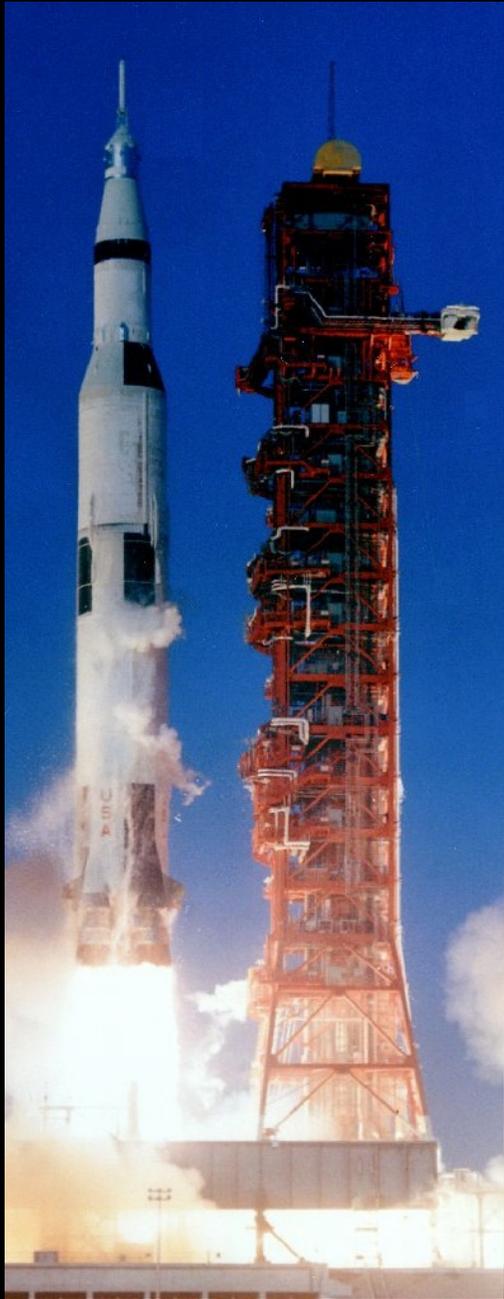


# Planetology

Unlocking the Secrets of the Solar System



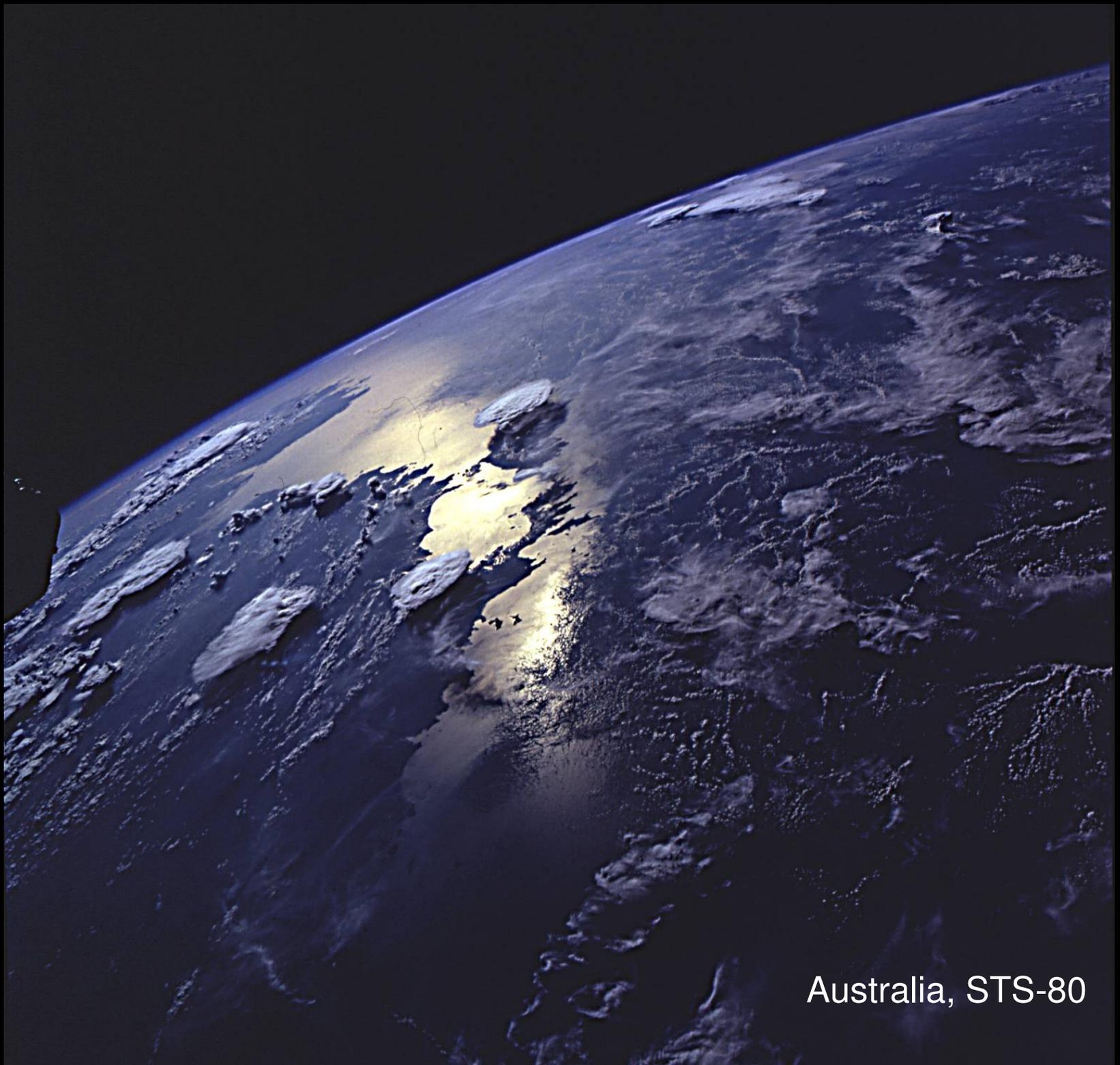
Tom Jones and Ellen Stofan



# Overview



- Examples from the pages of Planetology
- Experiences from the "field"
- Earth, our home, is also our classroom

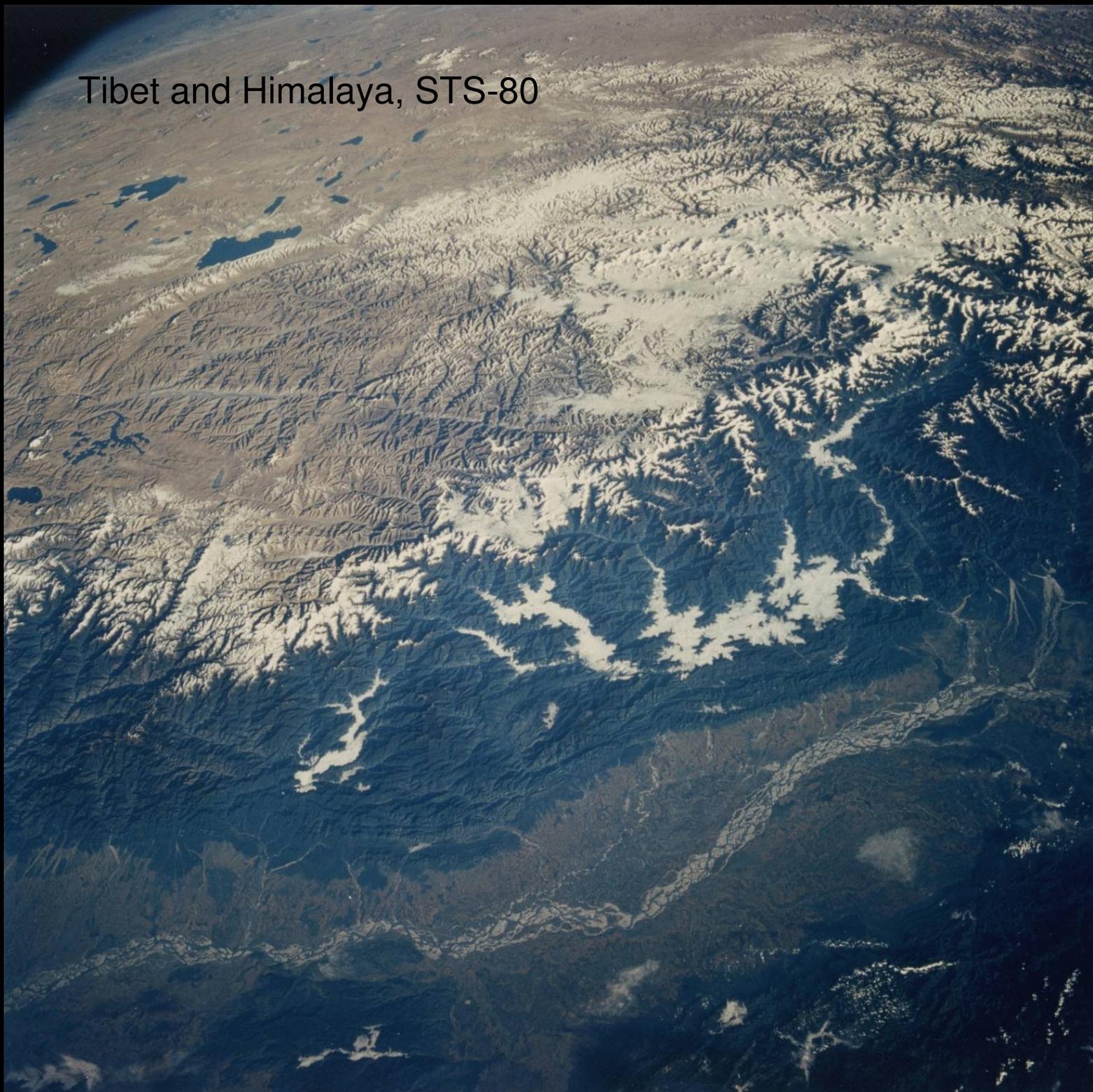


Australia, STS-80



Chaiten Volcano, Chile

Tibet and Himalaya, STS-80

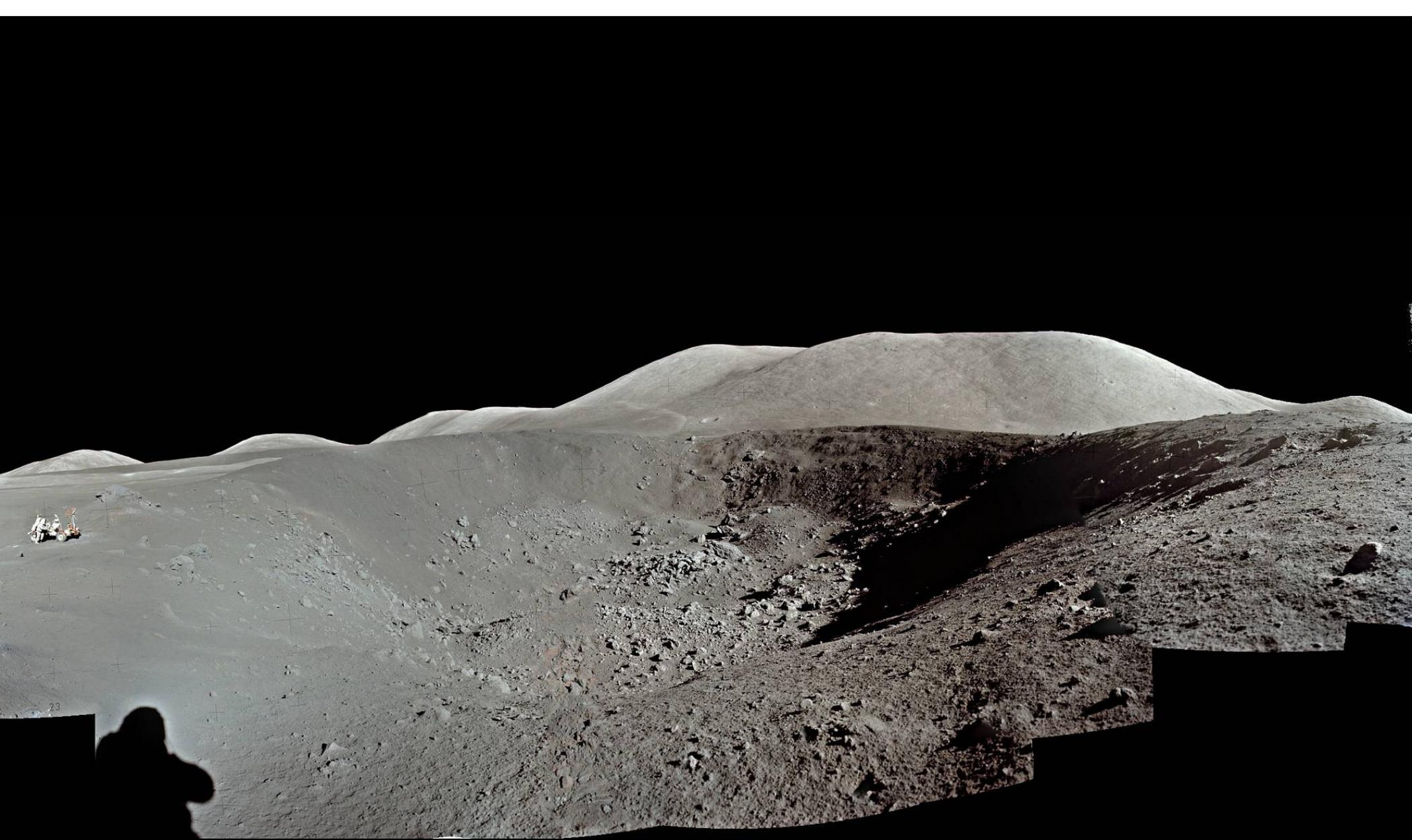




Moon, Apollo 16



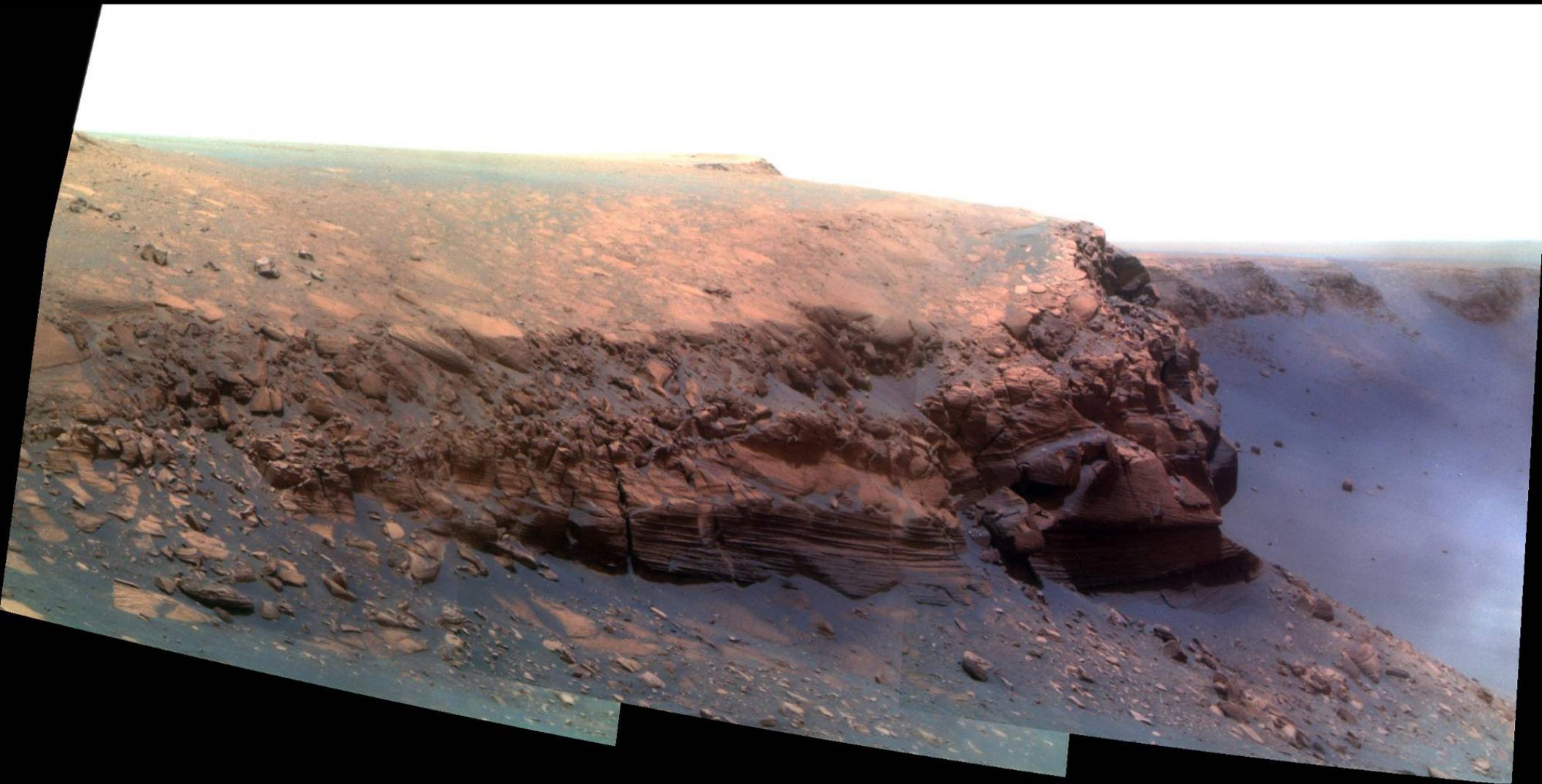
Barringer Crater, Arizona



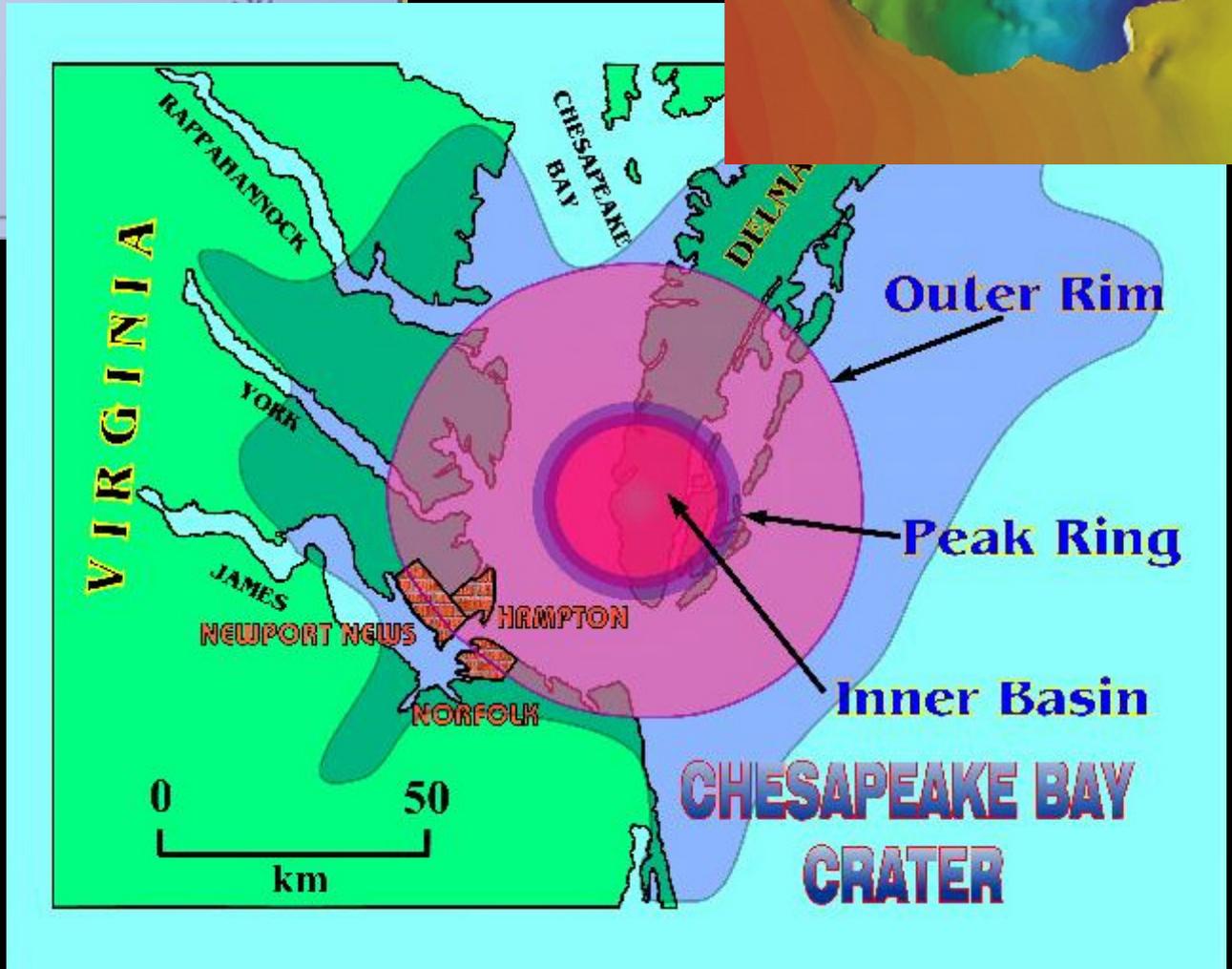
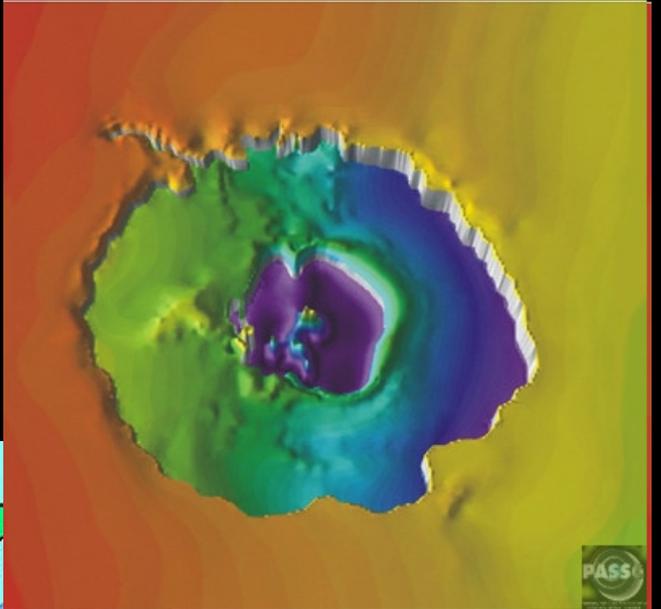
Shorty Crater, Apollo 17  
1972

