



GIFT – Geoscience  
Information For  
Teachers



# Challenges and perspectives for the science of volcanoes in the current decade

Paolo Papale

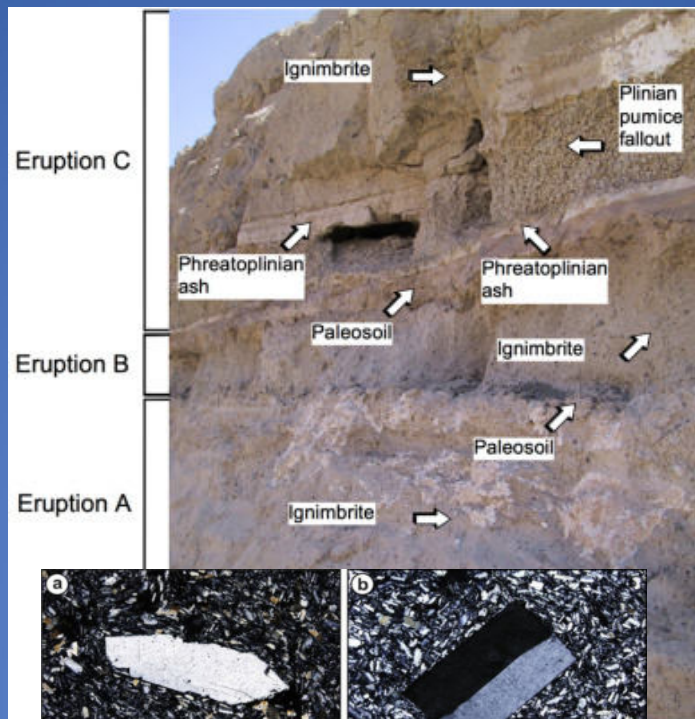
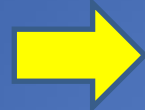
INGV – Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia, Italy

# Disciplines and approaches that characterized Volcanology in the past decades

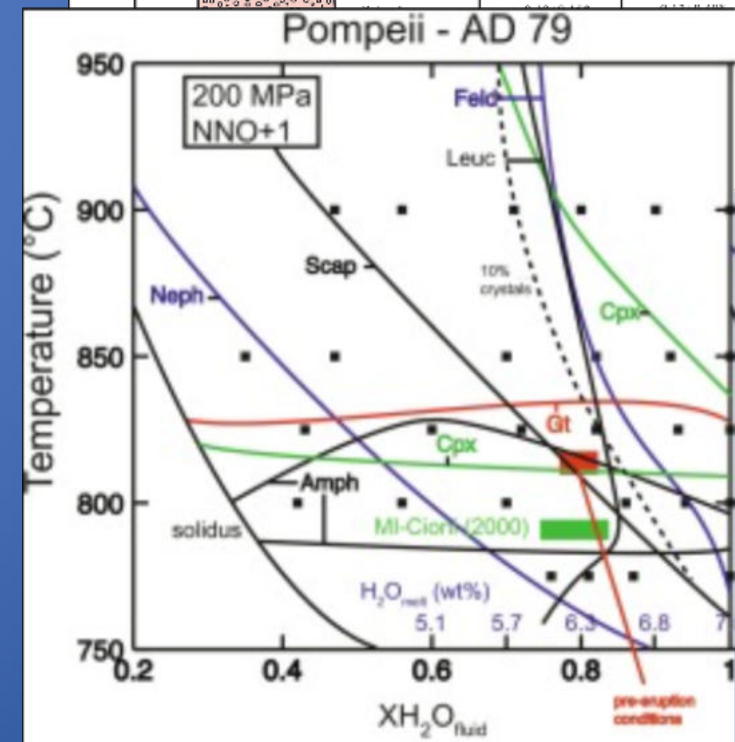
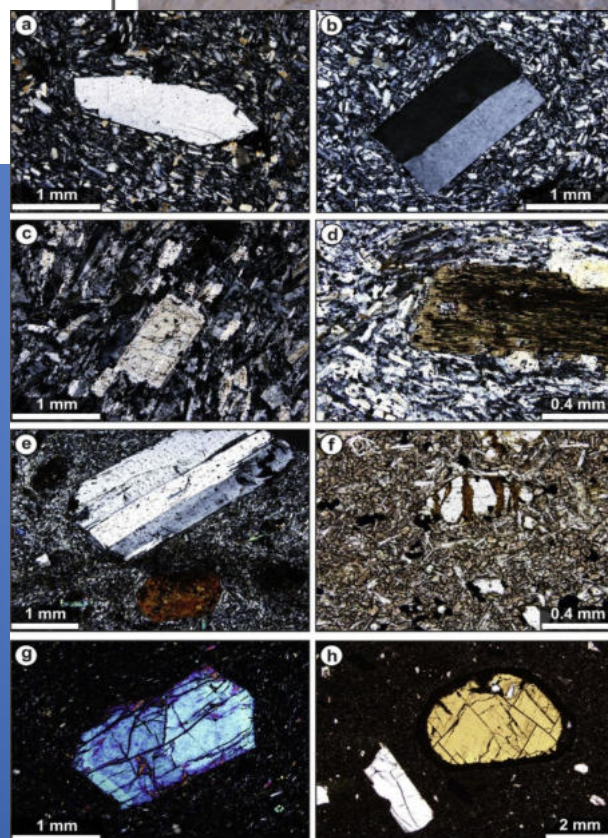


Seventies:

stratigraphy, petrology



EPOCH	LITHOLOGY	DEFINITION	Ar/Ar Age (Ma)	U/Pb Zircon Age (Ma)
Pleistocene	Acıgöl Rhyolites		0.096±0.013**	
	Basalt			
	Kumtepe Ign.			
Pliocene	Güllüdağ Rhyolites		<b>1.85±0.07</b>	
	Evren Basalts			
UPPER MIOCENE	Valıbalantepe Ign.		2.52±0.49*	
	Kışladağ Limestone (İbrikçi Tuzulu)			
	Kızılkaya Ign.		5.19±0.07*	5.11±0.37*
	Hodul Lavas			
	Phreatoplinian Ash			
	Göreceles Ign.		6.34±0.07*	6.33±0.23*
	Phreatoplinian Ash			
	Tahar Ign.		6.14±0.22*	6.07±0.67*
	Phreatoplinian Ash			
	*Air fall Deposit			
	Cemilköy Ign.		7.20±0.09*	6.66±0.40*
	Phreatoplinian Ash			
	Töngüzlü Lavas			
	Phreatoplinian Ash			
	Sofular Ign.		8.17±0.08*	8.32±0.37*
Sarımadentepe Ign.		8.44±0.12*	8.59±0.51*	
Phreatoplinian Ash				



## Pyroclastic fall

deposits



processes



Deposits related to their generating processes

Different types of eruptions recognized and characterized



Fundamental processes occurring during volcanic eruptions described and understood

