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1 Dome growth, collapse and valley fill at Soufrière Hills  
2 Volcano, Montserrat from 1995 to 2013: contributions from  
3 satellite radar measurements of topographic change.

4

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6

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11

12 **ABSTRACT**

13 Frequent high-resolution measurements of topography at active volcanoes can provide  
14 important information for assessing the distribution and rate of emplacement of volcanic deposits  
15 and their influence on hazard. At dome-building volcanoes, monitoring techniques such as  
16 LiDAR and photogrammetry often provide a limited view of the area affected by the eruption.  
17 Here, we show the ability of satellite radar observations to image the lava dome and pyroclastic  
18 density current deposits that resulted from 15 years of eruptive activity at Soufrière Hills  
19 Volcano (SHV), Montserrat from 1995 to 2010. We present the first geodetic observations of the  
20 complete subaerial deposition field on Montserrat, including the lava dome. Synthetic aperture  
21 radar observations from the ALOS satellite and TanDEM-X mission are used to map the

22 distribution and magnitude of elevation changes. We estimate a net dense-rock equivalent  
23 volume increase of  $108 \pm 15\text{M m}^3$  of the lava dome and  $300 \pm 220\text{M m}^3$  of talus and subaerial  
24 pyroclastic density current deposits. We also show variations in deposit distribution during  
25 different phases of the eruption, with greatest deposition to the south and west from 1995 to 2005  
26 and the thickest deposits to the west and north after 2005. We conclude by assessing the potential  
27 of using radar-derived topographic measurements as a tool for monitoring and hazard assessment  
28 during eruptions at dome building volcanoes.

29

## 30 **1. INTRODUCTION**

31 At active volcanoes the rate of lava effusion acts as both an indicator of the state of the  
32 subsurface magma system and influence on the style and distribution of erupted material.  
33 At basaltic systems, effusion rate is one of the main controls of lava flow extent (e.g. Walker,  
34 1973; Harris et al., 2007), while at andesitic domes, it controls the extrusion style and the  
35 effusive-explosive transition (Gregg and Fink, 1996; Fink and Griffiths, 1998; Watts et al., 2002;  
36 Hutchison et al., 2013). In steady-state, lava effusion rate can constrain the volume and pressure  
37 change of shallow magma reservoirs (e.g. Dvorak and Dzurisin, 1993; Harris et al., 2003, 2007;  
38 Anderson and Segall, 2011), while long-lived volcanic eruptions are often characterised by  
39 temporal variations in effusion rate or pauses in lava extrusion, which may be related to changes  
40 in the volcanic plumbing system or deeper magma supply (e.g. Sparks et al., 1998; Watts et al.,  
41 2002; Harris et al., 2003; Ebmeier et al., 2012; Wadge et al., 2014a; Poland, 2014).

42 Lava effusion rate is one of the more difficult eruption parameters to measure, even at  
43 well-monitored volcanoes (e.g. Wright et al., 2001; Poland 2014). Field measurements require  
44 specific conditions, such as molten lava flowing in a confined channel or lava, and provide

45 instantaneous local lava flux measurements that may not reflect the longer-term effusion rate  
46 (e.g. Lipman and Banks, 1987; Kauahikaua et al., 1998; Wright et al., 2001), while satellite  
47 measurements of heat flux can be used to estimate a time-averaged effusion rate (see Harris et  
48 al., 2007 for a review). However, this technique needs cloud-free satellite imagery, which may  
49 not be available and requires lava extent to be limited by cooling rather than topography (e.g.  
50 Harris et al., 2007; Ebmeier et al., 2012).

51 Topography is a major influence on hazard from eruptive products at active volcanoes  
52 (e.g. Guest and Murray, 1979; Blong, 1984; Cashman and Sparks, 2013), because local slope is a  
53 primary control for gravitationally driven flows, such as lava flows, pyroclastic density currents  
54 (PDCs), and lahars, influencing flow direction and velocity (e.g. Walker, 1973; Druitt, 1998;  
55 Carrivick et al., 2008). At active lava domes, rockfalls and PDCs are generated primarily in the  
56 direction of dome growth (Watts et al., 2002), and more generally, where the addition of new  
57 volcanic material causes a topographic slope to become over-steepened, this can lead to an  
58 increased risk of landslide, rockfall and sector collapse (e.g. Montgomery, 2001). The infilling of  
59 valleys with volcanic deposits increases the probability of secondary lahar generation during  
60 heavy rainfall (e.g. van Westen and Daag, 2005; Guzzetti et al., 2007).

61 The availability of up-to-date, high-resolution maps of the topography is therefore  
62 important both for hazard mitigation as well as improving volcano mass budgets and scientific  
63 understanding of volcanic processes. Knowledge of the direction volcanic flows are likely to  
64 travel, and the ability to model their likely extent are greatly improved at volcanoes where a  
65 high-resolution digital elevation model (DEM) is available (e.g. Stevens et al., 2003; Hubbard et  
66 al., 2007; Huggel et al., 2008), and comparing changes in topography over time can provide an  
67 estimate of the volume of erupted products, which may be used to estimate a time averaged

68 effusion rate (e.g. Lu et al., 2003; Harris et al., 2007; Ebmeier et al., 2012; Poland, 2014; Xu and  
69 Jónsson, 2014; Kubanek et al., 2015a, 2015b; Albino et al., 2015).

70 We chose Soufrière Hills Volcano (SHV), Montserrat, to investigate changes in  
71 topography due to a long-lived dome-building eruption. We use satellite radar observations to  
72 constrain topographic changes due to the eruption, which allows us to track the location and  
73 thickness of deposits across the whole island during the 1995–2010 eruption. Recent work has  
74 shown the benefit of satellite based radar observations at volcanoes, both for monitoring  
75 purposes and for improving the understanding of surface and subsurface processes (e.g.  
76 Dieterich et al., 2012, Sparks et al., 2012, Biggs et al., 2014, Salzer et al., 2014, Pinel et al.,  
77 2015). The 1995–2010 eruption of SHV has been particularly well studied using a wide variety  
78 of techniques, which enables us to assess the relative advantages and disadvantages of using  
79 satellite geodesy specifically for topographic measurements at active volcanoes.

80

## 81 **2. BACKGROUND**

82 Soufrière Hills Volcano (SHV), Montserrat, is a Peléean lava dome complex that has  
83 been erupting intermittently since 18 Jul. 1995. At the time of writing, despite the lack of lava  
84 extrusion since 11 Feb. 2010, it is not clear that the eruption sequence has ended due to high SO<sub>2</sub>  
85 flux (Wadge et al., 2014a). The eruption so far has been characterised by five extrusive phases  
86 lasting up to three years separated by months to years of quiescence (Fig. 1c) (Wadge et al.,  
87 2014a). Activity is characterised by lava dome growth and collapse, with Vulcanian explosions  
88 and PDCs (Sparks et al., 2002). Wadge et al., (2014a) and references therein provide a more  
89 detailed description of recent activity at SHV.

90           The topography has changed markedly over 15 years of lava extrusion. The height of the  
91 lava dome has varied by over 400 m (Wadge et al., 2014a)(Fig. 1c), and some valleys radiating  
92 outward from the volcano have been infilled by over 100 m of new material (Wadge et al., 2010,  
93 2011). Previous large dome collapse events at SHV ( $> 10\text{M m}^3$ ) have only occurred when the  
94 summit of the lava dome is greater than 950 m above sea level (asl) (Wadge et al., 2010). The  
95 summit of the current lava dome has been 1083 m asl since the end of Phase 5 in Feb 2010  
96 (Stinton et al., 2014); therefore, there remains a possibility of large collapse should lava  
97 extrusion resume. This may pose a risk to human life if PDCs generated by the collapse are  
98 directed northwest towards inhabited zones at the bottom of the Belham River Valley (Fig. 1).

