



The Open
University

Rocky samples from the Solar System – what do we learn from meteorites and lunar rocks?

Ana Černok

Belgrade, November 2018

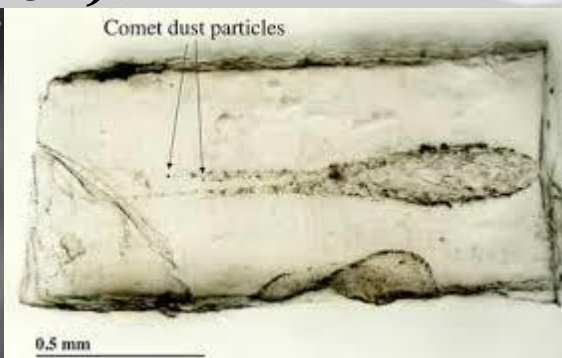
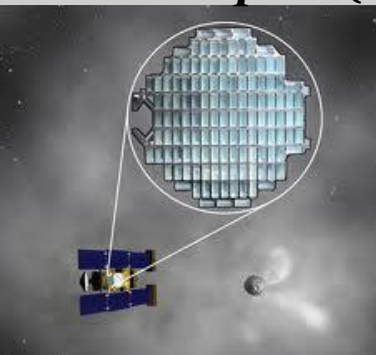
Extraterrestrial samples

- Small amount of extraterrestrial material
- Meteorites (~60 000)
- Composition of the Solar System objects
- Deep Earth objects
- Organic matter – signs of early life?
- Pre-solar grains, material older than the Solar System itself



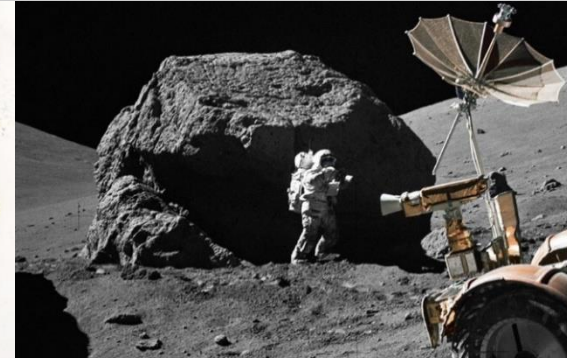
***Hayabusa
Asteroid Itokawa
2010***

***Stardust comet Wild 2 (2006)
and Tempel 1 (2011)***

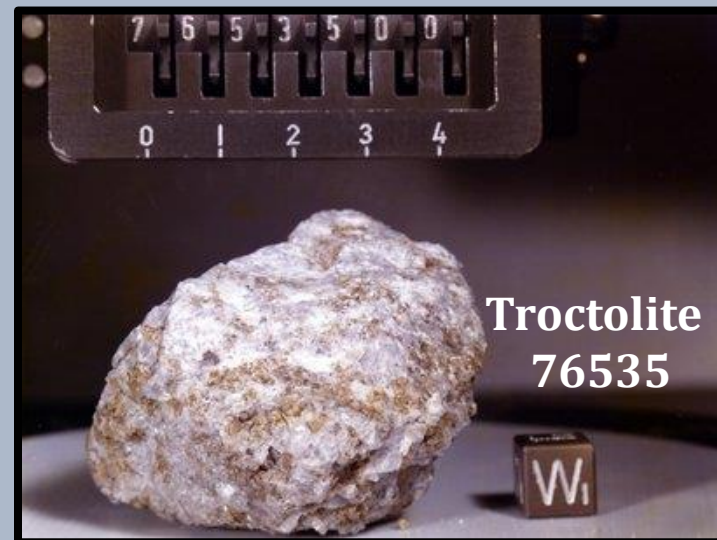


Tenham L6

Apollo & Luna (~380 kg)



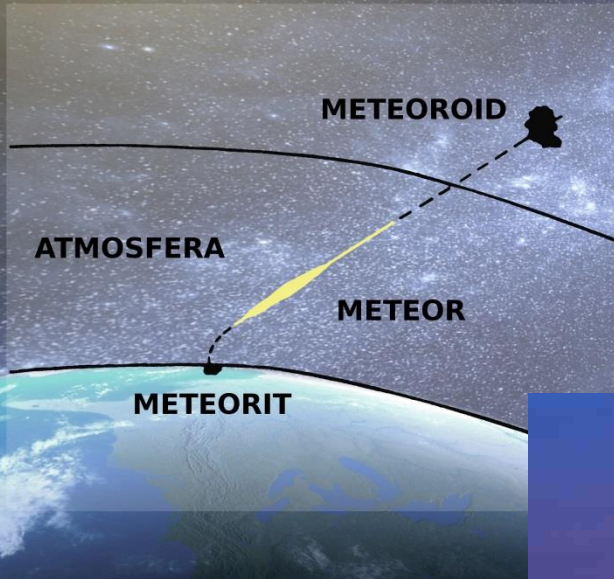
Meteorites



Troctolite
76535

Lunar rocks

INTRO...



Meteoroid

Small rocky object in outer space, significantly smaller than asteroid



Meteor

A meteor is a meteoroid that has entered the earth's atmosphere and becomes brightly visible due to the ionized molecules in the upper atmosphere



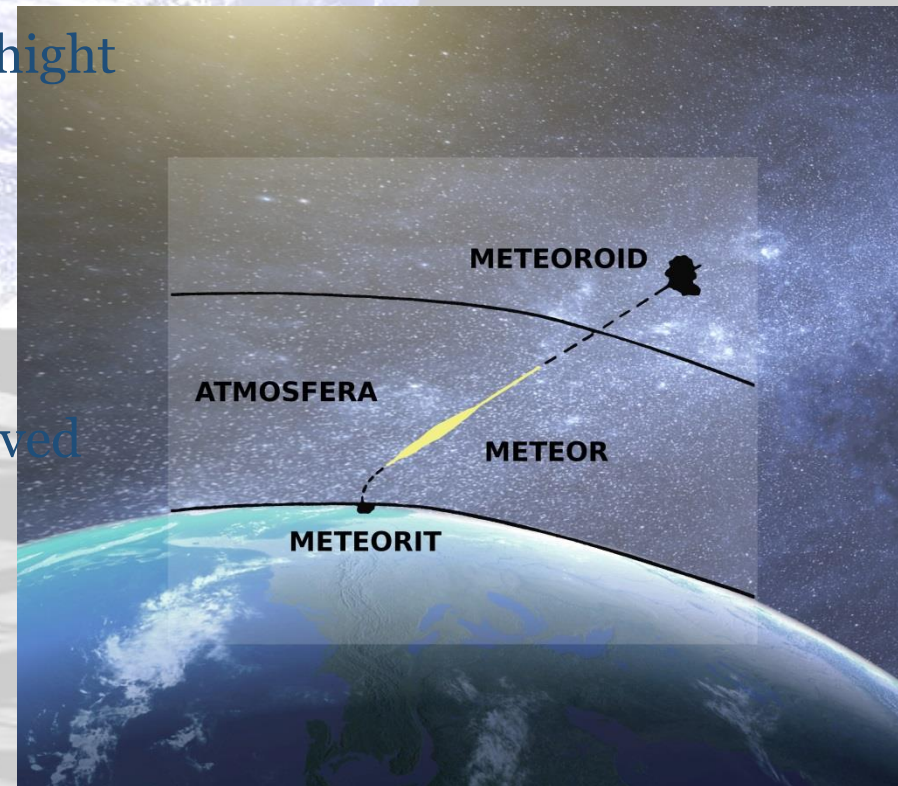
Meteorite

A meteoroid that reached surface of the Earth

Introduction

Meteorite: a meteoroid that survives that flight through the atmosphere (~ **minutes**) and reaches the surface of the Earth

- Enters Earth's atmosphere at speed 11-72 km/s
- Ionization begins at **100 km** of height
- Fusion crust but **cold** surface
- Aerodynamical shape
- **Pad (Fall):** The flight was observed before collecting the meteorite (**Chelyabinsk**)
- **Nalaz (Find):** all others





Fall 1877

Josif Pančić, Soko-Banja prvi meteorit u Srbiji/ Glasnik Srpskog učenog društva, XLVIII (1880)

SOKOBANJSKI METEORIT



Find 1947

DIMITROVGRADSKI METEORIT

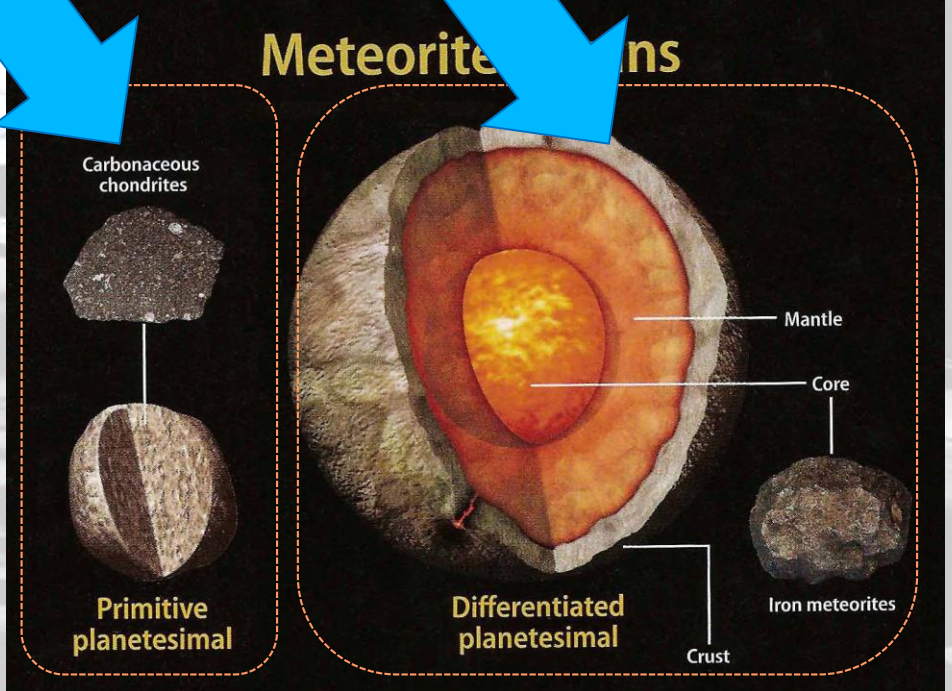
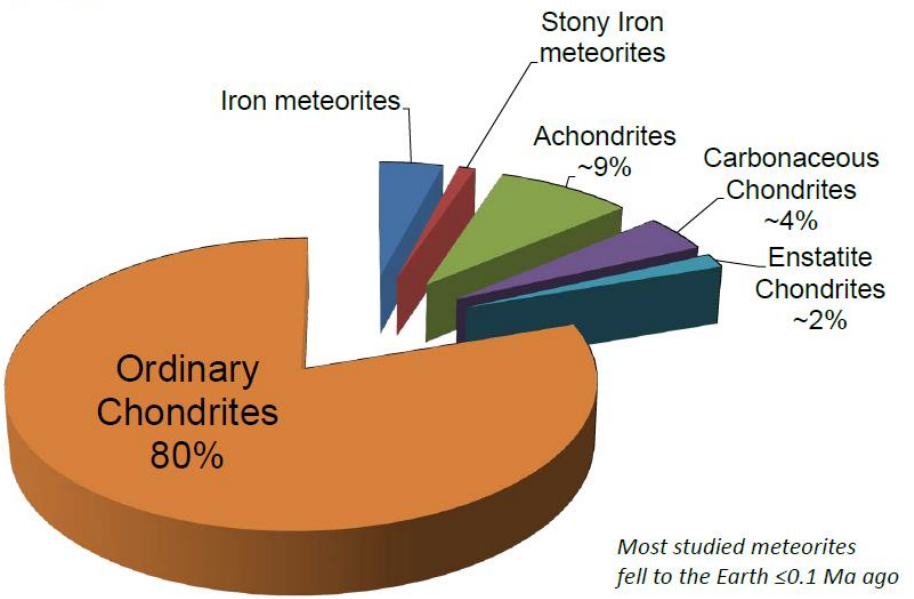
Meteorites

Undifferentiated

Differentiated

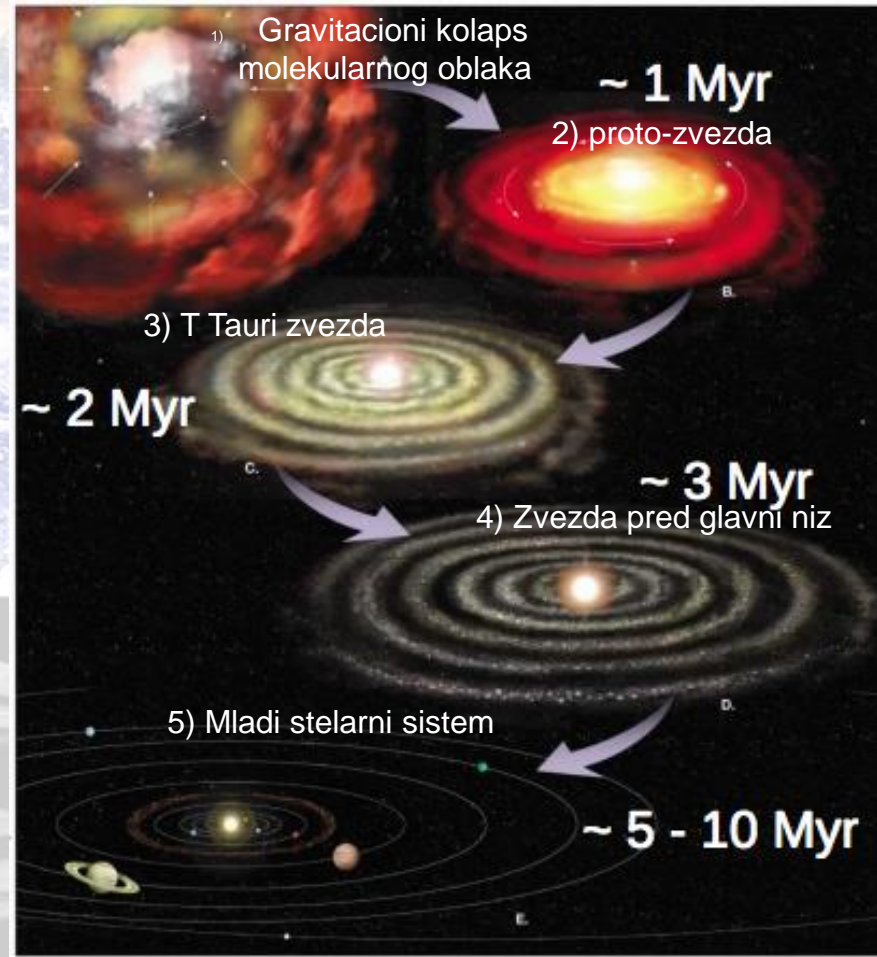
Chondrites
Stony Meteorites
Iron Meteorites

