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# Long-term eruptive trends from space-based thermal and SO<sub>2</sub> emissions: a comparative analysis of Stromboli, Batu Tara and Tinakula volcanoes

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1       **Long-term eruptive trends from space-based thermal and SO<sub>2</sub> emissions:**  
2       **a comparative analysis of Stromboli, Batu Tara and Tinakula volcanoes**

3  
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13  
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15       *Stromboli twins; MODIS; OMI; Volcanic Radiative Power; gas/magma balance; magma budget*

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## **Abstract**

Batu Tara (Indonesia) and Tinakula (Solomon Island) are two poorly known volcanoes with morphologies and short-term eruptive activity similar to Stromboli (Italy). However, quantitative information about their long-term eruptive behaviours are limited, making the comparisons with Stromboli descriptive and based on short periods of observations. Here, we use over a decade of satellite data to measure and compare the radiant flux (2000–2017) and the SO<sub>2</sub> mass (2004–2017) of all three volcanoes. The combined analysis of Volcanic Radiant Power (from MODIS data) and SO<sub>2</sub> flux (from OMI data) reveals different long-term eruptive trends and contrasting ratios of SO<sub>2</sub>/VRP. These data indicate that the eruptive mechanisms operating at each volcano are quite different. The persistent open-vent activity of Stromboli volcano is episodically interrupted by flank eruptions that drain degassed magma stored in the very shallow portion of the central conduit. In contrast, a long-lasting exponential decay of both VRP and SO<sub>2</sub> flux observed at Batu Tara is consistent with the eruption of undegassed magma from a deep, closed magma chamber. Finally, Tinakula displays multiple year-long eruptive phases, characterised by evolving gas/thermal ratios and an eruptive intensity increasing with time. Magma budget calculations for this volcano are consistent with eruption from a volatile-zoned magma chamber, coupled with periods of gas/magma accumulations at depth. Our results suggest that the combined analysis of satellite thermal/gas data is a valuable tool for decrypting the long-term volcanic dynamics that could remain hidden over shorter time-scales.

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## Introduction

Satellite instruments represent an invaluable resource for measuring eruptive activity at remote volcanoes. In particular, they are unique in providing three main types of datasets, namely: thermal (radiant) flux (e.g. Ramsey and Harris 2013; Wright et al., 2015; Coppola et al. 2016a), gas (SO<sub>2</sub>) flux (e.g. Fioletov et al. 2016; Flower et al. 2016; Carn et al. 2017), and deformation (e.g. Biggs et al. 2014; McCormick-Kilbride et al. 2016; Biggs and Pritchard 2017). Data collected from space provide safe, continuous and homogeneous datasets to enable long-term observations of global volcanic activity and detection of volcanic unrest at poorly-monitored volcanoes (e.g. Wright et al. 2005; Chaussard et al. 2013; Coppola et al. 2015). While satellite data are becoming an essential input for real-time volcano hazard assessment (e.g. Ganci et al. 2012; Pyle et al. 2013; Harris et al. 2017), their back-analysis also permits the recognition of eruptive trends and patterns otherwise impossible at volcanoes lacking a ground-based monitoring network (e.g. Coppola et al. 2017a; Dean et al. 1998; Flower et al. 2016). Moreover, the growing databases of remote sensed data allows reconstruction emission of deformation histories, essentially at each volcano on earth, and permit a direct comparison between different volcanoes, both at local and global scales (cf. Harris 2013; Wright et al. 2015; Biggs and Pritchard 2017; Carn et al. 2017).

Batu Tara (7.792°S, 123.579°E) and Tinakula (10.38°S, 165.8°E) are two remote, unmonitored, active volcanoes located in the Lesser Sunda archipelago (Indonesia) and Solomon Islands, respectively (Fig. 1). They have a remarkable resemblance to the well-studied Stromboli (38.789°N, 15.213°E) volcano (Italy), a feature that has earned them the titles of "Stromboli of the Banda Sea", or "Stromboli of the Solomon Islands", or more generally "Stromboli twins" (Batu Tara and Tinakula Global Volcanism Program main pages, <https://volcano.si.edu/volcano.cfm?vn=264260>, <https://volcano.si.edu/volcano.cfm?vn=256010>).

70 This similarity derives from the evident morpho-structural similarity of the islands (Fig. 2), as well  
71 as from the rare field observations (Gaudin et al. 2017) and reports (Rothery et al. 2005) that  
72 describe their main activity as “strombolian” (that is characterised by persistent degassing and  
73 intermittent mild explosions; see Barberi et al. 1993).

74 However, the absence of in-situ monitoring instruments, as well as the difficulties of reaching and  
75 landing on the islands, make measurements sporadic, with only very few studies focused on the  
76 description and characterisation of their eruptive activity (Rothery et al. 2005; Gaudin et al. 2017).

77 Consequently, Tinakula and Batu Tara volcanoes have had low scientific coverage (one and seven  
78 papers, respectively) compared to Stromboli whose evolution, structure and eruptive dynamic is  
79 much more studied (more than 800 papers based on Scopus database since 1980,  
80 <https://www.scopus.com>). It is thus clear that a rigorous and long-term analysis of the eruptive  
81 activity characterising Batu Tara and Tinakula is still lacking, making the comparison with  
82 Stromboli purely descriptive and based exclusively on short-term behaviours (i.e., on the scale of  
83 single explosive event(s); Gaudin et al. 2017).

84 In this paper we characterise, the long-term thermal and degassing activity (2000–2017) of Batu  
85 Tara, Tinakula and Stromboli volcanoes by using satellite data acquired by three different sensors.

86 To track and quantify the radiant heat flux, in terms of Volcanic Radiative Power (VRP in Watt),  
87 at each volcano, we used the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) data. The  
88 location and extension of the thermal anomalies have been constrained by using thermal images  
89 collected by the Advanced Spaceborne Thermal Emission and Reflection Radiometer (ASTER).

90 Data acquired by the Ozone Measurement Instrument (OMI) were used to estimate the daily SO<sub>2</sub>  
91 flux ( $\phi$ SO<sub>2</sub> in Tonnes/day) associated with the volcanic gas emissions. Whilst for Batu Tara,  
92 Tinakula volcanoes these space-based data sets represent a unique source of information, here we

93 used Stromboli volcano as a benchmark for satellite data, because of the substantial understanding  
94 of its plumbing system and eruptive mechanisms (e.g. Allard et al. 1994; Aiuppa et al. 2010;  
95 Métrich et al. 2009; Ripepe et al. 2008, 2015).

96 Previous works successfully adopted similar combinations of thermal and degassing  
97 measurements, to provide insight into the geometry of the plumbing systems and investigate the  
98 balance between exogenous versus endogenous growth (e.g. Harris and Stevenson 1997; Steffke  
99 et al. 2011; Koeppen et al. 2011; Barrière et al. 2017; Coppola et al. 2016b; 2017a; Aiuppa et al.  
100 2018). In fact, the radiant flux sourced by effusive activity can be used to constrain the lava  
101 discharge rate (e.g. Harris et al. 1998; Harris et al. 2007; Coppola et al., 2013), as well as to infer  
102 the rate at which the magma circulate at superficial levels, at open-vent volcanoes (e.g. Francis et  
103 al. 1993; Oppenheimer et al. 2004; Aiuppa et al. 2018). At the same time, the SO<sub>2</sub> flux from a  
104 volcanic vent is widely used to determine the rate at which magma is supplied to shallow levels  
105 and degas (e.g. Allard et al. 1994; Francis et al. 1993; Andres and Kasgnoc 1998; Shinohara 2008).

106 Hence, coeval thermal and gas measurements can be used to investigate the magma-gas  
107 differentiation processes and to address the occurrence of the so called “excess degassing” (i.e.  
108 degassing of unerupted magma with a much larger volume than that of erupted magma), one of  
109 the most important concepts in understanding the volatile budget, eruption mechanisms, and  
110 differentiation of magmas in the crust (e.g. Allard et al. 1994; Andres and Kasgnoc 1998; Francis  
111 et al. 1993; Shinohara 2008).

112 In the following sections, we firstly describe the main tectonic, geochemical and morphological  
113 features of the three volcanoes by outlining similarities and differences from previous works and  
114 observations. Then, we present the analysis of 17-year-long records of satellite data acquired over  
115 the three volcanoes, in order to: (i) evaluate the persistence and intensity of the volcanic emissions

116 (thermal and gas), (ii) identify long-term changes in the eruptive behaviours; (iii) evaluate the  
117 partitioning between erupted and degassed magma by focussing on the  $\phi\text{SO}_2/\text{VRP}$  ratio.  
118 Despite the qualitative resemblance, our results outline marked differences in the eruptive  
119 mechanisms of the three volcanoes, which suggest quite different architectures and development  
120 of their respective plumbing systems.

121

## 122 **Stromboli, Batu Tara and Tinakula volcanoes**

123 The principal features of the three analysed volcanoes, retrieved from the available literature, are  
124 summarised in Table 1. Here, we briefly describe their main similarities and differences based on  
125 four main aspects: (i) tectonic setting and geochemistry, (ii) morphology, (iii) eruptive products,  
126 and (iv) volcanic activity.

127

### 128 **Tectonic setting, morphology and erupted products**

129 The tectonic setting of all three volcanoes is consistent with subduction-related magmatism,  
130 variably contaminated by slab-derived fluids and/or crustal materials (Elburg et al. 2004; Schuth  
131 et al. 2009) and likely overprinted by rift-type processes (De Astis et al. 2003). Recent erupted  
132 products (see Table 1) span High-K calc-alkaline basalts for Stromboli (Landi et al. 2009) to  
133 potassic-ultrapotassic tephrites for Batu Tara (Van Bergen et al. 1992) and low-potassic (tholeiitic)  
134 basalts for Tinakula (Schuth et al. 2009).

135 All the three islands represent the emerged parts of volcanic edifices rising approximately 3 to 4  
136 km above their respective abyssal plains (Table 1). The sub-aerial volcanic cones are characterised  
137 by similar volumes (from 1.3 to 3.9 km<sup>3</sup>), elevations (from 748 to 924 m above sea level) and  
138 mean slopes of volcanic flanks (from 22° to 25°). All the three volcanic edifices are truncated by



139 a horse-shoe shape scar, resulting from major lateral collapses, termed here a *Sciara del Fuoco*-  
140 type collapse following the local name for the collapse scar on Stromboli (Kokelaar and  
141 Romagnoli 1995; Tibaldi 2001). The scars host most of the recent volcanic products, erupted from  
142 one or more craters located in their higher portions (Fig. 2). Erupted products at the three volcanoes  
143 include lava flows, typical of effusive activity, as well as scoria, bombs and ash, typical of mild to  
144 moderate explosive activity (Table 1).

145

### 146 Recent activity

147 Stromboli is known for its persistent activity over 2 ka (Rosi et al. 2000), characterised by  
148 continuous degassing at summit vents with scoria, bombs, lapilli and ash ejection that normally  
149 occur every 15–20 minutes (Newhall and Self 1982, Barberi et al. 1993; Rosi et al. 2000).  
150 Periodically, flank effusive episodes interrupt the explosive summit activity, as observed on 2002–  
151 2003, 2007 and 2014 (Ripepe et al. 2017). Paroxysmal explosions may occasionally occur (e.g., 5  
152 April 2003 and 15 March 2007) resulting from rapid decompression of the plumbing system during  
153 effusive eruptions (Calvari et al. 2011; Valade et al. 2016). Volcanogenic tsunamis, which affect  
154 the Stromboli coastline, have been also observed and are associated to the opening of lateral  
155 eruptive fissures triggering flank failure and collapses (Barberi et al. 1993).

