

OSL Analyses

SAMPLE PREPARATION

Samples were prepared using standard OSL procedures. Material was desiccated at 50 °C to enable calculation of water content, and then sieved to extract the 180–212 µm grain size fraction. Approximately 10 g of the 180–212 µm grain size fraction was treated with 30% HCl for 30 min to remove CaCO₃. Samples were agitated throughout the treatment, and once complete, HCl was replaced with 30% H₂O₂ to remove organic material. The duration of H₂O₂ treatment varied between samples, dependent upon the amount of organic material present, and two H₂O₂ treatments were necessary for some samples with a high organic content. Once effervescence ceased, the H₂O₂ was decanted, the sample was washed four times with deionised water and desiccated at 50 °C. Quartz is extracted from polymineral sediment residues through density separations using LST fastfloat (sodium heteropolytungstate dissolved in deionized water). Heavy minerals (>2.68 g cm⁻³) were separated from the lighter fraction, and the target 2.58–2.68 g cm⁻³ fraction was further separated from the <2.58 g cm⁻³ material. The target fraction was washed five times with deionised water to ensure removal of all LST. Final separates were dried and etched with 40% HF for 40 min to remove any contaminating feldspar; all samples were agitated at 5 min intervals throughout treatment. The etched quartz was treated with 30% HCl for 30 min to remove any carbonates produced during HF etching.

LUMINESCENCE MEASUREMENTS

All analyses were carried out using either a TL-DA-15 or TL-DA-20 Risø reader, equipped with an EMI 9235QA photomultiplier and 7.5 mm Hoya U-340 filter. Blue (470 ± 20 nm) and infrared (~870 nm) diodes operated at 90% and 40% power, respectively, were used for stimulation and irradiation was achieved using a ⁹⁰Sr/⁹⁰Y beta source. Readers were calibrated using quartz prepared at the Risø National Laboratory in Denmark. Quartz was applied to stainless steel discs (10 mm Ø, 1 mm thick) using silicon grease and the aliquot size was regulated using a small (2 mm Ø, ~35 grain) mask.

Samples were analyzed using the single aliquot regenerative dose (SAR) protocol (Murray and Wintle, 2000). The equivalent dose (D_e) was calculated from measurements of the luminescence response following stimulation of the natural luminescence (L_n) and a series of different regenerative doses (L_x) (Table DR1). The L_n and L_x measurements are normalized by measurement of the luminescence response (T_x) to a constant test dose (T_D). The ratio L_x/T_x is used to compensate for sensitivity changes of the quartz throughout analysis and L_n/T_x measurements are used to obtain a range of values which bracket L_n/T_x , allowing D_e interpolation with minimal associated errors (Banerjee et al., 2000).

The sample is heated prior to making the luminescence measurements in order to reduce the contribution of luminescence from unstable trap, which cause erroneous dose determinations. The temperature of the pre- L_x pre-heat (PH1) and the pre- T_x pre-heat (PH2) must be empirically determined for each sample under analysis. This was achieved through analysis of 8 disks with a dose-recovery pre-heat plateau experiment (Murray and Wintle, 2003), using a range of PH1 and PH2 temperatures ranging from 150 – 220 °C. The influence of a hot-bleach at 280 °C was also investigated (Murray and Wintle, 2003) and used on any samples experiencing thermal transfer and recuperation.

The SAR protocol with a PH1 of 180 - 220 °C used on the samples is provided in Table DR1. Aliquot acceptance criteria used are (1) recycling ratios within 10% of unity; (2) signal intensities $\geq 3\sigma$ above background; (3) infrared (IR) depletion ratio within 20% of unity (Duller, 2003); (4) D_e uncertainty $\leq 20\%$ and (5) recuperation within 10% of the normalized maximum dose. The acceptance thresholds are moderate - high for the samples reflecting a range of sensitivities for quartz in the samples. The total aliquots accepted for the samples therefore varies; >50 (6 samples), >40 (7 samples), >30 (13 samples) and between 15 and 30 aliquots (4 samples).

