

# STV volcano science and applications observation needs

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# STV background

## STV: a 2017 Decadal Survey Incubation observable

NASA selected a **Surface Topography Vegetation** study team during 2020-2021 to make recommendations for investments over the next decade to enable an STV mission in the late 2030's



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

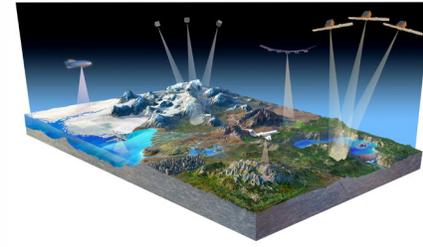
### OBSERVING EARTH'S CHANGING SURFACE TOPOGRAPHY & VEGETATION STRUCTURE

A FRAMEWORK FOR THE DECADE

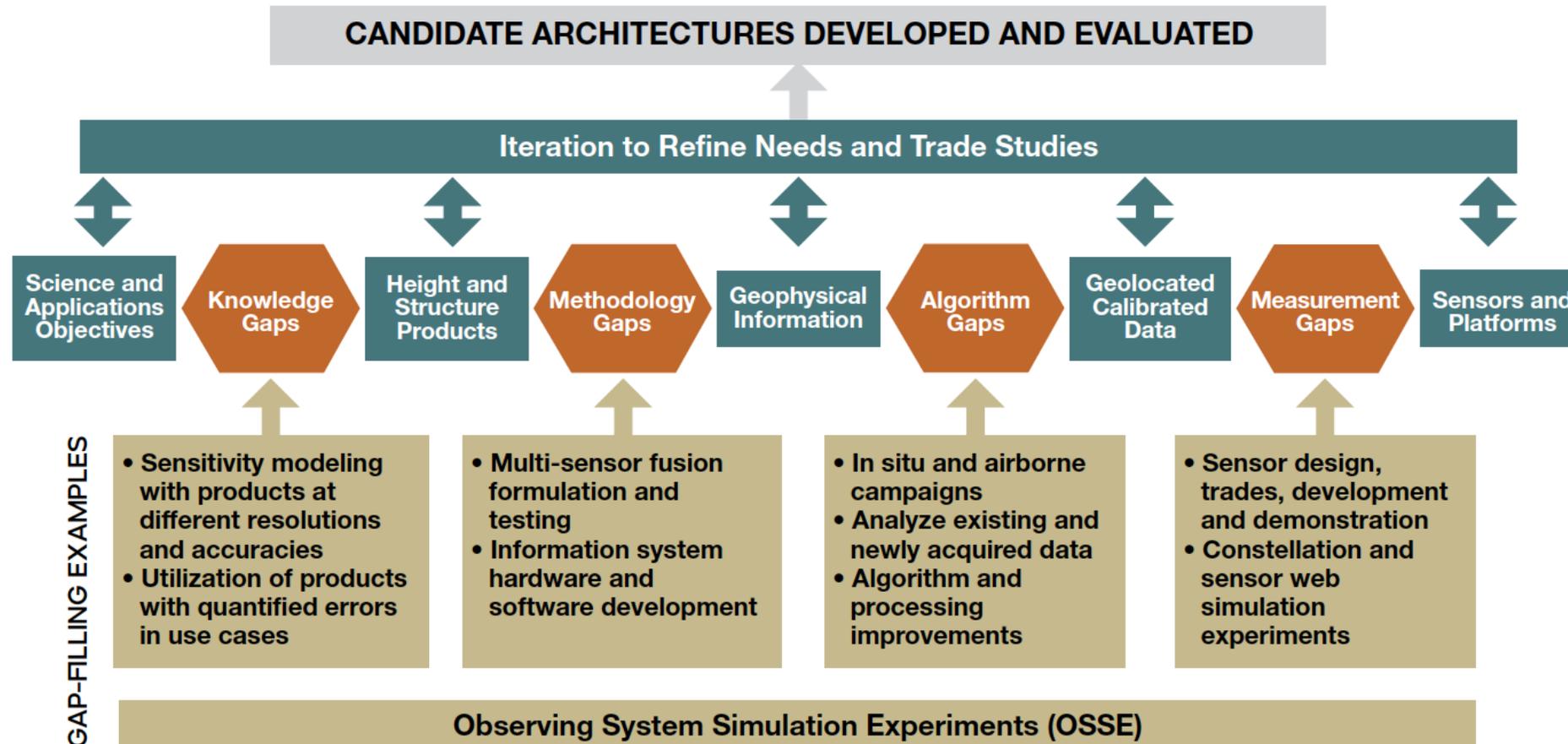
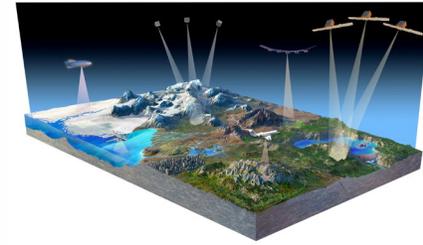
NASA's Surface Topography  
and Vegetation Incubation Study  
Team Report  
June 2021



Screenshot

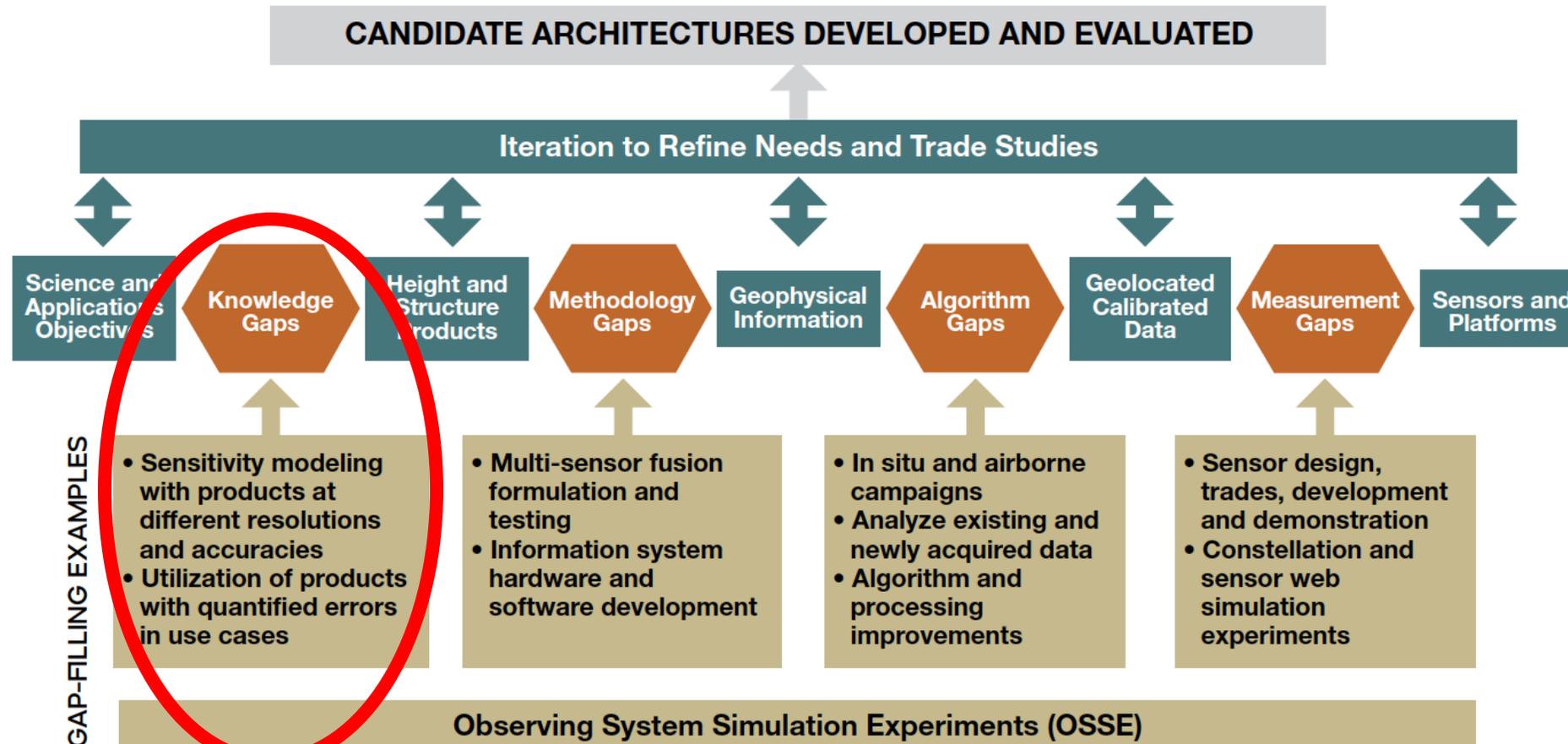
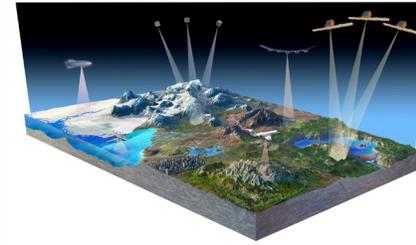


