

1 Multiple geophysical surveys for old landfill monitoring in Singapore

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3 Ke Yin^{a,*}, Huanhuan Tong^b, Apostolos Giannis^a, Jing-Yuan Wang^b, Victor W.-C. Chang^{a,b}

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5 ^aResidues and Resource Reclamation Centre (R3C), Nanyang Environment and Water

6 Research Institute, Nanyang Technological University, 1 Cleantech Loop, CleanTech One,

7 Singapore 637141, Singapore

8 ^bSchool of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Nanyang Technological University, 50

9 Nanyang Avenue, Singapore 639798, Singapore

10

11 Abstract

12 One-dimensional boring presents limitations on mapping the refuse profile in old landfills
13 owing to waste heterogeneity. Electrical imaging (EI) and multiple-analysis of surface wave
14 (MASW) was hereby deployed at an old dumping ground in Singapore to explore the
15 subsurface in relation to geotechnical analysis. MASW estimated the refuse boundary with a
16 higher precision as compared to EI, due to its endurance for moisture variation. EI and
17 MASW transection profiles suggested spots of interest, e.g. refuse pockets and leachate
18 mounds. 3D inversion of EI and MASW data further illustrated the transformation dynamics
19 derived by natural attenuation, for instance the preferential infiltration pathway. Comparison
20 of geophysical surveys at different years uncovered the subterranean landfill conditions,
21 indicating strong impacts induced by ageing, precipitation and settlement. This study may
22 shed light on a characterization framework of old landfills via combined geophysical models,
23 thriving landfill knowledge with a higher creditability.

24 Keywords: geophysical method; EI; MASW; geotechnical analysis; landfill monitoring

* Corresponding author: yinke@ntu.edu.sg; Tel: +65 67904100

25

26 1. Introduction

27 Old landfills receive increasing attention due to their long-term environmental impacts,
28 such as landfill gas emission and leachate outbreak. On top of that, urbanization has led to
29 growing demands on land space. As such landfill redevelopment may alleviate the land
30 scarcity meanwhile remove concerns. Therefore, a site characterization study is needed
31 before taking action (Rattanaoudom 2005).

32 Usually, landfill characterization demands tremendous work that comprised of numerous
33 boreholes and trial pits to obtain information of the subsurface in relation to its surrounding
34 environment. The geotechnical works have little guidance in terms of borehole quality,
35 quantity and location. Uncertainty or sometimes discrepancy may occur. Boring impediments,
36 however, can be reduced with acquired knowledge of the subsurface. Herein geophysical
37 approaches are scheduled. Combination of geotechnical and geophysical methods may
38 provide better accuracy of landfill profile by leverage of respective advantage, i.e. specificity
39 from boreholes and totality from geophysical methods. From the economic perspective,
40 limited number of boreholes is translated into budget saving for geophysical survey and less
41 destruction of the field (Dumont et al. 2016).

42 There is no single geophysical method that can fit all sites. Selection of geophysical
43 methods depends on interpretation methodology and scope of work. In context of Lorong
44 Halus Dumping Ground (LHDG), a technique capable of leachate detection is necessary at
45 first. Secondly, the high precipitation in the tropics may request geophysical techniques with
46 little influence by moisture. Also, the method should be commonly acceptable, affordable,
47 and accessible.

48 Two specific geophysical methods are usually applied, electrical imaging (EI) and
49 multiple-analysis of surface waves (MASW). EI measures the resistivity (or inversely, the

50 conductivity) contrasts between different materials. It has been applied in landfill
51 characterization world widely (Kavazanjian et al. 1996; Svensson et al. 1999; Peace et al.
52 1996; NJDEP 2005; Grellier et al. 2007). EI can determine the main landfill characteristics
53 e.g. the presence of percolated water, permeability of landfill liners, and dumping boundaries
54 (Cardarelli and Di Filippo 2004). More specific properties such as the contaminated flow and
55 groundwater movement direction was predicted in combination with topography and granite
56 fracturing (Mota et al. 2004). Moreover, EI may be applied beyond post-closure stage
57 covering stages during the planning, construction and operation (Reynolds and Taylor 1996).
58 It is also deemed as the best choice in many identification work such as characterization of
59 soil/unconsolidated layers, soil and rock properties, saltwater intrusion and soil salinity, etc.
60 (ASTM 2011). MASW measures the contrast in seismic wave velocities as they move in
61 between materials, thereby indicating the difference in stiffness of materials. In particular,
62 surface wave (S-wave) method exhibits little influence by moisture while it has the uniquely
63 reliable correlation to standard penetration test n (SPT-N) values, an important indicator for
64 the soil strength. MASW has been successfully used for determining mechanical properties
65 e.g. shear strength of the landfill body (Zekkos et al. 2014). But, it can aggressively
66 characterize the landfill in terms of leachate- and gas/air- bearing zones and determine the
67 density distribution of the subsurface (Konstantaki 2016).

68 As a result, EI and MASW were employed for geophysical mapping of LHDG.p3 in 2011
69 and 2013. The present study combined boring and geophysical analysis to develop an
70 investigation framework for characterization of the old landfill from the perspective of
71 natural attenuation.

72 2. Methodology

73 The Lorong Halus dumping ground phase 3 (LHDG.p3) was an uncontrolled dumping
74 ground with little engineering works in application. It was originally a mangrove swamp

75 occupying about 44 ha. It was operated from 1983 to 1989 with the purpose of accepting
76 MSW. However, in 1979 the completion of government incinerator resulted in gradual
77 diversion of MSW into incineration ashes. Rapid urbanization in Singapore during 1980s
78 generated huge amounts of construction and demolition (C&D) waste which had been
79 landfilled as well. As a result, the buried wastes in LHDG.p3 were a mixture of MSW,
80 incineration ashes and C&D waste (Montgomery Watson 1997). Since closure, no significant
81 reclamation activities have been conducted except 2-5 m soil cover.

82 The site investigation comprised of two main thrusts: traditional geotechnical works and
83 non-invasive geophysical surveys. Traditional investigations usually comprise of boring,
84 sampling and a range of in-situ tests, and are also termed “invasive methods”. Boring
85 activities produce borelogs that detail the subsurface profile within a specific confined
86 location. Despite ground truth, the information is disconnected. Geophysical methods do not
87 require penetration past the subsurface, working on the principles of measuring certain
88 properties of a particular media and deducing the parameters of interest.

89 2.1. Soil Boring in 2013

90 Prior to drilling, cable detection work was carried out at all designated borehole locations.
91 Trial pits up to at least 1.5 m depth were done at each borehole location to ascertain the
92 absence of buried cables and services or any other man-made obstruction that could hinder
93 drilling works. The technique employed was by rotary wash boring whereby boring was
94 advanced by rotating drilling bit with cuttings removed by circulating water as the drilling
95 fluid. Casings were used to support unstable grounds or when soft cohesive soil or non-
96 cohesive soil was encountered during boring operations. The diameter of each drilled
97 borehole was 100 mm. Soil sampling and loggings were done in accordance with BS5930
98 (the Code of Practice for Site Investigations, 1999). The land survey was conducted using a
99 global positioning system/real time kinematic positioning (GPS/RTK) methodology. The

100 base station was set up at a known location and allowed RTK corrections to be transmitted in
101 real time to the rover enable the high order accuracy of the survey coordinates and elevation
102 to be determined. The indicative locations, elevation and termination depth of boring wells
103 were accordingly recorded. Figure 1 presents the location of boring (BH1–5) and deployment
104 details on geophysical investigation. Standard penetration test (SPT) was conducted in
105 accordance with BS1377-9 (1990). The purpose of this empirical dynamic penetration test
106 was to determine the dynamic shearing resistance of soils to the penetration of a split barrel
107 sampler of 50 mm external diameter. It was driven by a 63.5 kg automatic drop hammer with
108 a free fall height of 760 mm. The value of penetration resistance, “N” was the number of
109 blows required to achieve a 300 mm penetration of the barrel. Number of blows required for
110 every 150 mm penetration was recorded, normally only the last two records were used for N
111 determination. SPT was conducted at specified depth when the subsoil was too stiff for
112 undisturbed soil samples to be obtained. The values of N obtained in the investigation were
113 recorded in bore logs. While the bore log was also recorded with continuous soil composition
114 profiles particularly with information on refuse termination depth.