ENVIRONMENTAL DOSE RATE DETERMINATION

The environmental dose rates (D_e) were calculated for each sample from the unsieved portions of the original sample; concentrations of U, Th, K and Rb were measured directly using solution ICP-MS (Thermo X-Series), a cosmic-dose component after Prescott and Hutton (1994) and an internal alpha dose rate of 5% from the decay of U and Th after Sutton and Zimmerman (1978). External α -dose rates were ignored as the alpha irradiated portion of quartz grains was removed by etching. The conversion factors of Adamiec and Aitken (1998) and beta-particle attenuation factors after Mejdahl (1979) have been used. Sample water content was calculated following desiccation at 50 °C, and an uncertainty of 5% assumed. Table DR2 contains the dosimetry data for the OSL samples from the southwestern and northeastern margins of the Shyok Valley.

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

Most samples are characterized by large overdispersion values (broad D_e distributions) which describe the spread in the data not accounted for by analytical uncertainties (Galbraith and Roberts, 2012). Samples with overdispersion, greater than 20%, are assumed to reflect heterogeneous bleaching before deposition and the D_e data were analyzed within Excel to calculate overdispersion and statistical parameters that are used to model the appropriate burial age (D_b). We adopted the age model selection criteria of Arnold and Roberts (2009). Most samples are modeled using the three component minimum age model (MAM-3; Galbraith et al., 1999) and the RStudio Luminescence package (Kreutzer et al., 2013), and two samples are modeled with a central age model. The kernel density and radial plots are presented in Figure DR2A and DR2B for each sample and the dosimetry and D_e data are presented in Table DR2.

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FIGURE CAPTIONS

Figure DR1. Sedimentary log through the T1 terrace fill at Spituk. Left hand column is thickness of beds in centimeters. Second column is bed number.

Figure DR2. Sedimentary log through the T2 terrace fill at Spitka which is on southwestern margin of the Indus Valley opposite Spituk. Grid Ref: 34.11683°, 77.51964.

Figure DR3. Location of Swath that generated the mean topographic values illustrated in Figure 8A.

Figure DR2A. Kernel density and radial plots for each OSL sample from the southwestern margin of Indus valley. These plots both present the D_e distributions and uncertainties and illustrate the spread in the data and how the minimum or central age modeled (Table DR1) maps onto the distributions. Sample name is provided at the top of the kernel density plot.

Figure DR2B. Kernel density and radial plots for each OSL sample from the northeastern margin of Shyok Valley.

TABLE DR1. AN EXAMPLE QUARTZ SAR PROTOCOL USED FOR THE LADAKH SAMPLES

Natural/Regenerative Dose	20, 50, 75, 100, 0, 10, 10 Gy
TL (PH1)	180 - 200°C, 10 s, 5°C/s
IRSL (final cycle only)	20°C, 40 s, 5°C/s
OSL	125°C, 40 s, 5°C/s, 90% power (L_x)
Test Dose	20 Gy
TL (PH2)	180°C, 10 s, 5°C/s
OSL	125°C, 40 s, 5°C/s, 90% (T_x)
TL (hot bleach)	280°C, 40s, 5°C/s, 90%

TABLE DR2. LOCATIONS OF DATED SAMPLES

Sample	Latitude (°N)	Longitude (°E)
Markha2011-01	34.11998	77.42213
Markha2011-02	34.11998	77.42213
Markha2011-05	34.11998	77.42213
Markha2011-06	34.12009	77.42102
Spituk2011-01	34.1309	77.52539
Dung2011-01	34.11691	77.51977
Dung2011-02	34.11691	77.51977
Dung2011-03	34.115	77.52248
Basgo2011-01	34.226	77.26396
Basgo2011-02	34.226	77.26396
Basgo2011-03	34.22578	77.267
Zansk2011-01	34.13588	77.27848
Zansk2011-02	34.13588	77.27848
Nimmu2011-01	34.20192	77.34215
Nimmu2011-02	34.20128	77.34131
Nimmu2011-03	34.18956	77.36797
Nimmu2011-04	34.18956	77.36797

