

1      **Conjugate Faulting, Stepover, and Inflation Associated with the 2010 Magnitude 7.2 El**

2            **Mayor-Cucupah Earthquake Observed in UAVSAR and GPS Measurements**

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24     **Abstract**

25         GPS and UAVSAR observations of the April 2010 M 7.2 El Mayor – Cucupah  
26         earthquake indicate a pattern of substantial deformation and sympathetic fault slip  
27         associated with the rupture. A series of conjugate left-lateral faults slipped in  
28         association with the earthquake and continued to slip into December 2010. A right-  
29         lateral stepover developed to the northwest of the main-shock rupture connecting  
30         the Laguna Salada and Elsinore faults. Slip on this stepover occurred at a depth of 2-  
31         10 km and also continued postseismically. Further northeast the Superstition Hills  
32         fault slipped 2 cm at the surface and the Imperial Fault slipped 4 cm. Both slipped  
33         right-laterally. The pairs of data that make up the UAVSAR interferogram were  
34         collected in October 2009 and April 2011, so it is not possible to determine whether  
35         these right-lateral slip events occurred during the coseismic event. The UAVSAR  
36         data show an elliptical fringe pattern across the Imperial Valley that is generally  
37         matched by a broad pattern of uplift observed in the GPS data, perhaps indicating a  
38         regional intrusion of water or magma. About 20 mm of uplift occurred in the Salton  
39         Trough surrounding the main shock and an additional 7 mm of uplift occurred in the  
40         April – July 2010 timeframe in the southern part of the Imperial Valley. The GPS  
41         station closest to the rupture subsided during the earthquake, but began uplifting in  
42         March 2011. The uplift pattern and conjugate sets of faults are reflective of the  
43         transition zone from rifting in the Gulf of California to transform plate boundary  
44         motion between the Pacific and North American plates.

45

46     **Introduction**

47         The 4 April 2010, M 7.2 El Mayor-Cucapah earthquake occurred in northern Baja,  
48         Mexico on a northwest-southeast trending right-lateral oblique normal fault [Hauksson et  
49         al., 2010]. The fault ruptured the surface and extended just south of the border between  
50         Baja and California. The region was observed by continuous GPS (Global Positioning  
51         System), and with UAVSAR (Uninhabited Autonomous Vehicle Synthetic Aperture  
52         Radar) beginning in October of 2009 and several times following the earthquake,  
53         providing detailed coseismic and postseismic images of surface deformation.

54         About 42 mm/yr of shear deformation occur across southern California between Palm  
55         Springs and the Mexican border [Meade and Hager, 2005, Fay and Humphreys, 2005]. In  
56         this region the San Andreas fault is slipping at about 25 mm/yr, the San Jacinto Fault at  
57         12 mm/yr, and the Elsinore fault at about 4 mm/yr [Weldon and Sieh, 1985; Blisniuk et  
58         al., 2010; Rockwell et al., 1990; Millman and Rockwell, 1986; WGCEP, 2008; Fay and  
59         Humphreys, 2005]. This area, to the north of the Gulf of California, is a transition zone  
60         between the extensional tectonic regime of the East Pacific Rise and the transform  
61         tectonics of the strike-slip San Andreas fault system (Figure 1A). Both tectonic regimes  
62         (extension and transform) are manifest in the Imperial Valley and Salton Trough by  
63         abundant seismicity along northwest-trending right-lateral strike-slip faults and northeast-  
64         trending left-lateral conjugate faults, with swarms of shallow earthquakes in the Brawley  
65         seismic zone southeast of the Salton Sea [Nicholson et al., 1986, Irwin, 1990]. The Salton  
66         Trough is characterized by high heat flow, Quaternary volcanism, and hydrothermal  
67         activity associated with magma intrusion at shallow depth [Irwin, 1990; Hill et al., 1990].

68         The paleoseismic and historic records show the region is capable of producing large

69 earthquakes, such as the southern San Andreas fault rupture in ~1700 A.D. [WGCEP,  
70 2008], and sequences of earthquakes. The 1940  $M_w$ 7.0 El Centro and 1979  $M_w$ 6.5  
71 Imperial Valley earthquakes ruptured overlapping sections of the Imperial fault  
72 [Toppozada et al., 2002] and the 1968  $M_w$ 6.6 Borrego Mountain earthquake triggered slip  
73 on the Superstition Hills fault [Nicholson et al., 1986]. The northwest-trending  
74 Superstition Hills fault, a branch of the San Jacinto fault zone, subsequently ruptured in  
75 1987 in a  $M_w$  6.6 earthquake which was preceded a few hours by the  $M_w$  6.2 Elmore  
76 Ranch earthquake on the conjugate northeast-trending Elmore Ranch fault [Hudnut et al.,  
77 1989; Hill et al., 1990]. The southern Elsinore fault zone has not ruptured historically.  
78 The southern Coyote Mountains segment of the Elsinore fault zone is separated from the  
79 northern Laguna Salada fault zone, which ruptured in 1892, by a releasing stepover with  
80 several northeast-trending cross-faults [WGCEP, 2008].

81 The actively deforming Salton Trough, which includes northern Baja, the Salton  
82 Trough, and areas west of the Salton Trough, was identified as a location of increased  
83 earthquake probabilities or hotspots [Holliday et al, 2007] based on methods derived  
84 from pattern informatics forecasting methodology developed by Rundle and Tiampo  
85 [Rundle et al, 2002; Tiampo et al, 2002; Rundle et al, 2003]. The effectiveness of the  
86 Pattern Informatics method was tested in a prospective test from January 1, 2006 -  
87 December 31, 2010. It was found to have considerable skill at locating the future  
88 earthquakes  $M > 4.95$  that occurred during the test period [Lee et al, 2011].

89 A UAVSAR experiment to observe the Imperial Valley transition zone between the  
90 Gulf of California and the San Andreas fault system (Figure 1A) was initiated because of  
91 the predicted increase in earthquake probability combined with large earthquakes in the

92 past and active deformation on several faults in the region. Because the deformation is  
93 primarily on northwest-southeast striking right-lateral faults, we designed the UAVSAR  
94 experiment with flight swaths perpendicular to the faults in order to observe maximal  
95 range changes associated with displacements along the faults. As a result observations  
96 were collected over the region prior to the El Mayor – Cucupah earthquake, and several  
97 times following the event.

## 98 **UAVSAR and GPS Observation of the El Mayor/Cucapah Earthquake**

99 The NASA/JPL UAVSAR is an airborne, L-band, fully polarimetric radar housed in a  
100 pod that is mounted to the belly of a Gulfstream III aircraft. UAVSAR employs a  
101 precision autopilot that allows the plane to fly a specified flight path within a 5 m tube,  
102 and an electronically scanned antenna with beam steering based on inertial navigation  
103 unit (INU) data. These capabilities facilitate repeat pass interferometric radar  
104 observations. The instrument observes approximately 22 km wide swaths that are  
105 typically between 100 km and 300 km long. Interferometric radar images (or  
106 interferograms) are generated from repeat passes flown over a desired site. UAVSAR  
107 requires additional processing compared to spaceborne data because the aircraft  
108 trajectories are often compromised by wind gusts and turbulence. Motion compensation  
109 guided by integrated GPS/INU measurements of 2-3 cm position accuracy is an order of  
110 magnitude less accurate than what is needed for geodetically useful observations. To  
111 overcome this difficulty, offset measurements between single look complex (SLC)  
112 images from the two passes are used to solve for the residual baseline, velocity and  
113 attitude angles. Motion data are corrected and the imagery reprocessed [Hensley et al,  
114 2008]. Products generated by the UAVSAR processor include both slant range multi-

115 looked interferograms and unwrapped phase products, with 36 looks and approximately  
116 6-7 m postings, as well as the corresponding geocoded data products in geographic  
117 coordinates based on the SRTM 30 m DEM.

118 UAVSAR data were first collected for the Salton Trough experiment along the border  
119 on 20 October 2009 (Table 1). The El Mayor-Cucapah earthquake ruptured northward in  
120 Baja, Mexico to the border between the US and Mexico, while the UAVSAR  
121 observations were collected in the US to the border of Mexico. As a result, UAVSAR  
122 observes only the northern terminus of the rupture, and associated crustal deformation  
123 response to the north. Repeat pass data were collected on 12 and 13 April 2010 about one  
124 week after the M 7.2 El Mayor-Cucapah earthquake, on 1 July 2010 and 1 December  
125 2010 (Figure 1), making it possible to construct repeat pass interferometric (RPI)  
126 products for the mainshock, and near term postseismic deformation.

127 Data were also collected in April 2009, and September 2010, but are not used in this  
128 study. In the first case, the observations were further north across the Imperial Valley and  
129 are too far north to show co- or postseismic motions. For the latter case, the RPI product  
130 is noisy suggesting too many error sources to make a useful product.

131 GPS data are also continuously collected for this region and were used in part to  
132 constrain some characteristics of the phase unwrapped repeat pass interferometry  
133 products, and also highlight a pattern of uplift in the Imperial Valley. Up to 2 cm of uplift  
134 occurred spanning the earthquake. Motion continued, at a lower level, at least to the July  
135 1, 2010 time period in the southern part of the Salton Trough, and uplift started in Spring  
136 of 2011 near the mainshock rupture and Mexican border.

137       The southernmost interferogram (Line 26501) shows two lobes of deformation,  
138       marking the north end of the rupture near the Mexican border. The data were examined in  
139       a variety of ways to understand the robustness of the solution. The east lobe and localized  
140       discontinuities, or offsets, are reflective of ground motion. However error sources from  
141       atmospheric water vapor or aircraft motion estimation may be obscuring the deformation  
142       in the western part of the interferogram.

143       The earthquake caused large offsets of the ground in the region of this line, which  
144       could contaminate the aircraft residual motion estimates. 2D pixel offsets between the  
145       two images via amplitude correlation of tiles is computed. A model relates the image  
146       offsets to a residual baseline slope. The slope is integrated in time to give the relative  
147       motion error. The error is assumed to have zero mean and as a result half of the error is  
148       added to each flown track. The data are then reprocessed with the updated motion for the  
149       final products. When the deformation signal is large compared to a pixel, there is a  
150       possibility of corrupting the offset measurement and thus the estimated motion. The  $\sim 8$   
151       cm amplitude western lobe has widely different characteristics for different solutions,  
152       while the  $\sim 80$  cm amplitude eastern lobe and other features persist for various solutions.

153       A bound on the error due to atmospheric water vapor may be estimated by examining  
154       records of wet troposphere delay [Moore et al, 2010] estimated during the days of flight  
155       at local GPS stations. We take the temporal variations of these estimates as proxies for  
156       the spatial variability of the water vapor signal in the UAVSAR displacement maps.  
157       Differencing the records for the flight dates at stations and taking the extreme values at  
158       P494 and P500 (at the western and eastern boundary of the agricultural land,  
159       respectively), we estimate the upper bound for vertical water vapor 2-way delay error to

160 be 9.0 cm at P474 and 5.4 cm at P500. This vertical error bound scales according to the  
161 increased ray path for off-vertical illumination of pixels, proportional to the cosecant of  
162 the elevation angle. This approximately doubles these error bounds in the part of the  
163 image farthest from the flight path. Actual errors in radar deformation are likely to be  
164 substantially smaller than these bounds, as we have not removed diurnal variation  
165 (temporal variation is likely larger than spatial variation during a data capture).

