

# **The Moon**

**Some Recent Discoveries and a New Destination  
for America in Space**

Paul D. Spudis  
*Applied Physics Laboratory*

November 9, 2005

# Outline

**New findings from Clementine and Lunar Prospector missions**

**Composition of the lunar crust**

**South Pole-Aitken basin: Biggest crater on the Moon**

**The Lunar poles: the light, the dark, and the cold**

**A new destination in space**

# Clementine

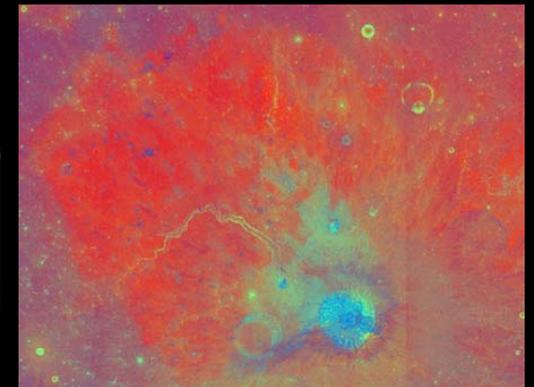
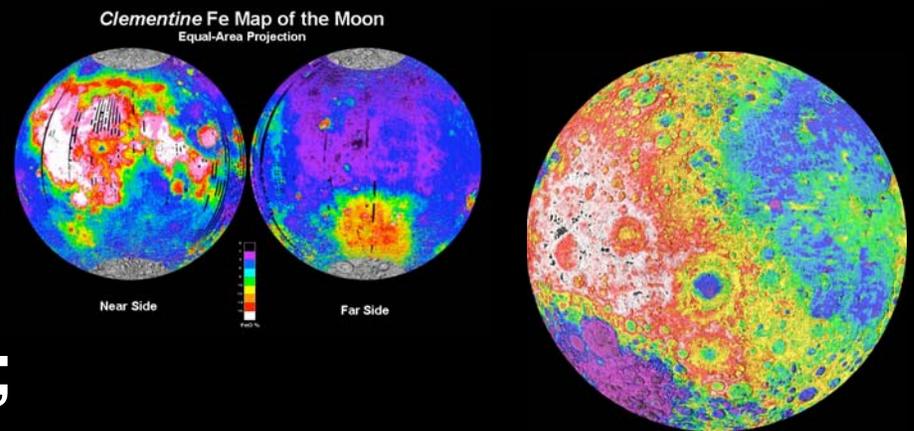
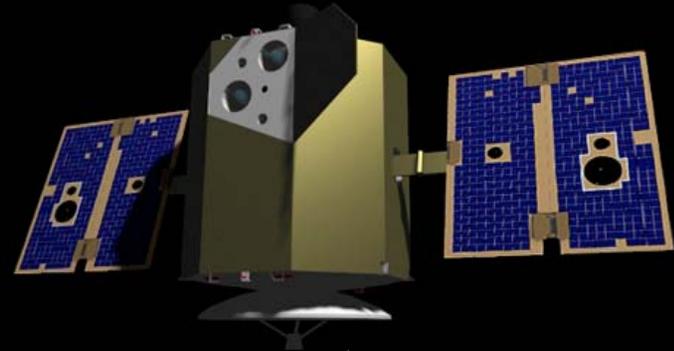
Launched Jan, 1994

Orbited Moon 71 days

Mapped surface in 11 colors in visible and near-IR

Mapped global topography

Bistatic radar experiment; evidence for ice at poles



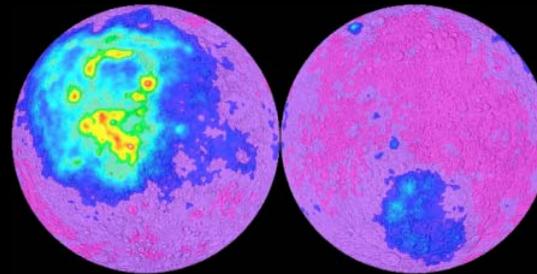
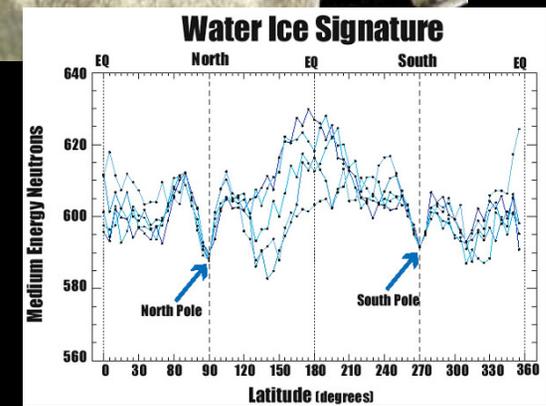
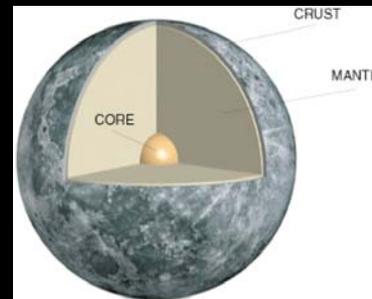
# Lunar Prospector

Launched Dec, 1997  
Orbited Moon for 18 months

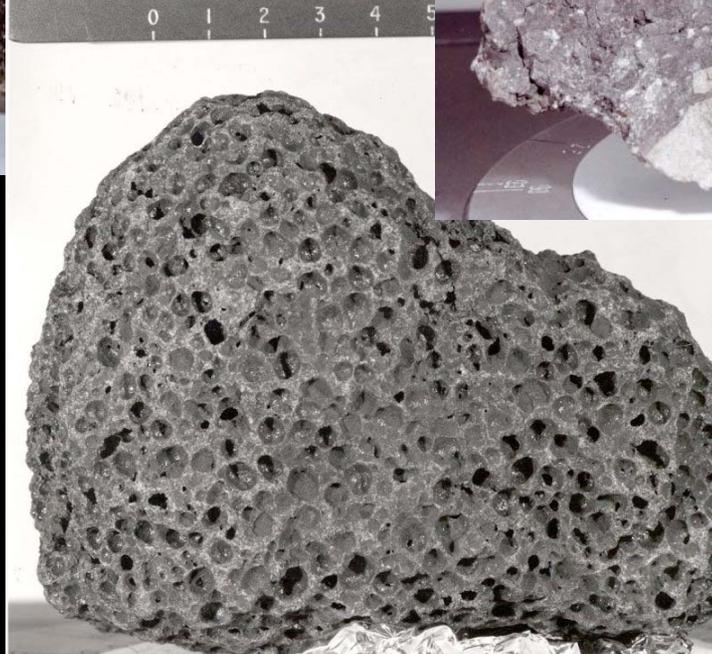
Mapped major (Fe, Ti) and trace elements (Th, Sm)

Mapped hydrogen content of soil

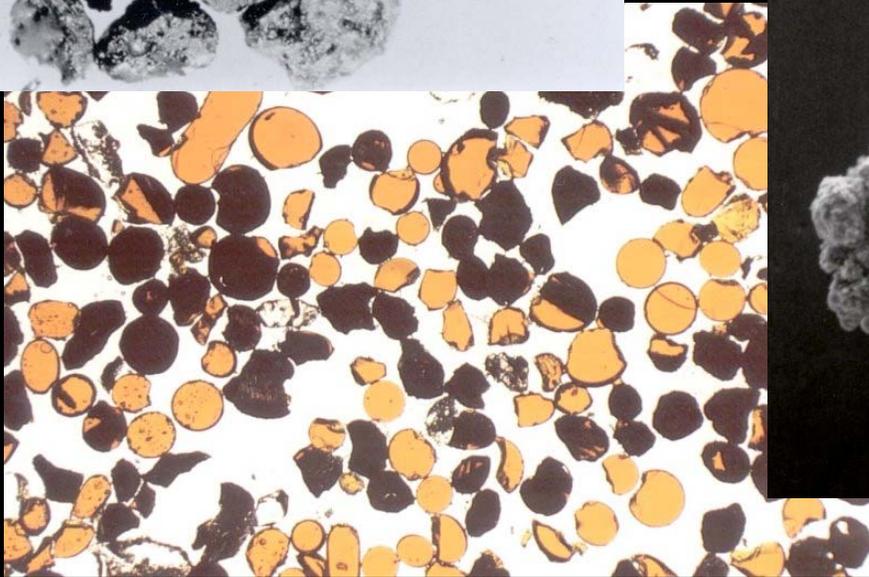
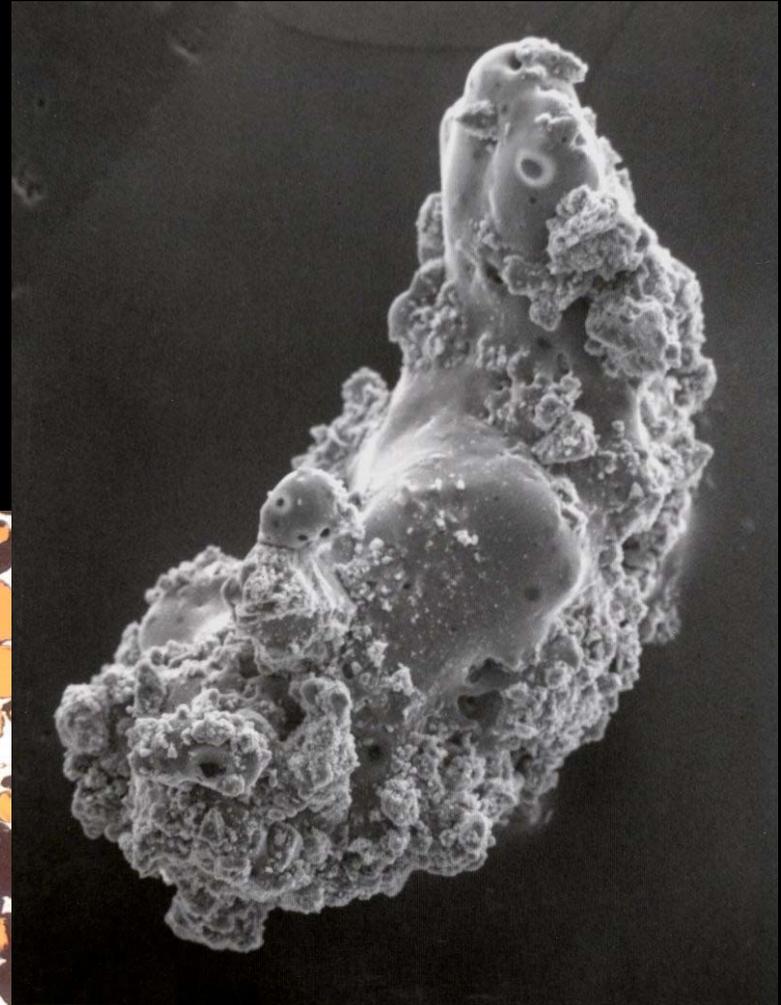
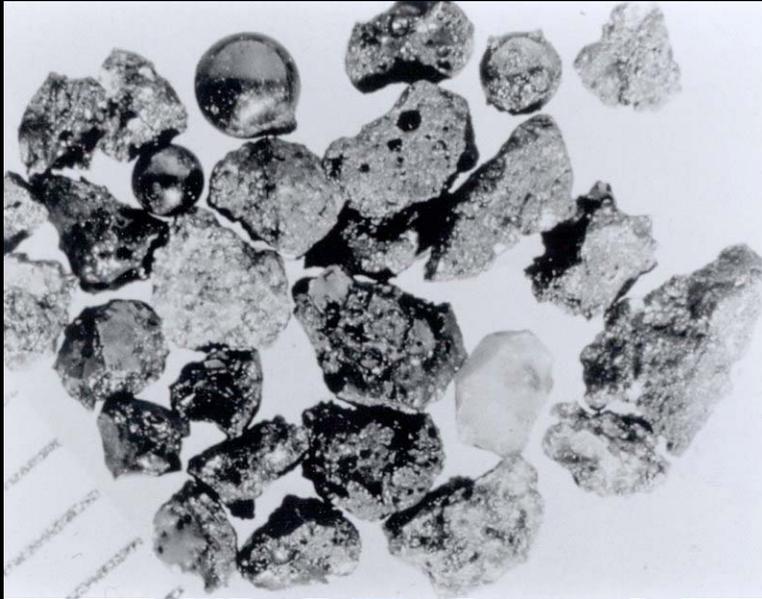
Mapped gravity and magnetic fields



# Types of Apollo samples - rocks

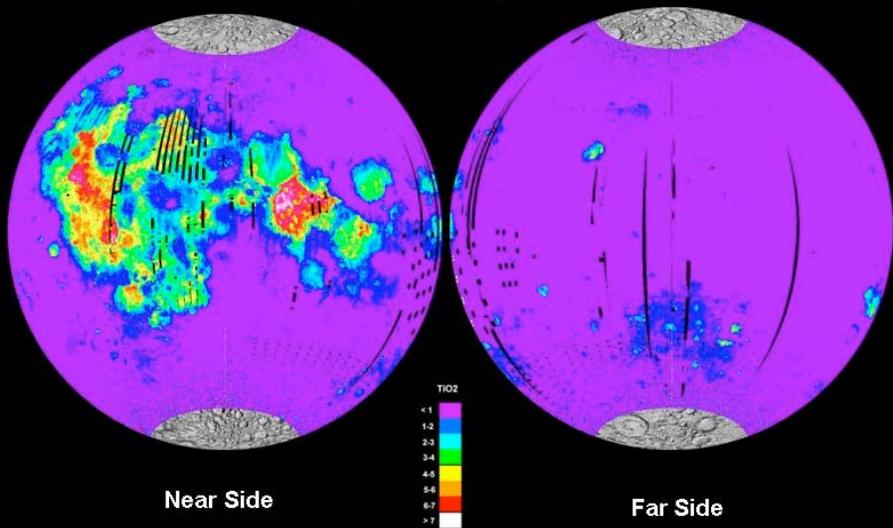


# Types of Apollo samples - regolith

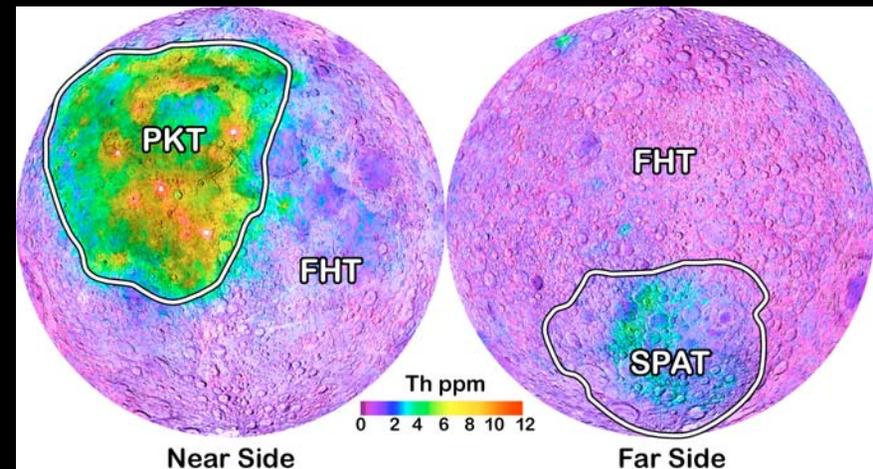
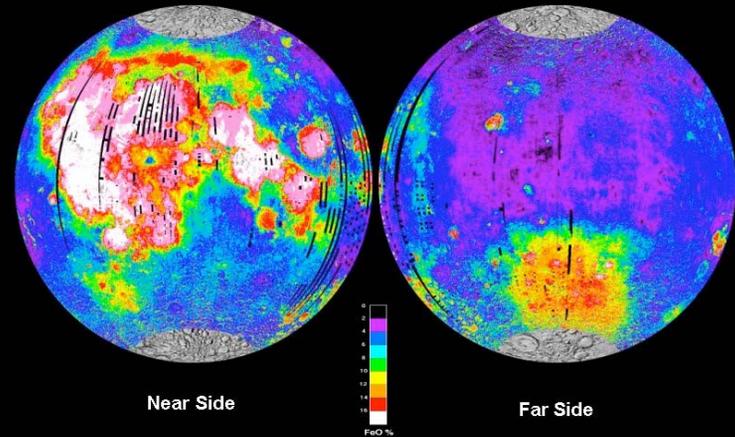


