

Celebrating 100 years of volcanic activity: IUGG 2019@Montreal

# Causes and consequences of lava dome eruptions

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## During these 100 years, many lava dome eruptions

Sheldrake et al. (2016)

- Episodic regime: lasting months (Redoubt, Augustine) to years (Unzen, Pelée)
- Persistent regime: long-term (Merapi, Colima, Lascar, Shiveluch) + w/ long-repose (Santiaguito, Bezymianny)
- **3. Mixed regime** (MSH, Soufrière Hills, Tungurahua, Popocatépetl)
- 4. Non-eruptive degassing regime
- Episodic regime is lava dome eruptions in a **closed system**, including the dome eruptions after Plinian eruptions.



## Longevity of lava dome eruption



250

200

150

- Sinabung

---- Redubt

- MSH 2004-5 – Unzen



## What controls degassing efficiency

1991-95 lava dome

Unzen Volcano Developed in an active glaben



1991 pyroclastic flows with casualties including Kraffts and Glicken

#### Shimabara

Conduit drilling

## **Unzen Science Drilling Project (USDP 2003-4)**





**USDP (2003-4)** 

#### Conduit lava of 1990-95 eruption





The conduct aDO eruption was penetrated, but structurally clear evidence for degassing was found







Conclusion: Special structure implying effective lateral degassing has not developed within the conduit zone about ~1 km below crater.

Nakada et al. (2005)

Analy: S. Nakai Incl. data of Chen et al. (1998)

## Magma discharge rate controls the difference between Plinian and lava dome eruptions



## Subplinian to lava dome eruption at Shimoedake, Kirishima, Japan

In 2011: Subplinian events >> dome growth >> Vulcanian events

Lava dome formed for a week with the volume of 1.5x10<sup>7</sup> m<sup>3</sup>.

Jan 26, 2011 (by K. Shimousuki)

/ Jan 31, 2011 (by T. Kobayashi)

Lava dome

Feb 1, 2011



GPS vectors during Jan 21-Feb 1, suggesting deflation of a magma chamber ~9 km deep (Ueda et al., 2013).

The source of vulcanian events was shallow, just beneath the crater (Kato and Yamasato, 2013).

## Three subplinian events were followed by lava dome effusion



Cumulative volume of magma exited from the magma chamber, referring to geodetic data (discharge rates were calculated from these data).

## Kelud, Indonesia Plinian eruption vs. dome eruption



| Year | VEI | Eruption<br>type | Inter-eruption<br>interval<br>(years) | Volume<br>erupted<br>$(10^6 \text{ m}^3)$ | Casualties   |
|------|-----|------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|
|      |     |                  | (years)                               | (10 111)                                  |  |
| 1000 | 3   |                  |                                       |   | ?  |
| 1311 | 3   |                  | 311                                   |   | Reported, number unknown   |
| 1334 | 3   |                  | 23                                    |   | Reported, number unknown   |
| 1376 | 3   | Dome             | 42                                    |   | Reported, number unknown   |
| 1385 | 3   |                  | 9                                     |   | -  |
| 1395 | 3   |                  | 10                                    |   |  |
| 1411 | 3   |                  | 16                                    |   |  |
| 1450 | 3   |                  | 39                                    |   |  |
| 1451 | 3   |                  | 1                                     |   |  |
| 1462 | 3   |                  | 11                                    |   |  |
| 1481 | 3   |                  | 19                                    |   | A DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF THE  |
| 1548 | 3   |                  | 67                                    |   | A AN SHOW  |
| 1586 | 5   | Explosive        | 38                                    | 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1     |  |
| 1641 | 4   | Explosive        | 55                                    | MAR ALL                                   |  |
| 1716 | 2   |                  | 75                                    |   | the state of the s |
| 1752 | 2   |                  | 36                                    |   |  |
| 1771 | 2   |                  | 19                                    | 2007                                      | -8 eruption  |
| 1776 | 2   |                  | 5                                     | Contraction of the local sector           |  |
| 1785 | 2   |                  | 9                                     |   | ?  |
| 1811 | 2   |                  | 26                                    |   | ?  |
| 1825 | 2   |                  | 14                                    |   | None   |
| 1826 | 4   | Explosive        | 1                                     |   | None   |
| 1835 | 2   |                  | 9                                     |   | None   |
| 1848 | 3   |                  | 13                                    |   | None   |
| 1851 | 2   |                  | 3                                     |   | None   |
| 1864 | 2   |                  | 13                                    |   | None   |
| 1901 | 3   | Explosive        | 37                                    |   | Reported, number unknown   |
| 1919 | 4   | Explosive        | 18                                    | 190                                       | 5160   |
| 1920 | 2   | Dome             | 1                                     |   | None   |
| 1951 | 4   | Explosive        | 31                                    | 200                                       | 7 died, 167 injured  |
| 1966 | 4   | Explosive        | 15                                    | 90  | 210  |
| 1967 | 1   |                  | 1                                     |   |  |
| 1990 | 4   | Explosive        | 23                                    | 130                                       | 34   |
| 2007 | 2   | Dome             | 17                                    | 16.3                                      | None 11  |
| 2014 | 4   | Explosive        | 7                                     | 220                                       | None   |



### Magma discharge rates of Kelud eruptions



Magma discharge rates and eruption volumes for recent 6 eruptions at Kelud volcano. Plotted on the figure of Kozono et al. (2013).



