

# Auxiliary material

## 1. Compilation of GPS data-sets

### 1.1. New GPS data in central Chile

Since 2007, the french-chilean central Chile network described in details by *Vigny et al.* [2009] was remeasured 4 times at 6 months intervals (May 2007, December 2007, May 2008 and December 2008). Thus, surveys cover the period ranging from May 2004 to December 2008. Several sites have been added over the years, but most of the 33 sites have been surveyed 10 times over this 4 year-period. All sites of this network but 2 are equipped with bolts sealed in bedrock outcrops that enable direct antenna centering with sub-millimeter accuracy. They were all measured using a single type of Ashtech ZXtreme dual-frequency receivers equipped with the same type of antennae (Ashtech Geodetic IV). During all campaigns, at least four cGPS sites (LVIL and SLMC in the south and OVLL and TOLO in the north) were included. All survey sites were measured for at least three 12 to 24 hours sessions (often more).

We publish here an update of this network interseismic velocities including 5 new sites. Data processing was done using exactly the same procedure as described in *Vigny et al.* [2009]. We use GAMIT software to reduce 24-h sessions to daily estimates of station positions, using the ionosphere free L3 observable and fixing ambiguities to integer values whenever possible. We estimate one tropospheric vertical delay parameter per station every 3 h.

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19 In the second step, we combine the daily solutions using the GLOBK software [*Herring,*  
20 2009]. To define a consistent reference frame for all epochs, we include tracking data from a  
21 selection of permanent stations (19) in South America, some of them belonging to the IGS.  
22 Seven stations are within or very close to the deformation area, 10 more span the South-  
23 American craton in Brazil, Guyana and Argentina, and the remaining two sample the  
24 Nazca plate. We combine daily solutions using Helmert-like transformations to estimate  
25 translation, rotation, scale and Earth orientation parameters (polar motion and UT1  
26 rotation via GLORG software). This stabilization procedure defines a reference frame by  
27 minimizing (in the least-square sense) the departure from a-priori values, here given by  
28 the International Terrestrial Reference Frame(ITRF) 2005 [*Altamimi et al., 2007*]. This  
29 procedure estimates the positions and velocities for a set of ten well-determined stations in  
30 and around our study area (BRAZ, FORT, KOUR, LPGS, RIOG, SANT, CHPI, CONZ,  
31 ISPA, GLPS). The misfit to these stabilization stations is 0.41mm in position and 2.4  
32 mm/yr in velocity. This procedure leads to horizontal and vertical velocities defined in  
33 the ITRF2005. Then, we compute velocities relative to the South-American plate by using  
34 the angular velocity of this plate ( $25.4^{\circ}\text{S}$ ,  $124.6^{\circ}\text{W}$ ,  $0.11^{\circ}/\text{Myr}$ ) given in the NNR-Nuvel-  
35 1A model [*DeMets Gordon, 1994*].

36 The new velocities published in table S1 differ from the previously published ones by  
37 no more than 1-2 millimeters per year on each components. Opposite to *Vigny et al.*  
38 [2009], we decided to publish also vertical velocities to which we assign a  $2\sigma$  uncertainty.  
39 To exclude noisy and incoherent velocities, we reject those that are determined with a  
40 normalized RMS higher than 1.7. This corresponds to average residuals greater than 3  
41 times the average data uncertainties. We used the GLRED software and procedures to

42 estimate time-series for those vertical data. Time-series of four rejected and four accepted  
43 vertical velocities are plotted on Figure S1.

## 1.2. Horizontal velocities

44 In many previously published studies (see table S3) the usual strategy has been to  
45 publish the GPS data in a self-defined fixed South-America (SOAM) reference frame based  
46 on the minimization of the velocities of several fiducial stations located on the Brazilian  
47 and Argentine craton. The publication of the data in those unclear reference frames  
48 instead of in the ITRF, introduces a major difficulty in combining those studies. Because  
49 the self made SOAM reference frames are realized using permanent stations available at  
50 the time of the surveys, they are time-span dependent. Thus, even the reference frames  
51 defined by the same team for different data-sets and time spans are different. This highly  
52 complicates the comparison between published data-sets.

53 We decide to rotate the compiled data-set in the well known NNR-NUVEL1A South  
54 American fixed reference framed defined by the SOAM rotation pole ( $25.4^{\circ}\text{S}$ ,  $124.6^{\circ}\text{W}$ ,  
55  $0.11^{\circ}/\text{Myr}$  [*DeMets Gordon, 1994*]). Data-sets published in this NNR-Nuvel1A reference  
56 frame [*Ruegg et al., 2009*] and [*this study*] are used as reference and we compute the  
57 difference between these and the other data-sets at common points. For each data-set,  
58 we invert for the rotation pole that minimizes the residuals at 4 fiducial stations at least,  
59 and apply it to the data (see details of the inversion and rotation in table S4). For the  
60 SAGA-Central-2 data-set [*Khazaradze and Klotz, 2003*], we lack common measurements  
61 at fiducial stations. We use the residuals between the LiA-MdB-Central [*this study*] and  
62 the SAGA-Central-2 velocities at four pairs of very close stations to invert for the rotation  
63 pole (i.e LCHU/AR90, ZAHU/AR70, PATI/CO50 and TOPI/TO10).

64 While most of the data-sets are compatible, this work underlies some inherent discrep-  
65 ancies between the SAGA data-set and the other data-sets : the SAGA velocity field is  
66 coherent with the other sets near the coast but not in the intermediate to far-field area  
67 where the SAGA velocities are systematically lower (up to  $\sim 5$  mm/yr in some places, see  
68 Figure 6). In other words, the gradient of deformation is larger in the SAGA set than in  
69 any other one. This observation could result either from the data processing, definition  
70 of the SOAM referential used in [Klotz *et al.*, 2001; Khazaradze and Klotz, 2003], scaling  
71 issues, or less probably from a tectonic behavior. We did not find any rigid rotation that  
72 enables the original data-set to become fully coherent with the other studies.

### 1.3. Vertical velocities

73 Vertical velocities are less precise and potentially more affected by seasonal effects than  
74 horizontal velocities. Therefore, most studies refrain from publishing campaign-mode  
75 vertical velocities, with the notable exception of Ruegg *et al.* [2009]. We use in this study  
76 a subset of those published velocities based on several quality criteria. A velocity must  
77 be based on more than 2-year time span measurements, its formal uncertainty have to be  
78 smaller than 5.5 mm/yr, and it must be coherent with nearby cGPS stations if available.  
79 This way, only six velocities where excluded from the original data set, and the final set  
80 is presented in table S2.

81 The vertical data extracted both from [Ruegg *et al.*, 2009] and [this study] are pre-  
82 sented on Figure 4. Profiles at different latitudes in Central Chile underline major dif-  
83 ferences along the subduction strike. Finally, vertical displacements in the Concepción-  
84 Constitución area due to the Maule earthquake (February 27th 2010,  $M_w 8.8$ ), are opposite

85 and complementary to interseismic vertical velocities determined by *Ruegg et al.* [2009]  
 86 (Figure 4).

87 We present in supplementary Figure S5 the coupling distribution obtained without  
 88 including the vertical data in the inversion, and the fit of the predicted deformation to  
 89 these vertical data on four profile lines. The interseismic coupling pattern is very similar  
 90 to the one determined in our “best-model” presented in Figure 5-c (which uses the vertical  
 91 data), and the fit to the horizontal data is good (hrms 1.2). This coupling distribution  
 92 yields a good fit to the vertical data set, except in the Tongoy area where it underestimates  
 93 the observed surrection. Thus, we are confident that those vertical velocities are fully  
 94 coherent with the horizontal ones and impose few additional constrains on the inversion.