166 Left-lateral offsets of the fringes can be seen, including along a well-defined  
167 discontinuity, which is conjugate to the mainshock rupture and corresponds to the  
168 location of the Yuha Fault. The Yuha fault [Treiman, 2011] is one of a series of  
169 northeast-trending cross-faults [Nicholson et al., 1986] between major strands of the  
170 southern Elsinore and Laguna Salada fault zones. In addition to the Yuha fault, a number  
171 of northwest and northeast striking offsets that are conjugate to each other can be noted in  
172 the interferogram (Figures 2A and 7A). The eastern lobe shows more data outages due to  
173 temporal decorrelation in the Imperial Valley from active cultivation of agricultural  
174 fields. This lobe of deformation shows disturbance on its eastern margin, which may be  
175 due to leveling or settling of the Imperial Valley from liquefaction. Soil moisture effects,  
176 which are not unlikely given the extensive liquefaction of the area [McCrank et al, 2011]  
177 can also be a contributing source of error to the results. Northwest striking linear offsets  
178 in the interferogram can be observed on both the Imperial fault (line 26501 ellipsoid in  
179 Figure 1B) and on the Superstition Hills fault (line 26505 in figure 2A).

180 East of the two lobes a large elliptical fringe pattern tens of kilometers across can be  
181 seen in both line 26501 and the next line north (26505). The elliptical pattern (Figure  
182 1A) could be attributed to atmosphere, residual, aircraft motion, or crustal motion. Uplift

183 of 1–2 cm is observed at the GPS stations for the same time period as that spanned by the  
184 coseismic interferogram (20/10 October 2009 – 12/13 April 2010), and about 7 mm of  
185 uplift is observed in the GPS stations for the same time period as the postseismic  
186 interferograms (12/13 April 2010 – 1 July 2010) in the southwestern half of the Imperial  
187 Valley. Uncertainties in the line-of-sight measurement of the UAVSAR instrument,  
188 coupled with the sparseness of the GPS network, did not permit the decomposition the  
189 UAVSAR observations into horizontal and vertical deformation. However, the GPS and  
190 UAVSAR data were combined in the following inversions and in the interpretation of the  
191 data.

192 We compared the UAVSAR line of site measurements to GPS results calculated for  
193 the same time frame as the UAVSAR data (Figures 3 and 4). We converted the GPS  
194 north, east, and up vectors to line of site for the given azimuth and elevation for that  
195 location in the swath. UAVSAR pixels were averaged over a 1x1 km box. The results  
196 show that for local scales the correlation between the UAVSAR and GPS results is good  
197 and that the UAVSAR results can be deemed reliable. Ramps in the solution and other  
198 effects make it difficult to draw more regional conclusions from the UAVSAR solutions.  
199 GPS results can be used to validate and presumably improve the UAVSAR results over  
200 time. Unfortunately there are no GPS stations located in the western lobe of the  
201 interferogram to provide constraints on the results there.

202 The GPS data indicate coseismic uplift during the event [Wei et al, 2011], but also  
203 show a trend of uplift for the period 21 October 2009 – 13 April 2010 (Figure 2A). A  
204 similar pattern of uplift is observed in the postseismic GPS solution, but is more confined  
205 to the southern and western Imperial Valley (Figure 2C). If the uplift were observed only

206 for the time of the El Mayor – Cucupah earthquake it is possible that liquefaction caused  
207 local uplift of the GPS monuments [Sasaki and Tamura, 2004]. Instead there seems to be  
208 a persistent broad pattern of regional uplift.

209 Webb et al. [2009] and Kedar [written communication] calculated time dependent  
210 strain for southern California based on continuous GPS measurements. Their results show  
211 substantial dilatation across the Imperial Valley in the region between the Salton Sea and  
212 the Mexican border, which grows more pronounced before the El Mayor-Cucapah  
213 earthquake. A ring of compression surrounds the Imperial Valley during this time period.  
214 More dilation is observed coseismically with compression at the edges, suggesting a  
215 regional dome of uplift associated with the earthquake similar to the elliptical pattern  
216 observed in the interferograms.

217 The coseismic interferogram on line 26501 includes the timespan April 12–13, 2010,  
218 whereas line 26505 does not. A two lobed pattern of deformation is observed in the April  
219 12–13, 2010 timeframe (Figure 2B, suggesting that rapid postseismic motions occurred in  
220 the weeks following the event. This two lobed pattern continues for the April 13 – July 1,  
221 2010 timeframe (Figure 2C) and is suggested in the July 1 – December 1, 2010  
222 interferogram (Figure 2D). Two conjugate zones of shear are observed during this longer  
223 postseismic time period.

224 We plotted the line of site range changes for these three time periods on four  
225 transects. The first two transects (Lines A and B) are oriented perpendicular to the strike  
226 of the mainshock rupture with line A being further north and further away from the  
227 northern extent of the rupture. Line B spans the interferogram along and just north of the  
228 Yuha fault. Line C runs parallel to and just north of the extension of the mainshock

229 rupture and crosses the Yuha fault. Line CC runs north-south through the east lobe and  
230 maximum displacement present in the interferogram. Line D crosses north-south  
231 perpendicular to the fringes on the eastern side of the Imperial Valley.

232 We converted the GPS deformation measurements into line-of-sight motions  
233 commensurate with the UAVSAR observation geometry of the interferograms. The  
234 elevation between the ground and the instrument varies from about 20° at the far edge of  
235 the swath to about 65° at the near edge of the swath for UAVSAR relative to the  
236 instrument. We used an elevation angle that matched or was most appropriate to the  
237 closest UAVSAR observation (pixel) and an azimuth of -5°, which is perpendicular to the  
238 flight path heading of the aircraft. As a result, GPS projections can vary according to the  
239 swath on which they were projected. The locations of the GPS stations do not lie on the  
240 cross section line for the most part, so we projected the locations of the GPS stations onto  
241 nearby lines (Figures 3–6). Some of the GPS stations are far from the lines, but still  
242 provide a general validation of the observed InSAR products. There can be an unknown  
243 overall phase constant in the interferogram that must be constrained with  
244 knowledge of areas known not to be undergoing deformation or with in situ  
245 measurement from GPS. We corrected the UAVSAR range change by a constant offset  
246 for the entire image to match the GPS range change estimates for stations on or very near  
247 the lines.

248 The coseismic observations indicate about 4 cm of coseismic change near the rupture  
249 (Figure 2A). The interferogram shows a fabric of conjugate northeast and northwest  
250 striking surface ruptures (Figure 7A). In our convention, positive range change is toward  
251 the aircraft. The GPS stations roughly indicate the same sense of motion as the UAVSAR

252 data. Line B, which is closer to the rupture shows about 10 cm of motion peak to peak.  
253 The region between stations P494 and P496 shows a noisy but much flatter profile of  
254 motion. This is an indication of liquefaction, causing leveling at the western edge of the  
255 Imperial Valley on approximately a 10 km scale. The postseismic Lines A and B for the  
256 period 13 April – 1 July 2010 suggests the development of a fault stepover indicating  
257 continued activity at the northern end of the rupture. 3 cm of right slip are observed on  
258 the northwest stepover in the time period 13 April – 1 July 2010 and about 5 cm of range  
259 change are observed at the northern extension of the mainshock rupture. A ramp in the  
260 data is likely due to unmodeled errors. Line C shows a range change difference of over  
261 30 cm from the north edge of line 26501 through the northeast lobe of the interferogram  
262 and offsets on the Yuha fault and a fault to the south coseismically and postseismically  
263 (Figure 4). Line CC shows a 60 cm gradient across the main or eastern lobe of the  
264 interferogram (Figure 5), which is due to a large slip gradient near the north end of the  
265 rupture.

266 Further east the coseismic and UAVSAR data show much greater variations along  
267 profile line D (Figure 6). Water in the region leading to mechanical instability along with  
268 liquefaction most likely disturbed the area during the event, but can also result in soil  
269 moisture changes and an additional source of error in the UAVSAR solutions. The GPS  
270 results show small postseismic motions and the excursion seen in the UAVSAR  
271 postseismic observations are most likely due to unmodeled errors.

## 272 **Co- and Postseismic Fault Slip**

273 The combined GPS and UAVSAR data, which include one week of postseismic  
274 motion, can be inverted for a single fault (Table 2). The inversions use three surface

275 displacement components at GPS station locations, and one displacement component (in  
276 the illumination direction) at UAVSAR-observed pixel locations, with surface  
277 displacements calculated by elastic half-space dislocations [Okada, 1985]. Inversion is  
278 carried out by a residual-minimization procedure [Donnellan and Lyzenga, 1998],  
279 estimating the geometry and slip of one or more uniformly-slipping rectangular fault  
280 patches. Wei et al [2011] fit a model of a similar 120 km rupture to spaceborne radar data  
281 that observe the rupture and GPS data, but use seismicity to constrain the model to two  
282 long faults offset by a normal fault, and a fault segment at the north end of the rupture.  
283 We used the Wei et al [2011] four segment and multiple fault patch model, but the  
284 resulting surface deformation did not vary much north of the rupture. An average slip  
285 works approximately as well. These models produce a general gradient across the region  
286 of the interferogram, that must be taken into account, but do not contribute much to  
287 understanding the local slip. The north end of the rupture in our inversion is about 3 km  
288 north of the mapped rupture, suggesting some combination of deeper slip that did not  
289 rupture the surface in this region, or northward migration of slip during the immediate  
290 postseismic period.

291 The interferogram of the El Mayor-Cucapah earthquake shows linear northeast  
292 striking patterns that cross and offset the fringes (Figure 7). The most prominent of these  
293 is on the Yuha fault, which is a northeast trending strike-slip fault just north of the border  
294 between California and Baja [Treiman, 2011]. There is indication in the interferogram of  
295 a smaller secondary fault further south that we do not model here. The northeast striking  
296 lineations can be fit by a single fault at depth that is sub-parallel to, but south of, the

297 Yuha fault. The results suggest superficial slip on the Yuha and secondary fault in the  
298 unconsolidated surface sediment, but a simpler pattern of slip on a single fault at depth.

299 A map view of the interferogram in the region of the mainshock suggests that a  
300 stepover develops following the earthquake. Modeling suggests that the El Mayor-  
301 Cucupah rupture is bounded on the north by the left-lateral northeast striking, Yuha fault  
302 (Figure 9). These faults continued to slip to December 1, 2010 (Figures 7B–D). On 15  
303 June 2010 a M 5.7 aftershock occurred just northwest of the northern terminus of  
304 the rupture. The epicenter of the event is proximal to the linear discontinuity in the  
305 postseismic interferogram and the mechanism of the event is consistent with slip on  
306 this stepover.