99           Approximately  $1\text{ km}^3$  of magma was emitted during 1995–2010, dispersed in a variety of  
100 deposits (Wadge et al., 2014a; Odbert et al., 2015). Knowledge of the past and present  
101 distribution and redistribution of this volume is important at SHV, where the evolution of the  
102 topography and modification of drainages during the eruption has had a key impact on the hazard  
103 from PDCs and surges, lahars, and dome collapses (e.g. Cole et al., 1998; Wadge et al., 2011;  
104 Ogburn et al., 2014). Loading from volcanic deposits on Montserrat also has an effect on the  
105 long-term deformation trend observed by GPS (Odbert et al., 2015). It is important to understand  
106 the distribution of these deposits over the course of the eruption so that appropriate corrections  
107 can be made to the GPS time series.

108

### 109 **3. PREVIOUS TOPOGRAPHIC MEASUREMENTS ON MONTSERRAT**

110           The topography of Montserrat has been represented and recorded in several digital  
111 elevation models (DEMs) acquired using a combination of ground based and airborne sensors  
112 (Table 1) and also satellite platforms (Table 2). The eruption spans most of the duration of the

113 satellite InSAR era, which began in 1992, and so provides a good example of the capabilities and  
114 limitations of using various sensors to measure topography and deposit volumes at an active  
115 volcano. Previously published ground and air-based DEMs are used as a reference level for the  
116 generation of new satellite-derived DEMs, discussed in section 4.

117

### 118 **3.1. Ground- and air-based**

119 Long-term operational measurements of the lava dome shape and height have been made  
120 using both ground-based and helicopter-based photogrammetry (e.g. Sparks et al., 1998; Ryan et  
121 al., 2010; Stinton et al., 2014). Comparing the difference between photographs taken from a  
122 continuously recording camera in the same position at different times revealed changes to the  
123 dome morphology (Wadge et al., 2009). Using theodolite measurements of the dome in  
124 combination with photogrammetry reveals profile changes of the dome height (Fig 1c) and can  
125 constrain estimates of changes in the dome volume. However, because the technique is optical,  
126 line of sight to the dome is needed; therefore, no observations can be made at night or if the  
127 dome is obscured by meteoric clouds or volcanic emissions (e.g. Ryan et al., 2010; Wadge et al.,  
128 2014b).

129 Operational photogrammetry observations of SHV have been episodically supplemented  
130 with light detection and ranging (LiDAR) measurements. LiDAR uses a laser scanner to detect  
131 the distance to a network of points, which can then be converted into a DEM. The laser scanner  
132 can either be ground-based (Jones, 2006) or airborne (Odbert and Grebby, 2014). LiDAR can  
133 achieve data densities up to ten times greater than photogrammetry (Jones, 2006); however,  
134 LiDAR also requires optical line of sight to the ground surface and gaps in the data due to  
135 obstruction of the volcano can be problematic. Cloud cover is also an issue in airborne surveys;

136 for example, in the 2010 airborne LiDAR survey of Montserrat, the helicopter was unable to fly  
137 above the cloud base, preventing data retrieval above 700 m asl and resulting in a gap in the  
138 DEM over the lava dome (Cole et al., 2010).

139 One method of measuring topography, even through clouds or at night, is to use an active  
140 radar signal. AVTIS (All-weather Volcano Topography Imaging Sensor) is a millimetre-wave  
141 ground-based radar sensor specifically designed to measure the topography and temperature of  
142 the lava dome on Montserrat (Wadge et al., 2005). AVTIS measurements of topography were  
143 used to generate DEMs of the lava dome in 2005, 2006, and 2008 and to monitor the eruption  
144 during Phase 3 (Wadge et al., 2008). Repeated measurements of topography were used to  
145 estimate an apparent average lava extrusion rate of  $3.9 \text{ m}^3\text{s}^{-1}$  between November 2005 and April  
146 2006. Due to instrument rebuilding and shipping delays, there were no AVTIS measurements of  
147 the dome during Phases 4 and 5 (Wadge et al., 2014b). Post-Phase 5 measurements of  
148 topography from a fixed AVTIS installation have been used to image and quantify mass wasting  
149 of the lava dome (Wadge et al., 2014b).

150 DEM difference maps have been used to map deposits on Montserrat and to estimate  
151 deposit thicknesses between the start of the eruption and Feb. 1999 (Wadge et al., 2002) and  
152 between 1995 and 2010 (Odbert et al., 2015). The usefulness of this approach is limited due to  
153 sparse sampling of DEMs in time (and sometimes space), predominantly because of the logistics  
154 of ground-based methods, and the expense of air-based methods.

155

### 156 **3.2. InSAR**

157 Interferometric synthetic aperture radar (InSAR) is a technique that measures the change  
158 in radar phase caused by differences in path length between two radar scenes acquired with

159 similar viewing geometries. The geometric contribution to phase in the resulting interferogram  
160 can be used to estimate the topography of the ground surface and to create DEMs. In order to  
161 determine topography using InSAR, the backscattering properties of the surface must be stable  
162 over time (coherent). Where the ground surface varies over time (e.g., through vegetation growth  
163 or slope change), the phase return from each pixel between different images will be effectively  
164 random, and no meaningful signal can be retrieved (e.g. Wang et al., 2010).

165 In rugged volcanic settings, loss of signal can be caused by suboptimal viewing  
166 geometry. Where slopes facing the sensor are steeper than the radar incidence angle, reflections  
167 from the top of the slope will be received before reflections from the base, resulting in loss of  
168 signal known as layover. Conversely, slopes facing away from the satellite at an angle steeper  
169 than the incidence angle will instead have shadow zones, where no signal is reflected and  
170 therefore no data are retrieved (e.g. Bürgmann et al., 2000; Ebmeier et al., 2013a; Pinel et al.,  
171 2014).

172 Since the early 1990s there have been several satellite-based InSAR platforms, many of  
173 which have acquired data over Montserrat (Table 2). Previous C-band (wavelength 5.6 cm)  
174 InSAR studies of Montserrat have been hampered by poor coherence due to dense vegetation and  
175 rapid topographic change around the active lava dome, and they have therefore only been able to  
176 recover topography on surfaces covered by post-1995 volcanic deposits, and for periods  
177 spanning less than 100 days (Wadge et al., 2002, 2006a). L-band (wavelength 23.6 cm) data  
178 from the PALSAR (Phased Array type L-band Synthetic Aperture Radar) instrument on the  
179 JAXA (Japan Aerospace eXploration Agency) satellite ALOS provide better coherence in  
180 densely vegetated tropical settings (e.g. Parks et al., 2011; Ebmeier et al., 2013b, Chaussard et  
181 al., 2013). Fournier et al., 2010, performed a preliminary survey of the Lesser Antilles arc using

182 ALOS data and observed that temporal decorrelation of signal was still a significant problem,  
183 with interferograms spanning a period longer than one year becoming almost completely  
184 incoherent due to rapid vegetation growth.

185 One method to mitigate against temporal decorrelation is to use two sensors separated in  
186 space rather than time. The Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) used two antennae  
187 separated by 60 m to create the first global DEM, with a grid spacing of 90/30 m (Farr et al.,  
188 2007). A recent higher-resolution alternative is provided by the DLR (Deutsches Zentrum für  
189 Luft- und Raumfahrt e. V.; German Space Agency) satellite pair TerraSAR-X (TSX) and  
190 TanDEM-X (TDX), following the launch of TDX on June 21, 2010. The two satellites orbit the  
191 Earth in close formation and operate in bistatic imaging mode, where one satellite transmits a  
192 radar signal and both satellites simultaneously receive the reflected signal. The maximum  
193 horizontal resolution is 2–2.5 m (Krieger et al., 2007). Interferograms formed from bistatic  
194 image pairs have no loss of signal due to temporal decorrelation, which makes TanDEM-X a  
195 good tool for measuring topography on Montserrat.

