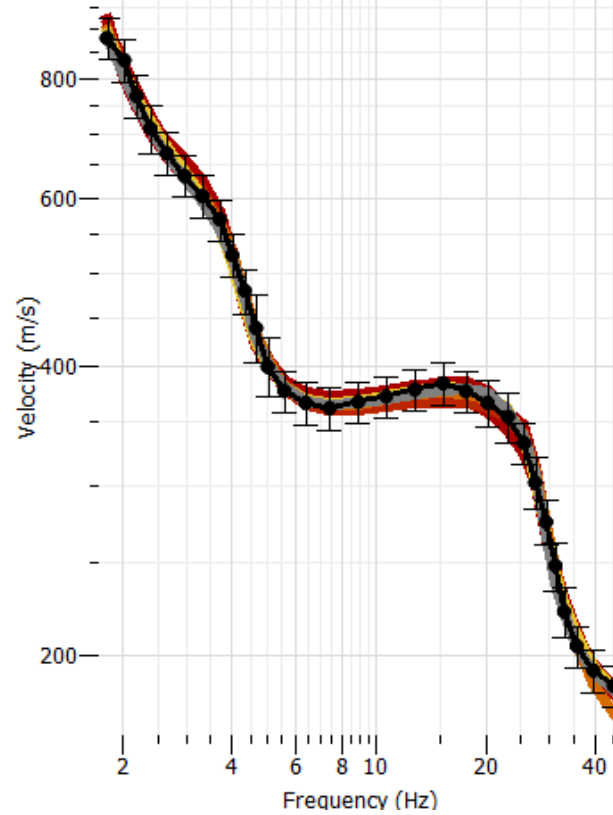
Parameters Status

Gravel Layers

Clay layer

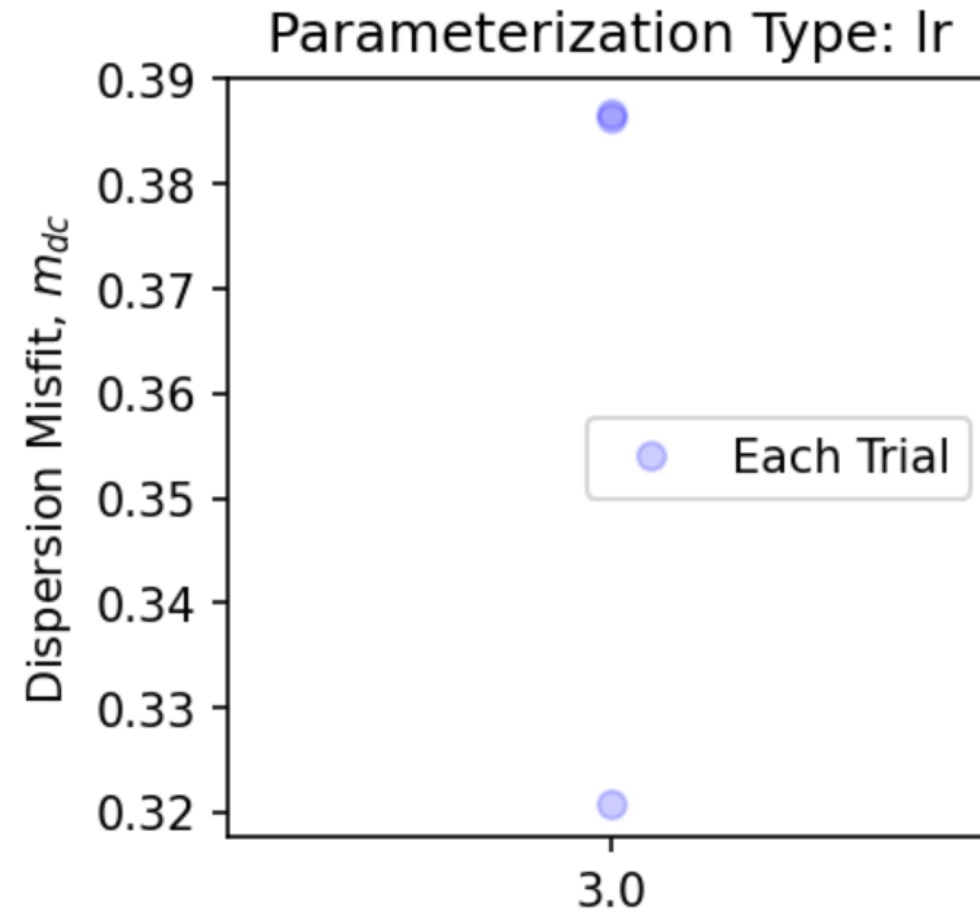


# SLC Assembly Hall

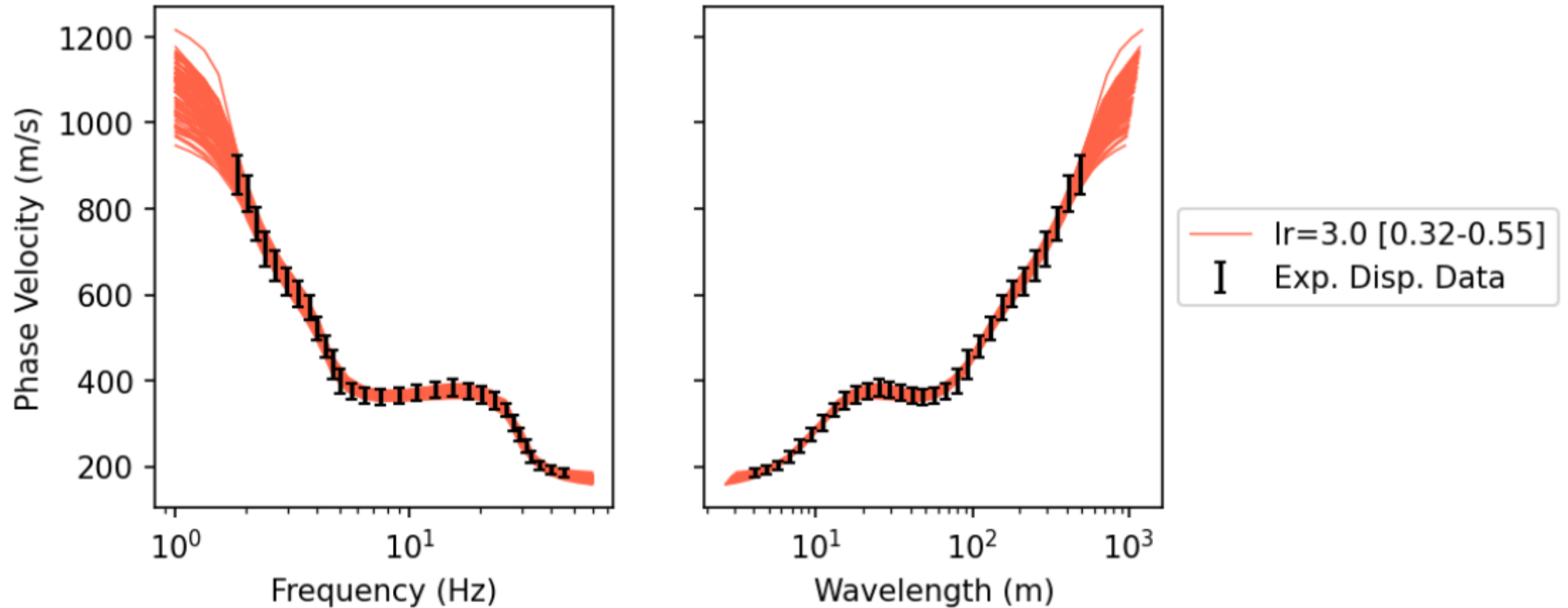


	Pen	Run name	Min misfit	Valid models	Active models	Visited models	Rate	Eff. Nr	Rejected	Give up
1		tar1_lr30_tr0	0.320875	60027/60016	60027	60030	0 m/s	100 m	3 m	0 m
2		tar1_lr30_tr1	0.386364	60026/60015	60026	60027	0 m/s	100 m	1 m	0 m
3		tar1_lr30_tr2	0.38681	60034/60016	60034	60036	0 m/s	100 m	2 m	0 m

