

I laghi vulcanici: rischio e sorveglianza geochimica



Lake (limnic) ecosystems

- ◆ Origins and classifications
- ◆ Lakes as open systems
- ◆ Light and temperature
- ◆ Lake chemistry
- ◆ Primary productivity
- ◆ Secondary productivity
- ◆ Lake evolution
- ◆ Perturbations

Lake classification: geological origin

Lakes result from impoundment of water by:

- tectonic downwarping (e.g. Lake Victoria)
- tectonic faulting (e.g. Dead Sea)
- volcanic eruption (e.g. Crater Lake)
- landslide dams
- ice dams
- biotic dams (e.g. Beaver lake)
- glacial erosion (e.g. Lake Peyto)
- glacial deposition (e.g. Moraine Lake)
- river channel abandonment (e.g. Hatzic Lake)
- deflation

Types

- Open
 - has outflow of water
 - $Ppt + inflow = Evap + outflow$
 - clastic sedimentation common
- Closed
 - no major outflow
 - $inflow > Evap$
 - chemical sedimentation may dominate due to concentration of ions
- Perennial
 - inflow from at least 1 perennial stream
 - rarely dry up
- Ephemeral
 - salt-pan basins
 - dry up seasonally; fed by springs, runoff, groundwater
 - Salts important ephemeral deposits
 - salts are bedded

A photograph of a volcanic crater lake. The lake is a dark, calm body of water in the foreground. In the background, there are rugged, snow-capped mountains and a large glacier. The sky is overcast.

Volcanic (crater) Lakes

Limnologia

- CAVW → 16% of the 714 volcanoes younger than 10 ka contain a lake
- higher percentages for subduction-related volcanoes
- many lakes contain hot waters
- they are fed by meteoric water (precipitation, runoff, and so forth)
- they have a deep component interacting with shallow shallow water
- some are mixtures of HCl and H₂SO₄ → pH down to 0 or even less
- they can store large amounts of lethal gases (CO₂)



Un lago vulcanico è una specie di tappo di acqua meteorica sopra ad un cratere vulcanico.

Solamente il 16% dei 714 vulcani con età <10,000 anni listati nel Catalogue of Active Volcanoes of the World hanno un lago.

La peculiarità dei laghi vulcanici è che la loro esistenza richiede uno speciale bilancio fra il flusso di calore vulcanico e il raffreddamento atmosferico e fra le precipitazioni e l'evaporazione.

La struttura vulcanica (e.g. permeabilità del substrato e forma del cratere) è importante ma sono le forze endogene e quelle esogene che condizionano la chimica di un lago che a sua volta è indicativa dell'attività vulcanica e dei processi idrogeochimici.

- I vulcani che contengono un lago craterico si ritrovano prevalentemente in aree di vulcanismo di subduzione;
- Sono tipici di aree con piovosità relativamente elevata;
- Molti sono caratterizzati da acqua calda
- Possono accumulare grandi quantità di gas
- Spesso presentano una alta acidità delle acque (con pH fino a 0)

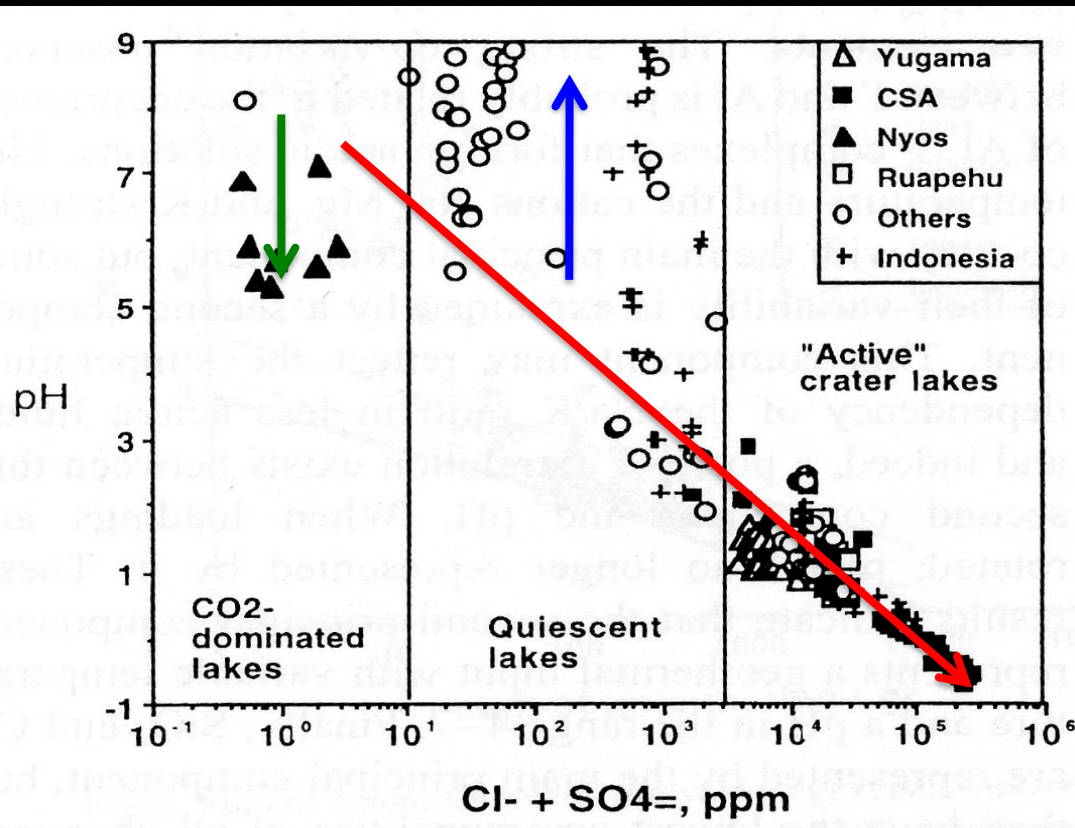
Chimica dei laghi vulcanici

pH neutro, diluito (TDS < 100 mg/L) es: Crater Lake, USA

pH intermedio (pH ~ 2-6) e relativamente mineralizzato (TDS < 2000 mg/L)

pH acido (pH < 2), fortemente mineralizzato (TDS > 100,000 mg/L), es: Kawa-Ijen

Varie facies geochimiche: alto Na-Cl (Kelut) e Cl-SO₄ (Oyunuma), alto HCO₃ (Nyos)



Classificazione pH-Cl+SO₄

□ Principali parametri discriminanti: pH e componenti derivati dalla dissoluzione di gas acidi (Cl⁻, SO₄²⁻)

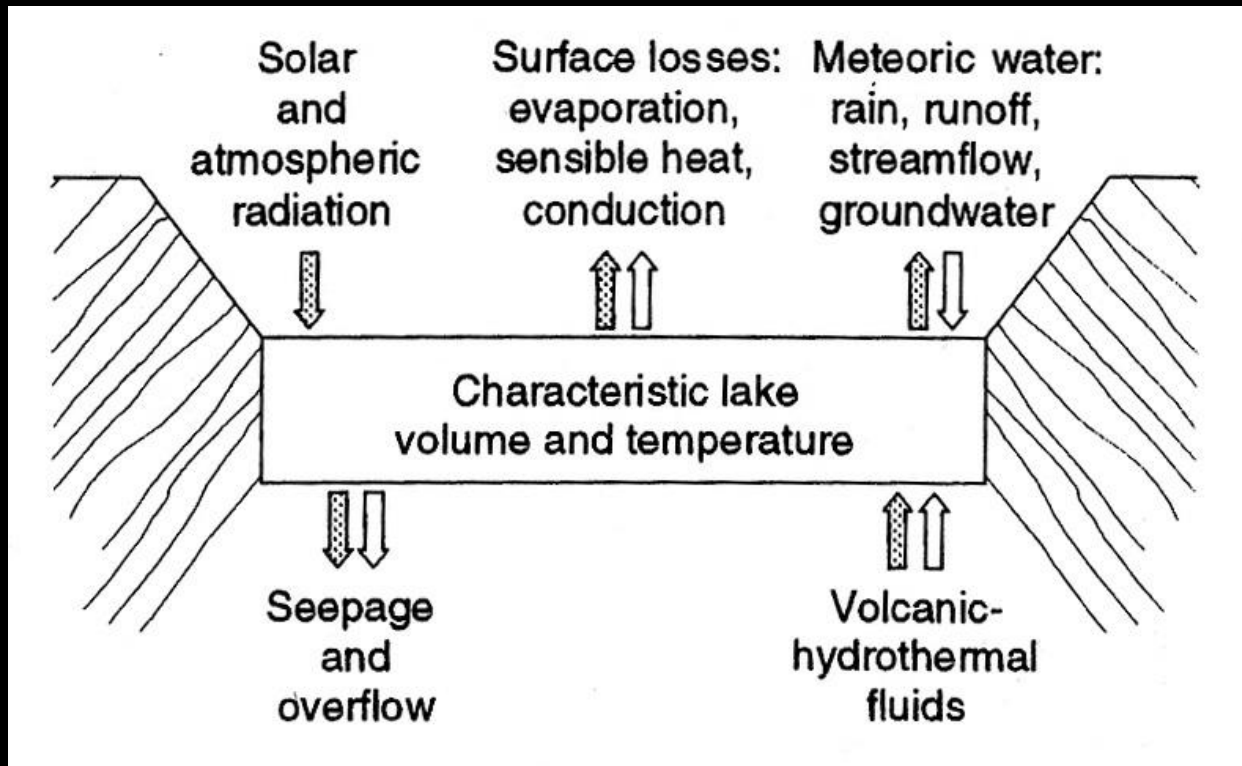
□ 3 principali gruppi di laghi:

➤ laghi a CO₂: neutri pH (~5-7) + basso Cl+SO₄ (< 5 ppm) + dominati da CO₂

➤ laghi geotermali quiescenti: pH variabile (2-9), moderato Cl+SO₄ (< 2000 ppm)

➤ laghi craterici attivi: pH acido pH (2 - -1), alto Cl+SO₄ (> 2000 ppm)

I laghi vulcanici agiscono da condensatori e calorimetri



Processi dinamici nei laghi

- Il rapporto fra calore di input e calore dissipato determina la persistenza e la temperatura dell'acqua;
- La maggior parte del calore dissipato è alla superficie del lago → laghi piccoli hanno piccola capacità di dissipazione e la loro T aumenta rapidamente con piccoli input;
- Grandi laghi sono meglio tamponati rispetto alle variazioni dovute agli input di calore

□ laghi vulcanici persistenti risultano da sistemi idrotermali che trasportano calore, acqua e materia da magmi in degassamento e raffreddamento;

□ Budget globale di massa:

➤ Input: vulcanico & fluidi idrotermali (gas, vapore, brine) + acqua meteorica (precipitazione, runoff)

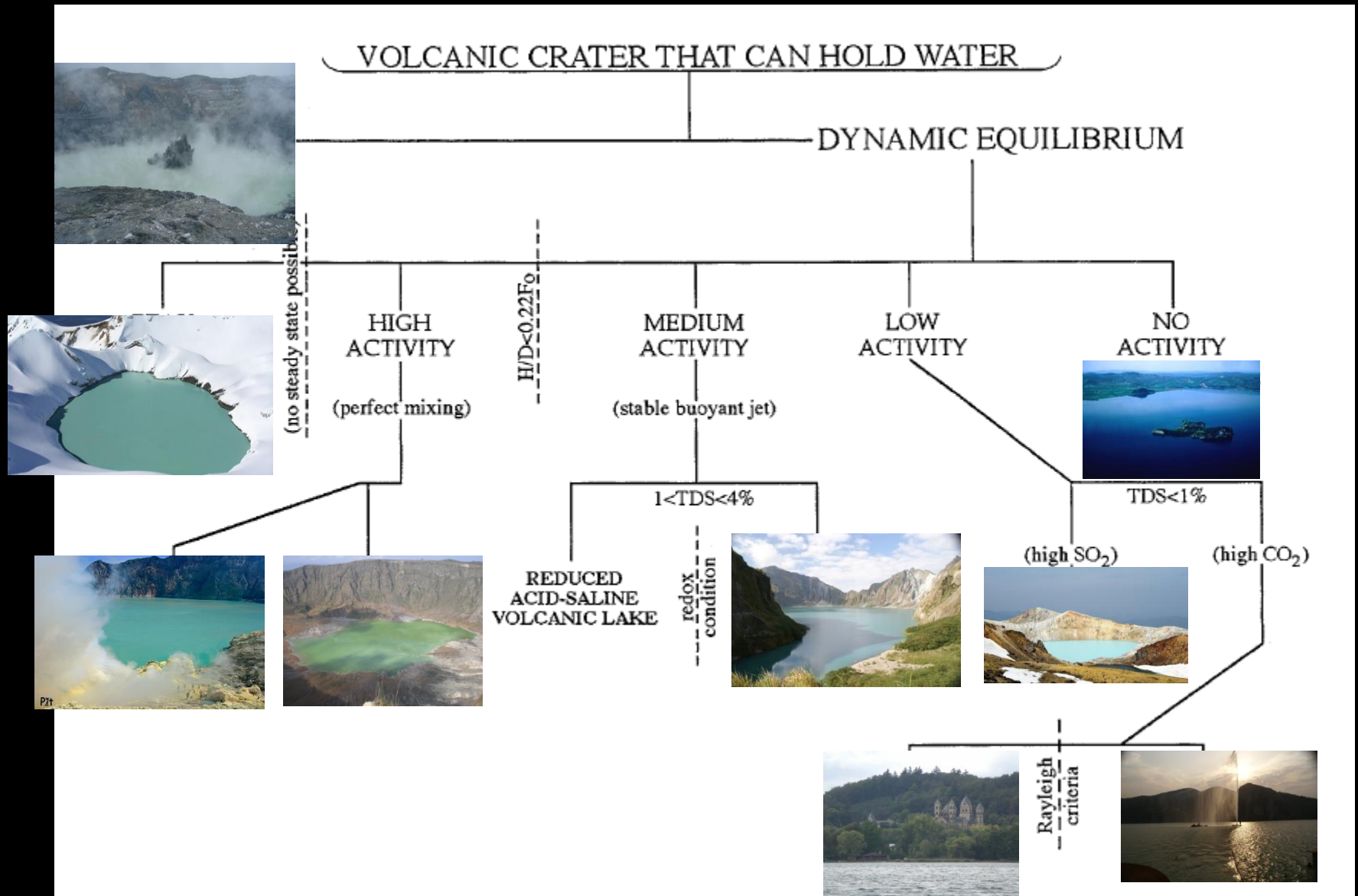
➤ Output: evaporazione, infiltrazione di acqua del lago, overflow,

□ Budget globale di calore:

➤ Input derivato dall'entalpia del fluido in ingresso + radiazione solare e atmosferica;

➤ Output derivato da flussi evaporativi e radiativi dalla superficie del lago, infiltrazione e overflow e effetto di raffreddamento per precipitazioni e runoff nel lago.

Pasternack & Varekamp (1997)



Volcanic Risk



ELSEVIER

Journal of Volcanology and Geothermal Research 97 (2000) 195–214

Journal of volcanology
and geothermal research

www.elsevier.nl/locate/volgeores

The hazards of eruptions through lakes and seawater

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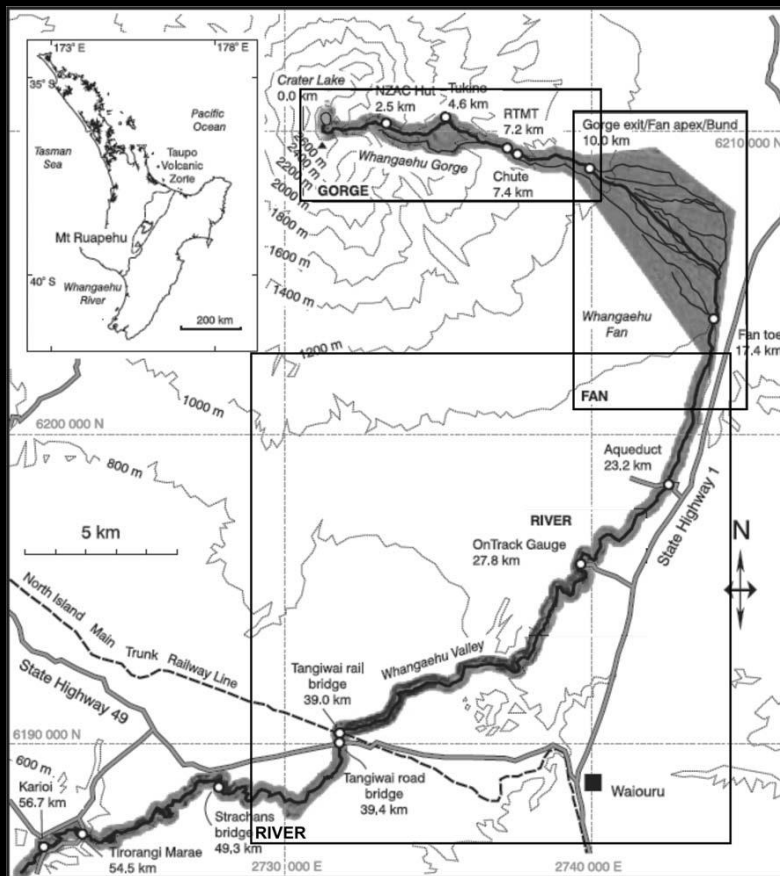
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Abstract

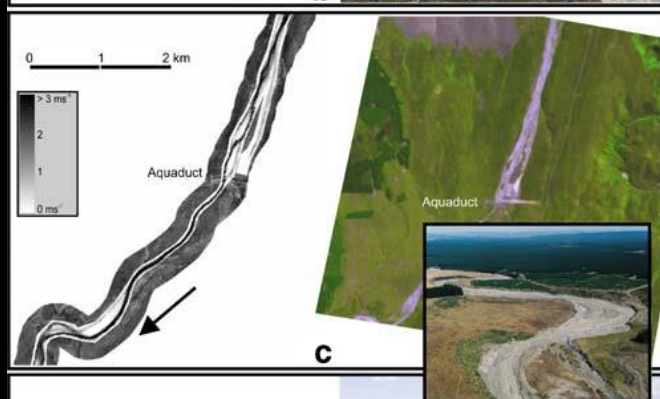
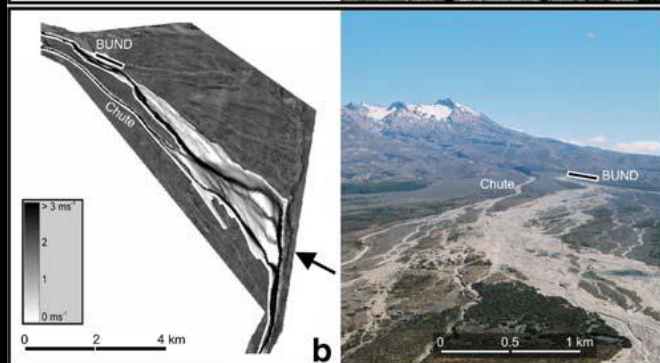
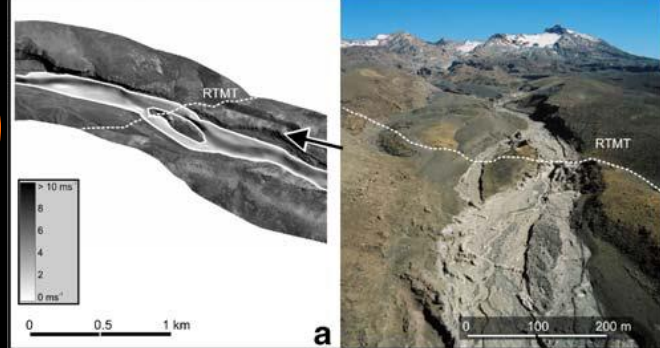
Eruptions through crater lakes or shallow seawater, referred to here as subaqueous eruptions, present hazards from hydro-magmatic explosions, such as base surges, lahars, and tsunamis, which may not exist at volcanoes on dry land. We have systematically compiled information from eruptions through surface water in order to understand the circumstances under which these hazards occur and what disastrous effects they have caused in the past. Subaqueous eruptions represent only 8% of all recorded eruptions but have produced about 20% of all fatalities associated with volcanic activity in historical time. Excluding eruptions that have resulted in about a hundred deaths or less, lahars have killed people in the largest number of historical subaqueous eruptions (8), followed by pyroclastic flows (excluding base surges; 5) tsunamis (4), and base surges (2). Subaqueous eruptions have produced lahars primarily on high (>1000 m), steep-sided volcanoes containing small (<1 km diameter) crater lakes. Tsunamis and other water waves have caused death or destroyed man-made structures only at submarine volcanoes and at Lake Taal in the Philippines. In spite of evidence that magma-water mixing makes eruptions more explosive

Direct Volcanic Risk (DVR)

Lahars, e.g. Ruapehu, NZ



Carrivick et al. 2009



Direct Volcanic Risk



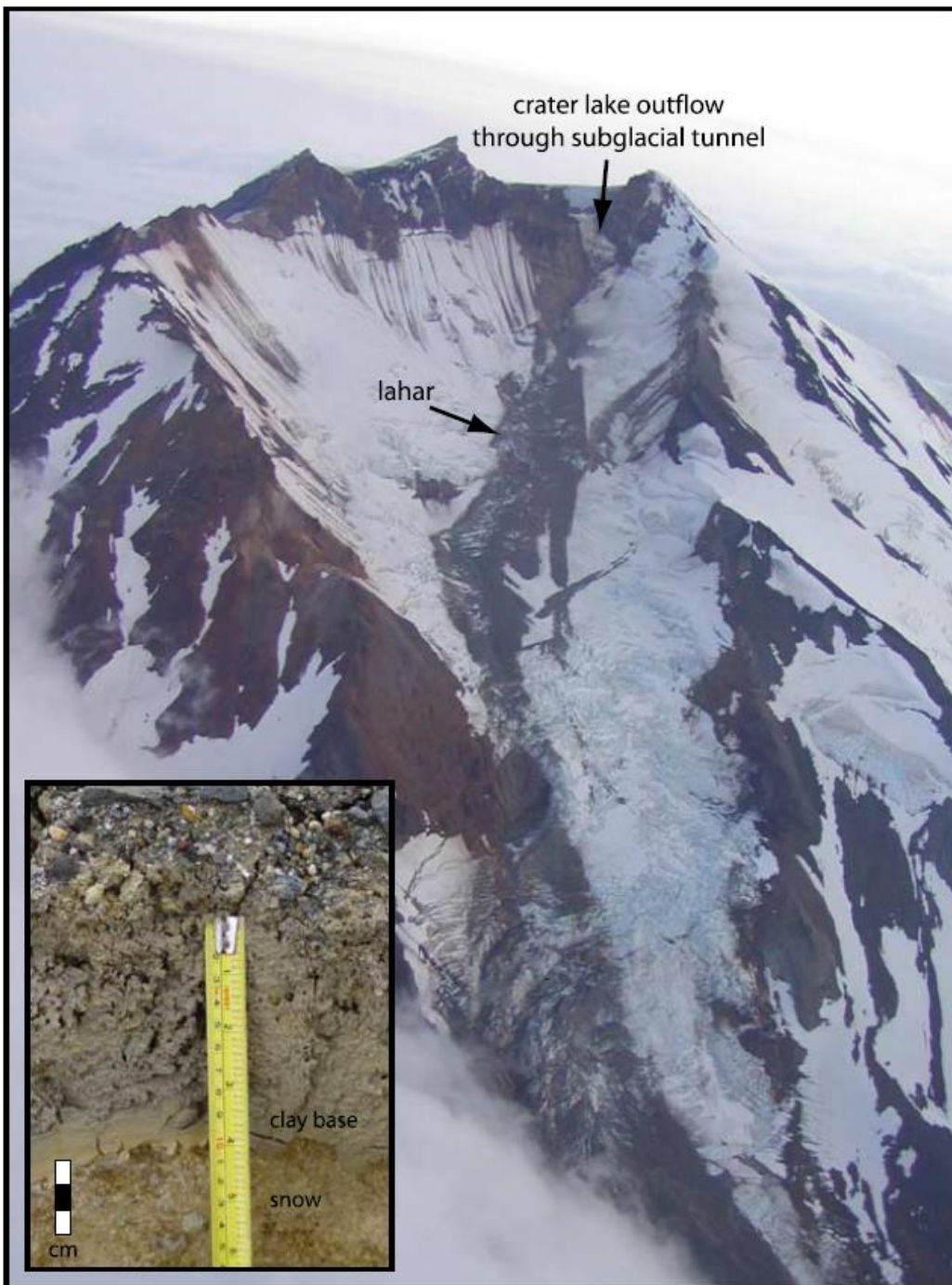
Chiginagak, Alaska,
2005

Schaefer et al. (2008)



DVR

Chiginagak,
Alaska, 2005
Schaefer et al. (2008)





(a)

A-type: 2-50 m



(b)

B-type: 51-250 m



(c)

C-type: >250 m

Dome intrusion

Kelut, Indonesia, 2007



DVR

Phreatomagmatic eruptions, Vouli, Vanuatu, 2005-2006 *Bani et al. (2009)*



Voui, Vanuatu, 2005-2006

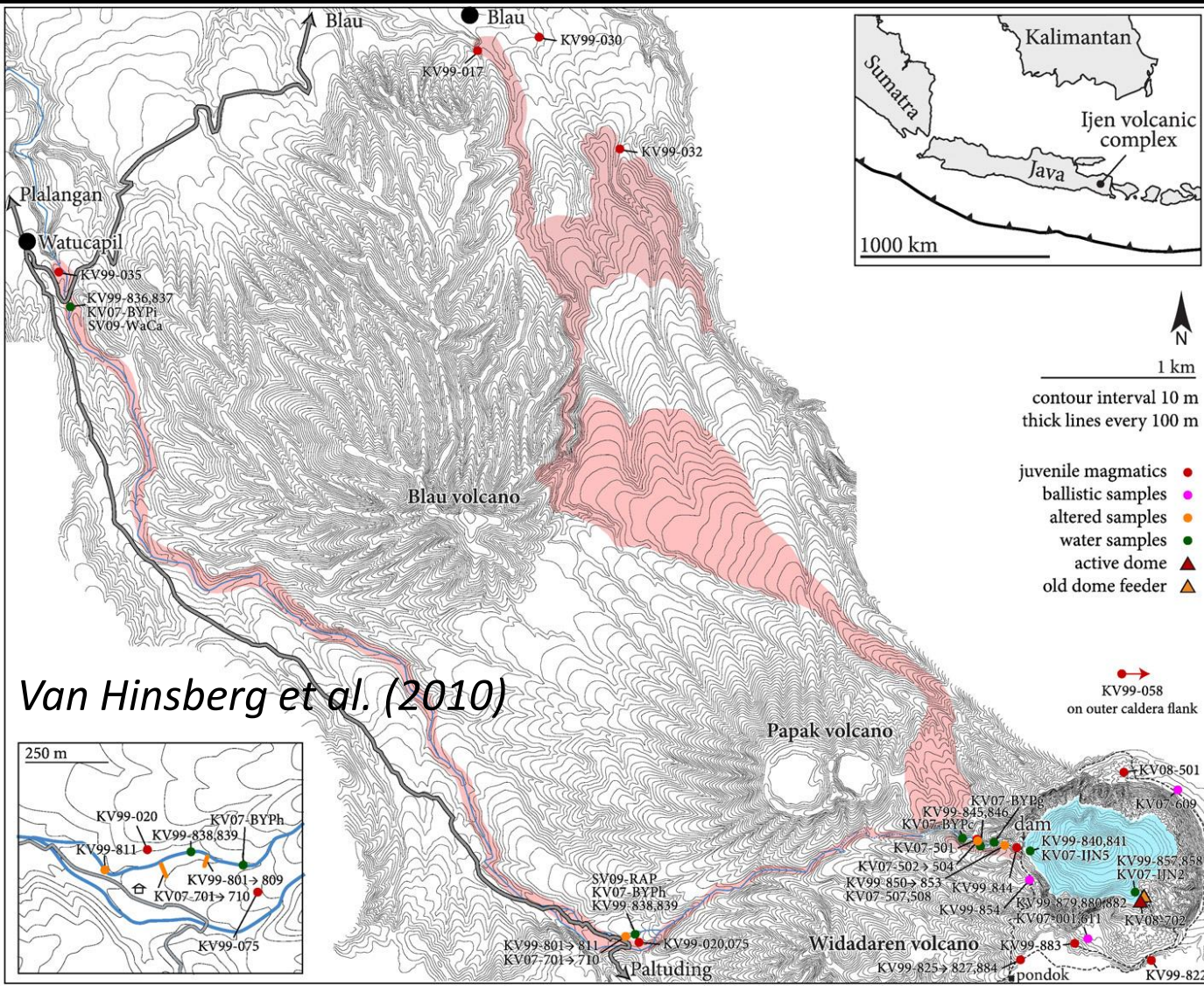
Bani et al. (2009)



Magmatic activity:
Santa Ana, El Salvador,
Octobre 2005



Indirect Volcanic Risk (IVR) dispersion brine in the environment



IVR: "Nyos-type" limnic gas bursts



IVR: Dispersion in the volcanic edifice corrosion, mechanical stability



IVR: Dispersion in the volcanic edifice + corrosion, mechanical stability

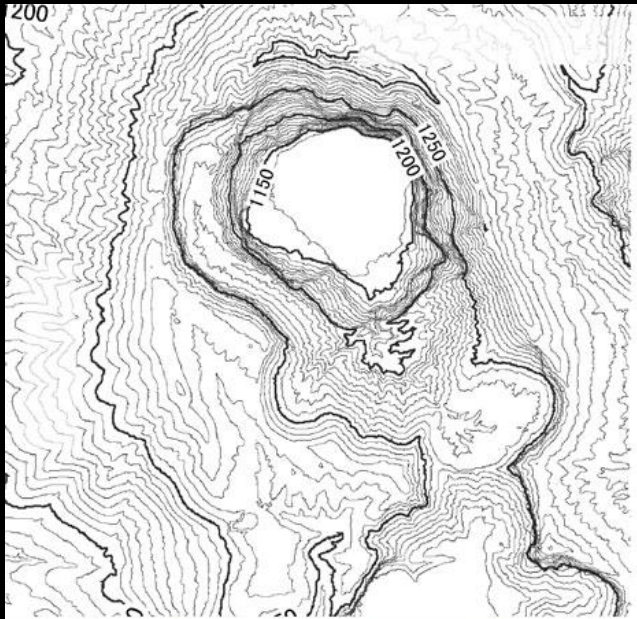


How do we study volcanic lakes?

