



1 **Website - Spatial database for reservoir-triggered seismicity in Brazil**

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15 **Abstract**

16 After confirming that impoundment of large reservoirs could cause earthquakes worldwide,
17 studies on reservoir-triggered seismicity (RTS) have had a considerable scientific incentive. Most
18 of the studies determined that the vertical load increase due to reservoir load, and the reduction
19 of effective effort due to the increase in pore pressure, can modify the stress regime in the
20 reservoir region, possibly triggering earthquakes. In addition, the RTS is conditioned by several
21 factors such as pre-existing tectonic stresses, reservoir height /weight, area-specific geological
22 and hydromechanical conditions, constructive interaction between the orientation of
23 seismotectonic forces, and additional load caused by the reservoir. One of the major challenges
24 for studying RTS is to identify and correlate the factors in the area of influence of the reservoir,
25 capable of influencing the RTS process itself. To assist the research, it was created a spatial
26 seismicity-triggered reservoir database (BDSDR) based on the specifications of the national



27 spatial data infrastructure (INDE), for gathering data pertinent to the RTS study in the area of
28 reservoirs. In this context, this work presents the procedures and results found in the data
29 processing of seismotectonic factors (dam height, reservoir capacity, lithology and seismicity)
30 and compared with the dams that triggered earthquakes and the Brazilian dam list, which was
31 then updated from 26 to 30 cases. The results indicate that the occurrence of RTS increases
32 significantly with dam height since dams less than 50 m high cause only 2% of earthquakes
33 while those higher than 100 m cause about 54%. The reservoir volume also plays a role and it
34 was estimated that RTS occurrence requires a limiting minimum value of $1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ km}^3$. There was
35 no clear correlation between the geology and geological provinces with RTS. The delayed
36 response time of the reservoirs represents 43% of the total, that is, almost half of them have
37 hydraulic behavior. The highest magnitude, 4.2, was observed for an event that occurred in a
38 reservoir with a volume greater than 10^{-3} km^3 . As a practical result to assist the analysis by the
39 general community, the web viewer RISBRA (Reservoir Induced Seismicity in Brazil) was
40 developed to serve as an interactive platform for BDSDR data.

41

42 **Introduction**

43 The reservoir-triggered seismicity (RTS) phenomenon was first observed during the filling of
44 Lake Mead at the Hoover Reservoir (United States) in the mid-1930s, and occurrences in the
45 reservoirs of Hsinfengiang (China), Kariba (Zambia), Kremasta (Greece), and Koyna (India) in
46 the late 1960s (Figure 1). Filling large reservoirs, mining underground mines, injecting high-
47 pressure fluids into deep wells, removing fluids during oil exploration, and the after-effects of
48 large nuclear explosions can cause earthquakes. Among these, we highlight the RST



49 phenomenon related to geoengineering works that can have major social, economic,
50 environmental, legal, impacts, among others.

51 In Brazil, the first STR case was a 3.7 magnitude earthquake with intensity V-VI (MM) recorded
52 in the reservoir of Carmo do Cajuru, MG, in 1971. Approximately 185 RTS cases are known
53 worldwide, of which 30 happened in Brazil (Foulger et al., 2017; Wilson et al., 2017) (Figure 1).

54 There are several studies on reservoirs capable of triggering earthquakes, few of them, however,
55 correlate the physical and geological information as possible agents of the triggered earthquakes.
56 Thus, this work proposes to present the procedures and results found in the data processing of the
57 following parameters (height, volume, area, geology, and local seismicity level) and comparing
58 them with the dams that triggered earthquakes and the Brazilian dam catalog. To this end, a
59 spatial database model of the reservoirs and their geological and geophysical characteristics was
60 developed.

61 This work is based on the work developed by the Comissão Nacional de Cartografia (CONCAR,
62 2010) and the Technical Specification for the Structuring of Vector Geospatial Data of Defense
63 of the Earth Force - ET-EDGV (Brazil, 2015, 2016). Because these specifications are still being
64 developed, the diagrams of the dam systems are not yet adequately represented. The amount of
65 information and probable effects corroborating the RTS requires standardizing all information,
66 which was accomplished by following the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (INDE).

67 The work is based on the OMT-G (Object Modelling Technique for Geographic Applications)
68 model (Davis Jr., 2000; Borges et al., 2001; Borges et al., 2005) also used in these
69 documentations. This model aims to be more faithful to the modeled reality by using a smaller
70 set of graphic objects than would be used in other models for geographic data.



71 **Database and web viewer**

72 The Reservoir-triggered Seismicity Database (BDSDR) resulted from researching and studying
73 the cases that happened in Brazilian Reservoirs and the realization that the pertinent data was
74 scattered and, most important, limited to listing the cases and the occurrence sites.

75 The purpose of the database is to gather all the available information such as physical, structural,
76 geological and geophysical data on each reservoir, store in a standardized way while sharing and
77 making it accessible so that the database can assist on RTS studies.

78 **National Spatial Data Infrastructure (INDE/ NSDI)**

79 The body responsible for developing spatial data structures is the Comissão Nacional de
80 Cartografia (CONCAR) that is linked to the former Ministry of Budget and Management
81 Planning. CONCAR is responsible for elaborating the technical specifications related to the
82 spatial data that make up the Infraestrutura Nacional de Dados Espaciais (INDE), regulated by
83 Decree No. 6,666/2008. According to this decree, INDE is an integrated set of technologies,
84 policies, mechanisms and procedures for coordinating and monitoring, standards and
85 agreements, necessary to facilitate the storage, access, sharing, dissemination and use of
86 geospatial data that belong to the federal, state, district and municipal spheres of government
87 (Brazil, 2008).

88 The spatial data infrastructure defines the standards for the data composing it and maybe being
89 presented as a Technical Specification. In 2006, CONCAR set up the Specialized Committee for
90 the Structuring of the Digital National Map (CEMND), which developed the Technical
91 Specifications for the Structuring of the Geospatial Vector Data (ET-EDGV) for application in
92 the National Cartographic System and INDE (CONCAR, 2017).



93 The specifications proposed for the EDGV (CONCAR, 2017) divide the Brazilian geographical
94 space into two groups. The first group consists of the object classes usually produced in the
95 Small-Scale Mapping (MapTopoPE), elaborated in the Systematic Mapping of the SCN (scales
96 of 1: 25,000 and smaller). The second group consists of the object classes usually acquired in the
97 topographic mapping of large scales. This work will use only the small-scale topographic model.
98 MapTopoPE is divided into 14 categories: Energy and Communications (ENC), Economic
99 Structure (ECO), Hydrography (HID), Boundaries/Limits and Localities (DML), Reference
100 Points (PTO), Relief (REL), Basic Sanitation (SAB), Vegetation (VEG), Transport System
101 (TRA), Transport System/Airport Subsystem (AER), Transport System/Duct Subsystem (DUT),
102 Transport System/Rail Subsystem (FER), Transport System/Hydro Subsystem (HDV), and
103 Transportation System/Road Subsystem (ROD), as shown in Figure 2.

104 In conceptual modeling, the object classes are grouped into categories with common functional
105 aspect. Among the categories, the hydrography package covering the dam class is the class of
106 interest for this dissertation. However, the other classes inserted in the proposed model do not
107 have definitions pre-established by the INDE. According to the INDE Action Plan (CONCAR,
108 2017), the data or datasets associated with each of these EDGV classes are considered as
109 reference geospatial data in the INDE.

110 The Action Plan for implementing INDE classifies the data into thematic and reference data.
111 Thematic data are sets of data and information on a phenomenon or a theme, such as climate,
112 education, vegetation, industry, among others, in a region or across the country. Whereas,
113 according to CONCAR (2010), the reference data are defined as:

114 "Datasets that provide general information of non-particular use, elaborated as indispensable
115 bases for the geographic referencing information on the surface of the national territory and can



116 be understood as basic inputs for georeferencing and geographical contextualization of all the
117 specific territorial themes".

118 **Designing the Spatial Database**

119 For implementing the data in the database management system, three phases are required:
120 conceptual modeling, logical modeling and physical modeling or implementation. This same
121 method is used for modeling spatial databases (Figure 3).

122 **First Phase: Conceptual Modeling**

123 Conceptual modeling is not directly linked to implementation, its main objective is to capture the
124 semantics of the problem and the needs of the study in question (Cardoso and Cardoso, 2012).

125 The OMT-G (Object Modelling Technique for Geographic Applications) data model was used to
126 create the conceptual model of the Reservoir-Triggered Seismicity Database (BDSDR). This
127 model was chosen following the NSDI specification.

128 From the studies on the metadata of the archives of the seismological data, it was initially
129 defined a model consisting of 20 entities: Stress Regime, Fault Orientation, Fault Mechanism,
130 Chronostratigraphy, Structure, Lithology, Reservoir, Dam, UF, Municipality, Hydrometry,
131 Magnetometry, Electromagnetometry, Gravimetry, Pluviometry, Regional Stress Regime,
132 Hydrography, Crustal Thickness, Seismic Event, and Seismographic Station.

133 Figure 4 presents the conceptual model based on OMT-G, developed in the StarUML 5.0.2.1570
134 software while Table 1 explains each relationship of the OMT-G model.

