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Variability of Plate Motions Inferred by the Continuous Measurements of

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We analyzed GPS time-series data from continuous measurements at 600 sites distributed throughout Japan. The data spans from April 1996 to October 1998. We found a very systematic behavior of spatial distribution of nonsecular components of crustal deformations. This systematic behavior is in good agreement with tectonic setting of Japan. These observational evidences strongly suggest that these nonsecular components are resulting from plate motions variability.