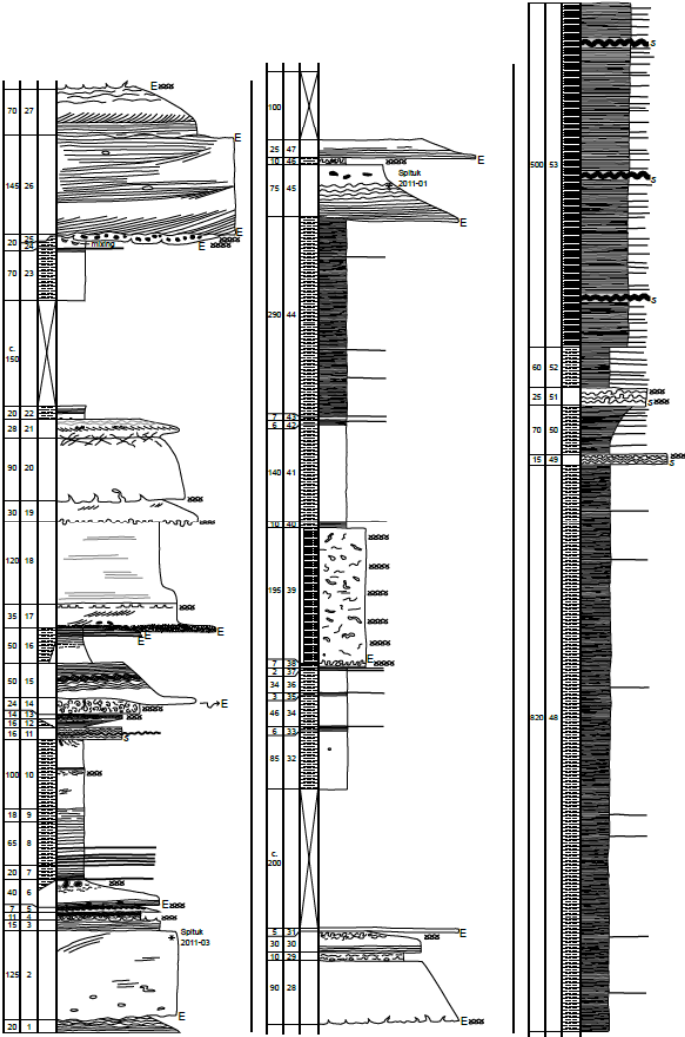
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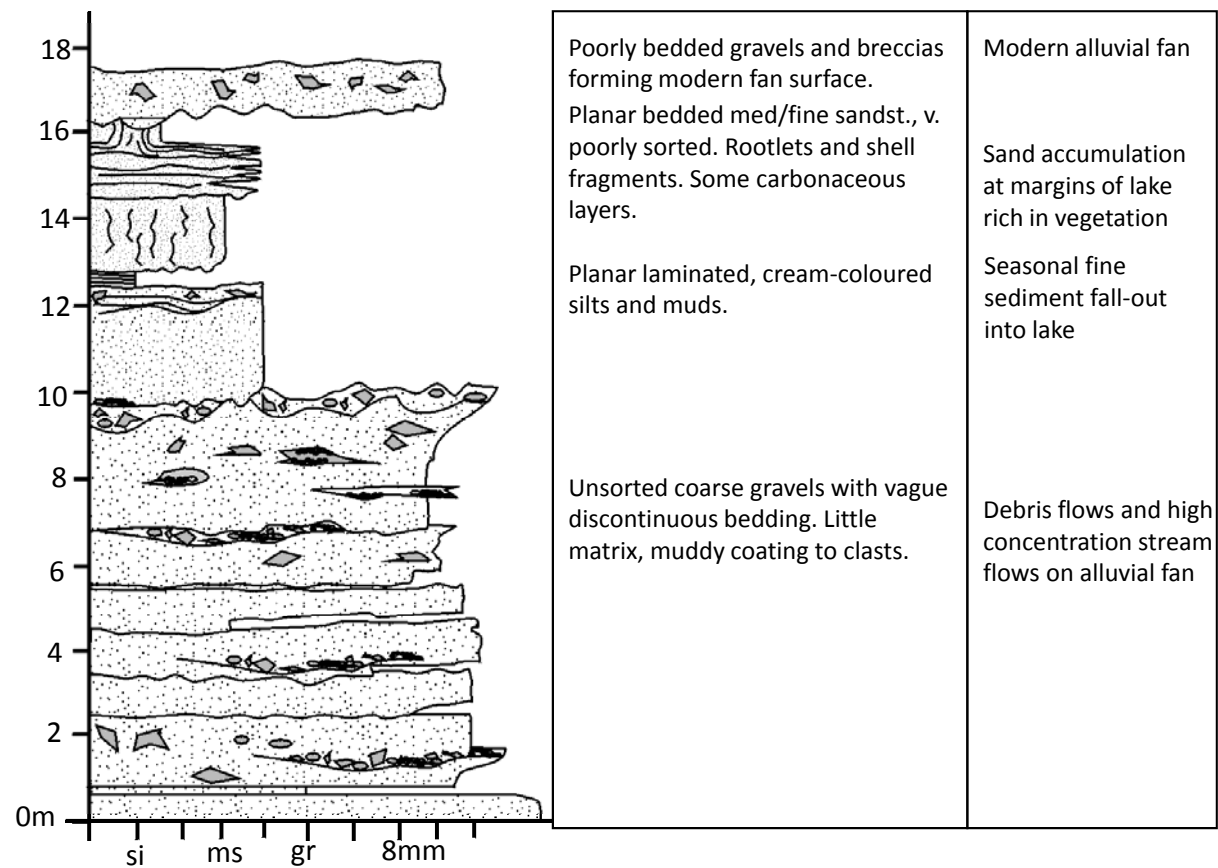
TABLE DR3 DOSIMETRY, EQUIVALENT DOSE (D_E) AND OSL AGE ESTIMATES LADAKH SAMPLES