156 The first historical observations of Batu Tara activity describe continuous effusive activity  
157 between 1847–1852 (GVP 2007). Subsequently, the volcano entered in a 155-year period of  
158 quiescence until January 2007, when a new eruption began (GVP 2007). According to periodic  
159 reports, between 2007 and 2011, an effusive activity was accompanied with strombolian to  
160 vulcanian explosions, producing ash-rich plumes that reached altitudes of 2–4 km (GVP 2007,  
161 2011, 2014). During 2014, Batu Tara eruptions were characterised by a low-level explosive

162 activity dominated by gas-poor and ash-rich emissions (Gaudin et al. 2017). Notably, no further  
163 ash plumes and thermal anomalies were reported after October 2016 (GVP 2016).  
164 Eruptions of Tinakula volcano have been regularly reported since at least 1768  
165 (<https://volcano.si.edu/volcano.cfm?vn=256010>). The eruptive phases typically last months to  
166 years and are often separated by periods of repose lasting years to decades (GVP 2003; Rothery et  
167 al. 2005). The 1971 eruptive episode (one of the major eruptions of Tinakula in historical time)  
168 was characterised by lava flows and ash-dominated explosive activity, which caused a tsunami  
169 that led to the evacuation of the island (GVP 1971). Recent observations suggest the occurrence  
170 of strombolian activity at the active summit crater(s), accompanied by glowing ejecta often rolling  
171 down the steep slope of the scar (Cook et al. 2012). This mild explosive activity is generally  
172 characterised by a Volcanic Explosivity Index (VEI; Newhall and Self 1982) of between 1 and 2,  
173 with volcanic plume heights not exceeding 4 km in altitude (Database Eruption search curated by  
174 the Smithsonian Institution Global Volcanism Program;  
175 [http://volcano.si.edu/search\\_eruption.cfm](http://volcano.si.edu/search_eruption.cfm)). Notably, on 21 October 2017, a short and intense  
176 eruptive phase produced an ash and gas plume reaching an altitude of about 10.7 km above sea  
177 level. This unexpected eruption was classified as a VEI 3 explosion (NDMO Report 2017) and  
178 represents a major event in the eruptive history of this volcano.

179

## 180 **Methods**

181 Here we briefly summarise the methods and analytical procedures used to retrieve the radiant heat  
182 flux (VRP), the SO<sub>2</sub> flux ( $\phi$ SO<sub>2</sub>), and to spatially characterise the thermal anomalies observed at  
183 the three volcanoes.

184

185 Volcanic Radiative Power (VRP) via MODIS-MIROVA data

186 In order to quantify the Volcanic Radiative Power (VRP in Watt) at the three volcanoes we used  
187 nighttime data acquires between 2000 and 2017 by the two MODIS instruments. MODIS is a  
188 multispectral imager mounted on board of Terra and Aqua NASA's satellites, launched on  
189 February 2000 and May 2002, respectively. We used the MODIS Level 1B data (1 km<sup>2</sup> of  
190 resolution in the infrared bands) provided by LANCE-MODIS system ([http://lance-](http://lance-modis.eosdis.nasa.gov/)  
191 [modis.eosdis.nasa.gov/](http://lance-modis.eosdis.nasa.gov/)) and elaborated by the MIROVA system (<http://www.mirovaweb.it/>;  
192 Coppola et al. 2016c). MIROVA is an automatic hot spot detection system based on the analysis  
193 of Middle InfraRed (MIR) radiation detected by MODIS at ~4 μm (channels 21 and 22; see  
194 Coppola et al. 2016c). Hence, for any alerted pixel, the VRP is calculated by using the MIR-method  
195 proposed by Wooster and coauthors (2003):

196 
$$VRP_{PIX} = 18.9 \times A_{PIX} \times (L_{4alert} - L_{4bk}) \quad (1)$$

197 where  $A_{PIX}$ ,  $L_{4alert}$  and  $L_{4bk}$  are the pixel area (1 km<sup>2</sup> for MODIS), and the spectral radiance at 4  
198 μm for the alerted pixel(s) and local background, respectively. When two or more pixels (a cluster  
199 of pixels) are detected, the total radiative power is calculated as the sum of each single  $VRP_{PIX}$ .  
200 According to Wooster and coauthors (2003) the MIR-method provides reliable estimates of radiant  
201 power ( $\pm 30\%$ ) for hot targets that have an integrated temperature comprised between 600 and 1500  
202 K. It follows that the VRP is appropriate to calculate the heat radiated by the active portions of  
203 lava flows, or any other volcanic emitters having a temperature higher than ~300 °C. Errors and  
204 limits associated to the MODIS-MIROVA data are described in the Online Resource 1.

205

206 The frequency distribution of VRP recorded at the three investigated volcanoes between 2000–  
207 2017 has been also analysed in order to detect and eventually discriminate thermal regimes  
208 associated to distinct types of volcanic activity (Coppola et al. 2012; Coppola and Cigolini 2013).

209

## 210 Location and extension of thermal anomaly using ASTER

211 The ASTER instrument, on board of Terra’s satellite, provides radiance measurements in 14  
212 spectral bands, spanning from visible and near infrared (VNIR channels 1 to 3b) , short-wave  
213 infrared (SWIR channels 4 to 9) and thermal infrared (TIR channels 10 to 13) wavelengths, with  
214 spatial resolutions of 15, 30 and 90 m, respectively (Pieri and Abrams 2004). Since 2008, the  
215 SWIR images ceased to be available due to a cooling system malfunction (Ramsey 2016).

216 Unlike MODIS, the acquisition of ASTER images is a scheduled in response to individual  
217 acquisition requests, or in emergency response to natural disasters, with a complex scheduling and  
218 processing plan based on a scale of priorities (i.e. Expedited Data System EDS; Ramsey 2016).  
219 Consequently, ASTER does not necessarily provide systematic observations at all volcanoes, but  
220 can be used as a valuable complement to the MODIS (Vaughan et al. 2012; Murphy et al. 2013)  
221 or other moderate resolution imagers (Reath et al. 2016).

222 Here we used ASTER Level 1T data (Precision Terrain Corrected Registered At-Sensor Radiance  
223 that contains calibrated at-sensor radiance, geometrically corrected and ortorectified into UTM  
224 projection. More specifically we analysed selected cloud-free TIR images (channel 13, centred at  
225 ~11.3  $\mu\text{m}$ ), with 90 m/pixel of spatial resolution, in order to locate the thermal anomalies  
226 associated to the activity detected by MODIS at the three volcanoes. Particular emphasis is given  
227 in discriminating between summit or lateral thermal anomalies and their association with the VRP  
228 measured by MODIS.

229

## 230 SO<sub>2</sub> flux ( $\phi$ SO<sub>2</sub>) via Ozone Monitoring Instrument (OMI)

231 OMI is one of the four instruments on board of AURA NASA's satellite, dedicated to monitor  
232 solar backscatter radiation over wavelengths spanning from 270 to 500 nm (visible and ultraviolet).

233 OMI is on orbit since the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2004 and provides daily global coverage through 14 orbits.

234 Each image has a complete swath of 2600 km and a nominal pixel spatial resolution of 13 × 24 km

235 at nadir. In this work we used the OMISO2 Product Level 2G that provide daily, global maps of

236 SO<sub>2</sub> vertical column density (in D.U.) at a resolution of 0.125° × 0.125° (Krotkov et al. 2014).

237 This product is based on the Principal Component Analysis (PCA) algorithm (Li et al. 2017) and

238 provides four estimates SO<sub>2</sub> vertical column density, by assuming different centres of mass

239 altitudes (CMAs): at ~0.9 km (Planetary Boundary Layer, PBL), ~2.5 km (Lower tropospheric,

240 TRL), ~7.5 km (Middle tropospheric, TRM), and ~17 km (Lower stratospheric, STL), respectively

241 (see Carn et al. 2016).

242 When a volcanic plume is imaged by OMI, the amount (mass) of SO<sub>2</sub>, hereby defined as MSO<sub>2</sub>,

243 (in Tonnes), is quantified by using the equation proposed by Krueger et al. (1995),

$$244 \quad MSO_2 = 0.0285 \times \sum_{i=0}^n A_i SO2_i \quad (2)$$

245 where  $A_i$  and  $SO2_i$  represent the area (in km<sup>2</sup>) and the SO<sub>2</sub> vertical column density (in D.U.) of

246 each  $i^{\text{th}}$  OMI pixel sampling the volcanic plume (Fig. 3).

247 Conversion of SO<sub>2</sub> mass (MSO<sub>2</sub>) into flux ( $\phi$ SO<sub>2</sub>) is nontrivial, and requires detailed knowledge

248 of SO<sub>2</sub> removal rate into the atmosphere, as well as measurements of the wind field at the time of

249 each image acquisition (Theys et al. 2013). Due to the large amount of images and the different

250 conditions operating on the plumes of the three volcanoes, here we used a simplified approach

251 (Fioletov et al. 2015) whereby, under steady state emissions, the flux and the mass of SO<sub>2</sub> are  
252 related by:

$$253 \quad \phi\text{SO}_2 \text{ (tonnes/day)} = \text{MSO}_2 / \tau \quad (3)$$

254 where ( $\tau$ ) is the lifetime of SO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere, assumed equal to 1 day (Beirle et al. 2014)

255 In order to quantify  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  sourced by Stromboli, Batu Tara and Tinakula, we adopted a manual,  
256 contextual procedure that allows discarding anomalous pixels (artefacts) and/or volcanic plumes  
257 sourced by neighbour volcanoes. We first cropped a 10° × 10° latitude-longitude box centred on  
258 each investigated volcano (Fig. 3). Hence, we calculated a local, contextual threshold, defined as  
259  $\mu + 3\sigma$ , where  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  represent, the mean and the standard deviation of the pixels having SO<sub>2</sub>  
260 density lower than 1 D.U., respectively. All the pixels exceeding this threshold are thus flagged as  
261 SO<sub>2</sub>-contaminated, and grouped into distinct clusters (groups of adjacent pixels). Finally, the  
262 visual inspection of all the images allow selecting only the specific clusters which are attributed,  
263 by the user, to the volcano of interest.

264 This last step was essential in many cases, where an SO<sub>2</sub> plume, located above or in proximity of  
265 the target volcano was in reality sourced by a neighbour volcano (Fig. 3). At Stromboli for example  
266 an automatic detection of SO<sub>2</sub> plumes would had been often triggered by the presence of large SO<sub>2</sub>  
267 emissions sourced by Mt. Etna drifting toward North (Fig. 3a, d). Similarly, in the Lesser Sunda  
268 region, the concurrent activity of several volcanoes located in proximity of Batu Tara (i.e.  
269 Lewotolo, Sirung and Egon mainly, located to south of Batu Tara; see Fig. 3b, e) sometimes  
270 produced SO<sub>2</sub>-rich plumes extending over Batu Tara island (Fig. 3e). For these reasons, to obtain  
271 the most accurate time-series of  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  and to avoid false detections, the visual inspection of all  
272 OMI images was found to be necessary, particularly for regions with multi-sources from active  
273 volcanoes.

