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## Monitoring and forecasting hazards from a slow growing lava dome using aerial imagery, tri-stereo Pleiades-1A/B imagery and PDC numerical simulation

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1 **Monitoring and forecasting hazards from a slow growing**  
2 **lava dome using aerial imagery, tri-stereo Pleiades-1A/B**  
3 **imagery and PDC numerical simulation.**

4  
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19  
20 **Keywords:** structure from motion; volcanic dome; photogrammetry; dome collapse; dome  
21 growth; pyroclastic flow

22

**23 ABSTRACT**

24 In December of 2017, a lava dome emerged at the Nevados de Chillan volcanic complex in  
25 the southern Andean volcanic zone, Chile, at the base of a summit crater excavated by  
26 explosions during two preceding years of unrest. This posed a number of potential hazards to  
27 the surrounding touristic region, so the eruption was carefully monitored. Structure from  
28 Motion techniques were used to generate DEMs from satellite and aerial images, from which  
29 several useful measurements could be made. Dome growth was characterised at an  
30 unprecedented resolution, allowing for the calculation of discharge rates and effusion rates in  
31 near real time. A simple model fit to the distance between the dome and crater rim predicted  
32 relatively accurately the arrival of the dome toe at the crater rim and the onset of dome  
33 collapse outside the crater. Simulations of the path and extent that potential pyroclastic  
34 density currents (PDC) generated by dome collapse would follow showed that PDC were not  
35 directly threatening populated areas. Over its life cycle as of August 2019, the dome growth  
36 was punctuated by frequent explosions, averaging around 30 per day, one of which generated  
37 a minor 600 m long PDC on 13 to 15 of July 2018. There appears to be a positive correlation  
38 between explosion frequency and lava dome growth rate suggesting that both explosive and  
39 effusive processes can coexist, operating at different timescales but responding to the same  
40 driving force. A positive correlation is apparent between dome growth rate and seismic  
41 activity such as the frequency of tremor and long-period earthquakes suggesting that these  
42 might be used as proxies to estimate effusion rate. Initial lava dome effusion rates of  $1730 \pm$   
43  $110 \text{ m}^3/\text{day}$  in January 2018 declined to  $100 \pm 150 \text{ m}^3/\text{day}$  in June 2019. These growth rates  
44 are extremely slow when compared to other lava domes, about 300 to 600 times slower than  
45 the lava domes at Mt Unzen (1992) and Mt. St. Helens (1980).

46 **Highlights:**

- 47 • Ultra-high-resolution DEM and time series of lava dome growth
- 48 • Real time forecasting of initiation of dome gravitational instability
- 49 • Simulations of PDC from dome collapse show no immediate threat to populated areas
- 50 • Simultaneity of explosive and effusive activities, positively correlated
- 51 • Strong positive correlation between effusion rate and seismic event frequencies

52

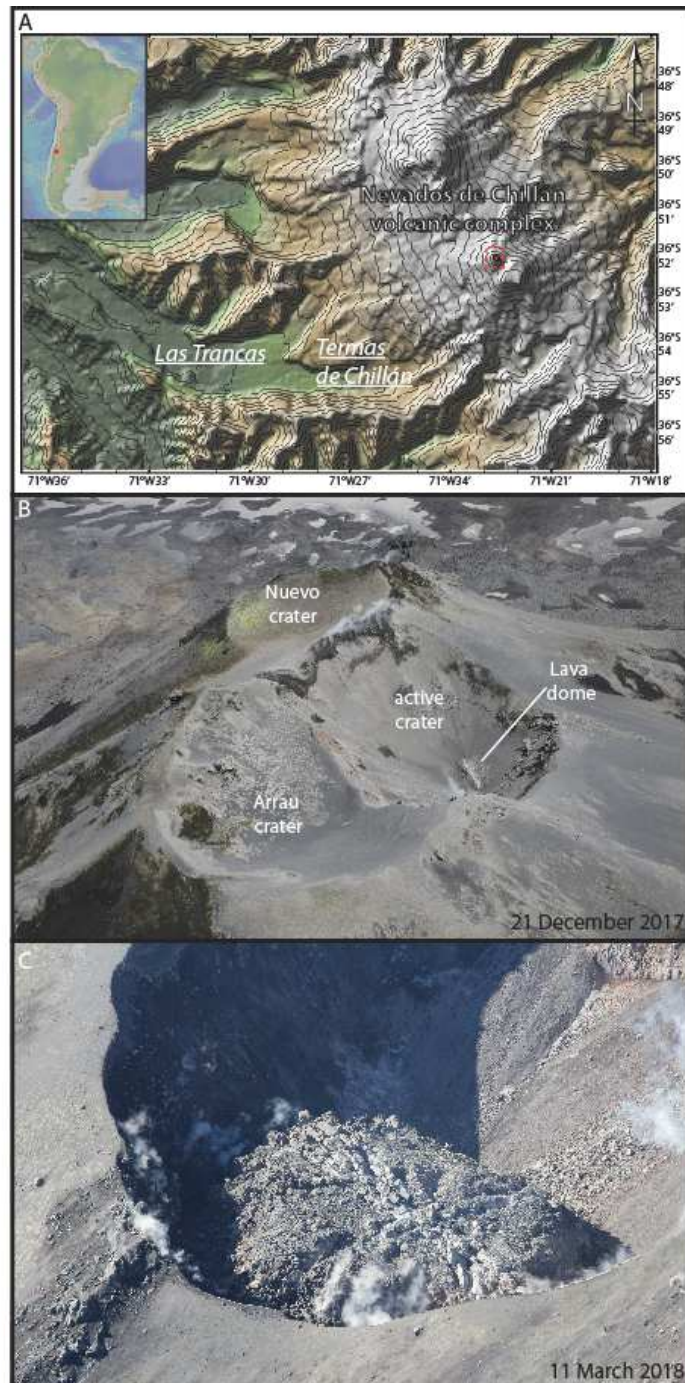
## 53 1. INTRODUCTION

54 Lava domes form by the slow effusion of typically felsic and viscous magma at the surface  
55 and are commonly associated with hazardous phenomena. The most common hazard is the  
56 formation of pyroclastic density currents generated by partial or complete collapse of the  
57 dome, also termed Merapi-type pyroclastic flows. Examples of these types of flow include the  
58 1991 eruption period at Unzen volcano (e.g., Sato et al., 1992), the 1994 eruption period at  
59 Merapi volcano (e.g., Abdurachman et al., 2000), the 1996-97 eruption period at Soufriere  
60 Hills volcano (e.g., Cole et al., 1998) and the 1998–99 eruption period at Colima volcano  
61 (e.g., Saucedo et al., 2002). Lava domes can also be associated with explosive eruptions and  
62 blast generating Peléan-type pyroclastic flows such as in the 1956 eruption at Bezymianny  
63 volcano (e.g., Gorshkov, 1959), the 1980 eruption at Mt St. Helens volcano (e.g., Lipman and  
64 Mullineaux, 1981), the 1991 eruption period at Unzen volcano (e.g., Sato et al., 1992), the  
65 1997 eruption at Soufriere Hills volcano (e.g., Woods et al., 2002) and the 2010 eruption at  
66 Merapi volcano (e.g., Komorowski et al., 2013). Monitoring the growth and behaviour of  
67 active lava domes is therefore of primal importance to forecast potential explosive events and  
68 mitigate their hazards.

69

70 In late December 2017 (exact date unknown), after two years of increased activity with  
71 frequent eruptions propelled by the emplacement of a small intrusion of magma at shallow  
72 level (Moussallam et al., 2018), lava reached the surface at the Nevados de Chillán volcanic  
73 complex forming a small lava dome (Fig. 1). Subsequent growth of the lava dome was  
74 monitored by bimonthly helicopter overflights operated by the Observatorio Volcanológico de  
75 Los Andes del Sur (OVDAS), part of the Servicio Nacional de Geología y Minería  
76 (SERNAGEOMIN). As helicopter flights became unavailable to continue the monitoring, we  
77 tasked the monthly acquisition of Pleiades-1 tri-stereo optical imagery. We used aerial

78 photographs taken during observation flights and tri-stereo optical imagery to construct ultra-  
79 high-resolution digital elevation models (DEM) of the summit area and precisely measure the  
80 dome growth rate and extruded volume over a period of nineteen months. During this period,  
81 we used these measurements to forecast the onset and location of rock fall events. Finally, we  
82 performed numerical modelling to predict the extent of PDC that would be generated by a  
83 potential dome collapse or large explosion in order to assess hazard to nearby population.



84

85 **Figure 1:** A: DEM of the Nevados de Chillán Volcanic Complex and surrounding valleys  
 86 (Global Multi-Resolution Topography grid version 3.8 source: GeoMapApp). The towns of  
 87 Las Trancas and Termas de Chillán (combined permanent populations of 1600 rising to  
 88 30,000 during the tourist season) are shown. Contour lines are drawn every 100 meters and  
 89 go from 3200 to 600 m. Red circle shows the location of the active crater, red dashed  
 90 rectangle shows the location of the view shown in (B). B: Aerial photograph taken on 21

91 *December 2017 looking W-NW. The emergence of an ellipsoid-shaped lava dome (35 m long*  
92 *by 22 m wide) with a central fissure can be seen in the centre of the newly formed crater (see*  
93 *Moussallam et al., 2018 for detailed eruption history and formation of the new crater). C:*  
94 *Aerial photograph taken on 11 March 2018 looking south and showing the now 119 m long*  
95 *by 79 m wide lava dome. The central crease structure can be observed with lava flowing away*  
96 *from both directions. Crater's dimensions are 205 by 155 m.*

## 97 **2. METHODS**

98 In this paper we (i) apply Structure from Motion (SfM) to make measurements of dome  
99 volume and geometry from stereo images, (ii) fit Bayesian models to these measurements  
100 using Hamiltonian Monte Carlo techniques to estimate effusion rates and predict the start of  
101 dome collapse, and (iii) use 2 layer numerical modelling of pyroclastic flows to predict the  
102 potential extent of dome collapse. We discuss each of these three techniques in the following  
103 sections.

