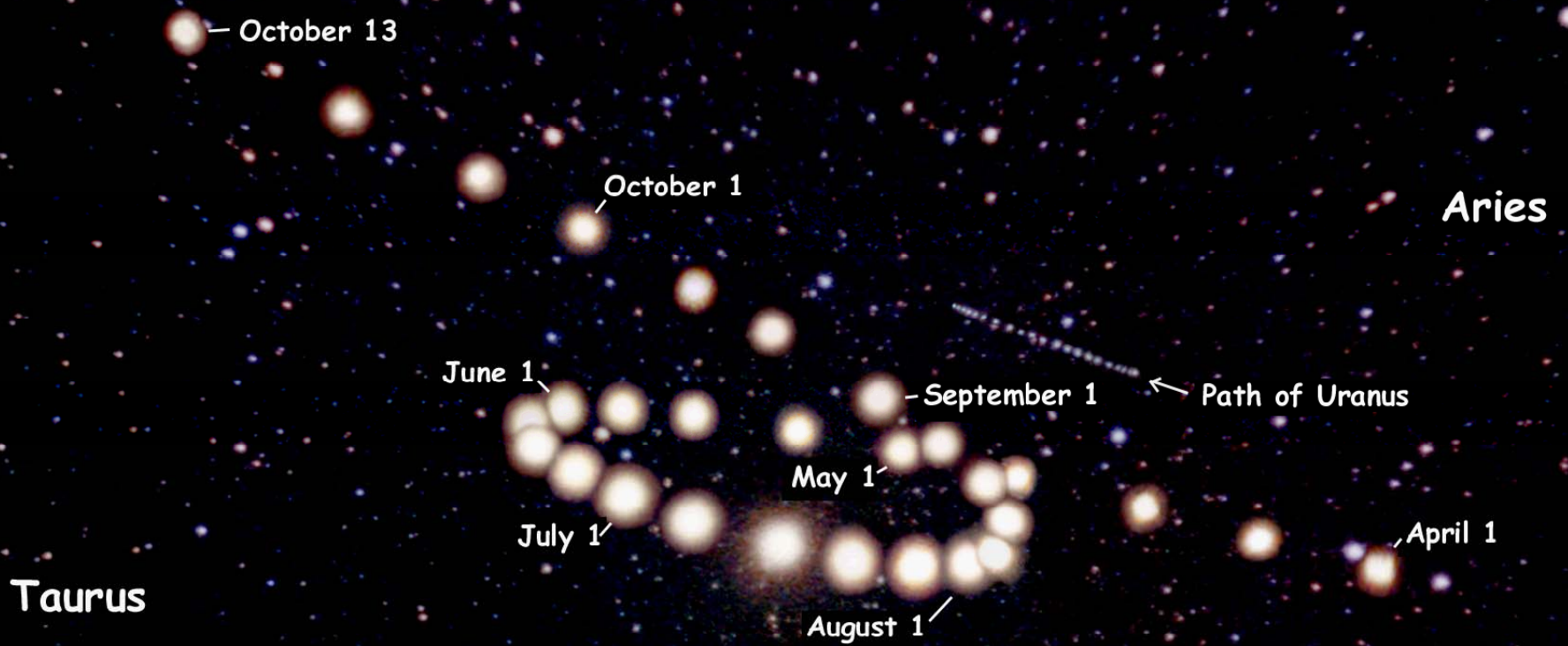


Mars big and small, bright and much less bright



Mars' orbital motion from earth, April - October, 2003

A Few Mars Related Numbers

minus 185° to plus 81°F

0.38

140 million miles

25°

1.52

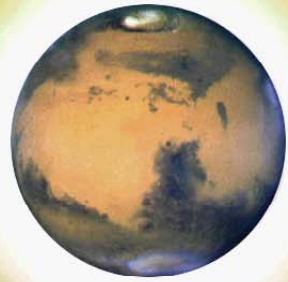
24 hours, 37 minutes, 22 seconds

4,220

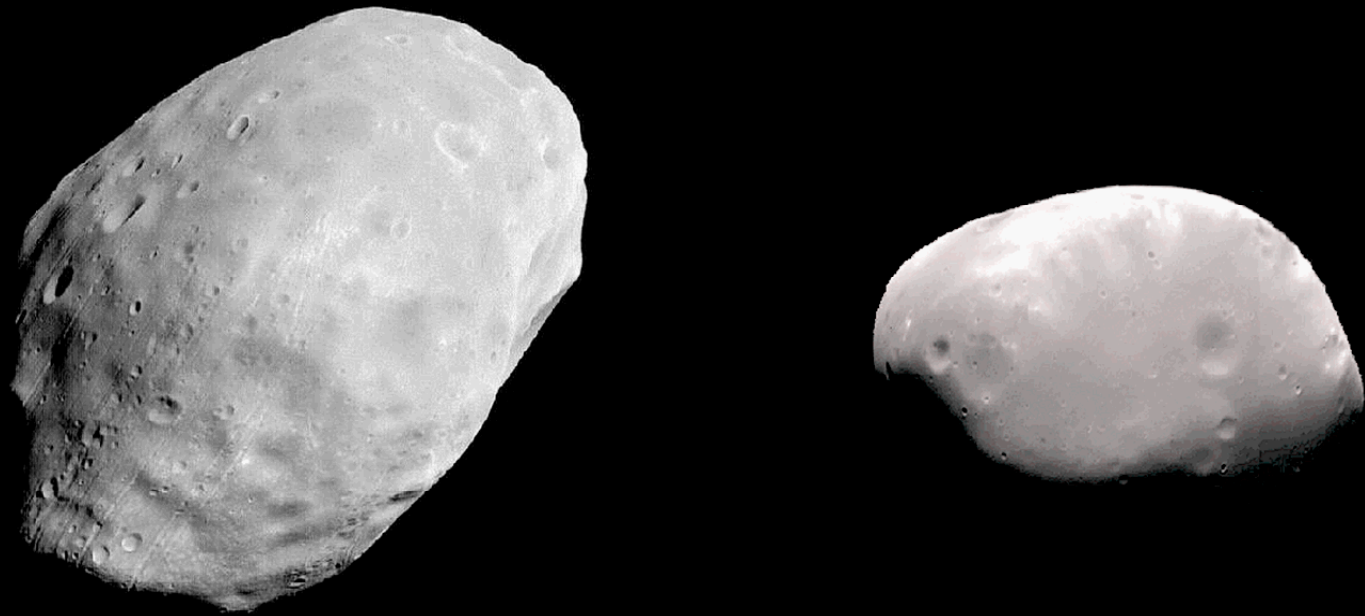
687 earth days

95.32%

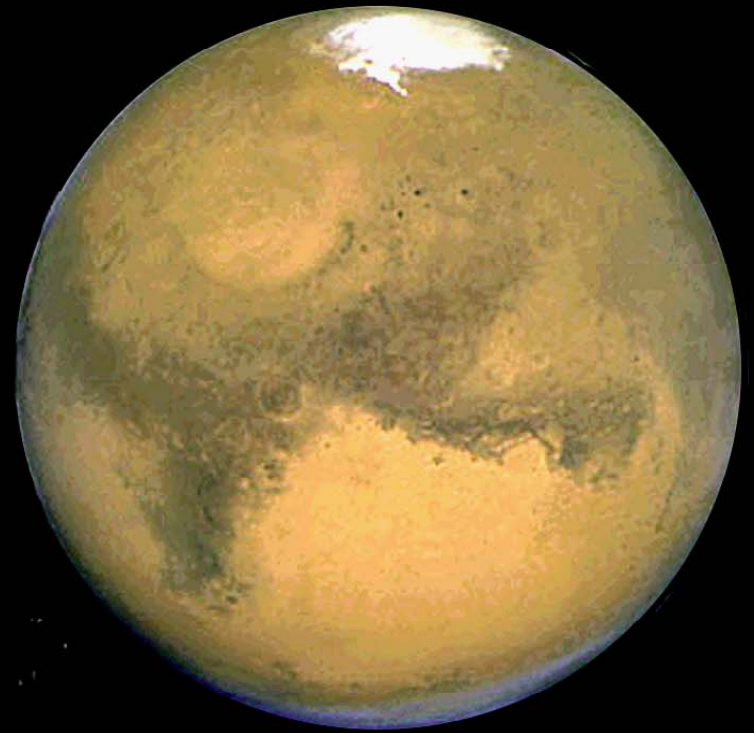
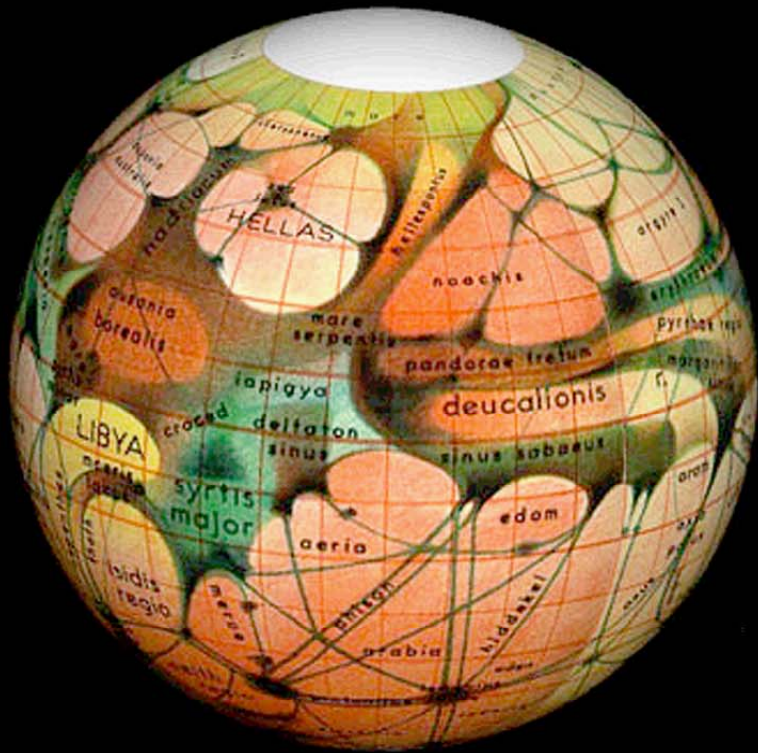
2