Meteorite: Fall statistics (n=1101)



Early formation

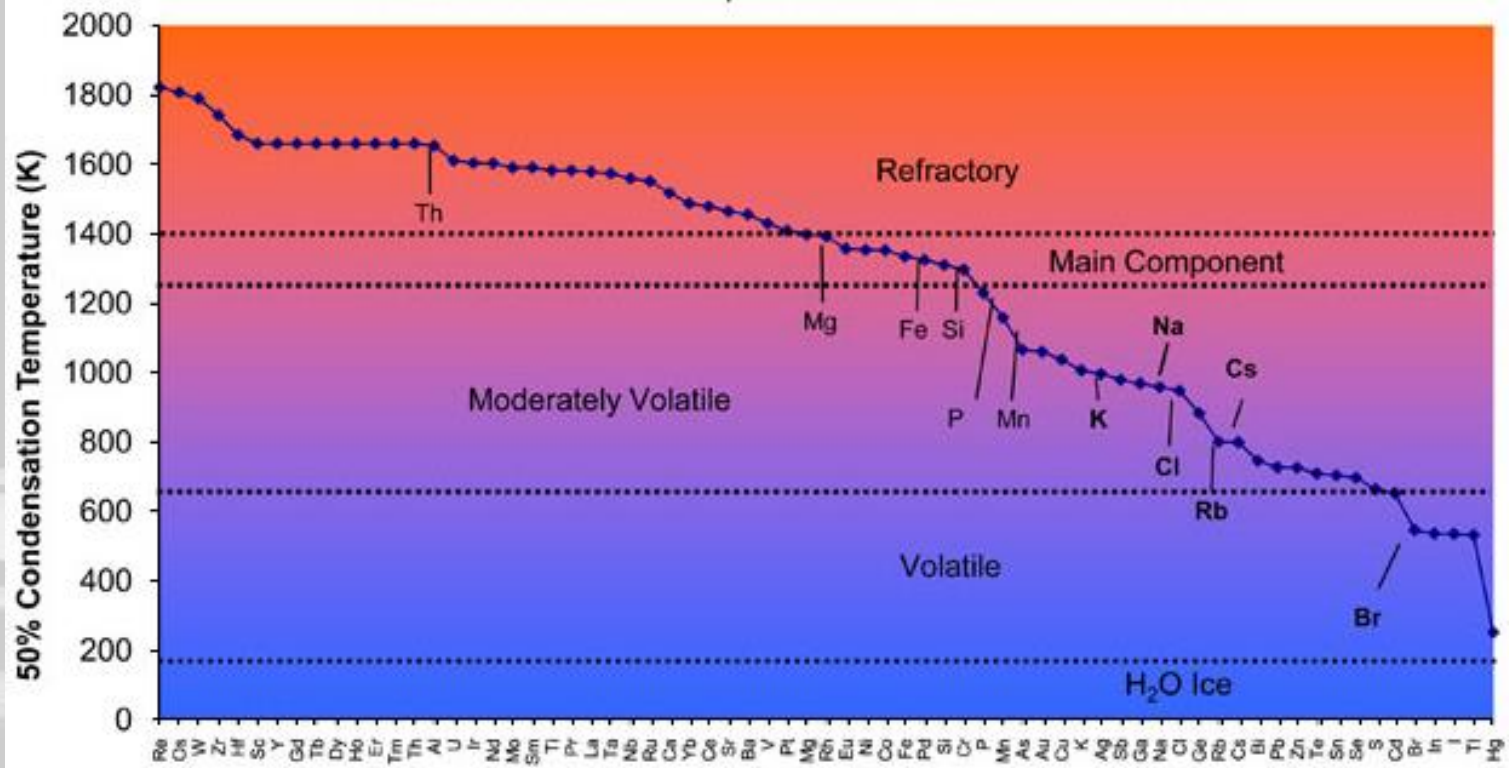
- Solar System formation was initiated 4.56 billion years ago by collapse of the interstellar matter
- Protoplanetary disc was formed and early planetesimals ($> 1\text{km}$) accreted
- Further accretion led to planet formation
- Closer to the Sun: terrestrial planets – snow line – gas planets
- The **asteroid belt** – source of the meteorites



Early condensates: refractory droplets

- Refractory elements condensate first (> 1600 K)
- Local *flash heating*
- **Metals: Re, Os, Hf, W, Zr, Ir, Ru**
- Trace abundances – form small metal droplets (1mm)

Condensation Temperatures of the Elements



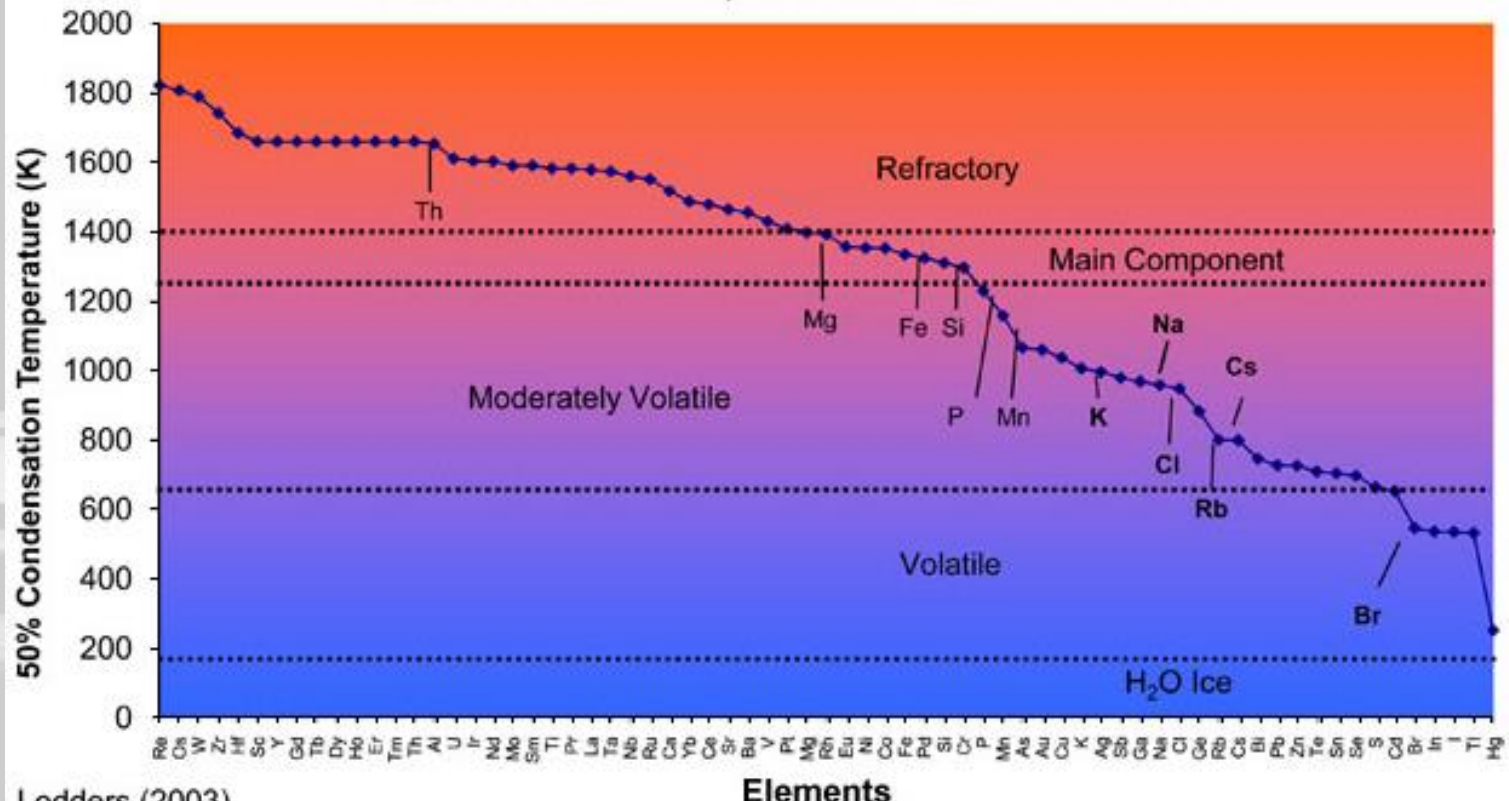
Lodders (2003)

Elements

Early condensates: refractory inclusions

- Further on **Ca, Al, Ti condensate** – forming **Ca-Al inclusions (CAI)**
- High-T oxides (ceramics!): 1600 K
- The oldest dated material in the SS: 4567 (± 2) million years-first solids in cooling protoplanetary disc
- Refractory droplets found within CAIs

Condensation Temperatures of the Elements



Allende Ca, Al-rich inclusion (CAI)

CAIs



Allende

Early condensates: chondrules

- Metals condensate: Fe, Mg and Si
- first *silicate* minerals

- **Olivine** $(\text{Fe,Mg})_2\text{SiO}_4$

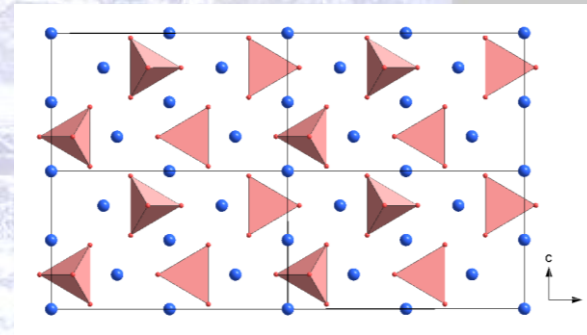
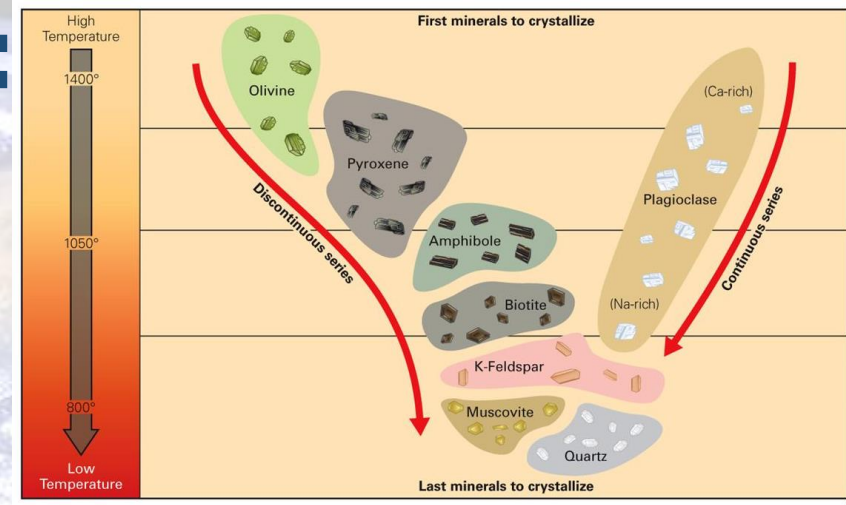
- **Piroxene** $(\text{Mg,Fe})_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_6$

- Chondrules: small (0.1-5 mm) silicate droplets that mostly contain olivine and pyroxene

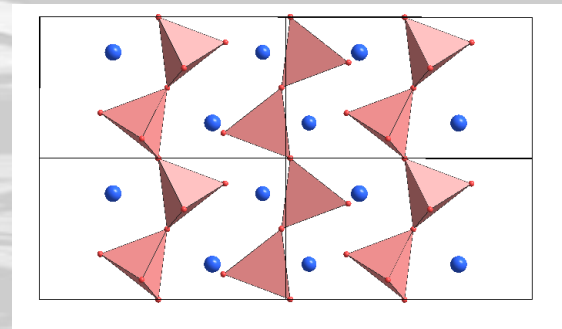
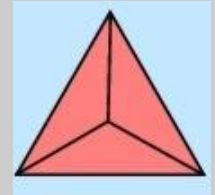
- **First miny-rocks!**

- Formed 1 – 4 Myr after CAIs

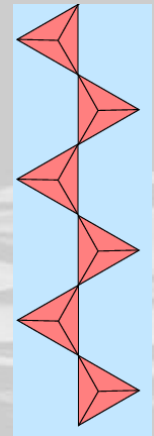
- Other components: Ca-silicates, Fe-Ni metal...

