Can we observe the North Andean Sliver motion using InSAR time-series analysis?

Léo Marconato, M-P. Doin, L. Audin, L., J-M. Nocquet, F. Rolandonne, P. Jarrin, P., N. Harrichhausen







55 mm/yr

Nazca plate

Colombie

South American Plate

Équateur



55 mm/yr

Nazca plate



55 mm/yr

Nazca plate

Colombie

South American Plate

NAS

·A:

SAP

CCPP fault system

Pérou



Block model derived from GNSS (Jarrin et al., 2023)





A challenging question...

Can we observe the North Andean Sliver motion with InSAR?

- Strong topography and elevation gradients
- Dense vegetation in lowlands: Equatorial forest
- Cultivated lands even at high altitudes
- Subduction events

Small deformation rates: ~3-5 mm/yr expected in the Line-Of-Sight



Sentinel-1 Data



- process

3 tracks processed: 2 ascending 1 descending

Full archive:
 2014-2022
 ~ 8 years
 200-300 acquisitions

Sentinel-1 Data



Sentinel-1 Data

Area with results:

2 viewing geometries

+ sufficient coherence to unwrap 1 year interferograms (⇔ *elevation* > 2000-2500 *m*)

► 100 x 400 km area

Interferogram networks

- SBAS strategy: NSBAS processing chain (Doin et al., 2011)
- About half of long temporal baseline interferograms to reduce fading signals

Impact of a megathrust earthquake

Pedernales earthquake
 (2016, Mw7.8) during the
 period of acquisition of Sentinel-1

GNSS time-series in Quito (180 km from the coast):

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Interferogram generation

ERA5 tropospheric correction Optimized weighting during multilooking

A Providence

Interferogram generation

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a port

From detrended and referenced interferograms

Time-series inversion

Interferogram generation

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Time-series inversion

Extraction of a linear velocity on 2017.6+ time-span Using linear + seasonal time-fonction

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Referencing into the SSA reference-frame

Using GNSS velocity field extracted on the 2017.6+ time-span

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Decomposition into East+Up components

After removal of GNSS North component projected into LOS

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Correction of postseismic deformation

Using interpolated GNSS post-seismic velocity field

Our East velocity map

Results

- Overall good
 agreement
- ► Some inconsistencies reveal the too simplistic faults geometries used in the block model, or the lack of knowledge on their coupling

Distance along profile (km)

Conclusion

- We produced the first InSAR velocity map of the Ecuador-Colombia cordilleras using Sentinel-1 data.
- We developed a strategy to correct the velocity maps from the post-seismic effect of the 2016 Mw7.8 Pedernales earthquake using interpolated GNSS data
- The results show a good consistency with GNSS velocities over the whole area, such as with predictions of block modeling, but call for a refinement of the latter

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Impact of a megathrust earthquake

EXTENSION : reduces the inter-seismic gradient of deformation

Referencing in SSA reference-frame

Decomposition after removal of North component

East vel

.....

Up vel

- 1.0

- 0.5

- 0.0

-0.5

-1.0

Velocity (cm/yr)

Correction of post-seismic deformation

East vel_interp_GNSS

Up vel_interp_GNSS

Correction of post-seismic deformation

East vel_-postGNSS

Up vel_-postGNSS

