Supplementary Information

Pacific subduction control on Asian continental deformation including Tibetan extension and eastward extrusion tectonics

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Supplementary Note 1

Structural-tectonic map Central and East and Southeast Asia

The structural and tectonic map of Central, East and Southeast Asia and surrounding regions as shown in Fig. 1a is compiled, simplified and modified from many previous works. These include several references for the entire region displayed on the map¹⁻³ and the Himalaya-Tibetan region⁴. For several individual basins or local structures the references are as follows, from north to south: Kamchatka grabens⁵, Shantar-Lizianski basin⁶, Priokhotsky rift⁷, Sea of Okhotsk^{6,8}, Heilongjiang basin⁹, Bohai basin¹⁰, Northern Yellow Sea basin¹¹, South Yellow Sea basin¹², Subei basin¹², Gunsan basin¹², Tibet rifts^{4,13-15}, East China Sea basin¹⁶, Yuanma basin¹⁷, Taiwan Strait basins¹⁸, South China Sea margins¹⁹, Andaman Sea²⁰⁻²¹, Mergui basin²⁰⁻²¹, Malay basin¹⁹⁻²¹, Sumatra basins^{22,19}, East Borneo basins²², Java basins²².

The timing of extension for the individual basins/extensional structures as shown in Fig. 1a is deduced from the following references: Sea of Okhotsk⁶, Kamchatka grabens⁵, Kuril basin²³⁻²⁴, Shantar-Liziansky basin⁶, Priokhotsky rift⁷, Baikal rift²⁵, Heilongjiang basin⁹, Sea of Japan²⁶, Sea of Japan margins²⁷⁻²⁹, Yilan Yitong graben³⁰, Hetao-Yinchuan grabens³¹, South Ningxia region³², Shanxi graben³³, Bohai basin^{3,34}, North Yellow Sea basin¹¹, northern South Yellow Sea basin and Gunsan basin^{12,35}, Subei basin and southern South Yellow Sea basin³⁶, southern North China basin³, Weihe graben³¹, north-south trending Tibetan rifts and dikes^{4,37-38}, Jianghan basin³⁹, Yuanma basin¹⁷, East China Sea basin⁴⁶, Okinawa Trough⁴⁰, Taiwan Strait basins¹⁸, Pearl River Mouth basins⁴¹, Beibuwan basin⁴², Yinggehai-Song Hong basin⁴³, Quiondongnan basin⁴¹, Phu Khan basin⁴⁴, Nam Con Son basin⁴⁴, South China Sea⁴⁵, southern South China Sea⁴⁶, Pattani basin²¹, Mergui basin²⁰, Andaman Sea²⁰, Malay basin⁴⁷, Sumatra basins²², Java basins²², East Borneo basins²², Sulu Sea⁴⁸⁻⁵⁰, Celebes Sea⁴⁸⁻⁵⁰, Gorontalo basins⁵¹, Banda Sea⁵².



Supplementary Fig. 1 | Top views of four experiments with different velocity ratios showing finite horizontal normal strain ($\varepsilon_{XX} + \varepsilon_{YY}$) and the horizontal finite strain ellipse field. The experiments simulate Asian continental deformation and the velocity ratio is expressed as $R = (v_1 - v_{WP})/(v_1 + v_{WP})$, where v_1 = Indian continental subduction hinge and slab advance (roll-forward) velocity and v_{WP} = Pacific subduction hinge and slab retreat (rollback) velocity. The results are shown for the end of each experimental run. **a**, Experiment I_{MIN}-R with R = 0.25 (minimum indentation). **b**, Experiment I_{INT}-R with R = 0.50 (intermediate indentation). **c**, Experiment I_{MAX}-R with R = 0.62 (maximum indentation). **d**, Experiment I_{INT}-NR with R = 1.00 (intermediate indentation and no rollback).