Sample	U (ppm)	Error (ppm)	Th (ppm)	Error (ppm)	K (%)	Error (%)	Rb (ppm)	Error (ppm)	H ₂ O content	Cosmic (mGya ⁻¹)	Error (10%)	Total Qtz (mGya ⁻¹)	Error (mGya ⁻¹)	N	De Gy	Error Gy	Age ka	Error ka	Age Model
Markha2011-1	1.479	0.044	7.87	0.236	1.499	0.045	70.88	7.088	0.5	0.036	0.004	1.541	0.047	56	54.88	3.85	35.60	2.73	MAM-3
Markha2011-2	1.801	0.054	9.252	0.278	1.662	0.050	86.46	8.646	0.6	0.036	0.004	1.638	0.047	59	119.60	6.98	73.01	4.76	MAM-3
Markha2011-5	1.596	0.048	7.109	0.213	1.287	0.039	70.53	7.053	0.4	0.036	0.004	1.501	0.049	36	59.98	7.55	39.97	5.19	MAM-3
Markha2011-6	1.814	0.054	6.839	0.205	0.906	0.027	51.77	5.177	0.1	0.037	0.004	1.483	0.066	20	114.52	16.53	77.22	11.67	MAM-3
Spituk2011-1	2.009	0.060	8.749	0.262	0.937	0.028	49.35	4.935	0.1	0.268	0.027	2.059	0.078	31	56.65	5.85	27.52	3.03	MAM-3
Dung2011-1	2.532	0.076	11.83	0.355	1.78	0.053	98.35	9.835	0.4	0.376	0.038	2.712	0.080	53	31.83	1.59	11.74	0.68	MAM-3
Dung2011-2	2.594	0.078	12.48	0.374	1.92	0.058	109.9	10.99	0.4	0.376	0.038	2.685	0.084	53	51.29	1.10	19.11	0.73	CAM
Dung2011-3	3.466	0.104	13.16	0.395	1.875	0.056	107.8	10.78	0.9	0.382	0.038	2.146	0.058	53	47.18	2.56	21.98	1.33	MAM-3
Basgo2011-1	1.64	0.049	10.68	0.320	2.489	0.075	101	10.1	0.6	0.360	0.036	2.345	0.074	39	44.75	7.96	19.08	3.45	MAM-3
Basgo2011-2	1.414	0.042	7.592	0.228	2.011	0.060	66	6.6	0.4	0.056	0.006	1.993	0.067	37	17.49	1.60	8.78	0.86	MAM-3
Basgo2011-3	0.778	0.023	4.5	0.135	2.086	0.063	66.88	6.688	0.4	0.056	0.006	1.794	0.063	25	38.87	1.87	21.66	1.29	CAM
Zansk2011-1	2.051	0.062	9.959	0.299	0.813	0.024	36.6	3.66	0.5	0.300	0.030	1.599	0.048	15	30.99	10.62	19.39	6.67	MAM-3
Zansk2011-2	1.173	0.035	5.356	0.161	1.144	0.034	45.17	4.517	0.4	0.300	0.030	1.513	0.051	35	59.50	18.80	39.32	12.49	MAM-3
Nimmu2011-1	1.504	0.045	5.518	0.166	1.159	0.035	50.25	5.025	0.3	0.054	0.005	1.448	0.050	16	41.65	5.67	28.76	4.04	MAM-3
Nimmu2011-2	1.586	0.048	9.454	0.284	1.263	0.038	55.01	5.501	0.3	0.054	0.005	1.740	0.059	34	32.40	3.09	18.62	1.88	MAM-3
Nimmu2011-3	1.831	0.055	7.82	0.235	0.813	0.024	52.3	5.23	0.1	0.282	0.028	1.870	0.071	45	23.88	1.53	12.77	0.95	MAM-3
Nimmu2011-4	2.142	0.064	8.464	0.254	0.982	0.029	53.79	5.379	0.1	0.282	0.028	2.123	0.081	55	24.28	1.70	11.44	0.91	MAM-3