Victoria Crater, MRO

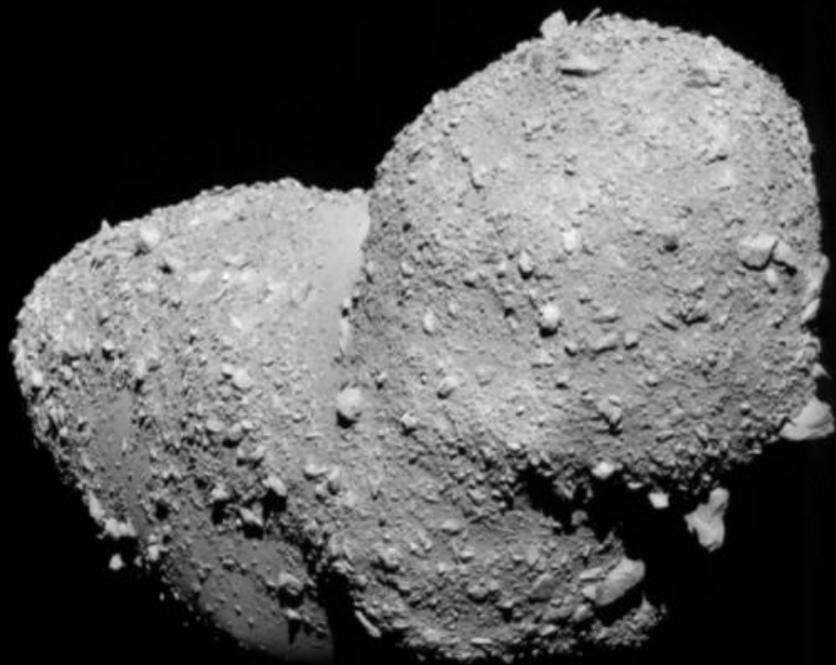




Bedrock, Victoria Crater, Mars



# Itokawa (JAXA)

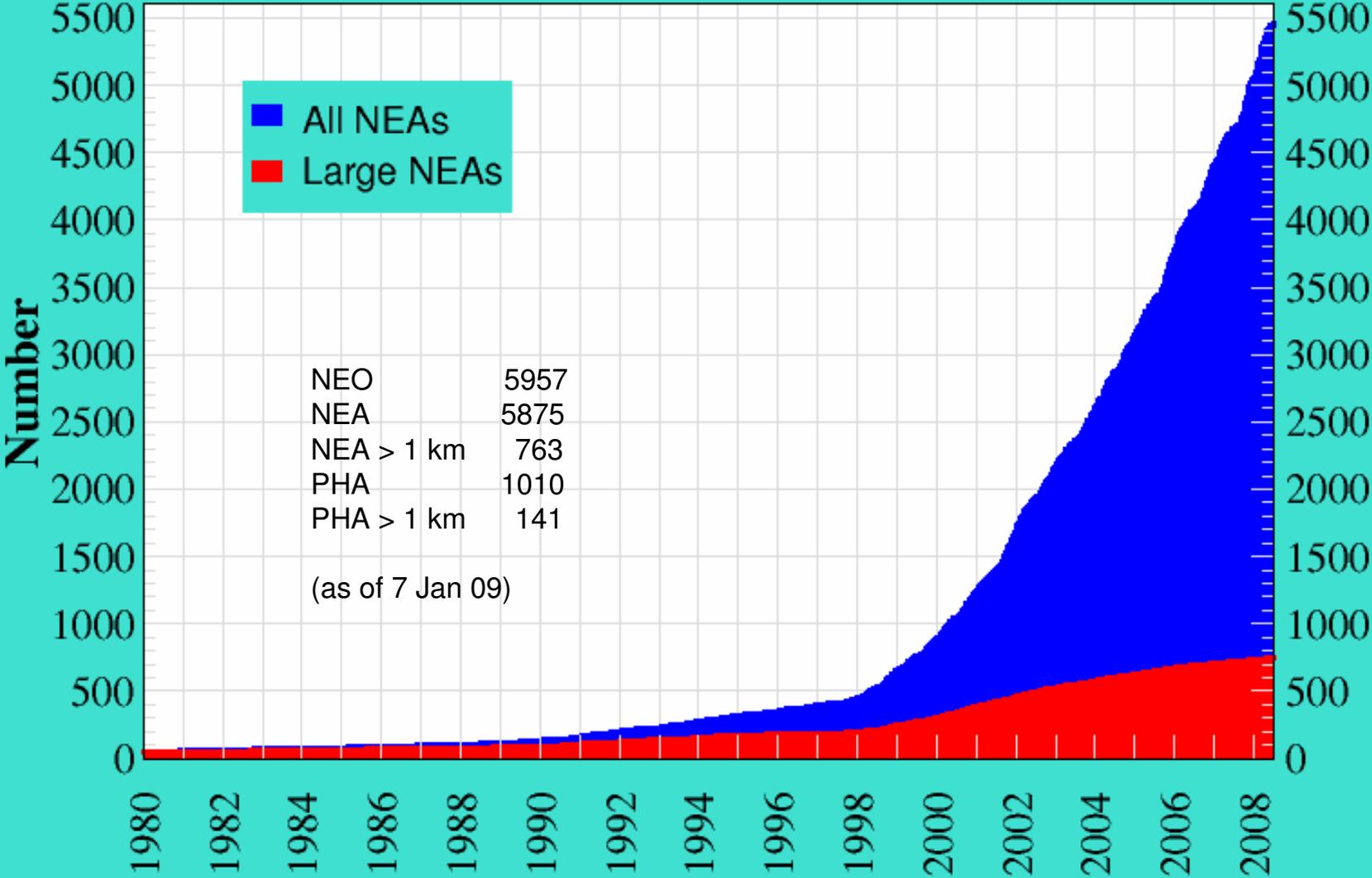


100 m





# Known Near-Earth Asteroids 1980-Jan through 2008-Jun



17 July 2008

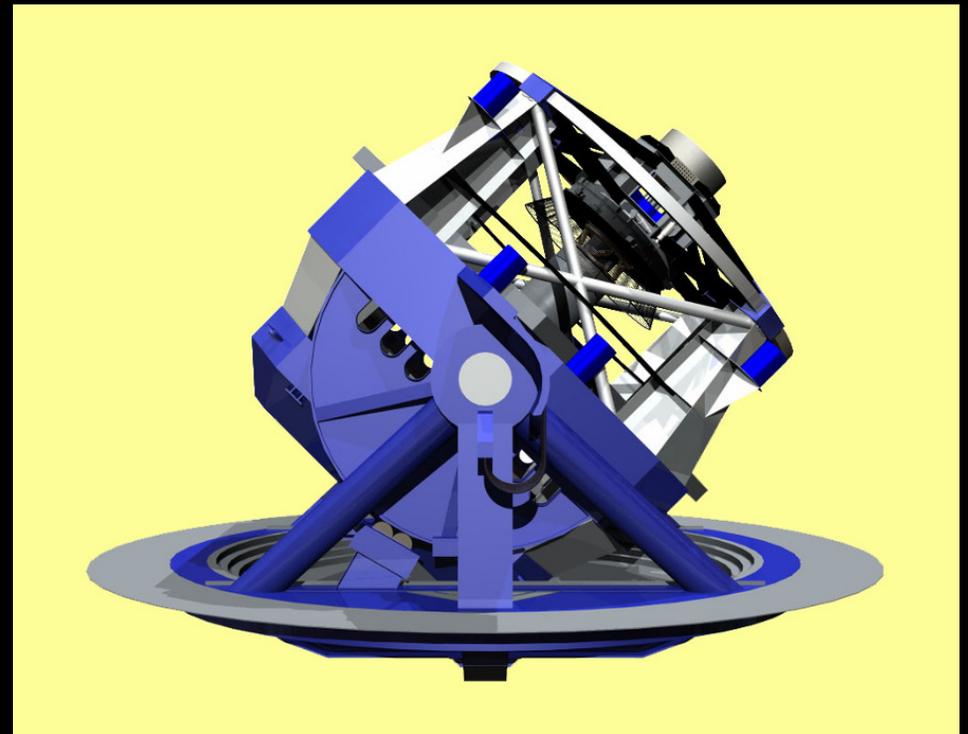
Alan B. Chamberlin (JPL)

# New Systems Will Expand Search

500,000 new NEOs  
by 2020

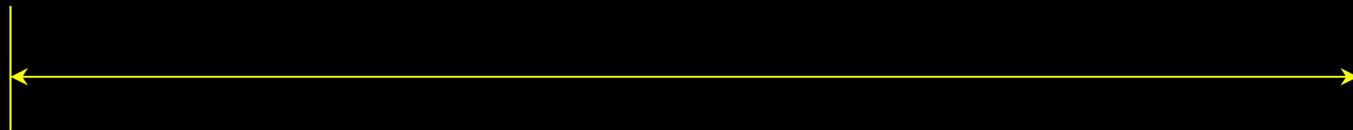


Pan-STARRS-1



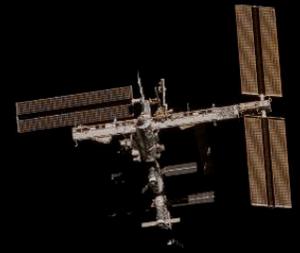
8.4m "LSST"  
(Large-aperture Synoptic Survey Telescope)

# Asteroid Itokawa, ISS, and CEV Orion



540 meters

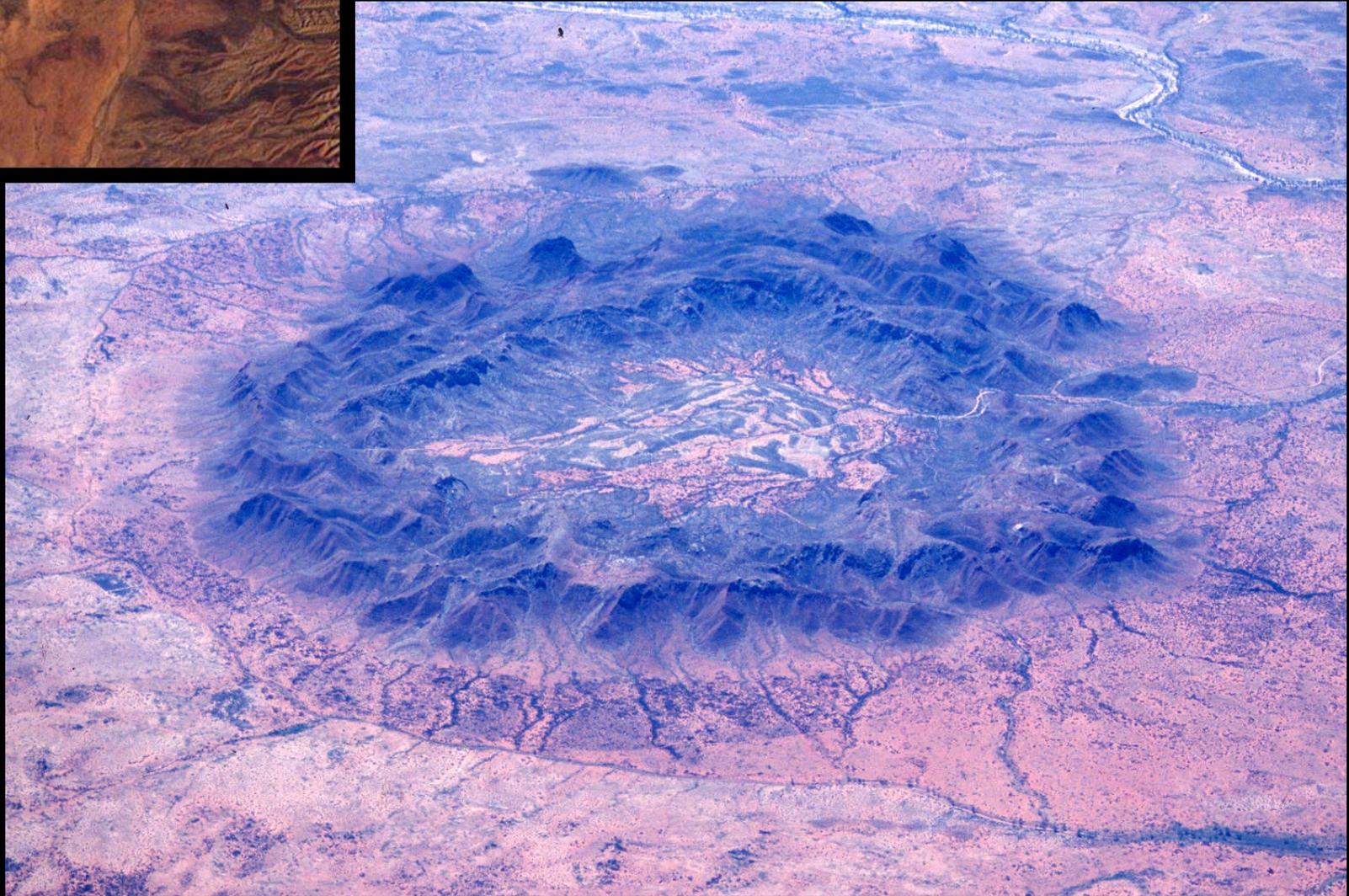
CEV Orion



~100 meters  
(ISS at 12A.1 Stage)



Gosses Bluff, Australia  
Age: 142 my – Diam: 22 km



# NEOs – Why Go?

A common sense use of our space technology...  
...to help eliminate the possibility of this:



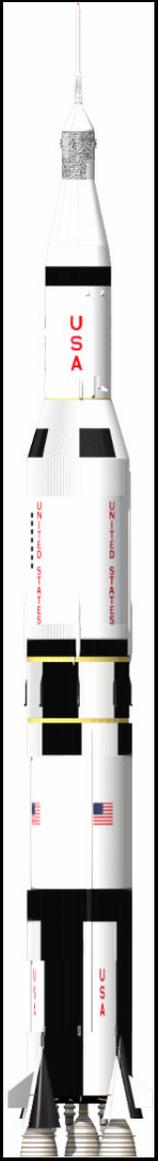
Pingualuit Crater,  
Quebec



Tunguska

# Possible Launch Vehicles for NEO Missions

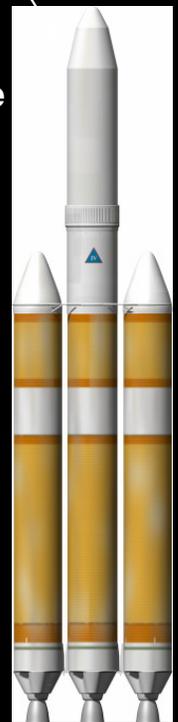
110.6 meters  
Historical Ref Only



Atlas 5  
(Heavy)



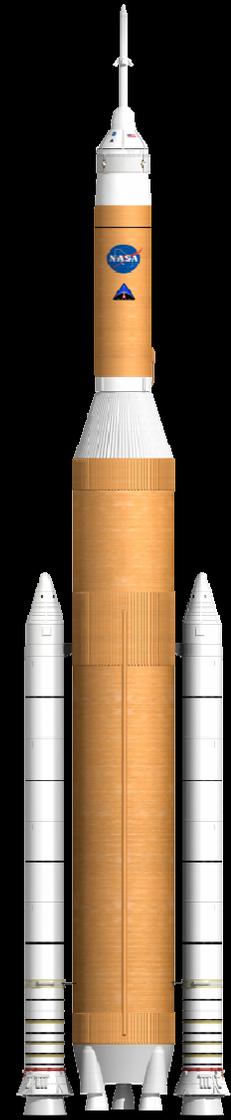
Delta IV  
(Heavy)



Centaur  
Upper Stage



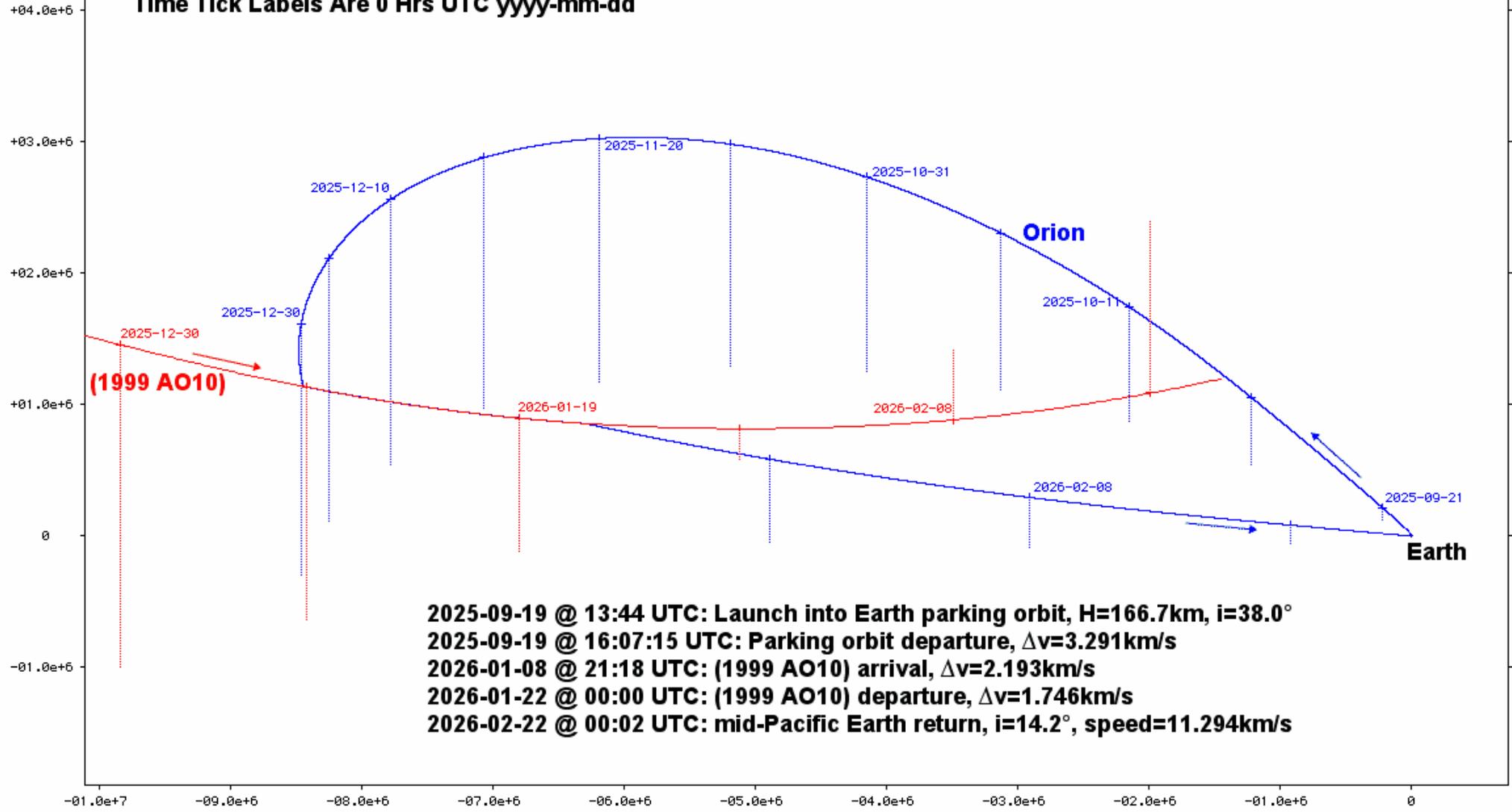
Ares Family



# Mission To Asteroid (1999 AO10) In 2025/6

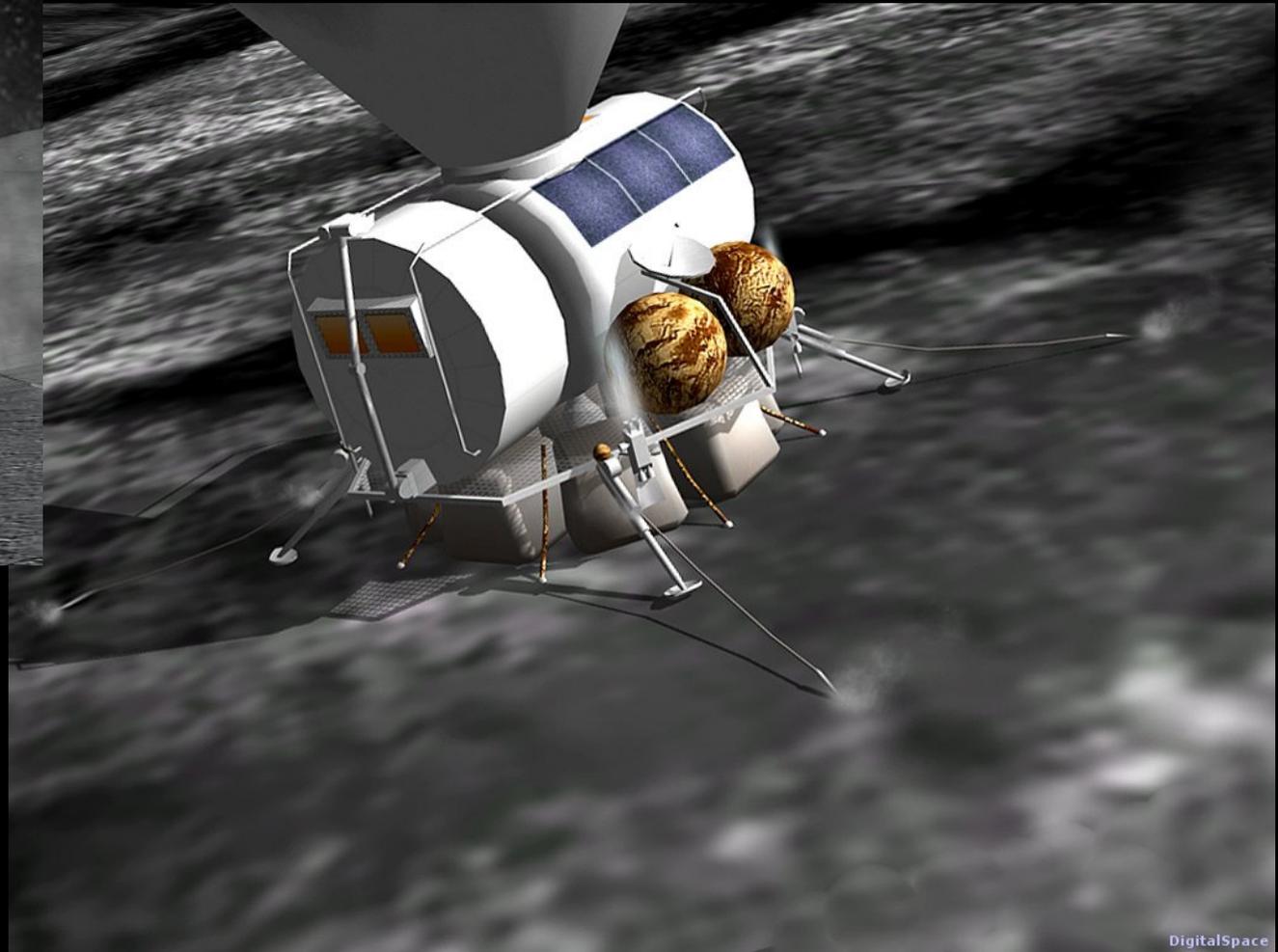
Dotted Lines Are Projections Onto Ecliptic Plane

