

Reference seismic crustal model of the Dinarides

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Abstract

Continental collision zones are structurally one of the most heterogeneous areas intermixing various different units within a relatively small space. ~~The A gGoodgood~~ example of this ~~are~~ ~~is~~ the Dinarides, ~~a mountain chain situated in the central Mediterranean~~, where thick carbonates cover older crystalline basement units and remnants of subducted oceanic crust. This is further complicated by the highly variable crustal thickness ranging from 20 to almost 50 km. In terms of spatial extension, this area is relatively small, but covers tectonically ~~very~~ differentiated domains making any seismic or geological analysis complex, with significant challenges in areas that lack ~~seismic~~ information on crustal structure.

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Presently there is no comprehensive 3-D crustal model of the Dinarides (and ~~the~~ surrounding areas). Using the compilations of previous studies ~~and employing kriging interpolation~~, we ~~have~~ created ~~a~~ vertically, and laterally varying crustal model defined on a regular grid for the wider area of the Dinarides, also covering parts of Adriatic Sea and ~~the~~ SW part of the Pannonian Basin. ~~The model is divided by three interfaces, Neogene deposits bottom, Carbonate rock complex bottom and Moho discontinuity, with seismic velocities (P- and S-) and density defined at each grid point. We have used kriging interpolation to obtain the model parameters. In addition to the seismic velocities (P- and S-), and density, and three interfaces in our model were defined – Neogene deposits bottom, Carbonate rock complex bottom and Moho discontinuity. Neogene deposits and the Paleozoic to Eocene carbonate rocks are not present in all areas of the model whereas Moho discontinuity depth is defined for the entire model.~~ To validate the newly derived model, we ~~have~~ calculated travel times for ~~an earthquake~~ a regional earthquake recorded on ~~a number of several~~ seismic stations in the Dinarides area. The calculated travel times ~~show significant improvement when have been compared to with the travel times in the simple simple~~ 1D model used for routine earthquake location in Croatia, ~~and it proved to be a significant improvement.~~

The model derived in this work represents the first step towards improving our knowledge of the crustal structure in the complex area of the Dinarides. We hope that the newly assembled model will be useful for all ~~the~~ forthcoming studies (e.g. as a starting model for

40 seismic tomography, as a model for earthquake simulations) which require knowledge of the
crustal structure.

Introduction

45 The first seismic investigation done in the wider Dinarides region can be traced to
Mohorovičić's famous discovery of the boundary between Earth's crust and mantle
(Mohorovičić, 1910). The earliest deep seismic sounding experiments investigating the
crustal structure beneath the Dinarides were conducted in the 1960s (Dragašević and
Andrić, 1975; Aljinović, 1983; Aljinović et al., 1987). The most important results from those
early investigations were about the thickness of the upper crust (Aljinović, 1983). In more
recent times, there was another set of active seismic experiments. The ALP 2002 (Brückl
et al., 2007) focused on the investigation of the Eastern Alps but also covered the
50 northernmost part of the Dinarides and the Pannonian basin. As part of the same
international experiment, Šumanovac et al. (2009) modeled velocities in the crust and
uppermost mantle from the measurements taken along the Alp07 profile located at the
crossing between NW Dinarides and SW margin of the Pannonian basin. The results from the
Alp07 profile were later extended by several studies including gravimetric modeling, P-wave
55 receiver function analysis and local earthquake tomography (Šumanovac, 2010; Šumanovac
et al., 2016; Orešković et al., 2011; Kapuralić et al., 2019), covering only the NW part of the
Dinarides and SW part of the Pannonian basin. These studies reported a two-layer crust in
the area of the Dinarides, and one-layer crust in the area of the Pannonian basin.

60 The first Moho map of the Dinarides was compiled by Skoko et al. (1987) utilizing
gravimetric data from that area. Similarly, Šumanovac (2010) used results from active
seismic experiments (Alp07) to calibrate gravimetric data in the Dinarides and get a more
accurate map of Moho depths in the region. Stipčević et al. (2011) were first to use direct
seismic measurements in the central and southern Dinarides, extending the analysis of Moho
65 depths to that region. For this, they employed the P-wave receiver functions (PRF) method
and by modeling it found an intra-crustal reflector in the area of the Internal Dinarides.
Stipčević et al. (2020) extended the PRF analysis by including significantly more stations and
created the map of Moho depths beneath the Dinarides. In that expanded extended receiver
function study, Stipčević et al. (2020) report significantly thicker crust in the area of the
southern Dinarides compared to the previous studies.

70 In line with Complementary to the crustal exploration there have also been some recent
investigations of the uppermost mantle. Using the S-wave receiver functions (SRF-) Belinić
et al. (2018) mapped the lithosphere–asthenosphere boundary (LAB) under the Dinarides.
The most interesting feature of that LAB map is the lack of deep lithospheric root beneath
the central Dinarides, which was interpreted as thinning of the lithosphere due to possible
75 lithospheric mantle delamination. Two years later, there was a complementary study by

Belinić et al. (2020), using ~~the~~ Rayleigh wave tomography in order to obtain ~~the an~~ upper mantle S-wave velocity model for the greater Dinarides area. Similar their first work, authors reported ~~a~~ missing deep lithospheric root in the area of the central Dinarides, ~~with and a deep~~ high velocity uppermost mantle anomaly visible in the ~~southern~~ Dinarides.

80 From this short outline of the main geophysical investigations done in the wider Dinarides area it is obvious that the crustal structure of the region is fairly complex with quite a long history of geophysical exploration. Despite this, there has never been an attempt (as far as we know) to combine these results in order to create an extensive regional 3-D crustal model for the Dinarides. The area was covered by the global and continental scale models, but the
85 authors of these studies pointed out the lack of available data in the Dinarides area (e.g., Grad et al. 2009, Molinari and Morelli 2011, Artemieva et al., 2013). Note that those continental scale models ~~are~~ were published prior to some of the investigations whose results were extensive models used for derivation of our crustal model. Regional scale crustal models are an important factor in all seismic studies relying on waveform modeling and
90 seismic wave traveltime inversion. This is especially exacerbated in ~~the~~ areas with complex crustal structure such as the Dinarides. Therefore, it is necessary to assemble a comprehensive, ready-to-use model based on all the available results.

In this study we focus on the crust, and include all the data regarding crustal structure available to us, into a 3-D model covering the area of the Dinarides. The aim is to create ~~a~~
95 vertically, and laterally varying crustal model defined on a regular grid for the wider area of the Dinarides ~~using the kriging interpolation. We estimate that t~~ This model will be a good starting point for both body and surface wave tomography studies and provide an excellent base model for local and regional physics-based earthquake shaking scenarios. Besides the
100 seismic velocity as the main parameter describing the crustal structure, we also include existing data on the Moho discontinuity depth, and the approximate Carbonate rock complex (CRC) thickness of a carbonate rock layer (the Carbonate rock complex, CRC) in the area of in
the Dinarides. Even though our crustal model is focused on the Dinarides, part of it also covers the SW margin of the Pannonian basin and Adriatic Sea (Fig. 1).

Tectonic and geological setting

105 The Alpine–Carpathian–Dinaridic–Albanide–Hellenic orogenic system is a part of a Circum-Mediterranean orogenic system. Encircling the Neogene Pannonian Basin System (PBS), this orogenic system is constructed of tectonostratigraphic units derived from both ~~the~~ Adriatic microplate and ~~the~~ European plate that were separated by ~~the~~ Neotethyan Ocean (Schmid et al., 2008, 2020, and references therein). Tectonic units were amalgamated by fold-and-
110 thrust systems of different polarity facing either ~~the~~ European foreland (e.g., Western and Eastern Alps, and Carpathians) or ~~the~~ Adriatic foreland (e.g., Southern Alps, Dinarides,

Albanides, Hellenides) as a result of a change in subduction polarity between the European plate and the Adriatic Microplate (Schmid et al., 2008, 2020; Ustaszewski et al., 2008).

115 The tectonic evolution of these large orogenic systems, i.e., Dinarides *sensu lato*, started with the Triassic (c. 220 Ma) opening of the Neotethys oceanic embayment between the African and Eurasian Plates. The Neotethys Ocean continued spreading during Late Triassic and Early to Mid-Jurassic, being interrupted only by intra-oceanic subduction of the Western Vardar oceanic domain and ophiolite obduction onto the eastern margin of the Adriatic Microplate (see Schmid et al., 2020 for details). According to Schmid et al. (2008), the
120 Neotethys Ocean, i.e., the Eastern Vardar oceanic domain remained open through the Late Jurassic–Cretaceous period (see Ustaszewski et al., 2009 and references therein).

The final closure of the Neotethys oceanic realm coincided with the collision of the Adria Microplate and the European foreland collision during the Late Cretaceous–Early Paleogene (Schmid et al., 2020 and references therein) that initiated formation of the Dinarides (Środoń et al., 2018). During the Middle Eocene–Oligocene, the regional NE–SW oriented compression caused NE-directed continental subduction and formation of complex fold-and-thrust sheets in the Dinaridic region due to SW-directed thrusting of Adria derived units, whereas in the internal Dinaridic domains, E–W oriented compression caused the formation of the W-directed thrusting of the Tisza Mega-Unit over the Internal parts of the Dinarides (e.g., Handy et al., 2019; Schmid et al., 2020; Balling et al., 2021 and references therein).
130 Continuous convergence of the Adria indenter towards the European foreland in the Late Oligocene–Early Miocene further contributed to nappe stacking and thrusting in the Alps and Dinarides, but it also accommodated c. 400 km of E-directed orogen-parallel lateral extrusion of the ALCAPA block (including the Eastern Alps, West Carpathians and Transdanubian ranges north of the Lake Balaton) and active “back-arc-type” extension in the PBS (Royden and Horváth, 1988; Ratschbacher et al., 1991a, b; Frisch et al., 1998; Fodor et al., 1998; Tari et al., 1999; Csontos and Vörös, 2004; Horváth et al. 2006; Cloetingh et al., 2006; Schmid et al., 2008).
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140 With an area of 80–200 km wide and nearly 700 km long, the Dinarides are a fold-and-thrust orogenic belt constructed from thrust sheets divided into internal and external tectonic domains (see **Fig. 1**). The lithological succession in the Internal Dinarides is characterized by units that comprise passive margin ophiolitic successions and pelagic derived sedimentary rocks, while the External Dinarides are dominated mainly by shallow marine carbonate platform deposits that in places reach 8000 m of thickness (Vlahović et al., 2005).

145 Due to paleogeographic differences and tectonic complexity, the Dinaridic lithological succession is spatially highly varied in its thickness and exposure (Vlahović et al., 2005, Schmid et al., 2020; Balling et al., 2021).

The oldest rocks cropping out in the External Dinarides are Carboniferous to Middle Triassic siliciclastic-carbonate deposits accumulated along the Gondwanian passive continental margin, which due to regional extensional tectonics marked by Middle Triassic volcanism differentiated the area, thus forming isolated shallow marine carbonate platforms (Vlahović et al., 2005). Through the Middle Triassic-Cretaceous timespan, carbonate platforms in the region were surrounded by deeper marine areas and characterized by mostly continuous shallow-marine carbonate deposition, though the last extensional phase in Toarcian resulted in a disintegration in several smaller platforms, including the Adriatic Carbonate Platform, Apenninic Carbonate Platform and Apulian Carbonate Platform (Vlahović et al., 2005 and references therein). During the 120 My of the AdCP's existence of the Adriatic Carbonate Platform (AdCP), i.e., from Early Jurassic to Late Cretaceous (locally even to early Paleocene – Tešović et al., 2020), the thickness of deposited carbonate successions reached between 3500 and 5000 m (Vlahović et al., 2005 and references therein). The AdCP deposition ended due to regional emergence in the Late Cretaceous-Paleogene, which was linked and enhanced by tectonic deformations and continent collision of the Adria Microplate and the European foreland yielding deposition of synorogenic turbiditic deposits (“flysch”) in newly formed foreland basins (Vlahović et al., 2005; Schmid et al., 2008 and references therein). The final uplift of the Dinarides took place from the Middle Eocene to Oligocene (Dinaric phase; see Schmid et al., 2008; Balling et al., 2021 with references).

Modeling approach

~~Generally, the new model is defined as We have decided to create~~ a one-layered crust with laterally and vertically variable parameters (seismic velocities and density). ~~This was done due to the fact that only information about crustal thickness was available for the whole investigated region. The reason for a choice of one-layered crust was a fact that not all the input data had the interpretation of intra-crustal interfaces, and those that had, did the interpretation in different ways. We used seismic velocities and density as parameters, since that is the data we had available. In the course of~~ Nevertheless, during data collection and integration within the new model we realized that the Neogene deposits in the Pannonian Basin make up a very thick and distinct layer that cannot be ignored, and just incorporating it into a one-layered model would be an oversimplification. In the light of the Pannonian basin sedimentary complex being significantly different from the rest of the crust, we included a Neogene deposits layer on top of a laterally and vertically varying crust. The same goes for the Paleozoic-Paleogene CRC carbonates in the Adriatic-Dinarides region as there are numerous studies indicating distinct reflections from the bottom of the CRC in the seismic reflection studies (Dragašević and Andrić, 1975; Aljinović, 1983; Aljinović et al., 1987). Given that ~~there was no we had no available~~ data on any of the layer's parameters in this layer (velocity or density) ~~in the CRC~~, we only included the CRC bottom depth in our

Commented [1]: "Ignored for what...?"

Meaning that we cannot assume a single layer crust without taking the Neogene deposits into account as a separate layer.

185 model. The velocity and density of the CRC were not interpolated separately, but were
interpolated using the same input velocity (and density) data we had available for the rest of
the crust. This choice seems reasonable, since each of the profiles used ~~actually~~
~~crosses~~crosses the part of the investigated area covered with carbonates, and samples its
190 features, even though none of the studies used explicitly interpreted carbonates as a separate
layer.

To compile the data for the new crustal model, we used all available and published results
on seismic and geologic structure of the crust and uppermost mantle. Some of them were not
available in a digital form (mostly the studies published before 2010), and had to be digitized
manually. The datasets used are very diverse: ~~including~~ two 3-D crustal models (one
195 consisting of a two-layered crust with interface depths information while the other had a
single-layered crust), several 2D interface maps (Moho depths and Neogene deposits maps),
three seismic refraction/wide angle reflection profiles (which were the basic source for
velocity data) and five gravimetric profiles. Coverage of the datasets used to compile the 3-
D crustal model of the Dinarides is shown in **Fig. 1**. and details are listed in **Table 1**. The
200 exact locations of data points used are shown in Appendix B.

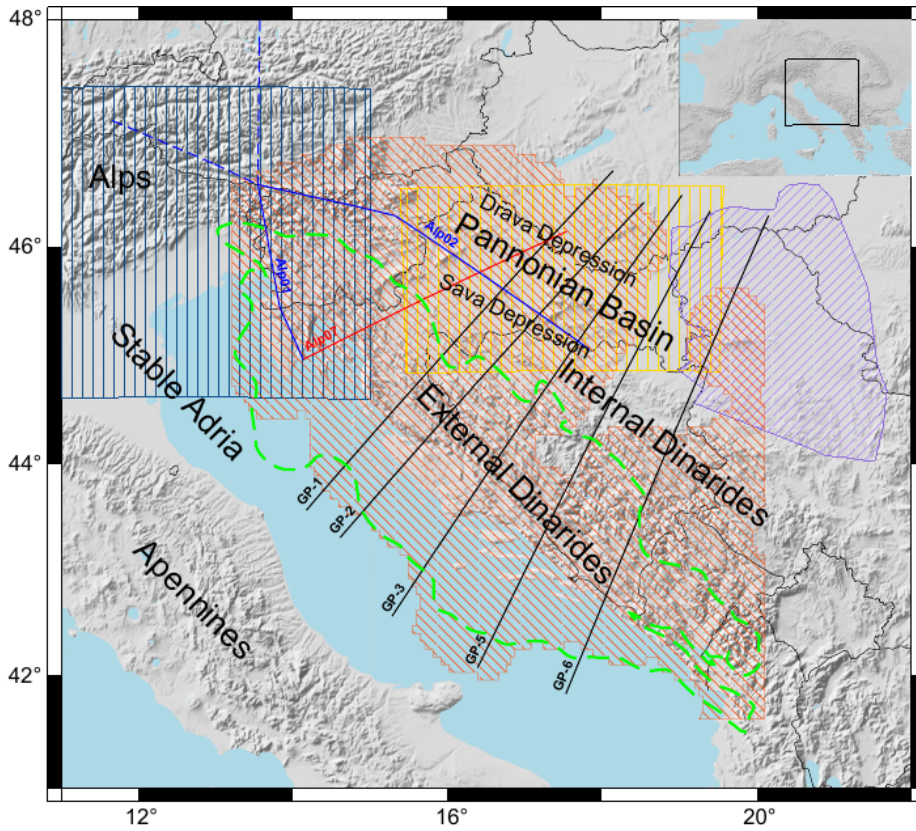


Figure 1. Compilation of data used in this study. Blue lines mark the positions of Alp01 and Alp02 profiles (Brückl et al., 2007) – only the full line parts are used in the study; the red line is the position of the Alp07 profile (Šumanovac et al., 2009); black lines are the positions of gravimetric profiles GP-1 to GP-6 (Šumanovac, 2010). Orange shaded area shows Moho depth data coverage from the receiver function study of Stipčević et al. (2020), blue vertically shaded area is the NAC model (Magrin and Rossi, 2020). The yellow shaded area shows the extent of Saftić et al. (2003) data on the Pannonian basin Neogene deposits, and the purple shaded area shows the extent of data on the Pannonian basin Neogene deposits from Matenco and Radivojević (2012). Green dashed line marks the extension of the AdCP carbonate rocks from Tišljar et al. (2002). The sources of the data shown in this map are listed in **Table 1**.

