

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Mars Exploration Program

Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science

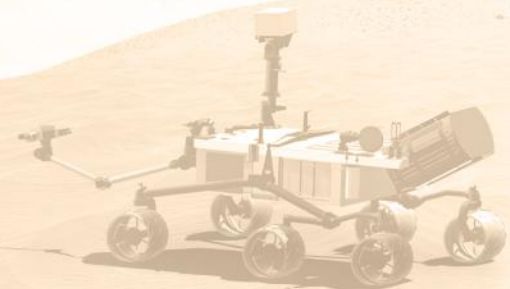
March 7, 2013



—the search for life

Michael Meyer, Lead Scientist
Lisa May, Lead Program Executive
Jim Green, Director (Act.)

- Overview of Mars program
- Future Plans
 - MPPG
 - SDT
 - Timeline
- Status of current missions - review of each mission,
- Highlights from missions & R&A
- Status of mission in devel
 - MAVEN
- Issues



Mars Exploration Strategic In-Guide Plan

**Operational
2001-2012**



2013



2016



2018

ESA ExoMars
Rover (MOMA)

This block shows the ESA ExoMars Rover (MOMA), which is designed to study the Martian atmosphere and search for signs of life.

2020

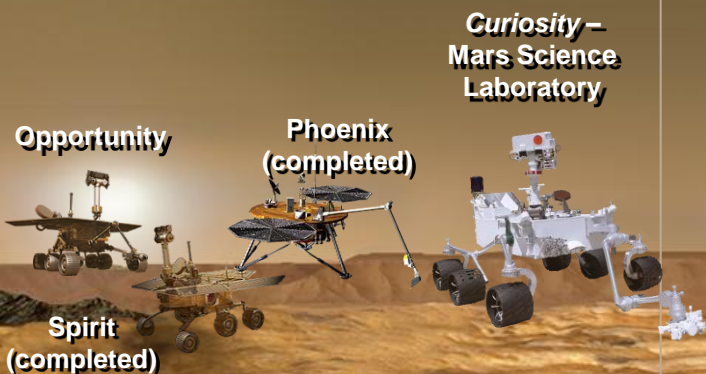
2020
Science Rover

This block shows the 2020 Science Rover, which is designed to study the Martian atmosphere and search for signs of life.

2022

Future
Planning

This block shows a large green arrow pointing to the right, labeled "Future Planning", indicating the timeline for future Mars exploration missions.



Reasons To Explore Mars

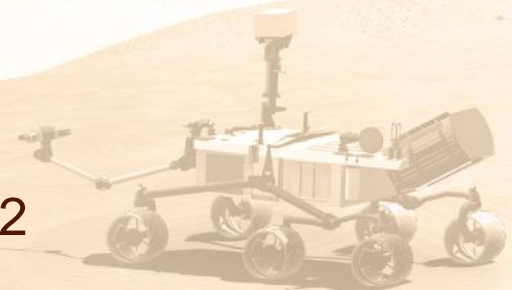
- Many of the key questions in **solar system science** can be addressed effectively at Mars:
 - Solar system history
 - Planetary evolution
 - Potential for life
- Mars is the most accessible place in the solar system where these highest-priority science questions can be addressed
- Mars has a well-preserved record of its climate and geologic evolution exposed at the surface
 - A comparable record of ancient planetary processes, including those possibly leading to the origin of life, exists on no other terrestrial planet, including Earth

A well-executed program has brought us to where the next major step in exploration can be taken



MEP Highlights

- MSL/Curiosity
 - **Curiosity landed on Mars at 1:32 a.m. on August 6, 2012 EDT!**
 - Completed all First Time Activities
- 2013 MAVEN
 - 8 of 10 payloads delivered
 - On track to ship to the cape in August
- MEP collaborating in ExoMars 2016 (Electra) and ExoMars 2018 rover contributing portion of MOMA payload
- Mars Program Planning Group (MPPG) developed Mars Program reformulation options
- Agency announced Mars 2020 Rover at AGU, 3 Dec. 2012
 - Science Definition Team for Mars 2020 Rover established
 - Kick-off telecon Jan. 24, 2013
 - First face-to-face Feb 27-Mar 1
 - Final Text July 1, 2013
- First all-virtual MEPAG meeting Feb. 27, 2012



Science Definition Team – Statement of Task

The SDT is tasked to formulate a detailed mission concept that is traceable to highest priority, community-vetted scientific goals and objectives (i.e., *Vision and Voyages* NRC Planetary Decadal Survey and related MEPAG Goals/Objectives) that will be formally presented to the Mars Exploration Program and leaders of the Science Mission Directorate (SMD); any and all mission concepts must fit within available resources and associated levels of acceptable risk as provided by the pre-project team.

The SDT report will be essential in formulating the HQ-approved set of 2020 Mars rover mission science goals and measurement objectives suitable for open solicitation via a NASA SMD Payload AO that is to be released for open competition in Summer 2013.



SDT Primary Assumptions and Guidelines

- The mission will launch in 2020.
- The total cost of the instruments has a nominal cost limit of ~\$100M (including margin/reserves). This includes the development and implementation costs of US instruments (~\$80M) and the estimated costs of any contributed elements (~\$20M), but not including surface operations costs. The cost of science support equipment, such as an arm, is budgeted separately and not included in this ~\$100M/\$80M limit for instruments.
- The mission will employ Mars Science Laboratory (MSL) SkyCrane-derived entry, descent, and landing flight systems, and *Curiosity*-class roving capabilities. Consideration of the scientific value and cost implications of improving access to high-value science landing sites should be provided by the SDT in consultation with the pre-project team.
- The mission lifetime requirement is surface operation for one Mars year (~690 Earth Days).
- Mission pre-project activities will provide additional constraints on payload mass, volume, data rate, and configuration solutions that will establish realistic boundary conditions for SDT consideration.



SDT Charter Mission Objectives

- A. Explore an astrobiologically relevant ancient environment on Mars to decipher its geological processes and history, including the assessment of past habitability and potential preservation of possible biosignatures.
- B. *In situ science*: Search for potential biosignatures within that geological environment and preserved record.
- C. Demonstrate significant technical progress towards the future return of scientifically selected, well-documented samples to Earth.
- D. Provide an opportunity for contributed HEOMD or Space Technology Program (STP) participation, compatible with the science payload and within the mission's payload capacity.

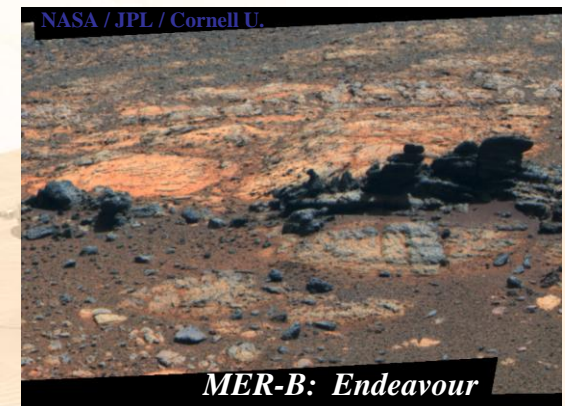
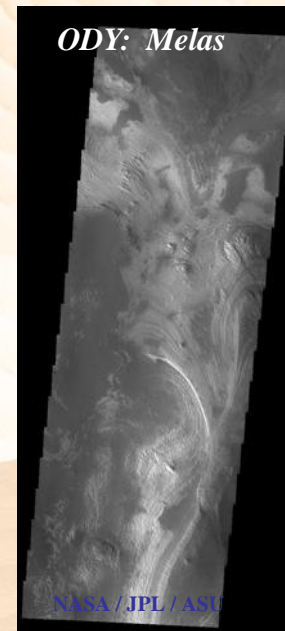
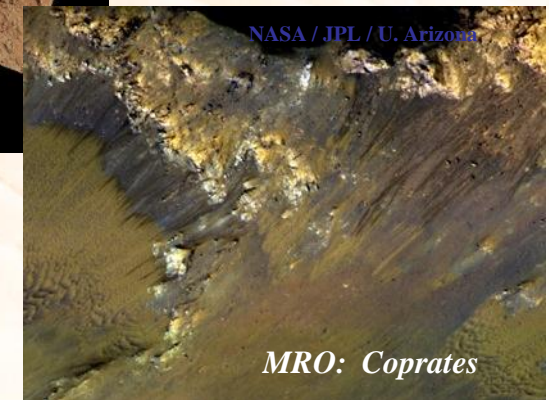
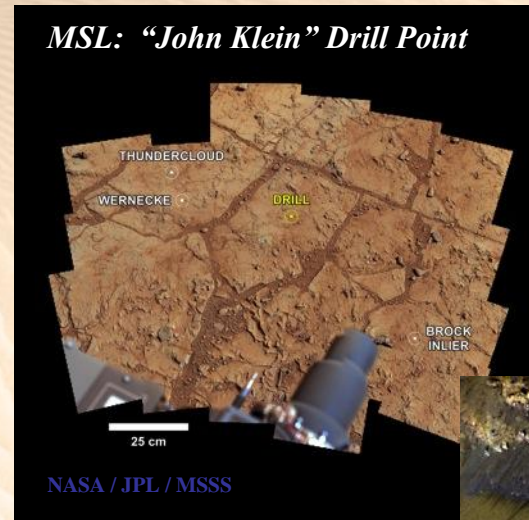


SDT Roster

<i>Chair</i>	Professional Affiliation	Interest/Experience
Mustard, Jack	Brown University	Generalist, geology, Remote Sensing, MRO, MEPAG, DS, MSS-SAG
Allwood, Abby	JPL	Field astrobiology, early life on Earth, E2E-SAG, JSWG, MSR
Bell, Jim	ASU	Remote Sensing, Instruments, MER, MSL, Planetary Society
Brinckerhoff, William	NASA GSFC	Analytical Chemistry, Instruments, AFL-SGG
Carr, Michael	USGS, ret.	Geology, Hydrology, ND-SAG, E2E, P-SAG, Viking, MER, PPS
DesMarais, Dave	NASA ARC	Astrobio, field instruments, DS, ND-SAG, MER, MSL, MEPAG
Edgett, Ken	MSSS	Geology, geomorph, MPF, MER, MRO, MSL, MGS, cameras
Eigenbrode, Jen	NASA GSFC	Organic geochemistry, MSL, ND-SAG
Elkins-Tanton, Lindy	DTM, CIW	Petrology, CAPS, DS
Grant, John	Smithsonian, DC	geophysics, landing site selection, MER, HiRISE, E2E, PSS
Ming, Doug	NASA JSC	Geochemistry, MSL (CHEMIN, SAM), MER, PHX
Murchie, Scott	JHU-APL	IR spectroscopy, MRO (CRISM), MESSENGER, MSS-SAG
Onstott, Tullis	Princeton Univ	Geomicrobiology, biogeochemistry
Ruff, Steve	Ariz. State Univ.	MER, spectral geology, MGS (TES), MER, ND, E2E, JSWG
Sephton, Mark	Imperial College	Organics extraction and analysis, ExoMars, Astrobiology, E2E
Steele, Andrew	Carnegie Inst., Wash	astrobiology, meteorites, samples, ND-, P-SAG, AFL-SSG, PPS
Treiman, Allen	LPI	Meteorites, Samples, Igneous Petrology
Adler, Mark	JPL	Technology development, MER, MSR,
Drake, Bret	NASA JSC	System engineering, long-lead planning for humans to Mars
<i>Ex-officio (n = 7)</i>		
Meyer, Michael	NASA	Mars Lead Scientist
Mitch Schulte	NASA	Mars 2020 Program Scientist
George Tahu	NASA	Mars 2020 Program Executive
David Beaty	JPL	Acting Project Scientist, Mars Program Office, JPL
Deborah Bass	JPL	Acting Deputy Proj. Sci, Mars Program Office, JPL
Jim Garvin	NASA	Mars Program Scientist
Jorge Vago	ESA	ESA science representative
Michael Wargo	NASA	HEOMD representative
<i>Supporting resources (n = 2)</i>		
Wallace, Matt	JPL	engineering liason
Sarah Milkovich	JPL	SDT documentarian, logistics

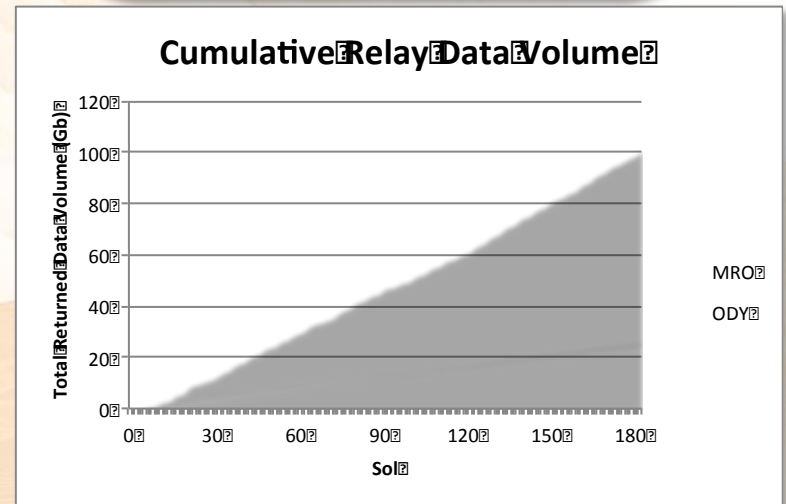
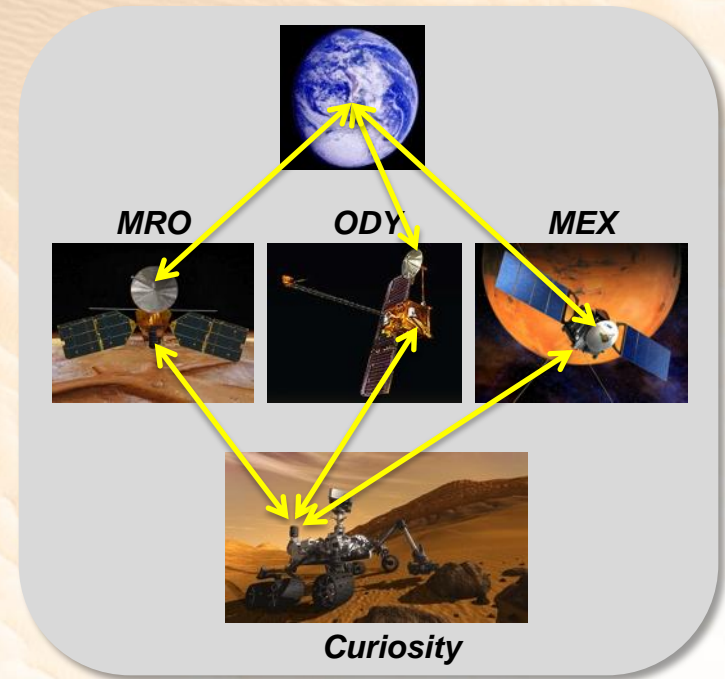
Project Status

- **MAVEN:**
 - On schedule to launch this fall
 - Now in Environments Testing in Denver
- **MSL:**
 - Analyzing first drilled rock materials in Yellowknife Bay
- **MRO:**
 - Detecting new areas of Recurring Slope Lineae (RSLs), e.g., in Valles Marineris
 - SHARAD returning to operations
- **ODY:**
 - Successful transition to Side B
 - Continuing to fill gores in THEMIS coverage
 - Drifting to later local times
- **MEX:**
 - Finished period of good radar coverage (periapsis in the dark)
- **MER-B:**
 - Finishing Cape York survey
 - Preparing to start move to Solander Point



Mars Network Relay Performance

- Curiosity is returning large amounts of science data via an international network of Mars relay orbiters
 - Over **100 Gigabits** of data returned through Sol 184
 - Averaging over **550 Mb/sol**, well above MSL project requirements
- **MRO:**
 - High performance relay based on new Electra UHF Transceiver capabilities
- **ODY:**
 - Real-time data return during MSL EDL
 - Continues to serve as the workhorse relay orbiter for Opportunity
- **MEX:**
 - Tracking of MSL carrier during EDL
 - Backup relay asset for Curiosity surface ops – conducting monthly demonstration relay passes to verify MSL-MEX telemetry and command functions



First All-Virtual MEPAG Meeting

Meeting

Layouts

Pods

Audio

Cameras

Start My Webcam

deborah johnson

Michael Meyer

John Grunsfeld

David Des Marais

Attendee List (...)

Chat (Everyone)

01_MEPAG_intro_27_2012_v2.ppt

Draw

Stop Sharing

Full Screen

▼ Hosts (3)

Estelle Dodson

Marco Boldt

Mike Toillion

▼ Presenters (6)

David Des Marais

deborah johnson

John Grunsfeld

Michael Meyer

Michael Wargo

Roger Gibbs

▼ Participants (103)

Adam Harris

Alan Keisner - Spa...

