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15 **Supplementary Note S1: Spectral ratio analysis**

16 We performed spectral ratio analysis to examine the non-self-similarity of the GP  
17 events. In this analysis, the AE waveforms of the GP events were used without cor-  
18 recting for instrumental response, sensor coupling factors, or attenuation effects. An  
19 80 kHz fourth-order Butterworth high-pass filter was applied to remove long-period  
20 noise. Then, the P-wave window was trimmed from 1  $\mu$ s before to 6  $\mu$ s after the P-wave  
21 onset. The amplitude spectra of the P-wave window were computed by zero-padding  
22 to 256 data points after demeaning, detrending, and applying a 20% Tukey window.  
23 The spectral ratio was obtained by dividing the amplitude spectra of the largest event  
24 (D129) by those of the smaller events (D24, D50, D52, and D72), representing the  
25 ratio of the source spectra under the assumption that the instrumental response and  
26 path effects were canceled out. Finally, the mean spectral ratio was computed by  
27 averaging the spectral ratios obtained from the four AE sensors located near P3.

28 **Supplementary Note S2: Measurements of GP physical  
29 properties**

30 **S2.1: Normal pressure**

31 To evaluate the normal stress concentration caused by the topographic gap on GP, we  
32 investigated the pressure distribution on GP using a pressure-sensitive film, **Prescale**  
33 LW (Fujifilm), with a measurement range of 2.5 MPa to 10 MPa. A set of cylindrical  
34 rock specimens (diameter = 25 mm) was installed in a uniaxial pressure machine, with  
35 a GP (diameter = 8 mm) placed between them. We inserted a two-sheet type Prescale  
36 film on the GP, following the instructions provided by **Prescale**, and then applied  
37 normal stress. The pressure was increased to 2.0 MPa over a two-minute period and  
38 then held constant for another two minutes. Afterward, the load was released, and  
39 the discolored film was analyzed.

40 To convert the color density into pressure values, we used the **Prescale Mobile**  
41 app. The discolored film was scanned using an iPad Pro 11-inch (1st generation),  
42 placed on a color calibration sheet specifically designed for pressure scanning with  
43 **Prescale Mobile**.

44 **S2.2: Topography**

45 We placed the GP on a 40-mm cubic rock specimen fixed on a servo-controlled  
46 moving stage. We continuously measured the height using a laser displacement trans-  
47 ducer (LT-9010M, Keyence; minimum vertical resolution:  $\sim 10$  nm) with moving the  
48 stage, and obtained the two-dimensional topography of the GP from the height data  
49 (horizontal resolution: 50  $\mu$ m).

50 **Supplementary Note S3: Least-squares method for estimating  
51 the ARX model of the AE sensor**

52 We review the auto-regressive model with exogenous input (ARX), following [Ljung](#)  
53 ([1987](#)), to derive the least-squares estimation of the model parameters. The ARX

54 model is formulated as follows:

$$y_k = \frac{B(q)}{A(q)} u_k + \frac{1}{A(q)} e_k, \quad (\text{S1})$$

55 where  $u_k$  and  $y_k$  are the discrete time series of the input and output on the system,  
 56 corresponding to the LDV and AE sensor measurements in this study, respectively.  
 57 The time index  $k$  is defined such that  $t = (k - 1)\Delta t$ , where  $\Delta t$  is the data time step.  
 58 The term  $q$  is the time shift operator, satisfying  $q^{-1}y_k = y_{k-1}$ , and  $e_k$  denotes white  
 59 noise. The polynomials  $A(q)$  and  $B(q)$  are defined as:

$$A(q) = 1 + a_1 q^{-1} + \cdots + a_m q^{-m}$$

$$B(q) = b_0 + b_1 q^{-1} + \cdots + b_n q^{-n},$$

60 where  $m$  and  $n$  are the numbers of poles and zeros, respectively (see also [SEED Reference Manual, 2012](#), Appendix C). Note that we include  $b_0$  as a model parameter,  
 61 following [McLaskey and Glaser \(2012\)](#). To handle negative time values, we padded  
 62 zero to the input and output data accordingly.

63 The one-step predictor for Equation (S1) is given by:

$$\hat{y}_k(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \boldsymbol{\phi}_k^T \boldsymbol{\theta}, \quad (\text{S2})$$

64 where  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  indicates the vector of model parameters:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m, b_0, b_1, \dots, b_n]^T, \quad (\text{S3})$$

65 and  $\boldsymbol{\phi}_k$  is a column vector of inputs and outputs:

$$\boldsymbol{\phi}_k = [-y_{k-1}, -y_{k-2}, \dots, -y_{k-m}, u_k, u_{k-1}, \dots, u_{k-n}]^T. \quad (\text{S4})$$

66 The prediction error  $\varepsilon_k(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  is defined as:

$$\varepsilon_k(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = y_k - \boldsymbol{\phi}_k^T \boldsymbol{\theta}. \quad (\text{S5})$$

67 The cost function  $\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  is formulated as:

$$\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{2} [y_k - \boldsymbol{\phi}_k^T \boldsymbol{\theta}]^2, \quad (\text{S6})$$

68 where  $N$  is the number of input and output data points.

69 Following the Problem 7D.2 of [Ljung \(1987\)](#), we expand the cost function as:

$$\begin{aligned} \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}) &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{2} [y_k - \boldsymbol{\phi}_k^T \boldsymbol{\theta}]^2 \\ &= \boldsymbol{\theta}^T A \boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}^T B - B^T \boldsymbol{\theta} + C, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S7})$$

71 where

$$A = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \phi_k \phi_k^T,$$
$$B = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \phi_k y_k,$$
$$C = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N y_k^2.$$

72 The right-hand side of Equation (S7) can be rewritten as

$$[\boldsymbol{\theta} - A^{-1}B]^T A [\boldsymbol{\theta} - A^{-1}B] + C - B^T A^{-1}B. \quad (S8)$$

73 Since  $A$  is a positive symmetric semidefinite matrix, Equation (S8) is minimized when:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} - A^{-1}B = \mathbf{0}, \quad (S9)$$

75 which results in the least-squares estimate of the model parameters:

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \phi_k \phi_k^T \right]^{-1} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \phi_k y_k. \quad (S10)$$

76 **Supplementary Note S4: Modeling waveform propagation  
77 generated by ball-drop impact**

78 We modeled waveform propagation in a 2.0 m segment of the bottom rock specimen,  
79 applying a perfectly matched layer (PML) absorbing boundaries on the longitudinal  
80 side surfaces. The velocity model consisted of the rock specimen with a uniform veloc-  
81 ity structure (Table S4) with a 20 mm thick steel base plate with elastic properties of  
82  $\rho = 7.85 \text{ g/cm}^3$ ,  $c_p = 5.9 \text{ km/s}$ ,  $c_s = 3.23 \text{ km/s}$ , as referenced in [McLaskey and Glaser \(2010\)](#).  
83 A uniform grid spacing of 0.5 mm was set to achieve a resolution of more than  
84 10 grid points per wavelength at 600 kHz. The force-time function of the ball-drop  
85 source was derived following the formulation of [McLaskey and Glaser \(2010\)](#). To effi-  
86 ciently compute the Green's function, we calculated the relative positions of the AE  
87 sensor and ball-drop source and used the reciprocity mode in [OpenSWPC](#), allowing the  
88 simulation to be completed in a single run.

89 **Supplementary Note S5: Method to constrain the sensor  
90 coupling factor using ball-drop impact**

91 The residual of the P-wave amplitude used to optimize the sensor coupling factor is  
92 defined as:

$$\min \|A_{ij}^{\text{obs}} - \hat{A}_{ij}\|, \quad (S11)$$

93 where  $A_{ij}^{\text{obs}}$  is the amplitude of the observed waveform, corrected for the instrumental  
 94 response, recorded by the  $i$ -th AE sensor from the  $j$ -th ball-drop source. The modeled  
 95 amplitude  $\hat{A}_{ij}$  is expressed as:

$$\hat{A}_{ij} = A_{ij}^{\text{model}} S_i T_j \beta(\omega, \theta), \quad (\text{S12})$$

96 where  $A_{ij}^{\text{model}}$  is the P-wave amplitude of the simulated waveform,  $S_i$  is the sensor  
 97 coupling factor for the  $i$ th AE sensor,  $T_j$  is a correction factor accounting for variations  
 98 in the ball-drop impact at the  $j$ -th source, and  $\beta(\omega, \theta)$  is the aperture effect factor  
 99 (Miller and McIntire, 1987; McLaskey and Glaser, 2012), as defined in Equation (2) of  
 100 the main text. To account for variability in the impact amplitude on the fault surface,  
 101 we incorporated the factor  $T_j$  into the amplitude model proposed by Kwiatek et al.  
 102 (2014). This compensates for deviations from the estimates based on Hertzian contact  
 103 theory, which may arise due to variations in the fault surface state. We assumed a  
 104 constant quality factor of  $Q_p^{\text{const}} = 200$  in the simulated waveforms to compute  $A_{ij}^{\text{model}}$ ,  
 105 as described in the Methods section of the main text. The P-wave amplitudes for both  
 106 observed and modeled waveforms were determined as the maximum value within the  
 107 P-wave window of the vertical velocity component on the side surface of the rock  
 108 specimen after applying a 10–400 kHz band-pass filter.

109 We excluded the source-station pairs with a source distance greater than 400 mm.  
 110 We also computed the arrival time difference between the direct P-wave and the  
 111 reflected P-wave from the side surface of the rock specimen. Pairs with an arrival time  
 112 difference smaller than 6  $\mu\text{s}$  were excluded to avoid potential bias from variations in  
 113 the incident angles of the reflected wave. As a result, 117 source-station pairs were used  
 114 to constrain the amplitude factors  $S_i$ ,  $T_j$ , and the angular frequency  $\omega$  of the incident  
 115 wave. The model parameters in Equation (S12) were optimized using the `lsqnonlin`  
 116 function in the MATLAB Optimization Toolbox, with the `trust-region-reflective`  
 117 algorithm.

118 **Supplementary Note S6: Derivation of aperture effect for  
 119 arbitrary incident angle**

120 We derive the aperture effect factor for an arbitrary incident angle, extending the  
 121 formulation originally developed for Rayleigh waves (incident angle  $\theta = \pi/2$ ) by Miller  
 122 and McIntire (1987, p. 128, Equation 4). The sensor response is evaluated as the  
 123 average local amplitude over the sensor surface, given by the following equation:

$$y(t, \theta) = \frac{1}{\pi R^2} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^R u(t, \theta, r, \phi) r dr d\phi, \quad (\text{S13})$$

124 where  $y(t, \theta)$  is an output of the sensor,  $\theta$  is an incident angle of a given plane wave,  
 125  $R$  is the sensor radius, and  $u(t, \theta, r, \phi)$  is the local motion at the polar coordinate  
 126  $(r, \phi)$  on the sensor surface (Fig. S19). Note that  $u$  can represent either displacement  
 127 or velocity, depending on the characteristics of the AE sensor response.

128 The time difference  $\Delta t$  in wave arrival between the center of the sensor and a local  
 129 position  $(r, \phi)$  on the sensor surface is given by:

$$\Delta t = \frac{r \cos \phi \sin \theta}{v} = \frac{r \cos \phi}{v_a}, \quad (\text{S14})$$

130 where  $v$  is the wave speed in the medium and  $v_a = v / \sin \theta$  is the apparent velocity  
 131 of the wavefront projected along the sensor surface.

132 Assuming that the incident wave is a cosine wave with angular frequency  $\omega$ , the  
 133 sensor response can be evaluated as the spatial average of the local motion over the  
 134 sensor surface. The local motion at a point on the surface is expressed as:

$$u(t, \omega, \theta, r, \phi) = \cos [\omega (t + r \cos \phi / v_a)], \quad (\text{S15})$$

135 Thus, the sensor surface response becomes:

$$y(t, \omega, \theta) = \frac{1}{\pi R^2} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^R \cos [\omega (t + r \cos \phi / v_a)] r dr d\phi. \quad (\text{S16})$$

136 The next step is to evaluate the integral in Equation (S16) using the following  
 137 formulas:

1.

$$J_0(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^{iz \cos \phi} d\phi \quad (\text{S17})$$

2.

$$\int az J_0(az) dz = z J_1(az), \quad (\text{S18})$$

138 where  $J_0(z)$  and  $J_1(z)$  are the Bessel functions of the first kind. Equation (S17) can be  
 139 derived from [Watson \(1944, section 2.2 Equation 5\)](#) by setting  $\alpha = -\pi/2$ . Equation  
 140 (S18) is obtained from [Watson \(1944, section 2.1.2, Equations 3 and 5\)](#) by replacing  
 141  $z$  to  $az$  and performing the integral.

142 We rewrite Equation (S16) as follows:

$$y(t, \omega, \theta) = \frac{1}{\pi R^2} \Re \left[ \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^R e^{i\omega(t+r \cos \phi / v_a)} r dr d\phi \right]. \quad (\text{S19})$$

143 The integral can be simplified using the formula from Equations (S17) and (S18) as  
 144 follows:

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^R e^{i\omega(t+r \cos \phi / v_a)} r dr d\phi = \frac{2\pi R v_a}{\omega} e^{i\omega t} J_1 \left( \frac{\omega R}{v_a} \right). \quad (\text{S20})$$

145 Thus, the sensor response  $y$  with the aperture effect factor is given by:

$$y(t, \omega, \theta) = \frac{2v_a}{\omega R} J_1 \left( \frac{\omega R}{v_a} \right) \cos (\omega t). \quad (\text{S21})$$

<sup>146</sup> The coefficient of  $\cos(\omega t)$  is used as the amplitude correction factor for the aperture  
<sup>147</sup> effect. Note that we define this factor as unity for  $\theta = 0$ . This amplitude factor  
<sup>148</sup> corresponds to the one proposed by [Miller and McIntire \(1987, Equation 4\)](#) for surface  
<sup>149</sup> waves, which is given by:

$$y(t, \omega, \frac{\pi}{2}) = \frac{2J_1(kR)}{kR} \cos(\omega t), \quad (S22)$$

<sup>150</sup> where  $k = \omega/v$ .