# STV identified gap-filling activities



**Knowledge gaps:** the understanding of product quality needed to accomplish science and applications objectives is inadequate  
**Methodology gaps:** the approaches to derive height products from geophysical information are inadequate  
**Algorithm gaps:** the solutions to derive geophysical information from data are inadequate  
**Measurement gaps:** the sensor and platform assets to acquire needed data are inadequate

# STV identified gap-filling activities



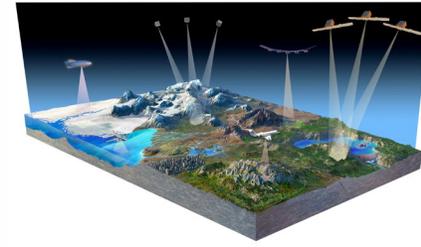
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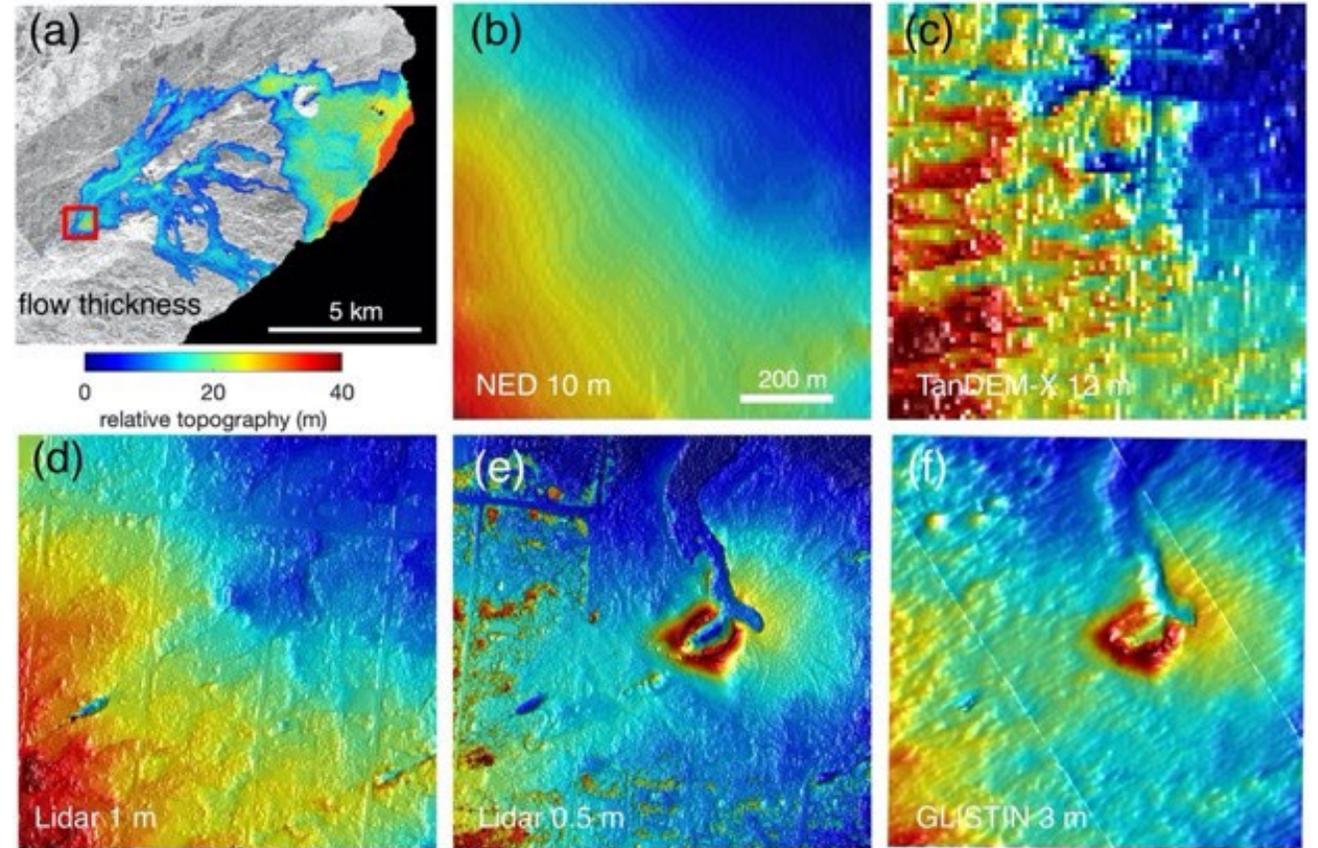
# Volcanoes Project Background Information



## Volcano topography and topography change needs

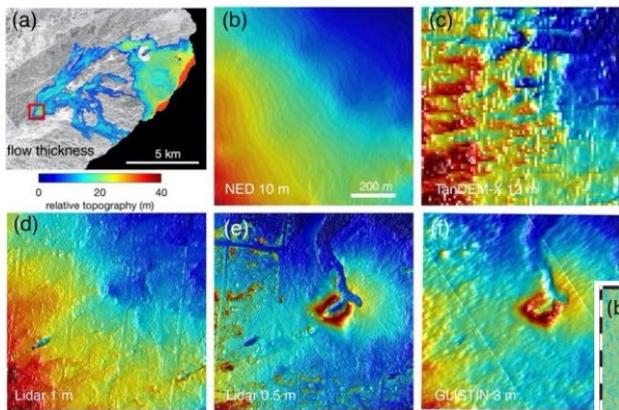
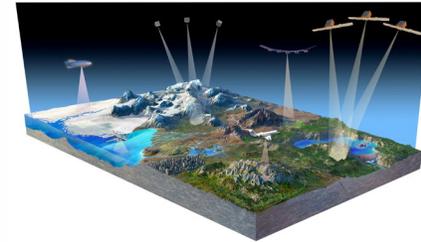
Our primary objectives are:

1. Quantify the topography change product needs for **dynamic volcano models**
2. Quantify the product needs for volcanic **hazards forecasting**: lava flow pathways and thicknesses, lava domes, avalanches, pyroclastic flows and deposits
3. Understand the impacts of measurement **type** and **architecture** on Objectives 1-2

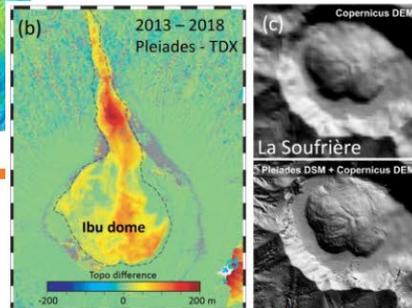
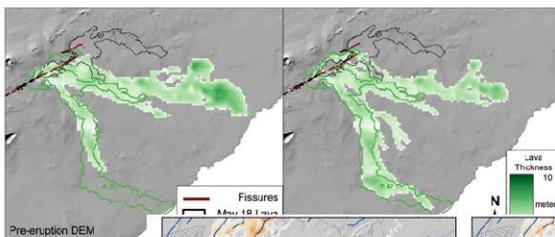
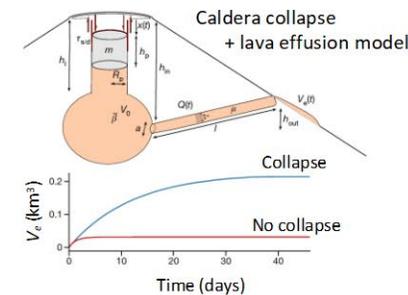
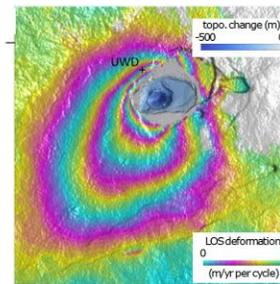


**Figure 1.** Kilauea volcano produced significant lava flows over the three-month eruption May – August, 2018. (a) Differential flow thicknesses used a combination of pre-eruption bare earth lidar, near shore bathymetry, and pre-, co-, and post-eruption NASA GLISTIN-A airborne bistatic synthetic aperture radar (SAR) DEMs and flow outlines (Lundgren et al., 2019). The red box in (a) shows the 1 x 1 km area DEMs shown in (b) through (f) (b) NED 10 m. (c) TanDEM-X 12 m. (d) Lidar 1 m bare earth. (e) DEMs from co-eruptive 0.5 m lidar (Dietterich et al., 2021) and (f) post-eruption GLISTIN 3 m data show a new eruptive vent and lava flow field, with a lava channel to the north, within the Leilani Estates residential area.

