

The eruptive chronology of the carihuairazo volcano (Ecuador): Recurrent sector collapses of a Middle Pleistocene stratovolcano of the northern andes

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1	The eruptive chronology of the Carihuairazo volcano (Ecuador): recurrent sector
2	collapses of a Middle Pleistocene stratovolcano of the Northern Andes
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26 Abstract

27 The eruptive chronology of arc volcanoes consists of construction stages usually 28 punctuated by large collapse events affecting the edifice. In this paper, we reconstruct 29 the eruptive chronology of Carihuairazo volcano, a Middle Pleistocene edifice from the 30 Ecuadorian segment of the Andean Northern Volcanic Zone. This study is based on 31 extensive fieldwork on both the proximal flanks of the volcano and the medial-to-distal 32 deposits of the nearby Ambato basin, as well as a large dataset of geochronological 33 (⁴⁰K-⁴⁰Ar, ¹⁴C) and geochemical (major and trace element) data. The Basal Carihuairazo 34 edifice is mainly composed of an andesitic lava flow succession dated at 230-200 ka. 35 The resulting edifice suffered a first sector collapse that was responsible for a relatively large $(4 \pm 1 \text{ km}^3)$ debris avalanche deposit (DAD-1) that covers the entire Ambato 36 37 basin. This event occurred between 206 ± 4 and 216 ± 5 ka. Then, Carihuairazo started 38 a succession of construction (Intermediate and Terminal lava flow successions) and 39 destruction stages lasting about 50 ky (i.e., from 200 to 150 ka), which are composed by 40 thick block-and-ash flow deposits (L- and U-BAFD) and debris avalanche deposits 41 (DAD-2). This volcanic succession is recorded in the Ambato basin, interlayered with 42 several tephra fallout deposits (TFD-1 to -4) whose source is the neighbouring Huisla-43 Mulmul volcanic complex. The current morphology of Carihuairazo results from two 44 additional sector collapses (DAD-3 and -4) that occurred during the past 40-50 ka, *i.e.*, 45 following a long period (at least 100 ka) without volcanic activity. We stress these 46 debris avalanches were not related with magmatic activity. Samples from the 47 Carihuairazo volcano defines a medium-K magmatic trend composed of andesites and 48 dacites with a mineral assemblage of plagioclase, amphibole, ortho- and clino-pyroxene, 49 and Fe-Ti oxides. The evolution of the Carihuairazo edifice, recorded in the medial-50 distal deposits of the Ambato basin, represents a unique example in the Ecuadorian arc 51 of an edifice that experienced successive destruction and construction stages during a 52 major part of its volcanic history.

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54 Keywords: eruptive chronology, debris avalanche deposits, unspiked K-Ar dating,
55 Carihuairazo, Ecuador

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58 1. Introduction

59 The eruptive chronology of composite volcanoes often consists of long-lasting 60 growth stages punctuated by collapse events affecting a single flank or the entire 61 edifice. These destabilization events may produce large volcanic landslides that usually 62 transform into long runout debris avalanches (van Wyk de Vries and Davis, 2015). In 63 addition, some edifices are capped by lava domes complexes that are intrinsically prone 64 to gravitationally-controlled collapse events (Calder et al., 2015). The resulting debris 65 avalanches and dome-collapse deposits, emplaced at medial to distal locations at the 66 foot of the composite volcanoes, provide a detailed stratigraphic record that can help to 67 define the succession of construction and destruction stages of stratovolcanoes (Zemeny 68 et al., 2021). In the Ecuadorian Andean context, volcanic sector collapses often occur 69 during volcanoes' lifetime, with some well-studied examples for large sector collapses 70 at Chimborazo (Bernard et al., 2008; Samaniego et al., 2012), Tungurahua (Hall et al., 71 1999; Bablon et al., 2018), and Sangay (Monzier et al., 1999; Valverde et al., 2021). 72 However, there are no detailed studies of volcanoes that experienced recurrent sector 73 collapses followed by reconstruction episodes involving dome complex activity during 74 a relatively short time span. This scenario has been described in other edifices such as 75 Taranaki in New Zealand (Zemeny et al., 2021), Shiveluch in Kamchatka (Belousov et 76 al., 1999), Colima in Mexico (Robin et al., 1987), or Tutupaca in Peru (Samaniego et 77 al., 2015; Mariño et al., 2021).

78 The Ecuadorian province of the Andean Northern Volcanic Zone (NVZ) is 79 characterized by a large number (up to 85) of Late Quaternary volcanic centres 80 distributed in a quite small arc segment of less than 300 km-long (Fig. 1a). This 81 volcanic arc results from the subduction of the oceanic Nazca plate below the South 82 American continental plate (Fig. 1b). The Ecuadorian volcanoes are distributed along 83 north-south alignments that follow the different morphological units composing the 84 Ecuadorian Andes: the Western Cordillera, the Inter Andean Valley, the Eastern 85 Cordillera, and the Sub-Andean zone (Hall et al., 2008). The southern termination of the 86 NVZ is a triangular-shaped arc segment located in central Ecuador, around the cities of 87 Ambato and Riobamba, and it includes large volcanic centres such as Chimborazo 88 (Samaniego et al., 2012), Tungurahua (Hall et al., 1999; Bablon et al., 2018) and 89 Sangay (Monzier et al., 1999). Based on a regional study, Bablon et al. (2019) proposed 90 that this part of the NVZ developed during the last 0.6 Ma due to the evolving geometry

91 of the slab below this part of the arc (Yepes et al., 2016; Araujo et al., 2021) and the

92 activation of major crustal faults (Baize et al., 2020).

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Figure 1. (a) The Quaternary Ecuadorian volcanic, including some of the most important edifices (from Hall et al., 2008) as well as the main active faults (from Alvarado et al., 2014). (b) Geodynamical setting of the Ecuadorian arc. GFZ: Grijalva Fracture Zone; GSC: Galápagos Spreading Center; Ca :
Carihuairazo. Edifices cited in the text (dark grey): (1) Mojanda-Fuya Fuya, (2) Imbabura, (3) Cubilche, (4) Pichincha, (5) Cotopaxi, (6) Sagoatoa, (7) Chimborazo, (8) Puñalica, (9) Huisla-Mulmul, (10) Tungurahua, (11) Sangay. Main cities: Q, Quito, I, Ibarra; L, Latacunga; A, Ambato; R, Riobamba.

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101 The eruptive chronology of the large and most active edifices of the southern 102 termination of the Ecuadorian arc has been reconstructed during the last two decades 103 (see references above). However, little is known about other volcanoes, such as 104 Carihuairazo (78°45'W, 01°24'S, 5018 m above sea level -asl), which is located ~140 105 km south of the Ecuador's capital city, Quito, and only 20 km south-west of Ambato 106 (Fig. 1a). This volcano, together with the nearby Chimborazo and Puñalica, are 107 constructed on top of the Western Cordillera of the Ecuadorian Andes, which is 108 composed of Cenozoic volcano-sedimentary sequences formed in marine environments, 109 and younger Miocene and Pliocene continental arc-related volcanic sequences (Hughes 110 and Pilatasig, 2002; Jaillard et al., 2004).

111 The Carihuairazo volcano overlooks the Ambato basin, a densely populated 112 tectonic depression forming the central-southern part of the Inter Andean valley. In this 113 context, reconstructing the eruptive chronology of this edifice represents a crucial step 114 of any hazard assessment strategy. In this work, we coupled detailed stratigraphic data, 115 geomorphometric reconstructions, geochronological information and geochemical 116 analyses to define the eruptive chronology and the construction/destruction stages of the 117 Carihuairazo volcano during the Middle Pleistocene.

118

119 **2. Analytical methods**

Several field trips were performed in 2009-2011 and included geological mapping and sampling of most stratigraphic units, especially for the Ambato basin distal deposits (Ordóñez, 2012). Additional fieldwork on proximal areas was performed in 2016-2019. As a result, we now have a large (82) sample array of lavas and tephras covering most volcanic units that allow us to reconstruct the volcanological evolution of the Carihuairazo volcano.

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127 **2.1. Major and trace elements whole-rock analyses**

128 Major and trace elements analyses were obtained at the Laboratoire Géosciences 129 Océan (Université de Bretagne Occidentale, Brest, France) from agate-crushed powders 130 of 82 new samples spanning the entire volcanic history of Carihuairazo volcano and the 131 Ambato basin deposits (Table 1). We used an Inductive Coupled Plasma-Atomic 132 Emission Spectrometer (ICP-AES), following the analytical procedure described by 133 Cotten et al. (1995). In addition, to proceed with stratigraphic correlations, we also used 134 published data from the neighbouring Puñalica (Narvaez et al., 2018), Huisla-Mulmul 135 and Chimborazo volcanoes (Samaniego et al., 2012; Ancellin et al., 2017).

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137 2.2. Radiometric dating

138 The chronology of the Middle Pleistocene eruptive activity was established 139 using the unspiked K-Ar dating technique. Nine new age determinations were obtained 140 at Geoscience Paris-Saclay (GEOPS) laboratory, which complement the six ages 141 previously obtained by Samaniego et al. (2012) and Bablon et al. (2019). Lava flows 142 and juvenile blocks of pyroclastic currents deposits were selected based on their 143 freshness and low vesicle content. The ages of these samples were calculated by measuring their potassium and radiogenic argon (⁴⁰Ar*) content and using the ⁴⁰K/K 144 ratio and the ⁴⁰K radioactive decay constants of Steiger and Jäger (1977). We used the 145 146 unspiked Cassignol-Gillot technique applied to groundmass and plagioclase (Cassignol 147 and Gillot, 1982; Gillot et al., 2006), which is well-suited for Quaternary volcanic products containing low ⁴⁰Ar* contents, and that has already been successfully applied 148 149 in Ecuador (Bablon et al., 2018; 2019; Santamaria et al., 2022), as well as in other 150 volcanic arcs worldwide (e.g., Germa et al., 2011; Grosse et al., 2018; Lahitte et al., 151 2019). The 40 Ar* content is derived from comparing the 40 Ar/ 36 Ar ratios of the sample 152 and the atmosphere. Therefore, the apparent age corresponds to the age of the eruption 153 when measurements are performed on groundmass, or on juvenile crystals. Otherwise, the apparent age could be older than the eruption, biased by the inherited or excess ⁴⁰Ar 154 155 trapped in the phenocrysts that were not reset in the magma reservoir before eruption 156 (e.g., Harford et al., 2002; Samper et al., 2008; Germa et al., 2019).

