# Strain budget of the Ecuador-Colombia subduction zone: a stochastic view

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# Abstract

The 2016 Pedernales earthquake ( $M_W$ =7.8) ruptured a portion of the Colombia-Ecuador subduction interface where several large historical earthquakes have been documented since the great 1906 earthquake (M=8.6). Considering all significant ruptures that occurred in the region, it has been suggested that the cumulative moment generated co-seismically along this part of the subduction over the last century exceeds the moment deficit accumulated interseismically since 1906. Such an excess challenges simple models with earthquakes resetting the elastic strain accumulated inter-seismically in locked asperities. These inferences are however associated with large uncertainties that are generally unknown. The impact of spatial smoothing constraints on co-seismic and inter-seismic models also prevents any robust assessment of the strain budget. We propose a Bayesian kinematic slip model of the 2016 Pedernales earthquake using the most comprehensive dataset to date including InSAR and

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GPS offsets, tsunami waveforms, and kinematic records from high-rate GPS and strongmotions. In addition, we use inter-seismic geodetic velocities to produce a probabilistic inter-seismic coupling model of the subduction interface. Our stochastic co-seismic and inter-seismic solutions include the ensemble of all plausible models consistent with our prior information and that fit the observations within uncertainties. The analysis of these model ensembles indicates that an excess of co-seismic moment during the 1906 - 2016 period is likely in Central Ecuador only if we assume that 1942 and 2016 earthquakes are colocated. If this assumption is relaxed, we show that this conclusion no longer holds given uncertainties in co- and inter-seismic processes. The comparison of 1942 and 2016 teleseismic records reveals large uncertainties in the location of the 1942 event, hampering our ability to draw strong conclusions on the unbalanced moment budget in the region. Our results also show a heterogeneous coupling of the subduction interface that coincides with two slip asperities in our co-seismic model for the 2016 Pedernales earthquake and with the location of historical ruptures in 1958, 1979 and 1998. The spatial variability in coupling and complexity in earthquake history suggest strong heterogeneities in frictional properties of the subduction megathrust.

Keywords: Ecuador-Colombia subduction zone, Strain budget, Bayesian inversion,

Kinematic source model, Geodetic coupling model

# 1 1. Introduction

A long standing question is the existence of persistent fault segments remaining locked in the inter-seismic period and failing suddenly during earthquakes while the surround-

ing interface creeps continuously. This conceptual model predicts so-called "characteristic" 4 earthquakes repeatedly rupturing the same locked fault segments with either periodic, time-5 predictable or slip-predictable behaviours (Shimazaki and Nakata, 1980; Schwartz and Cop-6 persmith, 1984). This paradigm is contradicted by an increasing number of observations 7 showing that the same fault area can break entirely in a single large earthquake  $(M_W > 8.5)$ 8 but also in a series of smaller ruptures. A remarkable example of such behaviour is the 9 Colombia-Ecuador subduction zone that experienced a complex sequence of earthquakes 10 since the beginning of the 20th century (see Figure 1). In 1906, the great  $M_W=8.6$  earth-11 quake ruptured a  $\sim$ 500-km-long segment of the subduction interface (Gutenberg and Richter, 12 1949; Ye et al., 2016). Several decades later, the same area was re-ruptured by a series of 13 smaller  $M_W \leq 8.2$  events in 1942, 1958, 1979 and 1998 (Kanamori and McNally, 1982; Beck 14 and Ruff, 1984; Mendoza and Dewey, 1984; Chlieh et al., 2014). In April 2016, the region 15 in the vicinity of the 1942 Ecuador event was again ruptured by the  $M_W=7.8$  Pedernales 16 earthquake (Ye et al., 2016; He et al., 2017; Nocquet et al., 2017; Yi et al., 2018). Such vari-17 ability among successive ruptures is also observed in other regions like Japan and Sumatra 18 where recent  $M_W \sim 9$  megathrust earthquakes ruptured large fault segments that previously 19 experienced a serie of smaller events (Simons et al., 2011; Lay, 2015). 20

In addition to such variability among successive ruptures, major earthquakes in the Colombia-Ecuador subduction zone seem to be clustered in time. Specifically, it has been recently suggested that the seismic moment of the 1942, 1958 and 1979 earthquakes exceeds the deficit accumulated since 1906 and that the 2016 Pedernales event may be associated with

more fault slip than the deficit accumulated since the 1942 earthquake (Nocquet et al., 2017). 25 Similar observations are reported in other regions, for example in 1797 and 1833 earthquakes 26 in Sumatra (Sieh et al., 2008), 1812 and 1857 earthquakes in California (Jacoby et al., 1988; 27 Heaton, 1990), and for the 2003  $M_W=7.6$  and 2013  $M_W=7.8$  Scotia sea earthquakes (Vallée 28 and Satriano, 2014). Such spatial and temporal clustering can be caused by spatial vari-29 ations of fault coupling associated with heterogeneous frictional properties (Kaneko et al., 30 2010). Moreover, there can be fluctuations in the patterns of inter-seismic fault coupling 31 before large earthquakes (Perfettini and Avouac, 2004; Mavrommatis et al., 2014; Yokota 32 and Koketsu, 2015) or during the post-seismic response of nearby large earthquakes (Heki 33 and Mitsui, 2013; Melnick et al., 2017). 34

Although the existence of an anomalously large co-seismic slip associated with a su-35 percycle behaviour is plausible, other studies suggest that the seismic moment of the 2016 36 Pedernales earthquake is actually consistent with the strain accumulated in the region since 37 the 1942 and 1906 earthquakes (e.g., Ye et al., 2016; Yoshimoto et al., 2017; Yi et al., 2018). 38 These contrasting statements partly results from the ill-posed nature of inter- and co-seismic 39 slip inversions used to evaluate the strain budget along the megathrust. Such inferences 40 are affected by the lack of resolution near the trench during the inter-seismic period but 41 also by non-physics-based smoothing constraints used to regularize slip inversions. In ad-42 dition, inter- and co-seismic estimates usually do not incorporate rigorous uncertainties (or 43 very often, no uncertainty at all), which complicates a quantitative assessment of the overall 44 strain budget. Strain budget analyses also suffer from the lack of information about past 45

<sup>46</sup> earthquakes (Yi et al., 2018). Incorrect considerations on the size and position of historical
<sup>47</sup> events can strongly affect the conclusion on the strain state of the plate boundary.

We propose a probabilistic exploration of the Colombia-Ecuador earthquake sequence, 48 fully accounting for uncertainties, including measurement errors, modeling errors, but also 49 uncertainties in the location or magnitude of past events. Using a Bayesian framework, 50 we explore both the inter-seismic geodetic coupling of the subduction interface and the co-51 seismic slip distribution of the  $M_W = 7.8$  Pedernales earthquake. These estimates do not rely 52 on any spatial smoothing and provide full posterior probability distributions describing the 53 ensemble of plausible models that fit the observations and are consistent with simple prior 54 constraints (e.g., slip positivity in the direction of convergence). 55

# <sup>56</sup> 2. Geodetic coupling

## 57 2.1. Stochastic inter-seismic modeling

We first compute a stochastic model of geodetic coupling along the Ecuadorian subduc-58 tion interface. We use inter-seismic GPS velocities computed by Chlieh et al. (2014) from 59 29 stations installed in Ecuador and Colombia. The fault geometry is based on a 3D surface 60 following the Slab1.0 interface and discretized in triangles (c.f., Fig. S1 in the electronic 61 supplements). Using a back-slip approach (Savage, 1983), we invert for the inter-seismic 62 slip rate along the direction of convergence between Nazca and North Andean Sliver (NAS) 63 plates at each of the triangle knots assuming a barycentric interpolation scheme within the 64 triangles. This approach avoids unphysical slip discontinuities associated with traditional 65 parameterizations based on sub-faults with piecewise constant slip (Ortega Culaciati, 2013). In our Bayesian inversion framework, the solution is the posterior ensemble of all plausible inter-seismic slip rate models  $(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{I}})$  that fit the GPS data  $(\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}})$  and that are consistent with our prior hypotheses. This solution does not rely on any smoothing regularization and is based on a simple uniform prior for the inter-seismic slip-rate that writes  $p(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{I}}) =$  $\mathcal{U}(-0.05 \cdot V_p, 1.05 \cdot V_p)^M$  where  $V_p$  is the plate rate and M is the number of triangle knots (260 knots). We thus restrict our posterior PDF to models in which slip on the fault aligns with the direction of plate motion. Following Bayes' theorem, the posterior PDF is given by

$$p(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}}) \propto p(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{I}}) \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}} - \mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{I}}\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{I}})^T \mathbf{C}_{\mathcal{I}}^{-1}(\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}} - \mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{I}}\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{I}})\right]$$
(1)

<sup>74</sup> where  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{I}}$  is the Green's function matrix and  $\mathbf{C}_{\mathcal{I}}$  is the misfit covariance matrix combining <sup>75</sup> observational errors and prediction uncertainties. Green's functions are computed for a semi-<sup>76</sup> infinite stratified elastic medium derived from regional velocity models shown in Fig. S2 <sup>77</sup> (Béthoux et al., 2011; Vallee et al., 2013; Nocquet et al., 2017). We account for prediction <sup>78</sup> uncertainties due to inaccuracies in this layered model using the approach of Duputel et al. <sup>79</sup> (2012, 2014). The uncertainty on the elastic structure, presented as grey histograms in <sup>80</sup> Fig S2, is estimated by comparing previously published models in the region.

