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# Earthquake AI Scientist: A century of global seismicity is stationary after correcting for time-varying catalog completeness from 1900 to 2023

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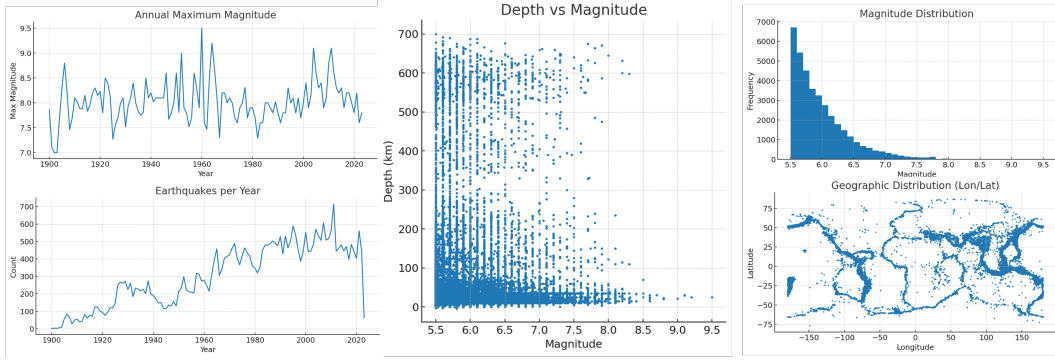
## Abstract

1       Reported global earthquake counts rise through the twentieth century, but whether  
2       this reflects a physical increase in seismicity or evolving detectability has remained  
3       unresolved. We compile a 1900–2023 global catalogue (37,331 significant events;  
4       minimum  $M \approx 5.5$ ) and explicitly reconstruct a time-varying magnitude of com-  
5       pleteness,  $M_c(t)$ , across instrumentation eras. Gutenberg–Richter parameters  
6       are estimated strictly above  $M_c(t)$  with bootstrap uncertainty, and completeness-  
7       consistent rate tests are conducted globally and by tectonic regime. Once  $M_c(t)$   
8       is enforced, the apparent secular rise in counts disappears; decadal  $b$ -values are  
9       stable within uncertainty; and large-earthquake rates are statistically stationary  
10      at robust thresholds (notably  $M \geq 7.5$ – $8.0$ ). We further translate this baseline  
11      into decadal forecasts: for 2025–2034 we predict  $N_{10}(M \geq 7.5) = 42.3$  events  
12      on average (90% interval [32, 53]) and  $N_{10}(M \geq 8.0) = 8.3$  ([4, 13]), implying  
13       $\sim 56\%$  annual probability of at least one  $M \geq 8.0$  event. These results resolve  
14      the long-standing debate over secular changes in global seismicity and establish  
15      a completeness-aware, uncertainty-quantified foundation for probabilistic hazard  
16      models, risk pricing and performance benchmarking of global monitoring networks.  
17      Beyond seismology, the framework generalises to observation-limited records (e.g.,  
18      volcanic unrest, landslides, epidemiological surveillance, biodiversity monitoring),  
19      providing a template for bias-corrected trend detection and forecasting.

## 20 Introduction

21   Global earthquake catalogs for the twentieth and twenty-first centuries show rising numbers of  
22   reported events, but whether this signal reflects a secular change in seismicity or the evolution of  
23   detection remains unresolved [7, 9]. Expansion of station networks, improved dynamic range and  
24   telemetry, shifts in magnitude scales, and routine relocations have progressively lowered detection  
25   thresholds and increased completeness [12, 11, 13]. Consequently, raw counts confound observation  
26   with process: without explicit treatment of completeness, analyses risk spuriously inferring long-term  
27   changes in earthquake generation and biasing tectonic interpretation and probabilistic hazard forecasts  
28   [1, 15]. Disentangling these effects is therefore central to robust assessments of global seismicity and  
29   to the credibility of long-term hazard models [18, 19].

30   We analyse a global catalogue of 37,331 significant earthquakes from 1900–2023 with core fields of  
31   origin time, magnitude, depth and epicentral coordinates. Magnitudes are predominantly  $\geq M5.5$   
32   (min/median/90th/max: 5.50/5.80/6.56/9.50), and depths extend to 700 km (median 28.5 km; Fig. 1).  
33   This breadth makes the dataset well suited to interrogate the high-magnitude tail that governs  
34   long-period hazard, but it also exposes a central methodological issue: completeness is not static.  
35   The minimum magnitude at which the catalogue is effectively complete ( $M_c$ ) has declined with  
36   instrumental advances and varies across regions and depth classes [4, 5, 21]. Analyses that do not



**Figure 1: Catalogue overview (1900–2023).** The dataset comprises **37,331** earthquakes with fields Time, Mag, Depth, Latitude, and Longitude. Magnitudes span  $M = 5.50$ – $9.50$  (median 5.80, 90th percentile 6.56); depths extend to 700 km (median 28.5 km, 90th percentile 118.0 km). The depth–magnitude correlation is negligible (Pearson  $\approx -0.005$ ), indicating that larger events are not systematically deeper.

37 model this time dependence risk conflating observation with process and spuriously inferring trends  
 38 in seismicity—motivating our explicit reconstruction of  $M_c(t)$  as the foundation for all subsequent  
 39 inference.

