



<b>Publication Year</b>	2015
<b>Acceptance in OA</b>	2020-03-31T07:13:39Z
<b>Title</b>	There is a short gamma-ray burst prompt phase at the beginning of each long one
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<b>Publisher's version (DOI)</b>	10.1093/mnras/stu2664
<b>Handle</b>	<a href="http://hdl.handle.net/20.500.12386/23725">http://hdl.handle.net/20.500.12386/23725</a>
<b>Journal</b>	MONTHLY NOTICES OF THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
<b>Volume</b>	448

# There is a short gamma-ray burst prompt phase at the beginning of each long one

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Accepted 2014 December 13. Received 2014 November 27; in original form 2014 July 23

## ABSTRACT

We compare the prompt intrinsic spectral properties of a sample of short gamma-ray bursts (GRBs) with the first 0.3 s (rest frame) of long GRBs observed by *Fermi*/GBM (Gamma Burst Monitor). We find that short GRBs and the first part of long GRBs lie on the same  $E_p$ – $E_{\text{iso}}$  correlation, that is parallel to the relation for the time-averaged spectra of long GRBs. Moreover, they are indistinguishable in the  $E_p$ – $L_{\text{iso}}$  plane. This suggests that the emission mechanism is the same for short and for the beginning of long events, and both short and long GRBs are very similar phenomena, occurring on different time-scales. If the central engine of a long GRB would stop after  $\sim 0.3 \times (1 + z)$  s, the resulting event would be spectrally indistinguishable from a short GRB.

**Key words:** gamma-ray burst: general.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Gamma-ray bursts (GRBs) are transient emission episodes of radiation detected at high energies. The first emission phase, detected at hard X-rays and  $\gamma$ -rays, lasts for  $\sim 0.01$  ms–100 s (prompt phase). Then, the bulk of emitted radiation shifts to lower energies and becomes observable at longer wavelengths, from X-rays to radio, with typical duration of  $\sim$ days–months (afterglow phase). The observed duration of the prompt phase is characterized by the  $T_{90}$  parameter, i.e. the time interval during which the central 90 per cent of the counts are recorded by the detector. The distribution of  $T_{90}$  of GRBs observed by the Burst And Transient Source Experiment (BATSE) on board the *Compton Gamma Ray Observatory* (*CGRO*) has been found to be bimodal with a separation at  $\sim 2$  s in the observer frame (Kouveliotou et al. 1993). According to this finding, GRBs are classified either as *short* gamma-ray burst (SGRB) if  $T_{90} < 2$ , or as *long* ones (LGRB) if  $T_{90} > 2$  s (but see Bromberg et al. 2013). Besides, the prompt phase of SGRBs is characterized by harder spectra (Kouveliotou et al. 1993) and smaller spectral lags between different energy bands (Norris, Marani & Bonnell 2000) with respect to the prompt phase of LGRBs.

For bursts with reliable redshift estimates, it has been shown that SGRBs are systematically less energetic than LGRBs, with total X-ray- and  $\gamma$ -ray-emitted energies smaller by a factor  $\sim 10$ –100 (Ghirlanda et al. 2009). Also, the afterglows of SGRBs, when detected, are correspondingly dimmer than those of LGRBs, but similar in other respects (Gehrels et al. 2008; Margutti et al. 2013; D’Avanzo et al. 2014). Finally, several nearby ( $z < 0.5$ ) LGRBs have been associated with explosions of core-collapse supernovae (Hjorth & Bloom 2012), while there is no similar evidence for short bursts (Berger 2013). These findings suggest that SGRBs and LGRBs might originate from different progenitors (Mészáros 2006; Berger 2013).

Observationally, the most important difference between SGRBs and LGRBs is their  $T_{90}$  duration. A first attempt to compare the spectral properties of SGRBs and LGRBs detected by *CGRO*/BATSE showed that (i) the difference in hardness could be due to a harder low energy spectral index of SGRBs rather than a harder peak energy and (ii) that the spectra of SGRBs and the first 1–2 s of LGRBs appear similar (Ghirlanda, Ghisellini & Celotti 2004). These results suggested that the engine might be similar in the two classes, but the activity would last longer in the case of LGRBs (Guiriec et al. 2010). Also, Nakar & Piran (2002) found that the ratio of the shortest pulse duration to the total burst duration for both SGRBs and the first 1–2 s of LGRBs were comparable.

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With the advent of the Gamma Burst Monitor (GBM) on board *Fermi*, it became possible to compare the spectral properties of large samples of SGRBs and LGRBs and to compare them with those detected by *CGRO/BATSE*. Nava et al. (2011a) showed that LGRBs and SGRBs occupy different regions in the observer frame hardness (defined by the peak of the  $\nu F_\nu$  spectrum) versus fluence, with SGRBs having smaller fluences than long events. This also suggested that the possible selection of fluence-limited samples for the comparison of SGRBs and LGRBs could introduce biases.

The availability of redshift estimates for LGRBs allowed one to estimate their rest-frame (intrinsic) spectral properties, and to highlight a few correlations among them (see Ghirlanda, Ghisellini & Firmani 2006 for a review). Amati et al. (2002) found that the rest-frame  $\nu L_\nu$  peak energy ( $E_p$ ) is correlated with the total energy emitted in the 1 keV–10 MeV energy range (under the hypothesis of isotropic emission,  $E_{\text{iso}}$ ), with a slope of  $\sim 0.5$ . Yonetoku et al. (2004) found a correlation between  $E_p$  and the isotropic peak luminosity evaluated at the flux peak over an interval of 1 s ( $L_{p, \text{iso}}$ ), with a slope of  $\sim 0.4$ . The latter correlation is valid also when considering the time resolved spectral quantities  $E_p(t)$  and  $L_{\text{iso}}(t)$  of a single burst, i.e. the evolutionary tracks of GRB spectra in the  $E_p$ – $L_{\text{iso}}$  plane align with the Yonetoku relation (Firmani et al. 2009; Ghirlanda, Nava & Ghisellini 2010; Frontera et al. 2012).

With the fast slewing *Swift* satellite (Gehrels et al. 2004), it became possible to localize the X-ray afterglows of SGRBs, and estimate their redshifts by means of the associated host galaxies (Gehrels et al. 2005). The comparison of intrinsic spectral properties of SGRBs and LGRBs have shown that SGRBs are consistent with the Yonetoku relation, but are significant outliers of the Amati relation (Amati 2006, 2008; Ghirlanda et al. 2009; D’Avanzo et al. 2014). However, by analysing a sample of seven SGRBs, Zhang et al. (2012) suggest that SGRBs might follow a parallel Amati relation at lower values of  $E_{\text{iso}}$ . Moreover, the SGRBs follow the same three-parameter correlation ( $E_{X, \text{iso}} - E_{\gamma, \text{iso}} - E_p$ ) valid for LGRBs (Bernardini et al. 2012; Margutti et al. 2013). The isotropic luminosities are similar in both SGRBs and LGRBs, but the former are less energetic than the latter by a factor similar to the ratio of their durations. When considering the time-averaged spectra, SGRBs have harder low-energy spectral index, but this difference vanishes when comparing the SGRBs with only the first 1–2 s of LGRBs (Ghirlanda et al. 2009).

Also, the time resolved spectroscopy has shown that the observed peak energy tracks the flux evolution in both SGRBs and LGRBs (Guiriec et al. 2010; Ghirlanda, Ghisellini & Nava 2011a), suggesting a common physical mechanism linking these quantities. The existence of a time resolved correlation between  $E_p(t)$  and  $L_{\text{iso}}(t)$  was also shown to hold in SGRBs (Ghirlanda et al. 2011a). This is the most compelling evidence that the  $E_p(t)$ – $L_{\text{iso}}(t)$  correlation holding in LGRBs and SGRBs (with similar slope and normalization) hints to a common origin which could be related to the emission mechanism (Ghirlanda et al. 2011a) and that the corresponding Yonetoku correlation (holding between time integrated properties) cannot be subject to strong selection effects. An interesting hypothesis discussed in Ghirlanda et al. (2009, 2011a) and Guiriec et al. (2013) is that both SGRBs and LGRBs may share a common emission process, and that the observed differences may be ascribed to the different engine lifetime of their progenitors.

Yet, the comparison of SGRBs and LGRBs in search for possible similarities or differences should account for their possible different redshift distributions. While several LGRBs have their redshift measured, the population of short bursts still suffers from a lack of redshift measures. However, recent collection of small,

well-defined, samples of SGRBs with measured redshifts (e.g. D’Avanzo et al. 2014) allowed us to compare the energetic properties of short and long events in their rest frame.

The aim of this work is to further explore the similarities between SGRBs and LGRBs by comparing their intrinsic (i.e. rest-frame) spectral properties estimated on the same rest-frame time-scales. The average  $T_{90}/(1+z)$  duration of the SGRBs with reliable (spectroscopic) redshifts and without X-ray extended emission in the D’Avanzo et al. (2014) sample is 0.3 s (10 bursts). This will be our reference time-scale to perform spectral analysis of the first part of LGRBs, and compare the results with those of SGRBs.

Throughout the paper, we assume a  $\Lambda$  cold dark matter cosmology with  $H_0 = 71 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$ ,  $\Omega_m = 0.27$ ,  $\Omega_\Lambda = 0.73$ .

## 2 THE SAMPLE

Since we aim to study the prompt emission spectral properties and energetic/luminosity of GRBs, we need a broad energy coverage in order to determine where the peak energy is. While *Swift*/Burst Alert Telescope (BAT) has a limited energy range (15–150 keV) which is not suited for GRB prompt emission spectral characterization, the GBM instrument on board *Fermi* covers almost two orders of magnitude in energy with the NaI detectors (8 keV–1 MeV) and can extend this energy range to a few tens of MeV with the inclusion of the data of the BGO detectors. Hence, we selected all GRBs observed by *Fermi*/GBM up to 2013 December with a redshift estimate. This amounts to 64 LGRBs and 7 SGRBs.

Among the long ones we discarded: 2 GRBs with missing response matrix files; 2 GRBs observed with a non-standard low-level threshold;<sup>1</sup> 3 GRBs whose first part was missed by the GBM; 12 GRBs for which we could not constrain either the low energy spectral index or the peak energy (Section 3). The final LGRB sample comprises 45 long bursts.

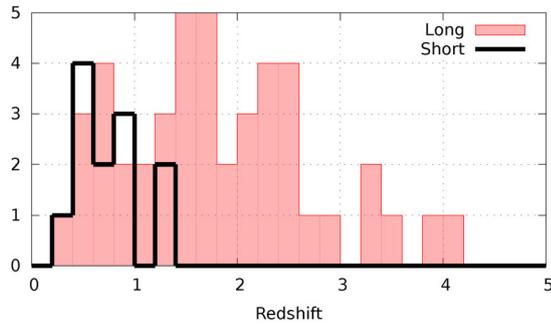
*Fermi*/GBM observed seven SGRBs with known redshift. To this sample, we added the SGRB flux-limited sample of 12 sources with redshift discussed in D’Avanzo et al. (2014, hereafter D14 sample), but discarded: GRB 080905A since its redshift is likely not accurate, GRB 090426 and GRB 100816A since their classification as SGRB is debated. Four GRBs in the D14 sample were also in the GBM sample: for these bursts we considered the results reported in D14. The final SGRB sample comprises three GRB observed with *Fermi*/GBM and nine from D14.