Time Tick Labels Are 0 Hrs UTC yyyy-mm-dd



**2025-09-19 @ 13:44 UTC: Launch into Earth parking orbit, H=166.7km, i=38.0°**  
**2025-09-19 @ 16:07:15 UTC: Parking orbit departure,  $\Delta v=3.291\text{km/s}$**   
**2026-01-08 @ 21:18 UTC: (1999 AO10) arrival,  $\Delta v=2.193\text{km/s}$**   
**2026-01-22 @ 00:00 UTC: (1999 AO10) departure,  $\Delta v=1.746\text{km/s}$**   
**2026-02-22 @ 00:02 UTC: mid-Pacific Earth return, i=14.2°, speed=11.294km/s**

Km Units View From Y= 0.0°, P= 0.0°, R= 45.0°  
Earth-Centered J2KE Coordinate System  
Visit to (1999 A010)



# The Asteroid Option

Highly visible and dramatic exploration:

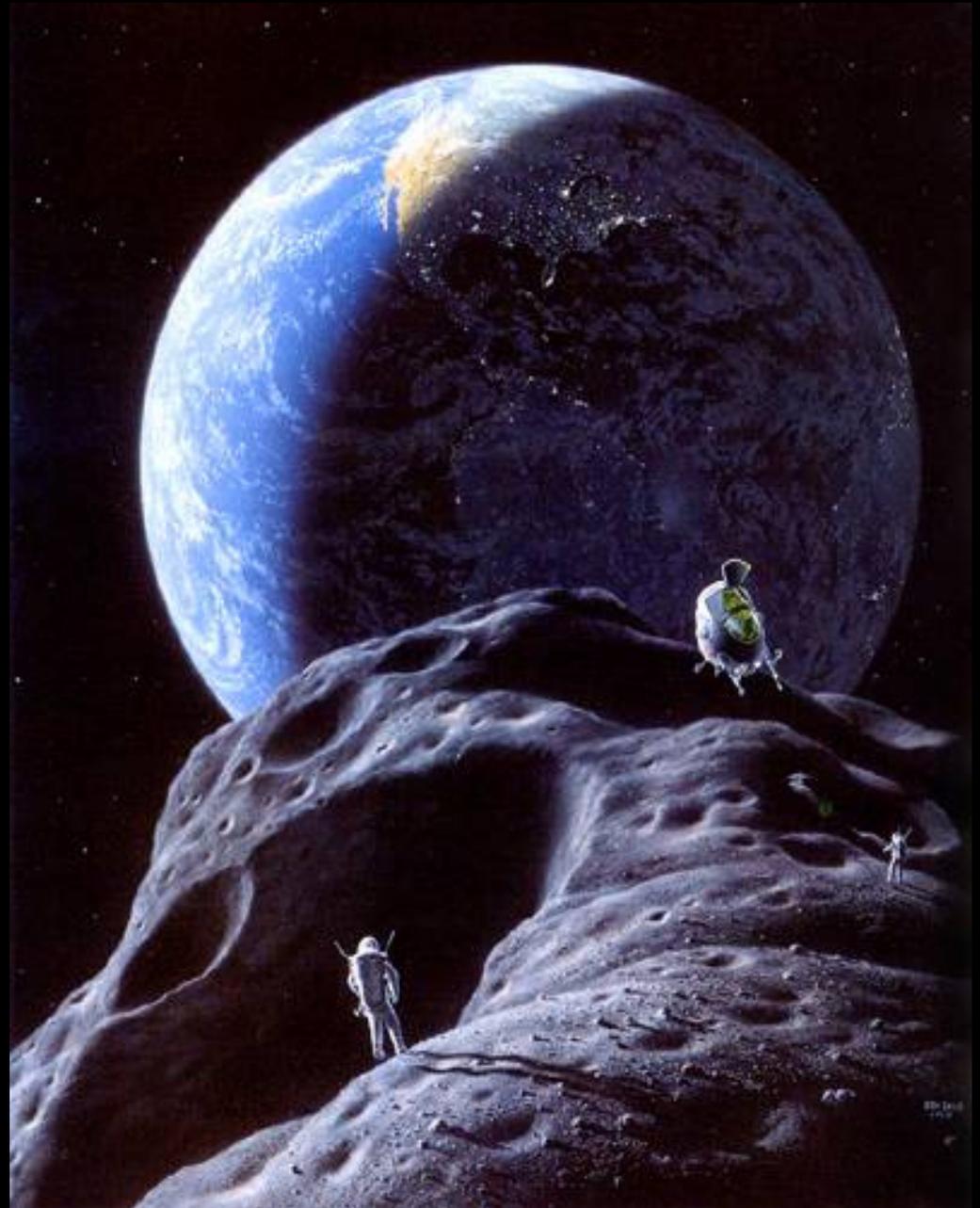


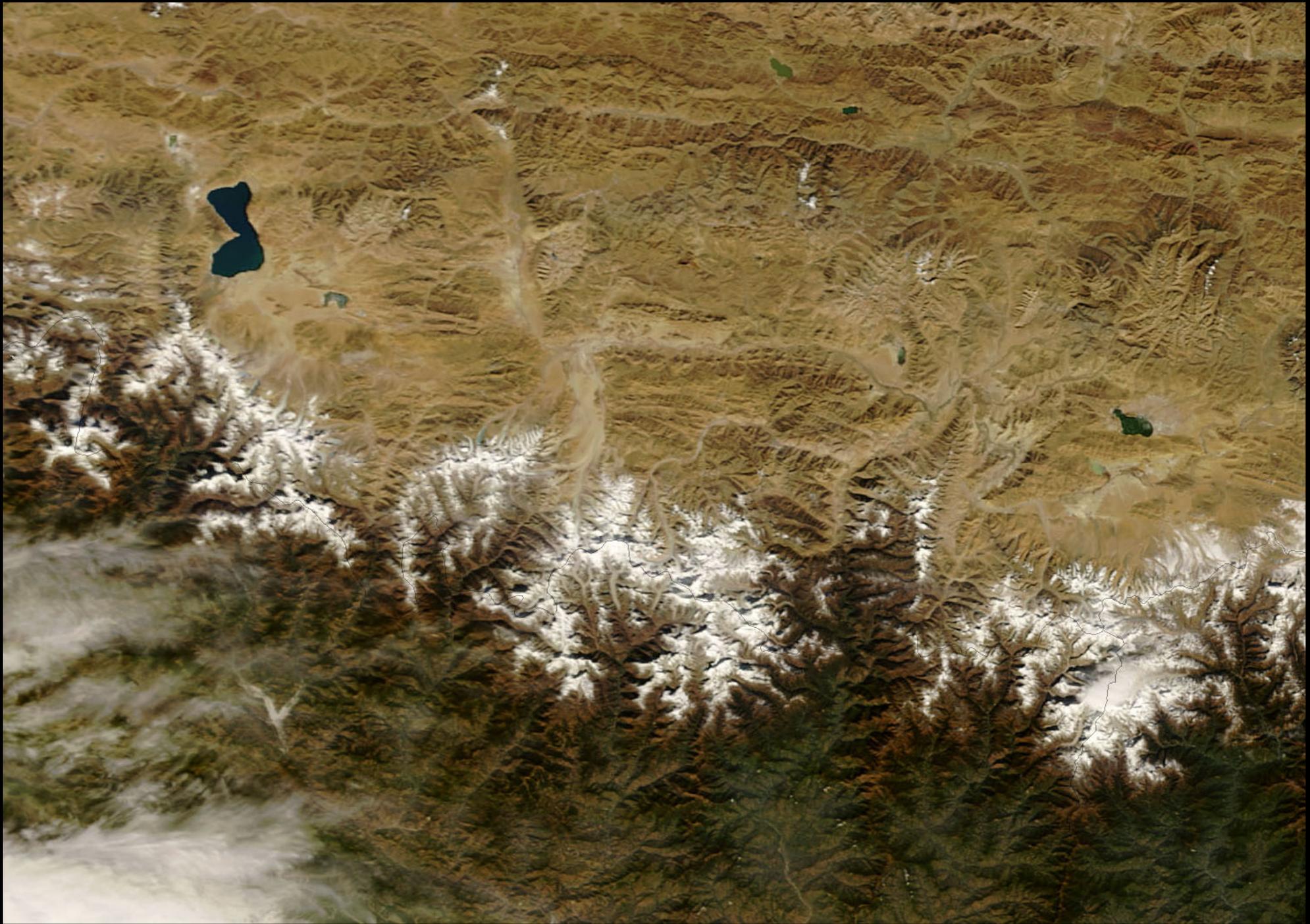
From 0.05 AU,  
Earth is apparent size  
of a BB held at 2.4 m

# NEO Missions: Stepping Stones to Mars

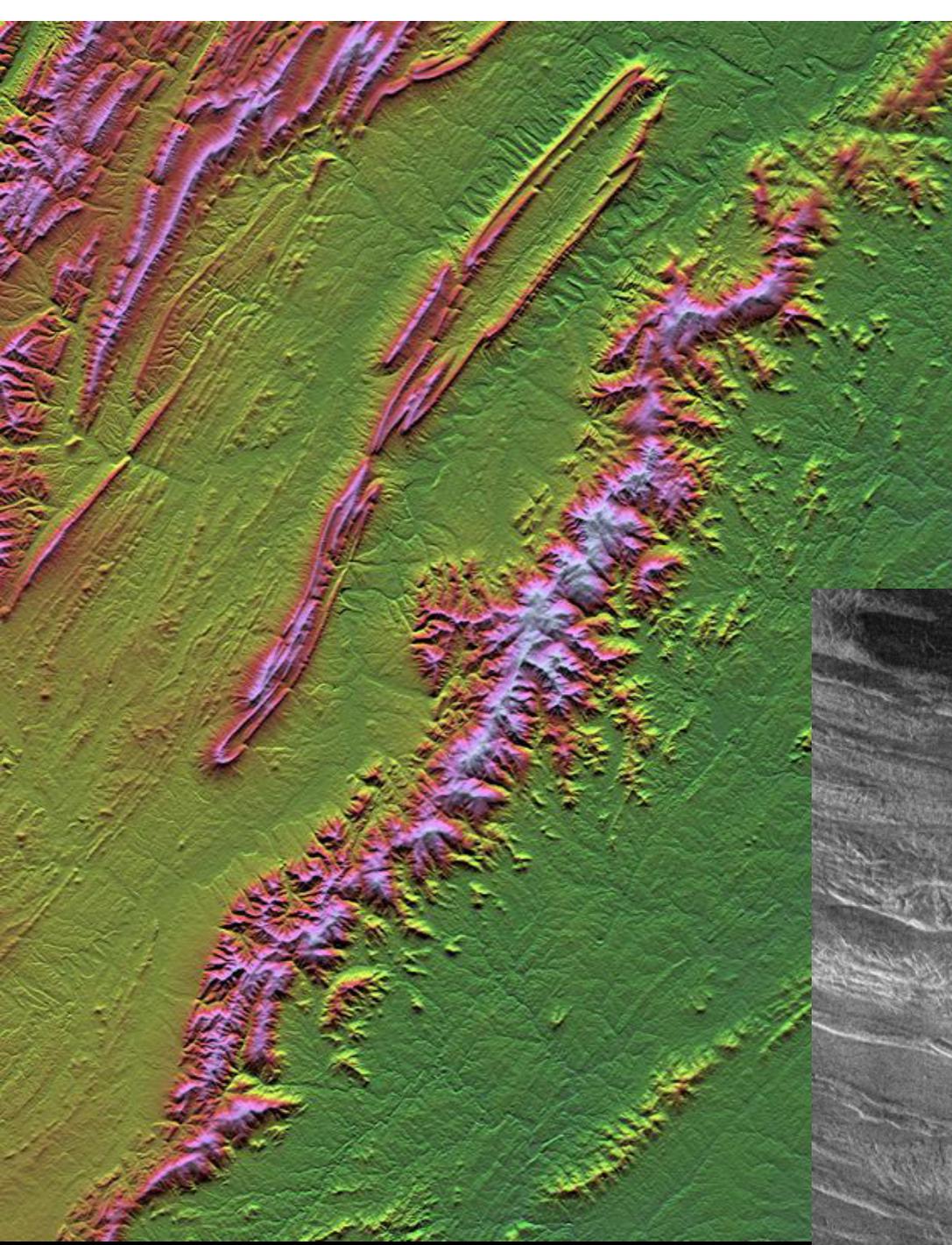
## Summary

- NEOs can be reached with planned systems
- New and different science
- Resources a certainty
- Exploration momentum
- Right for the Planet





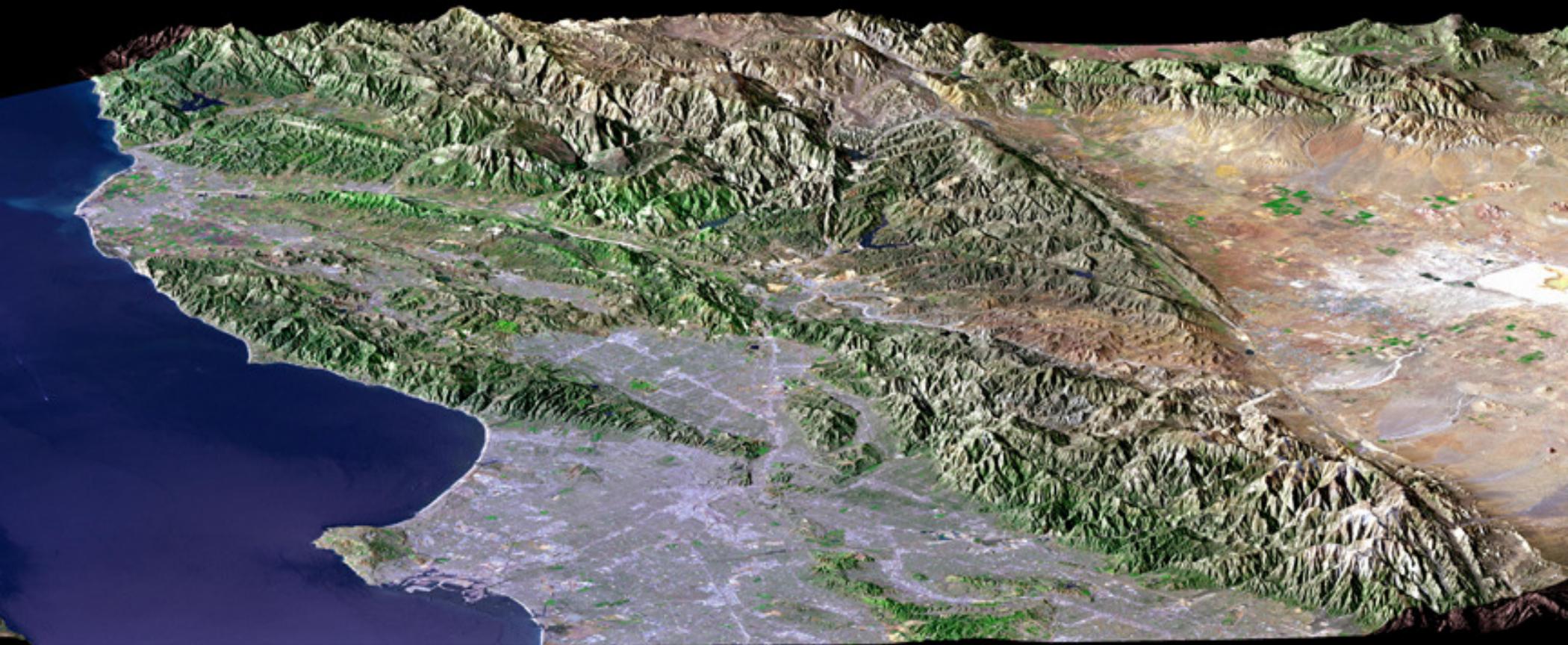




Folded mountains on Venus  
and Earth



PIA03383  
Shenandoah National Park

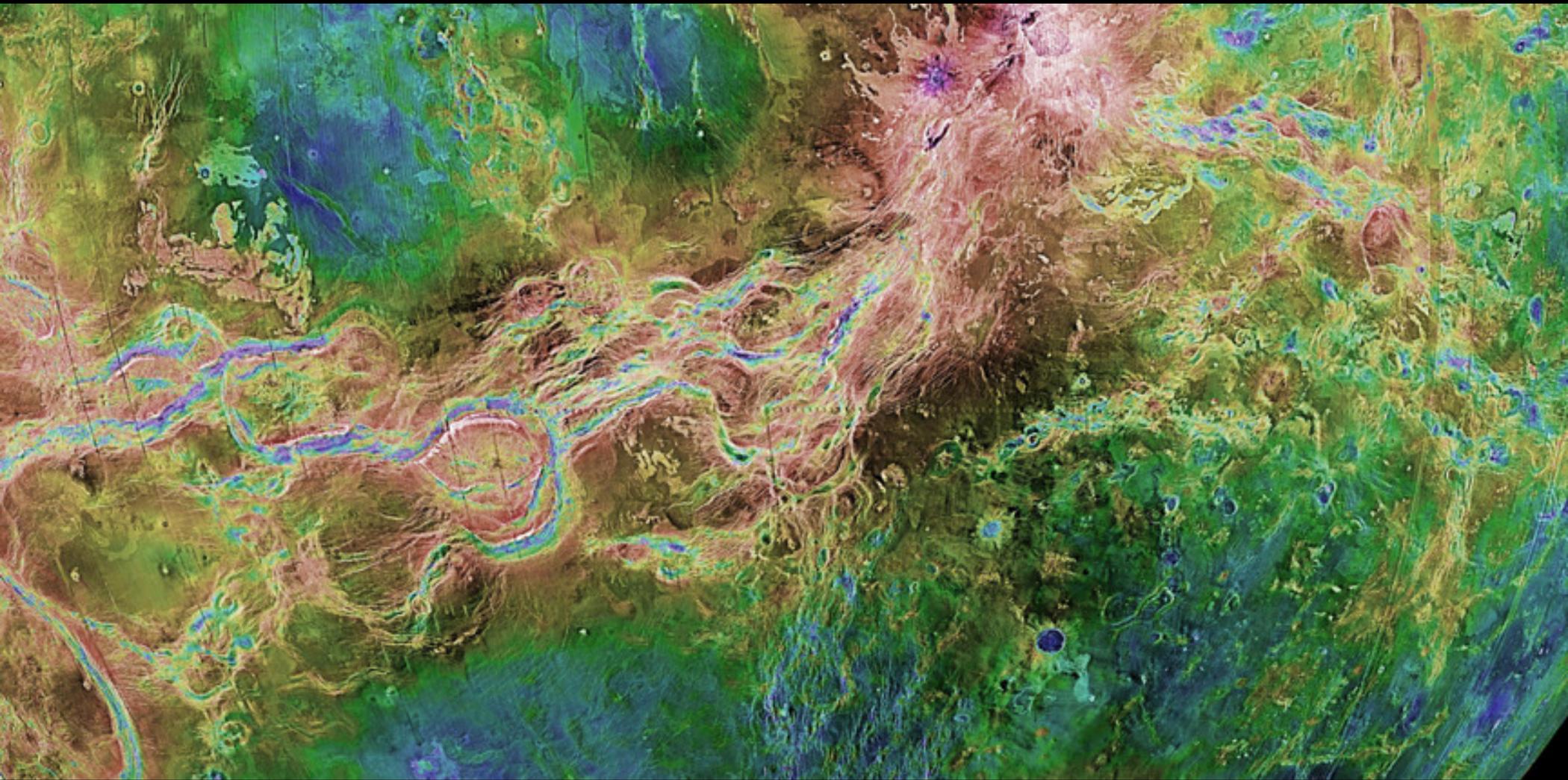


Faults slice through L.A.