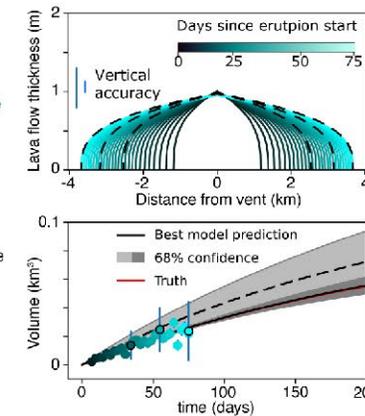
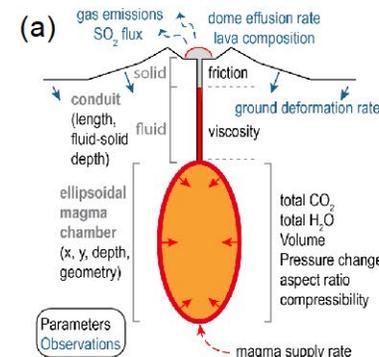
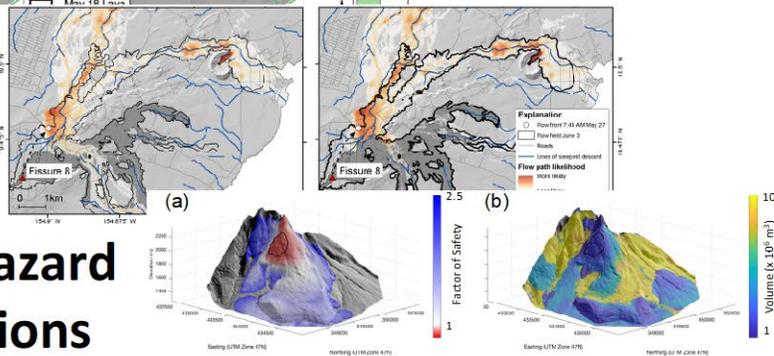
# Volcano Project Summary



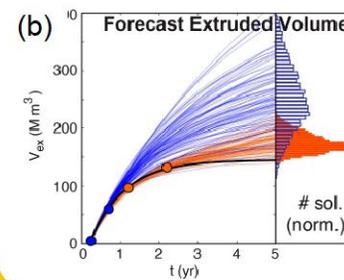
## Volcano topography datasets



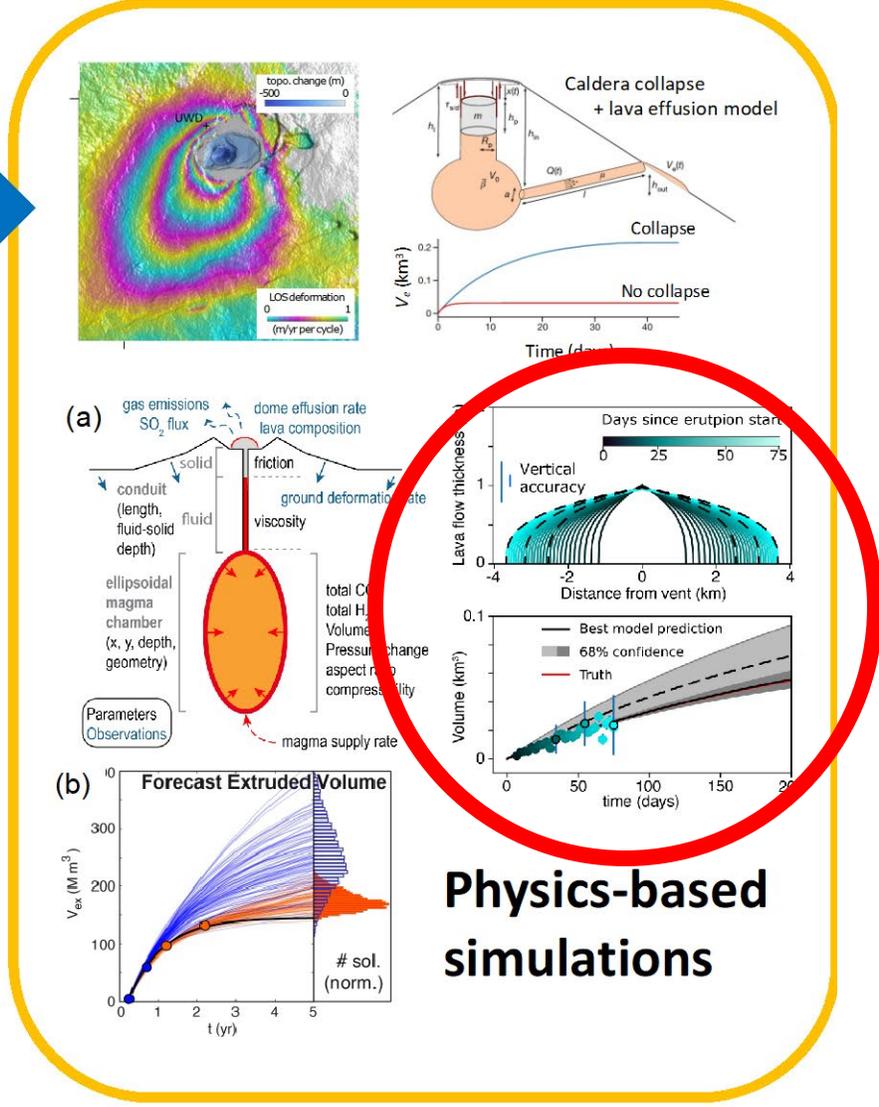
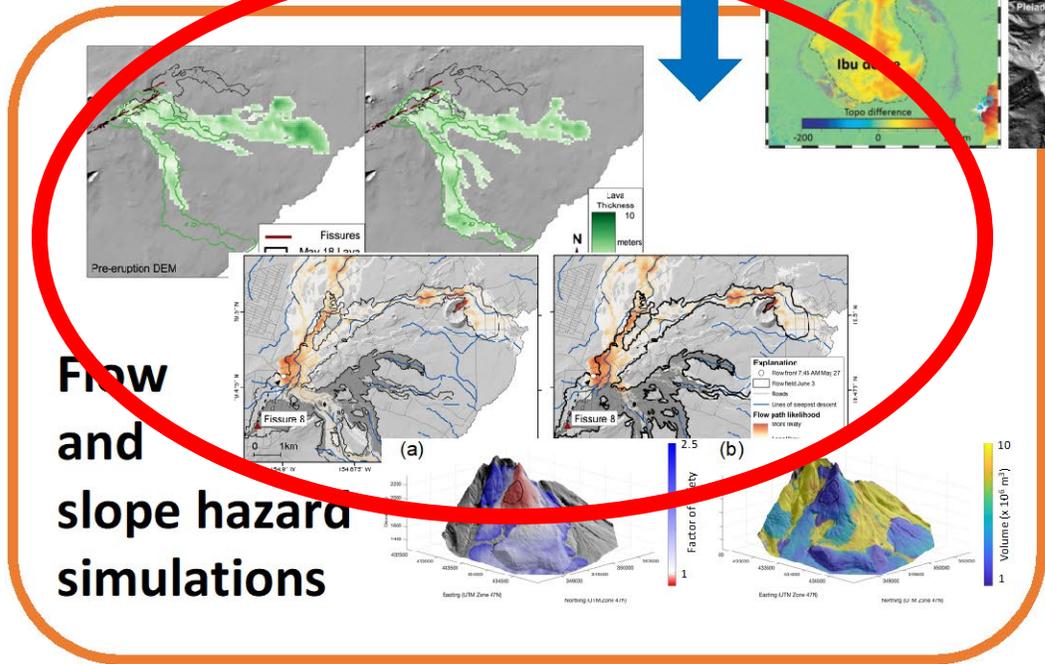
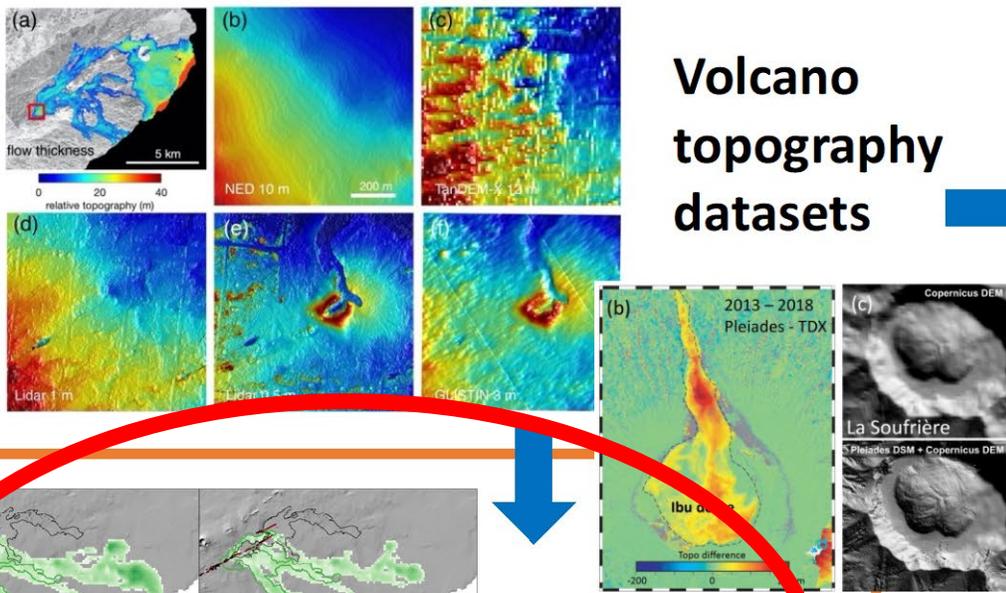
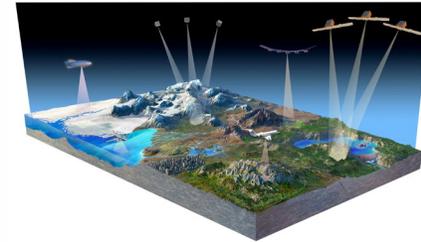
## Flow and slope hazard simulations



