

**RC2: ['Comment on egusphere-2022-1472'](#), Anonymous Referee #2, 30 May 2023**

***Review of The seismic hazard from the Lembang Fault, Indonesia, derived from InSAR and GNSS data by E. Hussain et al. (2023)***

General Comments

In this study, the authors estimate the slip and shallow creep rates of the Lembang fault, Indonesia, by means of radar interferometry and continuous GNSS time series analysis. The results are used to make a first order assessment of the seismic hazard posed by this fault to the population living in neighbouring areas. This assessment is based on the superposition of the size of the population distribution and the ground accelerations predicted by the Global Earthquake Model OpenQuake engine for two maximum magnitude earthquakes (full rupture of the fault), corresponding to the moment deficit accumulation derived from the resulting slip rate and the upper and lower limits of the return period of large earthquakes on the fault. This is, thus, a study of a poorly understood fault which might have been overlooked because it hasn't had any recorded historical seismic activity. However, previous paleoseismology studies indicate large crustal earthquakes have been produced at this fault, with return periods longer than a century, and the present work confirms strain accumulation is occurring at the fault at rates that make it capable of producing shallow earthquakes with magnitudes larger than 6.5, at a fault embedded in a densely populated area. These are important results, not only to better understand the fault behaviour and to contribute to hazard assessment, but also to inform urban planning and risk for the nearby populations. The manuscript is very well written and has very nice figures that illustrate and support the main text. It is my opinion that the manuscript is almost ready for publication. However, I noted a few places where the discussion could be refined in order to improve its clarity. I list these points in the comments below.

We thank the reviewer for the constructive comments and suggestions. We have responded to each point below.

Main comments:		
1	In the beginning of the manuscript, the authors state that “The fault dips to the north by about 75 degrees” (line 24). Why is a “constant fault dip of 60°” (line 125) used to estimate the area of the fault and the ground motion fields (line 132)? Also, when estimating the ground motion fields, the fault is modeled as two fault planes that “dip at 60° to the south” (line 132). Why the different orientation?	This is a mistake, we thank the reviewer for pointing this out. The fault dip should be 75 degrees to the north not 60. We will correct this error.
2	In the manuscript it is assumed that the motion at the fault plane is exclusively left-lateral strike-slip. Is there no evidence at all of dip-slip motion? Do the SAR and GNSS observations confirm this?	There is currently little evidence of dip slip motion across the fault from the geological offsets (Daryono paper). Our GNSS velocities do not show any normal component of motion with respect to the fault. In the InSAR this is difficult to test as the fault is oriented east-west and InSAR is insensitive to the north-south motion.
3	In figures 3a, b, c, the strong signal attributed to subsidence due to groundwater extraction obscures the signal due to interseismic deformation, which is the target of this study. Perhaps a change in the limits of the color scale could help enhance (at least in Figure 3c) the velocity gradient at the fault (if any), in order to confirm the assumption of no dip-slip rate accumulation. This could be done on a separate panel or an inset showing only the area of interest. A figure with profile A-A' showing a negligible vertical gradient could also help.	<p>The vertical is dominated by subsidence. Which is the case in Bandung but also in Lembang.</p> <p>The profile through the vertical velocities is given at the end of this document. There is no clear offset across the fault. The main signal is dominated by the long wavelength subsidence signal across the basin. The zero region is the spatial reference for the velocity maps.</p>
4	Figure 3d could also benefit from a change in the color scale to enhance the horizontal velocity gradient across the fault, which is almost invisible with the current scale.	We have changed the colour scale on Figure 3d to better show the velocity difference across the fault.
5	How is the Hussain et al. (2016) 1-D screw dislocation model affected by the introduction of a dipping fault instead of a vertical fault? Is it negligible so that it is justified to use a model that assumes a vertical fault	We agree that a more realistic model of the fault would take into account the dip. However, at 75 degrees,