To extract the freshest groundmass, the selected samples were crushed and sieved in the 80-125 or 125-250 μ m size-fraction depending on the size and proportion of phenocrysts. Groundmass or alternatively plagioclase crystals (*e.g.*, samples 16EQ31 and CAR69; Table 2), were isolated by heavy liquids and magnetic separations to

161 obtain fractions of homogeneous density ($d_{avg} \approx 2.65$). Potassium and argon 162 measurements were duplicated to check their reproducibility within $1-\sigma$ uncertainty. Potassium contents were calculated using reference values of MDO-G (K = 3.510%; 163 Gillot et al., 1992) and BCR-2 (K = 1.481%; Raczek et al., 2001) standards, and 40Ar* 164 165 contents were routinely checked by measurement of ISH-G (1301-1302 AD; Gillot et 166 al., 1992) and HD-B1 (24.21 \pm 0.32 Ma; Hess and Lippolt, 1994) standards. More 167 details about the sample preparation, analytical procedures and uncertainties calculation 168 are provided in Bablon et al. (2018).

169 Lastly, the Late Pleistocene chronology of the volcanic explosive activity in this 170 region was constrained by three new radiocarbon ages (Table 3) obtained from charcoal 171 samples collected from distal deposits of the Ambato basin. These samples were 172 analysed at the Centre for Isotope Research (CIO, Groningen University, Netherlands). Before ¹⁴C measurement, samples were examined under a binocular microscope with 173 174 the aim of eliminating any potential contaminant such as sand and roots. Then, the 175 samples were chemically pre-treated to remove contaminants, in order to isolate a 176 suitable fraction for dating. The performed treatment (referred as "AAA") consists of 177 the following steps: (1) acid (HCl) leaching to remove soil carbonate; (2) alkali (NaOH) 178 leaching to remove humic acids; and, (3) acid (HCl) leaching to remove any "modern" 179 CO₂ absorbed during the previous steps. Variable amounts of the dried sample were 180 used to obtain, after combustion, a CO₂ volume equivalent to at least 1 mg of C. Then, 181 CO_2 is reduced by H₂ in the presence of iron powder. ¹⁴C activity is finally measured by mass spectrometry. The ¹⁴C ages are calculated following the procedure of Mook and 182 183 van der Plicht (1999) and corrected for mass dependent effects (isotope fractionation) using the measured ${}^{13}C/{}^{12}C$ ratio. 184

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2.3. Geomorphological reconstruction

Numerical reconstructions of the temporal evolution of paleo-surfaces were used to estimate the volume of material emitted during the construction of Carihuairazo volcano (V_c) and the volume of eroded material (V_e) since the end of its activity. Such volumes ($V = \int_{u.a.} \Delta_Z \times ds$) correspond to the elevation difference between the upper and the lower surfaces encompassing any unit/edifice ($\Delta_Z = Z_{upper} - Z_{lower}$), integrated over the area (*ds*) of the given unit/edifices (u.a.). Considering the duration of their respective activity (ΔT_c) and quiescence (ΔT_e) periods, we can then quantify

their eruptive (output) and erosion rates ($OR = \frac{Vc}{\Delta T_c}$ and $ER = \frac{Ve}{\Delta T_c}$, respectively). We 194 195 extracted the present volcano elevation data from a 30-m SRTM Digital Elevation 196 Model (DEM), and we used the reconstruction method using the ShapeVolc algorithm 197 developed in Lahitte et al. (2012) and improved in Bablon et al. (2018) and Dibacto et 198 al. (2020). The paleo-topography at the end of the construction of Carihuairazo is 199 modelled from the extrapolation of elevation points extracted from the current crests, 200 and assumed to belong to non-eroded surfaces. The topography prior to the construction 201 of Carihuairazo was modelled by extrapolating the present basement elevation around 202 the volcano, using the conventional kriging algorithm. The volume uncertainty is 203 defined by the integration of the elementary uncertainty of height differences over the edifice area (u.a.) as $\sigma_V = \sigma_Z \times u.a.$, where the uncertainty of the elevation (σ_z) is 204 $\sigma_z = \sqrt{\sigma_{Z_{upper}}^2 + \sigma_{Z_{lower}}^2}$. The average uncertainty of the surface elevation is 205 206 estimated to be 200 m for the basement from the error maps generated with kriging 207 interpolation, and to be 20 m for the surface models, based on the standard deviation of 208 the elevation dispersion of the surfaces used for extrapolations around the surface modelled by ShapeVolc reconstruction. Finally, the rate uncertainty is defined as $\sigma_R =$ 209 $R \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sigma_V}{V}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sigma_T}{\Delta T}\right)^2}$, where R is the eruptive or erosion rate, $\frac{\sigma_V}{V}$ the relative uncertainty 210 of the erupted or eroded unit/edifice volume and $\frac{\sigma_T}{\Delta T}$ the relative uncertainty of the 211 212 duration of the activity or quiescence period, calculated from K-Ar ages uncertainties 213 (Table 2).

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3. Morphology and structure

216 Carihuairazo edifice displays a roughly circular basal outline (14-15 km in 217 diameter) and a summit (5018 m above sea level - asl) located on the south-western part 218 of the edifice. The asymmetrical shape originates from its location between the Inter 219 Andean valley to the east and the high-plateau of the Western Cordillera to the west 220 (Fig. 1-4). As a result, the base of the volcano is located at 3200-3300 m asl in the 221 eastern side, and 3900-4000 m asl in the western side. Longitudinal valley profiles also 222 show a higher elevation for rivers located on the western side (*i.e.*, A, I; Fig. 4a, b), and 223 those of the north-eastern (i.e., C, D, E; Fig. 4a, b), and eastern (i.e., G; Fig. 4a, b) sides, 224 related to the basement elevation offset. The lower flanks of Carihuairazo (below 4500 225 m asl) show gentle slopes ($<10^\circ$), whereas at higher altitudes an uneven topography 226 with steep slopes (10-30°, Fig. 2a) is observed. The summit zone is characterised by a 1-227 2 km-wide east-opened scar that is drained by the Pachanlica valley (Fig. 2b-c, 3). Other 228 large (200-300 m depth) U-shaped glacial valleys with steep sides and flat bottom have 229 also been carved around the edifice (Fig. 4c), containing arcuate, 2-3 km-long, 100-200 230 m-high outer and/or terminal moraines (Fig. 2d). In addition, just to the north of the 231 Pachanlica valley, the Puñalica volcano (3988 m asl), a small (400-600 m-high), young-232 looking cone (Fig. 1, 2e) stands on the remnants of the lower north-east flank of 233 Carihuairazo. Puñalica has a basal diameter of c. 3-4 km and a summit slightly 234 elongated in a NW-SE direction, that includes several coalescent craters. Glacial erosion 235 did not affect Puñalica, suggesting a post-glacial age younger than the Last Glacial 236 Maximum (LGM).

237 From the morphology of the Chimborazo and Carihuairazo volcanoes, different 238 authors (Clapperton, 1990; Samaniego et al., 2012) identified three successive groups of 239 moraines that were assigned to the LGM, the Younger Dryas (YD) and the younger 240 Neo-Glacial (NG) periods. At Carihuairazo, the oldest moraines extended down to 241 3200-3300 m asl in the northern and eastern flanks. Based on ¹⁴C ages obtained from 242 peat layers under and overlying these moraines, Clapperton (1990) proposed an age 243 ranging between ca. 33 and 14 ka for the LGM moraines in this part of the Andes. 244 Recently, Bablon et al. (2019) dated a lava sample from Chimborazo volcano (Guano 245 lava flows of Samaniego et al., 2012) that yielded an age of 30 ± 3 ka (sample 16EQ43). 246 This lava unit is covered by thick moraine deposits interpreted by Samaniego et al. 247 (2012) as associated with the LGM period. Based on this evidence, we conclude that the 248 moraines ascribed to the LGM in this part of the Andes are younger than 30 ± 3 ka, 249 roughly corroborating the age range proposed by Clapperton (1990). Other intermediate 250 moraines are radially distributed around Carihuairazo forming sequences of 3-4 arcuate 251 moraines reaching 3700-3900 m asl (Fig. 2d). Whether or not this intermediate moraine 252 sequence corresponds to the Younger Dryas period is beyond the scope of this study. 253 However, our observations suggest that many glacial advances occurred in this part of 254 the Andes between 30 and 10 ka.

Interestingly, a conspicuous break-in-slope is observed at about 3700-3900 m in the glacial valleys on the north, south and south-east flanks of the volcano (see Fig. 3, 4b). This morphological change is interpreted as resulting from the lower limit of glacial erosion associated with the LGM. Lastly, above 4400-4500 m asl, we observed smaller moraines that, following Clapperton (1990), should correspond to the Holocene

- 260 glacial advances (the so-called Neo-Glacial period).
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263 Figure 2. Panoramic views of the Carihuairazo volcano. The view directions are shown in Fig. 3. (a) 264 View from the west showing the Carihuairazo basal lavas and the summit lavas and breccias. (b) View 265 from the east, showing the Pachanlica valley which is partially filled with the post-glacial deposits related 266 to the 1698 CE mudflow. (c) Oblique aerial view from the north, showing the Carihuairazo summit, the 267 Pachanlica valley and the remnants of the last sector collapse that affected the north-western flanks of 268 Carihuairazo (red dashed line). DFD: debris flow deposits. (d) Quebrada Chiquicahua valley at the 269 northern flank of Carihuairazo. This deep valley was probably formed during the LGM glaciations. At 270 least three moraines crop out in the valley's flank, probably associated with the YD period (white dashed 271 lines). Note also the 1698 CE mudflow deposits at the valley's bottom and the small escarpment along the 272 valley (black dotted line). (e) The young-looking Puñalica cone was constructed on top of old volcanic 273 deposits and LGM moraines.

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275 4. Volcanic stratigraphy of Carihuairazo volcano

276 **4.1. The Carihuairazo edifice**

277 **Old lava domes.** Two isolated, highly eroded lava domes crop out on the northern flank 278 of the volcano, 8 km from the current summit (e.g., Sunantza and Cruz Maqui; dark 279 green unit, Fig. 3). Their morphology suggests that they are older structures that are not 280 associated with the adjacent NE-elongated crests of the Yanasacha sector (Fig. 3). A K-281 Ar age obtained from the Sunantza and esitic lava dome yielded an age of 512 ± 9 ka 282 (CAR14, Bablon et al., 2019). Based on this age and the morphological information, we 283 argue that these pyroxene-bearing siliceous and esitic (59.6-63.0 wt.% SiO₂) lava domes 284 correspond to the oldest volcanic unit of the Carihuairazo edifice.

