



# The ExoMars 2016 Mission & Mars surface studies

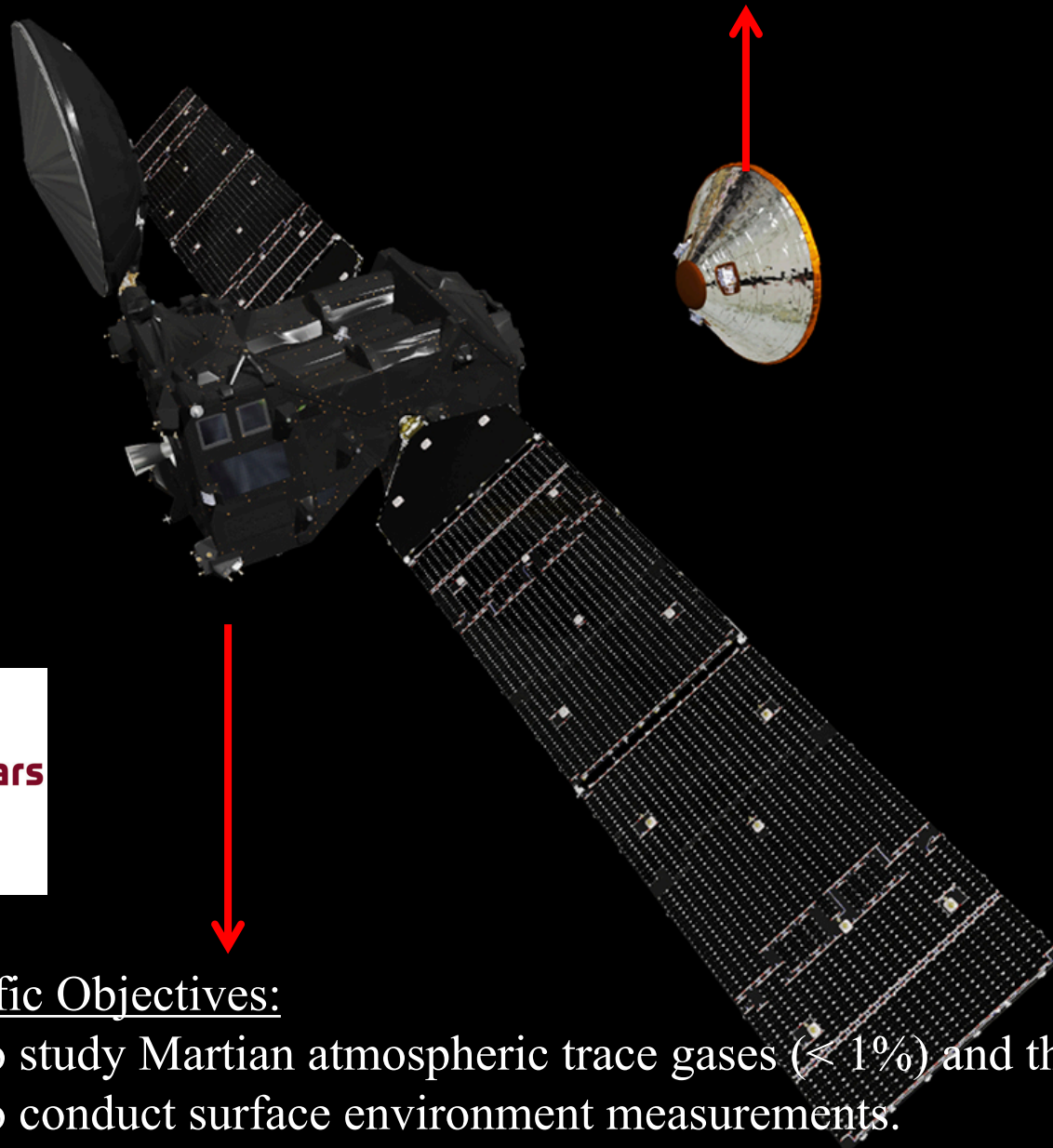
M. Pajola, G. Munaretto



## Technology Objective:

Entry, Descent and Landing (EDL) of a payload on the surface of Mars

2016



## Scientific Objectives:

- i) To study Martian atmospheric trace gases ( $< 1\%$ ) and their sources;
- ii) To conduct surface environment measurements.



## Scientific Objectives:

To drill down to a maximum depth of 2 m (FIRST) analyzing the subsurface mineralogy

2020



## Scientific Objectives:

Characterization of the Martian environment (in situ)



# Trace Gas Orbiter (TGO)

 **NOMAD**  
High-resolution occultation and nadir spectrometers

*Atmospheric composition  
(CH<sub>4</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>, trace species, isotopes)  
dust, clouds, P&T profiles*

UVIS (0.20 – 0.65  $\mu\text{m}$ )  $\lambda/\Delta\lambda \sim 250$

SO

Limb

Nadir

IR (2.3 – 3.8  $\mu\text{m}$ )  $\lambda/\Delta\lambda \sim 10,000$

SO

Limb


Nadir

IR (2.3 – 4.3  $\mu\text{m}$ )  $\lambda/\Delta\lambda \sim 20,000$

SO

 **CaSSIS**  
High-resolution, stereo camera

*Mapping of sources  
Landing site selection*

 **ACS**  
Suite of 3 high-resolution spectrometers

*Atmospheric chemistry, aerosols,  
surface T,  
structure*

Near IR (0.7 – 1.7  $\mu\text{m}$ )  $\lambda/\Delta\lambda \sim 20,000$

SO

Limb

Nadir

IR (Fourier, 2.5 – 25  $\mu\text{m}$ )  $\lambda/\Delta\lambda \sim 4,000$  (SO)/500 (N)

SO

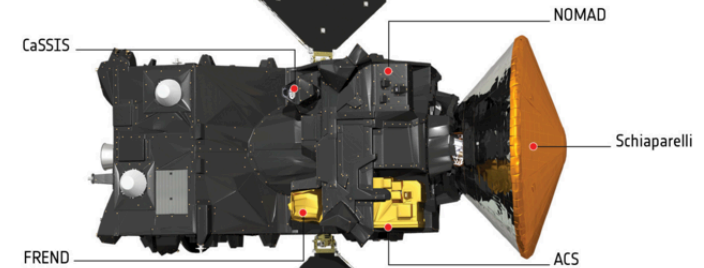
Nadir

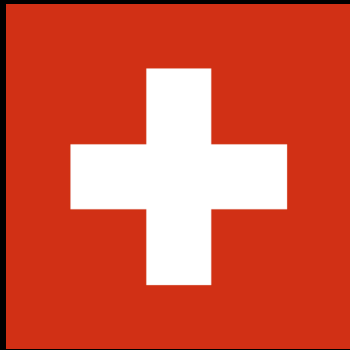
Mid-IR (2.3 – 4.5  $\mu\text{m}$ )  $\lambda/\Delta\lambda \sim 50,000$

SO

 **FREND**  
Collimated neutron detector

*Mapping of subsurface water  
and hydrated minerals*





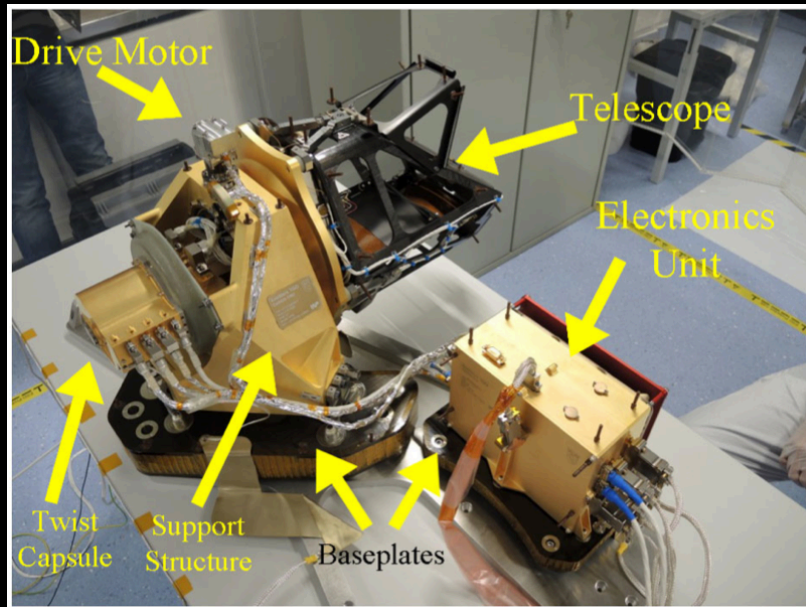
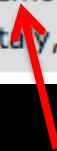
### **CaSSIS – Colour and Stereo Surface Imaging System**

A high resolution camera (5 metres per pixel) capable of obtaining colour and stereo images over a wide swathe. CaSSIS will provide the geological and dynamical context for sources or sinks of trace gases detected by NOMAD and ACS.

