



Southern Isidis Planitia

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ExoMars 2018 First Landing Site Selection Workshop (LSS WS#1)
26–28 March 2014, ESAC (E)



Scientific Requirements:

- General site presentation
- Description of site's geological context
- Geomorphologic description
- Mineralogy
- Sedimentary outcrops
- Target accessibility and dust distribution

Planetary Protection Requirements:

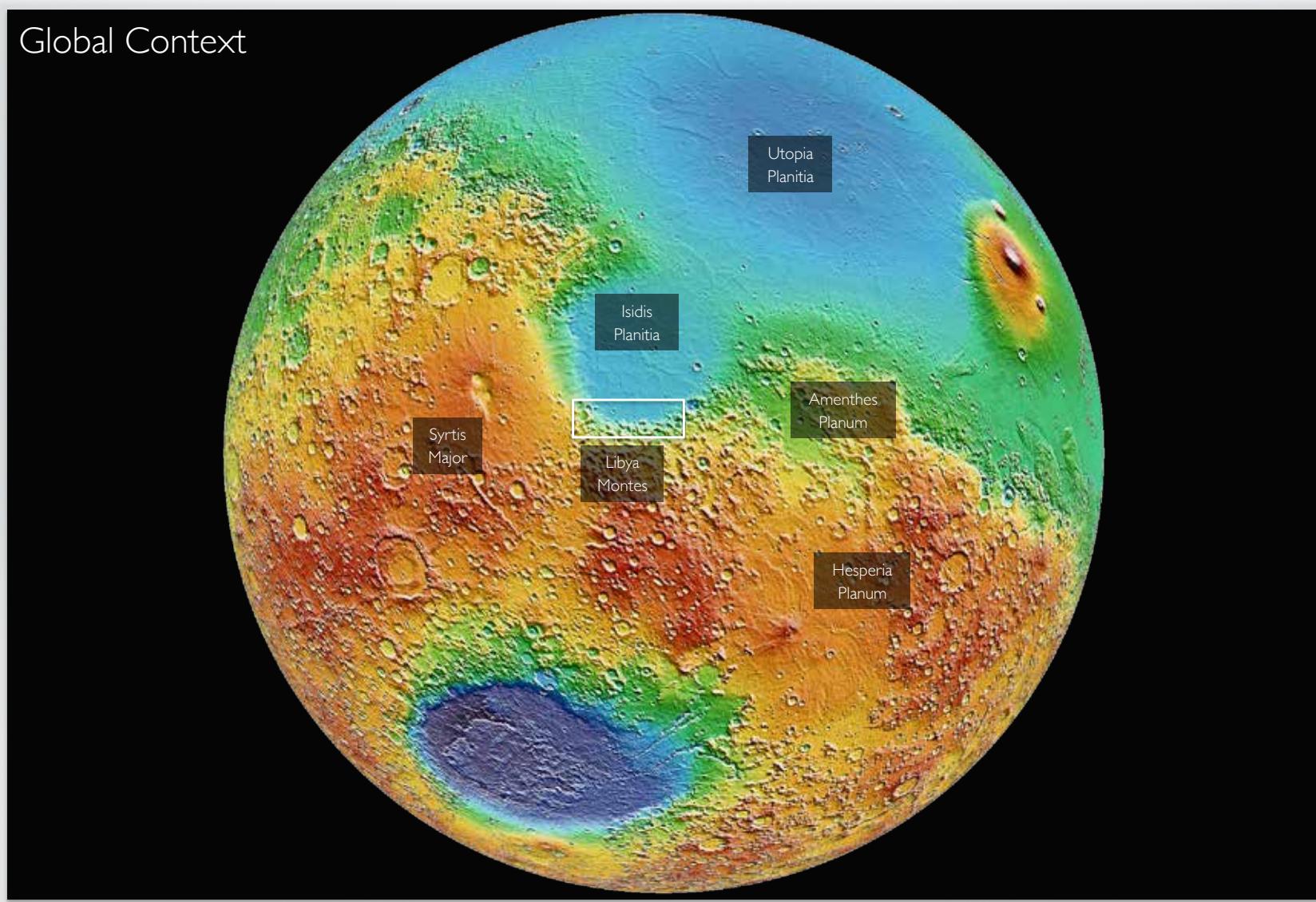
Engineering Requirements:

- Ellipse's latitude, dimensions, orientation, and elevation compliance
- Ellipse's slopes compliance
- Ellipse's rock abundance, thermal inertia, albedo, and wind compliance
- Ellipse's HiRISE, CTX, CRISM, HRSC, OMEGA coverage
- Prioritised proposals for new MRO, MEX pointings

Summary

General Site Presentation

E X O M A R S

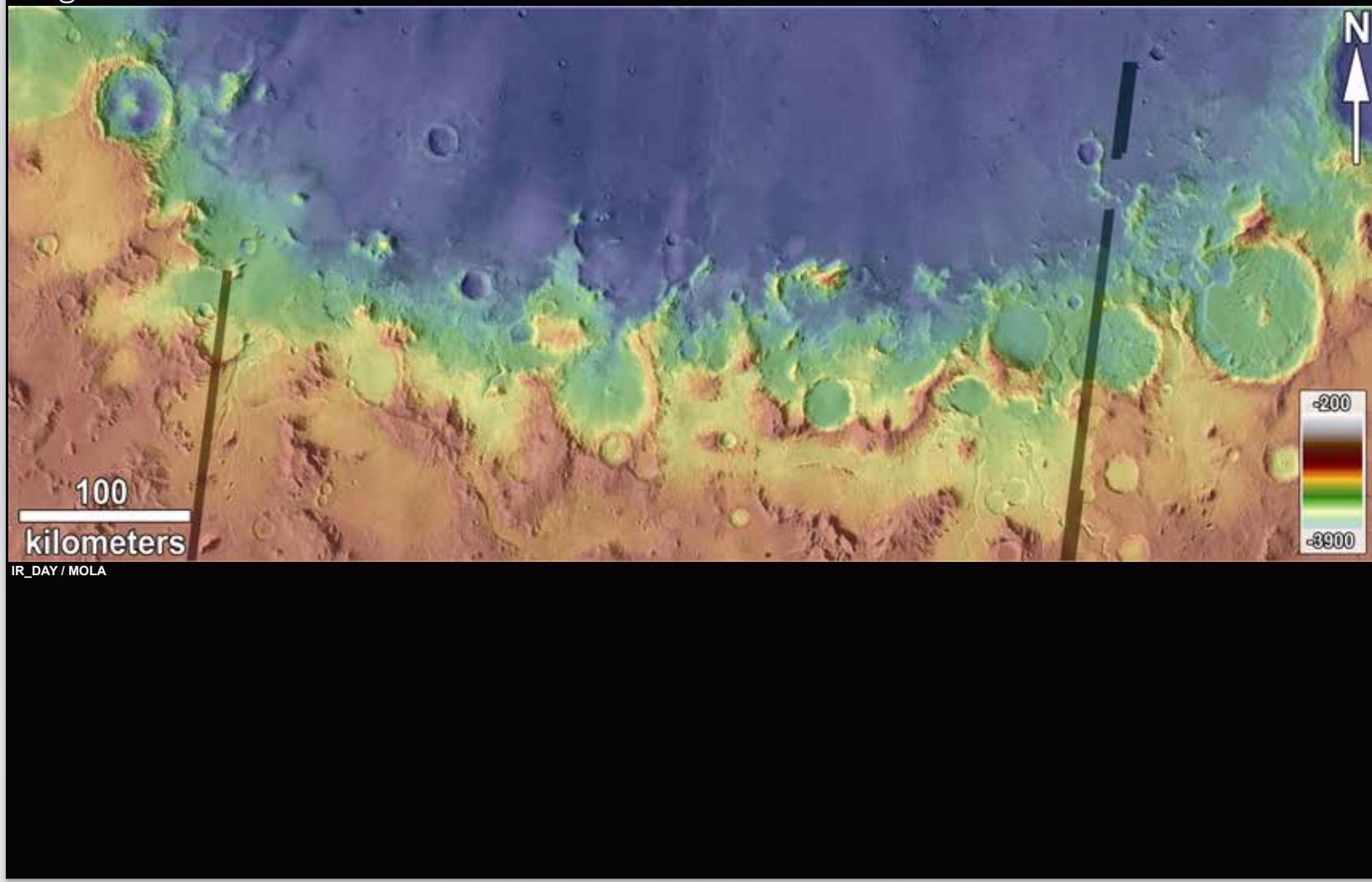


General Site Presentation



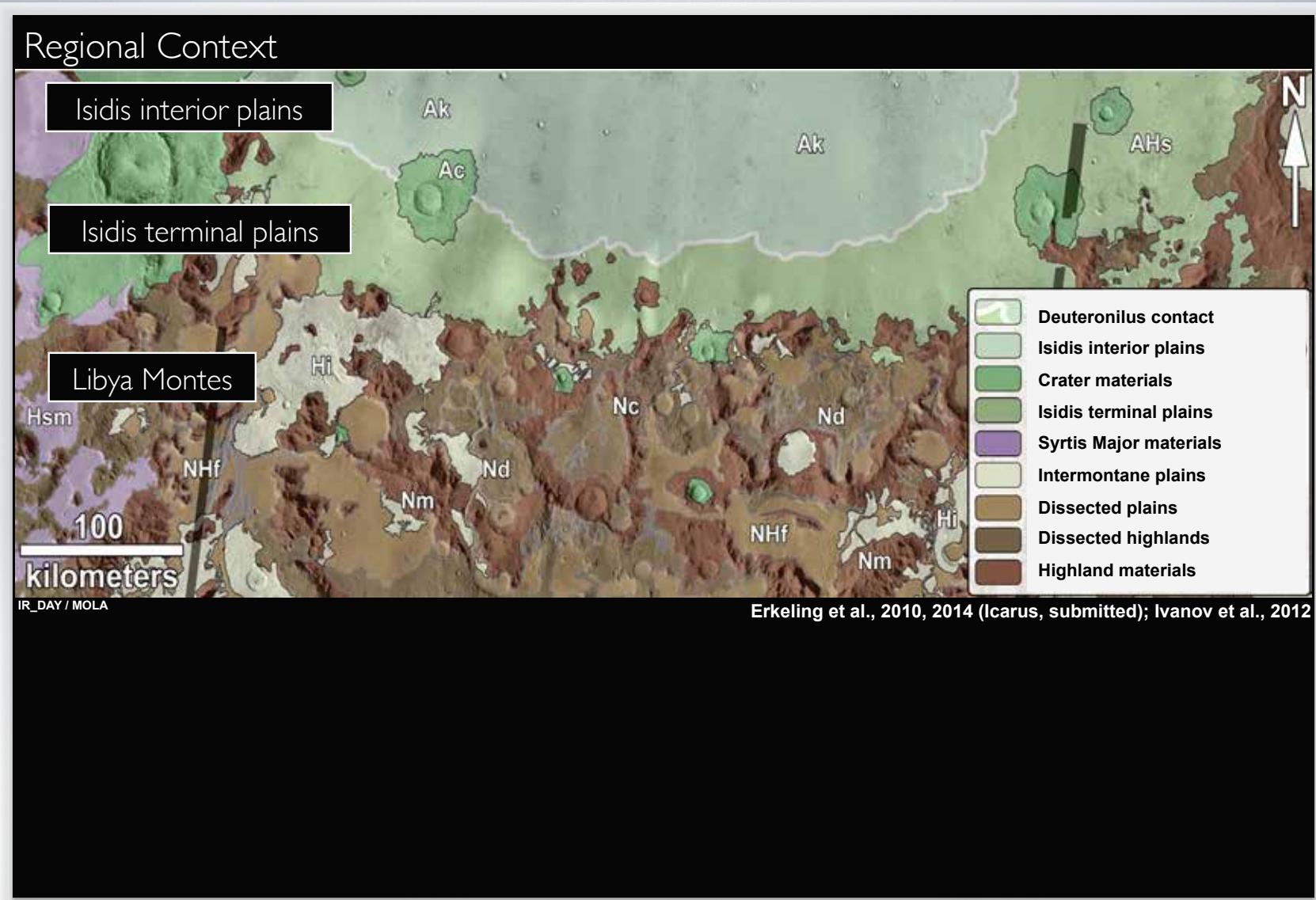
E X O M A R S

Regional Context

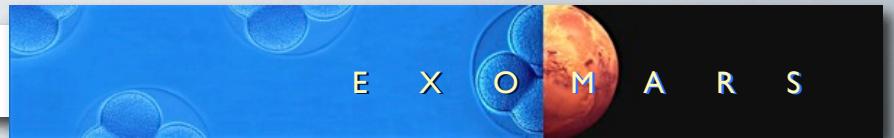


General Site Presentation

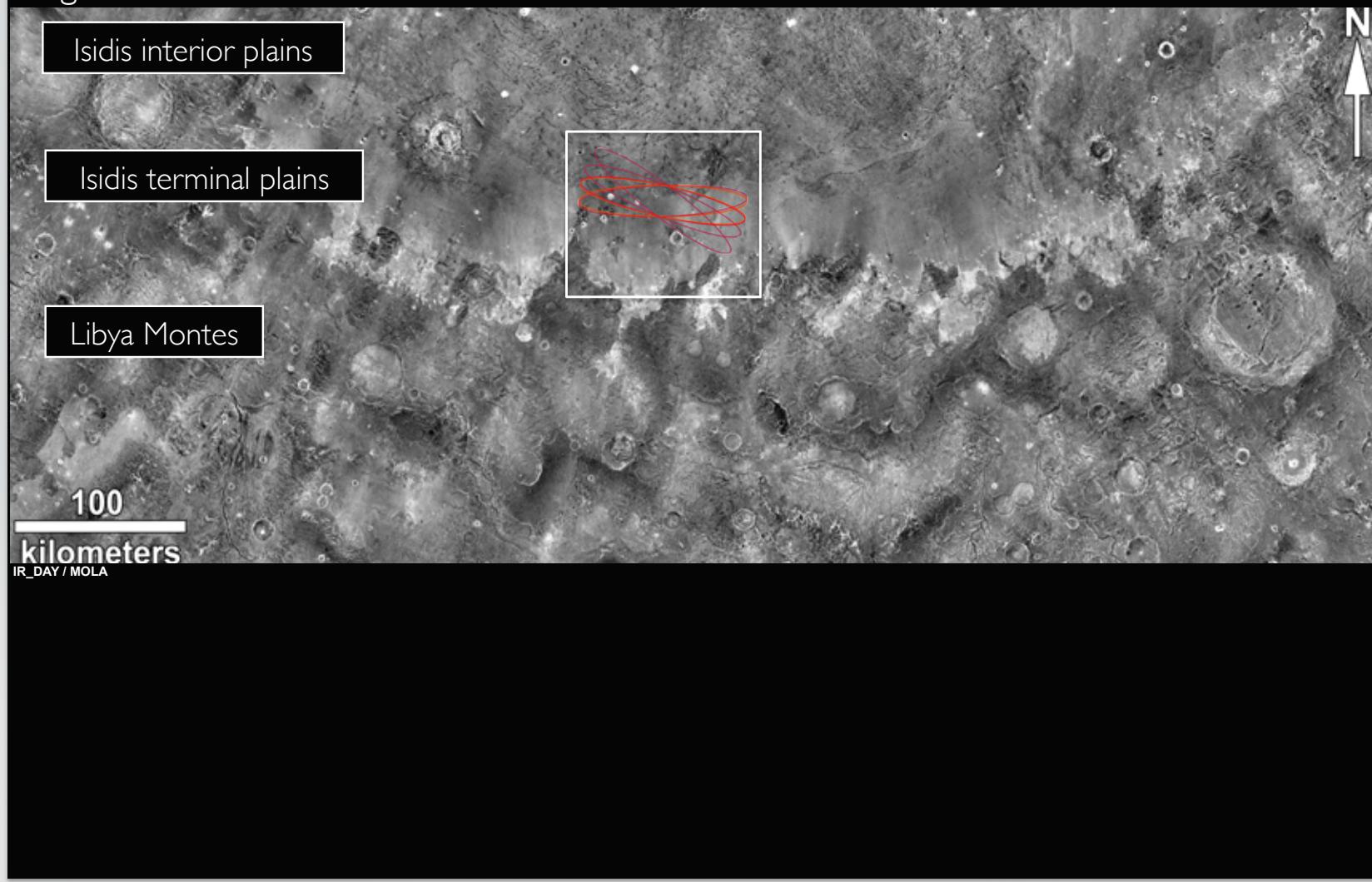
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General Site Presentation