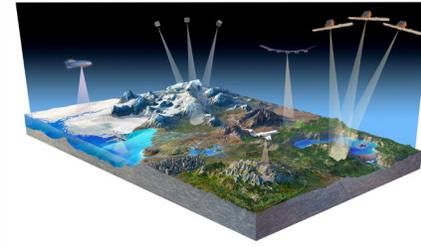
## Physics-based simulations



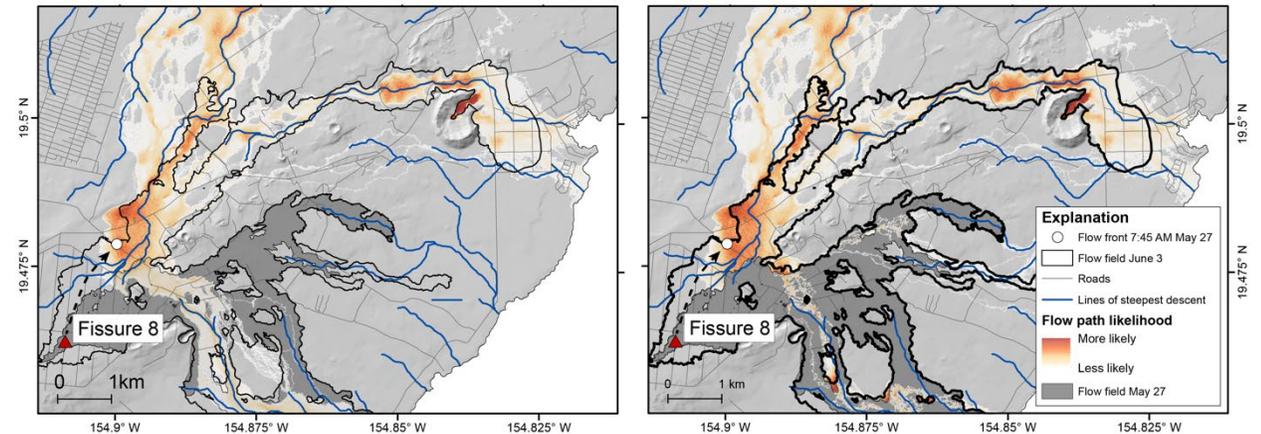
# Volcano Project Summary



# Methods

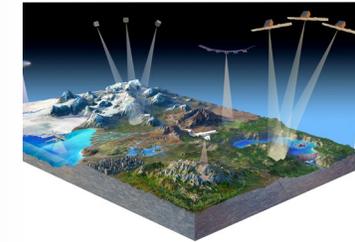


- Surface process forecasting
  - Kīlauea flow forecasting
  - Silicic dome and flow simulations
  - Dome stability analysis
- Physics-based models of volcanic eruptions and lava flows
  - Dynamical models
  - Coupled models of eruption dynamics and flows



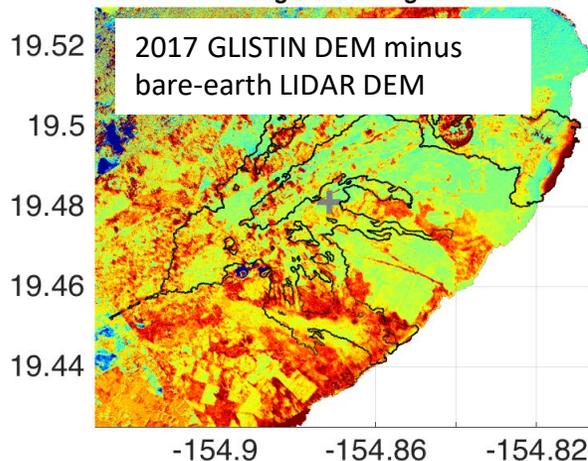
DOWNFLOW probabilistic simulations during the 2018 Kilauea LERZ eruption.

# Lava flow thickness computation



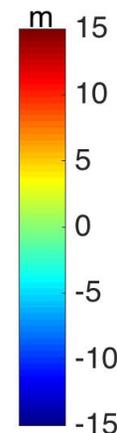
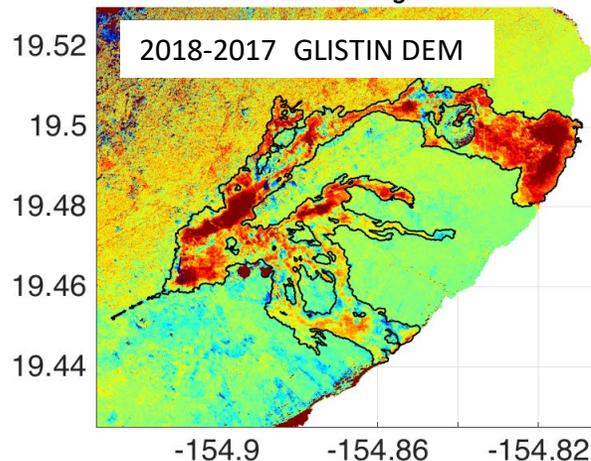
(1)

Vegetation height



(2)