<sup>151</sup> **Supplementary Note S7: Configurations for dynamic rupture**  
<sup>152</sup> **modeling using UGUCA**

<sup>153</sup> We assumed a uniform, linear elastic medium with the elastic properties listed in  
<sup>154</sup> Table S4. To minimize periodic boundary artifacts, the computational domain was set  
<sup>155</sup> to  $40 \text{ mm} \times 40 \text{ mm}$ , which is ten times the PCH radius. The grid resolution was set to  
<sup>156</sup> 0.04 mm, ensuring a minimum of 20 grid points per  $R_c$  for all target events. The time  
<sup>157</sup> step was set to 3.3 ns, and the total simulation time was 6  $\mu\text{s}$ . The simulations were  
<sup>158</sup> performed on the HPC cluster at NIED, with each case run using 96 cores in parallel.

**Table S1** Observed source parameters for 33 GP events, after correction for attenuation. The standard deviation ( $\sigma^{\text{obs}}$ ) and standard error ( $SE^{\text{obs}}$ ) are calculated from the four AE sensors used in the source parameter estimation.

	$M_0^{\text{obs}}$ [Nm]	$T_w^{\text{obs}}$ [ $\mu$ s]	$\sigma_{M_0}^{\text{obs}}$ [Nm]	$\sigma_{T_w}^{\text{obs}}$ [ $\mu$ s]	$SE_{M_0}^{\text{obs}}$ [Nm]	$SE_{T_w}^{\text{obs}}$ [ $\mu$ s]
D4	0.594	2.558	0.179	0.152	0.090	0.076
D9	0.047	2.347	0.007	0.363	0.004	0.182
D18	0.758	2.865	0.194	0.311	0.097	0.155
D19	0.056	2.485	0.017	0.270	0.009	0.135
D20	0.867	2.767	0.210	0.138	0.105	0.069
D21	0.022	2.336	0.003	0.206	0.002	0.103
D24	0.066	2.462	0.021	0.283	0.011	0.141
D27	0.764	2.553	0.211	0.202	0.105	0.101
D31	0.975	2.584	0.263	0.216	0.131	0.108
D38	0.272	2.251	0.094	0.229	0.047	0.114
D40	0.204	2.161	0.039	0.199	0.020	0.100
D43	0.187	2.363	0.048	0.187	0.024	0.093
D44	0.070	2.448	0.016	0.330	0.008	0.165
D50	0.327	2.577	0.151	0.308	0.076	0.154
D52	0.482	2.601	0.125	0.206	0.062	0.103
D61	0.741	2.614	0.193	0.198	0.097	0.099
D62	0.591	2.539	0.165	0.176	0.083	0.088
D69	0.259	2.112	0.033	0.177	0.017	0.089
D72	0.811	2.605	0.182	0.173	0.091	0.087
D77	0.778	2.631	0.357	0.185	0.178	0.092
D85	0.485	2.292	0.133	0.205	0.066	0.103
D88	1.259	2.414	0.646	0.231	0.323	0.115
D89	0.492	2.475	0.130	0.156	0.065	0.078
D95	0.912	2.775	0.268	0.118	0.134	0.059
D99	0.826	2.950	0.244	0.232	0.122	0.116
D100	0.698	2.913	0.345	0.449	0.173	0.225
D109	0.697	2.794	0.303	0.186	0.151	0.093
D118	0.076	2.001	0.010	0.219	0.005	0.110
D120	0.779	2.757	0.352	0.245	0.176	0.122
D126	0.017	1.991	0.003	0.295	0.001	0.148
D128	0.013	2.234	0.002	0.232	0.001	0.116
D129	1.134	2.626	0.407	0.173	0.204	0.087
D131	0.719	2.495	0.243	0.082	0.121	0.041

**Table S2** Constrained parameters for the dynamic rupture models of non-self-similar GP target events.

	$\sigma_n^{\text{PCH}}$ [MPa]	$\Delta\sigma_{\text{ref}}$ [MPa]	$\bar{u}_0$ [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	$c$ -	$s$ -	$\tau_0^{\text{PCH}}$ [MPa]	$\Delta\tau$ [MPa]	$\mu_s$ -	$\mu_d$ -	$D_c$ [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	$D_s$ [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	$G_{IIC}$ [J/ $\text{m}^2$ ]	$R_c$ [mm]
M24	6.0	0.42	0.03	0.980	0.695	2.09	0.29	0.36	0.3	0.013	0.071	$2.18 \times 10^{-3}$	1.63
M50	6.0	2.11	0.16	0.925	0.495	2.84	1.04	0.51	0.3	0.034	0.186	$2.16 \times 10^{-2}$	1.13
M52	6.0	3.11	0.24	0.925	0.460	3.23	1.43	0.58	0.3	0.043	0.235	$3.62 \times 10^{-2}$	1.08
M72	6.0	5.22	0.40	0.925	0.430	4.05	2.25	0.73	0.3	0.058	0.321	$7.52 \times 10^{-2}$	0.97
M129	6.0	7.31	0.56	0.925	0.410	4.80	3.00	0.86	0.3	0.071	0.393	$1.21 \times 10^{-1}$	0.90

**Table S3** Source parameters for the optimized dynamic rupture models, estimated by fitting the cosine STF.

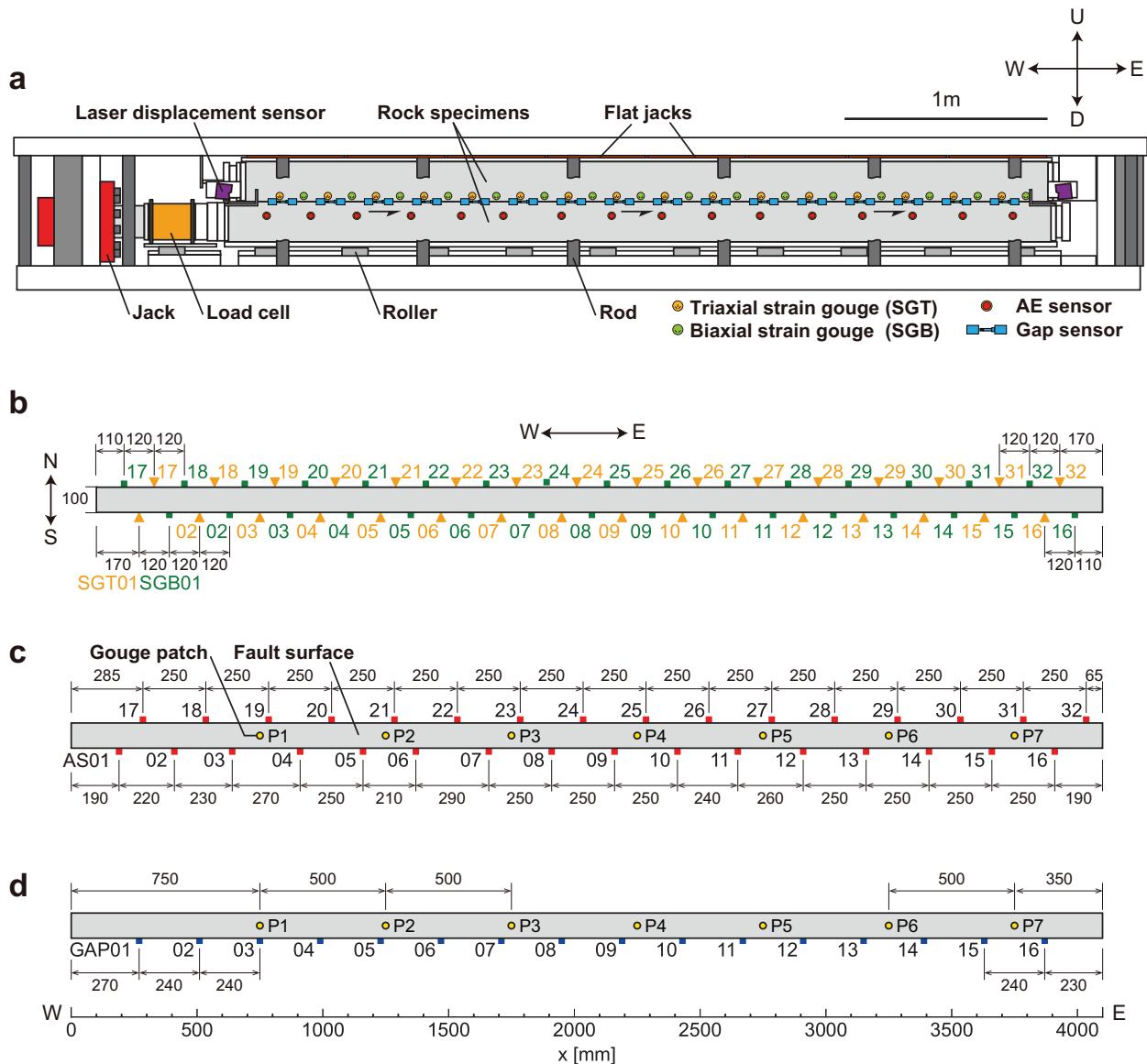
	$M_0^{\text{model}}$ [Nm]	$T_w^{\text{model}}$ [ $\mu\text{s}$ ]
M24	0.07	2.47
M50	0.31	2.57
M52	0.47	2.59
M72	0.82	2.61
M129	1.15	2.63

**Table S4** Elastic modulus of the rock specimen (metagabbro) used in waveform propagation modeling and dynamic rupture simulations.

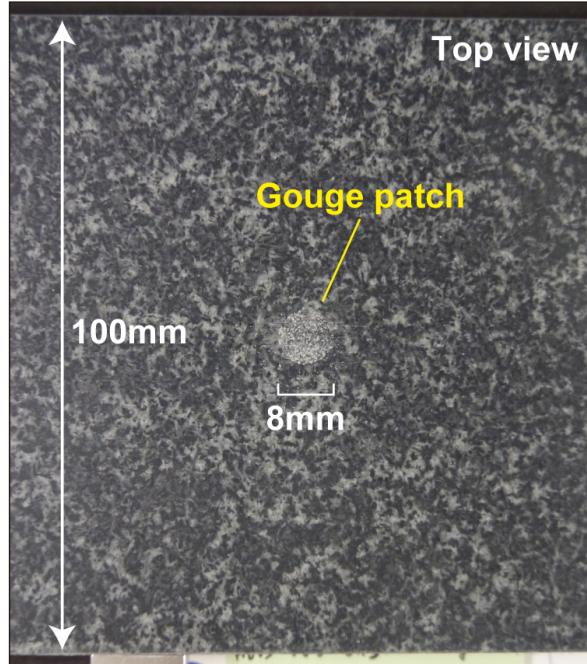
$\rho$ [g/ $\text{cm}^3$ ]	$c_p$ [km/s]	$c_s$ [km/s]	$E$ [GPa]	$G$ [GPa]	$\nu$ -
2.98 <sup>*1</sup>	6.2 <sup>*2</sup>	3.6 <sup>*2</sup>	96	39	0.246

<sup>\*1</sup> From Fukuyama et al. (2016).

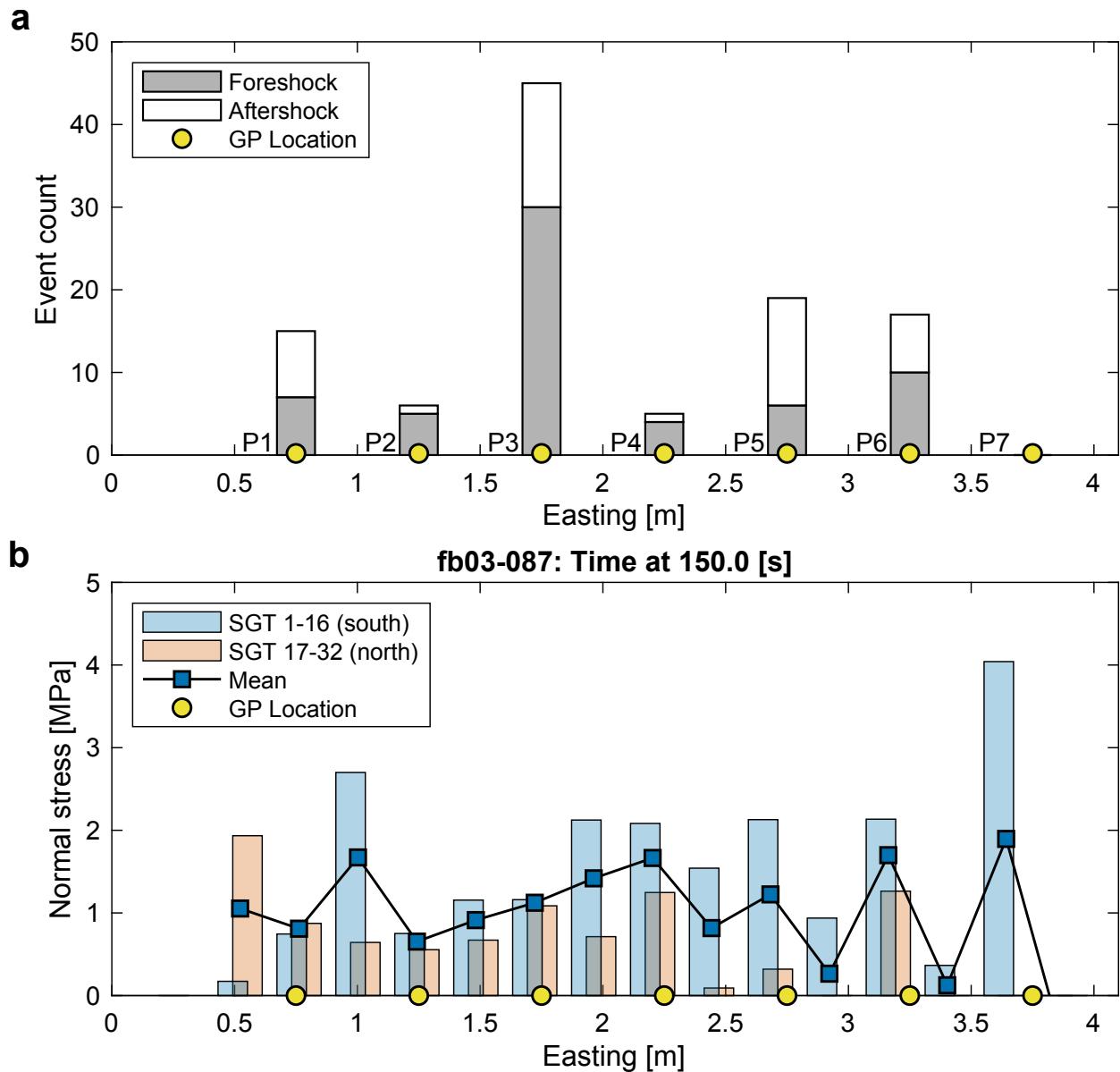
<sup>\*2</sup> Estimated based on the waveform speeds manually optimized during the relocation of GP events.



