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### ► To cite this version:

Thierry Menand, Catherine Annen, Michel de Saint Blanquat. Rates of magma transfer in the crust: Insights into magma reservoir recharge and pluton growth. *Geology*, 2015, pp.1-15. 10.1130/G36224.1 . hal-03025421v1

**HAL Id: hal-03025421**

**<https://hal.science/hal-03025421v1>**

Submitted on 30 Mar 2015 (v1), last revised 26 Nov 2020 (v2)

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Publisher: GSA  
Journal: GEOL: Geology  
DOI:10.1130/G36224.1

1 Rates of magma transfer in the crust: Insights into magma  
2 reservoir recharge and pluton growth

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9 **ABSTRACT**

10 Plutons have long been viewed as crystallized remnants of large magma reservoirs, a  
11 concept now challenged by high precision geochronological data coupled with thermal models.  
12 Similarly, the classical view of silicic eruptions fed by long-lived magma reservoirs that slowly  
13 differentiate between mafic recharges is being questioned by petrological and geophysical  
14 studies. In both cases, a key and yet unresolved issue is the rate of magma transfer in the crust.  
15 Here, we use thermal analysis of magma transport to calculate the minimum rate of magma  
16 transfer through dykes. We find that unless the crust is exceptionally hot the recharge of magma  
17 reservoirs requires a magma supply rate of at least  $\sim 0.01 \text{ km}^3/\text{yr}$ , much higher than the long-term  
18 growth rate of plutons, which demonstrates unequivocally that igneous bodies must grow  
19 incrementally. This analysis argues also that magma reservoirs are short-lived and erupt rapidly  
20 after being recharged by already differentiated magma. These findings have significant  
21 implications for the monitoring of dormant volcanic systems and our ability to interpret geodetic  
22 surface signals related to incipient eruptions.

23 **INTRODUCTION**

24           Petrological and geophysical studies challenge the long-held view that silicic magma  
25 reservoirs are long-lived, differentiating slowly between mafic recharges. For example, until  
26 recently Santorini volcano, Greece, was understood as a volcano whose shallow dacitic reservoir  
27 is regularly recharged by small mafic spurts (Martin et al., 2008). However, crystal diffusion  
28 chronometry and surface deformation data reveal a different story. In the case of the ~1600 BC  
29 Minoan caldera-forming eruption, reactivation was fast (< 100 years) with a transient recharge  
30 flux > 0.05 km<sup>3</sup>/yr, more than 50 times the long-term magma influx that feeds the volcano  
31 (Druitt et al., 2012). Crucially, reactivation represented a sizable proportion of the shallow  
32 reservoir, and involved an already differentiated magma of deep origin (Druitt et al., 2012).  
33 Similar conclusions are reached for Santorini's recent activity (Parks et al., 2012). The emerging  
34 view is thus of a volcano whose shallow reservoir is regularly replenished from depth by high-  
35 flux batches of already differentiated magma, the duration of which is much shorter than that of  
36 intervening repose periods. These findings raise key but unresolved questions: what determine  
37 the recharge rate of shallow reservoirs? And ultimately, can we identify recharges that will lead  
38 to an eruption? These are crucial issues in volcanology, and not simply at Santorini.

39           These issues also echo that of the rates at which pluton assembly occurs (Petford et al.,  
40 2000; Cruden and McCaffrey, 2001; Glazner et al., 2004; Saint Blanquat et al., 2011). Indeed,  
41 the example of Santorini fits with models for the generation of evolved magmas in deep crustal  
42 hot zones (Annen et al., 2006) and the incremental emplacement and growth of igneous bodies in  
43 the upper crust (Menand et al., 2011). According to the deep hot zone model (Annen et al.,  
44 2006), the chemical diversity of arc magmas and granites is generated in the lower crust. After  
45 leaving their deep hot zones, the vast majority of magmas stall below the surface, many of them

46 as sills and often amalgamating together to form larger plutons as evidenced by geological,  
47 geophysical and geochronological data (e.g., Hawkes and Hawkes, 1933; Cruden, 1998; Benn et  
48 al., 1999; Saint Blanquat et al., 2001; Al-Kindi et al., 2003; Cruden, 2006; Michel et al., 2008;  
49 Horsman et al., 2009; Leuthold et al., 2012). It is in the upper crust that magmas acquire their  
50 textural diversity owing to shallow-level crystallization. Incremental growth of plutons is widely  
51 accepted, and the issue is now to identify the incremental processes involved and to quantify  
52 their rates. The recharge of volcano reservoirs and the growth of plutons seem intimately related:  
53 in both cases, the key point is the rate of magma transfer between a source and a shallower  
54 storage level.

#### 55 **THERMAL ANALYSIS**

56 Magma transport in the crust occurs mainly through dykes (Lister and Kerr, 1991;  
57 Clemens and Mawer, 1992; Petford et al., 1993) but there is currently no 3D, time-dependent  
58 propagation model. We therefore focused our analysis on the steady-state propagation of buoyant  
59 dykes, and performed a stochastic thermal analysis to quantify the minimum volumetric flow  
60 rates that are required for dykes to transport magma through Earth's crust.