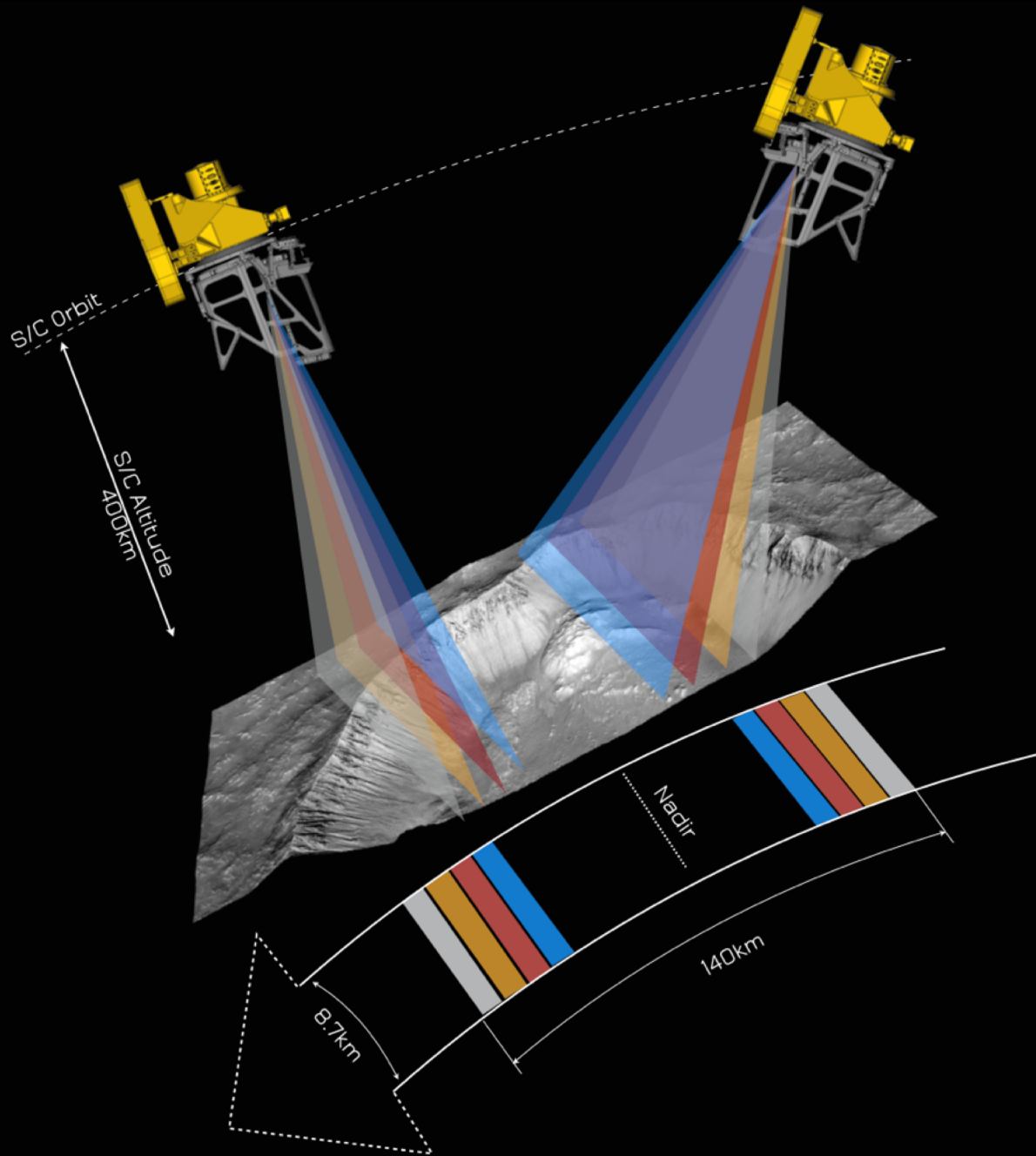
*Principal Investigator:* Nicolas Thomas, University of Bern, Switzerland

*Co-Principal Investigator:* Gabriele Cremonese, Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica, Italy

*Participating countries:* Switzerland, Italy, Poland



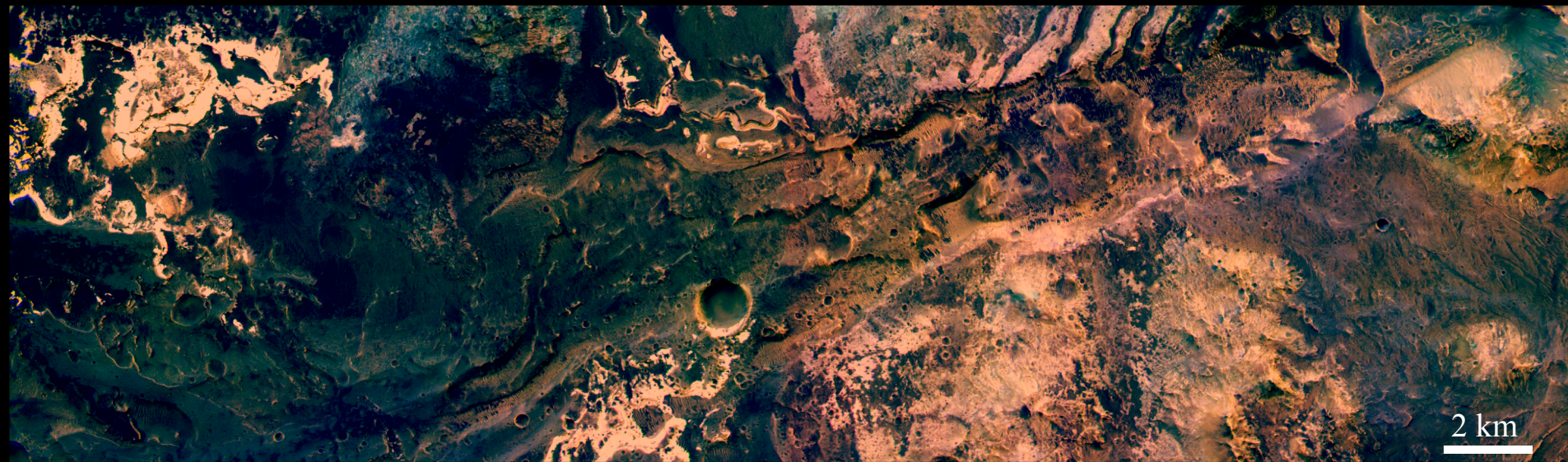
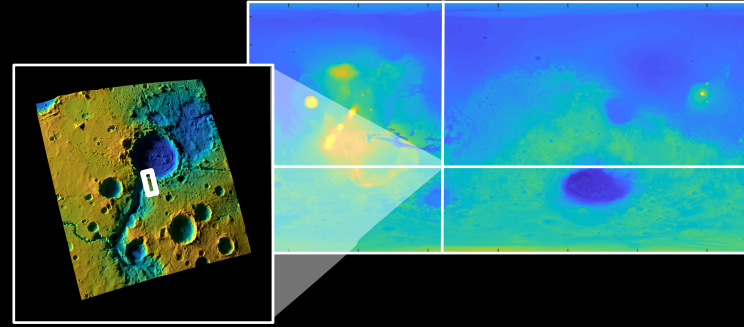




