Mainshock Rupture Properties, Aftershock Activities and Remotely Triggered Seismicity Associated with the 2025 Mw7.7 Sagaing Fault earthquake in Myanmar

- 3
- 4 This preprint was submitted to Earthquake Research Advances for peer review on 05/25/2025
- 5
- 6 Zhigang Peng (zpeng@gatech.edu)¹, Xinglin Lei² (xinglin-lei@ies.ac.cn), Dun Wang³
- 7 (wangdun@cug.edu.cn), Xu Si¹ (xsi33@gatech.edu), Phuc Mach1 (pmach3@gatech.edu), Qiu
- 8 Zhong⁴ (qzhong94@gmail.com), Chang Ding¹ (cding64@gatech.edu), Yangfan Deng⁵
- 9 (yangfandeng@gig.ac.cn), Min Qin⁶ (yndsn_qm4573@163.com), Suqiu Miao⁶
- 10 (miaosq1234@163.com)
- School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta,
 United States, 30332
- 13 2. Institute of Geology, China Earthquake Administration, Beijing, China, 100029
- 14 3. Chinese University of Geosciences, Wuhan, Hubei, China, 430074
- 15 4. Guangdong Earthquake Agency, Guangzhou, China, 510070
- Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Guangzhou, China,
 510640
- 18 6. Yunnan Earthquake Agency, Kunming, China, 650224
- 19

20 Abstract A devastating Mw 7.7 earthquake struck near Mandalay, Myanmar, on March 28, 21 2025, causing extensive damage and casualties across Myanmar and neighboring regions. The 22 2025 event occurred in a well-recognized seismic gap along the Sagaing Fault. Here we present 23 preliminary results on the mainshock rupture properties based on back-projection of teleseismic 24 P waves and early aftershock locations, analysis of near-field seismic recordings, and remotely 25 triggered seismicity following the Mw7.7 mainshock. We find that the ~500 km mainshock 26 rupture can be revealed by both rapid back-projection of teleseismic P waves from multiple 27 broadband arrays and early aftershock locations within about 3 hours from the Thai 28 Meteorological Department (TMD) catalog. The rupture speed went supershear in the southward 29 propagation after the initial bi-lateral sub-shear ruptures, as expected for large strike-slip 30 earthquakes of such sizes. In addition, aftershocks from the regional TMD catalog appear to be 31 located mostly to the east of the mainshock rupture. While we cannot completely rule out mis-32 locations from the one-sided station distribution, these off-fault seismicity could also be 33 explained by reactivations of subsidiary faults within the Shan Plateau. Although no immediate 34 foreshocks were found from several nearby stations, we show that the mainshock likely started 35 with a relatively small-magnitude event, likely to the east of the Sagaing Fault. The mainshock 36 also occurred when the tidal stresses reached its maximum on the right-lateral strike-slip fault, 37 indicating that the timing of the mainshock is modulated by the solid earth tides. We also find a 38 significant increase of seismic activity near the Thailand/Myanmar border, in multiple 39 (geothermally active) regions of Yunnan province in Southwest China, as well as the 40 Xingfengjian reservoir in the Guangdong province in South China. Because static stress changes 41 from the mainshock are small but negative near the Thailand/Myanmar border, the occurrence of 42 microseismicity in this and other regions can be mainly explained by remote triggering from 43 dynamic stress changes of the mainshock rupture. Our analyses demonstrate the importance of 44 rapid analysis on openly available seismic data and catalog to better understand the rupture

- 45 properties and triggered seismicity following large earthquakes.
- 46

47 Major points:

- The mainshock rupture is supershear with surface rupture length of more than 500 km, resulting in one of the longest strike-slip rupture ever recorded.
- This event triggered a widespread increase of microseismicity in Southeast Asia, some in
 the stress shadow casted by the mainshock.
- The eastern side of the Sagaing Fault possesses a more complex secondary faults
 governing aftershock activity and possible the initial mainshock rupture.
- 54
- 55 Key Words: Sagaing Fault, 2025 Myanmar Earthquake, Supershear Rupture, Remote
- 56 Triggering, Fault Zone Head Waves

57 **1. Introduction**

58 On March 28th, 2025, a moment magnitude (Mw7.7) earthquake nucleated near 59 Mandalay, the second largest city in Myanmar. The mainshock (termed the Sagaing Fault 60 earthquake in this study) the propagated predominately along the Sagaing Fault to the south for about 100 s (Hubbard and Bradley, 2025; Wei et al., 2025; Xu et al., 2025), resulting in 61 62 significant damages and casualties in Myanmar and neighboring countries such as Thailand and 63 China (Shahzada et al., 2025). The Sagaing Fault is a major ~1400-km-long fault, which 64 accommodates the right-lateral motions between the India-Australia and the Eurasian plates (Tun 65 and Watkinson, 2017). It connects the divergent plate boundaries in the Andaman Sea and the active collision fronts near the Eastern Himalayan Syntax (EHS) in the Tibetan Plateau and 66 67 hosted multiple $Mw \ge 6$ earthquakes over the past centuries (Wang et al., 2014).

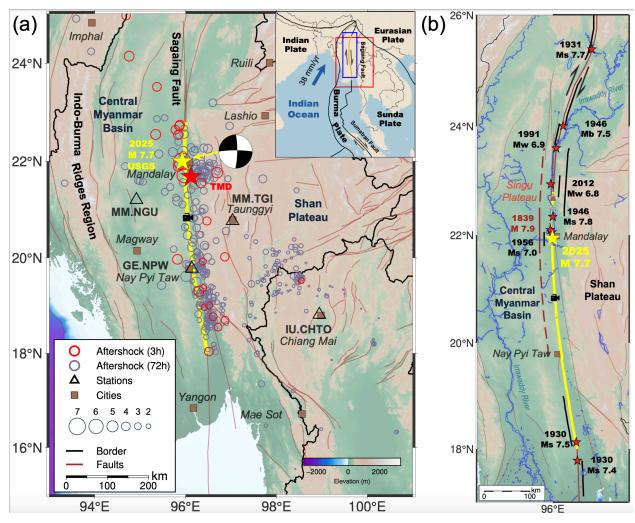
68 This M7.7 event is the largest strike-slip earthquake ever occurred in this region in the 69 past 100 years. While initial finite-fault waveform modeling from the USGS indicated a 70 mainshock rupture length of around 250 km (Hubbard and Bradley, 2025; Cai et al., 2025), 71 subsequent analysis (Bradley and Hubbard, 2025; Wei et al., 2025; Xu et al., 2025; Inoue et al., 72 2025; Zhao et al., 2025) based on aftershocks from regional earthquake catalogs, back-projection 73 of teleseismic P waves, sub-event analysis, and InSAR data and other remote sensing analysis 74 (https://www.eorc.jaxa.jp/ALOS/jp/library/disaster/dis myanmar earthquake 20250409 j.htm) 75 all suggested a much longer surface rupture of about 500 km. Long-period coda wave analysis 76 revealed that the moment magnitude Mw of this event is 7.86 (Li and Song, 2025), consistent 77 with its ultra-long rupture. Here we use the Mw=7.7 determined by the USGS for the rest paper.

78 Resolving the rupture length shortly after a large earthquake like this event helps to 79 determine the places with the strongest shaking (Wald et al., 2022) and subsequent rescue 80 efforts. In addition, it provides robust input for subsequent analysis of the unbroken segment and future seismic hazard in the surrounding region (Toda and Stein, 2025; Li et al., 2025). In this 81 82 article, we present additional evidence for a simple and long surface rupture, including its 83 supershear rupture properties, which is expected for large strike-slip earthquakes (Robinson et 84 al., 2010; Wang et al., 2016b; Ren et al., 2024). In addition, we include preliminary analysis on 85 the aftershock distributions, Coulomb stress changes due the mainshock, tidal modulations of the 86 mainshock occurrence times, beginning of the mainshock ruptures and widespread remote 87 triggering in South and Southeast Asia following the mainshock.

88 2. Tectonic Background

89 While the central section of the Sagaing Fault that hosted the recent M7.7 earthquake is 90 relatively simple, the tectonic environment in a broader context is rather complex (Figure 1a). 91 The India-Australia plate moves northward to collide with the Eurasia plate, creating the 92 Himalayan Mountain Front and the Tibetan plateau (Yin and Harrison, 2000). At its eastern edge 93 of the plate boundary, motion between the two plates is highly oblique, which is accommodated 94 by the Indo-Burma subduction zone (IBSZ), the Sagaing Fault and other strike-slip faults in the 95 Indo-Burma area (Figure 1a). Further south, such an oblique motion is accommodated by the 96 Sumatra-Andaman subduction zone and the Great Sumatran fault (McCaffrey, 2009). In between 97 these active faults lies the Burma microplate, which is a small tectonic plate located between the 98 Indian Plate and the Sunda Plate, accommodating complex interactions such as oblique 99 subduction, strike-slip motion, and back-arc deformation in the eastern Indian Ocean region 100 (Gahalaut and Gahalaut, 2007).





102

103 Figure 1. The 2025 Mw 7.7 earthquake hypocenter near Mandalay, Myanmar, seismic activity 104 following the mainshock and its tectonic setting. (a) Map showing aftershock distribution within 105 3 and 72 hours following the 2025 Mw 7.7 mainshock, along with seismic stations (triangles) 106 and major cities (brown squares). The yellow and red stars mark the mainshock hypocenters 107 from the USGS and TMD catalogs, respectively. The black camera sign shows the location where a surface rupture video was captured by a security camera (Latour et al., 2025). The inset 108 109 map displays the regional tectonic setting, including the Eurasian, Indian, Burma, and Sunda plates, and other major faults. (b) Historical large earthquakes (M > 6.8) along the Sagaing Fault. 110 111 The ~500-km-long rupture zone of the 2025 event is marked as yellow rectangle. Each historical 112 event's rupture length is shown as an orange rectangle. Hypocenter locations and rupture lengths 113 are based on Xiong et al. (2017) and Hubbard & Bradley (2025).

The Sagaing Fault is the dominant tectonic feature in Myanmar (Tun and Watkinson, 2017), which separates the Central Myanmar Basin (CMB) to the west, and the Shan Plateau to the east (Figure 1). Further to the west of the CMB lies the Indo-Burma Mountain Range (IBMR), which is generally interpreted as the accretionary wedge due to the IBSZ. The IBMR (and to a less degree the Sagaing Fault) shows a convex shape westward towards the Bengal basin, which has been interpreted as a combined effects of the buttressing to the north by the 120 Shillong Plateau and the EHS (Nielsen et al., 2004), and the westward crustal flow related to the

- 121 Tibet Plateau collapse (Rangin et al., 2013). Geodetic measurements revealed ~18-22 mm/year
- 122 of dextral strike-slip motion along the Sagaing Fault (Wang et al., 2014; Mallick et al., 2019;
- Lindsay et al., 2023). Stress inversions from focal mechanisms of moderate-size earthquakes in
- this region revealed that the maximum horizonal compressive stress direction is in the NE-SW
- 125 (Hu et al., 2017; Timsina et al., 2024).

126 The Sagaing Fault has long been recognized as one of 11 "earthquake fault 127 superhighways", where continental strike-slip faults with very long and straight segments 128 (Robinson et al., 2010). It passed near several major cities (e.g., Mandalay, the capital 129 Navpyidaw, and Yangon), and has hosted more than 10 M6+ earthquakes in the past centuries 130 (Figure 1b). Among them, the 1839 Ava earthquake (M7.9-8.3) likely ruptured a similar segment 131 when comparing with the most recent M7.7 event (Wang et al., 2014; Hubbard and Bradley, 132 2025). The northern end of the M7.7 event (~22.5 deg) appeared to stop at the Singu Plateau 133 (also known as Letha Taung), a small basaltic plateau that are offset by the Sagaing Fault (Tun 134 and Watkinson, 2017). It also partially overlaps with the southern end of the 2012 M6.8 135 Thabeikkyin earthquake (Wei et al., 2025). The southern end of the M7.7 event (~18 deg) 136 appears to be close to or overlaps with the M7.3 earthquake in 1930 (Wang et al., 2014; Hubbard 137 and Bradley, 2025; Wei et al., 2025). Coulomb stress transfer calculations from 10 M>6.5 138 earthquakes along the Sagaing Fault (Xiong et al., 2017) also showed that most subsequent 139 events occurred in the positive stress increase section following the previous events, and the 140 central and southern section is due for a large earthquake. In this perspective, this M7.7 event is 141 well expected (Hubbard and Bradley, 2025), because it occurred in a seismic gap (Mogi, 1979; 142 Jackson and Kagan, 2011; Kagan et al., 2012) where significant slip of ~4 m (as expected from 143 the mean slip rate) has accumulated in the past few centuries without any major earthquakes 144 releasing the strain.