<sup>81</sup> We sample the posterior PDF  $p(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{I}})$  using AlTar, a parallel Markov Chain Monte <sup>82</sup> Carlo (MCMC) algorithm following the CATMIP algorithm (Minson et al., 2013). More <sup>83</sup> details on the application of AlTar to investigate inter-seismic deformations can be found in <sup>84</sup> Jolivet et al. (2015b) and Klein et al. (2017). The resulting posterior ensemble of slip-rate <sup>85</sup> models in eq. (1) is then converted into stochastic coupling maps ( $\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{C}}$ ) using  $\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{C}} = 1 - \mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{I}}/V_p$ .

## 86 2.2. Geodetic coupling results

Using our Bayesian framework, we generate 160 000 models corresponding to the posterior 87 information on geodetic coupling given measured inter-seismic velocities. We find that this 88 number is large enough to converge toward the posterior probability density. Representing 89 the ensemble of posterior models is challenging for multidimensional problems such as those 90 addressed in this study. To represent an ensemble solution, a common choice is to compute 91 the posterior mean (i.e., the average of all model samples). The posterior mean coupling 92 model is shown in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2a along with the associated 2- $\sigma$  posterior uncertainties 93 in Fig. 2b. The posterior median model available in Fig. S3 is very similar to the posterior 94 mean, confirming that most marginal PDFs are nearly Gaussians. The variability of the 95 model population composing the solution is shown in supplementary movie M1. 96

Several features in our solution can be observed in previously published geodetic coupling 97 models (e.g., Nocquet et al., 2014; Chlieh et al., 2014). In the South, there is a very clear 98 high-coupling area offshore the Manta peninsula. This region has been previously associated gg with transient slow-slip events (Vallee et al., 2013; Nocquet et al., 2014). As shown in Fig. 2a 100 and Fig. 2c, this area is associated with small model uncertainties probably because a GPS 101 station is located on La Plata Island, right above the coupled asperity. This coupled patch is 102 bounded to the north by a low-coupling corridor that might have acted as a creeping barrier 103 for the 1906, 1942, 1998 and 2016 earthquakes (cf., Fig. 1; Chlieh et al., 2014). 104

North of Bahía de Caráquez, we infer multiple patches of high geodetic coupling. Other
 coupled patches can be identified offshore of Bahía de Caráquez, North and South of Ped-

ernales, and far offshore Esmeraldas. To first order, such heterogeneity is consistent with 107 the "unsmoothed" solution of (Chlieh et al., 2014). This is unsurprising since our model-108 ing approach is not affected by any spatial smoothing. The high coupling asperity directly 109 offshore of Bahía de Caráquez probably ruptured individually during the 1998  $M_W=7.2$ 110 earthquake while the coupled areas closer to Pedernales could have failed during the 1942 111 and 2016 earthquake (Fig. 1). On the other hand, the large region of high coupling between 112 Esmeraldas and Cap Manglares could be involved in the 1958 and 1979 ruptures (cf., Fig. 1). 113 However, we observe larger model uncertainties in this northern part due the lack of 114 offshore measurements (Fig. 2b). This is quite clear in Fig. 2d showing that marginal PDFs 115 close to the trench are nearly uniform. To quantify the robustness of our coupling map, we 116 calculate the information gain from prior to posterior marginal PDFs using the Kullback-117 Leibler divergence, defined as: 118

$$D_{KL}{}^{i} = \int p(m_{\mathcal{C}}{}^{i}|\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{C}}) \log_{2} \frac{p(m_{\mathcal{C}}{}^{i})}{p(m_{\mathcal{C}}{}^{i}|\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{C}})} dm_{\mathcal{C}}{}^{i}$$
(2)

where  $m_{c}^{i}$  is the coupling sampled in *i*-th knot of the triangular mesh. The resulting map shown in Fig. S4, indicates how much information is gained from the data in different regions of the model. It illustrates the difficulty to infer coupling properties close to the trench using land-based geodetic data. Still, the information gain remains significant within 30-40 km of the coast, and even sometimes almost up to the trench (e.g., offshore of the Manta peninsula and between Esmeraldas and Cap Manglares). This suggests that aforementioned asperities are reliable features of our solution.

## <sup>126</sup> 3. Rupture process of the 2016 Pedernales earthquake

#### 127 3.1. Data overview

We use several geodetic datasets covering both near-field and far-field static displace-128 ments (cf., Fig. 3a). We gather GPS data from 12 campaign stations, 14 permanent stations 129 with daily solutions (CGPS), and 8 high-rate stations (HRGPS). Static offsets from cam-130 paign and permanent stations are provided by Nocquet et al. (2017). We estimate our own 131 static displacements from HRGPS by measuring co-seismic offsets from the position before 132 and after the event. We use 1- $\sigma$  errors provided by Nocquet et al. (2017) for the campaign 133 and CGPS and estimate uncertainties for HRGPS offsets from the standard deviation mea-134 sured in 20 seconds pre- and post-event time windows. Vertical components of campaign 135 GPS are not used in the inversion as they show large uncertainties. In addition, we use three 136 interferograms derived from ALOS-2 wide-swath descending acquisitions, from ALOS-2 strip 137 map descending acquisitions and from Sentinel 1 descending acquisitions (cf., Fig. 4). Un-138 wrapped interferograms are downsampled using a quad-tree algorithm (cf., Fig. S5; Lohman 139 and Simons, 2005). We estimate uncertainties related to atmospheric noise by estimating 140 empirical covariance functions for each interferogram (Jolivet et al., 2012, 2015a). Estimated 141 parameters are summarized in Table S1 and covariance functions are available in Fig S6. 142

Three nearby DART buoys (Deep-ocean Assessment and Reporting of Tsunamis) recorded the tsunami generated by this event. Unfortunately, the waveform recorded by the closest station (D32067) is unusable for modeling because of multiple data gaps and contamination by seismic waves. We use tsunami waveforms recorded at DART stations D32413 and <sup>147</sup> D32411 (cf., Fig. 3b), as they provide important constraints on the up-dip part of the <sup>148</sup> rupture. To remove tidal signals and reduce high-frequency noise, we band-pass filter the <sup>149</sup> waveforms between 8 min and 3 hours using a third order Butterworth filter. We derive <sup>150</sup> observational uncertainties from standard deviations computed in 140 and 100 min windows <sup>151</sup> before the first arrivals respectively for buoys D32413 and D32411.

We also include near-field seismic waveforms recorded by 10 strong-motion accelerometers and 8 HRGPS stations (c.f. Figs. 5 and 6). We integrate the accelerometric data twice and downsample them to 1 sps to match the HRGPS sampling rate. Waveforms are bandpass filtered between 0.015 Hz and 0.08 Hz, except for a few noisy records for which we increased the lower corner frequency to 0.037 Hz (Table S2). Waveforms are inverted in a 150 s-long time window starting from the origin time of the mainshock (23:58:36 UTC).