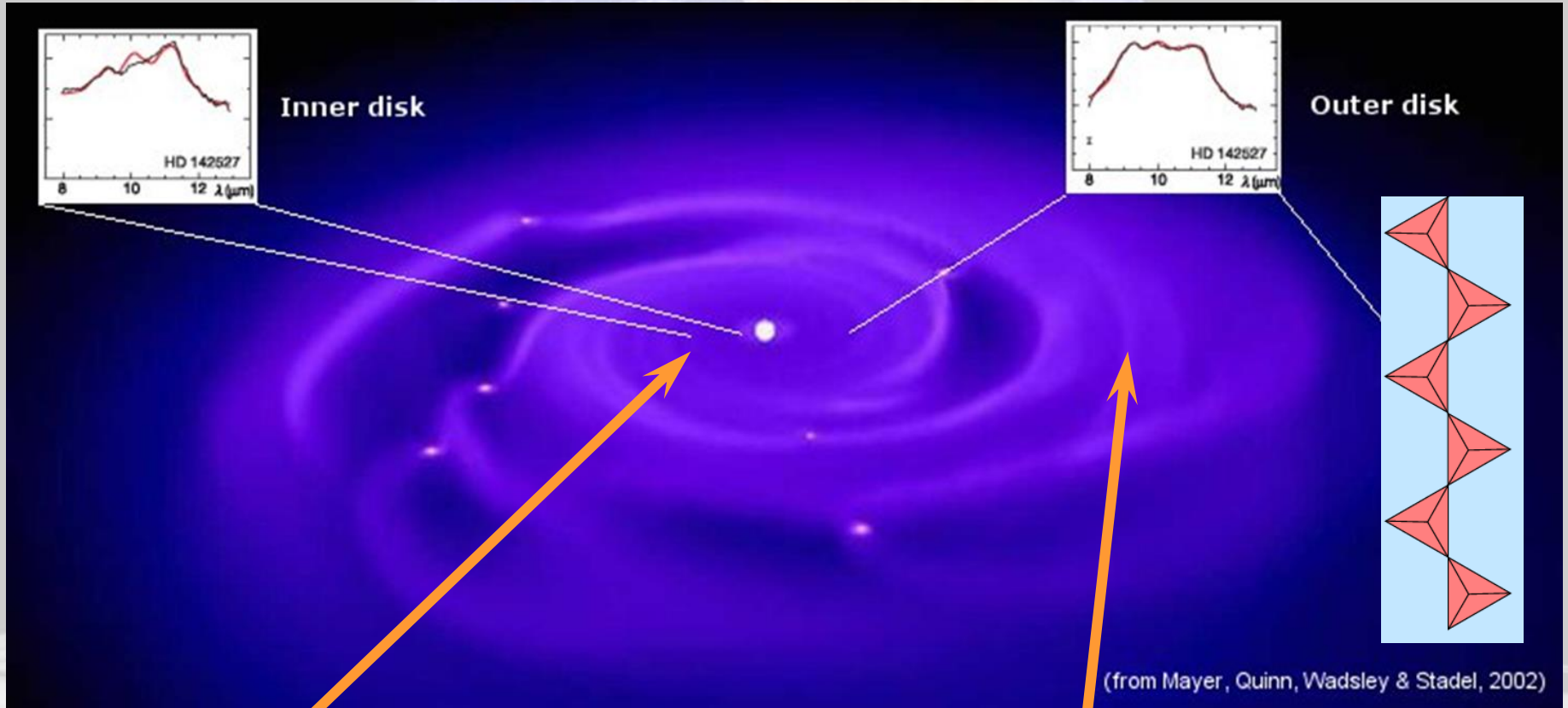
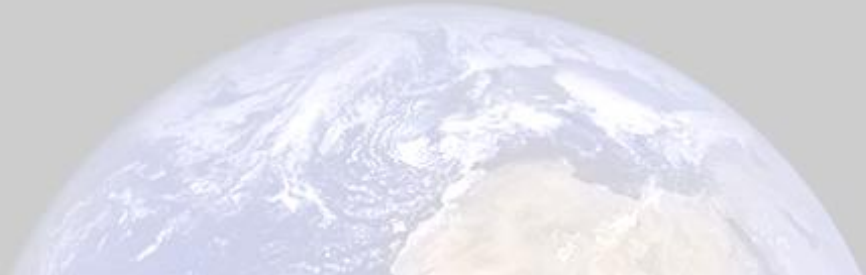


Olivin

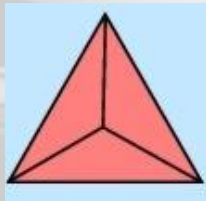


Piroxene



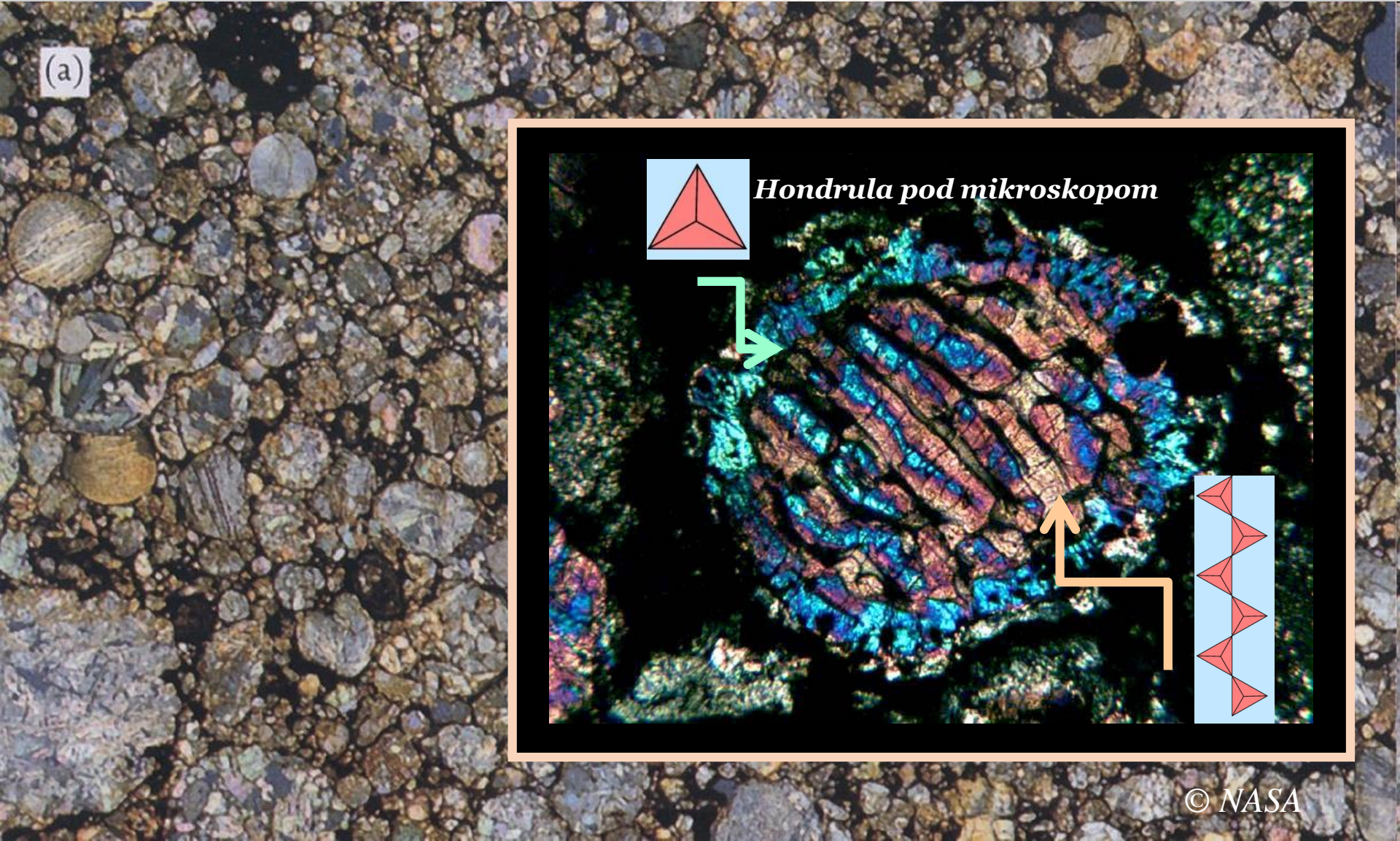


Olivin



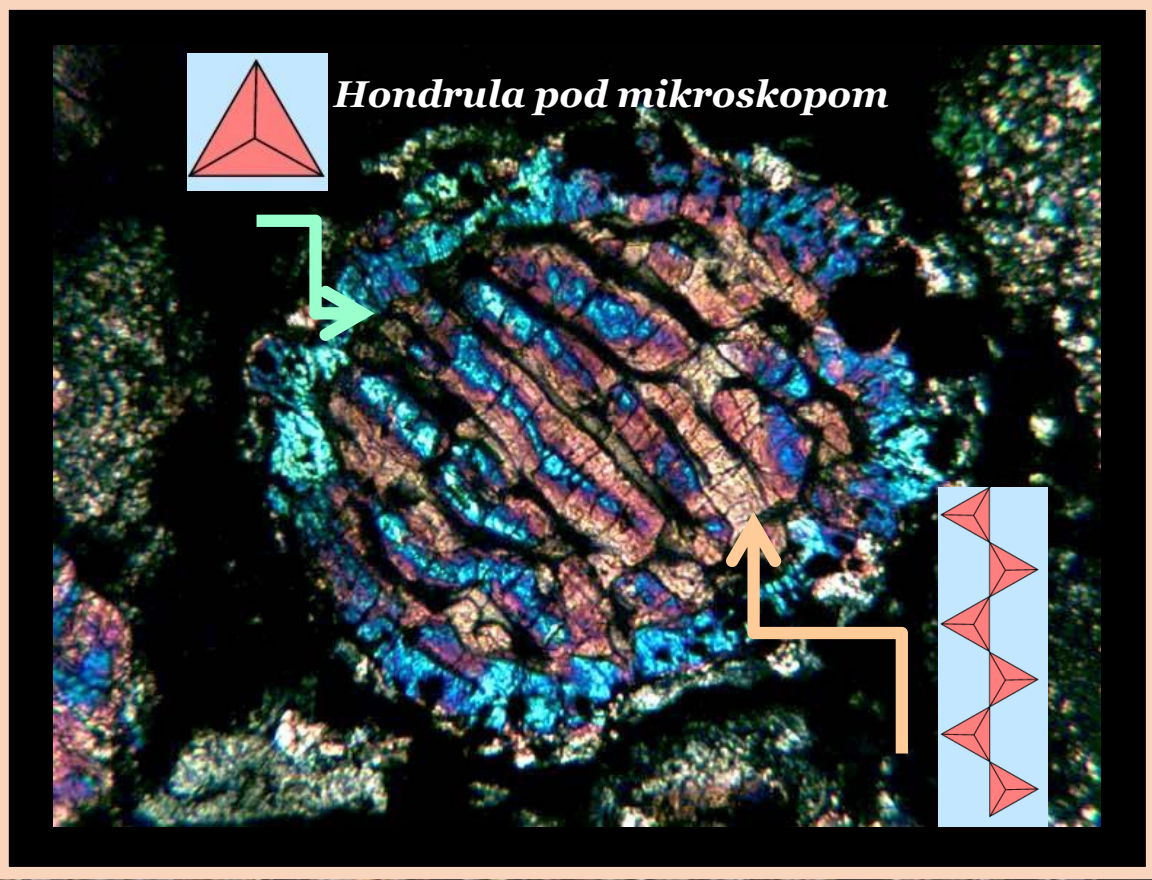
Olivin i piroksen

Chondrules: 1st silicate rocks



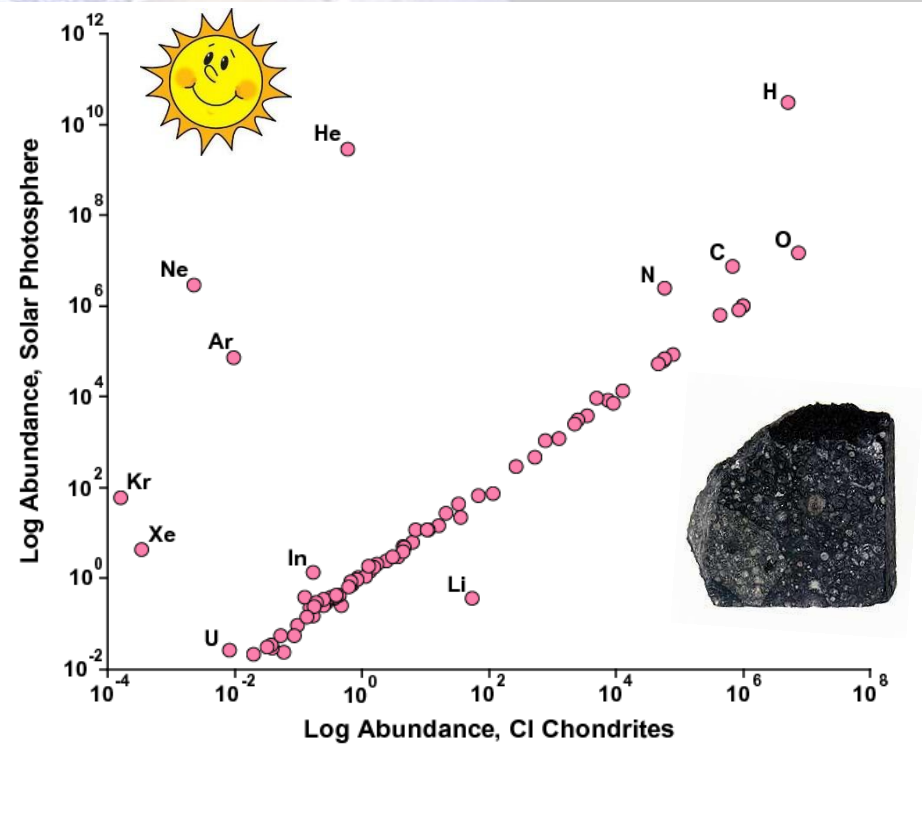
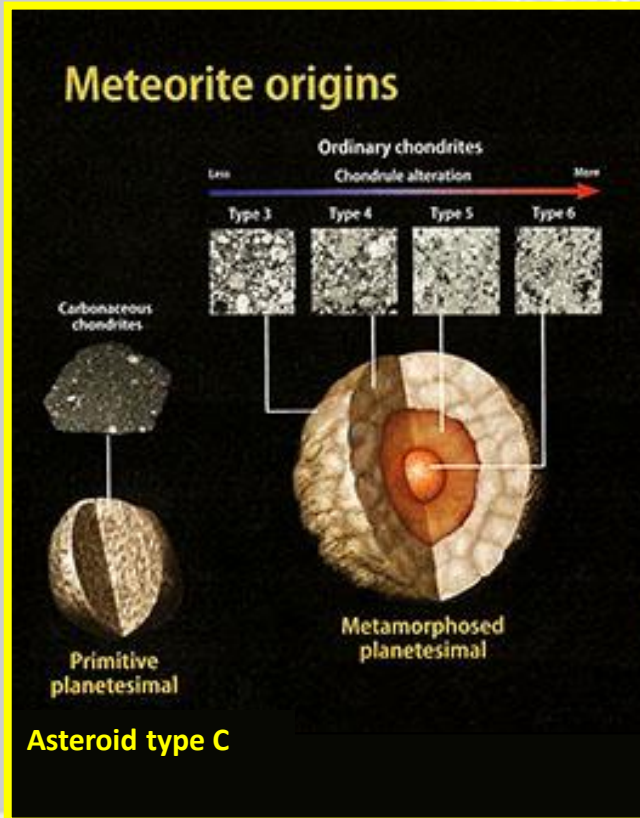
(a)

Hondrula pod mikroskopom



The diagram illustrates the internal structure of a chondrule. A green arrow points from a red triangular diagram to the chondrule's surface, and an orange arrow points from a vertical column of red triangles to the chondrule's interior.

