



Numerical simulations to analyze Argentinian rock avalanches at the regional scale

Irene Manzella (1), Ivanna Penna (2), Karim Kelfoun (3), and Michel Jaboyedoff (4)

(1) University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland (irene.manzella@unige.ch), (2) Geological Survey of Norway, Trondheim, Norway, (3) Laboratoire Magmas et Volcans, Université Blaise Pascal, Clermont-Ferrand, France, (4) Center for Research on Terrestrial Environment, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

Rock and large debris avalanches are among the most hazardous phenomena at mountains and volcanoes. Their mobility can be particularly high with velocities reaching hundreds of kilometers per hour and a flowing mass carrying a strong power of destruction. In the Argentinean Andes there is a high concentration of cases history often characterized by volume of millions of cubic meters and runouts of several kilometers. The present study shows results of back-analysis of rock avalanches in this area that have similar characteristics. Simulations are carried out with VolcFlow, a depth-average approximation model. Common rheology and parameter ranges have been so defined at the regional scale. These become very important for a preliminary hazard assessment where there is a lack of field and high-resolution data and they contribute in improving our understanding of the propagation and emplacement of these flows in this area at risk.