# Clementine and LP data sets

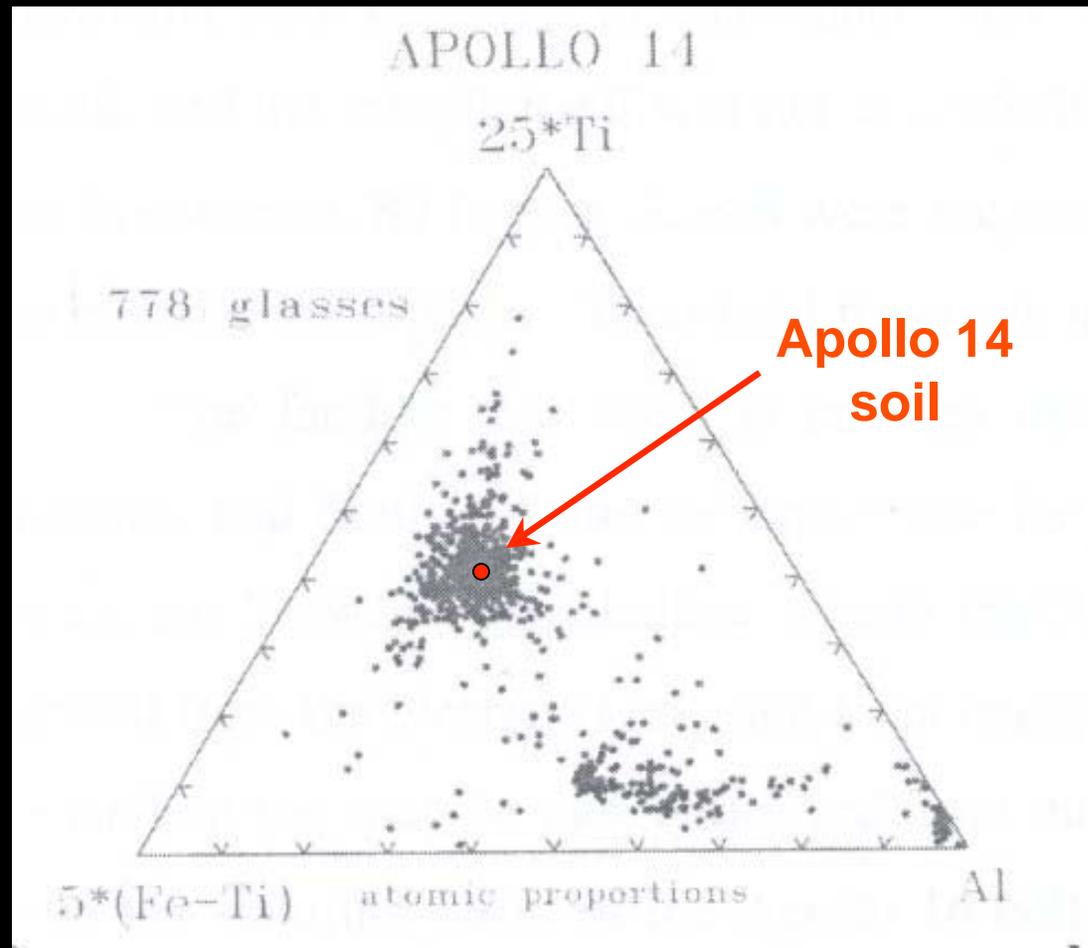
*Clementine Ti Map of the Moon*  
Equal-Area Projection



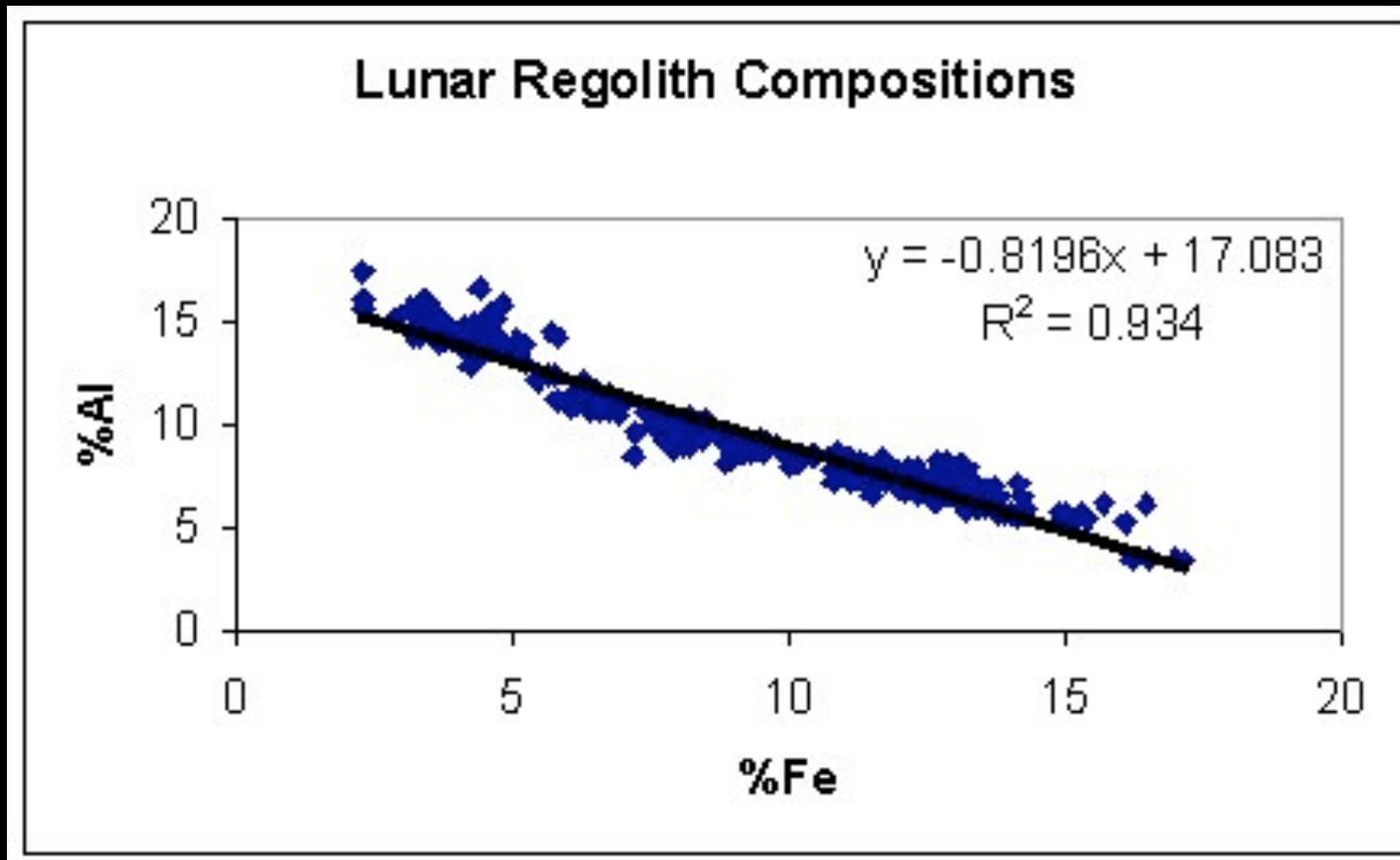
*Clementine Fe Map of the Moon*  
Equal-Area Projection

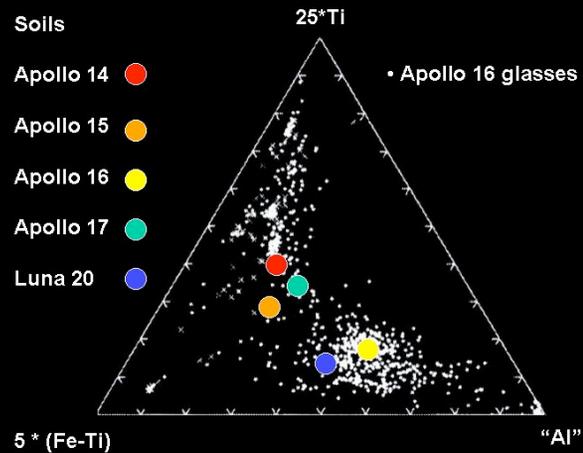
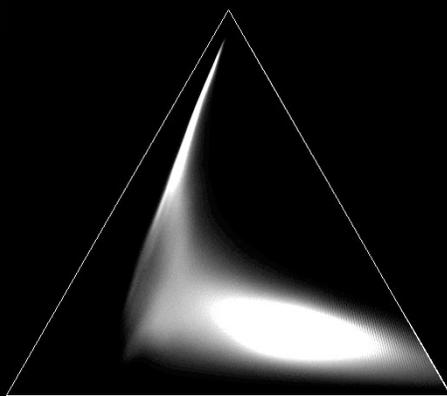
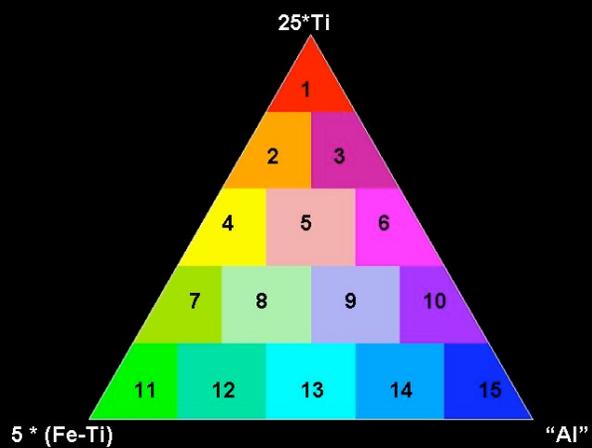
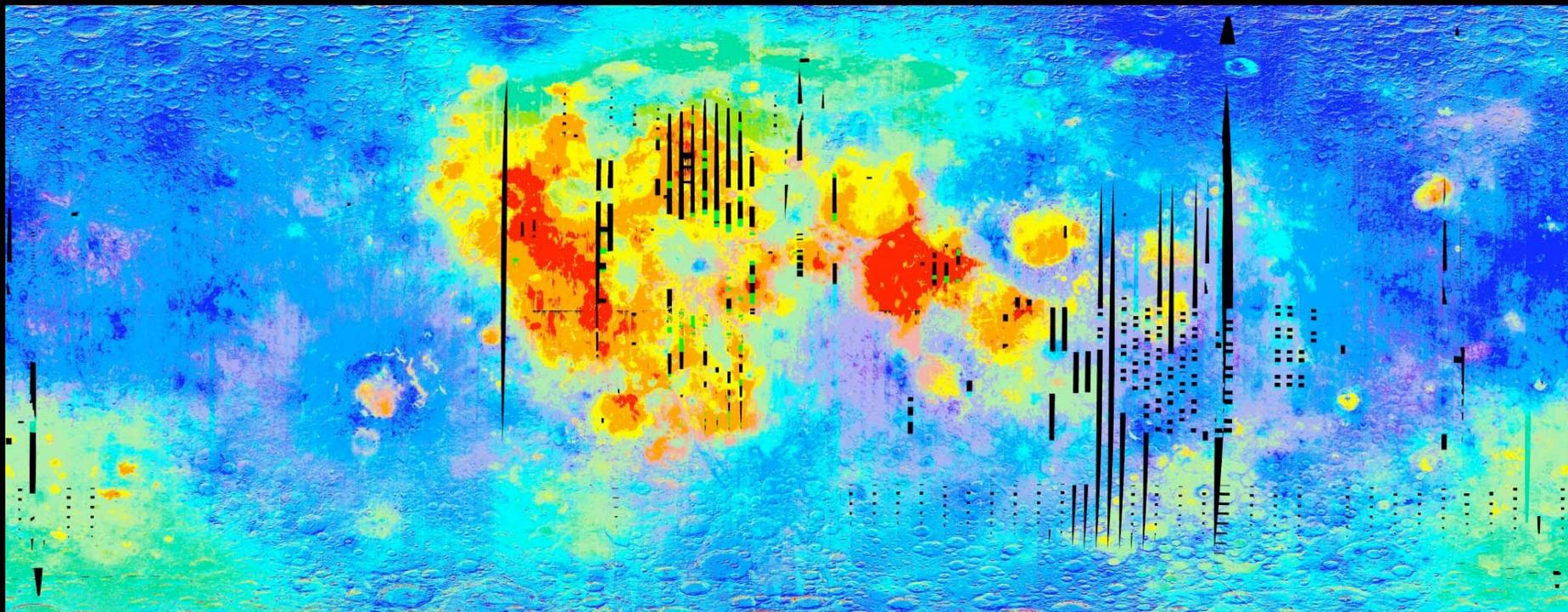


# Lunar regolith impact melt glasses and soils



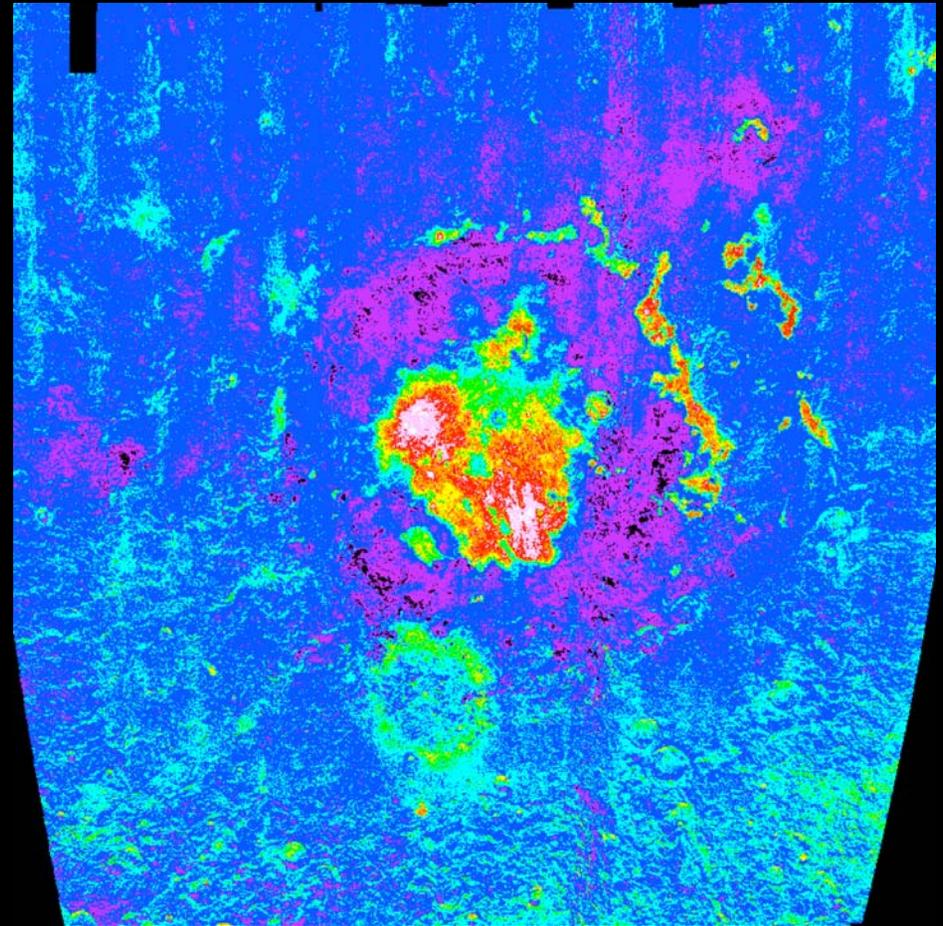
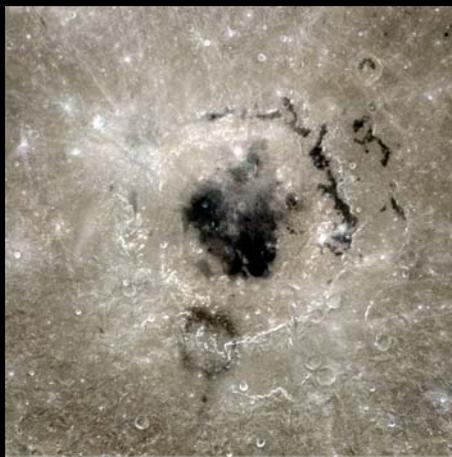
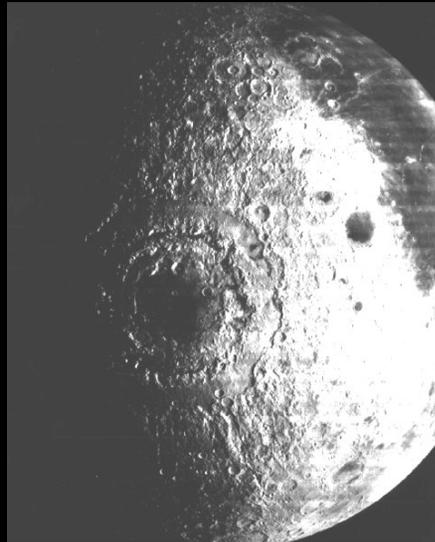
# The Fe-Al relation among lunar soils





# Oriente basin and its ejecta

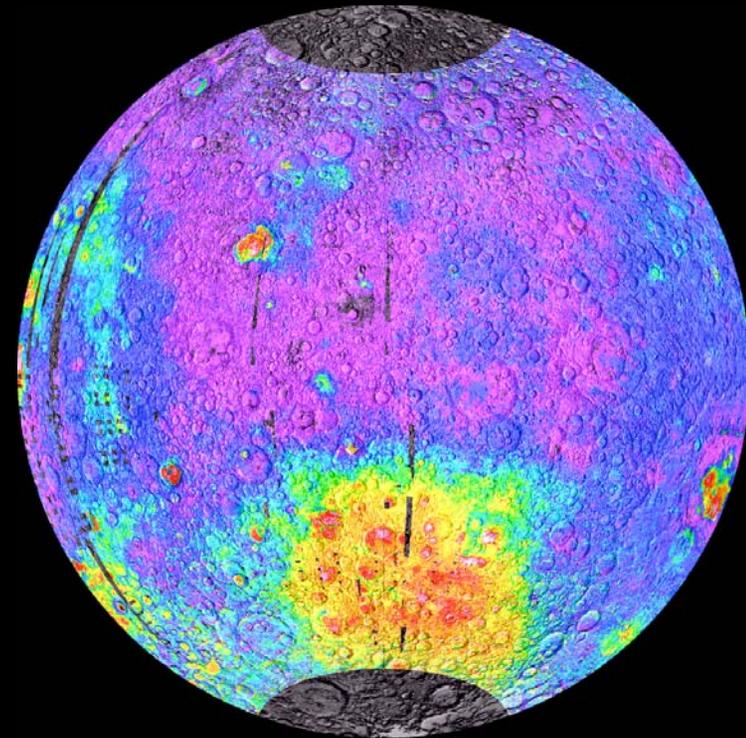
Oriente basin  
930 km dia.