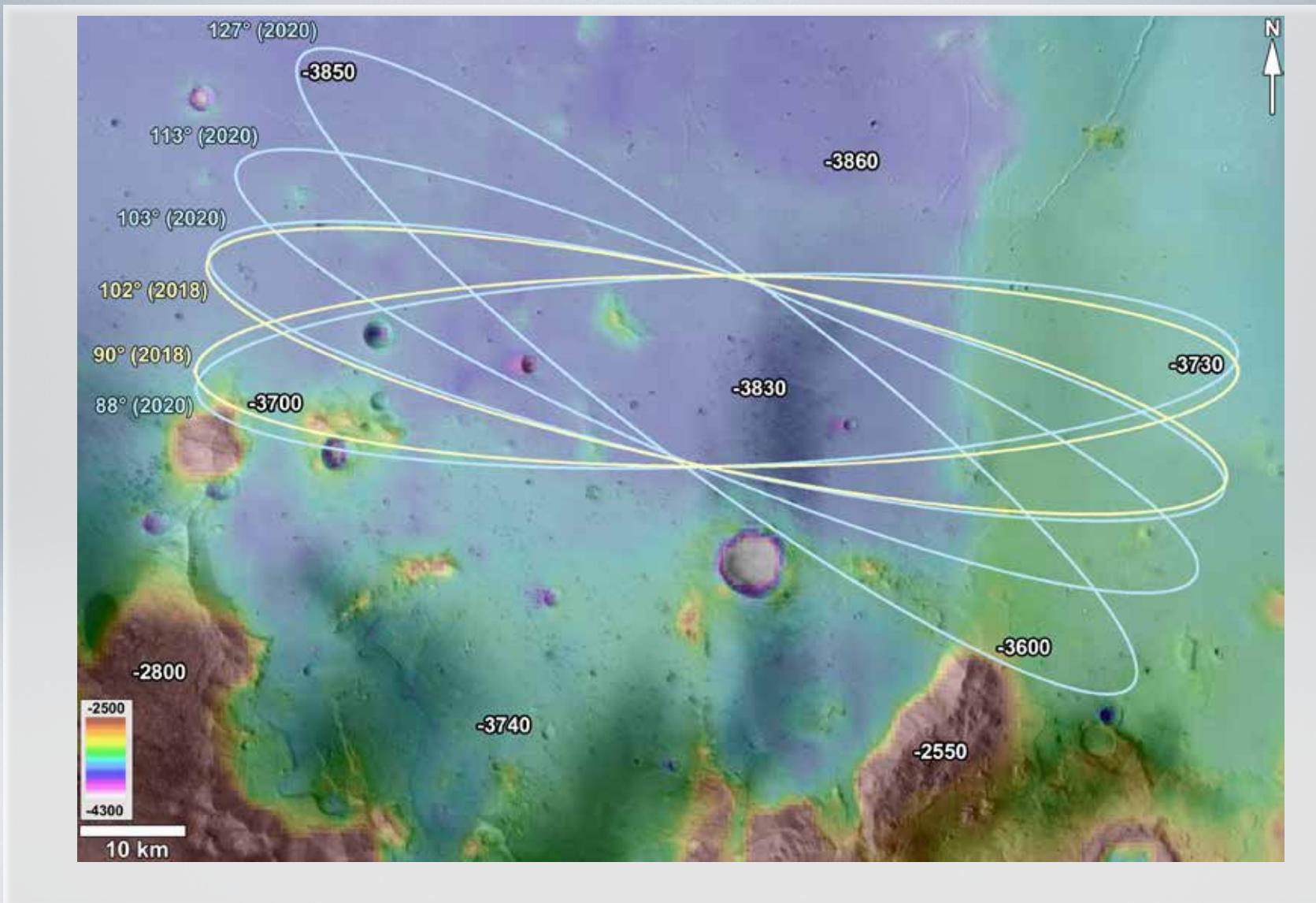


Regional Context



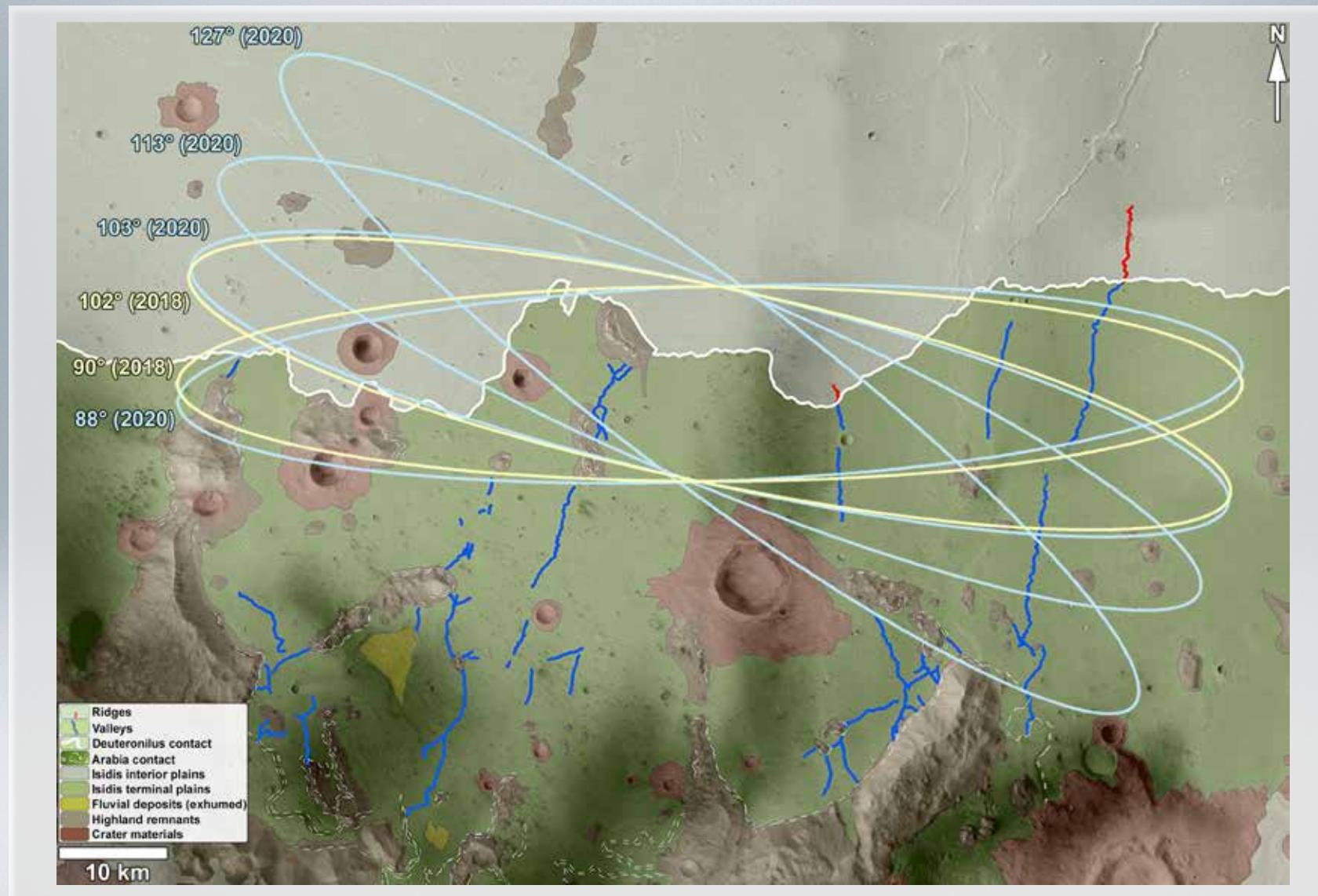
Landing Ellipse Properties

E X O M A R S



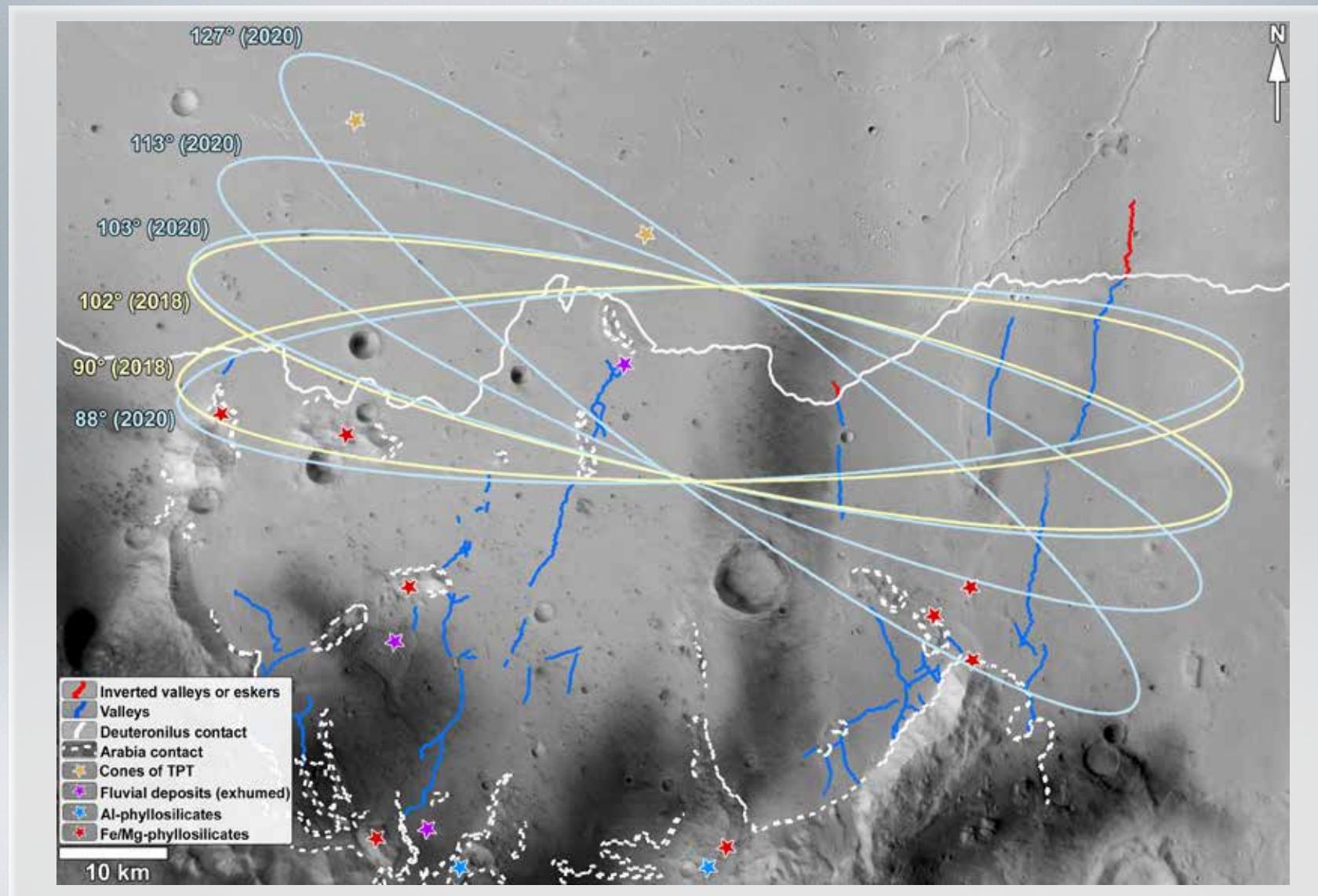
Site's Geological Context

E X O M A R S



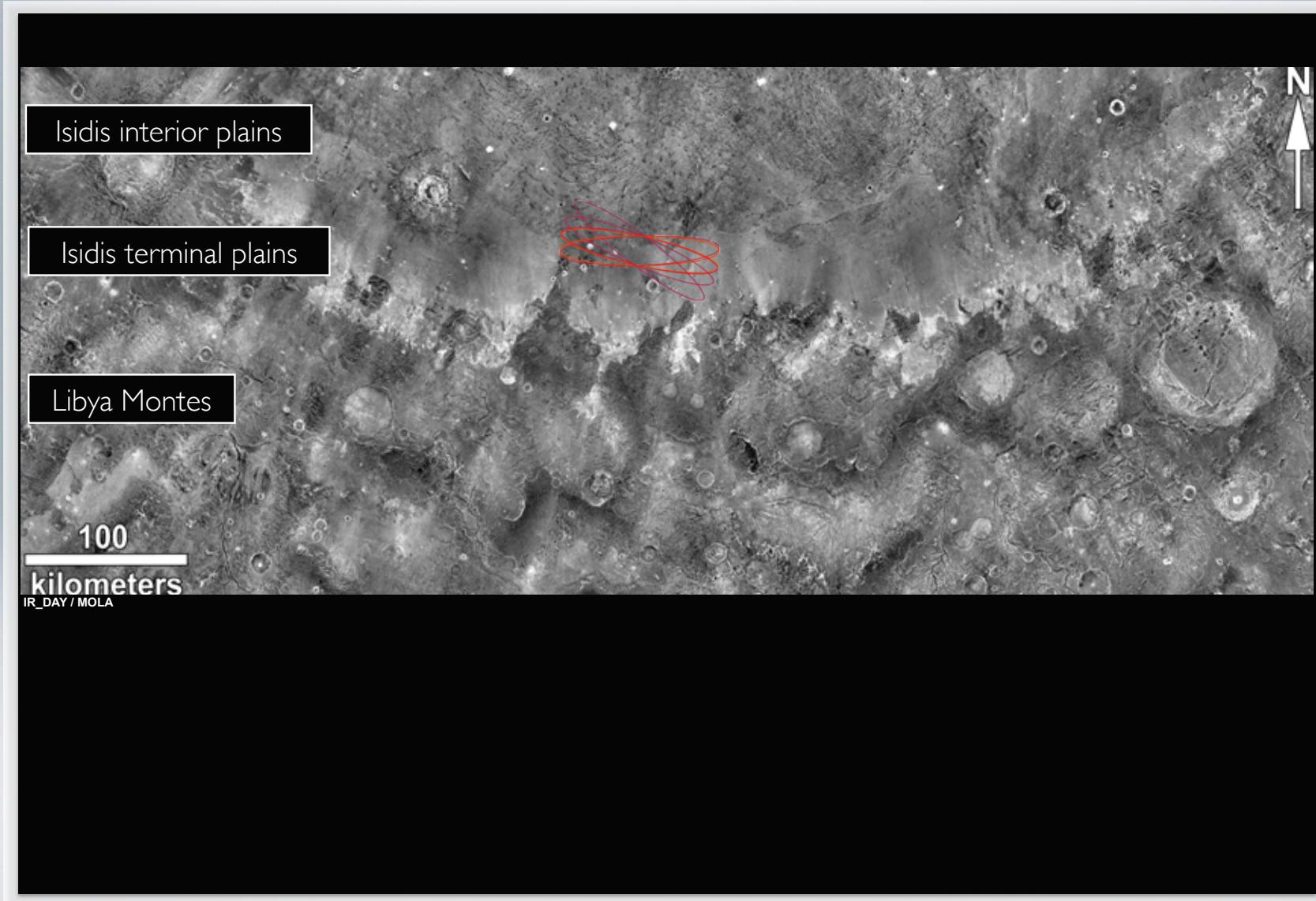
Scientific targets

E X O M A R S



Site's Geological Context

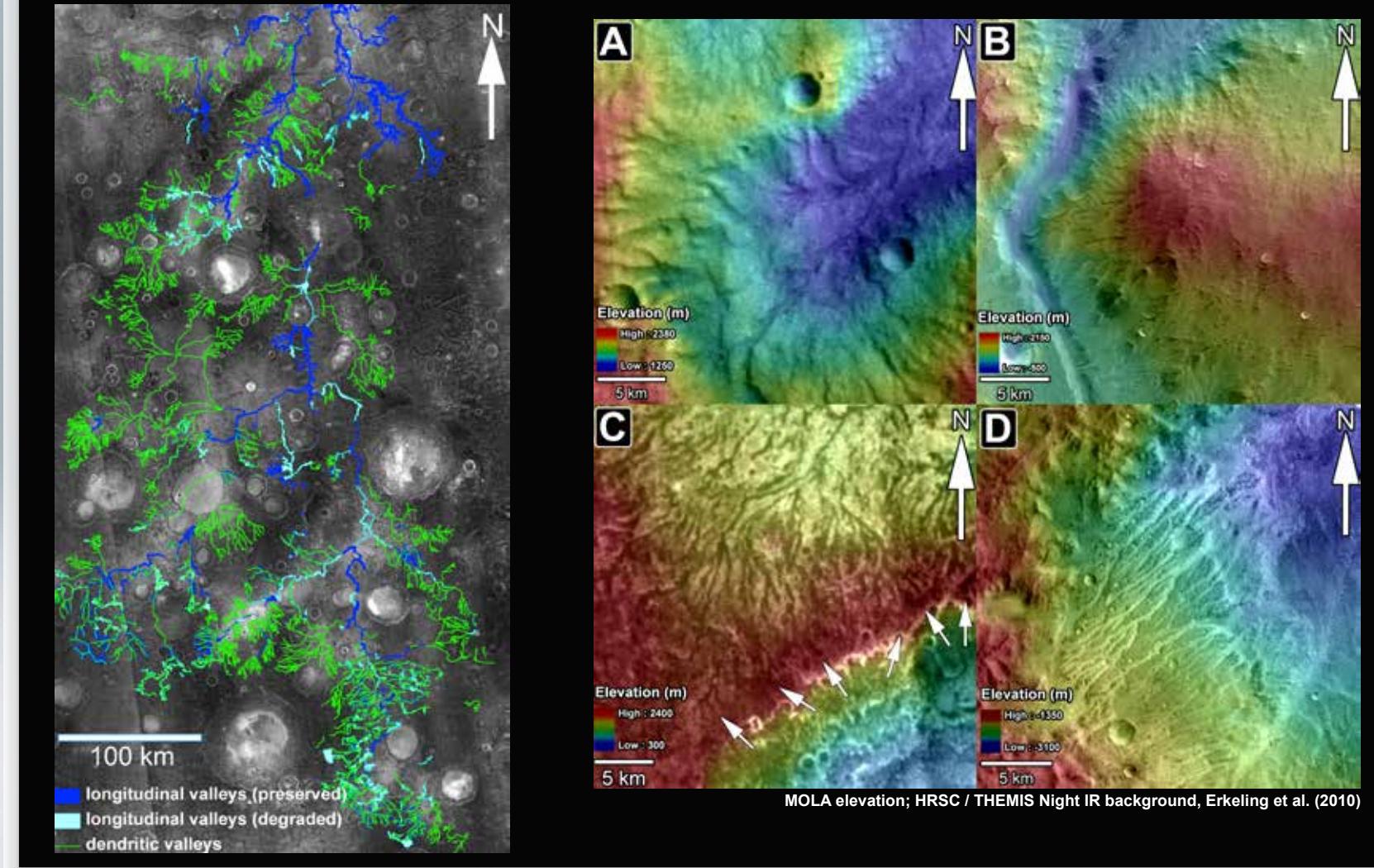
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Site's Geological Context