115 The collected samples were placed into laboratory-supplied wide-mouth glass containers
116 and stored in an ice chest while on site and during transportation to an accredited
117 geotechnical laboratory. Testing items were carried out including physical properties i.e.
118 water content, bulk density, dry density and particle density, particle size distribution,
119 Atterberg limits which were based on BS 1377 (1990), together with chemical properties
120 including pH values (with a pH meter), organic matter (via TOC analyzer), sulfate
121 (precipitation, separation followed by ignition) and chloride content (by titration with
122 Volhard’s method).

123 Fig. 1

124 2.2. Geophysical Surveys in 2011 & 2013

125 EI and MASW surveys were performed on an orthogonal test plot (100 m×100 m)
126 orientated with existing gas extraction wells at each corner for spatial control (Fig. 1).
127 Owing to a small scale investigation, the site ground was assumed as a geometric plane
128 surface with the same elevation at 0 m. Each test comprised 24 survey lines subjected to both
129 EI and MASW survey, among which 21 lines orientated parallel to the x-axis, positioned at
130 10 m intervals from 0 to 100 m southeast. In addition, 3 tie-lines orientated parallel to the y-
131 axis. The tie-lines were included to restore linear features in the x-axis direction and to
132 improve the data density (Bentley and Gharibi 2004; J. Chambers et al. 2002; J. E. Chambers
133 et al. 2006).

134 2.2.1. EI method

135 EI was based on a current flow path between the current-potential electrodes. Dipole-
136 dipole array configuration was adopted in the study as it was well suited to multi-channel
137 systems (J. Chambers et al. 2002). The dipole-dipole array model was well received in
138 geotechnical applications while especially in measuring lateral resistivity changes (Wightman
139 et al. 2003). The field survey entailed the laying of metal rods (32) at 3 m interval on the
140 ground, connected to cable then to multi-electrode resistivity meter together with a power
141 booster. Manual measurement mode was applied, with a built-in 32 ch scanner and high
142 power transmitter. Control system was equipped with CPU compatible to 586 and Interface
143 named RS-232C. The EI survey included several steps. Firstly, vegetation was cleared with a
144 width of around 2 m along the surveying line. A licensed surveyor was then marking the
145 control points for the EI works, followed by setting of a series of potential dipoles which
146 measured the resulting voltage gradient at each station along the line. Subsequent
147 measurement was completed by moving the current dipole down the line. 10 m intervals were
148 based on horizontal distance between two survey lines and the coordinates were accurately
149 recorded. Forward earth modeling (2D) with finite-element method (FEM) inversion was

150 applied (ElecImager, Japan) to process raw data and generate the image (Coggon 1971;
151 Pridmore et al. 1981; Holcombe and Jiracek 1984; Loke and Barker 1996). In brief, the
152 apparent resistivity with depth was plotted and then contoured. EI was repeated in triplicates.
153 The EI survey was employed twice at the same plot in the respective years of 2011 and 2013.

154 2.2.2. MASW method

155 MASW works based on properties that S-wave (mainly the Rayleigh wave) is equivalent
156 to the shear waves ($< 10\%$ error) for earth materials with Poisson's ratios in the range of
157 0.25-0.48 while a depth less than 20-30 m (Wightman et al. 2003). MASW relies on
158 frequency response and dispersion curves to obtain the subsurface profile. The seismic survey
159 was measured with a seismic exploration system whereas the wave source was generated by
160 hammering on a percussion plate. The system used for the study was a 24-channel
161 seismograph with a natural frequency of geophones at 4.5 Hz, favoring landfill case. A total
162 24 geophones were fixed on the ground surface with the spike poked into the ground.
163 Meanwhile two seismic land cables with twelve connectors were spread and connected with
164 these geophones, through which electrical signal from each geophone was sent to the digital
165 seismograph. A minimum of 12-geophone overlap condition was maintained for continuous
166 adjacent spreads on the line. During field data acquisition, the operator adjusted the digital
167 seismograph and confirmed the standby of the generating hammering source. After that, the
168 operator monitored the noise condition on the display of the seismograph (for example, noise
169 is caused by nodding of trees by wind and surface water). When it came to minimal noise
170 condition, the operator instructed for hammering. To improve the resolution of near-surface
171 interfaces, energy source positions were set at 1.5 m from the ends of the 3 m geophone
172 spacing array. Multiple shots locations were utilized permitting interpretation of near-surface
173 interfaces at various locations along the array and near the endpoints as well for variable
174 subsurface profiles, and allowed more refined interpretations of shallow and mid-depth

175 subsurface velocities and interfaces. Shots were gathered to generate the dispersion curve in
176 the frequency domain using the Common Mid Point (CMP) method. The inversion process
177 was based on forward modeling to generate the 1D S-wave velocity distributions by software
178 (SeisImager). For the comparison purpose, MASW surveys were employed twice at the same
179 plot in the respective years of 2011 and 2013.

180

181 3. Results and Discussion

182 3.1. Bore logs

183 Five boreholes (BH1-5) were investigated with SPT-N values until depth of 30 m below
184 ground level (BGL), with 20 measurements of each borehole (Fig. 1). Due to limited data
185 points, Fig. 2 presents a collective result of the five boreholes. Hereby, geotechnical
186 properties as a function of depth could be better elucidated. Interestingly, the collective data
187 shows abnormal peaks at depth about 5-20 m BGL, where the values depart from a smooth
188 rising trend and zoom steeply up to as high as 74. Except for the abruptness, SPT-N values
189 were well predicted with a gradual increase (Fig. 2a). The main purpose of the SPT-N test is
190 to provide an indication of the relative density of granular deposits, such as sands and gravels
191 from which it is virtually impossible to obtain undisturbed samples. However, the validity
192 depends on the soil type. Analogously, the SPT-N values for the case of landfill do not
193 necessarily depict the real in-situ physical properties. Instead, the sudden change of values
194 may indicate a stratum compositionally distinct from its adjacent layers, supposing
195 anthropogenic deposits. The large-size particles in the refuse layer may raise the SPT-N value
196 due to clogging of the sampler or due to its contact with it (Machado et al. 2010). Soil sorting
197 at the plot notes traceable amount of municipal solid wastes, such as plastics, woven fabrics
198 and wood pieces at -8 to -15 m (Fig. S2), echoing the abrupt SPT-N elevation. Empirically S-

199 wave velocities may exhibit correlation with SPT-N values as investigated (Imai and
200 Yoshimura 1982),

201 $V_s = 97.0N^{0.314}$ (Eq. 1)

202 Where the equation is valid when N stays in the range of 1–100, and V_s represents the S-wave
203 velocity ($m\ s^{-1}$). Unfortunately the SPT-N values estimated by S-wave velocities (Fig. 2b) at
204 BH5 displayed quite a difference from the real measurement particularly after depth -10 m
205 albeit a good matching between L11 and L23, suggesting a poor correlation owing to the
206 anthropogenic buries.