Alfred McEwen

Alicia Chang

The chat history has been cleared

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Everyone

Teleconference Instructions

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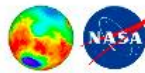
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Telecon: 800-369-1121

Passcode: 4056267#

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MEPAG Agenda, Feb 27, 2013



Agenda for MEPAG web meeting of February 27, 2013

Electronic Meeting (Adobe Connect): 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. EST

Start	Time	Agenda Item	
Meeting Day: Wednesday, February 27, 2013 All Times are EST (PST + 3hrs)			
11:00 AM	0:15	Welcome; Desired Outcomes; Agenda	D. Des Marais, MEPAG Chair
11:15 AM	0:45	NASA: Status & Future of MEP	J. Grunsfeld/J. Green
12:00 PM	0:30	2020 Rover SDT	J. Green/M. Meyer
12:30 PM	0:20	Discussion	
12:50 PM	0:30	Continuing Mission Status/Plans (MSL etc.)	R. Gibbs
01:20 PM	0:20	HEO plans, possibilities, and priorities	B. Drake for M. Wargo
01:40 PM	0:20	Report on the The Present-Day Habitability of Mars Workshop	D. Paige
02:00 PM	1:00	Discussion/Future Planning for MEPAG Activities	D. Des Marais, MEPAG Chair
03:00 PM		Adjourn	

Odyssey Project Overview

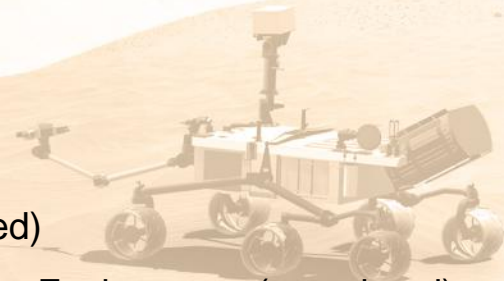
Salient Features:

Category: 2 Risk Class: B

- Mars Orbiter Launched: April 7, 2001
- Science Mission Began: February 19, 2002
- Payload:
 - Thermal Emissions Imaging System (THEMIS)
 - Gamma-Ray Spectrometer (GRS)
 - High Energy Neutron Detector (HEND)
 - Neutron Spectrometer (NS)
 - Martian Radiation Environment Experiment (MARIE)
- Primary Mission: 917 Days, Ended August 24, 2004
- Extended Mission: August 25, 2004 to March 31, 2013

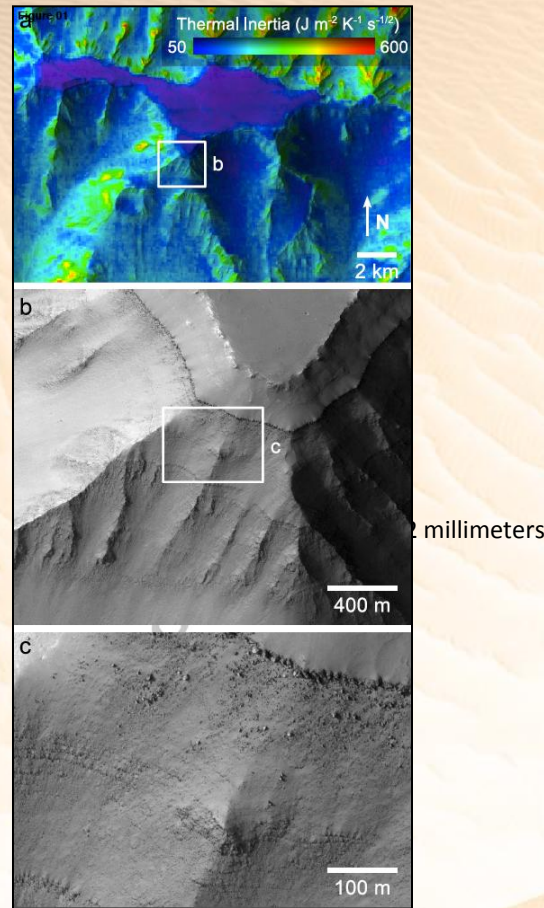
Science

- Acquire High Spatial and Spectral Resolution Mapping of Surface Mineralogy
- Provide Information on the Morphology of the Martian Surface
- Observe inter-annual variations and secular changes
- Determine Abundance of Hydrogen in the Shallow Subsurface
- Globally Map the Elemental Composition of the Surface (completed)
- Characterize Specific Aspects of the Martian Near-Space Radiation Environment (completed)

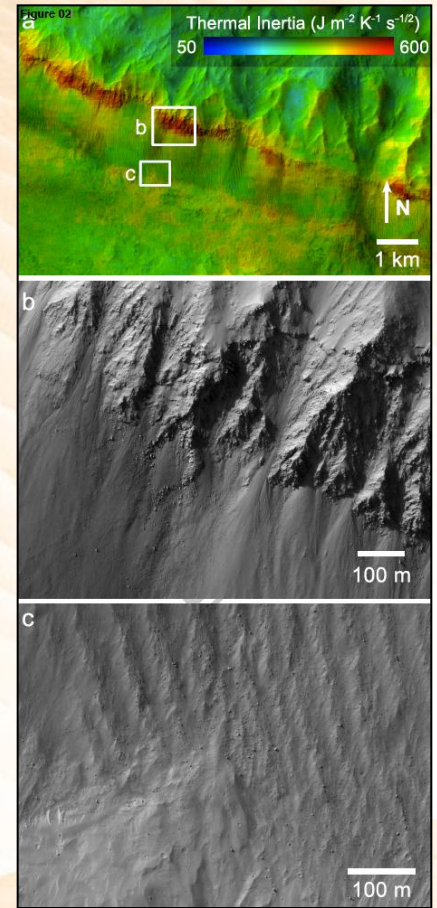


The Dual Nature of the Martian Crust: Young Lavas and Old Clastics

Visible and thermal infrared spacecraft datasets from Mars Odyssey and Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter are used to gain insight into the nature of the surface materials and upper Martian crust, revealing a distinct transition in the physical properties of Martian crustal materials that occurred during the Hesperian era. Contrary to a prevailing view of the Martian crust as primarily composed of lava flows, we find that most older regions of Mars have morphological and thermophysical properties consistent with poorly consolidated fine-particulate materials that may have a volcaniclastic origin. By contrast, younger surfaces contain blocky materials and thermophysical properties consistent with effusive lava flows. Explosive volcanism is likely to have been dominant on early Mars and these findings have implications for the evolution of the volatile content of the crust and mantle and subsequent development of the surface morphology. This dual nature of the crust appears to be a defining characteristic of Martian history.



(a) Thermal inertia data within Coprates Chasma derived from THEMIS data. Thermal inertia values remain low across the 4.5 km elevation range within the image. HiRISE images of layered exposures near the canyon rim (b) and (c). Although boulders are present near the top of the wall, they are not shed from lower layers and do not persist down slope, indicating that they are weakly consolidated and easily disaggregated.



(a) Thermal inertia data near the base of Coprates Chasma derived from THEMIS data. Regions of high thermal inertia are similar to an extensive olivine-rich basalt layer. HiRISE images of (b) layered exposures and (c) boulders that have traveled to the base of the canyon wall. The high thermal inertia values and the persistence of boulders indicate that they are composed of well-consolidated and relatively high strength materials.

Odyssey Status

- The Odyssey spacecraft and its subsystems are performing nominally. Odyssey's science instruments (THEMIS, HEND & NS) are operating nominally.
- Development of a Stop-Gap Thruster Only mode continues. This contingency mode would be used if two reaction wheels failed. The Project is on track to complete this development in late-March.
- The journal Science announced that the student-focused Mars Student Imaging Project (MSIP) based at Arizona State University was awarded the Science Prize for Inquiry-Based Instruction.
- Odyssey's next Project Science Group (PSG) meeting is tentatively scheduled for 8 May 2013 at JPL.



Students collaborating on Mars image analysis activity (phase 1 of the Mars Student Imaging Project).



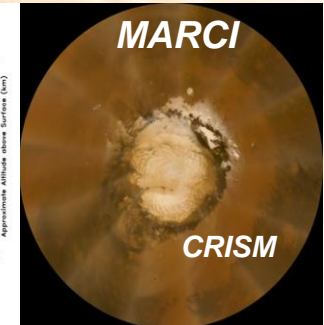
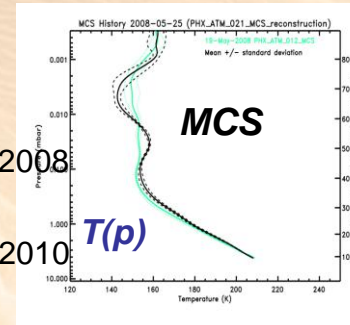
S Klug Boonstra, and P Christensen
Science 2013;339:920-921



MRO Project Overview

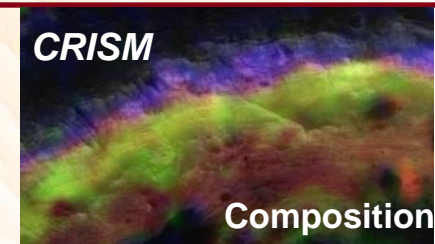
MRO Mission Overview (2006-2012)

- **Category: II, Risk Class: B**
- Mission Phases
 - Primary Science Phase (PSP): November 2006 to November 2008
 - PHX critical event (EDL) coverage: May, 2008
 - Extended Science Phase (ESP): December 2008-September 2010
 - Extended Mission Phase: October 2010 to September 2012



Program Support Objectives

- Characterize landing sites for MSL and future Mars landers & rovers
- Add to atmospheric environment data bases to support future Mars missions
- Cover future mission critical events (e.g., MSL EDL August, 2012)
- Provide telecommunications relay for surface assets



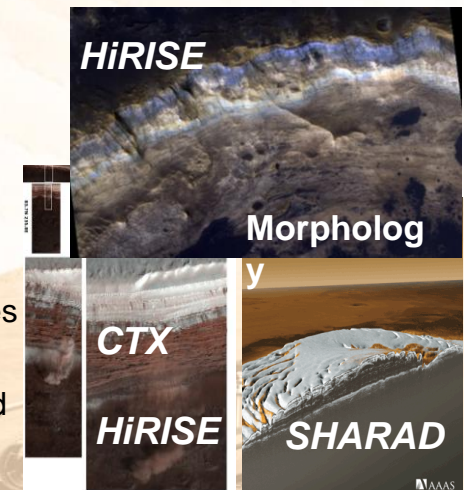
Extended Mission Phase Science Objectives

Extend survey coverage and targeted observations:

- Determine the nature and history of the Martian upper crust, emphasizing crustal stratigraphy and aqueous deposits;

Extend monitoring and change detection:

- Investigate the polar caps and layered terrains and ground ice at all latitudes;
- Characterize ongoing surface changes, including aeolian processes, slope processes such as gullies, and impact cratering;
- Capture atmospheric interannual variability, while extending the climatological record of atmospheric weather, thermal structure, dust, ice and water vapor.



SHARAD

MRO Status

- This was the first week of southern summer on Mars. The MRO spacecraft and its subsystems are performing nominally. All instruments, except SHARAD, are on and acquiring data. The planned SHARAD power on and return to science was delayed by one week to avoid any potential conflict with relay data return during the MSL anomaly investigation. UHF relay support with MSL and MER continues nominally, except for some unfortunate data dropouts due to adverse weather at the DSN. The average MSL data volume returned per pass through the Electra UHF link is 245 Mbits.
- The upload of MSL flight Software Load R10.6.3 through the MRO Electra UHF link was completed.
- The CRISM (cold) focus cycle continues, with a CRISM limb scan planned for next week. CRISM switched from cooler 2 to cooler 3, to get to operating temperatures with good signal to noise in the present warm environment (which occurs in the seasons around Mars perihelion).



Tens of Thousands of Citizens of Planet Earth Classify Images of Spring on Mars

- Every spring Mars' polar regions are covered with a seasonal layer of frozen CO₂ (dry ice)
- As the ice sublimates in the spring, gas escaping from below the ice carries fine material from the ground up to the top of the ice where it falls into fan-shaped deposits directed by the ambient wind
- These fans are markers for where the seasonal ice cracked and which way the wind was blowing at the time
- The timing, distribution, direction and length of the fans are an important data source for understanding seasonal processes and the martian weather, but there are so many fans that the science team is relying on the public to help with the data analysis



- To that end the Zooniverse project has set up a website, planetfour.org, for citizen scientists to contribute their time to identify and measure fans
- Volunteers are currently locating fans imaged by the HiRISE camera on the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, in the second and third springs – soon springs 1 and 4 will be added to the data set
- This is a dynamic (ongoing) project, but a snapshot on January 17, 2013 shows that over 59,000 people have participated and nearly 3 million image tiles have been analyzed

PLANET FOUR

Classify
About
Profile
Discuss
Blog

56,522
participants worldwide

2,846,912
MRO images classified

With the help of Stargazing Live, **56,522** citizen scientists are exploring the surface of Mars like never before.