196

## 197 **4. METHOD**

### 198 **4.1. Measuring topographic change with InSAR**

199 An interferogram contains phase contributions from differences in viewing geometry  
200 between two different satellite positions. The contributions to the measured phase change  $\delta\phi$  at  
201 each pixel in an interferogram are given by equation 1 (e.g. Massonnet and Feigl, 1998;  
202 Bürgmann et al., 2000):

$$203 \quad \delta\phi = \delta\phi_{\text{def}} + \delta\phi_{\text{orbit}} + \delta\phi_{\text{atm}} + \delta\phi_{\text{pixel}} + \delta\phi_{\text{topo}}. \quad (1)$$

204 where  $\delta\phi_{\text{def}}$  is a deformation phase contribution caused by displacement of the ground surface  
205 between the time of image acquisitions;  $\delta\phi_{\text{orbit}}$  is an orbit contribution due to the curvature of the  
206 Earth's surface (easily removed with a 'flat earth' correction during processing);  $\delta\phi_{\text{atm}}$  is an  
207 atmospheric component mainly caused by changes in tropospheric water vapour between scenes;  
208  $\delta\phi_{\text{pixel}}$  is a pixel-dependent contribution due to changes to the scattering properties of the ground  
209 surface within that pixel; and  $\delta\phi_{\text{topo}}$  is a topographic component due to the effect of viewing  
210 topography from a different angle in different acquisitions — an effect that can be estimated  
211 using a DEM and then removed.

212 If  $\delta\phi_{\text{topo}}$  is incorrectly estimated from a DEM, then even after that component is  
213 subtracted there will be a residual topographic contribution, or 'DEM error,' within an  
214 interferogram. Where there has been significant topographic change between the DEM and  
215 InSAR acquisitions, the DEM error will represent a real change in elevation of the ground  
216 surface (e.g. Ebmeier et al., 2012). At an active volcano such as SHV, this change will either be  
217 positive, caused by topographic growth due to the emplacement of new material through lava  
218 dome effusion and infilling of valleys by volcanic deposits, or negative due to removal of  
219 material through erosion and gravitational collapse events. Radar phase is only coherent for  
220 stable, solid reflectors; therefore, no data are recovered for submarine deposits.

221 Unlike phase contributions from ground deformation or atmospheric noise, these DEM  
222 errors will be linearly correlated with the perpendicular baseline between the two radar paths  
223 ( $B_{\text{perp}}$ ). The gradient of this correlation is a combination of the range from the satellite to the  
224 ground ( $r$ ), the radar wavelength ( $\lambda$ ), the incidence angle ( $\nu$ ), and the vertical difference in  
225 elevation ( $\delta z$ ) between the DEM used for InSAR processing and the residual topographic signal  
226 (e.g. Bürgmann et al., 2000)(Equation 2).

227 
$$\delta\phi_{topo} = \frac{k B_{perp}}{r\lambda \sin \nu} \delta z. (2)$$

228 The factor k is a constant relating to the radar path length. For the repeat-pass monostatic case  
 229 (e.g., ALOS), k is  $4\pi$ , whereas for the single-pass bistatic case (e.g., TanDEM-X), both satellites  
 230 share a common radar path so k is  $2\pi$  (e.g. Hanssen, 2001; Kubanek et al., 2015a).

231 Crustal deformation rates on Montserrat are low ( $< 2$  cm/year measured by GPS) during  
 232 periods of quiescence (Odbert et al., 2014). If we assume that the phase contributions from  
 233 deformation and atmospheric noise are small compared with the topographic contribution, we  
 234 can rearrange equation 2 to convert the phase contribution  $\delta\phi_{topo}$  into the vertical topographic  
 235 change,  $\delta z$ .

236 For a set of n interferograms, equation 2 can be written in the form  $\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{z}$ , where  $\mathbf{d}$  is a  
 237  $n \times 1$  column vector containing the phase change in each interferogram,  $\delta\phi$ , and  $\mathbf{G}$  is a  $n \times 1$  design  
 238 matrix, that contains the corresponding perpendicular baselines,  $B_{perp}$ , and a constant of  
 239 proportionality given by  $r\lambda \sin \nu / 4\pi$ , and  $\mathbf{z}$  is the vertical height change.

240 We solve  $\mathbf{d}=\mathbf{G}\mathbf{z}$  for  $\mathbf{z}$  on a pixel-by-pixel basis, using the weighted linear least squares  
 241 regression given by equation 3 (Ebmeier et al., 2012):

242 
$$\mathbf{z} = [\mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{W}_\phi^{-1} \mathbf{G}]^{-1} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{W}_\phi^{-1} \mathbf{d}. (3)$$

243 where  $\mathbf{W}_\phi$  is a square weighting matrix with diagonal elements of  $\sigma_{max}^2$ , the maximum variance  
 244 in each interferogram, and off-diagonal elements set to 0 (which ignores any covariance in  
 245 atmospheric noise between interferograms). The formal variance in  $\mathbf{z}$  ( $\sigma_z^2$ ) is then  $[\mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{W}_\phi^{-1} \mathbf{G}]^{-1}$ ,

246 giving an uncertainty ( $\sigma_z$ ) of  $\sqrt{[\mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{W}_\phi^{-1} \mathbf{G}]^{-1}}$ . While performing the inversion, incoherent pixels

247 are excluded. The formal error in the topographic change for each pixel is inversely related to the

248 number of interferograms used in the inversion. The uncertainty in the topographic change  
249 measurement is therefore greater for pixels that are incoherent in several interferograms.

## 250 **4.2. ALOS PALSAR**

251 ALOS PALSAR observations of Montserrat cover Phase 5 of extrusive activity at SHV  
252 (8 Oct 2009 – 11 Feb 2010). We used scenes acquired in ascending geometry, with the satellite  
253 looking approximately east at an incidence angle of  $37.6^\circ$ . From nine ALOS scenes (track 118,  
254 frame 320), we constructed eight coherent interferograms — one during the period of quiescence  
255 before Phase 5 (13 Aug. – 28 Sept 2009) and seven from after Phase 5 ended (six 46 day  
256 interferograms and one 92 day interferogram from 13 Feb. 2010 – 16 Feb. 2011).

257 Interferograms were constructed with the Repeat Orbit Processing software (ROI\_PAC)  
258 (Rosen et al., 2004) developed at Caltech/JPL, and separate topographic corrections were  
259 performed using both the pre-eruptive and 2005 DEMs to give two interferograms for each  
260 interval. Interferograms were filtered using a power spectrum filter (Goldstein and Werner,  
261 1998) and unwrapped using the branch-cut algorithm of Goldstein et al., 1988. To exploit the  
262 maximum range resolution of the PALSAR instrument, interferograms were processed at one  
263 look in the range direction and five looks in azimuth direction. The geocoded products have a  
264 pixel spacing of 10 m, which is the horizontal resolution of the reference DEMs. We referenced  
265 all our interferograms to a pixel north of Centre Hills, as we assume the north of the island  
266 remains stable (Fig. 1).

267 Interferograms are considered to be coherent if  $> 50\%$  of terrestrial pixels have a  
268 coherence  $> 0.15$ . This threshold coherence is the mean coherence value over the ocean and  
269 should be a representative coherence value of random phase data.