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215 **Table 1.** List of the data sources used for the Dinarides crustal model.

| Profile, model, or project name | Data type | Reference | Processing How were data processed | Results type Parameter that data were used for |
|--|--|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Alp01 and Alp02 | Seismic refraction and wide angle reflection | Brückl et al. (2007) | profiles manually digitized | Vp, Moho |
| Alp07 | Seismic refraction and wide angle reflection | Šumanovac et al. (2009) | profile manually digitized | Vp, Moho |
| GP-1, GP-2, GP-3, GP-5, GP-6 | 2D gravity modeling | Šumanovac (2010) | profiles manually digitized | Vp, density, Moho |
| | Receiver functions | Stipčević et al. (2020) | available in digital form | Moho |
| The Northern Adria Crust (NAC) model | Multiple data sets | Magrin and Rossi (2020) | available in digital form | Vp, density, Moho |
| | Isopach map | Saftić et al. (2003) | digitized manually | Neogene deposits bottom depth |
| | Multiple data sets | Matenco and Radivojević (2012) | digitized manually | Neogene deposits bottom depth |
| | Carbonate rock complex distribution | Tišljar et al. (2002) | digitized manually | CRC bottom depth |
| | Geological map | Basic Geological Map | digitized manually | CRC bottom depth |

| | | | | |
|-------------|--|---|---------------------------|------------------|
| | | (1:100,000) of former Yugoslavia (Osnovna Geološka Karta SFRJ) | | |
| | Geological map | 1:200,000 Geological Map of Albania (Geological Map of Albania, 2002) | digitized manually | CRC bottom depth |
| | Constructed and balanced geological cross-sections | Balling et al., (2021) | | CRC bottom depth |
| EPcrust | | Molinari and Morelli (2011) | available in digital form | Vp, Moho |
| SRTM15+V2.0 | Global elevation grid | Tozer et al. (2019) | available in digital form | Topography |

220 The interpolation of model parameters was done using kriging method (Appendix C). We decided to use kriging for interpolation, which is formulated for the estimation of a continuous spatial attributes (e.g. depth to Moho interface) at an unknown site, using the limited set of data from sampled sites. Since kriging requires Cartesian coordinates, we transformed the data to ETRS89-extended/LAEA Europe⁴ Cartesian coordinate system (Annoni et al., 2003), which is defined on the entire investigated area. The transformations were done using the *pyproj* package (Snow et al. 2021). Kriging interpolation was done using the *gstat* package (Pebesma, 2004). Interface data were interpolated on a regular 5 km × 5 km grid, and the velocity and density were interpolated on a slightly more complicated 225 grid: the horizontal grid is the same as for the interfaces (5 km × 5 km), but the vertical spacing changes with depending on depth (in the first 10 km of depth, the spacing is 0.5 km; between depths of 10 km and 20 km, vertical spacing is 1 km, and at greater depths, vertical

⁴<https://epsg.io/3035>

spacing is 2.5 km). This scheme was used to account for better sampling and more heterogeneous upper crust.

Initially, we specified a relatively large area between 10° and 22° east longitude and 39° and 48° north latitude as the starting region of investigation. We performed interpolation in the entire initial region for each interface separately. ~~As some of the areas in the initial region were not covered by data points (see Appendix B) the final model area was reduced based on the Moho discontinuity depth errors in combination with lower uncertainty areas of the Vp model. The final model covers, roughly, the area between 13° E and 20° E, and 42° N and 47° N.~~

Kriging does not allow multiple values at a single point in space (i.e. there is no overlapping), ~~so all. Therefore, we needed to handle the~~ overlapping of data from various sources ~~was processed,~~ before ~~starting~~ the interpolation. We tried to reduce subjectivity as much as possible, and therefore included known and estimated variances into the data processing. In case of the data overlapping, we calculated the value which ~~was used for interpolation were interpolated~~ (depth for interfaces or velocity/density for layer parameters) at the given point as a weighted mean of multiple values from different sources, with inverse of variances used as weights:

$$d_m = \frac{\sum_i \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2} d_{m,i}}{\sum_i \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2}},$$

where $d_{m,i}$ is the value at point i , and σ_i^2 is variance at point i .

We also included error estimates in the final model. To calculate the total error of the model, we followed the procedure applied by Magrin and Rossi (2020) for the derivation of the NAC model. With the assumption of Gaussian distribution of errors, the total variance of the model is the sum of two terms: the variance of the input data, and the variance from the interpolation itself. The interpolation variance term was provided by the *gstat* package along with the interpolated data. In order to calculate the variance at each grid point, we interpolated the input data variances on the same grid as the data itself.

There are four interfaces defined in the presented model – CRC bottom, Neogene deposits bottom, Mohorovičić discontinuity (Moho), and topography/bathymetry. It should be noted that ~~Neogene and CRC bottom depths are not all of the interfaces are defined at for~~ all locations in the model ~~(except for Moho and topography/bathymetry).~~ The ~~model~~ parameters ~~of the model~~ (seismic velocities and density) are defined on a regular grid and were calculated differently for the Neogene deposits layer and the rest of the crust.

~~In order to define the interfaces, we needed the data on their depths.~~ The information about the Moho depth was compiled from a large number of available studies. The main source of Moho data was the receiver function (RF) study of Stipčević et al. (2020). These data are digitally available as the crustal thickness map on a regular 8.3 km × 8.3 km grid (location shown in **Fig. 1** ~~as an orange shaded area~~), and it includes error estimates on the same grid. We also included Moho data from seismic refraction and wide angle reflection profiles (Brückl et al., 2007; Šumanovac et al., 2009; profiles' locations shown in **Fig. 1** ~~as blue and red lines, respectively~~), and from the gravimetric profiles (Šumanovac, 2010; ~~black lines in Fig. 1~~). All profiles (both seismic and gravimetric) are available as figures in digital form but depth information had to be digitized manually. Each profile was first georeferenced, and the interpreted Moho depths were digitized every 5 km along the profile's length. For the profile data, there are no detailed error estimates but the authors report that the Moho interface was resolved to at least ±2–3 km for refraction and wide angle reflection profiles. ~~As t~~ There are no such estimates for the gravimetric profiles. ~~Since and~~ the reported errors are only general, we decided to include the error estimates as described in Grad et al. (2009). The authors had a similar problem while building the Moho model for the European continent but had much more input data to come up with reasonable error estimates. According to them, the error estimates for Moho obtained from the seismic profiles should be about 6% of the Moho depth. That estimate ~~fits nicely fits with~~ in the error estimates reported by Brückl et al. (2007) and Šumanovac et al. (2009) for refraction and wide angle reflection profiles used in this study. As for error estimates in gravimetric profiles, ~~we used the values from the study of~~ Grad et al. (2009), ~~which~~ reported somewhat higher errors, of about 20% of estimated depths. ~~Since there was no information on errors for gravimetric profiles we used estimates from Grad et al. (2009).~~ For the NW part of our model, the Moho data from the high-quality and digitally available Northern Adria Crust (NAC) model (Magrin and Rossi, 2020) was also included. NAC interfaces are defined on a regular ~ 5 km × 5 km grid with error estimations on the same grid (location shown in **Fig. 1** ~~as blue shaded area~~).

The data for the Neogene deposits base depth came from several geological studies. Largest volumes of the study area covered with unconsolidated Neogene deposits are situated in the SW part of the Pannonian Basin. As the basis for the definition of the Neogene sedimentary cover thickness in this region we used data from Saftić et al. (2003), which covers the southernmost part of the Pannonian Basin (~~yellow shaded area in Fig. 1~~). While preparing the data, we encountered the problem that missing deposits depth information for the eastern part of our study area is causing artifacts on the border of our model after the interpolation. To mitigate this, we included data from the study by Matenco and Radivojević (2012) (~~purple shaded area in Fig. 1~~). ~~Neogene deposits depth maps from both studies were scanned and Data from both studies were obtained from~~ georeferenced isolines of the Neogene deposits depths – the isolines were digitized every 5 km, ~~which gives the impression of random spatial sampling~~. For the error estimation we again turned to the

300 study of Grad et al. (2009), where they estimated that the error for Moho should be about
15% for manually digitized maps. Since there was no error estimate beforehand, we decided
to use the same percentage for Neogene deposits depth estimate. For the NW part of the
study area, we included deposits bottom information from the NAC model.

305 The area of the Dinarides does not contain a ~~significant~~ Neogene soft deposits cover ~~and is~~
~~mainly overlain, at least not of significant thickness. The basement is overlain~~ by a thick layer
of Paleozoic-Paleogene Carbonate rock complex (CRC). Therefore, for the area of the
Dinarides, we used the CRC distribution described in studies of Tišljarić et al. (2002) and
Vlahović et al. (2005) and ~~marked-used~~ it as a zero-Neogene deposits-thickness area,
310 although there are locally some very restricted Neogene deposits formed within few
intramontane basins. Here, the CRC border was georeferenced and digitized manually (green
dashed line in **Fig. 1**).

The interface with the least data ~~available to us at our disposal~~ was the Carbonate rock
complex (CRC) bottom depth. The CRC bottom depth was ~~modelled estimated by~~ combining
315 geological and structural data published in ~~the~~ available Basic Geological Map (1:100,000) of
former Yugoslavia (Osnovna Geološka Karta SFRJ) with accompanying Explanatory Notes
that cover ~~the~~ entire Dinaridic area, Geological Map of Albania at the 1:200,000 scale
(Geological Map of Albania, 2002) as well as geological-structural data published in studies
of Tišljarić et al. (2002), Vlahović et al., (2005) and Balling et al., (2021) (see Table A1). Based
320 on the collected data, we determined the spatial extent of the Paleozoic–Paleogene CRC.
Assessment of CRC thickness was initially performed at ~~the scale of each of more than 80~~
~~geological maps covering the study area~~, using thicknesses presented in geological columns
on each map. Derived values of CRC thickness were further considered in respect to the
deformation styles and large-scale structural relations (e.g., Balling et al., 2021). Several
325 regional carbonate nappe systems in the External Dinarides characterized by extensive
folding and thrusting could reach ~~a~~-combined stacking thicknesses up to 12000 m, but
thicknesses are not evenly ~~spatially~~ distributed spatially. Significant variability of the CRC
total thickness in the Dinarides is caused by ~~a~~ combination of (1) initial differences in
thickness due to significant paleogeographic differences along the Adria Microplate passive
margin, ~~since with~~ a total thickness of the Adriatic Carbonate Platform and thick underlying
330 and thin overlying carbonates ~~is being~~ in the range of 4500–8000 m (Tišljarić et al., 2002; Velić
et al., 2002; Vlahović et al., 2005), (2) structural position of individual nappe systems in
respect to the active collision front, and (3) variable strain rates and stress orientations
during the Cretaceous–Paleogene Adria–Europe collision. Nappe stacking systems in the
335 central and southern parts of the External Dinarides, where CRC is the thickest, locally
incorporate up to four thrust sheets composed of different segments of the entire carbonate
succession.

As for the physical characteristics, P-wave velocities were extracted from seismic refraction and wide angle reflection studies (Brückl et al., 2007; Šumanovac et al., 2009), densities from gravimetric profiles (Šumanovac, 2010), and P- and S-wave velocities and densities from the NAC model (Magrin and Rossi, 2020). We consider P-wave velocities as the best defined layer property, since there is largest the number of data sources for this parameter is largest. As for the S-wave velocity, there was only data from the NAC model, which is just a border area of our model. Therefore, we did not interpolate S-wave velocity separately, but estimated it from the P-wave model. The mantle velocity shown in Figs. 4 and 5 is was not estimated as part of this model, but was taken from Belinić et al. (2020), by estimating calculating it from the Vs model reported there using the standard P over S-velocity ratio for the upper mantle ($V_p/V_s = 1.73$).

The NAC model is defined on a regular grid, and was easily included in our data set. The interpreted seismic reflection and refraction profiles (Brückl et al., 2007; Šumanovac et al., 2009) were digitized manually on a regular grid with the horizontal spacing of 5 km (along the length of each profile) and vertical spacing of 1 km. Since the gravimetric profiles are interpreted in terms of homogeneous layers (density in a layer does not change vertically nor horizontally), we applied a slightly different logic. We used 5 km spacing along the profile and instead of regularly digitizing the densities in depth, we only picked one point in the middle of each layer, in the middle of the layer, with assigned layer density representing the entire layer (see Fig. 2). It seemed the most logical course of action, assigning the density value to the middle of the layer, as a way to represent the entire layer. A simplified example of gravimetric profiles digitisation is shown in Fig. 2.

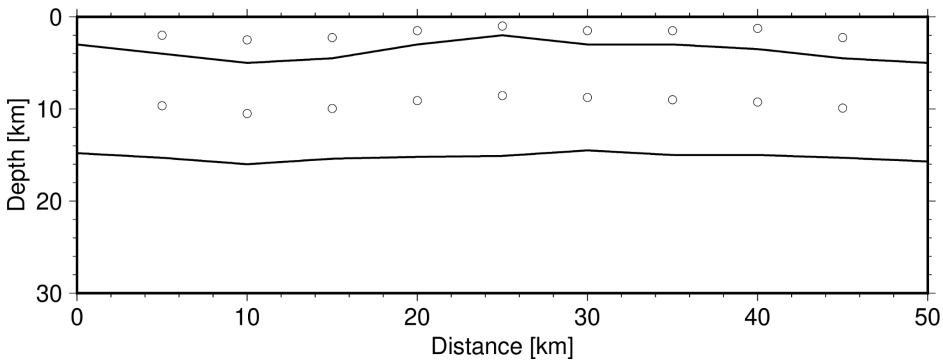


Figure 2. Simplified example of data sampling from one the gravimetric profiles with two interpreted layers. The dots represent digitized data points used to build our model. See text for details.

We should also mention the error estimation regarding the velocity and density data. The NAC model (Magrin and Rossi, 2020) had reported parameter errors for each grid point and for interfaces, so these were simply included in our data set. Seismic refraction and wide angle reflection profiles (Brückl et al, 2007; Šumanovac et al., 2009) had a general estimate of velocity error of ± 0.2 km/s and ± 0.1 km/s, respectively. In those cases, we simply assigned that globally estimated error to each digitized data point. In the case of the density data calculated from the gravimetric measurements there was no error estimate. Therefore, we had to use other results in order to help us quantify error for that dataset. Since the only other source of density data was the NAC model, and since we had no reason to believe that the gravimetric profiles we used (Šumanovac, 2010) are of a lower quality than those included in the NAC model, we assigned the maximum error estimate (to make a conservative estimate) from the NAC model to each of the points from the digitized gravimetric profiles.

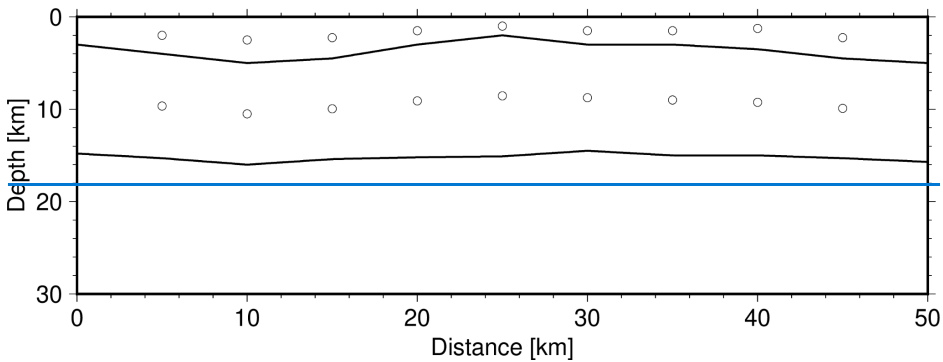


Figure 2. Simplified example of data sampling from one the gravimetric profiles with two interpreted layers. The dots represent digitized data points used to build our model. See text for details.

The most accurate source of velocity data were refraction and wide angle seismic reflection profiles (Brückl et al., 2007; Šumanovac et al., 2009), and the NAC model (Magrin and Rossi, 2020) but as can be seen in Fig. 1 these studies do not cover the central and southern area of the Dinarides. Therefore, we also included velocities calculated using the values of density from gravimetric profiles (Šumanovac, 2010). The differences in the digitization of the gravimetric profiles have been described in the previous section. In order to calculate P-wave velocities from the available densities, we used Brocher's (2005) empirical equation:

$$V_p = 39.128\rho - 63.064\rho^2 + 37.083\rho^3 - 9.1819\rho^4 + 0.8228\rho^5,$$

390

where V_p is P-wave velocity in km/s, and ρ is density in g/cm³. The equation is valid for densities between 2 and 3.5 g/cm³ (with the correlation coefficient of ~0.999), the condition which was satisfied for all the densities in [the](#) gravimetric profiles used.

395

The velocity in the Neogene deposits is poorly known, so it was estimated using Brocher's (2008) empirical relations (eqs. 1, 3, 7, and 9 in the original article). These relations account for increasing burden pressure, but not for variations in other factors. Therefore, it is justified to use these relations as a first-order approximation, ~~because there are no similar relations readily available for the Pannonian Basin.~~ We used Brocher's Plio-Quaternary relations for the shallowest parts, and relations for Paleogene-Neogene sedimentary rocks for the rest of the Neogene deposits. The values obtained ranged from ~~around~~ 0.7 km/s for ~~depths-deposits~~ close to surface, to ~~around~~ 5.6 km/s at greatest depth ~~in the Neogene deposits (which was around~~ 7.5 km below [the](#) surface).

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We used a regional EPcrust model (Molinari and Morelli, 2011) as the underlying model in order to fill the gaps in the data coverage. The EPcrust model is represented by three layers: sedimentary cover, upper crust, and lower crust, with a horizontal resolution of 0.5° × 0.5°. Each layer is characterized by laterally varying P- and S-wave velocity and density, and all of the parameters are constant for each grid point. We include EPcrust Moho, Neogene deposits bottom depth and velocity information only in parts with no other sources of data. This was done in order to remove interpolation artifacts in transition areas between the local data described before and the underlying EPcrust model. Therefore, we implemented a condition to include EPcrust data in our dataset: each grid point defined in the EPcrust model had to be distanced more than 100 km in each direction distant from the other data. That way, the data from the regional EPcrust model will not have too much influence on more relevant, local data.

