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Andrew Harris, Oryaëlle Chevrel, Diego Coppola, Michael Ramsey, Alexis Hrysiewicz, et al.. Validation of an integrated satellite-data-driven response to an effusive crisis: the April–May 2018 eruption of Piton de la Fournaise. Annals of Geophysics, 2019, 61 (Vol 61 (2018)), 10.4401/ag-7972. hal-02150627

# HAL Id: hal-02150627 https://sde.hal.science/hal-02150627v1

Submitted on 7 Jun2019

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# ACCEPTED ON ANNALS OF GEOPHYSICS, 61, 2018; Doi: 10.4401/ag-7972

# Validation of an integrated satellite-data-driven response to an effusive crisis: the April–May 2018 eruption of Piton de la Fournaise

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17 Abstract. Satellite-based surveillance of volcanic hot spots and plumes can be coupled with 18 modeling to allow ensemble-based approaches to crisis response. We complete benchmark tests on 19 an effusive crisis response protocol aimed at delivering product for use in tracking lava flows. The 20 response involves integration of four models: MIROVA for discharge rate (TADR), the ASTER urgent 21 response protocol for delivery of high-spatial resolution satellite data, DOWNFLOW for flow path 22 projections, and PyFLOWGO for flow run-out. We test the protocol using the data feed available 23 during Piton de la Fournaise's April-May 2018 eruption, with product being delivered to the 24 Observatoire du Piton de la Fournaise via Google Drive. The response was initialized by an alert at 19:50Z on 27 April 2018. Initially DOWNFLOW-FLOWGO were run using TADRs typical of Piton de la 25 Fournaise, and revealed that flow at >120 m<sup>3</sup>/s could reach the island belt road. The first TADR (10– 26 27 20 m<sup>3</sup>/s) was available at 09:55Z on 28 April, and gave flow run-outs of 1180–2510 m. The latency 28 between satellite overpass and TADR provision was 105 minutes, with the model result being posted 29 15 minutes later. An InSAR image pair was completed six hours after the eruption began, and gave a 30 flow length of 1.8 km; validating the run-out projection. Thereafter, run-outs were updated with 31 each new TADR, and checked against flow lengths reported from InSAR and ASTER mapping. In all, 32 35 TADRs and 15 InSAR image pairs were processed during the 35-day-long eruption, and 11 ASTER 33 images were delivered.

## 34 Introduction

Throughout the 1990's and 2000's methods were developed to extract lava flow discharge rates from 1 km spatial resolution satellite data collected by satellite sensors operating in the thermal infrared (e.g., Harris et al., 1997; 2007; Harris & Bologa 2009; Coppola et al., 2010). At the same time, high spatial resolution (30 m) satellite data were shown to be of value for mapping lava flow fields (e.g., 39 Flynn et al., 1994; Wright et al., 2000; Lombardo et al., 2009), with InSAR data allowing estimation of 40 lava flow areas, thicknesses and, hence, volumes (e.g., Zebker et al., 1996; Rowland et al., 1999; Lu et 41 al., 2003). In parallel, a series of lava flow models were developed to allow flow inundation areas to 42 be simulated (e.g., Young & Wadge, 1990; Crisci et al., 2003; Vicari et al., 2007). Increasingly, the 43 capabilities have been merged to allow an ensemble-based approach whereby satellite data from 44 multiple wavelengths and spatial resolutions are combined to allow maximum constraint and cross-45 validation (e.g., Patrick et al., 2003; Rowland et al., 2003; Wright et al., 2005) and source term input 46 into real-time lava flow emplacement models (e.g., Wright et al., 2008; Vicari et al., 2011; Ganci et 47 al., 2016). Since 2015, just such a response model has been developed at Piton de la Fournaise 48 (Harris et al. 2017), where we here review and validate an updated version of the protocol so as to 49 review an ensemble approach to responding to an effusive crisis.

50 The response protocol is based on *in situ* observations and data acquisitions carried out routinely by 51 the Observatoire du Piton de la Fournaise (OVPF) team and the integration of four models: MIROVA 52 (Coppola et al. 2016), the ASTER (Advanced Spaceborne Thermal Emission Radiometer) urgent 53 response protocol (Ramsey, 2016), DOWNFLOW (Favalli et al., 2005) and FLOWGO (Harris and Rowland, 2001). MIROVA is a near-real time hot spot detection system that uses MODIS data, and 54 55 has been calibrated for TADR calculation at Piton de la Fournaise by Coppola et al. (2010), the ASTER 56 urgent response protocol is a means of automatically prioritizing and targeting ASTER data 57 acquisition during a volcanic eruption. Instead, while DOWNFLOW is a stochastic model that 58 assesses potential flow paths based on iterative runs over a DEM with random noise added, FLOWGO 59 can calculate the cooling-limit of flow down each path (Rowland et al., 2005; Wright et al., 2008). To 60 estimate the maximum distance a flow can extend at a given effusion rate, FLOWGO tracks the thermal and rheological evolution of a control volume of lava as it moves down a channel, tracking 61 62 the volume until the volume cools and crystallizes to such an extent that forward motion becomes 63 rheologically impossible (Harris and Rowland 2015). FLOWGO has been initialized for and tested for 64 lava channels at Piton de la Fournaise by Harris et al. (2016) and Rhéty et al. (2017), and—to allow 65 improved model initialization, iteration and application—has been rewritten and rebuilt in Python as PyFLOWGO (Chevrel et al., 2018). It is this version of FLOWGO that we use here. 66

67 As described in Harris et al. (2017), the response protocol is initialized with the alert of an imminent 68 eruption and provision of the vent location provided by the OVPF as part of their mandated 69 monitoring and response procedures. Subsequently, it involves calling each model in sequence and 70 passing results between each actor, and then final product to OVPF, in as timely fashion as possible. 71 The protocol also calls in ground truth (for vent locations, effusion rates, channel dimensions, flow 72 lengths) provided by the OVPF as well as textural and chemical data (for eruption temperatures, 73 vesicularity, crystallinity, rheological models) produced at LMV, to improve model uncertainty and 74 syn-response validation. We show here how the response protocol works, and define the main 75 uncertainties, using a real-time exercise held immediately after the April–May 2018 eruption of Piton 76 de la Fournaise. The aim of the exercise was to refine model initialization and execution for Piton de 77 la Fournaise, reduce uncertainty, and to fully define the call-down and communication protocol. It 78 involved first following the data feed and executing responses, in the order that they were received, 79 followed by a validation phase in which remote sensing and model based estimates for discharge 80 rate and flow length were compared against ground truth. In doing so, we show how an integrated 81 multi-sensor remote sensing approach can be used to follow, document and quantify an effusive 82 event in near-real time.

#### 83 The April–May 2018 eruption of Piton de la Fournaise and available data

The April–May 2018 eruption of Piton de la Fournaise began late on 27 April (19h50 UTC) from five 84 85 north-south orientated en-echelon fissures that opened between the elevations of 2165 m and 2285 86 m on the southwest flank of the terminal cone (Figure 1a). Initially flow was channel-fed 'a'a which 87 moved down the SW flank of the Dolomieu. In a short time activity reached a peak and became 88 focused at a main vent roughly central to the fissure line at an elevation of 2200 m. Another much 89 less active vent a few meters to the north continued to project tephra and emit flames. Around the 90 two vents, scoria cones and tephra fields were constructed. Upon reaching the base of the Enclos 91 Fouqué wall (between the 29 and 30 April), lava flows turned southeast to follow the base of the wall 92 reaching a distance of 2.6 km before discharge rates declined and active flow fronts retreated to 93 positions closer to the vent (Figure 1b). Between 4 and 7 May, flow activity was concentrated in the 94 proximal section of the flow field with several tubes and, with two main zones of breakout being 95 active 200 and 500 m down the tube system (Figure 1c). Breakouts from the tube system fed low-96 discharge rate flows which extended no more that 100-200 m. From 7 May new lava flows broke out 97 from an ephemeral vent at the base of the Enclos Fouqué Southern wall producing local vegetation 98 fires. Over the following days, the tube continued to extend and feed lava flows from its terminus, so 99 that by 10 May the tube exit was around 3.2 km from the vent. This continued to feed low-discharge rate flows that extended over 1.1 km (or 4.5 km from the main vent) along the base of the Enclos 100 101 Fouqué wall. Activity continued in this way until 1 June 2018 when activity died out around 14h30 102 (local time). During the 34.6-day-long eruption, six aerial photograph, two aerial IR image and 103 several field observation campaigns, including GPS measurements, lava and tephra sampling, gas 104 analysis and UAV over flights were completed by the OVPF. In addition, 35 cloud-free MODIS images, 105 11 ASTER images and 15 InSAR image pairs all of which were available for near-real time analysis and 106 reporting.

