



Volcanoes, Earthquakes, and Deposition as Intensity-Driven Processes

(with a focus on Volcanoes)

Christopher Harper and Leif Karlstrom

A 20x20 grid of colored squares. The colors are green, blue, red, and white. The grid is mostly white, with scattered colored squares. A central white box with a black border contains the text "Motivation within an SZ4D context". The box is approximately 10 columns wide and 10 rows high, centered in the grid.

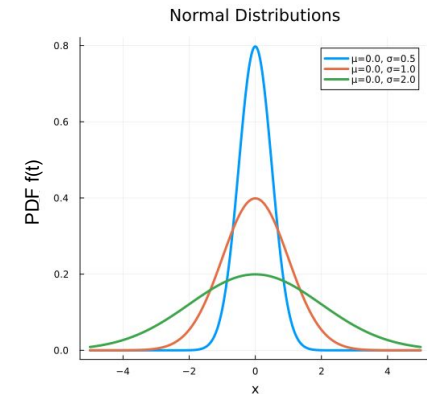
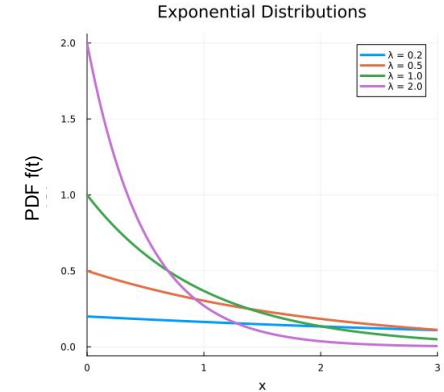
Motivation within an SZ4D
context

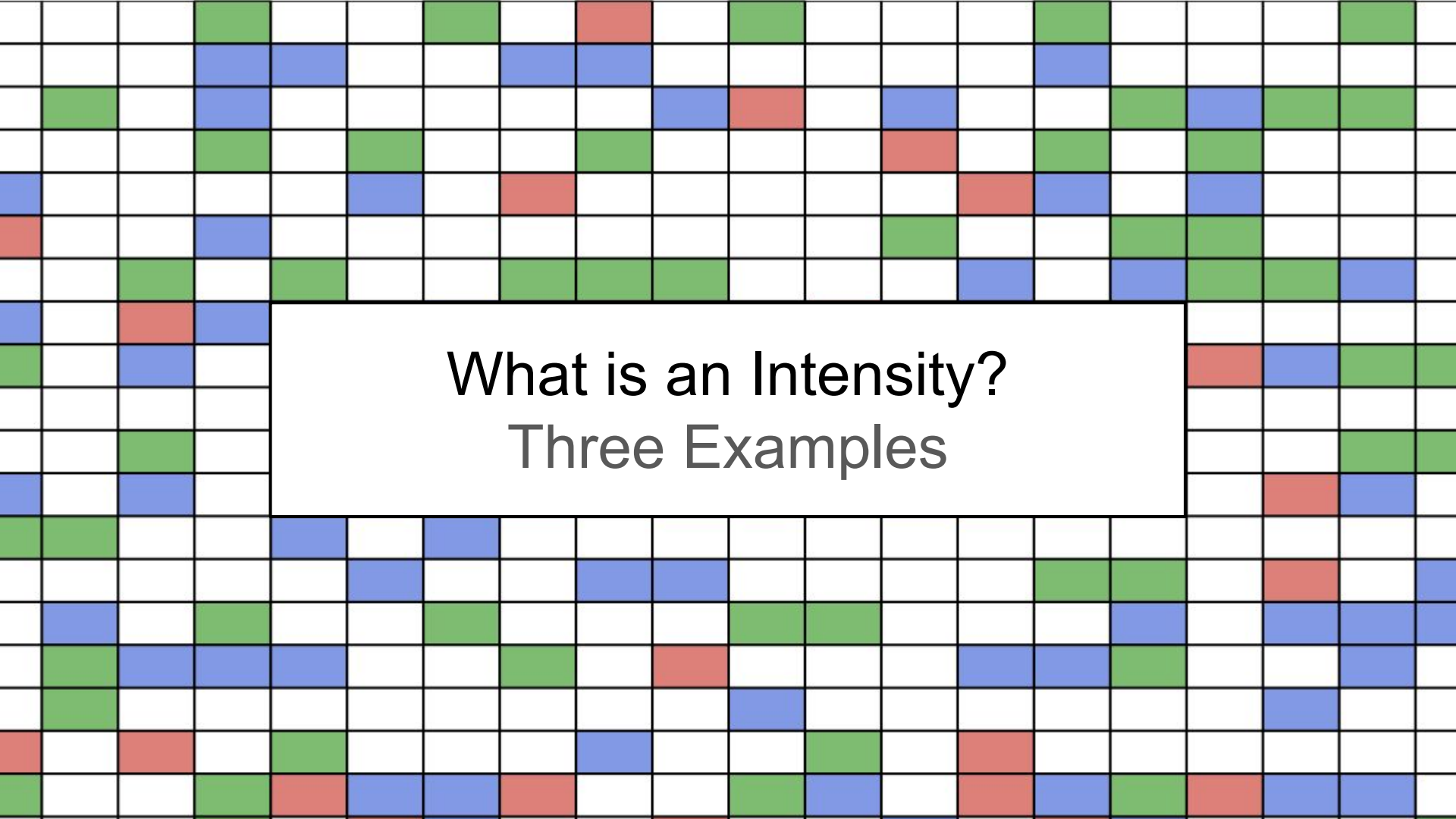
A Need for Common Statistical Framing in SZ4D