	<p>even when the actual fault it is dipping? Is it negligible because of the assumption that the fault has no dip-slip?</p>	<p>the fault is near vertical and so a simple vertical screw dislocation model captures the main aspects of the fault behavior we are looking for, namely the fault slip rate. The dip would only add a slight asymmetry to the profile weighted to the north. The screw dislocation model only solves for the fault-parallel component of motion so dip-slip motion is not accounted for.</p>
6	<p>How are the GNSS velocities used in the modeling? It is not clear to me what is the contribution of this data set to the results. Were they jointly inverted with the InSAR data? If so, how were they weighted?</p>	<p>Yes, the GNSS and InSAR were jointly inverted in the model. And weighted by the uncertainty</p>
7	<p>What is the shallow surface creep depth (d2) found for the maximum likelihood solution (lines 109-110)?</p>	<p>The maximum Likelihood solution for the creeped depth is: 0.1 km with a 90% confidence interval of 0--9.0 km. However, as we note in the Discussion the upper bound of this range is relatively unconstrained.</p>
8	<p>From a quick look at the data only, it is very hard to tell if the velocity gradient is only due to fault locking or if there is a creep component in the motion (Figure 5). Do models assuming shallow creep perform better than those that assume no creep? Was this tested? If not, is there any other evidence in favor of shallow creep that justifies ignoring a case with no creep? Does the peak at 0 km for creep depth in Figure 6 (lines 199-200) favors the consideration of models with no shallow creep at all?</p>	<p>The evidence for shallow creep is from the GNSS stations located approximately ~50m either side of the fault. We agree that the discontinuity is not as obvious in the InSAR velocities. We attribute this to the significant noise present in the InSAR. This is seen clearly by the large spread in the grey points in Figure 5. A model with no creep would fit the InSAR data but not the GNSS.</p>
9	<p>How is the result of a shallow surface creep rate of 2.2 mm/yr accounted for in the estimate of the moment deficit on this fault? It appears as it is ignored and the estimated slip rate is imposed to the whole fault. Wouldn't this overestimate the moment deficit?</p>	<p>Thank you for pointing this out. We originally did not account for the shallow creep as it is only equivalent to a release ~0.3% of the</p>

		<p>accumulated moment. However, in our new simulations we account for this release, which does not change the magnitude of the expected earthquake.</p>
10	<p>Another possible overestimation of the moment deficit can be attributed to the locking depth, which is assumed to be at the bottom of the estimated seismogenic zone, based on microseismicity relocation, but is shallower based on the modeling on this work. This is more or less discussed in section 6.1 of the manuscript, but I wonder if estimates of end-member moment deficits associated with the relevant bounds of the estimated locking depth (and accounting for shallow creep, if possible), could help bracket the range of earthquake magnitudes that could be expected at the fault, and explore those scenarios as well. Would this be possible and would it provide useful information to improve the discussion?</p>	<p>The maximum likelihood estimate for the creep depth is very shallow (~0.1km), so the impact on the moment deficit is insignificant (equivalent to a release ~0.3% of the accumulated moment).</p> <p>An (unlikely) locking depth of 3km, at the maximum likelihood slip rate (4.7 mm/yr) and accounted for shallow creep results in a moment magnitude deficit equivalent to a magnitude 6.2 earthquake.</p> <p>And for a locking depth of 14.2km this results in a magnitude 7.0 earthquake.</p> <p>We will include this range in the Discussion section of the manuscript.</p>
11	<p>Could the discrepancy between the geological and geodetic slip rates be due to temporal variations of the slip rate (lines 182-184)?</p>	<p>Yes, that is possible. This has been shown to be the case in Italy for example (Goodall et al., 2021). However, we don't have enough temporally constrained data to show this is the case for the Lembang Fault.</p>
12	<p>How is the potential magnitude of a combined Padalarang-Lembang rupture estimated? Were the assumed slip rates, seismogenic zone depths, and return periods the same for both faults (those estimated for the Lembang fault in this work)?</p>	<p>We converted the magnitudes to moment, summed the moment for the joint rupture and converted the total moment back to moment magnitude.</p>
<p>Minor Comments</p>		