104

### 105 **2.1 Digital Elevation Model generation**

#### 106 *Aerial photogrammetry*

107 Helicopter flights were performed on 21 December 2017, 09 January 2018, 12 January 2018,  
108 16 January 2018, 23 January 2018, 07 February 2018, 22 February 2018, 11 March 2018, 4<sup>th</sup>  
109 April 2018, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018, 16 July 2018 and 9<sup>th</sup> August 2019. Flight height was typically  
110 around 3400 to 3700 m altitude and circular flight paths were performed around the summit  
111 area in order for aerial photograph to capture the lava dome from all angles (Fig. S1).  
112 Cameras were operated manually. Cameras used to take the photograph were equipped with  
113 GNSS (GPS of accuracy strictly better than 10m) to provide an approximate position of the  
114 camera. 3D models were constructed after each helicopter overflight using the Agisoft  
115 Metashape (Agisoft LLC., St. Petersburg, Russia) modelling software (Fig. S1). The Structure



116 from Motion (SfM) software identifies and matches scale invariant features in each images,  
117 performs bundle adjustments to refine the camera positions and construct a georeferenced  
118 dense point cloud. The georeferenced dense point cloud is then (1) processed with soft-copy  
119 triangulation to reconstruct the scene geometry and create a solid 3D mesh (e.g., Burns et al.,  
120 2015) and (2) used to construct a DEM. On several occasions however, the internal camera  
121 GPS did not work and georeferencing was achieved using easily identifiable features in  
122 previously reconstructed DEM as Ground Control Points (GCPs). Pixel resolution on the  
123 DEMs varied from 10 cm to 1 m (see supplementary table S1 for details).

124

#### 125 *Tri-stereo satellite optical imagery processing*

126 The PLEIADES constellation consists of two satellites in Low Earth Orbit imaging the Earth  
127 at 0.7 m resolution across a 20 km wide swath in the panchromatic band. The satellites are  
128 particularly agile, allowing them to acquire multiple images of a target from different angles  
129 during a single overpass (Gleyzes et al., 2012). This stereoscopic facility has been extensively  
130 used to measure volcanic deposit volumes (e.g. Bagnardi et al., 2016; Di Traglia et al., 2018;  
131 Carrara et al., 2019; Ganci et al., 2019a, 2019b). Pleiades images were acquired in tristero  
132 mode (three views from one overpass) at roughly monthly intervals from October 2018 to  
133 June 2019. Images acquired in February and April 2019 had views of the dome obscured by  
134 degassing activity and could not be used to generate DEMs.

135

136 We used the MicMac Structure from Motion software suite (Rupnik et al., 2017) to create the  
137 DEMs, following the Pleiades examples in Pierrot-Deseilligny et al., (2014), which we  
138 summarise briefly here. First the Rational Polynomial Coefficients (RPCs) which are supplied  
139 by the data provider and define the polynomial functions that map 3D geographic space to 2D  
140 image space were converted to MicMac format using Convert2GenBundle. Then matching

141 points are automatically found across all possible pairs of images. This is accomplished using  
142 the Tapioca tool in ‘All’ mode, which uses the Sift+ (Scale Invariant Feature Transform)  
143 algorithm (Lowe, 2004) to find tie points. For this step the images were scaled to a width of  
144 10000 (a scaling factor of ~0.5) to save memory. These tie points overdetermine the location  
145 and orientation of the imaging systems and so can be used to improve the estimated RPCs  
146 using a least squares Levenberg-Marquardt minimization, implemented in the Campari module,  
147 improving their accuracy – this is also known as Bundle Block Adjustment. Finally, the DEM  
148 is generated from the images using the adjusted RPCs with Ann matching by the Malt tool  
149 using the dense matching module UrbanNME.

150

151 Vertical precision for both Aerial and Pleiades DEMs were estimated by randomly sampling  
152 one hundred points over a stable area (Nuevo crater) and interpolating values at these points  
153 for all DEMs, the median height for each sampling point was calculated and subtracted from  
154 each height to give a collection of deviations from the median for each point (Fig. S2). The  
155 median of all the aerial and Pleiades absolute deviations were then taken, to give the Median  
156 Absolute Deviation, or MAD statistic, which came to 1.00 m for Pleiades and 0.476 m for  
157 aerial DEMs.

158

## 159 **2.2 DEM alignment**

160 The aerial and Pleiades DEMs were found to be misaligned with standard topographic models  
161 such as Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM, Farr et al., 2007), as well as misaligned  
162 with each other. We aligned our DEMs using the pc\_align tool of the NASA Ames Stereo  
163 Pipeline software suite (Shean et al., 2016), using the Similarity-Point-to-Point Iterative  
164 Closest Point (ICP) alignment method. This solves for rotation, translation and scaling to  
165 align one DEM with another. The area to be used for alignment was selected by masking out

166 areas where the DEMs showed evidence of change, was noisy, interpolated or otherwise  
167 noticeably inaccurate (Fig. S3). For the dome, we then aligned the 21st December 2017 DEM  
168 with SRTM, and aligned all subsequent DEMs with the aligned 21st December DEM. This  
169 ensured all our DEMs were aligned with each other as well as being at roughly the right  
170 geographic location and scale. In early 2019 it became apparent that a gulley was developing  
171 below the dome with a depositional fan at the distal end, which could potentially account for  
172 some of the erupted volume. We found that DEMs aligned using the area around the dome  
173 were poorly aligned around the gulley and fan, and vice versa, so the DEMs were aligned  
174 again using an area surrounding the gulley and fan (Fig. S3). Only data from 16th January  
175 2019 onwards reliably and systematically covered the whole feature, so the 16th January 2019  
176 DEM was chosen as our reference and all subsequent DEMs were aligned with that.

177

### 178 **2.3 DEM differencing**

179 For the dome, we took the 21st Dec 2017 DEM as our reference surface, above which all  
180 volumes are measured. This DEM was then resampled to and subtracted from every other  
181 aligned DEM, using the ASP geodiff tool to give a time series of differential DEMs (dDEM)s  
182 each with the resolution of the newer DEM. These are effectively thickness maps of the dome  
183 at given dates relative to our 21st Dec 2017 reference surface. For the gulley and fan, we took  
184 the 16th January 2019 DEM as our reference surface and differenced all successive DEMs  
185 with it. Histograms of the dDEM)s over stable regions are shown in Fig S4 giving the Median  
186 Absolute Deviation (MAD) and standard deviation for each dDEM.

187

### 188 **2.4 Volume calculations**

189 Dome volumes were calculated by digitising each dome and integrating the dDEM)s over  
190 these shapes. We estimated uncertainties in these volumes by moving the plan shapes of each

191 dome to a neighbouring crater that is well resolved in all the DEMs (Arrau crater, in Figure  
192 1b), but doesn't show any appreciable topographic change, and measuring the volume for all  
193 dDEMs. This gives a number of estimates of a 'dome' of zero volume for each dome shape,  
194 from which we took the standard deviation as the error. For the gulley and fan a similar  
195 procedure was performed where we moved the shape delineating the feature to nearby regions  
196 where no significant volume change is expected. We measured the net volume of the gulley  
197 and fan to try to estimate the volume of fresh volcanic material present. The hope being that  
198 the negative contribution of material removed from the gulley is compensated by the net  
199 positive contribution of deposition in the fan. In reality, remobilised material is unlikely to  
200 pack back down to the same volume, so it is likely that the values would be an overestimate –  
201 we discuss this further in the results section.

202

### 203 **2.5 Time Averaged Discharge Rates**

204 Time Averaged Discharge Rates (TADRs) (defined after Harris et al., 2007) were calculated  
205 by differencing successive volumes and dividing by the time interval between them.  
206 Uncertainties in TADR were found by simple propagation of errors.

207

### 208 **2.6 Effusion rates**

209 Effusion rates (or the instantaneous discharge rate) were calculated by fitting a model to the  
210 time series of volumes and finding its derivative. In the absence of an obvious physical model  
211 to fit to the data we chose a Gaussian Process (or GP), which can be considered a distribution  
212 over functions (Görtler et al., 2019); an infinite dimensional multivariate normal distribution  
213 where each dimension maps to a point in the domain on which we wish to define a function.  
214 We adopt a Bayesian approach to fitting the GP, where we seek to calculate the posterior  
215 distribution,  $p(\theta \vee d)$ , over the parameters  $\theta$  of our model in light of our data,  $d$ :

216

217

$$p(\theta|d) = \frac{p(d \vee \theta)p(\theta)}{p(d)}$$

218

219 Where  $p(d \vee \theta)$  is the likelihood,  $p(\theta)$  is the prior distribution over the parameter space and220  $p(d)$  is effectively a normalising constant that can be ignored. The GP is defined by the

221 kernel function that is used to calculate the covariance matrix of any multinormally

222 distributed subset of variables in the GP, and here we choose the simple squared exponential

223 kernel function:

224

$$K_{ij} = \alpha^2 \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\rho^2}(t_i - t_j)^2\right)$$

225

226 Where  $K_{ij}$  is the  $ij^{th}$  element of the covariance matrix  $K$  that specifies the covariance227 between points  $t_i$  and  $t_j$ , and  $\alpha$  and  $\rho$  are ‘hyperparameters’ that specify the variability and

228 length scale of the functions drawn from the GP. Gaussian processes have the property that

229 their derivatives are also GPs and so can be included in the covariance matrix (e.g., Riihimäki

230 and Vehtari, 2010) provided the kernel function is modified appropriately for the  $ij$  elements

231 where one or both points are gradients:

232

$$K'_{ij} = \alpha^2 \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\rho^2}(t_i - t_j)^2\right) \left(\frac{-1}{\rho^2}(t_i - t_j)\right)$$

233

$$K''_{ij} = \alpha^2 \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\rho^2}(t_i - t_j)^2\right) \frac{1}{\rho^2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\rho^2}(t_i - t_j)^2\right)$$

234

235 Where  $K'_{ij}$  is the  $ij^{th}$  element of the covariance matrix where the  $i^{th}$  element is a gradient and236  $K''_{ij}$  is that where both the  $i^{th}$  and  $j^{th}$  elements are gradients. We thus have a model parameter237 space with dimensions of  $\theta$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $\rho$ ,  $V$ ,  $V'$ . We use a non centred model (Betancourt and

