



*Represents work performed as part of the MRO Project
at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, under contract with the
National Aeronautics and Space Administration*



Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO)

The Next Step in Mars Exploration



ATLAS V-401

LOCKHEED MARTIN



MRO

LOCKHEED MARTIN



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA



The Mars Science Strategy: "Follow the Water"

- When was it present on the surface?
- How much and where?
- Where did it go, leaving behind the features evident on the surface Mars?
- Did it persist long enough for life to have developed?

W

Life

Understand the potential for life elsewhere in the Universe

A

Climate

Characterize the present and past climate and climate processes

T

E

R

Geology

Understand the geological processes affecting Mars' interior, crust, and surface

When
Where
Form
Amount

Prepare for Human
Exploration

Develop Knowledge & Technology
Necessary for Eventual
Human Exploration



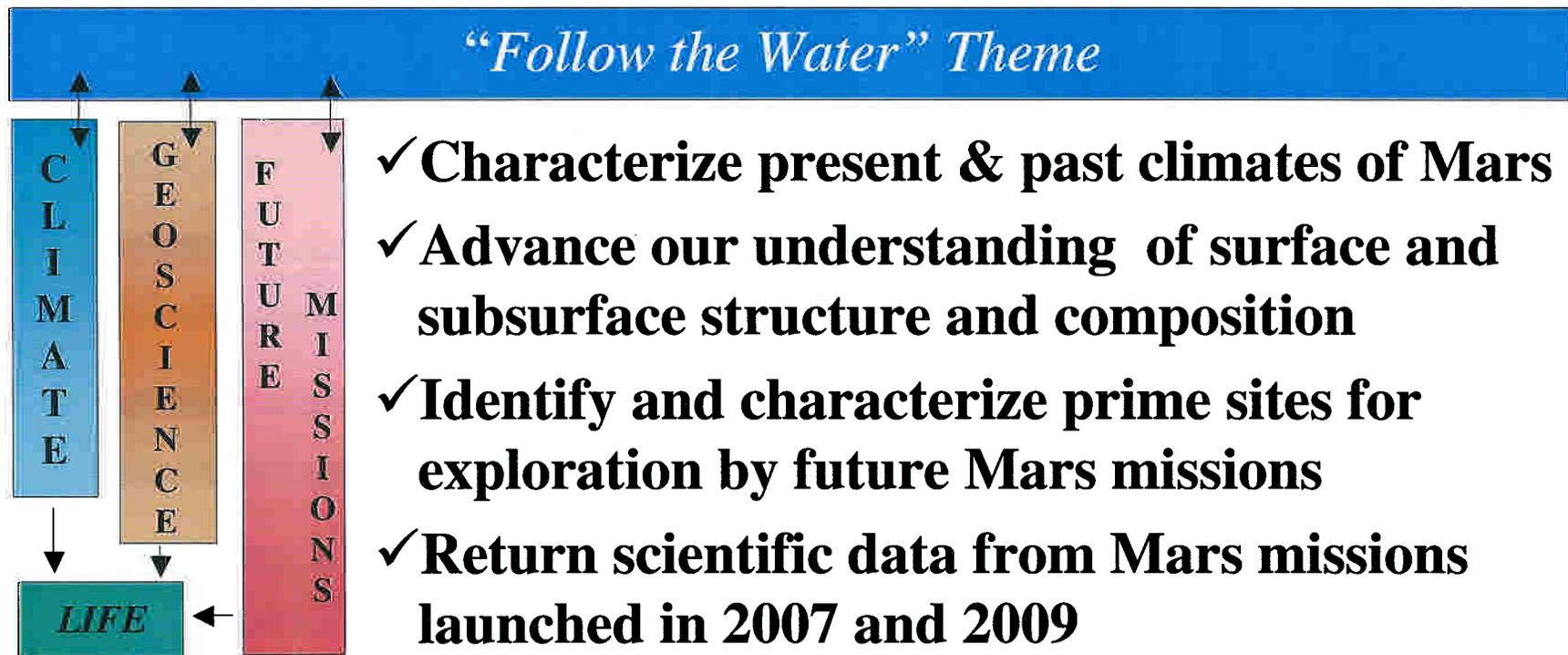
Mars Exploration Program

MRO Science

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter



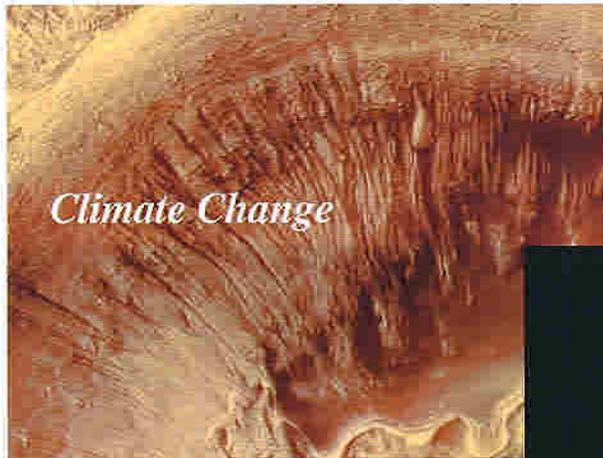
The Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) Mission will make a major advance in our understanding of Mars in the context of the NASA Mars Exploration Program



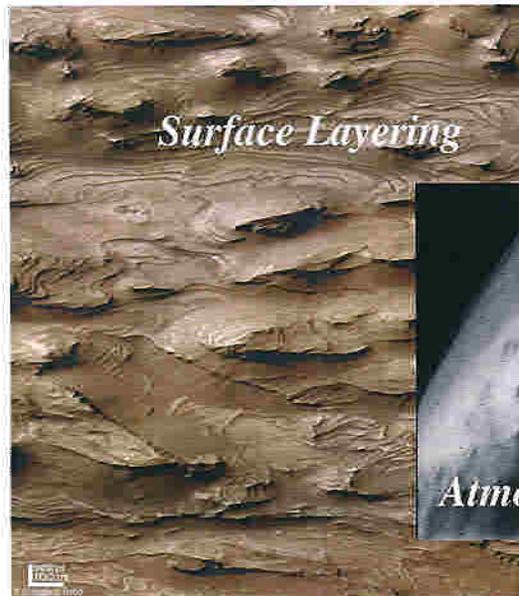
Mars: A Complex Planet

MRO Science

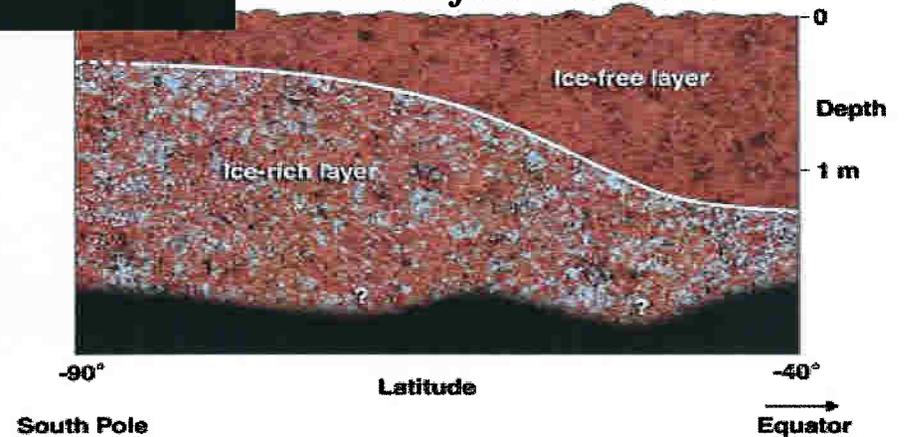
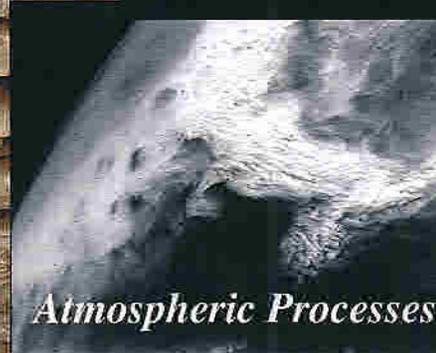
Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter



Comparative Planetology



Subsurface Reservoirs





- **Competed S/C: LMA**
- **Competed Launch Vehicle**
- **Competed Payload**
 - MCO: MARCI, MCS
 - MRO AO: HiRISE, CRISM
 - **FACILITY: CTX, SHARAD**
 - **PI/TLs: M. Malin, D. McCleese**
A. McEwen, S. Murchie, R. Seu
G. Keating, M. Zuber, R. Phillips
- **Launch: August 2005**
 - **Arrive: March 2006**
 - **Aerobraking: 6 months**
- **Science Mission: Dec '06 - Dec '08**
 - **Capability to extend 1 Mars Year**
- **Relay Support: Aug '08 to Dec '10**



Science Objectives

- **Map Water & Dust in the Present Climate**
- **Identify Sites with Aqueous Minerals/Sediments**
- **Resolve Detailed Surface Stratigraphy**
- **Explore the Solid Planet (radar & gravity)**
- **Identify Sites for Future Landed Missions**



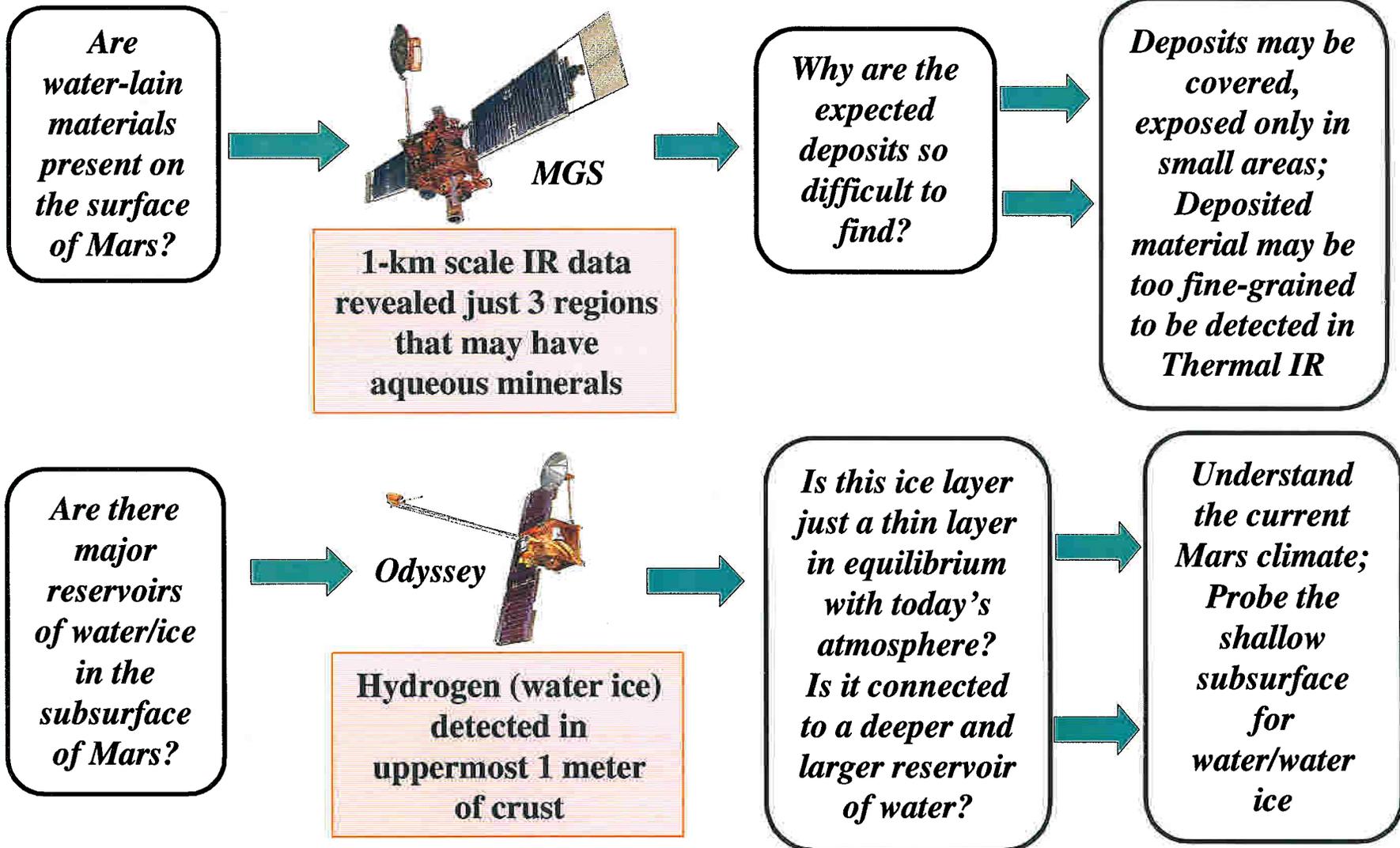
MRO Following the Water: Major Questions Remain

- ***Were there ancient seas, lakes, or springs?***
 - => Survey planet for sites showing mineralized sediments (e.g., hydrates & carbonates), which may also preserve biosignatures <= CRISM
 - => Observe surface layering & geologic structure <= HiRISE, CTX, SHARAD
- ***What is the nature of layered terrain?***
 - => Characterize deposits at poles & elsewhere <= HiRISE, CRISM, CTX, SHARAD
- ***Are there subsurface water/ice reservoirs?***
 - => Search for signs of near-surface water release or active hydrological systems (“springs”, gullies, mineral deposits) <= CRISM, HiRISE
 - => Probe shallow subsurface for layering and water/water ice <= SHARAD
 - => Detect release of water vapor from ground sources <= MCS
- ***Are hydrothermal systems active today?*** <= HiRISE, CRISM, CTX
- ***Where are ice and dust accumulating today?***
 - => Characterize water & dust transports & surface changes <= MCS, MARCI, CRISM
 - => Monitor polar processes <= MCS, MARCI, CTX