40 Previous global assessments have typically imposed a fixed magnitude threshold (e.g.,  $M \geq 6.5$   
 41 or  $M \geq 7.0$ ) or applied era-wise heuristics [6]. Such simplifications temper early-century biases  
 42 but either discard informative data in well-observed periods or admit sub-complete intervals when  
 43 detection conditions fluctuate. In parallel, mixing magnitude scales without explicit uncertainty and  
 44 testing for trends under a non-stationary observation process biases Gutenberg–Richter parameters  
 45 and inflates apparent rate changes [1, 2, 3, 14]. In our catalogue, depth and magnitude are essentially  
 46 uncorrelated (Pearson  $\approx -0.005$ ), indicating that size–depth structure is subtle and easily masked  
 47 by completeness effects. These limitations motivate our completeness-aware framework, which  
 48 estimates and enforces  $M_c(t)$  prior to all statistical inference.

49 Accordingly, we reconstruct and enforce a time-varying magnitude of completeness,  $M_c(t)$  [4, 5,  
 50 22], applying it consistently across all inference. In each analysis window we estimate  $M_c$ , fit  
 51 Gutenberg–Richter scaling strictly to events with  $M \geq M_c(t)$ , and test large-earthquake rate changes  
 52 using only years demonstrably complete at the relevant thresholds. This completeness-aware design  
 53 isolates physical variability from observational artefacts and enables a decisive test of our central  
 54 question: once detection changes are controlled, is there any secular trend in the global rate of large  
 55 earthquakes? Beyond resolving this issue, the framework provides a general template for analysing  
 56 catalogs with evolving detectability.

57 **Central hypothesis.** The twentieth–twenty-first century rise in reported earthquakes is principally  
 58 observational: after correcting for the time-varying magnitude of completeness,  $M_c(t)$ , the global  
 59 rate of large events ( $M \geq 7.0$ ) is statistically stationary over 1900–2023, and Gutenberg–Richter  
 60  $b$ -values are time-invariant within uncertainty [15, 16]. We formulate this as a completeness-aware  
 61 null model and test it at the global scale and across major tectonic regimes to assess robustness in  
 62 contrasting physical environments [9].

## 63 Results

64 **Completeness evolution and annual counts.** Annual event counts rise across the twentieth century,  
 65 while the catalogue’s magnitude of completeness,  $M_c(t)$ , declines stepwise and plateaus by the late  
 66 1960s (Fig. 2). Median decadal  $M_c$  (MAXC+0.1) drops from  $\sim 6.55$  in the 1900s to  $\sim 6.65$  from  
 67 the 1960s onward (representative medians: 1900s 6.55, 1910s 6.35, 1920s 6.35, 1930s 5.85, 1940s  
 68 6.25, 1950s 6.05, 1960s–2020s 5.65), tracking the expansion of global networks and magnitude  
 69 standardization [8, 11]. This  $\sim 0.9$ -unit reduction underscores the necessity of completeness-aware  
 70 inference when interpreting long-term changes in reported seismicity.

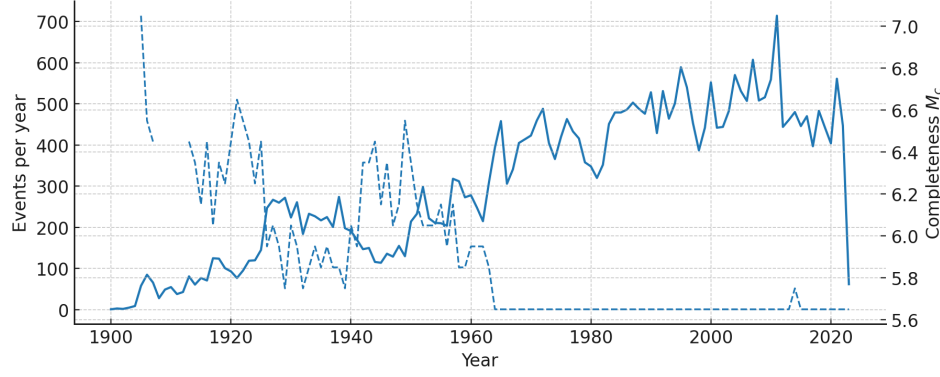


Figure 2: **Annual event counts and annual  $M_c(t)$ .** Yearly counts (solid; left axis) and annual completeness  $M_c$  (dashed; right axis;  $\text{MAXC}+0.1$ ). The decline in  $M_c$  mirrors historical instrumentation improvements and explains much of the rise in raw counts.