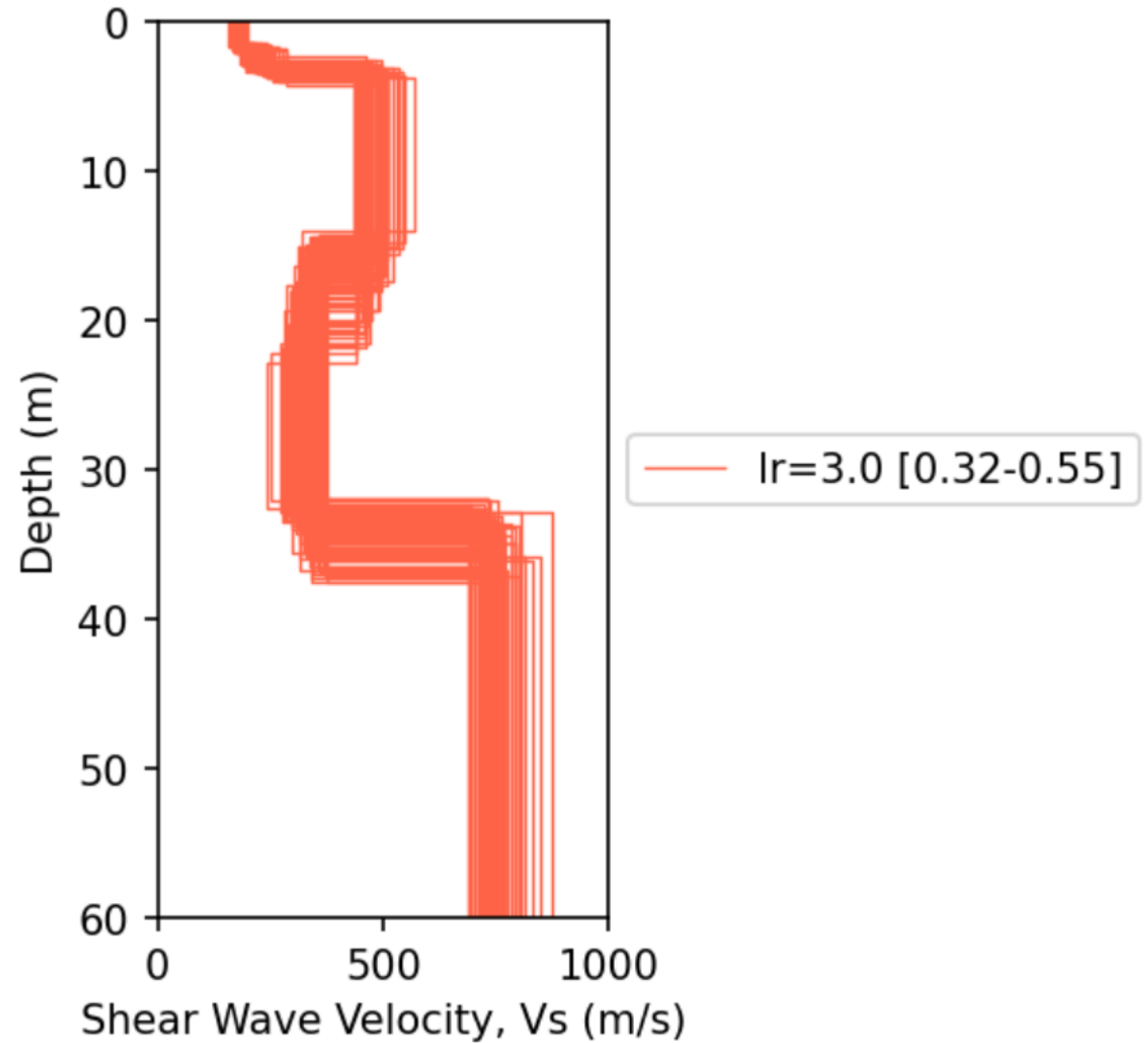
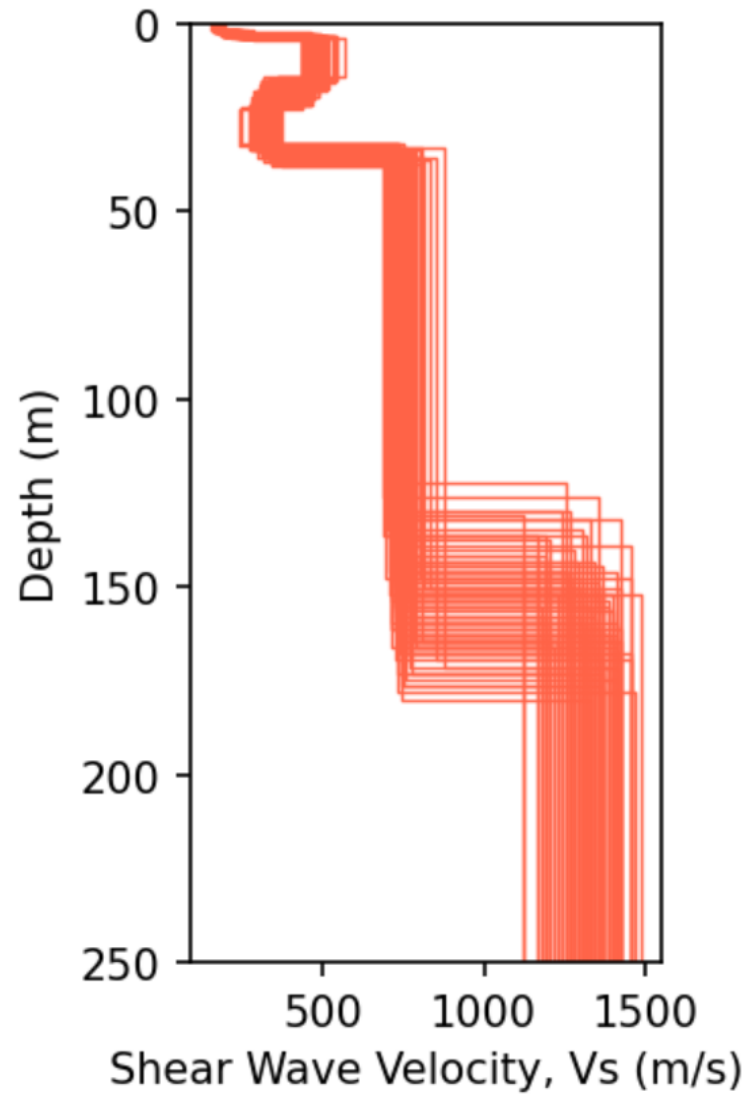
# SLC Assembly Hall