## <sup>158</sup> 3.2. Stochastic co-seismic modeling

Our kinematic modeling of the 2016 Pedernales earthquake is based on a non-planar fault 150 geometry in which the dip varies from  $10^{\circ}$  to  $27^{\circ}$  between 10 and 50 km depth, following the 160 bending of the Slab1.0 model (cf., Fig. S7; Hayes et al., 2012). The fault is discretized in 161  $15 \times 15$  km patches in which we sample static ( $\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}}$ ) and kinematic ( $\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{K}}$ ) model parameters. 162 The static model vector  $\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}}$  includes two components of static slip in each patch (i.e., the 163 final integrated slip) and extra nuisance parameters to account for InSAR orbital errors (i.e., 164 3 parameters per interferogram to model a linear function of range and azimuth). The two 165 components of static slip are  $U_{\parallel}$ , aligned with the direction of convergence between Nazca 166 and NAS plates, and  $U_{\perp}$ , which is perpendicular to  $U_{\parallel}$ . The vector of kinematic parameters 167

 $\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{K}}$  includes rupture velocity and rise time in each patch, along with hypocenter coordinates (i.e., the point of rupture initiation). Each point on the fault is only allowed to rupture once during the earthquake and we prescribe a triangular slip velocity function.

Following the approach of Minson et al. (2013), we first solve the final static slip distribution (i.e.,  $\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}}$ ) given available static observations ( $\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{S}}$ ), i.e., InSAR, GPS offsets and tsunami data. Using AlTar, we thus sample the posterior distribution:

$$p(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}}|\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{S}}) \propto p(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}}) p(\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{S}}|\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}})$$

$$\propto p(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}}) \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{S}} - \mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{S}}\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}})^{T}\mathbf{C}_{\mathcal{S}}^{-1}(\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{S}} - \mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{S}}\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}})\right]$$
(3)

where  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{S}}$  is the matrix including Green's functions that are computed using the same 174 layered elastic medium than the one used for the inter-seismic coupling model (cf., section 2). 175 Tsunami waveforms are simulated using COMCOT (Liu et al., 1998) assuming a time step of 176 1 sec and a 30-arc second GEBCO (General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans) bathymetry. 177 (Weatherall et al., 2015). As in eq. (1), the misfit covariance  $C_{\mathcal{S}}$  describes observational errors 178 and prediction uncertainties due to innacuracies of the assumed elastic structure Duputel 179 et al. (2012, 2014). As we want to promote a dominant thrust motion while allowing local 180 variations of the slip direction, the prior PDF  $p(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}})$  includes uniform prior  $\mathcal{U}(-1\,\mathrm{m}, 15\,\mathrm{m})$ 181 along the direction of convergence  $(U_{\parallel})$  and Gaussian prior  $\mathcal{N}(0, 0.5 \,\mathrm{m})$  in the perpendicular 182 direction  $(U_{\perp})$ . 183

In a second step, we address the full joint inversion problem by incorporating kinematic observations  $\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{K}}$ . HRGPS and strong motion data provide information on kinematic parameters  $\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{K}}$  and bring additional constraints on  $\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}}$ . The posterior PDF is then given by

(Minson et al., 2013):

$$p(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}}, \mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{K}} | \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{S}}, \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{K}}) \propto p(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{K}}) p(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}} | \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{S}}) p(\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{K}} | \mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}}, \mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{K}})$$
(4)

$$\propto p(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{K}}) p(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}} | \mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{S}}) \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{K}} - \mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{K}}(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}}, \mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{K}}))^T \mathbf{C}_{\mathcal{K}}^{-1} (\mathbf{d}_{\mathcal{K}} - \mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{K}}(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}}, \mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{K}})) \right]$$

where  $\mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{K}}(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{S}}, \mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{K}})$  is the (non-linear) forward predictions for HRGPS and strong motion waveforms that are based on the Herrmann (2013) implementation of the discrete wavenumber method (Bouchon and Aki, 1977). As in eq. (3),  $\mathbf{C}_{\mathcal{K}}$  is the misfit covariance describing measurement errors and predictions uncertainties due to Earth model inacuracies. The prior  $p(\mathbf{m}_{\mathbf{k}})$  is a combination of uniform priors  $\mathcal{U}(1 \text{ s}, 12 \text{ s})$  and  $\mathcal{U}(1 \text{ km/s}, 4 \text{ km/s})$  for rise-time and rupture velocity and a Gaussian PDF  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_h, \sigma = 5 \text{ km})$  for the hypocenter coordinates  $(\mathbf{x}_h)$ .

## <sup>191</sup> 3.3. Co-seismic modeling results

The Pedernales rupture is mainly unidirectional with a significant southward directivity 192 (see posterior mean model in Fig. 7, cumulative slip snapshots in Fig. 8, and supplementary 193 movie M2; Ye et al., 2016; Nocquet et al., 2017; Yi et al., 2018). The inverted hypocenter 194  $(0.31^{\circ} \text{ N}, -80.15^{\circ} \text{ W}, \text{ depth}=19.6 \text{ km}; \text{ indicated by the red star in Fig. 7}), \text{ is consistent with}$ 195 estimates from the Instituto Geofísico de la Escuela Politécnica Nacional (0.35° N, -80.16° W, 196 depth=17.0 km; http://www.igepn.edu.ec). Our solution depicts two large slip asperities 197 separated by  $\sim 500$  km that coincides roughly with two high-coupling zones north and south 198 of the equator in Fig. 1. The first asperity is located close to the epicenter and fails within 199 15 s after the origin time (Fig. 8). The second slip asperity ruptures about 10 s later and 200 contributes to more than 60% of the total seismic moment. The rupture directivity and the 201

location of the southernmost asperity, with slip up to 8 m below the coastline, can probably
explain the large damages that have been reported south of the city of Pedernales (Nocquet
et al., 2017).

Posterior model uncertainties indicate that we have good constraints on slip amplitude through the fault plane (Fig. 7b and supplementary movie M3). Moreover, stochastic rupture fronts presented in Fig. 7a show that rupture initiation times are well resolved in large slip areas. There is however a tradeoff between rupture initiation times and rise times as illustrated in Fig. 7c-d. This is because our seismic observations are mostly sensitive on subfault centroid times rather than on rupture times and rise times, resulting in a negative correlation with a -1 slope between the two later parameters.

The southward directivity is clearly visible on HRGPS and strong motion data that show 212 large ground motion amplitudes south of the rupture. This is well captured by our stochastic 213 model predictions (Figs. 5 and 6). Some discrepancies are visible in the late arrivals, which 214 are probably due to unaccounted 3D heterogeneities. Geodetic measurements provide good 215 constraints on the static slip pattern, with large static displacements observed above the 216 large slip asperity in the south. Our solution is able to predict GPS measurements (Fig. 3a) 217 and InSAR data, with small residuals for Sentinel and ALOS-2 data (Fig. 4). We notice 218 larger misfits for the ALOS-2 descending track, probably due to atmospheric noise since 219 this interferogram is associated with significant spatially-correlated observational noise (cf., 220 Fig. S6). Our solution also provides satisfactory fit to tsunami waveforms despite their 221 relatively small amplitude (<1 cm, Fig. 3b). These tsunami observations are important since 222

they clearly show the absence of slip in the shallow portion of the fault (shallow slip would produce large amplitude waves arriving too early at DART stations). This is also reported by Ye et al. (2016) that conducted trial and error teleseismic inversions, progressively removing shallow rows of patches to match the onset of tsunami signals.

## 227 4. Strain budget along the Colombia-Ecuador subduction zone

The Colombia-Ecuador subduction zone provides an outstanding opportunity to study 228 the behaviour of a megathrust fault over multiple earthquake cycles. As mentioned above, 229 before the 2016 Pedernales earthquake, the subduction interface experienced a sequence of 230 megathrust ruptures that started with a large  $M_W=8.6$  event in 1906 followed by a series 231 of smaller earthquakes in 1942, 1958, 1979 and 1998. Because these events seem to cluster 232 in time, it has been suggested that strain released by most recent earthquakes exceeds the 233 deformation that accumulated inter-seismically since 1906 (Nocquet et al., 2017; Yi et al., 234 2018). 235

The strain budget along the megathrust can be investigated by comparing the co-seismic moment generated by earthquakes with the moment deficit accumulated during previous inter-seismic periods. We define the moment deficit accumulated over an inter-seismic timespan T over an area A of a fault as:

$$M_0^{deficit} = T V_p \iint_A \mu(\mathbf{x}) m_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$
(5)

where  $V_p$  is the long-term convergence rate,  $\mu(\mathbf{x})$  is the shear modulus along the subduction interface and  $m_{\mathcal{I}}(\mathbf{x})$  is the coupling model introduced in section 2. Using such approach, Nocquet et al. (2017) propose that the co-seismic moment of the 1942 and 2016 earthquakes are much larger than the deficit accumulated since the 1906 earthquake (by a factor of 3 to 5 times for the 1942 event and 1.3 to 1.6 times for 2016). This seems also true for northern segments and in particular for the 1958 earthquake that has a seismic moment 1.5 to 1.8 times larger than the moment deficit estimated from the modeling of geodetic coupling. As discussed by Nocquet et al. (2017) and Yi et al. (2018), these estimates remain questionable given uncertainties on co-seismic slip and inter-seismic coupling.

