

# Landscape Metrics Explain the Ecological Susceptibility of Terrestrial Ecosystems

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## **Supplementary information (S).**

### **1. Determination of Ecological Susceptibility**

The object-oriented method of the determination of ecological susceptibility is mainly based on the principle of extreme values (Misra, 1991). According to the principle of extreme values, the closer a measure of a given ecological factor is to its critical values, the higher the ecological susceptibility (Figure S1). Consequently, the following steps are taken to determine the measure of ecological susceptibility:

#### **1.1. Designing Conceptual Diagram**

On the basis of the objective method of the determination of ecological susceptibility, ecological factors are firstly enlisted. The conceptual diagram of the ecosystem (Amiri, 2019) is then designed by the ecological factors based on ecological knowledge. Figure S2 shows the conceptual diagram of the ecosystem, which is to be analyzed for further steps in determining the measure of ecological susceptibility.

#### **1.2. Conceptual Diagram Analysis**

To analyze the conceptual diagram of the ecosystem, the interaction analysis method, which was introduced by Jorgensen and Bendoricchio (2001), is applied. Accordingly, the existence and the lack of existence of the relationship between the two ecological factors are assigned 1 and 0, respectively. The measures in the rows and those of the columns were summed, and the relative importance measure of a given ecological factor is then calculated by subtracting the sum of a given column from that of the corresponding row (Table S1). The absolute measure  $K_i$  is then considered as the measure of the relative significance of a given ecological factor.

### **1.3. Determining Ecological Susceptibility**

The ecological maps (slope, geographical aspect, elevation, soil, vegetation, groundwater table depth, soil pH, and geology) are reclassified according to Tables S2, S3 and S4, aiming at presenting, to present the extent to which each of the ecological factors implies the ecological susceptibility.

Having intersected the reclassified ecological maps by the grid map of the study area, the measure of ecological susceptibility is then integrated by the enlisted ecological factors for each of the cells using Eq. S1 as follows:

$$ESI = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (K_i X_i) \quad (\text{S1})$$

where, ESI is the ecological susceptibility index,  $K_i$ : is the value of ecological factor  $i$  th, and  $X_i$  stands for the measure of ecological susceptibility of the cell  $i$  th.

#### **Exemplar 1:**

Supposing a study unit has the following ecological feature:

| <b>Ecological Factor</b> | <b>Value</b>     | <b>Limitation code</b> | <b>Importance</b> |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Geology                  | None- resistance | 5                      | 6                 |
| Aspect                   | West             | 2                      | 2                 |
| Elevation                | 1283.29 m.s.l.   | 6                      | 5                 |
| Slope                    | 42.09 percent    | 7                      | 4                 |
| Rain                     | 500 mm           | 7                      | 1                 |
| Temperature              | 9                | 6                      | 4                 |
| Soil deep, and           | 40 cm            | 4                      | 1                 |
| Vegetation landcover     | 17.16 percent    | 4                      | 3                 |

$$ESI = (5 * 6) + (2 * 2) + (6 * 5) + (7 * 4) + (7 * 1) + (6 * 4) + (4 * 1) + (4 * 3) = 139$$

## 2. Results of modeling

### 2.1. Mean landscape metrics-based models:

$$S_i = 103.473 - 0.303DF1_{para} + 0.211DF2_{para} \quad (S2)$$

$$S_i = -545.958 + 1037.458DF1_{frac} - 767.774CF1_{frac} + 346.877EF1_{frac} \quad (S3)$$

$$S_i = 273.757 + 100.326LogR1_{rcc} + 192.815LogA_{rcc} + 136.893Log BU_{rcc} \quad (S4)$$

$$S_i = 83.309 + 104.295DF1_{contig} - 115.890DF2_{contig} - 101.589CF1_{contig} + 68.822R1_{contig} \quad (S5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} Log S_i = & 1.796 + 1.061LogDF1_{shp} - 1.039LogCF1_{shp} + 0.612LogEF1_{shp} + \\ & 0.842LogOF1_{shp} \end{aligned} \quad (S6)$$

## 2.2. Weighted average landscape metrics-based models:

$$S_i = -80.909 + 36.703LogA_{para} + 48.103LogBU_{para} \quad (S7)$$

$$S_i = 499.865 - 200.070BU_{frac} - 159.793A_{frac} \quad (S8)$$

$$Log S_i = 2.425 + 1.415LogOF1_{rcc} + 0.987LogA_{rcc} \quad (S9)$$

$$S_i = 90.753 + 62.645LogR1 - 93.749LogBU_{contig} \quad (S10)$$

$$S_i = 161.538 - 7.755A_{shp} - 21.226CF1_{shp} \quad (S11)$$

## 2.3. Median landscape metrics-based models:

$$\begin{aligned} S_i = & 128.584 - 79.400LogDF1_{para} + 188.424LogDF2_{para} - \\ & 244.609LogOF1_{para} + 116.635LogCF1_{para} \end{aligned} \quad (S12)$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_i = & -1905.395 - 803.618CF1_{frac} + 1456.622S_{frac} + 480.866DF1_{frac} + \\ & 527.542R1_{frac} + 322.194EF1_{frac} \end{aligned} \quad (S13)$$

$$Log S_i = 1.791 + 0.5430F1_{rcc} - 0.196DF2_{rcc} \quad (S14)$$

$$S_i = 72.326 + 64.868DF1_{contig} - 91.686CF1_{contig} - 135.672DF2_{contig} + 215.146OF1_{contig} \quad (S15)$$

$$S_i = 97.351 + 164.099LogDF1_{shp} - 407.997LogCF1_{shp} + 280.870LogA_{shp} \quad (S16)$$

where,

$\log S_i$ : the ecological susceptibility measure for cell  $i$

para: the (mean, weighted mean, and median) perimeter-area ratio of LULC  $i$ ,

frac: the (mean, weighted mean, and median) fractal dimension index of LULC $i$ ,

rcc: the (mean, weighted mean, and median) related circumscribing circle index of LULC $i$ ,

contig: the (mean weighted mean, and median) of the contiguity index of LULC $i$ ,

shp: the (average, weighted average, and median) shape index for patches of LULC $i$ ,

DF1: closed deciduous broad-leaved forest,

DF2: open deciduous broad-leave forest,

CF1: closed mixed forest,

EF1: closed evergreen needle-leaved forest,

R1: high-density rangeland,

A: agriculture,

BU: build-up,

OF1: open mixed forest and

S: shrubland.

## **S. References**

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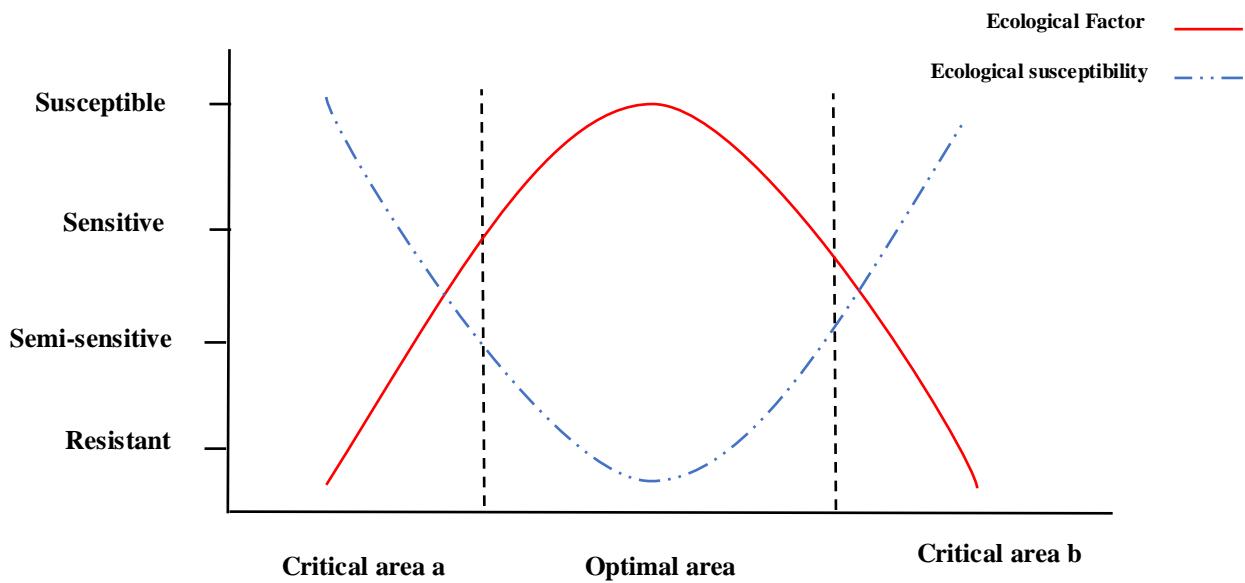


Figure S1: Conceptual relationship between ecological susceptibility and ecological factor measures (Amiri, 2019)

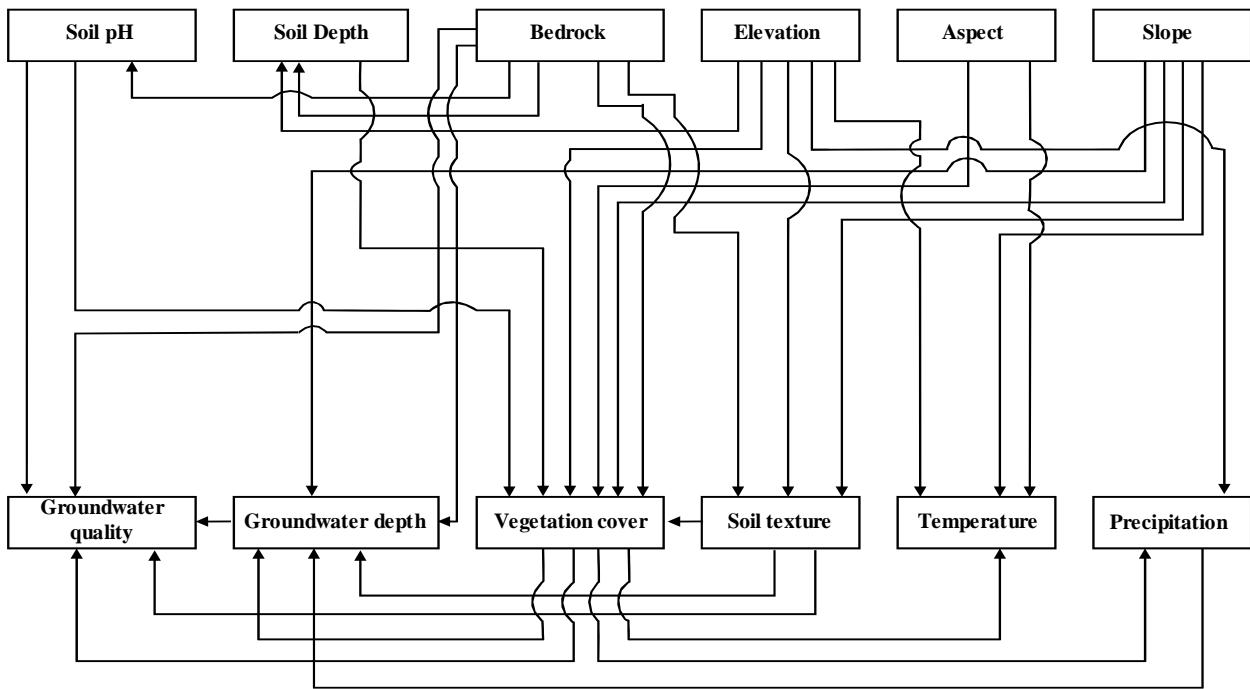


Figure S2: Conceptual diagram of the ecological factors (Amiri, 2019)