#### 107 Methodology

108 While implementation of MIROVA and the ASTER urgent response protocol (URP) allow near-real 109 time collection and processing of satellite thermal data for derivation of time-averaged discharge 110 rate and mapping of a thermal anomaly, DOWNFLOW and FLOWGO (DOWNFLOWGO) allow the flow 111 paths and potential run out distance to be projected. These models are called in sequence, where 112 the call-down procedure is given in Figure 2. As part of this system, output and product are shared using a standardized reporting form (as given in Appendix A) which is shared between an email 113 114 distribution list involving all actors in the response chain, and to OVPF for integration into 115 surveillance and reporting duties. With each update, the group is issued an update email, flagging 116 the field that has been updated and giving the time and date of the update as well as the name of 117 the person responsible for the update. The reporting form has four fields for: (i) current MIROVA-118 derived TADR and time series; (ii) current vent location and DOWNFLOWGO projections; (iii) current 119 ASTER thermal distribution map, with flow field evolution time series and report; (iv) InSAR-based 120 flow length report and coherence images (Appendix A). Another field may be added to the reporting 121 form including relevant OVPF data collection, e.g., flow length from Structure from Motion (SfM), 122 SO2 flux, sampling locations etc. This is left at the observatory's discretion to add depending on work 123 loads and time commitment.

124 MIROVA and ASTER were called using the observatory bulletin announcing implementation of alert 125 level 1, that is an eruption is believed (on the basis of seismic and ground deformation data) to be 126 "imminent" (in the next minutes/hours). This causes ASTER to be targeted, and MIROVA to set up a "watch" for the first sign of a hot spot. Upon eruption onset, DOWNFLOWGO is run as soon as vent 127 128 location(s) (GPS coordinates) is (are) known. The first vent location is usually provided by OVPF 129 personnel or gendarmerie using hand-held GPS from a helicopter which is flown by the police 130 (gendarmerie) service. Precision may vary depending on flight time available, the height of the 131 fountains and the number of aircraft in the air space above the eruption site. Initially, to give an 132 immediate idea of likely flow paths and inundation areas, 10000 flow lines are run to the edge of the 133 DEM (i.e., the coast) over the most recent 5-m DEM with random noise of between  $\pm 0.8$  m and  $\pm 2.5$ 134 m being added between each run. The slope from the line of steepest descent (LoSD) at ±0.001 m is 135 then extracted (and smoothed every 10 m) and used for preliminary FLOWGO runs at various effusion rates (10, 20, 30, 40, 50, to 100 m<sup>3</sup>/s). To do this, FLOWGO is initialized prior to the call 136 137 down using typical Piton de la Fournaise thermo-rheological conditions and textural properties as 138 given in Table 1. At the beginning of the eruption, a typical channel width of 4 m is taken (Table 1), 139 and the model iterates on depth until the combination with calculated velocity gives the required 140 effusion rate. Subsequently, upon derivation of a first TADR from MIROVA, the cooling-limited 141 extent of flow down each flow line is then updated. Runs driven by the MIROVA-derived TADR are 142 then plotted over a Piton de la Fournaise base map to give an idea of how the flow front may extend, 143 or retreat, if TADRs increase (or decrease) over the current level. In addition, if vent location or 144 channel width information are updated or made available, these are also modified and all models re-145 run.

146 Upon receipt of the first ASTER imagery a thermal anomaly map is produced, and flow locations and 147 lengths assessed on the basis of the spatial distribution of spectral radiance in 90 m ASTER band 12 148 (thermal infrared,  $8.925-9.275 \mu m$ ). In addition, vent location is checked where the intense thermal anomaly at the vent is apparent in ASTER band 3 (near-infrared, 0.807  $\mu$ m) image. The 15 m-pixel 149 150 size, and one pixel accuracy of the geolocation, allows the location of the vent hot spot to ±15 m. This is often better than that provided by hand-held GPS, which when run in a fast moving helicopter 151 152 records a point that will lag behind the craft point by several hundred meters. If this is the case, the vent location is updated and new DOWNFLOWGO runs are produced. If tubes begin to extend from 153 154 the vent, this-following Wright et al. (2000)-becomes apparent in the high spatial resolution 155 satellite images from the distribution of spectral radiance. In such as case, the source for 156 DOWNFLOWGO will be moved to the tube exit.

157 In addition, InSAR interferograms and SfM data are processed for flow thickness and length maps 158 that both add to the information flow and allow validation of model-based flow-length projections. 159 Although remaining largely underutilized in an operational response sense, the value of such data in 160 producing lava flow thickness maps as long been known (e.g., Zebker et al., 1996; Rowland et al., 1999; MacKay et al., 1998; Stevens, 2002; Lu et al., 2003), as has the potential for merging with 161 162 ancillary data, such as thermal-IR-derived TADRs and model-based lava flow run-outs (Rowland et al., 163 2003). The InSAR method consists of computing an interferogram by subtracting the phase between 164 two SAR images acquired for the same area at different times (for details of the method see 165 Appendix B). These statistics which are input into a fourth field in the reporting form (Appendix A) 166 and are also used to update the DEM used for flow path runs.

#### 167 Validation

On 4 May 2018 an over flight was made in an ultra-light aircraft at a flight height of around 310 m 168 169 above the ground surface. A thermal camera was used to collect 52 images of the lava flow field and 170 vent system between 12:15 and 12:30 local time. The thermal camera was a FLIR Systems T650 171 which provides a  $640 \times 480$  pixel image in the 8–14 µm waveband, with 0.65 mrad pixels. This, over 172 a line-of-sight distance of 460 m (and viewing angle of 48°) gives a pixel size of 0.3 m. Images were 173 used to obtain vent (eruption) temperatures and down channel surface temperature profiles to use 174 in FLOWGO, as well as channel and flow dimensions plus radiative (Q<sub>rad</sub>), convective (Q<sub>conv</sub>) and total 175  $(Q_{tot} = Q_{rad} + Q_{conv})$  heat fluxes to check against model output. In addition, the MODIS and ASTER 176 images collected at 10:30 (local time) on the same day (i.e., two hours previously) were fitted to the 177 thermal camera image mosaic to allow the heat fluxes and TADRs to be compared. TADR was 178 extracted from the thermal camera images using TADR =  $Q_{tot} / \rho (c_p \Delta T + f \Lambda)$ , in which  $\rho$  is the lava density,  $c_p$  is specific heat capacity,  $\Delta T$  is the cooling range, f is the fraction of crystals grown down 179 flow and  $\Lambda$  is latent heat of crystallization. Values characteristic of recent lavas at Piton de la 180 Fournaise were used for  $\rho$ ,  $c_{o}$ , and f, these being 2079 kg/m<sup>3</sup>, 1225 J/kg K and 0.1, respectively, with a 181 cooling range of 75–250 °C (Harris et al. 2007). At the end of the eruption, following sample analysis, 182 183 the chemical, temperature, crystallinity and vesicularity sections of the initialization file for flow 184 modeling are checked, and if necessary, updated (Table 1).

#### 185 Results

The trigger for the protocol of Figure 2 was the Bulletin released by OVPF on 27 April 2018 at 20h30 186 187 local time (16h30 UTC). The bulletin declared that a seismic crisis had begun at 20h15 local time 188 (16h15 UTC) accompanied by rapid ground deformation indicative of "magma leaving the storage 189 system and propagating towards the surface" (Peltier 2018). Consequently, an eruption was 190 declared probable in the following minutes or hours, and the alert level was set to "Alert 1" (Peltier 191 2018). As a result, the MIROVA "watch" began at 20h30 (16h30 UTC) on 27 April, with an ASTER URP 192 being triggered at 04h25 (00h25 UTC) on 29 April (Appendix C). In addition, on receipt of the 193 Bulletin, DOWNFLOWGO was loaded with the most recent DEM of Piton de la Fournaise, this being 194 the 5-m DEM generated from LiDAR data in 2010 modified by adding the largest flow fields in the 195 area that are the October 2010 and the August 2015 using the InSAR-based thickness maps.