deposits



processes



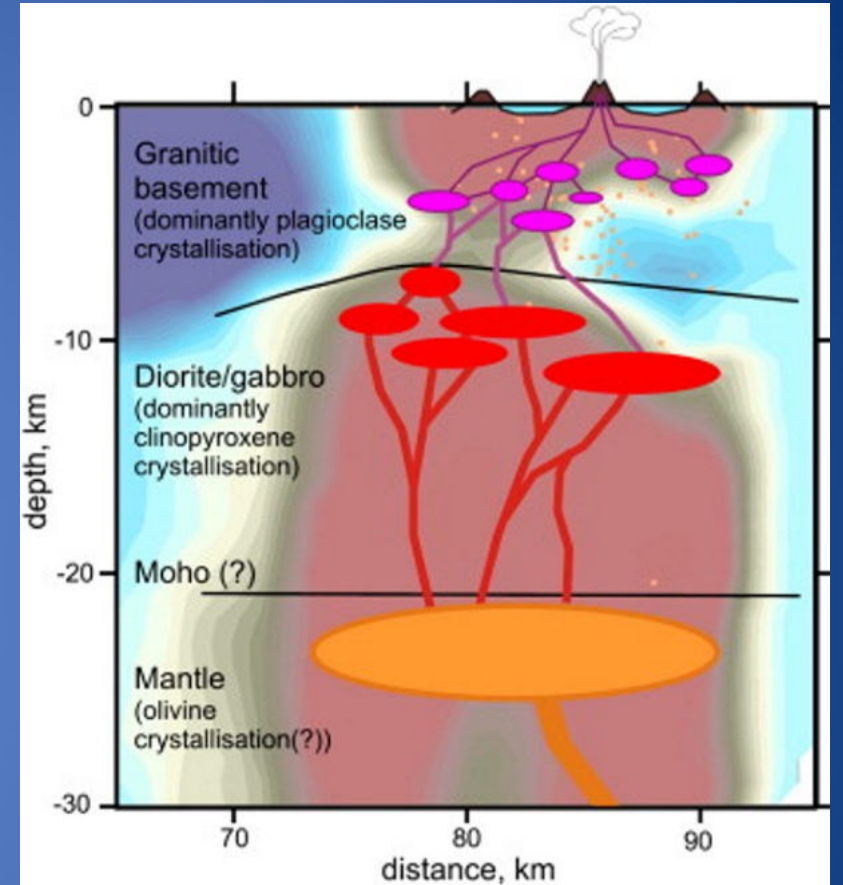
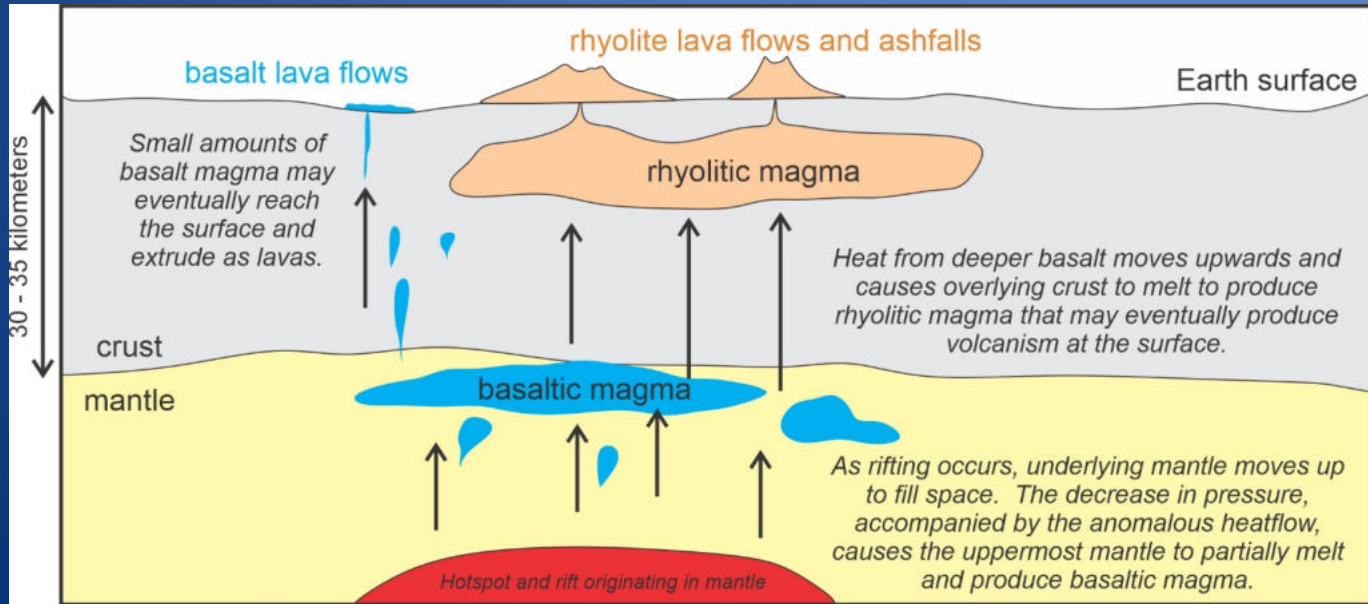
## Pyroclastic flow



Physical and chemical conditions during magma evolution and their path towards the surface

Complexities of magma plumbing systems, and of the processes leading to them

Conditions prior/leading to eruptions



Krakatau, Indonesia

# Disciplines and approaches that characterized Volcanology in the past decades



Seventies:

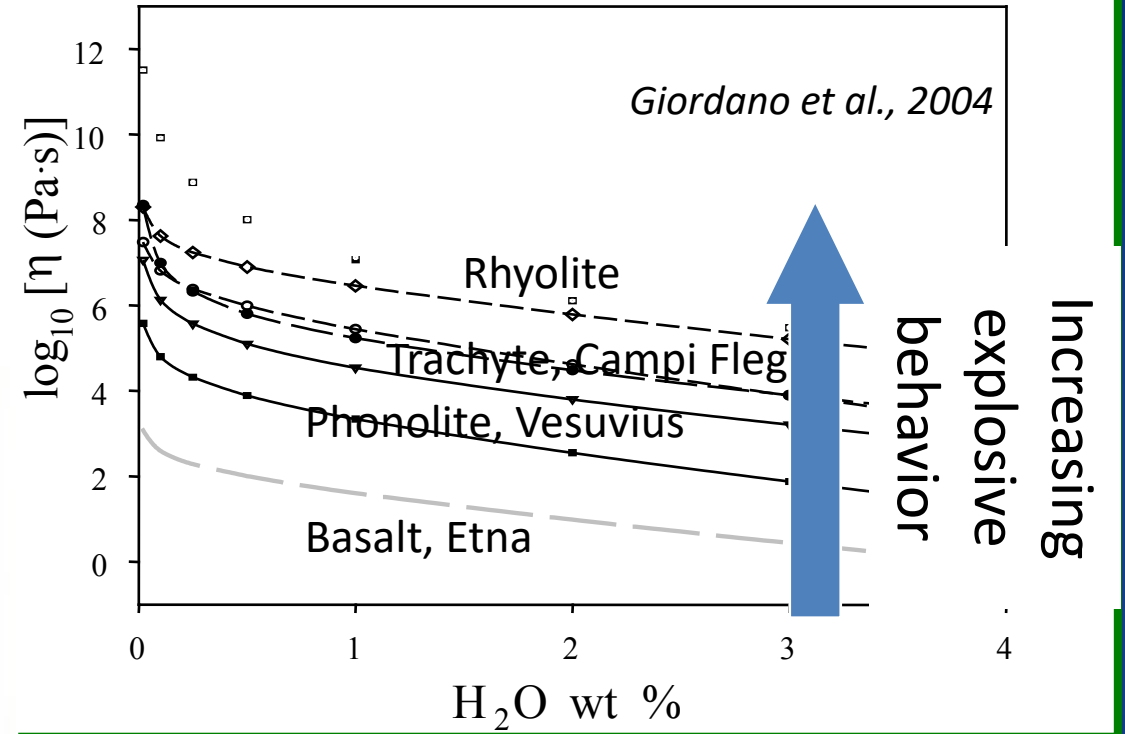
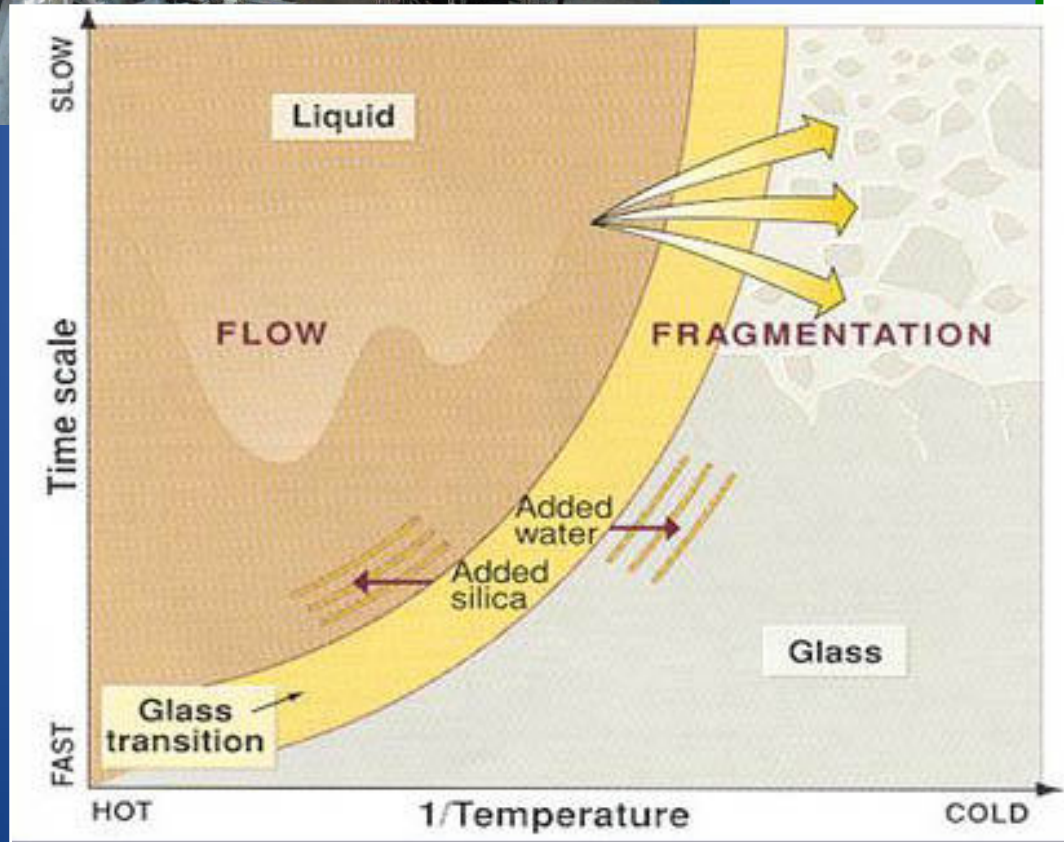
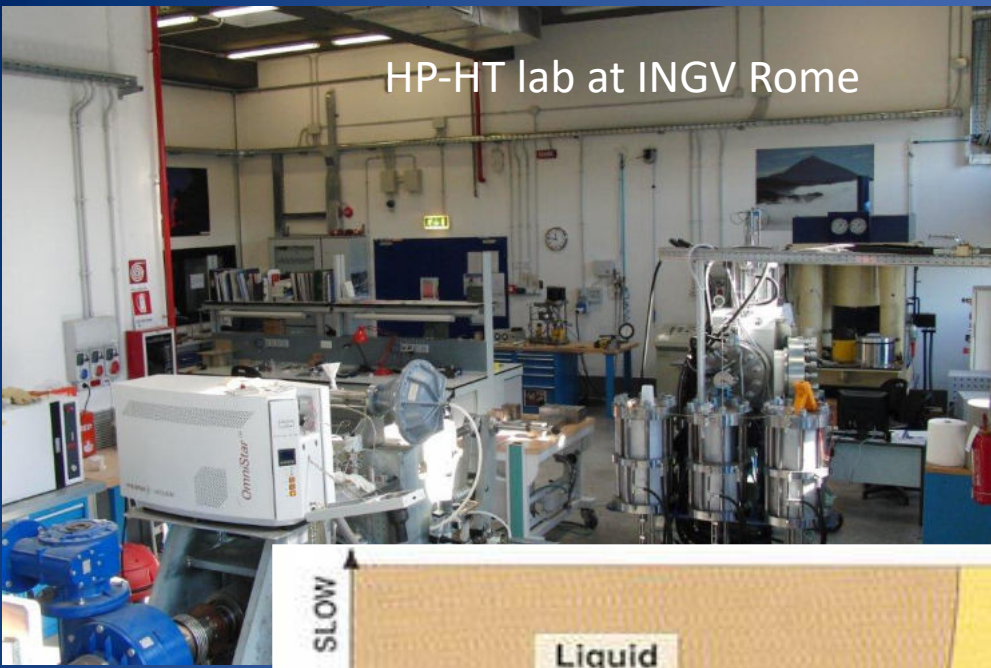
stratigraphy, petrology