Oriente iron map

# Lunar far side basins and crustal provinces

Ancient highlands



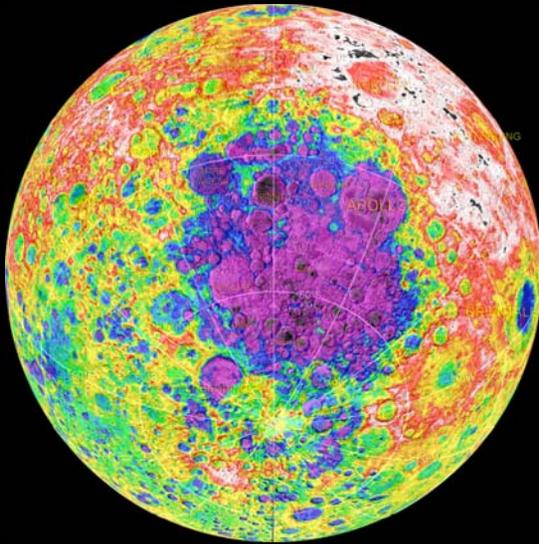
Far side iron map

Oriente basin ejecta

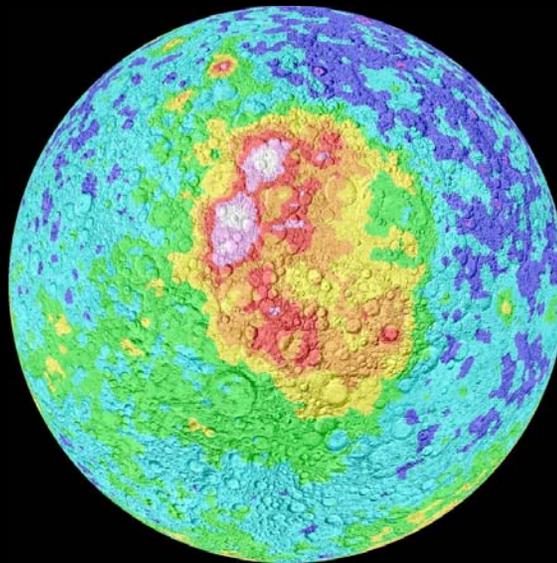
South Pole-Aitken basin floor

# South Pole-Aitken Basin

Orthographic Projections centered at -56, 180



Topography

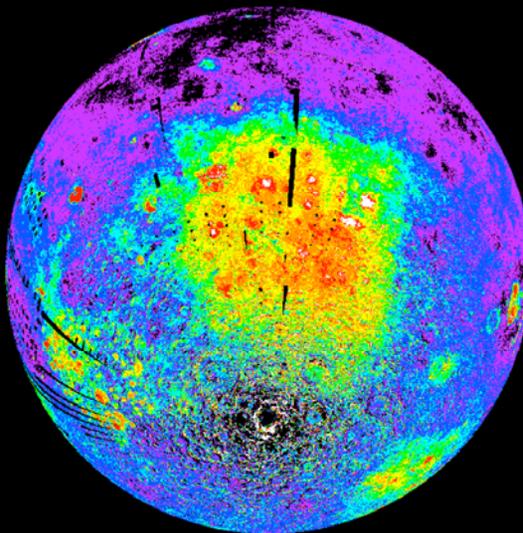


<math><0.5</math> 1 3 >6  
ppm

Thorium

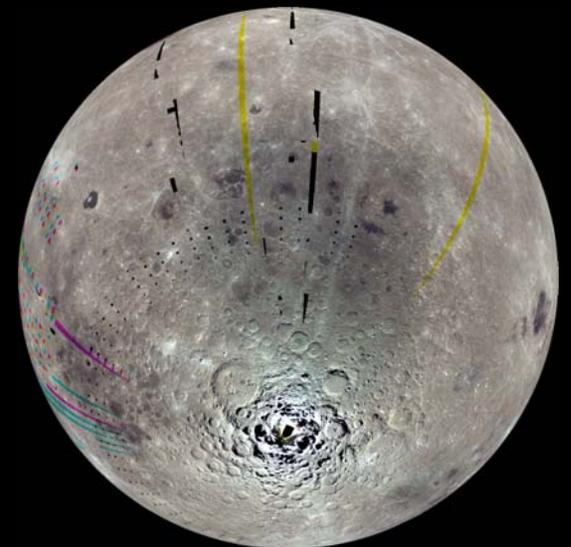


Geology



0.01 0.10 1.00 10.00  
wt % TiO2

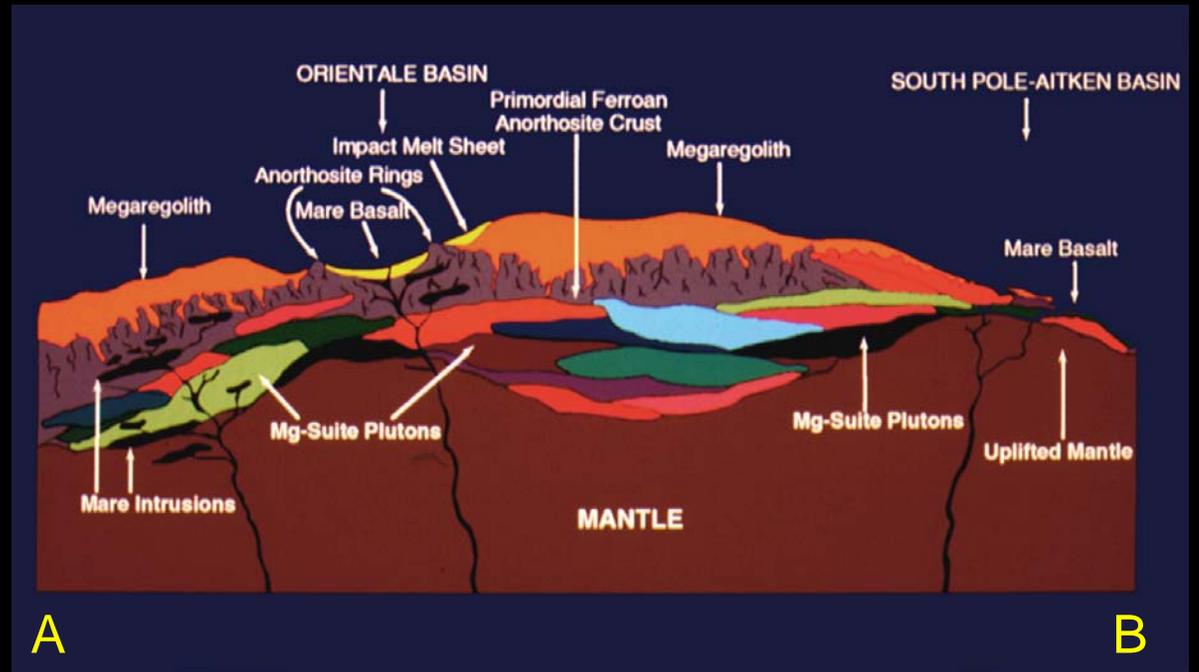
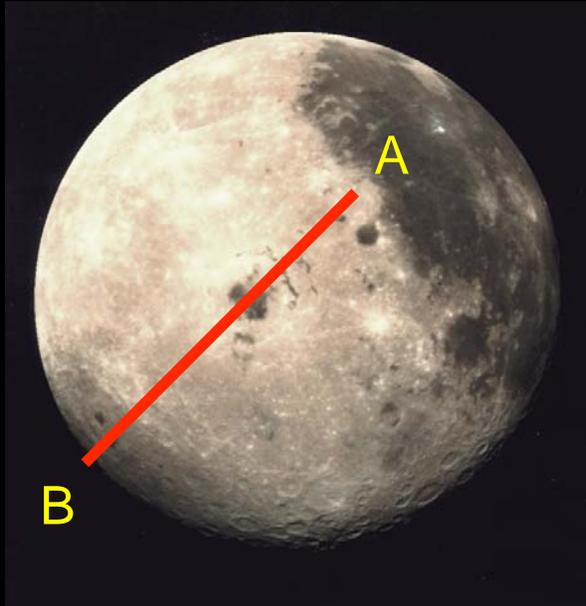
Iron



"True" color

# The Lunar Crust

A section through the Orientale and SPA basins



# Possible origins of SPA floor

SPA basin impact melt sheet

“mafic”, but mineralogy  
appears wrong

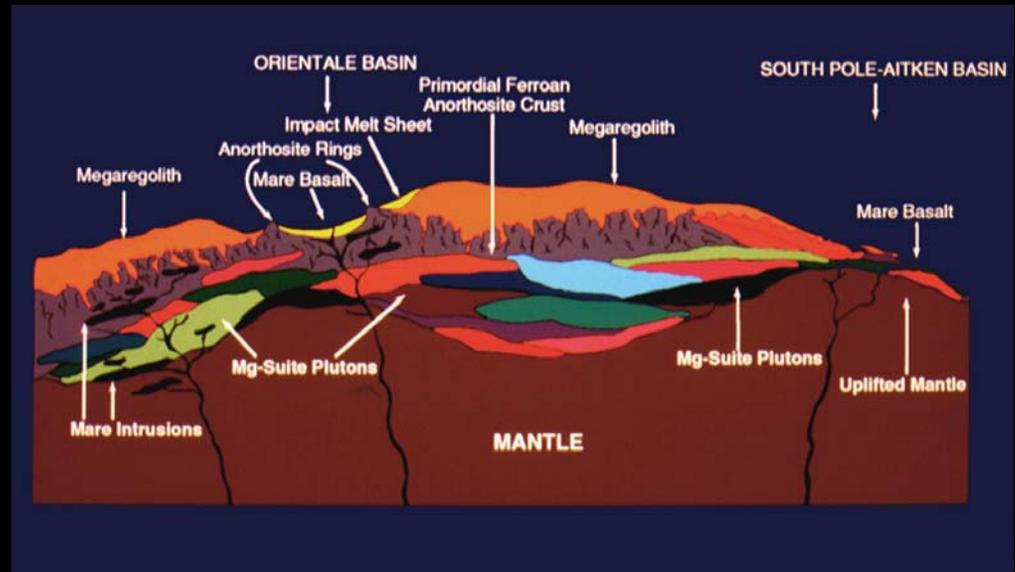
Thick sheet did not  
differentiate?

Where is it exposed in  
situ?

Lower crust/ upper mantle

If FAN is removed by  
impact, is lower crust  
exposed?

Where is melt sheet?

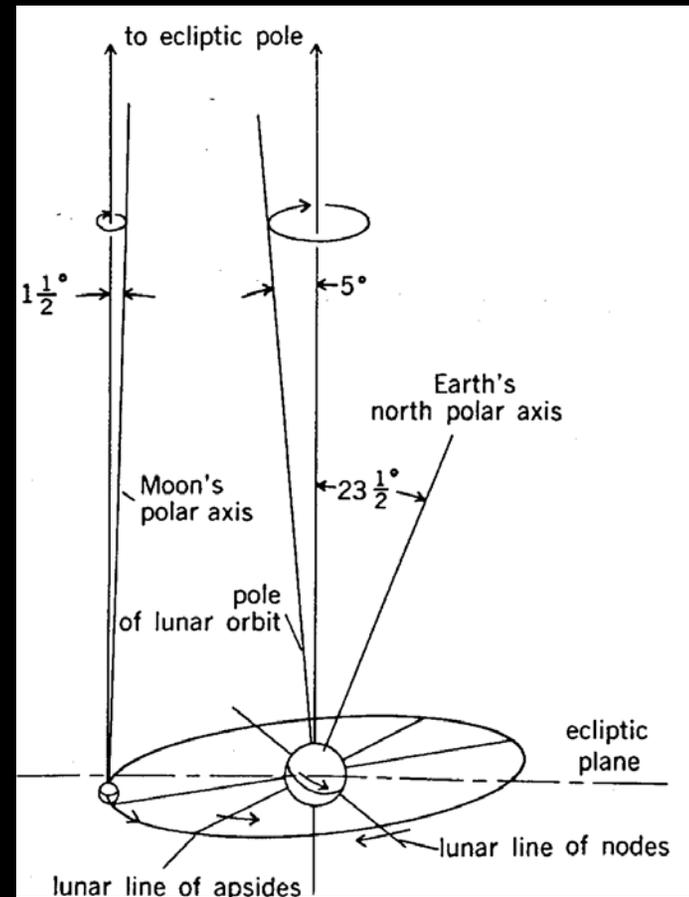


•Other?

