Statistical properties of explosions during the last two eruptions at Stromboli volcano, Italy

Mauro Palo (1), Enza De Lauro (1), Salvatore De Martino (1), Mariarosaria Falanga (1), and Giovanni Battista Cimini (2)

(1) University of Salerno, Dpt. of Mathematics and Informatics, Fisciano (SA), Italy, (2) Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia, Roma, Italy.

We analyze the seismicity recorded during the eruption of Stromboli occurred in 2002-2003 recorded by broadband seismic stations. We characterize the explosions occurring before and after the onset of the effusion in terms of spectral content, inter-occurrence times and amplitude behaviour in order to study how this volcano leaves and returns to its state of stationary activity. A similar study has been performed on the eruption of Stromboli volcano occurred in 2007. It reveals that the explosions’ times are always ruled by a Poisson process even approaching the effusion phase, with the only difference in shortening the inter-times just during the effusion. A slightly different process can be advocated for the swarms, because a maximum in the distribution of inter-times can be evidenced. The amplitudes of the explosion-quakes have a log-normal distribution until the effusion onset as in the standard Strombolian activity (stationary phase). The actual departure from that stationarity seems to be traced by a precursor evidenced in the tidal regime. It appears as a transient oscillating signal at about 3-days that modulates the explosion amplitudes. The successive activity can be interpreted as the response of volcano to restore the equilibrium condition.