PIA03376: SRTM / Landsat

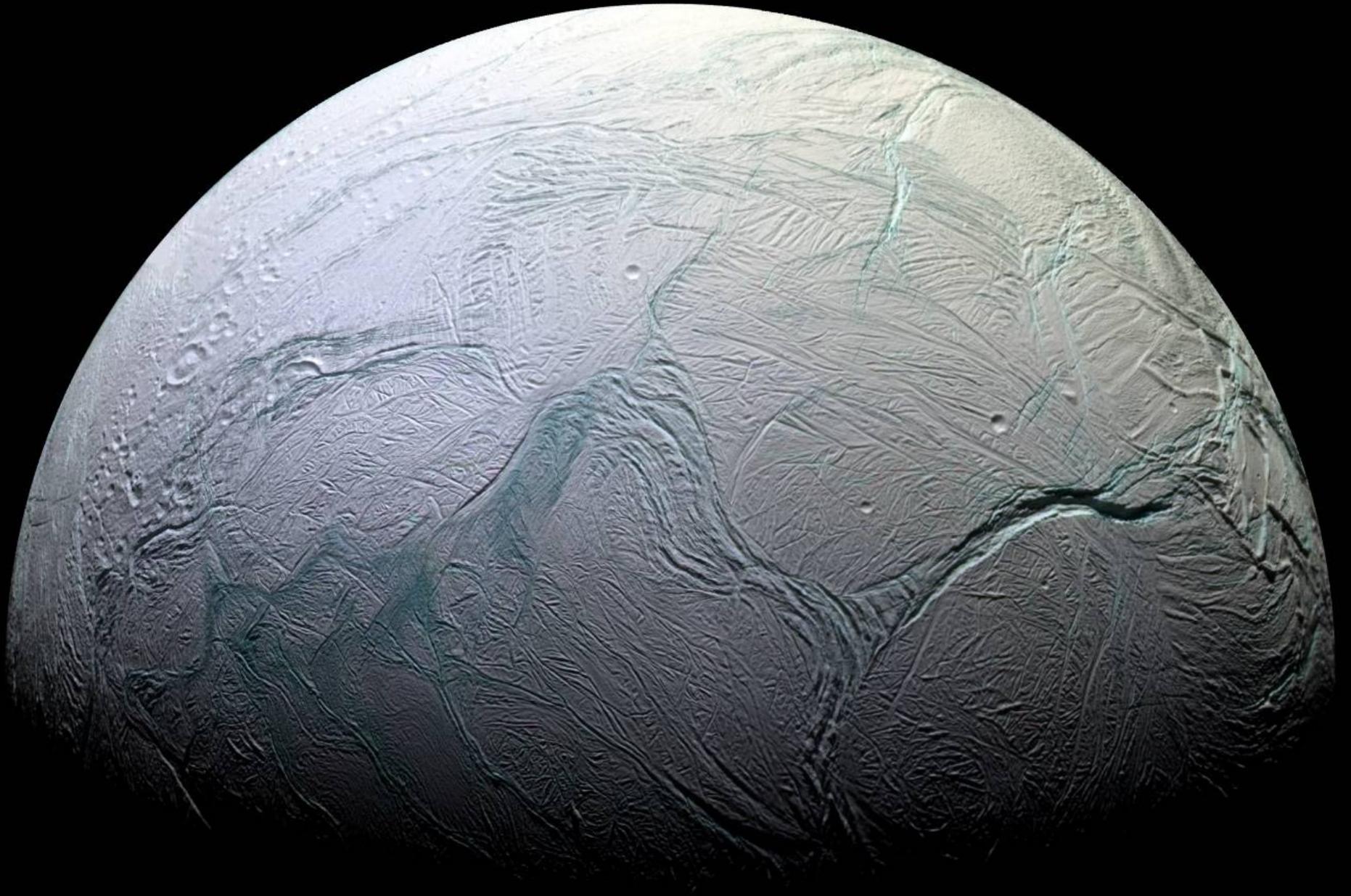
# Tectonics: Surfaces in Motion





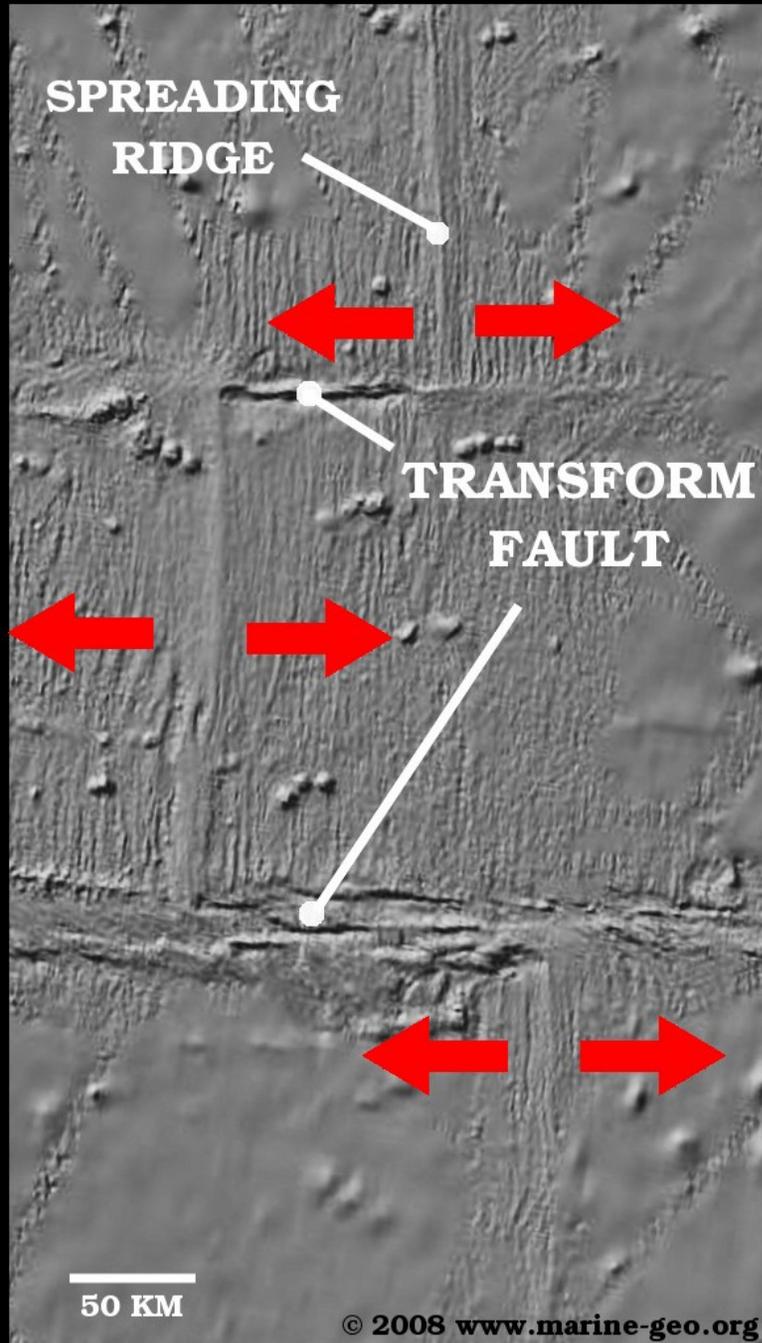
Venus Rift Zones, Magellan

Enceladus – Oct 5, 2008



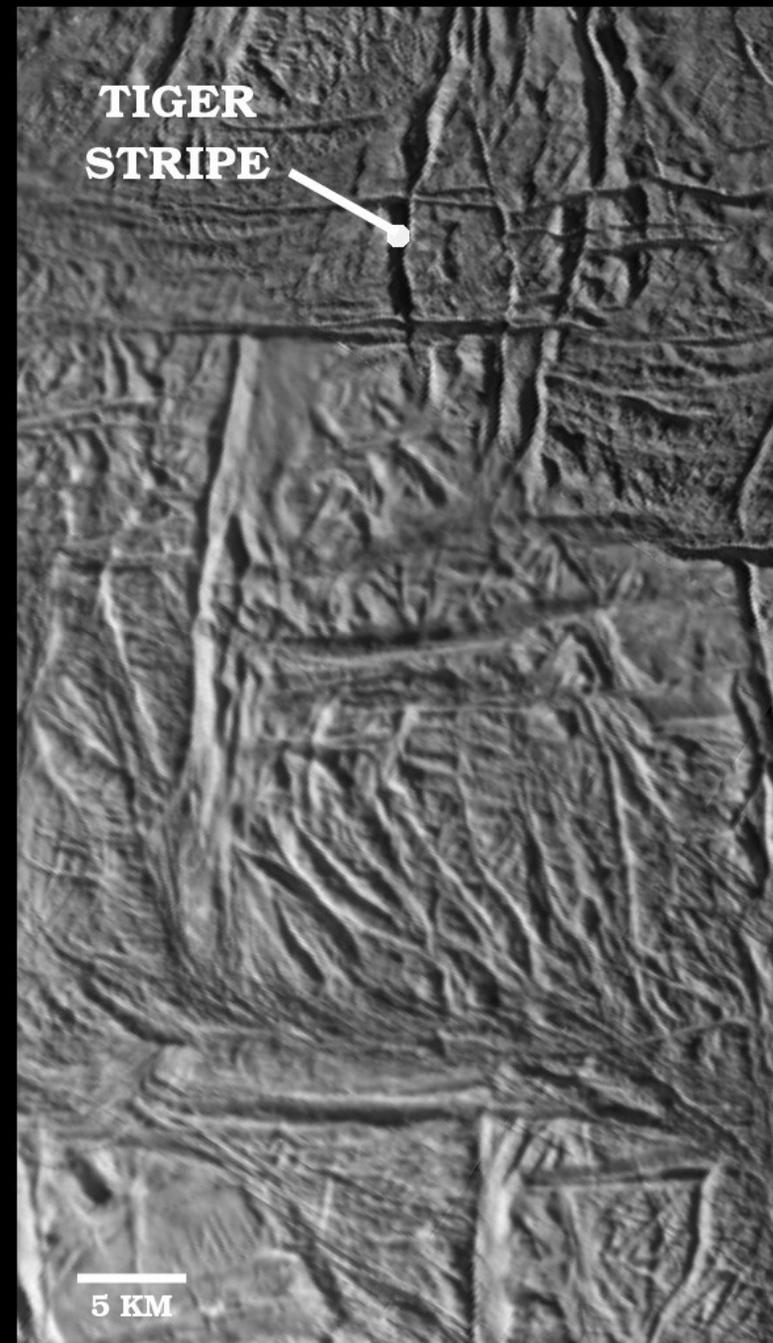
# EARTH

(East Pacific Rise)



# ENCELADUS

(South Polar Terrain)





