

Decoding water-rock interaction and volatile input at La Soufriere volcano (Guadeloupe) using time-series major and trace element analyses in gas condensates

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27 Based on elemental correlations and the physical properties of chemical elements, it is 28 postulated that most of them are discharged in the aerosol phase, except for the halogens and 29 S, which can be found in the gaseous phase in low-temperature fumarolic emissions. Metals 30 and metalloids (Sb, Bi, Zn, Mo, Ni, Ag, Cd, As, and Pb) enriched in gas condensates were 31 transported within tiny aqueous droplets, while rock-related elements (including REEs) were 32 transported in the aerosol phase. Trace element enrichments in La Soufriere's condensates are 33 comparable with those found in worldwide magmatic-hydrothermal systems such as Kawaj 34 Ijen (Indonesia), Lastarria (Chile), and White Island (New Zealand) volcanoes. The size of the 35 hydrothermal system and the degree of water-rock interaction are thought to be important 36 parameters in controlling the abundance of major and trace elements in low-temperature 37 fumarolic discharge.

38 **Highlights**

- 39 The chemical composition of gas condensates is investigated
- 40 Major and trace elements are mostly released in the aerosol phase
- 41 Sulfur and halogens can be emitted in the gaseous phase
- 42 Volatile-rich magmatic input and water-rock interaction processes are assessed
- 43 Significant amounts of Sb, Bi, and Zn are discharged from La Soufriere fumaroles

44 **Keywords**

45 Trace elements; hydrothermal systems; La Soufriere volcano; water-rock interaction; aerosols

46 **1. Introduction**

47 Volcanic emissions represent the most important natural sources of gases and particles into the 48 atmosphere during quiescent degassing and eruptive periods. Indeed, volcanic emissions 49 contribute to the natural atmospheric cycles of many gas species and trace elements (e.g., 50 Aiuppa et al. 2003; Calabrese et al. 2011). Besides the major $(H_2O, CO_2, SO_2, H_2S, HCl, HF)$ 51 and minor (N_2) , rare gases, CO, CH₄, H₂) components, it has been well known since the early 52 work by Zoller et al. (1974) that volcanic gases and aerosols are considerably enriched in many 53 trace elements including alkalis, alkali-earth elements, transition elements, and heavy metals 54 relative to host rocks. Such trace element enrichments are ubiquitously observed in gaseous 55 emanations from volcanoes worldwide, provided when the magma temperature is high enough 56 to ensure their volatilization (e.g., Le Guern 1988; Symonds et al. 1994; Delmelle and Stix 57 2000, and references therein). Trace elements are directly volatilized from a magmatic source 58 or removed from wall rocks due to erosive processes, and are then emitted in the gas and aerosol 59 phases. A fraction of the trace elements is trapped in the fumarolic mouth at the surface to form 60 sublimates and incrustations due to the sharp temperature decrease and reaction with 61 surrounding rocks. Work on volcanogenic trace elements has increased markedly during the 62 last two decades, focusing on the understanding of deep ore-forming fluids (e.g., Scher et al. 63 2013; Keith et al. 2018), speciation and transport (e.g., Aiuppa et al. 2003; Moune et al. 2010), 64 mineral forming processes (e.g., Yudovskaya et al. 2008; Sainlot et al. 2020), geochemical 65 cycling of volcanogenic elements (e.g., Pyle and Mather 2003; Kagoshima et al. 2015), and 66 atmospheric, environmental, and health issues (e.g., Varrica et al. 2014; Edmonds et al. 2015; 67 Ilyinskaya et al. 2017; Stefánsson et al. 2017).

68 Volcanic trace elements are commonly studied via filter samples, sublimates, and incrustations 69 (e.g., Allard et al. 2000; Gauthier et al. 2016; Zelenski et al. 2013; Sainlot et al. 2020; Inostroza 70 et al. 2020). However, the use of condensation techniques has been limited and occasionally 71 subject to inaccuracy problems due to the recurrent presence of colloidal sulfur which can 72 remove chalcophile elements from the solution (e.g., Fischer et al. 1998; Shevko et al. 2018). 73 Nevertheless, this technique has been proven to be appropriate to estimate trace element 74 concentrations (e.g., Taran et al. 1995; Fischer et al. 1998; Zelenski et al. 2014). Condensation 75 techniques have been restricted to a few volcanic sites with frequent high-temperature 76 fumarolic emissions, mainly focused on trace element volatility and thermochemical modeling 77 of fluid-rock interactions (e.g., Symonds et al. 1990, 1996; Taran et al. 1995; Africano and 78 Bernard 2000; Zelenski et al. 2013, 2014; Kalacheva et al. 2016). However, low-temperature 79 hydrothermal-dominated systems remain poorly studied, likely due to secondary processes 80 (i.e., precipitation and dissolution of mineral phases, the input of meteoric water, and 81 "contamination" by leaching of host-rock components) occurring within the hydrothermal 82 system (Stoiber and rose 1970; Symonds et al. 1990; Taran et al. 1995) that could modify or 83 hide the magmatic signature.

84 The concentration of trace elements in fumarolic emissions mainly depends on outlet gas 85 temperature, chemical composition of fumarolic gases, and magma composition (Symonds et 86 al. 1990, 1992, 1996; Africano and Bernard 2000; Moune et al. 2010; Edmonds et al. 2018). It 87 has been postulated that high-temperature and Cl-rich fumarolic emissions present higher 88 concentrations of trace elements compared with low-temperature hydrothermal-dominated 89 fumaroles due to the higher vapor pressure of metal-bearing species as temperature increases 90 and the fact that Cl is a common ligand (Gauthier et al. 2016; Scholtysik and Canil 2020; 91 Mandon et al. 2020). However, despite several works on medium- to high-temperature 92 fumarolic emissions, little attention has been paid to major and trace element concentrations in 93 low-temperature (~100°C) fumaroles. Consequently, deep (magmatic) and shallow 94 (hydrothermal) physicochemical processes controlling the abundance of these elements and 95 their transport modes remain poorly understood for steam-rich fumarolic gases.

96 Here we present results for gas condensate samples collected monthly between April 2017 and 97 January 2021 at La Soufriere de Guadeloupe (hereafter La Soufriere) in the Lesser Antilles. La 98 Soufriere is a hydrothermal-dominated volcanic system that suffered recent phreatic explosions 99 (e.g., Le Guern et al. 1980; Komorowski 2005) and is one of the most active and dangerous 100 volcanoes in the Lesser Antilles Arc. It currently presents permanent fumarolic activity 101 associated with low-temperature (from 94 up to 111 °C in the investigated period) and steam-102 rich (commonly >95 mol%) emissions. Thus, this volcano provides a suitable environment to 103 improve our understanding of the different parameters involved in the behavior of trace 104 elements in volcanic condensates. In this study, major and trace element data obtained from 105 gas condensate samples at La Soufrière's fumaroles are used to i) characterize, physically and 106 chemically, the fumarolic degassing in terms of volatile versus non-volatile contribution of 107 trace elements in condensates given their relative volatility, and ii) constrain the factors that 108 control the abundance of major and trace elements. Our findings have particular relevance for 109 understanding the transport of chemical elements in low-temperature hydrothermal emissions.

110 **2. Geological Background**

111 La Soufriere is an andesitic composite volcano situated in the Lesser Antilles volcanic arc 112 (16.0446°N, 61.6642°W, 1467 m.a.s.l.; Fig. 1a), which has been formed by the subduction of 113 the Atlantic plate below the Caribbean one. La Soufriere has been built up over the last 11500 114 years BP (Komorowski 2005; Boudon et al. 2008), experiencing recurrent magmatic and non-115 magmatic eruptions. The last magmatic eruption occurred in 1530 AD and was triggered by an 116 andesitic magma intrusion at a shallow level, which caused a partial collapse of the SW flank, 117 and was followed by a sub-plinian eruptive phase culminating in the growth of the current 118 summit dome (Boudon et al. 2008; Komorowski et al. 2008). Subsequent volcano-stratigraphic 119 studies have revealed a more recent magmatic eruption in 1657 AD (Metcalfe et al. 2021), 120 while recurrent phreatic explosions were recorded in 1797-98, 1836-37, 1956, and 1976-77 121 (e.g., Legendre 2012; Hincks et al. 2014). From 1992, after a decade of post-eruptive 122 quiescence, La Soufrière entered a new phase of fumarolic and seismic unrest, whose evolution 123 has been described in detail in previous works (Komorowski 2005; Allard et al. 2014; 124 Villemant et al. 2014; Rosas-Carbajal et al. 2016; Tamburello et al. 2019; Moretti et al. 2020a; 125 Jessop et al. 2021; Metcalfe et al. 2021).