Hereafter, we use our stochastic co-seismic and inter-seismic solutions to fully account 249 for posterior uncertainties and address the strain budget probabilistically. We assume a 250 magnitude of  $M_W = 7.8 \pm 0.2$  for the 1942 earthquake (Swenson and Beck, 1996; Ye et al., 251 2016). We compare the probability distributions of seismic moment generated by the 1942 252 and 2016 earthquakes with the moment deficit accumulated since 1906 (Fig. 9). Assuming 253 the two events are co-located, maximum a posteriori models indicate that the seismic moment 254 for the 1942 and 2016 events are larger than the accumulated deficit by a factor of 2.0 and 1.2, 255 respectively. Taken together for the 1906-2016 period, the moment generated co-seismically 256 is 1.3 times larger than the moment deficit accumulated inter-seismically. Those estimates 257 are subject to considerable uncertainties reflected by the overlap between the PDFs (Fig. 9). 258 Although this overlap is not negligible, there is a relatively small probability of about 5% to 250 have a moment deficit larger or equal than the cumulative seismic moment of the 1942 and 260 2016 earthquakes. In this scenario, an excess of co-seismic moment since 1906 is likely given 261 available observations. 262

This conclusion only holds if the 2016 rupture largely overlaps with the 1942 earth-263 quake, whose location is still debated. In particular, Yi et al. (2018) suggests that the 264 1942 earthquake occurred at shallower depth than the 2016 rupture from the comparison 265 of macroisoseismic maps of 1942 and 1958 events (Swenson and Beck, 1996). Therefore we 266 test the alternative hypothesis suggesting that the 1942 earthquake occurred between lat 267 0.5°S-0.5°N at a depth shallower than 40 km (Nocquet et al., 2017). Fig. 10a,b shows that 268 the negative moment balance no longer holds. In this case, the probability of having a deficit 269 equivalent or larger than the co-seismic moment is larger than 70%. Fig. 10c,d shows that 270 this remains true if we further restrain the location of the 1942 event to be located updip of 271 the 2016 earthquake (as proposed by Yi et al., 2018). 272

We conducted a similar analysis for the 1958 northern Ecuador earthquake, assuming a 273 magnitude  $M_W = 7.6 \pm 0.2$  (according to Ye et al., 2016). Maximum a posteriori models in 274 Fig. S9b show that the seismic moment generated by the 1958 earthquake is quite similar 275 to the accumulated deficit between 1906 and 1958. This contradicts with Nocquet et al. 276 (2017) that estimated that the 1958 earthquake had a seismic moment exceeding by 50% to 277 180% the moment accumulated inter-seismically. In our case, we clearly see that the PDF 278 of the moment deficit falls within uncertainties of the 1958 co-seismic moment. As shown 279 in Fig. S9, this still holds if we assume different location for the 1958 earthquake, which 280 discards the negative moment balance issue reported for 1942 and 2016 earthquakes. 281

# 282 5. Discussion and Conclusion

We develop stochastic models of the inter-seismic slip-rate along the Colombia-Ecuador 283 subduction and of the 2016 Pedernales earthquake, which provide new constraints on uncer-284 tainties of inter- and co-seismic slip processes. Our results are to first order consistent with 285 some previously published models (e.g., Nocquet et al., 2017; Chlieh et al., 2014). In partic-286 ular, our coupling model is similar to the "unsmoothed" model of Chlieh et al. (2014) since 287 it is not affected by smoothing regularization. Despite large uncertainties due to the lack of 288 geodetic observations far offshore, our solution clearly depicts a heterogeneous coupling of 289 the subduction interface (cf., Fig. 2). 290

Such heterogeneity correlates with the spatial complexity of the 2016 earthquake revealed 291 by our co-seismic solution. Our results indicate a unidirectional rupture towards the South 292 with two large slip zones that coincide with two high-coupling asperities in the inter-seismic 293 solution (cf., Fig. 1). We evaluate the possibility that the seismic moment generated by 294 the 1942 and 2016 earthquakes is larger than the moment deficit accumulated since the 295 great 1906 earthquake (as suggested by Nocquet et al., 2017). Our analyses show that this 296 conclusion only holds if we assume that there is a large overlap between the 1942 and 2016 297 ruptures. If this particular assumption is loosened, results indicate that such an unbalanced 298 moment budget is no longer required by observations. North of the Pedernales rupture, we 299 also show that the seismic moment of the 1958 earthquake is not necessarily larger than the 300 deficit accumulated since 1906 given uncertainties in co- and inter-seismic processes. The 301 question therefore entirely lies within the accuracy of the location and extent of historical 302

303 earthquakes.

One of the previously mentioned argument favouring an overlap between 1942 and 2016 304 earthquakes comes from the analysis of teleseismic waveforms recorded at a similar location 305 for both events (see details in supplementary text T1). Ye et al. (2016) showed that 1942 and 306 2016 waveforms at the station DBN (De Bilt, Netherlands) present significant dissimilarities. 307 Fig. S10 shows that such discrepancies can be explained by differences in the hypocenter 308 location with the same slip distribution for both events (as previously suggested by Nocquet 309 et al., 2017). However, the shape of the observed teleseismic P-wave is mostly controlled 310 by the relative location between the hypocenter and the main slip asperities (i.e., by the 311 corresponding apparent moment-rate function). In fact, Fig. S10c shows that the 1942 312 DBN waveform could be explained equally well if we assume that the 1942 rupture occurred 313 updip of the 2016 earthquake as suggested by focal depth and macro-isoseismic maps of 314 the 1942 event (Yi et al., 2018). In this scenario, there is a probability of  $\sim 70\%$  to have 315 a balanced moment budget since 1906 (i.e., a moment deficit that is larger or equal to 316 the seismic moment of 1942 and 2016 events). On the contrary, if there is a large overlap 317 between both earthquakes, our results show that there is a 95% probability that the moment 318 generated by 1942 and 2016 ruptures is larger than the moment deficit accumulated since 319 1906. In this case such an unbalanced moment budget can possibly be explained by temporal 320 variations in strain accumulation, which have been observed for example before and after the 321 2011  $M_W$ =9.0 Tohoku earthquake (e.g., Mavrommatis et al., 2014; Heki and Mitsui, 2013) 322 and after the 2010 Maule earthquake (Melnick et al., 2017; Loveless, 2017). Alternatively, 323

Nocquet et al. (2017) propose a "supercycle" model where the apparent excess of co-seismic 324 moment results from the fact that the 1906 and 1942 earthquakes did not release all of the 325 accumulated strain along the megathrust. This is consistent with the modeling of historic 326 tsunami records suggesting that the 1906 earthquake mainly ruptured the shallow part of 327 the subduction without involving much slip close to the 2016 Pedernales event (Yoshimoto 328 et al., 2017). However, these estimates might be biased by the poor sensitivity of tsunami 329 data to deep slip, which can explain the relatively low magnitude of their resulting model 330  $(M_W=8.4)$ . The fact that the surface wave magnitude  $M_s=8.6$  is otherwise consistent with 331  $M_W$  also suggests that the 1906 earthquake is not a typical "tsunami" earthquake and is 332 therefore probably not associated with a predominantly shallow rupture (Kanamori, 1972). 333 The complex behavior of the Colombia-Ecuador subduction can be related to the large 334 heterogeneity of our coupling solution, which suggests significant spatial variability of fault 335 friction properties (Fig. 1). As shown for example by Kaneko et al. (2010), such heterogeneity 336 can produce earthquakes of different sizes re-rupturing the same fault region at short time 337 intervals. Complex earthquake sequences may also be promoted by partial stress drop of past 338 events that produces significant stress heterogeneity along the fault (Cochard and Madariaga, 339 1996). The fact that large earthquakes (like the 1906 event) are rapidly followed by sequences 340 of smaller ruptures (e.g., in 1942, 1958, 1979, 1998 and 2016) can then be understood if static 341 stress drop of the smaller events is small compared to the increase of dynamic stresses at 342 rupture fronts (Heaton, 1990; Melgar and Hayes, 2017). 343