61 Dykes need to propagate fast enough through the crust to avoid death by solidification  
62 (Spence and Turcotte, 1985; Rubin 1995). Flowing magma advects heat along dykes while heat  
63 is conducted away by the colder country rocks. If advection is slower than conduction then the  
64 magma will solidify and dyke propagation will cease. A buoyant dyke intruding rocks of fracture  
65 toughness  $K_c$  over some height  $H$  must thus be fed with a critical minimum magma supply rate  
66 (details in Supplemental information<sup>1</sup>)

$$67 \quad Q_c = \frac{9}{32} \left[ \frac{C_p (T_f - T_\infty)^2}{L(T_0 - T_f)} \right]^{9/4} \left( \frac{\Delta \rho g k^3 H^3}{\mu} \right)^{1/4} \left( \frac{K_c}{\Delta \rho g} \right)^{2/3}, \quad (1)$$

68 where  $L$  is magma latent heat,  $C_p$  is its specific heat capacity,  $T_o$ ,  $T_f$  and  $T_\infty$  are initial magma,  
69 freezing and crustal far-field temperatures, respectively,  $\mu$  is magma dynamic viscosity,  $\kappa$  is its  
70 thermal diffusivity,  $\Delta\rho$  is the density difference between country rocks and magma, and  $g$  is  
71 gravitational acceleration. This is the minimum influx of magma a buoyant dyke needs to  
72 propagate over a height  $H$  without freezing. A growing pluton would need to be fed with at least  
73 this influx of magma  $Q_c$ , which would thus represent a short-term magma supply rate, otherwise  
74 its feeder dyke would freeze before it could reach this emplacement level. The same goes for the  
75 recharge of an existing reservoir lying a height  $H$  above a deeper magma source;  $Q_c$  would then  
76 represent a short-term magma recharge or replenishment rate.

## 77 **RESULTS**

78 We used Monte Carlo simulations to calculate the expected range of critical rates for  
79 magmas with viscosities between 10 and  $10^8$  Pa s. Magmatic and country-rock parameters were  
80 sampled randomly, and three different ranges of far-field temperatures  $T_\infty$  were tested: cold,  
81 intermediate or hot crusts (Table 1). In each case  $T_\infty$  was kept constant throughout the crust, a  
82 simplification (no geothermal gradient) that may underestimate magma heat lost hence  $Q_c$ .

83 Figure 1A shows the range of critical short-term supply rates  $Q_c$  as a function of magma  
84 viscosity from 10 000 Monte Carlo simulations for a 5-km-high dyke in a crust with intermediate  
85 far-field temperature ( $T_\infty = 200 - 400$  °C). For all magma viscosities, the simulations give a  
86 range of critical rates  $Q_c$  with a normal distribution around a mean value on a logarithmic scale  
87 (Fig. 1B). This allows a minimum supply rate  $Q_{c\min}$  to be defined, three standard deviations

88 below the mean value; statistically, more than 99% of the calculated rates lie above  $Q_{c\min}$  (Fig.  
89 1).

90 Figure 2 shows this minimum supply rate  $Q_{c\min}$  as a function of magma viscosity for two  
91 dyke heights, 5 km and 30 km, and various far-field temperatures.  $Q_{c\min}$  decreases with  
92 increasing magma viscosity: fluid dynamics dictate that more viscous magmas induce thicker  
93 dykes, and because thicker dykes cool more slowly the net effect is a lower minimum supply rate  
94 (details in Supplemental information<sup>1</sup>). Hotter crusts lead to lower amounts of heat loss hence  
95 lower minimum supply rates; this nonlinear effect can reduce  $Q_{c\min}$  by several orders of  
96 magnitude. Longer propagation heights require higher supply rates  $Q_{c\min}$ . For the most  
97 conservative scenario of dykes propagating over 5 km in a hot crust ( $T_{\infty} = 400 - 600$  °C), a  
98 minimum supply rate of  $10^{-4}$  to  $4 \times 10^{-3}$  km<sup>3</sup>/yr is required to transport magmas with viscosities  
99 between 10 and  $10^8$  Pa s (Fig. 2). Longer magma-transport heights and colder environments ( $T_{\infty}$   
100 < 200 °C) lead to higher minimum supply rates (> 0.01 km<sup>3</sup>/yr).

101 Figure 3 compares the density distribution of all the critical short-term supply rates  $Q_c$   
102 calculated by Monte Carlo simulations with the density distribution of 47 published maximum,  
103 long-term-averaged, pluton-filling-rate estimates (Table DR1, Supplemental information<sup>1</sup>). There  
104 is a clear dichotomy between pluton-filling rates and our critical short-term supply rates, which  
105 has several important implications. First, irrespective of pluton emplacement depth, magma  
106 composition and tectonic setting, nearly all the reported plutons have too low a magma supply  
107 rate to have formed by a single episode of magma injection. This means that the formation of  
108 these plutons must have involved successive, discrete magma pulses with a short-term injection  
109 rate for their successive feeder dykes of at least  $\sim 0.01$  km<sup>3</sup>/yr (Fig. 3). We note that some of the

110 few reported filling-rate estimates greater than  $0.01 \text{ km}^3/\text{yr}$  exhibit strong evidence for  
111 incremental growth (e.g., Papoose Flat pluton; Saint Blanquat et al., 2001) or are associated with  
112 particularly hot crusts (e.g., Japan; Tanaka, 2002; Socorro Magma body, Reiter et al., 2010), in  
113 agreement with our findings that hotter crusts allow magma transport in dykes at much lower  
114 flow rates (Fig. 2). Moreover, most of the larger estimated filling rates are derived from  
115 observations of surface deformation integrated over at most two decades; they should be close to  
116 short-term supply rates and are indeed in agreement with our minimum fluxes. Second,  $Q_{c\text{min}}$   
117 should also be the absolute minimum short-term recharge rate of magma reservoirs, such as that  
118 of Santorini volcano. A value of  $\sim 0.01 \text{ km}^3/\text{yr}$  is in agreement with the recharge rates estimated  
119 for the Minoan eruption or the current activity at Nea Kameni (Druitt et al., 2012; Parks et al.,  
120 2012), as well as the latest estimates for the recent magma supply or recharge rates at Lazufre  
121 volcanic complex in the Central Andes (Remy et al., 2014). Estimates determined for timescales  
122 of one to several decades (Lazufre, Santorini) probably integrate repose periods. Discrete  
123 recharge rates are likely to be larger (Usu-san, Syowa Sinzan). Finally, filling rates based on  
124 deformation are typically one order of magnitude larger than those based on geochronology  
125 (Table DR1, Supplemental information<sup>1</sup>), suggesting intermittent feeding over various time-  
126 scales.