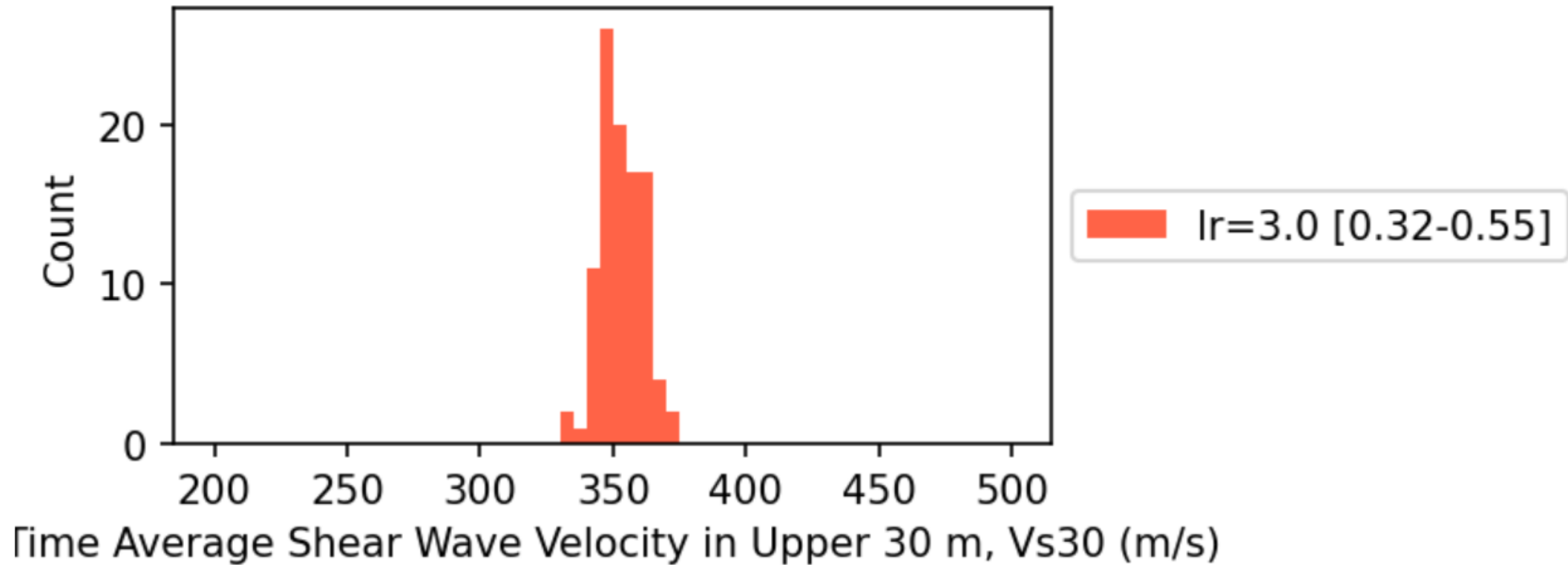
# SLC Assembly Hall



# SLC Assembly Hall



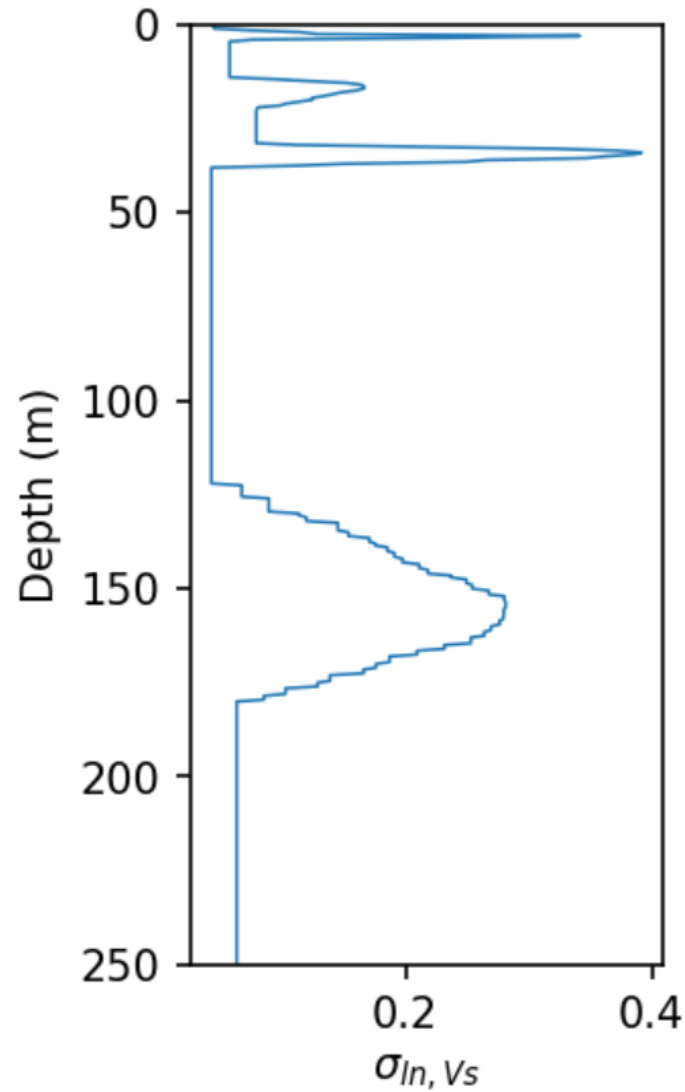
# SLC Assembly Hall



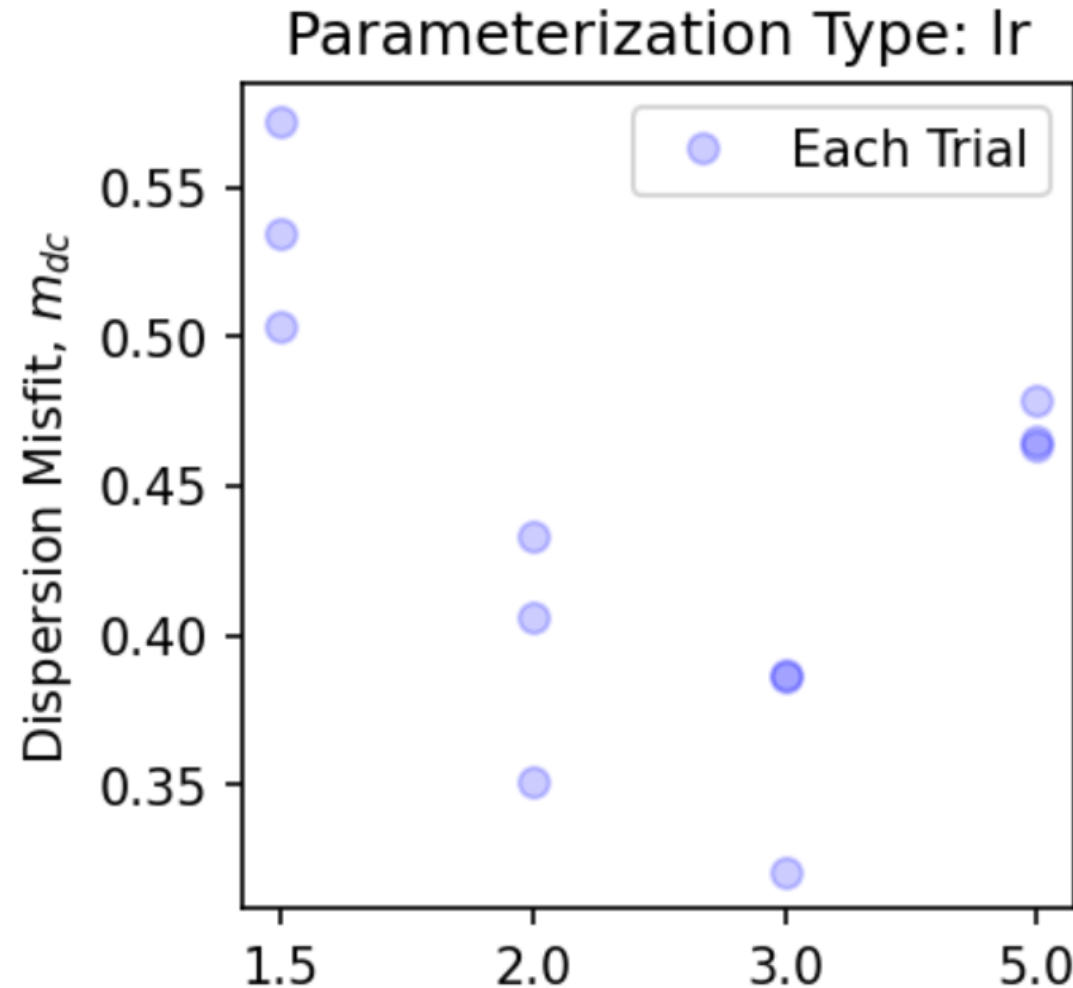
Mean Vs30: 353 m/s