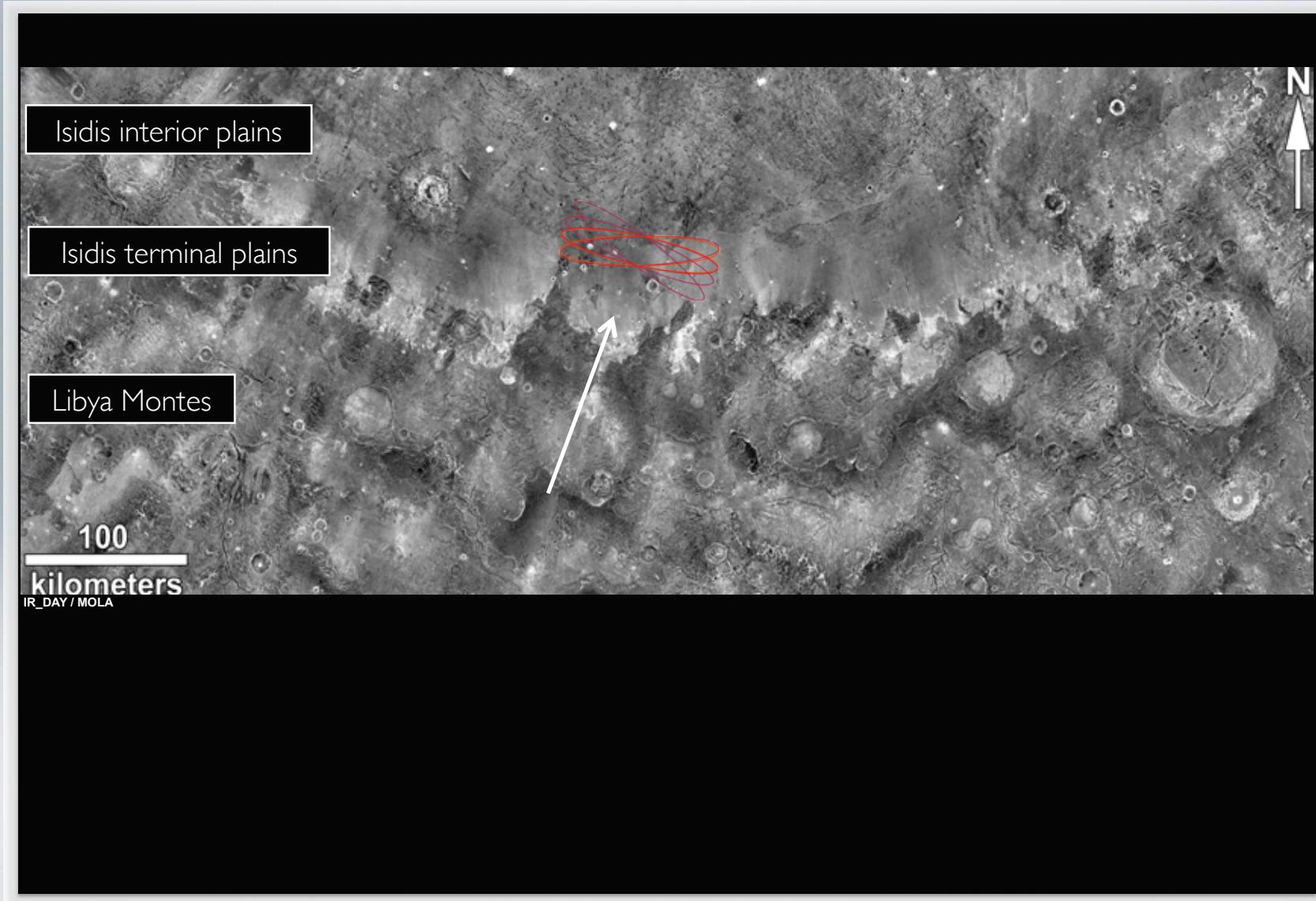
E X O M A R S

Regional Context – Libya Montes



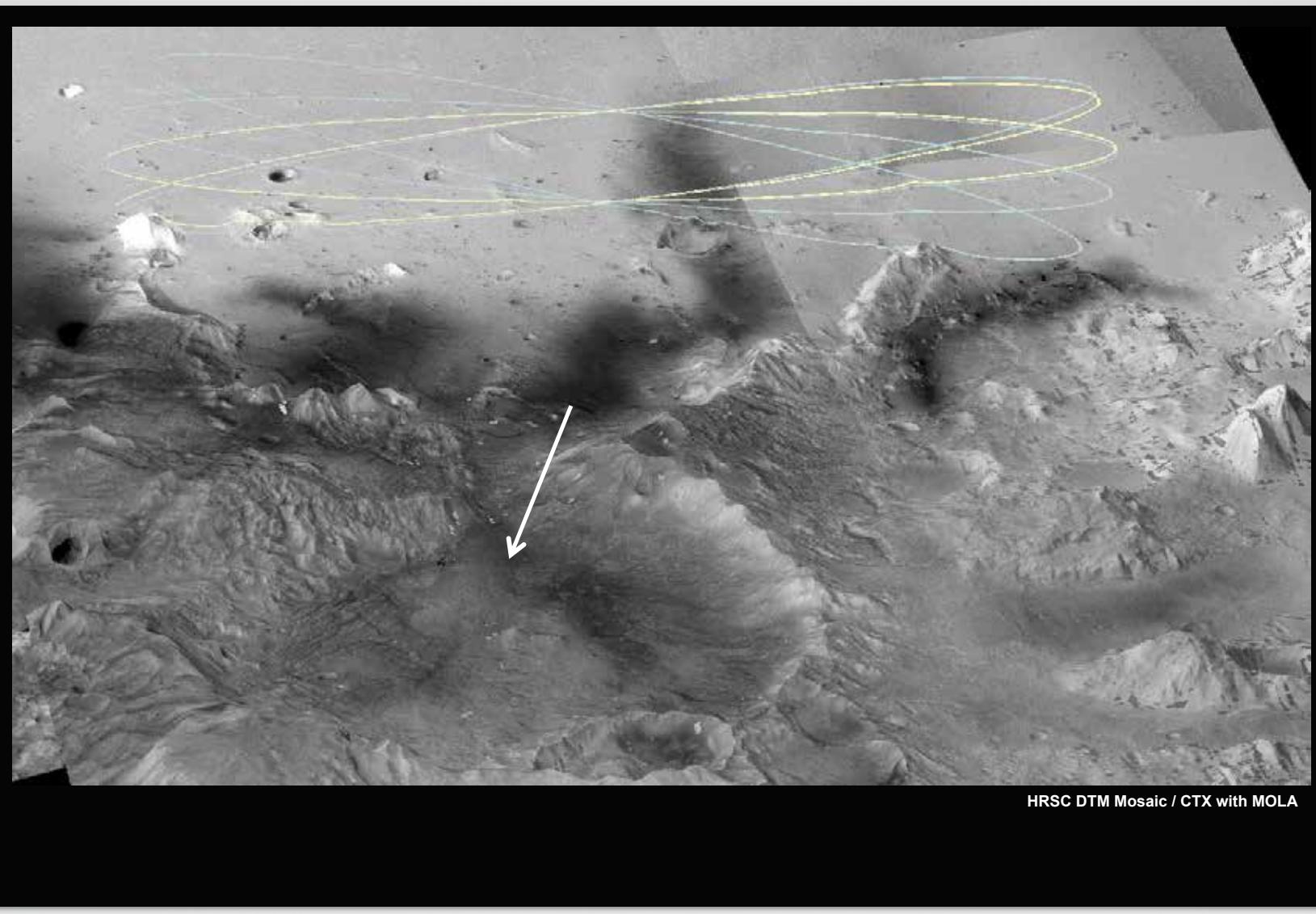
Site's Geological Context

E X O M A R S



Site's Geological Context

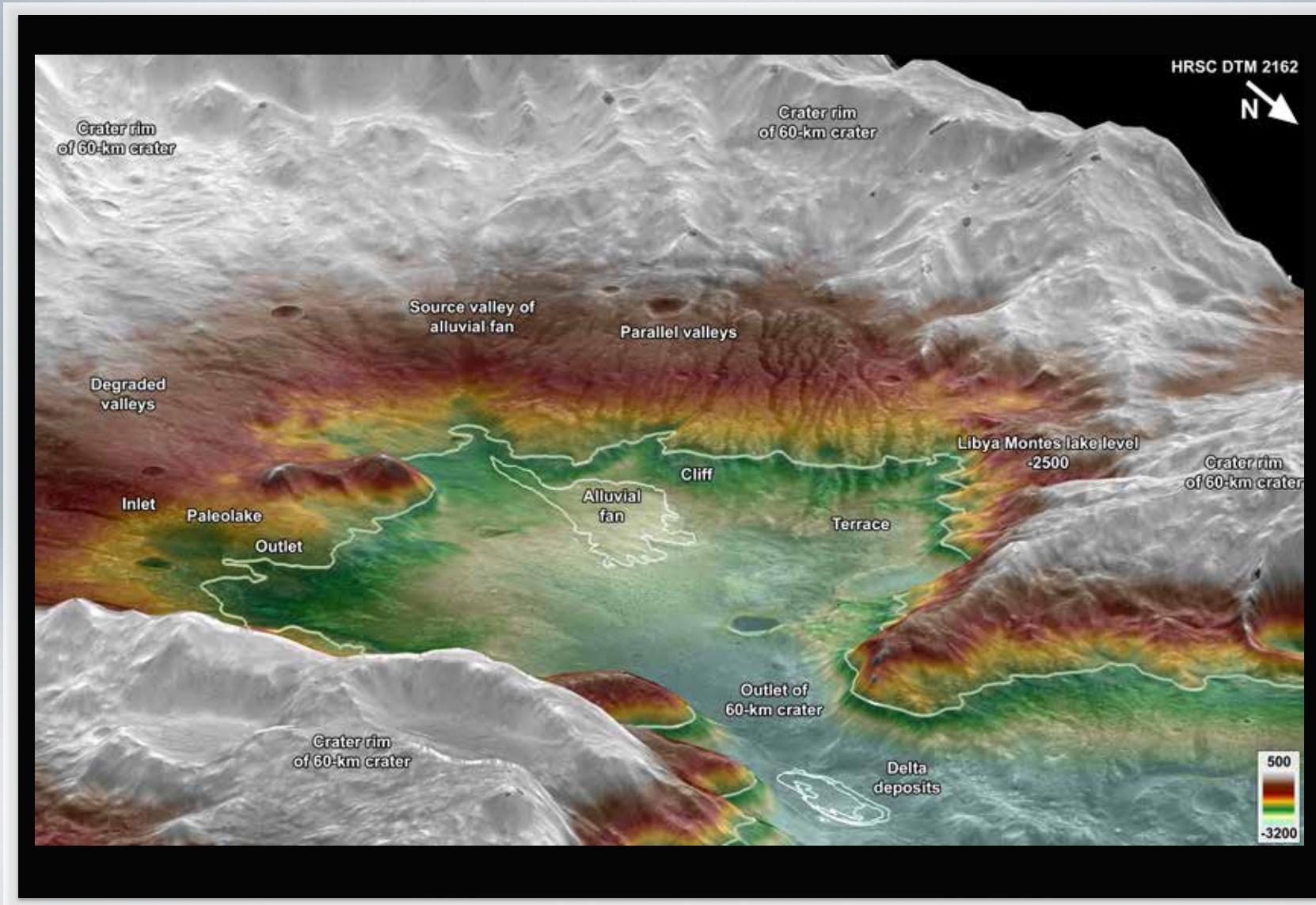
E X O M A R S



HRSC DTM Mosaic / CTX with MOLA

Site's Geological Context

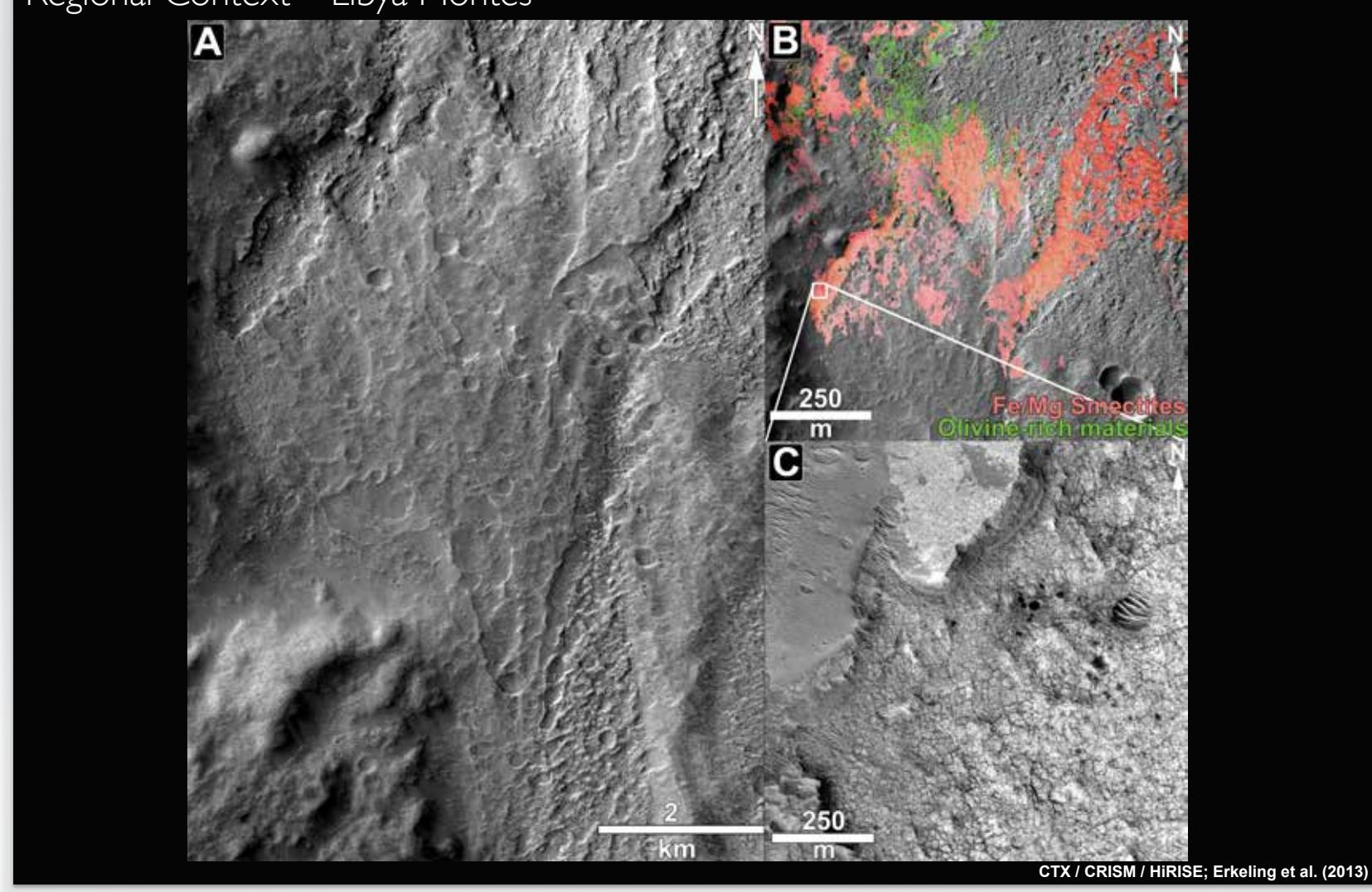
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General Site Presentation

E X O M A R S

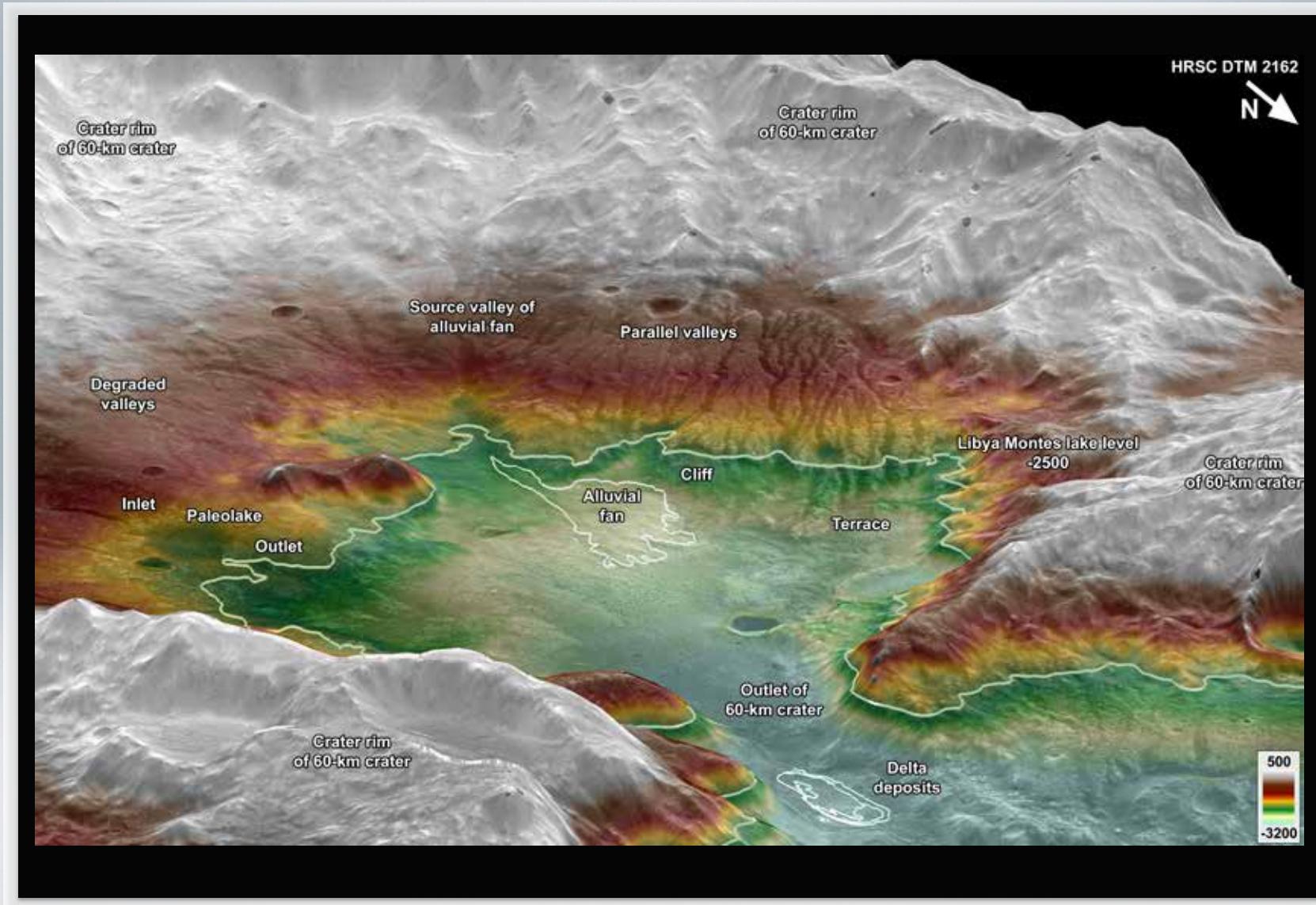
Regional Context – Libya Montes



CTX / CRISM / HiRISE; Erkeling et al. (2013)

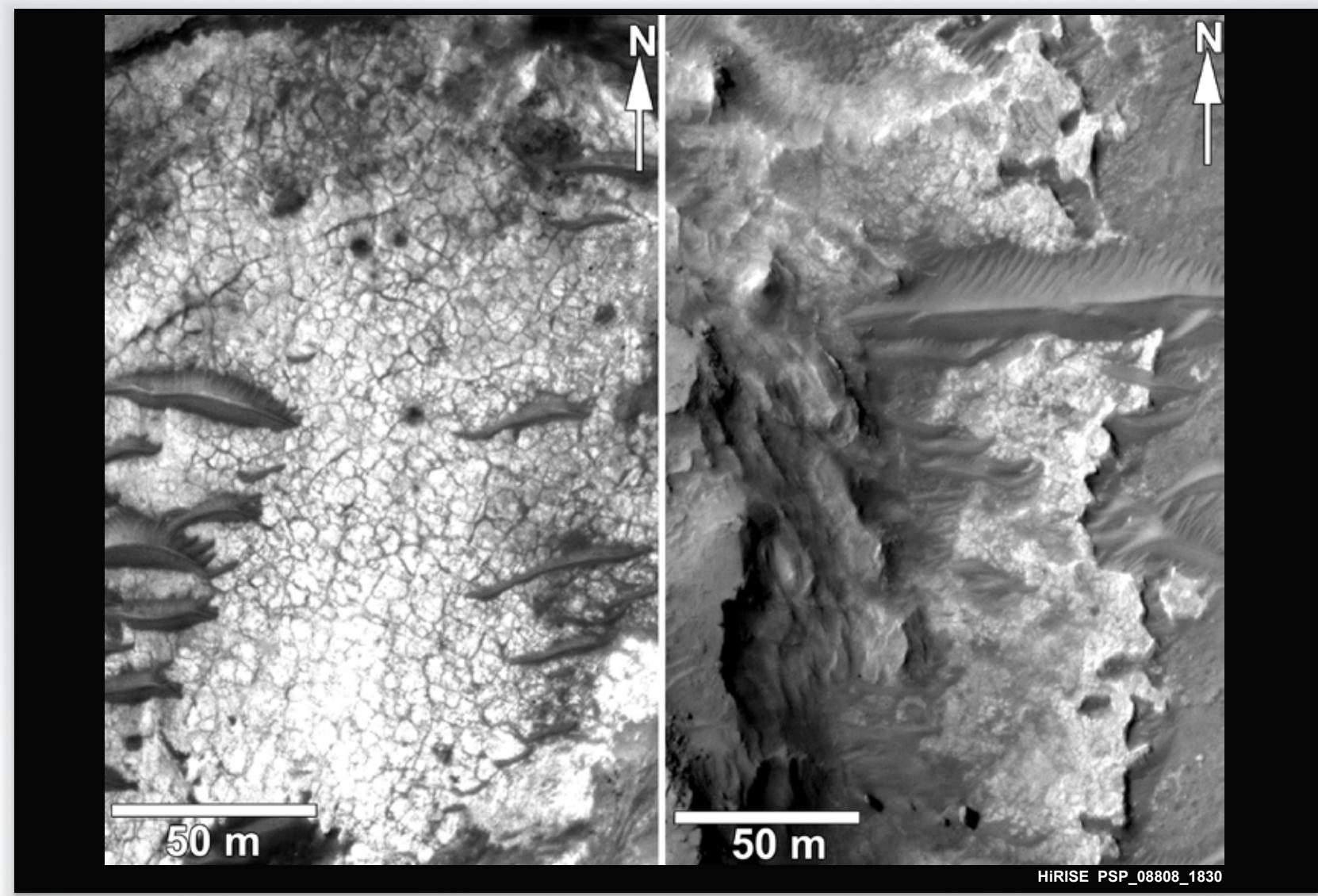
Site's Geological Context

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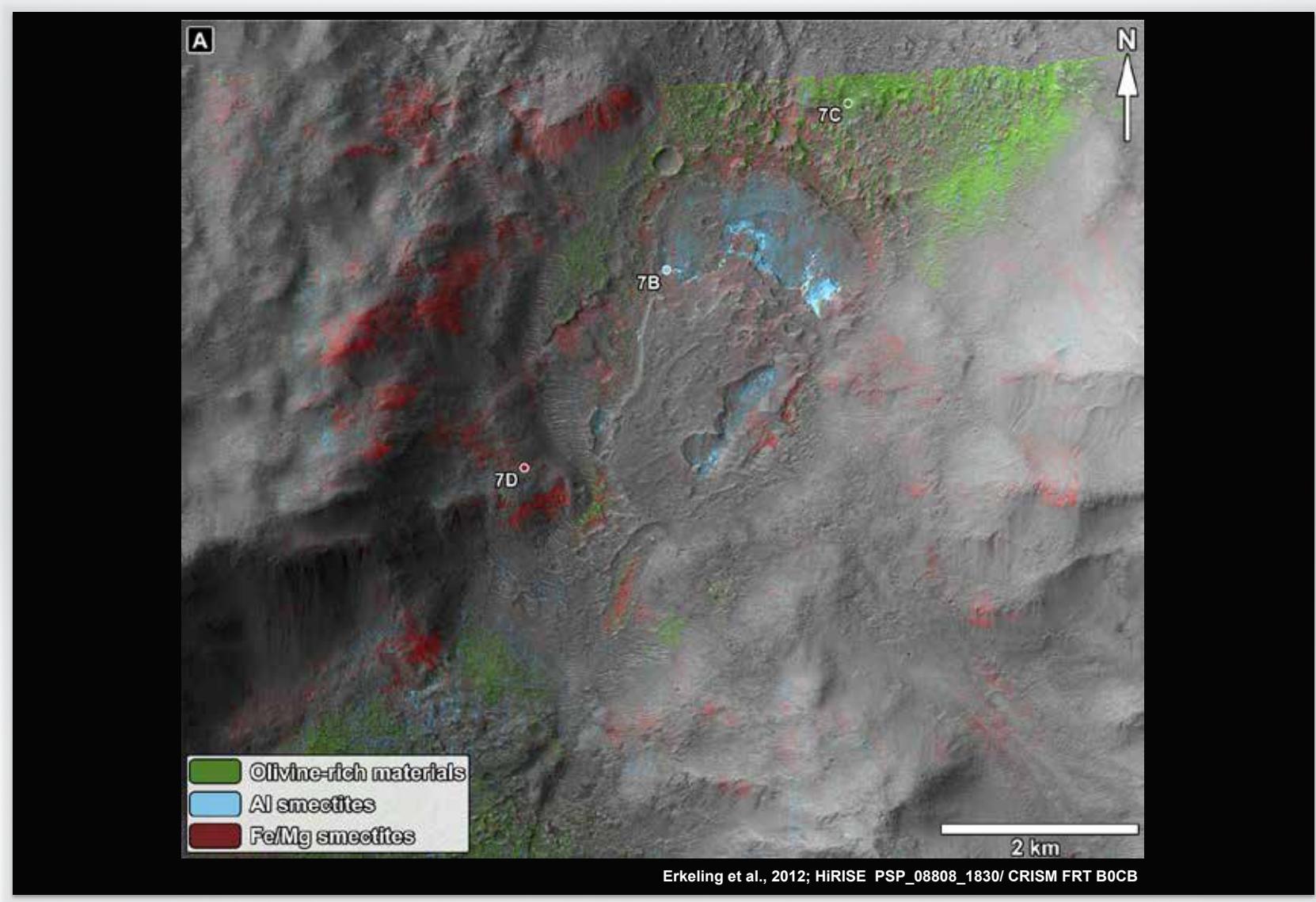
Site's Geological Context