GLISTIN height

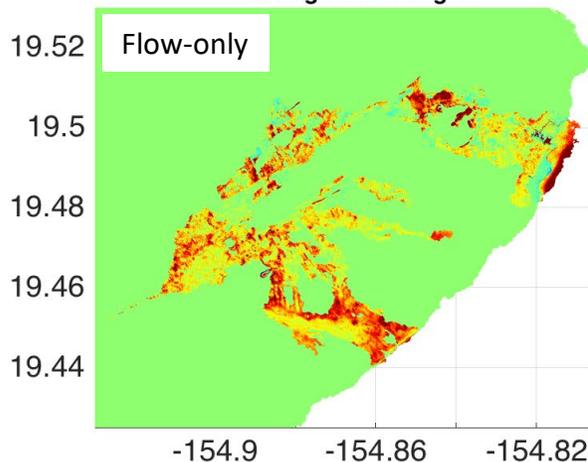


**GLISTIN-A lava flow topography change and volume estimation:**

1. Veg. height: 2017 GLISTIN DEM minus bare-earth LIDAR DEM (from PGV via HVO)
2. GLISTIN co-eruption DEMs are differenced relative to Feb. 2017, giving the GLISTIN height change.
3. USGS lava flow shapefiles used to select flow areas.
4. These two (3) are summed to give the flow height (or thickness)

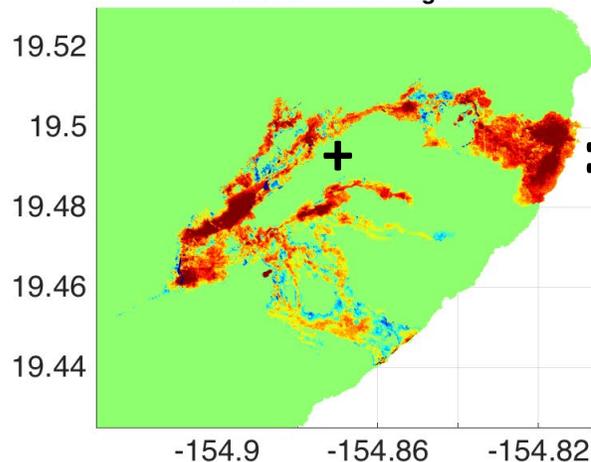
(3)

Flow Vegetation height



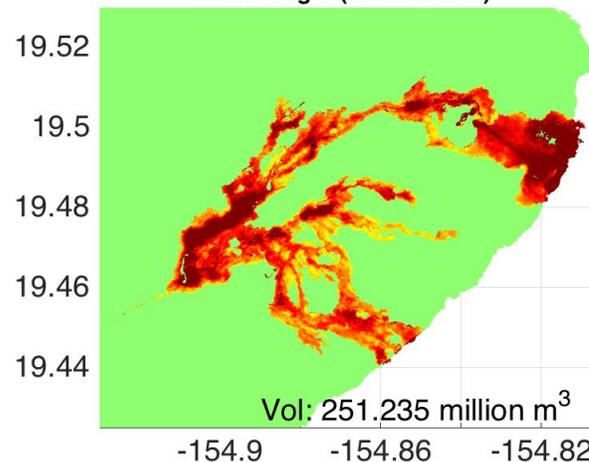
(3)

Flow GLISTIN height



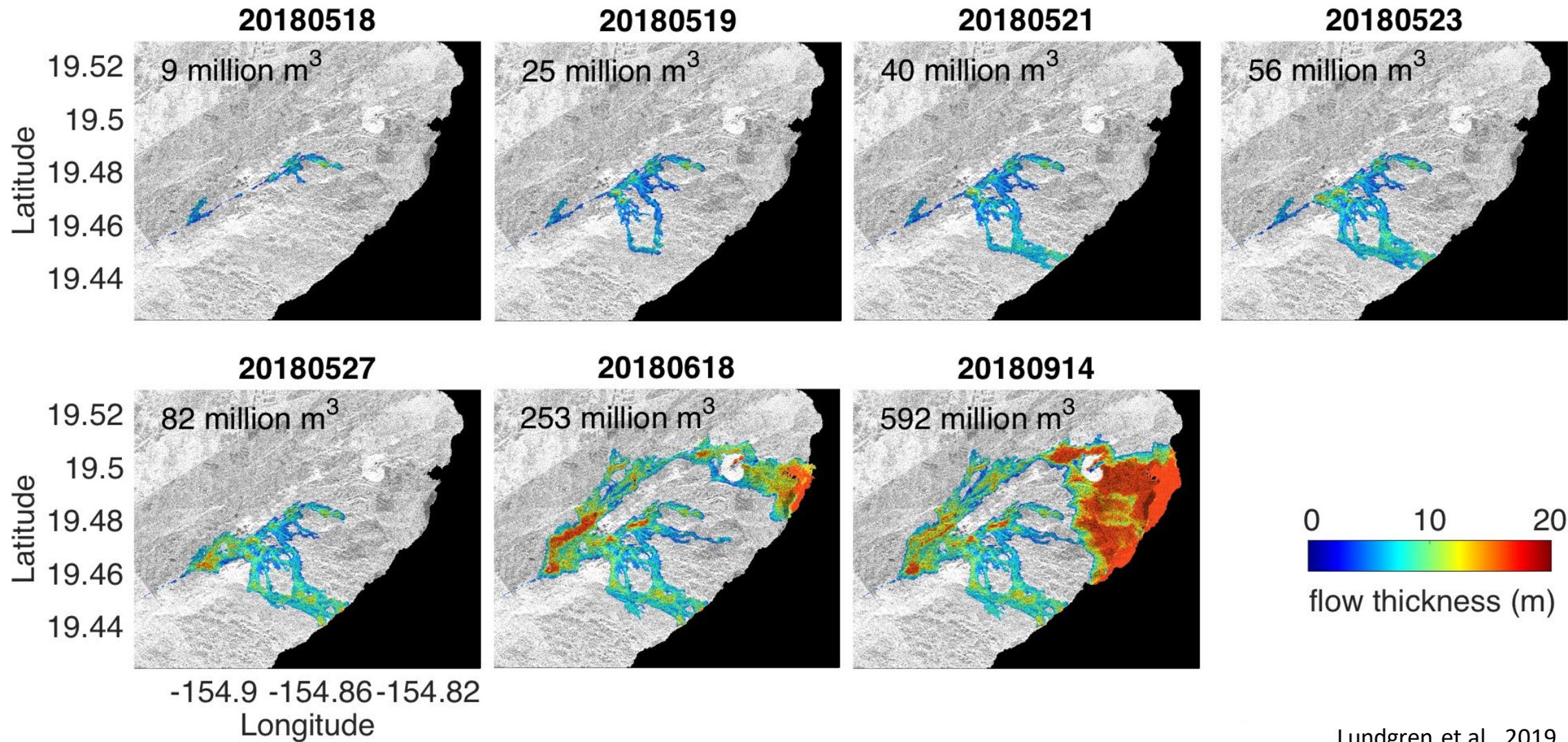
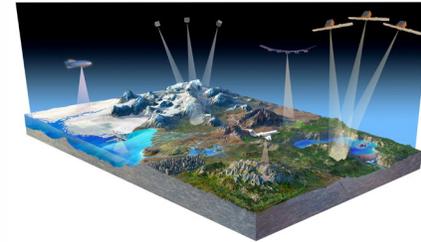
(4)

Flow height (GLISTIN+VH)

