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## ***Interactive comment on “Shear wave velocity by support vector machine based on geotechnical soil properties” by I. Shooshpasha et al.***

### **Anonymous Referee #3**

Received and published: 23 November 2014

This is a fairly straightforward, although brief, engineering discussion of shear wave velocity by support vector machines based on geotechnical soil properties. It would probably be better suited for an engineering journal. The paper (although brief) is reasonably well organized and written, but I have a couple items which would probably benefit the paper:

• Uncertainty of data inputs – how will this cause the results to change?

• Literature on SVM feels very dated. Can this be improved?

• SVM feels like a ‘black box’ the way it is described. Can anything else be added to give a more intuitive feel as to what is being done by the authors? One feels like the whole process is somewhat of a black box, as we have just ‘some’ information on the

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620 bore hole information (although there is a paper referred to), and then how one goes from data to results, is not the clearest. So it is really going from Figures 4 and 5, that it is not the clearest in terms of what has been done.

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Interactive comment on Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 2, 2443, 2014.

**NHESD**

2, C2521–C2522, 2014

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