#### 1.4. Weighting of the data sets

95 In order to get for every data-set a RMS value close to their average uncertainty, we  
 96 “scaled up” the CAP, SAGA and LiA-MdB-south data-set uncertainties. To do so, we  
 97 multiply their published uncertainties by a scaling factor detailed in table S5. The formal  
 98 uncertainties of *Ruegg et al.* [2009] vertical velocities were increased by a factor of 3. This  
 99 leads to reasonable  $\chi^2$  values in our favorite model (close to 1).

## 2. Modelling strategy

### 2.1. Backslip hypothesis

100 During the interseismic phase of the seismic cycle, the convergent plate motion gener-  
 101 ates elastic deformation of the upper plate. *Okada* [1985] described this deformation as  
 102 equivalent to the deformation pattern caused by a dislocation buried in a semi-infinite,  
 103 elastic, homogeneous medium. Okada’s equations can be applied to the interseismic load-

ing phase using the “backslip” assumption [*Savage*, 1983]. This assumption claims that the deformation caused by the locked portion of the fault is equivalent to the addition of the deformation caused by the long-term convergence motion between both plates, and the deformation caused by a normal slip dislocation occurring on the coupled area. This last term is called the “backslip” component. This hypothesis has been extensively used to model upper plate deformation (e.g [*McCaffrey*, 2002; *Wallace et al.*, 2004; *Socquet et al.*, 2006]), and is often criticized because of a misinterpretation of the “long-term” steady state component that is sometimes considered as a dislocation-like component that causes discontinuities in the near-trench deformation field [*Vergne et al.*, 2001]. However, *Kanda and Simons* [2010] recently showed that without this misleading interpretation of Savage’s steady-state component and even for curved fault geometries, the backslip assumption allows to simulate correctly the upper plate deformation.

To quantify the amount of coupling, we use the DEFNODE inversion program based on the backslip assumption [*McCaffrey*, 2002]. The long-term relative block motion on the subduction is fixed in our case by the relative pole between Nazca and South American plate determined by *Vigny et al.* [2009] (55.9°N, 95.2°W, 0.610 °/My). The subduction interface is discretized as a grid of nodes modelled as source points. Surface deformation generated by each of these nodes is described by individual Green’s functions that are summed to obtain the total interseismic deformation field. The coupling value for each node is inverted with a downhill simplex method to obtain the “best” coupling distribution fitting the GPS data-set, i.e the model that minimizes the reduced  $\chi_n^2$  function with

$$\chi_n^2 = \sum_{i=1,n} \left( \frac{r_i}{f\sigma_i} \right)^2 (n - P)^{-1} \quad (1)$$

125 where  $n$  is the number of observations (620 in our case),  $P$  the number of free parameters  
 126 in the inversion (420 in our case),  $r_i$  is the residual value at a point,  $\sigma_i$  the formal data  
 127 uncertainty and  $f$  a data scaling factor (table S5). The coupling coefficient  $\Phi$  is defined  
 128 as :  $V_{\text{backslip dislocation}} = -\Phi.V_{\text{convergence}}$ , meaning that a 100% coupling coefficient implies a  
 129 fully locked zone, whereas a less than 100% coupling coefficient is a partially coupled zone  
 130 where the convergence is accommodated by both seismic rupture and creep.

## 2.2. Spatial resolution and constraints on the inversion

131 We estimate the resolution of our inversion with checkerboard tests, with or without  
 132 random noise added to the synthetic data-set, and with or without roughness coefficient  
 133 imposed (Figure S2). We have no resolution for the shallowest part of the interface (from  
 134 0 to 15 km depth) except in the La Serena area (30°S) where the distance between the  
 135 coast and the trench is  $\sim 70$  km and allows for better insight of the shallow interface. We  
 136 also conducted inversions forcing the shallow interface to be 100% coupled (Figure S3).  
 137 In these tests, if the interface is locked down to 7 km depth or less (figures S3-1 and 2),  
 138 the coupling distributions reproduce the data with good RMS (lower than 1.5) and depict  
 139 the same lateral variations than in our favorite model. If the interface is locked down to  
 140 15 km or deeper (figures S3-3 and 4), the normalized RMS increases significantly and the  
 141 residuals are pointing westward in a systematic way, notably in the La Serena area. This  
 142 implies that in general we are not able to conclude whether the shallow interface (down  
 143 to 15 km depth) is locked during the interseismic loading or is freely creeping. In the La  
 144 Serena area (30°S), the vicinity between the trench and the coast (70 km locally) and the  
 145 high density of our measurements increase the resolution up to  $\sim 10$  km depth. Deepest  
 146 parts of the interface are homogeneously unresolved (more than 80 km depth).

147 As suggested by *McCaffrey* [2002] to avoid lateral effects, we impose a similar coupling  
148 value for the last two nodes at both fault ends and we fix the deepest line of nodes to a zero  
149 coupling value. We minimize the numerical instabilities by introducing an along strike  
150 roughness coefficient of  $0.7/^\circ$  for the surface nodes (i.e. the coupling value between nodes  
151 distant of 111 km is not allowed to differ by more than 0.7) which decreases indepth  
152 linearly towards a 0 roughness for the deepest nodes (120 km depth). We chose this  
153 roughness value as it yields the best compromise between smoothing and RMS (see insert  
154 in Figure S4), i.e highest roughness values don't yield significant improvement of the fit.  
155 Imposing this along strike and along dip smoothing leads to an overall underestimate of  
156 the amount of coupling due to the softening of sharp contrasts, but the general pattern  
157 is reasonably well retrieved (see Figure S2). Furthermore, the decrease of the roughness  
158 coefficient with depth does not allow for sharp lateral variations at depth greater than 60  
159 km.

### 2.3. Alternative models

160 The physical meaning of a low coupled updip transition zone is still debated [*McCaffrey*,  
161 2002; *Wang and Dixon*, 2004; *Lay and Schwartz*, 2004; *Wang and Dixon*, 2004]. This is  
162 mostly due to the fact that anywhere on Earth, the distance between the trench and the  
163 coast is too large (more than 70 km) and prevents us to have sufficient resolution to image  
164 the shallow interface (from surface to 15 km depth). Thus, several modelling strategies  
165 were used in previous studies : most of them fix the shallowest part of the interface to a  
166 coupling coefficient of 100%, whereas *McCaffrey* [2002] and *Wallace et al.* [2004] proposed  
167 to force the coupling coefficient to decrease with depth (“ddc” or down-dip decrease option  
168 implemented in DEFNODE). In this study, we chose to present in the main text a very



169 smoothed first-order model in which we used the down-dip decrease constraint, side by  
170 side with our favorite model in which neither the amplitude of the shallow coupling nor its  
171 downdip variation was constrained (Figure 5). Here, we present alternative models that  
172 reproduce reasonably the data set and that include a-priori constraints on the coupling  
173 of the shallow interface. Among those models, those which reproduce the data with a  
174 normalized RMS lower than 1.5 were used to characterized the latitudinal variations of  
175 the average coupling coefficient presented in Figure 8. All together, they show similar  
176 pattern and define the large scale variations of the coupling coefficient along Central  
177 Chile.

178 First, we conduct inversions in which coupling is artificially set to 100% for the shal-  
179 lowest nodes of the grid (Figure S3). When the shallow locked zone extent down to 7 km  
180 depth or less (Figure S3-1 and 2), the fit to the whole data set is good and the normalized  
181 RMS is lower than 1.5. The robust features of our favorite model are persistent in those  
182 models : the coupling distribution is again characterized by four segments and associated  
183 intersegments.