207 Fig. 2

208 SPT-Ns were compared between two depths i.e. -5–20 m vs. the rest (0 to -5 m and -20 to
209 -30 m), suggesting statistically significantly difference between the two group of data with a
210 p-value of 0.012. Comparisons were further made between R5 and R1–4 within each of the
211 two depths (Fig. 2 c & 2d), showing poor linearity ($R^2=0.25$) in depth of -5–20 m too. It is
212 very likely attributable for refuse deposits. As above, the refuse layer may be retrieved by
213 SPT testing plot, from which abnormal SPT-N peaks are indicator for the refuse placement.
214 Due to various compositions of wastes and complexity in the landfill, however, the
215 subsurface stratum needs more data from other aspects for further characterization and
216 identification.

217 Table 1

218 Further investigation of the landfill, such as water content, bulk and particle density,
219 particle size distribution, organic matter, pH, sulfide and chloride concentration, and the
220 Atterberg limit were carried out with regards to each borehole (Table 1). Saturated zone was
221 not yet reached until the depth of -7 m as water content was measured less than void ratio.
222 Interestingly, water content presented a positive correlation with void ratio (correl. coeff.
223 =0.82) rather than depth (correl. coeff.=0.22), suggesting obstructed infiltration. As such

224 water may be isolated in pockets. The pockets may be developed by biogas, precipitation and
225 mineralization derived by natural attenuation. Geochemical measurements such as OM, pH,
226 sulfide and chloride show a characteristic of highly spot-specific, echoing the presence of
227 isolated pockets. Furthermore, particle size distribution posed much less influence on
228 moisture while it used to do. For example, a high silt/clay fraction 66% (w/w) was measured
229 at depth -4.5–5.3 m in BH3, however carrying a low water content (23%). Atterberg limit
230 tests showed a soil type with reduced plasticity (9–24), as a result from leachate permeation
231 (Frempong and Yanful 2008). The reduced plasticity of soil may facilitate the formation of
232 isolated pockets. Organic matter was measured low in the solid, indicating a late stage of the
233 landfill where most organic compounds had been stripped. The pH presented alkaline
234 suggesting a typical matured phase in the landfill as well. Low chloride was detected as well,
235 as a result of the long-term precipitation and dilution.

236 3.2. Refuse boundary

237 3.2.1. Estimation by borehole and geophysical methods

238 The refuse boundary was estimated with bore logs (Fig. 3). A contour map was
239 constructed by combining the refuse surface at different boreholes. Basically the refuse
240 boundary provided useful information to quantify the refuse volume, yet the leachate flow
241 direction was unlikely predicted without knowledge of the heterogeneous distribution of
242 density (Konstantaki 2016). The accuracy on refuse quantity could be compromised by the
243 limited boring number. Alternatively, the refuse layer could be indicated by geophysical
244 imaging (Soupios et al. 2007; Yin et al. 2015). Transection plots for S-wave velocity and
245 electrical resistivity are presented in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 respectively, where the profiles at
246 survey Line 11 and Line 23 are displayed in combination with overlapped bore logs (BH1-
247 BH5-BH3 in Line 11 and BH4-BH5-BH2 in Line 23).

248

Fig. 3

249 Geotechnical parameters (BH1-5) and extracted geophysical data at the same sampling
250 depths were statistically compared to obtain correlation coefficients (Table S1). Electrical
251 resistivity carried a high correlation coefficient with chloride content (0.93)/moisture content
252 (0.66). General poor correlations between S-wave velocity and soil properties though, bulk
253 and dry density presented stronger correlations to S-wave velocity (0.36) than the others,
254 indicating the dominance of hardness on S-wave propagation. Based on the analysis, there
255 were existed significantly cohesive connections between geophysical data and the refuse
256 characteristics, promising complementary explanation of the landfill subsurface. The refuse
257 boundary could be estimated via the correspondent geophysical measures distinguishing the
258 refuse layer from the original ground. The average depth of the refuse layer by MASW and
259 EI at Line 11 was determined at -18.8 ± 1.9 m and -18.0 ± 4.2 m respectively, while 17.7 ± 1.5 m
260 and -24.2 ± 4.7 m at Line 23. By contrast, bore logs showed a respective refuse depth of -
261 18.6 ± 1.0 m and -17.8 ± 1.3 m. In this regards, MASW achieved a better compliance with bore
262 logs, i.e. 18.8 ± 1.9 m vs. 18.6 ± 1.0 m BGL at Line 11 and 17.7 ± 1.5 m vs. 17.8 ± 1.3 m BGL at
263 Line 23. Additional soil distribution beneath such as Kallang formation and old alluvium was
264 indicated by MASW while not from EI (Balía and Littarru 2010). As moisture level highly
265 affects electrical imaging, EI method may present a deteriorated depiction on the subsurface
266 structure in tropics (Samouëlian et al. 2004; Brunet et al. 2010). Hence, edge effects may
267 further compromise the results in EI tomography as shown in Fig. 5 (Griffiths and Lane 1999;
268 Wu et al. 2013). Nonetheless, geophysical methods present improved details with the
269 monitored parameter. In addition it may provide zones of interest carrying potential
270 environmental significance.

271 Fig. 4 & 5

272 3.2.2. Comparison between EI and MASW

273 The S-wave velocity presented complex strata distribution across depth than electrical
274 resistivity. Tomography of EI could be distinguished by three layers, a middle layer
275 contained large areas of warm color (red and yellow) in pockets, in contrast to the more
276 homogeneous upper and lower layer possessing mainly the cold colors (e.g. blue). The
277 middle layer exhibited abrupt changes reference to its surroundings indicating the refuse
278 distribution. The distinction suggests great variation on the corresponding material properties
279 in middle layer, in association with water content, waste composition, physicochemical and
280 biological activities, hydrogeology, etc. (Kibria and Hossain 2015). The upper and lower
281 layer stands for a respective soil cover and the original surface, which could be easily
282 identified by the consistent value strip of the resistivity together with a gentle rolling
283 tomography.

284 Contrastively, MASW images showed more layers, suggesting more vertical changes of
285 hardness albeit the planar rolling (Hebeler 2001). It is relevant to the landfill design and
286 operation as well as long-term natural attenuation, which amended the subsurface matrix e.g.
287 the void ratio and density. The relative hard layer on top (0 to -4 m) indicated the soil cover.
288 The strip next to it demonstrated interestingly minimum velocity, suggesting a porous zone
289 with low density. With continuous natural attenuation, the organic matter was decomposed
290 releasing biogas from bioactivity, resulting in reduced density and raised porosity. The high
291 porosity up to 50% at 3–7 m BGL (Table 1) echoed such a hypothesis. The bulking property
292 however, was less dominant in deeper layers, likely attributed to settlement and increased
293 saturation (Das et al. 2002; Wall and Zeiss 1995). Moving deeper S-wave interfaces rolled
294 severely. A couple reasons could be responsible for this. The original site of LHDG.p3 before
295 landfilling was recorded as mangrove swamp carrying a soft nature (Yin et al. 2015). Besides,
296 landfills often exhibit uneven settlement (Simões and Catapreta 2013; Chakma and Mathur
297 2012; Fei and Zekkos 2013). Deeper layers hereby bear these impacts and resulted in more

298 irregular distribution on the hardness. In addition, infiltration could also pose an impact on
299 the harness distribution (Rosqvist and Destouni 2000).

300 3.3. 3D pseudo models

301 3D modeling of the landfill could provide further insights on waste transformation (Tame
302 et al. 2013). Figure 6 & 7 present pseudo-depth slices of EI and MASW simulating the plot
303 area in the years 2011 and 2013. An offset of 2.5 m was adopted to indicate changes of soil
304 profiles spanning a depth of 0–20 m. Comparisons were made based on (1) time, and (2)
305 contrasts of same spots.

