Two Decades of InSAR Observations in the Kivu Basin, Western Branch of East African Rift

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Two decades of SAR: overview

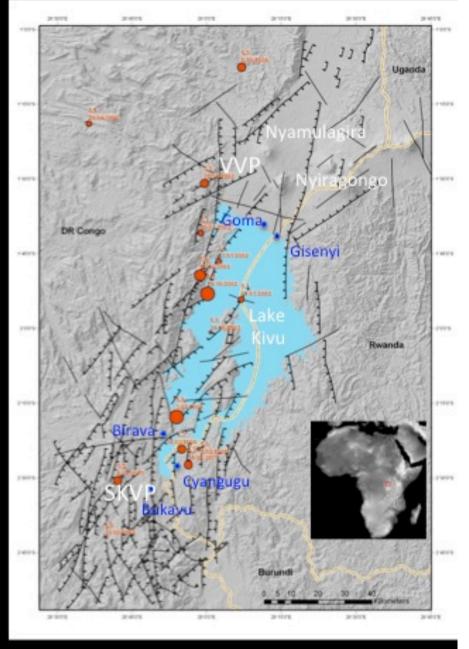
What InSAR taught us about rift activity:

Case studies:

- 2002 Nyiragongo eruption
- 2008 Bukavu-Cyangugu Earthquake
- (2011/12 2010 2006 Nyamulagira eruptions)
- (Former eruptions: 2004, 2002, 1998, 1996 see e.g. C. Wauthier PhD, 2011)
- New opportunity offered by dense SAR database:
 - Multipath & multi sensors time series
 - => high resolution and low noise 2D (3D)

See related posters for more information:

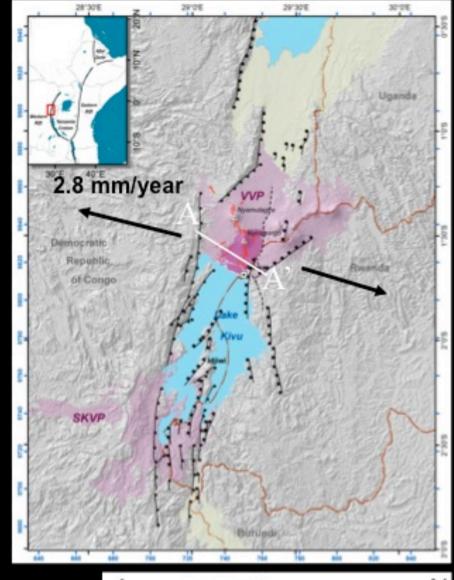
- Wauthier et al.
- Cayol et al.
- Samsonov et al.
- Smets et al.

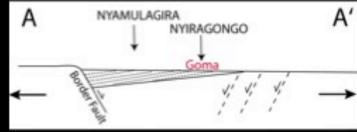


Mw >5 EQ (USGS) and geological faults after [Villeneuve, 1980]

