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*Geophysical Research Letters*

Supporting Information for

**A composite seismic source model for the first major event during the 2022 Hunga (Tonga) volcanic eruption**

Jinyin Hu<sup>1\*</sup>, Thanh-Son Phạm<sup>1</sup> and Hrvoje Tkalčić<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Research School of Earth Sciences, The Australian National University, Canberra, ACT, Australia

\*Corresponding author: Jinyin Hu (jinyin.hu@anu.edu.au)

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Figures S1 to S15. Table S1 and S2.

**S1. Results of synthetic experiments**

The configuration of inversion is carefully designed for this study's synthetic experiments and real data application. We use the primitive parameterization of moment tensor,  $M_{ij}$  for the simplicity. When sampling the posterior, we manually scale up the Green's function according to prior knowledge of the event's scale moment to narrow down the parameters' dynamic ranges. Specifically, the Green's functions for MT and SF were multiplied by  $10^{16}$  Nm and  $10^{12}$  N, respectively. In all inversion, we define an uninformative prior within the  $[-2000, 2000]$  for all MT and SF source parameters. The prior time-shift parameters are set as  $[-12.5, 12.5]$  seconds to avoid the circle skipping because the waveforms are filtered into a 25-70 second band for a better signal to noise ratio. That of noise is set as  $[0, 400]$ . Additionally, we randomly initiated all walkers (i.e., 1200) of the affine invariance ensemble sampler (Goodman & Weare, 2010) in the

24 prior hypercube and explored the parameter space by 6,000 iterations with each walker. Finally,  
25 the first half of the samples of each walker are discarded during the warm-up stage to ensure  
26 the remaining samples have reached the convergency, where all walkers fluctuate around the  
27 similar highest probability.

28 Table S1 and Figures S1-S9 are inversion results for the synthetic experiments. We use the same  
29 Earth's model to generate synthetics and perform inversions (i.e., without structural error) but  
30 still use the time-shifts to handle the waveform misalignment due to inappropriate assumptions  
31 of source types. We considered three input source mechanisms including an SF source (Case 1),  
32 an MT source (Case 2), and a composite source of the two (Case 3). In case 1, the input source  
33 only comprised of a downward force  $5.0 \times 10^{13}$  N. In Case 2, an explosive MT was used as the  
34 input, which was obtained from the real data MT inversion in Figure S11. In Case 3, we  
35 combined the two source types. As such, their contributions to the synthetic waveforms are  
36 comparable. All sources are fixed at a depth of 0.8 km, which is the depth of the caldera bottom  
37 post-eruption (see Section 2.3 for more details). For each input source scenario, we conducted  
38 three independent inversions assuming three unknown source types: MT-only inversion, SF-only  
39 inversion, and joint inversion, as summarized in Table S1. In each case, the unknown parameters  
40 include 3, 6, or 9 corresponding to the assumed source types, 8 station-specific noise  
41 parameters, and 16 time-shift parameters.

42 The inversion results for these synthetic scenarios are carefully verified. We follow the MT  
43 decomposition into double-couple (DC), isotropic (ISO), and compensated linear vector dipole  
44 (CLVD) components (Jost & Herrmann, 1989; Julian et al., 1998; Knopoff & Randall, 1970; Sipkin,  
45 1986; Vavryčuk, 2015). We use the percentage of ISO, DC, and CLVD components after Vavryču  
46 (2001) and the moment magnitude to evaluate the recovered MT with the true MT. For the SF  
47 source, we directly compare the three force components. The contribution of one source type  
48 (e.g., SF or MT) to the observations is measured by the ratio of the peak-to-peak amplitude  
49 generated to that of observations. In the following, we discuss the details to support the three  
50 key points mentioned in the main text.

51 Firstly, we observe an ambiguity between the vertical force and isotropic MT. It can be  
52 theoretically explained by the similarity in the radiation pattern of surface waves from a vertical  
53 force and an ISO MT, as noted by Kanamori & Given (1982). In Case 1, where an SF was used as  
54 an input, the MT-only inversion resulted in a fake explosion solution with a 68.5% ISO  
55 component, which fits the waveforms with a reasonable VR of 65.5% (Figures S2b). Similarly, in  
56 Case 2, where an isotropic MT was used as the input, the SF-only inversion results in an upward  
57 force fitting the waveforms with a VR of 58.5% (Figure S4). The joint inversions for three cases  
58 (especially Cases 1 and 3) also indicated this tradeoff between a vertical force and ISO MT by a  
59 weak linear dependence between the vertical force component  $F_z$  and three diagonal MT  
60 elements,  $M_{xx}$ ,  $M_{yy}$ , and  $M_{zz}$  (S3, S6, and S9). This tradeoff probably explains why SF-only  
61 inversion and MT-only inversion can individually generate reasonable solutions for this HTHH  
62 eruption in previous studies (Donner et al., 2023; Thurin & Tape, 2023; Thurin et al., 2022).

63 Second, for a composite source of MT and SF, SF- and MT-only inversion can only provide  
64 incomplete solutions, which may lead to a different explanation for the source process. In Case  
65 3, both SF inversion and MT inversion provide the acceptable waveform fit VR of 79.3% and  
66 84.9%, respectively, in Figures S7 and S8. In SF inversion, the SF solution is a near downward  
67 force with a dip angle of  $85^\circ$  (Figure S7b). The horizontal force components are to fit tangential  
68 components from the deviatoric MT part in the source. The recovered force is larger ( $\sim 1.6$  times)  
69 than the force in the true source because the extra vertical force is required to fit the waveform  
70 from the ISO MT part. In MT inversion, the MT solution is an explosive source whose ISO  
71 component is 6% higher than that in the input true source (Table S1). More ISO moment  
72 explains the waveforms from the vertical force when assuming the source is only an MT. Even  
73 though the SF and MT solutions already explain most of the waveforms individually, there are  
74 still unmodeled signals caused by inappropriate assumptions on source representation.  
75 Consequently, the recovered noise parameters are larger than the true value, i.e., three in this  
76 study (Figures S7b and S8b). Significant time-shifts are necessary to relax the search for source  
77 types further.

78 Third, the designed synthetic experiments demonstrate that the joint MT and SF inversion could  
79 reliably resolve different input source types. In the case of an input downward force (Case 1), the  
80 joint inversion explores widely the joint space of MT and SF as in Figure S3(a). Due to the  
81 tradeoff between vertical force and ISO noted above, an isotropic MT solution ( $M_w = 5.94$ ) is  
82 recovered. However, its contribution to the waveforms is small (13%) compared with the SF part,  
83 as in Figure S3(d). The SF part of the solution is a downward force with a dip angle of  $89.5^\circ$ ,  
84 (Figure S3c) and the force magnitude is  $4.932 \times N$ , which is close to the input force of  $5.0 \times N$ .  
85 The recovered MT+SF source gives a good waveform fit (VR=78%) between observations and  
86 predictions. Due to the shallow source depth in this experiment, i.e., 0.8 km, it is also difficult to  
87 distinguish an ISO from CLVD (e.g., Chiang et al., 2014; Ford et al., 2012; Kawakatsu, 1996; Hu et  
88 al., 2023), even though this ISO is a fake representation of the downward force. Therefore, a  
89 strip-shaped distribution appears on the source-type lune diagram (Tape & Tape, 2012) in dark  
90 colors in Figure S3(b).