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For topography the SRTM15+V2.0 model (Tozer et al., 2019) was used. It is an updated global elevation grid at a spatial sampling of 15 arc seconds, and it also includes bathymetry. Since the grid of the SRTM15+V2.0 model is much more refined than the grid we used for the definition of ~~our the~~ model (15 arc seconds in the topography model compared to about 3 arc minutes in our model), a regridding has been performed by averaging all the values that fall inside ~~one our~~ model cell.

420

425

After collecting and preparing the data, the next step was interpolation. Ordinary kriging was used to interpolate model interfaces and universal kriging when interpolating the layer properties (V_p velocity, density), as the layer properties are ~~distinctly~~ linearly dependent on depth. After interpolation, we filtered Moho ~~discontinuity interface~~ and layer properties with a 100-km wide Gaussian filter to smooth the transitions between different data sources. The

smoothing in case of the Neogene deposits and CRC interfaces was omitted because the data used ~~in derivation of those interfaces~~ came from similar sources, and smoothing would conceal ~~known~~ structures ~~with due to their~~ relatively small spatial dimensions (e.g. Sava and Drava depressions ~~would have been concealed with smoothing~~).

430 ~~Finally, We we~~ observed how the smoothing influences ~~sd the~~ crustal velocity, particularly in the area ~~covered only of the model for which most data was provided~~ by gravimetric profiles. Given that the gravimetric profiles are interpreted in terms of ~~isotropic homogeneous~~ sections, and given that the smaller sections interpreted were roughly about 100 km in dimension along the profile, we chose this as the Gaussian width. It was also confirmed by 435 trial and error that below this width we would observe some artifacts in the model. Model uncertainty was estimated as the sum of two ~~factors~~ components: uncertainty in the input data and uncertainty from the interpolation.

Results ~~The main characteristics of the model~~

440 ~~Most of the available data was related to the Moho discontinuity, and therefore the results of that interpolation are considered most accurate. Because of that, we used Moho discontinuity depth errors in combination with lower uncertainty areas of the Vp model as guidelines to mark edges of our model. The final model covers only the area between roughly 13° E and 20° E, and 42° N and 47° N.~~

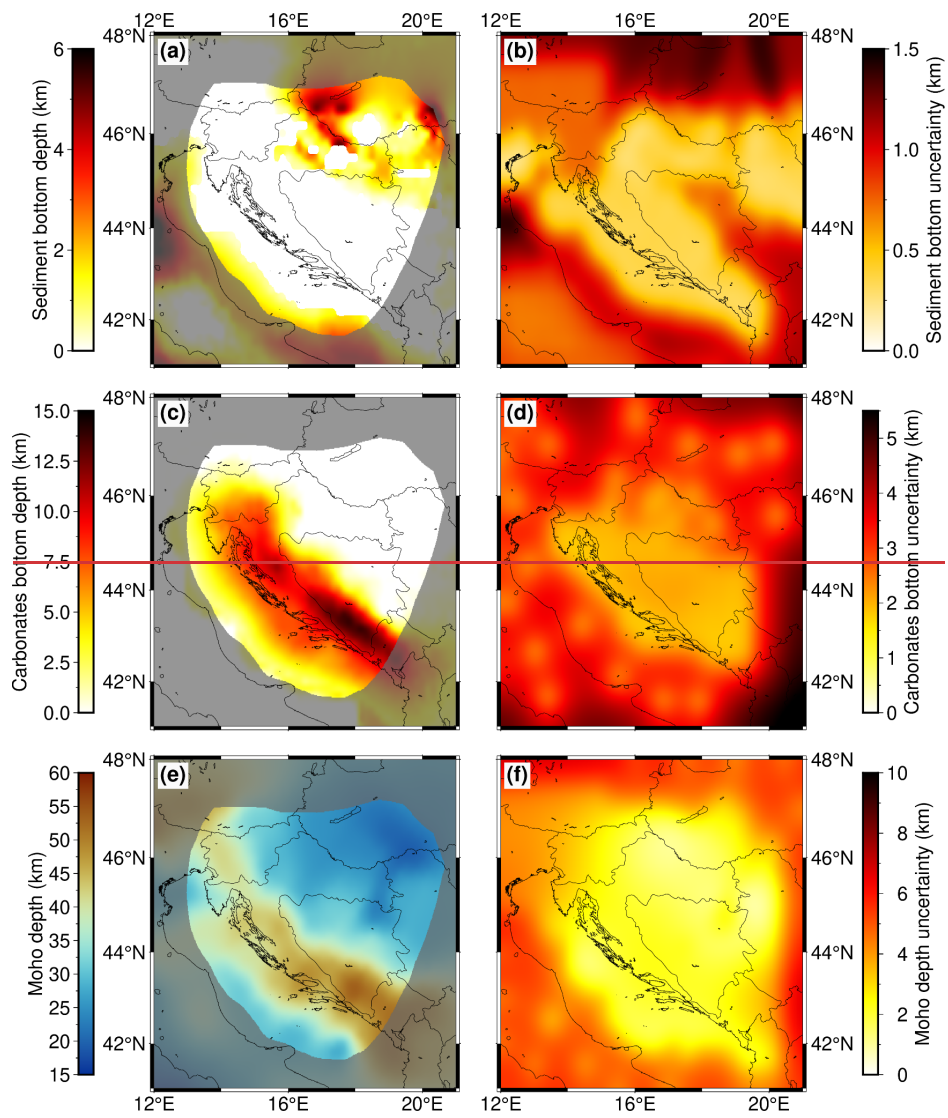
445 ~~Interfaces embedded within the model are shown in the left hand side of Fig. 3 (panels a, c and e). The shaded areas mark the region where the model is not well defined. The right hand side of Fig. 3 (panels b, d and f) shows the standard deviations (the positive square root of the variance) for CRC thickness, Neogene deposits thickness and Moho depth. For the deposits bottom error estimation, we had the following models available: Tišljarić et al. (2002), Saftić et al. (2003), Matenco and Radivojević (2012), and Magrin and Rossi (2020) – the rest of the area was filled with regional EPerust data and is therefore of lower accuracy.~~
450 Since the model is mostly concentrated on the Dinarides where the topmost cover is predominantly made of Paleozoic–Eocene CRC, Neogene sedimentary cover is negligible for the large part of the model, but areas to the east and northeast of the Dinarides (i.e. SW Pannonian Basin) have thick Neogene deposits reaching thicknesses of more than 4 km. 455 ~~Here, the Most most~~ prominent features, clearly seen as two red bands in **Fig. 3a**, are the Sava and Drava depressions, with Drava depression being slightly deeper.

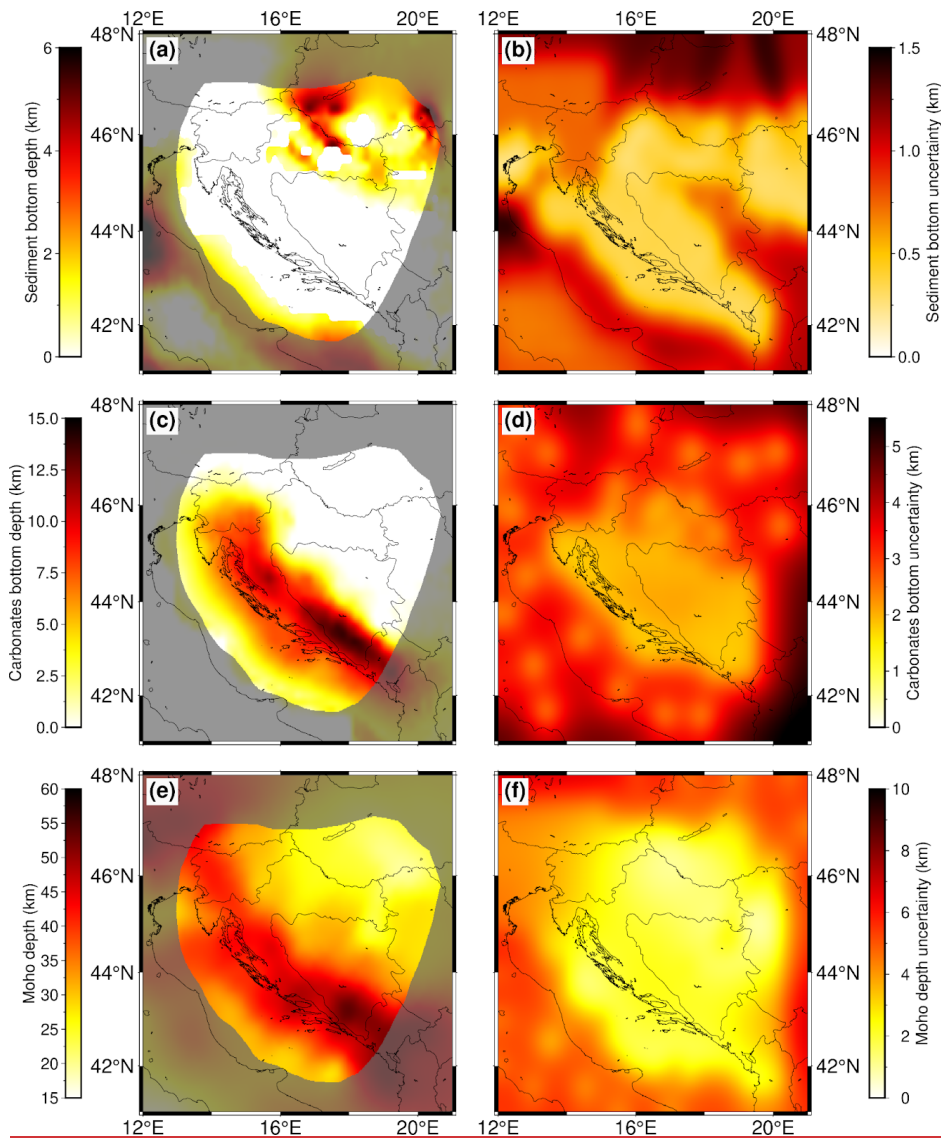
CRC bottom depth model (**Fig. 3c**) is almost a mirror image of the Neogene deposits bottom model. In the SW Pannonian Basin, where Neogene deposits are the thickest, the underlying 460 carbonate layer is thin, and vice versa – in the Dinarides, where the CRC is the thickest, there

are no prominent Neogene deposits. CRC thicknesses ~~is are~~ well over 5 km in the northern part of the External Dinarides and ~~thickening they are getting even thicker going~~ southwards ~~along the Dinarides chain strike~~ (reaching cumulative thicknesses of almost 15 km in the southern ~~Dinarides part of the mountain chain~~). In the Adriatic Sea area, carbonates are thinning out ~~towards going~~ southwestwards, but ~~this may be that may also be~~ partly caused by ~~the relative~~ lack of available data in that part of the model.

~~The~~ greatest Moho depths in the investigated region are found in the SE part of the Dinarides ~~mountain chain, where it reachings~~ depths of over 45 km (see **Fig. 3e**). To the NW, along the External Dinarides, ~~mountain chain strike~~ the Moho becomes shallower, reaching depths of around 40 km. In the SW part of the Pannonian basin, the crustal thickness is between 20 and 30 km, becoming even shallower going further east. In the Adriatic Sea (within the part covered with our model), the Moho is shallower than in the Dinarides, but deeper than in the SW Pannonian Basin, with crustal thicknesses between 30 and 35 km. At the transition ~~from between the~~ Adriatic Sea ~~to and~~ the Dinarides ~~mountain chain~~, the Moho depth change is gradual, whereas going towards the SW Pannonian basin from the Dinarides, the change is rather abrupt.

~~The right hand side of Fig. 3 (panels b, d and f) shows interface uncertainties (Neogene deposits, CRC bottom and Moho depth, respectively).~~ Given that a significant contribution to the uncertainty value is ~~the uncertainty~~ from the interpolation itself (which is of greater value at grid points further away from the input data points), one can distinctly see the areas with less data coverage as areas with higher uncertainty. Moho depth uncertainty (**Fig. 3f**) is low in the entire area of interest, i.e. the wider Dinarides region. For Neogene deposits bottom the area of lower data coverage is in the eastern part of the Internal Dinarides where there is less information available on sedimentary thickness (see also **Fig. 1**). On the other hand, that part of the Internal Dinarides is mostly covered by the exposed bedrock largely composed of low-grade metamorphic Paleozoic–Mesozoic formations with thin cover of Mesozoic CRC (e.g. Schmid et al., 2008), so Neogene deposits thickness values here are mostly negligible. For the CRC thickness, the area of least accuracy is in the NE part of the investigated area (junction zone between Dinarides-Pannonian basin - Southern Alps). Similar to the previous case, here the low accuracy is due to the lack of measurements on CRC thickness as the region is covered by a thick layer of Neogene deposits.





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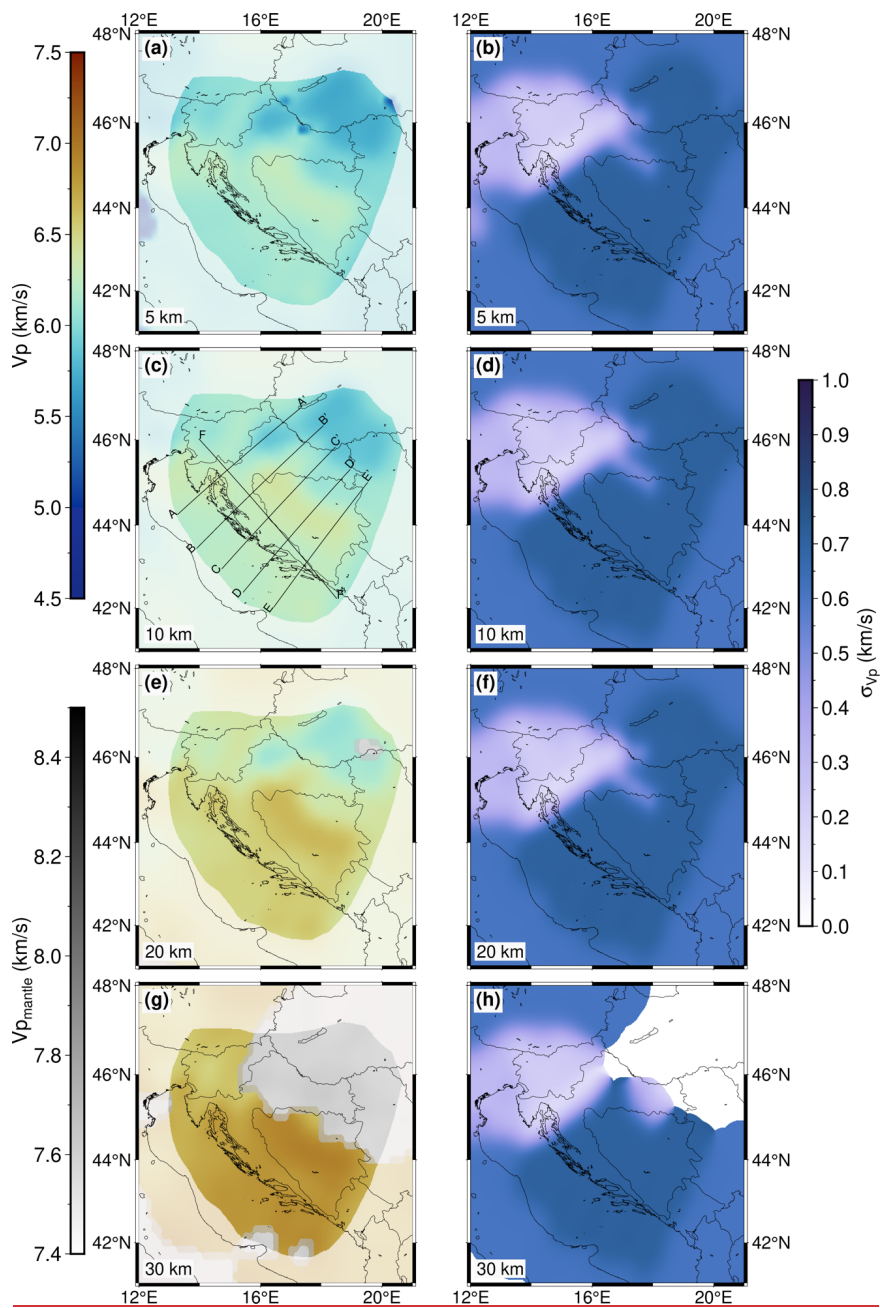
Figure 3. Model interface depths and corresponding uncertainties: (a) Neogene deposits bottom depth, (b) Neogene deposits bottom uncertainty, (c) CRC bottom depth, (d) CRC bottom uncertainty, (e) Moho discontinuity depth, and (f) Moho depth uncertainty. [Depths are defined as kilometers below sea level and the areas of lower resolution are shaded.](#)

500 The seismic velocity distribution within the model is depicted in the left-hand side of **Fig. 4**
at four depths (5, 10, 20 and 30 km) showing most prominent features of the model crustal
structure. At a depth of 5 km (**Fig. 4a**), the P-wave velocity in a large part of the External
Dinarides is about 6 km/s. Given that we had no independent estimate for the velocity for
the CRC, we cannot discern it as a separate layer just looking at velocity values. Outside the
505 External Dinarides, one can see that the velocity in the SW Pannonian Basin at depth of 5 km
is slightly lower (just below 6 km/s) than than in the rest of the investigated area.

