

# Supplement of

## Delayed State Evolution in Rate-and-State Earthquake Nucleation: Amplification, Localization, and Scaling

### S1 Master configuration and numerical classification

Table S1 reports the complete reference configuration used for Figs. 1–7. The table distinguishes adopted physical parameters, derived quantities, study variables, and reduced-order numerical closures.

| Category       | Parameter                                      | Value                                 | Classification       | Basis / source                               |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Formulation    | Rupture mode                                   | 2-D in-plane (Mode II)                | Study choice         | Bizzarri et al. (2001)                       |
| Formulation    | Model                                          | 1-D distributed reduced-order fault   | Study implementation | Controlled constitutive test                 |
| Elastic medium | Density, $\rho$                                | 2670 kg m <sup>-3</sup>               | Adopted              | Wei and Chen (2026)                          |
| Elastic medium | Shear-wave speed, $c_s$                        | 3464 m s <sup>-1</sup>                | Adopted              | Wei and Chen (2026)                          |
| Elastic medium | P-wave speed, $c_p$                            | 6000 m s <sup>-1</sup>                | Adopted              | Wei and Chen (2026)                          |
| Elastic medium | Shear modulus, $G$                             | 32 GPa                                | Derived              | $\rho c_s^2$                                 |
| Elastic medium | Poisson ratio, $\nu$                           | 0.25                                  | Derived              | $c_p/c_s$                                    |
| Stress         | Effective normal stress, $\sigma_{\text{eff}}$ | 10 MPa                                | Adopted              | Master configuration                         |
| Friction       | Reference coefficient, $f_0$                   | 0.600                                 | Adopted              | Master configuration                         |
| Friction       | Reference velocity, $V_0$                      | $1 \times 10^{-6}$ m s <sup>-1</sup>  | Adopted              | Master configuration                         |
| Friction       | a, velocity weakening                          | 0.010                                 | Adopted              | Literature-range choice                      |
| Friction       | b, velocity weakening                          | 0.015                                 | Adopted              | Literature-range choice                      |
| Friction       | a, velocity strengthening                      | 0.015                                 | Adopted              | Literature-range choice                      |
| Friction       | b, velocity strengthening                      | 0.010                                 | Adopted              | Literature-range choice                      |
| Friction       | Characteristic distance, $D_c$                 | 0.010 m                               | Adopted              | Wei and Chen (2026); Guatteri et al. (2001)  |
| Initial state  | Initial velocity, $V_{\text{init}}$            | $1 \times 10^{-12}$ m s <sup>-1</sup> | Adopted              | Quasi-locked initial state                   |
| Initial state  | Initial shear traction, $\tau_0$               | 6 MPa                                 | Adopted              | Master configuration                         |
| Initial state  | Stress ratio, $\tau_0/\sigma_{\text{eff}}$     | 0.60                                  | Derived              | $\tau_0/\sigma_{\text{eff}}$                 |
| Initial state  | Initial $\theta$                               | Frictionally consistent               | Calculated           | $\tau_f(V_{\text{init}}, \theta_0) = \tau_0$ |
| Nucleation     | Trigger                                        | Smooth localized stress perturbation  | Adopted              | Controlled nucleation                        |
| Nucleation     | Perturbation radius, $R_{\text{nuc}}$          | 1 km                                  | Adopted              | Master configuration                         |
| Nucleation     | Perturbation width, $L_{\text{nuc}}$           | 2 km                                  | Derived              | $2R_{\text{nuc}}$                            |
| Nucleation     | Maximum stress increment                       | 2 MPa                                 | Adopted              | Pilot calibration                            |
| Geometry       | Fault length, $L_f$                            | 40 km                                 | Adopted              | Master configuration                         |
| Geometry       | Velocity-weakening length, $L_{\text{vw}}$     | 24 km                                 | Adopted              | Master configuration                         |
| Geometry       | Strengthening margins                          | 8 km + 8 km                           | Derived              | $(L_f - L_{\text{vw}})/2$                    |
| Geometry       | Transition width, $W_{\text{tr}}$              | 0.5 km                                | Adopted              | Master configuration                         |

| Category | Parameter                       | Value                   | Classification     | Basis / source                          |
|----------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Numerics | Grid points, N                  | 2048                    | Adopted            | Master discretization                   |
| Numerics | Grid spacing, $\Delta x$        | 19.53125 m              | Derived            | $L_f/N$                                 |
| Numerics | Time step, $\Delta t$           | $2.5 \times 10^{-4}$ s  | Refined            | Refined from $1 \times 10^{-3}$ s pilot |
| Numerics | Simulation duration, $T_{\max}$ | 12 s                    | Adopted            | Analysis window                         |
| Closure  | Effective thickness, H          | $\Delta x = 19.53125$ m | Numerical closure  | Distributed model                       |
| Closure  | Radiation damping, $\eta$       | $\rho c_s/2$            | Derived closure    | Standard radiation damping              |
| Memory   | Response time, $t_c$            | 0–0.12 s                | Study variable     | Eight tested values                     |
| Memory   | Memory strength, $\Pi_d$        | $t_c V_{\max}/D_c$      | Derived diagnostic | This study                              |

7 The original pilot time step was  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  s. All reported figures and metrics use the refined value  $2.5 \times 10^{-4}$  s. H and  $\eta$  are  
8 numerical closure quantities rather than independently measured fault properties.

## 9 S2 Diagnostic definitions

10 The moderate-velocity footprint is the total grid length for which  $\max_t V \geq 10^{-3} \text{ m s}^{-1}$ . The high-velocity core is defined  
11 analogously at  $10^{-2} \text{ m s}^{-1}$ . A local velocity-threshold crossing is not equated with distributed propagation. Distributed  
12 propagation would require the  $10^{-2} \text{ m s}^{-1}$  region to exceed the 2 km prescribed nucleation width.