- SZ4D is concerned wide range of processes: **volcanism**, **seismology**, and **surface processes**.
- Each of these systems has been modeled with many valid, but different statistical approaches.
- This results in similar concepts sometimes used in incompatible ways, causing ambiguity and confusion.
- Record Completeness is a great example:
 - **sedimentologist**: Completeness = fraction of time preserved in the stratigraphic record; missing time due to erosion or hiatus
 - **seismologist**: Completeness = probability of detecting an event above a magnitude threshold; missing events, not time.
 - To a **volcanologist** it's both!
- Problems like these could be avoided if we had a shared framework, and similarities between the probabilistic (non-deterministic) elements of our system would be emphasized
- The framework we propose is based on the notion of intensity.
- **How does adding another “framework” to the pile accomplish this?**

The Intensity Framework Is Uniquely Well Situated

- Each system will have random variables that capture the probabilistic behavior
 - **Interarrival Times T :** The time between eruptions, earthquakes or depositional periods (hiatuses)
 - Distance between vents or epicenters, alignment of dikes, thickness of deposition
- Random variables are usually thought of in terms of Probability Density Functions (PDF)
 - Any Random Variable that has a PDF has an intensity
- **An intensity emphasizes how risk builds through space/time within a single event;** a PDF suppresses that very information to emphasize the final outcomes across many events
- This is particularly important for Eruptive processes and Earthquakes, where the physics driving the process is unfolding between events.
- An Intensity framework has many advantages for information poor or unreliable records



A 20x20 grid of colored squares. The colors are green, blue, red, and white. The grid is mostly white, with scattered colored squares. A central white box with a black border contains the text "What is an Intensity?" and "Three Examples".

What is an Intensity?
Three Examples

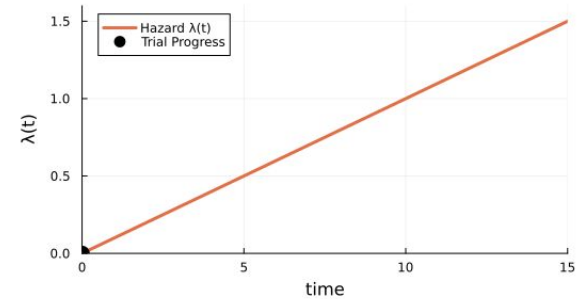
Great, but what is Intensity: Increasing Intensity

- Intensity is the instantaneous rate of “occurrence” given that the event has not yet occurred.

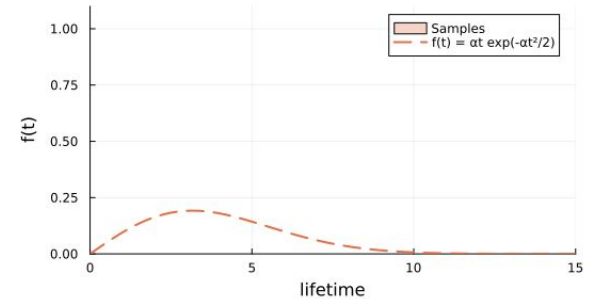
$$\lambda(t) = \lim_{dt \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathbb{P}\{T \in [t, t+dt) | T > t, \mathcal{H}_t\}}{dt}$$

- We categorize an increasing intensity process as “aging” .
- This creates a central mode .
- The shape of failure in one event drives the overall shape of the distribution.

Increasing Intensity $\lambda(t)$ ($n=0$)



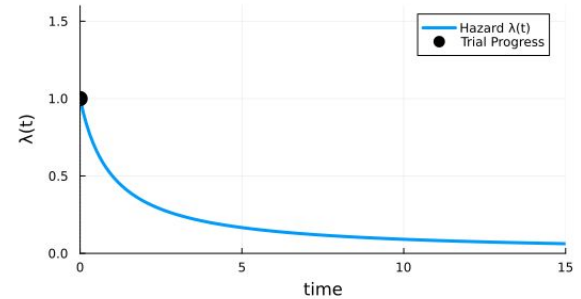
Resulting PDF $f(t)$



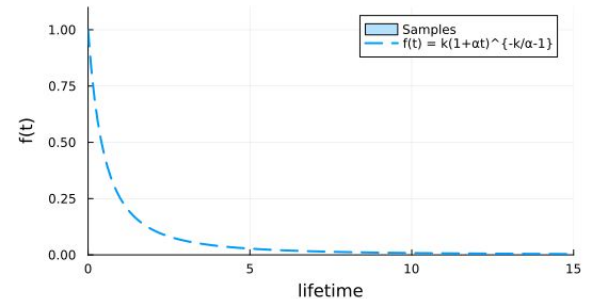
Great, but what is Intensity: decreasing intensity ?

- Different shaped intensity means different pdf
- We categorize a decreasing intensity process as “clumpy”.
- This creates a threshold before which you are more likely than random to fail, and after you are less likely.
- Both examples are independent in interarrival times (T):
 - The intensity curve does not change between failures.