285

286 Basal lava flows. This unit comprises a succession of massive (50-80 m-thick) lava 287 flows from the northern, western, and southern flanks of Carihuairazo, roughly from the 288 base of the volcano up to 4500-4600 m asl (dark brown unit, Fig. 3). This unit consists 289 of a 400-600 m-thick andesitic lava pile (59-61 wt.% SiO₂). The oldest ages from this 290 unit correspond to the thick lava flows of the lower south-west (Loma Piedra Negra) and south-east flanks that yielded ⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar plateau ages ranging from about 200 to 230 291 292 ka (Fig. 3; Samaniego et al., 2012), with two samples from the south-east flank dated at 293 221 ± 5 and 224 ± 5 ka (RIO117 and RIO118, respectively), and two samples from the 294 south-west flank dated at 213 ± 5 and 208 ± 10 ka (RIO87A and B, respectively). These 295 basal lava flows form the Abraspungo saddle between Carihuairazo and Chimborazo 296 volcanoes. In the upper proximal zone, the oldest age corresponds to a lava flow 297 intercalated on a lava flows and breccia succession that forms the inner scar wall, in the

298 north-east flank of the edifice. This andesitic lava flow, dated here at 217 ± 9 ka 299 (16EQ45, Table 2; Fig. 3), is undistinguishable from the previously mentioned 300 40 Ar/³⁹Ar ages from the outer flanks.

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302 Chibuleo block-and-ash-flow deposits. In the northern part of the volcano, the flat 303 surfaces of Chibuleo, Pilahuin, and Tambo Loma are made of a thick succession of 304 several block-and-ash-flow deposits that rest on the Carihuairazo Basal lava flows and 305 on the Plio-Quaternary volcanic sequence exposed on the Río Ambato valley (dark 306 yellow unit, Fig. 3). These reddish-grey, structureless deposits have individual 307 thicknesses of 10-15 m, and are composed of large blocks (>1-2 m in diameter) within a 308 sand-rich matrix (60-70 vol.%). The juvenile blocks are amphibole-bearing siliceous 309 andesites (60.8-62.8 wt.% SiO₂). This block-and-ash-flow succession was likely 310 produced during a large dome-forming phase at Carihuairazo, whose dome remnants 311 were not identified. This unit is overlain by a thick (up to 50 m) succession of 312 weathered tephra fallout deposits with intercalated, partially indurated and reworked 313 ash-rich layers (locally named Cangahua). At the base of this tephra fallout succession, 314 we identified a 1-m-thick pumice-rich layer that consists of white, rhyolitic pumice 315 erupted from the Huisla-Mulmul volcanic complex (TFD-1, see below).

316

Figure 3. Geological sketch map of the Carihuairazo volcano, including the location of the new (white) and previous (grey) dated samples (ages in ka). Previous ages come from Samaniego et al. (2012) and Bablon et al. (2019). Grey colours for surrounding areas: dark grey for the Mio-Pliocene volcanic sequences, light grey for neighbouring volcanoes. The points of view refer to Fig. 2.

Figure 4. (a) Shaded relief view of the 4-m DEM of Carihuairazo and Puñalica volcanoes, with main rivers highlighted by different colours. (b) Longitudinal profile of rivers plotted from the high point of the Carihuairazo elevation model at the end of its construction. Same colours as Fig. 4a. (c) Transverse profile of rivers. Cross sections and associated colours are indicated in Fig. 4a. (d) Shaded relief view showing the elevation of crests used to compute paleo-topographies of the volcano.

328 Intermediate lava flows and breccias. This unit is composed by a thick succession of 329 lava flows and breccias conforming the outer western and south-western flanks, above a 330 marked break-in-slope at around 4500 m asl (light green unit, Fig. 3). These thick 331 andesitic lavas overlay the Basal lava flows (i.e. Piedra Negra). We obtained two 332 similar ages of 199 ± 5 and 198 ± 7 ka (16EQ49 and 16EQ51, respectively; Table 2) 333 from this lava flow succession, which are slightly younger than the previously described 334 Basal lava flows. This intermediate unit is also formed by the monotonous lava flow 335 succession conforming the north-eastern crests (i.e. Yanasacha) located between the

336 Quebrada (ravine) Chiquicahua and Quebrada Quichibi. Two similar ages were 337 obtained from the north-eastern (197 \pm 4 ka, groundmass age of 16EQ31; Table 2) and 338 northern flanks (186 ± 5 ka; CAR69; Table 2 and Fig. 2a-b, and 3). Note that 16EQ31 339 sample was also dated at 187 ± 9 ka on plagioclase crystals. However, because their K 340 content is four times lower than that of the groundmass, we only consider here the best-341 constrained age of 197 ± 4 ka. We stress these ages are slightly younger than that of the 342 Basal lava flows succession ranging from 224 ± 5 to 208 ± 10 ka (Samaniego et al., 343 2012).

We include in this unit the non-continuous, heterogeneous, hydrothermallyaltered lavas and breccias successions cropping out along the Pachanlica valley (*i.e.* Milincocha hill). We interpret this sequence as a series of "toreva" megablocks associated with the first large sector collapse that affected the Carihuairazo (DAD-1, see below; Fig. 3).

349

350 Terminal lava flows. The upper remnants of the Carihuairazo cone are composed of a 351 succession of amphibole-bearing andesitic (59-60 wt.% SiO₂) lava flows with 352 interlayered breccias (light brown-red unit, Fig. 3). Two ages were obtained on this 353 succession, yielding ages of 172 ± 7 and 157 ± 5 ka (16EQ50 and 16EQ48, 354 respectively; Table 2). Compared with the Basal/Intermediate lava flows, this lava 355 succession displays higher slopes that mark a clear angular discordance. However, 356 given the lack of a conspicuous erosional discordance between the Basal and 357 Intermediate lava flows units and the Terminal lava flows, and the overlapping 358 radiometric ages for Intermediate and Terminal units, we propose that the construction 359 of the Terminal edifice followed the Intermediate lavas by only a few thousands of 360 years.

We include in this unit the amphibole-bearing dacitic domes (Santa Rosa, Cahuito and Pitiunga) that crop out on both sides of the Pachanlica valley (Fig. 2c, 3). An additional age was obtained from the Pitiunga dome, yielding an age of 176 ± 10 ka (CAR60, Table 2) which is identical to that of the lavas from the upper remnants of Carihuairazo.

366

367 **4.2. Stratigraphy of the Ambato basin**

368 In this section we describe in a stratigraphic order, the debris avalanche and the 369 pyroclastic currents deposits of the Ambato basin. Based on stratigraphic and 370 morphological considerations, as well as geochemical characteristic of the juvenile 371 products (see below), these deposits originated from the Carihuairazo volcano. We also 372 describe the regional tephra fallout deposits that are interlayered in this volcanic 373 succession. The Ambato basin volcanic succession overlies the Quaternary volcano-374 sedimentary deposits of the Inter Andean valley (the so-called Latacunga Formation, 375 Lavenu et al., 1992) and the Chalupas ignimbrite deposits (Beate et al., 2006). It is 376 worth noting that Bablon et al. (2019) obtained an age of 799 ± 12 ka for a lava flow 377 from the Sagoatoa volcano, which is interlayered in the volcaniclastic deposits of the 378 Latacunga Formation. In addition, the Chalupas ignimbrite deposits were recently dated 379 at 216 ± 5 ka (Bablon et al., 2020). These ages, especially that of Chalupas deposits, 380 represent the oldest bound for the Carihuairazo deposits in the Ambato basin. The 381 detailed stratigraphic sections throughout the Ambato basin, and some key photos of the 382 main units are shown in Fig. 5 and 6; whereas the synthetic stratigraphy of the Ambato 383 basin is presented in Fig. 7.

384

385 Debris avalanche deposit 1 (DAD-1). This unit is exposed in the Ambato basin, from 386 J.B. Vela to the west to the Totoras town to the east, mostly on the south side of the Río 387 Ambato valley (Fig. 3). This deposit has a maximum runout of 25 km from its supposed 388 source region on the upper flanks of Carihuairazo. Its south-east limit is not well 389 constrained given that the younger lava flows from the Puñalica volcano overlay the 390 DAD-1 south of Quebrada Catequilla (Fig. 3, 6). The greatest thickness was observed in 391 the south-eastern part of the Ambato basin, reaching 25-40 m along the Río Mocha 392 valley. In contrasts, in the north and north-eastern limit, the maximum observed 393 thickness are of 5-10 m. Assuming an average thickness of 20 ± 5 m over about 200 394 km^2 (Fig. 8), the volume of DAD-1 is estimated at $4 \pm 1 km^3$.

395 The DAD-1 unit is composed of a massive, heterogeneous, polymictic breccia 396 that, following the terminology of Glicken (1991), is composed of two facies deposits. 397 The block facies consist of large (up to 2 m in diameter), highly cataclased blocks with 398 abundant jigsaw cracks and fractures included in a sandy matrix. Lava blocks are 399 mostly unaltered andesites with a mineral assemblage composed of plagioclase, 400 pyroxenes, and amphibole, with some scarce hydrothermally-altered andesitic blocks. 401 The mixed facies is composed of heterogeneous, beige, sand-rich interclast matrix (70-402 80 vol.%), with heterogeneous blocks (up to 20 cm in diameter) of similar composition 403 than those from the block facies. The mixed facies is mainly observed at the lower part 404 of the deposit. This unit overlays the volcaniclastic sediments of the Latacunga
405 Formation, and the Chalupas ignimbrite deposits. This unit is covered by a thick
406 rhyolitic tephra fallout deposit (TFD-1) and the lower block-and-ash flow deposits (L407 BAFD) (Fig. 6).

408

Figure 5. (a) Bellavista quarry shows an almost complete cross-section for the Ambato basin. (b) La
Peninsula, Rio Ambato valley. Contact between the Chalupas ignimbrite deposit and the DAD-1. (c) San
Vicente quarry. (d) Juvenile block (with prismatic jointing) in the L-BAFD, San Vicente quarry. This
block was dated by the K-Ar method (16EQ51, Table 2). (e) El Carmen quarry. (f) Small quarry on the
Paso Lateral. Locations are indicated in Fig. 6, and abbreviations are detailed in Fig. 7 and in the text.