196 The eruption began at 23h50 local time (19h50 UTC) on 27 April. Initially DOWNFLOWGO was run 197 from a vent location set on the basis of fissure location relative to pre-existing topographic features 198 as apparent in images acquired by OVPF's web-cam monitoring network. For this case, the camera 199 used was that of "Piton Bert" (BERC, http://www.ipgp.fr/fr/ovpf/reseau-de-cameras) which targets 200 this sector of the volcano. Comparison of a daytime image as a background layer and an image 201 acquired during the eruption revealed the fissure to approximately extend between two newly 202 formed cinder cones at an elevation of 2200 m on the SW flank of the terminal cone. These cones 203 were located at 365375 m E; 7649065 m S and 365500 m E; 7848455 m S, and DOWNFLOW was 204 launched from a point between the two cones at 365377 m E; 7648853 m S. This showed that the 205 flows would likely move SW down the flank of the terminal cone, and then turn SE to following the 206 caldera wall to the coast (Figure 3). The effusion rate contour map for this case was subsequently produced and posted on the reporting form (Figure 3). This revealed that flows fed at sustained 207 208 rates in excess of 120 m<sup>3</sup>/s were capable of reaching the island belt road, to reach the coast. However, because a 4 km wide basin existed after a distance of 4 km from the vent, flows became held up at this point, with even flows at 80 m<sup>3</sup>/s coming to a halt 4 km from the vent; and to push the model across the basin needed more than 120 m<sup>3</sup>/s. Thus, in reality, our prediction was that either time would be needed to fill this basin, where lava needed time spread and pile up, and/or for a tube to develop across the basin—a little like the case of lava flow advance towards Etnea Zafferana in 1992 (Barberi et al. 1993).

215 The first cloud-free MODIS overpass occurred at 09h55 (UTC, 13h55 local time) on 28 April, i.e., 216 around 14 hours after the eruption began. This yielded a TADR of  $10-20 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$  (Table 2). These 217 values were immediately input into the reporting sheet, thereby being handed onwards for input 218 into the PyFLOWGO initialization file. The first lava flow projection map was thus also completed and 219 posted; revealing flows were capable of extending up to 1180-2510 m under initial conditions 220 (Figure 4a). The latency between satellite overpass and TADR provision was 105 minutes, with the 221 model result being posted 15 minutes later. The first S1B InSAR image pair was completed around six 222 hours after the eruption began and was also entered into the reporting sheet (Figure 5a). These 223 revealed that the flow was already 1.8 km long and covered an area of  $0.5\pm0.1 \times 10^6$  m<sup>2</sup> (Table 3); 224 giving an initial extension rate of around 5 m/min and coverage rate of 1400 <sup>2</sup>/min. On the same day, 225 at 09h00 (local time), the first SfM survey was completed and by 16h00 (local time) approximate location of the fissures and flow outline from aerial images were published by the OVPF. 226

227 At 03h33 (UTC, 07h33 local time) on 30 April, after a new aerial visit of the eruption, the center of 228 the main fissure was precisely given at 365365 m E; 7648810 m S. By this time, however, MODISderived TADR had declined to 3.7–6.9 m<sup>3</sup>/s (Table 2). Updating PyFLOWGO revealed reduced run-229 230 outs of 0.7–1.0 km. The first cloud-free ASTER image was acquired on 2 May. This revealed an 11 231 pixel-long anomaly of saturated pixels orientated NE-SW on the south flank of the Dolomieu (Figure 6)—equivalent to a 990 m long zone of active lava (Table 4). The active vent was apparent as a single 232 233 pixel hot spot in the 15-m near-infrared data and the vent location was updated to 365280 m E; 234 7648835 m S (Appendix D), with the TADR for this day being  $3.6-4.6 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$  (Table 2). These details were updated in the reporting form, and the vent location for DOWNFLOWGO adjusted slightly 235 236 (although this had no effect on the flow paths or LoSD). The following day (3 May), the second 237 coherence map was produced. This revealed that the lava flow field had, at some point, reached the 238 base of the caldera wall, turning SE to follow the base of the wall (Figure 6) having attained a length 239 of 2.5 km (Table 3). The shorter length of the active flows implied by the size of the thermal anomaly 240 in ASTER on 2 May, as well as the 17 pixel (1530 m) long zone of cooler pixels beyond the front of the 241 main hot spot indicated that flow front locations had begun to retreat back up flow by this time.

242 The thermal camera imagery obtained from the over-flight of 4 May confirmed that activity had 243 diminished, and comprised tube-fed breakouts of channel-fed 'a'a (Figure 1c). Two main breakouts 244 were located where the southern breakout was fed by a 2 m-wide channel which fed a 110 m pad of 245 'a'a. Total heat flux from the breakout was 435±50 MW, which converted to a TADR of 0.61–1.65 246  $m^3/s$ . ASTER imagery revealed that, by 9 May, the tube had extended 2430 m (Figure 6) to feed lava flows of around 1.4 km in length. At the same time, MIROVA revealed continued decline in TADR 247 (Figure 7) to between 1 and 2  $m^3/s$ . As a result, the vent location for DOWNFLOW was moved to the 248 249 tube exit, which ASTER gave as being at 364685 m E; 7647090 m S, and FLOWGO run at 1.6 and 3.8 250  $m^3/s$  (Table 2) with an updated channel width and eruption temperature (Table 1). This gave flow 251 lengths of 1–2 km beyond the end of the tube system (Figure 4b).

- Thereafter, TADRs remained at low levels (Figure 7) and the flow field continued to build parallel with the base of the caldera wall (Figure 5). TADRs of 0.8  $m^3$ /s characteristic of the final week of the eruption (Table 2) gave flow lengths that extended just 1 km from the end of the tube (Figure 4b).
- 255 The flow field (both predicted and measured) attained a final length of 4.1 km and area of  $1.3\pm0.1 \times$
- $10^6 \text{ m}^2$  (Table 3), and a volume of  $5.5 \pm 1.6 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^2$  (Table 2). In all, 35 TADR sets were processed by
- 257 MIROVA (Table 2), 15 image pairs were processed for coherence analysis (Table 3), 11 ASTER images
- 258 were obtained using the ASTER URP (Table 4) and DOWNFLOWGO was launched three times as TADR
- and vent location changed. Additionally, six aerial photograph data sets, two aerial IR image surveys
- and multiple field observations, including lava and tephra sampling, gas analyses, UAV over flights
- were completed by the OVPF. The final reporting sheet, filled out with all derived values from thisdata set, is given in Appendix D.

# 263 Discussion

264 The aerial survey mapping of the flow field of 30 April allowed checking of the dimensions of the lava flow field derived from InSAR data; the center line length being 1.8 km (the same as that given by 265 266 InSAR) and the area having excellent coincidence with the zone of incoherence obtained from the 267 InSAR data. Likewise, dimensions of InSAR zones of incoherence, ASTER thermal anomalies and 268 FLOWGO lengths are in excellent agreement (Figure 8). For example, the thermal anomaly in ASTER 269 on 2 May revealed that flows had extended to a maximum distance of 2520 m in the proceeding 270 days. This compares with the 2.5 km long zone of incoherence recorded by the InSAR pair processed 271 the following day (3 May) and the 2510 m flow length generated by FLOWGO using the maximum 272 TADRs obtained from MIROVA the first few days of the eruption. Closing the circle with validation of 273 the FLOWGO run outs with good fits with dimensions of incoherence and thermal anomalies in InSAR 274 and ASTER data gives us confidence in the source terms (including MIROVA-derived TADR) entered 275 into the model. We next assess the uncertainty in those MIROVA-derived TADR, as well as the 276 FLOWGO run-outs and errors due to DEM problems.

# 277 Validation of MIROVA-derived TADR

The image collected on 4 May by MODIS-MIROVA indicates a total radiant power (Q<sub>rad</sub>) of 497±149 278 MW, corresponding to a total TADR of 2.6±0.6 m<sup>3</sup>/s. Total radiant power is around 42 % of that 279 measured for the south breakout on 4 May using the thermal camera (i.e., 209±20 MW). The TADR 280 281  $(1.13\pm0.52 \text{ m}^3/\text{s})$  obtained from the thermal image is also 43 % that of the MODIS-MIROVA, 282 indicating confidence in the latter value and the conversion routine used. In this regard, MODIS-283 MIROVA uses the conversion  $Q_{rad}/TADR = c_{Rad}$  (Coppola et al. 2010). For Piton de la Fournaise, Coppola et al. (2010) used thermal camera data for the May–June 2003 eruption to obain c<sub>Rad</sub> of 284  $2.5\pm1 \times 10^8$  J m<sup>-3</sup>. The value of c<sub>Rad</sub> obtained here is  $2.3\pm1 \times 10^8$  J m<sup>-3</sup> indicating that the conversion 285 286 factor is stable, still holds and provides a TADR in good agreement with ground truth.

# 287 FLOWGO Uncertainty

To test uncertainty, we take our initial run of 28 April which was initialized with a TADR of 20  $m^3/s$ and vary the source terms of Table 1 within reasonable limits. Using the generic source terms of Table 1, the model solved for a channel depth of 4 m give a distance of 2510 m (Figure 4a).