Table S1: The interaction matrix analysis of the conceptual diagram (Amiri, 2019)

| Factors             | Slope | Aspect | Elevation | Geology | Soil texture | Soil pH | Soil depth | Vegetation cover | Precipitation | Temperature | Groundwater depth | Groundwater quality | Sum | Absolute Importance value<br>$K = \left( \sum_{i=1}^1 X_i - \sum_{j=1}^1 X_j \right)$ |
|---------------------|-------|--------|-----------|---------|--------------|---------|------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----|---|
| Slope               | 0     |        |           |         | 1            |         |            | 1                | 1             |             | 1                 | 1                   | 5   | 0-5   |
| Aspect              |       | 0      |           |         |              |         |            | 1                |               | 1           |                   |                     | 2   | 0-2   |
| High from sea level |       | 0      |           | 1       |              | 1       | 1          | 1                |               |             |                   |                     | 5   | 0-5   |
| Geology             |       |        | 0         | 1       | 1            | 1       | 1          |                  |               |             | 1                 | 1                   | 6   | 0-6   |
| Soil texture        |       |        |           | 0       |              |         | 1          |                  |               |             | 1                 | 1                   | 3   | 0   |
| Soil pH             |       |        |           |         | 0            |         | 1          |                  |               |             |                   | 1                   | 2   | -1  |
| Soil depth          |       |        |           |         |              | 0       | 1          |                  |               |             |                   |                     | 1   | 1   |
| Vegetation cover    |       |        |           |         |              |         | 0          | 1                | 1             | 1           | 1                 | 1                   | 4   | 3   |
| Precipitation       |       |        |           |         |              |         |            | 0                |               | 1           |                   |                     | 1   | 1   |
| Temperature         |       |        |           |         |              |         |            |                  | 0             |             |                   |                     | 0   | 4   |
| Groundwater depth   |       |        |           |         |              |         |            |                  |               | 0           |                   |                     | 0   | 4   |
| Groundwater quality |       |        |           |         |              |         |            |                  |               |             | 0                 | 0                   |     | 5   |
| Sum                 | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0       | 3            | 1       | 2          | 7                | 2             | 4           | 5                 | 5                   |     |   |

Table S2: Classification and ecological susceptibility coding of the ecological factors

| Elevation<br>(m.s.l.) | Slope<br>(%) | Ecological<br>Susceptibility<br>code | Geographical<br>aspect | Ecological<br>Susceptibility<br>code | Geology             | Soil<br>depth<br>(cm) | Ecological<br>Susceptibility<br>code |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 0-100                 | 0-2          | 1                                    | Flat                   | 1                                    | very<br>resistance  | > 120                 | 1                                    |
| 100-200               | 2-5          | 2                                    | North                  | 3                                    | resistance          | 80-<br>120            | 2                                    |
| 200-400               | 5-8          | 3                                    | East                   | 3                                    | un-<br>resistance   | 50-80                 | 3                                    |
| 400-600               | 8-12         | 4                                    | South                  | 2                                    | susceptible         | 25-50                 | 4                                    |
| 600-1200              | 12-15        | 5                                    | West                   | 2                                    | very<br>susceptible | 10-25                 | 5                                    |
| 1200-<br>1800         | 15-30        | 6                                    |                        |                                      |                     |                       |                                      |
| 1800-<br>2200         | 30-65        | 7                                    |                        |                                      |                     |                       |                                      |
| >2200                 | > 65         | 8                                    |                        |                                      |                     |                       |                                      |

Table S3: Classification and ecological susceptibility coding of the climatic factors and vegetation

| Precipitation<br>(mm/yr) | Temperature<br>(C°) | Ecological<br>susceptibility<br>code | Vegetation<br>cover (%) | Ecological<br>susceptibility<br>code |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 200-400                  | 4-6.25              | 8                                    | 75-100                  | 1                                    |
| 400-600                  | 6.25-8.5            | 7                                    | 50-75                   | 2                                    |
| 600-800                  | 8.5-10.75           | 6                                    | 25-50                   | 3                                    |
| 800-1000                 | 10.75-13            | 5                                    | 0-25                    | 4                                    |
| 1000-1200                | 13-15.25            | 4                                    |                         |                                      |
| 1200-1400                | 15.25-17.5          | 3                                    |                         |                                      |
| 1400-1600                | 17.5-19.75          | 2                                    |                         |                                      |
| 1600-1800                | 19.75-22            | 1                                    |                         |                                      |

Table S4: The importance value of the ecological factors for ecological susceptibility

| <b>Ecological Factor</b> | <b>Importance value</b> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Bedrock                  | 6                       |
| Elevation                | 5                       |
| Temperature              | 4                       |
| Slope                    | 4                       |
| Vegetation cover         | 3                       |
| Aspect                   | 2                       |
| Precipitation            | 1                       |
| Soil                     | 1                       |

Table S5: The equation, range, and physical meaning of the structure-related landscape metrics (Amiri et al., 2019)

| Landscape Metric              | Formula   | Range                    | Remarks  |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| Contiguity index              | $contig = \frac{\left( \sum_r^v c_{ijr} \right)}{a_{ij}}$ where $c_{ijr}$ is the contiguity value for pixel r in patch ij, v is the sum of values in a 3-by-3 cell template, and $a_{ij}$ is the area of patch ij in terms of the number of cells | $0 \leq contig \leq 1$   | The value of metric varies between 0 for a one-pixel patch and 1 for a connected patch (McGarigal and Marks, 1995)                 |
| Fractal dimension index       | $frac = \log \left( \frac{P}{0.5A} \right)$ where P is perimeter and A stands for area  | $1 \leq frac \leq 2$     | The index ranges between 1 for a regular (square) patch and 2 for an irregular (convoluted) patch (Rutledge, 2003)                 |
| Perimeter-area ratio          | $para = \frac{P_{ij}}{A_{ij}}$ where P is perimeter and A stands for area   | $para \geq 0$            | The farther the ratio is from 1, the more the patch deviates from the isodiametric shape (Farina, 2006)                            |
| Related circumscribing circle | $rcc = 1 - \left( \frac{a_{ij}}{a_{ij}^s} \right)$ where $a_{ij}$ is the area ( $m^2$ ) of patch ij, and $a_{ij}^s$ is the area in $m^2$ of the smallest circumscribing circle around patch ij  | $0 \leq rcc \leq 1$      | It varies from 0 for a convoluted patch to 1 for an elongated patch (Rutledge, 2003)   |
| Shape index                   | $shp = \frac{1}{N_i} \sum \frac{L_i}{4\sqrt{A_i}}$ where $N_i$ stands for the number of patches of category i, $L_i$ is the perimeter, and $A_i$ is the area of each patch in a given category.   | $1 \leq shp \leq \infty$ | For a square-shaped patch, the value of the index is equal to 0, but for an irregular shape-patch, it is $\infty$ (Rutledge, 2003) |

Table S6: Statistics of the regression models for predicting the measures of ecological susceptibility using landscape structural metrics