The SGRB sample, although relatively small, stems from a flux-limited sample of SGRB with a redshift completeness of  $\sim 70$  per cent (D’Avanzo et al. 2014). We dropped three burst from this sample, hence the redshift completeness drops to  $\sim 60$  per cent, but we added three more bursts detected by *Fermi*/GBM. The distributions of low-energy spectral index in both our short sample and the corresponding one<sup>2</sup> in the Gruber et al. (2014) catalogue are actually indistinguishable (K–S test probability: 0.47). Since the spectral index is a redshift-independent property, we assume that our SGRB sample is a reasonably good representation of the parent distribution of SGRBs observable with currently available detectors.

The total (LGRB+SGRB) comprises 57 bursts (Table A1). Fig. 1 shows the redshift distribution for both the SGRB and LGRB samples (references for redshift estimates are given in Table A1).

<sup>1</sup> [http://fermi.gsfc.nasa.gov/ssc/data/access/gbm/ilt\\_settings.html](http://fermi.gsfc.nasa.gov/ssc/data/access/gbm/ilt_settings.html)

<sup>2</sup> Bursts with  $T_{90} < 2$  s and either a Band or cut-off power-law best-fitting model in the Gruber et al. (2014) catalogue: 70 GRB.



**Figure 1.** Redshift distribution for both the SGRB (12) and LGRB (45) bursts (references for redshift estimates are given in Table A1).

### 3 DATA ANALYSIS

Our spectral analysis aims at estimating the intrinsic peak energy ( $E_p$ ), isotropic equivalent luminosity ( $L_{\text{iso}}$ ) and emitted energy ( $E_{\text{iso}}$ ) for the GRBs in our sample. For the three SGRBs observed by *Fermi*/GBM, we performed a spectral analysis on the entire duration of the burst (*short* analysis). For the remaining nine SGRB, we considered the spectral properties relative to the time integrated emission reported in the D14 paper (*short D14*). For the 45 LGRBs, we perform two different spectral analysis: one for the first 0.3 s in the rest frame (corresponding to  $0.3 \times (1 + z)$  s in the observer frame, *first* analysis) and one for the whole duration of the burst (*whole* analysis). All  $E_{\text{iso}}$  and  $L_{\text{iso}}$  quantities are evaluated in the (rest-frame) energy range 1 keV–10 MeV.

All data analysis has been carried according to the procedure outlined below.

#### 3.1 Detectors, energy selection and background fitting

For each GRB, we selected the most illuminated NaI detector(s), and the corresponding BGO one. The BGO detector is always included, even if there is no significant detection above background. The energy selection is in the range 8–800 keV for NaI detectors, and 200 keV–35 MeV for BGO ones. Systematic residuals at  $\sim 33$  keV of the NaI detectors<sup>3</sup> are neglected.

For each channel of all detectors, we perform a polynomial fit (up to the third order) to the observed background count rate in the CSPEC files,<sup>4</sup> on a time interval before and after the burst longer than the burst duration (typically  $\gtrsim 100$  s). The length of the background time intervals is progressively increased until the uncertainties on the expected background counts during the burst becomes smaller than their intrinsic statistical fluctuations. This approach provides an objective way to select the background time intervals. We also checked that the background fit provide an adequate fit for all energy channels by means of  $\chi^2$  goodness-of-fit test. For long bursts, we used exactly the same background model for both the *first* and *whole* analysis.

The detectors used and the background time selections for each burst are shown in Table A1.

<sup>3</sup> [http://fermi.gsfc.nasa.gov/ssc/data/analysis/GBM\\_caveats.html](http://fermi.gsfc.nasa.gov/ssc/data/analysis/GBM_caveats.html)

<sup>4</sup> Time-binned count spectra with time resolution of 1.024 s from the burst trigger time  $T_0$  to  $T_0+600$  s, and time resolution of 4.096 s for a few thousands seconds before and after the burst.

#### 3.2 Time selection

For the GRB spectral analysis, we used the TTE data files<sup>5</sup> to select the counts in the appropriate time intervals: either the first 0.3 s (rest frame) for the *first* analysis, or the whole burst duration for both the *short* and *whole* analysis.

For the *short* and *whole* analysis of GRBs present in both our sample and the Gruber et al. (2014) catalogue, we consider their time selection. This choice allows us to compare our results with those of Gruber et al. (2014), as discussed in Appendix B. For the other bursts, the time selection was performed by a visual inspection of the count-rate light curves.

For the *first* analysis, we searched for the first occurrence of a 0.3 s long (rest-frame) time bin in which the counts in all NaI detectors were significantly (at  $3\sigma$  level) above the expected background. The search has been performed with a 0.2 s resolution starting at 10 s before the trigger time.

The time selections for each burst are shown in Table A2.

#### 3.3 Spectral fitting

The GRB spectral models used for spectral analysis are a modified version<sup>6</sup> of either the cut-off power law or the Band model (Band et al. 1993), in which the free parameters are:

- (i)  $\log\_E_p$ : the logarithm of the  $\nu F_\nu$  peak energy in keV;
- (ii)  $a1\alpha$ : the photon spectral index for energies smaller than the peak energy;
- (iii)  $\beta$  (only for the Band model): the photon spectral index for energies greater than the peak energy;
- (iv)  $\log\_F$ : the logarithm of the integrated flux in the rest-frame energy range 1 keV–10 MeV.

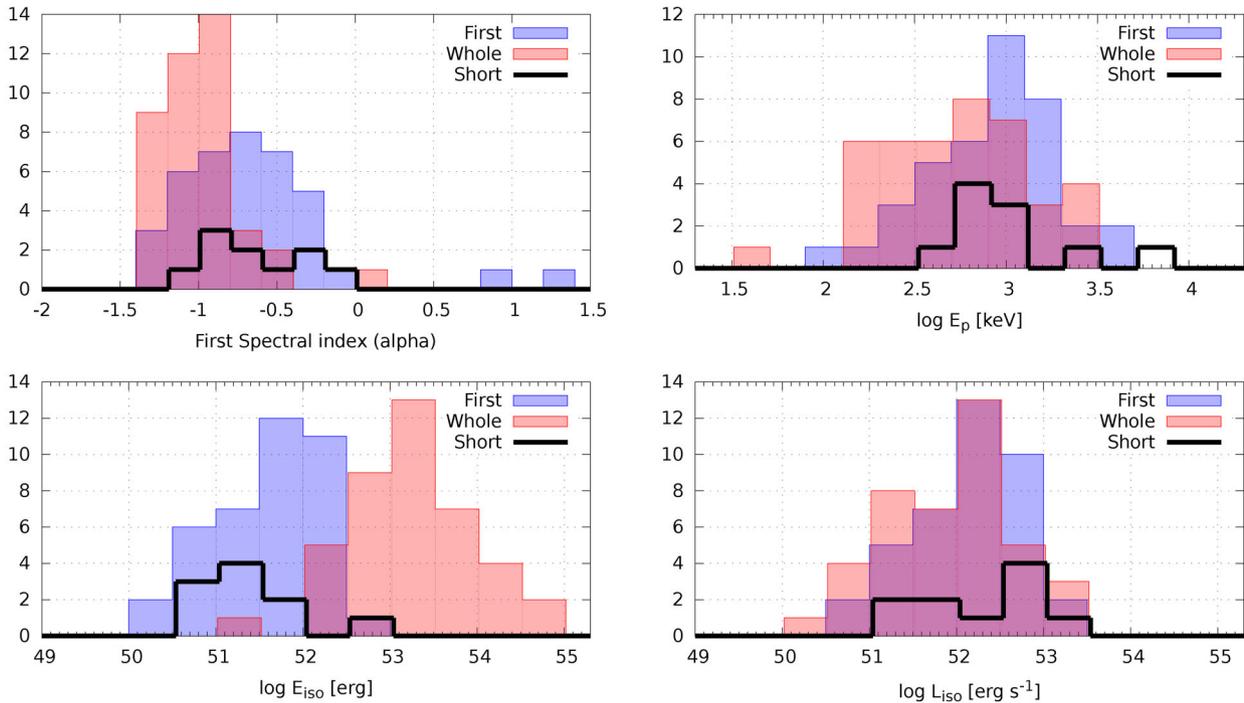
The spectral indices are bounded to be  $a1\alpha > -2$  and  $-6 < \beta < -1.7$ . For the *whole* spectral analysis, we also included detectors' effective area correction as free parameters, bounded in the range 0.5–2. Whenever the resulting area corrections are not constrained, we set all calibration factors to one. The  $\log\_F$  parameter is used to estimate the intrinsic isotropic luminosity  $L_{\text{iso}} = 4\pi D_L^2 \times F$ , without the need to propagate the uncertainties on the other parameters. Finally, isotropic emitted energy is estimated as  $E_{\text{iso}} = L_{\text{iso}} \Delta T_{\text{rest}}$ , where  $\Delta T_{\text{rest}} \times (1 + z)$  is the spectrum integration time.

The spectral model is folded with the detector response matrix, summed with the background counts expected in the same time interval, and compared to the observed counts by means of the Cash statistic (Cash 1979) with Castor normalization (C-STAT). The model fitting is performed with XSPEC ver. 12.8.1g (Arnaud 1996) by minimizing the C-STAT value. We always used the detector maximum energy resolution, i.e. we did not rebin the channels.

The choice of the spectral model (cut-off power law or Band) is performed according to the following criterion: for each burst, we started with the Band model with both spectral indices free to vary in the minimization process. If the  $\beta$  parameter uncertainty is larger than a nominal threshold of 0.5, but still significantly lower than the  $a1\alpha$  parameter, we fixed  $\beta$  to its typical value, namely  $-2.3$  (Band et al. 1993; Ghirlanda, Celotti & Ghisellini 2002), and repeat the fit. If  $\beta$  hits the lower limit ( $-6$ ), we use the cut-off power law model instead of the Band model. If  $\beta$  is  $> -2$  and

<sup>5</sup> The list of all recorded counts with time and channel tags (time-tagged events). Data are available from  $\sim T_0 - 25$  s to  $\sim T_0 + 300$  s.

<sup>6</sup> The XSPEC implementation of this spectral model is available [http://www.giorgiocalderone.url.ph/xspec\\_ggrb.tar.gz](http://www.giorgiocalderone.url.ph/xspec_ggrb.tar.gz).



**Figure 2.** Histograms of relevant results of the spectral analysis. Upper panels: the low energy spectral index  $\alpha$  (left); intrinsic  $\nu L_\nu$  peak energy  $E_p$  (right). Lower panels: isotropic equivalent, emitted energy  $E_{\text{iso}}$  (left) and luminosity  $L_{\text{iso}}$  (right), integrated in the 1 keV–10 MeV energy range (rest frame). The lower limits for  $E_p$  and  $E_{\text{iso}}$  and the analysis on precursors are not accounted for in the histograms.