184 Second, we tested the effect of imposing a downdip decrease in coupling coefficient  
185 as suggested by *McCaffrey* [2002] and *Wallace et al.* [2004] in the inversion of the cou-  
186 pling distribution. We present several models obtained with this constraint using variable  
187 roughness values in the supplementary Figure S7. Those models fit the first order of the  
188 data set but fail in retrieving the coastal deformation in the Concepción-Constitución area  
189 and the whole deformation pattern of the San Antonio region ( $\sim 34^\circ$ ). Nevertheless, the  
190 general pattern in the coupling distribution is still persistent.

## References

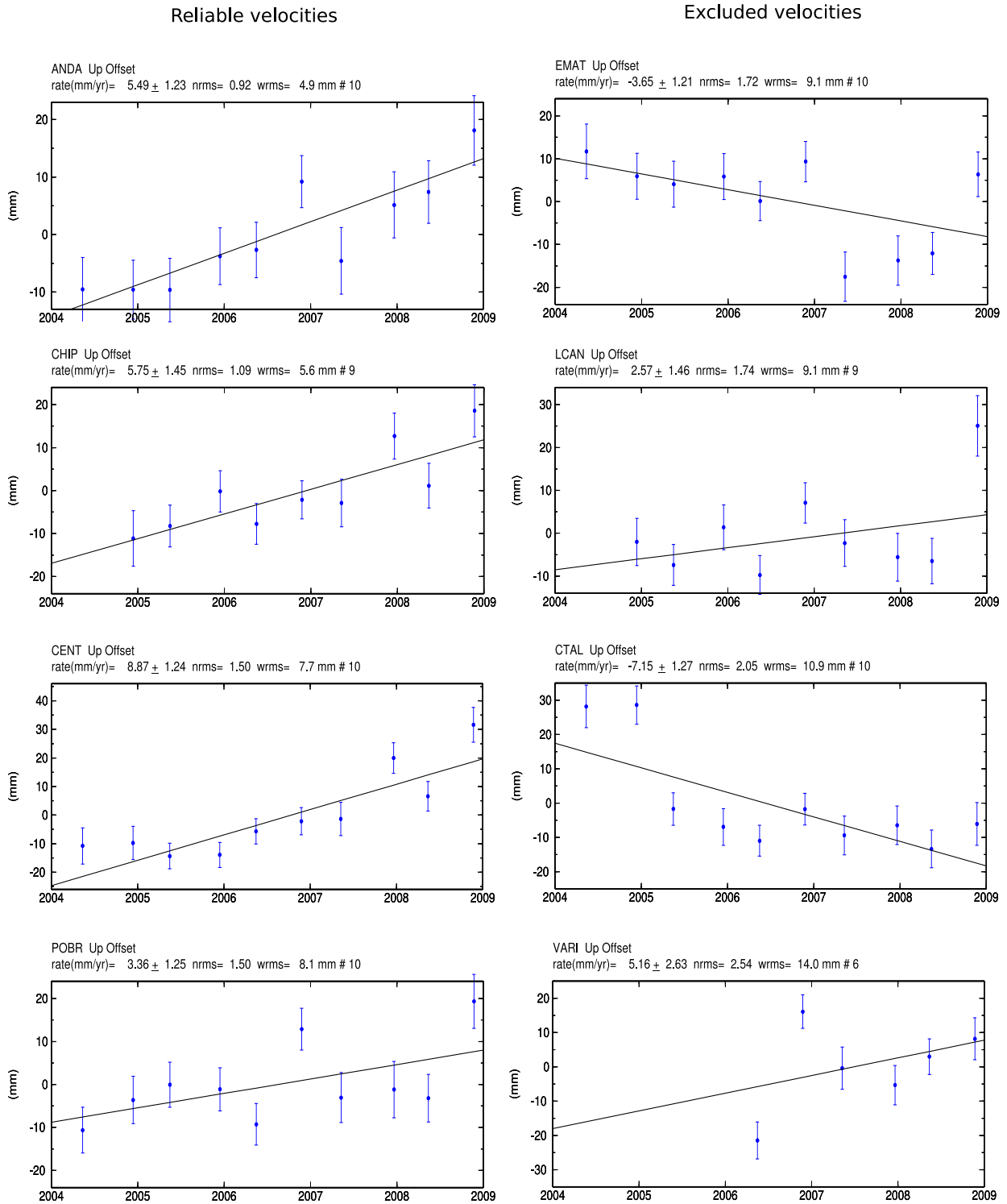
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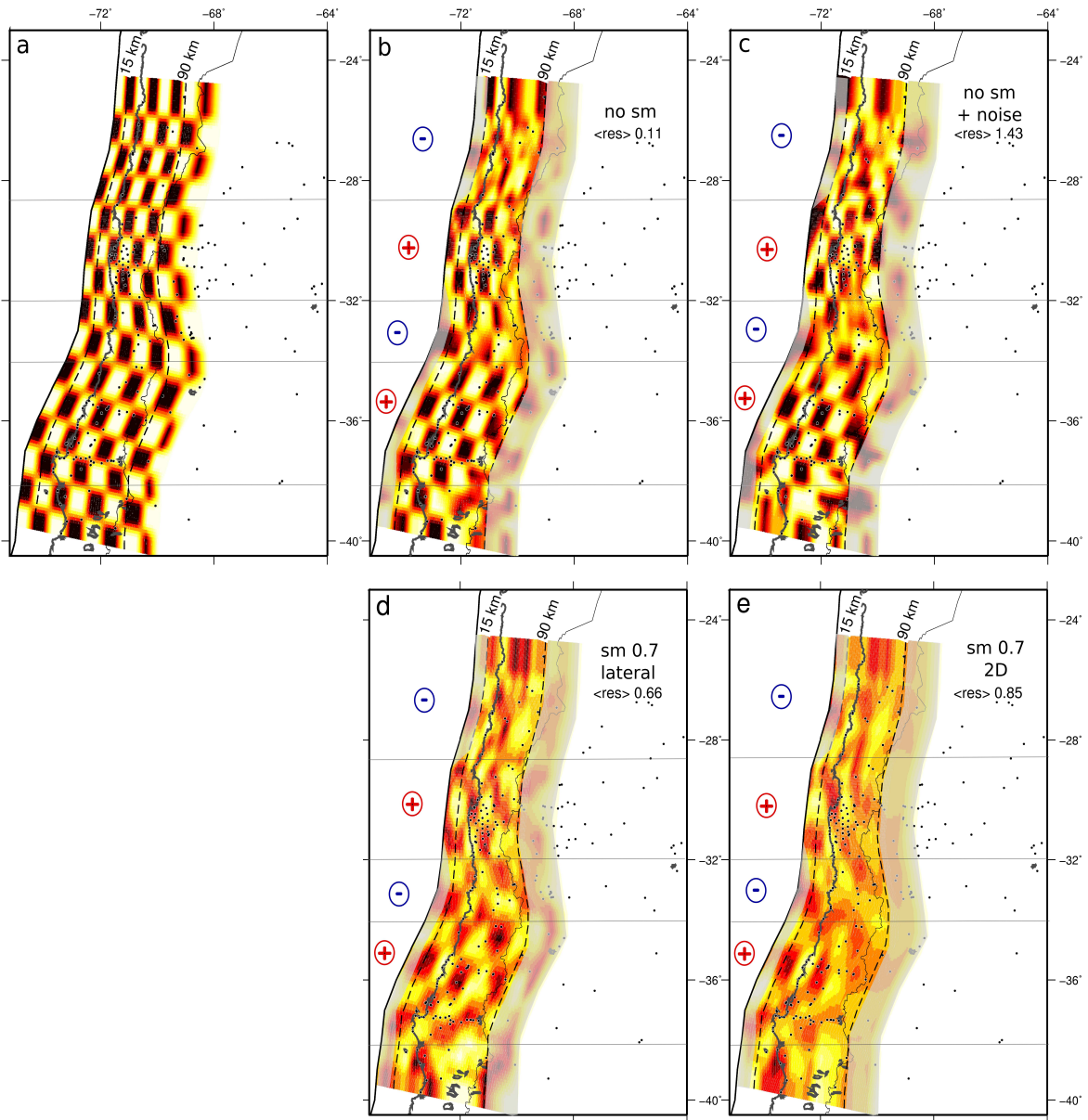
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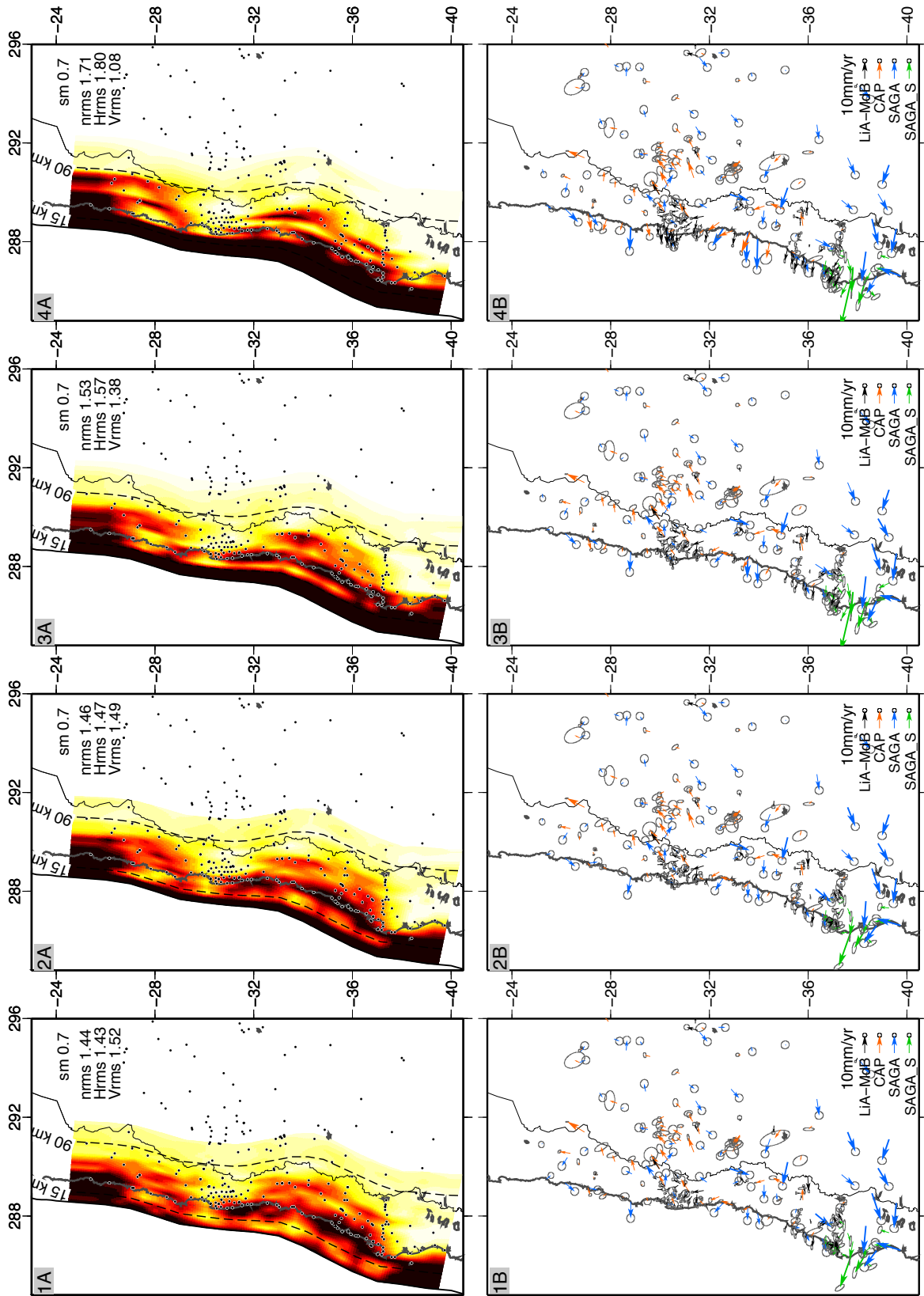
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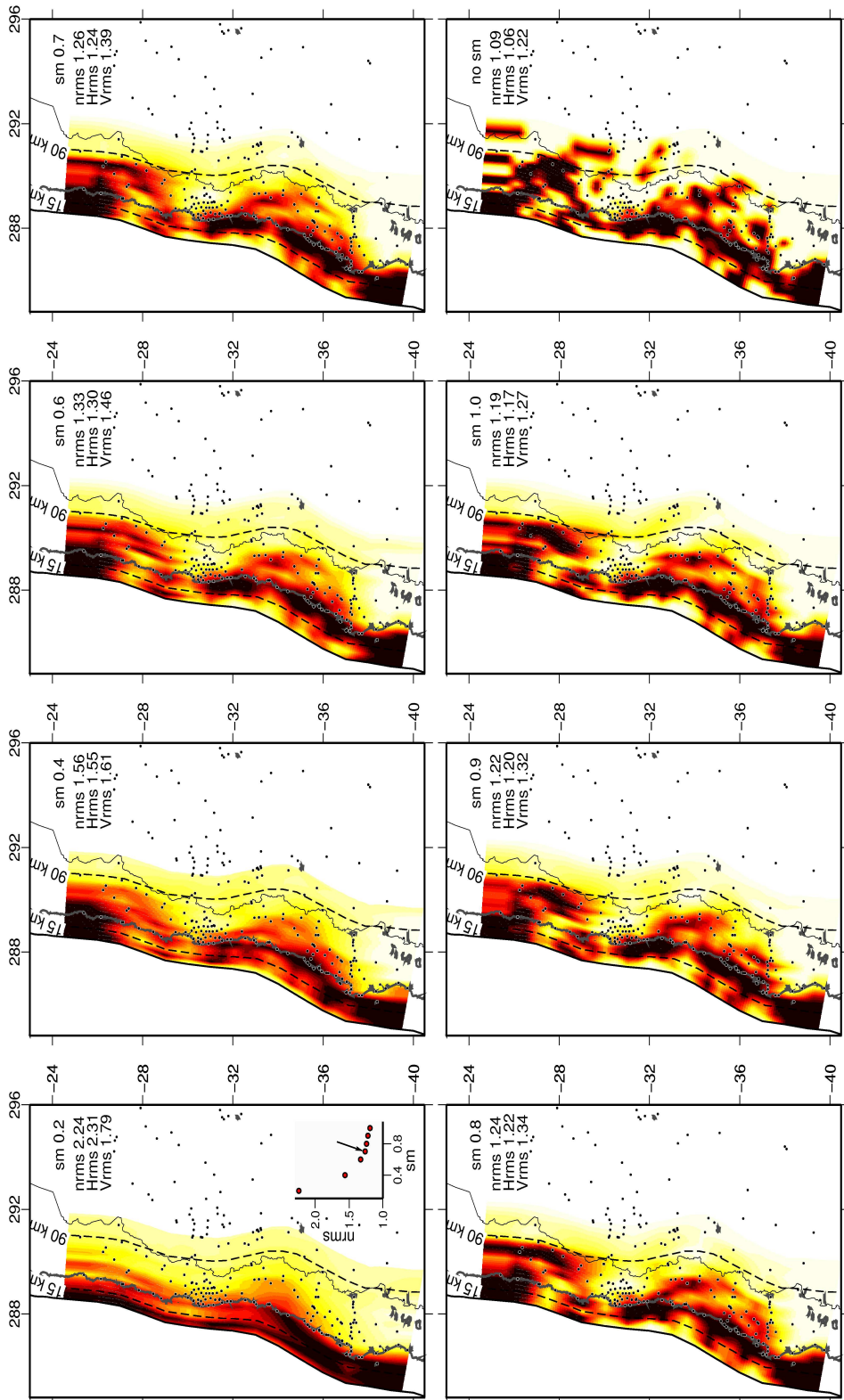
**Figure S1.** Subset of vertical time series of measurement points of the LiA-central network considered as reliable (left) or not (right). Stations on the right are excluded because the normalized rms of the time-series are greater than 1.7.