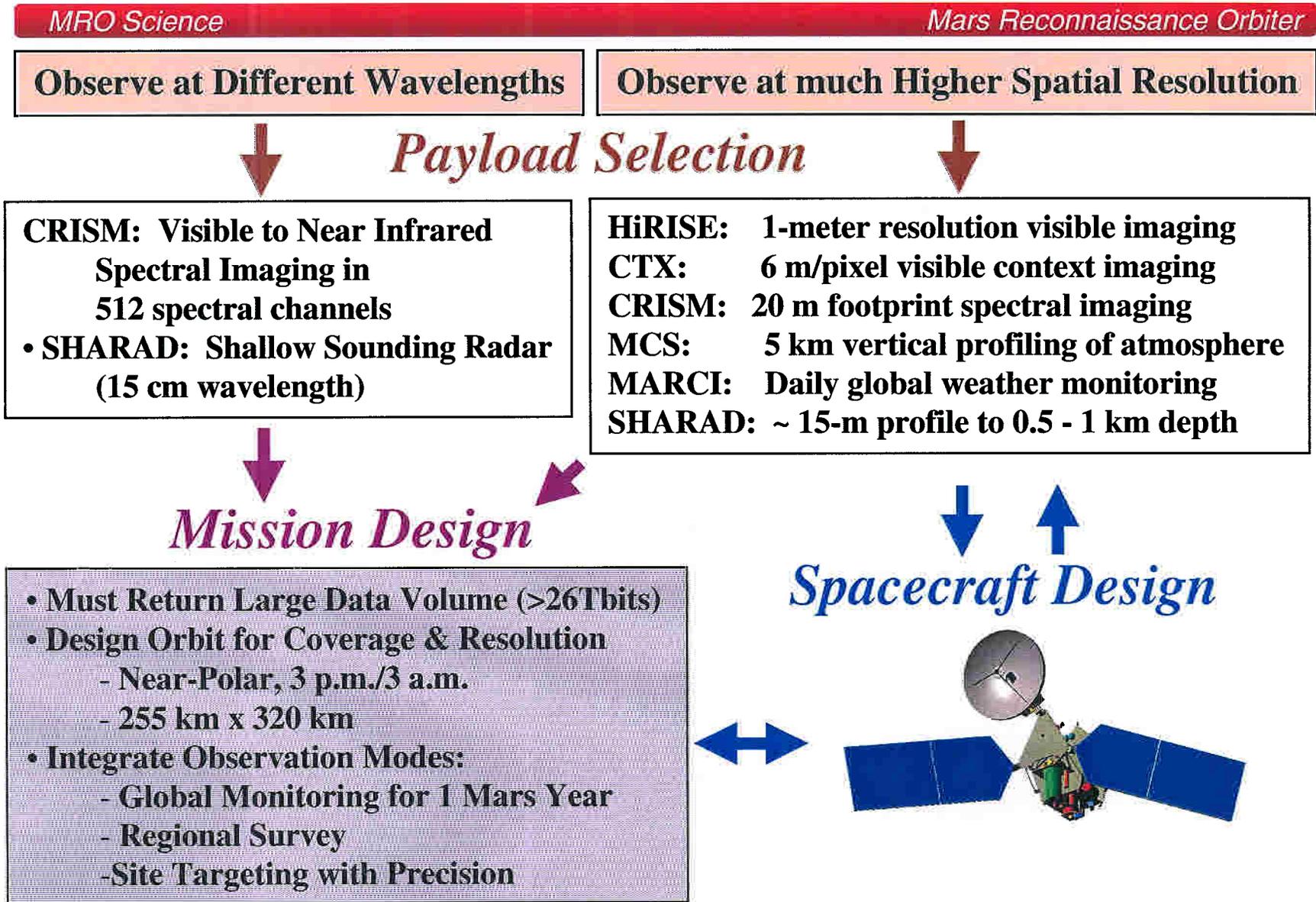
Science Pathways: Two Key Examples

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Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter



Science Mission Drivers



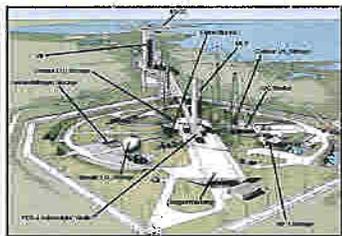
Mission Overview

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Launch

Aug 2005



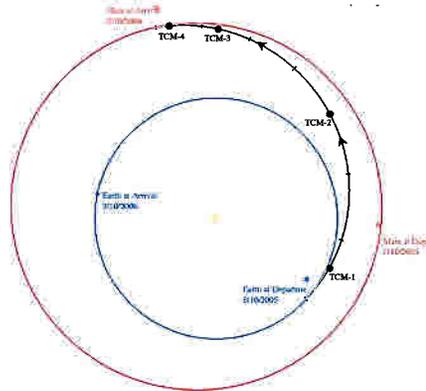
LC-41



Atlas V-401

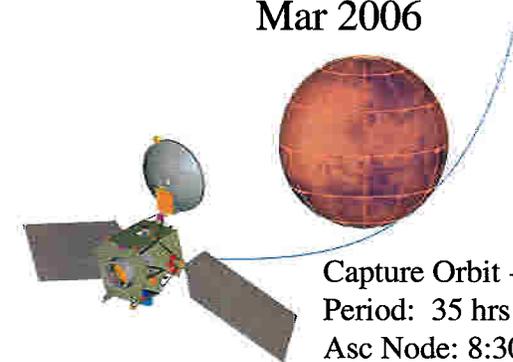
Interplanetary Cruise

Aug 2005 - Mar 2006



Approach and Orbit Insertion

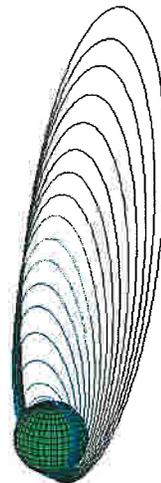
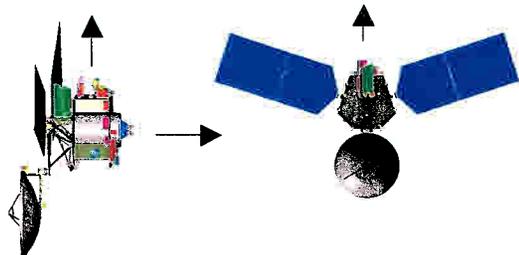
Mar 2006



Capture Orbit ---
 Period: 35 hrs
 Asc Node: 8:30 pm LMST

Aerobraking

Mar-Nov 2006

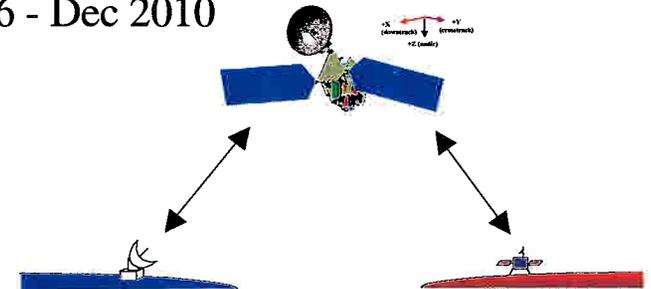


Primary Science/Relay

Dec 2006 - Dec 2010



Science Data
 Acquisition/Return



Primary Science/Relay Orbit ---
 Period: 112 min
 Hp: 255 km Ha: 320 km, Frozen
 Ascending Node: 3:00 pm LMST (Sun-Sync)