$\alpha > \beta$ , we consider the resulting  $E_p$  and  $L_{\text{iso}}$  as lower limits. The true location of the  $\nu F_\nu$  peak likely lies on the extrapolation of the spectrum actually constrained by the data. By assuming  $\alpha = -1$  (the typical value for this parameter, Nava et al. 2011b), this extrapolation lies on a line of slope 1 in the  $E_p$ – $L_{\text{iso}}$  plane.

In 12 cases, we could not detect a curvature in the spectrum, i.e. we could not constrain either the  $\alpha$  or the  $\log E_p$  parameters. These bursts were discarded from our sample (Section 2).

The parameter uncertainties (quoted at  $1\sigma$ ) for the *whole* analysis are estimated with the usual  $\Delta\chi^2$  method (Avni 1976; Cash 1976). For the *short* and *first* analysis, we adopted a different approach since the counts in the high-energy channels of the detectors are often very low. In these cases, we start by performing a fit in the usual way, and use the best-fitting parameter estimates to simulate several data sets for each detector (using the `fakeit` command). Then, we run the fitting process on the mock data sets, and consider the distribution of the resulting best-fitting parameters. The final uncertainties are estimated as the central interval containing 68.3 per cent of the best-fitting values. The simulation iterates until the lower and upper limits of the confidence interval change by less than 5 per cent. Typically, 400–600 simulations are required to satisfy the convergence criterion. This Monte Carlo method is described in detail in Press et al. (2007, their section 15.6.1).

In Appendix B, we compare the results of our *whole* analysis to those of Gruber et al. (2014), for the bursts present in both samples, and show that the two methods produce very similar results. However, our method ensures a homogeneous approach in all our spectral analysis: we established an objective criterion to select the background time intervals, and used exactly the same background model in both the *first* and *whole* analysis. The use of logarithmic quantities in our spectral model results in simpler and more symmetric parameter uncertainties, with respect to their linear counterparts (e.g. Cabrera et al. 2007). Also, the use of the integrated flux as

model parameter, instead of the flux at a given energy, allows us to directly evaluate the uncertainties on  $L_{\text{iso}}$ , avoiding the necessity to estimate the parameter covariance matrix for error propagation. Finally, the use of Monte Carlo simulations in the *short* and *first* analysis provide reliable parameter uncertainties even in the low-count regime, when the assumption that the C–STAT value is drawn from a  $\chi^2$  distribution is not reliable.

### 3.4 Results

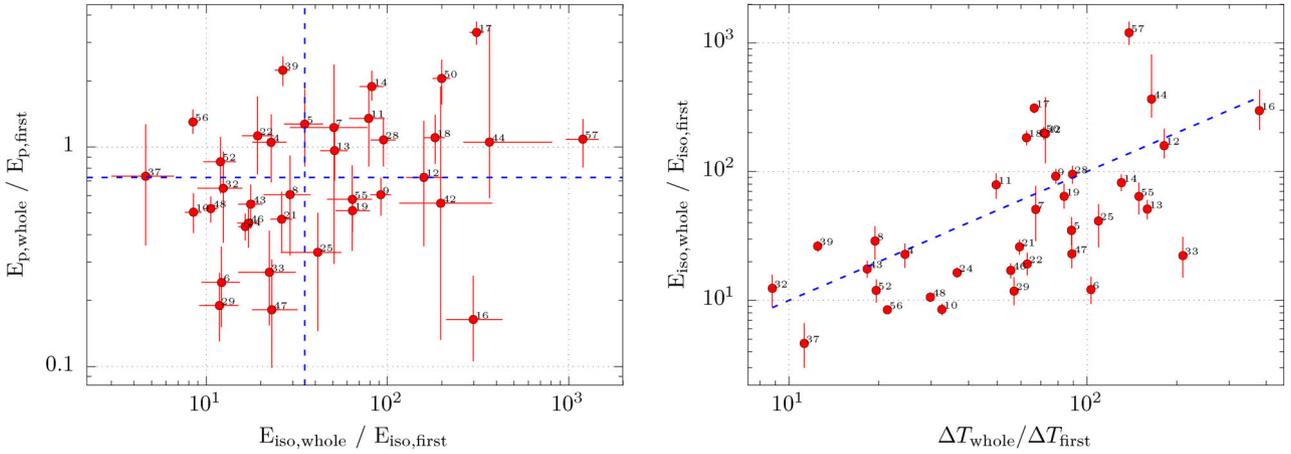
The results of spectral analysis, as well as the spectral quantities reported in D14 for the SGRB sample, are shown in Table A2. The relevant quantities for the *short*, *first* and *whole* subsamples are shown in Fig. 2. The lower limits for  $E_p$  and  $E_{\text{iso}}$  (2 in the *short*, 4 in the *first* and 3 in the *whole* analysis, respectively) are not accounted for in the histograms.

Fig. 3 (left-hand panel) shows the ratio of *first* to *whole* peak energy versus the same ratio of  $E_{\text{iso}}$ . The blue dashed lines are the median values of both ratios. The right-hand panel shows the  $E_{\text{iso, whole}}/E_{\text{iso, first}}$  ratio versus  $\Delta T_{\text{whole}}/\Delta T_{\text{first}}$ . The blue dashed line is the 1:1 line. The numbers beside the symbols are the GRB identifiers shown in Tables A1 and A2.

Finally, in Figs 4 and 5, we show the location of all bursts in the  $E_p$ – $E_{\text{iso}}$  and  $E_p$ – $L_{\text{iso}}$  planes, respectively. The lower limits are shown with arrows of slope 1, as discussed in Section 3.3.

### 3.5 Notes on individual bursts

(i) GRB 091024 (Gruber et al. 2011; Nappo et al. 2014): the GBM data are separated in two burst intervals, hence this GRB appears twice in Table A1 (ID 23). The first interval is actually a precursor and it is analysed according to the *first* prescription. The



**Figure 3.** Left-hand panel: ratio of whole-to-first peak energy versus the same ratio for  $E_{iso}$ . The blue dashed lines are the median values of both ratios. Right-hand panel: the  $E_{iso,whole}/E_{iso,first}$  ratio versus  $\Delta T_{whole}/\Delta T_{first}$ . The blue dashed line is the 1:1 line. The numbers beside the symbols are the GRB identifiers shown in Tables A1 and A2.

second interval comprises a second precursor and the main event. The *first* analysis at the beginning of the main event did not provide reliable constraints on the peak energy, hence we consider only the *whole* analysis.

(ii) GRB 110213: for this burst, the *first* analysis did not provide reliable constraints on the peak energy because the signal is significantly background dominated, hence we consider only the *whole* analysis.

(iii) GRB 120711A and GRB 120716A show a precursor in their light curve. For these bursts, we analysed the precursor spectra according to the *first* analysis.

(iv) GRB 130427A: the GBM data are unreliable after  $\sim 4$  s from the trigger since the large amount of recorded events, due to the exceptional brightness of this burst, saturated the available bandwidth (Preece et al. 2014). Hence, we consider only the *first* analysis for this burst.

By taking into account these notes, the final subsamples comprises

- short* : 12 bursts, with 2 lower limits
- first* : 43 bursts, with 4 lower limits
- whole* : 44 bursts, with 3 lower limits.

### 3.6 $E_p$ – $E_{iso}$ and $E_p$ – $L_{iso}$ correlations

We use the results of the spectral analysis to test the spectral-energy correlations in the  $E_p$ – $E_{iso}$  and  $E_p$ – $L_{iso}$  planes. The former is the Amati relation, while the second is only similar to the Yonetoku relation, since we use the  $L_{iso}$  values estimated on the time-averaged spectra, rather than the peak isotropic luminosity  $L_{p,iso}$  (Yonetoku et al. 2004).

We estimate the Spearman rank correlation coefficients and the associated chance probability for the *short*, *first* and *whole* results. Also, we estimate the best-fitting correlations by applying the unweighted bisector method (Isobe et al. 1990). Lower limits and precursor data are not considered in this analysis. The histograms of the residuals from the best-fitting line, once projected on a scale perpendicular to the line itself, are fitted with a Gaussian function in order to estimate the scatter ( $\sigma_{sc}$ ) from the best fit. Results are shown in Table 1.

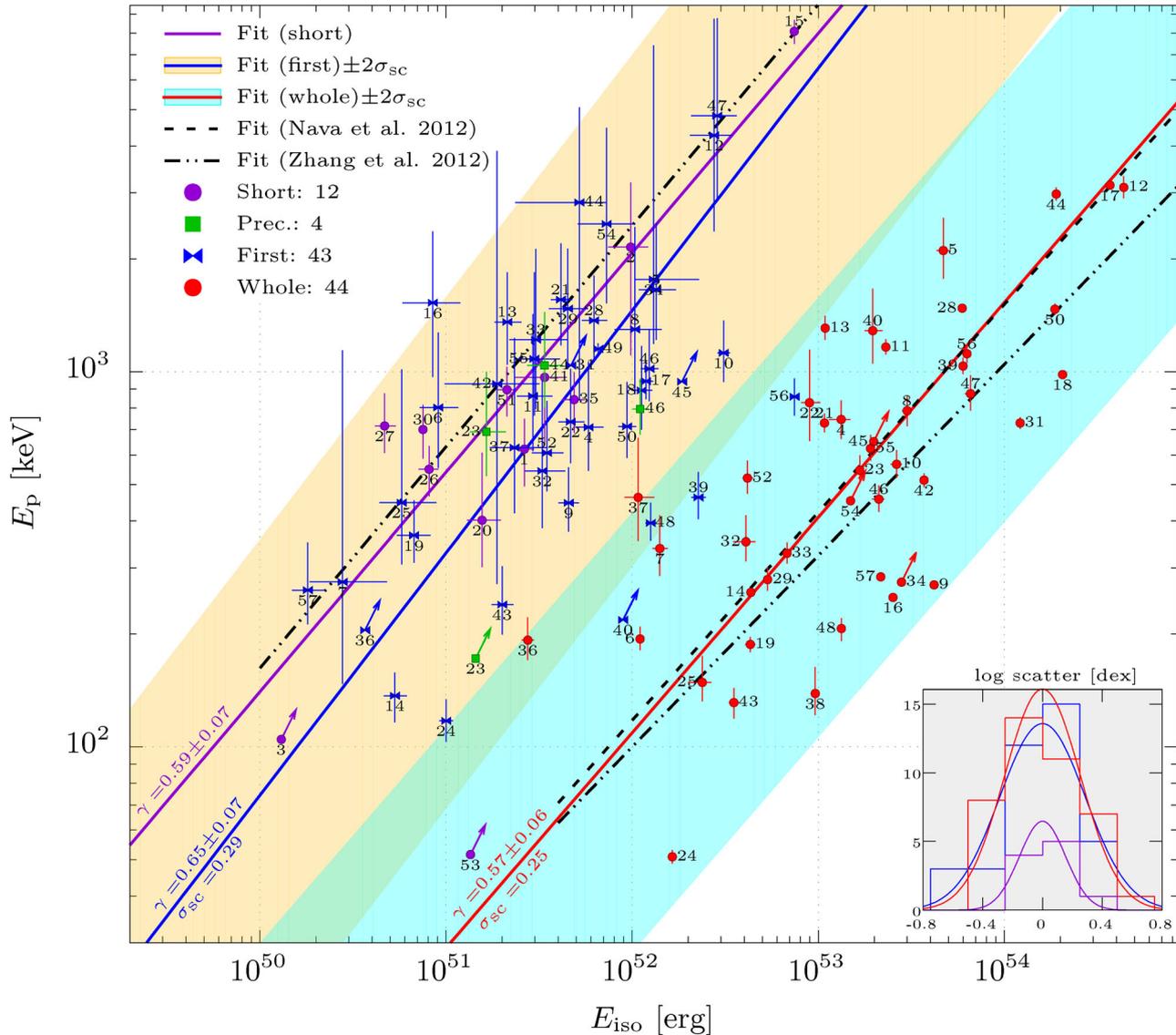
In Fig. 4, we show the best-fitting correlations (solid lines) on the  $E_p$ – $E_{iso}$  plane for the *short* (purple), *first* (blue) and *whole* (red) results, as well as the histograms of residuals (inset plots). For comparison, we also plot the corresponding relations from the total sample of Nava et al. (2012) (black dashed line) and from both the SGRBs and LGRB sample of Zhang et al. (2012) (double dot-dashed lines). In Fig. 5, we show the corresponding results in the  $E_p$ – $L_{iso}$  plane. For comparison, we show the  $E_p$ – $L_{p,iso}$  relations from the total sample of Nava et al. (2012, black dashed line) and from the combined SGRBs and LGRB sample of Zhang et al. (2012, double dot-dashed lines).