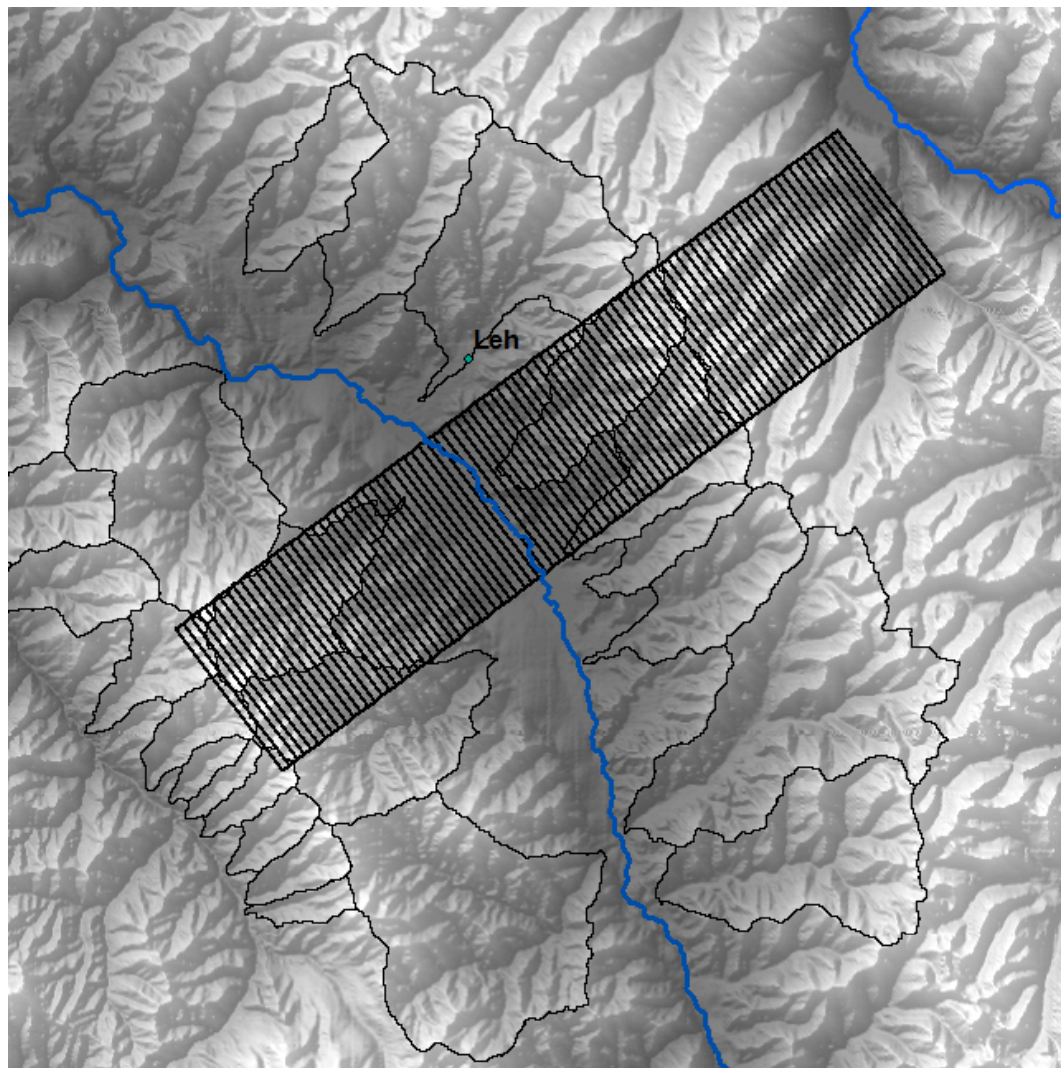
Supplementary figure 1, Sinclair et al.