414

415 Lower block-and-ash-flow deposits (L-BAFD). In the north-western part of the 416 Ambato basin, we observe a 100-300-m-high, NE-SW elongated relief made by the 417 Casigana and Bellavista hills (Fig. 3). At the Bellavista and San Vicente quarries (Fig. 418 5, 6), this unit consists of at least three, 3-6 m-thick layers, of a matrix-supported (70-80 419 vol.%), monolithological breccia composed of angular blocks (up to 50-80 cm in 420 diameter) included into a sandy, grey to reddish matrix. Juvenile blocks from these 421 deposits are amphibole-bearing siliceous andesites (62-63 wt.% SiO₂). The upper half of 422 each layer displays a reddish colour whereas the lower half mostly displays grey colour. Small charred organic material on this deposit that yielded ¹⁴C age older than the 423 424 method limit (>45 ka, Table 3). K-Ar dating of a juvenile prismatically-jointed block 425 from this unit yielded an age of 206 ± 4 ka (17EQ115, Fig. 5d, Table 2). These block-426 and-ash-flow deposits are likely associated with the growth of a dome complex in the 427 summit area. This unit is interlayered between the DAD-1 and the intermediate DAD-2 428 (see below; Fig. 6 and 7). Its upper and lower contacts are concordant, suggesting a 429 deposition with a short lifespan between each unit.

430

431 Debris avalanche deposit 2 (DAD-2). This unit crops out at the north-western 432 (Bellavista and San Vicente quarries) and south-eastern (El Carmen quarry) sides of the 433 Ambato basin (Fig. 6). Because of its intermediate stratigraphic position, outcrops are 434 scarce and we cannot fully define its geographical extension. Its thickness varies from 435 5-6 m up to 12 m across the Ambato basin, which should be considered as minimum 436 values as its base was often not observed. Ordóñez (2012) proposed an area of 100 km² 437 (Fig. 8), and, assuming an average thickness of 5-10 m, we propose a volume range of 0.5-1.0 km³. Despite this rough estimation, DAD-2 exhibits a volume notably smaller 438 439 than the older DAD-1. This unit overlies the TFD-1 (Totoras log, Fig. 6) and the lower block-and-ash flow unit (Bellavista log, Fig. 6), and it is covered by a tephra fallout
deposit (TFD-2; El Carmen log, Fig. 6) and/or the upper block-and-ash flow unit (UBAFD, Bellavista log, Fig. 6).

443 DAD-2 is a heterogeneous breccia showing a characteristic patchwork pattern, 444 consisting of block facies immersed in a mixed facies (Fig. 5, 6). The block facies 445 consists of large (up to 1-2 m in diameter), variably cataclased blocks with frequent 446 jigsaw cracks and fractures immersed in a sandy matrix. Lava blocks are mostly 447 unaltered andesites with a mineral assemblage composed of plagioclase, pyroxenes, and 448 amphibole. The mixed facies is composed of heterogeneous, beige, sand-rich interclast 449 matrix (60-70 vol.%), with primarily angular andesitic blocks (up to 20 cm in diameter) 450 and some scarce pumice fragments from the lower TFD-1 horizon.

451

452 **Figure 6.** Key stratigraphic columns in the Ambato basin.

453

454 Upper block-and-ash-flow deposits (U-BAFD). This unit crops out in the basin's north-455 western side, at Bellavista and San Vicente quarries (Fig. 6, 7). This 6-8 m-thick unit is 456 a matrix-supported (70-80 vol.%), monolithological breccia composed of angular blocks 457 (up to 1-2 m in diameter) immersed in a sand-rich matrix with the characteristic grey-458 reddish colour. Juvenile blocks from this unit are amphibole-bearing siliceous andesites 459 (62-63 wt.% SiO₂). This unit is concordant above the previously described DAD-2 and 460 is covered by a tephra fallout deposit (TFD-2, El Carmen log, Fig. 6) and a younger 461 debris avalanche deposit (DAD-3, logs San Vicente and Bellavista, Fig. 6). At El 462 Carmen quarry, the upper part of U-BAFD grades into a 20-30 cm-thick, dark grey, ash-463 rich layer, interpreted as a paleosoil (see below). This paleosoil horizon is associated 464 with an unconformity representing a period without volcanic deposition in the Ambato 465 basin.

466

467 *Debris avalanche deposit 3 (DAD-3).* This unit is widely distributed in the Ambato 468 basin. Good exposures occur along the main drainages (Fig. 3), *i.e.* the Quebradas 469 Catequilla and Terremoto, and the Río Ambato and Río Pachanlica valleys, with a 470 maximum runout of 25 km in the NE direction (DAD-3; Fig. 8). The observed thickness 471 ranges from 2-5 up to 15-20 m. It covers an area of 100-110 km², quite similar to that of 472 the DAD-2. The average thickness of 8-10 m leads to an estimated volume of ~1 km³, a 473 value similar to the DAD-2 and notably lower than DAD-1. This deposit is massive

474 with no gradation structure. It is a heterogeneous, polymictic breccia, with the two 475 typical facies observed in the previously described DADs. The block facies consists of 476 large (up to 5 m in diameter), highly cataclased blocks with abundant jigsaw cracks and 477 fractures immersed in a sandy matrix. Some scarce megablocks (200-250 m long and 478 20-50 m high) were observed and mainly consist of block facies. Lava blocks are 479 mostly unaltered andesites with a similar mineral assemblage to those of the previously 480 DADs. The mixed facies is composed of heterogeneous, beige, silty-sandy interclast 481 matrix (75-85 vol.%), with heterogeneous blocks (up to 20 cm in diameter) of similar 482 composition than in the block facies. The dominant mixed facies includes patches of the 483 block facies. Lastly, a third, transitional facies was observed at the NE distal parts (e.g., 484 Totoras). This polymictic deposit is characterised by a beige sandy-silty interclast 485 matrix (50-65 vol.%) and includes subrounded blocks of andesitic composition. The 486 matrix is consolidated and includes frequent millimetric-size bubbles. Based on these 487 characteristics, and following the criteria summarized by Harpel et al. (2011), we 488 interpret this subunit as a lahar deposit associated with the main debris avalanche 489 deposit. The DAD-3 unit is interlayered between U-BAFD and TFD-2 units below and 490 the TFD-3 unit above (Fig. 6).

491

492 Figure 7. Synthetic stratigraphy of the Ambato basin.

493

494 **Figure 8.** Debris Avalanche Deposits distribution in Ambato basin.

495

496 Debris avalanche deposit 4 (DAD-4). This unit is the youngest debris avalanche deposit 497 of the Carihuairazo volcano. Contrary to the previous debris avalanche deposits that 498 spread over a wide area of the Ambato basin, this unit is channelized along the Pataló, 499 Terremoto and Catequilla valleys (Fig. 8). Its thickness is lower than the previous 500 deposits, ranging from 1 to 5 m in the distal zone, and 8-12 m in the proximal zone (log 501 2, Río Pataló, Fig. 6). Ordóñez (2012) proposed an area of 65-70 km² for DAD-4 (Fig. 502 8), and assuming an average thickness of 2-3 m, we estimate a volume of 0.15-0.20 503 km³.

This unit is a massive, polymictic, matrix-supported breccia composed of 10-20 vol.% of blocks, whose size ranges from 5 and 80 cm in diameter, although larger blocks (up to 1-2 m) were also observed. Blocks are primarily angular or subangular, with frequent jigsaw fractures, especially in larger blocks. The silt-rich matrix is 508 commonly beige-brown, although in some cases, red-grey colours are also observed, 509 and display frequent millimetric-size bubbles, especially at the base of the deposit. 510 Blocks are primarily pyroxene-rich and amphibole-bearing andesites, mostly unaltered, 511 although hydrothermally-altered blocks were also observed. The polylithologic nature 512 of the blocks, the matrix's characteristics, and the presence of block facies patches with 513 jigsaw fractures, point to a cohesive lahar deposit that was generated from a debris 514 avalanche.

515

This unit rests on top of the Ambato basin volcano-sedimentary succession (Fig. 516 6, 7). Given that the glacially-formed valleys channelized this debris avalanche, we 517 suggest that the age of the DAD-4 is younger than the LGM event.

518

519 Huisla-Mulmul tephra fallout deposits. One of the main features of the Ambato basin 520 stratigraphic succession is the presence of 4 major tephra fallout deposits (here named 521 as TFD-1 to -4), which are interlayered with the debris avalanche and block-and-ash-522 flow deposits from Carihuairazo volcano (Fig. 6, 7). The isopach maps presented by 523 Ordóñez (2012) show thickness decreasing from the SE towards the NW of the Ambato 524 basin (Fig. 9, 10), pointing to the Huisla-Mulmul volcanic complex as the potential 525 source. This interpretation is supported by geochemical data (Fig. 11) of the juvenile 526 pumice fragments from these deposits that define a regular trend with the lavas sampled 527 in these edifices (see below). We summarize below the main characteristics of these 528 deposits.

529

530 Tephra fallout deposit 1 (TFD-1). This layer crops out in the entire Ambato basin, with 531 thickness from 3-5 m at Totoras, close to Huisla volcano, to less than 1 m at Ambato-532 Izamba and Chibuleo cross-sections (Fig. 9). This deposit is composed of white, highly 533 vesiculated, crystal-poor (< 5 vol.%) pumice fragments (80-85 vol.%) of biotite-bearing 534 rhyolitic composition (73-77 wt.% SiO₂), and distinctive metamorphic (mostly 535 greenschist) lithic fragments (10-15 vol.%) belonging to the Alao-Paute Formation of 536 the Eastern Cordillera basement (Aspden and Litherland, 1992). A minor component 537 (~5 vol.%) corresponds to reddish-grey, dense andesitic lithics. At proximal zones (*i.e.*, 538 Totoras; Fig. 3), this unit is well stratified, allowing to identify four different subunits 539 with transitional contacts, defined by grain size, lithic contents, lamination and 540 gradation (Fig. 10a). This unit represents one of the main tephrochronological markers 541 for this part of the Inter Andean valley. Based on 16 thickness measurements and using

the formulation of Pyle (1989), Ordóñez (2012) estimated a minimum volume of 1.2
km³ corresponding to an eruption with a Volcanic Explosive Index (VEI) of 5.

- 544
- Figure 9. Isopach maps for the tephra fallout deposits of the Ambato basin (modified from Ordóñez, 2012). We stress that no enough data could be gathered to draw an isopach map for TFD-2.