At a depth of 10 km (**Fig. 4c**) the velocity values in the SW Pannonian Basin are considerably
lower than in the rest of the model, with values around 6 km/s. In the area of the Internal
Dinarides, velocity at 10 km depth is slightly higher than in the External Dinarides and
510 beneath the Adriatic Sea. It is hard to discern if this reflects the actual structure, or if it is the
consequence of the higher uncertainty in that part of the model (the velocity here was
estimated from the density values from the gravimetric profiles, given that there were no
other data sources available). Similar situation can be seen in **Fig. 4e** for a depth of 20 km.
For this depth the velocities in the SW Pannonian Basin are reaching values above 6 km/s
515 whereas values for the Dinarides are again higher (especially in the internal part) than in the
rest of the investigated area, with values above 6.5 km/s. In the lower part of the crust (**Fig.**
4g) at a depth of 30 km in the central part of the Dinarides the P-velocity values are reaching
7 km/s.

In the same image the mantle velocity values are shown in grayscale due to the considerable
520 difference between crust and mantle values and the fact that the crustal thickness in SW
Pannonian basin is mostly less than 25 km. The mantle velocity variations are better seen in
profile sections (e.g. see **Fig. 5f**). At the 30 km depth level, the velocity is much higher in the
southern External Dinarides and below the Adriatic Sea (at least the part covered with our
model) than in the northern External Dinarides. The mantle velocity shown in **Figs. 4 and 5**
525 is not estimated as part of this model, but was taken from Belinić et al. (2020), by estimating
it from the V_s model reported there using the standard P over S velocity ratio for the upper
mantle ($V_p/V_s = 1.73$).

Fig. 4 also shows error estimates for P-wave velocity at four depths: 5 km, 10 km, 20 km and
30 km (panels b, d, f and h, respectively). It can be seen that the lowest estimates are in the
530 area where we used the NAC model input data (Magrin and Rossi, 2020), and in areas where
data from active seismic profiles were available (Brückl et al., 2007; Šumanovac et al., 2009).
The distribution disposition of the errors shown in **Fig. 4** was expected given the fact that
the digital NAC model and the active seismic profiles are of highest quality and that
gravimetric data has higher uncertainty. Estimated uncertainty is highest in the area where
535 gravimetric profiles (Šumanovac, 2010) are the main source of the data used to estimate
infer P-velocity.



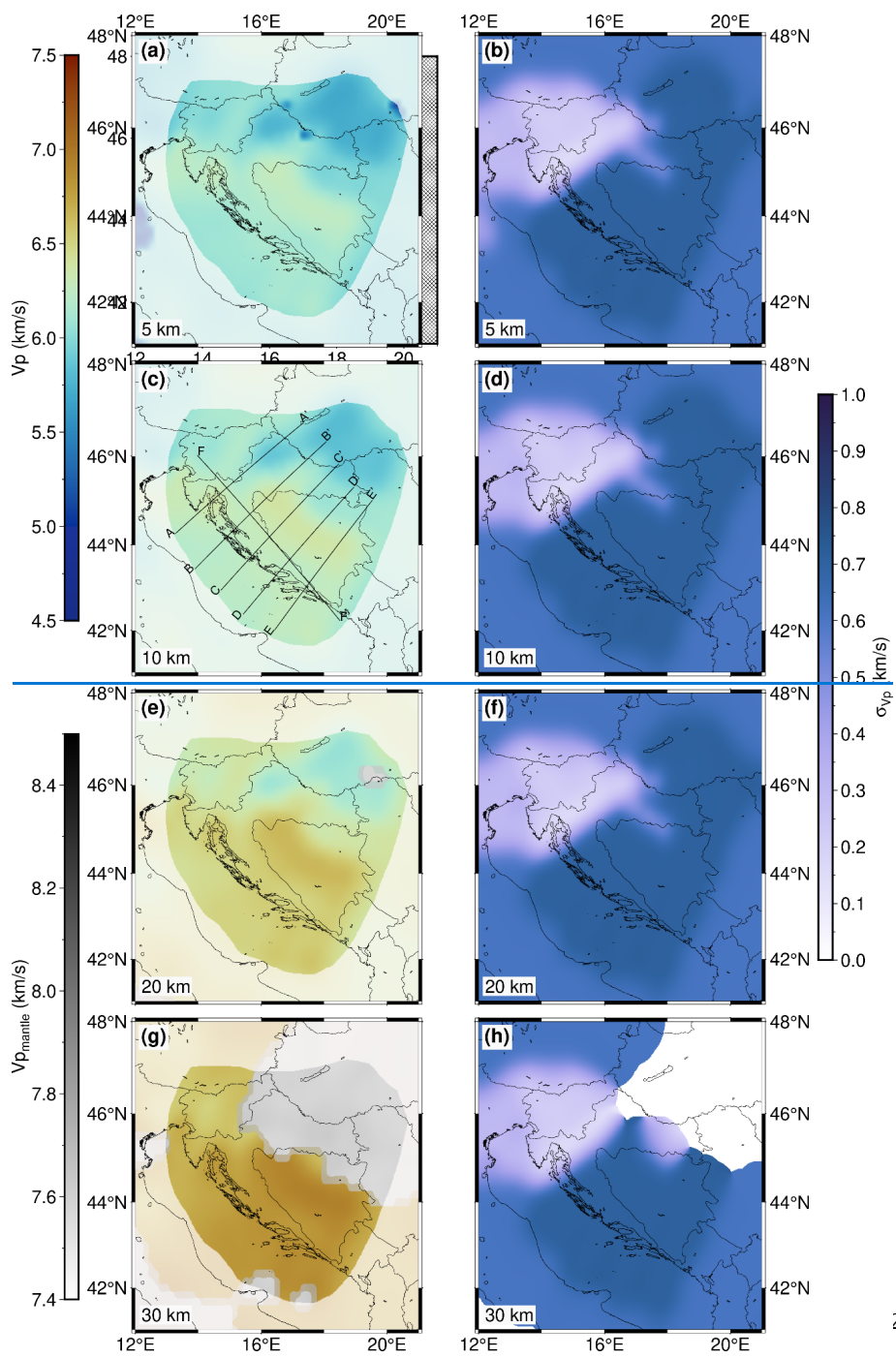


Figure 4. Velocity model depth slices and corresponding uncertainties for 5 km, 10 km, 20 km, and 30 km depth (below sea level) are shown in panels (a)(b), (c)(d), (e)(f) and (g)(h). In the panel (c) the positions of the profiles shown in **Fig. 5** are marked. The areas of lower resolution are shaded, and the gray color scale corresponds to the mantle velocity (see text for details).

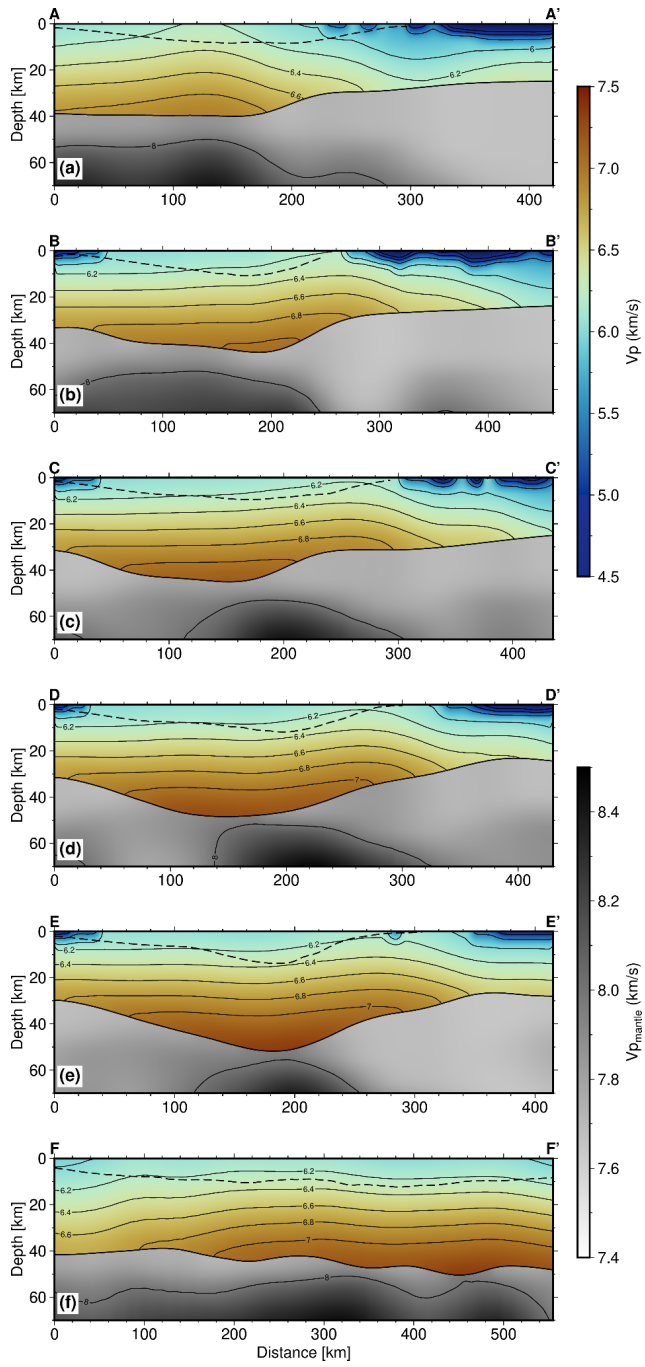
Fig. 5 shows depth variations of velocity along five the profiles (locations marked in **Fig. 4c**) crossing the Dinarides perpendicularly with and one profile (FF)' running parallel to the main strike of the mountain chain (locations marked in **Fig. 4c**). The profile AA' (**Fig. 5a**) crosses the Dinarides in their northern part. The maximum Moho depth below the Dinarides on this profile (around 40 km) is the lowest compared to the other profiles. At a distance of ~270 km, the profile reaches the SW Pannonian Basin, which can be clearly seen by a as the thinning of the crust (between 20 and 30 km) and by the topmost layer of Neogene deposits of lower P-velocity. Although the CRC thickness is indicated with the dashed line, one cannot recognize the transition into this unit by looking just at the velocity values. Generally, the velocities in the part of the profile crossing the Dinarides are larger than in the part of the profile crossing the SW Pannonian Basin. The velocity gradually increases with depth, reaching values of about 6.7–7.0 km/s in the deepest part of the crust, with the exception of the SW Pannonian Basin, where the velocity just above Moho is lower, about 6.5 km/s.

The maximum Moho depth seen on the profile BB' (**Fig. 5b**) is somewhat greater than in the profile AA', a little over 40 km in the part of the External Dinarides. It is shallower in the Adriatic area (in the first 50 km of the profile) and in the Internal Dinarides (after about 220 km). At the very end of the profile, where it reaches the SW Pannonian Basin, one can see the a similarsame feature as seen in the profile AA': thinner crust and slightly lower velocity just above Moho than in the rest of the profile. In the same profile the largest CRC thickness, indicated by the dashed line, coincides with the deepest Moho and closely follows the velocity isoline of about 6.3 km/s. In large parts of the profile crossing where crossing the part where Moho is the deepest, in large parts of the profile coincides with the velocity isoline of about 6.3 km/s. That feature can also be observed on other profiles (CC' and DD') at similar locations.

The profile CC' (**Fig. 5c**) crosses the Dinarides in their central part. Here the maximum Moho depth is almost 50 km. The profile reaches the SW Pannonian Basin only in the last 100 km, but it covers much of the Internal Dinarides. The CRC is of uniform thickness along the part of the profile covering the Dinarides (after the first 100 km, which cover the Adriatic Sea area). The crust is thickest beneath the External Dinarides, and is becoming thinner going both towards the Adriatic Sea and the Internal Dinarides. In this central part of the External Dinarides, there is also somewhat relatively higher velocity recorded deeper in the crust, 7.0–7.2 km/s, just above the Moho. In the Internal Dinarides (between 250 to 300 km from the start of the profile), the velocity just above the Moho is a little lower than in the external

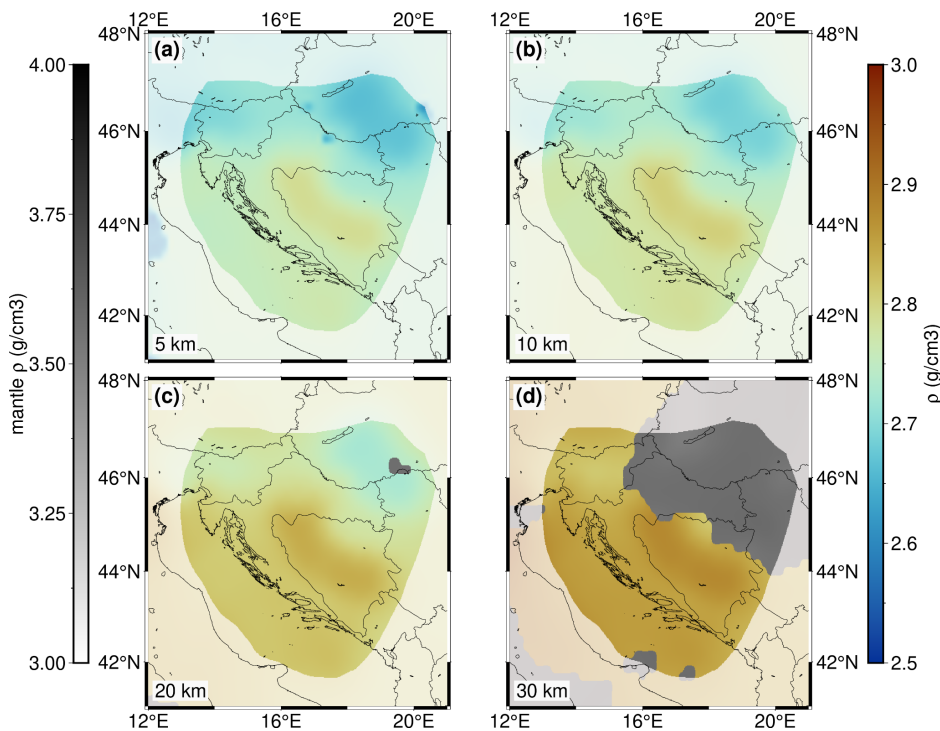
part, around 6.7–7.0 km/s. As noticed in the previous two profiles, in the SW Pannonian Basin, the velocity just above Moho is even lower than in the Internal Dinarides. Similarly, as for the profile BB', the bottom of the CRC coincides with the velocity values of about 6.2–6.3 km/s, except in the very beginning of the profile (first ~50 km).

Profiles DD' and EE' (**Fig. 5d and 5e**) cross the southern most part of the Dinarides. Here, the Moho reaches depths of over \geq 50 km. Also, the crustal velocity at those depths is the largest compared to ~~of~~ all the other profiles, reaching almost 7.5 km/s. Greater Variations in Moho depths and crustal velocity change can be best seen in the profile FF' (**Fig. 5f**), running parallel to the Dinarides from northwest to southeast. In this profile, Moho depth increases from around 40 km in the northern part to over \geq 50 km in the southern part. Also, the crustal velocity just above Moho changes from just below 7.0 km/s in the north to almost 7.5 km/s in the south. Similarly, velocity in the mid-crustal zone (~20–25 km depth) is somewhat lower in the northern part of the profile, a little over 6.5 km/s, but becomes higher in the SE part -reaching values of about 7 km/s.



595 **Figure 5.** Profiles with locations shown in Fig. 4c: (a) AA'; (b) BB'; (c) CC'; (d) DD'; (e) EE', and (f) FF'. Parallel full lines running along the profile are the velocity isolines. The depth of the CRC as derived from known geological data is indicated as the dashed line close to the surface.

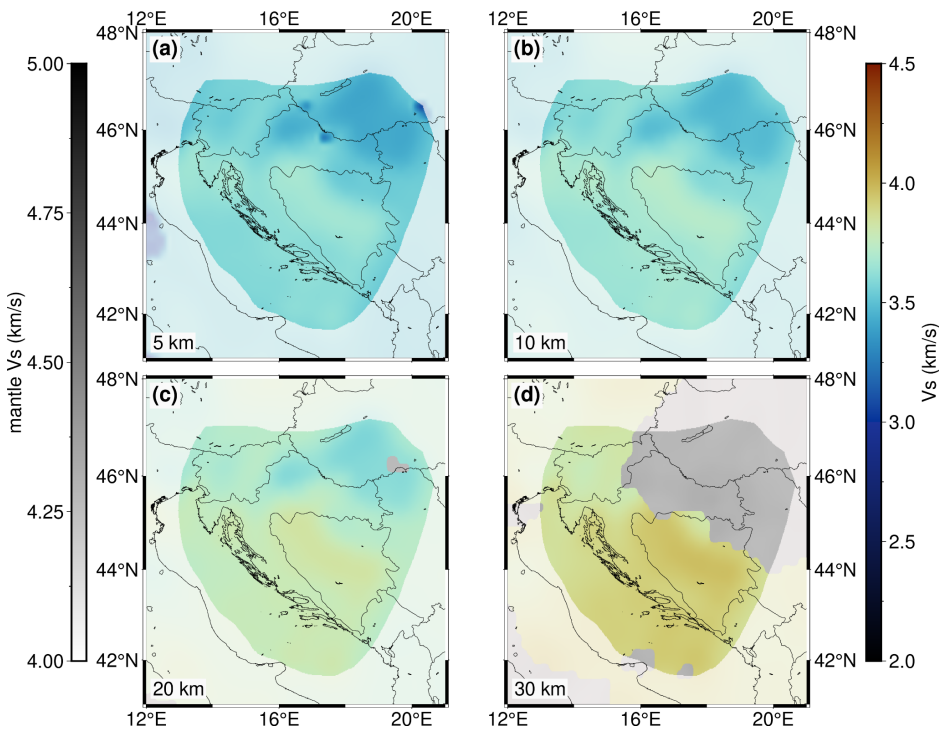
600 From the smaller data set which includes the NAC model (Magrin and Rossi, 2020) and the gravimetric profiles (Šumanovac, 2010), we have interpolated the density values for the entire crust. The result is shown in Fig. 6. Keep in mind that for this interpolation there were only two sources of data, one of which had densities defined as isotropic layers homogenous in density (Šumanovac, 2010). Therefore, this parameter is much less accurate than P-wave velocity. As expected, this parameter reflects the results of Šumanovac (2010), since that was the main source of data. It can be seen that the density is slightly higher in the area of the Internal Dinarides than in the External Dinarides for all the depths considered here, possibly coinciding with higher density crystalline crust. In the SW Pannonian Basin, the density has much lower values.