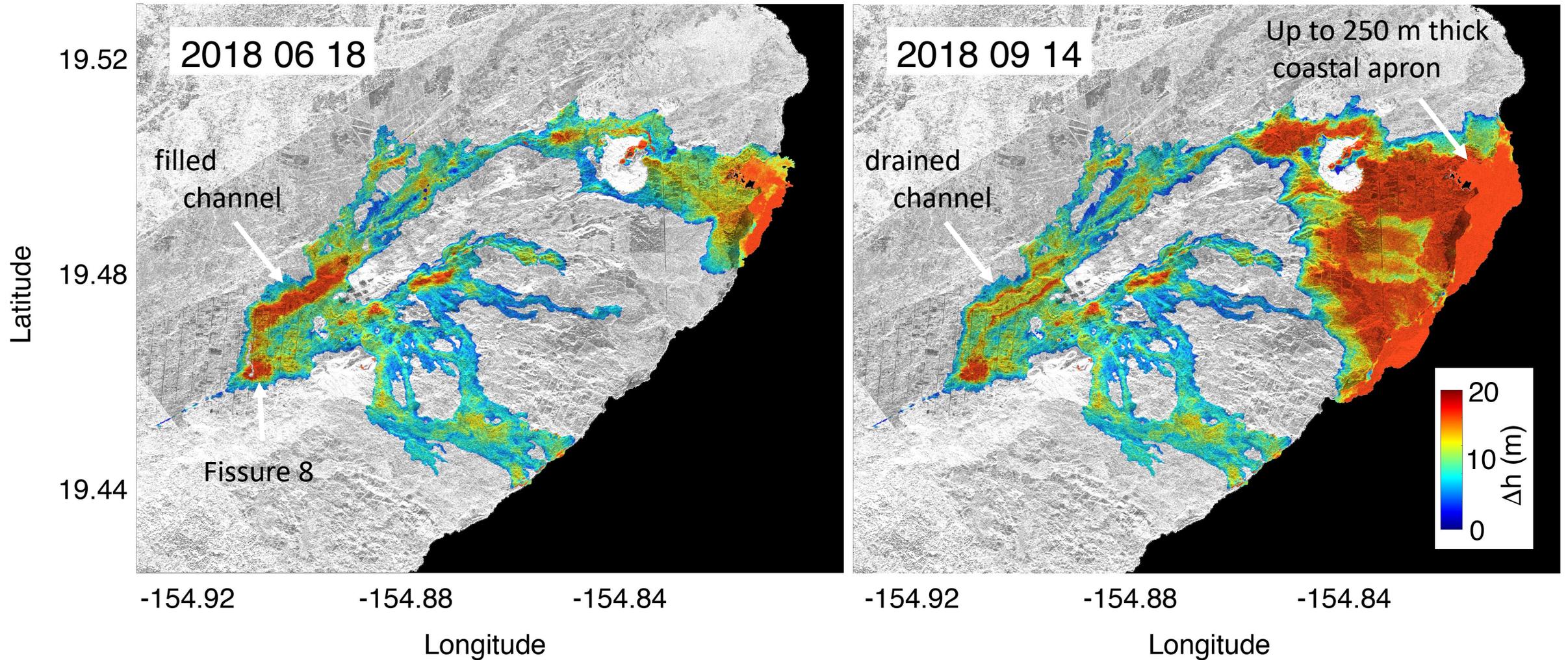
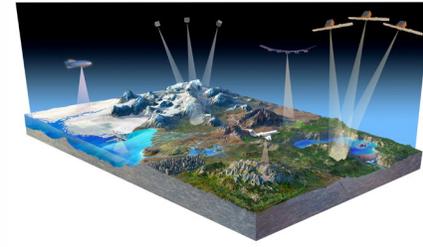


Flow shape files courtesy HVO, USGS  
Lundgren et al., 2019

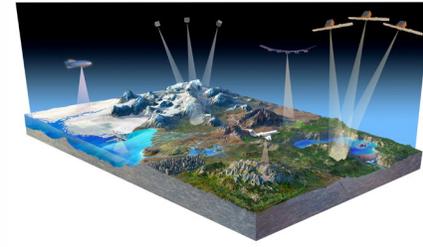
# Thicknesses and volumes by date acquired



# June 18 vs September 14 (post-eruption)



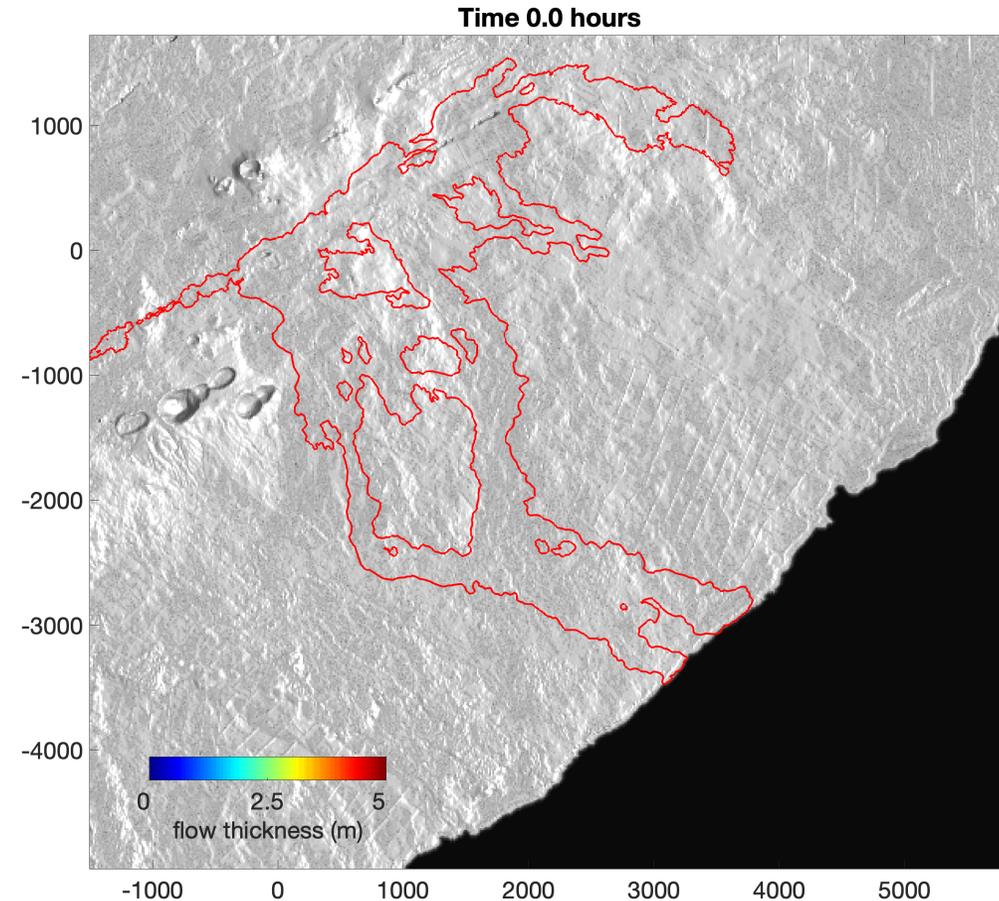
# Lava flow modeling



**Alberto Roman** (JPL) has developed a lava flow modeling code (flowDEM) that is reasonably simple:

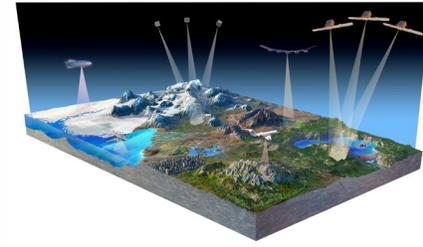
- Newtonian viscous
- isothermal

Yet captures the first-order flow features, and is a suitable starting point for testing lava flow sensitivity to topography resolution and noise



Simulation of Fissure 22, May 21, 2018, Kilauea Lower East Rift Zone (12.5 m sampled LiDAR bare-earth DEM)

# Model for lava flows over topography

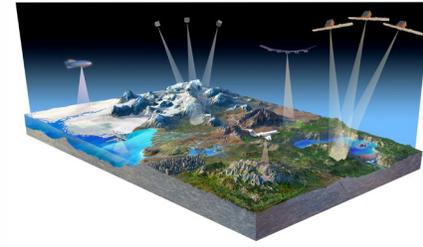


- Non-linear convection-diffusion PDE (e.g. Hinton et al., JFM, 2019)