548 Tephra fallout deposit 2 (TFD-2). This layer crops out in the eastern part of the Ambato 549 basin, between Totoras (1.5 m-thick) and Ambato-Izamba (0.5-0.15 m-thick; Fig. 9). It 550 comprises white, moderately vesiculated pumice fragments (up to 90-95 vol.%) of 551 rhyolitic composition (72-73 wt.% SiO₂), with crystals (5-10 vol.%) of plagioclase, 552 biotite, amphibole, and minor amounts of pyroxenes and magnetite. Additionally, some 553 (5-10 vol.%) hydrothermally-altered lithics, and andesitic fragments were also observed 554 at the unit's base. The base of this deposit is made of a centimetric thick coarse ash 555 layer grading to the main tephra deposit, which shows a normal gradation at the base 556 and a reverse gradation at the top. This layer is interpreted as a pyroclastic surge deposit 557 (Fig. 10c-d) that overlies the previously described 20-30 cm-thick paleosoil. The surge 558 layer includes some small charred twigs (Fig. 10c-d), which were dated twice by 559 radiocarbon at 39 ± 0.4 ka and >45 ka (Table 3). Because of the scarcity of outcrops, we 560 cannot elaborate an isopach map for the TFD-2.

561

569

570 Tephra fallout deposit 3 (TFD-3). This layer crops out in the entire Ambato basin, with 571 thickness from 1.2 m at Totoras, to less than 0.2 m at its north-western border. This 572 deposit comprises white, moderately vesiculated, crystal-rich (25-30 vol.%) pumice 573 fragments of high-silica dacitic composition (68-70 wt.% SiO₂). It contains phenocrysts 574 of plagioclase, biotite, amphibole, pyroxenes and magnetite. Some pumice fragments 575 display roughly banded textures between two end-members of light grey and white 576 colours. We note that no chemical heterogeneity has been identified pointing to textural, 577 instead of chemical, differences between both end-members. The deposit is 578 homogeneous, without lamination, excepting the several centimetres thick, coarse ash 579 layers found at the base and top of the unit. Ordóñez (2012) estimated a minimum

^{Figure 10. Stratigraphic relationships between DAD and TFD. (a) TFD-1 overlying DAD-1 at Coco-Cola cross-section (point 9 in Fig. 6). BF – bloc facies, MF – matrix facies. (b) TFD-3 and 4 and the A-TFD at Palahua cross-section (point 7 in Fig. 5). (c) TFD-2 and DAD-3 in El Carmen outcrop (point 3 in Fig. 6). Note the paleosoil at the base of the TFD-2 and at the top of a reworked U-BAFD horizon. (d) Close-up of El Carmen outcrop. (e) DAD-4 overlaid by the distal andesitic tephra fallout deposits, whose origin is probably Chimborazo volcano. Note the presence of the "bicolour layer". (f) Distal andesitic tephra fallout deposits at Tisaleo – J.B. Vela road.}

volume of 0.2 km³ (based on 20 thickness measurements) that corresponds to an
eruption with a volcanic explosive index (VEI) of 4.

582

587

Figure 11. Selected major and trace elements *versus* silica content for proximal eruptive products of Carihuairazo volcano as well as the distal deposits of the Ambato basin. We show also for comparison purposes the eruptive products of the neighbouring Puñalica (Narváez et al., 2018) and Huisla-Mulmul (Ancellin et al., 2017) volcanic centres.

588 Tephra fallout deposit 4 (TFD-4). The TFD-4 crops out in the entire Ambato basin (Fig. 589 9), although its thickness are lower than the previous tephra fallout deposits, ranging 590 from 0.5 m on the lower Huisla flank, to 0.15-0.2 m in Ambato. This deposit comprises 591 three subunits. The lower one is a homogenous, fine-medium sized, ash fallout deposit 592 with a normal grading. This layer evolves upwards to a well-laminated, ash-rich 593 horizon. Then, the upper layer, which is the thickest and has a wide geographical 594 distribution, is composed of pumice-rich lapilli and coarse ash with a normal gradation. 595 All three layers contain similar crystal-rich (15-25 vol%) white-beige pumice fragments 596 with a mineral assemblage composed of plagioclase, amphibole, biotite, pyroxenes, and 597 Fe-Ti oxides, and dense lithic fragments of grey and reddish-grey andesites. Ordóñez 598 (2012) estimated a minimum volume of 0.1 km³ for this deposit (21 thickness 599 measurements), leading to a VEI of 4.

600

601 Other undifferentiated tephra fallout deposit (U-TFD). Above the TFD-4 deposit, we 602 observe a succession of at least eight tephra fallout deposits that are interlayered with 603 beige-brown, weathered, partially indurated and reworked ash layers (i.e. Cangahua). 604 The overall thickness is of 2-3 m, and individual thicknesses are of about 10-40 cm at 605 the Totoras outcrop. These lapilli-rich layers show a decrease in the grain size and 606 thickness from north to south. They are composed of grey to dark brown, andesitic 607 scoria fragments, grading from coarse scoria to lapilli (up to 5 cm in diameter). We are 608 unable to draw individual isopach maps for these deposits, however, based on the grain 609 size and some scarce geochemical data (not shown), we propose the Huisla-Mulmul 610 volcanic complex as their source. This sequence is covered by the DAD-4 (Fig. 5f, 611 10b).

612

613 *Distal andesitic tephra fallout deposits (A-TFD).* At least eight tephra fallout deposits 614 crop out in the western part of the Ambato basin, between Mocha, Tisaleo and J.B. Vela 615 towns (Fig. 3). These tephra fallout deposits are composed of dense, dark-brown, 616 and esitic (56.5-58.5 wt.% SiO_2) scoria with minor amounts of dense, lithic fragments. 617 These deposits are interlayered with reworked ash layers with disseminated scoria 618 fragments and often transitional contacts between tephra and ash horizons. The total 619 succession is 7-8 m thick, with individual scoria layers ranging from 5 to 50 cm in the 620 Mocha – J.B. Vela road (Fig. 10f). The thickness of these layers regionally decreases 621 toward the north-east of the Ambato basin, whereas these layers are absent to the west, 622 above 3400-3600 m. Although a detailed study of these layers is beyond the scope of 623 this study, geochemical data from scoria fragments suggest that these tephra layers have 624 been emitted by the nearby Chimborazo volcano (Fig. 12, see below). In the middle-625 lower part of this succession, we observed a key horizon consisting of two fallout layers 626 of almost similar thickness (between 10 and 15 cm thick). The lower one consists of 627 dark grey-brown scoria with scarce altered lithics (2 cm maximum) and the upper one 628 consists of light grey-beige scoria (4 cm maximum) with scarce non-altered, andesitic 629 lithics. We interpret this double layer as corresponding to the Chimborazo volcano key 630 horizon "III" (Samaniego et al., 2012). Given that this horizon covers glacial deposits 631 interpreted as formed during the Last Glacial Maximum, we propose an age younger 632 than 20-30 ka. This tephra succession, including the bicolour layer, covers the DAD-4 633 (Fig. 10e-f).

634

The Puñalica volcano. This lava-dominated cone is composed of a succession of lava flows that are unaffected by glacial erosion. These lavas extend up to 10-11 km towards the north-east, up to the Río Mocha valley and Cevallos town (Fig. 3). These lavas cover the succession of distal andesitic tephra fallout deposits (A-TFD, Fig. 10f). Puñalica lavas are mostly basaltic andesites and andesites (55-60 wt.% SiO₂) with a mineral assemblage composed of plagioclase, ortho- and clino-pyroxene, and frequent olivine phenocrysts. Some of these samples were described by Narvaez et al. (2018).

The upper part of Puñalica is composed of proximal lava flows and pyroclastic fallout deposits (54-56 wt.% SiO₂) cropping out on its upper south-east flank. These deposits correspond to lithic-rich centimetric-to-decimetric size layers covering the youngest lava flows. At the southern part of the cone, in the Quebrada Olalla valley (Fig. 3), these deposits represent a succession of several 10 to 50 cm-thick layers composed of juvenile scoria bombs and dense prismatically-jointed blocks (up to 30 cm in diameter) of andesitic composition (54-58 wt.% SiO₂). Field relationships of the 649 Puñalica lavas and moraine deposits in the Río Pachanlica valley to the south of the 650 cone allowed Clapperton (1990) to postulate that the activity of this cone occurred 651 between 18 and 14 ka. This assumption was corroborated by a K-Ar age obtained from 652 a distal lava sample of Puñalica that yielded an age of 18 ± 3 ka (RIO18; Bablon et al., 653 2019). This datation supports a pre-Holocene age for the oldest Puñalica lavas.

654

655 The 1698 CE debris flow deposit. The youngest deposit cropping out in the quebradas 656 draining the Carihuairazo massif (i.e., Chiquicahua, Pataló, Quichibí, Terremoto, 657 Catequilla and Pachanlica-Olalla-Mocha; Fig. 3) is a 2-4 m-thick, dark, matrix-rich 658 deposit composed by fine sand and silt materials, with some scarce 10-40 cm rounded 659 blocks (Vásconez et al., 2009; Vasconez et al., 2019). One of the most conspicuous 660 characteristics of this deposit is the presence of subvertical prismation, which were 661 interpreted as desiccation cracks implying that this deposit was water-saturated. This 662 deposit forms flat terraces on the valley floor and in the medial to distal zones (Ambato 663 basin; Fig. 2c), and covers the reworked distal ash deposits associated with the 664 Tungurahua volcano eruptions from the last millennium (Le Pennec et al., 2008). This 665 deposit originated from small size (1-2 m) landslides affecting the andosol on the upper 666 Carihuairazo flanks as a result of a large earthquake that affected the Ecuadorian Andes 667 on June 20th 1698 (MSK intensity X, M_I of 7.3; Beauval et al., 2010; Wolf, 1904). The 668 landslide's scars are still visible in the topography in the upper flanks of Carihuairazo 669 (black dotted line, Fig. 2d). Based on detailed field mapping (Vásconez et al., 2009) and 670 modelling (Vasconez et al., 2019), these authors estimated a total volume of $80-90 \times 10^6$ 671 m^3 for these deposits, as well as a total thickness of up to 40 m from the valley bottom 672 at the Rio Ambato. These mudflows destroyed the former Ambato town (Wolf, 1904; 673 Vásconez et al., 2009).

674

675 5. Geochemical characteristics as a tool for discriminating the origin of the 676 Ambato basin tephra fallout deposits

677 Carihuairazo samples define an andesitic to dacitic, medium-K calc-alkaline 678 trend (Fig. 11) ranging from 59 to 66 wt.% SiO₂, with very few samples falling in the 679 field of basaltic andesites (55-56 wt.% SiO₂). No significant chemical and mineralogical 680 differences have been observed between the different volcanic units of Carihuairazo. 681 We note that distal Ambato basin deposits (*i.e.*, debris avalanche and block-and-ash-682 flow deposits) display the same geochemical compositions as the proximal lava flows 683 and domes. In addition, the mineral assemblage of the proximal and distal units remains 684 unchanged during magmatic differentiation, with a mineral assemblage of plagioclase, 685 ortho- and clino-pyroxene, amphibole, and Fe-Ti oxides.

