

POST SEISMIC DEFORMATION FOLLOWING THE APRIL 25,2015 GORKHA EARTHQUAKE: AFTERSLIP VERSUS VISCOUS RELAXATION.

François Jouanne, Ananta Prasad Gajurel, Jean-Louis Mugnier, Laurent Bollinger, Lok Bijaya Adhikari, Bharat Koirala, Nathalie Cotte, Roshanraj Bhattarai, Arnaud Pecher, Pascale Bascou, et al.

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30	SUMMARY.									

32 . The postseismic deformation consecutive to the April 25, 2015 Gorkha earthquake (7.8 33 Mw) is estimated in this paper based on a cGNSS network installed prior to the earthquake and 34 supplemented by cGNSS stations installed after the main shock. Postseismic velocities are 35 obtained from recorded velocities corrected for interseismic deformation and seasonal variations . The maximum postseismic displacement is found north of the rupture area, and 36 37 locally reached 100 mm between the earthquake and late 2016. The postseismic deformation extends in the northern part of the rupture area whereas there is a lack of postseismic 38 39 deformation south of the rupture, along the southern part of the Main Himalayan Thrust. Three hypotheses for the mechanisms controlling postseismic deformation are tested through 40 numerical simulations of the postseismic time series: viscous relaxation, afterslip or a 41 42 combination of these two mechanisms. We can exclude postseismic deformation controlled by viscous relaxation of a thick deformation zone along the northern and lower flat of the MHT. 43 44 However, it is not possible to discriminate between postseismic deformation controlled by either an afterslip along the MHT (northern part of the rupture zone, crustal ramp and lower flat 45 of the MHT) or a combination of afterslip along the MHT (northern part of the rupture zone, 46 47 crustal ramp) and viscous relaxation along a thin (~3km thick) low viscosity body centered on the lower flat of the MHT. 48 49 Keywords: Creep and deformation, Transient deformation, Asia, Seismic cycle, Space geodetic 50

- 51 surveys.
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- 55 INTRODUCTION.

The April 25, 2015 Mw 7.8 Gorkha earthquake provides a unique opportunity to study a large Himalayan earthquake with continuous GNSS data (Avouac et al., 2015), InSAR investigations (e.g. Grandin et al., 2015) and good seismological data (Adhikari et al., 2015; Baillard et al., 2017). The implementation of a cGNSS network, prior to the earthquake, has also allowed to quantify the early postseismic surface deformation consecutive to this large earthquake (Mencin et al., 2016).

The 2015 earthquake (Fig. 1) is a very good example to study the complexity of the seismic 62 63 cycle in a continental subduction zone: it indicates that the convergence along a main thrust is 64 consumed during various types of earthquakes (Mugnier et al., 2013), some of which partially contributes to release the elastic strain of the Main Himalayan Thrust (Avouac et al., 2015). 65 66 This partial release has already been instrumentally measured in several oceanic subduction environments; for example, in the Andean convergent margin, the main slip patch of the 2010 67 68 Mw 8.8 earthquake occurred in an area that was highly coupled and had already released slip in 1960 (Melnick et al., 2012; Moreno et al., 2012). However, the 2015 Gorkha event provides 69 a unique opportunity to study the postseismic deformation: in an oceanic subduction zone, 70 71 GNSS data cannot be deployed in the marine area located above the rupture whereas 12 stations were located all around the Gorkha rupture zone. Furthermore, during the weeks following the 72 73 main shock, the dataset has been completed by the deployment of other permanent or semipermanent GNSS stations (this paper). 74

Nonetheless, the mechanism controlling the postseismic deformation associated with the 2015 Gorka event has not yet been studied in detail. Different mechanisms are usually inferred for the postseismic deformation: afterslip or viscous relaxation. Given that the coseismic displacement field for this earthquake has been estimated (e.g. Avouac, 2015) and the geometry of the Main Himalayan Thrust is rather well imaged (Duputel et al., 2016), it is possible to numerically simulate the GNSS time series illustrating the postseismic deformation in order to determine the mechanisms controlling this deformation in Nepal. The Relax software (Barbot et al., 2009) was used to model the postseismic deformation and three mechanisms have been tested: afterslip, viscous relaxation or a combination of these two phenomena. We used a flapramp-flat geometry (Elliott et al., 2016) with a southern and upper flat corresponding to the geometry adopted by Grandin et al. (2016) to describe the coseismic slip distribution of the Gorkha earthquake along this flat.

87

88 GEOLOGICAL SETTING.

89 The structure of the Himalaya results from the underthrusting of the Indian lithosphere along the Main Himalayan Thrust (MHT) beneath the Tibetan Plateau (Argand, 1924). Great 90 91 earthquakes have episodically ruptured segments of the brittle upper part of the MHT (e.g. Avouac et al., 2001; Mugnier et al., 2013). The Nepal earthquake of April 25, 2015 followed a 92 93 series of great earthquakes in Central Himalaya (Mugnier et al., 2011; Bollinger et al., 2014): over the last two centuries, the city of Kathmandu was severely damaged in 1833, 1866, 1934. 94 The April 25, 2015 event (Fig. 1) is the first event that occurred along the MHT and which was 95 96 simultaneously recorded by numerous instruments: high-rate GPS (e.g. Avouac et al., 2015), teleseismic waves (e.g. Fan and Shearer, 2015), SAR imaging (e.g. Lindsey et al., 2015), InSAR 97 98 and teleseismic waves (Grandin et al., 2016), strong-motion recordings (e.g. Bhattarai et al., 2015) and a local seismometer network (Adhikari et al., 2015). 99