Decreasing Intensity $\lambda(t)$ ($n=0$)



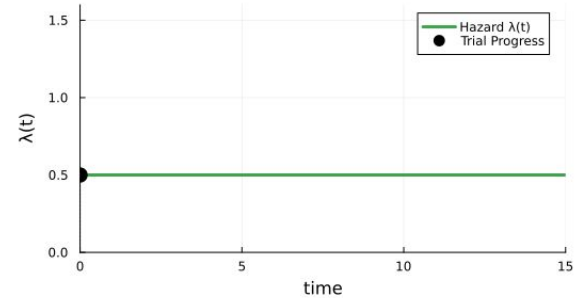
Resulting PDF $f(t)$



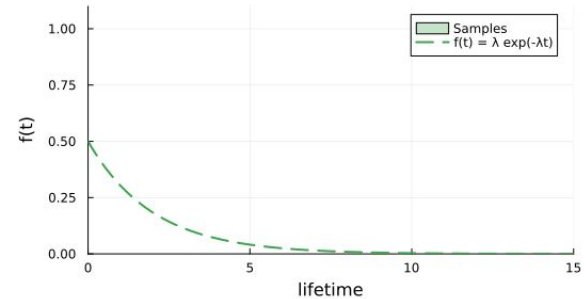
Great, but what **is** Intensity: Constant Intensity

- Flat intensity through time produces exponential distribution for failure
- A flat intensity is the only one independent in number of events $N(t)$:
 - Point processes built from the interarrival times of the previous two slides would be dependent.
- This question of what **is** and **is not** independent, motivates the need for a clear and uniform framework.

Flat Intensity $\lambda(t)$ ($n=0$)



Resulting PDF $f(t)$



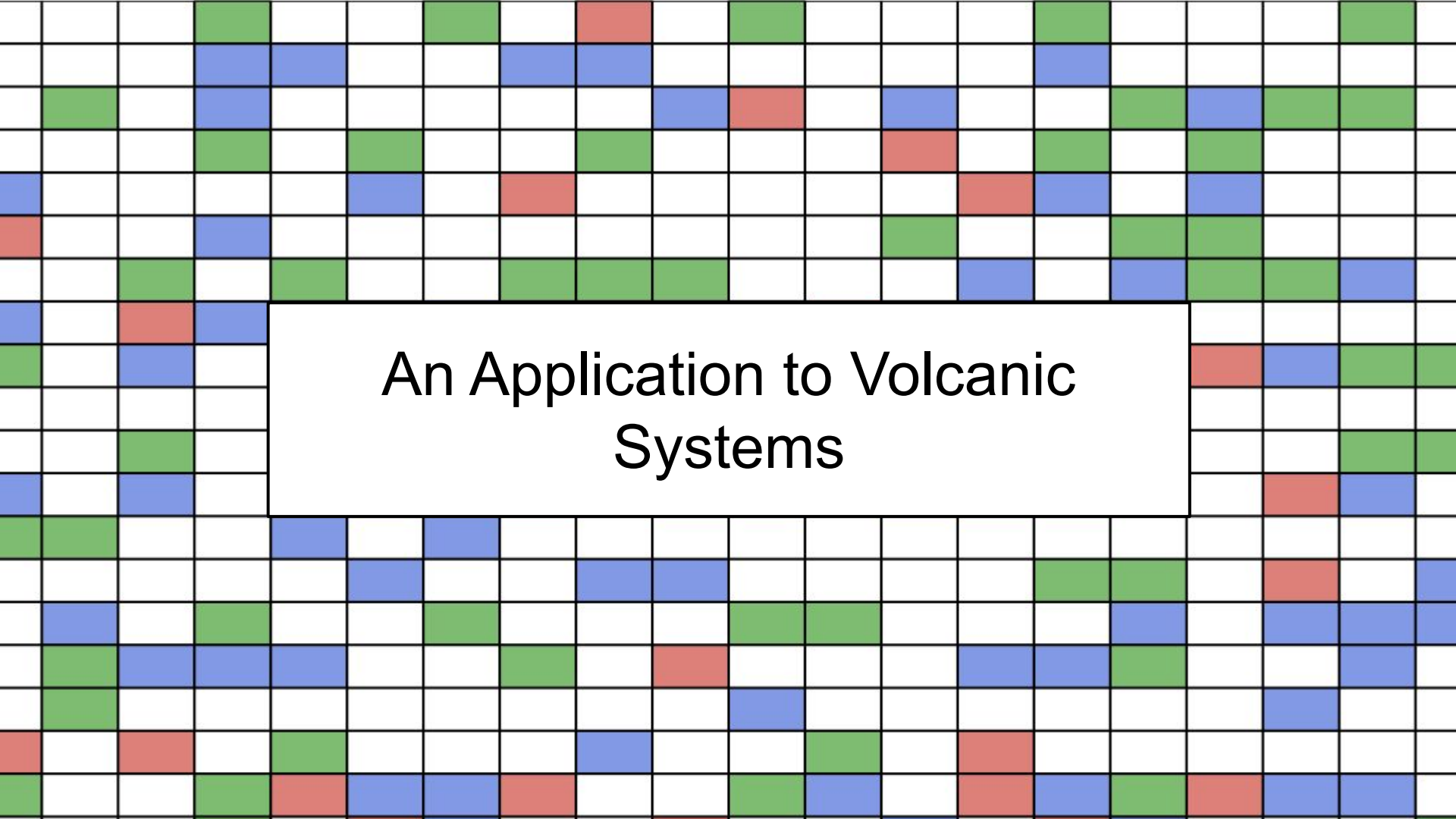
Renewal Process: A special type of intensity (I.I.D)

- If the intensity does not change between events we have a **renewal process**, and our interarrival times are Independent Identically Distributed (IID) random variables
- Renewal assumption is important for this work, and while many distributions can be formed from IID interarrivals, many important ones cannot.
 - **Some Distributions formed from IID T:** All families of Weibull , Gamma, Lognormal, and their mixtures
 - **Some Distributions Which do NOT satisfy renewal process:** non stationary Poisson (Hawkes) and Markov modulated processes (hidden states)