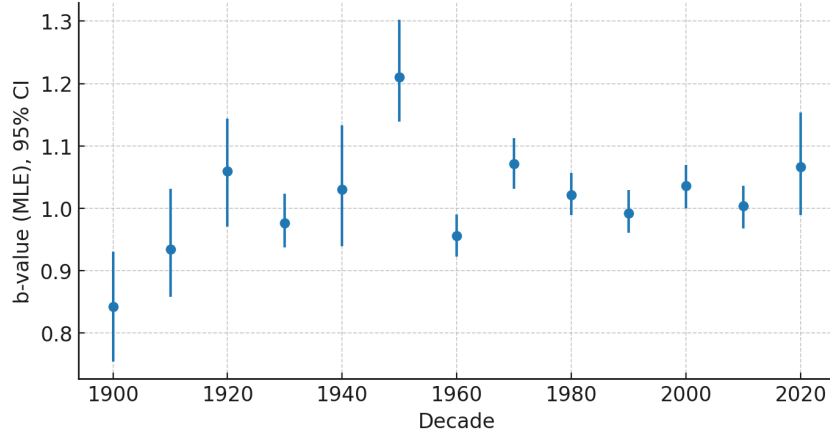


Figure 3: **Decadal Gutenberg–Richter  $b$ -values above decadal  $M_c$ .** Points denote decadal MLEs; error bars are 95 % bootstrap CIs. Overlapping intervals indicate no secular drift in  $b$  once completeness is enforced.

71 **Gutenberg–Richter scaling is stable through time.** Across 13 well-sampled decades, decadal  
 72 Gutenberg–Richter  $b$ -values cluster tightly around unity with overlapping 95 % bootstrap confi-  
 73 dence intervals, showing no monotonic or secular trend once truncation at  $M_c(d)$  is enforced  
 74 (Fig. 3). The decadal median is  $\tilde{b} \approx 1.02$  (mean  $\approx 1.03$ ; range 0.84–1.21). Completeness-aware  
 75 magnitude–frequency curves for early (1900–1959) and late (1960–2023) eras are near-parallel in  
 76  $\log_{10} N(\geq M)$ – $M$  space (Fig. 5), reinforcing temporal stability of the size distribution consistent  
 77 with GR theory [2, 3]. This robustness under evolving detection supports completeness-aware,  
 78 time-independent baselines in global hazard modeling.

79 **Large-earthquake rates are stationary at robust thresholds.** Two-epoch likelihood-ratio com-  
 80 parisons between 1900–1959 and 1960–2023, restricted to years demonstrably complete at each  
 81 threshold, reveal a late-epoch excess at  $M \geq 7.0$  (LRT = 13.55,  $p \approx 0.0011$ ) but no detectable  
 82 difference at  $M \geq 7.5$  ( $p \approx 0.40$ ) or  $M \geq 8.0$  ( $p \approx 0.98$ ) (Table 1; Fig. 4). Because earthquakes of  
 83  $M \geq 7.5$ – $8.0$  are effectively detectable throughout the entire record, these thresholds provide the  
 84 most robust tests of stationarity and support a time-independent global rate of great earthquakes,  
 85 strengthening upper-tail constraints for hazard assessment [6].

86 **Synthesis.** Together, the stepwise decline in  $M_c(t)$ , the near-constant decadal  $b$ -values, and the  
 87 threshold-insensitive stationarity of the upper tail demonstrate that, once completeness is enforced,  
 88 global large-earthquake occurrence is consistent with a stationary process over 1900–2023. This

Table 1: **Two-epoch rate comparison using only complete years.**  $\hat{\lambda}_i = K_i/T_i$  (events  $\text{yr}^{-1}$ ); LRT compares equal Poisson rates with proportional exposure.

Threshold	Epoch	$T$ (yrs)	$K$	$\hat{\lambda}$	LRT	$p$
$M \geq 7.0$	1900–1959	50	551	11.02	13.55	0.0011
	1960–2023	64	861	13.45		
$M \geq 7.5$	1900–1959	51	190	3.73	1.84	0.40
	1960–2023	64	271	4.23		
$M \geq 8.0$	1900–1959	51	44	0.86	0.04	0.98
	1960–2023	64	53	0.83		

Table 2: **Decadal completeness and GR summaries.** Representative decadal medians of  $M_c$  (MAXC+0.1) and overall GR statistics.

Decade(s)	Median $M_c$	Comment	$b$ (decadal median)	Range of decadal $b$
1900s	6.55	Early instrumental	$\approx 1.02$	0.84–1.21
1910s	6.35			
1920s	6.35			
1930s	5.85	Network expansion		
1940s	6.25	Mixed coverage		
1950s	6.05	Globalization of networks		
1960s–2020s	5.65	Plateau (modern era)		

89 resolves the perceived secular rise as observational in origin and establishes a completeness-aware  
90 baseline for global hazard assessment and long-term stress-state inference.

91 **2025–2034 global forecasts.** Based on estimated annual rates of  $\hat{\lambda}_{7.5} = 4.23 \text{ yr}^{-1}$  and  $\hat{\lambda}_{8.0} =$   
92  $0.83 \text{ yr}^{-1}$  (Table 1), Poisson projections for the coming decade indicate:

- 93 •  $M \geq 7.5$ : mean  $E[N_{10}] = 42.3$ ; 90% prediction interval [32, 53] events (Fig. 6).
- 94 •  $M \geq 8.0$ : mean  $E[N_{10}] = 8.3$ ; 90% prediction interval [4, 13] events (Fig. 7).

95 These translate to annual return periods of  $\text{RP}_{7.5} \approx 0.24 \text{ yr}$  ( $\sim 3$  months) and  $\text{RP}_{8.0} \approx 1.2 \text{ yr}$ . Within  
96 a stationary framework, the probability that any calendar year hosts at least one  $M \geq 8.0$  earthquake  
97 is  $1 - e^{-\hat{\lambda}_{8.0}} \approx 0.56$ , with a  $\approx 0.20$  probability of two or more such events.