As instrumental observations accumulate, there is a growing record of large earthquakes

that break portions of faults that experienced previously documented large ruptures. These 345 earthquakes continuously provide new observations suggesting complex earthquake sequences 346 with substantial spatial and temporal variability among successive ruptures of the same fault 347 system. As shown here, the study of long-term earthquake sequences and the associated 348 strain budget still relies on many assumptions and are affected by large uncertainties. To ad-349 dress the seismogenic behaviour of active faults, we need to quantify how large observational 350 and modelling uncertainties are and how much information we have gained in comparison 351 to our preconceptions. Inaccuracies on historical earthquakes size and position can be sub-352 stantial and also need to be properly considered. Such quantitative analysis is essential to 353 understand how strain accumulates inter-seismically and is released by earthquakes, thereby 354 improving seismic hazard assessment along subduction zones. 355

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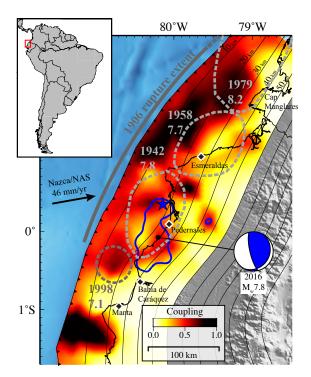


Figure 1: Interseismic coupling and historical earthquakes. The colour scale indicates the geodetic coupling of the subduction interface obtained from inter-seismic GPS velocities (cf. section 2). Blue line and blue star are respectively the 2 m isocontours of co-seismic slip and hypocenter obtained for the 2016 Pedernales earthquake (cf., section 3). Grey dashed lines show the approximate extent of the 1942, 1958, 1979, and 1998 events (Kanamori and McNally, 1982; Chlieh et al., 2014). The thick gray line shows the along-strike extent of the 1906  $M_W = 8.6$  earthquake. The focal mechanism of the 2016 Pedernales earthquake is presented in blue. Thin black lines are isocontours of the slab depth. The line with the adjacent black triangles shows the location of the trench. The black arrow illustrates the convergence direction of the Nazca plate toward the North Andean Silver plate (NAS, Chlieh et al., 2014).

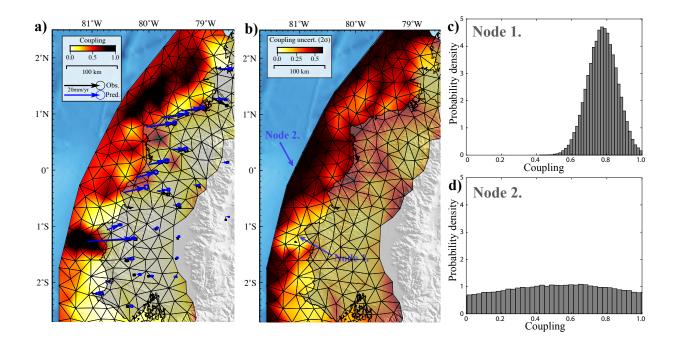


Figure 2: Interseismic coupling of the Ecuadorian subduction margin. a) Posterior mean coupling model. Thin black lines represent the fault parametrization. Coupling values are inverted at each triangle knot. Interseismic GPS displacement and model predictions are plotted as black and blue arrows, respectively. b)  $2-\sigma$  uncertainties of the coupling model. c) et d) Marginal probability densities for the two nodes pointed out in b).

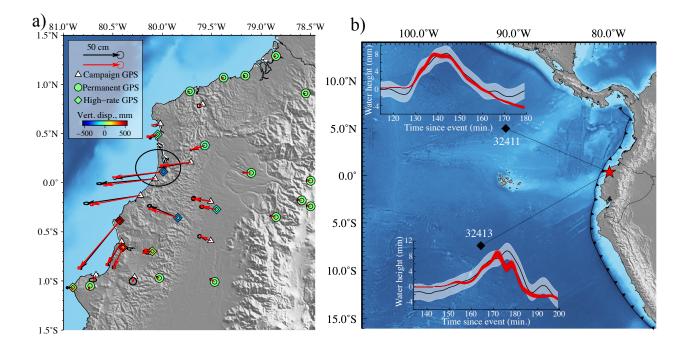


Figure 3: **GPS** and tsunami observations used in this study. a) GPS data and model predictions. Black and red arrows show observed and predicted GPS horizontal displacements along with their 95%-confidence ellipses (representing observational and prediction uncertainties, respectively). For the permanent and High-rate GPS, the symbol colour represents the vertical displacement. The outer symbol is the observation while the inner symbol is the mean model prediction. b) Observed and predicted tsunami waveforms. The red star defines the event epicenter while black diamonds are the locations of the two DART buoys that recorded the tsunami. For each of them, the amplitude of the first arrival is plotted as a thick black line. The surrounding shaded area marks the  $2-\sigma$  confidence interval. Stochastic forward model predictions are plotted in red.

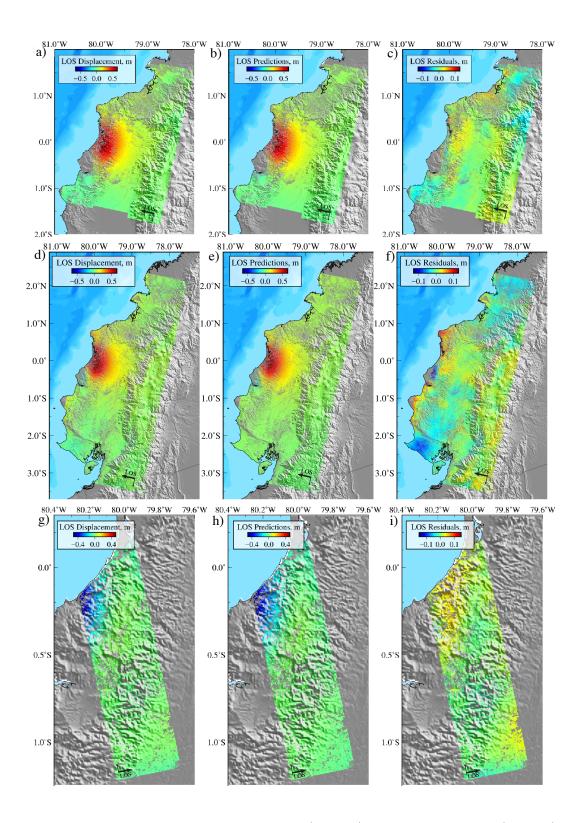


Figure 4: Model performance for InSAR. (a, d, g) InSAR observations. (b, e, h) Predictions for the posterior mean model. (c, f, i) Residuals of the Sentinel (top row), descending ALOS-2 (middle row), and ascending ALOS-2 (bottom row) interferograms. Decimated observations, predictions, and residuals are shown in Fig. S5

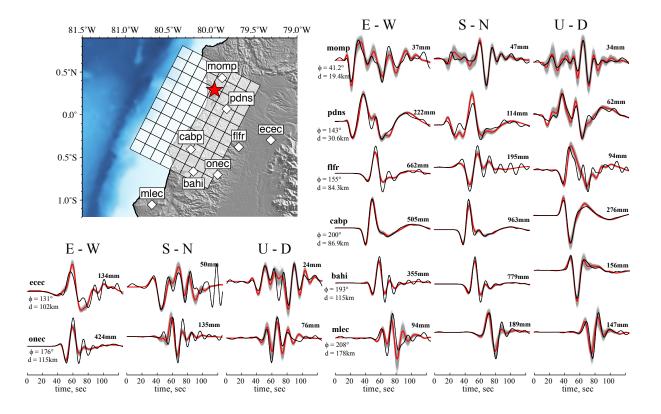


Figure 5: High-rate GPS observations and model predictions. The white diamonds on the topleft map indicate the position of the stations. The red star marks the inverted epicenter location. White rectangles are the fault parametrization. The East, North, and vertical components of each station are plotted around the map. For each waveform, the bold number indicates its maximum amplitude. The station azimuth  $\Phi$  and distance d to the epicenter are also given. The black line is the recorded waveform. The gray lines are the stochastic predictions for our posterior model. The red line is the mean of the stochastic predictions.