135 **Second Phase: Logical Modeling**

136 Creating the Reservoir-triggered Seismicity database in a Database Management System
137 (DBMS) required transforming the conceptual model into an implementation model. This



138 transformation consists of converting the OMT-G model into the relational model (MR) that
139 represents the data in the database as a collection of relationships (tables).

140 At this stage, key attributes such as imposing relational integrity, creating unique indexes,
141 attributing data types, and the height of the fields to store information are defined and identified.
142 The logical model was created using the StarUML 5.0.21570 software.

143 Figure 5 shows the BDSDR relational model that was created from this conversion.

144

145 **Third Phase: Physical Modeling**

146 The last phase of the database design consists of creating a physical schematics, which depends
147 on the Database Management System (DBMS) used (Cardoso and Cardoso, 2012). DBMS is the
148 set of computer programs that can change the logical and physical structure of the database. The
149 degree of freedom of the data is higher than in the older systems (Teorey et al., 2014).

150 According to Medeiros (2012), the database management software (DBMS) is used for
151 managing databases. The development of the spatial database, in a Linux environment, used the
152 PostgreSQL 9.3 with raster extension, PostGIS 2.4, pgAdim III and Quantum GIS ([QGIS](#))
153 version 2.14.

154 Most database management systems do not support the spatial data implementation natively,
155 requiring the use of spatial extensions. The extension used in the implementation of BDSDR was
156 PostGIS 2.4. The PostgreSQL is an open source object-relational database management system,
157 that allows to study, modify and distribute the software free of charge for any purpose to anyone.
158 Object-relational refers to the spatial database system optimized for storing and querying data
159 related to objects in space, including points, lines, and polygons (Elmasri and Navathe, 2011).



160 **Web viewer**

161 A web viewer is an interactive map in an application that allows the user to interact with
162 elements on the map and obtain information on these elements.

163 The web viewer, named RISBRA (Reservoir Induced Seismicity in Brazil), was created using the
164 leaflet, Node.js and Redis libraries. The leaflet is an open source JavaScript library for interactive
165 maps that provides great tools for implementing map applications for browser interaction
166 (Leaflet, 2018). Redis is an open source network application, in-memory data structure store,
167 used as a database, cache and message broker (Redis, 2018). Finally, Node.js is an open source
168 JavaScript interpreter that focuses on migrating client-side JavaScript to the server side (Node.js,
169 2018).

170 We developed a menu, named LAYERS, which contains all the tables of the bank that can be
171 represented in the map. Figure 6 shows the RISBRA interface and the earthquake icon selected.
172 The image shows the table *layers*, where the data that can be accessed by the user at any time
173 (Reservoir, Dam, Crustal Thickness, Seismographic Station, Structure, Seismic Event,
174 Hydrography, Lithology, Fault Orientation, Pluviometry, Stress Regime, Triggered Earthquakes,
175 Chronostratigraphy, and Fault Mechanism). The data are arranged in the interactive map using
176 icons with the conventional symbology of different formats and colors. All elements are
177 georeferenced on the map of Brazil. The zoom tool in the lower right corner of the screen allows
178 expanding the map to the street level.

179 **Update of Seismicity Triggered in Brazil for the Database**

180 Data linked to geology and/or geophysics are dispersed, varying from reservoir to reservoir. The
181 Brazilian bibliography of dam studies presents isolated cases and general listing of the cases.
182 Marza et al. (1999) pioneered the creation of the Reservoir-Triggered Seismicity List, which was



183 later updated by Assumpção et al. (2002), França et al. (2010) and Barros et al. (2018). However,
184 a systematic database containing this information has not yet been established.

185 From 1966 to 2018, 626 events were classified as RTS, with seismic recurrence in several dams,
186 the largest being 4.2 recorded in the dams of Porto Colombia and Volta Grande, at the border
187 between the states of Minas Gerais and São Paulo. Figure 7 shows a histogram for the 367 events
188 with a magnitude greater than 1, according to the data from the seismic bulletin of the IAG-USP
189 and SISBRA (Brazilian bulletin cataloged by SIS-UnB). This histogram clearly shows the
190 seismic swarms in the Itapebi and Carmo Cajuru dams in 2003, and Lajeado and Nova Ponte in
191 2006-2008. These swarms were well monitored by local networks. The histogram also shows the
192 increased monitoring and dam construction since 2002 (Oliveira, 2018).

193 In this work, the RTS cases are compared using the unified list (Table 2), where the maximum
194 magnitude recorded in each dam is considered from the reviewed list of all Brazilian dams. The
195 objective is to calculate the potential for triggering an earthquake according to dam height,
196 reservoir capacity, lithology and seismicity. Therefore, we use the data available in the National
197 Register of Dams from the Brazilian Committee of Dams which lists a total of 1413 dams with
198 different purposes. We selected a total of 348 reservoirs, at least 20 m high, built for producing
199 electricity (hydroelectric), except for the Açu and Castanhão reservoirs that fight drought and
200 irrigation, respectively. Dams lower than 20 m high were discarded since these dams have low
201 probability of triggering earthquakes, refer to previous works (e.g. Assumpção et al., 2002).

202 Table 2 and Figure 8 present the updated RTS cases, which increased from 17 (Marza et al.,
203 1999) to a total of 30 cases. Table 2 is based on the work of Marza et al. (1999), to which we
204 added other data such as area of reservoirs, type of seismicity, maximum magnitude,



205 predominant geological type of the reservoir (Craton, Fold and Thrust Belt and Basins), location
206 of the event in relation to the reservoir, and the references.

207 **Results and Discussions**

208 The known RTS cases have significant common features, especially during the initial filling
209 phase of the reservoir, when reservoir-triggered earthquakes generally begin to occur. Factors
210 such as dam height, volume, area, local geology, maximum magnitude, and seismicity in the
211 region may interfere with RTS, each one of these factors are addressed below.

212

213 **RTS**

214 In general, from the total of 348 reservoirs, only 8.6% of those presented RTS, among them, only
215 two events with a maximum magnitude greater than or equal to 4.0 (Table 3 and Figures 9 and
216 10). Regarding damages, the highest seismic intensity of VI-VII (MM) was estimated in Porto
217 Colombia and Volta Grande while the seismicity type was mostly Initial.

218 Geographically, Brazil is divided into five regions; North, Northeast, Southeast, South, and
219 Midwest. From the regional viewpoint, the southeastern region has the highest number of cases,
220 which is directly related to the high number of reservoirs in the region that accounts for 43% of
221 the country's reservoirs. Additionally, the southeast also concentrates the largest number of
222 reservoirs higher than 50 m (Table 3 and Figures 9 and 10) and the greatest occurrence of natural
223 earthquakes cataloged in Brazil, thus explaining the highest number of RTS in the Southeastern
224 region. However, compared to the number of reservoirs, 17.8% in the Northeast shows that
225 although there are fewer cases in the region, the relative value is comparatively higher.
226 Surprisingly the North region also has a considerable percentage indicating a potential region for



227 RTS whereas the Midwest region has the lowest percentage.

228

229 **Correlation of RTS with geological characteristics**

230 The hydromechanical properties of the rocks related to the RTS phenomenon were discussed by
231 Snow (1972), Brace (1974), Howells (1974), Bell and Nur (1978) and Do Nascimento (2002).
232 Despite the laboratory studies on these properties, little progress has been made, especially due
233 to the great practical difficulties to map the huge number of rocks below and in the vicinity of a
234 reservoir in terms of porosity, permeability, existence of faults, cracks, etc. (Assumpção et al.,
235 2002). It is known that permeability determines the diffusion velocity of the fluid pressure and
236 controls the volume of affected rocks while possibly being one of the most important factors in
237 the change of seismicity level in the vicinity of a reservoir (Do Nascimento, 2002). The existence
238 of fractures and faults, besides generating a weakness zone due to the low resistance to rupture,
239 facilitates liquid penetration all the way to the deepest and most distant reservoir zones,
240 increasing the pressure in the pores. Thus, depending on the orientation of the natural efforts in
241 relation to the fault system, a small effort/stress, even a very small one, of the reservoir may be
242 sufficient to trigger earthquakes (Assumpção et al., 2002).

243 In order to correlate the probability of RTS with the geotectonic characteristics, I was compared
244 the local number of reservoir-triggered seismicity cases with the local lithology (types of rocks):
245 igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary, as indicated in Figure 11a, and the geological province
246 as well. The results show that igneous rocks have a higher percentage of RTS occurrence
247 (10.1%) than sedimentary (8.4%) and metamorphic (8.1%) rocks, although the obtained
248 difference is 2%, indicating little influence of the basement. Thus, the RTS was also compared to



249 the main geological provinces that are classified by the CPRM (Figure 11b and 12) into three
250 categories: Craton, Basins, and Fold and Thrust Belt. The values were again very close, with the
251 tendency of a higher number of RTS in the region of basins (10.65%).

252 Although the results show a slight tendency toward igneous rocks in the geological context and
253 basins in geological provinces, it is impossible to determine with certainty the trend of these
254 parameters. Therefore, we suggest an in-depth study on the local structural geology of the dams
255 so that the geological influence can be determined more clearly.