Tectonic Context

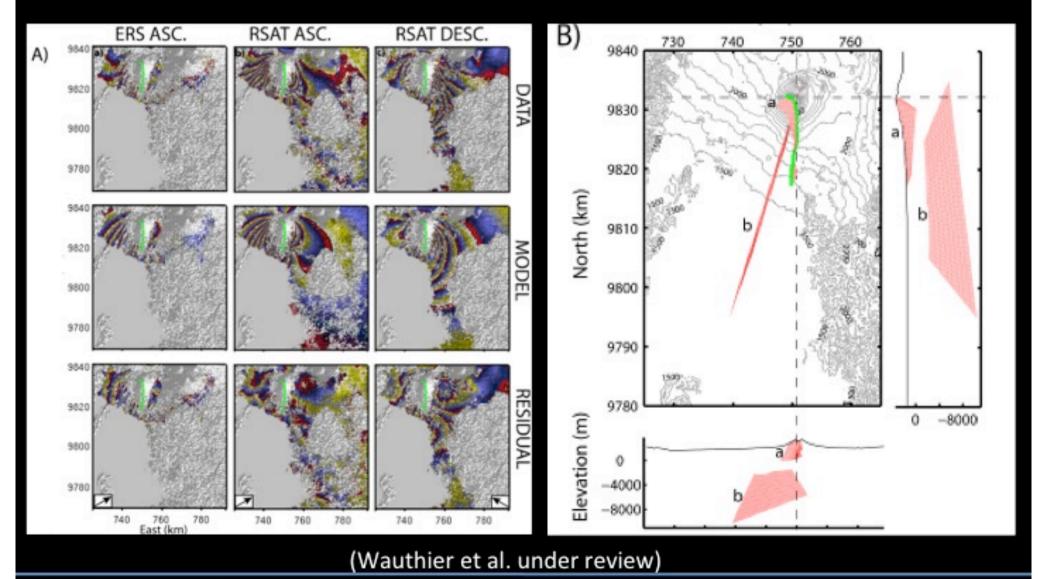
- 100km long segments linked by accommodation zones (coincide with transfer faults and volcanic provinces)
- Unlike E branch, W rift experiences intense seismicity and less volcanism except in VP
- VVP: active since mid-Miocene (12 Ma)
 Today: Nyiragongo and Nyamulagira
- SKVP: 2-3 Ma younger though extinct (9 Ma)
- In amagmatic segments: opening accommodates through slip along border faults.
- In volcanically active areas: strain accommodation by magma intrusion decreases the amount of extension accommodated by fault-slip
- What about VVP and SKVP?
- Difficult area for on-site monitoring



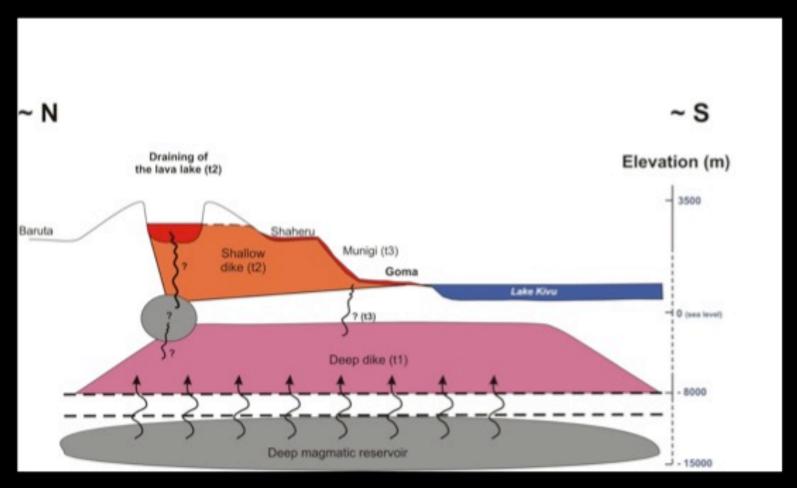


Nyiragongo 2002 eruption

See poster by Wauthier et al.



Consistent with context, geochemistry etc...



(Wauthier et al. under review)

But not only ... : Small overpressure !

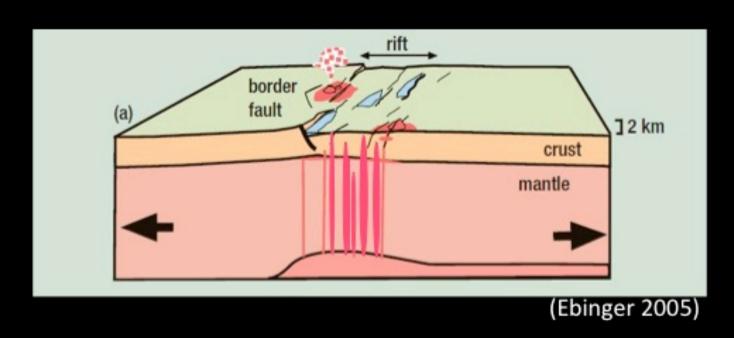
Implication for opening mode assessment: (see poster by Cayol et al.)