145 **3. Mainshock Rupture Properties from Back-projection Analysis**

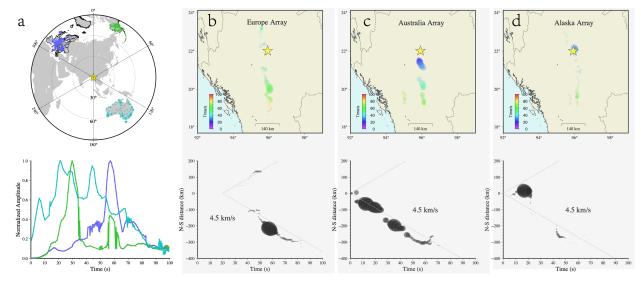
We apply the back-projection method (Wang et al., 2011; Wang et al., 2016a) to image the rupture process of the 2025 Myanmar earthquake using teleseismic data recorded by regional arrays in Europe, Alaska, and Australia (Figure 2a). These three arrays are located to the northwest, northeast, and southeast of the epicenter, respectively, with epicentral distances ranging from 30° to 90°, which is the optimal range for teleseismic P-wave back-projection (Kiser and Ishii, 2017).

152 The back-projection results from the three arrays consistently show that the primary fault 153 involved in this earthquake was the Sagaing Fault. The rupture started near the epicenter and 154 initially propagated northward over approximately 100 km (Figure 2b). It then progressed 155 southward, releasing most high-frequency energy in that direction. The southward rupture 156 extended for at least 300 km, and the total rupture duration was approximately 70–90 seconds, 157 with minor variations among arrays. This relatively long rupture extent significantly exceeds the empirical expectation of no more than 250 km for a Mw7.7 event (Wells and Coppersmith, 1994; 158 159 Bradley and Hubbard, 2025b). Although the average rupture velocity is approximately 3–4 km/s, 160 Figure 2b-d clearly shows that portions of the southern segments with the rupture speed 161 exceeding 5 km/s. These preliminary findings are generally consistent with the sub-event 162 inversion analysis (Bradley and Hubbard, 2025b) and other back-projection results (Wei et al., 163 2025; Xu et al., 2025). Together these studies provide strong evidence for the occurrence of

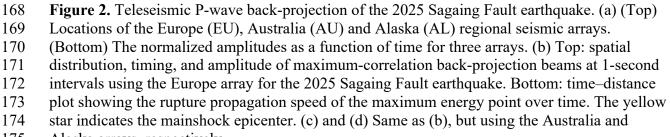
164 southward-propagating supershear rupture. This observation is also consistent with previous

165 studies suggesting that supershear rupture is commonly associated with strike-slip earthquakes

166 (Wang et al., 2016b).







175 Alaska arrays, respectively.

176 4. Early Aftershock Distributions

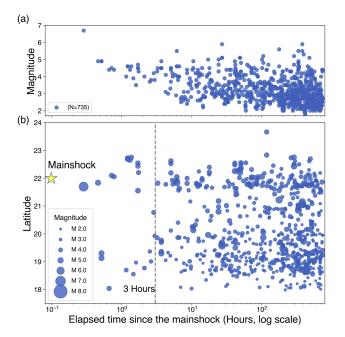
177 Next, we constrain the mainshock rupture length from the locations of early aftershocks 178 following the M7.7 mainshock. Aftershock rates typically decay with time since the mainshock 179 following the Omori's law (Utsu et al., 1995), while the aftershock area expand from the 180 mainshock rupture region, generally following logarithmic time since the mainshock (Peng and 181 Zhao, 2009). Hence, the best time to use aftershock location to reflect the mainshock rupture area 182 would be immediately following the mainshock (i.e., hours to one day) (Henry and Das, 2001). 183 However, global seismic catalogs such as the USGS NEIC or the Global CMT catalogs typically 184 have a relatively high magnitude of completeness (Mc) of about 5, especially right after the 185 mainshock (Iwata, 2008). Hence, the early aftershock numbers are typically not enough to 186 provide a reliable constraint on the mainshock rupture area. On the other hand, regional 187 earthquake catalogs contain more smaller events that can be used to delineate the aftershock zone

and the mainshock rupture area (Lengline et al., 2012; Bradley and Hubbard, 2025a).

189 We collect regional and global earthquake catalogs for this region since March 2025 and 190 merge them into one uniform catalog (Table S1). Among them, the Thai Meteorological 191 Department (TMD) earthquake catalog contains the greatest number of events and is used 192 primarily for the rest of the analysis. Because the Thailand catalog is built from seismic stations

primarily in Thailand, their location uncertainties are relatively high. Hence, we select

- 194 earthquakes within 50 km of the N-S striking Sagaing Fault (centered at the mainshock location
- as determined by the USGS). The lower-magnitude cut-off decays with time since the
- mainshock, reflecting that a significant fraction of aftershocks is not detected right following the
- mainshock (Kagan, 2004). Within the first 3 hours following the mainshock, we find 17
 aftershocks along the N-S striking Sagaing Fault, which clearly define a ~500-km-long zone that
- 199 can be interpreted as the mainshock rupture zone (Figure 3b). We note a relative lack of early
- 200 aftershocks between 19.5°N and 21.5°N. Although aftershocks occurred slightly later in this
- region, its density is not smaller than the sections above and below (Figure 3b). In addition, we
- 202 identify a significant number of events near the border between Myanmar and Thailand (Figure
- 203 1). These earthquakes are likely dynamically triggered seismicity and are analyzed further in the
- 204 following section.



205

Figure 3. Aftershocks within one month following the mainshock. (a) Magnitude versus elapsed

time (in hours, log scale), showing temporal evolution of the aftershock. (b) Latitude versus
elapsed time (in hours, log scale). Circle sizes are scaled by magnitude, as shown in the legend.

209 A vertical dashed line at 3 hours highlights the early aftershock.

In addition to the N-S along-strike distribution, we also note that aftershocks are distributed in the E-W direction for up to 100 km long (Figure 1a). For example, a significant portion of aftershocks near the epicenter (around 22⁰N) occurred to the east to the Sagaing Fault. In addition, aftershocks south of the epicenter and Naypyidaw (around 20⁰N) are relatively

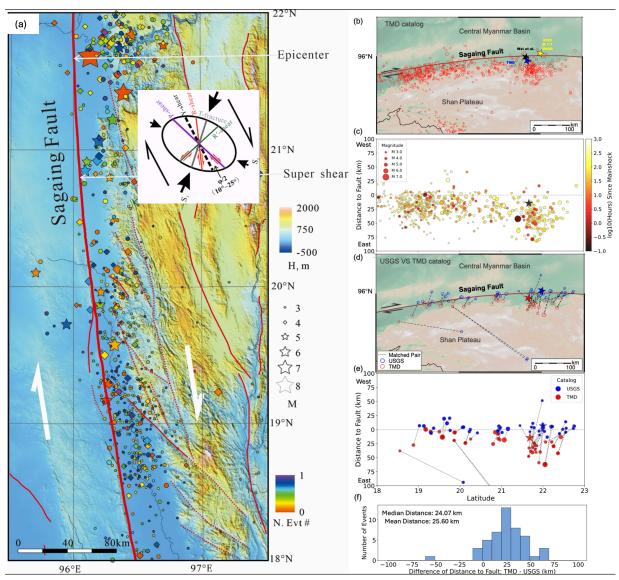
- sparse, which is also shown in the along-strike versus log-time plot since the mainshock plot
- (Figure 3b). We also generate a zoom-in plot to show the aftershock distribution on top of pre-
- existing faults south of the mainshock epicenter (Figure 4a). Notes that the mainshock source
- 217 fault trace in the plot is closely aligned with JAXA's InSAR data
- 218 (https://www.eorc.jaxa.jp/ALOS/jp/library/disaster/dis_myanmar_earthquake_20250409_j.htm)
- and thus very precise. Although some aftershocks occurred to the west of the Sagaing Fault in
- the CMB, majority of them occurred within the Shan Plateau to east of the Sagaing Fault (Figure
- 4b). We also plot the aftershocks located by the USGS and those by the TMD. As expected,
- aftershocks in the TMD catalog were systematically located to the Shan Plateau side, and the

223 mean/median difference in the fault-normal distance is about 25 km. Hence, at least some of the 224 aftershock shift to the Shan Plateau can be explained by such a systematic bias in the aftershock

aftershock shift to the Shan Pllocations in the TMD catalog.

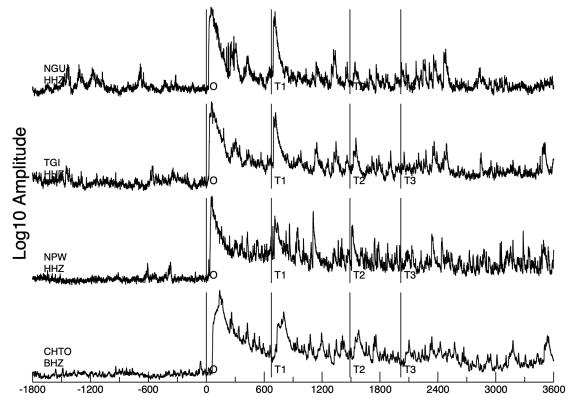
In addition to directly using the regional earthquake catalogs, we also examine the continuous waveforms for the 4 nearest stations within 500 km of the mainshock epicenter

- 228 (Figure 1a). These include two stations in the Myanmar's national seismic network (netcode:
- 229 MM) (Thiam et al., 2017), one station GE.NPW operated by the the GFZ Helmholtz Center for
- 230 Geosciences (GFZ) (Lai et al., 2025), and one Global Seismic Network (GSN) station IU.CHTO.
- We apply a band-pass-filter of 5-15 Hz to suppress the coda of the mainshock and large
- aftershocks, followed by taking a smooth function with a half-width of 100 point and finally
- taking the log10 (Peng et al., 2006, 2025). In addition to those 4 events (including the M7.7
 mainshock) listed in the regional and global catalogs within the first hour of the mainshock,
- mainshock) listed in the regional and global catalogs within the first hour of the mainshock,
 many high-frequency bursts can be visually identified (Figure 5). These events either occurred
- along the Sagaing Fault as early aftershocks, or they may occur off the Sagaing Fault as triggered
- 237 seismicity.



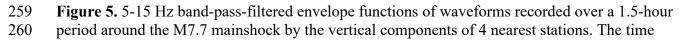
239 Figure 4. Spatial distribution and catalog comparison of aftershocks following the 2025 M7.7 240 mainshock. (a) A zoom-in plot showing aftershock locations listed in the TMD catalog relative to the mainshock rupture trace (thick red line). The thin red solid and dashed lines mark the local 241 242 fault traces and those visually identified based on geomorphic features. (b) Epicentral 243 distribution of the TMD catalog, with events sized by magnitude. The Sagaing Fault trace and 244 regional tectonic features such as the Central Myanmar Basin and Shan Plateau are annotated. 245 The vellow star marks the USGS mainshock location, the black star shows the location from Wei et al. (2025), and the blue star indicates the TMD mainshock location. (c) Distance of aftershocks 246 to the Sagaing Fault as a function of latitude, where the vertical axis represents the perpendicular 247 248 distance mapped onto the fault trace. The spatial distribution of seismicity across the fault is 249 evident, with temporal evolution illustrated by the color scale (logarithmic hours since the 250 mainshock). (d) Comparison of matched events between the USGS (blue) and TMD (red) catalogs, plotted by latitude (horizontal axis) and longitude (vertical axis). Dashed lines connect 251 252 each matched pair, illustrating differences in their locations and their respective distances to the Sagaing Fault. (e) Distance-to-fault plotted against latitude for all matched events. USGS (blue) 253 254 and TMD (red) locations are shown for each pair, with vertical dashed lines connecting the 255 corresponding points. (f) Histogram of differences in fault-perpendicular distance between 256 matched TMD and USGS events. The median and mean offsets are calculated as the distance

from each TMD event to the fault minus that of its USGS counterpart.



258

Time relative to the mainshock (s)



flags (0, T1, T2 and T3) mark the origin time of the mainshock, the M6.7 aftershock and two additional aftershocks recorded in the TMD catalog.

263 5. Seismicity Before the Mainshock and Mainshock Waveforms

264 In this section, we focus on the seismic activity in the last few weeks before the M7.7 265 mainshock as well as the first few seconds of the mainshock ruptures. By examining both the regional Thailand earthquake catalog within one year of the mainshock and the continuous 266 267 waveforms in the last day, we find no single event occurring within 50 km of the mainshock 268 epicenter in the last three months (Figure S1). Hence, similar to the 2023 M7.8 Pazarcik event in the Kahramanmaras Earthquake Sequence (Kwiatek et al., 2023), no immediate foreshock was 269 270 identified from existing catalogs. It is possible that smaller events may have occurred in this 271 region, but it requires a more systematic analysis that is beyond the scope of this manuscript.