## 127 **IMPLICATIONS**

128 According to our thermal analysis, the feeding of volcanoes by magmas from depth  
129 requires a short-term supply rate greater than  $\sim 0.01 \text{ km}^3/\text{yr}$ . However, a storage region can only  
130 develop into a potentially active reservoir with a sizeable amount of eruptible magma if the time-  
131 averaged supply rate exceeds  $0.001 - 0.01 \text{ km}^3/\text{yr}$  (Annen, 2009). For lower time-averaged  
132 supply rates, the volume of eruptible magma available at anyone time is at best that of a single

133 magmatic recharge event. Since most igneous bodies are emplaced at low time-averaged rates  
134 (Fig. 3), large eruptions require that either the repose time between recharges becomes  
135 transiently shorter, leading to a sharp increase in magma influx (Schöpa and Annen, 2013), or a  
136 recharge is exceptionally prolonged and rapidly brings in a large volume of magma that is  
137 erupted shortly after the intrusive event.

138 Evidence for rapid short-term recharge rates is not restricted to Santorini volcano.  
139 According to element diffusion models, the 530 km<sup>3</sup> of silicic magma erupted during the  
140 Oruanui eruption had been assembled within ~1600 years, implying an average flux of at least  
141 0.3 km<sup>3</sup>/yr, and most of the erupted volume was injected ~200 years before the eruption (Allan et  
142 al., 2013). Similarly, quartz crystallization times in the Bishop tuff magma are estimated to have  
143 occurred within 500–3000 years before eruption (Gualda et al., 2012). From these data and our  
144 analysis we suggest that long-lived magma bodies in the middle or deep crust feed ephemeral  
145 shallow reservoirs that erupt shortly after their formation over a few centuries or millennia.  
146 Because there are long periods of no or low activity between such magmatic high-flux feeding  
147 episodes, the long-term construction rate of plutons assembled from intrusions that failed to feed  
148 a shallower reservoir or to erupt is much lower than the reservoir assembly rate recorded by  
149 erupted crystals. This sporadic assembly must occur at several levels in the lower and upper  
150 crust; from mass balance, since only part of the magma stored in a reservoir continues toward the  
151 surface, we expect long-term fluxes to decrease for successively shallower reservoirs. Magma  
152 reservoirs can be long-lived in the deep crust because of higher ambient temperature, whereas in  
153 the cold shallow crust, magmas that do not erupt shortly after emplacement solidify rapidly.  
154 Moreover, magmas emplaced at high rates relatively close to the surface may induce such high



155 stresses in the cold, brittle crust that eruption is almost unavoidable (Jellinek and DePaolo,  
156 2003).

157 Our analysis raises the question of our ability to interpret geodetic surface signals:  
158 differentiating between surface deformation produced by an new influx of magma bound to form  
159 a frozen pluton from one associated with a reservoir recharge, when both scenarios require the  
160 same minimum short-term magma influx. Which parameters do we need to determine in order to  
161 make such a distinction? Our analysis implies that one cannot tell from a single magma pulse  
162 what will happen next: a pulse must have a minimum short-term flux in order to be thermally  
163 viable whatever the thermal fate of the storage region it might be feeding (pluton or volcanic  
164 reservoir). However, a key point is that the fate of this storage region hinges upon its time-  
165 averaged supply rate, integrated over several magma pulses (Annen, 2009; Schöpa and Annen,  
166 2013). Diffusion chronometry provides access to timescales that are commensurate with the fast  
167 emplacement rates of magma intrusions but requires material that has already been erupted.  
168 Continuous geodetic measurements of volcano surface deformation (e.g., Remy et al., 2014)  
169 could provide a means to estimate recharge volumes and rates integrated over several magma  
170 pulses, and thus the potential to discriminate between magmatic intrusions bound to crystallize,  
171 owing to a too slow time-averaged supply rate, from those recharging a reservoir at fast enough  
172 rates to potentially lead to future eruptions.

### 173 **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

174 We thank A.R. Cruden, Allen Glazner and an anonymous reviewer for their thorough and  
175 critical reviews. We acknowledge supports from a chaire mixte IRD-UBP, ERC Advanced  
176 Grants "CRITMAG" and "VOLDIES", and the CNRS-INSU programme Syster. This research  
177 was partially funded by the French Government Laboratory of Excellence initiative n°ANR-10-

178 LABX-0006, the Région Auvergne and the European Regional Development Fund. This is  
179 Laboratory of Excellence ClerVolc contribution number 130.

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312 **FIGURE CAPTIONS**

313 Figure 1. Critical magma supply rates  $Q_c$  from 10 000 Monte Carlo simulations for a 5-km-high  
314 buoyant dyke in intermediate crust ( $T_\infty = 200-400$  °C). A, Range of  $Q_c$  as a function of magma  
315 viscosity. The continuous black curve is the mean  $Q_c$ . The dashed black curve is the minimum  
316 critical supply rate  $Q_{c\min}$  defined as the mean  $Q_c$  minus three standard deviations. B, Histogram  
317 of the Monte Carlo simulations for a magma viscosity of  $10^4$  Pa s. On a logarithmic scale, this  
318 histogram is well fitted by a normal distribution with a mean of 2.32 and a standard deviation of  
319 1.04, hence  $Q_{c\min} \sim 0.16$  km<sup>3</sup>/yr.

320 Figure 2. Minimum magma influx  $Q_{c\min}$  to prevent magma freeze. Two vertical propagation  
321 distances are considered (5 km, continuous line; 30 km, dashed line) as a function of magma  
322 viscosity and far-field temperature (squares:  $T_\infty = 50-200$  °C; triangles:  $T_\infty = 200-400$  °C;  
323 circles:  $T_\infty = 400-600$  °C).