STARGAZING LIVE

Start Exploring

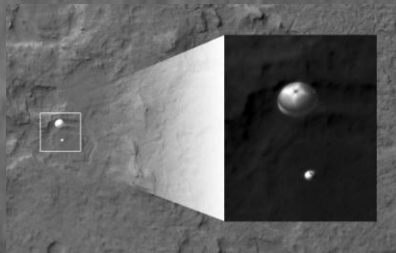
Sky crane

Curiosity

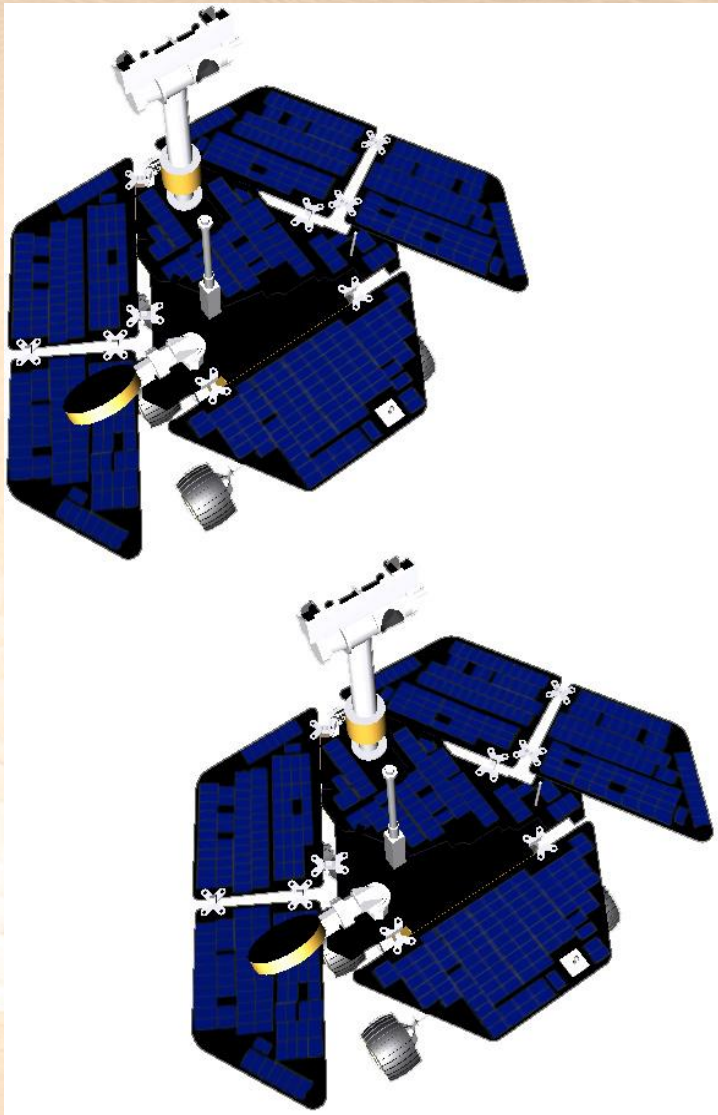
Back shell

Parachute

Heat Shield



Mars Exploration Rover



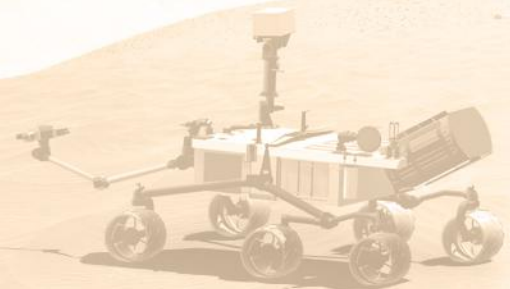
Spirit at Gusev

Last Contact Sol 2210

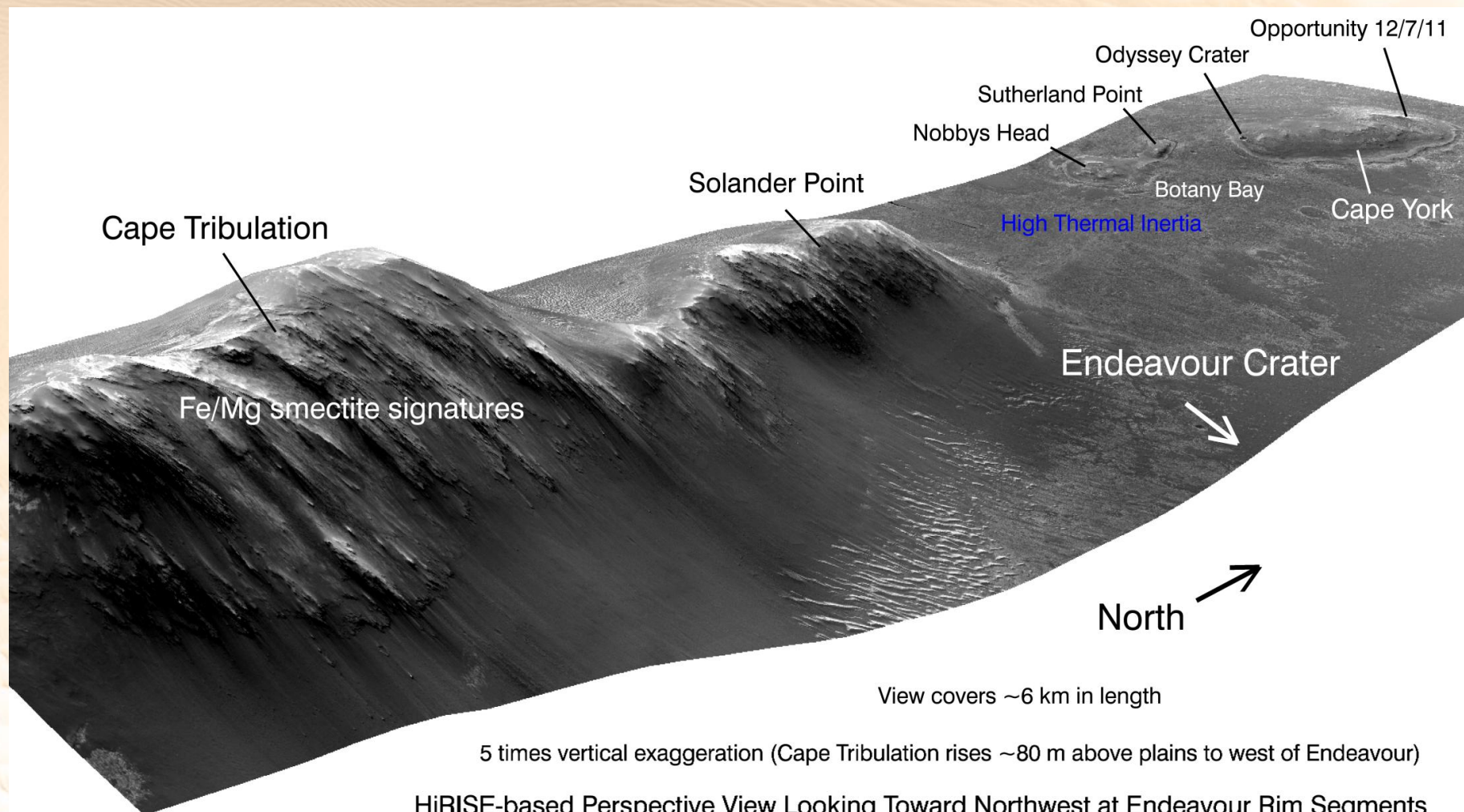
7.730 km

Opportunity at Meridiani
Sol 3241

**Opportunity has
exceeded 35 kilometers!**

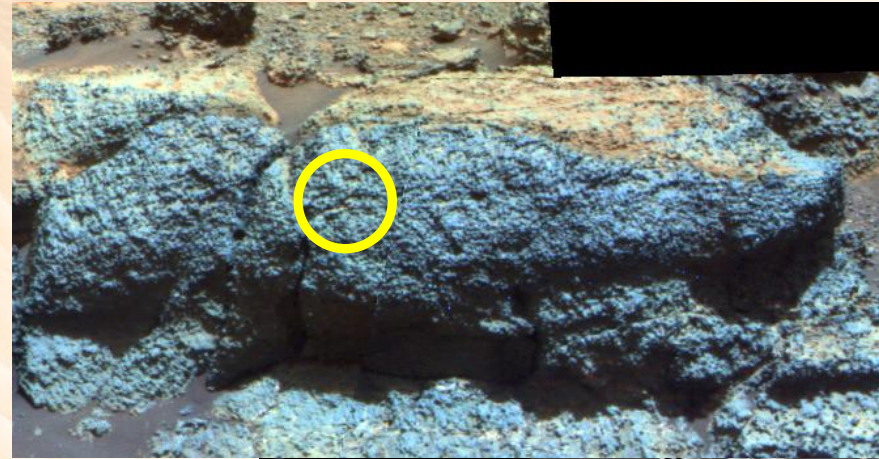


Endeavour Rim Perspective

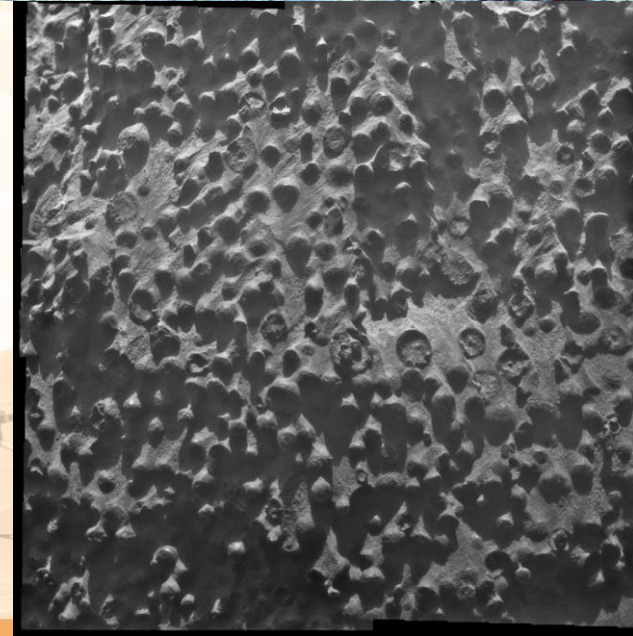


Mars Exploration Rover Opportunity

Opportunity began its 10th year of operation on Mars in January 2013 and is currently exploring the area of Endeavour crater known as Matijevic Hill where it recently documented the discovery of rocks with unusual textures, similar to the 'blueberries' discovered earlier, but with a very different composition and likely a different origin.

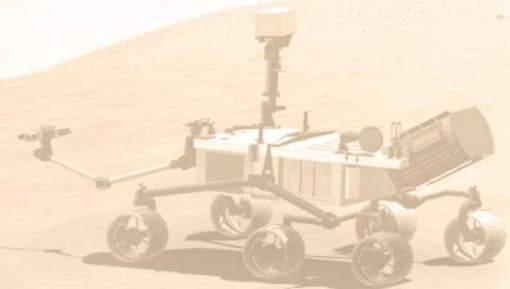


The MER team is currently making plans to suspend science operations during the upcoming conjunction period and to drive south to Solander Point on the rim of Endeavour Crater. There, Opportunity will be in terrain favorable for surviving the upcoming martian winter...the rover's 6th on Mars!



Opportunity Status

- Opportunity is conducting the post-walkabout in-situ (contact) science campaign at different locations around the inboard edge of Cape York on the rim of Endeavour Crater. Some in-situ work with a target called "Lihir" in the area are planned with the instruments on the end of the robotic arm.
- No "amnesia" events with the Flash file system have occurred since Sol 3183 and the rover is otherwise in good health.
- Total odometry as of Sol 3241: 35582 meters



Mars Science Laboratory Project Overview

Science

Focus on Past & Present Habitability of Mars

Highly Capable Analytical Laboratory

Next Generation Remote Sensing & Contact Investigations

Suite of Environmental Monitoring Instruments



Technical Capabilities

Category 1

Risk Class A

One Mars Year surface operational lifetime (669 sols/687 days)

Discovery Responsive over wide range of latitudes and altitudes

Precision Landing via Guided Entry

Skycrane Propulsive Landing

Long Distance Traverse Capability (20 km)

Flexible & Robust Sample Acquisition & Processing

I'm Curiosity...

www.nasa.gov/msl
mars.jpl.nasa.gov/msl

Twitter: @MarsCuriosity
Facebook: MarsCuriosity



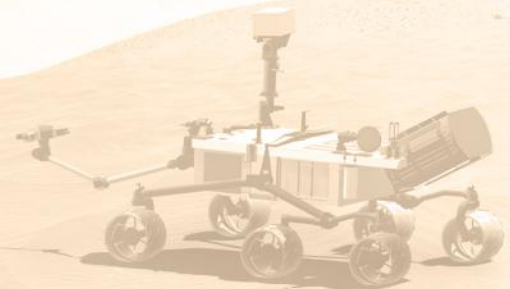
Credit: YouTube/Satire

...and I know it!

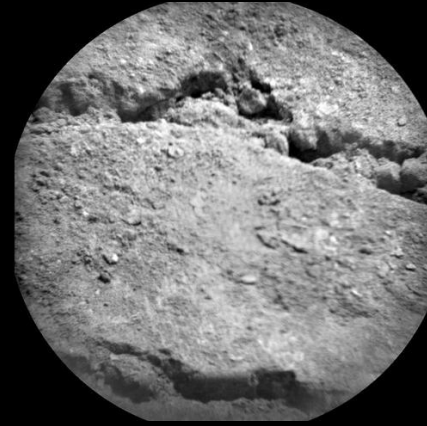
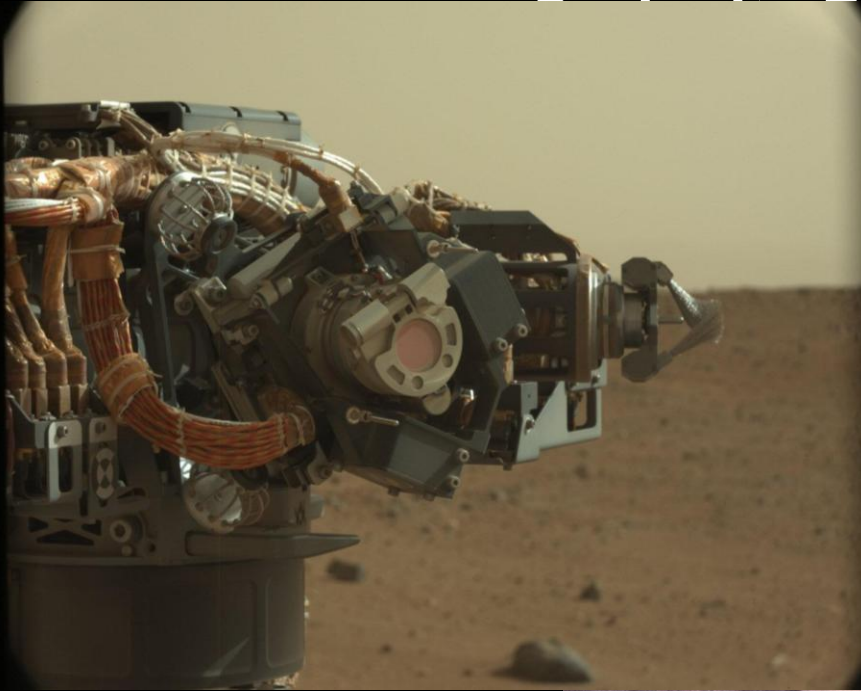
September 12, 2012

Recent Accomplishments

- **Landing**
- Evidence of ancient riverbed
- Initial results presented at AGU
- All First time activities accomplished, including first time drill sample and analysis on another planet
- Currently exploring Yellowknife Bay



Recent Accomplishments

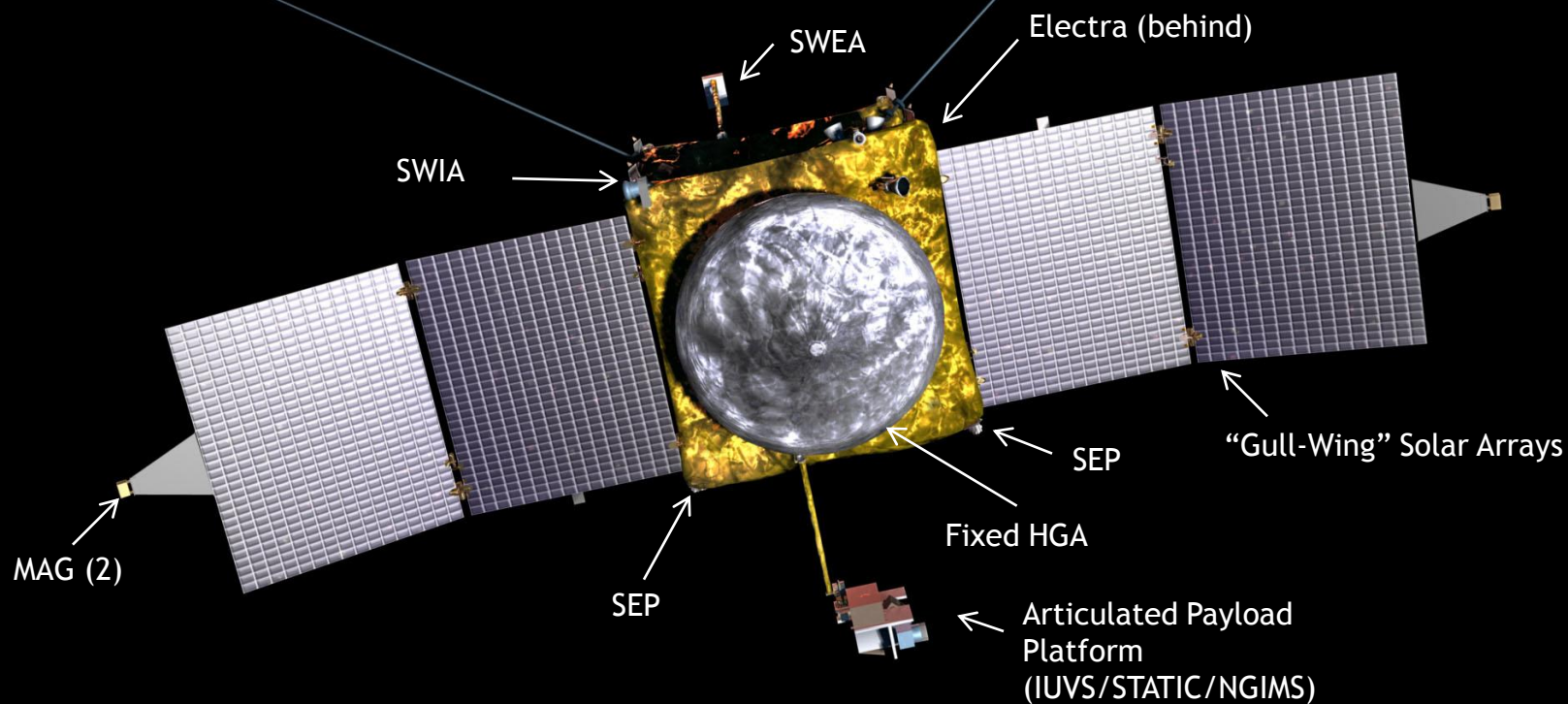


Images from
Curiosity



The MAVEN Spacecraft

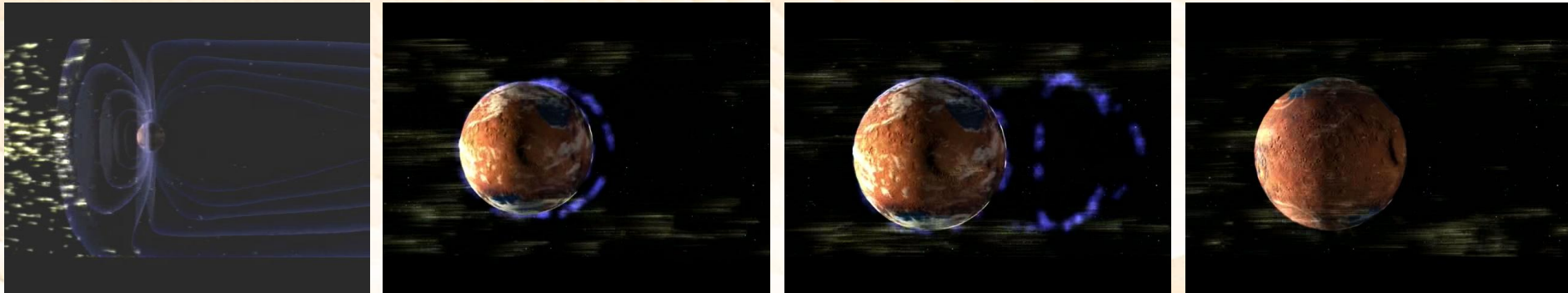
- 3-axis attitude control (wheel based)
- Mono-propellant propulsion system
- Single-fault tolerant during all critical events
- Launch (Wet) Mass: 2550 kg max
- Spacecraft Dry Mass: 903 kg max
- Power: 1135 W at Mars Aphelion



What Will MAVEN Do?

MAVEN will answer questions about the history of Martian volatiles and atmosphere and help us to understand the nature of planetary habitability.

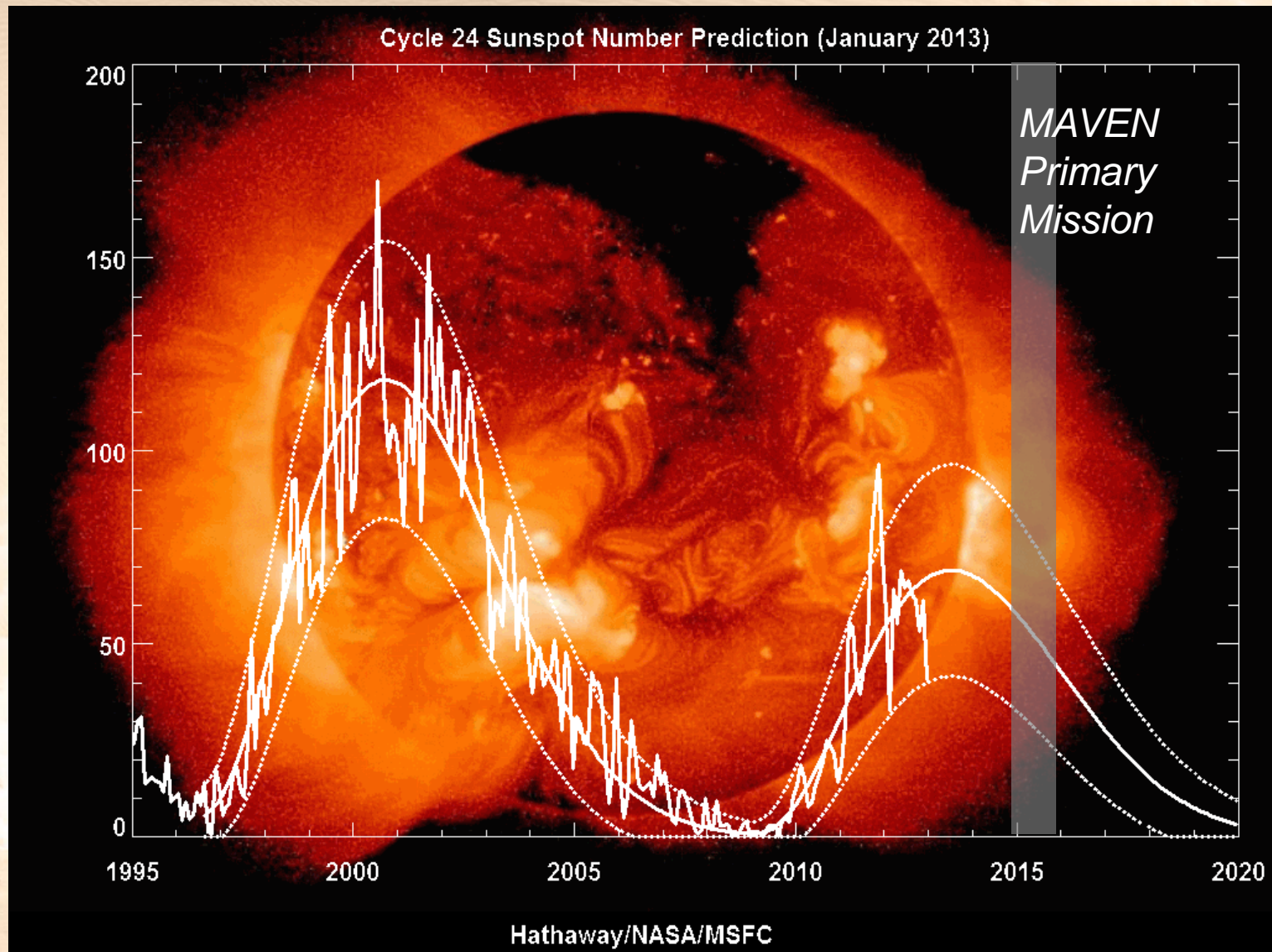
- Determine the structure and composition of the Martian upper atmosphere today
- Determine rates of loss of gas to space today
- Measure properties and processes that will allow us to determine the integrated loss to space through time



Turn-off of the Martian magnetic field allowed turn-on of solar-EUV and solar-wind stripping of the atmosphere approximately 3.7 billion years ago, resulting in the present thin, cold atmosphere.