272 A close examination of the mainshock waveforms at the nearest three stations reveal 273 additional details on the initial and mainshock rupture phases (Figure 6a). Here we do not apply 274 any filters or instrument corrections to the broadband recordings but only plot them in different 275 amplitude and time scales. We also include the velocity seismogram integrated from the 276 acceleration recordings (HN channels) at station GE.NPW that is about 2.6 km west of the M7.7 277 mainshock surface rupture zone (Lai et al., 2025). While it is still possible to identify the initial S 278 waves at stations MM.NGU and MM.TGI before the broadband recordings went off-scale, the 279 broadband recordings at station GE.NPW went off-scale much earlier than the predicted S 280 arrivals (Figure 6a). However, the on-scale velocity seismograms from integrating the acceleration shows a strong pulse arriving at 48.5 and 51 s, with the peak value of 1.64 m/s at 281 282 \sim 50 s. Here we use the reference origin time of 2025/03/28 06:20:55.209 UTC (Wei et al., 2025). 283 If we also use their mainshock location (21.641°N, 96.022°E, 10 km depth), the corresponding 284 hypocentral distance and rupture speed would be 206.6 km and 4.13 km/s, respectively. This observation again confirm that the southward rupture propagation is primarily supershear (Lai et 285 286 al., 2025; Wei et al., 2025; Xu et al., 2025).

	()				
	(c)				
	T1				
TGI.HHE TGI.HHE TGI.HHE TGI.HHE TGI.HHE TGI.HHE TGI.HHE TGI.HHE	т1				
	т1				
IGI.HHN IFU8 TGI.HHZ IFU8 TGI.HHZ IFU8					
	г1				
	г1				
NPW.HHZ	г1				
NPW.HNE vel P Nrm S? NPW.HHE M4.6					
NPW.HNN vel Rupture/Phase NPW.HHN M4.6 NPW.HNZ vel NPW.HHZ M4.6 IPU0					
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 7 14 16 18 20 12 14 16 18 20 7 16 18 20 12 14 16 18 20 7 16 18 20 12 14 16 18 20 7 16 18 20					

Figure 6. (a) A comparison of the first 100 s of the M7.7 mainshock recording at the three broadband stations. The bottom three traces are velocity seismogram integrated from the strongmotion recordings at station GE.NPW ~2.6 km west of the mainshock rupture zone. The P and S lines mark the expected P and S arrivals at this station. (b) A Zoom-in plot showing a comparison between the P waves of the M7.7 mainshock with respect to a M4.6 aftershock close to the relocated mainshock hypocenter on 2025/04/04. (c) A further zoom-in plot showing the initial P wave polarity. Note that the polarity of the M7.7 mainshock and the M4.6 aftershock at

station GE.NPW is flipped.

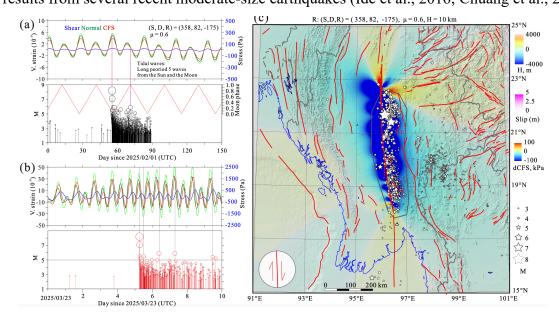
296 Figure 6b and 6c also show the zoom-in plots of the P waves at three stations, including a 297 comparison with the P wave at the same GE.NPW station for a M4.6 aftershock on 2025-04-04 298 15:25:24 UTC (10 km depth, 21.5621°N). A strong phase in the same direction is shown at 299 stations MM.NGU, MM.TGI and GE.NPW after ~3.7, ~3.6 and ~2.5 s of the initial P waves, 300 respectively. Because of the increasing distances from the initial hypocenter to these stations, we 301 expect to see an increasing time separation of we interpret these phases as the Pn and Pg waves. 302 Hence, we argue that the second strong phase is likely from a second stronger sub-event 303 following the initial P wave. Because of the shorter time separation at station GE.NPW, we 304 expect that the second source is closer to this station, indicating a southward propagation of the 305 rupture. Note that station GE.NPW has about 0.78 s of timing drift at the time of the mainshock 306 (Lai et al., 2025). However, here we use only the relative time difference between these phases 307 and hence it is not affected by such a timing issue. Finally, we note that the initial polarity of the M7.7 mainshock at station GE.NPW is down, while the initial polarity of the M4.6 aftershock is 308 309 up (Figure 6). The expected polarity for a right-lateral strike-slip event at station GE.NPW is 310 down for a homogenous medium. However, most of the aftershocks north of this station shows a weak upward motion followed by a strong downward motion (Figure 7). The initial phases from 311 312 most aftershocks can be interpreted as fault zone head waves refracted along a bi-lateral fault 313 interface (Ben-Zion and Malin, 1991; Zhao and Peng, 2008), which would be recorded as the 314 first arrivals for stations on the slower side of the fault (i.e., the Central Myanmar Basin in this 315 case). If this interpretation is correct for most aftershocks, then the initial mainshock is either not 316 on the Sagaing Fault, or its focal mechanism is not purely strike-slip fault.

23°N (a)	GE.NPW.HHZ sorted by the event latitude	GE.NPW.HHZ sorted by the event latitude
(a) Singu (a) Plateau	(b) [25/04/17 M4.5 IPU0	(c) 25/04/17 M4.5 AOO May Minor Month W W
aut		25/03/28 M7.7
22°N 22°N Mandalay	25/03/28 M6.7	25/03/28 M6.7
★ 25/03/28 M6.7 ★ 25/04/04 M4.6	25/04/04 M4.6	25/04/04 M4.6
25/04/13 M5.1	2 25/05/17 M5.2	25/05/17 M5.2
21°N. Central 25/04/11 M4.7 Myanmar 25/04/02 M4.7		25/04/13 M5.1
Basin Shan Plateau Direct P Fault zone		25/04/11 M4.7
waves (Slow) head waves 25/03/28 M4.5 (Fast)	25/04/02 M4.7	25/04/02 M4.7
20°N 25/04/21 M4.8	25/0402 141 1 H 225/03/28 M4.5	25/03/02 M4.5
GE.NPW Nay Pyi Taw 25/03/29 M5.1		Junium manufarman and million
25/04/28 M4.5 ★	PPUpSU0 25/04/21 M4.8	
19°N A Stations Cities Border	25/03/29 M5.1	25/03/29 M5.1
Faults Rivers 0 20 40	0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75 80 85 90	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
95°E 96°E	Time since the origin time (s)	Time relative to the P wave (s)

- **Figure 7.** (a) A map showing the locations of the M7.7 mainshock and other 11 aftershocks. The
- 319 red and purple arrows mark the expected ray paths for fault zone head waves along the faster
- 320 side (Shan Plateau), and the direct P wave along the slower side (Central Myanmar Basin). (b)
- 321 Vertical-component seismograms recorded at station GE.NPW sorted by the event latitudes. The
- initial weak P waves, abrupt secondary arrivals, and the S waves are marked. (c) Same plot as (b)
- 323 except that all traces are aligned by the initial P waves.

324 6. Tidal Triggering of the Mainshock

- In this section we evaluate whether solid Earth tides have played any role in the eventual timing of the mainshock, which has been a subject of debates for decades (Ide et al., 2016;
- Hough, 2018; Bradley and Hubbard, 2024). We calculate the strain tensors generated by solid Earth tides and ocean tides using the program GOTIC2 (Matsumoto et al., 2001), which employ
- Earth tides and ocean tides using the program GOTIC2 (Matsumoto et al., 2001), which employs the 1066A elastic Earth model (Dziewonski et al., 1975). To enhance the accuracy of ocean tidal
- loading effects, GOTIC2 incorporates the improved ocean tide model NA0.99b, which was
- 331 widely used in previous studies on tidal triggering of earthquakes (Tanaka et al., 2012). The
- 32 computed strain is then converted to stress using a bulk modulus of ~42 GPa and a shear
- modulus of ~28 GPa, derived from the average P-wave and S-wave velocities and density in the
- 334 3–15 km depth range of the 1066A model. Tidal strains are independent of fault orientation.
- However, for faults with specified strike, dip, rake, and frictional coefficient, we further calculate
- the normal stress, shear stress, and Coulomb Failure Stress (CFS) to evaluate tidal response.
- 337 Since the mainshock occurred just before the new moon (03/29/2025), we first calculate the tidal strains and stresses from long-period waves on a fault with orientation (strike, dip, rake) 338 339 $=(358^{\circ}, 82^{\circ}, -175^{\circ})$, corresponding to the USGS CMT solution. The mainshock timing coincides 340 with peaks in volumetric strain, and CFS (Figure 8a). Notably, the amplitudes of long-period 341 waves modulate those of diurnal and semi-diurnal tidal waves. We further computed tidal 342 stresses for all tidal components (long-period, diurnal, and semi-diurnal) over time spans of 10 343 days. The results reveal that both the mainshock and some large aftershocks (M > 5.0) coincide 344 with peaks in CFS or shear stress (Figure 8b). These findings suggest that tidal loading likely 345 played a role in modulating the timing of the mainshock and some large aftershocks, consistent with results from several recent moderate-size earthquakes (Ide et al., 2016; Chuang et al., 2023). 346



348 Figure 8. Comparison of tidal strains/stresses and earthquake occurrence times. (a) Long-period

tidal wave components and M-T plot. (b) Full tidal wave spectrum (including diurnal, semi-

diurnal, and long-period components) and M-T plot for 10 days since March 23, 2025. (c) Map

view of active faults and earthquake distribution overlying on change of Coulomb Failure Stress

352 (dCFS) from the 2025 M7.7 mainshock for faults parallel with the Sagaing Fault; events within

the outlined polygon are analyzed in panels (a)-(b).

354 7. Coulomb Stress Changes from the Mainshock

355 Large earthquakes are expected to transfer static stresses to nearby faults and change the occurrence of future earthquakes on those faults (Stein, 1999). Several recent studies have 356 357 examined how previous earthquakes loaded the central and southern section of the Sagaing Fault before the M7.7 mainshock (Xiong et al., 2017). In addition, rapid analyses also revealed how 358 359 static Coulomb stress changes from the 2025 M7.7 mainshock would affect earthquake 360 occurrences on faults parallel to the Sagaing Fault (Toda and Stein, 2025) and other faults in the 361 neighboring Yunnan province in Southeast China (Li et al., 2025). Here we adapt the coseismic 362 fault slip model published by the USGS and the aforementioned crustal model for tidal stress 363 calculation to compute the coseismic static stress changes of the M7.7 Sagaing Fault earthquake 364 on surrounding areas. For comparison, we first calculate the Coulomb stress changes on receiver faults parallel to the Sagaing Fault. The results are shown in Figure 8c with superimposed 365 aftershock distributions from the TMD catalog. This figure reveals that numerous aftershocks 366 367 along the mainshock rupture segment are distributed within stress shadow zones. As noted before, most aftershocks occurred in the eastern side of the Sagaing Fault, which features a 368 369 relatively complex secondary fault network, and appears to dominantly control aftershock 370 occurrence. Analysis of aftershock clustering characteristics and known fault geometries 371 suggests that faults striking N30°W (Figure 4) may constitute one of the seismogenic structures 372 for these aftershocks, with corresponding Coulomb stress changes illustrated in Figure 9a. Due to 373 fault bend and heterogeneous coseismic slip, some stress-enhanced areas emerge in both sides of 374 Sagaing Fault zone. Given the substantial uncertainties remaining in the mainshock fault model 375 and hypocenter locations, we conclude preliminarily that the eastern side of the Sagaing Fault 376 possesses a more complex secondary fault network than the western block, which governs most 377 aftershock activity.

Figure 9b shows a similar calculation but for receiver faults that are nearly E-W trending. Those faults are distributed mainly along the Myanmar-China border. As expected, the M7.7 mainshock rupture casted a positive stress changes (on the order of a few to a few tens of Kpas) to those faults north of 21°N. Further to the south, most of the E-W trending faults would be in the stress shadow, similar to the other two receiver fault geometries (Figure 8b, 9a).

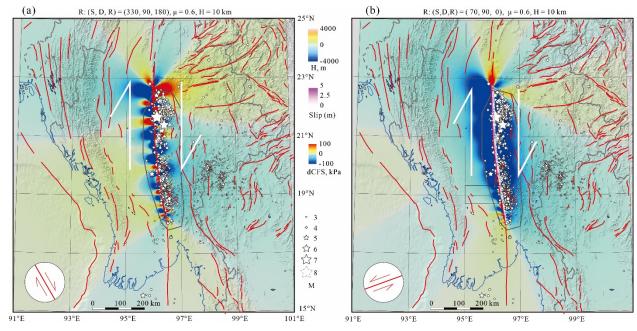


Figure 9. (a) Map view of active faults and earthquake distribution overlying on change of

Coulomb Failure Stress (dCFS) from the 2025 M7.7 mainshock for receiver fault of (strike, dip, rake) = (330, 90, 180), frictional coefficient of 0.6, and at a depth of 10 km. (b) The same plot for receiver fault of (strike, dip, rake) = (70, 90, 0), frictional coefficient of 0.6, and at a depth of 10 km.