**Fig. S1 Sensor arrays for local measurements.** **a**, Schematic of the upper and lower rock specimens vertically stacked within the outer frames. Normal pressure and shear loading are applied using eight flat jacks and a horizontal jack, respectively. The upper rock specimen is fixed to the frame, while the lower specimen moves from west to east. **b**, Top view of the sensor arrays, including biaxial (SGB) and triaxial (SGT) strain gauges. **c**, Acoustic emission (AE) sensors. **d**, Gap sensors used to measure the relative displacement (i.e., fault slip) across the simulated fault. Yellow circles in **c** and **d** indicate the locations of gouge patches, labeled with their respective IDs.

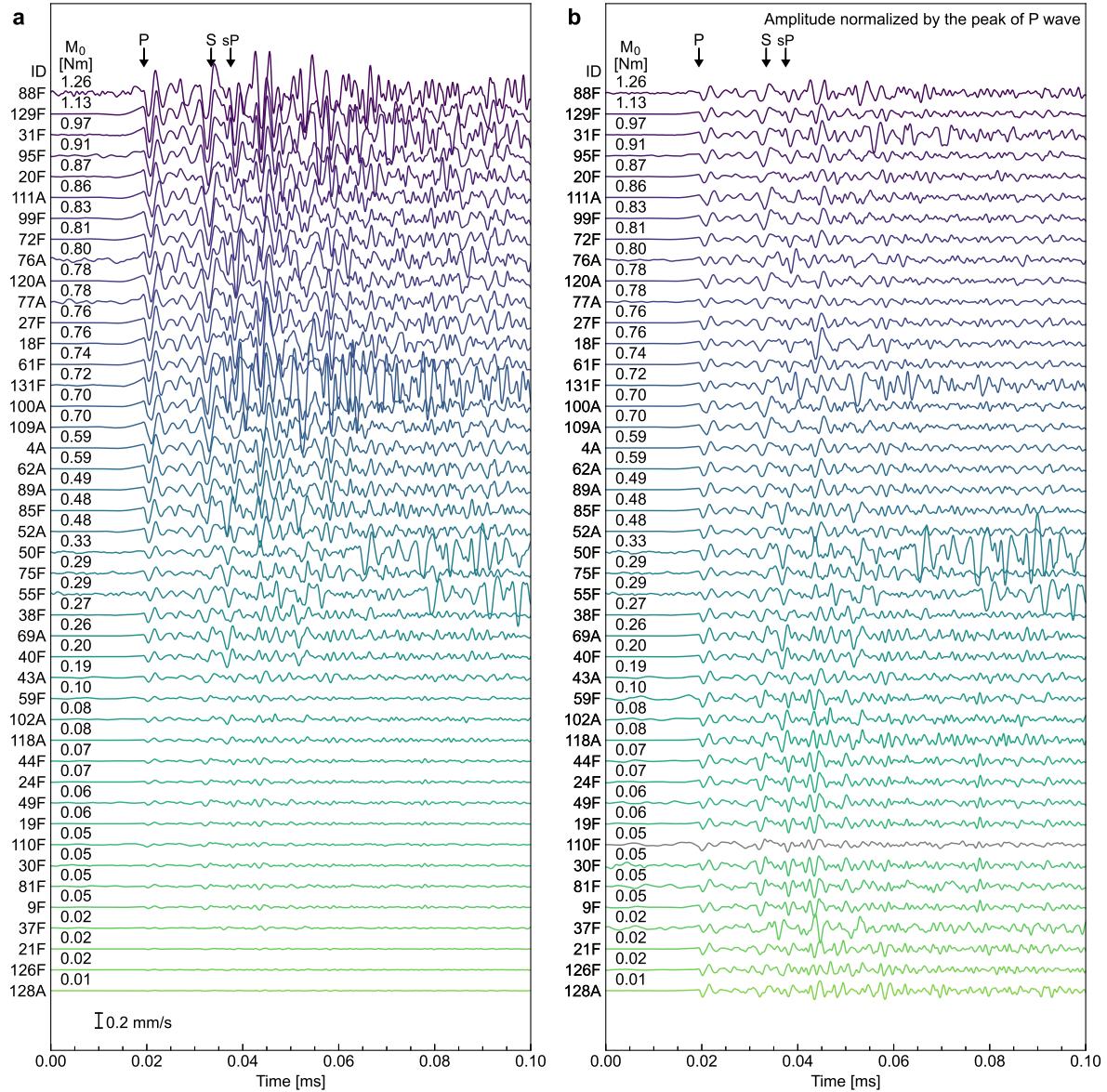
**a****b**

**Fig. S2** **Photographs of the gouge patch.** **a**, Top view of the GP placed on the fault surface of the bottom rock specimen at patch P3, taken prior to the stick-slip experiment. **b**, Oblique view of the GPs set on the fault. The bottom rock specimen can be pulled back to facilitate the placement of the GPs. Note that the photograph was taken after the removal of the AE sensors, which had been installed on the side surface of the bottom rock specimen.



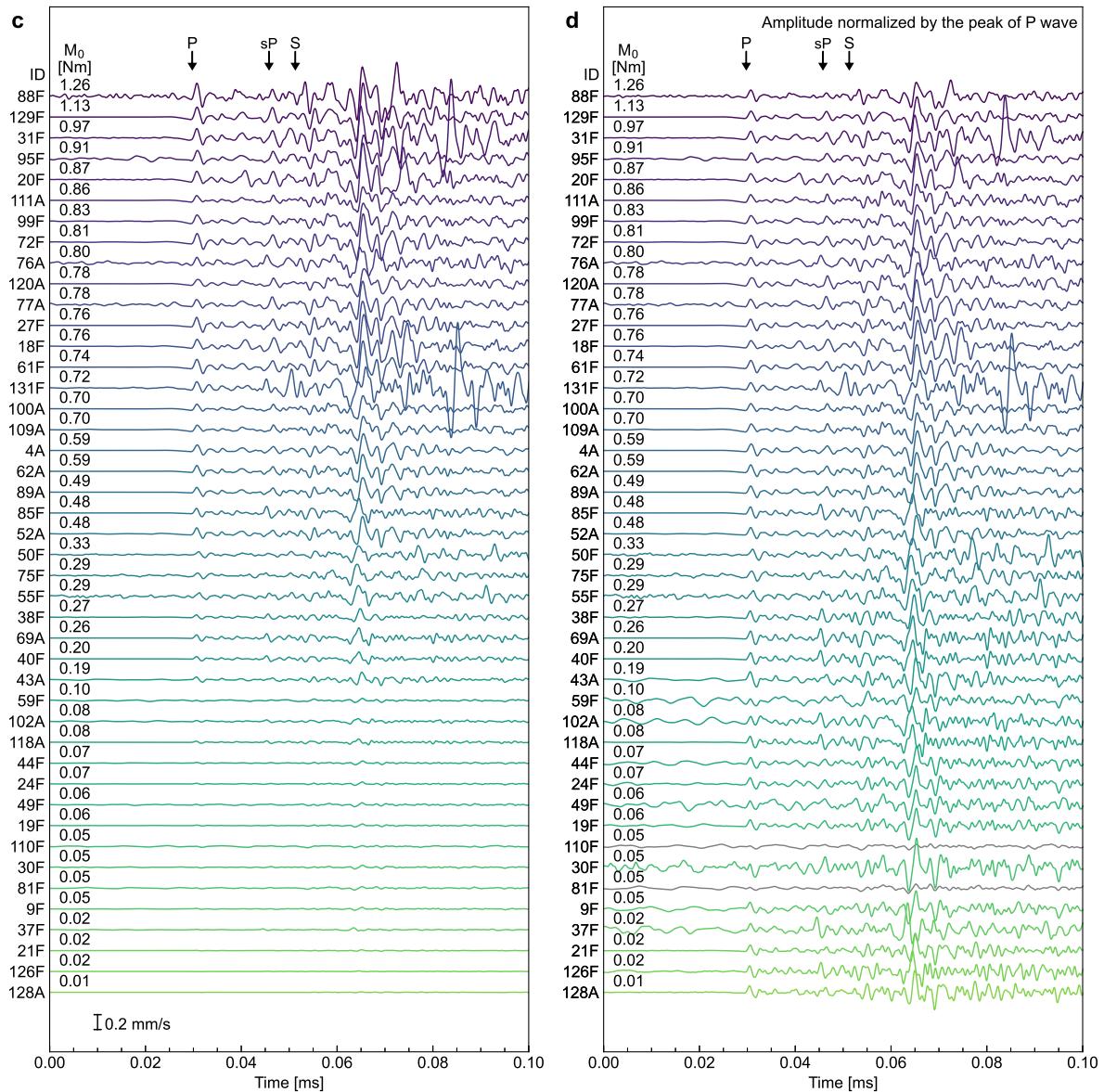
**Fig. S3 GP event activity.** **a**, Number of foreshocks and aftershocks observed during the stick-slip experiment. Patch P3 showed the highest level of activity and was used for the main analysis. **b**, Local normal stresses on the fault measured by strain gauges installed on the side surfaces of the top rock specimen. The stress asymmetry between the north and south sides is likely due to a slight contact imbalance along the fault.

Gouge patch location: P3, AS07: Source distance: 120.3 mm Band-pass filtered: 0.1-1 MHz



**Fig. S4 Collection of AE waveforms.** **a, c, e, g**, Velocity waveforms for fore- and aftershocks generated by P3, recorded by AE sensors AS07, AS08, AS22, and AS23, respectively. **b, d, f, h**, The same waveforms normalized by the P-wave amplitude. Annotations follow the same format as in Fig. 1d of the main text. A total of 44 GP events, including both foreshocks and aftershocks, are shown and labeled as 'F' and 'A' with event indices. In **b, d, f**, and **h**, waveforms with low signal-to-noise (S/N) ratios are shown in grey and normalized by a fixed constant. In **e** and **f**, the pS-converted wave reflected from the side surface of the rock specimen is also annotated.

Gouge patch location: P3, AS08: Source distance:184.6mm Band-pass filtered: 0.1-1 MHz



**Fig. S4** (continued)

Gouge patch location: P3, AS22: Source distance:228.4mm Band-pass filtered: 0.1-1 MHz