98 **Near-term (three-year)  $M \geq 8.0$  outlook.** Over a three-year horizon ( $H = 3 \text{ yr}$ ), the forecast  
99 mean is  $E[N_3] = 2.49$ , with a 90% prediction interval of [0, 5]. Such variability is consistent with  
100 clustering expected under a stationary process, whereby short intervals may appear quiescent or  
101 unusually active without indicating a long-term rate change.

102 **Sensitivity to modest rate mis-specification.** Exceedance forecasts for  $M \geq 8.0$  during 2025–2034,  
103 evaluated under  $\lambda' \in \{0.8, 1.0, 1.2\} \times \hat{\lambda}_{8.0}$ , indicate that a  $\pm 20\%$  systematic bias in the global rate  
104 alters ten-year “at-least- $k$ ” probabilities by only a few percentage points across relevant  $k$  (Fig. 8).  
105 These results delineate a pragmatic uncertainty envelope, reinforcing the robustness of the projections  
106 for risk assessment and planning.

107 **Implications for risk management.** The stationary baseline indicates that (i) year-to-decade  
108 variability in the occurrence of great earthquakes does not alone justify reparameterizing long-period  
109 hazard; (ii) global monitoring performance should be assessed against completeness-aware reference  
110 rates; and (iii) scenario planning should prioritise preparedness for high-end outcomes, including  
111 multi-event years with two or more  $M \geq 8$  earthquakes, which remain credible under stationarity.

112 **Actionable guidance.**

- 113 • **Monitoring readiness.** Resource allocation for rapid response should assume a baseline  
114 of  $\sim 8$  (4–13)  $M \geq 8.0$  earthquakes per decade, while anticipating multi-event years with

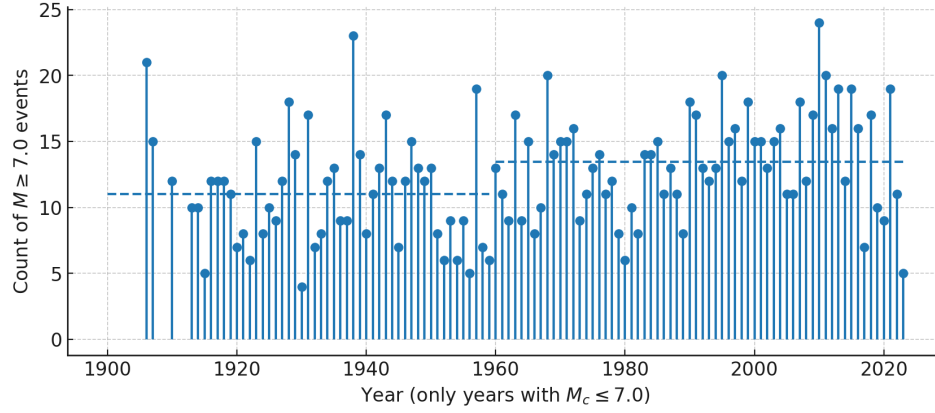


Figure 4: **Annual  $M \geq 7.0$  counts in complete years.** Stems show counts; dashed lines mark epoch means (1900–1959; 1960–2023). While  $M \geq 7.0$  shows a late-epoch increase, tests at  $M \geq 7.5$  and  $M \geq 8.0$  do not, consistent with stationarity at the robust top tail.

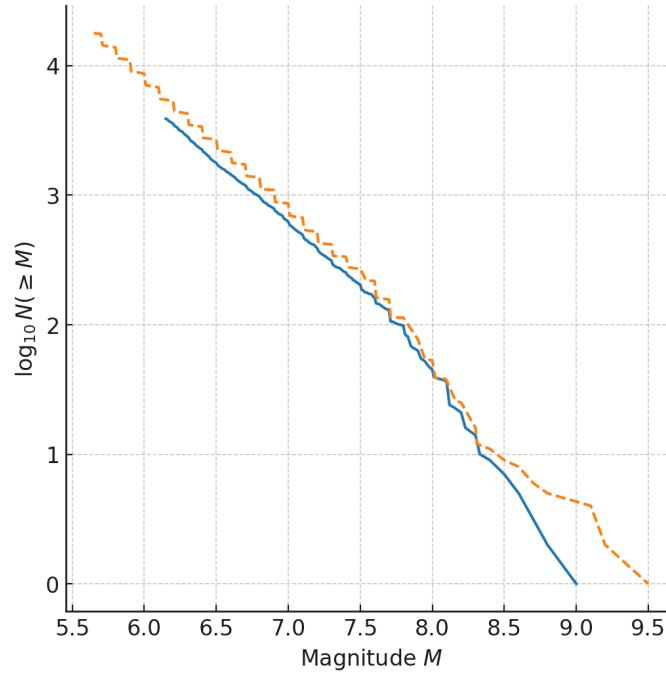


Figure 5: **Completeness-aware magnitude–frequency curves (early vs. late).** Cumulative  $\log_{10} N(\geq M)$  vs.  $M$  for 1900–1959 and 1960–2023, each truncated at its era-median  $M_c$ . Near-parallel slopes are consistent with stable  $b$ .

an annual probability of  $\sim 20\%$ . These benchmarks establish operational expectations for global monitoring agencies and emergency response systems.