Renewal Assumption allows us to link Intensity and PDFs

CDF (F):	$F(t) = P(T \leq t)$
Survival Function (S):	$S(t) = P(T > t) = 1 - F(t)$
Accumulated Intensity (Λ):	$\Lambda(t) = \int_0^t \lambda(u) du$
Map from S to Λ :	$S(t) = e^{-\Lambda(t)}$
Map from f to λ :	$f(t) = \lambda(t)S(t) = \lambda(t)e^{-\Lambda(t)}$

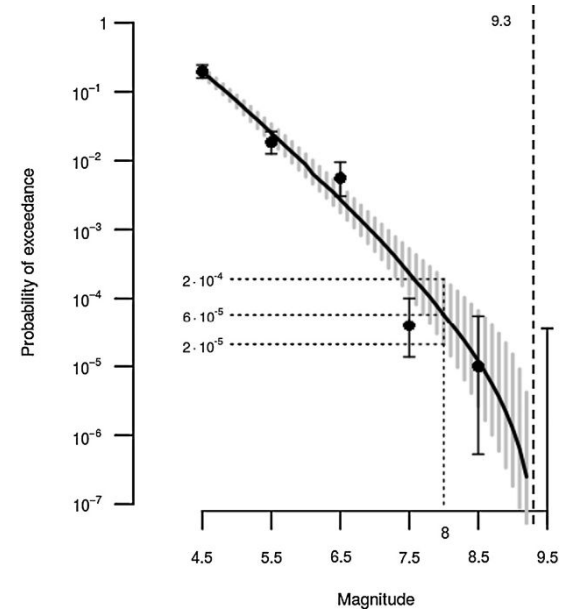
Next we show this framework's utility through an application with the volcanic record.



An Application to Volcanic
Systems

Intensity Framework Allows Us to Do Regional Statistics

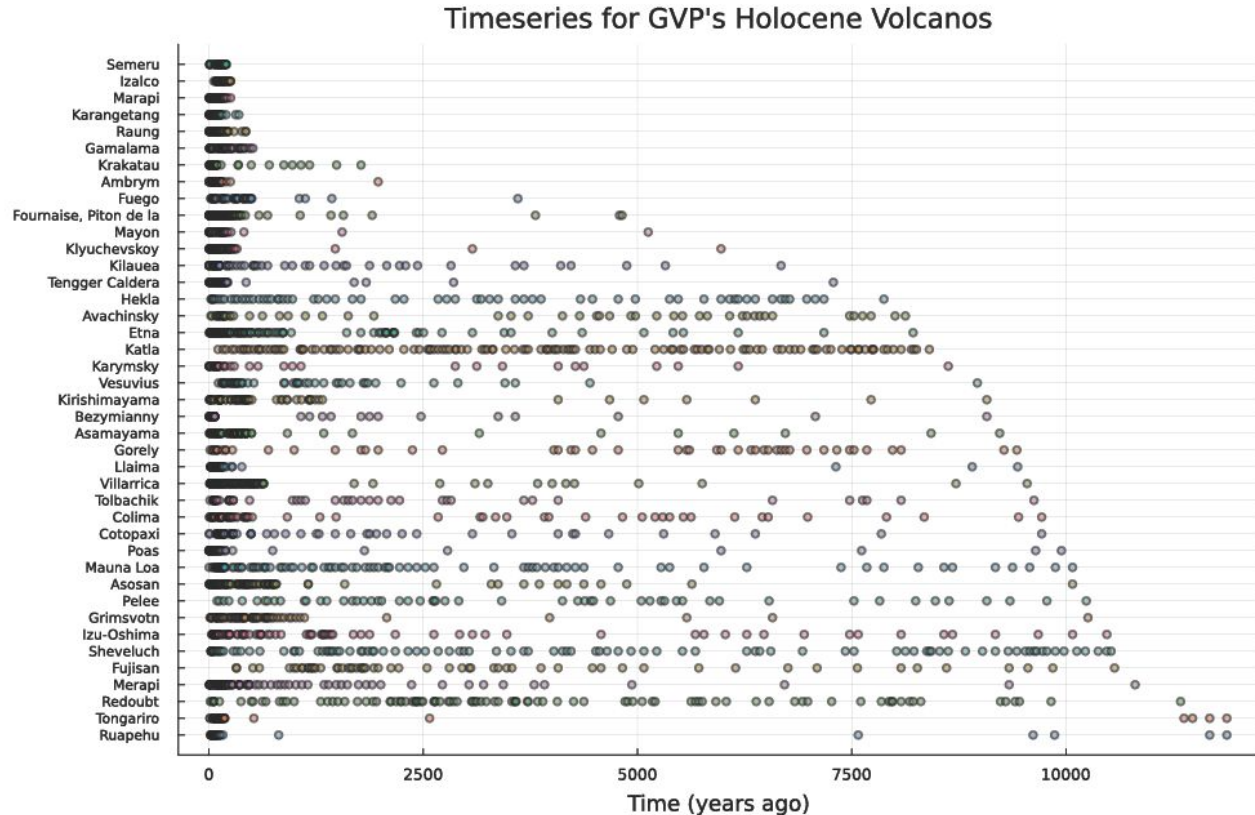
- **Sparse Data:** Aggregating globally, Poissonian behavior is recovered (Papale 2018).
- We can even recover a magnitude frequency relationship, but ~40 million entries are needed for completeness (Papale and Marzocchi, 2021).
- Many interesting questions are only resolved on the sub “the entire earth” scale.
- Non-Poissonian nature of individual volcanic records is well-documented (e.g., Cole and Sparks, 2006).
- Even testing the null hypothesis of Poisson is beyond many records capabilities.
- **We provide a regional characterization of volcanic records** which rejects $H_0 = \text{Poisson}$ **AND** provides an alternative H_1 .
- This Characterization does NOT address magnitude.