238 Girolami, 2013; Papaspiliopoulos et al., 2007) as this is computationally easier and can avoid  
 239 some problems during Monte Carlo sampling. Briefly, in a non-centered GP model we place  
 240 an independent and unit-normally distributed prior on our volumes  $V_i$  and gradients  $V_i'$  at our  
 241 points  $t_i$  and transform them using the Cholesky factor of the covariance matrix. The model  
 242 was fit to standardised data, and the following priors were selected:

243

$$244 \quad p(\alpha) \text{ normal}(0,1)$$

$$245 \quad p(\rho) \text{ inv}_{\text{gamma}}(5,5)$$

$$246 \quad \eta \text{ normal}(0,1)$$

$$247 \quad K = k(\alpha, \rho)$$

$$248 \quad L = \text{Cholesky}(K)$$

$$249 \quad \begin{pmatrix} V \\ V' \end{pmatrix} = L \cdot \eta$$

250 For the likelihood, we assume our measured volumes are distributed about those predicted by  
 251 the GP by their observed uncertainties as calculated above in section 2.4:

252

$$253 \quad V_{i,obs} \text{ normal}(V_i, \sigma_{i,obs})$$

254

255 This model was implemented in the Stan probabilistic programming language (Carpenter et  
 256 al., 2017), which uses Hamiltonian Monte Carlo to draw samples. These samples were then  
 257 used to calculate expectations over the posterior distribution (or PD) such as the mean and  
 258 standard deviation at our points of interest  $t_i, t_j$ . Additionally, for every sample  $V_i$  we generate  
 259 an additional sample  $V_i + \text{normal}(0, \sigma_i)$  which gives us a draw from the Posterior Predictive  
 260 Distribution (PPD). One can think of the PD as giving the best estimate of the volumes and  
 261 effusion rates in light of our priors and data, while PDD gives the measurements we might  
 262 expect to make given the above, and, additionally, the measurement error.

263

264 **2.6 Predicting the onset of dome collapse**

265 During the first months of extrusive activity, the lava dome was filling and remained  
 266 contained in a crater formed by the last two years of explosive activity (Moussallam et al.,  
 267 2018). As long as the dome was contained within this crater there were no external reason for  
 268 it to become unstable and collapse (i.e. the dome might still become unstable due to internal  
 269 overpressure but not due to gravity). In April 2018, DEMs produced by aerial  
 270 photogrammetry and resulting growth rates were used to forecast future dome growth and the  
 271 time at which the dome was expected to reach the crater rim, hence becoming partially  
 272 unstable and starting to generate rock falls (Fig. 5). To predict the time at which this was to  
 273 happen, we developed a simple conceptual model of the dome growth in a geometry  
 274 constrained by an inverted conical-shaped crater of height  $H$ , radius  $R$ , volume  $V$  and half  
 275 angle  $\theta$  (Fig. 5 C). Within the crater, the level of the foot of the dome forms a horizontal  
 276 surface at height  $h$ , of radius  $r$ , that forms the top of a smaller inverted cone of volume  $v$ . The  
 277 horizontal distance  $d$  between the dome edge and crater rim can be expressed as a function of  
 278 effusion rate  $E$  and time  $t$  as:

$$279 \quad d = R - \sqrt[3]{\frac{3E \tan(\theta) t}{\pi}}$$

280 Using this relationship, we then fitted the data presented in Fig. 5A using a function of the  
 281 form:

$$282 \quad d = A - \sqrt[3]{B(t - t_0)}$$

283

284 As before the model was fitted using Stan, as above, although in this instance flat priors were  
 285 used.

286 **2.7 Computer simulation of dome-collapse and explosion induced PDC**

287 During the extrusive activity, a possible scenario was that as the lava dome growth continued,  
288 larger portions of the dome might eventually become gravitationally unstable and partial or  
289 complete dome collapse might occur, associated with pyroclastic density currents (PDC). In  
290 order to determine the spatial area likely to be affected by potential PDC we used the two-  
291 fluids version of the VolcFlow numerical model (Kelfoun, 2017; Kelfoun et al., 2017) that  
292 simulates concentrated part of PDC (i.e. the block-and-ash flow), the dilute part (ash-cloud  
293 surge) and their interaction. Surge can be formed from the concentrated part and, inversely,  
294 can form concentrated parts by sedimentation. For details on the method and on equation  
295 used, the reader is referred to Kelfoun (2017).

296

297 We simulated two scenarios; a dome collapse and an explosion. For both scenarios, the total  
298 volume of rocks forming the concentrated flow was of  $6.4 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$  which is the size of the  
299 Merapi 2010 Eruption. This size was used as to represent a hypothetical worst-case scenario  
300 and is not related to the current dome volume which is an order of magnitude smaller.  
301 Although we stress that larger eruptions are of course possible. Concentrated pyroclastic  
302 currents were simulated starting from a circular zone of 50 m in radius for the dome collapse  
303 scenario, and a zone of 500 m radius for the explosion scenario. These starting locations were  
304 used to simulate eruption initiated by dome collapse, hence starting at the current dome  
305 location in the first case and eruption from explosion that could happen anywhere within the  
306 general summit location in the second case. At the source area, the initial velocity is zero. The  
307 concentrated mass then accelerates along the topography forming a surge. Since model results  
308 are strongly dependent on the mass rate at the source, two initial durations of genesis were  
309 used for each scenario: 60 and 600 seconds. Short durations (i.e., high mass rates) simulations  
310 form widespread concentrated flows and powerful surges. Long durations (i.e., low mass  
311 rates) simulations form very small surges and flows, channelized in a few drainages valleys



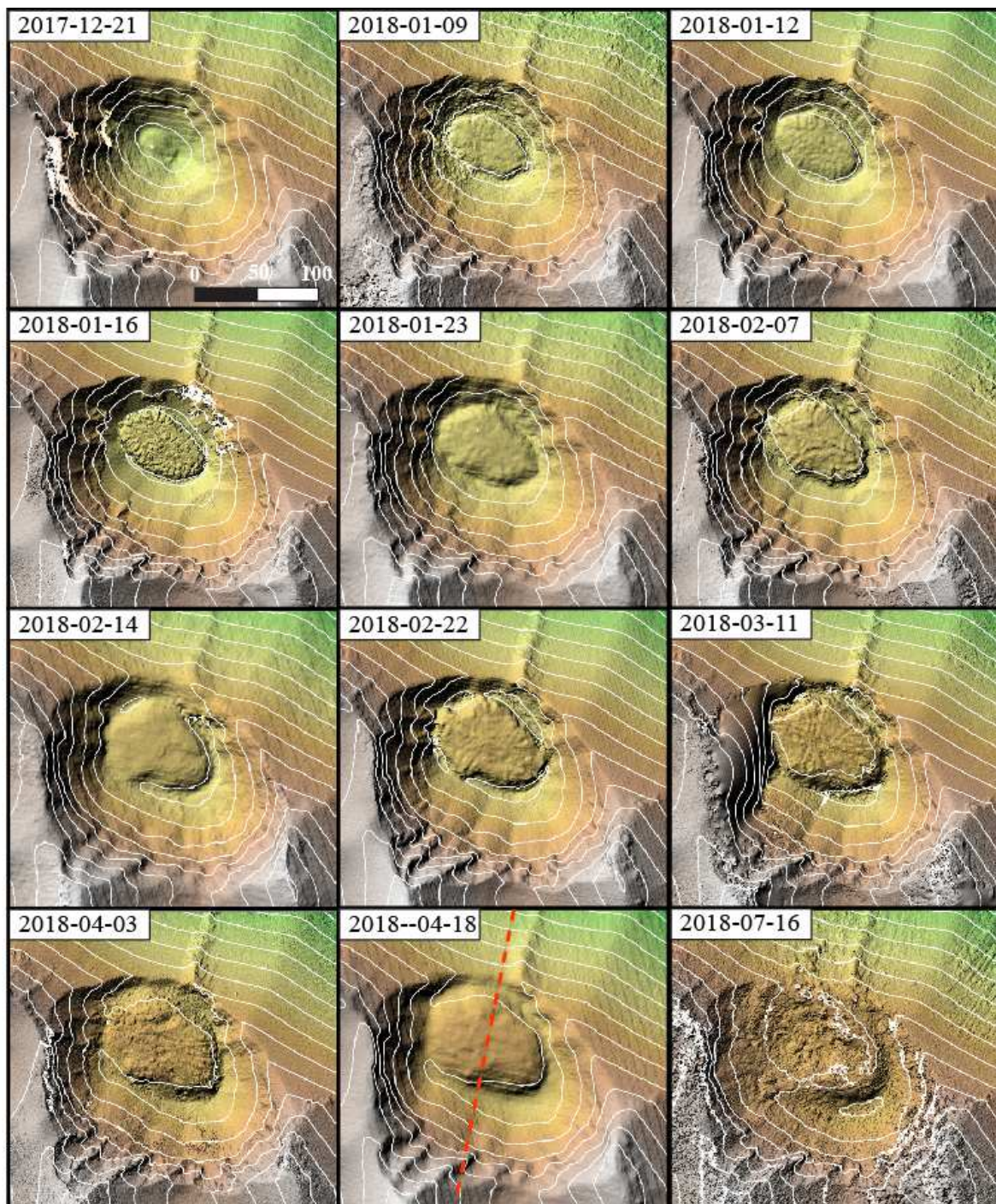
312 and reaching long distances. Fourteen parameters must be defined to run the two-fluids  
313 simulation. Some parameters are known (e.g. gravity or topography) or can be estimated from  
314 field observations, at least within a given range (e.g. density of the PDCs or volume of the  
315 dome that collapse). Five parameters are unknown: three rheological parameters that rule the  
316 PDCs dynamics, the exchange coefficient from the concentrated to the dilute PDC, and the  
317 density of the mixture formed by the fine particles of the concentrated PDC with volcanic or  
318 atmospheric gases. These parameters have been estimated by reproducing real emplacements  
319 of the 2010 PDCs at Merapi volcano and the 1997 PDCs at Montserrat, and are similar for  
320 both fields cases (Kelfoun et al., 2017; Gueugneau et al., 2019). For the present study, we  
321 have chosen to use the parameters of the 2010 eruptions of Merapi volcano.