307 Inversions for slip on the northeast linear structure that steps west of the mainshock  
308 rupture yield a moment magnitude ranging from 5.5 – 5.8 (Table 3), which is consistent  
309 with the magnitude of the aftershock. We carried out inversions for one, two, and three  
310 fault segments for the observed postseismic interferogram. The  $\chi^2/\text{dof}$  of the best-fit  
311 model is 0.47 and includes slip on the two offset northwest striking faults separated by  
312 the left-lateral Yuha fault. The  $\chi^2/\text{dof}$  for a single fault is 1.54, or three times worse than  
313 the three fault segment model. While even the 3-fault model does not exhaust the data (it  
314 accounts for 73% of the variance in the radar image, leaving additional evidence of fault  
315 slip in the residuals), the UAVSAR data point to locations of the structures, their  
316 stepovers, and conjugate structures with the Yuha fault being the primary conjugate  
317 structure. The close proximity of the faults superposed gradients on the surface  
318 deformation from slip on the other faults. As a result, slip on the three structures best  
319 accounts for all of the observed deformation. We carried out numerous models leaving

320 various parameters free and fixed, which helped us to converge on the models presented  
321 here. For the postseismic models presented here we fixed the location, strike, and length  
322 of the fault surfaces based on those identified in the UAVSAR image. An eastward dip is  
323 preferred on the northeast striking faults. Cumulatively the moment release from the  
324 earthquake to 1 July 2010 is equivalent to M 6.0.

325 While the model cannot provide exact details of postseismic rupture characteristics,  
326 we found that numerous model runs indicate that the main shock rupture terminates at the  
327 Yuha fault. Afterslip on the main shock is required by the models. Left slip occurs on the  
328 conjugate Yuha fault. Deeper slip is associated with the 15 June 2010 Coyote Creek  
329 aftershock. The models prefer a steeply dipping fault, with dip slightly eastward and slip  
330 at depths of 2-10 km. We explored the relocated earthquakes of Hauksson et al [2011]  
331 and found that the earthquakes from 2–8 km in that region fall on a plane that follows the  
332 stepover imaged by UAVSAR. A cross section by depth through that line suggests a  
333 slight eastward dip. The deep and shallow locations are much more diffuse.

334 Coseismic creep is observed on the Superstition and Imperial faults (Figure 10).  
335 Using the assumption that all of the slip is horizontal, and parallel to the respective fault,  
336 2 cm of horizontal right-lateral slip occurred on the Superstition Hills fault, and 4 cm of  
337 right-lateral strike slip motion occurred on the Imperial fault. These results show that  
338 locally UAVSAR can produce very detailed observations of surface deformation and  
339 provide good indicators of the depth of slip.

340 **Observed Uplift in the Imperial Valley**

341 The UAVSAR observations suggest a dome of vertical deformation in the Imperial  
342 Valley. However, the horizontal motions overwhelm the results in the repeat pass

343 interferogram, making it difficult to infer any pattern of vertical motions. GPS results for  
344 the region indicate about 2 cm of uplift in the Imperial Valley associated with the  
345 earthquake and subsidence near and west of the rupture. Additional uplift of about 7 mm  
346 in the southerwestern half of the Imperial Valley occurred between the time of the  
347 earthquake and 1 July 2010 (Figure 2).

348 Over the longer term, since the earthquake, the stations closest to the northeast end of  
349 the co-seimic rupture show the most uplift. Station P494 subsided following the  
350 earthquake and then rose about 30 mm in the 1 April 2011 – 28 July 2011 time frame  
351 (Figure 11). Station P496 showed a uniform rate of uplift, amounting to about 20 mm in  
352 the time frame from the earthquake on 10 April 2010 to 28 July 2011. Water or magma  
353 injection could explain the Imperial Valley pattern of uplift. The southeastward motion  
354 of the eastern side of the fault rupture would cause a pull apart in the Imperial Valley,  
355 consistent with the dilation that is calculated from the GPS time series data [Webb et al,  
356 2009] and well developed rifting [Swanberg, 1982].

357 We compare the Yellowstone caldera to the Salton Trough to explain the vertical  
358 motions. At a very simplistic level, the Yellowstone caldera region and the Salton trough  
359 have several interesting features in common: both experience frequent large earthquakes,  
360 both have very high heat flow, and associated geysers and/or mud volcanoes. There have  
361 been several episodes of inflation and deflation of the Yellowstone caldera floor in the  
362 period of time covered by annual leveling surveys starting in 1976. Many of the episodes  
363 of vertical motion were associated in time with earthquake swarms and changes in  
364 activity of geysers and mud pots [Dzurisin, 2007]. There have been several large historic

365 earthquakes in the region with the largest being the M 7.5 Hebgen Lake event on 18  
366 August 1959.

367 The long-term ( $10^5$  to  $10^6$  year) source of both high heat flow and elevated  
368 topography is “episodic intrusion of new basaltic magma from the mantle into the crust  
369 beneath the caldera” [Dzurisin, 2007, p. 254]. There is good evidence for a partly molten  
370 rhyolitic magma at depth [Christiansen, 2001; Smith and Braile, 1994].

371 A leveling survey of the Yellowstone caldera was conducted in 1923 and then from  
372 1976 onward. The survey has been repeated on a yearly basis. Starting in 1990, these  
373 leveling surveys have been supplemented by GPS measurements, which also measure  
374 both vertical and horizontal motion. Starting in 1992 InSAR measurements have also  
375 been obtained. These surveys show several episodes of inflation and subsidence of the  
376 caldera floor [Dzurisin and Yamashita, 1987; Dzurisin et al., 1990]. The caldera rim has  
377 remained relatively stable, but the center showed 90 cm of uplift from 1923 to 1985,  
378 followed by 20 cm of subsidence between 1985 and 1995, followed by uplift since 1995.  
379 The rate of uplift increased dramatically in 2004 [Chang et al., 2007], and has continued  
380 until the present, though not at the 5-7 cm/yr rate seen between 2004 and 2006 [Chang et  
381 al., 2010]. The likely mechanisms for short term vertical motion include both movement  
382 of magma [Christiansen, 2001; Smith and Braile, 1994] and pressurization of the deep  
383 hydrothermal system [Fournier, 1989, Dzurisin et al., 1990].

384 Fournier and Pitt [1985] proposed that the Yellowstone hydrothermal system has a  
385 deep zone in which pore fluid pressure is near lithostatic, and a shallow zone in which  
386 pore pressure is hydrostatic. The two zones are presumed to be separated by an  
387 impermeable, self-sealing layer created by mineral deposition and plastic flow at a depth

388 near 5 km. In this model, uplift can be explained by water released upon crystallization of  
389 rhyolitic magma. The net volume increase would yield surface uplift [Fournier, 1989;  
390 Dzurisin et al., 1990]. If the self-sealed layer within the deep hydrothermal system were  
391 ruptured during an earthquake swarm, the resulting depressurization and fluid loss would  
392 lead to surface subsidence.

393 It is tempting to draw parallels between behavior seen in Yellowstone and that in the  
394 Salton Trough. There are obvious similarities, including high heat flow, recent volcanic  
395 activity, and occasional large earthquakes. Rudolph and Manga [2010] observed an  
396 increase in gas flux from mud volcanoes near to the location of the 4 April 2010 El  
397 Mayor-Cucapah earthquake, and argued that it was due to a transient increase in  
398 subsurface permeability.

399 In addition to the 5 small rhyolite domes, which were extruded onto the Quaternary  
400 sediments at the south end of the Salton Sea [Robinson et al., 1976], it has recently been  
401 found that there are thick (150-300 m) rhyolite layers at 1.6 to 2.7 km depth in the same  
402 area [Schmitt and Hulen., 2008]. They appear to have been emplaced roughly 400 kyr  
403 ago. Assuming that the sedimentation rate roughly equals the subsidence rate  
404 [Lachenbruch et al., 1985], this implies a mean subsidence rate of 4-6 mm/yr, which is  
405 close to the estimate from repeat leveling [Larsen and Reilinger, 1991]. However,  
406 trenching across the Brawley fault zone [Meltzner et al., 2006] has shown that the recent  
407 sedimentation rate from 1970 to 2004 was at least twice as fast as the average over the  
408 preceding millennium.

409 Holocene eruptions at the south end of the Salton Sea as recent at 16,000 years ago  
410 and hydrothermal activity suggest that magma in the region is at a shallow depth

411 [Goldstein and Flexser, 1984]. Other studies indicate a magma chamber at 5 km depth  
412 with magma that can be as shallow as 1.5 km [Robinson et al, 1976]. Robinson et al  
413 [1976] suggest that this region is a leaky transform fault. Swanberg [1983] suggests that  
414 free convection may be occurring and Rex et al [1982] suggest a large geothermal field  
415 underlying the Salton Trough at depths greater than 4 km with temperatures greater than  
416 400°C. These could be factors contributing to the observed regional pattern of uplift.  
417 Chang et al [2007] suggest that a large deep expanding volcanic sill can explain the  
418 regional uplift pattern in Yellowstone. A similar mechanism may be occurring in the  
419 Salton Trough.

420 **Conclusions**

421 The El Mayor – Cucupah earthquake triggered slip on several right-lateral and  
422 conjugate left-lateral faults in the Salton Trough (Figure 12). The stepover observed in  
423 the UAVSAR data connects the Laguna Salada and Elsinore faults. The left-lateral Yuha  
424 fault bounds the northern end of the 2010 rupture and the southern end of the westward-  
425 displaced left stepover. The broad pattern of uplift suggests a regional intrusion of water  
426 or possibly magma. The region of uplifting crust localizes southwestward over the year  
427 following the earthquake. The observed pattern of coseismic and postseismic deformation  
428 induced by the 2010 El Mayor-Cucapah earthquake is consistent with the transitional  
429 tectonic regime, and the historic record of earthquake sequences in which major events  
430 have occurred on northwest-trending strike-slip faults, and with minor slip on conjugate  
431 cross-faults. The history of triggered slip and sequences of earthquakes suggests the  
432 potential for triggering an earthquake on the southern Elsinore fault zone, which has not  
433 ruptured in several centuries.

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439    modeling presented here.

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585

586 **Figure Captions**

587

588 **Figure 1.** Top Panel: Regional context of the UAVSAR study in the Salton Trough. The  
589 Pacific North American plate boundary is shown by the solid line, with general sense of  
590 motion marked by gray arrows. Seismicity is plotted for the time of the UAVSAR study,  
591 which is from October 20, 2009 – December 1, 2010. Area of study, GPS uplift and  
592 coseismic UAVSAR repeat pass interferometry images are also shown. Bottom Panel:  
593 region of study showing general Pacific-North American plate motion marked as darker  
594 gray arrows. Heavy dashed lines mark slip of the mainshock rupture and faults with  
595 observed creep. Arrows indicate general sense of motion. Red circles indicate GPS uplift  
596 and blue circles subsidence observed by GPS station.. Largest circle shows about 2 cm  
597 of uplift. Light dotted lines indicate sections along which UAVSAR line of sight (LOS)  
598 changes are plotted in subsequent figures. Northern swath is line 26505 and southern  
599 swath is line 26501.