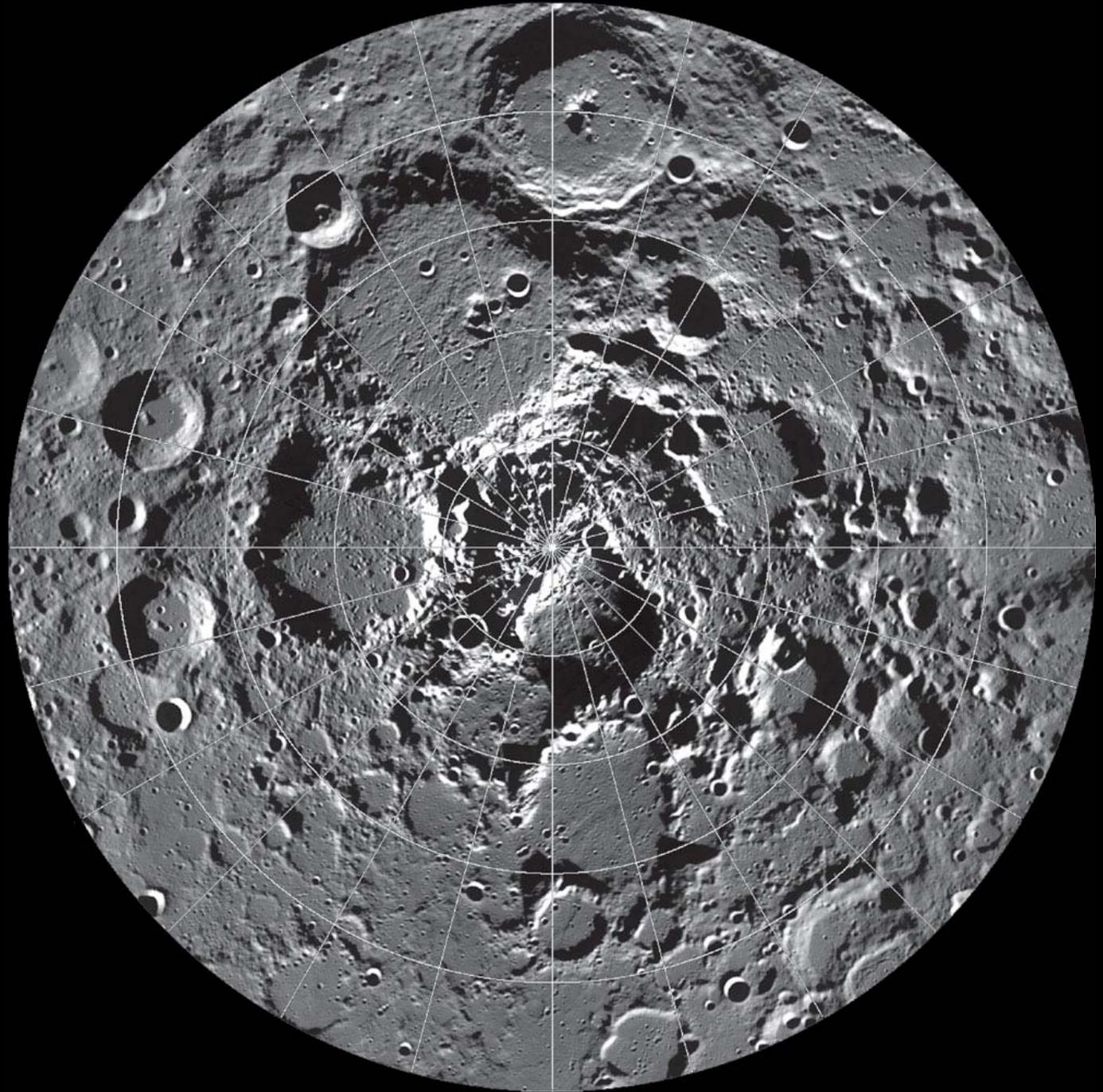
- Intrusive/extrusive origins; crustal plutonism after basin impact
- Basin depth appears to indicate no significant infilling

# The unique environment of the poles

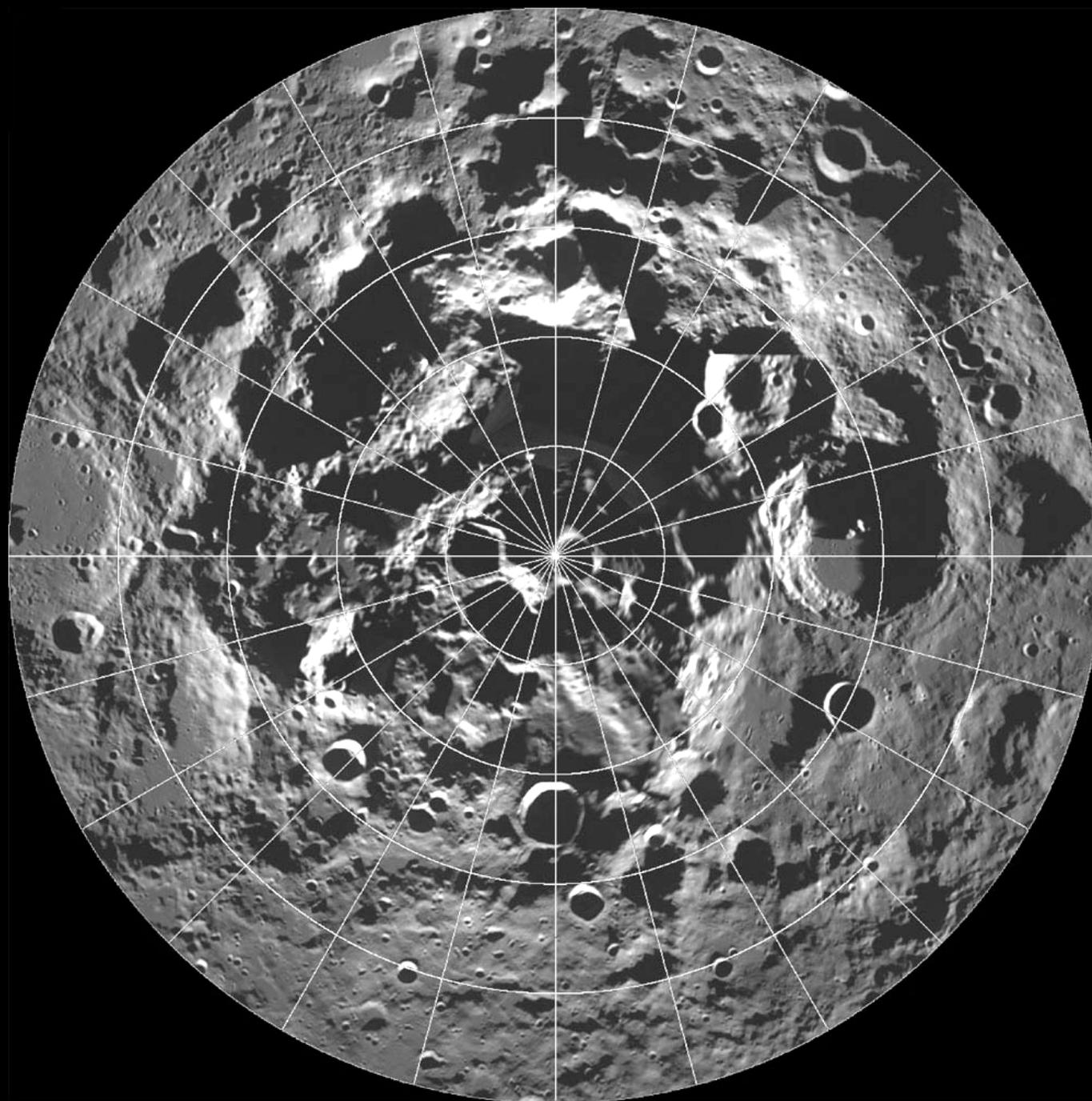
- Lunar spin axis nearly perpendicular to ecliptic
- Topography creates dark and sunlit areas
- At pole, any peak  $> 600$  m in permanent sunlight
- any peak  $< 600$  m in permanent darkness
- Required relief  $\sim 400$  m per degree of latitude



# North Pole



# South Pole



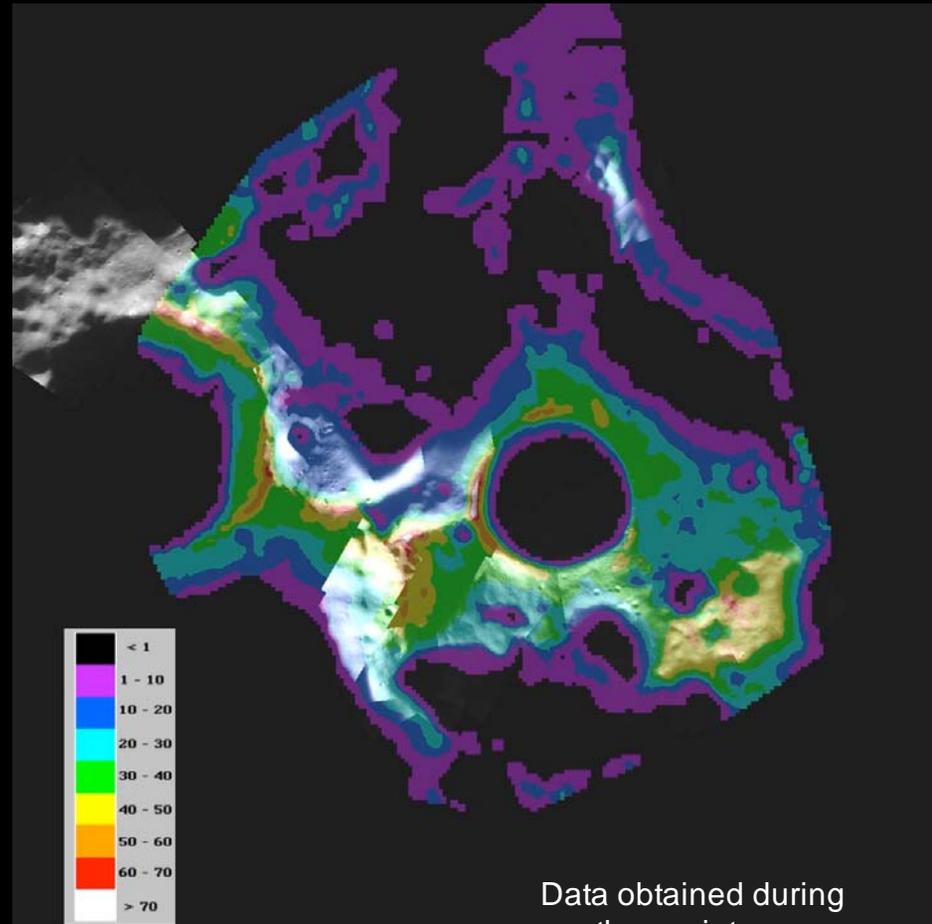
# Permanent sunlight?

## South Pole

Three areas identified with sunlight for more than 50% of lunar day

One zone receives 70% illumination during dead of southern winter

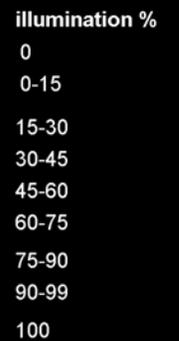
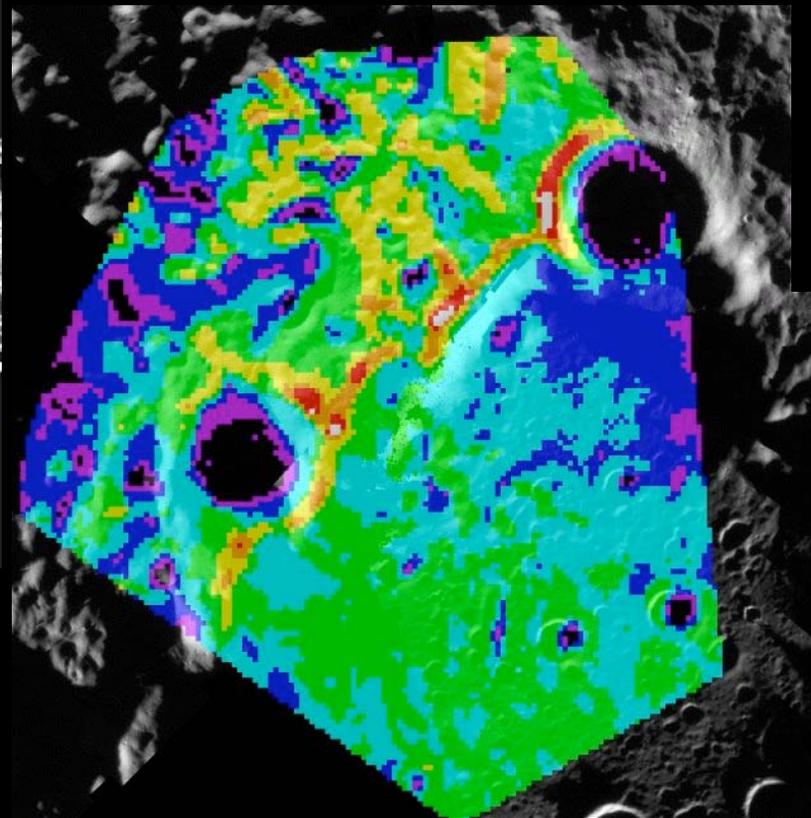
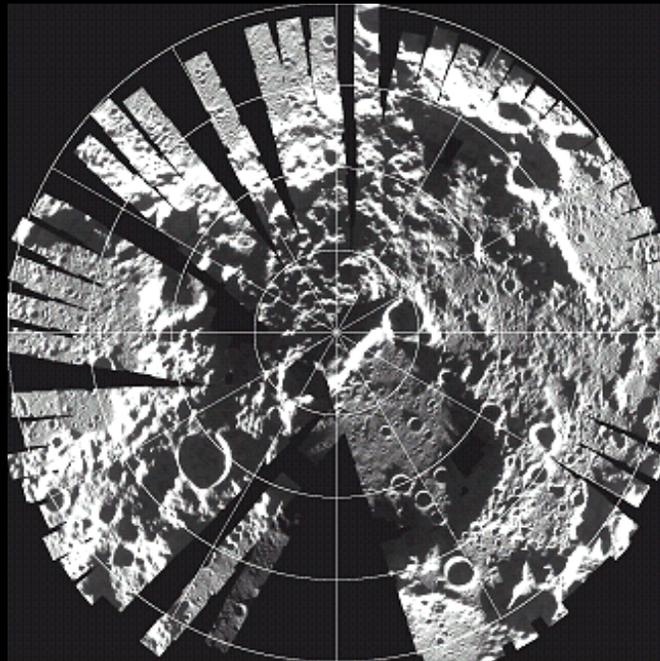
Lit areas in close proximity to permanent darkness (rim of Shackleton)



Data obtained during southern winter (maximum darkness)

# Permanent sunlight?

## North Pole



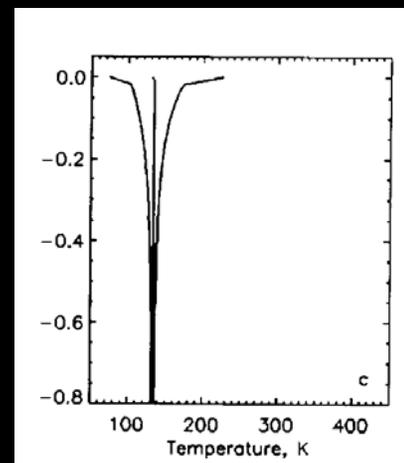
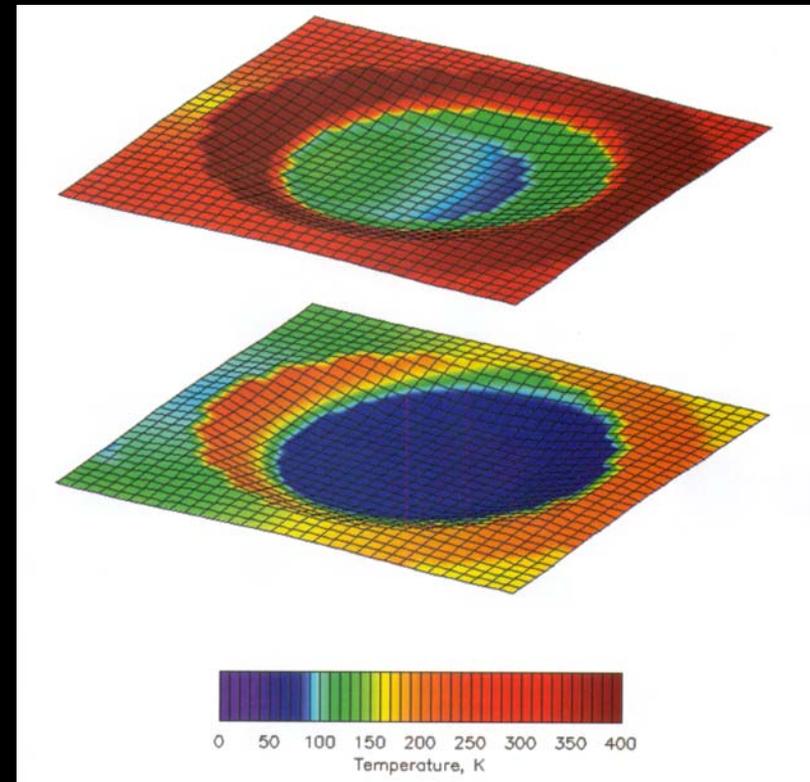
Data obtained during northern summer (maximum sunlight)

# Polar Temperatures

Permanently shadowed areas have very low model temperatures ( $\sim 50-70$  K) to act as cold traps (e.g. Vasavada, et al. 1999)

