

**SD2/WE/O3 - TESTING THE EUROPEAN MACROSEISMIC SCALE IN GREECE: CASES OF DAMAGING AND DESTRUCTIVE EARTHQUAKES**

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The 1998 version of the European Macroseismic Scale was first tested during the Athens 1999 Mw6.0 earthquake and has been applied to a number of significant greek earthquakes ever since. The scale has been used in the field, as well as via questionnaires. Photographic material supporting damage assessment and vulnerability class identification is available for each event. In the present study five earthquakes are presented: three destructive (Athens 1999, Lefkada 2003 and Andravida 2008) and two damaging (Gonnoi 2003 and Kefallinia 2007). For the destructive events, intensity has also been assessed in the MM scale, allowing thus possible comparisons. Taking into account that EMS is not the official macroseismic scale in Greece, the number of data collected and the extent of the area investigated are strongly related to the availability of research teams. In the case of Andravida earthquake, a considerable number of researchers were able to cover the damage area at a satisfying degree and to proceed even further for collection of felt reports from localities with no damage. The EMS has been used to numerous historical earthquakes and characteristic examples of its application are also presented.