## 4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

We performed the spectral analysis of a sample LGRBs observed by *Fermi*/GBM with a redshift estimate, using time integration equal to 0.3 s rest frame (*first* analysis) and to the whole burst duration (*whole* analysis). Besides, we considered a sample of SGRBs (*short* analysis), both by performing spectral analysis of *Fermi*/GBM data and by reporting data from D14 sample. Our aim is to compare the results of the *first* analysis to those of the *short* and *whole* analysis. The comparison of the relevant quantities is shown in Fig. 2. Table 2 shows the probability that the distributions of the quantities shown in Fig. 2 are drawn from the same parent population.

The distributions of both  $E_p$  and  $L_{iso}$  are similar for the *short*, *first* and *whole* results. The distributions of low energy spectral index ( $\alpha$ ) for the *short* and *first* results are very similar, but the distribution for the *whole* results is significantly different (K–S test probabilities  $5.3 \times 10^{-5}$  and  $8.9 \times 10^{-4}$ , when compared to *first* and *short* results, respectively), with the latter showing lower values of  $\alpha$ . Also, the distribution of  $E_{iso}$  of the *whole* results is significantly different from the *first* and *short* results (K–S test probability:  $4.1 \times 10^{-13}$  and  $2.1 \times 10^{-6}$ , when compared to *first* and *short* results, respectively), with the *whole* results lying a factor of a few tens above the others.

The peak energy  $E_p$  of LGRBs, going from the first 0.3 s (rest frame) to the whole burst duration, evolves either to lower or higher energies, hence we do not find strong evidence for hard-to-soft evolution of the peak energy. The logarithmic median value of the *whole* to *first*  $E_p$  ratio is  $\sim 0.7$  (Fig. 3, left-hand panel). The total emitted energy  $E_{iso}$  increases by a factor  $5$ – $10^3$ , with a logarithmic



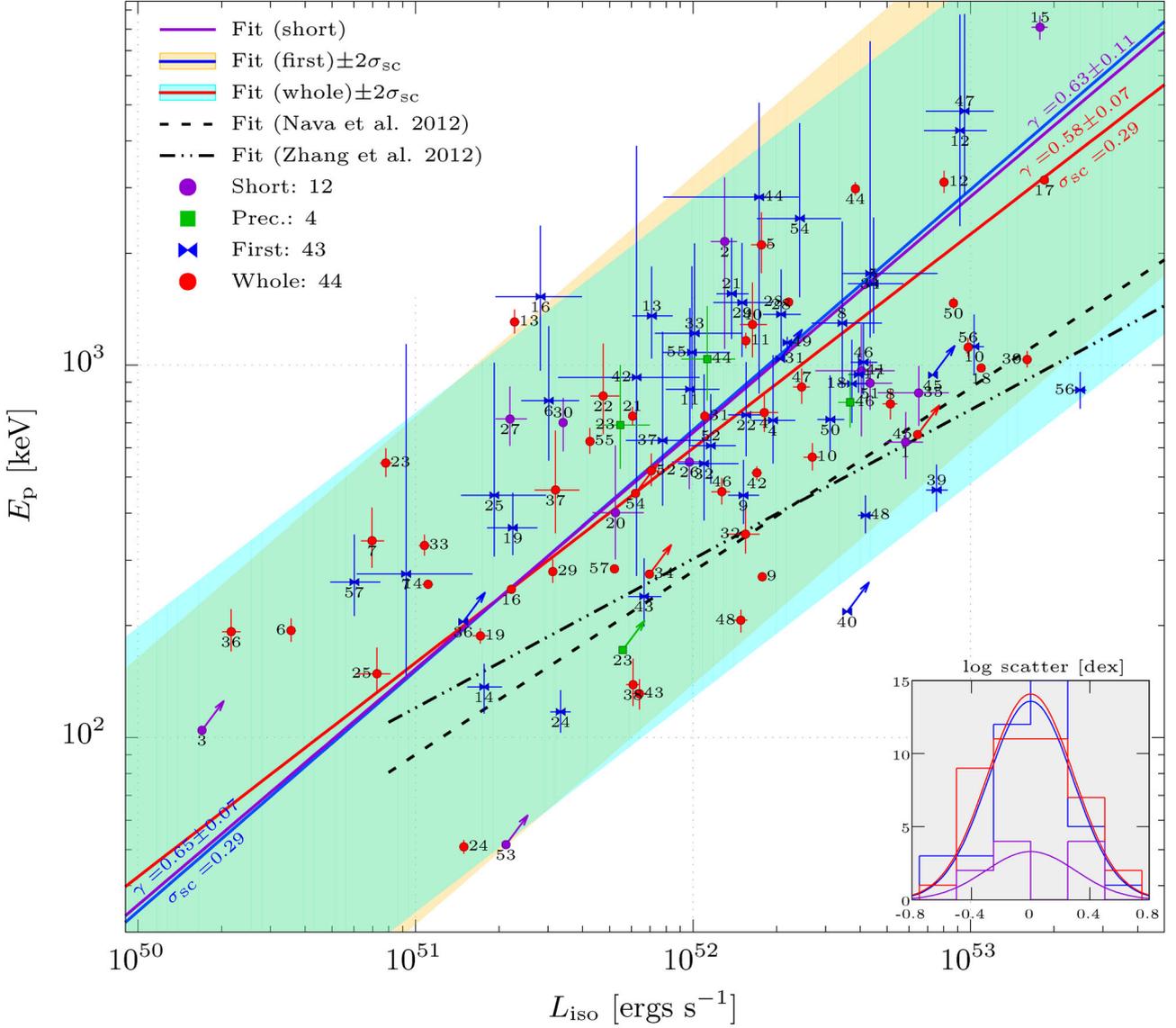
**Figure 4.** Rest-frame  $E_p$ – $E_{\text{iso}}$  plane for all GRBs considered in this work. The short, first and whole analysis results are shown with purple, blue and red symbols, respectively, while the best-fitting correlations are shown with solid lines of the corresponding colours. The numerical values of the slope and the scatter of the correlations are shown near the edges of the plots. The inset plots show the histogram of the residuals from the best-fitting correlations. The first analysis on precursors data are shown with green symbols. The shaded areas are the  $2\sigma_{\text{sc}}$  of the correlations of the first (orange) and whole (cyan) results. Also shown are the  $E_p$ – $E_{\text{iso}}$  relations from the total sample of Nava et al. (2012, black dashed line) and from both the SGRBs and LGRB sample of Zhang et al. (2012, double dot–dashed lines) for comparison.

median of  $\sim 35$ . It is not clear what drives the evolution of  $E_p$  towards either lower or higher energies, since the  $E_{p, \text{whole}}/E_{p, \text{first}}$  ratio does not show a clear correlation with any other quantity. The main driver for the  $E_{\text{iso}}$  evolution is the total burst duration  $\Delta T_{\text{whole, rest}}$ , i.e. longer burst likely evolve towards higher  $E_{\text{iso}}$  (Fig. 3, right-hand panel).

As discussed in Section 2, the SGRB sample, although relatively small when compared to the long sample, is a reasonably good representation of the parent distribution of SGRBs observable with currently available detectors. Moreover, the SGRB sample is large enough to provide evidence for significant different distributions of  $\alpha$  and  $E_{\text{iso}}$  when compared to the *whole* sample. Hence, the Kolmogorov–Smirnov (K–S) tests to compare the spectral properties of the *short* and *first* samples are reliable, and the corresponding distributions are actually indistinguishable, i.e. we are unable to

distinguish a SGRB from the first 0.3 s of a long one with currently available detectors. Clearly, as new redshift estimates for SGRB become available, our results may need to be reconsidered.

The plot of the  $E_p$ – $E_{\text{iso}}$  plane is shown in Fig. 4. There is a clear correlation between  $E_p$  and  $E_{\text{iso}}$  for the *whole* results, with a chance probability of obtaining a higher value of the Spearman rank correlation of  $\sim 10^{-7}$  (Table 1). In the  $E_p$ – $E_{\text{iso}}$  plane, this is the well-known Amati relation (Amati et al. 2002). The correlation slope and scatter ( $0.57 \pm 0.06$  and  $0.23$ ) are very similar to the ones found in Nava et al. (2012) for their total sample ( $0.55 \pm 0.02$ ,  $0.23$ ), and in Zhang et al. (2012) for their LGRB sample ( $0.51 \pm 0.03$ ). For the *first* results, we found a new  $E_p$ – $E_{\text{iso}}$  relation with a probability  $\sim 10^{-3}$  of being spurious. The best-fitting *whole* relation lies at  $3$ – $4\sigma_{\text{sc}}$  away from the *first* relation, hence the *first* and *whole* populations are well separated in the  $E_p$ – $E_{\text{iso}}$  plane. The SGRBs alone do not provide



**Figure 5.** Rest-frame  $E_p$ – $L_{\text{iso}}$  plane for all GRBs considered in this work with the same colours and symbols used in Fig. 4. Also shown are the  $E_p$ – $L_{\text{p, iso}}$  relations from the total sample of Nava et al. (2012, black dashed line) and from the combined SGRBs and LGRB sample of Zhang et al. (2012, double dot–dashed lines).