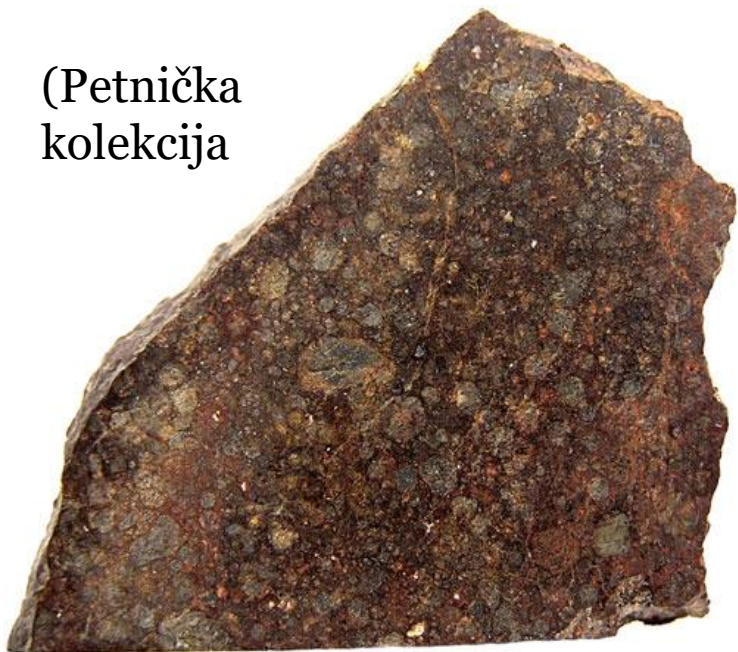
Undifferentiated meteorites: Chondrites



- The oldest meteorites in the SS
- Their bulk composition reflects the composition of the Sun
- Often used as reference material

Dhofar
(Ordinary Chondrite H)

(Petnička
kolekcija)



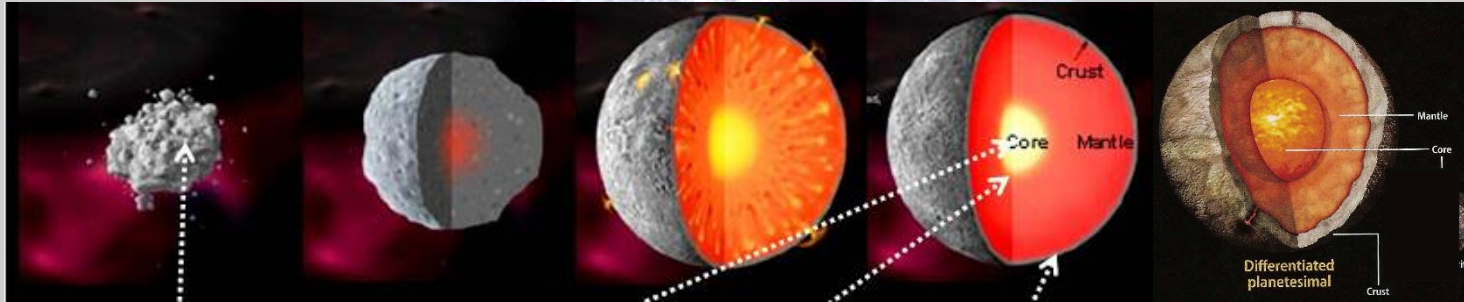
North West Africa
(Ordinary L)



North West Africa
(CO)



Planetesimal accretion

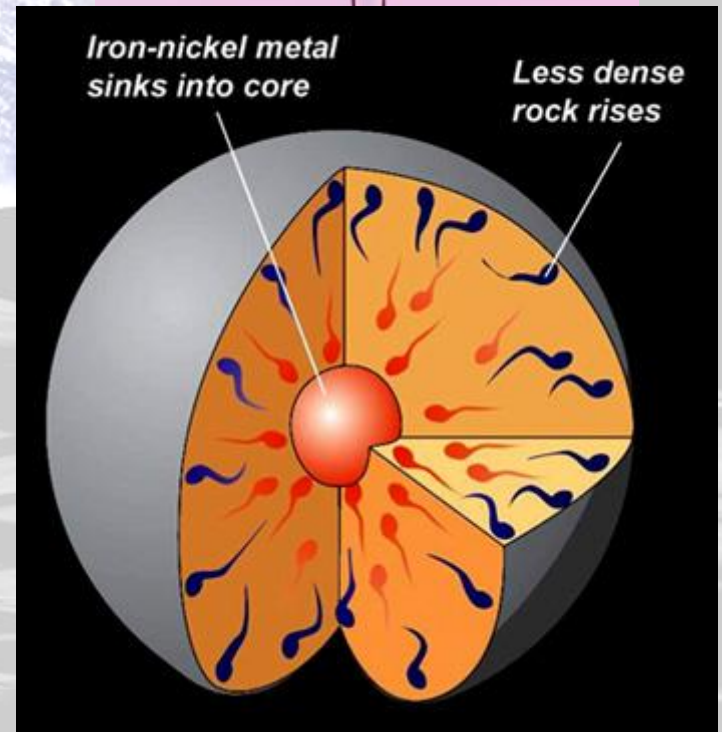


Differentiation

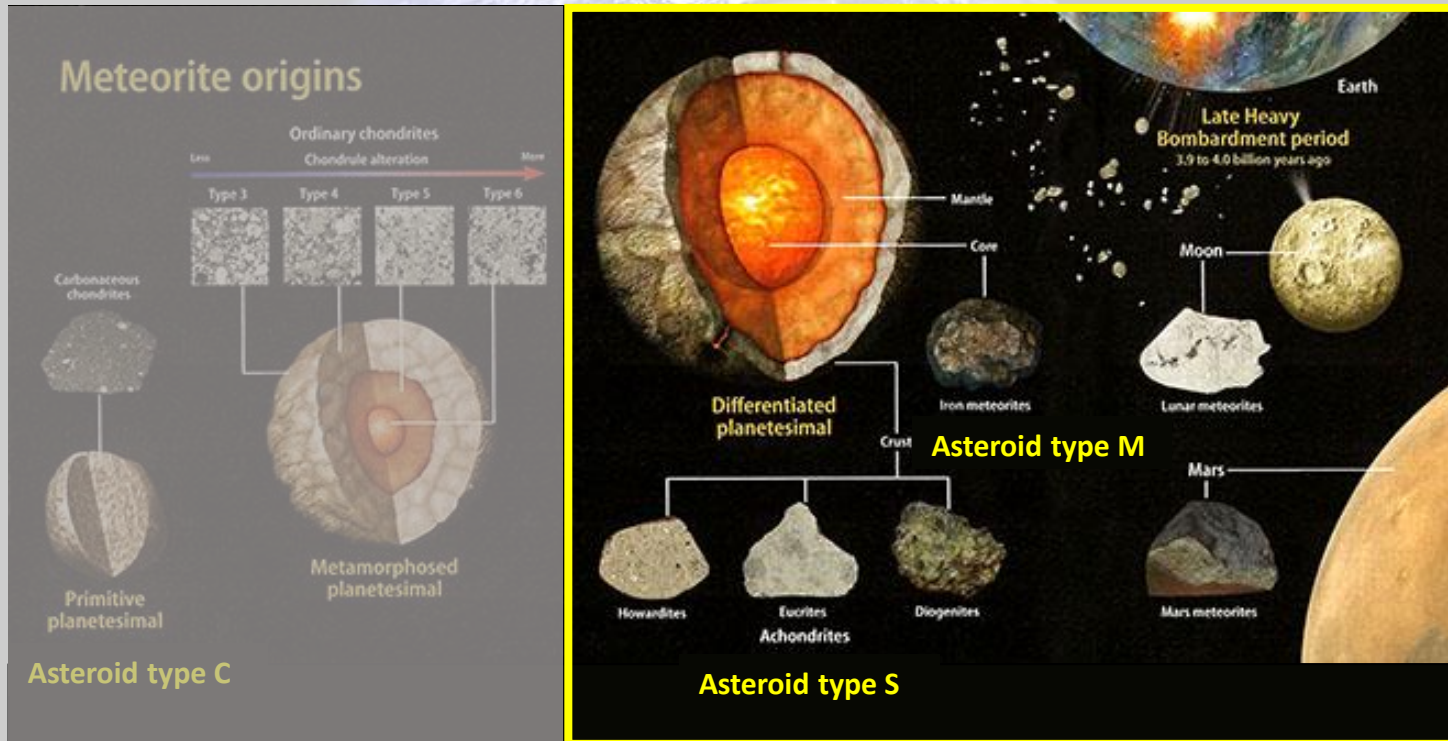
- Planetesimal accretion due to chaotic impacts – mass and size growth (up to 500 km in diameter)
- That leads to internal temperature increase
- ^{26}Al and other short-lived radioactive isotopes produce heat (e.g. daughter-isotope ^{26}Mg)
- Other sources of heat: impacts, collisions, gravitation & further accretion
- Melting of Fe-Ni ($\sim 1200\text{K}$) and silicates ($\sim 1300\text{K}$)

Formation of the protoplanets

- Silicate and metal liquids/melts are incompatible – causing separation and differentiation
- Metallic (Fe-Ni) melts are denser and sink to form a core
- Silicate melts (olivine, piroxene) melts migrate to the surface



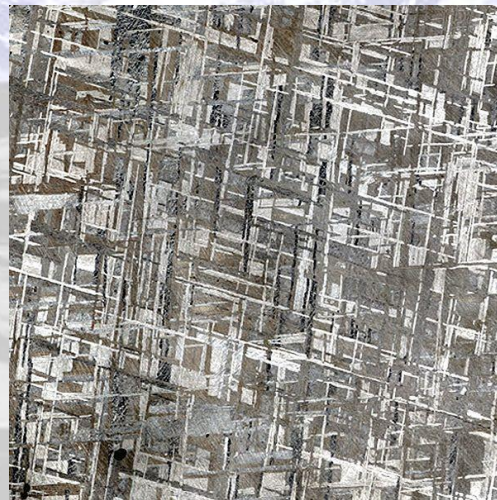
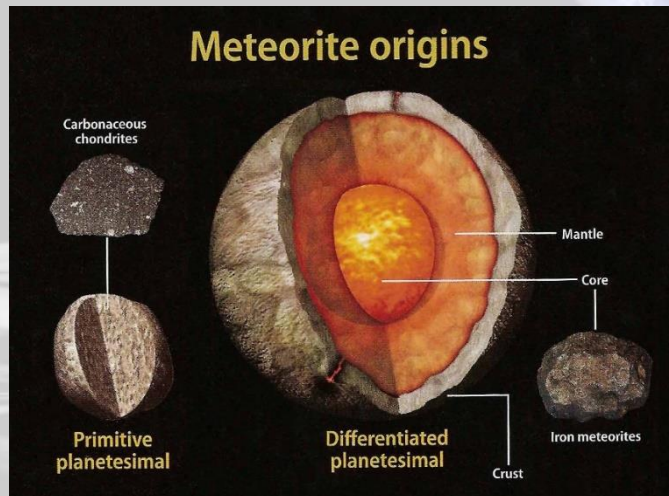
Differentiated meteorites



- Differentiated meteorites do not contain chondrules
- Only a minor (8%) group of total number of meteorites
- Mostly younger than chondrites

Differentiated meteorites: core and mantle

- Core and mantle of once existing protoplanets
- Core samples of destroyed protoplanets = **Iron meteorites**
- Mantle: contact of core and deep mantle
- Incompatible melts of metal and silicate:
- **Pallasite**(metal and olivine)
- **Mesosiderite** (rich in silicates)