610 **Figure 6.** Density model depth slices for (a) 5 km, (b) 10 km, (c) 20 km, and (d) 30 km depth. The areas of lower resolution are shaded, and the gray color scale corresponds to the mantle density (see text for details)

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Fig. 7 shows the S-wave velocity at four depth levels. In this case, there was no measured S-wave velocity data (the only available V_s results were from the NAC model which covers only the western corner of our study area) so these values were estimated using the P-wave velocity and another set of Brocher's (2005) empirical relation between connecting P- and S-wave velocity.



620

Figure 7. S-wave velocity depth slices for (a) 5 km, (b) 10 km, (c) 20 km, and (d) 30 km depth. The areas of lower resolution and the gray color scale corresponds to the mantle velocity (see text for details).

625 Model testing

630 To test how well the newly derived 3-D model represents the true structure, we calculated the travel times for a regional earthquake recorded on representative seismic stations in the wider Dinarides area (Fig. 8). We also calculated travel times using the simple 1D model with two isotropic crust layers currently employed for routine earthquake locating in Croatia (B.C.I.S. (1972), Herak et al., 1996). The 1D model's topmost layer is characterized by P-velocity of 5.8 km/s, and the deeper crustal layer has the P-wave velocity of 6.65 km/s. For the same model the uppermost mantle velocity is 8.0 km/s. We then compared the travel times from both models with the true measured travel times. We used the Pn and Pg phases of the 2020 Petrinja M_w 6.4 earthquake. The location of the earthquake (42.4188 °N, 16.2082 °E, 7.57 km) and the stations that recorded the wave onsets are shown in Fig. 8. For travel time calculation we used the Fast Marching Method (de Kool et al., 2006) as implemented within the FMTOMO package (Rawlinson and Urvoy, 2006).

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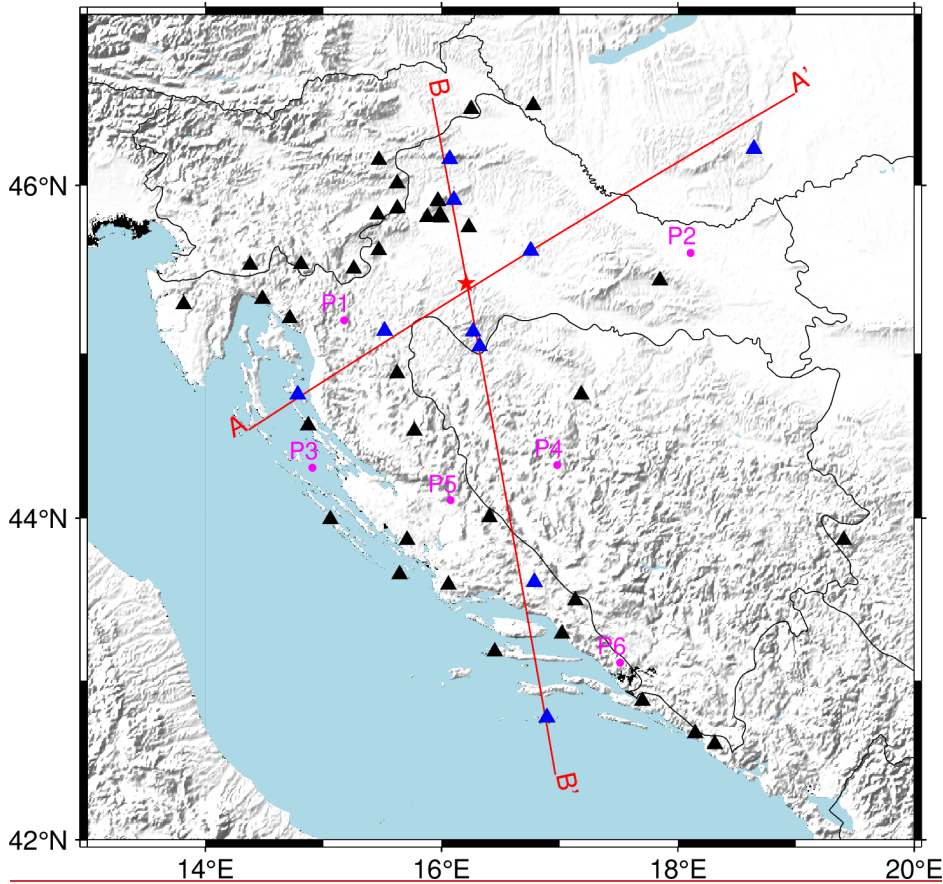
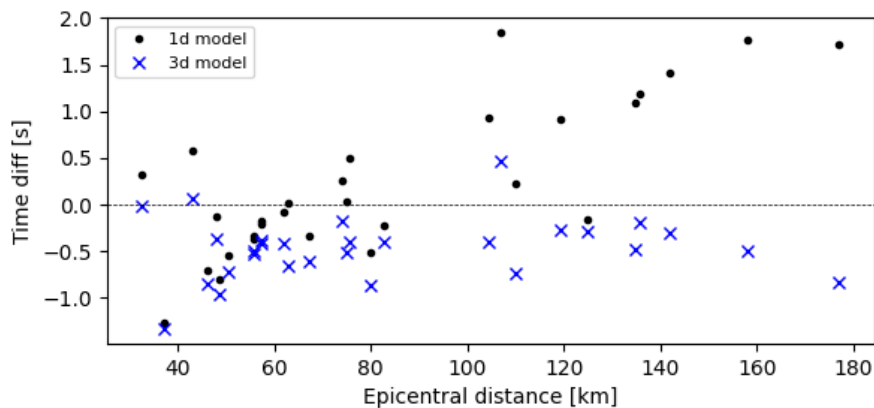


Figure 8. Epicenter of the Petrinja 2020 earthquake sequence mainshock (red star) and stations used for calculation of traveltimes (black and blue triangles). Travel times for all the stations are shown in Figs. 9 and 10. The red lines mark the positions of the cross sections shown in Fig. 11 (section AA') and Fig. 12 (section BB'). The stations coloured blue are the ones shown in Fig. 11 and Fig. 12. The points colored in magenta mark the position of 1D models shown in Fig. 13.

Figures 9 and 10 show the differences in travel times calculated between the models (both 1D and 3-D) and observed travel times for Pg and Pn phases, respectively. When looking at Pg phases (Fig. 9), we can see improvement in calculated travel time accuracy when using the 3-D model (with respect to the 1-D model) for epicentral distances smaller than 50 km and over 100 km. For smaller epicentral distances, the more accurate travel times in the 3-D model are connected with better specification of Neogene sedimentary cover with low P-

650 wave velocity. On the other hand, for epicentral distances between 50 and 80 km 1D and 3-
D models travel times are similarly offset compared to the observed travel times, with times
calculated using the 1D model being slightly more accurate. We believe this is due to the less
accurate velocity sampling in the upper crust in the transitional zone between Internal
Dinarides and SW Pannonian Basin and lack of knowledge about spatial coverage of the CRC
655 in this area. For greater epicentral distances we can see that travel times calculated using the
3-D model are much more accurate compared to those calculated using the 1D model. That
means that the crustal velocity derived in our 3-D model is a considerable improvement of
the simple 1D model.



660 **Figure 9.** Pg phase travel times for the 2020 Petrinja earthquake: time difference between 1D model
and observed travel times (black dots) and between 3-D model and observed travel times (blue
crosses).

665 Concerning the Pn phases (Fig. 10), we can see that the travel times calculated using the 3-
D model are generally closer to the actual observed travel times for all the epicentral
distances shown than those calculated using the 1D model. In case of Pn phases, the
uppermost mantle velocity plays a great part in the total travel times, so both the crustal
model we derived here and the mantle model from Belinić et al. (2020) show improvement
670 compared to the 1D model. There is still room for improvement in the uppermost mantle
velocity, since the model of Belinić et al. (2020) we used here is most accurate for greater
depths (80–100 km).

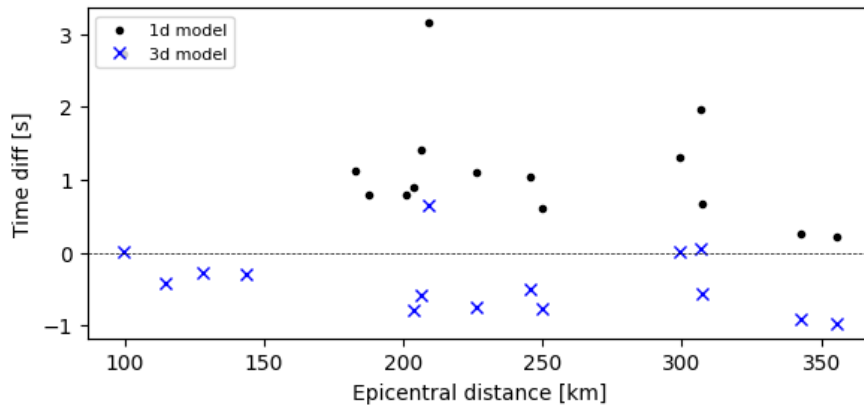


Figure 10. Pn phase travel times for the 2020 Petrinja earthquake: time difference between 1D model and observed travel times (black dots) and between 3-D model and observed travel times (blue crosses).

675 **Figure 11** shows a cross section AA' (location in **Fig. 8**) of the newly derived 3-D model, with the calculated ray paths using the simple 1D and 3-D models. The section was chosen in a way to show travel times for both Pg and Pn phases, and we also tried to position it in such a way that it crosses almost perpendicularly the main strike of the Dinarides. There is also another cross section shown in **Fig. 12** (BB'), oriented approximately north to south.

680 Positions of the stations shown in cross section BB' are also marked in **Fig. 8**. From both profiles it can be seen that the seismic rays cover completely different paths depending on whether they were calculated using the 1D or the 3-D model. For example, the Pg phases, when calculated using the 3-D model, travel much deeper than their 1D counterparts. Also, since the Moho in the Pannonian Basin of our 3-D model is much shallower than the Moho in the simple 1D model, the calculated rays using either 1D or 3-D model travel on very different paths in the uppermost mantle. That is particularly visible in **Fig. 12**, in case of the ray path between the source and the most distant station shown. The ray path calculated for the 3-D model reaches depths of almost 60 km, while the same ray path calculated for the 1D model reaches depths of only 40 km. Given all that, it can be concluded that precise knowledge

685 about the crustal model is very important for all seismic applications.

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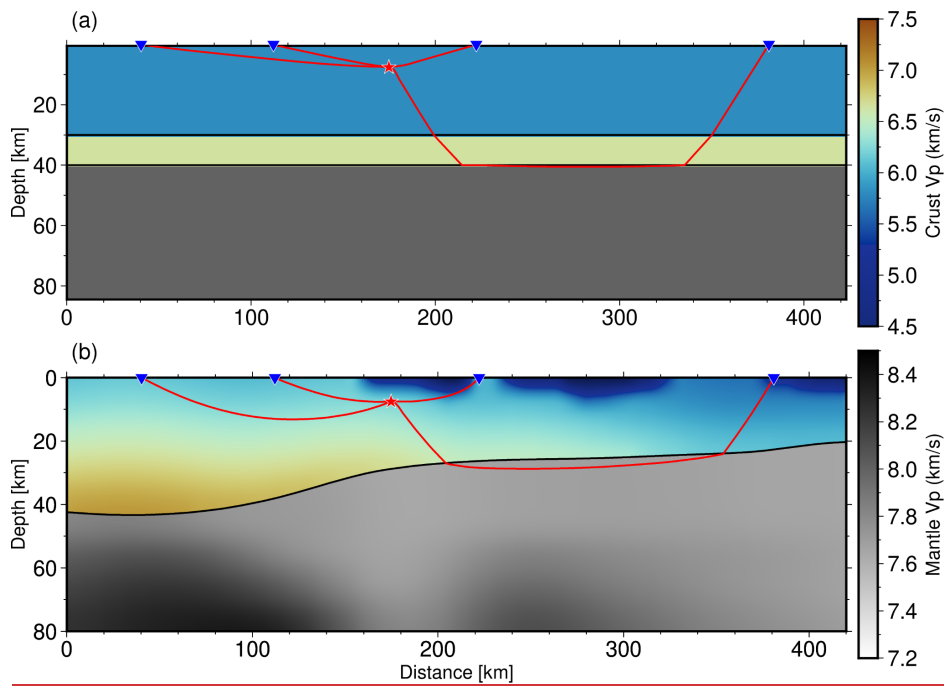


Figure 11. Earthquake ray paths in cross section AA' (for location see Fig. 8) for two models: (a) a simple 1D model with two isotropic crustal layers, and (b) our 3-D model with one anisotropic crustal layer. Colorbars are the same for both panels.

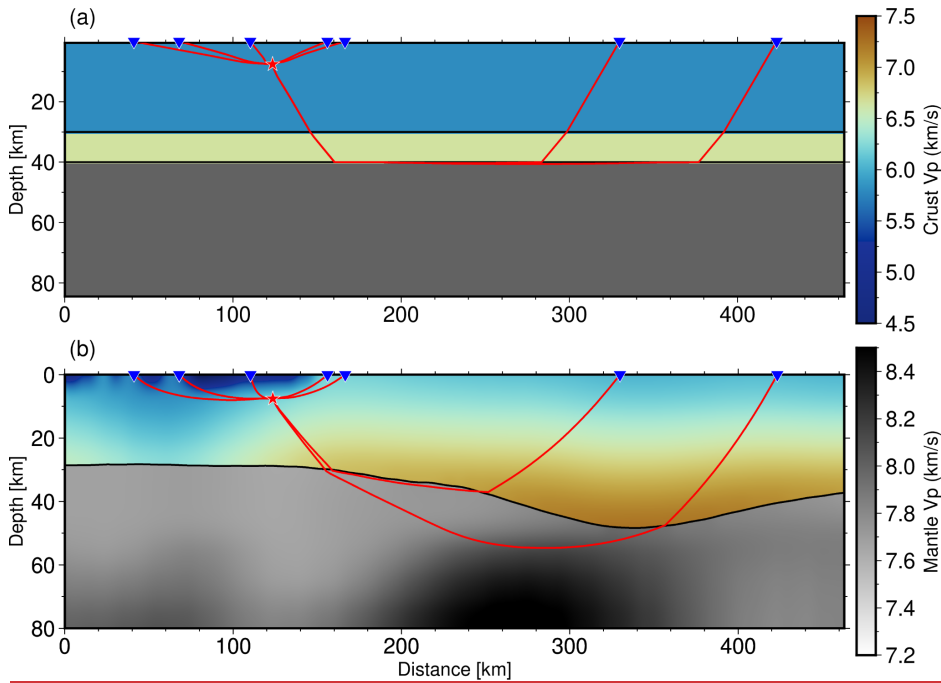


Figure 12. Earthquake ray paths in cross section BB' (for location see Fig. 8) for two models: (a) a simple 1D model with two isotropic crustal layers, and (b) our 3-D model with one anisotropic crustal layer. Colorbars are the same for both panels.

In addition to the profiles shown in Figs. 11 and 12, we have also extracted depth velocity curves from the new 3-D model for six points marked in Fig. 8 in magenta. Those six points have been chosen to cover different domains of our model (Stable Adria, Internal and External Dinarides, and the SW Pannonian Basin). For example, at the P2 point (see Fig. 13), which is located in the SW Pannonian Basin, the velocity for the first couple of kilometers of depth is much lower than for the other points because there is a Neogene deposits layer on top. The course of the curve of each model shown in Fig. 13 is generally similar at each point with obvious differences being Moho depth (see points P2 and P1) and rate of increase of velocity with depth (e.g., compare points P3 and P5).

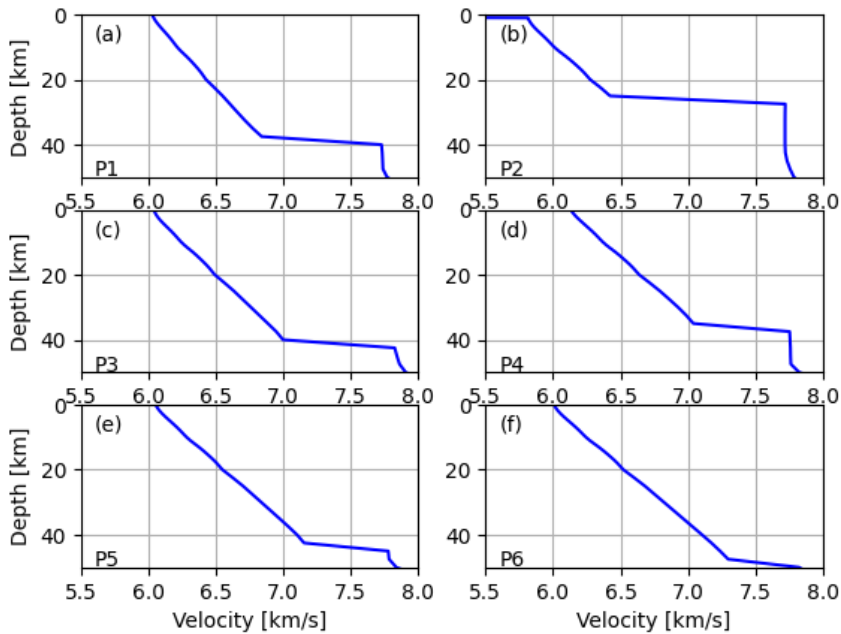


Figure 13. Velocity changes with depth for six points (P1 to P6; for locations see Fig. 8).