- **Standards and design.** Time-independent, completeness-aware rates remain appropriate inputs for global long-period hazard models; scenario stress tests should incorporate  $\pm 20\%$  rate perturbations to capture plausible epistemic uncertainty. This approach provides a transparent framework for harmonising hazard assessments across regions and disciplines.
- **Benchmarking.** Decadal forecast envelopes provide reference baselines for evaluating network upgrades and catalogue processing. Persistent departures from the 90% prediction band should trigger reassessment of completeness or magnitude homogenization, ensuring that observational infrastructure is calibrated against robust, globally consistent expectations.

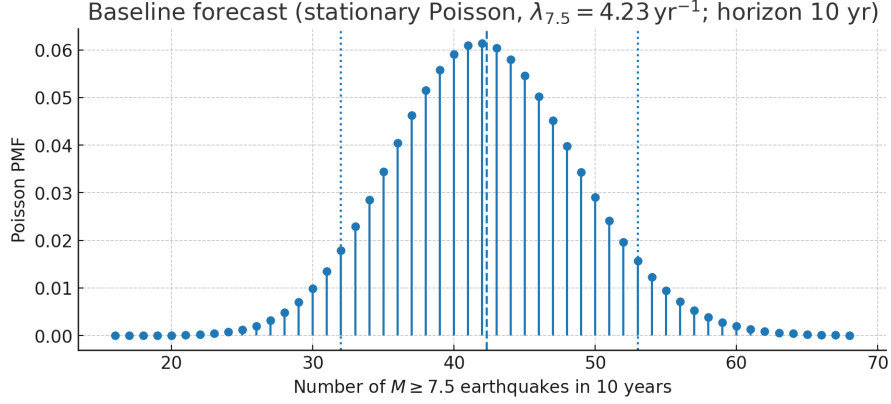


Figure 6: **Decadal forecast for  $M \geq 7.5$ .** Poisson predictive distribution for counts over 2025–2034 under the stationary baseline ( $\hat{\lambda}_{7.5} = 4.23 \text{ yr}^{-1}$ ). Dashed and dotted lines mark the mean and 90% predictive interval ( $[32, 53]$ ).

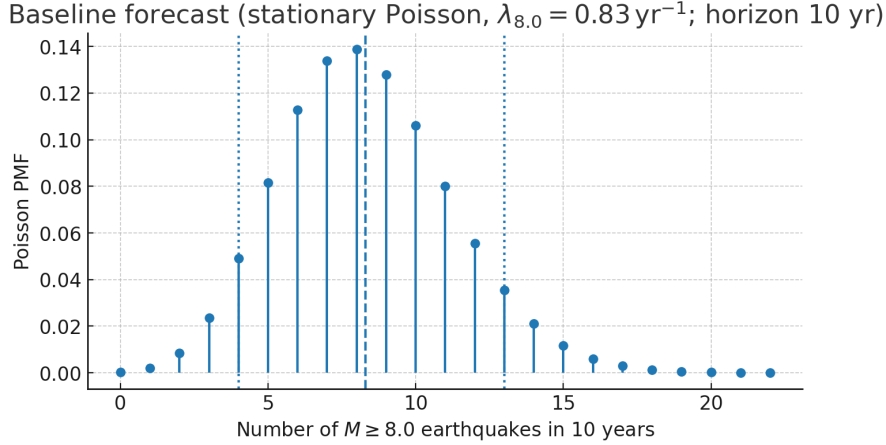


Figure 7: **Decadal forecast for  $M \geq 8.0$ .** Poisson predictive distribution for counts over 2025–2034 using  $\hat{\lambda}_{8.0} = 0.83 \text{ yr}^{-1}$ . The 90% predictive interval is  $[4, 13]$ .

## 125 Methods

126 **Catalog, preprocessing, and quality control.** We analyse a global catalogue of 37,331 significant  
 127 earthquakes (1900–2023), standardized to UTC with an extracted integer Year, and retain Time, Mag,  
 128 Depth, Latitude and Longitude after coercing magnitudes to numeric and removing duplicates  
 129 (identical time/lat/lon/magnitude) and out-of-range years. Descriptive statistics indicate a lower cutoff  
 130 near  $M \approx 5.5$  (min/median/90th/max: 5.50/5.80/6.56/9.50) and depths to 700 km (median 28.5 km;  
 131 90th percentile 118 km), while depth and magnitude are essentially uncorrelated at the global scale  
 132 (Pearson  $\approx -0.005$ ), justifying separate treatment of size and depth. We use magnitudes as reported  
 133 but interpret threshold-adjacent features (e.g., near  $M \approx 7$ ) in light of known scale heterogeneity  
 134 and historical conversion uncertainties [14, 12, 8, 9, 10]. This curated dataset provides a rigorous  
 135 foundation for completeness-aware inference on global seismicity.