Eighties, Nineties:

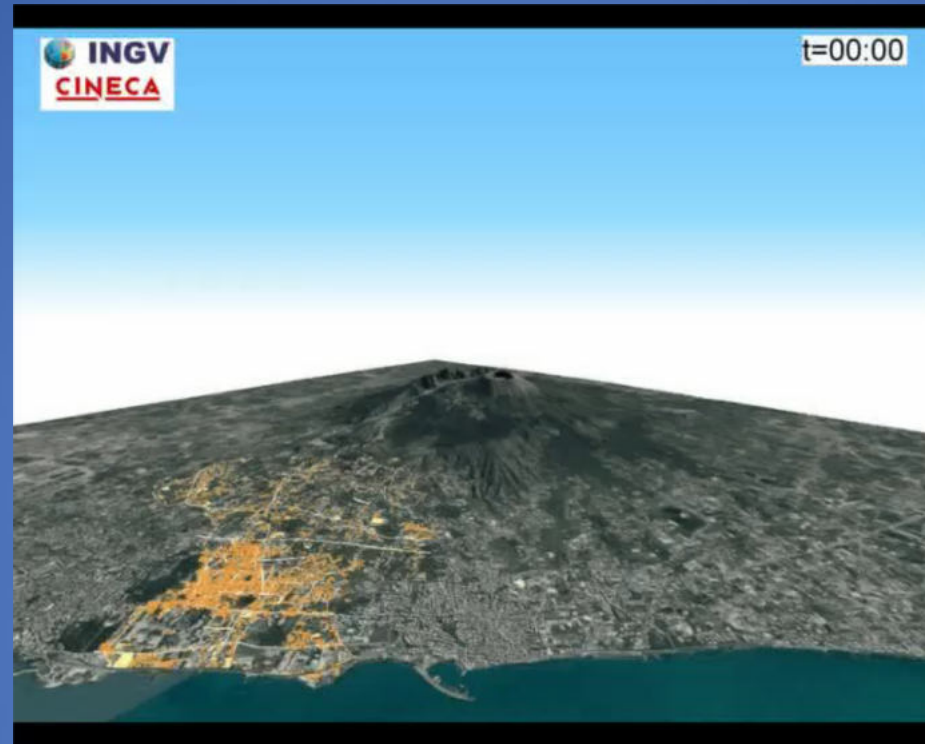
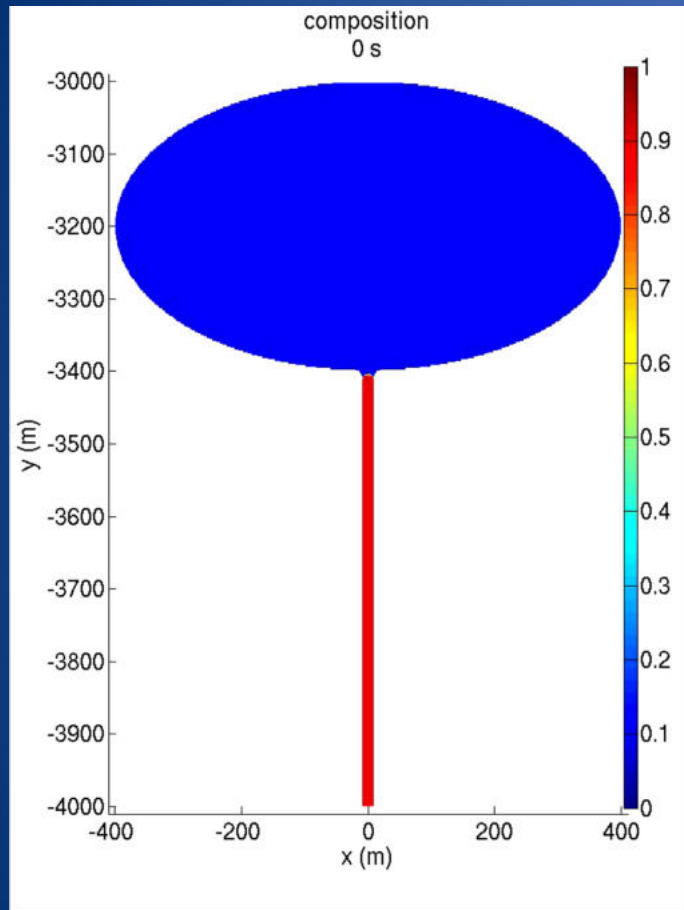
experiments, numerical modeling,  
geophysical surveys