**Figure S2.** Checkerboard resolution tests. (a) Synthetic checkerboard coupling distribution of 100% (red patches) and 0% (light yellow patches) coupled asperities for our favorite geometry. (b) Inverted coupling distribution obtained using the raw synthetic surface deformation field generated by the checkerboard, without roughness coefficient. (c) Retrieved coupling when random noise is added to the synthetic surface deformation field, without roughness coefficient. (d) and (e), inverted coupling distribution obtained using the raw synthetic surface deformation field, and imposing a 0.7 roughness coefficient that is either constant or decreasing along dip, respectively. Dashed lines are the slab isodepth. Black circles are the measurement points. The average residual in mm/yr is indicated on the upper right corner except for (a). Well or poorly resolved area are indicated with plus or minus symbols respectively. Grey shaded areas mask the very shallow or very deep unresolved parts of the slab.

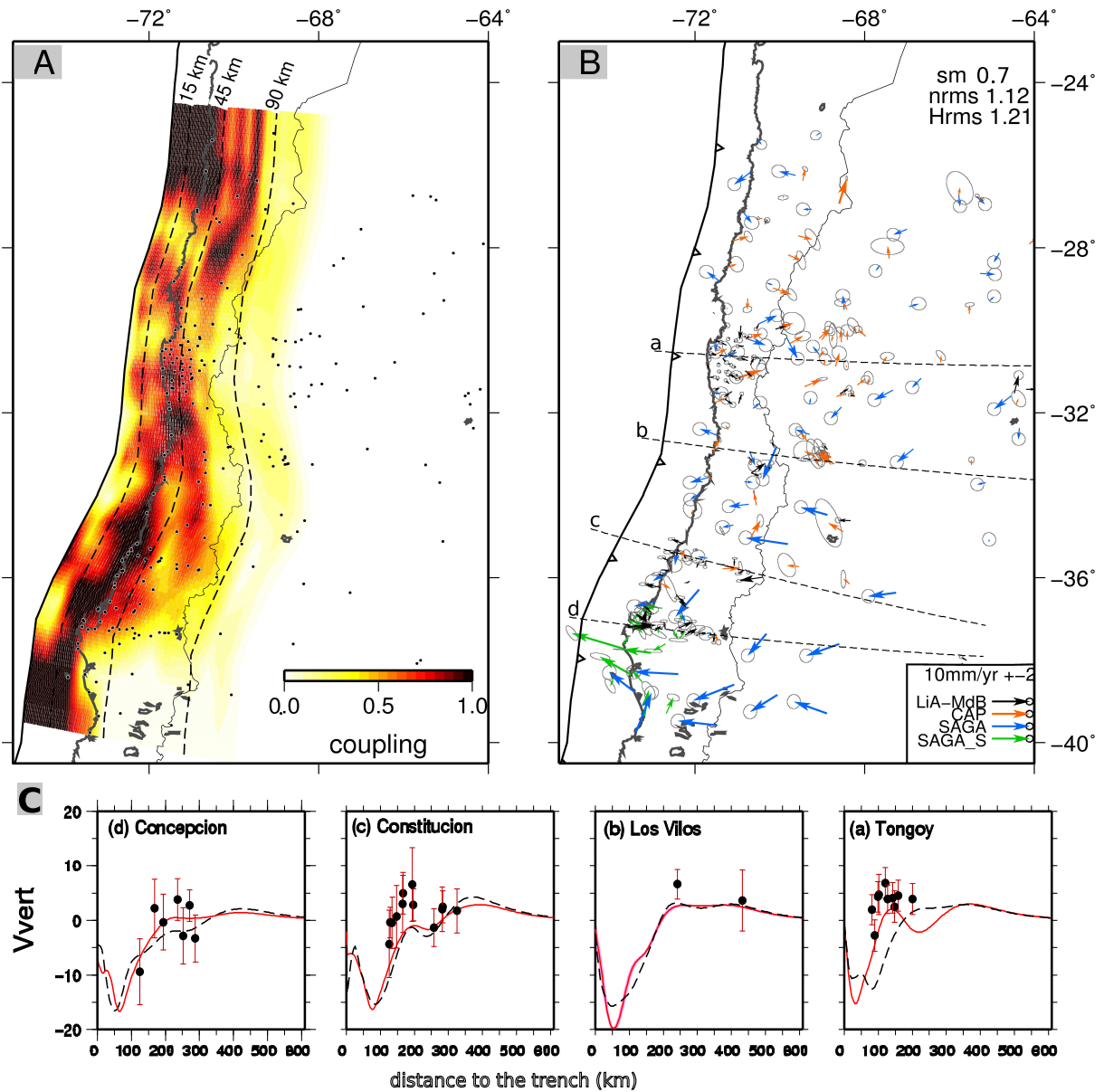


**Figure S3.** Coupling patterns inverted with imposed 100% coupling down to a variable depth (A row) and associated residuals (B row). Coupling is color coded as in Figure 5 and dashed curves are isodepth of the plunging slab. The roughness value, the whole root mean square (Nrms), the root mean square on horizontal data (Hrms) and on vertical data (Vrms) are indicated in the upper right corner of each coupling plot. Residuals are color coded as in Figure 3. Coupling is forced to 100% for the surface nodes (1A-1B), down to 7 km depth (2A-2B), down to 15 km depth (3A-3B) and down to 22.5 km (4A-4B).