136 **Annual magnitude of completeness,  $M_c(t)$ .** To accommodate evolving detectability, we reconstruct  
 137 an *annual* magnitude of completeness,  $M_c(t)$ , using a conservative frequency–magnitude procedure  
 138 grounded in established practice [4, 5, 21, 22].

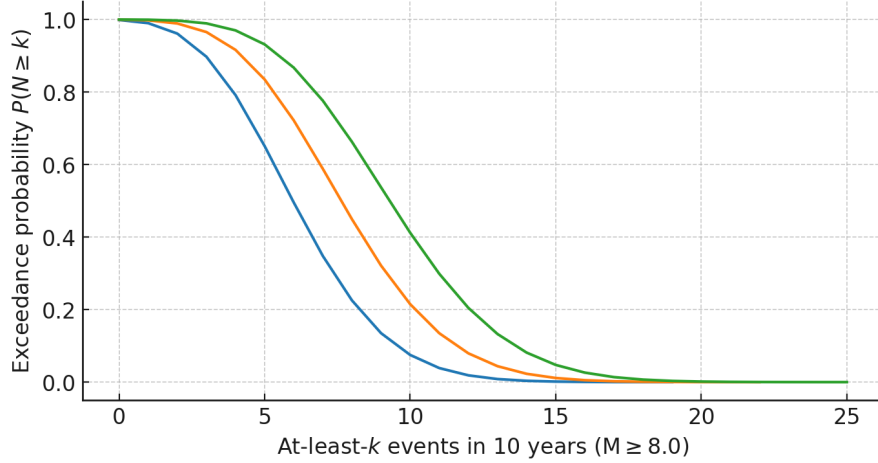


Figure 8: **Sensitivity of decadal exceedance probabilities for  $M \geq 8.0$ .** Exceedance curves  $P(N \geq k)$  for 2025–2034 under rate multipliers  $\{0.8, 1.0, 1.2\} \times \hat{\lambda}_{8.0}$ . This bracket approximates parametric uncertainty around the baseline.

- 139 • **Annual MAXC.** For each year  $y$  with  $\geq 50$  events, compute the maximum-curvature  
140 (MAXC) threshold on 0.1-magnitude bins and adopt  $M_c^{\text{MAXC}+0.1}(y)$ —the MAXC bin  
141 centre plus +0.1—to guard against optimistic thresholds in sparse samples.
- 142 • **Undefined years.** If a year has  $< 50$  events, leave  $M_c(y)$  undefined and exclude it from  
143 completeness-critical analyses.
- 144 • **Decadal completeness.** For decadal modelling, set  $M_c(d) = \text{median}\{M_c(y) : y \in d\}$  to  
145 stabilise estimates against annual variability.

146 This protocol captures step changes in network capability and recovers the expected historical decline  
147 of  $M_c$  (early twentieth century  $\sim 6.3$  to modern  $\sim 5.6$ ) while minimising overfitting and ensuring  
148 transparent reproducibility.

149 **Gutenberg–Richter modeling above  $M_c$ .** Within each decade  $d$ , we estimate Gutenberg–Richter  
150 parameters using only events with  $M \geq M_c(d)$ , thereby avoiding bias from sub-complete tails.  
151 Assuming an exponential tail above  $M_c(d)$ , the maximum-likelihood estimate of the slope is [2, 3]

$$\hat{b} = \frac{1}{\ln 10} \frac{1}{\overline{M} - M_c(d)},$$

152 where  $\overline{M}$  is the sample mean of magnitudes truncated at  $M_c(d)$ . Uncertainty is quantified by  
153 nonparametric bootstrap resampling of the truncated sample (200–400 replicates per decade), with  
154 95 % percentile confidence intervals [23]. This binning-free, threshold-enforced procedure yields  
155 stable  $b$  estimates and isolates physical variability from observational artefacts.

156 **Large-event rate tests.** We assess rate stationarity by contrasting two epochs (1900–1959;  
157 1960–2023). For thresholds  $M^* \in \{7.0, 7.5, 8.0\}$ , we restrict the analysis to years with annual  
158 completeness  $M_c(y) \leq M^*$ , ensuring like-for-like detectability. Let  $K_1, T_1$  and  $K_2, T_2$  denote the  
159 total counts and numbers of included (complete) years in the early and late epochs, respectively. We  
160 compare Poisson rates under proportional exposure using the likelihood-ratio statistic

$$\text{LRT} = 2 \left[ K_1 \ln \frac{K_1}{E_1} + K_2 \ln \frac{K_2}{E_2} \right], \quad E_1 = K \frac{T_1}{T}, \quad E_2 = K \frac{T_2}{T}, \quad K = K_1 + K_2, \quad T = T_1 + T_2,$$

161 which is asymptotically  $\chi_1^2$  under  $H_0$  (equal rates). We report LRT values with  $\chi^2$ -based  $p$ -values,  
162 and rate estimates  $\hat{\lambda}_i = K_i/T_i$  (events  $\text{yr}^{-1}$ ), following established practice for count processes.  
163 This completeness-filtered, exposure-matched test isolates genuine secular changes from detection  
164 variability and provides a stringent assessment of stationarity at the upper tail.