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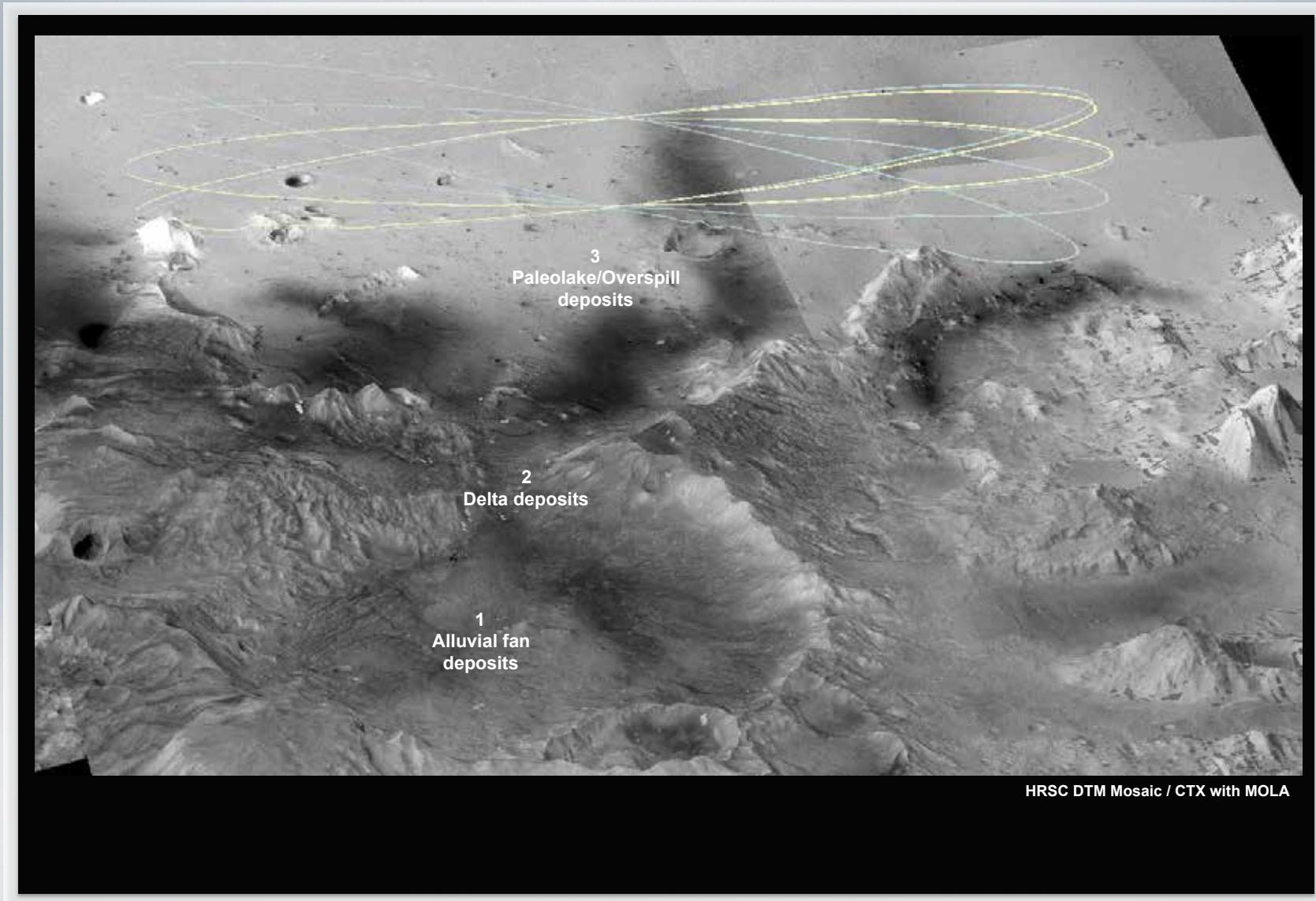
Site's Geological Context

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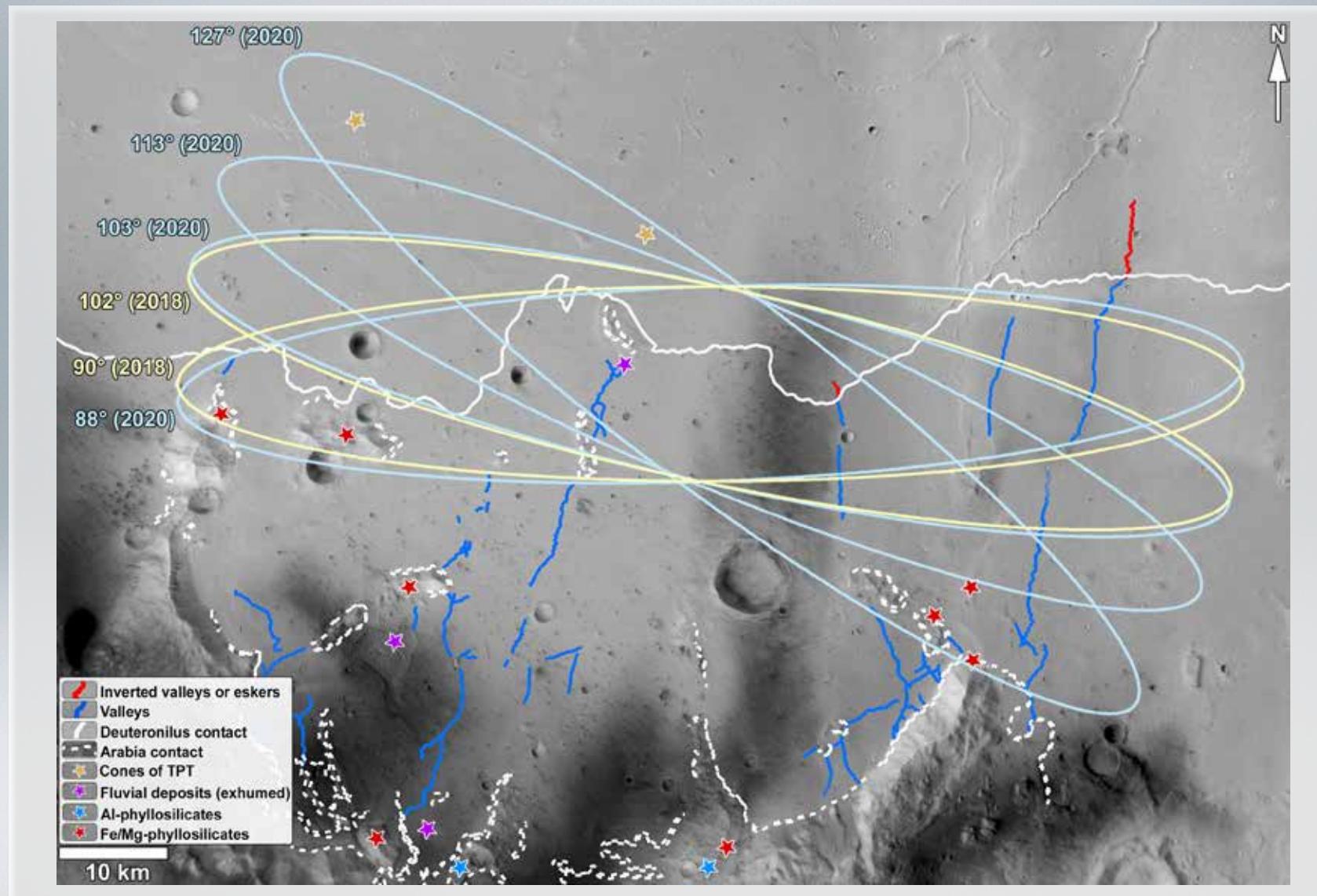
Site's Geological Context

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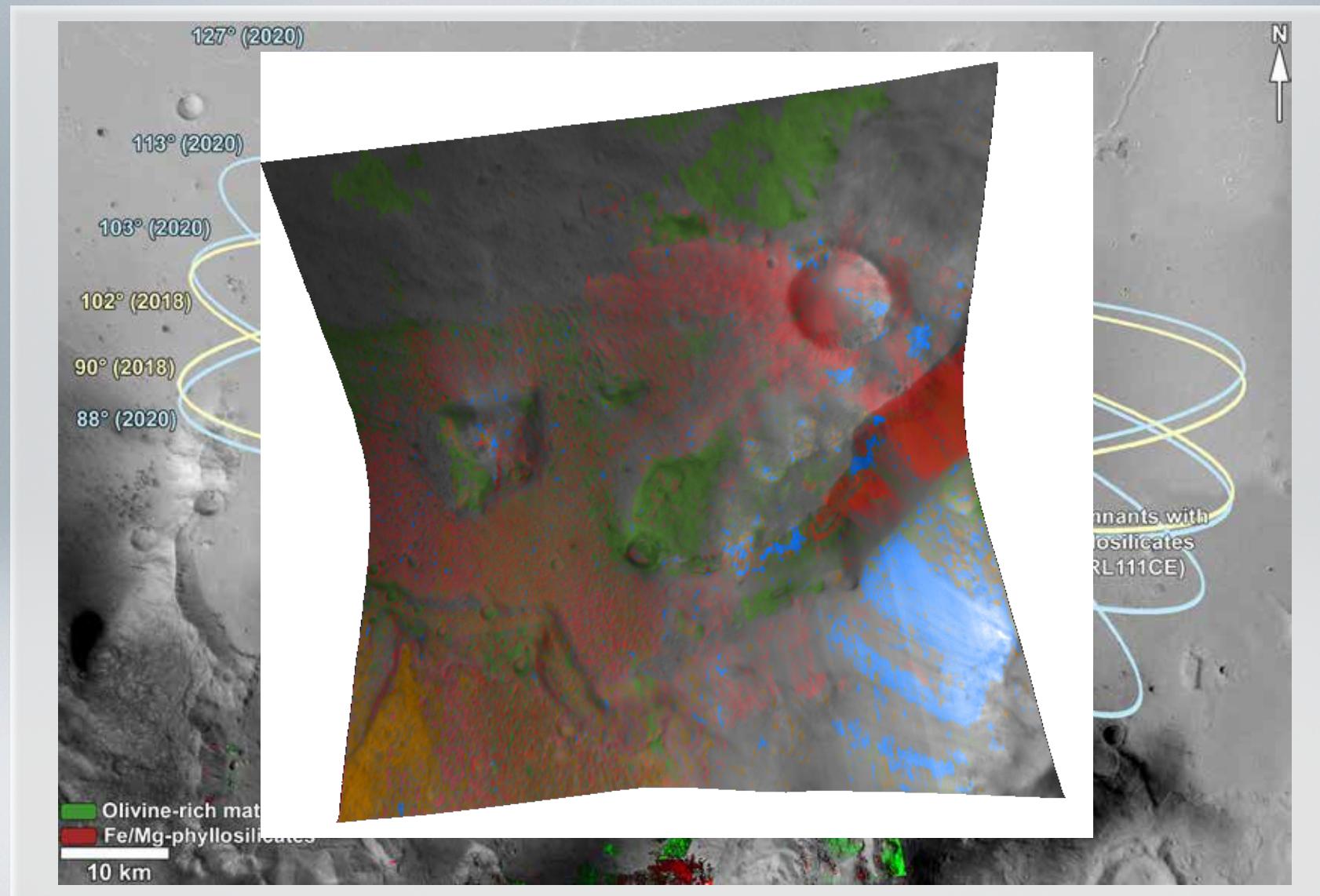
Scientific targets - clays

E X O M A R S



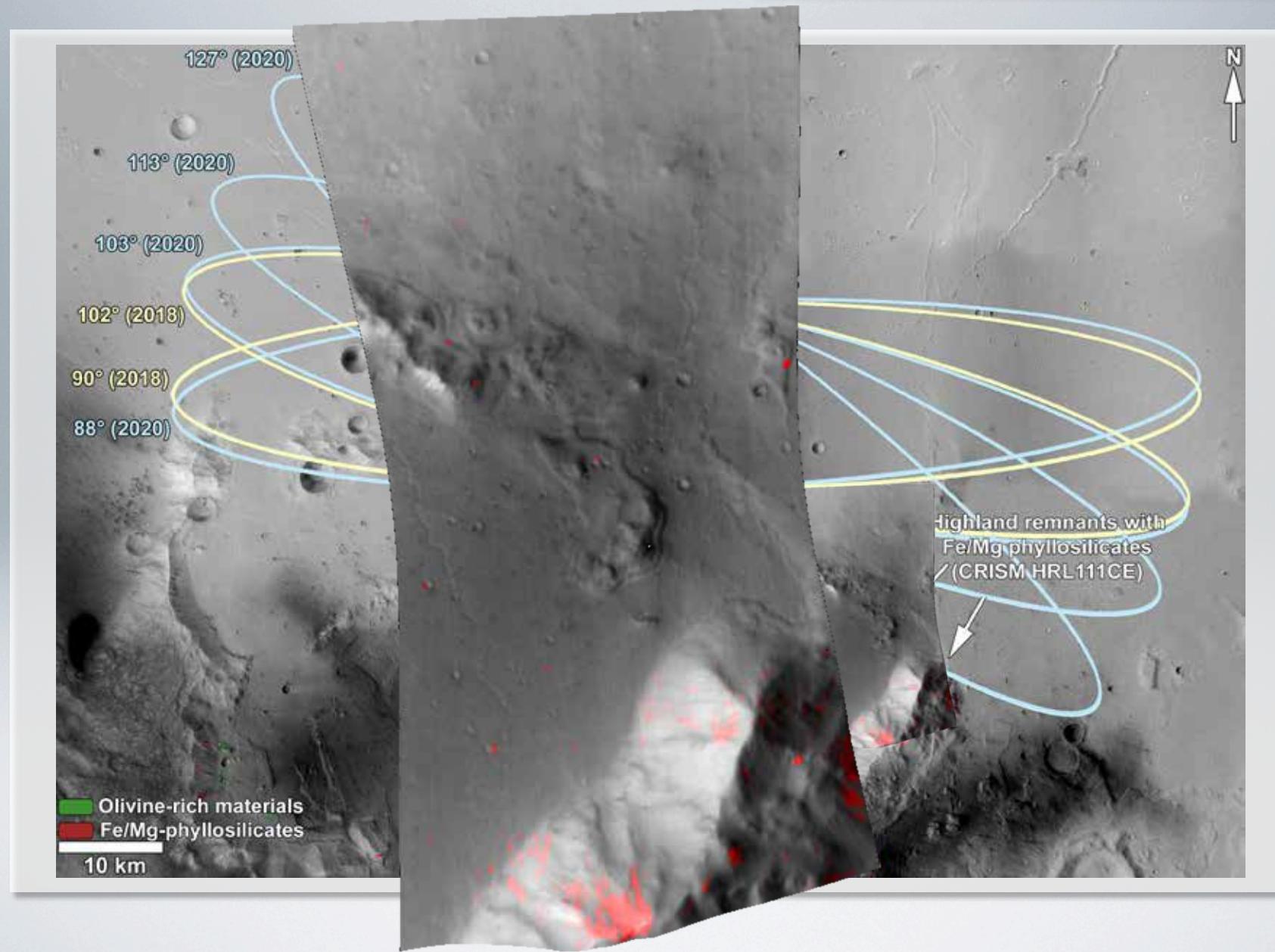
Mineralogical Description

E X O M A R S



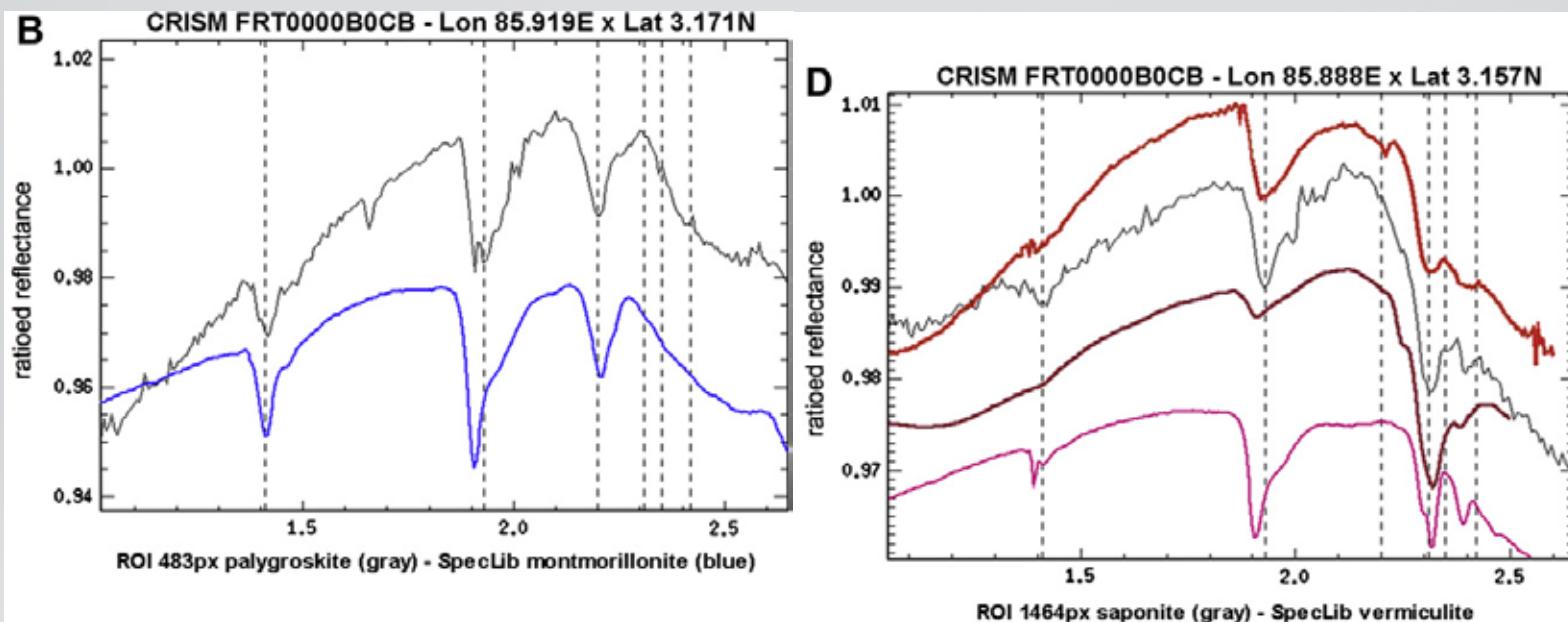
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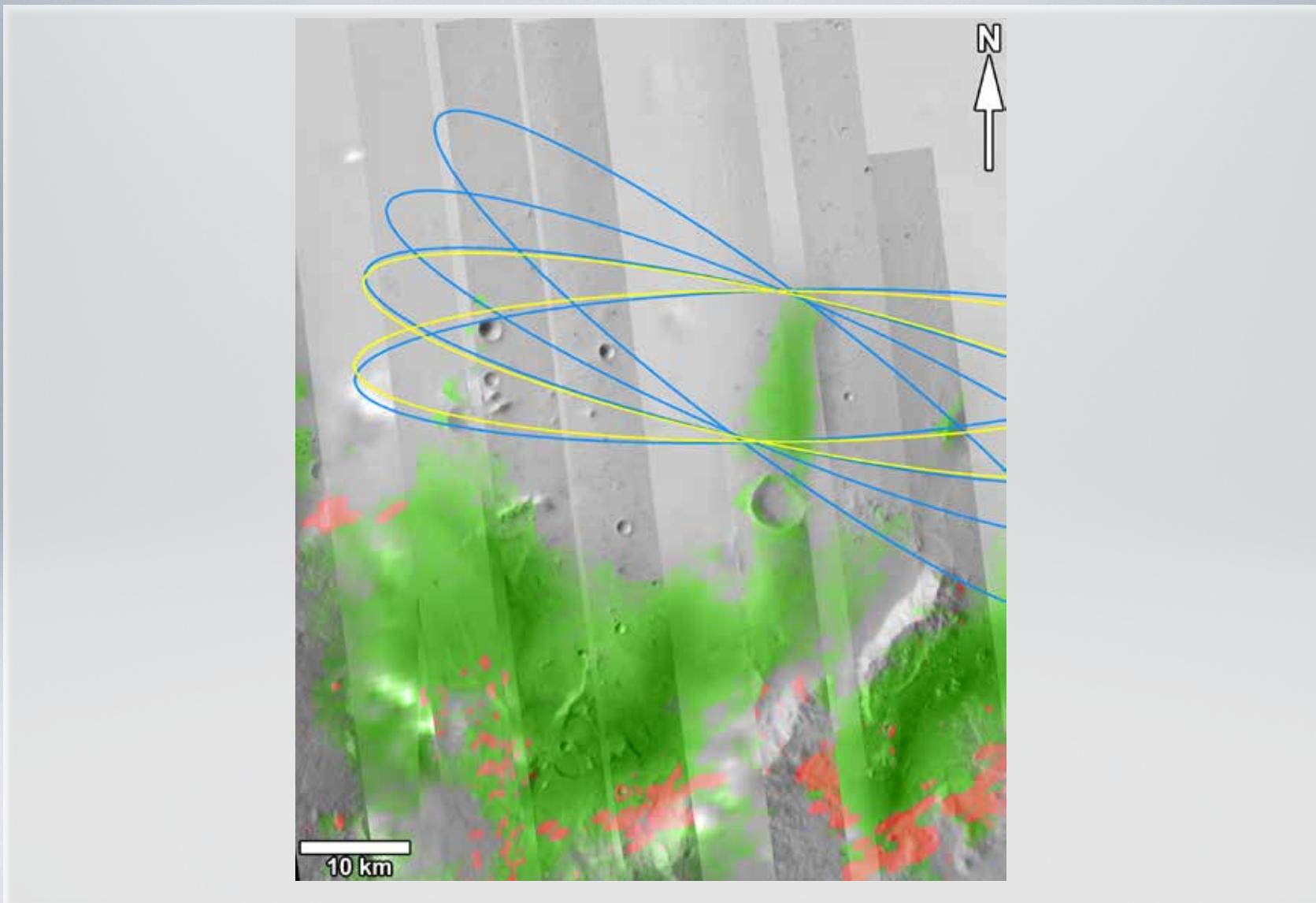
Mineralogical Description