(Rougier et al., 2017)

Smithsonian Gloval Volcano Project (GVP)

- Time Series of GVP's most active holocene volcanos
- highlights the catalog's extreme heterogeneity
- remarkably varied eruptive behavior across systems
- the record exposes a strong preservation bias
- **What portion of the record do we use?**



Freedman-Diaconis as a Measure of record quality

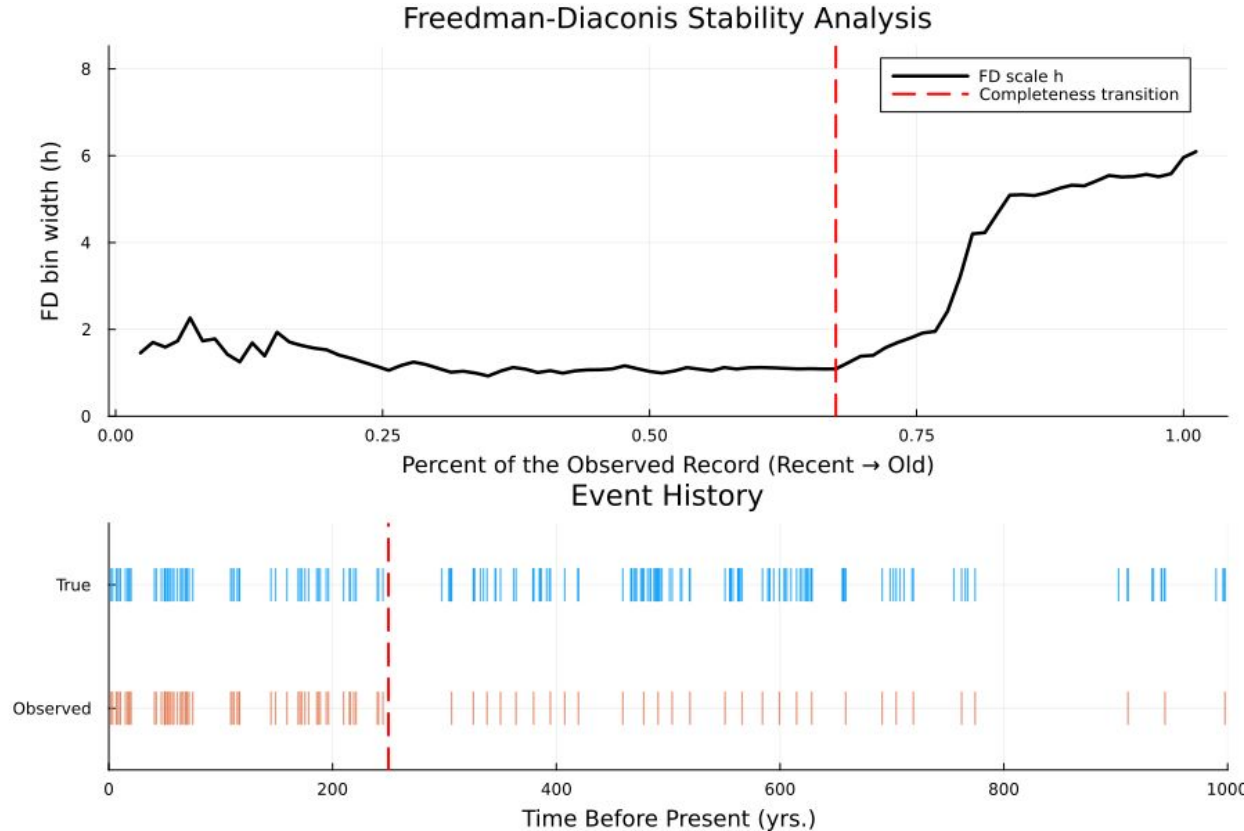
- In looking for portions of the record which satisfy the **renewal assumption** we manage to address many of the underlying issues with the record:
 - Stationarity
 - Reliability of Recording
 - Preservation Bias (more likely to be missing events as you go further back in time)
- To test what portion of a record (if any) exhibits the renewal assumption we use a stability measure produced by the freedman-diaconis bin-width h

$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{kh}}_{bias} + \underbrace{\int_I (f_h(x) - f(x))^2 dx}_{variance}$$

- More than just a histogram binwidth picker it finds the scale at which signal can be separated from noise!