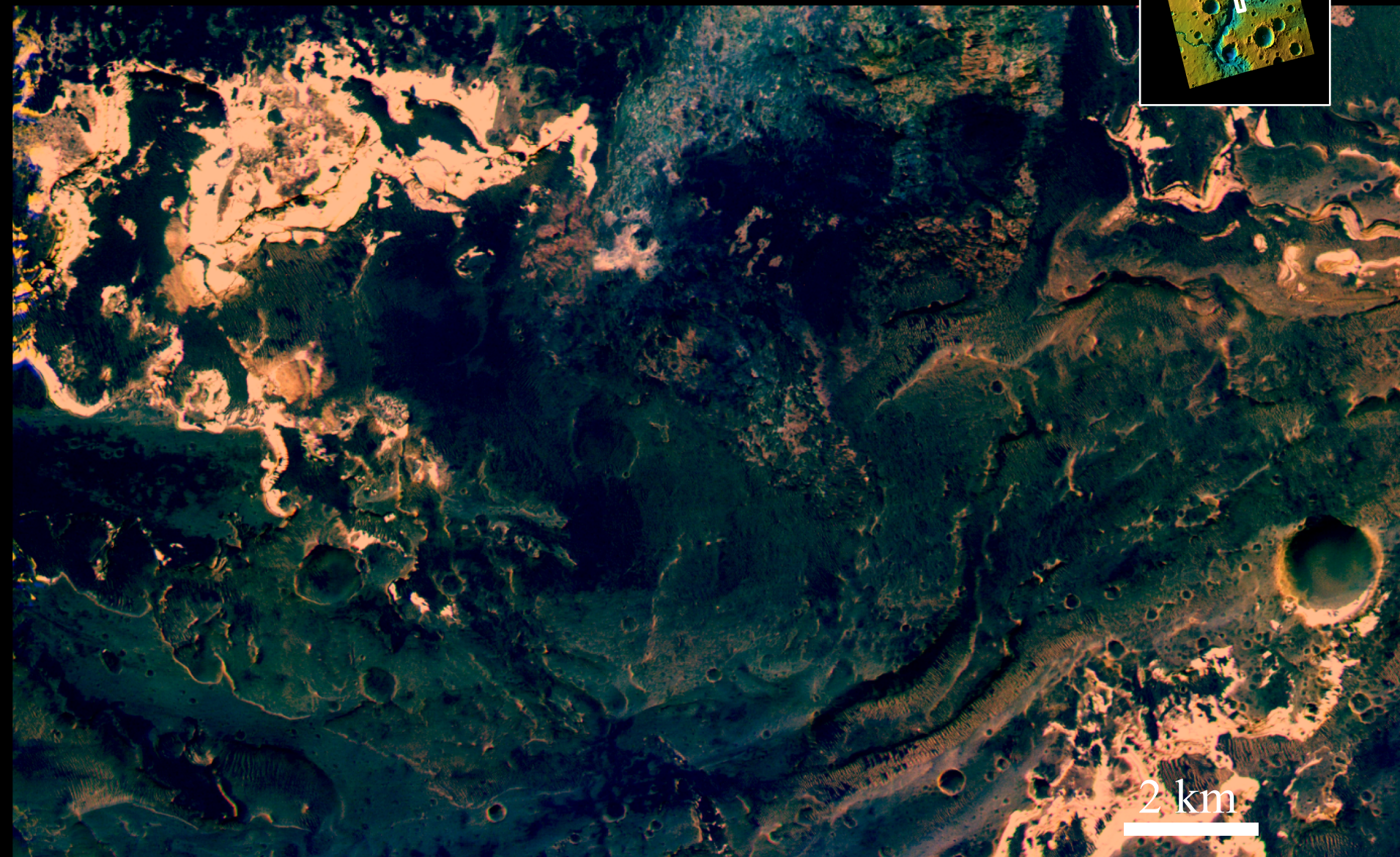
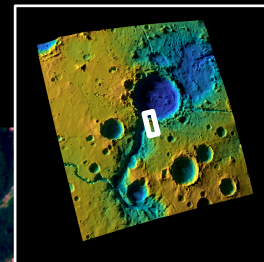
# Sedimentary deposits (clays) on Mars – Fluvial Activity

Location where the ancient Uzboi Vallis was entering the Holden crater (Lat:  $-26.8^\circ$ , Long:  $-34.8^\circ$ ), in the Margaritifer Sinus quadrangle of Mars.

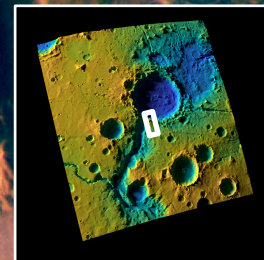
The valley begins on the northern rim of the Argyre basin and was formed by running water. The fluvial deposits are clearly visible over the Amazonian and Hesperian impact unit.









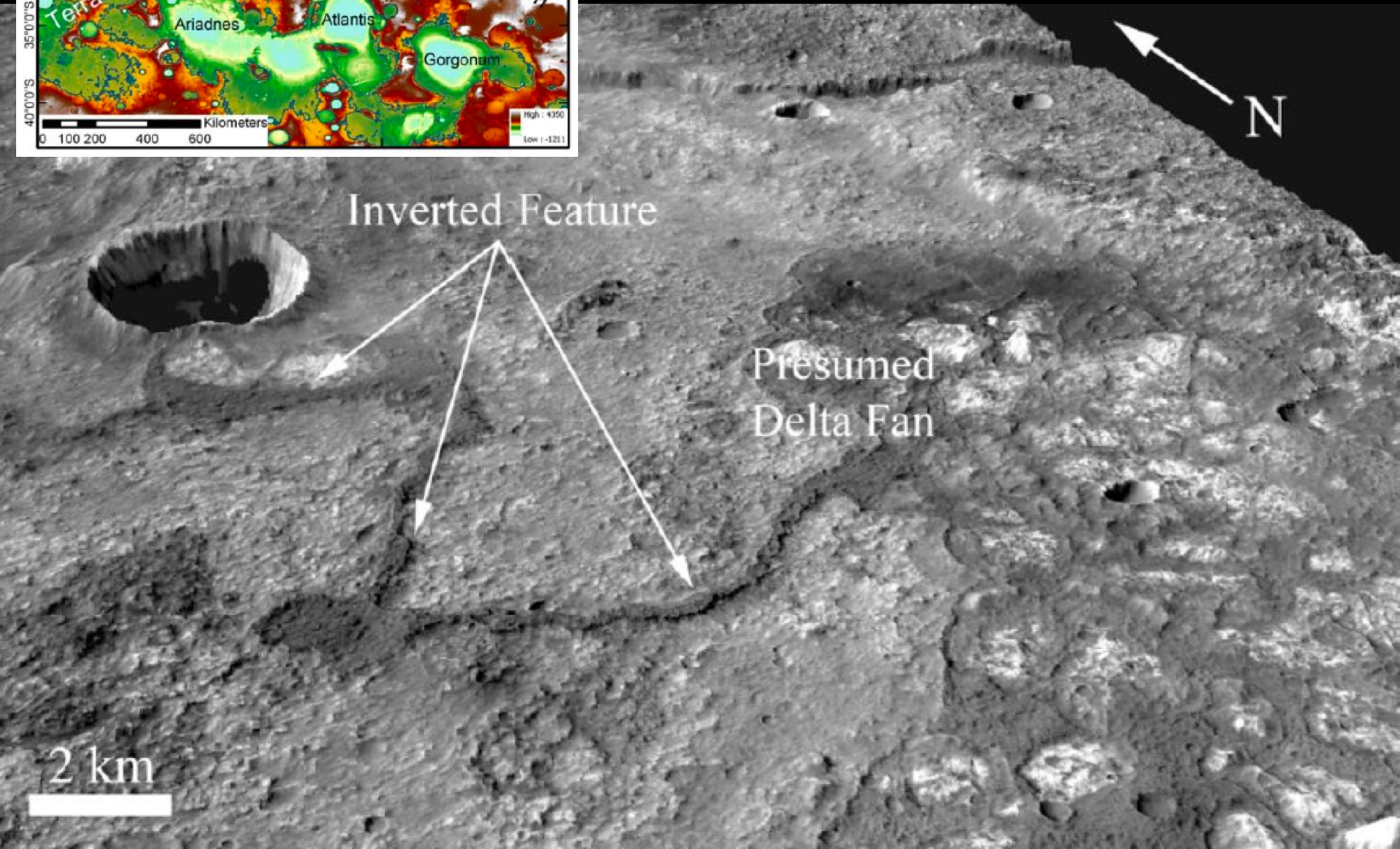
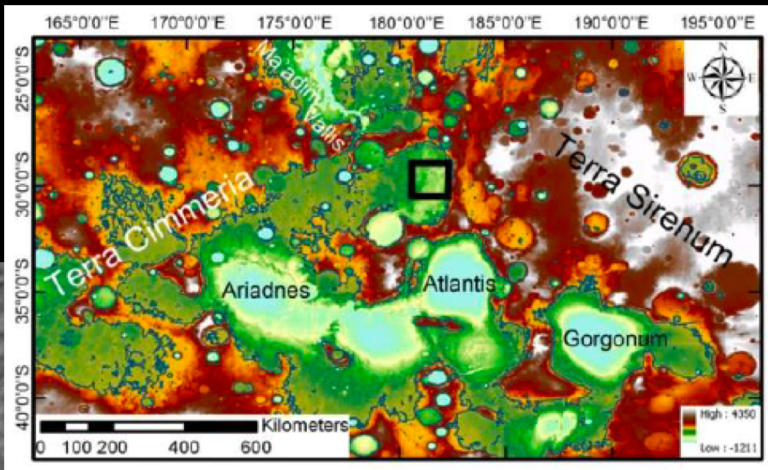