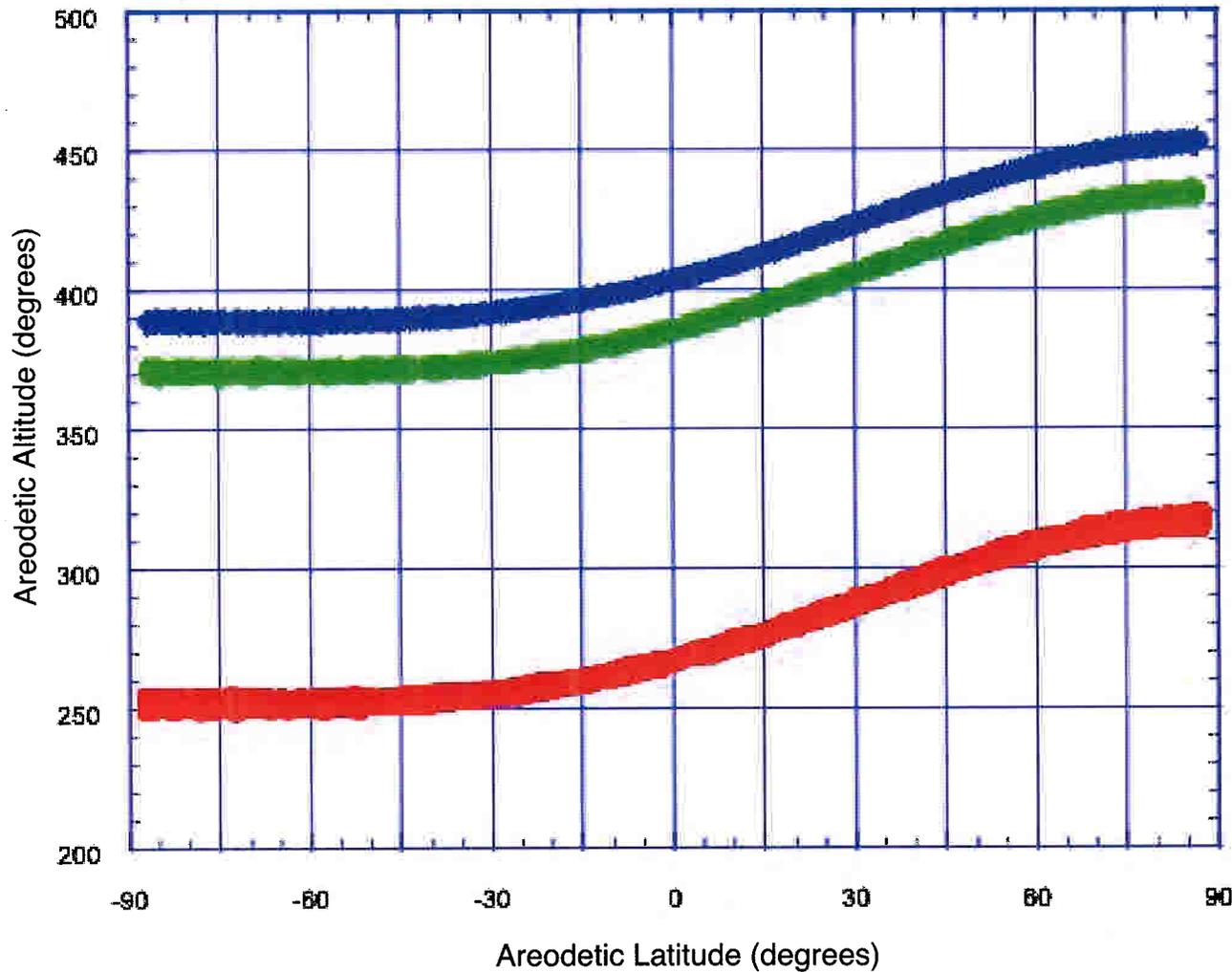


MRO, MGS, and Odyssey Science Orbits



Mission and Navigation Design

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter



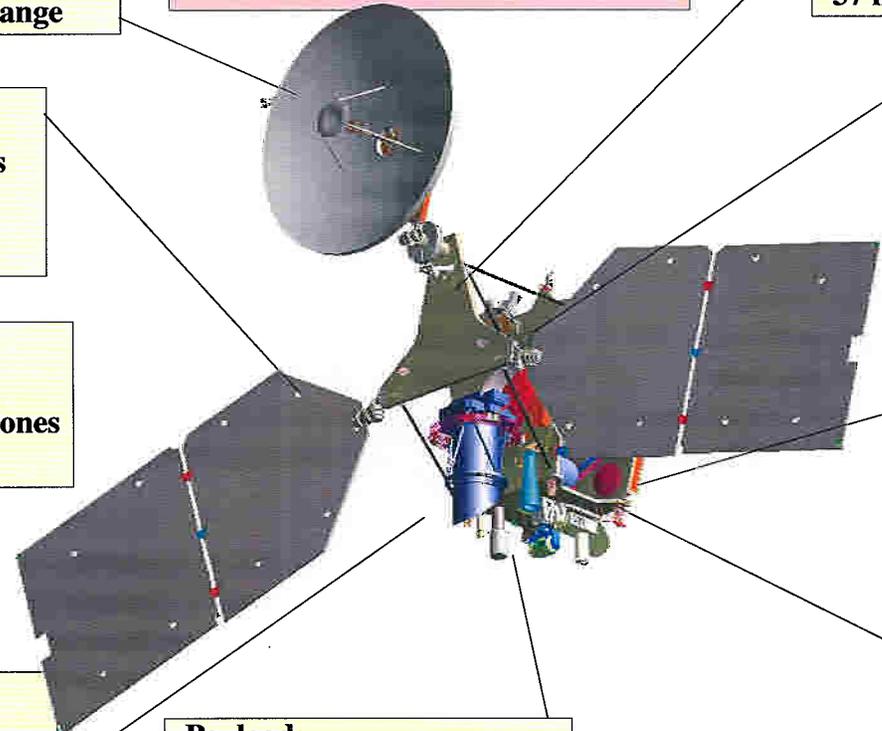
Orbit Nodal Orientations:
ODY: 5:00 PM DN LMST
MGS: 2:00 PM AN LMST
MRO: 3:00 PM AN LMST



MRO Orbiter Overview

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Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter



Telecom:
 Dual X and Ka-Band Capability
 3m HGA
 Dual Fwd-Aft Tx/Rcv LGA
 500 kbps @max earth Range

2180 kg Launch Mass (Atlas V)
 1545 m/s Delta-V
 2000W Array at Aphelion

Structure:
 M55J Composite Construction
 Stiff Strut / Panel / Clip Design
 Symmetric / Aero-Stable Design
 37 m² AB Drag Area

EPS:
 Dual 50 A-Hr NH₂ Batteries
 20 m² GaAs 3J Solar Cells
 23% Margin at Aphelion

Mechanisms:
 Redundant DC-Brushless Motors
 16-Bit Resolvers
 Redundant Release Mechanisms
 > 2X Holding torque During MOI

Thermal:
 Cold-Biased Passive Design
 Largely FSW Controlled Htr Zones
 200W Allocation

C&DH:
 RAD750 FPC
 160 Gbit SSR
 Turbo or RS Encoding
 100Mbps Science I/F

Propulsion
 Single-Tank Mono Prop Design
 Engine-Out Capability
 Coupled Thrust
 Regulated During MOI

GN&C:
 Redundant 100n-m-s RWA's
 Ephemeris-Based Targeting
 Cont/Auto Yaw Compensation
 < 1 mrad Pointing Accuracy

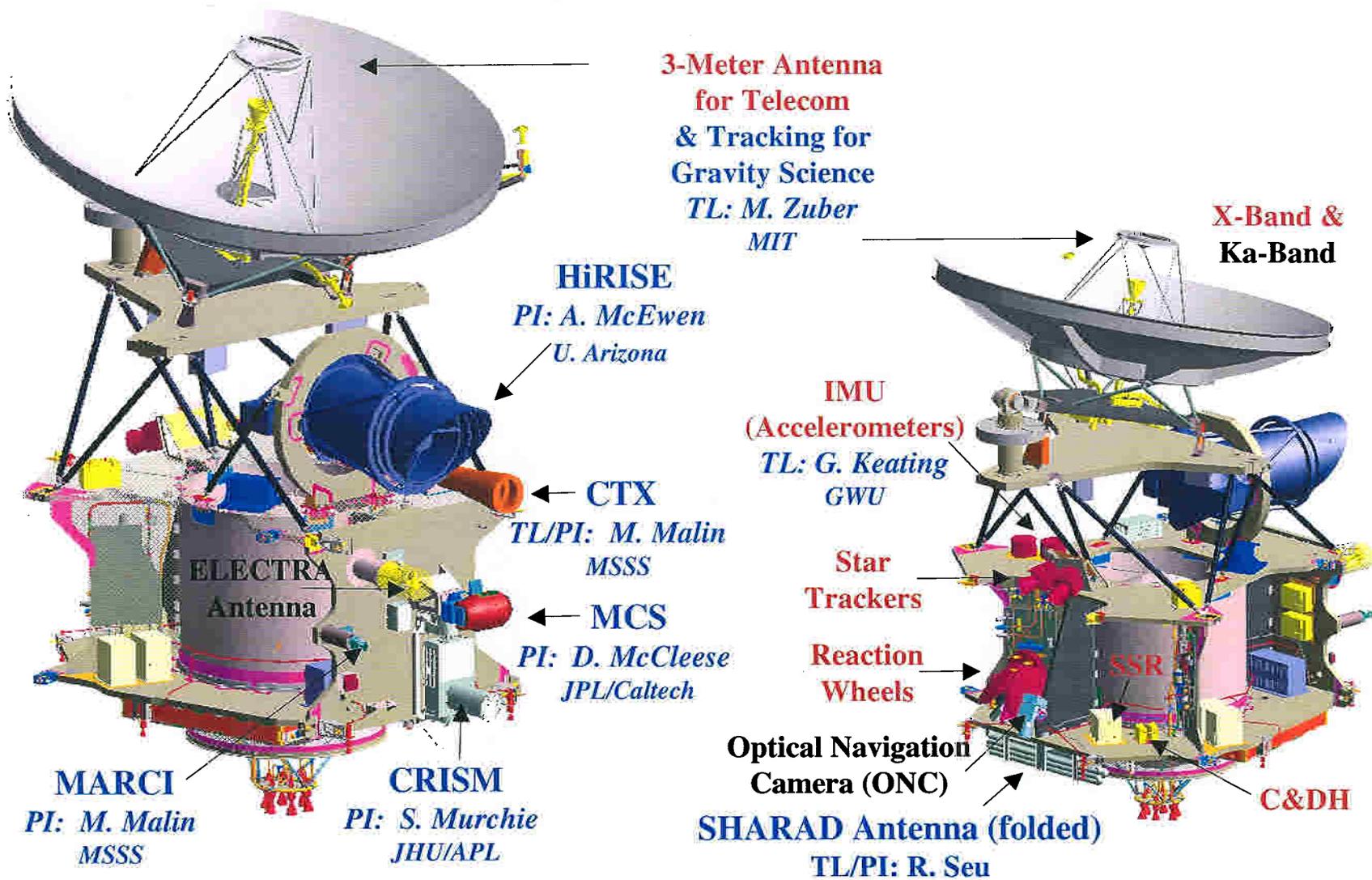
Payload:
 6 Science Payloads
 2 Eng Payload
 Electra Eng SS
 Simultaneous Operations
 Nested Targeting