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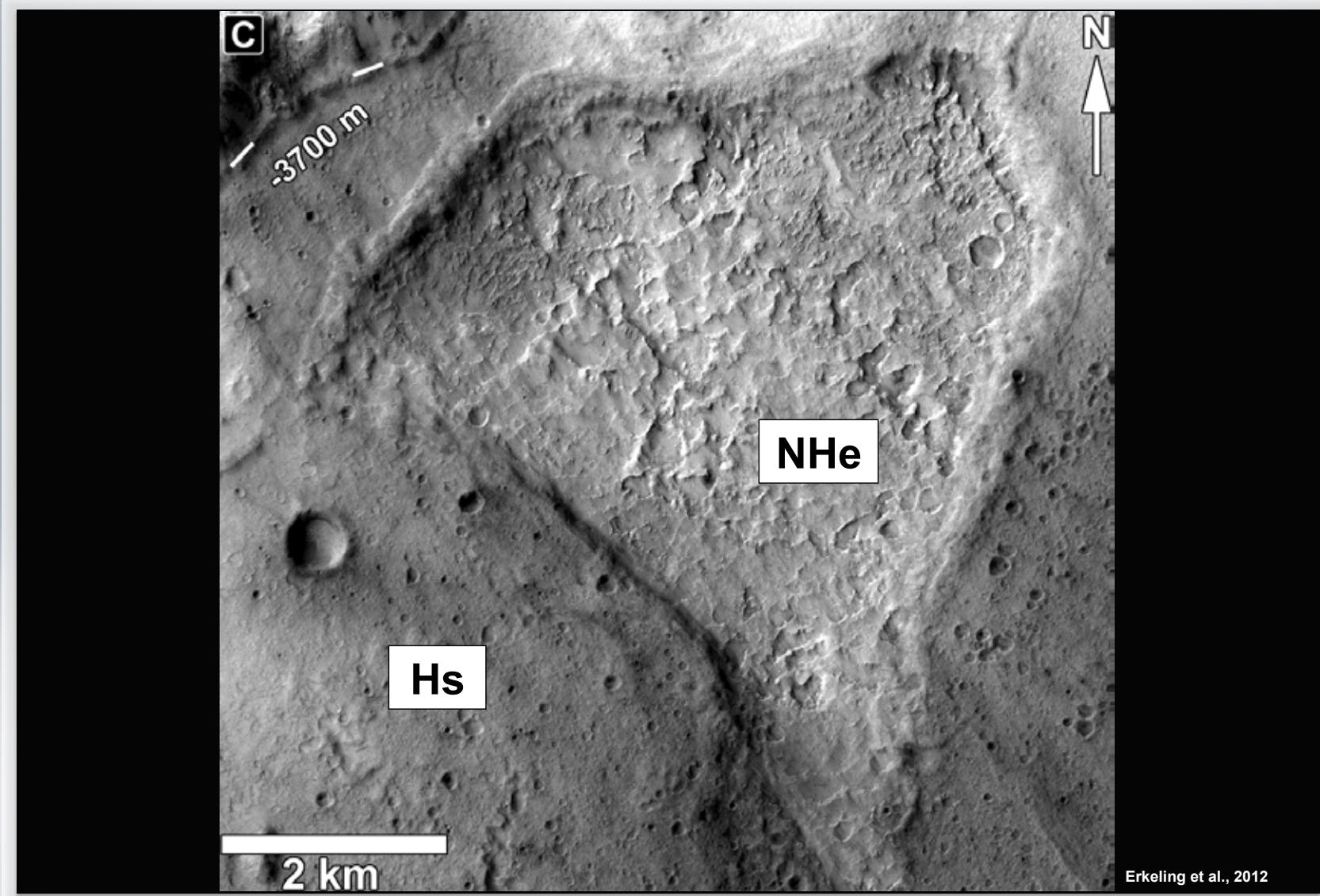
Mineralogical Description

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Geomorphologic description

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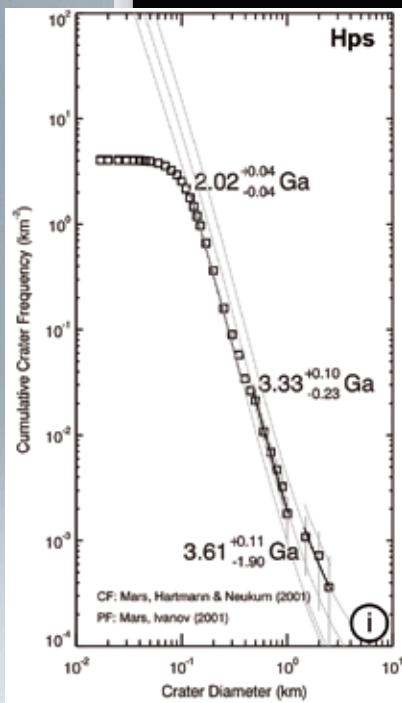
Erkeling et al., 2012

Site's Geological Context

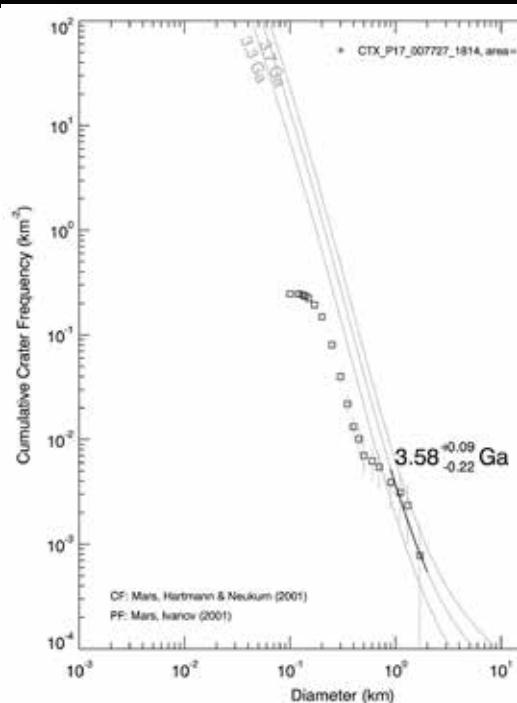
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CSFD

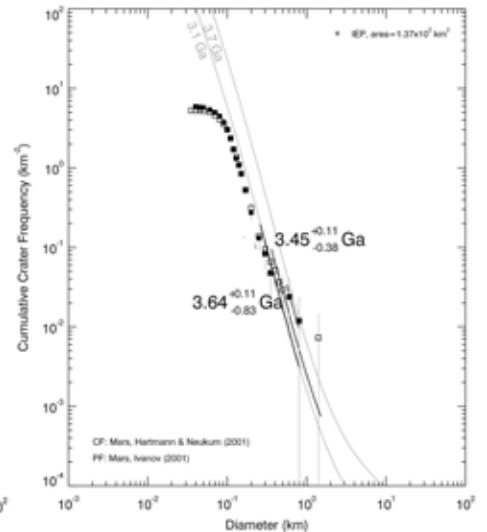
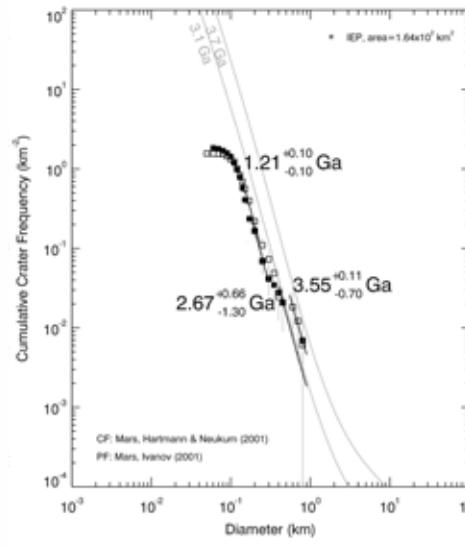
Ivanov et al., 2012



Erkeling et al., 2012

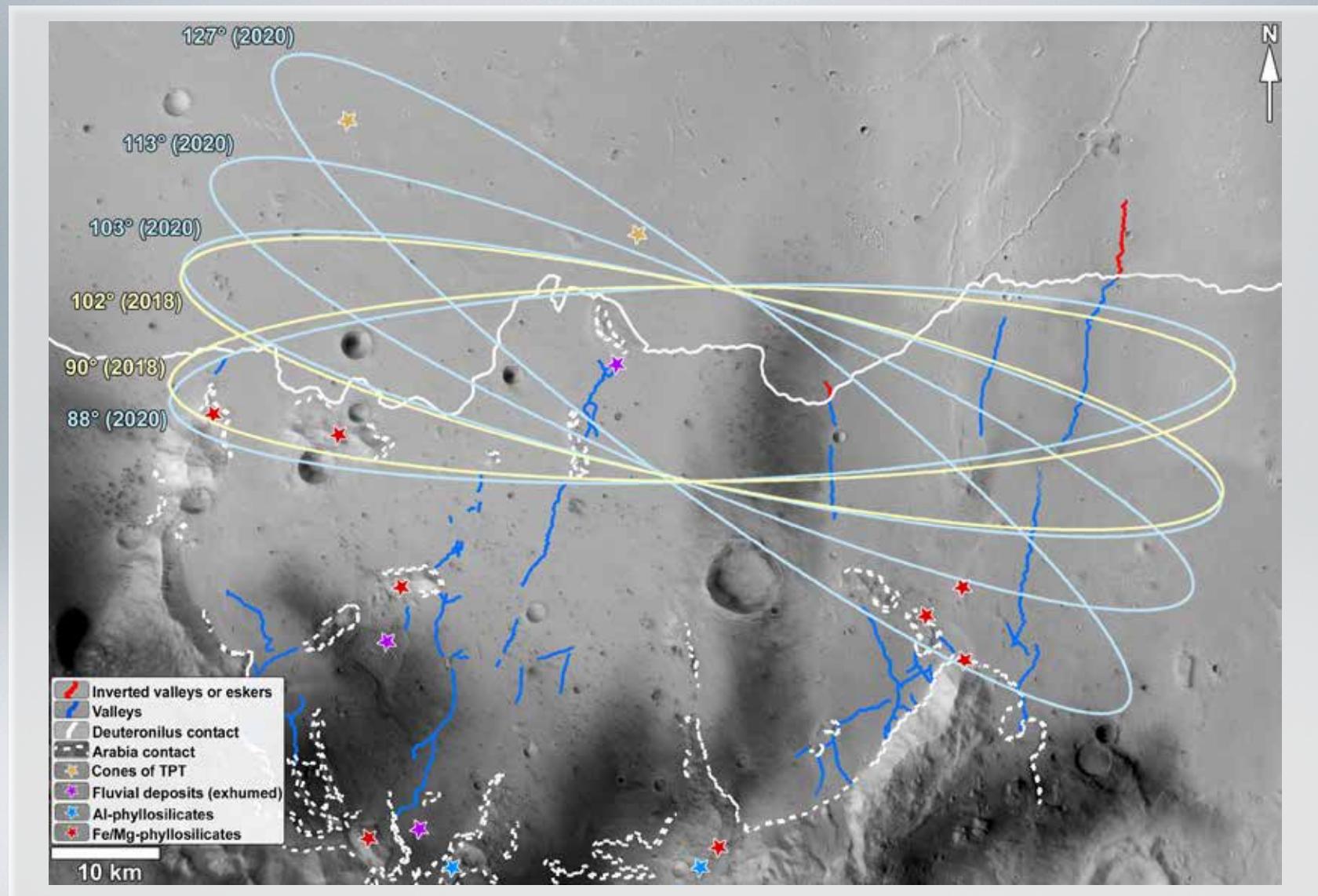


Erkeling et al., 2014



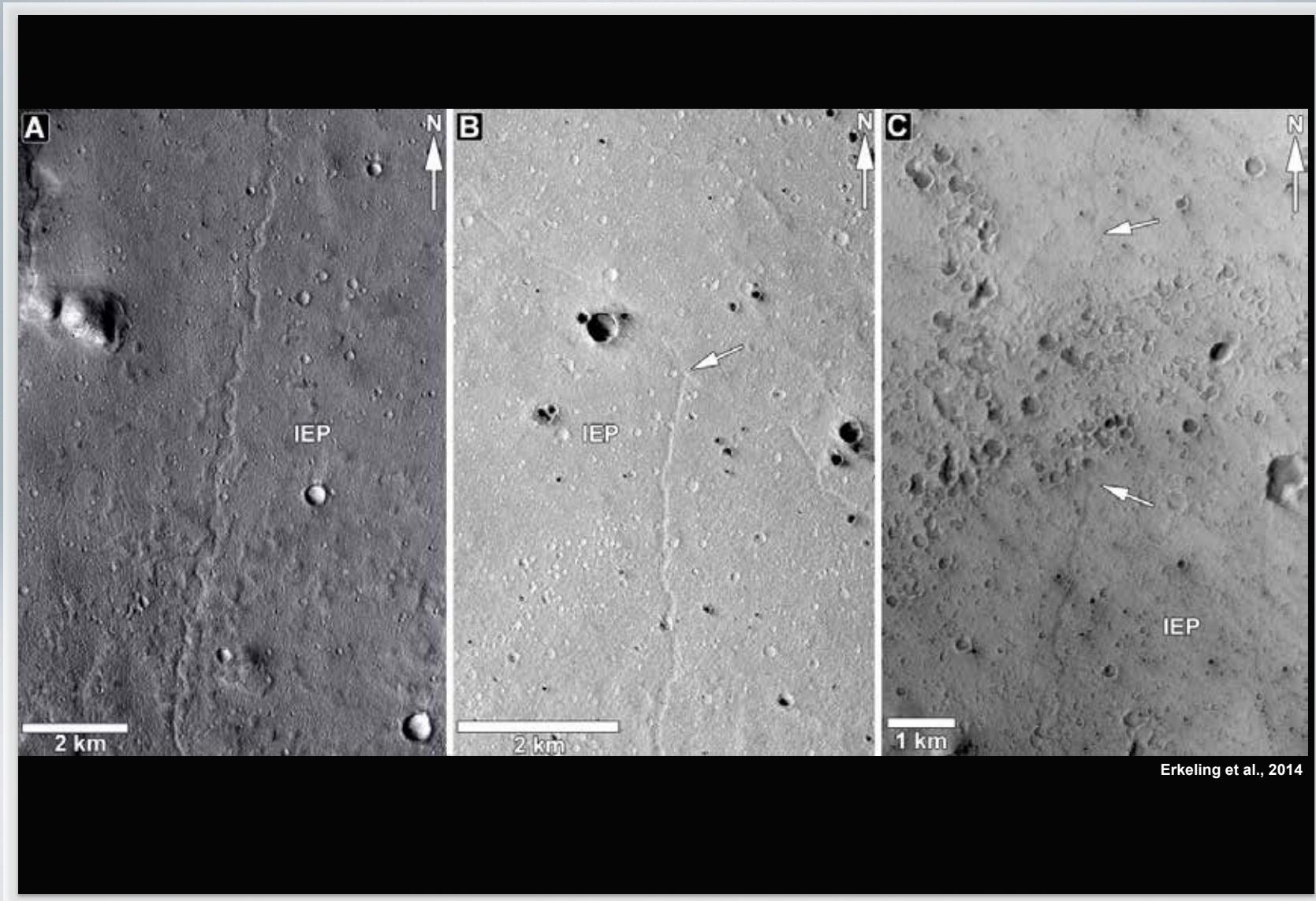
Scientific targets – valleys/ridges

E X O M A R S



Geomorphologic description

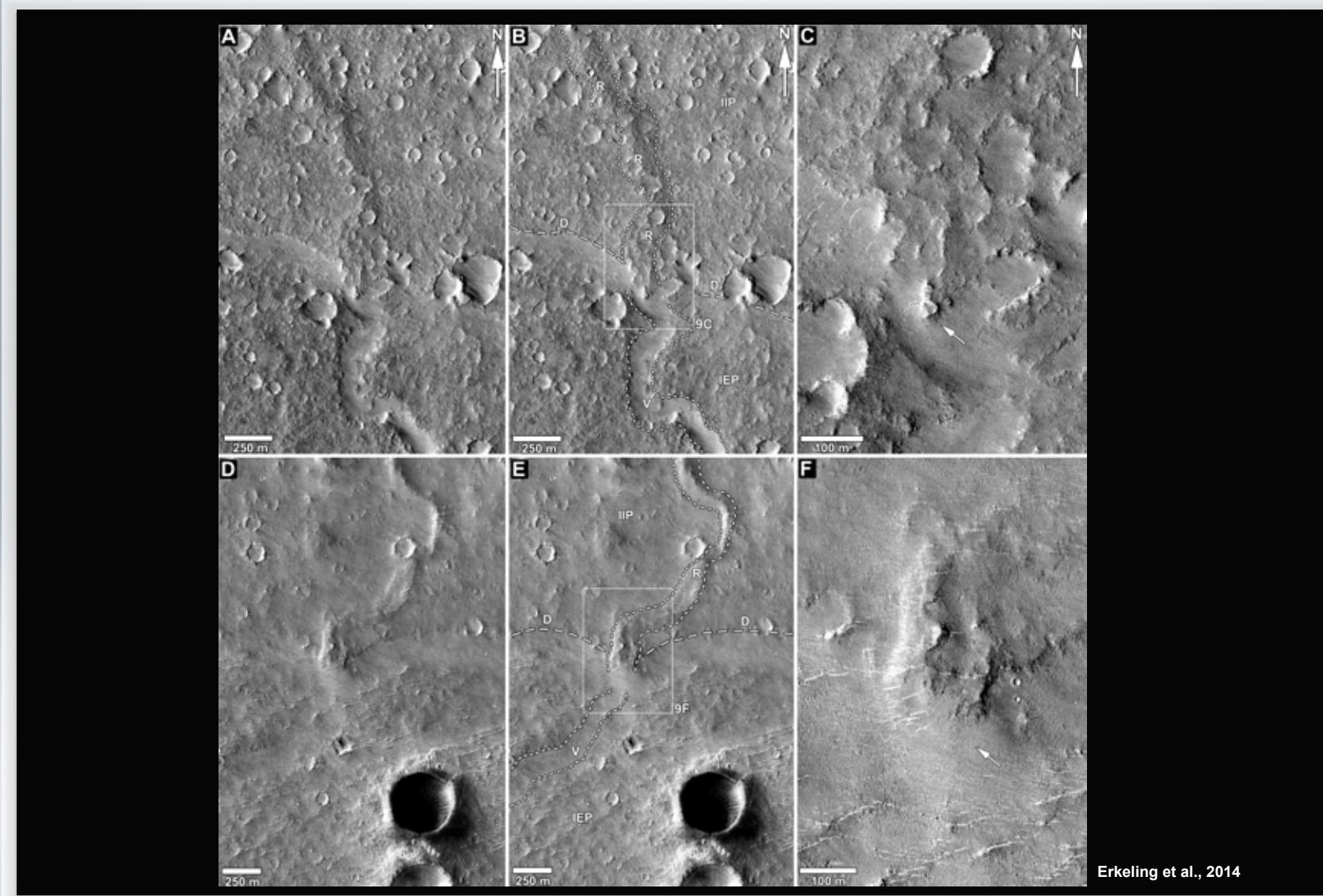
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Erkeling et al., 2014