600

601 **Figure 2.** L-band UAVSAR repeat pass interferometry (RPI) products. Each cycle  
602 through the color wheel indicates 12 cm of displacement along the radar line of sight.  
603 Dotted lines indicate sections along which UAVSAR line of sight (LOS) changes are  
604 plotted in subsequent figures. Lines A and B are roughly perpendicular to the mainshock  
605 fault motion, line C is perpendicular to the Yuha fault, CC passes through the maximum  
606 observed displacements, and Line D through the Imperial Valley. A) Coseismic  
607 unwrapped interferogram and vertical coseismic GPS observations for the time period  
608 October 2009 – April 2010. Timeframe for the northern swath, which is line 26505, is

609 October 20, 2009 – April 12, 2010. The southern swath is line 26501 and the time frame  
610 for first and second passes is October 21, 2009 – April 13, 2010. Red circles indicate  
611 uplift and blue circles indicate subsidence. Largest observed uplift is 2 cm and largest  
612 subsidence is -1.3 cm. B) Unwrapped interferogram for postseismic observations for the  
613 period April 12-13, 2010. C) Postseismic interferogram for the time period April 13 – July  
614 1, 2010. Linear offsets are marked by dotted ellipses. D) Postseismic interferogram for  
615 the time period July 1, 2010 – December 1, 2010.

616

617 **Figure 3.** UAVSAR line of site measurements versus GPS line of site component from  
618 3D GPS solutions for the same time period. UAVSAR pixels are averaged over a  
619 1x1 km box. GPS north, east, and up, are converted to line of site for the elevation and  
620 azimuth at each GPS point. Dotted line in each plot shows a correlation of 1. A) An  
621 offset of 10.02 cm is removed from UAVSAR by averaging differences between the GPS  
622 and UAVSAR line of site estimates. IID2 and P500 are removed from the first fit and fit  
623 separately. The offset between the two fits is 7 cm. B) An offset of 4.6 cm is added to the  
624 UAVSAR. Only P497 and P77 are in the first fit. The difference between GPS solutions  
625 is less than 2 cm while the variance in UAVSAR at those points is 7 cm. C) An offset of  
626 1.2 cm is added to the UAVSAR. P500 is deleted from the first fit and the average. P500  
627 is 8 cm different than the corresponding GPS observation. D) An offset of 15.12 cm is  
628 added to the UAVSAR. P492 is not included in the average or first correlation fit.

629

630   **Figure 4.** Graphical illustration of fits from Figure 3 ranging from good correlation with  
631   the GPS of less than 1 cm (green) to poor fits (red and purple). Panels correspond to plots  
632   in Figure 3.

633

634   **Figure 5.** Cross sections for Lines A and B. Line of site range changes are plotted along  
635   the lines for coseismic and postseismic observations. GPS data are projected onto the line  
636   of site for the appropriate elevation angle for that point in the image and are plotted twice  
637   if located in two swaths. The GPS data were used to correct the range change ambiguity  
638   in this and subsequent plots.

639

640   **Figure 6.** Line of site range change in cm is plotted along the section perpendicular to the  
641   Yuha fault found at 5 km in the section. GPS data are projected onto the line of site for  
642   the appropriate elevation angle for that point in the image. Slip on two left-lateral  
643   structures that are conjugate to the mainshock rupture, near 5 and 8 km in the section.

644

645   **Figure 7.** Line of site range change in cm is plotted along a north south section through  
646   the largest displacements found in the coseismic repeat pass interferometry. GPS data are  
647   projected onto the line of site for the appropriate elevation angle for that point in the  
648   image.

649

650   **Figure 8.** Line of site range changes are plotted along the lines for coseismic and  
651   postseismic observations for a cross section through the Imperial Valley plotted north to  
652   south showing deformation pattern on that region.

653

654   **Figure 9.** Detail of the north end of the rupture for A) the coseismic interval of October  
655   21, 2009 – April 13, 2010, B) April 12 – 13, 2010, C) April 13, 2010 – July 1, 2010, and  
656   D) July 1, 2010 – December 1, 2010. Offsets associated with the mainshock and the  
657   M 5.7 June 15, 2010 aftershock and conjugate slip on the Yuha fault persist in the  
658   images.

659

660   **Figure 10.** Coseismic creep on the Superstition Hills and Imperial faults can be seen in  
661   the coseismic interferograms for line 26505 and in the agricultural area in 26501 (south  
662   line). Detailed cross sections are plotted for each fault indicating 1 cm of line of site  
663   changes on the Superstition Hills fault and 2.3 cm of line of site changes on the Imperial  
664   fault. This corresponds to 2.0 creep on the Superstition Hills fault and 4.3 cm of creep on  
665   the Imperial fault if the slip is horizontal and parallel to the slip lineation.

666

667   **Figure 11.** Vertical time series for stations in the southern Imperial Valley spanning the  
668   north end of the rupture. Station plots are organized roughly geographically. Horizontal  
669   axis is time and vertical axis is vertical position in mm. Solid vertical line marks the time  
670   of the earthquake. Dashed lines mark the beginning of the coseismic interferograms and  
671   the end of the postseismic interferograms respectively.

672

673   **Figure 12.** Mapped faults in the Salton trough (solid labeled lines) and areas of slip  
674   identified by UAVSAR (dashed lines).

## Tables

<b>Repeat Pass Interferometry Product Description</b>	<b>Pass 1</b> <b>Pass 2</b>	<b>Aircraft Heading</b>
SanAnd_26505_09083-006_10027-005_0174d_s01_L090_02 Coseismic Imperial Valley	2009/10/20 2010/04/12	-95.35
SanAnd_26501_09083-010_10028-000_0174d_s01_L090_02 Coseismic along Mexican border	2009/10/20 2010/04/13	-95.33
SanAnd_26501_10027-001_10028-000_0001d_s01_L090_01 Immediate postseismic along border	2010/04/12 2010/04/13	-95.34
SanAnd_26501_10028-000_10057-100_0079d_s01_L090_01 Postseismic along border	2010/04/13 2010/07/01	-95.38
SanAnd_26501_10057-100_10084-000_0153d_s01_L090_01 Later postseismic along border	2010/07/01 2010/12/01	-95.38

Table 1. Repeat Pass Interferometry product identifiers, dates of passes, and aircraft heading, with a description of characteristics and location of the line.

Model	Single Fault	Two Faults	
		Rupture	Yuha Fault
<b>Latitude</b>	32.641234	32.632167	32.729903
<b>Longitude</b>	-115.752267	-115.748914	-115.740246
<b>Strike</b>	134.1	134.1	46
<b>Dip</b>	-63.29	-63	-90
<b>Length (km)</b>	120	120	8
<b>Depth (km)</b>	0	0	0
<b>Width (km)</b>	11.1	11.2	0.5
<b>Strike slip (cm)</b>	131	145	-8
<b>Dip slip (cm)</b>	94	87	0
<b>Tensile slip (cm)</b>	0.1	0	0
<b>Moment (dyne/cm<sup>2</sup>)</b>	$6.4 \times 10^{26}$	$6.8 \times 10^{26}$	$9.5 \times 10^{22}$
<b>M<sub>w</sub></b>	7.2	7.2	4.6
<b>Cumulative M<sub>w</sub></b>	7.2	7.2	
<b>X<sup>2</sup>/dof</b>	3.5	3.5	

Table 2. Combined GPS and UAVSAR inversions for fault slip for a single fault model and for a primary fault and secondary conjugate fault.  $\chi^2$  is computed based on estimated formal error of GPS displacements for each component and station (for 156 stations; at favorable stations uncertainties are 0.05, 0.05, 0.16 cm for east, north, and vertical, respectively) and a reduced set of 20,984 UAVSAR pixels assigned uncertainty of 1 cm. Observation uncertainties are treated as if uncorrelated. Fault latitude and longitude correspond to the NW end main rupture fault. The latitude and longitude of the Yuha fault corresponds to the SW corner of the fault. The depth of the fault corresponds to the top edge and a negative dip is downward to the NE for the mainshock rupture and vertical for the Yuha fault. In the final inversion reported in the table for the single fault model

the depth, width, and all slip parameters were left free. For the two fault model the location, strike-slip, and dip-slip of the rupture were left free and the width and slip on the Yuha fault were left free. Other parameters were left free in earlier runs to minimize the residuals.

Model	Single Fault	Two Faults		Three Faults		
	Aftershock	Aftershock	Yuha Fault	Aftershock	Rupture	Yuha Fault
<b>Latitude</b>	32.763021		32.645506	32.763021	32.667297	
<b>Longitude</b>	-116.000034		-115.822435	-116.000034	-115.805105	
<b>Strike</b>	128	128	36	128	128	36
<b>Dip</b>	-83	-83	-90	-83	-83	-90
<b>Length (km)</b>	18	20	9	18	25	6
<b>Depth (km)</b>	2	2	1	2	2	.4
<b>Width (km)</b>	10	10	9	10	10	9
<b>Strike slip (cm)</b>	4	6.5	-4.2	9.6	6.4	-7.6
<b>Dip slip (cm)</b>	1	1	0	1	0	0
<b>Tensile slip (cm)</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Moment (dyne/cm<sup>2</sup>)</b>	2.2X10 <sup>24</sup>	3.9x10 <sup>24</sup>	1x10 <sup>24</sup>	5.2x10 <sup>24</sup>	4.8x10 <sup>24</sup>	1.2x10 <sup>24</sup>
<b>M<sub>w</sub></b>	5.5	5.7	5.3	5.8	5.8	5.4
<b>Cumulative M<sub>w</sub></b>	5.5	5.8		6.0		
<b>X<sup>2</sup>/dof</b>	1.54	1.2		0.47		

Table 3. UAVSAR inversions for postseismic motions. Fault latitude and longitude correspond to the NW ends of the aftershock and main rupture fault. The latitude and longitude of the Yuha fault corresponds to the SW corner of the fault. The depth of the fault corresponds to the top edge and a negative dip is downward to the NE for the aftershock and mainshock rupture and vertical for the Yuha fault. Strike slip is the only free parameter in the final inversion reported in the table, though other parameters were left free in earlier runs to minimize the residuals.