686

In contrast, the Ambato basin tephra fallout deposits (red triangles, Fig. 11) 687 display high-silica dacitic to rhyolitic compositions (from 68 to 79 wt.% SiO₂) that 688 clearly define a magmatic trend different than the Carihuairazo one, characterized by higher K₂O and other incompatible elements (such as Rb, Ba, La, Nb, Th; Fig. 11). It is 689 690 also interesting to note that the silica contents decrease from TFD-1 to TFD-3/4. We 691 also note that these dacitic to rhyolitic compositions lie along the prolongation of the 692 Huisla-Mulmul magmatic trend (yellow triangles, Fig. 11). This information, together 693 with the isopach distribution described previously, argue in favour of the hypothesis 694 that the source of these Plinian events is the Huisla-Mulmul volcanic complex.

695 In contrast, identifying the source for the younger andesitic tephra samples (A-696 TFD) is a challenging task. In Fig. 12, we compare the A-TFD samples with those of 697 Chimborazo volcano (Samaniego et al., 2012), including the variation fields for the 698 volcanic products of the volcanoes around the Ambato basin (i.e., Carihuairazo, 699 Puñalica, and Huisla-Mulmul). This comparison highlights that the A-TFD display a 700 rather large geochemical variability similar to that observed for the Chimborazo tephra 701 samples. This supports the hypothesis that the A-TFD are originated from the 702 Chimborazo volcano.

703 Finally, we also note that Puñalica samples (black stars, Fig. 11) define a 704 homogenous group of magnesium-rich basaltic andesites and andesites (54-60 wt.% 705 SiO₂), with a mineral assemblage composed by plagioclase, ortho- and clino-pyroxene, 706 olivine and Fe-Ti oxides. We stress that olivine is frequent in these lavas, whereas 707 amphibole is absent. When considering at some major elements Harker diagrams (for 708 instance K₂O and MgO vs. SiO₂, Fig. 11), Puñalica samples seem to define a single 709 magmatic trend with Carihuairazo. However, some trace elements concentrations (e.g., 710 La, Th) and ratios (e.g. Th/La) clearly point to a more complex scenario. This 711 observation argues against a single magmatic system feeding both Carihuairazo and 712 Puñalica volcanoes. Contrasted ages of Carihuairazo (Middle Pleistocene, 220-150 ka) 713 and Puñalica (< 18 ka) volcanoes also support this assumption.

714

715 Figure 12. Comparison between the regional andesitic tephras (A-TFD) and the Chimborazo tephras 716 (white dots and thin black line field, Samaniego et al., 2012). We also show the variation fields for

717

7 Carihuairazo (this work), Puñalica (Narváez et al., 2018) and Huisla-Mulmul (both proximal lavas and tenhars, Anaellin et al., 2017) valormas

- 718 tephras, Ancellin et al., 2017) volcanoes.719
- 720 **6. Discussion**

721 **6.1.** The evolution of Carihuairazo volcano with recurrent sector collapses

722 The oldest volcanic units identified in the region correspond to two domes 723 located to the south of the Rio Ambato valley (cf. Sunatza and Cruz Maqui domes), 724 dated by Bablon et al. (2019) at 512 ± 9 ka (Fig. 13b). This age is almost 725 contemporaneous to those obtained for Huisla volcano (490-620 ka; Bablon et al., 2019) 726 and corresponds to the oldest Carihuairazo volcanic unit. The main volcanic succession 727 of the Carihuairazo cone itself correspond to thick lava flows that form its outer western 728 and southern flanks. Lava flows samples from the lower flanks yield ages in the range of 200-230 ka (Samaniego et al., 2012). This Basal lava flow succession represents the 729 730 main cone-building stage of Carihuairazo (Fig. 13c), responsible of the construction of 731 an old edifice that was affected by the successive sector collapses. This edifice was 732 capped by a summit dome complex, whose remnants were not identified, but produced 733 the Chibuleo block-and-ash-flow deposits cropping out in the northern lower flank (Fig. 734 13d). This block-and-ash-flow succession indicates of a large dome-forming phase at 735 Carihuairazo. We were unable to date this volcanic succession, however, given that it is 736 covered by the TFD-1 deposit, we consider that it predates the recurrent volcanic sector 737 collapses and the block-and-ash-flow deposits that affected Carihuairazo later.

738 The old Carihuairazo edifice suffered a large sector collapse that formed some 739 "torevas" in the proximal north-western part of the avalanche scar, and whose remnants 740 correspond to the Milincocha hills. This sector collapse triggered a large debris 741 avalanche deposit (DAD-1, Fig. 13d) that reached the Ambato basin 20-25 km from the 742 current Carihuairazo summit. This debris avalanche deposit overlies the Chalupas 743 ignimbrite and the older Ambato basin deposits. The DAD-1 is covered by the 744 conspicuous TFD-1. Based on isopach maps and geochemical arguments, this tephra 745 deposit comes from the nearby Huisla-Mulmul volcanic complex, whose younger lavas 746 (from Mulmul edifice) were dated at 140-175 ka by Bablon et al. (2019). After the 747 DAD-1 sector collapse, Carihuairazo initiated a reconstruction period characterized by 748 the extrusion of lava domes responsible for the succession of block-and-ash-flows 749 deposits (L-BAFD). Based on the K-Ar ages of the underlaying Chalupas ignimbrite 750 $(216 \pm 5 \text{ ka}; \text{Bablon et al.}, 2020)$, and the overlaying L-BAFD $(206 \pm 4 \text{ ka})$, the age of 751 the DAD-1 is well constrained between these two ages. Following this phase of dome

752 growth and collapse, Carihuairazo reconstructed around 200-185 ka, forming the 753 Intermediate lava flow succession of the north-eastern and the upper western flanks of 754 the volcano (Fig. 13e). This period was also characterised by dome growth and collapse 755 (U-BAFD) and ended with a smaller debris avalanche deposit (DAD-2; Fig. 13e). We 756 argue that this succession of events succeeded in a relatively short time scale due to the 757 lack of erosional discordances throughout most of the Ambato basin stratigraphic 758 succession (Fig. 6).

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- Figure 13. Synthesis cartoons of the eruptive history of the Ambato Basin since 800 ka. Note that the morphology of the landscape before the construction of volcanoes (basement in grey and ~500 ka old domes in green) are speculative and deduced from the present elevation of the basement around them.
 Same legend as in Fig. 3.
- 763 764

765 The upper part of the Carihuairazo cone was constructed around 150-175 ka, 766 when it reached its maximum height, about 4800-5000 m asl. The remnants of this 767 eruptive stage form the Terminal lava succession (Fig. 13f), as well as a few lava domes 768 that crop out along the Pachanlica valley (Santa Rosa, Cahuito, and Pitiunga domes, 769 Fig. 3). As no ages younger than 157 ± 5 ka have been obtained from this volcano, we 770 suggest that Carihuairazo experienced a recurrent sequence of sector collapses and 771 dome growth/collapse events (DAD-1, L-BAFD, DAD-2, and U-BAFD) during about 772 50 kyr. Thus, the Carihuairazo evolution roughly lasted between 230 and 150 ka.

773 The upper part of the U-BAFD unit appears as a soil-like, dark horizon, 774 suggesting a repose time of the deposition process. This disconformity is in agreement 775 with two radiocarbon ages $(39.0 \pm 0.4 \text{ ka}; >45 \text{ ka})$ obtained at the base of the overlying 776 TFD-2, implying that the forthcoming debris avalanche deposit (DAD-3 and -4, Fig. 777 13g) are younger than 40-50 ka. These ages imply that the sector collapse associated 778 with the DAD-3 occurred several tens of thousands of years after the last volcanic 779 activity at Carihuairazo. Then, a younger and smaller sector collapse occurred at 780 Carihuairazo, whose debris avalanche deposit (DAD-4) was mostly channelized by the 781 main drainages of the Ambato basin (Fig. 13g). Based on stratigraphic information, this 782 sector collapse probably occurred during or just after the LGM period (i.e., younger 783 than 20-30 ka). Following this debris avalanche deposit (DAD-4), the only volcanic 784 products deposited on the Ambato basin correspond to regional andesitic tephra fallout 785 deposits that were interpreted to originate from the Chimborazo volcano (Samaniego et 786 al., 2012). The youngest volcanic events that affected this region of the Inter Andean

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787 valley correspond to the Puñalica volcano growth (Fig. 13h), that included a succession 788 of effusive eruptions responsible for a large lava field that was dated at 18 ± 3 ka 789 (Bablon et al., 2019), as well as explosive deposits associated with the upper Puñalica 790 pyroclastic cone formation. The structural evolution of Puñalica, as well as the detailed 791 description of its eruptive dynamisms and petrology is beyond the scope of this study 792 and it will be detailed in a forthcoming manuscript. Lastly, during historical times (1698 793 CE), Carihuairazo flanks were affected by widespread landslides triggered by a large 794 regional earthquake, these landslides evolved to large debris flows that flowed by the 795 main drainages.

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7 6.2. Successive destabilization of a summit dome complex

798 In Ecuador, debris avalanche deposits formed as a result of sector collapses have 799 been described at Chimborazo (Bernard et al., 2008; Samaniego et al., 2012); 800 Tungurahua (Hall et al., 1999; Bablon et al., 2018); Cotopaxi (Hall and Mothes, 2008; 801 Vezzoli et al., 2017); Imbabura (Le Pennec et al., 2011; Andrade et al., 2019); Cubilche 802 (Roverato et al., 2018; Navarrete et al., 2021); Pichincha (Robin et al., 2010); Mojanda-803 Fuya Fuya (Robin et al., 2009); Huisla-Mulmul (Espín et al., 2019); and Sangay 804 (Monzier et al., 1999; Valverde et al., 2021). The Carihuairazo evolution is a unique 805 case-study in the Ecuadorian context because it experienced at least four sector 806 collapses (and the subsequent debris avalanche deposits, DAD-1 to -4) during its life-807 time. The first two debris avalanche deposits (DAD-1 and -2), were followed by dome 808 collapse block-and-ash flow deposits (L- and U-BAFD). This stratigraphic evidence 809 following the large DAD-1 event, Carihuairazo started a implies that 810 construction/destruction period comprised in a relatively short time scale that lasted for 811 several 10's kyr. In contrast, the two youngest debris avalanches (DAD-3 and -4) were 812 unrelated to synchronous volcanic activity. They may have been related to hydrothermal 813 alteration of the edifice, seismic activity, and/or gravitational destabilization related 814 with its location in the eastern flank of the Western Cordillera. In addition, the profiles 815 along the thalwegs of the main drainages of the eastern half of the volcano are similar 816 and not showing a large depression (Fig. 4b-d), suggesting that the successive collapses 817 should be filled by the avalanche deposits and the subsequent eruptive products, and 818 may have been eroded by glacier activity. We should also mention that the first three 819 major DAD occurred before the Last Glacial Maximum, whereas the DAD-4 was a 820 younger and smaller event that did not significantly affect the morphology of the821 volcano.

