

# POTENTIAL RESOURCES OF THE MOON

LUNAR RESOURSE ACCESSIBILITY MAJOR FACTORS

- ORIGINAL ROCK COMPOSTION
- **REGOLITH FORMATION**
- IGNEOUS CRYSTAL SETTLING
- ABSENCE OF FLUID WATER



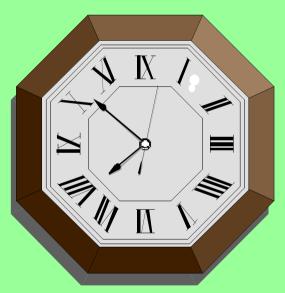


### **REGOLITH MATURATION**

#### • BEGINS WITH SURFACE STABLIZATION

- MODIFICATION BY:
  - PRIMARY IMPACTS
  - SECONDARY IMPACTS
  - HYDROGEN REDUCTION OF FEO
  - SPACE RADIATION
  - INTERNAL VOLATILE MIGRATION
- SPACE RADIATION

   COSMIC RAYS
   SOLAR-WIND IONS



### **REGOLITH SUMMARY - 1**

- **REGOLITH** (mantle of fragmental, unconsolidated material overlying bedrock)
  - >6M DEEP ON 3.8 BY OLD SURFACES
- CONSTITUENTS:
  - ROCK FRAGMENTS
  - AGGLUTINATES (IMPACT GLASS WELDING TOGETHER ROCK AND MINERAL FRAGMENTS)
  - MINERAL FRAGMENTS
  - VOLCANIC GLASS SPHERES AND FRAGMENTS
  - METEORITIC CONTAMINATION (<0.3%)
  - ADSORBED SOLAR WIND VOLATILES (H<sub>2</sub> AND HE)
  - PRODUCTS OF SOLAR AND COSMIC RADIATION

#### **REGOLITH SUMMARY - 2**

- LATERAL MIXING RATE
  - ON THE ORDER OF 10S OF METERS PER 100 MY
  - ~100S OF METERS PER BILLION YEARS
- VERTICAL MIXING IRREGULAR
  - 3M DRILL CORES INDICATE TEXTURAL LAYERING BUT NO SIGNIFICANT CHEMICAL CHANGE WITH DEPTH

### **REGOLITH SUMMARY - 3**

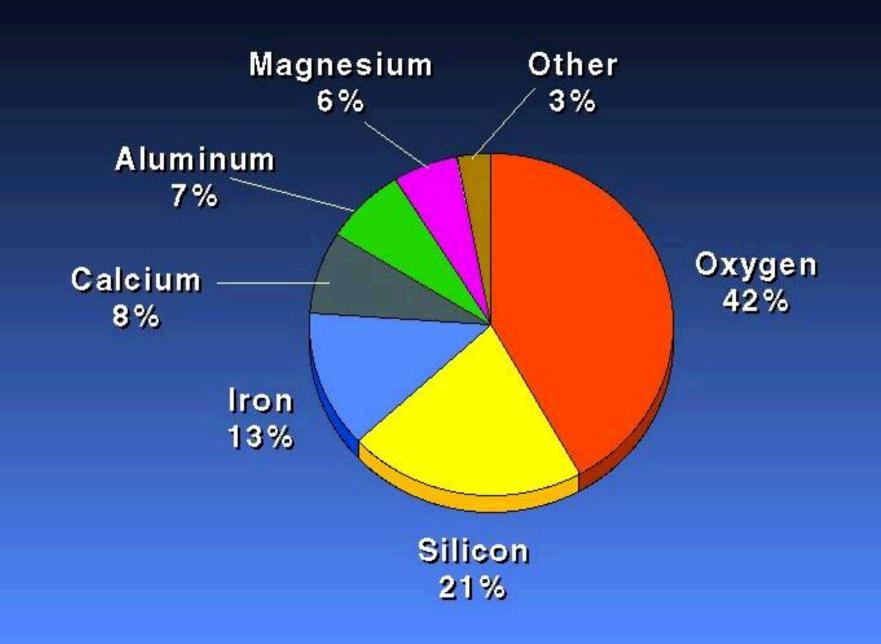
- GEOTECHNICAL PARAMETERS
  - DENSITY ~1.9 GM/CM3
  - HIGH BEARING STRENGTH
  - MODERATE COHESION
  - >60% PARTICLES <100m (THAT IS, PENETRATING DUST!!!!!)
  - **HIGHLY ABRASIVE** (THAT IS, RELIABLE SEALS REQUIRED!!!!)
  - DISSEMINATED, FINE GRAIN NATIVE IRON
  - DISSEMINATED, FINE GRAIN IRON SULFIDE
  - HIGHLY REDUCING (HYDROGEN)