| Type of model                                 | Model No. | Model Variable | Coefficients |            |        |       |        | Collinearity Statistics |           |       |
|---|-----------|----------------|--------------|------------|--------|-------|--------|-------------------------|-----------|-------|
|   |           |                | B            | Std. Error | Beta   | $r^2$ | t      | p-value                 | Tolerance | VIF   |
| Mean landscape metric-based model             | 2         | Cons.          | 103.473      | 29.071     |        |       | 3.559  | 0.001                   |           |       |
|   |           | $DF1_{para}$   | -0.303       | 0.069      | -0.555 | 0.436 | -4.371 | 0.000                   | 0.999     | 1.001 |
|   |           | $DF2_{para}$   | 0.211        | 0.071      | 0.378  |       | 2.973  | 0.005                   | 0.999     | 1.001 |
|   | 3         | Cons           | -545.958     | 348.004    |        |       | -1.569 | 0.126                   |           |       |
|   |           | $DF1_{frac}$   | 1037.45      | 205.649    | 0.614  | 0.515 | 5.045  | 0.000                   | 0.963     | 1.039 |
|   |           | $CF1_{frac}$   | -767.774     | 214.588    | -0.431 |       | -3.578 | 0.001                   | 0.983     | 1.017 |
|   |           | $EF1_{frac}$   | 346.877      | 168.554    | 0.251  |       | 2.058  | 0.047                   | 0.958     | 1.044 |
|   | 4         | Cons           | 273.757      | 46.200     |        |       | 5.925  | 0.000                   |           |       |
|   |           | $R1_{rcc}$     | 100.326      | 28.982     | 0.576  | 0.539 | 3.462  | 0.003                   | 0.979     | 1.021 |
|   |           | $A_{rcc}$      | 192.815      | 62.619     | 0.550  |       | 3.079  | 0.007                   | 0.850     | 1.176 |
|   |           | $BU_{rcc}$     | 136.893      | 61.981     | 0.392  |       | 2.209  | 0.041                   | 0.860     | 1.163 |
|   | 5         | Cons           | 83.309       | 14.036     |        |       | 5.936  | 0.000                   |           |       |
|   |           | $DF1_{contig}$ | 104.295      | 26.276     | 0.464  |       | 3.969  | 0.000                   | 0.938     | 1.066 |
|   |           | $DF2_{contig}$ | -115.890     | 33.170     | -0.404 | 0.577 | -3.494 | 0.001                   | 0.959     | 1.043 |
|   |           | $CF1_{contig}$ | -101.589     | 40.296     | -0.294 |       | -2.521 | 0.017                   | 0.943     | 1.060 |
|   |           | $R1_{contig}$  | 68.822       | 33.821     | 0.235  |       | 2.035  | 0.050                   | 0.957     | 1.045 |
|   | 6         | Cons           | 1.796        | 0.055      |        |       | 32.688 | 0.000                   |           |       |
|   |           | $DF1_{shp}$    | 1.061        | 0.233      | 0.543  |       | 4.557  | 0.000                   | 0.968     | 1.033 |
|   |           | $CF1_{shp}$    | -1.039       | 0.378      | -0.329 | 0.546 | -2.750 | 0.010                   | 0.962     | 1.040 |
|   |           | $EF1_{shp}$    | 0.612        | 0.286      | 0.256  |       | 2.141  | 0.040                   | 0.963     | 1.038 |
|   |           | $OF1_{shp}$    | 0.842        | 0.413      | 0.243  |       | 2.036  | 0.050                   | 0.965     | 1.036 |
| Weighted average landscape metric-based model | 7         | Cons.          | -80.909      | 46.965     |        |       | -1.723 | 0.094                   |           |       |
|   |           | $A_{para}$     | 36.703       | 12.689     | 0.425  | 0.396 | 2.893  | 0.007                   | 0.802     | 1.248 |
|   |           | $BU_{para}$    | 48.103       | 22.610     | 0.312  |       | 2.128  | 0.040                   | 0.802     | 1.248 |
|   | 8         | Cons.          | 499.865      | 67.993     |        |       | 7.352  | 0.000                   |           |       |
|   |           | $BU_{frac}$    | -200.070     | 87.561     | -0.388 | 0.502 | -2.285 | 0.028                   | 0.495     | 2.022 |
|   |           | $A_{frac}$     | -159.793     | 71.694     | -0.378 |       | -2.229 | 0.032                   | 0.495     | 2.022 |
|   | 9         | Cons.          | 2.425        | 0.136      |        |       | 17.847 | 0.000                   |           |       |
|   |           | $OF1_{rcc}$    | 1.415        | 0.517      | 0.489  | 0.433 | 2.736  | 0.014                   | 0.985     | 1.015 |
|   |           | $A_{rcc}$      | 0.987        | 0.459      | 0.385  |       | 2.151  | 0.045                   | 0.985     | 1.015 |
|   | 10        | Cons.          | 90.753       | 13.301     |        |       | 6.823  | 0.000                   |           |       |
|   |           | $R1_{contig}$  | 62.645       | 14.600     | 0.648  | 0.590 | 4.291  | 0.000                   | 1.000     | 1.000 |
|   |           | $BU_{contig}$  | -93.749      | 35.084     | -0.403 |       | -2.672 | 0.016                   | 1.000     | 1.000 |
|   | 11        | Cons.          | 161.538      | 13.108     |        |       | 12.324 | 0.000                   |           |       |
|   |           | $A_{shp}$      | -7.755       | 1.225      | -0.706 | 0.565 | -6.333 | 0.000                   | 0.999     | 1.001 |
|   |           | $CF1_{shp}$    | -21.226      | 8.656      | -0.274 |       | -2.452 | 0.019                   | 0.999     | 1.001 |
| Median landscape metric-based model           | 12        | Cons.          | 128.584      | 252.594    |        |       | 0.509  | 0.614                   |           |       |
|   |           | $DF1_{para}$   | -79.400      | 23.465     | -0.401 |       | -3.384 | 0.002                   | 0.979     | 1.022 |
|   |           | $DF2_{para}$   | 188.424      | 45.388     | 0.502  | 0.547 | 4.151  | 0.000                   | 0.940     | 1.064 |
|   |           | $OF1_{para}$   | -244.609     | 80.272     | -0.366 |       | -3.047 | 0.005                   | 0.951     | 1.052 |
|   |           | $CF1_{para}$   | 116.635      | 49.817     | 0.279  |       | 2.341  | 0.025                   | 0.966     | 1.036 |
|   | 13        | Cons.          | -1905.395    | 546.501    |        |       | -3.487 | 0.001                   |           |       |
|   |           | $CF1_{frac}$   | -803.618     | 188.691    | -0.457 |       | -4.259 | 0.000                   | 0.974     | 1.026 |
|   |           | $S_{frac}$     | 1456.622     | 374.745    | 0.420  |       | 3.887  | 0.000                   | 0.961     | 1.041 |
|   |           | $DF1_{frac}$   | 480.866      | 147.785    | 0.359  | 0.641 | 3.254  | 0.003                   | 0.920     | 1.087 |
|   |           | $R1_{frac}$    | 527.542      | 195.825    | 0.295  |       | 2.694  | 0.011                   | 0.934     | 1.071 |
|   | 14        | Cons.          | 322.194      | 153.208    | 0.234  |       | 2.103  | 0.043                   | 0.909     | 1.101 |
|   |           | $OF1_{rcc}$    | 1.791        | 0.080      |        |       | 22.433 | 0.000                   |           |       |
|   |           | $DF1_{rcc}$    | 0.543        | 0.171      | 0.480  | 0.264 | 3.176  | 0.003                   | 0.922     | 1.085 |
|   |           | $DF2_{rcc}$    | -0.196       | 0.082      | -0.362 |       | -2.394 | 0.022                   | 0.922     | 1.085 |
|   | 15        | Cons.          | 72.326       | 13.648     |        |       | 5.299  | 0.000                   |           |       |
|   |           | $DF1_{contig}$ | 64.868       | 18.017     | 0.411  |       | 3.600  | 0.001                   | 0.974     | 1.027 |
|   |           | $CF1_{contig}$ | -91.686      | 33.782     | -0.316 | 0.581 | -2.714 | 0.010                   | 0.936     | 1.069 |
|   |           | $DF2_{contig}$ | -135.672     | 32.623     | -0.492 |       | -4.159 | 0.000                   | 0.908     | 1.101 |
|   | 16        | Cons.          | 215.146      | 64.145     | 0.391  |       | 3.354  | 0.002                   | 0.933     | 1.072 |
|   |           | $OF1_{contig}$ | 97.351       | 4.247      |        |       | 22.920 | 0.000                   |           |       |
|   |           | $DF2_{shp}$    | 164.099      | 56.284     | 0.375  | 0.475 | 2.916  | 0.006                   | 0.933     | 1.071 |
|   |           | $CF1_{shp}$    | -407.997     | 113.219    | -0.449 |       | -3.604 | 0.001                   | 0.995     | 1.005 |
|   |           | $A_{shp}$      | 280.870      | 134.625    | 0.268  |       | 2.086  | 0.045                   | 0.935     | 1.070 |

Table S7: Results of the inter-model comparison for the mean, weighted average, and median landscape metric-based models

| Type of model                                 | Model no. | RSS     | Log (RSS/n) | 2 K | K+1 | n-K-1 | AIC      | $\Delta j$ | $\text{EXP}(-0.5 * \Delta j)$ | Wi       |
|---|-----------|---------|-------------|-----|-----|-------|----------|------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| Mean landscape metric-based model             | 2         | 1.4244  | -1.4262     | 6   | 4   | 34    | -47.4880 | 20.8974    | 2.90E-05                      | 2.90E-05 |
|   | 3         | 1.3910  | -1.4365     | 8   | 5   | 33    | -45.3737 | 23.0117    | 1.01E-05                      | 1.01E-05 |
|   | 4         | 30.3139 | -0.0981     | 8   | 5   | 33    | 5.4827   | 73.8681    | 9.11E-17                      | 9.11E-17 |
|   | 5         | 95.2459 | 0.3991      | 10  | 6   | 32    | 27.0394  | 95.4248    | 1.90E-21                      | 1.90E-21 |
|   | 6*        | 0.2935  | -2.1121     | 10  | 6   | 32    | -68.3854 | 0.0000     | 1.00E+00                      | 1.00E+00 |
| Weighted average landscape metric-based model | 7         | 0.4258  | -1.9505     | 6   | 4   | 34    | -67.4143 | 7.1991     | 2.73E-02                      | 2.20E-02 |
|   | 8         | 0.3313  | -2.0596     | 6   | 4   | 34    | -71.5583 | 3.0551     | 2.17E-01                      | 1.74E-01 |
|   | 9         | 1.4031  | -1.4327     | 6   | 4   | 34    | -47.7361 | 26.8773    | 1.46E-06                      | 1.17E-06 |
|   | 10        | 34.8924 | -0.0371     | 6   | 4   | 34    | 5.2979   | 79.9113    | 4.44E-18                      | 3.57E-18 |
|   | 11**      | 0.2753  | -2.1400     | 6   | 4   | 34    | -74.6134 | 0.0000     | 1.00E+00                      | 8.04E-01 |
| Median landscape metric-based model           | 12        | 1.3394  | -1.4529     | 10  | 6   | 32    | -43.3338 | 26.7425    | 1.56E-06                      | 1.25E-06 |
|   | 13        | 0.2823  | -2.1290     | 12  | 7   | 31    | -66.1930 | 3.8833     | 1.43E-01                      | 1.15E-01 |
|   | 14        | 0.4785  | -1.8999     | 6   | 4   | 34    | -65.4913 | 4.5850     | 1.01E-01                      | 8.12E-02 |
|   | 15***     | 0.2650  | -2.1566     | 10  | 6   | 32    | -70.0763 | 0.0000     | 1.00E+00                      | 8.04E-01 |
|   | 16        | 1.4639  | -1.4143     | 8   | 5   | 33    | -44.5306 | 25.5457    | 2.84E-06                      | 2.28E-06 |

\* The most appropriate model for group 1

\*\* The most appropriate model for group 2

\*\*\* The most appropriate model for group 3

Table S8: *A priori* and *posterior* statistics of the independent variables of the candidate models

| Analysis stage                           | Statistics | Mean landscape metric-based model |                    |                    |                    | Weighted average landscape metric-based model |                    | Median landscape metric-based model |                       |                       |                       |
|--|------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|  |            | DF1 <sub>shp</sub>                | CF1 <sub>shp</sub> | EF1 <sub>shp</sub> | OF1 <sub>shp</sub> | A <sub>shp</sub>                              | CF1 <sub>shp</sub> | DF1 <sub>contig</sub>               | CF1 <sub>contig</sub> | DF2 <sub>contig</sub> | OF1 <sub>contig</sub> |
| <i>A priori</i> statistics <sup>1</sup>  | Min.       | 1.0477                            | 1.0000             | 1.0000             | 1.0476             | 1.0000  | 1.0000             | 0.0000                              | 0.0000                | 0.0000                | 0.0000                |
|  | Max.       | 2.0779                            | 1.5533             | 1.5714             | 1.5587             | 9.8350  | 2.3154             | 0.6961                              | 0.2778                | 0.2917                | 0.2847                |
|  | Mean       | 1.3739                            | 1.1352             | 1.1286             | 1.2412             | 4.0367  | 1.3462             | 0.3107                              | 0.1225                | 0.1078                | 0.1629                |
|  | S.D.       | 0.2259                            | 0.1150             | 0.1558             | 0.1118             | 2.4686  | 0.3492             | 0.1718                              | 0.0935                | 0.0983                | 0.0493                |
|  | Variance   | 0.0510                            | 0.0132             | 0.0243             | 0.0125             | 6.0939  | 0.1220             | 0.0295                              | 0.0087                | 0.0097                | 0.0024                |
| <i>Posterior</i> statistics <sup>2</sup> | Min.       | 0.5857                            | 0.8334             | 0.9774             | 0.8604             | 1.2018  | 0.7882             | -0.1423                             | -0.0312               | -0.0326               | -0.0326               |
|  | Max.       | 6.2583                            | 1.6506             | 3.2429             | 1.7085             | 9.7074  | 7.9927             | 1.2057                              | 0.2651                | 0.2835                | 0.2835                |
|  | Mean       | 1.3735                            | 1.1354             | 1.1294             | 1.2379             | 4.0557  | 1.3440             | 0.3108                              | 0.1226                | 0.1066                | 0.1066                |
|  | S.D.       | 0.2460                            | 0.1065             | 0.1760             | 0.1119             | 2.5012  | 0.4173             | 0.1763                              | 0.0936                | 0.0980                | 0.0980                |
|  | Variance   | 0.0605                            | 0.0113             | 0.0310             | 0.0125             | 6.2560  | 0.1741             | 0.0311                              | 0.0088                | 0.0096                | 0.0096                |

<sup>1</sup>No. of observation=38.

<sup>2</sup>No. of observation=15,000.

Table S9: *A priori* and *posterior* statistics of the Y variables of the candidate model.