324 Figure 3. Probability density estimates (normal kernel function) of 47 maximum, long-term-  
325 averaged pluton-filling rates (dashed curve, Table DR1, Supplemental information<sup>1</sup>) and of 10  
326 000 Monte-Carlo critical supply rates  $Q_c$  (continuous curve, parameters ranges in Table 1, far-  
327 field temperatures sampled according to sampled dyke heights (between 5 and 30 km):  
328  $T_\infty = 400-600$  °C for heights > 20 km,  $T_\infty = 200-600$  °C for heights > 10 km,  $T_\infty = 50-600$   
329 °C for shorter dykes).

330 <sup>1</sup>GSA Data Repository item 2015xxx, Supplemental information, is available online at  
331 [www.geosociety.org/pubs/ft2015.htm](http://www.geosociety.org/pubs/ft2015.htm), or on request from editing@geosociety.org or Documents  
332 Secretary, GSA, P.O. Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301, USA.



Figure 1

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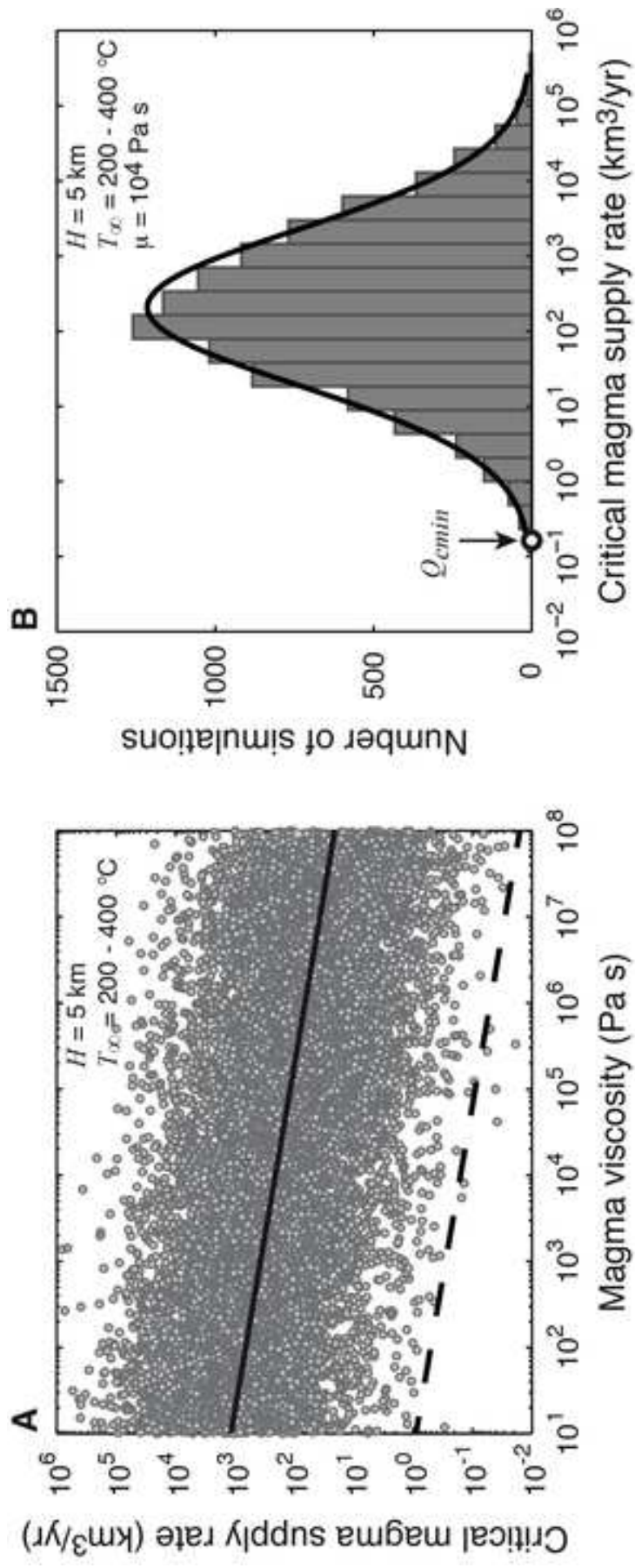