2 km



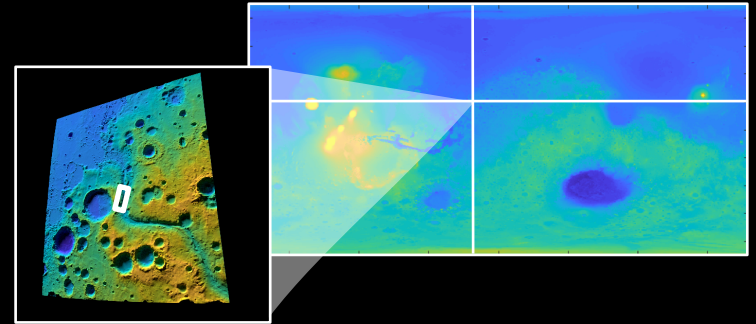
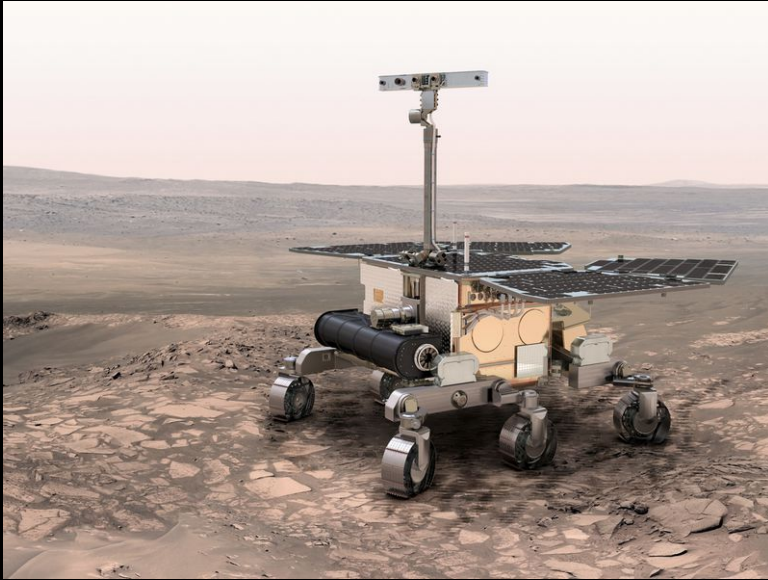