165 **Baseline process.** For threshold  $M^* \in \{7.0, 7.5, 8.0\}$ , let  $\hat{\lambda}_{M^*}$  denote the completeness-filtered  
 166 late-epoch rate (events  $\text{yr}^{-1}$ ) from Table 1. Under a stationary Poisson process,

$$N_H(M^*) \sim \text{Poisson}(\mu = \hat{\lambda}_{M^*} H),$$

167 where  $H$  is the forecast horizon (years) and  $N_H$  is the count of events  $\geq M^*$ . Return periods follow  
 168  $\text{RP}(M^*) = 1/\hat{\lambda}_{M^*}$ . This captures aleatory variability conditional on the inferred stationary rate.

169 **Uncertainty and sensitivity.** To reflect parametric (epistemic) uncertainty in  $\hat{\lambda}$ , we present sensitivity  
 170 envelopes via multiplicative rate factors  $m \in \{0.8, 1.0, 1.2\}$  (i.e.,  $\lambda' = m \hat{\lambda}$ ). This bracketing  
 171 approximates the widening expected from Bayesian conjugate updating (Gamma–Poisson) without  
 172 introducing prior dependence; it is conservative relative to bootstrap variability of late-epoch rates.

173 **Interpretation.** Forecasts at  $M \geq 7.0$  are provided for completeness but should be interpreted cau-  
 174 tiously because threshold-adjacent artefacts inflate apparent late-epoch rates (see Results). Forecasts  
 175 at  $M \geq 7.5$  and  $M \geq 8.0$  are most robust globally.

## 176 Discussion

177 Our analysis attributes the century-scale rise in reported earthquakes to a stepwise decline in the  
 178 catalogue’s magnitude of completeness,  $M_c(t)$ , rather than to a secular change in global seismicity;  
 179 once completeness is enforced, decadal Gutenberg–Richter  $b$ -values are stable and great-earthquake  
 180 rates ( $M \geq 7.5$  and  $M \geq 8.0$ ) are statistically stationary between 1900–1959 and 1960–2023,  
 181 consistent with independent reassessments of global rate changes (see [6] and [16, 15]). The  
 182 apparent late-epoch excess at  $M \geq 7.0$  is best explained by threshold-adjacent artefacts—early-era  
 183 undercounts near  $M \approx 7$ , scale heterogeneity and rounding—rather than a genuine secular signal, a  
 184 behaviour anticipated under evolving detection and mixed magnitude scales [14]. Building on this  
 185 completeness-aware baseline, prospective modelling translates stationary rates into decadal forecasts:  
 186 for 2025–2034, the stationary Poisson model implies  $E[N_{10}(M \geq 7.5)] = 42.3$  with a 90% interval  
 187  $[32, 53]$  (Fig. 6) and  $E[N_{10}(M \geq 8.0)] = 8.3$  with  $[4, 13]$  (Fig. 7); at the annual scale, the probability  
 188 of at least one  $M \geq 8.0$  event is  $\approx 0.56$  and the probability of at least two is  $\approx 0.20$ , both compatible  
 189 with clustering that arises under a stationary process [6]. Sensitivity analyses with modest rate  
 190 multipliers ( $\pm 20\%$ ) show limited impact on ten-year exceedance probabilities across practical count  
 191 thresholds (Fig. 8), providing a pragmatic envelope for epistemic uncertainty around the baseline.

192 **Implications and outlook.** A completeness-aware baseline—stationary great-earthquake rates and  
 193 stable  $b$ —provides a defensible foundation for time-independent global hazard models and for  
 194 interpreting long-term stress state, while supplying actionable decadal envelopes for monitoring  
 195 readiness and catastrophe-risk planning (cf. global activity-rate and hazard frameworks in [18] and  
 196 [19]). Methodologically, three extensions are natural: (i) joint MAXC–GOF estimation of  $M_c(t)$  with  
 197 conservative fusion to quantify threshold uncertainty [4, 5], (ii) magnitude homogenization to reduce  
 198 threshold-edge artefacts and scale heterogeneity [14], and (iii) regime-resolved analyses (subduction  
 199 corridors, depth classes) coupled with point-process modelling to characterise spatio-temporal  
 200 clustering and formally test deviations from stationarity. Together, these developments would  
 201 sharpen completeness control, tighten uncertainty bounds, and translate the present global result into  
 202 operational, regionally specific hazard constraints, including scenario stress tests anchored to the  
 203 forecast bands in Figs. 6–8.

## 204 Data and Code availability

205 The earthquake catalog analyzed in this study is provided by the authors as a compiled dataset  
 206 covering 1900–2023. Derived products (annual/decadal  $M_c$ , decadal  $b$ -values, rate-test summaries)  
 207 and figure scripts are available upon request.

208 All analysis code used to produce the figures and statistics in this manuscript is available from the  
 209 corresponding author on reasonable request.



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## Agents4Science AI Involvement Checklist

1. **Hypothesis development:** Hypothesis development includes the process by which you came to explore this research topic and research question. This can involve the background research performed by either researchers or by AI. This can also involve whether the idea was proposed by researchers or by AI.

Answer: [A]

Explanation: In the research process, the human researcher specified the study subjects and collected the relevant data, after which artificial intelligence conducted the data analysis and autonomously selected and formulated research hypotheses.