**Table 1.** Results of the statistical analysis of the  $E_p$ – $E_{\text{iso}}$  and  $E_p$ – $L_{\text{iso}}$  correlations for the *short*, *first* and *whole* results.  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $\gamma$  are the correlation parameters, while  $\rho_s$  and  $P_{\text{chance}}$  are the Spearman’s rank correlation coefficient and the associated chance probability. Results from precursors data are not considered.

Correlation	Results	No. GRBs	$A$	$B$	$\gamma$	$\sigma_{\text{sc}}$	$\rho_s$	$P_{\text{chance}}$
$\log \frac{E_p}{\text{keV}} = \gamma(\log \frac{E_{\text{iso}}}{\text{erg}} - A) + B$	<i>Short</i>	10	51.45	2.99	$0.59 \pm 0.07$	0.15	0.71	0.02
	<i>First</i>	39	51.62	2.92	$0.65 \pm 0.07$	0.29	0.50	$1 \times 10^{-3}$
	<i>Whole</i>	41	53.21	2.73	$0.57 \pm 0.06$	0.25	0.73	$5 \times 10^{-8}$
$\log \frac{E_p}{\text{keV}} = \gamma(\log \frac{L_{\text{iso}}}{\text{erg s}^{-1}} - A) + B$	<i>Short</i>	10	52.28	2.99	$0.63 \pm 0.11$	0.30	0.50	0.14
	<i>First</i>	39	52.15	2.92	$0.65 \pm 0.07$	0.29	0.50	$1 \times 10^{-3}$
	<i>Whole</i>	41	51.92	2.73	$0.58 \pm 0.07$	0.29	0.7	$4 \times 10^{-7}$

a strong statistical evidence for the existence of such a correlation ( $P_{\text{chance}} = 0.02$ ). However, all *short* results lie within  $2\sigma_{\text{sc}}$  from the best-fitting relation for the *first* results. Moreover, the best-fitting *short* correlation, if it actually exists, lies very close to the *first* one,

and significantly away from the *whole* one. Therefore, the *short* and *first* results are actually indistinguishable in the  $E_p$ – $E_{\text{iso}}$  plane. The lower limits for  $E_p$  and  $E_{\text{iso}}$  were not considered in the correlation analysis. However, the true values of  $E_p$  and  $E_{\text{iso}}$  of the *short* and *first*

**Table 2.** Results of K-S tests: columns 2 and 3 show the probability that the distributions of the quantity shown in column 1 for the *short*, *first* and *whole* results are drawn from the same parent population.

Quantity	Short versus first	Whole versus first	Whole versus short
alpha	0.83	$5.3 \times 10^{-5}$	$8.9 \times 10^{-4}$
$\log E_p$	0.71	0.11	0.10
$\log E_{\text{iso}}$	0.43	$4.1 \times 10^{-13}$	$2.1 \times 10^{-6}$
$\log L_{\text{iso}}$	0.54	0.19	0.29

population are not supposed to lie closer to the *whole* correlation than their lower limits, as shown by the arrows in Fig. 4. Hence, our conclusions cannot be hampered by the presence of lower limits. GRB precursors, when present, also lie in the *short–first* region.

In the  $E_p$ – $L_{\text{iso}}$  plane (Fig. 5) similar considerations apply: there is a strong correlation for the *whole* results, a marginally significant correlation for the *first* results,<sup>7</sup> and a weak correlation for the *short* results. However, in the  $E_p$ – $L_{\text{iso}}$  plane, all correlations overlap and are very similar. Note that these correlations are not equivalent to the Yonetoku relation, since we used the  $L_{\text{iso}}$  values estimated on the time-averaged spectra, rather than the peak isotropic luminosity  $L_{p,\text{iso}}$  (Yonetoku et al. 2004). Hence, we do not expect to find the same results found in the literature. In particular, we expect our results to lie at lower  $L_{\text{iso}}$  since the peak luminosity is by definition the highest luminosity for each burst. Indeed, the Yonetoku relation found in Nava et al. (2012) for their total sample, and by Zhang et al. (2012) for their combined short and long sample, lie on the right of our best-fitting correlation. Nevertheless, our analysis shows that the  $E_p$ – $L_{\text{iso}}$  relation turns out to be very similar for the *first* and *short* results (under the assumption that the latter actually exists). Hence, these correlations are possibly the manifestation of the same physical process acting in all GRBs, and even in small temporal intervals within a single GRB.

It has been debated whether the  $E_p$ – $E_{\text{iso}}$  and  $E_p$ – $L_{\text{iso}}$  correlations are affected by selection effects (Band & Preece 2005; Nakar & Piran 2005; Butler et al. 2007; Butler, Kocevski & Bloom 2009; Shahmoradi & Nemiroff 2011; Kocevski 2012). The possible existence of similar correlation within individual GRBs, i.e. between the peak energy and the luminosity as a function of time in a single GRB (Firmani et al. 2009; Ghirlanda et al. 2010, 2011a, 2011b; Frontera et al. 2012), seems to point to a physical origin of these correlations. Similarly, the use of a flux-limited complete sample of LGRBs seems to support the idea that instrumental selection effects are not shaping these correlations (Ghirlanda et al. 2012; Nava et al. 2012). Hence, these correlations are likely the manifestation of fundamental GRB properties. Since our correlations for the *whole* analysis (Table 1) are very similar to those found in literature, we do not expect our long sample to be strongly biased by selection effects. As a consequence, also the *first* correlation is not biased, since the sample is the same. The *short* analysis, on the other hand, has been performed on a flux-limited SGRB sample with a redshift completeness of  $\sim 60$  per cent; hence, we do not expect the selection effects (beyond the limiting flux threshold) to play a dominant role.

The 0.3 s (rest-frame) time-scale chosen for the *first* analysis has a clear interpretation: it is the representative duration of the SGRBs in the D14 catalogue. Since the main driver for the  $E_{\text{iso}}$  evolution is the integration time (Fig. 3, right-hand panel), a longer

time-scale would result in higher values of  $E_{\text{iso, first}}$ . Hence, in order to obtain significantly higher (or lower) values of  $E_{\text{iso}}$ , we should overcome the intrinsic scatter of the correlations, namely 0.25–0.3 dex (a factor  $\sim 2$ , i.e.  $\Delta T_{\text{first}} \lesssim 0.15$  s or  $\Delta T_{\text{first}} \gtrsim 0.6$  s).

In summary, we found that the intrinsic spectral properties (peak energy and luminosity) of both the SGRBs and the first 0.3 s (rest frame) of long ones are actually indistinguishable. Hence, if the central engine of an LGRB would stop working after  $\sim 0.3$  s, we would have no means to distinguish it from a genuine SGRB. Clearly, SGRBs and LGRBs remain two distinct phenomena, each one with its own duration. In particular, SGRBs lasts longer or shorter than 0.3 s. Likewise, we do not expect the short-like phase at the beginning of LGRBs to always lasts 0.3 s. Our findings are in agreement with those in Ghirlanda et al. (2009), which found no differences in the (observed) spectral properties of SGRBs and the first 1–2 s of LGRBs. We extended this work by comparing the intrinsic (rest-frame) properties rather than the observed ones.

Moreover, we found that the spectral quantities in the first 0.3 s of LGRBs define new  $E_p$ – $E_{\text{iso}}$  and  $E_p$ – $L_{\text{iso}}$  correlations. These correlations are possibly the manifestation of an underlying physical process common to all GRBs, despite the possibly different progenitors of SGRBs and LGRBs, and the great variety of energetics and spectral properties involved.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We gratefully acknowledge the referee for the useful comments and suggestions which greatly improved the paper. The research activity of AM, MGB and PD is supported by ASI grant INAF I/004/11/1. GC was supported by PRIN INAF 2011 (1.05.01.09.15).

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<sup>7</sup> The correlation analysis for the *first* results are the same in both the  $E_p$ – $E_{\text{iso}}$  and  $E_p$ – $L_{\text{iso}}$  planes, since the rest-frame time interval is the same for all GRBs: 0.3 s.

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## APPENDIX A: RESULTS OF SPECTRAL ANALYSIS

**Table A1.** List of GRBs considered in this work. Columns are: [1] GRB identifier; [2] GRB name [3] fraction of day of trigger time; [4] redshift; [5]  $T_{90}$  duration in the *Fermi*/GBM 50–300 keV energy range (observer frame) *Fermi*/GBM (von Kienlin et al. 2014); [6] list of detectors used for spectral analysis; [7] background time selection; [8] redshift reference. Rows with missing data refer to SGRBs in the D14 sample (D’Avanzo et al. 2014).