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6.3. Edifice volumes and eruptive rates

824 Results of the volumes, eruptive and erosion rates are summarized in Table 4. 825 Eruptive rates should be considered with caution. Indeed, they can be underestimated 826 due to the pyroclastic material missing in the volume calculation and a biased elevation 827 model of the basement beneath the volcano; or overestimated due to an incomplete 828 sampling leading to an erroneous determination of the construction period. However, 829 they provide a first-order estimate of the volcanic output rates. Considering that the 830 construction of the Carihuairazo volcano occurred between 223 ± 6 and 157 ± 5 ka 831 (Samaniego et al., 2012; Table 2), and that the volume of emitted products reached $97 \pm$ 832 53 km³, we obtain an eruptive rate of 1.5 ± 0.9 km³/kyr. This rate is similar or 833 somewhat higher to the values estimated for other Ecuadorian volcanoes such as Viejo 834 Cayambe (1.0-1.5 km³/ka; Samaniego et al., 2005), Guagua Pichincha (0.6-0.8 km³/ka; 835 Robin et al., 2010), Chimborazo (0.5-0.8 km³/ka; Samaniego et al., 2012), and old 836 Tungurahua I (0.6-0.8 km³/ka; Bablon et al., 2018). At the Andean scale, the eruptive 837 rate estimated for Carihuairazo are higher than that of other well-studied volcanoes such 838 as El Misti (0.63 km³/ka, Thouret et al., 2001) and Puyehue-Cordón Caulle (0.40–0.50 839 km³/ka, Singer et al., 2008). The eruptive rate estimated for Carihuairazo is notably 840 higher than that calculated for most of the large, long-lived Andean volcanoes such as 841 Aucanquilcha (0.05-0.16 km³/ka, Klemetti and Grunder, 2008); Ampato-Sabancaya 842 (0.10-0.12 km³/ka, Samaniego et al., 2016), Ubinas (0.10-0.20 km³/ka, Thouret et al., 843 2005) and Parinacota (0.25-0.30 km³/ka, Hora et al., 2007). This difference is mostly 844 due to the fact that Carihuairazo growth is surprisingly short (66 ± 6 ka), in comparison 845 with most of the edifices previously mentioned, whose lifespan is much longer (several 846 hundreds of ka). Indeed, Carihuairazo seems to have grown quite continuously, without 847 long repose periods, as is common in many arc volcanoes.

Finally, considering that the quiescence period of the main edifice of the Carihuairazo volcano started at 157 ± 5 ka (Table 2), and the eroded volume defined by the current DEM and the pre-erosion modelled paleo-topography, we obtain a volume of eroded material of 18 ± 5 km³. We used erosion rate to extrapolate the volume of material eroded during its construction (*i.e.*, between 223 and 157 ka), and obtained $8 \pm$ 2 km³. Adding the volume dismantled by sector collapses during the construction stage of Carihuairazo (DAD-1 to -4), we obtain a total volume of 30 ± 9 km³, corresponding to an erosion rate of about 0.1 km³/ka. This latter is similar to the erosion rate obtained for Ecuadorian volcanoes located in the Cordilleras, and higher than those obtained for volcanoes located within the Inter Andean Valley (Bablon et al., 2020), which are less affected by orographic rainfalls and glacial erosion.

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860 **6.4.** The Carihuairazo evolution and the link with the nearby Chimborazo

861 In his pioneering work on glacial and volcanic geomorphology, Clapperton 862 (1990) described Chimborazo and Carihuairazo volcanoes as being part of a same 863 volcanic massif. Indeed, both edifices are just 10 km apart and are located on a NE-SW 864 trend roughly parallel to the large crustal tectonic structure named the Chingual-865 Cosanga-Pallatanga-Puna fault system (CCPP, Baize et al., 2020). In addition, both 866 volcanic systems share a similar geochemical signature (Samaniego et al., 2012; 867 Ancellin et al., 2017). However, the structural development of each volcano is 868 independent and a temporal gap between Carihuairazo and Chimborazo was suggested 869 by Samaniego et al. (2012). This interpretation is based on field observation at the 870 Abraspungo valley, where the older lavas of Carihuairazo (Piedra Negra succession) 871 underlie the older lavas of Chimborazo (Abraspungo lava succession, Samaniego et al., 872 2012). The new chronological data presented here confirms this hypothesis because 873 Carihuairazo development is constrained between 230 and 150 ka, whereas Chimborazo 874 lifetime is younger than 100-120 ka.

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876 **7. Conclusions**

877 Carihuairazo is a mostly andesitic stratovolcano that overlooks the Ambato 878 basin, a tectonic depression located at the southern termination of the Ecuadorian arc. 879 The basal edifice is mainly composed of an andesitic lava flow succession dated at 230-880 200 ka, followed by an intermediate lava flow succession (200-185 ka) and a terminal 881 lava flow succession (175-150 ka) that included a summit dome complex. This edifice 882 suffered a first sector collapse that was responsible for a large debris avalanche deposit 883 (DAD-1) that covers the entire Ambato basin. This event occurred between 206 ± 4 and 884 216 ± 5 ka. Then, Carihuairazo started a succession of construction (Intermediate and 885 Terminal lava flow successions) and destruction (L-BAFD, DAD-2, U-BAFD) stages 886 lasting about 50 ky (i.e., from 200 to 150 ka). This volcanic succession is recorded in 887 the Ambato basin, interlayered with several tephra fallout deposits (TFD-1 to -4) whose

source is the nearby Huisla-Mulmul volcanic complex. The current morphology of Carihuairazo results from two additional sector collapses (DAD-3 and -4) that occurred during the past 40-50 ka, *i.e.*, following a long period (at least 100 ka) without volcanic activity. The evolution of the Carihuairazo edifice, recorded in the medial-distal deposits of the Ambato basin, represents a unique example in the Ecuadorian arc of an edifice that experienced recurrent sector collapses during a major part of its volcanic history.

895

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1130	Table 1. Selected geochemical analyses for Carihuairazo samples.
1131	
1132	Table 2. Unspiked K-Ar ages for Carihuairazo volcano.
1133	
1134	Table 3. Radiocarbon ages for the Ambato basin deposits.
1135	
1136	Table 4. Results of volumes, eruptive and erosion rates calculations obtained from the
1137	numerical paleo-surfaces and given at 1-sigma accuracy. Raw volume corresponds to
1138	the volume calculated from the surface model without taking into account erosion that
1139	occurred during the construction. Total volume corresponds to the sum of the raw
1140	volume, the volume eroded during the construction, calculated based on the erosion rate
1141	since the end of Carihuairazo construction, and the volume of products mobilized
1142	during sector collapse events. Volumes of the four DAD calculated using deposit
1143	thicknesses were converted to a dense rock equivalent (DRE) volume using a debris
1144	avalanche bulk density of 1950 kg/m ³ (Glicken, 1991), and assuming a bulk density of









































