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## Geochemical volcano monitoring

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**Abstract** - *The geochemistry of volcanic fluids is increasingly employed at volcano observatories worldwide to assess volcano activity state, and eruption potential. Here, we review the state-of-the-art in the field, with a primary focus on the most recent developments in instrumental gas monitoring that have rendered geochemistry an increasingly effective eruption-forecasting tool. We describe the main geochemical techniques, from both ground and space, and how they each contribute to volcano monitoring. By presenting some selected case studies, we demonstrate that geochemical monitoring strategies need to adapt as volcanic activity state evolves during unrest and in the run-up to eruption. Modern gas-monitoring networks need to integrate different instrumental tools and require collection of a variety of gas-related signals if any subtle change in volcano behavior is to be captured in a timely manner.*

**Keywords:** *fluid geochemistry; geochemical monitoring; volcanic gases; magmatic degassing; magmatic gas-hydrothermal interactions; direct sampling; remote sensing; volcanic plumes; soil degassing; crater lakes.*

42 **1. Introduction.**

43 Volcanoes emit magma-sourced volatiles through a variety of fluid manifestations,  
44 ranging from (i) large atmospheric plumes released by open-vent volcanoes to (ii)  
45 fumaroles, steaming grounds/mud pools, hot/cold spring waters, and degassing  
46 soils that represent the dominant emission forms at closed-vent, dormant  
47 volcanoes [1]. Geochemical monitoring is useful because volcanic fluids exhibit  
48 temporal changes in chemistry and mass flux that reflect critical changes in the  
49 magma and its surroundings, providing insights into the volcano and its potential  
50 for eruption.

51 The chemistry of volcanic fluids has now been investigated for more than a  
52 century, initially instigated by the curiosity of key volcano chemist pioneers [2].  
53 However, it was not until the 1970s that geochemical observations became  
54 systematic enough to emerge as a potential tool for volcanic eruption forecasting  
55 [3]. It is today universally accepted that, in addition to contributing to volcano  
56 monitoring, fluid geochemistry is central to understanding magma degassing  
57 processes [4], the architecture of magma feeding systems [4, **add QR to Further**  
58 **Readings**], and estimation of the T-P-X conditions of volcano-hosted hydrothermal  
59 systems and their interactions with magmatic fluids [5]. Modern fluid geochemistry  
60 also contributes to sustainable development by offering a relatively inexpensive  
61 volcano monitoring tool, even in countries where volcanology is a still emerging  
62 field. Installation/maintenance of geochemical instrumentation remains an issue,  
63 however, especially for volcano observatories monitoring remote, poorly  
64 accessible volcanoes.

65 Broadly speaking, geochemical monitoring requires time series to be acquired for  
66 the composition and/or the flux (ideally both) of volcanic fluids. With a robust  
67 dataset in hands, and in combination with evidence streaming from other  
68 disciplines, geochemists interpret observed geochemical changes in reference to  
69 a conceptual model of volcano behavior (Fig. 1), from which they attempt to resolve  
70 any sign of volcano unrest or potential eruption.

71 Geochemical observations can be obtained via either (i) periodic surveys involving  
72 direct sampling or in-situ field measurement of fluids [3] or (ii) near-continuous  
73 records from fully automated field-deployed instruments [6-8]. Although the two  
74 strategies are very complementary, the second is intrinsically more beneficial for  
75 capturing the rapidly evolving dynamics of soon-to-erupt volcanoes. Periodic  
76 surveys are more appropriate for volcanoes with longer repose times, for remote  
77 volcanoes where instrument installation and maintenance can be challenging, and  
78 for measuring the whole chemical-isotopic spectrum of volcanic fluids. Over the  
79 years, geochemical monitoring has progressively transitioned toward the  
80 implementation of permanent instrumental networks, and this evolution is well  
81 represented in the two previous editions of the Encyclopedia of Volcanoes. In the  
82 first edition (2000), Delmelle and Stix [9] discussed the processes governing the  
83 temporal variability of volcanic gas composition mostly relying on the results of  
84 periodic direct sampling of fumaroles. In the same volume, Stix and Gaonach [10]  
85 elaborated on initial instrumental attempts to remotely measure plume composition

86 (by Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy, FTIR), and the volcanic SO<sub>2</sub> flux  
87 from either ground (using the Correlation Spectrometer, COSPEC) and space  
88 (using the Total Ozone Mapping Spectrometer, TOMS). In the second edition,  
89 Fischer and Chiodini [5] still heavily elaborated upon the results of direct fumarole  
90 sampling, discussing isotopic evidence for the origin of elements (C-H-O-S-N-  
91 halogens-noble gases) in volcanic gases, and presenting a comprehensive  
92 discussion on thermodynamic techniques used to estimate hydrothermal P-T  
93 conditions from hydrothermal gas equilibria in the H<sub>2</sub>O-H<sub>2</sub>-CO<sub>2</sub>-CO-CH<sub>4</sub> system  
94 (the reader is referred to this study for a detailed discussion of both topics).  
95 However, they also increasingly discussed the application of instrumental  
96 techniques in geochemical volcano monitoring.

97 The core focus of the present chapter is to review the most recent technological  
98 and science advances in volcanic gas monitoring.

## 99 **2. Drivers of change: what controls geochemical changes.**

100 Interpreting the time series streamed by a geochemical volcano monitoring  
101 network requires that a coherent understanding is available for the processes that  
102 drive change in fluid chemistry/flux (Fig. 1). This knowledge also serves as a guide  
103 for the establishment of the monitoring network, and for selecting the ideal  
104 parameters to monitor. Key to success is a robust knowledge of baseline  
105 composition/flux levels (to be acquired during volcano repose or background  
106 eruptive activity) – this is needed to identify change. We review below the key  
107 drivers of change at play at volcanoes.

### 108 **2.1 Strong Volcanic Gas Emitters: change due to magmatic degassing processes.**

109 With the term Strong Volcanic Gas Emitters (SVGE), we refer to those volcanoes  
110 whose gas emissions have regularly (or frequently) been detected from space in  
111 the last decades of satellite observations. This category includes a broad spectrum  
112 of volcanoes, such as (i) open-vent, persistently degassing mafic volcanoes and  
113 (ii) more silicic volcanoes that are (or have recently been) in eruption or are soon  
114 to erupt, and therefore host high-temperature (>> 600 °C) crater fumarole fields  
115 (Fig. 1a). At these volcanoes, the critical process that imparts compositional  
116 variability in volcanic fluids is the selective/sequential vapor partitioning of the  
117 various volatiles during magma degassing (Fig. 1a). Magma degassing, the  
118 process through which volatiles exsolve from silicate melt and separate into a  
119 vapor phase (bubbles), is a universal process associated with magma ascent and  
120 decompression (decompressional degassing) and/or crystallization (second  
121 boiling) [4,6]. At any P-T-X condition, the magmatic volatile species have distinct  
122 solubilities and vapor/melt partitioning behaviors. The less soluble volatiles (Ar,  
123 N<sub>2</sub>>CO<sub>2</sub> >He) partition into the volatile phase earlier (deeper) than more soluble  
124 ones (H<sub>2</sub>O≈S< halogens) [6], so the chemical ratios between the species evolve  
125 during magma decompression (ascent) [11]. Geochemists exploit this degassing  
126 pattern to monitor changes in magma degassing depth/conditions from changes in  
127 gas ratios (e.g., Ar/CO<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>/He, CO<sub>2</sub>/S, CO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O, S/Cl) in monitored surface  
128 fluids. This directly applies when surface fluids are purely magmatic in nature, i.e.,

129 directly derived from magma without any re-equilibration or hydrothermal alteration  
130 (see below). Solubility-dependent degassing patterns are thus mainly explored in  
131 magmatic emissions from SVGE (Fig. 1a), or in WVGE that are transitioning into  
132 eruption (where degassing signals may be more confused as masked by  
133 hydrothermal interactions, see below). Magmatic gases are essentially mixtures of  
134 major species H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub>, and SO<sub>2</sub> (H<sub>2</sub>S normally makes a small fraction of total  
135 sulfur S<sub>t</sub>: Fig. 1b), plus a plethora of minor and trace species. While inter-volcano  
136 variations in H<sub>2</sub>O-CO<sub>2</sub>-SO<sub>2</sub> proportions mostly reflect different geodynamic setting  
137 (that is, melt compositions and volatile contents; [4]), temporal changes at  
138 individual volcanoes have been shown to be caused by and indicative of changing  
139 magma degassing conditions. In particular, increasing CO<sub>2</sub>/SO<sub>2</sub> ratios have now  
140 been observed prior to eruption at many mafic and silicic volcanoes worldwide.  
141 This reflects the precursory surface release of deeply exsolved CO<sub>2</sub>-rich gas,  
142 separately ascending from soon-to-erupt mafic magma at depth [8, 11] (Fig. 1a,  
143 b).

144 In addition to chemical composition, gas fluxes (e.g., the mass of gas emitted per  
145 unit time) also change in response to pre-eruptive magma accumulation/ascent  
146 and degassing. This is easily understood in the specific case of the SO<sub>2</sub> flux ( $\Phi_{SO_2}$ ,  
147 in kg/s), the most easily measurable volatile (see 3.3), from the relationship:

$$148 \quad \Phi_{SO_2} = Q_{in} \cdot 2\Delta X_S \cdot (1 - x) \cdot \rho_m$$

149 where  $Q_{in}$  is the magma input rate (in m<sup>3</sup>/s) above the level (depth/pressure) at  
150 which effective sulfur degassing starts (typically 4-9 km below the volcano top for  
151 mafic magma [6]),  $\Delta X_S$  is the bulk mass loss of elemental sulfur upon degassing  
152 (e.g., the difference between parental melt and residual S content in degassed  
153 magma), and  $x$  and  $\rho_m$  are melt crystallinity and density (in kg/m<sup>3</sup>) (the coefficient  
154  $2 = 64/32$  is required to convert S mass into SO<sub>2</sub> mass). When magma supply ( $Q_{in}$ )  
155 to the volcano feeding system increases in the eruption run-up, the SO<sub>2</sub> flux  
156 escalates in advance to magma eruption, either because gas bubbles are buoyant  
157 enough to separately ascend through the melt or because they can escape via a  
158 permeable gas bubble network. Note that the same equation is used to convert  
159 measured SO<sub>2</sub> fluxes into  $Q_{in}$  using petrological estimates of S contents in melt  
160 inclusions and matrix glasses [4].

161 2.2 Weak Volcanic Gas Emitters: change due to magmatic-hydrothermal  
162 reactions.

163 Closed-vent, dormant/quiescent stratovolcanoes and calderas (Fig. 1c) are  
164 normally classified as Weak Volcanic Gas Emitters (WVGE) as they typically lack  
165 large atmospheric plumes that can be detected from space. Their most visible  
166 degassing manifestations are relatively cold (typically close-to-boiling  
167 temperature) fumaroles and steaming grounds/soils [1]. During volcano repose,  
168 these manifestations typically exhibit stable hydrothermal signatures, being  
169 dominated by steam (generally > 90 mol. %) plus 1-10 mol% gas essentially  
170 consisting of a CO<sub>2</sub>+H<sub>2</sub>S mixture [5, 9], plus minor N<sub>2</sub>, Ar, H<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, and CO, but no  
171 (or minimal) SO<sub>2</sub> and HCl (exceptions of SO<sub>2</sub> and HCl-rich hydrothermal gases

172 exist, however). These S-poor (Fig. 1b) hydrothermal vapors are generally formed  
173 by boiling of (meteoric water- or seawater-fed) aquifers heated by a magma source  
174 at depth, but they usually contain a magmatic volatile component as well, as  
175 evidenced by isotopic evidence (primarily  $^{13}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$  and  $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$  ratios; [6]). Hence,  
176 at WVGE volcanoes, chemical changes are mainly driven by the extent and  
177 dynamics of hydrothermal-magmatic fluid interactions [11]. If the volcano becomes  
178 restless, geochemists carefully examine fumarole compositional time series to  
179 identify any increase in the magmatic gas proportion, as indicated for example by  
180 increasingly  $\text{CO}_2$ -S-rich and less water-rich compositions (Fig. 1b). Complications  
181 arise, however, as the magmatic S supply can be masked by scrubbing (the  
182 sequestration of  $\text{SO}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  - and other reactive gas species - into hydrothermal  
183 solutions/minerals, owing to their high water solubility and reactivity to host rocks),  
184 and because sulfur may instead be contributed by destabilization of S-bearing  
185 hydrothermal minerals in the volcano heating phase (Fig. 1c). This makes inert  
186 gases ( $\text{N}_2$ , noble gases) and their isotopic ratios more sensitive tracers of an  
187 increasingly magmatic signature of fluids [5]. Compositional change is also  
188 determined by evolving hydrothermal P-T conditions, driven by increasing supply  
189 of hot magmatic gases. This evolution can be monitored by modeling  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ - $\text{H}_2$ - $\text{CO}_2$ -  
190  $\text{CO}$ - $\text{CH}_4$  equilibria (Fig. 1d) that are extremely sensitive to P-T-redox conditions  
191 [5]. While remote  $\text{SO}_2$  flux measurements are ineffective during quiescence and  
192 early unrest phases at WVGE, due to nil or weak  $\text{SO}_2$  release, soil gas monitoring  
193 and airborne plume  $\text{CO}_2$  surveys can allow early detection of increasing supply of  
194 magma-sourced  $\text{CO}_2$ .