306 Fig. 6 & 7

307 3.3.1. Landfill characterization by EI and MASW at different periods

308 Two scenarios were depicted in Fig. 6, dry scenario in 2011 and wet scenario in 2013.
309 The background electrical resistivity was recorded around $200\pm 20 \Omega\text{m}$ for both, indicating a
310 typical unsaturated zone with mixture of silt/sand in the subsurface (Fig. 6). Electrical
311 resistivity in 2013 were found from <100 to $500\text{--}600 \Omega\text{m}$, comparable to those observed
312 from two years ago. Interestingly, resistivity distribution across depth demonstrated an
313 opposite trend between two measurements, indicating a strong effect by the moisture
314 condition. The resistivity decreased with increased depth in 2013, suggesting a scenario under
315 infiltration. By contrast, growing resistivity along depth in 2011 suggested higher moisture at
316 the bottom—a stable state which occurred at the dry season. It evidenced that EI survey
317 compromised water content.

318 High uncertainty though from single EI investigation, hydrogeological conditions in the
319 subsurface could be indicated by comparison of the EI surveys at different periods (Sandberg
320 et al. 2002). For instance, preferential infiltration may occur at the middle of BH4 and BH5
321 from survey in 2013, while leachate mounding may exit below -15 m from survey in 2011
322 (Fig. 5). These findings provide advantages in further cares for the landfill if necessary.

323 Moreover, there existed some higher-resistivity pockets in 2013 as compared to 2011,
324 indicating the growing heterogeneity in the refuse due to natural attenuation.

325 Figure 7 shows comparison of S-wave velocity performed during the same periods as EI.
326 As compared to EI, MASW demonstrated little impacts from moisture changes (Fig. 7). The
327 background and trend of S-wave distribution was similar between 2011 and 2013.
328 Nevertheless, lower S-wave velocities was obtained at -5–10 m meanwhile higher in deeper
329 zones in 2013 as compared to 2011, which again suggests the geophysical changes in the
330 refuse layer towards more extremity. It may be developed from a few factors. On one hand
331 biochemical degradation facilitates settlement and leads to growing compaction at lower
332 layers reflected by a higher S-wave velocity. On the other hand the upper layer is subjected to
333 continuous loss of materials by leaching and dilution, thus a lower density—a lower S-wave
334 velocity.

335 3.3.2. Comparison of EI and MASW at different periods

336 As mentioned, EI is sensitive to environmental parameters relevant to conductivity,
337 including ionic strength and total dissolved solids etc., while MASW interests the
338 hardness/stiffness of the zone, more relevant to settlement. Moisture effects on the EI
339 method have been well noted (Grellier et al. 2007; Bentley and Gharibi 2004). Also, moisture
340 is one of the significant factors posing long-term impacts on the refuse. In this point
341 comparison between the investigated geophysics could reveal extra information of the landfill
342 from perspectives e.g. the refuse components. Coupled with the findings from boring, more
343 refuse details may be unveiled from which a comprehensive diagnosis can be further
344 developed (Meju 2000). Taking account of time effect, transformation may be traceable.

345 At -2.5 m, all plots showed a stratum suggesting an artificial zone—the cover (Fig. 4). In
346 this layer the S-wave velocity measured low in both events while distinct resistivity was
347 identified between 2011 and 2013, indicating the presence of massive clay/silt which

348 possesses considerable water-holding capacity. At spots deeper below (e.g. -17.5–20 m in
349 2013) however, a high resistivity concurrent with a high S-wave velocity may indicate a zone
350 of high porosity, where water is hardly retained. Soft zones at -5–10 m may be born from
351 refuse deposit as shown in Fig. 7. Those red-color spots within the zones, which stand for
352 low-moisture pockets (as shown in EI profile at -7.5–10 m in 2013 in Fig. 6), may fit to
353 materials like plastics which carries both soft nature and hydrophobicity. Soil sorting study at
354 the plot shows the affluence of plastics at -8-10 m, evidenced such a deduction (Fig. S3).
355 Next to BH2–5 where dry spots were indicated by EI in 2013, it was peaked with S-wave
356 velocity, suggesting a hard zone as well. The hardness may be enforced by dryness which
357 reduces the soil plasticity. The situation could be severer with time under limited water
358 supply, unless precipitation promotes infiltration in the landfill and change the moisture
359 content. As such geophysical methods may demonstrate the variation, identify anomalies and
360 therefore provide effective while quantitative reading for the corresponding hot spots.

361

362 4. Conclusion

363 A geophysical modeling of an old landfill was developed with non-invasive geophysical
364 methods. Cohesive correlations existed between geophysical data and geotechnical properties
365 of boring samples. The subsurface profile can be well understood in combination of EI,
366 MASW and limited boring. Transformation of the refuse layer may be predicted by
367 integration of natural attenuation in landfills. Zones of interests could be determined with
368 improved characteristic details such as soft material accumulation, isolated pocket, settling
369 magnitude, moisture retention capacity and leachate mounding etc. Furthermore, long-term
370 geophysical monitoring in the old landfill could indicate crucial parameters relevant to
371 variation in environmental chemistry and hydrogeology of the landfill, assisted with a 3D

372 inversion. Preferential flow paths were herein well located to estimate the leachate
373 distribution.

374

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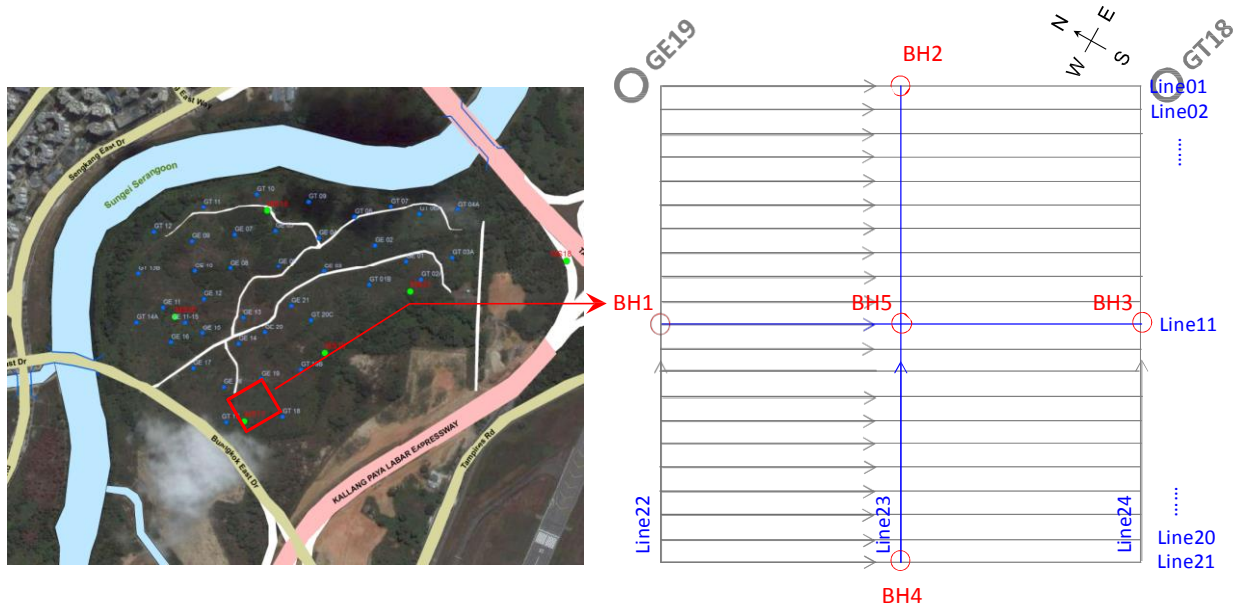
511