274 According to the typical plume heights reported for the analysed volcanoes (typically less than 5  
275 km), the calculation of  $\text{MSO}_2$  has been retrieved by assuming the PBL and TRL layers only.  
276 Notably, it is well known that the values recorded at the two selected levels may diverge significantly  
277 (Flower et al. 2016). In general, the assumption of locating plume higher than the effective altitude  
278 could imply a substantial underestimate (up to 60%) and, locating the plume at lower altitude than  
279 that actually reached typically causes an overestimate greater than 100% (Hayer et al. 2016).

280

## 281 **Results**

282 In this section, we provide a description of VRP and  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  time-series recorded at Stromboli, Batu  
283 Tara and Tinakula volcanoes by integrating our satellite data with previous research and/or  
284 reported visual observations and scientific communications regarding the investigated volcanoes  
285 (e.g. Global Volcanism Program - GVP reports; <http://www.volcano.si.edu>)

286

### 287 Time-series of satellite-derived VRP and $\phi\text{SO}_2$

288 The time-series of VRP and  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  obtained for the three analysed volcanoes over the period 2000  
289 and 2017 are shown in Fig. 4. Thermal data recorded for all three volcanoes display a quite similar  
290 range of values, with VRP spanning from less than 1 MW to about 1000 MW. However, there are  
291 differences in the persistence of the thermal anomalies, as well as in the frequency distribution of  
292 the data (Fig 4). Thermal detections at Stromboli are essentially continuous (Fig. 4a1) showing a  
293 bimodal distribution of VRP with modal values of ~5 MW and ~150 MW, respectively (Fig. 4c1).  
294 This contrasts with the signal recorded at Batu Tara that is characterised by a single, distinct phase  
295 of activity (Fig. 4b1) with a unimodal VRP distribution (mode equal to ~40 MW; Fig. 4b3). At

296 Tinakula, the thermal signals recorded suggest multiple phases of activity (Fig. 4c1) but with a  
297 unimodal VRP distribution peaking at 10 MW (Fig. 4c3).

298 The 2004–2017 time-series of  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  also outline differences between each volcano, both in terms  
299 of magnitude and continuity of the emissions. Despite the continuous activity of Stromboli, few  
300 low-magnitude emissions are measured by OMI (modal value of  $\sim 100$  tonnes/day, in the PBL;  
301 Fig. 4a2, a4), whereas higher magnitude and continuous emissions are recorded from Batu Tara  
302 (modal values of 130 to 450 tonnes/day in the TRL and PBL, respectively; cf. Fig. 4b2, b4).  
303 Sulphur dioxide emissions recorded at Tinakula essentially mimic the phases of thermal activity,  
304 with  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  modal values of 30 and 100 tonnes/day in the TRL and PBL, respectively (cf. Fig. 4c2,  
305 c4). The recent event at Tinakula led to a peak of  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  ( $>10,000$  tonnes/day) recorded in October  
306 2017.

307  
308 Stromboli's radiative flux shows a quite continuous and stable trend with values less than 20–30  
309 MW, interrupted by periods with VRP generally greater than 100 MW and peaking at 4600 MW  
310 (Fig. 4a1). Previous work shows that the lower thermal emissions are related to the “normal” mild  
311 explosive activity, whereas the high VRP periods coincide with the three effusive flank eruptions  
312 (e.g., Calvari et al. 2014; Coppola et al. 2014; Valade et al. 2016; Ripepe et al. 2017). Further  
313 episodic measurements greater than 50–100 MW are linked to summit overflows and/or short  
314 fountaining episodes that occurred during 2009–2014 (black arrows in Fig. 4a1; cf. Calvari et al.  
315 2014; Valade et al. 2016). Notably, our  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  data, suggest that the continuous degassing associated  
316 to the normal activity of Stromboli ( $\sim 150$  tonnes/day; Burton et al. 2009) was not clearly  
317 identifiable in the OMI images. On the other hand, during the periods characterised by the  
318 occurrence of summit overflows (e.g. Dec 2010 – Apr 2013; Calvari et al. 2014; Fig 4a2) as well



319 as during the two effusive flank eruptions (e.g. Feb 2007, Aug-Oct 2014), the volcanic plume was  
320 clearly sourced by Stromboli reaching peak  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  of 480 tonnes/day (at PBL level).

321  
322 Data from Batu Tara shows the first signs of low thermal activity (1–2 MW) between July and  
323 December 2006, followed by continuous activity between 2007 and 2016. From early January  
324 2007 the thermal activity increased progressively to reach a peak of 490 MW on February 2007  
325 (Fig. 4b1). According to 2007–2008 reports, a channelised lava flow was emplaced along the scar,  
326 reaching the sea and building a lava delta (GVP 2007). This effusive activity was accompanied by  
327 explosive activity characterised by the emission of ash-rich volcanic plumes that recurrently  
328 reached an altitude of about 3–4 km (GVP 2007). Following this, the thermal record displays a  
329 slow but gradual reduction of activity (from 100–200 MW on 2007 to about 20–30 MW on 2013).  
330 This reduction was confirmed by field observations in 2014, which reported the absence of lava  
331 effusion and that explosive activity was confined to the summit crater (Gaudin et al. 2017). On 23  
332 October 2016, the thermal activity drastically decreased to less than 1 MW suggesting the end of  
333 the eruption (Fig. 4b1).

334 Reports from the Darwin Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre (VAAC) throughout the whole eruption  
335 indicate the presence of a volcanic plume over Batu Tara at an altitude of 2–4 km (GVP 2008).  
336 Accordingly, in the following sections, the TRL layer is considered the most appropriate for  
337 retrieving  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  from Batu Tara (see Fig. 4b2, b4).

338 The first detection of  $\text{SO}_2$ -rich plume over Batu Tara was on 26 July 2005 (<100 tonnes/day),  
339 about one year prior to the beginning of thermal activity in July 2006 (see blue and red lines in  
340 Fig. 4b1, b2). The  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  time-series essentially mimics the thermal trend, with both describing a  
341 short waxing phase, followed by a slow waning phase until the end of 2016 (Fig. 4b1, b2). It is

342 interesting to note that during 2016 and during the first part of 2017, small plumes were still  
343 detected over Batu Tara, despite no evidence of surface activity in the thermal data (Fig. 4b1). The  
344 last  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  detection was recorded on 7 April 2017 (Fig. 4b2).

345  
346 At Tinakula, the heat flux time-series defines at least three main phases of activity, interrupted by  
347 year-long periods lacking thermal alerts (Fig. 4c1). During the 2000–2001 a first phase of low  
348 thermal emission can be identified as characterised by sporadic and low-magnitude thermal  
349 detections ( $< 20$  MW). Conversely, the relatively long-lasting phases occurring in 2006–2012  
350 (eventually subdivided into distinct stages) show thermal emissions often exceeding 100 MW  
351 (with a largest value of 1120 MW, 11 Feb 2006; Fig. 4c1). The 2010–2012 period was defined by  
352 an increasing trend, with a maximum VRP ( $\sim 200$  MW) that reached on July 2012. This recorded  
353 thermal behaviour could be reconciled with a strombolian-type activity, encompassing from  
354 persistent degassing to high-explosive phases, as testified by available reports (GVP 2003, 2006).  
355 Between 2013 and 2017, our measurements suggest the total absence of VRP and  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  detections  
356 (Fig. 4c). However, after about five years of repose, a new small (2 MW) thermal anomaly was  
357 detected on 19 October 2017 (Fig. 4c1). The renewed thermal activity was immediately followed  
358 by the VEI 3 explosive phase on 21 October (GVP 2017). The thermal emissions from this short  
359 explosive phase were detected for a few days only, and reached a maximum VRP of 20 MW.

360  
361 The  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  time-series of Tinakula between 2005 and 2017 overlap with the timing of the eruptive  
362 phases depicted by the VRP data. The first clear OMI data coincides to the thermal onset on 11  
363 February 2006 and is followed on 12–13 February by peak values of up to 2750 tonnes/day, using  
364 the TRL level. This level appears appropriate because scientific communications report the

365 occurrence of VEI 2 explosive eruptions reaching an altitude of less than 5 km (GVP 2013,  
366 Eruptive History; <https://volcano.si.edu/volcano.cfm?vn=256010>).  
367 Between 2007 and 2012, there were no ash-advisory reports regarding Tinakula, suggesting a low-  
368 altitude emission or, otherwise, an ash-free volcanic plume. According to the PBL estimates, the  
369 MSO<sub>2</sub> measured in this period ranged from 50 to about 450 tonnes/day, showing a slight increase  
370 during 2010 and 2011. However, gas emissions declined throughout 2012, with the last OMI  
371 detection coinciding with the last thermal alert, on 21 November 2012 (Fig. 4c2). On 21–23  
372 October 2017, the reawakening of Tinakula produced a peak  $\phi$ SO<sub>2</sub> of ~42,000 tonnes/day, related  
373 to a 11 km-height volcanic column from the VEI 3 explosion (NDMO Report 2017; GVP 2017).

374

### 375 VRP distribution and activity regimes

376 Stromboli volcano is characterised by a clear bimodal distribution of VRP values, with two groups  
377 of data separated at approximately 50 MW (Fig. 5a). As reported in previous works (see Coppola  
378 et al. 2012, 2014), the two groups can be related to the summit explosive- and flank effusive-  
379 activity, respectively (Fig. 5a). Actually, the ASTER images (Fig. 5a1–4) illustrate that the low  
380 radiating group (values less than about 50 MW) is associated to intra-crater thermal anomalies,  
381 likely related to mild-explosive activity at the summit vents. On the other hand, during sporadic  
382 detection of VRP >100 MW associated to summit overflows (cf. Online Resource 2; 2010–2012),  
383 the thermal anomaly extended from the crater area towards the coast (Fig. 5a3).

384 During the effusive eruptions, the heat flux typically exceeds 100 MW, and the ASTER images  
385 reveals a flank thermal anomaly, extending along the entire length of the Sciara del Fuoco, whose  
386 origin (vent) is slightly shifted towards the NE from the crater terrace, which in turn appear cold  
387 (Fig. 5a4). The shift of this thermal anomaly clearly enhance how the effusion of lava from a lateral

388 vent was able to drain the upper portion of the magmatic system feeding the typical strombolian  
389 activity at the summit crater.

390

391 Conversely, Batu Tara and Tinakula histograms (Fig. 5b, c) are characterised by a rough unimodal  
392 distribution showing VRP modal peaks at 40 MW and 10 MW, respectively.

393 At Batu Tara, VRP spans from 1 MW to about 500 MW, with an arithmetic mean of 30 MW, close  
394 to the modal peak shown in Fig. 5b. Notably, VRP values greater than 10 MW are associated to  
395 summit activity producing minor lava flows channelled into the scarp area, and causing an  
396 extension of the observed TIR anomaly (Fig. 5b2, b3). The ASTER image of 9 December 2015,  
397 acquired during a low radiant flux phase (cf. Online Resource 2), suggests that values below 10  
398 MW are associated with weak thermal activity confined exclusively inside the summit vent (Fig.  
399 5b4).