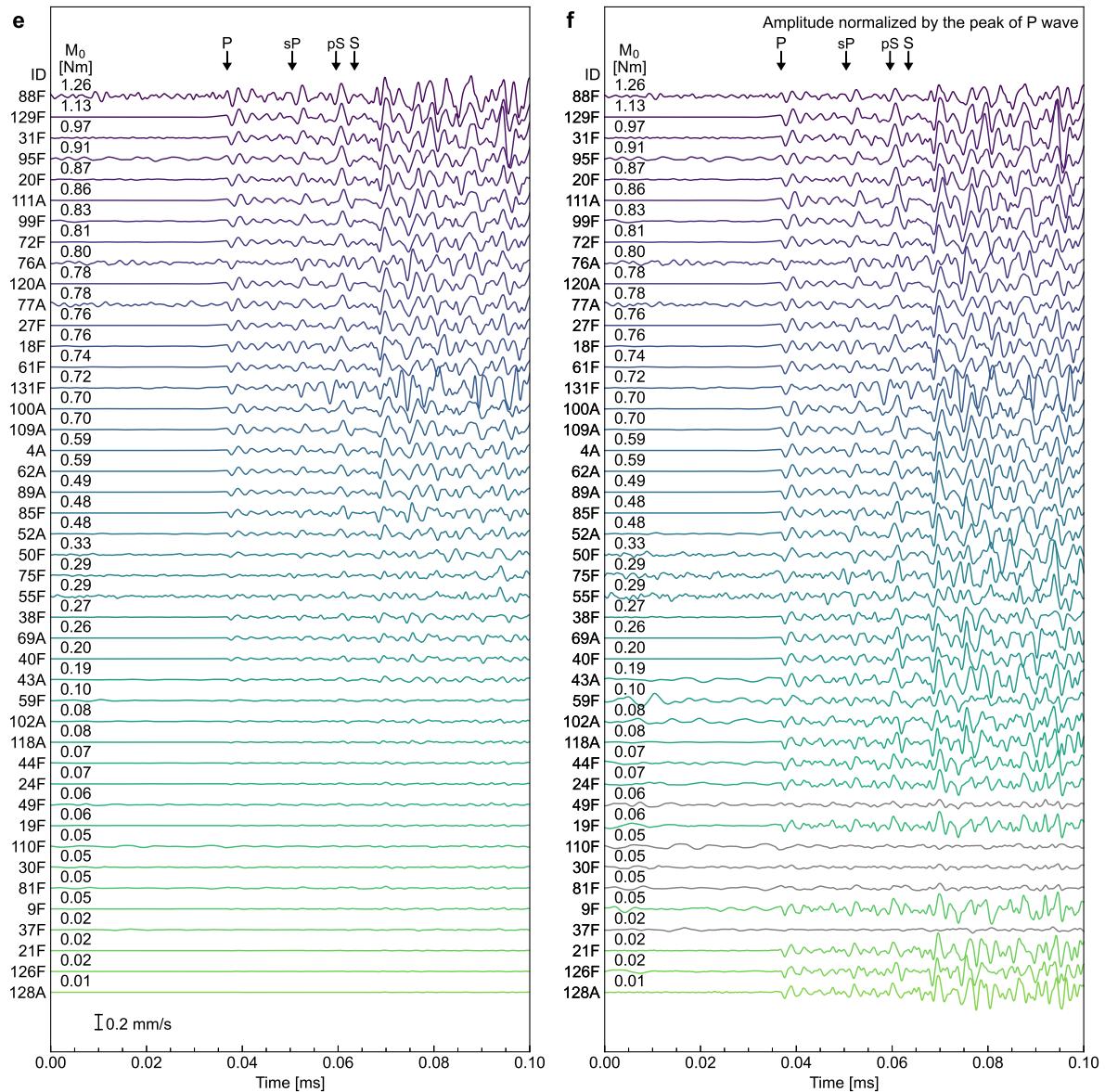
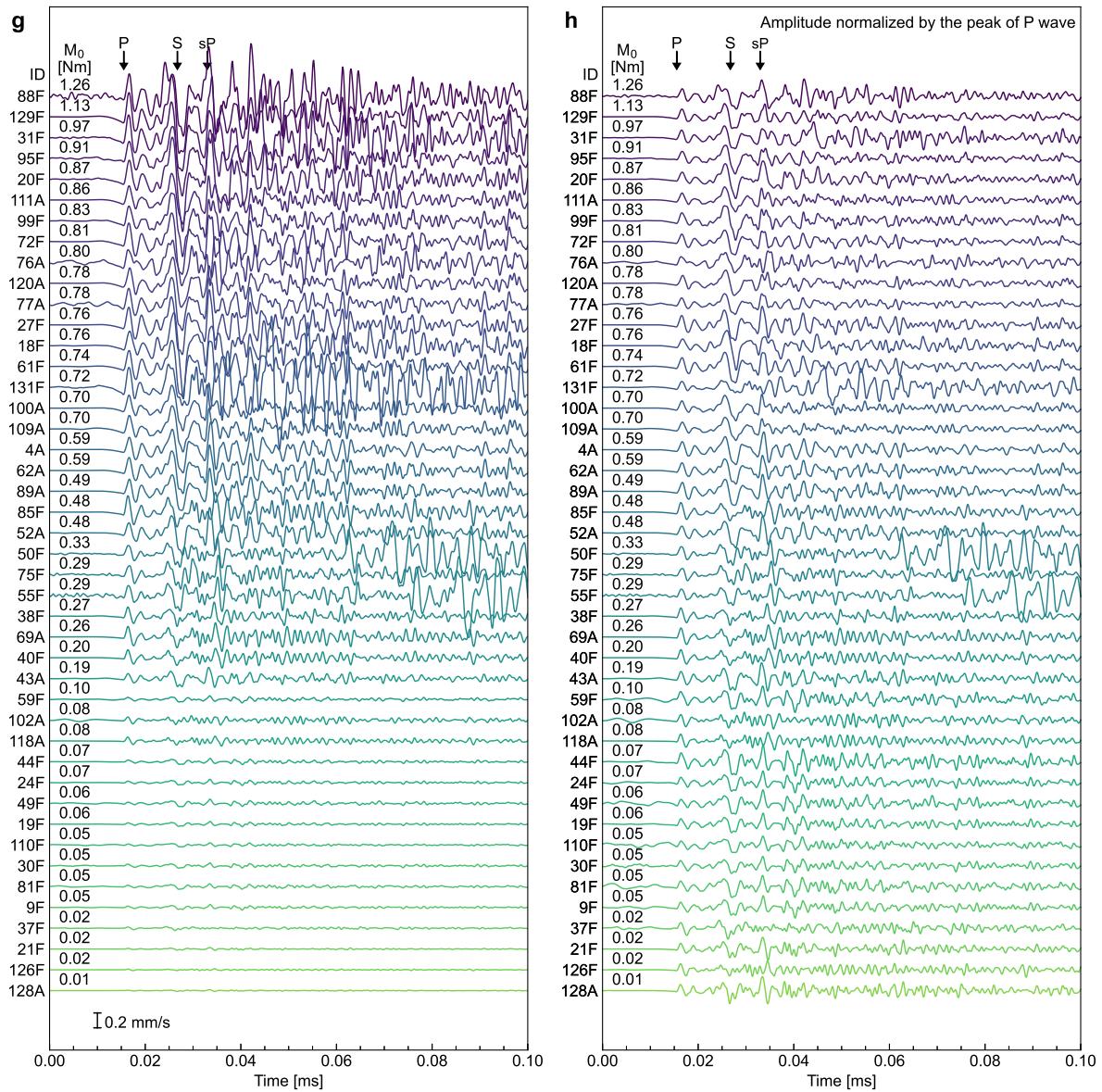
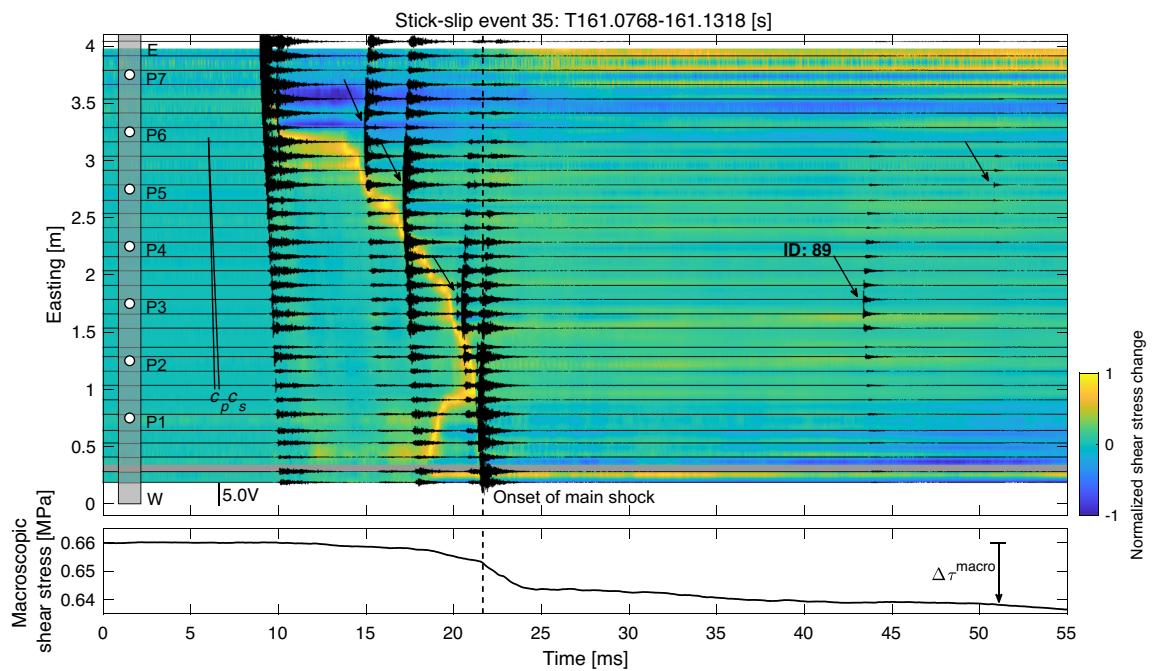


Fig. S4 (continued)

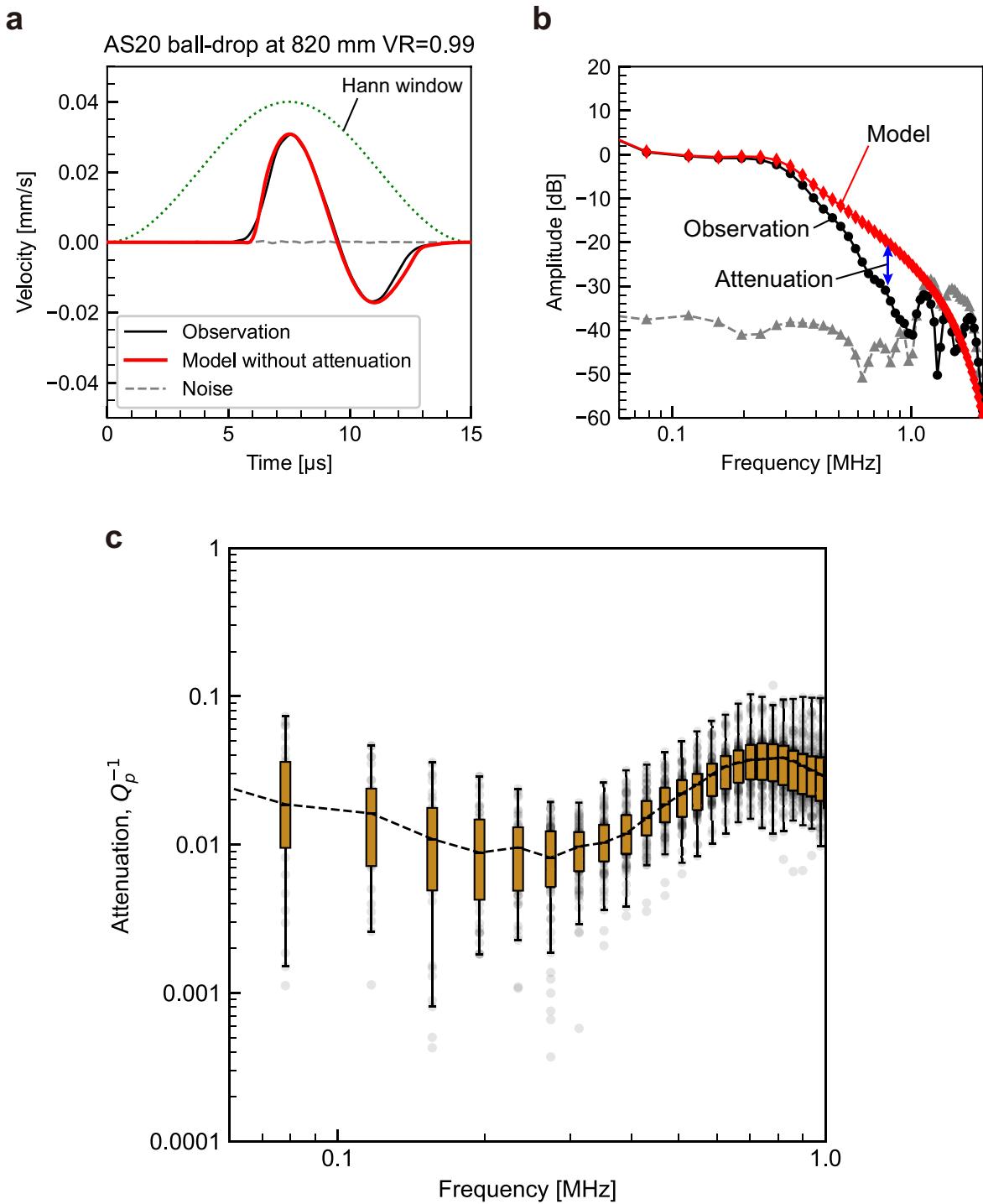
Gouge patch location: P3, AS23: Source distance:96.2mm Band-pass filtered: 0.1-1 MHz



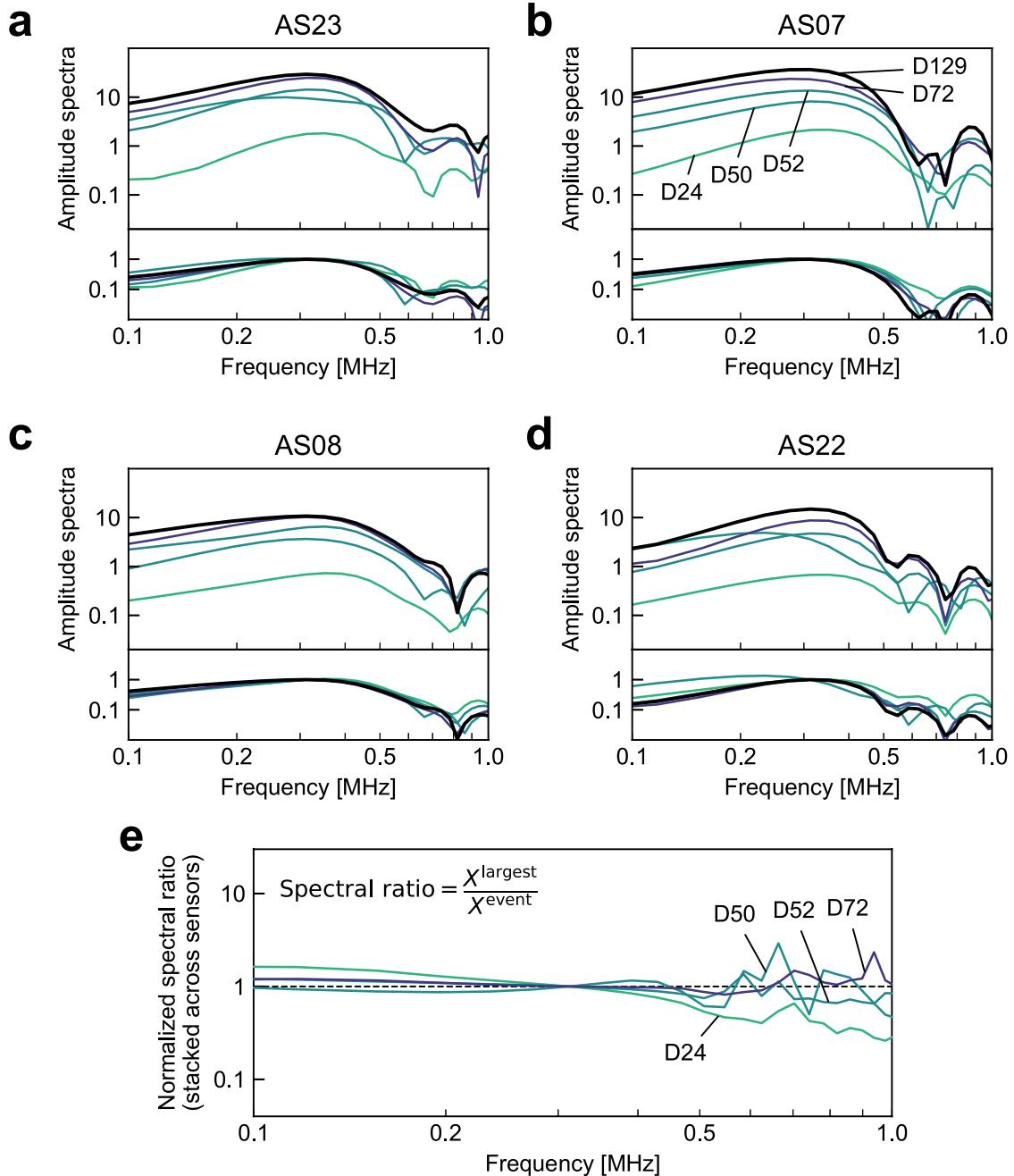
**Fig. S4** (continued)