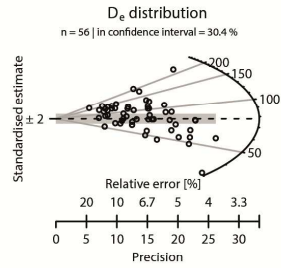
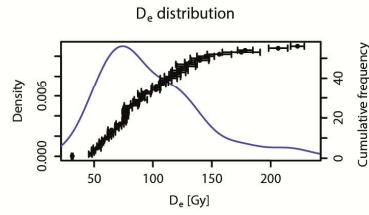
Supplementary figure 2, Sinclair et al.



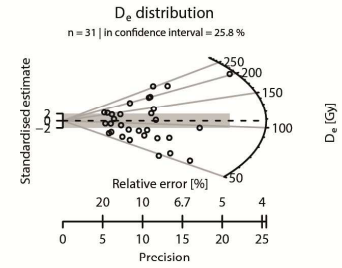
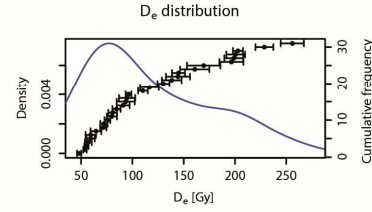
Supplementary figure 3, Sinclair et al.