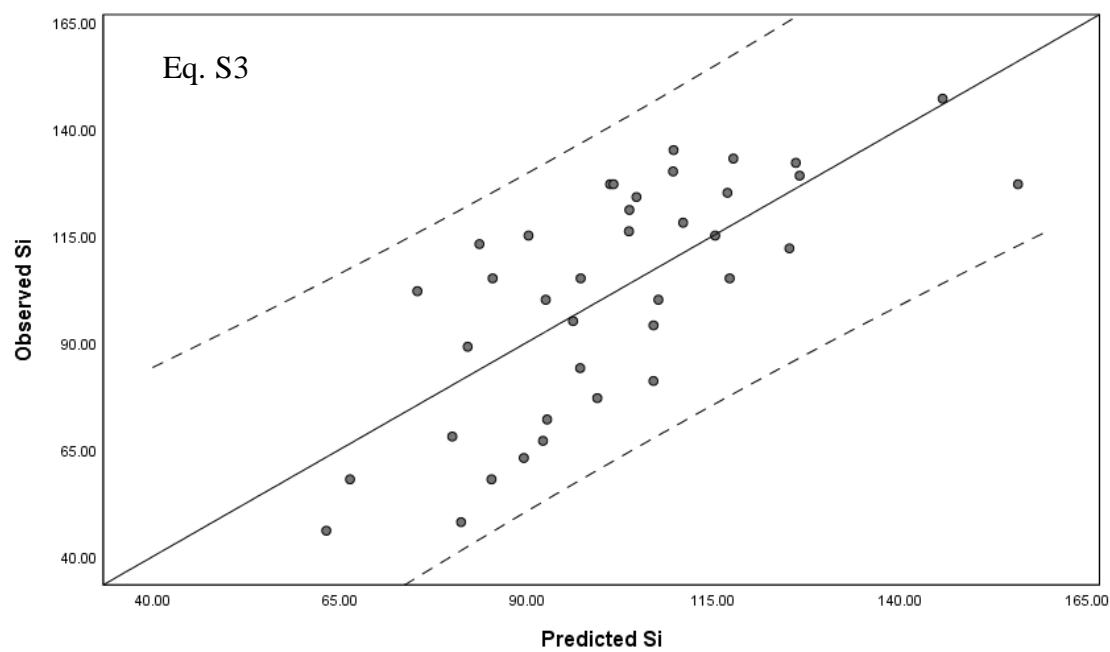
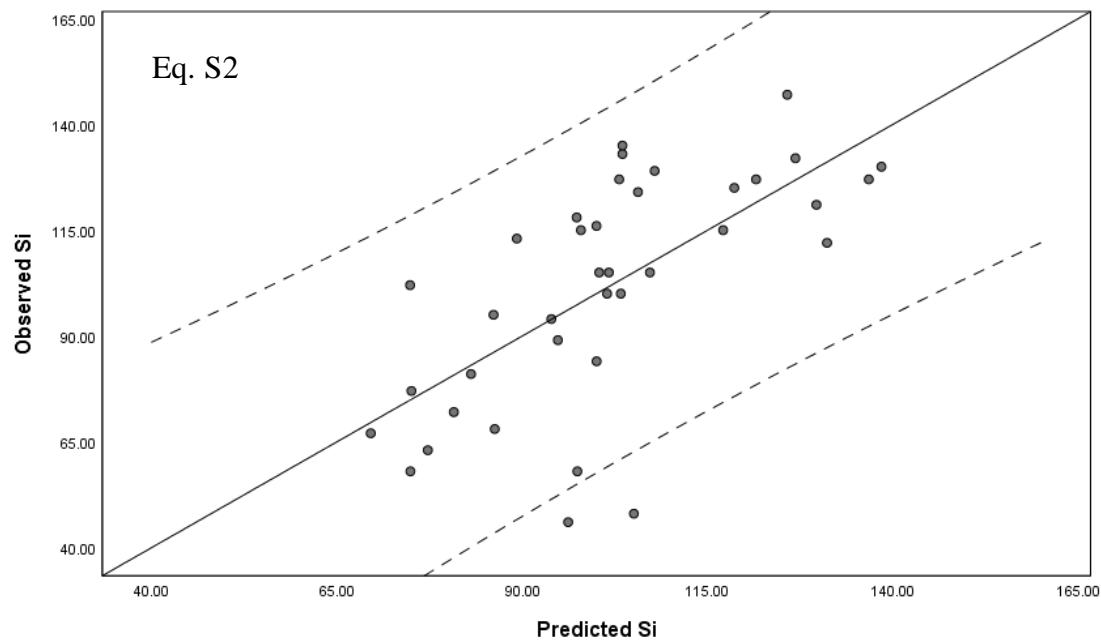
| Statistics | A priori<br>statistics | Posterior Statistics                               |                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |   |                                    |                                      |                               |  |   |   |   |  |  |
|------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|---|---|--|--|
|            |                        | Mean landscape metrics-based model                 |                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | Weighted mean landscape metrics-based<br>model        |                                    |                                      |                               | Median landscape metrics-based model               |   |   |   |  |  |
|            |                        | Y <sub>sim</sub>  Change in target variable for SA |                               |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      | Y <sub>sim</sub>  Change in target<br>variable for SA |                                    |                                      |                               | Y <sub>sim</sub>  Change in target variable for SA |   |   |   |  |  |
|            |                        | Y <sub>obs</sub> <sup>1</sup>                      | Y <sub>sim</sub> <sup>2</sup> | Y <sub>sim</sub>  DF1 <sub>shp</sub> | Y <sub>sim</sub>  CF1 <sub>shp</sub> | Y <sub>sim</sub>  EF1 <sub>shp</sub> | Y <sub>sim</sub>  OF1 <sub>shp</sub> | Y <sub>sim</sub> <sup>2</sup>                         | Y <sub>sim</sub>  A <sub>shp</sub> | Y <sub>sim</sub>  CF1 <sub>shp</sub> | Y <sub>sim</sub> <sup>2</sup> | Y <sub>sim</sub>  DF1 <sub>contig</sub>            | Y <sub>sim</sub>  CF1 <sub>contig</sub> | Y <sub>sim</sub>  DF2 <sub>contig</sub> | Y <sub>sim</sub>  OF1 <sub>contig</sub> |  |  |
| Min.       | 46.0000                | 27.6574  | 40.1243                       | 67.2021                              | 90.7948                              | 72.8338                              | -31.1516                             | 57.6832   | -39.4189                           | 35.7142                              | 72.2685                       | 88.5849  | 77.8220                                 | 86.0609                                 |   |  |  |
| Max.       | 147.0000               | 610.0575   | 495.4196                      | 136.7039                             | 189.1619                             | 129.7619                             | 135.1566                             | 123.6436  | 113.5032                           | 525.2236                             | 159.7162                      | 115.7552   | 120.7103                                | 526.8301                                |   |  |  |
| Mean       | 101.6579               | 99.6678  | 99.2155                       | 100.0519                             | 98.9469                              | 98.8811                              | 101.5588                             | 101.5119  | 101.7064                           | 107.3213                             | 101.6649                      | 101.6537   | 101.8231                                | 107.1539                                |   |  |  |
| S.D.       | 27.1017                | 24.8117  | 19.0106                       | 9.6954                               | 8.8584                               | 7.5278                               | 21.2864                              | 19.3967   | 8.8570                             | 26.0066                              | 11.4392                       | 8.5823   | 13.2962                                 | 17.2131                                 |   |  |  |
| Variance   | 734.5014               | 615.6210   | 361.4023                      | 94.0017                              | 78.4713                              | 56.6674                              | 453.1099                             | 376.2333  | 78.4461                            | 676.3435                             | 130.8548                      | 73.6558  | 176.7882                                | 296.2891                                |   |  |  |

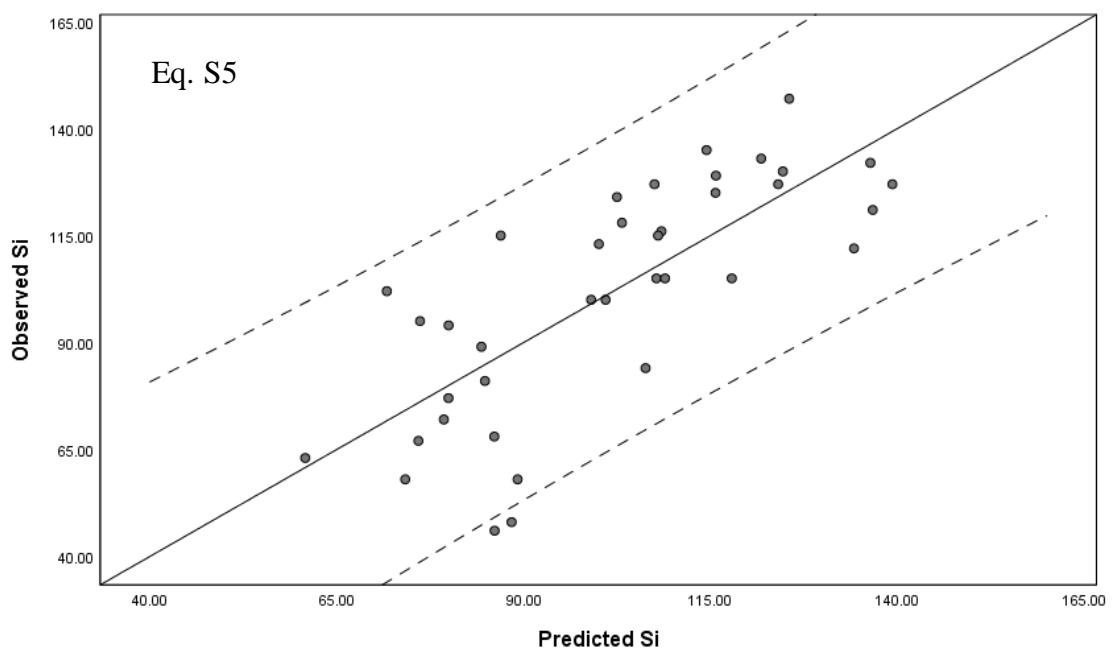
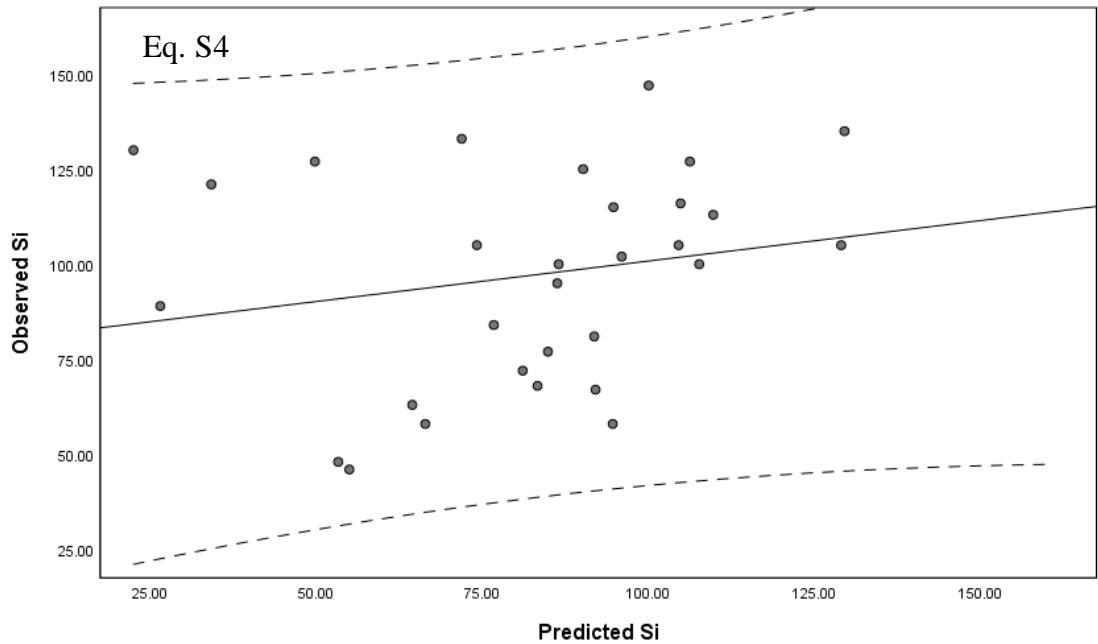
<sup>1</sup>No. of observation=38.