Discussion

The creation of the presented 3-D model was inspired-motivated by the need for a the more complete 3-D seismic model of the Dinarides. Although there have been previous studies estimating various properties of the crust in the region, at the complete seismic model of the Dinarides crust and upper mantle did not exist until this study. In this study we assembled data from previous investigations to create a first comprehensive model of the crust for the wider Dinarides area. The Moho depth is the best constrained parameter of our model, since there were several good sources of high-quality data regarding this parameter. It confirms what we already know about the Moho in the Dinarides, but now it is presented as a comprehensive, ready-to-use model.

For the Neogene deposit thickness we used manually digitized maps, therefore having less precise data, but which were originally created from a high number of active seismic profiles and thus strengthening our confidence that this parameter was adequately presented in our

model. The thickest Neogene sedimentary cover can be found in the area of the Sava and Drava depressions with thinner cover in the rest of the SW Pannonian basin and almost non-existent in other regions, most notably in the Dinarides, as well as in some hilly areas of the SW Pannonian Basin.

730 As can be seen in **Fig. 1**, all the P-wave velocity high-quality data are concentrated in the
| NNW part of the study area. In the southern part, we relied on the inverted gravimetric
| profile data (Šumanovac, 2010), which is not the ideal data source due to the high
| uncertainties and lower resolution. Nevertheless, given the lack of other data sources for
735 South Dinarides, even the data from the gravimetric profiles proved to be of high value. It
seems that the velocity in the Internal Dinarides, where we only had inverted gravimetric
profile data available, is slightly higher than in the rest of the model. At this point, we cannot
discern if it is an actual feature, or some artifact due to lower quality data. The fact is that
this is a different separate tectonic unit originating from different processes, so it is not
impossible that it has different features and lithological properties. If we have omitted these
740 data from interpolation, we would have even worse results, because in that case the values
would be purely extrapolated. The approach we chose gave at least some constraint to the
velocity values in this part of the model.

It is interesting to note that the trend of velocity in the lower part of the crust corresponds
745 to the velocity trends in the uppermost mantle. There is a positive velocity anomaly in the
part of the uppermost mantle right below (or slightly offset from) the part of the crust with
the deepest Moho. These positive anomalies in the work of Belinić et al. (2020) have been
interpreted as a signal of the subducting Adria Microplate. Our model is mere interpolation
of what was already known, but perhaps what we see here is part of the Adria crust being
dragged along with the uppermost part of the mantle in the subduction below the Dinarides.

750 As can be seen in the **Fig. 5a**, which is crossing into the SW Pannonian basin, the crustal
velocity in that part is much lower than in the Dinarides, a feature also observed by
Šumanovac et al. (2009). Perhaps the lower velocity is a feature of the Pannonian crust,
whereas the relatively higher crustal velocity is a feature of the Adria crust. To make a
definitive conclusion, more investigation should be performed.

755 The velocity estimation for the Neogene deposits and the Mesozoic carbonates proved
particularly challenging since there is little available data about this parameter. In the case
of Neogene deposits, we used Brocher's (2008) relation for the deposits of similar age. For
the CRC we could not derive any velocity–depth relation due to the lack of available data, so
in this case, we simply used the same velocity interpolation as for the rest of the crust. It
760 seems, though, that at least in some parts of our new model, the CRC bottom depth coincides
with the velocity of around 6.2 - 6.3 km/s.

To test how well the newly derived 3-D model represents the true structure, we calculated the travel times for a regional earthquake recorded on representative seismic stations in the wider Dinarides area (**Fig. 8**). We also calculated travel times using the simple 1D model with two isotropic crust layers currently employed for routine earthquake locating in Croatia (B.C.I.S. (1972), Herak et al., 1996). The 1D model's topmost layer is characterized by P-velocity of 5.8 km/s, and the deeper crustal layer has the P-wave velocity of 6.65 km/s. For the same model the uppermost mantle velocity is 8.0 km/s. We then compared the travel times from both models with the true measured travel times. We used the Pn and Pg phases of the 2020 Petrinja Mw6.4 earthquake. The location of the earthquake (42.4188°N, 16.2082°E, 7.57 km) and the stations that recorded the wave onsets are shown in **Fig. 8**. For the same stations we calculated the travel times using the 1D and the new 3-D model. For travel time calculation we used the Fast Marching Method (de Kool et al., 2006) as implemented within the FMTOMO package (Rawlinson and Urvoy, 2006).

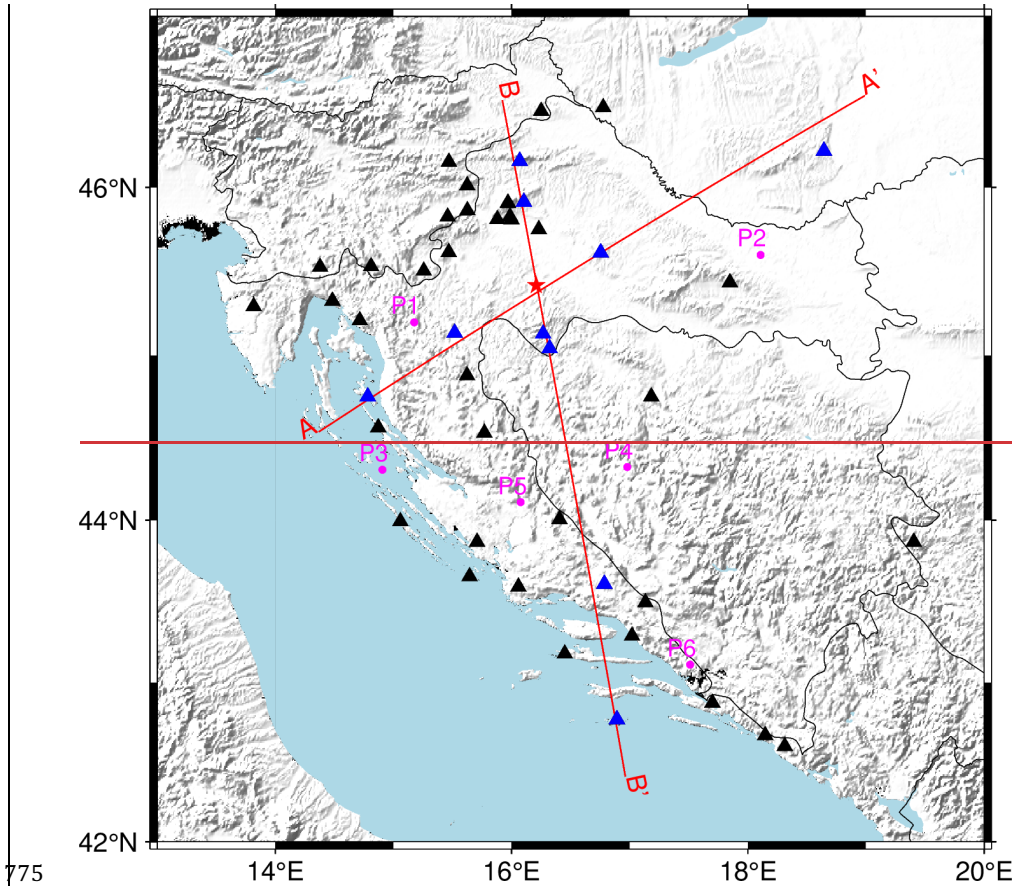
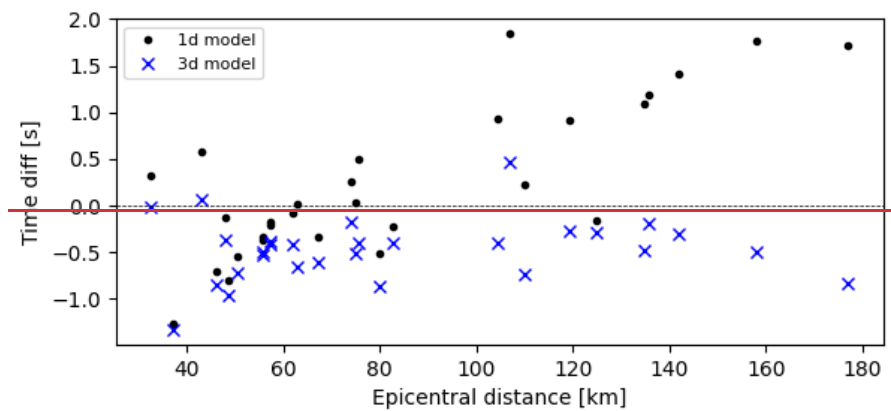


Figure 8. EA map showing the epicenter of the Petrinja 2020 earthquake sequence mainshock (red star) and stations we used for calculation of traveltimes (black and blue triangles). Travel times for all the stations are shown in Figs. 9 and 10. The red lines mark the positions of the cross sections shown in Fig. 11 (section AA') and Fig. 12 (section BB'). The stations coloured blue are the ones shown in Fig. 11 and Fig. 12. The points colored in magenta mark the position of 1D models shown in Fig. 13.

Calculated travel times are shown in Figs. 9 and 10, for Pg and Pn phase, respectively. Figures 9 and 10 show the differences in travel times calculated between the models (both 1D and 3-D) and observed travel times. When looking at Pg phases (Fig. 9), we can see improvement in calculated travel time accuracy when using the 3-D model (with respect to the 1-D model) for epicentral distances smaller than 50 km and over 100 km. For smaller epicentral distances, the more accurate travel times in the 3-D model are connected with

790 better specification of Neogene sedimentary cover with low P-wave velocity. On the other
795 hand, for epicentral distances between 50 and 80 km 1D and 3-D models travel times are
similarly offset compared to the observed travel times, with times calculated using the 1D
model being slightly more accurate. We believe this is due to the less accurate velocity
sampling in the upper crust in the transitional zone between Internal Dinarides and SW
Pannonian Basin and lack of knowledge about spatial coverage of the CRC in this area. For
greater epicentral distances we can see that travel times calculated using the 3-D model
are much more accurate compared to those calculated using the 1D model. That means that
the crustal velocity derived in our 3-D model is a considerable improvement of the simple 1D
model.



800 **Figure 9.** Pg phase travel times for the 2020 Petrinja earthquake: time difference between 1D model
and observed travel times (black dots) and between 3-D model and observed travel times (blue
crosses).

805 Concerning the Pn phases (**Fig. 10**), we can see that the travel times calculated using the 3-
D model are generally closer to the actual observed travel times for all the epicentral
distances shown than those calculated using the 1D model. In case of Pn phases, the
uppermost mantle velocity plays a great part in the total travel times, so both the crustal
model we derived here and the mantle model from Belinić et al. (2020) show improvement
compared to the 1D model. There is still room for improvement in the uppermost mantle
velocity, since the model of Belinić et al. (2020) we used here is most accurate for greater
depths (80–100 km).

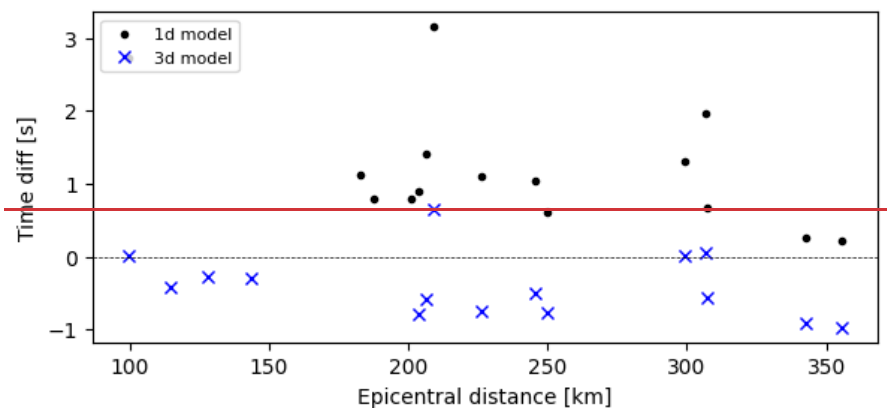


Figure 10. Pn phase travel times for the 2020 Petrinja earthquake: time difference between 1D model and observed travel times (black dots) and between 3-D model and observed travel times (blue crosses).

Figure 11 shows a cross section AA' (from **Fig. 8**) of the newly derived 3-D model, with the calculated ray paths using the simple 1D and 3-D models. The section was chosen in a way to show travel times for both Pg and Pn phases, and we also tried to position it in such a way that it crosses almost perpendicularly the main strike of the Dinarides. There is also another cross section shown in **Fig. 12** (BB'), oriented approximately north to south. Position of the stations shown in cross section BB' is also marked in **Fig. 8**. From both profiles it can be seen that the seismic rays cover completely different paths depending on whether they were calculated using the 1D or the 3-D model. For example, the Pg phases, when calculated using the 3-D model, travel much deeper than their 1D counterparts. Also, since the Moho in the Pannonian Basin of our 3-D model is much shallower than the Moho in the simple 1D model, the calculated rays using either 1D or 3-D model travel on very different paths in the uppermost mantle. That is particularly visible in **Fig. 12**, in case of the ray path between the source and the most distant station shown. The ray path calculated for the 3-D model reaches depths of almost 60 km, while the same ray path calculated for the 1D model reaches depths of only 40 km, which is a huge difference. Given all that, it can be concluded that precise knowledge about the crustal model is very important for all seismic applications.

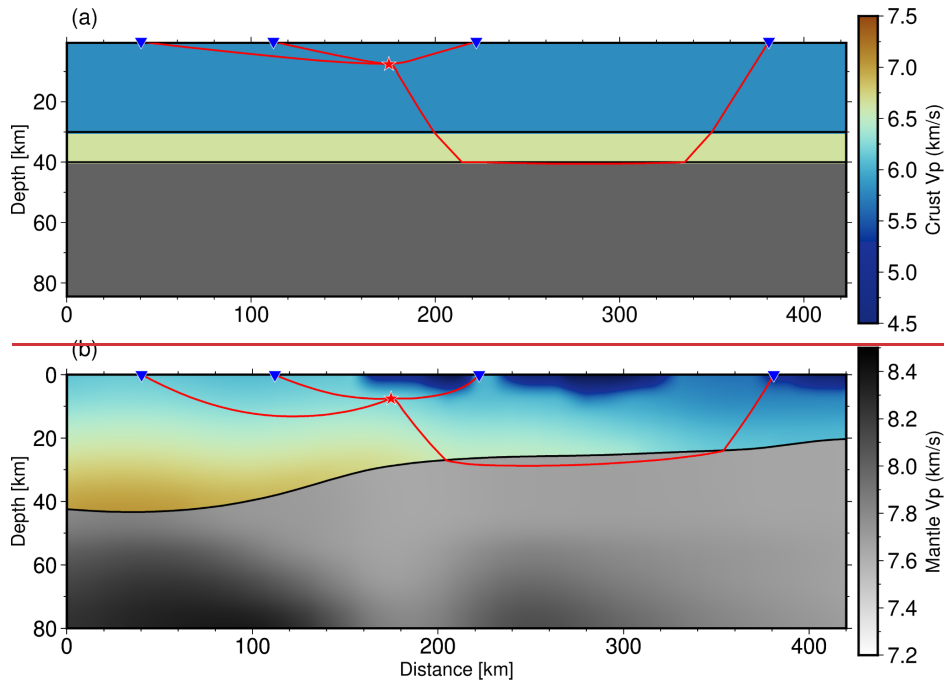
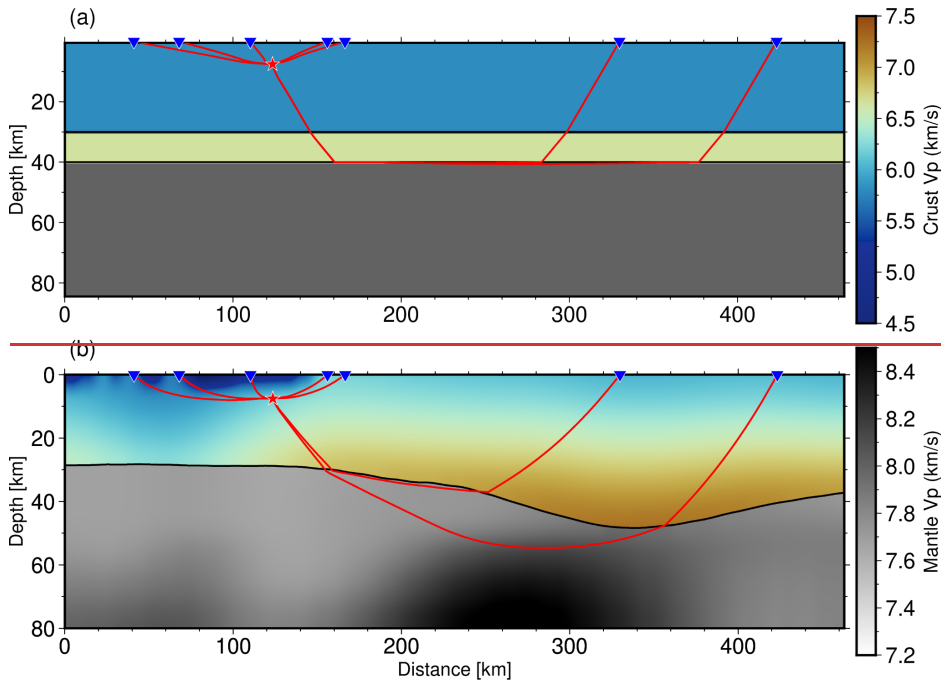


Figure 11. Earthquake ray paths in cross section AA' (for location see Fig. 8) for two models: (a) a simple 1D model with two isotropic crustal layers, and (b) our 3-D model with one anisotropic crustal layer. Colorbars are the same for both panels.