Standard Deviation of Vs30: 8 m/s

# SLC Assembly Hall



# SLC Assembly Hall



Repeat for multiple parameterizations.

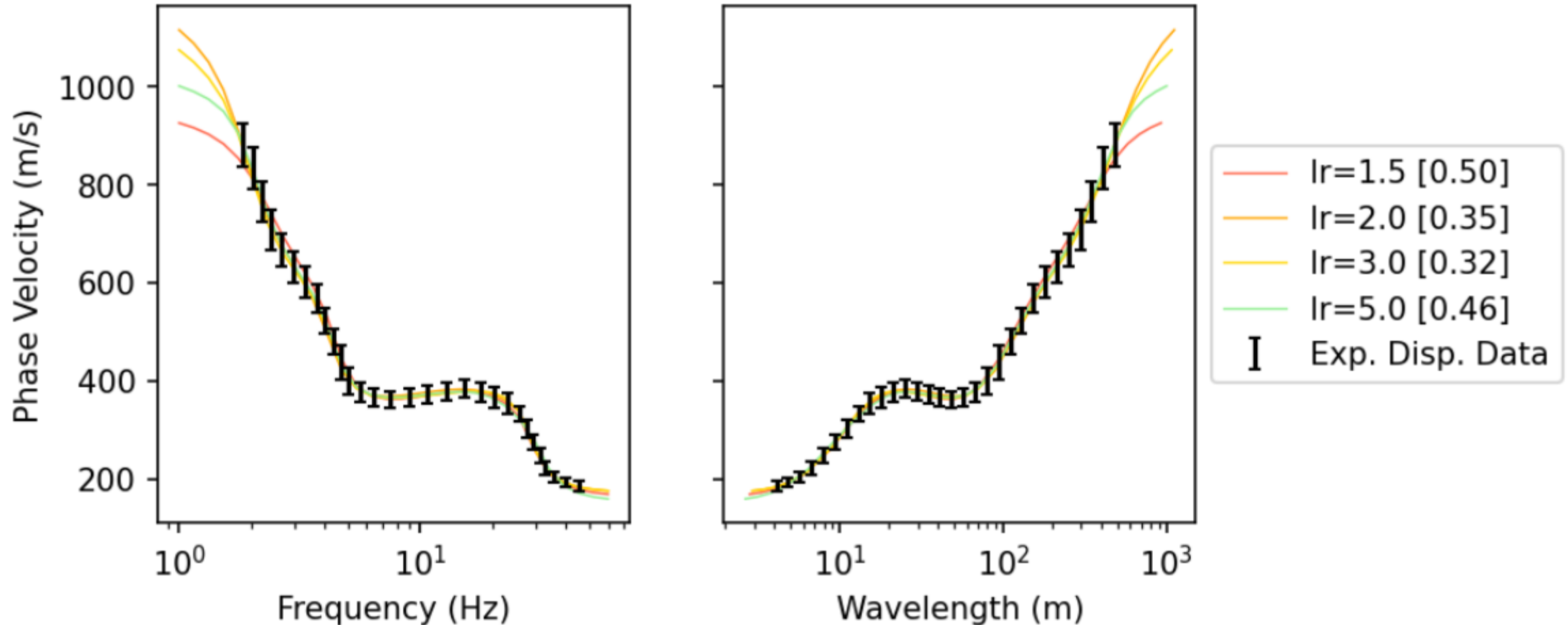
Have to edit each individually in Dinver.