Phobos and Deimos



Phobos and Deimos

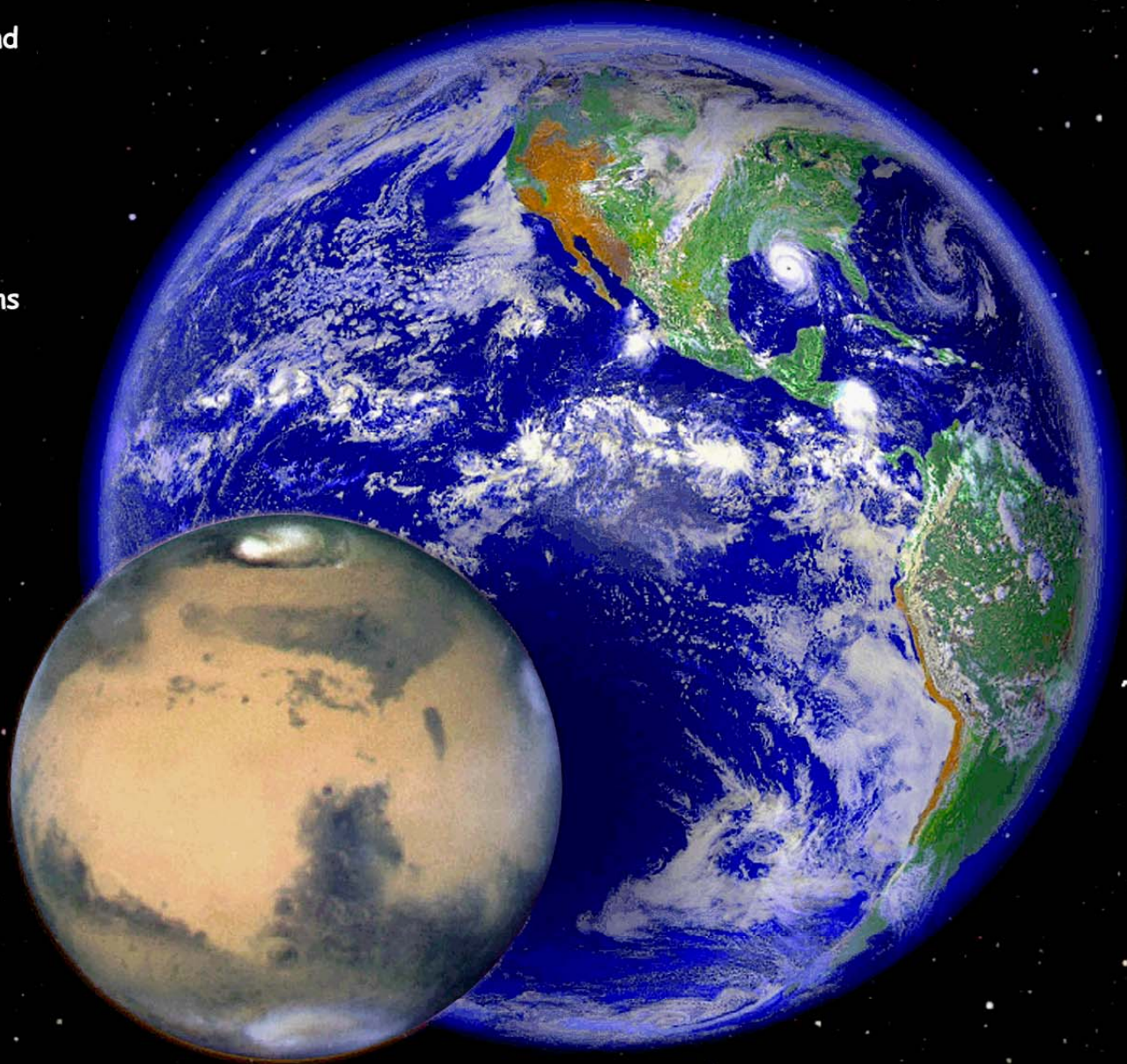


Mars according to Percival Lowell and the Hubble Space Telescope

Areas of dry land

77% N/21% O₂
vs 95% CO₂

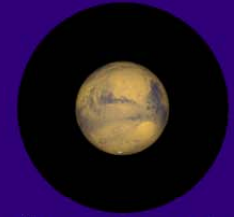
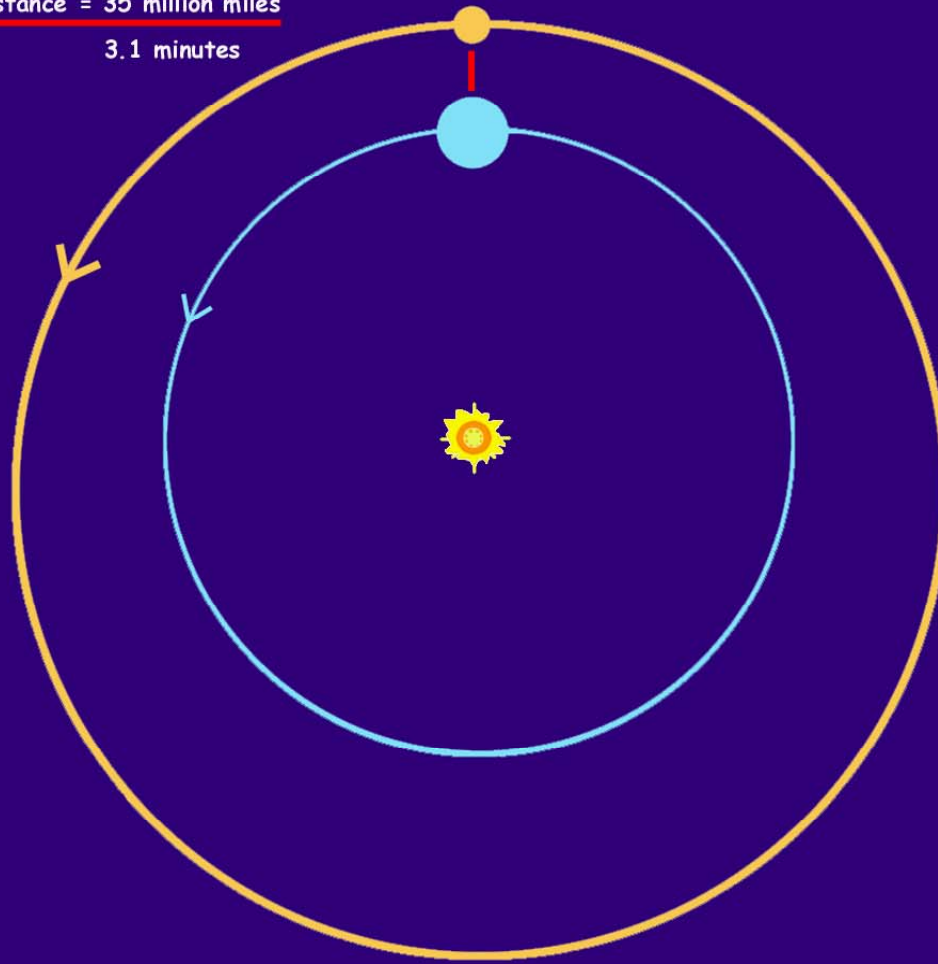
Length of seasons