389 8. Remotely Triggered Seismicity in Southeast Asia

383

390 Large strike-slip earthquakes can generate strong surface waves (especially Love waves) 391 that are capable of triggering both regular microearthquakes and deep tectonic tremor at 392 thousands of kilometers (Prejean et al., 2004; Peng and Chao, 2008; Peng and Gomberg, 2010; 393 Pollitz et al., 2012; Hill and Prejean, 2015; Yao et al., 2024). Hence, we expect that the M7.7 394 mainshock are also capable of triggering seismic activity well beyond the traditional aftershock 395 zone, which is also known as remotely triggered seismicity. Here we focus primarily on the 396 following three regions (Southeast of Myanmar, Yunnan province in Southeast China and 397 Guangdong province in South China), mainly because of easy access of both regional catalogs 398 and waveform data.

399 In the southeast of Myanmar lies the Shan Plateau, a topographic high with an average 400 elevation of about 1000 m that extends from Thailand to the Yunnan province, China (Bertrand 401 and Rangin, 2003). Many earthquakes with moment magnitudes larger than 6 have occurred in 402 the past century (Wang et al., 2014), especially the 1912 Ms 7.7 Maymyo earthquake near the 403 Taunggyi city (Crosetto et al., 2019). The recorded events in this region are mainly located near 404 the Kyaukkyan fault, which extends southward to the Mae Ping fault zone running along the 405 Myanmar-Thailand border (Wang et al., 2014). While this region is not well studied in terms of 406 remote dynamic triggering, a Mw 5.8 earthquake near Namzang, Myanmar, occurred 30 min following the 2004 M9.1 Sumatra earthquake, with another Mw 5.1 event happening 4 days after 407 408 (Ruan, 2007), indicating that this region is susceptible to remote dynamic triggering (Figure 409 10a). Another group of earthquakes is in northern Thailand, close to the Myanmar border. This 410 region is filled with faults running across major provinces in northern Thailand, including Mae

411 Hong Son and Chiang Mai. Events in this area are associated with the Mae Hong Son fault and

- the Mae Tha fault. The Mae Hong Son fault was associated with a Mw 5.6 earthquake thathappened in February 1975 near the southern part of the fault (Chansom et al., 2022).
- 414 Since most of the Myanmar National Seismic Network's broadband stations are currently
- inactive, the detection of events in this region largely depends on the seismic stations operated bythe TMD, which are deployed in the northern and northwestern parts of Thailand. Figure 10a
- 417 shows the spatial distribution of events in this study region, 30 days before and after the 2025
- 418 M7.7 earthquake. A significant increase in the cumulative number of events is observed after the
- 419 mainshock (Figure 10c). This suggests that the earthquakes in this specific area of Myanmar and
- 420 Thailand were remotely triggered immediately by the Mw 7.7 mainshock. Coulomb stress
- 421 calculations from the previous section (Figures 8c and 9) indicated that static stress changes from
- 422 the mainshock are negative and on the order of ~ 1 KPa or less in this region. Figure 10b shows
- 423 first 6000 seconds after the mainshock at the seismic station TM.CMMT in Chiang Mai, 424 Thailand, recording the Mw7.7 mainshock, the largest aftershock of Mw6.7, multiple
- Thailand, recording the Mw7.7 mainshock, the largest aftershock of Mw6.7, multiple aftershocks, and a local triggered event Ms3.3 in Mae Hong Son, Thailand. Many high-
- 425 aftershocks, and a local triggered event Ms3.3 in Mae Hong Son, Thailand. Many high 426 frequency signals are recorded immediately following the mainshock that were not listed in the
- 426 TMD catalog. They are likely local seismicity in that region triggered by the M7.7 mainshock.
- 427 FIND catalog. They are fixely local seismicity in that region triggered by the M7.7 mathshock. 428 Hence, the observed sudden increase of seismicity in the Shan plateau can be best explained as
- 429 triggered by dynamic stress changes from the passing waves of the M7.7 mainshock.

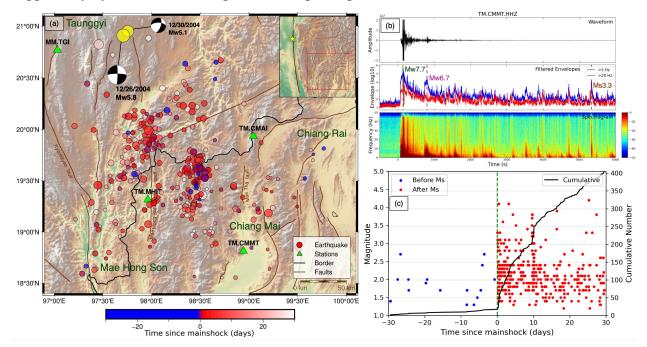
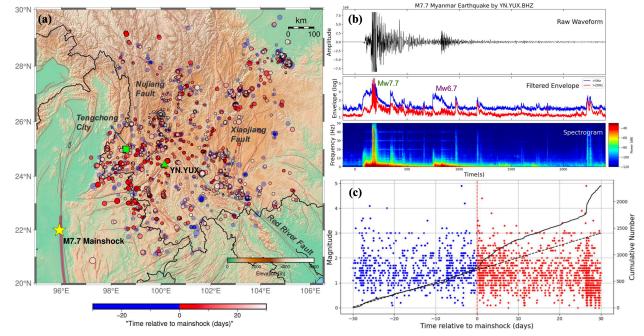




Figure 10. (a) Spatial distribution of earthquakes 10 days before and after the Myanmar
earthquake on March 28th, 2025. (b) The log₁₀ envelope function of the vertical component, 5000
seconds after the mainshock, recorded at three broadband stations in Thailand. (c) Earthquake
magnitude – time plot for the analyzed region, 10 days before and after the mainshock, with the
cumulative number of events calculated.

436 Yunnan Province, situated on the southeastern margin of the Tibetan Plateau, is a
 437 tectonically complex and seismically active region influenced by the ongoing convergence

- 438 between the Indian and Eurasian plates. Major fault zones in this area including the Red River
- 439 Fault Zone (RRFZ), Xiaojiang Fault, and Nujiang Fault, which have hosted frequent moderate-
- 440 to-strong earthquakes. In addition, previous studies have shown that several faults in Yunnan,
- 441 including the Tengcong volcanic regions, are prone to dynamic triggering by teleseismic waves
- from large distant earthquakes (Lei et al., 2011; Li et al., 2019). The triggered seismicity mostly occurred in sites with complex fault geometrics or volcanic/geothermal areas, likely due to the
- 445 occurred in sites with complex fault geometries of volcanic/geometrial areas, fikely due to 444 presence of high-fluid pressures in these regions.
- After the 2025 Mw 7.7 Myanmar mainshock, enhanced seismicity was observed in
 western and southern Yunnan. As shown in Figure 11a, post-mainshock earthquakes (red circles)
 cluster around the RRFZ and nearby fault systems. Notably, Figure 11b highlights a group of
 events that occurred nearly simultaneously with the arrival of the surface waves from the
 mainshock, strongly suggesting dynamic triggering. This spatiotemporal pattern aligns with
- 450 observations from previous events such as the 2004 Sumatra and 2012 Indian Ocean
- 451 earthquakes, which also remotely triggered seismicity in Yunnan (Lei et al., 2011; Li et al.,
- 452 2019). These results further confirm that faults in Yunnan remain highly responsive to dynamic
- 453 stress perturbations and represent an important natural laboratory for studying remote triggering
- 454 mechanisms.



456 Figure 11. (a) Spatial distribution of earthquakes within 30 days before and after the 2025 457 Mw 7.7 Myanmar mainshock (yellow star), with event colors indicating the time relative to the 458 mainshock (blue for before, red for after). Station locations are marked with red triangles, and 459 sparse station names are labeled using network and station codes for clarity. (b) Seismic 460 waveform recorded at station YN.YUX on the vertical (BHZ) component. From top to bottom: 461 the raw waveform, log-scaled high-frequency envelopes filtered at 5 (blue) and 20 (red) Hz, and the corresponding spectrogram. The Mw 7.7 mainshock and the Mw6.7 aftershock are 462 highlighted in the envelope panel. (c) Time-magnitude plot of earthquakes relative to the 463 464 mainshock, with blue and red dots representing events occurring before and after the mainshock,

respectively. The black curve shows the cumulative number of events during the 60-day window.The dashed line marks the expected number based on the seismicity before the mainshock.

467 The Xinfengjiang Reservoir in the Guangdong province in South China represents one 468 of only four documented cases globally where reservoir has occurred M>6 seismic events (Foulger et al., 2018). Following the 1962 M6.1 mainshock, persistent low-magnitude seismic 469 470 activity (ML<3) has been systematically recorded in this region. The physical mechanisms 471 driving this sustained seismicity remain unresolved (Huang et al., 2025). To enhance seismic 472 monitoring capabilities, the Guangdong Earthquake Agency has established a comprehensive 473 broadband seismic network encompassing the reservoir area. Based on these data, our analysis 474 reveals a notable seismicity pattern associated with the 2025 M 7.7 earthquake. Prior to this 475 teleseismic event, seismic activity in the eastern reservoir (marked by the red rectangle in Figure 476 12) remained exceptionally low (5 detectable events) during the last 1 years. Remarkably, within one week following the mainshock, this area experienced a four-times increase in seismicity 477 478 (>35 events, ML -0.8 to 1.3). This abrupt activation, exhibiting temporal correlation with distant 479 seismic waves and characteristic magnitude distribution patterns, strongly suggests dynamic 480 stress triggering mechanisms. We find no additional evidence of dynamic triggering in other 481 region within the Guangdong province.

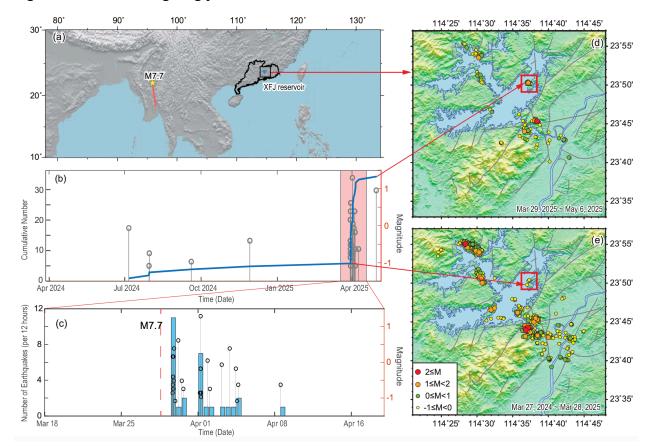


Figure 12. (a) Locations of the M7.7 mainshock and Xinfengjiang Reservoir. (b) Earthquake magnitude–time (M–t) plot for the region located in the southeastern wing of the Xinfengjiang Reservoir area. This region is marked by the red box in (d) and (e). (c) Cumulative number and magnitude of earthquakes shown in the shading period in (b). (d) Spatial distribution of

487 earthquakes one month after the M7.7 mainshock. (e) Spatial distribution of earthquakes one year

488 before the M7.7 mainshock.

489 **Discussions**

490 In this study, we perform a detailed analysis of the mainshock rupture properties, initial 491 rupture phases, tidal stress modulations of the mainshock timing, Coulomb stress changes from 492 the mainshock and aftershocks, and remotely triggered seismicity following the M7.7 493 mainshock. While many of the analysis can be considered as preliminary, we can make several 494 interesting observations. First, the mainshock rupture length of up to 500 km can be rapidly 495 determined both from the back-projection of the teleseismic P waves, and early aftershock 496 locations within a few hours following the mainshock (Figures 2 and 3). Subsequent analysis 497 based on teleseismic back-projection and finite-fault inversions, as well as space geodesy 498 observations further confirmed this ultra-long rupture (Bradley and Hubbard, 2025; Wei et al., 499 2025; Xu et al., 2025). However, these analyses typically took a few days/weeks to complete and 500 hence would not be applicable immediately following the mainshock. Figure 5 also showed that 501 many more early aftershocks were recorded by stations at regional distances, but were not 502 detected/located yet, likely due to their overlapping arrivals. Applying advanced earthquake 503 detection/association methods such as template matching, source scanning or machine learning 504 can help to rapidly determine the spread of the aftershock zone (Peng and Zhao, 2009; Liao et 505 al., 2012; Yu and Wang, 2022). Combining with teleseismic back-projection of mainshock 506 ruptures (Wang et al., 2016a; Wei et al., 2025), these approaches can help to define the full 507 extent of the mainshock rupture zone within hours, which are essential for rapid source 508 characterization and subsequent aftershock forecasting.