91 A similar conclusion applies to the cases of the MT input source (Case 2) and the composite MT  
92 and SF input source (Case 3). In Case 2, the joint inversion performed as well as the MT  
93 inversion. The solution of the composite source suggests an MT rather than an SF solution  
94 because the SF part explains a small fraction of the synthetic waveforms ( $<< 1.0\%$ ) in Figure S6.  
95 The recovered MT source is overlapped well with the input one on the lune diagram of source  
96 type in Figure S6(b). In Case 3, both MT and SF components are successfully retrieved by joint  
97 MT and SF inversion using a correct source representation from Table S1. The tradeoff between  
98 vertical force and three MT parameters,  $M_{xx}$ ,  $M_{yy}$ , and  $M_{zz}$ , in Figure S9(a), is caused by the  
99 existence of vertical force.

100 The joint MT and SF inversions also recovered the noise amplitude and station-specific time-  
101 shifts in cases of three input sources (Figures S3d, S6d, and S9d). Note that the recovery was  
102 successful even when noisy data was involved. Take Case 1 as an example; all tangential  
103 components only contain added noise because the vertical force does not radiate tangential  
104 energy. In particular, the added noise on the tangential component of station G.PPTF is of  
105 relatively high amplitude. Joint MT and SF inversion retrieved the true input noise level of 3 at all

106 stations. Besides, only small time-shifts are obtained because the true Earth's model is used, and  
107 the true source is recovered. Therefore, the joint MT and SF inversion provided a reliable  
108 solution for source parameters and free parameters in all three cases. Another set of synthetic  
109 tests using the input of the same MT components but with a directed upward force also  
110 supports this feasibility.

## 111 **S2. Preparation for real data inversion**

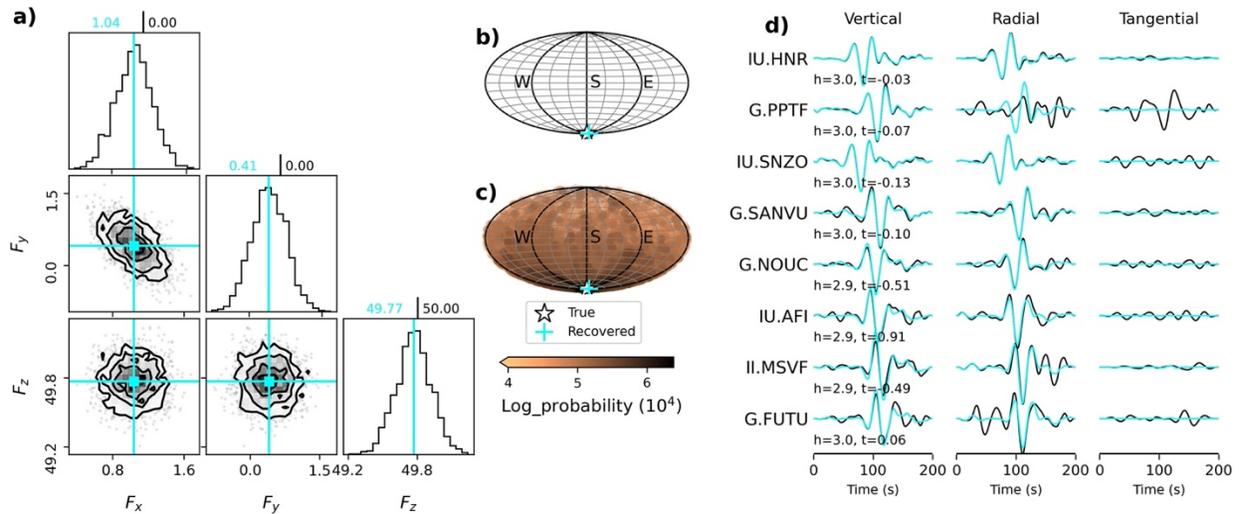
112 Table S2 and Figures S10 – S15 are inversion results for the first main event of the 2022 HTHH  
113 eruption (E1 in Figure 1b). Table S2 summarizes the results of six inversions. The data processing  
114 is based on the epicentral location 175.390°W, 20.546°S, and origin time of E1, 2022-01-15  
115 04:14:45 UTC (USGS, 2022). We chose eight regional broadband stations in Figure 1(a). After  
116 correcting the instrument response, the raw data are converted into the vertical, radial, and  
117 tangential coordinate systems. Then, we filtered the waveforms between 25 and 70 seconds with  
118 a 4th-order Butterworth causal filter to obtain a better signal-to-noise ratio and to mitigate the  
119 structural error from the 1D Earth's assumption in this study. To reduce the correlation between  
120 data samples, the waveforms are down-sampled to 1 Hz and cut into a 200-s window centered  
121 on the surface wave signals (Figure S10). Predicted waveforms are calculated using Green's  
122 functions requested from the online database Syngine (Hutko et al., 2017) for the ak135f model  
123 (Montagner & Kennett, 1996), which was pre-computed by the axisymmetric spectra element  
124 code (AxiSEM – Nissen-Meyer et al., 2014) with the fixed depth at 0.8 km. Figures S11 – S15  
125 expand the discussion briefly discussed in the main text.

126

127 **Table S1:** The summary of synthetic experiments. All sources are fixed at a depth of 0.8 km,  
 128 which is the depth of the caldera bottom of post-eruption (see Section 2.3 for more details).  
 129 Comparison between the true and recovered source is based on the variance reduction (VR) of  
 130 waveform fit, ISO, DC and CLVD components of MT, moment magnitude, and three components  
 131 of a SF. The numbers below each item in the top row are the true values. The unit of SF is  
 132  $10^{12}$  N.