FSW:
 Flexible / Parameterized Design
 Fully Enabled Fault Protection
 Ephemeris-Based Targeting
 Time-Tagged Seq Fully Supported

Orbiter Payload Accommodation

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Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter



Science and Engineering Payloads

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Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

HiRISE Telescope

Very high resolution
Imager - targeted
observations

MARCI

Color Imager - Daily
global views of the
atmosphere

ELECTRA

Antenna
UHF Relay

CTX

Context Imager

MCS

Atmospheric
Sounder

CRISM

High-resolution Imaging Spectrometer

Not pictured:
Atmospheric Science
 Accelerometers during
 Aerobraking
Gravity Science
 via tracking data
Ka-Band Telecom Demo

ONC

Optical Navigation
Camera Demonstration
(Images Phobos &
Deimos during Mars
approach)

SHARAD

Sub-surface
Sounding Radar

MRO Science Investigations (1 of 2)

MRO Science

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

| <i>Instrument</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>PI/TL, Institution</i> | <i>Science Goals</i> | <i>Attributes</i> |
|-------------------|---|--|--|--|
| CRISM | Compact Reconnaissance Imaging Spectrometer for Mars | Scott Murchie, PI Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab <i>Selected thru MRO -2005 AO</i> | Regional & Local Surface Composition; Atmospheric Properties | High Spectral & Spatial Resolution Targeted & Regional Survey Very High Data Rate |
| CTX | Context Imager | Michael Malin, TL Malin Space Science Systems (MSSS) <i>Facility Instrument</i> <i>Replaces MCO MARCI-MAC</i> | Regional Stratigraphy and Morphology | High Resolution with Coverage Targeted & Regional Survey High Data Rate |
| HiRISE | High- Resolution Imaging Science Experiment | Alfred McEwen, PI University of Arizona <i>Selected thru MRO-2005 AO</i> | Stratigraphy, Processes, Site Morphology | Very High Resolution Targeted Imaging Very High Data Rate |
| SHARAD | Shallow Subsurface RADAR | Roberto Seu, TL/PI University of Rome Roger Phillips, DTL <i>NASA-ASI Selection</i> | Regional Near-Surface Ground Structure | Shallow Radar Sounding Regional Profiling High Data Rate |

MRO Science Investigations (2 of 2)

MRO Science

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

| <i>Instrument</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>PI/TL Institution</i> | <i>Science Goals</i> | <i>Attributes</i> |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| <i>MARCI</i> | Mars Color Imager | <i>Michael Malin, PI</i> Malin Space Science Systems <i>Recover MCO MARCI-WAC</i> | Global Weather and Surface Change | Daily Global Coverage Daily, Global Mapping Moderate Data Rate |
| <i>MCS</i> | Mars Climate Sounder | <i>Daniel J. McCleese, PI</i> Jet Propulsion Laboratory California Institute of Technology <i>Recover MCO PMIRR Science</i> | Atmospheric Fields, Transport & Polar Processes | Global Atmospheric Limb Sounding Daily, Global Limb & On-Planet Mapping; Low-Data Rate |
| <i>Gravity Science</i> | Facility Science Team Investigation | <i>Maria Zuber, TL</i> MIT / GSFC <i>Selected thru MRO-2005 AO</i> | Improved Gravity Field Model; transient Mass Change | Data from DSN tracking using Spacecraft X & Ka Band Telecom |
| <i>Atmospheric Structure (ACCEL)</i> | Facility Science Team Investigation | <i>Gerald Keating, TL</i> GWU / LaRC <i>Selected thru MRO-2005 AO</i> | Upper Atmospheric Structure & Variability; A/B Support | Data from Spacecraft Accelerometers during Aerobraking |
| <i>Future</i> | <i>Participating Scientists & Guest Observers may be selected and funded as part of a future Announcement of Opportunity or Research Announcement</i> | | | |

MRO Science Instrument Requirements (1 of 2)

MRO Science

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

| Instrument | Attributes | L1 Requirements | Baseline Capabilities |
|---------------|----------------------------|---|---|
| CRISM | Highest Ground Resoln.* | < 40 m/pixel | GSD = 18 m/pixel |
| | Swath Width* | > 7 km | 10.8 km |
| | Spectral Resolution | ≤ 10 nm | 6.55 nm |
| | Spectral Range | 0.4 - 3.6 μm | 0.4 - 4.05 μm |
| CTX | Highest Ground Resoln.* | ≤ 10 m/pixel | GSD = 6 m/pixel |
| | Swath Width* | ≥ 20 km | 30 km |
| | Spectral Bands | Single Bandpass | 500 - 700 nm |
| | SNR | ≥ 20 | > 20 |
| HiRISE | Highest Ground Resolution* | Resolve 1-meter scale objects & structure | GSD = 0.3 m/pixel |
| | Swath Width* | ≥ 3.5 km | 6 km |
| | Spectral Bands | Single Bandpass | Red (6 km swath*) Blue-Green & NIR (1.2 km swath*) |
| | SNR | ≥ 50 | ≥ 100 |
| | Stereo Capability | By Revisit | Revisit (typically within 17 days) |

***Referenced to 300 km orbital altitude**

MRO Science Instrument Requirements (2 of 2)