### LUNAR CONSTRUCTION NON-METALLIC MATERIALS

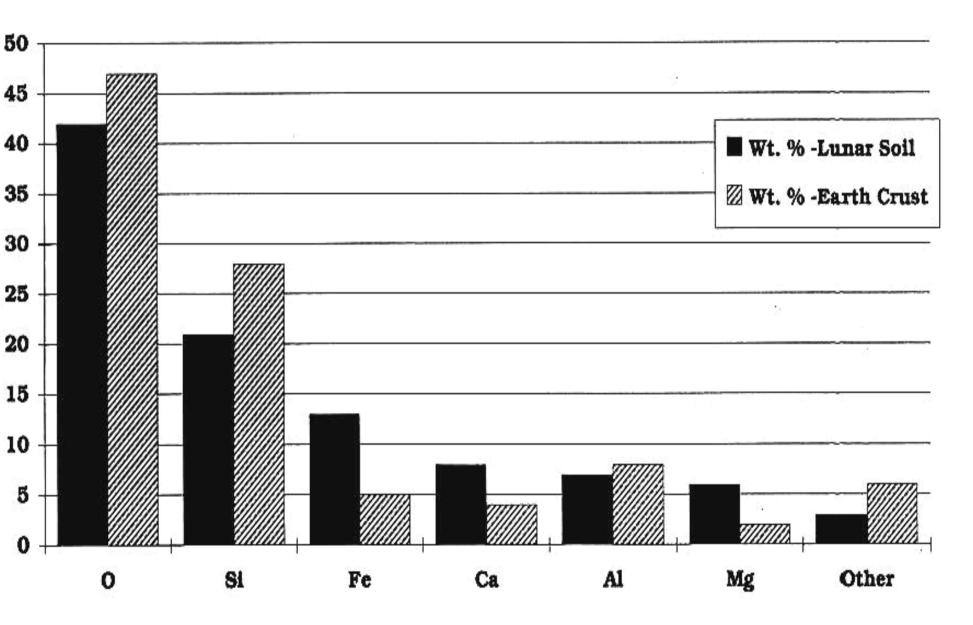
#### • **REGOLITH**

- INSULATION
- RADIATION PROTECTION
- COARSE REGOLITH FRACTION
  - ROAD AGGREGATE
  - CONCRETE
- FINE REGOLITH FRACTION
  - COMPACTED "BRICK"
  - SINTERED "BRICK"
  - REGOLITH/METAL COMPOSITES
  - SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC CELLS