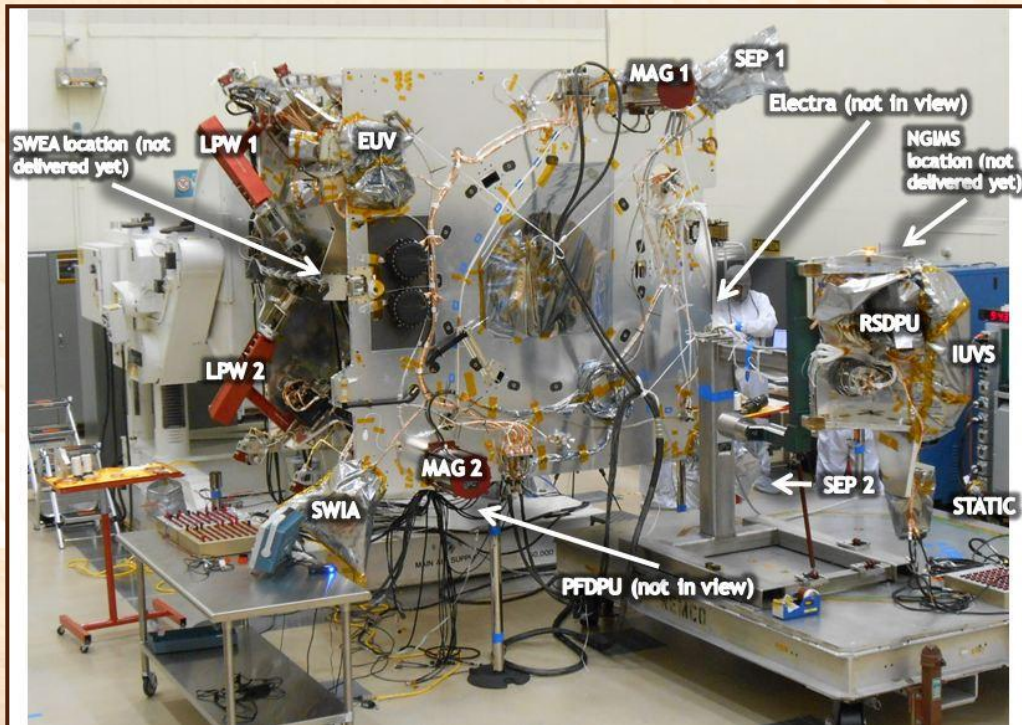


MAVEN's Timing in the Solar Cycle



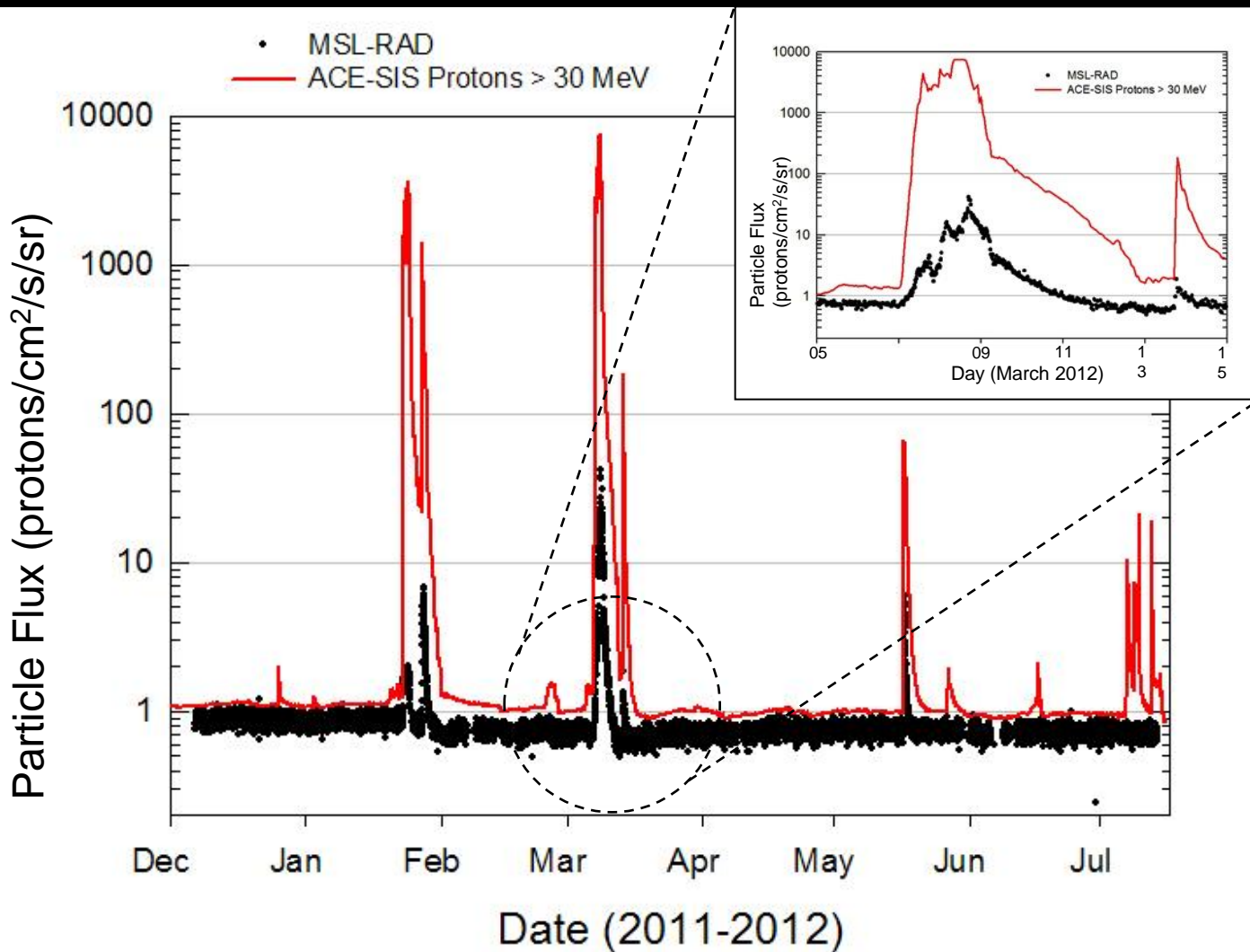
MAVEN in ATLO

- Eight of ten payloads integrated.
 - SWEA shipping this week
- Testing
 - Magnetic swing, modal survey and acoustics complete
 - Sine-vibe in progress
- On track for August ship to CCAFS



MAHLI Self Portrait





RAD observed galactic cosmic rays and five solar energetic particle events

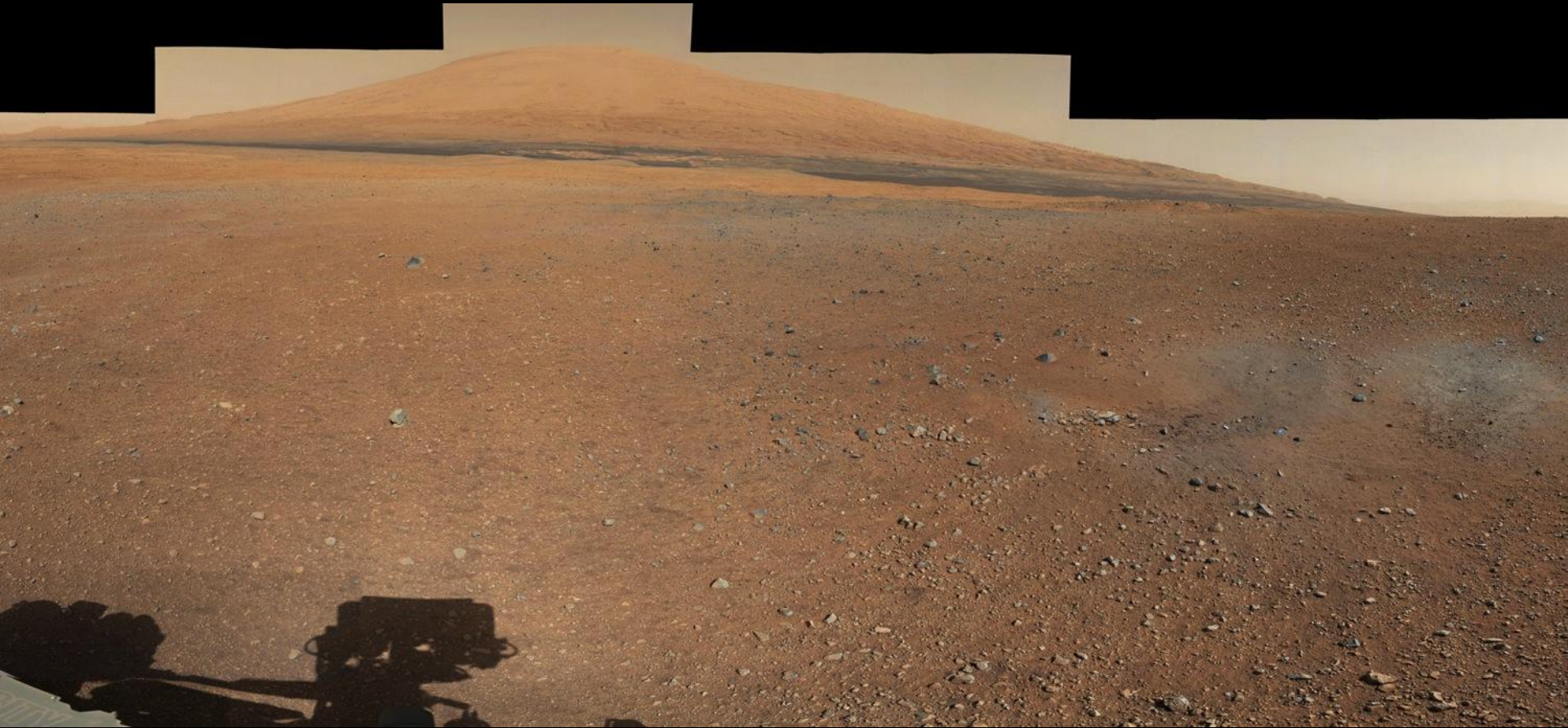
RAD was shielded by the spacecraft structure, reducing the observed particle flux relative to NASA's ACE satellite

RAD is now collecting the first measurements of the radiation environment on the surface of another planet

NASA/JPL-
Caltech/SwRI



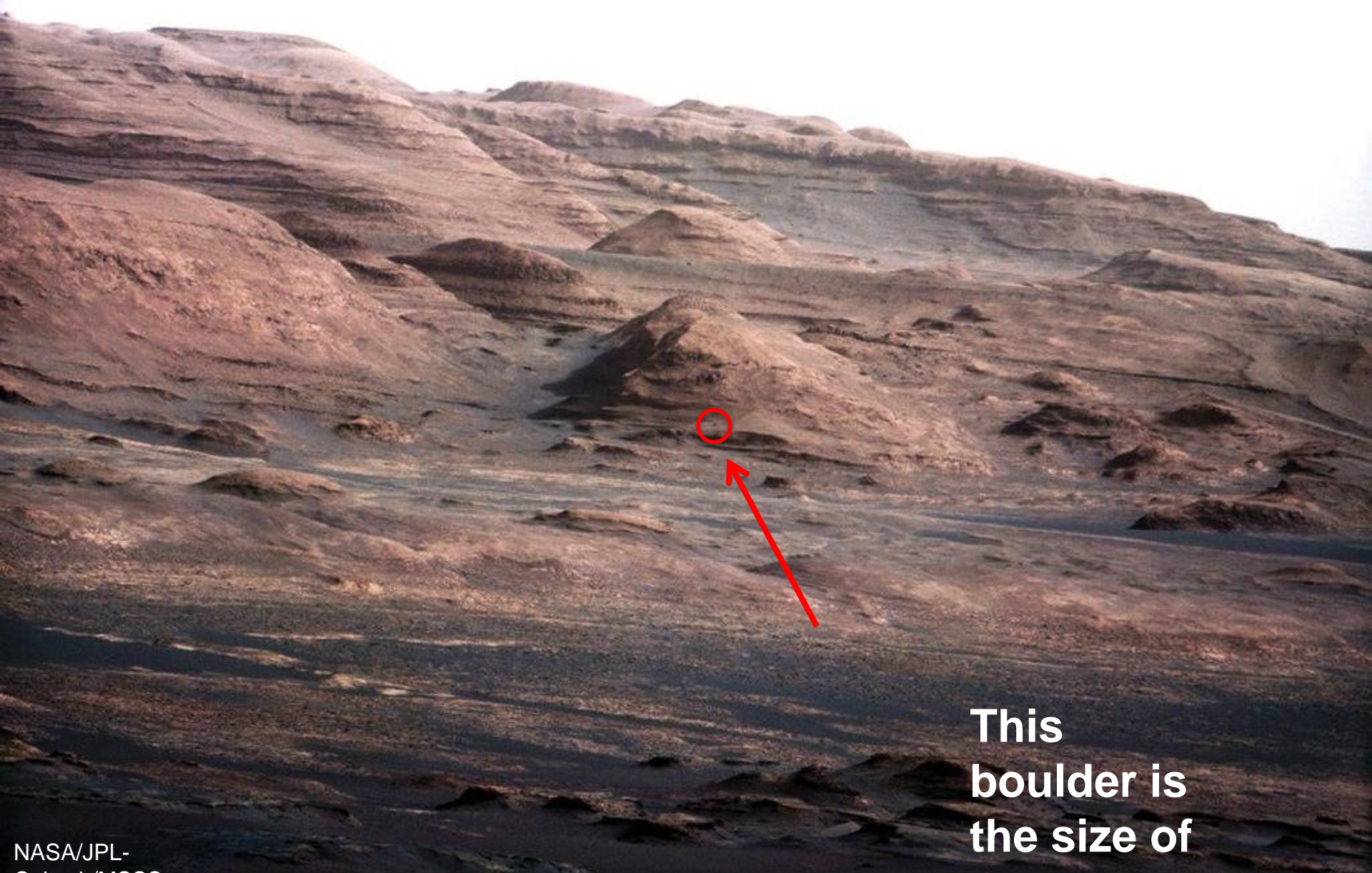
Curiosity's Radiation Assessment Detector operated throughout the cruise to Mars



NASA/JPL-
Caltech/MSSS

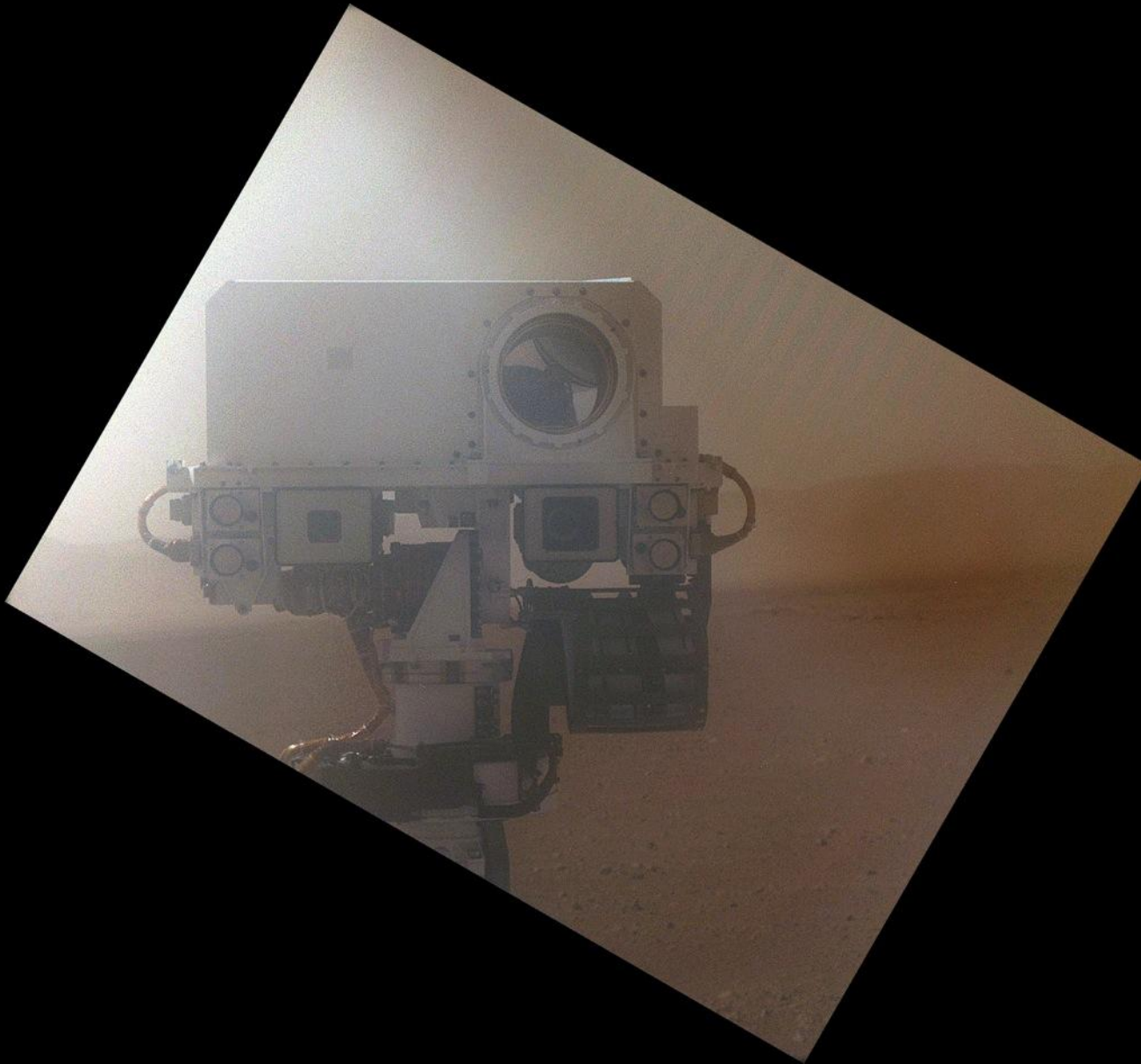


**Mastcam-34 mosaic of Mount Sharp, descent
rocket scours, and rover shadow**



This
boulder is
the size of
Curiosity

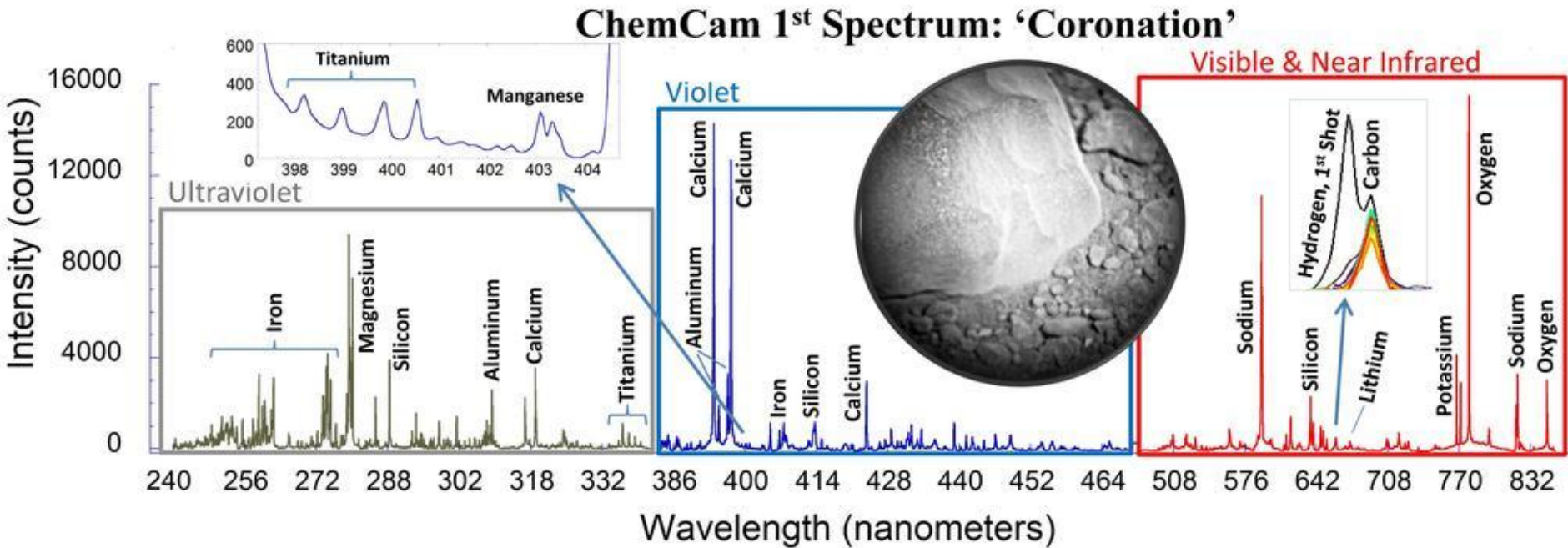
**Mastcam-100 image of Mount Sharp's layers,
canyons and buttes**