HP-HT lab at INGV Rome



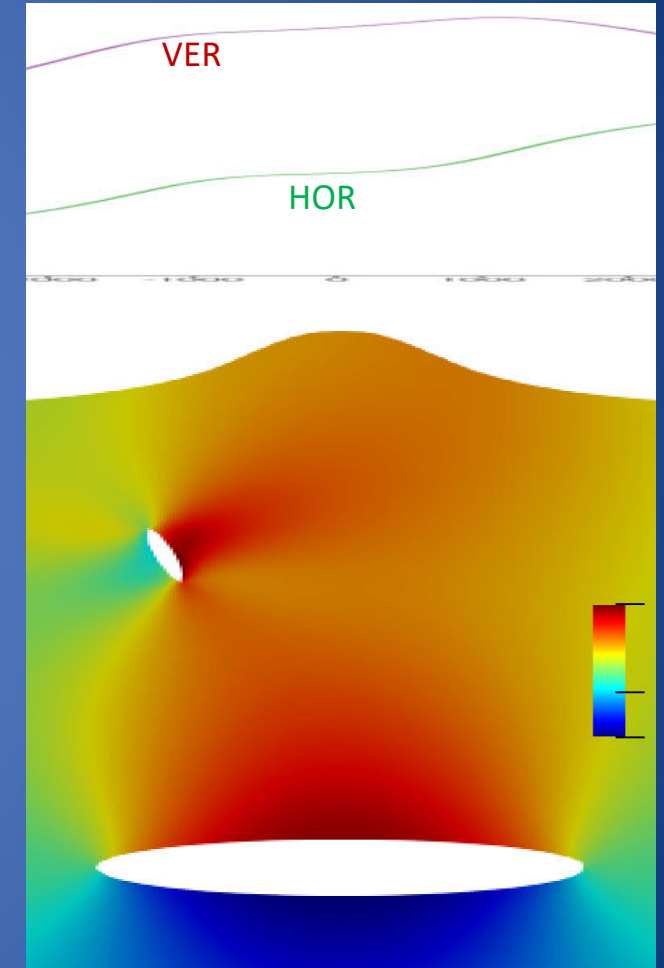
## Eruption plume dynamics

### Magma chamber dynamics



...and many other processes  
and domains

### Volcano deformation



Note: the results shown here are all post-2000



# Disciplines and approaches that characterized Volcanology in the past decades



Seventies: stratigraphy, petrology

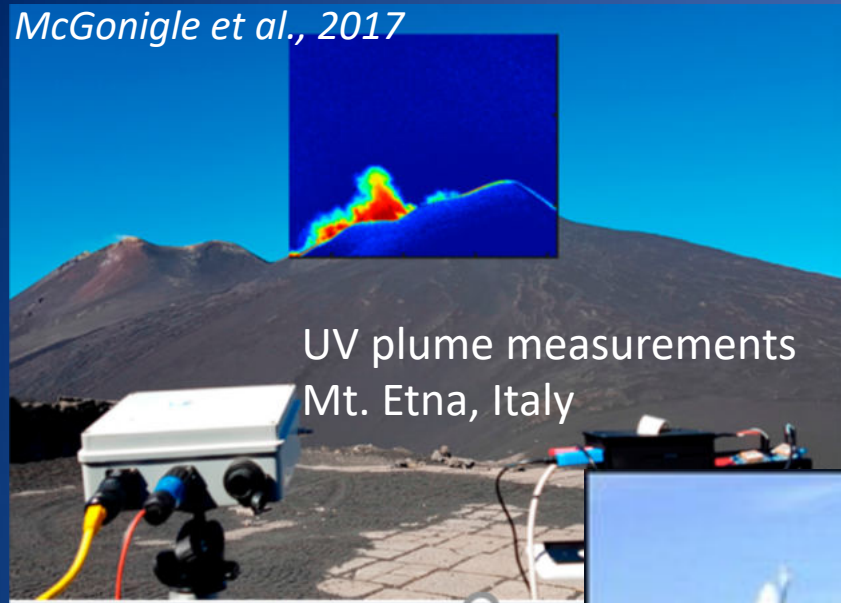


Eighties, Nineties: experiments, numerical modeling, geophysical surveys



2000-2020: instrumentation, signals, monitoring

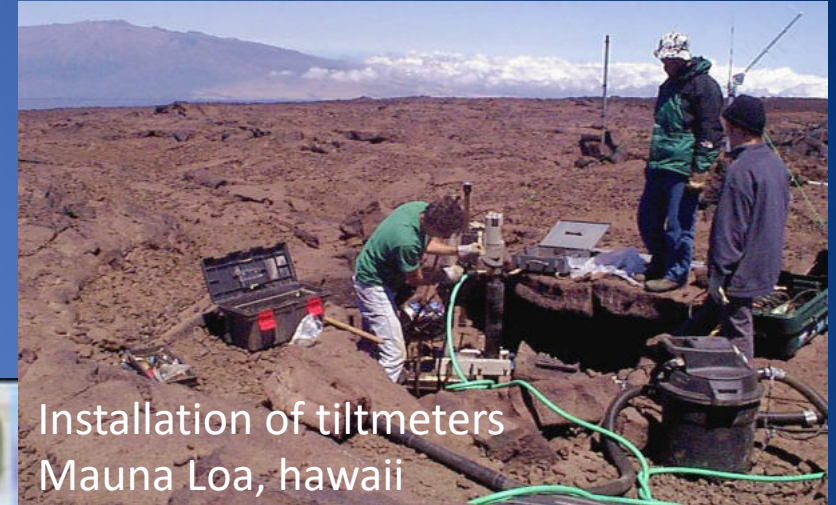
McGonigle et al., 2017



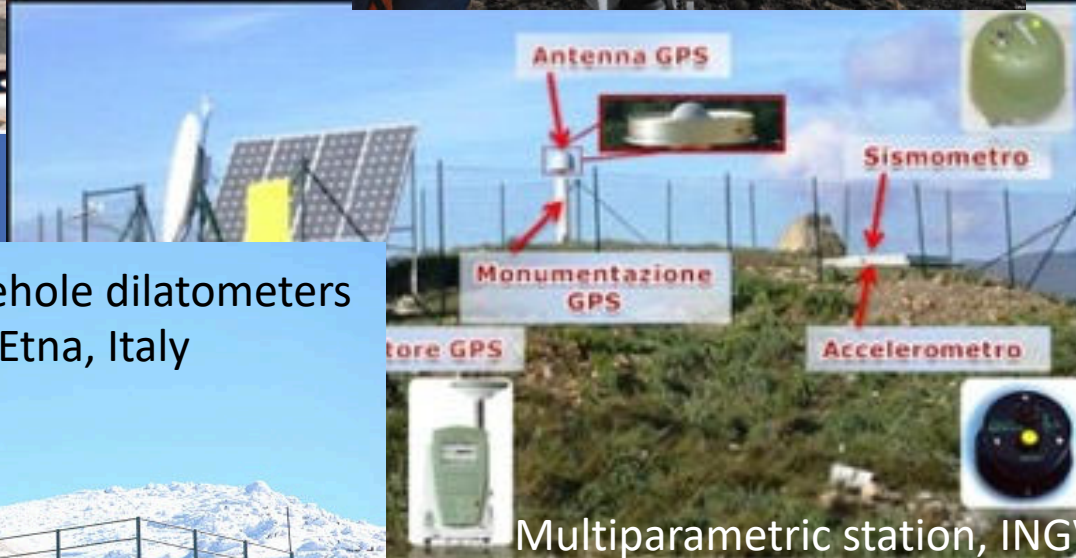
UV plume measurements  
Mt. Etna, Italy



FTIR measurements  
Kilauea, Hawaii



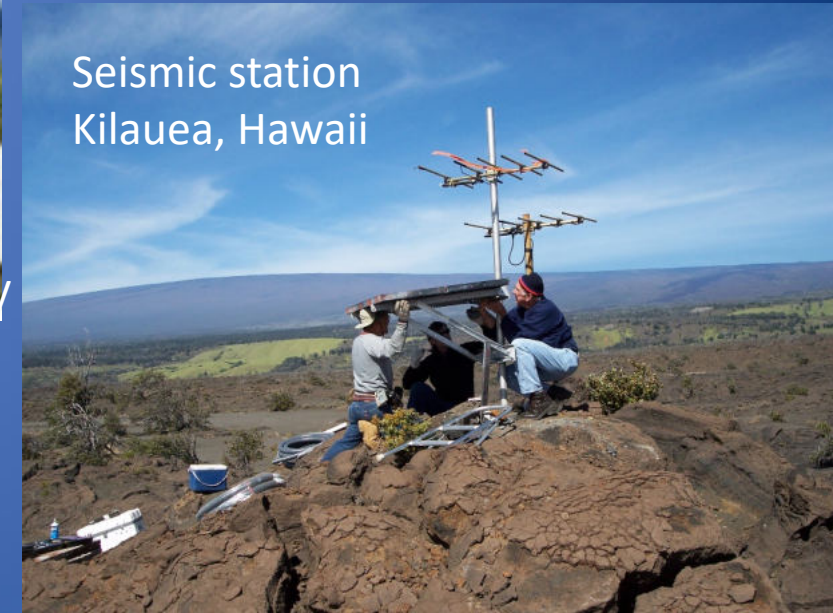
Installation of tiltmeters  
Mauna Loa, Hawaii