512 Table and Figures

513 Table 1. Geotechnical analysis of soil samples from borehole BH1-5 at depth of 3-7 m.

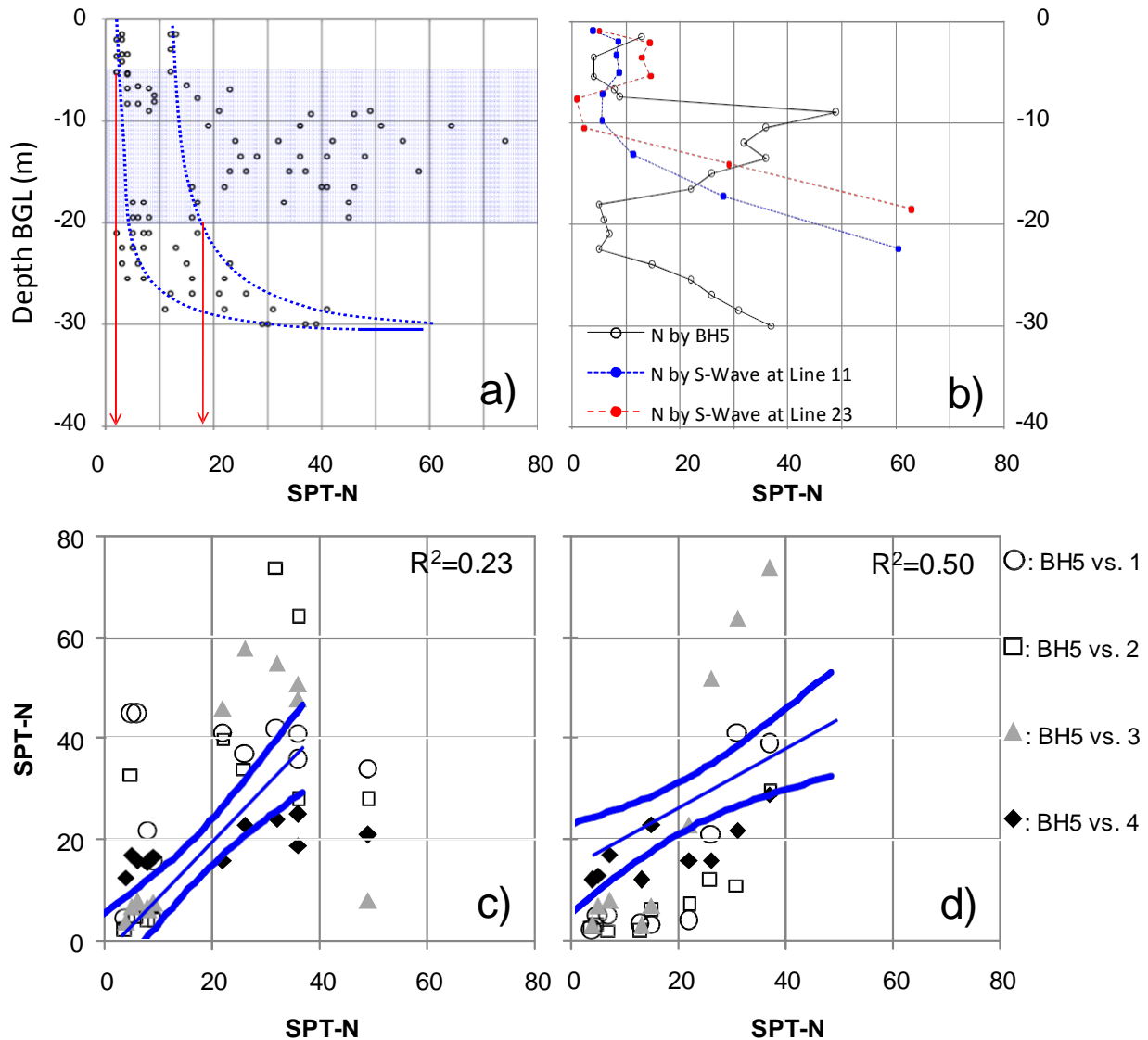
Borehole No.		BH1			BH2			BH3			BH4		BH5		
Depth		3-3.7	4.5-5.2	6-6.9	3-4.2	4.5-5.2	6-6.8	3-3.5	4.5-5.3	6-6.6	3-3.5	6-6.25	3-3.5	4.5-5.4	6-6.8
Water%		14	30	25	22	24	31	19	23	17	20	24	39	38	35
Bulk density (g/cm ³)		1.79	1.93	1.81	1.98	1.93	1.79	2.01	1.99	2.00	2.06	1.76	1.83	1.87	1.93
Dry density (g/cm ³)		1.57	1.48	1.45	1.62	1.56	1.37	1.69	1.62	1.71	1.72	1.42	1.32	1.46	1.43
Particle density (g/cm ³)		2.65	2.71	2.70	2.70	2.72	2.70	2.67	2.71	2.66	2.71	2.60	2.67	2.68	2.69
Void%		40.8	45.4	46.3	40.0	42.6	49.3	36.7	40.2	35.7	36.5	45.4	50.6	45.5	46.8
Particle size%	Gravel	11	14	6	N.A.	10	6	6	5	14	3	22	15	7	14
	Sand	77	46	57	N.A.	54	42	60	29	59	32	52	66	60	50
	Silt	11	28	28	N.A.	22	38	15	34	11	41	19	17	14	16
	Clay	1	12	9	N.A.	14	14	19	32	16	24	7	2	19	20
Chemical test	OM%	N.A.	N.A.	2.1	1.5	N.A.	N.A.	0.5	N.A.	N.A.	0.1	1	N.A.	2.9	1.8
	S%	N.A.	N.A.	<0.01	<0.01	N.A.	N.A.	<0.01	N.A.	N.A.	<0.01	<0.01	N.A.	<0.01	0.15
	Cl ⁻ %	N.A.	N.A.	0.06	<0.01	N.A.	N.A.	0.04	N.A.	N.A.	0.03	0.05	N.A.	0.23	0.19
	pH	N.A.	N.A.	9.3	7.7	N.A.	N.A.	8.7	N.A.	N.A.	9.2	8	N.A.	8.9	9.7
Atterberg Limit	Liquid limit	N.A.	37	49	40	40	40	40	47	26	38	41	51	37	38
	Plasticity limit	N.A.	28	31	27	29	28	16	30	12	26	29	30	16	15
	Plasticity Index	N.A.	9	18	13	11	12	24	17	14	12	12	21	21	23
	Soil group	N.A.	MI	MI	MI	MI	MI	CL	MI	CL	MI	MI	MH	CL	CL

