

2024 British Geophysical Association Gray-Milne Travel Bursary Report – 2025 EGU General Assembly, Vienna, Austria.

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In spring 2025 I attended the 2025 EGU General Assembly in Vienna to present my work: “21 May 2021 Mw 7.3 Maduo Earthquake – Temporal Evolution of Interseismic Strain Rate from InSAR”. This work, which forms the first results chapter of my thesis, focused on the challenges of using InSAR to resolve small changes in interseismic deformation rate, and investigated whether temporal variation in strain rate was observable prior to the 2021 Maduo earthquake in the Tibetan Plateau. The work showed a consistently low strain rate on the seismogenic fault, with no resolvable acceleration prior to the earthquake. Whilst there were measured variations in strain rate on nearby faults, these could not be unequivocally attributed to tectonic processes, highlighting the challenges faced when monitoring low strain rate continental interiors.

Presenting this work at EGU25 was an invaluable experience. As my first large international conference, this was a great opportunity to gain confidence and experience in speaking about my work. Fielding questions and speaking to other researchers after my talk gave me new ideas and suggestions that I was able to incorporate into my research paper on the same work that I have since submitted to a journal.

Across the week, I was able to attend a wide variety of talks and poster sessions in areas closely related to my research, as well as those of general interest to me. This was excellent for generating new ideas and gaining a deeper understanding of some of the current challenges in different areas of geophysics.

Aside from sharing research, the conference was a great opportunity to network with future collaborators, current colleagues and friends who were also in attendance. I also had the chance to explore the relaxing green space around the conference center, and the beautiful city of Vienna in my downtime.

I am extremely grateful to the BGA for supporting my attendance at EGU25. The Grey-Milne Bursary covered registration fees and travel expenses, and was essential for me to be able to attend this conference, which has been a significant step in my development as I near the end of my PhD.