Mt. Etna, Sicily, from ISS  
ISS005E19024



— Johnston Ridge

blast/debris zone

Mount St. Helens

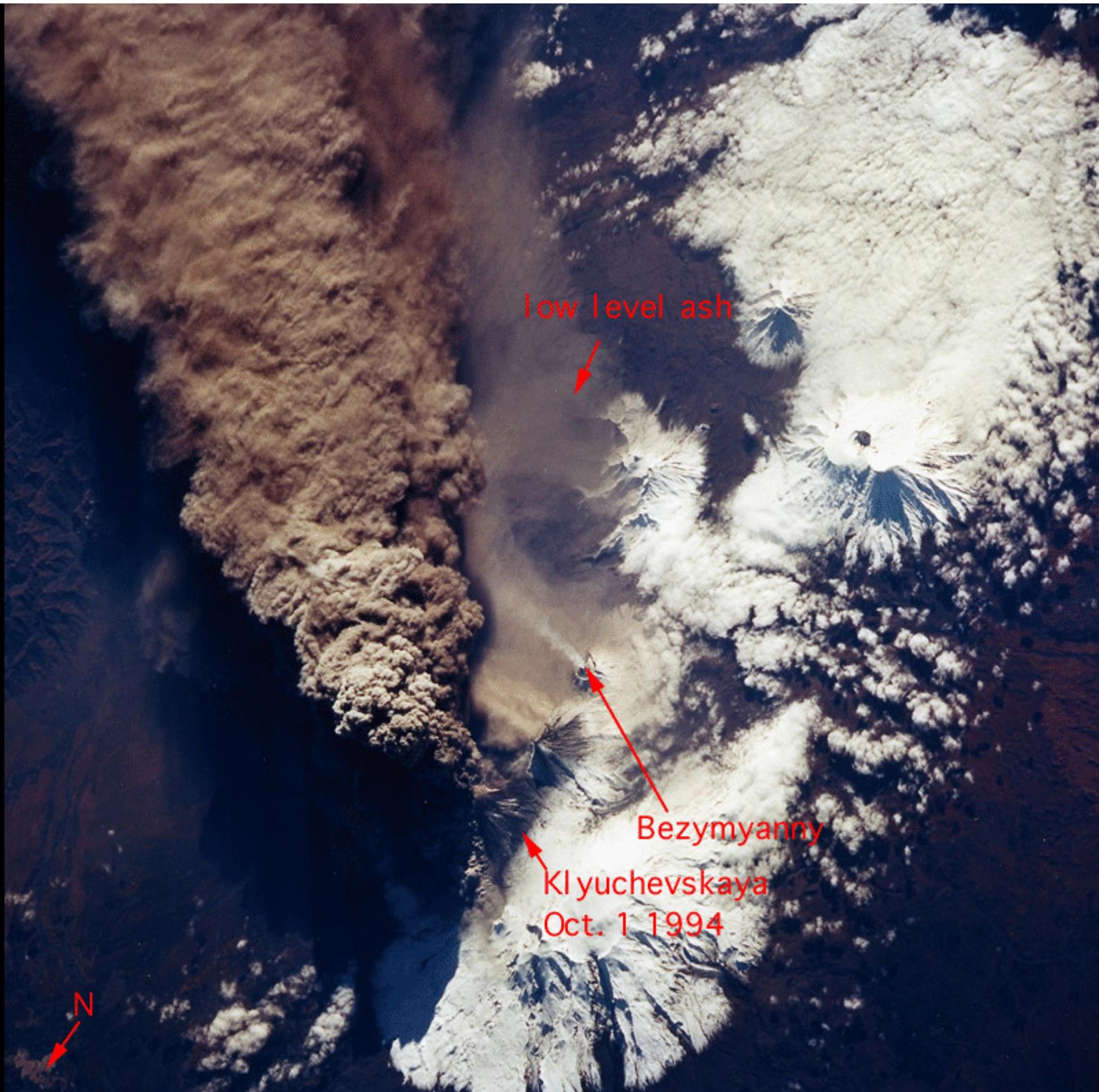
Spirit Lake

unaffected forest





Kamchatka from STS-68



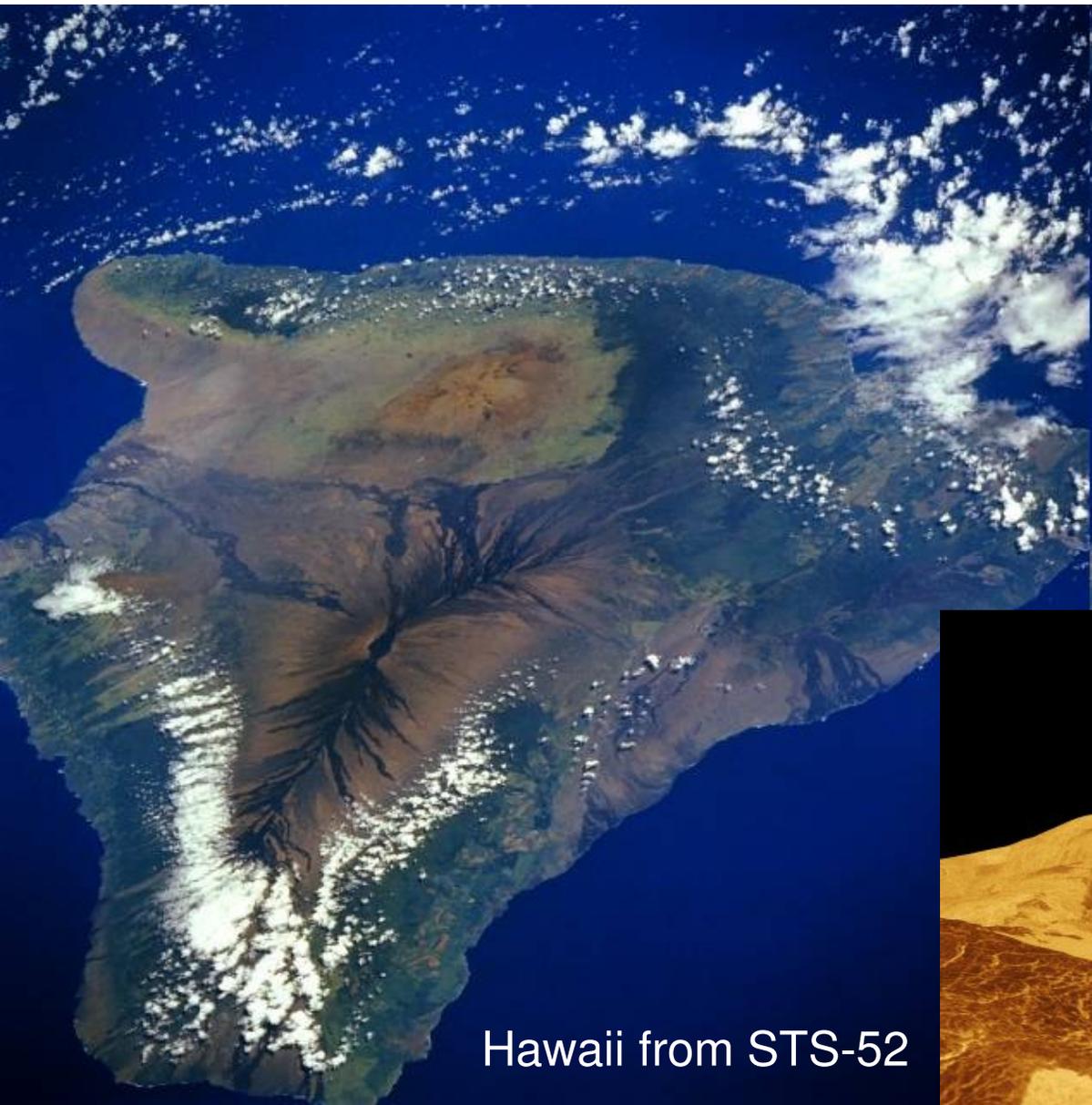
low level ash

Bezymyanny

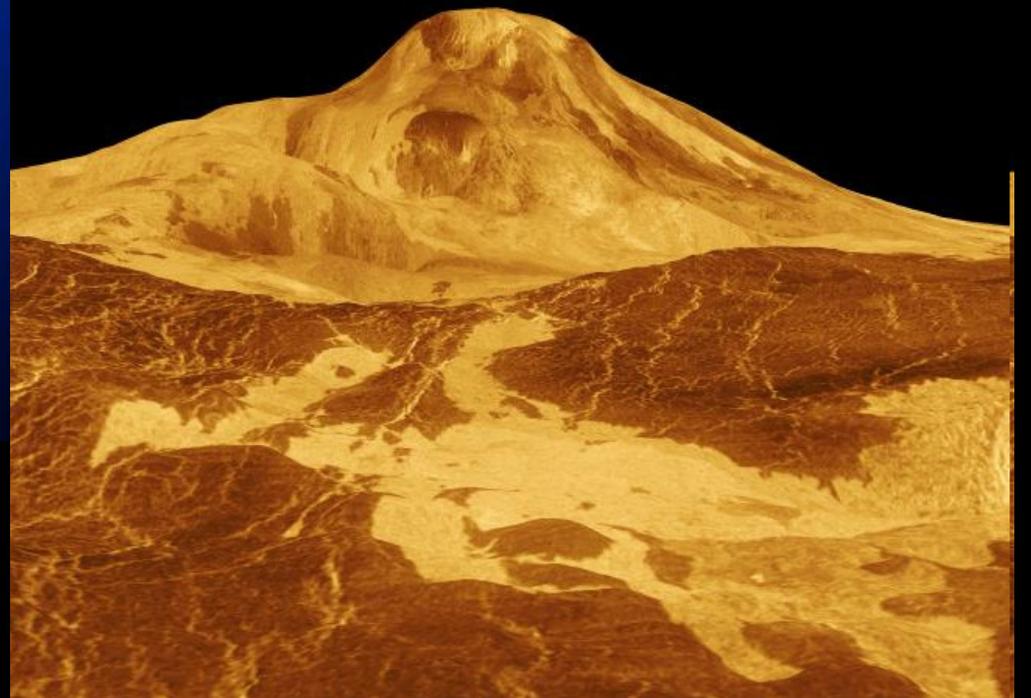
Klyuchevskaya

Oct. 1 1994

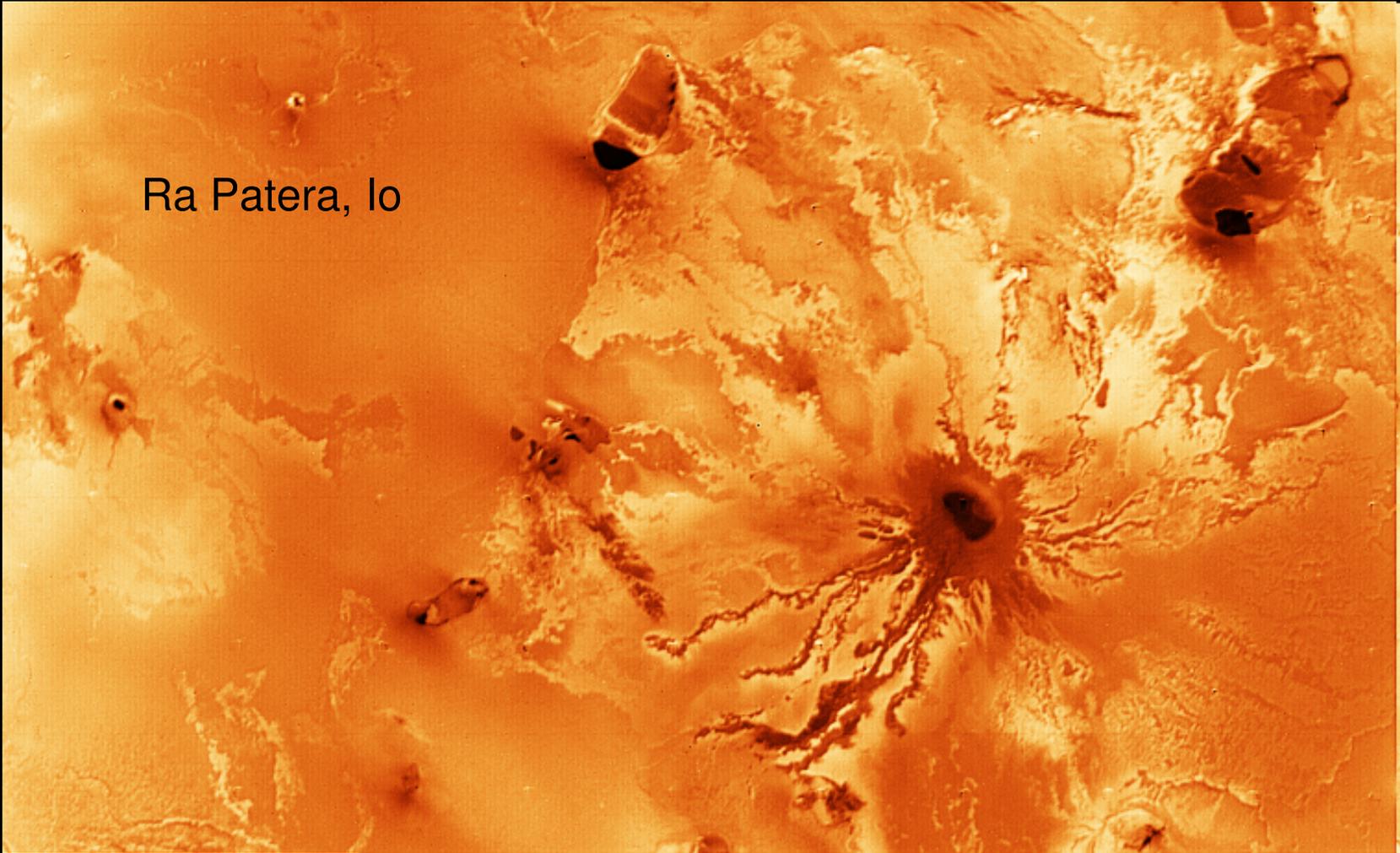
N



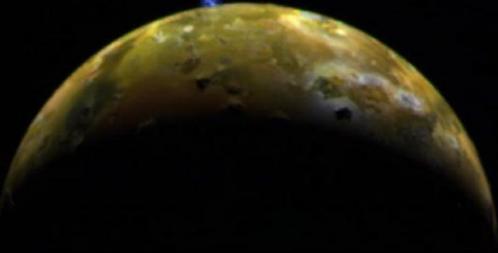
Hawaii from STS-52



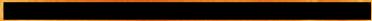
Maat Mons, Venus



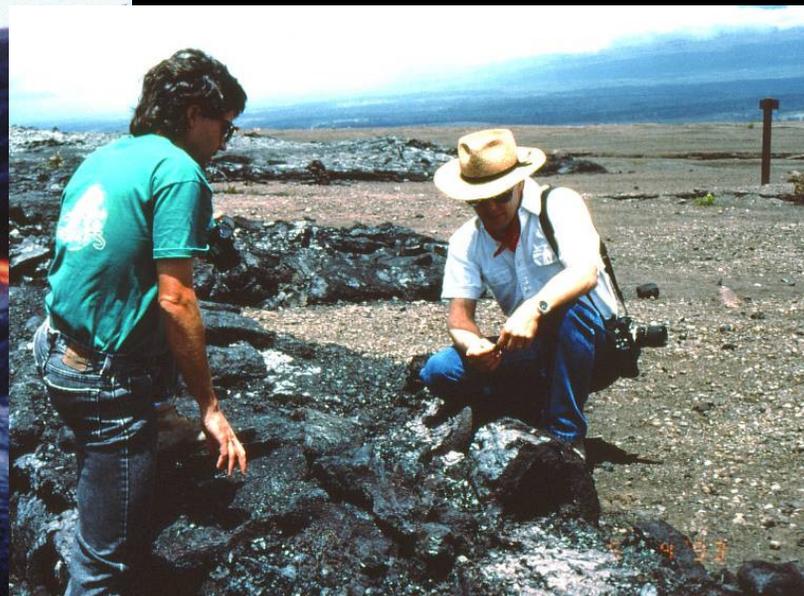
Ra Patera, Io



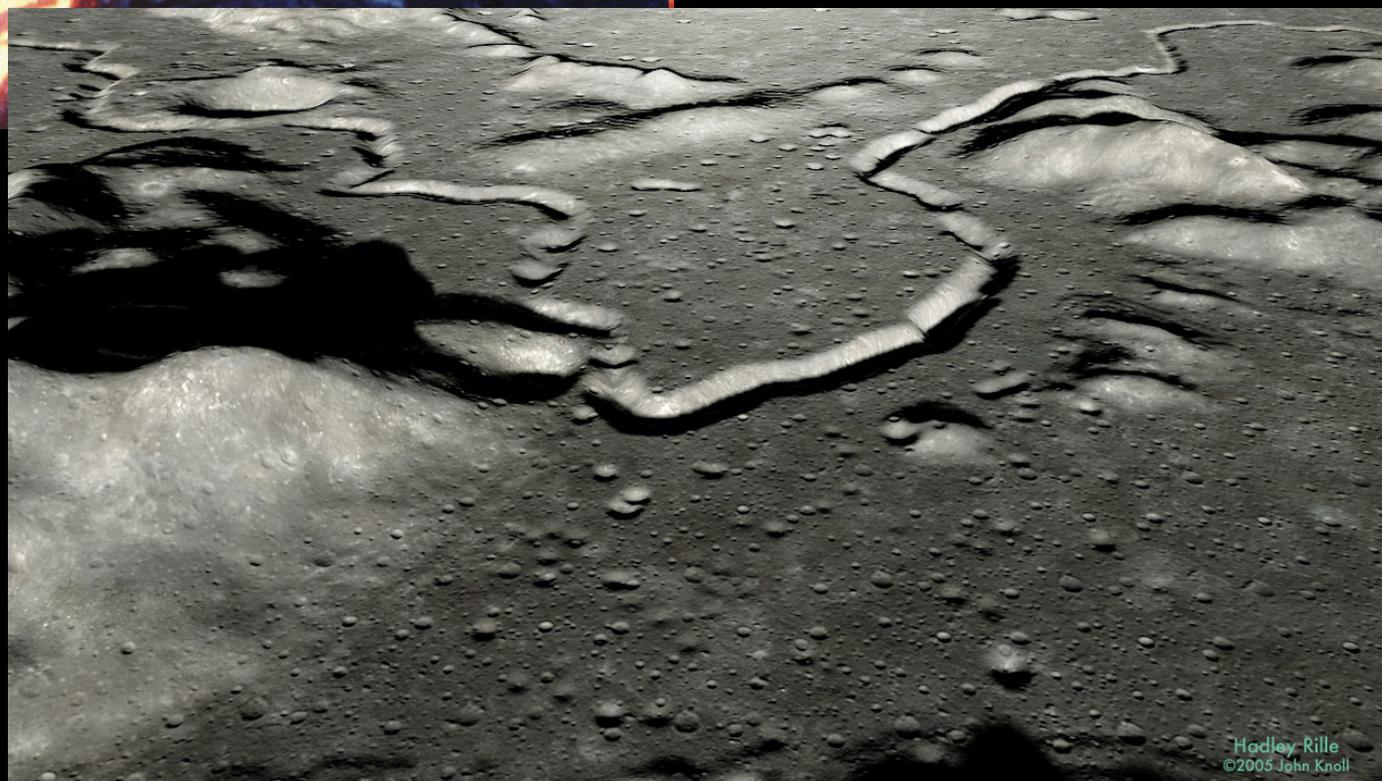
200 km

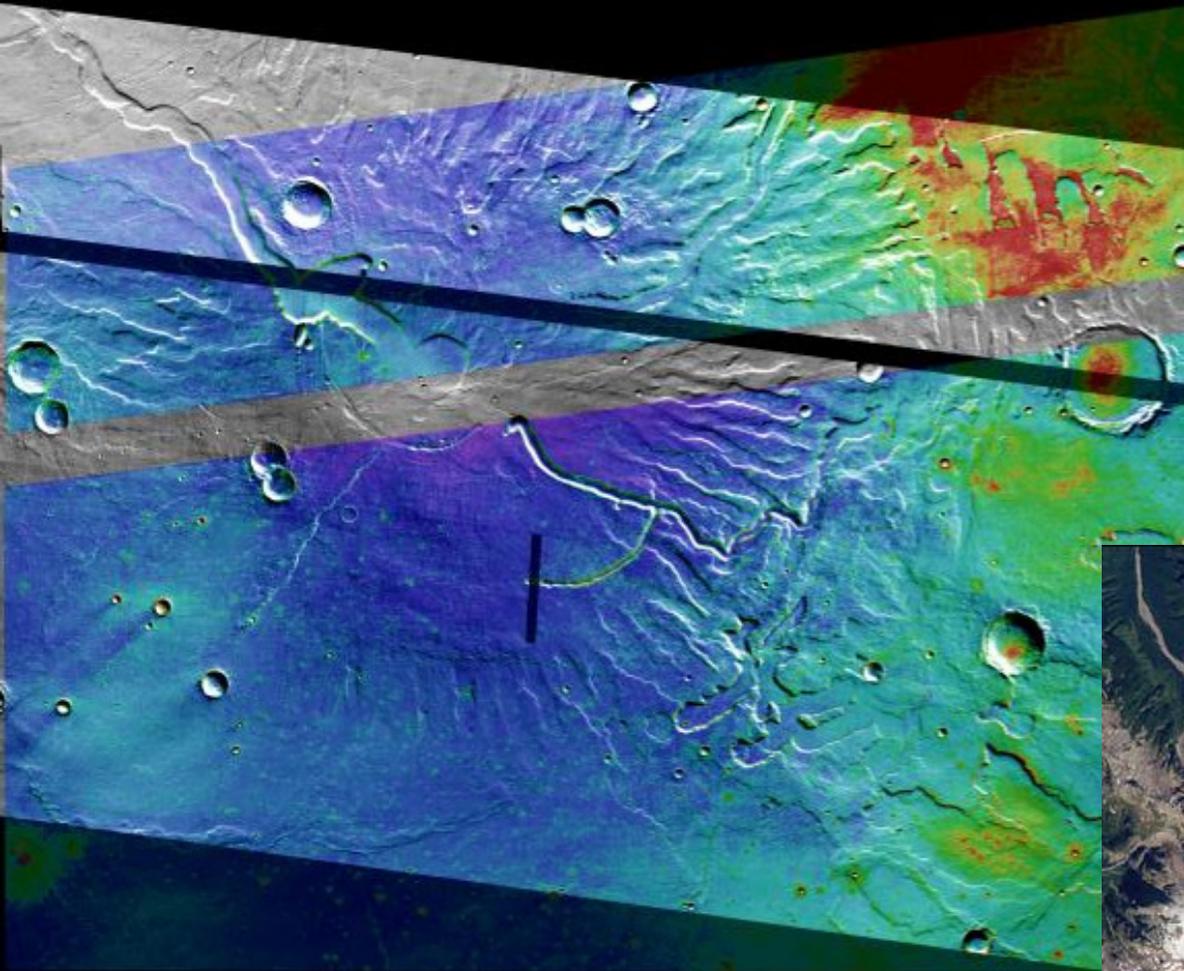


Hawaii



Hadley Rille, Moon





Tyrrhena Patera (Mars Odyssey)

Mt. Rainier,  
Washington



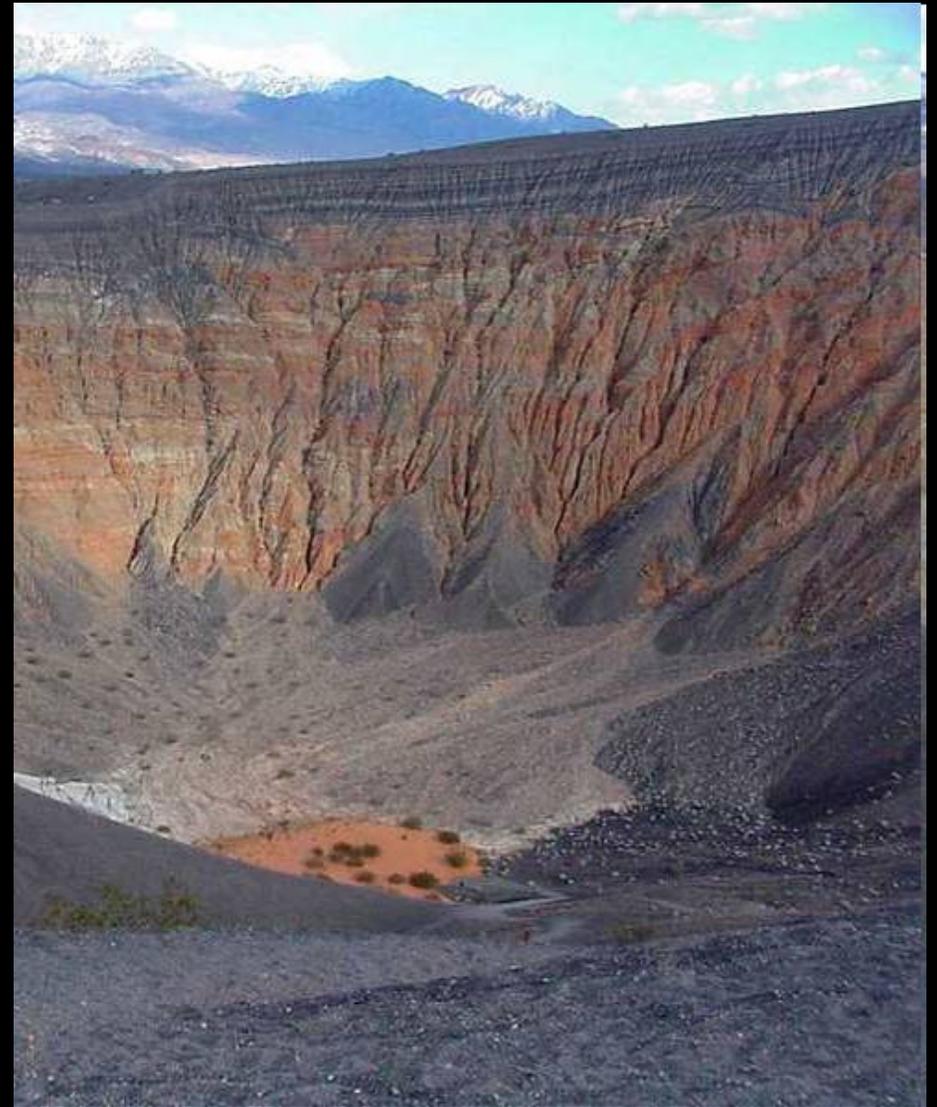


Grand Canyon, STS-98





STS091-707-12



Fluids -- Death Valley & Ubehebe Crater

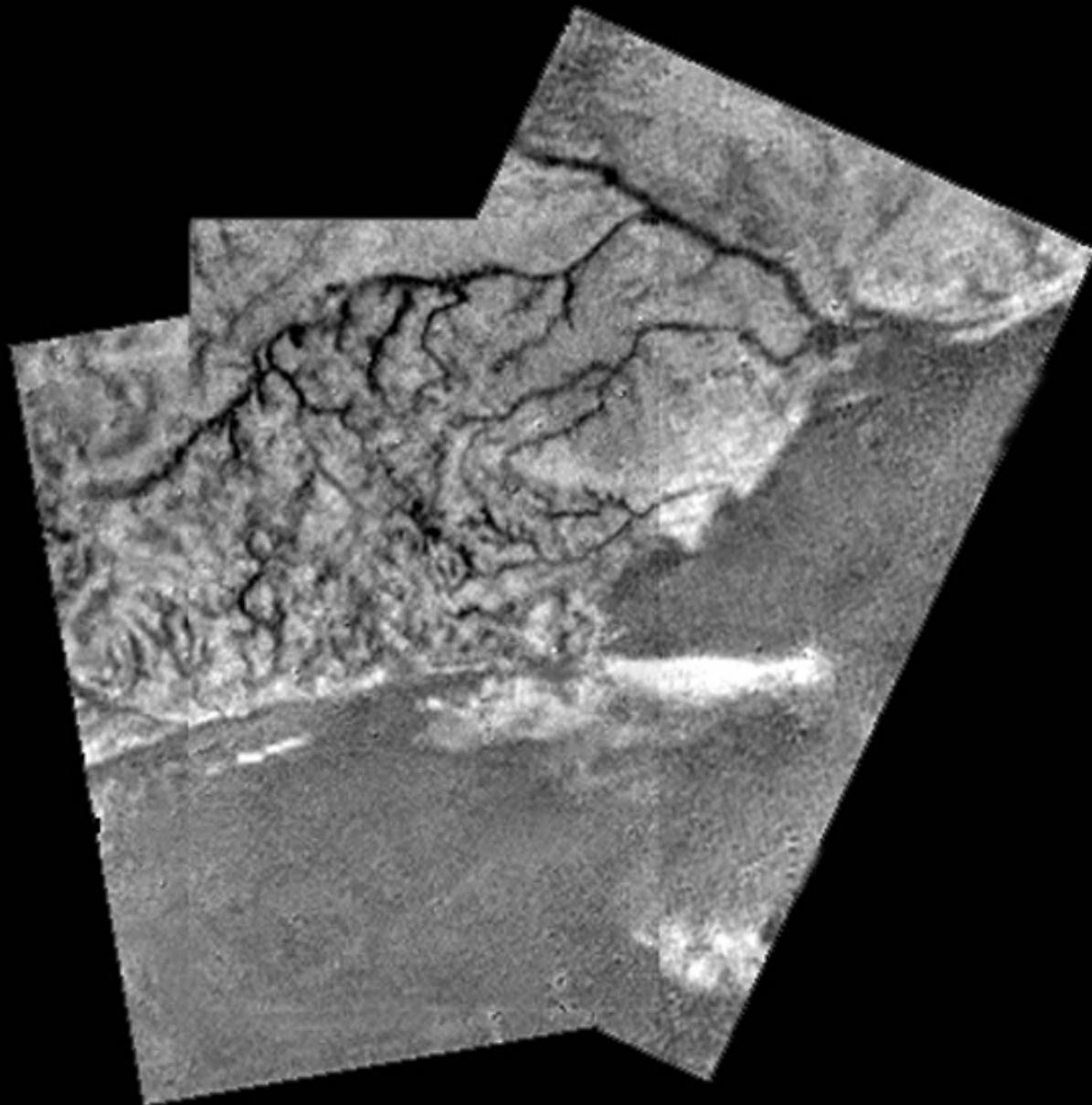
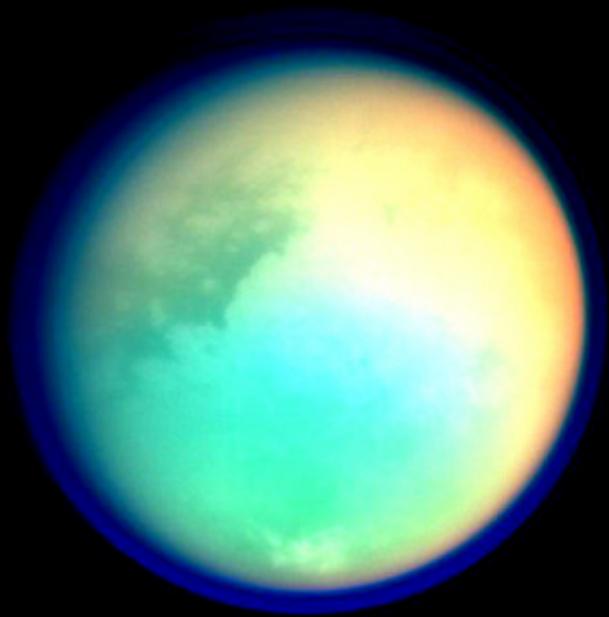


Spectacular Gullies Near Gorgonum Chaos (MRO)