# Ancient riverbeds and deltas on Mars (Climate)



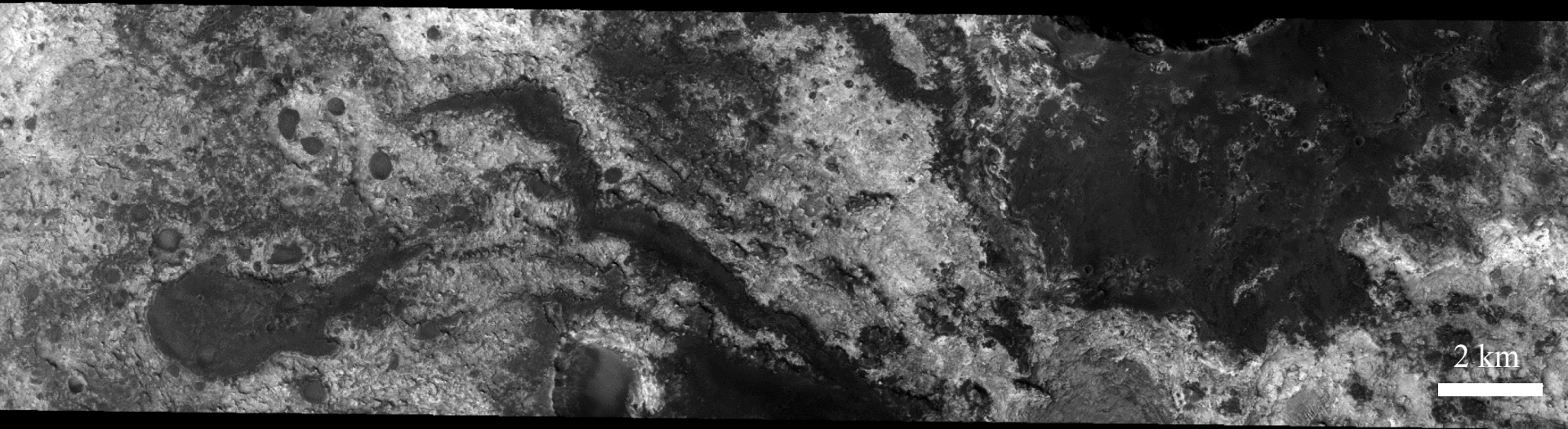


# Rover Landing Sites (ESA – NASA 2020)

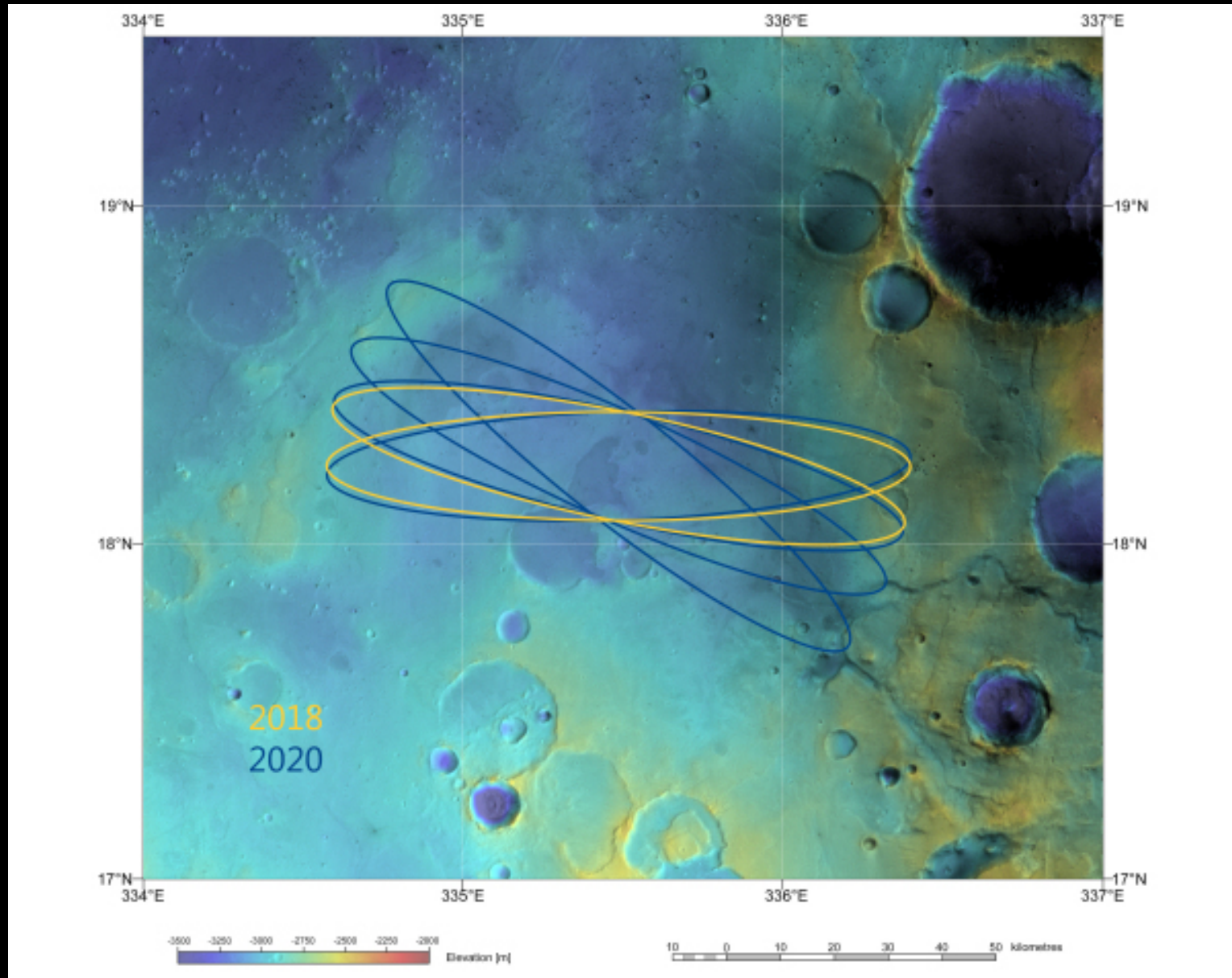


Stratified clay-rich deposits located on the floor of one of the two ExoMars landing sites finalists, located in the Oxia Palus quadrangle of Mars.

This plateau sequence is located between the Mawrth Vallis, an ancient water outflow-channel, and the Oyama crater (Lat: 24.2°, Long: -19.0°) on an early Noachian highland unit.



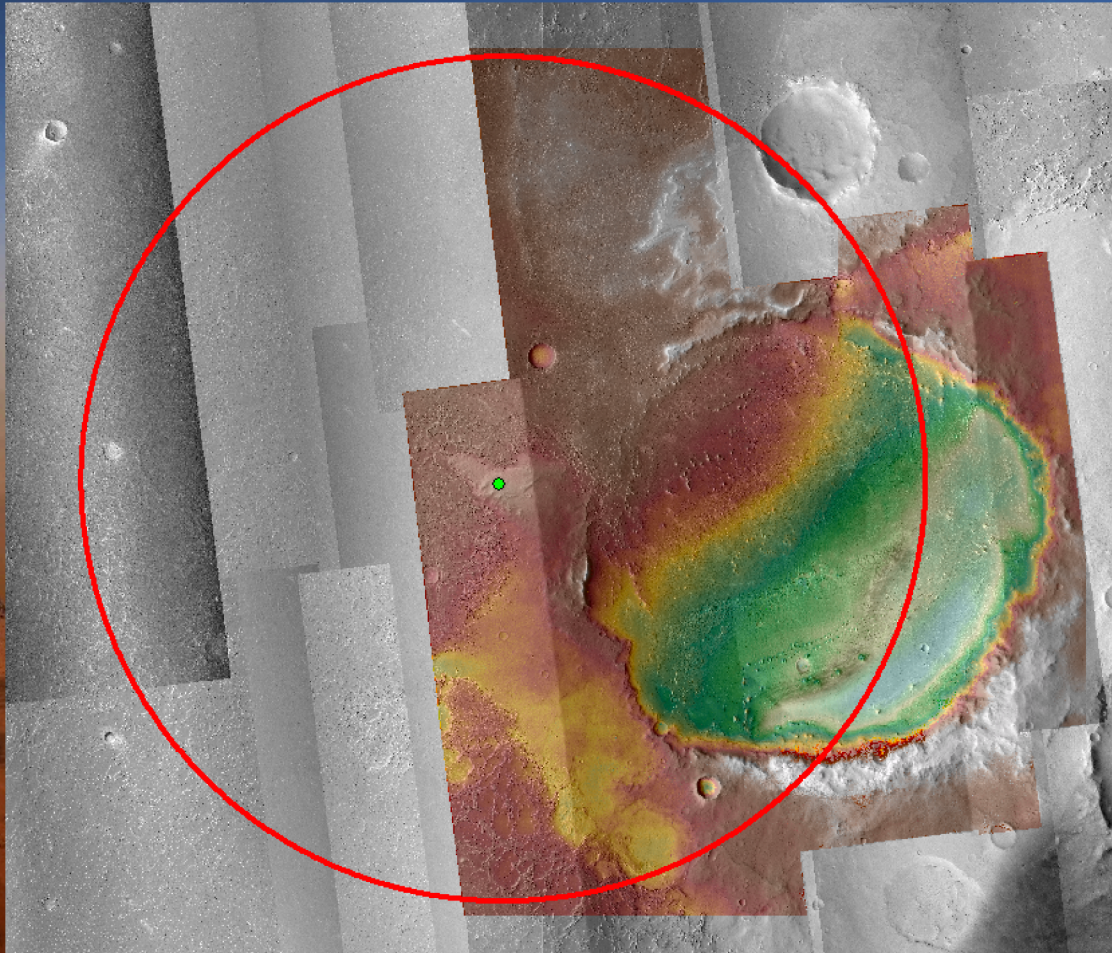
# Oxia Planum – Science & Safety perspective