Multiparametric station, INGV



Borehole dilatometers  
Mt. Etna, Italy



Seismic station  
Kilauea, Hawaii

...and much more

# THE MODERN VOLCANOLOGY LANDSCAPE

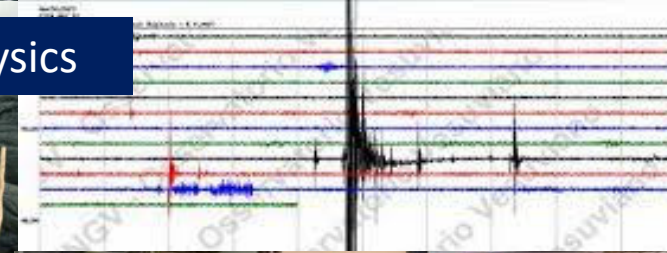
Field studies, sampling



Petrology, rock chemistry



Seismology, geodesy, geophysics



Fluid geochemistry

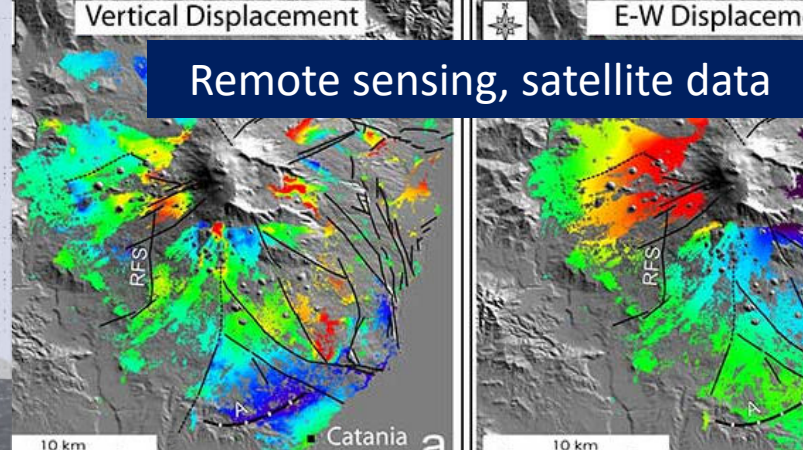
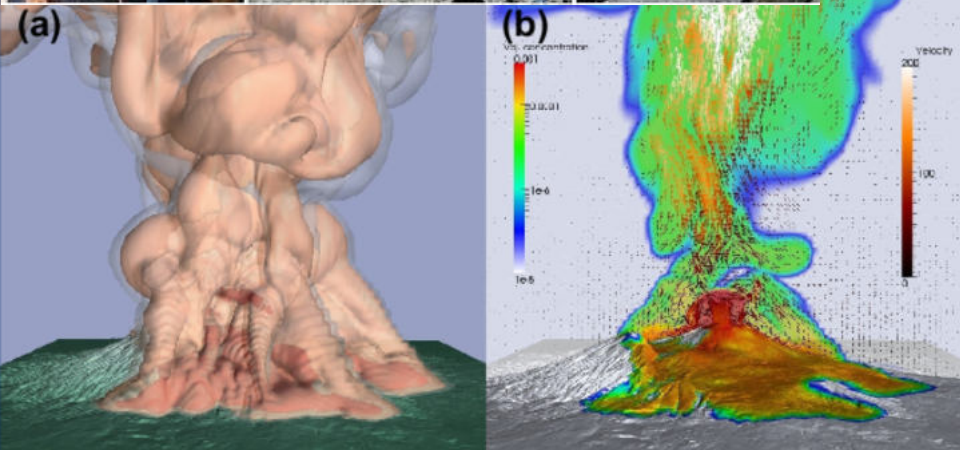


...and many others

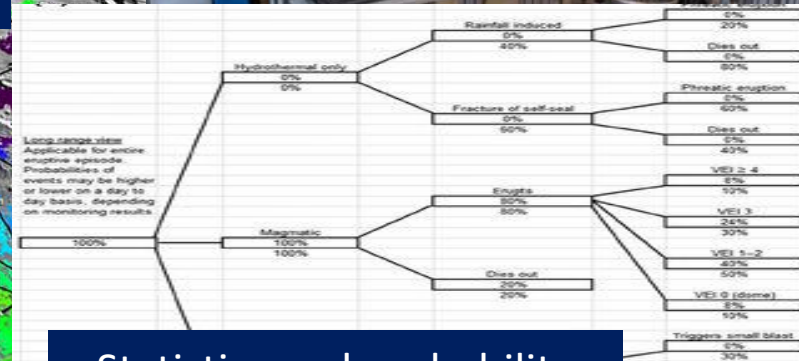
Lab experiments & measurements



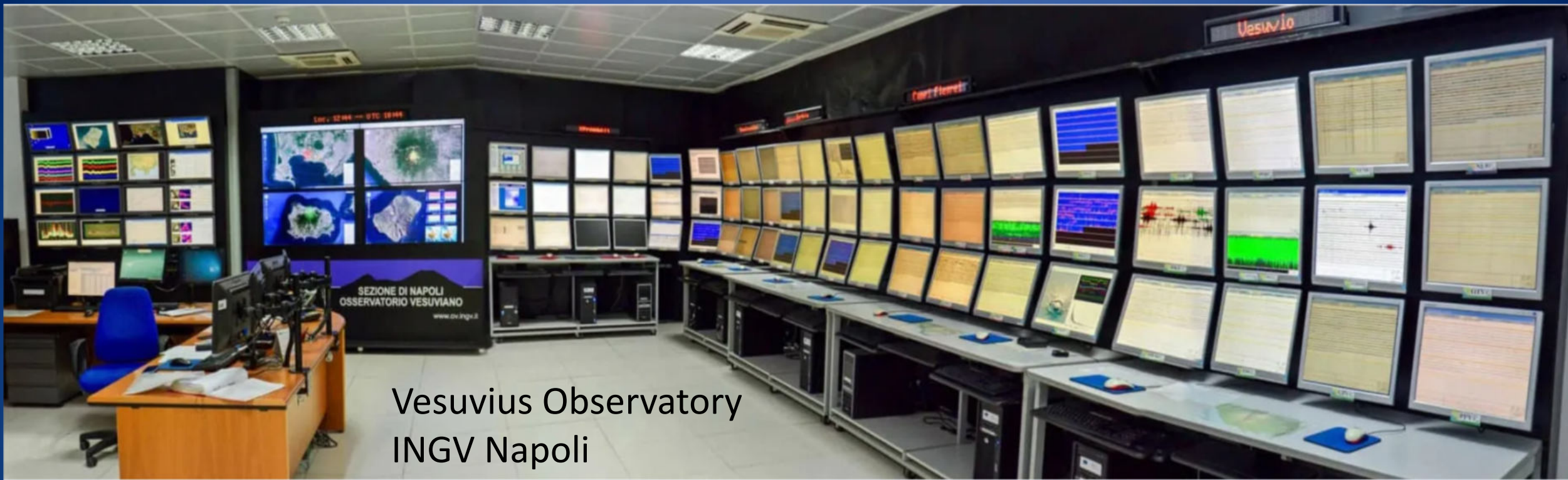
Remote sensing, satellite data



Statistics and probability



Physics & mathematics, numerical simulations



## Vesuvius Observatory INGV Napoli

- Short-period and broadband seismic networks
- GPS networks
- Infrasonic networks
- Clinometric networks
- Borehole strainmeters
- Hydrometry
- Tidal gauges
- Gravimetric stations
- Visible light / IR cameras
- Meteorological stations
- Multiparametric geochemical stations (P-T-X, fluxes)
- SAR interferometry, satellite imagery
- .....

# Data from Mt. Etna



BIG DATA → Machine learning, AI

- Communication, social sciences
- Vulnerability, cost/benefit analysis

If you are any sort of an expert, you are welcome to become a volcanologist

# What for the decade 2020 – 2030?

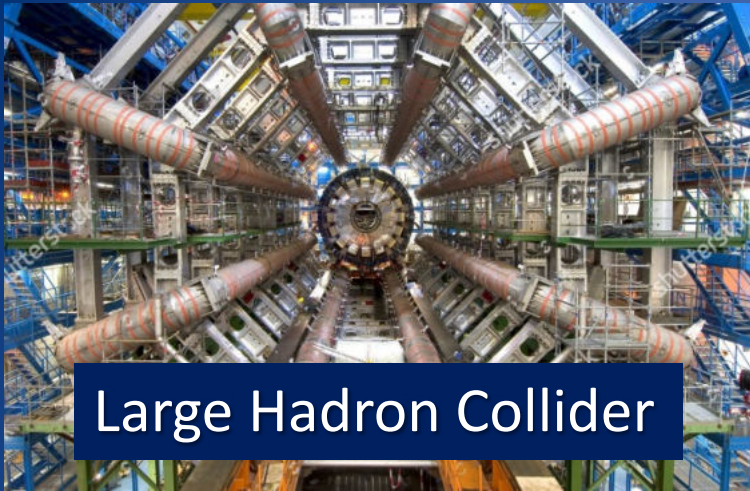
- Increasing levels of cooperation and sharing
- Technological improvements