Uncertainty largely a reflection of unknown value for heat flow of Moon

Temperatures vary substantially in the shallow subsurface



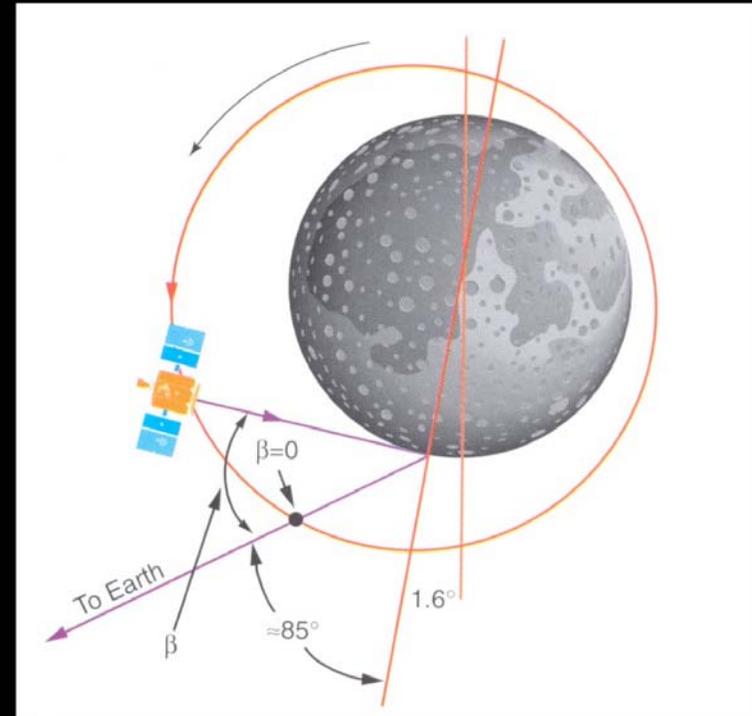
# Clementine Bistatic Radar Experiment

Use RF transmitter of s/c as source of RCP CW radio; stare at pole continuously

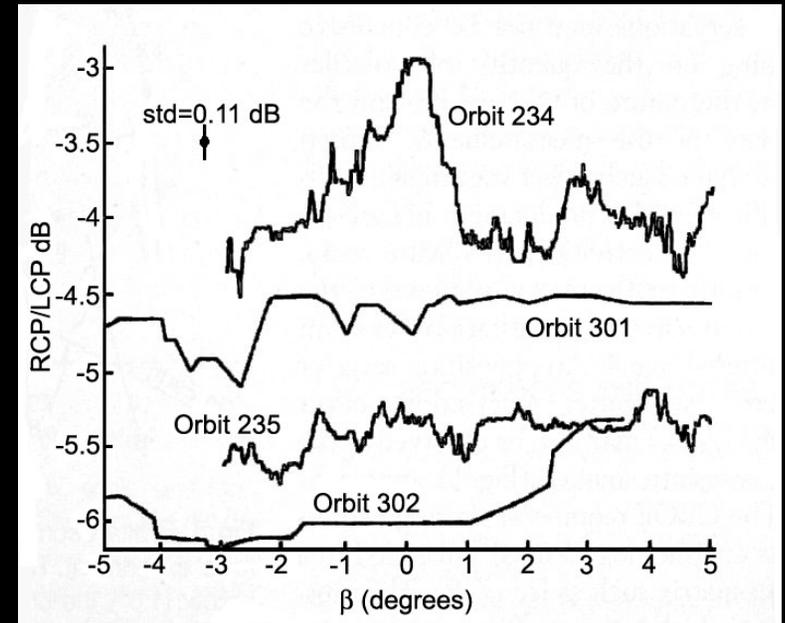
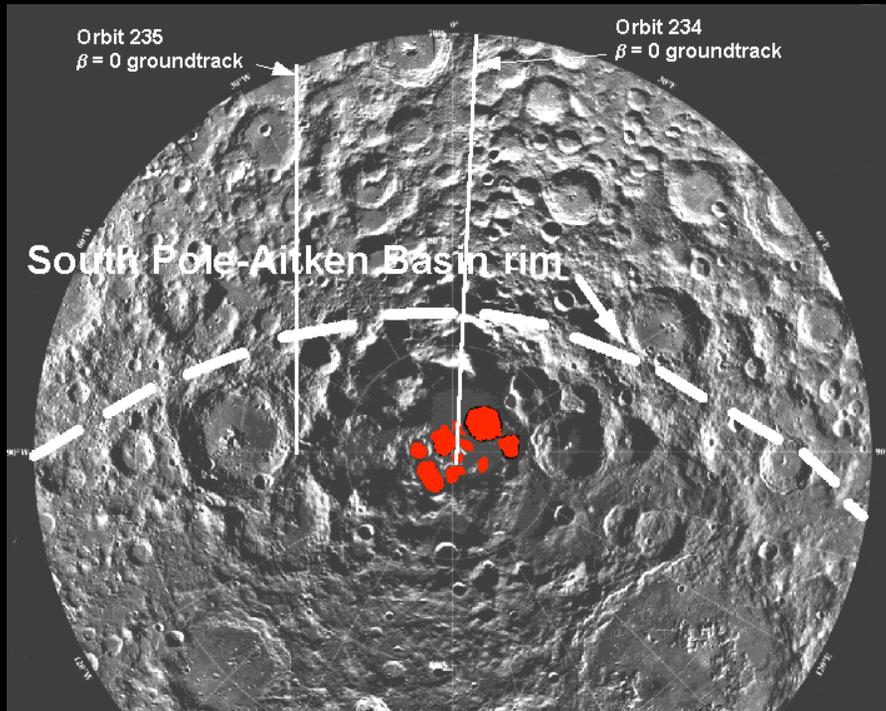
Listen to echoes on DSN in RCP and LCP

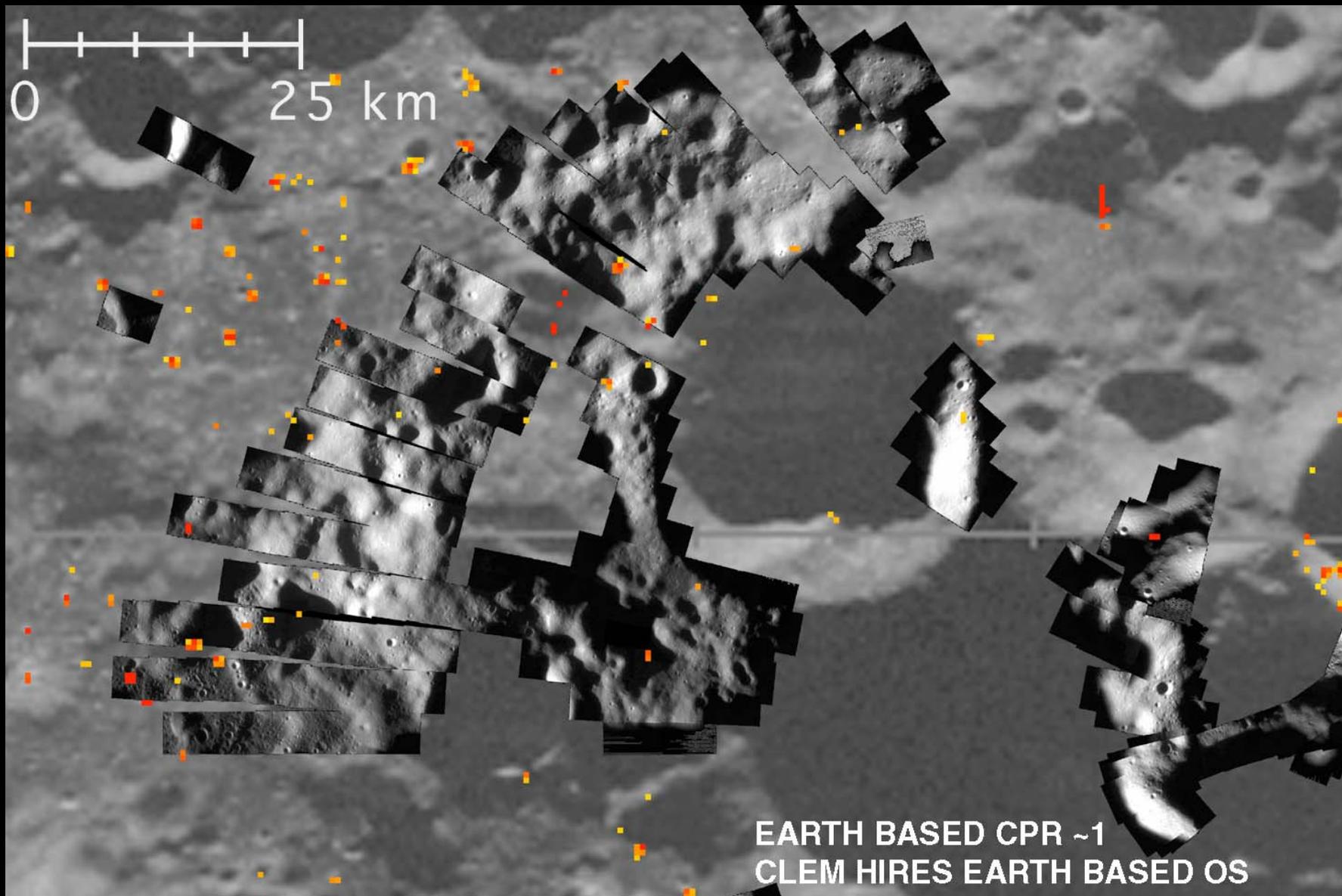
Observe reflection behavior through phase angle

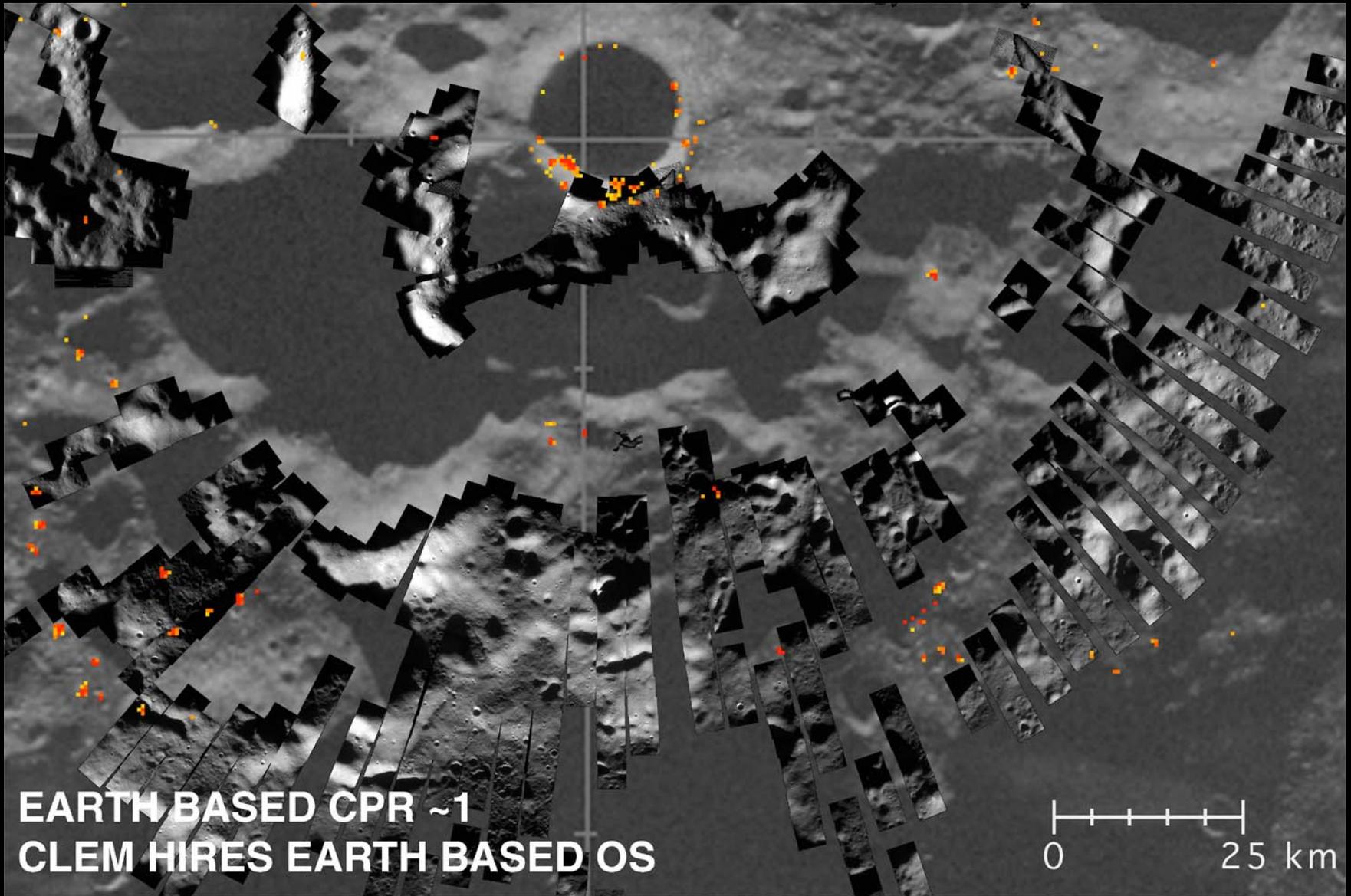
Get control from sun-illuminated groundtracks to compare with polar dark groundtracks