Figure 2  
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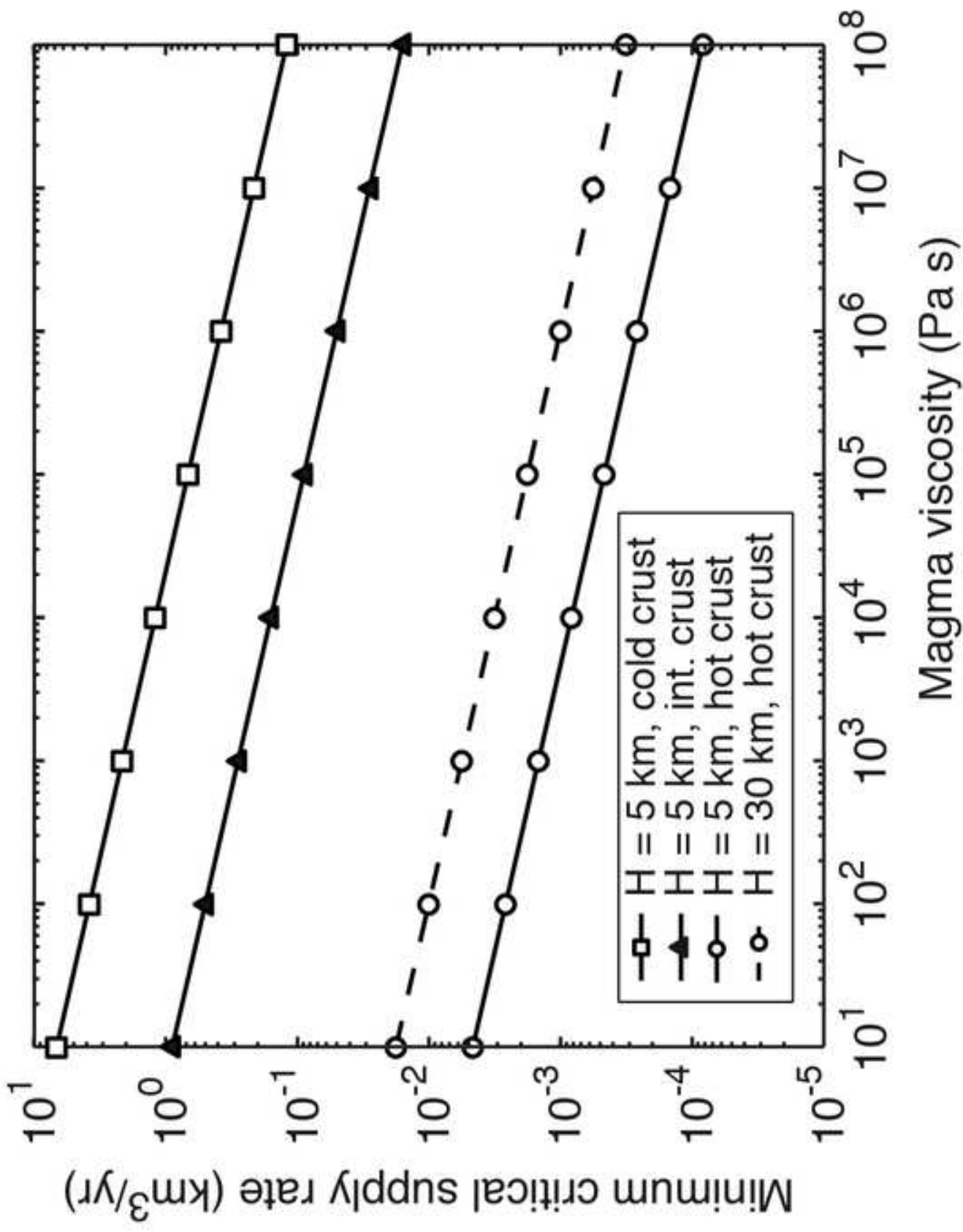


Figure 3  
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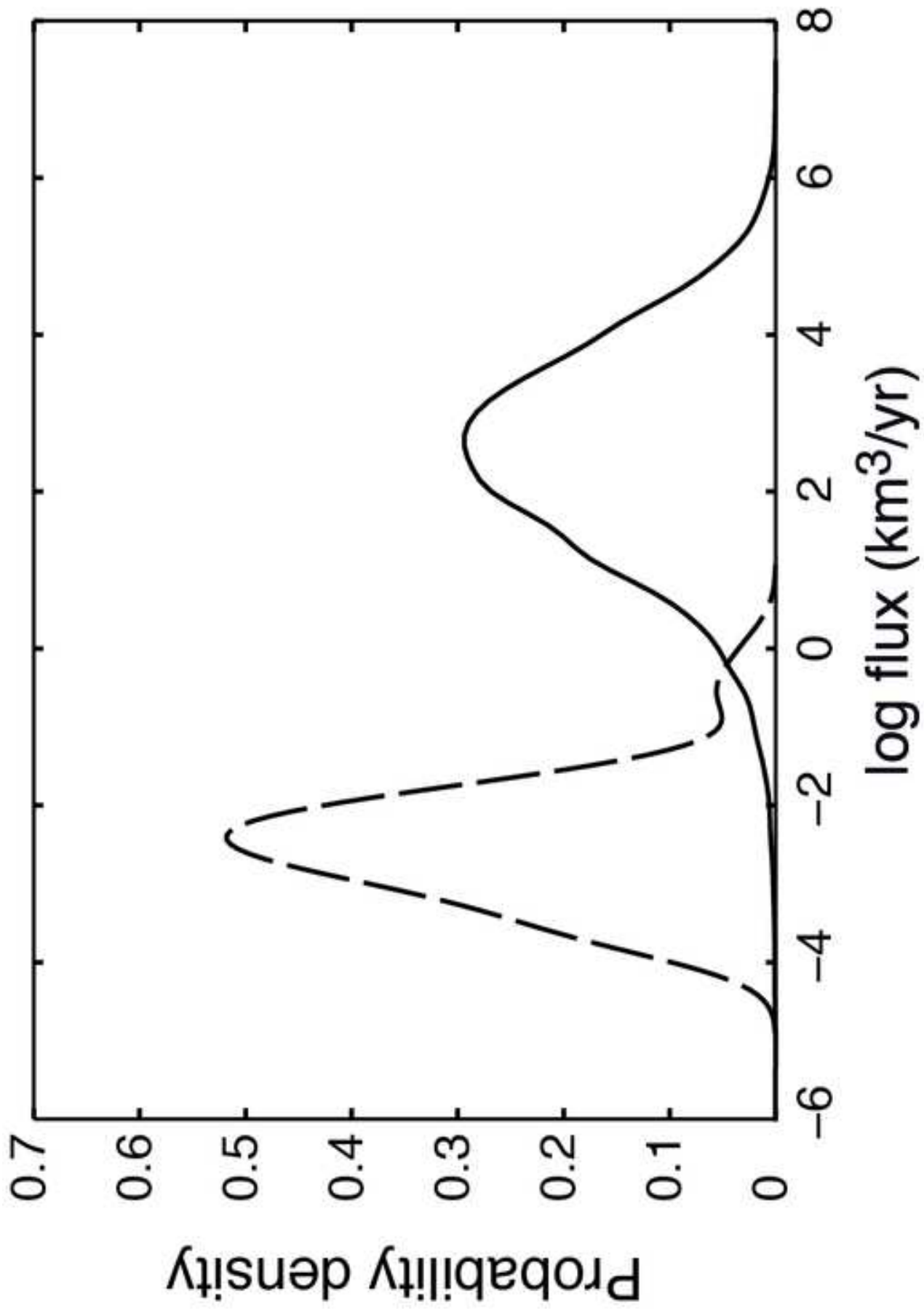


