Dear Editor,

Enclosed is our manuscript titled “**Depths in a day - A new era of rapid-response Raman-based barometry using fluid inclusions**” to be considered for publication as Journal of Petrology *Letter*.

Rapid-response response petrology monitoring is increasingly being used by volcanic observatories to obtain information about the magmatic plumbing system to help inform decision making during crises. The depth of the storage reservoir supplying melt to the surface has been identified as one of the most valuable pieces of information to obtain through petrological monitoring (Re et al. 2021, JVGR). Magma storage depths are essential to be able to build and validate models of the plumbing system, to help predict changes in eruptive style and vigour, and to interpret geophysical signs of unrest. However, it is generally accepted that it is not possible to determine magma storage depths on the day-week timescales required to inform decision making during eruptions. One of the most popular methods, melt inclusion barometry, typically takes 1yr+ to complete. Mineral barometry can be faster and has been completed on week-month timescales. However, calculated pressures (and therefore depths) are extremely imprecise, with errors spanning the entire crustal column in many tectonic settings. Small pockets of CO2-rich fluids trapped in crystals, termed fluid inclusions, offer an exciting alternative. Recent developments in Raman spectroscopy means the density of these fluids to be measured extremely quickly – these densities are closely linked to the pressure of fluid inclusion entrapment, and thus the depth of magma storage.

Here, we present a rapid response simulation conducted in collaboration with the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory (HVO) to assess whether fluid inclusion depths can be obtained fast enough to provide useful information during volcanic eruptions. We use recently erupted samples from the September 10-16th 2023 eruption of Kilauea volcano. We received samples on the 19th, beginning the exercise on the 20th with a modestly sized research group composed of two undergraduate students, a postdoc, an assistant professor, and a graduate student who was trained during the simulation! By 4:13pm HST on Day 1, we were able to report 16 magma storage depths to our HVO colleagues clearly indicating that magma was being supplied from the shallower Halemaʻumaʻu (HMM) reservoir at 1-2 km identified by previous geophysical studies. In a real crisis, this would allow enough time for our colleagues to digest our results when making decisions the following day. This timeline is unprecedented in petrological monitoring and demonstrates that the interpretation of magma storage depths can become part of crisis-response during volcanic eruptions. At the end of day 2, we reported 46 depths to HVO by 5:24 pm HST, confirming the dominant role of the HMM reservoir. On day 4, we utilized rapid energy-dispersive spectroscopy measurements (EDS) to measure the crystal chemistry close to each fluid inclusion, providing additional context to the reported depths. It is notable that results reported in day 1 identified the same magma storage region as the more detailed results obtained in day 4. Furthermore, the letter presented here was completed and first submitted to a journal on September 27, 2023, just one week after the commencement of the simulation, although we did not receive a desk rejection notification until a month later, owing to editorial delays. We append a detailed timeline and record of emails in the supplement accounting for every step of the past editorial process. We believe based on previous editorial comments that JPET is an excellent venue to present this work to the volcanological community.

The results presented in this letter are the first demonstration that petrologically derived magma storage depths can become part of an observatory’s toolbox, with implications extending well beyond the academic sphere and bearing a direct impact on people's lives. Observatories having more information upon which to make informed operational decisions will directly impact the lives and livelihoods of individuals residing near active volcanoes, such as those surrounding Kīlauea volcano in Hawai‘i. Information can also bring comfort during volcanic events – for instance, during the devastating 2018 Lower East Rift eruption, Hawai‘i Island residents routinely asked questions related to the source of the erupting magmas and were expecting answers from the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory (HVO). We anticipate that near-real time Raman analyses of fluid inclusions will be used during future Hawaiian eruptions in concert with HVO’s current bulk rock XRF chemical monitoring routines. This will allow information about melt properties such as viscosity and temperature to be specifically tied to the reservoir supplying the melt. Time-series analyses of fluid inclusions would be particularly powerful for identifying a switch to a different magma supply. This fluid inclusion method can be applied to many hazardous and frequently erupting volcanoes worldwide (e.g., those in the Galápagos, Réunion, Azores, Canary Islands, Iceland, Cabo Verde), either through the development of in-house Raman facilities, or collaboration with academic institutions. This is particularly true given that resources required are modest, both from the perspective of instrumentation and personnel-hours. Making this method available to the community in a timely manner is particularly important in the present context, with the continued unrest and inflation at Kīlauea and the escalating activity in Iceland.

Thank you for your consideration of what we believe is a technique that will truly revolutionize the way volcano observatories make decisions during volcanic crises.

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