Mars and its sister planet

Mars to Earth distance = 35 million miles

3.1 minutes

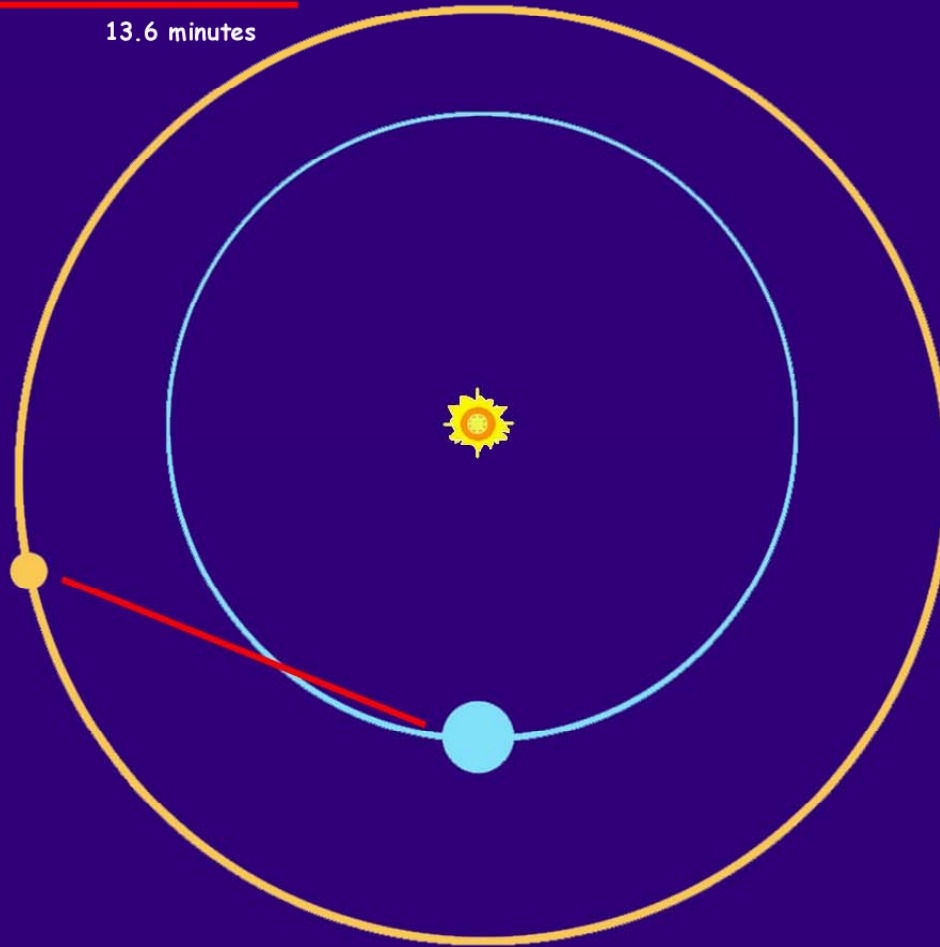


telescope image size

Mars and Earth on August 28, 2003

Mars to Earth distance = 152 million miles

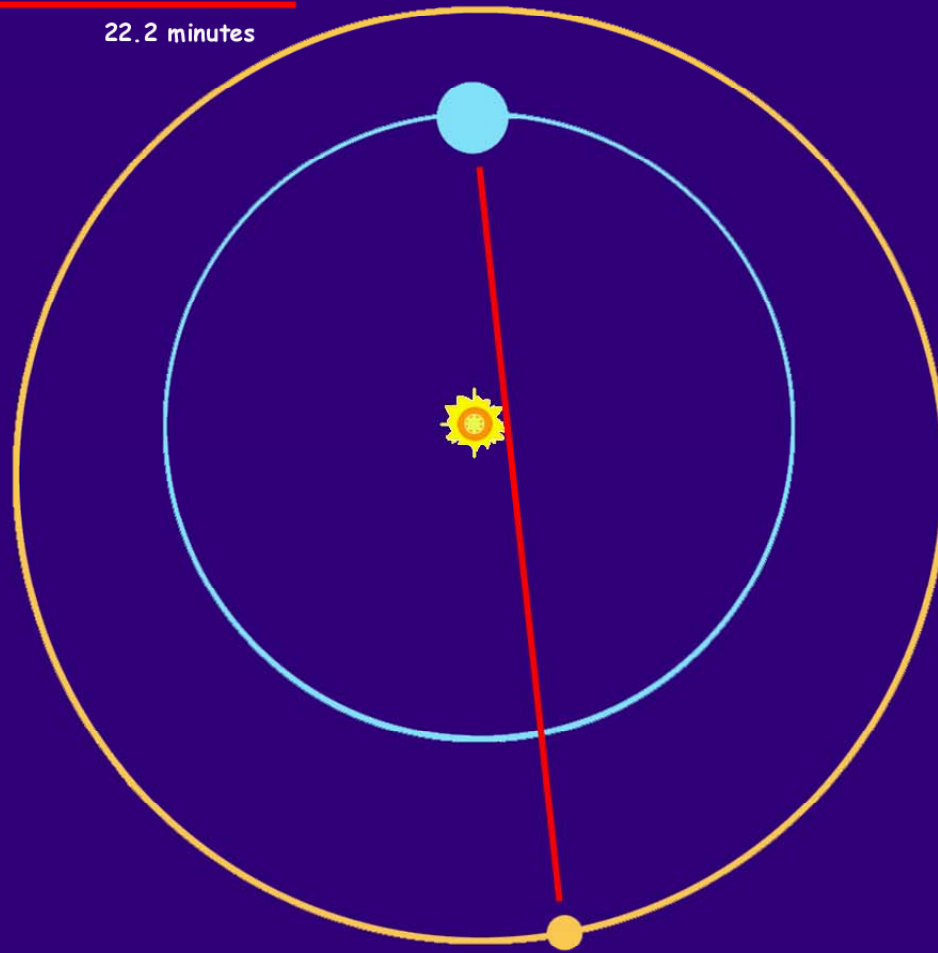
13.6 minutes



Mars and Earth on February 28, 2004

Mars to Earth distance = 248 million miles

22.2 minutes



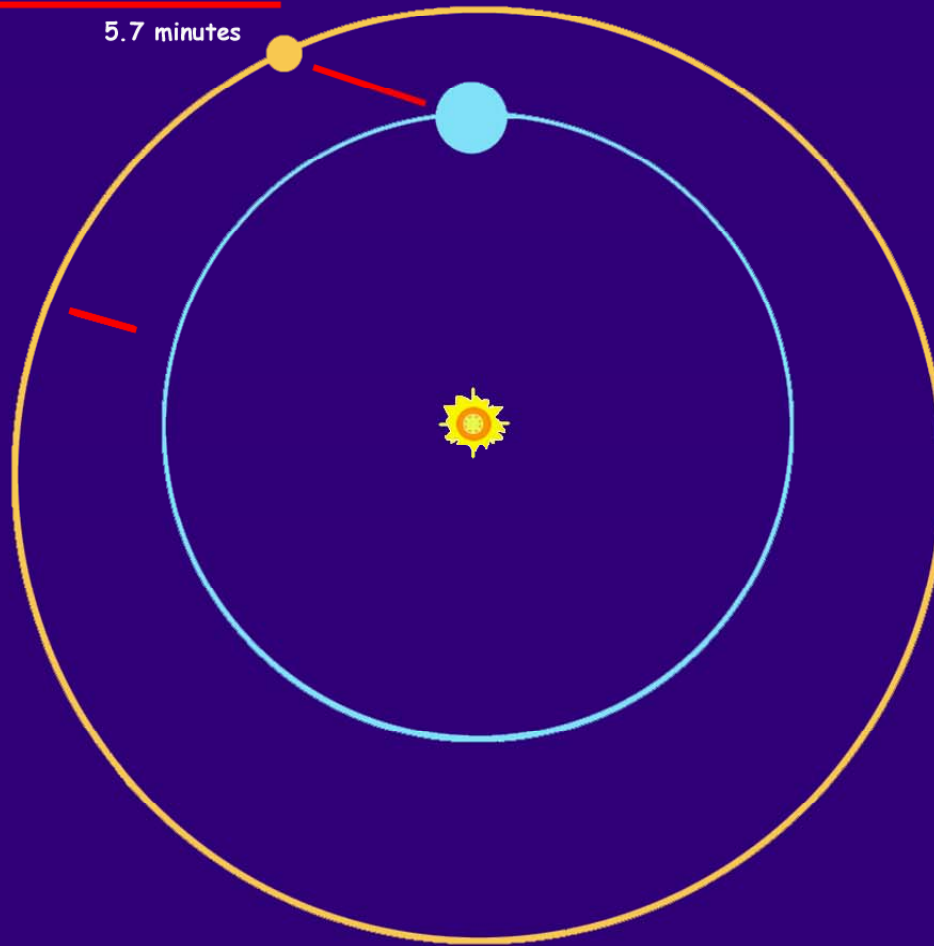
telescope image size

Mars and Earth on August 28, 2004

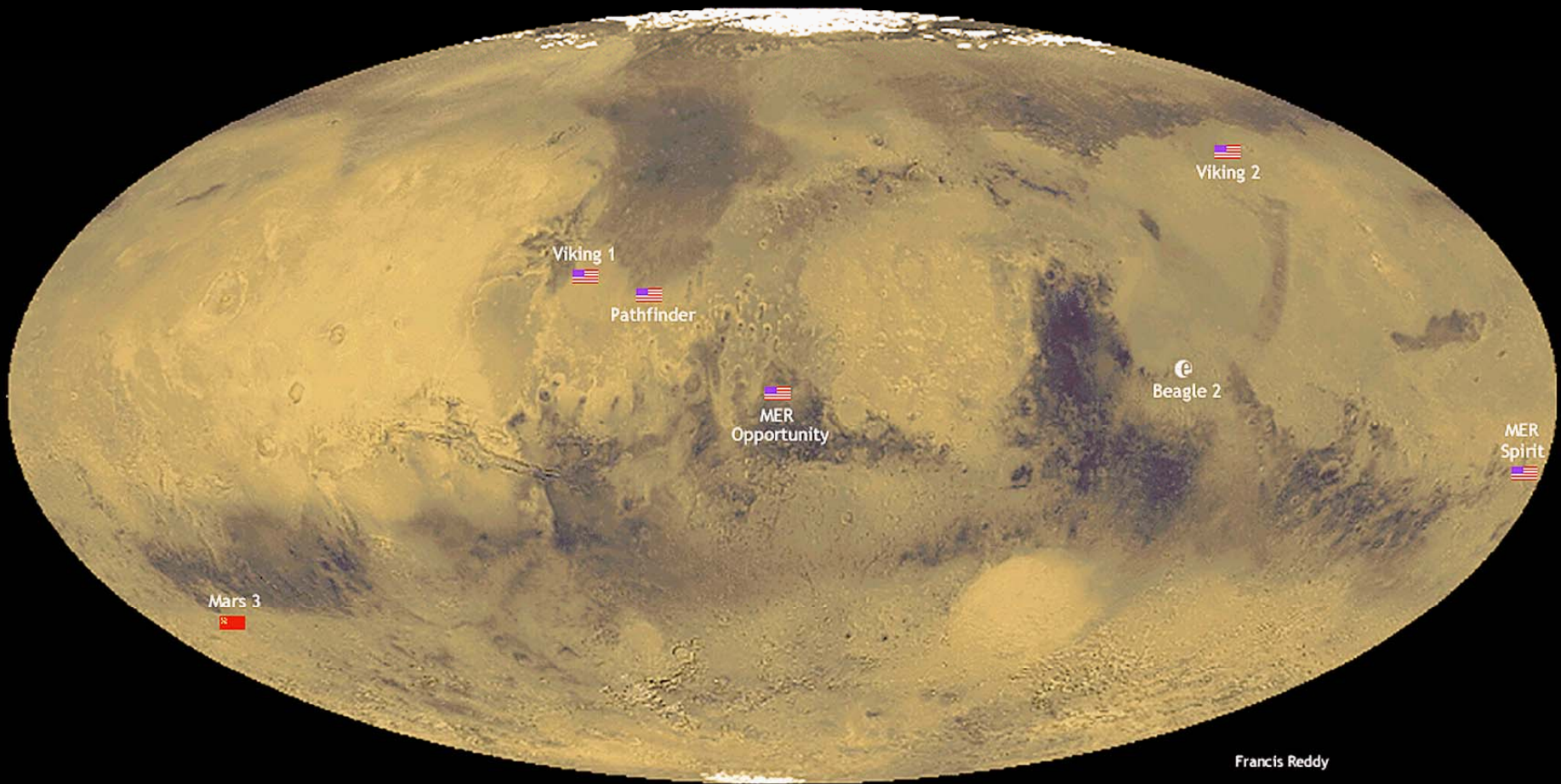
Mars to Earth distance = 64 million miles

5.7 minutes

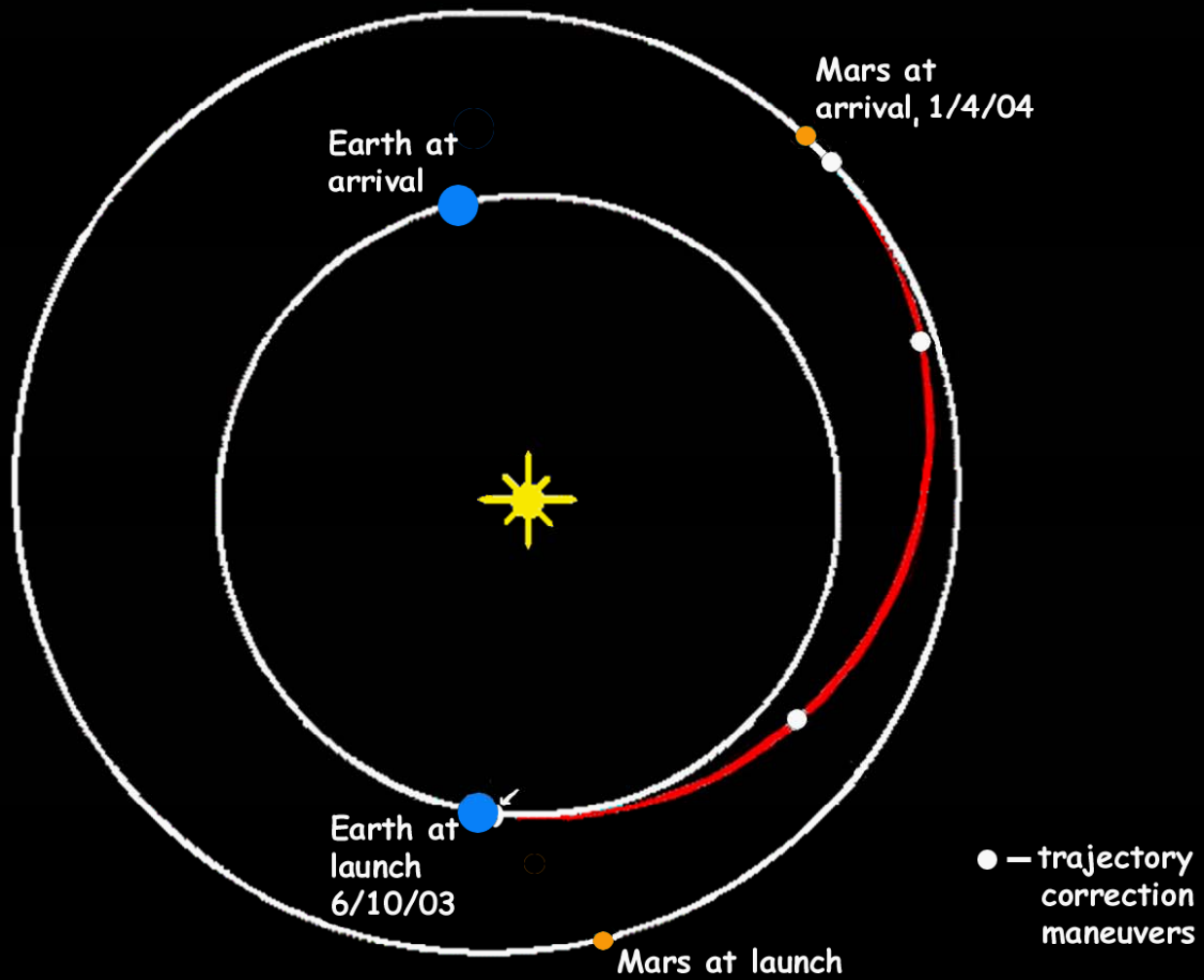
The Mars/Earth
opposition of
November 13, 2005
(45 million miles)