Table 1

**TABLE 1. PARAMETER RANGES AND DISTRIBUTIONS USED IN MONTE CARLO SIMULATIONS.**

Parameter	Distribution	Min	Max	Mean
Magma viscosity (Pa s)	uniform	10	$10^3$	-
Latent heat $L$ (J/kg) <sup>a,c</sup>	uniform	$2.5 \times 10^5$	$5.5 \times 10^5$	-
Specific heat $C_p$ (J/kg K) <sup>a,d</sup>	uniform	800	1600	-
Thermal diffusivity $\kappa$ ( $m^2/s$ ) <sup>e</sup>	uniform	$0.3 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-6}$	-
Fracture toughness $K_c$ ( $Pa\ m^{1/2}$ ) <sup>f,h</sup>	log-normal	$10^6$	$10^9$	$10^{7.5}$
Density contrast $\Delta\rho$ ( $kg/m^3$ ) <sup>i</sup>	uniform	100	700	-
Magma temperature $T_o$ ( $^{\circ}C$ ) <sup>j</sup>	uniform	750	1250	-
Freezing temperature $T_f = T_o - \Delta T_f$ : $\Delta T_f$ ( $^{\circ}C$ ) <sup>k,l</sup>	uniform	20	200	-
Far field temperature $T_{\infty}$ ( $^{\circ}C$ ):				
Cold crust	uniform	50	200	-
Int. crust	uniform	200	400	-
Hot crust	uniform	400	600	-

Note: The (Max - Min) range of the  $\log(K_c)$  normal distribution was equated with six standard deviations. a: Bohrsen and Spera (2001); b: Kojitani and Akaogi (1994); c: Lange et al. (1994); d: Robertson (1988); e: Whittington et al. (2009); f: Atkinson (1984); g: Delaney and Pollard (1981); h: Heimpel and Olson (1994); i: Spera (2000); j: Mysen (1981); k: Piwinski and Wyllie (1968); l: Wagner et al. (1995).

# 1 GSA Supplemental information

2 Supplemental information for: Rates of magma transfer in the crust: insights into magma  
3 reservoir recharge and pluton growth by Thierry Menand, Catherine Annen, and Michel de Saint  
4 Blanquat.

5

## 6 **STEADY-STATE PROPAGATION OF A BUOYANCY-DRIVEN DYKE**

7 Whether fed by a constant flux or a constant pressure from its source, a vertically  
8 propagating buoyant dyke will ultimately reach the same steady state once its vertical extent

9 becomes greater than its buoyancy length  $L_b = \left( \frac{K_c}{\Delta\rho g} \right)^{2/3}$  (Lister and Kerr, 1991; Menand and

10 Tait, 2002), where  $K_c$  is the fracture toughness of the country rocks,  $\Delta\rho$  is the density

11 difference between country rocks and magma, and  $g$  is the gravitational acceleration. This

12 steady state is characterised by a constant vertical velocity and a constant volumetric flow rate

13 (Lister and Kerr, 1991; Menand and Tait, 2002). Importantly, the steady-state dyke geometry is

14 also characterised by a constant thickness  $w$  away from its propagating upper tip, at a distance

15 greater than  $\sim 4L_b$  (Lister, 1990), determined by the constant incoming flux of magma delivered

16 by its feeding source. For the vast majority of dykes, magma flow is laminar and the steady-state

17 dyke thickness depends on the magma viscosity  $\mu$ , the density difference between country rocks

18 and magma  $\Delta\rho$ , the gravitational acceleration  $g$ , the dyke horizontal extent  $B$  and the average

19 volumetric magma flow rate  $Q$  as  $w = \left( \frac{12\mu Q}{\Delta\rho g B} \right)^{1/3}$  (Lister and Kerr, 1991). The average

20 volumetric magma flow rate can thus be expressed as a function of the other parameters:

$$21 \quad Q = \frac{\Delta\rho g w^3 B}{12\mu}. \text{ (DR1)}$$

22 Another characteristic feature of a steadily propagating buoyant dyke is that its horizontal  
23 dimension  $B$  is approximately constant and equal to the buoyancy length of the dyke (Menand

24 and Tait, 2001; 2002):  $B \approx \left( \frac{K_c}{\Delta\rho g} \right)^{2/3}$ . There is presumably a constant of proportionality between

25 the horizontal dimension  $B$  and the buoyancy length  $L_b$ , depending on the exact shape of the

26 dyke, but this shape factor will most likely remain of order one. Moreover, the variability in

27 horizontal dimension will be most affected by the range of possible values in both the rock

28 fracture toughness  $K_c$  and the density difference  $\Delta\rho$  between magma and country rocks. [In the

29 case the host rock has a negligible fracture toughness, the horizontal dimension of a buoyant

30 dyke will instead increase with the distance  $z$  above its source as  $z^{3/10}$ , however for the range of

31 fracture-toughness values considered in Table 1 this horizontal spread of the dyke will be

32 prevented (Lister and Kerr, 1991).]