ID	GRB	(Day frac.)	Redshift	$T_{90}$ (s)	Detectors	Background time sel. (s)	Redshift ref.
1	051221A		0.5465				
2	070714B		0.92				
3	080123		0.495				
4	080804	972	2.2045	24.704	n6, n7, b1	−100:−10, 50:200	Thoene et al. (2008)
5	080810	549	3.35	107.46	n7, n8, nb, b1	−100:−20, 110:200	Prochaska et al. (2008)
6	080916A	406	0.689	46.337	n7, n8, b1	−100:−20, 100:200	Fynbo et al. (2008)
7	081109	293	0.9787	58.369	n9, na, b1	−100:−20, 40:200	Krühler et al. (2011)
8	081121	858	2.512	41.985	na, nb, b1	−100:−10, 50:200	Berger & Rauch (2008)
9	081221	681	2.26	29.697	n1, n2, b0	−100:−10, 100:200	Salvaterra et al. (2012)
10	081222	204	2.77	18.88	n0, n1, b0	−200:−10, 50:200	Cucchiara et al. (2008)
11	090102	122	1.547	26.624	na, nb, b1	−100:−20, 50:200	de Ugarte Postigo et al. (2009)
12	090323	002	3.57	135.17	n9, nb, b1	−100:−20, 200:300	Chornock et al. (2009a)
13	090328	401	0.736	61.697	n6, n7, b1	−100:−10, 100:200	Kenno et al. (2009a)
14	090424	592	0.544	14.144	n7, n8, nb, b1	−100:−5, 100:200	Chornock et al. (2009b)
15	090510		0.903				
16	090618	353	0.54	112.39	n4, b0	−100:−20, 200:400	Kenno et al. (2009b)
17	090902	462	1.822	19.328	n0, n1, b0	−100:−10, 60:150	Cucchiara et al. (2009a)
18	090926A	181	2.1062	13.76	n6, n7, b1	−55:−10, 60:200	Malesani et al. (2009)
19	090926B	914	1.24	55.553	n7, n8, nb, b1	−100:−5, 60:200	Fynbo et al. (2009)
20	090927	422	1.37	0.512	n2, n9, na, b1	−100:−20, 10:200	Levan et al. (2009)
21	091003	191	0.8969	20.224	n3, n6, b1	−100:−10, 50:200	Cucchiara et al. (2009b)
22	091020A	900	1.71	24.256	n2, n5, b0	−100:−15, 50:200	Xu et al. (2009)
23	091024	372	1.092	93.954	n7, n8, b1	−100:−10, 60:200	Cucchiara et al. (2009c)
23	091024	380	1.092	93.954	n6, n9, b1	−200:−40, 60:200, 500:700	Cucchiara et al. (2009c)
24	091127	976	0.49	8.701	n6, n7, n9, b1	−100:−5, 30:200	Cucchiara et al. (2009d)
25	091208B	410	1.063	12.48	n9, na, b1	−100:−20, 130:250	Wiersema et al. (2009)
26	100117A		0.92				
27	100206	563	0.4068	0.128	n0, n3, b0	−100:−5, 5:200	Perley et al. (2012)
28	100414	097	1.368	26.497	n7, n9, nb, b1	−100:−20, 110:200	Cucchiara et al. (2010)
29	100615A	083	1.398	37.377	n6, n7, n8, b1	−100:−5, 100:200	Kruehler et al. (2010a)
30	100625A		0.452				
31	100728A	095	1.567	165.38	n0, n1, b0	−100:−20, 300:500	Kruehler et al. (2010b)
32	100728B	439	2.106	10.24	n6, n7, n8, b1	−100:−10, 10:200	Flores et al. (2010)
33	100814A	160	1.44	150.53	n7, n8, b1	−100:−20, 90:120, 200:300	J. et al. (2010)
34	100906A	576	1.727	110.59	nb, b1	−100:−10, 150:250	Tanvir et al. (2010)
35	101219A		0.718				
36	110106B	893	0.618	35.521	n9, na, nb, b1	−100:−20, 40:200	Chornock, Berger & Fox (2011)
37	110128A	073	2.339	12.16	n6, n7, n9, b1	−100:−10, 10:200	Sparre et al. (2011)
38	110213A	220	1.46	34.305	n3, n4, b0	−100:−10, 50:200	Milne et al. (2011)
39	110731A	465	2.83	7.485	n0, n3, b0	−100:−5, 20:200	Tanvir et al. (2011)
40	110818A	860	3.36	67.073	n7, n8, nb, b1	−100:−20, 50:200	D’Avanzo et al. (2011)
41	111117A		1.3				
42	120119A	170	1.728	55.297	n9, nb, b1	−100:−20, 100:200	Cucchiara et al. (2012)
43	120326A	056	1.798	11.776	n0, n1, n2, b0	−100:−10, 20:200	Tello et al. (2012)
44	120711A	115	1.405	44.033	n2, na, b0	−100:−20, 10:50, 150:250	Tanvir et al. (2012a)
45	120712A	571	4.1745	22.528	n6, n7, b1	−100:−10, 30:200	Xu et al. (2012)
46	120716A	712	2.486	234.5	n9, na, b1	−100:−10, 20:160, 250:400	D’Elia et al. (2012)
47	120909A	070	3.93	112.07	n7, n8, b1	−100:−10, 150:300	Golenetskii et al. (2012)
48	121128A	212	2.2	17.344	n3, n4, b0	−100:−5, 50:200	Tanvir et al. (2012b)
49	130427A	324	0.3399	138.24	n9, na, b1	−200:−10	Flores et al. (2013)
50	130518A	580	2.488	48.577	n3, n7, b0, b1	−100:−20, 100:200	Cucchiara et al. (2013)
51	130603B		0.356				
52	130610A	133	2.092	21.76	n7, n8, b1	−100:−40, 30:200	Smette et al. (2013)
53	131004A	904	0.717	1.152	n9, na, b1	−100:−5, 10:200	Chornock, Lunnan & Berger (2013)
54	131011A	741	1.874	77.057	n7, n9, nb, b1	−100:−20, 100:200	Rau et al. (2013)
55	131105A	087	1.686	112.64	n6, n7, b1	−200:−20, 150:300	Xu et al. (2013a)
56	131108A	862	2.4	18.496	n0, n3, b0	−200:−10, 50:200	de Ugarte Postigo et al. (2013)
57	131231A	198	0.642	31.232	n0, n3, b1	−100:−20, 100:200	Xu et al. (2013b)

**Table A2.** List of intrinsic (rest-frame) spectral quantities for our GRB sample. Columns are: [1] GRB identifier; [2] GRB name; [3] Time selection (observer frame) [4] analysis specification; [5] spectral model; [6]  $\alpha$  spectral index; [7]  $\beta$  spectral index spectral; [8]  $\log E_p$ ; [9]  $\log E_{\text{iso}}$  in the 1 keV–10 MeV energy range; [10] value of the Cash fit statistic and [11] degrees of freedom.

ID	GRB	Time sel. (s)		Analysis	Model	$\alpha$	$\beta$	$\log E_p$ (keV)	$\log E_{\text{iso}}$ (erg)	C–STAT	DOF
1	051221A			(Short D14)		$-1.08^{+0.13}_{-0.13}$		$2.793^{+0.081}_{-0.099}$	$51.420^{+0.051}_{-0.058}$		0
2	070714B			(Short D14)		$-0.86^{+0.10}_{-0.10}$		$3.33^{+0.17}_{-0.29}$	$51.991^{+0.094}_{-0.121}$		0
3	080123			(Short D14)		$-1.20^{+0.38}_{-0.38}$		$>2.02$	$>50.11$		0
4	080804	-0.6	0.361	(First)	Band	$-0.25^{+0.64}_{-0.44}$	$-2.3^a$	$2.85^{+0.18}_{-0.12}$	$51.765^{+0.080}_{-0.069}$	408.58	362
		-1.024	22.528	(Whole)	Band	$-0.669^{+0.089}_{-0.078}$	$-2.5^{+0.3}_{-1.1}$	$2.873^{+0.051}_{-0.052}$	$53.123^{+0.049}_{-0.065}$	510.38	361
5	080810	-1	0.305	(First)	CPL	$-0.71^{+0.29}_{-0.23}$		$3.22^{+0.18}_{-0.13}$	$52.128^{+0.107}_{-0.093}$	501.83	482
		-10.24	105.47	(Whole)	Band	$-1.090^{+0.063}_{-0.059}$	$-2.3^a$	$3.323^{+0.087}_{-0.076}$	$53.671^{+0.039}_{-0.037}$	1221	482
6	080916A	-0.2	0.307	(First)	Band	$-0.29^{+0.45}_{-0.32}$	$-2.3^a$	$2.90^{+0.20}_{-0.16}$	$50.957^{+0.109}_{-0.099}$	377.97	361
		-1.024	51.2	(Whole)	Band	$-1.047^{+0.067}_{-0.065}$	$-2.3^a$	$2.288^{+0.033}_{-0.030}$	$52.042^{+0.017}_{-0.017}$	683.35	361
7	081109	-1.2	-0.606	(First)	CPL	$-1.20^{+0.75}_{-0.49}$		$2.44^{+0.62}_{-0.27}$	$50.44^{+0.24}_{-0.18}$	420.97	360
		-5.12	34.816	(Whole)	CPL	$-1.22^{+0.12}_{-0.11}$		$2.529^{+0.088}_{-0.073}$	$52.148^{+0.043}_{-0.039}$	573.17	360
8	081121	0.8	1.854	(First)	CPL	$-0.88^{+0.37}_{-0.28}$		$3.11^{+0.27}_{-0.17}$	$52.01^{+0.14}_{-0.11}$	383.75	359
		0	20.48	(Whole)	Band	$-0.682^{+0.087}_{-0.078}$	$-2.2^{+0.1}_{-0.2}$	$2.896^{+0.040}_{-0.042}$	$53.477^{+0.025}_{-0.027}$	439.43	358
9	081221	-0.8	0.178	(First)	Band	$0.92^{+1.17}_{-0.75}$	$-2.3^a$	$2.650^{+0.095}_{-0.077}$	$51.659^{+0.056}_{-0.055}$	368.91	362
		-1.024	75.776	(Whole)	Band	$-0.858^{+0.029}_{-0.027}$	$-3.3^{+0.2}_{-0.2}$	$2.4321^{+0.0083}_{-0.0089}$	$53.6217^{+0.0101}_{-0.0093}$	894.98	361
10	081222	0	1.131	(First)	Band	$-0.79^{+0.12}_{-0.11}$	$-2.3^a$	$3.050^{+0.086}_{-0.077}$	$52.490^{+0.034}_{-0.033}$	421.53	361
		-1.024	35.84	(Whole)	Band	$-0.886^{+0.063}_{-0.059}$	$-2.4^{+0.2}_{-0.2}$	$2.753^{+0.038}_{-0.036}$	$53.420^{+0.028}_{-0.031}$	429.81	360
11	090102	0	0.764	(First)	Band	$-0.69^{+0.36}_{-0.28}$	$-2.3^a$	$2.94^{+0.22}_{-0.15}$	$51.466^{+0.106}_{-0.086}$	372.54	359
		-1.792	36.096	(Whole)	CPL	$-0.966^{+0.022}_{-0.021}$		$3.066^{+0.021}_{-0.020}$	$53.363^{+0.012}_{-0.012}$	553.16	359
12	090323	1.4	2.771	(First)	CPL	$-1.04^{+0.19}_{-0.14}$		$3.63^{+0.31}_{-0.26}$	$52.439^{+0.096}_{-0.129}$	372.58	360
		-3.072	245.76	(Whole)	Band	$-1.255^{+0.012}_{-0.012}$	$-2.3^a$	$3.492^{+0.030}_{-0.029}$	$54.641^{+0.010}_{-0.010}$	1596.9	360
13	090328	3.8	4.321	(First)	CPL	$-1.009^{+0.102}_{-0.091}$		$3.13^{+0.13}_{-0.11}$	$51.328^{+0.076}_{-0.069}$	433.47	361
		-4.096	78.848	(Whole)	CPL	$-1.140^{+0.019}_{-0.019}$		$3.116^{+0.033}_{-0.031}$	$53.036^{+0.018}_{-0.017}$	754.48	361
14	090424	-0.2	0.263	(First)	Band	$-0.90^{+0.20}_{-0.16}$	$-2.6^{+0.3}_{-0.6}$	$2.136^{+0.062}_{-0.071}$	$50.724^{+0.064}_{-0.060}$	574.44	480
		-1.024	59.392	(Whole)	Band	$-1.060^{+0.017}_{-0.017}$	$-2.8^{+0.2}_{-0.3}$	$2.412^{+0.013}_{-0.013}$	$52.637^{+0.018}_{-0.020}$	951.52	480
15	090510			(Short D14)		$-0.820^{+0.020}_{-0.020}$	$-2.8^{+0.3}_{-0.3}$	$3.908^{+0.031}_{-0.033}$	$52.871^{+0.018}_{-0.019}$		0
16	090618	-0.8	-0.338	(First)	CPL	$-0.29^{+0.66}_{-0.35}$		$3.18^{+0.19}_{-0.20}$	$50.93^{+0.15}_{-0.16}$	245.72	240
		-1.024	174.08	(Whole)	Band	$-1.166^{+0.013}_{-0.012}$	$-2.51^{+0.05}_{-0.05}$	$2.3981^{+0.0097}_{-0.0100}$	$53.4013^{+0.0074}_{-0.0075}$	1493.4	239
17	090902	-0.4	0.447	(First)	Band	$-0.29^{+0.17}_{-0.15}$	$-2.3^a$	$2.974^{+0.055}_{-0.048}$	$52.074^{+0.039}_{-0.036}$	376.4	362
		-1.024	55.296	(Whole)	Band	$-1.0214^{+0.0050}_{-0.0047}$	$-2.3^a$	$3.4976^{+0.0079}_{-0.0082}$	$54.5667^{+0.0038}_{-0.0040}$	1879.8	362
18	090926A	0	0.932	(First)	Band	$-0.69^{+0.21}_{-0.17}$	$-2.3^a$	$2.95^{+0.12}_{-0.10}$	$52.050^{+0.057}_{-0.053}$	391.41	362
		-7.168	51.2	(Whole)	Band	$-0.821^{+0.010}_{-0.010}$	$-2.49^{+0.06}_{-0.07}$	$2.9924^{+0.0082}_{-0.0082}$	$54.3125^{+0.0061}_{-0.0064}$	973.28	361
19	090926B	0.6	1.272	(First)	CPL	$1.2^{+2.0}_{-1.1}$		$2.564^{+0.093}_{-0.073}$	$50.827^{+0.089}_{-0.092}$	527.49	482
		-1.024	55.296	(Whole)	Band	$0.16^{+0.15}_{-0.13}$	$-2.9^{+0.2}_{-0.3}$	$2.273^{+0.020}_{-0.020}$	$52.634^{+0.028}_{-0.028}$	684.57	481
20	090927	-0.256	0.448	(Short)	CPL	$-0.80^{+0.37}_{-0.30}$		$2.60^{+0.18}_{-0.12}$	$51.193^{+0.101}_{-0.082}$	523.39	482
21	091003	0	0.569	(First)	Band	$-1.112^{+0.082}_{-0.075}$	$-2.3^a$	$3.19^{+0.15}_{-0.12}$	$51.616^{+0.061}_{-0.054}$	382.73	362
		-1.024	32.768	(Whole)	Band	$-1.068^{+0.022}_{-0.021}$	$-2.3^a$	$2.863^{+0.025}_{-0.024}$	$53.0331^{+0.0092}_{-0.0090}$	501.81	362