400 The analysis of ASTER images acquired over Tinakula suggests that the VRP derived from  
401 MIROVA is associated to an intra-crater thermal anomaly, sometime extending down the scarp  
402 area (Fig 5c2, c3). This kind of thermal anomalies are likely associated to mild explosive activity  
403 at the summit crater eventually evolving to overflows as suggested by the ASTER image acquired  
404 on 11 September 2011 (Fig. 5c3). Given the lack of evidences for the occurrence of flank eruptions  
405 at Tinakula, we are confident that the onset of the eruption on 11 February 2006 (with peak VRP  
406 of ~1120 MW) was related to powerful effusive eruption from summit crater, producing a lava  
407 flow that reached the lower portions of the *Sciara del Fuoco*-like scarp.

408

409 From the analysis of VRP and ASTER images, we may infer that the bimodal distribution of VRP  
410 recorded at Stromboli reflects two distinct eruptive regimes associated to (i) the typical mild-

411 explosive summit activity and (ii) the flank effusive episodes, respectively. This bimodal  
412 behaviour is not observed at Batu Tara and Tinakula volcanoes, which have not experienced lateral  
413 effusion over the investigated period. Hence, the unimodal distribution of the radiative power  
414 dataset seems to reflect summit activity spanning from effusive outflows to explosive ash-rich  
415 activity (cf. GVP 2007, 2012).

416

## 417 **Discussion**

418 The VRP and  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  time-series presented above offer an unique opportunity to compare the  
419 eruptive behaviours of the three volcanoes on a decade-long timescale. In order to homogenise the  
420 two datasets we calculated the arithmetic means of VRP and  $\phi\text{SO}_2$ , over monthly intervals (Fig.  
421 6). Hence, we integrated over time the two monthly fluxes to obtain the cumulative Volcanic  
422 Radiant Energy (cumVRE, in Joules) and the cumulative  $\text{SO}_2$  mass (cum $\text{SO}_2$ , in tonnes)  
423 throughout the whole analysed period (Fig. 7). We recognise that this procedure may be inaccurate  
424 in case of extreme isolated events, such as the VEI 3 explosion of Tinakula on 21 October 2017.  
425 However, for long-term analysis this methodology minimizes the effects related to poor acquisition  
426 conditions (i.e. cloud coverage and geometry conditions among others; cf. Online Resource 1) and  
427 allows the eruptive trends to be preserved and compared.

428 We now focus on two main aspects that reveal the different eruptive behaviour of the three  
429 volcanoes: (i) the long-term eruptive trends and cumulative emissions and (ii) the  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  / VRP  
430 ratio.

431

### 432 **Long-term eruptive trends and cumulative emissions**

433 As described previously, Stromboli's thermal activity is characterised by a bimodal distribution  
434 (Fig. 5a), representing the "normal" strombolian activity ( $VRP < 50$  MW) and the effusive activity  
435 (summit overflows or flank eruptions with  $VRP > 50$  MW), respectively. These two thermal  
436 regimes are also discernible in the monthly time-series (Fig. 6a1) where the persistent low level  
437 thermal emission, attributed to the strombolian activity, is interrupted by peaks during effusive  
438 episodes (cf. Coppola et al. 2012). On the other hand,  $\phi SO_2$  time-series (Fig. 6a2) reveals that the  
439 "normal" strombolian activity ( $\sim 150$  tonnes/day; Burton et al. 2009) is essentially undetected by  
440 our analysis of the OMSO<sub>2</sub> Level 2G images, likely because emissions are below the detection  
441 limit of the sensor. The visual inspection of all OMI images and the manual selection of volcanic  
442 plume sourced by Stromboli, may explain the discrepancy between our results and those obtained  
443 by Carn et al. (2017), who measured, a long-term (2005-2015) average SO<sub>2</sub> emission of  $\sim 180$   
444 tonnes/day. Possibly, the automatic detection method used by Carn and co-authors (2017), based  
445 on pixel averaging or oversampling procedure, included data contaminated by the Etna's plume  
446 which were wrongly attributed to Stromboli. Our analysis detected an SO<sub>2</sub> plumes exclusively  
447 during the two major flank eruptions of Stromboli, as well as during a few periods characterised  
448 by more sustained activity and summit overflows (cf. Fig. 4a2).

449 The cumulative data indicate that during the whole analysed period (13 years), Stromboli radiated  
450  $\sim 4.1 \times 10^{15}$  J of heat, and emitted a total OMI-derived SO<sub>2</sub> mass of only  $12.5 \times 10^3$  tonnes (Fig.  
451 7a). However, over the same time window, the undetected normal activity (corresponding to about  
452 95% of the days over the 13 year period) should have emitted approximately  $712 \times 10^3$  tonnes of  
453 SO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere (assuming a steady flux of  $\sim 150$  tonnes/day rate; Burton et al. 2009). This  
454 strong imbalance illustrates the substantial contribution of the mild-strombolian explosions and  
455 the passive degassing to the total degassing budget of Stromboli. Paradoxically, the cumulative

456 trends (Fig. 7a) show a very good correspondence, indicating that the long-term thermal emission  
457 of Stromboli is dominated by the “out of the ordinary” activity, or rather by flank eruptions and  
458 summit overflows (for which we have the only SO<sub>2</sub> detections in the OMI data).

459 The trend depicted from monthly VRP records of Batu Tara shows a rapid waxing phase followed  
460 by a slow waning phase characterised by an exponential decay (Fig. 6b1). The monthly  $\phi$ SO<sub>2</sub> trend  
461 displays a similar pattern, although the waxing phase starts some months earlier, and the waning  
462 trend ends some months later (Fig. 6b2). Nevertheless, the cumulative curves (Fig. 7b) show a  
463 good correlation ( $R^2 = 0.9766$ ), suggesting that activity at Batu Tara was driven by a progressive  
464 decrease in the overpressure from a closed magma chamber (e.g. Machado 1974; Scandone 1979;  
465 Wadge 1981; Stasiuk et al. 1993). Typically, such exponentially-decreasing trends are observed  
466 during basaltic effusive eruptions (e.g. Wadge 1981, Rowland et al., 2003, Harris et al., 2000),  
467 although there are exponential trends have been recorded also during the effusion of silicic lava  
468 flows and domes (e.g. Mastin et al. 2008; Pallister et al., 2010; Coppola et al. 2017b). The decay  
469 time constant of this type of trend is controlled by the viscosity and bulk modulus of the magma,  
470 as well as by the size and geometry of the plumbing system (e.g. Wadge 1981, Rowland et al.,  
471 2003; Mastin et al. 2008), with large, deep magma chambers typically producing long-lasting  
472 decay (Machado 1974, Scandone 1979). The longevity of the exponential trend recorded at Batu  
473 Tara (~9 years) is extraordinary, and there are no similar records of long declining trend from the  
474 MODIS era (2000–2018). To our knowledge, only the 1943–1952 Paricutin eruption was  
475 characterised by a similar decay constant over a total duration of nine years (Scandone 1979).  
476 Notably, the previous eruption of Batu Tara (1847–1852) lasted six years, a duration quite similar  
477 to the 2007–2016 eruption. As pointed out by Scandone (1979), the exponential trend also  
478 indicates that after the eruption started, the magma reservoir was not fed by new magma (or that

479 resupply was insignificant in comparison to the output rate). Our data also reveal that the  $\phi\text{SO}_2$   
480 were initially detected several months before the thermal onset of the eruption (Fig. 6b1, 6b2), thus  
481 suggesting that precursory degassing activity may have preceded the arrival of magma at the  
482 surface. Such a precursor would be consistent with a gas-magma decoupling during the formation  
483 of the vertical magma conduit.

484

485 The eruption of Tinakula started suddenly on 11 February 2006, reaching a VRP of 1120 MW and  
486 a  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  of 1562 tonnes (Fig. 4). Following this highly-energetic beginning, both VRP and  $\phi\text{SO}_2$   
487 decreased rapidly, to remain at lower levels throughout 2007 and 2008. After a pause of more than  
488 one year, the thermal activity resumed in 2010, showing an escalation of VRP that culminated in  
489 April–July 2012 (Fig. 6c1, c2). This thermal trend suggests a slow but progressive increase of  
490 magma discharge rate during eruption, thereafter followed by a rapidly waning phase ending in  
491 November 2012. According to Scandone (1996), the gradual intensification of the eruptive activity  
492 is typical of explosive eruptions, although this trend has now also been recognised during basaltic  
493 effusive eruptions (e.g. Reath et al. 2016; Harris et al. 2011, Coppola et al. 2017c). Scandone  
494 (1996) explains the relatively slow waxing trend and rapid waning phase by a delayed bubble  
495 growth within the magma chamber, which mainly depends on magma composition and depth of  
496 the reservoir.

497 Notably, the rise in the 2011–2012 Tinakula thermal activity was not accompanied by an  
498 equivalent increase of  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  (Fig. 6c2), suggesting a gradual modification of the gas/magma  
499 balance throughout this stage. The cumulative trends highlight this feature, clearly showing a sharp  
500 decoupling of CumVRE and Cum $\text{SO}_2$  after 2011 (Fig. 7c). During 2007–2010, the two cumulative  
501 curves follow each other closely (suggesting a syn-eruptive degassing) but, after 2011 there is a



502 clear mismatch between the two signals, with the rapid growth of CumVRE not being accompanied  
503 by CumSO<sub>2</sub> (Fig. 7c).

504 From November 2012 to October 2017, the absence of VRP and  $\phi$ SO<sub>2</sub> detections suggests a  
505 complete cessation of activity (cf. Fig. 4c1, 2 with Fig. 7c). This five-year long period of rest was  
506 dramatically interrupted in October 2017 when the VEI 3 eruption produced  $\sim 40 \times 10^3$  tonnes/day  
507 of sulphur dioxide, the highest  $\phi$ SO<sub>2</sub> value of the whole Tinakula dataset (Fig. 4c2).

508

509  $\phi$ SO<sub>2</sub> / VRP ratio: a proxy for degassed/erupted magma budget

510 Further interpretation of the eruptive behaviours can be considered by linking  $\phi$ SO<sub>2</sub> and VRP to  
511 the source process characteristics of (i) the rate at which the magma is supplied to the level for  
512 SO<sub>2</sub> exsolution ( $Q_{in}$ ), and (ii) the rate at which the magma reaches the surface and is erupted ( $Q_{out}$ ),  
513 to release detected thermal radiation. Previous research has demonstrated how this approach  
514 enables to investigate the mass partitioning during eruptive phases (endogenous versus exogenous  
515 growth ) and the magma plumbing systems feeding the activity at the surface (Francis et al. 1993;  
516 Harris and Stevenson, 1997; Steffke et al. 2011; Coppola et al. 2016d). In this framework, the  
517 theoretical flux  $\phi$ SO<sub>2</sub> (in tonnes/day) can be calculated by a simplified version of the petrological  
518 method (Shinohara 2008),

519 
$$\Phi_{SO2} = (Q_{in} \cdot 2X_S) \cdot \frac{86400}{1000} \quad (4)$$

520 where  $Q_{in}$  is the magma supply rate (kg/s) and  $X_S$  is the weight fraction of sulphur (S) within the  
521 undegassed melt.