Lots of repetitive changes make it easy to make mistakes so be cautious and check your work carefully.

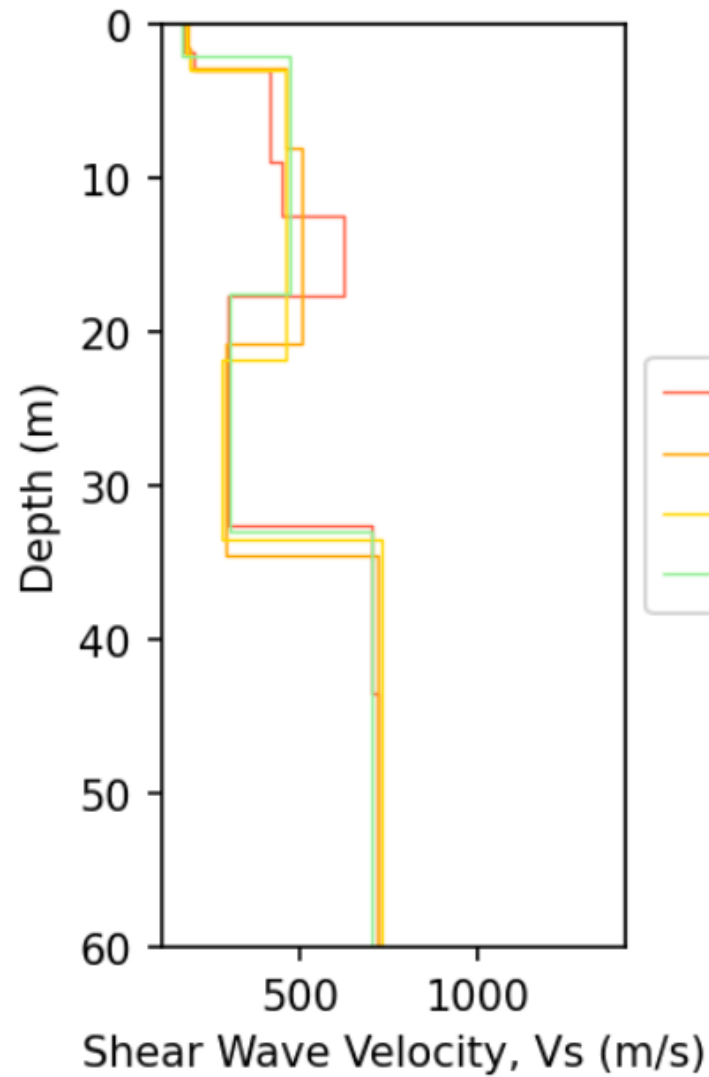
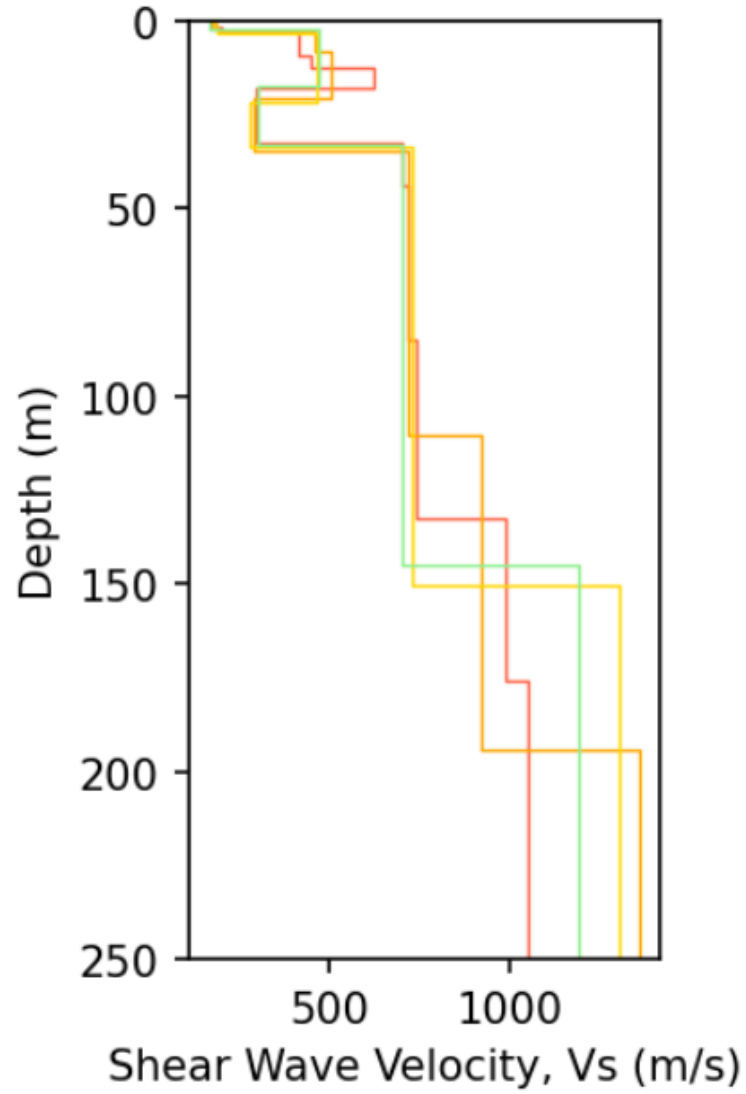