126 Hydrothermal activity at La Soufriere is caused by the input of heat and gases coming from an 127 andesitic magma chamber (located at a depth of 6-7 km below the summit) into shallow 128 aquifers mainly fed by meteoric waters (Boudon et al. 2008; Villemant et al. 2014; Pichavant 129 et al. 2018). Deep magmatic gases likely rise through fractures and fissures until they cool, 130 condense, and interact with water hosted in reservoir rocks several hundreds of meters below 131 the summit (Rosas-Carbajal et al. 2016). Previous studies on the chemical composition of 132 fumarolic gases suggest that they are emitted from a hydrothermal-dominated system with 133 shallow magmatic influence (Brombach et al. 2000; Villemant et al. 2014; Tamburello et al. 134 2019; Moretti et al. 2020a,b; Moune et al. 2022). At the surface, fluids are emitted from radial 135 faults and fractures cutting the dome, such as Cratère Sud (CS; the site of the main fumarolic 136 emissions) and 8 Juillet 1976 fractures (Fig. 1b), and open pits caused by past eruptions (for 137 example Gouffre 56). The hot area surrounding fumarolic manifestations and fractures 138 (particularly around Napoleon Nord and Gouffre 56; Fig. 1b) is progressively expanding, 139 which has led to an increasing budget of heat flux and soil degassing (Jessop et al. 2021) and 140 has contributed to the progressive degradation of vegetation. Other signs of strong 141 hydrothermal activity are the low-deep (<2.5 km below the summit) seismic activity (reaching 142 up to 3000 very low-magnitude volcano-tectonic events in November 2020; OVSG-IPGP 143 2020), the nearly radial pattern of the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) displacement 144 vectors on the dome and the radial opening (3-7 mm/year) of dome fractures at most 145 hydrothermalized sites (Moretti et al. 2020a). As a result of all these elements, La Soufriere 146 has a permanent status of increased vigilance (alert level is Yellow, the second on a scale of 147 four), further reinforced after the 2018 episode of accelerated unrest (Moretti et al. 2020a).

148 Cratère Sud (CS) and Napoleon Nord (NapN) are the only fumaroles accessible for direct 149 sampling at the summit. They are regularly sampled by the Observatoire Volcanologique and 150 Sismologique de la Guadeloupe (OVSG-IPGP). CS is hosted along the Cratère Sud fault and 151 is formed of three main vents, Cratère Sud Nord, Cratère Sud Central, and Cratère Sud Sud 152 (CSN, CSC, and CSS, respectively). Although they have shown, sporadic variable behavior 153 since 1992, the chemical composition of fumarolic gases and outlet gas temperatures have 154 remained very similar, if not the same, at the CSN and CSC vents since 2016 (Moretti et al. 155 2020; Moune et al. 2022), while CSS has not yet been surveyed by in situ techniques. The 156 temperature at CS has fluctuated between 95 (the temperature of the saturated steam vapor at 157 the summit atmospheric pressure) and 110 °C, but it reached 140 °C in 1999-2000 (Villemant 158 et al. 2014). At NapN, a fumarole that emerged in 2014 in the hot expanding area, the 159 temperature remained virtually stable at 95 °C (Moretti et al. 2020a). According to Moretti et 160 al. (2020a), temperature increases are primarily associated with the input of deep magmatic 161 gases into the hydrothermal system, whereas temperature drops and the restoring of the 162 saturated steam temperature may be favored by interaction with very shallow groundwater and 163 then be influenced by external forces such as heavy rain (average of 5 m/year in the 2017-2020 164 period; OVSG-IPGP bulletins) or wetter seasons (Moune et al. 2022). CS is characterized by 165 jet-type fumarolic emissions, abundant deposition of native sulfur, and sporadic ejection of 166 solid fragments, while NapN has weaker fumarolic emissions and restricted native sulfur 167 deposition.

168 Periodic chemical analyses using soda bottles demonstrated that fumarolic gases are mixtures 169 of steam, CO2, and H2S (concentrations of 96-98, 1.5-4.0, and 0.3-0.7 mol%, respectively), in 170 addition to minor concentrations (<0.03 mol%) of N₂, CH₄, He, and CO (Brombach et al. 2000; 171 Moretti et al. 2020a). Such concentrations have remained stable since 2017, except for the 172 March-June 2018 period where CO₂, gaseous sulfur species, CO, and He reached maximum 173 concentrations associated with the arrival of deep anomalous "magmatic" gases and hotter 174 fluids that perturbed the hydrothermal system (Moretti et al. 2020a; Moune et al. 2022). The 175 chemical composition of fumarolic gases is controlled by variable scrubbing processes within 176 hydrothermal aquifers, which efficiently removes SO_2 and H_2S (Allard et al. 2014; Tamburello 177 et al. 2019; Moretti et al. 2020a; Moune et al. 2022) to form native sulfur and sulfate/sulfide 178 mineral assemblages (e.g., Giggenbach 1987; Symonds et al. 2001). Based on relative 179 concentrations of CO2, H2S, and SO2 measured in 2016-2020, previous studies (Tamburello et 180 al. 2019; Moune et al. 2022) showed that at La Soufriere volcano, CS has a more magmatic-181 hydrothermal signature than NapN, responding quickly to any changes occurring in magmatic 182 and hydrothermal sources. These studies suggested that NapN has been affected by major

- 183 scrubbing effects due to a localized cold, shallow aquifer that buffers fumarolic emissions both
- 184 thermally and chemically (Tamburello et al. 2019).

185

186 **Figure 1** a) Location of Guadeloupe island and La Soufriere volcano in the Lesser Antilles 187 volcanic arc. b) Location of fumarolic emissions (yellow stars) and main fissures/fractures 188 (blue dashed lines) within the 1530 lava dome. Positions of CS and NapN sites are shown as 189 black and red stars, respectively, while the enclosed area shows the lava dome position. (1) 190 Nord fracture, (2) Nord-Est fracture, (3) 8 Juillet 1976 fracture and Breislack fault, (4) Lacroix 191 fracture, (5) Cratère Sud fracture, (6) 30 Août 1976 fracture and Faille de la Ty, (7) Gouffre 192 Peyssonel, (8) Dolomieu fracture, (9) Nord-Ouest fracture

193 **3. Sampling and analytical methods**

194 Gas condensate (hereafter named condensates) samples were obtained using a 50 cm-long 195 fiberglass tube used to channel flow from the fumarole, connected to a Pyrex-Dewar glass 196 elbow. Sample collection followed the "normal" and "direct" procedures proposed by Chevrier 197 and Le Guern (1982). The "normal" method connected a Pyrex-Dewar glass to a Pyrex coil 198 condenser cooled with freshwater. The "direct" method replaced the coil condenser with a 20 199 cm-silicon tube. The "normal" method was used at the CS fumarole, while the "direct" method 200 was generally used at NapN (Table 1). In-situ chemical analysis for chlorine performed on 201 samples collected simultaneously by the "direct" and "normal" methods showed no significant 202 variations (e.g., Chevrier and Le Guern 1982). The outlet gas temperature was recorded at the 203 end of the procedure. Subsequently, the sample was stored in polyethylene bottles and 204 transported to the OVSG-IPGP laboratory for chemical analysis.