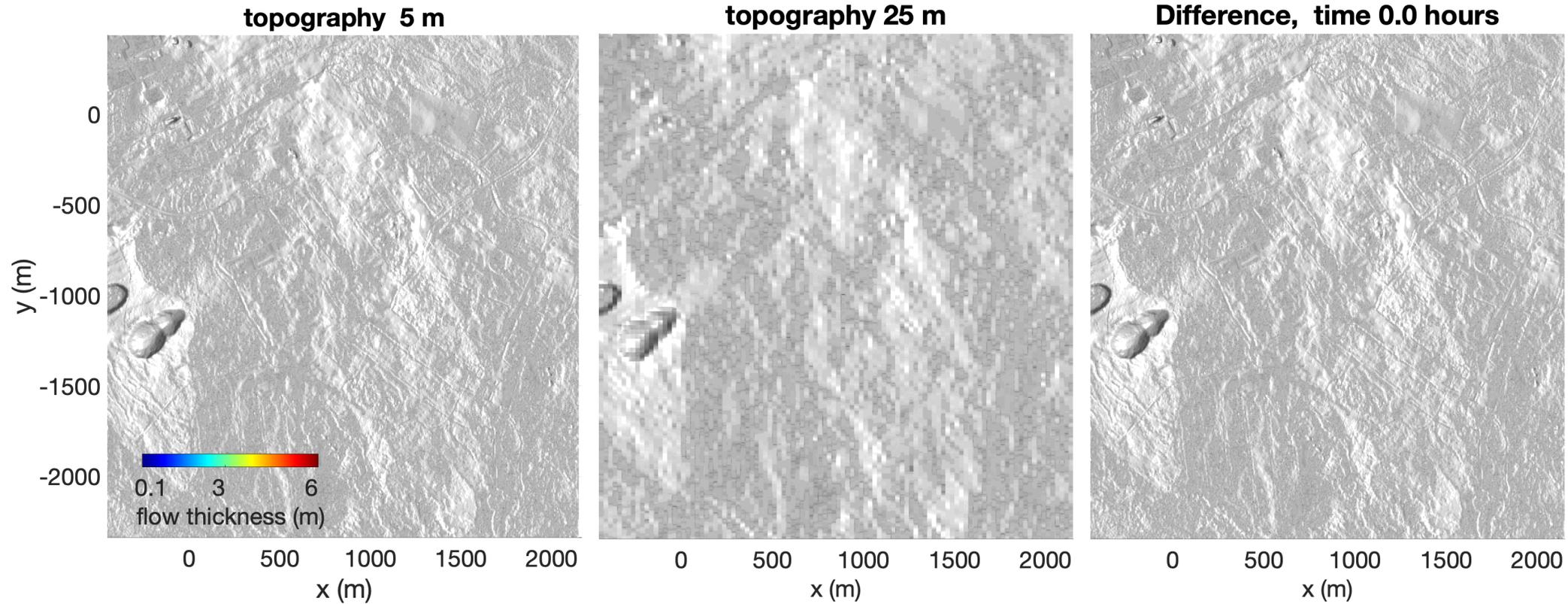
$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} = \frac{\rho g}{3\mu} \nabla \cdot [h^3 \nabla (B + h)]$$

- Competition of two terms
  - Gradients in the topography:  $\nabla B$
  - Gradients in the flow thickness:  $\nabla h$
- Solution through second order, shock capturing, finite difference scheme (Kurganov and Tadmor, 2000)

# Kilauea F22 DEM resolution example

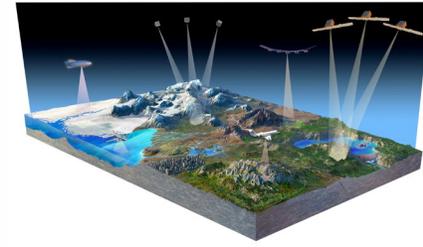


Higher (5 m) vs lower (25 m) resolution DEM

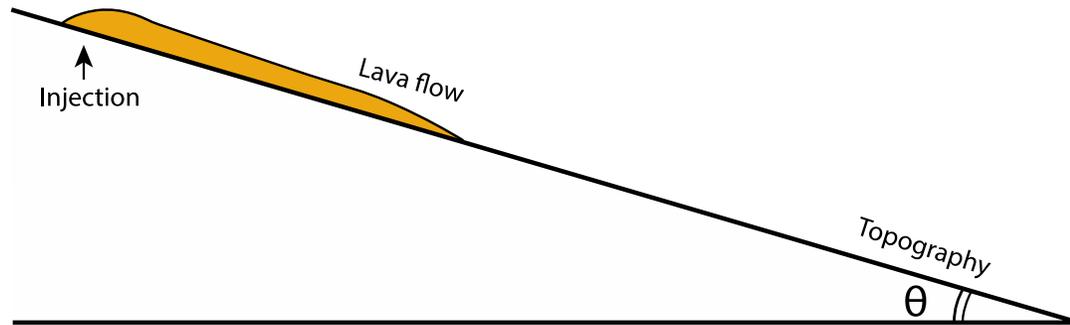


Flow parameters:  $q = 120 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ ,  $\mu = 10^4 \text{ Pa}\cdot\text{s}$ , solution grid scale = 5 m

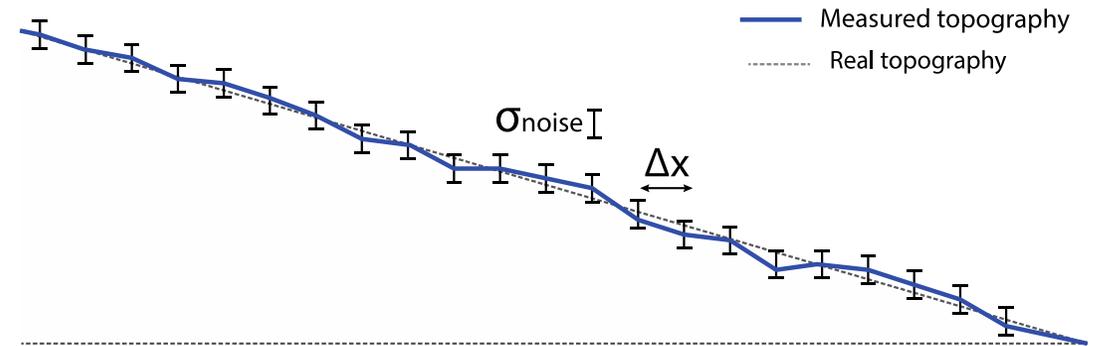
# Noise effects: constant slope experiments



Real topography

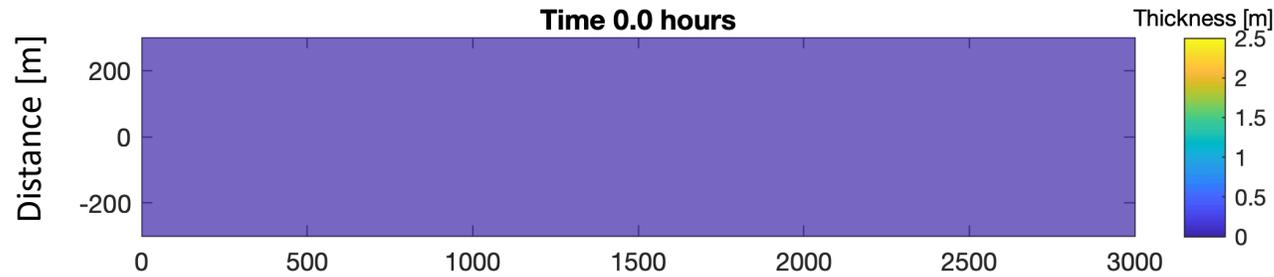
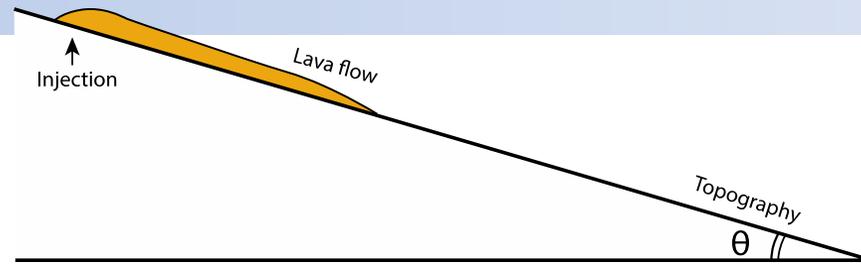
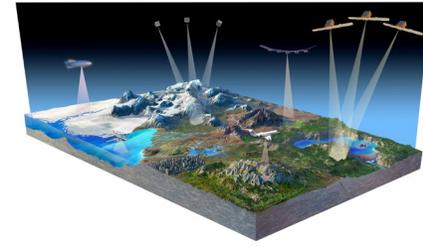


Measured topography



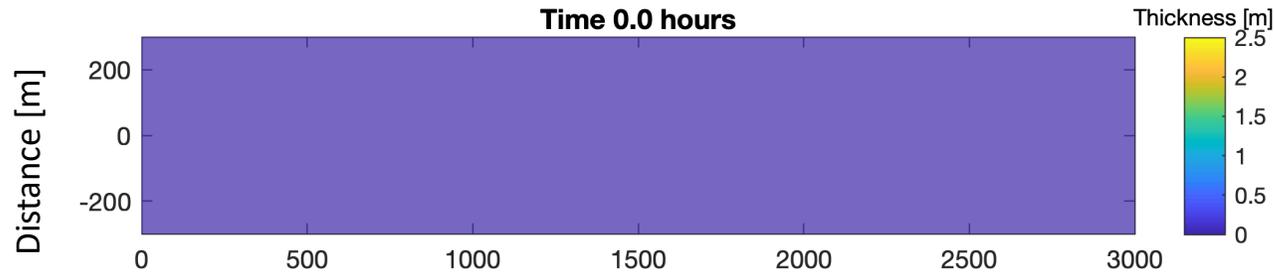
How noise levels and spatial resolution affect lava flow models?  
For simplicity, we first assume uncorrelated gaussian noise