## **Figures**

Figure 1

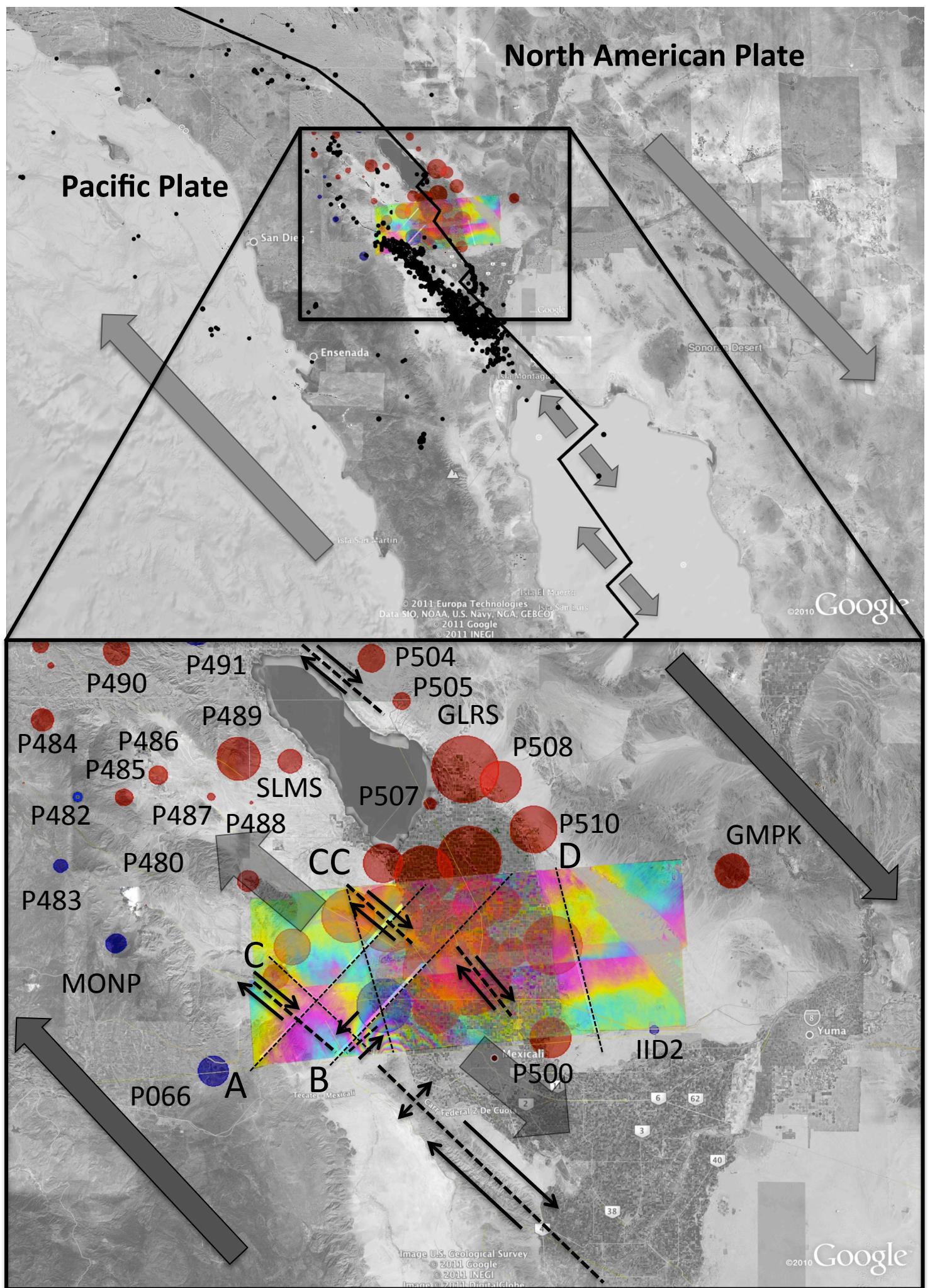


Figure 2

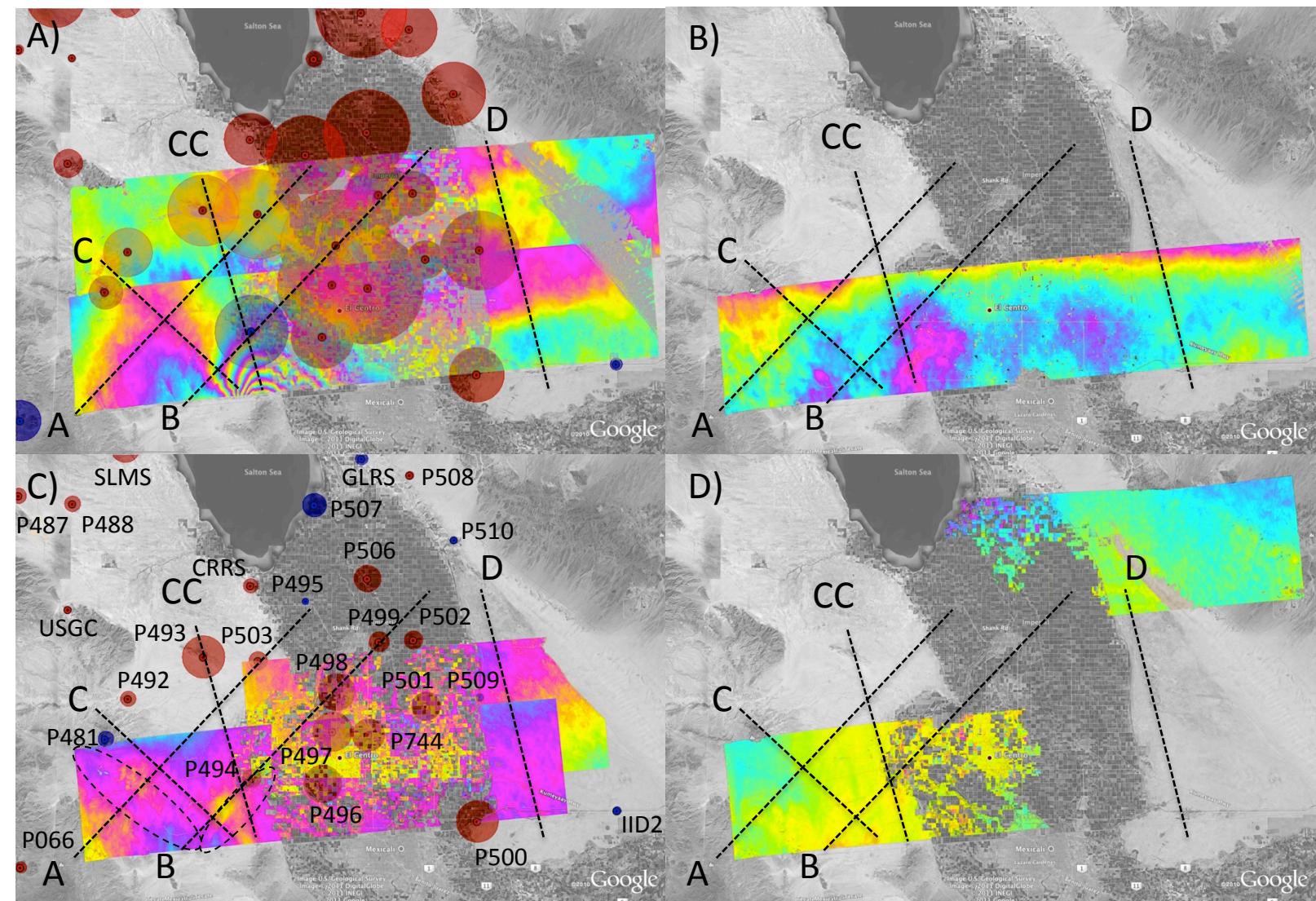


Figure 3

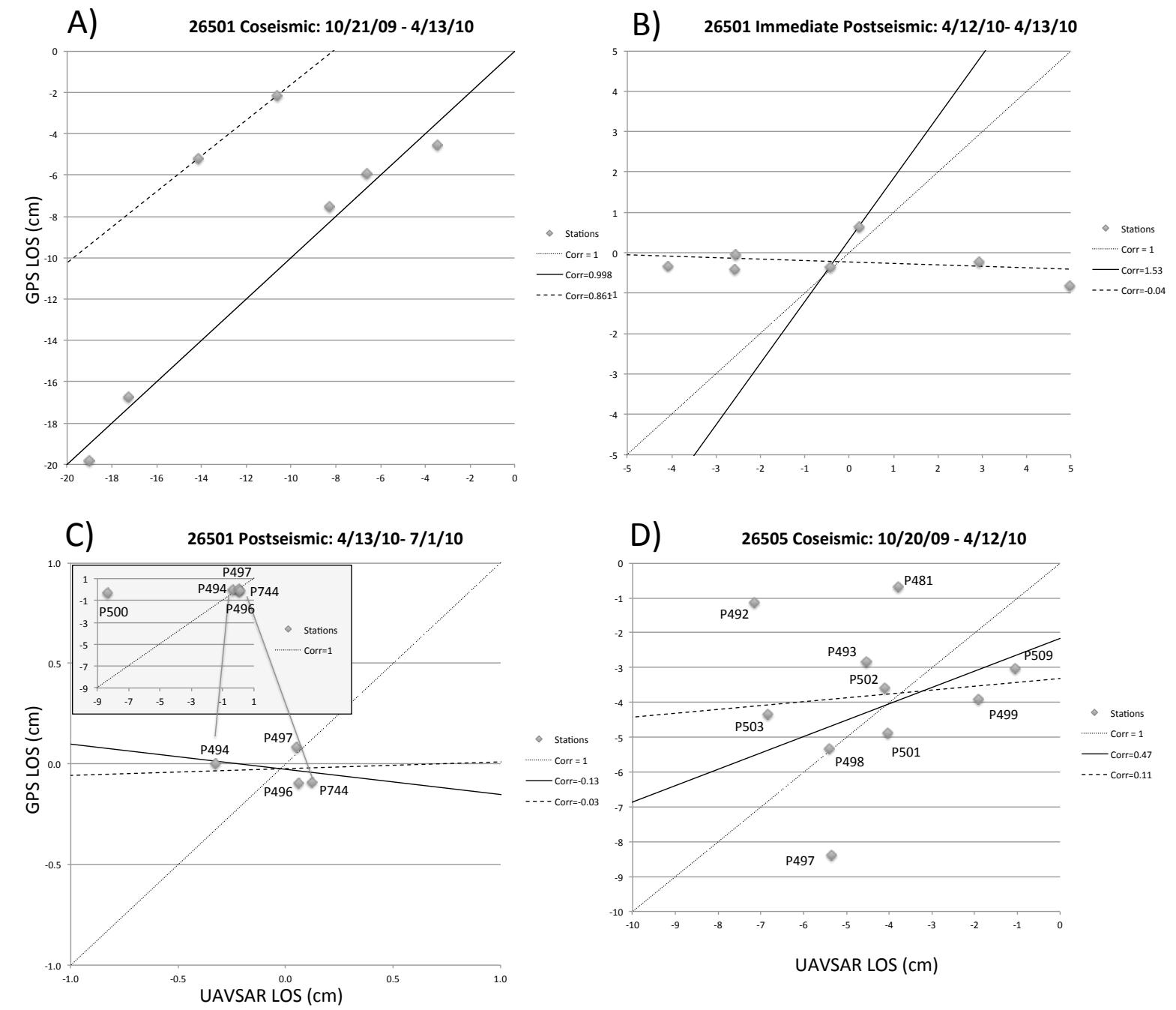
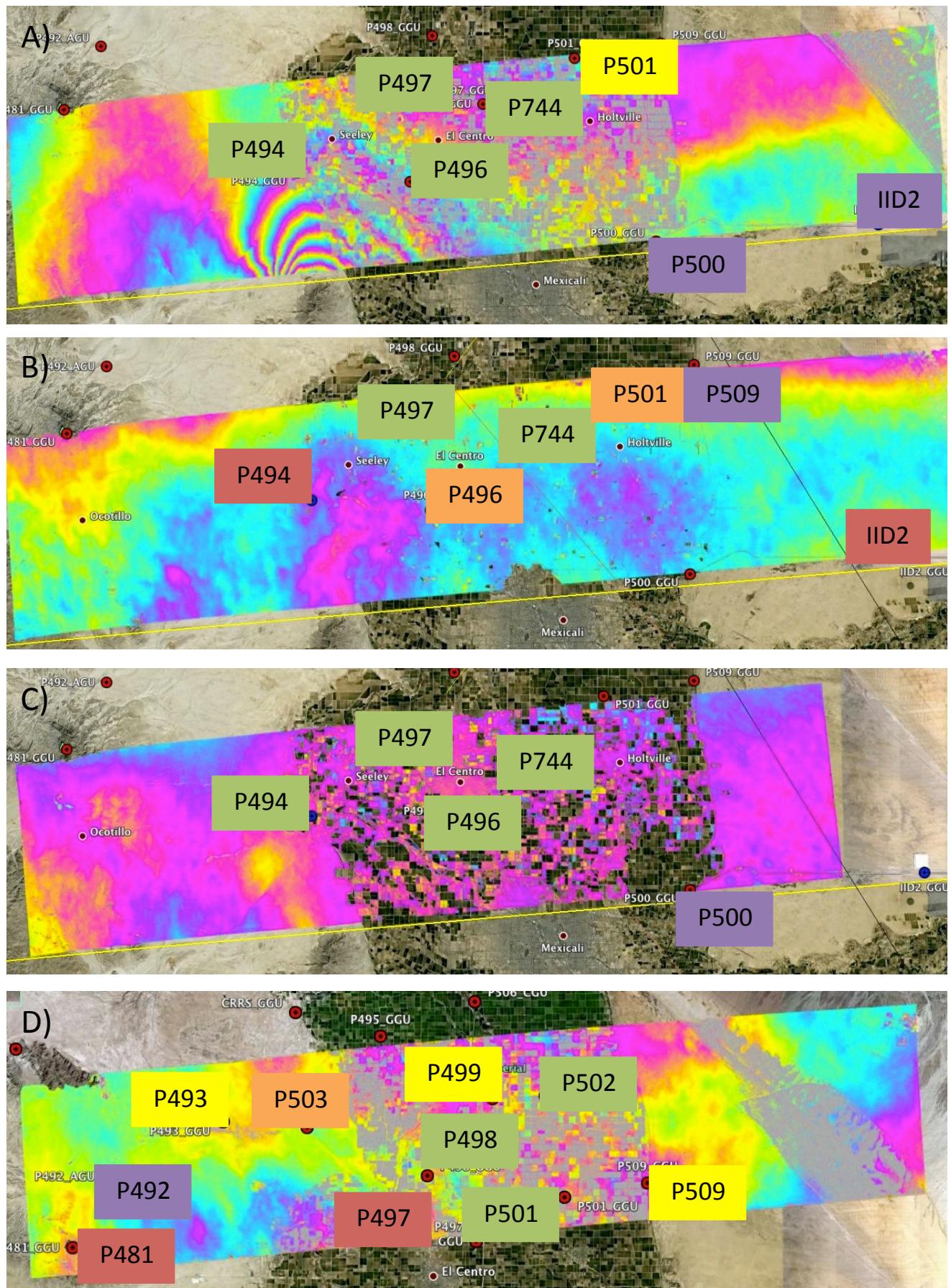