| True source                      | Inversion | VR    | ISO<br>(54.6%) | DC<br>(11.7%) | CLVD<br>(33.7%) | $M_w$<br>(6.21) | $F_x$<br>(0) | $F_y$<br>(0) | $F_z$<br>(50) |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>Case 1:</b><br>SF input       | SF-only   | 78.1% | —              | —             | —               | —               | 1.04         | 0.41         | 49.77         |
|                                  | MT-only   | 65.5% | 68.5%          | 1.0%          | 30.5%           | 6.01            | —            | —            | —             |
|                                  | MT+SF     | 78.0% | 58.7%          | 2.1%          | 39.2%           | 5.94            | 0.28         | 0.36         | 49.30         |
| <b>Case 2:</b><br>MT input       | SF-only   | 58.5% | —              | —             | —               | —               | -6.49        | -12.9        | -49.34        |
|                                  | MT-only   | 84.9% | 55.2%          | 11.2%         | 33.6%           | 6.20            | —            | —            | —             |
|                                  | MT+SF     | 84.9% | 55.3%          | 11.1%         | 33.6%           | 6.20            | -1.13        | -0.3         | -1.42         |
| <b>Case 3:</b><br>MT+SF<br>input | SF-only   | 79.3% | —              | —             | —               | —               | -2.98        | -5.69        | 73.96         |
|                                  | MT-only   | 84.9% | 60.6%          | 4.5%          | 34.9%           | 6.25            | —            | —            | —             |
|                                  | MT+SF     | 89.7% | 55.5%          | 10.7%         | 33.8%           | 6.21            | -0.63        | 0.57         | 49.22         |

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141 **Figure S1:** Results of SF-only inversion in the synthetic scenario when the true source is

142 a downward force (Case 1). (a) The posterior distribution of three SF parameters. Cyan

143 lines show the mean of each SF parameters corresponding the number in cyan above

144 each column, separated from their true values in magenta by a vertical bar. (b) The

145 diagram of the force orientations in convergence stage. The longitude and latitude

146 correspond to force's azimuth and dip angle, respectively. (c) The diagram of the force

147 orientations in whole inversion stage. The color bar displays log probability. (d) Fit

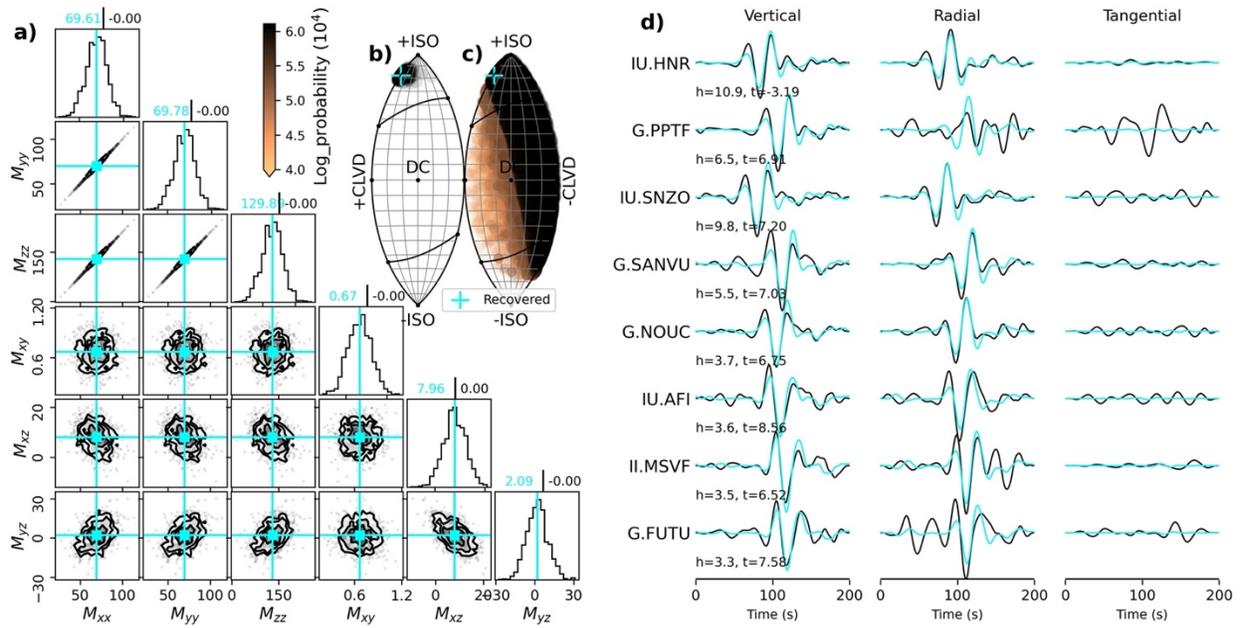
148 between the 'observed' (black) and synthetic waveforms (cyan) obtained from the

149 recovered SF solution. The numbers below each sub-panel are recovered station-specific

150 noise parameter, and station-specific time shift, respectively. The true noise level and

151 time-shift parameters are 3 and 0, respectively.

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154 **Figure S2:** Results of MT-only inversion in the synthetic scenario when the true source is

155 a downward force (Case 1). (a) The posterior distribution of six MT parameters. (b)The

156 lune diagram with the converging MT solution from (a). The cyan cross shows the mean

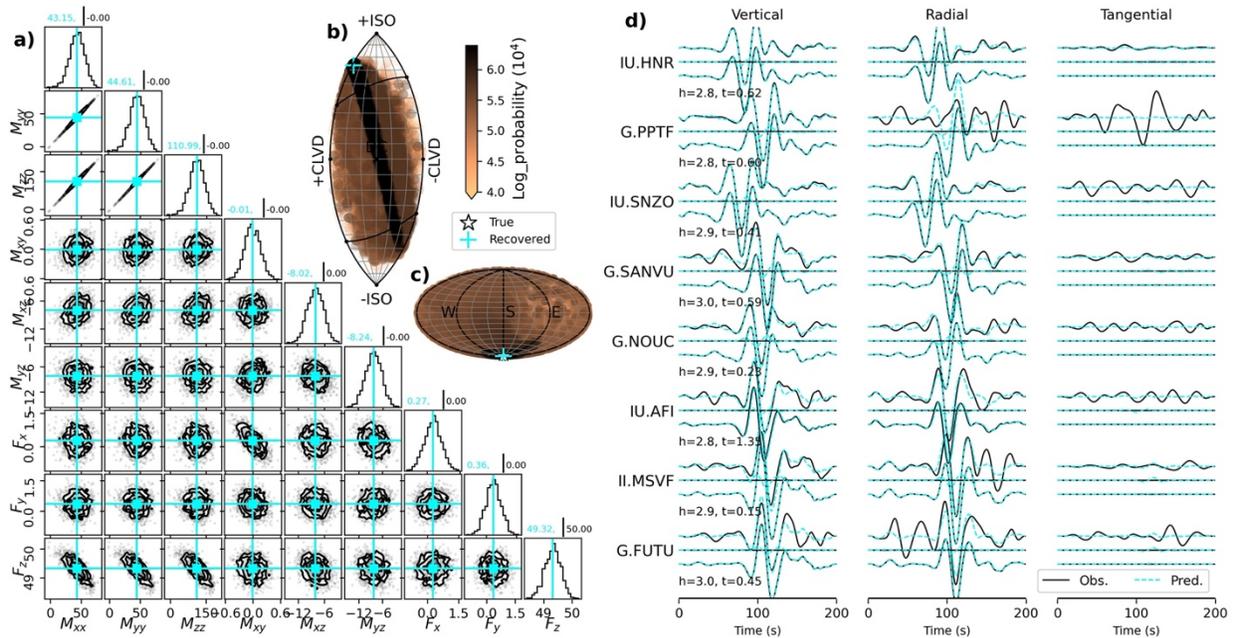
157 MT solution of the convergency stage, i.e., recovered MT. The color bar displays log

158 probability. (c) The Lune source-type diagram shows the evolution of every MT solution

159 during the entire inversion stage. (d) Fit between the 'observed' (black) and synthetic

160 waveforms (cyan) obtained from the mean MT solution.