33 10 000 Monte-Carlo simulations with values for  $K_c$  and  $\Delta\rho$  sampled randomly within the

34 ranges of values listed in Table 1 give an overall range of horizontal dimensions  $B$  between 400

35 m and 200 km with 80% of the  $B$  values smaller than 20 km, a mean value of  $\sim 13$  km and a

36 mode value of  $\sim 5$  km (Fig. DR1). These calculated values are in excellent agreement with

37 observed dyke dimensions, and thus suggest the scaling law used for  $B$  captures the appropriate

38 range of geological dimensions. The average volumetric magma flow rate in a vertically

39 propagating steady-state buoyant dyke can thus be expressed as

40 
$$Q = \frac{\Delta\rho g w^3}{12\mu} \left( \frac{K_c}{\Delta\rho g} \right)^{2/3}. \text{ (DR2)}$$

41

42 **CRITICAL MINIMUM MAGMA FLOW RATE**

43 In order to be able to propagate over some distance  $H$ , a dyke must have a critical  
 44 minimum thickness  $w_c$  so that magma may ascend through the crust over this distance without  
 45 freezing (Petford et al., 1993):

46 
$$w_c = 1.5 \left[ \frac{C_p (T_f - T_\infty)^2}{L(T_0 - T_f)} \right]^{3/4} \left( \frac{\mu\kappa H}{\Delta\rho g} \right)^{1/4}. \text{ (DR3)}$$

47  $L$  is magma latent heat,  $C_p$  is its specific heat capacity,  $T_0$ ,  $T_f$  and  $T_\infty$  are the initial magma,  
 48 freezing and crustal far-field temperatures, respectively,  $\mu$  is magma dynamic viscosity,  $\kappa$  is its  
 49 thermal diffusivity,  $\Delta\rho$  is the density difference between country rocks and magma, and  $g$  is  
 50 gravitational acceleration. Dykes that are thinner than this critical thickness freeze before they  
 51 could propagate as far as the distance  $H$  whereas thicker dykes could propagate even further, and  
 52 even possibly melt some of the country rocks (Bruce and Huppert, 1989).

53 Although Equation (DR3) gives the minimum thickness a dyke must have to be thermally  
 54 able to transport magma over some distance in the crust, this equation does not provide any  
 55 constraint on the dyke dynamics. Indeed, dykes of the same thickness could a priori involve  
 56 different magma fluxes, hence different amounts of advected heat. Considering magma flow as  
 57 laminar and buoyancy-driven within a dyke of thickness  $w$  and intruding rocks of fracture  
 58 toughness  $K_c$ , the magma average volumetric flow rate is given by Equation (DR2),

59  $Q = \frac{\Delta\rho g w^3}{12\mu} \left( \frac{K_c}{\Delta\rho g} \right)^{2/3}$ . Combining this expression with Equation (DR3) yields the magma

60 volumetric flow rate in a dyke with the critical thickness  $w_c$ :

61 
$$Q_c = \frac{9}{32} \left[ \frac{C_p (T_f - T_\infty)^2}{L(T_0 - T_f)} \right]^{9/4} \left( \frac{\Delta\rho g \kappa^3 H^3}{\mu} \right)^{1/4} \left( \frac{K_c}{\Delta\rho g} \right)^{2/3}. \text{ (DR4)}$$

62 This critical magma supply rate  $Q_c$  is the volumetric flow rate that allows a dyke to propagate  
63 over a distance  $H$  without freezing.

64 A counterintuitive result is that this critical, minimum flux decreases with magma  
65 viscosity: more viscous dykes can flow at lower fluxes and not freeze. The key point here is that  
66 both the volumetric flux in a dyke,  $Q$ , and the critical dyke thickness,  $w_c$ , depend on the magma  
67 viscosity but the flux itself does depend also on the thickness: the flux in a buoyant dyke is  
68 proportional to the third power of the dyke thickness and inversely proportional to the magma  
69 viscosity,  $Q \propto w^3 \mu^{-1}$ , (Equation DR2). We are dealing with the minimum volumetric flux that  
70 would allow a buoyant dyke to propagate over a given distance, and so this flux must be  
71 associated with the critical thickness of that dyke,  $Q_c \propto w_c^3 \mu^{-1}$ . Because the critical thickness  
72 varies as the magma viscosity to the 1/4th power (Equation DR3),  $w_c \propto \mu^{1/4}$ , the combine effect  
73 of this dependency with that of the flux leads to the minimum flux as decreasing with the magma  
74 viscosity to the 1/4th power,  $Q_c \propto \mu^{-1/4}$ . In other words, fluid dynamics dictate that more viscous  
75 magmas induce thicker dykes (Equation DR2), and because thicker dykes cool more slowly the  
76 net effect is a lower minimum supply rate (Equation DR4). We note, however, that this  
77 dependency results in a minimal effect of magma viscosity on the critical, minimum flux  $Q_c$ : an



78 increase of viscosity by eight orders of magnitude will reduce the minimum flux by only a factor  
79 100.

## 80 **PARAMETER RANGES AND DISTRIBUTIONS IN MONTE CARLO SIMULATIONS**

81 The ranges of parameters used in the Monte Carlo simulations were taken from the  
82 following references: Latent heat  $L$  from Bohrson and Spera (2001), Kojitani and Akaogi (1994),  
83 and Lange et al. (1994); specific heat  $C_p$  from Bohrson and Spera (2001) and Robertson (1988);  
84 thermal diffusivity  $\kappa$  from Whittington et al. (2009); fracture toughness  $K_c$  from Atkinson  
85 (1984), Delaney and Pollard (1981), and Heimpel and Olson (1994); density contrast  $\Delta\rho$  from  
86 Spera (2000); initial magma temperature  $T_o$  from Mysen (1981); difference between the initial  
87 and freezing magma temperatures  $\Delta T_i$  from Piwinski and Wyllie (1968), and Wagner et al.  
88 (1995).

89 For each parameter, there was not enough data to enable us to favour one particular  
90 distribution relative to others. A uniform distribution was therefore chosen as it gives the same  
91 weight to all data. The only exception is the rock fracture toughness  $K_c$ . There is a long debate as  
92 to its true representative values, with measurements from laboratory-scale rock samples giving  
93 values of about  $10^6 \text{ Pa m}^{1/2}$  (Atkinson; 1984) while field-scale fracture toughness values can be  
94 up to 3 orders of magnitude greater (Delaney and Pollard, 1981; Heimpel and Olson, 1994).  
95 Instead of arbitrarily favouring one set of values more than the other, we chose to sample the  
96 whole range with a log-normal distribution. This corresponded to sampling the exponent values  
97 between 6 and 9 with a normal distribution around a mean value of 7.5 that is comparable with  
98 both laboratory- and field-derived values. Furthermore, a log-normal distribution diminishes the  
99 weight attributed to extreme values, whether laboratory- or field-based, and leads to a range of

100 values for the dyke breadth  $B$  in very good agreement with field observations as shown in Fig.