515



516

517 Figure 1. Site map and borehole locations indicated by the geophysical layout at LHDG.p3.



518

519 Figure 2a) Standard penetration test n (SPT-N) value plotting from the borehole (BH1-5)

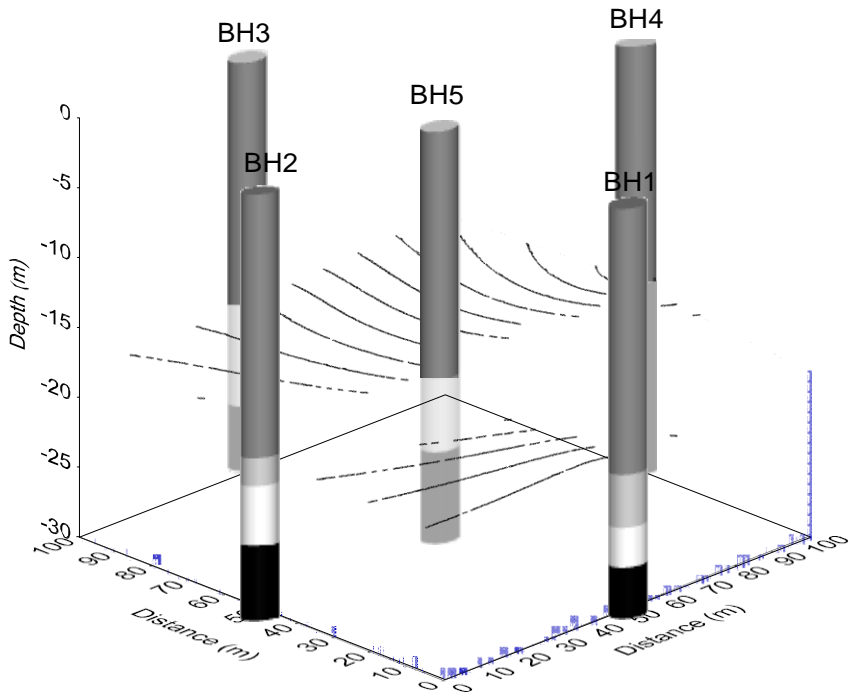
520 investigation at LHDG.p3; 2b) SPT-N value at BH5 vs. estimation based on S-Wave velocity

521 using eq. 1 at Line 11 and 23, respectively; 2c) SPT-N values between BH5 vs. BH1-4

522 respectively at depth 5-20 m below ground level (BGL); 2d) SPT-N values between BH5 vs.

523 BH1-4 respectively at depth 0-5 m & 20-30 m BGL (Note: curved lines in Fig. 2b-c represent the

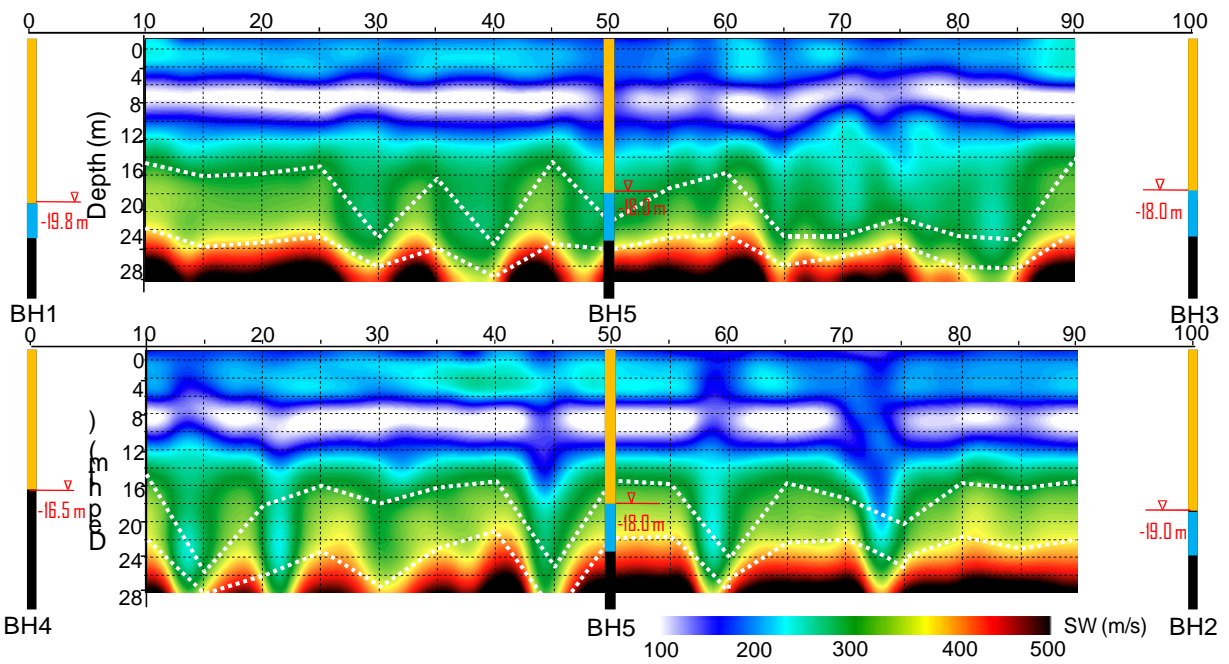
524 95% confidence interval of the least squares linear regressions).



525

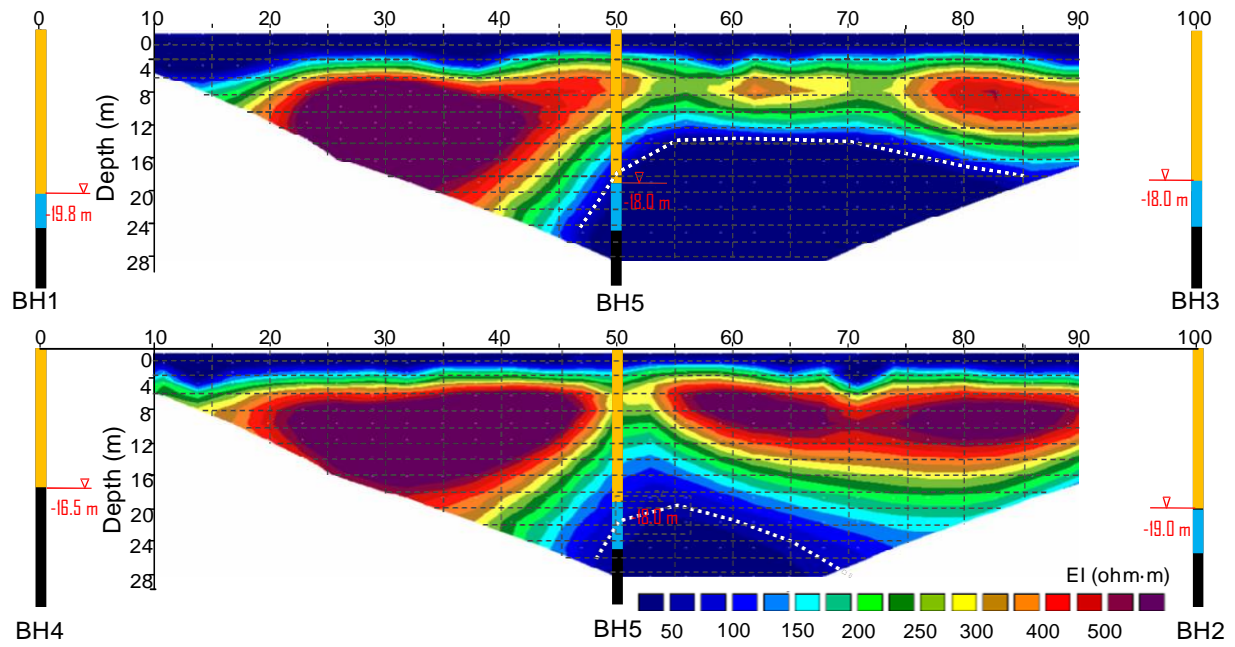
526 Figure 3. Estimation of refuse boundary with bore logs (BH1-5) in 2013.