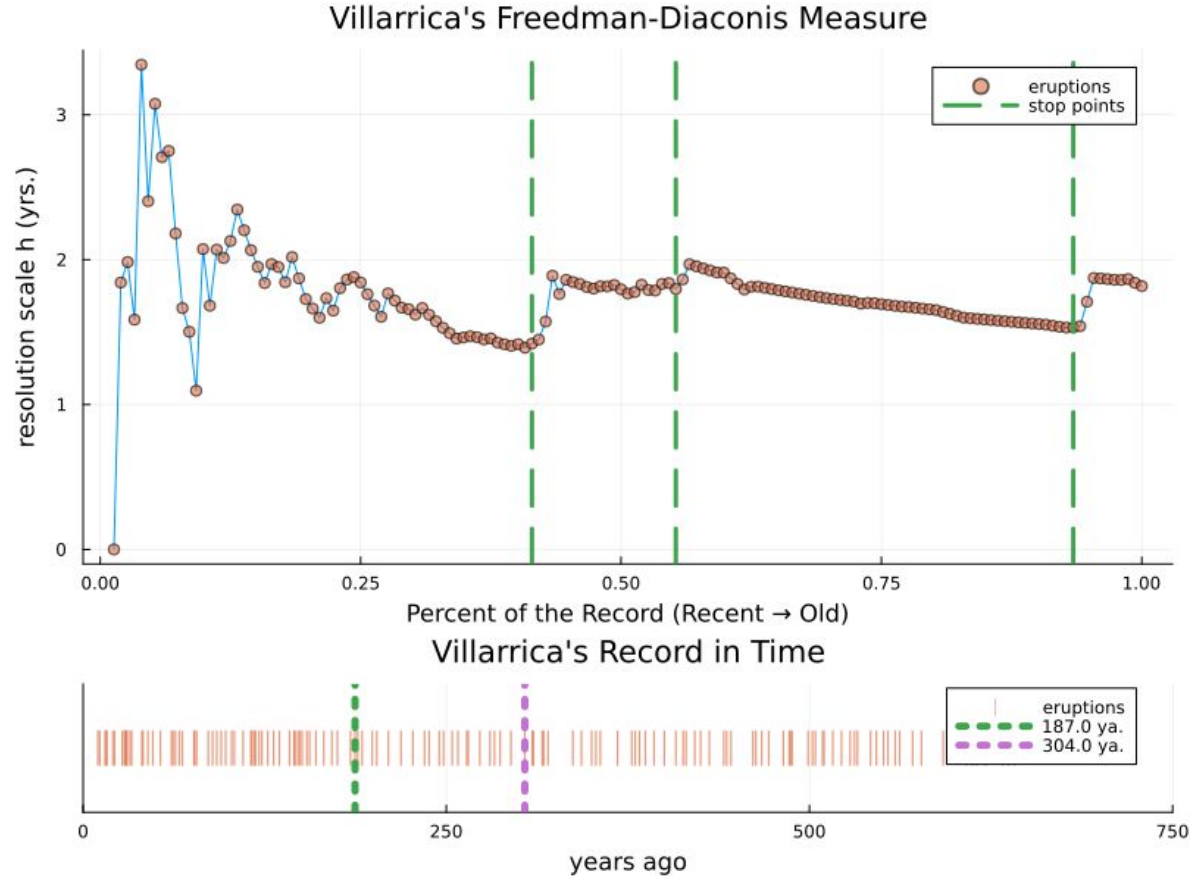
Freedman Diaconis: A synthetic Demonstration

- True clustered process (blue)
- Sampled geologic record (orange)
- FD selects the appropriate observational scale
- Detects shifts in record completeness / quality
- FD lets you know when and at what scale you can incorporate a less reliable portion of the record
- Indicates when and where the record remains usable



Freedman Diaconis: Villarrica's Record

- 3 “stable” portions detected
- Zooming in reveals differences:
 - Dense Bands
 - Regular Occurrences
 - Bigger gaps
- We choose the first portion to be commensurate with current recording practices

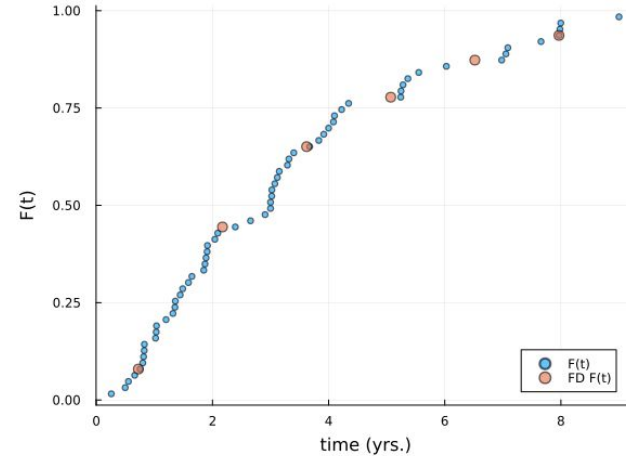


From Record to $\Lambda(t)$: Villarrica

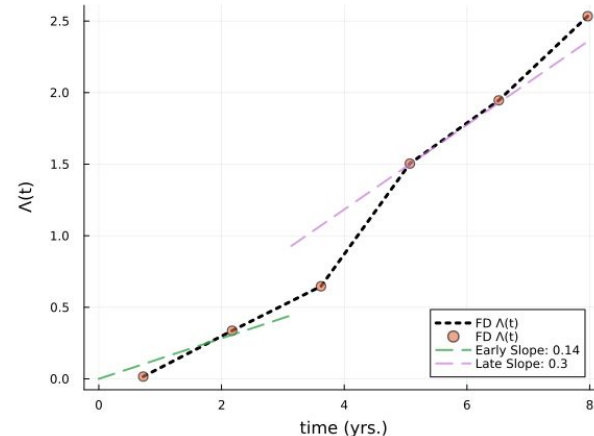
- CDF is pointsampled at h
- $S = 1 - \text{CDF}$, and $\Lambda(t) = -\log(S)$
- Characterization is based off of a global description of Λ 's concavity
- This is accomplished through a normalized relative difference of an early ($1/3$) and late ($2/3$) slope
- We call this the Concavity Index CI

$$CI = \frac{(\text{late slope} - \text{early slope})}{(\text{late slope} + \text{early slope})}$$