Table A2. – *continued*

ID	GRB	Time sel. (s)		Analysis	Model	alpha	beta	log $E_p$ (keV)	log $E_{iso}$ (erg)	C–STAT	DOF
22	091020A	–0.2	0.613	(First)	CPL	$-1.08^{+0.17}_{-0.15}$		$2.87^{+0.14}_{-0.11}$	$51.668^{+0.074}_{-0.065}$	381.4	362
		–6.144	45.056	(Whole)	CPL	$-1.386^{+0.072}_{-0.069}$		$2.92^{+0.14}_{-0.10}$	$52.952^{+0.058}_{-0.045}$	473.64	362
23	091024	2.4	3.028	(Prec.)	CPL	$-0.62^{+0.30}_{-0.25}$		$2.84^{+0.16}_{-0.12}$	$51.216^{+0.106}_{-0.088}$	390.51	360
		5	5.628	(Prec.)	Band	$-0.80^{+0.86}_{-0.44}$	$-2.3^a$	$>2.24$	$>51.16$	381.46	363
		–16.384	430.09	(Whole)	CPL	$-1.045^{+0.043}_{-0.042}$		$2.737^{+0.040}_{-0.037}$	$53.222^{+0.022}_{-0.021}$	1134.7	363
24	091127	–0.2	0.247	(First)	Band	$-0.56^{+0.20}_{-0.17}$	$-2.11^{+0.07}_{-0.09}$	$2.069^{+0.058}_{-0.056}$	$51.000^{+0.036}_{-0.037}$	492.47	481
		–1.024	15.36	(Whole)	Band	$-1.252^{+0.067}_{-0.063}$	$-2.21^{+0.02}_{-0.02}$	$1.706^{+0.018}_{-0.018}$	$52.2153^{+0.0076}_{-0.0076}$	713.48	481
25	091208B	–0.6	0.019	(First)	CPL	$-0.83^{+0.59}_{-0.43}$		$2.65^{+0.36}_{-0.16}$	$50.76^{+0.19}_{-0.12}$	415.97	359
		–1.024	66.56	(Whole)	Band	$-0.92^{+0.17}_{-0.17}$	$-2.6^{+0.2}_{-2.5}$	$2.172^{+0.071}_{-0.050}$	$52.376^{+0.049}_{-0.077}$	837.99	358
26	100117A			(Short D14)		$-0.15^{+0.21}_{-0.21}$		$2.740^{+0.062}_{-0.073}$	$50.908^{+0.051}_{-0.057}$		0
27	100206	–0.1	0.2	(Short)	CPL	$-0.42^{+0.17}_{-0.15}$		$2.855^{+0.087}_{-0.072}$	$50.669^{+0.060}_{-0.053}$	399.21	362
28	100414	0.4	1.11	(First)	Band	$-0.42^{+0.23}_{-0.19}$	$-2.3^a$	$3.14^{+0.12}_{-0.10}$	$51.794^{+0.072}_{-0.064}$	461.74	479
		–1.024	62.464	(Whole)	Band	$-0.594^{+0.017}_{-0.017}$	$-3.5^{+0.4}_{-0.7}$	$3.169^{+0.012}_{-0.012}$	$53.773^{+0.012}_{-0.013}$	1109.4	478
29	100615A	–0.2	0.519	(First)	CPL	$-0.82^{+0.15}_{-0.13}$		$3.17^{+0.16}_{-0.15}$	$51.65^{+0.11}_{-0.10}$	498.68	485
		–1.024	39.936	(Whole)	CPL	$-1.343^{+0.044}_{-0.043}$		$2.446^{+0.033}_{-0.030}$	$52.727^{+0.016}_{-0.015}$	783.08	485
30	100625A			(Short D14)		$-0.60^{+0.11}_{-0.11}$		$2.846^{+0.066}_{-0.078}$	$50.875^{+0.017}_{-0.018}$		0
31	100728A	3.6	4.37	(First)	Band	$-0.54^{+0.57}_{-0.35}$	$-2.3^a$	$>3.02$	$>51.67$	381.15	362
		–4.096	278.53	(Whole)	Band	$-0.730^{+0.022}_{-0.021}$	$-2.13^{+0.04}_{-0.05}$	$2.863^{+0.015}_{-0.015}$	$54.084^{+0.011}_{-0.011}$	3289.9	361
32	100728B	–1.2	–0.268	(First)	Band	$-0.84^{+0.35}_{-0.29}$	$-2.3^a$	$2.74^{+0.24}_{-0.15}$	$51.516^{+0.124}_{-0.092}$	592.61	484
		–1.024	7.168	(Whole)	Band	$-0.85^{+0.12}_{-0.12}$	$-2.3^{+0.2}_{-0.4}$	$2.547^{+0.070}_{-0.052}$	$52.610^{+0.050}_{-0.068}$	561.66	483
33	100814A	–0.6	0.132	(First)	CPL	$-0.58^{+0.37}_{-0.27}$		$3.09^{+0.24}_{-0.19}$	$51.48^{+0.17}_{-0.14}$	393.97	359
		–1.152	152.45	(Whole)	CPL	$-0.536^{+0.100}_{-0.095}$		$2.516^{+0.029}_{-0.027}$	$52.831^{+0.020}_{-0.019}$	737.63	359
34	100906A	0.2	1.018	(First)	CPL	$-1.03^{+0.14}_{-0.21}$		$3.25^{+0.62}_{-0.17}$	$52.12^{+0.24}_{-0.10}$	262	238
		0	120.83	(Whole)	Band	$-1.307^{+0.078}_{-0.068}$	$-2.00^{+0.08}_{-0.18}$	$>2.44$	$>53.45$	864.42	237
35	101219A			(Short D14)		$-0.22^{+0.27}_{-0.27}$		$2.925^{+0.073}_{-0.088}$	$51.688^{+0.057}_{-0.065}$		0
36	110106B	–1	–0.515	(First)	Band	$-0.83^{+0.77}_{-0.43}$	$-2.3^a$	$>2.31$	$>50.56$	541.31	480
		–2.048	18.432	(Whole)	CPL	$-1.11^{+0.13}_{-0.12}$		$2.284^{+0.061}_{-0.052}$	$51.438^{+0.034}_{-0.032}$	538.47	480
37	110128A	–2.2	–1.198	(First)	CPL	$-0.61^{+0.66}_{-0.46}$		$2.80^{+0.29}_{-0.18}$	$51.37^{+0.17}_{-0.13}$	506.37	484
		–2.048	9.216	(Whole)	CPL	$-1.01^{+0.30}_{-0.25}$		$2.66^{+0.16}_{-0.12}$	$52.032^{+0.086}_{-0.075}$	477.39	484
38	110213A	–3.072	35.84	(Whole)	Band	$-1.29^{+0.12}_{-0.11}$	$-2.13^{+0.06}_{-0.08}$	$2.142^{+0.070}_{-0.058}$	$52.983^{+0.024}_{-0.025}$	471.04	360
39	110731A	–0.8	0.349	(First)	CPL	$-1.27^{+0.15}_{-0.14}$		$2.665^{+0.068}_{-0.058}$	$52.355^{+0.040}_{-0.037}$	400.95	360
		–1.024	13.312	(Whole)	Band	$-0.951^{+0.035}_{-0.034}$	$-2.7^{+0.2}_{-0.3}$	$3.015^{+0.022}_{-0.021}$	$53.777^{+0.015}_{-0.017}$	501.5	359
40	110818A	–0.6	0.708	(First)	Band	$-0.79^{+2.76}_{-0.55}$	$-2.3^a$	$>2.34$	$>51.95$	479.49	481
		–7.168	45.056	(Whole)	CPL	$-1.208^{+0.089}_{-0.084}$		$3.109^{+0.113}_{-0.088}$	$53.292^{+0.052}_{-0.044}$	714.43	481
41	111117A			(Short D14)		$-0.28^{+0.28}_{-0.28}$		$2.98^{+0.12}_{-0.18}$	$51.53^{+0.12}_{-0.16}$		0
42	120119A	–0.2	0.618	(First)	CPL	$-1.30^{+0.92}_{-0.25}$		$2.97^{+0.62}_{-0.53}$	$51.27^{+0.23}_{-0.28}$	393.34	360
		–2.048	57.344	(Whole)	Band	$-0.941^{+0.027}_{-0.025}$	$-2.5^{+0.1}_{-0.2}$	$2.710^{+0.018}_{-0.019}$	$53.568^{+0.018}_{-0.018}$	834.93	359