Supplementary Fig. 2. | Top views of four experiments simulating Asian deformation with different velocity ratios (*R*) showing the digital photographs. The results are shown for the end of each experimental run. **a**, Experiment I_{MIN}-R with R = 0.25 (minimum indentation). **b**, Experiment I_{INT}-R with R = 0.50 (intermediate indentation). **c**, Experiment I_{MAX}-R with R = 0.62 (maximum indentation). **d**, Experiment I_{INT}-NR with R = 1.00 (intermediate indentation and no rollback). Low-angle lighting is from the north.



Supplementary Fig. 3 | Top views of four experiments simulating Asian deformation with different velocity ratios (*R*) showing finite horizontal normal strain ($\varepsilon_{XX} + \varepsilon_{YY}$) and the horizontal finite displacement field. The results are shown for the end of each experimental run. **a**, Experiment I_{MIN}-R with R = 0.25 (minimum indentation). **b**, Experiment I_{INT}-R with R = 0.50 (intermediate indentation). **c**, Experiment I_{MAX}-R with R = 0.62 (maximum indentation). **d**, Experiment I_{INT}-NR with R = 1.00 (intermediate indentation and no rollback).



Supplementary Fig. 4 | Three-dimensional perspective views of four experiments simulating Asian deformation with different velocity ratios $R = (v_1 - v_{WP})/(v_1 + v_{WP})$ showing the surface topography. The results are shown for the end of each experimental run. a, Experiment I_{MIN} -R with R = 0.25 (minimum indentation). The maximum topography difference between mountain ranges in the experimental Himalaya-Tibet region and undeformed foreland is 1.0-1.9 mm, scaling to 3.5-6.7 km in nature (using the scaling as described in Table 2). **b**, Experiment I_{INT} -R with R = 0.50 (intermediate indentation). The maximum topography difference between mountain ranges in the experimental Himalaya-Tibet region and undeformed foreland is 1.5-2.6 mm, scaling to 5.3-9.2 km in nature. c, Experiment I_{MAX} -R with R = 0.62 (maximum indentation). The maximum topography difference between mountain ranges in the experimental Himalaya-Tibet region and undeformed foreland is 2.8-4.0 mm, scaling to 9.9-14.1 km in nature. **d**, Experiment I_{INT} -NR with R = 1.00 (intermediate indentation and no rollback). The maximum topography difference between mountain ranges in the experimental Himalaya-Tibet region and undeformed foreland is 4-5.2 mm, scaling to 14.1-18.3 km in nature. The maximum topography values for experiments I_{MIN}-R and I_{INT}-R in a and b are reasonable and comparable to values in nature (Tibetan Plateau at ~5 km elevation and mountains up to 8-9 km high), the values for experiments I_{MAX}-R and I_{INT}-NR in c and d are higher than the values in nature.



Supplementary Fig. 5 | Top views of experiment I_{INT}-R (with R = 0.50, intermediate indentation) showing the finite horizontal normal strain ($\varepsilon_{XX} + \varepsilon_{YY}$) and deformed model grid at four different times during the evolution of the model. a, 10 hours corresponding to ~12.5 Myr (~middle-late Eocene). b, 20 hours corresponding to ~25 Myr (~late Oligocene). c, 30 hours corresponding to ~37.5 Myr (~middle Miocene). d, 40 hours corresponding to ~50 Myr (~present).



Supplementary Fig. 6 | Top views of experiment I_{MIN} -R (with R = 0.25, minimum indentation) showing the finite horizontal normal strain ($\varepsilon_{XX} + \varepsilon_{YY}$) and deformed model grid at four different times during the evolution of the model. **a**, 10 hours corresponding to ~12.5 Myr (~middle-late Eocene). **b**, 20 hours corresponding to ~25 Myr (~late Oligocene). **c**, 30 hours corresponding to ~37.5 Myr (~middle Miocene). **d**, 40 hours corresponding to ~50 Myr (~present).

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