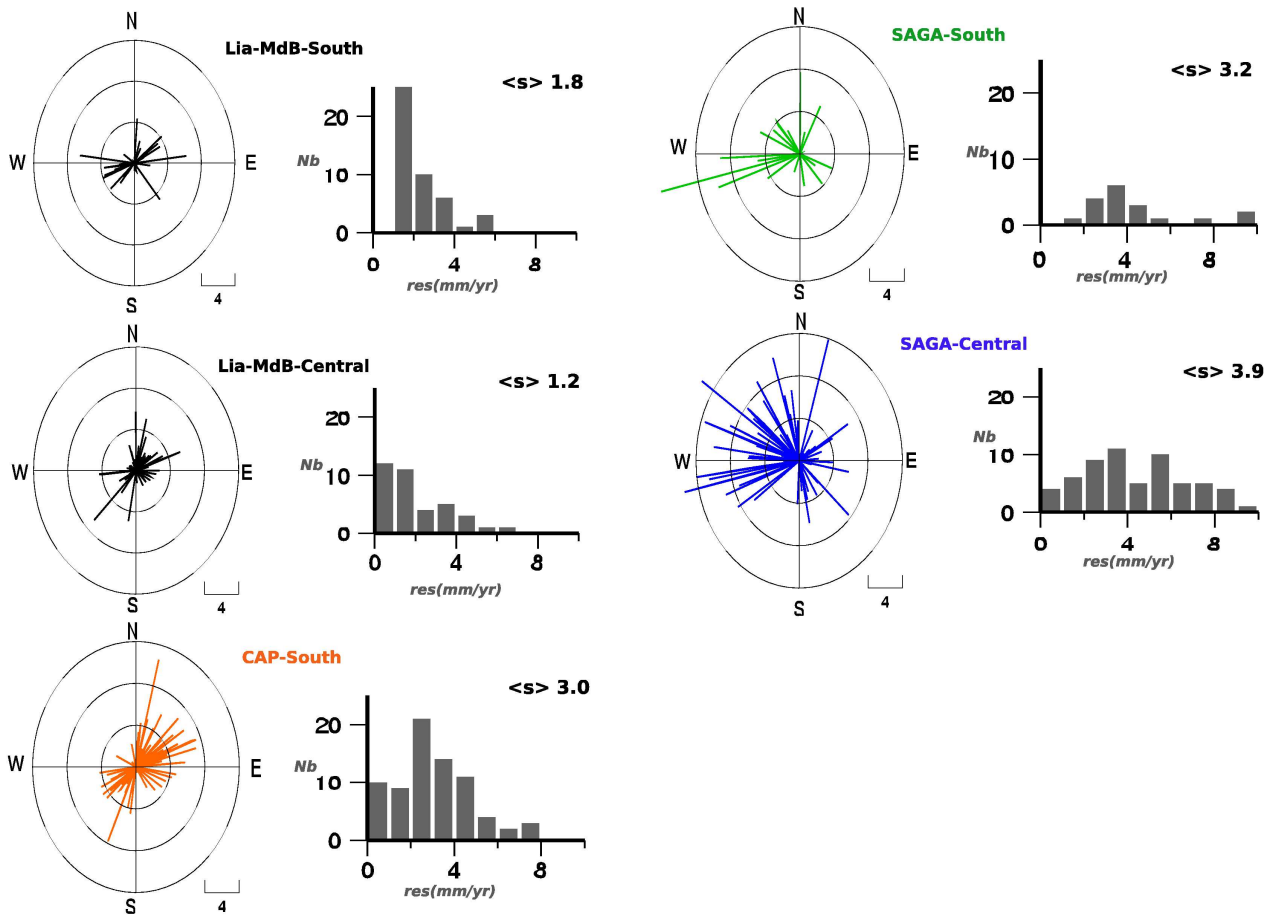


**Figure S4.** Coupling patterns inverted using different roughness values. Coupling is color coded as in Figure 5 and dashed curves are isodepth of the plunging slab. The roughness value, the whole root mean square (Nrms), the root mean square on horizontal data (Hrms) and on vertical data (Vrms) are indicated in the upper right corner of each plot. We plot the variations of Nrms with roughness in the bottom right corner of the smoothest inversion. The model with roughness coefficient 0.7 is the preferred model also shown in Figure 5.

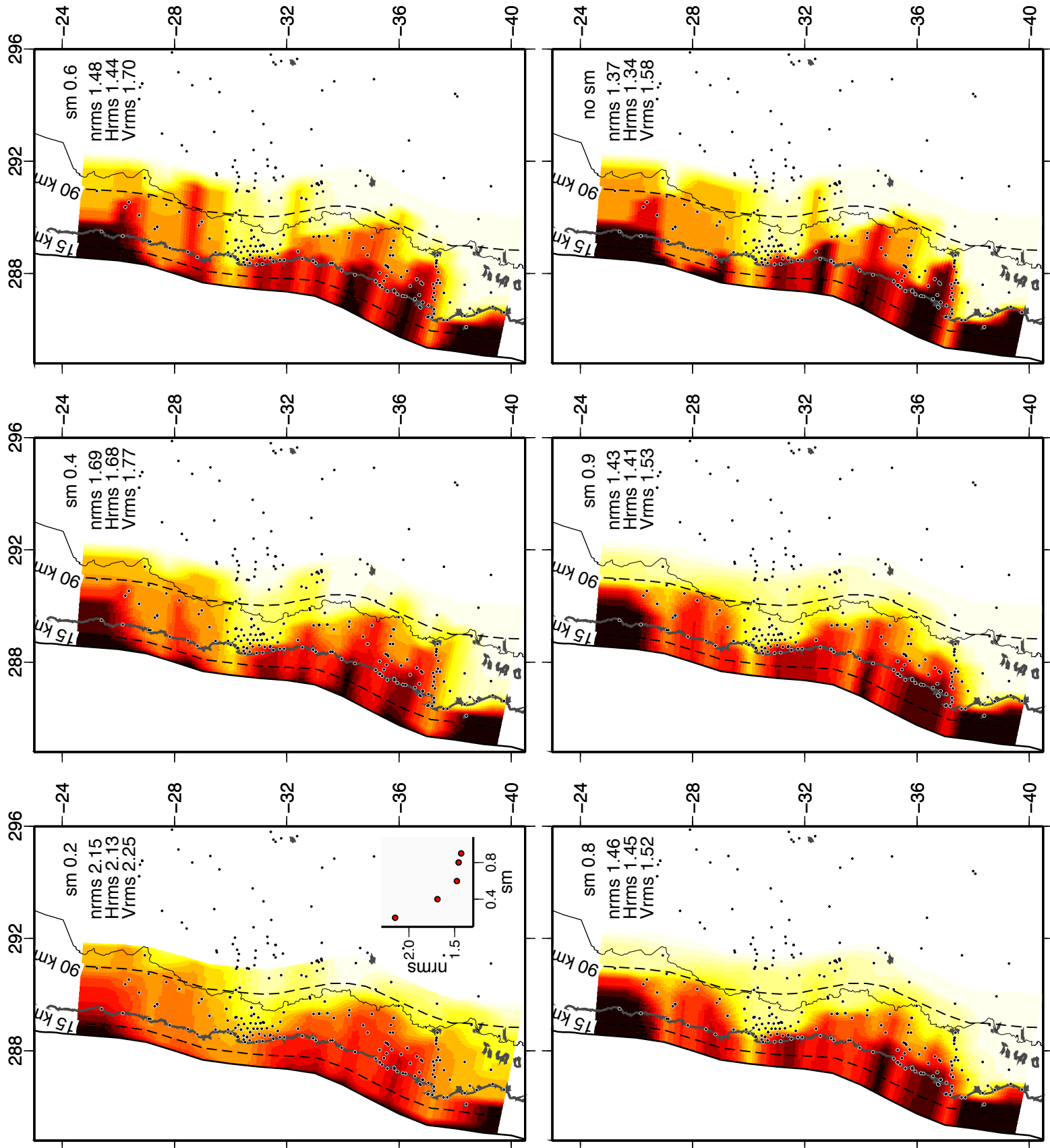




**Figure S5.** Coupling distribution obtained by the inversion of horizontal GPS data only (A) and associated residuals (B) with a smoothing coefficient of 0.7. The fit of this model to the vertical data set is plotted along four profile lines (dark dotted line in C) against with the surface deformation predicted by our "best-fit" model including the vertical data in the inversion (red plain line in C). Profil width is 20km.



**Figure S6.** Detailed analysis of residuals. For each data-set, wind roses depict amplitude and orientation, histograms depict residuals distributions (scale is in mm/yr). The average uncertainty of each data-set after uncertainty rescaling is indicated by the  $\langle s \rangle$  value plotted in the upper right corner of the graphs. The largest residuals are obtained for the SAGA data-sets, either due to postseismic motion for the SAGA-south data-set (green), or to partial incompatibility with other data-sets.