205 Ion chromatography (IC; Dionex Aquion™, Thermo Scientific) analyses were conducted at 206 the OVSG-IPGP chemistry laboratory, usually within a week of the sampling to determine the 207 concentration of chloride and sulfate in unfiltered samples. 100 μ L of sample diluted by 100 208 were used for IC analyses, while the remaining solution was hermetically stored at ambient 209 temperature in a dry, cool place until used for analysis of trace elements. Measurements were 210 achieved following internal analysis protocols and regular calibration routines. The analytical 211 error was $\leq 5\%$. Then, 2 to 10 mL of condensates were filtered using syringes and 0.20 μ m 212 pore-size sterile cellulose filters (VWR, number 514-0061), and transported to the laboratories 213 at the IPGP (Paris, France) in acidified (with 0.05 mL of HNO3, 67-69%, Fisher Chemical, 214 A467-250) polyethylene bottles. These samples were analyzed by Inductively Coupled Plasma 215 Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS; Agilent 7900) to obtain the concentrations of major and trace 216 elements. Furthermore, rock samples with minor hydrothermal alteration (23CF and SOU-J4) 217 from the 1530 lava dome and scoria fallout deposits collected by Boudon et al. (2008) and 218 Metcalfe et al. (2021), respectively, were selected and analyzed once again in this study for 219 major and trace elements using the ICP-MS technique. Internal standards for condensate 220 samples (e.g., Sc, In, Re), international standards (e.g., BEN, BIR-1, BHVO-2, BCR-2, ATHO-221 1, LIP, RGM-1) for rock analyses, and blank solutions were used to control possible error 222 sources and validate results. The analytical error for condensate and rock analyses was 223 generally <10%.

224 Nine samples that contained noticeable black and white/yellow particles were filtered using 225 0.45 µm pore-size nitrocellulose filters (Millipore, CAS 9004-70-0) and then analyzed by 226 Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM, Quanta 250) in the C3-Mag laboratory at the Université 227 des Antilles (Pointe-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe). First, the sample was shaken, and then 5-8 mL were 228 poured into a funnel-shaped plastic container where the liquid phase drained and particles were 229 trapped on the nitrocellulose filter. The filters with particles were then dried for 24 hours at 50 230 °C. Before analysis, filters were cut into ~8x8 mm squares and mounted on carbon tape-231 covered aluminum holders. High-resolution imaging was retrieved using the back-scattered 232 electron (BSE) mode, while semi-quantitative chemical analyses were performed in the EDS 233 mode using an acceleration voltage of 15 kV, beam current of 5 nA, 15-40 s dwell time, and 234 10 mm working distance. Acquisition of high-resolution images and data processing were 235 carried out using the INCAEnergy[®] software.

236 **4. Results**

237 **4.1 Microscopic observations in condensates**

238 Condensate samples displayed from a range from a few to abundant small particles, solid 239 precipitates in the inner walls of polyethylene bottles, and clear to cloudy appearance (Table 240 1). As shown in Table 1, particles were common in the condensates; they were observed in 53 241 of the 55 samples studied. Samples with black and white, or just white particles, were 242 predominant, while a few samples displayed only black particles. CS samples showed a larger 243 number of particles and a much cloudier aspect than NapN samples. In general terms, samples 244 with a moderate to abundant number of particles had a cloudy to milky aspect, while samples 245 with a limited presence of particles had a predominantly clear aspect. It is important to note 246 that samples collected before April 2019 for CS and before July 2019 for NapN displayed a 247 predominantly clear aspect with minor to moderate amounts of particles, while cloudy to milky 248 samples predominated from mid-2019 in both CS and NapN samples.

249 **Table 1** Color, abundance, and appearance of condensates. Samples with solid crusts in the 250 inner parts of bottles and samples selected for SEM-EDS analyses were highlighted. Sample 251 appearance reflects the degree of turbidity of the sample, the sample being "clear" with no 252 turbidity (colorless, like water), "slightly cloudy" for those samples with noticeable turbidity, 253 and "milky" for those samples with significant turbidity (like milk). B&W: black and white 254 particles. N/A: Not applicable/Not analyzed.

255 N/A: Not applicable/Not analyzed

256 **4.2 Microscopic SEM-EDS observations**

257 After filtration of nine condensate solutions, 177 EDS analyses (Supplementary Material 1) 258 and SEM-BSE observations (Fig. 2) were performed, and they allowed us to identify four 259 distinct types of solid particles (Fig 4, Table 2):

260 1) Rock particles. Subrounded- to angular-shaped particles whose size varied from a few 261 micrometers up to ~140 µm. These particles were Si-rich, with significant 262 concentrations of rock-related elements (i.e., K, Mg, Ca, Ti, Fe; Fig. 2a). These 263 fragments were the most abundant and common in condensates, especially at NapN

- 264 (Fig. 3). They were eroded from the fumarolic conduit, as proven by previous works 265 focused on volcanic aerosols (e.g., Aiuppa et al. 2003; Martin et al. 2008).
- 266 2) S-bearing particles. Subrounded to subangular particles of \leq 110 µm diameter 267 containing significant amounts of S (Fig. 2b). The highest S concentrations (up to 100 268 wt.%) were ascribed to the presence of amorphous and crystalline native sulfur (Fig. 269 2b), while lower values were attributed to the presence of sulfates (Supplementary 270 Material 1). These particles predominated in CS condensates (Fig. 3), while only three 271 were found in NapN samples. The origin of solid S-particles could be ascribed to sulfur 272 precipitation during the condensation process (Fischer et al. 1998) and/or emission in 273 the aerosol phase (e.g., Moune et al. 2010; Calabrese and D'Alessandro 2015), the latter 274 being trapped during the condensation process.
- 275 3) Cl-bearing particles. Subrounded- to subangular-shaped particles of $\leq 50 \mu m$ in 276 diameter (Fig. 2d) and occasionally translucent in appearance. These particles had 277 significant concentrations of Cl (by up to 37.8 wt.%), together with Na, K, Ca, and Fe. 278 In general terms, all Cl-containing SEM-EDS spectrums were considered within this 279 group, except for those point analyses which displayed a low Cl concentration (<4 280 wt.%) and significant concentrations (>10 wt.%) of Si. Nine Cl-bearing particles were 281 found at CS, while only two were found at NapN. These particles were commonly 282 found in the aerosol phase within volcanic plumes (e.g., Obenholzner et al. 2003; 283 Moune et al. 2010; Mandon et al. 2019).
- 284 4) Si-rich spherules. Small (<10 µm) rounded particles formed by Si and O. These 285 particles appeared in both NapN and CS samples (Fig. 2e). However, only four-point 286 analyses (Supplementary Material 1) enabled them to be identified due to their small 287 size. Therefore, the number of Si-rich particles could be greatly underestimated. The 288 origin of Si-rich microspherules in volcanic systems has been commonly associated 289 with bubbles bursting at the magma air interface (Martin et al. 2008) or leaching of 290 glass fragments by acidic gases (e.g., Spadaro et al. 2002; Moune et al. 2007). However, 291 given the low temperature of fumarolic emissions at La Soufriere, Si-rich particles 292 appear to be related to A-opal precipitation which occurs commonly in geothermal 293 systems (Garcia-Valles et al. 2008; Peng and Jones 2012).

294 **Table 2** Summary of the physicochemical characteristics of the solid particles identified within 295 condensate samples. Detailed information is presented in Supplementary Material 1.

296

297 **Figure 2** Physicochemical characteristics of the solid particles found in condensates: a) rock 298 particles that contained variable concentrations of rock-forming elements (i.e., K, Mg, Ca, Ti, 299 Fe); b) rhombic native sulfur particles; c) agglutinate of Si particles with variable

300 concentrations of rock-forming elements and sulfur; d) Cl-bearing particle with alkaline, earth-301 alkaline, and Fe as main ligand elements; e) small round/spheroidal particles that contained Si 302 and O. Sample codes were listed in Table 1. White crosses represent EDS analyses, whose 303 spectrums (S) are included in Supplementary Material 1. Tables within spectrums display 304 normalized wt.% values.

305 Rock particles were dominant in condensates, followed by S-bearing and Cl-bearing 306 compounds (Fig. 3). Conversely, Si-rich spherules were less common. However, three sources 307 of uncertainty could bias the particle count: i) only a modest fraction of samples (9 out of 55 308 samples) were studied by the SEM-EDS technique, ii) for each sample, not all particles were 309 analyzed, either due to their similar appearance, their small size that produced significant 310 background noise, or a working/measuring strategy that was focused on the identification of 311 particles that displayed different signal intensities, iii) presence of agglutinates (Fig. 2c) 312 composed of rock- and S-bearing particles that were considered as single fragments. 313 Consequently, the particle count (Fig. 3) was underrated and should not be taken as strictly 314 significant to provide sample statistics. However, independent of the possible biased particle 315 count, two clear tendencies can be distinguished in Fig. 3: 1) the amount of rock particles is 316 greater at NapN than CS, and 2) S- and Cl-bearing particles are predominant at CS. We can 317 thus anticipate that the tendencies suggest a significant erosive contribution in NapN 318 condensates during the study period.