Mangala Valles, 2004  
Mars Express

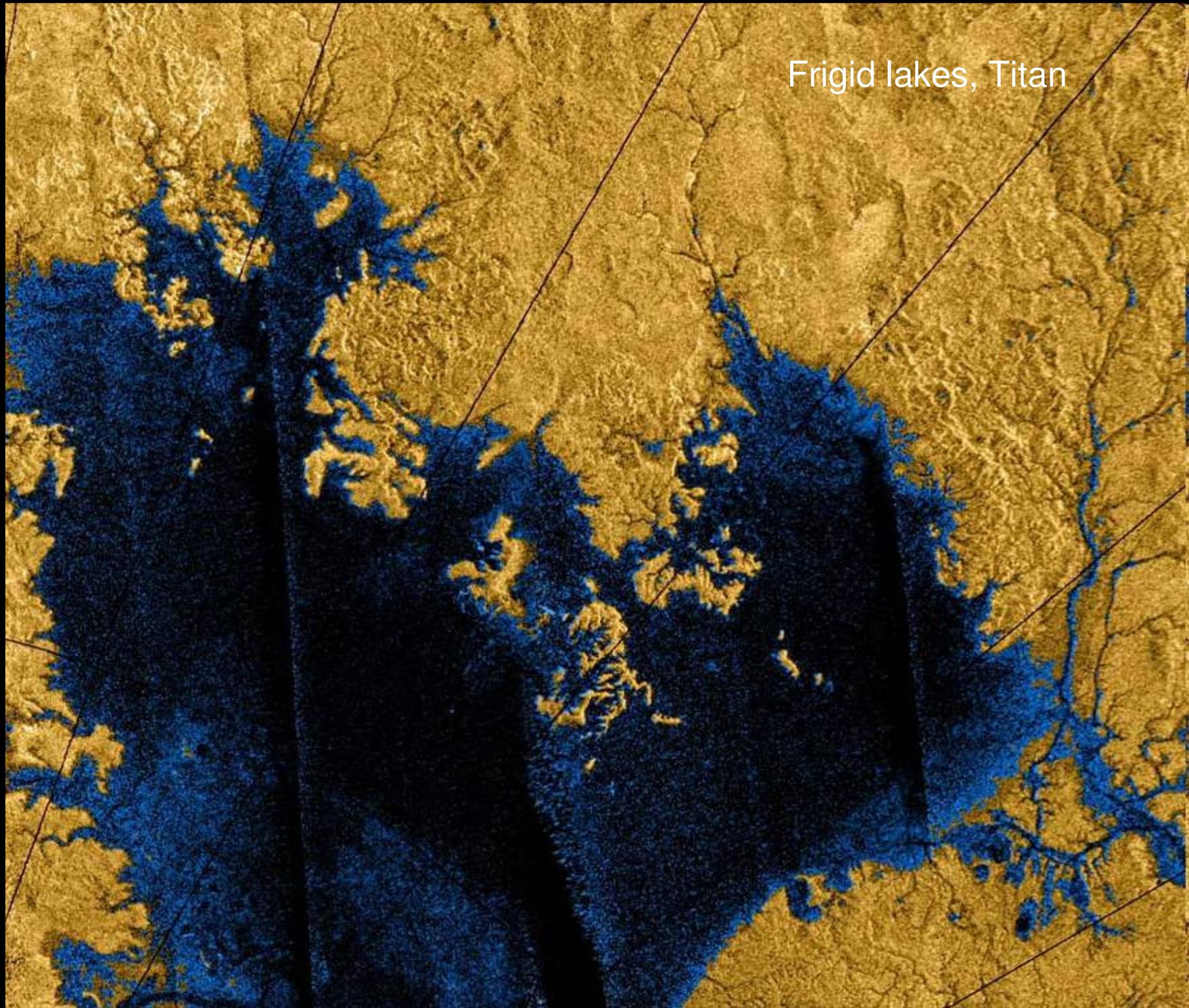


10  
10 km



Valley Networks, Titan

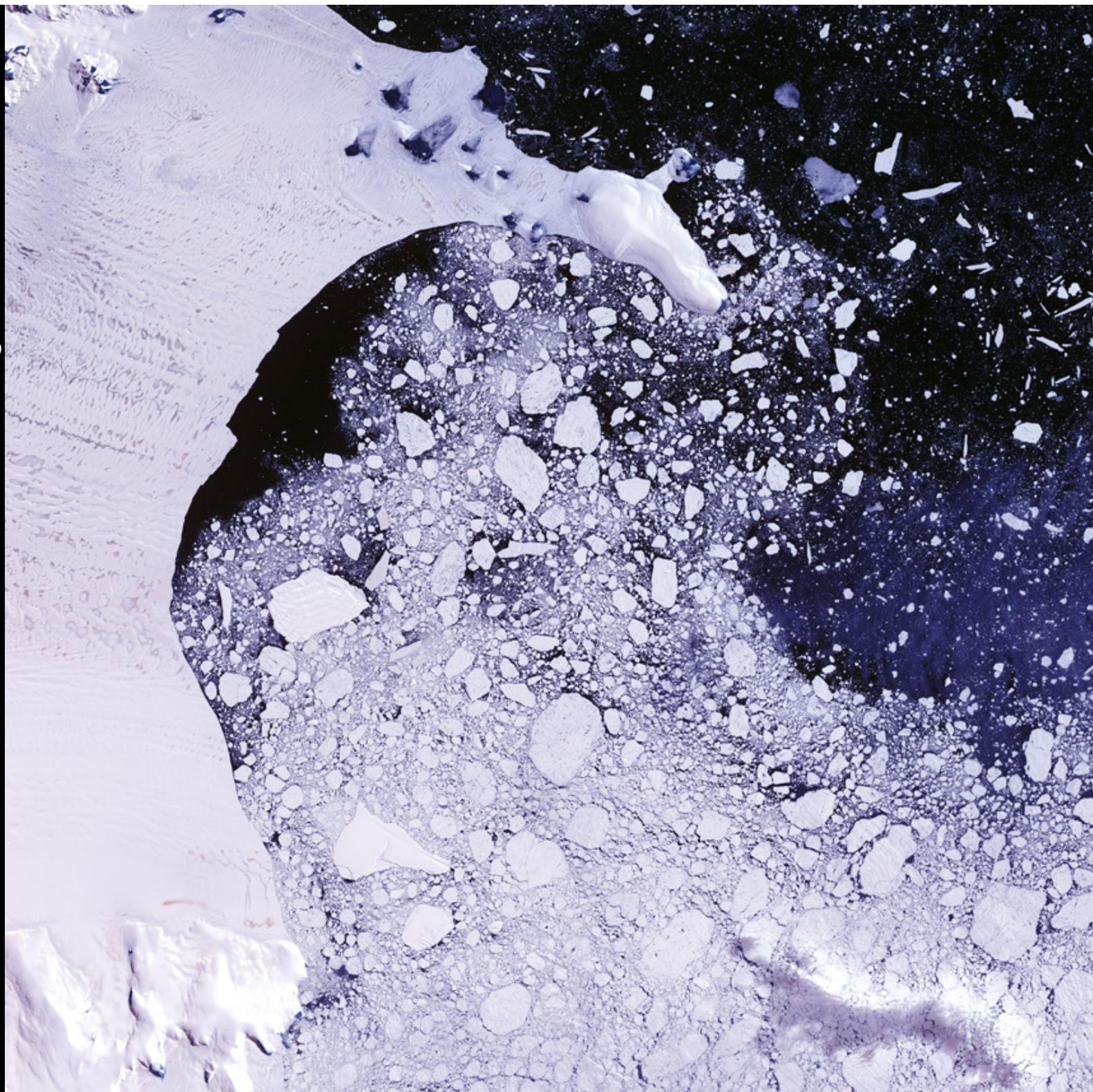
Frigid lakes, Titan

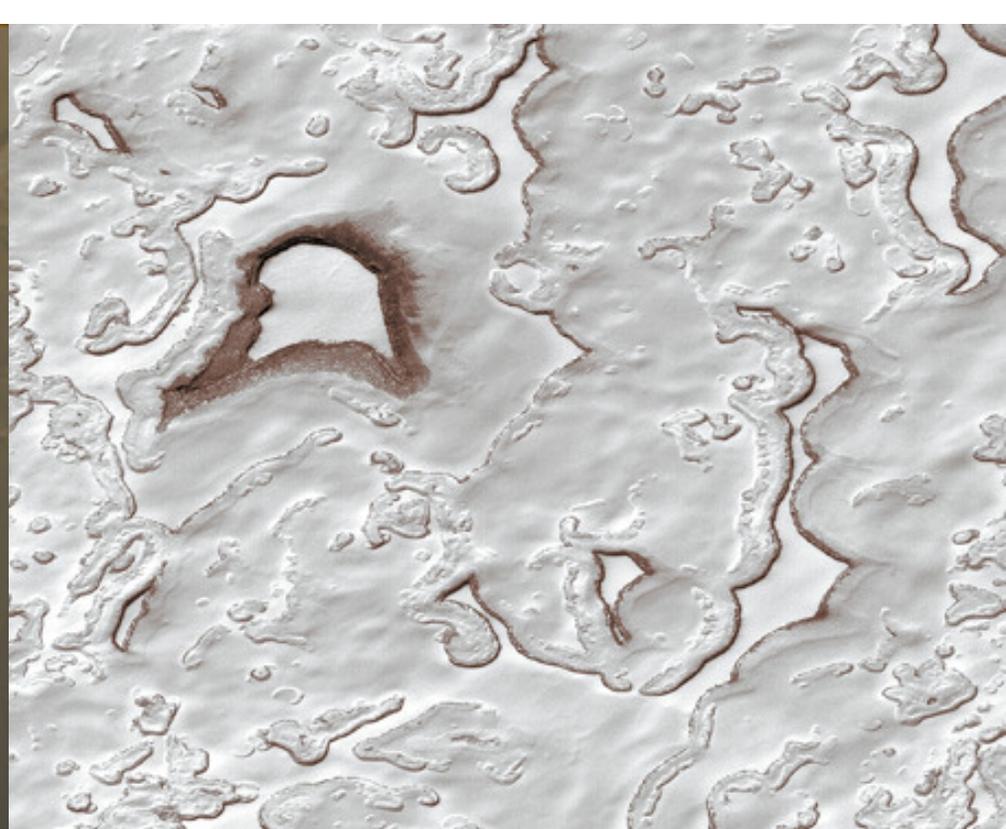
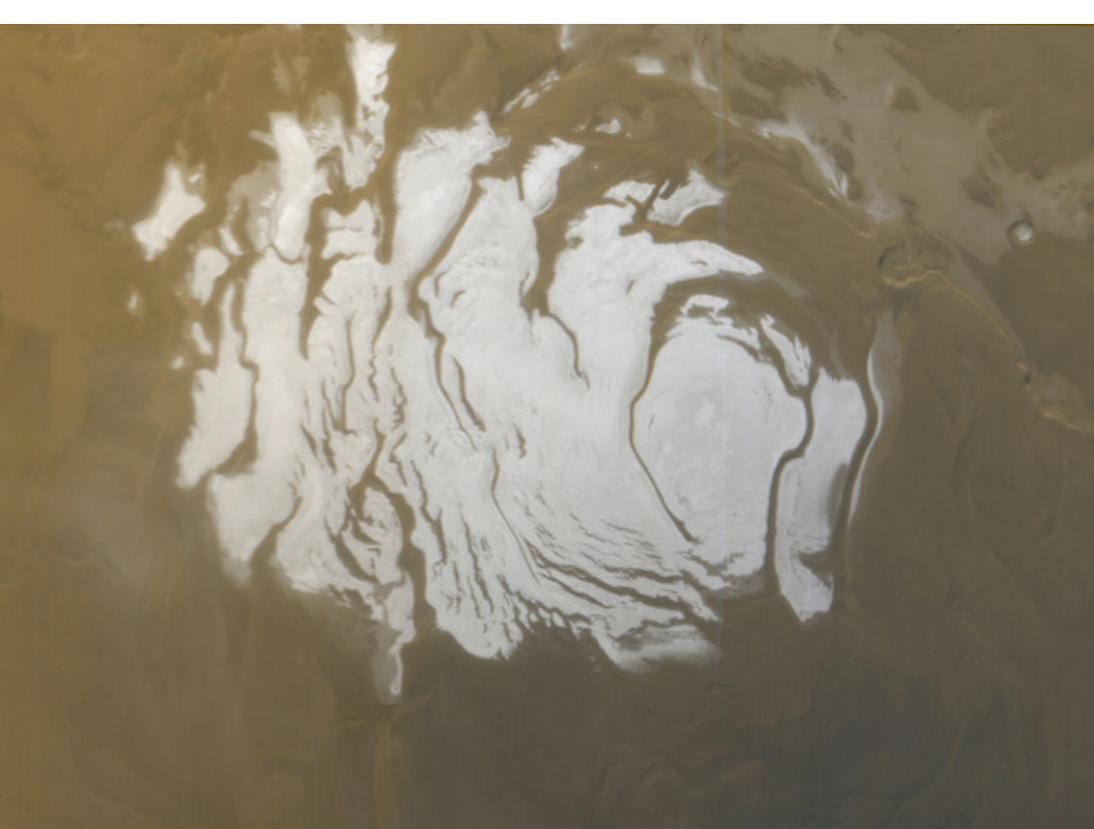


Frigid lakes, Earth

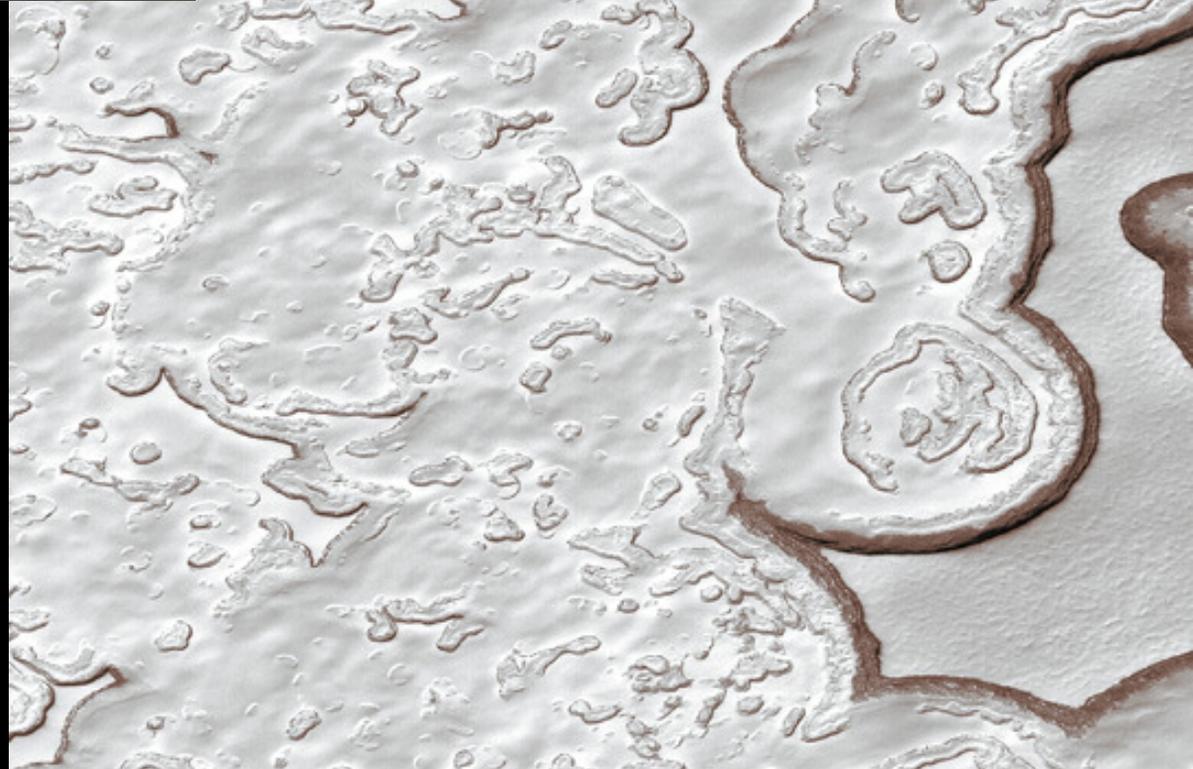


# Frozen Landscapes





South Pole, Mars





Steven Pinker



STS059-154-159

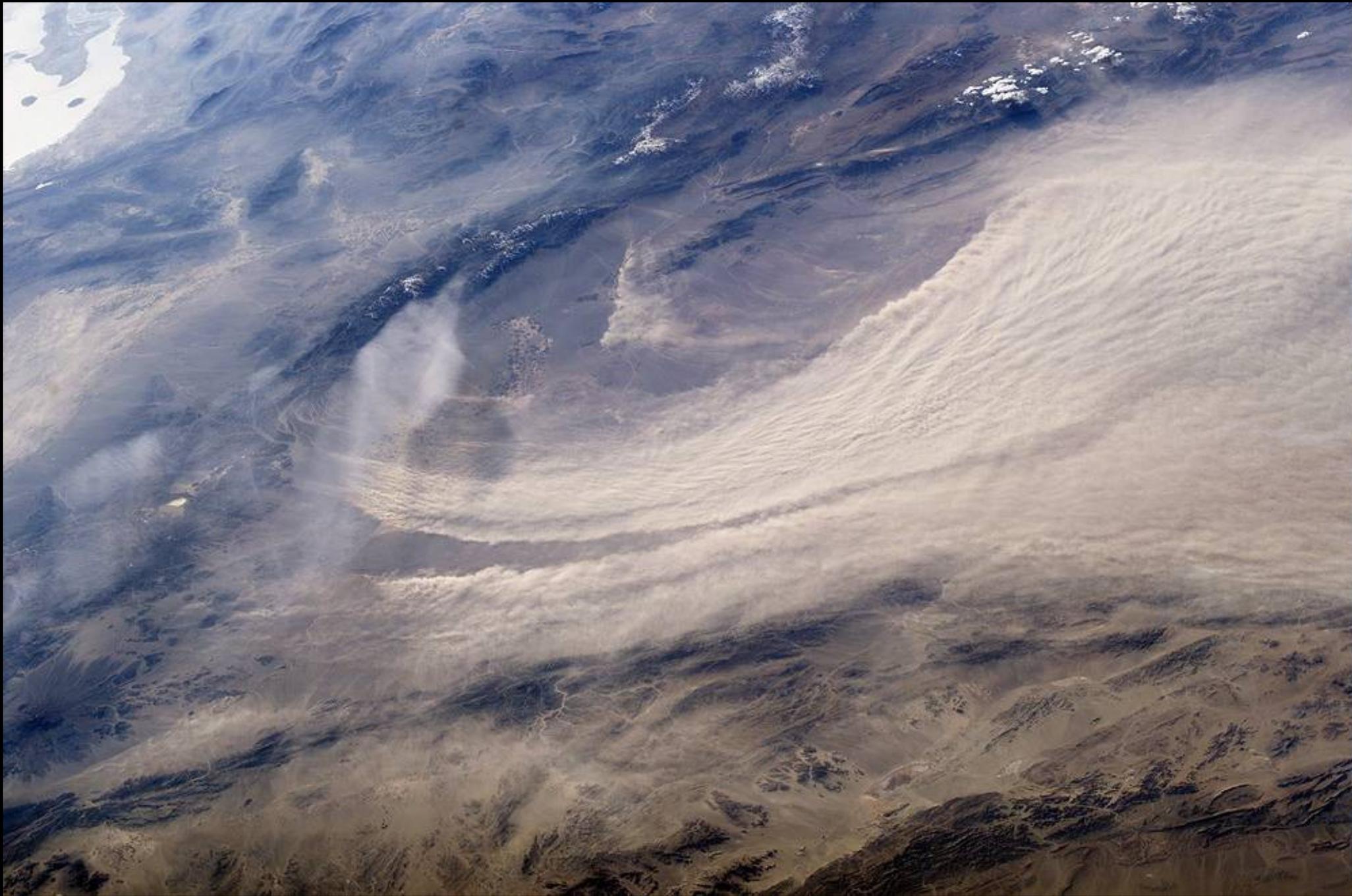


Malaspina Glacier from STS-66



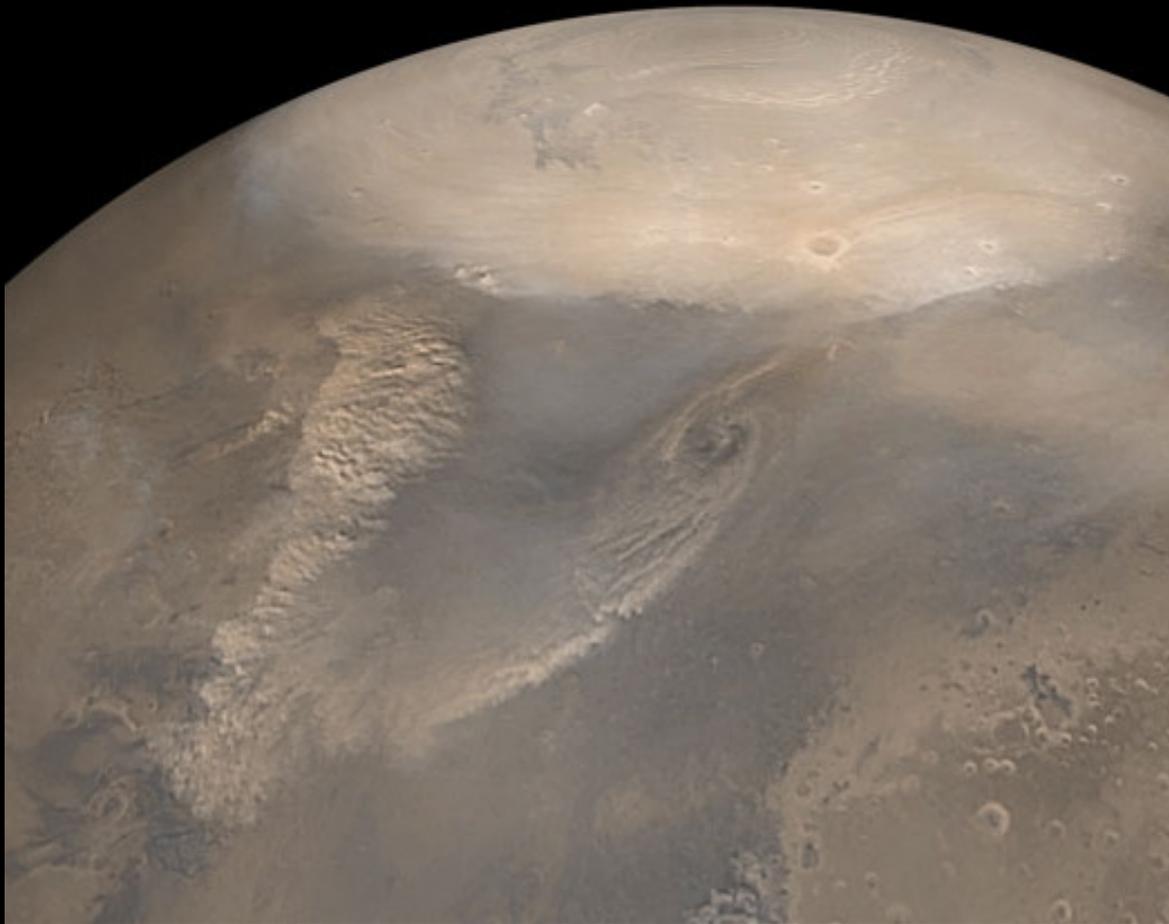
ESA/DLR/FU BERLIN (G. NEUKUM)