The rupture was mainly located to the NW of Kathmandu, at a depth of 13-15 km on a flat portion of the Main Himalayan Thrust (MHT) that dips towards the N-NE by 7-10°. The northern boundary of the main rupture corresponds to the transition towards a steeper crustal ramp. This ramp, which is partly coupled during the interseismic period (Jouanne et al., 2017), is only locally affected by the earthquake (Elliott et al., 2016). The southern boundary of the rupture was near the leading edge of the Lesser Himalaya antiformal duplex (Mugnier et al., Commenté [p1]: Pas dans la biblio Commenté [p2]: Pas dans la biblio 2017) and possibly near the frontal footwall ramp of the upper Nawakot duplex (Hubbard et al.,
2016). This rupture was affected by transversal structures: on the western side, a ~20° dipping
lateral ramp (Kumar et al., 2017), located beneath the Judi lineament (Mugnier et al., 2017) and
already defined by Kayal (2008), separates the main rupture zone from the nucleation area. On
the eastern side, a lateral ramp (Mugnier et al., 2017) located beneath the Gaurishankar
lineament (Kayal, 2008) separates the April 25, 2015 rupture from the May 12, 2015 (Mw 7.2)
rupture.

113

114 DATA ACQUISITION AND ANALYSIS.

115

116 After the April 25 Gorkha earthquake, we installed a GNSS network designed to record postseismic deformation induced by this Mw 7.8 earthquake. We installed five permanent 117 118 GNSS stations in June 2015 and 11 episodic GNSS stations between June and December 2015. Seven of these stations were measured again in November 2016 (Figs. 2 and 3). We analyzed 119 these data together with the continuous GNSS networks established by LDG-DASE, Caltech 120 121 (www.unavco.org), Central Washington University (http://www.geodesy.cwu.edu) and with data from the GNSS sites defined in the ITRF2014 reference frame (ARTU, 122 123 BADG, BAKU, BJFS, BJNM, CHUM, CUSV, GUAO, HYDE, IISC, IRKJ, IRKM, KIT3, KUWT, LHAZ, MDVJ, POL2, SGOC, SHAO, TALA, TASH, TCMS, TEHN, TNML, URUM, 124 125 ZECK).

The data were analyzed using the Bernese 5.2 software, with absolute antenna phase center offset models, together with precise orbits, earth rotation parameters, ocean tidal loading and atmospheric tidal loading estimates. Velocities and time series were estimated in the ITRF2014 reference frame (Altamimi et al., 2016) with discontinuities associated with this reference frame and expressed in terms of the India fixed reference frame by the use of the rotation pole **Commenté [jl3]:** Je comprend pas à quoi correspondent ces données, d'où elles proviennent !

Commenté [jl4]: ETRANGE : EST-CE UTILE ? RETIRER OU METTRE UNE REFERENCE ?

proposed by Ader et al. (2012). This rotation pole, originally proposed to describe the motion of India relative to ITRF2005, rather describes accurately the India plate motion in the ITRF2014 reference frame, as shown by Jouanne et al. (2017) and as exemplified by the lack of velocity of the cGPS SIM4 station located on the India plate (Fig. 3),. In any case, the eventual velocities changes introduced by the change of ITRF are negligible compared to the large postseismic displacements.

We followed the resolution strategy with (1) an initial ionosphere-free analysis with calculation 137 138 of the residuals; (2) a residual analysis; (3) code-based wide-lane ambiguity resolution for all 139 baselines (Melbourne, 1985; Wübbena, 1985), using differential code bias (DCB) files when available and calculation of the ionosphere-free solution with the introduction of resolved 140 141 Melbourne-Wübbena linear combination ambiguities; (4) phase-based wide-lane (L5) ambiguity resolution for baselines < 200 km and computation of the ionosphere-free solution 142 143 with the introduction of resolved ambiguities; (5) resolution of the previously unresolved ambiguities for baselines < 2000 km using the quasi ionosphere-free strategy of resolution; (6) 144 direct L1/L2 ambiguity resolution for baselines < 20 km with the introduction of an ionosphere 145 146 model; (7) calculation of the normal equations; (8) a compatibility test between the daily free solution and ITRF2014 solution, selection of compatible ITRF2014 stations and (9) 147 148 transformation of the daily normal equation in the ITRF2014 reference frame with a sixparameter Helmert solution (three translation parameters and three rotation parameters) using 149 150 the ITRF2014 selected stations. During these steps, site-specific troposphere parameters were 151 estimated every two hours.

Normal equations were analyzed together to determine accurate velocities in the ITRF2014
reference frame with the introduction of ITRF2014 coordinates and velocities. Outliers and new
discontinuities were detected using the "Find Outliers and Discontinuities in Time Series" tool
in the Bernese 5.2 software that takes annual seasonal fluctuations into account and reduces,

Commenté [jl5]: Changement entre quoi ? et introduit par

aui?