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162

163 **Figure S3:** Results of joint MT and SF inversion in the synthetic scenario of Case 1. (a)

164 Posterior distribution of the nine source parameters in the convergence stage of the

165 inversion. The units of MT and SF parameters are  $10^{16}$  Nm,  $10^{12}$  N, respectively. (b)The

166 lune diagram with the all MT solutions in the entire inversion stage. (c) The diagram of

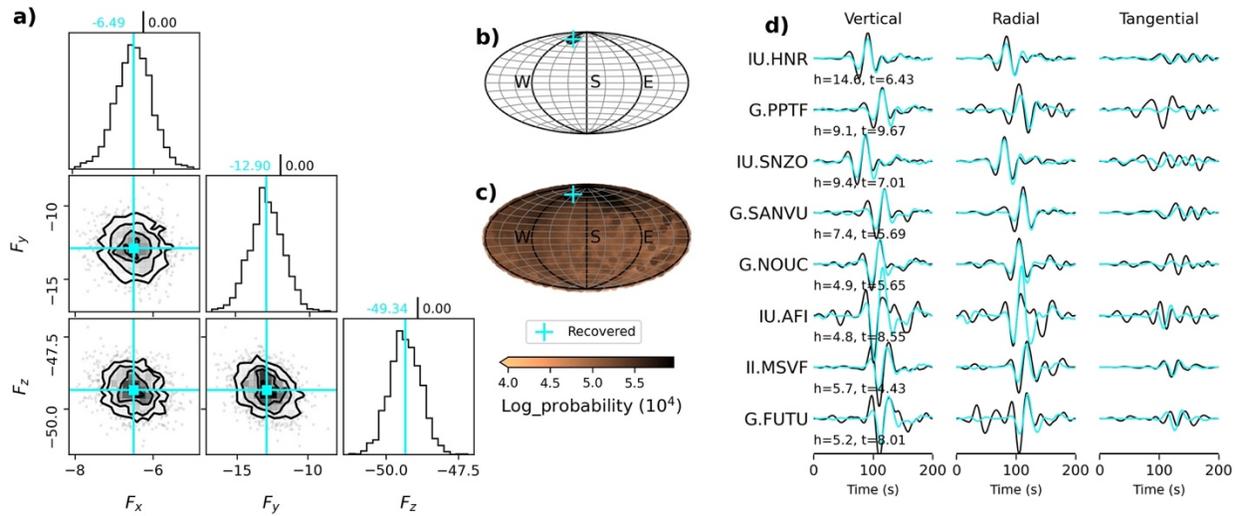
167 force orientation during the entire inversion stage. The longitude and latitude

168 correspond to force's azimuth and dip angle, respectively. (d) Waveform fit between

169 observations (black) and predictions (cyan).

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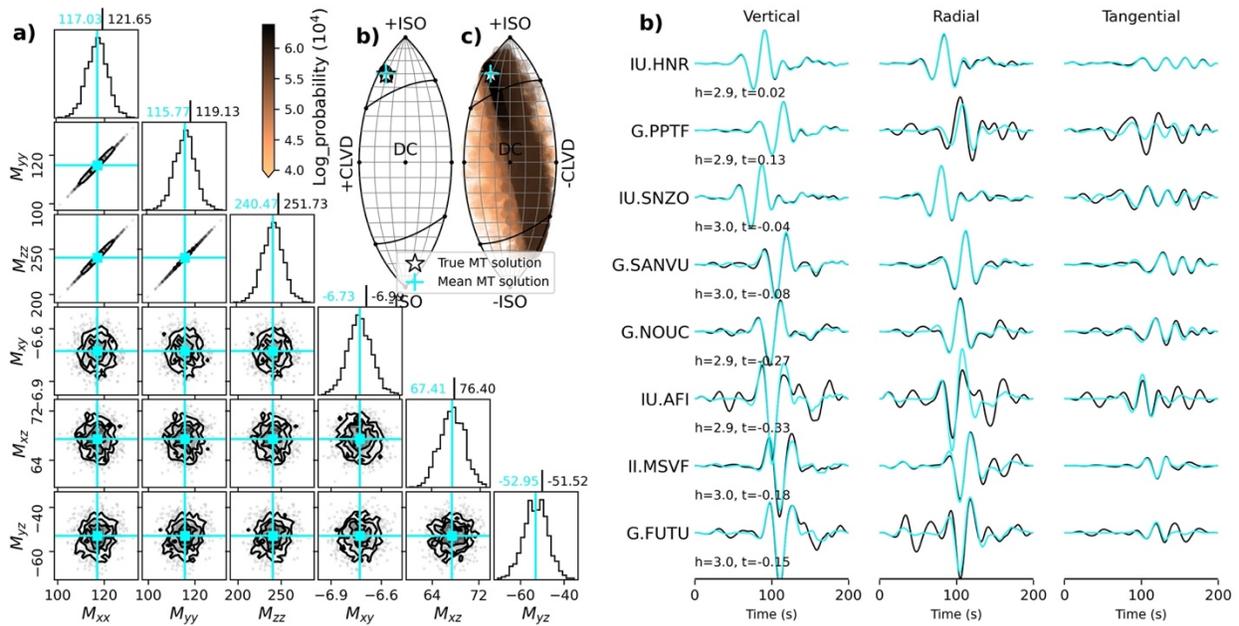
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173 **Figure S4:** Results of SF-only inversion in the synthetic scenario when the true source is