509 A rupture length of ~500 km for this event (Figure 13a) would be comparable to (or even 510 longer than) the 1906 M7.9 San Francisco earthquake, which ruptured along the San Andreas Fault in northern California for about 480 km (Song et al., 2008). However, such a long rupture 511 512 length is somewhat expected for large continental strike-slip faults, which tends to have rupture length/width ratio of 20-30 (Weng and Ampuero, 2019). Recent examples include the 2001 M7.9 513 Kokoxili earthquake in Central Tibetan Plateau (~390 km long), and the 2002 M7.9 Denali Fault 514 515 earthquake in Alaska (~340 km) (Ozacar and Beck, 2004). These events likely represent the 516 runaway unstable ruptures (Xu et al., 2015) that can only be stopped by geometric complexities

517 or barrier (Wesnousky, 2006).

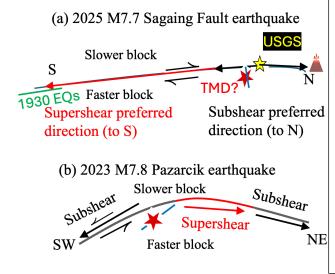


Figure 13. A comparison of a relatively simple earthquake rupture for the 2025 M7.7 Sagaing Fault earthquake in Myanmar (a), and a slightly complicated earthquake rupture for the 2023 M7.8 Pazarcik earthquake along the East Anatolian Fault in Southcentral Türkiye (b). The red lines mark the sections where the rupture went supershear for both events. The preferred direction for subshear rupture is to the slip direction of the side with lower seismic velocity, while the preferred direction for supershear is to the slip direction of the faster side (Shi and Ben-Zion, 2006). Panel (b) is modified from Peng et al. (2025). 519 Perhaps the most striking feature of this event is its apparent simple mainshock rupture 520 properties (Figure 13a). Unlike the 2023 M7.8 Pazarcik event in the Kahramanmaras Earthquake 521 Sequence in Southeastern Türkiye (Figure 12b), which started on a subsidiary Narli fault before 522 jumping on the main East Anatolian Fault (Xu et al., 2023; Stein and Bird, 2024), the recent 523 M7.7 earthquake nucleated on or near the north-south striking Sagaing Fault (USGS location). 524 However, a close-examination of the first few seconds of the near-field seismogram revealed a 525 possible small event right before the main slip pulse (Figure 5). It is interesting to note that the TMD location of the M7.7 mainshock was about 40 km south of the USGS location, and about 526 527 20 km away from the Sagaing Fault. Because of a systematic shift of the TMD catalog to the 528 right side (likely due to the one-side network location), we cannot verify whether the initial event 529 was on the Sagaing Fault or not. However, it is interesting to note that the latitude of the 530 mainshock location from the TMD catalog agreed well with the relocation from another effort (Wei et al., 2025), although their longitudes differ by 15 km. In addition, a broad aftershock zone 531 532 of up to 100 km to the east of the Sagaing Fault can be seen just south of 22°N. If we cannot 533 attribute all the distribution to the systematic shift in the TMD location (~25 km on average), 534 then there is a significant portion of aftershocks that are off the Sagaing Fault in that region. Note 535 that this region is in the apparent stress shadow of the mainshock (for either N-S striking or E-W 536 striking fault) (Figures 8 and 9, and Toda and Stein (2025)). We hypothesize that the E-W 537 distribution of aftershocks in that region could be generated by an initial E-W rupture that is 538 conjugate to the N-S striking Sagaing Fault (Figure 13a). In this case, the initial rupture of the 539 M7.7 mainshock would be consistent with the inference of large strike-slip earthquakes initiating 540 from a subsidiary fault (Stein and Bird, 2025). Such interpretation is also similar to the M4.7 541 foreshock occurring on a conjugated fault before the 2010 M6.7 Yushu earthquake within the 542 Tibetan plateau (Chuang et al., 2023). The only difference is that the time separation between the 543 foreshock and the mainshock for the Yushu sequence is about 2 hours, while in this case, there is 544 virtually no time delay. Hence, it can be recognized as an immediate foreshock, such as the M5.9 545 foreshock ~14 s before the 2024 M7.6 Noto Peninsula earthquake in western Japan) (Peng et al., 546 2025), or the 'nucleation'/beginning of the mainshock rupture (e.g., the initial rupture of the 547 2023 M7.8 Pazarcik earthquake) (Peng et al., 2025; Peng and Lei, 2025). A systematic relocation effort for both the initial rupture location and the main slip pulses that includes all regional 548 549 stations available (likely stations from Southwest China and Eastern India) is needed to confirm 550 or reject the hypothesis that the initial mainshock rupture occurred away from the Sagaing Fault 551 (Figure 13a).

552 Despite possible complications in the initial mainshock rupture, the main ruptured fault 553 segment is very simple without obvious fault kinks or step overs (Wei et al., 2025; Li et al., 554 2025). The mainshock first ruptured towards north along the Sagaing Fault for about 100 km 555 with a subshear velocity (Figure 2). The southward rupture also started with a subshear velocity 556 for about 100 km, and then the rupture went supershear for another 300 km (Figure 2) (Wei et 557 al., 2025). However, Li et al. (2025) argued that the supershear ruptures started immediately 558 south of the mainshock epicenter. The northward rupture ended near the Singu Plateau, which 559 likely acted as a barrier for the 2012 Mw 6.8 Thabeikkyin earthquake and the 2025 M7.7 560 ruptures (Wei et al., 2025). The southern end of the 2025 rupture zone partially overlaps with the rupture zone of several M6-7 earthquakes in 1929-1930 (Wang et al., 2014; Wei et al., 2025). In 561 562 summary, the 2025 M7.7 mainshock rupture likely represent one end-member model of large 563 continental strike-slip fault with very simple geometry (Figure 13a) and no obvious branching or 564 subsidiary fault ruptures. Other examples include the 1906 M7.9 San Francisco earthquake (Song et al., 2008). The other end-member model would be the complex fault rupture such as the 2023
M7.8 Pazarcik earthquakes (Figure 13b) and events documented in Stein and Bird (2024).

567 As noted before, aftershocks from the regional TMD catalog were mostly shifted to the 568 right side of the Sagaing Fault in the Shan Pleateau (Figure 4). However, large aftershocks from the USGS catalog were mostly on or very close to the Sagaing Fault (Figure 4d). At least part of 569 the shift can be explained by the one-side station distribution of the TMD catalog. However, the 570 571 average shift (by assuming that the USGS location is accurate) is about 25 km (Figure 4f), which 572 cannot completely explain all aftershocks with some of them extending more than 75 km to the 573 east of the Sagaing Fault. A simple explanation of those off-fault aftershocks can be reactivation 574 of subsidiary faults within or near the Shan Plateau such as the Shan Scarp Fault (Bertrand et al., 575 1999), which are oriented at a certain angle to the Sagaing Fault. Such an off-fault aftershock 576 activation would be more prominent especially during the supershear rupture segments of 577 previous large strike-slip earthquakes (Bouchon and Karabulut, 2008). An alternative 578 explanation would be that the Sagaing Fault is dipping to the east, which is consistent with 579 inversions of GNSS observations (Tin et al., 2022). However, some finite-fault inversions argued 580 a near-vertical rupture (USGS, 2025; Wei et al., 2025). Again, a careful detection and relocation 581 of aftershocks following the M7.7 mainshock is needed to better understand the relationship 582 between subshear/supershear mainshock ruptures and on-fault/off-fault aftershocks.

583 Recent permanent and temporary seismic deployments across and along the Sagaing 584 Fault have resulted in high-resolution imaging of subsurface crustal structures on both sides of 585 the faults. These studies found that in the top few kms of the crust, the Central Myanmar Basin (CMB) in the Burma plate on the left side of the Sagaing Fault has slower seismic velocities than 586 587 the Shan Plateau in the Sunda plate on the right side (Wang et al., 2019; Wu et al., 2021; Yao et al., 2022). Our initial observation of possible fault zone head waves at station GE.NPW (Figure 588 589 7) also confirmed that the CWB side has slower velocity than the Shan Plateau. The existence of 590 such a bi-material fault interface is expected to affect many aspects of earthquake source 591 properties, including generation of a preferred rupture direction in the slip direction of the 592 slower/more compliant block for a sub-shear rupture (e.g., Ben-Zion, 2001; Ampuero and Ben-593 Zion, 2008). For a supershear rupture, the propagation direction is flipped (i.e., in the slip 594 direction of the faster/stiffer side) (Weertman, 2002; Shi and Ben-Zion, 2006). In addition to the 595 "preferred" rupture direction, dynamic ruptures on bi-material interface can generate asymmetric 596 fault damage zone at depth (Shi and Ben-Zion, 2006). For a sub-shear rupture, the 'preferred' 597 off-fault damage is on the stiffer side (Jara et al., 2021; Song et al., 2022), while the pattern is 598 flipped again for the supershear rupture (i.e., on the more compliant side). We note that the 599 northward rupture along the Sagaing Fault is subshear, matching the preferred slip direction of 600 the slow CMB block, while the southward supershear rupture also matched the preferred slip direction of the fast Shan Plateau block (Figure 13a). However, there existed a ~100 km 601 602 southward subshear rupture that did not match this expectation. Additional seismic imaging 603 studies at a finer scale (combined with fault zone waves as observed in Figure 7) can help to 604 resolve whether the velocity contrast could be flipped in this section (e.g., Bennington et al., 605 2013). In addition, high-resolution optical imagery from Sentinel-2 displacement fields has been 606 used to infer the co-seismic damage zones of ~100 m width following the M7.7 mainshock (Wei 607 et al., 2025). However, no asymmetric fault damage zone has been inferred, likely due to the lack 608 of accurate surface rupture traces. Additional field surveys, together with dense cross-fault

seismic arrays (Zor et al., 2025), can be used to further constrain the low-velocity damage zones
at depth, and their relationship with dynamic earthquake ruptures.

611 We document clear evidence of remotely triggered seismicity near the border between 612 Thailand and Myanmar, nearby Yunnan province in China, and the Xinfengjiang Reservoir in the Guangdong province in South China (Figures 10-12). In most cases, seismicity started during 613 614 and immediately following the large-amplitude surface waves, although in most cases large local 615 events typically occurred a few hours to days following the mainshock, likely representing delayed dynamic triggering (Pollitz et al., 2012; Johnson and Bürgmann, 2016). In addition, 616 617 many regions are a few fault lengths away from the M7.7 mainshock, where static stress changes became much lower than the dynamic stress changes. However, some regions, such as the border 618 619 between Thailand and Myanmar are relatively close to the M7.7 mainshock rupture and hence 620 could be affected by the static stress changes. While we do not have the focal mechanisms of most triggered earthquakes, focal mechanisms of moderate-size events in this region are mostly 621 622 N-S or E-W strike slip, which would receive negative CFS (i.e., stress shadow) from the M7.7 623 mainshock slip (Figure 8). This observation is consistent with other recent observations where 624 microearthquakes in the static stress shadow of a mainshock can be instantaneously or delayed 625 triggered by the dynamic stresses of the same mainshock rupture (Ma et al., 2005; Meng and 626 Peng, 2014; Hardebeck and Harris, 2022; Yun et al., 2025). It would be interesting to observe 627 whether in the long-term (i.e., after a few months when the effect of the dynamic stress is over), 628 seismicity in the surrounding region would match with the prediction from the static stress 629 changes from the M7.7 mainshock (Li et al., 2025; Toda and Stein, 2025).

630 Finally, we note that this section that ruptured during the M7.7 mainshock has long been recognized as a region that is long due for a major earthquake (Wang et al., 2014; Xiong et al., 631 632 2017; Habbard and Bradley, 2025). Although the location and its magnitude (to a less degree) 633 can be anticipated, at this point we cannot accurately predict the timing of such a major 634 earthquake. In addition, while the mainshock timing might be promoted by the tidal stresses 635 (Figure 8), there was no obvious foreshocks or other abnormal behaviors (at least seismically). The lack of reliable precursory signals highlights the challenge that earthquake scientists has 636 637 been facing in the last half a century since the prediction of the 1975 Ms7.3 Haicheng earthquake 638 (Wang et al., 2006; Peng and Lei, 2025). Nevertheless, multiple groups have deployed both 639 permanent seismic network and temporary seismic arrays across and along the Sagaing Fault in 640 the past decade (Thiam et al., 2017; Wang et al., 2019; Wu et al., 2021; Yao et al., 2022). 641 Unfortunately, none of those temporary seismic arrays were active in 2025, and only 4 of the 9 642 stations in the Myanmar National Seismic Network (netcode: MM) were in operation during the 643 mainshock. Station GE.NPW operated by GFZ provided a clear single near-field recording of the 644 mainshock ruptures (Lai et al., 2025; Figure 6). Better understanding of the large earthquakes requires long-term deployment and investments of near-fault zone arrays (Ben-Zion et al., 2022), 645 646 possibly including motion-sensor cameras and video recordings (Latour et al., 2025) and 647 earthquake experiment sites (Wu, 2022) at regions where large earthquakes are due. These 648 include regions such as the North-South Seismic Belt in China (Wu, 2022), the Southern Section 649 of the San Andreas Fault (Fialko, 2006) and the Marmara Sea section of the North Anatolian Fault (NAF) near Istanbul (Becker et al., 2023). 650

Acknowledgements We thank the Thai Meteorological Department (TMD) for making their
earthquake catalog available for this study. Most seismic data are downloaded from the
Earthscope Inc. (formally known as IRIS)'s Data Management Center at the following website:

- 654 <u>https://ds.iris.edu/wilber3/find_stations/11952284</u>. Waveform data from NPW can be retrieved
- 655 from GEOFON using the FDSN. The velocity seismogram at station NPW is downloaded from
- 656 <u>https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15228691</u> (Bindi et al., 2025). Earthquake catalogs in China are
- 657 provided by the Yunnan and Guangdong Earthquake Agency. We thank valuable comments and
- discussions with Professors Shengji Wei and Jing Wu.