# Clementine Bistatic Radar Experiment

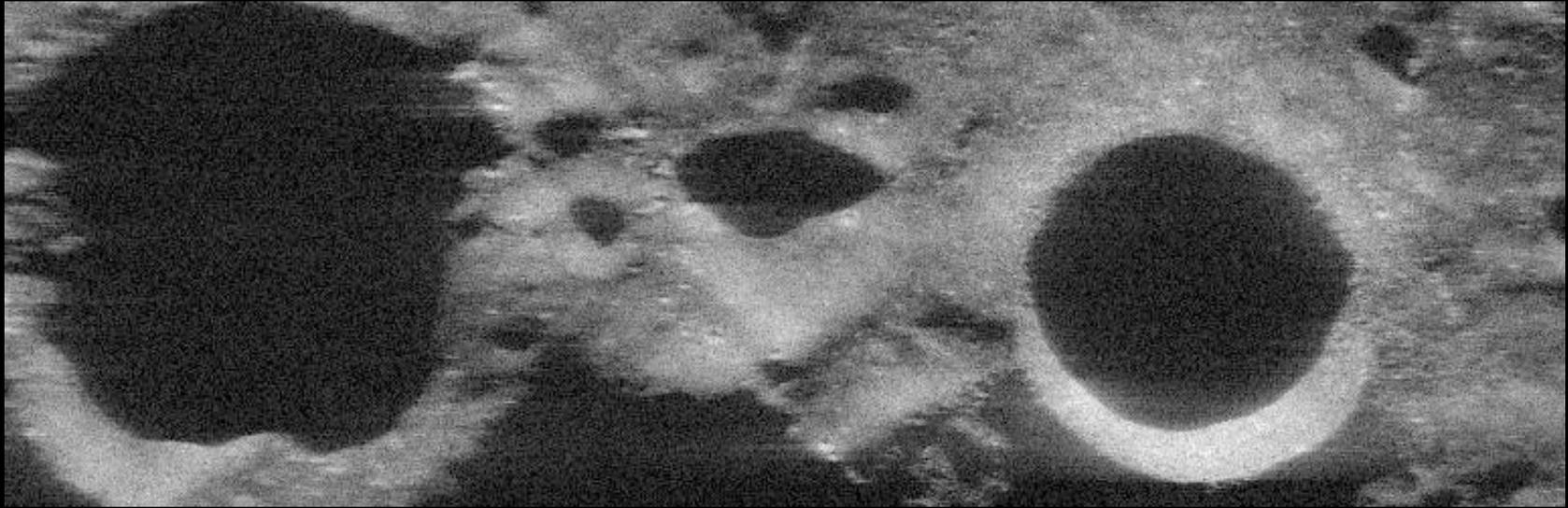




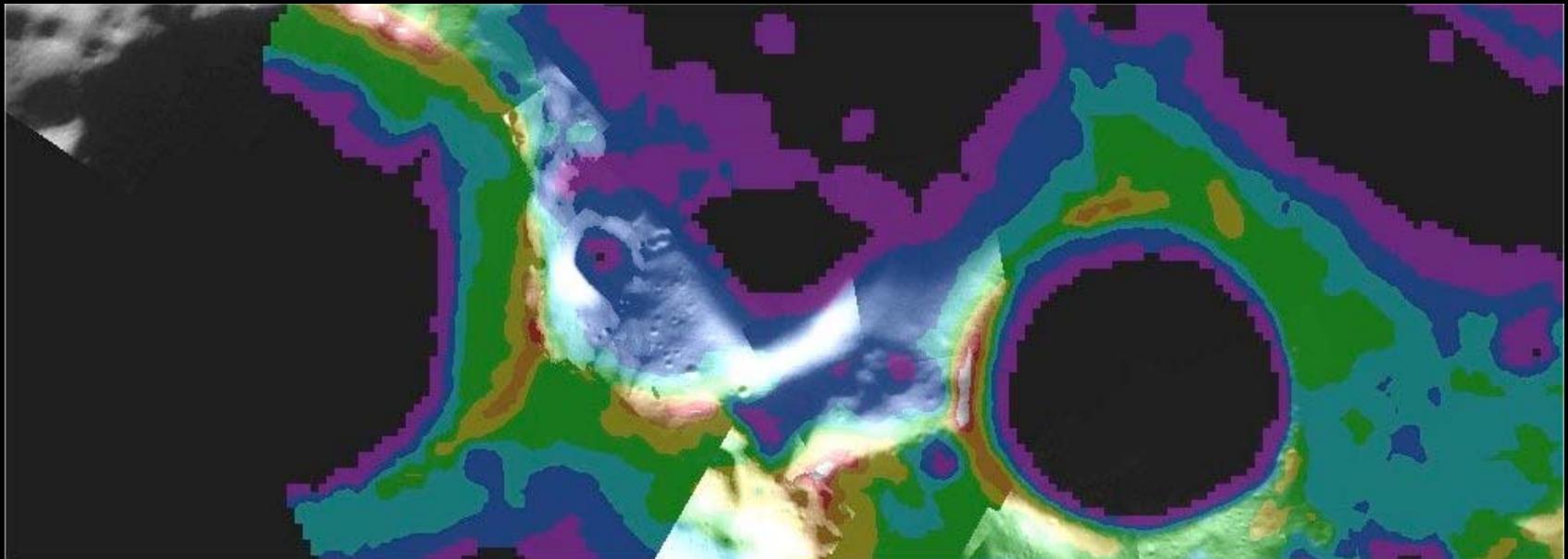


**EARTH BASED CPR ~1**  
**CLEM HIRES EARTH BASED OS**

0 25 km



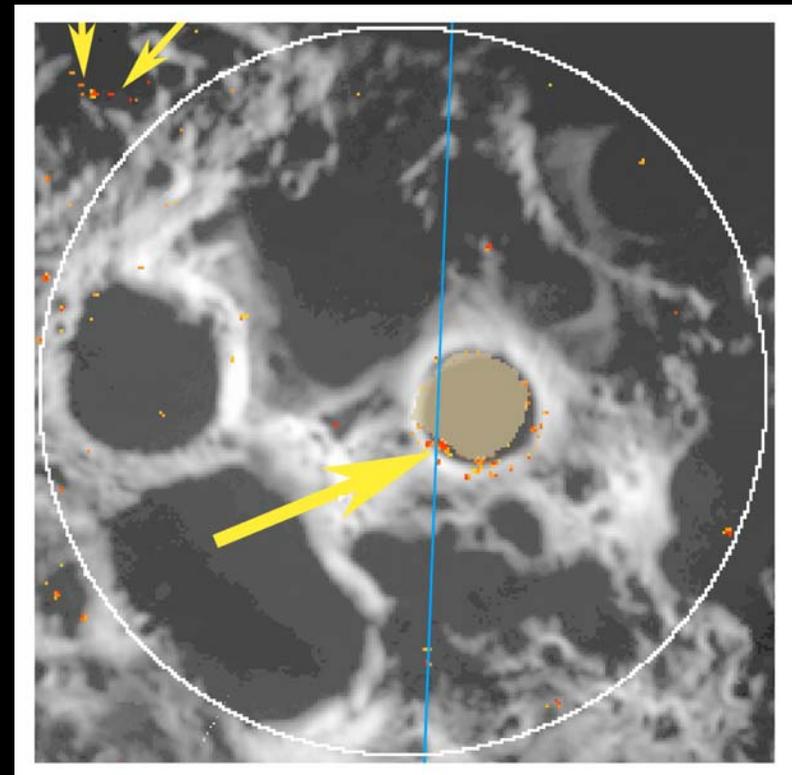
Goldstone bistatic "same sense polarization" image



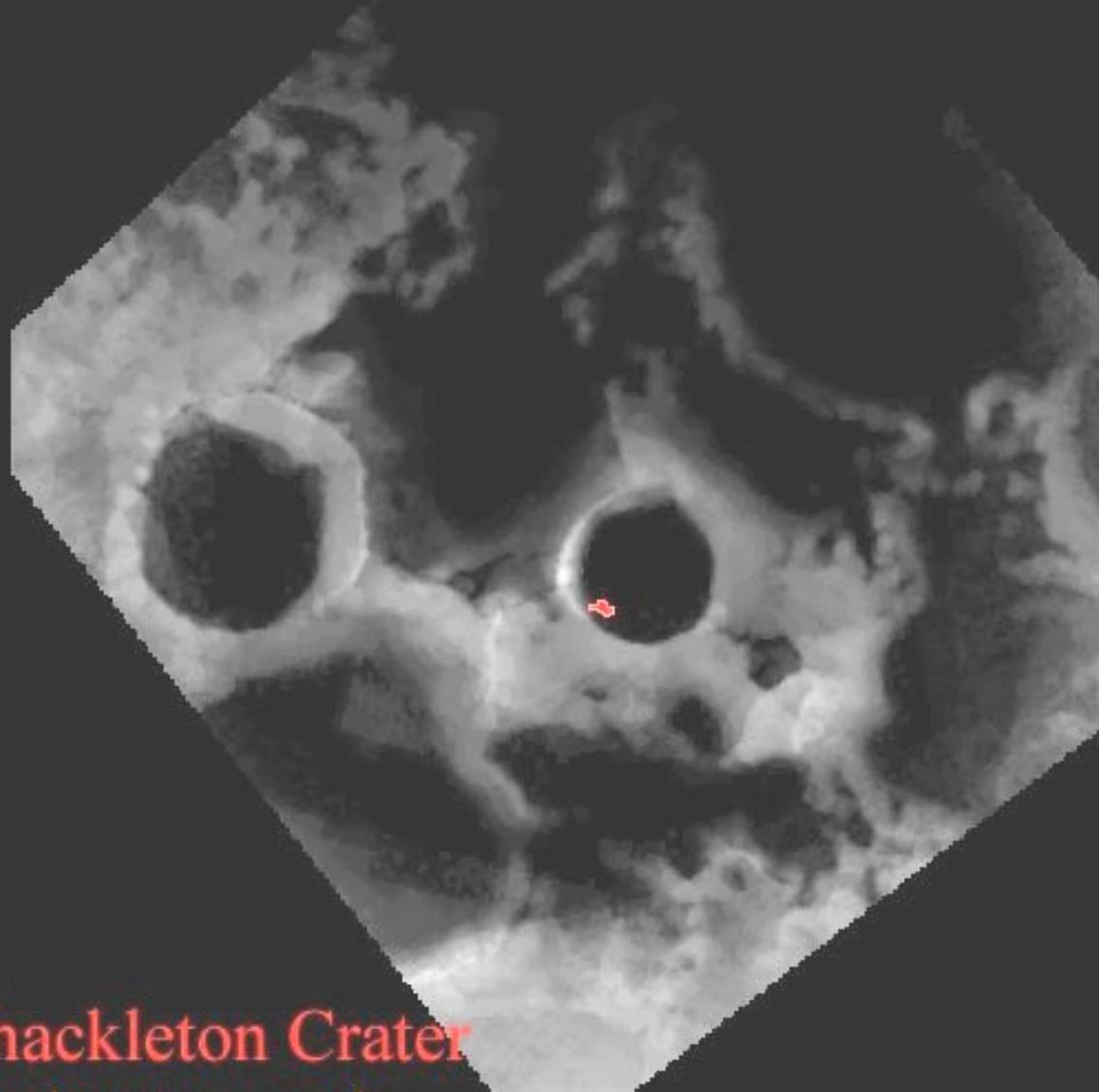
Clementine lighting map



- Goldstone new bistatic image shows enhanced same sense polarization (box)
- Clementine orbit 234 groundtrack (blue) passes directly through this anomaly
- Radar anomaly (red) occurs in sunlight dark region (gold) of crater Shackleton
- Likely patch of water ice



## Clementine Illumination Map



Shackleton Crater  
Radar Anomaly

# Is there a discrepancy between Clementine and Arecibo Radar Results?

Very high correlation of Clementine orbit 234  $\beta=0$  track and high CPR areas observed by Arecibo within the dark regions of Shackleton

Shadowed high CPR areas in Shackleton exceed minimum detection thresholds for Clementine BSR ( $1\text{km}^2$ ) by factor of 10-20

Inconclusive Earth-based radar measurements likely caused by poor viewing geometry, which allows limited access to shadowed areas at very high incidence angles ( $\sim 85^\circ$ ); (Shackleton is an exception)

Geometry emphasizes surface texture over composition

Geometry accounts for the difficulties in interpretation of lunar v. Mercury polar ice data, probably not compositional difference

Clementine BSR Is Crucial to CBOE Interpretation

# Radar Albedo and CPR

*Water-ice radar signal:*

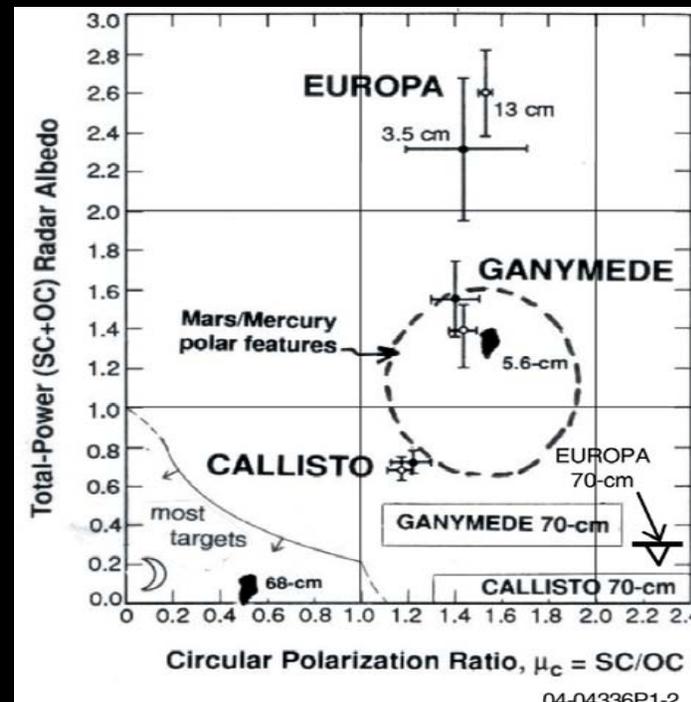
**Albedo + CPR > 1.2**

*Implied requirements*

- Transmit circular polarization
- Receive LCP *and* RCP

Expected variation on  $\sigma^0$  -30 dB to +6 dB

**Robustness: *Water-ice reflections must be clearly distinguishable from that of “most targets”***



# Chandrayaan Mission Overview

Polar orbiting lunar satellite

Launch September, 2007; Two year mapping cycle

Global maps of topography and composition

- Laser altimeter

- Hyperspectral imager (64 channels between 400-900 nm)

- X-ray fluorescence spectrometers

- Terrain Mapping Camera

Invited proposals for foreign participation, Jan. 2004

- Instrument must fit within 10 kg mass allocation

- Over 20 proposals received, short-listed to 5 in June, 2004

- Announcement that all 5 short-listed instruments would fly at International Lunar Conference 6 in Udaipur, November 2004

- Selected foreign instruments:

  - Mini-RF (USA)

  - Solar wind spectrometer (Bulgaria)

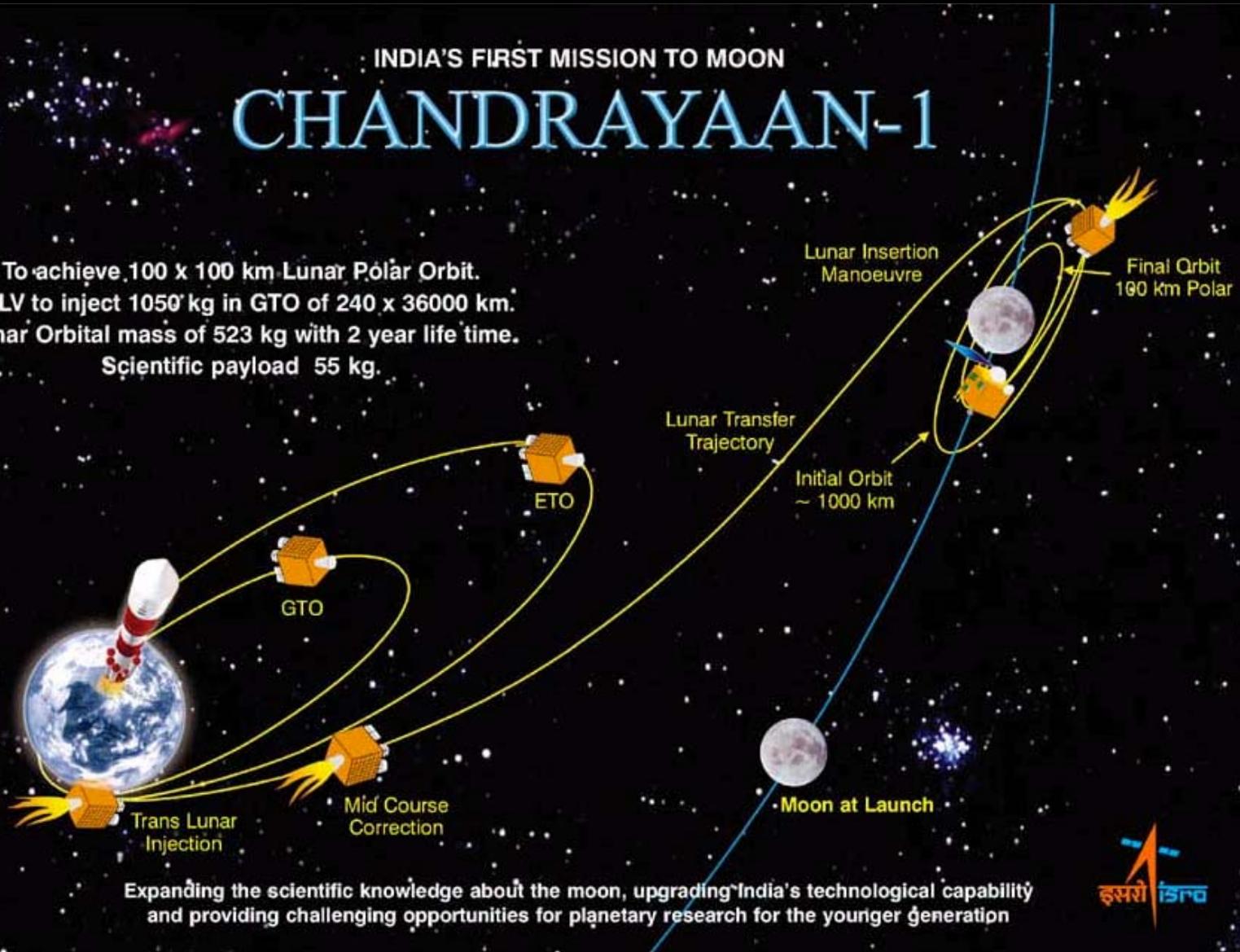
  - Magnetometer (Sweden)

  - Near-IR spectrometer (900-2800 nm) (Germany)

  - X-ray imager (UK)

# INDIA'S FIRST MISSION TO MOON CHANDRAYAAN-1

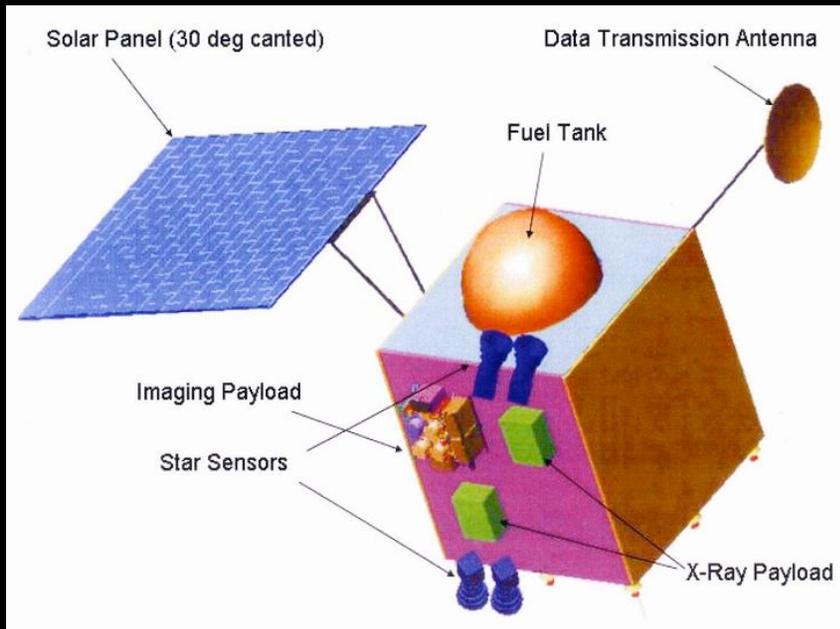
To achieve 100 x 100 km Lunar Polar Orbit.  
PSLV to inject 1050 kg in GTO of 240 x 36000 km.  
Lunar Orbital mass of 523 kg with 2 year life time.  
Scientific payload 55 kg.