322

### 323 **3. RESULTS**

324 The time series of aerial and Pleiades DEMs show the growth of the dome from a small  
325 mound at the base of the summit crater in December 2017 to overflowing sometime between  
326 April and July 2018 (Fig. 2). Cross sections across the DEMs show the dome maintained a  
327 relatively flat surface, consistent with an extruding fluid with a finite yield strength (Fig. 5B),  
328 until explosions from January 2019 onwards began to excavate a crater on the top of the  
329 dome. Once the dome reached the rim of its host crater, a combination of rock falls and  
330 pyroclastic flows appears to have cut a gulley into the volcano's northern flank, which is  
331 terminated by a depositional fan. These features are visible as negative and positive height  
332 changes in the dDEMs in Fig. 3., respectively. Cross sections of the gulley and fan in the  
333 DEMs reveal the progressive incision of the former and growth of the latter from March to  
334 June 2019. However, it should be noted that snow is present on the lower flanks of the  
335 volcano, so changes in elevation may also partially be a function of changes in snow  
336 thickness.

337



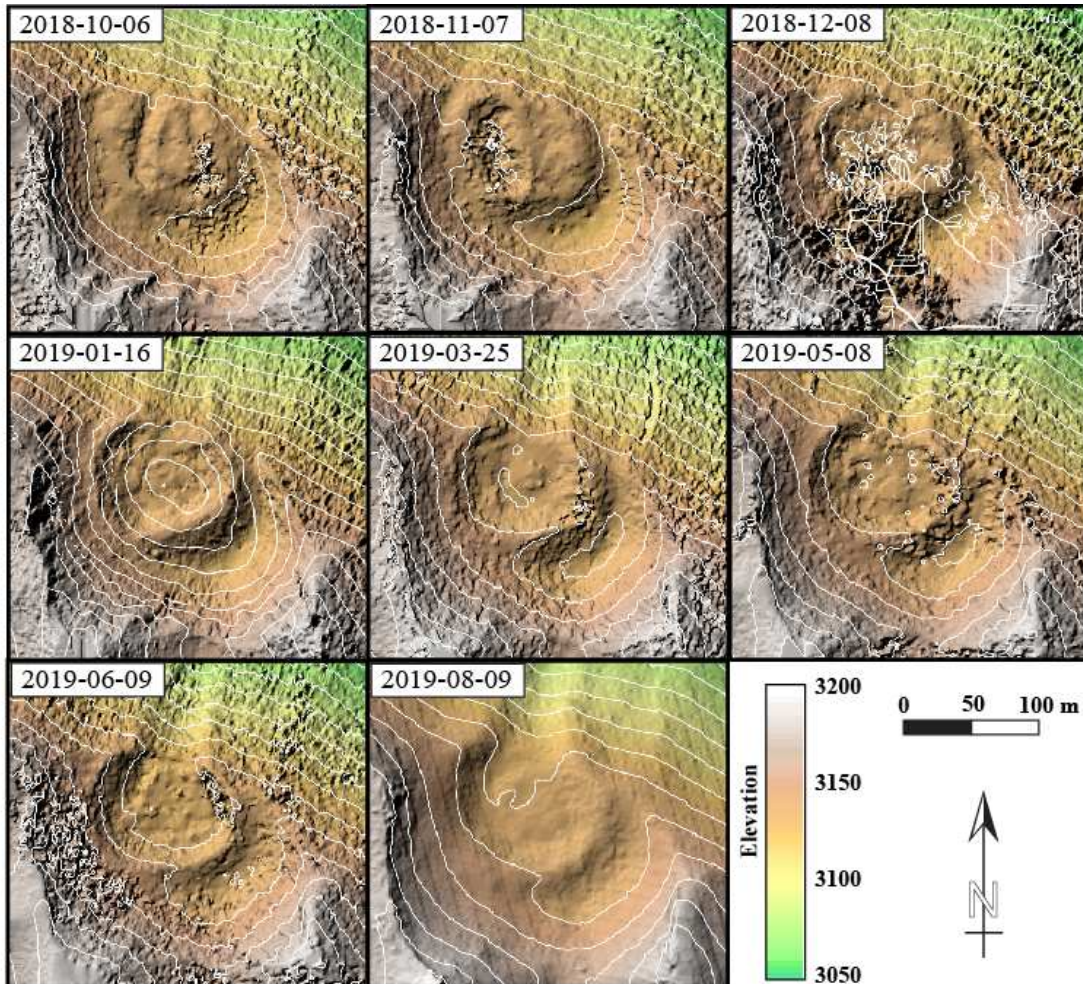
338

339 **Figure 2** (panel 1 of 2): DEMs of the summit area after helicopter observation flights and  
 340 Pleiades 1 tri-stereo imaging showing the growth of the lava dome in the active crater. Red  
 341 dash line shows the location of the profile in Fig. 5B. Reconstruction of the area on the west  
 342 side of the dome on 11 March 2018 is inaccurate due to obstruction by gases during  
 343 observation flight, so is the area from the center to the SE of the dome on 08 December 2018.

344 *Contour lines are drawn every ten meters. Contains information © CNES (2018-2019) and*

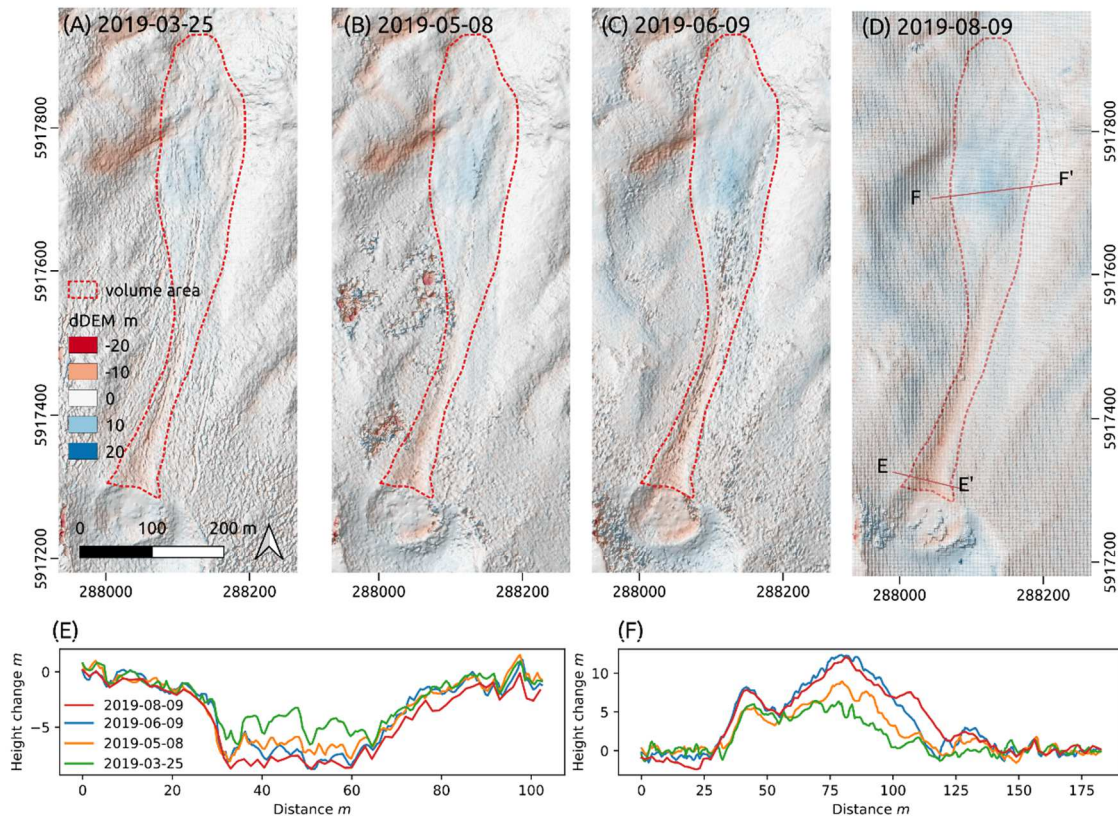
345 *Airbus DS (2018-2019), all rights reserved, commercial use prohibited.*

346



347

348 *Figure 2 cont (panel 2 of 2)*



349

350 **Figure 3:** Development of the gully and fan in 2019. (A)-(D) Hillshade of Pleiades DEMs  
 351 overlain on dDEM with datum taken as the 2019-01-16 dem for 2019-03-25, 2019-05-08,  
 352 2019-06-09 and 2019-08-09 respectively. Red colors indicate erosion, blue deposition.  
 353 Dashed red polygon shows integration area for volume calculations. Cross sections E-E'  
 354 across the gully just below the dome and F-F' across the depositional fan are shown in  
 355 figures (E) and (F). Note the continuous erosion of the gully in (E) and growth of the fan in  
 356 (F) across the period. Contains information © CNES (2018-2019) and Airbus DS (2018-  
 357 2019), all rights reserved, commercial use prohibited.

358 Dome volumes and their uncertainties are given in Table 1 and shown in Fig. 4. We were able  
359 to estimate dome volumes with uncertainties of approximately 4% and 3% for Aerial and  
360 Pleiades DEMs, respectively. The dome grew steadily, reaching a maximum of  $3.97\text{e}5\text{m}^3$  in  
361 August of 2019. A small decrease between May and June 2019 is presumably due to  
362 increasing collapses and explosions. These volumes gave Time Averaged Discharge Rates  
363 (TADR) values that fluctuate quite substantially, varying between  $1.17\text{e}3$  and  $2.39\text{e}3\text{ m}^3\text{day}^{-1}$   
364 in the first 3 months, before declining over the rest of the observation period. Uncertainties in  
365 TADR averaged 33% for Aerial dDEM and 121% for Pleiades dDEM, although the high  
366 latter value is largely a function of low effusion rates during the Pleiades acquisition period.  
367 By fitting the GP model we were able to estimate the instantaneous effusion rate, which was  
368 found to be  $1.73\text{e}3\text{ m}^3\text{ day}^{-1}$  on the 9<sup>th</sup> January of 2018 before declining to around  $\sim 1\text{e}3\text{ m}^3$   
369  $\text{day}^{-1}$  and remaining roughly constant from early May to July 2018 before declining again  
370 more rapidly in mid-2019. Effusion rate estimates using the GP model had uncertainties of  
371 between 3% and 422%.