- Direct observations
 - In situ measurements
 - Geophysics
 - Fluid geochemistry
-
- Identify physico-chemical changes...
 - **Conceptual models**
 - **Volcanic monitoring**

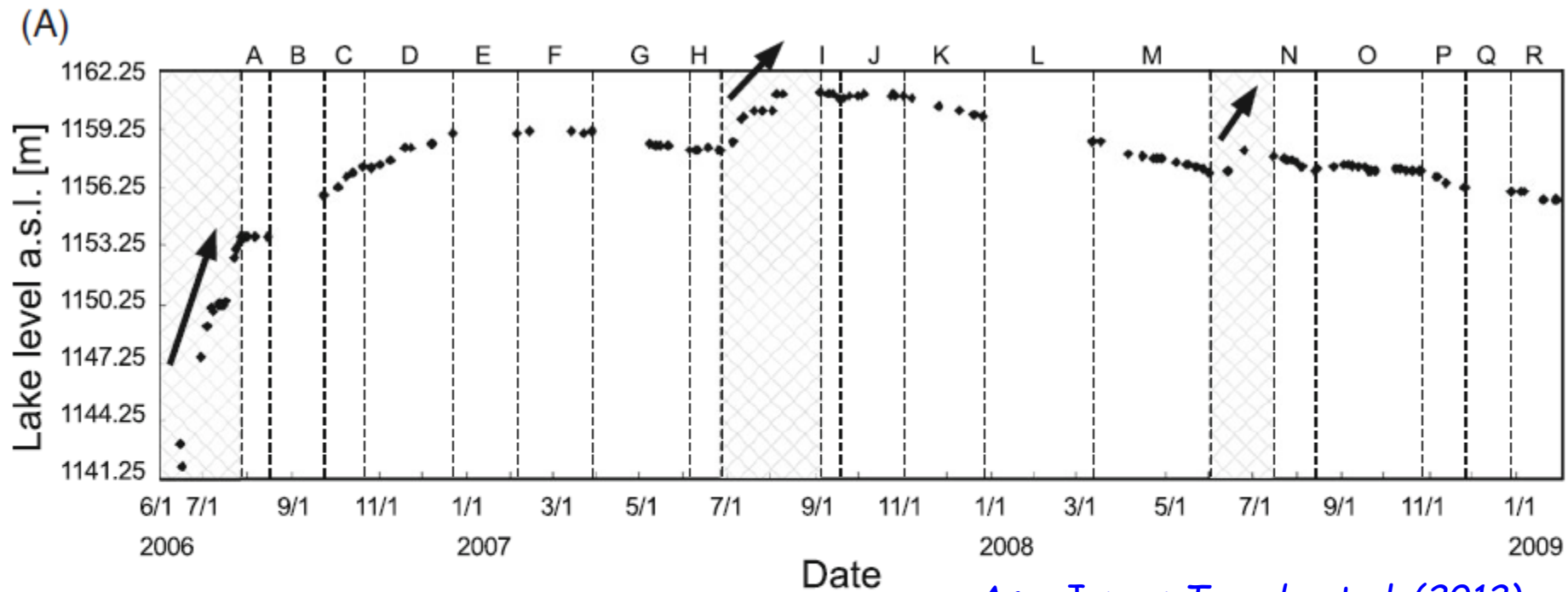
Direct observations

Dimension/level: fixed camera

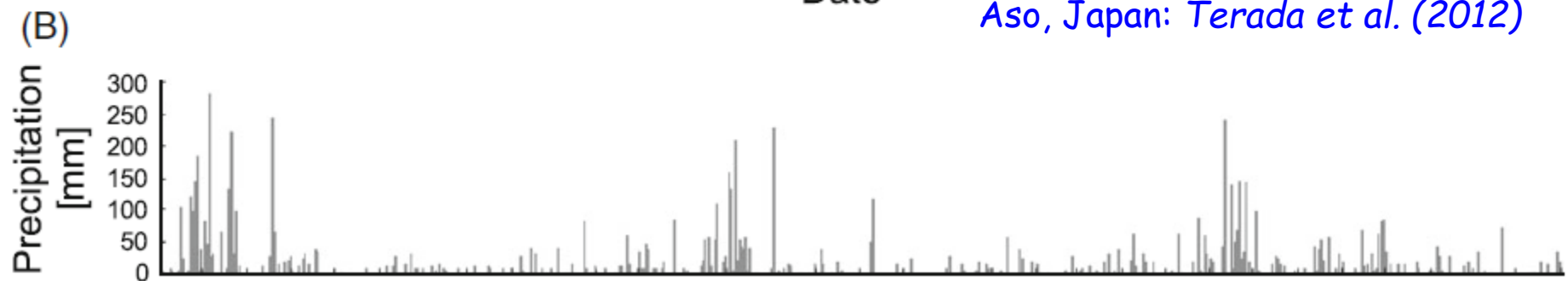


Aso, Giappone: Terada et al. (2012)

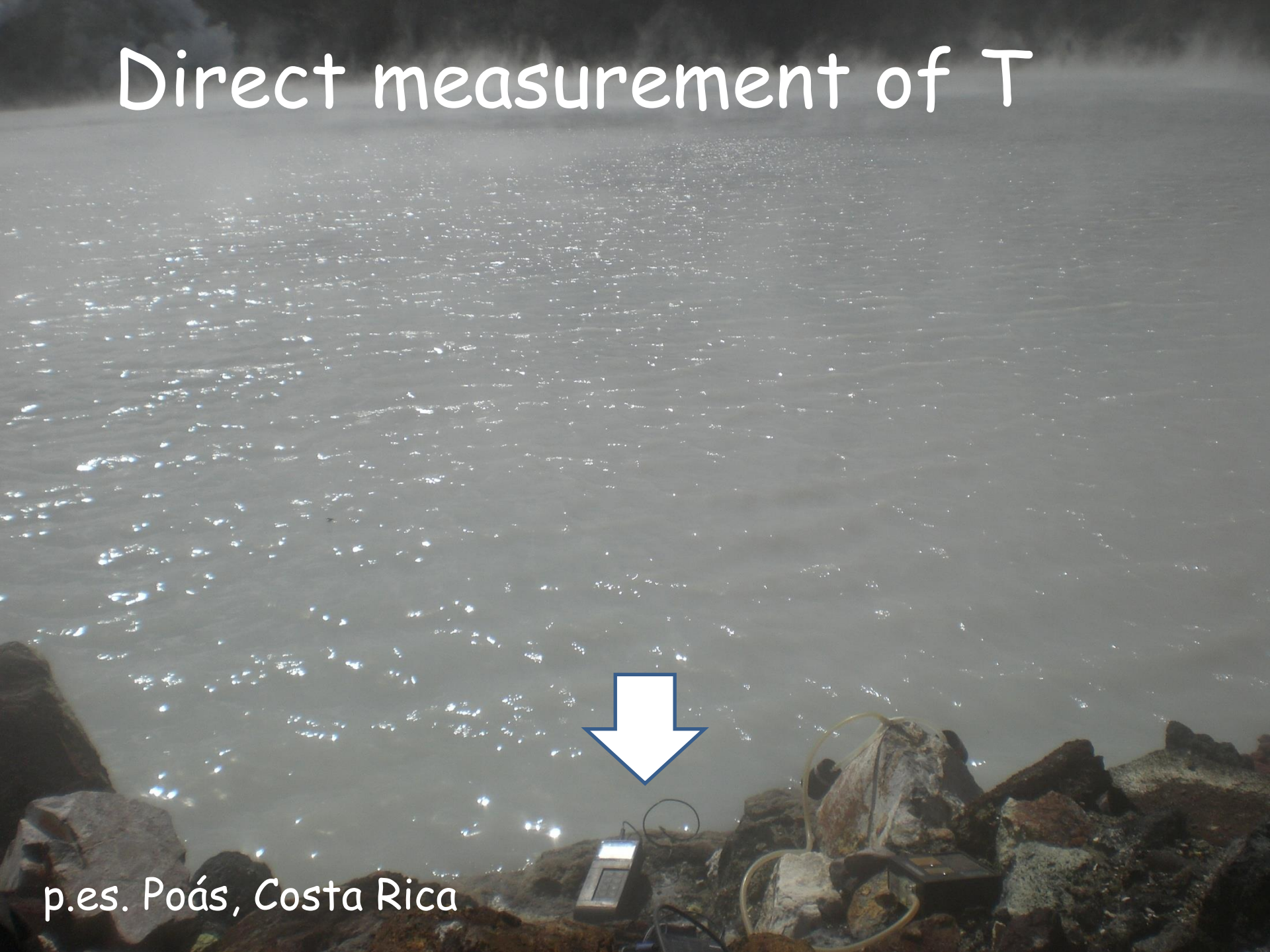
Direct observations



Aso, Japan: Terada et al. (2012)



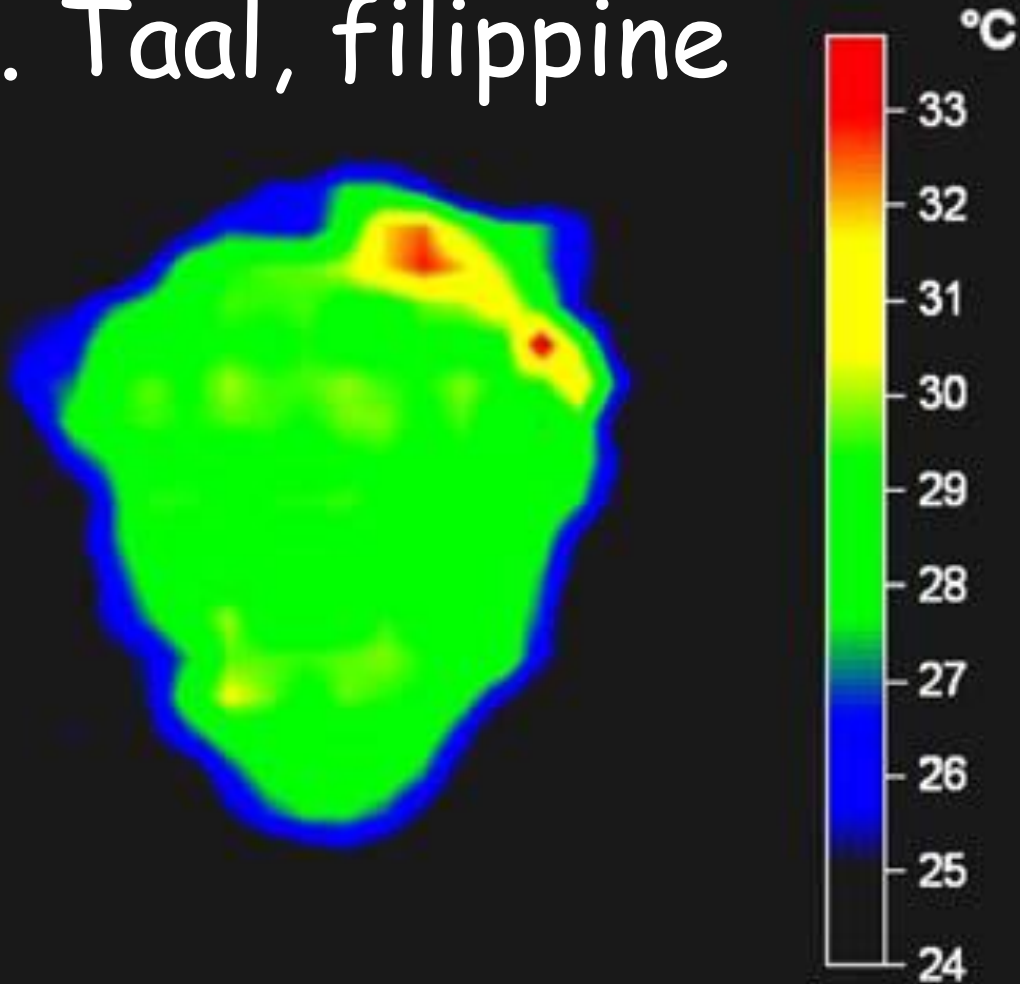
Direct measurement of T



p.es. Poás, Costa Rica

Temperature

e.g. Taal, filippine



1km

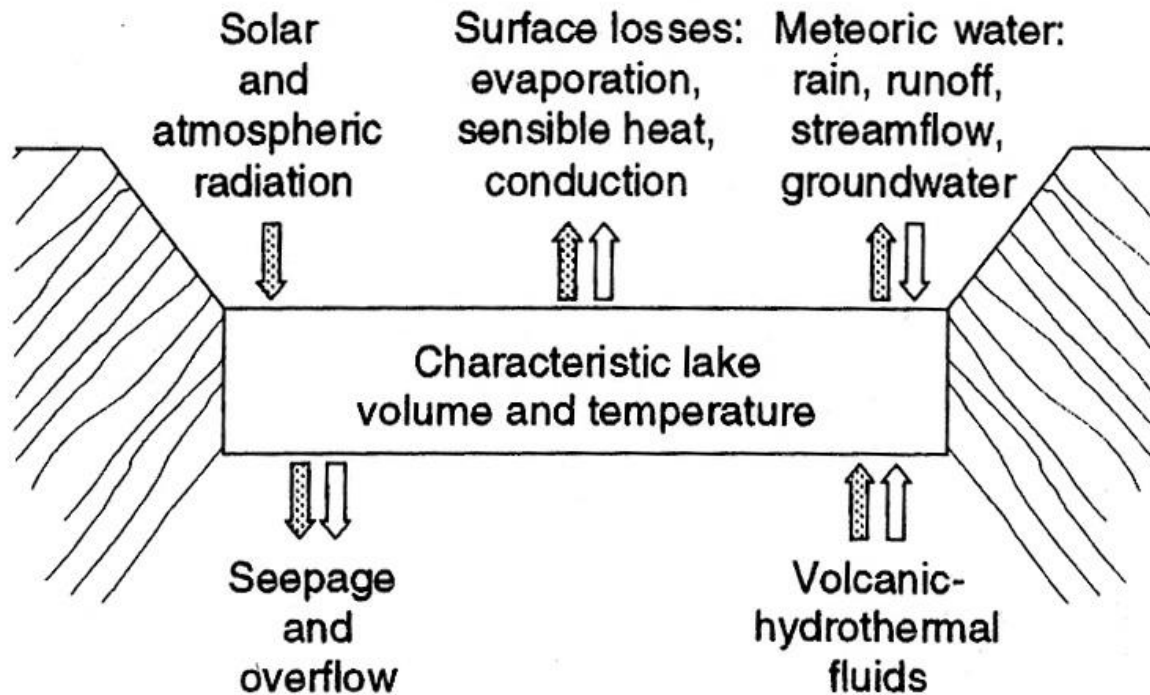


Zlotnicki et al. (2008)

Active Crater lakes



Active Crater lakes: condensers & calorimeters



Persistent volcanic lakes result from hydrothermal systems which transport heat, water & chemicals from a cooling & degassing magma body

dynamic processes in lakes

ratio heat input/heat dissipation determines the persistence and the temperature of the water

most heat dissipation occurs at lake surface → small lakes have small capacity for heat dissipation and their T rises quickly with small inputs
great lakes are better buffered against variations in heat inputs

Fluid balance

Inputs: volcanic & hydrothermal fluids (gas, steam, brines) + meteoric water (precipitation, runoff, streamflow)

outputs: evaporation, lake water seepage, overflow, ground infiltration

Heat balance

Input: enthalpy of the entering fluid + solar & atmospheric radiation

Outputs: evaporative & radiative fluxes from lake surface, seepage and overflow and cooling effect of precipitation and runoff in lake

Active Crater lakes and volcanic hazard

Heat-water interaction...phreatic and phreato-magmatic eruptions

Ash (volcanics)-water interaction...lahars

How to study (and monitor) active crater lakes ?

- The box model approach

Mass balance: sum of the in- and output fluxes of water mass

water mass budget of the lake can be expressed in a differential form:

$$V_L - V_{L0} = Q_f Dt + Q_m Dt + Q_{sp} Dt - Q_e Dt - Q_s Dt - Q_o Dt$$

$V_L - V_{L0}$ is the change in volume of crater lake water during the period of observation

Q_f is the input flux of “volcanic” fluid from beneath the lake (kg/s)

Q_m is the input flux of meteoric water (kg/s)

Q_{sp} is the input flux of water from springs located outside the lake (kg/s)

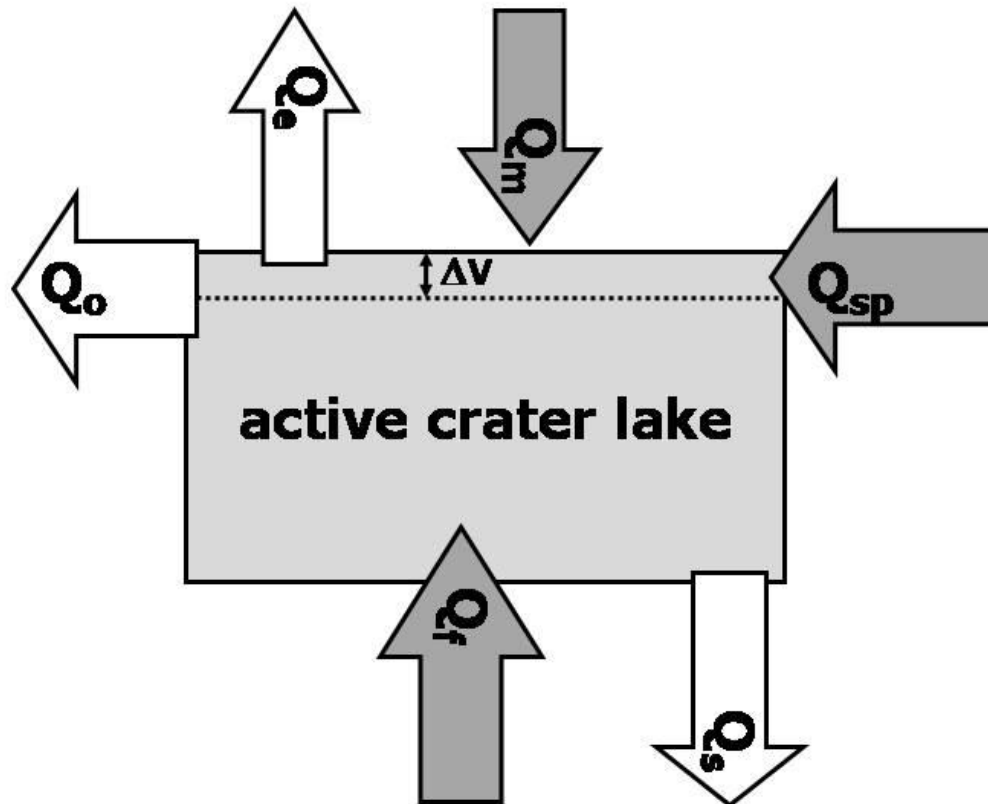
Q_e is the evaporative flux of water from the lake surface (kg/s)

Q_s is the seepage flux of water at the lake bottom (kg/s)

Q_o is the overflow flux of water out of the lake basin (kg/s)

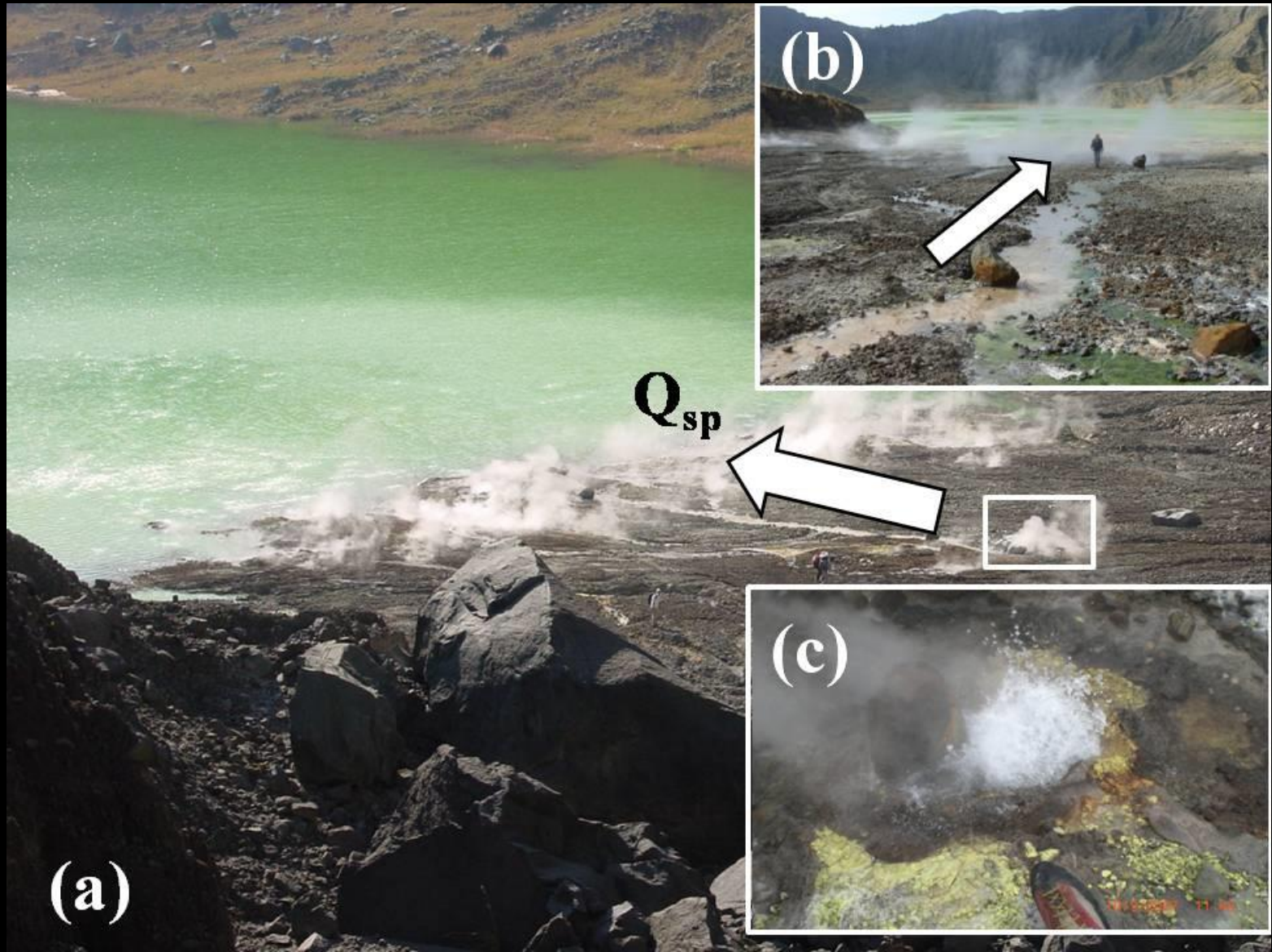
Dt is the period (s) between two times of observation of the crater lake (\approx sampling frequency).

Mass input and output



some example...

Input from springs (out of the lake)



Evaporative flux



What can be measured ?

- the variation in lake volume ($V_L - V_{L0}$). In general, the lake volume is deduced empirically and independently for each crater lake
- The input flux of meteoric water (Q_m) depends on the precipitation rate that can be measured installing a rain gauge as near as possible to the lake.
- The input flux of springs (Q_{sp}) and the overflow output flux (Q_o) located outside the lake in the catchment area can be directly measured in the field, by means of a flow meter device.
- The evaporative output (Q_e) can be calculated from latent heat of vaporization of water on the basis of wind speed, air humidity and temperature, atmospheric pressure and water lake temperature.

What cannot be measured ?