# SLC Assembly Hall

Best fit models

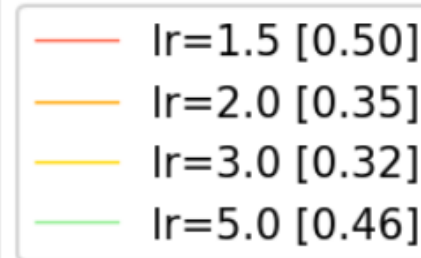


# SLC Assembly Hall

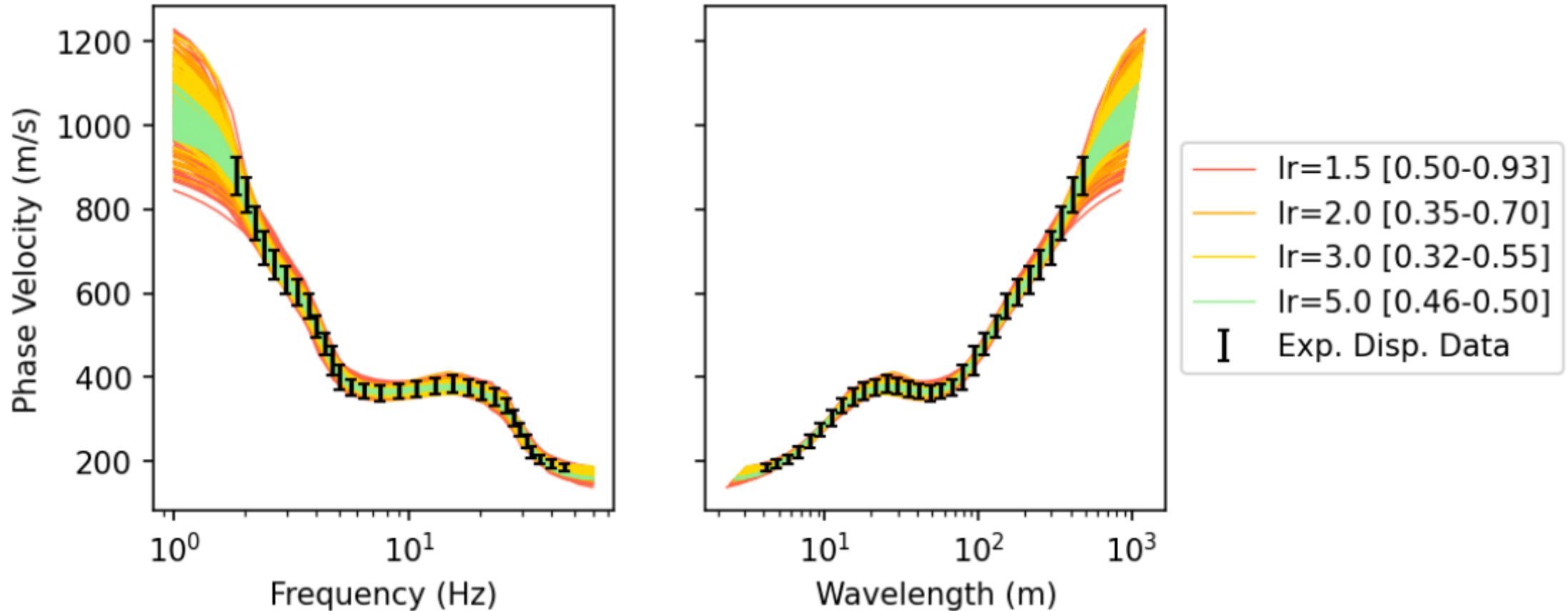


Best fit models.