270 We conducted three separate inversions of ALOS interferograms using equation 3 (Table  
271 3). We used linear interpolation between estimates of the perpendicular baseline made at the start  
272 and end of each interferogram to estimate the baseline at SHV. We used a constant value for  $\nu$   
273 ( $37.6^\circ$ ) and  $r$  (854852 m), as these values vary by less than 1 % over the island of Montserrat,  
274 which is several orders of magnitude less than the uncertainties introduced by our estimated  
275 atmospheric noise. We assumed there was no deformation or topographic change over the  
276 intervals covered by the interferograms, so each inversion provides an estimate of the  
277 topographic change up to the latest SAR acquisition used in that inversion

278 Inversion **A95-11** estimates the topographic change between the pre-eruptive DEM and  
279 Feb. 2011 (Fig. 2a), inversion **A05-11** estimates the topographic change between the Nov. 2005  
280 DEM and Feb. 2011, and inversion **A05-09** estimates the topographic change from November  
281 2005 to the single coherent interferogram formed between acquisitions on 13 August and 28  
282 September 2009 (Fig. 3b). Phase 5 of activity at Montserrat began on 8 October 2009, so this  
283 interferogram gives an estimate of the topographic change due to Phases 3 and 4 (Wadge et al.,  
284 2014a). Taking the difference between inversion **A95-11** and inversion **A05-11** gives the  
285 topographic change between pre-1995 and Nov. 2005 (Fig. 3a), while the difference between  
286 inversion **A05-11** and inversion **A05-09** gives the change between Sep. 2009 and Feb. 2011 (Fig.  
287 3c; Table 3). We estimated the bulk net volume of new material for each inversion by integrating  
288 the topographic change values over areas affected by volcanic activity (Fig. 2c) and multiplying  
289 by the area of a pixel ( $100 \text{ m}^2$ ).

290 We estimated the amplitude of the noise in each interferogram, which is assumed to be  
291 predominantly due to variations in tropospheric water vapour, by calculating the variance of  
292 pixel phase values. Pixels within 3 km of the lava dome were masked for the variance estimation,

293 to avoid including topographic change signal in the noise estimate. The standard deviation  
294 estimates are in the range 1.1–1.7 cm, which is typical for a tropical volcano with an elevation of  
295 ~1 km (Ebmeier et al., 2013a; Parker et al., 2015). These noise estimates form the  $\sigma_{\max}^2$  term in  
296 equation 3 and therefore translate into formal error estimates in the topographic change  
297 inversions (Section 4.4).

### 298 **4.3. TanDEM-X processing**

299 TanDEM-X interferograms were constructed from Coregistered Single look Slant range  
300 Complex (CoSSC; the basic TDX data format provided by DLR) images using the  
301 Interferometric SAR Processor of the GAMMA software package (Werner et al., 2000). The  
302 TDX image was treated as the master and the image from TSX is set to be the slave for  
303 interferometric processing. Perpendicular baselines calculated from orbit data were halved, to  
304 account for the difference in path length for the bistatic case compared to repeat pass InSAR  
305 (equation 2) (Krieger et al., 2007; Kubanek et al., 2015a). Interferograms were processed using  
306 four looks in the range and azimuth directions. The images were filtered using an adaptive  
307 density filter (Goldstein et al., 1998) and unwrapped using a minimum cost flow method (Werner  
308 et al., 2002). Geocoding was performed using the Nov. 2005 DEM, giving a final grid spacing of  
309 10 m.

310 Unwrapping errors were manually corrected and the phase converted to elevation using  
311 equation 2. This inversion **T05-13** estimates the topographic change between the Nov. 2005  
312 DEM and the TDX acquisition on 19 Nov. 2013. A residual linear phase ramp remained, so a  
313 best fitting plane was found and removed from each image (Poland, 2014). The TanDEM-X  
314 interferogram observes layover and shadow effects caused by the steep sides of the dome (locally  
315 steeper than 40°, Stinton et al., 2014). Slopes with a component of dip, in the satellite line of

316 sight, steeper than the incidence angle of the satellite ( $31.3^\circ$ ), are incoherent. Coherence in the  
317 TDX interferograms is very high ( $> 0.9$ ) apart from areas affected by shadow or layover. The  
318 DEM produced from inversion **T05-13** (equivalent to the topographic change shown in Fig. 2c  
319 added to the pre-eruption DEM – Fig. 1a) is provided in the supplementary material.

## 320 **4.4. Uncertainties**

### 321 **4.4.1. Formal estimation**

322 The formal uncertainties for each inversion vary from pixel to pixel, depending on the  
323 number of interferograms that are coherent at each pixel and the variance of those  
324 interferograms. Pixels that have seven coherent interferograms in inversions **A95-11** and **A05-11**  
325 have errors of  $\sim 20$  m. Where five or fewer interferograms are coherent, the errors rise to 27 m or  
326 greater.

327 The areas with the greatest uncertainties are steeply dipping slopes, especially on the west  
328 side of the lava dome, Gage's and Chance's peaks, where slopes facing the east-looking  
329 ascending satellite view suffer from incoherence due to layover. Centre Hills and South Soufrière  
330 Hills are covered in dense vegetation, which remains incoherent even in 46-day ALOS PALSAR  
331 interferograms, giving larger errors or gaps in data. At distal deposits, the error is often greater  
332 than the deposit thickness ( $< 20$  m). Integrating the formal errors for height change to make  
333 estimates of the volume change therefore often leads to uncertainties in the volume estimate that  
334 are greater than the estimate itself.

### 335 **4.4.2. Empirical estimation**

336 The change in topography from the pre-eruptive DEM to the 2005 DEM is limited to the  
337 lava dome and proximal valleys filled with volcanic products (Wadge et al., 2006a; Jones, 2006).  
338 There should therefore not be any change in topography north of Centre Hills between inversion

339 **A95-11** and inversion **A05-11** (Table 3). We can use the magnitude of the difference in  
340 topographic change between the two inversions in this area to make an empirical estimate of the  
341 magnitude of the errors. Using an arbitrarily sized box containing 40000 pixels, we calculate the  
342 mean and standard deviation of pixel topographic change values (Fig. 2a).

343 Inversion **A95-11** has a mean topographic change of 3.1 m and a standard deviation of  
344 10.1 m. Inversion **A05-11** has a mean of 2.7 m and a standard deviation of 8.7 m (Table 3). The  
345 difference between the two has a mean topographic change of 0.4 m and a standard deviation of  
346 4.3 m (Fig. 2d). These standard deviation values are a factor of two better than the formal errors  
347 from the inversion, suggesting that we may be able to recover topographic changes of a lower  
348 amplitude than the formal error. Indeed, in the distal sections of some valleys, infilling is still  
349 visible even though the magnitude is less than our formal uncertainties.

350 The topographic change estimated by inversion **T05-13** (Table 3), in the 40000 pixel box  
351 north of Centre Hills has a mean of  $-2.8$  m and a standard deviation of 9.3 m. The errors in  
352 elevation measured by a single TDX interferogram are therefore approximately the same as the  
353 errors in the ALOS inversion. In comparison, for the single ALOS interferogram used in  
354 inversion **A05-09**, the mean change is 3.5 m and the standard deviation is 15.9 m.

355 A contribution towards the errors in observed topographic change north of Centre Hills  
356 comes from uncertainties in the pre-eruptive/2005 DEMs, which are estimated to have a vertical  
357 accuracy of about 10 m (Wadge and Isaacs, 1988; Odbert and Grebby, 2014). A possible  
358 explanation for the non-zero mean change in our reference area could also be due to InSAR  
359 measurements penetrating farther through vegetation than the optical images used to construct  
360 the pre-eruptive DEM (Wadge and Isaacs, 1988). The L-band radar of ALOS will penetrate

361 farther through vegetation than the shorter wavelength X-band radar of TDX, however this effect  
362 is negligible on the unvegetated recent eruption deposits.