Freedman Diaconis Filtered CDF

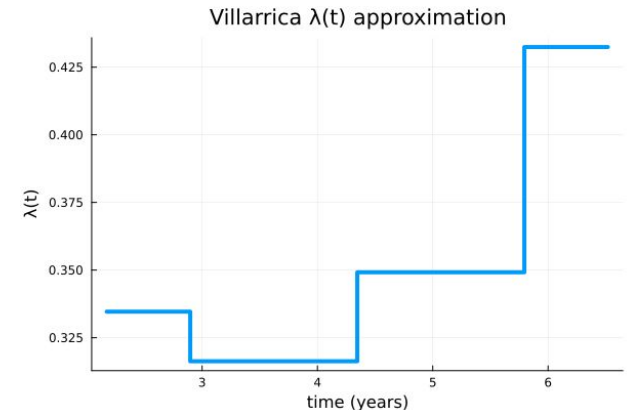
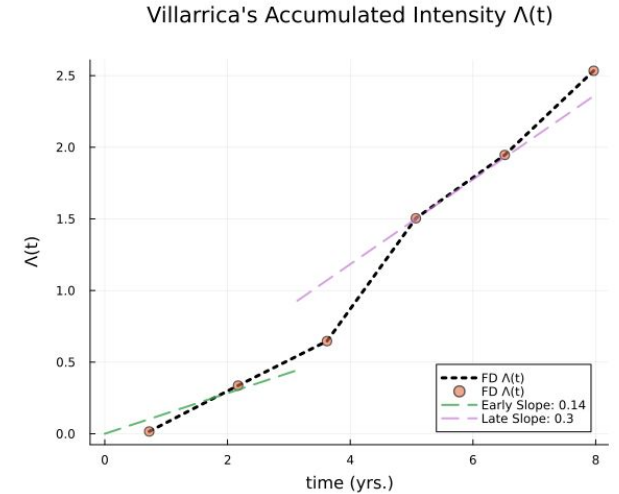


Villarrica's Accumulated Intensity $\Lambda(t)$



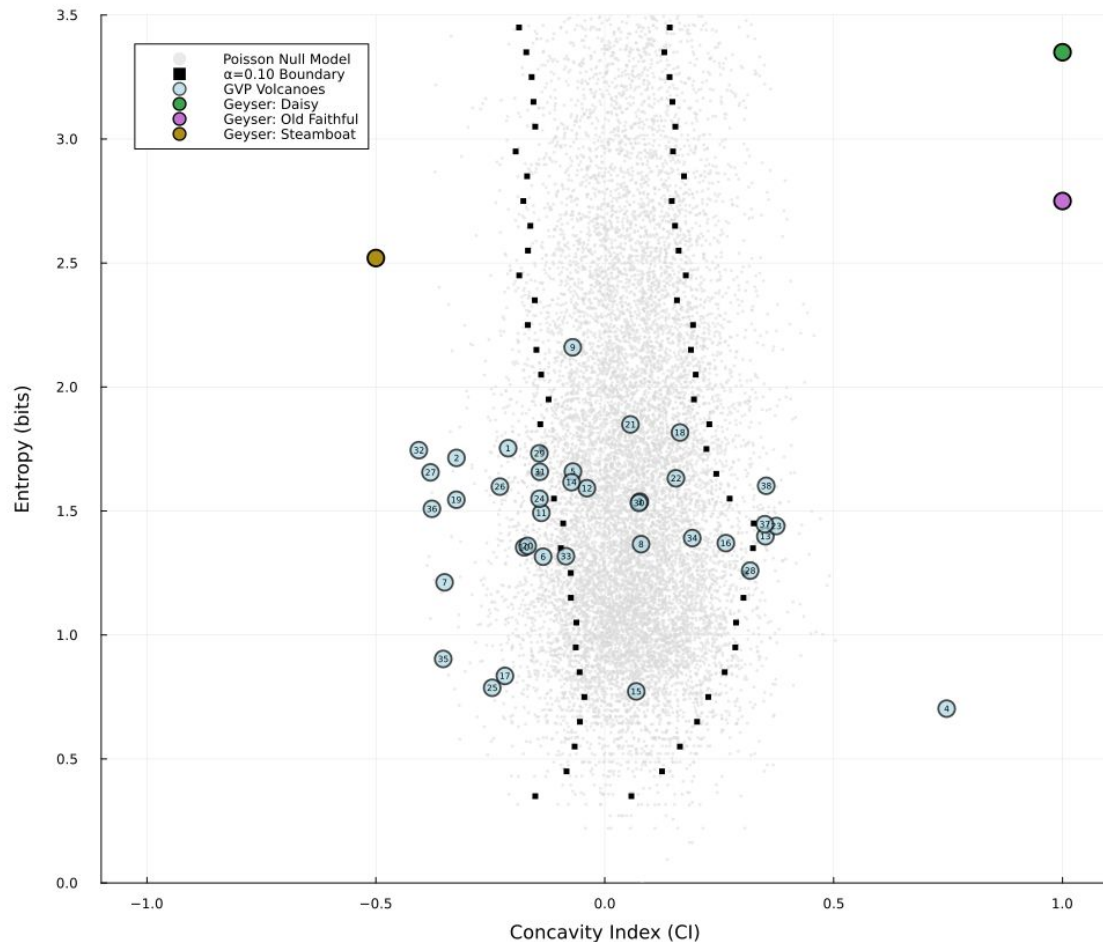
Concavity of $\Lambda(t)$ as a Characterization of behavior

NR-Slope Difference	Concavity	Character	Forecasting Implications
Values from -1 to 0	Concave Up (+)	Clumpy	Clustering timescale
Values near 0	Linear (0)	critical state/random	No structure. Simple average is your best predictor
Values from 0 to 1	Concave Down (-)	Aging/regular(i sh)	Quasiperiodic timescale