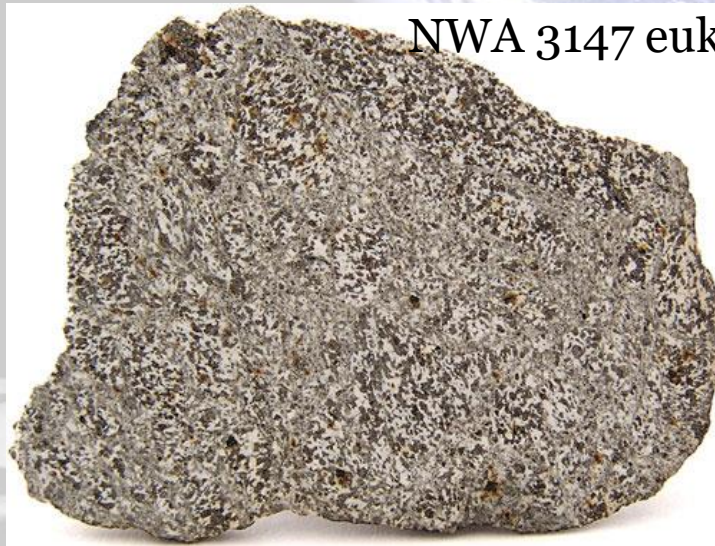
Gibeon, oktaedrit, 1836
Widmanstätten-Pattern



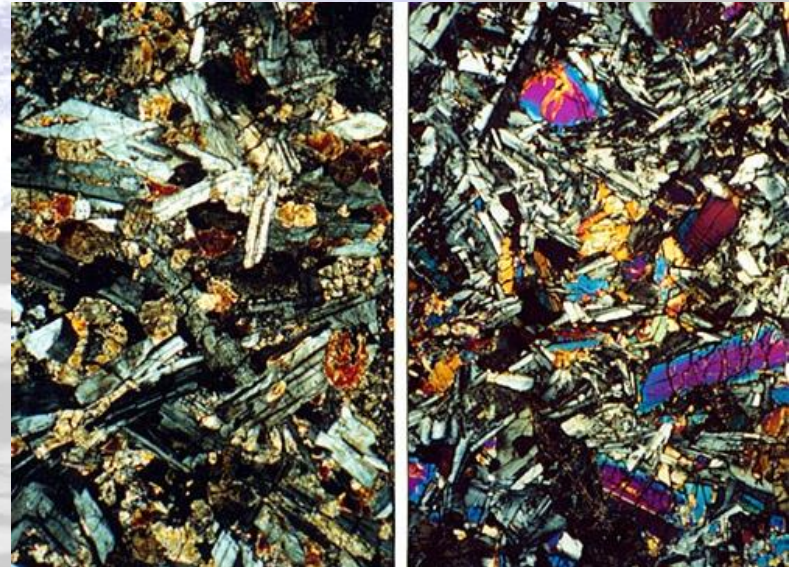
Palasit Fukang, China, 2000
1003 kg

Differentiated meteorites: crust

- **Achondrites:** Meteorites sampling asteroids' surfaces
 - HED (4 **Vesta**) Hovardite; Eucrite; Diogenite
- Originate from the surface of differentiated bodies – rich in silicates, depleted in metals
- Very similar to terrestrial basalts: volcanic textures



NWA 3147 eukrit

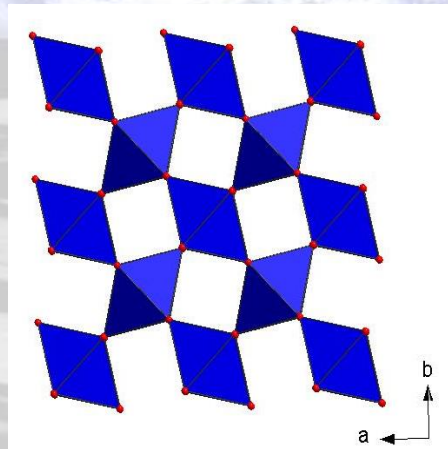
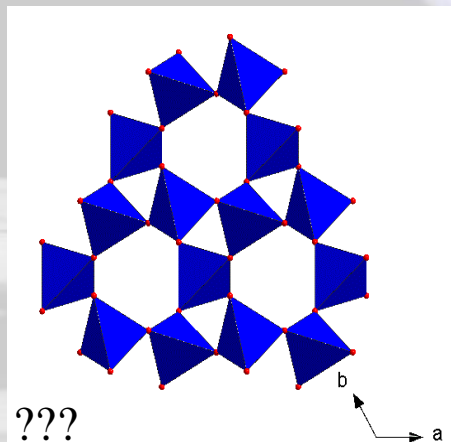


Textural similarity of the basaltic eucrite Stannern (left; pyroxenes white to gray; pyroxene, brown to buff) compared with a terrestrial basalt (right; same with highly colored olivine grains).

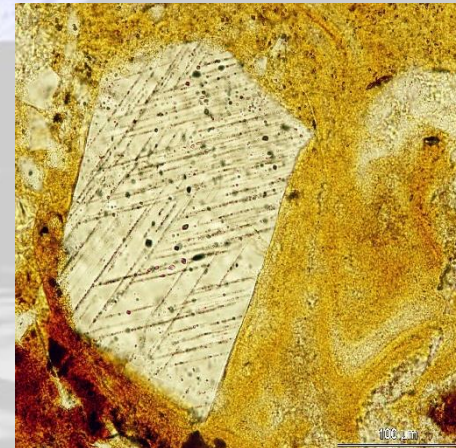
- Asteroid 4 Vesta
(asteroid belt, 530 km diameter)

Differentiated meteorites: crust

- **Lunar & Martian meteorites**
- **Lunar (138 meteorites, 222 kg):** blasted of <20 Ma ago, but mostly few hundred thousand, small craters
- Many originate far from PKT (low Th)
- **Martian (124):** wide range of crystallization ages, launched in last 20 Ma
- Noble gasses composition (Ar) confirmation of Mars atmosphere
- *Shergottite, Naklithe i Chassignite different groups*
- *ExoMars possible sample return 2030*



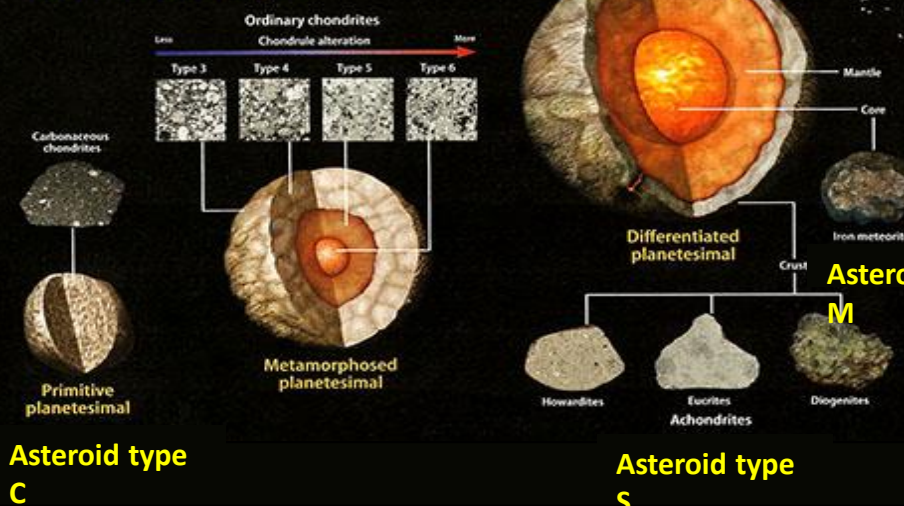
stishovite



Shocked quartz

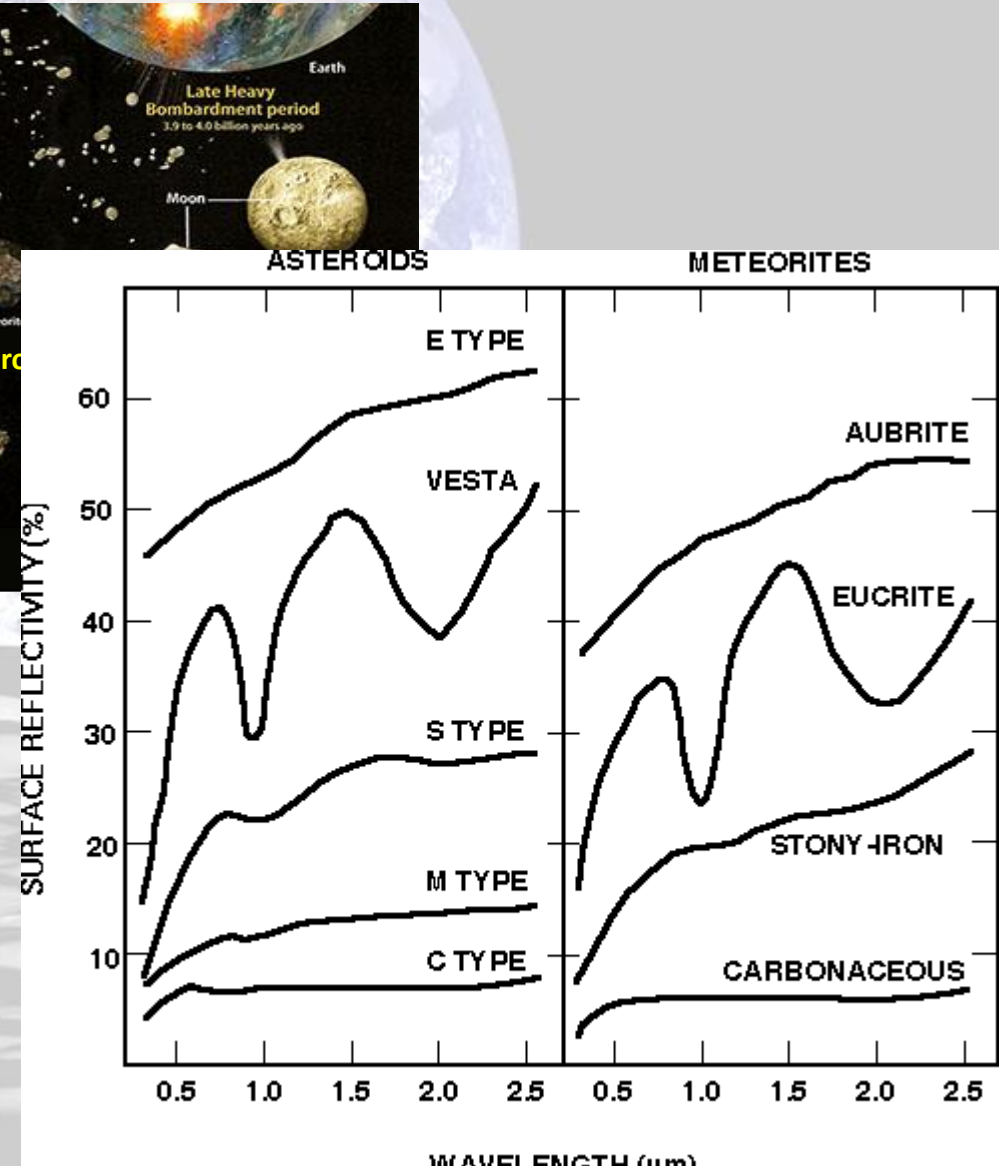
SUMMARY

Meteorite origins

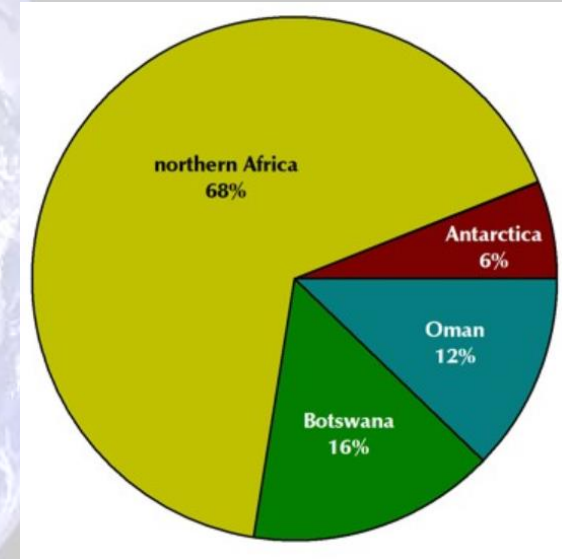
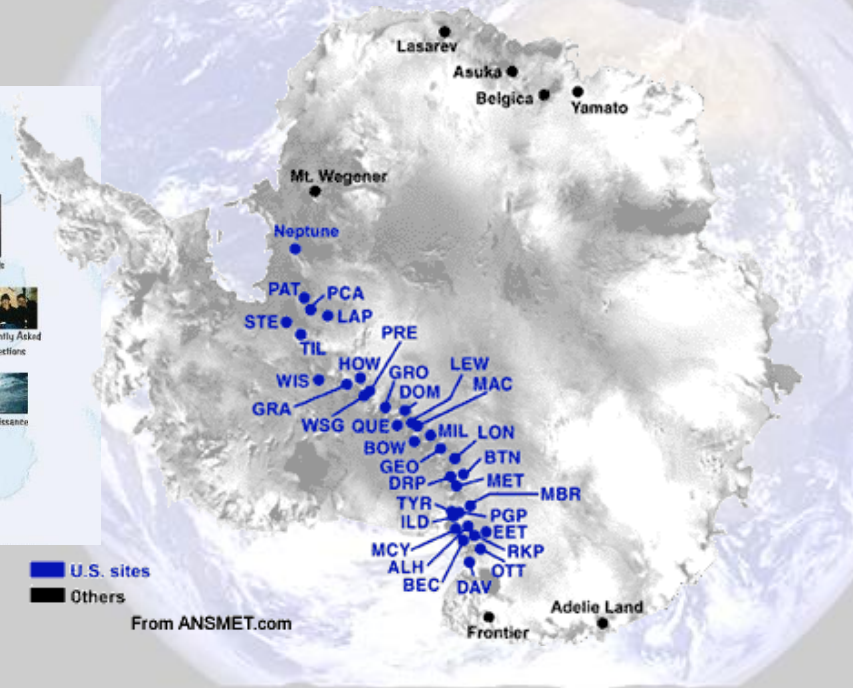
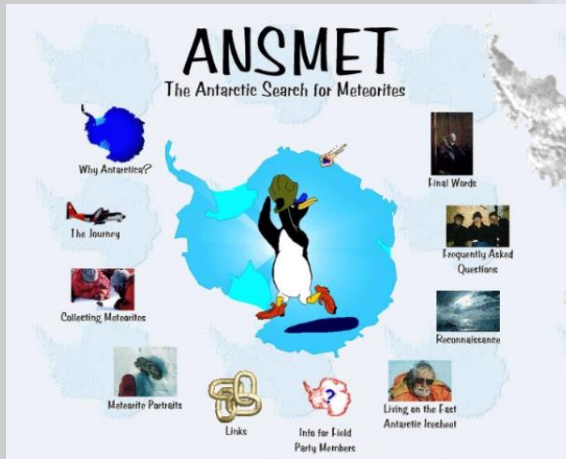