319

320 **Figure 3** Histograms of the amount and type of particles within condensate samples. A total of 321 98 particles were identified based on 177 SEM-EDS analyses (Supplementary Material 1, 322 column "Z") and considered for this plot. However, this number of particles is an was

323 underestimate given that not all of them were analyzed (see text to further details). Black and 324 red bars represent CS and NapN samples, respectively.

325 **4.3 Physicochemical characteristics of condensates**

326 Outlet gas temperature of analyzed samples, pH, and concentrations of Cl⁻ and $SO₄²$ of 327 condensates collected from CS and NapN fumaroles are presented in Table 3. The outlet gas 328 temperatures at CS varied from 95 to 108.4 °C, with maximum values in April 2018, November 329 2019, and January 2021 samples (Fig. 4b). Over the same period, NapN temperatures remained 330 within the narrow range of 94.4±0.9 °C (Fig. 4b). In the same way as for the outlet gas 331 temperature, CS samples also recorded greater pH variations (ranging from 0.92 to 4.52) than 332 NapN samples (between 2.70 and 3.41). These pH variations (Fig. 4a) agreed with those found 333 in worldwide volcanoes (values from ~0 to 4.5; Gemmell 1987, Taran et al. 1995; Africano 334 and Bernard 2000; Chaplygin et al. 2016) and coincided with pH values (between 1.1 and 5) 335 obtained during the 1976 phreatic explosions at La Soufriere (Chevrier and Le Guern 1982). 336 The lowest pH values (~1) at CS were comparable with those condensates measured in high-337 temperature magmatic systems as Kudryavy (Russia) or San Cristobal (Nicaragua) volcanoes 338 (Gemmell 1987; Taran et al. 1995).

339 The concentration of Cl⁻ in CS and NapN (Table 3) was within the range of 0.9 to 4798 mg/L 340 and 0.2 to 42.4 mg/L, respectively. Cl contents showed a roughly positive correlation with 341 outlet gas temperature in the case of CS and a negative correlation with pH (Fig. 4). Sulfate 342 concentrations for CS and NapN ranged from 2.0 to 573.9 mg/L and 2.2 to 80.8 mg/L, 343 respectively. No correlation was found between sulfate concentrations (Table 3) and the 344 amount of particles or sample aspect (Table 1), suggesting that the variable presence of 345 particles is more related to mechanical processes (i.e., vent erosion) than to the chemical 346 composition of condensates. Chlorine concentrations measured in CS and NapN agree with 347 those condensates collected during the 1976 phreatic explosions at Col de l'Echelle (Chevrier 348 and Le Guern 1982). However, samples collected since July 2019 at CS have exhibited a 349 notable increase in Cl⁻ concentration, the highest recorded at La Soufriere fumaroles (Fig. 4c, 350 Table 3). On the other hand, sulfate contents showed variable concentrations (Table 3), but 351 they did not correlate with the outlet gas temperature nor the pH of condensates.

352 **Table 3** Fumarolic site, pH, outlet gas temperature (in °C) of analyzed samples, condensation 353 procedure, and concentrations (mg/L) of Cl⁻ and SO_4^2 ⁻ in condensate samples.

				Temp		Cl ₁	SO ₄ ²
	Date	Site	pH	$\rm ^{\circ}C$	Method	mg/L	mg/L
C ₁	11/04/2017	CSC	3.68	95.9	Normal	2.4	18.2
C ₂	08/06/2017	CSC	3.68	95.4	Normal	2.5	19.0
C ₃	25/07/2017	CSC	4.00	98.9	Normal	2.5	8.4
C ₄	24/11/2017	CSC	N/A	98.9	Normal	7.6	22.0
C ₅	24/11/2017	CSC	3.50	98.9	Normal	1.7	9.5
C ₆	31/01/2018	CSC	3.86	100.2	Normal	5.1	23.9
C7	19/04/2018	CSC	2.63	104.2	Normal	73.9	5.9
C8	02/05/2018	CSN	2.22	95.3	Normal	8.0	138.6
C9 C10	02/06/2018 30/07/2018	CSC CSC	3.79 4.29	95 95.3	Normal Normal	1.3 4.7	4.2 17.4
C11	11/09/2018	CSC	2.68	101	Normal	0.9	14.9
C12	24/10/2018	CSC	3.83	95.2	Normal	1.1	2.0
C13	22/11/2018	CSC	4.52	95.2	Normal	2.3	10.9
C14	19/12/2018	CSC	3.21	100.1	Normal	1.8	26.1
C15	22/01/2019	CSC	2.30	100	Normal	2.5	563.6
C16	22/03/2019	CSC	3.32	98.5	Normal	2.7	4.0
C17	30/04/2019	CSC	3.95	95	Normal	2.4	38.7
C18	11/06/2019	CSC	2.79	96.3	Normal	6.0	573.9
C19	14/07/2019	CSC	2.28	102.8	Normal	135.8	15.1
C20	03/09/2019	CSC	1.88	>99.8	Normal	593.5	22.3
C ₂₁	01/10/2019	CSC	1.85	105.6	Normal	663.0	3.9
C ₂₂	08/10/2019	CSN	1.58	108.2	Normal	1206.0	30.0
C ₂₃	05/12/2019	CSN	2.51	105.6	Normal	51.2	2.9
C ₂₄	27/02/2020	CSC	2.96	99.1	Normal	28.3	227.4
C ₂₅	10/04/2020	CSC	2.53	103.4	Normal	62.6	4.6
C ₂₆	15/05/2020	CSC	1.81	101.1	Normal	449.1	5.1
C27	18/06/2020	CSC	1.98	99.5	Normal	483.3	8.8
C ₂₈	05/08/2020	CSC	2.10	101.8	Normal	332.0	8.1
C29	08/10/2020	CSC	3.13	98.9	Normal	21.3	2.3
C30	08/10/2020	CSC	3.21	98.9	Normal	20.3	5.3
C31	23/11/2020	CSC	1.12	107.2	Normal	2858.2	10.1
C32	23/11/2020	CSC	0.92	107.2	Normal	4505.0	14.1
C33	08/12/2020	CSC	1.33	106	Normal	1690.5	9.1
C34	16/01/2021	CSC	0.98	108.4	Normal	4129.5	23.6
C ₃₅	16/01/2021	CSC	1.00	108.4	normal	3562.0	46.0
C ₃₆ C37	11/04/2017	NapN	3.41	94.8	Direct	0.5 2.0	2.2 6.5
C38	08/06/2017 25/07/2017	NapN NapN	3.36 3.19	94.7 94.8	Direct Direct	4.8	49.1
C39	30/07/2018	NapN	3.2	95.1	N/A	N/A	N/A
C40	24/10/2018	NapN	3.01	95	N/A	0.9	2.5
C ₄₁	19/12/2018	NapN	3.21	95	Direct	0.3	9.1
C42	22/01/2019	NapN	3.00	95	Direct	0.3	6.4
C43	19/02/2019	NapN	2.89	95.1	Direct	0.2	3.6
C44	22/03/2019	NapN	3.31	95.1	Direct	42.4	3.9
C ₄₅	11/06/2019	NapN	3.23	93.5	Direct	10.4	67.1
C46	14/07/2019	NapN	3.21	94. I	Direct	2.0	3.1
C47	03/09/2019	NapN	3.22	94.8	Direct	1.3	20.6
C48	01/10/2019	NapN	3.25	95.3	Normal	7.2	14.9
C49	08/10/2019	NapN	2.94	95.1	Normal	17.9	37.1
C50	05/12/2019	NapN	2.70	95.2	Direct	3.9	80.8
C51	27/02/2020	NapN	3.20	95	Direct	1.6	30.4
C52	10/04/2020	NapN	3.11	95	Direct	10.0	8.6
C53	05/08/2020	NapN	3.34	95	Direct	0.6	6.7
C54	08/10/2020	NapN	3.24	94.9	Direct	0.5	9.7
C55	08/12/2020	NapN	2.96	N/A	Direct	0.2	13.8

354 N/A: Not applicable/Not analyzed

355

356 **Figure 4** Physicochemical variations in a) pH, b) outlet gas temperature, and c) chlorine 357 concentration in CS (black lines) and NapN (red lines) samples during the study period. Dashed 358 areas show pH, outlet gas temperature, and Cl concentrations obtained for samples collected 359 during the July-August 1976 explosions at Col de l'Echelle (Chevrier and Le Guern 1982). 360 Asterisks in panel (c) show two outlier chlorine concentrations measured for the 1976 361 eruptions. The yellow line shows the earthquake of M_L 4.1 on April 27, 2018, which was felt 362 by the population.