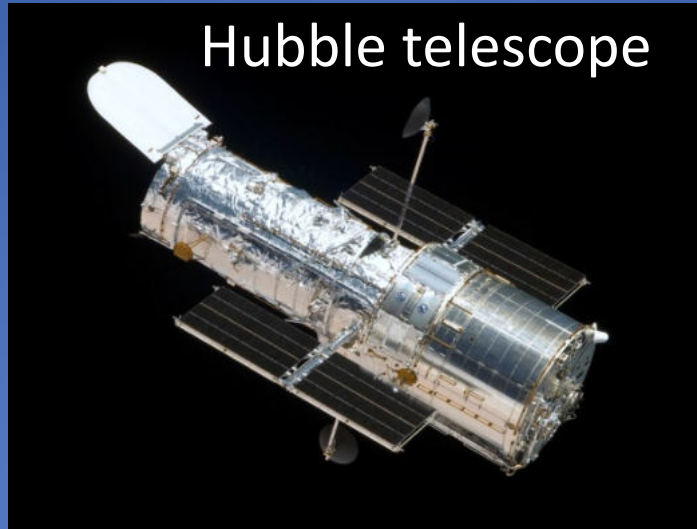
BIG questions in fundamental and applied science



**BIG** Science



Large Hadron Collider

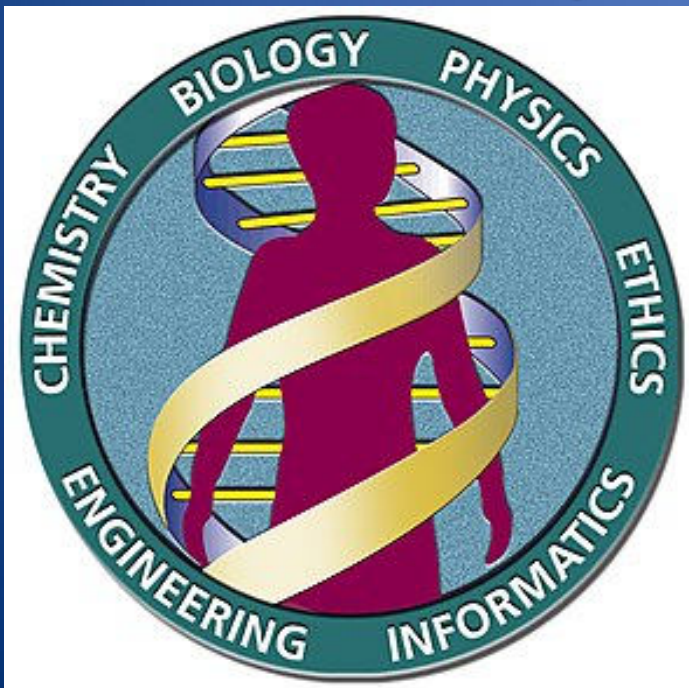


Hubble telescope



Gran Sasso laboratories

## Human Genome Project



- BIG budgets
- BIG staff
- BIG machines
- BIG laboratories

# Do volcanoes need BIG science?

- We miss direct observations of most processes and dynamics constituting the object of our investigation
- We still do not have any global volcano simulator; by comparison, atmospheric scientists have developed many
- We miss global databases for most relevant volcano-related quantities
- We deal with processes causing extreme risks from the local to the global scale

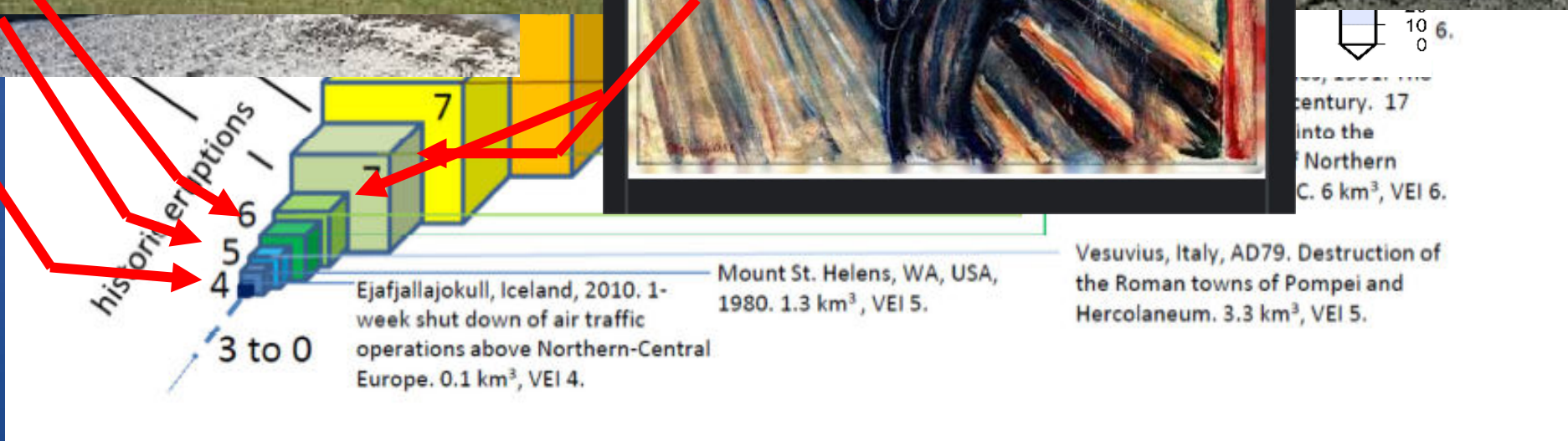
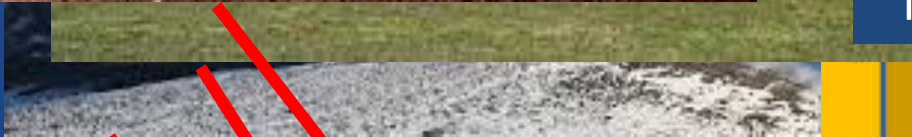


The size of eruptions, v

ported



Tambora eruption, 1815  
The largest historical eruption on Earth (to-date)



... century. 17  
into the  
Northern  
C. 6 km<sup>3</sup>, VEI 6.

Ejafjallajokull, Iceland, 2010. 1-week shut down of air traffic operations above Northern-Central Europe. 0.1 km<sup>3</sup>, VEI 4.

Mount St. Helens, WA, USA, 1980. 1.3 km<sup>3</sup>, VEI 5.

Vesuvius, Italy, AD79. Destruction of the Roman towns of Pompei and Herculaneum. 3.3 km<sup>3</sup>, VEI 5.

## Mount Piñatubo, The Philippines, 1991 CE.

(Instrumental records)

Measurable global impacts

$M = 6.1, VEI = 6$

Average cooling of Northern hemisphere by  $0.5-0.6^{\circ}\text{C}$ , increase of the ozone hole to unprecedented size in 1992.



## Mount Tambora, Lesser Sunda Islands, Indonesia, 1815 CE.

(historical accounts)

Substantial global impacts

$M = 7.0, VEI = 7$

«Year without summer» in Europe: disruption of crops, severe famine, massive emigration; estimated indirect casualties  $\sim 100,000$ . Average cooling of Northern hemisphere by up to  $1^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 2-3 years.



## Toba caldera, Sumatra Island, Indonesia, 74 ka.

(geologic and other types of reconstructions)

Potentially catastrophic global impacts

$M = 8.8, VEI = 8$

Associated (controversial) to the Toba Catastrophe Theory. 6-10 years global cooling by  $5-6^{\circ}\text{C}$  (or  $10-12^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) (Volcanic Winter), possibly triggering a  $\sim 1000$  years cooling period nearly leading to extinction of several species.