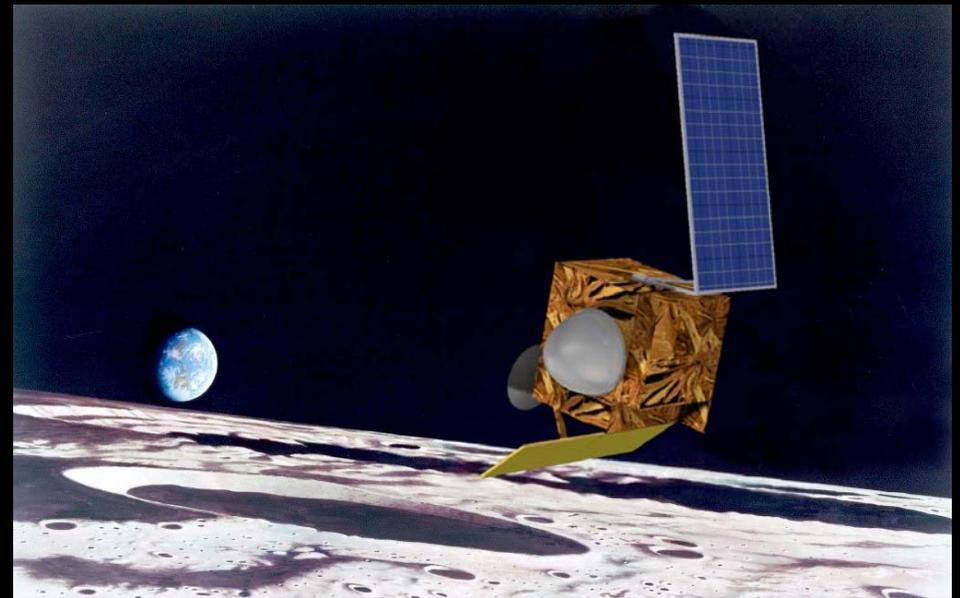
Expanding the scientific knowledge about the moon, upgrading India's technological capability and providing challenging opportunities for planetary research for the younger generation



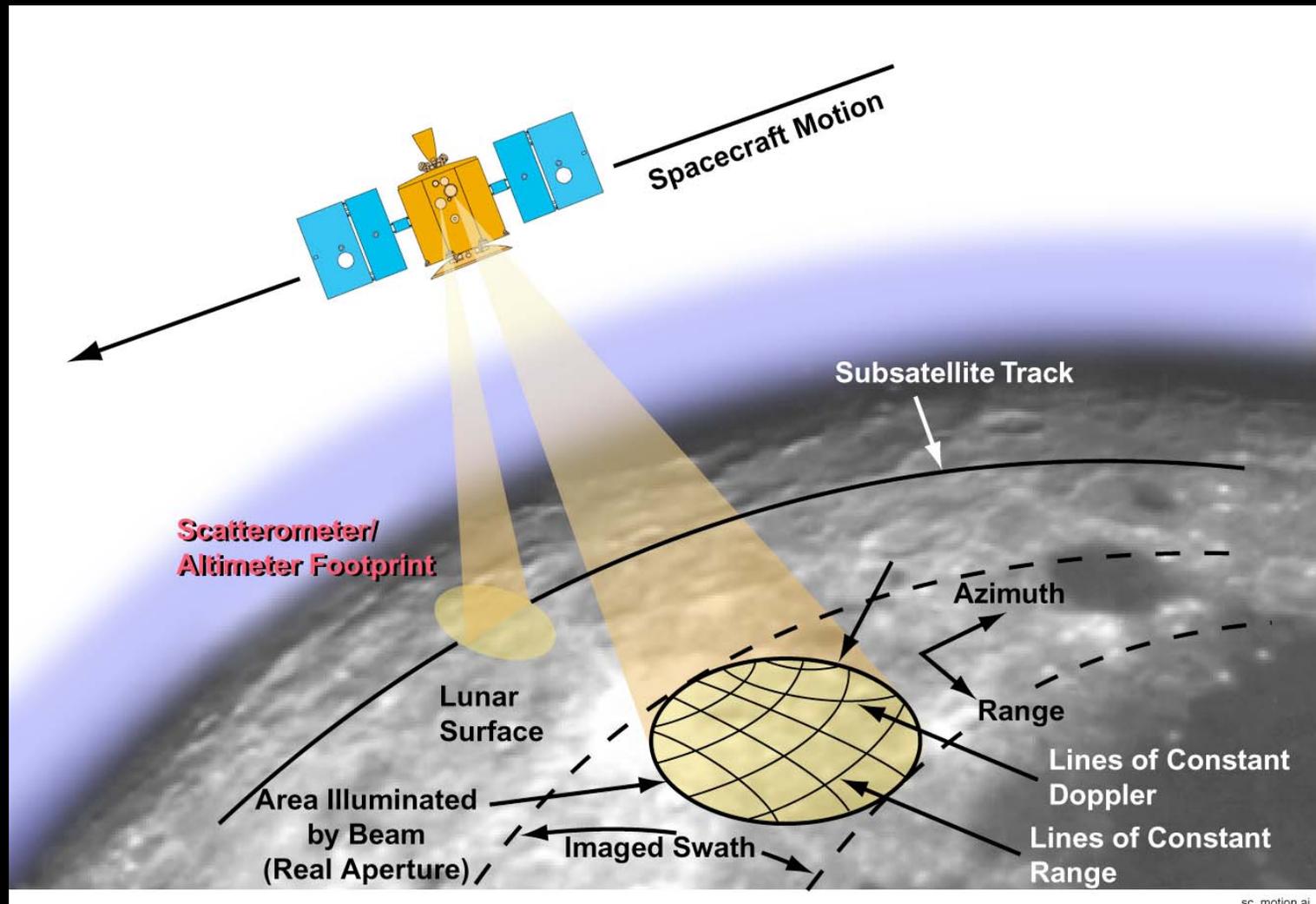
# Chandrayaan Spacecraft



Spacecraft – 3-axis stabilized  
mass – 524 kg  
size – 1.5 m, cuboid  
Orbit – 100 km, circular, polar  
Payload mass – 55 kg + 10 kg of  
contributed international instruments  
Mission duration – 2 years  
Comm – S-band telemetry, downlink  
X-band payload data



# Imaging Modes



## Mini-RF Objectives

Differentiate  
potential water-ice  
from lunar regolith

*Transmit* circular polarization, *receive* same-sense  
and opposite-sense polarizations

Nominal incidence  $45^\circ$  to preserve responsiveness to  
various ice-regolith ratios

Minimize false indications of anomalous reflectivity

*Weak backscatter -27 dB (Stacy, Campbell & Ford 1997 )*

Map water-ice  
deposits

Radar image maps (from  $80^\circ$  poleward), N & S

Resolution (*pixel*): 150 m (75 m), range and azimuth

*ref: NASA LRO ORDT (2004) recommendation*

Drives geolocation accuracy; Multi-look imagery

Left-looking and right-looking aspect, N & S

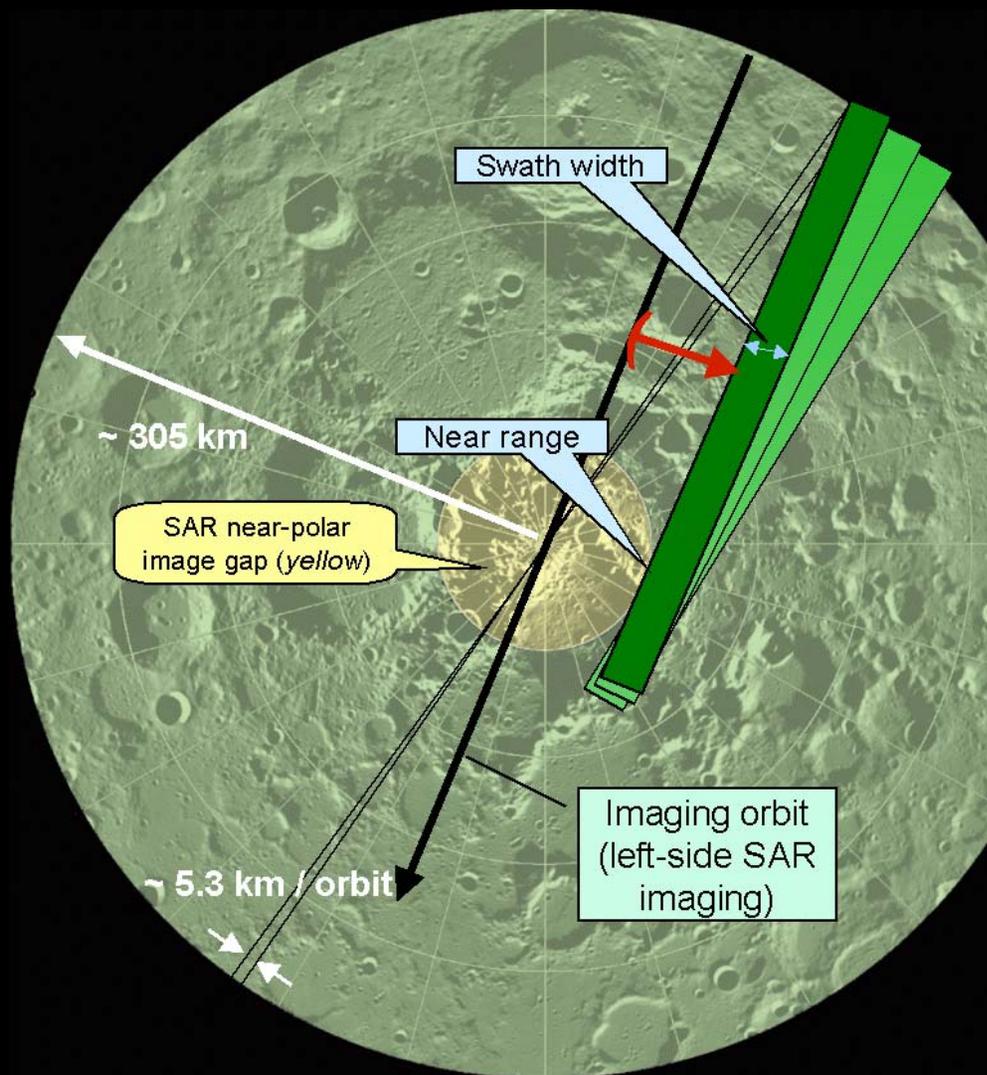
Full coverage: Terrain & altitude height tolerance

Nadir-viewing radar (scatterometer)

# Top Level Radar Requirements

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Requirement</i>	<i>Comment</i>
• <b>Frequency</b>	<b>S-band</b>	<i>Penetrates regolith</i>
• <b>Polarization</b>	<i>Tx</i> <b>Circular</b> <i>Rx</i> <b>RCP &amp; LCP</b>	<i>Relative &amp; absolute calibration</i>
• <b>Imager: Strip maps</b>		
– Poleward of 80°	N & S , 2 image sets	<i>1 Left-looking, 1 Right-looking</i> <i>Full coverage</i>
• <b>Scatterometer</b>	<b>S-band</b>	<i>Reflectivity profiles along track</i>
• <b>Height tolerance</b>		
– Terrain	+ 3 km, - 6 km ± 3 km	<i>Mean, &gt; 100-km scale</i> <i>Local, &lt; 100-km scale</i>
– Altitude	100 km ± 20 km 50 km ± 20 km	<i>Primary objectives</i> <i>Secondary objective (bistatic)</i>
• <b>Geolocation</b>	± 100 m	

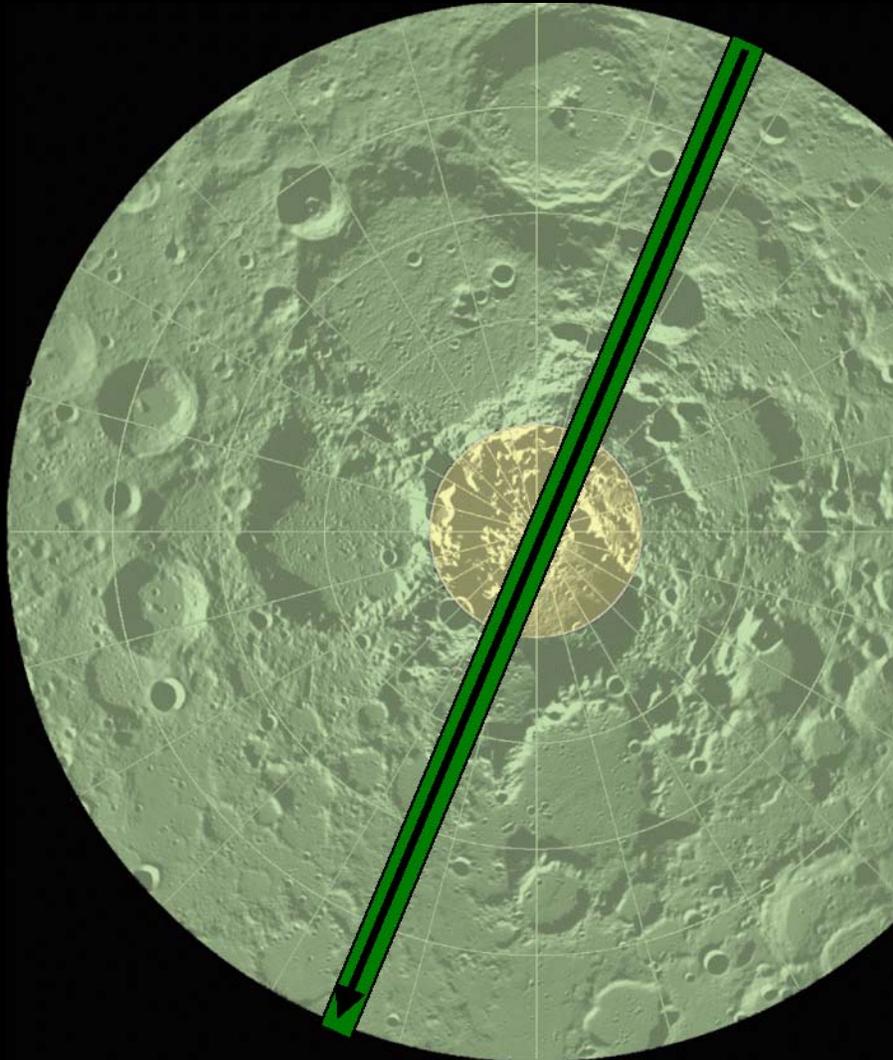
# Mapping Strategy - SAR



## SAR Coverage

- Sequential **strip maps**
- **Mosaic** assembled from ~180 strips (~28 days)
- **Swath width** minimum:  
2 x orbit-to-orbit precession  
10.6 km + margin =>  
12 km
- **Near-pole** minimum:  
Limited by incidence & altitude from a given orbit plane *implies near-polar image gap*