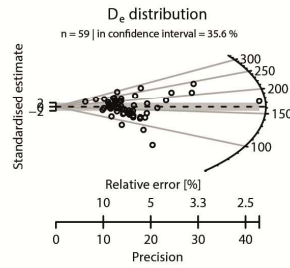
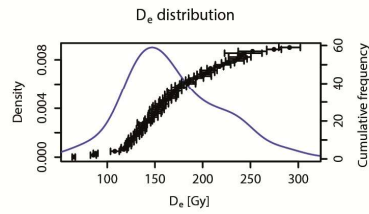
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 D_e [Gy]

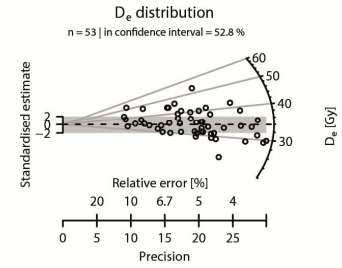
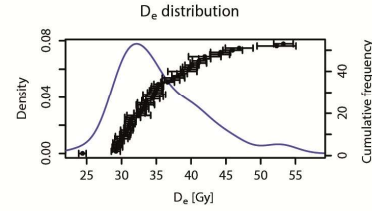
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 D_e [Gy]

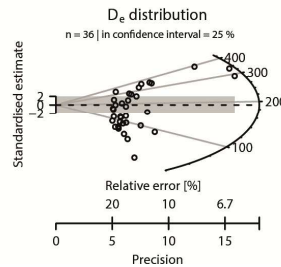
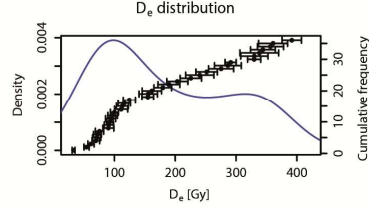
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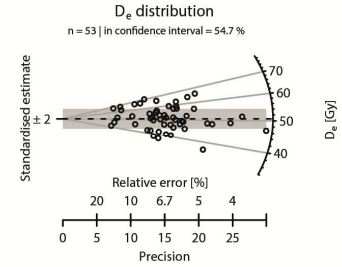
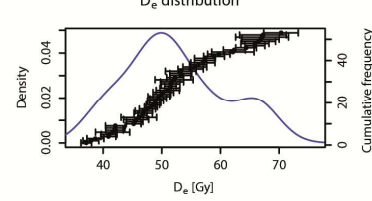
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 D_e [Gy]

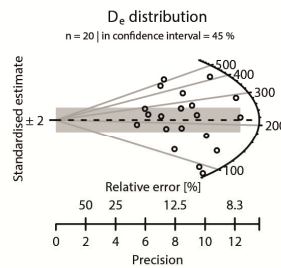
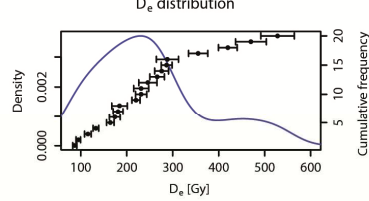
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 D_e [Gy]

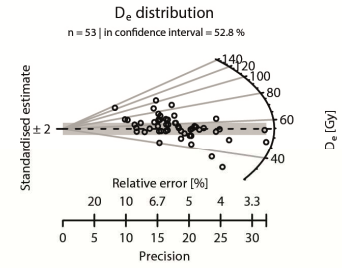
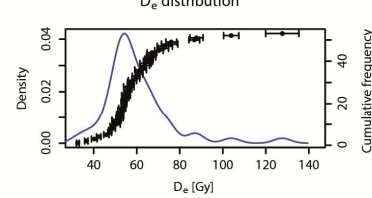
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 D_e [Gy]

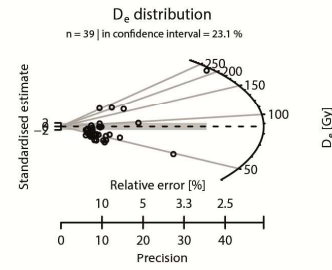
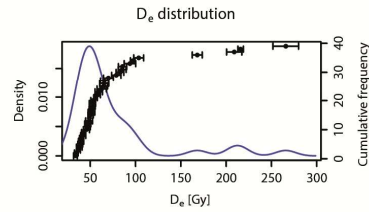
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 D_e [Gy]