Commenté [jl6]: Plutôt : « simultaneously ?

step by step, the discrepancy between the functional model and the time series due to statistical adjustment (Ostini et al., 2008). As the Bernese 5.2 software underestimates the daily errors given that systematic errors or mismodeled parameters are not included in the formal error (Hugentobler et al., 2001), we rescaled the formal errors by multiplying them by a factor of 10 to obtain a more realistic estimated error.

161

162 **RESULTS:** POSTSEISMIC DISPLACEMENTS AT THE SURFACE.

163

164 We consider that displacements contain three superimposed signals: the interseismic displacements, the postseismic displacements and the seasonal signal associated with the 165 166 loading of the Ganga Plain during the monsoon and its unloading during the dry season (Bettinelli et al., 2008; Fu and Freymueller, 2012; Gualandi et al., 2016). In order to analyze 167 168 postseismic displacements, we removed the interseismic displacements that were either measured before the Gorkha earthquake for the sites that already existed before this event 169 (BESI, BRN2, CHLM, DAMA, GUMB, KKN4, KLDN, LMJG, NAST, ODRE, RMJT, RMTE, 170 171 SNDL, SYBC, TPLJ) (Jouanne et al., 2017) or were estimated using interseismic deformation modellings performed by Jouanne et al. (2017) for the new GNSS sites (Fig. 2). 172 173 In order to evaluate the seasonal annual components, we analysed the time series

between 2000 and April 2015 for the available cGNSS stations (BESI, BRN2, CHLM, DAMA, GUMB, KKN4, KLDN, LMJG, NAST, ODRE, RMJT, RMTE, SNDL, SYBC, TPLJ) using the FODITS program in the Bernese 5.2 software (Ostini et al. 2008). For the cGNSS stations installed after the earthquake, we interpolated in space the values obtained from the cGNSS stations that had been installed for several years to correct the time series for the components of the seasonal signal (annual signal amplitudes and phase difference, Table 1).

Commenté [jl7]: Le critère de choix ou de disponibilité n'est pas clair.

181 The postseismic displacements for the period when most of the GNSS stations were available (between June 24, 2015 and late 2016) is shown (Fig. 3) to compare site displacement 182 183 measured during the same time span. Postseismic displacements are characterized by the southward displacements of the points north of the Gorkha rupture (CHLM, GUMB, TSM1). 184 The station that recorded the greatest postseismic displacement is CHLM (Fig. 3) located to the 185 186 north of the rupture, with 40 mm of southward displacement between April 25 and June 24 and 100 mm of southward displacement between June 24, 2014 and late 2016. The points located 187 188 in the northern part of the rupture zone (KKN4, GURJ, BALA) are affected by moderate 189 southward postseismic displacements, whereas the points located at the southern end of the rupture, near to and south of Kathmandu (CHIR, DAMA, NAST and XYAK), are affected by a 190 191 negligible postseismic displacement. It should be noted that the points at the western part of the rupture (LMJG, GORK and ANBU) are not affected by postseismic displacements whereas the 192 193 points located several kilometers to the east of the April 25, 2015 rupture (CHAR, JIR2, MALU) are affected by significant postseismic displacements reaching 35 mm (Fig. 3). Given 194 that these points were installed after the May 12, 2015 Mw 7.2 main aftershock, these 195 196 postseismic displacements may be related to the postseismic deformation induced by this 197 earthquake.

198 Significant postseismic displacements are therefore restricted to the northern part of the rupture zone and to an area to the north of it (Figs. 3 and 4). It is important to note that there are no 199 200 clear postseismic displacements to the south of the Gorkha earthquake rupture and, like Mencin 201 et al. (2016), we exclude the occurrence of a significant afterslip along the southern part of the MHT. Therefore, the slip deficit along the MHT south of Kathmandu is not resorbed 202 aseismically by a slip along the MHT from the rupture zone to the MFT where the MHT 203 emerges. The slip deficit could then possibly be resorbed by a future large earthquake between 204 205 the southern end of the rupture near Kathmandu, and the MFT near the Ganga Plain, as has probably already happened in the 1866 earthquake (Oldham, 1883; Szeliga et al., 2010), or by
a larger earthquake rupturing the locked fault zone from the brittle-ductile transition zone to the
surface, in a similar way as in the subduction zones (Melnick et al., 2012; Moreno et al., 2012)
or to the 1934 Nepal-Bihar earthquake (e.g. Mugnier et al., 2013).

As postseismic deformation is primarily characterized by southward displacements, we 210 211 illustrate in Figure 4 the postseismic deformation with the time series for the south component corrected for the interseismic component and the seasonal signal in the India fixed reference 212 213 frame. The time series present a progressive decrease in postseismic displacement with time, 214 which suggests a progressive dissipation of the stress perturbation induced by the earthquake. The CHLM time series presents a jump corresponding to the May 12 Mw 7.2 main aftershocks, 215 216 whereas the other stations were not significantly affected or were installed too late to record this coseismic displacement. The GUMB and DCN4 station time series present anomalous 217 218 displacements respectively 340 to 480 days and 420 to 640 days after the main shock. Moreover, the anomaly affecting the GUMB time series, which began respectively in April 219 2016, cannot be explained by the monsoon that began two months later, whereas the anomaly 220 221 affecting the DCN4 time series, which began in June 2016 is close to the beginning of the monsoon. We assume that these local variations are induced by local phenomena such as local 222 223 unstabilities induced by the main shock.