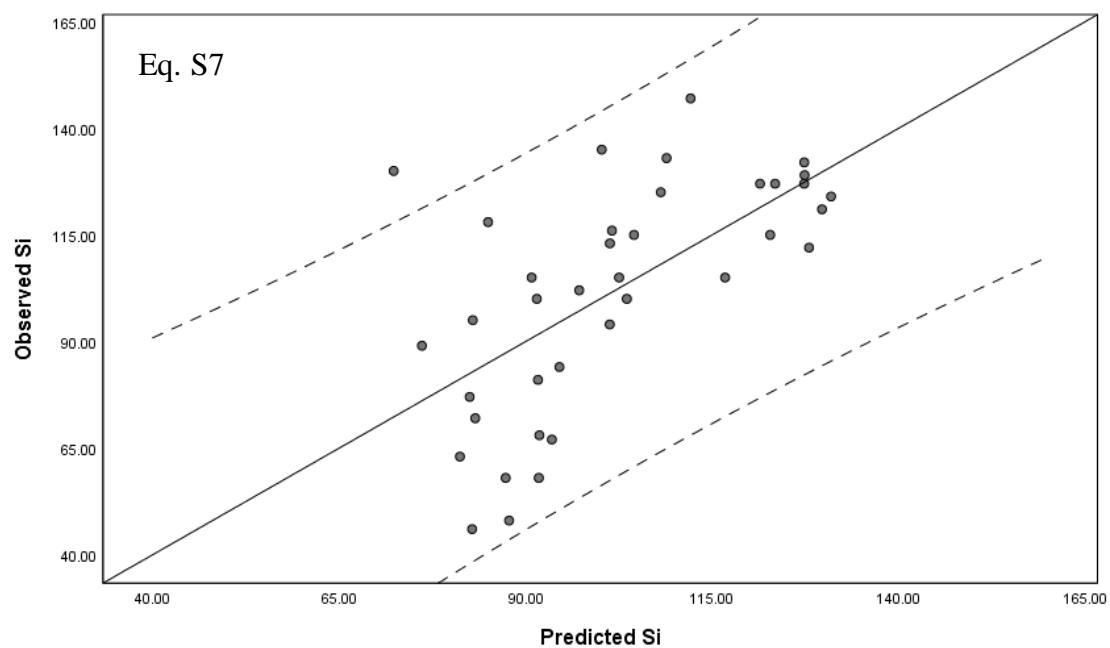
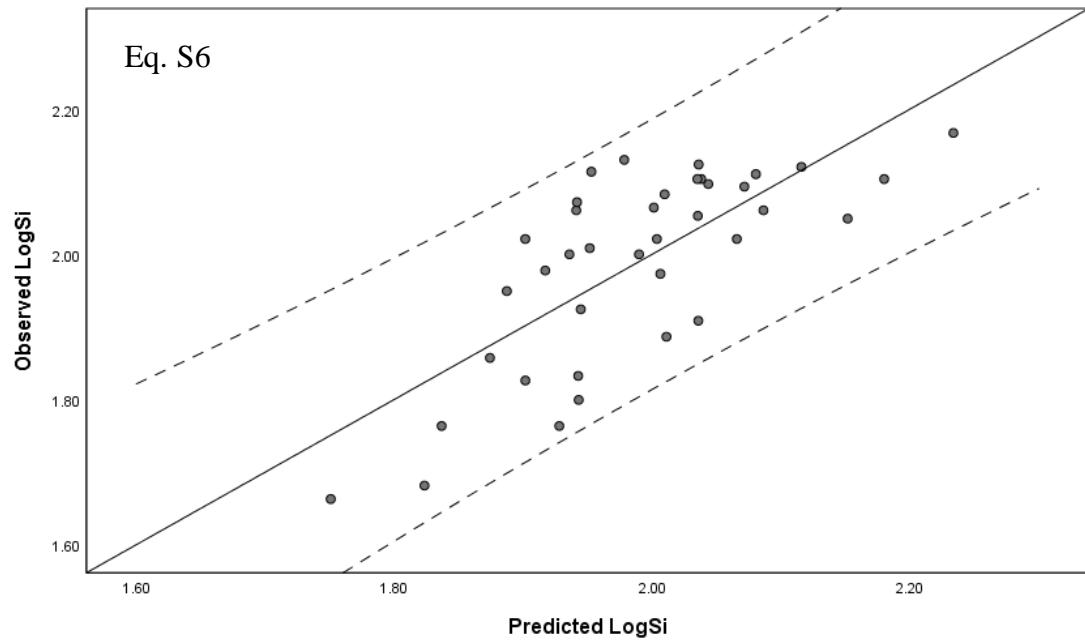
<sup>2</sup>No. of observation=15,000.

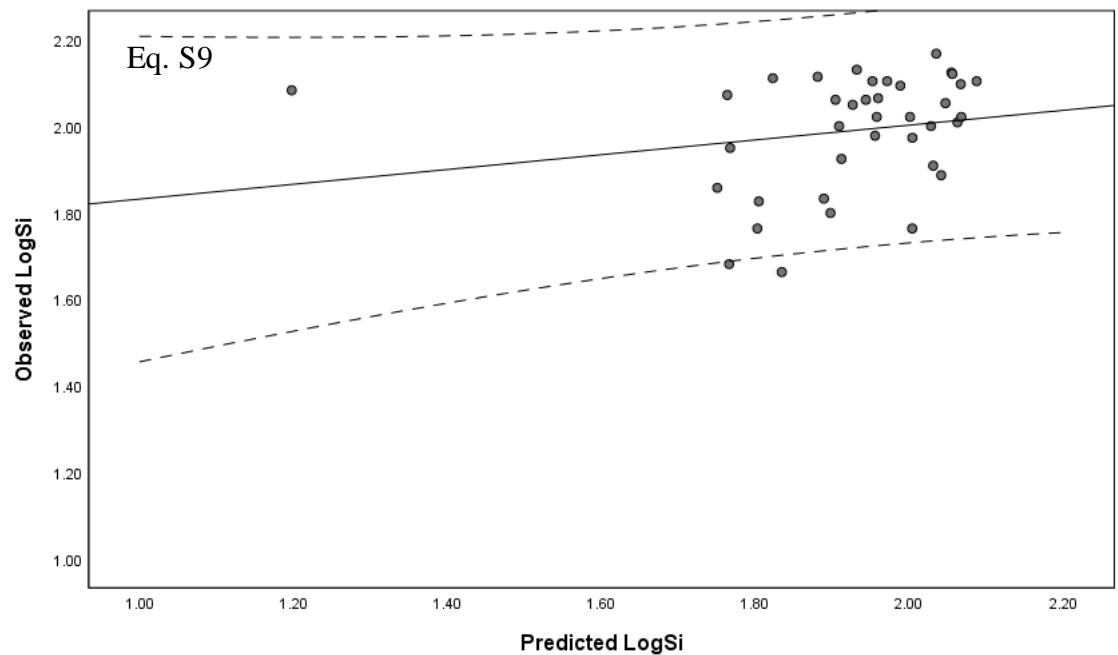
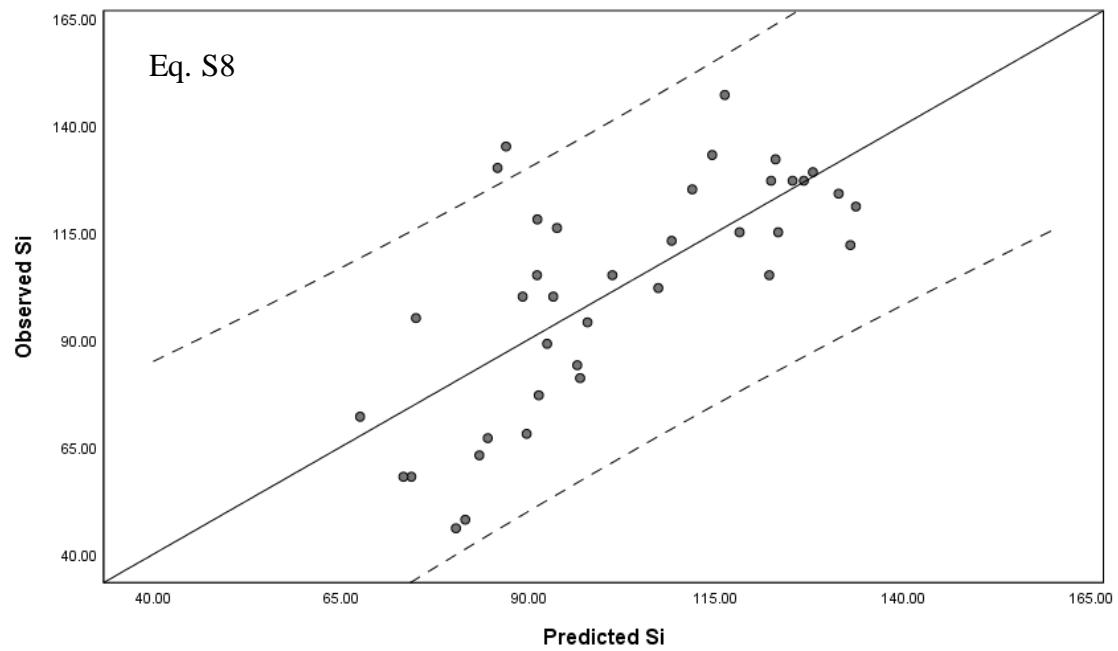
Table S10: Results of statistical distribution fitting to the candidate models.