Mars and Earth on August 28, 2005

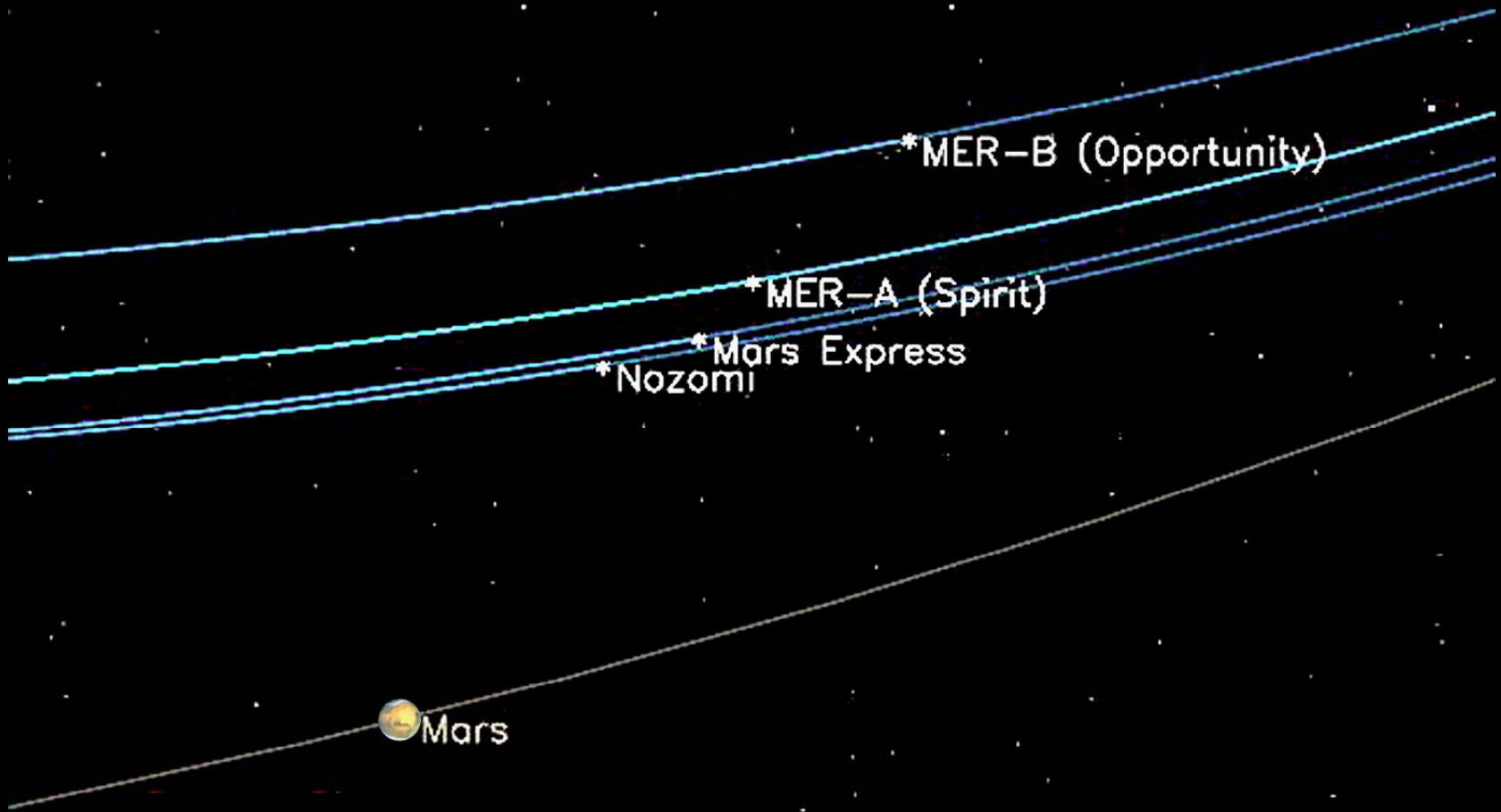


Mars landing sites -- Mollweide projection

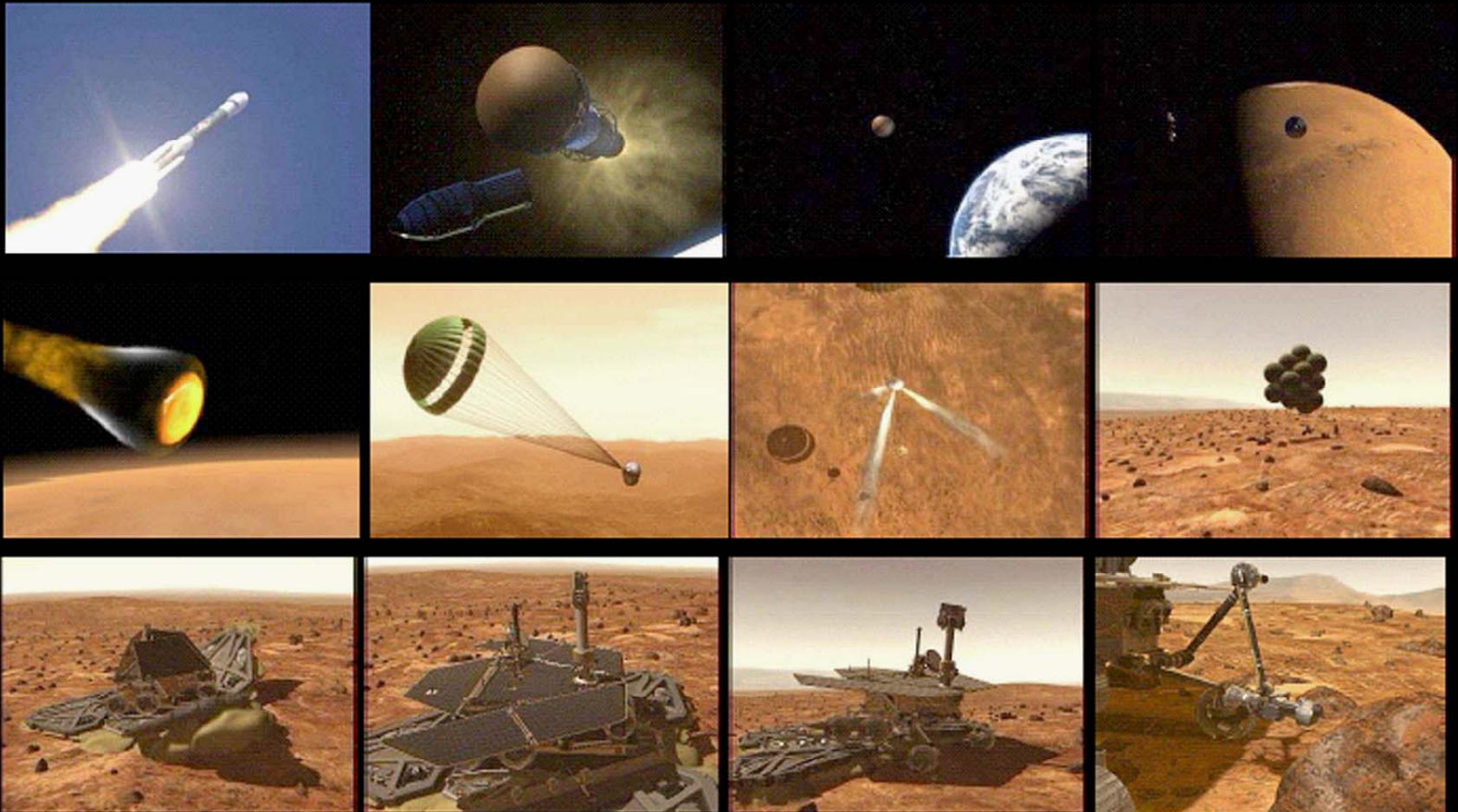


Flight path for MER1, Spirit

Looking down on MER-A (Spirit)
04 Nov 2003 14:50 GMT



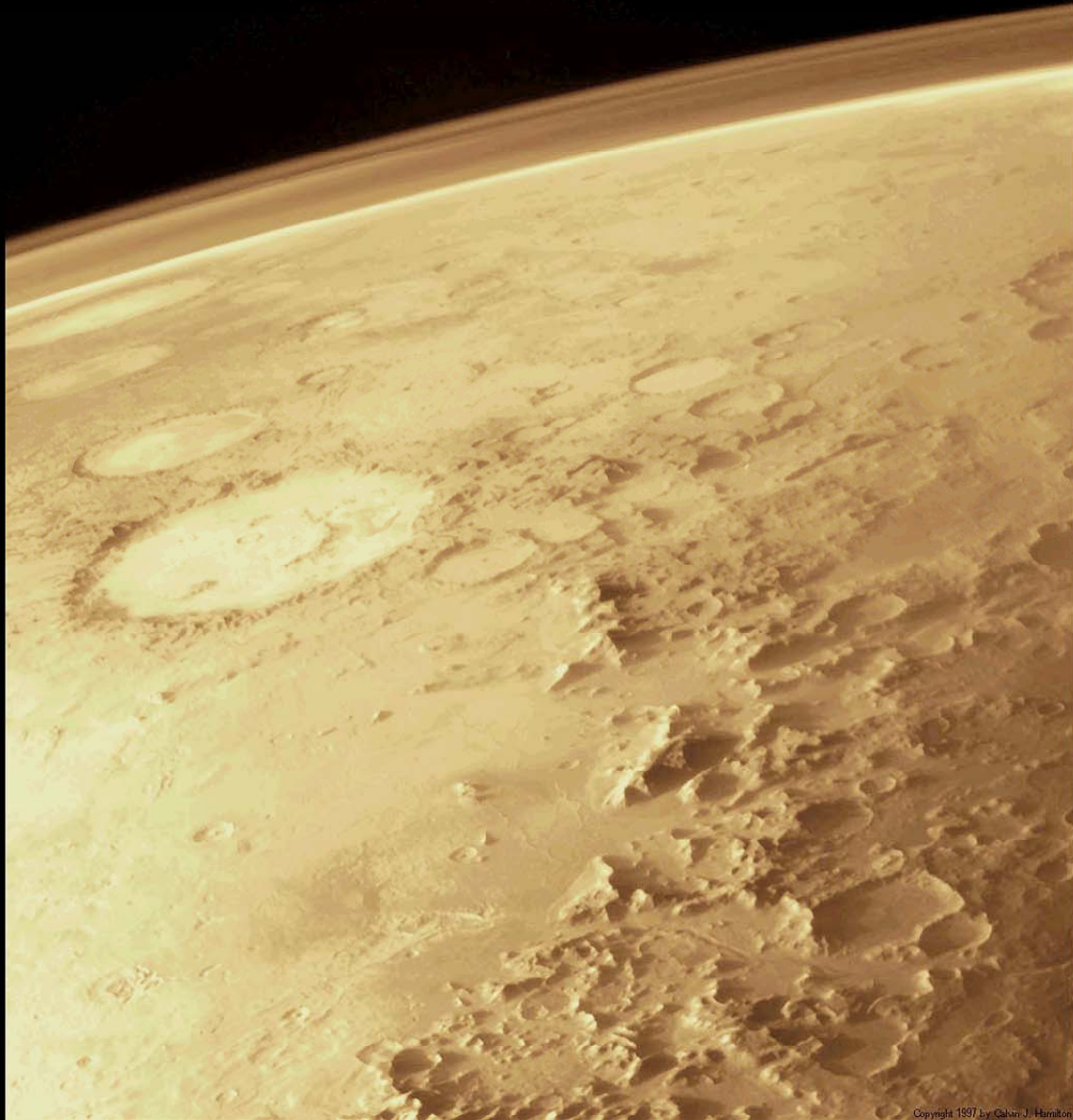
Four Mars Missions on November 4, 2003



Images From Mission Animation by Dan Maas

Phases of the MER Missions:

- launch and cruise
- entry/descent/landing
- egress and surface operation

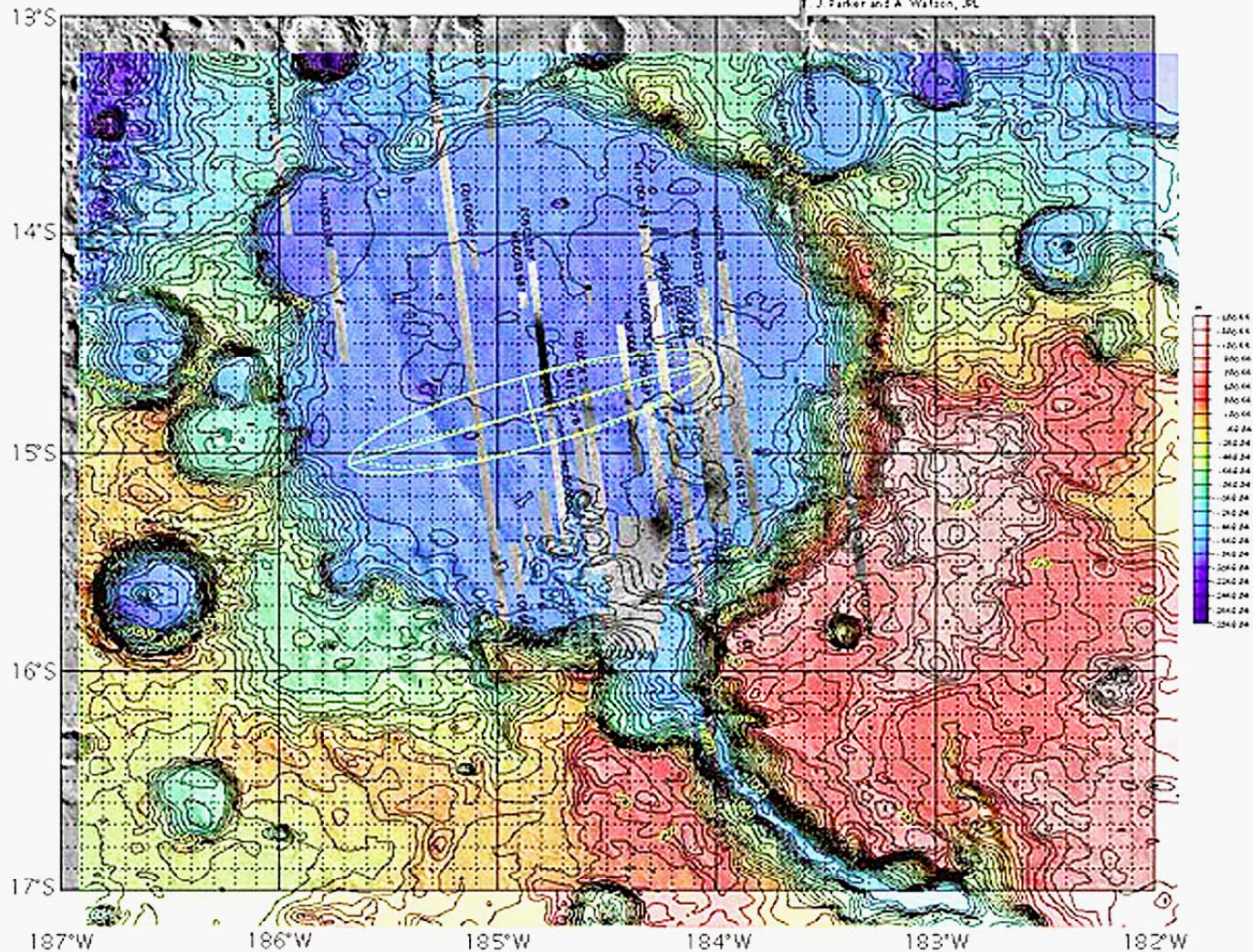


Copyright 1997 by Cakun J. Hamilton

A view of Mars' atmosphere

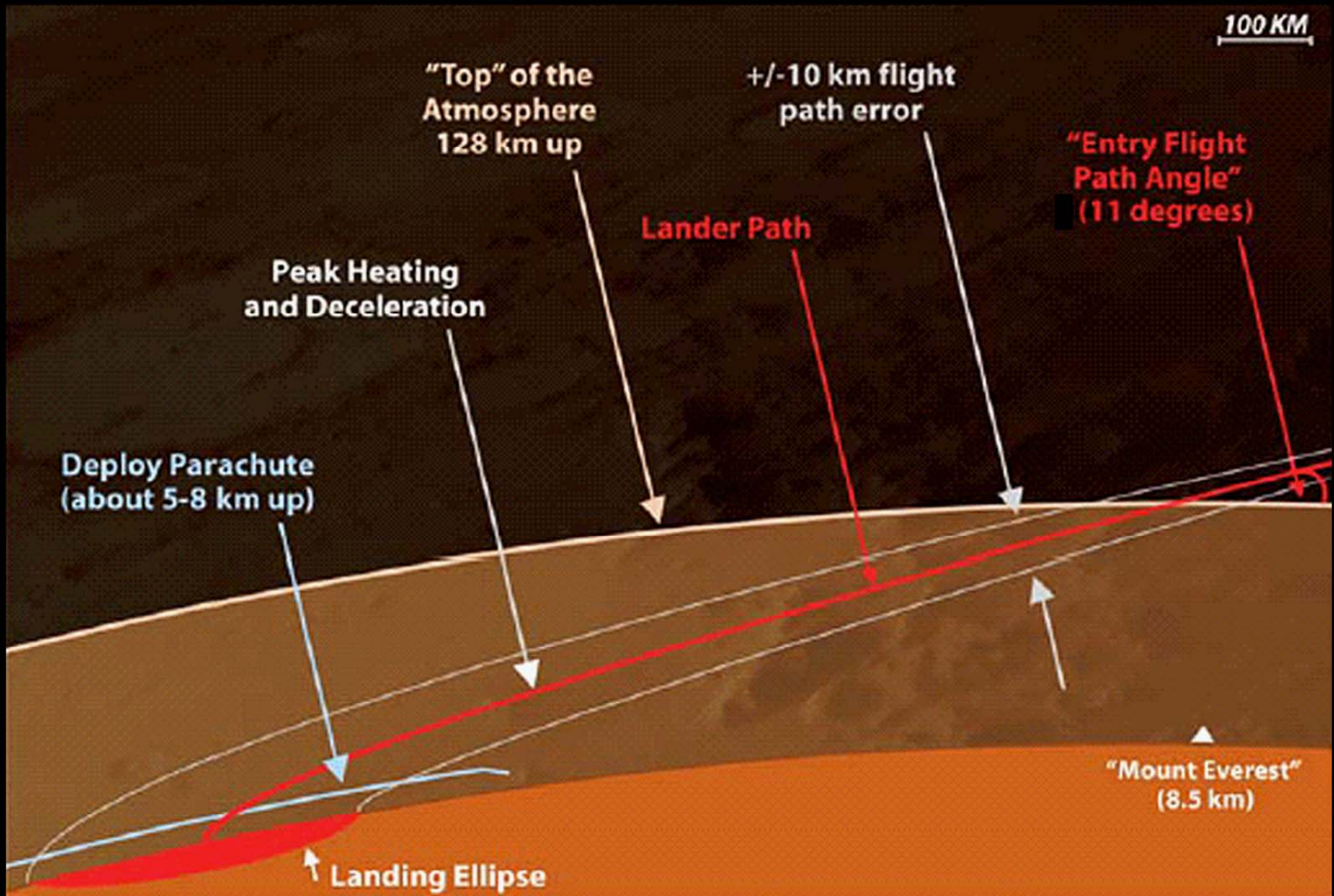
Gusev Crater Site (TCM-5 DeltaDOR, -2Day:
MER-A; Open of window=dashed, Close=solid)