256 **Dimensional physical properties and their correlations**

257 Simpson (1986) observed that the higher the dam the greater the probability of triggering an
258 earthquake, and that the most common RTS occurrence is observed in reservoirs with a
259 maximum height greater than or equal to 100 m. The tectonic, geological and hydrogeological
260 environment of the reservoirs is most affected by the increase of the vertical efforts, via its own
261 weight and/or via the increase of water pressure that infiltrates through pores, faults, and
262 fractures.

263 Thus, in Brazil, the comparison between the RTS cases and the dam heights indicates that dams
264 smaller than 50 m are only 2% likely to trigger seismicity while those higher than 100 m are
265 approximately 54% (Figure 13a) more likely to trigger earthquakes, corroborating Simpson
266 (1986) findings.

267 According to the CBDB databank, the volume parameter is available for only 256 reservoirs.
268 Figure 12b shows that 47% of the reservoirs with a volume greater than $1 \times 10^{-2} \text{ km}^3$ triggered
269 earthquakes, and since this percentage decreases linearly with volume, reservoirs with a volume
270 less than $1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ km}^3$ have a low estimated probability for triggering earthquakes. This result



271 demonstrates the influence of volume (pressure) that is clearly related to the type of RTS in
272 Brazil, which are mostly of the initial type (Table 2 and Figure 13b).

273 Figure 14 shows the correlation between volume and height for RTS cases. We observed that the
274 height is not limitant, which is the height of the largest dam. However, regarding volume, we
275 estimate a minimum value of $1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ km}^3$ for generating a RTS, which is represented by a black
276 bar in Figure 14.

277

278 **Response Time**

279 Seasonal variations in the water level of the reservoir can trigger earthquakes. Simpson (1986)
280 and Talwani (1995) divided the seismic response of a reservoir into two categories, depending on
281 the spatial and temporal pattern of RTS: (i) initial seismicity and (ii) steady state/ initial or
282 delayed response seismicity.

283 The initial seismicity occurs with the initial damming/impounding of the water or large
284 oscillation of the water level in the lake, which is observed more frequently. Cases of state initial
285 or delayed response seismicity occur at a certain time after the filling/impoundment when the
286 steady-state is reached and presents a more lasting associated seismicity. These different
287 responses may correspond to two fundamental mechanisms by which a reservoir can modify the
288 force in the crust - one related to the rapid increase of elastic stress due to the reservoir load and
289 the other to the more gradual diffusion of water from the reservoir to hypocentral depths. The
290 force may decrease as a result of changes in the elastic stress (decrease of normal stress or
291 increase in shear stress) or reduction of effective normal stress due to increased pore pressure.
292 The pore pressure at hypocentral depths can increase rapidly, from a coupled elastic response due



293 to the pore compaction, or more slowly, with the diffusion of surface water.

294 Of the 30 RTS cases, only 4 were considered as a delayed response while 17 cases had only an
295 initial response (Figure 15). These reservoirs can be classified according to their responses, i.e.,
296 the delayed response describes a hydraulic behavior while the initial response occurs due to the
297 mechanical behavior of the reservoir load. However, when checking all the 26 initial cases, it is
298 observed that most RTS have an initial response. The delayed response cases represent 43% in
299 total, that is, almost half of them have hydraulic behavior.

300 Figure 16 shows reservoir height, volume, and area versus the delay time. The dispersion of the
301 results indicates that correlating any of these parameters with time delay is impossible.

302 **Highest Magnitude**

303 It is known that in large reservoirs, the chances of pressure in the rock pores to affect the existing
304 seismic structures in the area below the reservoir increase; however, there are cases in the
305 literature of small reservoirs triggering earthquakes that released stresses with magnitudes far
306 exceeding the sum of all additional stresses resulting from the lake. As an example, in 1974 in
307 Brazil, the largest RTS event (4.2 mb magnitude) occurred near the Porto Colombia and Volta
308 Grande reservoirs, with 40 and 55 m high and 19.5 and 143 km² respectively (number 24 in
309 Table 2). Furthermore, short reservoirs such as Açu and Carmo Cajuru with dams only 31 and 23
310 m high, triggering earthquakes with magnitudes higher than 3.0 (Veloso and Gomide, 1997;
311 Ferreira et al., 1995).

312 For Klose (2013), the reservoir volume showed a small tendency to generate higher magnitude
313 events compatible with the affected area of the reservoir, depending on its dimensions. Figure 17
314 shows that most of the events occur in reservoirs with volumes greater than 10⁻³ and 4.2



315 maximum magnitude and that, for the most part, events between 3 and 4 magnitudes occur in
316 dams up to 100 m tall.

317 **The intensity and Highest Magnitude**

318 Several events were either not felt or there was no micro-seismic survey defining its intensity,
319 they were considered Intensity I here. Figure 18 shows a linear correlation between magnitude
320 and Intensity, disregarding the Intensity I data. Thus, a linear least squares adjustment was
321 performed and resulted in the equation below:

$$322 \quad I = 1.147M + 1.016 \text{ (0.35 standard deviation)}$$

323 The correlation coefficient of 0.66 reflects the small number of data available. It is characteristic
324 of the Intraplate Intensity that the value estimated for Intensity is greater than that estimated for
325 magnitude.

326 **Conclusions**

327 The complete compilation of reservoir-triggered seismicity occurrences, including
328 spatial/temporal behavior, allow a better evaluation of the seismic risk of future reservoirs. Thus,
329 the database allows to present systematically and in one place all the pertinent data regarding
330 RTS cases in Brazil, including all the known parameters that interfere with the RTS process.

331 The created web viewer, RISBRA, presents as an interactive platform with easy access and great
332 potential to improve knowledge on the RTS in Brazil.

333 The histogram of the RTS cases reflects seismic swarms, increased monitoring and dam
334 constructions from 2002.



335 From the regional viewpoint, the considerable percentage of RTS in the Northern region
336 indicates a potential RTS region, considering the exploratory growth. Despite having a small
337 number of RTS, the Northeastern region has comparatively higher relative value compared to
338 other regions.

339 Although the results show a small trend for igneous rocks (rock type) and sedimentary basins
340 (geological provinces) being more prone to RTS, there is no way to state the trend of these
341 parameters with the current available data. Therefore, we suggest an in-depth analysis of the
342 structural geology at the dam sites in order to understand and identify in more detail the
343 geological influence.

344 The dam height has been confirmed as one of the main indicators of the dam capability of
345 triggering earthquakes. Dams less than 50 m high are only 2% likely to cause seismicity while
346 those more than 100 m high are about 54% more likely to cause an earthquake.

347 The reservoir volume also strongly influences its capability for causing an earthquake and we
348 estimate the limiting minimum value of $1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ km}^3$ for the occurrence of RTS.

349 The delayed response of the reservoirs represents 43% in total, indicating hydraulic behavior for
350 almost half of the reservoirs. For higher magnitudes (4.2, the highest recorded), we found that
351 most events occur in reservoirs with volumes larger than 10^{-3} km^3 .

352 The relationship between Intensity and highest magnitude is described by the equation " $I =$
353 $1.147M + 1.016 (+ -0.35)$ ", where I is the estimated intensity and M is the determined
354 magnitude.

355 The evaluation of a reservoir seismic risk is hampered by the practical difficulty of mapping a



356 large volume of rocks located below the reservoir and, therefore, of knowing key parameters
357 such as local stresses, rock mass permeability, and fracture system geometry. Thus, studies of
358 previous cases are useful when trying to assess the seismic risk posed by future reservoirs. Most
359 importantly, this work shows that the possibility of RTS occurrence in Brazil cannot be
360 overlooked while highlighting the importance of continuous monitoring, before, during and after
361 the construction of the dam.

362 **Data and Resources**

363 The data used in this article was extracted the seismic bulletin and SISBRA, data and
364 information from the SISBRA can be downloaded from the Seismological Observatory of the
365 University of Brasília (SIS / UnB), Center of Seismology of the University of São Paulo (USP):
366 www.obsis.unb.br; www.sismo.iag.usp.br; (last accessed December 2018). Information on the
367 dams was taken from the Brazilian Committee of Dams (CBDB) <http://www.cbdb.org.br/> (last
368 accessed in October 2018).

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549 **TABLES**

550 **Table 1.** Explanation of the OMT-G model for the Reservoir-triggered Seismicity Database.

Relationship	Description
Lithology and Structure	The structure is the fault characteristic that is associated with lithology.
Lithology and Chronostratigraphy	Lithology (rock type) has one or more chronostratigraphy data.
Reservoir and Lithology	The reservoir area has one or more types of lithology.
Structure and Stress Regime	The stress regime focuses on the structures
Structure and Fault orientation	Fault orientation refers to dipping, direction and inclination information of the structure (fault).
Structure and Fault Mechanism	Failure mechanism refers to information on the characteristics of the structure.
Reservoir and Crustal Thickness	The area of the reservoir has information



	on Crustal thickness.
Reservoir and Seismic Event	The seismic event may occur in the area of reservoir influence.
Seismic Event and Seismographic Station	Seismic station detects seismic event.
Hydrometry and Reservoir	The reservoirs have daily hydrometric data.
Reservoir and Magnetometry	The reservoir has magnetometry information in its area of influence.
Reservoir and Electromagnetometry	The reservoir has Electromagnetometry information in its area of influence.
Reservoir and Gravimetry	The reservoir has gravimetric information in its area of influence.
Reservoir and Region Stress Regime	The area of reservoir influence has forces acting on the stress regime.
Reservoir and Hydrography	The reservoir is part of the hydrography.
Reservoir and Rainfall	The reservoir area is influenced by rainfall
Reservoir and Dam	The reservoir has a dam.
Municipality and State (UF)	Each municipality is located in a state.