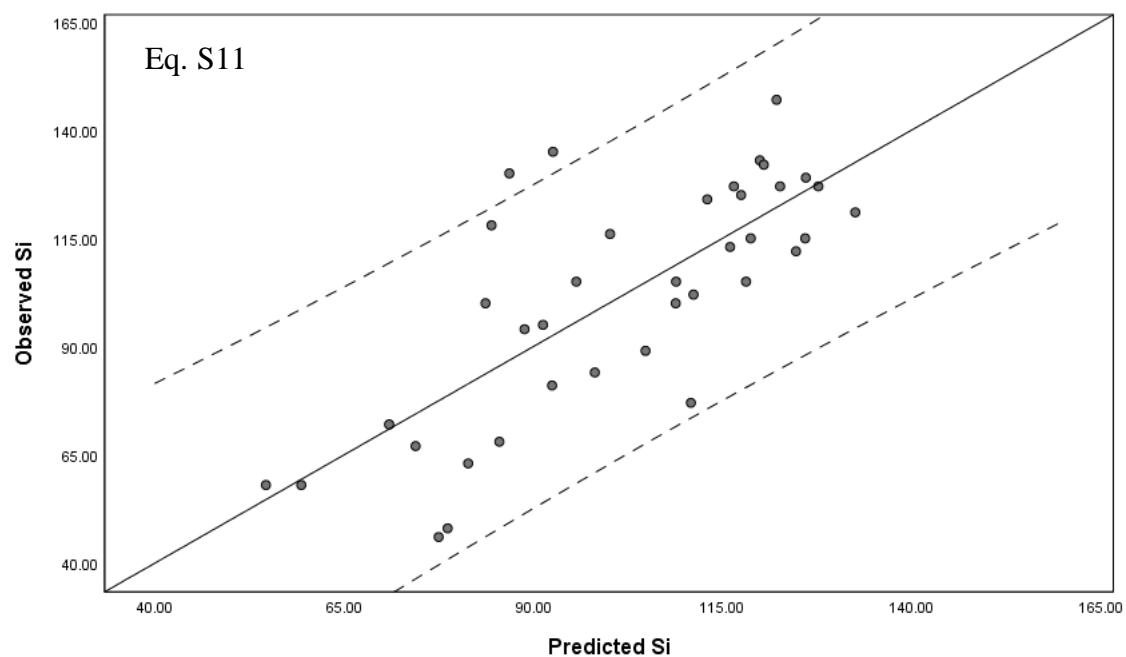
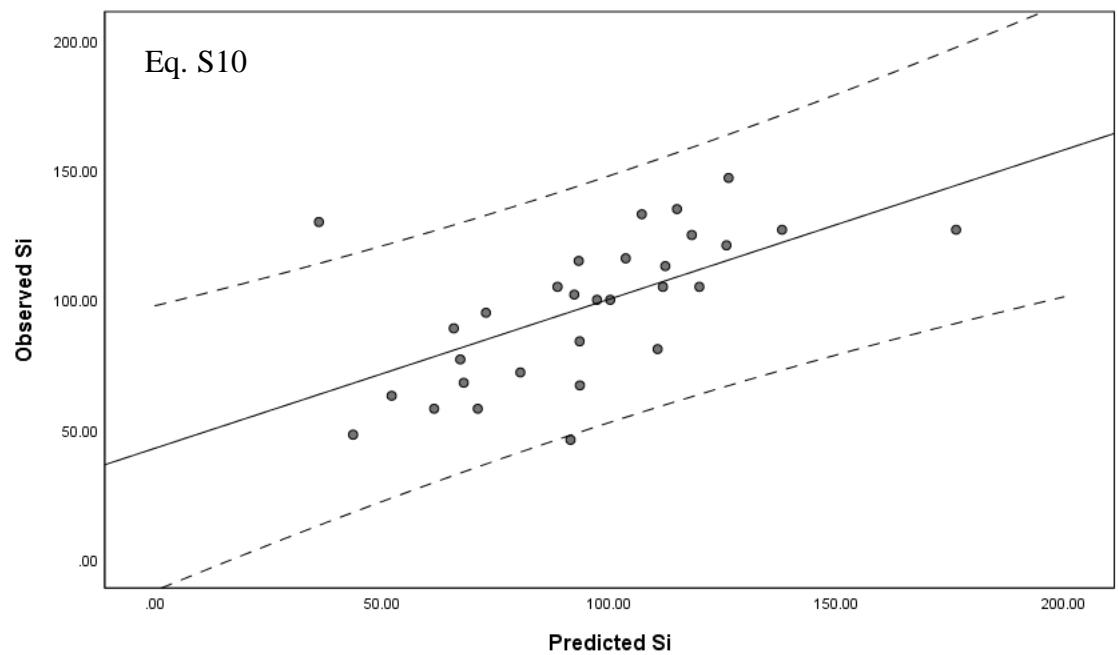
| Type  | Analysis stage            | Model variable        | Statistical distribution | Kolmogorov Smirnov |           | Statistical parameters   | Sample Size |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------|--|-------------|
|   |                           |                       |                          | Statistics         | P-value   |  |             |
| Mean Landscape Metric-based Model             | <i>A prior</i> statistics | DF1 <sub>shp</sub>    | Burr                     | 0.05589            | 0.99928   | $k = 0.48705$<br>$\alpha = 16.003$<br>$\beta = 1.2385$<br>$\gamma = 0$<br>$\alpha = 112.85$  | 38          |
|   |                           | CF1 <sub>shp</sub>    | Pearson 5                | 0.09571            | 0.84462   | $\beta = 126.95$<br>$\gamma = 0$<br>$\alpha = 0$<br>$\beta = 0$  |             |
|   |                           | EF1 <sub>shp</sub>    | Wakeby                   | 0.161              | 0.25001   | $\gamma = 0.13307$<br>$\delta = 0.12005$<br>$\xi = 0.97739$<br>$m = 123$   |             |
|   |                           | OF1 <sub>shp</sub>    | Erlang                   | 0.06733            | 0.99072   | $\beta = 0.01007$<br>$\gamma = 0$<br>$\gamma = -0.53444$<br>$\delta = 0.7108$<br>$\lambda = 109.55$<br>$\xi = 32.205$  |             |
|   |                           | Y <sub>obs.</sub>     | Johnson SB               | 0.06191            | 0.99671   | $\alpha = 5.6691$<br>$\beta = 69.257$<br>$\gamma = 26.552$   |             |
|   | Posterior statistics      | Y <sub>sim</sub>      | Log-Logistic (3P)        | 0.00852            | 0.2251    |  | 15000       |
| Weighted Average Landscape Metric-based Model | <i>A prior</i> statistics | A <sub>shp</sub>      | Wakeby                   | 0.08257            | 0.93892   | $\alpha = -35.719$<br>$\beta = 1.5001$<br>$\gamma = 36.413$<br>$\delta = -1.1267$<br>$\xi = 1.2018$<br>$k = 0.32446$   | 38          |
|   |                           | CF1 <sub>shp</sub>    | Gen. Logistic            | 0.09409            | 0.85846   | $\sigma = 0.15977$<br>$\mu = 1.2522$<br>$\alpha = 168.9$<br>$\beta = 6.0194$<br>$\gamma = 60.957$<br>$\delta = -1.1706$<br>$\xi = 49.413$  |             |
|   |                           | Y <sub>sim</sub>      | Wakeby                   | 0.02218            | 7.5830E-7 |  | 15000       |
|   | Posterior statistics      |                       |                          |                    |           |  |             |
| Median Landscape Metric-based Model           | <i>A prior</i> statistics | DF1 <sub>contig</sub> | Gen. Extreme Value       | 0.1325             | 0.47691   | $k = -0.07974$<br>$\sigma = 0.15034$<br>$\mu = 0.23501$<br>$\gamma = -0.0622$<br>$\delta = 0.49423$<br>$\lambda = 0.29647$<br>$\xi = -0.03133$<br>$\gamma = 0.18583$<br>$\delta = 0.50329$<br>$\lambda = 0.31643$<br>$\xi = -0.03269$<br>$\alpha = 4.0584$ | 38          |
|   |                           | CF1 <sub>contig</sub> | Johnson SB               | 0.13184            | 0.48323   |  |             |
|   |                           | DF2 <sub>contig</sub> | Johnson SB               | 0.18484            | 0.131     |  |             |
|   |                           | OF1 <sub>contig</sub> | Frechet                  | 0.43892            | 4.5019E-7 | $\beta = 0.15424$<br>$\gamma = 0$<br>$k = 1.4293$<br>$\alpha = 6.8421$<br>$\beta = 113.02$<br>$\gamma = 0$   |             |
|   | Posterior statistics      | Y <sub>sim</sub>      | Burr                     | 0.01078            | 0.06087   |  | 15000       |