#### Lunar Soil Composition



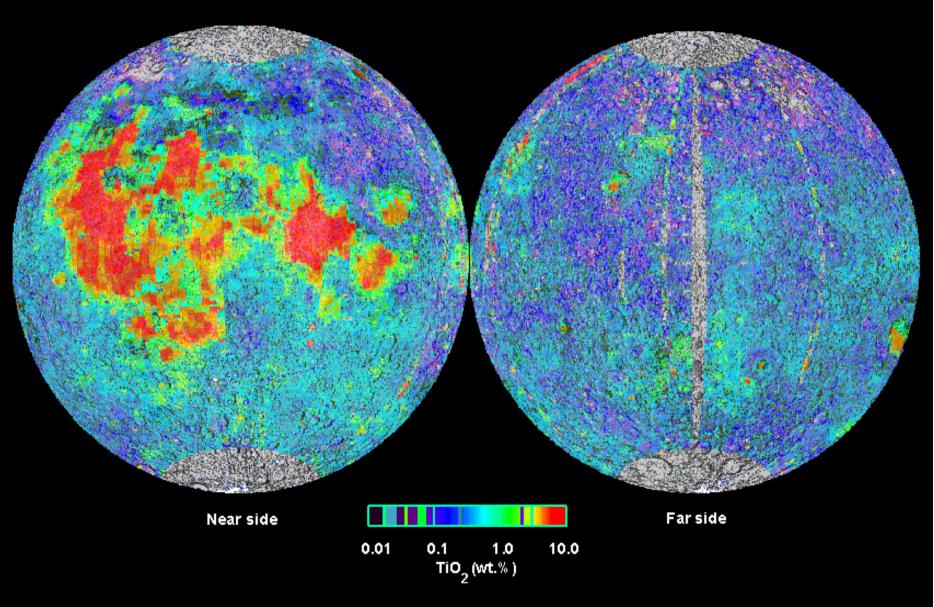
#### The Surface of the Moon is Slightly Richer in Fe, Ca, and Mg Compared to the Earth's Crust