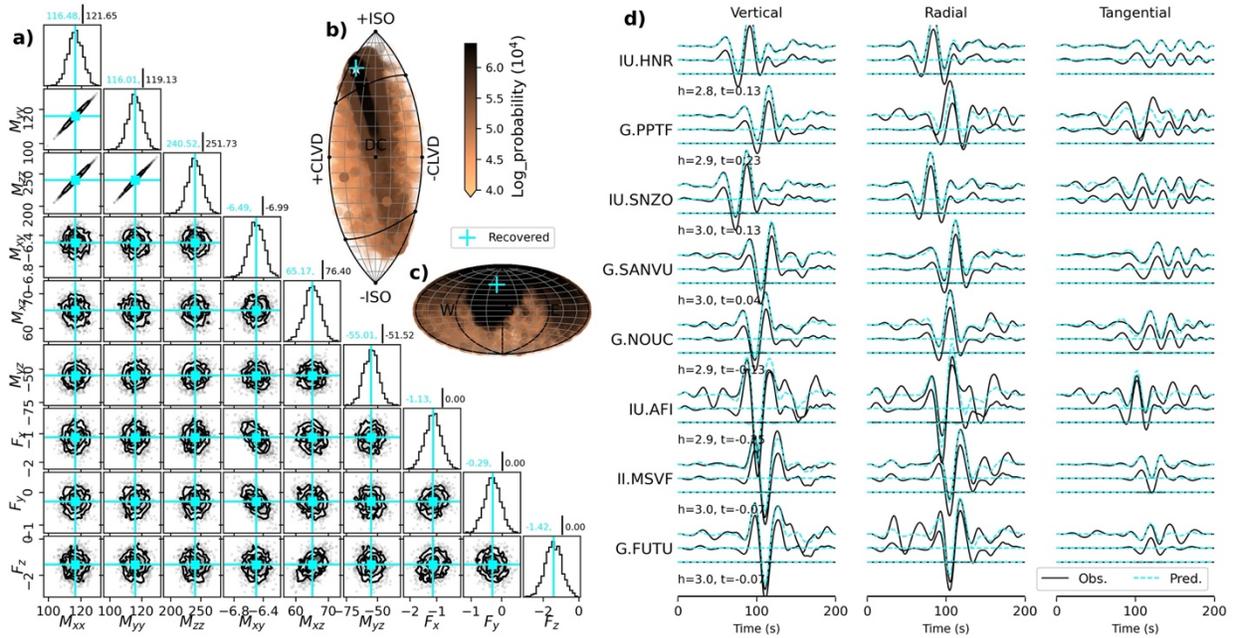
174 a MT (Case 2). See caption of Figure S1 for more details.



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176 **Figure S5:** Results of MT-only inversion in the synthetic scenario when the true source is

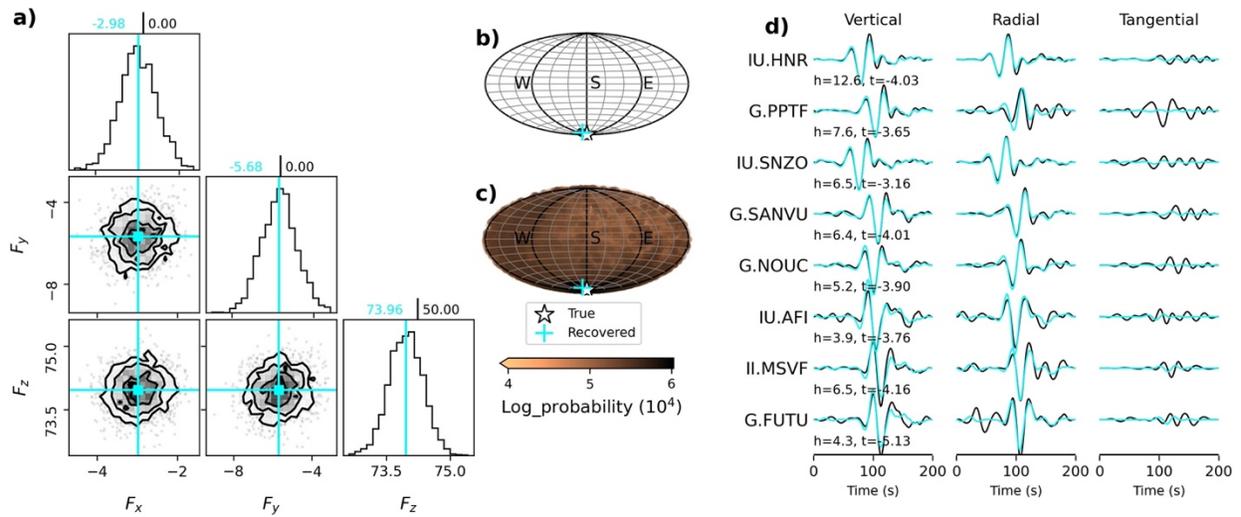
177 a MT (Case 2). See caption of Figure S2 for more details.



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179 **Figure S6:** Results of joint MT and SF inversion in the scenario of Case 2. The white stars

180 in (b) is the true MT input. See the caption of Figure S3 for more details.

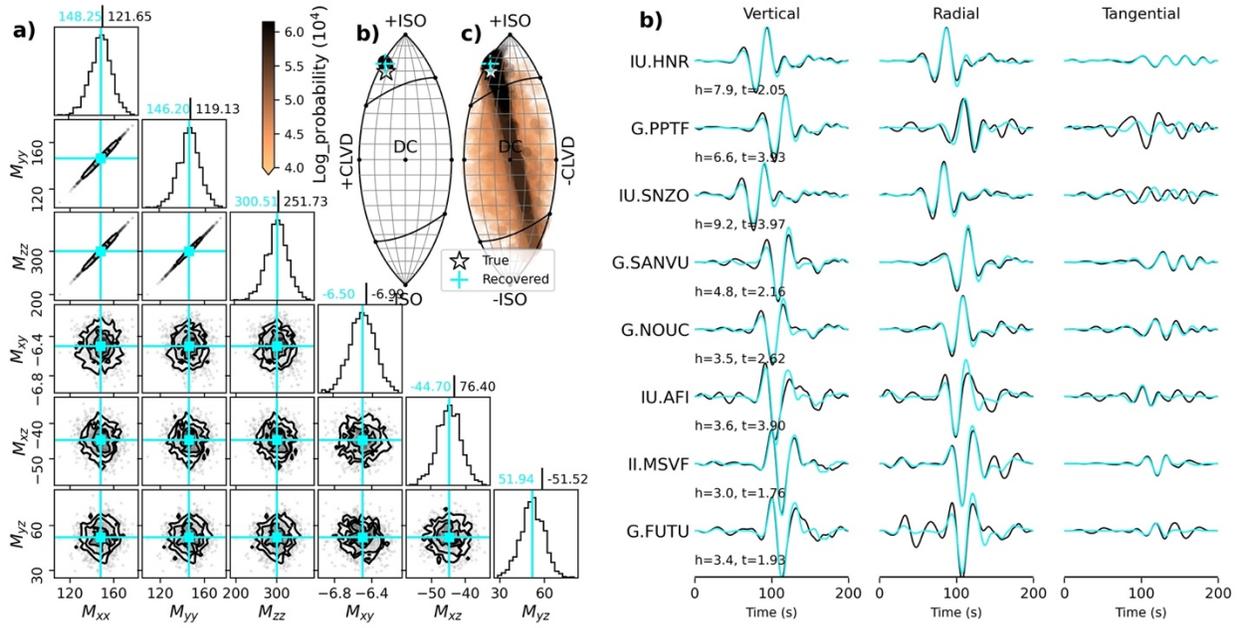


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182 **Figure S7:** Results of SF-only inversion in the synthetic scenario when the true source is

183 a composite of MT and downward SF (Case 3). See caption of Figure S1 for more details.