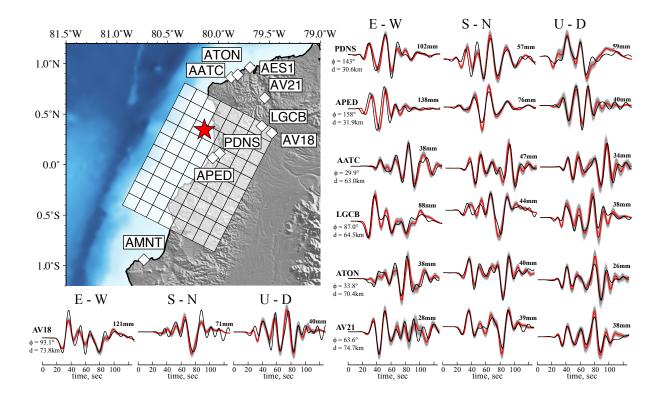


Figure 6: **Strong-motion observations and model predictions.** Same as Fig. 5. We show only the stations where three components are available. The remaining 5 waveforms from 3 additional stations and the associated model predictions a shown in Fig. S8

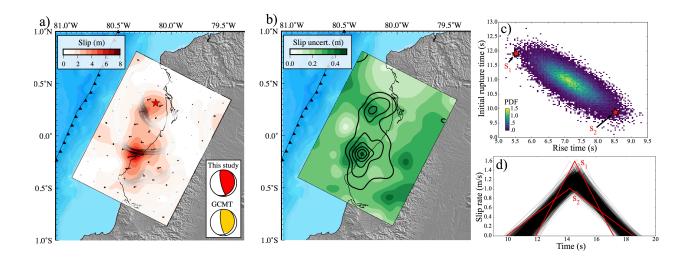


Figure 7: Final co-seismic slip distribution. a) The colour and arrows on the fault plane indicate the amplitude and direction of slip, respectively. Gray-scale lines are stochastic rupture fronts inferred from our model population plotted at 10s, 20s, and 30s. The darker the lines, the larger the slip at that location. The red star marks the hypocenter location. b) Slip uncertainty. The colour on the fault represents the absolute slip uncertainties. Black contour lines show the co-seismic slip every 1 m, starting from 2 m. c) Marginal probability distribution of rise time and initial rupture time in the first slip asperity (located close to the hypocenter). d) Posterior ensemble of source time functions at the same location of the fault. The source time functions labeled  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  in (d) correspond to rupture initiation times and rise times that are indicated with red stars in (c).

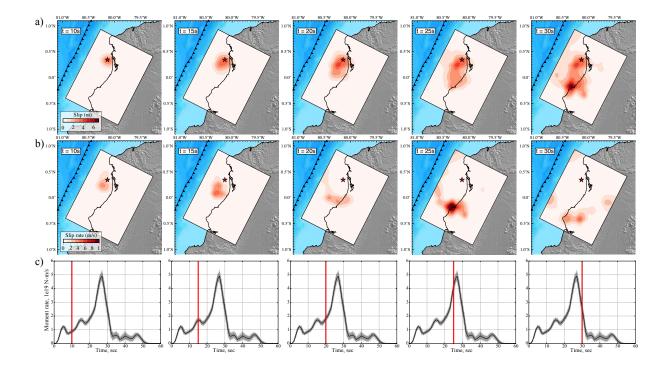


Figure 8: **Temporal evolution of co-seismic slip.** a) Cumulative slip on the fault 10 s, 15 s, 20 s, 25 s, and 30 s after the origin time. The red colour-scale indicates slip amplitude. The red star marks the epicenter location. b) Evolution of slip rate on the fault. c) Source time function (STF) of the event. Grey lines are stochastic STFs inferred from our model population while the black curve represents the posterior mean STF. Vertical red lines indicate the temporal position of each one of the snapshots

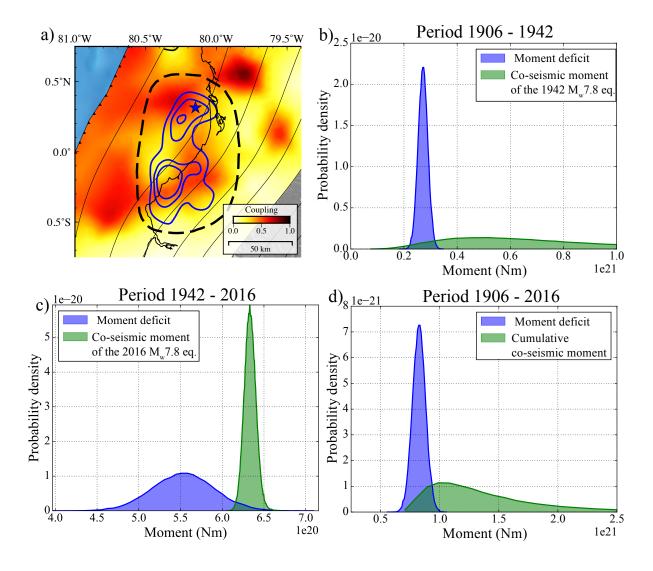


Figure 9: Comparaison of co-seismic moment and moment deficit. a) The background colour represents the coupling posterior mean model. The blue stars shows the hypocentre location. Blue lines are the 2m, 3m, and 4m co-seismic slip isocontours. The black dashed line delimits the area where the co-seismic moment and moment deficit are computed. b) Probability densities of the co-seismic moment released by the 1942 earthquake and the moment deficit accumulated between 1906 and 1942 within the dashed ellipse shown in a). c) Probability densities of the co-seismic moment released by the 2016 earthquake and the moment deficit accumulated between 1906 and 1942 within the dashed ellipse shown in a). c) Probability densities of the co-seismic moment released by the 2016 earthquake and the released between 1942 and 2016. d) Probability densities of the co-seismic moment released by the sum of the 1942 and 2016 events, and of the moment deficit during the 1906 - 2016 period.

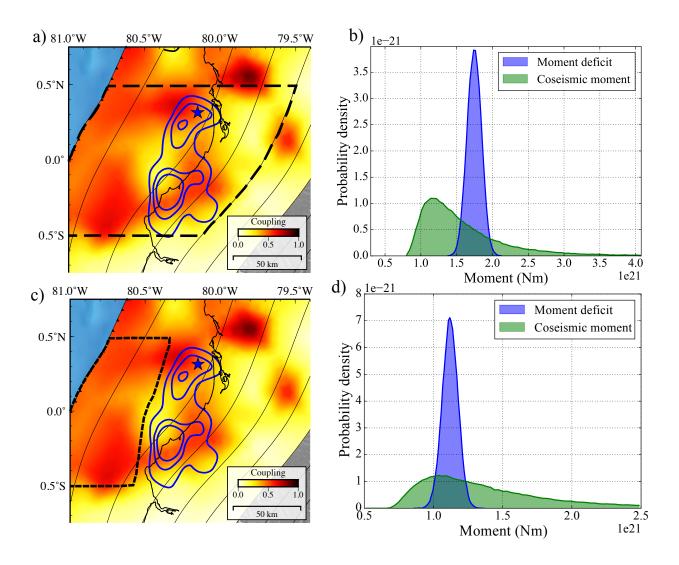


Figure 10: Comparaison of co-seismic moment and moment deficit considering the 1942 event happened at a different location. a) Same as Figure 9a. The black dashed line delimits the area between 0.5°S and 0.5°N where the co-seismic moment and moment deficit are computed. b) Probability densities of the co-seismic moment and moment deficit in the 1906-2016 period. The co-seismic moment is the sum of the 1942 and 2016 events moment. c) Same as a), but the dashed black area shows where the 1942 earthquake could have been located. d) Probability densities of the co-seismic moment and moment deficit. The co-seismic moment is the sum of the 1942 and 2016 events deficit. The co-seismic moment is the sum of the 1942 and 2016 events moment. The moment deficit is the sum of the moment deficits computed in the updip section (shown in c)) for the 1942 - 2016 period and in the downdip section (ellipse in 9a) for the 1906 - 2016 period.

Supporting information for the main manuscript:

## "Strain budget of the Ecuador-Colombia subduction zone: a stochastic view"

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This electronic supplement is a collection of additional figures referenced in the main article. These figures were added to ensure the precision of the description of our method and results.

## Supplementary text T1

Following Ye et al. (2014) and Nocquet et al. (2017), we compare waveforms of the 1942 earthquake recorded at the DBN station (De Bilt, Netherlands) with stochastic waveform predictions at the same station for the 2016 Pedernales slip distribution.

We compute displacement Green's functions for each subfault patch using the Kikuchi-Kanamori program (Kikuchi and Kanamori, 2003; Kikuchi, Masayuki and Kanamori, Hiroo, 1982). For comparison, we then convolve predicted stochastic waveforms with the instrumental response of the Galitzin seismometer that recorded the 1942 earthquake (pendulum and galvanometer periods  $T_p=T_g=25$  s and gain factor  $V_m=310$ ; Charlier and Van Gils, 1953).