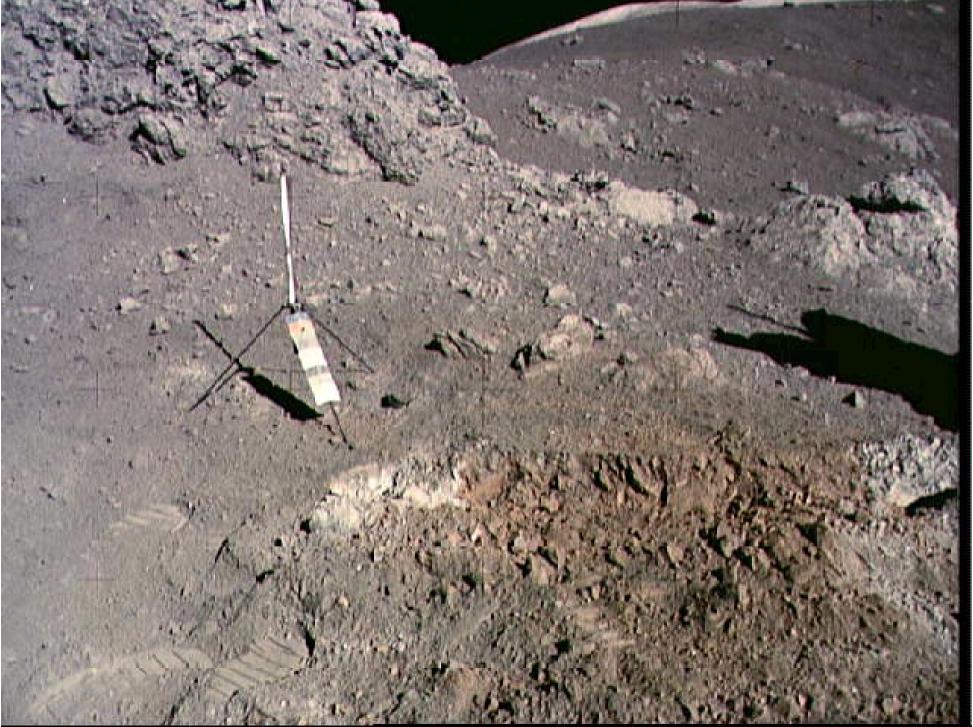


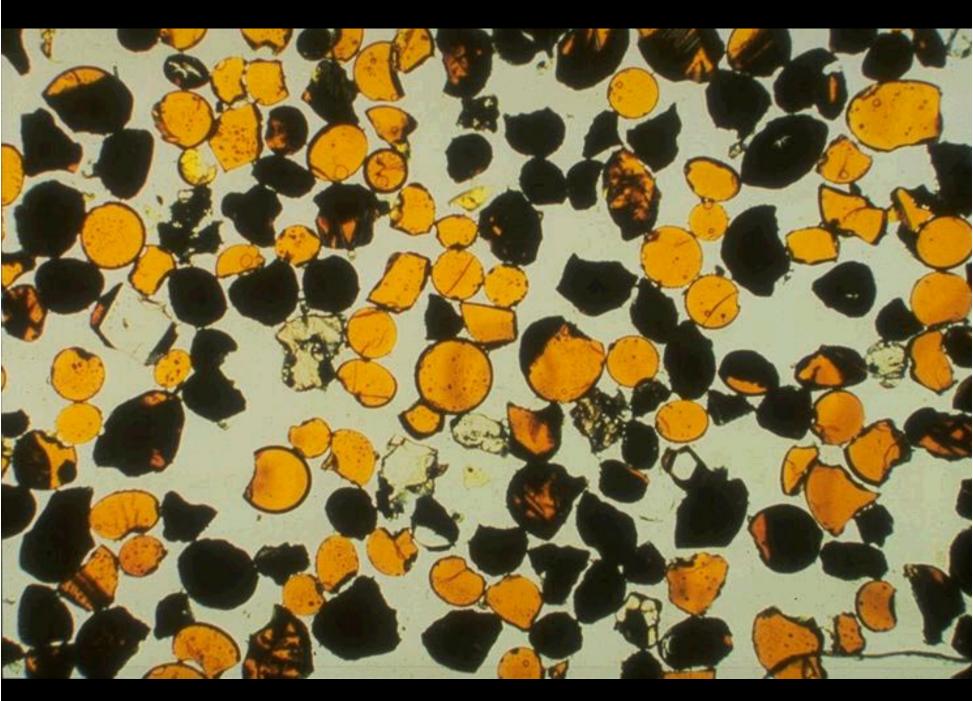
#### LUNAR MANUFACTURING METALLIC MATERIALS (HIGH TI BASALTS)

- FINE REGOLITH FRACTION/MAJOR ELEMENTS
  - IRON IN IRON-TITANIUM OXIDE (22 WT % FEO AND 1 WT % NATIVE IRON)
  - TITANIUM IN IRON-TITANIUM OXIDE (11 WT % TIO2 IN ILMENITE)
  - MAGNESIUM IN MAGNESIUM-IRON SILICATES (7 WT % MGO)
  - ALUMINUM IN CALCIUM-ALUMINUM SILICATES (9 WT %AL2O3)
  - SILICON IN CALCIUM-ALUMINUM SILICATES (40 WT % SIO2)
- FINE REGOLITH FRACTION/MINOR ELEMENTS
  - PLATINUM GROUP IN METEORITIC DEBRIS
  - CHROMIUM IN CHROMIUM-IRON OXIDE
- PYROCLASTIC GLASSES
  - MAGNESIUM (16 WT % MGO)
- GRAVITY CONCENTRATIONS IN BASALT FLOWS
  - **TITANIUM** (ILMENITE)
  - ALUMINUM/SILICON (PLAGIOCLASE)
  - CHROMIUM (CHROMITE)
  - IRON/SULFUR (TROILITE)

#### Clementine Titanium Map of the Moon Equal Area Projection









# LUNAR SPECIAL COMPOUNDS

- LUNAR KREEP (NOT NORMALLY ASSOCIATED WITH BASALTIC REGOLITH)
  - PHOSPHATE (P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>)
  - POTASH (K<sub>2</sub>O)
  - SODA (Na<sub>2</sub>O)