NASA/JPL-
Caltech/MSSS



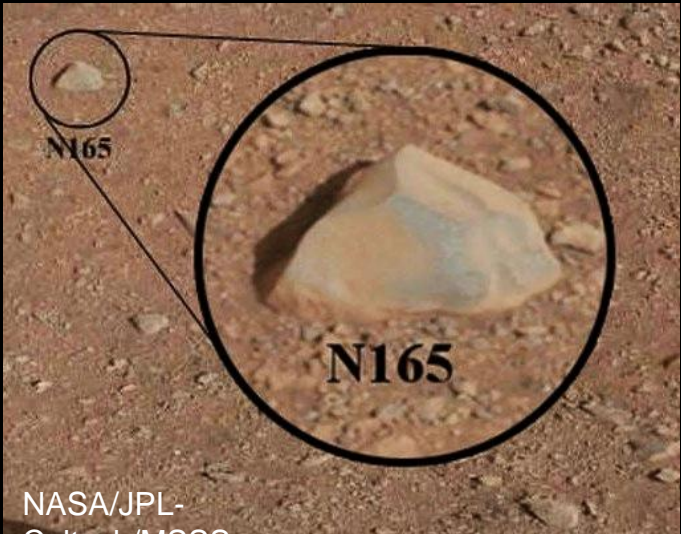
**Curiosity self-portrait using the arm-mounted
Mars Hand-Lens Imager, through dust cover**



NASA/JPL-

ChemCam spectra of Coronation

Target: Coronation (N165)
 Sol 13
 Shots: 30

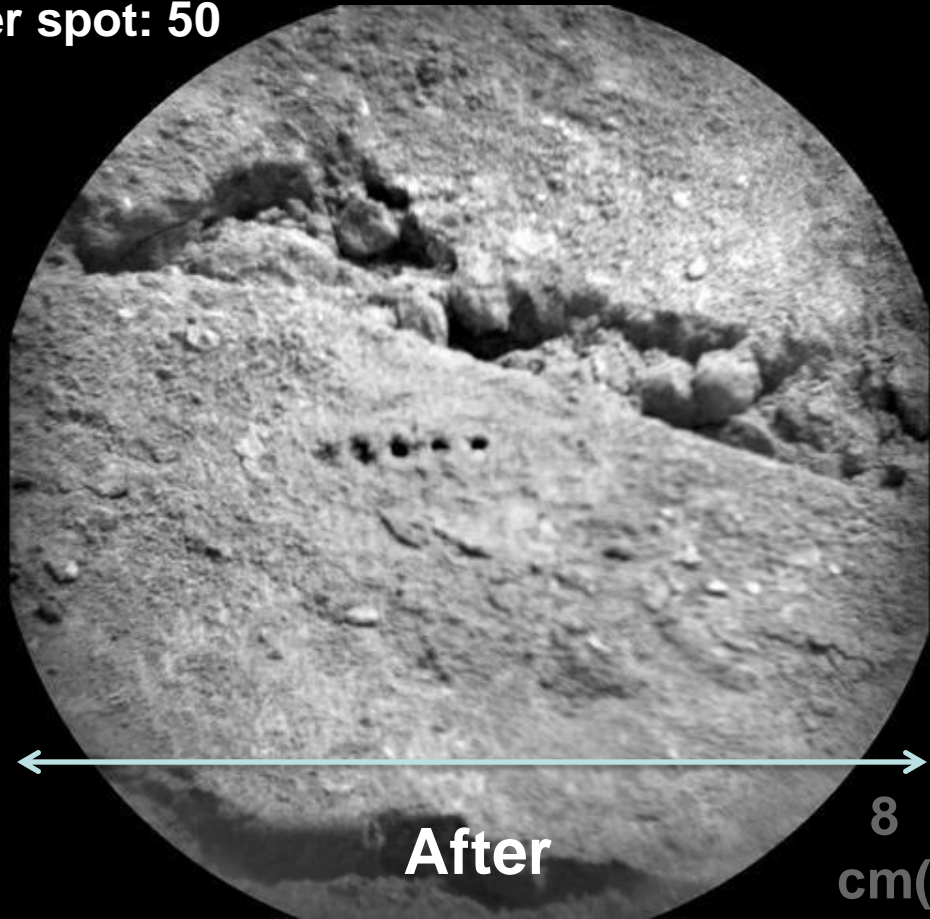


NASA/JPL-
 Caltech/MSSS

Target: Beechey (Sol 19)
Power: 1 Gigawatt
Shots per spot: 50



Before



After

8
cm(
3")

NASA/JPL-
Caltech/LANL/CNES/IRAP/LPGN/CNRS



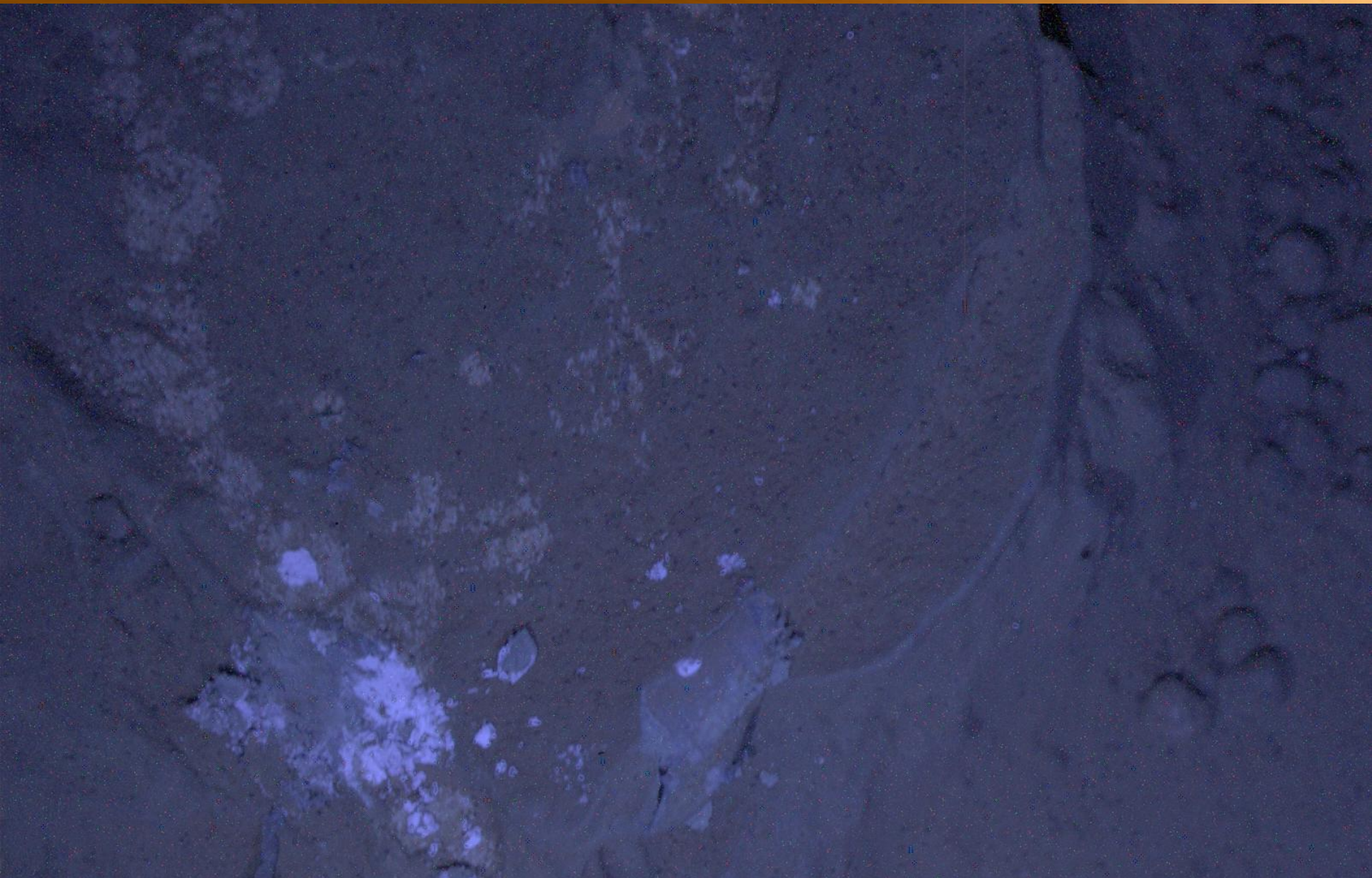
**ChemCam's laser induced breakdown
spectrometer acquires a 5-spot raster**

MAHLI – white LED

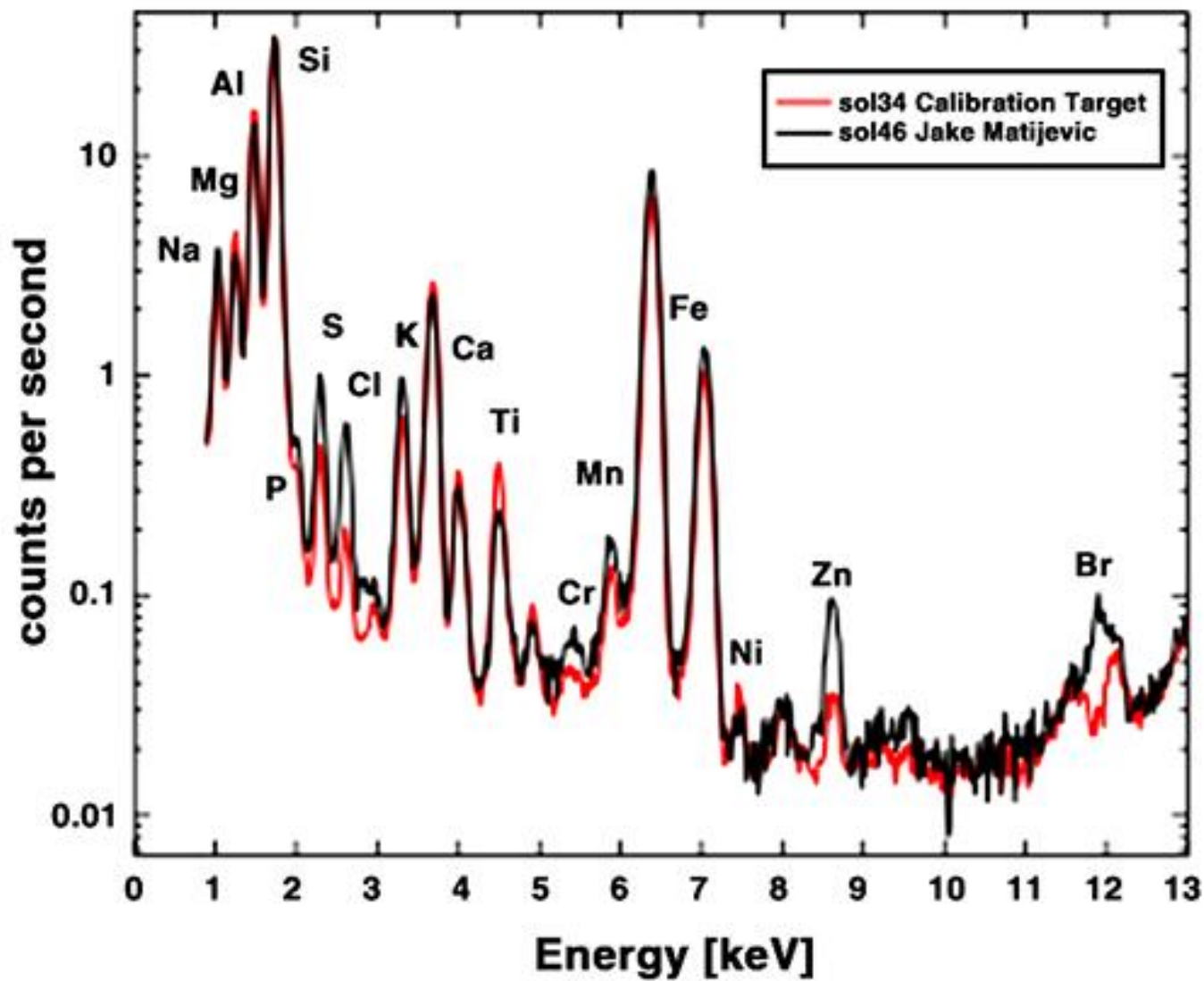




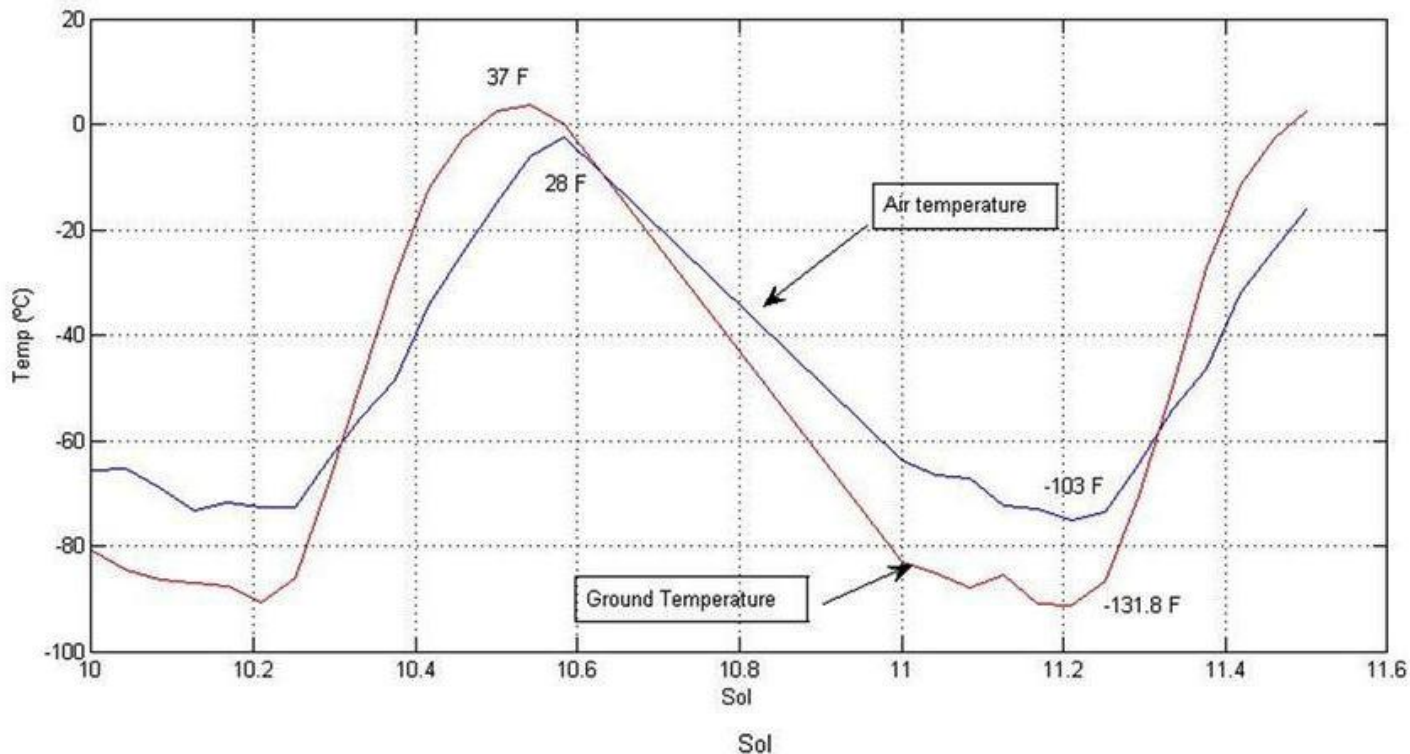
MAHLI – UV LED



APXS



GROUND AND AIR TEMPERATURE SENSOR



REMS' ground and air temperature sensors are located on small booms on the rover's mast

The ground temperature changes by 90° C (170 degrees Fahrenheit) between day and night