# Mapping Strategy - Scatterometry



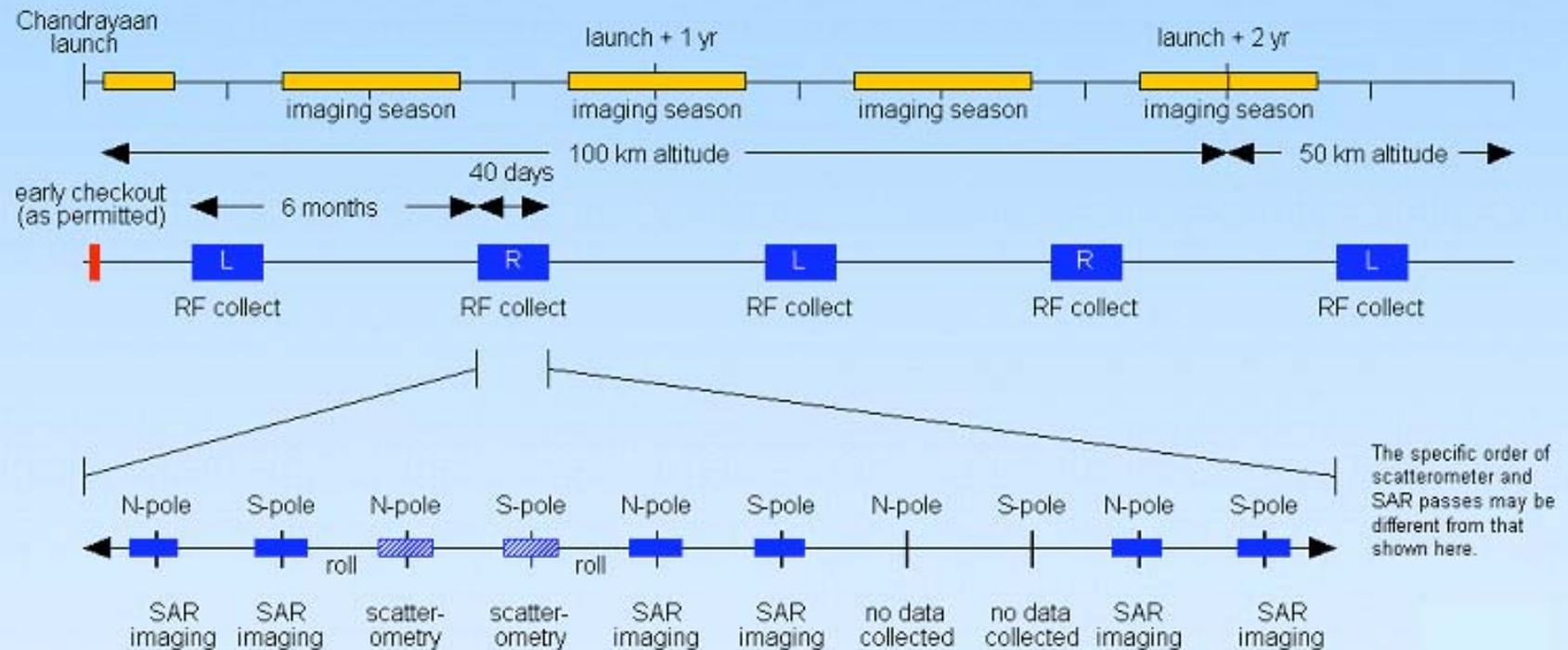
## Scatterometer Coverage

- Nadir-viewing: generates **reflectivity (power) profiles**
- **80° to 80°**, alternate orbits
- **Scatterometer mosaics** assembled from ~90 strips (~14 days)
- Effective **width of footprint** "pulse-limited" ~ 10 km
- Dense nadir coverage (at low resolution) at all latitudes polewards of 80°

# Operational Strategy

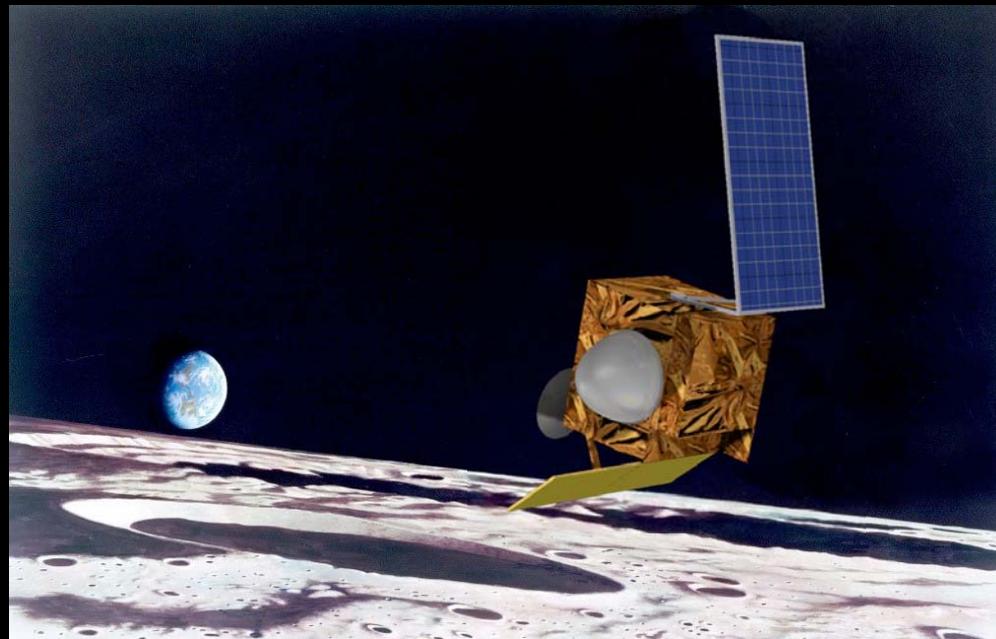
## Extended Mission

## Measurement Timeline



# Mini-RF Physical Characteristics

<i>Item</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>Value</i>
Physical Properties		
Antenna		
Size	m	0.6 (W) x 1.8 (L) x 0.05 (H)
Mass	kg	$1.8 \pm 0.2$
Radar Electronics		
Size	cm	17 (L) x 17 (W) x 10 (H)
Mass	kg	$3.1 \pm 0.4$
Interface/Interconnecting components/cabling		
Mass	kg	$0.9 \pm 0.1$

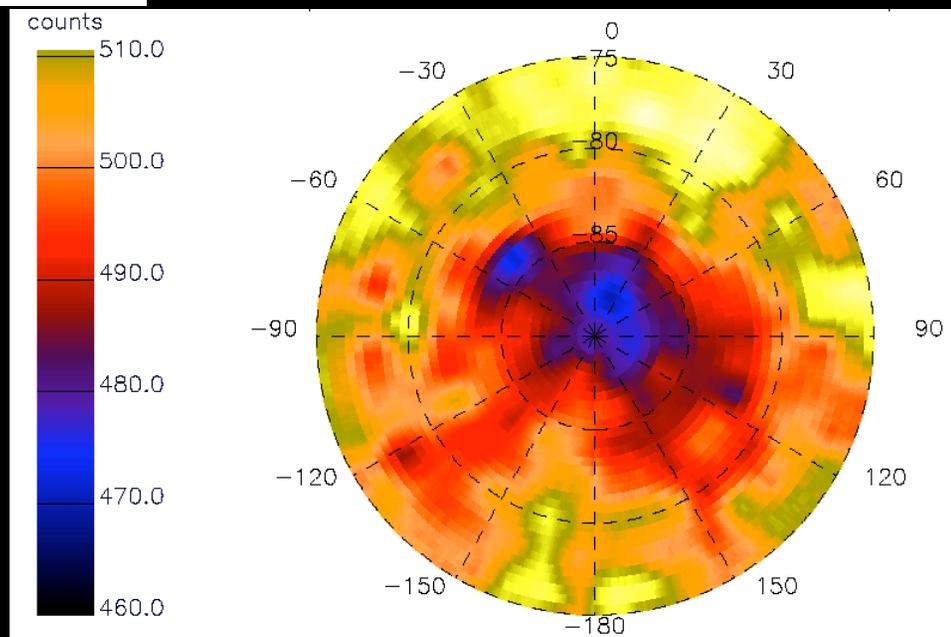
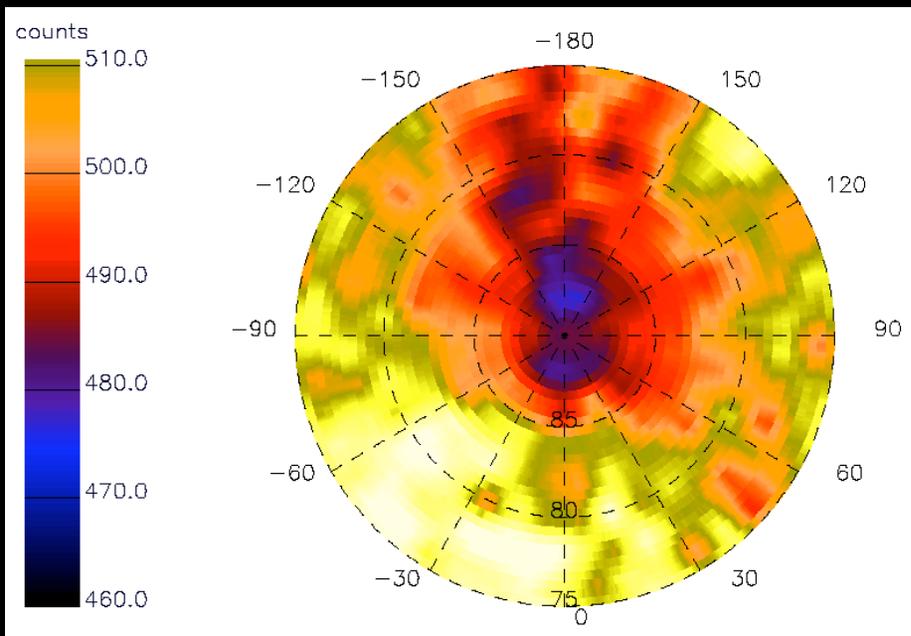


## Lunar Prospector results

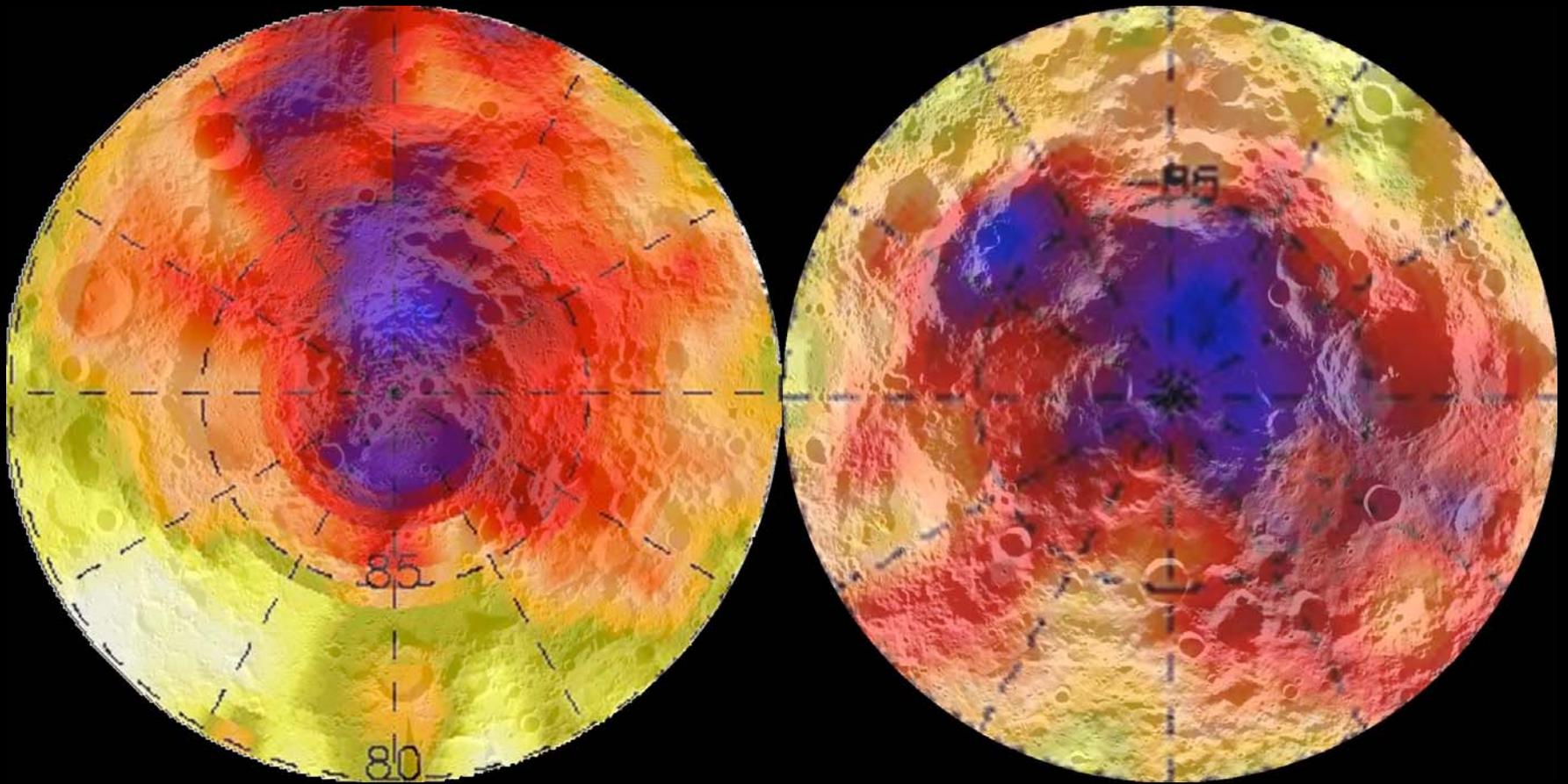
Neutron Spectrometer detected significant H<sub>2</sub> concentrations near both poles

Highest resolution data (15 km) strongly correlates with permanent shadow, as mapped on Clementine mosaics and modeled for small craters

Fast neutron data show no significant H<sub>2</sub> content; implies that ice is not present at surface, but may occur at depths below a few cm



# Lunar Prospector NS data



# Composition of Polar Volatile Deposits

We do not have solid data on composition of polar volatile deposits

Best guess is that they are dominated by gases from comets. For example, in Hale Bopp:

H<sub>2</sub>O: 100

CO: 20

CH<sub>3</sub>OH: 2

CO<sub>2</sub>: 6

NH<sub>3</sub>: 0.7

CH<sub>4</sub>: 0.6

Addition of solar wind gases, fluctuations in temperature, and micrometeorite impacts allows for possibility of chemical reactions to form organic compounds.

Temperature in cold traps might range from 25 K to 125 K, depending on how much reflected sunlight and radiated heat.

# Extracting Volatiles

**We do not know:**

**Full inventory of trapped ice.**

**Composition of ice**

**Compositional variability in  
ice composition**

**State of volatiles (ices,  
amorphous compounds,  
separate phases,  
clathrates)**

**Distribution with depth**

**How it binds soil grains**

**Whether it reacts with soil  
grains**

**Geotechnical properties of  
ice-bearing regolith**



**In principle, we can address these  
issues by experiments or lunar  
surface missions.**

# Determining the Inventory of Polar Volatiles

Need orbital and *in situ* measurements

## Orbital:

Map temperatures on surface

Determine all permanently shadowed locations (imaging)

Map ice concentrations and distributions with imaging radar

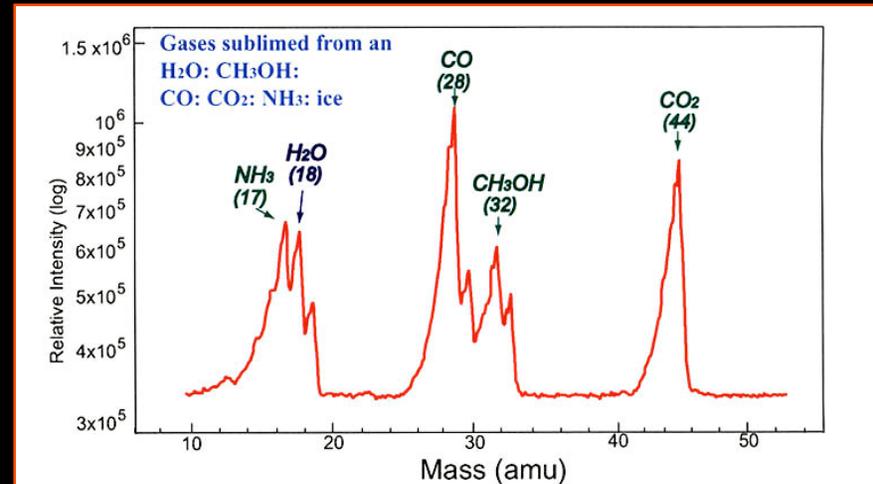
Obtain H concentrations at higher spatial resolution

Map topography of permanently shadowed regions

## *In situ*:

Determine nature of ice: chemical composition, structure

Measure geotechnical properties of ice-bearing regolith



Orbital and landed missions

# The Poles of the Moon

From the radar mapping, we will locate probable deposits of water ice and estimate their extent

We then need to land on these deposits to characterize the chemical and physical state of the ice

The lunar poles offer areas of terrain that are illuminated for extended periods and possess a benign thermal environment

They also offer permanently dark regions that contain trapped volatiles, which can be mined to support a lunar base

Thus, as accessible and viable footholds on our nearest planetary neighbor, the poles of the Moon are the most valuable pieces of real estate in the Solar System

# The Value of Lunar Resources

Volatiles at the poles of the Moon can be easily processed to make hydrogen and oxygen for use on the Moon and for export to Earth-Moon (cislunar) space

Propellant produced on the Moon can make travel within and through cislunar space routine

This eventuality will completely change the spaceflight paradigm

Routine access to cislunar space has important national economic and strategic implications