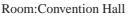
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Long-term slow slip events around eastern Shikoku and Kii Channel (2)

Akio Kobayashi^{1*}, HATANAKA, Yuki²

¹Meteorological Research Institute, ²Geospatial Information Authority of Japan

Long-term slow slip events around eastern Shikoku and Kii Channel are investigated using the GEONET GNSS data. We estimated the steady deformation rate at each GNSS station from the daily coordinates for the period from January 2006 to December 2009. Then the steady deformation rates were subtracted from all the coordinate data. The artificial offsets of the coordinate were corrected using data set shown on the homepage of the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan. We can see south-eastern displacements of a little less than 1 cm at GNSS stations in eastern Shikoku from 2001 to 2004. These unsteady displacements are also seen in the time series of coordinate and the baseline length. Moreover, the change of the baseline length is also seen in 1996.

We estimated slip distribution on the plate boundary, assuming the unsteady displacements were caused by the slip on the plate boundary. The estimated slip is distributed in the Kii channel. Non-volcanic deep low-frequency tremors are distributed belt-like along the Nankai trough. However, the active tremor is not observed in the Kii channel. In addition, considering the pattern of unsteady displacement, it appears that the source area of 1996 and 2001-2004 long-term slow slip events are almost the same. From this, long-term slow slip events with different size and time evolution may occur in the same area. These may provide important information about the condition of the plate interface.

Keywords: long-term slow slip, GNSS, crustal deformation, eastern Shikoku, Kii Channel