363 Other TDX estimates of topographic change at volcanoes have found similar elevation  
364 difference measurements for vegetated areas not affected by volcanism. Poland, 2014, measured  
365 areas of no topographic change at Kilauea, Hawai'i, and in heavily vegetated areas, found mean  
366 change of  $\pm 2$  m and standard deviation of  $\sim 8$  m in DEMs calculated from single TDX  
367 interferograms. Albino et al., 2015, found a mean of  $-4.2$  m and standard deviation of  $5.5$  m for  
368 dense vegetation at Nyamulagira, D.R.Congo, by measuring the difference between two DEMs  
369 constructed from 11 TDX interferograms. Both studies observed smaller standard deviations for  
370 measurements of old lava flows; therefore, our uncertainties in the TDX topographic change  
371 measurements on areas covered by post-1995 deposits may be lower than those measured in the  
372 vegetated area in the north of Montserrat.

373

## 374 **5. RESULTS**

375 We use our InSAR-derived topographic change measurements to build up a time series of  
376 surface change at Montserrat (Fig. 3). From our inversions (Table 3) we divide the eruption into  
377 three time intervals — pre-1995–2005 (Phases 1 and 2), 2005–2009 (Phases 3 and 4) and 2009–  
378 2011 (Phase 5). We are able to measure the maximum thickness of new material at each time  
379 interval and to integrate over the area covered by deposits to make estimates of the net onshore  
380 volume change. Submarine deposits are not imaged by InSAR; therefore, we are unable to  
381 estimate the volume contribution from PDCs that carried material offshore. The volume of these  
382 deposits can be measured using repeated bathymetric surveys and accounts for approximately 60  
383 % of the total erupted volume at SHV (e.g. Le Friant et al., 2010; Odbert et al., 2015).

## 384 **5.1. Dome growth and collapse**

### 385 **5.1.1. 1995–2005**

386 During Phases 1 and 2, there were numerous cycles of lava dome growth, followed by  
387 partial or complete dome removal in collapse events (Wadge et al., 2009, 2014a). In particular,  
388 the collapse of 13 July 2003 that ended Phase 2 removed about 200 million cubic metres of dome  
389 and talus, mostly into the sea to the east (Herd et al., 2005). The net topographic change of the  
390 dome in the 1995–2005 period (Fig. 3a) is dominated by this event. We observe remnants of the  
391 pre-collapse dome 50 to 100 m thick preserved in the northern part of the dome, and talus  
392 deposits up to 230 m thick preserved in the upper White River valley (Fig. 4a). Up to 150 m of  
393 the 400-year-old, pre-eruption Castle Peak dome that occupied English's Crater were also  
394 removed in the 2003 collapse (difference between grey polygon and black line in Fig. 4b).

### 395 **5.1.2. 2005–2009**

396 We observe the height of the dome increase by up to 250 m between Oct. 2005 and Sept.  
397 2009 (Fig. 3b) (difference between black and red lines in Fig. 4e). This growth is presumed to  
398 have occurred entirely after the 20 May 2006 collapse, which removed all of the dome that grew  
399 between August 2005 and May 2006 and some residual mass from the 2003 dome (Loughlin et  
400 al., 2010). The post 20 May dome is mostly symmetrical, with slightly more growth to the west  
401 (Fig. 3b). We also observe 100–150 m of talus deposition in the upper Tar River Valley and  
402 Gage's Fan (difference between black and red lines in Fig. 4b). We assume that deposits within  
403 the old English's Crater walls are part of the lava dome, while deposits outside the old crater  
404 walls are talus and pyroclastic material.

### 405 **5.1.3. 2009–2011**

406           During Phase 5, parts of the dome grew in height by up to 100 m, while the summit  
407 elevation changed little (Table 4), consistent with photogrammetry measurements (Stinton et al.,  
408 2014). New growth on the north side of the dome is visible in Fig. 4e, and deposition of an  
409 additional 100 m of talus into Gage's fan can be seen in Fig. 4b (difference between red and blue  
410 lines). The dome at the end of lava effusion in 2010 is relatively symmetric about an axis running  
411 east–west but with preferential growth to the west especially visible in the TDX data (Fig. 3d and  
412 4b).

413           The excavation of an amphitheatre by the 11 Feb. 2010 partial dome collapse is visible to  
414 the north of the dome (Fig. 3c and 4a). The upper part of the back wall of the crater left by the  
415 collapse is visible in Fig. 4b. The collapse amphitheatre is 100 m deep and 450 m wide relative  
416 to the pre-Phase 5 surface (Fig. 3c). Stinton et al., 2014, using photogrammetry and theodolite  
417 measurements, estimated the crater to be 125 m deep compared to the surface just before the  
418 collapse on 11 Feb. 2010, suggesting an additional 25 m of growth on the north side of the dome  
419 during Phase 5 before the collapse, although this could also be attributed to uncertainties in the  
420 two estimates.

#### 421 **5.1.4. Pre-eruption–Post-Phase 5**

422           By integrating the topographic change values from the pre-1995 DEM for every pixel  
423 within the English's Crater walls, we measure the net bulk volume of the current SHV dome to  
424 be  $118 \pm 46\text{M m}^3$  with ALOS and  $125 \pm 18\text{M m}^3$  with TDX. This net volume figure accounts for  
425 material removed from the pre-eruption Castle Peak dome, as well as that added and removed  
426 during the eruption. Using an average vesicularity for the dome of 13 % (Sparks et al., 1998), we  
427 estimate a dense rock equivalent (DRE) dome volume of 102–108M m<sup>3</sup>. This value will  
428 underestimate the true volume of the lava dome, as the volume change of incoherent areas is not

429 included, but the effect is probably minor as only 5 % and 7 % of the pixels on the dome in  
430 ALOS and TDX inversions, respectively, are incoherent.

### 431 **5.1.5. Differences between ALOS and TDX observations**

432 There is general agreement to within error between TDX and ALOS over the dome  
433 (Table 4; difference between blue and green lines in Fig. 4). TDX appears to show slightly more  
434 dome growth to the west of English's crater (Fig. 4b) and slight differences in the depth and  
435 shape of the base of the 2010 collapse (Fig. 4e). There is also disagreement in the thickness of  
436 talus deposits on the steepest part of Gages fan (between 1000–1500 m in Fig. 4b). This is likely  
437 due to loss of signal from TDX because west-facing slopes approach the satellite incidence angle  
438 (TDX is affected more strongly by steep slopes because it has a  $31.3^\circ$  incidence angle, less than  
439 the  $37.6^\circ$  incidence angle of ALOS). The paired patch of incoherence and negative topographic  
440 change observed in the centre of the dome by TDX (Fig. 2c) is likely due to a similar effect on a  
441 locally steeper section of the dome. There is much better agreement between the two satellites on  
442 south and east facing talus slopes.

## 443 **5.2. Flow deposits and valley fill**

444 Surrounding the lava dome throughout the eruption was an apron of talus with an angle  
445 of repose of 37 degrees (Wadge et al., 2008). The talus apron graded downslope into PDC  
446 deposits, mainly produced by collapses of material from the dome (Wadge et al., 2009; Wadge et  
447 al., 2010). The distribution of flow deposits changed over the course of the eruption, as valley  
448 infilling caused PDCs to overflow into neighbouring valleys (Table 5).

### 449 **5.2.1. 1995–2005**

450 Figure 3a and 4a show that the thickest subaerial deposits during Phases 1–2 were in  
451 White River to the south of the dome, with up to 230 m of deposition at the head of the valley,

452 just outside the rim of English's Crater. The cumulative thickness of PDC deposits decreases  
453 with distance down the valley to ~60 m where the pre-eruptive valley entered the sea, and where  
454 a delta deposit now sits.