### 195 **3. Sentinels of change: techniques in geochemical monitoring**

196 An appropriate volcano monitoring strategy requires the combination of different  
197 techniques into an integrated observational network (Fig. 2). It is important to keep  
198 in mind that the fluid manifestations vary with volcanic activity status and style [1],  
199 implying that the choice of methods/instrumentations to prioritize may vary as a  
200 volcano becomes increasingly restless (Fig. 2). This section describes the principal  
201 geochemical techniques used and their respective contributions to volcano  
202 monitoring (with some selected case studies).

#### 203 **3.1. Fumarole direct sampling.**

204 Although gas monitoring is increasingly realized using real-time instrumental  
205 networks (Fig. 2), direct sampling remains an invaluable source of information, as  
206 it is the only tool that allows for a full characterization of the volcanic gas  
207 composition, including minor and trace elements and isotopes. Direct sampling  
208 involves collection of fumarole gases using Giggenbach's alkaline solution method  
209 [3, 5]. In this process, fumarolic gas stream is channeled (via a quartz tube) into a  
210 pre-evacuated and pre-weighed flask filled with 4 M NaOH. Fumarolic gases  
211 bubble through the alkaline solution, causing water vapor to condense, and  $\text{CO}_2$   
212 and acidic gases ( $\text{HCl}$ ,  $\text{HF}$  and S species) to dissolve in the solution. Non-  
213 condensable gases ( $\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{N}_2$ ,  $\text{CO}$ , and  $\text{CH}_4$ ) and noble gases are hence  
214 concentrated in the flask headspace.

215 Water, the most abundant magmatic volatiles, is difficult to measure in plumes (cf.  
216 3.2), because of the high and variable atmospheric background. Hence, direct  
217 sampling is the key tool to reliably detect the gas/steam ( $\text{CO}_2/\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) ratio increase  
218 [12] that typically tracks the increasing magmatic (over hydrothermal) fluid  
219 contribution as a volcano becomes restless (see also the Turrialba example [13]  
220 illustrated in Figure 1b). Direct sampling can also capture hydrogen and oxygen  
221 isotope compositions normally becoming increasingly heavy ( $\delta\text{D}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$   
222 becoming more positive) as fumarolic steam transitions to having a greater  
223 proportion of magmatic relative to meteoric water [14]. Resolving the magmatic vs.  
224 non-magmatic fluid (meteoric, atmospheric, biogenic) contributions becomes  
225 especially effective when a multi-isotope approach is employed, in which tracers  
226 such as C ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ ; Fig. 3), N ( $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ ), He ( $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ ), and Ar ( $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{36}\text{Ar}$ ) isotopes (to cite  
227 only the most frequently used) are measured in concert [6]. The isotopic  
228 compositions of such elements allow quantification of the magmatic gas influx, to  
229 infer volatile origin, and to characterize the physico-chemical processes of magma  
230 degassing, gas migration, and interaction with groundwaters. Noble gases  
231 ( $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ ,  $^4\text{He}/^{20}\text{Ne}$ , and  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{36}\text{Ar}$  ratios) are especially useful in this exercise,  
232 because of their inert nature, and because of the contrasting signatures of  
233 magmatic, crustal and atmospheric sources.

234 In addition to isotopes, a series of chemical tracers are effectively monitored by  
235 direct sampling to track unrest, and potentially forecast activity resumption at  
236 closed-vent volcanoes. For example, as magma migrates toward the surface,  
237 scrubbing of magmatic S and Cl by hydrothermal reactions [15] will be reduced or  
238 minimized, which can be detected by decreasing  $\text{CO}_2/\text{S}$  ratios (Fig. 1, 4), change  
239 in S speciation (increases of magmatic  $\text{SO}_2$  over hydrothermal  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ ) and increasing  
240 halogens ( $\text{HCl}+\text{HF}/\text{CO}_2$ ) (Figs. 3 and 4). Also, the minor carbon species, and the  
241 proportion relative to  $\text{CO}_2$  are especially useful as they are sensitive to temporal  
242 changes in pressure and temperature conditions of the hydrothermal system. As  
243 a rule of thumb, the  $\text{CO}/\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{CO}_2/\text{CH}_4$  ratios both increase (Fig. 1d) as the  
244 magmatic gas influx increases, and hence the hydrothermal system is driven to  
245 higher temperature and eventually more oxidized (magmatic) conditions.

246 *Case study box: Peteroa and Pico de Fogo*

247 Over the past decade, extensive crater fumarole time series have been obtained  
248 by direct sampling that have not only identified precursors to eruption, but also  
249 revealed the intricate processes that control volcano dynamics. Direct sampling  
250 has made significant strides in understanding the compositional variations before  
251 and during eruptions. Two notable cases in which gas parameters have  
252 contributed to effectively identify processes and likelihood of eruption are those of  
253 Peteroa volcano (Argentina-Chile) and Pico do Fogo (Cape Verde) (Figure 3).

254 Peteroa is a typical andesitic WVGE stratovolcano with fumaroles at near boiling  
255 temperatures. During 2010 to present, the volcano has experienced two mildly  
256 explosive (Volcanic Explosivity Index, VEI =2) eruptions in 2011 and 2018-2019  
257 (Fig. 3a). Regular fumarole direct sampling contributed to tracking the quiescence-  
258 to-eruption transition by distinguishing clear switches from hydrothermal to

259 magmatic compositions. During quiescence, gas composition was typically in the  
260 hydrothermal domain, as indicated by low HCl/CO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>S ratios (Fig. 3a).  
261 In contrast, in the pre-, syn-, and post-eruptive phases, SO<sub>2</sub>, HCl, and HF  
262 increased significantly, causing the SO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>S, HF/CO<sub>2</sub>, and HCl/CO<sub>2</sub> to  
263 simultaneously increase by orders of magnitudes (Fig. 3a), and implying minimal  
264 (or reduced) magmatic gas scrubbing and more oxidizing redox conditions (as  
265 typical of magmatic conditions). This redox evolution before the phreatomagmatic  
266 eruption was also detected using the CH<sub>4</sub>/Ar ratio. During quiescence, the CH<sub>4</sub>/Ar  
267 ratio was high, indicating reducing conditions and low temperatures (Ar was largely  
268 meteoric Ar, as indicated by <sup>40</sup>Ar/<sup>36</sup>Ar ratios slightly above the 295 air ratio). The  
269 CH<sub>4</sub>/Ar ratio then decreased in the 2018-2019 magmatic phase (Fig. 3a), indicating  
270 CH<sub>4</sub> was depleted at a faster rate (prevalence of oxidizing, magmatic conditions)  
271 relative to Ar.

272 Similar changes in gas composition were observed before the 2014-2015 eruption  
273 of Pico do Fogo volcano [17] (Figure 3b), a mafic alkaline volcano in the Cape  
274 Verde archipelago hosting a summit hydrothermal system feeding a swarm of  
275 crater fumaroles with temperatures up to 350°C. The fumarolic CO/CO<sub>2</sub> and  
276 H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> ratios started to increase in 2009-2010 (marking the onset of a “magmatic  
277 reactivation” phase). These variations were interpreted [17] as caused by an  
278 escalating input of deeply sourced, CO<sub>2</sub>-rich magmatic gases that ultimately  
279 caused heating of the hydrothermal system. This heating phase manifested in a  
280 remarkable increase of estimated equilibrium temperatures (Eq.T in Figure 3b),  
281 from circa 200 to circa 500°C (as inferred from CH<sub>4</sub>-CO-CO<sub>2</sub> geothermal gas  
282 geothermometer [5]). The isotopic composition of δ<sup>13</sup>C-CO<sub>2</sub> (in ‰ vs. VPDB, Fig.  
283 3b) peaked at the eruption onset, implying involvement of an isotopically heavier  
284 (more magmatic) CO<sub>2</sub> source, associated with the volatile-rich erupting magma.

### 285 3.2. In-situ plume measurements

286 At open-vent volcanoes, direct fumarole sampling becomes increasingly  
287 ineffective since the gas output is dominantly sustained by large atmospheric  
288 plumes [1]. Monitoring hence requires plume measurements. In-situ  
289 measurements are made after the gas has exited the crater and been diluted by  
290 atmosphere. The two most common in-situ plume techniques are chemical traps  
291 and Multi-GAS measurements. Both techniques rely on a pump to draw volcanic  
292 gases into the instrument.

293 Chemical traps use compounds that react with acid volcanic gas species to take  
294 samples of volcanic plumes. The most used technique is the filter pack method,  
295 whereby plume gas is pumped through a series of filters impregnated with alkaline  
296 solutions such as K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> or NaOH with glycerol to enhance the absorption  
297 efficiency. This method is convenient for rapid sampling of plumes, but care must  
298 be taken not to saturate the filters or gas concentrations and ratios will not be  
299 representative. Saturation can be avoided using bubblers, which involves pumping  
300 plume gas through glass flasks with a fritted tip submerged in an absorbing  
301 solution. The Rashig tube (involving pumping gas through a rotating glass tube  
302 filled with glass rings and an absorbing solution) and denuders (glass tubes coated

303 with an interior coating of reactive compounds, through which gas is pumped to  
304 sample reactive halogen species) have also recently been used.

305 The most-commonly used method for real-time in-plume measurements is the  
306 Multi-GAS. In Multi-GAS instruments, the air-diluted volcanic gas is passed  
307 through a series of electrochemical and/or non-dispersive infrared (NDIR) sensors.  
308 Each sensor measures the concentration of a target gas species in the mixture.  
309 The number and specificity of sensors used varies greatly between Multi-GAS  
310 designs. CO<sub>2</sub> is typically measured by an NDIR sensor, H<sub>2</sub>O by an NDIR or derived  
311 from a relative humidity sensor, while SO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>S, CO and H<sub>2</sub> are typically measured  
312 by specific electrochemical sensors (H<sub>2</sub> can also be measured by a semi-  
313 conductor sensor). Br and Cl electrochemical sensors have also been tested with  
314 mixed results so far. All sensors must be calibrated for response (and cross  
315 sensitivity) prior to use in the field, and frequent re-calibration of the permanent  
316 instrument is required to correct for any drift. Each sensor has a specific calibration  
317 range and care must be taken not to oversaturate it. Since its first deployment, the  
318 Multi-GAS has quickly become the most widely used instrument for measuring the  
319 chemical composition of volcanic plumes, both during campaign measurements  
320 and in permanent deployments. The main advantages of the system are its  
321 robustness, low cost, near real-time results, and its ability to acquire data  
322 autonomously at a frequency of 1Hz. The Multi-GAS technique is particularly well  
323 suited for permanent installations. Dozens of active volcanoes currently have  
324 permanent Multi-GAS units monitoring the composition of their volcanic gases in  
325 real time.

326 Both the filter pack and the Multi-GAS instrument provide ppmv concentrations of  
327 gas species, which are then converted into molar ratios. The ratio of all species to  
328 a common denominator allows the complete gas composition to be determined.  
329 Volcanic gas composition is a complex function of (1) parent melt composition and  
330 volatile content, (2) exsolution and gas separation depth/pressure, (3)  
331 temperature, (4) oxidation state, and (5) hydrothermal interactions. Changes in  
332 volcanic gas composition over time have therefore been related to changes in any  
333 one or a combination of these parameters and have now been observed at multiple  
334 volcanoes both during and prior to eruption.