Our first uncertainty is in eruption temperature. Thermal camera imagery of the vent on 4 May 291 yielded maximum temperatures of up to 1210±40 °C, a value which is suspiciously high. On 10 May, 292 293 similarly suspicious temperatures of 1700 °C were recorded over a small skylight at the base of the 294 main scoria cone. These temperatures are higher than the liquidus for Piton de la Fournaise and 295 therefore cannot correspond to lava temperatures. However, nighttime observations revealed 296 flames over the vent, so this appears to be a flame temperature, where the presence of the flame 297 likely explains the intense thermal anomaly in the ASTER NIR band. Flame-free maxima were 298 1142±35 °C, consistent with temperatures obtained from the glass chemistry. If we update the 299 eruption from 1114 °C temperature to 1142 °C (and readjust the channel dimension to balance for 300 similar TADR) this increases the run out by just 30 m, revealing that a 3 % uncertainty in eruption 301 temperature results in a 1 % uncertainty in run out.

Our second uncertainty is in bubble content and crystallinity and associated rheology models. Based on our analysis of lava samples from the 2015 channel, bubble content could be as high as 50 vol.% and phenocryst content as low as 1 vol.%. Because we use a simple two phase (fluid+crystals) mixture model bubble content effects the velocity equation through its effect on density, while the lower starting crystal content reduces the viscosity of the mixture. While increasing the vesicularity to 50 vol.% decreases run-out by 120 m (11 %), decreasing the phenocryst content to 1 vol.% increases run-out by 470 m (28 %).

The third uncertainty is on surface temperature which controls heat loss and hence cooling rate. We have used the typical effective radiation temperature approximated from the data of Flynn and Mouginis-Mark (1994) for a lava channel on Kilauea to initialize the model (Table 1). The thermal imagery of the south break out channel indicates that this may be a little low, where temperatures down the center line are 520–890 °C, with a mean and standard deviation of 740 °C and 80 °C. If we use this mean temperature for the effective radiation temperature, we have a flow length that decreases by 230 m (23 %).

316 Our final uncertainty is on channel width. If, for example, we reduce to a width of 2 m, depth and 317 velocity have to increase to 1.1 m and 4.8 m/s to balance the TADR. This yields a runout of 2550 m 318 or 46 % longer, so that an uncertainty on channel depth of 50 % yields uncertainty on runout of the 319 same order. However, to extent uncertainties may cancel. If for example, we increase the 320 vesicularity to 50 vol.% but decrease the phenocryst content to 1 vol.% we change the runout by just 321 50 m (for the same TADR). Likewise, if we decrease channel width to 2 m, but increase surface 322 temperature to 740 °C we change the runout by 50 m. Thus, our error appears to be around 4-5 %, 323 so that the error on a predicted runout of 3000 m, is just less than a few hundred meters.

#### 324 DEM uncertainty

325 Until now, for the near real time response at the effusive crises at Piton de la Fournaise, DOWNFLOW 326 was run on the SRTM DEM from 2005. When we first ran the DOWNFLOW simulation (in May), the 327 LoSD was not south to the base of the Enclos Fouqué wall, but projected due East. It was not possible 328 to simulate the actual flow path because post-2005 topography could not be accounted for. 329 However, now that we have updated our flow projection by using the 5-m 2010 DEM to which lava flow fields from October 2010 and August 2015 (which were both in the southern area of the Enclos 330 331 Fouqué) were added, the predicted path is south, moving around the western edge of the 2015 flow 332 field, and to reach the wall before flowing to the east along its base. This was exactly the trajectory of the flow. Note that although the eruptive fissures were located near and onto the February 2015 flow (on the distal part) we did not update the DEM with this lava flow as it did not interfere with the ongoing flow process. To model flows on a very active volcano, where topography is constantly changing, we thus need a DEM that is updated after each eruption, so as to reduce uncertainties on predicted flow inundation area.

338 To obtain the inundation area, DOWNFLOW needs to be calibrated to a specific scenario, and this is 339 achieved by tuning N and Dh (Favalli et al. 2011). Previous simulations that were compared with real 340 cases at Piton de la Fournaise showed that N=10000 and Dh of 2.5 m gives a good approximation of 341 the proximal area around the Dolomieu, while a Dh of 0.8 m gives a better estimation of the lava 342 flow distal, coastal zone. Subsequently, to obtain the LoSD, DOWNFLOW is first run with 1000 343 iterations at Dh=1 mm which allows pits and holes to be filled. This filled DEM is then used to obtain a second LoSD with N=1 and Dh=0.001). Down the LoSD a slope value is extracted every 10 m for use 344 345 in PyFLOWGO. PyFLOWGO includes traps for cases where slope values are negative or zero, where 346 the slope is recalculated at each step from the average of the five previous and five following positive 347 and non-zero values down the LoSD (Chevrel et al. 2018). This allows FLOWGO to overcome small 348 terrain irregularities, and to project across holes and pits as well as flat zones. The value of 10 m has 349 been chosen from several simulations and seems to be the best suited value. Although precise DEMs 350 are always preferred, we find we have to smooth the LoSD in order to obtained results in agreement 351 with reality.

352 In the present case, the changes in vent location between the first estimation and the coordinates 353 obtained in the field or from the satellite images did not change significantly. The effect on the 354 predicted flow path was therefore minor and limited to within 100 m of the vent area. However, knowing, and moving to, the break out location of 9 May, was essential to predict the final flow 355 length (at the given new TADR). The protocol we are offering here, that is sharing ASTER, MODIS, and 356 357 DOWNFLOWGO allow a back and forth to update the vent location and is therefore of major 358 improvement for correct estimation of the lava flow path and runout distance. In addition this 359 protocol is of service to OVPF to aid in monitoring needs for lava flow field evolution allowing both 360 crisis management and appraisal of need to evacuate ground based monitoring stations falling in 361 flow paths.

#### 362 Conclusion

363 With the near-real time availability of data from so many satellite-based sensors, as well as the 364 immediate availability of ground truth through upload to internet-based data hubs, the best way 365 forward to tracking an effusive crisis is an ensemble-based approach. Such a system is open to 366 expansion and ingestion of further data sets to improve coverage and further reduce lags between 367 event and measurement. For example, VIIRS (Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite) can be 368 considered as an extension to MODIS (Blackett 2015), and Sentinel-2 as an extension to ASTER 369 (Cappello et al. 2018), with other sensors being incorporated as they come on-line. In this regard, 370 technology is constantly evolving with new potential coming-on line every year where, for this case, 371 we have begun to convolve data from sensors flown on UAVs, as well as from crowdsourcing. 372 Another developing avenue is small, low cost satellite networks, such as the small satellite 373 Technology Experiment Carrier-1 (TET-1) as developed by the German Aerospace Center and 374 dedicated to monitoring high temperature events (Zhukov et al. 2006). Such systems offer high spatial resolution (160 m) thermal infrared imagery at a relatively high temporal resolution (3 days)
and have shown to be of value in tracking effusive crises yielding TADR time series to supplement
those provided by MODIS (Zakšek et al. 2005).

378 As shown here, merging thermal data of different resolutions allows time series generation with the 379 best possible temporal resolution and precision; cross-validation of TADR, error and uncertainty 380 assessment; and input into lava flow emplacement models. The next step will be the use of InSAR 381 data to allow DEMs to be updated between eruptions so as to ensure that flow paths are correct and 382 use the most up-to-date topography available, with the DEM evolving as the topography changes. 383 This is a key feature, especially during a long-term eruption with changing topography and vent 384 position. In turn, the chain can be inverted where good agreement of model-predicted flow lengths 385 with dimensions of thermal and incoherence anomalies in high spatial resolution and thermal data suggests that the source terms input into the model are valid. Another key feature explored here is 386 387 immediate delivery of a flow run out map that considers all feasible TADRs. This means that delivery 388 of the hazard map, which can be created in a few minutes, does not have to be attendant on the 389 first, cloud-free satellite overpass for delivery of a TADR. Instead, the map gives the hazard manager 390 an immediate idea of possible event scenario's which can be assessed and checked when the first 391 TADR comes in, and updated as vent locations and topographies change.

392

393 Acknowledgments. This work comes out of a three day workshop and exercise held in Clermont 394 Ferrand in June 2018 funded by ANR-LAVA. This work was funded by the Agence National de la 395 Recherche (ANR: www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr) through project ANR-LAVA (ANR Program: 396 DS0902 2016; Project: ANR-16 CE39-0009, PI: A. Harris, Link: www.agence-nationale-397 recherche.fr/?Project=ANR-16-CE39-0009; https://sites.google.com/view/anrlava/). We would like 398 to thank the Sentinel-1 ESA team, especially P. Potin and Y.-L. Desnos for having made possible 399 routine Sentinel-1 StripMap acquisition on La Réunion Island. This is ANR-LAVA contribution no. 5 400 and IPGP contribution no. XXX.