Table A2. – continued

ID	GRB	Time sel. (s)		Analysis	Model	alpha	beta	log $E_p$ (keV)	log $E_{\text{iso}}$ (erg)	C-STAT	DOF
43	120326A	-1	-0.161	(First)	CPL	$-1.05^{+0.27}_{-0.24}$		$2.379^{+0.102}_{-0.080}$	$51.301^{+0.062}_{-0.057}$	514.08	483
		-2.048	13.312	(Whole)	Band	$-0.87^{+0.19}_{-0.15}$	$-2.5^{+0.1}_{-0.2}$	$2.118^{+0.038}_{-0.043}$	$52.546^{+0.027}_{-0.027}$	568.22	482
44	120711A	0.2	0.921	(Prec.)	CPL	$-0.35^{+0.52}_{-0.38}$		$3.02^{+0.14}_{-0.11}$	$51.528^{+0.101}_{-0.093}$	368.65	362
		61	61.722	(First)	CPL	$-0.93^{+0.63}_{-0.19}$		$3.45^{+0.25}_{-0.53}$	$51.72^{+0.14}_{-0.34}$	398.14	362
		-1.024	117.76	(Whole)	Band	$-0.972^{+0.011}_{-0.011}$	$-3.1^{+0.2}_{-0.2}$	$3.474^{+0.018}_{-0.017}$	$54.2786^{+0.0079}_{-0.0079}$	666.6	361
45	120712A	-1.4	0.152	(First)	Band	$-1.25^{+0.45}_{-0.28}$	$-2.3^a$	>2.97	>52.27	420.97	362
		-1.4	16	(Whole)	Band	$-0.62^{+0.20}_{-0.20}$	$-1.88^{+0.09}_{-0.14}$	>2.81	>53.30	468.5	361
46	120716A	-0.8	0.246	(Prec.)	Band	$-0.58^{+0.21}_{-0.19}$	$-2.3^a$	$2.900^{+0.081}_{-0.068}$	$52.043^{+0.045}_{-0.042}$	376.43	361
		177	178.046	(First)	Band	$-0.58^{+0.23}_{-0.20}$	$-2.3^a$	$3.008^{+0.103}_{-0.086}$	$52.092^{+0.049}_{-0.046}$	403.41	361
		177	235	(Whole)	Band	$-1.077^{+0.061}_{-0.058}$	$-2.7^{+0.2}_{-0.8}$	$2.660^{+0.036}_{-0.034}$	$53.325^{+0.030}_{-0.037}$	461.22	360
47	120909A	-1.6	-0.121	(First)	CPL	$-0.76^{+0.24}_{-0.19}$		$3.68^{+0.26}_{-0.22}$	$52.46^{+0.11}_{-0.14}$	376.75	360
		-1.6	130	(Whole)	Band	$-1.039^{+0.063}_{-0.059}$	$-2.2^{+0.1}_{-0.2}$	$2.941^{+0.049}_{-0.045}$	$53.818^{+0.029}_{-0.031}$	1086.8	359
48	121128A	2	2.96	(First)	Band	$-0.43^{+0.21}_{-0.19}$	$-2.3^a$	$2.596^{+0.054}_{-0.047}$	$52.099^{+0.028}_{-0.027}$	366.13	360
		-0.6	28	(Whole)	Band	$-0.892^{+0.116}_{-0.095}$	$-2.6^{+0.1}_{-0.2}$	$2.315^{+0.028}_{-0.033}$	$53.123^{+0.024}_{-0.024}$	491.99	359
49	130427A	0	0.402	(First)	Band	$-0.399^{+0.026}_{-0.025}$	$-3.5^{+0.3}_{-0.4}$	$3.060^{+0.015}_{-0.015}$	$51.817^{+0.011}_{-0.012}$	405.5	359
50	130518A	13	14.046	(First)	Band	$-0.74^{+0.25}_{-0.23}$	$-2.3^a$	$2.854^{+0.118}_{-0.084}$	$51.972^{+0.051}_{-0.046}$	481.17	481
		0	75	(Whole)	Band	$-0.925^{+0.015}_{-0.014}$	$-2.35^{+0.06}_{-0.07}$	$3.167^{+0.015}_{-0.015}$	$54.2712^{+0.0055}_{-0.0056}$	1128.5	480
51	130603B			(Short D14)		$-0.73^{+0.15}_{-0.15}$		$2.952^{+0.061}_{-0.071}$	$51.326^{+0.045}_{-0.050}$		0
52	130610A	1.8	2.728	(First)	CPL	$-0.50^{+0.46}_{-0.36}$		$2.78^{+0.14}_{-0.10}$	$51.541^{+0.090}_{-0.080}$	340.54	360
		1.8	20	(Whole)	CPL	$-0.83^{+0.11}_{-0.11}$		$2.716^{+0.046}_{-0.042}$	$52.619^{+0.029}_{-0.027}$	467.98	360
53	131004A	-0.8	0.4	(Short)	Band	$-0.50^{+2.10}_{-0.63}$	$-2.3^a$	>1.71	>51.13	368.42	360
54	131011A	-0.4	0.462	(First)	CPL	$-0.71^{+0.30}_{-0.22}$		$3.39^{+0.26}_{-0.21}$	$51.86^{+0.15}_{-0.15}$	475.15	480
		-0.4	80	(Whole)	Band	$-0.997^{+0.168}_{-0.085}$	$-2.0^{+0.2}_{-0.3}$	>2.66	>53.17	939.17	479
55	131105A	-0.4	0.406	(First)	CPL	$-0.81^{+0.30}_{-0.24}$		$3.03^{+0.23}_{-0.15}$	$51.47^{+0.14}_{-0.11}$	383.21	362
		-0.4	120	(Whole)	CPL	$-1.295^{+0.029}_{-0.028}$		$2.795^{+0.036}_{-0.033}$	$53.280^{+0.017}_{-0.016}$	704.34	362
56	131108A	0.2	1.22	(First)	Band	$-0.549^{+0.101}_{-0.090}$	$-2.1^{+0.1}_{-0.1}$	$2.933^{+0.049}_{-0.050}$	$52.872^{+0.022}_{-0.024}$	366.2	361
		0.2	22	(Whole)	Band	$-0.867^{+0.030}_{-0.029}$	$-2.4^{+0.1}_{-0.2}$	$3.048^{+0.025}_{-0.024}$	$53.799^{+0.013}_{-0.014}$	458.83	361
57	131231A	1.8	2.293	(First)	CPL	$-0.046^{+0.839}_{-0.580}$		$2.418^{+0.128}_{-0.091}$	$50.256^{+0.093}_{-0.086}$	403.2	360
		1.8	70	(Whole)	Band	$-1.208^{+0.011}_{-0.010}$	$-2.33^{+0.04}_{-0.05}$	$2.453^{+0.011}_{-0.011}$	$53.3352^{+0.0082}_{-0.0086}$	1261.2	359

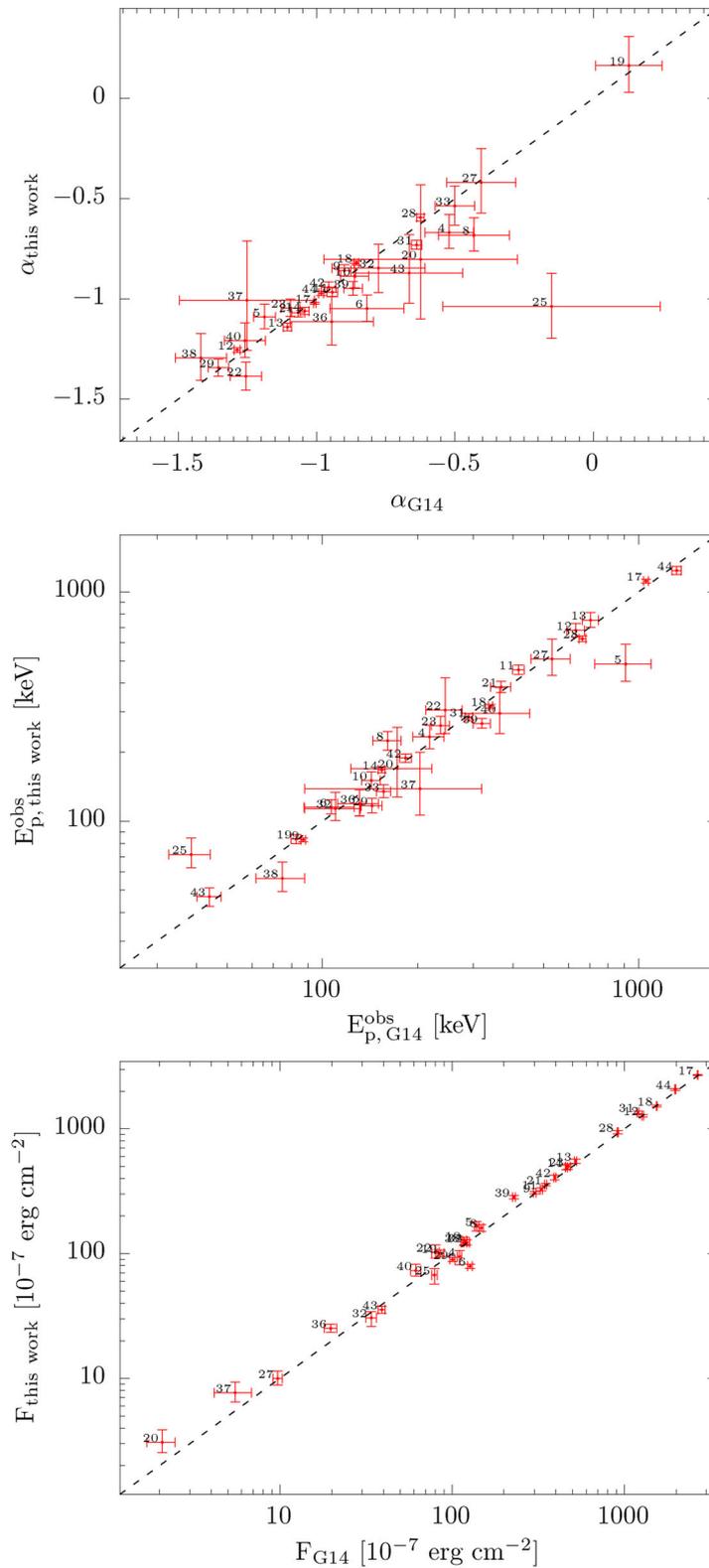
<sup>a</sup>Parameter fixed during fitting.

## APPENDIX B: COMPARISON WITH GRUBER ET AL. (2014) RESULTS

In this section, we compare the results of our *short* and *whole* analysis to those of Gruber et al. (2014), for the bursts present in both samples. In Fig. B1, we compare the values of the low-energy spectral index  $\alpha$  (upper panel), the observed  $\nu F_\nu$  peak energy (middle panel) and the fluence estimated

in the 10 keV–1 MeV (observer frame) energy range (lower panel).

The large discrepancies found in the  $\alpha$  parameter for GRB 080810 (ID 5) and in the observed peak energy GRB 091208B (ID 25) are likely related to the very high background contamination. The discrepancy in fluence for GRB 080916A (ID 6) is due to the different value of the  $\beta$  parameter used in Gruber et al. (2014). Also this burst is significantly background dominated.



**Figure B1.** Comparison of the results of our short and whole analysis to those of Gruber et al. (2014), for the bursts present in both samples. Upper panel: low energy spectral index  $\alpha$ . Middle panel: observed  $\nu F_{\nu}$  peak energy. Lower panel: fluence estimated in the 10 keV–1 MeV (observer frame) energy range. The dashed line are the 1:1 lines.

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