527



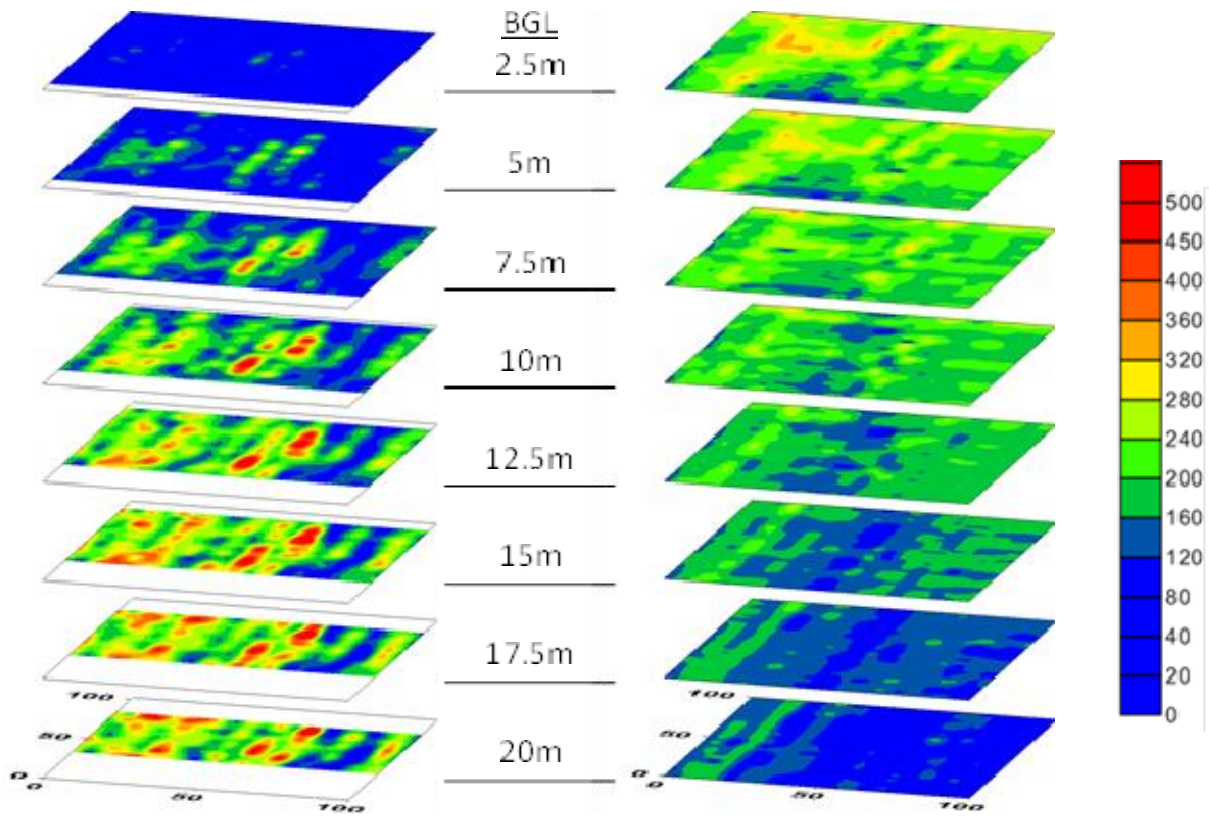
528

529 Figure 4. Boundary estimation by the pseudo 2D image of surface wave velocity (at line 11 & 23)
530 and by BH1-5-3 and BH2-5-4, respectively.



531
532 Figure 5. Boundary estimation by the 2D resistivity (at line 11 & 23) and by BH1-5-3 and BH2-
533 5-4, respectively.

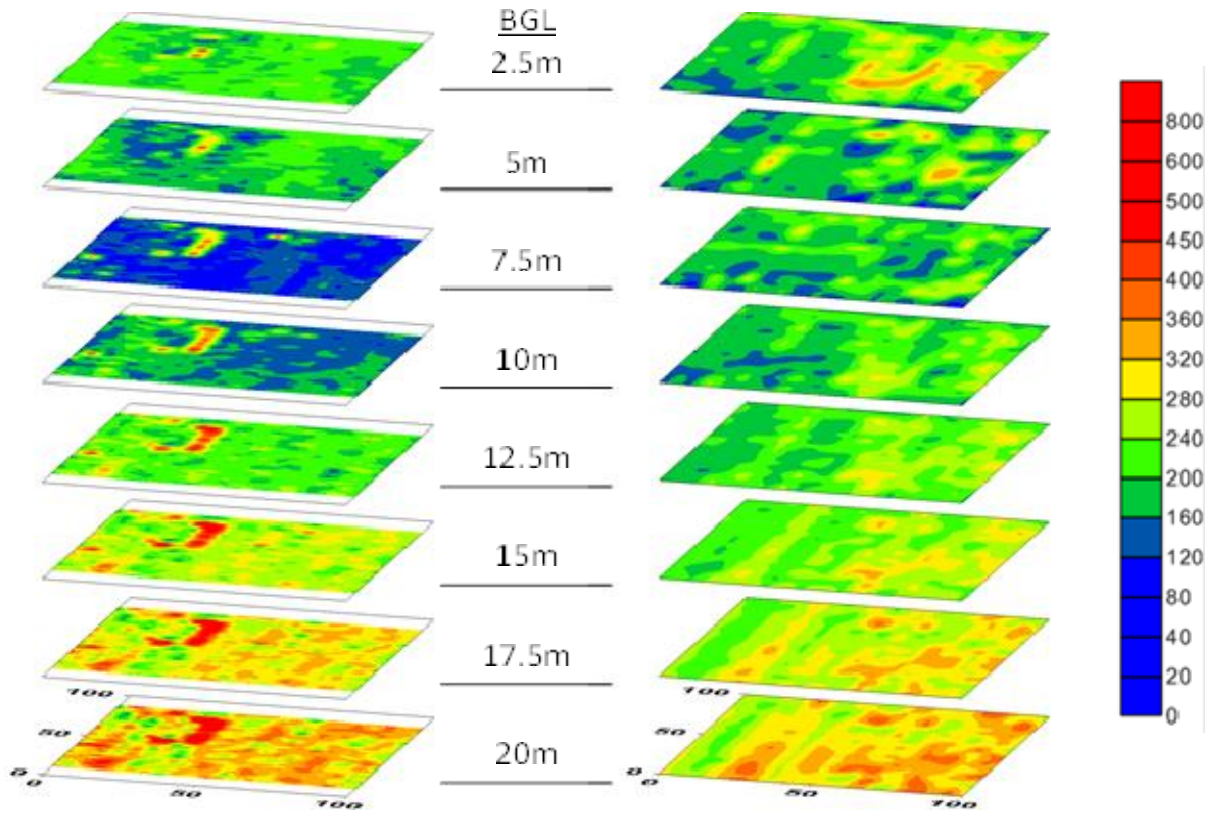
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535

536 Figure 6. Comparison of EI pseudo-depth slices between 2013 (Left) and 2011(Right).

537



538

539 Figure 7. Comparison of MASW pseudo-depth slices between 2013 (Left) and 2011(Right).

540

541 Supplementary material

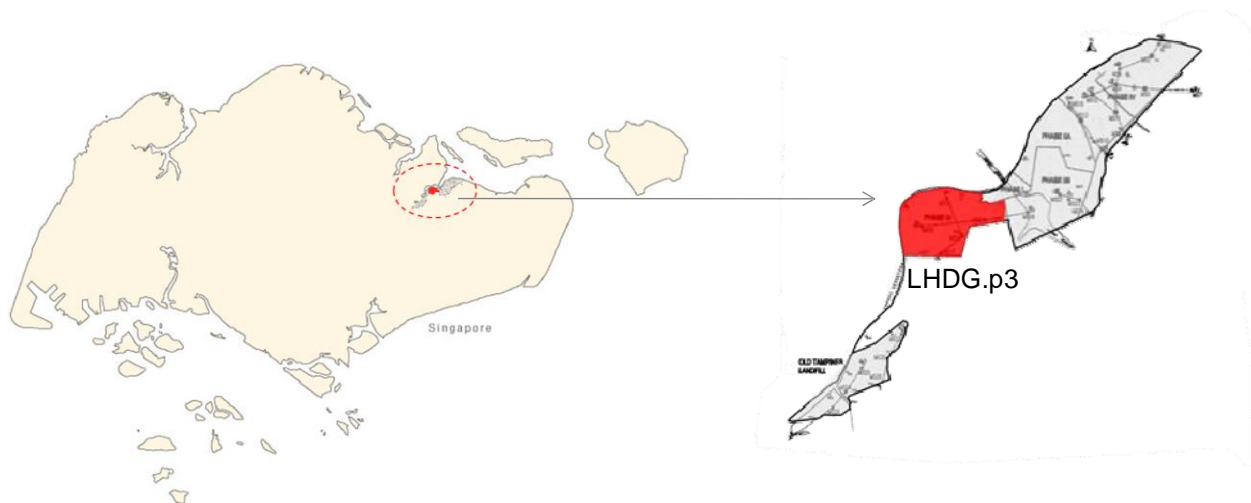
542 Table S1. Statistical correlations between geophysical values (S-wave velocity and ER) and soil
 543 characters at soil sample locations (BH1-5).