335 *Case study box: Turrialba*

336 A remarkable example of how fumarole (direct sampling) and plume (Multi-GAS)  
337 monitoring can integrate to capture activity escalation in the run-up to eruption has  
338 recently been offered by Turrialba (Costa Rica). Geochemical monitoring of  
339 Turrialba over the last quarter century has documented a spectacular transition  
340 from hydrothermal to magmatic gas compositions preceding phreatomagmatic to  
341 magmatic eruptions (Figure 4). This monitoring period also spanned the  
342 technological advent of the Multi-GAS. Prior the mid 1990s Turrialba had been  
343 dormant for almost one and half centuries, and the reactivation of the magmatic  
344 system occurred slowly, allowing an unprecedented characterization of the  
345 changes in gas emissions that are expected at any volcano where a hydrothermal  
346 system is displaced by magma emplacement preceding an eruptive period.



347 Direct sampling of the West crater fumaroles between 1998 and 2008 [13] showed  
348 gradual and unequivocal changes in gas compositions from hydrothermal to  
349 magmatic signatures. Hydrothermal gases were characterized by  $\text{CO}_2/\text{S}_t$  (where  $\text{S}_t$   
350 total =  $\text{H}_2\text{S} + \text{SO}_2$ )  $> 100$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{S}/\text{S}_t = 1$  and very low halogen contents.  $\text{CO}_2/\text{S}_t$   
351 reached a peak in late 2001 early 2002, the first indication of deep magma  
352 injection, marking the beginning of radical changes toward magmatic gas  
353 compositions. By 2007-2008, the  $\text{CO}_2/\text{S}_t$  ratio had dropped by 3 orders of  
354 magnitude,  $\text{H}_2\text{S}/\text{S}_t$  had decreased to essentially zero, and  $(\text{HCl}+\text{HF})/\text{CO}_2$  had  
355 increased by  $>2$  orders of magnitude. By this time, small vent-opening eruptions  
356 occurred in 2010, 2012 & 2013, making direct sampling of the fumaroles in the  
357 west crater too dangerous.

358 A Multi-GAS station was installed at the summit in early 2014, just in time to record  
359 changes in the plume gases prior to the violent phreatic eruption of October 2014  
360 and the subsequent progression into phreatomagmatic eruptive activity in 2015  
361 [18]. Clear peaks in  $\text{CO}_2/\text{S}_t$  were observed in the weeks preceding the first three  
362 eruptive phases (black stars Figure 4), indicating that deep magma injection was  
363 driving the activity. The baseline  $\text{H}_2\text{S}/\text{S}_t$  ratio prior to and between the initial  
364 eruptive episodes was  $\sim 0.5$ , higher than that observed in the highest temperature  
365 fumaroles of the West crater in 2008, and consistent with the idea that the Multi-  
366 GAS was measuring bulk gas emissions from diverse fumarolic/vent sources  
367 within the crater. From mid-2014 to late 2015 the  $\text{H}_2\text{S}/\text{S}_t$  and  $\text{CO}_2/\text{SO}_2$  ratios varied  
368 wildly, indicating instability of the system and expulsion of the hydrothermal system  
369 by intruding magma (period A, Figure 4).

370 The process of vent opening and displacement of the hydrothermal was completed  
371 by early 2016, and gas compositions changed abruptly to purely shallow magmatic  
372 in character, with  $\text{CO}_2/\text{S}_t < 5$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{S}/\text{S}_t < 0.1$  (period B, Figure 4). The summit  
373 Multi-GAS site was no longer sustainable, and a station was installed on the lower  
374 flank. Eruptive activity gradually transitioned from violent explosions to dominantly  
375 open-vent ash emissions, and in late 2016 and early 2017 small magmatic  
376 Strombolian eruptions started occurring, continuing until late 2018. As activity  
377 waned in 2019-2020,  $\text{H}_2\text{S}/\text{S}_t$  and  $\text{CO}_2/\text{S}_t$  rose significantly, indicating the initiation  
378 of the re-establishment of the hydrothermal system (period C, Figure 4).

### 379 3.3. Ground-based remote plume measurements

380 Remote sensing, wherein absorption of radiation at specific wavelengths by  
381 volcanic gases of interest is leveraged in lieu of directly measuring or sampling  
382 gas, is a crucial modern subdiscipline of volcanic gas monitoring. In addition to  
383 providing data not obtainable by direct measurements (e.g., gas flux), remote  
384 sensing measurements also offer safer opportunities for volcanologists to measure  
385 magmatic gas compositions and fluxes in real time even during violent eruptive  
386 activities.

387 Many of the major volcanic gas species have absorption features in the ultraviolet  
388 (UV) and/or infrared (IR) parts of the electromagnetic spectrum that are sufficiently  
389 distinct to be resolved by remote sensing [1,6,7].  $\text{SO}_2$  has strong absorption

390 features in both the UV and IR, and its negligible (ppb) levels in the background  
391 atmosphere make it the easiest volcanic gas to measure by ground-based remote  
392 sensing. H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub>, CO, HCl, HF, SiF<sub>4</sub>, and OCS all have absorption features in  
393 the IR and have been measured using open-path Fourier transform infrared (OP-  
394 FTIR) spectrometers. Isolation of volcanic H<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub> signals from the  
395 atmospheric background can be problematic but can be achieved by using their  
396 concentration ratio to purely volcanic species (SO<sub>2</sub>, HCl). Typically, a hot IR source  
397 (the magma itself in most applications) and low ambient air H<sub>2</sub>O contents are  
398 required. Some attempts have also been made to measure H<sub>2</sub>O in the visible and  
399 UV ranges. H<sub>2</sub>S, despite a shortwave UV absorption feature, is typically difficult to  
400 measure unless an active source, such as a UV lamp, is used. H<sub>2</sub> has not been  
401 measured by either UV or IR remote sensing so far. HBr itself has also not been  
402 measured, but once oxidized to BrO can be measured in the UV.

403 The volcanic SO<sub>2</sub> flux is one of the principal monitoring datasets at many active  
404 volcanoes. The amount of SO<sub>2</sub> emitted is inextricably linked to the type of volcano  
405 and how it behaves [1], and, in many cases, SO<sub>2</sub> fluxes can be used as a rough  
406 proxy for eruptive activity levels.

407 Ground-based SO<sub>2</sub> flux measurements most often utilize UV differential optical  
408 absorption spectroscopy (DOAS), either via a single spectrometer, a network of  
409 multiple spectrometers, or integrated into a SO<sub>2</sub> camera. In either cases, the  
410 amount of gas between the spectrometer and the radiation source is derived via  
411 the Beer-Lambert law. Single-spectrometer measurements are inherently limited  
412 in temporal resolution, given the finite time necessary to complete a scan or  
413 traverse (every few minutes at best), which can limit integration with data of higher  
414 temporal resolution (e.g., seismicity or infrasound). The resolution of SO<sub>2</sub> flux  
415 datasets can be improved, however, by utilizing spectrometers in other  
416 configurations. Networks of scanning or static upward-looking spectrometers offer  
417 SO<sub>2</sub> flux measurements at up to ~1 Hz. Similarly, spectrometer-integrated SO<sub>2</sub>  
418 camera also offers high-resolution of SO<sub>2</sub> fluxes, but with the added benefit of a  
419 synoptic view of plume behavior, which provides important context for interpreting  
420 degassing dynamics. High spatial resolution allows resolving emissions from  
421 individual vents.

422 OP-FTIR spectroscopy provides information on additional gas species using  
423 natural IR sources, such as lava or the sun, or active sources, such as IR lamps.  
424 If the path-length is known, average gas concentrations may be calculated; often,  
425 results are instead presented as molar ratios of gas species. Measurements made  
426 via OP-FTIR have been utilized at high temporal resolution (up to 1 Hz) to  
427 investigate rapid, short-term changes in gas chemistry correlated with rapid  
428 changes in eruptive dynamisms [18], as well as with geophysical signals. They can  
429 also be used to monitor plume degassing at open-vent volcanoes over longer  
430 periods. Ratios of different gas species to SO<sub>2</sub> can be leveraged alongside  
431 independently measured SO<sub>2</sub> fluxes to quantify the of each gas species and bulk  
432 gas fluxes. The wide range of gases that can be measured via OP-FTIR includes  
433 a number of redox couples (e.g., CO<sub>2</sub>/CO) that can also provide information on  
434 changing redox conditions and degassing style.

435 *Case study box: Cotopaxi and Kīlauea.*

436 Often, as dormant or quiescent volcanoes begin to build toward renewed activity,  
437 one of the quantifiable manifestations of the reawakening is an increase in SO<sub>2</sub>  
438 emissions. This has been documented for many eruptions, including Pinatubo  
439 (Philippines, 1991), Mount St. Helens (USA, 2004), Redoubt Volcano (USA, 2009),  
440 and others. More recently, the 2015 eruption of Cotopaxi (Ecuador) – the first since  
441 the 1940s – exhibited a precursory increase in SO<sub>2</sub> emission as detected by their  
442 network of scanning DOAS spectrometers [19]. Since 2008, the two permanent  
443 DOAS scanners have measured SO<sub>2</sub> fluxes with a temporal resolution of ~10  
444 minutes. Beginning in mid-May of 2015, ~6 weeks after an initial increase in  
445 seismicity, SO<sub>2</sub> emissions began to climb from ~30 to ~300 t/d. From the end of  
446 May through the onset of explosive eruptions in mid-August, SO<sub>2</sub> emissions  
447 increased further and varied between a few hundred and a few thousand t/d. BrO  
448 was detected beginning in June as discrete seismic events began to transition to  
449 tremor, and HCl was detectable by FTIR by early August. During the months-long  
450 eruptive period from August through November, SO<sub>2</sub> emissions were still higher,  
451 averaging ~3,000 t/d, with individual measurements up to ~25,000 t/d. The  
452 precursory sequence of combined seismic and gas data was interpreted to be the  
453 manifestation first of shallowing magma that was still deep enough to inhibit most  
454 sulfur exsolution, followed by further shallowing of the magma, which brought  
455 about the onset of enhanced sulfur degassing and measurable halogen degassing.

456 While the Cotopaxi eruption is an example of increasing SO<sub>2</sub> emissions during  
457 precursory unrest after decades of quiescence, a number of volcanoes also show  
458 the opposite. A decrease in SO<sub>2</sub> emissions ahead of explosive activity, a sign of  
459 sealing and pressurization, on timescales of minutes to days or weeks – as  
460 measured by SO<sub>2</sub> camera or DOAS network – has been documented at systems  
461 including Fuego (Guatemala), Galeras (Colombia), Popocatépetl (Mexico),  
462 Karymsky (Russia), and Sinabung (Indonesia).

463 Though less common at basaltic, non-arc systems – because of the high solubility  
464 of sulfur in basalt [4] that typically limits sulfur degassing to very near-surface  
465 ( $\leq 500$  m) – changes in SO<sub>2</sub> emissions can also sometimes herald changes in  
466 eruptive activity at such volcanoes. In late 2007 through early 2008, even as a  
467 decades-long rift eruption of Kīlauea (USA) continued, summit SO<sub>2</sub> emissions –  
468 measured routinely since the 1970s – began to increase over the course of a few  
469 months, from ~200 to ~1500 t/d [20]. There was a concurrent decrease in the  
470 CO<sub>2</sub>/SO<sub>2</sub> ratio of the summit gases; seismic activity in the summit area increased  
471 as well, preceding the onset of the SO<sub>2</sub> increase by ~1 month. Thus, gas and  
472 seismicity appeared to hint at potential eruptive activity. There was, however, no  
473 shallow (1-2 km) inflation, which would normally be expected in advance of an  
474 eruption. To the contrary, a deflationary trend that began more than a year prior  
475 continued unchanged. An incandescent fumarole field developed after ~3 months  
476 of increasing SO<sub>2</sub> emissions; the vent-clearing explosion, which formed a new  
477 crater and marked the onset of a decade-long summit lava lake eruption, took  
478 place a week later. In this case, where deformation seemed to indicate otherwise,

479 the progressively increasing SO<sub>2</sub> emissions indeed were a key precursor to the  
480 new eruption for Kīlauea.