- 224
- 225 MODELING POSTSEISMIC- DISPLACEMENT.

We have chosen to test the origin of the progressive release using three hypothesis with the Relax 1_0_7 software (Barbot et al., 2009; Barbot and Fialko 2010; Bruhat et al., 2011; Rousset et al., 2012): a postseismic deformation controlled by afterslip, viscous relaxation of the stress perturbation and an association of these two mechanisms.

230 This software computes the displacement and stress due to dislocations and the nonlinear

231 postseismic time-dependent deformation, the latter either controlled by viscous bodies with

power-law rheology or by rate-strengthening friction faults. This software takes into account
gravity and is based on a Fourier-domain elastic Green's function and an equivalent body-force
representation of deformation mechanisms. Ce software est appliqué sur un maillage régulier,
et dans le cas du seisme de Gorkha, nous avons utile un zone d'étude de 50? km de large sur
70? km de large avec une maille élémentaire de 3? km.

For these modellings, we use the same MHT geometry as the one used for the preearthquake deformation (Jouanne et al., 2017) (Fig. 5); this geometry also fits with the location of the rupture zone proposed by Grandin et al. (2016) and in Figure 6. The geometry of the MHT is formed by a succession of flats and ramps characterized by a southern large flat (95-100 km) dipping 7° northward, a crustal ramp dipping 27° northward between 15 and 25 km and a northern flat dipping 7° northward as illustrated by receiver-function data (Duputel et al. 2016).

244 As postseismic displacements only affected stations north of Kathmandu, postseismic slip along the MHT did not affect all the upper flat of the MHT but only its northern parts. If 245 we consider the points BALE, KKN4 and GURJ (Fig. 3 and 4) that are nearly at the same 246 distance from the upper flat-ramp connection, it appears that the eastern one (BALE) is affected 247 by a more important postseismic displacements than the two others located in the western part 248 249 of the upper flat of the MHT. We have then considered that these surficial variations of the displacement reflect the afterslip distribution along the MHT. We have considered in our 250 251 simulation a segment of the upper flat affected by an afterslip wider in the eastern part of the upper flat than in the western part (Fig. 9). Spatial variations in the time series have led us to 252 253 consider a 25 km wide western segment and a 40 km wide eastern segment and the boundary 254 between these two segments coincides with the western edge of the Mai 12, 2015 rupture and with the Gaurishankar lateral ramp as illustrated in Figure 1. This spatial variation also reflects 255 256 interseismic coupling variations between the western and eastern parts: the western part was completely locked whereas the eastern part was only partially locked with a coupling of 0.7 257 (Fig. 8) (Jouanne et al., 2017). 258

255		
260	To test the models, we used a time series that was corrected from interseismic velocities	
261	and seasonal components. For the GUMB and DCN4 time series, which present an unexpected	
262	behavior, we suspect local superficial effects superimposed on postseismic signal; we have	
263	therefore chosen to exclude these data from the modeling.	
264	The preferred solutions were selected using the comparison between the observed and simulated	
265	time series (Fig. 7) with the estimation of WRMS for each simulation.	
266		
267	Viscous relaxation model.	
268	The estimation of the coupling during the interseismic period (Betinelli et al., 2006;	
269	Ader et al., 2012; Jouanne et al., 2017) suggests a ductile behavior along the northern flat of the	
270	MHT. We therefore test the hypothesis that postseismic displacements reveal a viscous	
271	relaxation of the stress perturbation induced by the main shock and its main aftershocks. The	
272	ductile behavior is temperature dependant (Scholz, 1998) and does not occur in the brittle crust.	
273	Viscous relaxation is therefore excluded for the upper flat and the ramp characterized by a	
274	temperature lower than 375°C (Robert et al., 2011). Hereafter, we assume that the lower flat	
275	only accommodates viscous relaxation.	
276	In this simulation, a low viscous body corresponding to the deeper part of the Main Himalayan	
277	Thrust is embedded in an elastic half space (Fig. 5a). The parameters to be determined are the	
278	viscosity and the thickness of this body. We have chosen to explore the following ranges of	
279	values: viscosity of the body from 10^{17} to 10^{19} Pas. and thickness of the body from 0 to 12 km.	(
280	The WRMS is always greater than 17 mm and no solution is clearly favored amongst the 200??	
281	numerical runs performed to determine the parameter influence and summarized on Figure 7a.	
202		

Commenté [jl8]: Une refernce pour justifier ce choix !