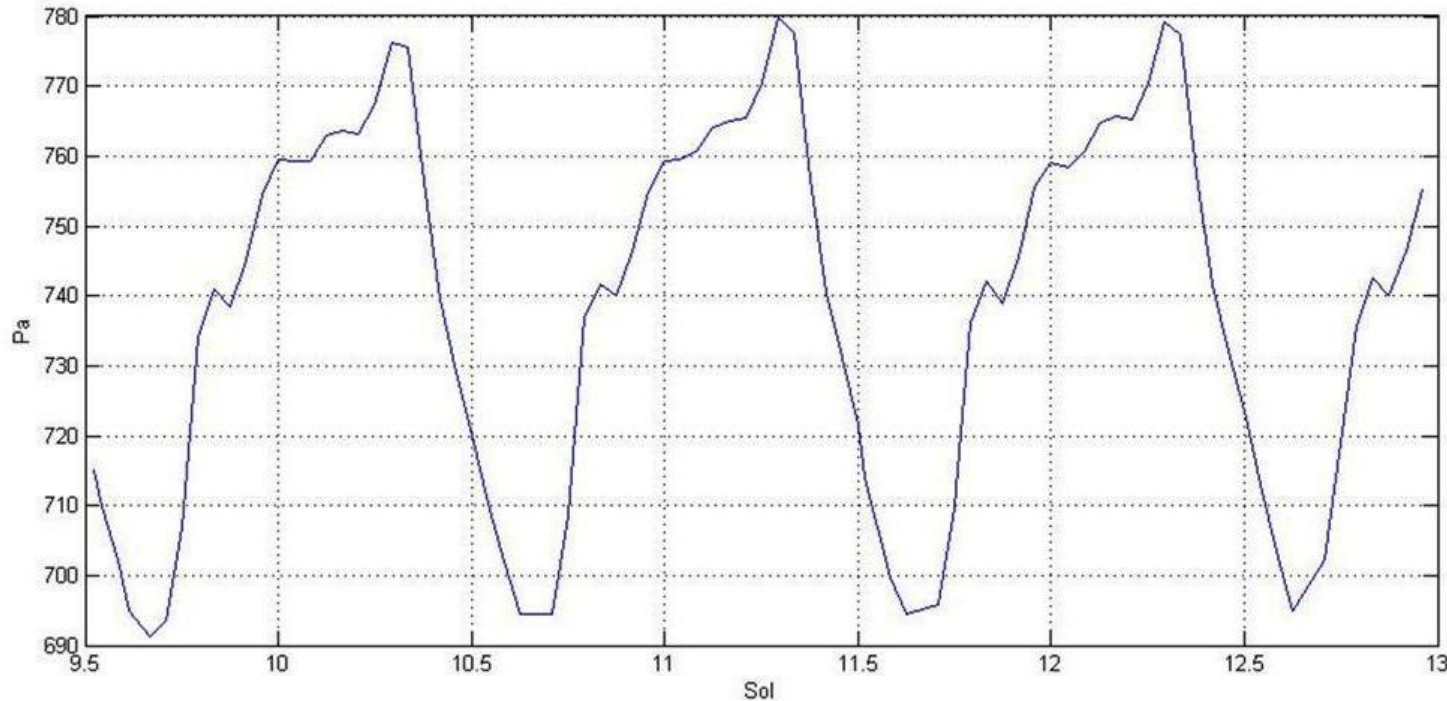
The air is warmer than the ground at night, and cooler during the morning, before it is heated by the ground

NASA/JPL-Caltech/CAB(CSIC-INTA)



Curiosity's Rover Environmental Monitoring Station is taking weather readings 24 × 7

PRESSURE SENSOR



REMS' pressure sensor is located inside the rover's body

Each day the pressure varies by over 10%, similar to the change in pressure between Los Angeles and Denver

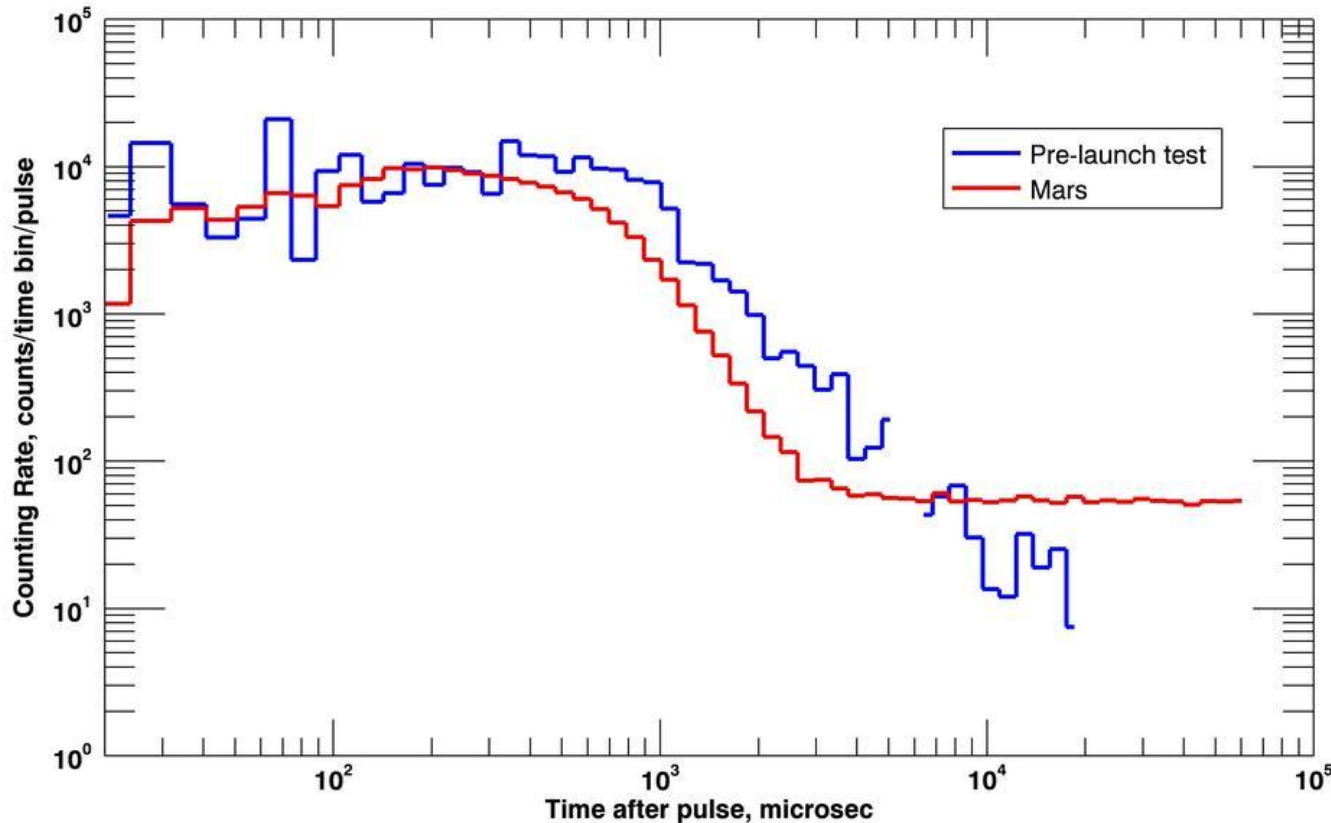
Solar heating of the ground drives an atmospheric "tidal wave" that sweeps across the planet each day

NASA/JPL-Caltech/CAB(CSIC-INTA)

Earth's atmosphere = 101,325 Pascals, or about 140 times the pressure at Gale Crater



Curiosity's Rover Environmental Monitoring Station is taking weather readings 24 × 7



DAN sends ten million neutrons into the ground, ten times a second

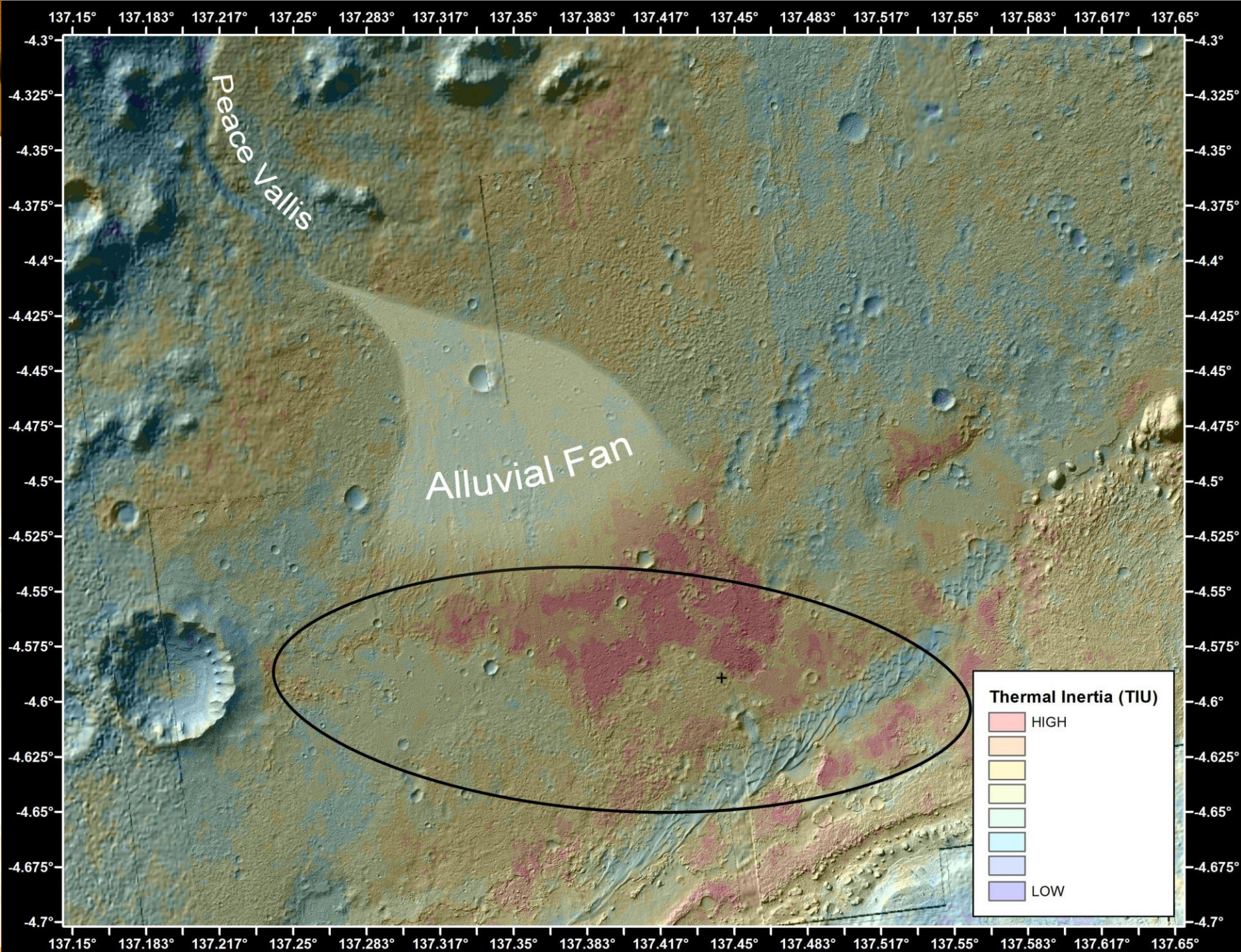
The “echo” back is recorded. If hydrogen is present in the ground, perhaps in aqueous minerals, some neutrons will collide and lose energy

DAN is used to survey the upper one meter of the ground below the rover as it drives along

NASA/JPL-Caltech/Russian Space Research Institute



Curiosity's Dynamic Albedo of Neutrons experiment sounds the ground for hydrogen

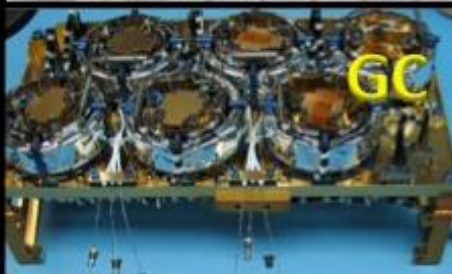
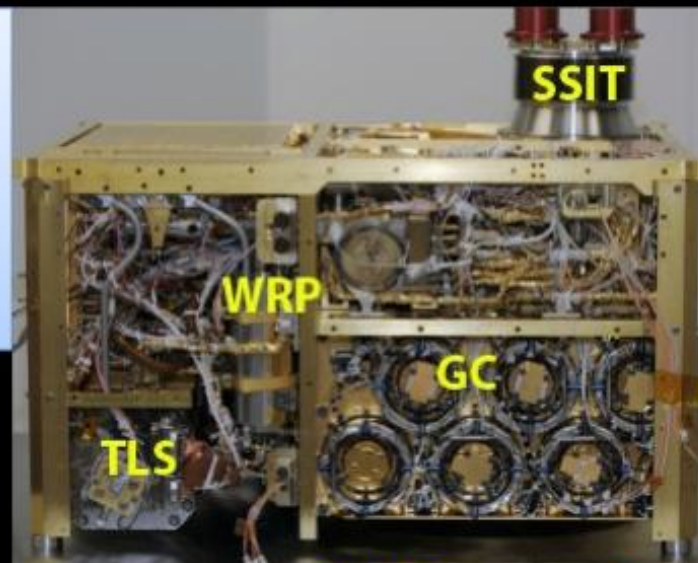


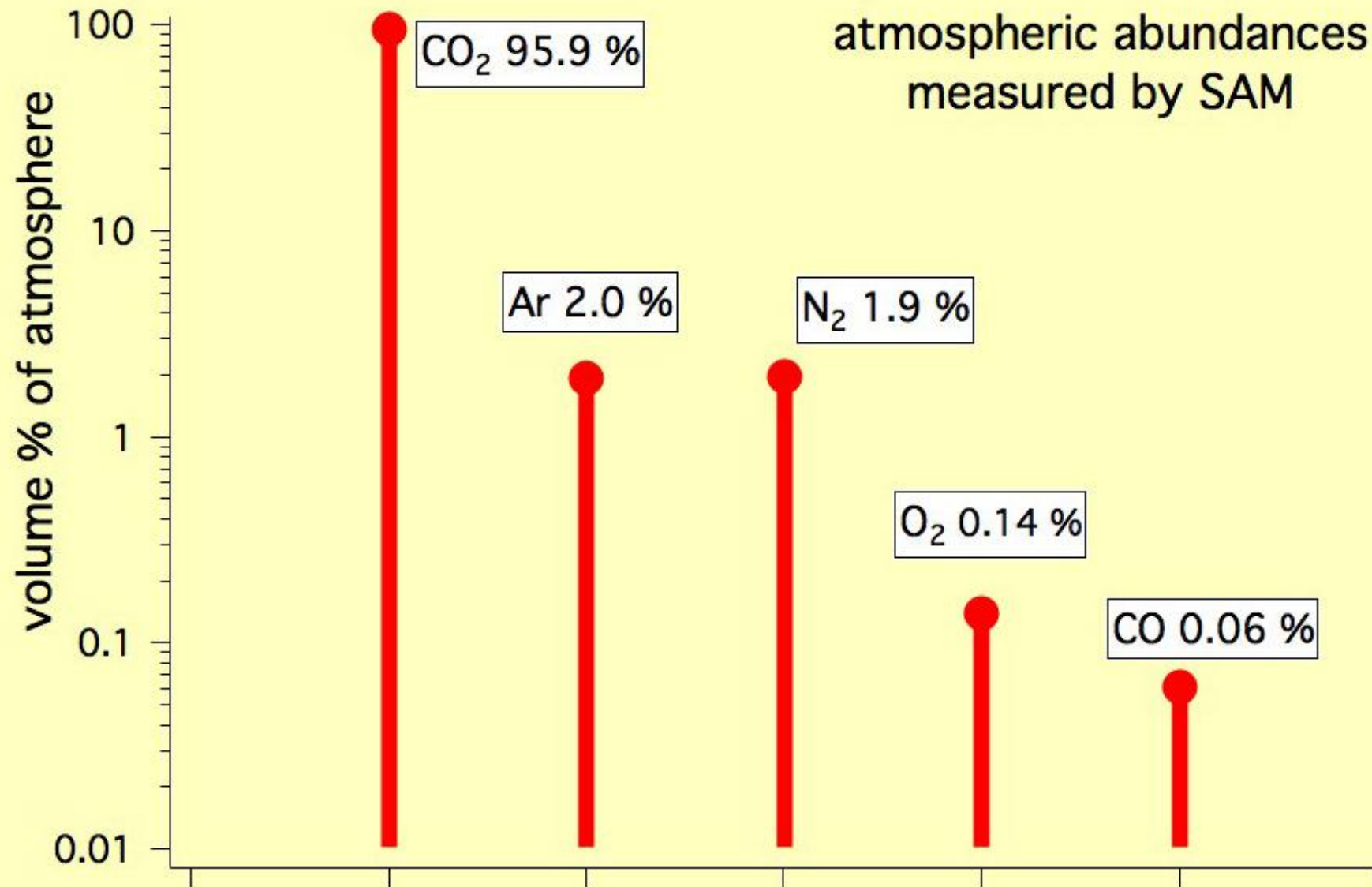


The SAM suite

SAM suite instruments and major subsystems

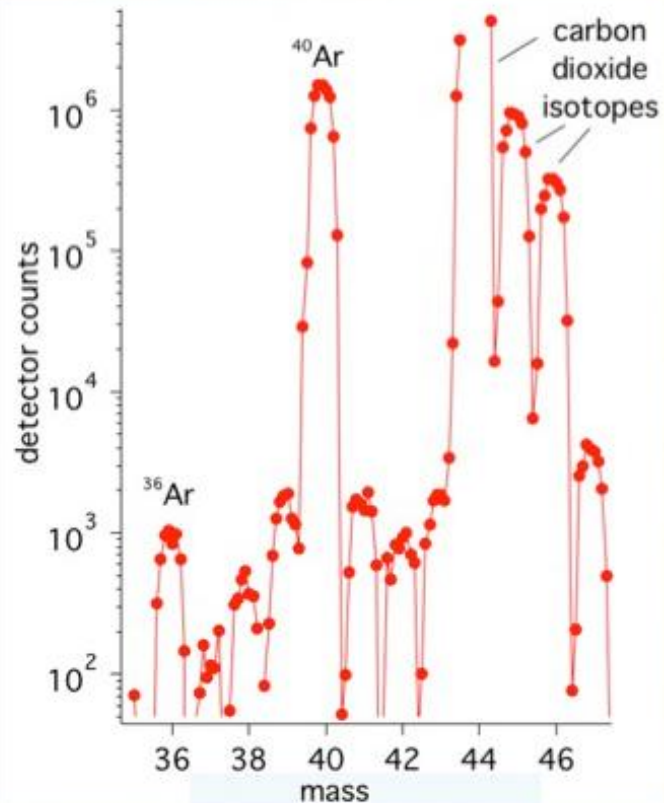
- Quadrupole Mass Spectrometer
- 6-column Gas Chromatograph
- 2-channel Tunable Laser Spectrometer
- Gas Processing System
- Sample Manipulation System