#### 481 3.4. Satellite-based remote plume measurements.

482 Satellite measurements complement ground-based volcanic gas monitoring by  
483 covering larger spatial scales (regional to global), ensuring geochemical  
484 surveillance of otherwise unmonitored volcanoes, and providing observations  
485 when conditions become too hazardous for proximal data collection (e.g., during  
486 the precursory phase of major eruptions) [21]. Satellite and ground-based remote  
487 sensing of volcanic plumes rely on the same fundamental principles, i.e., observing  
488 the absorption of electromagnetic radiation in the UV and IR spectral bands by  
489 volcanic gases and using this to quantify atmospheric column amounts of the  
490 target gas species. Routine, satellite-based geochemical monitoring of volcanic  
491 gases in lower tropospheric plumes (i.e., passive degassing) is currently restricted  
492 to SO<sub>2</sub> and possibly BrO [6,21]; a more extensive suite of gas species can  
493 potentially be detected in eruptive emissions (e.g., CO<sub>2</sub>, CO, HCl, OCIO) due to a  
494 combination of higher plume altitude, larger gas amounts, and more accessible  
495 absorption bands. UV satellite instruments have greater sensitivity to lower  
496 tropospheric SO<sub>2</sub> than IR sensors, and so the former are favored for space-based  
497 monitoring of volcanic emissions but are limited by the availability of UV radiation.  
498 IR sensors provide critical observations during the night and at high latitudes in the  
499 winter months.

500 Satellite measurements of volcanic plumes offer several advantages over other  
501 monitoring techniques. They provide daily, near-global coverage of volcanic  
502 degassing and some satellite missions, in operation since the early 2000s, now  
503 provide unique, multi-decadal time series of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from SVGE volcanoes.  
504 Two decades of UV measurements by the Ozone Monitoring Instrument (OMI) on  
505 NASA's Aura satellite have permitted the compilation of a comprehensive  
506 inventory of ~100 SVGE volcanoes characterized by persistent SO<sub>2</sub> emissions  
507 (Figure 6), providing new constraints on the global volcanic SO<sub>2</sub> flux and on the  
508 fluxes of other volcanic gases (e.g., CO<sub>2</sub>) when combined with in-situ  
509 measurements of gas ratios. The OMI SO<sub>2</sub> inventory (Figure 6), now being  
510 integrated with results from the more recent TROPOMI, provides a snapshot of  
511 global volcanic degassing, including persistent, high SO<sub>2</sub> fluxes from many open-  
512 vent SVGEs (e.g., Etna, Manam, Popocatepetl), some abrupt changes in SO<sub>2</sub>  
513 emissions at SVGEs that host basaltic lava lakes (e.g., Ambrym, Kīlauea,  
514 Nyiragongo), and notable recent trends toward higher SO<sub>2</sub> emissions at some  
515 volcanoes (e.g., Sangay, Sabancaya). In addition to detecting any significant  
516 changes in SO<sub>2</sub> flux at SVGEs, satellites also permit rapid identification of any new  
517 SO<sub>2</sub> emissions (above detection limits, which may be on the order of 100s of t/d  
518 SO<sub>2</sub> or more) from previously inactive volcanoes, such as WVGE volcanoes in  
519 transition to a more active state. Such data can be used to assess the need for  
520 increased geochemical surveillance via deployment of ground-based  
521 instrumentation. Unlike many ground-based UV spectrometer networks at  
522 degassing volcanoes, satellite-based detection of volcanic SO<sub>2</sub> plumes is  
523 insensitive to wind direction. Furthermore, all satellite data from a given sensor are

524 processed using the same SO<sub>2</sub> retrieval algorithm, providing a level of consistency  
525 (and the opportunity for reprocessing as algorithms improve) lacking in ground-  
526 based remote sensing data collected using a variety of instruments.

527 Disadvantages of satellite observations include lower sensitivity to volcanic SO<sub>2</sub>  
528 than ground-based measurements, a reliance on relatively clear observing  
529 conditions (meteorological clouds often partly or completely obscure volcanic  
530 plumes at lower altitudes), and relatively low temporal resolution. The satellite orbit  
531 governs the temporal resolution of the measurements, and most UV and IR  
532 sensors measuring volcanic SO<sub>2</sub> operate in polar orbit, typically providing data only  
533 once or twice per day at low latitudes. However, over the coming decade a new  
534 constellation of geostationary UV satellite sensors will provide hourly SO<sub>2</sub>  
535 measurements in daytime for some volcanic regions (North America, Europe and  
536 East Asia). Satellite measurements of SO<sub>2</sub> are also typically reported as SO<sub>2</sub> mass  
537 rather than SO<sub>2</sub> flux, in contrast to ground-based SO<sub>2</sub> data, hence merging the two  
538 datasets can be challenging. Various techniques are being refined for estimating  
539 SO<sub>2</sub> fluxes from satellite observations.

540

541 *Case study box: Fourpeaked Mountain and Merapi*

542

543 Timely detection of new SO<sub>2</sub> emissions at reawakening, unmonitored volcanoes is  
544 critical, as it can be diagnostic of magmatic intrusions that may progress toward  
545 eruption, prompting a major reassessment of potential volcanic hazards. Long-  
546 dormant volcanoes (e.g., WVGes) typically host extensive hydrothermal systems  
547 that may initially scrub SO<sub>2</sub> before the hydrothermal fluids dry out and SO<sub>2</sub>  
548 emissions increase. In September 2006, ice-clad Fourpeaked Mountain (USA),  
549 thought to have been inactive in the Holocene, produced an ostensibly phreatic  
550 eruption that nevertheless emitted SO<sub>2</sub> (~2000 tons) clearly detected from space  
551 by Aura/OMI. This satellite data and other observations prompted increased  
552 surveillance of Fourpeaked Mountain by the U.S. Geological Survey Alaska  
553 Volcano Observatory (USGS/AVO), including the installation of a seismic network  
554 and further airborne volcanic gas measurements. Fourpeaked Mountain now ranks  
555 as an historically active volcano, despite not appearing on the list prior to 2006.  
556 Similar, potentially 'vanguard' SO<sub>2</sub> emissions were detected by Aura/OMI at  
557 Garbuna volcano (Papua New Guinea) in October 2005; the first known historical  
558 eruption from a volcano whose last major eruption was about 1800 years ago.

559

560 The significance of these small but measurable SO<sub>2</sub> emissions is not yet fully  
561 understood, although activity at Fourpeaked Mountain has been ascribed to a  
562 shallow magmatic intrusion that stalled, cooled, and degassed in the upper 10 km  
563 of the crust. It has been suggested that the discharge of >100 t/d SO<sub>2</sub> should be  
564 regarded as diagnostic of magma intrusion, rather than the expulsion of gas from  
565 pressurized hydrothermal systems, since SO<sub>2</sub> is not easily extracted from  
566 hydrothermal fluids. Small SO<sub>2</sub> emission events without significant discharge of  
567 juvenile magma could be regarded as 'failed eruptions' and may be common in the  
568 life cycle of a volcano, but it is only very recently (the last two decades) that satellite  
569 observations capable of detecting such events have become available.

570

571 Satellite measurements also enable detection of significant changes in SO<sub>2</sub>  
572 emissions at active volcanoes. Prior to major explosive eruptions, conditions can  
573 become challenging for ground-based remote sensing (e.g., due to destroyed  
574 equipment; extensive, ash-laden plumes; or evacuations preventing access to  
575 instruments and/or roads), or increasingly vigorous emissions may drift beyond the  
576 range of ground-based spectrometer networks. During precursory unrest before  
577 the major November 2010 eruption of Merapi volcano (Indonesia), satellites played  
578 a key role in monitoring increased SO<sub>2</sub> emissions [22]. In late October 2010,  
579 seismicity at Merapi increased and a time series of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions derived from  
580 satellite measurements showed fluxes greatly exceeding both background and  
581 eruptive emissions recorded at Merapi between 1986 and 2007, indicating the  
582 ascent of fresh, mafic magma in advance of the paroxysmal phase of the eruption  
583 on November 4, 2010. SO<sub>2</sub> emissions temporarily declined to a relatively low level  
584 (but still at elevated levels relative to previous Merapi eruptions) during the growth  
585 of a lava dome on November 1-3, 2010, but ramped up again significantly on  
586 November 3, and peaked during the climactic explosive eruptions of November 4-  
587 5.

### 588 3.5. Soil degassing

589 At closed-vent volcanoes, the largest fraction of the magmatic volatile output is not  
590 sustained by crater fumaroles/plumes, but rather by more “invisible” diffuse  
591 emissions from degassing soils. Soil degassing from volcano summits, flanks and  
592 peripheries hence represents a sensible tool to monitor changes in volcanic  
593 activity. CO<sub>2</sub> is the main soil gas constituent, and monitoring the soil CO<sub>2</sub> flux  
594 contributes to understanding volcano behavior and state.

595 The soil CO<sub>2</sub> flux is the result of two different processes [23]: diffusion and  
596 advection. Molecular diffusion is the process in which gas is transported from a  
597 region of high concentration to a region of low concentration. Advection is the  
598 process where gas is transported in response to a pressure gradient. Gas transport  
599 occurs by a combination of these two processes and the total flux is the sum of the  
600 advective and diffusive components. Generally, low CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes are associated with  
601 diffusion, whereas high values occur when advection is the prevalent gas transport  
602 mechanism. Soil degassing is typically structurally controlled, with fractures and  
603 faults acting as main pathways of gas transport and surface release. Mapping of  
604 soil CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at volcano-scale is hence a convenient method for identifying  
605 structural lineaments and faults related to the regional or local tectonic setting.

606 The soil CO<sub>2</sub> flux is typically measured by the accumulation chamber method,  
607 which uses the temporal dependence of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration inside a closed  
608 chamber placed above the ground to calculate a flux [23]. The accumulation  
609 chamber can be applied either (i) during periodic soil surveys, in which  
610 measurements are carried along a regular grid to identify anomalously degassing  
611 Diffuse Degassing Structures (DDS) and hence measure their total CO<sub>2</sub> flux (in  
612 units of tons/d) or (2) by fully automated, permeant instrument measuring in near  
613 real-time the site-specific CO<sub>2</sub> flux (expressed in g m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup>), and its changes through

614 time. While (i) is especially useful for mapping, and for reconstructing volatile  
615 output budgets, methodology (ii) is especially useful for volcano monitoring.

616 *Case study box: Stromboli and El Hierro*

617 Continuous accumulation chamber measurements have proven especially useful  
618 for capturing escalating soil CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes in the run-up to eruption. At Stromboli, an  
619 open-vent volcano in the Aeolian archipelago (Italy), persistent mild (Strombolian)  
620 explosive activity is occasionally interrupted by potentially tsunamigenic explosive  
621 (paroxysmal) and effusive eruptions, the most recent of which occurred in 2002-  
622 2003, 2007, 2014, and 2019. Continuous soil CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes, acquired since 1999 with  
623 automatic accumulation chambers on the volcano's summit, have been especially  
624 useful to characterize, and eventually forecast, the Strombolian-to-effusive activity  
625 transition [24] (Fig. 7a). The volcano's CO<sub>2</sub> output is modulated by a delicate  
626 dynamic balance between the rate of magma supply and degassing in the  
627 plumbing system, and the rate of CO<sub>2</sub> surface release from the plume, soils, and  
628 thermal aquifer (Fig. 7b). Increasing CO<sub>2</sub> flux is a hint for escalating CO<sub>2</sub> supply  
629 from ascending, volatile-rich magma. Elevated CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes (up to 30,000 g m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup>)  
630 were repeatedly observed prior to effusive eruptions in 2002-2003, 2007, and 2014  
631 (Fig. 7b). Also, CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes progressively increased from 2005 to 2019, at an  
632 average rate of 4.1 g m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup>, and even more substantially (at a rate of 24.2 g m<sup>-2</sup>  
633 d<sup>-1</sup>) since 2016. Very high fluxes, up to 24,000 gm<sup>-2</sup>d<sup>-1</sup>, were again detected in the  
634 months prior paroxysmal activity in July 2019.