**Figure S7.** Same than Figure S4 but for inversions made with the down-dip decrease constrain on the coupling values.

**Figure 1.** Seismotectonic background of the NAZC-SOAM convergence zone and main geological features. Topography and bathymetry are from ETOPO1. The subandean fold and thrust belt possible fronts are marked with dashed lines. Yellow lines : contours of bathymetric features of the Nazca subducting plate. IqR-Iquique ridge, Co R-Copiapo Ridge, CFZ-Challenger fracture zone, JFR-Juan Fernandez ridge, MFZ-Mocha Fracture Zone. Black dashed lines : isochrons of Nazca plate ocean floor extracted from ?. The bold red arrow is the convergence velocity and direction between both plates. Red dashed and plain contoured ellipses : maximal rupture zones of the  $M > 7.5$  historical and instrumental earthquakes respectively since 1830 (from Servicio Sismológico Nacional catalogue (<http://ssn.dgf.uchile.cl/>) and [????]). Green ellipse : rupture zone of the Maule recent event. Green star : relocated hypocenter of the Maule event [?]. Red circles :  $M_w > 6$  events that occurred since 1976 [?]. Peninsulaes and coastal features are named on the grey rectangles.

**Figure 2.** Historical and instrumental seismicity along the Chilean trench. Left : dots depict the seismicity ( $M_w > 5$ ) recorded since 1990 (CMT catalog). Magnitude and depth (in km) of the epicenter are coded by the dot's size and its color respectively. Right : largest estimated rupture lengths of the main identified historical earthquakes since 1500 against time. Dashed and plain lines means high and low uncertainty on those ruptures respectively [????].  $M_w$  is indicated for well studied major events. Red plain line : recent 2010 Maule rupture zone. Black circles : epicenters of less important and documented events. Brown and green rectangular zones : barriers of subduction segments defined by seismicity that are well or badly identified respectively.

**Figure 3.** Final compiled data-set of the upper-plate interseismic surface deformation relative to stable South-American plate defined by the NNR-Nuvel1A model. Different colours depict different data-sets. The 1995 subduction type Antofagasta event focal mechanism is plotted as a beach-ball (CMT). Red star : 1960  $M_w$  9.5 Valdivia hypocenter. Bold red arrow : tectonic convergence velocity (68 mm/yr). Names of major coastal features are indicated in grey rectangles. The trench line accurate location is from [?].

**Figure 4.** Left : vertical data-set used in this study. Uplift (red) and subsidence (blue) amplitude are colour coded (mm/yr). Bold contoured dots are continuous cGPS stations. Right : dots depict the vertical deformation in mm/yr along the four profile lines plotted on the map (dashed lines). The profile swath is illustrated by dash-dotted rectangles. Tick marks : scaled uncertainties. Diamonds are coseismic vertical displacements in meters caused by the Maule earthquake on those profile lines. The black arrow indicated the probable location of the hinge line for each profile.

**Figure 5.** Coupling distributions (left) of the smoothed first-order model (1A) and precise "best" model (2A) and associated residuals (right, 1B and 2B respectively). Left : the coupling coefficient value (from 0% to 100%) is colour-coded from white to red. Dashed lines are slab isodepths which value is indicated at the northern end of the slab (km). Greyish areas are the low resolution areas defined by checkerboard tests such as the areas where the discrepancy between the initial checkerboard coupling distribution and the inverted one is greater than 30%. Black dots mark GPS sites. Right : residuals relative to each data-set (colour coded as in Figure 3). We plotted with dashed black lines the four profiles perpendicular to the trench presented in fig 6. They span a 20km width area around the profile line (dashed-dotted rectangles).

**Figure 6.** Fit of the smoothed first-order model and of the second-order “best” model to the data on four 20km width profiles perpendicular to the trench shown on Figure 5. The calculated surface deformation (in mm/yr) for the first-order and second-order “best” models is plotted against the distance to the trench (in km) with black and red plain lines respectively. The pink shaded area around the red plain line represent the lateral variability of the deformation along those 20km wide profiles. Different colours depicts different data-sets (black-Lia MdB, blue-SAGA, orange-CAP, green-SAGA South) plotted with their rescaled uncertainty (red tick marks). The topography (in km) and the variation with depth (in km) of the coupling coefficient are plotted in the upper graphs. The colour code for the coupling coefficient is identical to Figure 5.

**Figure 7.** Coupling pattern and segmentation. Shallow (less than 60 km depth) areas where  $\Phi$  is more than 60% are plotted in dark gray. Dashed black line : intersection of the continental Moho with the plunging slab following ?. Green star : epicenter of the 1960  $M_w$  9.5 earthquake (CMT). Coloured ellipses depict rupture zones of major historical earthquakes well (plain line) or poorly (dashed line) resolved. Their colour code correspond to the segment they broke. Those segments are numbered on the left : (1) Valdivia segment (green), (2) Maule segment (red), (3) Metropolitan segment (blue), (4) Atacama segment (yellow). Grey rectangles : intersegment zones. Names of peculiar coastal features are indicated. Blue plain lines : bathymetric features Co R-Copiapo ridge, CFZ-Challenger fracture zone; JFR-Juan Fernandez Ridge; MFZ-Mocha Fracture Zone.

**Figure 8.** Average coupling coefficient versus latitude.  $\langle \Phi \rangle$  is calculated for  $0.2^\circ$  sliding windows sampling the first 60km depth of the slab for our preferred model (red bold line) and a subset of alternative models that fit the data with a nrms lower than 1.5 (dashed pink lines). The pink shaded area is the uncertainty zone of our preferred coupling distribution. Number of intermediate magnitude earthquakes ( $M_w < 6.5$ ,  $z < 60$ km and crustal earthquakes excluded - USGS catalog 1976-2009) calculated using  $0.6^\circ$  sliding windows are plotted with dark plain line. The dark dashed line depicts the number of  $M_w < 5$  earthquakes. Grey shaded area are the intersegment zones that bound the four “coupling segments”.

**Figure 9.** (a) Left : co-seismic slip distribution (4 m isoslip contour-lines in white) and postseismic rapid afterslip (0.2 m isoslip contour-lines in blue) [?], superimposed on our coupling distribution. White star : relocated epicenter [?]. Black star : NEIC-USGS epicenter. Greyish areas : unresolved zones of the coupling inversion. (b) Right : slip budget of the seismic cycle along the Maule segment (2). Moment scale is  $\times 10^{16}$ N per meter of subduction. The released or cumulated moment is calculated for the first 232km of the slab (i.e from 0 to 60km depth for a  $15^\circ$  dipping slab). Blue line : maximal local moment accumulated since 1835; red plain curve : local moment accumulated by elastic deformation during the interseismic phase of the cycle (best model). Pink shaded area : uncertainty of our preferred coupling model. Black plain line : moment released by the Maule event [?]. Dashed black curve : moment released per subduction unit by the first month of aftershock, excepting the Pichilemu  $M_w$  6.8 aftershock (USGS). Orange plain curve : moment released by the intermediate magnitude seismicity since 1990 and until the Maule event. Grey shaded areas : intersegments zones.