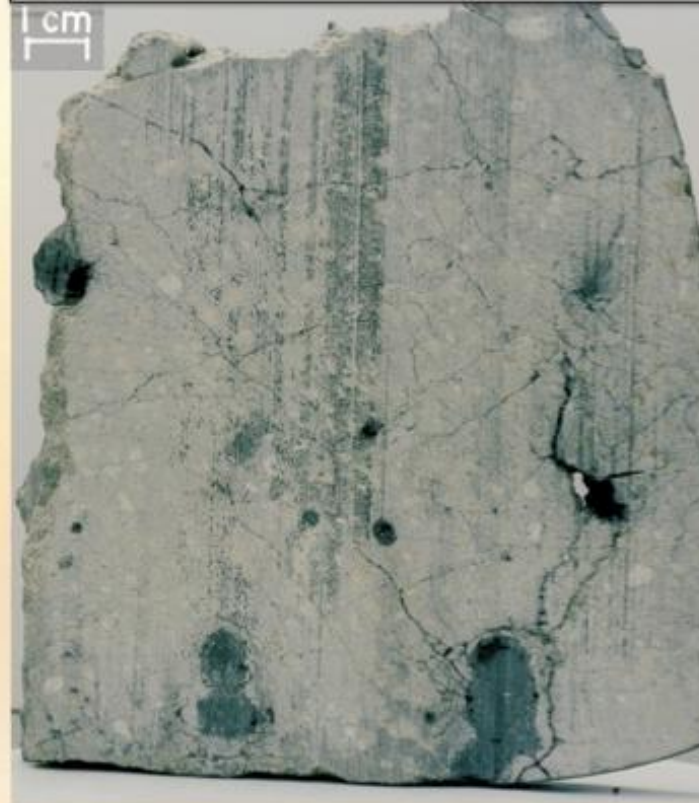
Weighing Molecules on Mars

SAM atmospheric measurements



Martian meteorite EETA79001

image credit NASA JSC Astromaterials Curation

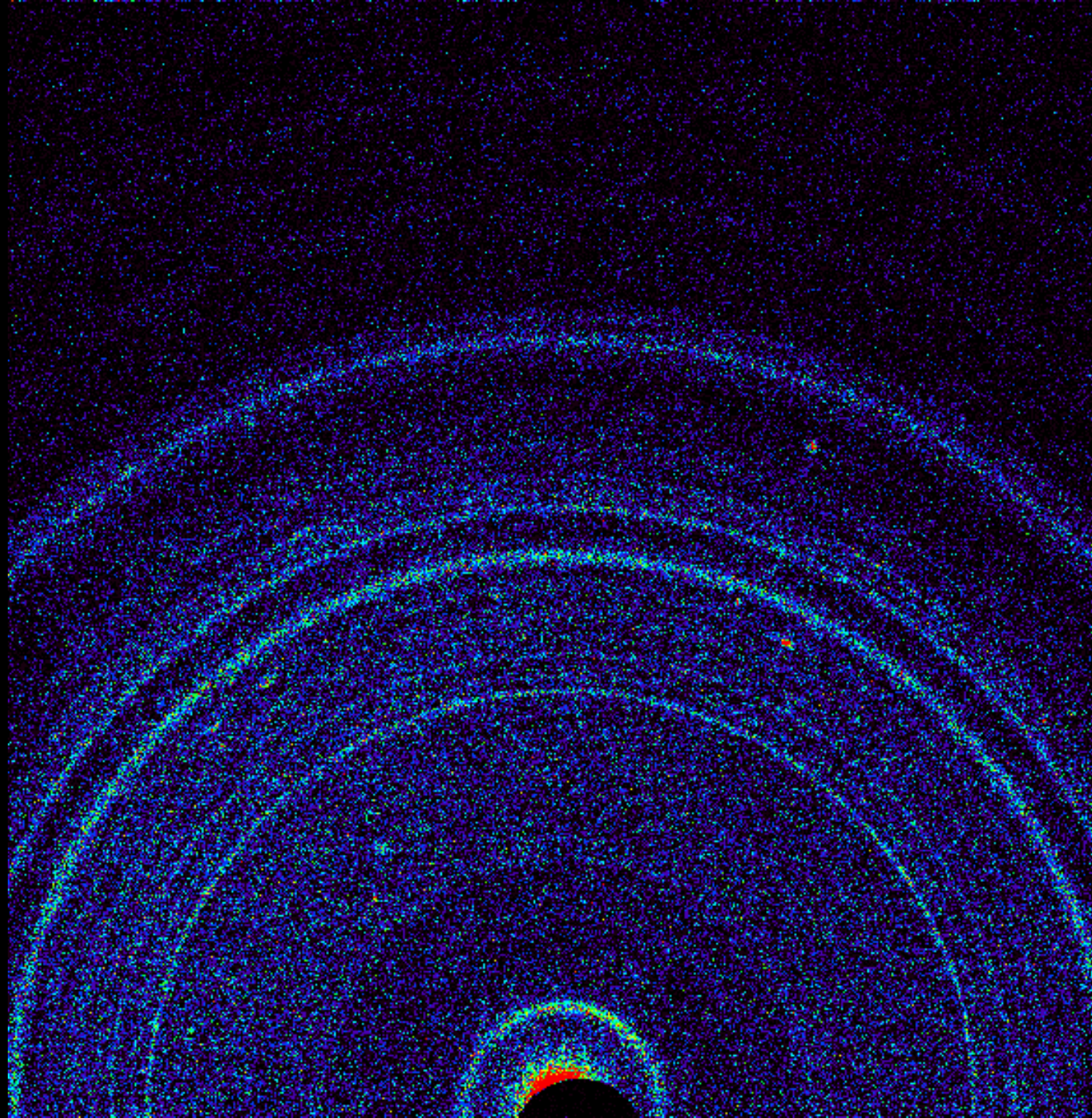


Rocknest





CheMin
2D X-Ray
Diffraction
Pattern of
Rocknest Soil



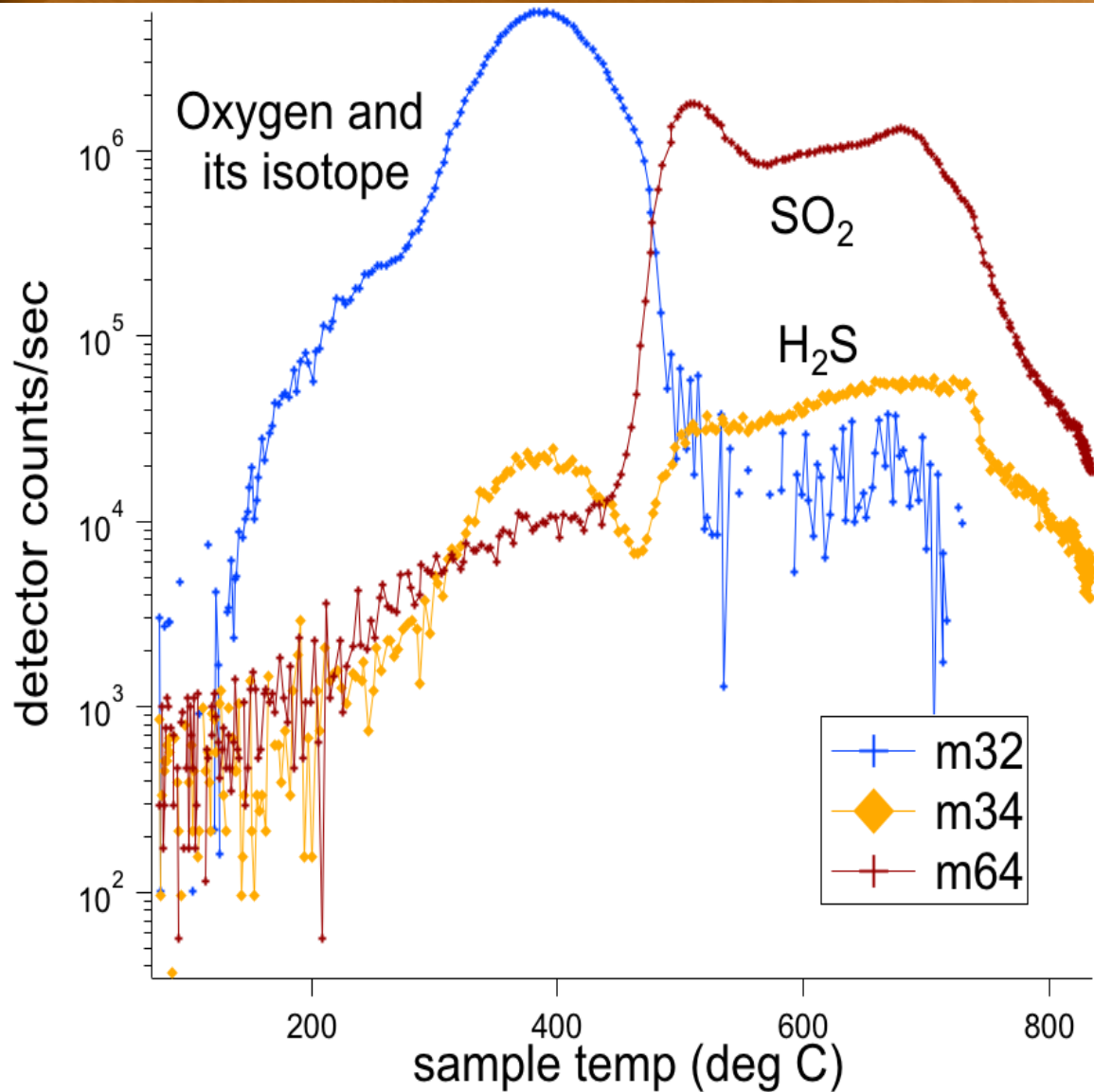
CheMin: X-ray Diffraction, from Big to Small



**Physics meets Art:
NASA Helps Check out
King Tut's Tomb**



O, S, and N compounds from Rocknest samples



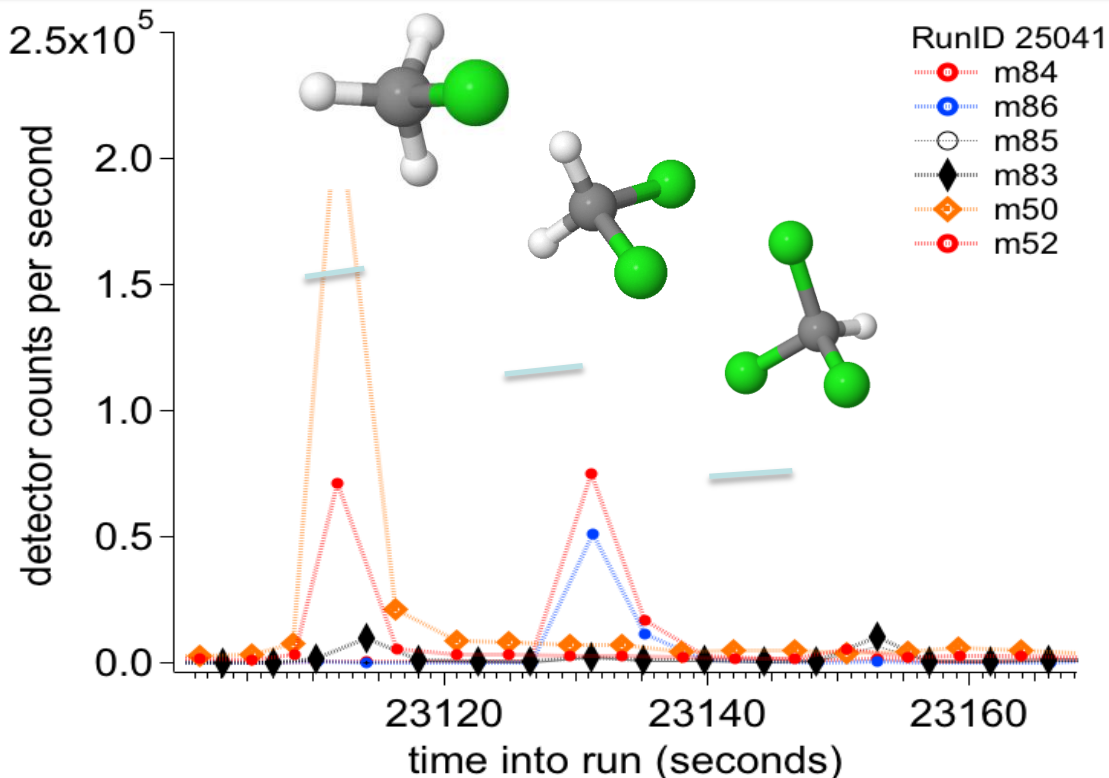
Evolved oxygen could be from decomposition of a perchlorate such as $\text{Ca}(\text{ClO}_4)_2$. Since it is hydroscopic some of the released water may be from its tetrahydrate.

Higher temperature S containing compounds indicate the presence of sulfates or sulfides.

Trace levels of N containing compounds are present as both HCN and NO.

Just a few chlorinated organic compounds are found in Rocknest

Chlorine compounds found in Rocknest



Rocknest compounds

- Chloromethane
 CH_3Cl
- Dichloromethane
 CH_2Cl_2
- Trichloromethane
 CHCl_3
- A 4-carbon Cl containing compound
- Abundance is parts per million by weight
- Detected in the GCMS runs & in the direct QMS sampling

Although the Cl in these compounds is Martian, the source of the carbon in these compounds as Martian or terrestrial remains to be established with future laboratory work and experiments on Mars