363 **4.4 Trace element concentrations in condensate samples**

364 Corrected concentrations (in ppb) of major and trace elements for representative samples are 365 presented in Table 4, while complete data including analytical dilution factors, blank 366 corrections, and %RSD (Relative Standard Deviation) values are provided in Supplementary 367 Material 2. Chemical element concentrations displayed great dispersion, as demonstrated by 368 significant percentile variation coefficients (49 and 393%) in both CS and NapN, likely 369 attributed to variations in outlet gas temperatures, steam fluxes, or the variable chemical 370 composition of fumarolic emissions. Of the studied chemical elements, 41.6% exhibit median 371 RSD <10%, while 81% showed median RSD values <50%. The lowest %RSD was associated 372 with abundant chemical elements (Cl and S), some alkali and earth-alkali elements (Mg, K, Ca, 373 Rb, Sr, Cs, Ba), transition metals (V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Y) and other metal and 374 metalloid elements (B, Al, Si, Sb). Various lithophile (Li, Na, Ti, Br, Zr, U, and Rare Earth 375 Elements; REEs), chalcophile (Ag, Cd, Sn), and siderophile (Mo, Sn) elements had slightly 376 higher median %RSD (between 10 and 50%), while As and I had medium-high %RSD (median 377 around 50%). Be, Tl, Bi, and Th reached the highest median %RSD (usually >100%), mainly 378 due to their very low (generally <0.1 ppb) concentrations.

379 Condensates were mainly composed of Si, S, and Cl, representing 23-99.9% and 50-99.8% of 380 the total concentration of condensates in CS and NapN samples, respectively. Therefore, trace 381 elements occasionally represented a small fraction in analyzed samples. Sulfur, Cl, and rock-382 forming elements (such as Na, Mg, Al, Si, or Ca) had high concentrations in condensates (Table 383 4), with values of between 10^1 and 10^7 ppb. Metal and metalloid elements (i.e., Cr, Co, Ni, Zn, 384 As, Ag, Cd) had concentrations ranging from 10^{-1} to 10^{2} ppb, apart from Fe and Zn, which 385 reached concentrations in the order of 10^3 -10⁴ ppb, like rock-related elements. REEs generally 386 showed concentrations <1 ppb (Table 4). By comparing condensate samples collected on the 387 same date at CS and NapN (Fig. 5), the average concentrations at NapN samples were often 388 higher than those of CS samples, except for Li, B, Cl, Zr, Mo, Ag, Sb, Pb, Bi, and U. This 389 pattern could result from the minor proportion of condensed steam in NapN compared to CS 390 (75 mol% versus 96 mol% of steam, respectively, e.g., Tamburello et al. 2019; Moretti et al. 391 2020a), thus yielding lower degrees of dilution of collected samples and therefore higher 392 concentrations of elements (e.g., Gemmell 1987). Gas/steam ratios from CS presented in 393 Moretti et al. (2020), OVSG monthly reports (http://www.ipgp.fr/fr/ovsg/bulletins-mensuels-394 de-lovsg), and Brombach et al. (2000) showed slight variations (ranging from 0.018 to 0.058, 395 with an average of 0.032) between 2017 and 2021, while they reached a maximum value 396 (0.099) in June 2018 when degassing was markedly perturbed (e.g., Moretti et al. 2020a). Also, 397 the proportion of steam found in CS using Giggenbach ampoules (96-97 mol%; Moretti et al. 398 2020a) agrees with MultiGas data (96 mol%) measured by Tamburello et al. (2019) in 2016. 399 Regrettably, there is no published data from Giggenbach ampoules at NapN. Therefore, 400 previously collected data from CS show that the proportion of steam remained constant during 401 this study period. Similarly, based on the behavior of CS, it is believed that NapN maintained 402 a constant proportion of steam during the study period.

404 **Figure 5** Average concentration (in ppb) of condensates collected on the same dates from CS 405 (black squares) and NapN (red squares) fumaroles. For example, concentrations of samples 406 collected between mid-2017 and mid-2018 were not considered, given that NapN was not 407 sampled in that period. Bars represent the standard error of the mean.

408 Notable chemical variations were depicted at CS and NapN (Fig. 6), even for the most abundant 409 elements with high confidence (with low %RSD). Concentrations above baseline values of 410 several chemical elements (e.g., S, Si, Na, B) were observed in the CS sample collected in May 411 2018 and associated with the volcanic unrest described by Moretti et al. (2020a), with values 412 up to four orders of magnitude above average (for instance, S and Na; Fig. 6; Table 4). 413 Similarly, CS samples frequently showed greater concentrations at the end of 2020 and the 414 beginning of 2021. It is important to note that B and Cl concentrations at CS (Fig. 6) showed a 415 generally incremental pattern over the study period. Conversely, chemical elements at NapN 416 tended to reach higher concentrations during the second half of 2019. The uniformly disparate 417 behavior between CS and NapN suggested variable physicochemical processes that affected 418 the feeding source of these emissions.

419 **Table 4** Concentration (in ppb) of major and trace elements in representative condensates 420 collected between April 2017 and January 2021 from CS and NapN fumaroles. Complete data 421 and Weigh Ash Fraction percentages (%WAF; See Appendix B for further details) are 422 presented in Supplementary Material 2.

Molecule detection limit.

425 **Figure 6** Long-term variations in the concentration of representative chemical elements during 426 the period from May 2017 to January 2021. Samples from CS and NapN have a distinct and 427 constant dilution factor during the study period. The yellow line shows the earthquake $(M_L 4.1)$ 428 on April 27, 2018. Black and red lines represent CS and NapN fumaroles, respectively.

429 **5. Discussion**

424

430 **5.1 Representativity of samples**

431 IC and ICP-MS techniques are frequently used to characterize the chemical composition of a 432 wide variety of solid or liquid samples. While the IC technique offers fast and practical 433 measurements of major ions dissolved in liquid samples, the ICP-MS technique offers accurate 434 and precise measurements for chemical elements in trace and ultra-trace (<1 ppm) 435 concentrations. In this work, chlorine and sulfur contents (in the form of sulfates in the case of 436 IC technique) were measured by both IC and ICP-MS methods, allowing the results to be 437 compared and their representativeness evaluated. Despite a few outliers, there was a good 438 general agreement between the two techniques for chlorine concentration determination for 439 both CS and NapN samples (Fig. 7a). On the other hand, the sulfur contents in CS and NapN 440 samples showed a large dispersion, with no a clear correlation between the two techniques (Fig.

441 7b). It is well known that suppressed or enhanced signals could be obtained in ICP-MS analyses 442 on high ionic strength solutions due to the precipitation of salts on the nebulizer or the presence 443 of high concentrations of matrix elements such as H2SO4 (Fischer et al. 1998; Nelms 2005). 444 Fig. 7 shows that the large inconsistencies between the two methods were beyond the analytical 445 error of each technique. Greater chlorine and sulfur concentrations in ICP-MS than IC analyses 446 suggest the presence of other Cl- and S-compounds that were not analyzed by the IC technique. This mismatch was common in the case of sulfur (Fig. 7b), where species such as SO_3^2 ⁻, HSO₄⁻ 447 448 \cdot , S²⁻ can be found (Africano and Bernard 2000). Based on these assumptions, discrepancies in 449 S content by both techniques could be explained by the presence of unknown S-species, in 450 agreement with typically higher S concentrations measured by ICP-MS than IC (Fig. 7b).