Figure 4



|GPS-UAVSAR|    [Green] < 1 cm <    [Yellow] < 2 cm <    [Orange] < 3 cm <    [Red] < 4 cm <    [Purple] > 4 cm

Figure 5

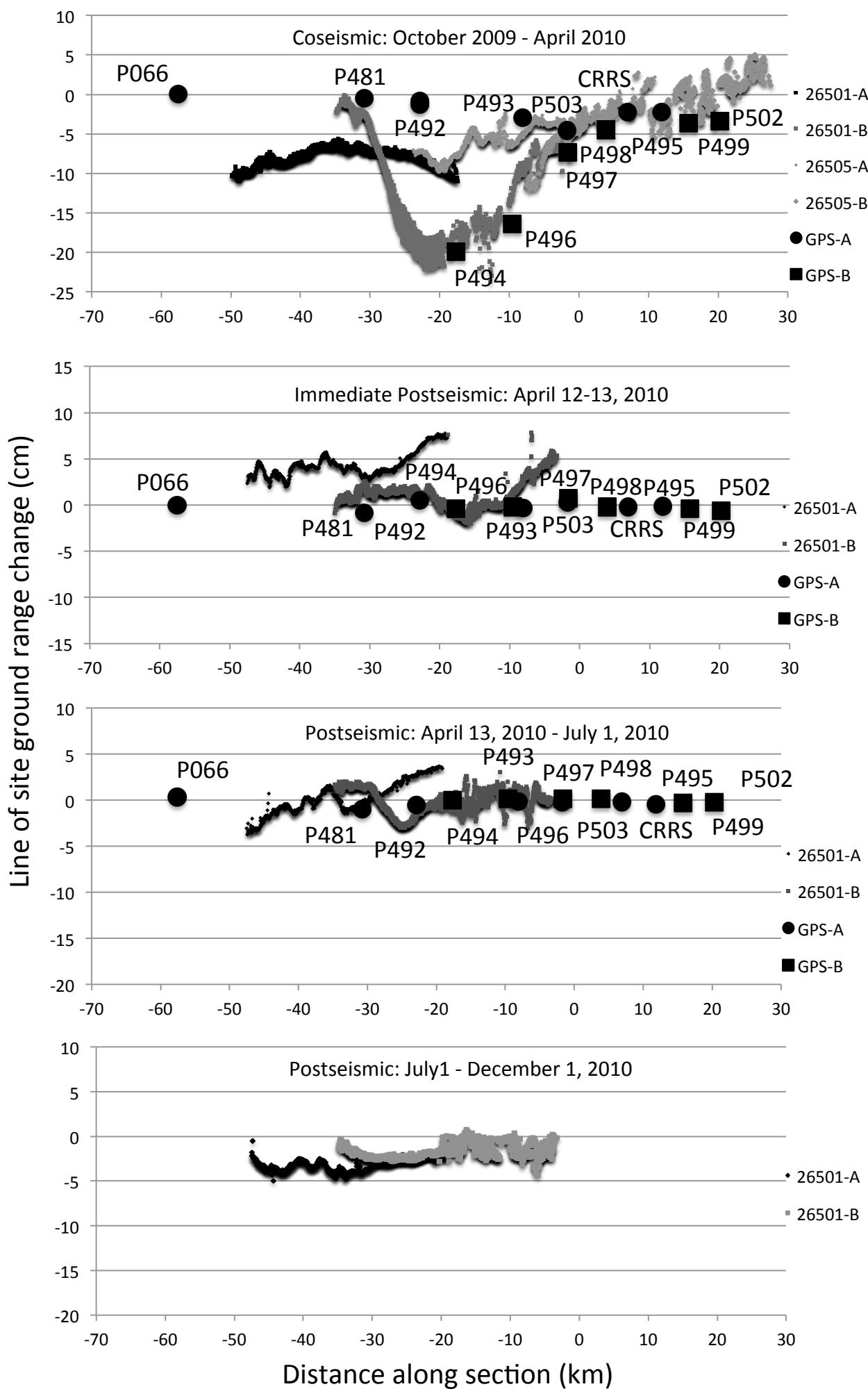


Figure 6

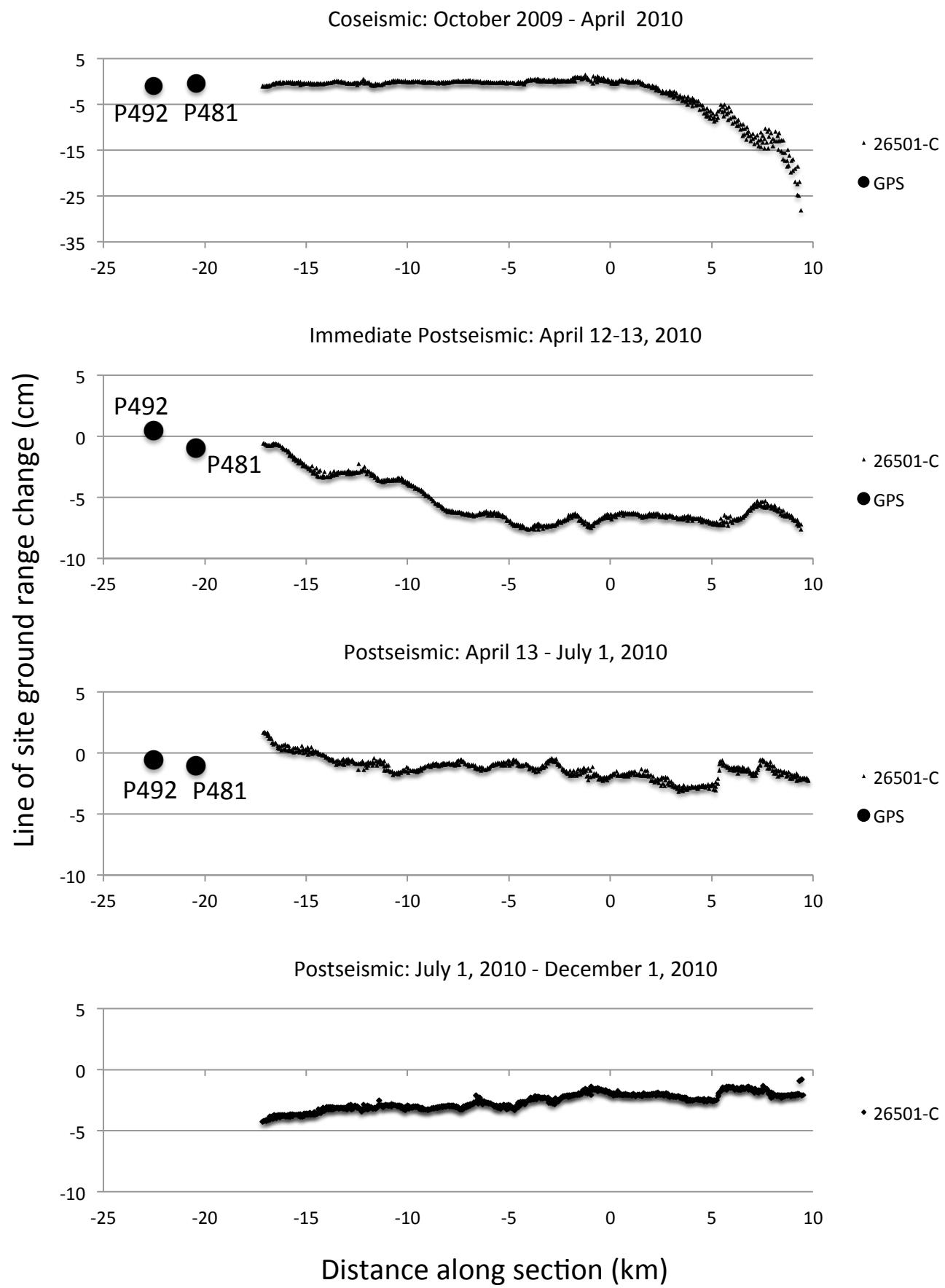