372

373 Seismic activity also shows a remarkably similar pattern to the dome effusion rate during the  
374 observation period (Fig. 4D). The total number of seismic event decreases sharply during the  
375 first three to four months before reaching a plateau with fairly constant activity from April  
376 2018 to January 2019, followed by another period of decreasing activity from January 2019 to  
377 June 2019 and increasing again in July to August 2019. The number of explosions at the  
378 crater per day (Fig. 4C) also follows the same temporal evolution, averaging 60 to 40  
379 explosions per day in the first three months before stabilising around 35 explosions per day  
380 from April 2018 to April 2019, dropping below 20 eruptions per day in June 2019 before  
381 increasing sharply in July-August 2019. A direct comparison between our modelled mean  
382 monthly effusion rate and measured mean monthly numbers of seismic events is shown in

383 Fig. 5. The positive correlation between the modelled effusion rate and the frequency of long-  
384 period earthquakes, explosions and tremors is apparent (with  $R^2$  of 0.9, 0.7 and 0.5 and P-  
385 values of  $10^{-10}$ ,  $10^{-6}$  and  $10^{-4}$  respectively). Looking in more details at Fig. 5, three different  
386 regimes seem to emerge. The first is for effusion rates below  $\sim 100$  m<sup>3</sup>/day, the number of  
387 seismic events (long-period earthquakes, explosions, and tremors) is high in comparison with  
388 the effusion rate and increases quickly with increasing effusion rate. The second regime, for  
389 effusion rates between  $\sim 100$  and  $\sim 900$  m<sup>3</sup>/day shows no correlation between effusion rate and  
390 seismic activity with the number of long-period earthquakes, explosions and tremors  
391 remaining fairly constant over this large range of effusion rates. The third regime, for effusion  
392 rates between  $\sim 900$  and  $\sim 1700$  m<sup>3</sup>/day shows again a strong positive correlation between  
393 effusion rates and numbers of explosions, tremors, and long-period earthquakes but with an  
394 increase in seismic event with increasing effusion rate that is slower from the correlation  
395 observed in the first regime.

396

397 The net volume of the gully and fan (volume accumulated in the fan minus volume eroded in  
398 the gully) grew to  $5.24 \times 10^4$  m<sup>3</sup> from January to June 2019, and then fell slightly to  $4.0 \times 10^4$  m<sup>3</sup> by  
399 August, although errors are high and this may simply indicate that rockfalls had ceased. As  
400 the integration area was constant, the error in the volume was also constant at  $1.20 \times 10^4$  m<sup>3</sup>,  
401 however the estimate of the uncertainty is only based on the standard deviation of four 'zero  
402 volume' gully and fan dDEMs, so is itself likely quite uncertain. We measured the net  
403 volume of the gully and fan in the hope that the erosion and deposition of older material  
404 cancels out leaving the net contribution of fresh volcanic material, however it seems likely  
405 that redeposited older material will not compact back down, and so there will be a net positive  
406 volume even before new volcanic material comes into consideration. The uncertain  
407 contribution of snow to these volumes also makes them suspect. However we include them to

408 show that, in principle, the gulley and fan have a net positive volume that could account for a  
409 substantial part of the apparent decline in dome growth in June 2019 - i.e., rather than  
410 continuing to contribute to dome growth, it is at plausible that extrusion of further material  
411 triggered collapse and diverted material out of the crater instead during this period.

412 **Table 1:** Volume, Time Averaged Discharge Rates and Effusion Rates for the dome and gulley DEM timeseries. The uncertainties for a given  
 413 value are given to the last two significant figures using concise notation (i.e.  $5.04(13)e+04 = 5.04e4 \pm 0.13e4$ ). TADR values are given for the  
 414 date at the end of the interval they are measured over. Effusion rates are instantaneous discharge rates predicted by the GP model for the  
 415 specified date. The DEMs used as datums for estimating volumes of the dome and gulley are tinted red and green respectively.  
 416

Date	Type	Volume $m^3$	TADR $m^3day^{-1}$	Effusion Rate $m^3day^{-1}$	Gulley volume $m^3$	Gulley TADR $m^3day^{-1}$
2017-12-21	Aerial	0.0(1.0)e+03	-	-	-	-
2018-01-09	Aerial	2.49(17)e+04	1.31(10)e+03	1.73(11)e+03	-	-
2018-01-12	Aerial	2.98(18)e+04	1.61(82)e+03	1.72(10)e+03	-	-
2018-01-16	Aerial	3.57(19)e+04	1.48(64)e+03	1.694(88)e+03	-	-
2018-01-23	Aerial	5.04(23)e+04	2.11(43)e+03	1.652(71)e+03	-	-
2018-02-07	Aerial	6.86(27)e+04	1.21(24)e+03	1.552(44)e+03	-	-



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2018-02-14	Aerial	8.53(29)e+04	2.39(57)e+03	1.502(38)e+03	-	-
2018-02-22	Aerial	9.79(31)e+04	1.58(54)e+03	1.444(37)e+03	-	-
2018-03-11	Aerial	1.179(34)e+05	1.17(27)e+03	1.319(49)e+03	-	-
2018-04-03	Aerial	1.443(39)e+05	1.15(22)e+03	1.164(71)e+03	-	-
2018-04-18	Aerial	1.540(40)e+05	6.5(3.7)e+02	1.079(77)e+03	-	-
2018-07-16	Aerial	2.419(62)e+05	9.88(83)e+02	8.52(76)e+02	-	-
2018-10-06	Pleiades	3.12(10)e+05	8.6(1.5)e+02	7.14(89)e+02	-	-
2018-11-07	Pleiades	3.240(79)e+05	3.6(4.0)e+02	6.15(97)e+02	-	-
2018-12-08	Pleiades	3.415(92)e+05	5.6(3.9)e+02	5.0(1.0)e+02	-	-
2019-01-16	Pleiades	3.62(14)e+05	5.2(4.3)e+02	3.6(1.0)e+02	0.00(0)e+00	-
2019-03-25	Pleiades	3.77(14)e+05	2.2(2.9)e+02	1.6(1.1)e+02	0.2(1.2)e+04	0.3(1.8)e+02

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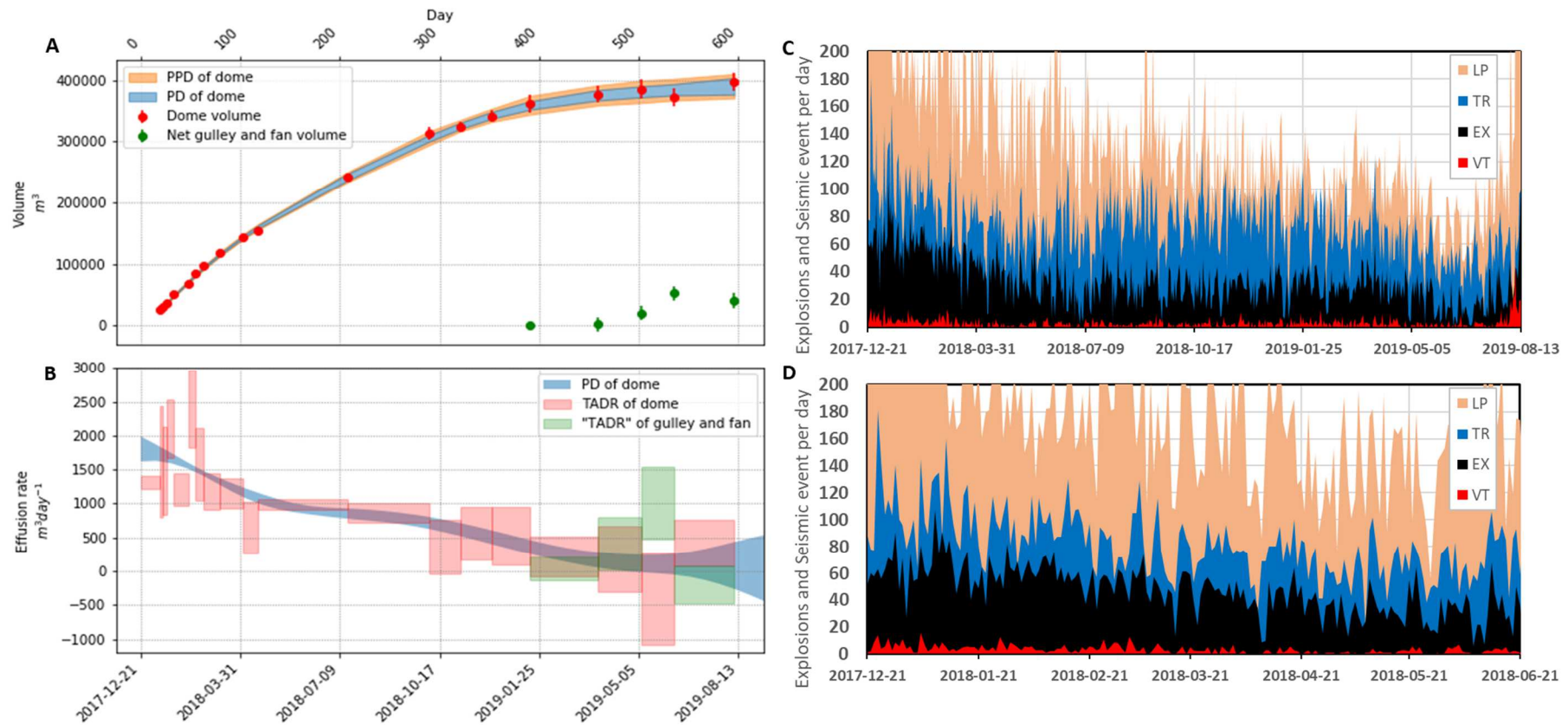
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2019-05-08	Pleiades	3.85(16)e+05	1.8(4.8)e+02	1.1(1.3)e+02	2.0(1.2)e+04	4.1(3.8)e+02
2019-06-09	Pleiades	3.72(15)e+05	-4.0(6.8)e+02	1.0(1.5)e+02	5.2(1.2)e+04	1.01(53)e+03
2019-08-09	Aerial	3.97(14)e+05	4.1(3.4)e+02	0.8(3.5)e+02	4.0(1.2)e+04	-2.0(2.8)e+02