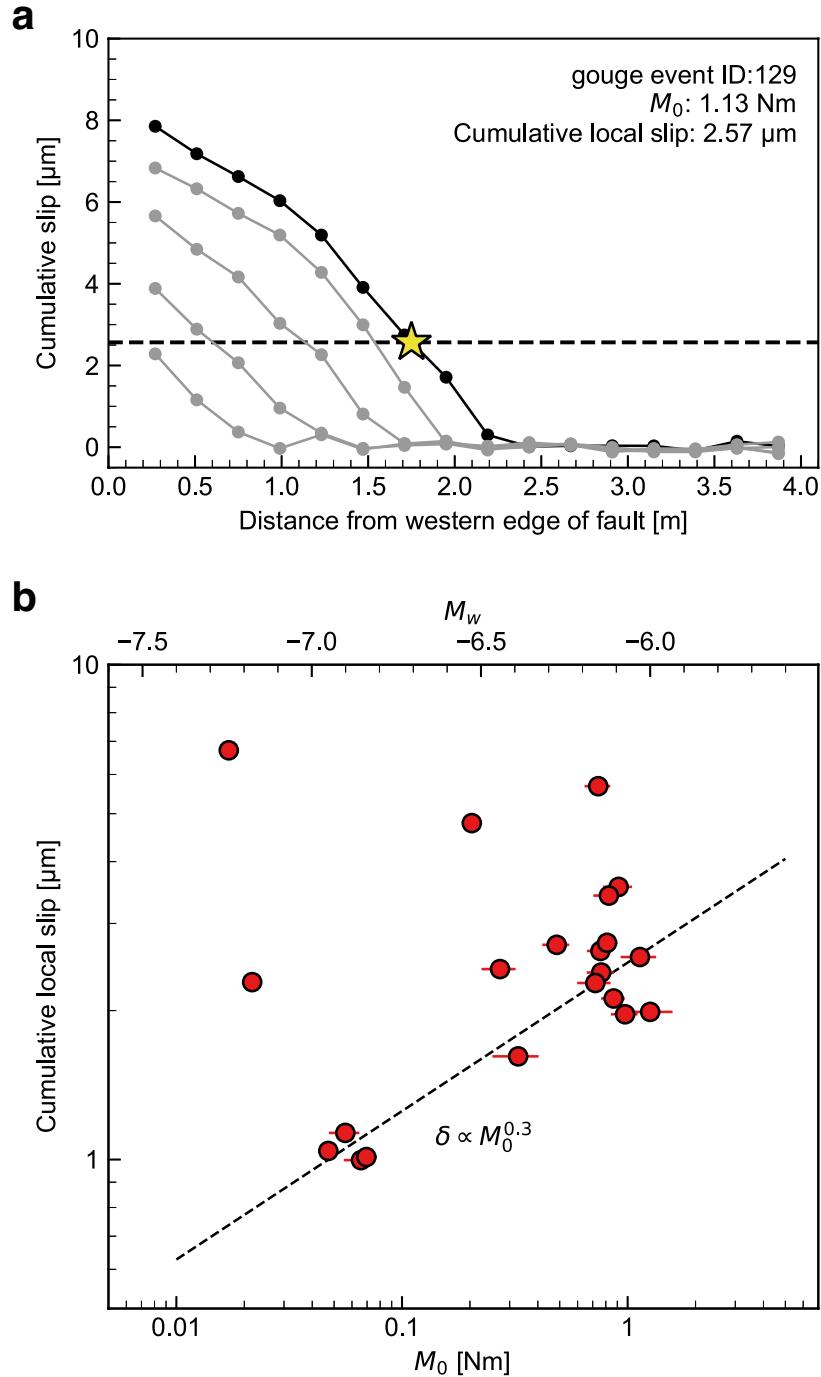
**Fig. S5** Observation of GP events during a stick-slip event ID35, including aftershocks, presented in a format similar to Fig. 2a in the main text. Aftershocks were detected during the stick-slip event, with GP event 89 showing a representative aftershock generated by P3.



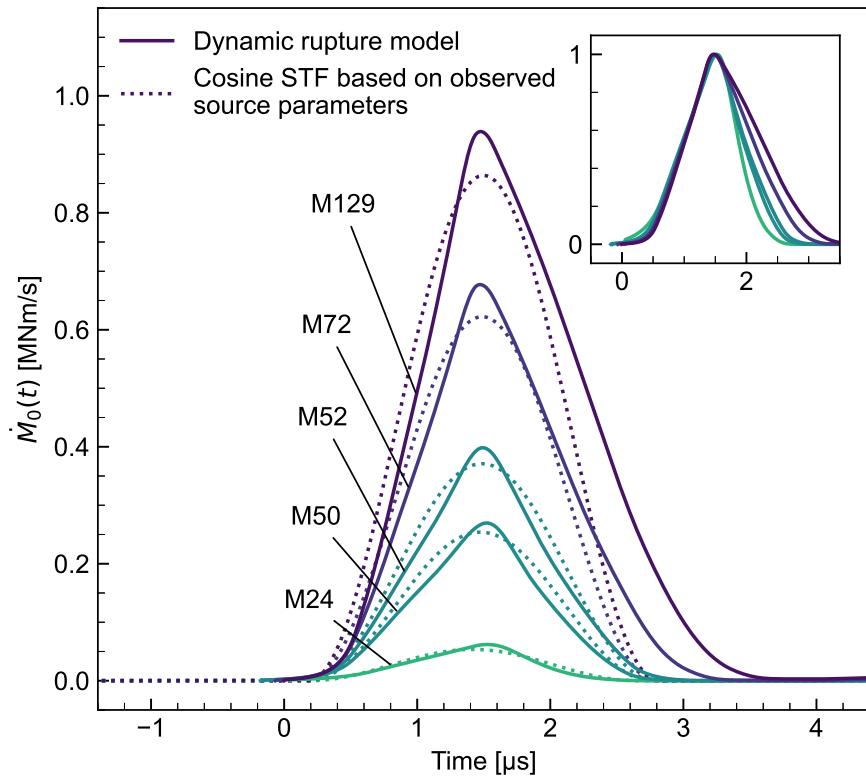
**Fig. S6 Evaluation of the frequency-dependent attenuation factor.** **a**, Comparison of observed (black) and modeled (red) P-waveforms, with both being windowed using a 15  $\mu$ s Hann window. **b**, Comparison of P-wave spectra from **a**, where the difference between the observed and modeled spectra reflects the attenuation. **c**, Statistics of the attenuation estimates. The box plot displays the first and third quartiles, with individual values shown as grey circles. The dashed line represents the median attenuation model, which is used for attenuation correction in the source parameter estimation.



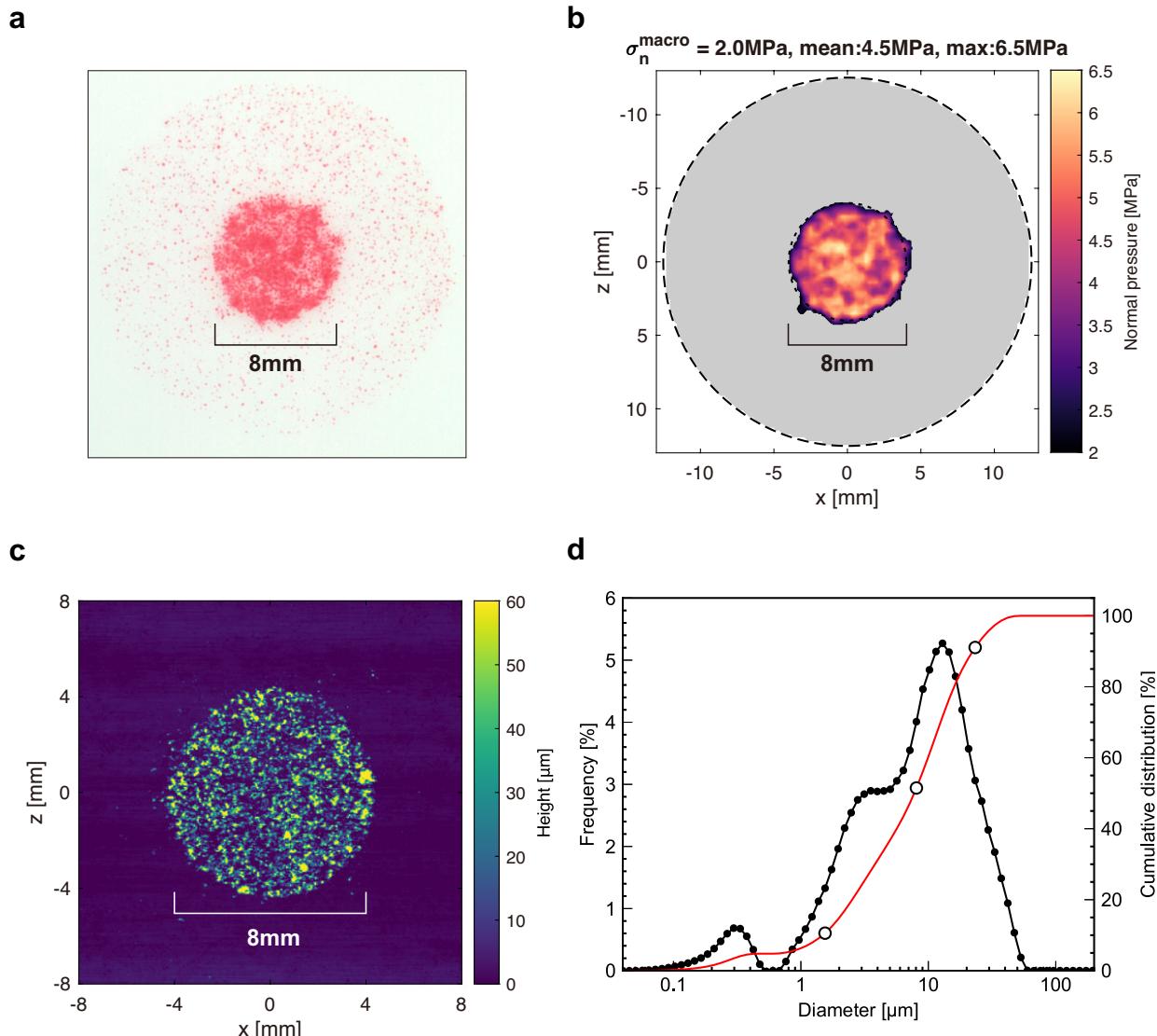
**Fig. S7 Spectral ratio analysis.** **a-d**, Amplitude spectra of the P-wave windows for the four AE sensors located near P3. The thick black line represents the spectra for the largest event (D129), while the other lines show spectra for representative non-self-similar GP events (IDs: 24, 50, 52, and 72), with the line color corresponding to the seismic moment ( $M_0$ ). The bottom panel of each subplot shows the amplitude spectra normalized at 0.3 MHz. **e**, Stacked spectral ratio computed as the mean across the four AE sensors. The ratio is normalized at 0.3 MHz.



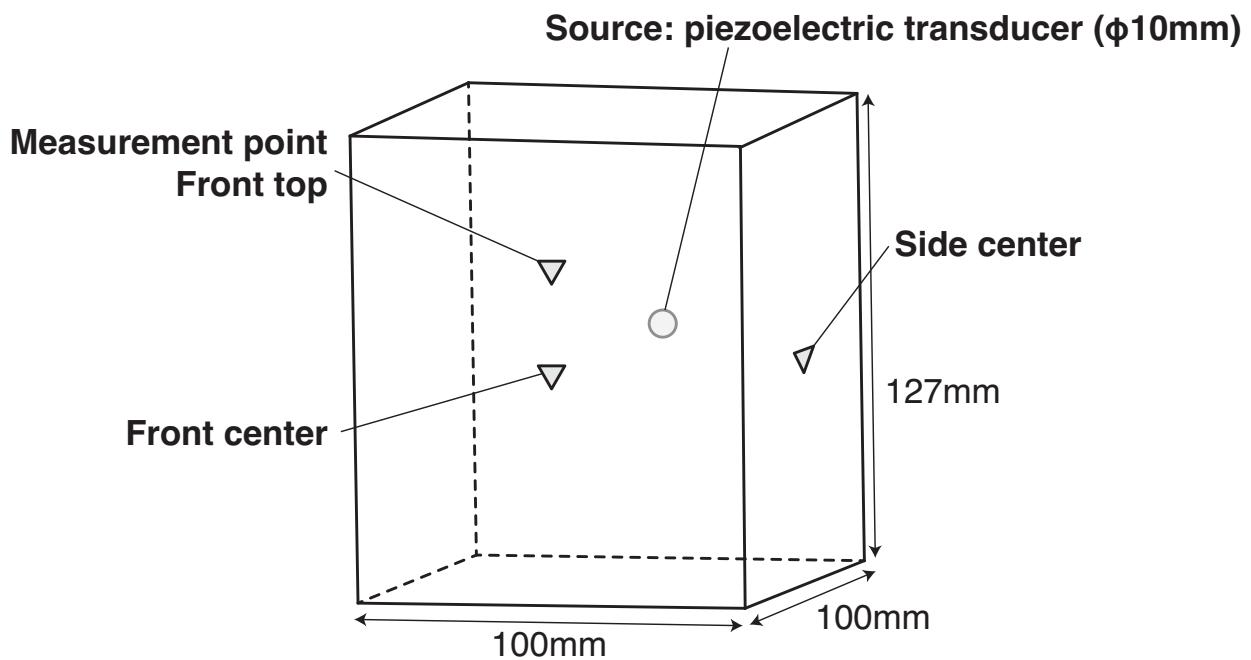
**Fig. S8** Correlation between seismic moment and cumulative local slip. **a**, Evaluation of cumulative local slip during a GP-generated foreshock. Grey lines indicate the evolution of preslip, while the black line represents the slip profile at the onset of the gouge event. The cumulative local slip was obtained by linear interpolation in time and space using 16 gap sensors at the GP (indicated by the star), which is shown by the horizontal dashed line. **b**, Comparison of seismic moment with cumulative local slip. A total of 21 foreshocks were selected using thresholds similar to those described in the “Fitting STF” subsection of the Methods. Markers and error bars denote the mean and standard error of the seismic moment, respectively. The dashed line indicates a reference slope with a scaling exponent of 0.3.