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186 **Figure S8:** Results of MT-only inversion in the synthetic scenario when the true source is

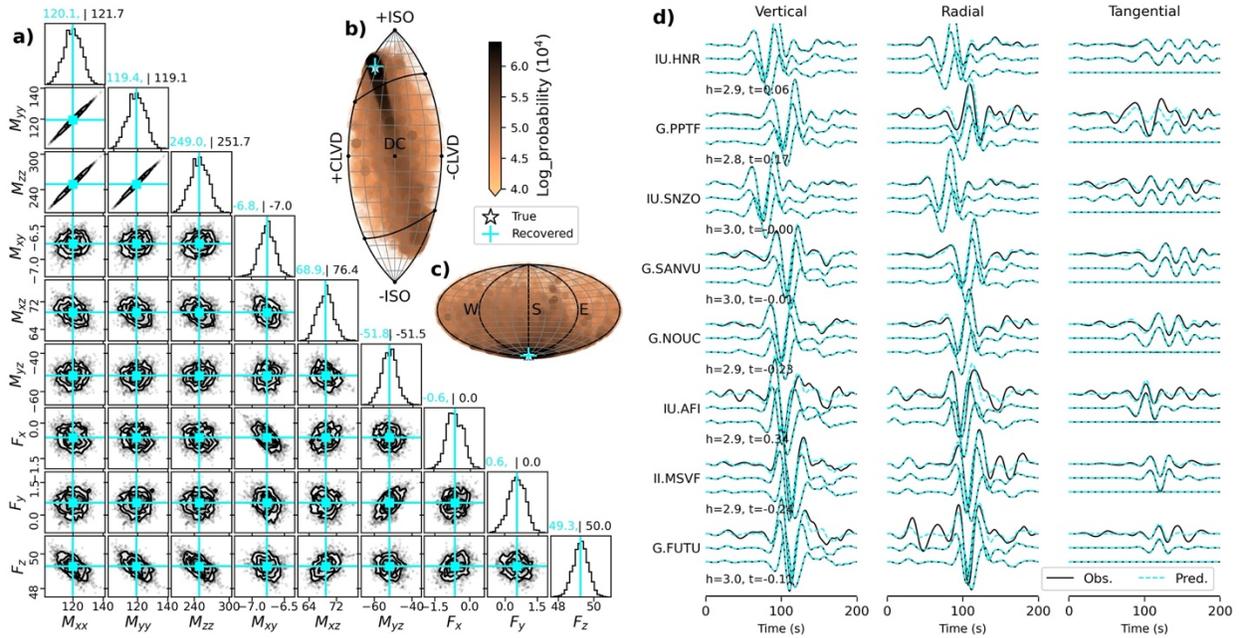
187 a composite of MT and downward SF (Case 3). See caption of Figure S2 for more details.

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**Figure S9:** Results of joint MT and SF inversion in the synthetic scenario when the true

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source is a composite of MT and downward SF (Case 3). See caption of Figure S3 for

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more details.

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203 **Table S2:** Comparison between six solutions for the real data of E1 from SF-only  
 204 inversion, MT-only inversion and joint MT and SF inversion. The unit of SF is  $10^{12}$  N.

| <b>Inversion</b> | <b>VR</b> | <b>ISO</b> | <b>DC</b> | <b>CLVD</b> | <b>M<sub>w</sub></b> | <b>F<sub>x</sub></b> | <b>F<sub>y</sub></b> | <b>F<sub>z</sub></b> |
|------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Fz-only</b>   | 53.8%     | —          | —         | —           | —                    | —                    | —                    | 47.7                 |
| <b>SF-only</b>   | 55.1%     | —          | —         | —           | —                    | -13.48               | -2.83                | 48.03                |
| <b>MT-only</b>   | 76.7%     | 58.1%      | 7.4%      | 34.5%       | 6.22                 | —                    | —                    | —                    |
| <b>ISO+SF</b>    | 67.6%     | 100%       | —         | —           | 5.59                 | -12.57               | -2.06                | -27.4                |
| <b>MT+Fz</b>     | 77.3%     | 62.5       | 5.6%      | 31.9%       | 6.26                 | —                    | —                    | -18.27               |
| <b>MT+SF</b>     | 78.5%     | 62.4%      | 6.9%      | 30.7%       | 6.25                 | 3.58                 | 1.9                  | -20.17               |