101 DR1.

102

103 **FIGURE CAPTIONS**

104 Figure DR1. Probability density estimate (normal kernel function) of 10 000 Monte-Carlo

105 horizontal steady-state dimensions  $B$  for a buoyancy-driven dyke (parameter ranges in Table 1).

106 **TABLE DR1. ESTIMATES OF MAXIMUM, LONG-TERM AVERAGED, PLUTON-**  
 107 **FILING RATES.**

System	Max. long-term filling rate (km <sup>3</sup> /yr)	Method
Boulder batholith <sup>a</sup>	$6.3 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
New Guinea Highlands <sup>a</sup>	$4.7 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Guichon Creek batholith, B.C. <sup>a</sup>	$2.1 \times 10^{-4}$	isotope
Sierra Nevada batholith <sup>a</sup>	$8.3 \times 10^{-4}$	isotope
Sierra Nevada batholith <sup>a</sup>	$6.9 \times 10^{-4}$	isotope
Sierra Nevada batholith <sup>a</sup>	$1.9 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Sierra Nevada batholith <sup>a</sup>	$6.8 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Sierra Nevada batholith <sup>a</sup>	$1.9 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Southern California batholith <sup>a</sup>	$6.9 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Alaska-Aleutian Range batholith <sup>a</sup>	$9.8 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
New England batholith, Australia <sup>a</sup>	$2.3 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Lachlan batholithic belt, Australia <sup>a</sup>	$3.1 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Peruvian Coastal batholith <sup>a</sup>	$1.2 \times 10^{-2}$	isotope
Coast Range Plutonic Complex, B.C. <sup>a</sup>	$1.4 \times 10^{-2}$	isotope
Black Mesa <sup>b</sup>	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	thermal
Papoose Flat <sup>c</sup>	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	thermal
Tuolumne <sup>d</sup>	$1.2 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Scuzzy <sup>e</sup>	$3.0 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Socorro <sup>f</sup>	$2.8 \times 10^{-1}$	thermal

---

Hualca Hualca <sup>g</sup>	$2.5 \times 10^{-2}$	deformation
Uturuncu <sup>g</sup>	$3.0 \times 10^{-2}$	deformation
Lazufre <sup>g</sup>	$6.0 \times 10^{-3}$	deformation
Mt Stuart Batholith <sup>h</sup>	$2.2 \times 10^{-4}$	isotope
Mt Stuart Batholith old domain <sup>h</sup>	$5.8 \times 10^{-4}$	isotope
Mt Stuart Batholith young domain <sup>h</sup>	$3.1 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Tenpeak intrusion <sup>h</sup>	$1.5 \times 10^{-4}$	isotope
Geysler-Cobb Mountain <sup>i</sup>	$1.5 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Wiborg batholith <sup>j</sup>	$3.6 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Wiborg batholith <sup>j</sup>	$6.0 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Nain plutonic suite <sup>k</sup>	$4.8 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Nain plutonic suite <sup>k</sup>	$2.2 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Korosten complex <sup>l</sup>	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Korosten complex <sup>l</sup>	$1.2 \times 10^{-2}$	isotope
Salmi complex <sup>m</sup>	$9.3 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Salmi complex <sup>m</sup>	$2.4 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Lastarria Cordon del Azufre <sup>n,u</sup>	$1.4 \times 10^{-2}$	deformation
Torres del Paine (granite) <sup>o</sup>	$8.0 \times 10^{-4}$	isotope
Torres del Paine (mafic) <sup>o</sup>	$2.0 \times 10^{-4}$	isotope
Manaslu <sup>p</sup>	$6.0 \times 10^{-4}$	thermal
PX1, Fuerteventura <sup>q</sup>	$3.0 \times 10^{-4}$	thermal
Uturuncu <sup>r</sup>	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	deformation
Spirit Mountain batholith <sup>s,t</sup>	$1.3 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope

---

Usu-san <sup>v</sup>	$9.2 \times 10^{-1}$	deformation
Syowa Sinzan <sup>w</sup>	$2.1 \times 10^{-1}$	deformation
Lamark Granodiorite <sup>x</sup>	$2.0 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
John Muir Intrusive Suite <sup>x</sup>	$1.0 \times 10^{-3}$	isotope
Rio Hondo <sup>y</sup>	$2.7 \times 10^{-4}$	isotope

108 These long-term-averaged pluton-filling-rate estimates assume no loss of material over time  
109 from the plutons, and reflect also the assumptions made by the various authors about their actual  
110 size and shape. a: Crisp (1984); b: Saint Blanquat et al. (2006); c: Saint Blanquat et al. (2001); d:  
111 Coleman et al. (2004); e: Brown and McClelland (2000); f: Pearse and Fialko (2010); g:  
112 Pritthead and Simmons (2002); h: Matzel et al. (2006); i: Schmitt et al. (2003); j: Vaasjoki et al.  
113 (1991); k: Emslie et al. (1994); l: Amelin et al. (1994); m: Amelin et al. (1997); n: Froger et al.  
114 (2007); o: Leuthold et al. (2012); p: Annen et al. (2006); q: Allibon et al. (2011); r: Sparks et al.  
115 (2008), s: Walker et al. (2007); t: Miller et al. (2011); u: Remy et al. (2014); v: Omori (1911); w:  
116 Minakami et al. (1951); x: Davis et al. (2012); y: Tappa et al. (2011).

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