Asteroid type C

Asteroid type S



Collecting meteorites systematically

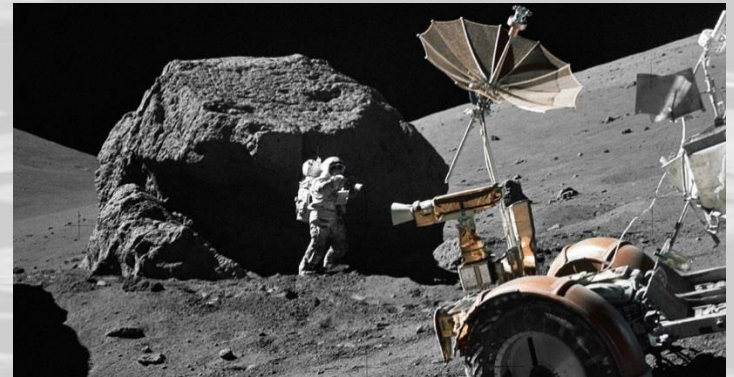


- Until 1978 only about 3000 meteorites around the world
- Antarctic, Sahara, Botswana missions
- Micrometeorites collected in snow ice and deep sea sediments

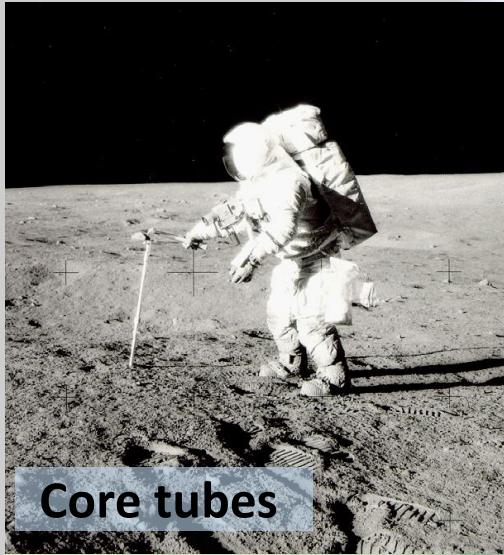
It was the year 1969...



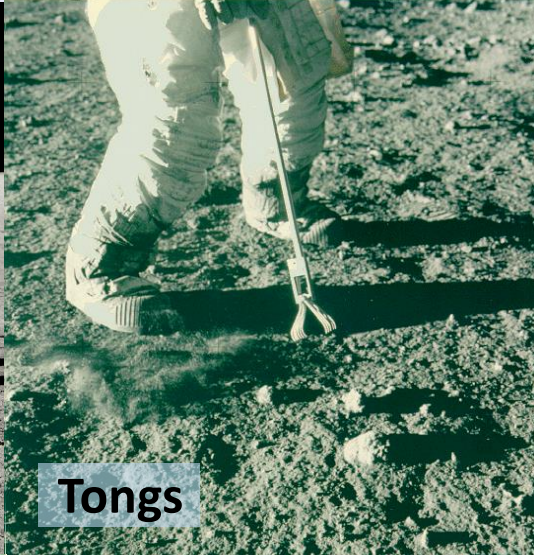
- Fireball Feb 8th 1969, Pueblito de Allende
- 2 tons of meteorite (largest piece 110kg), covering 50km area
- Served as laboratory preparation for Apollo missions (Apollo 11 July 1969)
- Best studied meteorite CAIs & organic matter



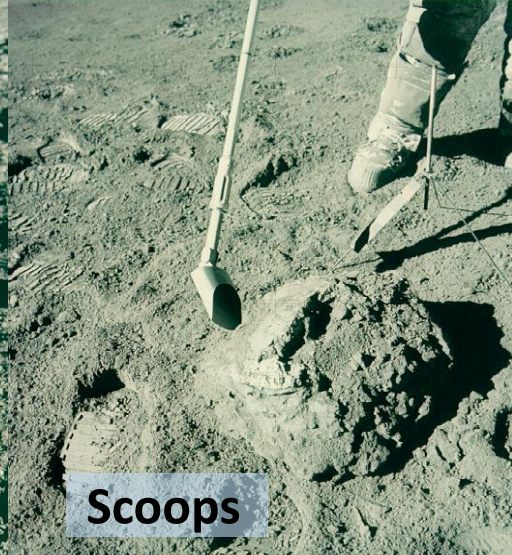
Lunar samples



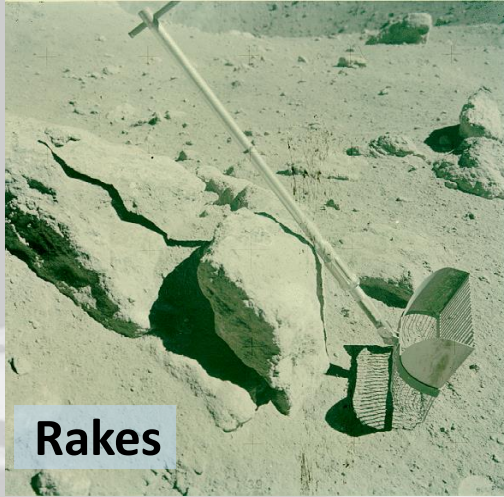
Core tubes



Tongs



Scoops



Rakes



Hammers



Drills

Apollo 15
Station 8

ALSEP

Mt. Hadley

Swann Hills

Hadley Delta

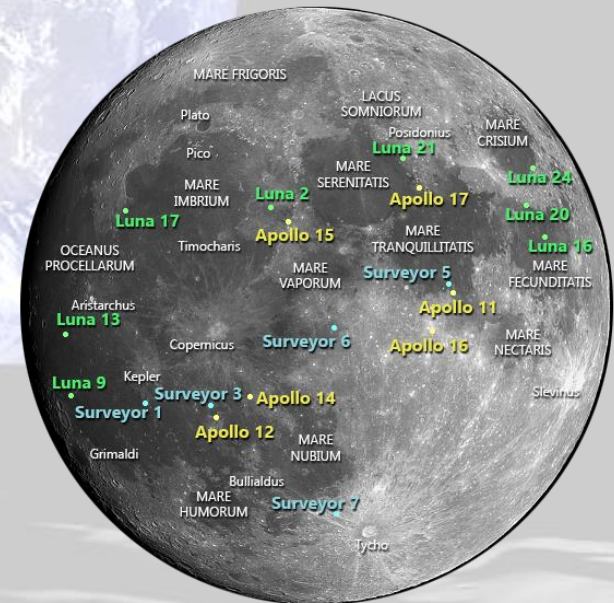
LM

LRV

Trench (Samples 15013, 15030-15034, 15040-15044)

Sample return

- **Luna sample return:** Luna 16, 20 and 24 collected 0.3 kg of lunar soil
- **Apollo sample return:** Six Apollo missions ~382 kg of **rocks** and soil
 - Apollo 11 22kg (basalts and breccias)
 - Apollo 12 34 kg (almost all basalts)
 - Apollo 14 42 kg (mostly breccias)
 - Apollo 15 76 kg (basalts and breccias)
 - Apollo 16 96 kg (mostly breccias)
 - Apollo 17 111 kg (highland samples and breccia)

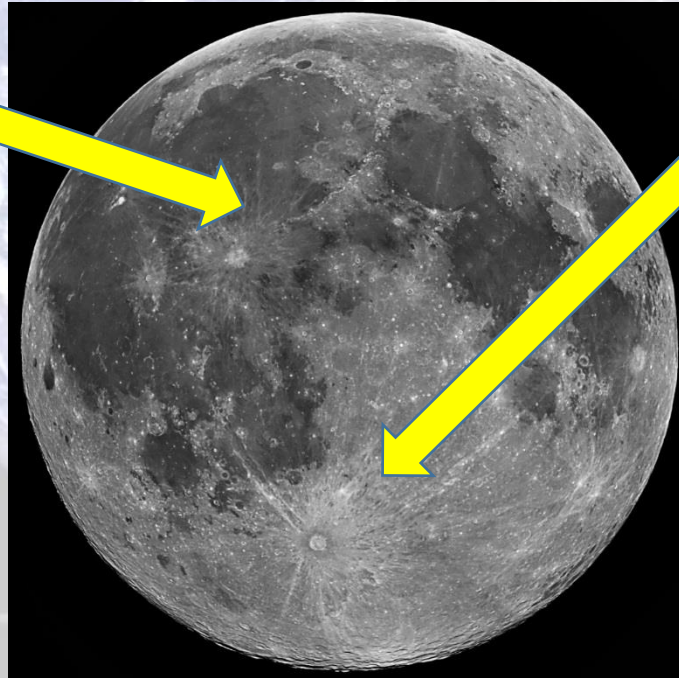


Apollo 17 - a geologist on board; focused selection of the acquired samples

Geology of the Moon

Maria:

- Dark in colour
- Basalts (cooled lava)
- Younger



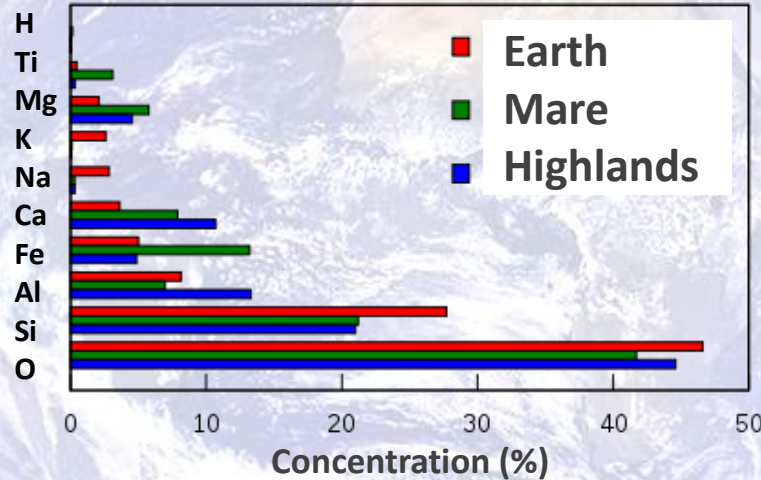
Highlands (crust)

- Light in colour
- Represent lunar crust
- Several different types of rocks
- Ancient

- To understand where the difference comes from, we have to consult mineralogy

Intro to mineralogy

- These are the most abundant elements on Moon & Earth
- Elements are combined into inorganic (crystalline) compounds **i.e. minerals**
- Minerals join together to form a rock



- **Useful analogy:** letters form words, words form sentences
- Rocks are like sentences – we read geologic history by understanding the meaning of each word and their context

Important for

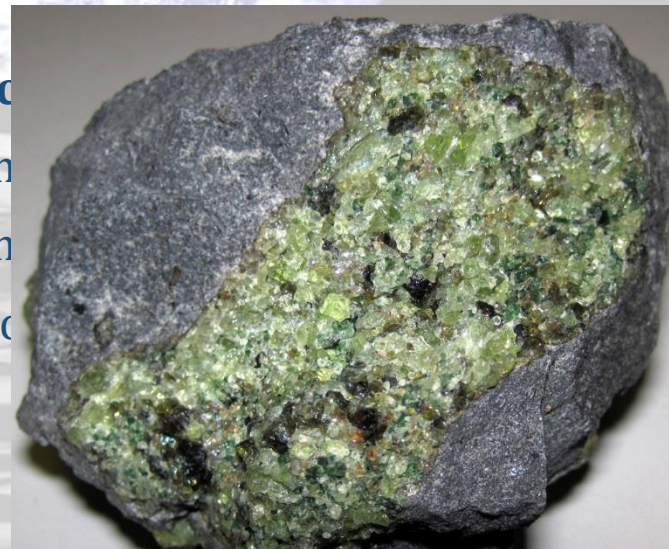
- Si, Al, Fe, Ca
- Note the high
- Note the low (volatile)



Mineral (olivine) on its own

Rock

omm
on (m
on Mo



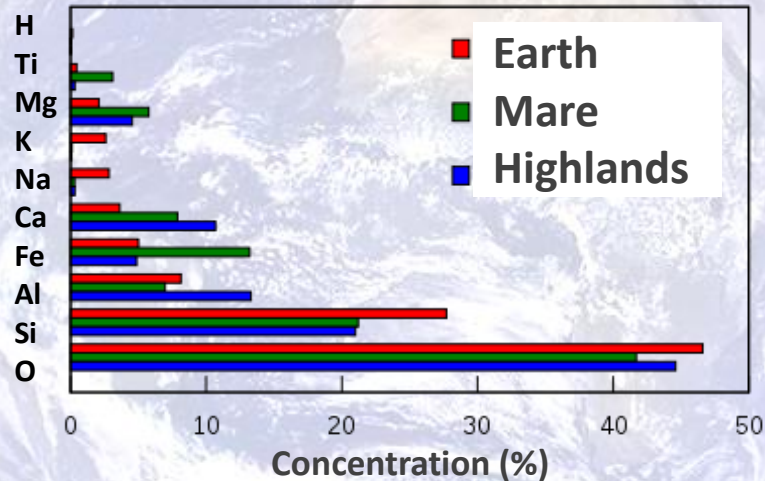
Mineral (olivine) with other minerals

moon

i.e.