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417

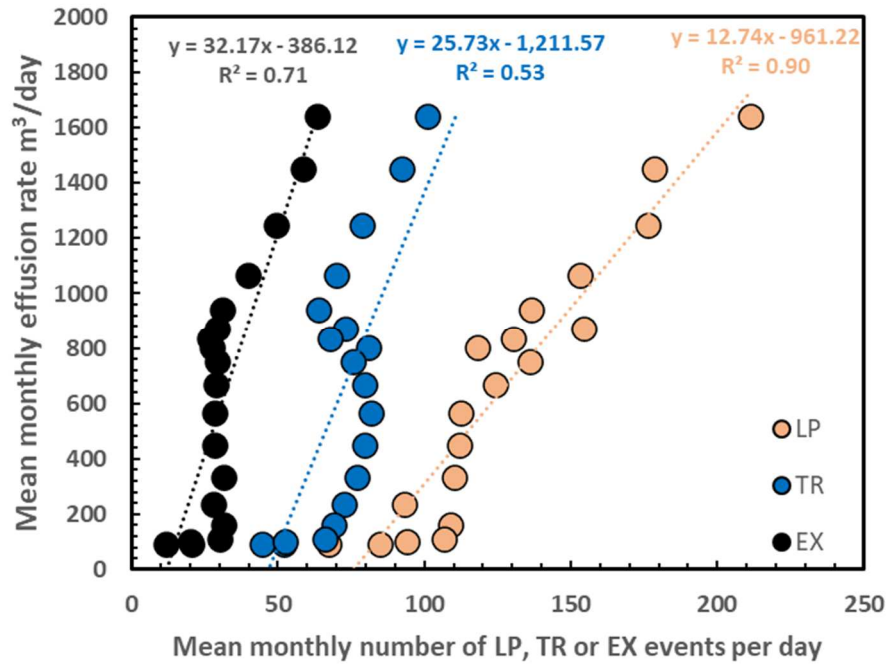
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419

420 **Figure 4:** A. growth of dome and gully-and-fan; red points are dome volumes, green points net volume of gully and fan, blue tint is posterior  
 421 distribution over modelled volume (PD) at  $\pm 1\sigma$ , orange tint is posterior predictive distribution of volume measurements (i.e. incorporating  
 422 measurement error). B. Time Averaged Discharge Rates of dome and gully-and-fan, as well as modelled dome effusion rate. Width of boxes  
 423 shows duration of averaging interval and height uncertainty for TADR estimates for dome and gully-and-fan (red and green, respectively). Blue  
 424 tint shows posterior distribution of modelled effusion rates. C. Number of explosions (EX), volcano-tectonic (VT), tremor (TR) and long-period

425 *(LP) seismic events per day recorded by SERNAGEOMIN's seismic network at Nevados de Chillan. Note the broad correspondence between the*  
426 *decreasing lava dome effusion rate and total number of seismic events. The increase in seismic event in August 2019 is due to a new extrusion*  
427 *phase not discussed here. D. Close up of (C) for the first six months of observations showing the close correspondence between number of*  
428 *explosions per day and number of seismic events.*



429

430 **Figure 5:** Mean monthly modelled effusion rate at Nevados de Chillan for the period of  
 431 January 2018 to July 2019 compared to the measured mean monthly number of explosions  
 432 (EX), tremor (TR) and long-period (LP) seismic events per day recorded by  
 433 SERNAGEOMIN's seismic network. Lava effusion rate appears to be positively correlated  
 434 with all three types of seismic event but most strongly with long-period earthquakes. In detail  
 435 three different regime seem to emerge for effusion rates below  $\sim 100$  m<sup>3</sup>/day, between  $\sim 100$   
 436 and  $\sim 900$  m<sup>3</sup>/day and between  $\sim 900$  and  $\sim 1700$  m<sup>3</sup>/day.

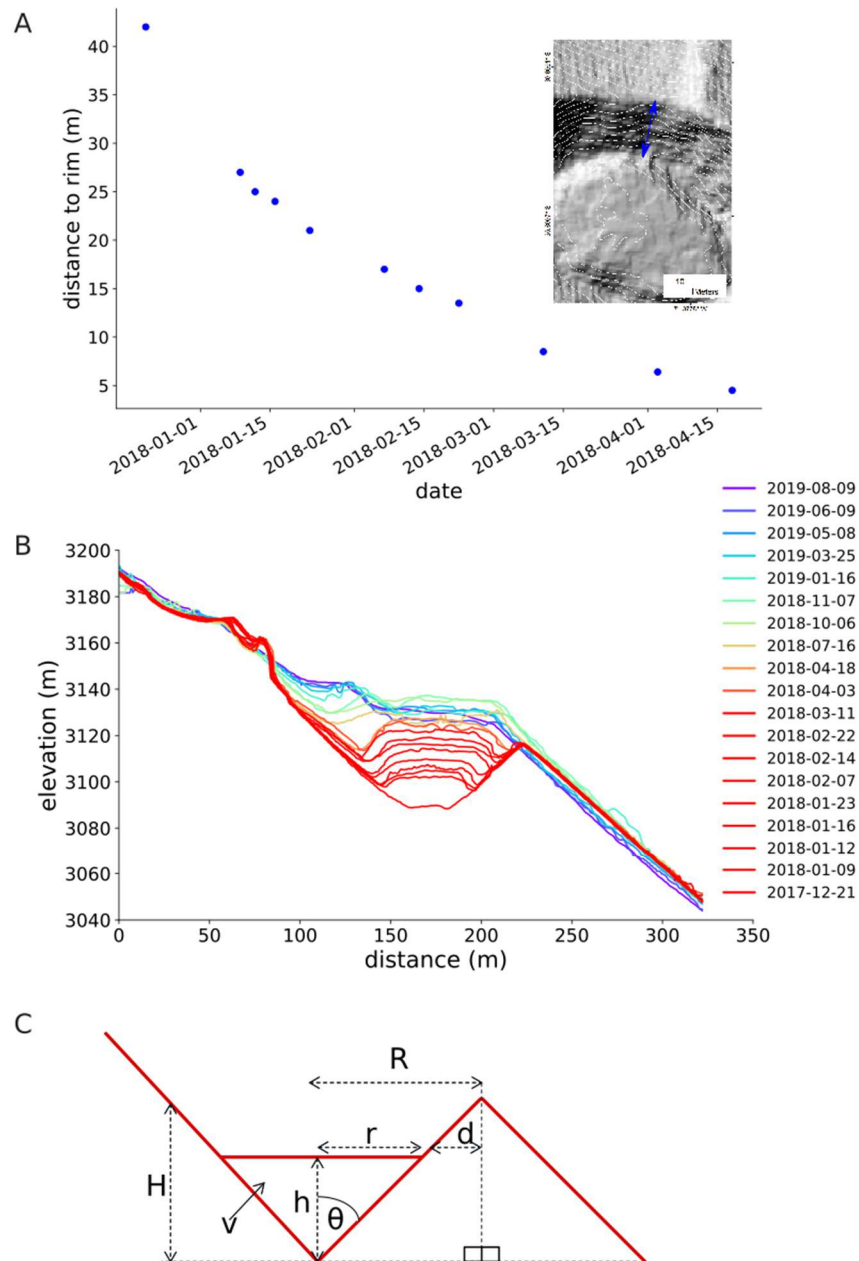
437

438 The predicted time that the foot of the dome would reach the rim is shown on Fig. 7 with the  
 439 PD and PPD indicating that the dome edge should reach the crater rim sometime in May  
 440 2018. Near-real time estimates of the probability of the dome reaching the rim by a given date  
 441 were produced in April 2018 and updated after each DEM reconstructions. Probability  
 442 estimates were produced by conditioning on the distance to the rim being equal to zero, and  
 443 integrating across time, as shown by the curves. This indicated that the dome was likely to  
 444 have reached the rim by the end of May 2018. Indeed, OVDAS/SERNAGEOMIN cameras

445 then observed the dome at the crater rim on 28 May 2018. No rock fall occurred subsequently  
446 until three large explosions on 13 to 15 July 2018 partially destroyed the dome leaving a small  
447 crater within the dome and small pyroclastic flows deposits extending 600 m from the vent.

448

449 The results of the pyroclastic flow simulations using VolcFlow are shown in Fig. 8. The maps  
450 show the compilation of 10 simulations and indicate the areas that have been affected by at  
451 least one simulation. Given the dome location at the time of the calculations (April 2018), our  
452 simulations show that PDC generated by dome collapse will always flow towards the north,  
453 north-east, away from any populated areas (Fig. 8). In the case of explosions, our simulations  
454 suggest that PDC could travel towards the town of Termas de Chillan, potentially just  
455 entering the upper part of the town. The relatively 'flat' topography of the volcano will cause  
456 any PDC to disperse and lose velocity rapidly, limiting their extent from the source. By  
457 comparison, similar simulation performed on Merapi volcano would results in PDC travelling  
458 up to 20 km away from the source while at Nevados de Chillán, this simulation results in PDC  
459 confined within 5 km of the vent.

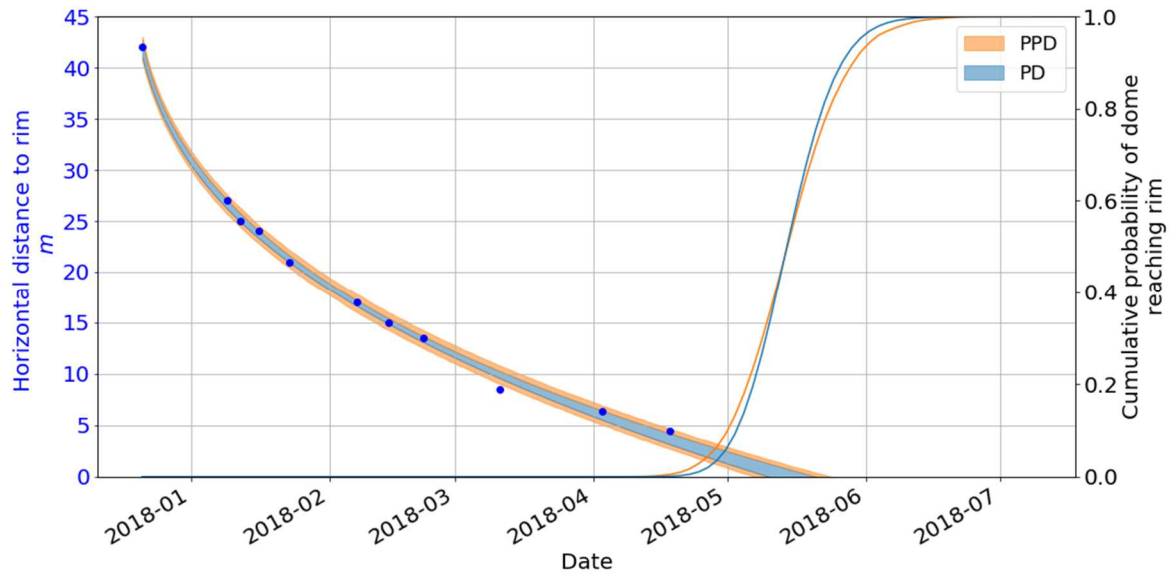


460

461 **Figure 6:** *A: Time evolution of the minimum horizontal distance between the foot of the lava*462 *dome and the lowest point of the crater rim. Inset show a close up of the 11 March 2018 hill*463 *shaded DEM with one-meter elevation contour lines. The blue arrow shows the remaining*464 *distance between the lava dome edge and the lowest point of the crater rim. B: Cross section*465 *of dome growth through time (21 December 2017 to 9 August 2019). Location of the profile is*466 *shown in Fig. 2 (red line). C: Simplified conceptual representation of lava dome growth in a*