455 There was also near complete infilling of Fort Ghaut to the west (Fig. 4d), by PDCs that  
456 continued downstream to destroy the town of Plymouth in 1997 (e.g. Sparks et al., 1998; Sparks  
457 et al., 2002; Wadge et al., 2014a). Deposition to the north was concentrated mainly in Mosquito  
458 Ghaut, with thinner deposits in Tuitt's and Tyers Ghauts (Fig. 4c, Table 5).

#### 459 **5.2.2. 2005–2009**

460 Most of the observed valley infilling during Phases 3–4 occurs in the Tar River Valley to  
461 the east, refilling the erosional scar left by the 13 July 2003 dome collapse (Fig. 3b). Distal  
462 deposition is difficult to observe due to long wavelength (2–5 km) atmospheric gradients in the  
463 ALOS data, which have a magnitude equivalent to  $\pm 80$  m elevation (Fig. 3b, between 0–300 m  
464 in Fig. 4d).

#### 465 **5.2.3. 2009–2011**

466 Deposition during Phase 5 was more widely distributed than in previous phases,  
467 including the first deposits in Gingoos Ghaut and Farm River and the most distal deposits in the  
468 Belham Valley and White's Ghaut (Table 5)(Stinton et al., 2014). There was also up to 140 m of  
469 deposition in Spring Ghaut — the first flows from Gages fan to overspill to the south from Fort  
470 Ghaut (Fig. 4d). InSAR infill measurements proximal to the dome agree within error to spot  
471 thickness values estimated from the width of shadow zones in radar amplitude images (Wadge et  
472 al., 2011).

#### 473 **5.2.4. Pre-eruption–Post-Phase 5**

474 The cumulative maximum net height change (Table 5) rarely equals the sum of the  
475 maximum changes for the separate time periods, as the location of greatest net infilling within  
476 each valley changes over time. The thickest deposits are in Gages Fan to the west of the dome  
477 and the White River south of the dome and reach nearly 300 m in places.

478 The total bulk volume of onshore PDC deposits (excluding the dome) is  $450 \pm 370\text{M m}^3$   
479 measured by ALOS and  $390 \pm 280\text{M m}^3$  measured by TDX (Fig. 2). Using a void-free density of  
480  $2600 \text{ kg/m}^3$  and a bulk density for the PDC deposit of  $2000 \text{ kg/m}^3$  (Sparks et al., 1998; Wadge et  
481 al., 2010), we calculate DRE volumes for the two datasets of  $350 \pm 280\text{M m}^3$  and  $300 \pm 220\text{M}$   
482  $\text{m}^3$ , respectively. As with the lava dome, these volumes are likely to be underestimates due to  
483 incoherence, especially in the upper parts of Spring Ghaut, Fort Ghaut, Gingoos Ghaut and  
484 White River, where steep west-facing slopes suffer from layover.

485 There will also be an underestimate of the volume and height change of new subaerial  
486 deposits, which have built the coast out since 1995. The thickness change and therefore volume  
487 of these deposits is calculated relative to sea level, rather than the pre-eruptive bathymetry,  
488 therefore the submarine component needed to bring these deposits to sea level is not accounted  
489 for. Montserrat has a shallow submarine shelf 20–60 m deep (Le Friant et al., 2004), so the  
490 thickness of new subaerial deposits is likely to be underestimated by at least 20 m. Wadge et al.,  
491 2010, gave an estimate for the near coast sediment DRE volume of  $113\text{M m}^3$ , while Odbert et al.,  
492 2015, estimated the volume of the submarine portion of new land to be  $25\text{M m}^3$  DRE.

### 493 **5.2.5. Differences between ALOS and TDX observations**

494 There is good agreement in the cumulative change estimated by both ALOS and TDX,  
495 (Table 5). Slight variations may be due to uncertainties in the measurements and redistribution of  
496 material between 2011 and 2013 through erosion, rockfalls and lahars.

497 For valley deposits on Montserrat, TDX retrieves a much sharper image than ALOS (Fig.  
498 2f compared with Fig. 2e). In order to reduce noise caused by temporal decorrelation, the ALOS  
499 data are more heavily filtered than TDX. This overfiltering leads to smearing of the signal, so the  
500 observed expression of deposits has a lower amplitude and longer wavelength. This effect is  
501 most apparent in White's Ghaut (difference between blue and green lines in Fig. 4c), where the  
502 shape of the 2011 surface measured by ALOS is unrealistically similar to the shape of the pre-  
503 eruptive/2005 surface, while the 2013 surface measured by TDX shows much more realistic  
504 valley infilling by PDC deposits.

505 TDX is also able to retrieve thinner deposits in the distal parts of valleys, which are  
506 missed by ALOS. This is due to the presence of atmospheric noise in the ALOS data caused by  
507 temporal variations in the tropospheric water vapour field, which are not present in the TDX  
508 bistatic image. Atmospheric artefacts are visible to the west of the island in Fig. 2a, where they  
509 obscure thin deposits in Fort Ghaut and the Belham River Valley, observed by TDX in Fig. 2c.

510

## 511 **6. DISCUSSION**

### 512 **6.1. Volume budget**

513 InSAR data from ALOS and TanDEM-X have been used to estimate the change in  
514 surface topography of Montserrat associated with the eruption of Soufrière Hills Volcano. There  
515 is good agreement in the cumulative volume change estimated by both sensors, and results  
516 broadly match those of previous studies based on ground and airborne observations (Wadge et  
517 al., 2011; Stinton et al., 2014; Odbert et al., 2015). In comparison with the results of Odbert et  
518 al., 2015, we observe greater volume in subaerial PDC deposits, but less volume in the dome,  
519 although the total DRE volume is almost identical. The inconsistency is likely due to difficulty in

520 distinguishing between PDC deposits, talus slope, and the dome core based on InSAR data alone,  
521 or could be a result of the considerable uncertainty that exists in both methods. The lava dome  
522 boundary we used is based on the English's Crater wall and therefore does not include talus in  
523 White River/Upper Fort Ghaut, which is considered by Stinton et al., 2014, to be part of the  
524 dome.

525         The total combined DRE volume of the lava dome and subaerial pyroclastic deposits  
526 measured by InSAR is  $424 \pm 304\text{M m}^3$  (ALOS) or  $401 \pm 231\text{M m}^3$  (TDX). Our measured values  
527 of the subaerial deposits are similar to the  $406\text{M m}^3$  estimated by Odbert et al., 2015 based on a  
528 combination of the 2010 LiDAR DEM with the dome volume estimates of Stinton et al., 2014.  
529 The total DRE volume for the eruption is estimated to be  $1063\text{M m}^3$ , from photogrammetry and  
530 theodolite surveys, supplemented by ground based LiDAR, radar, field measurements, and  
531 bathymetric surveys (Le Friant et al., 2004, 2010; Wadge et al., 2010, 2014a; Stinton et al.,  
532 2014). The subaerial deposits, which have remained on Montserrat since the start of the eruption,  
533 therefore account for 38–40 % of the total erupted volume. The remaining 60–62 % of erupted  
534 material is therefore located in coastal deposits, deep submarine deposits, and distal airborne ash  
535 deposits, consistent with measurements from bathymetry (e.g. Le Friant et al., 2010).