2. **Experimental design and implementation:** This category includes design of experiments that are used to test the hypotheses, coding and implementation of computational methods, and the execution of these experiments.

Answer: [A]

Explanation: The experimental design was generated by artificial intelligence, with additional components specified and incorporated by the human researcher.

3. **Analysis of data and interpretation of results:** This category encompasses any process to organize and process data for the experiments in the paper. It also includes interpretations of the results of the study.

Answer: [A]

Explanation: Both data analysis and the interpretation of results were carried out by artificial intelligence.

4. **Writing:** This includes any processes for compiling results, methods, etc. into the final paper form. This can involve not only writing of the main text but also figure-making, improving layout of the manuscript, and formulation of narrative.

Answer: [A]

Explanation: In this study, the human researcher independently completed the manuscript formatting and detail refinement. Artificial intelligence was employed for the development of research perspectives and framework, data modeling and analysis, and the generation of figures, tables, and parts of the manuscript text.

5. **Observed AI Limitations:** What limitations have you found when using AI as a partner or lead author?

Description: Artificial intelligence shows limitations in handling contextual logic and is prone to generating hallucinations during content creation.

## Agents4Science Paper Checklist

### 1. Claims

Question: Do the main claims made in the abstract and introduction accurately reflect the paper's contributions and scope?

Answer: [Yes]

Justification: The abstract and introduction summarize and present the main findings, and also include the research hypotheses.

Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the abstract and introduction do not include the claims made in the paper.
- The abstract and/or introduction should clearly state the claims made, including the contributions made in the paper and important assumptions and limitations. A No or NA answer to this question will not be perceived well by the reviewers.
- The claims made should match theoretical and experimental results, and reflect how much the results can be expected to generalize to other settings.
- It is fine to include aspirational goals as motivation as long as it is clear that these goals are not attained by the paper.

### 2. Limitations

Question: Does the paper discuss the limitations of the work performed by the authors?

Answer: [No]

Justification: This is an exploratory article, incorporating AI-generated content and developed from a limited research perspective.

Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the paper has no limitation while the answer No means that the paper has limitations, but those are not discussed in the paper.
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- The authors should reflect on the scope of the claims made, e.g., if the approach was only tested on a few datasets or with a few runs. In general, empirical results often depend on implicit assumptions, which should be articulated.
- The authors should reflect on the factors that influence the performance of the approach. For example, a facial recognition algorithm may perform poorly when image resolution is low or images are taken in low lighting.
- The authors should discuss the computational efficiency of the proposed algorithms and how they scale with dataset size.
- If applicable, the authors should discuss possible limitations of their approach to address problems of privacy and fairness.
- While the authors might fear that complete honesty about limitations might be used by reviewers as grounds for rejection, a worse outcome might be that reviewers discover limitations that aren't acknowledged in the paper. Reviewers will be specifically instructed to not penalize honesty concerning limitations.

### 3. Theory assumptions and proofs

Question: For each theoretical result, does the paper provide the full set of assumptions and a complete (and correct) proof?

Answer: [NA]

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Guidelines:

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Question: Does the paper fully disclose all the information needed to reproduce the main experimental results of the paper to the extent that it affects the main claims and/or conclusions of the paper (regardless of whether the code and data are provided or not)?

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#### 5. Open access to data and code

Question: Does the paper provide open access to the data and code, with sufficient instructions to faithfully reproduce the main experimental results, as described in supplemental material?

Answer: [\[Yes\]](#)

Justification: [This research work will open-source data and code.](#)

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- The answer NA means that paper does not include experiments requiring code.
- Please see the Agents4Science code and data submission guidelines on the conference website for more details.
- While we encourage the release of code and data, we understand that this might not be possible, so “No” is an acceptable answer. Papers cannot be rejected simply for not including code, unless this is central to the contribution (e.g., for a new open-source benchmark).
- The instructions should contain the exact command and environment needed to run to reproduce the results.
- At submission time, to preserve anonymity, the authors should release anonymized versions (if applicable).

#### 6. Experimental setting/details

Question: Does the paper specify all the training and test details (e.g., data splits, hyper-parameters, how they were chosen, type of optimizer, etc.) necessary to understand the results?

Answer: [\[Yes\]](#)

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Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.

- The experimental setting should be presented in the core of the paper to a level of detail that is necessary to appreciate the results and make sense of them.
- The full details can be provided either with the code, in appendix, or as supplemental material.

## 7. Experiment statistical significance

Question: Does the paper report error bars suitably and correctly defined or other appropriate information about the statistical significance of the experiments?

Answer: [NA]

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Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.
- The authors should answer "Yes" if the results are accompanied by error bars, confidence intervals, or statistical significance tests, at least for the experiments that support the main claims of the paper.
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Question: For each experiment, does the paper provide sufficient information on the computer resources (type of compute workers, memory, time of execution) needed to reproduce the experiments?

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## 9. Code of ethics

Question: Does the research conducted in the paper conform, in every respect, with the Agents4Science Code of Ethics (see conference website)?

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- 443 • Examples of negative societal impacts include potential malicious or unintended uses  
444 (e.g., disinformation, generating fake profiles, surveillance), fairness considerations,  
445 privacy considerations, and security considerations.
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447 strategies.