- Direction of dikes is guided by rift extensional stress
- Low overpressure (1-5 Mpa) determined from modelling correspond to crustal stresses that are isotropic lithostatic
- But... if the rift is driven by fault motion:
 - horizontal stress must be small enough for faults to be on the verge of failure.
 - In this case horizontal stress would be << vertical stress and the overpressure (ie. Pm - horizontal stress) would be large, eg typically 45 MPa at few km depth (Rubin 1990)
- Now, the 0.7m opening => Compression would need 250 yr at the extensional rate of 2.8 mm/year to be relaxed.
- Since there was a similar eruption in 1977, eruptions have likely relaxed the rift extension

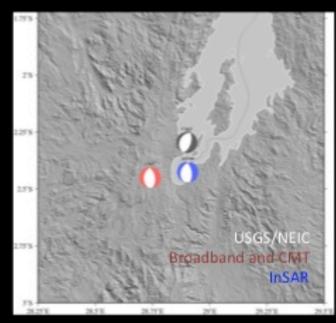
The rift would now be driven by magmatic rather than tectonic activity.

Role of the mantle plume

- Mature rifts are characterized by magma-driven extension and a thinned lithosphere
- Here, the amount of tectonic extension is only 15 %: the rift is immature
- It's too small to generate basalts by adiabatic decompression
 - Magma could be supplied by the mantle plume beneath East Africa

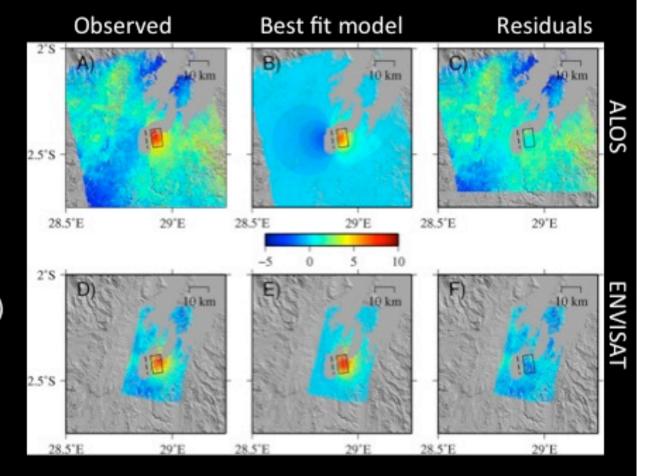


What about SKVP? The Bukavu-Cyangugu 2008 Earthquake



(d'Oreye et al., 2011)

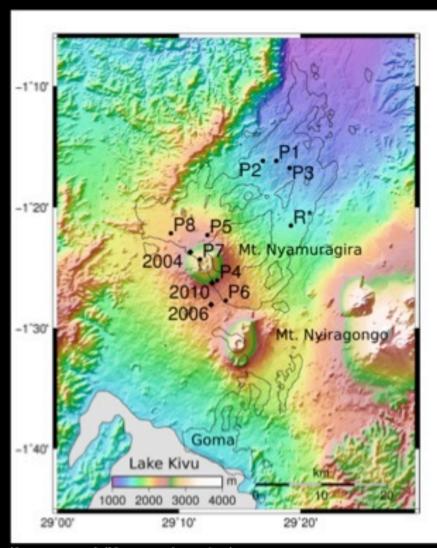
- InSAR allowed accurate relocation
- Seismic ≈ geodetic moment,
 i.e. brittle rupture : no magma
 involved at least at shallow dep



involved at least at shallow depth => favours a mode of rift opening in which crustal extension is accommodated seismically