467 *geometry constrained by a conical-shaped crater and used to model the time evolution of the*  
 468 *distance between the dome and crater edge (Fig. 7).*

469

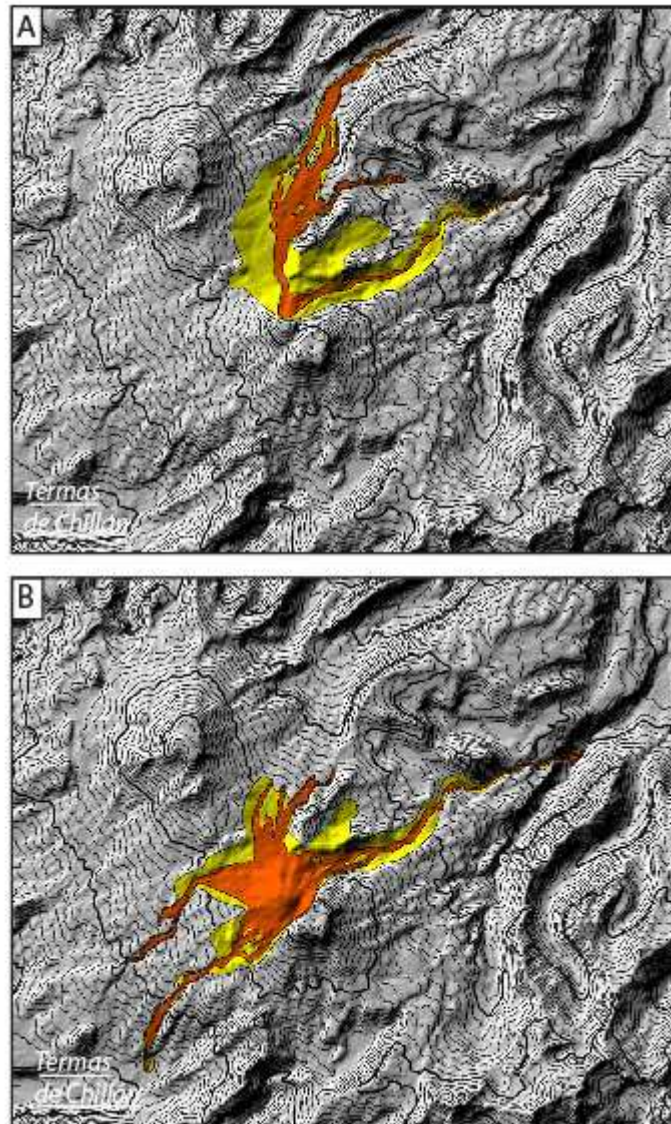


470

471 **Figure 7:** Time evolution of the minimum horizontal distance between the foot of the lava  
 472 dome and the lowest point of the crater rim. Blue tint shows the posterior distribution of  
 473 modelled distance to rim (PD), while orange tint shows posterior predictive distribution of  
 474 measured distance to rim (i.e. inclusive of measurement error), both at  $\pm 1\sigma$ . Blue and orange  
 475 curves show the PD and PPD of the cumulative probability distributions of the dome having  
 476 reached the rim by a given date (i.e. the cumulative distribution of the PD and PDD of the  
 477 tinted areas conditioned on the distance equalling zero).

478





479

480 **Figure 8:** DEM showing the results of numerical simulations of PDC generated by (A) Dome

481 collapse and (B) Explosion. Area in orange shows the extent of the concentrated fraction of

482 the PDC (i.e. the block-and-ash flow), area in yellow shows the extent of the dilute fraction

483 (ash-cloud surge). Each map is the results of 10 simulations considering both short (60 s) and

484 long (600 s) durations of genesis (i.e., high and low mass rates respectively).

485

#### 486 4. DISCUSSION

487 TADR is a primordial parameter to monitor the evolution of effusive eruptions and yet is not  
488 always an easy parameter to determine with sufficient accuracy, precision, or temporal  
489 resolution. TADR estimation combined with prior knowledge of a volcano allows hazard  
490 assessments based on semi-quantitative event trees (Newhall and Pallister, 2015; Ogburn et  
491 al., 2015). Eruption parameters such as extrusion rate and magma composition integrated with  
492 (1) a correct statistical analysis of global dome growth episodes database (Newhall and  
493 Melson, 1983; Ogburn and Calder, 2012); (2) the recent eruptive record and geological  
494 background of the volcano; (3) an adequate interpretation of instrumental and remote sensing  
495 monitoring and surface activity; and (4) the use of numerical simulation for modelling  
496 volcanic processes, allows for a trusted hazard assessment to be reached in complex risk  
497 scenarios situations and these were the parameters used by SERNAGEOMIN's frequent  
498 reports on the volcanic activity to forecast future possible scenarios  
499 (<http://sitiohistorico.sernageomin.cl/volcan.php?iId=32>). At Nevados de Chillán the  
500 complexity stems from the fact that several touristic facilities are exposed to volcanic risks,  
501 the high seasonal population is unfamiliar with volcanic hazards, few roads are available in  
502 case of evacuation and the eruption period is very long-lived (started in December 2015).

503  
504 The rate of dome growth at Nevados de Chillán is one of the lowest ever reported. Table 2  
505 shows the average growth rate at other well studied lava domes. By comparison, the  
506 maximum growth rate at Nevados de Chillán of  $\sim 1500 \text{ m}^3/\text{day}$  is about two orders of  
507 magnitude slower than most. Comparison with the global dome growth episodes database of  
508 Ogburn (2012), reveals that only 12 out of 96 events (12,5%) with calculated time average  
509 extrusion rate have comparable values for TADR ( $< 0.1 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ ). Nevertheless, comparing with  
510 historical eruption at Nevados de Chillán, at the same subcomplex, the current eruptive cycle

511 exhibits similar TADR with the last two historical magmatic eruption. The 2008 Sebastian  
512 lava flow, a viscous and dacitic lava flow erupted over an 8 month period with a mean TADR  
513 of  $0.075 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$  and no associated explosive activity (Coppola et al., 2016) and the 1976-1986  
514 Arrau eruption with a mean TADR of  $0.005 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$  (Naranjo et al., 1994). As seen from the data  
515 in Table 2, there are no correlations between the growth rates and final dome volumes, so the  
516 lava dome growth rates are not informative of the final dome volumes. The time evolution of  
517 the dome growth rate observed at Nevados de Chillán is broadly similar to the one observed at  
518 other volcanoes. During the 2004 – 2005 eruption of Mount St. Helens for instance the dome  
519 growth rate dropped from about 9 to  $3 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$  within the first three months (Schilling et al.,  
520 2008). Similar patterns were observed in the growth rates of the 2009 (Diefenbach et al.,  
521 2013) and 1989–1990 (Miller, 1994) lava domes at Redoubt volcanoes, 1991 lava dome at  
522 Unzen (Kaneko et al., 2002; Nakada et al., 1995) and 1980 lava dome at Mount St. Helens  
523 (Fink et al., 1990; Swanson and Holcomb, 1990).

524

525 The 2017-2019 eruptive episode at Nevados de Chillán is a striking example of effusive and  
526 explosive activities taking place simultaneous at a silicic volcano. The inception of dome  
527 formation and growth at the surface was accompanied by a sharp increase in explosive  
528 activity, averaging less than 5 to 10 eruptions per day prior to December 2017 to reach more  
529 than a hundred explosions in a day on 09 January 2018. Eruption of silicic volcanoes  
530 commonly show transitions from episodes of explosive activity to regimes of dome formation  
531 and vice versa (e.g., Fink, 1987; Nguyen et al., 2014). The transition from one style of activity  
532 to the other is thought to occur due to changes in magma ascent rate (e.g., Dingwell, 1996;  
533 Martel and Iacono-Marziano, 2015; Woods and Koyaguchi, 1994) or gas loss through  
534 permeable conduit walls (e.g., Eichelberger et al., 1986; Jaupart and Allègre, 1991). Neither  
535 of these processes however easily explains how concurrent effusive and explosive activity can

536 be taking place at a single vent. We envision that the conduit at Nevados de Chillán must be  
537 filled by a magma penetrated by an extensive fracture network allowing overpressure to be  
538 periodically released by ash venting or explosions accompanying magma ascent and dome  
539 growth at the surface (Fig. 9). Both processes are operating at different timescales but appear  
540 to be strongly positively correlated; periods of heightened explosion frequency corresponding  
541 to the periods of heightened dome growth rate and vice versa.