522 On the other hand, VRP can be related to  $Q_{out}$  through an appropriate conversion coefficient that  
523 considers how the lava flux is accommodated by the surface extent and temperature of the active  
524 lavas (Harris and Baloga 2009). For any rheological case, a single parameter called radiant density

525 ( $c_{rad}$ ), can be used to describe the spreading and cooling properties of an active lava (Coppola et  
526 al. 2013), so that

$$527 \quad VRP = \frac{Q_{out}}{\rho_m} \cdot c_{rad} \quad (5)$$

528 where  $Q_{out}$  is the magma output rate (kg/s),  $\rho_m$  is the magma density (kg/m<sup>3</sup>), and  $c_{rad}$  (J/m<sup>3</sup>) is an  
529 empirical best-fit parameter that relates the lava discharge rate to the thermal radiation.

530 Under the condition that all the magma supplied at shallow levels is able to degas and then erupts  
531 (i.e.,  $Q_{in} = Q_{out}$ ), the equations 1 and 2 can be combined to give, for any volcanic system, a linear  
532 relationship between  $\phi SO_2$  and VRP, representing “balanced emissions”,

$$533 \quad \Phi SO_2 = \left( \frac{86400 \cdot \rho \cdot 2X_S}{1000 \cdot c_{rad}} \right) \cdot VRP = k_{bal} \cdot VRP \quad (6)$$

534 where the coefficient  $k_{bal}$  defines the slope of the  $\phi SO_2$  versus VRP relationship (in tonnes day<sup>-1</sup>  
535 <sup>1</sup>/MW, for simplicity). The exact value of  $k_{bal}$  depends on the chemical and physical properties of  
536 the erupted magma and may vary from case to case. Considering this variability, here we use a  
537 wide range of parameters that encompass the typical density ( $\rho = 2500$  kg/m<sup>3</sup>; Bottinga and Weill  
538 1972), sulphur content ( $S = 500$ – $2500$  ppm; Shinohara 2008) and radiant density ( $c_{rad} = 0.5$ – $2 \times$   
539  $10^8$  J/m<sup>3</sup>; Coppola et al. 2013) of basaltic to basaltic-andesitic magmas (as at Stromboli, Batu Tara  
540 and Tinakula).

541 On a  $\phi SO_2$  versus VRP plot, the resulting range of  $k_{bal}$  (of 1.1 to 21.6 tonnes day<sup>-1</sup>/MW) defines  
542 a region that corresponds to the 1:1 ratio between  $Q_{in}$  and  $Q_{out}$  (yellow field in Fig. 8a).  
543 Accordingly, any measurement of the  $\phi SO_2$ /VRP ratio above this value, is likely to indicate  
544 “excess” SO<sub>2</sub> degassing, that is more magma is degassed than is erupted. The opposite is true (low  
545  $\phi SO_2$ /VRE ratio) when more magma is erupted than degassing, giving origin to a “deficit” of SO<sub>2</sub>  
546 degassing. The standard explanation for the former case is that some of the magma is intruded and

547 not erupted (e.g. Dzurisin 2001), and for the latter that magma that has been previously degassed  
548 is involved (e.g., Steffke et al., 2011). We here term the former eruption of 'gas-rich' magma, and  
549 the latter 'gas-poor'.

550 The monthly emissions derived from OMI and MODIS data are plotted in Fig. 8b, where the  
551 datasets of Stromboli, Batu Tara and Tinakula define overlapping but distinct fields. For each  
552 volcano, the temporal evolution of measured emission  $\phi\text{SO}_2/\text{VRP}$  ratio is also showed in Fig. 6#3.

553 From this analysis, we may outline:

554 Stromboli's dataset can be divided into two sub-groups: (1) a thermally energetic group ( $\text{VRP} >$   
555  $10 \text{ MW}$ ) falling essentially within the field of gas-poor eruptions, and (2) a moderately energetic  
556 group, falling within the field of balanced emissions (Fig. 8b). As previously described, OMI was  
557 unable to detect the  $\text{SO}_2$  plumes sourced by the normal strombolian activity. Therefore, the  
558 observed  $\phi\text{SO}_2/\text{VRP}$  ratio for Stromboli, refers exclusively to the phases of lava emission  
559 characterising the two major flank eruptions (highly energetic) and the episodic summit overflows  
560 (moderately energetic). The two flank eruptions produce the lowest  $\phi\text{SO}_2/\text{VRP}$  ratio of the time-  
561 series (Fig. 6a3), a clear indication of the eruption of degassed (gas-poor) lava. This is consistent  
562 with the reported deficit of  $\text{SO}_2$  degassing recorded during the 2007 eruption (Burton et al. 2009).  
563 The gravity-driven magmastatic model proposed by Ripepe et al. (2015) provides an explanation  
564 for this imbalance, whereby the flank eruptions of Stromboli essentially drain the superficial,  
565 degassed magma reservoir, confined between the crater terrace and the effusive vent (e.g. Burton  
566 et al. 2009; Calvari et al. 2011; Valade et al. 2016; Ripepe et al. 2017, Zakšek et al. 2015). Summit  
567 overflows are characterised by moderately gas-poor to balanced  $\phi\text{SO}_2/\text{VRP}$  ratio (Fig. 8b), which  
568 is consistent with the fact that they represent a transient regime, separating the strombolian (gas-  
569 rich) and the flank (gas-poor) activity (see Coppola et al. 2012).

570 Batu Tara's dataset plot mostly within the balanced field (Fig. 8b) with only a few low-thermal-  
571 energy data toward the gas-rich field. The time-series (Fig. 6b3) reveals that these low-energy,  
572 gas-rich measurements correspond to the precursory phase (2005–2006), characterised by the first  
573 arrival of magmatic volatiles at the surface. During and after the onset of the eruption, the  
574  $\phi\text{SO}_2/\text{VRP}$  ratio does not show any significant long-term pattern (Fig. 6b3), indicating the absence  
575 of gas accumulation/separation and an overall syn-eruptive degassing (Parfitt and Wilson, 1995).  
576 This behaviour, together with the coherent exponential trends (Fig. 7b), suggests that the Batu Tara  
577 eruption tapped a pressurised magma chamber (Wadge 1981) located below the  $\text{SO}_2$  exsolution  
578 level, and that magma ascent was sufficiently fast to limit the separation of the gas phase along the  
579 central conduit (Parfitt and Wilson 1995).

580 Tinakula's dataset exhibit the largest variability of the  $\phi\text{SO}_2/\text{VRP}$  ratio and contains the highest  
581 value (of  $\sim 10,000$  Tonnes day<sup>-1</sup>/MW recorded during the VEI 3 eruption, October 2017) as well  
582 as some data falling in the moderately gas-poor region (Fig. 8b). The extreme ratio of October  
583 2017 (Fig. 6c3) suggests that this event was possibly preceded by a period of gas accumulation at  
584 depth. Interestingly, between 2006–2012, the gas/thermal ratio gradually declined, evolving from  
585 moderately gas-rich (2006–2007) to gas-poor conditions (2011–2012; Fig. 6c3). This terminal gas-  
586 depleted stage corresponds to the progressive intensification of thermal emission (Fig. 6c3), likely  
587 resulting from an increase in magma discharge rate. According to Scandone (1996), this style of  
588 evolution may be promoted by a volatile-saturated magma confined within a rigid magma  
589 chamber. In this way, the escalation of observed discharge rate can be driven by an increase in the  
590 rate of vesiculation by the progressive emptying of the reservoir enhancing magma decompression  
591 during the eruptions. Consequently, high discharge rates favour the tapping of increasingly deeper  
592 levels in a zoned reservoir with possible eruption of magma with a lower gas content (Spera, 1984;

593 Blake and Ivey 1986). This seems to be exactly the case for Tinakula, where the slow eruption of  
594 a gas-rich magma stored at the top of the reservoir (2006–2007 phase), possibly unloaded the  
595 residual degassed magma, stored at lower levels and erupted during the last stage of activity (2011–  
596 2012 phase).

597

## 598 **Conclusions**

599 Batu Tara and Tinakula are two poorly known volcanoes displaying morphologies and short-term  
600 activity very similar to Stromboli. However, our analysis of satellite data reveals that over  
601 timescales of several years, the three volcanoes display quite different eruptive behaviours in terms  
602 of (i) persistence and magnitude of thermal and degassing fluxes (VRP and  $\phi\text{SO}_2$ , respectively),  
603 (ii) long-term eruptive trends and (iii)  $\phi\text{SO}_2/\text{VRP}$  ratios. These contrasting behaviours are likely  
604 attributable to differences in the associated magmatic systems. The efficient, well-developed  
605 plumbing system of Stromboli allows the magma column to reach very shallow depths (just below  
606 the crater terrace) and persistently degas. These results in the continuous detection of low thermal  
607 anomalies, and the continuous emission of gas, albeit at levels undetectable by the OMI sensor.  
608 However, flank eruptions are able to drain the top of the magmatic column, with the consequent  
609 effusion of degassed magma. Conversely, the eruptive trends recorded at Batu Tara are indicative  
610 of a less-well developed magmatic system, lacking a persistently-fed shallow conduit, and  
611 suggesting the involvement of a deep magma chamber (below the  $\text{SO}_2$  exsolution level), possibly  
612 erupting every hundred years. Finally, the behaviour of Tinakula may be explained by intermittent  
613 eruptions (every few years) from a volatile-zoned magma chamber, possibly located at  
614 intermediate depths (i.e. around the  $\text{SO}_2$  exsolution level). Notably, the last five years of activity

615 at Tinakula indicates a closed system behaviour, with a possible gas accumulation that was erupted  
616 during the VEI 3 explosive event of October 2017.

617 Our results outline the potential of comparative analysis of long-term eruptive trends. The satellite  
618 data with their continuous, long-lasting, global coverage represent an invaluable resource that can  
619 inform on eruption processes at unmonitored volcanoes. The combined analysis of VRP and  $\phi\text{SO}_2$   
620 constitutes a promising and powerful tool to decrypt major changes in the eruptive behaviour of  
621 any active volcano, thus adding a fundamental contribution for the evaluation of evolving volcanic  
622 hazards.

623

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625

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628 system (<http://lance-modis.eosdis.nasa.gov/>) for providing Level 1BMODIS data. ASTER images  
629 are visible on the Geological Survey of Japan portal (<https://www.gsj.jp/>); the data are courtesy of  
630 USGS and available at <http://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/>. Analyses and visualizations used in Figure  
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**Table 1.** Summary of the main features characterising Stromboli, Batu Tara and Tinakula volcanoes.

