



## **What if ? On alternative conceptual models and the problem of their implementation**

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Seismic and other monitoring techniques rely on a set of conceptual models on the base of which data sets can be interpreted. In order to do this on an operational level in volcano observatories these models need to be tested and ready for an interpretation in a timely manner. Once established, scientists in charge advising stakeholders and decision makers often stick firmly to these models to avoid confusion by giving alternative versions of interpretations to non-experts. This talk gives an overview of widely accepted conceptual models to interpret seismic and deformation data, and highlights in a few case studies some of the arising problems. Aspects covered include knowledge transfer between research institutions and observatories, data sharing, the problem of up-taking advice, and some hidden problems which turn out to be much more critical in assessing volcanic hazard than the actual data interpretation.