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#### 514 Figure Captions

- Figure 1. Location of the vent for the April–May 2018 eruption on the Dolomieu cone overlain on
  Google Earth with (a) MODIS, (b) ASTER and (c) thermal camera mosaic of the hot spots
  associated with active lava flow on 4 May overlain. Yellow outline in (c) gives the limit of the flow
  field as mapped using hand-held GPS.
- Figure 2. Flow chart giving the call-down and reporting procedure, as well as flow of source terms,between each model.
- Figure 3. DOWNFLOW inundation area for a 10000 iterations from the initial vent location with DEM noise (Dh) of 0.8 m (light blue) and 2.5 m (dark blue), with the line of steepest descent in red.
  Yellow stars give the distance down the LoSD FLOWGO runs at each generic effusion rate (numbers are in m<sup>3</sup>/s). These are the "effusion rate contours" for this eruption.
- Figure 4. Distance down the LoSD (red line) that FLOWGO will run at the given effusion rates, these
  being the numbers (in m<sup>3</sup>/s) next to each star. Runs are given from (a) the initial vent location of
  28 April, and (b) the tube exit on 9 May. Overlain are the limits of the flow field defined from
  InSAR incoherence (blue outline) and field mapping (yellow outline) on the same dates.
  Background shows the DOWNFLOW inundation area.
- 530 Figure 5. Time-series of InSAR incoherence images with lava flow field outlined in blue.
- Figure 6. Time-series of ASTER TIR images with active flows apparent as elongate thermal anomalies
  (higher pixel-integrated temperatures give lighter tones: white are the hottest pixels, and black
  are the coldest). Note how the highest intensities in the thermal anomaly move down flow with
  time, and effect of lava tube extension.
- 535 Figure 7. MIROVA-derived TADR and cumulative volume.
- Figure 8. Comparison of ASTER thermal anomaly, InSAR incoherence and FLOWGO run outs for (a) 4
  May (FLOWGO run from the initial vent location) and (b) 9 May (FLOWGO run from the tube exit
  along the new path, yellow line).

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Temperature





**Table 1.** Key thermal, textural and rheological source terms used to initialize PyFLOWGO at Piton de la Fournaise as given by Chevrel et al. (2018). These are based on measurements and best-fit testing of FLOWGO on lava channels active during the December 2010 eruption of Piton de la Fournaise as described in Harris et al. (2016).

| Parameter                               | Value                             | Units              | Up-dated<br>value | Source   |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--|
| Channel width                           | 4                                 | m                  | 2 m               | Updated from channel dimensions on aerial photos of 4 May                              |
| Eruption Temperature                    | 1114                              | °C                 | 1140 °C           | Updated from maximum temperature data from thermal imagery of the active vent on 4 May |
| Phenocryst content                      | 0.10                              | volume<br>fraction | 0.01 vol.%        | Minimum from the 2015 lava channel   |
| Bubble content                          | 0.30                              | volume<br>fraction | 0.5 vol.%         | Maximum from the 2015 lava channel   |
| DRE Density                             | 2970                              | kg/m <sup>3</sup>  |                   |  |
| Crust cover                             | 100                               | %                  |                   |  |
| Effective Radiation Temperature         | 500                               | °C                 | 740 °C            | Mean temperature from thermal images of the south breakout channel on 4 May            |
| Melt viscosity                          | Model of Villeneuve et al. (2008) | Pa s               |                   | Temperature dependent viscosity for a Piton de la<br>Fournaise melt                    |
| Effect of crystals on mixture viscosity | Einstein Roscoe                   | Pa s               |                   | Valid for prolate crystal content < 0.1 (Mueller et<br>al.2010)                        |

| Date & Time (UT)   | Satellite |      | TADR (m <sup>3</sup> /s) |      | Duration | Cumul | ative Volume (× 2 | 10 <sup>6</sup> m <sup>3</sup> ) |
|--------------------|-----------|------|--------------------------|------|----------|-------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| (dd/mm/yyyy hh:mm) |           | Min. | Mid-point                | Max. | (days)   | Min.  | Mid-point         | Max.                             |
| 28/04/2018 09:55   | Aqua      | 11.4 | 16.3                     | 21.2 | 0.51     | 0.47  | 0.66              | 0.86                             |
| 28/04/2018 19:20   | Terra     | 7.8  | 11.2                     | 14.5 | 0.90     | 0.79  | 1.13              | 1.47                             |
| 29/04/2018 21:30   | Aqua      | 3.0  | 4.3                      | 5.6  | 1.99     | 1.30  | 1.86              | 2.42                             |
| 30/04/2018 19:05   | Terra     | 3.7  | 5.3                      | 6.9  | 2.89     | 1.56  | 2.23              | 2.90                             |
| 02/05/2018 22:00   | Aqua      | 2.5  | 3.6                      | 4.6  | 5.01     | 2.13  | 3.05              | 3.96                             |
| 04/05/2018 06:30   | Terra     | 1.8  | 2.6                      | 3.4  | 6.36     | 2.38  | 3.41              | 4.43                             |
| 04/05/2018 18:40   | Terra     | 2.7  | 3.8                      | 4.9  | 6.87     | 2.48  | 3.55              | 4.61                             |
| 04/05/2018 21:50   | Aqua      | 2.8  | 4.0                      | 5.2  | 7.00     | 2.51  | 3.59              | 4.67                             |
| 05/05/2018 10:00   | Aqua      | 1.5  | 2.1                      | 2.8  | 7.51     | 2.61  | 3.72              | 4.84                             |
| 05/05/2018 19:25   | Terra     | 2.1  | 3.0                      | 3.9  | 7.90     | 2.67  | 3.81              | 4.95                             |
| 06/05/2018 06:20   | Terra     | 1.3  | 1.8                      | 2.4  | 8.36     | 2.73  | 3.91              | 5.08                             |
| 06/05/2018 21:35   | Aqua      | 1.1  | 1.5                      | 2.0  | 8.99     | 2.80  | 4.00              | 5.20                             |
| 07/05/2018 09:45   | Aqua      | 1.4  | 2.0                      | 2.7  | 9.50     | 2.85  | 4.08              | 5.30                             |
| 07/05/2018 19:15   | Terra     | 1.1  | 1.6                      | 2.1  | 9.90     | 2.90  | 4.14              | 5.38                             |
| 08/05/2018 06:10   | Terra     | 0.9  | 1.3                      | 1.7  | 10.35    | 2.94  | 4.19              | 5.45                             |
| 08/05/2018 21:25   | Aqua      | 0.6  | 0.9                      | 1.1  | 10.99    | 2.98  | 4.25              | 5.53                             |
| 09/05/2018 06:50   | Terra     | 1.6  | 2.3                      | 3.1  | 11.38    | 3.02  | 4.31              | 5.60                             |
| 09/05/2018 19:00   | Terra     | 2.1  | 3.0                      | 3.8  | 11.89    | 3.10  | 4.42              | 5.75                             |
| 10/05/2018 21:15   | Aqua      | 0.9  | 1.2                      | 1.6  | 12.98    | 3.23  | 4.62              | 6.01                             |
| 11/05/2018 06:40   | Terra     | 0.3  | 0.4                      | 0.5  | 13.37    | 3.25  | 4.65              | 6.04                             |
| 11/05/2018 18:50   | Terra     | 1.0  | 1.5                      | 1.9  | 13.88    | 3.28  | 4.69              | 6.10                             |
| 12/05/2018 10:05   | Aqua      | 0.4  | 0.6                      | 0.8  | 14.51    | 3.32  | 4.75              | 6.17                             |
| 13/05/2018 06:25   | Terra     | 1.1  | 1.5                      | 2.0  | 15.36    | 3.38  | 4.83              | 6.27                             |
| 13/05/2018 18:35   | Terra     | 1.1  | 1.6                      | 2.1  | 15.87    | 3.43  | 4.89              | 6.36                             |
| 13/05/2018 21:45   | Aqua      | 1.0  | 1.5                      | 1.9  | 16.00    | 3.44  | 4.91              | 6.39                             |
| 14/05/2018 09:55   | Aqua      | 1.0  | 1.4                      | 1.8  | 16.51    | 3.48  | 4.97              | 6.47                             |