282

283 Afterslip model.

284	If the postseismic displacements are controlled by an afterslip induced by the April 25	
285	2015 Mw 7.9 earthquake, these displacements can be simulated by a progressive release of the	
286	stress perturbation due to the main shock. We assume that the afterslip takes place (Fig. 5) along	
287	the northern part of the upper flat of the MHT affected by the April 25, 2015 earthquake, along	
288	the crustal ramp north of the rupture zone and along the lower flat north of this ramp.	
289	We assign rate-strengthening properties derived from laboratory experiments (Dieterich, 1979;	
290	Ruina,1983) to these three fault segments with:	
291	$V = 2 \dot{\gamma}_0 \sinh \frac{\Delta \tau}{(a-b)\sigma} $ (eq. 1)	
292	Where V is the slip on the fault, $\Delta \tau$ is the stress perturbation induced by the earthquake that is	
293	progressively released by the afterslip, $\dot{\gamma}_0$ and (<i>a</i> - <i>b</i>) are constitutive parameters and σ the	
294	stress drop during the earthquake.	Commenté [jl9]: VERIFIE :je ne suis pas sur vérifie
295	The initial stress perturbation associated to the coseismic slip distributions of the April 25, 2015	
296 297	and May 12, 2015 earthquake estimated by Grandin et al. (2016) (Fig. 6) is calculated with the Relax 1, 0, 7 software	Commenté [jl10]: Quel type de logiciel a utilisé Grandin ? Je suis surpris qu'il n'y ai pas de références concernant le stress drop et la contrainte de Coulomb ?
298	We explore the parameters space (Fig. 7b) formed by $\dot{\gamma}_0$ (from 50 to 800 mm/year), and the	
299	friction along the considered planes (from 0 to 1.2) for an $(a - b) \sigma$ values of 45 MPa. Amongst	Commenté [j111]: Une reference pour justifier ces plages de valeur ?
300	the 5000000?? numerical runs performed to determine the parameter influence (Figure 7b), a	
301	minimum of 3.9 mm is found for the WRMS (Fig. 7b) linked to friction coefficient and $\dot{\gamma}_0$ of	
302	0.9 and 480, respectively.	
303		
304	Afterslip and viscous relaxation model.	
305	This simulation takes into account the hypothesis that the northern flat may be a zone affected	

306 by ductile deformation (e.g. Elliott et al., 2016 VERIFIER) channel (Beaumont et al., 2001),

307	while the upper part of the MHT is probably in a brittle condition as shown by the high coupling
308	of the upper flat and crustal ramp during the interseismic period (Jouanne et al., 2004; Ader et
309	al., 2012; Jouanne et al., 2017).
310	We test the hypothesis of a mixed origin for the postseismic deformation (Fig. 5), with a viscous
311	relaxation controlled by a deep low viscosity body centered on the northern MHT flat, as done
312	above, whereas the afterslip occurs along the crustal ramp and the northern part of the southern
313	flat. We adopt, as an a priori model for the afterslip component, the above model that minimizes
314	the WRMS amongst the models uniquely based on afterslip and we have chosen to explore the
315	following parameters: viscosity of the low viscosity body (from 10^{17} to 5.10^{19} Pa.s) and the
316	thickness of this body (0 to 6 km).
317	Amongst the 50000000000?? numerical runs performed to determine the parameter influence

(Figure 7c), a minimum of 4 mm is found for the WRMS (Fig. 7c) linked to a 3 km thickness
for the viscous body and a 8.10¹⁸ Pas viscosity.

- 320
- 321

322 DISCUSSION.

323 *Comparison between the different models.*

The comparison of the WRMS for the models performed with the three tested hypotheses (Fig. 7?) indicates that the models with only viscous relaxation on the lower flat of the MHT have much higher WRMS and can be excluded.

The two other models, afterslip alone or afterslip associated with a viscous relaxation on the lower flat of the MHT, have WRMS of the same order (smaller than 4 mm) and are not distinguishable; the only noticeable change is obtained for the northern station, CHLM, close to the lower flat (Fig. 8?). The numerical approach modeling therefore does not allow to choose between the two hypotheses -afterslip alone or afterslip combined with viscous relaxation onthe lower flat.

333 All the retained simulations indicate (Figures 6c): a) a moderate afterslip along a large part of 334 the ramp, b) a significant afterslip along the northern part of the upper flat; c) large afterslip where the coseismic slip gradient was high: at the upper flat/crustal ramp transition, locally in 335 336 the rupture area and near the southern boundary of the rupture; d) the lack of significant postseismic displacements near most of the southern border of the numerical model on the upper 337 338 flat segment of the MHT affected by afterslip. Afterslip along the southern part of the upper 339 flat, to the south of the southern border of the numerical model is therefore excluded, as we had apriori assumed for the determination of the mesh based on the nearly null postseismic 340 341 displacement measured south of the Gorkha rupture zone. The models nonetheless indicate a high post seismic displacement at the western edge of the mesh and suggest that post-seismic 342 343 motion could extend farther west of this zone.