552 **Table 2- Seismicity Cases triggered in Brazil.**

N°	Name	UF	Height (m)	Volume (10 ³ km ³)	Max. water depth in the	Area (km ²)	Start of impoundment	Geological Province	Seismicity type	Largest Events						
										Date (YY/MM/DD)	Magnitude	Magnitude Type	References			
1	Açu	RN	41	2,400	55,0	195,0	1985	Thrust and Folding Range	delayed	1994/08/26	3,0	mR	IV*	9,5	Inside	Do Nascimento (2002) and Ferreira et al. (1995)
2	Balbina	AM	31	9,755	51,0	2,36	10/1987	Basin	Initial	1990/03/25	3,4	mb	I	2,5	Margin	Assumpção et al. (2002) and Veloso et al. (1991)
3	Barra Grande	RS	185	5,000	-	93,40	12/1999	Basin	Delayed initial	2005/10/1	2,5	ML	I	0,01	Margin	Ribotta et al. (2008) and Ribotta et al. (2010)
4	Batalha	MG/GO	52	1,781	800,0	138,1	2014	Thrust and Folding Range.	Initial	2015-08-01	2,1	mD	I	-	Margin	Chimpliganond et al. (2015)
5	Carmo do Cajuru	MG	22	0,192	749,7	2,30	1954	Craton	Delayed	1972/01/23	3,7	mb	VI	18	Margin	Veloso et al. (1987) and Viotti et al. (1995, 1997)
6	Campos Novos	SC	196	1,477	-	34,60	10/2005	Basin	Delayed initial	2005/10/12	1,8	ML	I	0,01	Inside	Ribotta et al. (2010)



24	Porto Col6mbia e Volta Grande	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16
MG/SP	Paraibuna-Paraitinga	Nova Ponte	Miranda	Marimbond	Machadinho	Lajeado	Jirau	Jaguari	
55	40	105	84	79	90	126	31	62	77
2,300	1,525	1,270	2,636	1,120	6,150	3,339	5,190	2,746	0,793
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	212,3	90,0	-
19,50	143,00	47,00	177,00	70,00	438,00	79,00	630,00	361,60	56,00
09/1973	04/1973	1976	1974	08/1981	1975	28/08/2001	2002	2014	12/1969
Basin	Thrust and Folding Range.	Basin	Basin	Basin	Basin	Basin	Basin	Basin	Thrust and Folding Range
Initial	Initial	Delayed initial	Delayed initial	Initial	Delayed initial	Delayed initial	Delayed initial	Initial	Delayed
1974/02/24	1977-11-16	1998/05/22	2000-05-06	1978/07/25	2001/09/08	2012/04/01	2014/11/07	1985/12/17	
4,2	3,3	4,0	3,3	2,0	1,8	2,2	3,2	3,0	
mD	mb	mR	mR	ML	ML	mD	mR	ML	
VI-VII	IV	VI	V-VI	I	I	I	IV-V	V-VI	
~1	~1	4,5	2,7	~3	0,01	10	0,8	16	
Margin*	Inside	Margin	Margin	Margin	Margin	Margin	Margin		
Berrocal et al. (1984), Veloso (1992a) and Gomide (1999)	Mendiguren (1980) and Ribotta (1989)	Chimpligan and (2002), Marza, Barros, Soares et al. (1999) and	Barros e Caixeta (2003) e Assumpção et al. (2002)	Veloso et al. (1987)	Ribotta et al. (2006a) e Ribotta et al. (2010)	Technical Report of the UnB Seismological Observatory	Barros et al. (2015)	Veloso et al. (1987)	



30	Xingó	AL/SE	150	3,800	-	60,00	06/1984	Thrust and Folding Range	Initial	1994/07/20	1,7	ML	III-IV	~0.1	Berrocá and Fernandes (1996)
29	Tucuruí	PA	95	45,500	-	2,43	09/1984	Craton	Delayed initial	1998/03/02	3,6	-	IV-V	14	Assumpção et. al (2002) and Veloso et al. (1992b)
28	Três Irmãos	SP	82	13,800	-	785,00	1990	Basin	Initial	1990/11/01	0,5	mD	I	~0.1	Relatório Técnico do Observatório Sismológico da UnB
27	Quebra-Queixo	SC	75	0,136	549,0	5,60	2002	Basin	Initial	2003/03/01	0,1	mD	I	-	Technical Report of the UnB Seismological Observatory
26	Sobradinho	BA	43	34,116	-	4,12	1977	Craton	Initial	1979/07/05	1,9	ML	I	~2	Berrocá and Fernandes (1996)
25	Serra da Mesa	GO	154	54,400	-	1,78	10/1996	Thrust and Folding Range	Initial	1999/06/13	2,2	mD	I	~3	Veloso et al. (1987) and Assumpção et. al (2002)

553 ΔT , time interval (years) since the beginning of filling; MMI, Modified Mercalli Scale; *

554 Doubtful cases.

555 Table 3- Number of dams, RTSs and natural earthquakes by country regions.

Region	Total number of dams	RTSs	Percentage of RTS cases (%)	Number of natural earthquakes
Midwest	48	1	2 %	1821
Northeast	28	5	17.8%	2393

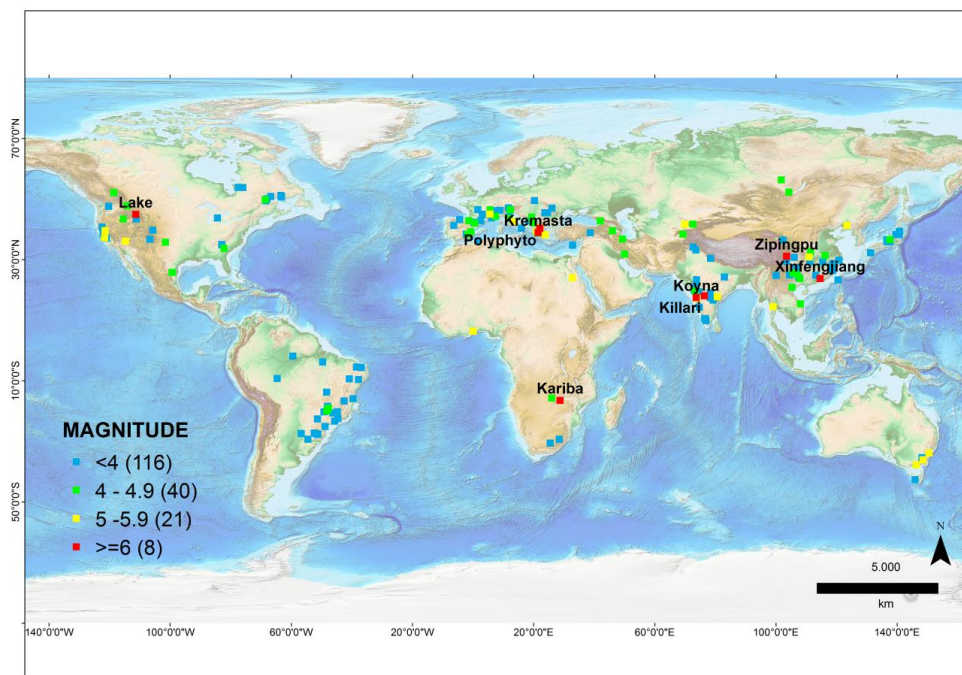


Southeast	167	14	8.4 %	3475
North	29	4	13.8 %	1814
South	76	6	8.9 %	139

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557 **Figures**

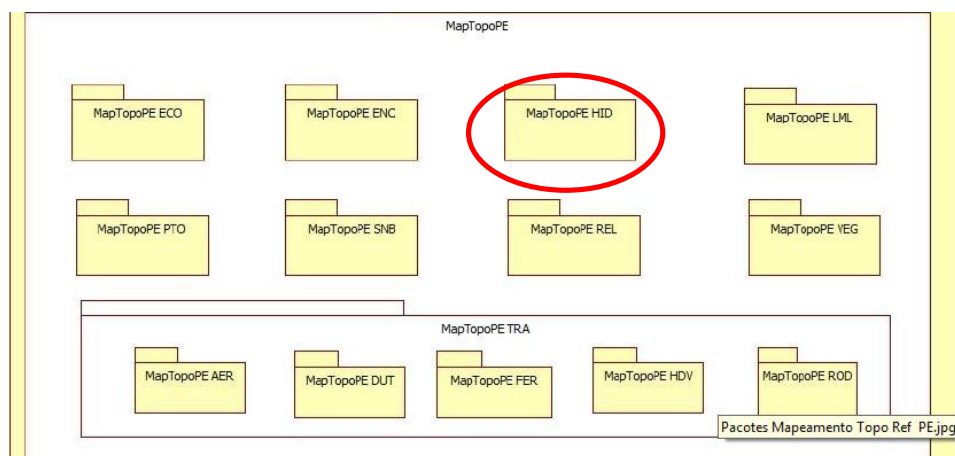
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560 Fig 1 - World map of events triggered by reservoirs.