Deuteronilus Mensae, from Mars Express



Kerman Desert, SE Iran, near Bam – ISS-08

# North polar dust storm, MGS, Dec 2002

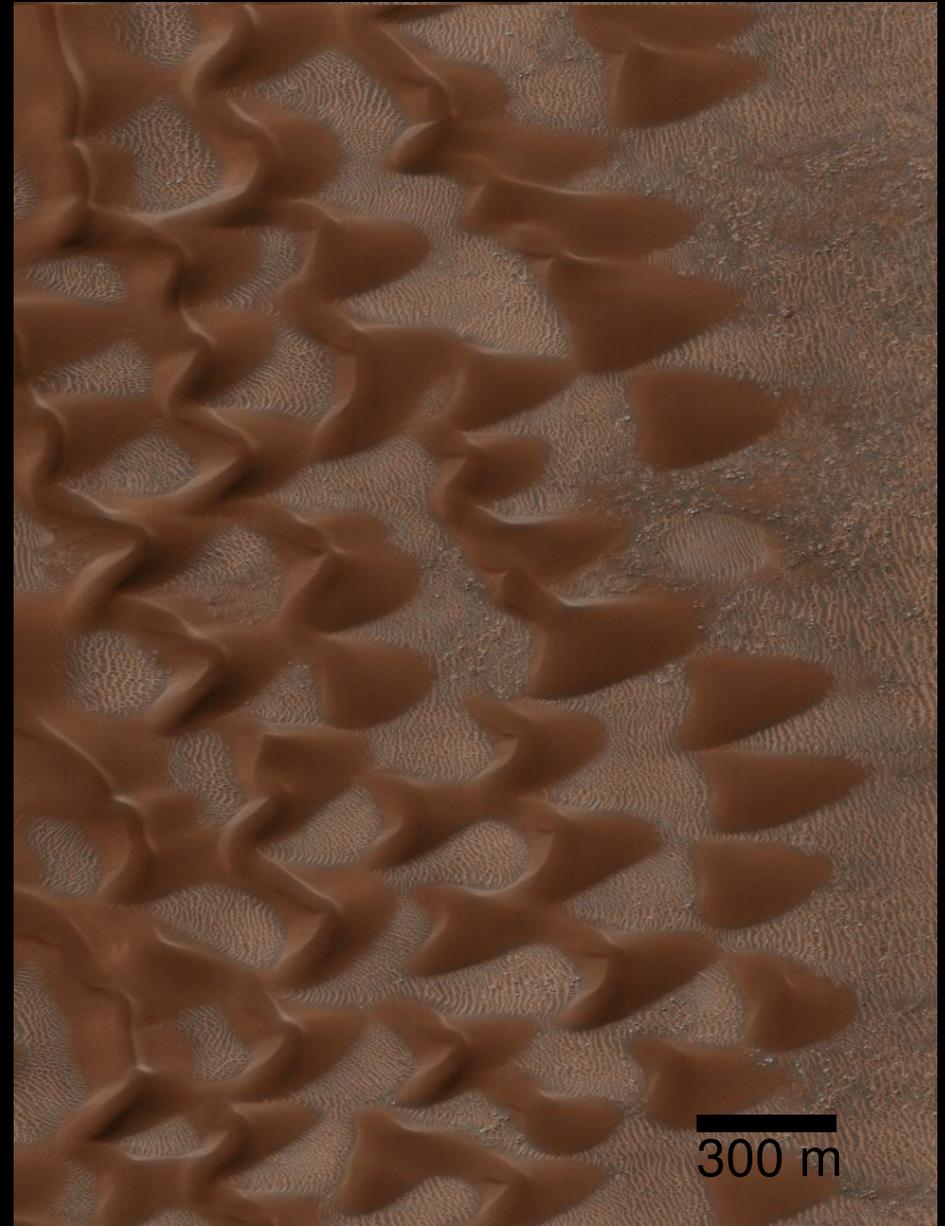


Wind eroded landforms known as yardangs at Edwards Air Force Base in California. Perhaps the only erosional landforms made by wind. TMCG-Oct.04

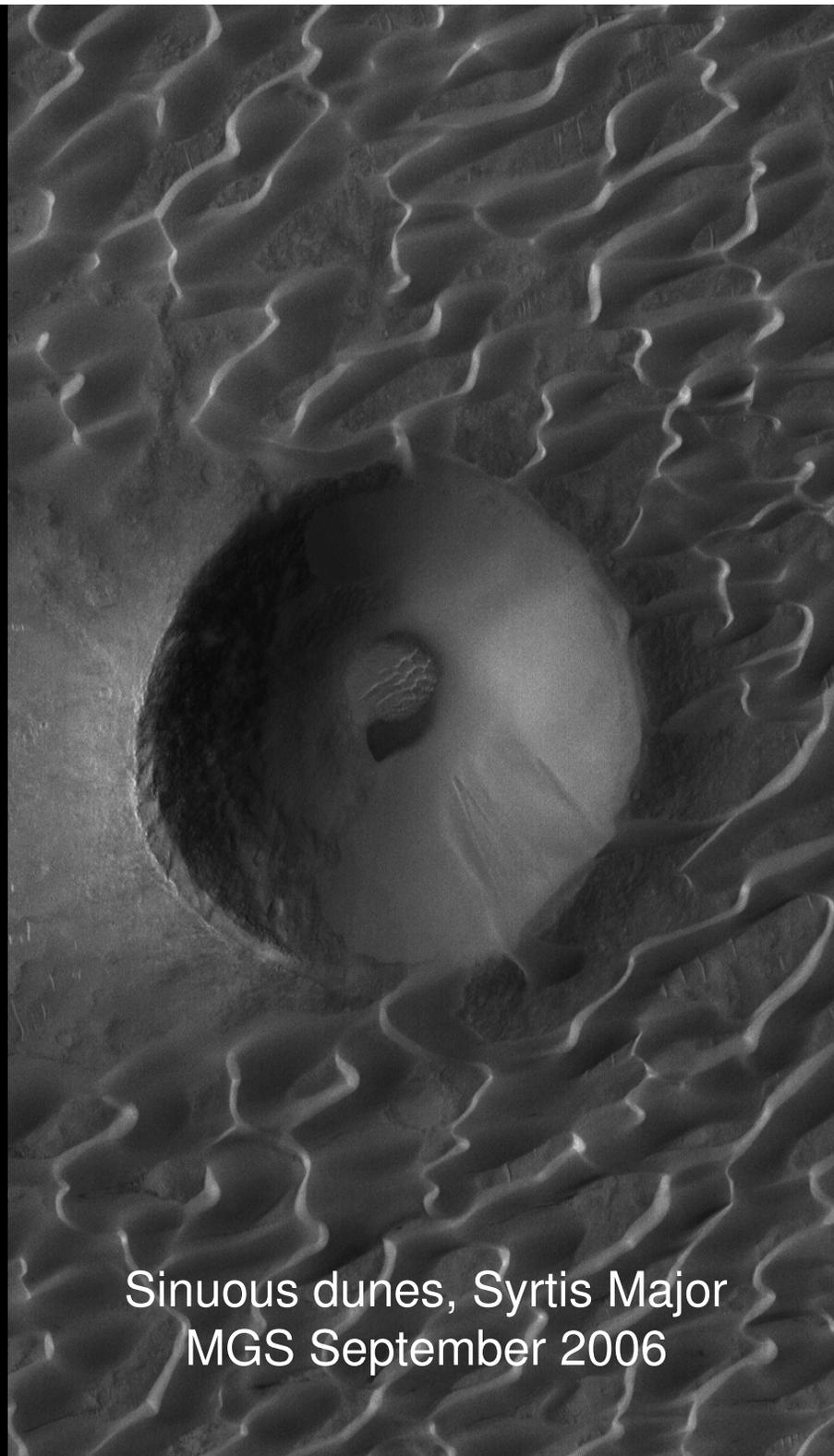




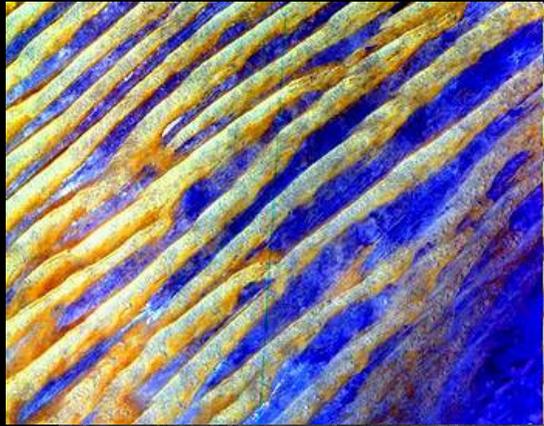
Tifernine Dunes, Algeria



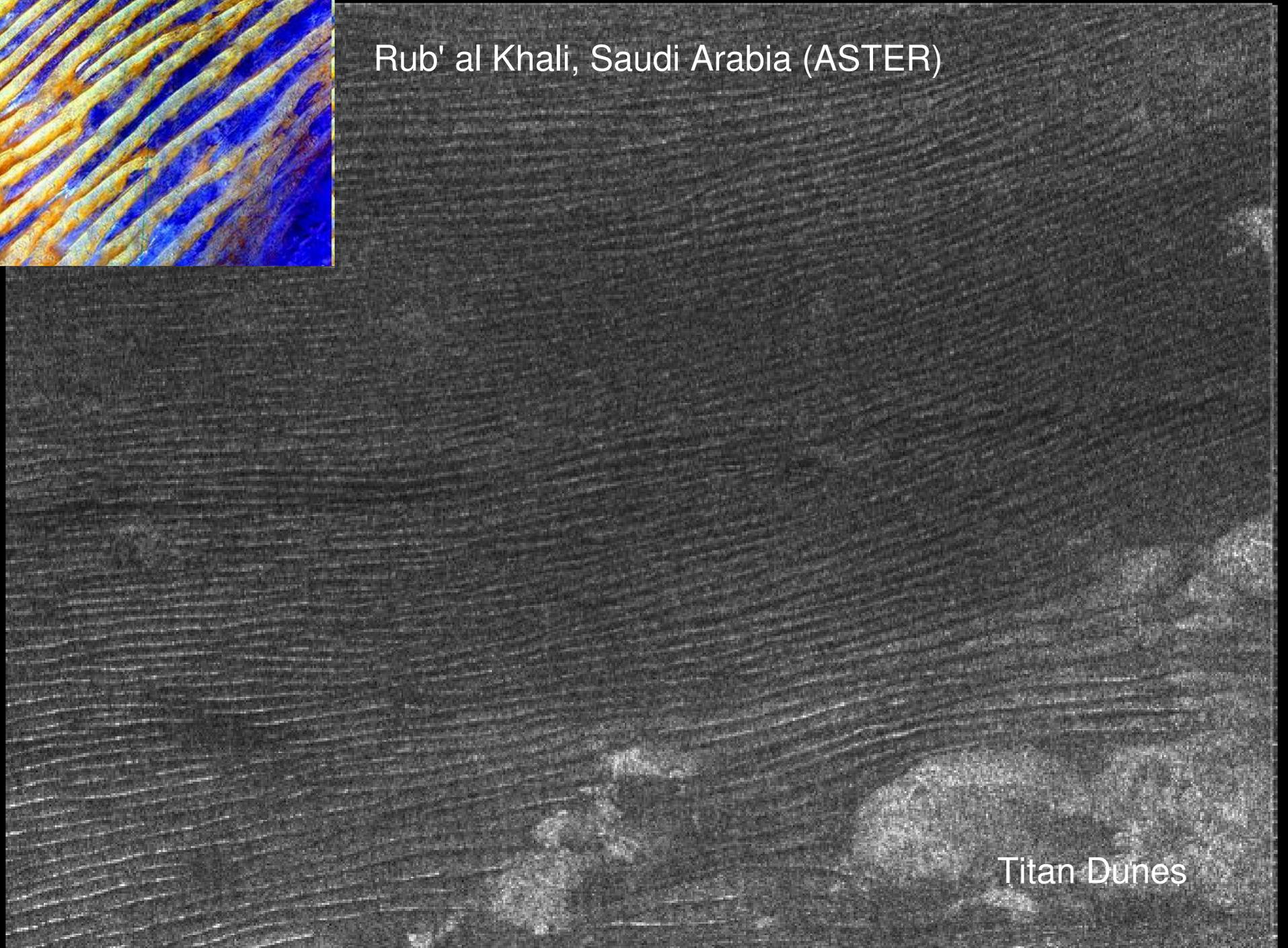
Barchan Dunes, Proctor Crater



Sinuuous dunes, Syrtis Major  
MGS September 2006



Rub' al Khali, Saudi Arabia (ASTER)



Titan Dunes

# The Search for Life





3.8 by ago- single celled organisms

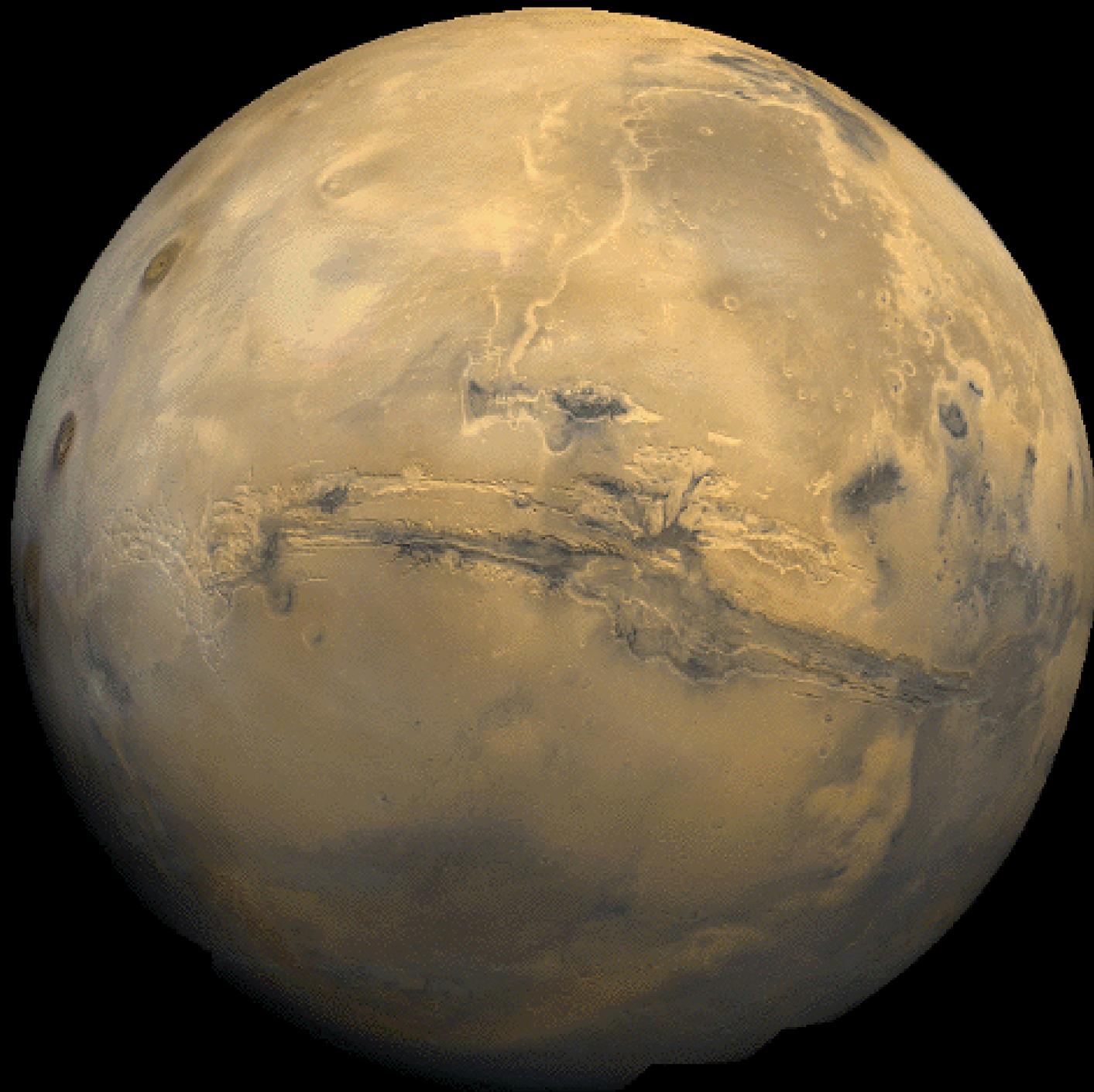
~2 by- multi-celled life

600 my -- simple fauna (Ediacra)