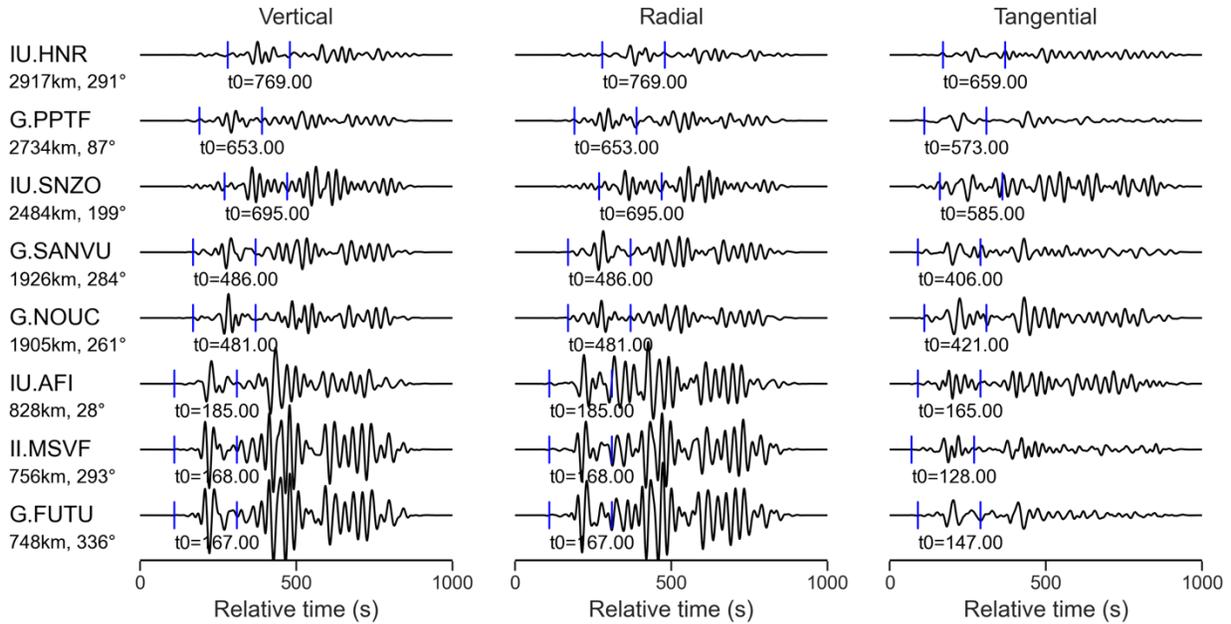
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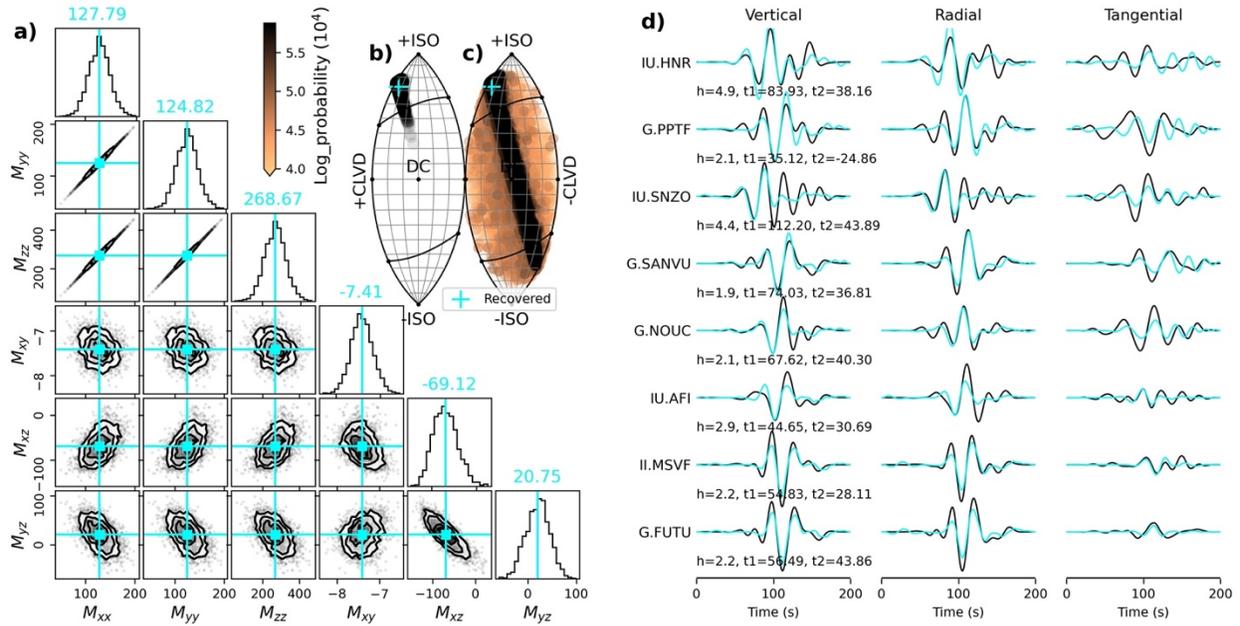
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211 **Figure S10.** The waveforms of the 2022 HTHH eruption. The data is filtered between  
 212 25 – 70 second. The time zero corresponds to the S-wave arrival time in ak135f model  
 213 (Montagner & Kennett, 1996). The two blue lines at each component show the start time  
 214 and end time of the 200s-window used in the inversion for E1 event. The number  $t_0$   
 215 denotes the start time of the window from the origin time.

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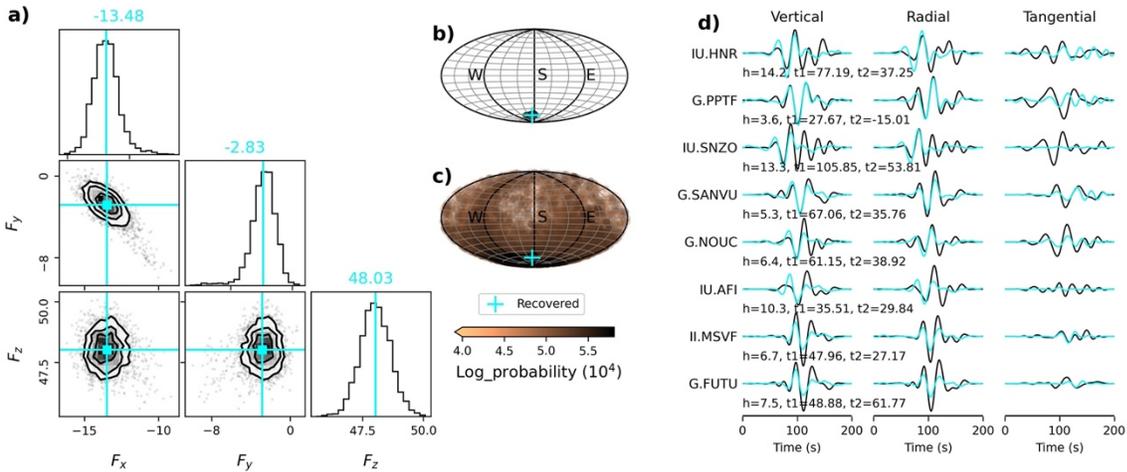


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220 **Figure S11.** Results of MT-only inversion for the 2022 HTHH first main eruption. (a) The  
 221 posterior distribution of six MT parameters. Cyan lines show the mean of each MT  
 222 parameters corresponding the number in cyan above each column. Three parameters of  
 223 the MT,  $M_{xx}$ ,  $M_{yy}$ , and  $M_{zz}$ , show a strong linear dependency on each other which is  
 224 caused by the ISO-CLVD tradeoff for shallow explosive sources (Hu et al., 2023). (b) MT  
 225 evolution in the convergency stage. (c) MT evolution in the whole inversion stage. (d) Fit  
 226 between the observed (black) and synthetic waveforms (cyan) obtained from the mean  
 227 MT solution.

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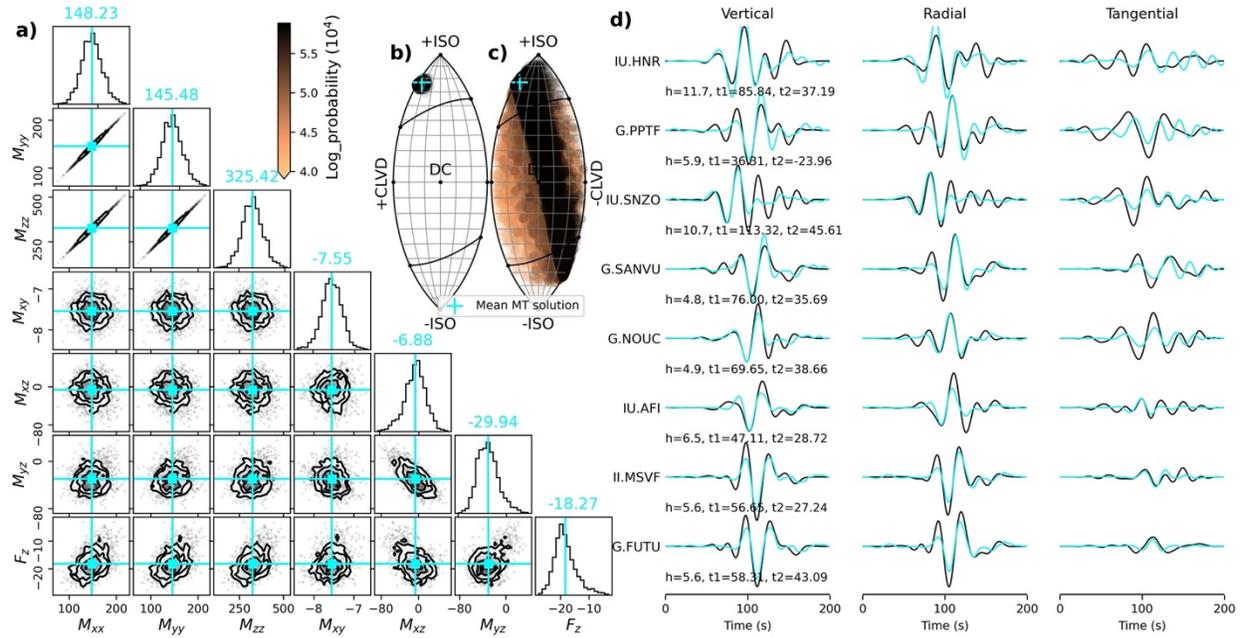