**Fig. S9 Dynamic rupture modeling using slip-weakening law without self-healing.** The initial stress and frictional conditions are identical to those in Figs. 4a–b (Table S2) of the main text, except that frictional self-healing is not included. The normalized STFs shown in the upper-right panel reveal deviations from the non-self-similar scaling.



**Fig. S10 Measurements of GP physical properties.** **a**, Pressure-sensitive film discolored by normal pressure of 2 MPa. The black-and-white contrast was adjusted for visualization purposes. To quantify the pressure from the color density, a color calibration base was required and used according to the instructions provided by Prescale Mobile. **b**, Normal pressure distribution. The increased pressure on the GP is attributed to the presence of a topographic bump. Discoloration was also observed in the outer area of the base rock specimen (highlighted in grey), indicating direct contact with the bare rock surface. The measured values were near the lower detection limit, suggesting a pressure level comparable to the macroscopic normal stress (2 MPa). **c**, Topography of the GP. Note that a different GP from **a** and **b** was used for the height measurement. **d**, Particle size distribution of the gouge. The black and red lines show the interpolated frequency distribution of particle diameters and the cumulative distribution, respectively. The percentile diameters are  $D_{10} = 1.4 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $D_{50} = 8.2 \mu\text{m}$ , and  $D_{90} = 24.0 \mu\text{m}$ , as indicated by the open circles.



**Fig. S11 Schematic of AE sensor calibration using a piezoelectric transducer (PZT) on a steel block.** To enhance the signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) while avoiding sensor overload, the PZT was excited at 200 V for LDV measurements and 100 V for the AE sensor. The linearity of the source with respect to the input voltage was verified using LDV, showing that the 200 V waveform scales by a factor of 1.79 to match that at 100 V. We sequentially recorded waveforms at three different locations to validate the robustness of the sensor response calibration.

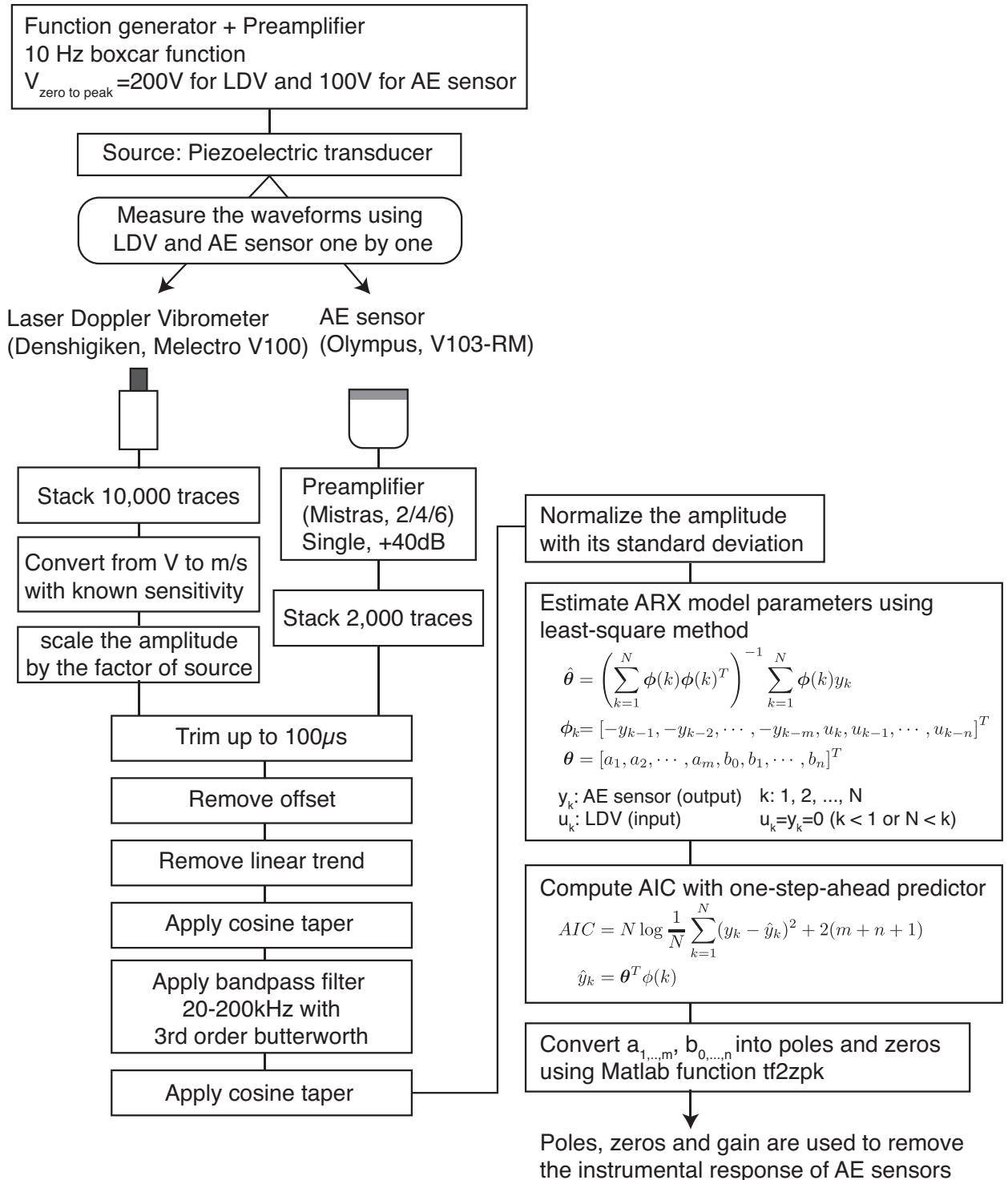
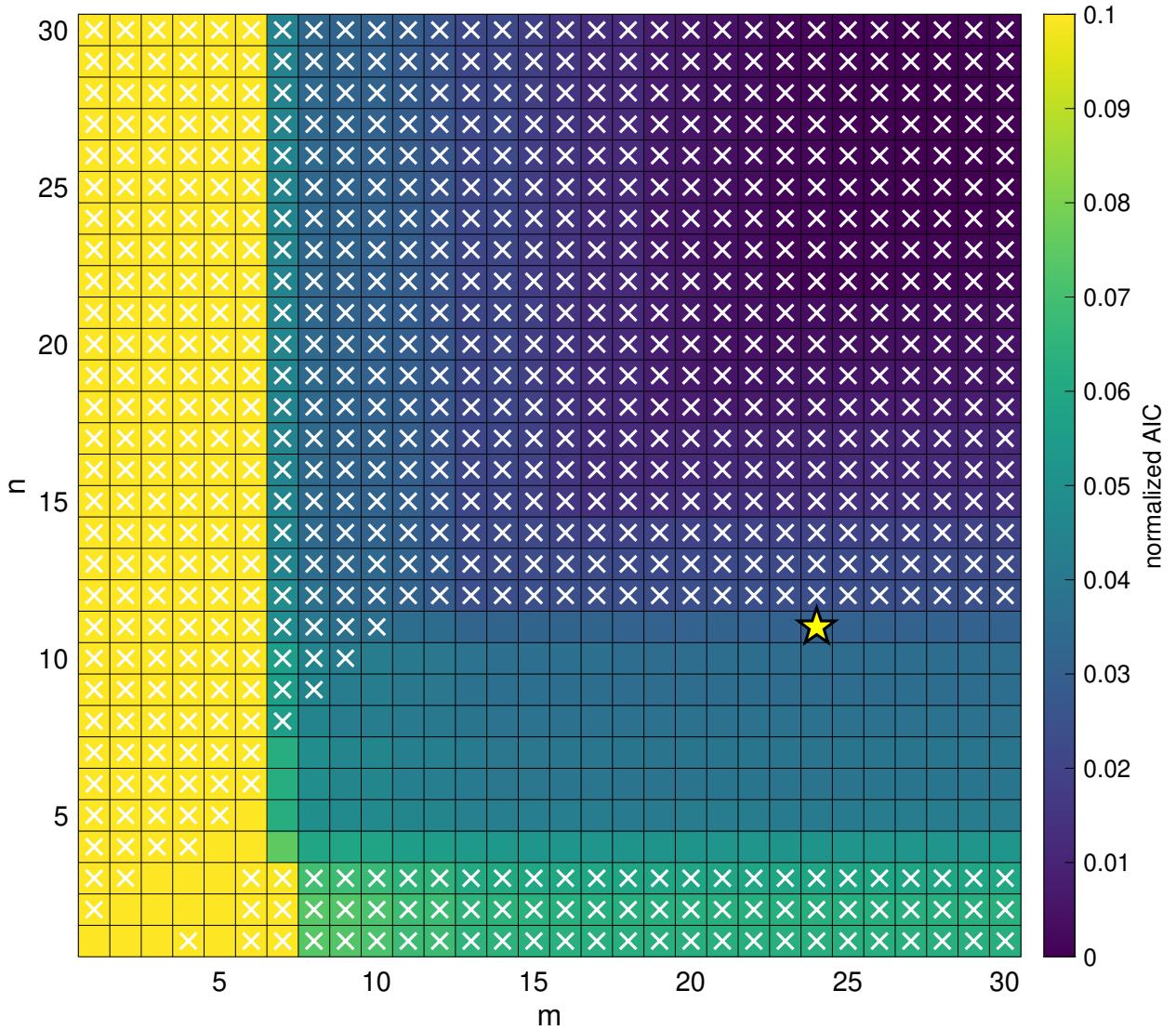
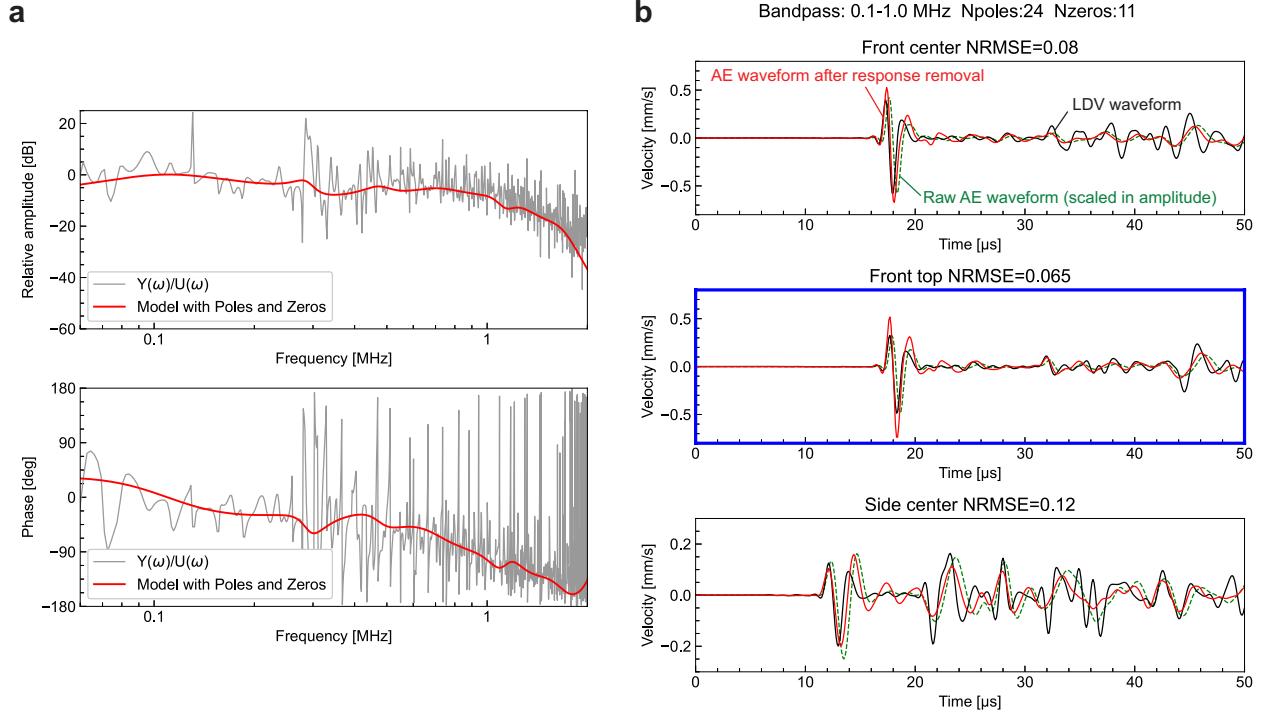


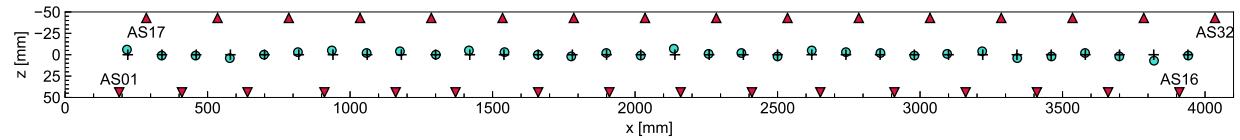
Fig. S12 Process flow for calibrating AE sensor response.