Geomorphologic description

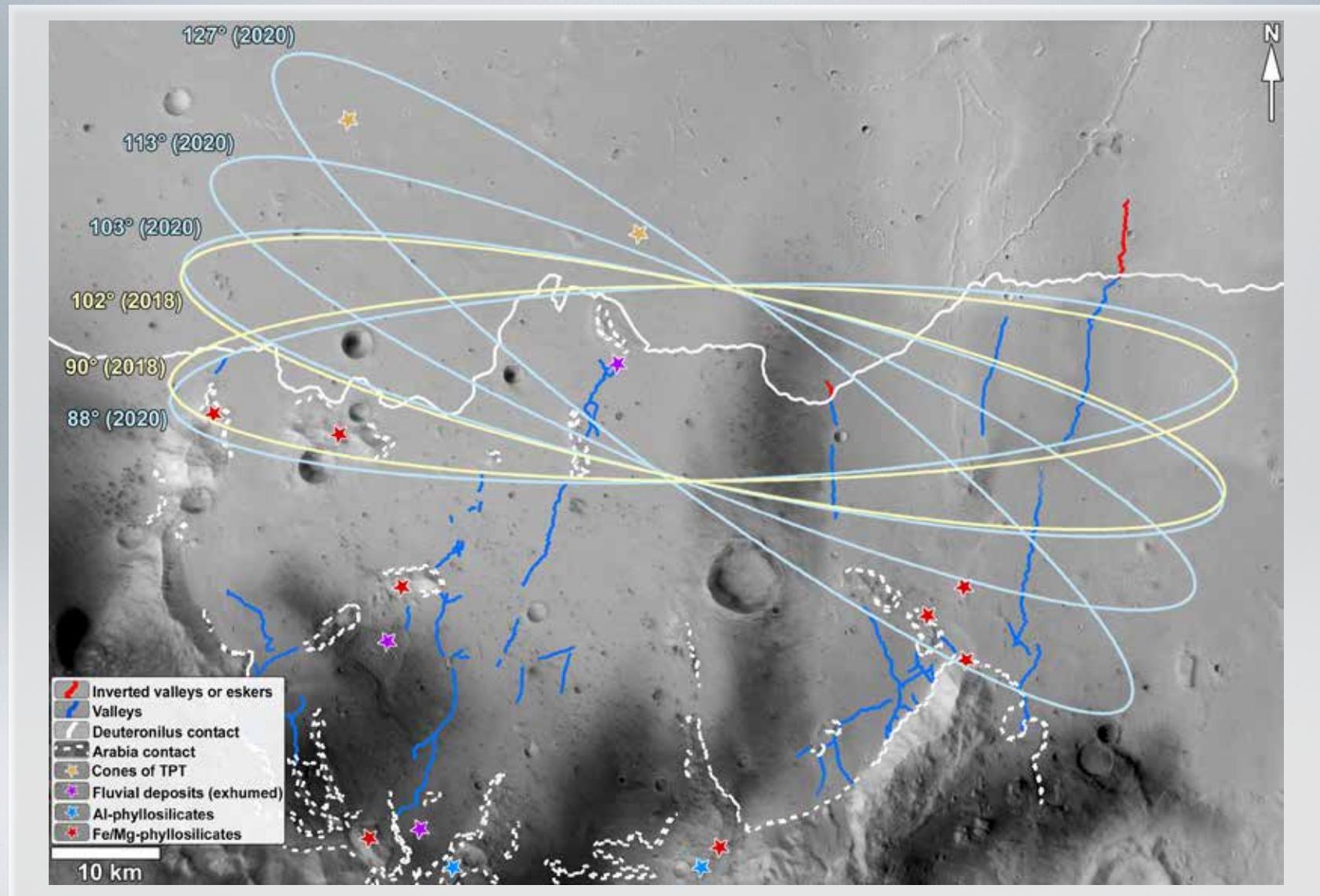
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Erkeling et al., 2014

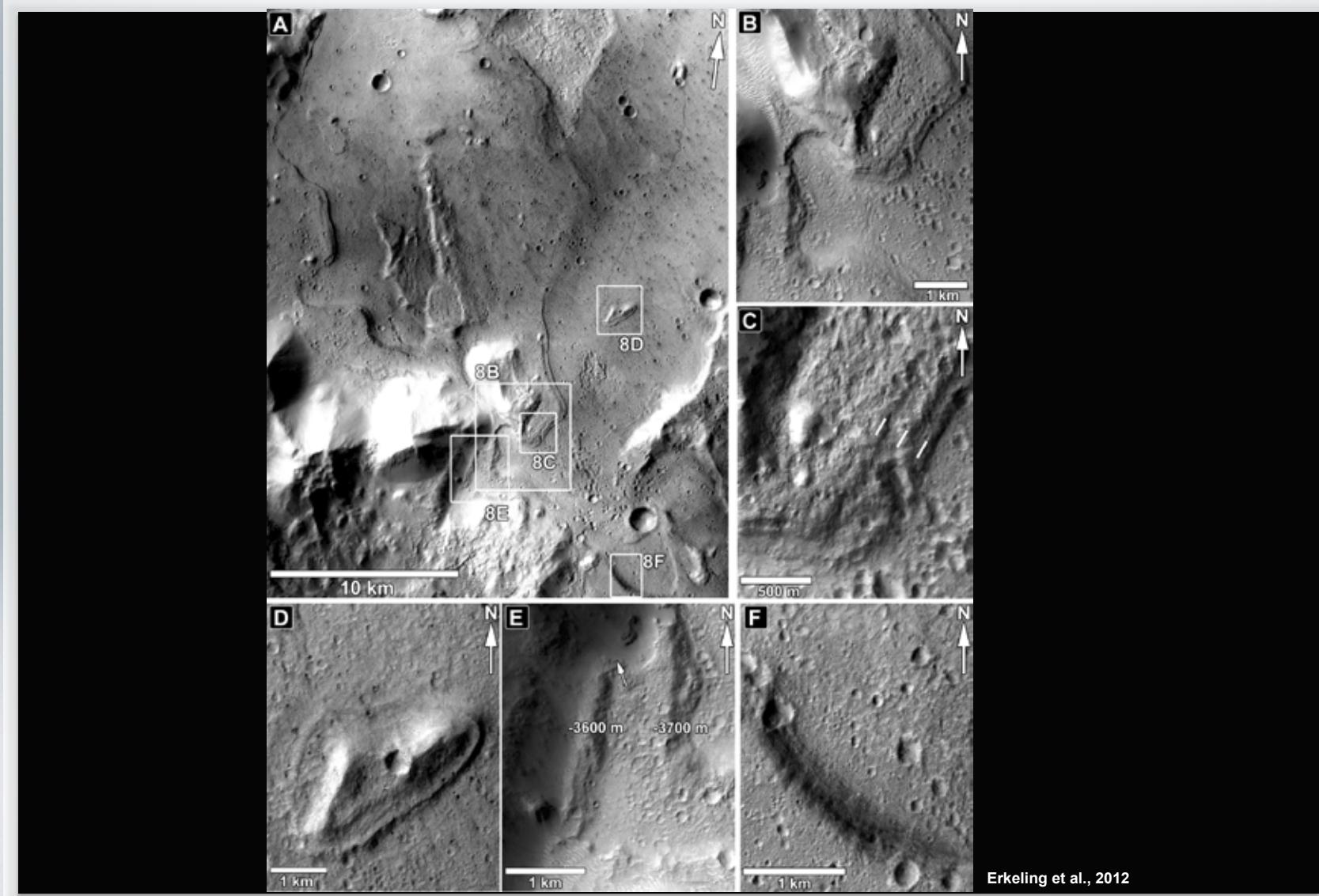
Scientific targets – coastal landforms

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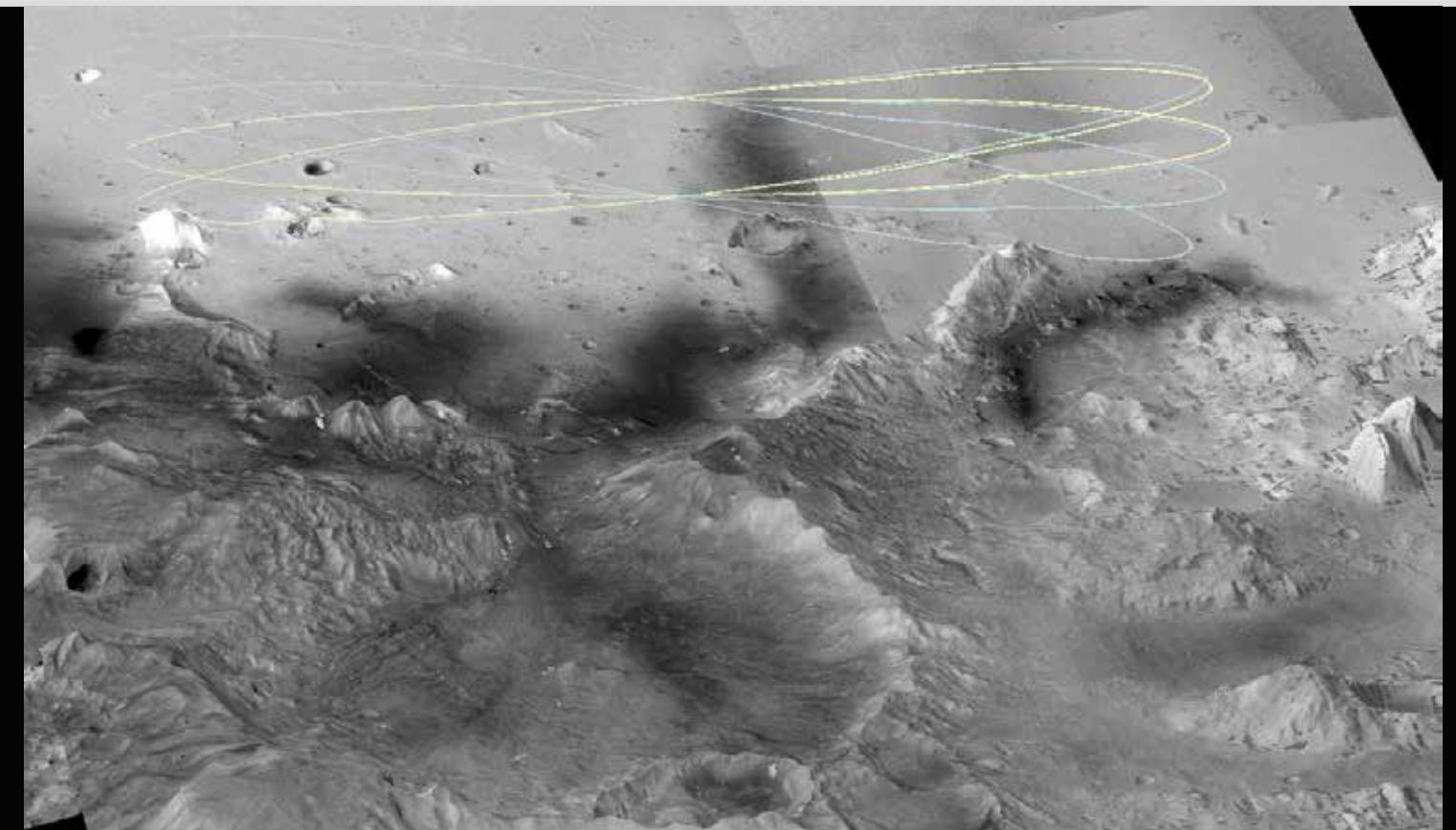
Geomorphologic description

E X O M A R S



Scientific summary

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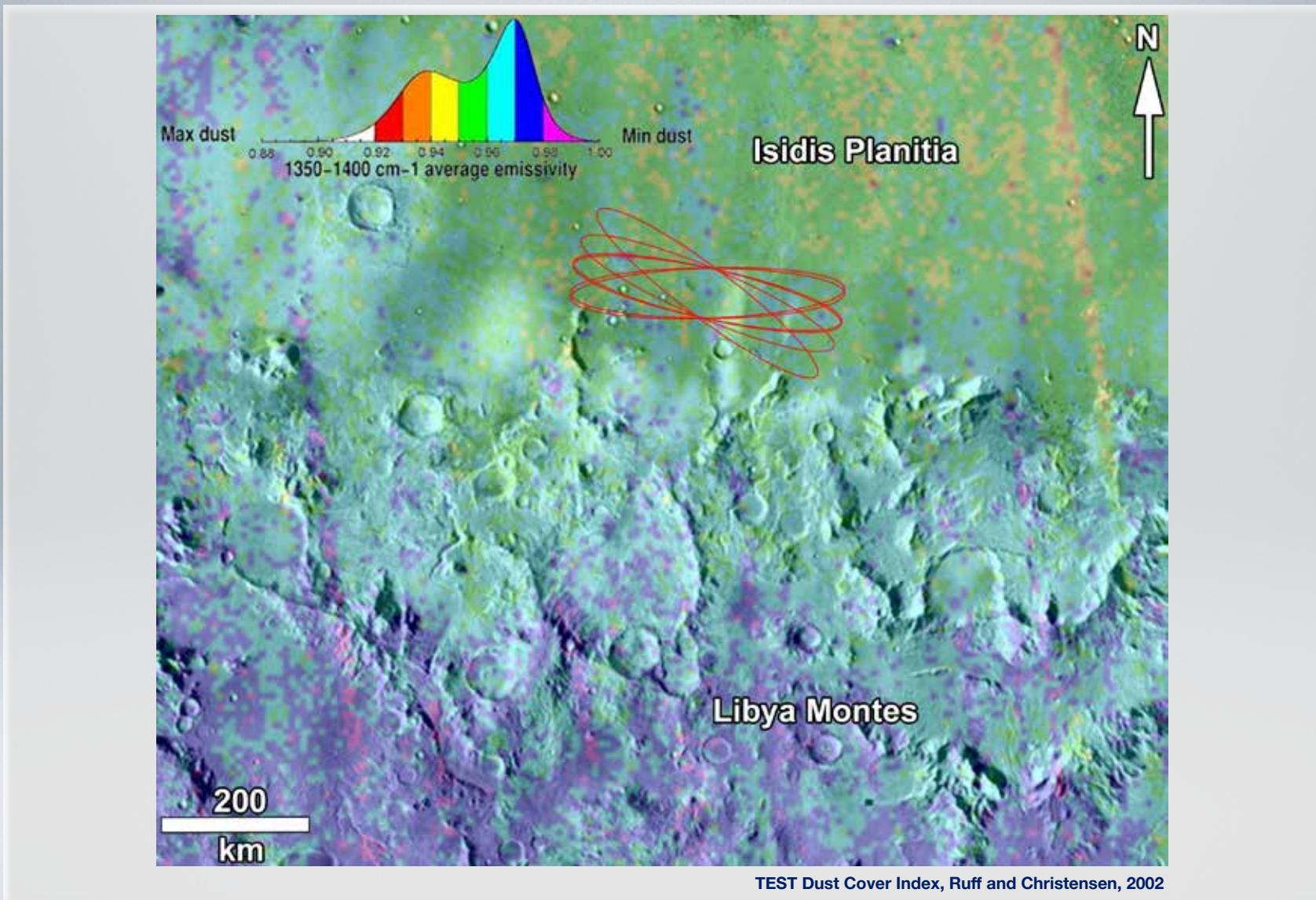


Candidate landing site located ...

- ... downstream of dense fluvial landforms that terminate in deposits rich in hydrated materials
- ... near two putative paleoshorelines
- ... on flat terminal plains incised by numerous valleys