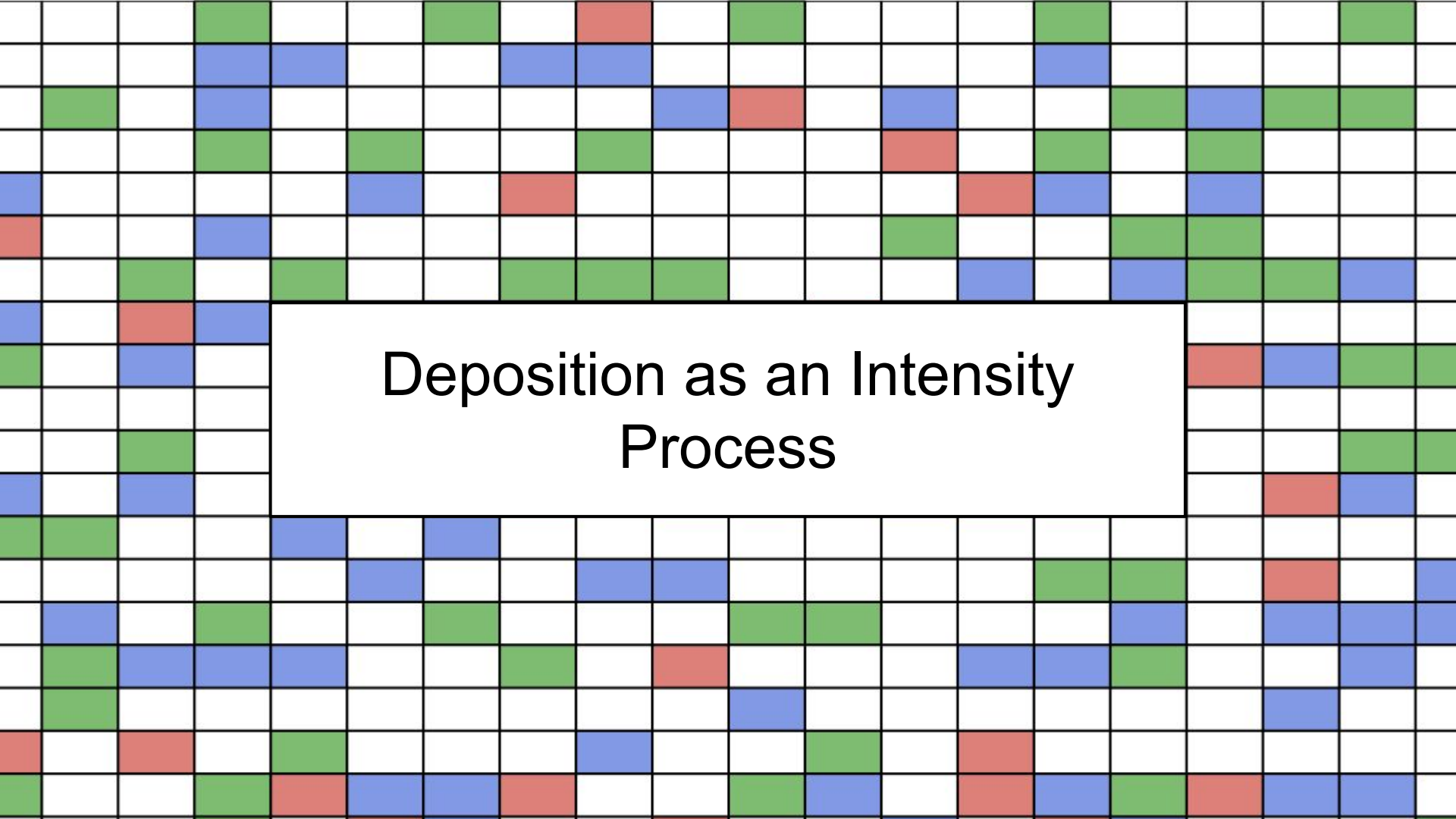


Eruptive Characterization Phase Diagram

Volcano Index



ID	Volcano Name
1	Ambrym
2	Asamayama
3	Asosan
4	Avachinsky
5	Bezymianny
6	Collma
7	Cotopaxi
8	Etna
9	Fournaise, Piton de la
10	Fujisan
11	Gorely
12	Grimsvotn
13	Hekla
14	Izalco
15	Izu-Oshima
16	Karangetang
17	Karymsky
18	Katla
19	Kilauea
20	Kirishimayama
21	Klyuchevskoy
22	Krakatau
23	Llaima
24	Marapi
25	Mauna Loa
26	Mayon
27	Merapi
28	Pelee
29	Raung
30	Redoubt
31	Ruapehu
32	Semeru
33	Sheveluch
34	Tengger Caldera
35	Tolbachik
36	Tongariro
37	Vesuvius
38	Villarrica



Deposition as an Intensity
Process

Deposition as an Intensity Process (Schumer & Jerolmack 2008)

- Let T be a hiatus duration with intensity $\lambda(t)$
- Intensity describes how deposition likelihood evolves through time:

$$\lambda(t) = \frac{\alpha\gamma}{1+\alpha t}$$

- Long Hiatus implies “clumpy” process, tail exponent emerges as

$$\gamma = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} t\lambda(t)$$

- $C(t_{obs}) = V_{obs}/V$

$$C(t_{obs}) \propto t_{obs}^{\gamma-1}$$

Conclusion

- Characterizing the intensity emphasizes the accumulation of risk between events as opposed to a PDFs emphasis on how that risk affects outcomes across many events.
- If you can't curve fit a standard distribution curve, consider characterizing a more general description of intensity.
 - Despite Making Conservative choices at each step in the volcanic analysis, we were still left with meaningful information
- First order behavior of the intensity curve affects the pertinent “hazard question”



Thank You!