SITE	Position		Velocity			Uncertainties			r
	Lon.	Lat.	Vlon	Vlat	Vup	$\sigma_{lon}$	$\sigma_{lat}$	$\sigma_{up}$	
AGUA	289.193	-30.982	21.91	6.16	-1.13	1.33	1.33	3.78	0.000
ANDA	288.930	-30.278	19.53	9.81	5.94	1.01	1.01	2.78	0.000
AZUL	300.119	-36.767	2.46	0.83	5.75	2.14	2.12	5.62	0.003
BSJL	288.662	-30.687	22.83	8.09	-3.94	1.22	1.22	3.5	-0.001
BTON*	288.513	-30.263	19.53	8.55	2.61	1.48	1.48	3.9	0.000
CENT	288.793	-30.962	21.84	7.97	8.92	1.01	1.01	2.82	0.000
CFAG*	291.767	-31.602	8.44	2.17	1.75	1.01	1.00	2.66	0.000
CHAN	288.972	-30.897	20.45	8.68	0.10	1.01	1.01	2.82	0.000
CHAP	289.500	-29.853	16.74	7.12	-	1.01	1.01	-	-0.001
CHIN	288.877	-31.488	19.43	6.32	-	1.70	1.70	-	0.004
CHIP	288.786	-31.115	24.00	8.58	5.61	1.08	1.08	2.98	0.000
CMBA*	289.001	-31.188	18.91	9.31	-	1.69	1.69	-	0.001
CMOR	289.204	-30.205	19.50	9.98	-	1.25	1.24	-	0.002
CNBA	288.542	-31.398	23.55	7.51	4.04	1.48	1.48	3.82	0.000
CNFL	288.711	-31.672	24.73	6.57	-	1.68	1.68	-	0.000
COGO	289.025	-31.153	21.93	7.64	7.55	1.07	1.07	2.98	0.000
CONS*	287.588	-35.331	35.96	11.74	-0.39	1.02	1.02	5.64	0.001
CONZ*	286.975	-36.844	34.50	10.45	-0.10	0.91	0.90	2.9	0.000
COP0*	289.662	-27.385	23.55	8.89	-	1.64	1.63	-	0.000
CORD	295.530	-31.528	4.85	5.06	-	2.72	2.67	-	0.001
CTAL	288.330	-30.929	27.01	9.59	-	1.14	1.13	-	0.000
DGF1*	289.338	-33.457	22.10	5.93	6.36	1.13	1.13	3	0.001
EALM	288.570	-31.413	22.83	7.68	1.31	1.08	1.08	3.08	0.001
EMAN	288.815	-30.175	18.49	9.04	3.61	1.01	1.01	2.8	0.000
EMAT*	288.337	-31.147	29.41	8.55	-	1.01	1.01	-	0.001
ESAU	288.316	-30.511	23.00	7.74	1.96	1.01	1.01	2.74	0.000

SITE	Position		Velocity	Uncertainties
	Lon.	Lat.	V <sub>up</sub>	$\sigma_{up}$
BAT0	288.038	-35.307	4.98	1.28
CAP0	286.728	-37.245	-8.24	5.27
CHL0	287.795	-36.639	7.16	2.34
CLM0	287.188	-36.236	-13.90	1.78
CO20	287.509	-35.412	-4.34	2.06
CO40	287.374	-35.586	-5.65	1.78
CO70	287.361	-35.843	-2.74	1.92
CO80	287.256	-35.949	-2.77	2.18
CT20	287.745	-35.464	0.68	1.92
CT30	287.914	-35.558	3.05	1.75
CT40	288.223	-35.616	6.55	2.25
CT60	288.931	-35.709	-1.36	1.15
CT70	289.166	-35.815	2.04	1.35
CT80	289.601	-35.991	1.74	1.35
LAJ0	287.303	-37.255	2.18	1.78
LLA0	288.656	-37.369	-3.33	1.44
LTA0	286.858	-37.059	-9.44	2.01
MIR0	288.250	-37.330	-2.82	1.72
MRC0	288.045	-37.411	3.84	1.28
NIN0	287.563	-36.410	-7.27	1.16
PTU0	287.731	-35.172	-0.43	1.58
PUN0	288.043	-35.750	-1.87	0.98
QLA0	287.875	-36.085	1.74	0.85
RAQ0	286.564	-37.256	-12.80	4.10
SANT	289.331	-33.150	2.39	0.71
SLT0	287.616	-37.216	-0.33	1.70

Set	Reference	Time span	Area	ITRF	Reference frame	$\langle\sigma\rangle$ mm/yr	obs.
CAP-South	[ <i>Brooks et al.</i> , 2003]	93-01	26-36° S	97	SOAM GPS1	3.2	68
CAP-North	[ <i>Bevis et al.</i> , 1999]	93-97	10-40° S	97	SOAM GPS2	1.5	6
SAGA-Central-1	[ <i>Klotz et al.</i> , 2001]	94-96	22-42° S	97	SOAM GPS3	3.9	66
SAGA-Central-2	[ <i>Khazaradze</i> , 2003]	94-97	17-42° S	97	SOAM GPS4	2.9	2
SAGA-South	[ <i>Moreno et al.</i> , 2008]	02-07	36-39° S	00	ITRF00	3.0	19
LiA-MdB-South	[ <i>Ruegg et al.</i> , 2009]	96-02	35-37° S	05	SOAM N1A	1.8	37
LiA-MdB-Central	[ <i>this study</i> ]	04-08	30-32° S	05	SOAM N1A	1.2	71

**Table S3.** Previously published data-sets used in our global compilation. The time span corresponds to the measurement period, the ITRF and reference frame columns correspond to the ITRF used in the calculation process and to the reference frame in which the data were effectively published respectively. “SOAM GPSX” means that authors published their data in an unclear South America-fixed reference frame formed by minimization procedure of fiducial cratonic stations, whereas “SOAM N1A” is the Nuvel1A model inspired reference frame defined by [*DeMets Gordon*, 1994] using the “no net rotation” hypothesis. The SAGA-South data-set was published in an unspecified SOAM reference frame, but the authors provided us with the ITRF00 solution. The mean uncertainty after scaling up for modelling purpose is indicated and last column presents the number of observation points in central Chile (40 to 24° S) for each data-set.



Set	Minimized stations	Applied pole	mean residual
		lat-lon- $^{\circ}$ /Myr	mm/yr
CAP-South	TUCU-COPO-CFAG-SANR	$-48.53, -31.90, 0.04$	0.13
CAP-North	FORT-SANT-KOUR-LHCL-COPO CFAG-TUCU-BRAZ-LPGS	$-46.19, 42.42, 0.026$	0.17
SAGA-Central-1	BSJL-CONS-LISL-CMOR MAUL-PTOM-TONG	$-36.57, -68.85, 0.50$	0.28
SAGA-Central-2	LCHU/AR90-ZAHU/AR70 PATI/CO50-TOPI/TO10	$7.16, 104.4, 0.36$	0.24
SAGA-South	-	$-25.4, -124.6, 0.11$	-

**Table S4.** Rotation applied to individual data-sets to map them in the same reference frame. data-sets (first column), name of stations used to infer the rotation (second column), position (degree) and angular velocities ( $^{\circ}$ /Myr) of applied rotations (third column), average residual (mm/yr) computed over the minimization stations (fourth column). The pairs of stations indicated for the rotation of the SAGA-North set are close enough to make the reasonable assumption that their velocities must be the same (supposing that the interseismic loading rate is constant).

Set	scaling factor	rescaled $\langle\sigma\rangle$
CAP-South	4	3.2
CAP-North	3	1.5
SAGA-Central-1	1	3.9
SAGA-Central-2	2	2.9
LiA-MdB-South	3	1.8
LiA-MdB-North	1	1.2

**Table S5.** Details of the rescaling procedure. Data-sets (first column), applied scaling coefficient  $f$  (second column), average  $\sigma$  after rescaling in mm/yr (third column).