Sample No.	CAR14	CAR15	RIO87A	RIO87B	RIO117	RIO118	16EQ45	16EQ49	16EQ51	CAR69	16EQ31	CAR62A	CAR60	16EQ48	16EQ50	CAR13A	RIO81A	CAR11A	CAR09A	CAR09C	CAR11C	17EQ115
Unit	Old lava	Old lava	Basal lava	Basal lava	Basal lava	Basal lava	Basal lava	Intermediate	Intermediate	Intermediate	Intermediate	Terminal	Terminal	Terminal	Terminal	Chibuleo	Chibuleo		חאם			RAED
Onit	domes	domes	flows	flows	flows	flows	flows	lava flows	lava flows	lava flows	lava flows	edifice	edifice	edifice	edifice	BAFD	BAFD	DAD	DAD	DAD	BAID	BAID
UTM Easting ⁺	753880	753414	747041	747041	754241	753541	751507	748257	749690	750416	753781	754096	755579	748369	749690	754837	746841	761450	763787	763787	761450	759985
UTM Northing ⁺	9851818	9851471	9843725	9843725	9841025	9840625	9845930	9844399	9844487	9850179	9847553	9845243	755579	9855162	9844256	9854964	9854025	9856808	9852012	9852012	9856808	9855162
-			Diedra Negra	Piedra Negra			Río						Cerro		Lava flow				DAD-2 FI	DAD-3 El		L-BAED San
Location	Sunantza	Cruz Maqui	lava flow SW	lava flow SW	Lava flow, SE	Lava flow, SE	Pachanlica	Lava flow, W	BAFD, W	Lava flow, N	Lava, Punta	Sta Rosa	Pitiunga	Young lava	Terminal	Chibuleo	Tundahua	Bellavista	Carmen	Carmen	Bellavista	Vicente
	dome	dome	flank	flank	flank	flank	valley lava flow	flank	flank	flank	Tumbuso	dome	dome	flow, W flank	cone	BAFD	BAFD	section	section	section	section	section
SiO2	59.63	62.23	60.70	61.25	61.50	61.20	59.17	60.55	62.03	60.07	60.61	63.68	61.06	59.14	58.94	59.87	60.70	61.29	62.30	61.00	61.45	62.39
TiO2	0.76	0.64	0.71	0.69	0.68	0.75	0.63	0.69	0.58	0.68	0.69	0.60	0.73	0.74	0.67	0.71	0.71	0.60	0.52	0.59	0.58	0.59
AI2O3	17.52	17.31	17.10	17.15	17.65	17.40	16.55	17.15	16.43	18.86	18.03	16.66	16.80	17.21	16.52	16.88	17.08	17.58	17.46	17.19	17.82	17.20
Fe2O3*	6.44	5.57	6.12	5.97	5.73	6.00	6.00	5.96	5.19	6.05	6.34	5.00	6.10	6.54	6.02	5.96	6.18	5.77	5.09	5.25	5.82	5.62
MnO	0.10	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.10	0.10	0.08	0.09	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.10
MgO	3.51	2.41	2.92	2.85	2.07	2.90	3.86	2.88	2.57	2.33	2.34	2.45	3.48	3.08	3.34	3.12	3.08	2.52	1.68	2.13	2.00	2.16
CaO	6.11	5.01	5.52	5.50	5.35	5.60	6.19	5.82	5.30	5.94	5.99	4.74	5.59	6.06	6.08	5.89	5.92	5.75	5.02	5.24	5.61	5.46
Na2O	4.41	4.58	4.41	4.40	4.50	4.51	4.12	4.17	4.29	4.65	4.38	4.61	4.26	4.28	3.84	4.36	4.46	4.42	4.82	4.24	4.33	4.08
K2O	1.31	1.53	1.47	1.45	2.28	1.43	1.19	1.40	1.46	1.37	1.36	1.64	1.52	1.30	1.45	1.38	1.21	1.33	1.45	1.65	1.40	1.36
P2O5	0.22	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.21	0.20	0.19	0.18	0.18	0.23	0.23	0.16	0.21	0.22	0.18	0.20	0.22	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.23	0.22
LOI	0.12	0.37	0.23	0.21	0.06	0.10	0.71	-0.04	0.13	0.02	0.24	0.00	0.02	-0.08	1.59	1.36	0.22	-0.09	0.72	1.43	0.67	0.58
Total	100.13	99.94	99.47	99.76	100.11	100.18	98./1	98.86	98.25	100.29	100.29	99.61	99.86	98.59	98.73	99.82	99.87	99.46	99.38	99.00	100.00	99.75
Sc	13.17	10.96	10.50	10.50	8.70	10.80	13.98	12.68	9.99	9.47	10.05	8.52	12.30	12.00	13.58	13.19	13.80	10.58	6.67	8.80	8.07	9.02
V	146.54	92.06	137.00	134.00	118.00	133.00	135.44	140.85	116.00	121.47	130.69	106.77	134.09	147.75	177.39	143.59	154.00	123.03	70.52	101.87	99.84	110.36
Cr	53.58	11.55	38.00	38.00	11.00	27.00	116.10	19.37	27.03	4.76	6.10	37.96	73.51	26.59	47.03	39.96	42.00	12.78	4.09	10.39	5.88	11.41
Со	20.72	15.00	16.00	19.00	13.00	17.00	18.43	16.32	14.44	14.89	16.03	15.01	19.61	18.38	19.50	17.09	18.00	14.61	9.25	12.75	12.10	14.70
Ni	46.72	18.76	36.00	28.00	10.00	29.00	65.63	27.77	25.86	7.64	7.52	29.25	47.83	32.79	41.45	33.34	38.00	18.39	4.88	9.78	5.53	9.20
Rb	17.03	29.36	29.50	29.00	34.50	22.50	25.23	32.32	35.30	24.80	30.22	47.46	49.07	29.37	32.96	24.83	20.00	24.87	24.95	42.16	32.00	31.55
Sr	692.38	598.99	604.00	608.00	666.00	645.00	584.10	586.01	609.68	/12.66	6//.36	5/1.88	597.45	602.18	595.16	/49./9	795.00	604.77	650.07	609.99	664.67	649.86
r 7r	104 51	11.95	12.20	12.00	122.00	112.00	12.73	11.94	9.99	12.85	112 12	9.02	10.47	13.13	106.40	12.93	12.00	11.74 70.41	11.39 96.91	11.37	105.09	10.80
Nb	104.51	/7.02 4.60	110.00	5 20	123.00	112.00	97.80 4.00	108.04	39.00 A A1	111.41	115.15 A 8A	05.30 A 7A	101.94	114.05	100.40	95.95 A 39	83.00 4.00	/ 28	00.81 1 57	98.50 A 45	103.98	94.24 1 28
Ba	4.50 610 68	709 74	662.00	685.00	628.00	670.00	614.06	669.87	836.43	593.08	598 15	705 67	668.03	614 39	661 57	581 14	4.00 615.00	593 93	655 49	668 36	592 90	626 59
La	13.06	14.78	14.50	14.50	15.70	15.00	12.27	14.80	14.69	14.16	13.66	14.16	13.66	14.02	13.70	13.76	14.00	12.00	13.87	13.93	13.74	13.29
Ce	26.87	32.11	30.50	31.00	30.00	30.50	23.25	29.85	30.72	29.65	29.28	26.33	30.37	28.13	27.65	27.76	29.00	27.01	29.97	30.99	31.17	28.48
Nd	15.52	15.77	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.50	13.74	15.92	14.56	16.93	15.62	14.33	14.77	16.72	14.61	16.09	16.00	13.80	15.66	15.04	15.68	14.13
Sm	3.46	3.21	3.40	3.35	3.70	3.70	2.88	3.22	2.97	3.58	3.24	2.88	3.04	3.45	3.16	3.41	3.35	2.92	3.38	3.19	3.59	2.93
Eu	1.02	1.01	1.02	1.03	0.98	1.03	0.82	0.96	0.93	1.09	1.03	0.82	0.97	1.17	0.78	0.96	0.99	0.85	1.00	0.92	1.04	0.95
Gd	2.87	3.36	3.20	3.20	3.00	3.50	2.61	2.36	2.68	3.00	3.39	2.36	3.09	3.06	2.42	3.08	3.20	3.01	3.16	3.10	3.32	2.60
Dy	2.06	1.98	2.20	2.20	2.15	2.35	2.15	2.29	1.77	2.24	2.09	1.71	1.93	2.44	2.06	2.16	2.15	1.95	1.86	2.06	2.12	2.01
Er	0.32	0.03	1.15	1.10	1.10	1.20	1.14	1.24	0.85	0.38	1.00	0.00	-0.01	1.15	0.77	0.79	1.10	-0.04	0.14	-0.05	-0.03	1.25
Yb	0.97	1.08	1.05	1.02	0.97	1.12	1.00	0.88	0.59	1.14	1.02	0.72	0.95	0.92	0.80	1.16	0.98	1.09	1.01	0.99	1.07	0.96
Th	2.43	3.41	3.30	3.30	3.70	3.00	2.29	3.04	2.60	2.25	3.28	3.36	2.91	2.58	2.80	2.58	2.60	1.77	2.40	2.58	2.36	2.45

⁺ WGS84, 17 zone

* all Feo as Fe2O3

Sample	Unit	Location	UTM Easting	UTM Northing	Phase	K (%)	⁴⁰ Ar [*] (%)	⁴⁰ Ar [*] x 10 ¹¹ (at/g)	Age ± 1σ (ka)	Mean age (ka)
16EQ45	Basal lava flows	Lava flow, inside the avalanche scar, NE flank	751,507	9,845,930	Groundmass	1.152	2.80	2.5938	216 ± 8	217 ± 9
							2.59	2.6197	218 ± 9	
17EQ115	L-DAFD	Juvenile block from a block-and-ash-flow deposit	759,985	9,855,162	Groundmass	1.741	3.73	3.7811	208 ± 4	206 ± 4
							6.16	3.7181	204 ± 4	
16EQ49	Basal lava flows	Proximal lava flow/dome, W flank	748,257	9,844,399	Groundmass	1.682	4.89	3.5067	200 ± 5	199 ± 5
							4.69	3.4962	199 ± 5	
16EQ51	Basal lava flows	Juvenile block from a summit block-and-ash-flow	749,690	9,844,487	Groundmass	1.471	3.07	3.0723	200 ± 7	198 ± 7
							2.78	3.0216	197 ± 8	
16EQ31	Basal lava flows	Lava flow, NE flank	753,781	9,847,553	Groundmass	1.463	7.17	3.0679	201 ± 4	197 ± 4
							9.29	2.9641	194 ± 3	
					Plagioclase	0.356	2.22	0.7029	189 ± 9	187 ± 9
							2.18	0.6837	184 ± 9	
CAR69	Basal lava flows	Lava flow, N flank	750,425	9,850,188	Groundmass	1.322	6.11	2.5872	187 ± 4	186 ± 5
							3.97	2.5833	187 ± 5	
							5.15	2.5392	184 ± 4	
					Plagioclase	0.377	1.87	0.7212	183 ± 10	178 ± 11
							1.60	0.6760	172 ± 11	
CAR60	Terminal edifice	Pitiunga lava dome, E flank, Pachanlica valley	755,588	9,845,772	Groundmass	1.663	6.89	3.0625	176 ± 4	176 ± 10
							5.34	3.2221	185 ± 4	
							4.45	2.8672	165 ± 4	
16EQ50	Terminal edifice	Lava flow, summit pyramide	749,690	9,844,256	Groundmass	1.852	2.60	3.3111	171 ± 7	172 ± 7
							2.45	3.3279	172 ± 7	
16EQ48	Terminal edifice	Juvenile fragment of dome breccia	748,369	9,855,162	Groundmass	1.473	3.08	2.5013	163 ± 6	157 ± 5
							3.33	2.3463	153 ± 5	

Sample No.	Lab code	Locality	UTM Easting	UTM Northing	Unit	Sample type	¹⁴ C age (years BP)
CAR-09M	GrA 46688	El Carmen	763787	9852012	Paleosoil below TFD-2	charcoal	39030 +440/-380
CAR-09N	GrA 48843	El Carmen	763787	9852012	Paleosoil below TFD-2	charcoal	> 45000
CAR-10F	GrA 48875	San Vicente	760098	9855155	L-BAFD	charcoal	> 45000

			Age min.	Age min. Duration		Total volume	Erupti	ve rate	Erosion rate		
		ka	ka	ka	km ³	km ³	km³/kyr	mm/yr	km³/kyr	mm/yr	
Construction shoes of	Without erosion correction	223 ± 6*	157 ± 5	66 ± 8	85 ± 49		1.3 ± 0.8	5.3 ± 3.1			
Carihuairazo	Considering eroded volume during the construction	223 ± 6*	157 ± 5	66 ± 8		97 ± 53	1.5 ± 0.9	6.1 ± 3.6			
	Since the end of Carihuairazo construction	157 ± 5	0	157 ± 5	18 ± 5				0.12 ± 0.03	0.48 ± 0.13	
Erosion phase	Considering eroded volume during the construction	157 ± 5	0	157 ± 5		30 ± 9			0.14 ± 0.04	0.56 ± 0.16	
	Volume eroded during the construction	223 ± 6	157 ± 5	66 ± 8		12 ± 4					