In Fig. S10a, we first compare 1942 waveforms with predictions of the kinematic slip model (i.e., for the posterior distributions of slip, rise-times, rupture velocities) and hypocenter location obtained for the 2016 Pedernales earthquake. Model predictions show poor fit to the 1942 earthquake waveform. In Fig. S10b, we then compute predictions for the same kinematic slip distribution, but with a hypocenter location between the two slip asperities. With that hypocenter location, model predictions have a very good fit to the 1942 waveform. Finally, in Fig. S10c, we predict waveforms for a slip distribution on the megathrust interface, but updip of the actual 2016 rupture. Notice, that the dip is different due to the variation of the slab interface geometry with depth. We also correct the slip amplitude for the variation of shear modulus in our velocity model (cf., Fig. S2). Similarly to the previous case, the hypocenter is located between the two slip asperities. In this scenario, we are also able to explain the 1942 waveform. It illustrates that the teleseismic P-waveform is mostly sensitive to the relative location of the hypocenter and slip asperity rather than the absolute location of the earthquake.

Poles and zeros of the DBN Galitzin seismometer:

CONSTANT	2.399052e+02
ZEROS 3	
POLES 4	
-0.251327	0.00000
-0.251327	0.00000
-0.251327	0.00000
-0.251327	0.000000

Supplementary movie M1: Variability in the Ecuador-Colombia geodetic coupling solution The animation is made with 100 models randomly selected in the posterior population.

Supplementary movie M2: Temporal evolution of co-seismic slip of the 2016 Pedernales earthquake. (left) Posterior mean model of the cumulative slip. The bottom-right inset shows the stochastic source time function. (right) Incremental slip on the fault. The red star marks the inverted posterior mean hypocenter location.

Supplementary movie M3: Variability in the 2016 Pedernales earthquake co-seismic slip distribution solution The animation is made with 200 models randomly selected in the posterior population.

Satellite	Orbit	Acquisition dates		v	Corr. length
ALOS-2	ascending	07/02/16 - 01/05/16	130	$5.3 \mathrm{mm}$	2.88 km
ALOS-2	descending	01/04/16 - 29/04/16	483	$9.2 \mathrm{mm}$	11.90 km
Sentinel-1A	descending	12/04/16 - 24/04/16	380	5.0  mm	15.0 km

Table S1: InSAR observations used in this study.

Station	Type	Filter corner frequencies			
		East	North	Up	
bahi	HRGPS	0.015Hz - 0.08Hz	0.015Hz - 0.08Hz	0.015Hz - 0.08Hz	
cabp	HRPGS	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015Hz - 0.08Hz	
ecec	HRPGS	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015Hz - 0.08Hz	
flfr	HRPGS	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015Hz - 0.08Hz	
mlec	HRPGS	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015Hz - 0.08Hz	
momp	HRPGS	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015Hz - 0.08Hz	
onec	HRPGS	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015Hz - 0.08Hz	
pdns	HRPGS	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015Hz - 0.08H	
ISPT	Strong motion	N/A	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015Hz - 0.08H	
PDNS	Strong motion	$0.037\mathrm{Hz}$ - $0.08\mathrm{Hz}$	0.037 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015Hz - 0.08H	
LGCB	Strong motion	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015Hz - 0.08H	
AATC	Strong motion	$0.028\mathrm{Hz}$ - $0.08\mathrm{Hz}$	$0.028\mathrm{Hz}$ - $0.08\mathrm{Hz}$	0.032Hz - 0.08H	
AES1	Strong motion	N/A	N/A	0.015Hz - 0.08H	
AMNT	Strong motion	N/A	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015Hz - 0.08H	
APED	Strong motion	0.035 Hz - 0.08 Hz	$0.035 \mathrm{Hz}$ - $0.08 \mathrm{Hz}$	0.035Hz - 0.08H	
ATON	Strong motion	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	$0.015 \mathrm{Hz}$ - $0.08 \mathrm{Hz}$	0.015Hz - 0.08H	
AV18	Strong motion	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	$0.015 \mathrm{Hz}$ - $0.08 \mathrm{Hz}$	0.015Hz - 0.08Hz	
AV21	Strong motion	0.032 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015 Hz - 0.08 Hz	0.015Hz - 0.08Hz	

Table S2: Seismological data and filtering used in this study. We use a  $4^{th}$  order Butterworth bandpass filter.

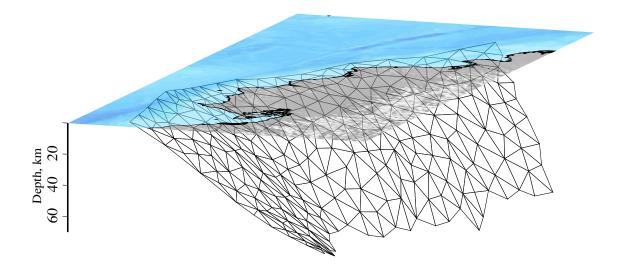


Figure S1: **Parametrization of the megathrust interface used for the coupling inversion.** Coupling value is inverted at each nodes

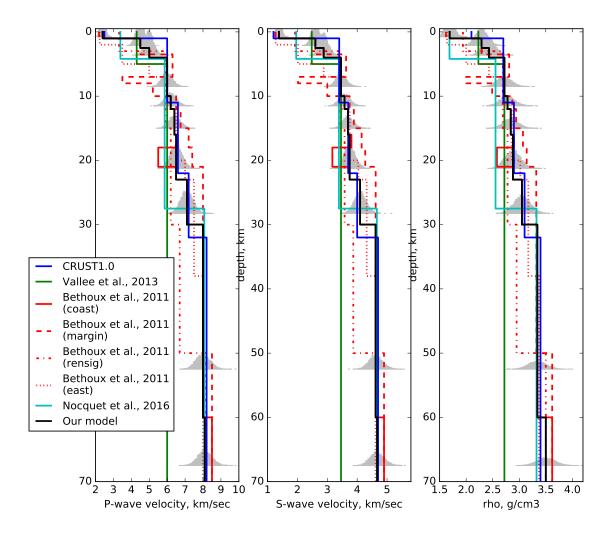


Figure S2: Different models variability of the P-wave, S-wave, and density as a function of depth in central Ecuador. A layered model used in this study for Green's function [GF] calculations is plotted as a solid black line. The blue line represents the CRUTST2.0 model in the area (http://igppweb.ucsd.edu/~gabi/rem.html). The other models are from (Vallee et al., 2013; Bethoux et al., 2011; Nocquet et al., 2017). Grey histograms are the probability density function representing our confidence level on the elastic properties, as used to build the model prediction error.

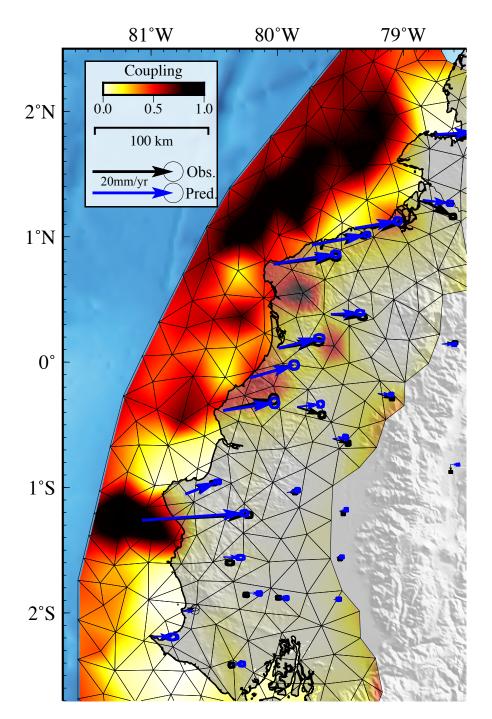


Figure S3: **Posterior Median coupling model.** Thin black lines represent the fault parametrization. Coupling values are inverted at each nodes. Interseismic GPS displacement and predictions for the median model are plotted as black and blue arrows, respectively.

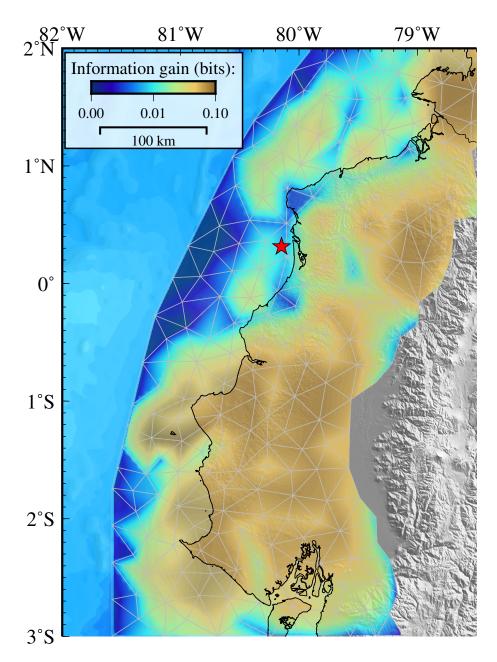


Figure S4: Kullback-Leibler divergence between the posterior and prior PDFs of coupling. Higher values indicate regions where the gain of information of the posterior PDF is significant relative to the prior distribution.