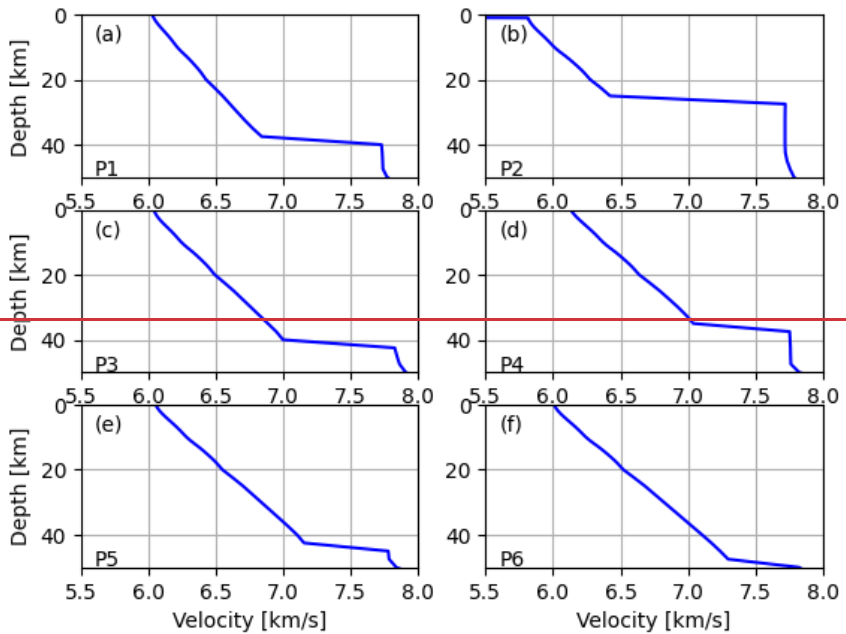
830



835 **Figure 12.** Earthquake ray paths in cross section BB' (for location see Fig. 8) for two models: (a) a simple 1D model with two isotropic crustal layers, and (b) our 3-D model with one anisotropic crustal layer. Colorbars are the same for both panels.

840 In addition to the profiles shown in Figs. 11 and 12, we have also extracted 1D depth velocity models for six points marked in Fig. 8 in magenta. Those six points have been chosen to cover different domains of our model (Stable Adria, Internal and External Dinarides, and the SW Pannonian Basin). The velocity change with depth for the chosen six points is shown in Fig. 13. For example, at the P2 point, which is located in the SW Pannonian Basin, the velocity for the first couple of kilometers of depth is much lower than for the other points because there is a Neogene deposits layer on top. The outlook of each model shown in Fig. 13 is generally similar at each point with obvious differences being Moho depth (see points P2 and P1) and rate of increase of velocity with depth (e.g., compare points P3 and P5).

845



850 **Figure 13.** Velocity changes with depth for six points (P1 to P6; for locations see Fig. 8).

Conclusions

Having a **complete** 3-D model of the crustal structure is a major step forward in the study of the Dinarides and the surrounding areas. The newly derived model is defined on a regular **dense** grid for three key parameters (P- and S-velocity and density), and as such can be readily used by seismologists who need information on crustal structure as input for their studies (earthquake locating, seismic tomography, shaking estimation, seismic hazard...). We tested the performance of the model in comparison with the commonly used 1D model and found significant improvements in time travel calculations. The model still has some inherent weaknesses that have been discussed in the previous sections which are mostly connected with **the limited existence low number** of measurements in some parts of the region. Nevertheless, the 3-D model represents a good first step towards improving the knowledge of the crustal structure in the complex area of the Dinarides.

865

The model clearly delimits several key areas (Dinarides, Pannonian Basin and Adriatic Sea) as well as distinguishing distinct layers in those regions (i.e., Neogene deposits and CRC). The most robust feature of the model is the depth to Mohorovičić discontinuity, but other parameters are also reasonably well defined. Inclusion of the CRC thickness is, to the best of our knowledge, the first attempt to estimate this parameter for the whole Dinarides region. One of the new insights found during the creation of the model is the relatively high (P-wave) velocity for the lower crust in the southern part of the Dinarides. This feature needs to be confirmed by other studies, given the sparsity of information about velocity for that region. On the other hand, the high velocity feature fits nicely to the higher velocity of the uppermost mantle found in the same area, thus corroborating the idea of continental subduction (and/or lithospheric delamination) in south-central External Dinarides.

In conclusion, the model presented here represents the currently best and most complete crustal model for the wider Dinarides region. The model is assembled from all the available measurements on seismic velocity, density, layer composition and thickness to provide a full representation of the major variations of seismic wavespeeds in the regional crust. Hopefully, the new 3-D model will help discover some new, previously unknown features of the crust and in turn, each new study that sheds some light on the crustal structure in this area may improve the 3-D model derived here.

Resources

885 The model derived in this work is available on the following link:
<https://urn.nsk.hr/urn:nbn:hr:217:793485>

Acknowledgements

890 This work has been supported in part by the Croatian Science Foundation under the Project No. IP-2020-02-3960. This research was performed using the resources of computer cluster Isabella based in SRCE – University of Zagreb University Computing Centre. We thank professor Marijan Herak for the review and comments which helped us improve this manuscript.

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Appendix A

1070 **Table A1.** Estimation of Carbonate Rock Complex (CRC) bottom depth in Dinarides. CRC bottom
 depths were estimated based on 93 sheets of Basic Geological Map (1:100,000) of former Yugoslavia
 (Osnovna Geološka Karta SFRJ) and 1:200,000 Geological Map of Albania (Geological Map of Albania,
 2002). The CRC bottom depth values were estimated for each map centroid, in respect to External
 Dinarides structural relations, deformation styles that incorporate thrusting, folding (e.g., Balling et
 al., 2021), and thicknesses of deposits on individual maps. Regional nappe systems in External
 1075 Dinarides incorporate up to six individual structural levels composed of thrust sheets of laterally
 and/or vertically variable thicknesses, enabling estimated combined absolute CRC depth up to
 14,200 m.

| No. | Basic Geological Map (BGM) | BGM centroid coordinates | | Estimated average elevation (m a.s.l.) | Estimated absolute bedrock depth (m) | Number of structural levels |
|-----|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | Latitude (φ) | Longitude (λ) | | | |
| 1 | Albania Nord | 42.090 | 20.048 | 805 | 8200–14200 | 2–5 |
| 2 | Banja Luka | 44.834 | 17.247 | 300 | 1200 | 0–2 |
| 3 | Bar | 42.167 | 19.243 | 400 | 11100 | 2–4 |
| 4 | Bihać | 44.836 | 15.742 | 600 | 8400 | 2–3 |

| | | | | | | |
|----|----------------|--------|--------|------|----------------------|-----|
| 5 | Bijeljina | 44.831 | 19.245 | - | Saftić et al. (2003) | - |
| 6 | Biograd | 43.830 | 15.244 | -40 | 7900 | 1-2 |
| 7 | Biševo | 42.833 | 16.243 | -70 | 7600 | 1-2 |
| 8 | Bosanska Krupa | 44.832 | 16.247 | 400 | 3700 | 0-2 |
| 9 | Bosanski Novi | 45.165 | 16.242 | 200 | 200 | 0 |
| 10 | Brčko | 44.831 | 18.739 | - | Saftić et al. (2003) | - |
| 11 | Budva | 42.167 | 18.747 | -100 | 9100 | 2-4 |
| 12 | Bugojno | 44.160 | 17.233 | 900 | 6500 | 1-3 |
| 13 | Cres | 44.836 | 14.249 | 0 | 7200 | 1-2 |
| 14 | Crikvenica | 45.171 | 14.741 | 400 | 8300 | 2-3 |
| 15 | Črnomelj | 45.504 | 15.251 | 350 | 8200 | 1-2 |
| 16 | Delnice | 45.504 | 14.739 | 600 | 7900 | 1-2 |
| 17 | Derвента | 44.832 | 17.740 | 250 | 200 | 0-1 |
| 18 | Doboj | 44.837 | 18.246 | - | Saftić et al. (2003) | - |
| 19 | Drniš | 43.832 | 16.251 | 500 | 9000 | 2-3 |
| 20 | Drvar | 44.499 | 16.240 | 700 | 7800 | 2-3 |
| 21 | Dubrovnik | 42.497 | 18.244 | 200 | 9000 | 2-3 |
| 22 | Foča | 43.499 | 18.754 | 1000 | 300 | 0-1 |

| | | | | | | |
|----|------------------|--------|--------|------|---------|-----|
| 23 | Gacko | 43.166 | 18.746 | 1300 | 10400 | 1-5 |
| 24 | Glamoč | 44.168 | 16.746 | 1000 | 8500 | 2-3 |
| 25 | Gorica | 45.830 | 13.747 | 350 | 7400 | 2-3 |
| 26 | Gospić | 44.496 | 15.247 | 500 | 10400 | 3-4 |
| 27 | Ilirska Bistrica | 45.502 | 14.240 | 400 | 7900 | 2-3 |
| 28 | Imotski | 43.502 | 17.246 | 800 | 13000 | 2-4 |
| 29 | Jabuka | 43.164 | 15.266 | -150 | 7700 | 1-2 |
| 30 | Jajce | 44.492 | 17.246 | 600 | 4100 | 1-3 |
| 31 | Jelsa | 43.169 | 16.742 | 0 | 8900 | 1-2 |
| 32 | Kalinovik | 43.496 | 18.247 | 900 | 9000 | 1-4 |
| 33 | Karlovac | 45.502 | 15.750 | 200 | 1000 | 0-2 |
| 34 | Ključ | 44.501 | 16.743 | 700 | 7500 | 2-3 |
| 35 | Knin | 44.166 | 16.246 | 550 | 9500 | 2-3 |
| 36 | Korčula | 42.836 | 17.246 | -50 | 6600 | 1-2 |
| 37 | Kostajnica | 45.167 | 16.751 | 250 | 200 | 0 |
| 38 | Kotor | 42.500 | 18.743 | 700 | 10300 | 2-5 |
| 39 | Kranj | 46.158 | 14.141 | 700 | 6800.00 | 2-3 |
| 40 | Labin | 45.169 | 14.245 | 300 | 6500 | 1-2 |

| | | | | | | |
|----|---------------|--------|--------|------|----------------------|-----|
| 41 | Lastovo | 42.836 | 16.745 | -80 | 8100 | 1-2 |
| 42 | Livno | 43.835 | 17.246 | 1100 | 11200 | 2-4 |
| 43 | Lošinj | 44.503 | 14.241 | 0 | 6200 | 1-2 |
| 44 | Ljubovija | 44.147 | 19.245 | 500 | 100 | 0-1 |
| 45 | Metković | 43.167 | 17.750 | 250 | 13100 | 3-4 |
| 46 | Molat | 44.163 | 14.745 | -50 | 7200 | 1-2 |
| 47 | Mostar | 43.500 | 17.740 | 900 | 13500 | 4-5 |
| 48 | Nevesinje | 43.163 | 18.242 | 1000 | 14100 | 4-5 |
| 49 | Nikšić | 42.833 | 18.750 | 1000 | 12600 | 5-6 |
| 50 | Nova Gradiška | 45.167 | 17.247 | - | Saftić et al. (2003) | - |
| 51 | Nova Kapela | 45.165 | 17.743 | - | Saftić et al. (2003) | - |
| 52 | Novo Mesto | 45.837 | 15.240 | 250 | 7300 | 1-2 |
| 53 | Obrovac | 44.170 | 15.746 | 300 | 10000 | 2-3 |
| 54 | Ogulin | 45.171 | 15.250 | 400 | 9400 | 2-3 |
| 55 | Omiš | 43.502 | 16.751 | 450 | 10200 | 2-4 |
| 56 | Otočac | 44.829 | 15.248 | 500 | 10200 | 3-4 |
| 57 | Ploče | 43.169 | 17.246 | 250 | 10500 | 2-4 |
| 58 | Pljevlja | 43.490 | 19.261 | 1000 | 200 | 0-1 |

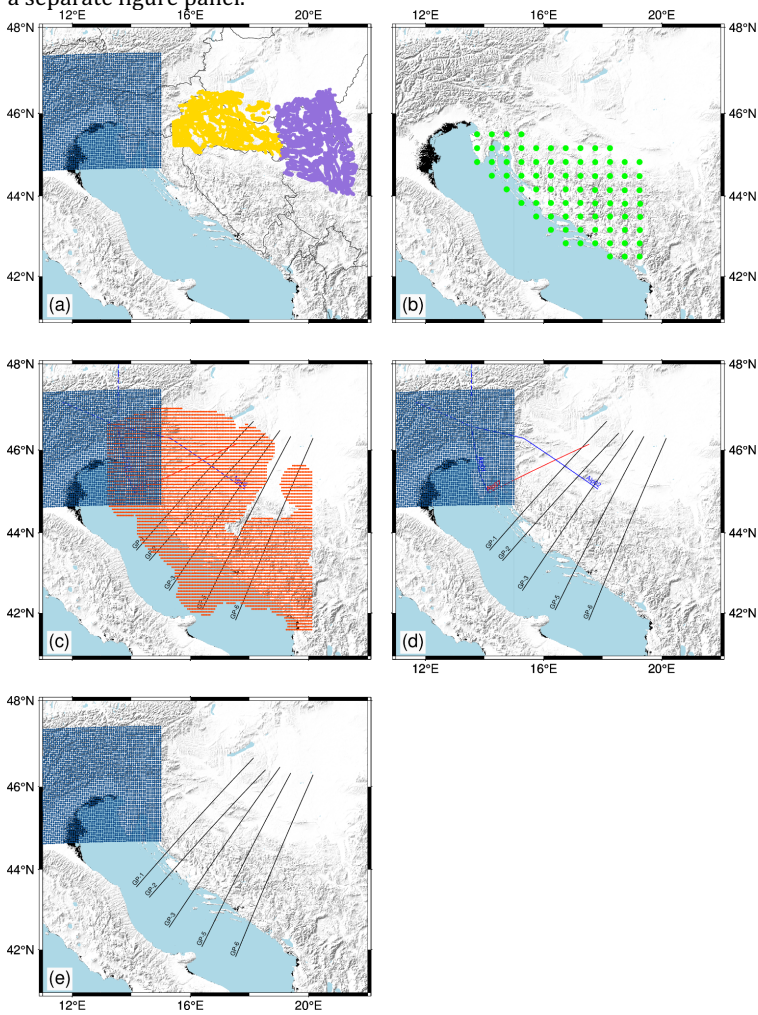
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|----|----------------|--------|--------|------|----------------------|-----|
| 59 | Postojna | 45.835 | 14.249 | 700 | 7700.00 | 2-3 |
| 60 | Prača | 43.814 | 18.749 | 1000 | 0 | 0-1 |
| 61 | Prijedor | 44.834 | 16.741 | 400 | 2400 | 0-2 |
| 62 | Primošten | 43.504 | 15.750 | -100 | 7600 | 1-2 |
| 63 | Prozor | 43.824 | 17.743 | 1100 | 7500 | 0-4 |
| 64 | Pula | 44.831 | 13.743 | 0 | 4600 | 1 |
| 65 | Rab | 44.829 | 14.742 | 100 | 9200 | 2-3 |
| 66 | Ribnica | 45.837 | 14.751 | 600 | 7200 | 1-2 |
| 67 | Rovinj | 45.165 | 13.749 | 20 | 4500 | 1 |
| 68 | Sarajevo | 43.829 | 18.253 | 700 | 2600 | 1-3 |
| 69 | Šavnik | 42.833 | 19.252 | 1000 | 10600 | 1-5 |
| 70 | Šibenik | 43.837 | 15.741 | 50 | 8000 | 2-3 |
| 71 | Silba | 44.496 | 14.744 | 0 | 8000 | 2-3 |
| 72 | Sinj | 43.835 | 16.749 | 800 | 12000 | 3-4 |
| 73 | Slavonski Brod | 45.170 | 18.239 | - | Saftić et al. (2003) | - |
| 74 | Slunj | 45.169 | 15.746 | 350 | 4500 | 0-2 |
| 75 | Split | 43.500 | 16.244 | 100 | 7500 | 1-2 |
| 76 | Ston | 42.834 | 17.748 | 200 | 9000 | 1-3 |

| | | | | | | |
|----|------------|--------|--------|------|---------|-----|
| 77 | Svetac | 43.171 | 15.746 | -150 | 7700 | 1-2 |
| 78 | Teslić | 44.491 | 17.736 | 700 | 700 | 0-3 |
| 79 | Titograd | 42.500 | 19.253 | 700 | 12200 | 4-5 |
| 80 | Tolmin | 46.153 | 13.610 | 700 | 6600.00 | 2-3 |
| 81 | Trebinje | 42.830 | 18.249 | 700 | 12000 | 2-4 |
| 82 | Trst | 45.497 | 13.741 | 200 | 6000 | 2-3 |
| 83 | Tuzla | 44.489 | 18.742 | 400 | 300 | 0-1 |
| 84 | Udbina | 44.503 | 15.750 | 800 | 12000 | 3-4 |
| 85 | Ulcinj | 41.825 | 19.244 | -200 | 9200 | 2-3 |
| 86 | Vareš | 44.144 | 18.245 | 800 | 1600 | 0-1 |
| 87 | Vis | 43.166 | 16.250 | -70 | 7600 | 1-2 |
| 88 | Višegrad | 43.813 | 19.271 | 700 | 700 | 0-1 |
| 89 | Vlasenica | 44.147 | 18.745 | 600 | 700 | 0-1 |
| 90 | Žabljak | 43.166 | 19.250 | 1200 | 2400 | 1-5 |
| 91 | Zadar | 44.163 | 15.245 | 10 | 8000 | 2-3 |
| 92 | Zavidovići | 44.495 | 18.252 | 350 | 0 | 0 |
| 93 | Zenica | 44.149 | 17.733 | 800 | 1200 | 0-3 |
| 94 | Zvornik | 44.489 | 19.245 | 250 | 800 | 0-1 |

1080 Appendix B

Input data pPoint locations of data used

The following figure shows the exact location of data points used for interpolation of model interfaces and parameters. Data points used for each interface and parameter are shown in a separate figure panel.