635 CO<sub>2</sub> flux surveys in anomalous areas (and total CO<sub>2</sub> flux quantifications) can also  
636 be useful for monitoring purposes. For example, more than 17,000 diffuse CO<sub>2</sub> flux  
637 measurements were carried out [25] before and during the 2011-2012 volcanic  
638 eruption of El Hierro, the smallest and south-westernmost island of the Canarian  
639 archipelago. Two significant CO<sub>2</sub> flux increases were recorded, during the pre-  
640 eruptive and eruptive phases, respectively. The first CO<sub>2</sub> flux increase was  
641 recorded two weeks before the onset of the submarine eruption (time set at 0 in  
642 Figure 7c) with an estimated average CO<sub>2</sub> output (627 t d<sup>-1</sup>) well above the  
643 background (422 t d<sup>-1</sup>). This increase was likely due to the precursory release of  
644 CO<sub>2</sub>-rich magmatic gases, sourced by deeply rising magma. The second increase  
645 started coincident with the most energetic syn-eruptive seismic activity (see Figure  
646 7c) interpreted to reflect relaxation around the magma reservoir that fed the  
647 eruption.

648 3.6 Volcanic lakes

649 Many closed-vent volcanoes are topped by colorful crater lakes that, when present,  
650 are a primary target of geochemical monitoring. Volcanic lakes [26] are surface  
651 manifestations of complex processes occurring in the hydrothermal-magmatic  
652 system. Lake chemistry results from a combination of volcanic gas injection, water-  
653 rock interaction, dilution by meteoric water, evaporation/degassing, mineral  
654 precipitation, drainage and recirculation of water from the lake into the underneath  
655 hydrothermal system. Hence, the physical (e.g., volume, temperature) and  
656 chemical characteristics (pH, compositions of dissolved, exsolved, and

657 precipitated constituents) of these lakes are variable because they reflect changes  
658 in both the sub-limnic hydrothermal system and the feeding magma source. Hyper-  
659 acid ( $\text{pH} < 1$ ) hydrothermal fluids [27] can dissolve large quantities of fresh volcanic  
660 rock, creating porosity and permeability in the central up-flow zone, whereas  
661 secondary mineral precipitation seals fractures where fluid cooling and fluid-rock  
662 neutralization reactions take place. In acidic water ( $\text{pH} < 4$ ),  $\text{CO}_2$  can pass through  
663 crater lakes with minimal interaction (e.g., without being absorbed), whereas at  
664 high pH a large fraction of the magmatic  $\text{CO}_2$  input can dissolve into water as  
665  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ . Acidic magmatic gases, such as  $\text{SO}_2$ ,  $\text{HCl}$ , and  $\text{HF}$ , are soluble in water  
666 and are absorbed in hydrothermal systems and/or volcanic lakes [15]; however, at  
667 hyperacidic lake conditions ( $\text{pH} < 1$ ), associated with systems with high magmatic  
668 gas inputs, acidic gas species can also pass through the lake. Ultimately, gas  
669 fluxes from volcanic lakes depend on the balance between the magmatic gas input,  
670 and the capacity of the hydrothermal and limnic systems to absorb them. This  
671 balance is predominantly controlled by the volume of lake water relative to the  
672 magmatic gas influx, by the solubility of the gas species in question, and pH.  
673 Degassing through the surface of a volcanic lake occurs by bubbling  
674 (convective/advective degassing), evaporation and diffusion through the water/air  
675 interface.

676 Monitoring of lake level/volume, pH, temperature, dissolved components as well  
677 the lake gas emissions are effective ways of tracking changes in the hydrothermal-  
678 magmatic system. Injection of fresh magmatic fluids can trigger phreatic or  
679 phreatomagmatic eruptions, and is typically associated with increasing  
680 temperature, loss of lake volume, decrease in pH, increasing degassing of  $\text{CO}_2$   
681 and acid gases, and increasing concentrations of dissolved components in the  
682 lake, especially those derived from fresh intruding magma (such as Mg and rare  
683 earth elements). Hydrothermal sealing of the conduit, on the other hand, is driven  
684 by secondary mineral precipitation and decreased permeability, and can lead to  
685 gas accumulation and pressurization beneath the seal, potentially priming the  
686 system for larger eruptions once the seal fails catastrophically.

687 We summarize two distinct scenarios (Fig. 8) for the expected sequence of  
688 geochemical signals observable in the run-up to eruption at hyper-acidic crater  
689 lakes:

690 1. Eruption after a slow heating of the system due to magma injection. In this  
691 scenario, the crater lake system undergoes a gradual transformation. As  
692 magma infiltrates the subsurface, temperatures rise slowly, leading to  
693 subtle changes in the hydrothermal system. Over time, the lake's water  
694 temperature elevates until it evaporates. The injection of a fresh magma  
695 drives the Mg/Cl up (because of increased leaching of fresh magma) and  
696 increases the  $\text{SO}_2$  flux (this increases further once the lake disappears).  
697 Initially, the lake plume  $\text{CO}_2/\text{SO}_2$  ratio increases due to the deep magma  
698 recharge initiating the process and then decreases as the magma gets  
699 shallower. A further  $\text{CO}_2/\text{SO}_2$  drop occurs at the time of the eruption as  
700 magma remobilizes S from the sublimnic alteration zone (Figure 8).



701 2. Sudden eruption triggered by failure of a hydrothermal seal. In this  
702 scenario, the crater lake system experiences a rapid and dynamic shift.  
703 Hydrothermal sealing causes pressure to accumulate and temperature to  
704 decrease. Temperature then increases once the eruption breaks the seal,  
705 and then the lake evaporates completely. Mg/Cl ratio remains constant until  
706 the seal breaks, which releases deeper Mg-rich fluids, and Mg/Cl further  
707 increases as the lake evaporates (and HCl is lost to the gas plume). SO<sub>2</sub>  
708 flux decreases as sealing occurs, then SO<sub>2</sub> flux increases moderately as  
709 the accumulated SO<sub>2</sub> is released. CO<sub>2</sub>/SO<sub>2</sub> increases with sealing, then  
710 drops to shallow magmatic values as the seal breaks, and then goes back  
711 to background values (Figure 8).

712 The two scenarios above imply that a combination of regular surveys (for crater  
713 lake water sampling and analysis) and continuous observations with permanent  
714 instrumental networks (DOAS for SO<sub>2</sub> flux and Multi-GAS for plume chemistry) is  
715 critically required for effective lake monitoring.

#### 716 **4. A general, integrated model for volcano geochemical monitoring.**

717 We synthesize the above information, and the results of monitoring efforts in  
718 response to recent volcanic unrests/eruptions, in the general model of Figure 9.  
719 The figure illustrates, in a simplistic, schematic and hence purely illustrative form,  
720 the expected sequence of geochemical changes, and the consequent progression  
721 in geochemical monitoring actions, during volcano evolution from dormancy to  
722 eruption.

723 During the repose periods of quiescent volcanoes (Fig. 9a), surface gas consists  
724 of H<sub>2</sub>O-rich hydrothermal vapors. These WSGE emit no SO<sub>2</sub> and HCl, implying that  
725 ground-based remote sensing units (e.g., scanning DOAS, SO<sub>2</sub>-camera and  
726 FTIR), and satellites, will detect no gas at all (Fig. 9a''). In this context, periodic  
727 (monthly-to-yearly) direct gas sampling of fumaroles is the most effective  
728 monitoring strategy (Fig. 9a). Any summit crater lake will also need to be sampled  
729 periodically, to test for temporal stability of temperature, salinity, and compositions.  
730 Attempts to measure the fumarolic CO<sub>2</sub> flux will be complicated by the absence of  
731 SO<sub>2</sub>, and will therefore require profiling CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in the plume via either  
732 ground or airborne surveys. Notably, in such closed-vent volcanoes, this fumarolic  
733 CO<sub>2</sub> flux (Fig. 9a'') is normally far more modest than the diffuse CO<sub>2</sub> output from  
734 the volcano's flank/periphery, implying that soil CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring is also critically  
735 important. During repose, this soil CO<sub>2</sub> output will be dominated by biogenic  
736 sources (soil respiration) and will likely exhibit strong seasonal modulations (Fig.  
737 9a'').

738 Unrest (Fig. 9b) is typically initiated by an escalating supply of magmatic gases  
739 into the hydrologic/hydrothermal system. At this stage, the critical question is to  
740 establish if magmatic gases are supplied by decompressing (ascending) mafic  
741 magma at depth (magmatic unrest; Fig. 9c), or if instead magma is stationary and  
742 releasing volatiles due to crystallization/second boiling. In such a second case,  
743 timing and magnitude (flux) of magmatic volatile release at surface will be primarily  
744 modulated by pressure build-up underneath (and failure of) a hydrothermal seal

745 (hydrothermal unrest, Fig. 1c). Independent (geophysical) evidence is normally  
746 required to resolve the two scenarios, because geochemical data alone provide  
747 ambiguous results. Whatever the case, unrest can be tracked by crater fumaroles  
748 becoming hotter and more magmatic in nature, e.g., with increasing CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>S  
749 proportions relative to H<sub>2</sub>O (Fig. 9b'). Fumarolic CO<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>4</sub> and CO/CO<sub>2</sub> ratios are  
750 also likely to increase as caused by hydrothermal conditions evolving to higher P-  
751 T because of the input of hot, oxidized magmatic fluids [12]. At this stage, it  
752 becomes increasingly convenient to combine periodic direct sampling surveys with  
753 the installation of the first continuous monitoring sensor kits, especially fully  
754 automated accumulation chambers that real-time measure the soil CO<sub>2</sub> flux.

755 If magmatic unrest progresses (Fig. 9c), and hydrothermal reactions become less  
756 and less intense, magmatic SO<sub>2</sub> can eventually make its way to the surface,  
757 causing the fumarolic CO<sub>2</sub>/S<sub>t</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>S/SO<sub>2</sub> ratios to decrease (S<sub>t</sub> is total sulfur)  
758 (Fig. 9c'), and the SO<sub>2</sub> flux to become detectable from ground (and eventually from  
759 satellites) (Fig. 9c''). The soil CO<sub>2</sub> output is also expected to increase (Fig. 9c'')  
760 due to escalating magmatic CO<sub>2</sub> transport, and crater lakes are anticipated to  
761 warm up, and to become increasingly acidic and saline (lakes may become  
762 permeable to gas, and eventually dry-up and disappear when eruption is  
763 approaching). As the unrest ramps up, direct sampling becomes increasingly  
764 impractical and hazardous, demanding a transition toward instrumental in-situ  
765 observations (e.g., the deployment of a fully automated Multi-GAS). Remote  
766 sensing techniques (e.g., scanning DOAS, SO<sub>2</sub> camera, and FTIR) also become  
767 instrumental to monitoring, with satellites becoming increasingly useful as gas and  
768 thermal output intensify.

769 Monitoring activity in the eruption run-up (Fig. 9d) requires careful analysis of data  
770 streamed by multi-sensor instrumental geochemical monitoring networks. High  
771 CO<sub>2</sub>/SO<sub>2</sub> ratios and increasing CO<sub>2</sub> (and perhaps SO<sub>2</sub>) fluxes are likely to become  
772 detectable prior (weeks to month) eruption onset (Fig. 9d' and 9d''). As the eruption  
773 starts (Fig. 9d), the operability of in-situ instruments is often compromised,  
774 demanding a combination of FTIR and airborne (drone-based) Multi-GAS  
775 measurements (for chemistry). Remote sensing techniques (from both ground and  
776 space) emerge as the key operational tool for eruption monitoring, especially to  
777 quantify the large syn-eruptive SO<sub>2</sub> (and HCl) fluxes (Fig. 9d').

## 778 **5. Summary and future directions.**

779 Geochemical volcano monitoring has transformed in the last few decades. By  
780 exploiting data streamed in near real-time by instrumental networks, fluid  
781 geochemistry is increasingly becoming an operational tool in the hands of  
782 volcanologists, volcanic hazard managers, and decision-makers. We have shown  
783 that capturing precursory geochemical change prior to eruption can now be  
784 achieved with increasing success when a multi-parameter, multi-instrument  
785 network is in place (Fig. 2). This network should be progressively refined as the  
786 state of the volcano evolves during unrest, making different monitoring strategies  
787 more effective, and in the run-up to eruption (Fig. 9).