Cumulative diagram for recalculated volumes of recent eruptions at Kelud eruptions. P and D are Plinian and dome eruptions, respectively.

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#### Kelud, seismicity Clear difference between Plinian and lava dome eruptions

- Seismic energy levels are different between the two eruptions.
- Especially, contrast of the last increasing in seismic energy is evident.
- These different signals reflect the different magma discharge (ascent) rates between two eruptions.

#### Merapi, Indonesia Contrasting eruptions in 2006 and 2010

Different magma discharge rates between 2006 and 2010 are shown by Surono (2012), Ratdomopurbo et al. (2013), and Pallister et al. (2013).





## Different signs from two contrasting eruptions at Merapi

Different discharge rates are reflected by seismic and geodetic

signals.





Elevation (km)

## Conduit flow numerical models: transition from lava dome to Plinian eruptions

Conduit flow models by

 Mernik and Sparks (1999), Barmin et al. (2002), Costa et al. (2007), Kozono et al. (2010) and others.

This feature can explain well the gap of magma discharge rates between Plinian and lava dome eruptions.

The peak position (Qcr) depends on magma viscosity, porosity, conduit diametergeometry, and so on. Relationship between **chamber pressure** ( $p_{ch}$ ) and **mass flow rate** (Q) in steady conduit flow

- characterizes global features of conduit flow dynamics
- $dp_{ch}/dQ > 0$  (positive differential resistance) -> Stable
- dp<sub>ch</sub>/dQ < 0 (negative differential resistance) -> Unstable



# Lava dome eruption at Sinabung, Indonesia

- Lava dome eruption in 9-10<sup>th</sup> Century.
- Phreatic eruption in 2010.
- Resumption of phreatic eruption in Sep 2013, followed by lava dome appearance in Dec.
- Lava dome growing and flowing w/ PDC events repeated since then.
- **Repetitive vulcanian events** started in middle 2015, which continued intermittently with the lowest magma discharge rate.
- The largest Vulcanian event in Feb 19, 2018, and similar (?) events in May/Jun 2019.



CVGH

**Oct 2015** 



Feb 2014

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## Vulcanian events (Sinabung)

Events up to >10 times a day have repeated.



Plume heights and daily numbers of the events from CVGHM

May 20.

#### No chemical difference before and during the explosive stage (Sinabung)

- Magma discharge rate decreased with time (~10 m<sup>3</sup>/s to ~0.2 m<sup>3</sup>/s).
- Small vulcanian events had repeated since the summer of 2015 (explosive stage).
- Significant changes were not detected before and during explosive stage.

(m<sup>3</sup>/s)

rate

Discharge

2014

200



Feb 19 event

## Vulcanian and hembusan events (Sinabung)



This signal is attributed to shallow degassing in Indonesia, observed in fumarolic fields. "Hembusan" means "blast."



## Similar type of earthquake occurred at Unzen

Hembusan

MF and LF at Unzen



Similar Eq's occurred at Unzen when the discharge rate was least (magma was viscous)!

This type of seismic event can be considered to reflect degassing difficulty from the lava dome and the uppermost conduit.



Umakoshi et al. (2008)



## Why was Sinabung different from Unzen?

Spine formation may be a key to keep less explosivity?



At Unzen, the load of <u>lava spine</u> seems to have <u>balanced the magma pressure</u> in the upper conduit.

(1) At Sinabung, lava dome did not increase thickness due to its steepness at the summit; likely resulted in continuous explosive events.

(2) Another possibility is continuous but low magma supply has continued from the depth (like eruptions at Santiaguito, Semeru, etc)



No spine at Sinabung (Jan 2018)

#### Precursor to largest explosive event?



**AFP/Gettv** 

## Summary

- **Magma discharge rate** controls either Plinian or lava dome eruptions with different precursors in time, rate and extent (predictable?).
- The discharge rate for transition from dome to explosive eruptions is >>30~80 m<sup>3</sup>/s, depending on magma viscosity etc.
- Vulcanian event does not depend on magma discharge rate, but on plugging condition in the upper conduit (e.g., preventing effective degassing or sudden depressurization due to dome failure).
- The missing of lava spine formation and temporal healing of fractured, conduit marginal lava (Holland et al., 2011) with the least magma supply from the beneath, might introduce repetitive explosive events, such in Sinabung and Santiaguito domes, respectively.



#### Acknowledgment: CVGHM, M. Iguchi, T. Kozono

## End

#### Before eruption



Based on DEM of Batimetri Nasional (DEMNAS)

Recent magma discharge rates

- June 2015 to June 2017 = 0.26 m<sup>3</sup>/s
- July 2017 to June 2018 = 0.21 m<sup>3</sup>/s

# June 2015

(Asia Air Survey Co.,Ltd)

June 2018



DEM from Pleiades