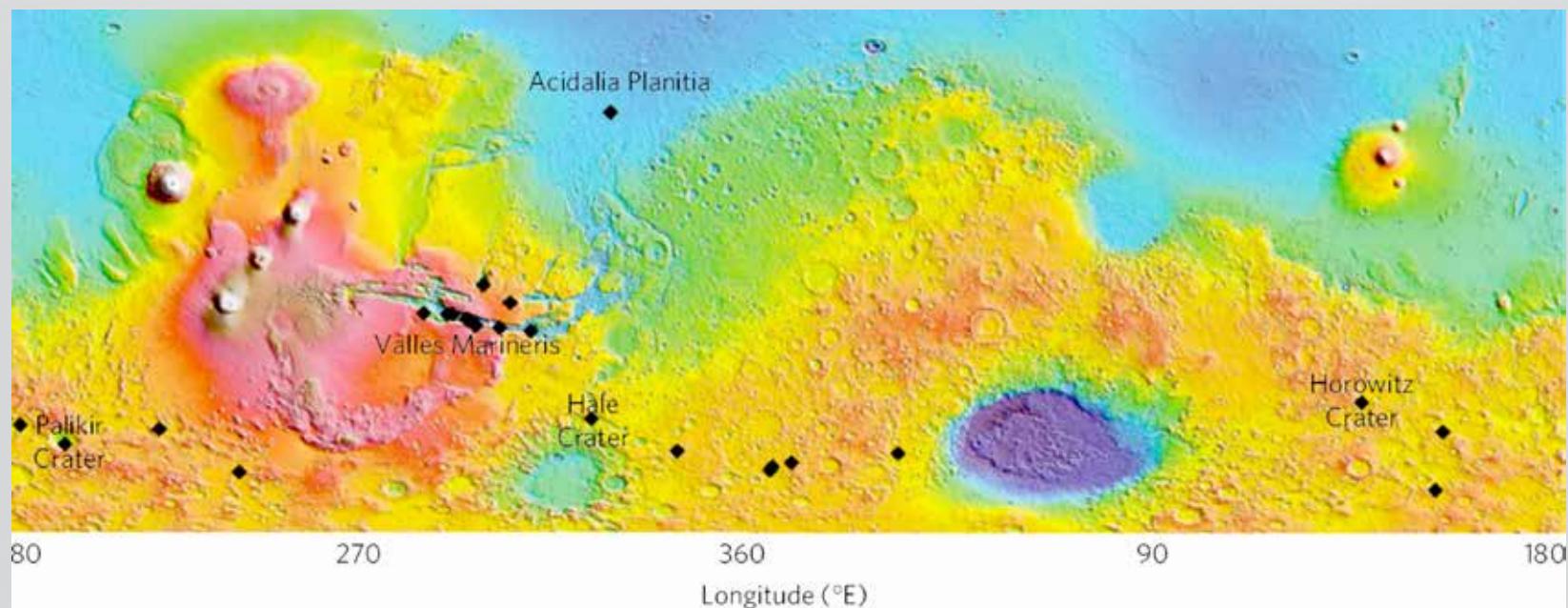
TES Dust cover

E X O M A R S



Planetary Protection

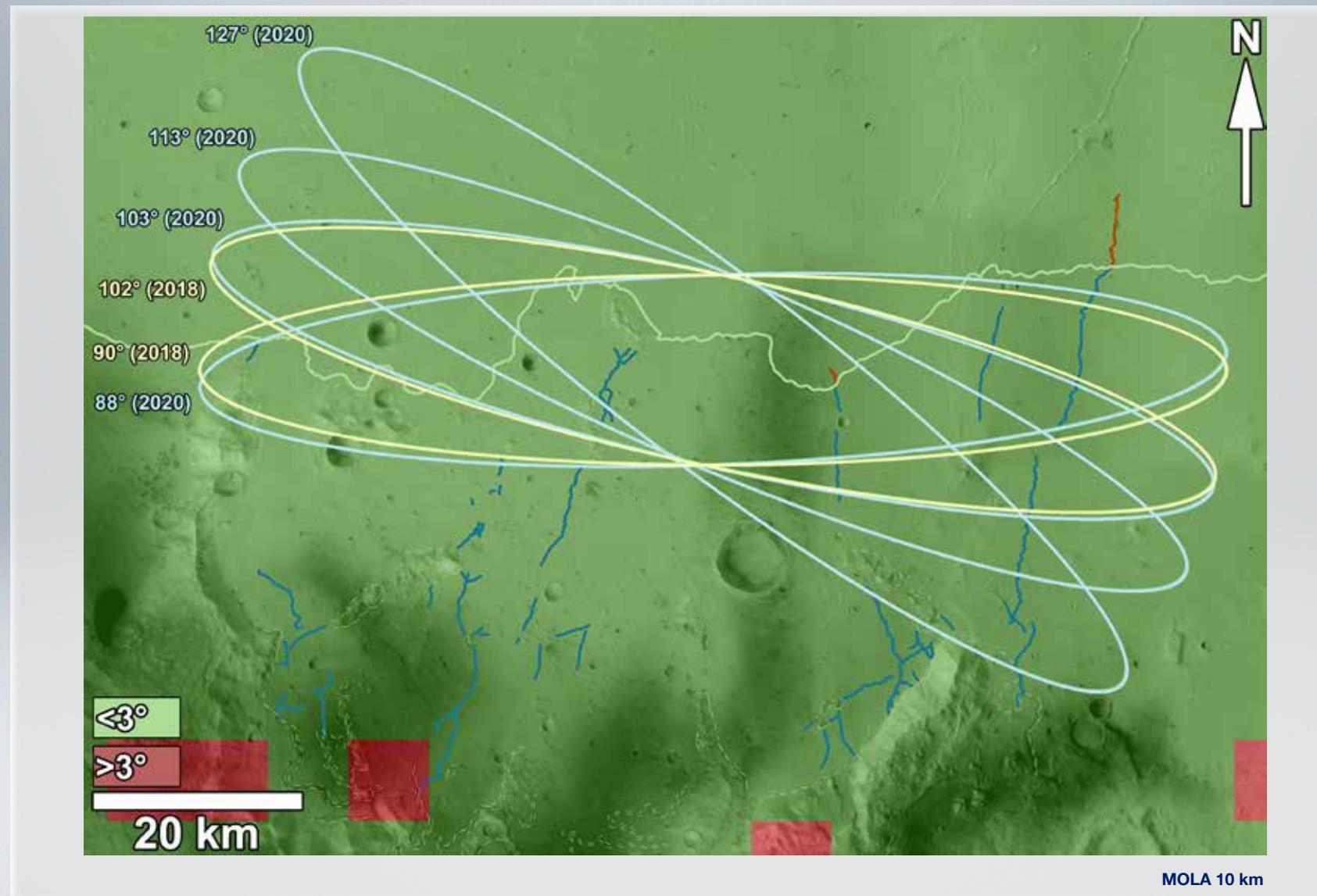
E X O M A R S



Equatorial RSL; McEwen et al., 2014

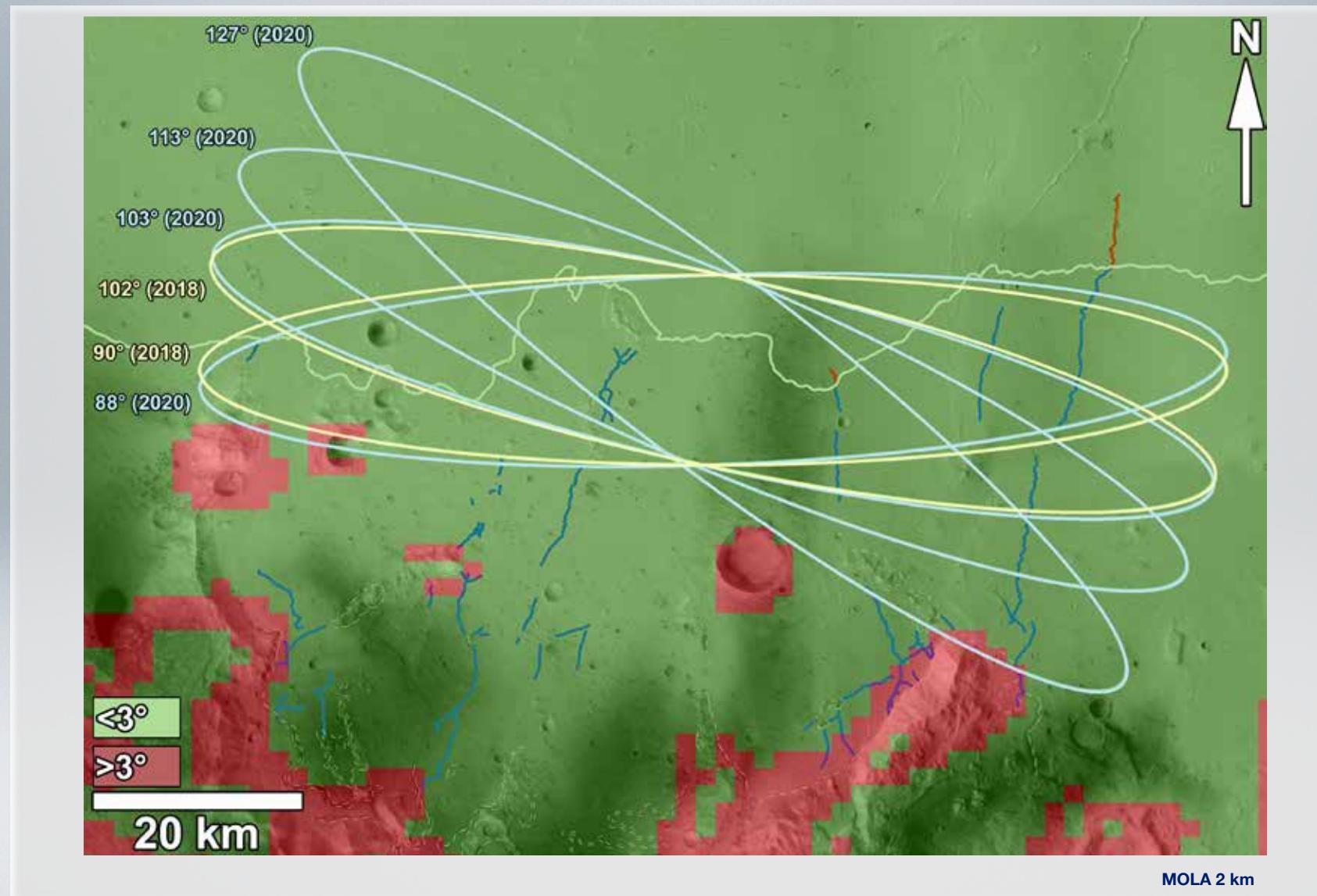
Landing Ellipse Slopes

E X O M A R S



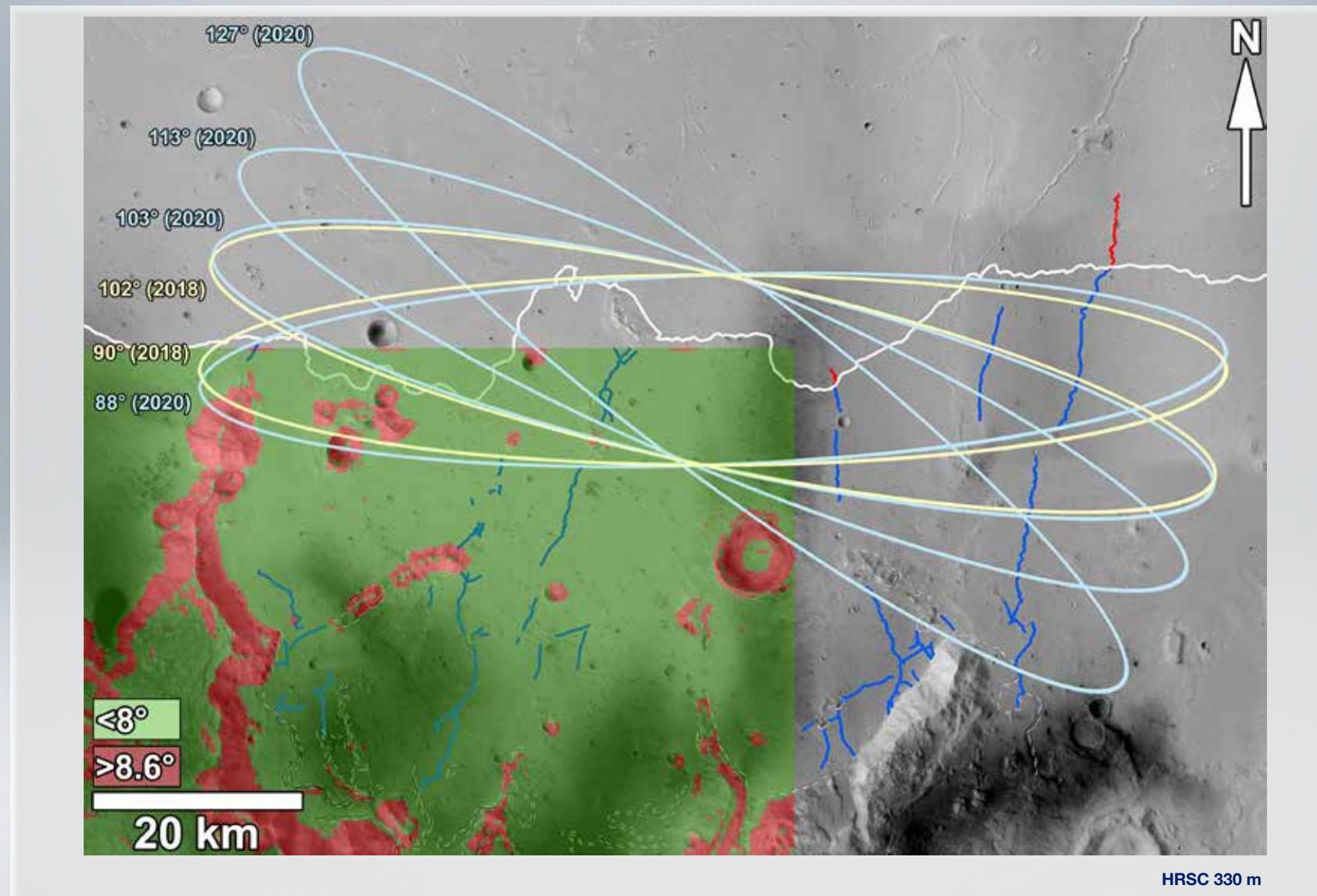
Landing Ellipse Slopes

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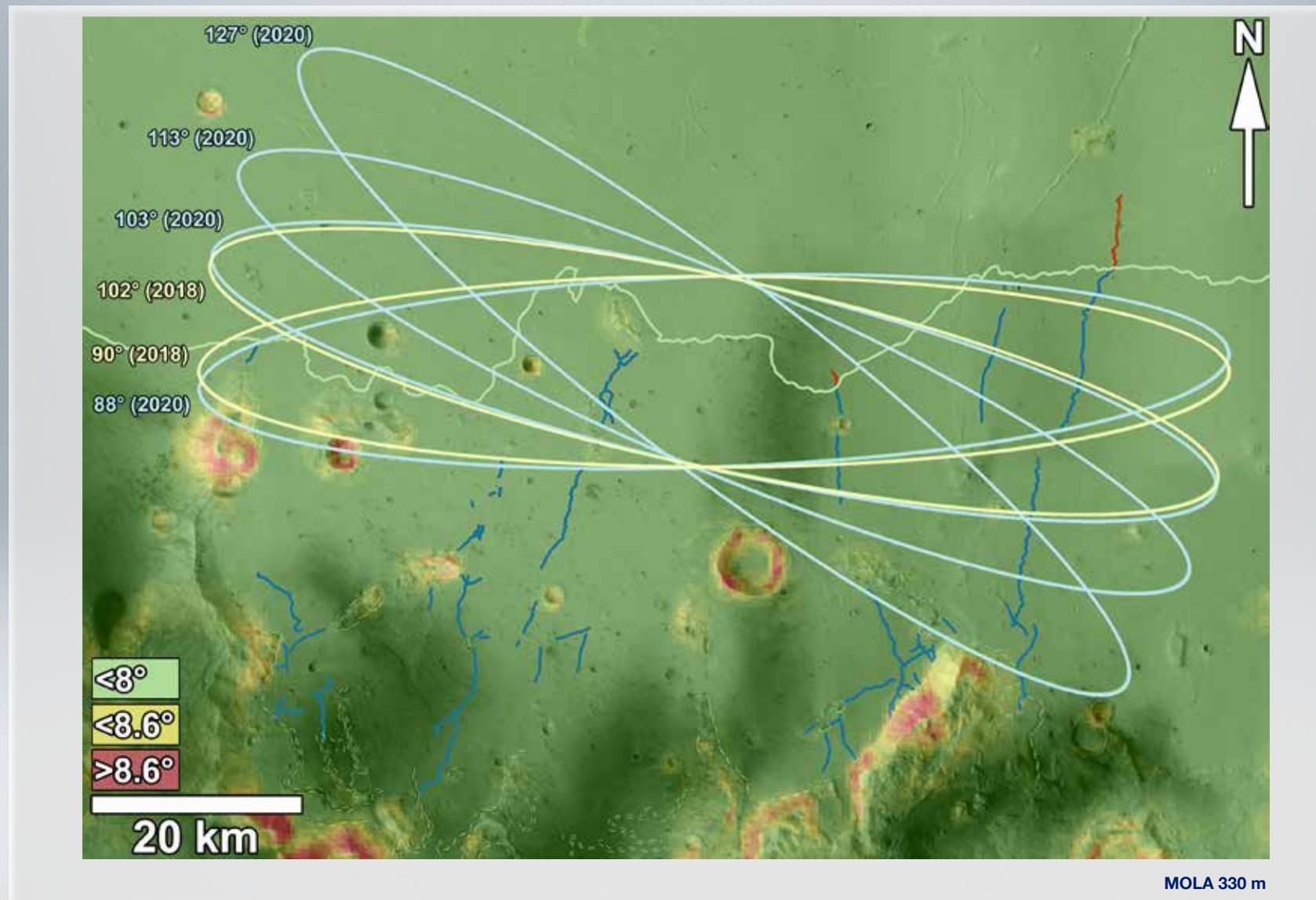
Landing Ellipse Slopes

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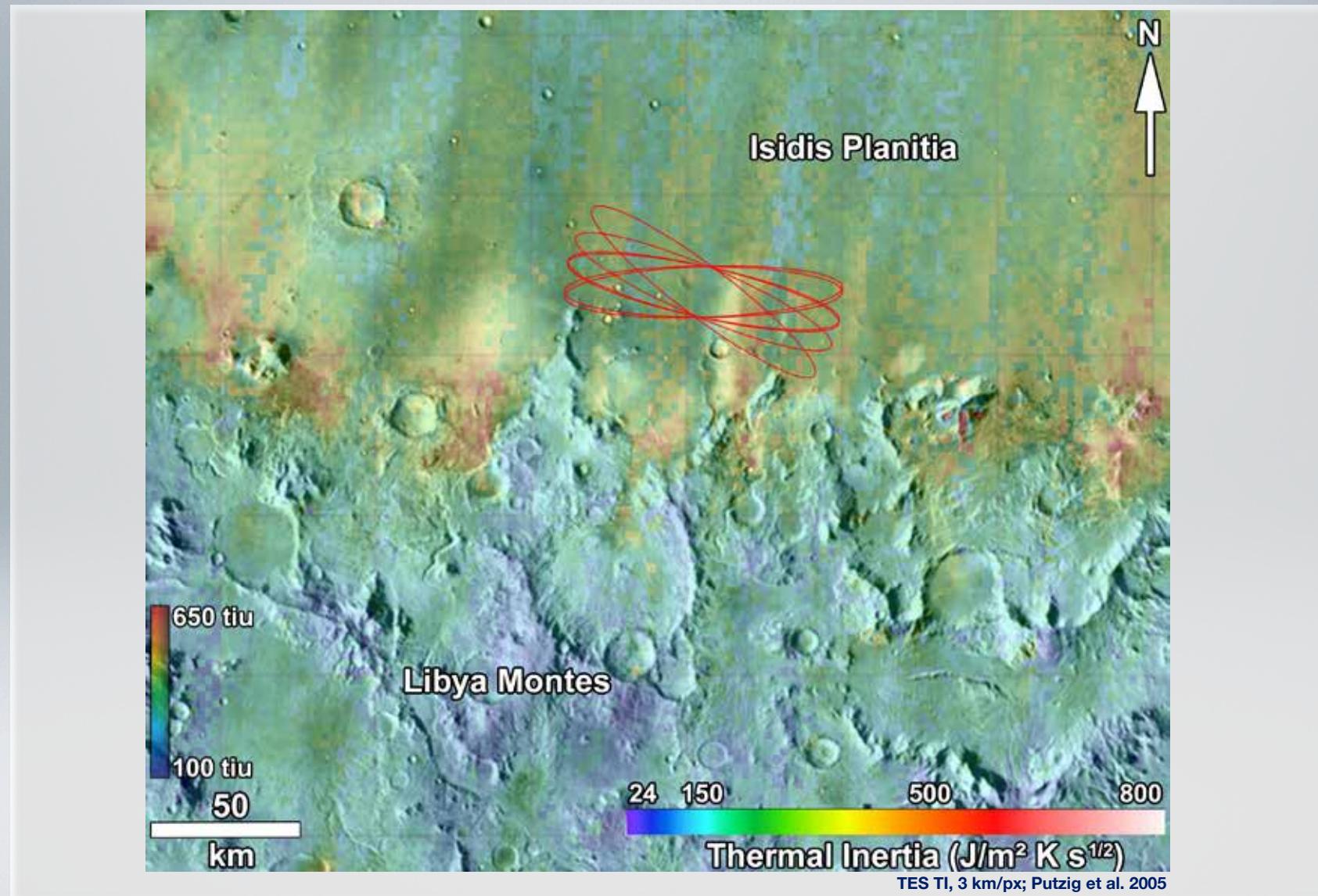
Landing Ellipse Slopes

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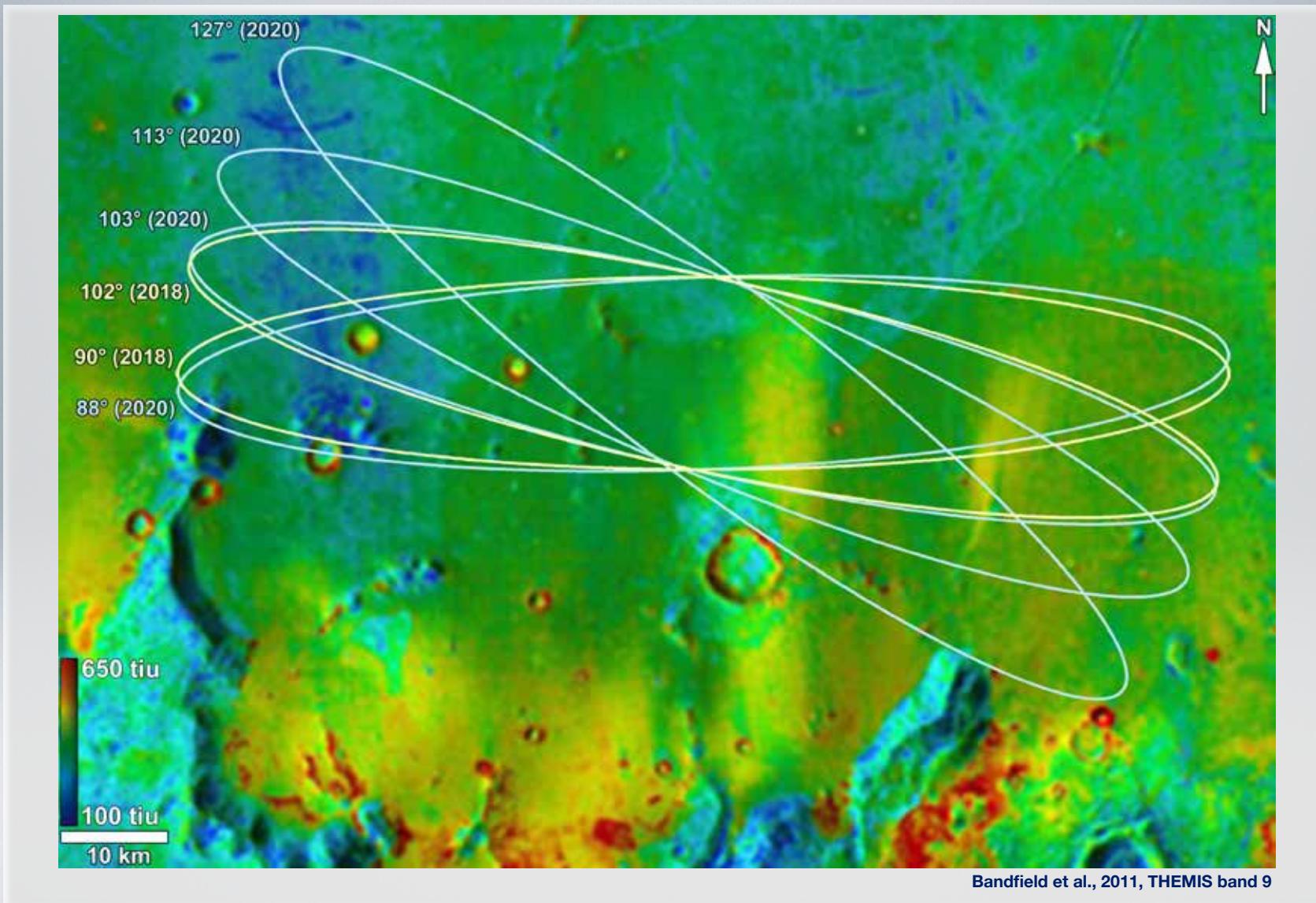
Thermal Inertia