788 We expect additional transformation in the field in the years to come, inspired by  
789 new technological development. There is growing need of increasing the number  
790 of gas species (including, for example, HCl, HF, CH<sub>4</sub>, and CO) that can be real-  
791 time detected by in-situ permanent instruments (e.g., Multi-GAS). These  
792 instruments will need to improve in terms of robustness, operational simplicity and  
793 reduced costs, and standardized codes for near real-time data acquisition,  
794 processing, visualization, and interpretation (for example, assisted by artificial  
795 intelligence) will need to be developed, and distributed to volcano observatories  
796 worldwide. Barriers to open data sharing still exist and will need to be overcome.  
797 Drones, or UAS (unoccupied aircraft systems), have already been employed at  
798 many volcanoes for SO<sub>2</sub> flux measurements, Multi-GAS measurements, gas  
799 sampling, and water sampling, and more. Given drones' ability to make proximal  
800 measurements in hazardous situations and environments while operators remain  
801 at a safe distance, we expect further proliferation of innovative UAS-based volcanic  
802 gas measurements in coming years. Satellites are today primarily employed for  
803 SO<sub>2</sub> in geochemical volcano monitoring, but measuring other critical species for  
804 monitoring, especially CO<sub>2</sub>, remains extremely desirable, and will potentially  
805 become a reality soon as new airborne IR sensors are deployed onboard new  
806 generations of satellites.

807 **6. References** (*titles from this and previous editions of the EoV do not count for*  
808 *the 20 ref. limit*)

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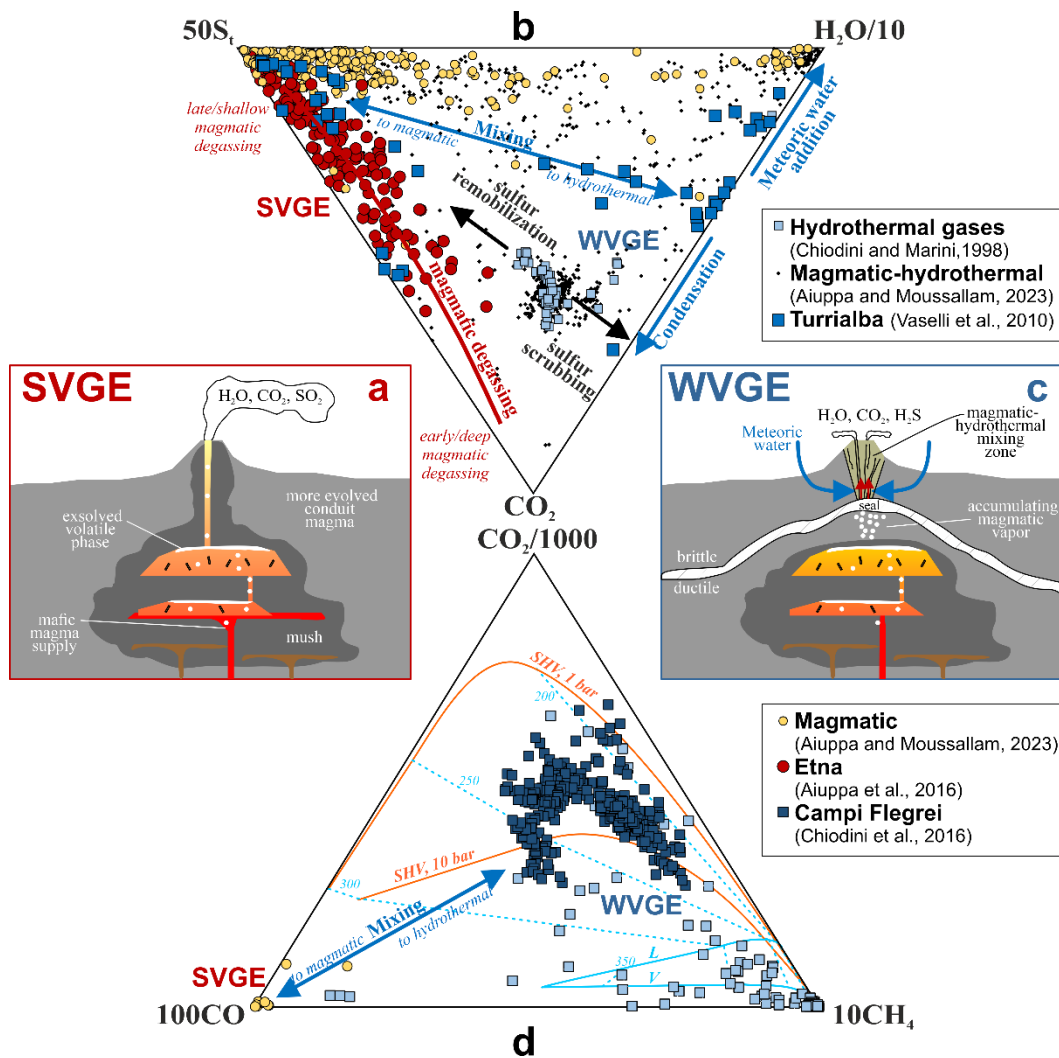
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## 898 **7. Figure and figure captions.**

899 **Figure 1** – A) A schematic cross-section of a SVGE (Strong Volcanic Gas  
900 Emitters) volcano. The magmatic gases they release (by either open-vent  
901 degassing or hot dome-hosted fumaroles) are H<sub>2</sub>O-CO<sub>2</sub>-SO<sub>2</sub> mixtures. In the  
902 triangular plot of panel B), these magmatic gases are exemplified by the yellow  
903 (data from a global database) and red (Etna) circles. At any given volcano, gas  
904 compositional change is controlled by changes in magma degassing depth and  
905 extent; see the Etna example (red circles are selected plume results from the  
906 Bocca Nuova crater, which range from CO<sub>2</sub>-rich deeply exsolved gas to SO<sub>2</sub>-rich  
907 shallow sourced gas). C) A schematic cross-section of a WVGE (Weak Volcanic  
908 Gas Emitters) volcano. Gases are H<sub>2</sub>O-CO<sub>2</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>S mixtures formed by boiling of  
909 meteoric water-dominated hydrothermal aquifers, heated by magmatic gases  
910 released by magma stored at depth. A hydrothermal mineral seal separates the  
911 ductile and brittle crust and modulates (via press-build-up until failure) the rate of  
912 magmatic gas supply. At these WVGE volcanoes, the main drivers of chemical

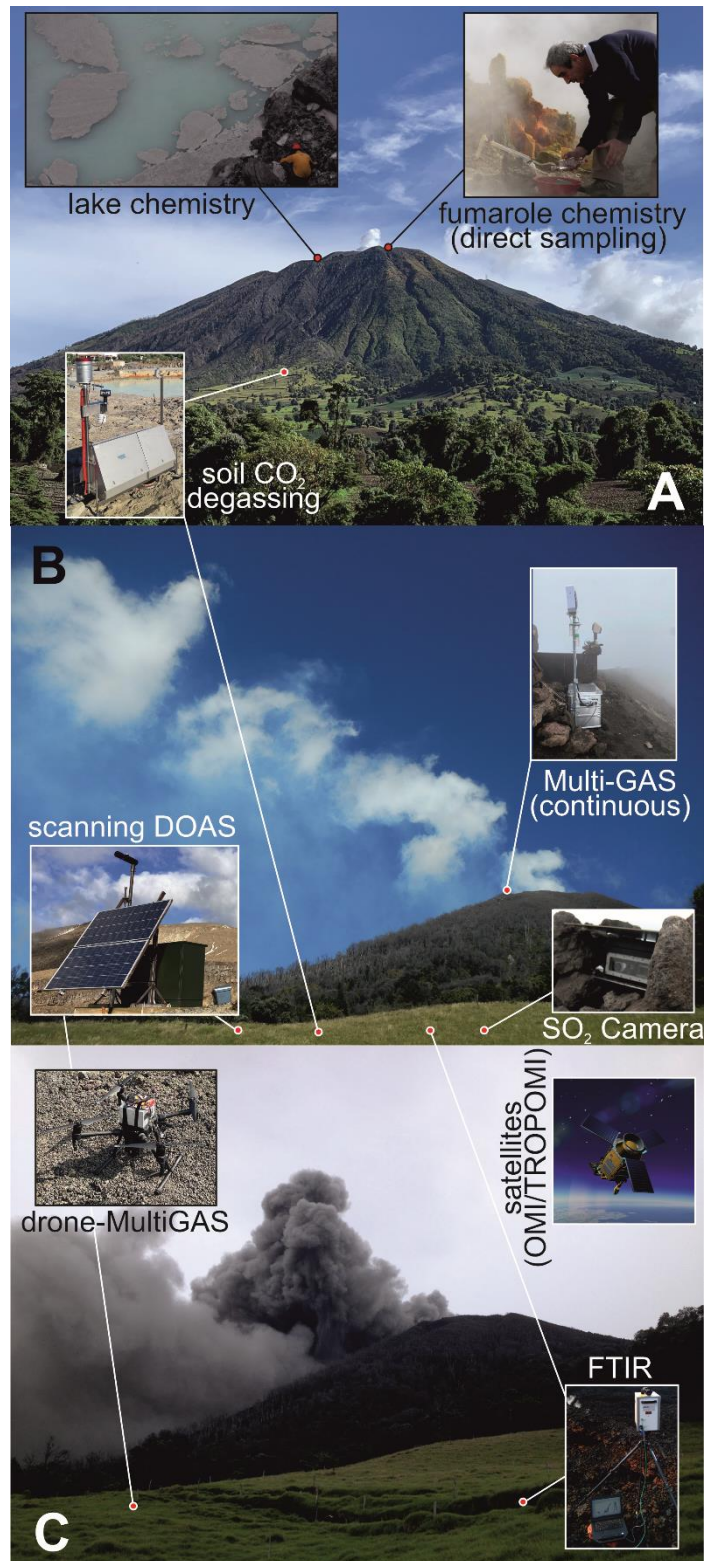
913 change are temporally variable extents of (i) mixing between magmatic and  
 914 hydrothermal gases, (ii) sulfur scrubbing in (or remobilization from) hydrothermal  
 915 minerals/fluids, (iii) steam/condensation, and (iv) meteoric water addition.  
 916 Hydrothermal to magmatic gas transition is exemplified by the Turrialba gas  
 917 dataset [13]; D) Relative proportions of C species. Hydrothermal gases from  
 918 WVGE are CH<sub>4</sub>-enriched, and are interpreted to reflect equilibration in the liquid  
 919 (L), vapor (V) or superheated vapor (SHV) over a range of hydrothermal  
 920 temperatures (light blue dashed °C). Drivers of change (as exemplified by the  
 921 Campi Flegrei case) are either changing hydrothermal P-T-X conditions, or mixing  
 922 with magmatic gases, that are CO-rich and CH<sub>4</sub>-poor (often CH<sub>4</sub>-free; data from  
 923 [5]).



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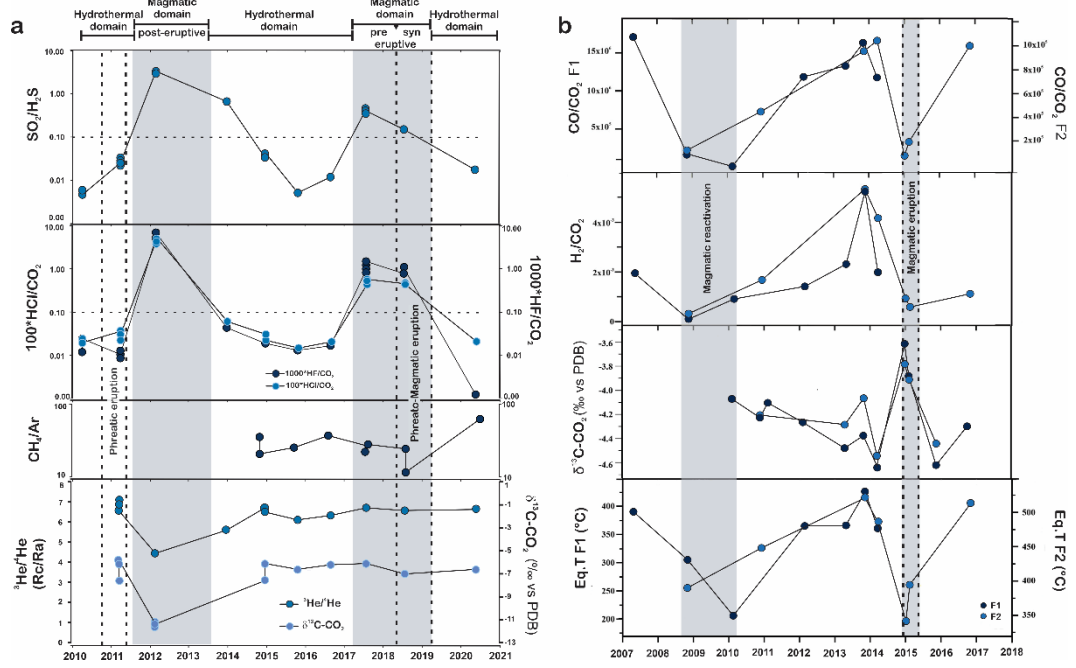
926 **Figure 2** – Integrated geochemical monitoring network during A) repose, B)  
927 escalating degassing (unrest), C) eruption. Turrialba volcano in background (photo  
928 credits, J.M.D.M).