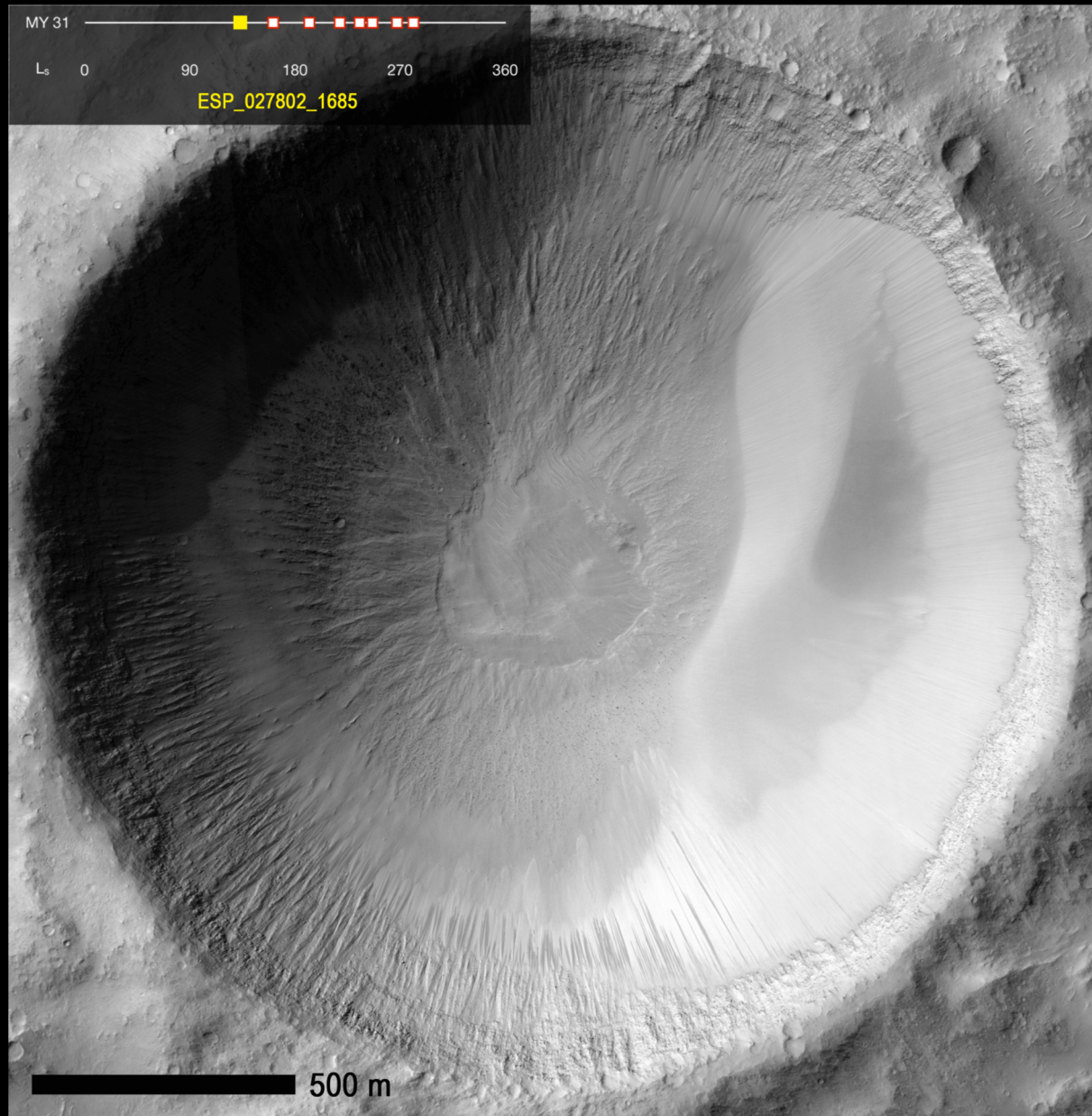
# Human Landing Sites:

## The Vernal crater case study



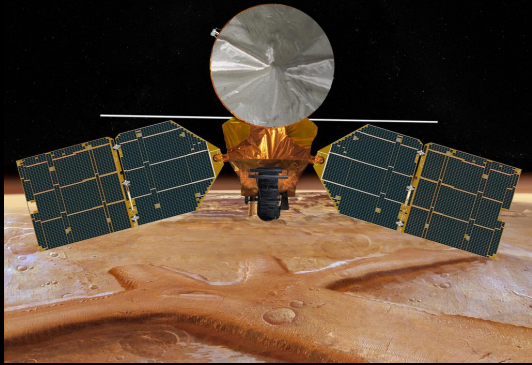


# Present day surface processes : Recurring Slope Lineae



# HiRISE Camera onboard Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

Images with a spatial scale of 25 cm/pixel



G. Cremonese  
HiRISE Co-I

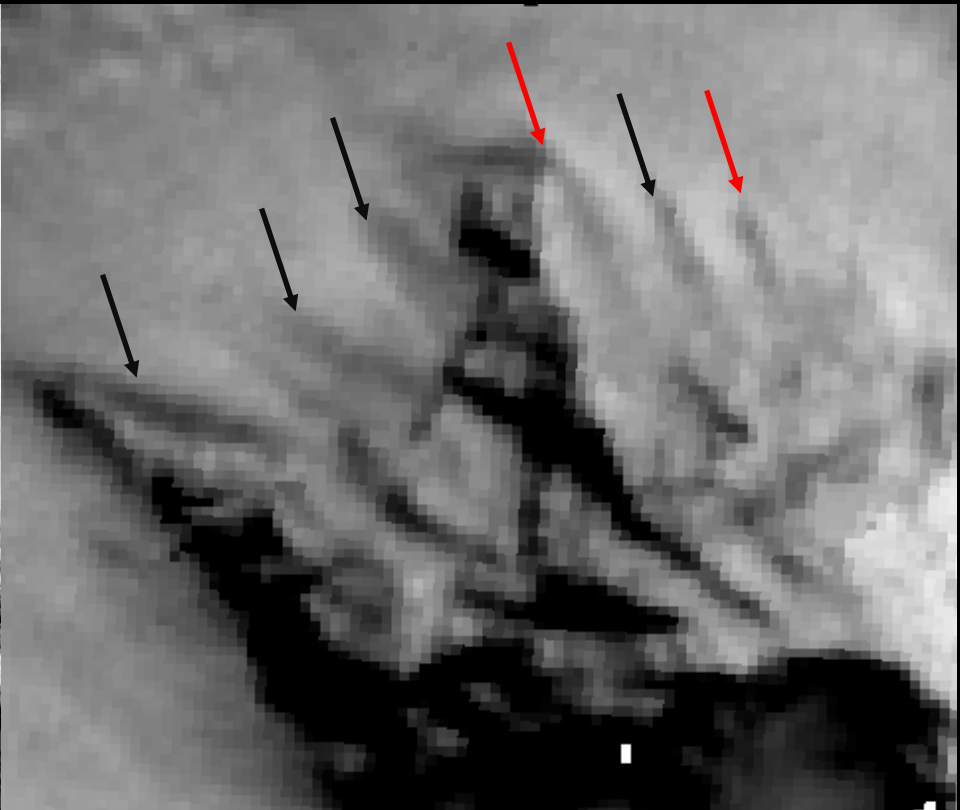
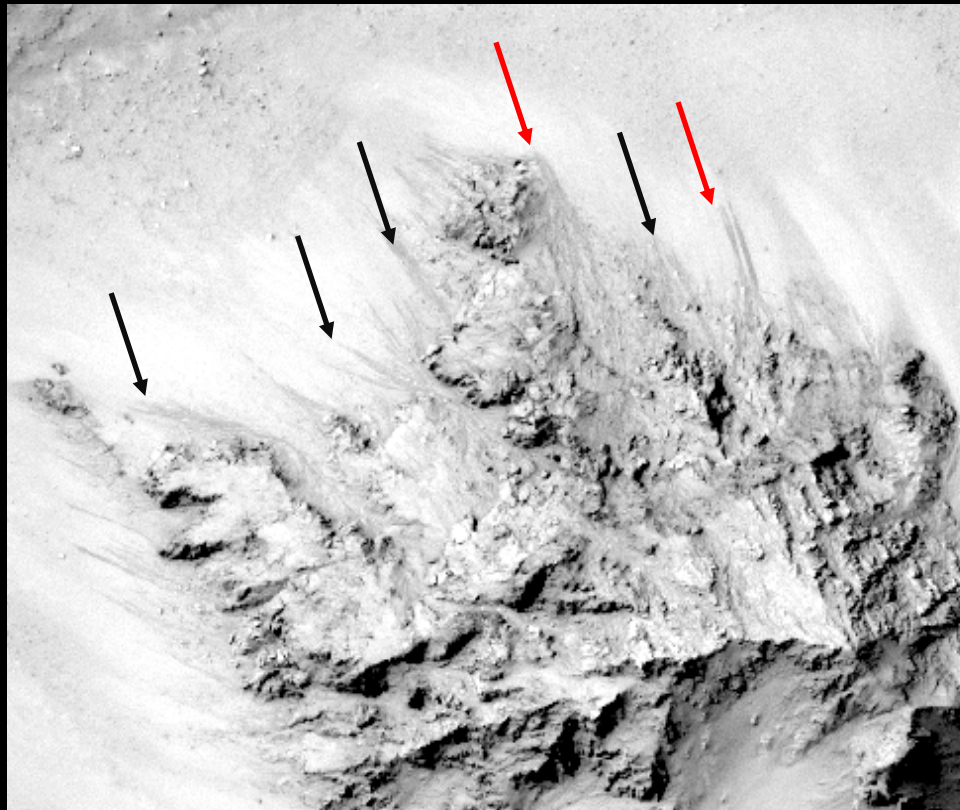