451 The presence of solid particles (Fig. 3) could modify the original chemical composition of 452 condensate samples since re-equilibration processes related to dissolution and/or precipitation 453 of solid phases could occur within the acid solution, especially in those samples stored for a 454 longer time (up to four years) and with lower pH. Indeed, dissolution processes could explain 455 the higher Cl and S concentrations measured by the ICP-MS technique (Fig. 7). Dissolution of 456 Cl-bearing particles is feasible given the hydrophilic behavior of Cl (Africano and Bernard 457 2000), which could explain the small number of Cl-bearing particles detected on SEM analyses 458 (Fig. 3). Similarly, dissolution processes could efficiently remove lithophile and siderophile 459 elements by leaching of rock particles (Taran et al. 1995; Symonds et al. 1996). Therefore, 460 dissolution of Cl-bearing and rock particles should increase the concentration of siderophile 461 and lithophile elements in samples. On the other hand, the dissolution of S compounds is not 462 expected since it can only occur in the presence of hot aqua regia.

463 Precipitation of S-bearing compounds has been previously documented for condensate samples 464 (Fischer et al. 1998). Sulfur precipitation in aqueous solutions typically occurs when SO_4^{2-} 465 concentrations are above ~1000 mg/L (e.g., Fischer et al. 1998), while precipitation of sulfur 466 and sulfate minerals (e.g., gypsum, anhydrite, barite) from highly charged acid waters in crater 467 lakes (natural analog of condensates) has been documented when SO_4^2 concentrations are 468 above 10,000 mg/L (e.g., Agusto et al. 2016; Inguaggiato et al. 2018, Mandon et al. 2020). 469 Such SO_4^2 concentrations are higher than those found in La Soufriere's condensates (\leq 574 470 mg/L, Table 3), therefore we infer negligible sulfur precipitation in the latter. Consequently, 471 sulfur crusts found inside polyethylene bottles could be due to the decantation of suspended 472 matter instead of precipitation processes. Therefore, trace element sequestration from the 473 aqueous solution was discarded, as documented in previous works focusing on sulfur 474 precipitates (e.g., Fischer et al. 1998). In the case of amorphous silica precipitates, significant 475 amounts of lithophile elements, in addition to Fe, As, and Sb, could be removed from the 476 solution (Reyes et al. 2002; Sanchez-Yañez et al. 2017). However, such chemical elements 477 were not identified during the analysis of A-opal spherules.

478 Although dilution and precipitation processes affecting S- and Cl-bearing particles cannot be 479 ruled out, it is believed that secondary re-equilibration processes only affected Si-particles. 480 Moreover, the time-dependent test (Appendix A) demonstrated negligible exchange processes 481 during a 67-day storage time (Fig. A1), although they did not take into account more extended 482 periods nor trace elements which might have disguised clues about their behavior during longer 483 storage times. Data dispersion associated with Cl and S contents mainly corresponded to i) 484 analytical uncertainties when concentrations were below 10 ppm for Cl, and ii) presence of 485 unanalyzed and unknown S-species, besides solid sulfur microparticles that caused interference 486 with the measurement of sulfate concentrations (e.g., Fig. A1). Such analytical uncertainties 487 become significant when concentrations are closer to the instrumental detection limits (e.g., 488 0.1 and 1 ppm for Cl and S in ICP-MS measurements, respectively) as depicted for Cl 489 concentrations in Fig. 7a. Consequently, the data from the ICP-MS technique seems to be more 490 reliable because i) analyses were done on filtered samples which minimized the noise caused 491 by the presence of particles, and ii) ICP-MS carried out direct measurements of the total 492 concentration for Cl and S. Therefore, data from this technique were used for computations in 493 the following section.

494

495 **Figure 7** Comparison between the concentration of (a) Cl and (b) S from both CS and NapN 496 fumaroles, determined by ion chromatography (IC) and Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass 497 Spectrometry (ICP-MS) techniques. It is important to note that IC analyses were performed 498 within a week of sampling, while ICP-MS were carried out from a few months to up to four 499 years after sampling. Black and red symbols represent CS and NapN samples, respectively. 500 Dashed lines show the 1:1 ratio. S(*) corresponds to the molar concentration of sulfur in SO⁴ 501 alone.

502 **5.2 Trace element volatility**

503 Volcanic exhalations release volatile species and aerosols (e.g., Taran et al. 1995; Aiuppa et al. 504 2003; Mather et al. 2003), both mostly trapped during the condensation process. In general 505 terms, erosion of host rock and hydrothermally altered fragments scavenged from the conduit 506 walls has been ascribed as the primary process that contributes solid particles to condensate 507 samples (e.g., Mather et al. 2003). Similarly, the transport of small aqueous particles (i.e., tiny 508 droplets containing major and trace elements) becomes considerable in low-temperature steam-509 rich fumarolic emissions (e.g., Pokrovski et al. 2013; Censi et al. 2017). The erosive 510 contribution can be accounted for based on the concentration of rock-related refractory 511 elements (Gauthier and Le Cloarec 1998; Aiuppa et al. 2003; Gauthier et al. 2016). At La 512 Soufriere, chondrite-normalized values (Fig. B.1) proved that REEs have been removed from 513 host rocks, while typical rock-related elements (i.e., Al, Ti, Mn, Ca, Fe, Sr, Si, Zr, Na, K, P, 514 Mg, Cr, Rb, Y, Cs, Ba, U, Th) are equally considered as a product of water-rock interaction 515 within the hydrothermal system (Appendix B). Consequently, this work considers that Al, Ti, 516 Mn, Ca, Fe, Sr, Si, Zr, Na, K, P, Mg, Cr, Rb, Y, Cs, Ba, REEs, U, and Th were transported as 517 solids or within aqueous microparticles since they have a non-volatile behavior in the low-518 temperature emissions at La Soufriere volcano. Rock-related elements (including REEs) were 519 removed following the weigh ash fraction approach (e.g., Aiuppa et al. 2003) presented in 520 Appendix B.

521 *5.2.1 Calculation of enrichment factors*

522 The relative volatility of trace elements has traditionally been estimated using the enrichment 523 factor (EF; Duce et al. 1975; Mroz and Zoeller 1975), which measures the extent of enrichment 524 (or depletion) of an element X in the condensate (X_{cond}) compared to whole rocks (e.g., 525 Symonds et al. 1990; Africano and Bernard 2000; Zelenski et al. 2013, 2014; Chaplygin et al.

526 2015, 2016; Aguilera et al. 2016; Taran et al. 2018) following Eq. 1:

$$
EF = (X/Y)_{\text{cond}} / (X/Y)_{\text{rock}} \tag{Eq. 1}
$$

528 Where X is the element of interest and Y is the reference element in both the condensate (*cond*) 529 and host rock (*rock*). The choice of the reference element is critical; normally, a trace element 530 of low-moderate volatility present in low abundance levels in lavas is selected (Moune et al. 531 2010; Gauthier et al. 2016). Magnesium was used for normalization in previous studies on 532 condensate samples obtained from volcanic systems at magmatic temperatures (Symonds et al. 533 1990; Zelesnki et al. 2013, 2014; Chaplygin et al. 2016; Taran et al. 2018). However, in the 534 presence of active hydrothermal systems and low-temperature fumarolic emissions, Mg cannot 535 be used as a reference element since it is related more to the leaching of host rocks than deep 536 magmatic degassing. Therefore, cobalt was chosen as the reference element due to its low 537 volatility and mobility in low-temperature hydrothermal systems (e.g., Scher et al. 2013) and 538 low concentration in condensates (Table 4) and host rocks (Table 5). In addition, the re-539 equilibration processes during storage time for Co is considered as being insignificant since, to 540 our knowledge, Co does not form secondary minerals, and its leaching from host rocks is 541 limited (e.g., Scher et al. 2013). Co was also chosen because it presented low RSD percentages 542 (Supplementary Material 2) and a large amount of data were available in our database for EF 543 computations.

