

Trieste, 14 September 2000

To the Editor of Nature

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed a Letter concerning actual activity of Mount Etna, Sicily, a simple interpretative model, and the possible serious consequences of such an activity, with predictions and suggestions on future field measurements able to support or invalidate the presented model. We limit the model to the Method section: we think the referee will need it to understand how the simple formulae used in the main text were derived. In the eventuality the Letter will be accepted and you judge the Letter too long and the Method useless for the common reader, you can delete it: as you prefer. We include a photo (Fig. 2) showing a typical example of the volcanic activity discussed in the Letter: since we judge it quite spectacular, we invite you to consider it as a candidate for the cover photo: this would save a lot of space for our Letter. If the space will be enough and Fig. 2 be not selected for the cover, you can arrange it in the Letter, otherwise you can delete it. Actually, the Letter contains about 1900 words, and the Method about 450 words. With Fig. 1, this corresponds to about 2.5 pages of Nature. The content of the submitted Letter has not appeared anywhere in any form.

We provide you the following files:

natlet.pdf (this file)

papnat.pdf (the Letter submitted to Nature)

figure1.jpg (sketch map for Figure 1)

figure2.jpg (photo digitized in 1000×1500 px² for Figure 2)

Sincerely yours

Marco Fulle

Osservatorio Astronomico

Via Tiepolo 11

I-34131 Trieste Italy

Tel.: +39 040 3199223 – Fax: +39 040 309418

fulle@ts.astro.it – <http://stromboli.net>