		Stromboli	Batu Tara	Tinakula
<b>Tectonic Setting</b>		Rifting process developing within an arc collision zone <sup>a</sup>	Subduction related island-arc <sup>b</sup>	Subduction related island-arc <sup>c</sup>
<b>Morphology</b>	Total Height (m)	~3000 <sup>d</sup>	~2500 - 3000 <sup>e</sup>	~3000 - 4000 <sup>f</sup>
	Elevation (m a.s.l.)	924 <sup>d</sup>	748	851
	Area (subaerial, km <sup>2</sup> )	12.6 <sup>d</sup>	~5.2	~7.8
	Volume (subaerial, km <sup>3</sup> )	~3.88	~1.3	~2.2
	Mean Slope	~25 %	~22 %	~24 %
	Flank collapse sector Slope	~36 %	~32 %	~36 %
<b>Volcanic Activity</b>	Effusive	Flank eruptions <sup>g</sup> - Summit overflows <sup>h</sup>	Lava flows (e.g., April 2007) <sup>i</sup>	Fissure eruption - Summit overflows (e.g., Sept. 1971 - May 2012) <sup>j,k</sup>
	<i>Type</i>	Intermittent mild Strombolian explosions; rare Vulcanian paroxysms <sup>l</sup>	Strombolian and Vulcanian explosions <sup>m</sup>	Strombolian and Vulcanian explosions <sup>n,o</sup>
	Explosive			
	<i>Max Plume Altitude (m)</i>	~3000 m (e.g., 5 April 2003) <sup>p</sup>	~3700 (e.g., Jul 2008) <sup>q</sup>	~10700 (e.g., 21 Oct 2017) <sup>o</sup>
	<i>Max VEI</i>	VEI = 1-2 (e.g., 5 April 2003) <sup>l</sup>	VEI = 2 (e.g., Jul 2008) <sup>q</sup>	VEI = 3 (e.g., 21 Oct. 2017) <sup>r</sup>
	Persistent Degassing	SO <sub>2</sub> flux 150–200 t/d <sup>s</sup> 30 December 2002; Mass failure events (volumes 25–30 × 10 <sup>6</sup> m <sup>3</sup> ) <sup>t</sup>	- (?)	- (?)
Volcanogenic tsunamis		- (?)	06 September 1971 <sup>l</sup>	
<b>Products</b>	<i>Type</i>	Scoria bombs, lithic blocks, ash, lavas, “golden pumices”, pyroclastic flows <sup>1</sup>	Scoria bombs, ash, lavas, small pyroclastic flows <sup>u</sup>	Scoria bombs, ash and lavas <sup>k</sup>
	Composition (SiO <sub>2</sub> )	Basalts - Basaltic Andesites (49-51 wt%*) <sup>v</sup>	Basanites - Tephrites (45-54 wt%)* <sup>e</sup>	Basalts (49-50 wt%)* <sup>c</sup>
	Geochemistry	Calc-Alkaline, High-K Calc-Alkaline, Shoshonitic, Potassic <sup>w</sup>	Potassic-Ultrapotassic <sup>e</sup>	Calc-Alkaline <sup>c</sup>

In *italics* data retrieved from Google Earth Images; \* identify SiO<sub>2</sub> of the 2007-2014 lavas of Stromboli  
a - Ventura (2013), b - Elburg et al. (2004), c - Schuth et al. (2004), d - Favalli et al. (2005), e - Van Bergen et al. (1992), f - Davies et al. (1986), g - Barberi et al. (1993), h - Calvari et al. (2014);  
i - GVP (1971), k - GVP (2012), l - Rosi et al. (2013), m - GVP (2014), n - GVP (2003), o - GVP (2017), p - Pistolesi et al. (2011), q - GVP (2008), r - GVP (2017), s - Burton et al. (2009);  
t - Marani et al. (2009), u - GVP (2016), v - Landi et al. (2009), w - Francalanci et al. (1999).

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1100 **Table 1.** Summary of the main features characterising Stromboli, Batu Tara and Tinakula

1101 volcanoes, with data in *italics* retrieved from Google Earth Images.

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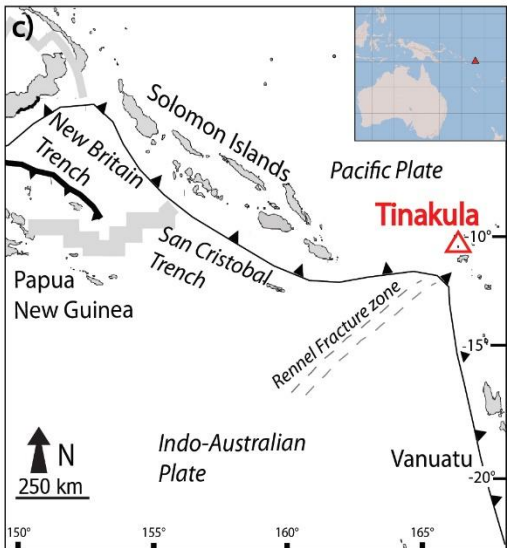
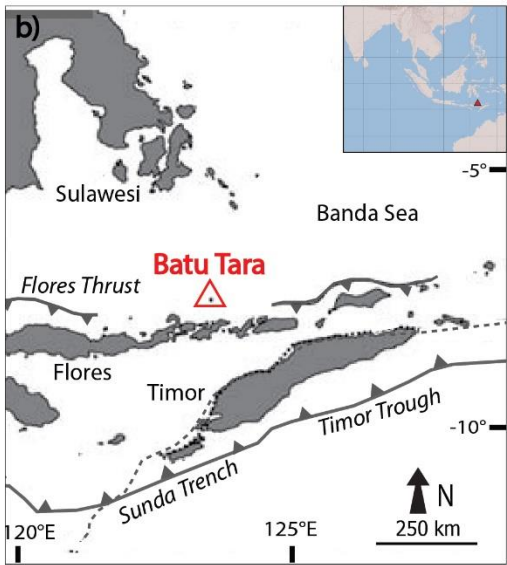
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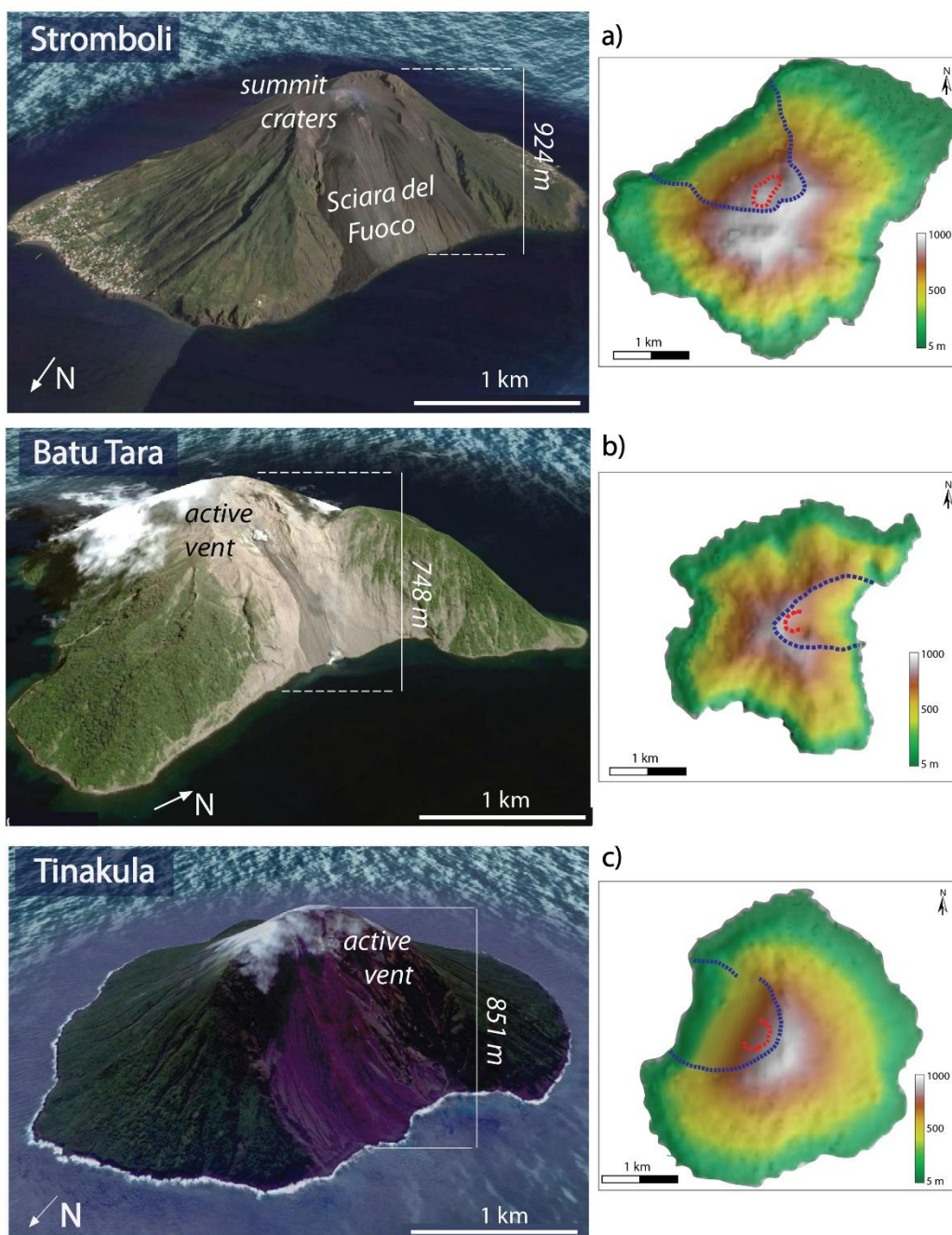
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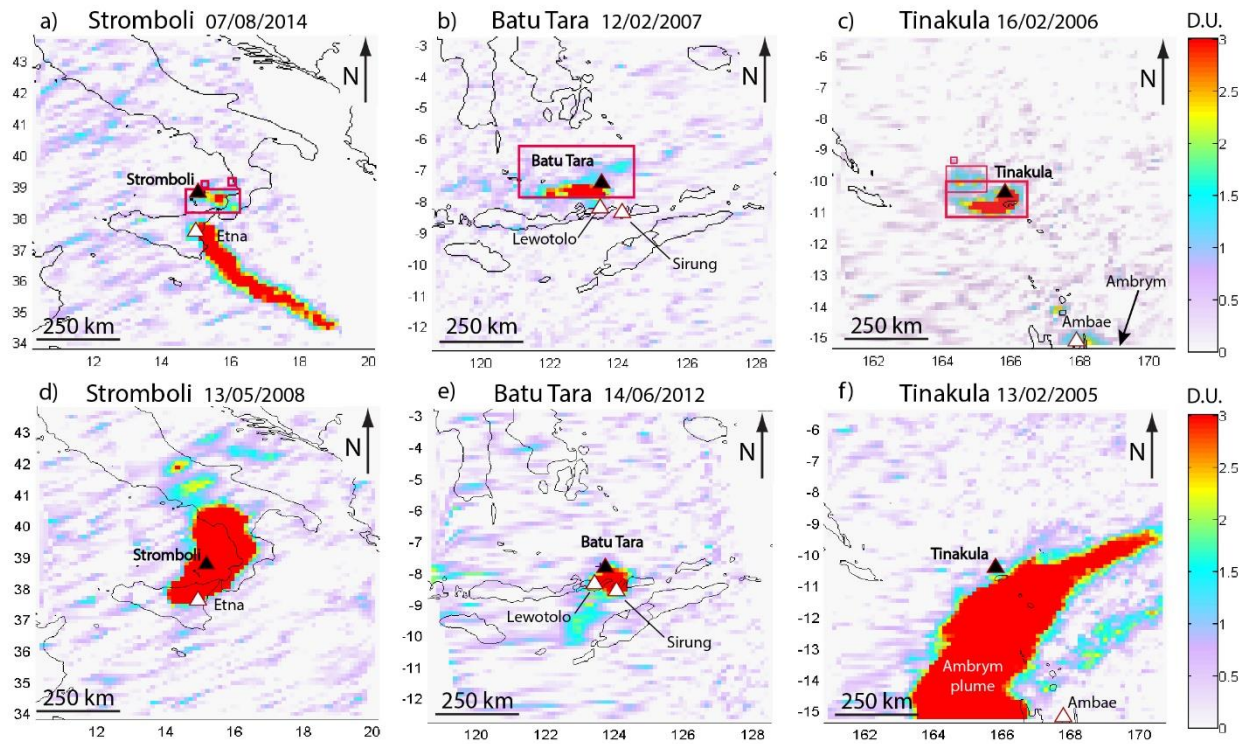
1109 **Fig. 1** Simplified tectonic setting of the areas of (a) Stromboli, (b) Batu Tara and (c) Tinakula,  
 1110 after Ventura (2013), Elburg et al. (2007) and Davies et al. (2005), respectively. The insets indicate  
 1111 the world geographical position of the volcanoes.