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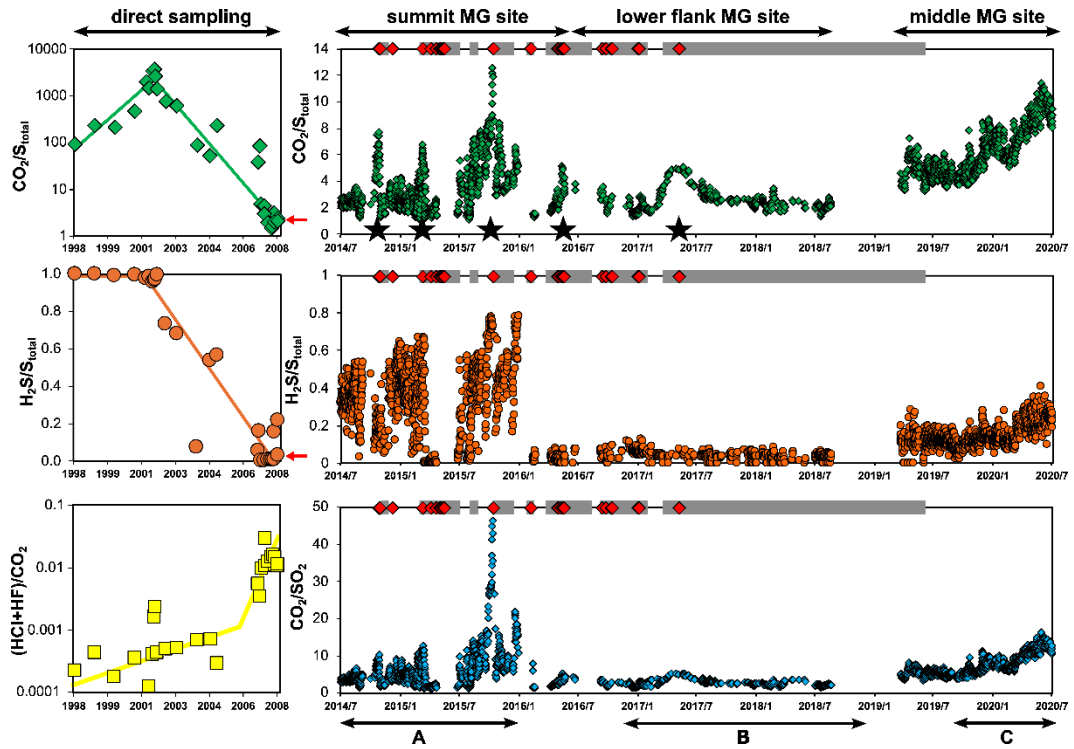
931 **Figure 3** - a) Peteroa volcano gas time series. The panels illustrate the temporal  
 932 evolution (2010 to 2021) of SO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>S, 100\*HCl/CO<sub>2</sub>, 1000\*HF/CO<sub>2</sub> (thin dashed  
 933 lines point out 0.1 ratio values), CH<sub>4</sub>/Ar ratios, <sup>3</sup>He/<sup>4</sup>He (Rc/Ra), and δ<sup>13</sup>C-CO<sub>2</sub>  
 934 (‰vs. V-PDB) in fumarolic gases [16]. b) Pico do Fogo volcano gas time series.  
 935 The plot illustrates the temporal evolution (2007 to 2018) of CO/CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>,  
 936 δ<sup>13</sup>C-CO<sub>2</sub> (‰vs. V-PDB), and equilibrium temperature (EqT; estimated based on  
 937 the CH<sub>4</sub>-CO-CO<sub>2</sub> system: 3CO<sub>2</sub> + CH<sub>4</sub> ⇌ 4CO + 2H<sub>2</sub>O) in two fumarolic vents  
 938 (F1 and F2) [17]. Gray shaded areas highlight phases with magmatic gas  
 939 signatures. The phreatic, phreato-magmatic, and magmatic eruptions (between  
 940 thick dashed lines) are also indicated.  
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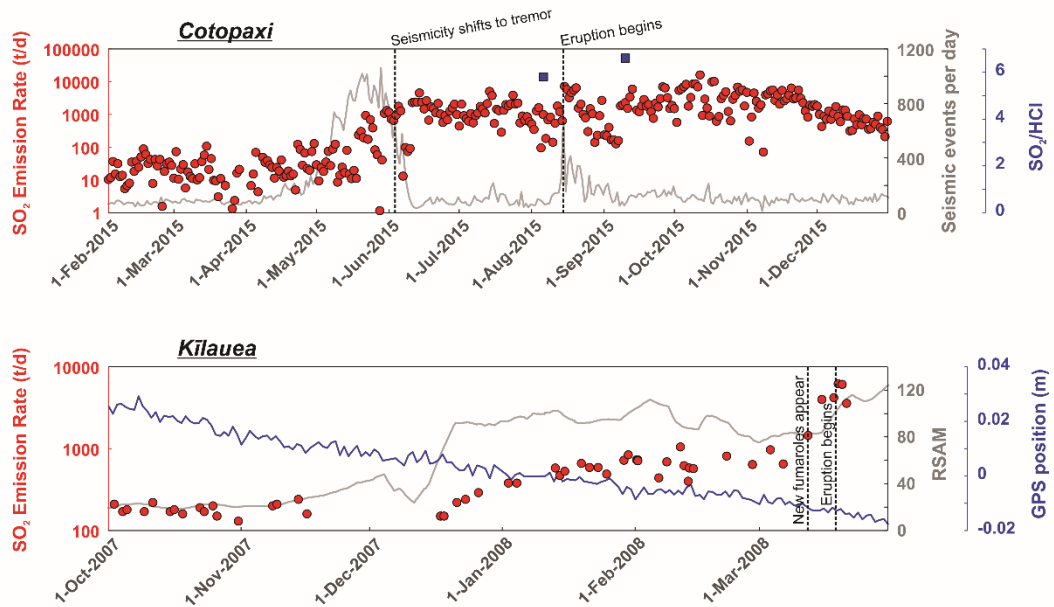
944 **Figure 4** - Changes in gas compositions at Turrialba volcano from direct sampling  
 945 (left panels, 1998-2008) and Multi-GAS (right panels, 2014-2020) tracked the  
 946 displacement of the hydrothermal system by magma intrusion, preceding vent-  
 947 opening eruptions, years of semi-continuous ash emissions, and small  
 948 Strombolian eruptions (note a small Multi-GAS data gap in 2019).



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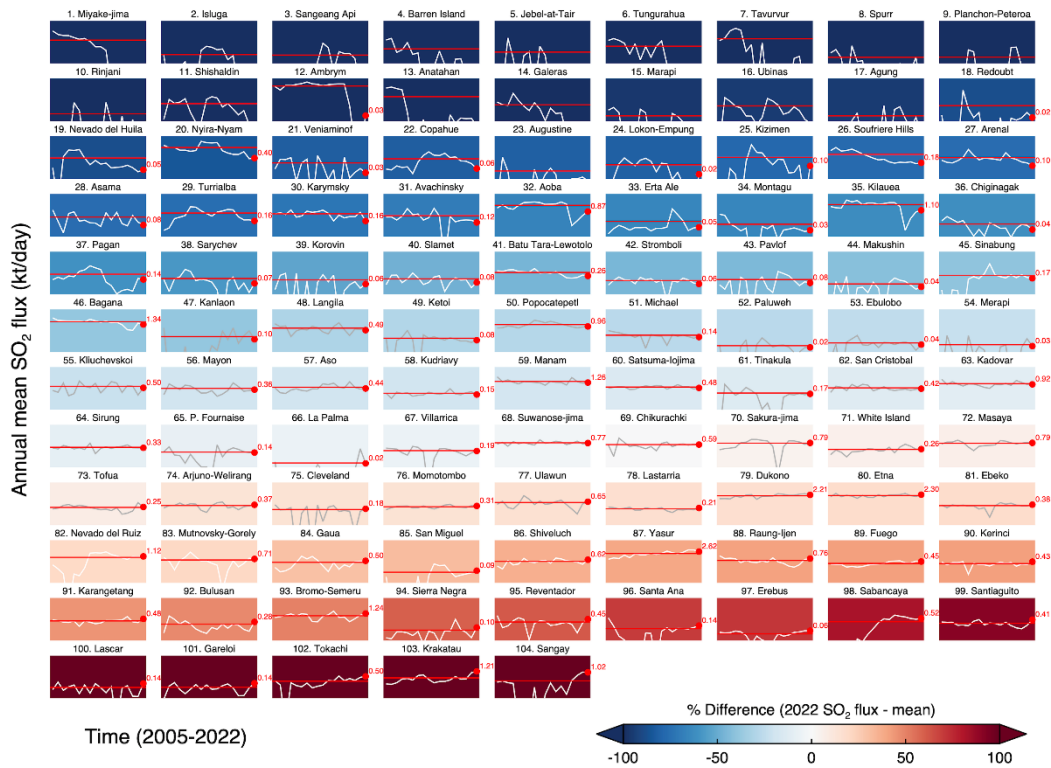
951 **Figure 5** - Top: SO<sub>2</sub> emissions (red), transient seismic events per day (gray), and  
 952 SO<sub>2</sub>/HCl ratios (blue) during 2015 at Cotopaxi Volcano. Both seismicity and SO<sub>2</sub>  
 953 emissions began to increase months in advance of the eventual eruptive activity  
 954 in mid-August, indicating shallowing magma. The detection of HCl in early August  
 955 further supported the interpretation that magma was nearing the surface. Seismic  
 956 data courtesy of Silvana Hidalgo. Gas data available at  
 957 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1594/IEDA/111165>. Bottom: SO<sub>2</sub> emissions (red), weekly  
 958 RSAM (station RIM, gray), and GPS North-South displacement (station UWEV,  
 959 blue) in late 2007 and early 2008 at the summit of Kīlauea. Though GPS indicated  
 960 continued shallow deflation, both seismic tremor and SO<sub>2</sub> emissions began to  
 961 climb above background in November and December of 2007, hinting at  
 962 shallowing magma. A new fumarole field appeared on 12 March 2008 and became  
 963 incandescent a few days later, less than a week before the onset of the new  
 964 eruption. Data from ref. [20] references therein.