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562

563 Fig 2 - Package with the information/data categories proposed by the *EDGV*, small scale
564 topographic mapping MapTopoPE. The package is divided into information categories: Energy
565 and Communications (ENC), Economic Structure (ECO), Hydrography (HID), Limits and
566 Localities (DML), References (REL), Basic Sanitation), Vegetation (VEG). The Transport
567 System (TRA) and its subsystems: Airport Subsystem (AER), Transport System/Duct
568 Subsystem, Transport System/Railway Subsystem (FER), Transport System/Waterway
569 Subsystem (HDV) and Transport System/Road Subsystem (ROD). Highlighted with the circle is
570 the Hydrography category used in this dissertation (CONCAR, 2017).

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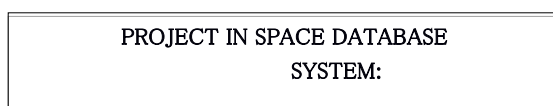
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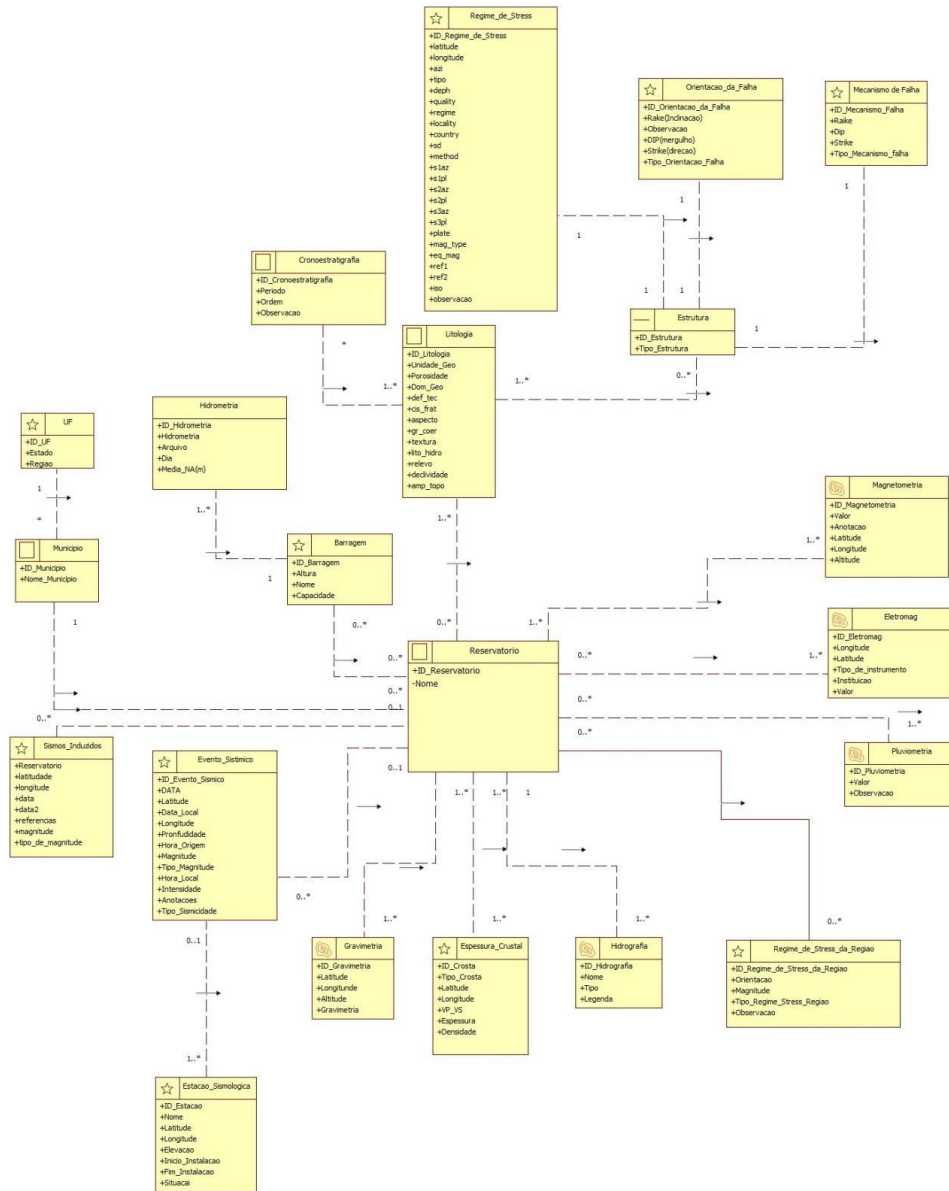
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584 Fig 3- Flowchart to create the BDG Project.

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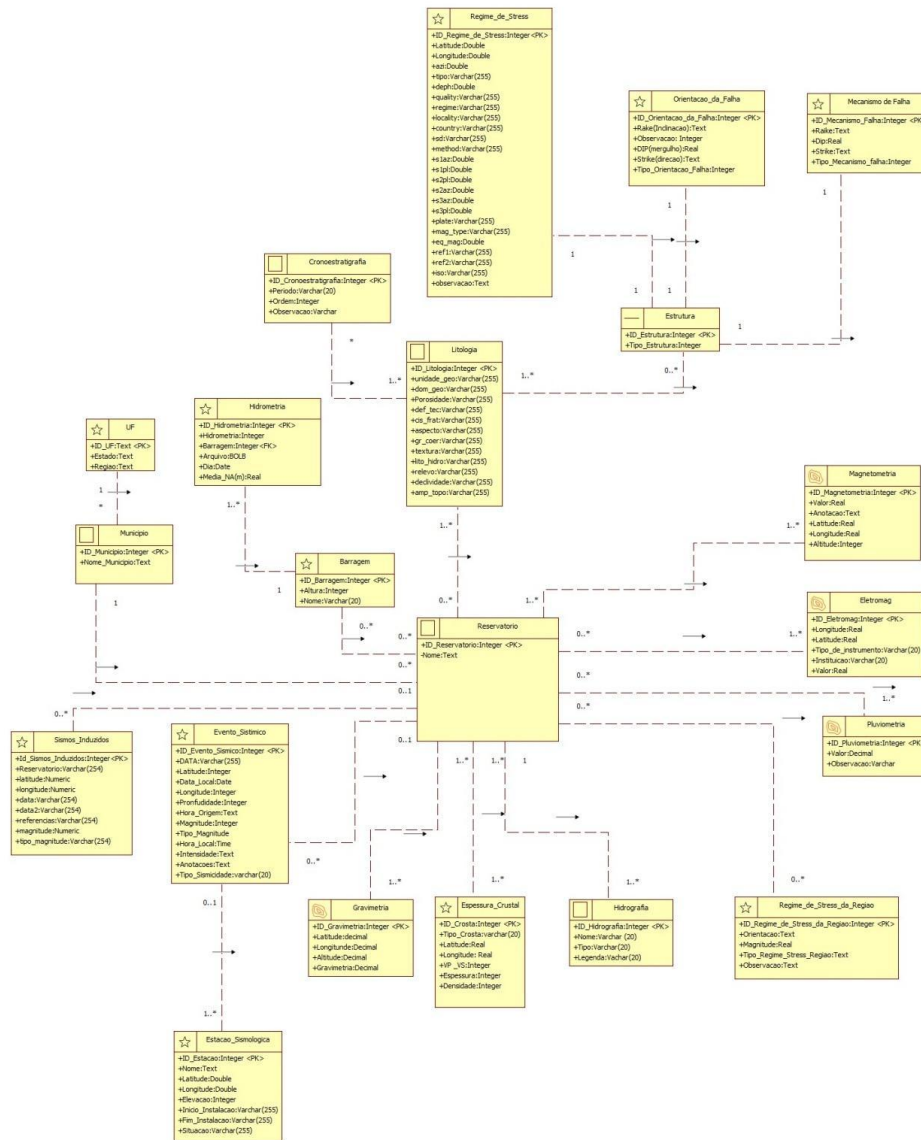
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589 Fig 4- OMT-G Model of Reservoir-triggered Seismicity Database.