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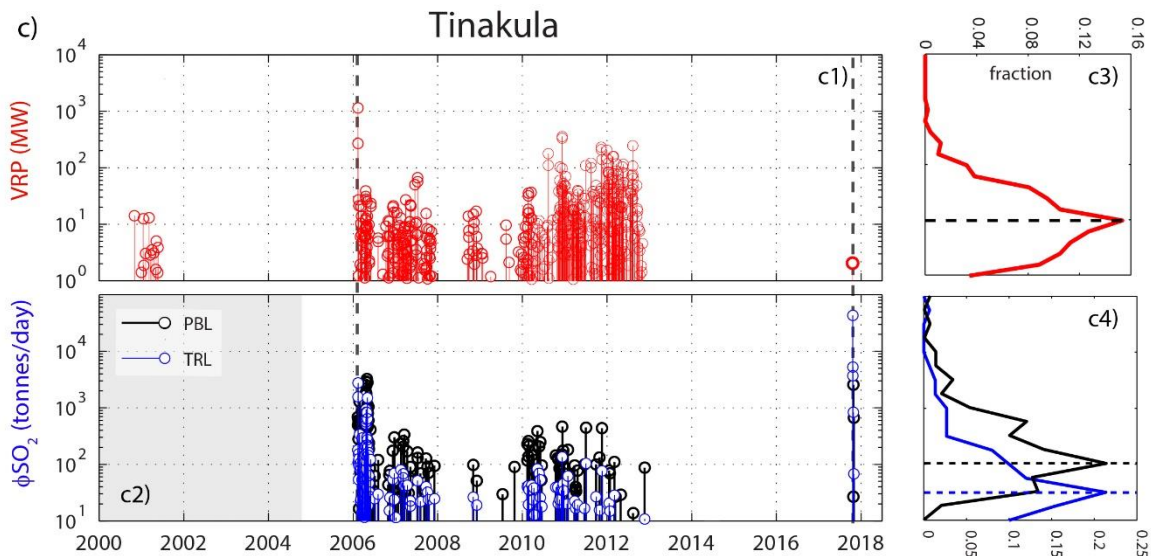
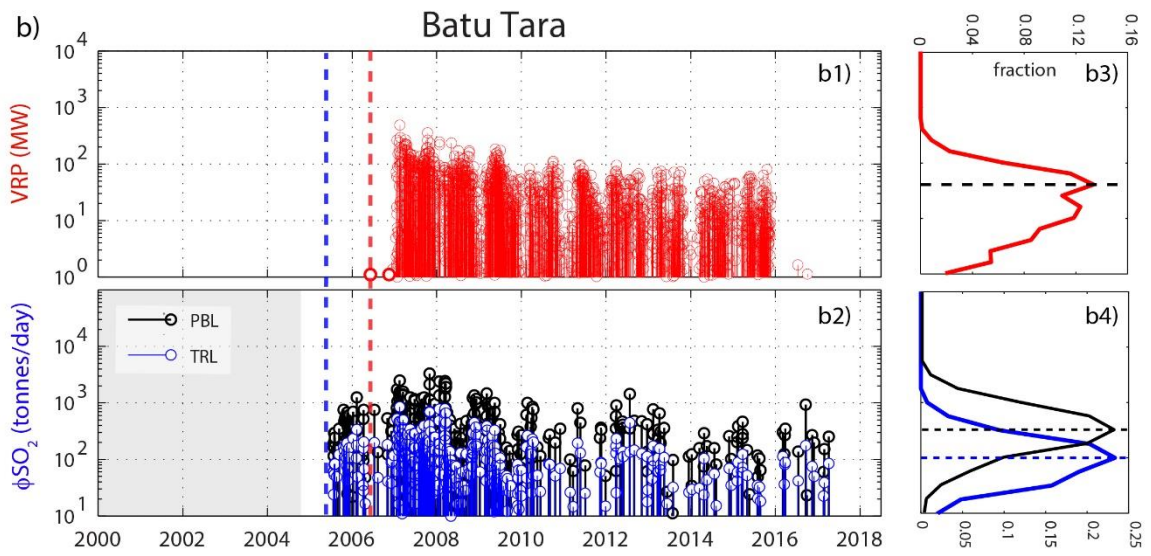
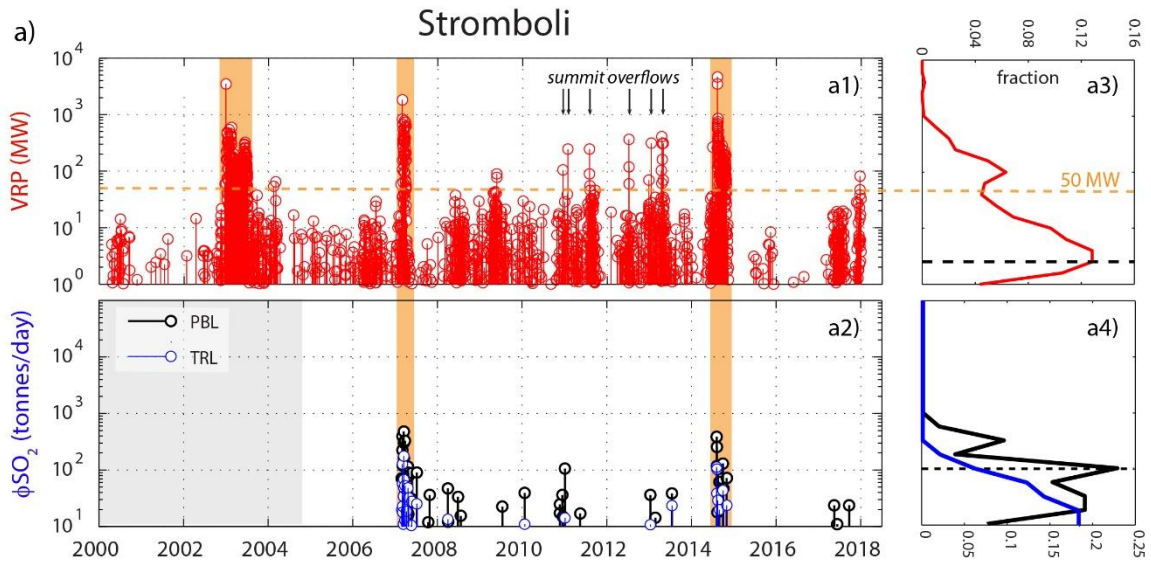


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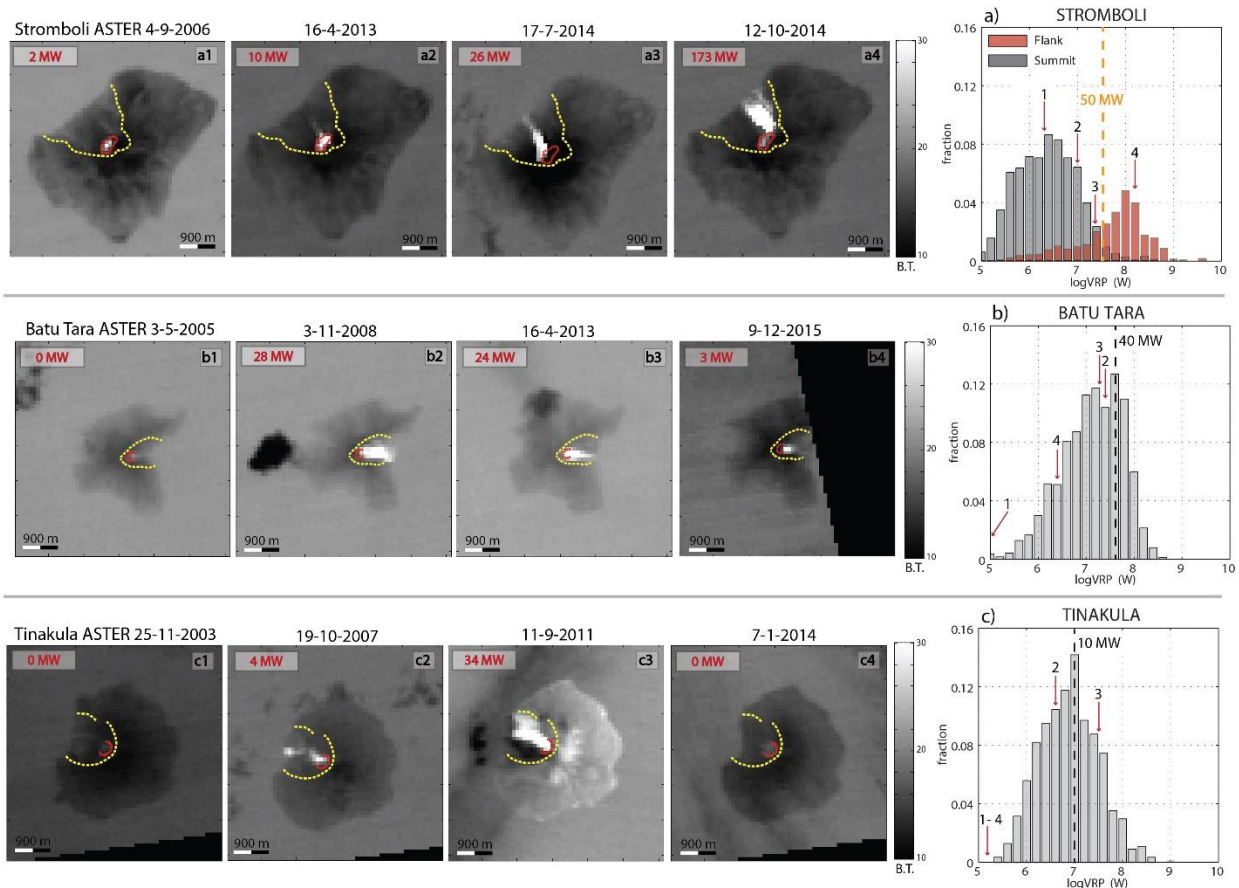
1114 **Fig. 2** Google Earth views with elevation (meters above sea level) and crater(s) position, and  
 1115 associated 90-meter Digital Elevation Models (DEM) of the islands. Red lines denote the crater  
 1116 areas, and blue lines show the boundaries of flank scarps. Google Earth Images © Google and  
 1117 DigitalGlobe. DEMs derive from the NASA Shuttle Radar Topographic Mission (SRTM) database  
 1118 (Jarvis et al. 2008); products are freely available and downloadable by CGIAR-CSI,  
 1119 <http://srtm.csi.cgiar.org>.  
 1120