1085

1090

Fig. B1 Point locations of data used for interpolation of (a) sediment bottom depth, (b) CRC depth, (c) Moho depth, (d) P-wave velocity, (e) density. Yellow points mark data from Saftić et al. (2003), purple points mark data from Matenco & Radivojević (2012), green points mark data on CRC depths, blue points mark data from the NAC model (Magrin & Rossi, 2020), orange points mark data from Stipčević et al. (2011), blue lines mark the positions of profiles from Brückl et al. (2007), red lines mark the profile from Šumanovac et al. (2009), and black lines mark the gravimetric profiles from Šumanovac (2010).

Appendix C

1095 Kriging

Kriging is a method of interpolation formulated for the estimation of a continuous spatial attribute (e.g. depth to Moho interface) at an unknown site, using the limited set of data from sampled sites. It is a form of generalized linear regression used for the formulation of an optimal estimator in a minimum mean square error sense (Olea, 1999).

1100 Generally, the value at a point of interest is calculated as follows:

$$Z(x_0) = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i Z(x_i) \lambda_i Z(x_i),$$

where $Z(x_0)$ is value estimation at point of interest x_0 , λ_i are weights, and $Z(x_i)$ are known values at sites x_i . The kriging weights are derived from the covariance of the sampled values. The first step in kriging interpolation is estimation of the variogram (also called a semivariogram) – a statistic that assesses the average decrease in similarity between two random variables as the distance between them increases. It is the inverse of covariance – the covariance measures similarity, and the variogram measures dissimilarity. Unlike the other moments (e.g., the mean), the variogram is not a single number, but a continuous function of a variable h , called the lag. The variogram calculated from the sampled points is called the experimental variogram. The experimental variogram is not used in the calculation of kriging weights, but is used to fit a theoretical variogram which in turn is used for calculation of the weights. When fitting, we can use limited types of semivariograms which have acceptable properties needed for solving the system of equations in order to obtain the weights. If we would use the experimental variogram directly, we might end up with an unsolvable system of equations. For example, **Fig. A1** shows an experimental and theoretical variogram used for interpolation of Moho interface depth. A variogram, such as the one in **Fig. A1**, that increases in dissimilarity with distance over short lags and then levels off is called a transitive variogram. The lag at which it reaches a constant value is called the range, and that constant value is called the sill. For the Moho depth interpolation we had an abundance of data available, and we were able to estimate a theoretical variogram which fits the observed data almost perfectly.

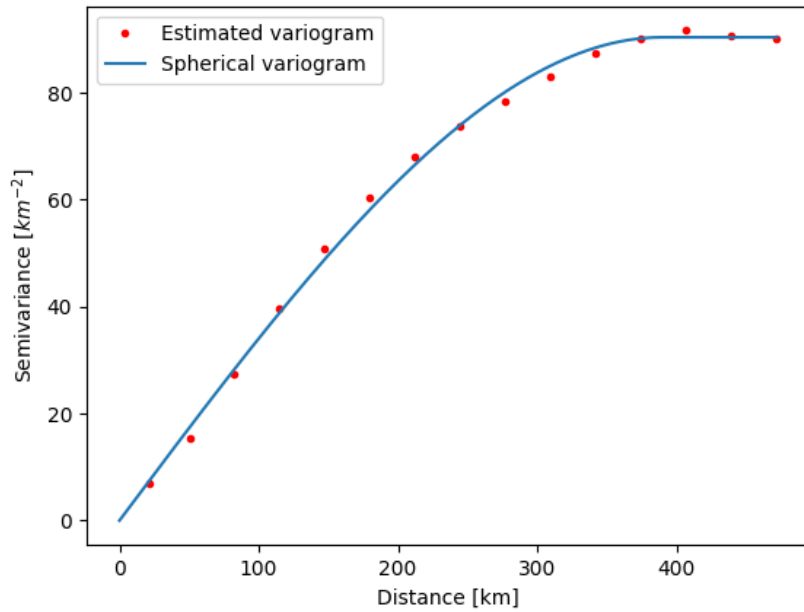


Fig. C1. Estimated and theoretical (spherical) variogram used for interpolation of Moho interface depth.

1125

In case of other model parameters, we did not have such a perfect fit for larger lags. For instance, **Fig. C2** shows the variogram used for Neogene deposits bottom interpolation. In this case, the theoretical variogram was not spherical, but exponential. In this case, for the largest lags shown, the theoretical and estimated variograms do not fit. For the calculation of the variogram pairs of measured values are used. Since for the greater distances (greater lags) there are fewer numbers of such pairs, the estimates are less accurate for those lags. Fortunately, for practical use in kriging, the variogram closer to the origin requires the most accurate estimation (Olea, 1999), and we had that condition met for all our model parameters.

1135

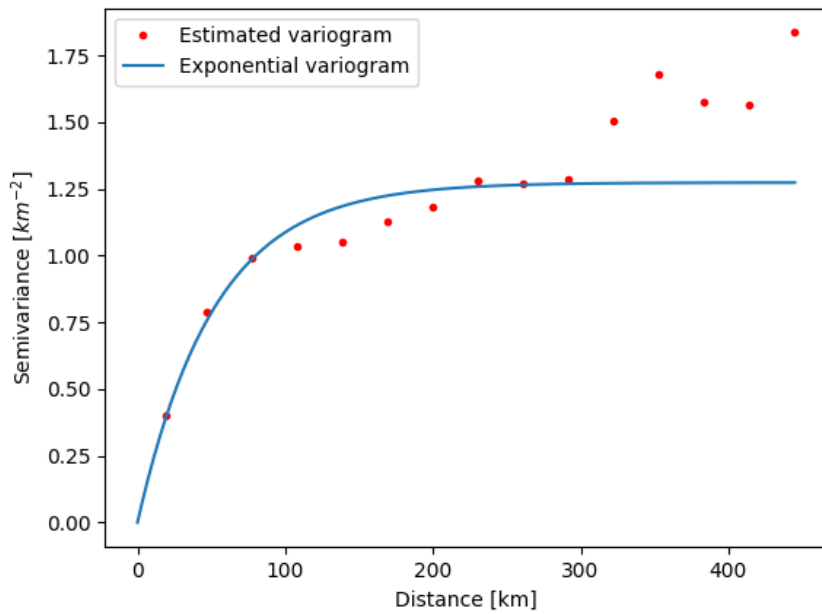
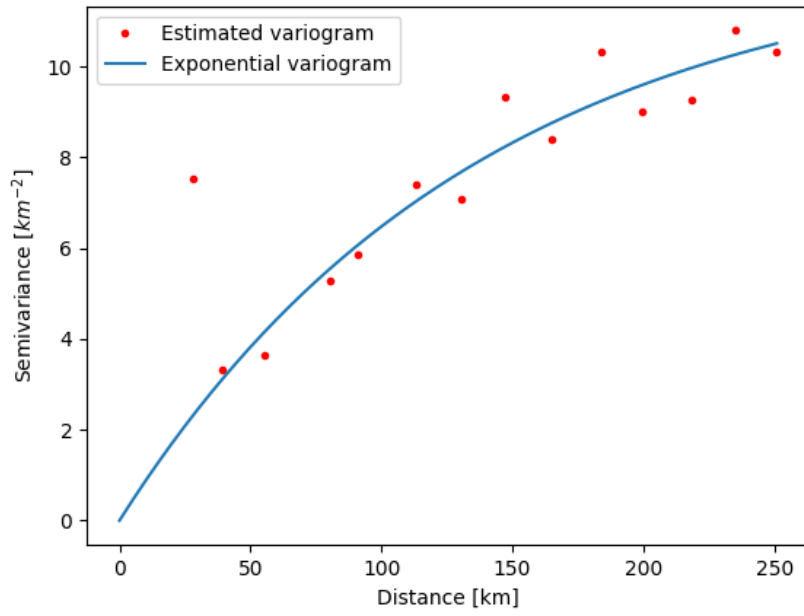


Fig. C2. Neogene deposits bottom estimated and theoretical (exponential) variograms.

1140 Variograms for CRC bottom depth and velocity estimation are shown in **Figs. C3** and **C4**,
 1145 respectively. Crust velocity variogram shown in **Fig. C4**. is required to have a constant mean
 in the sample space in order to be able to estimate a variogram. In case of a gentle and
 systematic variation in the mean (called the drift), e.g. velocity increases with depth, it has
 to be removed prior to the estimation of the variogram. Such a drift was indeed observed
 and was removed prior to the estimation of the variogram shown in **Fig. C4**. Besides the drift,
 we estimated the experimental variogram in several directions, in order to check if it was
 dependent on the direction (i.e. if there was anisotropy), but we have not observed any
 anisotropy.



1150 Fig C3. Carbonate Rock Complex (CRC) bottom estimated and theoretical (exponential) variogram.

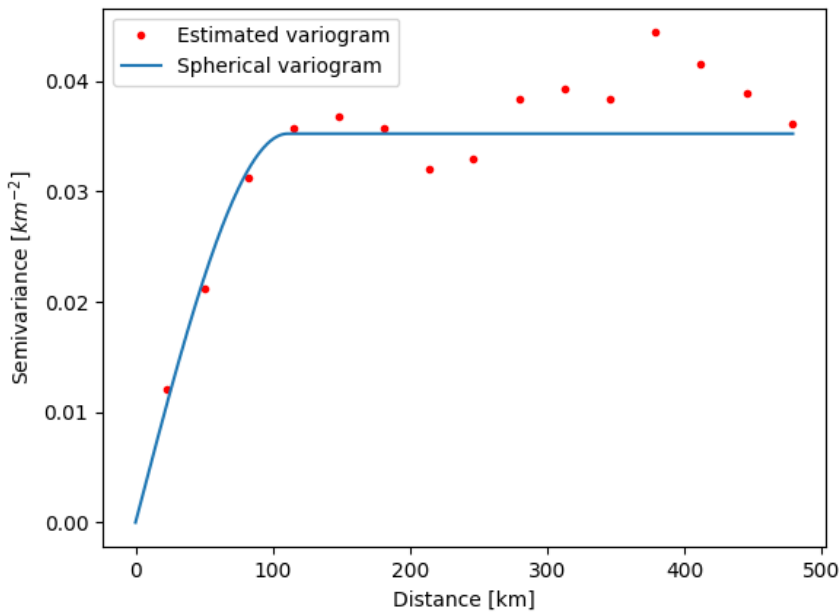


Fig. C4. Estimated and theoretical (spherical) variogram used for interpolation of the crustal velocity (V_p).

1155 Once we had variograms estimated, we were able to obtain the weights and calculate the values of parameters (Moho, Neogene deposits bottom, CRC bottom, velocity) for each point in our grid. All of the operations, both variogram estimation and the interpolation itself, were done using the *gstat* package (Pebesma, 2004). Alongside the interpolated values, the package also returns the variance estimates for each point in the grid.

1160 The interface parameters (Moho, Neogene deposits bottom and CRC bottom depth) were interpolated using ordinary kriging. Ordinary kriging assumes that the mean of the value is unknown, but constant. For interpolation of the velocity, we had to use a more general type of kriging – the universal kriging. It relaxes the condition on the mean – it is no longer assumed constant. The other properties of kriging are shared between both types used. They

1165 are both minimum square error estimates. The estimation is not limited to the data interval (it is possible to extrapolate – although it is less accurate). They have, so called, declustering ability – the measurements that are spatially clustered have lower weights than isolated points. They are exact interpolators with zero kriging variance – meaning that if, for instance, we try to calculate the value exactly at a sampled point, kriging will return the exact value

1170 and assign 0 variance to it. It can be nicely seen in **Fig. 5** showing the velocity variances. Since
the variance at sampled sites is zero it is possible to discern the profiles that were sampled
for data. Kriging is not able to handle duplicate points – it causes the insolvable systems of
equations for the kriging weights – therefore we had to handle such points. It is also worth
1175 mentioning that the variance returned by the kriging software does not depend on variance
or values of individual observations, but only on the sampling pattern. Therefore, we added
the (estimated or available) data variance to the variance obtained from the kriging and
called it the total variance.

Appendix D

Comparison of the new model to existing regional models

1180

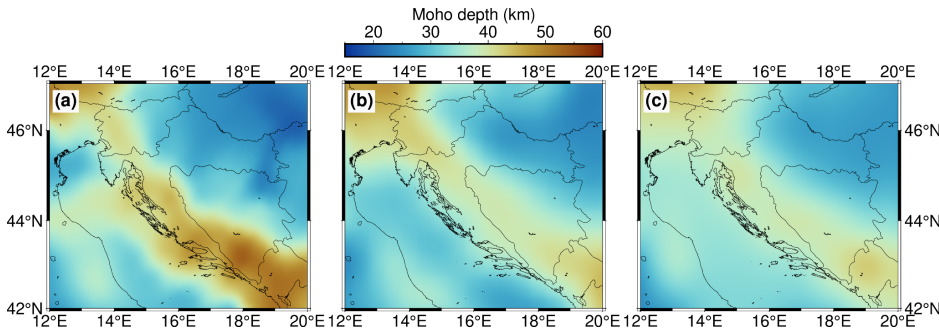


Fig. D1 Comparison of Moho depths among (a) our newly derived model, (b) Grad et al. (2009) European Moho model, and (c) EPcrust model (Molinari and Morelli, 2011).

1185 Compared to existing regional models, Moho depth is considerably greater in the new model, especially in the southern part of the Dinarides.

The EPcrust model has sediment bottom depth defined. In our model, we discern CRC bottom and Neogene sediment bottom, which is not defined separately in the (regional) EPcrust model. Therefore we put both of them in Fig. D2.

1190

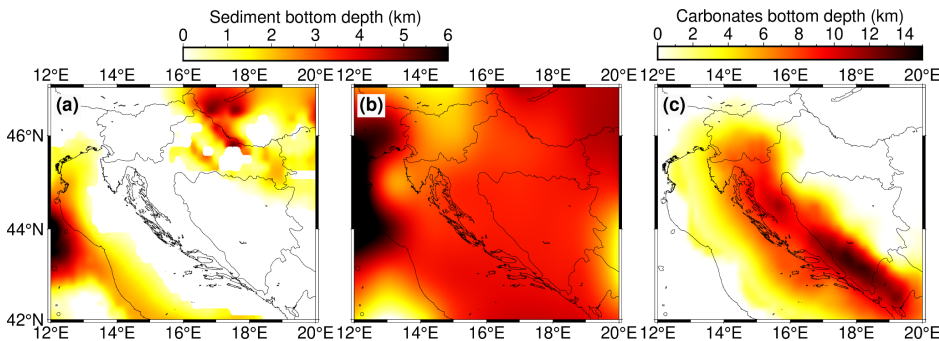
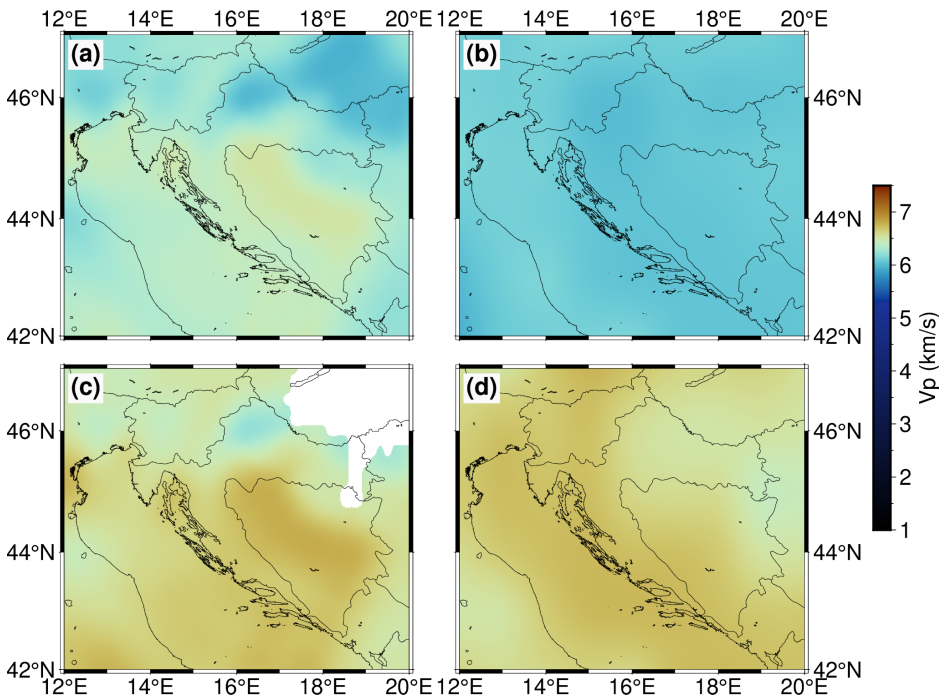


Fig. D2 Comparison of sediment bottom depth as defined as (a) Neogene sediment bottom depth in our model, (b) sediment bottom in EPcrust model, and (c) CRC bottom depth in our model.

1195 The horizontal variations in sediment and CRC bottom depths are much more pronounced than in the regional EPcrust model.

1200

In the EPcrust model, the velocity is defined as two layers (upper and lower crust) with constant velocity value (for a given grid point, it does not vary with depth; it varies horizontally, though). Therefore, we have picked two depths in our model, since we defined velocity as varying in all three dimensions. Even though we do not define crust as two layers (lower or upper crust), we have picked velocity at depth of 15 km to compare with EPcrust upper crust, and velocity at depth of 25 km to compare with EPcrust lower crust. The comparison is shown in Fig. D3.



1205

Fig. D3 Comparison of P-wave velocity: (a) our model at 15 km depth, (b) EPcrust upper crust, (c) our model at 25 km depth, (d) EPcrust lower crust.

There is noticeable horizontal variation of velocity values in our model compared to the velocities defined in the EPcrust model, due to inclusion of data from refraction and gravimetric profiles.