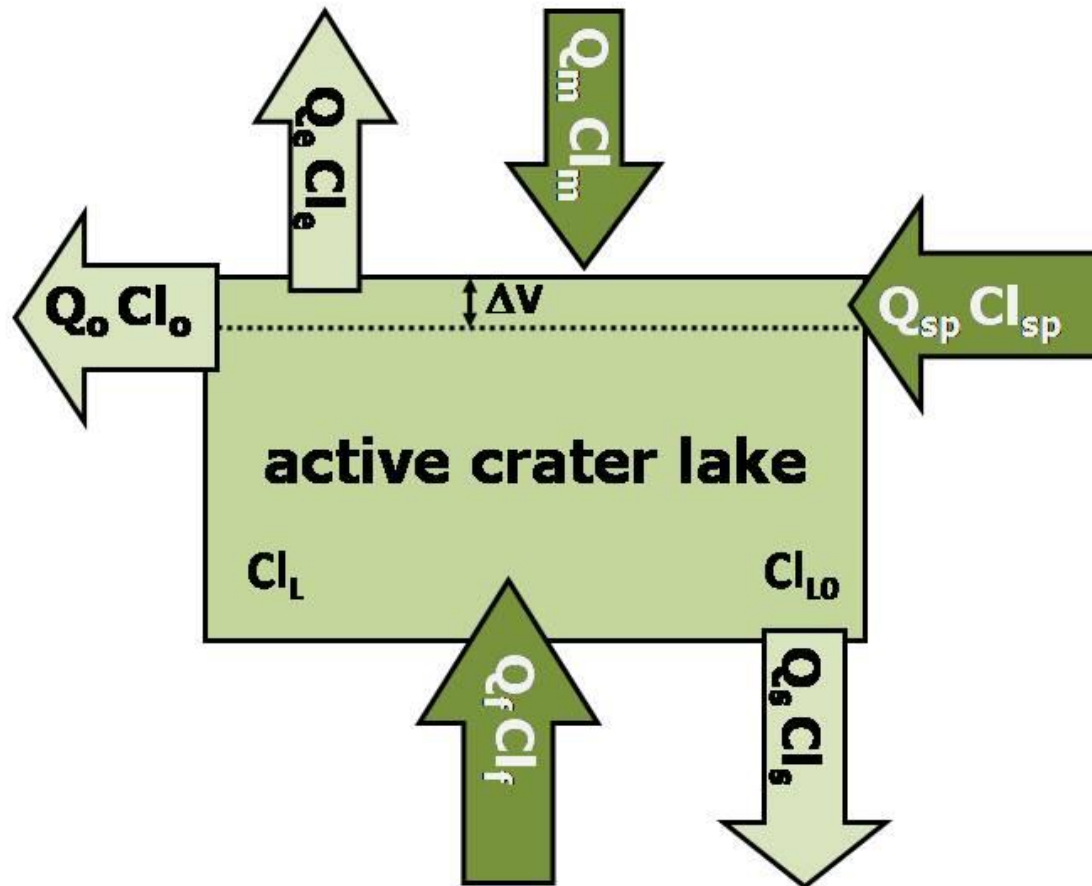
- The seepage loss (Q_s) through the crater lake floor may (to solve the equation, must) be only estimated semi-quantitatively on the basis of hydrogeochemical models

Chemical budget

- Multiplying each term in the mass budget with the corresponding concentrations of a conservative chemical species (Cl), we obtain the chemical budget equation:

$$V_L \frac{dCl_L}{dt} - V_{L0} \frac{dCl_{L0}}{dt} = Q_f Cl_f - Q_m Cl_m + Q_{sp} Cl_{sp} - Q_e Cl_e - Q_s Cl_s - Q_o Cl_o$$

Chemical budget

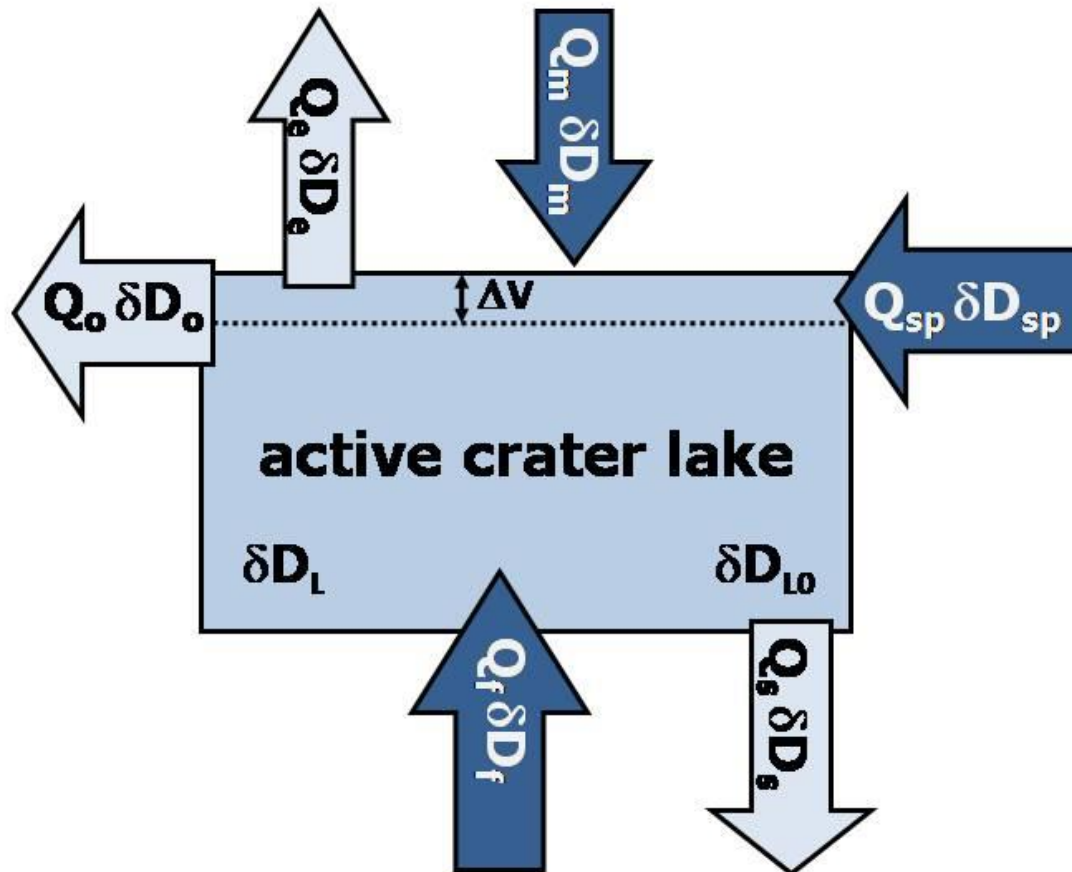


Isotope budget

- Multiplying each term in the mass budget with the corresponding values of the water isotopic composition (δD or $\delta^{18}O$), we obtain the isotope budget equation:

$$V_L \delta D_L - V_{L0} \delta D_{L0} = Q_f \delta D_f Dt + Q_m \delta D_m Dt + Q_{sp} \delta D_{sp} Dt - Q_e \delta D_e Dt - Q_s \delta D_s Dt - Q_o \delta D_o Dt$$

Isotope budget



Aims ?

By quantification of the non-volcanic factors affecting the physical-chemical state of the active crater lake, the box model allows to calculate the volcanic input flux (Q_f), which cannot be directly measured.

Variation in volcanic fluid inputs may be related to changes of...volcanic activity.

White Island (NZ)

Taal (Phil)

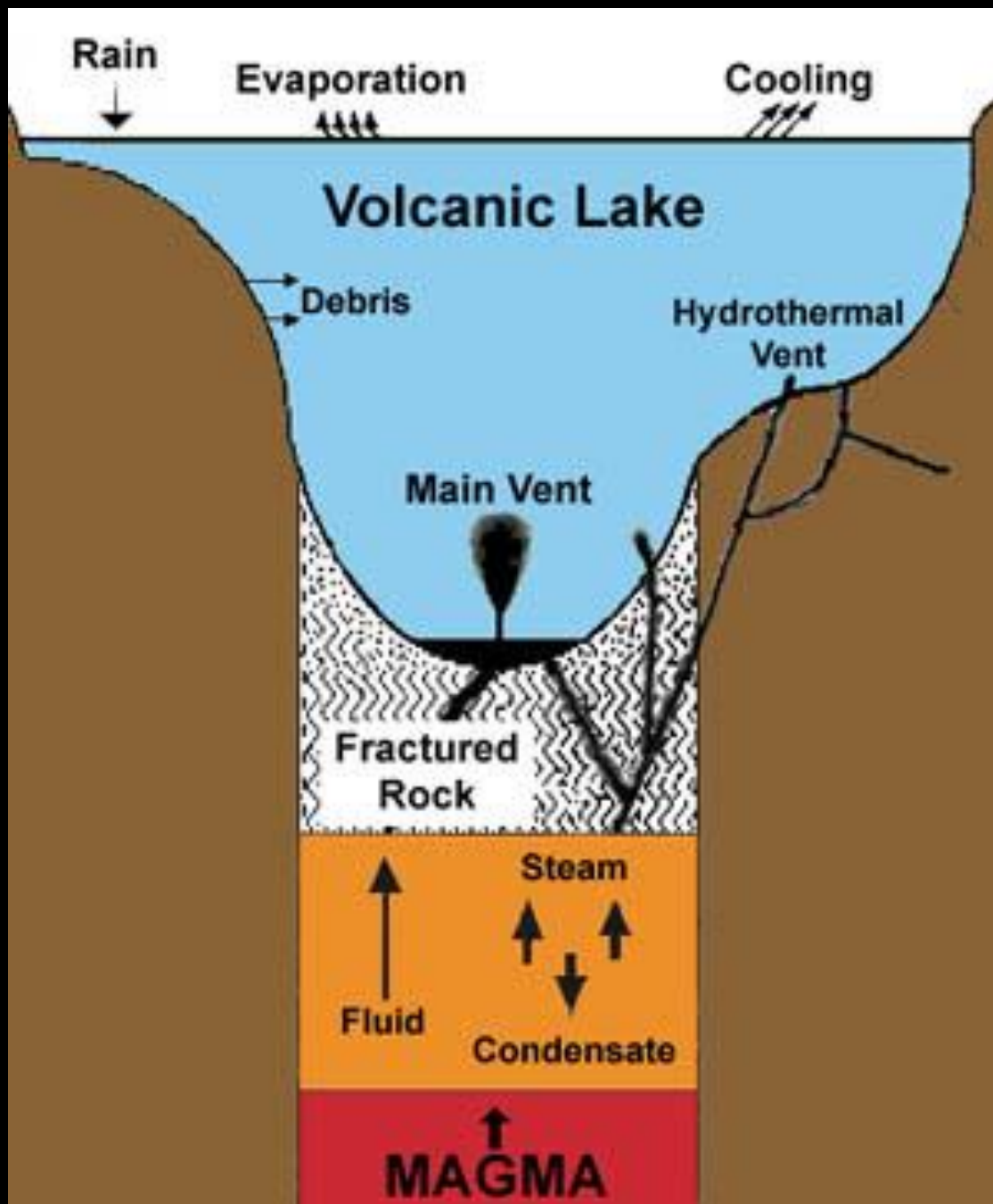
Copahue (Arg)

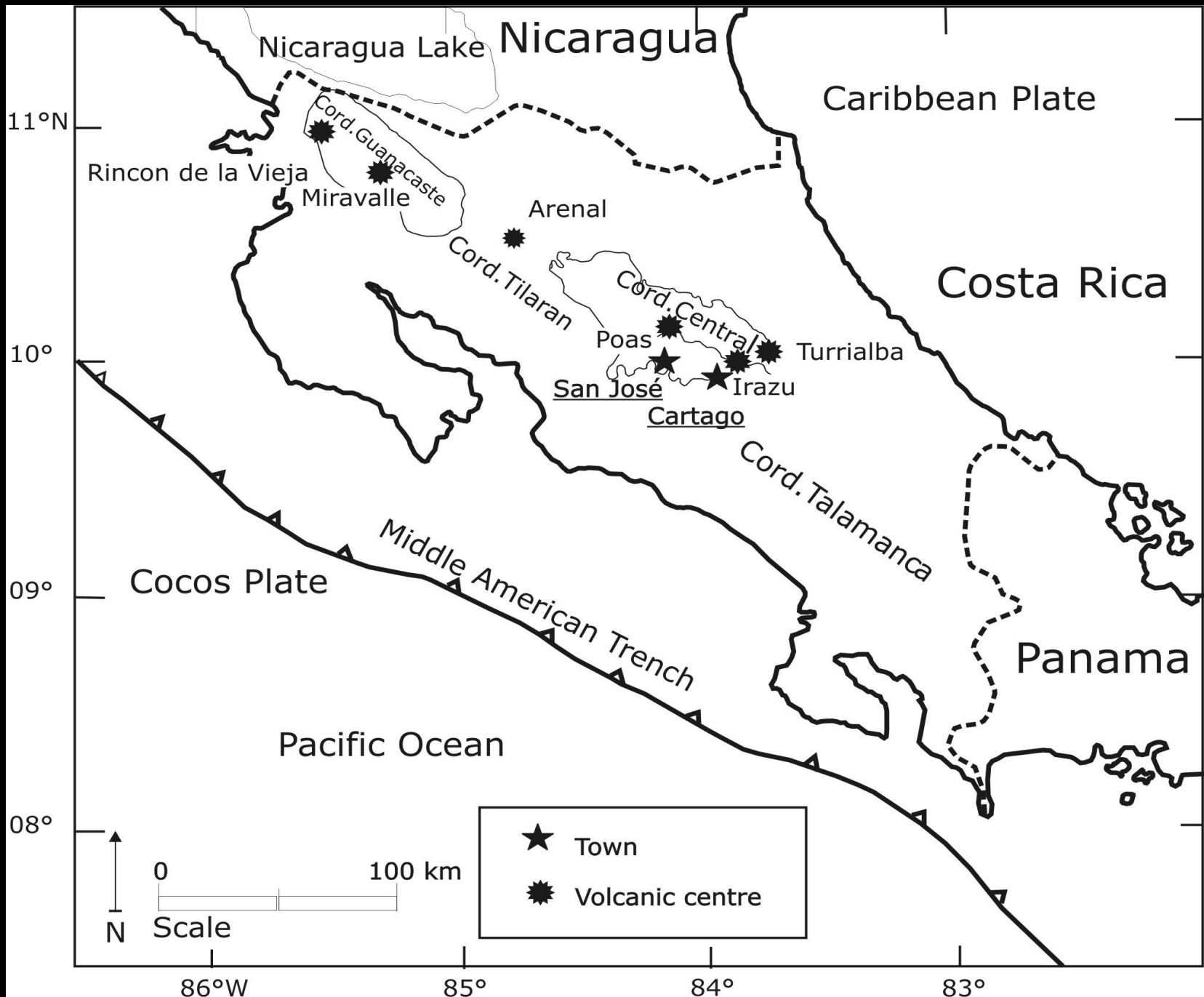
Rin

Chic

ACIDIC LAKES







An aerial photograph of the Poas volcano in Costa Rica. The image shows three distinct craters arranged roughly north-south. The northernmost crater is Von Frantius, which contains a white ash cone. The middle crater is the Main Crater, a large, deep, and mostly empty basin. The southernmost crater is Lago Botos, which is filled with a vibrant blue lake. The surrounding landscape is a mix of dark, rocky terrain and dense green forest. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.

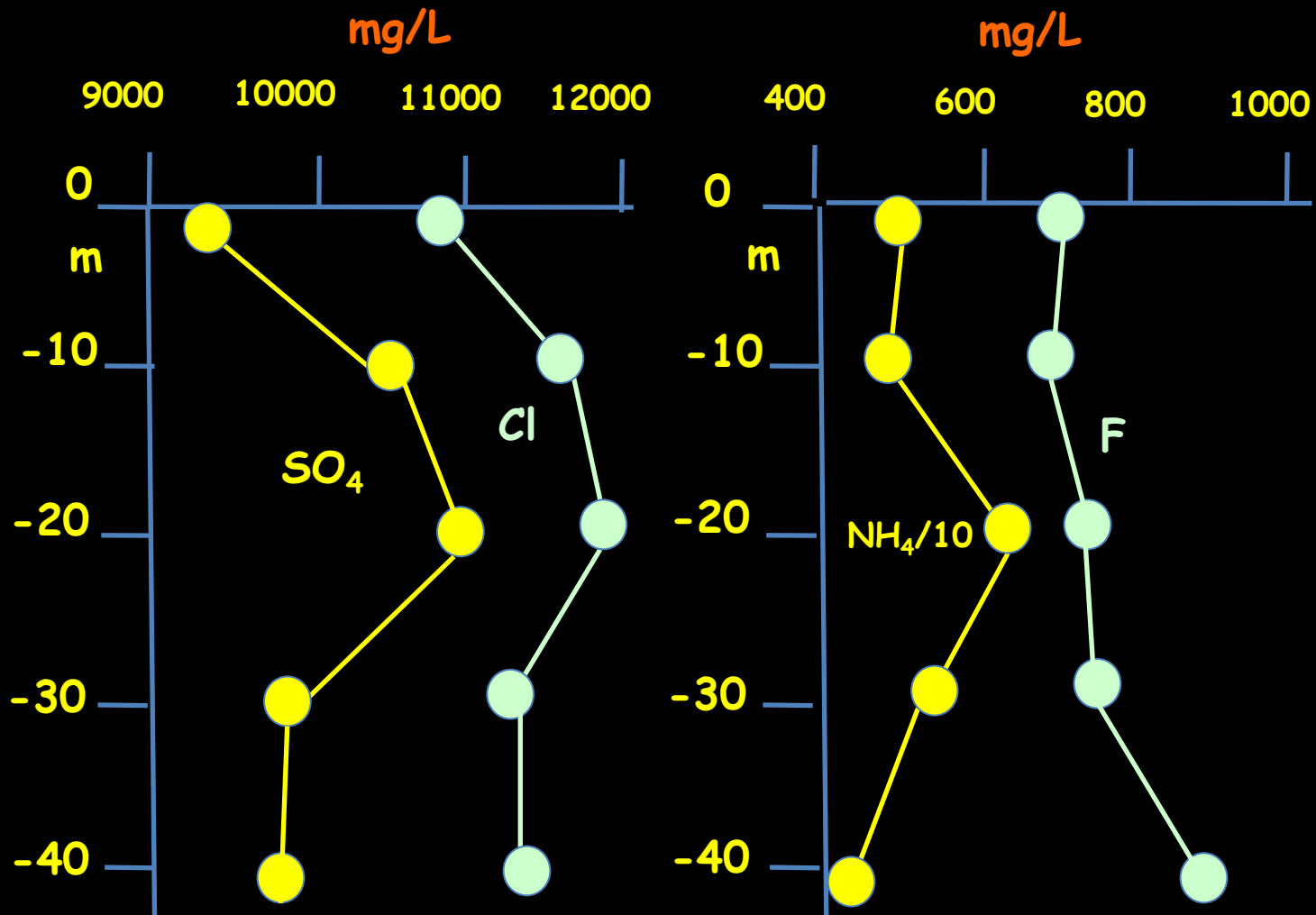
Von Frantius

Main Crater

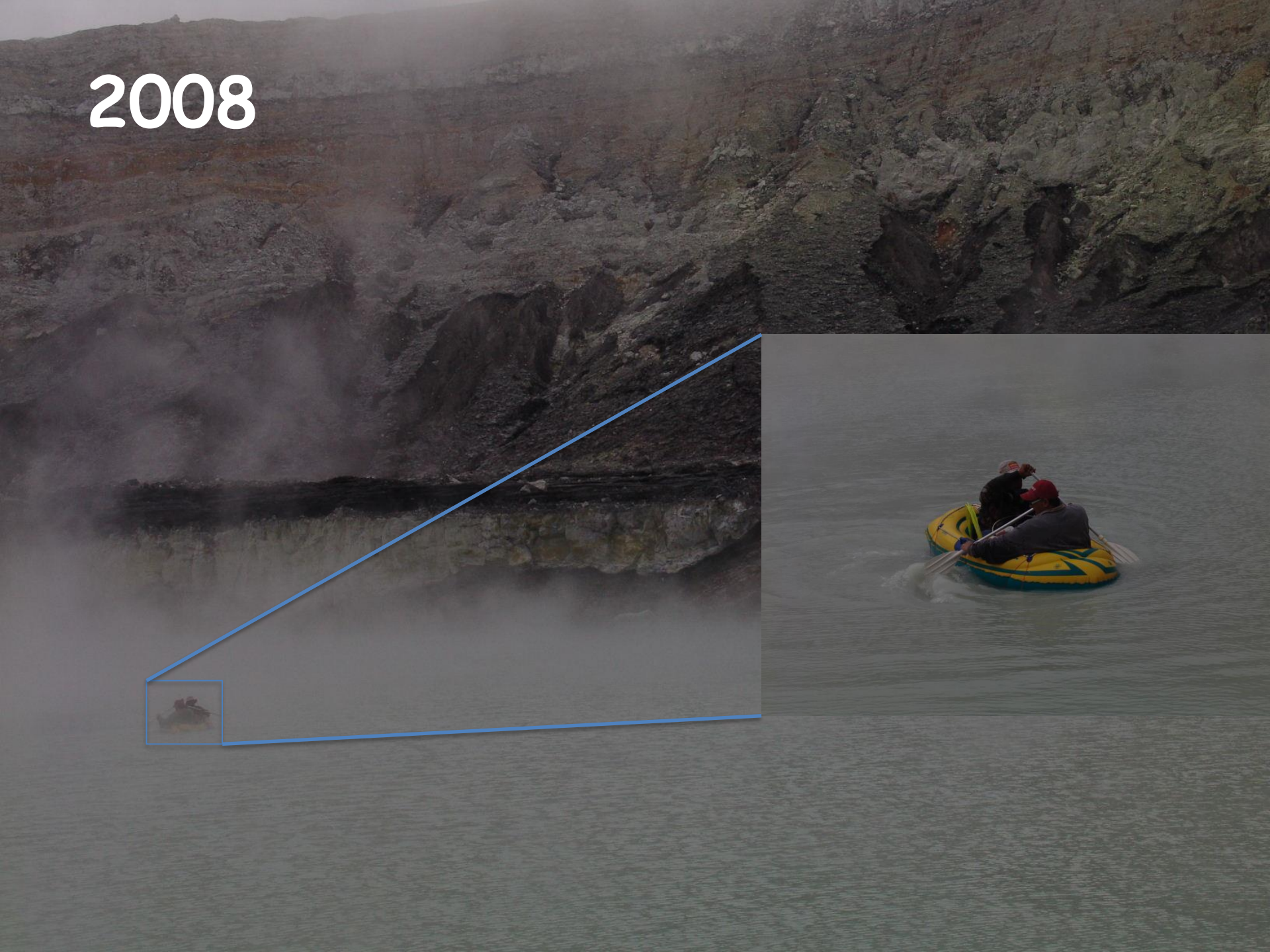
Lago Botos

The basaltic-to-dacitic active volcano of Poas (2708 m a.s.l.) is characterized by three roughly N-S oriented craters: Von Frantius, Botos (hosting a cold lake) and Laguna Caliente

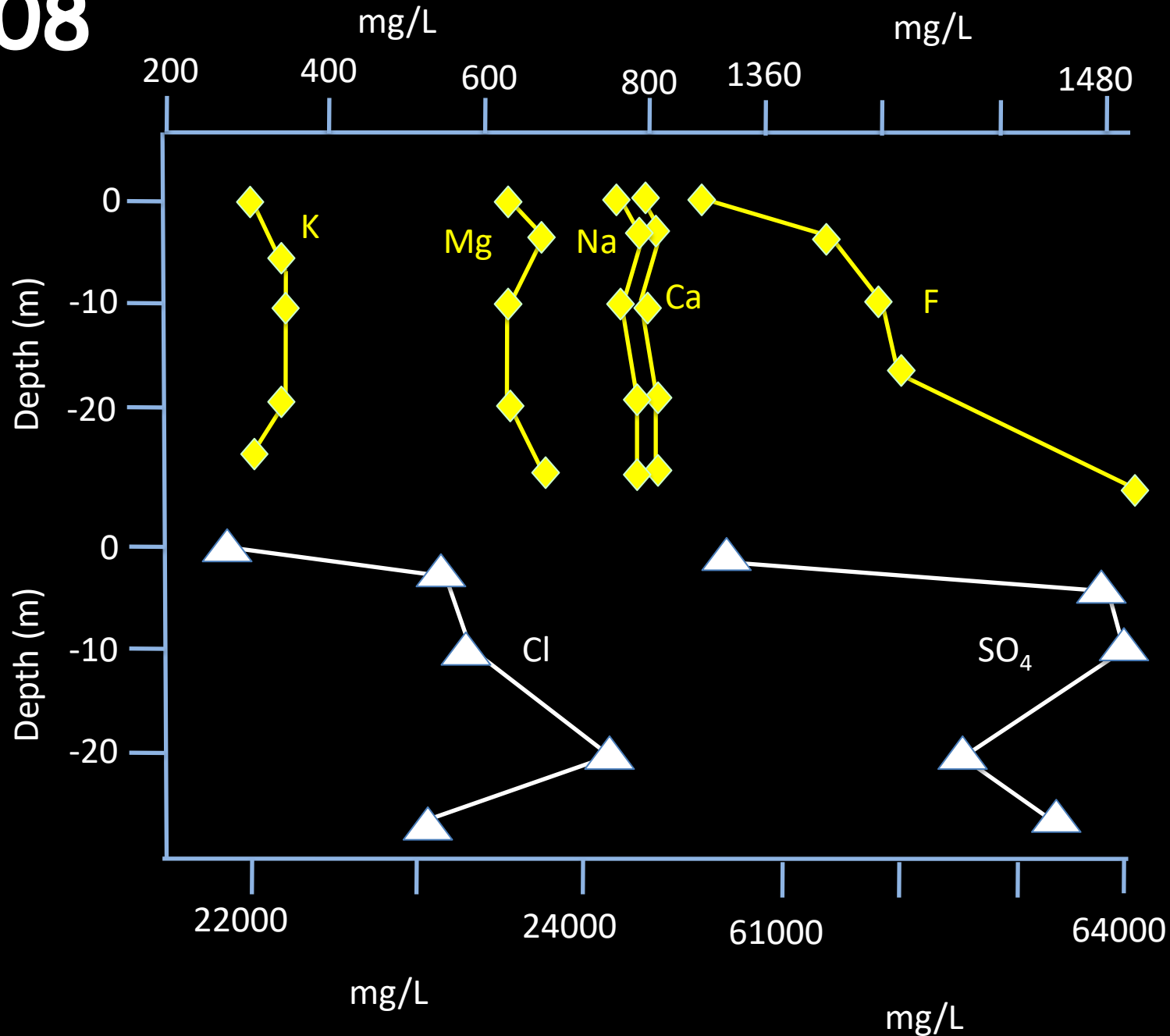
2001 - $2.4 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$

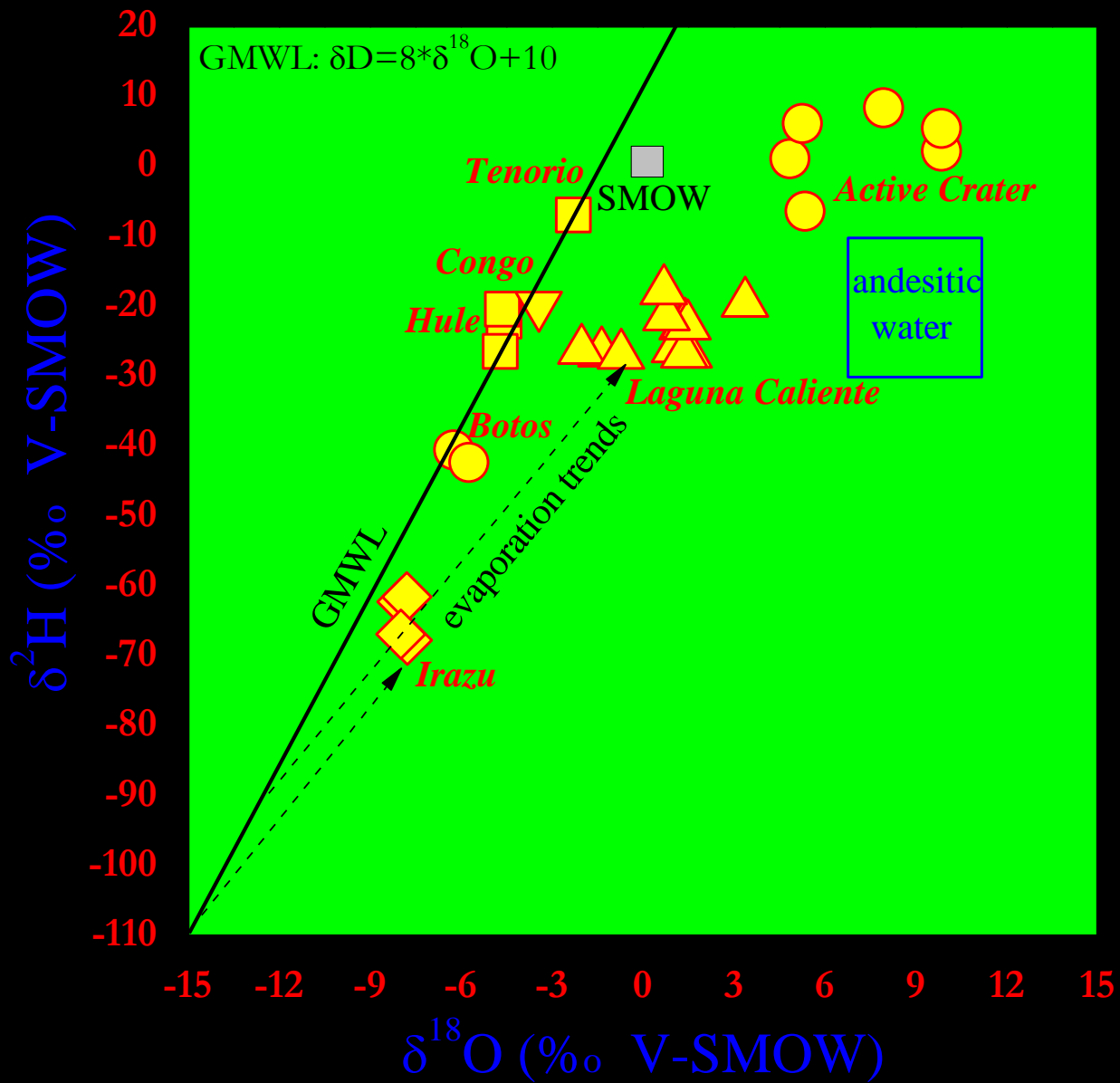


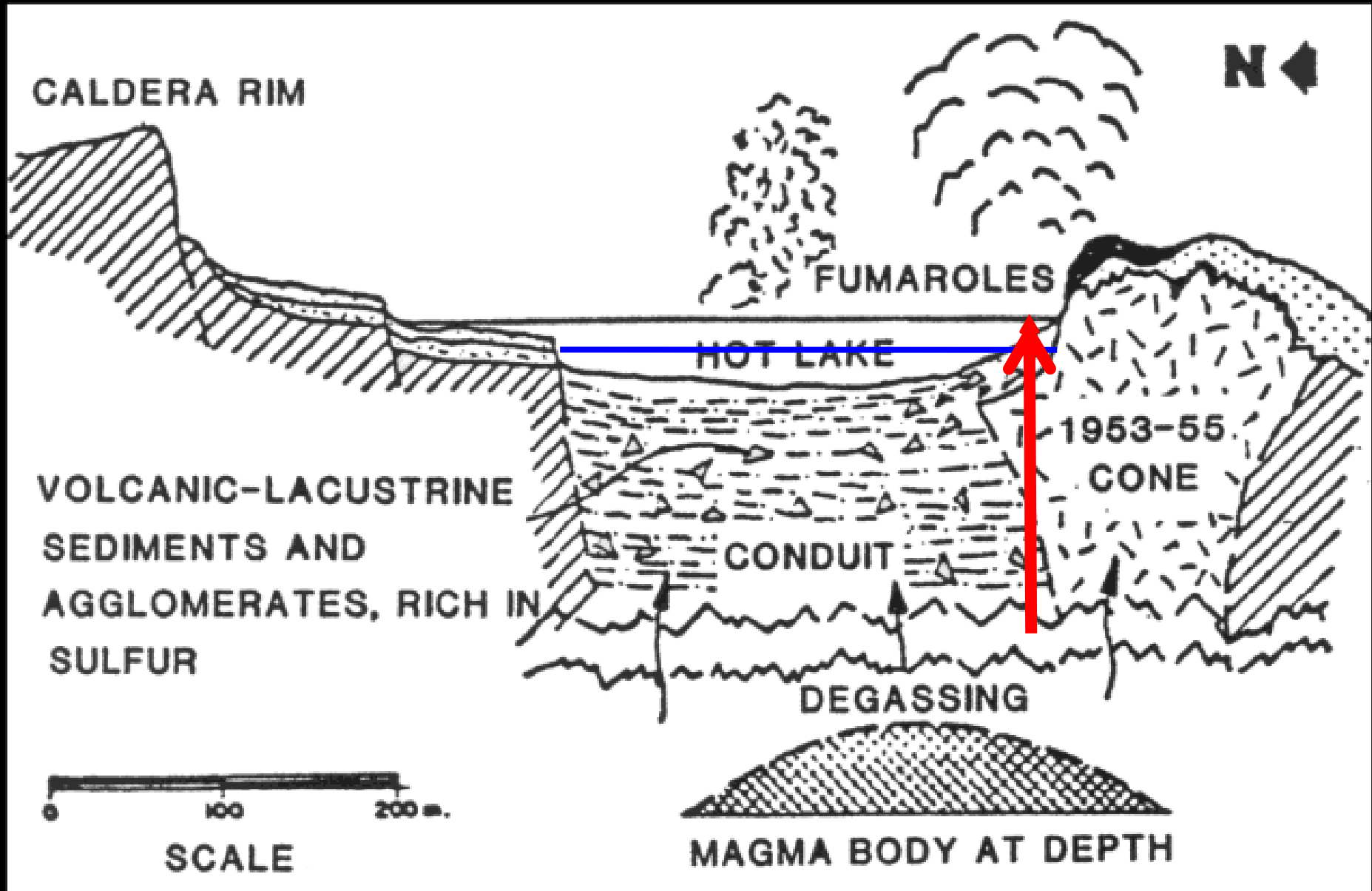
2008



2008

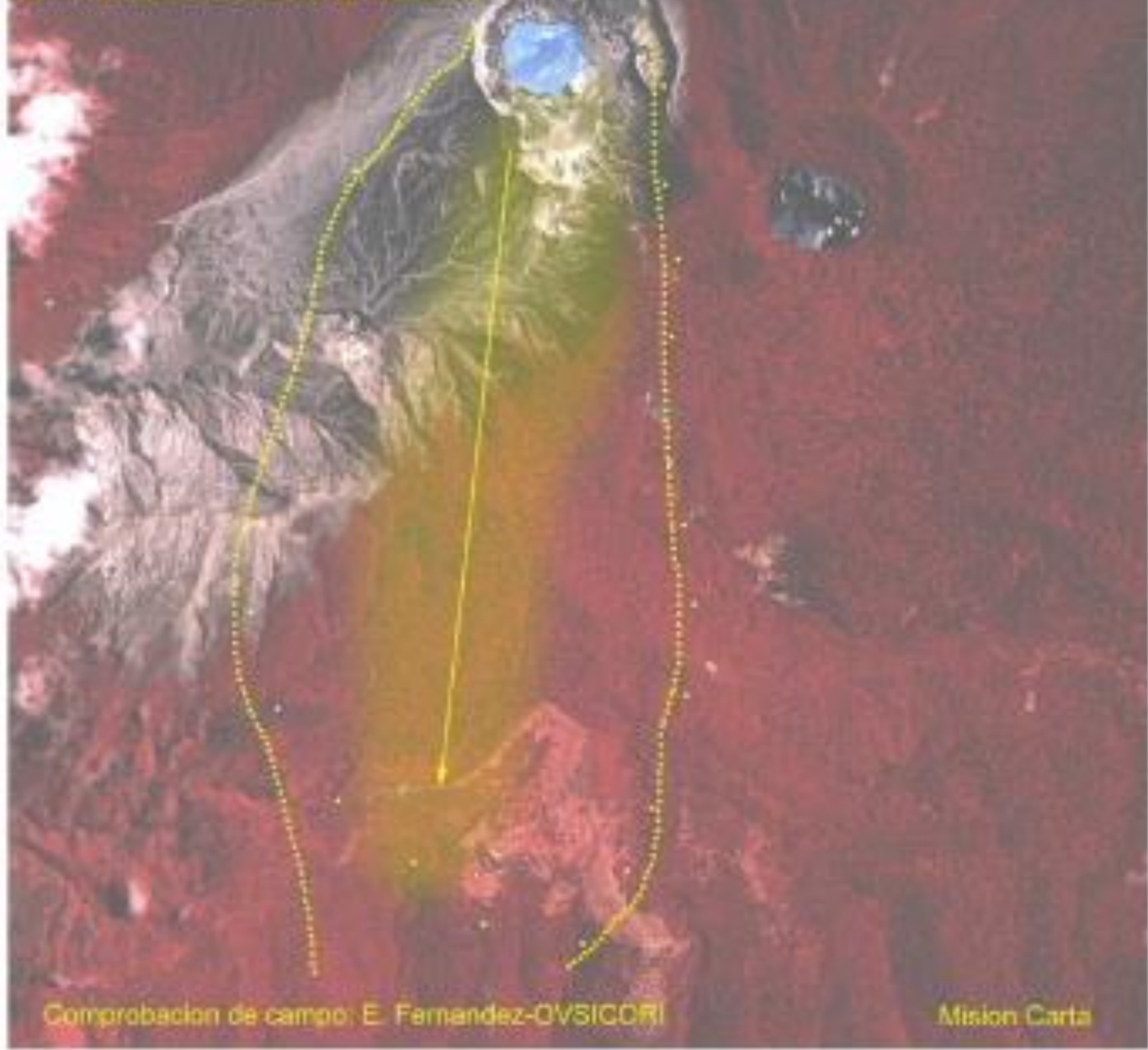






Volcan Poas.

Área afectada por sedimentos ácidos
emitidos entre el 24 al 28 de marzo 06.



Comprobación de campo: E. Fernandez-OVSICORI

Mision Carta

Poas volcano, Costa Rica
General view of east crater wall
destroyed by phreatic activity

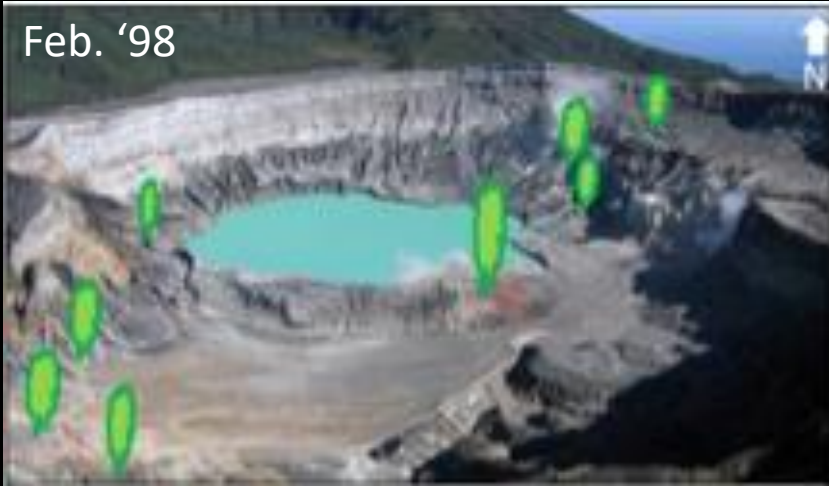
Pre-March 2006 lake rim



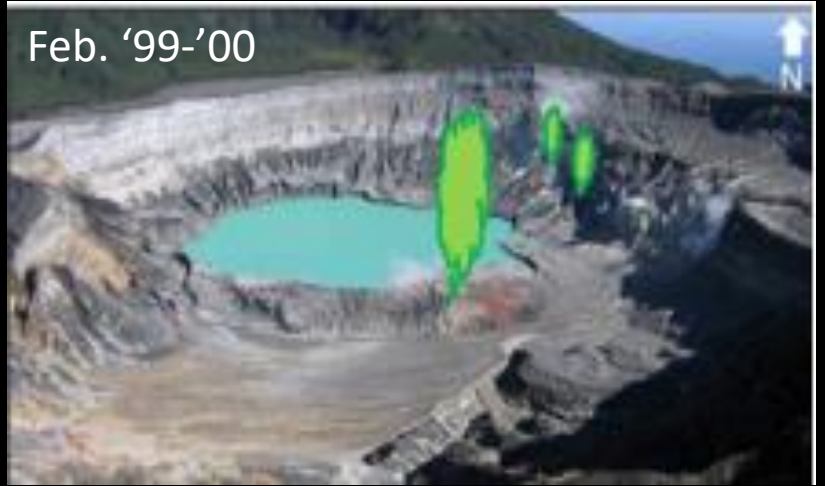
Report: 11/10/2006 - week 2006



Feb. '98



Feb. '99-'00



Feb. '01 - Apr. '02



Apr. '03 - Apr. '04



May '05 – Mar '06

Oct. '07 - Mar. '08

Sep. '09 – Jun. '11

May '08 –



Cinchona earthquake (Jan 2009)



25/12/2009 09:53

Nyos type lakes



"Gas burst"

A phenomenon regulated by the balance between gas input and gas loss. A gas bursts may occur when recharge surpasses loss. Alternatively, the gas excess may be released through a controlled degassing, where the cycle of recharge-release is short-circuited.

Lethal CO_2 -rich gas mass released from crater lake in volcanoes at hydrothermal stage

" CO_2 clouds" can run along several km without significantly mixing with air

The Nyos lethal wave



Rilievo morfologico

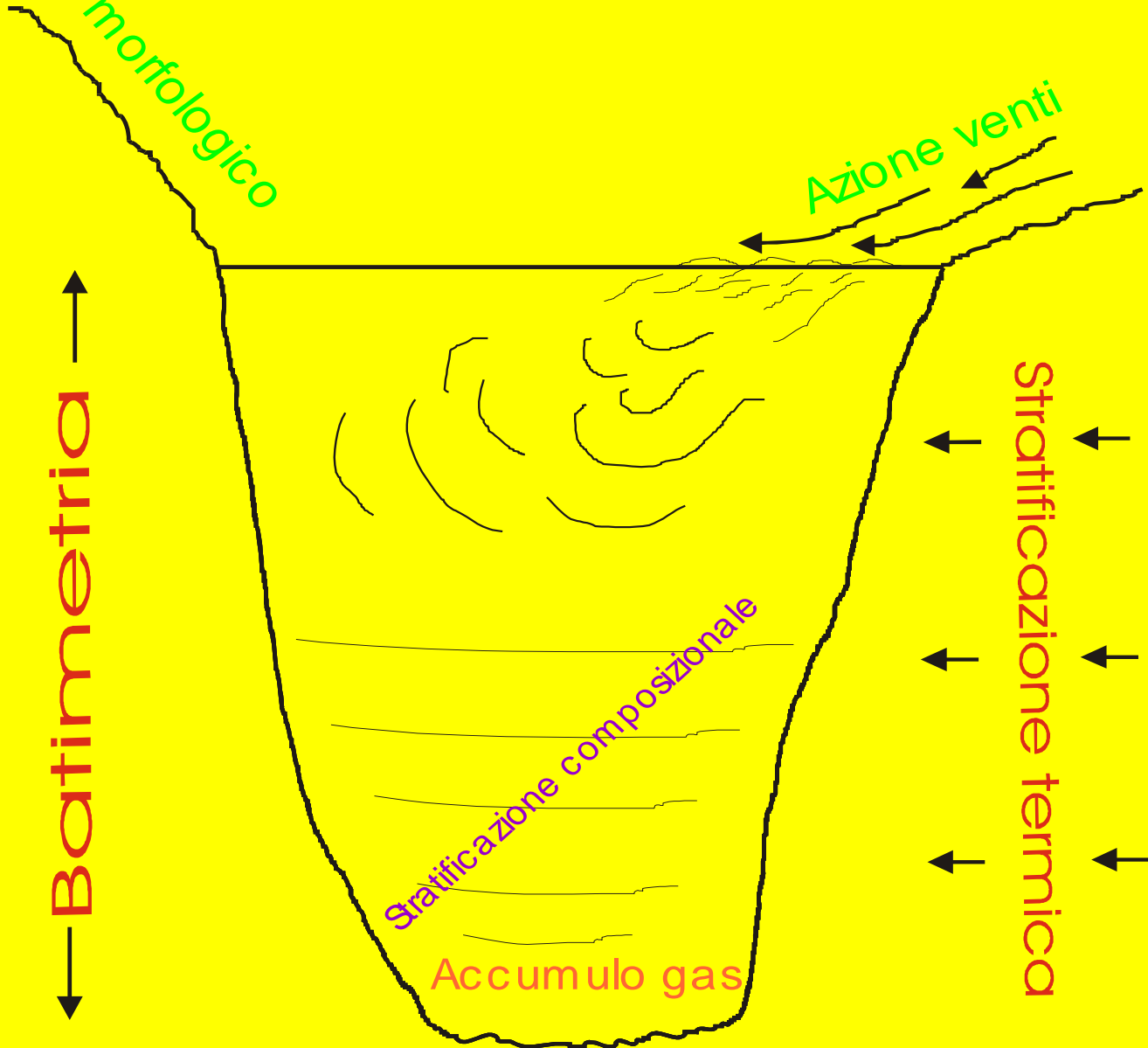
Azione venti

Batimetria

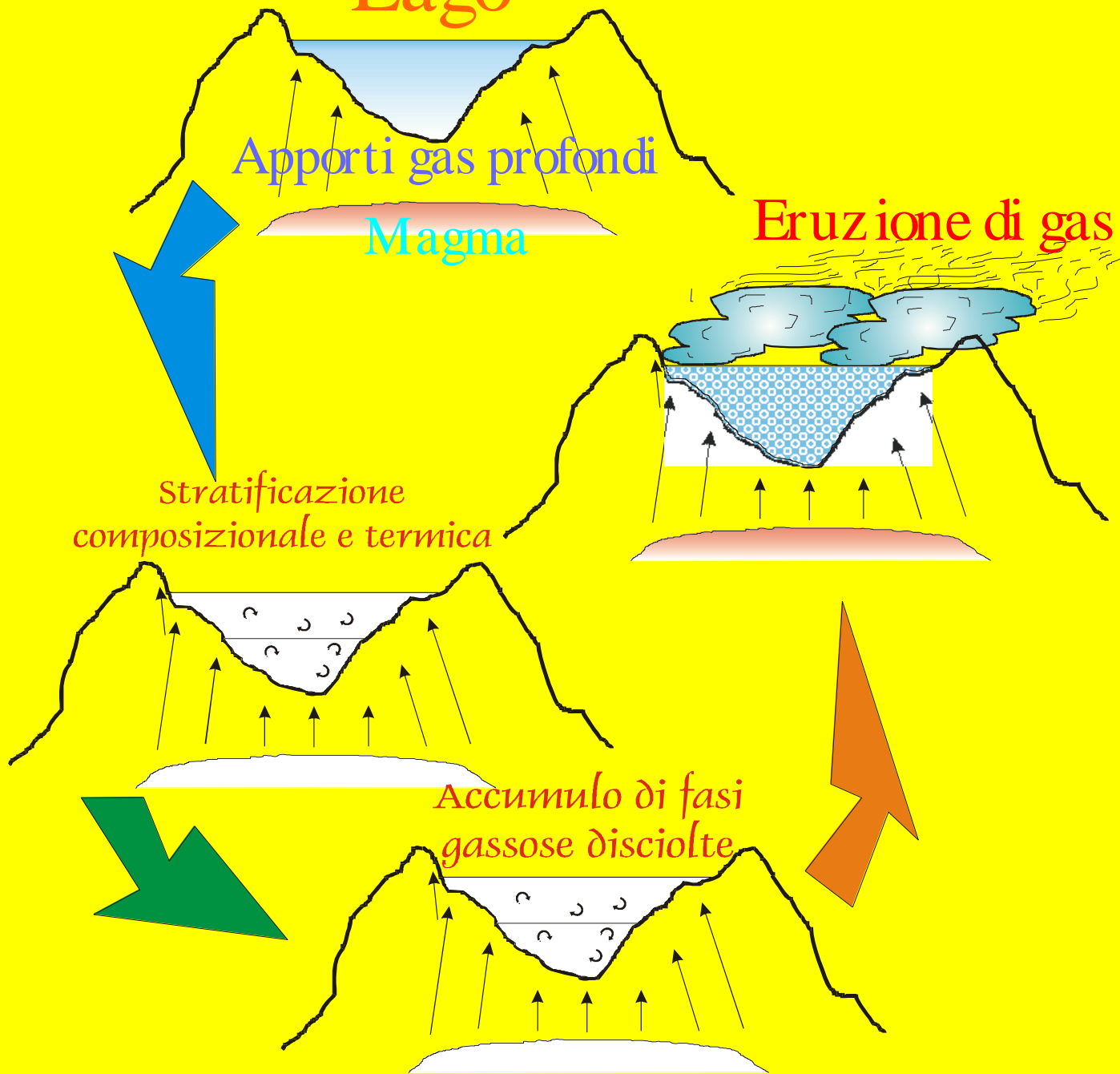
Stratificazione composizionale

Accumulo gas

Stratificazione termica



Lago



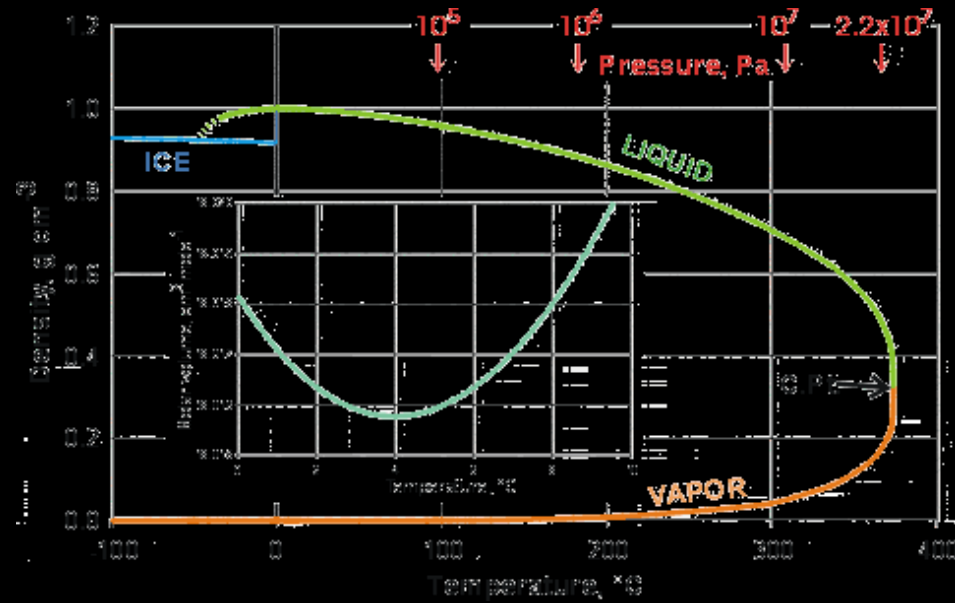
How to study (and monitor) Nyos-type lakes ?

- Assessment of thermal and chemical stratification: the density gradient

The density gradient is the main parameter controlling lake stability. It depends on temperature and composition vertical profiles, as well as the distribution of dissolved gases

Temperature-Density

- Non-linear
- Maximum density at 4°C
- Lower density at higher and lower temperatures
- Hydrogen bonding and molecular movement



Lake bathymetry

Water and gas
volumes



water chemical composition

physical properties
i.e. density, temperature

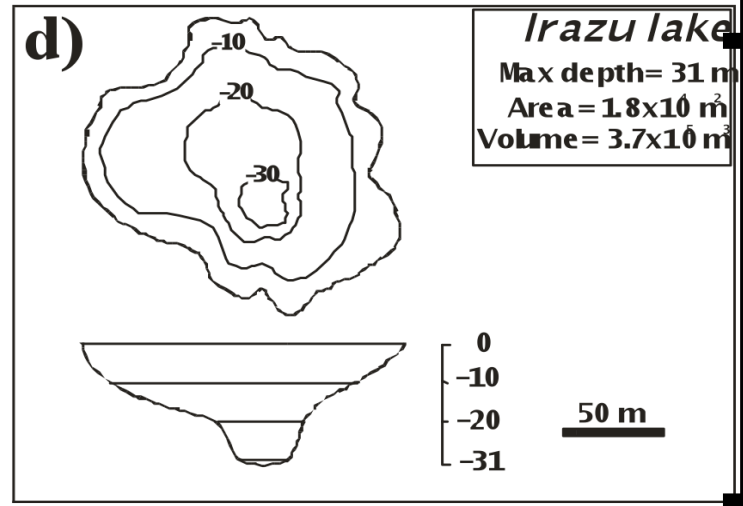
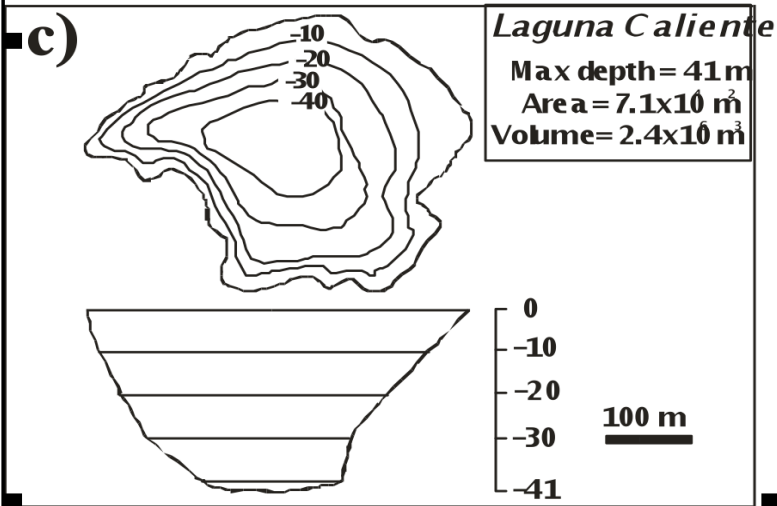
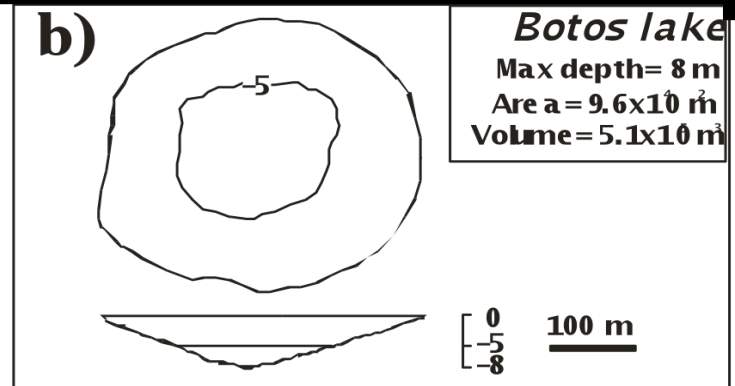
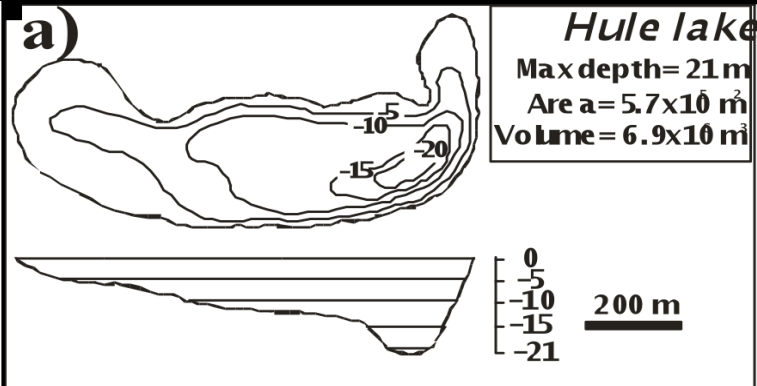
vertical
profile

lake
stability

chemistry of water and
dissolved gases

potential
gas release





Depth-ratio: rapporto fra la profondità media e quella massima.

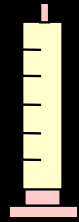
sampling equipment



battery



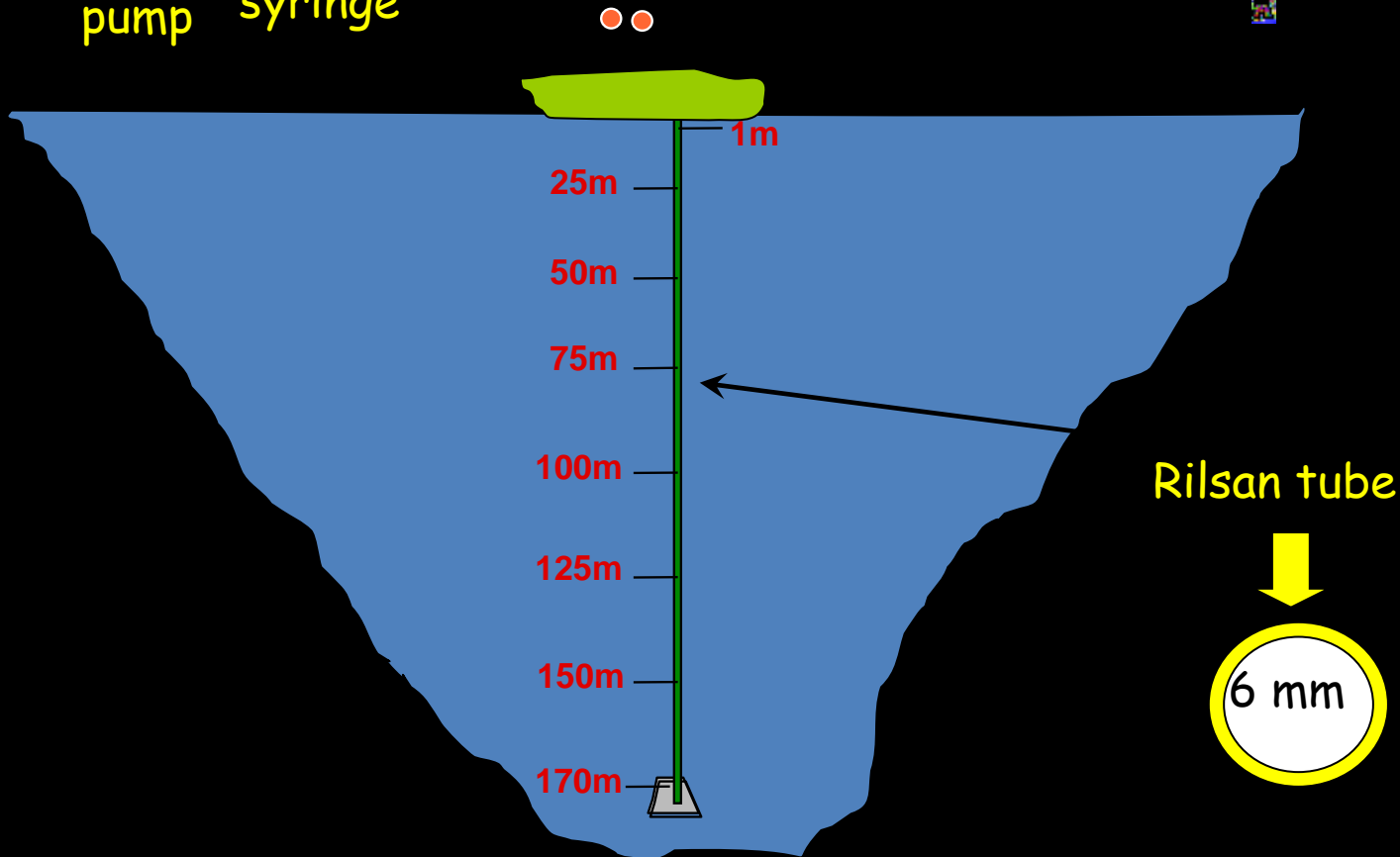
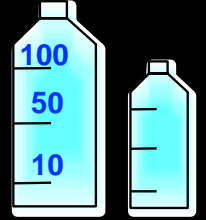
pump



syringe

sampling vials

vacuum flask







311 m

125

250

375

500

50kHz



Min ●

Push On /

CONTROL PA



Push

RANGE

—







I laghi acidi o iperacidi sono generalmente ben mescolati a causa dei fluidi che risalgono dal profondo e non presentano stratificazioni chimiche significative. Generalmente, la loro pericolosità è associata all'attività vulcanica più che al lago stesso.

Di ben altra natura sono quei laghi che tendono ad accumulare CO_2 in profondità. Essi sono potenzialmente in grado di produrre delle emissioni gassose (CO_2 -clouds) che possono "straripare" dagli argini (bordi craterici) e diffondersi nei bassi topografici!

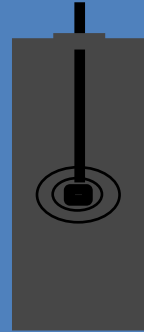
PERCHE'?

Sensori ubicati in ambienti chiusi in funzione della densità del gas

Metano
(+ leggero dell'aria)



Monossido di carbonio
(come l'aria)

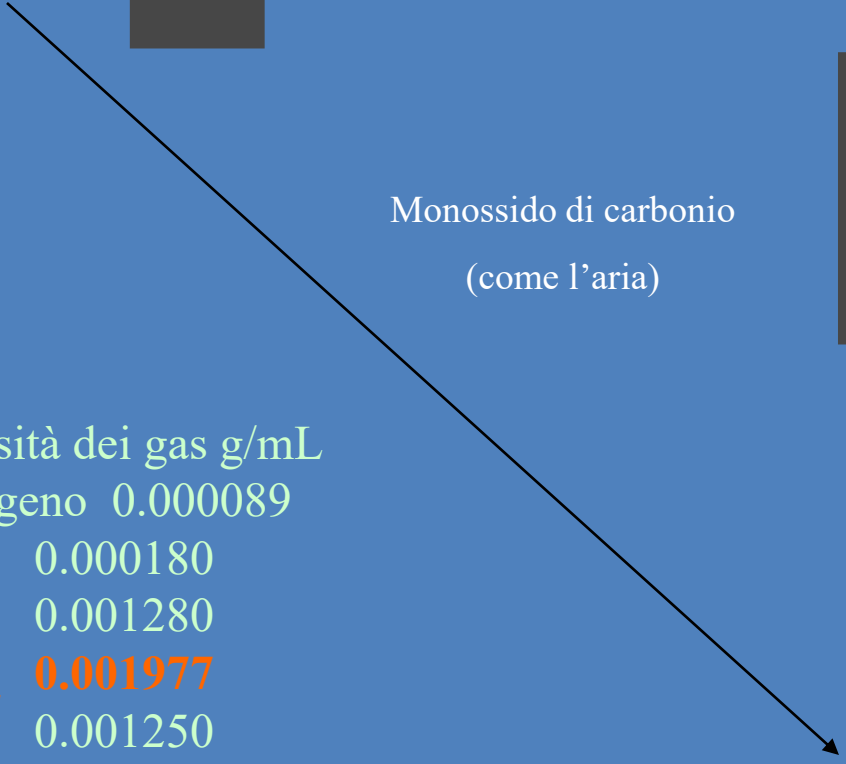


H₂S e CO₂
(+ pesante dell'aria)



Densità dei gas g/mL

Idrogeno	0.000089
Elio	0.000180
Aria	0.001280
CO₂	0.001977
CO	0.001250
H ₂ S	0.001450
H ₂ O	1.00



I fenomeni di "Gas burst"

L'evoluzione chimica dei laghi con acque ricche in CO_2 può incrementare la loro natura letale. Essa è regolata dal bilancio fra l'input e l'output di gas. Un'emissione gassosa può avvenire quando la ricarica sorpassa la perdita. Alternativamente, l'eccesso di gas può essere emesso attraverso un degassamento controllato, dove il ciclo carica/rilascio è cortocircuitato.



Masse gassose ricche in CO_2 rilasciate da laghi craterici in vulcani allo stadio idrotermale



" CO_2 clouds" possono muoversi per vari km senza mescolarsi significativamente con l'aria

When does a limnic eruption occur?

Pre-requisite: Presence of a gas reservoir

"external" destabilizing phenomenon

and/or

Gas tot pressure (Σ pressure igas) > hydrostatic pressure

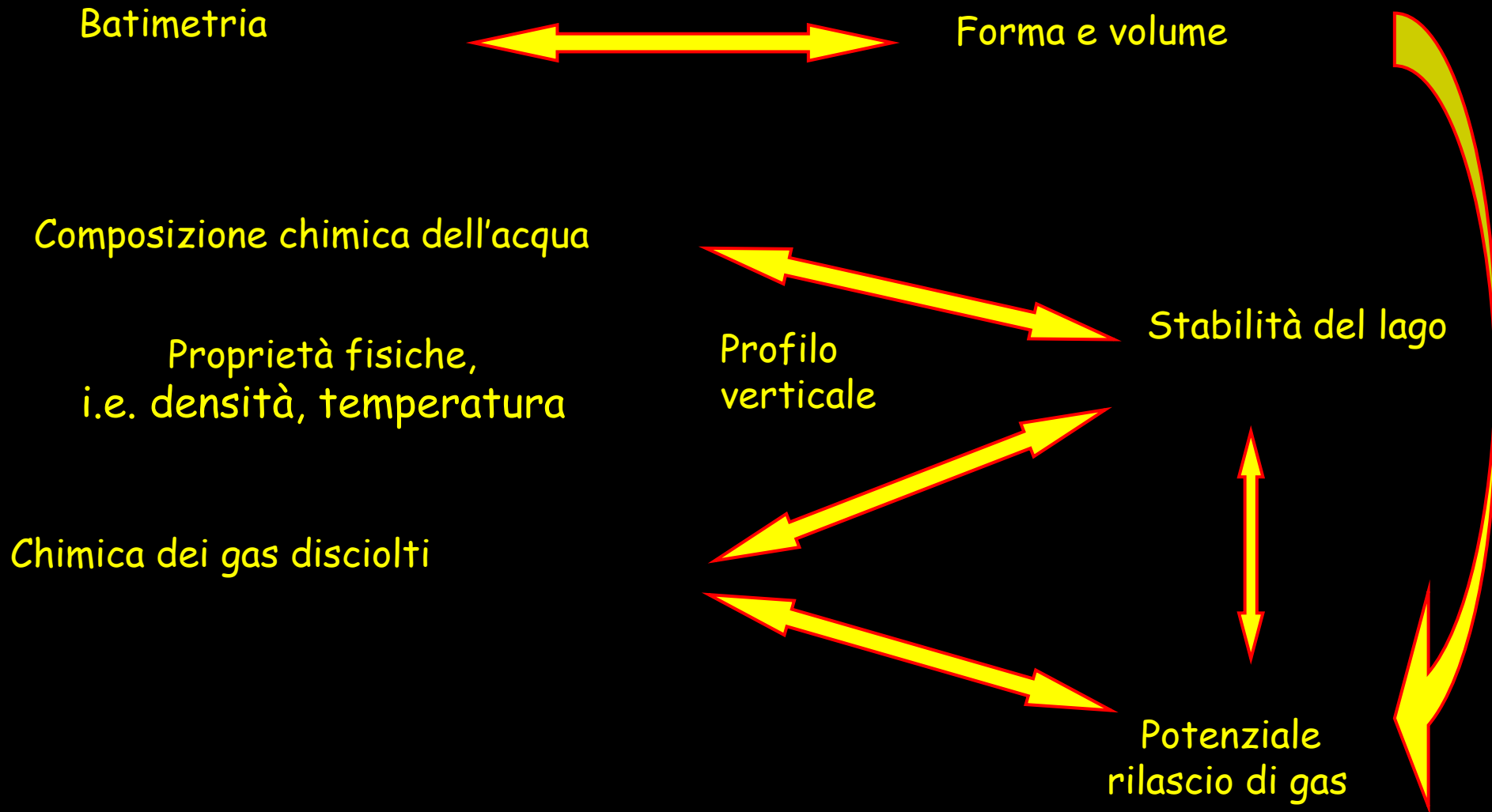
Gas exolution from deep (?) lake strata

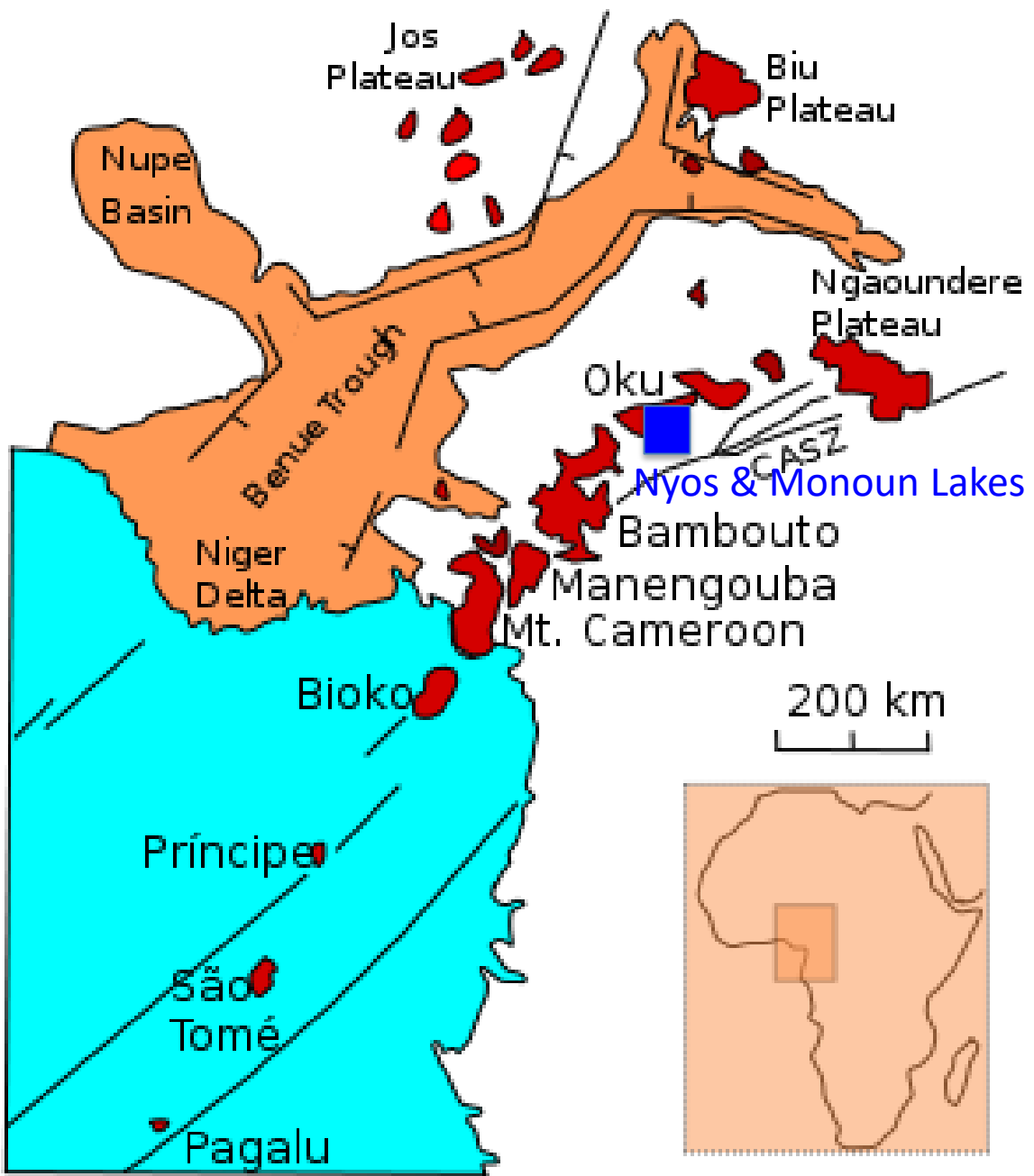
Lake stability mainly depends on the distribution of the density gradient along the vertical profile controlling the resistance to turbulent mixing.

Water density mainly depends on:

- Water temperature
- Water salinity
- Dissolved gases

Per valutare il rischio da emissione gassosa

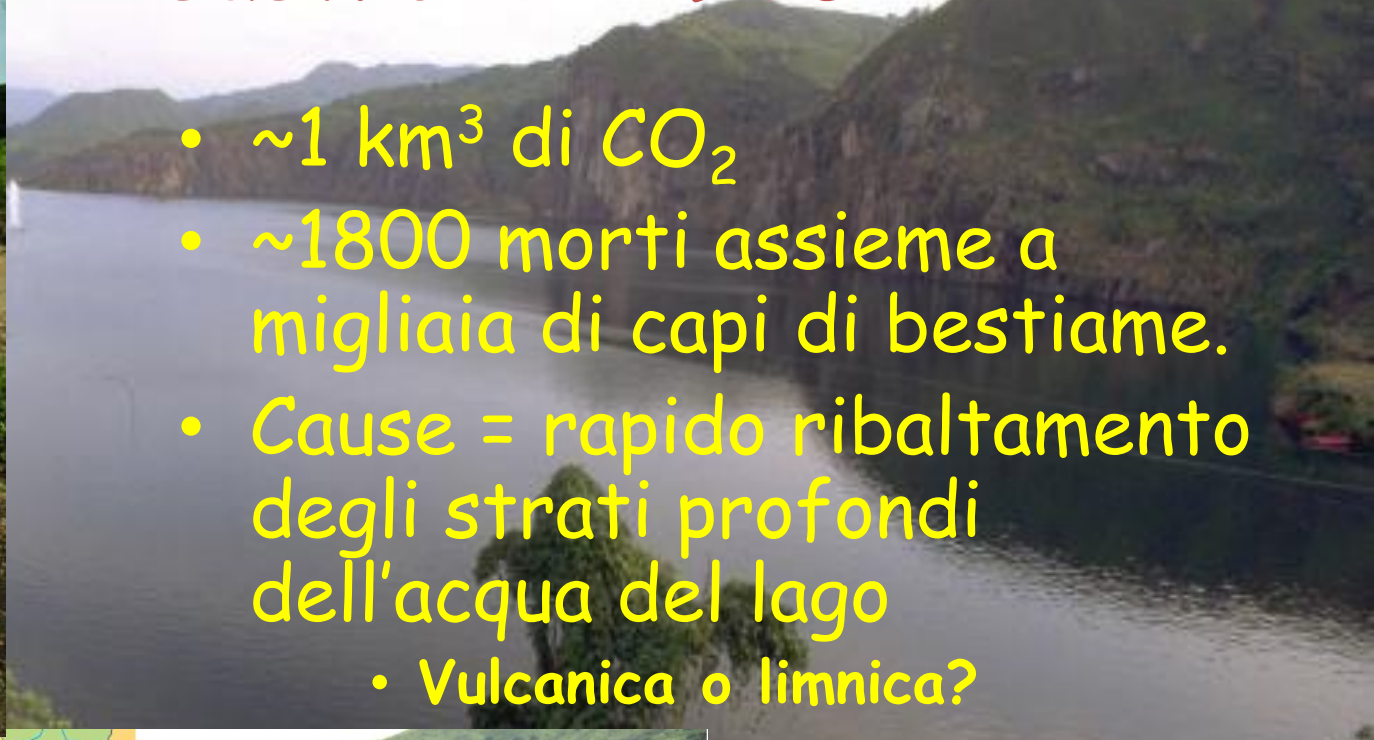




Lake Nyos (Camerun)

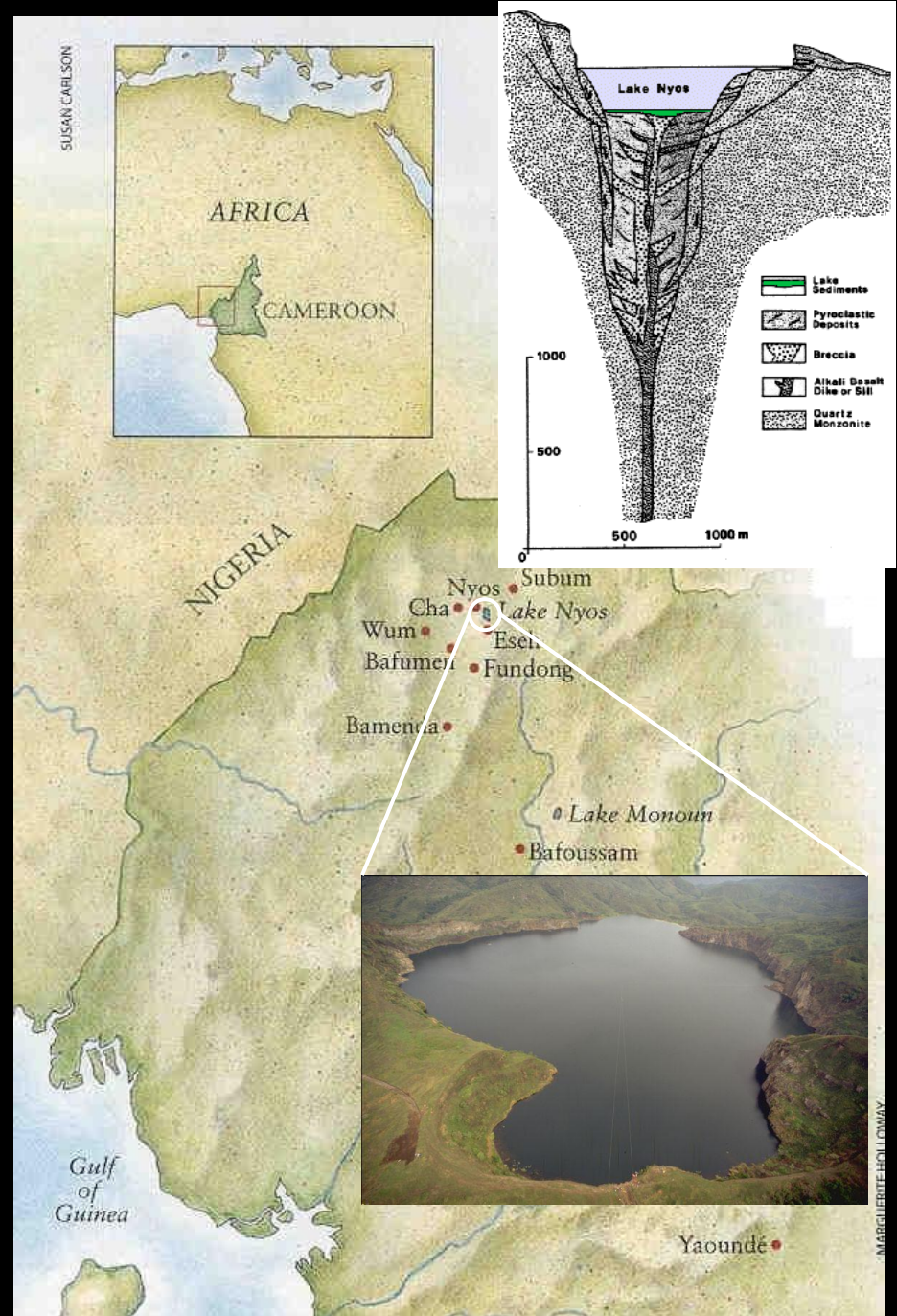
Il disastro del 1986

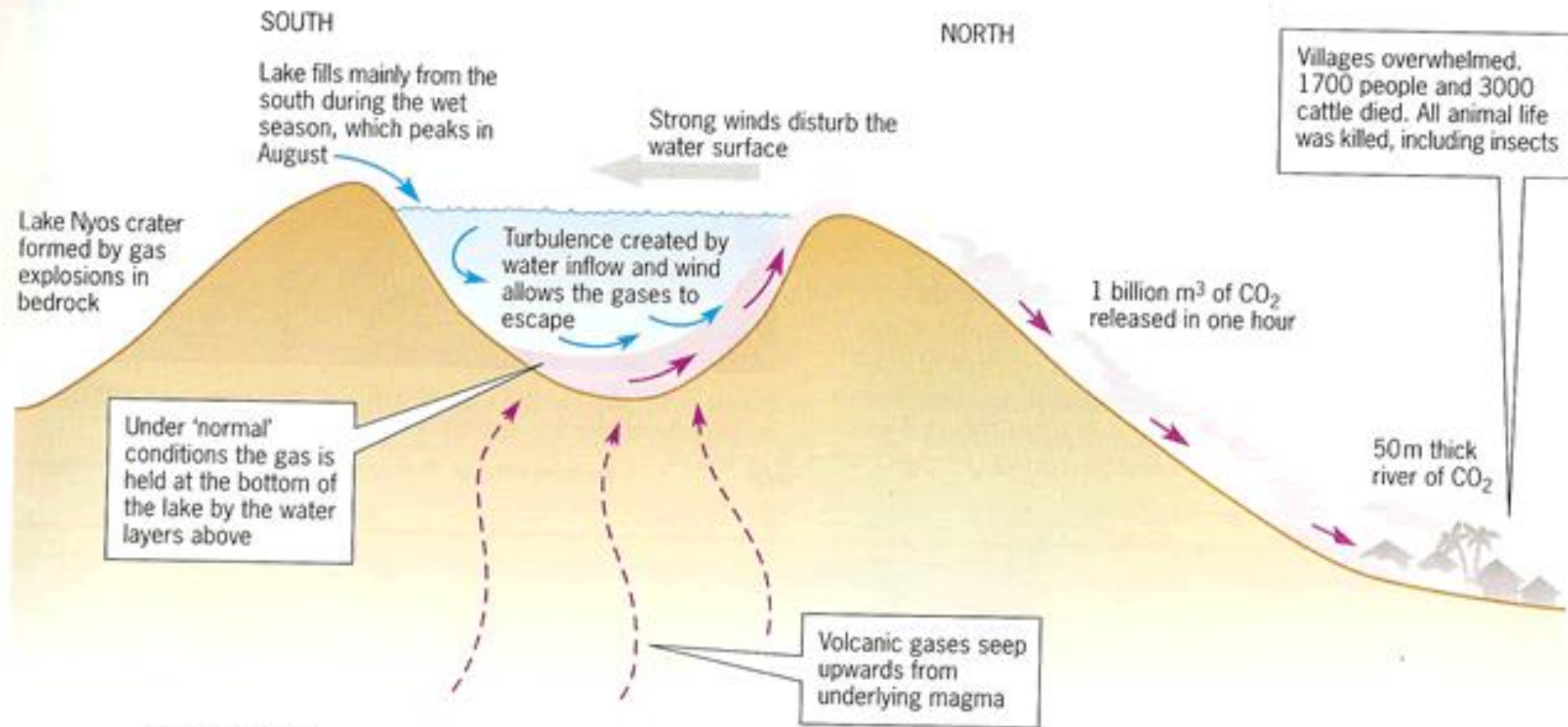
- $\sim 1 \text{ km}^3$ di CO_2
- ~ 1800 morti assieme a migliaia di capi di bestiame.
- Cause = rapido ribaltamento degli strati profondi dell'acqua del lago
 - Vulcanica o limnica?



Info generali

- Volcanic/Maar Crater Lake
- Formato ~400 ka
- Area lago = 1.58 km²
- Max prof. = 210 m
- Chemiclino ≈50 m
- Volume = 179,400,000 m³
- Piovosità = 2.5 m/yr
- Inflow
 - 0-50 m: pioggia & torrenti
 - 50-210 m: soda spring
 - Acque ricche in CO₂
- Outflow
 - Spillaggio naturale (troppo pieno)



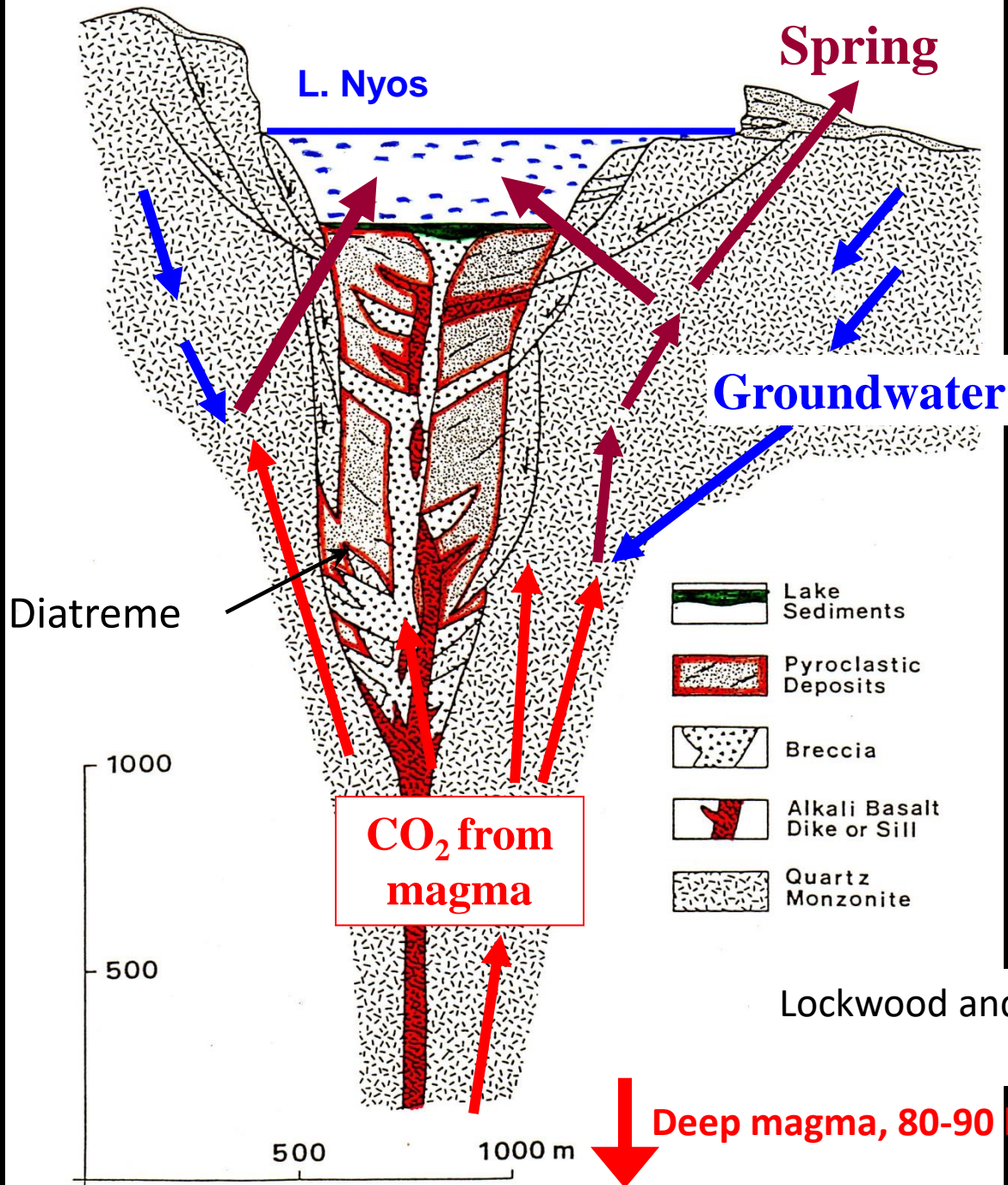


The Lake Nyos, Cameroon, disaster of 21 August 1986. The lake lies in an area of ancient volcanic activity associated with continental plate spreading in the past. This event could be repeated.



**La nube di gas
ha ucciso sino persone ed
animali sino a 26 km dal lago**

Formazione di soda-spring ricche in CO_2



Lockwood and Rubin, 1989



Lake Nyos dopo circa ~10 giorni dal disastro dell'Agosto 1986



The Nyos lethal wave

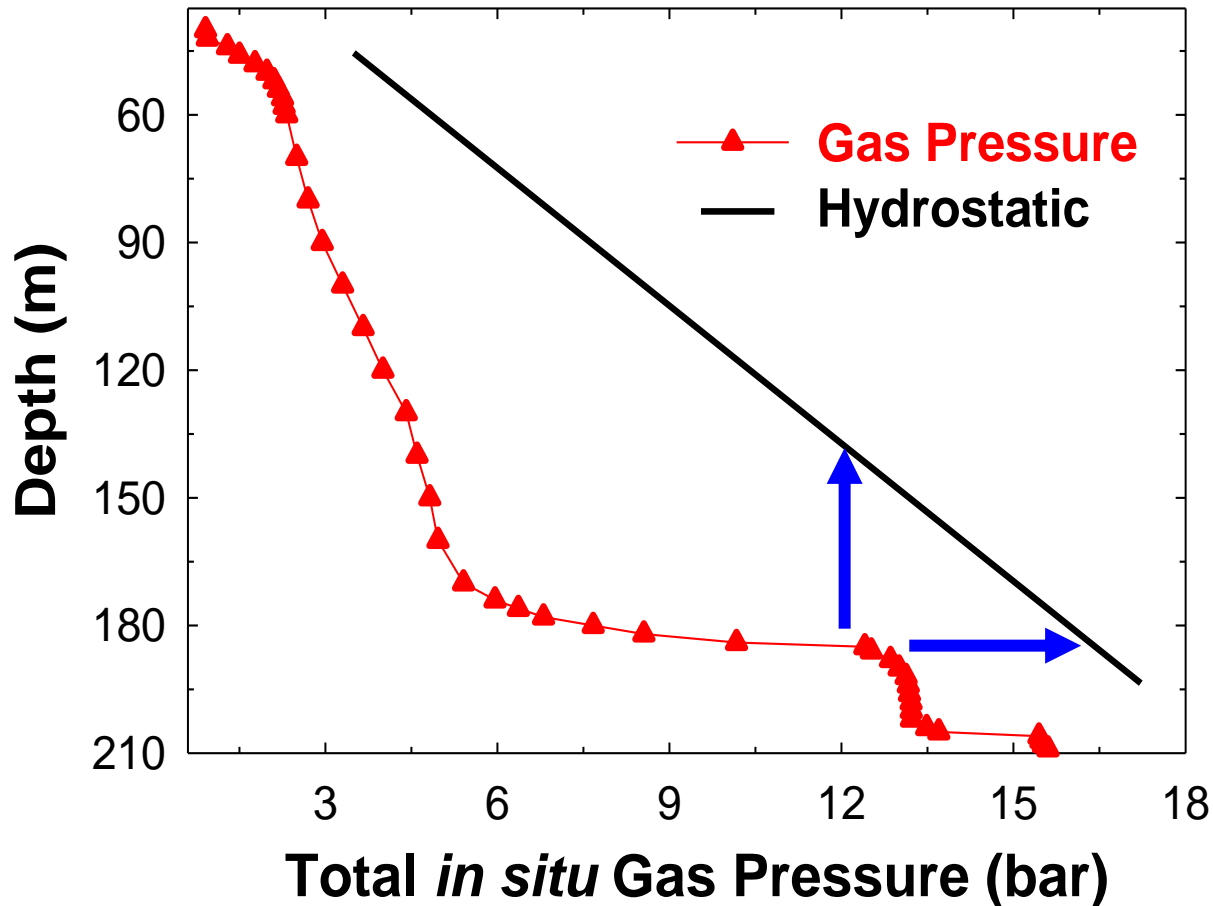


Il colore rossastro indotto da ossi-idrossidi di Fe

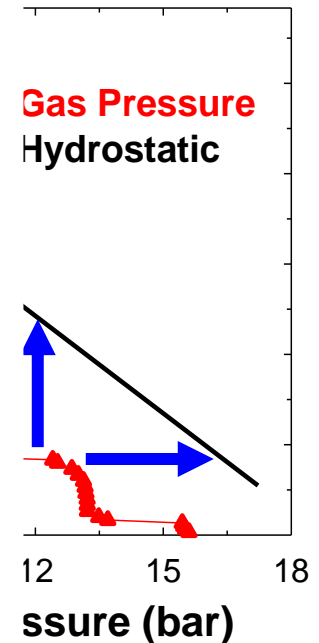


Che cosa ha innescato il gas burst?

Gas vs. Hydrostatic Pressure



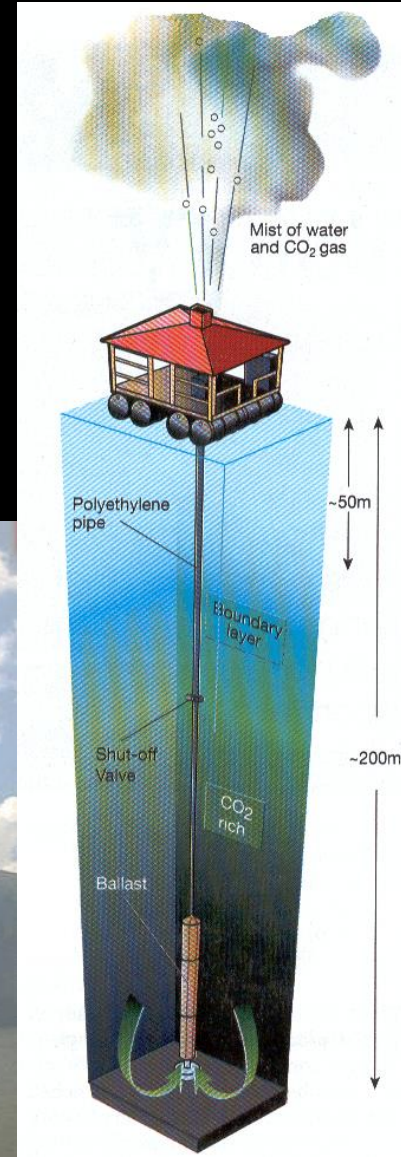
Pressure



Il gas venne liberato da profondità intermedie e si estese per tutto il lago, indicando un forte mixing orizzontale e turbolento.

Prevenire il rischio di nuove emissioni di CO_2 : il processo di degassamento

- 2001: una colonna di degassamento installata con successo ed innescata.
 - In continuo
 - 50 m di fontana di CO_2
 - Spray = 90% CO_2 e 10% acqua.
 - 50.000 m^3 /giorno



Degassing Lake Nyos

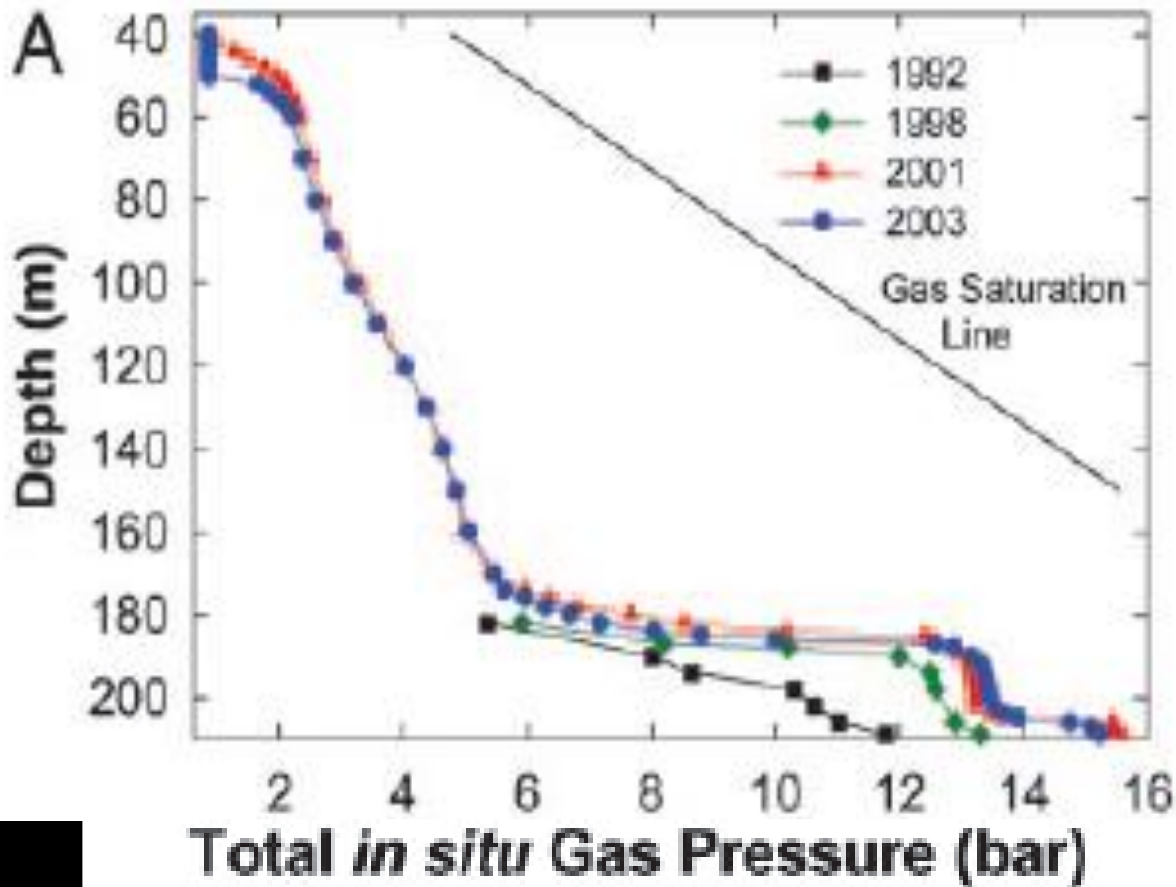


Degassing Lake Nyos

- 2001: full fledge degassing column was successfully assembled, installed and primed.
 - continuous
 - 50 m fountain
 - Spray = 90% CO₂ and 10% water.
 - 50,000 STP m³/day



Gas Pressure



Table

Date

April 1

May 1

Nov. 1

Jan. 20

Oct. 20

Jan. 20

Jan. 20

April 1

May 1

Nov. 1

Jan. 20

Oct. 20

Jan. 20

Jan. 20

All s

205.8 m

1,591

2,520

2,084

1,748

2,344

2,516

2,418

317,133

349,000

338,300

300,500

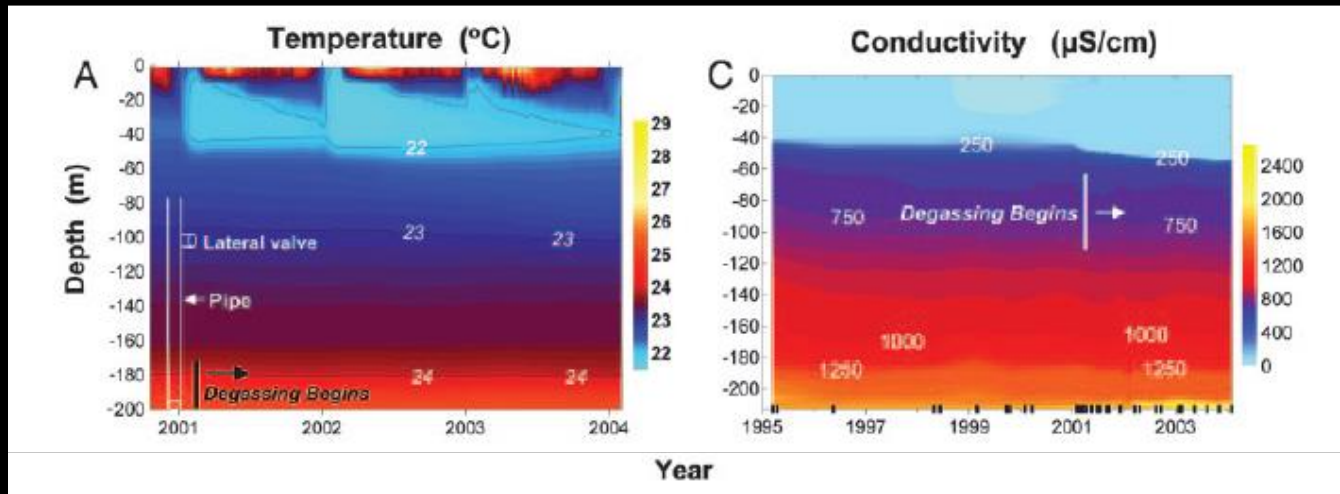
351,400

354,800

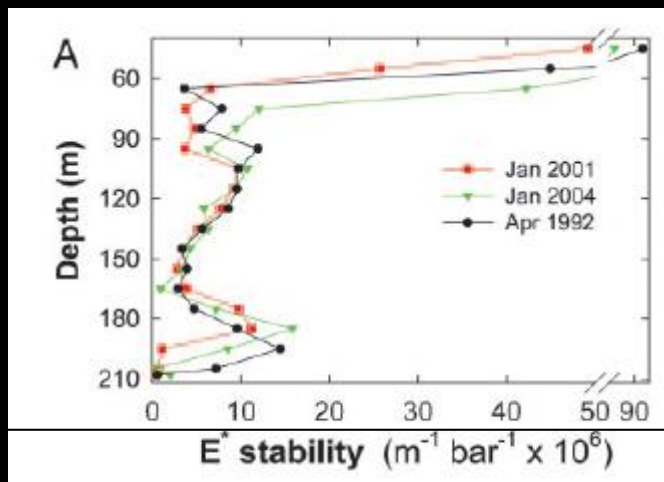
363,800



Stability



Relatively consistent over time



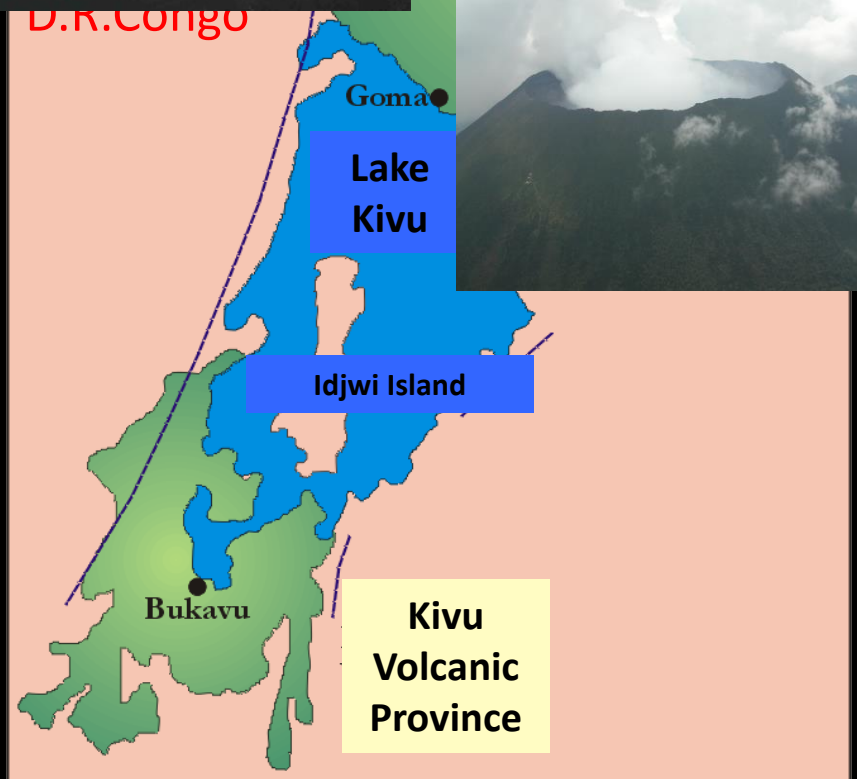
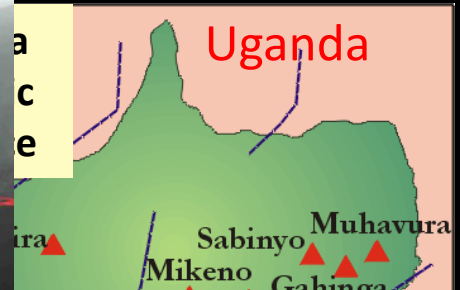
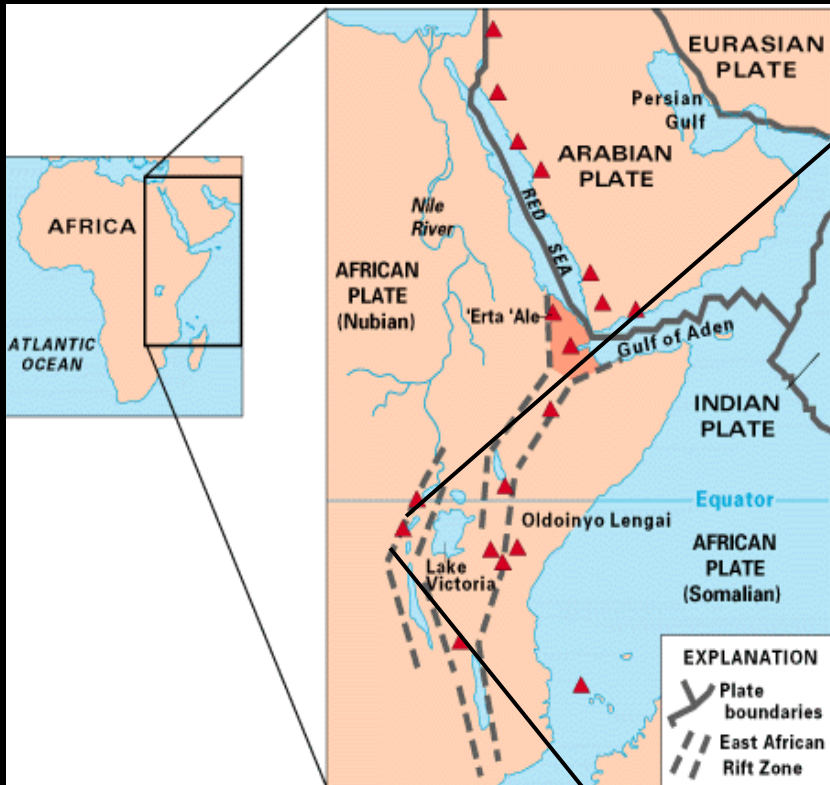
- Slight lowering of chemocline
- 1992-2001 decrease due to buildup of gas pressure.
- Since degassing, stability has on average increased.
- Degassing has a relatively minor impact on stability.

- Lake Nyos has a rapid gas recharge rate
- Draw down to safe levels could take decades.
- During this time, gas concentrations in lake are sufficient to result in another disaster.
- The addition of 4 degassing pipes would result in safe levels of CO_2 by 2010.
- If these are successfully completed, the ~12,000 refugees could return to the Nyos valley after over 20 years.

A Natural Disaster Crisis is often an endless crisis: people might be at risks for many years, decades or even centuries. There is always a permanent need for Surveillance (monitoring), Awareness and Preparedness in order to locally increase RESILIENCE.

Resilienza: capacità di auto-riparazione

The geodynamical setting

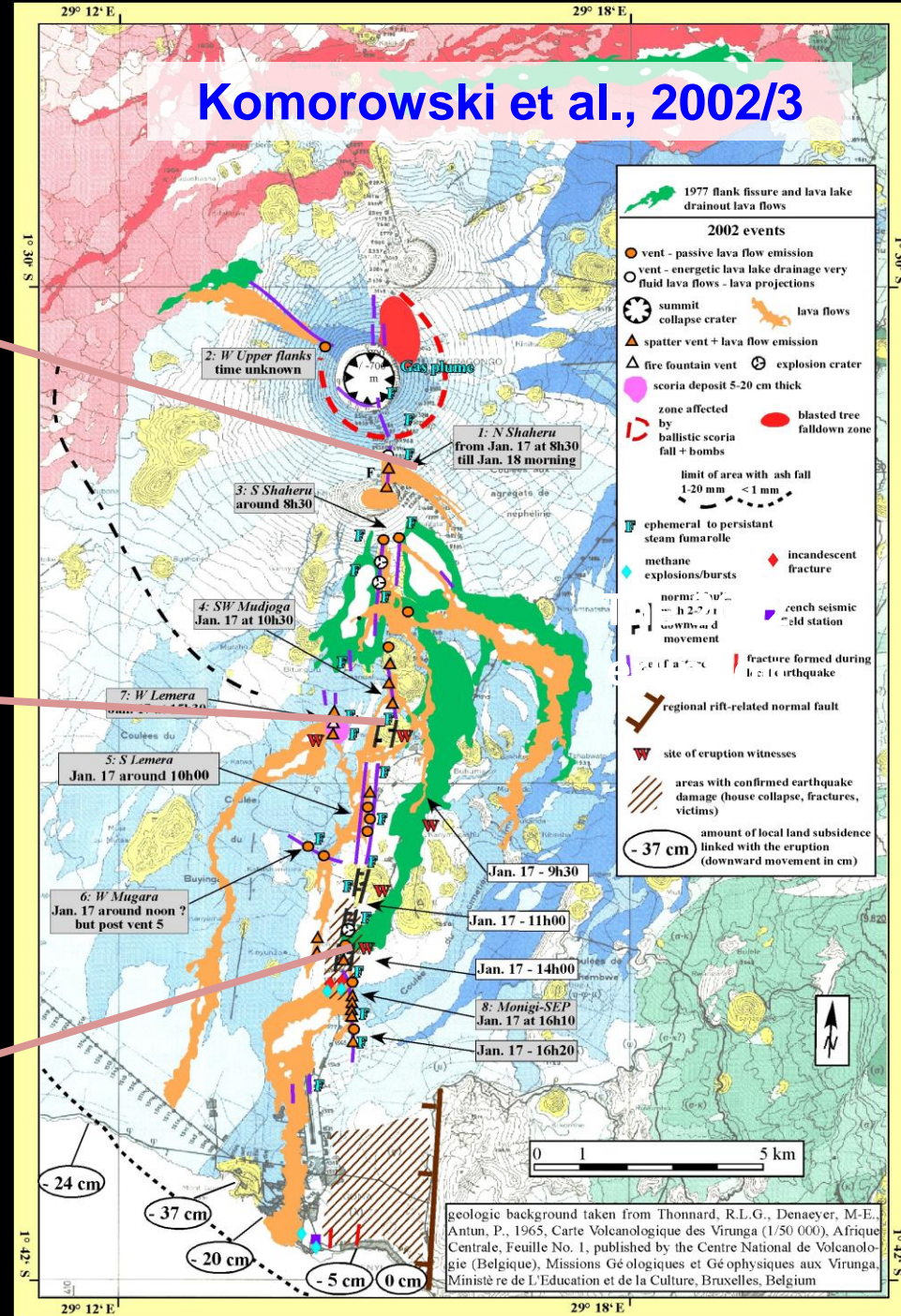


Western Branch of the EARS (East African Rift System)

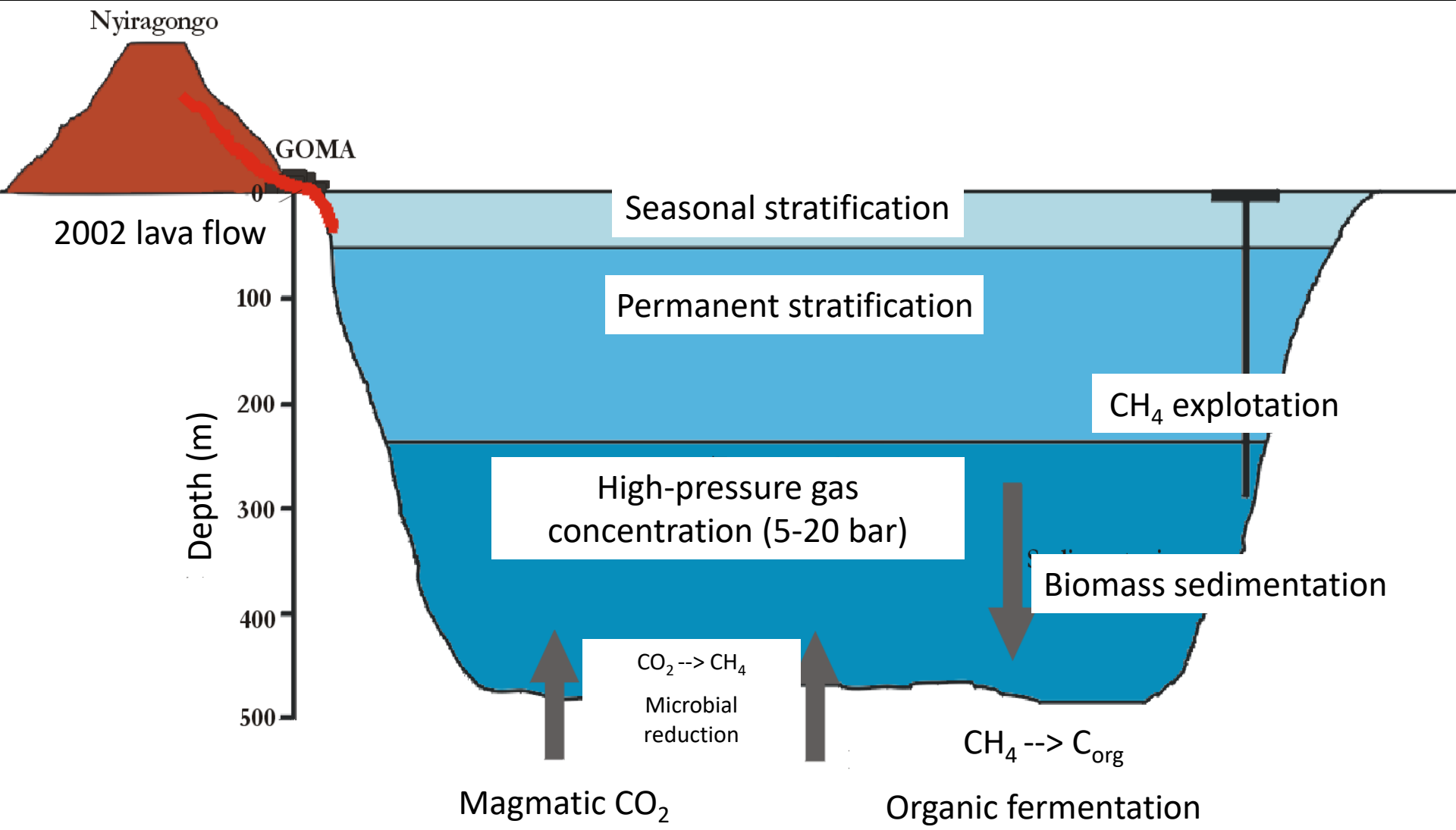
17-18 January, 2002



Komorowski et al., 2002/3

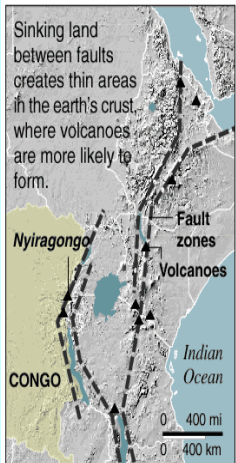






KIVU LAKE

Kivu Lake



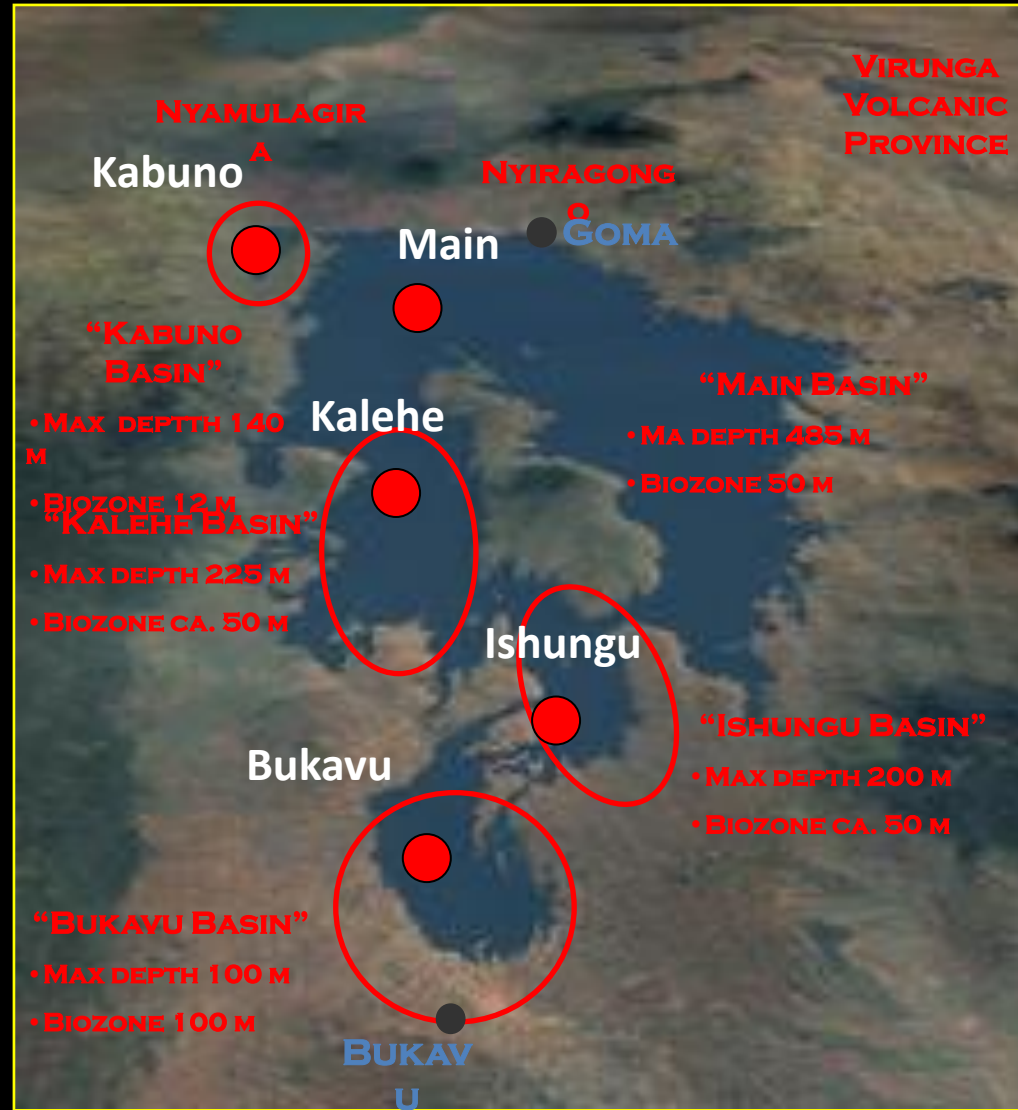
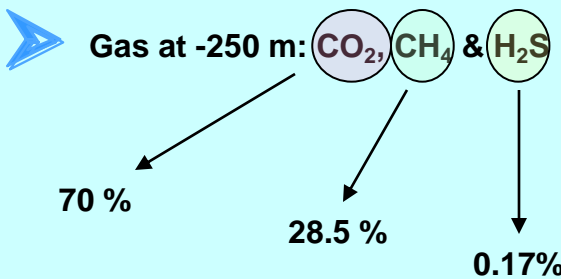
SOURCES: USGS; Associated Press; AP
U.N.; ESRI

High concentrations of dissolved gases such as at Monoum and Nyos (Cameroon)

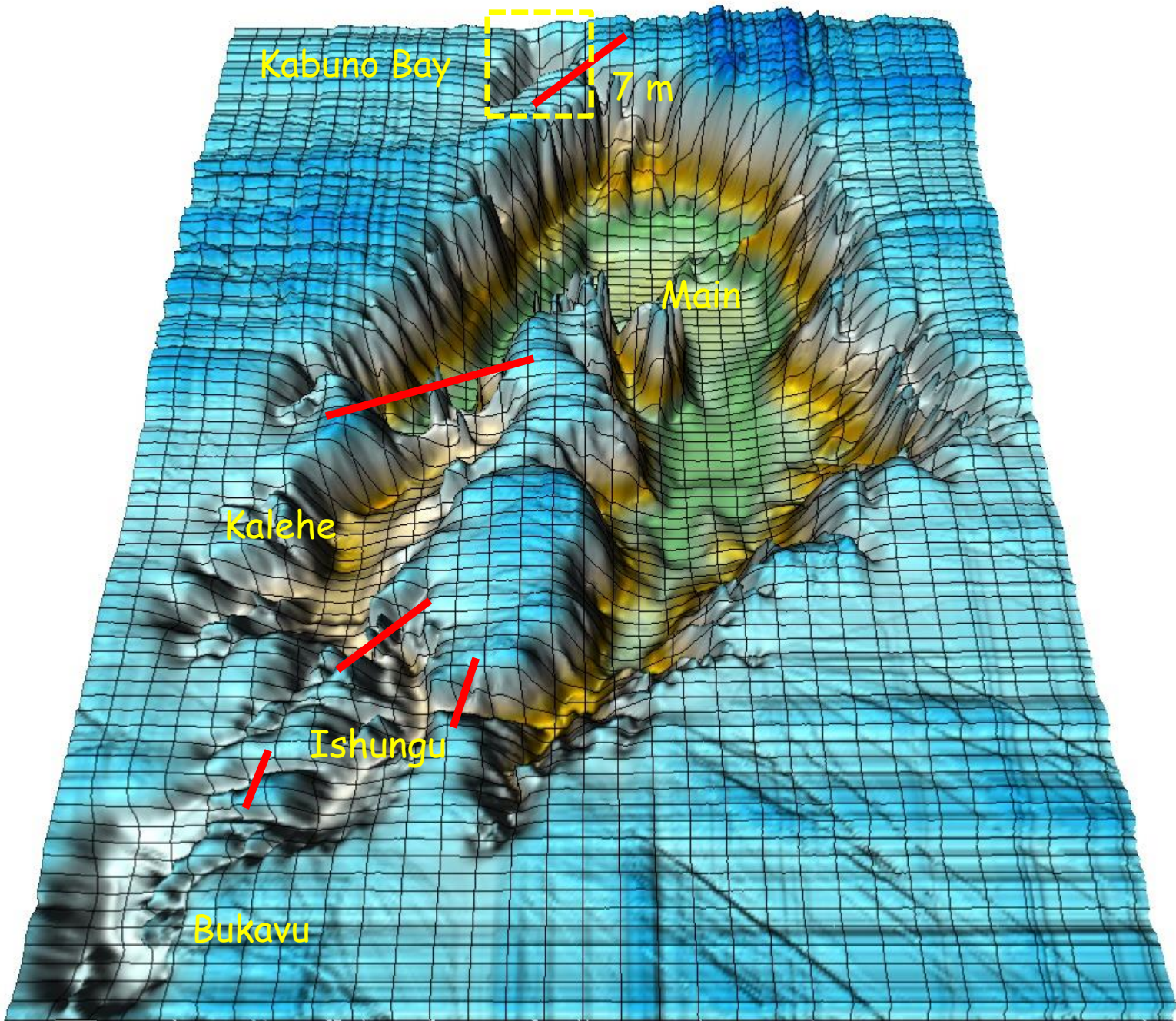
Volcanic damming lake, i.e the drainage towards north was cut by lava flows

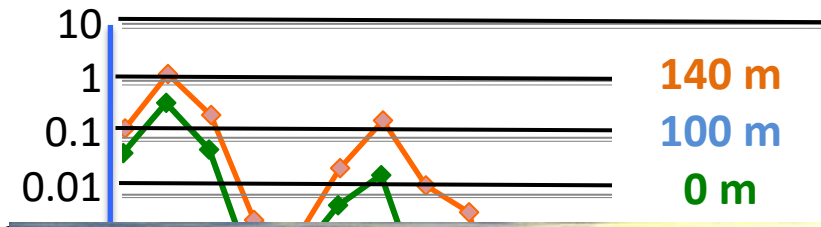
Area: 2060 km²
 Mean depth: 240 m
 Drainage area: 7140 km²
 TDS: 1.2 g/L
 -50 m: anoxic layer
 Estimated volume: ≈ 580 km³

Highly stratified, e.g. pH: 9 at Surface, pH: 6.5 at -478 m



An estimated amount of about 250-300 and 55 km³ of CO₂ and CH₄, respectively

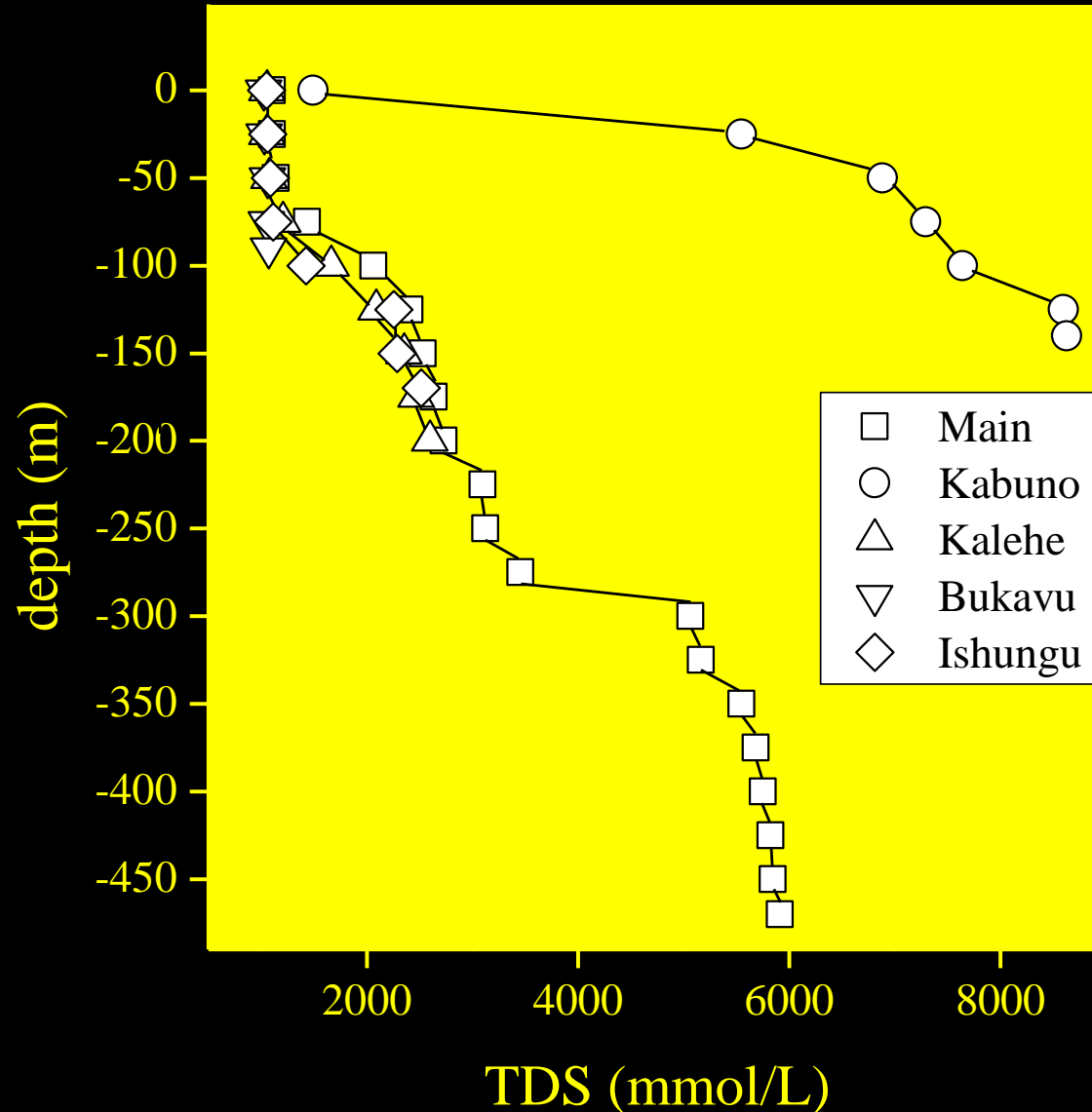




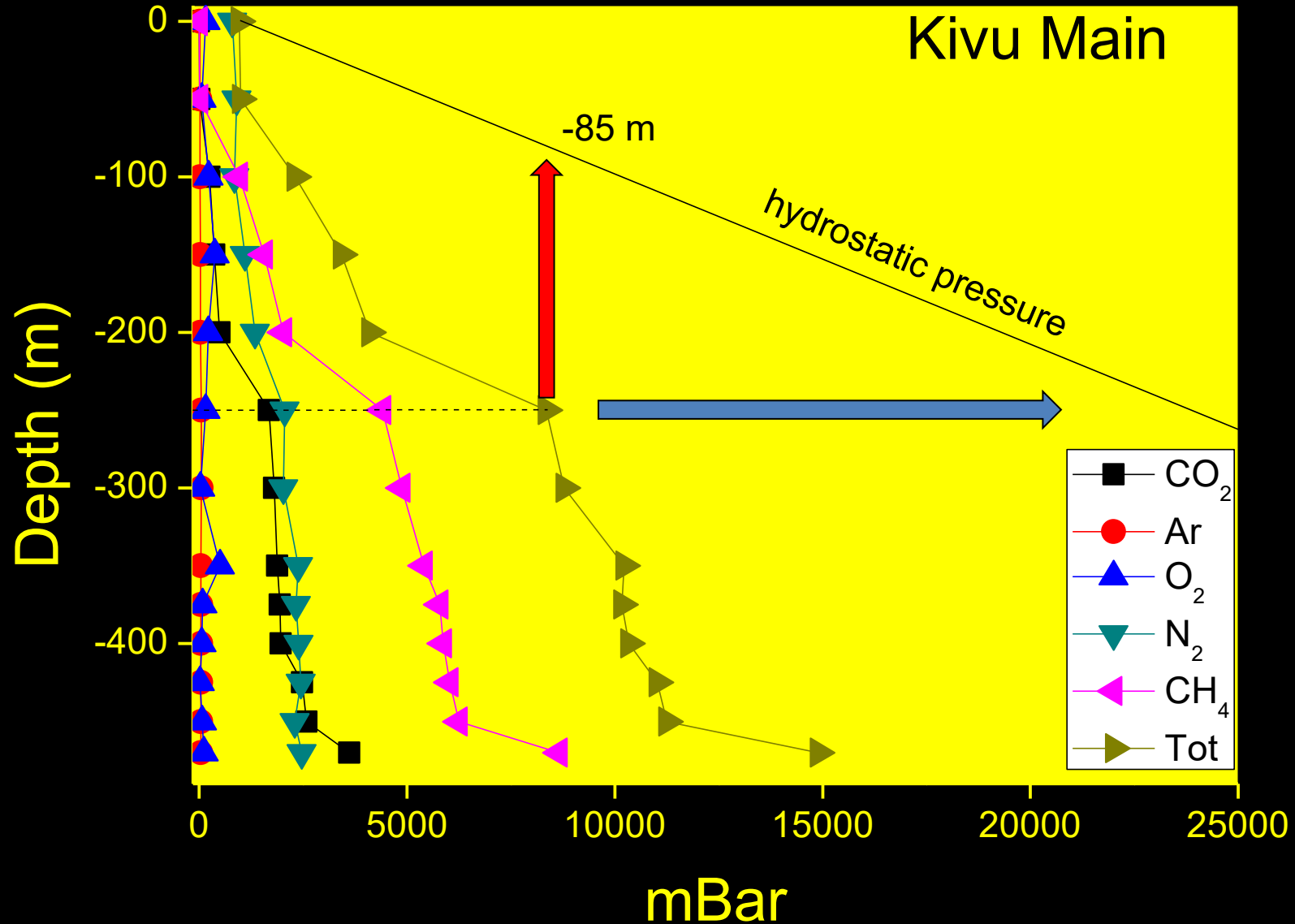
CO₂-rich dry vents:
CO₂ up 96 %



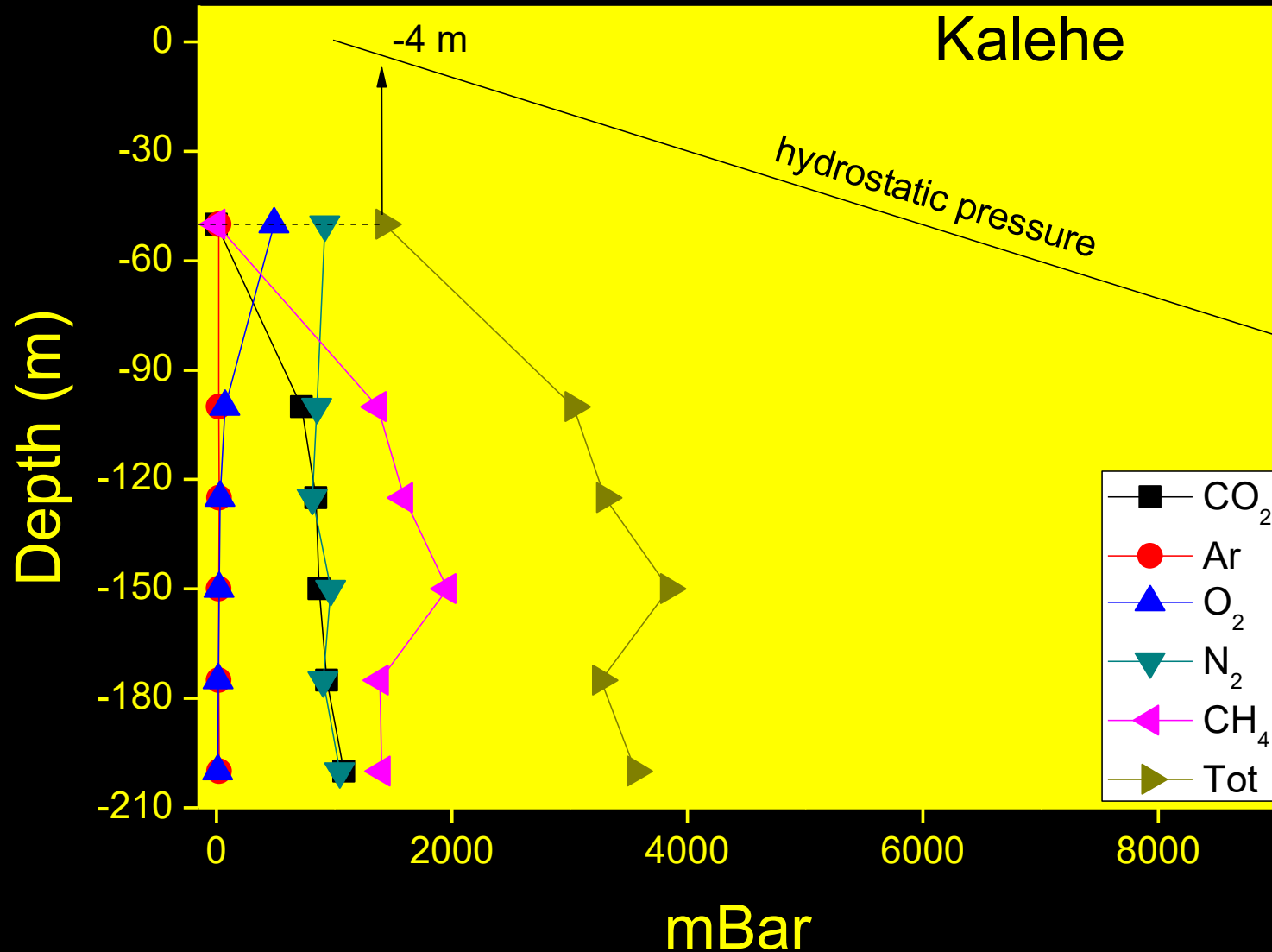
Parameters controlling lake stability: vertical distribution of total dissolved solids (TDS)



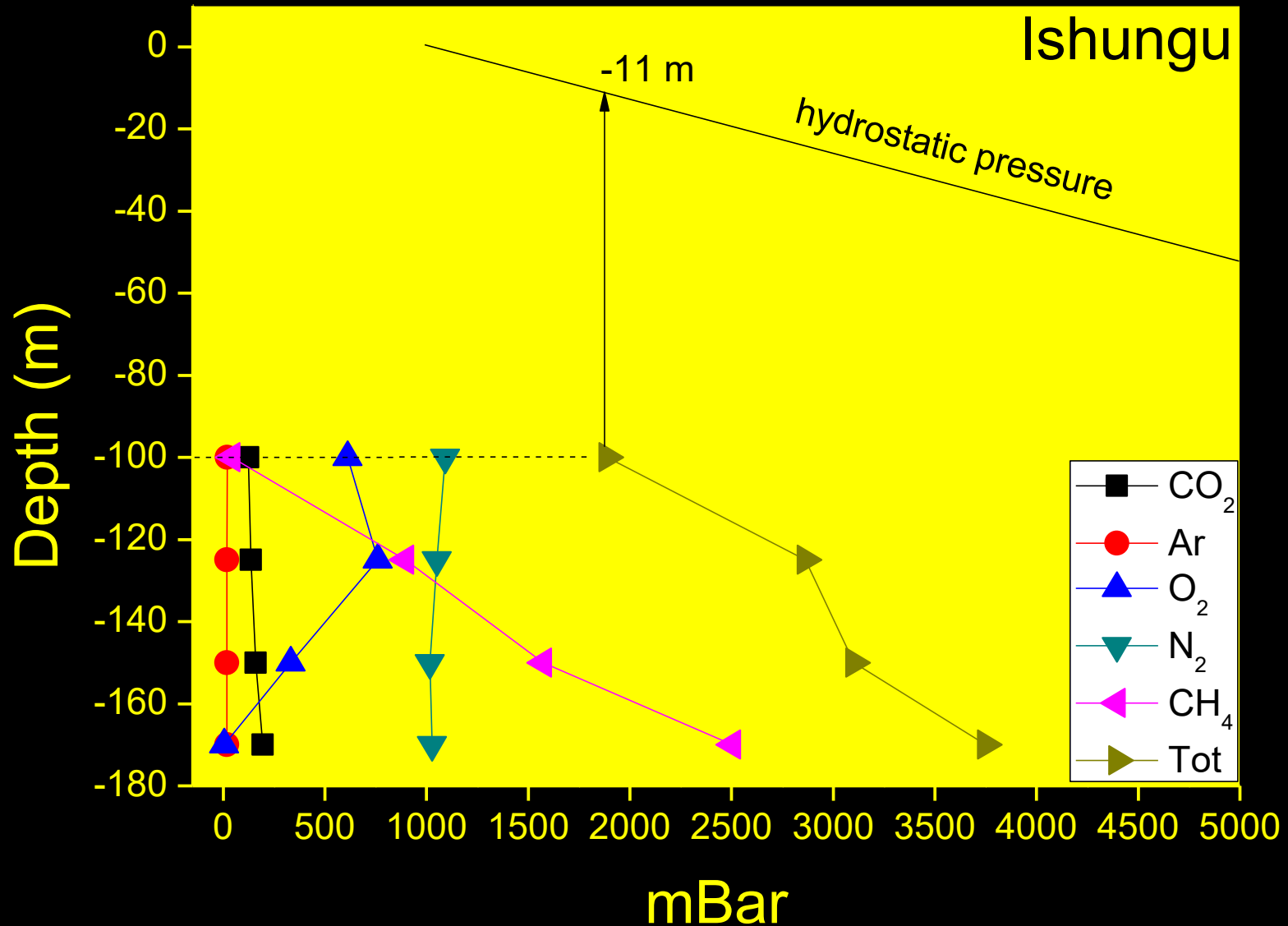
Parameters controlling lake stability: vertical distribution of the main dissolved gases (Main basin)



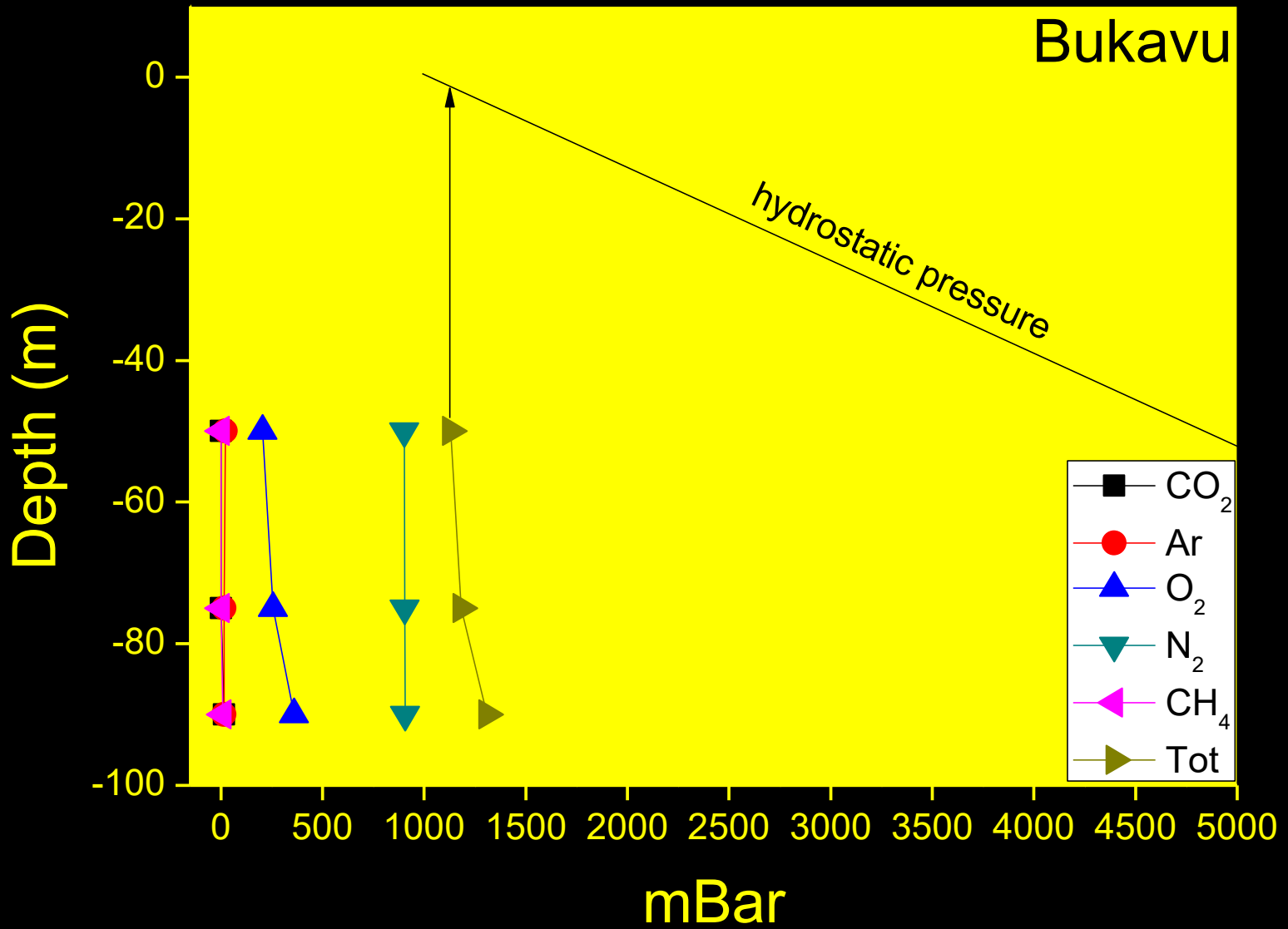
Parameters controlling lake stability: vertical distribution of the main dissolved gases (Kalehe basin)