542

543 The strong first-order positive correlation between effusion rate and the frequency of  
544 explosions, long-period earthquakes and tremors (Fig. 5) suggests (1) that these metrics all  
545 tract the same physical process, presumably reflecting variations in overpressure of the  
546 magmatic system and (2) that one metric may be used to estimate another. As shown in this  
547 study and previous ones, measuring lava effusion rate in real time is not an easy endeavour for  
548 any volcano observatory. The strong correlation observed especially with the frequency of  
549 long-period events ( $R^2=0.9$ ) suggests that LP event frequency might be used as a simple way  
550 of estimating effusion rate in real time as the eruption continues. A similar observation was  
551 made after the 2018 Kīlauea eruption were a positive correlation ( $R^2=0.6$ ) between effusion  
552 rate and real-time seismic amplitude was observed (Patrick et al., 2019). In details however,  
553 the relationship between effusion rate and seismic activity at Nevados de Chillán is not a  
554 simple and continuous one and three regime can be distinguished showing strong increase in  
555 seismic events with increasing effusion rate at low effusion rates ( $\leq 100 \text{ m}^3/\text{day}$ ), no  
556 noticeable changes in seismic activity for effusion rates between  $\sim 100$  and  $\sim 900 \text{ m}^3/\text{day}$ , and  
557 again an increase in the number of seismic events with effusion rate at higher effusion rates  
558 ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 1700 \text{ m}^3/\text{day}$ ) but with a different slope from the first regime (Fig. 5). Following the  
559 observation period reported in this manuscript the effusion rate increased again with a lava  
560 flow originating from the lava dome flowing down the northern flank. Then again, a strong

561 positive correlation between effusion rate and the number of explosions, tremors and long-  
562 period events was noticed but again with a different slope. The question we are left with is  
563 what physical process are these different regimes a reflection of? Regime 3, with effusion  
564 rates between  $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 1700$  m<sup>3</sup>/day, corresponds to the initiation of dome growth and  
565 includes the months from January to May 2018 (Fig. 4), regime 2 with effusion rates between  
566  $\sim 100$  to  $\sim 900$  m<sup>3</sup>/day correspond to the period from June 2018 to April 2019 when effusion  
567 rate was decreasing very slowly (Fig. 4) with seismic activity remaining constant while  
568 regime 1 corresponds to the months of May 2019 to July 2019 when the effusion rate  
569 decreased faster and the number seismic events also dropped (Fig. 4). As the eruption  
570 continues and variations in effusion rates are recorded, we will be able to determine if these  
571 regimes are replicated or if a strong hysteresis emerges.

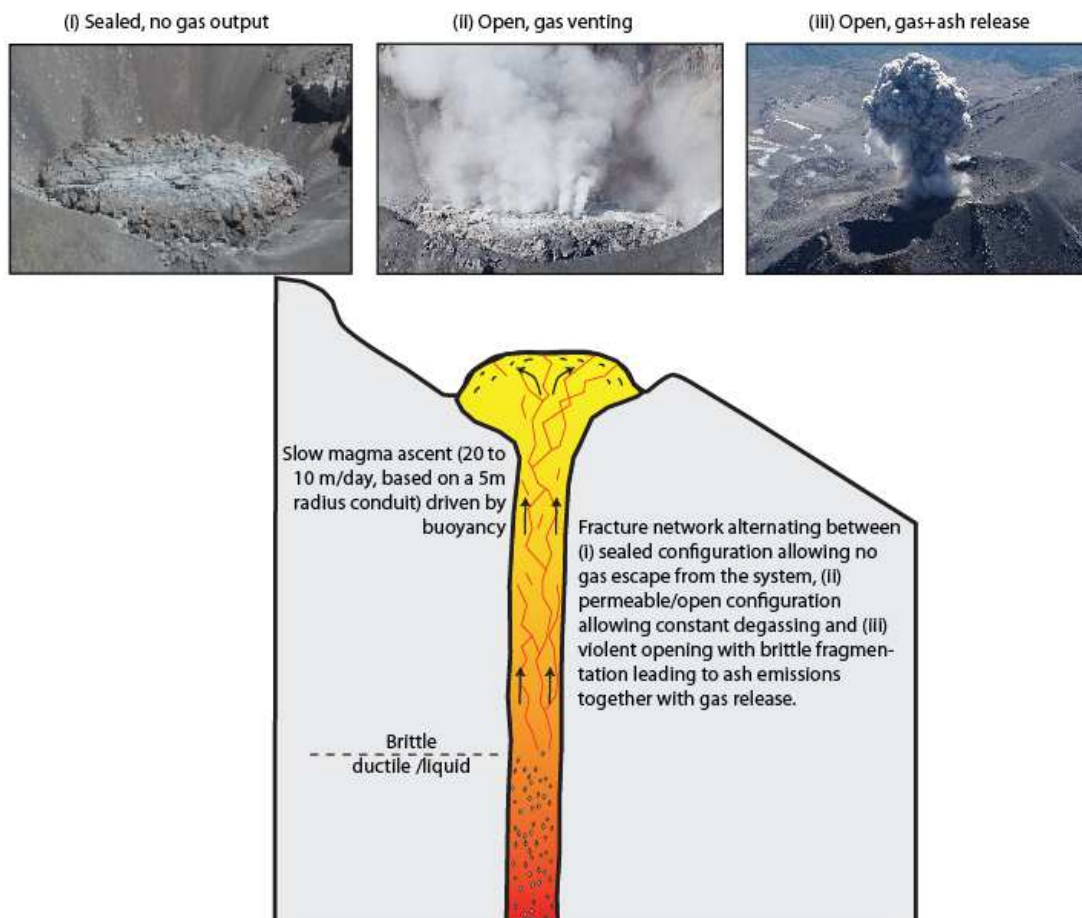
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573 The disconnect in terms of ascent processes between the gas phase (sporadically escaping via  
574 a fracture network) and the magma might partly explain the extremely slow dome growth rate,  
575 much of the overpressure being accommodated by the gas escape leaving little driving force  
576 for the magma to ascend. Assuming a conduit radius of 5 meters, our dome growth rates can  
577 be translated to ascent rate at the top of the conduit (base of the dome) ranging from 20 meters  
578 per day in early 2018 to 9 meters per day in June 2019 (corresponding to decompression rates  
579 in the order of  $10e-6$  Mpa/s). Considering a smaller conduit would lead to higher ascent rate  
580 estimates (up to  $\sim 130$  m/day for a 2 m radius conduit) which would remain much slower than  
581 most other well studied volcanic eruptions (see Fig. 9 in Shea, 2017, Fig. 5 in Cassidy et al.,  
582 2018 and Fig. 13 in Moussallam et al., 2019 for compilations of ascent rates estimates).

583

584 Historical activity records at Nevados de Chillán include eruptive cycles with durations of  
585 years to decade (Naranjo et al., 1994). This long-lived eruptive behaviour has been seen at

586 other volcanoes with lava dome eruption such as Popocatepetl (Mendoza-Rosas et al., 2017)  
587 (also see global compilation by Wolpert et al., 2016). In addition, Holocene activity at Volcán  
588 Viejo (Las Termas Subcomplex) includes Vulcanian and sub Plinian episodes with 4 fall  
589 pumice and at least 3 pyroclastic density currents deposits recognized (Dixon et al., 1999).  
590 The wide range of past eruptive styles at Nevados de Chillan hence suggest that our two  
591 “worst-case” scenarios modelled here to map the maximum extent of PDC are realistic  
592 scenarios. The ongoing mostly effusive eruption could be but a stage in a bigger cycle, with  
593 much more explosive events remaining a future possibility. Monitoring the TADR and  
594 seismic activity at Nevados de Chillán in near-real time hence remain a priority to forecast  
595 and prepare for future activity. Further petrological studies would also help in this endeavour.  
596



598 **Figure 9:** Schematic depiction of the magmatic conduit at Nevados de Chillán, perforated by  
599 an extensive fracture network allowing the release of overpressure through frequent gas-  
600 venting and explosions. Upper photographs illustrating these three configurations observed  
601 at Nevados de Chillán. Note that explosion frequency and magma ascent rate seem to be  
602 positively correlated suggesting that the two processes respond to the same driving forces yet  
603 operating at different timescale. Gas escape through the fracture network might  
604 accommodate a large part of the system overpressure, leaving the magma to rise extremely  
605 slowly.  
606

607 **Table 2:** Growth rates of lava domes, data are from the compilation of Yokoyama (2005) with  
 608 additional data from \*Miller, (1994), \*\*Diefenbach et al., (2013), and \*\*\*Schilling et al.,  
 609 (2008).

<i>Volcano</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Final lava dome volume (x10<sup>7</sup>m<sup>3</sup>)</i>	<i>Average growth rate (m<sup>3</sup>/day)</i>
<i>Soufrière St. Vincent</i>	1979	3.5	5.37E+05
<i>Colima</i>	1998	0.04	3.80E+05
<i>Lamington</i>	1951	6	1.58E+06
<i>Redoubt</i>	1987	6.8	2.00E+05
<i>Redoubt*</i>	1989-1990	8.8	5.01E+05
<i>Redoubt**</i>	2009	7.2	7.94E+05
<i>Soufrière Hills</i>	1996	6.8	2.00E+05
<i>Turumai</i>	1909	1.5	3.80E+06
<i>Bezymianny</i>	1956	4.2	1.41E+06
<i>Shiveluch</i>	1980	1	1.86E+05
<i>Pelée</i>	1902	3.7	3.16E+05
<i>Mt. St. Helens</i>	1980	1	8.32E+05
<i>Mt. St. Helens***</i>	2004-2005	7.3	1.58E+05
<i>Santiaguito</i>	1922	20	1.58E+05
<i>Popocatépetl</i>	1996	1.1	1.82E+05
<i>Unzen</i>	1992	5	5.01E+05
<i>Usu</i>	1944	4.4	1.12E+05
<i>Novarupta</i>	1912	0.5	2.51E+04

610

611 **5. CONCLUSIONS**



612 We have used aerial photogrammetry and Pleiades-1 tri-stereo imagery to produce ultra-high-  
613 resolution DEMs tracking the growth of a lava dome at the Nevados de Chillán volcanic  
614 complex. We found that (i) The dome growth started as fairly stable over the first three  
615 months before decreasing over time (ii) The growth rate is orders of magnitude slower than  
616 most other lava domes (iii) Prediction of the time at which the lava dome should reach the  
617 crater rim proved accurate (iv) Modelling of dome-collapse-generated PDC showed no direct  
618 threat to populated areas but PDC generated by large explosions could travel towards  
619 populated area (v) The coexistence and simultaneity of effusive and explosive activity is  
620 uncommon and may contribute to explains the resulting exceptionally slow ascent rate (vi)  
621 Positive correlation between dome growth rate, eruption frequency and seismic activity  
622 suggest that they all respond to the same driving force and that the frequency of LP event  
623 could be used as a proxy of effusion rate for operational monitoring.

624

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633

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