1121  
 1122 **Fig. 3** Examples of SO<sub>2</sub> density maps at PBL layer (see Method Section) processed for Stromboli  
 1123 (a-d), Batu Tara (b-e) and Tinakula (c-f). Maps are centred on volcanoes and cover an area of 10°  
 1124 × 10°. Magenta rectangles (in a-b-c) represent the cluster(s) identified by the detection algorithm.  
 1125 The images d-e-f represent days where plumes belonging from adjacent volcanic sources (white  
 1126 triangles) contaminated the atmosphere of the target volcanoes (black triangles).  
 1127



1129 **Fig. 4#1-2** 2000-2017 VRP and  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  (on a logarithmic scale) time-series retrieved by processing  
 1130 MODIS images and OMSO2 Level2G data, at Stromboli (a), Batu Tara (b) and Tinakula (c). In  
 1131 (a), pale orange fields and minor black arrows represent, respectively, the main effusive phase and  
 1132 overflows episodes, while the horizontal orange dotted line marks the transition from strombolian  
 1133 to effusive regimes as indicated by Coppola et al. (2012). In (b), red and blue dotted lines mark  
 1134 the first detection on VRP and  $\phi\text{SO}_2$ , respectively. In (c), main episodes of the 11 February 2006  
 1135 and 21 October 2017 have been reported with black dotted lines. #3-4) represent the distribution  
 1136 of the log-scale values for VRP (#3) and  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  (#4). Blue and black lines show the  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  values at  
 1137 TRL and PBL levels, respectively; dotted lines mark the modal peak.  
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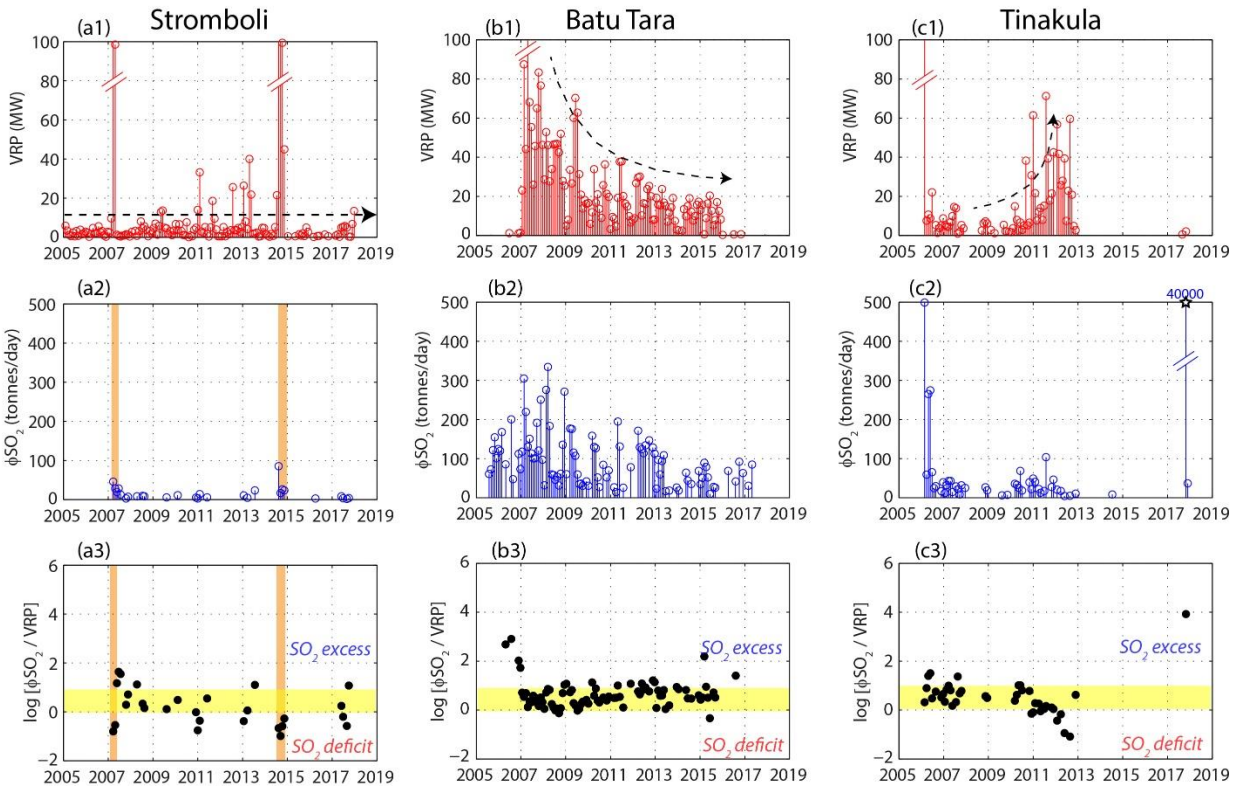


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1140 **Fig. 5** Histograms of the log-VRP data of the three volcanoes. The separation on flank and summit  
 1141 eruption at Stromboli has been obtained by using already reported lava flow duration (see Ripepe  
 1142 et al. 2017). The orange dotted line marks the transition from strombolian to effusive regimes at  
 1143 Stromboli; the black dotted lines mark the modal peak for Batu Tara and Tinakula; the red arrows  
 1144 indicate the four VRP-MODIS measurements corresponding to the selected ASTER images.  
 1145 ASTER images are shown in greyscale, with Brightness Temperature in the Band 13 (TIR region,  
 1146 10.25–10.95  $\mu\text{m}$ ); MW values in red represent the corresponding MODIS heat flux measurement  
 1147 in the same ASTER acquisition (both sensors on Terra satellite). Red line marks the crater areas;  
 1148 yellow dotted line marks the boundaries of flank scarps.

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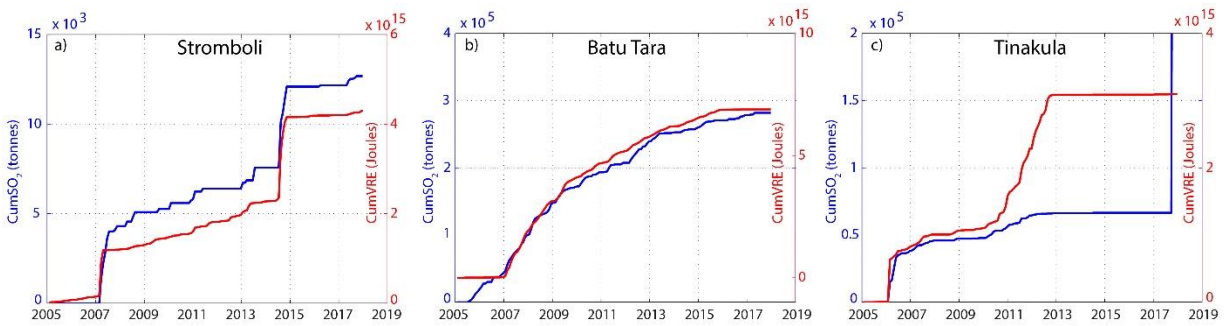


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1151 **Fig. 6** Time-series of the VRP (#1),  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  (#2) and  $\phi\text{SO}_2/\text{VRP}$  (#3) for (a#) Stromboli, (b#) Batu  
 1152 Tara and (c#) Tinakula volcanoes. The orange field in (a2, 3) mark the effusive episodes. The

1153 black star in (c2) represent the VEI 3 explosion of 21 October 2017. The black dashed line in (#1)  
 1154 outlines the eruptive trend discussed in the text. The yellow band in (#3) indicates the balanced  
 1155 range whereby the magma supply rate (sourcing the  $\phi\text{SO}_2$ ) and the magma output rate (sourcing  
 1156 the VRP) are equal: eruptions above or below this band may be considered as gas-rich or gas-poor,  
 1157 respectively.

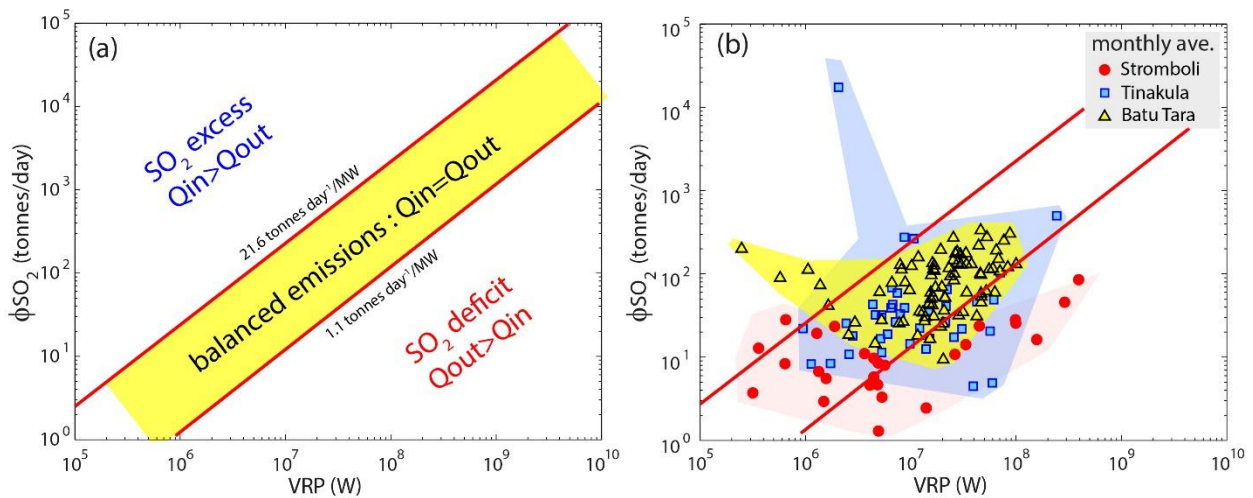
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1160 **Fig. 7** Cumulative thermal (CumVRE in Joules) and degassing (CumSO<sub>2</sub> in tonnes) emissions  
 1161 recorded between 2005 and 2017 at (a) Stromboli, (b) BatuTara and (c) Tinakula.

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1164 **Fig. 8 (a)** Schematic plot showing the  $\phi\text{SO}_2$ /VRP ratio for degassed/erupted magma budget. The  
 1165 yellow field (equation 3) describes the region of balanced emissions, whereby the the  $\phi\text{SO}_2$  and

1166 the VRP are consistent with the eruption of all the degassed magma ( $Q_{in} = Q_{out}$ ). Emission ratios  
1167 plotting outside the balanced region indicate a gas-rich (upper left) or gas-poor (lower right)  
1168 eruption. **(b)** Monthly mean emissions for the volcanos on the  $\phi\text{SO}_2$ /VRP framework. The red lines  
1169 limit the balanced region. Shaded coloured fields perimeter the emission ratios for each volcano.  
1170 Note how the highly energetic Stromboli's dataset (associated to flank eruptions) falls in the field  
1171 of gas-poor eruption, while the single data point of Tinakula VEI 3 eruption of October 2017 falls  
1172 in the gas-rich field.