544 F

Parameters		Correlation coefficient	
		S-wave (m/s)	ER (Ω m)
Water%		-0.11	0.66
Bulk density (g/cm^3)		0.36	-0.09
Dry density (g/cm^3)		0.35	-0.40
Particle density (g/cm^3)		0.20	0.03
Void%		-0.33	0.41
Particle size%	Gravel	-0.37	0.03
	Sand	0.09	0.06
	Silt	-0.13	-0.26
	Clay	0.25	0.21
Chemical test	OM%	-0.20	0.61
	S%	N.A.	N.A.
	Cl%	0.13	0.93
	pH	-0.25	0.64
Atterberg Limit	Liquid limit	0.17	-0.09
	Plasticity limit	-0.05	-0.52
	Plasticity Index	0.28	0.60
	Soil group	N.A.	-0.09

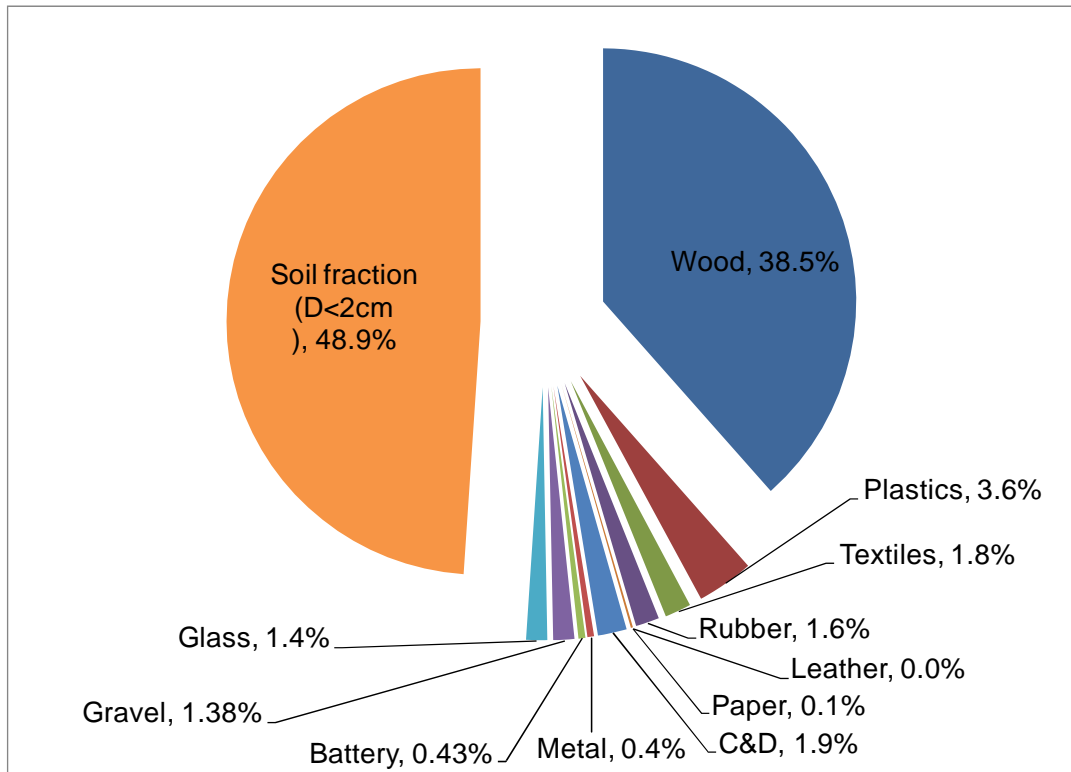
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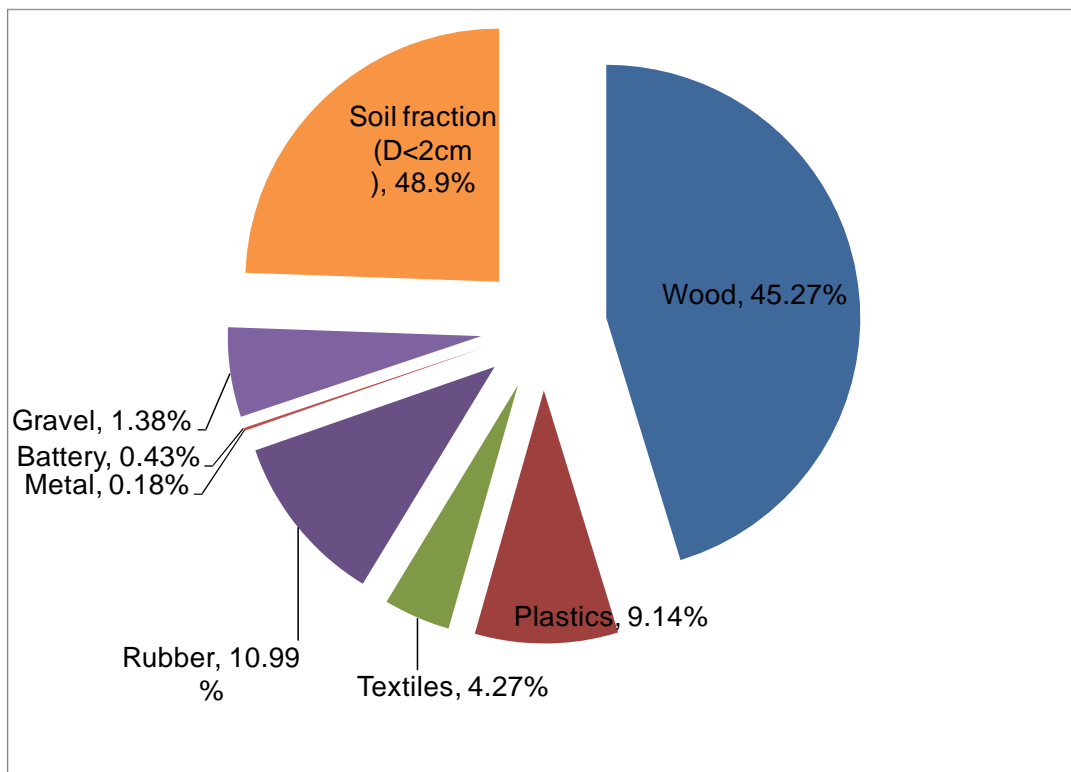
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548 Figure S1. Studied site (LHDG.p3) at Lorong Hulas dumping ground in Singapore.



549

550 Figure S2. Refuse composition analysis at depth -8-15m in the plot in 2013.



551

552 Figure S3. Refuse composition analysis at depth -8-10m in the plot in 2013.