New opportunities offered by dense SAR database

InSAR set



			77		
ENVISAT, Track 035IS2 (dsc)	20030116-20100916	-168	25	42	224
ENVISAT, Track 450IS7 (dsc)	20060519-20100910	-168	44	30	169
ENVISAT, Track 314IS7 (asc)	20060613-20100831	-12	44	41	308
ENVISAT, Track 228IS2 (asc)	20021225-20061025	-12	23	33	53
ENVISAT, Track 042IS5 (asc)	20080424-20100916	-12	38	20	96
ENVISAT, Track 493IS4 (dsc)	20080421-20100913	-168	34	18	86
ALOS, Track 580 (asc)	20071027-20100504	-12	39	9	36
RADARSAT-2, F21 (dsc)	20091215-20110527	-168	35	16	79
Total (only used images):	20030116-20100916	į.		181	1051

Time span

 θ , ° $|\phi$, ° |N| M

We also have

- (limited) ERS-1/2 data starting from 1992,
- four more beams from ENVISAT (in various geometries) and
- recent Radarsat-2 Ultra-Fine and Fine beams data (different resolution and geometry).

(Samsonov and d'Oreye, under review)

Can we produce continuous time series of ground deformation over the entire period?

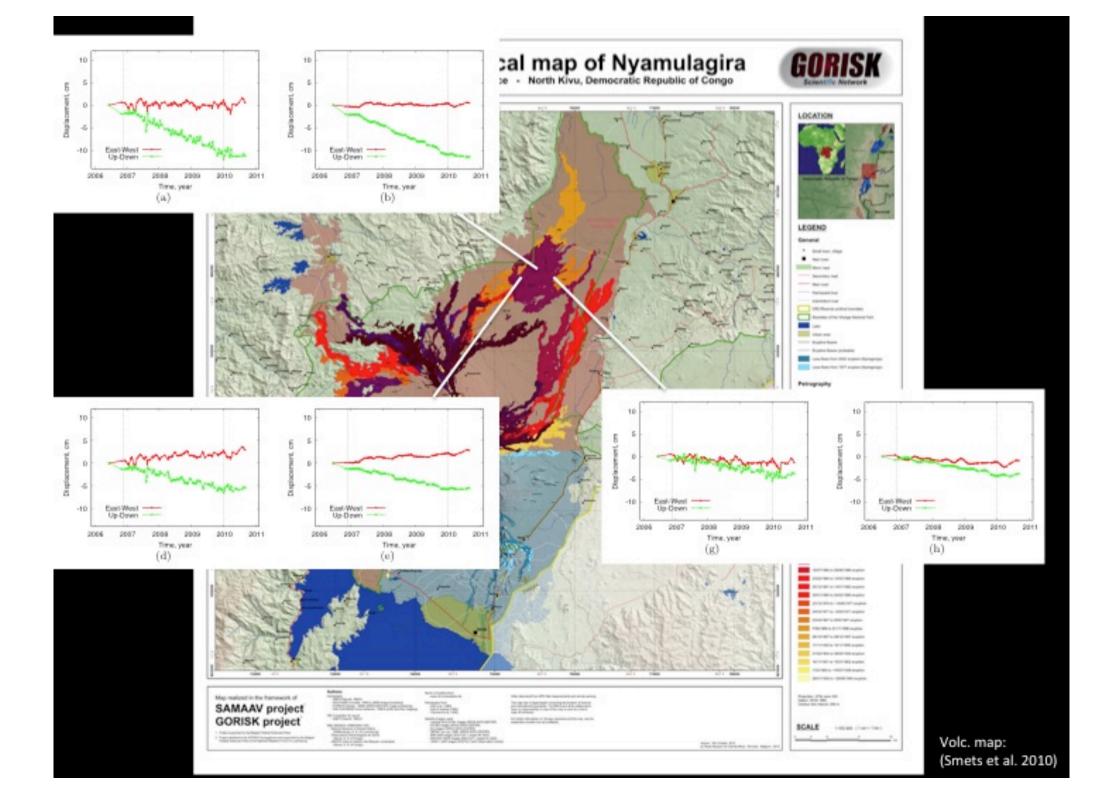
Multidimensional time series analysis of ground deformation from SAR data acquired in various orbital geometries