# Resolution and noise effects: constant slope



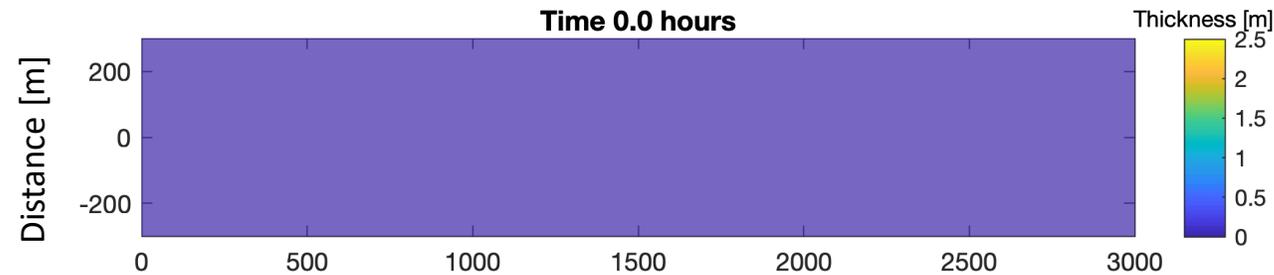
**High resolution - no noise**

$$\Delta x = 2.5 \text{ m}, \sigma_{\text{noise}} = 0 \text{ m}$$



**High resolution - noisy**

$$\Delta x = 2.5 \text{ m}, \sigma_{\text{noise}} = 0.5 \text{ m}$$

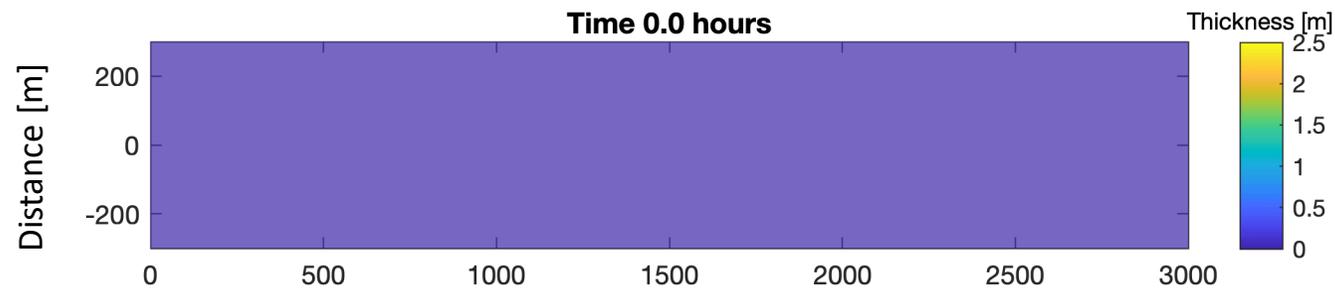
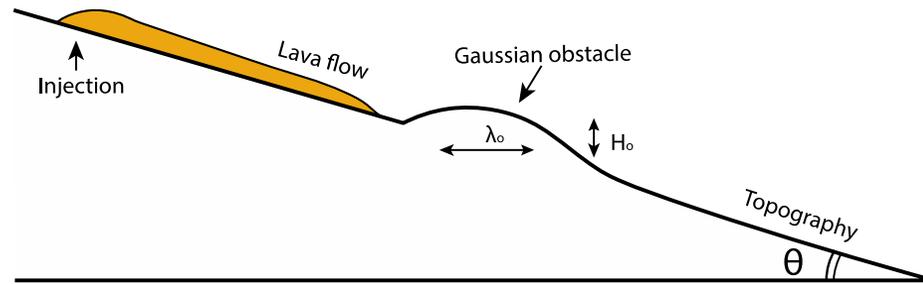
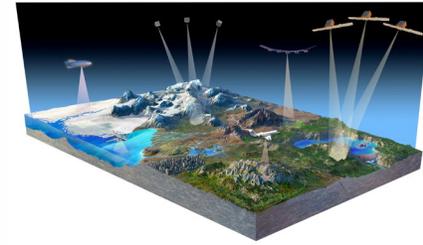


**Low resolution - noisy**

$$\Delta x = 15.0 \text{ m}, \sigma_{\text{noise}} = 1.0 \text{ m}$$

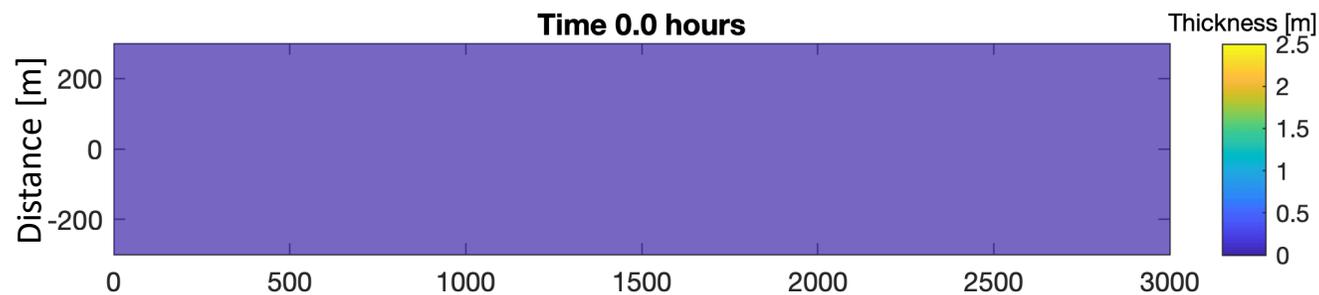
Distance [m]

# Resolution and noise effects: obstacles



**High resolution - no noise**

$$\Delta x = 2.5 \text{ m}, \sigma_{\text{noise}} = 0 \text{ m}$$



**Low resolution - noisy**

$$\Delta x = 15.0 \text{ m}, \sigma_{\text{noise}} = 0.5 \text{ m}$$

Distance [m]

# Key Takeaways

- STV science and technology gap filling efforts are underway (see AGU session)
- For volcano science we are investigating lava flow simulation outcomes:
  - Noise levels
  - Thickness and coverage
  - Flow advance rate
  - Effects of updated topography
- Other considerations:
  - Flow boundary detection
  - Increased physical realism (temperature-dependent viscosity, channelized flow)



Fissure 22 on May 22, 2018

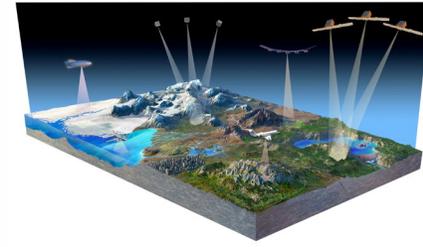
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  - Increased physical realism (temperature-dependent viscosity, channelized flow)

see poster by **Alberto Roman** for more details

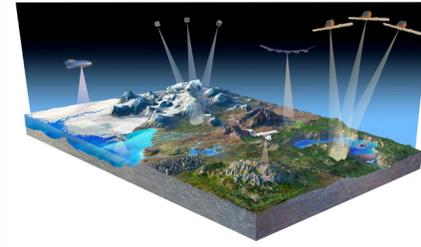


Fissure 22 on May 22, 2018



*Thank you!*

# End Goal/Planned Contribution to STV Observing System Architecture



- We will combine modeling tools with existing satellite and airborne topography datasets to investigate the impact of data quality and spatiotemporal sampling on our capability to forecast volcanic systems.
- Our goal is to provide a quantitative framework relating the characteristics of topographic change measurements to the accuracy and uncertainty of model solutions and predictions.
- This will allow us to identify optimal sampling strategies for different volcanic processes, which will serve as guidance for future missions.

