

**Diurnal seismic periodicity corroborates a mechanism  
involving solar and lunar gravitational pulls and gravity of  
the Earth**

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**Abstract:**

The diurnal seismic frequency peaks at 0:00, 12:00, 18:00 local mean time can be explained by the trio interactions of solar and lunar gravitational pulls and the gravity of the Earth impacting where potential energy is present. The revolution of the Earth also contributes to the stress in the crust, which is perpendicular to the stress generated along the direction of the Earth's self-rotation.

**Keywords:**

diurnal seismic periodicity; solar and lunar gravitational pulls; gravity of the Earth; potential energy

Earthquakes are likely to be triggered by the interplay of solar and lunar gravitational pulls and the gravity of the Earth, which gives rise to the exact periodicity of earthquakes with similar magnitudes occurring in the same area.<sup>1-8</sup>. Recently, fortnightly and low-frequency earthquake patterns have been identified from millions of earthquakes near the San Andreas fault<sup>9</sup>. It is also found that very large earthquakes often occur when maximum amplitude of tidal stress appears<sup>10</sup>, but this trend is not obvious for small earthquakes. Fortnightly and diurnal seismic periodicities have been found in the western regions of the United States<sup>11</sup>. For simplicity here we consider solar pull only. At 0:00 midnight, the crust begins to accelerate, and small mass in the west accelerates more quickly, crashing into large mass in the adjacent east which accounts for the seismic frequency peak at 1 to 2 am<sup>12</sup>. At 12:00, large mass decelerates more slowly, crashing into the adjacent small mass in the east, which explains the peak at this time<sup>12</sup>. After 18:00 local mean time, solar pull drives Earth crust backward and downward, while the horizontal component of solar pull gradually loses strength. At this time, the small mass in the east side impacts the large mass with larger inertia in the west side. The revolution of the Earth is also responsible for the stress generated in the crust, which is perpendicular to the stress generated in the direction of the Earth's self-rotation<sup>13-14</sup>.

### **Conflict of interest statement**

The authors declare no conflict of interests.

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