## INDIGENOUS LUNAR VOLATILES

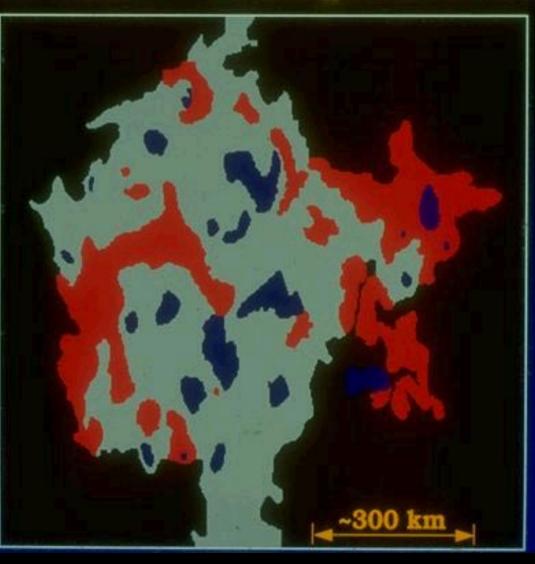
- FROM PYROCLASTIC GLASSES
  - OXYGEN (ELECTROLYSIS OF H<sub>2</sub>O PRODUCED BY HYDROGEN REDUCTION)
- ADSORBED ON PYROCLASTIC GLASSES (LARGE VOLUME PROCESSING)
  - FLUORINE
  - CHLORINE
  - VOLATILE METALS (COPPER, ZINC, LEAD)
- FROM REGOLITH (LARGE VOLUME PROCESSING)
  - SULFUR (IRON SULFIDE)

# SOLAR WIND VOLATILES REGOLITH FINES

- HYDROGEN
  - 96% OF SOLAR WIND IONS
  - **30 PPM AVE.** 
    - HIGHER IN REGOLITH DERIVED FROM TITANIUM-RICH BASALTS AND ANORTHOSITE
  - UP TO ALMOST 150 PPM IN SOME APOLLO 16 SAMPLES
- HELIUM
  - 4% OF SOLAR WIND IONS
  - UP TO 70 PPM IN REGOLITH DERIVED FROM TITANIUM-RICH BASALTS
    - UP TO 30 PPB <sup>3</sup>HE
- NITROGEN
- CARBON
- TRACE NOBLE GASES (KR, XE, AR)

#### Inferred Titanium Content of Regolith of Mare Tranquillitatis

+7.5% 6.0 - 7.5% 3.0 - 6.0%



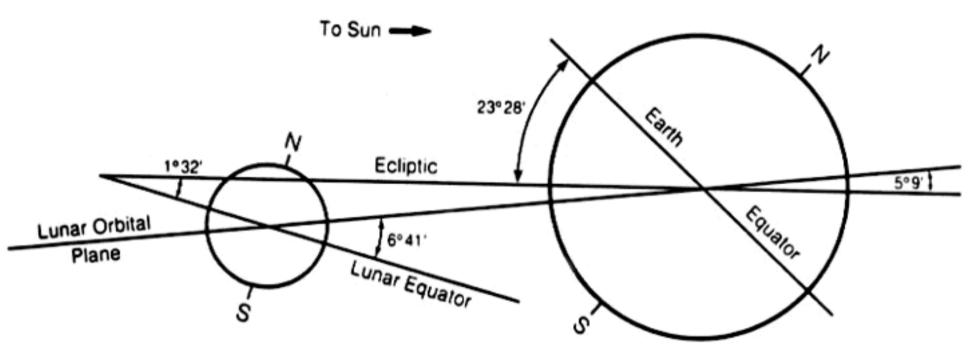
#### Minable Regolith and Helium Content of Mare Tranquillitatis

Regolith Category	Area, km <sup>2</sup>	Avg. He Content, wppm	Regolith Minable, tonnes	He, tonnes	He3, tonnes
A	84,000	38	252x10 <sup>9</sup>	9.58x10 <sup>6</sup>	3,635
в	195,000	25	598x10 <sup>9</sup>	14.96x10 <sup>6</sup>	5,754
Totals	279,000		850x10 <sup>9</sup>	24.54x10 <sup>6</sup>	9,439

Note: He-3 content based on He/He-3 = 2600. Average depth of regolith = 3 m.

# **COMETARY VOLATILES** POLAR DEPOSITS?

- HYDROGEN REGIONAL AVE. INCREASES TO 150 PPM
  - LUNAR PROSPECTOR EPITHERMAL NEUTRON SPECTRA
- VERY HIGH CONCENTRATIONS OF HYDROGEN IN THREE SOUTH POLE CRATERS
  - ASSUMED TO BE WATER-ICE BY PROSPECTOR TEAM
  - FAST NEUTRON SPECTRA CONFIRM?
  - CLEMENTINE BI-STATIC RADAR CONFIRM?
- HYDROCARBONS?