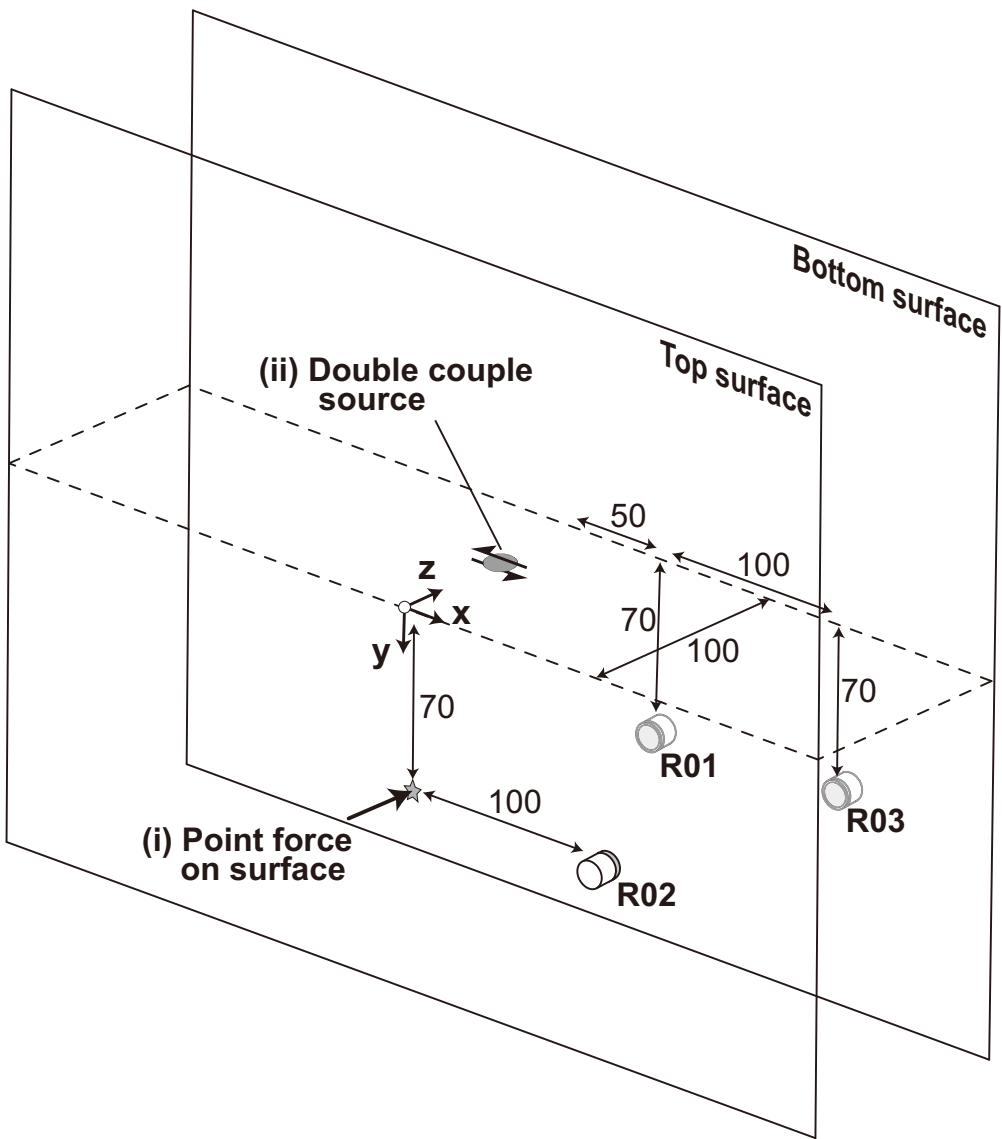
**Fig. S13 Case study of the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) as a function of the number of poles ( $m$ ) and zeros ( $n$ ).** The color map shows the normalized AIC values, scaled between their minimum and maximum. Cross markers indicate invalid  $(m, n)$  combinations where the least-squares estimation was unstable or where the estimated poles and zeros were located outside the unit circle. Improper configurations, such as those with  $n > m$ , are masked. The yellow star indicates the selected model corresponding to the minimum AIC value.



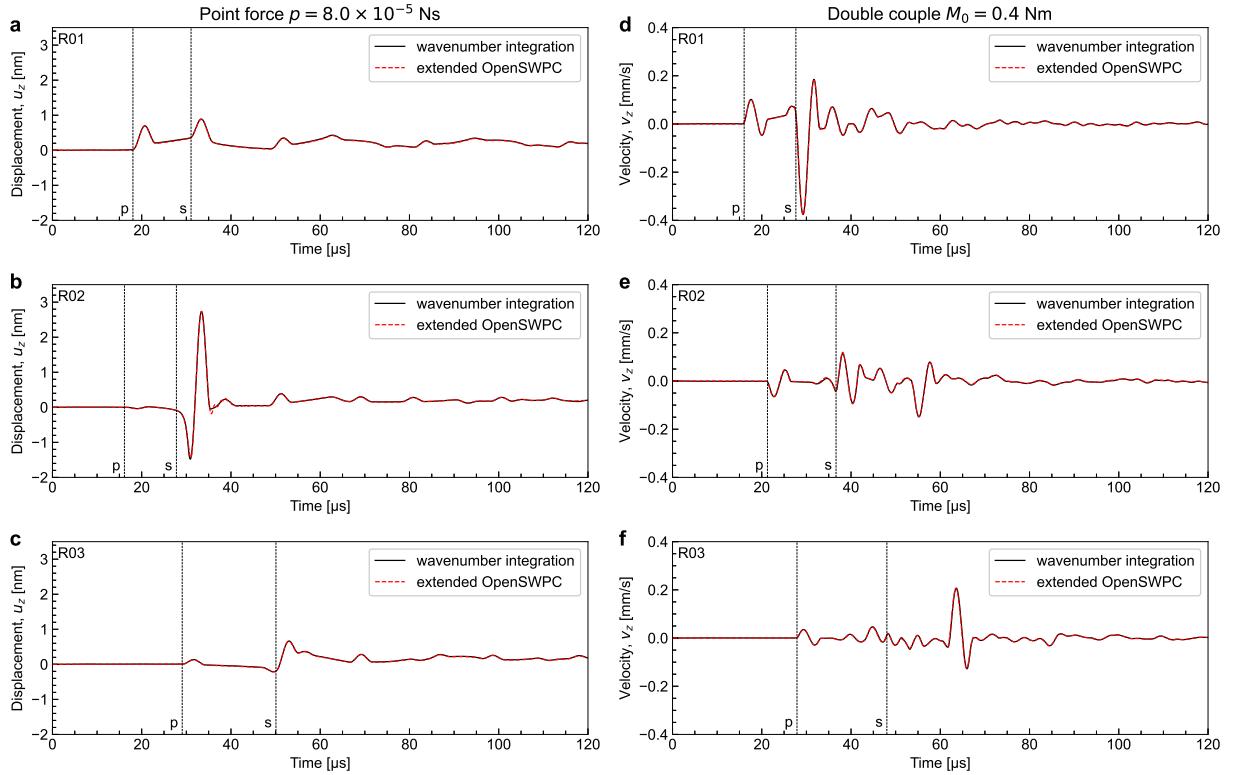
**Fig. S14 Calibration of AE sensor response.** **a**, Bode plot of the AE sensor. The grey line represents the sensor response, estimated as  $Y(\omega)/U(\omega)$ , where the Fourier spectrum of the AE sensor is divided by that of the LDV. The red line corresponds to the ARX model with 24 poles and 11 zeros. **b**, Evaluation of response correction performance at three measurement locations. Black, green, and red lines correspond to the LDV measurement, AE sensor output, and the AE waveform after response correction, respectively. The middle panel (blue box) shows the case of recording at the front-top of the block (Fig. 11) used for estimating the poles and zeros. The top and bottom panels show results at two additional measurement locations. Waveform matching between the LDV and corrected AE signals is assessed using the normalized root mean square error (NRMSE).



**Fig. S15 Locations of ball-drop impacts on the fault.** The cross markers indicate the prescribed target locations, while the cyan circles represent the relocated impact positions. Triangles mark the locations of AE sensors. For clarity, the fault's aspect ratio is scaled by a factor of three in the  $z$ -direction.

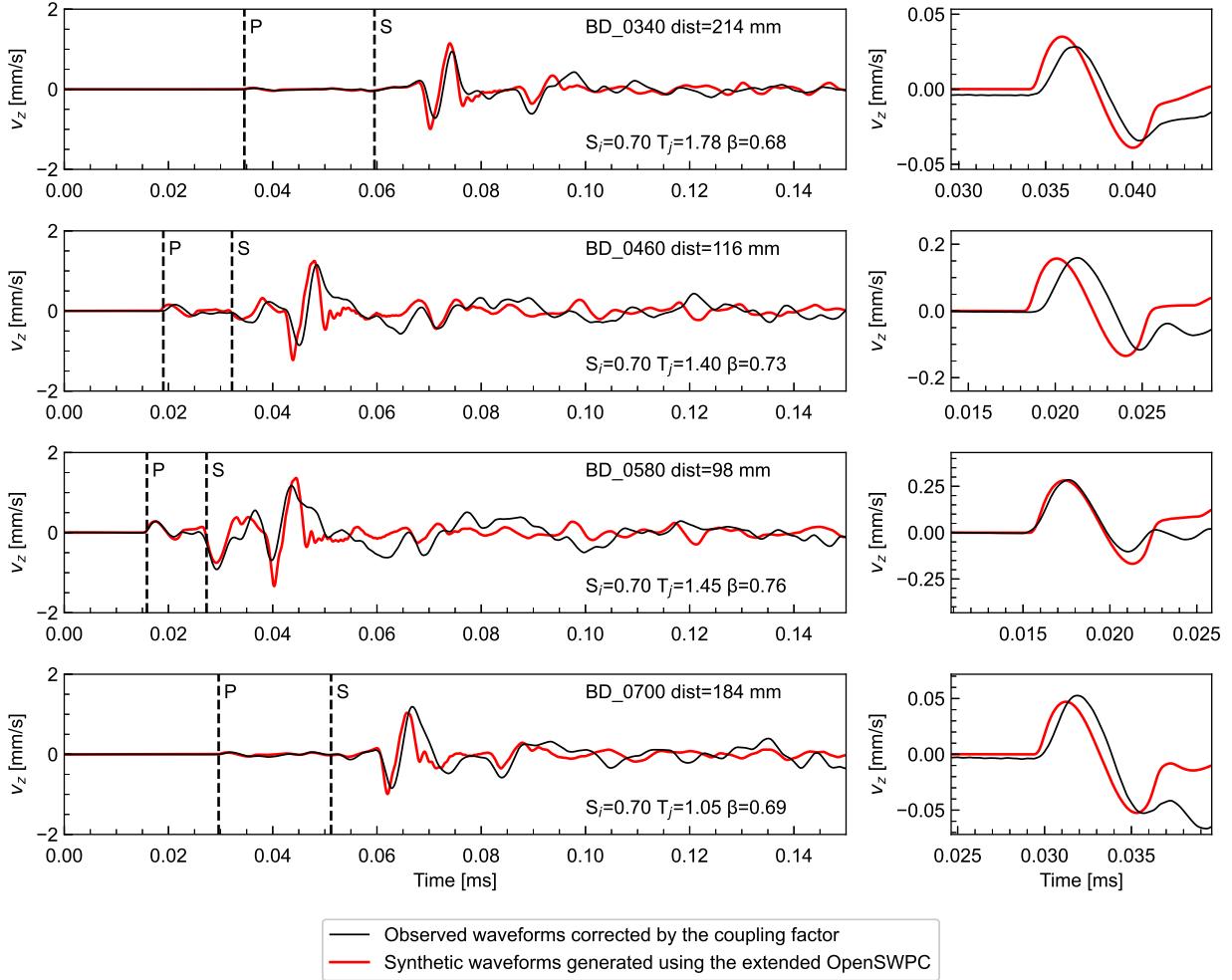


**Fig. S16** Model setup of sources and sensors for the cross-verification of the extended OpenSWPC. Three virtual sensors were placed on the top and bottom surfaces, and wave propagation was simulated for two scenarios: (i) a point force applied to the side surface and (ii) a double-couple source representing a seismic event on a fault. The computational domain was modeled as an infinite plate with a uniform velocity structure, omitting the explicit fault geometry. The elastic constants matched those of the rock specimen used in the main analysis. Green's functions between the sources and sensors were calculated and then convolved with a synthetic cosine force-time function for case (i) and a moment-rate function for case (ii) to generate synthetic waveforms for comparison.



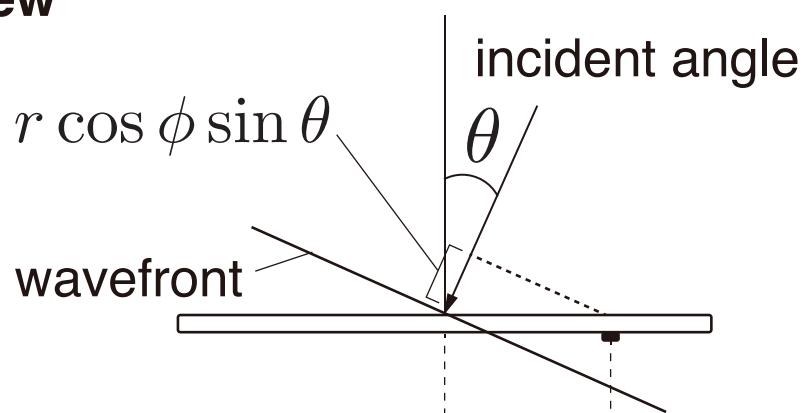
**Fig. S17 Cross-verification of the modeled waveforms.** **a–c**, Comparison of waveforms generated by a point force. Black and red lines represent waveforms computed using the reference program *Computer Programs in Seismology* (Herrmann, 2013) and the extended *OpenSWPC*, respectively. The point-force source used a cosine function with a momentum  $p = 8.0 \times 10^{-5}$  Ns and a source duration of  $5.0 \mu\text{s}$ . Dashed vertical lines indicate the P- and S-wave arrival times. No filtering was applied. **d–f**, Comparison of waveforms generated by a double-couple source with a seismic moment  $M_0 = 0.4 \text{ Nm}$  and the same source duration. The extended *OpenSWPC* accurately reproduces the reference waveforms in both source configurations.