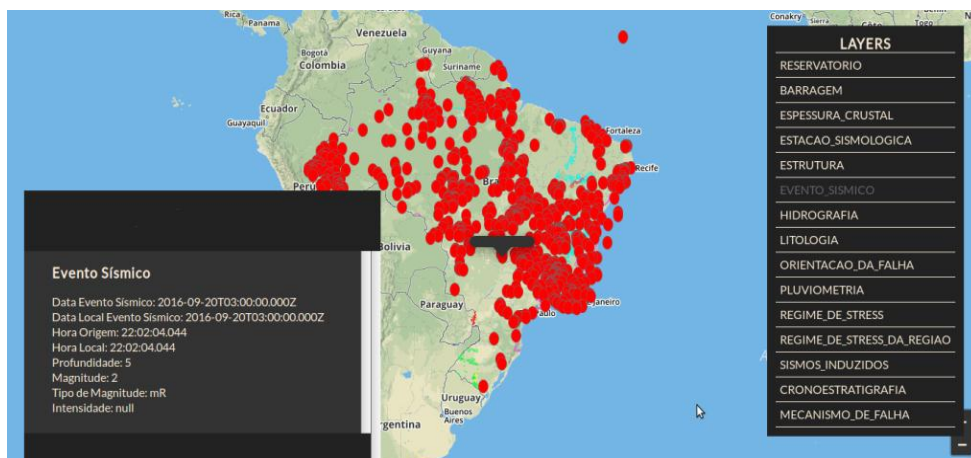


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591 Fig 5- Relational model of Reservoir-triggered Seismicity Database.

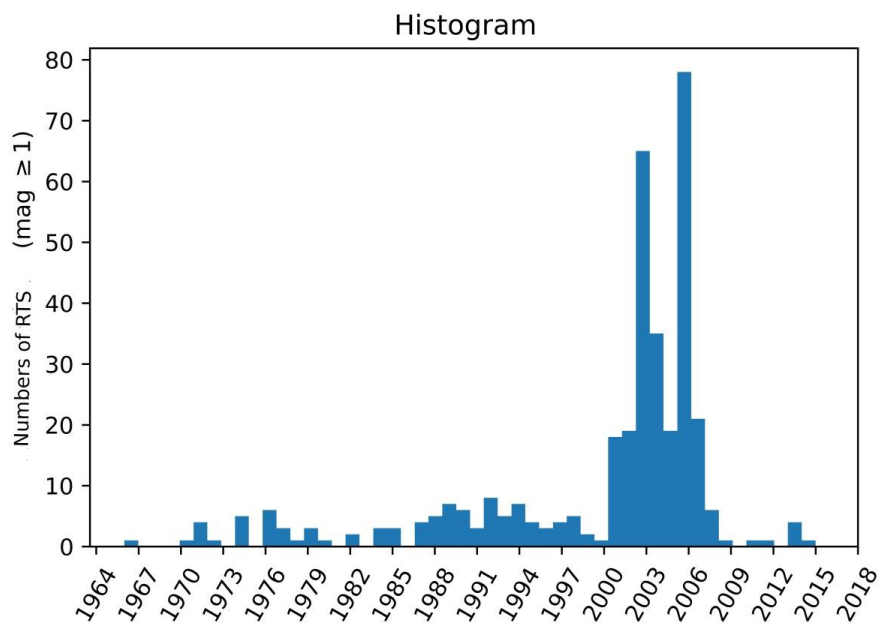
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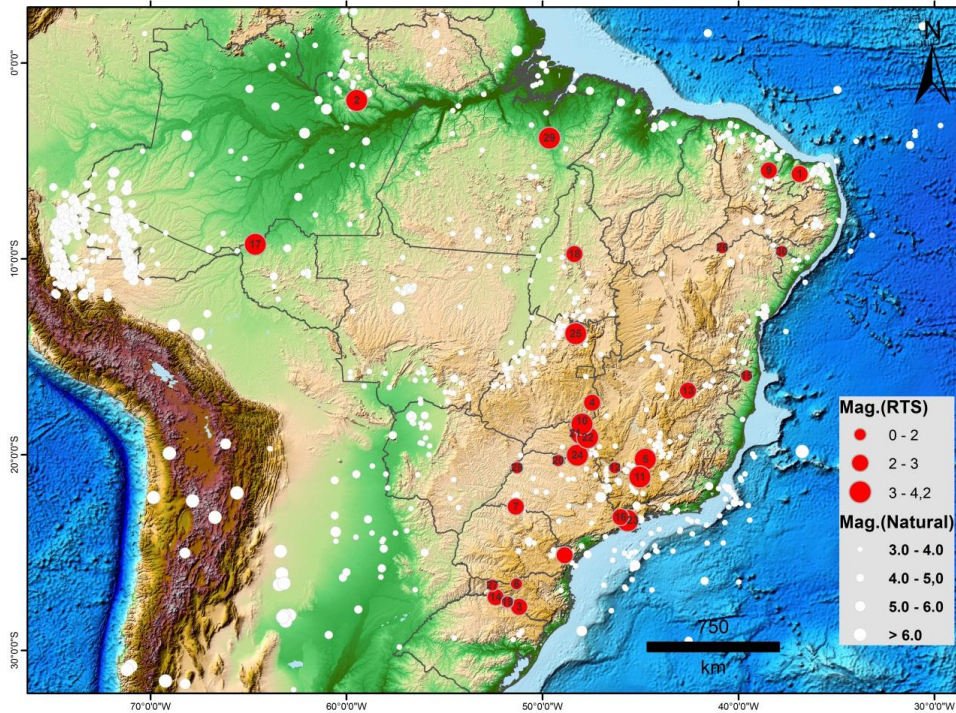
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595 Fig 6- Example of researching Brazilian seismicity in RISBRA. The seismic events are
596 represented by red ball and table to the left with information regarding this seismic event layer.



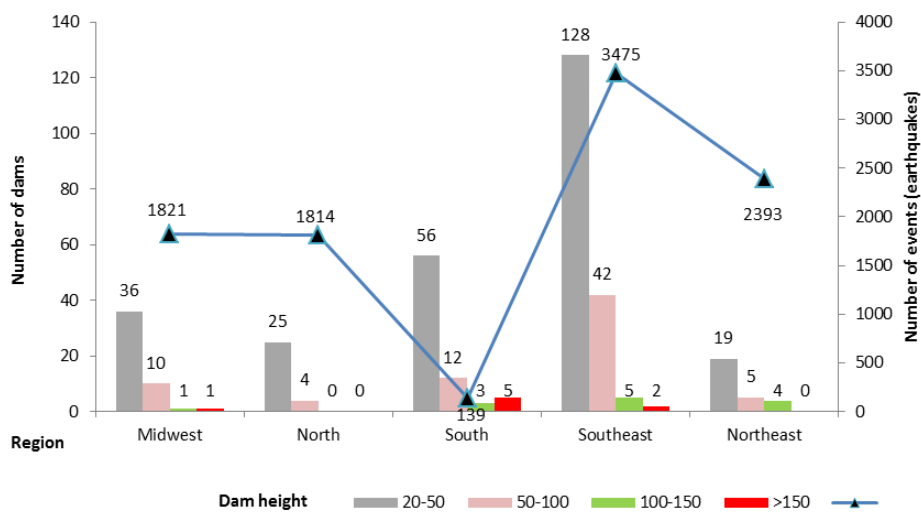
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598 Fig 7- Histogram of the RTS numbers with a magnitude greater than 1, per year.



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600 Fig 8 – Map of Brazil showing natural earthquakes (white circles, with magnitude) and RTS in
601 Brazil (red circles, with magnitude, numbered as stated by Table 2).

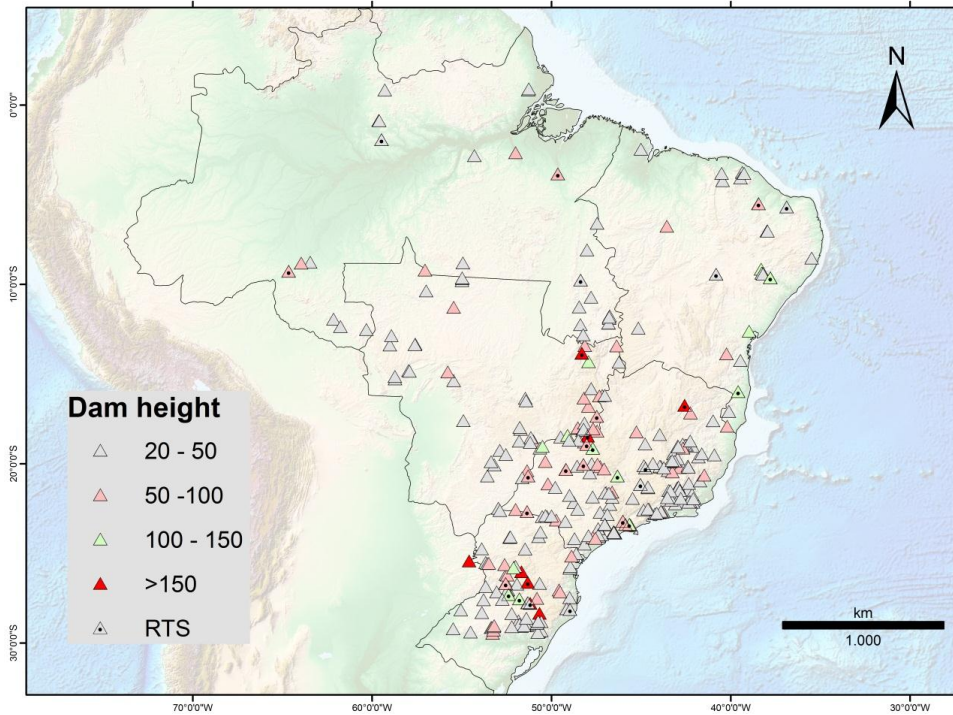


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604 Fig 9- Graph showing the earthquakes, dams, and regions of the country. The southeastern region

605 concentrates the highest and the most dams in the country.