544 Co-based EFs are presented in Supplementary Material 3, and average values for CS and NapN 545 computed with ash-corrected concentrations (Appendix B; Supplementary Material 3) are 546 plotted in Fig. 8a. Theoretically, elements with EFs >1 were emitted mainly in a volatile form, 547 while elements with EFs ≤1 were emitted in the solid phase (Zelenski et al. 2013). However, 548 this paper considers that elements with EFs >1 were also transported as aqueous particles for a 549 better understanding. Average log EF values ranged from -1 for Ga in NapN to 4.6 for S in CS. 550 Sulfur, Sb, B, Cl, Bi, Br, Zn, Mo, Ni, Ag, Cd, As, I, and Pb showed a high to moderate volatile 551 behavior, whereas Tl, Cu, Sn, Li, Be, Co, V, and Ga showed a poorly volatile behavior (Fig. 552 8a). In general terms, EFs for highly to moderately volatile elements were 9.2% (average) 553 higher in CS than NapN, suggesting slightly higher volatility in CS samples likely due to CS 554 having higher outlet gas temperatures (Fig. 4b) and fewer thermal and chemical scrubbing 555 processes than NapN (e.g., Tamburello et al. 2019). Superior scrubbing at NapN would also be 556 responsible for the decreased EFs of more soluble elements such as B, Cl, I, and As, as well as 557 Bi, Mo, Pb, Tl, Li, and Ga. On the contrary, Br and Sn showed slightly higher EFs in NapN 558 compared to CS. Despite such minor discrepancies, both fumarolic sites showed a similar 559 decreasing volatility pattern from S to Ga, implying a similar transport mode of each element 560 in CS and NapN.

561 S and Sb had the highest volatile behavior in La Soufriere fumaroles (Fig. 8a) with the highest 562 average EFs (log EFs between 3.8 and 4.6), followed by B, which reached an average log EF 563 of 3.3 and 2.7 in CS and NapN, respectively. Sulfur is a common constituent of volcanic 564 exhalations, and their high EFs agree with the presence of S-bearing particles in condensates 565 and S-rich fumarolic deposits around fumaroles. Likewise, it was supposed that most of the 566 sulfur collected in condensates was released as H2S (emission rates up to 3.5 ton/day in CSC; 567 Allard et al. 2014; Tamburello et al. 2019; Moune et al. 2022) and, to a lesser extent as SO2. 568 Nevertheless, H₂S is difficult to condense given its low solubility, whereas SO_2 is a minor 569 constituent at La Soufriere fumaroles despite its greater solubility. Therefore, EFs for sulfur 570 must be deeply underestimated given these condensation issues. Then, Sb and B had not been 571 previously reported in La Soufriere samples, though their higher EFs agreed with an expected 572 volatile behavior in low and high-temperature volcanic emissions (Symonds et al. 1990; Taran 573 et al. 2018; Mandon et al. 2020). Chlorine, Bi, Br, Zn, Mo, Ni, Ag, Cd, As, I, and Pb (in 574 decreasing order of volatility) showed moderate to low volatility with log EF values ranging 575 from \sim 1.5 to \sim 3.

576 **Table 5** Concentration (in ppm) of reference host rocks used to compute weight ash fractions 577 (WAF; Appendix B) and enrichment factors (EF; Supplementary Material 3). Samples 23CF 578 and SOU-J4 were selected due to their minimal hydrothermal alteration, and they correspond 579 to an andesite from the 1530 AD lava dome and a scoria fallout deposit from the 1657 eruption, 580 respectively. These samples had been previously analyzed for major and certain trace elements 581 by Boudon et al. (2008) and Metcalfe et al. (2021).

	23CF	SOU- J4	Average		23CF	SOU J4	Average
Li	7.84	11.02	9.43	La	6.60	7.64	7.12
Be	0.56	0.69	0.62	Ce	15.75	17.98	16.86
B	21.35	24.77	23.06	Pr	2.01	2.31	2.16
S	241.00	N/A	241.00	Nd	9.80	10.52	10.16
C ₁	8166	8250.1	8208.1	Sm	2.99	3.01	3.00
V	203.23	166.83	185.03	Eu	0.86	0.88	0.87
Co	24.55	20.37	22.46	Gd	3.10	3.28	3.19
Ni	18.19	9.74	13.96	Tb	0.58	0.58	0.58
Cu	81.25	44.56	62.91	Dy	3.60	3.77	3.68
Zn	62.12	57.52	59.82	Ho	0.80	0.77	0.78

582

583 **Figure 8** Calculated enrichment factors (EF) for trace elements degassed at La Soufriere 584 volcano and comparison with other worldwide subduction-related volcanoes. a) Average Co-585 based EFs for CS and NapN samples. b) Cu-based EFs estimated for comparison between La 586 Soufriere (grey area) and other arc-related volcanoes with trace element data in condensate

587 samples only. Magmatic-hydrothermal systems included Kawaj Ijen, Lastarria, and White 588 Island volcanoes (Van Hinsberg et al. 2015; Aguilera et al. 2016; Mandon et al. 2020), while 589 magmatic systems included Augustine, Kudryavy, Tolbachik, and Pallas volcanoes (Symonds 590 et al. 1990; Taran et al. 1995, 2018; Chaplygin et al. 2016). EFs were recalculated 591 (Supplementary Material 3) using Cu instead of Co or another lithophile element (e.g., Be, Mg) 592 because Cu showed lower volatility at La Soufriere volcano (Fig. 8a) and usually presents poor 593 to moderate volatility in volcanoes worldwide (e.g., Edmonds et al. 2018). Additionally, Cu 594 was the trace element most commonly found in measurable concentrations at all the sites 595 selected for comparison. Reference host rock concentrations for Augustine were taken from 596 andesitic-to-dacitic ash fall deposits (Lepel et al. 1978; Rose et al. 1988; Kodosky and 597 Keskinen 1990), and from basaltic-andesitic fall deposits for Kawaj Ijen (Handley et al. 2007; 598 van Hinsberg et al. 2010). Volcanoes with average outlet gas temperatures greater than 450 °C 599 were considered as magmatic systems, while volcanoes with lower temperatures (average 600 discharge temperatures of 176, 328, and 408 °C for White Island, Lastarria, and Kawaj Ijen 601 volcanoes, respectively; Supplementary Material 3) were classed as magmatic-hydrothermal 602 systems (e.g., Aiuppa et al. 2017). Dashed vertical lines divide highly, moderate, and poorly 603 volatile elements where the slope threshold was above 15%.

604 *5.2.2 Comparison with other volcanoes*

605 Comparison of average EFs at La Soufriere and average EFs from other worldwide subduction-606 related volcanoes (Fig. 8b) enabled us to identify the different volatility behaviors of the trace 607 elements collected using the same sampling technique. Despite some discrepancies, trace 608 elements showed a general decrease in EF from the most (S) to the least (Ga) volatile element 609 (Fig. 8b). EF patterns at La Soufriere are close to those of magmatic-hydrothermal systems, for 610 which elements such as S, Sb, Bi, Ni, Ag, Cd, Pb, Tl, and Cu presented similar EFs, and 611 therefore a similar behavior in terms of volatility. However, significant discrepancies were seen 612 in B, Cl, As, Br, I, and Sn, which showed increased EFs in magmatic-hydrothermal volcanoes 613 compared to La Soufriere volcano. Such discrepancies could be associated with the greater 614 solubility of these elements where large hydrothermal reservoirs developed, such as at La 615 Soufriere volcano, contrasting with magmatic-hydrothermal volcanoes characterized by less 616 developed hydrothermal systems (e.g., Lastarria volcano; Aguilera et al. 2012). On the other 617 hand, significantly higher EFs of S, Sb, Zn, Mo, Cd, and Pb were observed at La Soufriere 618 relative to high-temperature magmatic systems. This could be ascribed to i) the greater 619 volatility of these elements in emissions at lower outlet gas temperatures $(\leq 200^{\circ}C;$ Quisefit et 620 al. 1989; Pokrovski et al. 2013; Mandon et al. 2020), ii) the greater volatility of Cu in magmatic 621 systems that artificially lowered EFs from Eq. (1), or iii) the greater concentration of these 622 elements in host rocks from magmatic subduction-related volcanoes relative to condensate 623 samples (Supplementary material 3). Given the same geological context (i.e., subduction 624 volcanoes), variations in the volatility of trace elements between La Soufriere and the other 625 systems could likely be produced by different gas outlet temperatures and variable chemical 626 composition fluid discharge as a result of variable fluid-rock interaction and scrubbing 627 processes.