659 **References**

- Ampuero, J. P., & Ben-Zion, Y. (2008). Cracks, pulses and macroscopic asymmetry of dynamic
- rupture on a bimaterial interface with velocity-weakening friction. *Geophysical Journal*
- 662 International, 173(2), 674-692. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-246X.2008.03736.x
- 663 Becker, D., Martínez-Garzón, P., Wollin, C., Kılıç, T., & Bohnhoff, M. (2023), Variation of fault
- 664 creep along the overdue Istanbul-Marmara seismic gap in NW Türkiye. Geophysical Research
- 665 Letters, 50, <u>https://doi.org/10.1029/2022GL101471</u>
- 666 Bennington, N. L., C. Thurber, Z. Peng, H. Zhang, & P. Zhao (2013), Incorporating fault zone
- 667 head wave and direct wave secondary arrival times into seismic tomography: Application at
- Parkfield, California, J. Geophys. Res., 118, 1-7, doi: 10.1002/jgrb.50072.
- Ben-Zion, Y. (2001). Dynamic ruptures in recent models of earthquake faults. Journal of the
 Mechanics and Physics of Solids, 49(9), 2209-2244. https://doi.org/10.1016/S00225096(01)00036-9
- Ben-Zion, Y., & Malin, P. (1991). San Andreas fault zone head waves near Parkfield, California.
 Science, 251(5001), 1592-1594. <u>https://doi.org/10.1126/science.251.5001.1592</u>
- Ben-Zion, Y., Beroza, G. C., Bohnhoff, M., Gabriel, A. A., & Mai, P. M. (2022). A grand challenge
 international infrastructure for earthquake science. Seismological Society of America, 93(6), 29672968.
- 677 Bertrand, G., & Rangin, C. (2003). Tectonics of the western margin of the Shan plateau (central
- 678 Myanmar): implication for the India–Indochina oblique convergence since the Oligocene.
- 679 Journal of Asian Earth Sciences, 21(10), 1139-1157. <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/S1367-</u>
- <u>680 <u>9120(02)00183-9</u></u>
- 681 Bertrand, G., Rangin, C., Maluski, H., Han, T.A., Thein, M., Myint, O., Maw, W. & Lwin, S.
- 682 (1999). Cenozoic metamorphism along the Shan scarp (Myanmar): evidences for ductile shear
- along the Sagaing fault or the northward migration of the eastern Himalayan syntaxis?.
- 684 Geophysical Research Letters, 26(7), 915-918. <u>https://doi.org/10.1029/1999GL900136</u>
- Bindi, D., Lai, S.-T., Strollo, A., Zaccarelli, R., & Tilmann, F. (2025). Software and data
- 686 products for "Capacity Building Enables Unique Near-Fault Observations of the destructive 2025
- 687 Mw 7.7 Myanmar Earthquake", Zenodo, https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15228691.
- Bouchon, M., & Karabulut, H. (2008). The aftershock signature of supershear earthquakes.
 Science, 320(5881), 1323-1325. https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1155030.

- Bouchon, M., Bouin, M. P., Karabulut, H., Toksöz, M. N., Dietrich, M., & Rosakis, A. J. (2001).
- How fast is rupture during an earthquake? New insights from the 1999 Turkey earthquakes.
- 692 Geophysical Research Letters, 28(14), 2723-2726. https://doi.org/10.1029/2001GL013112
- Bouchon, M., Karabulut, H., Aktar, M., Özalaybey, S., Schmittbuhl, J., & Bouin, M. P. (2011).
- Extended nucleation of the 1999 Mw 7.6 Izmit earthquake. science, 331(6019), 877-880.
 https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1197341
- Bradley, K., & Hubbard, J. (2024). The great tidal earthquake hypothesis test, part III.
- 697 Earthquake Insights, <u>https://doi.org/10.62481/3b93879a</u>
- Bradley, K., & Hubbard, J. (2025a). Updates on the M7.7 Myanmar earthquake. Earthquake
 Insights, https://doi.org/10.62481/9e49eb4a
- 700 Bradley, K., & Hubbard, J. (2025b). Surface ruptures of the Myanmar M7.7 earthquake mapped
- 701 from space. Earthquake Insights, <u>https://doi.org/10.62481/51b7df8c</u>
- 702 Cai, J., Xi, N., Han, G., Deng, W., & Sun, L. (2025). Rapid report of the March 28, 2025 Mw 7.9
- 703 Myanmar earthquake. Earthquake Research Advances, 100396.
- 704 <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eqrea.2025.100396</u>
- 705 Chansom, C., Jitmahantakul, S., Owen, L. A., Wiwegwin, W., & Charusiri, P. (2022). New
- insights into the paleoseismic history of the Mae Hong Son Fault, northern Thailand. Frontiers in
 Earth Science, 10, 921049. <u>https://doi.org/10.3389/feart.2022.921049</u>
- 708 Crosetto, S., Watkinson, I. M., Min, S., Falcucci, E., Gori, S., Thein, P. S., & Sudeep. (2019).
- 709 Searching for the 1912 Maymyo earthquake: New evidence from paleoseismic investigations
- along the Kyaukkyan Fault, Myanmar. *Quaternary International*, *532*, 75–86.
- 711 <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.quaint.2019.09.042</u>
- 712 Chuang, L. Y., Peng, Z., Lei, X., Wang, B., Liu, J., Zhai, Q., & Tu, H. (2023), Foreshocks of the
- 713 2010 Mw 6.7 Yushu, China Earthquake Occurred Near an Extensional Step-Over, J. Geophys.
- 714 Res., 128, e2022JB025176. <u>https://doi.org/10.1029/2022JB025176</u>.
- 715 Dziewonski, A., Hales, A., & Lapwood, E. (1975). Parametrically simple Earth models
- consistent with geophysical data. Phys. Earth Planet. Inter. 10(1), 12–48.
- 717 https://doi.org/10.1016/0031-9201(75)90017-5
- Ellsworth, W. L., & Beroza, G. C. (1995). Seismic evidence for an earthquake nucleation phase.
 Science, 268(5212), 851-855. <u>https://doi.org/10.1126/science.268.5212.851</u>
- Fialko, Y. (2006). Interseismic strain accumulation and the earthquake potential on the southern San Andreas fault system. Nature, 441(7096), 968-971. https://doi.org/10.1038/nature04797
- 722 Foulger, G. R., Wilson, M. P., Gluyas, J. G., Julian, B. R., & Davies, R. J. (2018). Global review
- 723 of human-induced earthquakes. Earth-Science Reviews, 178, 438-514.
- 724 <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.earscirev.2017.07.008</u>
- 725 Gahalaut, V. K., & Gahalaut, K. (2007), Burma plate motion, J. Geophys. Res., 112, B10402,
- 726 <u>https://doi.org/10.1029/2007JB004928</u>.

- Hardebeck, J.L., & Harris, R.A. (2022). Earthquakes in the Shadows: Why Aftershocks Occur at
 Surprising Locations. The Seismic Record, 2(3), 207–216. https://doi.org/10.1785/0320220023
- Henry, C., & Das, S. (2001). Aftershock zones of large shallow earthquakes: fault dimensions,
- aftershock area expansion and scaling relations. Geophysical Journal International, 147(2), 272-
- 731 293. https://doi.org/10.1046/j.1365-246X.2001.00522.x
- Hough, S. E. (2018). Do large (magnitude≥ 8) global earthquakes occur on preferred days of the
- calendar year or lunar cycle?. Seismological Research Letters, 89(2A), 577-581.
- 734 <u>https://doi.org/10.1785/0220170154</u>.
- Hu, X.P., Zang, A., Heidbach, O., Cui, X.F., Xie, F.R., & Chen, J.W. (2017). Crustal stress
- pattern in China and its adjacent areas. J. Asian Earth Sci. 149, 20-28,
- 737 <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jseaes.2017.07.005</u>.
- Huang, R.Q., Deng, Y.F, Chen, Y., Xiong, C., & Zhang, Z. (2025). Source parameters and stress
- 739 triggering of 2023 M≥4 earthquakes sequence in Heyuan, Guangdong. Chinese Journal of
- 740 Geophysics (in Chinese with English abstract), 68(3), 956-969,
- 741 https://doi.org/10.6038/cjg2024R0701
- Hubbard, J. & Bradley, K. (2025). Catastrophic M7.7 earthquake caused by rupture of Sagaing
 Fault in Myanmar. Earthquake Insights, https://doi.org/10.62481/9250a38a
- 744 Ide, S., Yabe, S., & Tanaka, Y. (2016). Earthquake potential revealed by tidal influence on
- earthquake size-frequency statistics. Nature Geoscience, 9(11), 834-837.
- 746 https://doi.org/10.1038/ngeo2796
- 747 Inoue, N., Yamaguchi, R., Yagi, Y., Okuwaki, R., Bogdan, E., & Tadapansawut, T. (2025). A
- 748 multiple asymmetric bilateral rupture sequence derived from the peculiar tele-seismic P-waves of
- 749the2025Mandalay,Myanmarearthquake.Seismica,4(1).750https://doi.org/10.26443/seismica.v4i1.1691
- 751 Iwata, T. (2008). Low detection capability of global earthquakes after the occurrence of large
- rearthquakes: Investigation of the Harvard CMT catalogue. Geophysical Journal International,
- 753 174(3), 849-856. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-246X.2008.03864.x
- 754 Jackson, D.D., & Kagan, Y.Y. (2011). Characteristic Earthquakes and Seismic Gaps. In: Gupta,
- 755 H.K. (eds) Encyclopedia of Solid Earth Geophysics. Encyclopedia of Earth Sciences Series.
- 756 Springer, Dordrecht. <u>https://doi.org/10.1007/978-90-481-8702-7_181</u>
- Jara, J., Bruhat, L., Thomas, M. Y., Antoine, S. L., Okubo, K., Rougier, E., Rosakis, A. J., Sammis,
 C. G., Klinger, Y., Jolivet, R., & Bhat, H. S. (2021). Signature of transition to supershear rupture
 speed in the coseismic off-fault damage zone. *Proceedings of the Royal Society A*, 477(2255),
- 760 20210364. https://doi.org/10.1098/rspa.2021.0364
- Johnson, C. W., and R. Bürgmann (2016), Delayed dynamic triggering: Local seismicity leading
- up to three remote $M \ge 6$ aftershocks of the 11 April 2012 M8.6 Indian Ocean earthquake, J.
- 763 Geophys. Res. Solid Earth, 121, 134–151, doi:10.1002/2015JB012243.