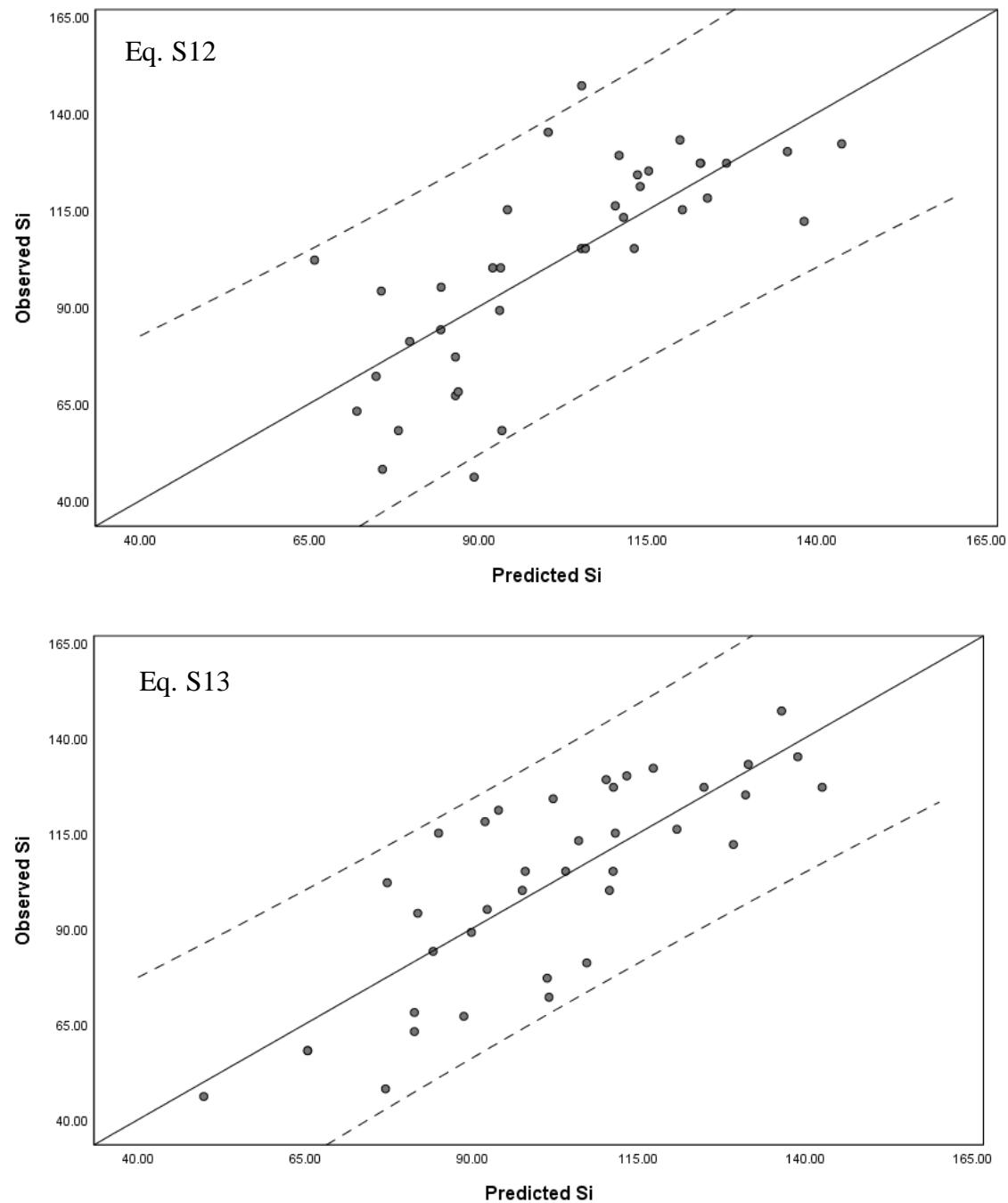


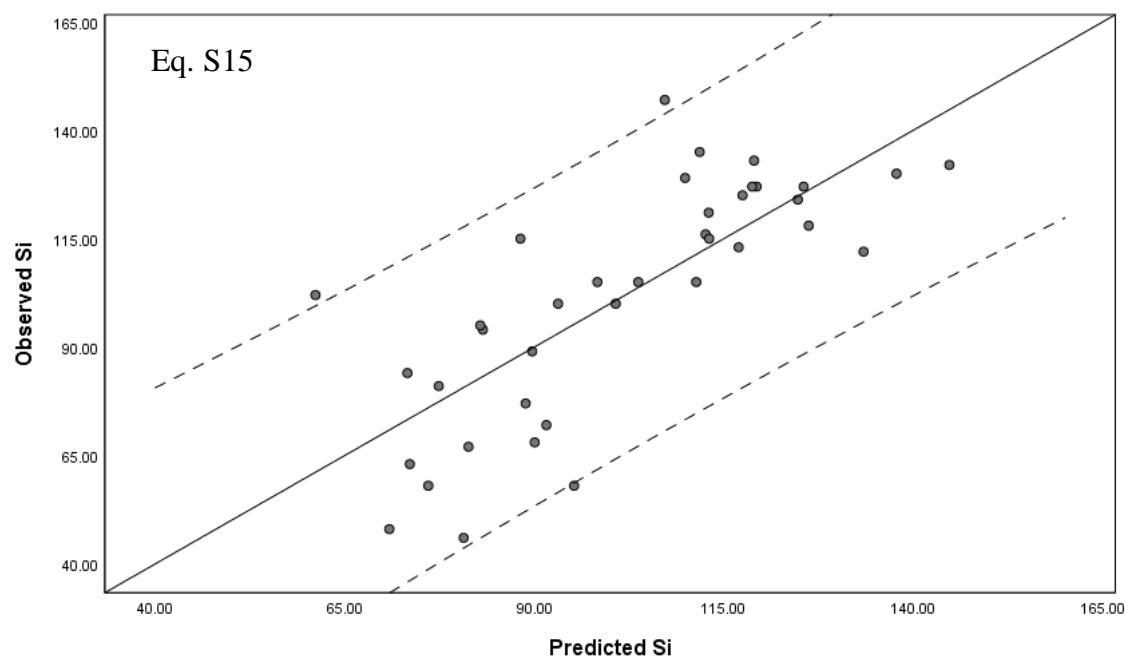
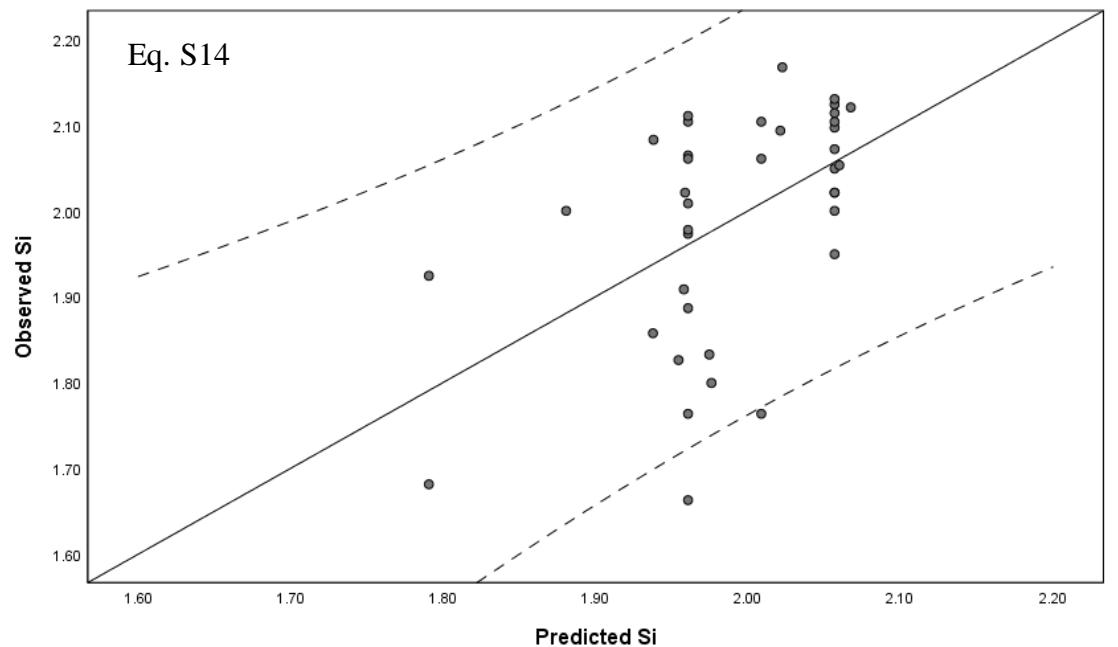












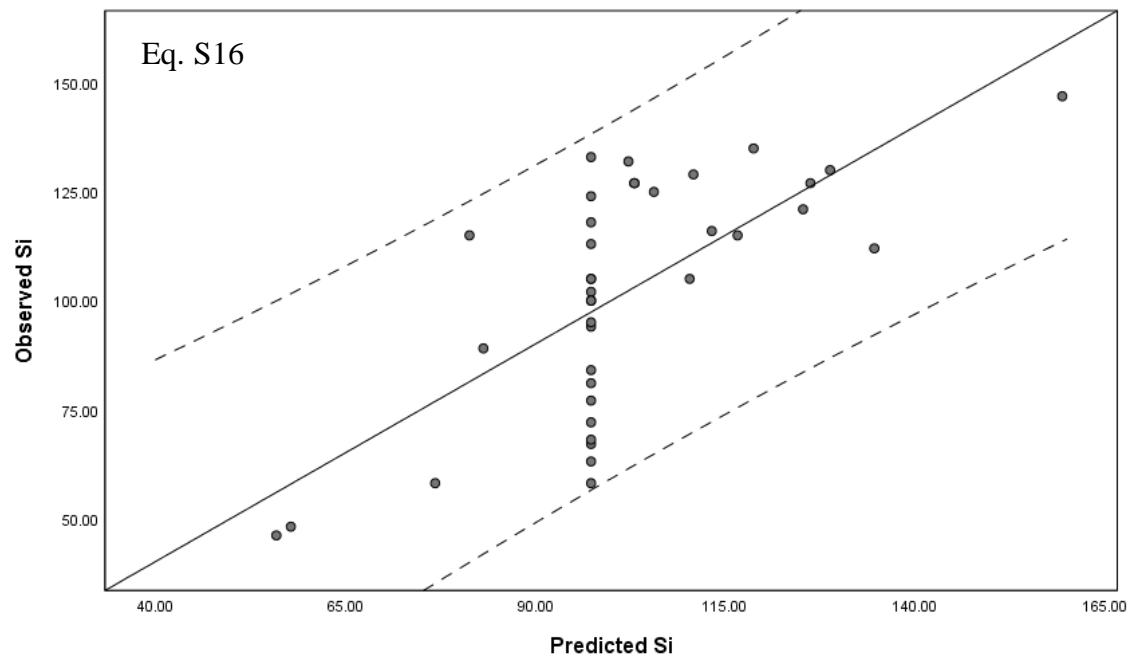
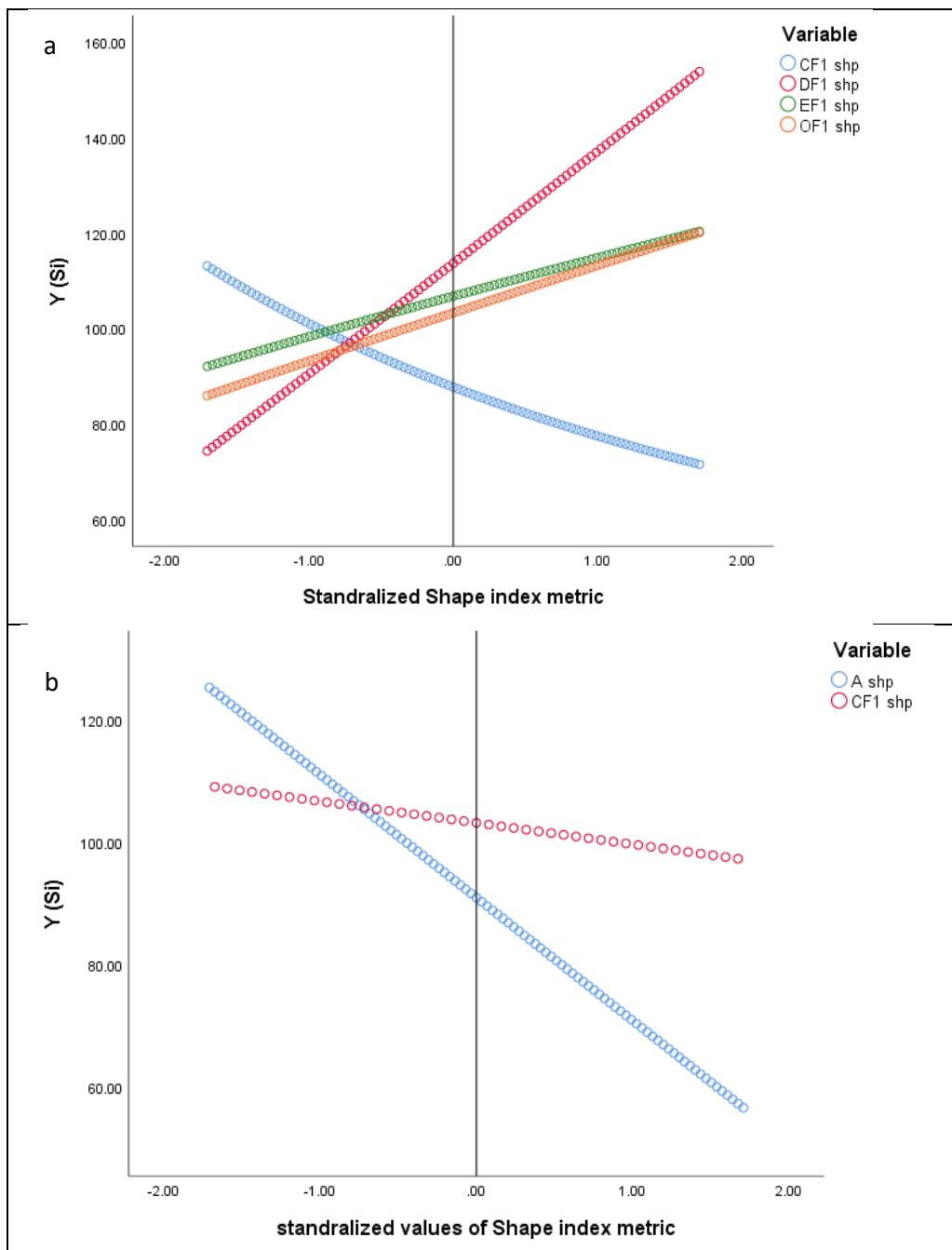


Figure S3: The predicted values to the observed measures of ecological susceptibility prediction models using different landscape metrics.