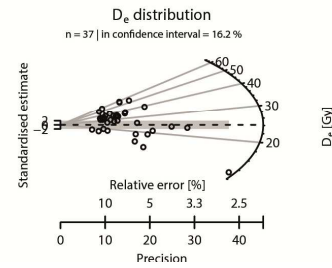
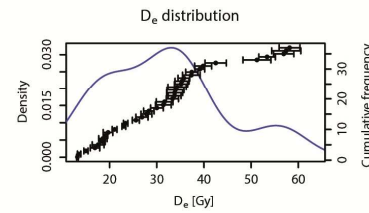
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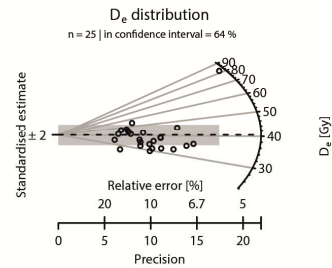
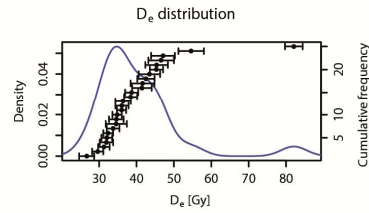
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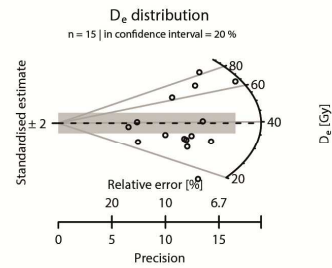
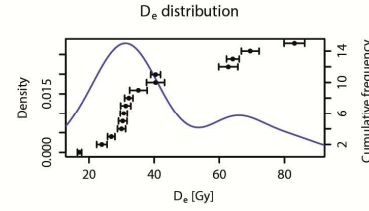
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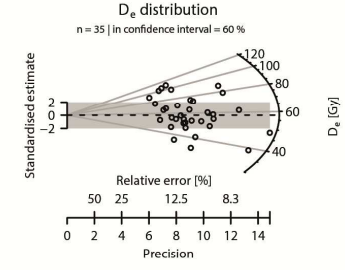
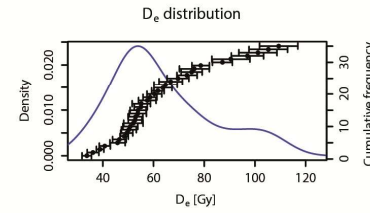
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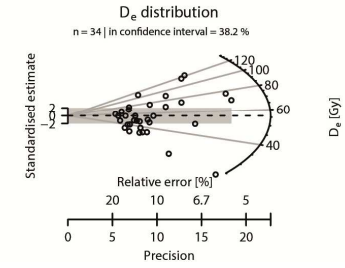
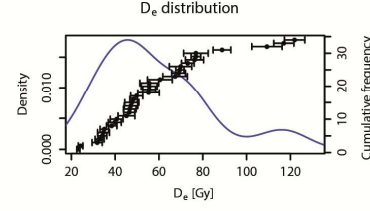
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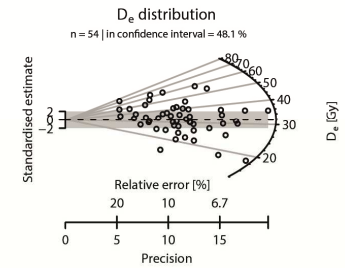
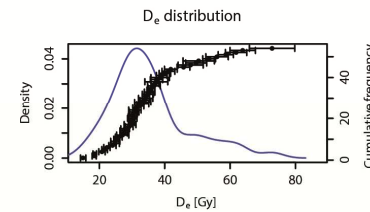
E. ZANSK2011-2



F. NIMMA2011-2



G. NIMMA2011-3



H. NIMMA2011-4