344

345 *Evolution of the afterslip along the MHT.*

346 The slip velocity evolution through over time and space of our preferred model indicates that (Fig. 9): the lower flat of the MHT is affected by a slow large-scale afterslip decreasing over 347 348 time, whereas the crustal ramp is affected by a negligible afterslip without significant lateral 349 variations. The northern part of the upper flat is characterized by local patches of high velocity 350 afterslip; the latter reached 2 m/year with a significant lateral variability and a significant decrease between D + 40 days and D + 180 days. The areas of the upper flat affected by 351 significant slip velocity are located close to the flat-ramp transition that corresponds to the 352 northern boundary of the rupture. Areas of the upper flat locally affected by a significant slip 353 velocity are characterized by local high coseismic displacement gradient in Grandin et al.'s 354 355 model (2016) and then to local high deviatoric stress to be release. Locally, slip also occurred

356	southward in areas near the southern end of the mesh, upper flat segment of the MHT affected		
357	by afterslip.		Commenté [M12]: Cette partie est largement une repri
358	Our modelling suggests changes of width of the upper flat of the MHT affected by afterslip		Commenté [j113]: JE SUIS PAS SUR QUE CA SOIT JUSTE '
359	(Fig. 8). These spatial changes and the significant misfits between observed and simulated time		
360	series mainly observed for the JIR2 and GURJ stations may reflect spatial friction coefficient		
361	variations not modelled by our simple models.		
362			
363	The afterslip properties along the MHT.		
364	In the Relax software, it is possible to only consider one single afterslip property		
365	(friction ratio and constitutive parameters) for all of the fault segments. As a result, we have		
366	then considered the same properties for the upper flat, crustal ramp and lower flat of the MHT.		
367	Our preferred model that allows a good fit with the observed time series (Fig. 7b?) has been		
368	obtained with $\dot{\gamma}_0 = 450$ mm/year and a friction of 0.9 for (a-b) $\sigma = 45$ Mpa. The best-fit models		
369	consider two distinct parts for the upper flat of the MHT.		Commenté [jl14]: JE COMPREND PAS CE QUE TU VEUX
370	DISCUTER CES VALEURS PAR RAPPORT A CE QUI EXISTE DANS LA		JIRE
371	LITTERATURE ET PAR RAPPORT A DE QUE CES GRANDEURS REPRESENTENT		
372	(ELLES N'ONT PAS UNE VALEUR UNIQUEMMENT DANS CE MODELE, ENFIN J		
373	ESPERE)		
374	(a-b) σ ? EPERFERENCE EPERFE		
375	A friction coefficient of 0.9 would mean a friction angle close to 41° and is very high in		
376	respect to the usually inferred values. For example the friction angle was estimated at 20° for		
377	the Indian crust in the modeling of Berger et al. (2003). Values greater than 41° were		
378	nonetheless found experimentally for numerous rocks (Kulhawi, 1975).		
379	The interseismic and postseismic modelings therefore suggest a frictional variation		
380	along the upper MHT on both sides of the Gaurishankar lateral ramp.	F	Commente [JI15]: COMME TU N'INTRODUIT PAS LA RUPTURE DE MAI A L'EST, TU N'AS PAS DE PERTURBATION DES CONTRAINTES A L'EST ET DONC PAS DE POST A L'EST DEUT ETRE NE PAS EN PARLER

menté [M12]: Cette partie est largement une reprise ragraphe précédent, il faudrait peut-être regrouper

menté [jl13]: JE SUIS PAS SUR QUE CA SOIT JUSTE VU TU IMPOSES TA LIMITE AVANT LA MODELISATION ; !

Imenté [j115]: COMME TU N'INTRODUIT PAS LA TURE DE MAI A L'EST, TU N'AS PAS DE PERTURBATION CONTRAINTES A L'EST ET DONC PAS DE POST A L'EST ! ETRE NE PAS EN PARLER

382 Viscous relaxation controlled by a low viscosity zone along the lower flat of the MHT.

The time series for the stations located above the rupture zone, or to the south of it, are not correctly simulated by a viscous relaxation controlled by a ductile body centered on the northern flat. In the numerical models where afterslip along the upper parts of the MHT has been introduced, the low viscosity body has to be thin (close to 3 km) to minimize the discard between model and data and in this case the discard is small.

We therefore believe that viscous relaxation controlled by a low viscosity body cannot alone explain the recorded postseismic deformation and another source of deformation located to the south of the deep flat (i.e. afterslip) is needed.

Nonetheless, the low viscosity body is a reasonable assumption as it may control the
low coupling along the lower flat documented for the interseismic period (Fig. 8). Furthermore,
low viscosity level has been suggested from the interpretation of deep image of the Himalayan
crust (e.g. Zhao et al., 1993; Nelson et al., 1996).

A channel flow model (Beaumont et al., 2001) was even proposed to describe the Himalayan 395 396 tectonics evolution and is based on a very thick ductile zone (more than 10 km thickCONTROLER), so thick that the horizontal velocity depicts a peculiar gradient, with a 397 398 maximum velocity in the center of the ductile zone. Our results nonetheless suggest that the ductile zone is less than 3(or 5?) km thick beneath the very southern part of the Tibet plateau. 399 400 Therefore, we suggest that the recent tectonics of Himalaya is not controlled by a channel flow deformation at depth, although our results does not preclude a thicker ductile zone towards the 401 402 north.



Commenté [M16]: CETTE FIGURE ME PARAIT INDISPENSABLE POUR SYNTHETISER DE MANIERE ATTRACTIVE TOUT CE TRAVAIL......