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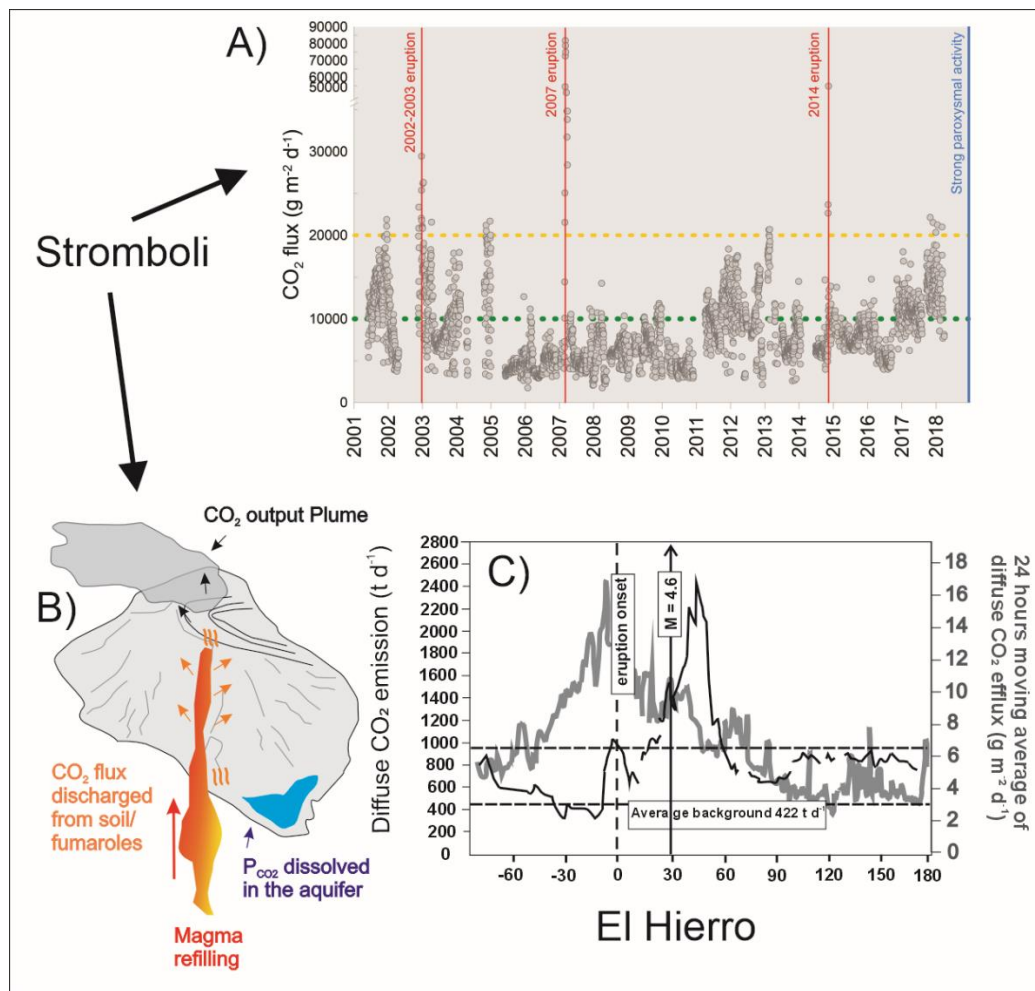
967 **Figure 6** - Time series of annual mean SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in 2005-2022 for 104  
 968 degassing volcanoes derived from NASA/Aura Ozone Monitoring Instrument  
 969 (OMI) satellite observations. Each panel shows the SO<sub>2</sub> time series for the  
 970 indicated volcano (white or gray curve) on a log scale (y-axis is scaled from 0.01-  
 971 20 kilotons/day on each plot), the mean SO<sub>2</sub> flux (*horizontal red line*), and the SO<sub>2</sub>  
 972 flux (kt/day) in 2022 (red dot; only shown if >0.01 kt/day). Panels are colored and  
 973 ordered based on the percentage difference between the SO<sub>2</sub> flux in 2022 and the  
 974 mean SO<sub>2</sub> flux.



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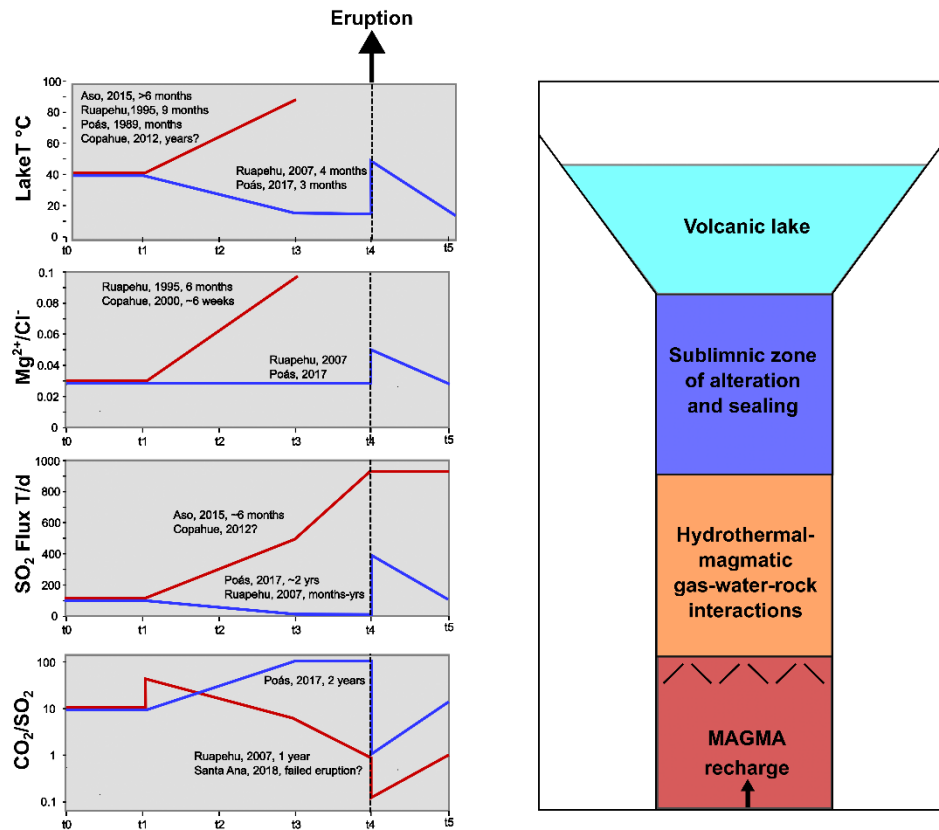
977 **Figure 7-** a) Daily averaged (24 measurements/day) CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes at Stromboli in the  
 978 2001 to 2018 period. Onset of the 2002–2003, 2007, 2014, and 2019 eruptions are  
 979 indicated. B) Sketch of the Stromboli plumbing system: exsolved volatiles from the  
 980 degassing magma are primarily emitted by the plume, and partially interact with a  
 981 summit hydrothermal system to feed cold fumaroles, diffuse soil degassing, and  
 982 thermal waters. When the dynamic equilibrium between gas input and output is  
 983 altered by increasing magmatic gas supply from depth, the hydrothermal system  
 984 releases more CO<sub>2</sub> to the surface; C) Time series of the 24 h moving averages of  
 985 diffuse CO<sub>2</sub> flux at a fixed station (gray) and temporal evolution of total diffuse CO<sub>2</sub>  
 986 flux (black) during 2011–2012 at El Hierro volcano. Time is expressed in days  
 987 before/after eruption onset.



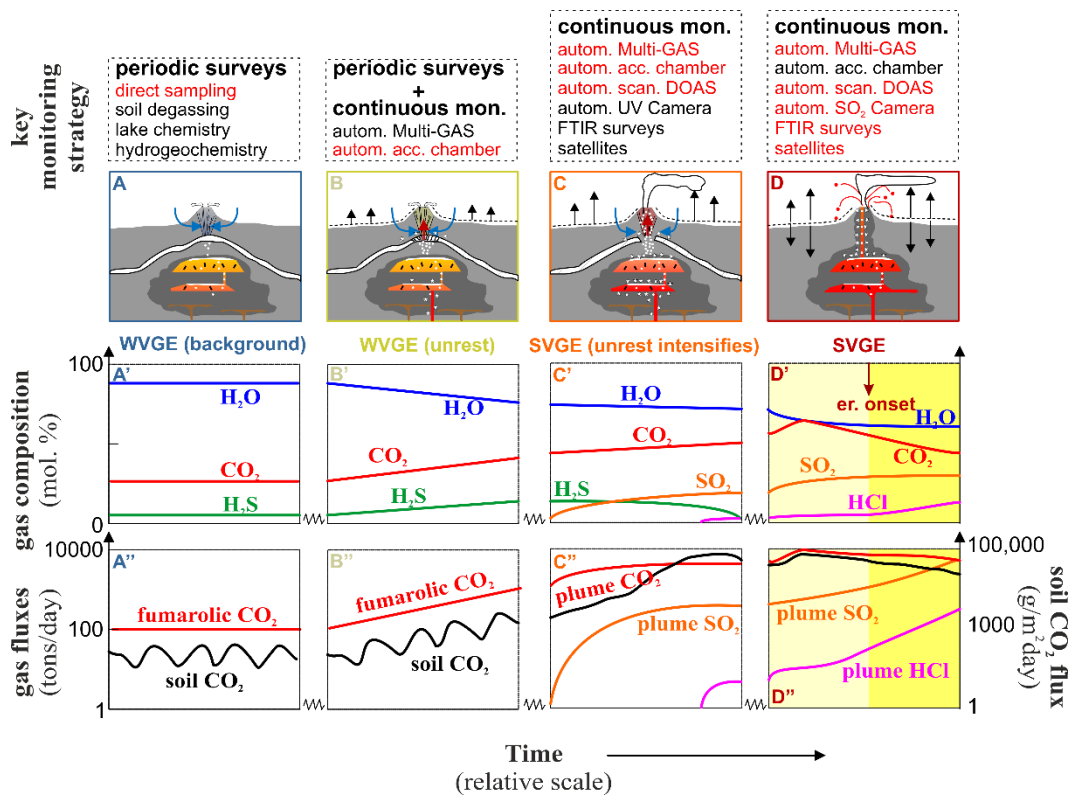
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990 **Figure 8:** (right) Sketch showing the typical structure of a hyper-acid high-activity  
 991 lake. (Left) Idealized time series illustrate the expected changes for a few key  
 992 geochemical monitoring parameters for 2 end-member cases: Red lines show the  
 993 expected progression for the run-up to an eruption driven by deep magma injection  
 994 and magma rising to the surface, whereas the blue lines show the expected  
 995 progression for a system that becomes hydrothermally sealed and then erupts due  
 996 to pressure/volatile accumulation below the seal. The process leading up to  
 997 eruption starts at  $t_1$ , where new magma starts being injected, raising lake  
 998 temperature (until the lake evaporates at  $t_3$ ). Fresh rock in the system drives Mg/Cl  
 999 up, rising magma drives increasing  $\text{SO}_2$  degassing (which increases further once  
 1000 the lake disappears at  $t_3$ ), initially associated with an increase in  $\text{CO}_2/\text{SO}_2$  (deep  
 1001 magma recharge initiating the process) and then decreasing  $\text{CO}_2/\text{SO}_2$  as the  
 1002 magma rises (another drop in  $\text{CO}_2/\text{SO}_2$  occurs at the time of the eruption as  
 1003 magma remobilizes S from the sublimnic alteration zone). For the case of pressure  
 1004 accumulation by sealing, the lake temperature decreases, then surges once the  
 1005 eruption breaks the seal, and then the lake evaporates completely. Mg/Cl stays  
 1006 constant until the seal breaks, which releases deeper Mg-rich fluids, and Mg/Cl  
 1007 increases as the lake evaporates.  $\text{SO}_2$  flux decreases as sealing occurs, then  
 1008 comes out moderately as the accumulated  $\text{SO}_2$  is released.  $\text{CO}_2/\text{SO}_2$  increases  
 1009 with sealing, then drops to shallow magmatic values as the seal breaks, and then  
 1010 goes back to background values.



1012 **Figure 9** - A schematic, purely illustrative model describing the expected sequence  
 1013 of geochemical changes (panels A' to D'') during a hypothetical volcano dormancy-  
 1014 to-eruption progression. Panels A to D exemplify key processes in the magmatic  
 1015 plumbing system and in the overlying hydrothermal system. The two are thought  
 1016 to be separated by a hydrothermal mineral seal at which the ductile-brittle transition  
 1017 occurs (note the ductile brittle transition is here exemplified as a layer, but rather  
 1018 correspond to progressive, dynamic (in space and time) transitional environment  
 1019 from ductile rocks to brittle rocks and therefore a permeability transition).  
 1020 Seismicity (stars) and deformation (dashed line + arrows) patterns are also  
 1021 schematically illustrated. Time is in arbitrary units, and the chemical changes are  
 1022 purely hypothetical and for illustration purposes only. A recommended progression  
 1023 of geochemical monitoring actions is illustrated in the top panels. A continuous  
 1024 instrumental monitoring network is critically demanded to capture short-term  
 1025 changes prior to eruption, and to follow/monitor ongoing eruptions. This network  
 1026 should also ideally be in place at any SVGE (at both mafic open-vent volcanoes  
 1027 and more silicic dome-hosting volcanoes).



1028