## 536 **6.2. Measuring topographic change**

537         InSAR data presented here have a number of advantages compared to traditional methods  
538 for observing topography. In comparison to optical methods, such as photogrammetry and  
539 LiDAR, the ability of InSAR to see through clouds and at any time of day, combined with a  
540 wider field of view, provides much more comprehensive spatial coverage. Satellite-based sensors  
541 are able to capture imagery of the entire island, even during eruptive periods when deploying  
542 terrestrial sensors in the south of the island sometimes proved too hazardous. While ground-

543 based methods may provide more frequent measurement of the topography than satellite  
544 observations, no individual terrestrial sensor is able to image the entirety of the deposition field,  
545 so results from multiple instruments need to be combined to provide complete topographic  
546 information.

547 InSAR should be especially useful if activity were to resume. By combining multiple  
548 sensors and acquisition geometries it should be possible to make observations of the dome every  
549 few days (Table 2). In comparison, optical methods can require days to weeks before the weather  
550 is clear enough to make observations. Spaceborne platforms are also not reliant on instruments  
551 being installed at a volcano before an eruption begins — background acquisitions made during  
552 periods of quiescence can be used to form new interferograms as soon as eruptive behaviour  
553 starts or resumes. However, during extrusive activity topographic measurements will be limited  
554 to bistatic sensors (e.g., TDX) because the monostatic method requires a stable, post-eruptive  
555 surface.

556 While the overall results from ALOS and TanDEM-X are similar, there are several  
557 notable small-scale differences. The lower incidence angle of the TDX acquisitions relative to  
558 ALOS results in loss of signal at a shallower slope angle in the TDX data. This is apparent to the  
559 west of Chance's Peak and South Soufrière Hills (Fig. 2). The southern end of Fig. 4a (green line  
560 between 4800 and 5000 m along profile) shows significant errors in the TDX data on a west-  
561 facing slope, which are not as significant in the ALOS data. Errors caused by radar shadow and  
562 layover (Section 3.2) could be potentially reduced by combining InSAR data from ascending  
563 (satellite looking east) and descending (satellite looking west) viewing geometries (Kubanek et  
564 al., 2015a).

565           Due to the lack of atmospheric noise in the bistatic TDX data, the surface derived from  
566 TDX is smoother in coherent areas (e.g. difference between blue and green lines between 2600  
567 and 3200 m along Fig. 4b). Unfiltered ALOS interferograms are not coherent enough to retrieve  
568 topographic information over the lava dome and steeper slopes. In order to improve the  
569 coherence of the ALOS data, the ALOS interferograms were filtered more heavily than TDX.  
570 This over-filtering has lead to smearing of the ALOS data in some places, most clearly visible in  
571 Whites Ghaut (difference between blue and green lines in Fig. 4c). Due to this difference in  
572 filtering, it is impossible to distinguish post-Phase 5 (2011–2013) topographic changes from  
573 processing artefacts.

574           Since February 2010, there have been numerous rockfalls and rain generated lahars,  
575 which have redistributed material from the lava dome and talus fans downhill. The post-Phase 5  
576 lahar deposits are 2–3 m thick in the lower reaches of the Belham Valley (A. Stinton., pers.  
577 comm.). This elevation difference is within error of our InSAR measurements on Montserrat, and  
578 therefore these deposits would be difficult to distinguish, even between different TanDEM-X  
579 acquisitions.

580           There are some notable disadvantages to InSAR measurements compared with other  
581 techniques. The steep slopes and dense vegetation of Montserrat mean that spatial coverage of  
582 the island is often limited, especially with shorter wavelength C-band and X-band sensors  
583 (Wadge et al., 2002, 2006a, 2011). Revisit intervals of individual satellites are still on the order  
584 of days to weeks, meaning that it may be impossible to distinguish individual flows which occur  
585 on timescales of minutes to hours (Wadge et al., 2011). The largest consideration for repeat-pass  
586 InSAR on Montserrat is potentially atmospheric noise. The magnitude of atmospheric noise in  
587 single interferograms gives uncertainties of over 40 m in the InSAR-derived topography (Fig. 2b

588 and 2c). This noise leads to errors upwards of 250 % in volume estimates between individual  
589 repeat-pass interferograms.

590 Atmospheric effects can be reduced through stacking or using weather models; however,  
591 both techniques are computationally expensive and reduce the effectiveness of InSAR as a rapid  
592 operational technique. In addition, commonly used large-scale weather models such as the  
593 European Centre for Medium-range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) ERA-Interim and North  
594 American Regional Reanalysis (NARR) only account for the stratified component of  
595 tropospheric water vapour, and do not model the higher amplitude, shorter wavelength turbulent  
596 component (e.g. Elliott et al., 2008; Lofgren et al., 2010; Pinel et al., 2011; Parker et al., 2015).  
597 Modelled atmospheric phase delays using NARR for inversion **A05-09** only account for 6 m of  
598 measured topographic change. In order to model and correct for turbulent water vapour a higher  
599 resolution weather model such as the Weather Research and Forecasting Model (WRF), or  
600 corrections from GPS may be needed (e.g. Wadge et al., 2006a; Gonget al., 2010; Nico et al.,  
601 2011).

602 The ability to image the complete deposition field at an erupting volcano, irrespective of  
603 weather conditions, still provides a great improvement on many ground-based monitoring  
604 techniques. TanDEM-X bistatic mode provides the facility to potentially map topographic  
605 changes at high resolution every 11 days, which could provide vital information about the  
606 evolution of hazard at active volcanoes. The techniques outlined here could be applied to any  
607 volcano extruding lava, even those with thin basaltic flows (e.g. Poland, 2014; Albino et al.,  
608 2015, Kubanek et al., 2015b) and would be particularly useful at ongoing, long-lived eruptions  
609 and in settings where terrestrial monitoring is limited. At Montserrat, should a sixth phase of lava

610 extrusion begin, satellite radar observations could image changes to the lava dome and  
611 pyroclastic deposits on a daily to weekly basis, rather than the broad overview provided here.

612

## 613 **7. CONCLUSIONS**

614         We have used L-band monostatic (2010–2011) and X-band bistatic (2013) InSAR to  
615 estimate the change in topography due to the eruption of Soufrière Hills Volcano between 1995  
616 and 2010. We observe maximum elevation changes of  $290 \pm 10$  m on the lava dome and  $250 \pm$   
617  $10$  m in valleys proximal to the dome. We measure the total mean DRE volume of subaerial  
618 deposits from the eruption since 1995 to be  $400 \pm 230$  M m<sup>3</sup>. Large uncertainties are introduced  
619 into the measurements due to loss of coherence in areas of layover and shadow, and also  
620 temporal decorrelation in repeat-pass InSAR.

621         We show that bistatic InSAR image pairs collected by TanDEM-X have an absolute  
622 vertical accuracy of less than 10 m, similar to inverting multiple repeat-pass interferograms from  
623 ALOS. Both the bistatic and monostatic InSAR methods provide a more complete quantification  
624 of deposits on Montserrat than any single ground-based technique. Knowledge of topographic  
625 change during an eruption is important for updating hazard models to take into account evolving  
626 volcano morphology, as well as improving geophysical models and other analyses. The ability of  
627 InSAR to provide timely estimates of topographic changes over time could therefore provide a  
628 valuable dataset for understanding the state of eruption, as well as hazard assessment at erupting  
629 volcanoes.