404	Fig. 10 Comparison between interseismic coupling ratio, seismic slip and afterslip coupling
405	ratio (pour illustrer le paragraphe ci-dessous!). Les valeurs pourraient être prises sur une seule
406	coupe ou correspondre à une moyenne d'un segment de largeur de la rupture, ceci projete
407	perpendiculairement à la rampe,

408

409 Summary

We then interpret our results as (1) a large-scale afterslip or a viscous relaxation of a thin zone 410 (~3 km thick) of high fluidity along the lower flat of the MHT and (2) a moderate afterslip along 411 the crustal ramp that prolongates down-dip the Gorkha rupture as well as (3) a high-velocity 412 small-scale afterslip along the southern boundary of the segment and (4) a high-velocity 413 afterslip in areas characterized by a significant coseismic slip gradient during the earthquake. 414 415 This pattern where a moderate afterslip along the crustal ramp prolongates down-dip the rupture till the ductile levels as also been shown for the postseismic deformation following the 2005 416 Balakot-Bagh earthquake (Jouanne et al., 2011; Wang and Fialko, 2014), for the deformation 417 consecutive to the 1995 Chi-Chi earthquake (Yu et al., 2003; Perfettini and Avouac, 2004) and 418 for the 1995 Jalisco earthquake (Hutton et al., 2001). 419

Commenté [M17]: Moi je représenterai bien sur un même diagramme, en dessous de la coupe les mouvements co, post et inter sismique, ce qui permettrai de discuter de la signification du couplage inter-sismique ! Tu montrerai en particulier que toute la zone de rupture n'était pas complétement bloquée

Commenté [jl18]: je comprend pas vraiment le sens de large-scale

Commenté [M19]: Dans ces deux cas on peut estimer un déplacement des compartiments de par et d'autre du MHT ? il faudrait donner des valeurs

421 CONCLUSION.

422 The postseismic velocity field clearly shows a lack of displacements to the south of 423 Kathmandu. An afterslip along the southern part of the rupture area of the Gorkha earthquake and along the southern segment of the MHT unaffected by the main shock is then clearly 424 425 excluded. The slip deficit along the southern part of the upper flat of the MHT, between Kathmandu and the Ganga Plain, would be probably transferred along the MHT by an 426 427 earthquake of large magnitude, as was possibly the case after the previous 1833 large earthquake along this segment of the MHT: the 1833 earthquake was followed by a second 428 shock in 1866, in the vicinity of Kathmandu, possibly to the south. To the west and east of the 429 430 Gorkha rupture, postseismic displacements are nearly negligible, and afterslip does not affect the upper flat areas of the MHT to the west of the rupture zone. 431

The simulation of the time series using the Relax software suggest that the postseismic deformation consecutive to the April 25, 2015 earthquake is controlled by an afterslip along the northern part of the upper flat of the MHT, corresponding to the northern part of the rupture, an afterslip along the crustal ramp and an afterslip or viscous relaxation of thin (~3 km thick) ductile zone along the lower flat of the MHT of II manque des estimations numériques 200 ? mm dans l'année suivante en moyenne ?. Viscous relaxation along a ductile body centered on the lower flat of the MHT alone cannot explain the postseismic deformation.

439

440 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The figures and map were prepared using the Generic Mapping Tools software (Wessel and Smith, 1995) and Paraview software (Ahrens et al., 2005; Ayachit, 2015). This material is partially based on data provided by the Nepal permanent GNSS network (DMG, Caltech, DASE) and data services provided by the UNAVCO Facility with support from the National **Commenté [M20]:** Pas si négligeable que ça sur le maillage (coin inférieur gauche !)

Commenté [M21]: Mon problème dans ce papier, c'est que tu regarde un segment du plat supérieur qui comprend aussi le séisme de mai à l'ouest, mais on sait pas si tu en tiens compte dans la modélisation pour le chargement.

Commenté [M22]: Il manque des estimations numériques 100 mm dans l'année suivante en moyenne ?

Commenté [M23]: Il manque des estimations numériques 100 mm dans l'année suivante en moyenne ?

Commenté [M24]:

Commenté [p25]: Pas dans la biblio
Commenté [p26]: Pas dans la biblio

445	Science Foundation	(NSF	and National Aeronautics and	I Space	Administration	(NASA)	under
	Delence I oundation		and i valional i teronaules and	i D puee	runninguation		unac

- 446 NSF Cooperative Agreement No. EAR-0735156. Funds have been provided by the Labex
- 447 OSUG@2020, by INSU-CNRS, by the AAP of Savoie Mont Blanc University by the IRD and
- 448 by the ANR Bhoutanepal.
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cGNSS Stations	Amplitude of the seasonal component in mm	Phase difference in days	cGNSS stations installed after the Gorkha earthquake	Interpolated amplitude values for the seasonal component in mm	Interpolated phase difference values in days
BESI	1.66	154.50	BALE	1.71	107.96
BRN2	0.95	98.29	BHAZ	1.96	70.64
CHLM	2.81	95.05	CHAR	1.56	115.30
DAMA	2.03	121.64	DNC4	2.37	78.93
GUMB	3.75	103.16	GUMB	1.88	98.56
KKN4	1.60	75.06	GURJ	1.62	74.39
KLDN	1.52	109.80	JIR2	1.50	115.64
LMJG	2.00	102.70	SLBL	1.70	119.67
NAST	1.96	120.66	TSM1	2.62	142.31
ODRE	1.60	107.24	XBAR	1.70	106.86
RMJT	1.14	93.10			
RMTE	0.76	139.44			
SNDL	1.42	127.03			
SYBC	1.42	130.12			
TPLJ	2.03	95.93			

Table 1. Seasonal components affecting the south component of the time series. These
values were estimated by FODITS, Bernese 5.2 software (Ostini et al., 2008) for the cGNSS
stations that were installed several years before the Gorkha earthquake or interpolated using
the values previously estimated for the stations installed after the Gorkha earthquake.