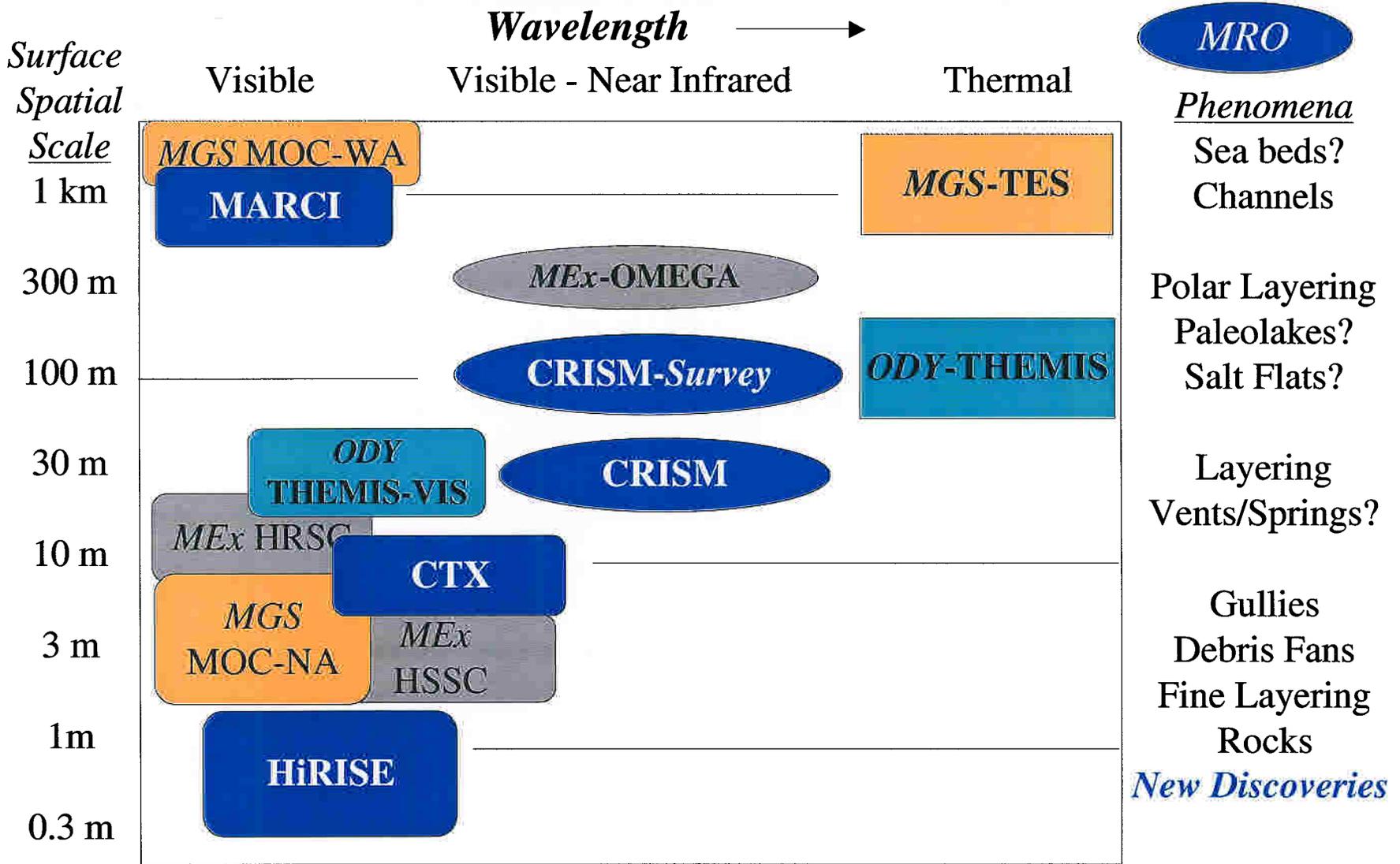
MRO Science

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

| Instrument | Attributes | L1 Requirements | Baseline Capabilities |
|-------------------|--|---|---|
| MARCI | Re-flight of MCO MARCI Wide-Angle Camera | Re-build MARCI WAC (140° FOV) | New Electrical Interface & 180° FOV |
| | Spectral Bands | 2 UV, 5 VIS/NIR | 7 bands from 0.28-0.8 μm |
| | Observation Mode | Daily Global Mapping | Daily Global Mapping |
| MCS | Recover MCO PMIRR Science | Solar Channel & 8 Thermal IR Channels | Broadband Solar Channel & 8 Thermal IR Channels |
| | Vertical Range, Resoln. | 0 - 80 km; ≤ 6 km | 0 - 80 km; 5 km |
| | Observation Mode | Globally Distributed, Daily Atmospheric Limb & On-Planet Observations | Globally Distributed, Daily Atmospheric Limb & On-Planet Observations |
| SHARAD | Vertical Penetration & Resolution | Several hundred meters at many locations 15 m (free-space) | Several hundred meters at many locations 15 m (free-space) |
| | Horizontal Footprint (from 300 km) | < 7 km x 1 km (cross-track x down-track) | 6 km x 1 km (SAR processing down-track) |
| | Operating Frequency | $f_0 > 10$ MHz | 20 MHz(f_0 , central frequency) |

Relation to Other Mars Missions for Imaging

MRO Science Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter





Science/Engineering Payload Description

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Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

| Name | Type | Provider | Ground Sampling Distance @ 300 km | Swath @ 300 km | Other | Mass (kg) CBE | Orbital Average Power (W) CBE |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------|---|----------------------|--|---------------|-------------------------------|
| HiRISE | Optical Targeted | UA/BA | 30 cm/pixel | 6 km | 3 colors | 60 | 59 |
| CRISM | Optical Targeted | APL | 20 m/pixel | 11 km | 0.4 - 4.0 μm | 31 | 38 |
| Context Imager | Optical Regional | Facility MSSS | 6 m/pixel | 30 km | Panchromatic Minus Blue | 4 | 6 |
| Sounding Radar (SHARAD) | Radar Regional | Facility ASI | < 1x6 km (w) < 7 m (v) | 6 km (w) 1 km (v) | 20 MHz Center 10 MHz Bandwidth | 13 | 23 |
| MARCI | Optical Global | MSSS | 1 to 10 km/pixel | limb-to-limb | 0.25 - 0.75 μm , 180° optics | 1 | 6 |
| MCS | Atmo-spheric Global | JPL | ~ 5 km vertical | 0-80 km (v) @limb | 12 - 50 μm 0.3 - 3.0 μm | 10 | 8 |
| OpNav | Optical Nav | JPL MT | 24 $\mu\text{rad/pixel}$ Phobos/Deimos | -- | 0.45 - 0.6 μm | 3 | 0 |
| Electra | Radio | JPL MT/MRO | -- | -- | UHF | 15 | 80 (p) |
| Ka Band Demo | Radio | JPL TMOD/MRO | | | Ka Hardware | 9 | 79 (p) |
| Total | | | | | | 146 | 140 |
| Science Payload | | | | | peak power = (p) | | |
| Engineering Payload | | | | | | | |

Accommodating Science Drivers

MRO Science

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

✓ *Mixed Observation Modes during Science Phase:*

- **Global Monitoring throughout one Mars year (all seasons)**
 - **Daily and Seasonally: MARCI, MCS**
 - **Seasonally: CRISM (Atmospheric Mode), Tracking (Gravity)**
- **Regional Surveys of Martian Surface and Subsurface**
 - **SHARAD, CTX, Tracking (Gravity)**
 - **Low Resolution Modes: CRISM, HiRISE**
- **Targeted high spatial resolution observations**
 - **HiRISE, CRISM**
 - **Supported by CTX**
- **Simultaneous Operations by Multiple Instruments**

✓ *Spatial resolutions unprecedented for Mars missions*

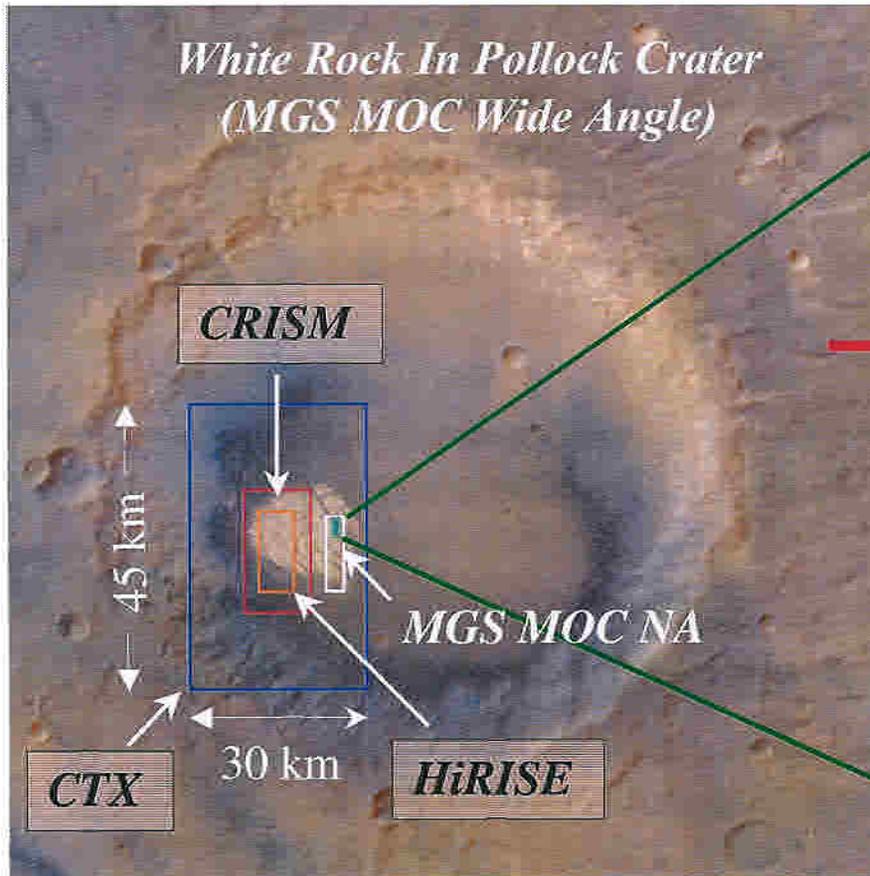
- **Enabled by instrument capabilities and mission design (orbit)**
- **Spacecraft capabilities adequate to return required data volumes**
 - **Project Requirement ~ 34 Tbits**
- **Data return capability determines areal coverage and number of sites observed at the highest spatial resolutions**