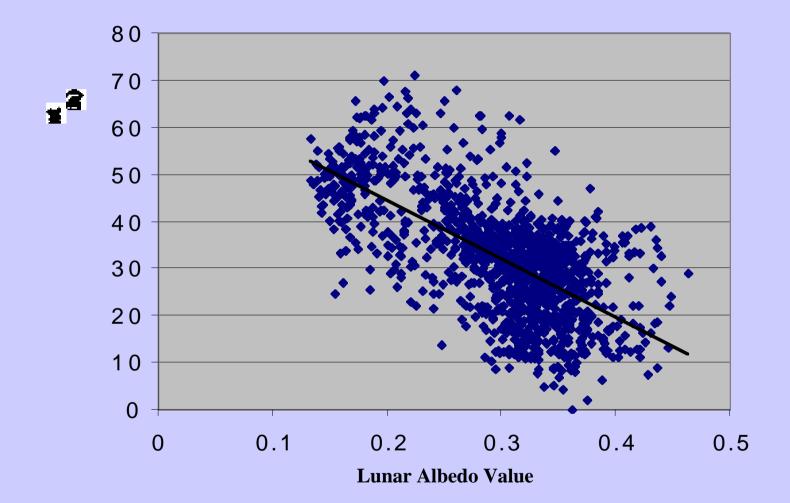
# COMETARY VOLATILES DATA SOURCES

- EPITHERMAL NEUTRON DATA (FELDMAN)
  - AVERAGE ~50 wppm HYDROGEN
  - ~150 wppm IN POLAR REGIONS
  - 1500 ± 800 wppm IN DEEP POLAR CRATERS
- CLEMENTINE 750nm ALBEDO VS. NEUTRON DATA (DING)

- 36 wppm NEARSIDE VS. 28 wppm FARSIDE

• CLEMENTINE BI-STATIC RADAR (NOZETTE)

- CONTROVERSIAL INTERPRETATION OF ICE



### INTERPRETATION?

#### • PROSPECTOR TEAM

- LARGE QUANTITIES OF POLAR ICE WITH SOME SOLAR-WIND HYDROGEN
- LATER, ICE ONLY IN 3 SOUTH POLE CRATERS
- MORE RECENTLY, ICE ALSO IN REGOLITH
- ALTERNATIVE
  - LARGELY COLD TRAPPED SOLAR-WIND HYDROGEN

#### **SOLAR-WIND IONS**

- HYDROGEN (PROTONS)
  - -~96% OF THE SOLAR-WIND
  - INITIALLY IMBEDDED IN MINERAL AND GLASS CONSTITUENTS
  - PARTIALLY RELEASED AS <u>PICKUP</u> <u>IONS</u>
    - MICROMETEORIOD IMPACT
    - **DIURNAL HEATING**
  - RETAINED BY BURIAL

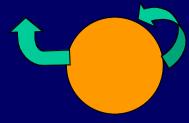


- PERMANENT SHADOW ~230°C
- OUTSIDE PERMANENT SHADOW

- AVERAGE SURFACE TEMPERATURE **INCREASES WITH DECREASING LATITUDE** 

 MAXIMUM CONTRAST BETWEEN **EQUATOR AND PERMANENT SHADOW** - ~350°C

### **PICKUP IONS**



- RELEASED REGOLITH VOLATILES
  - IONIZED AND ENTRAINED IN SOLAR-WIND
  - LOST ENTIRELY OR RE-IMPLANTED
- DEFINITIVE MODEL OF HISTORY OF PICKUP IONS NOT YET AVAILABLE
  - APOLLO, CLEMENTINE AND PROSPECTOR DATA DEFINE ~STEADY-STATE IN REGOLITH
    - SANTARIUS AND STUDENTS HAVE BEGUN TO MODEL OVER-ALL PROCESS