- 764 Kagan, Y. Y. (2004). Short-term properties of earthquake catalogs and models of earthquake
- source. Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America, 94(4), 1207-1228.
- 766 https://doi.org/10.1785/012003098
- 767 Kagan, Y., Jackson, D. D., & Geller, R. J. (2012). Characteristic earthquake model, 1884--2011,
- 768 RIP. arXiv preprint <u>https://arxiv.org/pdf/1207.4836</u>
- 769 Kiser, E., & Ishii, M. (2017). Back-projection imaging of earthquakes. Annual Review of Earth
- 770 and Planetary Sciences, 45(1), 271-299. <u>https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-earth-063016-015801</u>
- 771 Kwiatek, G., Martínez-Garzón, P., Becker, D., Dresen, G., Cotton, F., Beroza, G.C., Acarel, D.,
- 772 Ergintav, S. & Bohnhoff, M. (2023). Months-long seismicity transients preceding the 2023 MW
- 773 7.8 Kahramanmaraş earthquake, Türkiye. Nature Communications, 14(1), 7534.
- 774 https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-023-42419-8
- 775 Lai, S.T., Oo, K.M., Htwe, Y.M.M., Yi, T., Than, H.H., Than, O., Min, Z., Oo, T.M., Maung,
- P.M., Bindi, D. & Cotton, F. (2025). Capacity Building Enables Unique Near-Fault Observations
- of the destructive 2025 M w 7.7 Myanmar Earthquake. Earth System Science Data Discussions,
- 778 2025, in review. https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2025-216
- T79 Latour, S., Lebihain, M., Bhat, H. S., Twardzik, C., Bletery, Q., Hudnut, K. W., & Passelègue, F.
- (2025). Direct Estimation of Earthquake Source Properties from a Single CCTV Camera.
 https://arxiv.org/abs/2505.15461.
- /81 https://arxiv.org/a05/2505.15401.
- Lei, X., C. Xie, and B. Fu (2011), Remotely triggered seismicity in Yunnan, southwestern China,
- following the 2004 Mw9.3 Sumatra earthquake, J. Geophys. Res., 116, B08303,
- 784 doi:10.1029/2011JB008245.
- Lengine, O., B. Enescu, Z. Peng, and K. Shiomi (2012), Decay and migration of the early
 aftershock activity following the Tohoku Mw9.0 2011 earthquake, Geophys. Res. Lett., 39,
 L18309, doi:10.1029/2012GL052797.
- Li, L., Wang, B., Peng, Z., & Li, D. (2019). Dynamic triggering of microseismicity in Southwest
- 789 China following the 2004 Sumatra and 2012 Indian Ocean earthquakes. Journal of Asian Earth
- 790 Sciences, 176, 129-140. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jseaes.2019.02.010
- Li, T., & Song, X. (2025). Moment Magnitude of Myanmar Earthquake on March 28, 2025 from
- 792 Long-Period Seismic Coda, Earthquake Sciences, in review.
- 793 <u>https://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.5220290</u>
- Li, Y., Yang, C., Hu, X., Yuan, J., Yao, G. & Li, H. (2025). Coulomb Stress Transfer from the
- 795 2025 Mw 7.7 Myanmar Earthquake to Active Faults in Southwestern Yunnan, China:
- 796 Implications for Seismic Hazard. Earthquake Research Advances, revised.
- ⁷⁹⁷ Liao, Y.C., Kao, H., Rosenberger, A., Hsu, S.K. & Huang, B.S. (2012). Delineating complex
- spatiotemporal distribution of earthquake aftershocks: an improved Source-Scanning
- Algorithm, Geophysical Journal International, 189(3), 1753-
- 800 1770, <u>https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-246X.2012.05457.x</u>
- Lindsey, E.O., Wang, Y., Aung, L.T., Chong, J.H., Qiu, Q., Mallick, R., Feng, L., Aung, P.S.,
- 802 Tin, T.Z.H., Min, S.M. & Bradley, K. (2023). Active subduction and strain partitioning in

- western Myanmar revealed by a dense survey GNSS network. Earth and Planetary Science
 Letters, 622, 118384, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsl.2023.118384.
- Ma, K.-F., Chan, C.-H., & Stein, R. S. (2005). Response of seismicity to Coulomb stress triggers
- and shadows of the 1999 Mw = 7.6 Chi-Chi, Taiwan, earthquake, J. Geophys. Res., 110,
- 807 B05S19, doi:10.1029/2004JB003389.
- 808 Ma, Z., Zeng, H., Luo, H., Liu, Z., Jiang, Y., Aoki, Y., Wang, W., Itoh, Y., Lyu, M., Cui, Y.,
- 809 Yun, S.H., Hill, E.M., & Wei, S. (2024). Slow rupture in a fluid-rich fault zone initiated the 2024
- 810 M w 7.5 Noto earthquake. Science, 385(6711), 866-871. https://doi.org/10.1126/science.ado5143
- 811 Mallick, R., Lindsey, E. O., Feng, L., Hubbard, J., Banerjee, P., & Hill, E. M. (2019). Active
- 812 convergence of the India- Burma-Sunda plates revealed by a new continuous GPS network.
- Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth, 124, 3155–3171. https://doi.org/10.1029/
- 814 2018JB016480.
- 815 Matsumoto, K., Sato, T., Takanezawa, T., & Ooe, M. (2001). GOTIC2: a program for
- 816 computation of oceanic tidal loading effect. J. Geod. Soc. Jpn. 47, 243–248.
- 817 <u>https://doi.org/10.11366/sokuchi1954.47.243</u>
- 818 McCaffrey, R. (2009). The tectonic framework of the Sumatran subduction zone. Annual Review
- of Earth and Planetary Sciences, 37(1), 345-366.
- 820 <u>https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.earth.031208.100212</u>
- 821 Meng, X. and Z. Peng (2014), Seismicity rate changes in the San Jacinto Fault Zone and the
- 822 Salton Sea Geothermal Field following the 2010 Mw7.2 El Mayor-Cucapah Earthquake,
- 823 Geophys. J. Int., 197(3), 1750-1762, doi: 10.1093/gji/ggu085.
- Mogi, K. (1979). Two kinds of seismic gaps. Pure and Applied Geophysics, 117(6), 1172-1186.
 https://doi.org/10.1007/BF00876213
- 826 Nielsen, C., Chamot-Rooke, N., Rangin, C., The ANDAMAN Cruise Team, 2004. From partial
- to full strain partitioning along the Indo-Burmese hyper-oblique subduction. Marine Geology
- 828 209, 303–327. <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.margeo.2004.05.001</u>
- 829 Ozacar, A.A., & Beck, S.L. (2004). The 2002 Denali fault and 2001 Kunlun fault earthquakes:
- complex rupture processes of two large strike-slip events. Bull. Seismol. Soc. Am. 94 (6B),
 S278–S292. <u>https://doi.org/10.1785/0120040604</u>.
- 832 Peng, Z., & Chao, K. (2008). Non-volcanic tremor beneath the Central Range in Taiwan
- triggered by the 2001 Mw7.8 Kunlun earthquake, Geophys. J. Int., 175, 825–829, doi:
- 834 10.1111/j.1365-246X.2008.03886.x.
- Peng, Z., & Zhao, P. (2009). Migration of early aftershocks following the 2004 Parkfield
 earthquake. Nature Geosci 2, 877–88. https://doi.org/10.1038/ngeo697
- Peng, Z. & Gomberg, J. (2010), An integrated perspective of the continuum between earthquakes
 and slow-slip phenomena, Nature Geosci., 3, 599–607, doi:10.1038/ngeo940.
- 839 Peng, Z., and X. Lei (2025), Physical Mechanisms of Earthquake Nucleation and Foreshock:
- 840 Cascade Triggering, Aseismic Slip, or Fluid Flows?, Earthquake Research Advances, 5(2),
- 841 100349, <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eqrea.2024.100349</u>.

- Peng, Z., Vidale, J.E. & Houston, H. (2006). Anomalous early aftershock decay rates of the 2004
 M6 Parkfield earthquake, Geophys. Res. Lett., 33, L17307, doi:10.1029/2006GL026744.
- 844 Peng, Z., X. Lei, Q.-Y. Wang, D. Wang, P. Mach, D. Yao, A. Kato, K. Obara and M. Campillo
- 845 (2025), The Evolution Process between the Earthquake Swarm Beneath the Noto Peninsula,
- 846 Central Japan and the 2024 M 7.6 Noto Hanto Earthquake Sequence, Earthquake Research
- 847 Advances, 5(1), 100332, <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eqrea.2024.100332</u>.
- 848 Prejean, S. G., Hill, D. P., Brodsky, E. E., Hough, S. E., Johnston, M. J. S., Malone, S. D., et al.
- 849 (2004). Remotely triggered seismicity on the United States west Coast following the Mw 7.9
- Benali Fault earthquake. Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America, 94(6B), S348–S359.
 https://doi.org/10.1785/0120040610
- Pollitz, F. F., Stein, R. S., Sevilgen, V., & Bürgmann, R. (2012). The 11 April 2012 east Indian
- Ocean earthquake triggered large aftershocks worldwide. Nature, 490(7419), 250–253.
 https://doi.org/10.1038/nature11504
- 855 Ren, C., Wang, Z., Taymaz, T., Hu, N., Luo, H., Zhao, Z., Yue, H., Song, X., Shen, Z., Xu, H.
- and Geng, J., 2024. Supershear triggering and cascading fault ruptures of the 2023
- Kahramanmaraş, Türkiye, earthquake doublet. Science, 383(6680), 305-311.
- 858 https://doi.org/10.1126/science.adi1519
- 859 Robinson, D. P., Das, S., & Searle, M. P. (2010). Earthquake fault superhighways.
- 860 Tectonophysics, 493(3-4), 236-243. <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tecto.2010.01.010</u>
- 861 Ruan, Y. (2007). Source parameters and triggering mechanism of the Nansang earthquake
- triggered by the Sumatra earthquake. M.S. Thesis, University of Science and Technology ofChina, 59 pages.
- 864 Song, B. R., Song, W. J., Johnson, S. E., Gerbi, C. C., & Vel, S. S. (2022). Elastic contrast, rupture

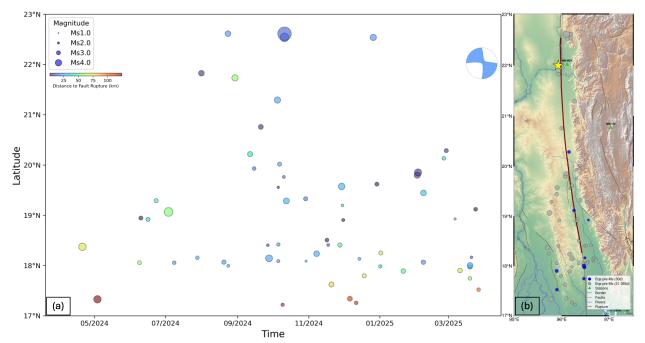
directivity, and damage asymmetry in an anisotropic bimaterial strike-slip fault at middle crustal
depths. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth, 127*, e2021JB023821.
https://doi.org/10.1029/2021JB023821

- 868 Song, S. G., Beroza, G. C., & Segall, P. (2008). A unified source model for the 1906 San
- Francisco earthquake. Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America, 98(2), 823-831,
- 870 https://doi.org/10.1785/0120060402
- 871 Shahzada, K., Noor, U. A., & Xu, Z.D. (2025). In the Wake of the March 28, 2025 Myanmar
- 872 Earthquake: A Detailed Examination, Journal of Dynamic Disasters,
- 873 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdd.2025.100017
- Shi, Z., & Ben-Zion, Y. (2006). Dynamic rupture on a bimaterial interface governed by slipweakening friction. Geophysical Journal International, 165(2), 469–484.
 https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-246X.2006.02853.x
- 877 Stein, R. (1999). The role of stress transfer in earthquake occurrence. Nature 402, 605–609.
- 878 https://doi.org/10.1038/45144

- 879 Stein, R. S., & Bird, P. (2024). Why do great continental transform earthquakes nucleate on
- branch faults?. Seismological Research Letters, 95(6), 3406-3415.
- 881 https://doi.org/10.1785/0220240175
- 882 Tanaka, S. (2012). Tidal triggering of earthquakes prior to the 2011 Tohoku-Oki earthquake
- 883 (Mw 9.1). Geophys. Res. Lett. 39, 00G26. https://doi .org /10 .1029 / 2012GL051179.
- Thiam, H.N., Htwe, Y.M.M., Kyaw, T.L., Tun, P.P., Min, Z., Htwe, S.H., Aung, T.M., Lin,
- K.K., Aung, M.M., Cristofaro, J.D. & Franke, M. (2017). A report on upgraded seismic
- monitoring stations in Myanmar: Station performance and site response. Seismological Research
 Letters, 88(3), pp.926-934.
- 888 Timsina, P., Hearn, T. M., & Ni, J. F. (2024). Crust and mantle flow from central Tibetan Plateau
- to the Indo-Burma subduction zone. Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth, 129,
 e2023JB027540. https://doi.org/10.1029/ 2023JB027540
- Tin, T. Z. H., Nishimura, T., Hashimoto, M., Lindsey, E. O., Aung, L. T., Min, S. M., & Thant,
- 892 M. (2022). Present-day crustal deformation and slip rate along the southern Sagaing fault in
- 893 Myanmar by GNSS observation. Journal of Asian Earth Sciences, 228, 105125.
- 894 <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jseaes.2022.105125</u>
- Toda, S. & Stein, R. S. (2025). One-month earthquake forecast for western Myanmar following
 the devastating magnitude 7.7 Mandalay shock, Temblor, http://doi.org/10.32858/temblor.360
- 897 Tun, S.T., & Watkinson, I.M. (2017). "Chapter 19: The Sagaing Fault, Myanmar", in "Myanmar:
- 898 Geology, Resources and Tectonics", edited by Barber, A.J., Zaw, K. & Crow, M.J., Geological
- 899 Society, London, Memoirs, https://doi.org/10.1144/m48.19
- 900 USGS (2025). https://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/eventpage/us7000pn9s/executive
- 901 Utsu, T., Ogata, Y., & Matsu'ura, R.S. (1995). The centenary of the Omori formula for a decay
- 902 law of aftershock activity. Journal of Physics of the Earth, 43(1), 1-33.
- 903 <u>https://doi.org/10.4294/jpe1952.43.1</u>
- Wald, D. J., Worden, C. B., Thompson, E. M., & Hearne, M. (2022). ShakeMap operations,
- 905 policies, and procedures. Earthquake Spectra, 38(1), 756-777.
- 906 https://doi.org/10.1177/87552930211030298
- 907 Wang, D., & Mori, J. (2011). Rupture process of the 2011 off the Pacific coast of Tohoku
- Earthquake (M w 9.0) as imaged with back-projection of teleseismic P-waves. *Earth, planets and space*, *63*, 603-607.
- 910 Wang, D., Kawakatsu, H., Mori, J., Ali, B., Ren, Z., & Shen, X. (2016a). Backprojection
- analyses from four regional arrays for rupture over a curved dipping fault: The Mw 7.7 24
- 912 September 2013 Pakistan earthquake. Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth, 121(3),
- 913 1948-1961.
- 914 Wang, D., Mori, J., & Koketsu, K. (2016b). Fast rupture propagation for large strike-slip
- 915 earthquakes. Earth and Planetary Science Letters, 440, 115-126.
- 916 Wang, Y., K. Sieh, S. T. Tun, K.-Y. Lai, and T. Myint (2014), Active tectonics and earthquake
- potential of the Myanmar region, J. Geophys. Res. Solid Earth, 119, 3767–3822,
- 918 doi:10.1002/2013JB010762.