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231 **Figure S12.** Results of SF-only inversion for the 2022 HTHH first main eruption. (a) The  
 232 posterior distribution of three SF parameters. Cyan lines show the mean of each force  
 233 parameter corresponding the number in cyan above each column. (b) The diagram of  
 234 the force orientations in convergency stage. The longitude and latitude correspond to  
 235 force's azimuth and dip angle, respectively. (c) The diagram of the force orientations in  
 236 entire inversion stage. The color bar displays log probability. (d) Fit between the  
 237 observed (black) and synthetic waveforms (cyan) obtained from the mean SF solution  
 238 which are shown in cyan in (a). The numbers below each sub-panel are recovered  
 239 station-specific noise parameter, and station-specific time shift for vertical/radial  $t_1$  and  
 240 tangential components  $t_2$ , respectively.

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244 **Figure S13:** Results of joint MT and vertical force  $F_z$  inversion for the 2022 HTHH first

245 main eruption. See the caption of Figure S11 for more details.

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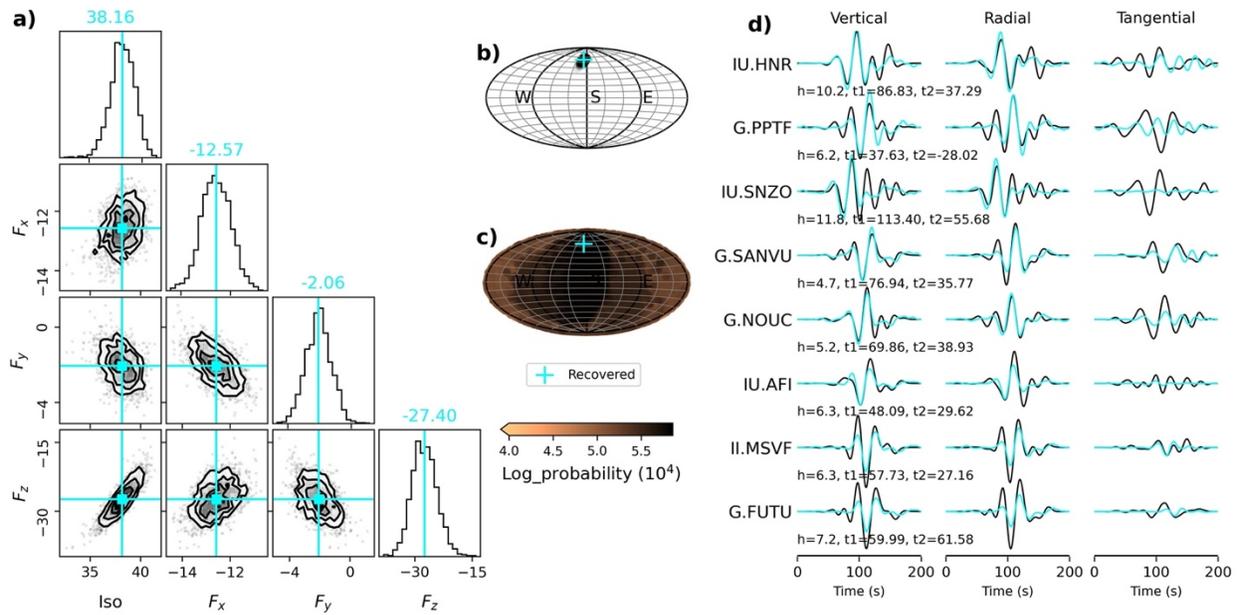
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253 **Figure S14:** Result of joint ISO and SF inversion for the 2022 HTHH first main eruption.

254 (a) The posterior distribution of four source parameters. Cyan lines show the mean of

255 each parameter corresponding to the number in cyan above each column. (b) The

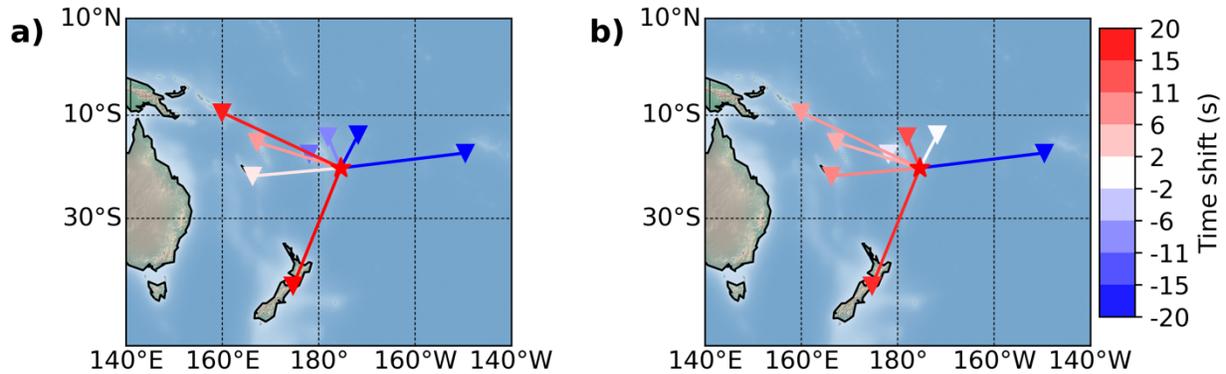
256 diagram of the force orientations in convergence stage. The longitude and latitude

257 correspond to force's azimuth and dip angle, respectively. (c) The diagram of the force

258 orientations in entire inversion stage. The color bar displays log probability. (d) Fit

259 between the observed (black) and synthetic waveforms (cyan) obtained from the mean

260 MT solution.



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 262 **Figure S15:** Recovered station-specific time shifts for (a) Rayleigh waves (vertical and  
 263 radial components), and (b) for Love waves (tangential component).

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