13	Line 18: “recent history” might be more accurate that “recent memory”.	Changed as suggested
14	Line 25: Is the Lembang basing the same as the Bandung basin? If not, please consider locating it on the map in Figure 1	We have added this label to the map in Figure 1
15	Line 79: “existing GNSS stations”, is it station?	You are correct. It should be ‘station’
16	Lines 90-91: “The velocity for each GNSS station at mm level.” Incomplete sentence, it probably was supposed to be part of the sentence before it.	We rewrite this sentence
17	Line 94: “5 km either...” Is it “5 km on either...”	Edited as suggested
18	Figure 7: the units of the Vs30 values are missing. Consider changing the label vs30_clipped to vs30.	Edited and corrected
19	Line 145: Figure 9 is mentioned in the main text before any mentions of Figure 8. Consider reordering the figures, although I perfectly understand why Figure 9 appears later.	We have removed the earlier mention of Figure 9
20	Line 169: Figure 9 should be referenced here.	Added as suggested
21	Line 211: “to jump larger across larger segment...”, change to “to jump across larger segment...”	Corrected as suggested
22	Line 215: “if the faults are late in its earthquake cycle”, change to “if the faults are late in their earthquake cycle”	Corrected as suggested
23	Line 245: “Sentinel-1” appears twice.	Removed duplicate

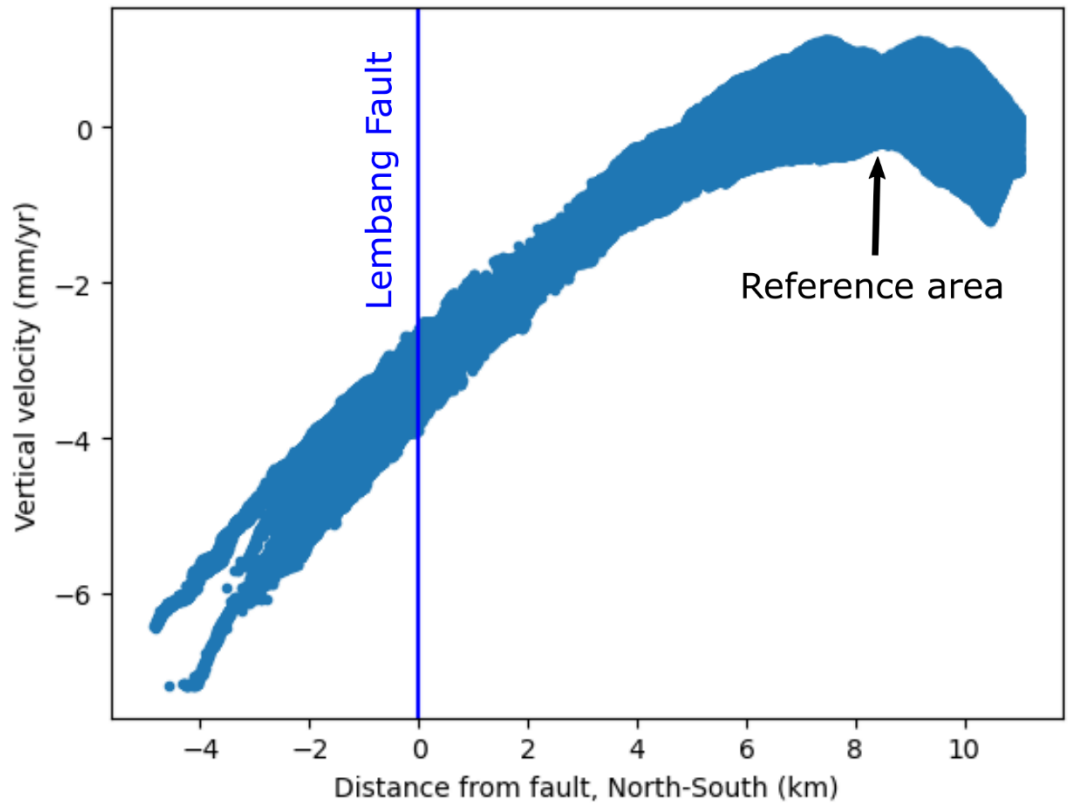


Figure: Vertical velocities along profile.