630

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997

## 998 **FIGURE CAPTIONS**

999

1000 **FIG. 1. a)** Hillshaded digital elevation model of the pre-eruptive topography of Montserrat.  
1001 Major drainage pathways are shown in yellow: Belham River Valley (BRV), Tyers Ghaut (TyG),  
1002 Mosquito Ghaut (MG), Paradise Ghaut (PG), Tuitt's Ghaut (TuG), White's Ghaut (WG), Tar  
1003 River Valley (TRV), Fort Ghaut (FG), Spring Ghaut (SG), Gingoos Ghaut (GG), White River  
1004 (WR). Key topographic features are labelled: Garibaldi Hill (GH), St. George's Hill (SGH),  
1005 Chances Peak (CP), Gage's Mountain (GM). Yellow dot shows location of reference pixel used  
1006 in InSAR processing. **b)** Regional map of the northern Lesser Antilles. Blue rectangle shows the  
1007 area covered by ALOS ascending track 118, frame 320. Red rectangle shows the area covered by  
1008 TanDEM-X ascending track 104. Yellow star shows the location of Soufrière Hills Volcano. **c)**  
1009 Timeline of summit elevation changes during the eruption (modified from Wadge et al., 2014a).  
1010 Red bars show phases of extrusive activity, white bars are periods of quiescence. Black dashed  
1011 lines show partial dome collapse events.

1012

1013 **FIG. 2. a)** Topographic change between 1995 and 2011 from ALOS inversion **A95-11**. The  
1014 black dashed line show the mask used for measuring deposit volumes. **b)** Errors associated with  
1015 the inversion. **c)** Topographic change between 1995 and 2013 derived from TDX inversion **T05-**

1016 **11.** The black dashed line show the mask used for measuring deposit volumes. **c)** Probability  
1017 density function showing measured elevation change for an area of no topographic change  
1018 (shown by the black boxes labelled reference area in **a** and **c**). **e)** and **f)** Zoomed insets  
1019 highlighting the differences between ALOS and TDX inversions. Major drainage pathways are  
1020 labelled: Tyers Ghaut (TyG), Mosquito Ghaut (MG), Paradise Ghaut (PG), Tuitt's Ghaut (TuG),  
1021 White's Ghaut (WG).

1022

1023 **FIG. 3.** Time series of topographic change on Montserrat, showing change in elevation during **a)**  
1024 Phases 1 and 2, **b)** Phases 3 and 4, **c)** Phase 5, and **d)** cumulative change for the whole eruption.  
1025 Contours show pre-eruptive topography at 100 m intervals. Dashed grey boxes in **b)** and **c)** show  
1026 areas affected by atmospheric signal in the 2009 interferogram, which are not included in volume  
1027 estimates. Dashed black line in **c)** marks the extent of the Feb. 11 2010, partial dome collapse.  
1028 Major drainage pathways are labelled: Fort Ghaut (FG), Tuitt's Ghaut (TuG), White River (WR),  
1029 Tar River Valley (TRV), Spring Ghaut (SG), White's Ghaut (WG).

1030

1031 **FIG. 4.** Profiles through the SHV dome and valleys surrounding the volcano at different times  
1032 (locations shown on the inset map). Profiles are at a 1:1 scale (no vertical exaggeration) in order  
1033 to preserve topographic slope. The topographies shown are: pre-eruptive (filled grey polygons),  
1034 2005 (solid black lines), 2009 (dashed red lines), 2011 (dot-dashed blue lines) and 2013 (solid  
1035 green lines). Vertical black dashed lines show the intersection of two orthogonal cross section  
1036 lines. The uncertainties in each profile are given by the typical errors shown in profile A–A'.

1037

1038 **TABLES**

1039

1040 **TABLE 1.** Previous digital elevation models derived from ground-based or airborne sensors

Date	Horizontal resolution / m	Source	Additional notes	References
Pre-eruption	25/10	1:25,000 scale map	Digitized map	Wadge and Isaacs, 1988
Feb. 1999	10	Aerial photogrammetry	Modified pre-eruption DEM using ERS coherence mask	Wadge, 2000
Nov 2005	10	Terrestrial LiDAR, AVTIS	Modified pre-eruption DEM	Jones, 2006; Wadge et al., 2006b, 2008;
Sep. 2008	10	AVTIS	Modified pre-eruption DEM	Wadge et al., 2009
Jun. 2010	1	Airborne LiDAR	No coverage > 700 m above sea level	Cole et al., 2010; Odbert et al., 2014

1041

1042 **TABLE 2.** Previous digital elevation models derived from space-based InSAR platforms

Date	Source	Band / $\lambda$ / cm	Revisit period / days	Horizontal resolution / m	Vertical accuracy / m	References
Jul.1996 – 2000	ERS	C / 5.6	35	25	10	Wadge et al., 2002, 2006a

Sep. 1996 – May 1997	JERS-1	L / 23.6	44	No elevation data		Wadge et al., 2002
Mar. 1996 – Mar. 1998	Radarsat-1	C / 5.6	24	No elevation data		Wadge et al., 2002
Feb. 2000	Shuttle Radar topography Mission (SRTM)	C / 5.6		30	16	Farr et al., 2007
Oct. 2007 – May 2010	TerraSAR- X	X / 3.1	11	2.5	~5	Wadge et al., 2011
May 2011 – Dec. 2011	COSMO- SkyMed	X / 3.1	16 (1/3/4/8)	10	~5	BGS/EVOSS
Aug. 2009 – Feb. 2011	ALOS	L / 23.6	46	10	~20	This study
Nov. 2013	TanDEM- X	X / 3.1	11	10	9.3	This study

1044 **TABLE 3.** Inversions of InSAR data

	Reference DEM	Number of interferograms	Date range of interferograms	Interval of topographic change	Mean / m	Std. Dev. / m
<b>A05-11</b>	Pre-eruptive	7	Feb. 2010 – Feb. 2011	2005 – 2011	3.1	10.1
<b>A95-11</b>	Nov. 2005	7	Feb 2010 – Feb. 2011	1995 – 2011	2.7	8.7
<b>A05-09</b>	Nov. 2005	1	Aug. 2009 – Sep. 2009	2005 – 2009	3.5	15.9
<b>T05-13</b>	Nov. 2005	1	Nov. 2013	2005 – 2013	–2.8	9.3

1045 Inversions **A95-11**, **A05-11**, and **A05-09** use ALOS interferograms, while inversion **T05-13** uses  
 1046 a TanDEM-X interferogram. For discussion of the mean and standard deviation values, see  
 1047 section 4.4.2.

1048

1049 **TABLE 4.** Maximum change in elevation of the lava dome by eruptive phase, and dome summit  
 1050 height at the end of Phases 2, 4 and 5.

Phase	Maximum dome growth / m	Dome summit elevation at end of phase / m
1–2	110 ± 30	910 ± 30
3–4	250 ± 40	1010 ± 40
5	100 ± 30	1040 ± 30
Total (ALOS)	260 ± 20	1040 ± 30
Total (TDX)	290 ± 10	1030 ± 10

1051 The total rows are the cumulative topographic change between the pre-eruption DEM and the  
 1052 ALOS and TDX data.

1053

1054 **TABLE 5.** Maximum topographic change for the main valleys radiating outward from SHV.

Valley name	1995–2005 / m	2005–2011 / m	ALOS measured (1995–2011) / m	TDX measured (1995–2013) / m
White River	230 ± 30	70 ± 20	240 ± 20	250 ± 10
Gingoes Ghaut	0 ± 30	50 ± 20	60 ± 20	80 ± 10
Gages Fan/Spring Ghaut	190 ± 30	230 ± 40	290 ± 30	280 ± 10
Tyers Ghaut	60 ± 30	80 ± 20	80 ± 20	80 ± 10
Mosquito Ghaut	70 ± 30	0 ± 20	70 ± 20	80 ± 10
Tuitt's Ghaut	60 ± 30	70 ± 20	100 ± 20	110 ± 10
White's Ghaut	0 ± 30	110 ± 20	110 ± 20	110 ± 10
Tar River Valley	-40 ± 30	70 ± 20	70 ± 20	60 ± 10

1055 We ignore the deposits of Dry Ghaut from Phase 1 (Druitt et al., 2002), and of Farm River (Cole  
 1056 et al., 2014), which are too thin to measure with InSAR.