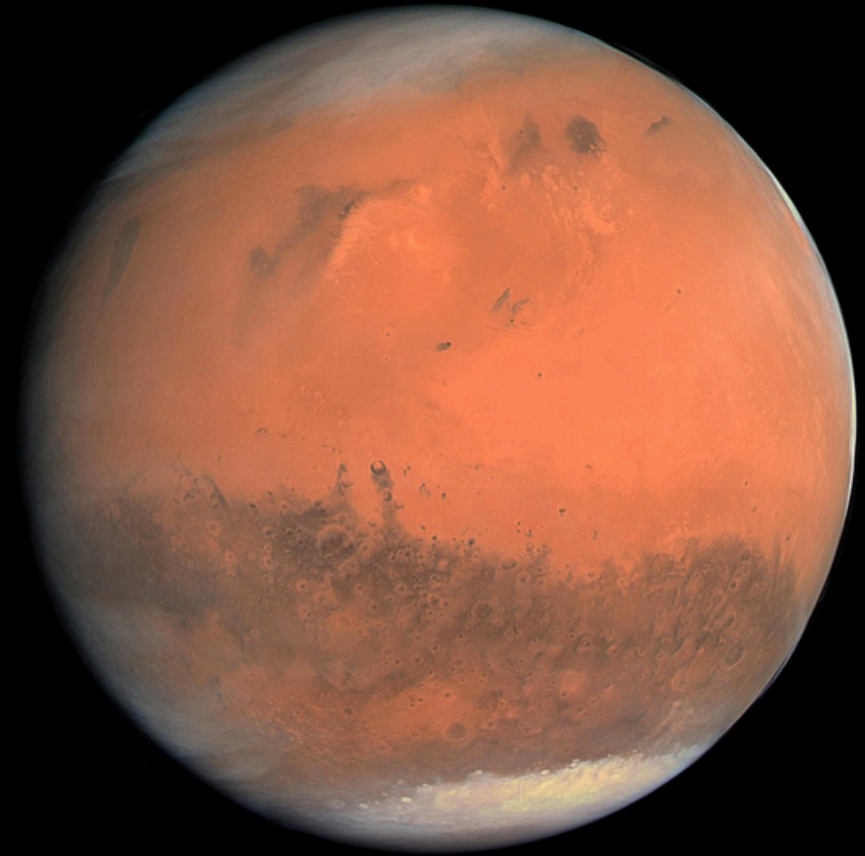
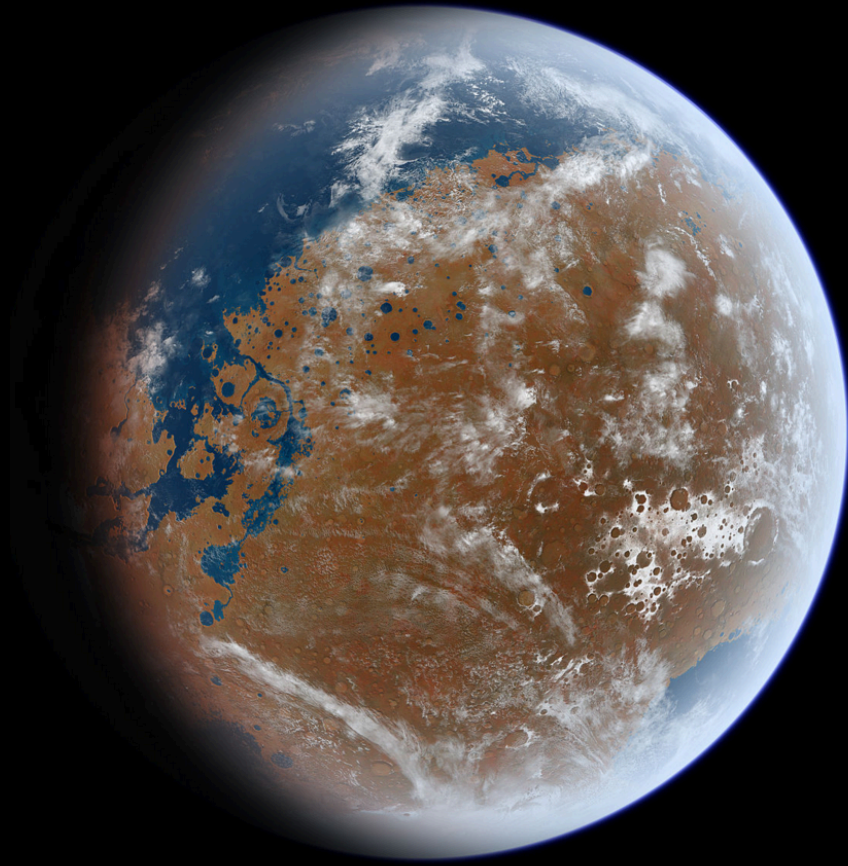
# Characterization of diurnal surface processes related to RSL activity with CaSSIS images and DTMs

HiRISE (afternoon)

CaSSIS (morning)



Ancient Mars water cycle vs Today surface processes?







# The OSIRIS-REx Mission



**M. Pajola**  
Participating Scientist -CoI



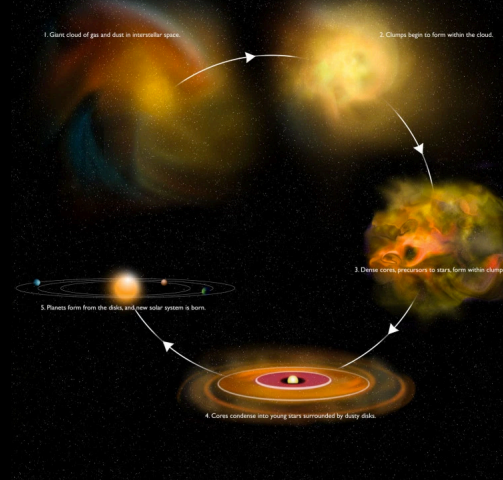
# What is OSIRIS-REx?

OSIRIS-REx is the 3<sup>rd</sup> in NASA's New Frontiers Program.

1. Return and analyze a sample of pristine carbonaceous asteroid regolith (60 gr to 2 kg) to study the nature, of its constituent minerals;
2. Map the global properties, chemistry, and mineralogy of the primitive carbonaceous asteroid (101955) Bennu to provide context for the returned samples;
3. Document the morphology and spectral properties of the regolith at the sampling site in situ at scales down to the sub-millimeter;
4. Measure the Yarkovsky effect on a potentially hazardous asteroid;
5. Allow direct comparison with ground-based telescopic data of the entire asteroid population