Figure 1. Location of the Gorkha earthquake along the upper flat of the MHT. Heavy purple

- for ramp geometry; pink, light purple and green for fully locked, partial coupled and ductile
- MHT, respectivelly; red for rupture zones. The rupture area is bounded by lateral ramps



Figure 2. Observed (Jouanne et al., 2017) and simulated interseismic velocities using
the model proposed by Jouanne et al. (2017). Velocities are expressed in the India fixed
reference frame.



Commenté [M37]: La position des deux linéaments est assez piffométrique : regarde plutôt notre article de 2017 !

Commenté [M38]:

739 740

Figure 3. Postseismic displacements following the Gorkha earthquake for the June 24, 2015-741 742 December 2016 period. The recorded displacements are corrected for interseismic 743 displacements.

744 The rupture of the Gorkha earthquake is indicated by a blue line and the rupture of its main

745 aftershocks, on May 12, 2016, is drawn with an orange line. The star indicates the nucleation

746 of the Gorkha earthquake to the west of its rupture. The dashed green lines indicate the location 747

of the Judi lineament (Kayal, 2008) that separates the main rupture zone from the nucleation area (Kumar et al., 2017) and, on the eastern side, the Gaurishankar lineament (Mugnier et 748

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al., 2017). Errors ellipses are drawn for a 95% confidence level.

Commenté [M39]: Il faudrait mettre quelques lignes d'isovaleurs du glissement (et indiquer la valeur retenue pour les lignes jaunes et bleues





Figure 4. South components for the cGNSS station displacements, corrected from interseismic

velocities and seasonal signals estimated during the period before the main shock or

extrapolated for the new stations. The locations of cGNSS stations are indicated on Figure 2.

Commenté [jl40]: CETTE FIGURE EST PROCHE DE LA FIGURE 37B3 : LA seule difference, c'est les deux stations non modélisées et l'absence des courbes modélises : pourquoi ne pas faire une seule figure ? (Enfin je comprens l'idee de séparer donnees et resultat du modele..°

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753 754

Figure 5. Geometry and rheological properties considered in the numerical simulations of postseismic deformation. (a) Viscous relaxation controlled by a high fluidity body embedded in a half-space characterized by a low fluidity, (b) afterslip along the northern part of the upper flat of the MHT, along the ramp, and along the lower flat of the MHT and (c) viscous relaxation controlled by a high fluidity body embedded in a half-space characterized by a low fluidity and afterslip along the crustal ramp and along the northern part of the upper flat.

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768 Figure 6. Description of the inter and co-seismic and post deformation on the 3 ? km mesh used for the modeling of the deformation with the Relax software. a) Coupling along the 769 Main Himalayan Thrust during the interseimic period (before the Gorkha earthquake) 770 (modified from Jouanne et al., 2017). The white rectangle indicates the location of Figure 9. 771 CR indicates the location of the crustal ramp. b) Coseismic slip distribution (adapted from 772 773 Grandin et al., 2016), and used as input for our numerical simulation. c) an example of the post-seismic deformation (PAR EXEMPLE TU DEVRAIS PRESENTER LE DEPLACEMENT 774 POSTSEISMIQUE CUMULE POUR preferred afterslip model ET TU DEVRAIS PLACER SUR 775 TOUTES CES FIGURES LE TRACE DE LA <mark>RUPTURE DE AVRIL et CELLE DE MAI</mark> 776

Commenté [jl41]: Représenter la limite de la rupture par une ligne par dessus

Commenté [M42]: : le décallage du maillage au front correspond tres bien avec la terminaison sud de la rupture de Mai! Ca permetrai de visualizer tout cela



(a)







778

- Figure 7. Research of the best solution, with the plot of the WRMS, for (a) the viscous relaxation
- 780 hypothesis controlled by a viscous body along the lower flat of the MHT, (b) afterslip hypothesis
- 781 and (c) afterslip and viscous relaxation controlled by a viscous body along the lower flat of the
- 782 MHT. The best solution for the afterslip hypothesis is indicated by a star, and by a polygon for
- 783 the afterslip & viscous relaxation.





786 the afterslip & viscous relaxation model and the viscous relaxation model. The simulated time



1 Slip velocity 1 (m/year)

0

0 0

2 years

86°

o

series with our preferred afterslip and afterslip & viscous relaxation almost always become

confused. Blue curve: afterslip hypothesis, red curve: afterslip and viscous relaxation



28°

27

0

1 (m/year)

0

85

Slip velocity

0 0

1 year

86°

0

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Figure 9. Evolution over time and space of the slip velocity, predicted by our preferred afterslip model, expressed for select data from 0 + 40 days to 0 + 2 years, the velocity is expressed in

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27' 27

28' 28'

Commenté [M46]: JE comprends pas ce que ça veut dire

28°

797 meters per year. The locations of the permanent GNSS stations used to constrain our modellings

are indicated by open circles.