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Moon crust:

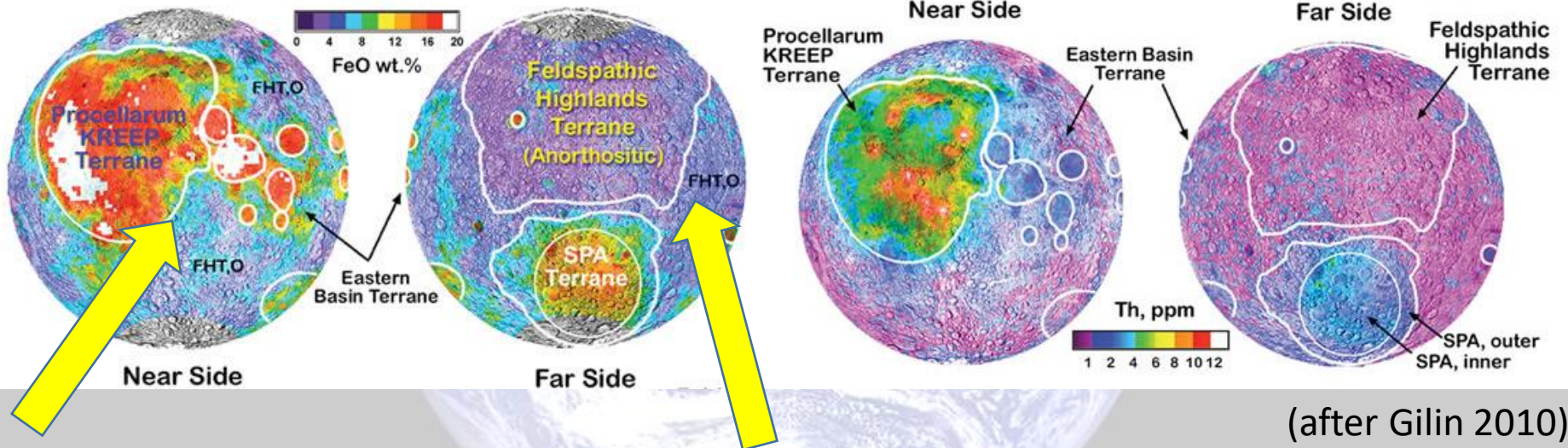
Common minerals:

Earth crust:

Common minerals:

- The fact that the **Moon has only a handful** of different minerals
- Moon's history is frozen in time – processes in early Solar System

Surface rocks



(after Gilin 2010)

Maria (ca. ~3.9-3.2 Ga, and younger)

Minerals:

- Pyroxene (**black** or green)
- Ilmenite (**black**)
- Olivine (green)
- Some plagioclase (white)
- A **LOT** of accessory minerals

Rocks:

- Mare basalts, KREEP basalts, and volcanic glasses

Crust (ca. 4.5 – 3.9 Ga)

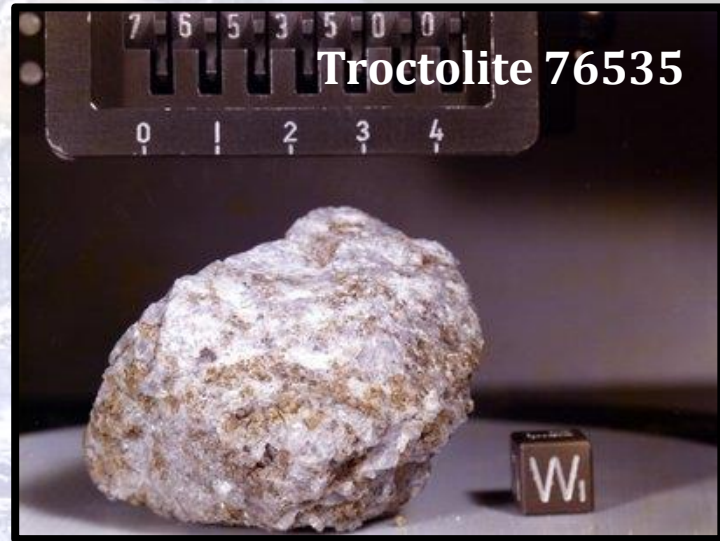
Minerals:

- Dominantly plagioclase (**white**)
- Some pyroxene (black or green)
- Some olivine (green)
- Some accessory minerals

Rocks:

- Primary crust – anorthosite (plagioclase)
- Secondary crust – Mg suite, alkali suite

Surface rocks



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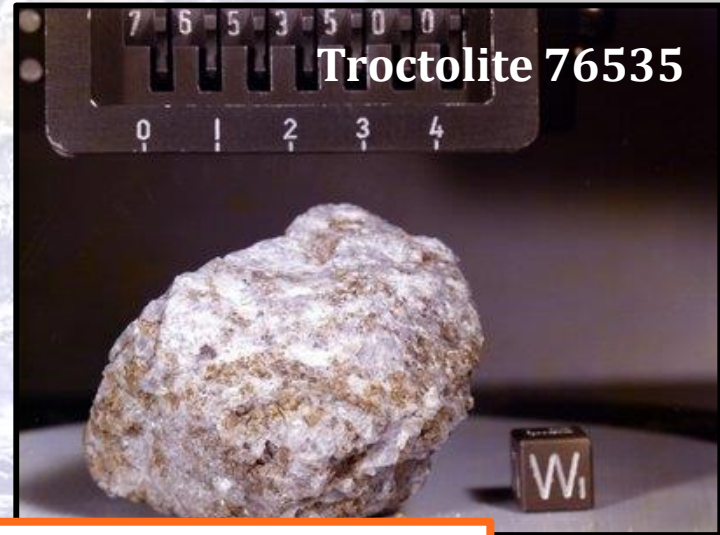
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Rocks:

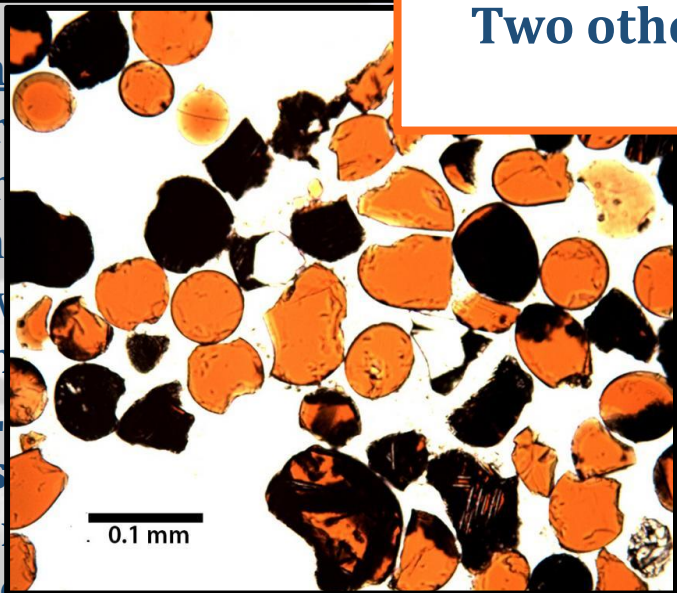
- Primary crust – anorthosite
- Secondary crust – Mg suite, alkali suite

Surface rocks



Two other important types of rocks

- Maria
- Miner
- Pyr
- Ilm
- Oliv
- Sor
- A L
- Rocks
- Ma
- vol
- Var



Orange volcanic glass



Breccia

(younger)

Analysing rocks

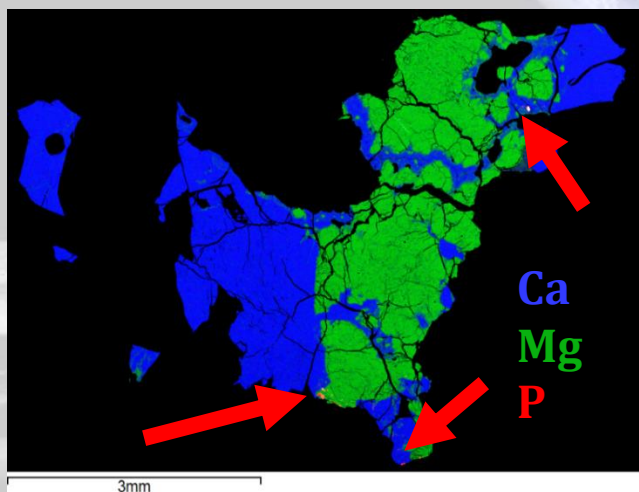


- Rocks are like sentences – we read geologic history by understanding the meaning of each word and its context
- **Thin-sections of rocks** to read the story
- **Texture, composition and reactions** (solid-state transformations)

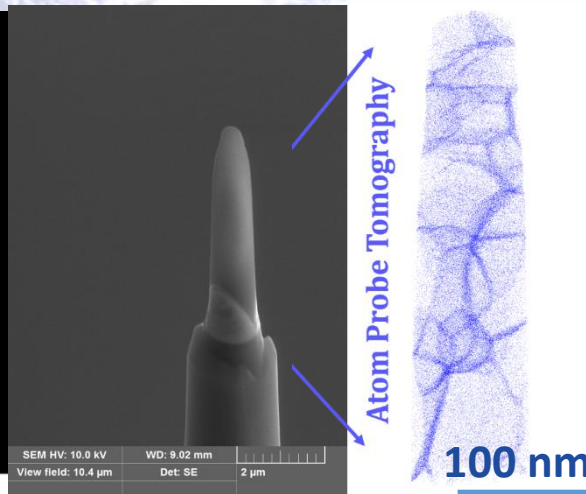
<https://www.virtualmicroscope.org/content/12039-45-pigeonite-basalt>

Analysing rocks

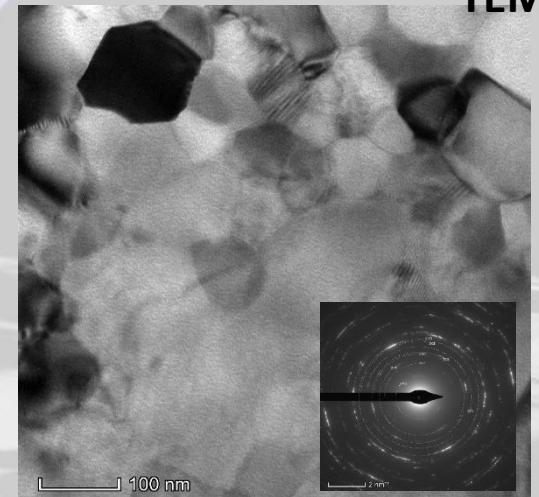
- ✓ Thin sections, *in situ* mineral analyses
- ✓ Secondary Electron Microscopy (SEM); Electron Microprobe Analyser (EPMA) – **elemental abundance**
- ✓ Electron Backscatter Diffraction (EBSD), Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM) to understand (IR, Raman) **crystal structure**
- ✓ Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometry (SIMS) for **isotopic species (e.g. H and D; oxygen isotopes, U-Pb age)**
- ✓ Atom Probe Tomography (**nm-scale elemental & isotopic composition**)



EDS



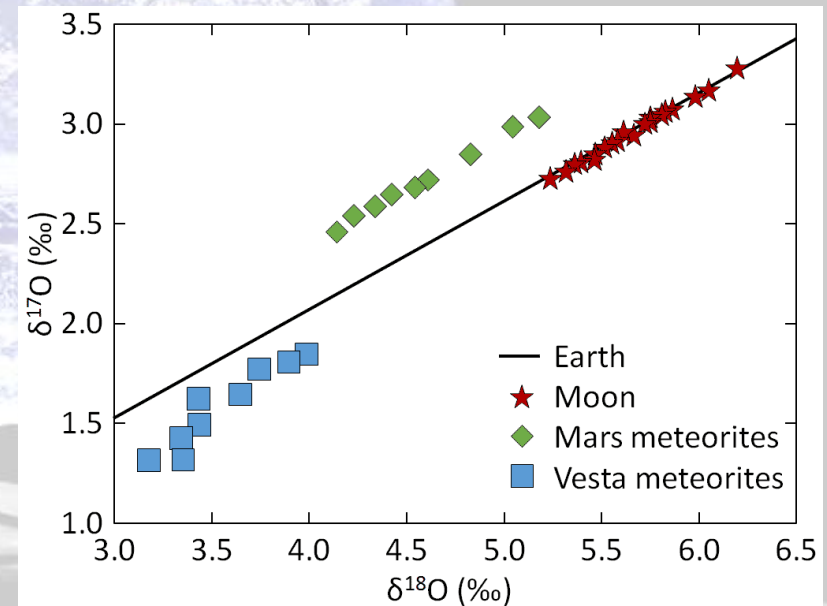
Mg



TEM

What do surface rocks tell us?