J. Parker and A. Watson, JPL

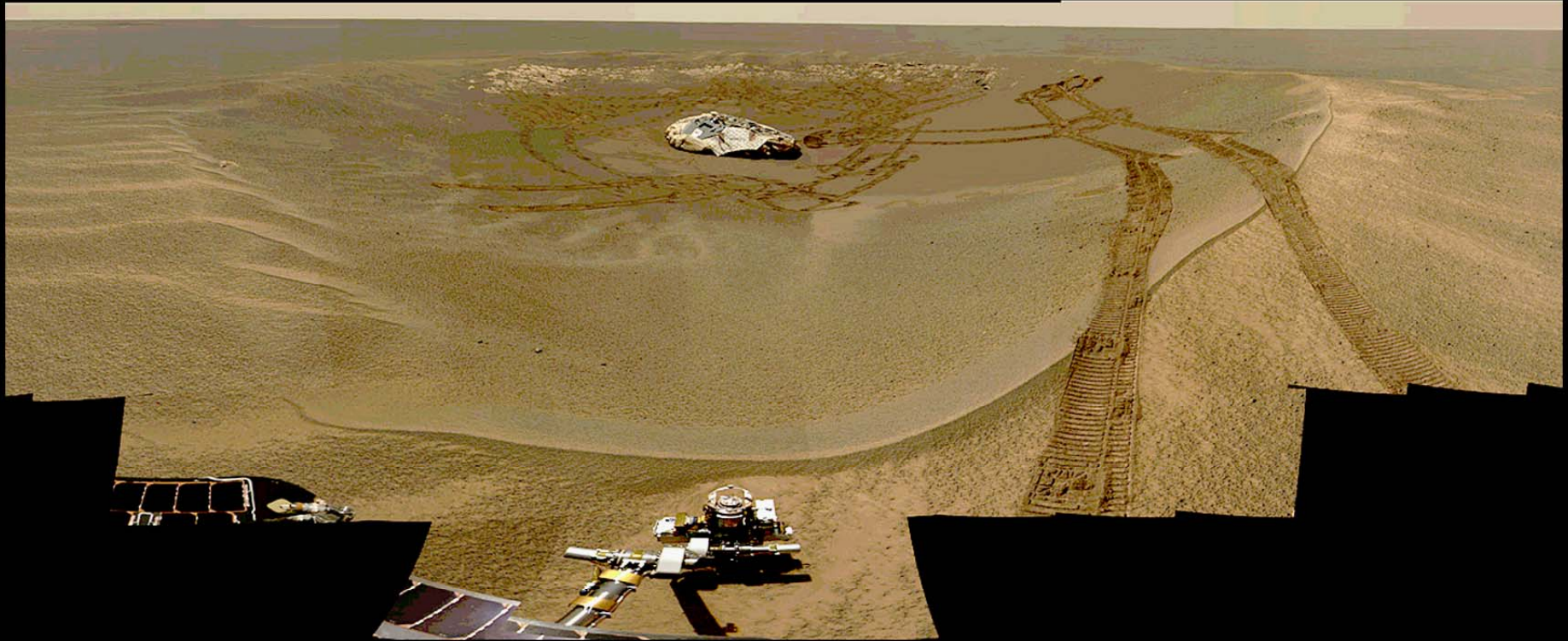


Mars Exploration Rover Project
Potential Landing Site Map, Gusev Crater

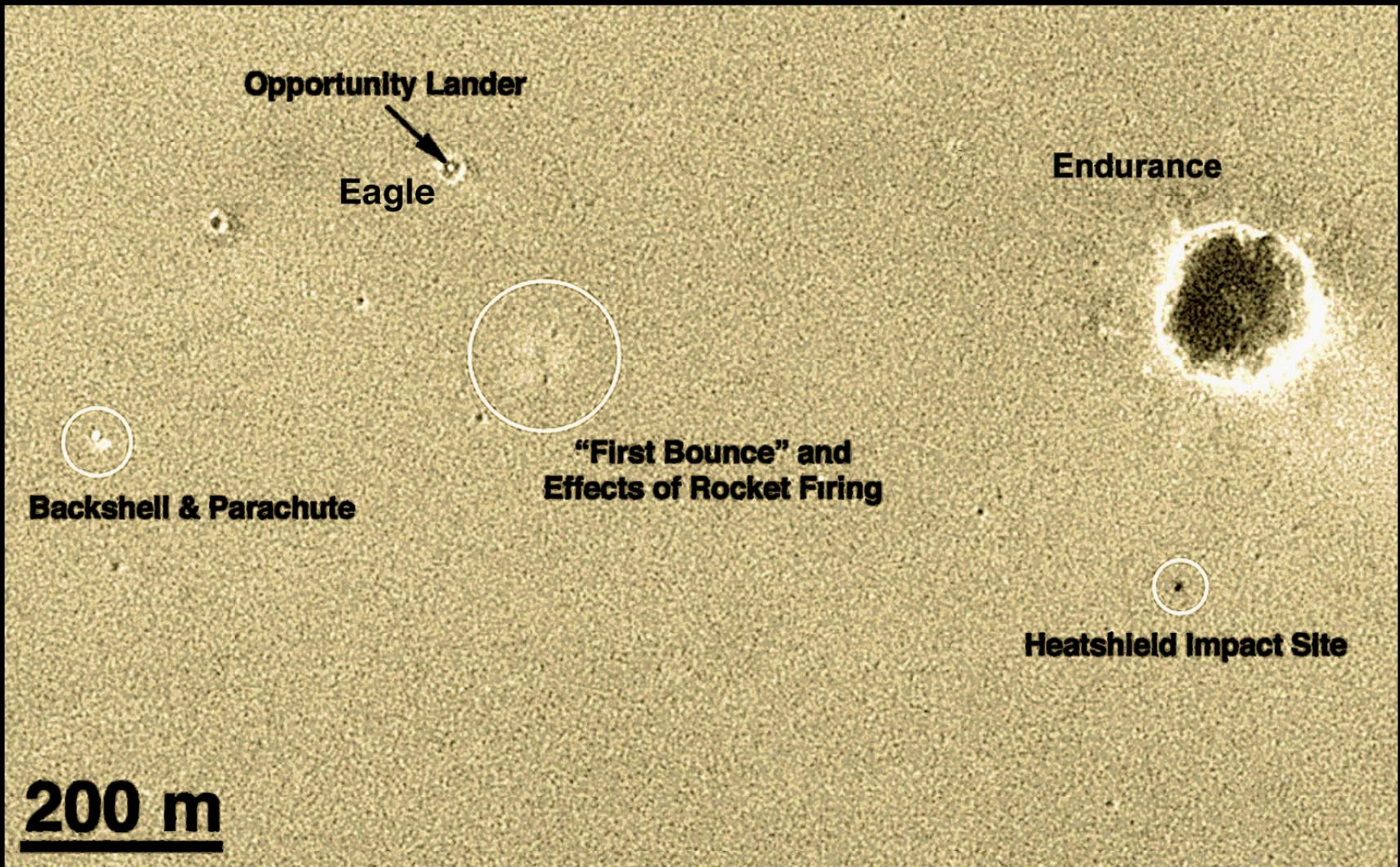
<http://astrogeology.usgs.gov>



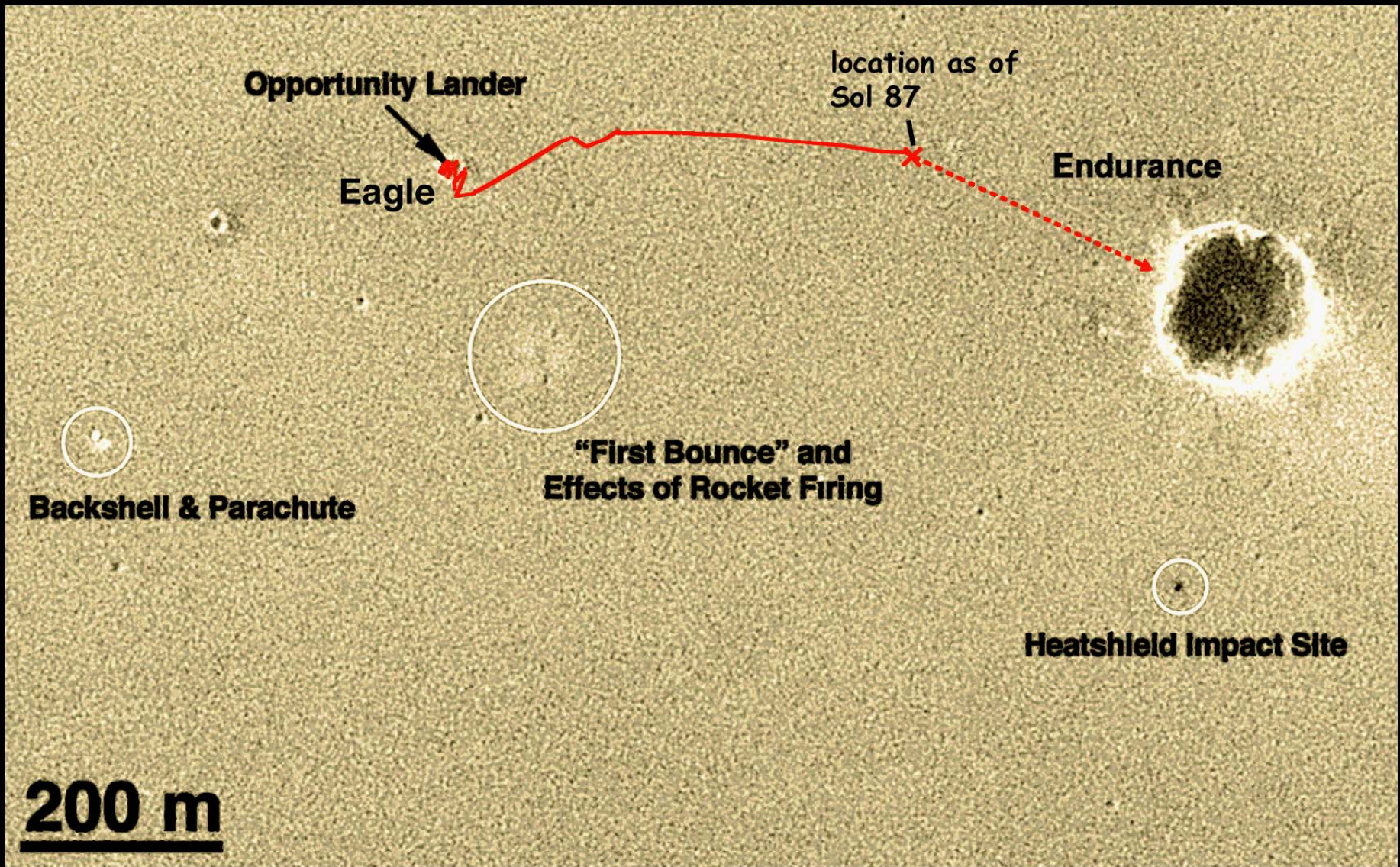
11° -- The critical atmospheric entry angle (for Mars)



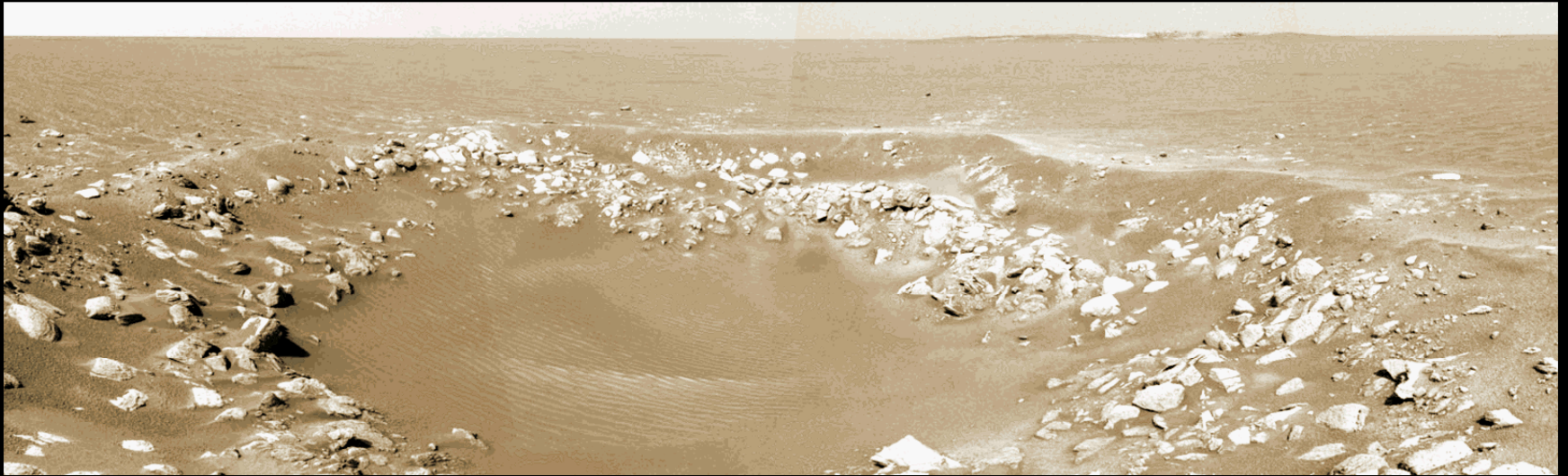
An Opportunity (MER2) panorama of its landing site, Eagle Crater



Overview of Opportunity's landing site (courtesy of Odyssey)



Overview of Opportunity's landing site (courtesy of Odyssey)



Opportunity's view of a small crater (Fram?) enroute to Endurance

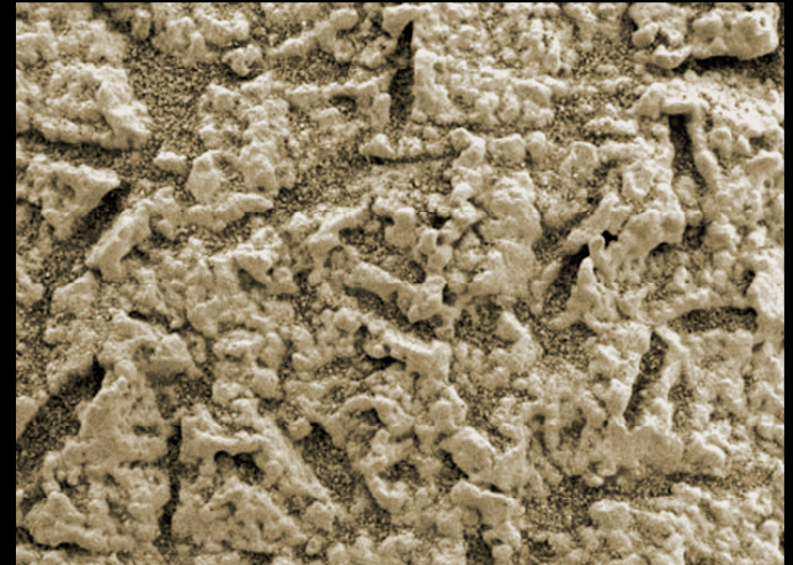
Was there (is there) water on Mars?

The evidence:

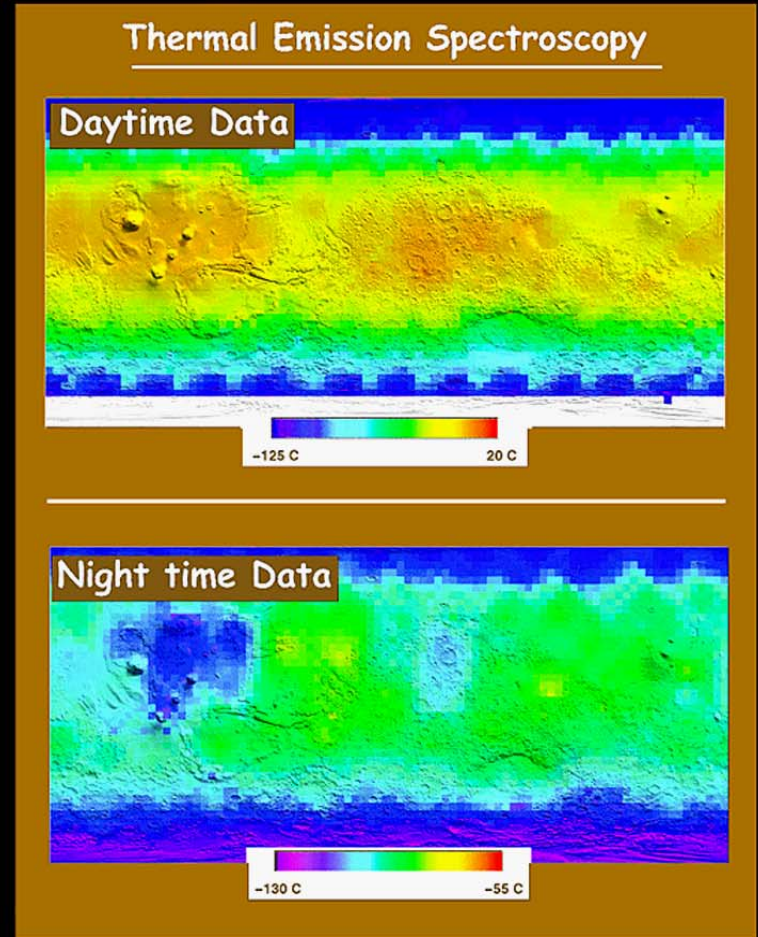
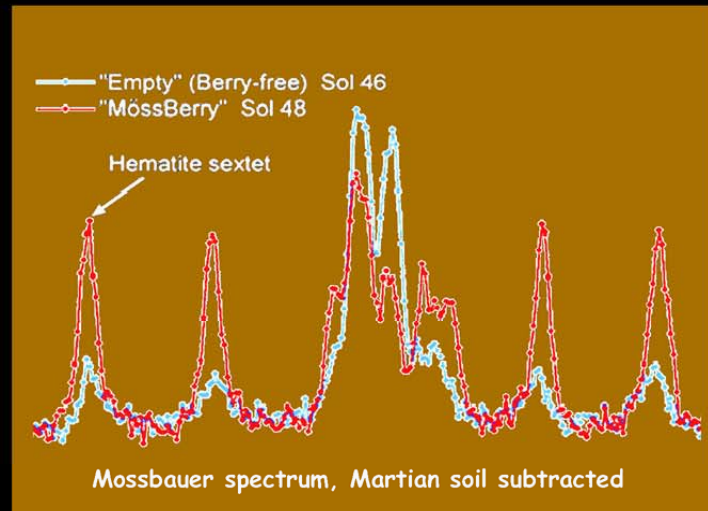
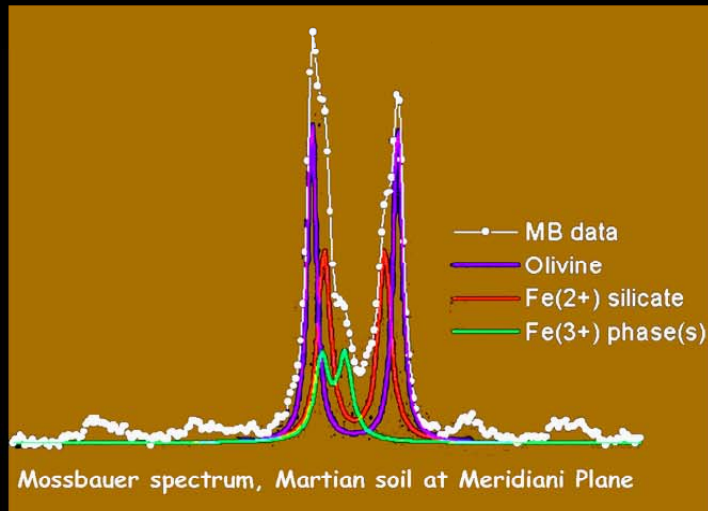
- hematite concretions (blueberries)
- vugs
- flow patterns
- jarosite and evidence of other salts (Mg, Cl, Br)

The tools:

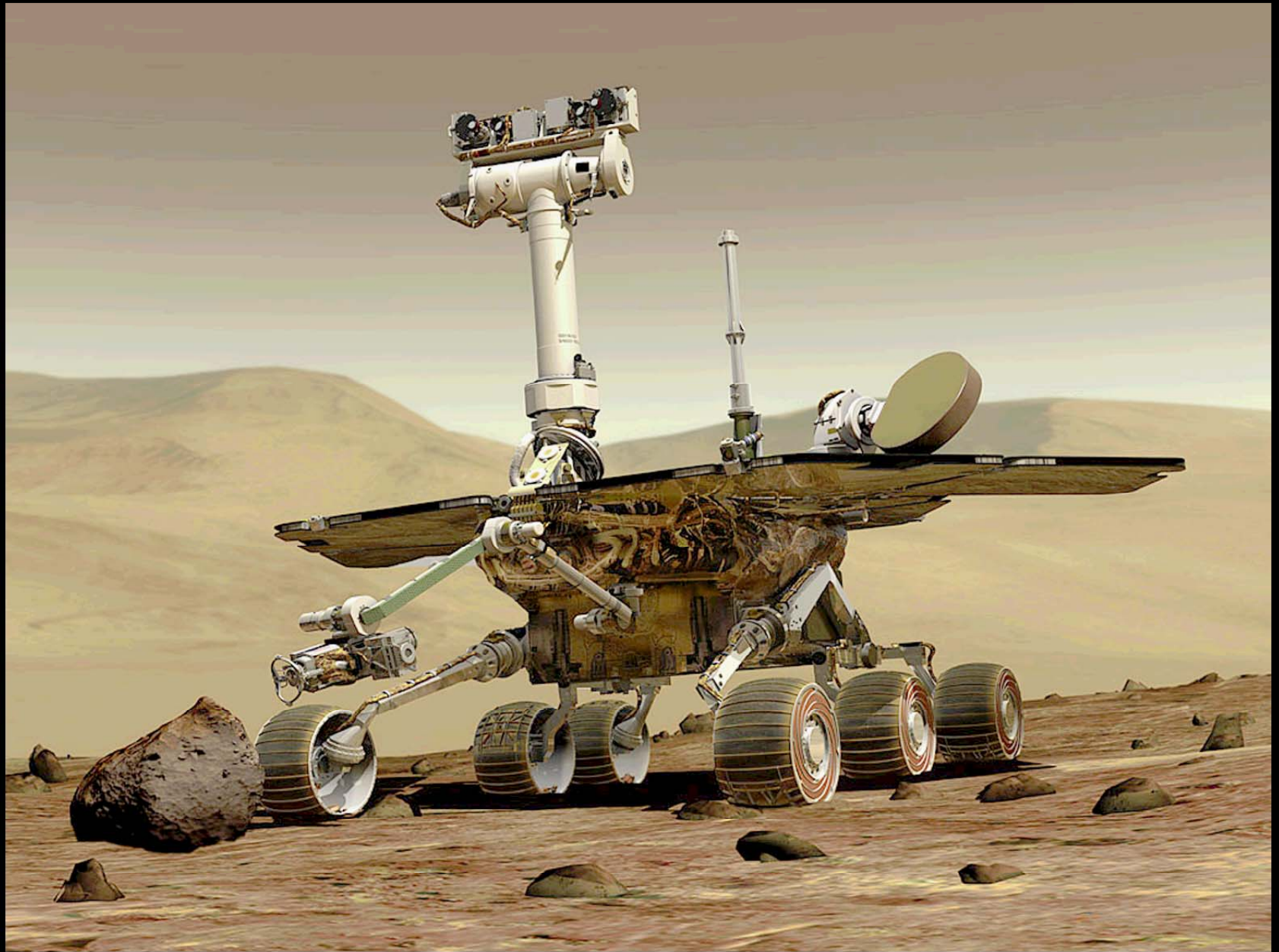
- cameras (crossbedding, hematite spheres, vugs)
- alpha particle x-ray spectrometer
- Mossbauer spectrometer
- thermal emission spectrometer