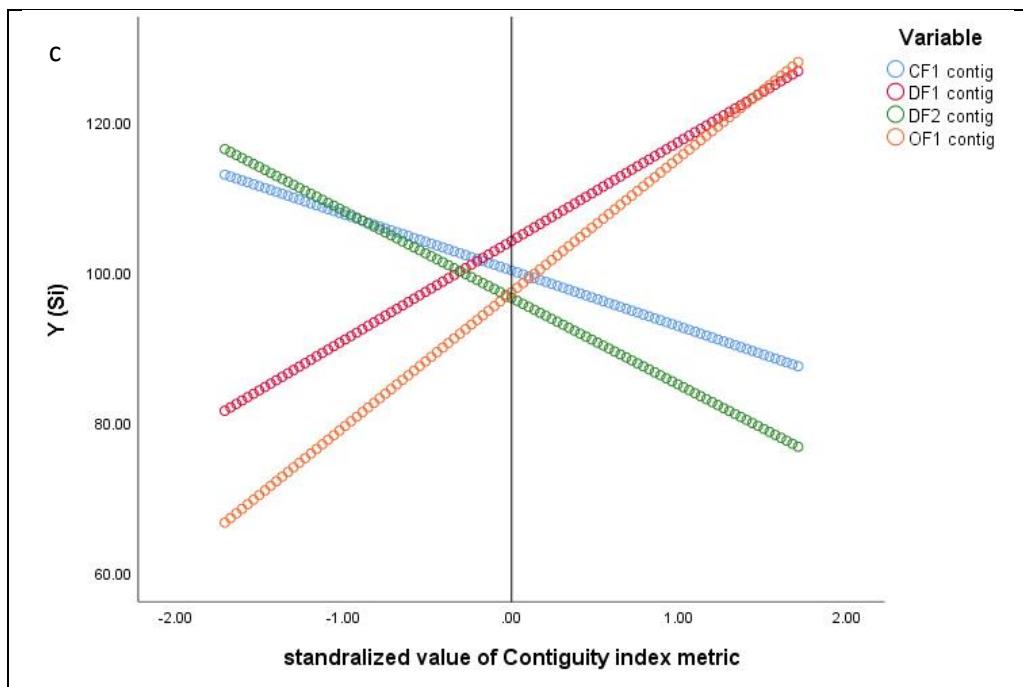
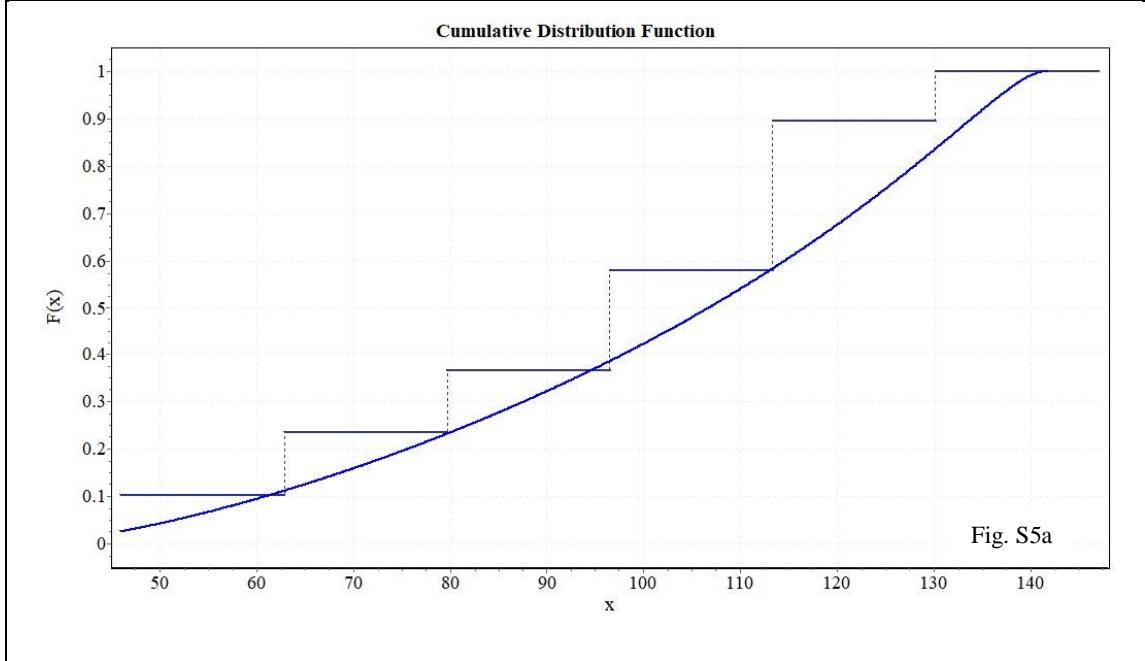
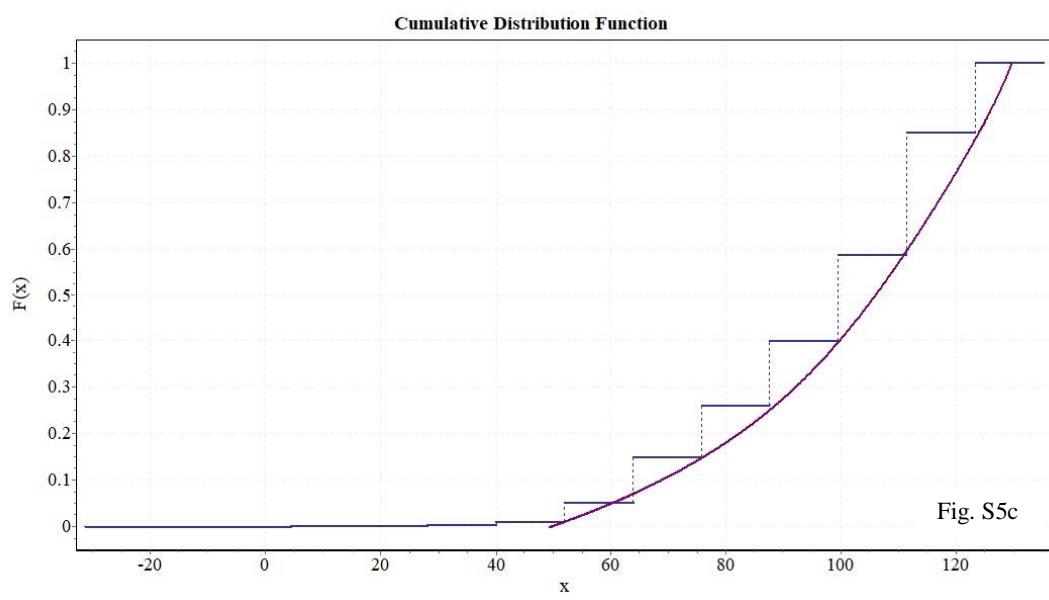
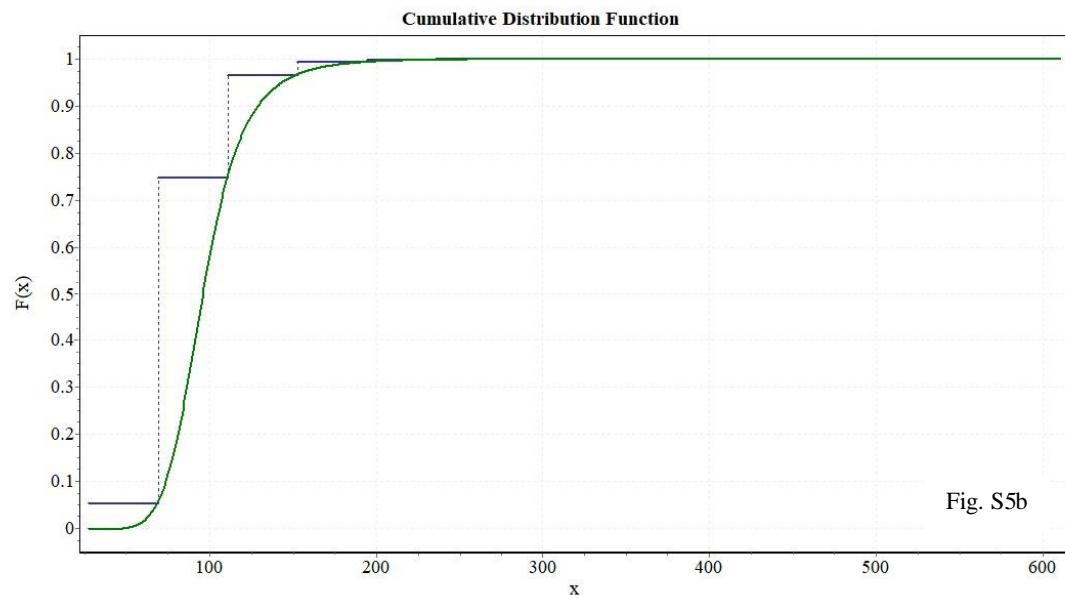


Figure S4: The scatter plots of the measures of independent variables versus the standaralized values of the models' responses (a. mean model, b. weighted mean model, and c. median model).





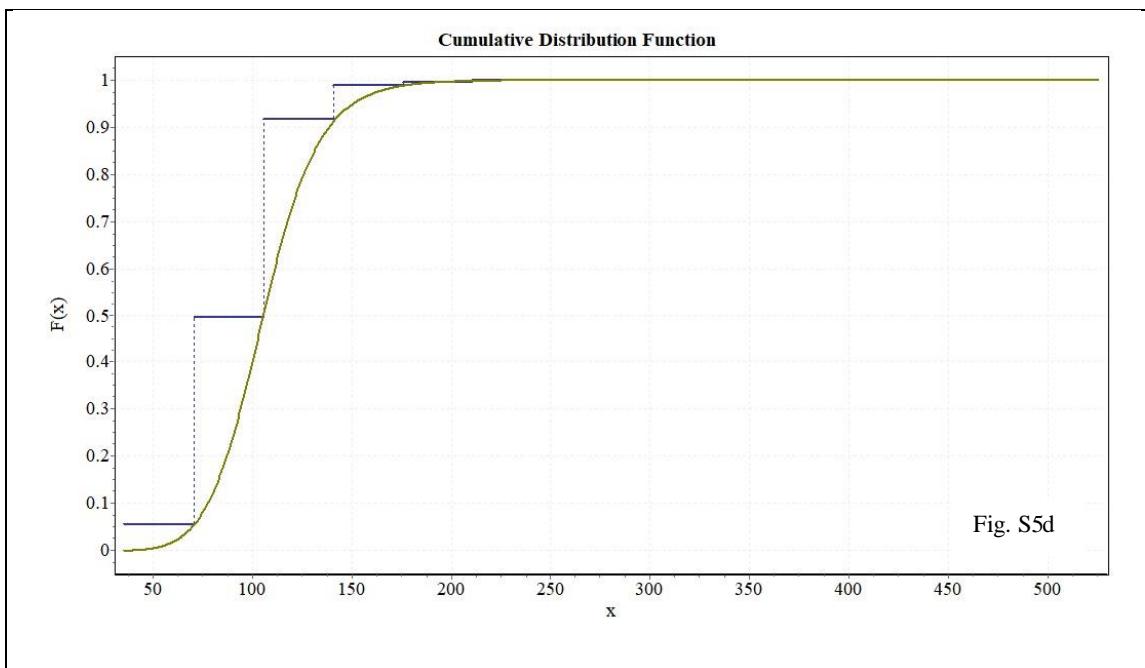


Figure S5: Cumulative distribution function for the observed measures of ecological susceptibility (a), and the simulated measures of the mean (b), weighted average (c), and median (d) landscape metric-based models.