AS18: No filter applied

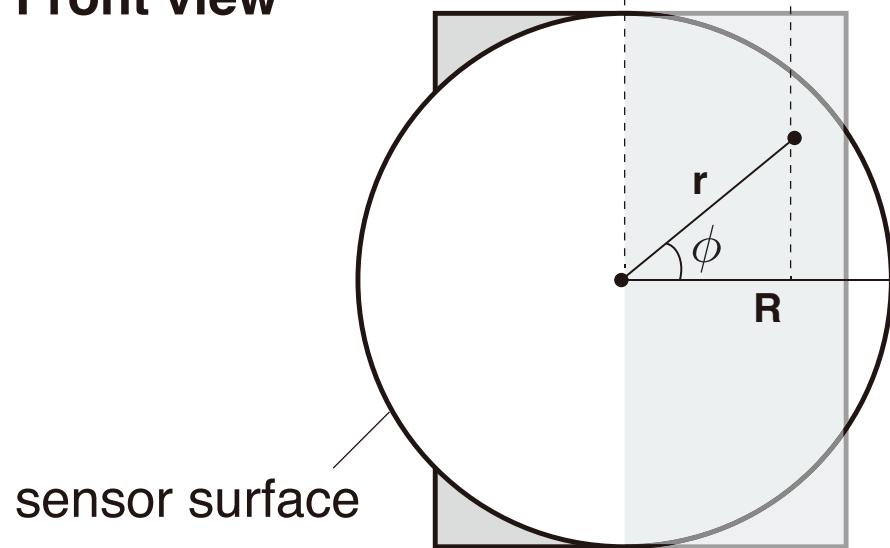


**Fig. S18** Observed (black) and modeled (red) velocity waveforms recorded by AS18 from ball-drop impacts at four distinct locations. The observed waveforms were corrected for sensor coupling, ball-drop impact characteristics, and the aperture effect. Vertical dashed lines indicate the theoretical arrival times of the P- and S-waves. Right panels show a magnified view of the P-wave window.

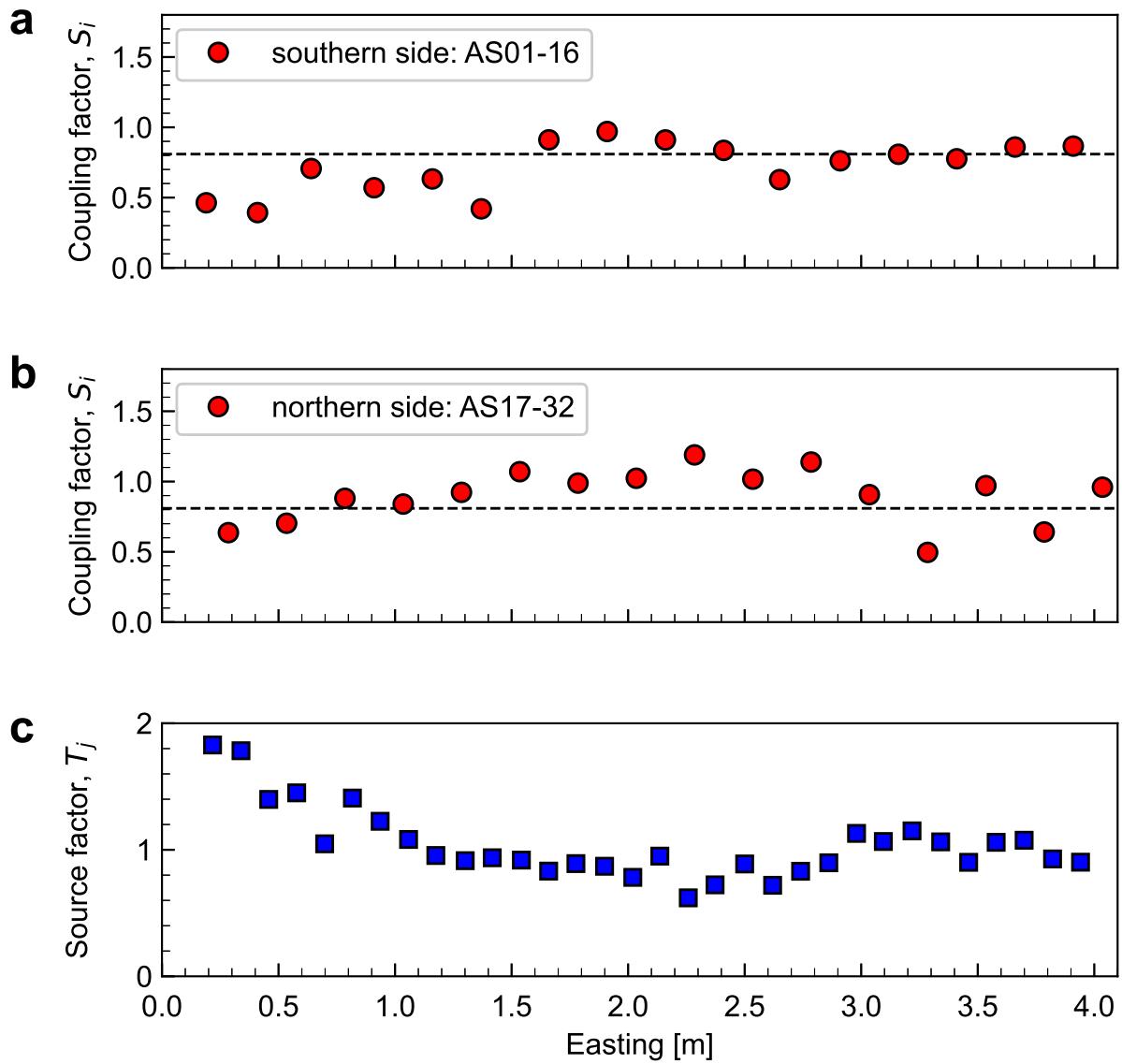
## Top view



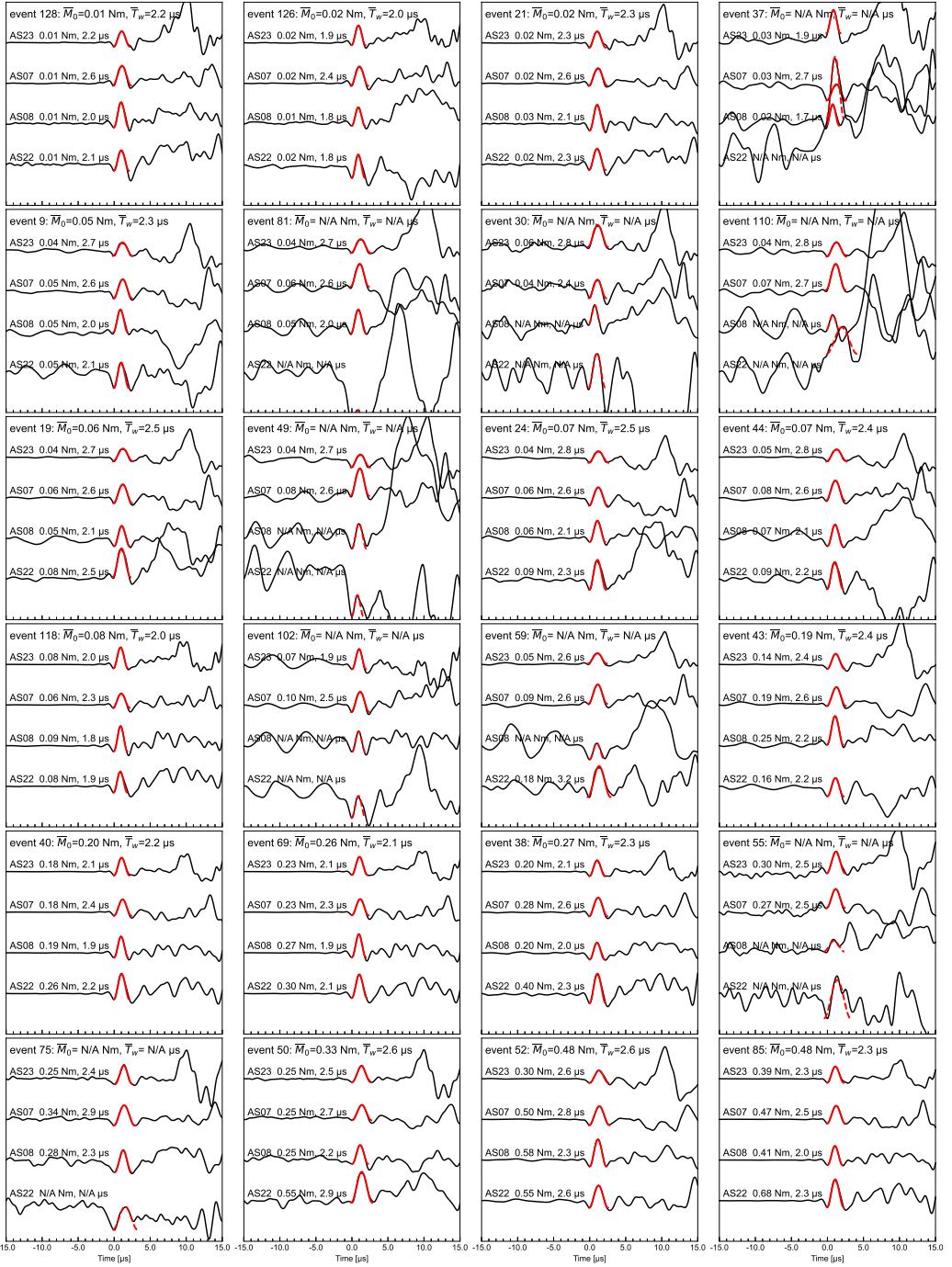
## Front view



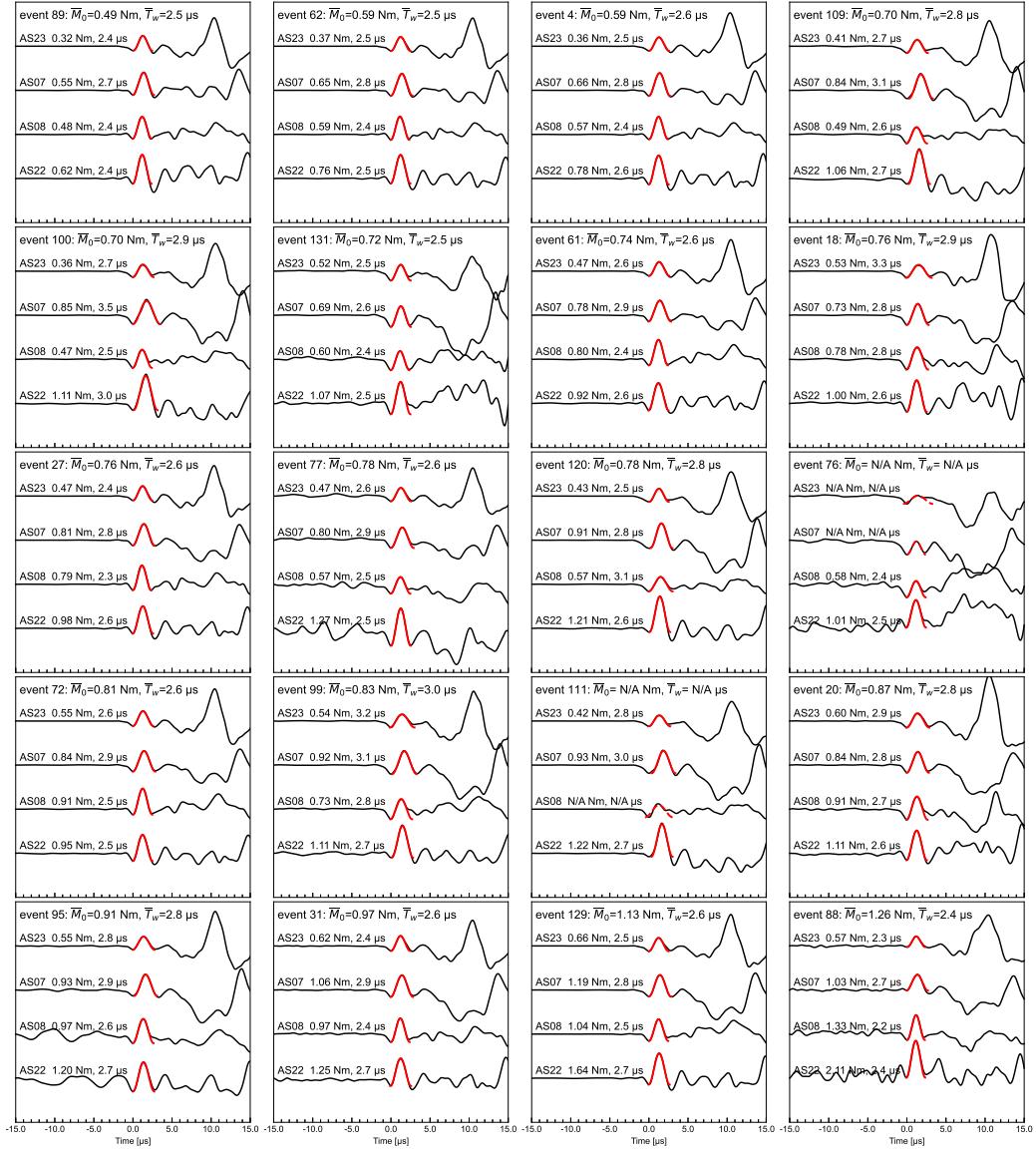
**Fig. S19** Schematic showing the geometry of the incident angle of a plane wave propagating toward the AE sensor.



**Fig. S20 Result of calibration for the sensor coupling factors.** a-b, Optimized sensor coupling factors,  $S_i$ , for the AE sensors installed on the southern and northern side of the rock specimen, respectively. The horizontal dashed line indicates the average coupling factor of 0.81. c, Correction factor,  $T_j$ , for the ball-drop source impact. The angular frequency,  $\omega$ , was optimized to 270 kHz. Although this value may be slightly overestimated, it lies within a reasonable range for the dominant frequency of the observed P-wave pulses.



**Fig. S21** Fitting the cosine STF with the attenuation-corrected observations to evaluate the source parameters of GP events, as shown in Fig. 3b of the main text. For visualization, the amplitudes of both the observed waveforms (black lines) and the best-fit cosine STFs (thick red lines) are normalized by the mean of the maximum values of the best-fit synthetic STF evaluated during the fitting process. A two-way low-pass filter with a cutoff at 1 MHz was applied before the attenuation correction. STF fittings that were excluded due to large residuals or low signal-to-noise ratios of the P-waveforms are indicated by red dashed lines. The mean seismic moment ( $\bar{M}_0$ ) and source duration ( $\bar{T}_w$ ) were calculated only when valid data from all four sensors were available.



**Fig. S21** (continued)

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