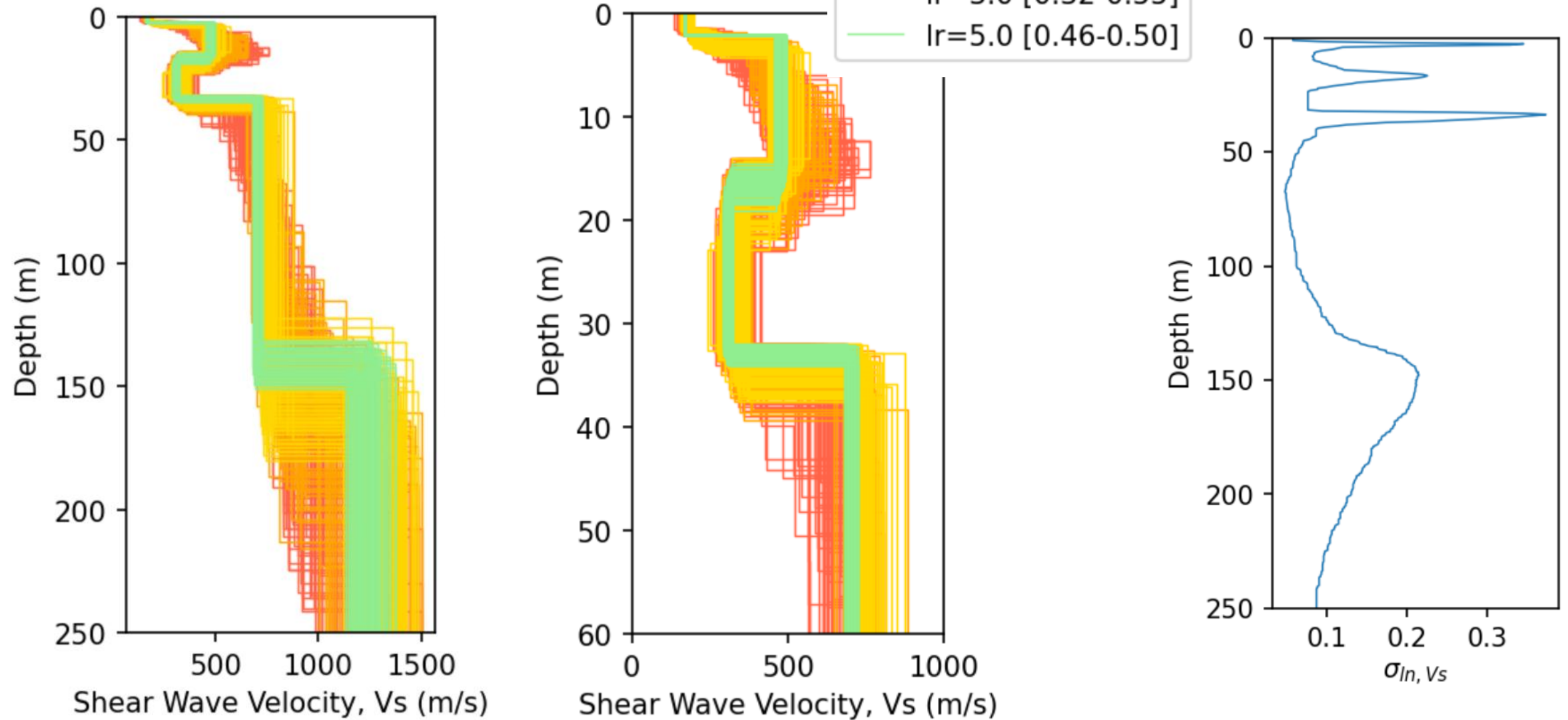
Which one would you pick?



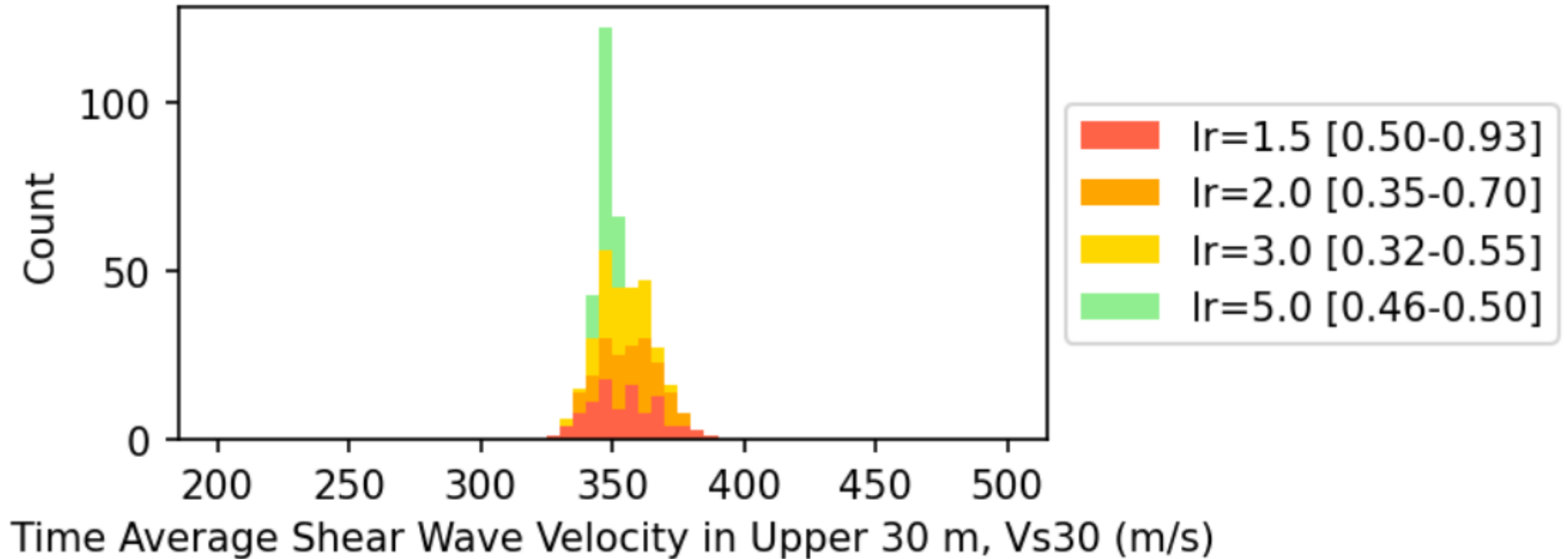
# SLC Assembly Hall



# SLC Assembly Hall



# SLC Assembly Hall



Mean Vs30: 353 m/s

Standard Deviation of Vs30: 10 m/s