✓ *Coordinated observing for science & site characterization*

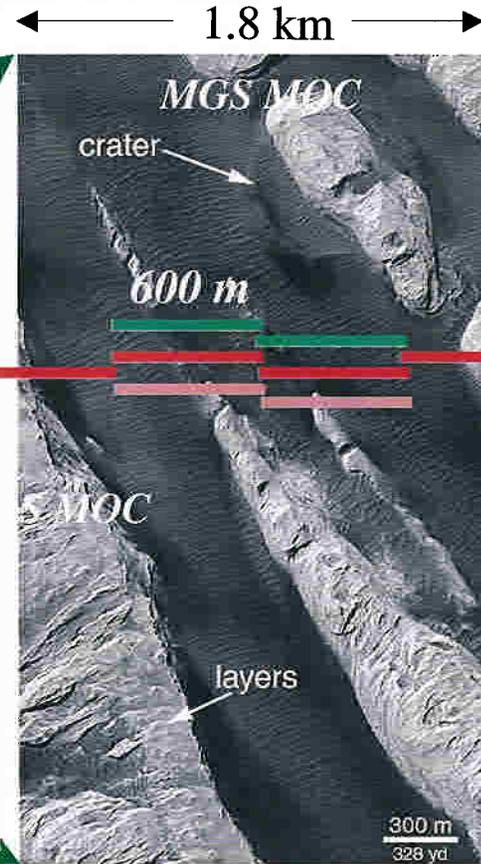
MRO Coordinated Observations

MRO Science

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter



Nested Coverage Provides Context



High Resolution Provides Detail

IMAGES from NASA/JPL/MSSS

MRO Data Return Goals

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Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

- *Committed Data Volume Return of 26 Tbits allocated as follows:*
 - **Daily Global Mapping (MCS, MARCI)** **7%**
 - **SHARAD Regional Survey** **15%**
 - **CTX Imaging Support and Survey** **13%**
 - **CRISM** **30%**
 - **HiRISE** **35%***

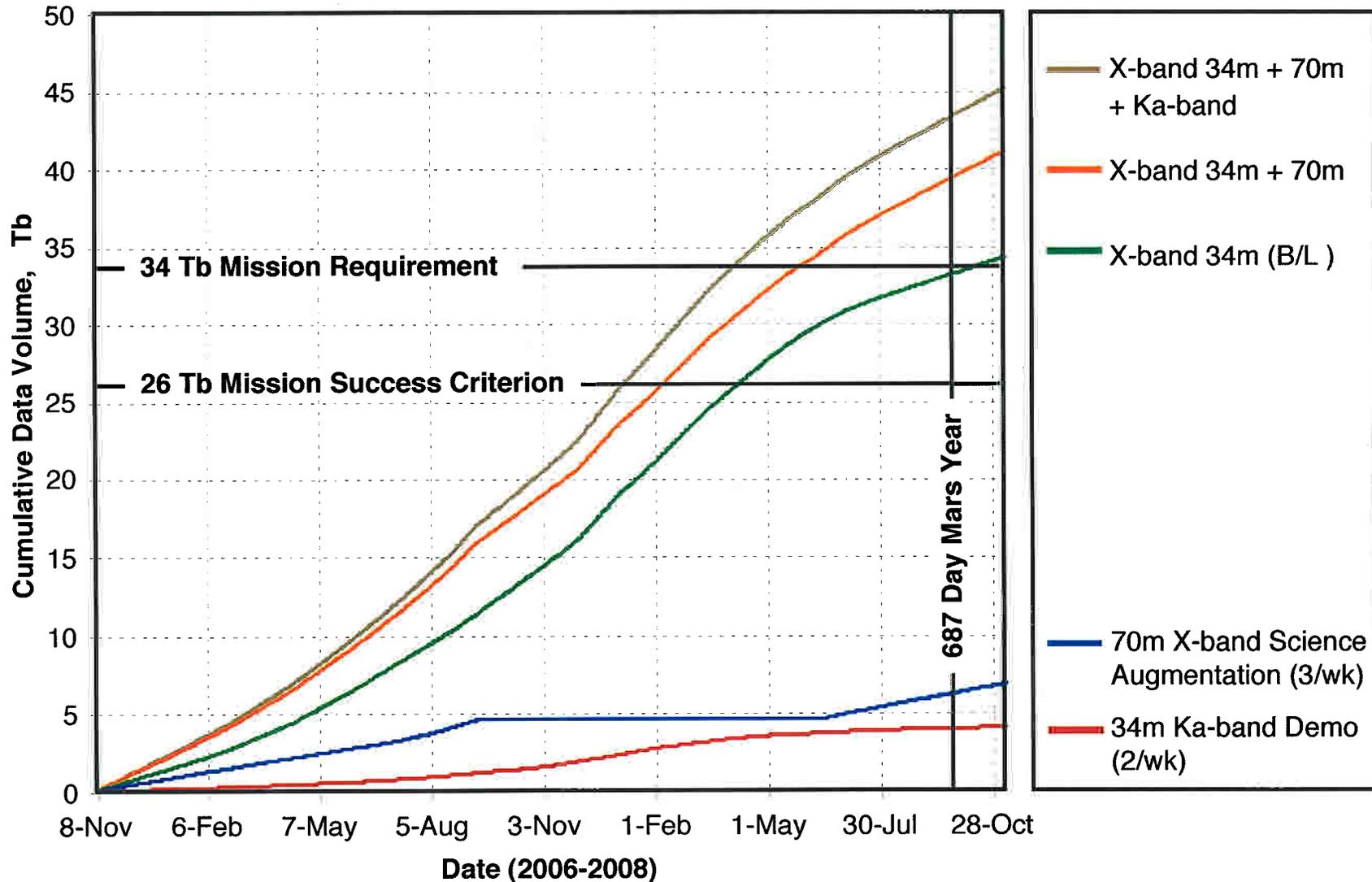
**HiRISE data compressed using hardware compressor on SSR*

- *Enables significant areal coverage at lower spatial/spectral resolution.*
Current goals for 1 Mars year:
 - **CTX** **20%**
 - **CRISM (survey)** **100%**
 - **HiRISE** **1%**

Cumulative Mission Data Volume

MRO Science

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter



Mars Climate Objectives

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Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter



- Dust Storms;*
- Atmospheric Transport:*
MCS, MARCI, CRISM
- Seasonal Cycles;*
- Water Sources & Sinks:*
MCS, MARCI, CRISM
- Polar Layering;*
- Structure & Seasonal Changes:*
CTX, HiRISE, MARCI

*Polar Monitoring:
Radiation Balance
& Morphology
MCS,
CTX, MARCI*



“Follow the Water” thru Different Data Types

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MGS MOC (NASA / JPL / MSSS)