E X O M A R S



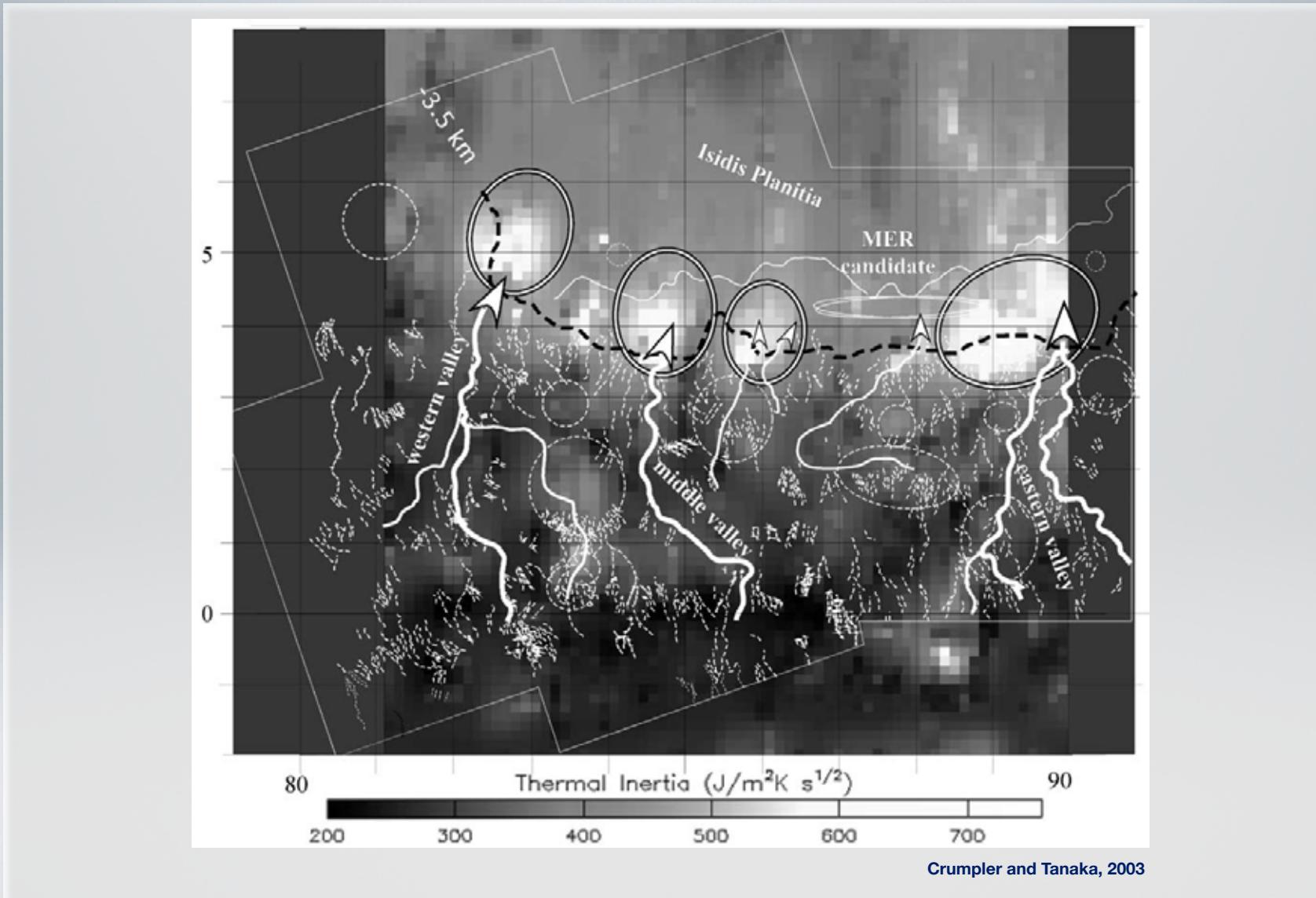
Thermal Inertia

E X O M A R S



Thermal Inertia

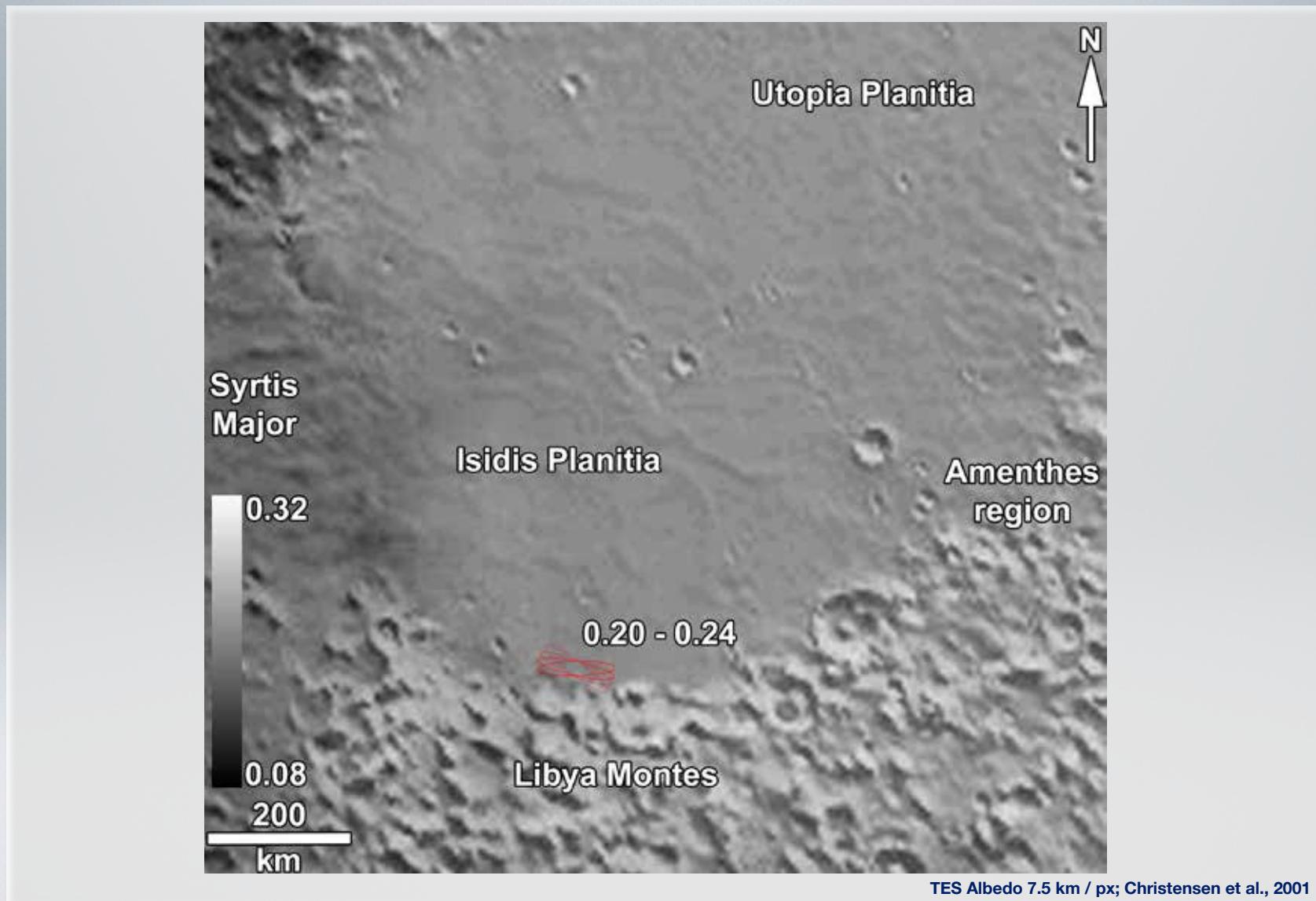
E X O M A R S



TES Albedo



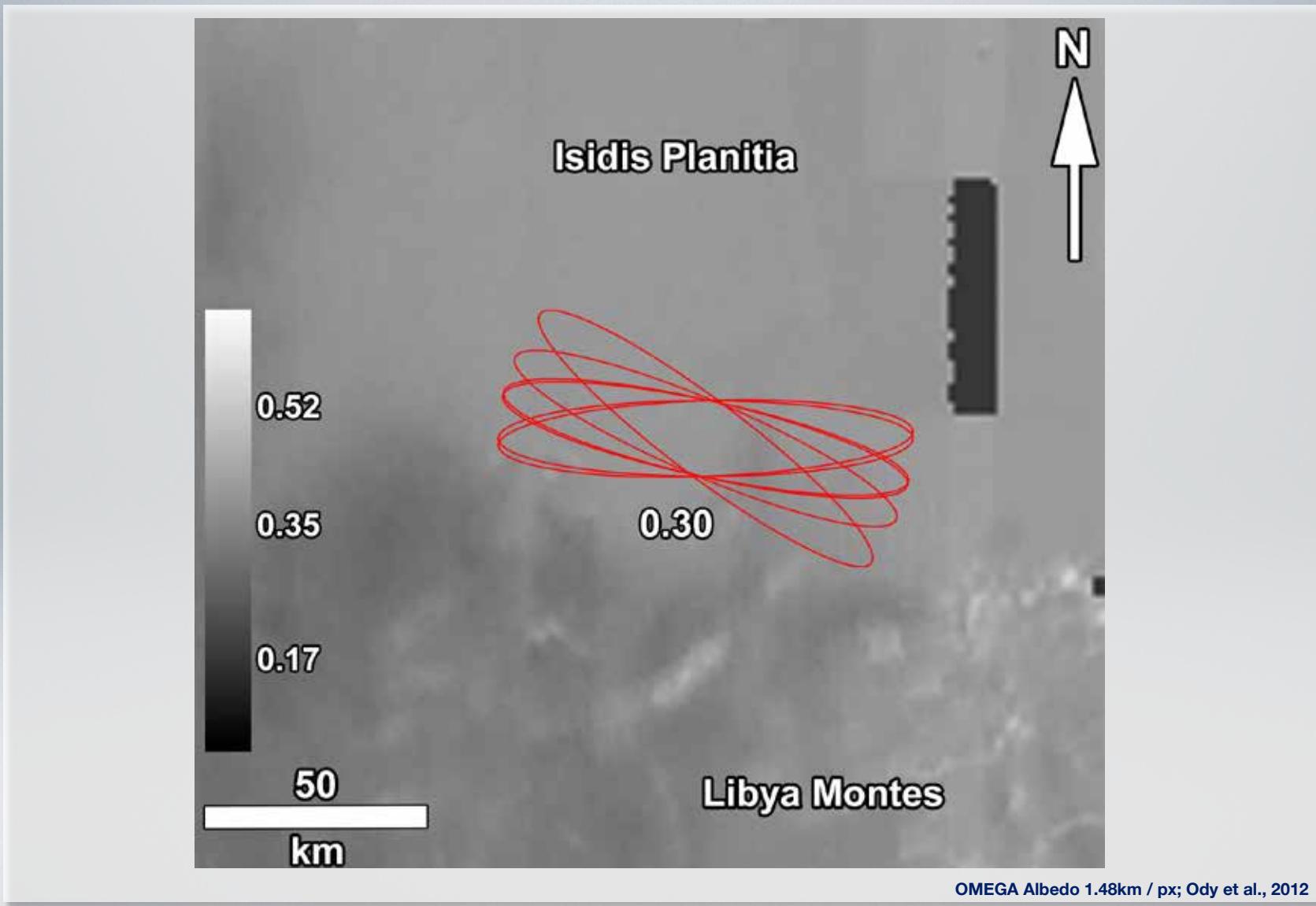
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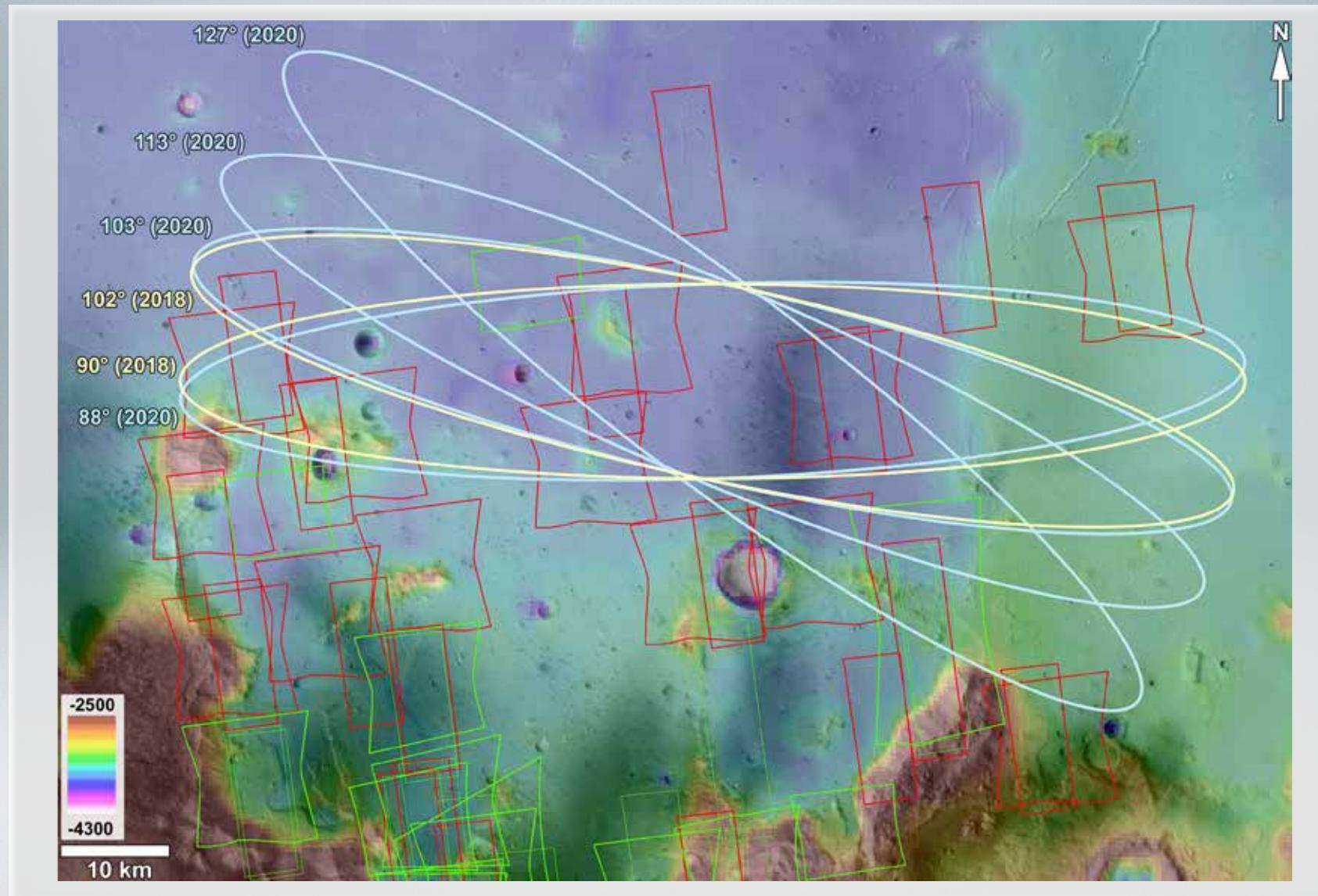
OMEGA Albedo



E X O M A R S

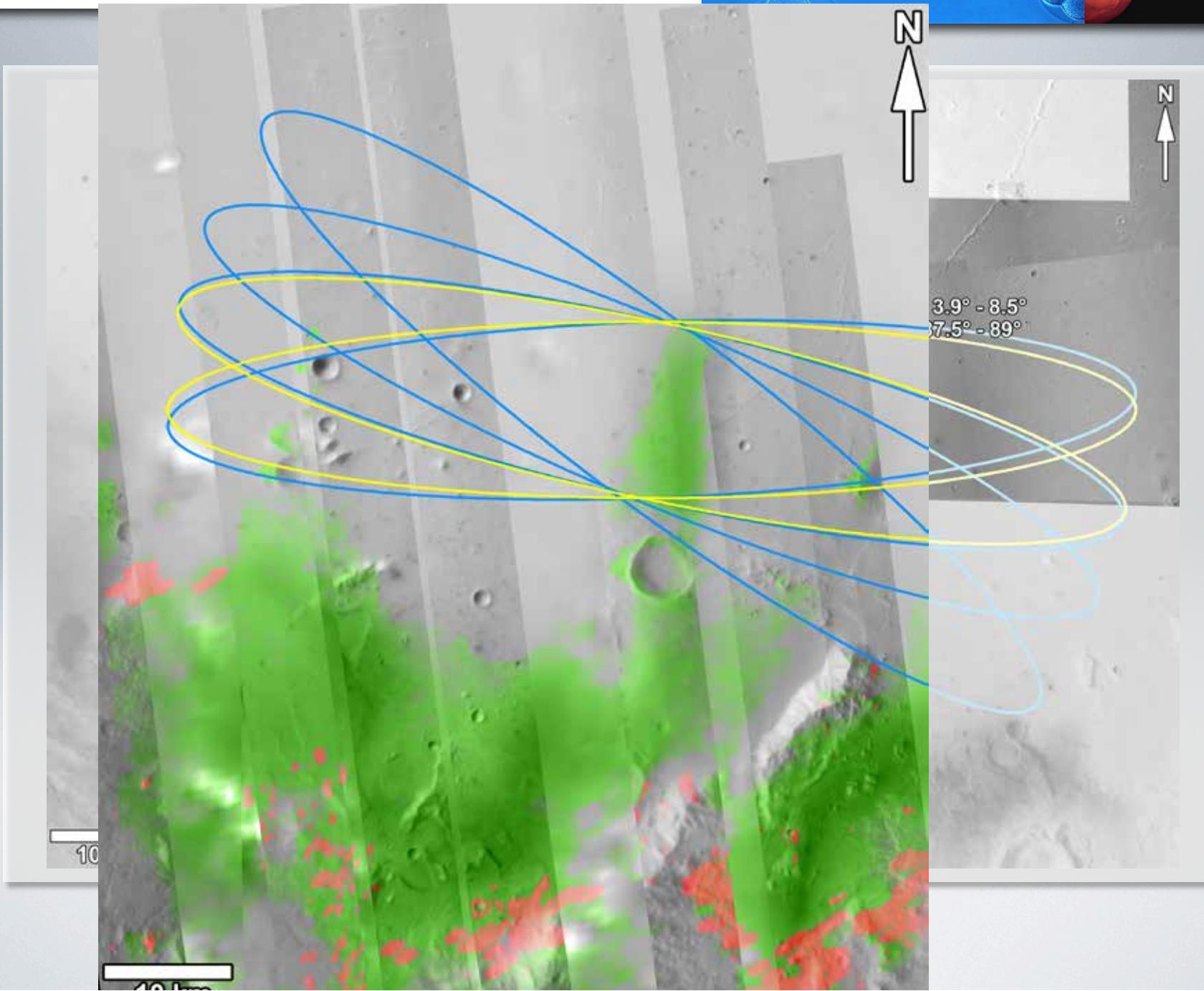


OMEGA Albedo 1.48km / px; Ody et al., 2012



HiRISE, CTX, CRISM, OMEGA, HRSC

E X O M A R S





- Prime science targets:

- 1) Exhumed fluvial deposits and sinuous valleys
- 2) Highland remnants rich in Fe/Mg-phyllosilicates
- 3) Deuteronilus contact and its unusual valley / ridge geometry
- 4) Layered cliffs of Arabia contact
- 5) Isolated outcrops with Al-phyllosilicates

- Observed landforms:

- 1) suggest long-term and repeated aqueous activity.
- 2) provide significant insights into water-related record of local and global scales.
- 3) bear evidence for hydrologically active ancient Mars.
- 4) are results of environmental changes over time toward decreasing water availability and can help to reconstruct the climatic evolution of Mars.

... collectively indicate a great potential of the proposed landing site for unraveling past environmental conditions that may have been favorable for maintaining life.

Summary 2



Criterion	Specification	Data Used	This Landing Site
Latitude	5 S to 25 N	MOLA	4.35° N, 86.2° E
Elevation	Below -2 km	MOLA	100 % of ellipse is below -3.5km!
Slopes (10 km)	≤ 3.0°	MOLA	At 10 km, 100% of ellipse is below 3.0°
Slopes (2 km)	≤ 3.0°	MOLA	At 2 km, 100 % of ellipse is below 3.0°
Slopes (330 m)	≤ 8.6°	HRSC/MOLA	>99% of ellipse is below 8.6° (MOLA!)
Slopes (330 m)	≤ 8.6°	CTX	In preparation
Slopes (7 m)	≤ 12.5°	HiRISE	No Data
Slopes (2 m)	≤ 15.0°	No Data	No Data
Rock abundance	≤ 7%	IRTM	9% (4-11% range) (13-15% Crumpler and Tanaka, 2003)
Rock abundance	≤ 7%	HiRISE	In preparation
Thermal Inertia	≥ 150 J m ⁻² s ^{-0.5} K ⁻¹	TES	100 % of ellipse is above (night time data)
Albedo	0.1 ≤ albedo ≤ 0.26	TES/OMEGA	0.20-0.24 mean range (Crumpler and Tanaka, 2003) / 0.30
Radar Reflectivity	-15 dB ≤ Ka band backscatter cross section at nadir ≤ 27.5 dB	No Data	No Data
Horizontal Wind (1 m–10 km agl)	(25m/s) ≤ 0.25 m/s?	GCM	Max speed: 5-7 m/s (Ls324, 10am)
Horizontal Wind (1 m above ground)	(25m/s) ≤ 0.30 m/s?	GCM	Max speed: 5 m/s (Ls324, 10am)

• THANK YOU.