 Table 2. Cloud-free MODIS images processed and TADR delivered during the April-May 2018 eruption

| 14/05/2018 19:20 | Terra | 0.8  | 1.1  | 1.5  | 16.90 | 3.51 | 5.02 | 6.52 |
|------------------|-------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| 15/05/2018 06:15 | Terra | 1.4  | 2.0  | 2.6  | 17.35 | 3.55 | 5.08 | 6.60 |
| 15/05/2018 21:30 | Aqua  | 0.9  | 1.3  | 1.7  | 17.99 | 3.62 | 5.17 | 6.72 |
| 16/05/2018 06:55 | Terra | 0.6  | 0.8  | 1.1  | 18.38 | 3.64 | 5.21 | 6.77 |
| 16/05/2018 19:05 | Terra | 0.9  | 1.3  | 1.6  | 18.89 | 3.68 | 5.25 | 6.83 |
| 17/05/2018 21:20 | Aqua  | 0.5  | 0.8  | 1.0  | 19.98 | 3.74 | 5.35 | 6.95 |
| 19/05/2018 21:05 | Aqua  | 0.4  | 0.5  | 0.7  | 21.97 | 3.82 | 5.46 | 7.10 |
| 22/05/2018 21:35 | Aqua  | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.04 | 24.99 | 3.88 | 5.54 | 7.20 |
| 24/05/2018 06:10 | Terra | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 26.35 | 3.88 | 5.54 | 7.20 |

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| S1B       | SM (151) | 16/04/2018 | 28/04/2018 | 01:46:38   | 1.8    | 0.5                                 | 0.1                                 |
| S1A       | IW (144) | 03/01/2018 | 03/05/2018 | 14:53:11   | 2.5    | 1.0                                 | 0.3                                 |
| S1A       | IW (151) | 22/04/2018 | 04/05/2018 | 01:47:32   | 2.6    |                                     |                                     |
| S1B       | SM (144) | 27/04/2018 | 09/05/2018 | 14:52:40   | 3.4    | 1.1                                 | 0.1                                 |
| S1B       | SM (151) | 16/04/2018 | 10/05/2018 | 01:46:39   | 3.5    | 1.2                                 | 0.2                                 |
| S1A       | IW (144) | 03/01/2018 | 15/05/2018 | 14:53:12   | 4.0    | 1.2                                 | 0.2                                 |
| S1A       | IW (151) | 04/05/2018 | 16/05/2018 | 01:47:32   | 4.1    | 1.3                                 | 0.3                                 |
| S1B       | SM (144) | 27/04/2018 | 21/05/2018 | 14:52:41   | 4.1    |                                     |                                     |
| S1B       | SM (151) | 16/04/2018 | 22/05/2018 | 01:46:39   | 4.1    | 1.3                                 | 0.1                                 |
| S1A       | IW (144) | 03/01/2018 | 27/05/2018 | 14:53:12   | 4.1    | 1.3                                 | 0.1                                 |
| S1A       | IW (151) | 04/05/2018 | 28/05/2018 | 01:47:33   | 4.1    | 1.3                                 | 0.1                                 |
| S1B       | SM (144) | 27/04/2018 | 02/06/2018 | 14:52:41   |        |                                     |                                     |
| S1B       | SM (151) | 16/04/2018 | 03/06/2018 | 01:46:40   |        |                                     |                                     |
| S1A       | IW (144) | 03/01/2018 | 08/06/2018 | 14:53:13   | 4.1    |                                     |                                     |
| S1A       | IW (151) | 04/05/2018 | 09/06/2018 | 01:47:34   | 4.1    |                                     |                                     |

Table 3. InSAR image pairs used to produce coherence maps during the April – May eruption, and the resulting flow lengths and flow field areas. The lines entered in bold are used in the reporting form (Appendix A). Track 144 for ascending pass; 151 for descending pass.

**Table 4.** ASTER-URP images acquired during the eruption response. From these data, vent locations and flow field lengths were derived. Note that when the 15 m VNIR are the only data acquired because of high angle off-nadir pointing, smaller-scale features are resolved, but the dimensions of active flow features based on their thermal signature cannot be measured without the 90 m TIR data.

| Date         | Time        | Mode                            | Vent Location | Tube Exit Location | Tube length   | Active flow   | Cooling flow  |
|--------------|-------------|---------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| (dd/mm/yyyy) | (hh:mm, UT) |                                 | (UTM)         | (UTM)              | (km)          | length (km)   | length (km)   |
| 02/05/2018   | 18:56       | Night time mode                 | 0365216 m E;  | n/a                | 0             | 0.99          | 1.53          |
|              |             | (TIR only)                      | 7648811 m S   |                    |               |               |               |
| 04/05/2018   | 06:34       | Daytime full mode               | 0365261 m E;  | n/a                | 0             | 0.89          | 1.33          |
|              |             | (both VNIR and TIR)             | 7648841 m S   |                    |               |               |               |
| 09/05/2018   | 19:03       | Night time mode                 | 0365261 m E;  | 0364927 m E;       | 0.49          | 1.52          | 1.67          |
|              |             | (TIR only)                      | 7648841 m S   | 7646953 m S        |               |               |               |
| 11/05/2018   | 6:40        | Daytime off-nadir pointing mode |               |                    |               |               |               |
|              |             | (VNIR only)                     |               |                    |               |               |               |
| 13/05/2018   | 6:28        | Daytime off-nadir pointing mode |               |                    |               |               |               |
|              |             | (VNIR only)                     |               |                    |               |               |               |
| 18/05/2018   | 18:57       | Night time mode                 | cloudy        | cloudy             | cloudy        | cloudy        | cloudy        |
|              |             | (TIR only)                      |               |                    |               |               |               |
| 20/05/2018   | 06:34       | Daytime full mode               | cloudy        | cloudy             | cloudy        | cloudy        | cloudy        |
|              |             | (both VNIR and TIR)             |               |                    |               |               |               |
| 25/05/2018   | 19:03       | Night time mode                 | 0365261 m E;  | 0364900 m E;       | 2.07          | 0.63          | 1.08          |
|              |             | (TIR only)                      | 7648841 m S   | 7647010 m S        |               |               |               |
| 03/06/2018   | 18:57       | Night time mode                 | cloudy        | cloudy             | cloudy        | cloudy        | cloudy        |
|              |             | (TIR only)                      |               |                    |               |               |               |
| 05/06/2018   | 06:34       | Daytime full mode               | Post-eruption | Post-eruption      | Post-eruption | Post-eruption | Post-eruption |
|              |             | (both VNIR and TIR)             |               |                    |               |               |               |
| 19/06/2018   | 18:57       | Night time mode                 | Post-eruption | Post-eruption      | Post-eruption | Post-eruption | Post-eruption |
|              |             | (TIR only)                      |               |                    |               |               |               |

# LAVA FLOW FIELD REPORTING FORM (file name save format: yyyymmdd-Volcano name-ANR-LAVA-REPORT-##)

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| Reporting form initialize | ed by              | <surname> <name></name></surname>                                     |                        |  |  |
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| Time Series:              |                    |   |                        |  |  |

| Time Series:              |                           |                 |               |
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| InSAR coherer   | nce and flow area maps |               |         |   |   |                      |  |  |
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# Appendix **B**

## InSAR data processing

The InSAR method consists of computing an interferogram by subtracting the phase between two SAR images acquired of the same area at different epochs. The phase recorded on a SAR image depends both on the radar wave round trip travel time between the instrument and the ground, and on the interaction between the radar wave and reflectors on the ground surface. Provided that this last component remains stable between two successive acquisitions, the differential phase displayed on the interferogram will only reflect changes in the radar wave travel time between the two acquisitions and can be exploited to measure possible ground surface displacement occurring between the two acquisitions. This is the classical application of InSAR that has seen a succesful development in the field of volcanological application since the pioneering work of Massonnet et al. (1995) (e.g., Biggs and Pritchard 2017; Pinel, Poland, and Hooper 2014; Massonnet, Briole, and Arnaud 1995; Ferretti, Prati, and Rocca 2001; Hooper et al. 2004).

If the geometry or dielectrical properties of the reflectors on the ground change significantly between the two radar acquisitions, the differential phase will appear very noisy ("decorrelated" or "incoherent") on the interferogram, making it unexploitable for displacement measurement. This generally occurs when the ground is covered by dense vegetation, the geometric properties of individual plants changing very quickly due to continuous growth or to the motion of leavees in the wind. It could also occur when heavy rain, snow fall, strong erosional events, air fall (in volcanic context) occurs between the two radar acquisitions. Interferometric coherence provides an estimation of the temporal stability of the ground contribution to phase measurement. It is generally derived as an inverse function of the phase variance calculated between neighboring pixels (e.g., in a  $3 \times 3$  pixels box) in the interferogram and is usually represented as an image where very coherent pixels have values close to one and poorly coherent pixels have values close to zero.