# Why a sample return from an asteroid?

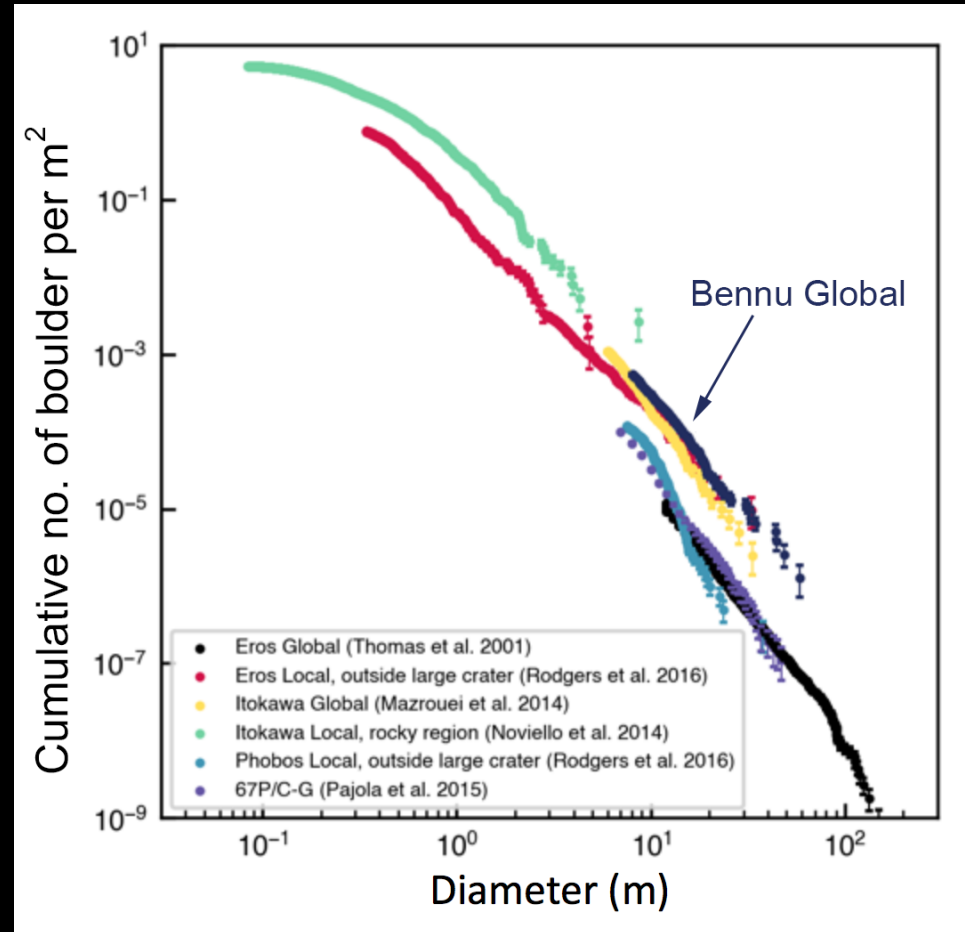
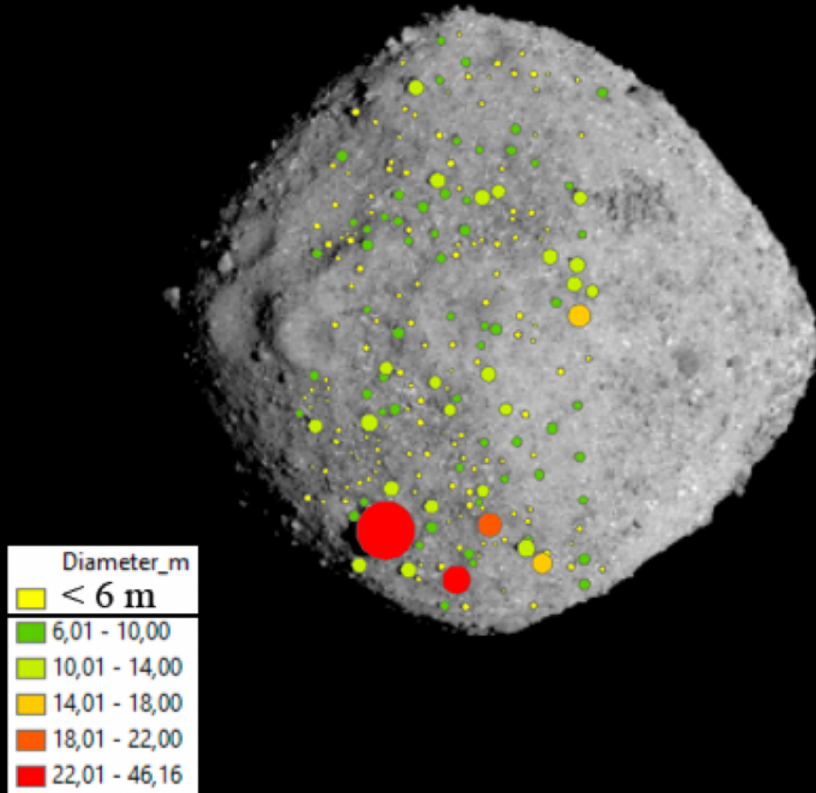


1. Asteroids => remnants of the original building blocks of our Solar System;
2. help understand => formation of the Solar System over 4.5 billion years ago;
3. source of the water and organic molecules => made their way to Earth;
4. an uncontaminated asteroid sample from a known source => precise analyses of the early Solar System. It CANNOT be duplicated by spacecraft-based instruments or by studying meteorites.



# Boulder size-frequency distribution (SFD) analysis

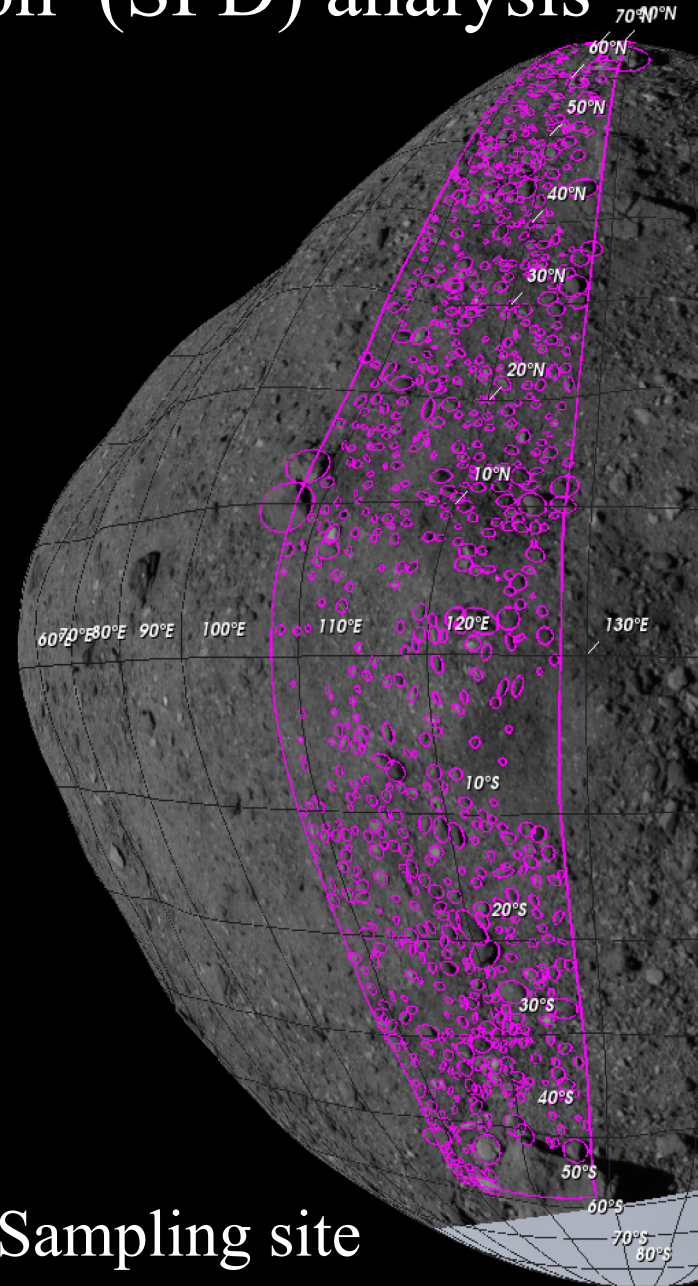
Global



SFD comparison with other minor bodies: origin?

# Boulder size-frequency distribution (SFD) analysis

Local



Science and Safety perspective: the OREx Sampling site



A black and white photograph of a rocky, cratered surface, likely a planetary or lunar landscape. The terrain is covered in numerous small, dark rocks and craters of varying sizes. The lighting creates strong shadows, emphasizing the rugged texture. The word "Thanks" is overlaid in a white, serif font on the left side of the image.

Thanks