- 919 Wang, X., Wei, S., Wang, Y., Maung Maung, P., Hubbard, J., Banerjee, P., et al. (2019). A 3-D
- 920 shear wave velocity model for Myanmar region. Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth,
- 921 124, 504–526. https://doi.org/10.1029/ 2018JB016622
- 922 Weertman, J. (2002). Subsonic type earthquake dislocation moving at approximately × shear
- 923 wave velocity on interface between half spaces of slightly different elastic constants.
- 924 Geophysical Research Letters, 29(10). https://doi.org/10.1029/2001GL013916.
- Wei, S., Wang, X., Li, C., et al. (2025). Supershear Rupture Sustained Through a Thick Fault
 Zone in the 2025 Mw 7.8 Myanmar Earthquake, submitted.
- 927 Wells, D.L. & Coppersmith, K.J. (1994). New empirical relationships among magnitude, rupture
- 928 length, rupture width, rupture area, and surface displacement. Bulletin of the seismological
- 929 Society of America, 84(4), 974-1002. https://doi.org/10.1785/BSSA0840040974
- 930 Weng, H., & Ampuero, J.-P. (2019). The dynamics of elongated earthquake ruptures. Journal of
- 931 Geophysical Research: Solid Earth, 124, 8584–8610. <u>https://doi.org/10.1029/2019JB017684</u>
- Wesnousky, S. G. (2006). Predicting the endpoints of earthquake ruptures. Nature, 444(7117),
 358-360. https://doi.org/10.1038/nature05275
- 934 Wu, Z. (2022). Seismic Experimental Sites: Challenges and Opportunities. In: Li, Y.G., Zhang,
- 935 Y., Wu, Z. (eds) China Seismic Experimental Site. Springer, Singapore.
- 936 https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-8607-8_1
- 937 Wu, S., Yao, J., Wei, S., Hubbard, J., Wang, Y., Htwe, Y.M.M., Thant, M., Wang, X., Wang, K.,
- Liu, T. & Liu, Q. (2021). New insights into the structural heterogeneity and geodynamics of the
- Indo-Burma subduction zone from ambient noise tomography. Earth and Planetary Science
 Letters, 562, 116856. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsl.2021.116856
- 940 Letters, 562, 116856. <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsi.2021.116856</u>
- 941 Xiong, X., B. Shan, Y. M. Zhou, S. J. Wei, Y. D. Li, R. J. Wang, & Y. Zheng (2017), Coulomb
- stress transfer and accumulation on the Sagaing Fault, Myanmar, over the past 110 years and its
 implications for seismic hazard, Geophys. Res. Lett., 44, 4781–4789,
- 944 doi:10.1002/2017GL072770.
- 945 Xu, L., Mohanna, S., Meng, L., Ji, C., Ampuero, J.P., Yunjun, Z., Hasnain, M., Chu, R. & Liang,
- 946 C. (2023). The overall-subshear and multi-segment rupture of the 2023 Mw7. 8 Kahramanmaraş,
- 947 Turkey earthquake in millennia supercycle. Communications Earth & Environment, 4(1), 379.
- 948 <u>https://doi.org/10.1038/s43247-023-01030-x</u>
- Xu, L., Meng, L., Zhang, Y. et al. (2025). Bimaterial Effect and Favorable Energy Ratio Enable
 Supershear Rupture in the 2025 Myanmar Quake, submitted.
- 951 Xu, J., Zhang, H., & Chen, X. (2015). Rupture phase diagrams for a planar fault in 3-D full-
- 952 space and half-space. Geophysical Journal International, 202(3), 2194-2206.
- 953 <u>https://doi.org/10.1093/gji/ggv284</u>
- 954 Yao, D., C. Ding, Z. Peng, E. Sandvol, T. Godoladze and G. Yetermishli (2024), Dynamically
- 955 Triggered Tectonic Tremors and Earthquakes in the Caucasian Region Following the 2023
- 856 Kahramanmaraş, Türkiye, Earthquake Sequence, Geophys. Res. Lett., 51, e2024GL110786.
- 957 <u>https://doi.org/10.1029/2024GL110786</u>.

- 958 Yao, J., Wu, S., Li, T., Bai, Y., Xiao, X., Hubbard, J., Wang, Y., Thant, M. and Tong, P. (2022).
- 959 Imaging the Upper 10 km Crustal Shear-Wave Velocity Structure of Central Myanmar via a
- Joint Inversion of P-Wave Polarizations and Receiver Functions, Seismol. Res. Lett. 93, 1710–
- 961 1720, doi: 10.1785/0220210292.
- Yao, S., & Yang, H. (2025). Rupture phases reveal geometry-related rupture propagation in a
 natural earthquake. Science Advances, 11(4), eadq0154. <u>https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.adq0154</u>
- 964 Yin, A., & Harrison, T. M. (2000). Geologic evolution of the Himalayan-Tibetan orogen. Annual 965 review of earth and planetary sciences, 28(1), 211-280.
- 966 <u>https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.earth.28.1.211</u>
- 967 Yu, Z. & Wang, W. (2022). FastLink: a machine learning and GPU-based fast phase association
- method and its application to Yangbi Ms 6.4 aftershock sequences, Geophysical Journal
 International, 230(1), 673–683, https://doi.org/10.1093/gji/ggac088
- 970 Yun, J., Gabriel, A. A., May, D. A., & Fialko, Y. (2025). Controls of Dynamic and Static Stress
- 971 Changes and Aseismic Slip on Delayed Earthquake Triggering in Rate-and-State Simulations of
- 972 the 2019 Ridgecrest Earthquake Sequence, J. Geophys. Res., in review,
- 973 <u>https://doi.org/10.31223/X55983</u>
- 274 Zhao, X. and Meng, L. Peng, G. & He, X. (2025). Aftershock Evolution Characteristics of the 28
- 975 March 2025 Mw7.7 Myanmar Earthquake Sequence. Earthquake Sciences, in review,
- 976 http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.5253293
- 977 Zor, E., Z. Peng, M. Ergin, E. Sandvol, F. Sevim, M. C. Tapırdamaz, P. Mach, O. Yalvaç, A.
- 978 Tarancıoğlu, M. K. Koşma, O. Adeboboye, C. Ding, C. Açıkgöz, and E. Büyük (2025), Dense
- 979 Seismic Recordings of the 2023 Kahramanmaraş Earthquake Sequence in Southeastern Türkiye.
- 980 Seismol. Res. Lett., https://doi.org/10.1785/0220240152



Supplementary Figure 1: Earthquakes recorded along the fault rupture zone one year before the M7.7 Sagaing earthquake mainshock. (a) Latitudes versus occurrence times for earthquakes near Sagaing fault recorded based on TMD catalog one year before the mainshock. (b) The location map view of the earthquakes one year before the mainshock.

Supplementary Table: Catalog of earthquakes 3 hours after the Sagaing mainshock. For Original Catalog: U for USGS, T for TMD, and E for EMSC. Potential overlapping events in three catalogs are highlighted alternatively in blue and yellow.

Datetime (UTC)	Latitude	Longitude	Depth	Magnitude	Magnitude Type	Original Catalog
2025-03-28 06:20:52.709	22.0014	95.9247	10.0	7.7	mww	U
2025-03-28 06:20:54.000	21.991	95.935	10.0	7.7	Mw	Е
2025-03-28 06:20:55.000	21.682	96.121	10.0	8.2	Ms	Т
2025-03-28 06:32:04.777	21.6975	95.969	10.0	6.7	mww	U
2025-03-28 06:32:05.000	21.759	95.991	10.0	6.7	Mw	Е
2025-03-28 06:32:10.000	21.415	96.383	10.0	7.1	Ms	Т
2025-03-28 06:39:15.000	19.971	95.821	10.0	4.8	mb	Е
2025-03-28 06:39:15.041	19.9711	95.8212	10.0	4.8	mb	U
2025-03-28 06:42:24.000	21.898	95.837	10.0	4.9	mb	Е
2025-03-28 06:42:24.866	21.898	95.8365	10.0	4.9	mb	U
2025-03-28 06:45:44.000	19.17	96.254	10.0	5.5	Ms	Т
2025-03-28 06:45:45.000	19.244	96.3	13.0	4.9	mb	Е
2025-03-28 06:45:45.503	19.3005	96.2925	10.0	4.9	mb	U
2025-03-28 06:54:31.000	18.037	96.512	10.0	4.4	Ms	Т
2025-03-28 06:57:53.711	22.0976	96.0667	10.0	4.5	mb	U
2025-03-28 07:01:28.860	22.0534	95.8669	10.0	4.4	mb	U
2025-03-28 07:24:25.000	18.697	96.871	10.0	4.0	Ms	Т

2025-03-28 07:27:47.000	22.684	95.769	10.0	4.6	mb	Е
2025-03-28 07:27:47.947	22.7236	95.8606	10.0	4.6	mb	U
2025-03-28 07:33:00.000	25.57	90.58	5.0	4.0	М	Е
2025-03-28 07:33:37.000	22.647	95.775	10.0	4.4	mb	E
2025-03-28 07:33:37.783	22.628	95.7357	10.0	4.4	mb	U
2025-03-28 07:36:58.000	22.769	95.895	10.0	4.6	mb	E
2025-03-28 07:36:58.799	22.7673	95.8531	10.0	4.6	mb	U
2025-03-28 07:37:16.000	21.767	96.696	10.0	5.2	Ms	Т
2025-03-28 07:42:36.000	20.022	96.863	10.0	4.3	mb	E
2025-03-28 07:42:37.052	20.0771	96.9762	10.0	4.3	mb	U
2025-03-28 07:42:42.000	18.549	96.716	10.0	3.9	Ms	Т
2025-03-28 07:49:21.000	19.527	98.547	3.0	3.3	Ms	Т
2025-03-28 07:50:43.000	18.967	96.416	10.0	3.5	Ms	Т
2025-03-28 07:57:00.000	22.479	95.876	10.0	4.5	mb	Е
2025-03-28 07:57:00.754	22.5423	95.8338	10.0	4.5	mb	U
2025-03-28 07:57:07.000	21.552	96.337	10.0	4.7	Ms	Т
2025-03-28 07:59:08.865	22.2037	96.117	10.0	4.3	mb	U
2025-03-28 07:59:55.000	24.96	94.69	10.0	4.3	М	Е
2025-03-28 08:21:22.000	18.77	96.608	10.0	4.0	М	Е
2025-03-28 08:21:22.000	18.77	96.608	10.0	4.0	Ms	Т

	6 40 45	101000	10.0	1.0		
2025-03-28 08:33:16.920	6.4042	124.5678	10.0	4.2	mb	U
2025-03-28 08:33:17.000	6.68	124.57	10.0	3.5	М	Е
2025-03-28 08:45:57.000	19.366	96.389	10.0	3.7	Ms	Т
2025-03-28 08:45:57.000	19.366	96.389	10.0	3.7	М	Е
2025-03-28 08:52:00.000	19.007	96.518	10.0	3.8	М	Е
2025-03-28 08:52:00.000	19.007	96.518	10.0	3.8	Ms	Т
2025-03-28 09:06:18.000	20.769	96.469	10.0	4.2	М	Е
2025-03-28 09:06:18.000	20.769	96.469	10.0	4.2	Ms	Т
2025-03-28 09:11:46.000	19.925	96.377	10.0	3.8	М	Е
2025-03-28 09:11:46.000	19.925	96.377	10.0	3.8	Ms	Т
2025-03-28 09:18:13.000	19.531	98.551	1.0	3.1	Ms	Т
2025-03-28 09:18:28.000	23.522	95.37	10.0	4.4	mb	Е
2025-03-28 09:18:28.345	23.5224	95.3699	10.0	4.4	mb	U
2025-03-28 09:26:46.000	21.639	97.7	10.0	4.1	mb	Е
2025-03-28 09:26:46.362	21.6385	97.7004	10.0	4.1	mb	U
2025-03-28 09:26:47.000	19.857	96.332	10.0	4.3	Ms	Т