If a lava flow is emplaced between two successive SAR acquisitions, the interferometric coherence will be very low in the area covered by the lava flow due to the change in the geometry of the ground reflectors there. If, in contrast, the surrounding area remains coherent on the interferogram (i.e., if the lava flow is emplaced on bare rock or soil), the lava flow will appear on the interferometric coherence image as a black area surrounded by lighter-toned pixels. This is typicaly the case at Piton de la Fournaise when a lava flow is emplaced in the (largely) vegetation-free Enclos Fouqué caldera (the upper part of the volcano) where the interferometric coherence is very high (>70 %). Here, by detecting the boundary between dark and light-toned areas one can obtain a map of the lava flow contour (e.g., Rowland et al. 2003; Dietterich et al. 2012; Bato et al. 2016).

In this study, we exploited interferometric coherence images to produce an early map of the April-May 2018 lava flow. To provide relevant data for input in the response protocol in as timely fashion as possible, we used only ESA Sentinel-1 data. Sentinel-1A/B data are acquired for La Réunion island every six days both during ascending and descending passes, alternatively in Interferometric Wide Swath mode (IW, range spacing = 2.33 m, azimuth spacing = 14.06 m) and in Stripmap mode (SM, range spacing = 2.66 m, azimuth spacing = 4.15 m). The data are made freely available by the European Space Agency (ESA) via the Sentinel-1 Data Hub between 4 and 24 hours after acquisition.

As it is not possible to produce an interferogram by combining IW with SM data, so the shortest time period between two usable interferograms is 12 days. We compute the interferograms and the coherence images using the Doris 5.0.3 InSAR processor (Kampes and Usai 1999; Kampes and Hanssen 2003). To georeference the interferometric products, we used a 5 m resolution Digital Elevation Model (DEM) produced by the French Geographic Institute from two airborne LiDAR sur-

veys carried out over La Réunion in 2008 and 2009. After georeferencing, the coherence maps derived from IW data have a 15 m pixel size, and those derived from SM data have a 5 m pixel size.

To discriminate, in the coherence images, areas covered by lava flow from other poorly coherent areas (e.g., due to air fall or to changes in the soil moisture between the two radar acquisitions) we developed a three step procedure. The first step consists of applying a median filter on the coherence image. Then, in a second step, we perform a clustering-based image thresholding approach: the Otsu algorithm (Otsu 1979). The resulting binary image is used to trace the lava flow boundary (including boundaries of kipukas) using the bwboundaries Matlab© function. Finally, the lava flow surface area is estimated with associated uncertainty taking into account the pixel surface and the probability that each pixel belongs to the lava flow knowing its coherence.

As the April – May 2018 eruption lasted more than one month, we were able to compute several coherence images combining, for a given acquisition geometry and mode (ascending or descending pass, IW or SM mode), a unique master image with several slave images. The master images were acquired before the beginning of the eruption and the slave images during the eruption, or just after its end. This allowed us to estimate the evolution of the lava flow surface area at different epochs (see Appendix D). Moreover, several interferograms, spanning the total duration of the eruption, were produced by combining a master image acquired before the beginning of the eruption and the slaves images acquired in the weeks following the end of the eruption. The coherence images associated with these interferograms have been stacked to produce an accurate map of the final lava flow extension and its total surface area (see Appendix D).

Generaly, the lava flow field becomes coherent a few weeks to a few months after the end of the eruption (Bato et al. 2016; Chaussard 2016; Wittmann, Sigmundsson, and Lavallée 2017). The thickness of the lava flow field can be estimated from the topographical residuals in the interferograms. These residuals reflect the deviation between a reference DEM used in the interferometric processing and the actual topography (Massonnet and Feigl 1998). Since the amplitude of topographic residuals is proportional to the perpendicular baseline of the interferometric couple (Massonnet and Feigl 1998), one can obtain a relatively accurate determination of the changes in the volcano topography due to lava flow emplacement by a statistical exploitation of several interferograms covering a large range of perpendicular baseline (Bato et al. 2016). The lava thickness obtained in this way can be used not only to evaluate the volume of the lava flow field, and then, by making some assumptions on the lava porosity, the volume of lava emitted, but also to update the DEM after each eruption. Such an update is mandatory to achieve model-based flow-length projections. Unfortunately, in the case of the April 2018 eruption, we could not use the Sentinel-1 interferograms to determine the lava flow thickness since the perpendicular baseline (B<sub>perp</sub>) of the S1 interferometric couples was always very low  $(\overline{B_{perp}} = 48 \text{ m} \pm 35 \text{ m})$ . A particular effort has been made by ESA in the Sentinel-1 system design to achieve an orbital tube of 50 m radius (rms). This guaranties high performances for ground surface displacement measurement purposes by reducing the sensibility of the interferograms to possible topographic artifacts. However, in our case, this "improvement" is a disadvantage since we are looking for topographic residuals (Ebmeier et al. 2012; Albino et al. 2015; Kubanek, Westerhaus, et al. 2015; Kubanek, Richardson, et al. 2015; Bato et al. 2016; Kubanek, Westerhaus, and Heck 2017). The characteristics of CosmoSky-Med and TerraSAR-X/TanDEM-X constellations make them better suited for this type of application. The use of future CSK and TSX/TDX acquisitions for Piton de la Fournaise will allow us to calculate the April-May 2018 lava flow thickness.

#### References

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#### Appendix C

#### **Example of ASTER URP email**

Given here is an example of the ASTER URP trigger for April–May 2018 eruption of Piton de la Fournaise as triggered by the University of Hawaii's hot spot detection system, MODVOLC (Wright et al. 2002):

| From:    | Thermal Hotspot Work <thermal@hotspot3.higp.soest.hawaii.edu></thermal@hotspot3.higp.soest.hawaii.edu> |
|----------|--|
| Sent:    | Saturday, April 28, 2018 3:25 PM   |
| То:      | daac_alerts2@higp.hawaii.edu   |
| Subject: | HIGP Urgent Request  |

Mike | Ramsey | Hawaii Institute of Geophysics and Planetology

|Volcano|1|21.24|1|55.71|Fournaise,\_Piton\_de\_la|Fournaise,\_Piton\_de\_la|

http://modis.higp.hawaii.edu/cgi-bin/mergeimage? maptype=relief&jyear=2018&jday=116&jperiod=4.0&lonmin=55.658&lonmax=55.758&latmin=-21.294&latmax=-21.194&xsize=600&ysize=600

|Indian\_Ocean\_(western)|Middle\_East\_and\_Indian\_Ocean|Day|fullmode|Yes|Normal|Yes|Normal |Normal|Normal|Normal|Normal|Normal|Normal|Normal|UTM

|Cubic Convolution|Immediately on receipt of data|||Volcano monitoring|HIGP Urgent Request

|mramsey@pitt.edu

The automatic response to this notification from the URP system was as follows :

| From:    | aesics@usgs.gov <aesics@usgs.gov></aesics@usgs.gov> |
|----------|---|
| Sent:    | Saturday, April 28, <u>2018 3</u> :31 PM            |
| Subject: | AESICS - New Request: Fournaise,_Piton_de_la        |

A new request has been received by AESICS and is pending approval. The full request details and/or update the request, <u>click here</u>.

## **Overview**

DAAC ID:26392STAR ID:NoneEvent Name:Fournaise,\_Piton\_de\_laApplication:VolcanoJustification:Volcano monitoring

# **Location**

Event Country: Indian\_Ocean\_(western) Event Location: Middle\_East\_and\_Indian\_Ocean Coordinates: (-21.24, 55.71) Reference URL: Link

# **Acquisition and Processing**

Sensor Mode:full modeLocal Time:NightOff-NADIR Ok:yesOff-NADIR Amount:NormalProcessing Urgency:Expedited