# IMPACTS FROM VEI 8 SUPER-ERUPTIONS

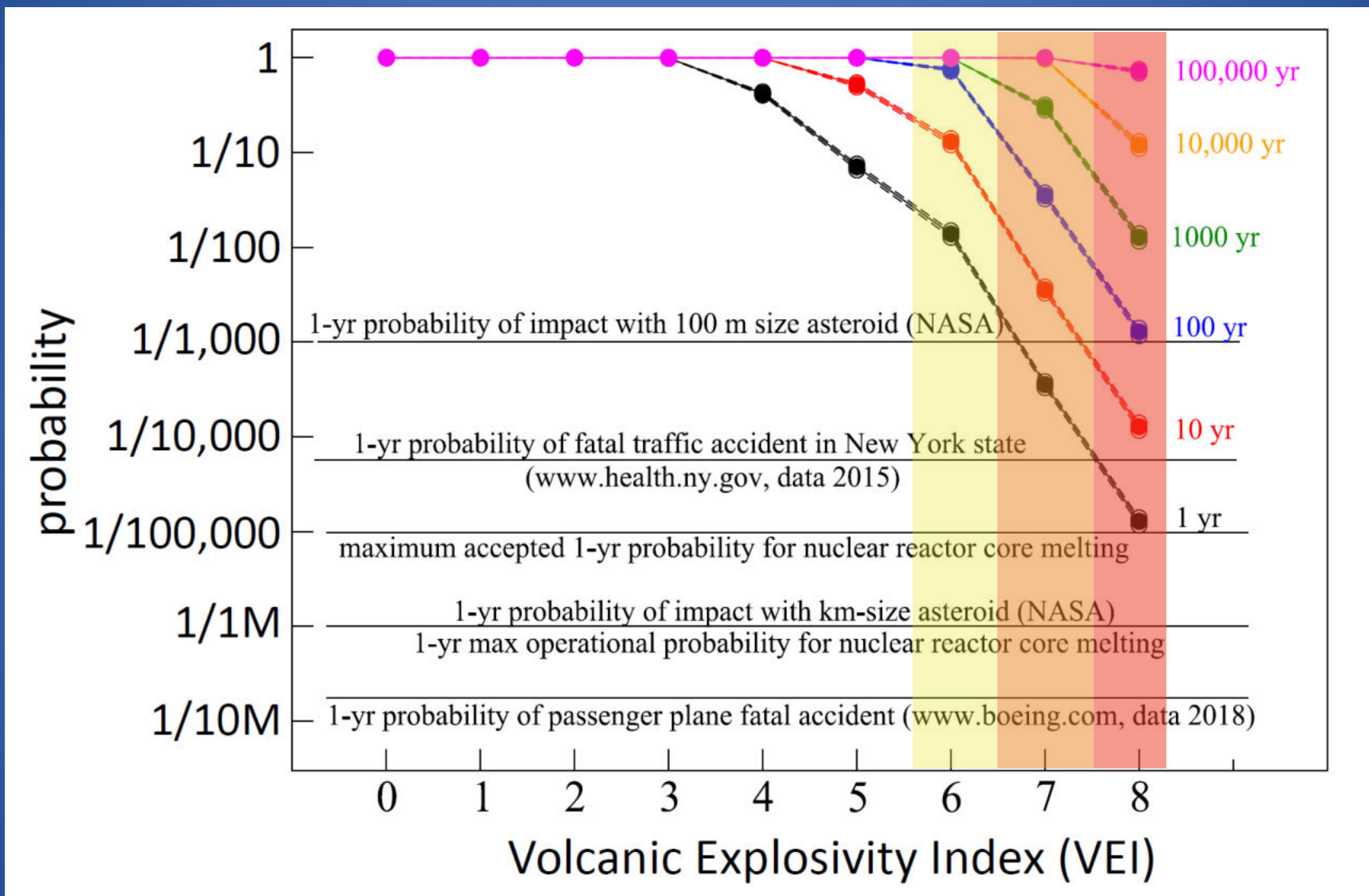
“Super-eruptions are different from other hazards such as earthquakes, tsunamis, storms or floods in that – like the impact of a large asteroid or comet – their environmental effects **threaten global civilisation.**”

“Our present civilisation depends on **global trade and food production**, with much reliance on air travel and space-born communications, all of which could be **at considerable risk** if a super-eruption occurred.”

“An area the size of North America or Europe could be devastated, and pronounced **deterioration of global climate** would be expected for a few years following the eruption. Such events could result in the ruin of world agriculture, severe disruption of food supplies, and mass starvation. The effects could be sufficiently severe to **threaten the fabric of civilisation.**”

“Sooner or later a super-eruption will happen on Earth and this is an issue that also demands serious attention. While it may in the future be possible to deflect asteroids or somehow avoid their impact, we know of **no strategies for reducing the power of major volcanic eruptions.**”

# Global volcanic hazard



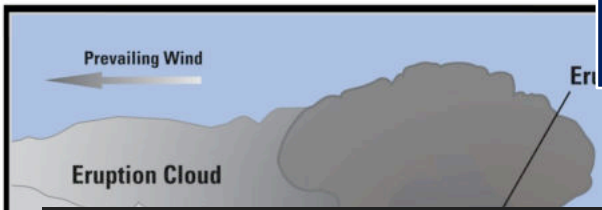
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We miss **direct observations** of most processes and dynamics constituting the object of our investigation

## KMT – Krafla Magma Testbed

[www.kmt.is](http://www.kmt.is)



A central collage of logos for the Krafla Magma Testbed (KMT) and its international partners. The KMT logo, featuring a stylized orange and red volcano, is prominently displayed in the center. Surrounding it are logos from various institutions, including:

- British Geological Survey (BGS)
- INGV
- University of Canterbury
- South Dakota School of Mines & Technology
- Lancaster University
- icdp
- University of Alaska Fairbanks
- ÍSOR
- USGS
- GFZ Helmholtz-Zentrum Potsdam
- Sandia National Laboratories
- LMU Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
- IGA International Geothermal Association
- University of Alberta
- NSF
- McGill University
- Natural Environment Research Council
- NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology
- University of Liverpool
- Landsvirkjun
- GZB Geothermiezentrum Bochum
- University of Oregon

At the bottom of the collage, the text reads: **EXPLORING THE ULTIMATE EARTH'S CRUST FRONTIER**

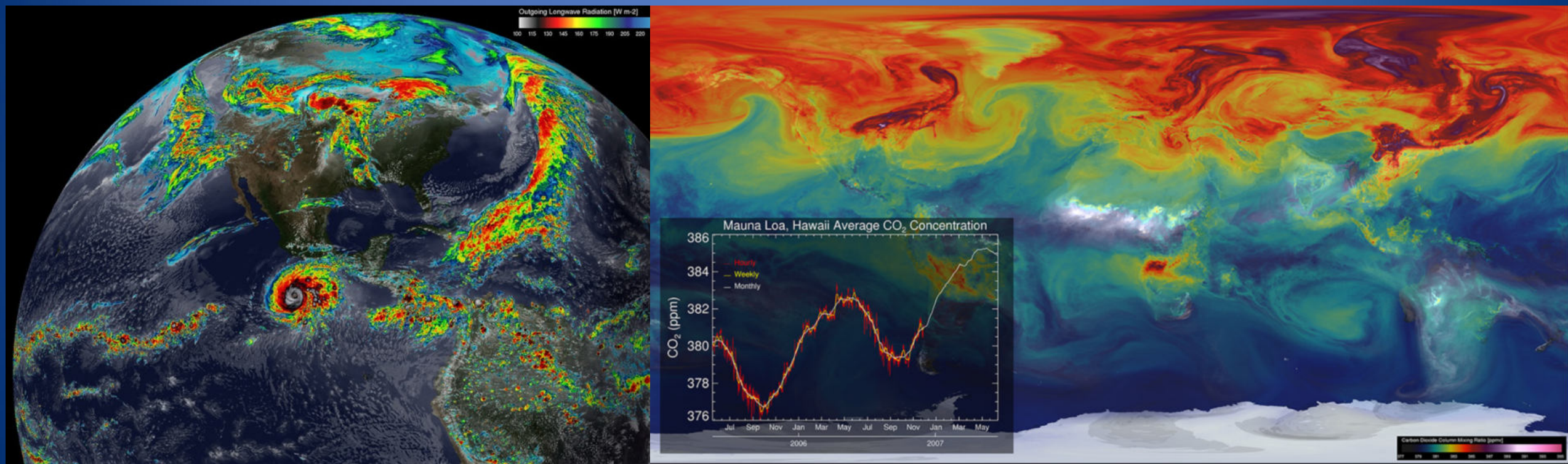
In the frame of an ICDP project, magma was serendipitously hit at 2.1 km depth while drilling at the Krafla caldera, Iceland

Krafla is now the place where better than anywhere else we know where the magma is located

KMT aims at being the unique **magma observatory** in the world: a series of wells open inside and around an active magma body, for **sampling and monitor magma in situ**, for conducting **real-scale experiments on magma dynamics and volcanic unrest** and for exploring the potential for **energy production directly from magma** or its immediate surroundings



We still do not have any **global volcano simulator**; by comparison, atmospheric scientists have developed many