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608 Fig 10- Map showing the location and classification by the dam height.

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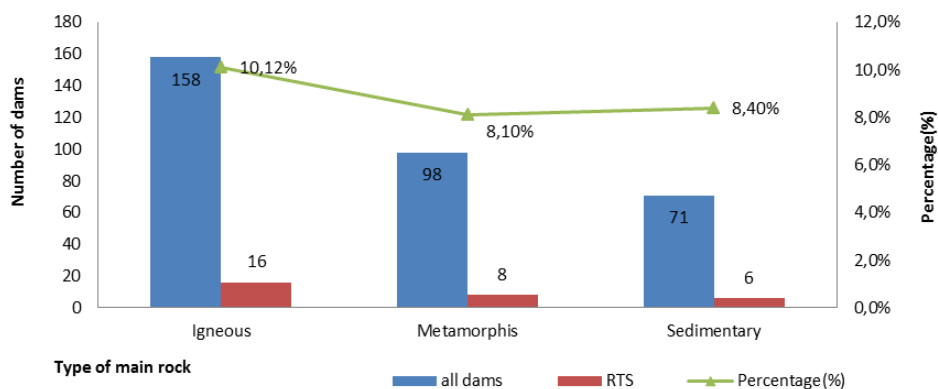
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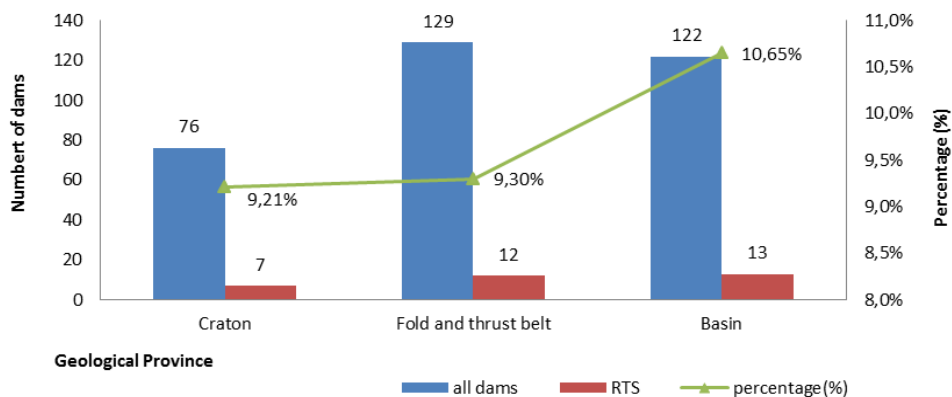


615 a)



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617 b)

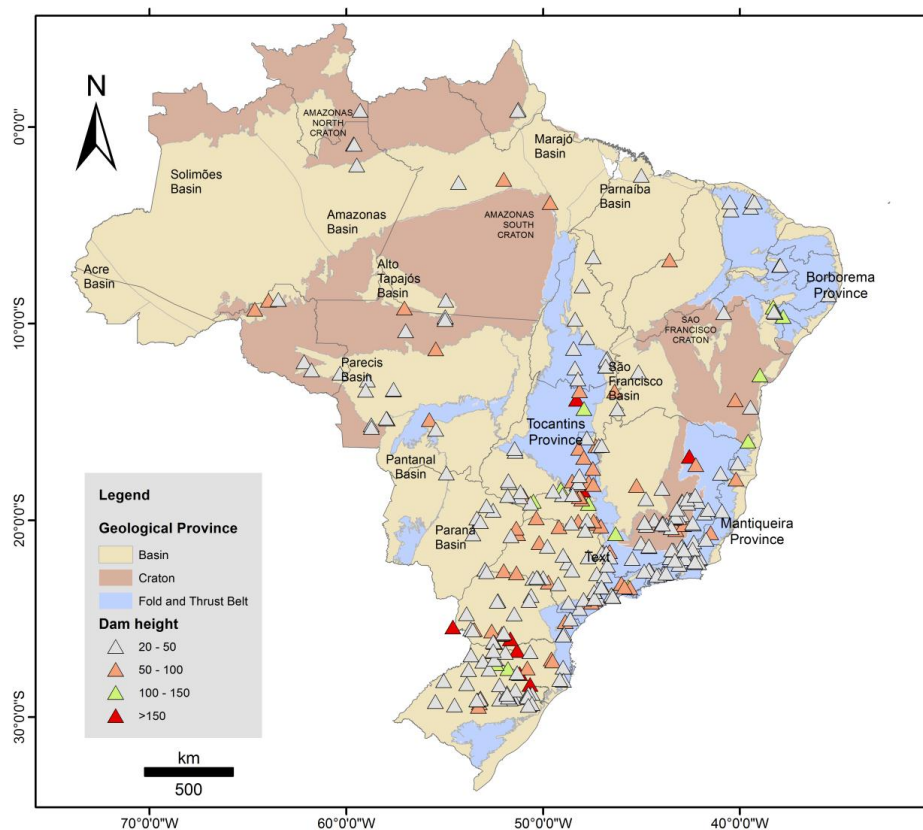


618

619 Fig 11- a) Percentage of cases of Reservoir-triggered Seismicity in Brazil as stated by main rock

620 types (sedimentary, metamorphic and igneous) in the dam area. b) classification as stated by the

621 main geological provinces.



622

623 Fig 12- Map of Brazil with 348 dams with a height of 20m or more (data from the Brazilian
624 Committee on Dams-2018). The colors refer to the main geological provinces (data from CPRM-
625 Mineral Resources Research Company).

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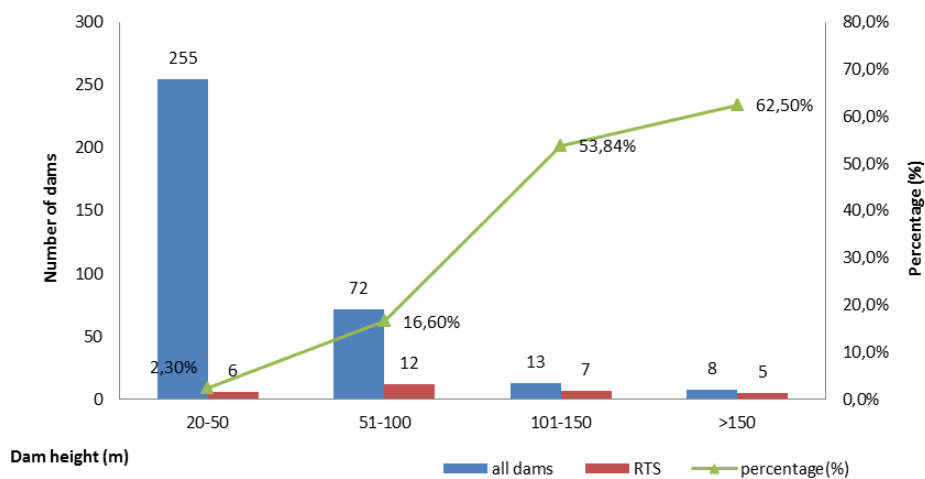
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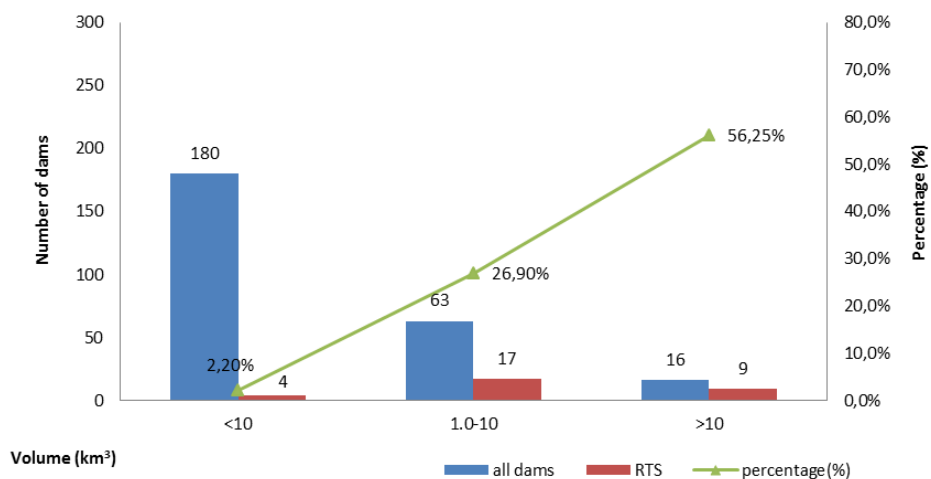


631 a)



632

633 b)