Yellowknife Bay



Yellowknife Bay



Point Lake





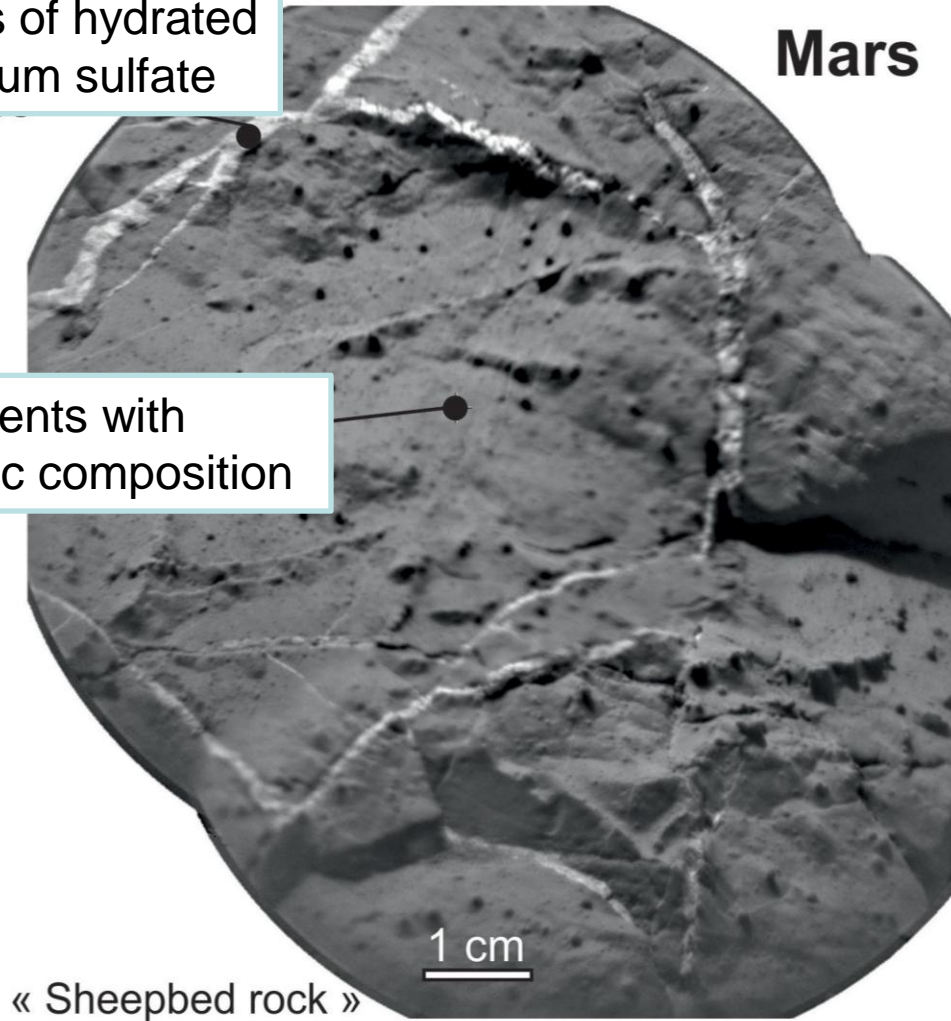
Sheepbed

Veins of hydrated
Calcium sulfate

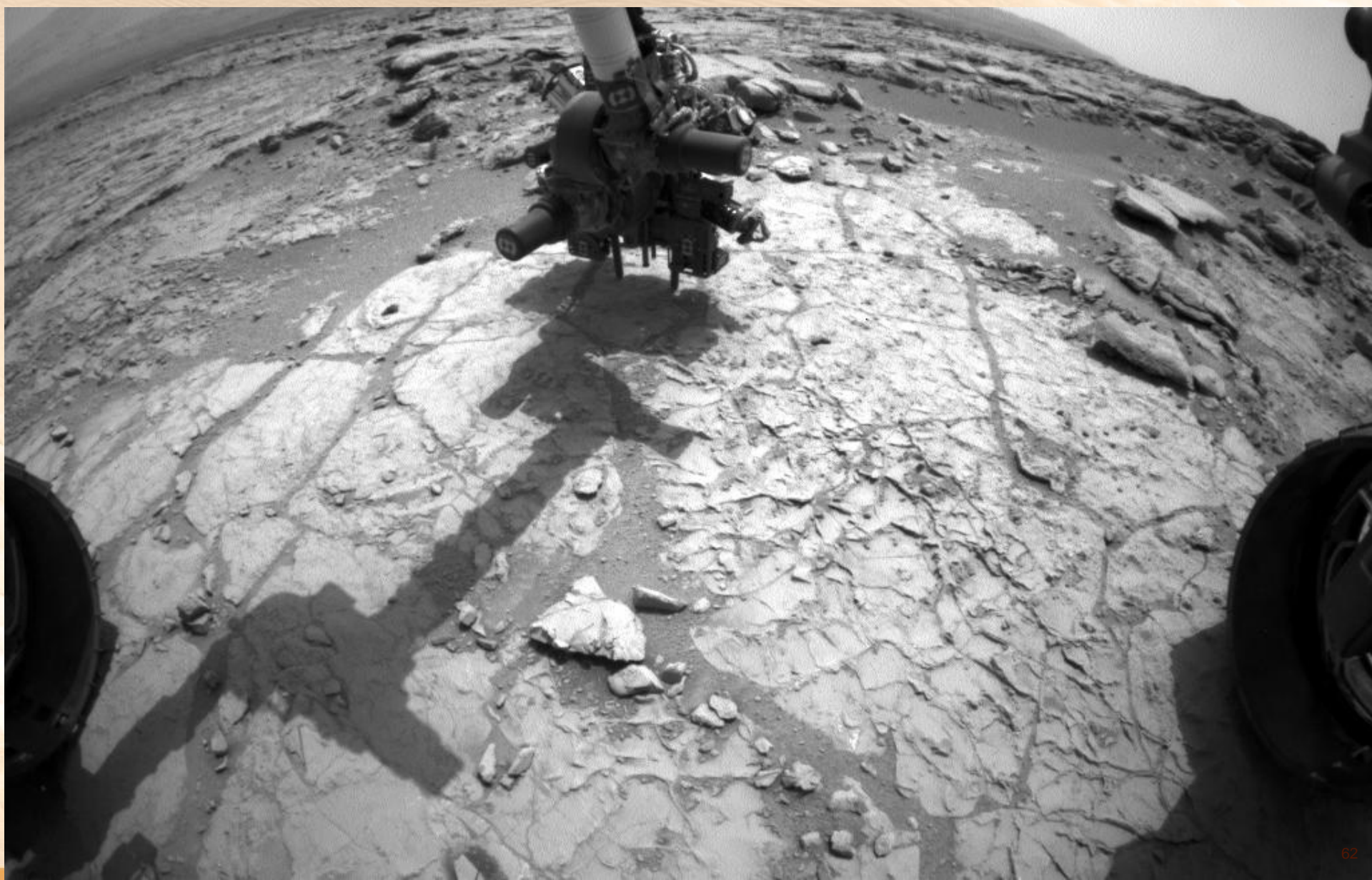
Mars

Earth

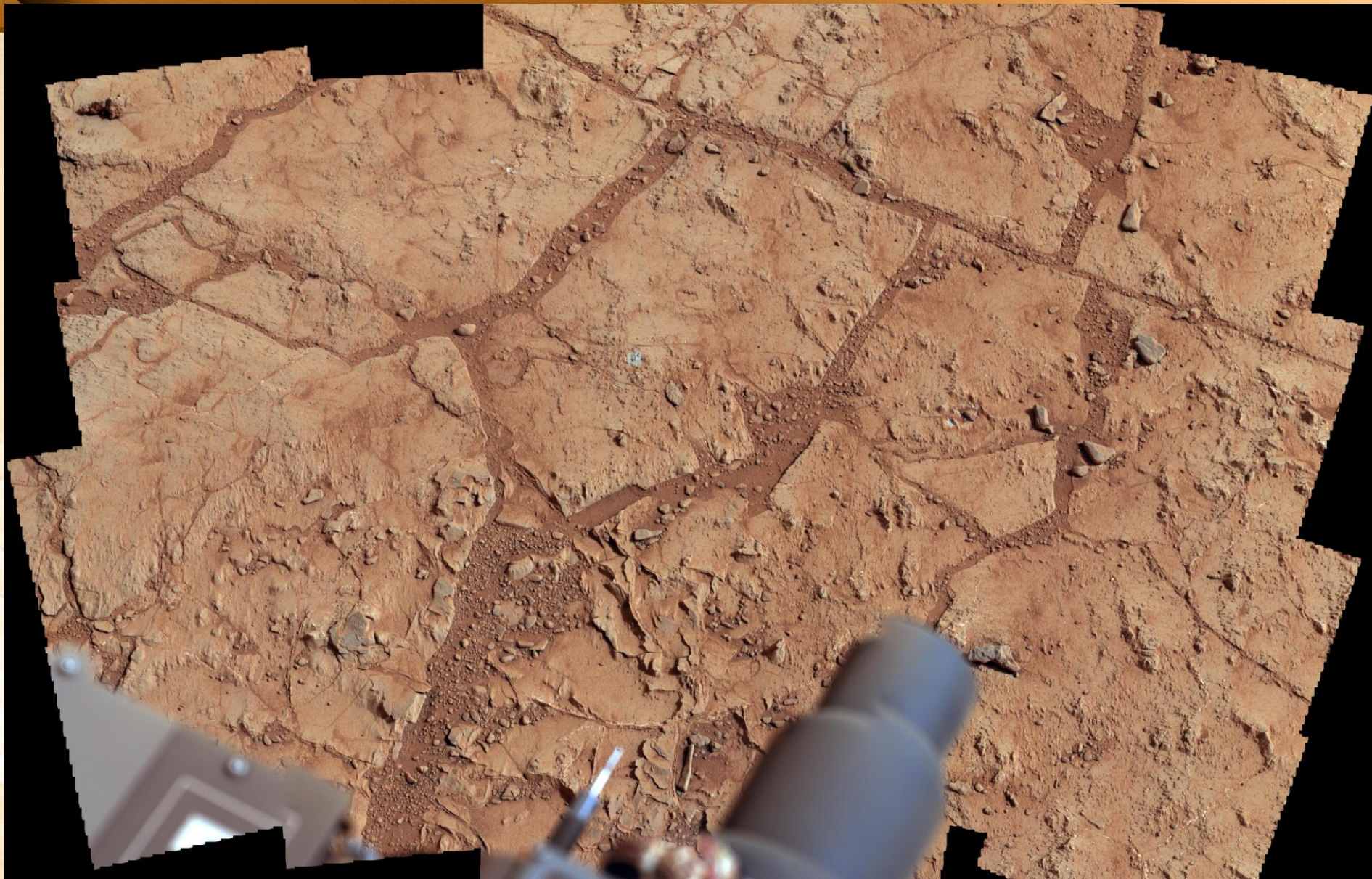
Sediments with
basaltic composition



Drill Loading Test

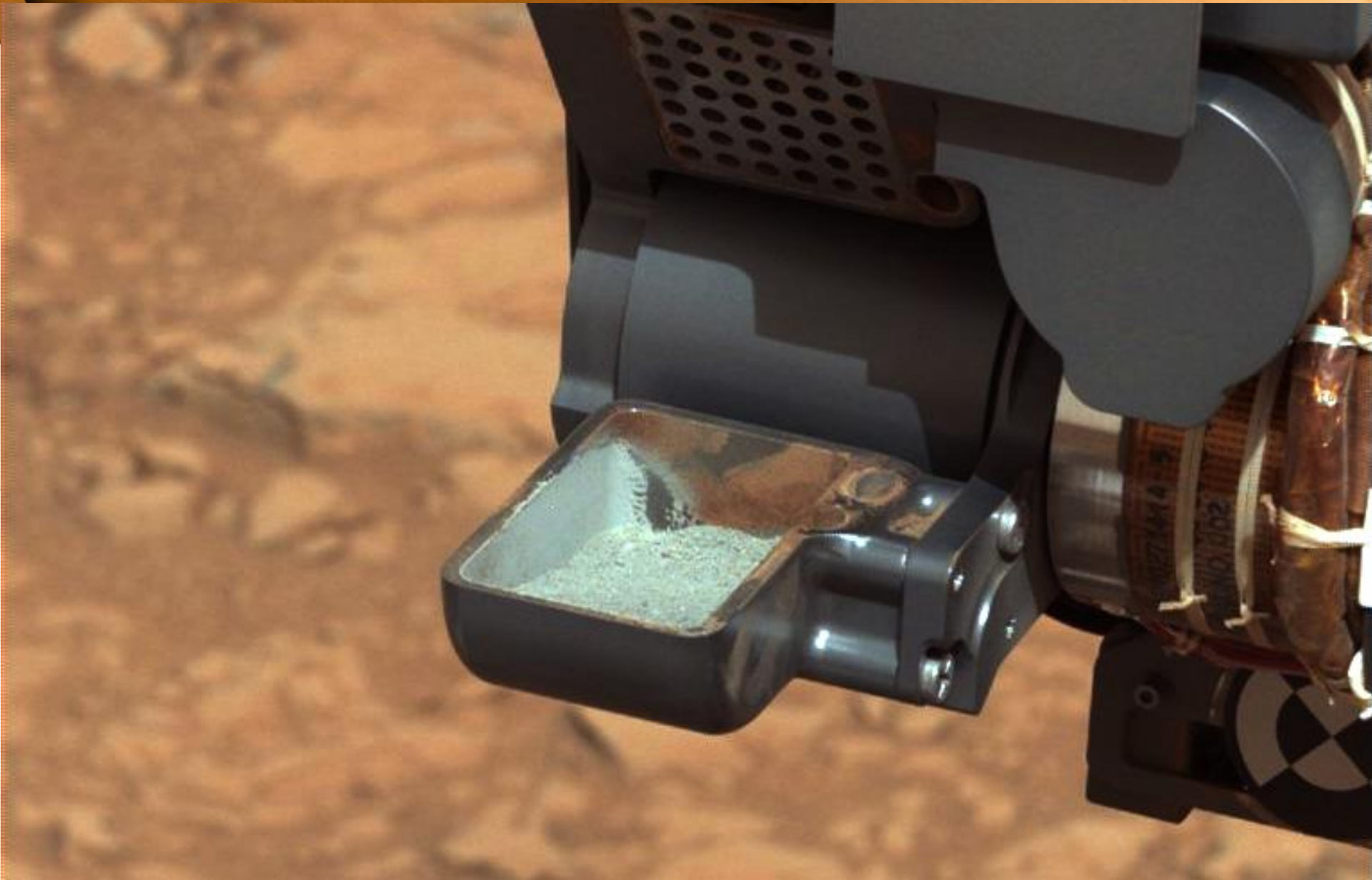


Drill Area

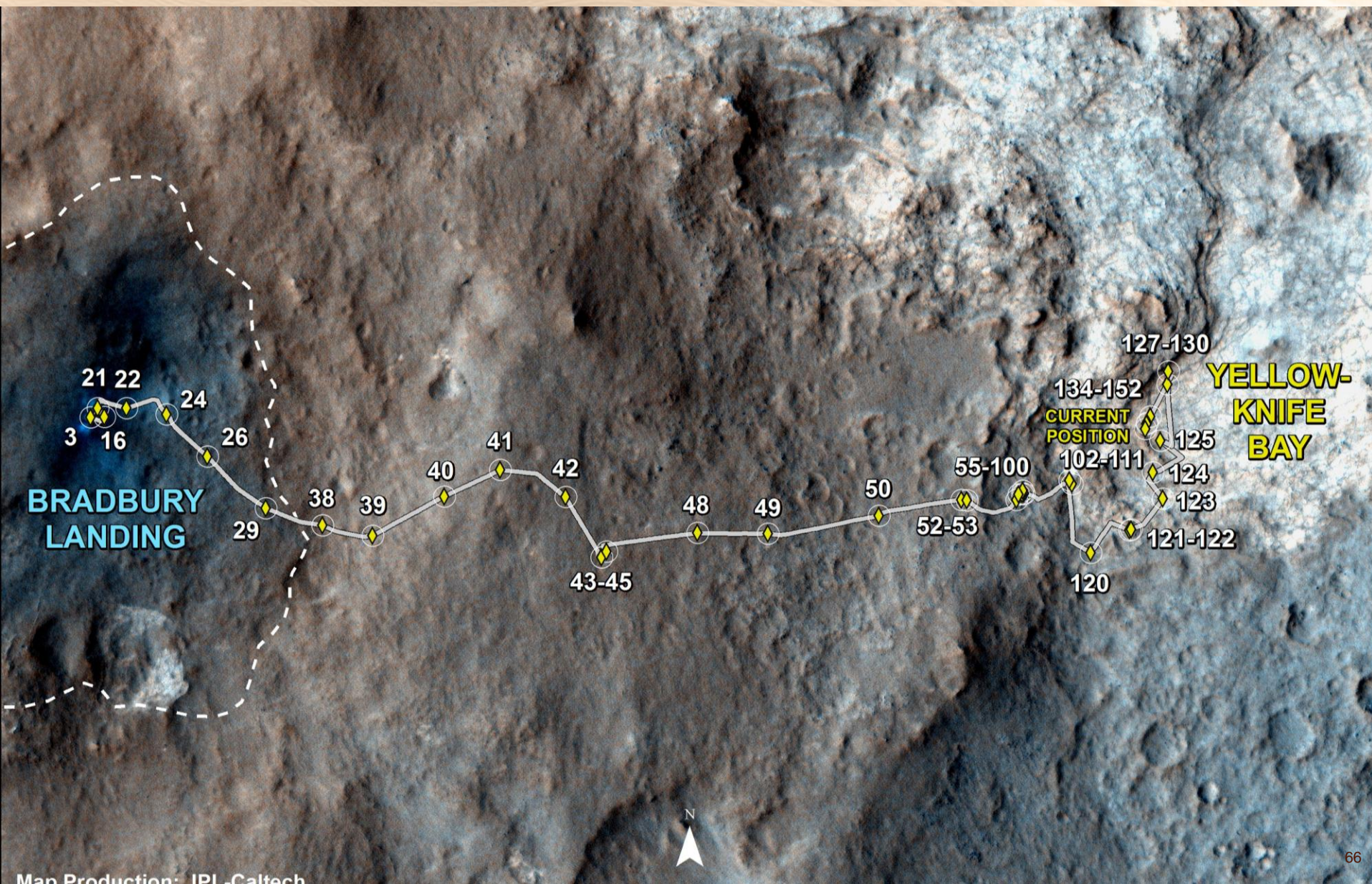




Drill Sample



Traverse Map Sol 152+

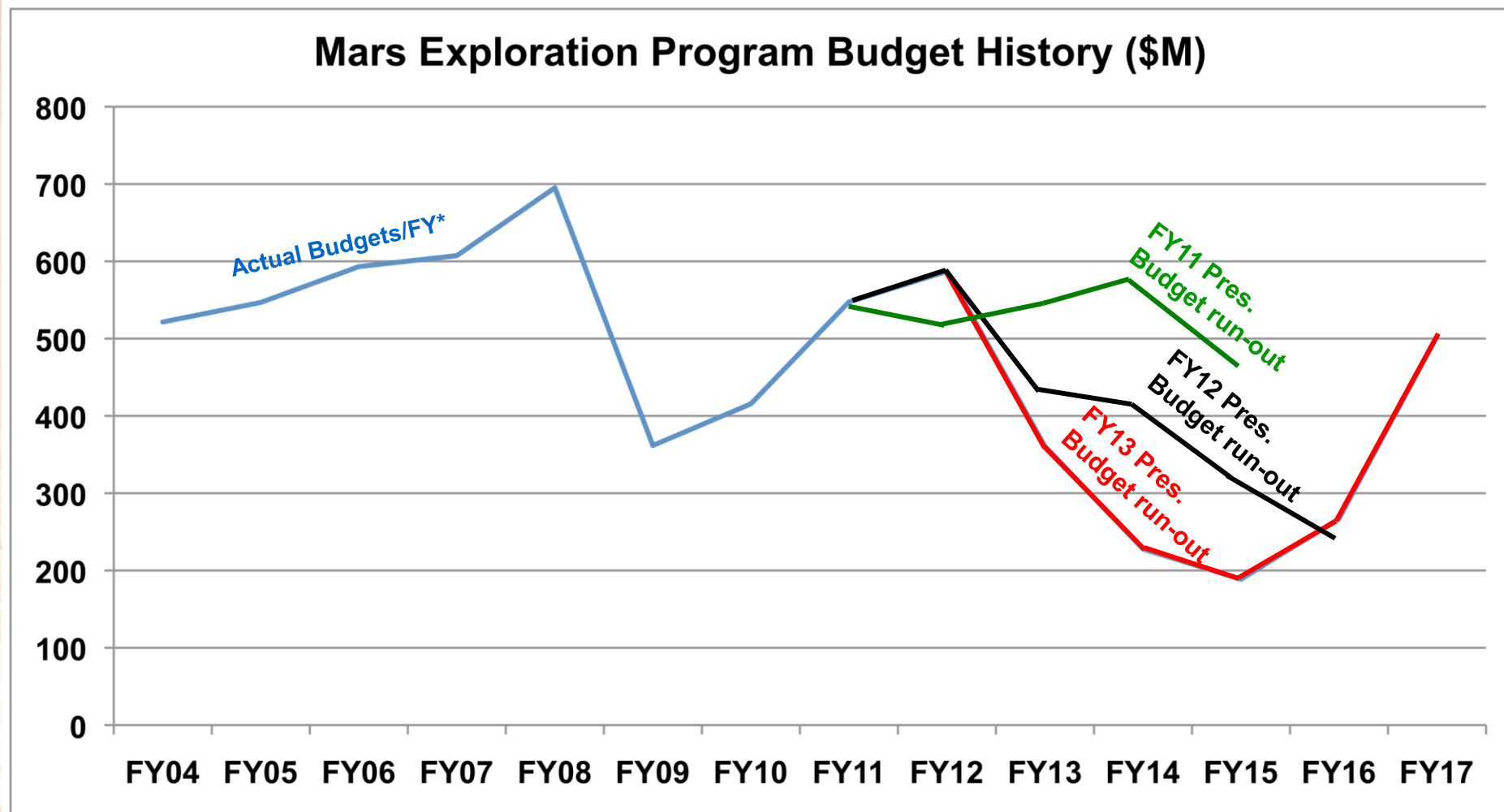




Backup



MEP Budget History Including President's FY13 Request



(*) actual based on last Op Plan of each Fiscal Year