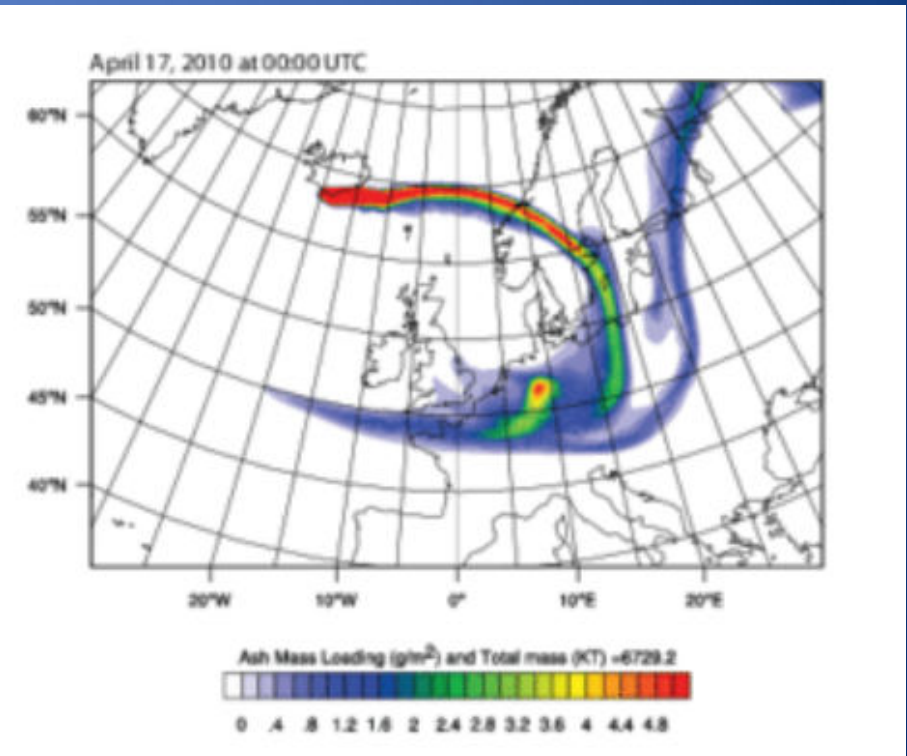
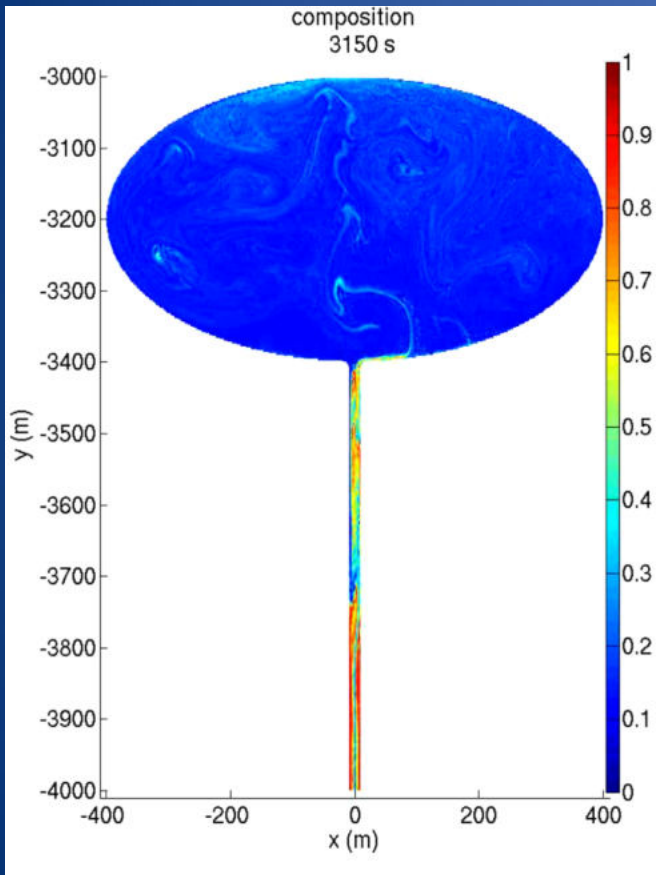


NASA Global Mesoscale Modeling with GEOS-5



The developments in the capability to simulate volcanic processes have been enormous

Still, we miss a  
Global Volcano  
Simulator

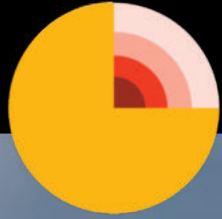


# Global Volcano Simulator

A **mathematical representation** of a generic volcanic system, and **computer code** to explore time-space system evolutions; including the plumbing system domain, rock and geothermal circulation domain, shallow conduit/fissure domain, and atmospheric and Earth surface domains

The GVS would allow relating the surface records to the deep magmatic processes, as well as simulating scenarios to **anticipate system evolution** and **estimate the associated uncertainty**

The GVS should be modular, and allow a **variety of stakeholders** to interrogate it (from scientists to decision-makers) and for a **variety of purposes** (pure science, hazard evaluations, ...). It should be therefore **highly performant** in terms of computational time and resources



ChEESE

Center of Excellence  
in Solid Earth

Address exascale  
computational challenges in  
the Solid Earth domain



- Volcanoes
- Tsunamis
- Earthquakes
- Anthropogenic geophysical hazards

## DESTINATION EARTH

### A DIGITAL REPLICA OF OUR PLANET

The objective of the Destination Earth initiative is to develop a **very high precision digital model of the Earth** to monitor and simulate natural and human activity, and to develop and test



Courtesy of ESA



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# DT-GEO

## A Digital Twin for GEOphysical Extremes

Merging research on geosciences and supercomputing to analyze and forecast tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

[Learn more](#)



# We miss global databases for most relevant volcano-related quantities

## Forecasting Volcanic Eruptions with Artificial Intelligence

A machine learning algorithm automatically detects telltale signs of volcanic unrest.

SOURCE: *Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth*



JULY 16, 2019

## Artificial intelligence to monitor

by GFZ GeoForschungsZentrum Potsdam, Helmholtz Centre



Satellite image of the erupting Etna taken from the ISS in 2002. Credit: NASA

Science News from research organizations

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## Deep learning artificial intelligence keeps an eye on volcano movements

Date: October 15, 2020

## How AI and satellites could help predict volcanic eruptions

Emerging monitoring methods will allow scientists to keep an eye on many more volcanoes.

Alexandra Witze



PDF version

RELATED ARTICLES

'Zombie volcano' still active in New Zealand

AI automatically caught the ground motion before the eruption of Wolf

BUSTAMANTE/MINDEN PICTURES

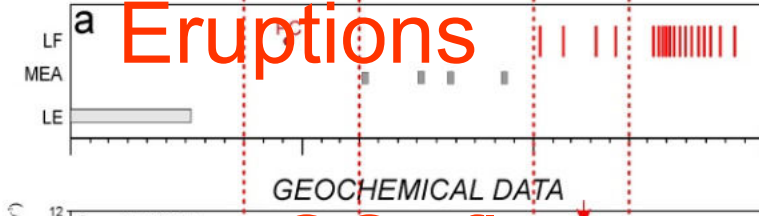
Volcanologists warn of next major eruption

## AI helps predict volcanic eruptions

World's deadliest volcano

Artificial intelligence helps predict volcanic eruptions

zed,



for most relevant volcano-related quantities



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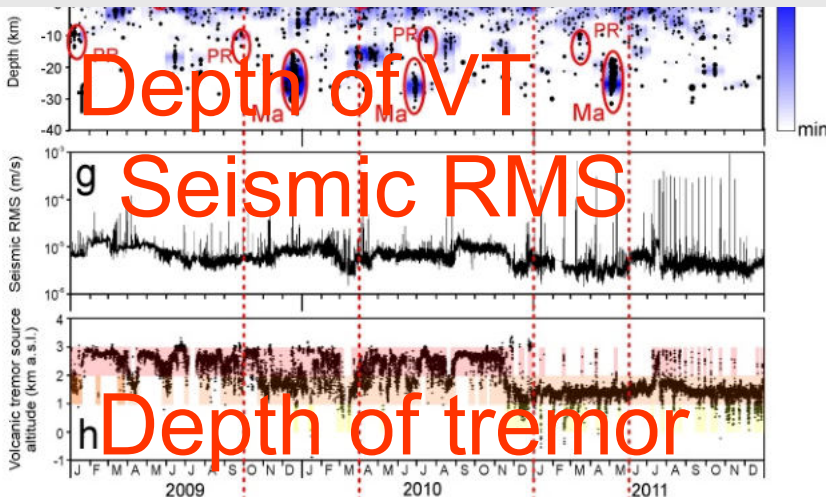
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Home > Vol 62, No 2 (2019) > Hajian

## Classification of Mt Etna (Italy) Volcanic Activity by Machine Learning Approaches

*Alireza Hajian, Flavio Cannavò, Filippo Greco, Giuseppe Nunnari*

Abstract



Most ground-based data are not!

# Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence



For ground data, mostly (but not exclusively, re: Etna) applied to individual datasets (e.g., to only seismic data)

Urgent need to develop global, standardized, freely available **databases of volcanic activities**

- Unrest
- Syn-eruptive
- Impacts
- ...
- GVP
- LaMEVE
- WOVO
- .....

# Volcanology in this and the next decade

# BIG

- BIG budgets
- BIG staff
- BIG machines
- BIG laboratories

strong (BIG) will of  
SHARING

- Large infrastructures (KMT)
- Global approaches:
  - Global Volcano Simulator
  - Global databases
  - ML & AI

Thank you



# Disciplines and approaches that characterized Volcanology in the past decades



Seventies:

stratigraphy, petrology



Eighties, Nineties:

experiments, numerical modeling,  
geophysical surveys



2000-2020:

instrumentation, monitoring, signals