Figure 7

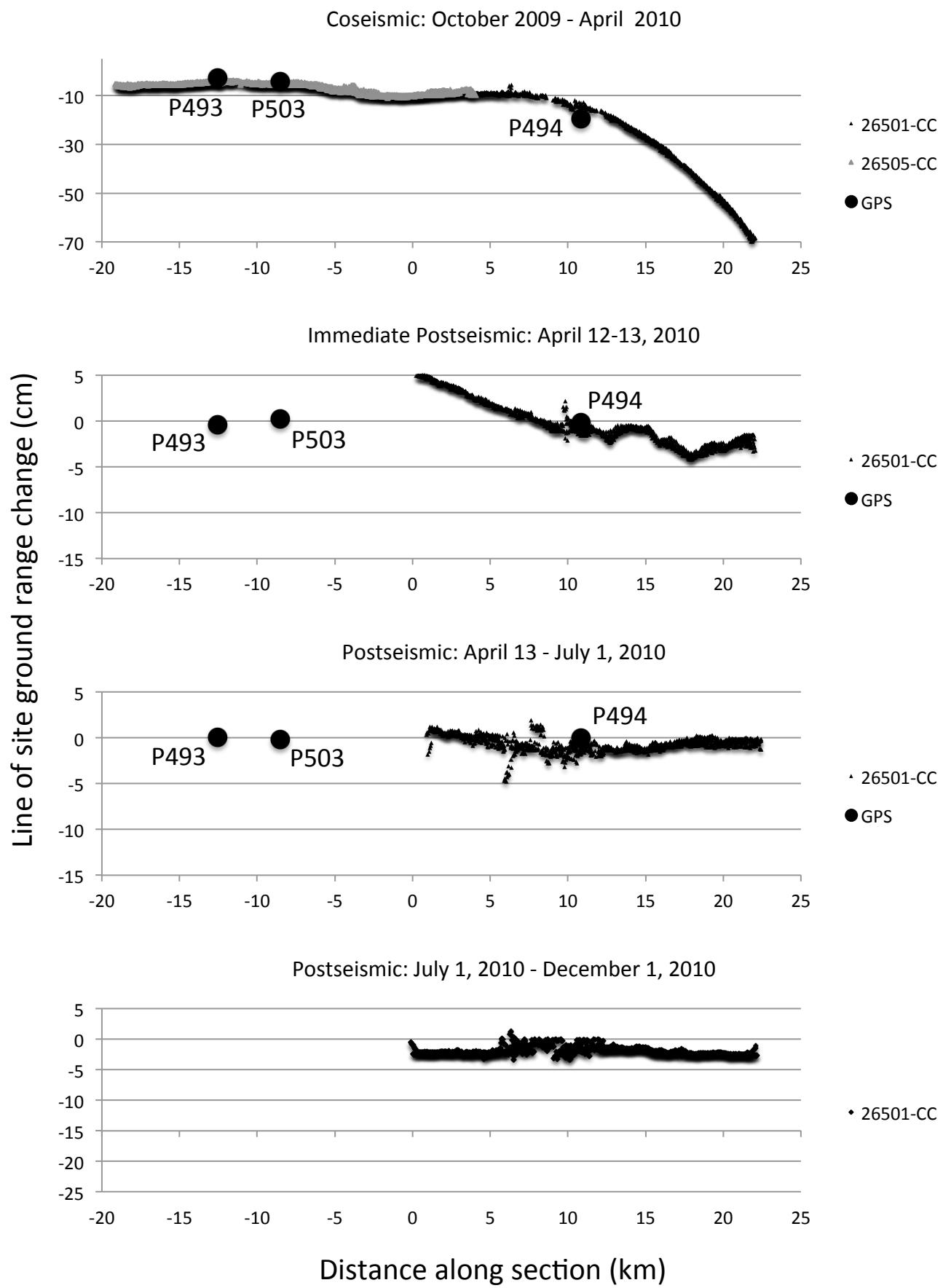


Figure 8

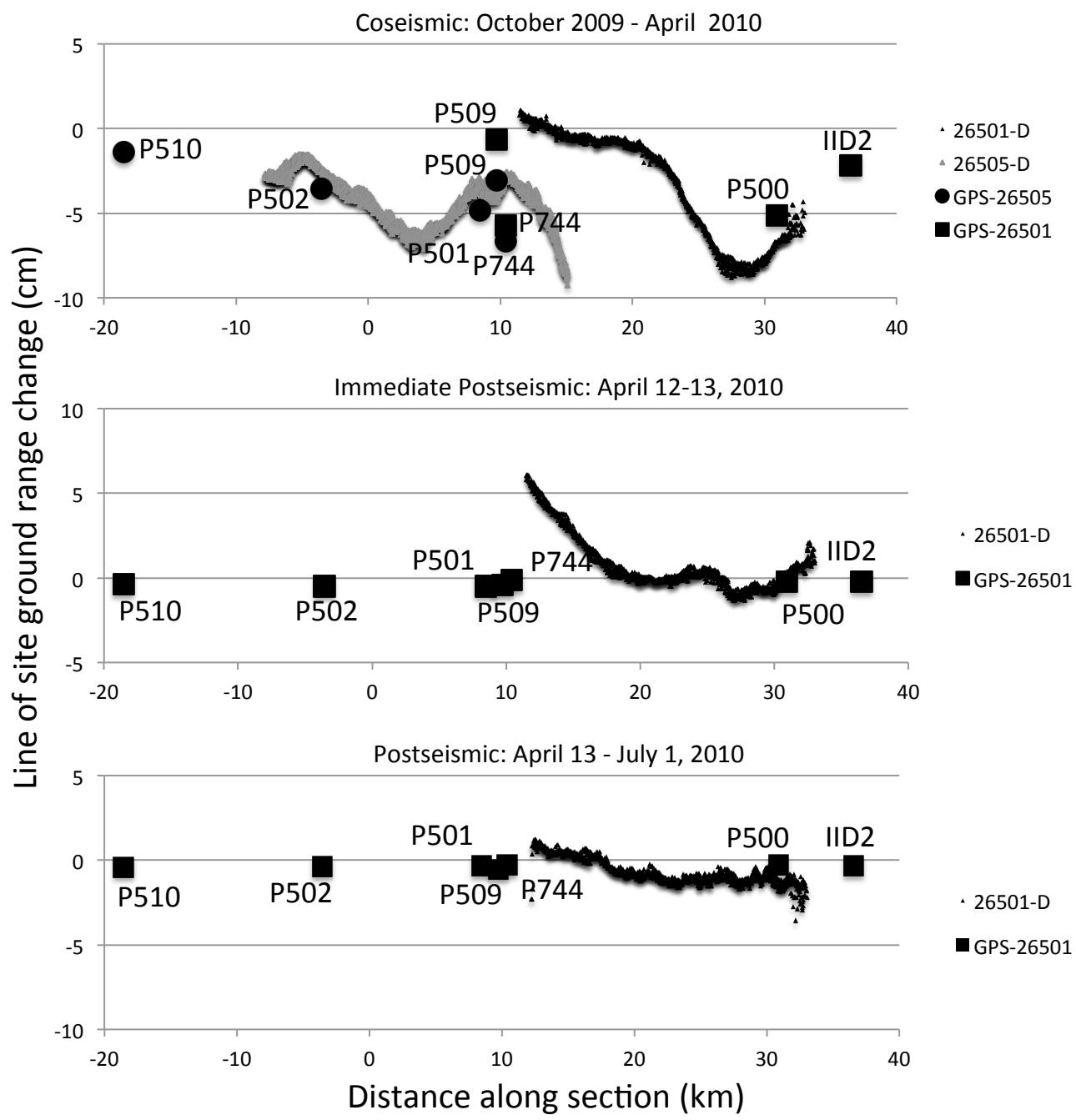


Figure 9

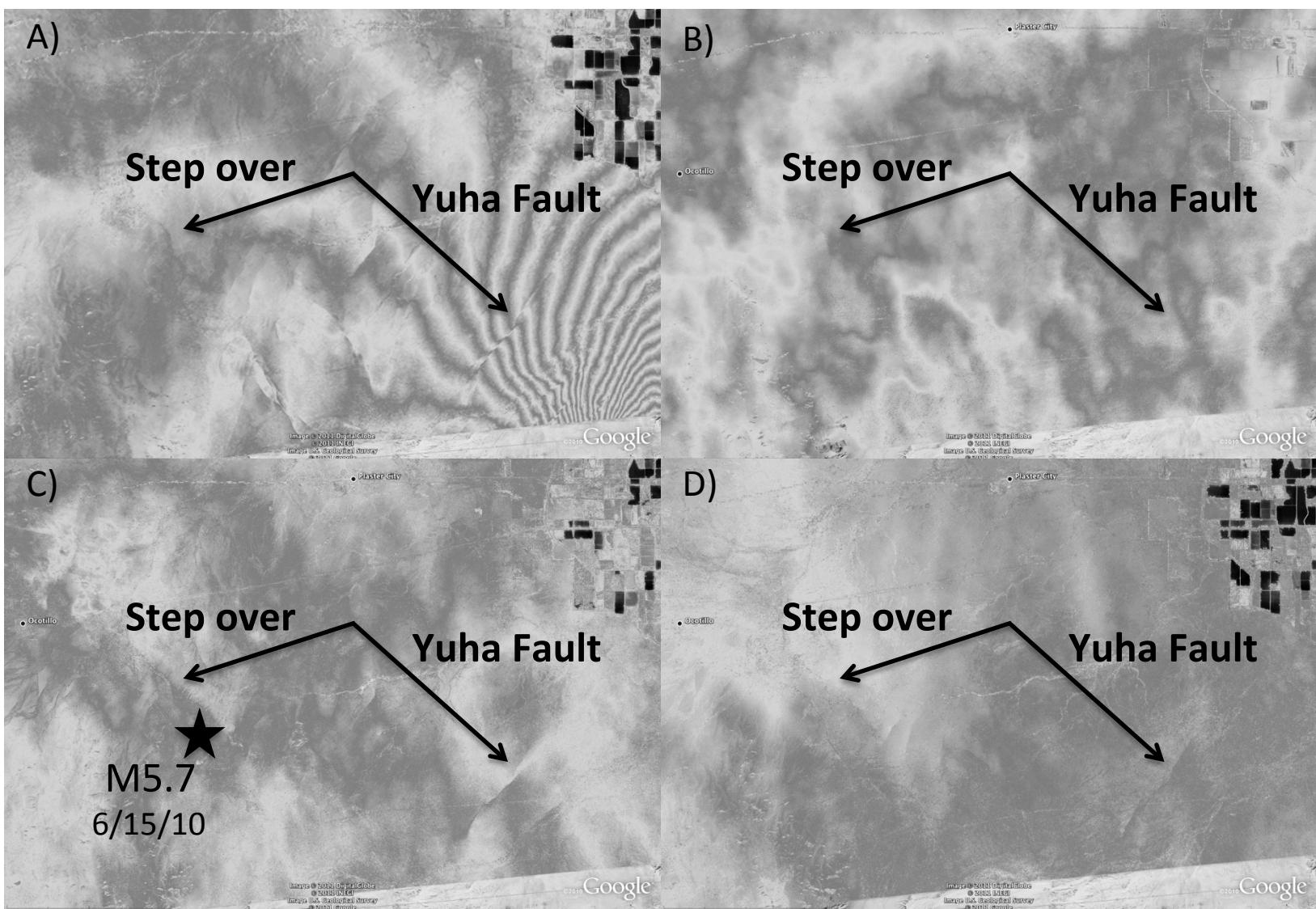


Figure 10

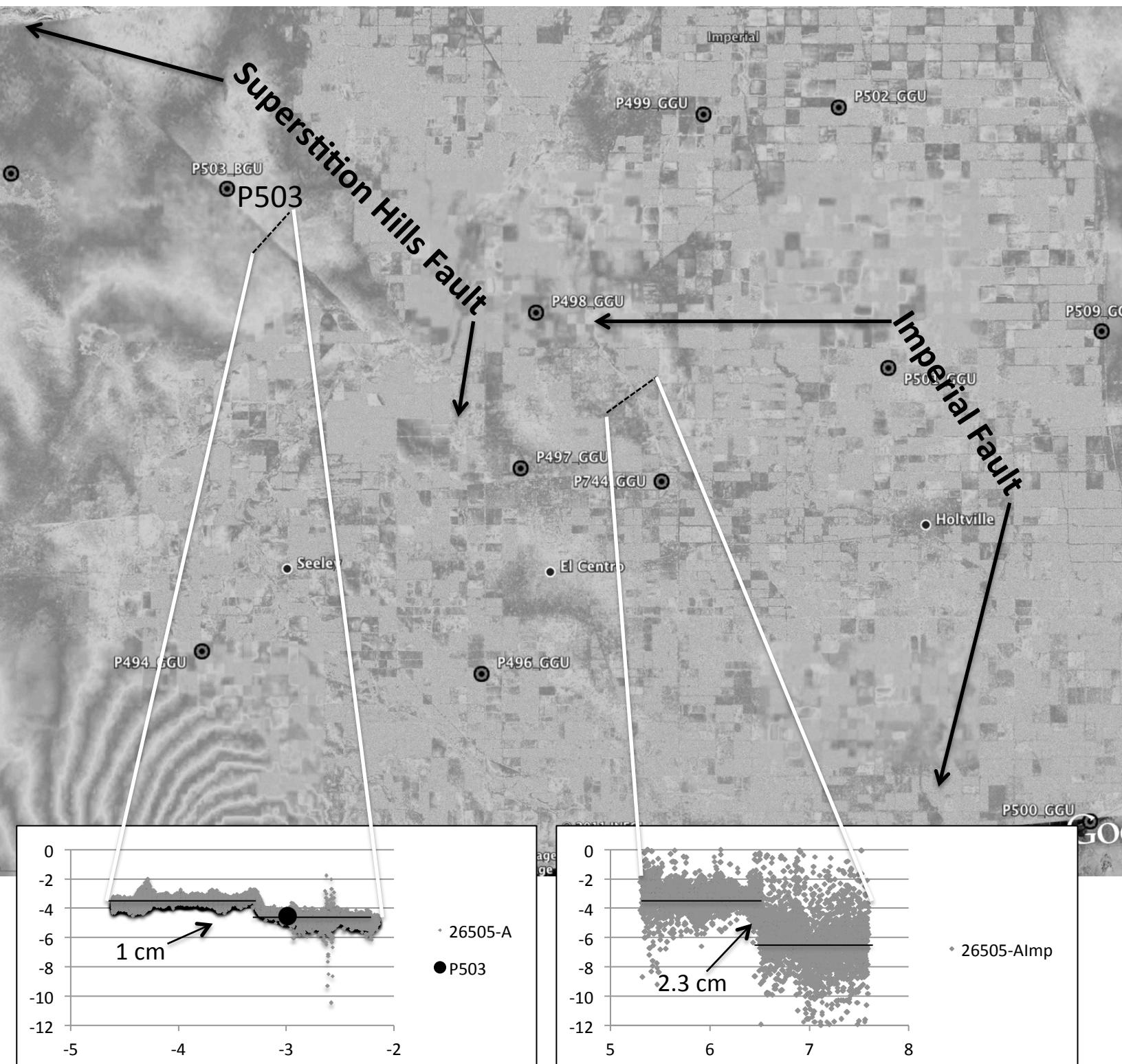


Figure 11