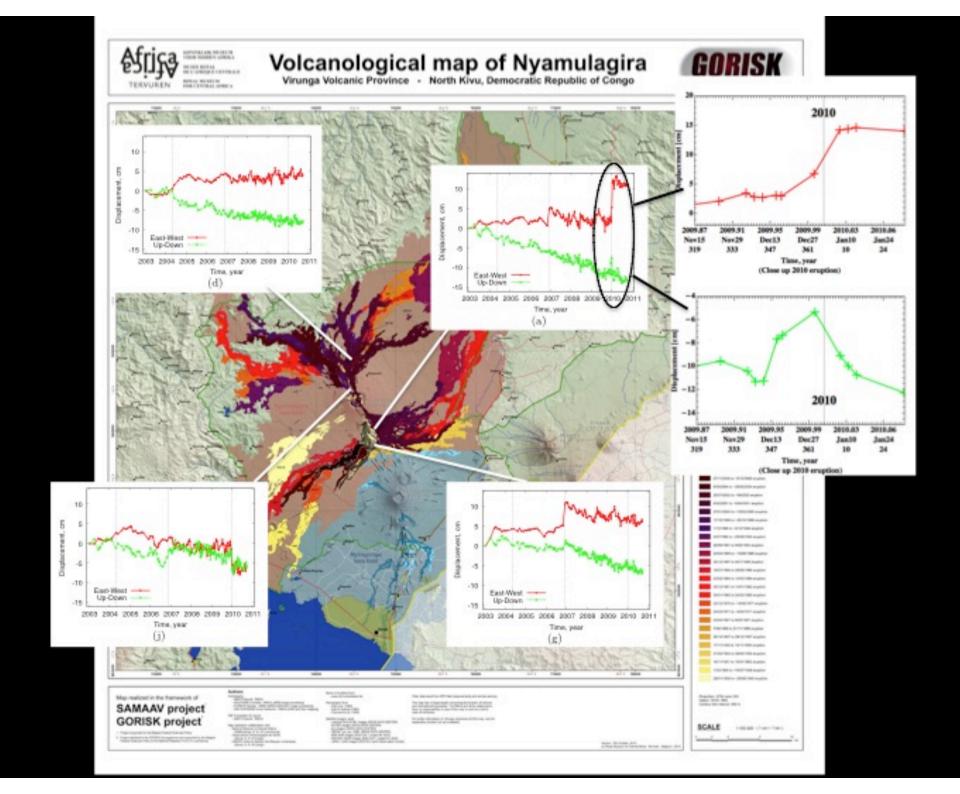
(See poster by Samsonov and d'Oreye)

- Method based on the Small Baseline Subset method (Berardino et al 2002).
- Combination of all possible air-borne and space-borne SAR data acquired with
 - different acquisition parameters,
 - temporal and spatial sampling and resolution,
 - wave-band and polarization

to reconstruct 2D (3D) displacement time series

- Singular Value Decomposition is used for finding a solution of underdetermined problem.
- Verified with theoretical deformation + noise using real time matrix





Conclusions

- Despite the equatorial vegetation, InSAR offers unique opportunities
 - to monitor eruptions in the Virunga: source modeling, accurate location, lava flow mapping... (no presented here)
 - to study activity in the Virunga: provided hypothesis on the rifting mode in both the VVP and the SKVP
- Given the local context, it proved to be the most sustainable method for studying these volcanoes
- The dense database also offered the possibility to develop new methodology for time series analysis. Such tool allowed the first unambiguous detection of pre-eruptive deformations few weeks prior some eruptions in the VVP



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