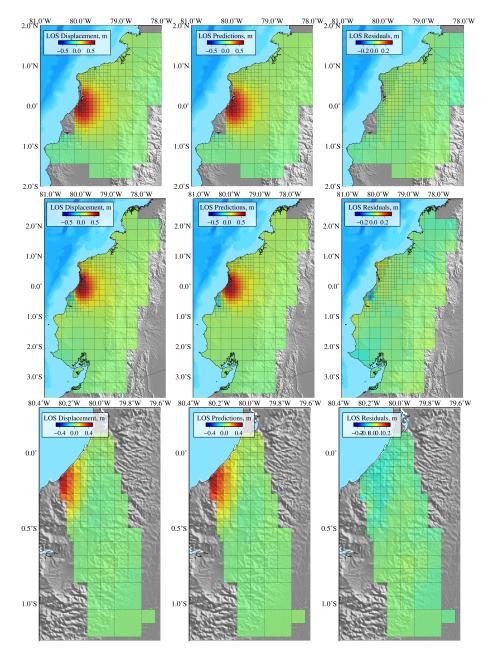


Figure S5: **Decimated InSAR observations, predictions, and residuals**. (a, d, g) Decimated InSAR observations inverted in this study. (b, e, h) Predictions for the posterior mean model. (c, f, i) Residuals of the Sentinel (top row), descending ALOS-2 (middle row), and ascending ALOS-2 (bottom row) interferograms.

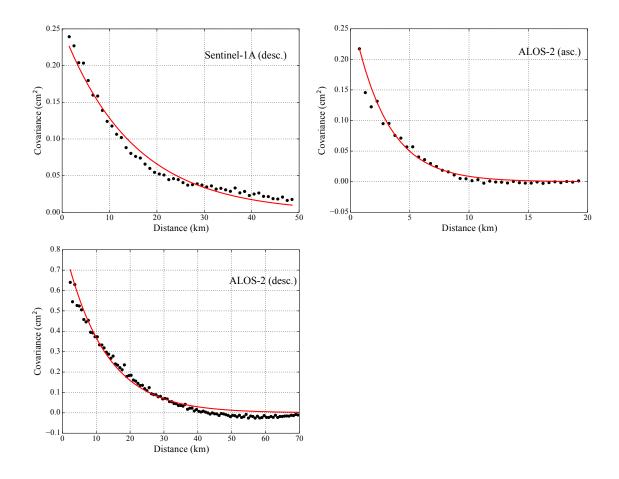


Figure S6: Empirical covariance functions for the InSAR observations 1D empirical covariance functions and the associated best-fit exponential function for each tracks. For each image, we compute the empirical covariance as a function of the distance between pixels and then fit an exponential function to these covariances (Jolivet et al., 2012). This exponential function is then used to build the data covariance matrix used in the inversion.

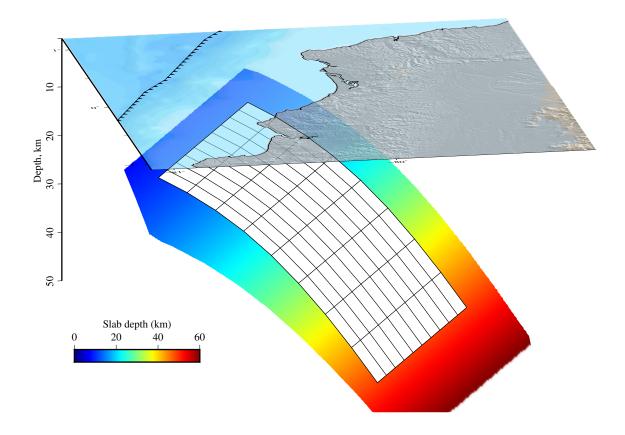


Figure S7: Parametrization of the megathrust interface used for the co-seismic inversion The coloured plane represent the slab1.0 model (Hayes et al., 2012). Each subfault patch is a 15 km x 15 km square

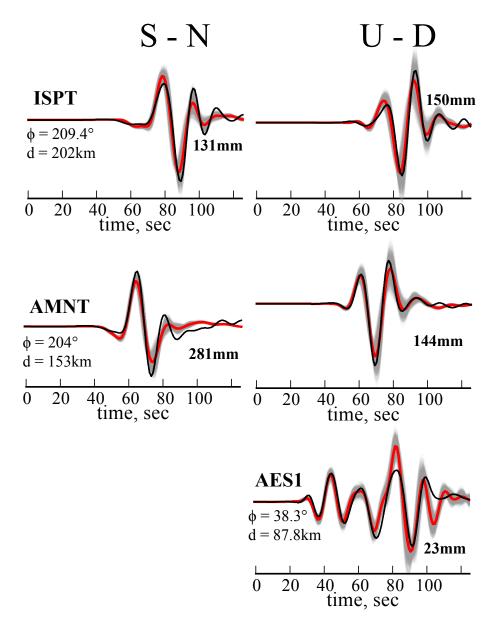


Figure S8: Strong-motion observations and model predictions not presented in Figure 6 in the main text. The North (left) and vertical (right) components of each station are plotted around the map. For each waveform, the bold number indicates it's maximum amplitude. The station azimuth  $\Phi$  and distance d to the epicenter are also given. The black line is the recorded waveform. The gray lines are the stochastic predictions for our posterior model. The red line is the mean of the stochastic predictions.

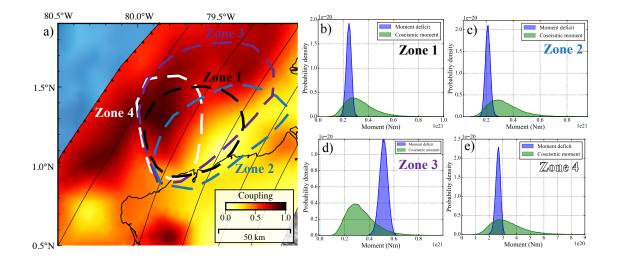


Figure S9: Comparaison of co-seismic moment and moment deficit in the 1958 earthquake region. a) The background colour represents the coupling posterior mean model. The black dashed lines delimit four different areas where the co-seismic moment of the 1958 event and moment deficit for the 1906 - 1958 period are computed. b-e) Probability densities of the co-seismic moment released by the 1958 earthquake and the moment deficit accumulated between 1906 and 1958 in the different dashed area shown in a).

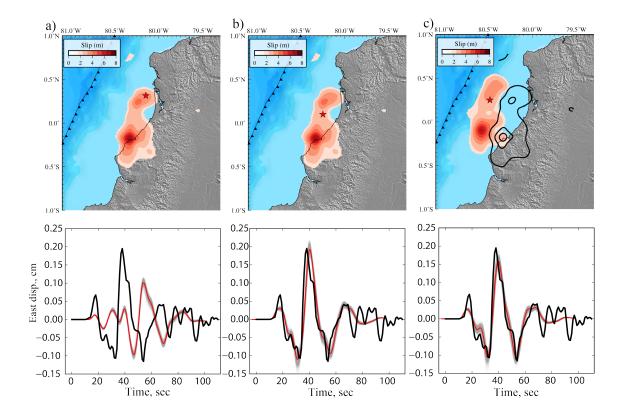


Figure S10: Comparison of model predictions and 1942 earthquake waveform recorded in the DBN station, Netherlands. (top) Slip model and hypocenter location (red star) used to compute the predictions shown in the bottom row. The model presented in a) results from the kinematic slip inversion of the 2016 earthquake. The models in b) and c) use a different hypocenter located between the two main slip asperities. The slip model in c) is the same as in a) and b), but located updip along the megathrust interface. Black lines in c) are slip contours of the original slip model. (bottom) East component waveform recorded at DBN for the 1942 earthquake (in black) and stochastic predictions (in grey) for the model shown on top. The red line is the posterior mean prediction. Predictions were convolved with the instrumental response of the Galitzin that recorded the event.

## References

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