## **Gain Settings**

VNIR1: normal VNIR2: normal VNIR3: normal SWIR4: normal SWIR5: normal SWIR6: normal SWIR7: normal SWIR8: normal SWIR9: normal

| LAVA FLOW FIELD REPORTING FORM                                    |                 |                       |                  |  |  |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------|--|--|
| (file name save format: yyyymmdd-Volcano name-ANR-LAVA-REPORT-##) |                 |                       |                  |  |  |
| Target  |                 | Piton de la Fournaise |                  |  |  |
| Eruption Start Date and Time (local)                              |                 | 2018-04-27-T-23       | :50 (local time) |  |  |
| Report Date and Time (UTC)  |                 | 2018-07-11-T-12       | :00 (GMT)        |  |  |
| Up-dated by   |                 | HARRIS Andrew         |                  |  |  |
| Field 1: TIME   | -AVERAGED DISCH | HARGE RATE            |                  |  |  |
| Sensor  |                 | MODIS                 |                  |  |  |
| Processing System   |                 | MIROVA                |                  |  |  |
| Last update   |                 | 2018-05-24T06:10:00   |                  |  |  |
| Up-dated by   |                 | COPPOLA Diego         |                  |  |  |
| Image Date  | Image Time      | TADR-min              | TADR-max         |  |  |
| 15-05-2018  | 06:15:00        | 1.32                  | 2.71             |  |  |
| 15-05-2018  | 21:30:00        | 0.88                  | 1.81             |  |  |
| 15-05-2018  | 21:30:00        | 0.88                  | 1.81             |  |  |
| 16-05-2018  | 06:55:00        | 0.53                  | 1.09             |  |  |
| 16-05-2018  | 19:05:00        | 0.82                  | 1.69             |  |  |
| 16-05-2018  | 19:05:00        | 0.82                  | 1.69             |  |  |
| 17-05-2018  | 21:20:00        | 0.51                  | 1.05             |  |  |
| 19-05-2018  | 21:05:00        | 0.35                  | 0.73             |  |  |
| 22-05-2018  | 21:35:00        | 0.02                  | 0.04             |  |  |

#### Comments:

24-05-2018

The MODIS image acquired today at 06:10 UTC, indicates very low levels of thermal activity over the lava field (~5 MW) corresponding to a very low TADR (0.015 to 0.03 m<sup>3</sup>/s). However, this low thermal flux could be also related to the cooling of the lava field emplaced in the previous days; meaning there is the possibility that there is no flow so the TADR is "false"; it being derived from a cooling anomaly.

06:10:00

0.02

0.03



| Field 2: FLOW SIMULA TION                  |                       |                      |                            |                         |  |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Last update                                |                       |                      | <2018-06-21-T-15-00>       |                         |  |
| Up-dated by                                |                       |                      | CHEVREL Oryaëlle           |                         |  |
| Flow path model                            |                       |                      | DOWNFLOW                   | 1                       |  |
| DEM file                                   | DEM resolution        |                      | Noise                      | No. iterations          |  |
| 5m_updated.asc                             | 5                     | m                    | ±0.001 – 1m                | 1000                    |  |
| Vent location                              | Source: airborne      | GPS                  | Source: field<br>GPS       | Source: ASTER           |  |
| 365377; 7648853                            |                       | N                    | Surveillance<br>camera     | N                       |  |
| 40 K (Google Earth)                        | 2018                  | -04-28               | 04:33 OVPF<br>(local time) |                         |  |
| Flow length model                          |                       |                      | PyFLOWGO                   |                         |  |
| Initialization file                        |                       |                      | Same as 2010 eruption      |                         |  |
| Run Date                                   |                       | TADR used            | Channel dimension          | Run out                 |  |
| 2018-06-22                                 | 2                     | 20m <sup>3</sup> /s  | 3 × 1.5                    | 1100 m                  |  |
|  |                       |                      |                            | <u> </u>                |  |
|  |                       |                      | +                          | <u> </u>                |  |
|  |                       |                      | +                          |                         |  |
|  |                       |                      | 1                          |                         |  |
| Flow projection map:                       |                       |                      |                            |                         |  |
| Vent position                              |                       | Current run<br>date  | TADR used                  | Eruption<br>temperature |  |
| 365377; 7648853 <utm></utm>                |                       | 2018-06-22           | 20 m <sup>3</sup> /s       | 1114°C                  |  |
| <figure><figure></figure></figure>         |                       |                      |                            |                         |  |
| Comments:<br>Initial vent position is base | d on the middle of    | f the main fissure a | as apparent in the v       | web-cam data and        |  |
|  | and the second second | sa checking ana ap   |                            |                         |  |

The DOWNFLOW path has been modified by hand to remove the lava ponding effect (green in graph) and then the slope was smoothed every 10 m (blue in graph).

| Field 3: ASTER      |                     |                          |                                |  |  |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Last update         |                     | <2018-05-24T06:10:00>    |                                |  |  |
| Up-dated by         |                     | RAMSEY Michael           |                                |  |  |
| Image date          | Image time (UT)     | TADR (m <sup>3</sup> /s) | SO <sub>2</sub> flux (kg/s)    |  |  |
| 04-05-2018          | 06:34:00            | not calculated           | not calculated                 |  |  |
| Image date          | Image time (UT)     | Anomaly Length (m)       | Anomaly Area (m <sup>2</sup> ) |  |  |
| 02-05-2018          | 06:15:00            | 1367                     | 281,411                        |  |  |
| 04-05-2018          | 06:34:00            | 2446                     | 553,918                        |  |  |
| 09-05-2018          | 19:03:00            | 4107                     | 1,098,212                      |  |  |
| 25-05-2018          | 25-05-2018 19:03:00 |                          | 973,751                        |  |  |
| ASTER hot spot map: |                     |                          |                                |  |  |
| Image date          | Image time (UT)     | VNIR bands used          | TIR bands used                 |  |  |
| 04-05-2018          | 06:34:00            | <b3; b1="" b2;=""></b3;> | b13 / b13; b11; b10            |  |  |
|                     |                     |                          |                                |  |  |

262 Q 000 764,8000 364,500 365,000 

## Comments:

4 May 2018 ASTER VNIR (left) and TIR (right) data shown. First ASTER full mode (VNIR + TIR) acquisition following URP trigger. Vent location verified in the VNIR data along with the presence of open channels. TIR anomaly length + area includes all pixels above background, not just the saturated pixels corresponding to open channel location. TIR decorrelation stretch color composite confirms SO<sub>2</sub> in plume (yellow/orange). Note: TADR and SO<sub>2</sub> flux values were not calculated.

| Field 4: INSAR                      |           |              |            |                      |   |  |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------|------------|----------------------|---|--|
| Last update                         |           |              |            | 2018-07-06-T-15-00   |   |  |
| Up-dated by                         |           |              |            | Alexis HRYSIEWICZ    |   |  |
| Processing System                   |           |              |            | Doris 5.0 and Matlab |   |  |
|                                     | Satellite | Mode (track) | Dat        | e                    | time  |  |
| Master                              | S1B       | SM (151)     | 2          | 2018-04-16           | 01:46:38.148088   |  |
| Slave                               | S1B       | SM (151)     | 2          | 2018-04-28           | 01:46:38.734417   |  |
| Dimensions:                         | Length =  | 1.8 km       |            | Area =               | $0.5 \times 10^{6} \text{ m}^{2} \pm 0.1 \times 10^{6}$ |  |
| Master                              | S1A       | IW (144)     | 2018-01-03 |                      | 14:53:10.372910   |  |
| Slave                               | S1A       | IW (144)     | 2018-05-03 |                      | 14:53:11.013571   |  |
| Dimensions:                         | Length =  | 2.5 km       | Area =     |                      | $1 \times 10^{6} \text{ m}^{2} \pm 0.3 \times 10^{6}$   |  |
| Master                              | S1B       | SM (151)     | 2          | 2018-04-16           | 01:46:38.148088   |  |
| Slave                               | S1B       | SM (151)     | 2          | 2018-05-10           | 01:46:39.238256   |  |
| Dimensions:                         | Length >  | 3.5 km       |            | Area =               | $1.2 \times 10^{6} \text{ m}^{2} \pm 0.2 \times 10^{6}$ |  |
| Master                              | S1A       | IW (151)     | 2          | 2018-05-04           | 01:47:32.171178   |  |
| Slave                               | S1A       | IW (151)     | 2          | 2018-05-16           | 01:47:32.875454   |  |
| Dimensions:                         | Length =  | 4.1 km       |            | Area =               | $1.3 \times 10^{6} \text{ m}^{2} \pm 0.3 \times 10^{6}$ |  |
| InSAR coherence and flow area maps: |           |              |            |                      |   |  |
|                                     | Satellite | Mode         | Dat        | e                    | time  |  |
| Master                              | S1B       | SM (144)     | 2          | 2018-04-27           | 14:52:39.557416   |  |
| Slave                               | S1B       | SM (144)     | 2          | 2018-06-26           | 14:52:43.052570   |  |







Fig 2: Evolution of the lava flow area from InSAR. The stars correspond to the Sentinel 1 SM data, the circles are for the Sentinel 1 IW data. The blue color is used to denote the Descending acquisitions, and the red is for Ascending images. The black line is the final computed area obtained from several coherence images covering the entire eruption duration. The error bars are set as two times the standard deviation. The gray zone marks the uncertainty on the final area.

Comments: