



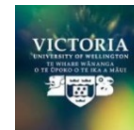
# Āhea riri ai ngā maunga puia? *When will our volcanoes become angry?*

*Jon Procter & Christina Magill*

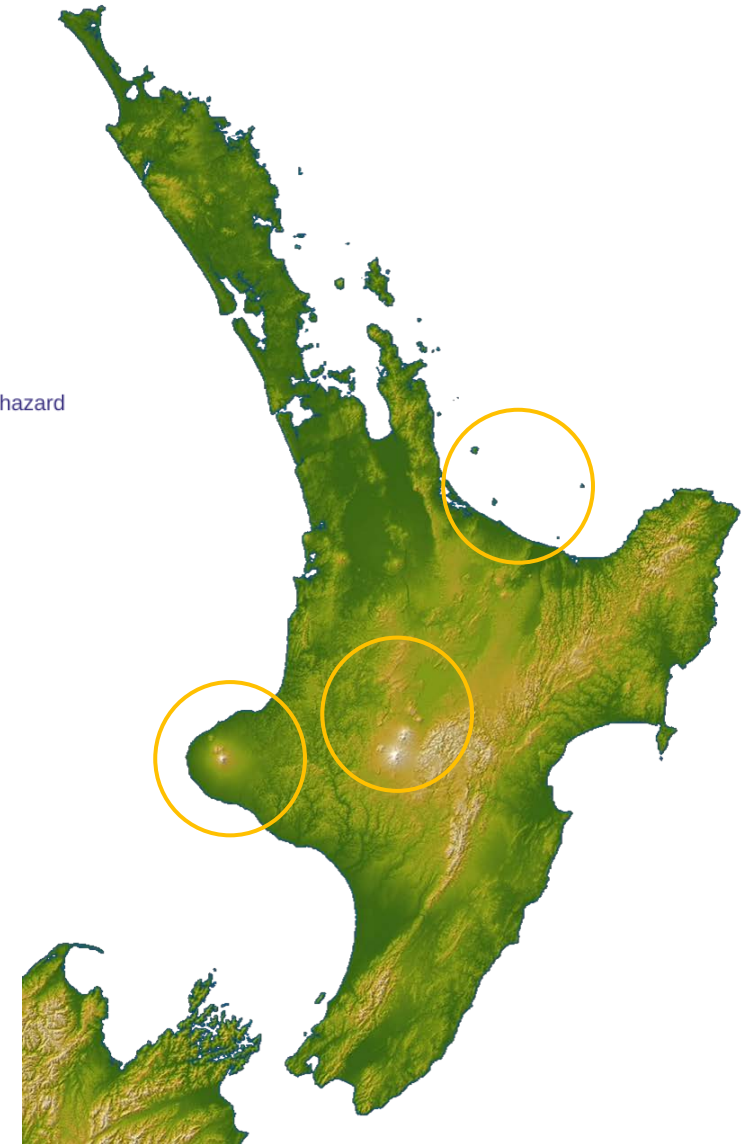
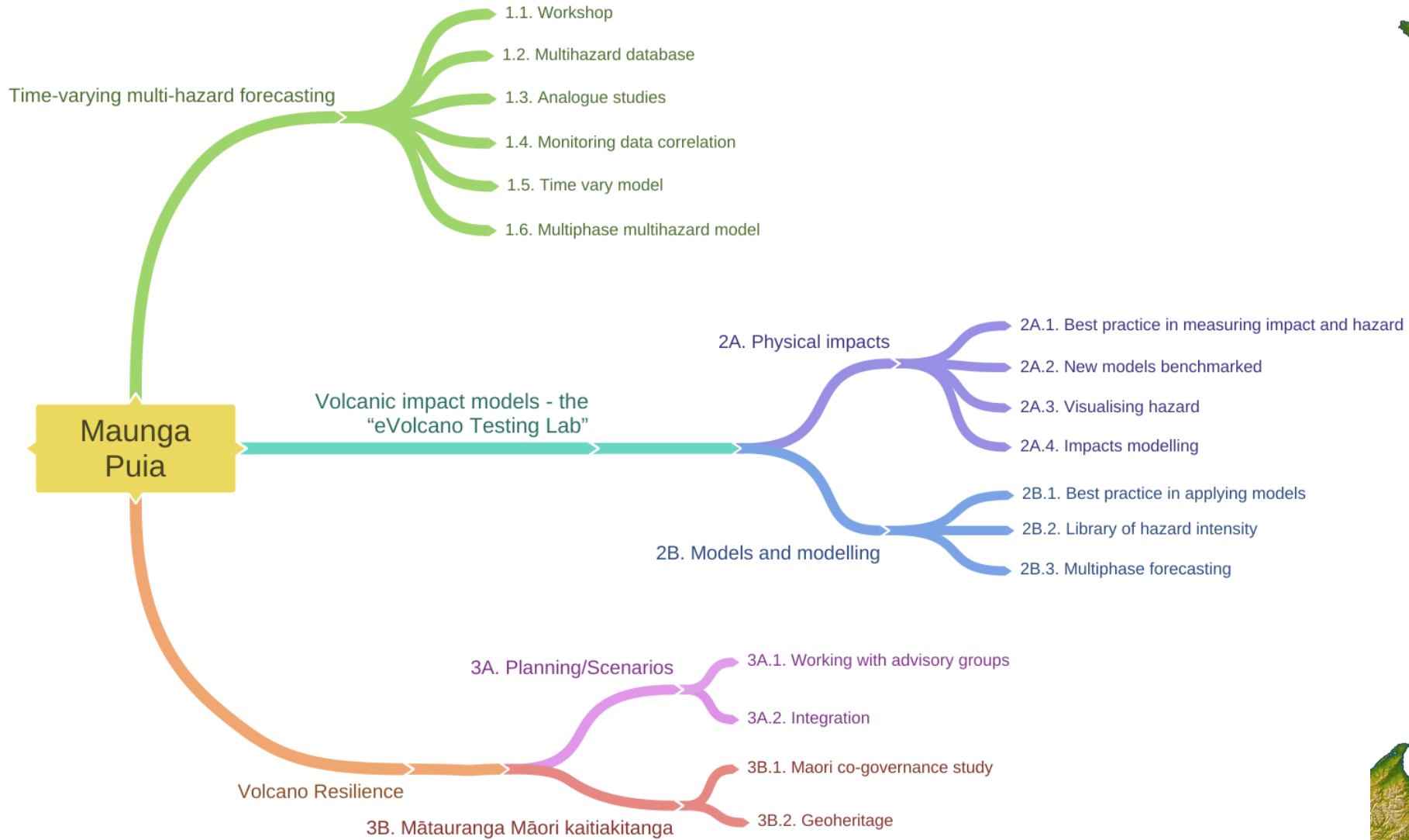
National  
**SCIENCE**  
Challenges

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

Kia manawaroa –  
Ngā Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa



# Āhea riri ai ngā maunga puia? *When will our volcanoes become angry?*



# How do volcanologists forecast eruptions?

**Melody Whitehead**

Volcanic Risk Solutions, Massey

**Jonathan Procter**

Volcanic Risk Solutions, Massey

Mark Bebbington

Volcanic Risk Solutions, Massey

Matthew Irwin

Volcanic Risk Solutions, Massey

Paul Viskovic

GNS

Geoff Kilgour

GNS



Volcano

# How do volcanologists forecast eruptions?

Whitehead MG & Bebbington MS (2021)

## **Method selection in short-term eruption forecasting**

*Journal of Volcanology and Geothermal Research*, 419, p.107386.

Whitehead MG, Bebbington MS, Procter JN, Irwin ME & GPD Viskovic (2022)

## **An initial assessment of short-term eruption forecasting options in New Zealand**

*New Zealand Journal of Geology and Geophysics*, DOI: [10.1080/00288306.2022.2080236](https://doi.org/10.1080/00288306.2022.2080236).



Volcano

# Glossary

Prediction	<i>a definitive statement on future behaviour</i>
Forecast	<i>an uncertain statement on future behaviour</i>
Short-term	<i>hours to months</i>
Probabilistic	<i>probability of an event incorporating uncertainties</i>
Quantitative	<i>measurable, numeric</i>

# ~~Can~~ ~~How~~ do volcanologists ~~forecast~~ ~~predict~~ eruptions?



“This volcano will erupt next Thursday”

# Can ~~How~~ do volcanologists forecast eruptions?



“There might be an  
**ENORMOUS** eruption  
before I am 4 and a  
half!”

# Can ~~How~~ accurately forecast eruptions?

*“Forecasting is a central goal of volcanology.” (p1)*

*“...in certain respects volcanoes are inherently unpredictable. As in other dynamical systems, very slight changes in initial conditions or slight changes in controlling parameters might have completely different long-term outcomes.” (p12)*

Sparks RSJ (2003) Forecasting volcanic eruptions. *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*, 210(1-2), 1-15.



# Can ~~How do~~ volcanologists accurately forecast eruptions?

*“Despite much progress over the last century, however, volcanoes still erupt with no detected precursors, lives and livelihoods are lost to eruptive activity, and forecasting the onsets of eruptions remains fraught with uncertainty.” (p1)*

*“It may never be possible to forecast every eruption on a time scale and with a degree of confidence that is useful to society, but we believe that great progress is on the horizon.” (p24)*

Poland MP & Anderson KR (2020) Partly cloudy with a chance of lava flows: Forecasting volcanic eruptions in the twenty-first century. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth*, 125(1).

# Can ~~How do~~ volcanologists accurately forecast eruptions?

*“This inherent complexity [of volcanoes] and the large uncertainty in the knowledge of these processes lead to the practical impossibility of predicting deterministically, or even with a small uncertainty, the onset time, location, and size of the impending eruption.” (p1777)*

*“Uncertainties cannot be completely eliminated...but they can be reduced significantly through the development of more reliable and skilled forecasting models.” (p1800)*

Marzocchi W & Bebbington MS (2012) Probabilistic eruption forecasting at short and long time scales. *Bulletin of volcanology*, 74(8), 1777-1805.

~~Can~~ accurately  
How do volcanologists forecast eruptions?

Maybe?

Sometimes?

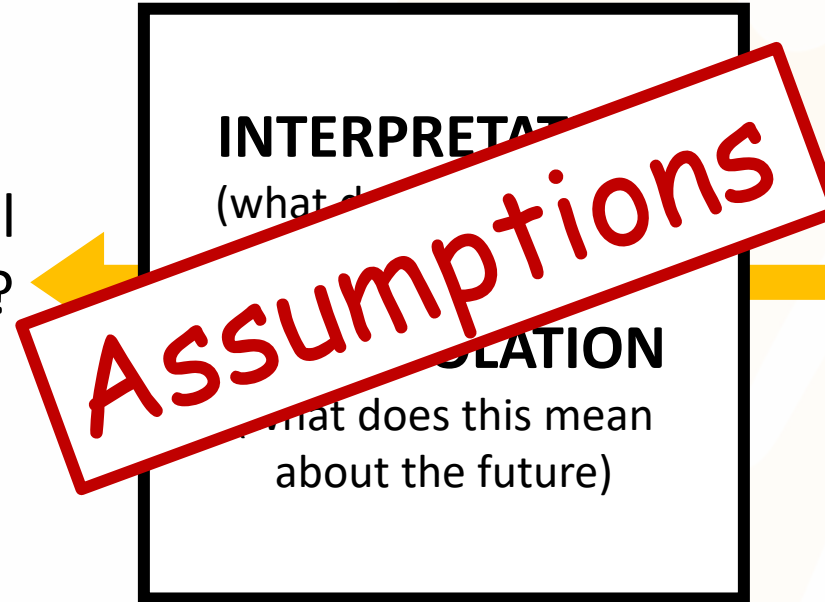
Not yet?



# How do volcanologists forecast eruptions?

## Question:

When and how will  
this volcano erupt?



## Knowledge & Data:

### General

- Scientific principles
- Global volcano database
- Published literature
- Monitoring database

### Volcano-specific

- Eruption history
- Published literature
- Monitoring data

# How do volcanologists forecast eruptions?

## Question:

When and how will  
this volcano erupt?

**FORECASTING  
METHODS**

## Knowledge & Data:

### General

- Scientific principles
- Global volcano database
- Published literature
- Monitoring database

### Volcano-specific

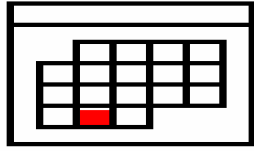
- Eruption history
- Published literature
- Monitoring data

*Assumption 1 - Previous behaviour informs future behaviour*

*Assumption 2 - Data that can be observed are related to the question we are trying to answer*

# Eruption Parameters

When and how will this volcano erupt?



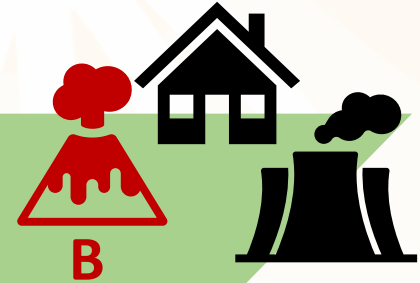
## Eruption Parameters:

**Eruption start time**

**Eruptive vent location(s)**



A



B

## Eruption Parameters:

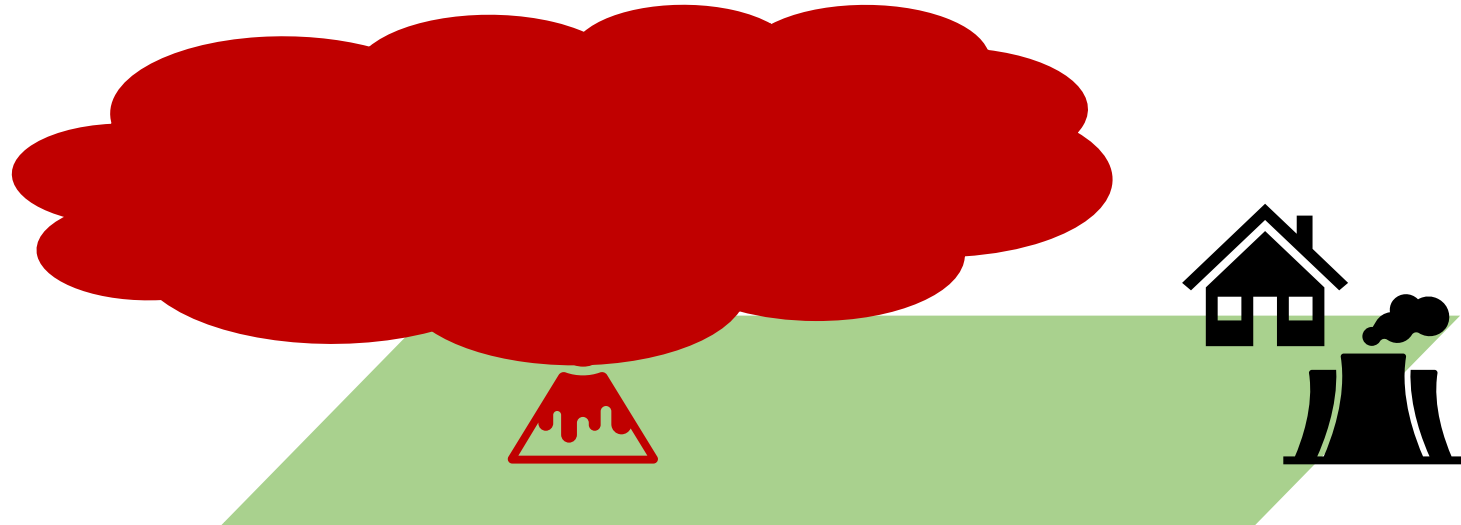
Eruption start time

Eruptive vent location(s)

**Eruption size**

# Eruption Parameters

When and **how** will this volcano erupt?



# Eruption Parameters

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

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Te Ao Tūroa

## Eruption Parameters:

Eruption start time

Eruptive vent location(s)

Eruption size

**Initial eruption style**

When and **how** will this volcano erupt?



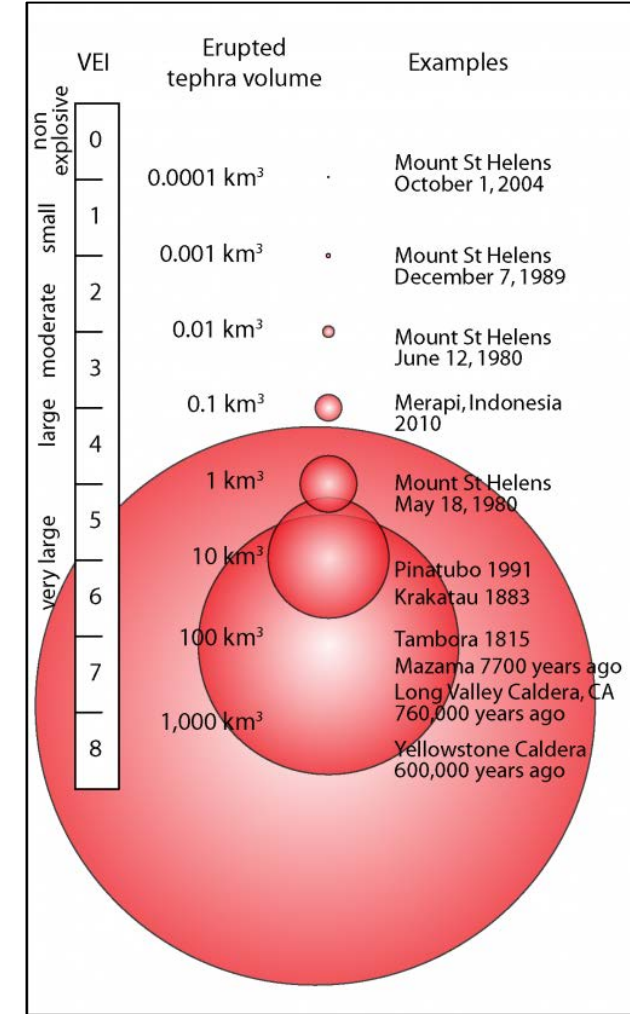
EFFUSIVE

Lava fountains, Kilauea 1959



EXPLOSIVE

Ash plume, Sinabung 2013



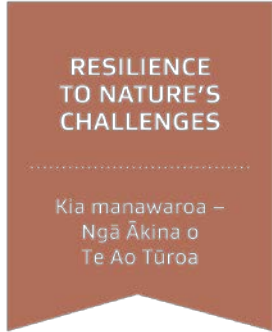
Newhall & Self (1982)

Images: <https://volcano.si.edu/> (GVP)

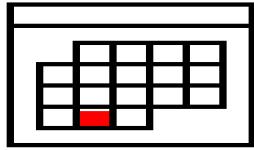
Newhall CG & Self S (1982) The volcanic explosivity index (VEI) an estimate of explosive magnitude for historical volcanism. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Oceans*, 87(C2), 1231-1238.



# Eruption Parameters



When and how will this volcano erupt?



## Eruption Parameters:

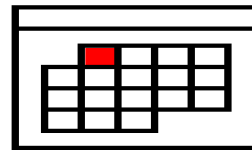
Eruption start time

Eruptive vent location(s)

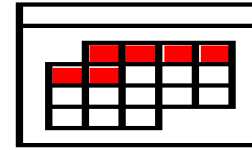
Eruption size

Initial eruption style

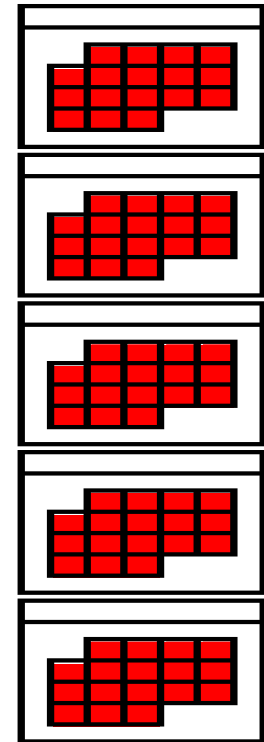
**Eruption phase duration**



or



or



?

## Eruption Parameters:

Eruption start time

Eruptive vent location(s)

Eruption size

Initial eruption style

Eruption phase duration

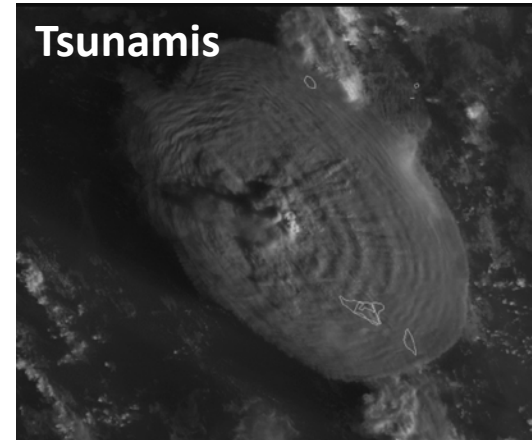
**Phase specific hazards**

# Eruption Parameters

When and **how** will this volcano erupt?



Mayon, 1984 [P. Pena/PIVS]



Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'api, 2022  
[NOAA GOES West]



Pinatubo, 1991 [C. Newhall/USGS]

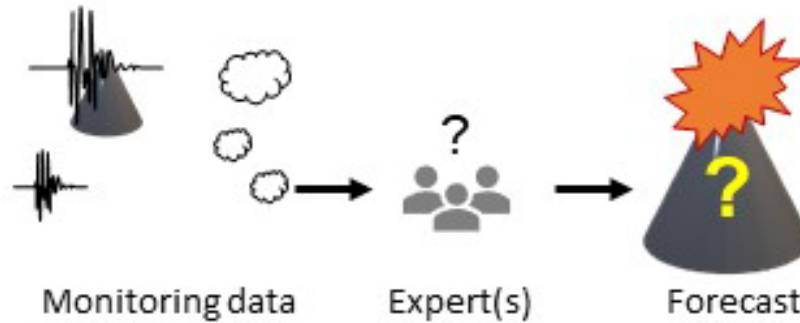


Pinatubo, 1991 [V. Gempis/USAF]

# (1) Expert Interpretation

## Eruption Parameters:

Eruption start time  
Eruptive vent location(s)  
Eruption size  
Initial eruption style  
Eruption phase duration  
Phase specific hazards



## Requirements:

- Expert personnel
- Forecasting algorithm
- ★ General monitoring equipment
- ★ Previous monitoring data
- ★ Previous eruption data
- Previous expert elicitation

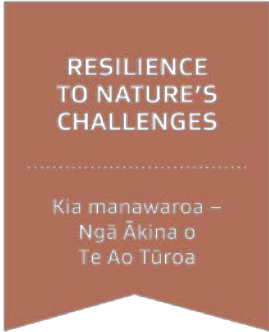
## LIMITATIONS

Experts are subjective

High stress and time-constraints during volcanic unrest

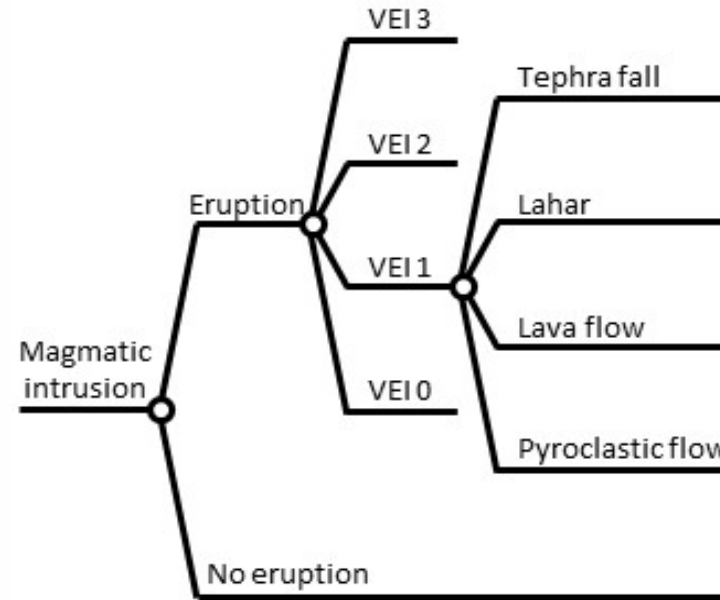
- Assumption 1 - Previous behaviour informs future behaviour
- Assumption 2 - Data that can be observed are related to the question we are trying to answer
- Assumption 3 - The expert (or group of experts) can produce an accurate eruption forecast
- Assumption 4 - The method/expert performs as expected

## (2) Event tree



### Eruption Parameters:

- Eruption start time
- Eruptive vent location(s)
- Eruption size
- Initial eruption style
- Eruption phase duration
- Phase specific hazards



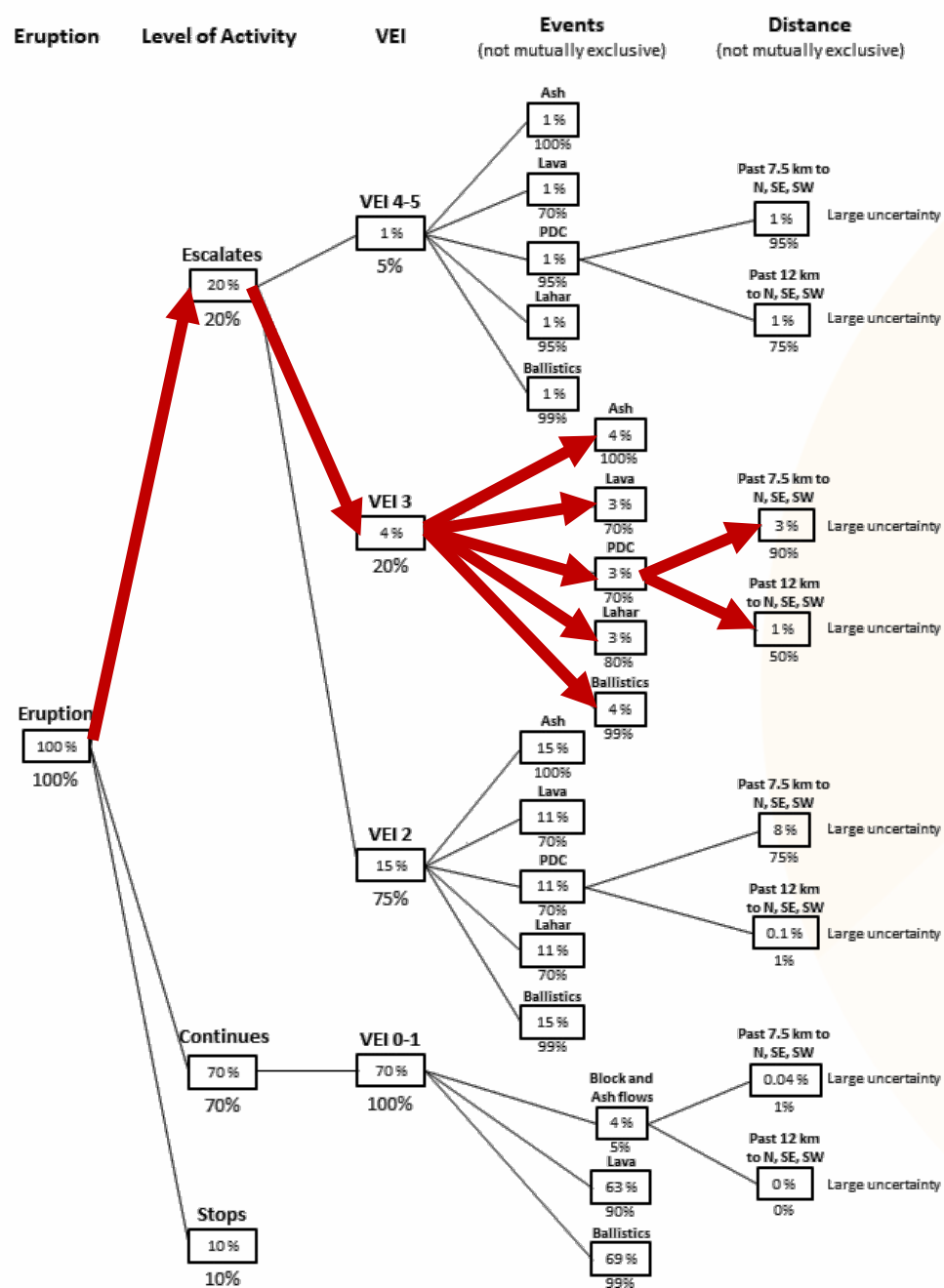
### Requirements:

- Expert personnel
- Forecasting algorithm
- ★ General monitoring equipment
- Previous monitoring data
- ★ Previous eruption data
- Previous expert elicitation

**LIMITATIONS**

- No eruption start time
- Experts are subjective

- Assumption 1 – Previous behaviour informs future behaviour
- Assumption 2 – Data that can be observed are related to the question we are trying to answer
- Assumption 3 - The conceptual model is correct and includes all potential out-comes
- Assumption 4 - The underlying process producing the data exhibits time homogeneity on longer scales
- Assumption 5 - The method / expert performs as expected
- Assumption 6 - Assignment of base rate and/or conditional probabilities are correct
- Assumption 7 - Assignment of threshold values or conditions or classifications are correct



## (2) Event Tree

An event tree used during the Agung eruption for the look-forward period of two weeks from: 23 Jan – 6 Feb 2018.



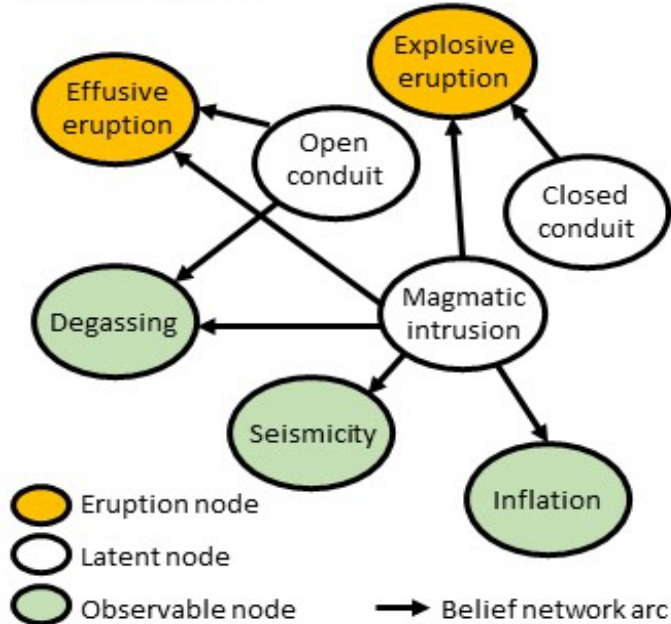
Syahbana DK et al. (2019) The 2017–19 activity at Mount Agung in Bali (Indonesia): Intense unrest, monitoring, crisis response, evacuation, and eruption. *Scientific reports*, 9(1), 1-17.

Images: <https://volcano.si.edu/> (GVP)

### Eruption Parameters:

Eruption start time  
**Eruptive vent location(s)**  
**Eruption size**  
**Initial eruption style**  
 Eruption phase duration  
**Phase specific hazards**

## (3) Belief Network



### Requirements:

**Expert personnel**  
**Forecasting algorithm**  
**General monitoring equipment**

- ★ Previous monitoring data
- ★ Previous eruption data
- Previous expert elicitation**

### LIMITATIONS

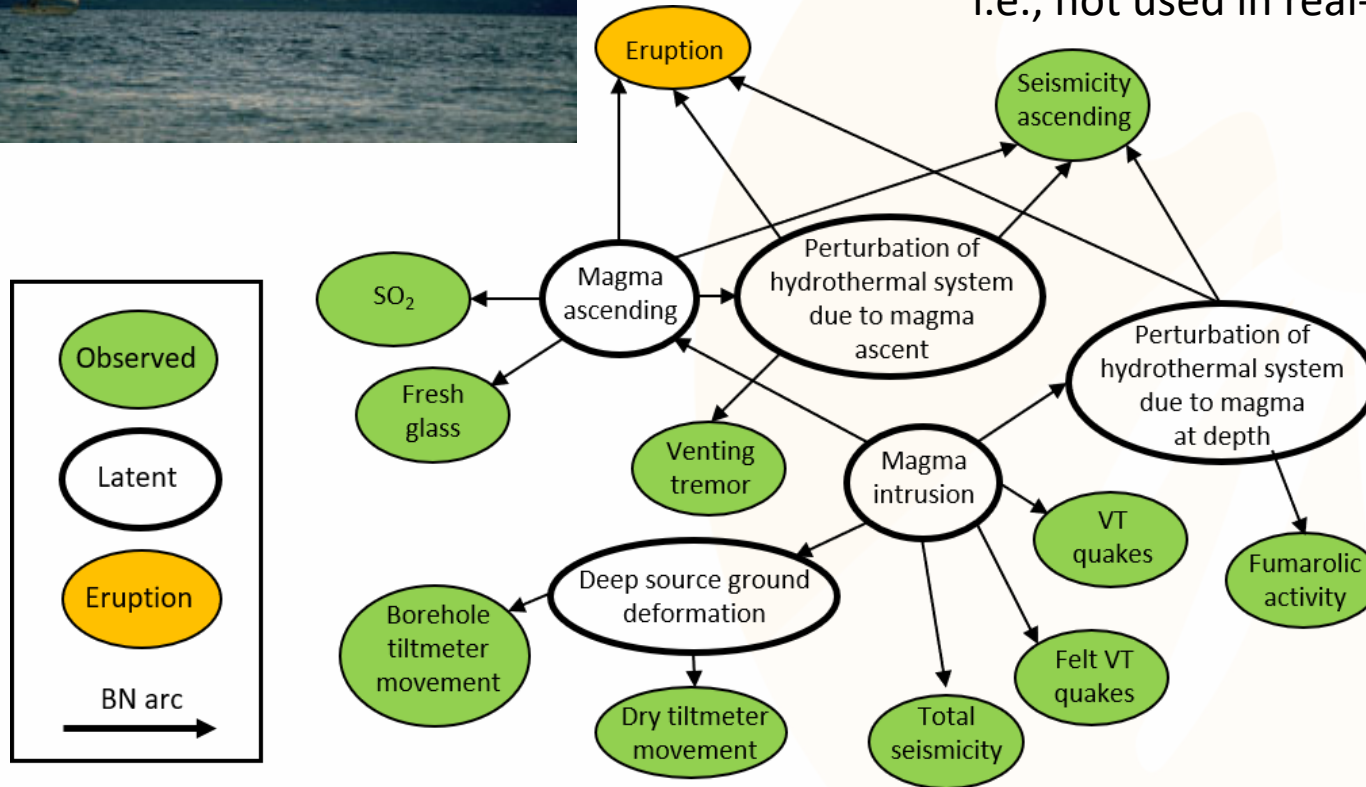
No eruption start time  
 Training requires previous eruption  
 and monitoring data  
 Experts are subjective

- Assumption 1 – Previous behaviour informs future behaviour
- Assumption 2 – Data that can be observed are related to the question we are trying to answer
- Assumption 3 - The conceptual model is correct and includes all potential out-comes
- Assumption 4 - The underlying process producing the data exhibits time homogeneity on longer scales
- Assumption 5 - The method / expert performs as expected
- Assumption 6 - Assignment of base rate and/or conditional probabilities are correct
- Assumption 7 - Assignment of threshold values or conditions or classifications are correct



### (3) Belief Network

Bayesian belief network for La Soufrière.  
Created with hindsight for the 1975-1977 eruption,  
i.e., not used in real-time.



Hincks TK et al. (2014) Retrospective analysis of uncertain eruption precursors at La Soufrière volcano, Guadeloupe, 1975–77: volcanic hazard assessment using a Bayesian Belief Network approach. *J. of Applied Volcanology*, 3(1).

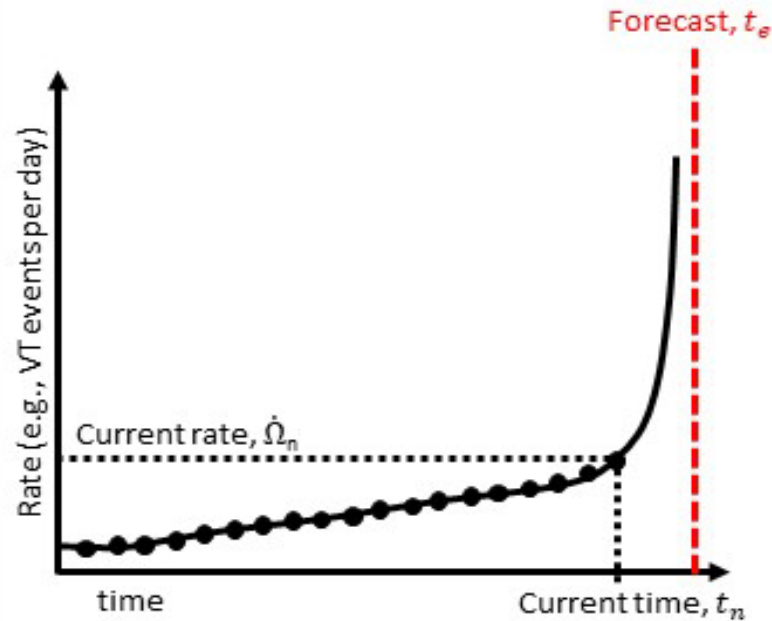
Images: <https://volcano.si.edu/> (GVP)

## (4) Failure Forecasting

### Eruption Parameters:

#### Eruption start time

- Eruptive vent location(s)
- Eruption size
- Initial eruption style
- Eruption phase duration
- Phase specific hazards



### Requirements:

- Expert personnel
- Forecasting algorithm
- General monitoring equipment

- Previous monitoring data
- Previous eruption data
- Previous expert elicitation

### LIMITATIONS

- ONLY eruption start time
- Must observe accelerating signal
- Left-truncating data is subjective

Assumption 1 – Previous behaviour informs future behaviour

Assumption 2 – Data that can be observed are related to the question we are trying to answer

Assumption 3 - The eruption is preceded by any accelerating phenomenon

Assumption 4 - Data provides sufficient information to forecast required eruption parameters

Assumption 5 - The method/expert performs as expected

Assumption 6 - Assignment of threshold values, parameters, conditions, or classifications are correct (alpha)

Assumption 7 - Data truncation point is correct (after which time all data are used to fit the failure forecasting equation)

Assumption 8 - Curve-fitting equation is correct

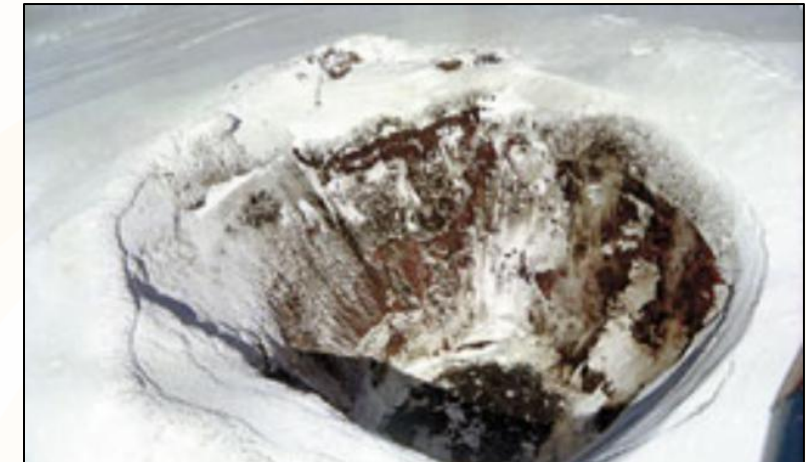
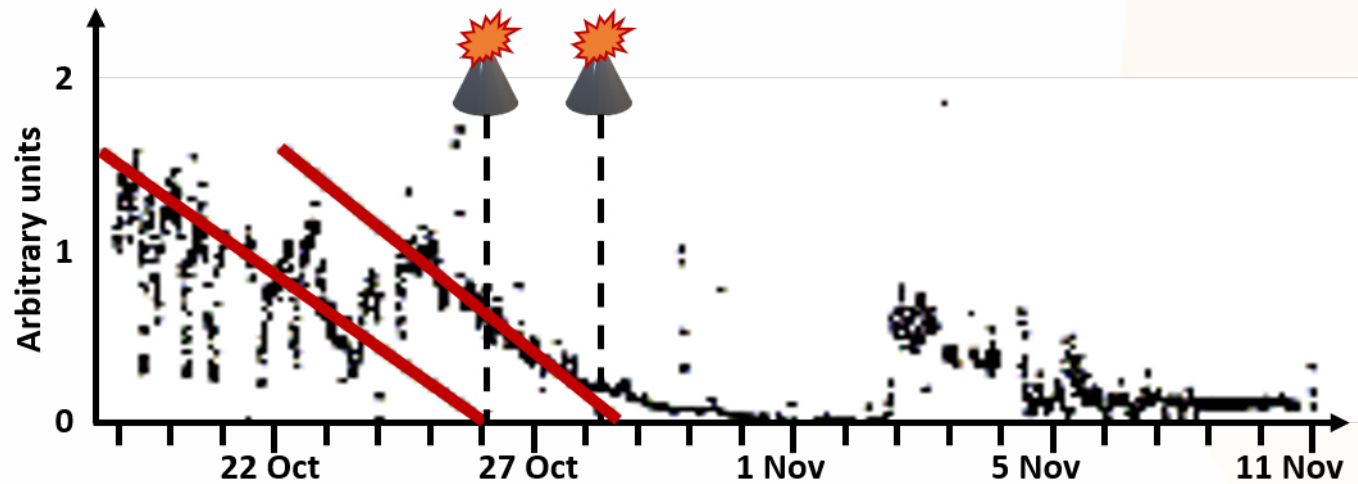


#### (4) Failure Forecasting

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

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Nga Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa

Hindcasting of two explosions at Villarrica, Chile in 2000, produced after the fact. Explosions detected on GOES images. Used the inverse of the amplitude of the seismic signal:  $1/\text{normalized(RSAM)}$



18<sup>th</sup> Oct 2000 – no observed activity



24<sup>th</sup> Oct 2000 – significant heating

Ortiz R et al. (2003) Villarrica volcano (Chile): characteristics of the volcanic tremor and forecasting of small explosions by means of a material failure method. *Journal of Volcanology and Geothermal Research*, 128(1-3), 247-259.

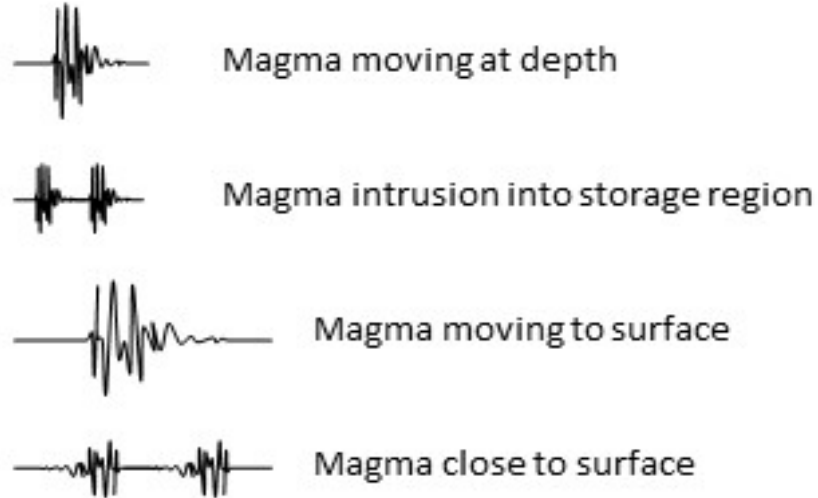
Images: <https://volcano.si.edu/> (GVP)

## (5) Process/Source models

### Eruption Parameters:

- Eruption start time
- Eruptive vent location(s)
- Eruption size
- Initial eruption style
- Eruption phase duration
- Phase specific hazards

*(seismic example)*



### Requirements:

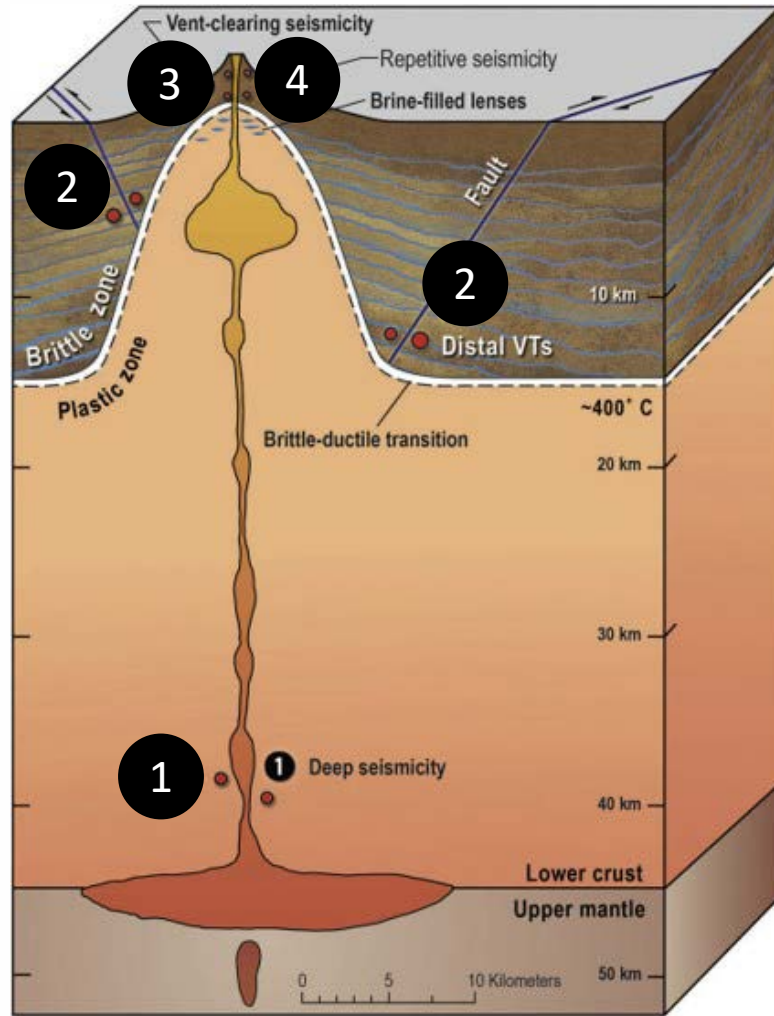
- Expert personnel
- Forecasting algorithm
- General monitoring equipment

- ★ Previous monitoring data
- ★ Previous eruption data
- Previous expert elicitation

### LIMITATIONS

Still mainly conceptual stage

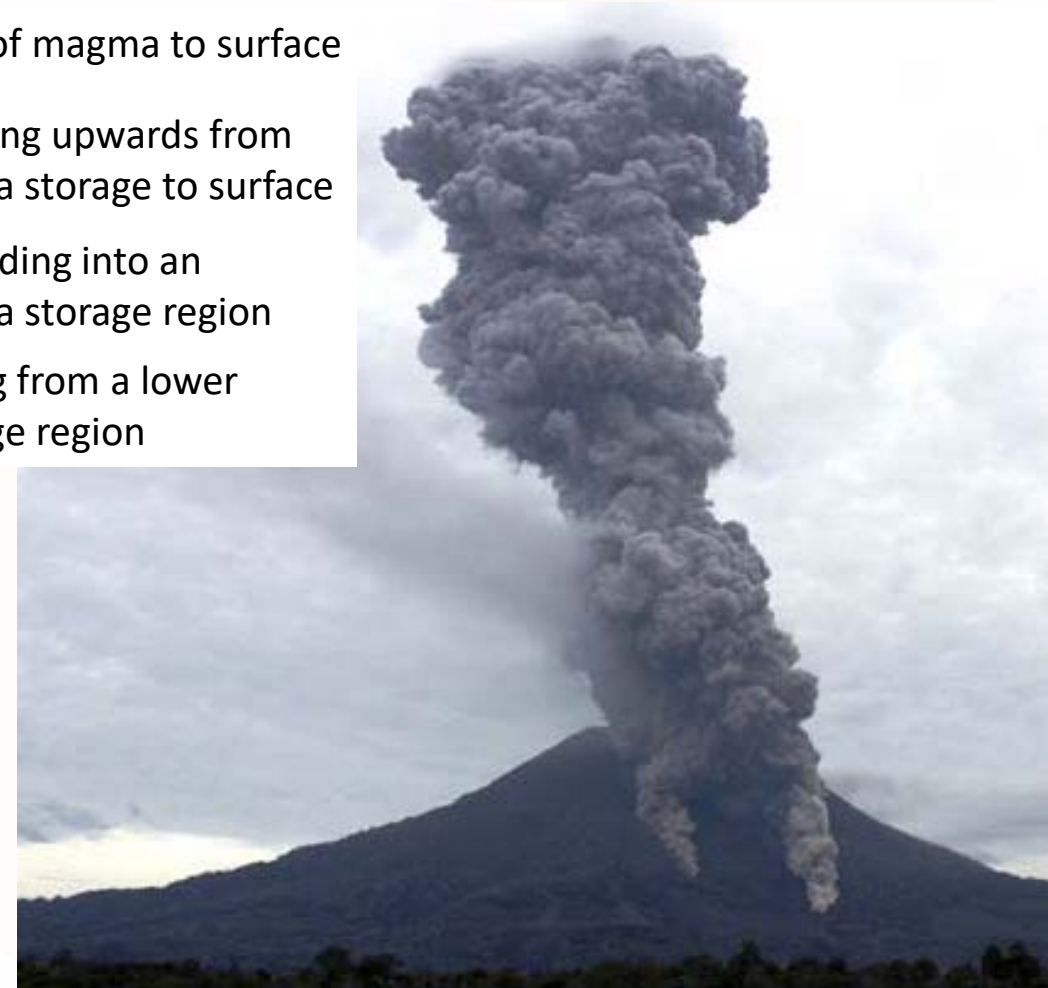
- Assumption 1 – Previous behaviour informs future behaviour
- Assumption 2 – Data that can be observed are related to the question we are trying to answer
- Assumption 3 - The conceptual model is correct and includes all potential outcomes
- Assumption 4 - Data provides sufficient information to forecast required eruption parameters
- Assumption 5 - The method/expert performs as expected
- Assumption 6 - Assignment of threshold values, parameters, conditions, or classifications are correct



## (5) Process/Source models

CONCEPTUAL but has been used to inform other forecasting models (e.g., Event Trees, Sinabung, 2013)

- 4 Final ascent of magma to surface
- 3 Magma moving upwards from upper magma storage to surface
- 2 Magma intruding into an upper magma storage region
- 1 Magma rising from a lower crustal storage region



McCausland WA et al. (2019) Using a process-based model of pre-eruptive seismic patterns to forecast evolving eruptive styles at Sinabung Volcano, Indonesia. *Journal of Volcanology and Geothermal Research*, 382, 253-266.

Images: <https://volcano.si.edu/> (GVP)

## (6) Machine Learning

### Eruption Parameters:

Eruption start time

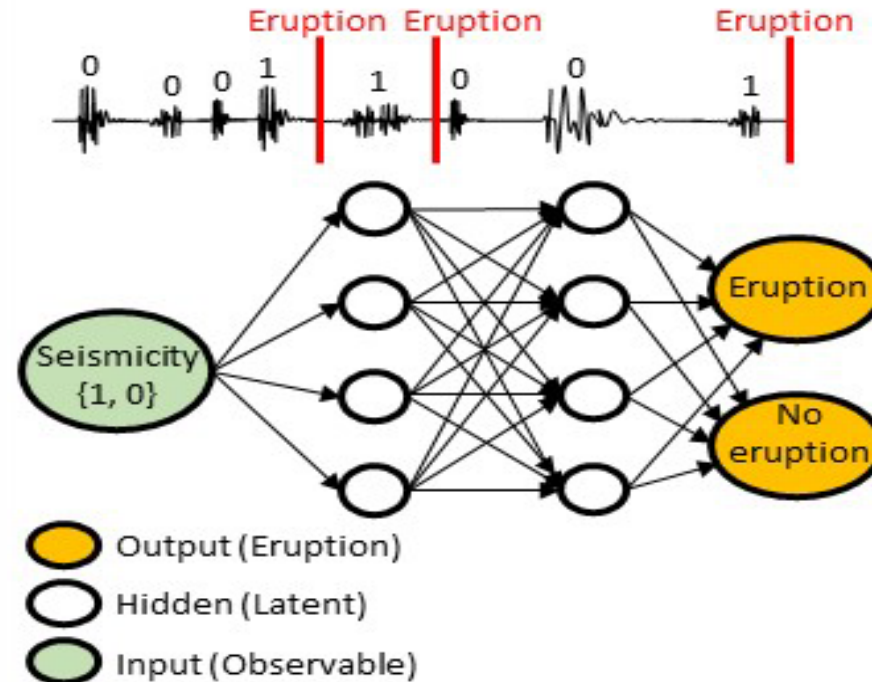
Eruptive vent location(s)

Eruption size

Initial eruption style

Eruption phase duration

Phase specific hazards



### Requirements:

Expert personnel

Forecasting algorithm

General monitoring equipment

Previous monitoring data

Previous eruption data

Previous expert elicitation

### LIMITATIONS

Need enough training data  
(recommendation is > 50 per class\*)

Assumption 1 – Previous behaviour informs future behaviour

Assumption 2 – Data that can be observed are related to the question we are trying to answer

Assumption 3 - The underlying process producing the data exhibits time homogeneity on longer scales

Assumption 4 - Data provides sufficient information to forecast required eruption parameters

Assumption 5 - Sufficient data are available to train and test the model

Assumption 6 - There is sufficient variation within the data to cover most outcomes

Assumption 7 - The method/expert performs as expected

Assumption 8 - Assignment of threshold values, parameters, conditions, or classifications are correct

*"in order to train supervised models....20 labeled events per class is a good starting point, but a minimum of 50 labeled events per class is recommended."*  
(Carneil & Guzmán, 2020, Machine Learning in Volcanology)

Malfante et al. (2018) – 800 events per class, and ran the whole thing 50 times to get statistically stable results

The screenshot shows a Python script in a Notepad window titled 'forecast\_model - Notepad'. The script includes comments and code for training a model and forecasting eruptions. A terminal window in the background shows the execution of the script, with the output 'building models: [#####] 72.00%'. An inset map of New Zealand shows the location of Whakaari, with an orange square indicating the eruption site.

Year	Month	Day	Hour	Minute	Second
2012	08	04	16	52	00
2013	08	19	22	23	00
2013	10	03	12	35	00
2016	04	27	09	37	00
2019	12	09	01	11	00

All code from: <https://github.com/ddempsey/whakaari>

Dempsey DE, Cronin SJ, Mei S, Kempa-Liehr AW (2020) Automatic precursor recognition and real-time forecasting of sudden explosive volcanic eruptions at Whakaari, New Zealand. Nature communications. 11(1):1-8.

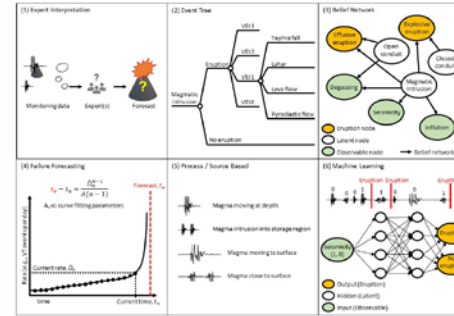
# How do volcanologists forecast eruptions?

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

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Nga Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa

## Eruption Parameters:

- Eruption start time
- Eruptive vent location(s)
- Eruption size
- Initial eruption style
- Eruption phase duration
- Phase specific hazards



## Requirements:

- Expert personnel
- Forecasting algorithm
- General monitoring equipment
- Previous monitoring data
- Previous eruption data
- Previous expert elicitation

What forecasting  
methods are feasible?

What do we need to  
know for this volcano?

What requirements are  
met at this volcano?



# Aotearoa New Zealand's volcanoes

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

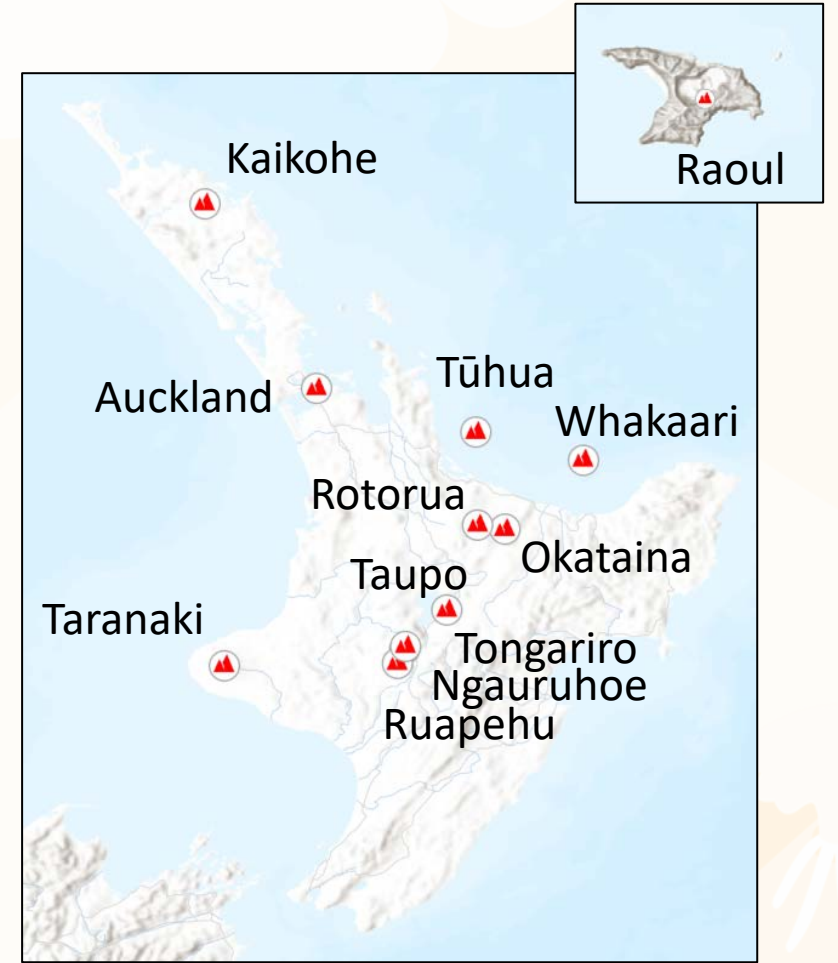
Kia manawaroa –  
Ngā Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa

What forecasting  
methods are feasible?

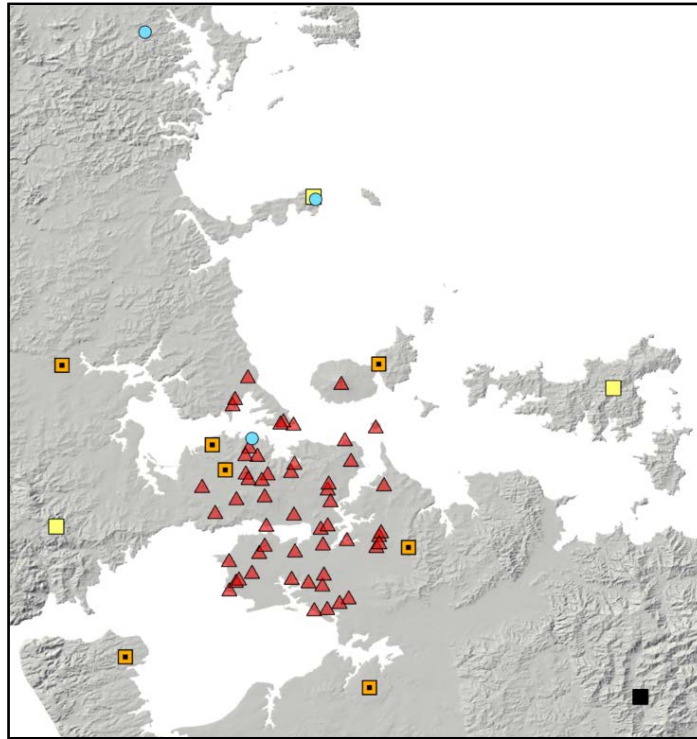
What do we need to  
know for this volcano?



What requirements are  
met at this volcano?



# Auckland Volcanic Field



- 3 ● GNSS station
- 1 ■ Broadband seis.
- 7 ■ Short Period Borehole seis.
- 3 ■ Short Period seis.
- ▲ AVF vents

Area used: "Auckland Region"

Expert elicitation already completed for Bayesian Event Tree  
(Lindsay et al. 2010 -> Wild et al. 2022)

Failure forecasting method difficult at a distributed volcanic system

Insufficient data to train a belief network or machine learning algorithms

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time	Blue	Red	Red	Black	Yellow	Yellow	Black
Eruption size	Blue	Blue	Yellow	Black	Red	Yellow	Black
Eruption style/type	Blue	Blue	Yellow	Black	Red	Red	Black
Eruption duration	Blue	Red	Red	Black	Red	Red	Black
Eruption specific hazards	Blue	Blue	Yellow	Black	Red	Red	Black
Location specific parameters	Blue	Blue	Yellow	Black	Red	Yellow	Black

Negligible effort/time

Some effort/time

Medium effort/time

Significant effort/time

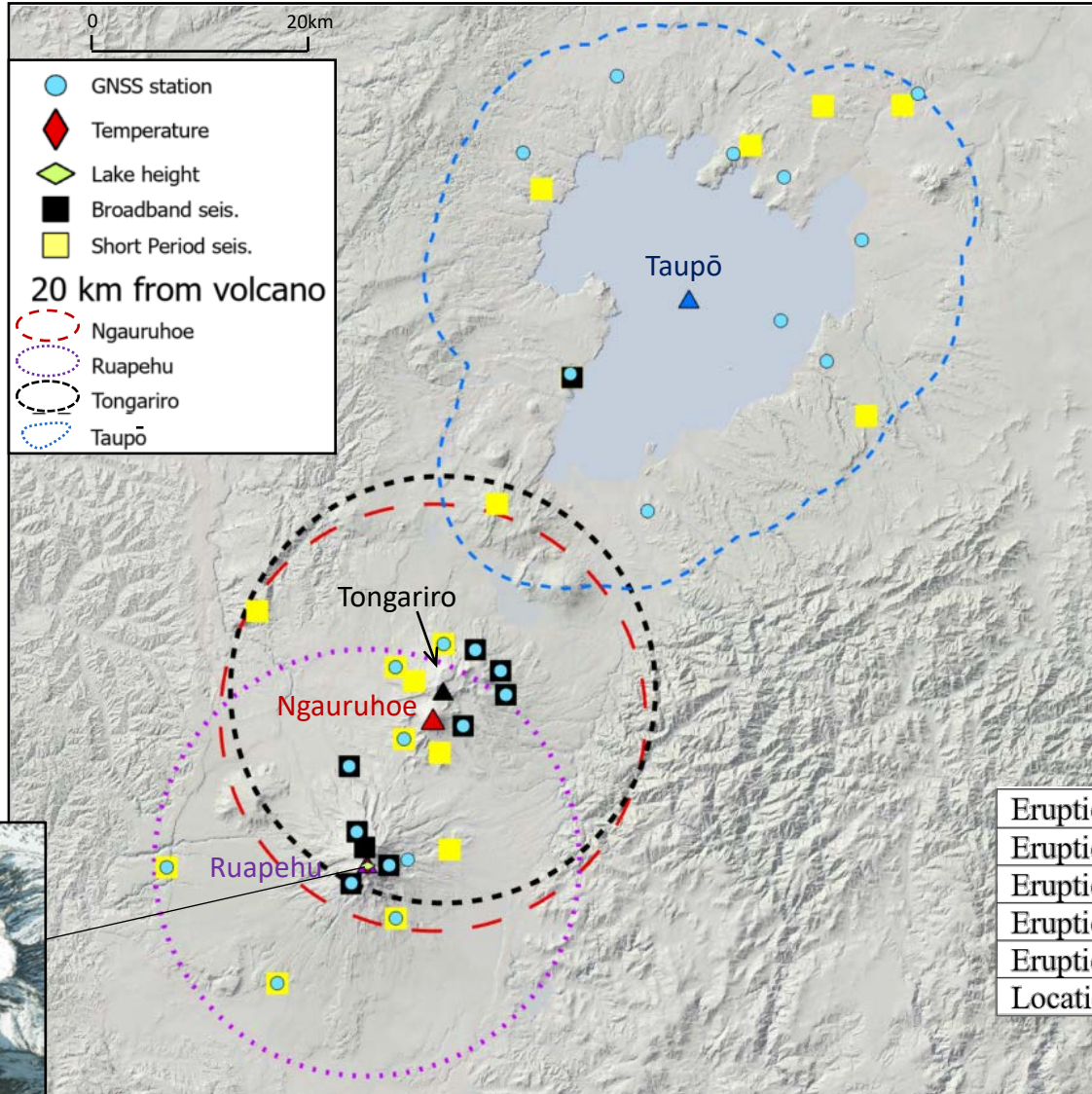
Not currently feasible



# Ruapehu

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

Kia manawaroa –  
Ngā Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa



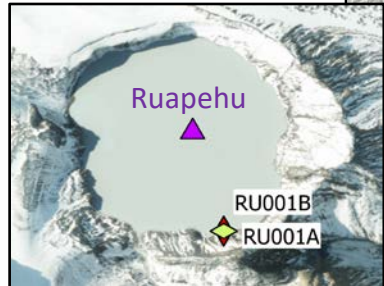
Area used: < 20 km from crater lake

Sufficient seismic stations (> 6 broadband) suggests relative ease of application of FFM.

Several eruption-monitoring pairs available for belief network training. Data to train machine learning algorithms are available but must first be vectorised from paper seismograms.

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time	Blue	Red	Red	Red	Blue	Yellow	Red
Eruption size	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Yellow	Red
Eruption style/type	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Orange	Red
Eruption duration	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Orange	Red
Eruption specific hazards	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Orange	Red
Location specific parameters	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Yellow	Red

Negligible effort/time
Some effort/time
Medium effort/time
Significant effort/time
Not currently feasible



# Whakaari

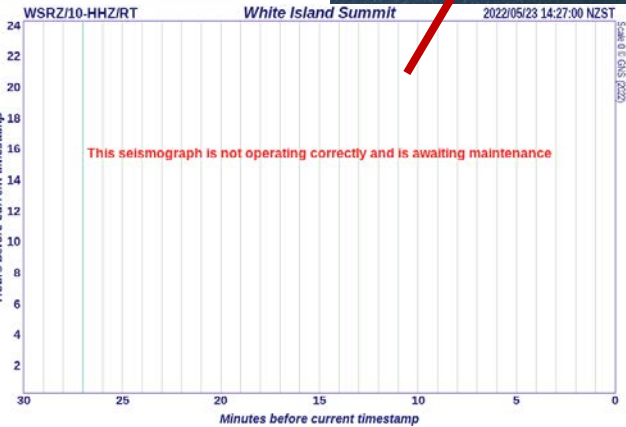
RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

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Nga Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa



- +
- SO2-flux-a
- GNSS station
- Broadband seis.

2  
2



Seismogram, May 2022: <https://www.geonet.org.nz/volcano/monitoring/whiteisland>

Area used: On island

Data to train machine learning algorithms are available but must first be vectorised from paper seismograms

Several eruption-monitoring pairs available for belief network training

Expert elicitation exists for belief networks (Christophersen et al. 2018) and potentially allowing easier application of event trees

Machine-learning algorithm already constructed for eruption onset & currently being tested (Dempsey et al. 2020)

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time	Blue	Red	Red	Red	Blue	Yellow	Orange
Eruption size	Blue	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Yellow	Red
Eruption style/type	Blue	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Orange	Red
Eruption duration	Blue	Red	Red	Red	Red	Orange	Red
Eruption specific hazards	Blue	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Orange	Red
Location specific parameters	Blue	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Yellow	Red

Negligible effort/time

Some effort/time

Medium effort/time

Significant effort/time

Not currently feasible

## Auckland

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

## Okataina

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

## Ruapehu

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

## Tūhua

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

## Kaikohe

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

## Raoul

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

## Taranaki

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

## Tongariro

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

## Ngauruhoe

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

## Rotorua

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

## Taupō

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

## Whakaari

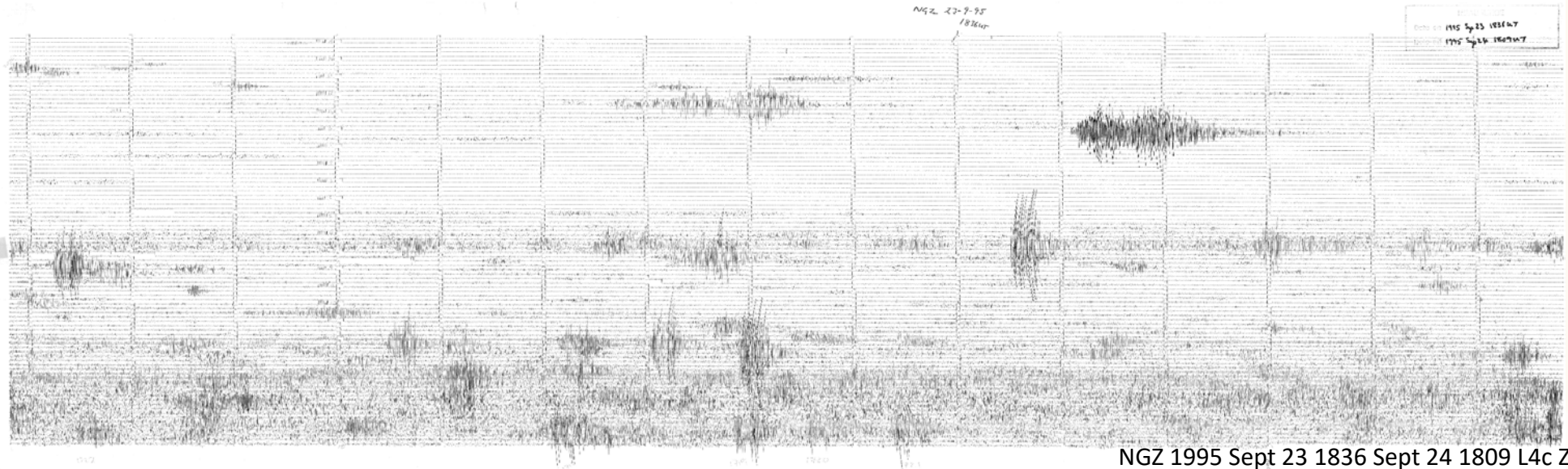
	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

# Example: Ruapehu, 23 Sept 1995

*Paul Viskovic (GNS)*

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

Kia manawaroa –  
Ngā Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa

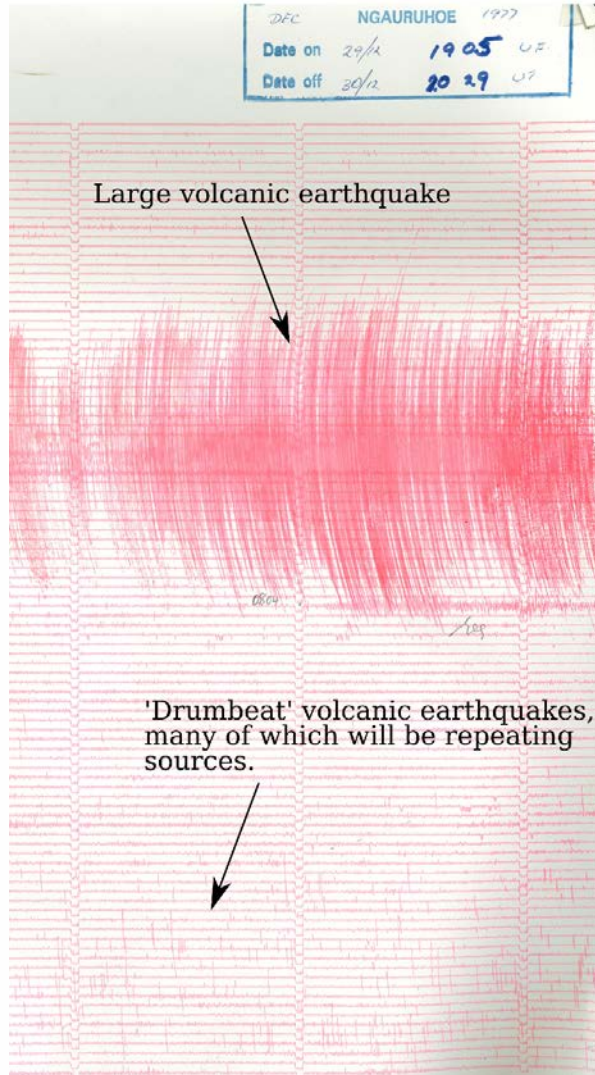


NGZ 1995 Sept 23 1836 Sept 24 1809 L4c Z



# Example: Ngauruhoe, 1970s

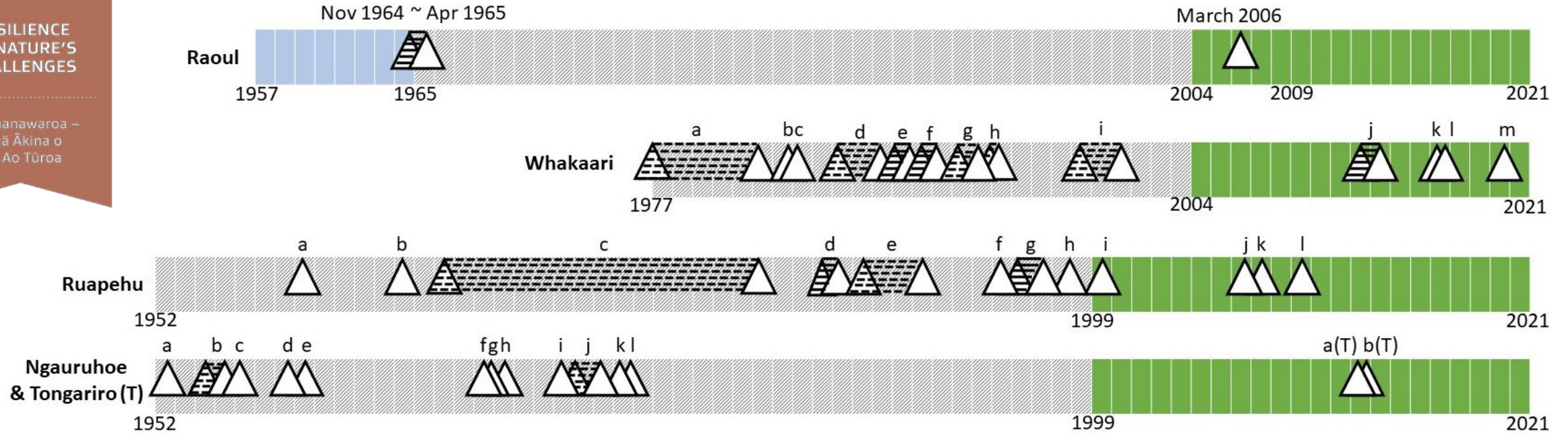
*Paul Viskovic (GNS)*



# Seismic data yet to be exploited

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

Kia manawaroa –  
Ngā Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa



Ruapehu		Whakaari		Ngauruhoe & Tongariro	
a. May – Aug 1959	i. Sep – Oct 1999	a. Dec 1976 – Jan 1982	i. Mar 1998 – Jul 2000	a. Nov 1952	i. Apr 1972
b. Apr - June 1964	j. Oct 2006	b. Dec 1983	j. Aug 2012 – Oct 2013	b. May 1954 – Mar 1955	j. Jan 1973 - Mar 1974
c. Mar 1966 – Mar 1982	k. Sep 2007	c. Feb 1984	k. Apr 2016	c. Jan 1956	k. Feb 1975
d. May 1985 – Feb 1986	l. July 2009	d. Feb 1986 - Apr 1988	l. Sep 2016	d. Nov 1958	l. May 1975
e. Aug 1987 – June 1990		e. Jan - Nov 1989	m. Dec 2019	e. Jun 1959	
f. Feb – Mar 1994		f. May 1990 - Mar 1991		f. Jul 1968	
g. Jan 95 – Sep 1996		g. Feb 1992 - Apr 1993		g. Dec 1968	a(T). Aug 2012 (Tongariro)
h. Oct 97 – Jan 1998		h. Oct 1993 – Mar 1994		h. Jul 1969	b(T). Nov 2012 (Tongariro)

Film  
Paper  
Digital

## Eruption records

Ra: Christenson et al. (2013)

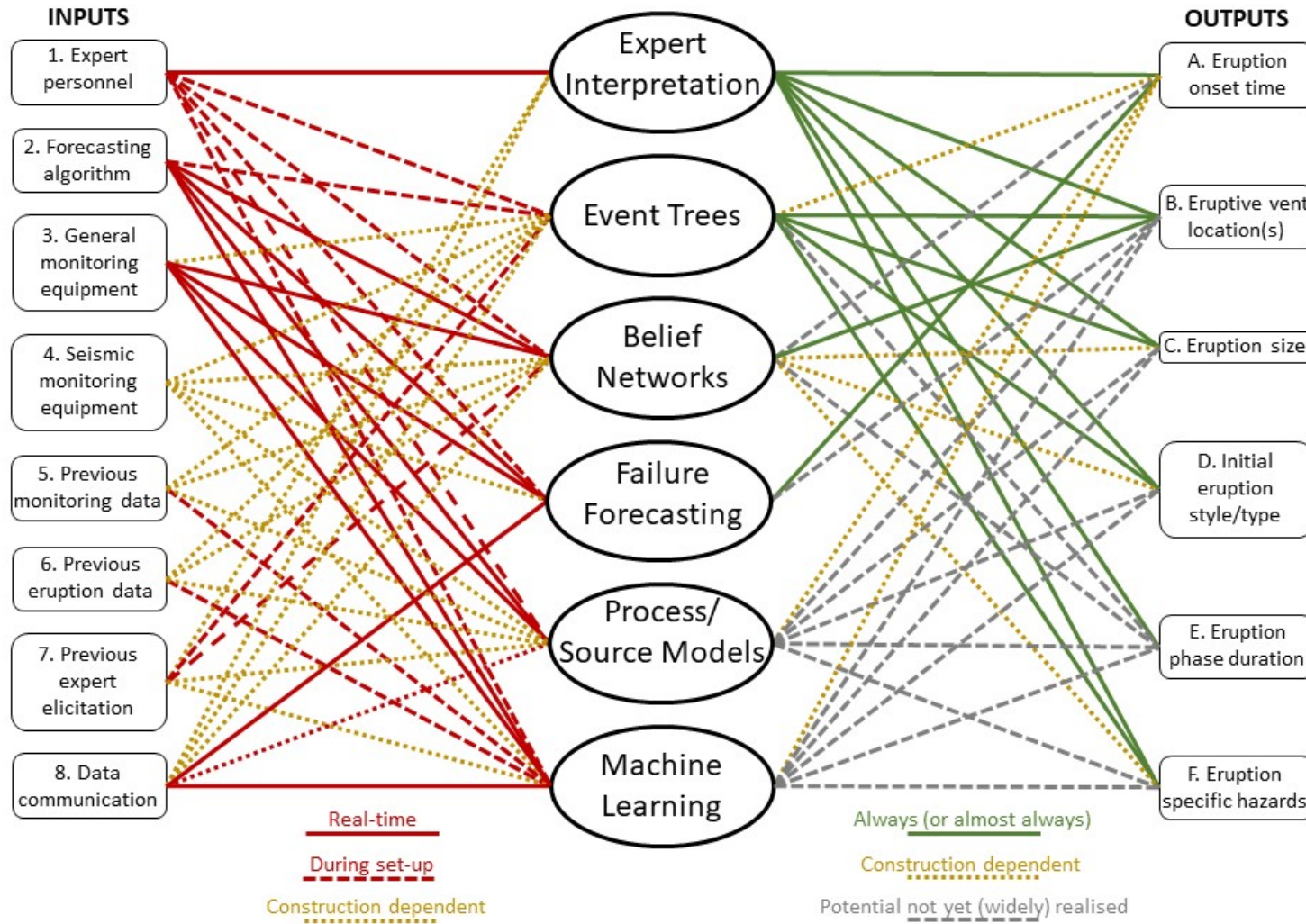
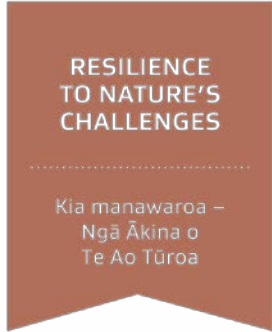
Ru: Scott (2013)

Ng: Latter et al. (1985), Hobden et al. (2002)

To: Scott and Potter (2014)

Wh: Kilgour et al. (2021)

# How do volcanologists forecast eruptions?



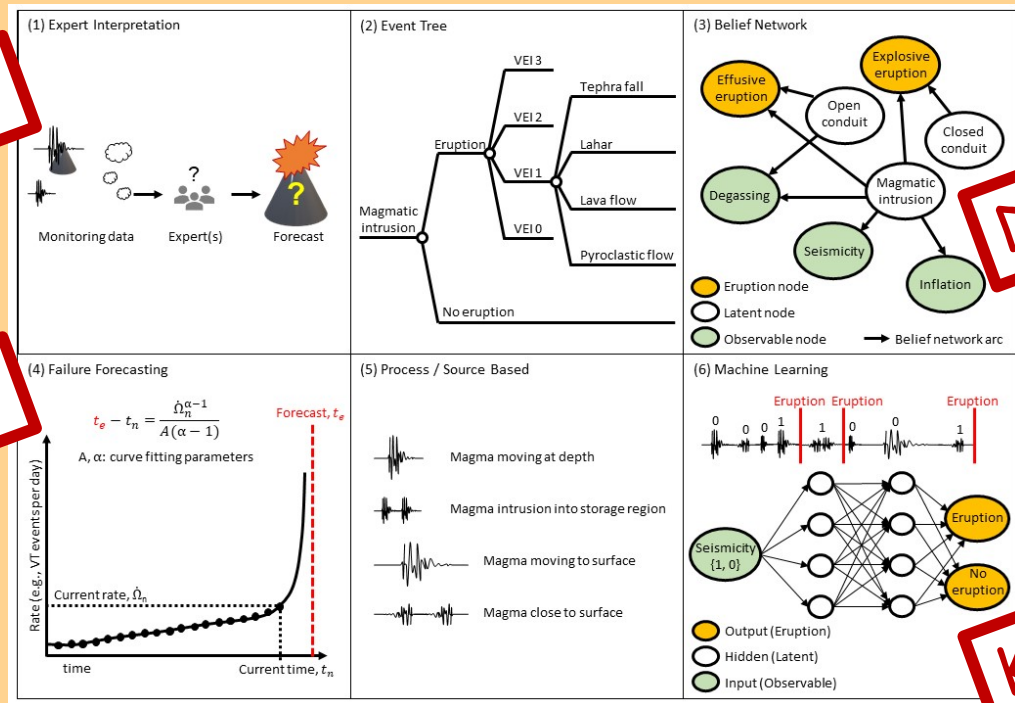
# How do volcanologists forecast eruptions?

Assumptions

Forecast parameters

Data requirements

Knowledge requirements



Responsibly develop as many methods as possible for each volcano to better characterize epistemic uncertainty and to cover all required eruption parameters

**Disclaimer:** The results here are based on practical implementation requirements with no implied assumption that those methods that are easiest to apply will provide the most accurate estimates. This work has addressed the matter of method feasibility; however, questions remain about which methods are most accurate and which are more likely to be trusted.





# For discussion

- Forecasting parameters

What forecasting parameters may be most valuable and in what situations is eruption start time more useful than the explosivity of eruption?

- Warning time

Is a forecast of an eruption in the next day more useful than a forecast of an eruption sometime in the next two weeks?

- Uncertainty

Do we expect volcanic eruptions to be forecast to the same degree as weather?  
How comfortable are we with what degree of uncertainty around volcanic eruptions?



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RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

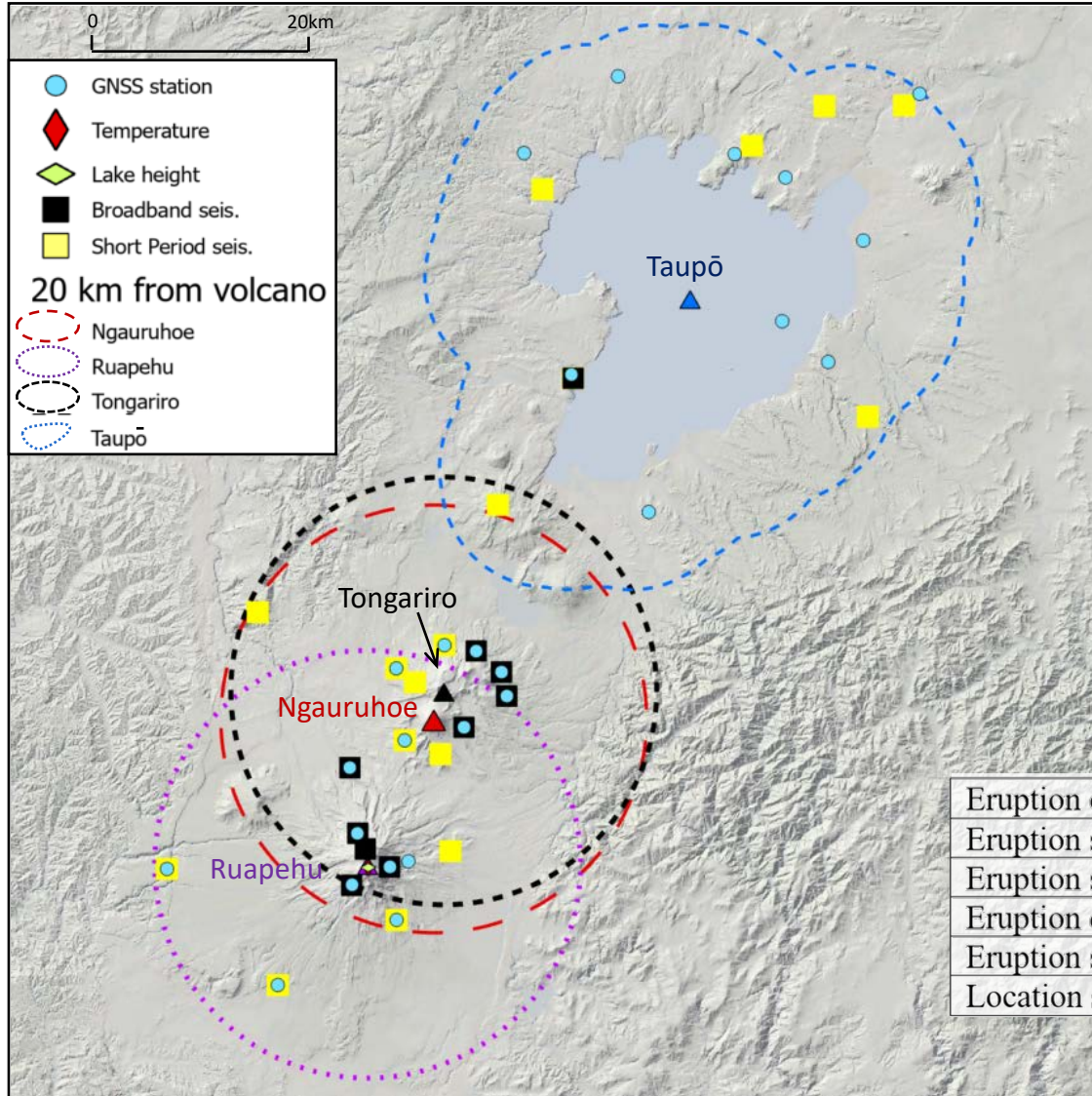
Kia manawaroa  
– Ngā Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa

National  
**SCIENCE**  
Challenges

# Ngauruhoe

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

Kia manawaroa –  
Ngā Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa



Area used: < 20 km from most recent eruptive centre

Sufficient seismic stations (> 6 broadband) suggests relative ease of application of FFM.

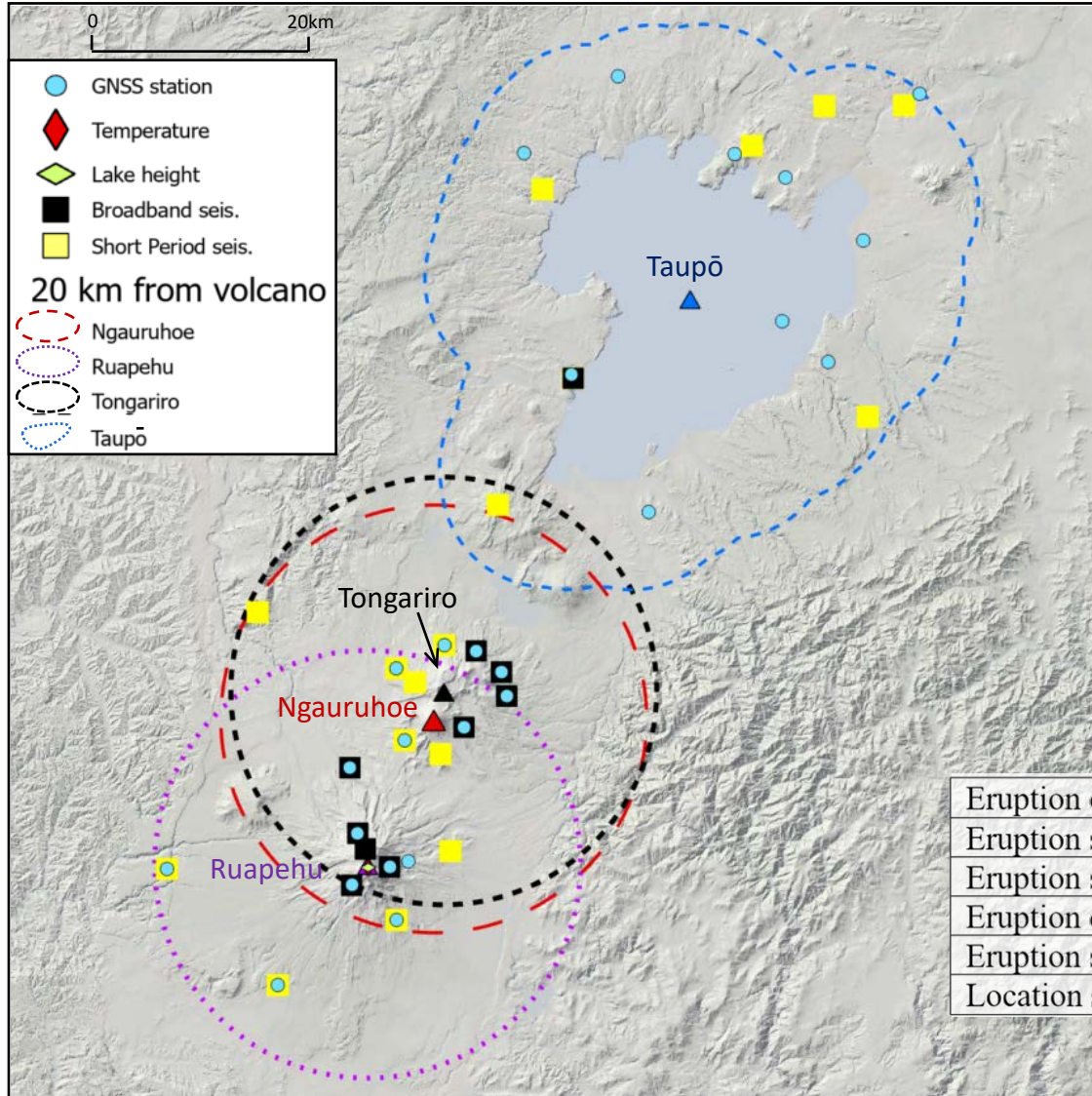
Data to train machine learning algorithms are available but must first be vectorised from paper seismograms.

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time	Blue	Red	Red	Red	Blue	Yellow	Red
Eruption size	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Red	Yellow	Red
Eruption style/type	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Red	Yellow	Red
Eruption duration	Blue	Red	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Red
Eruption specific hazards	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Red	Yellow	Red
Location specific parameters	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Red
	Negligible effort/time Some effort/time	Medium effort/time Significant effort/time	Not currently feasible				

# Tongariro

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

Kia manawaroa –  
Ngā Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa



Area used: < 20 km from mid-point (Te Maari:Ngauruhoe)

Sufficient seismic stations (> 6 broadband) suggests relative ease of application of FFM.

Insufficient data to train machine learning algorithms but potentially two eruption-monitoring pairs to inform a belief network.

- 11 GNSS station
- 8 Broadband seis.
- 7 Short Period seis.

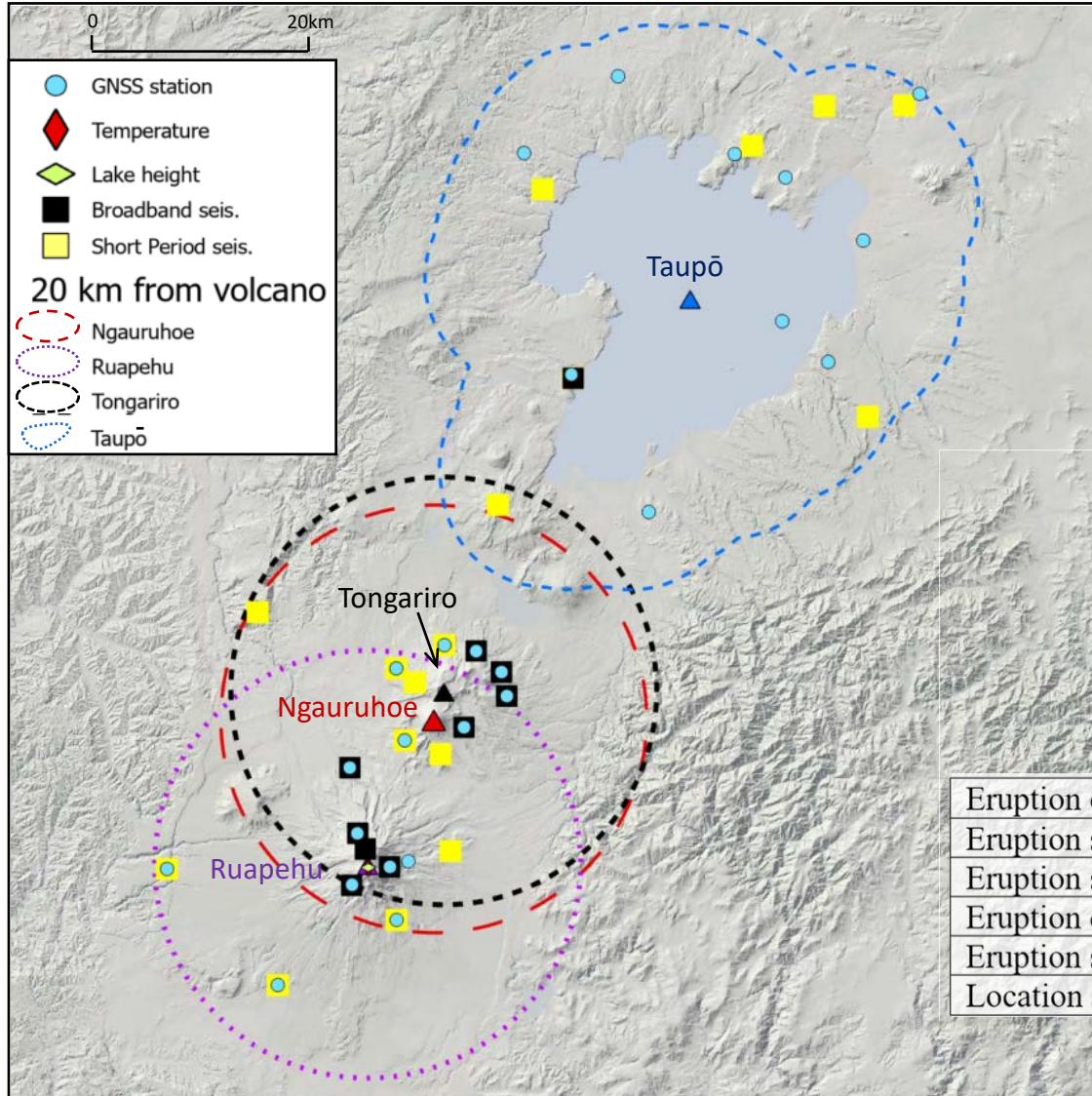
	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time	Blue	Red	Red	Red	Blue	Yellow	Black
Eruption size	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Orange	Black
Eruption style/type	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Orange	Black
Eruption duration	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Orange	Black
Eruption specific hazards	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Orange	Black
Location specific parameters	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Yellow	Black

Negligible effort/time  
Some effort/time
Medium effort/time  
Significant effort/time
Not currently feasible

# Taupō

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

Kia manawaroa –  
Ngā Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa



Area used: < 10 km from lake edge

Failure forecasting method difficult to apply where there are limited sensor-suitable locations (such as Lake Taupō)

Insufficient data to train a belief network or machine learning algorithms

Note – an event tree is under construction for Taupō

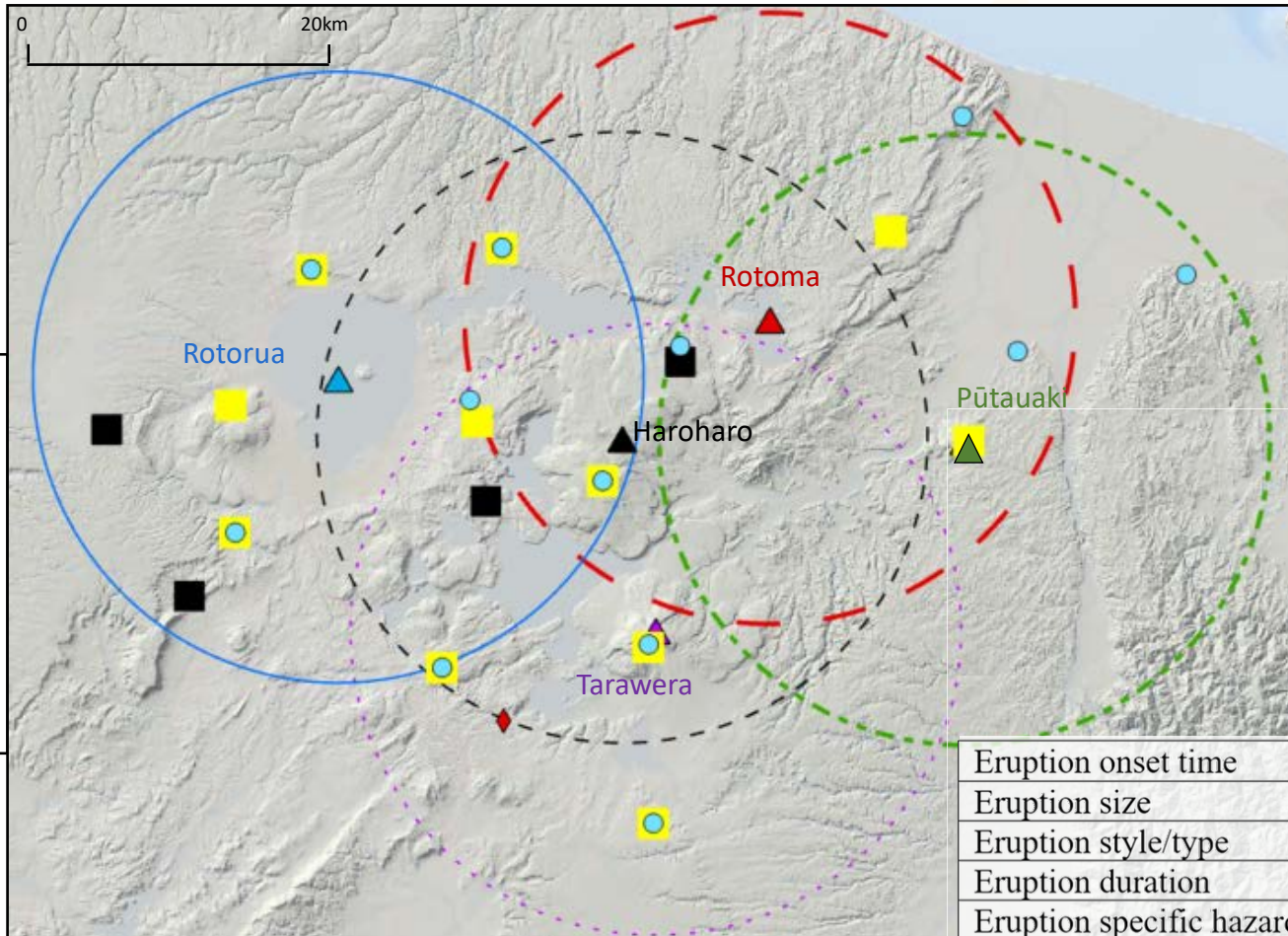
	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

Negligible effort/time  
Some effort/time
Medium effort/time  
Significant effort/time
Not currently feasible

# Rotorua

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

Kia manawaroa –  
Ngā Ākīna o  
Te Ao Tūroa



Area used: < 20 km from lake centre

Failure forecasting method difficult to apply where there are limited sensor-suitable locations (such as Lake Rotorua)

Insufficient data to train a belief network or machine learning algorithms

- GNSS station
  - ◆ Temperature
  - Broadband seis.
  - Short Period seis.
- 20 km from volcano
- Haroharo
  - Putauaki
  - Rotoma
  - Tarawera
  - Rotorua

- 5 ● GNSS station
- 3 ■ Broadband seis.
- 6 ■ Short Period seis.

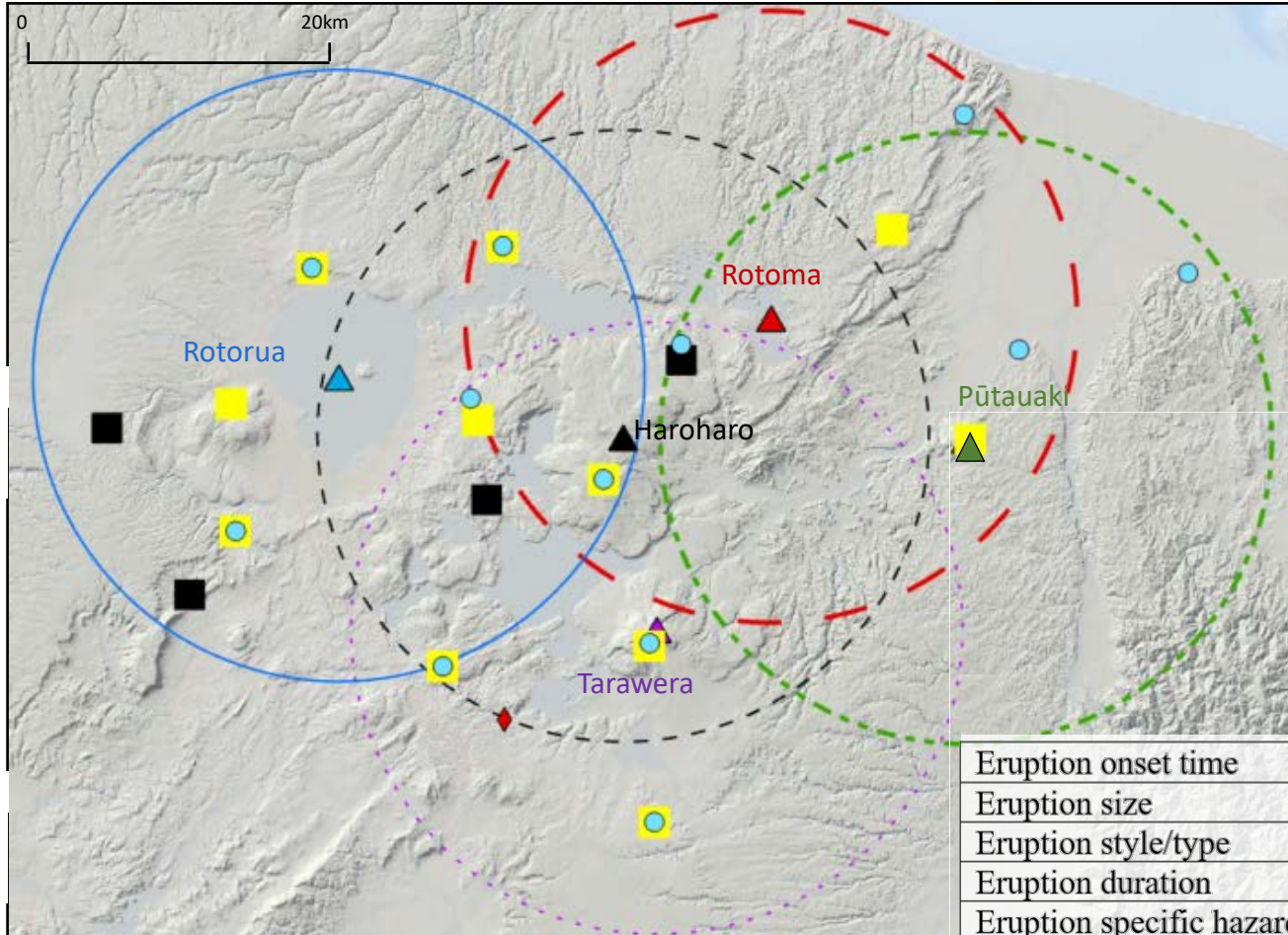
	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

Negligible effort/time     Medium effort/time     Not currently feasible  
Some effort/time     Significant effort/time

# Okataina Volcanic Centre

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

Kia manawaroa –  
Ngā Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa



Area used: < 20 km from eruptive centres

GNSS station located < 0.5 km to Tarawera suggesting relative ease of application of the FFM at this eruptive centre.

Insufficient data to train a belief network or machine learning algorithms

- Haroharo**
- 6 ● GNSS station
  - 2 ■ Broadband seis.
  - 5 ■ Short Period seis.
- Tarawera**
- 6 ● GNSS station
  - ◆ Temperature
  - 2 ■ Broadband seis.
  - 5 ■ Short Period seis.
- Rotoma**
- 5 ● GNSS station
  - 1 ■ Broadband seis.
  - 4 ■ Short Period seis.
- Pūtauaki**
- 3 ● GNSS station
  - 1 ■ Broadband seis.
  - 2 ■ Short Period seis.

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

Negligible effort/time

Some effort/time

Medium effort/time

Significant effort/time

Not currently feasible



# Taranaki

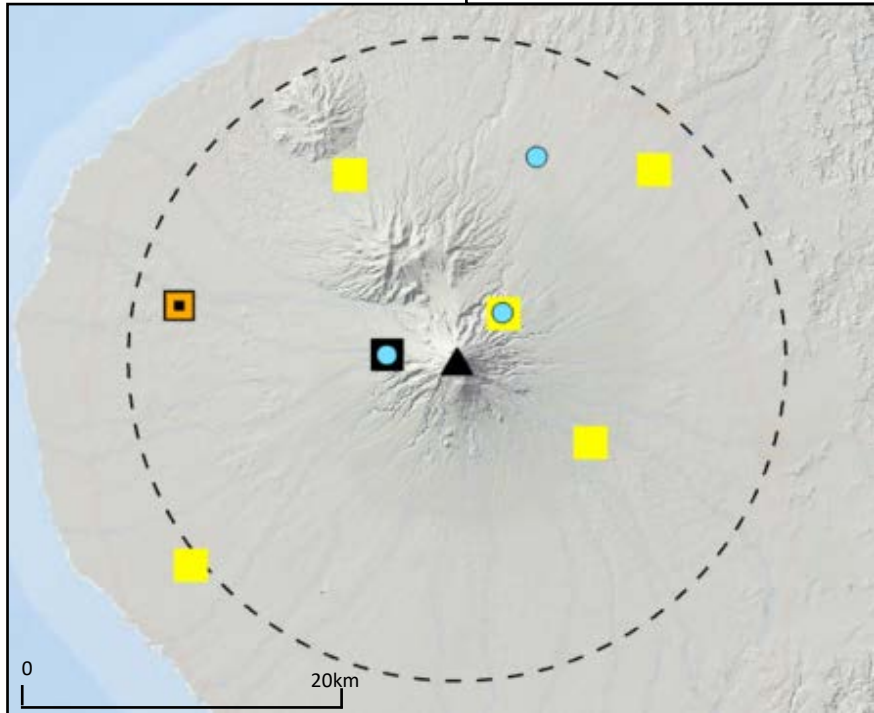


[Image: <https://www.gns.cri.nz/>]

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

Kia manawaroa –  
Nga Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa

- 3 ● GNSS station
  - 1 ■ Broadband seis.
  - 1  Short Period Borehole seis.
  - 4  Short Period seis.
- 20 km from volcano
- Taranaki



Area used: < 20 km from summit crater

Insufficient data to train a belief network or machine learning algorithms

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time							
Eruption size							
Eruption style/type							
Eruption duration							
Eruption specific hazards							
Location specific parameters							

Negligible effort/time  
Some effort/time

Medium effort/time  
Significant effort/time

Not currently feasible

# Tūhua

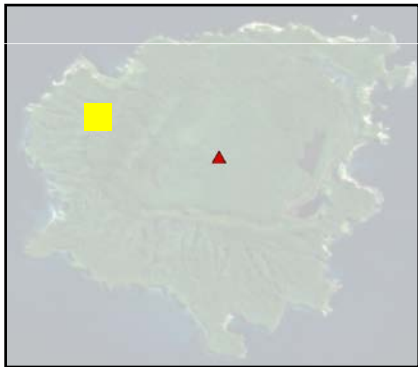
Area used: On island

Insufficient data to train a belief network or machine learning algorithms

RESILIENCE  
TO NATURE'S  
CHALLENGES

Kia manawaroa –  
Ngā Ākina o  
Te Ao Tūroa

1  Short Period seis.



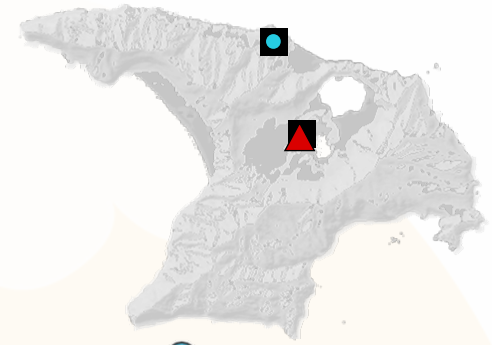
	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time	Blue	Red	Red	Black	Yellow	Yellow	Black
Eruption size	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Black	Red	Yellow	Black
Eruption style/type	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Black	Red	Red	Black
Eruption duration	Blue	Red	Red	Black	Red	Red	Black
Eruption specific hazards	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Black	Red	Red	Black
Location specific parameters	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Black	Red	Yellow	Black



# Raoul

Area used: On island

Insufficient monitoring equipment (< 3 seismometers) for process/source models

Insufficient data to train machine learning algorithms but potentially two eruption-monitoring pairs to inform a belief network



1  GNSS Antenna  
2  Broadband Seismometer

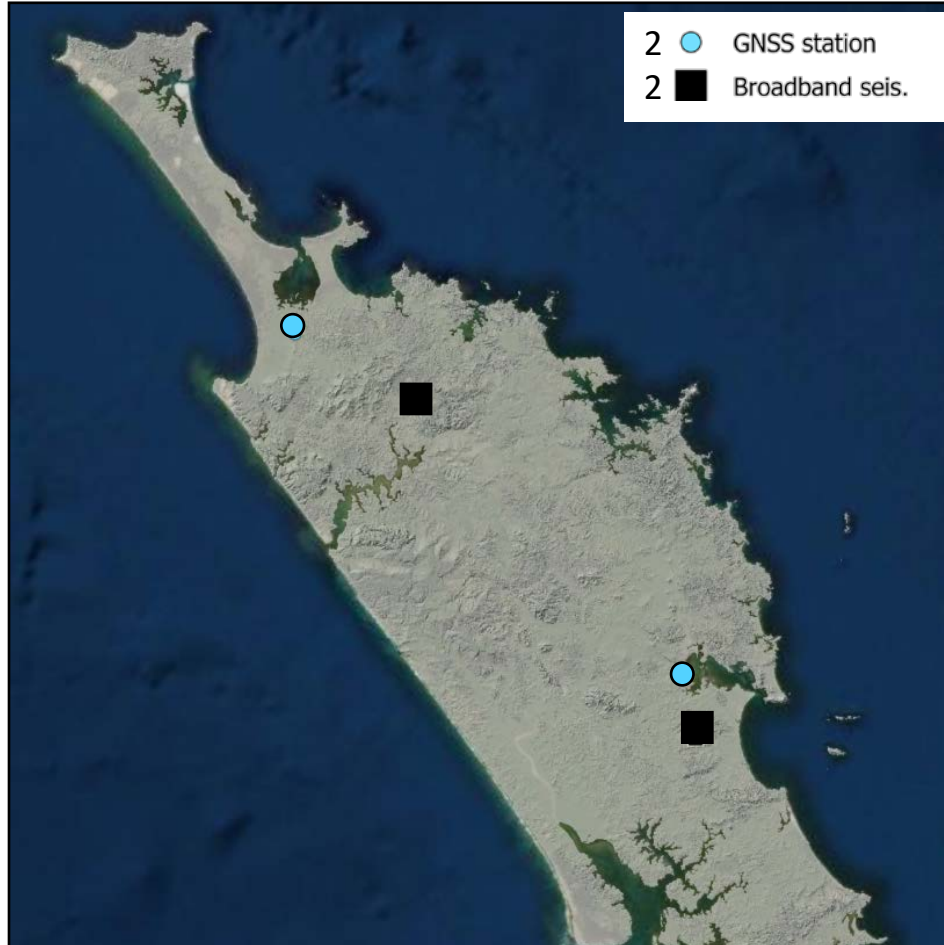
	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time	Blue	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Black	Black
Eruption size	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Black	Black
Eruption style/type	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Black	Black
Eruption duration	Blue	Red	Red	Red	Red	Black	Black
Eruption specific hazards	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Black	Black
Location specific parameters	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Black	Black

Negligible effort/time  
Some effort/time

Medium effort/time  
Significant effort/time

Not currently feasible

# Kaikohe-Bay of Islands



Area used: “Northland Region”

Failure forecasting method difficult at a distributed volcanic system

Insufficient data to train a belief network or machine learning algorithms

	Expert Interpretation	Event Trees	Belief Networks	Belief Networks with training	Failure Forecasting	Process/Source based	Machine Learning
Eruption onset time	Blue	Red	Red	Black	Yellow	Yellow	Black
Eruption size	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Black	Red	Yellow	Black
Eruption style/type	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Black	Red	Red	Black
Eruption duration	Blue	Red	Red	Black	Red	Red	Black
Eruption specific hazards	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Black	Red	Red	Black
Location specific parameters	Blue	Yellow	Yellow	Black	Red	Yellow	Black
	Negligible effort/time Some effort/time	Medium effort/time Significant effort/time		Not currently feasible			