# STEADY-STATE HYDROGEN CONCENTRATION

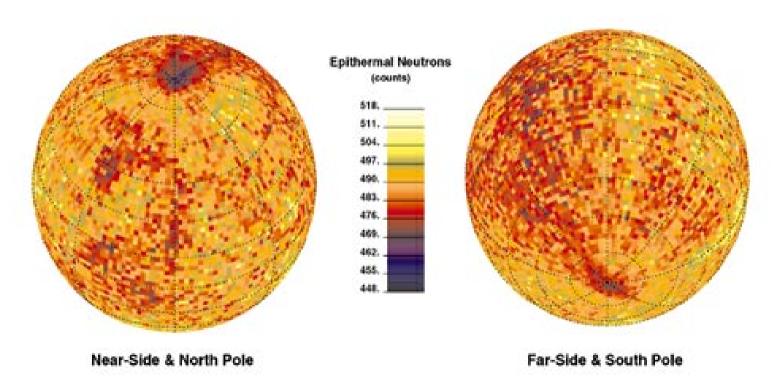
- APOLLO SAMPLES: 100 ± 50 wppm – MAY BE LOW DUE TO HANDLING LOSSES
- PROSPECTOR DATA FOR REGIONS WITH PERMANENT SHADOW
  - ~150 wppm (HIGH END OF APOLLO DATA)
  - X3 THAT SEEN FOR LOWER LATITUDES
  - GRADUAL CHANGE ACROSS PERMANENT SHADOW BOUNDARIES
  - 1500 ± 800 wppm IN DEEP POLAR CRATERS

# **HYDROGEN RETENTION**

- PLAGIOCLASE FELDSPAR (Ca,  $Na)_2AI_2Si_2O_8$ )
  - KNOWN TO ASSUME A CATION POSITION IN FELDSPAR - SODIUM SUBSTITUTE?
    - NOTE TRANSIENT LUNAR SODIUM ATMOSPHERE
  - SUPPORTED BY INHANCEMENT NEAR LARGE, YOUNG HIGHLAND CRATERS WHERE FRESH PLAGIOCLASE IS EXPOSED
- ILMENITE (FeTiO<sub>3</sub>)

- CLEMENTINE-PROSPECTOR COMPARISON BY DING

#### Medium Energy Neutron Distribution Lunar Prospector



Los Alamos National Laboratory

# POLAR SOLAR-WIND CONSIDERATIONS

- VARIABLES AFFECTING ADDITIONS AND LOSSES OF HYDROGEN NEAR THE POLES
  - SOLAR-WIND FLUX VS. LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE
  - TILT OF MOON'S AXIS RELATIVE TO ECLIPTIC
  - NON-ECLIPTIC COMPONENT OF SOLAR-WIND
  - DIURNAL TEMPERATURE VARIATION VS. LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE
  - PICKUP-ION REDEPOSTION RATES VS. LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE
  - ABUNDANCES OF RETENTIVE MINERALS
  - MOON'S INTERACTION WITH THE MAGNETOSPHERE
  - FLUX OF MICRO-METEORITES IMPACTING THE MOON

EROSION OF WATER ICE BY MICROMETEROIDS

- REGOLITH TURNOVER (GARDENING) – FEW CM EVERY 10 MILLION YEARS
- BLANKET OF COMETARY ICE WOULD ERODE AT COMPARABLE RATE
  - SPUTTERING DUE TO SOLAR-WIND WOULD ADD TO EROSION RATE
  - SOME PROTECTION POSSIBLE IN DEEP CRATERS OR BY FORTUITOUS EJECTA

#### • THE HYDROGEN SIGNAL IN POLAR REGIONS IS LARGELY A CONCENTRATION OF SOLAR-WIND HYDROGEN BY COLD-TRAPPING

**SCIENCE CONCLUSIONS** 

- WATER ICE <u>MAY</u> BE PRESENT IN DEEP CRATERS WHERE PARTIALLY PROTECTED FROM EROSION
- WATER ICE MAY BE LOCALLY MIXED INTO REGOLITH WHERE INITIALLY PROTECTED FROM EROSION BY IMPACT EJECTA