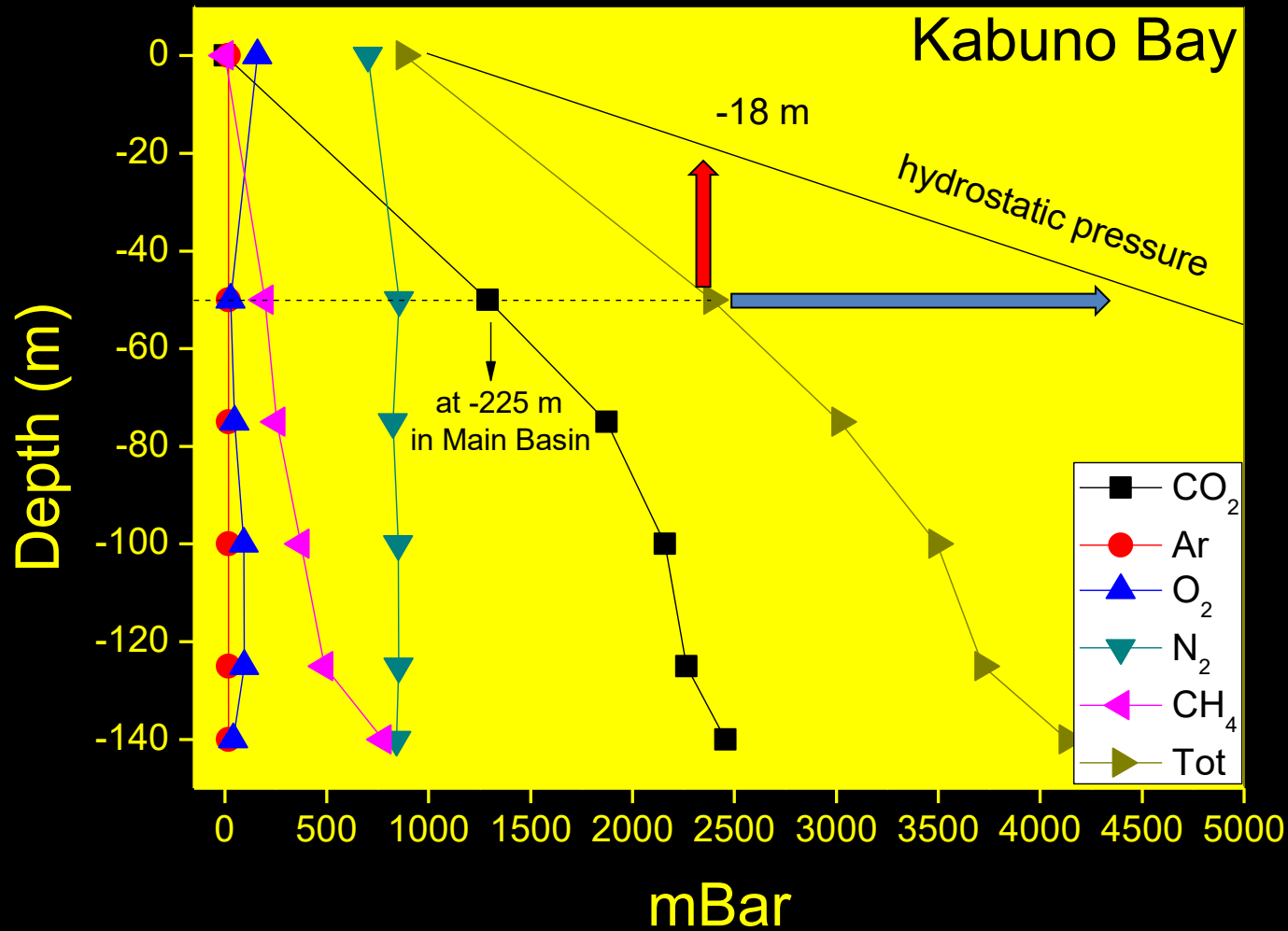
Parameters controlling lake stability: vertical distribution of the main dissolved gases (Ishungu basin)

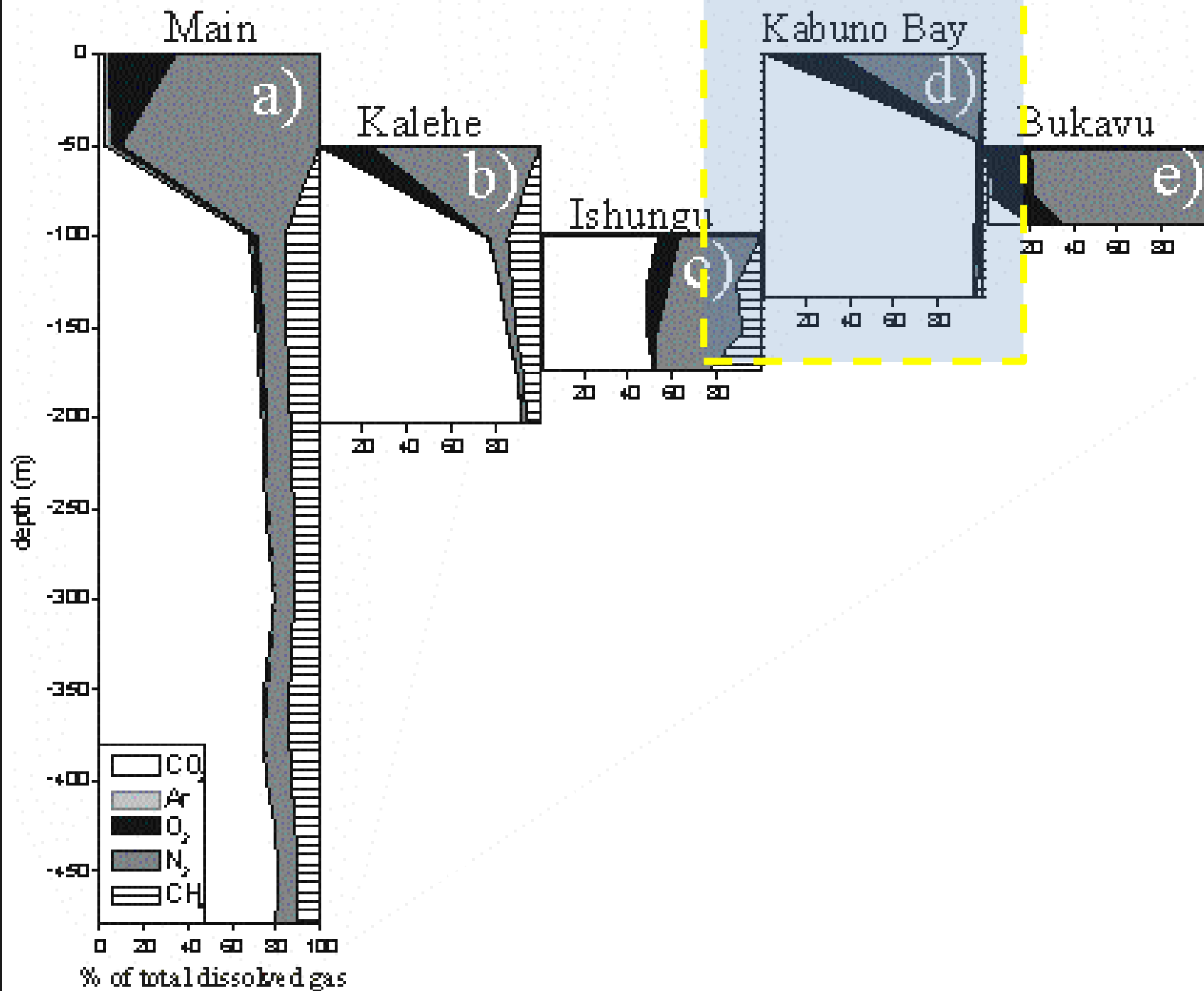


Parameters controlling lake stability: vertical distribution of the main dissolved gases (Bukavu basin)



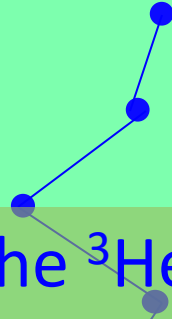
Parameters controlling lake stability: vertical distribution of the main dissolved gases (Kabuno Bay basin)





Kabuno

$\delta^{13}\text{C-CO}_2$



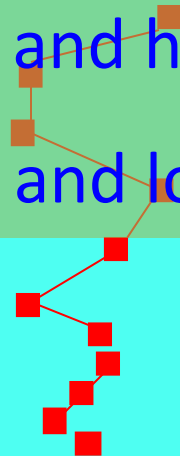
R/Ra



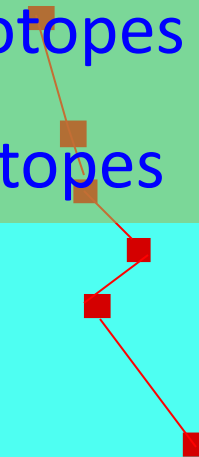
The higher the $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ (as R/Ra) ratio, the higher the mantle signature (MORB=8±1).

Mantle Carbon: $\delta^{13}\text{C-CO}_2 = -3 \div -7$ permil)

$\delta^{13}\text{C-CO}_2$



R/Ra

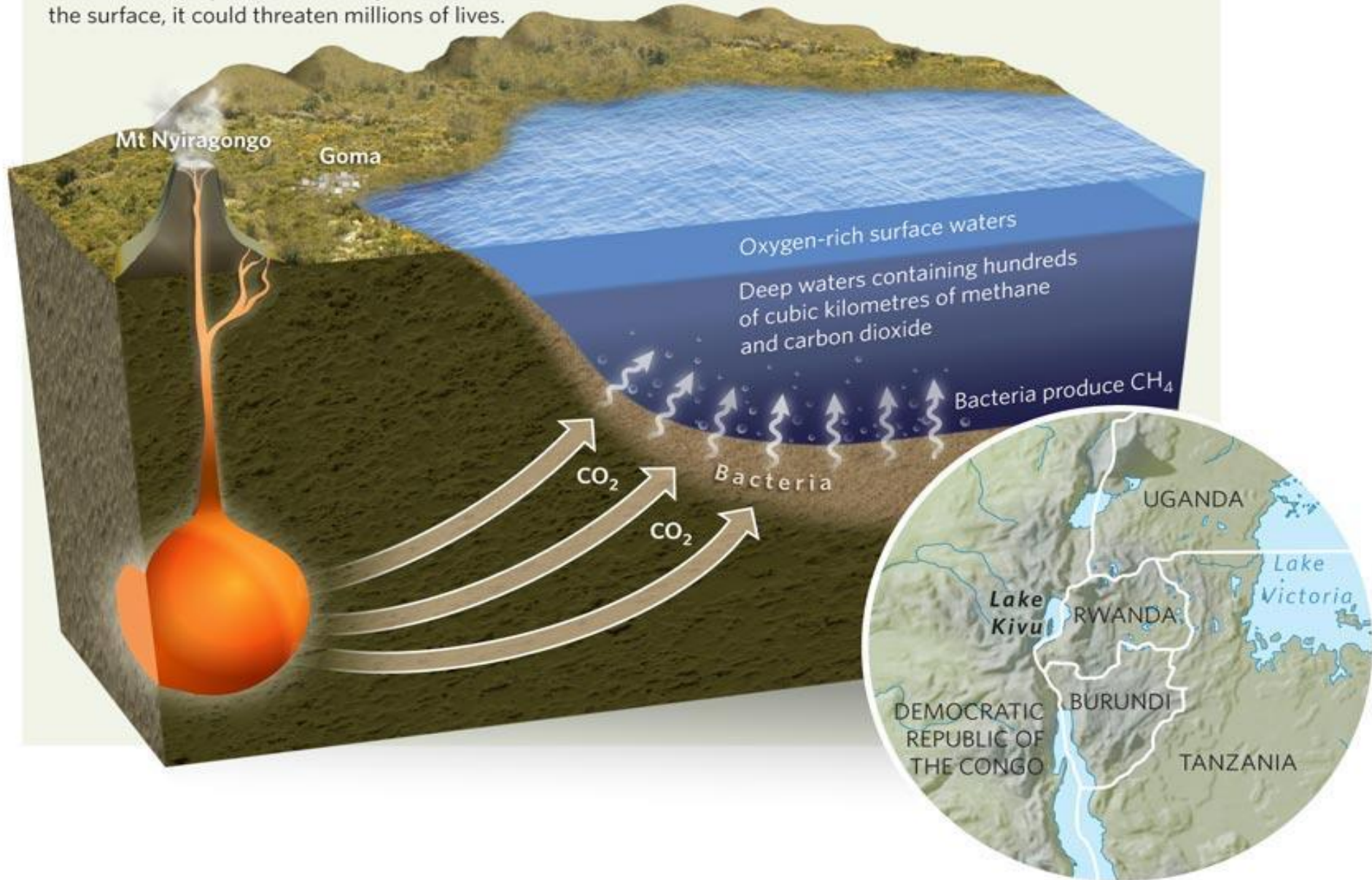


Kivu Kabuno: low carbon and high helium isotopes

Kivu: mantle carbon and low helium isotopes

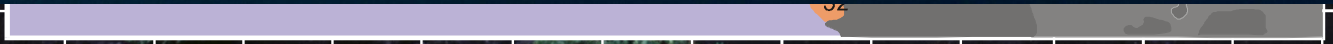
THE UNDERWATER THREAT

If the dissolved gas accumulating in the depths of Lake Kivu bursts to the surface, it could threaten millions of lives.



29°12'E

29°18'E



A first consideration

The risk of limnic eruption at Kabuno Bay is greater (100 times ? Tietze suggests) than at the Main basin, although the total gas content is much less than that of the main basin.

How can this hazard be evaluated (quantified) ?...

"A huge CO₂ cloud was suddenly released from the lake..."

...and then ?

Hazards related to a limnic eruption

“The Nyos limnic eruption in 1986 culminated with a roaring gas-water jet breaking the surface that reached 80-100 metres into the air and created surface waves up to 25 metres high.”



Tsunami hazard ??



Hazard related to a limnic eruption

...an area of limited water resources

Water stored in banana's trees is typically used during dry season. However, during eruptions this water is strongly polluted by ashes.

Rainwater has high F concentrations caused by the volcanic plume.



Skeletal fluorosis

CAUSES DENTAL FLUOROSIS

"Fluorosis is poisoning by fluorides"
—Websters Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary

Very Mild
1ppm
Brigham City, Utah

1mg per day
Prescription Fluoride
White and Brown Enamel

Severe
Water 4mg/day
Brown Pitted Enamel

Hazard related to a limnic eruption at Kabuno Bay



The lake is an
important water
resource, but...

Lake Nyos prior
(1985) and after
(1986) the limnic
eruption.



Where does the CO₂ cloud escape ?



Why so much CO_2 at Kabuno Bay ?

...geochemical evidences lead to open questions

CO₂/CH₄ ratios: similarities and differences among the basins

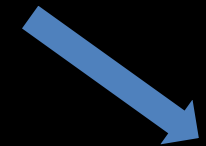
Main, Ishungu, Kalehe
basins

Kabuno Bay basin

CO₂/CH₄ = 6-10 (at
the bottoms)

CO₂/CH₄ = 4-8 (at
-140 m)

CO₂/CH₄ = 15-20
(at -75)



CO₂/CH₄ = 35
(at the bottom)

CO₂/CH₄ = 85
(at -75)

Carbon isotopic signature

Main, Ishungu, Kalehe
basins

Kabuno Bay basin

$\delta^{13}\text{C}-\text{CO}_2$ between
-3.9 and -5.5 ‰PBD

$\delta^{13}\text{C}-\text{CO}_2$ between -8.7
and -11.2 ‰PBD

$d^{13}\text{C}-\text{CO}_2$ (mantle) ~ -3 and -7 ‰PBD

≠

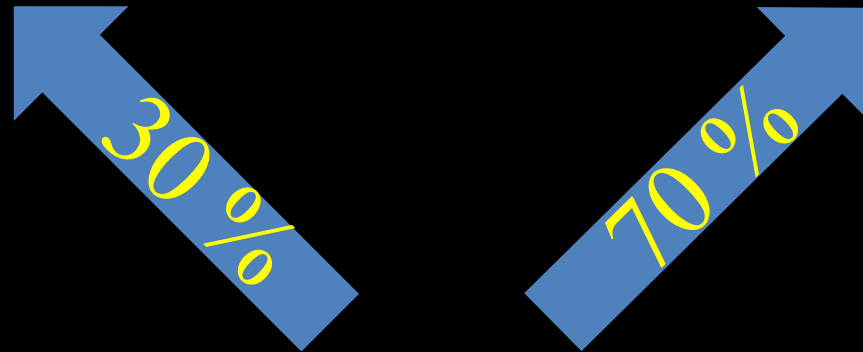
Helium isotopic signature

Main, Ishungu, Kalehe
basins

Kabuno Bay basin

$R/Ra \sim 2.5$

$R/Ra \sim 5.5$



$R/Ra \text{ (MORB)} \sim 8$

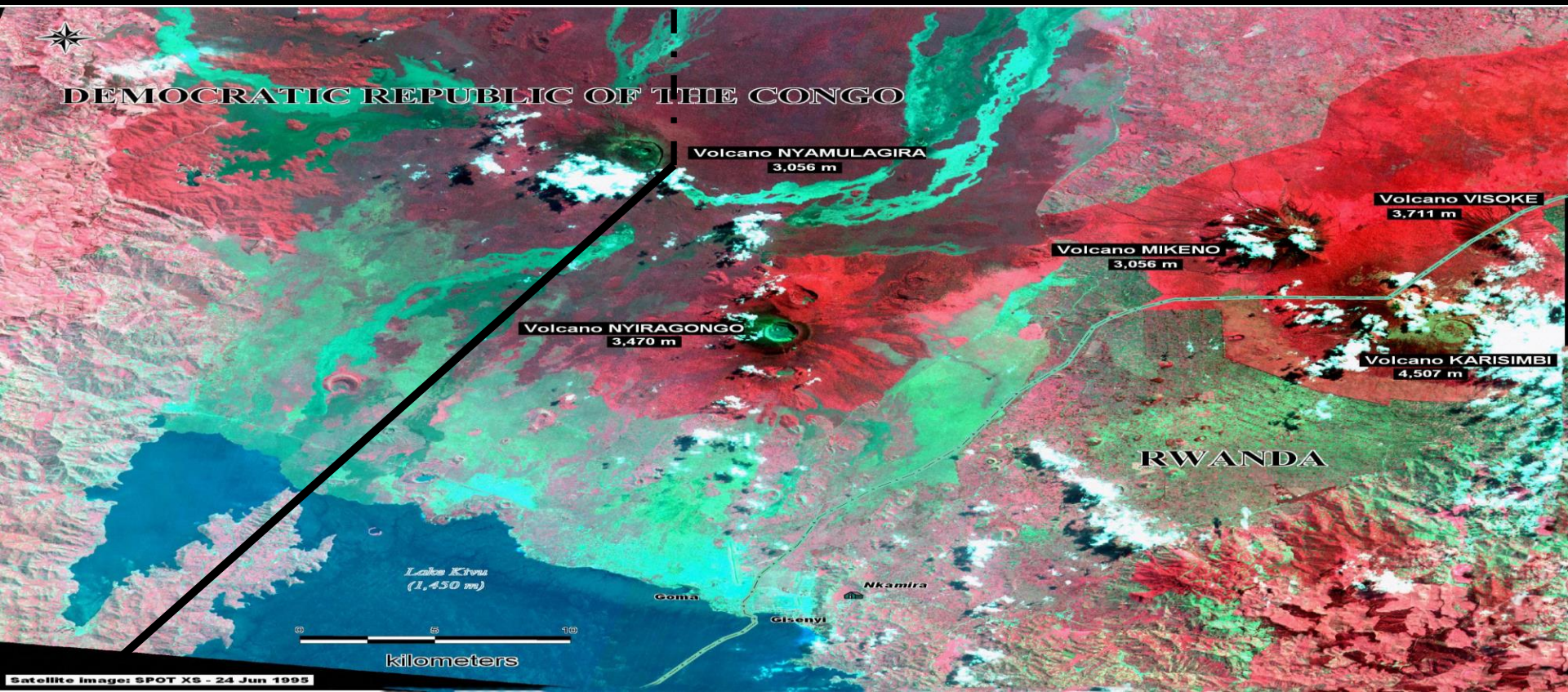
Two different domains

Kabuno Bay and Sake area

high Mantle contribution
vs.
organic CO_2 ? Less CH_4 !!

Main Kivu and Goma area

low Mantle contribution (+ crustal)
vs.
magmatic CO_2



E

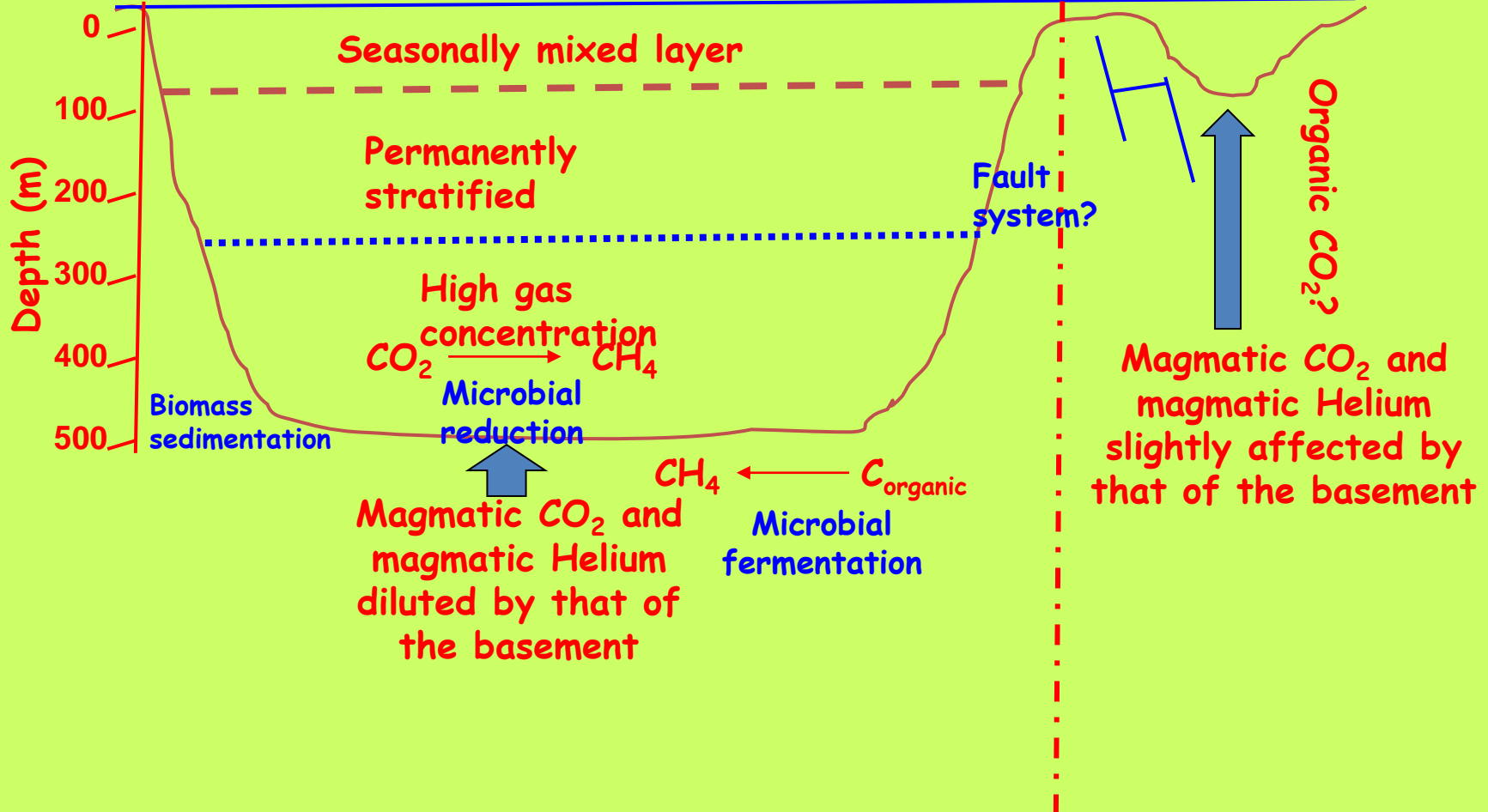
W

Lake Kivu

Kabuno Bay

Basement

Basement



Two different feeding systems ?

Kabuno Bay and Sake area:

Nyamuragira fluid circulating system
High CO_2 recharge rate

Main Kivu and Goma area:

Nyiragongo fluid circulating system
Low CO_2 recharge rate

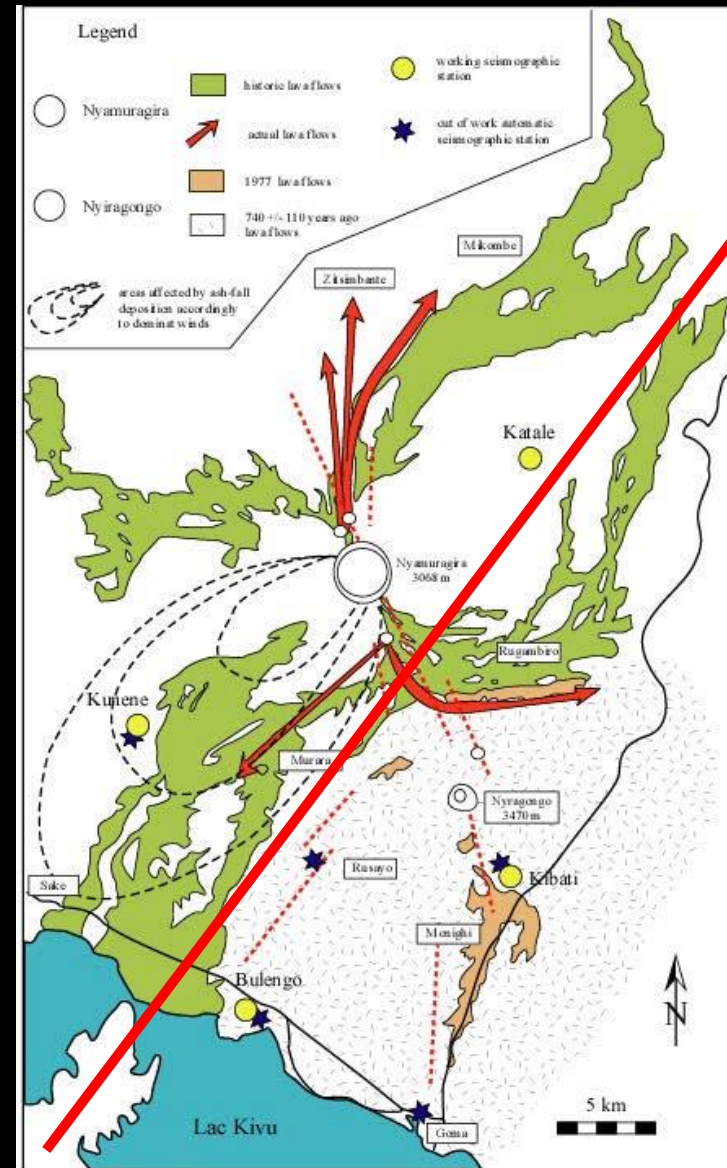


Fig. 1: schematic map of the Virunga volcanic area with direction of the present Nyamuragira lava flows

The CO₂ hazard inland Kabuno Bay

Exhalating
fracture



CO₂ dry emissions (mazukus) and CO₂-rich springs are present in several location close to both the Kabuno Bay and Main basins shoreline...

CO₂-rich spring



The CO₂ hazard inland Kabuno Bay



At Sake village, CO₂ concentrations up to several % were measured indoor (1/2 m from the ground)...