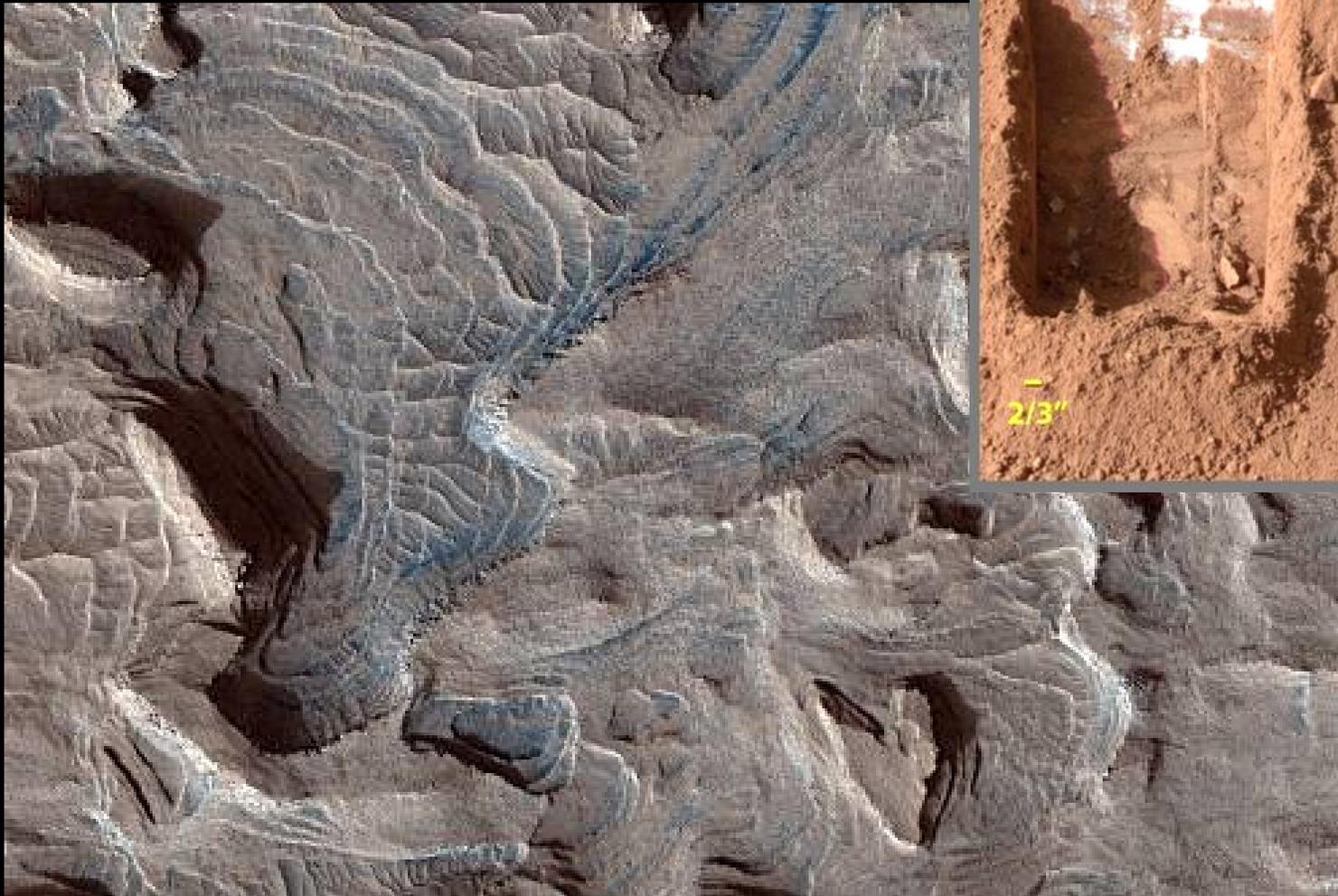
475 my -- land plants

200 my -- mammals

2.5 my -- Homo species



# Mars: Follow the Water



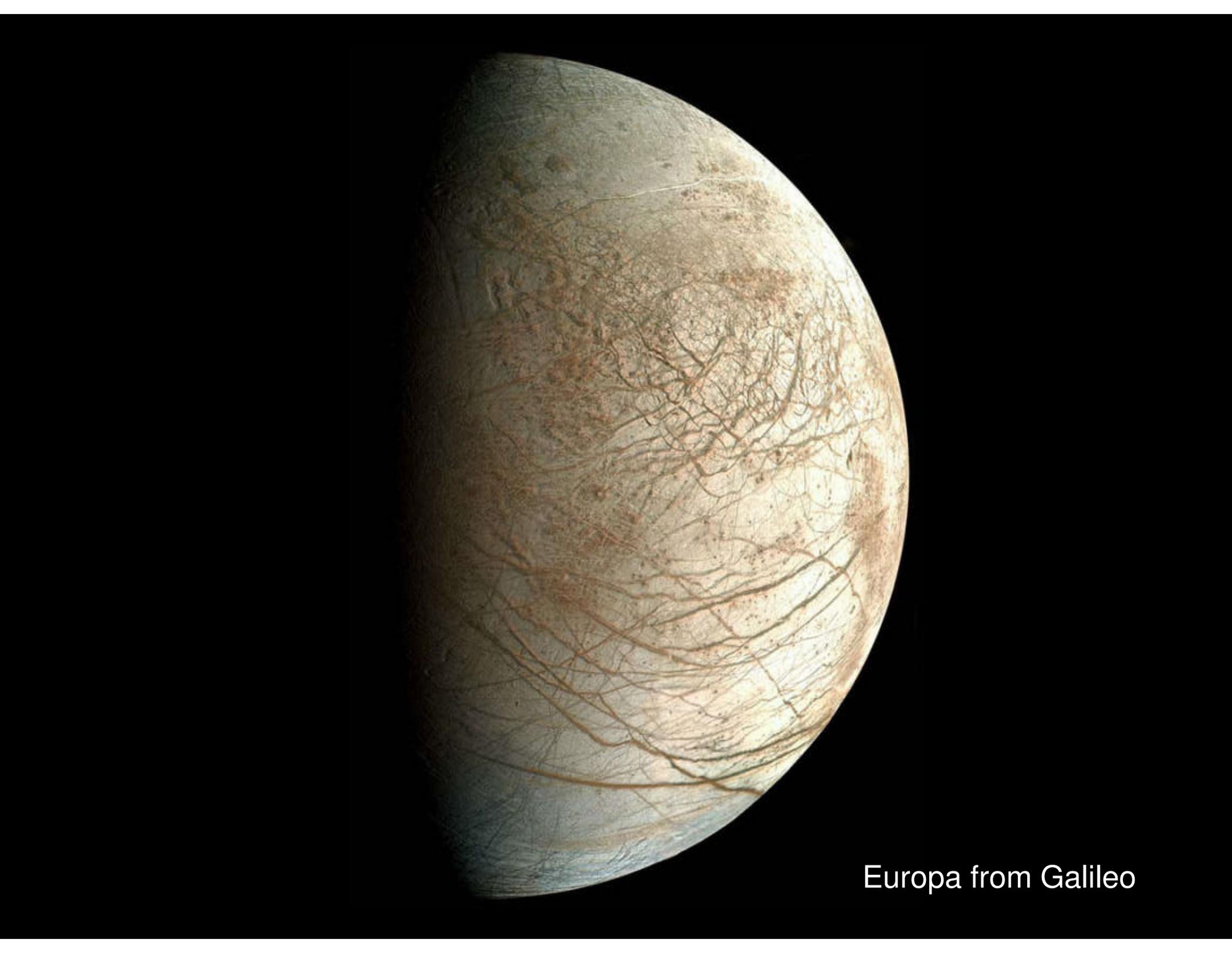
Sol 20



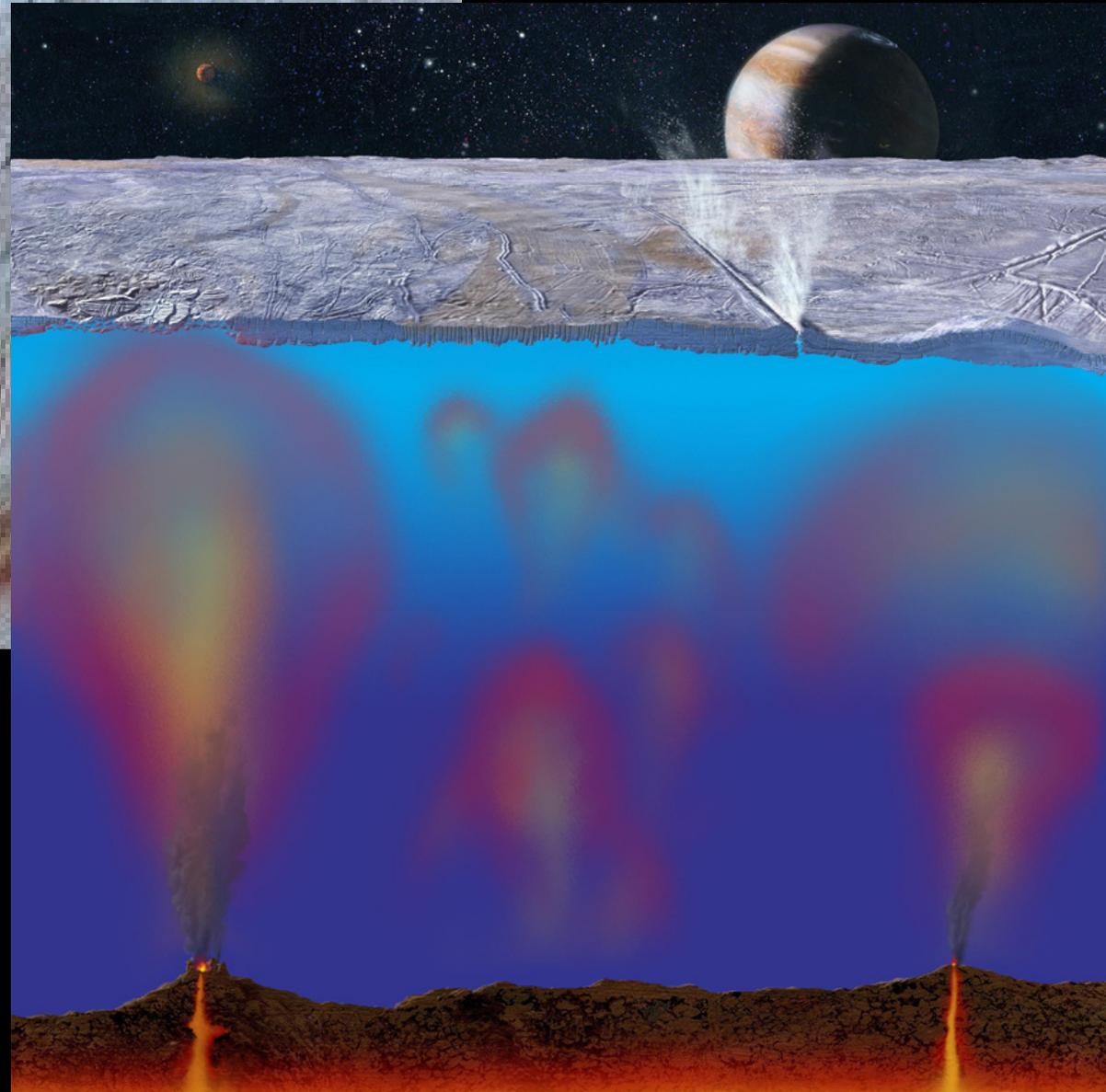
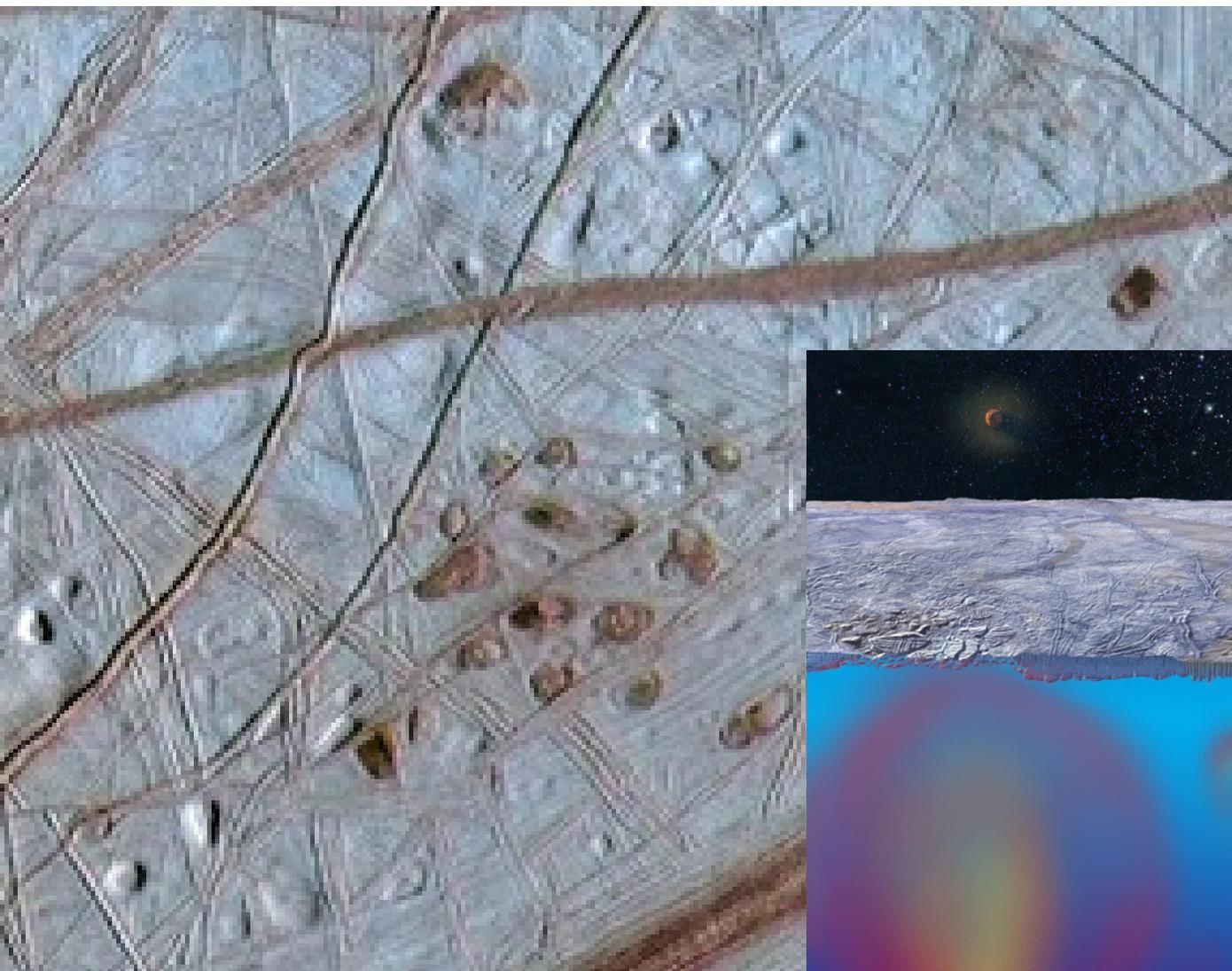
Sol 24



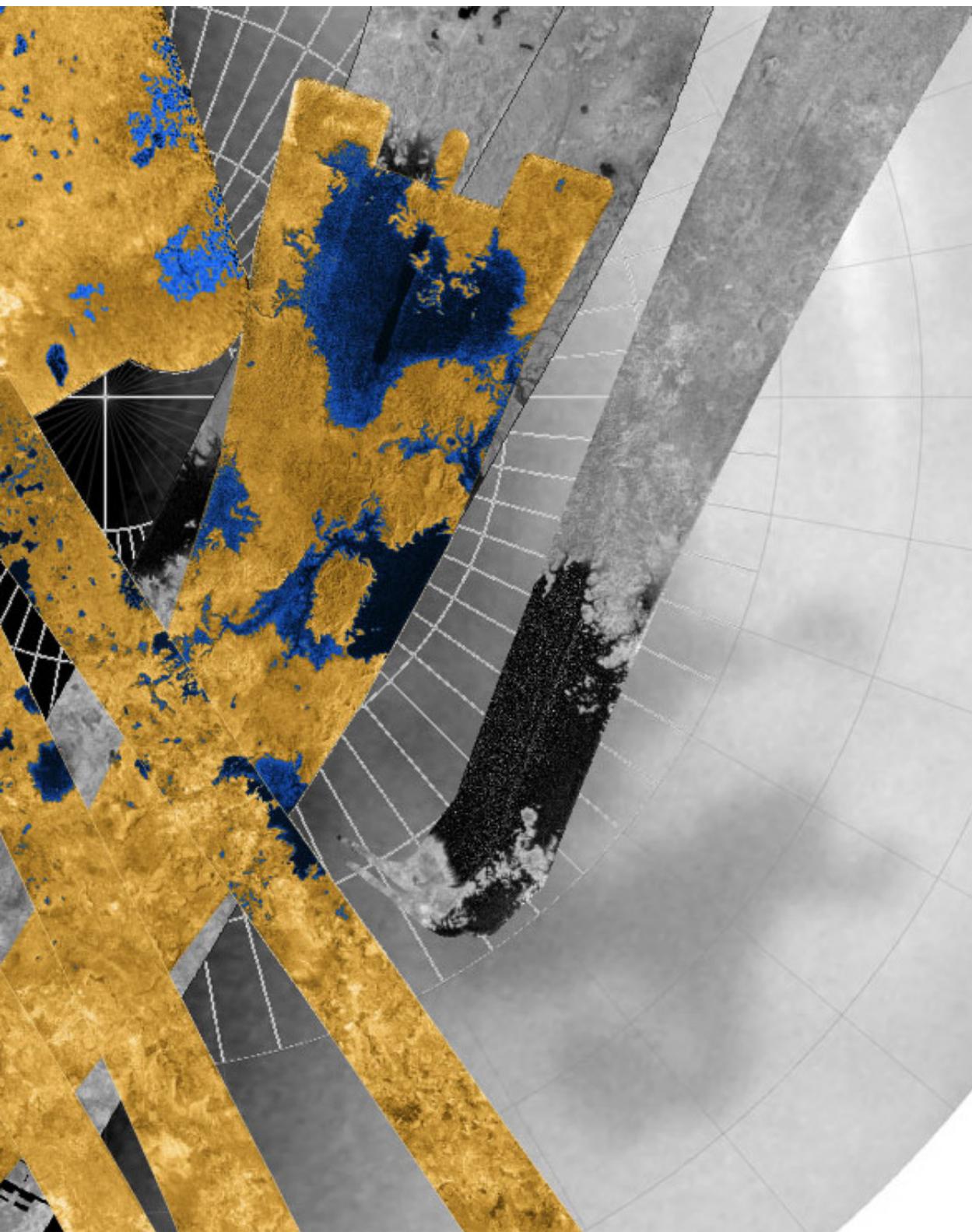
Layers in Becquerel Crater  
PSP\_004078\_2015



Europa from Galileo



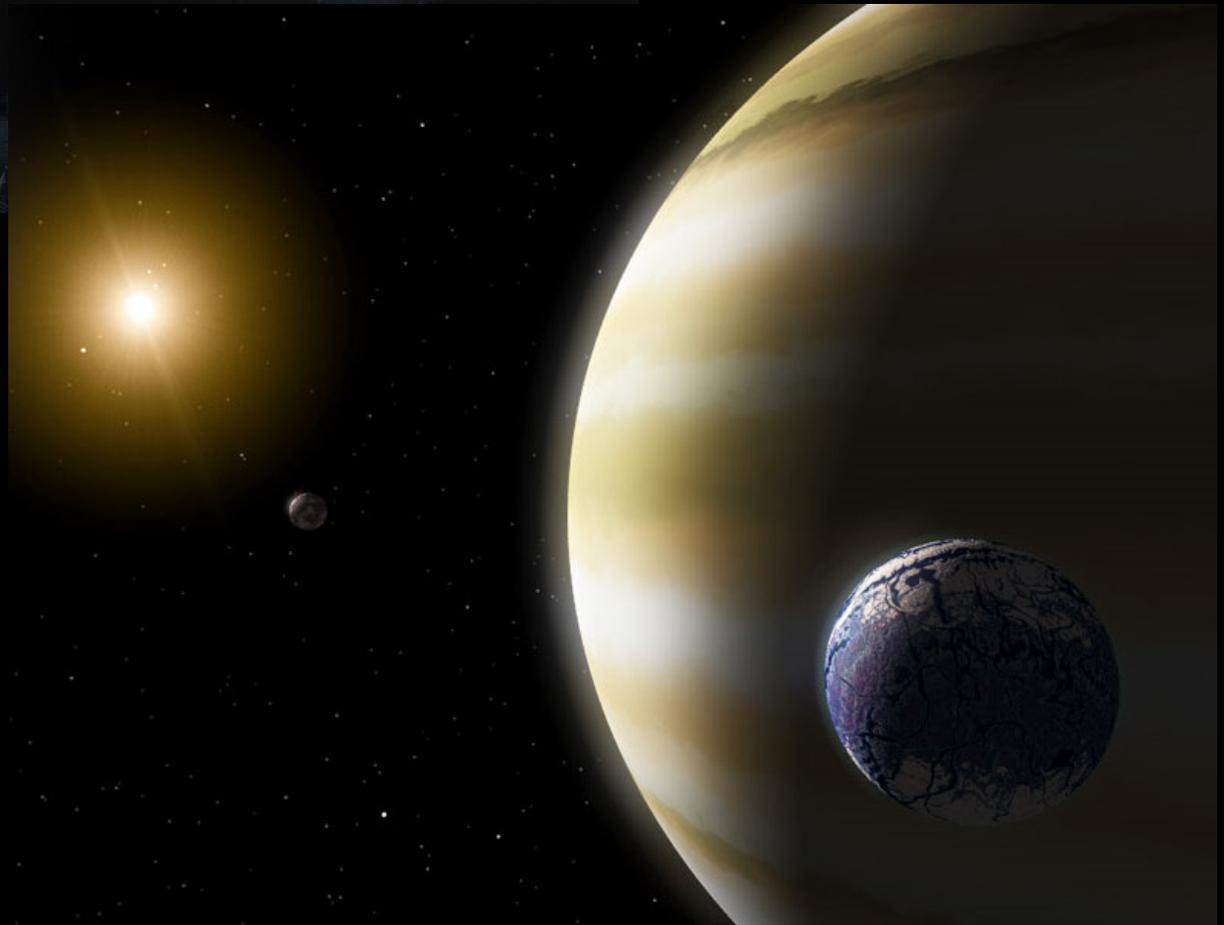
Europa



Titan

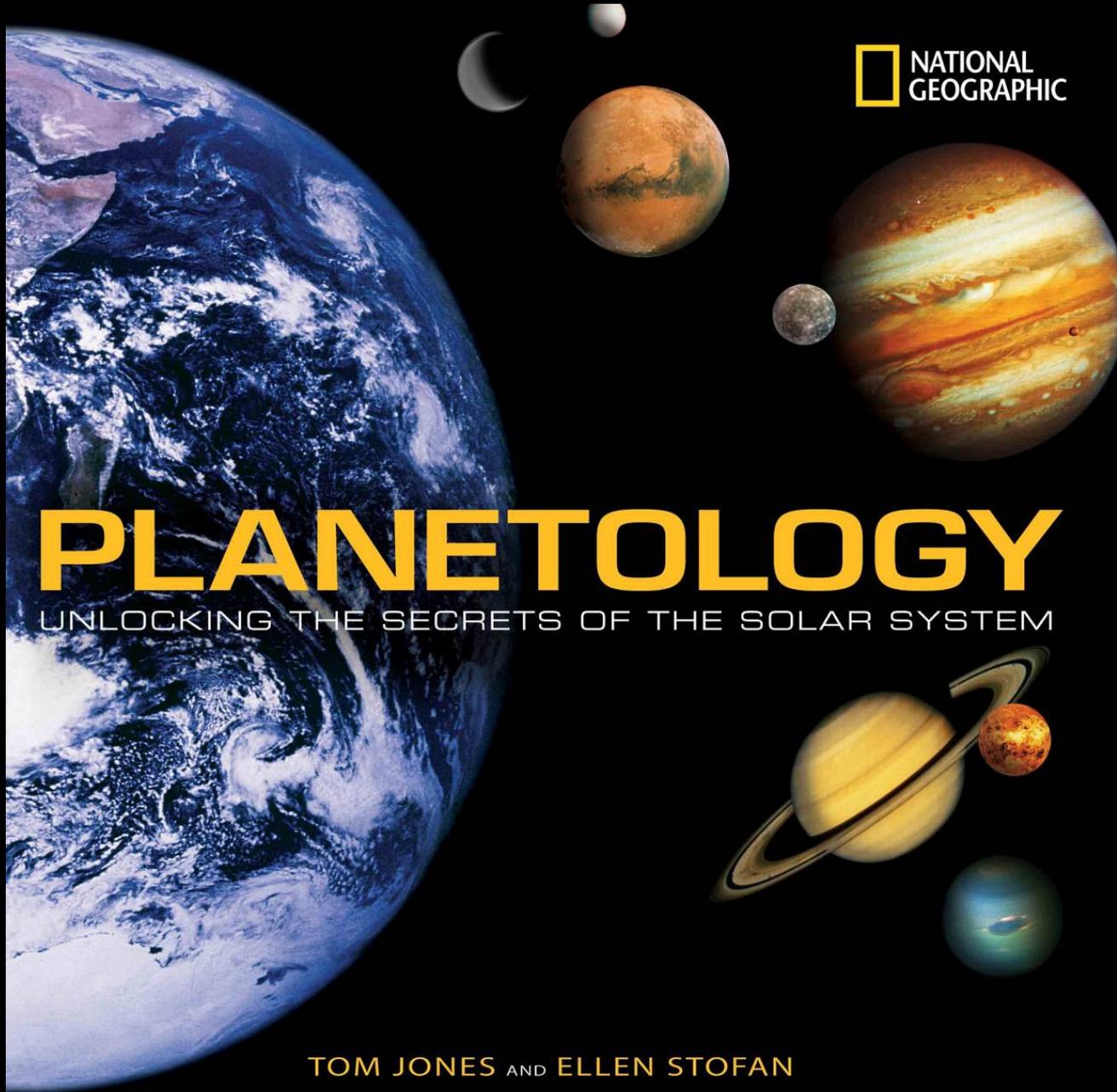


Keck interferometer





© JAXA/NHK



# PLANETOLOGY

UNLOCKING THE SECRETS OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM

TOM JONES AND ELLEN STOFAN

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