*Spectral Imaging Reveals
Composition & History*

CRISM

MARCI, HiRISE

*Visual Imaging Reveals
Geomorphology:
Structure & Age
HiRISE, CTX
MARCI*

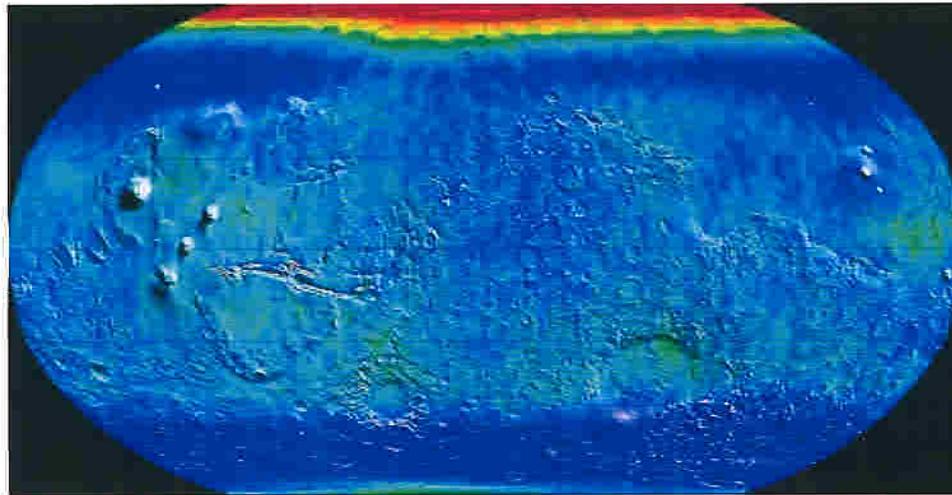


*Viking
3-Color Image*

Probing the Subsurface

MRO Science

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter



Hydrogen (Ice) Map
2001 Mars Odyssey
GRS-Neutron
Spectrometer
& HEND

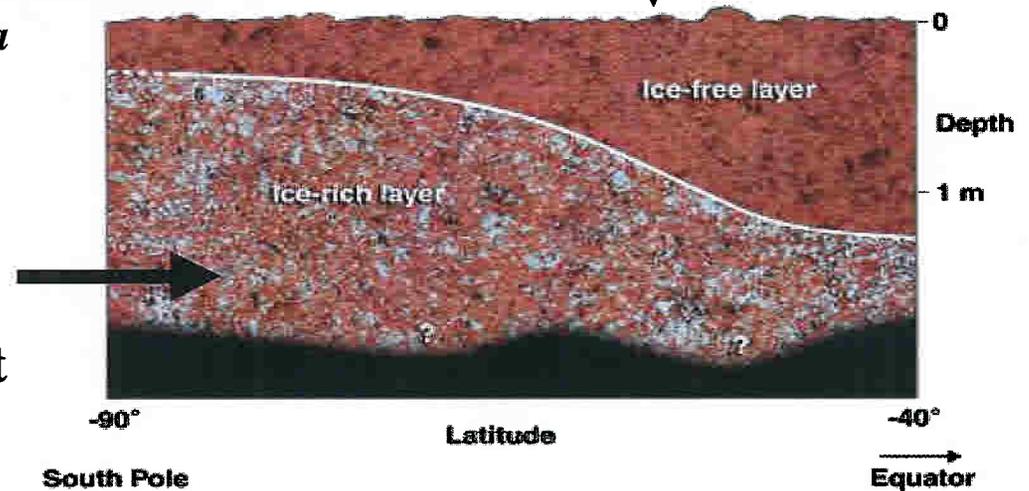


NASA / JPL / University of Arizona
Los Alamos National Laboratory

How Deep is this Layer?
Is it in Equilibrium with
Today's Climate?
Is it the Top of the Ancient
Water Reservoir?



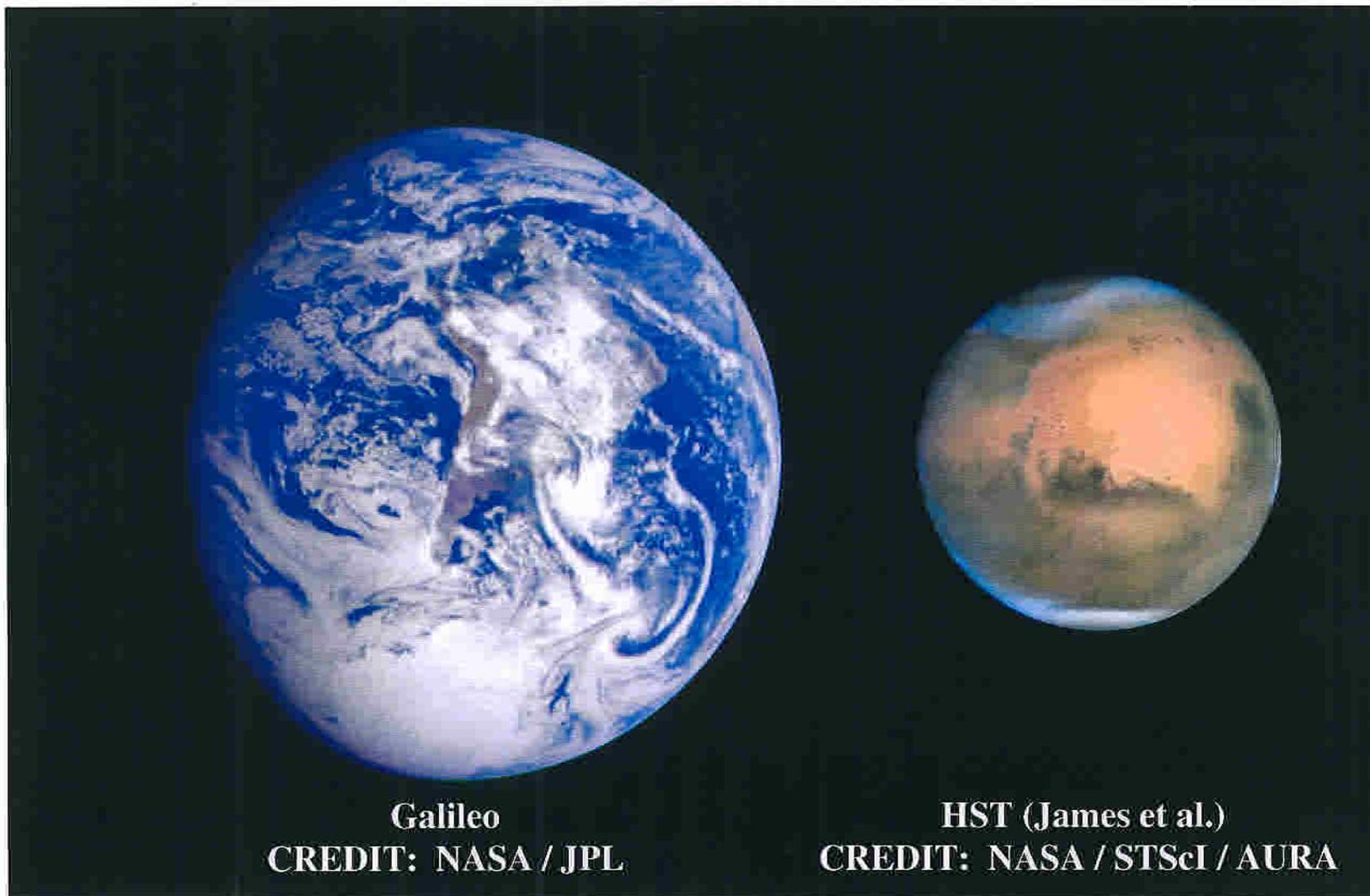
SHARAD



Earth & Mars

MRO Science

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter



Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO)

MRO Science

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

Salient Features

- **4 Earth years in Mars orbit (near polar, 3 p.m., 255 x 320 km)**
 - 2 years science observations plus relay support
 - 2 years relay mode with capability to extend science operations
- **International Science Payload:**
 - Meter- scale and context (6 m/pixel) imaging
 - Hyperspectral (20 m, 10 nm) compositional mapping
 - Atmospheric profiling and weather monitoring
 - Radar probing of the near-subsurface; gravity science
- **Relay Telecom Payload + Optical Navigation & Ka-Band Experiments**
- **Launch: August 2005; Arrive: March '06; Aerobrake: Mar.- Oct '06; Mission End: Dec., 2010**



Science

- **Characterize Mars' seasonal cycles and daily variations of water, dust & carbon dioxide.**
- **Characterize Mars' global atmospheric structure, transport and surface changes.**
- **Search sites for evidence of aqueous and/or hydrothermal activity.**
- **Characterize in detail the stratigraphy, geology & composition of Mars surface features.**
- **Characterize the Martian ice caps and the polar layered terrains.**
- **Profile the upper crust while probing for subsurface water and ground ice.**
- **Characterize the Martian gravity field and upper atmosphere in greater detail.**
- **Identify and characterize many sites for future landed missions.**