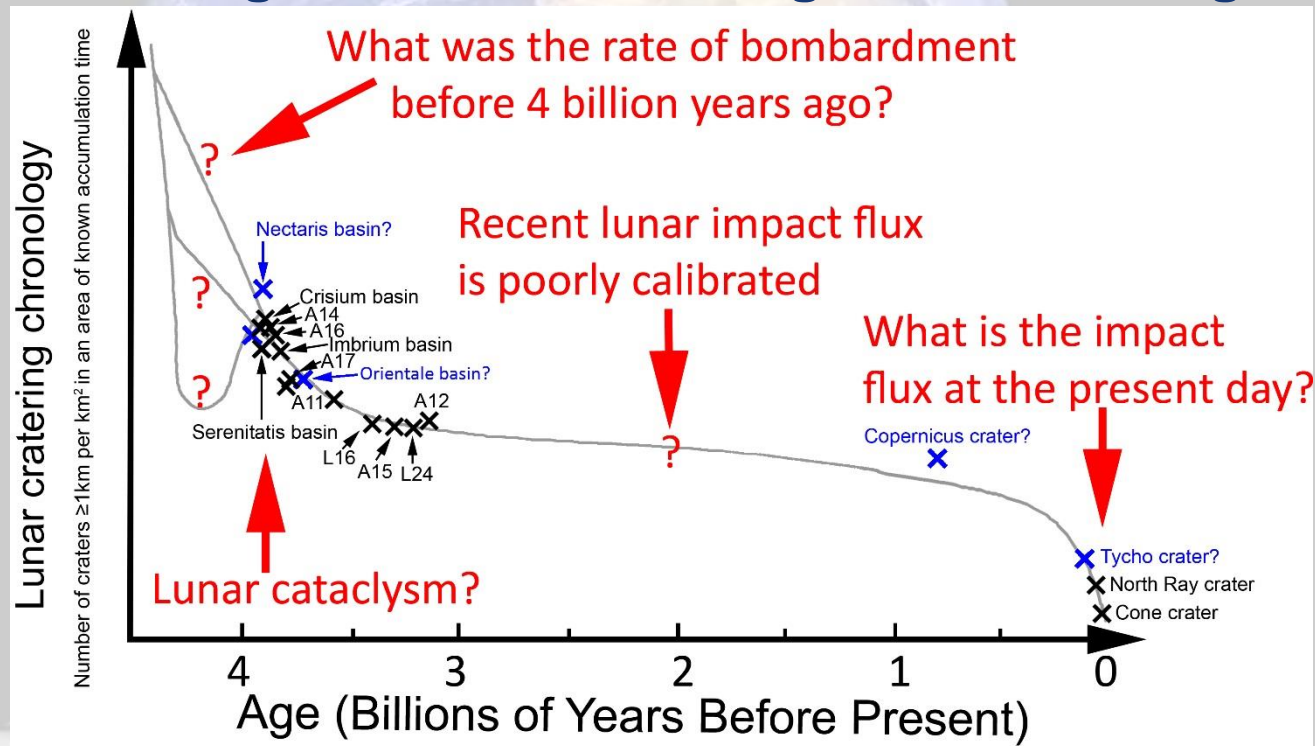
- Constraints on the Moon-forming impact (e.g. oxygen isotopes)
 - Pre-Apollo: Co-accretion; Fission; Capture
 - Post-Apollo: Giant-impact (with variations of impact-origin)



- Apollo samples have virtually identical isotopic signatures compared to Earth rocks for isotopes of O, Cr, Ti, K, Si and H (water), in contrast to all meteorites
- lunar rocks and terrestrial basalts show a 3 to 4 ppm (parts per million), statistically resolvable, difference in oxygen isotopes (Greenwood et al. 2018) – highest achievable precision up to date!

What do surface rocks tell us?

- Derive the age of the crater forming and crater filling events



Credit: K. Joy adapted from the Stoffler et al. (2006)

- Absolute ages on Apollo samples tied to specific lunar craters
- Concept of Late Heavy Bombardment (LHB)
- Application to age dating of surfaces of other bodies in the inner Solar System

What do surface rocks tell us?

- New clues about water & volatile content of the lunar interior

Early-Apollo: 'bone-dry' Moon (<1 ppb H₂O)

- Lack of hydrous minerals in Apollo and Luna samples (Papike et al. 1998)
- Any water detected considered terrestrial contamination (e.g., Epstein and Taylor, 1970)
- Lack of global remote sensing data & high-resolution mass spectrometry until recently

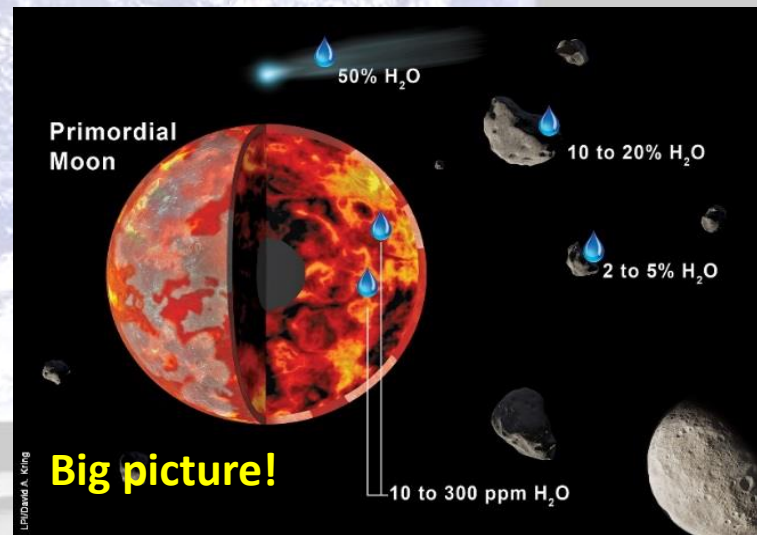
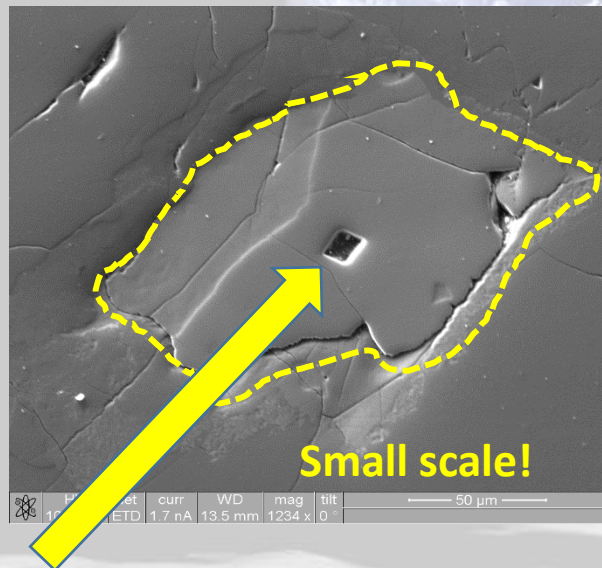


What do surface rocks tell us?

- New clues about water & volatile content of lunar interior

Early-Apollo: 'bone-dry' Moon's interior (<1 ppb H₂O)

Current estimates: > 10 – 300 ppm (Earth's mantle-like)



(e.g. Saal et al.,
2008 Nature;
Hauri et al.
2011 Science;
Barnes et al.
2014; 2016;
etc.)

Mineral apatite ($\text{Ca}_5(\text{PO}_4)_3(\text{OH},\text{Cl},\text{F})$ contains H₂O)

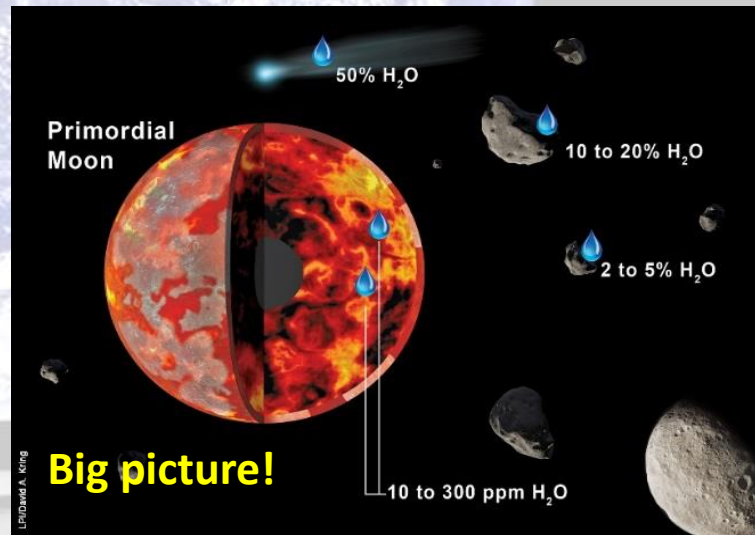
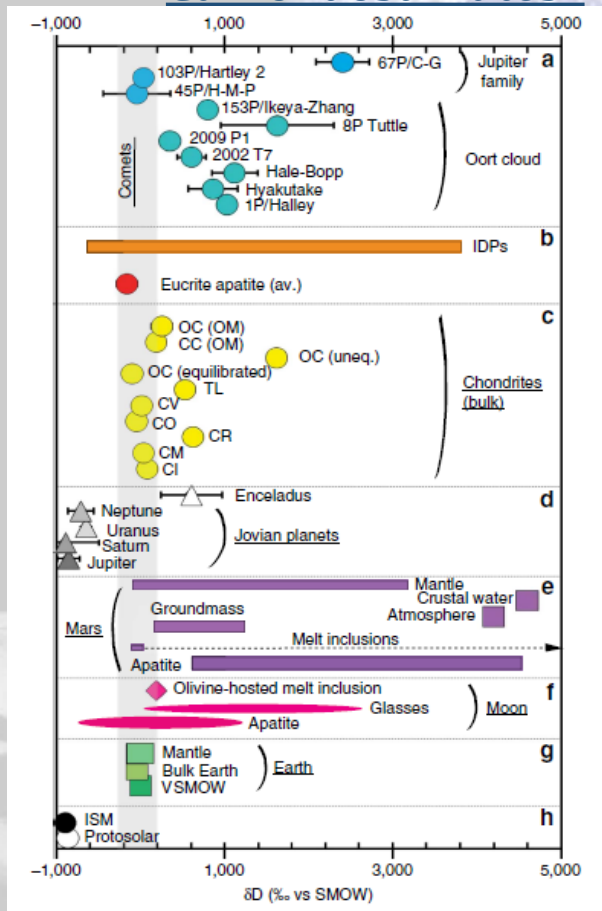
H₂O abundance was measured from this small 10x10 μm pit using very high-resolution mass-spectrometry (instrument named Nano-SIMS)

What do surface rocks tell us?

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(e.g. Saal et al., 2008 Nature; Hauri et al. 2011 Science; Barnes et al. 2014; 2016; etc.)

- Current data and models agree with the delivery of volatiles to the Moon mainly by C chondrite-type asteroids (=very primitive material) with minor input from comets

Summary and Future Directions



- Almost 50 years on, Apollo lunar samples continue to yield valuable data about the origin and evolution of the Moon and the inner Solar System.
- Major concepts (e.g., magma ocean; giant-impact; LHB) in Planetary Sciences have been developed through research on Apollo samples.
- **Uniformity of δD between mantles of Earth, Moon, and HED (Vesta) parent body argues for a common origin for water in the inner Solar System**
- Returned samples allowed remotely sensed data to be properly calibrated, interpreted and expanded to areas from which no samples have been yet returned
- **Information from these studies would provide key input to future sample return missions from different target bodies (e.g, Phobos, Moon, Mars, Benu).**
- Careful curation and distribution of Apollo sample by NASA CAPTEM has played a key role in maximising science outputs from analytical advances.
- A large proportion of Apollo samples remain sealed (e.g., drive tubes). Time to open some of these in light of recent research? **One core just got open!**

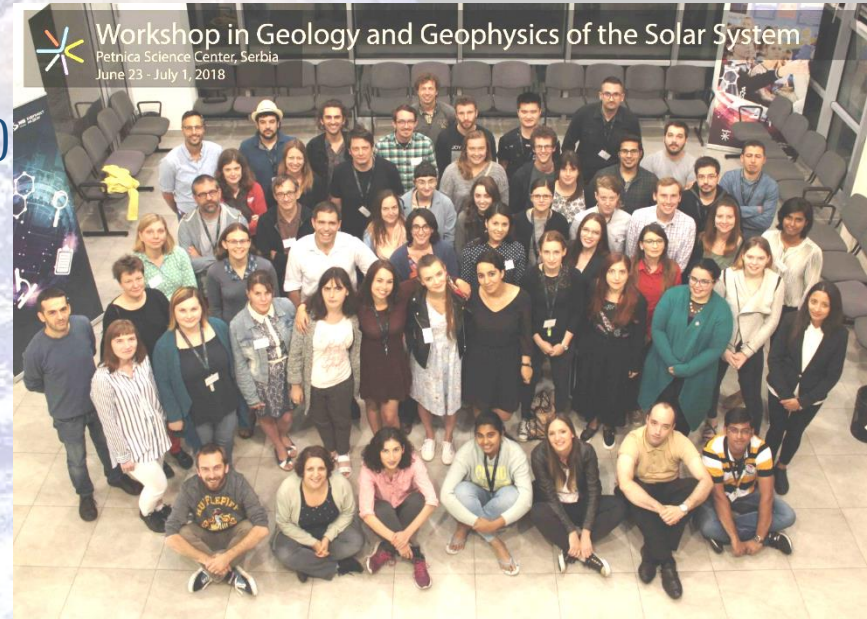

Reklame!

Školica u ISP

(planirano 2020)

$29.04 \text{ g} + 0.31 + 0.44 = 29.79 \text{ g}$

01. Lancon / France 1897, 0.31g	02. Bath / Dacotah 1892 0.44g
03. Powder Mill Creek/1887 Tennessee 12.4 g	04. Morristown Hamblen/1889 Tennessee 7.24 g
05. Merceditas/Chili 1884 2.6 g	06. Hex river/1882 Afrique Australe, 6.8 g



Meteoriti na PMFu i izložba meteorita:
Alena & Nataša

eur PLANET

Europlanet u Srbiji



Unique characteristics of lunar rocks:

- No unique chemical elements on Moon, but unique ratio and hence mineral composition
- Moon has a handful of major minerals; no major minerals that contain water (like micas on Earth)
- Earth has more than 1000 minerals, and about 150 major minerals
- Moon has very low Na and K
- Moon has Fe^{2+} iron (Earth has mostly Fe^{3+})
- Abundant Ti
- Cosmogenic nuclides (CRE)



Thank you!



Ana Černok
Open University
School of Physical Sciences
ana.cernok@open.ac.uk



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