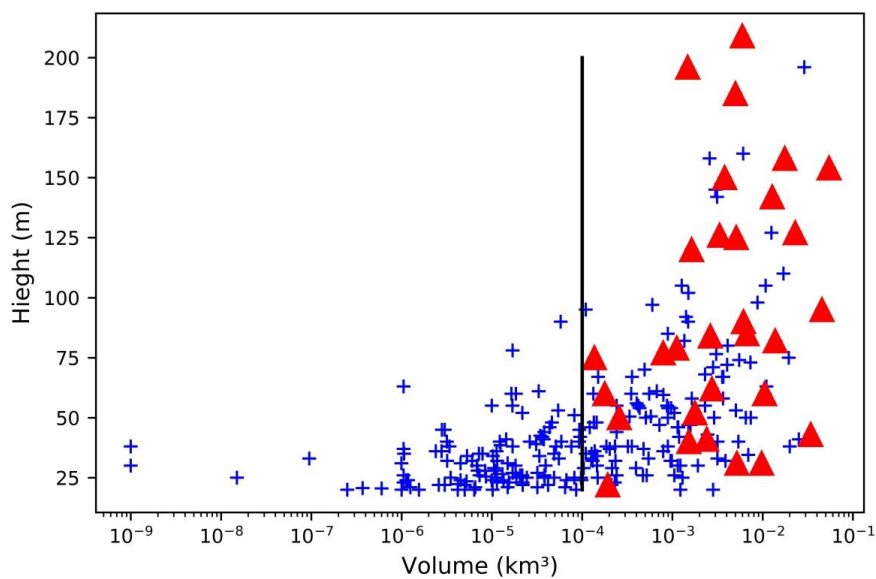


634

635 Fig 13- Percentage of cases of Reservoir-triggered Seismicity as stated by (a) dam height and (b)
 636 reservoir volume. 54% of dams taller than 100 m trigger earthquakes and 32% of reservoirs



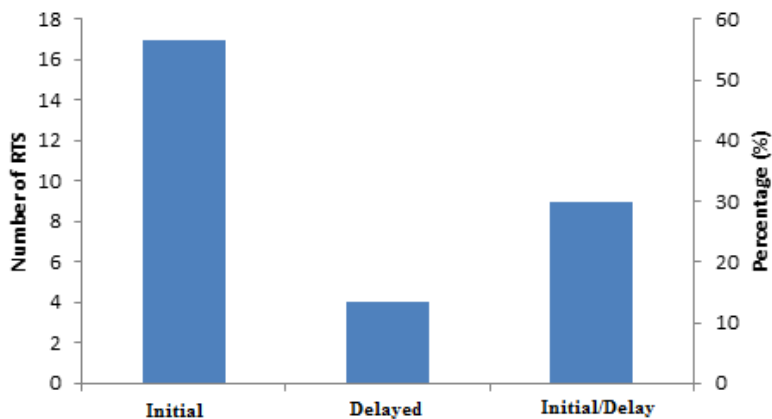
637 larger than $1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ km}^3$ trigger earthquakes.



638

639 Fig 14- Graph of reservoir volume and dam height for all dams in Brazil. The triangles indicate

640 the RTS cases and the crosses, other reservoirs. The black bar is the limit of RTS cases.

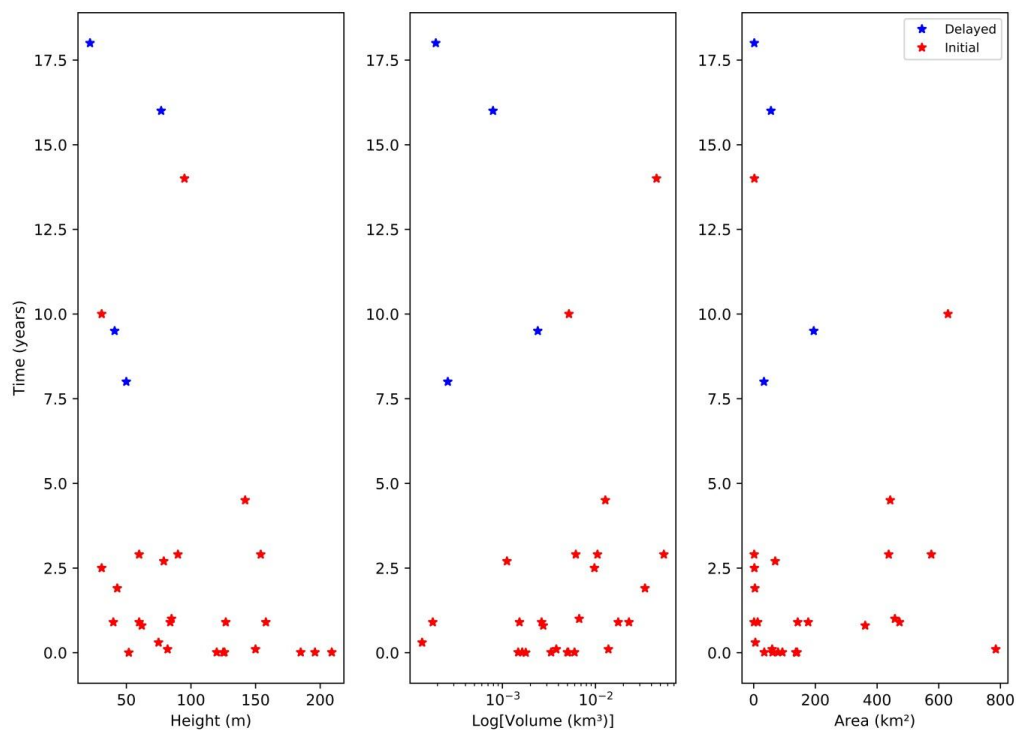


641

Type of response



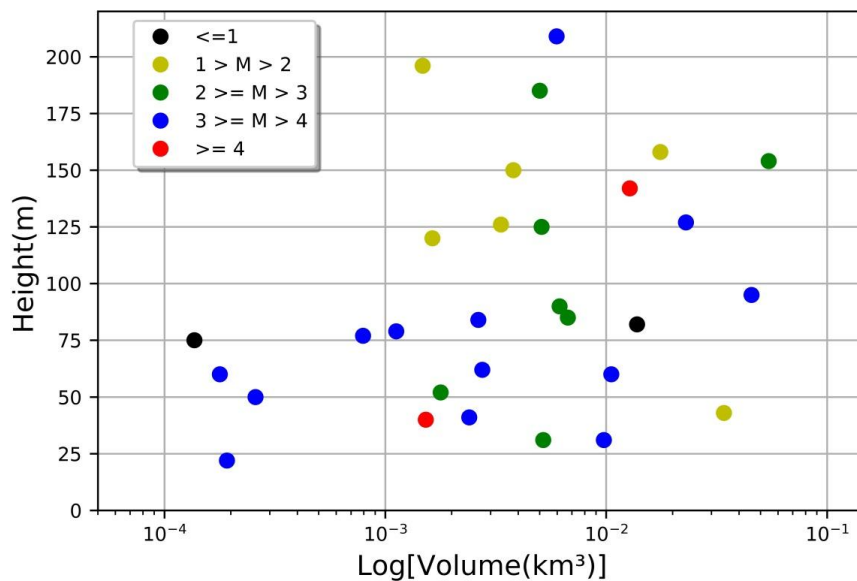
642 Fig 15- Graph of the type of response for RTS cases.



643

644 Fig 16- Graph of delay time/response versus dam height, volume, and area.

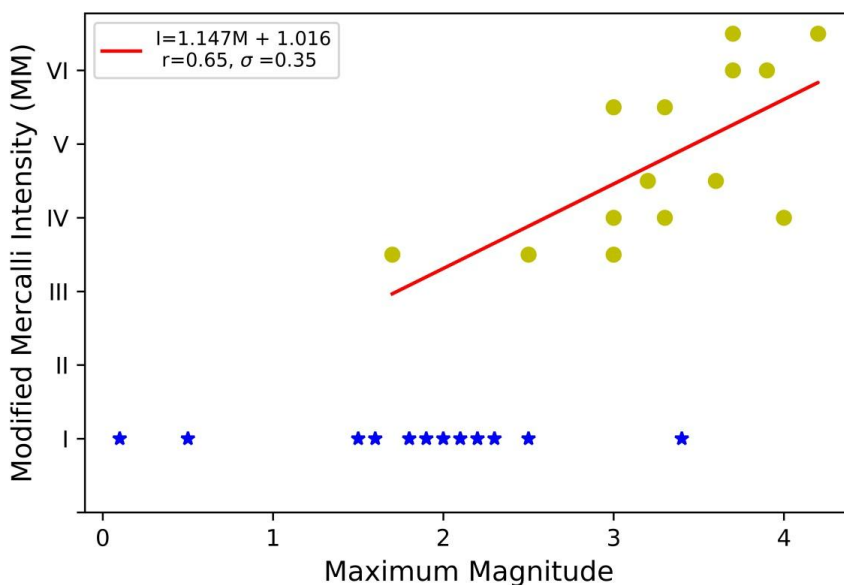
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646

647 Fig 17- Distribution of reservoir volume and dam height versus the Reservoir-triggered

648 Seismicity maximum magnitude cases.



649

650 Fig 18- Graph showing maximum magnitude and intensity. The linear adjustment (bar) was
651 performed only with data represented by circles. The blue stars indicate cases of Intensity I.