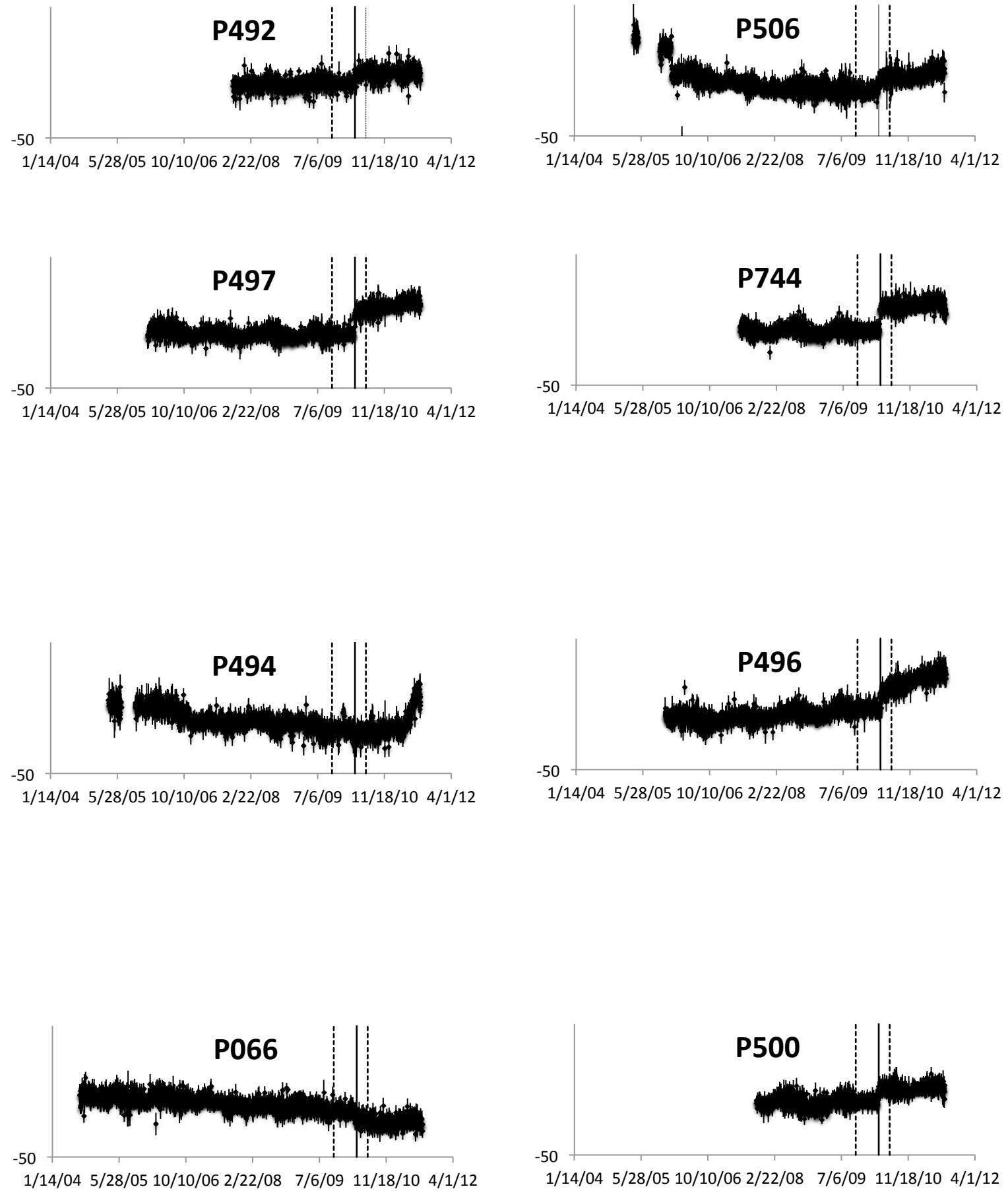
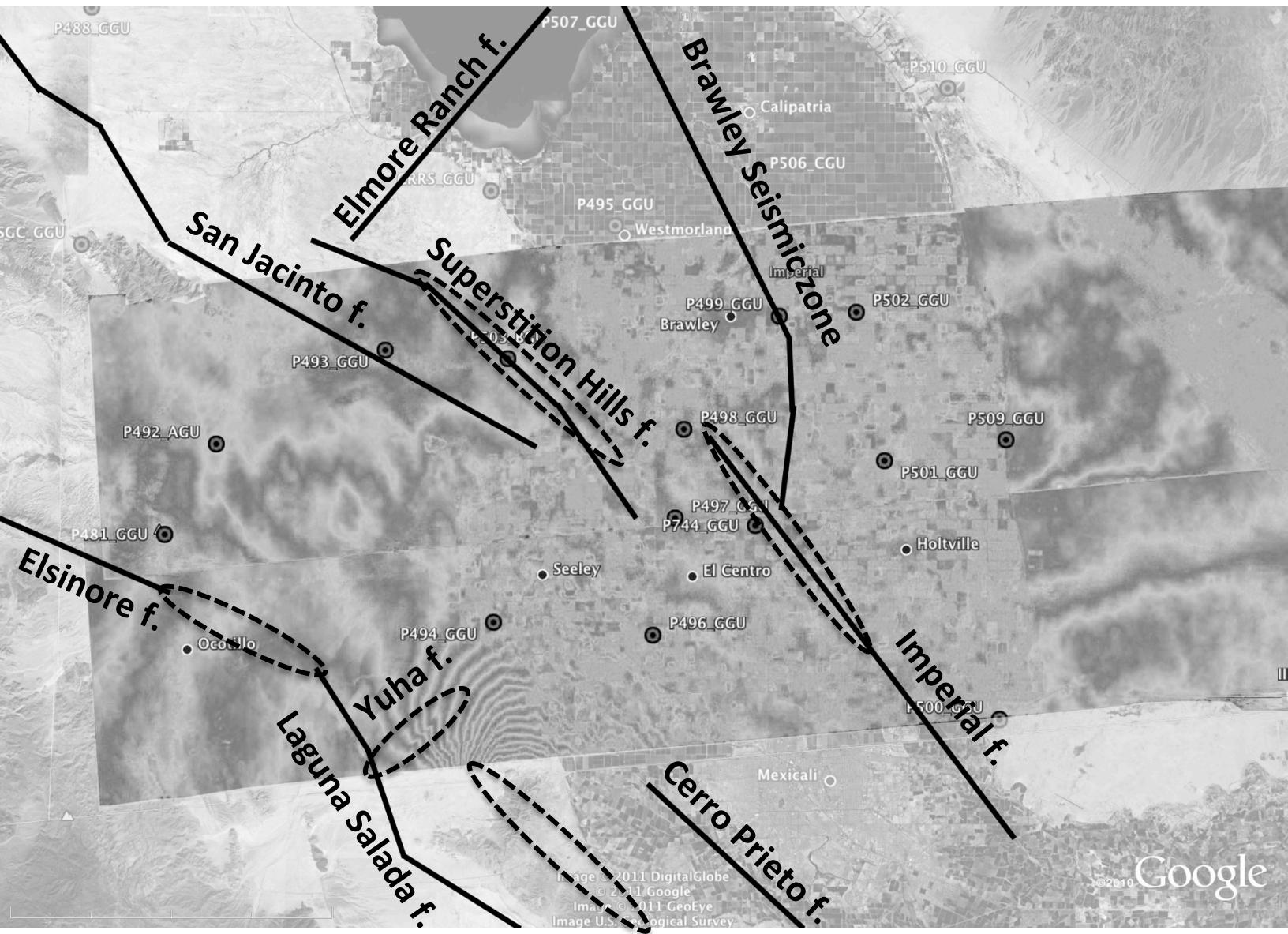


Figure 12



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3       **Supporting Nonprint Material**

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