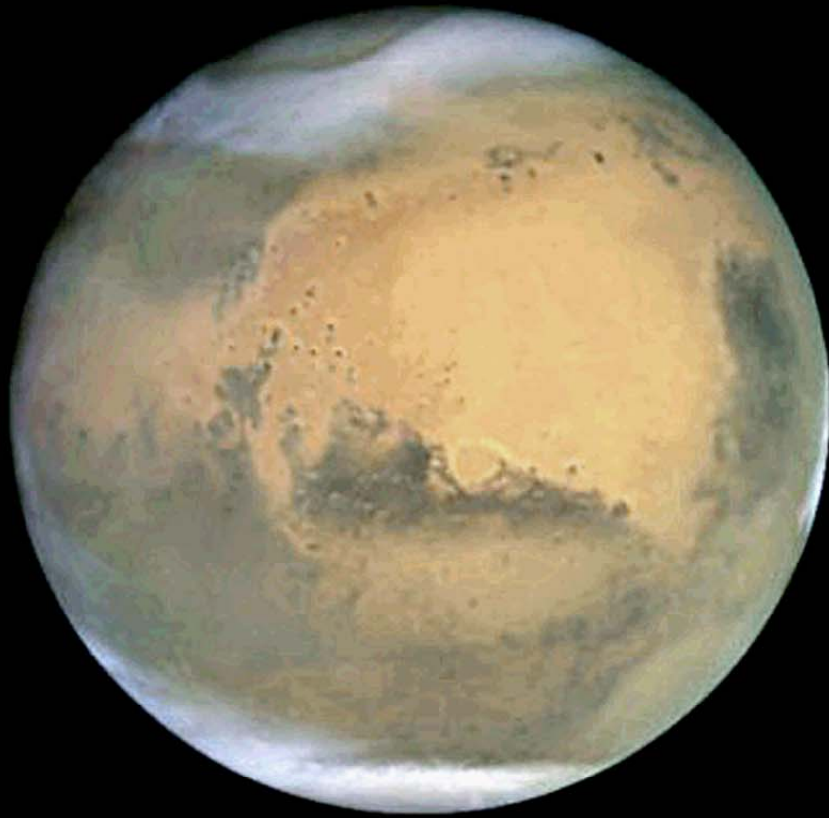
The evidence for water -- visual



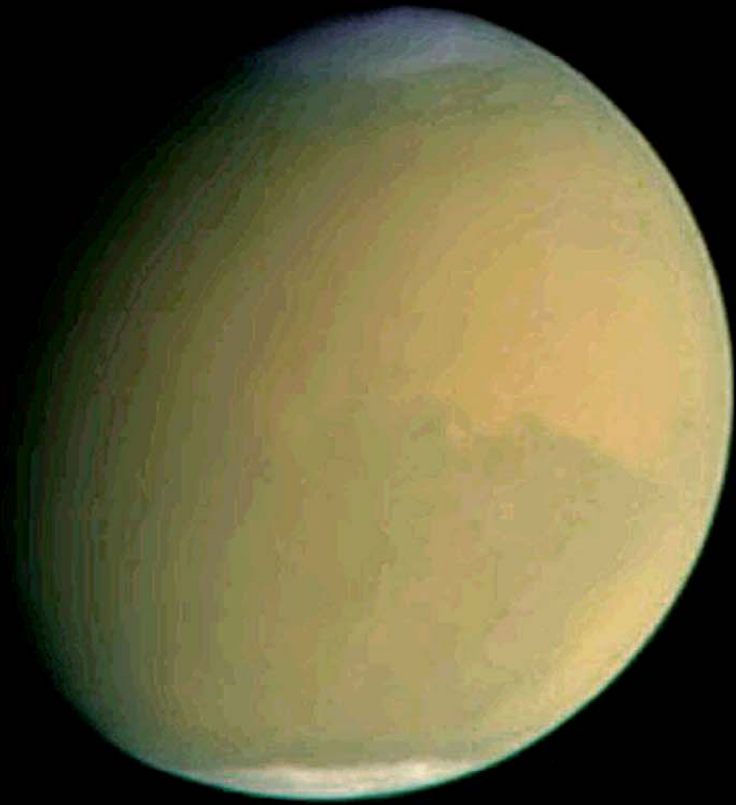
The evidence for water -- spectroscopic



The Mars Rover(s), January-May, 2004

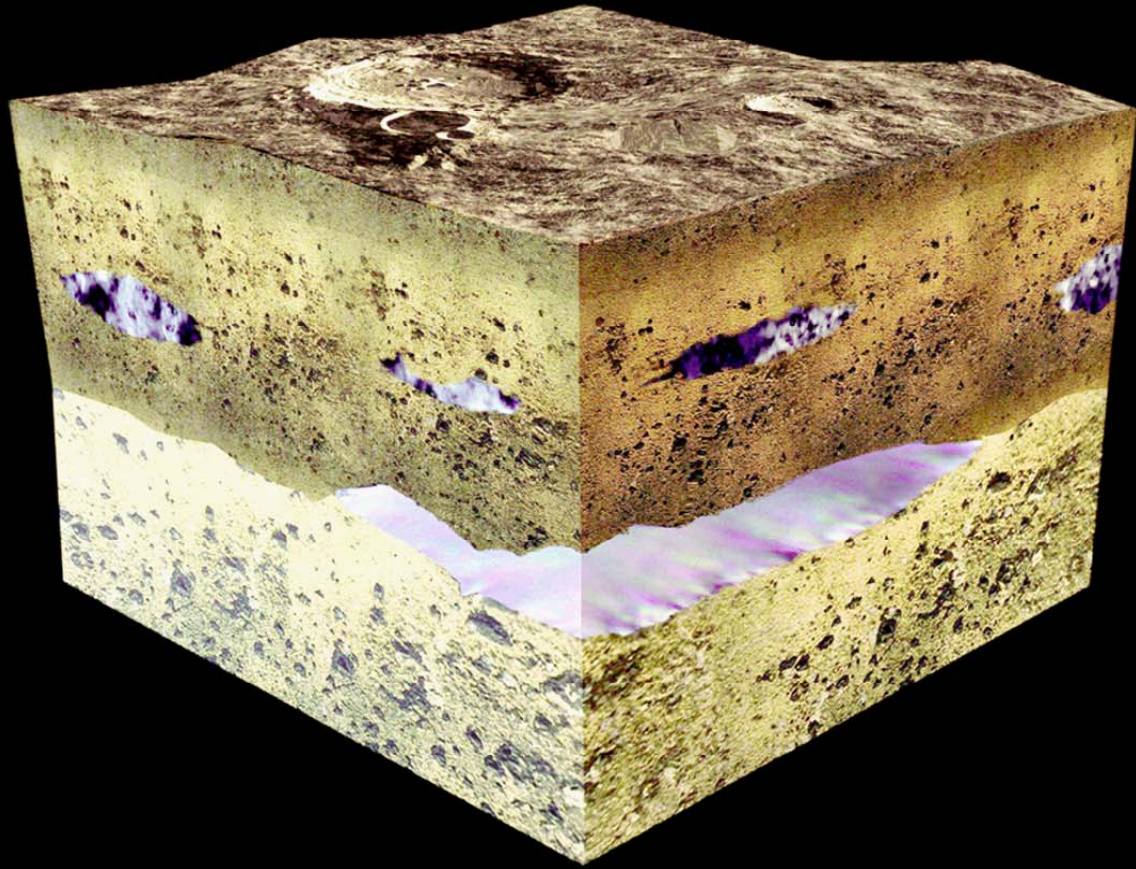


June 26, 2001



September 4, 2001

Mars before and during a dust storm



The search for Martian water



The Sahara Desert with radar strip

Mars Exploration: past, present, future

- **Mars Observer (1992)**

 - Mars Pathfinder (December 1996 - March 1998)**

 - Mars Global Surveyor (November 1996 - present)**

- **Mars Climate Orbiter and Mars Polar Lander (1998-99)**

 - Mars Odyssey (April 2001 - present)**

 - Mars Exploration Rovers (present)**

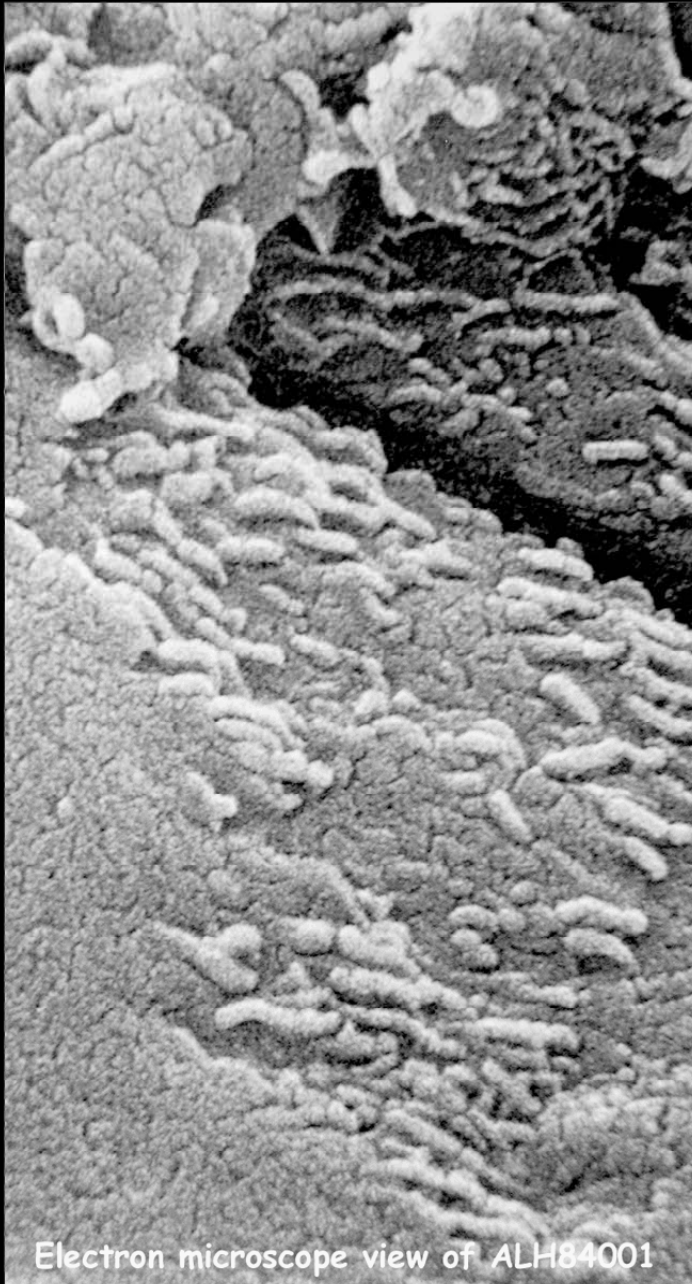
 - Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (2005)**

 - Phoenix Mars Scout (2007)**

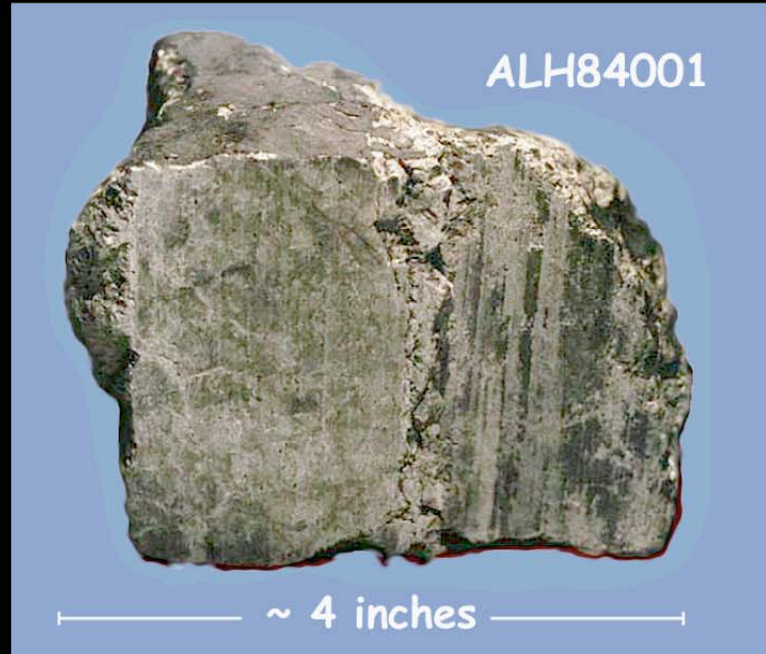
 - Mars Science Laboratory (2009)**

 - Mars Telecommunications Orbiter (2009)**

 - And Beyond**



Electron microscope view of ALH84001

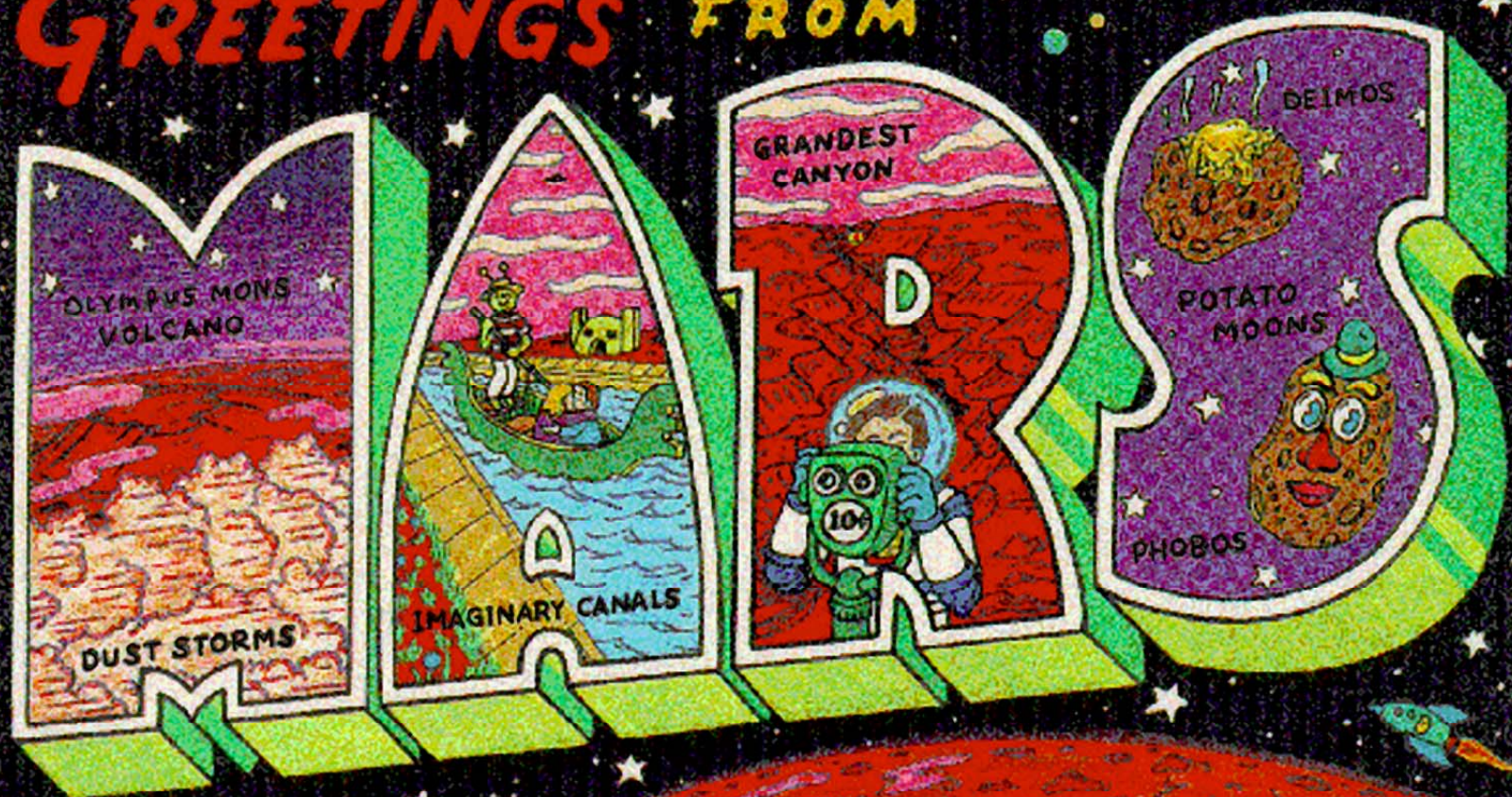


← Are these fossilized microbes?

ALH84001 is a meteorite which was found in Antarctica in 1984. It is known to be of Martian origin on the basis of its dissolved gases (types and ratios of abundance match the gases found in the Martian atmosphere).

The true nature of these worm-like forms is not known. They may or may not have had biological beginnings.

GREETINGS FROM



THE RED PLANET