628 *5.2.3 Temperature control, transport, and speciation of trace elements*

629 Periodic sampling carried out at the CS fumarole made it possible to investigate the behavior 630 of lithophile, chalcophile, and siderophile elements against a background of varying 631 temperature and chemical composition of the fumarolic emissions. In general, the 632 concentration of chemical elements remained relatively stable as the temperature increased 633 (Fig. 9). However, Cl displayed a faintly positive correlation with the outlet gas temperature, 634 although with only a very low determination coefficient (r² of 0.50; Supplementary Material 635 4). Pb and Sn reached their maximum concentrations for temperatures above 106 $^{\circ}$ C (Fig. 9b, 636 c), but these maxima concentrations did not follow any trend. Hence, it appears that the outlet 637 gas temperature has a negligible effect on the chemical composition of the gas phase. A similar 638 behavior was observed in magmatic systems (temperatures of between 585 and 940 °C for 639 Kudryavy volcano; Taran et al. 1995; Symonds et al. 1996), where a slight increment in the 640 concentration and volatility of certain species (e.g., Cl, I, Pb, As) as temperature increased was 641 noted. At La Soufriere volcano, low outlet gas temperatures and the low-temperature range 642 during the study period make it difficult to discuss the influence of temperature on the 643 concentration of condensates in detail.

645 **Figure 9** Trace element concentrations of representative a) lithophile, b) chalcophile, and c) 646 siderophile elements in condensates versus outlet gas temperature at CS fumarole. Only 647 chemical elements with some degree of correlation with temperature (i.e., Cl from 648 Supplementary Material 4) and greater volatility behavior were plotted.

649 The transport and speciation of trace elements is usually accounted for using determination 650 coefficients (hereafter expressed as r²) from linear correlations between common ligands (i.e., 651 S, Cl, and Br) and selected major and trace elements (e.g., Crowe et al. 1987; Moune et al. 652 2006, 2010). Computed r² values (Supplementary Material 4) for NapN and CS were generally 653 low (average r² <0.37), using Cl, Br, and S as ligand elements. However, NapN fumarole had 654 r² values above 0.7 between Fe and some rock-forming elements such as Mg, Ca, and U, and 655 both NapN and CS exhibited r² values >0.5 between Fe and non-mobile trace elements, 656 including REEs. These higher correlation coefficients suggest that either at the source or during 657 transport, major and trace lithophile elements followed similar physicochemical processes 658 within the hydrothermal reservoir or fumarolic conduits. Leaching from host rocks and 659 subsequent transport to the surface as aqueous particles could explain the relationship between 660 Fe and lithophile elements in La Soufriere condensates. A deep magmatic source of lithophile 661 elements was discarded since they only show volatile behavior at high-temperature ($>400 \degree C$) 662 fumarolic emissions where lithophile elements are directly deposited from the gas phase (e.g., 663 Taran et al. 2001; Africano et al. 2002; Henley and Seward 2018). Slightly higher 664 determination coefficients between Fe and lithophile elements at NapN compared to CS

665 (Supplementary Material 4) are ascribed to the incipient chemical dissolution of less 666 hydrothermally altered host rocks deduced from the lower resistivity of rocks in the northern 667 area of the dome where NapN is located (Rosas-Carbajal et al. 2016). The markedly larger 668 amount of rock particles at NapN (Fig. 3) also supports the occurrence of erosive processes 669 driven by high water-rock ratios within the fumarolic conduit. Low determination coefficients 670 for halogens and sulfur suggest the enhanced transport of major and trace elements as solid and 671 aqueous particles rather than halogen- and S-containing gaseous species, as typically occurs in 672 magmatic and magmatic-hydrothermal volcanoes (e.g., Moune et al. 2010; Mandon et al. 2019; 673 Scholtysik and Canil 2020). Consequently, the metals and metalloids plotted in Fig. 8a were 674 mostly transported within tiny aqueous particles, following their low vapor/liquid partition 675 coefficients at low temperatures and high boiling points which prevents their conversion to the 676 gaseous phase in fumaroles at ~100 °C (e.g., Pokrovski et al. 2013). It is concluded that the 677 enhanced transport of solid and aqueous particles is a specific characteristic of La Soufriere 678 and suggests that this is a feature characterizing water-dominated fumarolic emissions in 679 volcanic-hydrothermal systems.

680 **6. Conclusions**

681 This work provides the chemical composition of major and trace elements in condensate 682 samples collected between April 2017 and January 2021 from two fumaroles (CS and NapN) 683 at La Soufriere volcano, and is the first record of long-term trace element analyses in low-684 temperature (93.5 to 108.4 °C) fumarolic emissions. Despite low outlet gas temperatures, 685 condensates contained significant amounts of siderophile, chalcophile, and lithophile elements. 686 Such a broad contribution reflects the scavenging of chemical elements from magmatic and 687 hydrothermal reservoirs. Furthermore, we found a faint positive correlation between Cl 688 concentration, acidity of condensates, and outlet gas temperature at CS fumarole. At the same 689 time, the low concentration of S in condensates from these emissions appeared to be 690 underestimated given the problematic condensation of H_2S , which requires the use of other 691 specialized techniques (e.g., alkaline traps) to obtain reliable S concentrations.

692 Compared to andesitic host rocks, condensates were enriched in S, Sb, B, Cl, Bi, Br, Zn, Mo, 693 Ni, Ag, Cd, As, I, and Pb. Based on their physical properties (e.g., boiling temperature), it is 694 believed that halogens and S were emitted as components of the gaseous phase. However, 695 enrichments of Sb, Bi, Zn, Mo, Ni, Ag, Cd, As, and Pb were better explained through efficient 696 transportation by tiny aqueous droplets, given their lower affinity with the vapor phase in low697 temperature emissions. Rock-related elements (including REEs) were present as solid particles, 698 as shown by SEM analyses, as well as aqueous particles given their enhanced concentrations 699 in filtered (<0.20µm) condensates.

700 Cu-based EFs suggest that the behavior of trace elements at La Soufriere volcano is comparable 701 with other worldwide arc-related magmatic-hydrothermal systems such as Lastarria (Chile), 702 Kawaj Ijen (Indonesia), and White-Island (New Zealand) volcanoes. However, some 703 differences were noticed: i) a greater amount of rock-related elements in La Soufriere 704 condensates, and ii) higher abundance of typically soluble species (mainly halogens) in 705 magmatic-hydrothermal systems (i.e., volcanoes with magmatic influence but less developed 706 hydrothermal systems) related to La Soufriere. The abundance of major and trace elements is 707 likely controlled by the extent of the hydrothermal aquifer(s) (basically the water/rock ratio), 708 their acidity and the pressure-temperature conditions that favor water-rock interaction in 709 hydrothermal reservoirs. Our study demonstrates that the transport of chemical elements in 710 low-temperature fumaroles is governed by the aerosol phase (except for noble gases, N_2 , 711 halogens, and related elements), and their abundances are linked with physicochemical 712 processes taking place in hydrothermal reservoirs.

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731 **Author contribution**

732 **Manuel Inostroza:** Conceptualization, Methodology, Formal Analysis, Investigation, Data 733 Curation, Writing – Original draft, Writing - Review and Editing, Visualization. **Séverine** 734 **Moune**: Conceptualization, Methodology, Investigation, Resources, Writing - Review and 735 Editing, Supervision, Project Administration. **Roberto Moretti**: Conceptualization, 736 Validation, Writing – Review and Editing. **Magali Bonifacie**: Conceptualization, 737 Investigation, Writing – Review and Editing. **Vincent Robert**: Methodology, Validation, 738 Writing – Review and Editing. **Arnaud Burtin**: Methodology, Data Curation. **Elodie Chilin-**739 **Eusebe**: Methodology.

740 **Data Availability**

741 Appendix A, B, and Supplementary Material xxxx can be found at XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

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